Patuxent Wildlife Research Center

Mission: To excel in wildlife and natural resource science, providing information needed by federal, state and other agencies to better manage the Nation's biological resources.

Vital Statistics

- Established in 1936, the Center sits on the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service's Patuxent Research Refuge near Laurel, Maryland
- World-class research center: more than 160 facilities including sixteen office, laboratory, and service buildings; fourteen major pen complexes for captive whooping cranes; fourteen experimental facilities for bird and wetland studies
- Habitats for research include river, natural and constructed wetlands, forests, ponds and fields
- Permanent science staff at Laurel: 45 research or monitoring scientists; 45 support staff
- Permanent field station staff: 22 research scientists; 9 support staff

Some Program Highlights

- Science in support of US Fish and Wildlife Service information needs
- Science in support of National Park Service information needs
- Annual science meetings and partners prioritization meetings
- North American Bird Banding Program
- North American Breeding Bird Survey
- National Bird Monitoring Data Center
- North American Amphibian Monitoring Program
- Wildlife population and habitat analyses
- Adaptive management for migratory birds
- Wildlife contaminants
- Contaminant hazard reviews and information transfer
- Restoration ecology of the Whooping Crane
- National vertebrate collections (Smithsonian Institution)
- Coastal science for National Seashores and Refuges
- Electronic communication of natural resource information

Partnerships

- The Center operates in partnership with agencies having related missions
- Partners sharing facilities at Patuxent are: the Patuxent Research Refuge, Analytical Control Facility and Divisions of Migratory Bird Management and Bird Habitat Conservation (US Fish and Wildlife Service), and the Wetlands Science Institute and Wildlife Habitat Management Institute (Natural Resources Conservation Service)
- Some other partners include: Smithsonian Institution; Universities of Georgia, Virginia, Virginia Tech, State University of New York, Rhode Island, Maine; Mississippi Valley Joint Venture; Canadian Wildlife Service; Partners in Flight; Chesapeake Bay Program; EPA; and neighboring federal facilities

Department of the Interior
US. Geological Survey
Biological Resources Division

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