

August 1, 2009

Thirteen Swan Rangers hiked in two groups to overlook Clayton Lake from Tongue Mountain in Jewel Basin Saturday. While this hike makes a giant C-shaped swing toward the north boundary of Jewel Basin, it is a relatively easy 5-miles each direction due to the gentle grade starting at the Jewel Basin Parking lot.

The trail along Tongue Mountain is perhaps one of the most stunning in Jewel Basin in its diversity of wildflowers, which remain in full bloom - some might call it picturesque! The trail also affords a look back across Jewel Basin at Mount Aeneas, Black Lake, and some of the more commonly visited parts of The Jewel.

The Swan Rangers meet every Saturday at the Echo Lake Cafe for **breakfast at 7:30, leaving at 8:30** 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

Photos on following pages by Keith Hammer:



Twin Lakes display the shimmer that earned Jewel Basin its name!



The long ridge of Tongue Mountain's eastern shoulder provides easy hiking, plentiful wildflowers, and grand vistas . . .



. . . that include Great Northern Mountain, Hungry Horse Reservoir . . .



. . . and Clayton Lake, nestled up against Pioneer Ridge!