

**December 9, 2006**

Five Swan Rangers rose high above the fray and fog Saturday by snowshoeing up the Crater Notch Trail. It was sunny and warm above the valley fog!

Seven cedar wax wings were escaping the fog as well and landed in a tree near us and Crater Notch.

We also saw tracks of mountain lion and perhaps wolverine, but weren't sure of the latter.

The upper level of the fog layer provided lots of hoarfrost for that special holiday atmosphere!

If the inversion ends and we get fresh snow by next Saturday, we'll likely cross-country ski at lower elevation. If it is still inverted, we will likely snowshoe to higher realms once again. Best to bring both skis and snowshoes if you've got them.

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.

Everyone is Welcome!

Hope to see you soon,

Keith

Keith Hammer photos:



We and the seven cedar wax wings in this photo lingered near Crater Notch for obvious reasons before descending once again into fog mimicking Glacial Lake Missoula.



Sunglasses were appreciated. Crater Notch is just around the corner.



Beautiful hoarfrost was the consolation prize for descent into the fog once again.