

November 22, 2008

Nine Swan Rangers hiked the Switchback Trail to Alpine Trail #7 on the ridge above the Jewel Basin parking lot Saturday, climbing into the clouds after plenty of clear views of the valley below.

Snow on the ridge is still only several inches deep, but a stiff wind sent the message that winter is on its way.

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

Keith Hammer photos on following pages:



The trail was free of snow until it opens up into the burned area, which offers great views of Echo and Flathead lakes.



Heading into the clouds just before the junction with Alpine Trail #7.



A brief stop for a snack at Malfunction Junction . . .



. . . before descending back below cloud level for more awesome views of the valley below!