

March 14, 2009

Thirteen Swan Rangers skied and snowshoed up Peters Ridge Road and into Browns Gulch Saturday. The snow was quite sticky as the weather warmed, but they saw lots of tracks of deer, elk and moose, as well as signs of them browsing on brush along the road.

The left fork of Peters Ridge Road runs north toward Lake Blaine and offers many nice views of the Flathead Valley. It also weaves in and out of the many drainages and crosses their many streams, but always on a gentle grade well suited to mellow skiing.

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:



A look up Browns Gulch to the Swan Crest.



Snow on the south slopes is disappearing quickly under the stronger March sun!



A view across the Flathead Valley to Blacktail Mountain and ski area.