

August 6, 2011

Fifteen Swan Rangers headed up Wolf Creek on an old road and informal trails Saturday, with four turning around at Wolf Creek and the rest continuing up "The Back Door" to Crater Lake in Jewel Basin. This route is not necessarily recommended, but is the shortest route to Crater Lake and is totally snow-free at this time.

The "Back Door" trail is brushy, rocky, steep, and at times all of the above. The reward, however, is a view of Crater Lake from the south, from a breezy vantage point atop glaciated rock outcroppings! Needless to say, we had a great time!

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!



Keith

Photos by Keith Hammer on following pages:



Leaving the valley and our troubles behind . . .



. . . as we head up the "Back Door" to Crater Lake!



Crater Lake, with Mt. Aeneas distant left.



Not a bad spot for a picnic!



Time to retreat, like the glaciers did across this same rock a long time ago!



When you know you've been navigating "by the seat of your pants!"