

December 1, 2007

Three Swan Rangers decided it was far too warm in the valley Saturday, hiking instead up the Peters Ridge Trail to find some 5 degree refreshment!

Then there was the wind chill, which was abundant along the ridge, as were the views of the Swan and Flathead Valleys, as well as Flathead Lake.

Although we carried our snowshoes, we didn't need them. The snow was powdery and only half way to the knees where we turned around in the head end of Brown's Gulch, not wanting to be exposed to avalanche danger on the open slopes there.

Winter is setting into the high country, so don't forget to put those extra layers, hats and mittens into your day pack!

The Swan Rangers meet every Saturday at the Echo Lake Cafe for breakfast at 8:30, leaving at 9:30 for a partial day outing in the northern Swan Mountains and foothills.

They now carpool from the Swan River School parking lot next to the Cafe, rather than the Swan River Community Hall lot.

Everyone is Welcome!

Hope to see you soon,

Keith

Keith Hammer photos:



There's till plenty of brush and grasses exposed along the Peters Ridge Trail.



It looked like there was a bit more sun out down the Swan Valley!



The Swan Rangers turned around after getting a peek at the open slopes in the upper end of Brown's Gulch.



The most reliable self-test for the early stages of hypothermia is to take a photo and see whether you are looking into the right end of the camera!