

December 29, 2007

Nine Swan Rangers toured the wonderful hemlock forests of Krause Basin Saturday on skis and snowshoes, breaking trail at times in 3 feet of snow while more fell from the sky!

It was a wonderful way to usher in the New Year as the trees began to shed their full loads of snow in great avalanches and swirls of rushing air and powder!

The benefits of companionship were more than just social as we took turns breaking trail!

All three creek crossings had lots of natural snow bridge and no open water.

It looks like hiking is over for a few months, so bring skis or snowshoes! We keep a couple extra pair of snowshoes on hand as loaners, so don't stay home for a lack of equipment!

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.

We carpool from the Swan River School parking lot next to the Cafe.

Everyone is Welcome!

Hope to see you soon,

Keith



Keith Hammer photo: Crossing Krause Creek amid falling snow.



Bob Muth photo: A Ranger demonstrates the dangers of skiing off the packed trail!



Keith Hammer photo: A western hemlock tree demonstrates its ability to bend over double.