

February 2, 2012

Twelve Swan Rangers headed south in search of sunny skies Saturday, but only had to go as far as Swan Lake! Twelve hiked, skied and snowshoe the Porcupine Road up to the old Mission Lookout and three snowshoed in the nearby Swan River Wildlife Refuge. The Refuge turned into a short trip due to too-thin ice over wet areas, but the Rangers got to see a couple coyotes and lots of waterfowl!

The route to Mission Lookout and its nice views of the Swan Range was sprinkled with tracks of moose, deer, elk, grouse, and whatnots. Longggggg breaks in the sun were taken at the lookout and on the bridge over the Swan River. It was a simply gorgeous day!

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:



Praising the sun on the Porcupine Bridge!



The last stretch of four miles to Mission Lookout.



Soaking up more sun at Mission Lookout!



Swan Peak viewed through the lookout's bracing.



Hall Peak from Mission Lookout.



A view of the Swan River and Swan Range from Porcupine Bridge.