June 18, 2011

Twelve Swan Rangers hiked the Echo-Broken Leg Trail Saturday in mostly rainy weather, but enjoyed good companionship and a wide array of wildflowers nonetheless. The trail offers solid bridges over Birch and Deer Creeks, making for easy crossings even when the creeks are swollen.

While the weather hardly feels like summer will officially begin with Tuesday's solstice, the wildflowers seem somehow to be catching up anyway!

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.

When hiking in bear country, remember to carry bear spray and avoid the 3-D's: dawn, dusk, and darkness.

Everyone is welcome!

P.S. DNRC signs are reminding folks they need a State Lands Recreation Permit to recreate on DNRC lands, which includes the first mile of the Broken Leg Trail and old forestry roads between Mud Lake and Krause Basin.

Photos on following pages by Keith Hammer:
Testing the load limit on Birch Creek bridge?

Blooming Bear Grass announces the 4th of July is not far away . . .
. . . while False Solomon's Seal goes for perfect symmetry!

Look, it says right here: "Only 10% chance of rain Saturday morning!"
Wildflowers above Windy Point.

Pine, poplar, and clouds being reborn up Wolf Creek Canyon.