

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

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News Release



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California Junior Duck Stamp Contest It's Not Too Late!

Willows, Calif.-Artwork has begun to arrive at the Sacramento National Wildlife Refuge Complex as students in grades K-12 across California participate in the Federal Junior Duck Stamp annual art competition. The deadline for entries is March 15, 2015 and California teachers are encouraged to submit their student's work for consideration in the state and national competitions. Over 2,700 pieces of art were submitted in 2014.

New this year, the Sacramento NWRC has three traveling art bins available to teachers/leaders to borrow for two weeks. These containers contain colored pencils, crayons, oil pastels, and learning materials to aid groups in creating their art. The bins must be reserved in advanced and are free to use. Learn more at the website below.

The Federal Junior Duck Stamp Conservation and Design Program is a curriculum combining wetland and waterfowl conservation with the visual arts, used to teach wetlands and waterfowl conservation to students at all primary and secondary school grade levels. The program is a non-traditional pairing of art and science education. It spans cultural, ethnic, social and geographic boundaries to teach awareness of our nation's natural resources.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) awards certificates of appreciation to all students who enter the contest. One hundred winners in four age categories and Best of Show receive awards as well as being published in the yearly California Junior Duck Stamp calendar. The Best of Show artwork from each state is sent to Washington D.C. to compete in a national contest, and the national winner is featured on that year's Federal Junior Duck Stamp.

The Junior Duck Stamp competition is similar to the Service's prestigious Federal Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation Stamp (Federal Duck Stamp) national art contest. Migratory bird hunters are required to possess a Federal Duck Stamp; however, junior stamps are acquired solely for their collector and environmental education value. Proceeds from the sale of Junior Duck Stamps are used to fund conservation education, awards and scholarship programs.

Junior Duck Stamp Program entry forms and teacher's guides may be obtained from the website: <http://www.fws.gov/refuge/Sacramento/JDS.html>.

California entries must be postmarked March 15 or earlier and mailed to: Junior Duck, c/o Sacramento National Wildlife Refuge, 752 County Road 99W, Willows, CA 95988.



New traveling Junior Duck Stamp Art Bin is available for teachers and group leaders to borrow to add in creating students' art work. USFWS photo

The mission of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is working with others to conserve, protect and enhance fish, wildlife, plants and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people. We are both a leader and trusted partner in fish and wildlife conservation, known for our scientific excellence, stewardship of lands and natural resources, dedicated professionals and commitment to public service. For more information on our work and the people who make it happen, visit www.fws.gov.