

November 20, 2010

Six Swan Rangers met the arctic cold front head-on Saturday, hiking a loop up the old Krause Basin Road and returning via a portion of Peters Ridge Road and a bit of a bushwhack! It was very chilly in the open wind, but not bad in the shelter of trees.

They saw tracks of moose, elk, deer, and the first wolverine tracks of the winter season! They also came upon a snowshoe hare near its den, which demonstrated in short order how they lay down tracks! In other wildlife news, the Griz lost to the Bobcats in Missoula.

The Rangers returned in time to listen to the Bigfork Vikings win the state Class B football championship, 24 to 21 over Fairfield. Congratulations Bigfork Vikes!

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!

When hiking in bear country, remember to carry bear spray and avoid the 3-D's: dawn, dusk, and darkness. Bears are not in hibernation yet.

Big game hunting season is on, so it's a very good idea to wear some bright "hunter orange" while hiking!

HAPPY THANKSGIVING!



Keith

Photos by Keith Hammer:



Enough snow to pretty things up in Krause Basin, but not quite enough for a good ski yet.



So the freeze-up begins, ice sculptures and all!



Snow bridges are forming over the North Fork of Krause Creek.



The sun managed to make a showing through some blustery weather - sort of!