## **Canadian Wildlife Conservation Stamps**

Wildlife habitat and animal conservation issues are very popular subjects in the Revenue stamp field and countries have been promoting them for many years. Duck hunting permits have required a conservation stamp in Canada since 1985. None of these were valid for postage.

The sale of these stamps has been an important source of fundraising for wildlife habitat and conservation efforts in individual states and provinces.







The first to promote these stamps was the **Prairie Provinces Conservation Authority** which produced a set of 5 in 1942 and one more in 1943. Designed by Dr.
William Rowan, the initial set was printed in sheets of 20 while the 1943 stamp came in sheets of 5. They were sold for 25¢ each at hunting license outlets throughout Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba.







The next "duck" stamp was issued by the **Sportmen's Council of British Columbia** in 1946.

The stamp below is the second, issued in 1947. It bears the same design as the 1st one. The difference being in the yellow frame color for the 2nd stamp where the 1st one had a green frame. Designed by Ron Jackson, they were printed in blocks of 4 and sold for 50¢ each.

They were followed by 2 more yearly stamps and in 1950-51 by a decal type.



In 1967, the **Winnipeg Game and Fish Association** issued a stamp for its wildlife conservation program.

It was issued in sheets of 100 without gum.

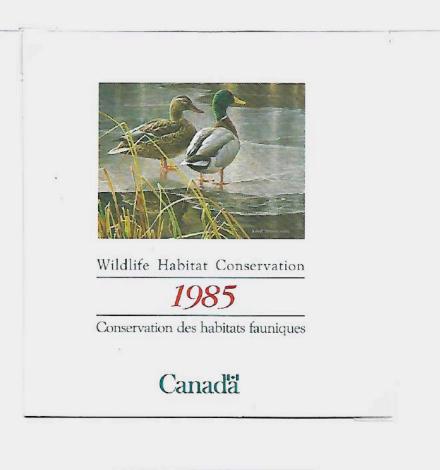


These private organizations were in effect precursors to federal and provincial programs taking advantage of the growing popularity of wildlife and habitat conservation to raise funds beginning in the 1980's.

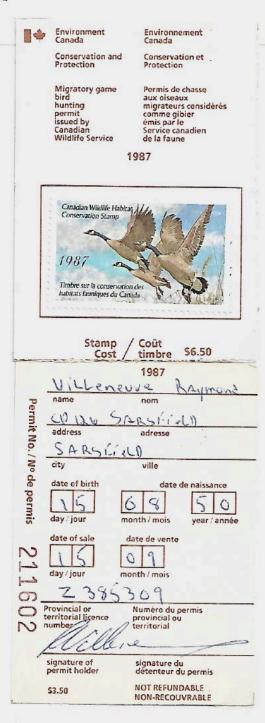
**Canada's 1st wildlife habitat conservation stamp** was produced in 1985. The design was based on a painting of a pair of mallards in a wetland setting by Robert Bateman. This stamp, now part of an annual program, was to be affixed to migratory game bird hunting permits.

For this first issue, 1 200 000 stamps were printed by Ashton Potter Limited. They were sold as a single in a booklet or in sheets of 16 at \$4.00 each.

A few years later, Quebec followed suit and eventually most provinces and territories got into the game of issuing similar conservation stamps.







1987 Migratory Game Bird Hunting Permit

The following year, in 1989, **Alberta** also issued its 1st conservation stamp acting as a permit for hunting game birds. This stamp featured a pair of Canada geese by artist Isabel Levesque.



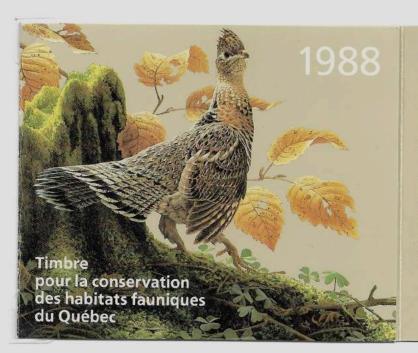
The corner block of 4 stamps of the 1990 conservation issue illustrates the instructions to permit sellers about respecting the number order when dispensing them.

This stamp featured a pair of mallard ducks by artist Doris Sims-Thompson.



In 1988, a wildlife conservation stamp was issued in the province of **Quebec** by the *Fondation de la Faune du Québec*. This first stamp featured a ruffed grouse from a painting by Jean-Luc Grondin. They were sold as a single in booklets or sheets of 4 at \$5.00 each.

Monies from this sale supported protection and conservation of wildlife habitats in that province.



The wealth of Québec's wildlife resources is well known even beyond our borders. But unfortunately, our abundant, diversified animal species are experiencing the destruction of their natural environments. To ensure the health and very survival of Québec's fauna, several millions of dollars must be invested every year to preserve the habitats of land mammals, birds and aquatic life.

The Fondation de la faune du Québec has been created to participate in this twofold undertaking of protecting and developing our wildlife and its habitats. A non-profit organization, it finances projects related to the preservation, enhancement and restoration of wildlife habitats.

By buying the stamp issued by the Fondation, you are contributing to the implementation of these projects and supporting Fondation efforts by enabling various groups and organizations to play an active role in wildlife protection.

In short, you are joining over one million fishermen, hunters and trappers in helping to conserve an invaluable wildlife heritage, not only for Quebecers but for all North Americans



Copy of single sheetlet

In British Columbia, the **Pitt Waterfowl Management Association** also took up a stamp program to raise awareness and funds for wildlife conservation. They issued a series of eight decoy designs between 1990 and 1997.

The first one featured a canvasback duck decoy. This one, along with the next 7 issues were all based on paintings by Arnie R. Fisk. They were issued in miniature sheets of 4.



Another well-known wildlife organization has been long contributing to this cause internationally. **Ducks Unlimited Canada** put out its first issue in 1993. On the occasion of the First International Waterfowl Celebration it featured a Canada goose by the famed artist Angus Shortt who also designed the 15¢ Canada Geese stamp for Canada Post in 1964.

