February 27, 2010

Eight Swan Rangers snowshoed into the upper reaches of Krause Basin Saturday, under partly sunny skies and in warm temperatures following a night of rain and sleet.

They heard their first varied thrush calls of spring and saw tracks of coyote, snowshoe hare and weasel.

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

Photos on following pages by Keith Hammer:

Each drop of rainwater refracts the horizon line of upper Krause Basin!
Rangers cross Krause Creek on an ample snow bridge, though there's plenty of open water further downcountry.

Weasel tracks and hole.
Avalanche chute on the south slope of Peters Ridge.

The last pitch before turning around to avoid avalanche exposure.