

Duck Stamp Modernization Act of 2023: Information and FAQs

In 2023, Congress passed the [Duck Stamp Modernization Act](#), which makes changes to the Electronic Duck Stamp Program. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) is implementing these changes beginning July 1, 2024.

The two major features of the Act provide that: 1) an Electronic Duck Stamp shall remain valid from the day it is sold through the following June 30th, instead of being valid for 45 days from the day of sale; and, 2) that the Secretary shall issue to each individual who purchases an Electronic Duck Stamp an actual Duck Stamp following the March 10 after the Electronic Duck Stamp was purchased.

Additionally, USFWS has also approved an increase to \$4.00 for the fulfillment convenience fee due to rising postal costs. Beginning on August 1, 2024, each electronic Federal Duck Stamp sold will be \$29.00, plus state fees, for a total in Idaho of \$30.75.

Q: What does the Duck Stamp Modernization Act change for the Electronic Duck Stamp (E-Stamp) Program?

A: This act states that an Electronic Duck Stamp shall remain valid from the day it is sold through the following June 30th, instead of being valid for 45 days from the day of sale. This means that the physical duck stamp is **not required** in the field, and the electronic copy is valid for the entirety of the federal season.

This act also changes the timeframe in which a hunter will receive their physical Duck Stamp. Any individual who purchases an Electronic Duck Stamp will be mailed a physical stamp the following March 10 after the Electronic Duck Stamp was purchased. For example, if a hunter purchases an E-Stamp on 09/01/2024, they will be mailed their stamp on 03/10/2025.

There is also an increase in fees for the Federal Duck Stamp that was approved by the USFWS, but note that this was not changed within the Duck Stamp Modernization Act.

Q: When should a hunter expect to receive their physical Duck Stamp?

A: Any individual who purchases an Electronic Duck Stamp will be mailed a physical stamp the following March 10 after the Electronic Duck Stamp was purchased. For example, if a hunter purchases an E-Stamp on 09/01/2024, they will be mailed their stamp on 03/10/2025.

Q: Who should a hunter contact if they believe their physical Duck Stamp was not mailed/delivered?

A: Hunters should continue to contact Amplex Corporation at 1-800-852-4897 for any questions or concerns on the mailed stamp. IDFG does not mail these stamps, and cannot assist a hunter with mailing issues.

Q: What if a hunter's address changes between the time of purchase of their Duck Stamp and the time that Amplex mails the stamps each March?

A: The address on file at time of purchase will be the address used by Amplex unless the customer contacts Amplex directly to have their address information updated. IDFG cannot update the mailing address that Amplex has on file.

Q: Can a hunter use a printed copy of my Electronic Duck Stamp receipt in the field?

Yes, a printed or digital copy of the Electronic Duck stamp receipt can be used in the field for the entire season. This includes either the receipt printed at a vendor, or a paper version printed at home.

Q: Can a hunter get the Electronic Duck Stamp listed on a hard card and is this valid in the field?

Yes, the duck stamp is now eligible to be printed on the hard card. A hard card that has a duck stamp listed can be used in the field in place of the electronic or paper copies of the receipt.

Q: Why did the cost of a Federal Duck E-Stamp increase?

USFWS approved an increase to \$4.00 for fulfillment of these Duck Stamps due to rising postal costs. IDFG did not increase any state fees, and does not retain any additional fees for selling Federal Duck Stamps.

Q: What is the fee breakdown for the cost of a Federal Duck E-Stamp?

The cost of the Federal Duck Stamp is \$25.00, + \$4.00 fulfillment fees, + state-specific fees.

For Idaho, this cost would be $\$25.00 + \$4.00 + 1.75 = \$30.75$.

The \$25.00 stamp fee is remitted to the USFWS, the \$4.00 fulfillment fee is remitted to Amplex, and the \$1.75 state fee is retained by IDFG.

Note that each state may have different state specific fees, so the overall fee may vary from state to state.

Q: Are customers eligible for a refund of a Federal Duck E-Stamp?

No, all sales of the Federal Duck E-Stamp are final and non-refundable. Note that IDFG does not retain these fees, and therefore, does not have the ability to refund.