

December 4, 2010

Eight Swan Rangers skied and snowshoed in Krause Basin Saturday, with some making a loop back on the Strawberry Lake Road. It was a crystal clear, blue-sky day that began with Venus shining bright in the southeast just before sunrise.

There is plentiful snow for skiing and snowshoeing, with enough fresh, cold snow on top of the previously warmer snow to make it very nice. The snow is deep enough that deer and elk are dragging their bellies in it while the pine marten and snowshoe hare are traveling in long leaps and bounds atop it!

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.

There's enough snow that either cross-country skis or snowshoes are necessary.

Everyone is welcome!



Keith

Photos on following pages by Keith Hammer:



Heading north from Echo Lake Cafe for another beautiful day in the Swan Range!



Snow, snow everywhere!



Several Rangers come to a fork in the road and decide to take it!



Flanked by droopy-top hemlock, a spire-top alpine fir catches the sun.



The sun lights up a thin cloud and makes sparkles of surface-hoar crystals.