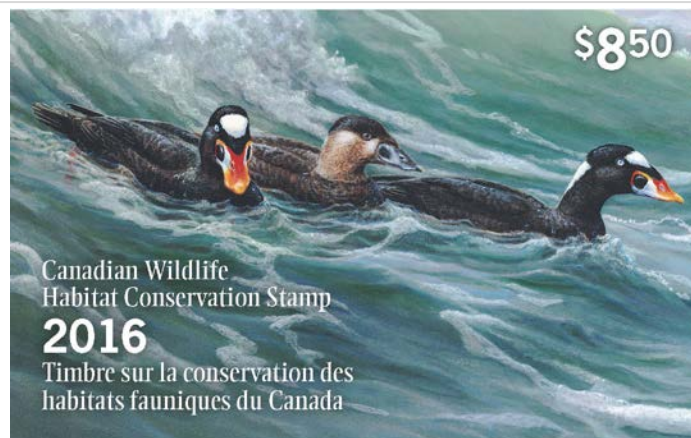


April 1, 2016

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Announcing the 2016 Canadian Wildlife Habitat Conservation Stamp



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The 2016 Canadian Wildlife Habitat Conservation Stamp, featuring the image “Offshore Wind – Surf Scoters” by wildlife artist Pierre Leduc of Stoneham (QC).

The painting of Stoneham (QC) wildlife artist, Pierre Leduc, titled “Offshore Wind – Surf Scoters,” has been unveiled as the image of the 2016 Canadian Wildlife Habitat Conservation Stamp and Print.

The Canadian Wildlife Habitat Conservation Stamp and Print are produced each year through unique partnerships between **Wildlife Habitat Canada**, the **Canadian Wildlife Service of Environment and Climate Change Canada**, and **Canadian wildlife artists**.

Wildlife Habitat Canada (WHC) is proud to be celebrating its 32nd anniversary of working to help conserve, restore and enhance the great variety of wildlife habitat across Canada. The revenues and royalties from the sale of the Canadian Wildlife Habitat Conservation Stamp and Print fund WHC’s habitat conservation grant program. Since 1985, more than \$50 million has been invested to support over 1,500 conservation projects across Canada.

The Canadian Wildlife Habitat Conservation Stamp (the Stamp) is purchased primarily by waterfowl hunters to

validate their migratory game bird hunting permits, which contributes directly to “on-the-ground” habitat conservation and stewardship efforts. The Stamp is also purchased by stamp collectors, print purchasers and individuals interested in contributing to conservation of wildlife habitat in Canada.

Each year Wildlife Habitat Canada hosts an Art Competition where a painting, created by a Canadian wildlife artist, is selected to produce the Canadian Wildlife Habitat Conservation Stamp, Print and other philatelic products. The 2016 Stamp is the 32nd Stamp to appear in the series and is set to officially launch on April 30, 2016 at *Rousseau Timbres & Monnaies à la Baie* in Montreal (QC). The launch will feature the original painting “Offshore Wind – Surf Scoters” and will be attended by the artist himself, Pierre Leduc (<http://www.animalia.ca>).

Pierre started his career as a scientific illustrator at the University of Quebec in Trois-Rivières. For seven years, he worked to illustrate scientific literature in ecology, zoology, entomology and especially botany. In 1986 he decided to devote himself to a full time career as a painter and has participated in more than ninety exhibitions since. Pierre’s winning artwork has also been featured on the 1995 (Redhead), 2002 (King Eider), and 2006 (Brant Geese) Canadian Wildlife Habitat Conservation Stamps.

The Canadian Wildlife Habitat Conservation Stamp was created in 1985, and continues to be a visible reminder of the reason habitat conservation is important – to conserve Canadian wildlife. **Without habitat, there is no wildlife ... it’s that simple!**

For further information on the purchase of Conservation Stamp, Print or other philatelic products, or information on the official 2016 Canadian Wildlife Habitat Conservation Stamp and Print launch event on April 30, 2016, please contact *Rousseau Timbres & Monnaies à la Baie*: 514-281-4756; Toll free: 1-800-561-9977; www.rousseaucollections.com.

Wildlife Habitat Canada is a national non-profit conservation organization dedicated to working with landowners, governments, non-government organizations and industry to conserve, restore and enhance the great variety of wildlife habitat across Canada. To learn more about the Art Competition, or conservation grant program, please visit www.whc.org. ‘Like’ WHC on Facebook or follow @WildlifeHCanada on Twitter.

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