

February 5, 2011

Sixteen Swan Rangers skied and snowshoed up the old road in North Krause Basin Saturday, under sunny skies and on fresh-yesterday snow only lightly crusted by subsequent rain. Six Rangers then switched over to snowshoes and continued on up the North Fork from the old road, crossing the tracks of many a pine marten and snowshoe hare.

It's a deep snow year, yet streams remain deeply incised and challenging to cross due to repeated warm spells this winter. Substantial snow avalanche activity is evident in the upper basin, making the decision of when to turn around an easy one.

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:



Hi ho, hi ho, into Krause Basin we go!



Snow banks along North Krause Creek display the winter's layers of snow storms.



Careful choices of snow bridges further up North Krause Creek.



A reflecting pool near the source of North Krause Creek.



So, when are we going to talk about maybe turning around?



Like maybe before all those avalanches?