

March 8, 2008

Nine Swan Rangers snowshoed and skied the lower reaches of Peterson Creek off Bear Creek Road Saturday, with half finding a loop that we are sure to do again and half returning on the same route.

The area is of high value as winter big game range and we sure enough saw lots of browsed brush, tracks and beds of elk and deer, as well as tracks of mountain lion likely keying in on the deer as prey. We also saw some really big white pine and ponderosa pine trees!

It was a warm day without the forecast rain and snow and was a welcome day of exploring and adventure, especially with the discovery of new loop that will be great for early season hiking as well!

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

Everyone is Welcome!

Hope to see you soon,

Keith

People photos by Keith Hammer, lion track photo by Bob Muth:



Where did the skiers go? More glide wax on the snowshoes next trip!



Snowpack is still plentiful in some areas while pretty sketchy in others, with skis taken off several times and snowshoes trekking through a bit of mud.



Mountain lion tracks in the typically paired pattern.