DEPARTMENT of the INTERIOR
news release

FISH AND WILDLIFE

For Release: November 10, 1987 David Klinger 202/343-5634

BULL MARKET? BEAR MARKET?
PLAY IT SAFE BY INVESTING IN THE DUCK MARKET!

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has a hot tip for you: the really smart investors aren't entrusting their money to luck ... they're putting it on the ducks!

The word is getting around the Street: a renewed confidence in the prospects for America's wildlife, bolstered by Fish and Wildlife Service consolidated balance sheets documenting the good things that Duck Stamps do for all kinds of animals, may signal a brisk rally in over-the-counter waterfowl futures.

Tycoons and small-time speculators alike can diversify their portfolios by switching to the Duck Stamp as one blue-chip issue with a proven track record and genuine long-term growth potential. Securities analysts are confident the Duck Stamp will remain one of the most stable stocks in either bull or bear markets.

* * *

Even without Wall Street's blessing, the new $10 Federal Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation Stamp truly is one of the best investments a person can make toward the future health and well-being of the Nation's wildlife.

All of the $16 million raised from the sale of this annual revenue stamp -- known to most insiders as the Duck Stamp -- buys land for the National Wildlife Refuge System. Real estate, considered one of the most solid investments anyone can make, provides a safe haven for birds and brokers. By trading in Duck Stamps, you'll be ensuring maximum dividends for both.

(over)

Duck Stamps buy wetlands -- prime habitat for millions of ducks and geese. But wetlands are valuable to more than just waterfowl. They provide the habitat needed for other game and for many species of nongame wildlife and endangered species. They are the spawning and rearing areas for many commercially-important species of fish and provide popular recreation areas for people to forget their financial woes and enjoy another form of wealth -- America's abundant natural resources.

The Fish and Wildlife Service's "Big Board" now stands at over $313 million that the Duck Stamp has garnered to finance the acquisition of nearly 4 million acres of key habitat in the 91-million-acre National Wildlife Refuge System.

And, if enough shrewd investors stay in the Duck Stamp market, it will keep yielding handsome returns for the ducks and geese, among its many other clients. Though its face value is small -- $10 -- the Duck Stamp is no "penny stock" when it comes to doing good things for wildlife.

* * *

Philatelists confirm that the "paper profits" of past Duck Stamp issues really can become "realized profits" for the sharp speculator!

The colorful, meticulously-engraved Duck Stamp occupies "a special place in the heart of stamp collectors," in the words of one major philatelic dealer. And the appreciation in value of even recently-issued Duck Stamps can warm the heart of even the coolest Wall Street warrior.

Single mint (uncancelled) Duck Stamps from the 1930's carrying a face value of only a dollar are now worth up to $500, according to market experts. Highly-prized plate blocks carrying sheet serial numbers on their edge can draw up to $800. If a collector of Duck Stamps had made a total investment of less than $1,000 in plate blocks between 1934 and 1984, philatelists say that portfolio would now be worth about $62,000.

The Duck Stamp -- considered conservation's "stamp of success" for wildlife -- has emerged as a winner in the collecting world, too!

* * *

How can a person get a piece of this action? Stop by the trading floor of your nearest U.S. Post Office or National Wildlife Refuge and bid $10 for the 1987-88 Federal Duck Stamp.

When you open an account at the firm of "Canvasback, Wigeon, Gadwall, and Teal," you're banking on a sure thing.

So become bullish on wildlife. Jump into the Duck Stamp market!

-DOI-