

May 14, 2011

Seven Swan Rangers hiked the Echo - Broken Leg Trail as far as Wolf Creek Saturday. The trail is now clear of snow to the Wolf Creek crossing with the exception of a couple stretches of old avalanche deposition shortly before Wolf Creek.

It was a sunny but very windy day, with trees crashing down from time to time - which made for a rather brisk pace on the hike out! The Rangers saw a mountain goat, the tracks of lots of elk, and plenty ticks!

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.

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

Everyone is welcome!



Keith

Photos on following pages by Keith Hammer:



Whoa! A few too many leg-stretching warm-ups in the parking lot!



Deer Creek is running white-water with the spring runoff.



Looking up Wolf Creek Canyon, the trail passes through several old avalanche deposition zones seen at far left.



The heavily-glaciated "lunch rock" offers views of Ferndale and Flathead Lake.





Re-crossing avalanche deposition on the return hike, on a south slope that has already shed its layers of late-spring snow.



Early blue violets on the Stoltze logging road cutbank.