

The Illinois Daily Usage Stamps

by David R. Torre, ARA

Introduction

The purpose of this article, the second of two discussing the stamps used on waterfowl management areas in California and Illinois, is to tell the story of the Illinois Daily Usage stamps. In Illinois, as in California, a number of such areas were developed in the 1940s and 1950s. In contrast to the situation in California, waterfowl depredations to agricultural crops did not serve as a major stimulus for these projects. The Illinois Department of Conservation (IDOC) had two priorities at this time. The first was to provide additional food and refuge for the large population of Canada geese that annually winters in the state. The second was to provide regulated public shooting grounds for sportsmen who could not afford to belong to private hunting clubs.

Since the early 1950s, daily usage stamps have been used at the public hunting grounds which operate on a (daily) permit basis. These have included waterfowl areas such as Rice Lake, Sanganois, Horseshoe Lake and Union County. The stamps are an integral part of the permit system; they act as a control limiting the number of hunters to the area's specific daily capacity, they provide evidence that the appropriate fees have been paid and they validate hunter's permits or stand-by cards for the day's hunt. Following the end of the season, they are also available as an auditing device.

Information about the stamps was first published in the State Revenue Newsletter in June of 1960. Editor David C. Strock reported that daily usage stamps had been issued on public hunting grounds in Illinois from 1955 through 1958 with a \$2.00 face value for ducks and a \$4.00 face value for pheasants. A \$4.00 stamp from 1957 was illustrated. In November of 1960 Joseph J. Janousek, in his State Game Hunting and Fishing Revenue Stamps column, stated that the first daily usage stamps had been issued in 1953 (see Figure 1). Janousek provided descriptions of both values from 1953, 1956 and 1957. A question mark followed the years 1954 and 1955. In the early 1960s [Frank L.] Applegate's Catalogue of state and Territorial Game and Fishing License Stamps was published. The catalog included descriptions of both values from 1958 and 1959.



FIGURE 1. IN 1960, JOSEPH J. JANOUSEK REPORTED THE FIRST DAILY USAGE STAMPS WERE ISSUED IN 1953.

In 1973 the State Revenue society (SRS) published E. L. Vanderford's Handbook of Fish and Game Stamps. The handbook included descriptions of daily usage stamps from 1953 through 1969, with the exception of 1954 and 1955 which were listed as "information wanted." The handbook stated that starting in 1959, the stamp with the higher face value was required to hunt geese in addition to pheasants on public hunting grounds (see Figure 2). In 1977 the SRS published Vanderford's Check List of State and Locally Issued Migratory Waterfowl License Stamps. Daily usage stamps from 1970 and 1971 were described. Vanderford added, "Daily usage duck stamps were discontinued after 1970 and the goose-pheasant stamps discontinued after 1971."

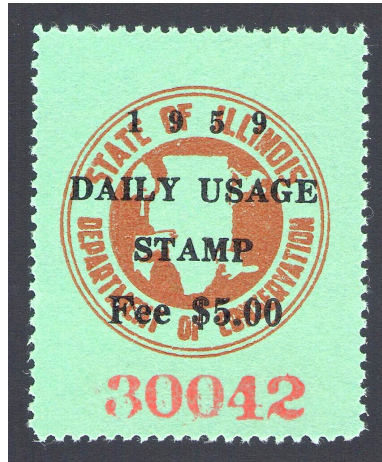


FIGURE 2. E. L. VANDERFORD'S HANDBOOK OF FISH AND GAME STAMPS STATED THAT THE \$5.00 STAMP FROM 1959 WAS THE FIRST REQUIRED TO HUNT GEES.

In 1991 Scott Publishing Company came out with a Federal and State Duck Stamp Catalogue. The catalog listed and pictured daily usage duck stamps for 1953, 1956-70 and 1972. Daily usage stamps required to hunt geese (and pheasants) were listed for 1959-72. The 1972 goose/pheasant stamp was also pictured. Scott did not list daily usage stamps from 1954 or 1955. By this time most consultants to the catalogue, including E. L. Vanderford and myself, had come to believe that stamps had not been issued for those years. Since the 1991 Scott catalogue was published, much more has been learned about the Illinois Daily Usage stamps. Some of the more important facts to be presented in this article are as follows:

1. We now know Illinois issued daily usage stamps in 1951 and possibly as early as 1950. In any event, the state became the third to issue stamps required to hunt waterfowl (following Ohio in 1937 and South Dakota in 1949).
2. Daily Usage Stamps were required to hunt geese prior to 1959. Starting in 1953, the \$2.00 stamps were used on the public hunting ground operated at the Horseshoe Lake Goose Refuge. Starting in 1954, the same stamps were also used at the Union County Goose Refuge.
3. Illinois has continued to issue Daily Usage Stamps through the present time. The stamps have been employed over a longer period (60+ years) than any other state-issued waterfowl series on record.
4. The series has not been consecutively issued, however. Although stamps were issued in 1954 and 1955, tickets (similar to enlarged theater tickets), were used in their place from 1973 through 1976.

The Canada Goose Refuges

Illinois is located within the Mississippi Flyway, as are all the states which border the Mississippi River. Illinois provides one of the most important wintering areas for Canada Geese in North America. From their nesting grounds along the west side of James Bay in Canada, a large segment of the Mississippi Flyway Canada goose population migrates southwest and winters in the southern part of the state (Hanson and Smith, 1950).

Horseshoe Lake is located in the southern tip of Illinois, in Alexander County. It was formed when an ancient U-shaped bend in the Mississippi River pinched off (see Figure 3).

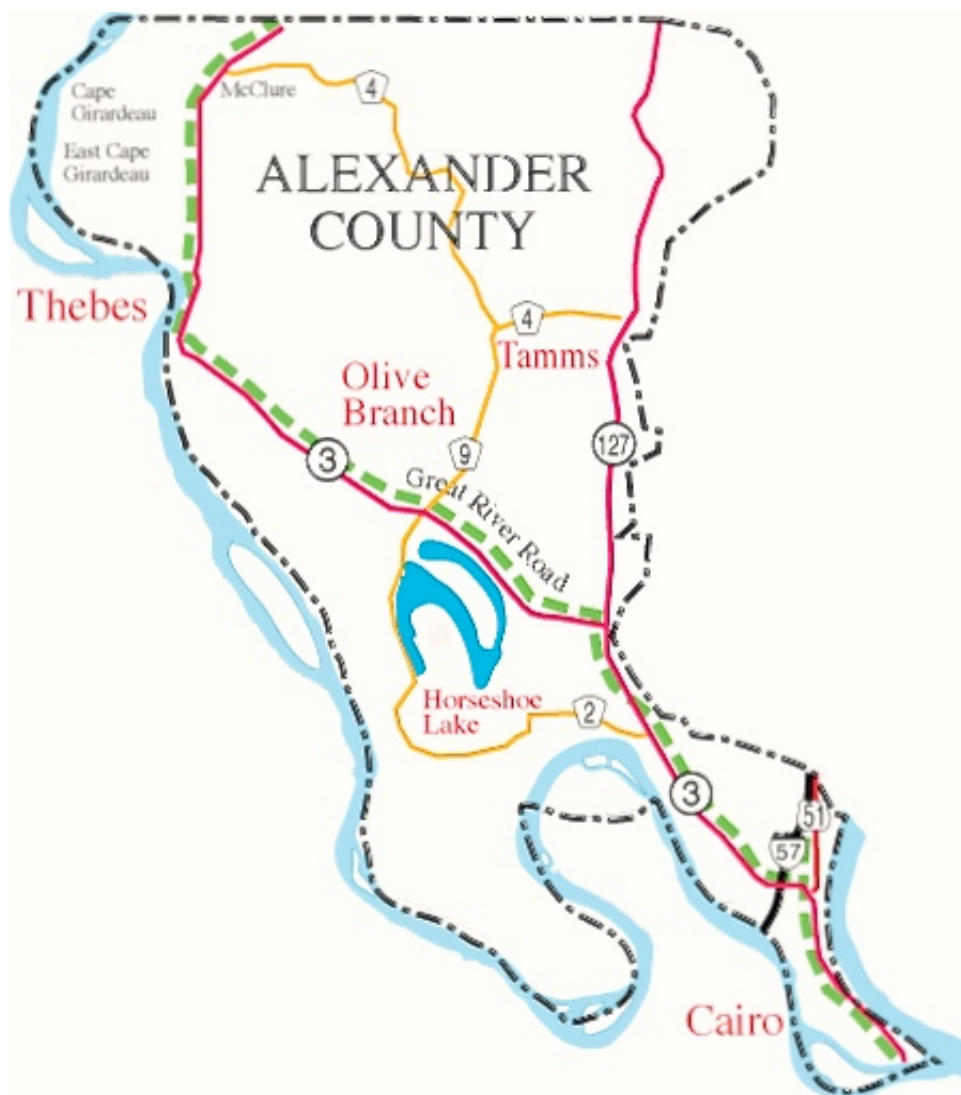


FIGURE 3. HORSESHOE LAKE IS LOCATED IN SOUTHERNMOST ILLINOIS.

For many years Horseshoe Lake was known as one of the World's greatest goose hunting areas (New Migratory Waterfowl, 1944). There are numerous private goose hunting clubs in the area, lining the shores of the lake and the river. Many of these date back to the 19th century (see Figure 4).

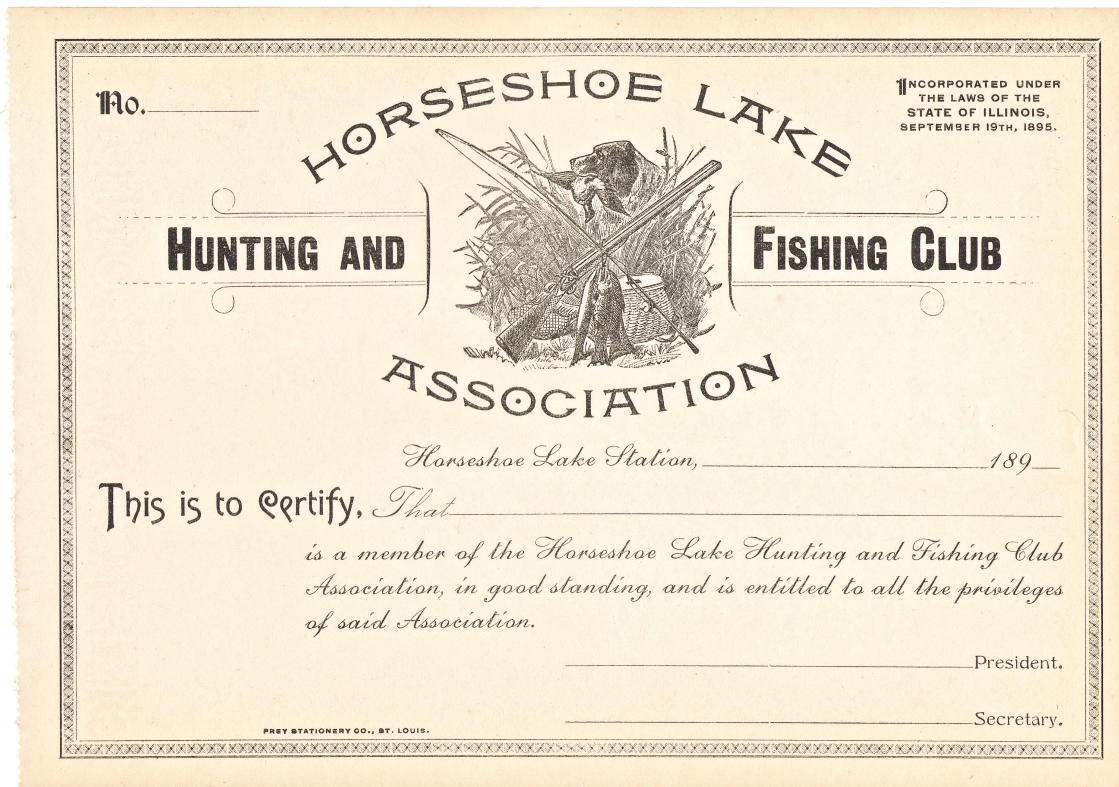


FIGURE 4. THE HORSESHOE LAKE HUNTING AND FISHING CLUB WAS FOUNDED IN 1895.

In an effort to provide protection for the Canada goose population in Southern Illinois, the IDOC purchased Horseshoe Lake and turned it into a refuge. Most of the refuge, including an island, was acquired in 1927. This amounted to 3490 acres. Once the refuge was established, Canada Geese, which had previously wintered all along the Mississippi River in Southern Illinois, began to concentrate there. By the 1940s, about 50 percent of the Canada geese in the Mississippi Flyway were wintering within a very small area in and around the Horseshoe Lake Refuge (Hanson and Smith 1950).

Prior to 1944 there were no special goose hunting regulations for the Horseshoe Lake area. Hunting was conducted under statewide regulations (Thomburg, 1994). Private goose hunting clubs were licensed by the IDOC and were required to report the number of geese killed on their property daily. The IDOC also allowed some hunting on portions of the refuge. This policy stemmed from the belief that a successful refuge operation should incorporate an annual harvest (Callaway, 1956).

A curious and potentially disastrous occurrence took place at Horseshoe Lake in the late 1930s and early 1940s—the goose flock became tame (see Figure 5). According to an excerpt from *Canada Geese of the Mississippi Flyway*, published by the Illinois Department of Registration and Education in 1950: “Along with the increase in numbers of Canada geese at Horseshoe Lake there were two developments of primary importance: a tremendous increase in shooting pressure on the flock and an alteration in the behavior of the geese... The goose flock using Horseshoe Lake gradually lost most of its fear of man and gunfire while near the refuge. The result...was a tremendous increase in the kill.”



FIGURE 5. DOCILE CANADA GEESE AT THE HORSESHOE LAKE REFUGE.

The average number of Canada geese killed at Horseshoe Lake from 1939 through 1945 was 9,800. This figure includes the geese killed on private property as well as on the refuge itself. In all other parts of Illinois combined the average was only 1,100. The state with the next highest average in the Mississippi Flyway, Michigan, was under 3,000 statewide.

The large annual kills at Horseshoe Lake greatly exceeded the breeding potential for Mississippi Flyway Canada geese. This resulted in the goose population being reduced by nearly one-half within a two-year span. The number of geese wintering in Illinois during 1943-44 was approximately 50,000. By 1945-46 it was down to 26,000—an all time low for the state (Hanson and Smith, 1950; Callaway, 1956).

According to F. C. Lincoln, the significance of his flyway concept was **“If the birds should be exterminated in any one of the four major flyways now definitely recognized, it would at best be a long time before that region [of North America] could be repopulated,** even though birds of the species affected should continue over other flyways to return to their great breeding grounds of the North.” As Canada geese have a fairly low breeding potential, the overkilling at Horseshoe Lake posed serious consequences for the entire Mississippi Flyway (Hanson and Smith, 1950).

The situation quickly attracted the attention of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS). In response, a new federal hunting regulation was established in 1944 specifically for the Horseshoe Lake area. It provided that after 6,000 geese were killed, the goose season would be closed. A second regulation closed all goose hunting in Alexander County at noon each day (New Migratory Waterfowl, 1944).

After the grim goose census results were obtained in 1945, shooting at Horseshoe Lake was halted after only five half-days. In part to divert attention away from the Canada geese, the IDOC purchased and developed additional public duck hunting areas at this time (detailed later in this article). No open season for Canada geese was permitted along the entire Mississippi Flyway during 1946-47. Goose hunting resumed along the flyway during 1947-48 on a restricted basis. Limited hunting was allowed at Horseshoe Lake during this time (Hanson and Smith, 1950; Callaway 1956).

Recognizing the need for a second Canada goose refuge, in 1947 the IDOC began acquiring land in Union County, about 25 miles north of Horseshoe Lake. By the early 1950s, the new Union County Wildlife Refuge totalled 5,600 acres. At this time the IDOC emphasized a feeding program at both refuges. Corn was grown at the areas, then knocked down a few rows at a time so that the geese could reach it (1950 Annual Report; 1951 Annual Report). Due in large part to the efforts of the IDOC and the USFWS, the Mississippi Flyway Canada goose population rebounded the late 1940s and early 1950s (see Figure 6).



FIGURE 6. CANADA GEESE AT A SOUTHERN ILLINOIS REFUGE AREA.

Public Duck Hunting Areas

Ducks using the Mississippi Flyway breed and nest primarily in the prairie province of Manitoba, but also to some extent in the Dakotas and Minnesota. In the fall, Mississippi Flyway ducks migrate southeast on the way to their principal wintering grounds in eastern Arkansas and northeastern Louisiana (Wesley and Leitch, 1987).

The main migration corridor for Mississippi Flyway mallards centers over the Illinois River Valley in west-central Illinois (see Figure 7). Consequently, the area has become nationally known for its mallard hunting. Significant numbers of other species of ducks also occupy the valley during peak migration times. These include bluewing teal, lesser scaup, and ruddy. The valley owes its rich history of waterfowl use and activity to the quality of water and aquatic vegetation found there (Ball, 1993).



FIGURE 7. THE ILLINOIS RIVER VALLEY IS THE HEART OF THE MISSISSIPPI FLYWAY.

For over a hundred years most of the desirable shooting areas in the valley have been controlled by private duck clubs. Before WWII, sportsmen who could not afford to belong to the private clubs were having trouble finding good places to hunt. Most of the valley's wetlands which were not owned or leased by the clubs were located along the Illinois River. At one time the mallards had concentrated along the river and it provided excellent hunting. However, changes in feeding habits caused the ducks to scatter all over the valley.

Corn is the principal crop in Illinois and corn fields comprise approximately 28 percent of the land (A Comparative Study, 1963). The widespread use of mechanical corn pickers in the late 1930s and early 1940s resulted in a large amount of corn being left in the fields. Much of this remaining corn would have been harvested by the old hand-picking method.

The cornfields of Illinois soon acted like a magnet for ducks, much like the rice fields of California (Osborne, 1945). This situation did not prove to be of great concern to Illinois farmers, as the ducks descended on their fields after the harvest. In order to be closer to this new found food source, the mallards abandoned the Illinois river in favor of local lakes and streams.

In an effort to provide quality duck hunting opportunities for all sportsmen, the IDOC opened a public shooting area in the Illinois River Valley. A 2,217 acre tract of land in Fulton County, approximately 30 miles southwest of Peoria, was purchased in 1943 from the estate of U. G. Orendorff for \$83,137. The area was named Rice Lake, as wild rice had been plentiful there at one time.

Mr. Orendorff had founded the plow works in nearby Canton which evolved into International Harvester (see Figure 8). For many years Rice Lake had served as his private duck club (Ball, 1993). The IDOC intended to operate the area as a combination refuge and public hunting area. Like the Honey Lake Waterfowl Management Area in California, Rice Lake was purchased and developed under the Pittman-Robertson Program (Rice Lake Refuge, 1944).



**FIGURE 8. RICE LAKE WAS ORIGINALLY A PRIVATE DUCK CLUB
BELONGING TO U. G. ORENDORFF, THE FOUNDER OF INTERNATIONAL HARVESTER.**

The northern half of the area comprised the public shooting grounds. Rice Lake adjoined the large Duck Island Gun Club and drew birds from their lake as well as from its own refuge (Woods, 1960). As opposed to Honey Lake, where natural vegetation provided adequate cover, hunting at Rice Lake was done exclusively from permanent blinds (until recent years). The blinds were constructed by the IDOC and could accommodate a total of 40 hunters per day.

During the 1940s hunters needed to obtain a permit but no fee was charged. Prospective hunters wrote to the IDOC, requesting to shoot at Rice Lake on a desired date. Hunters could also request that one or two partners shoot from their blind. Permits were issued on a first-come, first-served basis. After the hunters received a permit in the mail, they were assured of a place to hunt on the specified date (New Migratory Waterfowl, 1944). Early in the morning of each hunt day, the blinds were assigned by lottery. Numbers were drawn and each corresponded to a particular blind. This method was adopted to allow everyone an equal chance at the blinds in better locations (Thatcher, 1945).

From its inception, the public shooting area at Rice Lake was very popular. According to IDOC Director Livingston E. Osborne: "More than 1,500 applications have been received by the Department from Illinois duck hunters for permits to hunt on the state's new public shooting grounds at Rice Lake.... Applications have come in so rapidly that all of October from the start of the duck season on the 14th is filled completely as well as every day in November. The youngest applicant to date is a 12 year old boy from central Illinois. Many ladies have applied for hunting privileges. On the opening day a father, son and grandson will hunt. The grandfather is 77 years old" (New Migratory Waterfowl, 1944). Hunters were allowed to shoot at Rice Lake once every ten days in order to prevent locals from monopolizing the area (Thatcher, 1945).

To meet the growing demand for public shooting grounds, the IDOC opened two new waterfowl management areas in 1945. They were known as the Sparland and Woodford County Public Shooting Areas (see Figure 9). Including Rice Lake, a total of 5,400 acres were available for public hunting at this time (Thatcher, 1945).

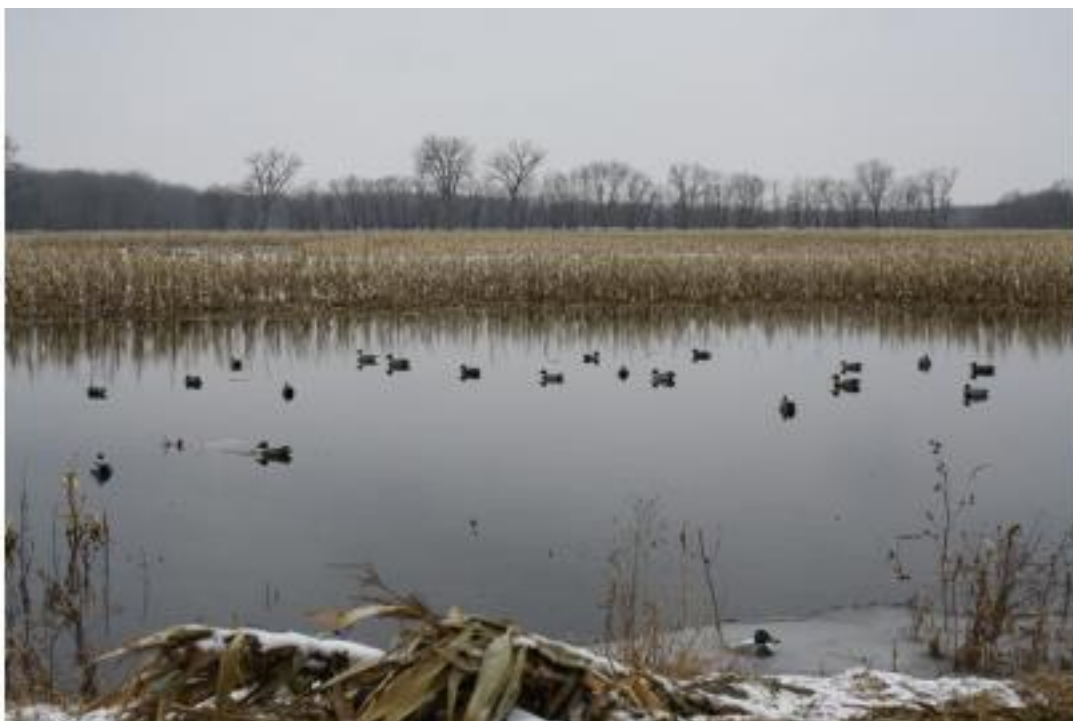


FIGURE 9. THE WOODFORD COUNTY PUBLIC SHOOTING AREA.

In 1945 the IDOC also created a new Division of Game Management. The Division was in charge of the planning and administration of a waterfowl and upland game refuges, the planning and administration of public hunting grounds and the administration of the Pittman-Robertson Federal Aid Program (1950 Annual report; 1953 Annual Report).

As it did in California, hunting boomed in Illinois following the end of WWII. The State's existing public shooting areas could not come close to accommodating all of the sportsmen wishing to hunt waterfowl (Woods, 1960). In the late 1940s the IDOC purchased and developed three additional waterfowl management areas—Anderson Lake, Batchtown and Sanganois. Like Rice Lake, the new areas were funded by the Pittman-Robertson Program. Rice Lake continued to be the most popular with hunters, as it consistently provided them the most success (Rice Lake Again Produces, 1951).

For a map showing the location of each waterfowl area to offer public hunting in 1950, see Figure 10. Locations of pheasant areas are also shown. These will not be individually discussed in this article. The map identifies public hunting areas at the Horseshoe Lake and Union County Goose Refuges. Although some hunting was allowed on the refuges at this time, it was not a controlled situation with check-stations, numbered pits, etc. (Thornburg, 1994). The IDOC did not operate regular public hunting grounds at the Horseshoe Lake and Union County Goose Refuges until 1953 and 1954, respectively.

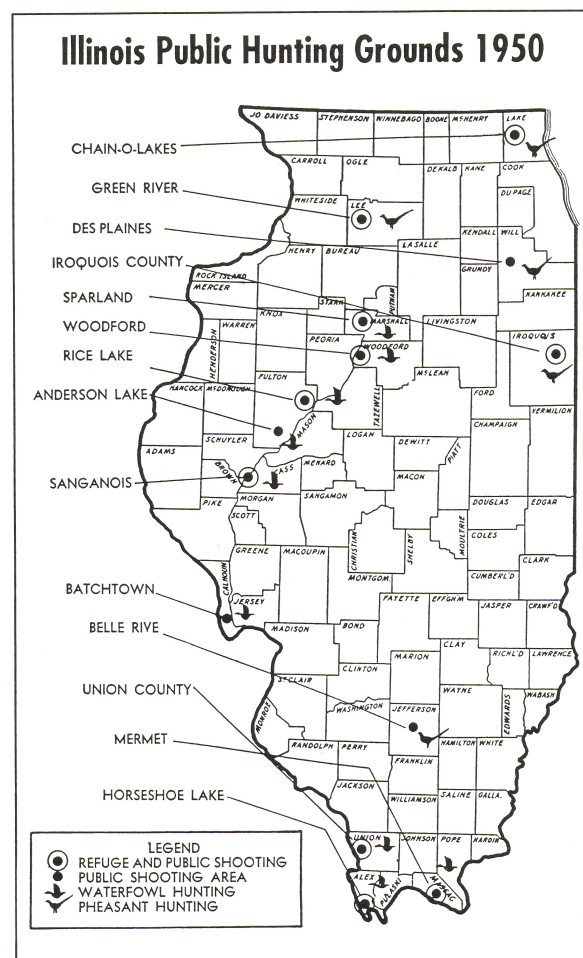


FIGURE 10. THIS MAP SHOWS THE LOCATION OF WATERFOWL PUBLIC HUNTING GROUNDS IN 1950.

According to an excerpt from A Brief summary of Illinois Department of Conservation Activities for 1953: "During the past hunting season this Division [Game Management] operated two new hunting grounds for the public. One of these, the Horseshoe Lake Public Hunting Ground, was operated as the first goose hunting ground open to the public... Hunting was limited to thirty pits, with a maximum capacity of sixty hunters per day. Each hunter was limited to the taking of one Canada goose, and the hunting hours were from one-half hour before sunrise until twelve o'clock noon. One thousand two hundred and four (1,204) geese were harvested by two thousand sixty-six (2,066) hunters." A separate section of the same report stated: "For the coming year...there is a possibility of having another goose hunting ground. If the fall migrations of the Canada goose warrant continued harvesting of this bird, a portion of the Union County Refuge probably will be opened as a public hunting ground."

Daily Usage Stamps Issued

In the early 1950s the IDOC imposed a fee on the public hunting grounds. This was necessary to help defray the cost of running the public hunting program in Illinois. The fee was quite reasonable compared to the expense involved in belonging to a private club. According to an excerpt from an article written by a hunter in Outdoors in Illinois, "The [public hunting] areas provide the Illinois hunter a place where he has a reasonable chance to bag some ducks without having to lay out a day's wages to do so."

After a hunter drew his blind, he then paid the daily usage fee for himself and his partners. **For each fee paid, a separate stamp was affixed to his permit. As the blinds accommodated up to three hunters, one, two or three "daily usage stamps" were affixed to each permit (see Figure 11).**

THIS IS YOUR PERMIT
FOR SPARLAND

001 24 1953

STATE OF ILLINOIS
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
Division of Game Management

APPLICATION FOR PERMIT
TO HUNT DUCKS ON PUBLIC HUNTING

My 1953 Resident Hunting

00581

9502 SPARLAND

I wish to shoot on the

My first choice of date is OCTOBER 24 My second choice of date is OCTOBER 25TH

Month Day Month Day

AREA

If you have a partner who wishes to hunt with you, print below:

DEWEY OLIN
Full name of partner

ROUTE #1 LA GRANGE
Partner's street address

LA GRANGE, ILL.
Partner's city

255663
Partner's 1953 Hunting License No.

Fred J. Budovec
Print your full name: first, middle and surname

1518 So. Komensky Ave,
Print your street number and name

Chicago, 23 Ill
Print town, postal zone if any, and state

Fred J. Budovec
Signature of Applicant

FIGURE 11. PERMIT DESIGNATED FOR THE SPARLAND WILDLIFE AREA WITH TWO 1953 DAILY USAGE DUCK STAMPS AFFIXED. TWO HUNTERS, WHOSE NAMES ARE LOCATED AT THE BOTTOM OF THE PERMIT, OCCUPIED THE SAME BLIND. FURTHER, EACH STAMP HAS A DIAMOND-SHAPED PUNCH INDICATING THE BLIND WAS CHECKED BY AREA PERSONNEL FOR COMPLIANCE.

One of the roles the stamps served was as a control. For example, if the daily hunter capacity at a particular area was 50, then a maximum of 50 daily usage stamps would be issued at the location on each hunt day. To facilitate this control, the stamps were serial numbered. Although the stamps were gummed, they were frequently stapled to the permits.

The stamps validated the permits for a single day's hunt. At the end of the hunt, the permits and stamps were collected by IDOC personnel in charge of a checkout procedure. During this procedure the number of each species of waterfowl killed was recorded (Ball, 1993). To ensure that all of the permits and stamps were returned, every hunter's state hunting license was held at the check station as collateral. The permits and stamps were then sent to IDOC Headquarters in Springfield for possible audit and subsequent destruction.

Janousek (1960) and Vanderford (1973, 1977) both reported that the daily usage stamps were first issued in 1953. Both stated that \$2.00 stamps were used on the public duck hunting grounds and \$4.00 stamps were used on the public pheasant hunting grounds. It may be of interest to note that the \$2.00 daily fee was identical to that charged on the state waterfowl management areas in California during the 1950s (Fine Public Shooting, 1955).

Like all of the daily usage stamps issued through 1972, the 1953 stamps featured the insignia of the IDOC in the background. The specific year date, "DAILY USAGE STAMP" and the fee are printed in black ink over the top of the insignia. All daily usage stamps have the serial number printed below the insignia. The insignia includes a map of Illinois with a tree, a goose, a fish and a beaver located in the four corners of the state. Circling the map is the inscription "STATE OF ILLINOIS / DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION." The 1953 stamps have the insignia printed in orange ink on blue paper and white paper for the \$2.00 and \$4.00 values, respectively. The serial numbers are printed in black.

The dimensions of daily usage stamps issued through 1972 often vary one to three millimeter. This has been noted primarily for those issued prior to 1959, after which time the stamps became more uniform in size. However, all stamp measurements cited in this article should be considered approximations. The \$2.00 stamps from 1953 measure 32 x 37 mm and the \$4.00 stamps measure 32 x 40 mm (see Figures 1, 11 and 12).



**FIGURE 12. 1953 DAILY USAGE STAMP WITH \$2.00 FACE VALUE.
NOTE THIS UNUSUAL EXAMPLE HAS BEEN PUNCHED TWICE.**

Both Values are perforated 12. Applegate stated in his catalog that the illinois daily usage stamps were "Apparently printed in panes three stamps wide, hence only the center stamp is full perf. 12." In the Handbook of Fish and Game Stamps, Vanderford stated: "All stamps... [are] believed to be from sheets of 25 (5x5). Sheets [are] imperforate [on] all sides except [for a] 10 mm perforated selvage at [the] left." After completing a study of the daily usage stamps in collections today, I have determined that Vanderford was correct. For the location of the stamps with specific serial numbers in the 25-subject panes, see Figures 13 and 14. Fourteen of the \$2.00 stamps and four of the \$4.00 stamps have been recorded from 1953.

1	2	3	4	5
05, 30, 55, 80	04, 29, 54, 79	03, 28, 53, 78	02, 27, 52, 77	01, 26, 51, 76
6	7	8	9	10
10, 35, 60, 85	09, 34, 59, 84	08, 33, 58, 83	07, 32, 57, 82	06, 31, 56, 81
11	12	13	14	15
15, 40, 65, 90	14, 39, 64, 89	13, 38, 63, 88	12, 37, 62, 87	11, 36, 61, 86
16	17	18	19	20
20, 45, 70, 95	19, 44, 69, 94	18, 43, 68, 93	17, 42, 67, 92	16, 41, 66, 91
21	22	23	24	25
25, 50, 75, 100	24, 49, 74, 99	23, 48, 73, 98	22, 47, 72, 97	21, 46, 71, 96

FIGURE 13. LAYOUT OF 25-SUBJECT PANE SHOWING THE POSITION OF STAMPS AND THE LAST TWO DIGITS OF THEIR SERIAL NUMBER.



FIGURE 14. \$3.00 AND \$5.00 STAMPS FROM 1960. THE LAST TWO DIGITS OF THEIR SERIAL NUMBERS IS 85 AND 95. THEREFORE, THEY ARE FROM POSITIONS SIX AND SIXTEEN, RESPECTIVELY.

When this article was originally published in 1994, I wrote that it seemed likely daily usage stamps were issued prior to 1953 and possibly as early as 1950. For many years I had been aware of a letter written by William E. Cloe, Acting Superintendent of Game Management, to revenue collector and dealer Elbert S. A. Hubbard in 1956. At this time Hubbard was doing much to further the collecting of state revenue stamps. He founded the State Revenue Society in 1955 and started the State Revenue Newsletter in 1959 (Martin, 1994).

Hubbard had heard about the daily usage stamps, possibly from fellow revenue specialist John Bobo who lived in Illinois, then made a request of the IDOC for additional information. Cloe's letter was in reply. In it he stated, "The Department of Conservation, State of Illinois, has been using Daily Usage Stamps on the state owned hunting grounds since 1950" (See Figure 15). Previous to researching the current article, I had assumed this statement to be incorrect (possibly due to a typographical error).

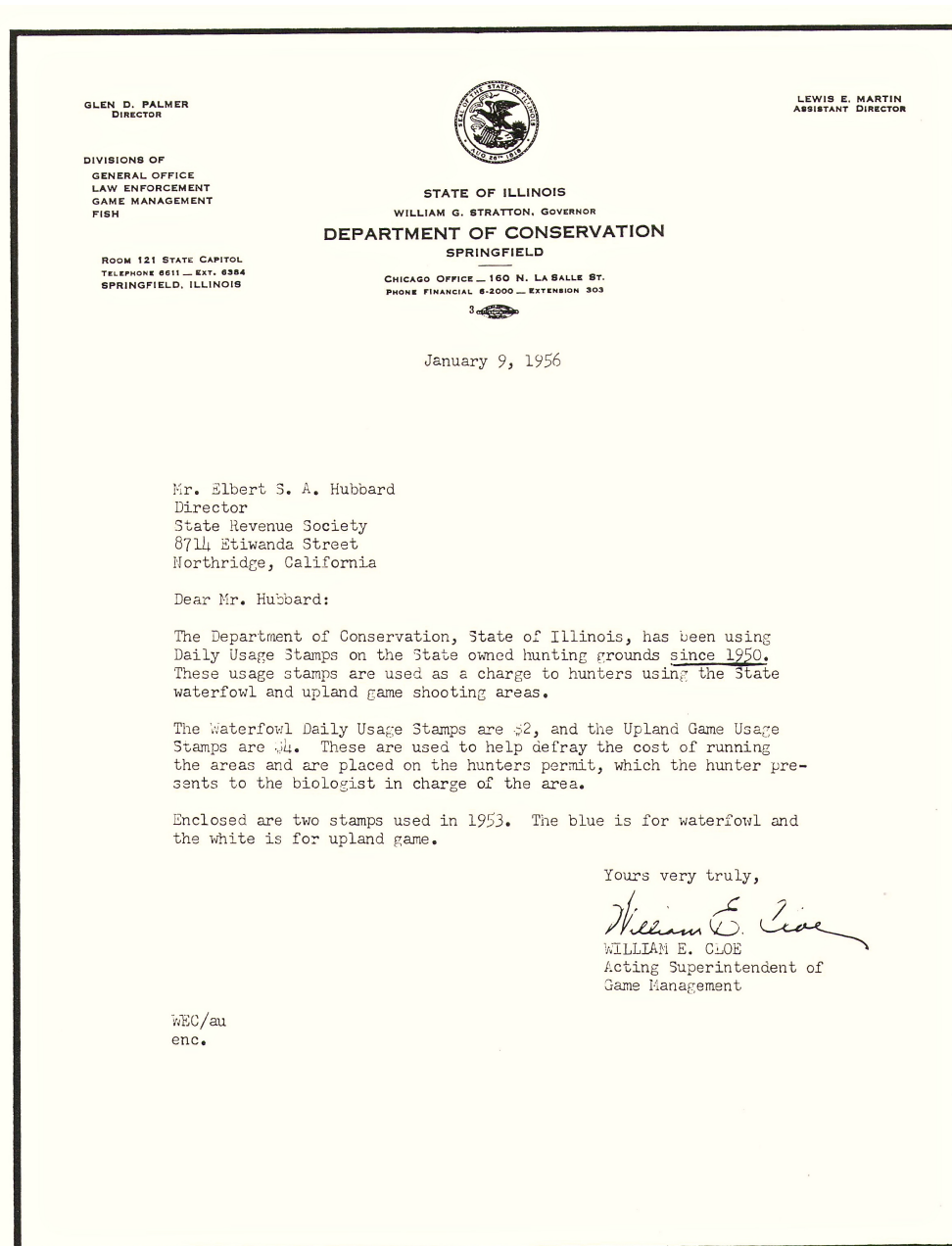


FIGURE 15. LETTER FROM WILLIAM E. CLOE TO ELBERT E. A. HUBBARD STATING THAT DAILY USAGE STAMPS HAVE BEEN USED SINCE 1950.

With Cloe's letter in mind, I sought materials dated 1950-52. The 1950 and 1951 Annual reports of the IDOC were located, along with a Game and Fish Code dated July 1, 1951. The Annual reports make no mention of daily usage stamps. The Code does. Section 3, subsection (F) reads: "The Department is authorized to issue a Public Hunting Grounds daily usage stamp at a fee of \$2.00, such stamp to expire at the end of the day of issue. Any person who is a resident of the State of Illinois, shall obtain such a stamp from the Department to be attached to the permit card assigned to a person under the provisions of the rules and regulations made by the Department for the Operation of State Public Hunting Grounds."

The 1951 Code allowed for the possibility that Cloe's statement was indeed correct. The fact that daily usage stamps were not included in the 1950 and 1951 Annual Reports did not prove the stamps were not issued during those years, (The 1953 Annual report did not mention the stamps shown in Figures 1, 11 and 12 either). On the other hand, the 1951 Code speaks to the authority the IDOC had to issue stamps at that time. I stated that perhaps they did not actually do so until 1953 and that additional information may someday be discovered that will establish the first year of issue for this series.

As of 2015, two examples of the \$2.00 stamp from 1951 and one example of the \$2.00 stamp from 1952 have been recorded. Shortly before his death in 2004, state fish and game dealer Barry Porter of Hendersonville, Tennessee contacted me and informed me he had discovered a 1951 Illinois daily usage stamp in a small lot he bought. He subsequently sold me the stamp. In 2010, a second example was recorded by duck stamp dealer Bob Dumaine of Houston, Texas. The latter example now resides in the Casaplar collection. The 1951 stamps are unusual in they are imperforate. They measure 31 x 37 mm and have "No" preceding the serial number (see figure 16).



FIGURE 16. 1951 DAILY USAGE STAMP DISCOVERED BY BARRY PORTER IN 2004.

In December of 2014, revenue specialist Eric Jackson called me with news that he had just acquired a 1952 Illinois daily usage stamp. This stamp is significant for the fact that it is the first perforated stamp and the first to look like the remaining stamps in the series issued through 1972. It measures 32 x 36 mm and is perforated 12 (see Figure 17).

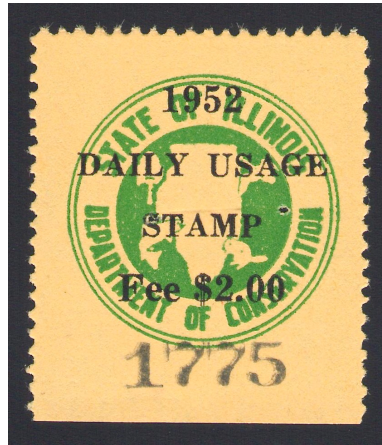


FIGURE 17. 1952 DAILY USAGE STAMP DISCOVERED BY ERIC JACKSON IN 2014.

Stamps After 1953

The earliest annual reports to include the daily usage stamps are from 1954 and 1955. The information provided by these reports is significant for two reasons. First, when this article was originally published in 1994, no examples of either value had been recorded from 1954 or 1955 and it was previously believed that stamps were not issued for those years (Vanderford, 1991; Cummings, 1991). It should be noted that Strock (1960) had reported that both values were issued in 1955, but his claim was never substantiated.

Second, the Handbook of Fish and Game Stamps indicates that the \$4.00 stamps from 1959 were the first daily usage stamps used to hunt geese on public hunting grounds in Illinois. The 1954 and 1955 Annual Reports prove otherwise.

The 1954 Annual report states that the \$2.00 stamps were used at the Anderson Lake, Rice Lake, Sanganois and Woodford County Public Duck Hunting Areas. A total of \$9,122 was collected in daily usage fees at the four locations. The report also states that the \$2.00 stamps were used at the Horseshoe Lake and Union County Goose Refuges. A total of \$2,762 was collected in fees at the two refuges. This confirms that a public hunting ground was established at the Union County refuge in 1954, as proposed in the 1953 Annual Report. The \$4.00 stamps were used at six public pheasant hunting areas (see Figure 18).

GOOSE AREAS				
Areas	Hunters	Geese Killed	Percentage	
Horseshoe Lake	1,261	891	.70	
Union County	120	49	.40	
Total	1,381	940	.68	
Total hunters for all hunting areas—18,500.				
Remarks:				
Pheasant kill would have been higher if the cover had not been too dense.				
Duck kill was low because of excessive amount of water in the Illinois River Valley, and also because the weather was too warm.				
WATERFOWL AREAS (DUCK)				
Areas	Usage Stamp Monies	Boat Rentals	Decoy Rentals	Total Amount of Money Collected
Woodford County ..	\$1,476.00	\$ 271.00	\$ 81.00	\$ 1,828.00
Rice Lake	3,480.00	895.00	200.00	4,575.00
Anderson Lake	2,754.00	675.00	107.00	3,536.00
Sanganois	1,412.00	324.00	52.00	1,788.00
Total	\$9,122.00	\$2,165.00	\$440.00	\$11,727.00
GOOSE AREAS				
Arcas	Usage Stamp Monies			
Horseshoe Lake	\$2,522.00			
Union County	240.00			
Total	\$2,762.00			
PHEASANT AREAS				
Areas	Usage Stamp Monies			
Chain-O-Lakes	\$ 4,004.00			
Iroquois	5,944.00			
Des Plaines	17,840.00			
Green River	6,680.00			
Clinton County	7,548.00			
Belle Rive	6,512.00			
Total	\$48,528.00			
Total amount of money received for public hunting areas:				
Pheasant Areas	\$48,528.00			
Waterfowl Areas	11,727.00			
Goose Areas	2,762.00			
Total	\$63,017.00			

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FIGURE 18. PAGE FROM THE 1954 ANNUAL REPORT.

The 1955 Annual Report states that the \$2.00 stamps were used at the same four duck hunting areas as in 1954, at a new public duck hunting ground located at the Marshall County Wildlife Refuge and at the Horseshoe Lake and Union County Goose refuges. The \$4.00 stamps were used at eight pheasant hunting areas (see Figure 19).

DUCK AREAS				
Area	Hunters	Duck-kill	Goose-kill	Percentage
Anderson Lake	1,079	2,430	4	2.24
Marshall County	855	1,224	4	1.43
Rice Lake	1,407	2,869	7	2.04
Sanganois	439	239	1	.54
Woodford County	619	865	13	1.39
Total	4,399	7,627	29	1.53
GOOSE AREAS				
Area	Hunters	Kill	Percentage	
Horseshoe Lake	1,391	564	.40	
Union County	1,219	991	.81	
Total	2,610	1,555	.60	
Note: We had only 29 days of hunting on Duck Areas due to the early freeze.				
PHEASANT AREAS				
Area	Usage Stamp Money			
Belle Rive	\$ 6,812			
Chain-O-Lakes	4,424			
Clinton County	7,580			
Des Plaines	18,836			
Green River	7,816			
Iroquois	7,100			
O'Hare Field	8,960			
Shelby County	6,468			
	\$67,996			
WATERFOWL AREAS (Duck)				
Area	Usage Stamp Money	Boat Rental	Decoy Rental	Total Amount of Money Collected
Anderson Lake	\$ 2,158	526	131	\$ 2,815
Marshall County	1,710	389	89	2,188
Rice Lake	2,814	665	142	3,621
Sanganois	878	214	59	1,151
Woodford County	1,238	311	86	2,635
Total	\$ 8,798	2,105	507	\$12,410
GOOSE AREAS				
Area	Usage Stamp Money			
Horseshoe Lake	\$ 2,782			
Union County	2,438			
Total	\$ 5,220			
TOTAL AMOUNT OF MONEY RECEIVED FROM PUBLIC HUNTING AREAS				
PHEASANT AREAS	\$67,996			
DUCK AREAS	12,410			
GOOSE AREAS	5,220			
	\$85,626			

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FIGURE 19. PAGE FROM THE 1955 ANNUAL REPORT.

The Annual reports for 1956 through 1959 do not specifically mention the daily usage stamps. However, it is now assumed that the \$2.00 stamps were used at the public duck and goose hunting areas through 1958. Starting in 1959 the \$4.00 stamps, previously used only at the pheasant areas, were also used at the goose refuges (Vanderford, 1973). For a listing of the waterfowl management areas where each kind of stamp was used, see Tables I and II. These tables show the total number of hunters which paid the daily usage fees each year. As one stamp was affixed to a permit for each hunter who paid the daily usage fee, these figures also represent the total number of stamps used each year.

Table I

Waterfowl Management Areas using Duck Daily Usage Stamps¹

Year	Location	Total Hunters
1953	Anderson Lake, Batchtown, Horseshoe Lake, Rice Lake, Sanganois, Sparland, Woodford County	2,066 + ²
1954	Anderson Lake, Horseshoe Lake, Rice Lake, Sanganois, Union County, Woodford County	5,942
1955	Anderson Lake, Horseshoe Lake, Marshall County, Rice Lake, Sanganois, Union County, Woodford County	7,009
1956	Anderson Lake, Horseshoe Lake, Marshall County, Rice Lake, Sanganois, Union County, Woodford County	7,597
1957	Anderson Lake, Horseshoe Lake, Marshall County, Rice Lake, Sanganois, Union County, Woodford County	12,867
1958	Anderson Lake, Horseshoe Lake, Marshall County, Rice Lake, Sanganois, Union County	13,129
1959	Anderson Lake, Bluff Lake, Mermet, Rice Lake, Sanganois	2,816
1960	Anderson Lake, Bluff Lake, Rice Lake, Sanganois	3,495
1961	Anderson Lake, Rice Lake, Sanganois	2,220
1962	Anderson Lake, Rice Lake, Sanganois	1,178
1963	Anderson Lake, Sanganois	1,253
1964	Anderson Lake, Rice Lake, Sanganois	1,624
1965	Anderson Lake, Rice Lake, Sanganois	1,876
1966	Anderson Lake, Mermet, Rice Lake, Sanganois	5,150
1967	Mermet, Rice Lake, Sanganois	3,712
1968	Mermet, Sanganois	2,571
1969	Rice Lake, Sanganois	1,220
1972	Rice Lake	1,159
1977	Rice Lake	1,418
1978	Rice Lake	1,329
1979	Rice Lake	890
1980	Rice Lake	1,314
1981	Rice Lake	993
1982	Rice Lake	1,420
1983	Rice Lake	2,016
1984	Rice Lake	1,234
1985	Rice Lake	1,029
1986	Rice Lake	1,485
1987	Rice Lake	1,574
1988	Rice Lake	1,184
1989	Rice Lake	945
1990	Rice Lake	1,199
1991	Rice Lake	1,133
1992	Rice Lake	1,545
1993	Rice Lake	1,250

¹From 1953 through 1958 the "duck" daily usage stamps were also used at the Horseshoe Lake and Union County Goose Refuges.

²This figure represents the number of hunters at Horseshoe Lake only. Data for the duck areas is not available at this time.

Table II

Waterfowl Management Areas using Goose Daily Usage Stamps¹

Year	Location	Total Hunters
1959	Horseshoe Lake, Union County	5,683
1960	Horseshoe Lake, Union County	3,595
1961	Horseshoe Lake, Union County	5,417
1962	Horseshoe Lake, Union County	4,060
1963	Horseshoe Lake, Union County	4,069
1964	Horseshoe Lake, Union County	2,719
1965	Horseshoe Lake, Union County	4,470
1966	Horseshoe Lake, Union County	5,073
1967	Horseshoe Lake, Union County	4,507
1968	Horseshoe Lake, Union County	6,192
1969	Horseshoe Lake, Union County	4,360
1970	Horseshoe Lake, Union County	5,949
1971	Horseshoe Lake, Union County	5,835
1972	Horseshoe Lake, Union County	6,744
1977	Horseshoe Lake, Union County	5,484
1978	Horseshoe Lake, Union County	8,379
1979	Horseshoe Lake, Union County	8,038
1980	Horseshoe Lake, Union County	4,108
1981	Horseshoe Lake, Union County	5,633
1982	Horseshoe Lake, Union County	3,424
1983	Horseshoe Lake, Union County	3,422
1984	Horseshoe Lake, Union County	2,766
1985	Horseshoe Lake, Union County	2,879
1986	Horseshoe Lake, Union County	4,010
1987	Horseshoe Lake, Union County	3,637
1988	Horseshoe Lake, Union County	4,332
1989	Horseshoe Lake, Union County	4,973
1990	Horseshoe Lake, Union County	5,050
1991	Horseshoe Lake, Snake Den Hollow, Union County	6,022
1992	Horseshoe Lake, Snake Den Hollow, Union County	4,361
1993	Snake Den Hollow, Union County	2,787

¹From 1959 through 1972, the same kind of daily usage stamps were used at goose areas and pheasant areas.

Since this article was originally published, a \$4.00 daily usage stamp from 1954 and a \$2.00 stamp from 1955 have also been recorded. The 1954 stamp was discovered by revenue specialist Richard Friedburg and the 1955 stamp by Eric Jackson. Both stamps currently reside in the Csaplar collection (see Figure 20).

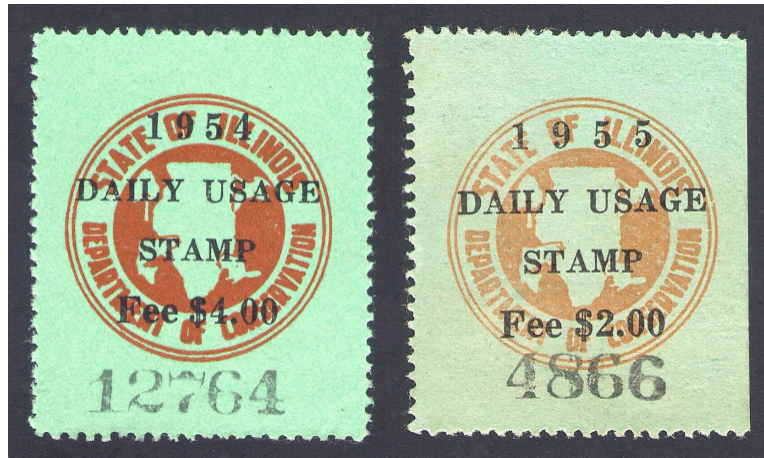


FIGURE 20. THE 1954 AND 1955 DAILY USAGE STAMPS IN THE CSAPLAR COLLECTION.

The 1955 Annual Report contains two additional items of interest. The first is a table comparing the number of state hunting licenses sold each year from 1945 through 1954. The total number of licenses sold (resident and nonresident) increased 63 percent from 326,567 in 1945 to 515,709 in 1954. This supports the statement made earlier that hunting boomed in Illinois following WWII, as it did in California. Coincidentally, the sale of state hunting licenses in California also increased 63 percent during this period, from 393,282 in 1945-46 to 620,587 in 1954-55 (45th Biennial report for the Years 1956-58).

The second item of interest concerns crop production on the Illinois waterfowl management areas. The 1955 Annual Report states that only two of the areas currently included farming operations, the Horseshoe Lake and Union County Refuges. According to an excerpt from the report: "...on these refuges there are large concentrations of Canada geese that spend the winter. They start arriving from the north in late September and early October, and do not leave until March and April. The Division [of Game Management] grows feed for these geese, to take care of them as long as they remain. At Horseshoe Lake the Division farms approximately eight hundred acres. At Union County the Division farms approximately four hundred acres....The farming operations entail growing corn, millet, milo, and kaffir corn for grain crops, and several pasture crops, such as alfalfa, rye, clover, fescue, bluegrass, brome, and other grasses for for age."

Nearly 200,000 Canada geese and more than 1.5 million ducks wintered in Illinois during 1955-56. Both of these figures were all-time highs. The 200,000 geese represented an 800 percent increase over the low recorded in 1945-46. Much of the increase can be explained by the success achieved at the new Union County Refuge. In 1949 the refuge was the recipient of 60 geese transplanted from the Horseshoe Lake Refuge. Within six years the Union County flock had increased to 46,000 (Callaway, 1956).

Examples of both values of daily usage stamps are known from 1956. Less than five of the \$2.00 and less than ten of the \$4.00 have been recorded. The \$2.00 stamps have the insignia printed in green ink on manila paper and measure 32 x 37 mm. The \$4.00 stamps have the insignia printed in orange ink on light blue-green paper and measure 32 x 39 mm. The serial numbers are printed in black ink (see Figure 21). A unique pair of the 1956 \$4.00 stamp was discovered by fish and game collector Jan Wooton (see Figure 22). Starting in 1957 and continuing through 1972, all serial numbers are in red ink.

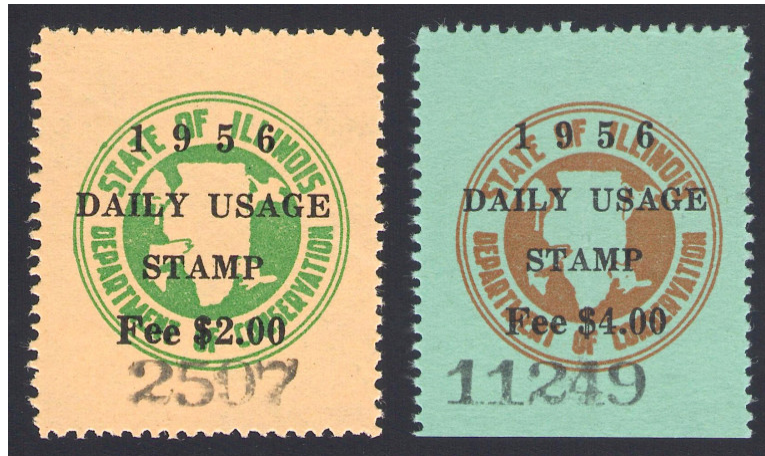


FIGURE 21. \$2.00 (DUCKS AND GEESE) AND \$4.00 (PHEASANT) STAMPS FROM 1956.

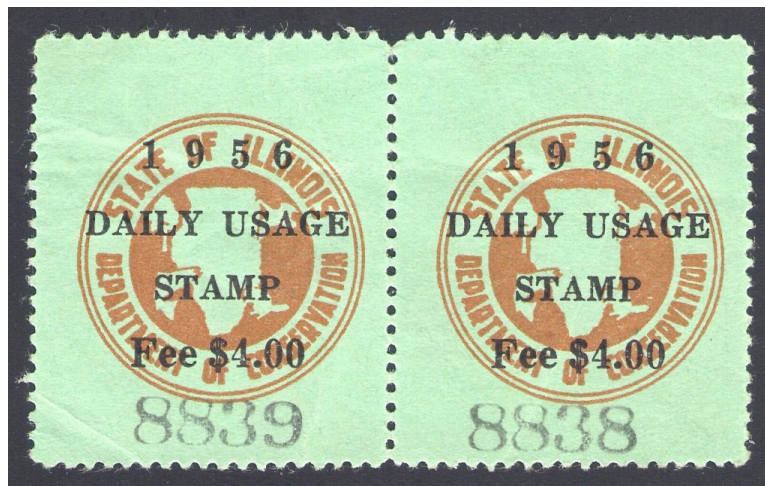


FIGURE 22. THE ONLY PAIR RECORDED OF THE 1956 \$4.00 STAMP.

Throughout the 1950s the IDOC enlarged the waterfowl management areas by purchasing surrounding tracts of land as they became available. For example, the size of the Sanganois Wildlife Refuge was increased from 3,160 acres in 1951 to 6,078 acres in 1959. During this same period the Horseshoe Lake Refuge was increased from 5,320 acres to 9,342. Similar increases were made to several of the pheasant areas (1959 Annual Report).

Daily Usage Fees Increased

The large numbers of waterfowl in the mid-1950s prompted the IDOC to open more acreage to public hunting. Many improvements were made to the hunting areas, including the construction of additional blinds and pits, so that more hunters could be accommodated. These efforts on the part of the IDOC enabled a record number of sportsmen to use the public waterfowl hunting areas in 1958 (see Table I).

In 1959 the IDOC raised the daily “usage fees charged to hunters on the; duck and pheasant areas to \$3.00 and: \$5.00, respectively. In addition, hunters at the Horseshoe Lake and Union County Refuges were now charged the same fee as hunters at the pheasant areas (Vanderford, 1973). The fee increases were undoubtedly needed to help offset the cost of running the expanding public hunting program in Illinois. The new fees remained in effect through 1978 (Musser, 1994).

For comparison, the daily fee charged at the waterfowl management areas in California was raised from \$2.00 to \$3.50 in 1964 and then to \$5.00 in 1977 (Waterfowl Management Area Regulations, 1964; Regulations For Hunting on State and Federal Areas, 1977). The \$3.00 daily usage stamps from 1959 have the insignia printed in green ink on manila paper and measure 32 x 39 mm. The \$5.00 stamps have the insignia printed in red-brown ink on light blue-green paper and also measure 32 x 39 mm (see Figures 2 and 23).

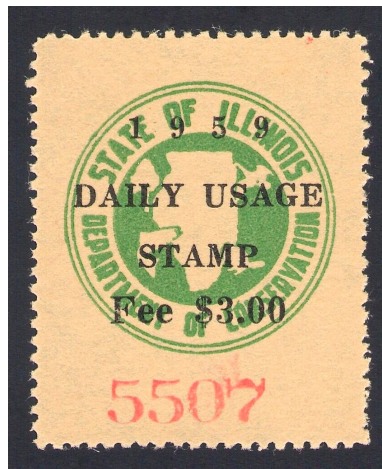


FIGURE 23. FOR 1959, THE DUCK DAILY USAGE FEE WAS RAISED TO \$3.00.

In the late 1950s and early 1960s, duck populations in Illinois were adversely affected by a decrease in production resulting from an extended drought on the northern Great Plains. Hardest hit was the mallard population. By 1961 it was reduced to only 25 percent of the record high achieved in 1955. The duck hunting season was subsequently shortened to 30 days and the daily limit set at two birds. According to the 1961 Annual Report, “This regulation decreased by about one-third the number of hunters using duck areas and decreased the kill by two-thirds.”

In 1962 the season was shortened once again (to 25 days) and there was a limit of one mallard included in the bag limit of two ducks. In 1963 the peak number for all waterfowl in Illinois was 1,126,000. This number was less than half that recorded ten years earlier (2,484,000). The Rice Lake Public Hunting Area was not operated in 1963 due to low water levels (1962 Annual Report; 1963 Annual Report).

Waterfowl numbers remained low until the latter part of the 1960s. In 1969 waterfowl peaked at 1,920,000 — the highest number recorded in 11 years. According to an excerpt from the 1969 Annual Report, “In some areas the mallard populations were the highest in history.” Canada goose numbers fluctuated during the decade, but also ended on an upward note, topping 280,000 in 1969. The daily usage stamps were in use throughout the 1960s, at the public waterfowl hunting areas listed in Tables I and II and also at several pheasant areas (see Figure 24).

Richard D. Casher

THIS IS YOUR PERMIT
FOR SHELBY COUNTY

ON DEC 4 1966

William T. Lodge

I wish to hunt on the Shelby Area

(Refer to instructions and print on this line the official area name)

My first choice of date is Dec. 4 My second choice of date is _____

Month Day Month Day

Richard D. Casher

Print YOUR full name: first, middle and surname

1624 Reed

YOUR street number and name

Springfield, Ill.

YOUR town, postal zone no., if any and State

hunting license no. W 166220

Harry M. Larsen

CHECK IN TIME
8 A.M.

12083

STATE OF ILL. DEPT. OF CONSERVATION
DAILY USAGE STAMP
Fee \$5.00
23454

STATE OF ILL. DEPT. OF CONSERVATION
DAILY USAGE STAMP
Fee \$5.00
23453

If you have a partner who wishes to hunt with you,
print below:

Harry M. Larsen

Full name of PARTNER

2625 Yale Blvd.

PARTNER'S street address

Springfield, Ill.

PARTNER'S city and state

PARTNER'S hunting license no. W 498566

FIGURE 24. WHILE WATERFOWL NUMBERS WERE DOWN DURING THE 1960S, MANY DAILY USAGE STAMPS WERE STILL UTILIZED AT PHEASANT HUNTING AREAS SUCH AS SHELBYVILLE.

In 1970 the Division of Game Management was superseded by the Division of Wildlife Resources. The 1970 Annual Report stated, “The Division of Wildlife Resources is responsible for the management of the state’s wildlife resources at the field level, so that shootable surpluses may be produced and hunting as a form of recreation perpetuated, wildlife populations maintained for aesthetic and non-consumptive uses, and our lands are kept at their best productive capacity.”

Daily usage stamps were not used at public duck hunting areas in 1970 or 1971. There were two reasons for this. First, the Division of Wildlife Resources selected Rice Lake to participate in its “Lake Rehabilitation Program.” During 1970 and 1971 the lake was completely drained and 890 acres of it were seeded to Japanese millet. Duck hunting was allowed both years on a no fee basis, with approximately 100 hunters per day selected by a public drawing.

Second, the Sanganois Public Hunting Area was changed from a daily permit basis to a staked blind site basis in 1970. A similar change was made for the Sparland and Woodford County Areas ten years earlier. For such areas a public drawing is held prior to the start of the season. Hunters selected are allowed to shoot from the blind site drawn the entire season. The hunters are responsible for blind construction and upkeep, including litter prevention, avoiding pollution, etc. (1970 Annual Report; 1971 Annual report; 1973 Illinois Hunting and Trapping Information).

In 1970 the \$3.00 stamps were printed but not used. The insignia is printed in green ink on manila paper and the stamps measure 33 x 37 mm (see Figure 25). No \$3.00 stamps were printed for 1971. In 1970 and 1971 the \$5.00 stamps were used at the goose and pheasant hunting areas (see Figure 26).



FIGURE 25. THE \$3.00 DUCK STAMP FOR 1970 WAS PRINTED BUT NEVER USED.

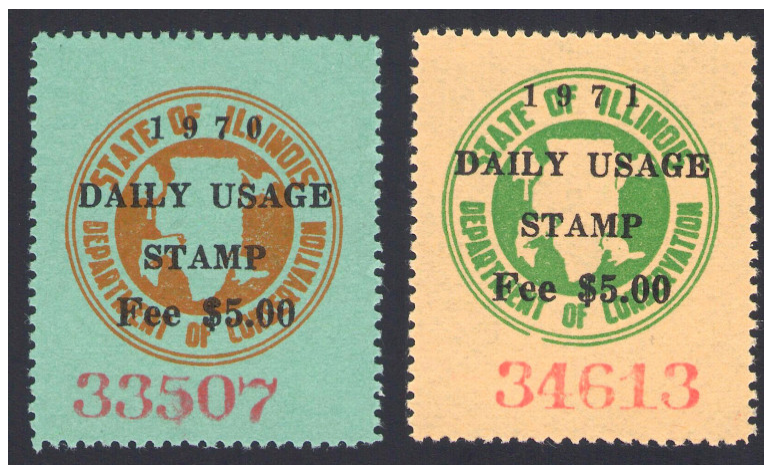


FIGURE 26. IN 1970 AND 1971 \$5.00 DAILY USAGE STAMPS WERE USED AT GOOSE AND PHEASANT HUNTING AREAS.

For many years it was widely believed that daily usage stamps were not printed for 1972. This belief resulted from erroneous information provided to collectors E. L. Vanderford and Charles H. Hermann by the IDOC License and Permit Section. As previously stated, the stamps affixed to hunters' permits were collected during the checkout procedure. In addition, the IDOC would not sell unused stamps to collectors. However, collectors who requested examples of obsolete stamps were often given them free of charge.

The author has spoken to several longtime collectors who received such complimentary stamps. Some were used, with no gum or staple holes. Most were unused. Occasionally the latter were attached to an accompanying letter by a paper clip. The majority of collectors received both values from 1958 through 1970 and the \$5.00 stamp from 1971. A few received the 1953, 1956, 1957 and 1972 stamps (Hubbard, 1990; Beals, 1991; Miles, 1991; Vanderford, 1991; and Gibbs, 1994). This is one of two ways in which majority of Illinois Daily Usage Stamps have ended up in the hands of collectors. The IDOC stopped giving obsolete stamps away in the early 1970s.

In December of 1974 Vanderford wrote to the License and Permit Section, requesting copies of the daily usage stamps used in 1972 and 1973. Hal Davis, the License and Permit Section Supervisor, wrote back to Vanderford and informed him that stamps were no longer issued and that they had been replaced by tickets (see Figure 27).

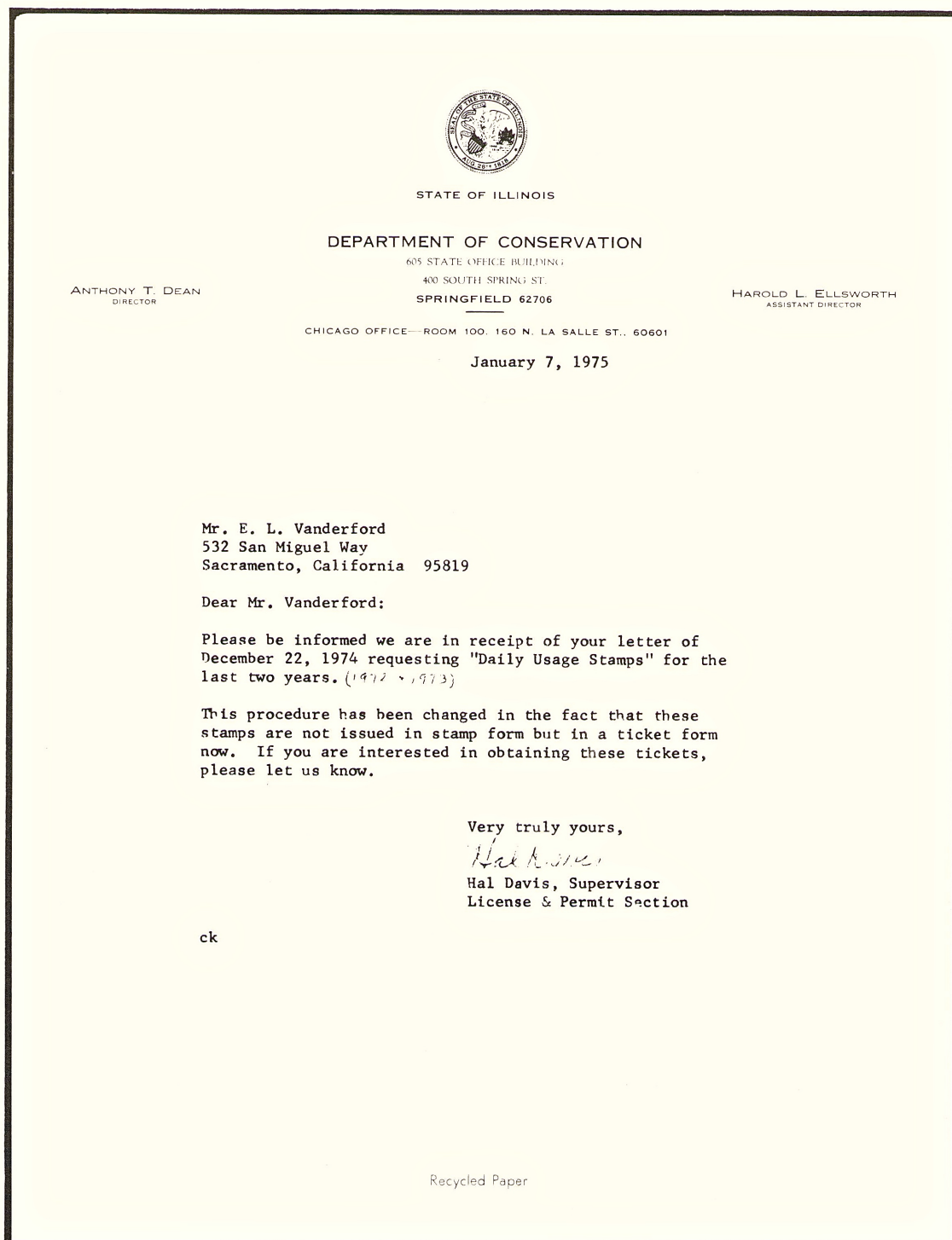


FIGURE 27. LETTER FROM HAL DAVIS INFORMING E. L. VANDERFORD THAT THE STAMPS WERE REPLACED BY TICKETS AS OF 1972.

Vanderford then wrote back to Davis, requesting verification of this fact in the form of tickets from 1972 and 1973 (see Figure 28). Davis could not locate a ticket from 1972 but did provide Vanderford with a photocopy of a ticket used in 1973 (shown in Figure 29). At this time Vanderford was in close contact with Hermann. He asked Hermann to write to the IDOC License Section in order to double-check whether or not stamps were used in 1972. Hermann received the following reply: "We are sorry but the issuance of these stamps was discontinued in 1972, all previous year's stamps were destroyed..." (Vanderford, 1985).

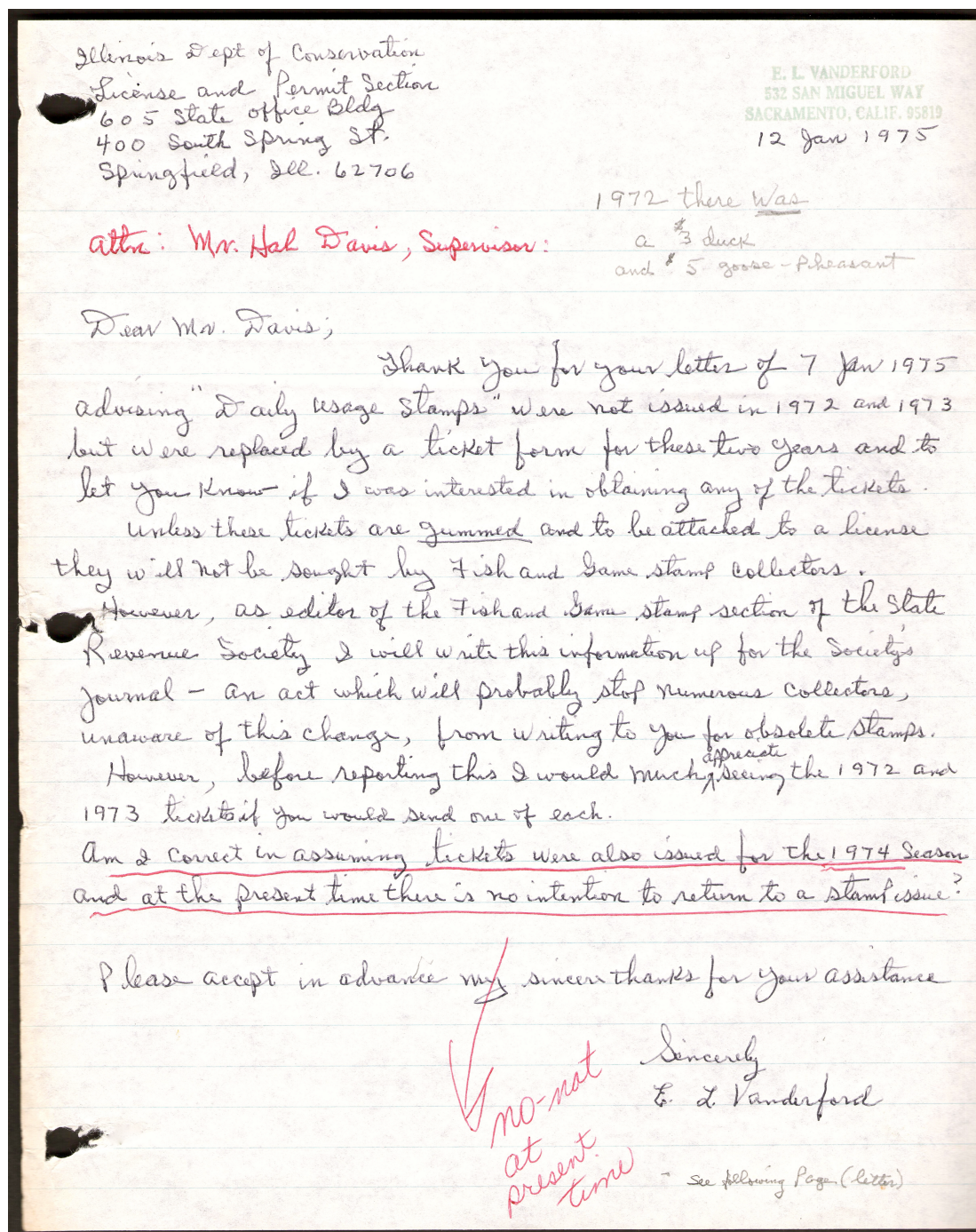


FIGURE 28. LETTER FROM E. L. VANDERFORD TO HAL DAVIS, ASKING FOR VERIFICATION OF THE FACT THAT STAMPS WERE DISCONTINUED IN 1972.

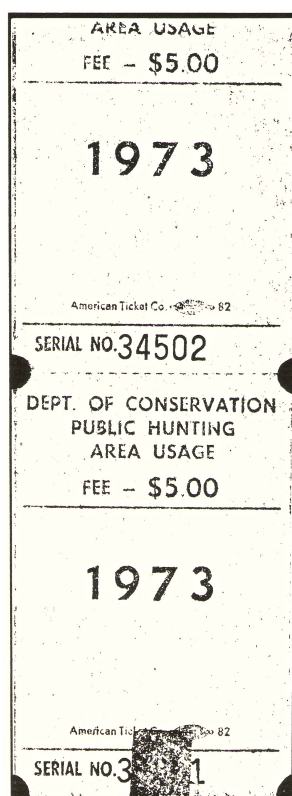


FIGURE 29. PHOTOCOPY OF THE DAILY USAGE TICKETS USED FROM 1973 THROUGH 1976.

As Hermann was provided with the same information, Vanderford assumed it to be correct. Therefore, in his Checklist of State and Locally Issued Migratory Waterfowl Hunting License Stamps, published in 1977, Vanderford stated, "Daily usage duck stamps were discontinued after 1970 and the goose-pheasant stamps were discontinued after 1971."

Fortunately, a few 1972 daily usage stamps had been included in groups of stamps given to other collectors. Vanderford learned of this following the publication of his checklist. He was then able to persuade a sympathetic License Section employee to locate one of each of the 1972 stamps for him (see Figure 30). As all daily usage stamp remainders are believed to have been destroyed by this time, it is possible that the 1972 stamps given to Vanderford were retrieved from the IDOC Archives.



FIGURE 30. THE LAST OF THE "OLD STYLE" DAILY USAGE STAMPS WERE ISSUED IN 1972.

The 1972 stamps are unusual in that both values have the insignia printed in orange ink on light blue-green paper. All other daily usage stamps issued through 1972 were printed on two colors of paper, presumably to avoid confusion. The \$3.00 stamps measure 31 x 39 mm and the \$5.00 stamps measure 31 x 37 mm. Less than five examples of the \$2.00 stamp and less than ten examples of the \$5.00 stamp have been recorded. In 2012 Bob Dumaine bought an unused block of four of the \$5.00 stamp, which he resold to Will and Abby Csaplar (see Figure 31).



FIGURE 31. UNUSED BLOCK OF THE \$5.00 STAMPS IN THE CSAPLAR COLLECTION.

Most of the old style daily usage stamps in collections today can be traced back to E. L. Vanderford. He acquired them in a roundabout way. In the early 1970s Vanderford managed an auto parts warehouse in Sacramento. For a two to three week period he employed a carpenter to build and install some shelves, bins and racks. In a conversation one day, Vanderford learned that the carpenter's uncle was a game warden in Illinois — with a close friend in the License and Permit Section. Through his uncle, the carpenter was able to obtain for Vanderford several large blocks of all the daily usage stamps used from 1959 through 1969.

Vanderford recalls that he received about 20 of each of the stamps from the carpenter. As he received many stamps with the selvage intact (see Figure 14), it is possible that the warden broke up complete panes of the stamps to send to his nephew. If this occurred, Vanderford would have received 25 copies of each stamp. He soon broke up the blocks and traded the stamps among his collector friends (Vanderford 1991, 1994). This explains why most of the stamps in collections today have serial numbers within 25 of each other. For descriptions of daily usage stamps from specific years (1953 through 1972), see Table III.

Table III

Description of Illinois Daily Usage Stamps (1951–1972)

Year	Face Value	Ducks, Geese or Pheasants	Colors ¹	Approximate Dimensions ²	Remarks
1951 ³	\$2.00	D, G	yellow on white	31 x 37 mm	imperforate
1952	\$2.00	D, G	green on manilla	32 x 36 mm	imperforate
1953	\$2.00	D, G	orange on blue	32 x 37 mm	
1953	\$4.00	P	orange on white	32 x 40 mm	
1954	\$2.00	D, G			no examples recorded
1954	\$4.00	P	red brown on light green	32 x 39 mm	
1955	\$2.00	D, G	tan on mint green	32 x 38 mm	could be faded
1955	\$4.00	P			no examples recorded
1956	\$2.00	D, G	green on manila	32 x 37 mm	
1956	\$4.00	P	orange on light blue-green	32 x 39 mm	
1957	\$2.00	D, G	orange on light blue-green	32 x 37 mm	
1957	\$4.00	P	green on manila	32 x 38 mm	
1958	\$2.00	D, G	green on manila	32 x 38 mm	
1958	\$4.00	P	orange on bright yellow-green	32 x 40 mm	
1959	\$3.00	D	green on manila	32 x 39 mm	
1959	\$5.00	G, P	red-brown on light blue-green	32 x 39 mm	
1960	\$3.00	D	red-brown on light blue-green	31 x 39 mm	
1960	\$5.00	G, P	green on manila	32 x 39 mm	
1961	\$3.00	D	green on manila	32 x 38 mm	
1961	\$5.00	G, P	red-brown on light blue-green	31 x 39 mm	
1962	\$3.00	D	green on manila	32 x 39 mm	
1962	\$5.00	G, P	red-brown on light blue-green	32 x 39 mm	
1963	\$3.00	D	orange on light blue-green	32 x 39 mm	
1963	\$5.00	G, P	green on manila	32 x 39 mm	
1964	\$3.00	D	green on manila	32 x 39 mm	
1964	\$5.00	G, P	red on light blue-green	32 x 39 mm	
1965	\$3.00	D	orange on light blue-green	32 x 38 mm	
1965	\$5.00	G, P	green on manila	32 x 39 mm	
1966	\$3.00	D	green on manila	32 x 37 mm	
1966	\$5.00	G, P	orange on light blue-green	32 x 38 mm	
1967	\$3.00	D	orange on light blue-green	32 x 39 mm	
1967	\$5.00	G, P	green on yellow	32 x 39 mm	
1968	\$3.00	D	green on yellow	32 x 38 mm	
1968	\$5.00	G, P	orange on light blue	32 x 39 mm	
1969	\$3.00	D	orange on light blue	32 x 39 mm	
1969	\$5.00	G, P	green on manila	32 x 40 mm	
1970	\$3.00	D	green on manila	33 x 37 mm	printed but not used
1970	\$5.00	G, P	orange on light blue	32 x 38 mm	
1971	\$5.00	G, P	green on manila	31 x 39 mm	no duck stamps were printed for 1971
1972	\$3.00	D	orange on light blue-green	31 x 39 mm	
1972	\$5.00	G, P	orange on light blue-green	31 x 37 mm	

¹All stamps through 1972 have the year date, "DAILY USAGE STAMP" and the fee printed in black ink over the top of the insignia.

²Stamps often vary 1-3 mm in size.

³Stamps may have been issued in 1950. See text.

New Style Stamps Issued

Tickets such as those shown in Figure 29 were used in place of stamps on the public hunting grounds at Rice Lake, Horseshoe Lake, Union County and several pheasant areas from 1973 through 1976 (Musser, 1994). During this four-year period the License and Permit Section repeatedly informed collectors that the daily usage stamps had been discontinued and that the IDOC had no plans to use them in the future (see Figures 27 and 28). After Vanderford's check list was published in January of 1977, collectors ceased inquiring about the stamps. As luck would have it, the IDOC returned to a stamp format later that same year (Musser, 1994).

Starting in 1977, three kinds of daily usage stamps were used. The stamps featured the new IDOC insignia in the background: a small letter "I" with a tree centered at the bottom. The insignia is printed in black ink on all the new style stamps. Going up the left side and continuing across the top of the stamps is the inscription, "Illinois Department of Conservation." Serial numbers are printed in red ink across the bottom of the stamps.

Those used at Rice Lake have "DUCK DAILY USAGE STAMP" printed over the top of the insignia and they are on light blue paper. Those used at Horseshoe Lake and Union County have "GOOSE DAILY USAGE STAMP" printed over the top of the insignia and they are on manila paper. Those used at the pheasant areas have "PHEASANT DAILY USAGE STAMP" printed over the top of the insignia and they are on light green paper.

The first new style stamps were issued in booklet panes of 25 (5x5) with tabs at the left, similar to the old style stamps except that they were rouletted instead of perforated. Twenty panes were stapled together to form a book (Kaburick, 1992). Only two examples of the booklet type duck stamp have been recorded. They were discovered by Richard Hauer, an Illinois waterfowl stamp collector, in the late 1970s and made known to me after this article was originally published. The serial numbers are 4.5 mm tall. (see Figure 32). When I was writing this article in 1993, I was given a full pane of the goose stamp by the IDOC to picture in the article. The first pane they sent got lost in the mail. As it was getting close to publication, they sent me another pane. Three months later, the first pane showed up. Therefore, two complete panes of the goose stamp are in collector's hands (see Figure 33).



FIGURE 32. TWO STAMPS FROM THE FIRST PRINTING OF NEW STYLE DUCK STAMPS HAVE BEEN RECORDED.



FIGURE 33. THE PANE OF GOOSE STAMPS GIVEN TO ME HAS SHORTER SERIAL NUMBERS AND IS LIKELY NOT FROM THE FIRST PRINTING.

The serial numbers on the booklet type goose stamps sent to me are notably shorter, measuring 3 mm. Therefore, I now believe they are from a subsequent printing (perhaps several printings removed) and that the first printing of booklet type goose stamps would have been printed with taller serial numbers like the duck stamps. To my knowledge, no first printing goose stamps have been recorded. I expect the initial printing of pheasant stamps would also have been printed in booklet panes, but once again no examples have been recorded. At some point between the late 1970s and 1992, the format for printing the duck stamps and pheasant stamps was changed from booklets to coil rolls of 500 (see Figure 34).

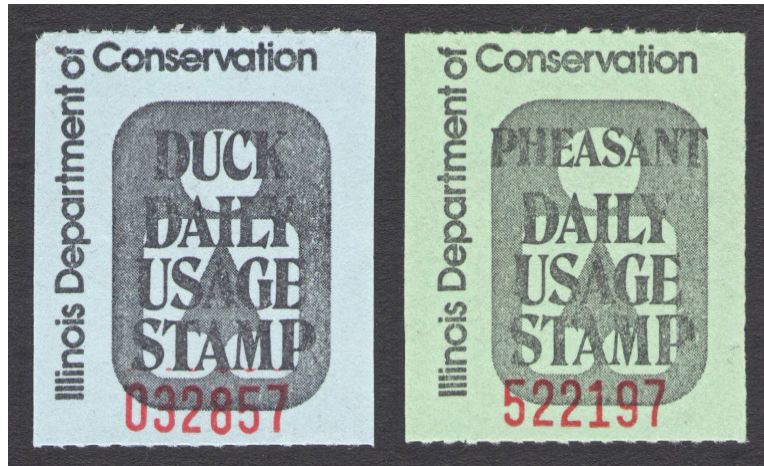


FIGURE 34. BY 1992, THE DUCK AND PHEASANT DAILY USAGE STAMPS WERE ISSUED IN A COIL FORMAT.

From 1980 through 1993, a fourth kind of daily usage stamp was used on controlled quail and pheasant areas. Distinct from regular pheasant areas, the IDOC raised and released quail on such areas from 1980 through 1990. In 1991 budget restrictions put an end to the quail release program (Musser, 1994). The stamps used at these areas have “CONTROLLED QUAIL & PHEASANT DAILY USAGE STAMP” printed over the top of the insignia and they are on orange-brown paper (see Figure 35). The new style stamps are virtually the same size as their predecessors, measuring approximately 32 x 38 mm. Whereas the old style stamps are perforated, the new style stamps are rouletted.



FIGURE 35. A STAMP FOR CONTROLLED QUAIL AND PHEASANT AREAS WAS USED FROM 1980 THROUGH 1993.

The new style stamps are not dated. Stamps from a particular printing are used year after year until they are exhausted. Numerous printings over the years have resulted in several detectable differences. (At this time the author does not have enough data to assign specific types to these stamps.) First, the shade of paper often differs slightly. Second, both the typestyle and the size of type has varied slightly. Third, the style and size of the serial numbers has varied greatly (see Figures 36).



FIGURES 36. THE STYLE AND SIZE OF THE SERIAL NUMBERS HAS VARIED GREATLY FROM PRINTING TO PRINTING.

The new style stamps have no face value printed on them. The daily usage fee at Rice Lake remained at \$3.00 and the fees at Horseshoe Lake, Union County and the pheasant areas remained at \$5.00 through 1978 (see Figure 37). In 1979 the IDOC raised the daily usage fee on all public hunting grounds (duck, goose and pheasant) to \$10.00 (Musser, 1994).

1978 CONTROLLED PHEASANT HUNTING APPLICATION AND INFORMATION

Manages eight controlled pheasant hunting opportunities at these sites are regulated by a pheasant permit is intense, especially

tion sheet carefully before sending your Office. One simple mistake can cause your ete all requested information and double

Sincerely,
David Kenney
Director

sonally by the applicant or his application will be RE- JECTED.

PHEASANT HUNTING AREAS

The Springfield permit office will issue pheasant permit reservations for thirty (30) hunting days, November 15 through December 24, 1978, (excluding all Mondays and Tuesdays) for the following areas:

SITE	DAILY PERMITS
Eldon Hazlet (Carlyle Lake)	175
Chain O' Lakes	90
Des Plaines	230
Iroquois County	125
Wayne Fitzgerald (Rend Lake)	160
Richard County	140
Moraine View (McLean Co. C.A.)	100

The following pheasant hunting area ONLY will be hunted November 15 through December 24, 1978 (excluding November 17, 18, 19 and all Mondays and Tuesdays):

Green River	130
-------------	-----

Check in at each hunting area is between 7 AM and 8 AM. The permit is void after 8 AM. If you check in after 8 AM you cannot be guaranteed the opportunity to hunt because stand-by hunters will be given preference.

A \$5.00 daily usage stamp must be purchased at the area. Hunting is restricted to the taking of two pheasants of either sex.

Illinois residents 65 years of age or older, or disabled, do not need a state hunting license. Proof of age or disability is required.

1978 WATERFOWL (GOOSE) HUNTING APPLICATION & INFORMATION

es two waterfowl hunting areas for geese. elated by hunting permits. The competition to cially for holidays and weekends. sheet carefully before sending your 1978 ap- e simple mistake can cause your application ed information and double check the data to

Sincerely,
David Kenney
Director

WATERFOWL (GOOSE) HUNTING AREAS

Horseshoe Lake and Union County Refuge

The Springfield Permit Office will issue goose permit reservations for Horseshoe Lake and Union County Refuge. Season dates and harvest quota will be announced by the public media as soon as released by the Federal Fish and Wildlife Service.

There is no hunting on Mondays or December 24 and 25, 1978.

Check in at each hunting area is between 4 AM and 5 AM. The permit is void after 5 AM. If you check in after 5 AM you cannot be guaranteed the opportunity to hunt, since stand-by hunters will be given preference.

A drawing will be held at 5 AM each hunting day to determine the issuance of blind sites. Hunting will be from blinds only.

A \$5.00 daily usage stamp must be purchased at the Horseshoe and Union County hunting areas.

Steel Shot is required for 12 gauge shotguns. No other 12 gauge shotgun shells loaded with lead shot may be in possession.

Hunters must possess a valid hunting license and both a Federal and State Migratory Waterfowl Stamp. (Hunters 65 years of age or older must possess a Federal stamp only. Hunters under 16 years of age are required to have a valid hunting license but not a State or Federal Migratory Waterfowl Stamp).

Hunting License, Federal migratory waterfowl stamp and state duck stamps will be deposited in the area office while hunting.

1978 WATERFOWL (DUCK) HUNTING APPLICATION & INFORMATION

Dear Permit Applicant:

The Department of Conservation manages one waterfowl hunting area for ducks at Rice Lake. Hunting opportunities at this site are regulated by hunting permits. The competition to receive a waterfowl (duck) permit is intense, especially for holidays and weekends.

Therefore, please review this information sheet carefully before sending your 1978 application to the Waterfowl Permit Office. One simple mistake can cause your application to be rejected. Please complete all requested information and double check the data to be sure it is correct.

Sincerely,
David Kenney
Director

APPLICATION INFORMATION

You must use an official 1978 Department of Conservation waterfowl (duck) permit application. If you use a previous year's application form it will be REJECTED.

One Duck Hunting permit per applicant per year will be issued.

If more than one application for a waterfowl (duck) permit is received in the same name, all applications will be rejected and the permits revoked.

Permits are not transferable.

Applications will be accepted beginning September 18, 1978. Applications received prior to September 18 will be returned. Permits will be issued on a first come, first served basis until the available quota is reached. If you are not issued a permit upon your first request, you will be notified of the remaining hunting areas and dates and you may then reapply.

The issuance of permits is not computerized. Please allow at least 30 days for processing duck permits.

In-person and mail-in applications will receive equal treatment.

Requests for permits by telephone will not be accepted.

Permit fees are payable at the public hunting area only. DO NOT SEND FEE TO THE DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION PERMIT OFFICE.

GROUP HUNTS

Up to ten individual applications may be submitted in one envelope if you wish to participate in a group hunt. Each individual application for a group must be signed personally by the applicant, or his application will be REJECTED.

RICE LAKE HUNTING AREA

The Springfield permit office will issue all duck permit reservations for The Rice Lake Area. Season dates will be announced to the public by the local media as soon as they are set by the Federal Fish and Wildlife Service.

Check in at each hunting area is between 4 AM and 5 AM. The permit is void after 5 AM. If you check in after 5 AM you cannot be guaranteed the opportunity to hunt since stand-by hunters will be given preference.


A drawing will be held at 5 AM each hunting day to determine the issuance of blind sites.

Hunting will be from blinds only.

A \$3.00 daily usage stamp must be purchased at the area.

FIGURE 37. APPLICATIONS FOR THE THREE KINDS OF PUBLIC HUNTING AREAS OPERATED IN 1978. EACH SPECIFIES THAT DAILY USAGE STAMPS MUST BE PURCHASED AT THE AREAS.

In 1980 the fee charged to hunters at Rice Lake (only) was lowered. According to John Ball, Assistant Site Manager for the Rice Lake Wildlife Area, the recession which hit the country at this time forced the closing of the International Harvester plant in nearby Canton. This event seriously impaired the Fulton County economy. A group of local residents subsequently made an appeal to the IDOC to reduce the financial burden on sportsmen wishing to hunt at Rice Lake — much as the sportsmen of Lassen County appealed to the California Fish and Game Commission in 1956 (Torre, 1994). The IDOC agreed to reduce the daily usage fee at Rice Lake from \$10.00 to \$6.00 and it remained at that level through 1991 (see Figure 38). In 1992 it was raised back to \$10.00.

<div style="text-align: center;">  <p>ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION PERMIT OFFICE P.O. BOX 19457 SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS 62794-9457</p> </div> <p>YOUR RICE LAKE DUCK HUNTING RESERVATION HAS BEEN MADE FOR THE FOLLOWING DATE:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">YOU MUST BRING THIS CARD WITH YOU IN ORDER TO HUNT! THIS IS YOUR PERMIT.</p> <p>HUNTING PARTNER'S NAMES AND ADDRESSES:</p> <p>1. _____ 2. _____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center; margin-bottom: 10px;"> <p>PRESORTED FIRST CLASS MAIL U.S. POSTAGE PAID SPRINGFIELD, IL PERMIT NO. 906</p> </div>
<p>HUNTING REGULATIONS</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Rice Lake Duck Hunting Area is closed while the lake is frozen over. The Department of Conservation, therefore, advises hunters to check the weather conditions before making a long trip to the area. (Call Rice Lake Conservation Area, phone number 309/647-9184 for this information.) 2. Shooting hours are from legal opening time until 12 NOON. 3. All permit holders must check in between 4:30 AM and 5 AM local time. Permits are void after 5 AM. The permit will be for the use of the entire blind and it will be the responsibility of the permit holder to bring two hunting partners. A drawing for blinds will be held at 5 AM each hunting day to determine the issuance of blind sites. Hunters must be at least 16 years of age to draw for a blind. Each person under 16 years of age must be accompanied by a supervising adult. 4. All hunting will be from preconstructed blinds. Waterproof foot gear is a necessity and hip boots are recommended to retrieve ducks in areas of dense vegetation, which prohibit the use of boats for this purpose. Guns must be empty and cased going and coming from the blinds. 5. Use of dogs is allowed and recommended. 6. All hunting parties (each blind) are required to use a minimum of 12 duck decoys. Rental decoys are available at the area check station — 12 for \$1.00 per day. 7. Hunters must possess a valid hunting or sportsmans license and both a Federal and State Migratory Waterfowl Stamp. (Hunters 65 years of age or older must possess a Federal stamp only. Hunters under 16 years of age are required to have a valid hunting license but not a State or Federal Migratory Waterfowl Stamp.) 8. Hunters will be required to leave their hunting license, migratory bird stamp and state duck stamp in the area office while hunting. Persons exempt by law from having a hunting license and an Illinois stamp must deposit their Firearm Owners Identification Card. Persons under 21 who do not have a FOID card must be accompanied by an adult over 21 in possession of a valid FOID card. 9. A \$6 daily usage stamp must be purchased at Rice Lake. 10. Steel shot is required. No other shotgun shells loaded with lead shot may be in possession. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 11. Federal regulations as to limits and methods of taking will apply in this area, unless State regulations are more restrictive. It is illegal to trespass, shoot, disturb, or molest in any way waterfowl in the rest area. 12. Intoxicating liquors are not permitted on the grounds. 13. We reserve the right to cancel a permit and deny any future privileges on the areas, to anyone violating State or Federal regulations or indulging in unsportsmanlike activities. <p>RICE LAKE BOATING REGULATIONS</p> <p>Hunters can bring a private boat or can rent a boat at the area (\$10 per day). The maximum motor size limit for private boats is unrestricted and rental boats is 10 hp. No outboard motors are available for rental on the area. All State boating regulations shall be enforced. Rental of a life jacket or cushion is 50¢ per day.</p> <p>ALL MOTORIZED BOATS MUST BE EQUIPPED WITH</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. One wearable personal life saving device for each person in the boat if the boat is 16 feet long or more. 2. A Coast Guard approved fire extinguisher. (not available at the area.) 3. A mechanical sounding device (not available at the area.) 4. To operate a motorized boat between the hours of sunset and sunrise you must have a red and green bow light and a white stern light. (All boats will be leaving for the blinds before sunrise, therefore, running lights are required.) (Rental of running lights is not available on the area.) <p>ALL NONMOTORIZED BOATS MUST BE EQUIPPED WITH</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. One wearable personal life saving device for each person in the boat. 2. Operation of a nonmotorized boat between the hours of sunset and sunrise shall have a signaling light (either a flash light or lantern) (lighting rentals not available at the area).

**FIGURE 38. FRONT (ABOVE) AND REVERSE OF RICE LAKE DAILY PERMIT ISSUED IN 1991.
NOTE REGULATION NUMBER 9.**

The fee charged to hunters on the controlled quail and pheasant areas started out at \$5.00 in 1980. During the mid-1980s it was raised to the same level as the regular pheasant areas (\$10.00). When this article was originally published in 1994, the daily usage fee charged on all public hunting grounds in Illinois was \$15.00 (Ball, 1994; Musser, 1994). Duck daily usage stamps were still in use at Rice Lake and goose daily usage stamps were still in use at the Union County Refuge. In addition, the goose stamps were also used at a new public hunting area operated at the Snake Den Hollow Wildlife Area in west-central Illinois (see Figure 39).

194

GOOSE HUNTING PERMIT

Illinois Department of Conservation of

GOOSE DAILY USAGE STAMP
114375

Blind No. 20

Date: _____

Pennis Frohn

ity: Breese

Brian Boeckman

ity: Breese

3. _____

City: _____

IL 422-0769

FIGURE 39. STAND BY CARD USED AT UNION COUNTY IN 1994. TWO HUNTERS OCCUPIED BLIND #20.

As of November, 1995 the booklet type goose stamps were still being used. Shortly thereafter, goose stamps were printed in coil rolls. In 1997, the format for the goose daily usage stamps, which had remained the same for nearly twenty years, changed yet again. The stamps were still issued in coil rolls, but were die cut and printed with a pressure sensitive gum on a peelable backing (see Figure 40).

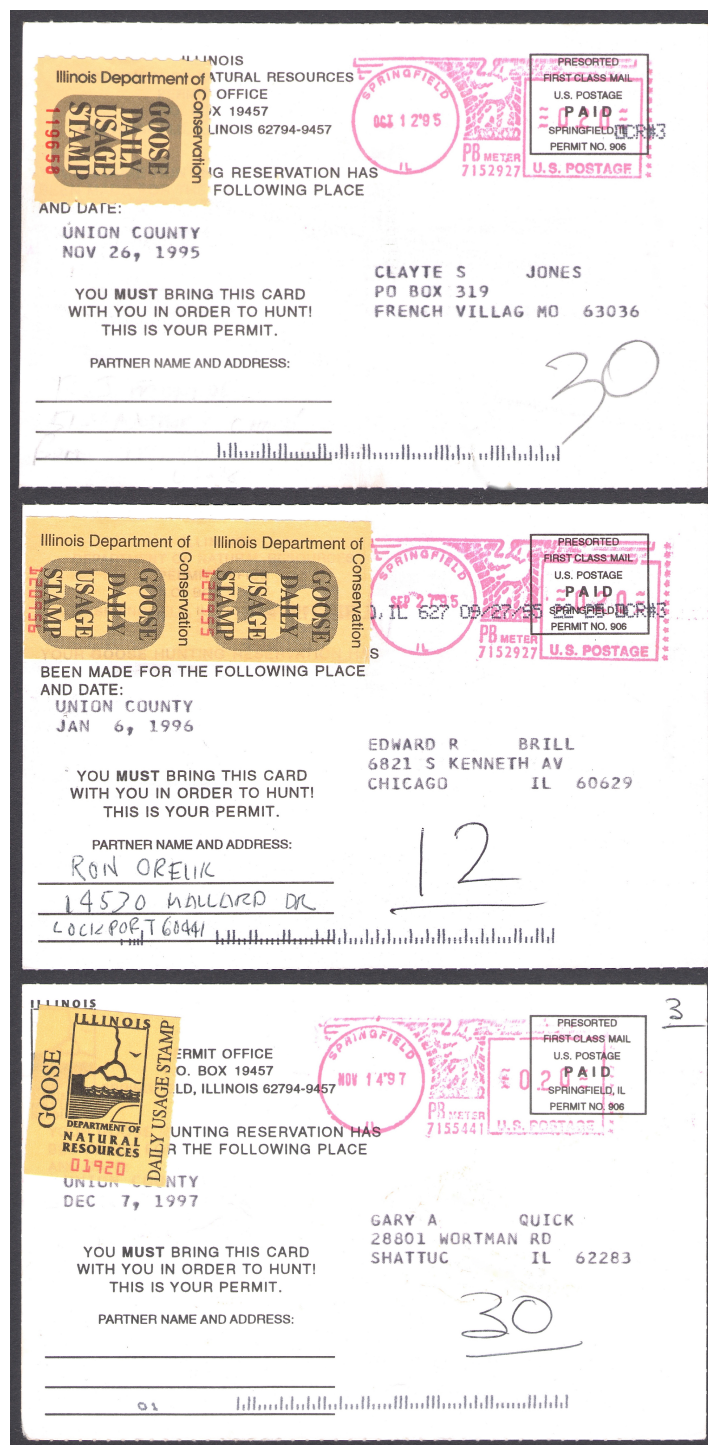


FIGURE 40. WHILE GOOSE STAMPS FROM BOOKLET PANES WERE STILL BEING USED AS LATE AS NOVEMBER OF 1995 (TOP), THEY WERE SOON REPLACED WITH STAMPS FROM COIL ROLLS (MIDDLE). IN 1997, GOOSE STAMPS WERE DIE CUT AND PRINTED WITH PRESSURE SENSITIVE GUM ON A PEELEABLE BACKING (BOTTOM).

Horseshoe Lake, once boasting the greatest goose hunting in the world, fell on hard times at the end of the twentieth century. According to Bob Williamson, Waterfowl Project Manager for the IDOC, the Horseshoe Lake area once included a lot of open space, a characteristic which Canada geese find desirable. Over the years vegetation in the area matured and the terrain became heavily forested. Due to environmental concerns, the IDOC has been prevented from clearing trees in the area. This has resulted in much of the Horseshoe Lake Canada goose flock locating elsewhere. The total number of hunters using the public hunting area at Horseshoe Lake dropped from 2,191 in 1989 to only 746 in 1992 (Waterfowl Program, 1993). Starting in 1993, the area was no longer operated on a daily permit basis. Free blinds are now allocated to hunters in a daily drawing (1993 Duck and Goose Hunting).

As I was updating this article, I found an interesting item on the internet. According to an article by Jerry Pabst, noted outdoor writer from Illinois, hunters in Illinois are now “reaping limits of ducks from pits once used exclusively for goose hunts” at Horseshoe Lake (see Figure 41). Pabst states that during the 2006-07 season, more ducks (556) than Canada Geese (463) were harvested there (Pabst, 2010).



FIGURE 41. IN RECENT YEARS, MORE DUCKS THAN GEESE HAVE BEEN HARVESTED AT HORSESHOE LAKE.

Controlled Quail and Pheasant Discontinued

The controlled quail and pheasant daily usage stamps were discontinued after 1993. However, the regular pheasant daily usage stamps continued to be used at several area throughout the state after this time.

In the mid 1990s, If a sportsman wished to hunt at a public hunting area operating on a daily permit basis (Rice Lake, Union County, etc.) he still needed to apply for a reservation to be guaranteed a place to hunt on a specific date. A computer at IDOC Headquarters in Springfield drew 25 applications at random for each hunt day of the season. At some areas, including Rice Lake, there was also a standby option.

In the 1980s the IDOC purchased two private duck hunting clubs adjacent to Rice Lake, more than doubling the size of the waterfowl area to 5660 acres. In 1986 the large Duck Island Hunting Club was acquired (see Figure 42).

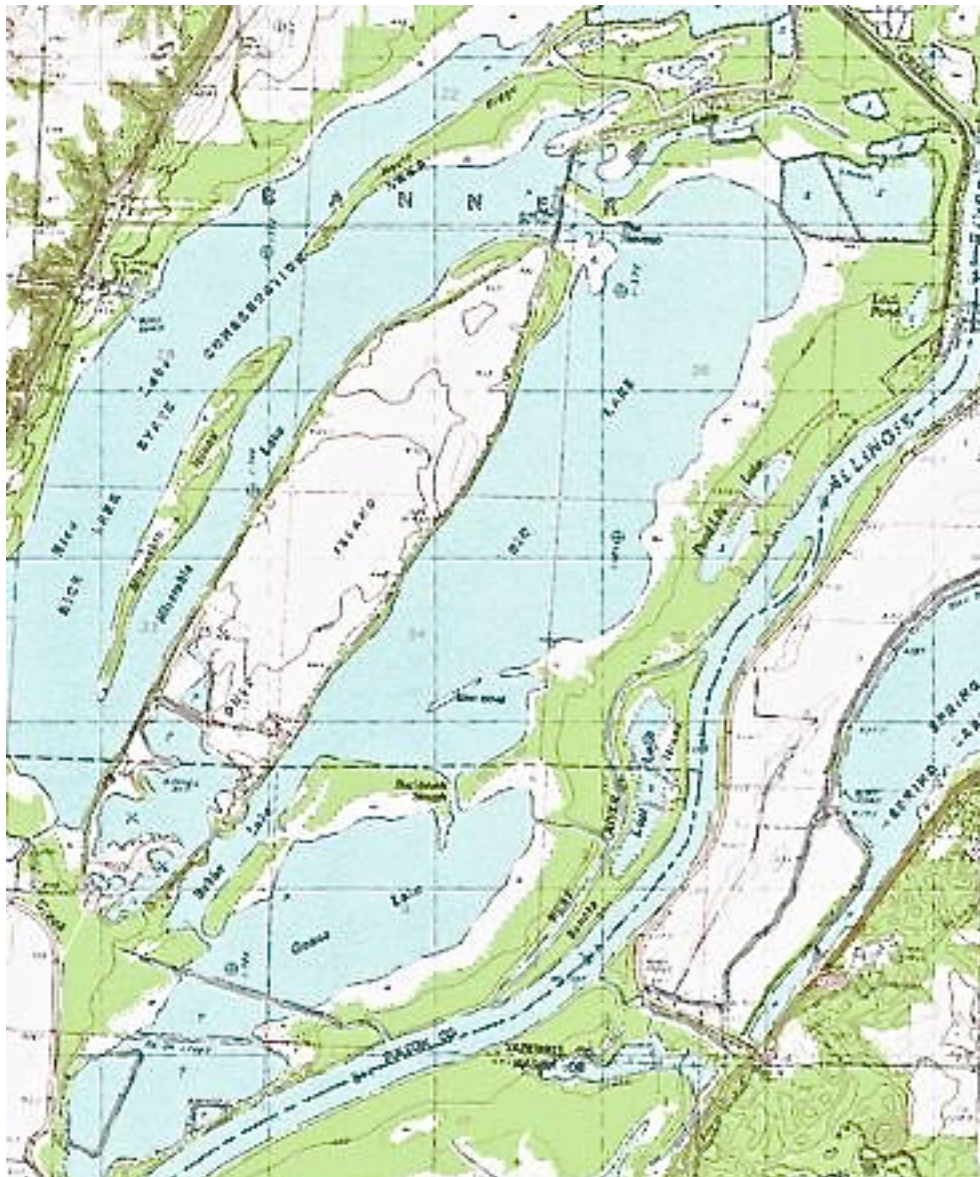


FIGURE 42. THE BODY OF WATER AT THE UPPER LEFT IS RICE LAKE. THE BODY OF WATER IN THE CENTER IS BIG LAKE. DUCK ISLAND IS RIGHT BETWEEN THEM.

The following year a smaller club belonging to the Voorhees family was added. These two purchases enlarged the Rice Lake Wildlife Area by approximately 2,500 and 450 acres, respectively. The number of permanent blinds was increased to 25. As each of the blind accommodated a maximum of three persons, the daily hunter capacity at Rice Lake in the mid 1990s was 75 (exclusive of walk-in areas).

Hunting parties were required to show up at the check station between 4:30 and 5:00 a.m. the day of their reservation. At that time their permit card was entered into the drawing for a blind location. When the hunters' card was drawn, they selected from the locations still available. The number of the blind selected was marked on their permit, each of the hunters payed the daily usage fee and the appropriate number of stamps were affixed to the permit (see Figure 43).

ILLINOIS
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
PERMIT OFFICE
P.O. BOX 19457
SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS 62794-9457

PRESORTED
FIRST CLASS MAIL
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
SPRINGFIELD, IL
PERMIT NO. 906

YOUR RICE LAKE DUCK HUNTING
RESERVATION HAS BEEN MADE FOR THE
FOLLOWING DATE:
RICE LAKE
NOV 26, 1993

YOU MUST BRING THIS CARD
WITH YOU TO THE
HUNTING PART

ANDREW ZALUCKI

ILLINOIS Department of Conservation
ILLINOIS Department of Conservation
ILLINOIS Department of Conservation

DUCK DAILY USAGE STAMP
\$6.52
DUCK DAILY USAGE STAMP
\$6.52
DUCK DAILY USAGE STAMP
\$6.52

1. _____

**FIGURE 43. RICE LAKE PERMIT WITH THREE DUCK DAILY USAGE STAMPS AFFIXED.
THE HUNTERS DREW BLIND #1 (WRITTEN AND CIRCLED IN PEN).**

If any blinds remained after all the hunters with reservations had drawn, then a second drawing was held. Remaining names were printed on a Hunter Identification Card, commonly referred to as a "standby card," and it was entered in the drawing. If the hunters' card was drawn while blinds remain available, the blind number selected was marked on the card. The stand-by hunters then payed the same daily usage fee and the appropriate number of stamps were affixed to the card (see Figure 44).

HUNTER IDENTIFICATION CARD

Blind No. _____ Date: 11-13-93

Hunter's Names: Bill Newton
Jim Sutton

ILLINOIS Department of Conservation
ILLINOIS Department of Conservation

DUCK DAILY USAGE STAMP
\$6.08
DUCK DAILY USAGE STAMP
\$6.08

Are _____

ILLINOIS Department of Conservation Representative

The Department of Conservation is an Equal Opportunity Employer
IL 422-0452

FIGURE 44. STAND-BY CARD ISSUED AT RICE LAKE WITH TWO DUCK DAILY USAGE STAMPS AFFIXED. THE HUNTERS DREW BLIND #16.

Starting in 1981, walk-in hunting was allowed at Rice Lake on a standby basis. A maximum of 20 hunters were chosen each hunt day in a third drawing. There were no blinds in the walk-in areas. Hunters wore waders and stood in flooded timber throughout the day. They threw out decoys, used duck calls and hid behind trees in wait. From 1981 through 1993, Rice Lake personnel transported hunters to and around the walk-in areas. During this period walk-in hunters paid the regular daily usage fee and a stamp was affixed to their standby card.

Starting in 1994, the IDOC stated it would no longer provide transportation to walk-in hunters. As a result, the walk-in hunters were not required to pay the daily usage fee and stamps were no longer be affixed to their standby cards (Ball, 1993; Douglas, 1993).

All hunters at Rice Lake were still required to leave their state hunting license at the check station in order to ensure the return of their permit or standby card bearing the daily usage stamps. In addition to serving as a control to enforce the daily hunter capacity, validating permits and standby cards for the day's hunt, the stamps were also a potential auditing device. At the end of each hunt day, Rice Lake personnel filled out a report indicating the total daily usage fees collected. The permits and stamps collected from hunters in the checkout procedure were saved in a box. Following the end of the season, the daily usage stamps could be counted by an auditor to verify the accuracy of the receipts reported (Ball, 1993; Douglas, 1993).

The last time I requested daily usage stamps from the IDOC was in the Spring of 1998. By this time the three types of stamps still in use for ducks, geese and pheasants, were all die cut and printed with pressure sensitive gum on a peelable backing (see figures 45 and 46).



FIGURE 45. AS THE TWENTIETH CENTURY CAME TO A CLOSE, ALL ILLINOIS DAILY USAGE STAMPS WERE DIE CUT AND PRINTED WITH PRESSURE SENSITIVE GUM ON A PEELABLE BACKING.

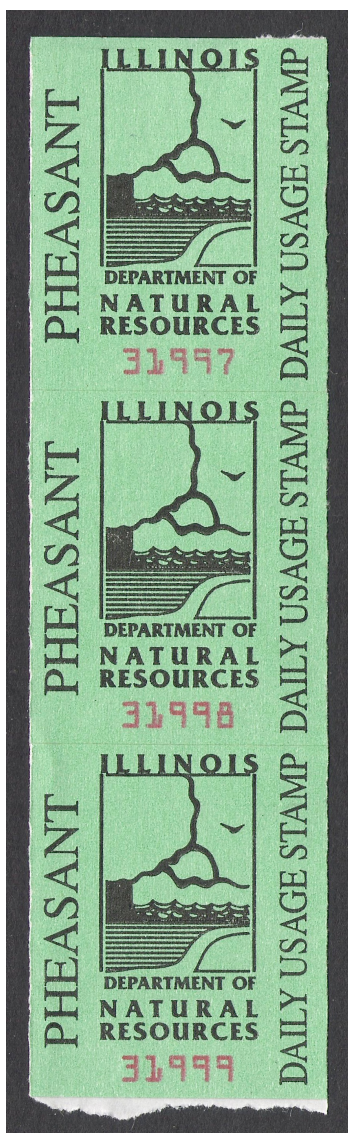


FIGURE 46. THE STAMPS WERE STILL PRINTED
IN LONG ROLLS OF AN UNKNOWN SIZE.

As the twentieth century came to an end, daily usage stamps continued to be used at various sites around Illinois. To discuss these stamps would be beyond the scope of this article and they will be covered in a future blog post.

As in California, waterfowl management areas in Illinois proved to be a boon for wildlife and society. For over seventy years Rice Lake has been an important stopover area for migrating ducks. Due in large part to the success of the Horseshoe Lake and Union County Refuges, the Canada geese of the Mississippi Flyway have prospered. In early 1993, the goose population in southern Illinois peaked at 372,000 (Waterfowl Program, 1993).

The public hunting areas operated at locations such as these have allowed thousands of people to enjoy the sport of waterfowl hunting in a well-regulated environment and at a reasonable cost (see Figure 47). Since the early 1950s, the Illinois Daily Usage Stamps have served as an integral part of the daily permit system employed at the most popular public hunting areas in the state.

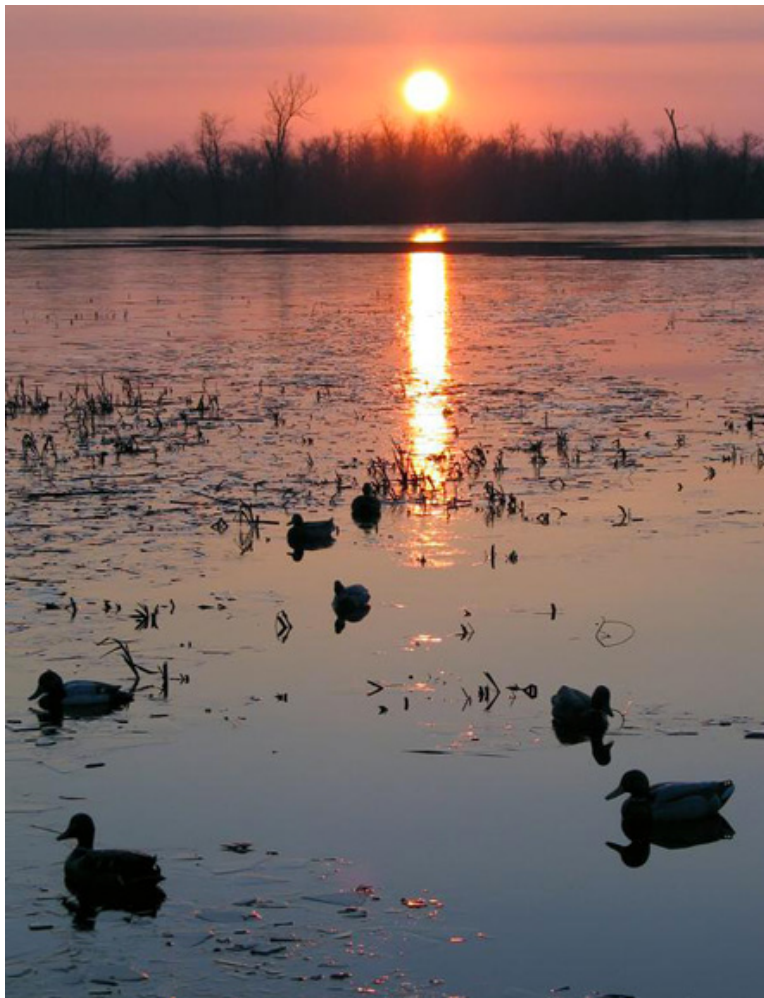


FIGURE 47. DUCK DECOYS ILLUMINATED BY A RISING SUN AT RICE LAKE.

It is hoped that the information in this article has helped to expand the body of knowledge about fish and game stamps in general and non-pictorial state-issued waterfowl stamps in particular — one of the most rapidly growing areas of stamp collecting today. Many opportunities still exist for research in this field. Collectors are encouraged to publish information about fish and game stamps that are of interest to them. It is likely that others share in your interest and can benefit from your efforts. In this way, everyone is able to learn more about our fascinating hobby.

Acknowledgements

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