

January 28, 2012

Thirteen Swan Rangers grumbled over breakfast about the boiler plate snow resulting from a week of freeze-thaw cycles, but had hopes North Shore Nordic was grooming its Bigfork Community Nordic Center trails so there'd be something better than ice to ski on!

They weren't disappointed as they skied a 3.7 mile loop that was in the process of being freshly groomed by North Shore Nordic's Neil Navratil, which resulted in a very skiable surface of fresh "corduroy!" The trails are located at the junction of Foothill Road and Jewel Basin Road, and there are new signs and maps at most trail junctions.

You can download maps, learn more, or support North Shore Nordic by visiting their web site at

<http://northshorenordic.org>

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.

Everyone is welcome!



Keith

Photos on following pages by Keith Hammer:



Little Jewels come to a fork in the road!



New signs and maps help skiers navigate a half-dozen loops in the trail system.



Neil Navratil freshens up the trail surface!



The trails are groomed for skate skiing with a set track along one side.



The trails offer fine views of the Swan Mountains . . .



. . . and are suited to folks and families of all skill levels!