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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

INFORMATION SERVICE

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

For Release OCTOBER 4, 1959

FEDERAL "DUCK STAMP" SALES DECLINE IN 1959

The number of Federal "duck stamps" sold in fiscal year 1959 dropped 189,791 below fiscal 1958, with the greatest decline of 73,011 occurring in the Mississippi Flyway States, the Department of the Interior announced today.

A total of 2,165,562 stamps of the 1958-59 issue were sold in fiscal year 1959 to hunters of migratory waterfowl, conservationists, and philatelists, according to final figures supplied to the Fish and Wildlife Service.

The 1957-58 total was 2,355,353 duck stamps and the all-time high record of 2,369,940, achieved in fiscal year 1956, still stands.

Sales of duck stamps, according to the Fish and Wildlife Service, provide the best available index to the number and location of waterfowl hunters throughout the country.

As an indicator of hunting pressure, duck stamp sales are grouped by waterfowl flyways. The 1959 totals, with the 1958 figures in parentheses, are as follows:

Atlantic Flyway, 325,817 (356,800); Mississippi Flyway, 931,544 (1,004,555); Central Flyway, 501,672 (555,525); and the Pacific Flyway, 396,809 (427,799). Compared with the previous year, the declines in the four flyways were: Atlantic, 30,983; Mississippi, 73,011; Central, 53,853; and Pacific, 30,990.

Individually, by States, for 1959, California again headed the list, with a total of 161,068 stamps sold (183,011 in 1958). Other States recording sales in excess of 100,000 were: Minnesota, 147,895; Texas, 145,079; Michigan, 110,260; Wisconsin, 109,856; and Illinois, 108,456.

Many duck stamps are also purchased by stamp collectors. The Post Office Department's Philatelic Sales Agency in Washington, D. C., reported the sales of 9,720 stamps during fiscal year 1959. In 1958 philatelic sales totalled 10,674.

The 1958-59 stamp is the last issue of the \$2 series. Beginning with the current issue of 1959-60, the price has been increased to \$3, in accordance with Public Law 85-585. This law also stipulates that, effective July 1, 1960, all receipts from the sale of the stamps, less cost of printing and distribution, are to be used for acquiring lands for waterfowl.

Every individual who has attained the age of 16 years and who hunts migratory waterfowl is required to have on his person while hunting a stamp of the current issue with his signature written across the face. A new stamp in the series is issued each year. It goes on sale on July 1 and becomes void on June 30 of the following year.

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U. S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
BUREAU OF SPORT FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE
MIGRATORY BIRD HUNTING STAMP SALES
JULY 1, 1958 to JUNE 30, 1959

ATLANTIC FLYWAY STATES

Connecticut.....	9,095
Delaware.....	7,983
District of Columbia.....	2,247
Florida.....	35,934
Georgia.....	10,081
Maine.....	12,032
Maryland.....	22,373
Massachusetts.....	21,182
New Hampshire.....	4,692
New Jersey.....	22,500
New York.....	66,700
North Carolina.....	25,468
Pennsylvania.....	40,604
Rhode Island.....	2,943
South Carolina.....	14,488
Vermont.....	4,139
Virginia.....	20,765
West Virginia.....	2,278
Puerto Rico.....	313

Subtotal.....325,817

MISSISSIPPI FLYWAY STATES

Alabama.....	16,291
Arkansas.....	59,218
Illinois.....	108,456
Indiana.....	41,450
Iowa.....	54,816
Kentucky.....	17,174
Louisiana.....	91,803
Michigan.....	110,260
Minnesota.....	147,895
Mississippi.....	19,442
Missouri.....	73,150
Ohio.....	43,003
Tennessee.....	38,730
Wisconsin.....	109,856

Subtotal.....931,544

CENTRAL FLYWAY STATES

Colorado.....	41,897
Kansas.....	70,986
Montana.....	34,225
Nebraska.....	64,608
New Mexico.....	8,845
North Dakota.....	39,361
Oklahoma.....	43,264
South Dakota.....	42,791
Texas.....	145,079
Wyoming.....	10,616

Subtotal.....501,672

PACIFIC FLYWAY STATES

Alaska.....	9,112
Arizona.....	9,268
California.....	161,068
Idaho.....	33,678
Nevada.....	11,166
Oregon.....	59,487
Utah.....	32,534
Washington.....	80,490
Hawaii.....	6

Subtotal.....396,809

ATLANTIC FLYWAY STATES ..	325,817
MISSISSIPPI FLYWAY STATES ..	931,544
CENTRAL FLYWAY STATES ..	501,672
PACIFIC FLYWAY STATES ..	396,809
PHILATELIC AGENCY ..	9,720
<u>GRAND TOTAL.....</u>	<u>2,165,562</u>