

Introduction



During the early part of the twentieth century, over-hunting and droughts reduced North American waterfowl populations to dangerously low levels. Conservationists called for new waterfowl management programs, especially the acquisition of wetland habitat for waterfowl. As a result of these efforts, Federal "Duck" Stamps were introduced on March 16, 1934. These stamps provided much needed funding for waterfowl conservation, and have long been admired by stamp collectors.

However, the federal government could not run an effective waterfowl management program alone. In addition to the Federal Duck Stamp program, state, local and tribal governments also issued waterfowl stamps to protect wildlife habitat and restore waterfowl populations. Since the 1930s, more than 1,000 different state, local and tribal waterfowl stamps have been issued.

The variety of state, local and tribal stamps issued since the late 1930s poses a serious challenge to stamp collectors. Because of their limited use, many of these stamps are exceptionally rare. They are displayed here courtesy of David R. Torre.

S
T
A
T
E

L
O
C
A
L

A
N
D

T
R
I
B
A
L

W A T E R F O W L S T A M P S