

March 7, 2009

Nine Swan Rangers snowshoed Saturday into the upper reaches of Krause Basin, passing through majestic old-growth fir and larch along the way. It was pleasant and calm down low while pleasant, windy and very cold up high!

They crossed old tracks of wolverine and fresh tracks of snowshoe hare. The upper part of Krause Basin is also home to some really big spruce trees and lots of dead snags full of woodpecker holes!

As a token of appreciation for the fuel these Swan Rangers saved by car pooling and choosing non-motorized recreation, Swan View Coalition is donating \$20 to Energy Share Montana to help folks with fixed or low incomes heat their homes - something we hope to repeat each Saturday throughout the winter.

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:



Strapping on the snowshoes.



Crossing a snow bridge over North Krause Creek.



Turning around in brisk winds along the base of Strawberry Mountain before reaching major avalanche exposure.