

[From Winter 2002]

2003 Duck Stamp Features CNWR



Charlottesville, Virginia, artist Ron Louque's painting beat out 250 other works to win the 2002 Federal Duck Stamp Contest. As a consequence, his painting will be the image on the 2003-2004 Federal Duck Stamp.

Mr. Louque chose the CNWR because of the distinctive landmark provided by the lighthouse, and the fact that the refuge is a wintering ground for snow geese. Although he had visited the refuge several times to photograph the lighthouse, he also asked the refuge for photos they had. It was a photo taken by recently retired CNWR Deputy Manager, Bob Wilson that provided just the perspective that Mr. Louque was looking for.

He had high hopes for his painting, his 30th submission, since he had come close several other times during his three decade quest. In October he traveled to Washington to observe the judging and saw his perseverance pay off.

The refuge is particularly pleased to be on the 2003 duck stamp, which celebrates the Centennial for the National Wildlife Refuge System, and which coincides with the planned completion and dedication of the new education and administrative complex.

Editor