



Figure 5. Hand-painted FDC w/Poster Stamps from 1957 (Cachet by Lois Hamilton)

Smokey Bear Poster Stamps

All of the Smokey Bear Poster Stamps were printed as part of the Smokey Bear Wildfire Prevention campaign by the U.S. and State Forest Service. The first stamp (SBr. 1) was printed in 1944 in sheets of 100, perf 12 ½, with a total of 5,000,000 having been issued. Not until 1947 was an image of Smokey Bear printed on the stamps, which were issued in two separate colors (red, SBr. 8 and green, SBr. 8a). From 1944 through 1955 a single image was issued. Then from 1956-1966, two images were printed each year, and after that four images were produced until 1990, the last year these stamps were issued.

In 1984, the U.S. and State Forest Service began to transfer Smokey Bear materials that had been collected from the CFFP campaign to the National Agricultural Library (NAL) in Beltsville, MD, to be maintained in their Special Collections as documentation of the campaign. The NAL collection consists of posters, proofs, mechanicals, original artwork, motion pictures, sound recordings, and various pieces of memorabilia; all pieces are accessible through the library. In 1985, David Jackson's, Jackson Stamp Co. in Dallas, TX obtained licenses to publish the "Smokey Bear Stamps" album (Fig. 6). The album was well made and documents each stamp extremely well. The album was maintained by David Jackson until the last stamp issued in 1990. The album includes places for the 1958 FDC of the Scott 1122, which has smokey as part of the cancel and the 1984 FDC for the Scott 2096. If you are fortunate enough to find a copy of the Jackson album, I suggest you grab it to house your Smokey Bear stamps.

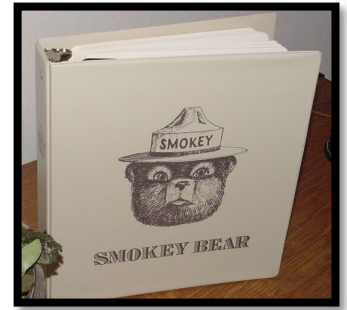


Figure 6. Jackson Stamp Co. Smokey Bear Stamps Album (1985)

Inventory of Stamps from the Smokey Bear Wildfire Prevention campaign (1944-1990)



SBr. 1 (1944)



SBr. 2 (1945)



SBr. 3-7 (1946)



SBr. 8 (1947)



SBr. 8a (1947)



SBr. 9 (1948)



SBr. 10 (1949)



SBr. 11 (1950)



SBr. 12 (1951)



SBr. 13 (1952)



SBr. 14 (1953)



SBr. 15 (1954)



SBr. 16 (1955)



SBr. 17-18 (1956)



SBr. 19-20 (1957)



SBr. 21-22 (1958)



SBr. 23-24 (1959)



SBr. 25-26 (1960)



SBr. 27-28 (1961)



SBr. 29-30 (1962)



SBr. 31-32 (1963)



SBr. 33-34 (1964)



SBr. 35-36 (1965)



SBr. 37-40 (1966)



SBr. 41-44 (1967)



SBr. 45-48 (1968)



SBr. 49-52 (1969)



SBr. 53-56 (1970)



SBr. 57-60 (1971)



SBr. 61-64 (1972)



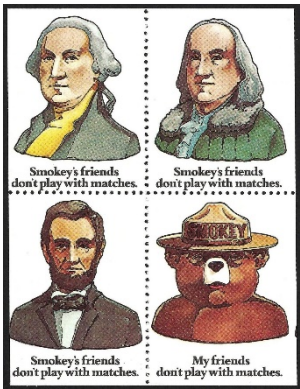
SBr. 65-68 (1973)



SBr. 69-72 (1974)



SBr. 73-76 (1975)



SBr. 77-80 (1976)



SBr. 81-84 (1977)



SBr. 85-88 (1978)



SBr. 89-92 (1979)



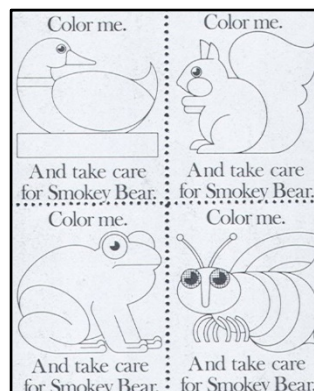
SBr. 93-96 (1980)



SBr. 97-100 (1981)



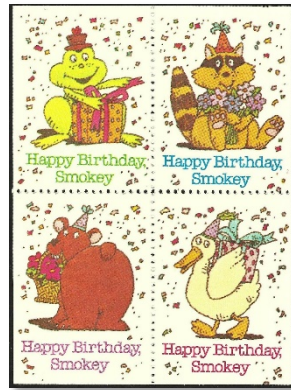
SBr. 101a-104a (1982)



SBr. 101b-104b (1982)



SBr. 105-108 (1983)



SBr. 109-112 (1984)



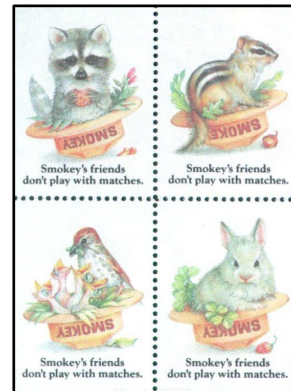
SBr. 113-116 (1985)



SBr. 117-120 (1986)
Perf 12 ½ x 12 ½



SBr. 121-124 (1987)



SBr. 125-128 (1988)
Perf 12 ½ x 12 ½



SBr. 129-132 (1989)
Perf 10 ½ x 10 ½



SBr. 133-134 (1990)
Perf 10 ½ x 10 ½

Conclusion

If you decide to collect the Smokey Bear stamps you will find yourself locating all kinds of products that were also associated with the Smokey Bear Wildfire Prevention campaign over the years. These stamps are sure to remind you of the 80 years that you, your parents, and probably grandparents have been asked to help in the prevention of forest and/or wildfires.

References

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Special thanks to **Howard Richoux (Oregon City, OR)** and his ducks2k.com website for some of the photos of the stamps that I was not able to find other places. Howards' site was a great resource to me but extends well beyond Smokey Bear and is a great source for all kinds of hunting, trout, wildlife, and society stamps. <https://www.ducks2k.com/>

