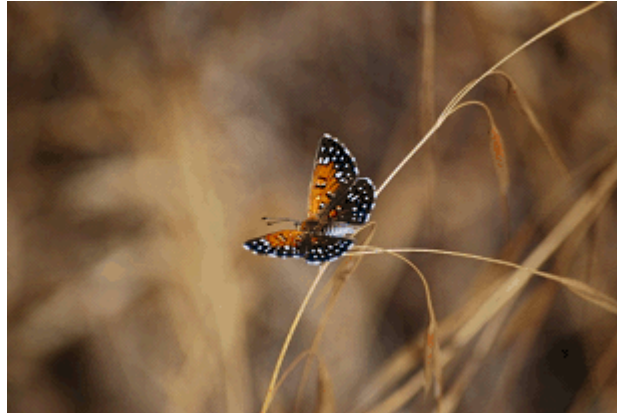


Help Count Endangered Lange's Metalmark Butterflies at the Antioch Dunes National Wildlife Refuge



It is time once again for the Lange's Metalmark Butterfly counts at Antioch Dunes National Wildlife Refuge! We will be counting butterflies for several weeks in August and September and we can sure use your help.

We will be surveying on two days per week. Our counts will start at 10am and go until 3pm, the times in which our butterflies are the most active.

The dates for the butterfly counts will all be on Wednesdays and Thursdays with one exception on August 16 (Tuesday). The weekly count dates will be:

August 3, 4, 10, 11, 16, 18, 24, 25, 31

September 1, 7, 8, 14, 15, 21, 22, 28, 29

You'll be trained on what to do and what to look for on each day of the count, so first-timers are welcome!

As you might guess, Antioch in summer is challenging. Temperatures can be warm to hot, often with a nice breeze, and the terrain can be uneven and sometimes steep.

Lange's metalmark butterflies are found nowhere else in the world, except at the Antioch Dunes National Wildlife Refuge!! Don't miss this opportunity to see this gorgeous endangered species!!!

Volunteers will need to wear sturdy shoes/boots, long pants (star thistle smarts!), and bring sunscreen, sunglasses, hat, lunch and a water bottle.

We can provide short gaitors to help keep weeds out of your shoes, but if you have your own long pair, you might want to bring them. They really help keep the weeds out of shoes, socks and laces.

If you want directions to the refuge, have questions or want to volunteer for the Aug-Sept. butterfly counts, please contact Louis Terrazas, by email at louis_terrzas@fws.gov or by phone at [510-377-1233](tel:510-377-1233).