

January 13, 2007

Five fearless Swan Rangers braved the five below Fahrenheit Saturday for a beautiful hike from Bear Creek road into the Wolf Creek drainage, where they marveled at the ice forming in the creek.

With both a hydrologist and an oceanographer along we were in the midst of determining that Wolf Creek is indeed cold when a water dipper (ouzel) came along to prove us wrong by dipping, swimming, and feeding along the stream bottom to its heart's content!

We also saw five mule deer at a high-use game trail intersection, as well as many elk tracks. A couple of us saw two beautiful coyotes on the drive to the cafe.

What a 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.

Everyone is Welcome!

Hope to see you soon,

Keith

Keith Hammer photos:



The boilerplate snow actually turned soft as we rounded the corner into Wolf Creek.



The ouzel's hot tub!