

November 19, 2011

Six Swan Rangers hiked a loop in the headwaters of Echo Creek Saturday, traveling on old log-skid roads near Strawberry Lake Road. It was quite windy at Echo Lake Cafe during breakfast, so they sought the shelter of Krause Basin for a chilly morning outing.

They skirted the base of Infinity Ridge and enjoyed the cedar and hemlock forest that is so special in Krause Basin! They didn't see much wildlife in Krause Basin, but the Griz are ahead of the Bobcats 12-0 at half-time as this email goes out!

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.

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

Everyone is welcome!



Keith

PS - Big game rifle season is Oct 22 - Nov 27, so it's a good idea to wear bright orange while hiking out there!

Photos on following pages by Keith Hammer:



Swan Ranger huddle!



A big cedar tree among the hemlock!



Hoarfrost ice from underfoot, formed as ground moisture meets cold air!



A hemlock tree growing from a cedar stump!



Ice forms on yew along Echo Creek.



Pine drops stand out in fresh snow.