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***SENATOR CARDIN JOINS SECRETARY SALAZAR AT
PATUXENT REFUGE TO VIEW PROPOSED PROJECTS TO
IMPROVE FACILITY IN ECONOMIC RECOVERY PLAN***

LAUREL – U.S. Senator **Benjamin L. Cardin** (D-MD) today joined **Secretary of Interior Ken Salazar** and U.S. Congressman **Steny Hoyer** (MD-5) on a tour of the historic Patuxent Refuge and Wildlife Center to review improvement projects that could be funded under the economic recovery package now before Congress.

Senator Cardin released the following statement:

*“Patuxent is our nation’s premier wildlife research facilities, but it is in need of upgrading and modernization,” said **Senator Cardin**, a member of the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee. “Our nation is a world leader in habitat preservation and protection and Patuxent is at the forefront of that effort. Improvements to Patuxent will provide jobs for Marylanders and ensure that Patuxent remains at the forefront of efforts to carry out that important mission.”*

The economic recovery package being considered by Congress contains \$15 million in proposed modernization projects, including a new state-of-the-art laboratory that will allow biologists to continue the facility’s important research.

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