September 24, 2011

Nine Swan Rangers hiked Peterson Creek Trail #293 to where it intersects with Alpine Trail #7 and the Quintonkin Trail just east of a notch in the Swan Crest. It was a sunny day, very hot for the last week of September!

The colors are changing nicely at higher elevations and it was the perfect hike for the first full day of Autumn!

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!

Photos on following pages by Keith Hammer:
Like bumps on a log; crossing Patterson Creek.

Old trail sign reading: 11 miles to Echo Ranger Station (bottom of Jewel Basin Road).
A snack with a view of Flathead, Loon, and Swan Lakes!

Looking north along the Swan Crest from the old Red Owl burn.
Autumn colors in the head end of Quintonkin Creek.

Some trail repair along the way!