

September 18, 2010

Eight Swan Rangers avoided the rain along the Swan Range Saturday by hiking the 2-mile Swan River Nature Trail out-and-back near Bigfork. The sun came out for most of the walk, then the sky clouded back up.

It's a great time of year to view late-flowering plants like asters and check out the fruits of honeysuckle, hawthorn, chokecherry, and others. Though this is a heavily used trail on an old roadbed, bear scat along the way is a reminder that carrying bear pepper spray is still a good idea!

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,

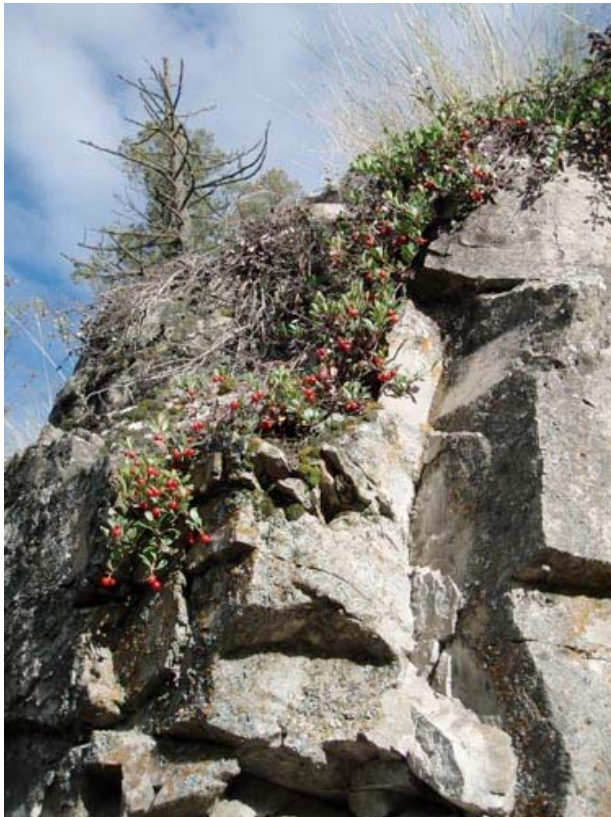


Keith

Photos on following pages by Keith Hammer:



The Rangers were just a few of the many folks out enjoying the Swan River Nature Trail!



The red berries of twinflower cascade down rocks above the trail/road.



Chokecherries along the way are ripe and dark!



Showy aster, on the other hand, is still in flower!