April 14, 2007

Four Swan Rangers and two Swan Grazers shared breakfast at Echo Cafe Saturday.

The two Grazers headed off to other matters and the four Rangers hiked several miles up the Peterson Creek Trail before running into snow deep enough to convince them to turn around.

It was a wonderful sunny day and we saw a pileated woodpecker, seven mule deer, lots of butterflies and, believe it or not, a grizzly bear eating a fish in the middle of a creek!

Only one tick was found among the four of us, which was very disappointing.

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 (even those just wanting to graze)!

Hope to see you soon,

Keith

Keith Hammer photos:

No need to even leave the road to see a Premium Bear.
A small tributary to Patterson Creek is a nice place for a break.

The first part of the hike up Peterson Creek Trail 293 involves a mile long walk down Road 5398 closed December through June to protect big game winter range - and another half mile of road closed year-round. But the reward is a wonderful trail hike through fir, ponderosa pine and the old Red Owl burn to the Swan Crest.