

Thursday April 4 2013: Conservation of Endangered Species at Antioch Dunes National Wildlife Refuge

Birding Information: Nancy Wenninger, MDAS Conservation Chairman, will discuss the effects of rat poison on birds and other wildlife.



Lange's Metalmark Butterfly:
Photo © Liam O'Brien

Main Program: The Antioch Dunes National Wildlife Refuge remains the only wildlife refuge specifically created for invertebrate conservation. But today it is threatened by an unforeseen problem: nitrogen deposition, driven by an explosion of fossil-fuel fired power plants, ringing the dunes. If the rate of nitrogen deposition isn't arrested or mitigated, we may witness the extinction of the Lange's Metalmark Butterfly, whose numbers are now in the dozens. Brent Plater, Executive Director of the [Wild Equity Institute](#), will tell us about this largely-unknown landscape, how to observe wildlife there, and how his organization is experimenting with new ways to build a stronger conservation and environmental movement to protect the Dunes and hopefully make conservation movements stronger and more resilient in the process.

Detailed information about the April program is available in our [April 2013 Quail newsletter](#).