March 19, 2011

Eight Swan O'Rangers hiked and skied a hard-packed Peters Ridge Road into Krause Basin Saturday, under increasingly cloudy and snowy skies. As is the usual with Krause Basin, there were plenty wildlife tracks to keep the day interesting!

But, we're still looking for that first grizzly track of Spring!

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 still enough snow that either cross-country skis or snowshoes are necessary.

Bears are emerging from their dens, however, so be sure to carry bear spray.

Everyone is welcome!

Photos on following pages by Keith Hammer:
After a couple miles, Peters Ridge Road crosses from private property onto Forest Service land designated a Wildlife Management Area under the 1988 Noisy Face Recreation Plan.

After several miles, the road offers views of Flathead Lake and . . .
. . . close-ups of the Swan Range . . .

. . . before heading deeper into Krause Basin!