

Bob's Swan Ranging

Bob Marshall was in his 28th year when he hiked through what is now the Bob Marshall Wilderness. At the time, he was employed as a research silviculturist for the U.S. Forest Service, in Missoula, Montana.

Marshall's walk began in the Swan Range east of Kalispell, at the base of 7530-foot Mount Aeneas. Most of his first day out was spent in the Jewel Basin Country. Upon reaching the South Fork Flathead River, he turned south. Spending his nights at Forest Service guard stations, he traveled east to the Chinese Wall, south to Big Prairie, and west to Holland Lake. He spent the next two days in today's Mission Mountains Wilderness.

Marshall's hiking log reposes in the collection of Berkeley's Bancroft Library, where it was located by National Geographic Society writer Mike Edwards. He reports that Marshall evidently used a number 4 pencil, which accounts for the poor quality of the two pages reproduced below. Typewritten transcriptions of entries for Marshall's entire walk follow.

Tuesday Aug. 28				Wednesday Aug. 29			
Awake				Awake			
Breakfast				Breakfast			
to Elk Park				to Elk Park			
to Elk Park	8:25	8:45	0	Old Spotted Bear R.S.	8:25		13
Switzlach Creek		9:00	7 1/2	2 Mile Road	9:15		3 1/2
Sawyer Pass		10:00	5	4 Mile Road	9:55		5 1/2
to Elk Park	11:10	11:17	6	Spotted Bear R.S.	10:25	11:00	7
to Elk Park		11:30	7	Summit S.E. along Spotted Bear Ridge	11:35		9
to Elk Park		1:05	12	to Elk Park R.S.	11:35		—
to Elk Park	2:00	2:05	15	Old Spotted Bear R.S.	1:00		14 1/2
to Elk Park		2:50	18	Spotted Bear	1:25	2:00	16
to Elk Park		4:05	22	Harrison Creek	4:25	4:27	22 1/2
to Elk Park		4:35	23	Meadow Creek	4:30		26
to Elk Park		6:15	27	Middle Creek	5:50		30
to Elk Park		6:35	28	to Elk Park R.S. via Mid Creek	6:40		33
to Elk Park	7:00	7:25	30	Cross S. Fork	8:00		37 1/2
to Elk Park		7:40	—	Black Bear R.S.	8:40		40
to Elk Park		8:00	—	Supper	8:50		—
to Elk Park		8:20	—	Bed	10:15		—
to Elk Park		10:30	—				

Tuesday, 28 August 1928

<u>Activity/Location</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Miles</u>
Rise	6:30	
Breakfast	7:00	
Leave Kalispell	7:35	
Echo Lake	8:35-8:45	0
Switchback Trail	9:00	3/4
Aeneas Pass	10:35	5
Aeneas Mountain	11:10-11:17	6
Aeneas Pass	11:30	7
Clayton Lake Junction	1:05	12
Clayton Lake	2:00-2:05	15
Clayton Lake Junction	2:50	18
Handkerchief Lake	4:05	22
Crater Lake Divide Trail	4:35	23
South Fork of Flathead	6:15	-
Elk Park R.S.	6:35	28
Stroll Down Road	7:7:35	30
Supper	7:40	
Leave Elk Park R.S. with Homby	8:30	-
Arrive Spotted Bear R.S.	9:20	-
Bed	10:30	

Wednesday, 29 August 1928

<u>Activity/Location</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Miles</u>
Rise	6:45	
Breakfast	7:00	
Leave Spotted Bear	8:00	0
Old Spotted Bear R.S.	8:25	1 1/2
2 Mile Rd.	9:15	3 1/2
4 Mile Rd.	9:55	5 1/2
Spotted Bear L.O.	10:25-11:00	7
Jaunt S.E along Spotted Br Rdg	11:35	9
Leave Spotted Bear L.O.	11:35	-
Old Spotted Bear R.S.	1:00	14 1/2
Spotted Bear	1:25-2:00	16
Harrison Creek	4:18-4:27	24 1/2
Meadow Creek	4:50	26
Middle Creek	5:50	30
Side Creek up Middle Creek	6:40	33
Cross South Fork	8:00	37 1/2
Black Bear R.S.	8:40	40
Supper	8:50	-
Bed	10:15	-

Thursday, 30 August 1928

<u>Activity/Location</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Miles</u>
Rise	6:45	
Start	7:50	0
Re-start across ford	8:10	1/2
Helen Creek Trail	8:30	1 3/4
Cross Helen Creek	9:55	7
Helen-White River Pass	10:35	9 1/2
Pagoda Mountain	10:46-11:00	10
Helen-White River Pass	11:05	10 1/2
Continental Divide	1:35	21 1/2
Salt Mountain	2:35	25 1/2
White River	3:40-3:??	29 1/2
Helen-White River Pass	5-5:10	32 1/2
Helen Creek Crossing	5:55-56	35
Helen Creek Trail	7:??	40 1/2
Ford	8:09	41.75
Black Bear Ranger Station	8:14	42
Supper	8:25	
Bed	10:10	

Friday, 31 August 1928

<u>Activity/Location</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Miles</u>
Rise	7:09	
Breakfast	7:30	
Start	8:35	0
Little Salmon River	11:20	6 1/2
Salmon Lake Trail	12:05	9
Big Salmon Cabin	12:15-12:50	9 1/2
South Fork Ford	2:20-2:40	-
South Fork Trail	2:50	15
White River	4:25-4:40	20
Big Prairie	7:00	27
Supper	7:15	-
Evening Stroll Upstream	7:45-8:50	31
Bed	10:15	

Saturday, 1 September 1928

<u>Activity/Location</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Miles</u>
Rise	7:10	
Breakfast	7:25	
Start	8:20	0
White River L.O.	10:50-11:15	7
Prisoner Lake L.O.	12:15-12:30	11
Junction Mountain	2:50-2:55	16
Woolworth Ridge	4:40	21
Brown Sandstone Mountain	5:25	24
Big Prairie R.S.	6:20	26
Supper	6:26	-
Evening walk on ? Trail	7-9:10	34
Bed	10:00	

Sunday, 2 September 1928

<u>Activity/Location</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Miles</u>
Rise	6:30	
Breakfast	7:10	
Start	8:10	0
(illegible)		½
Gordon Creek Trail	9:00	2 ¾
Shaw Creek R.S.	12:20-1:00	16
Cross Gordon Creek	2:25	19
Foot of Gordon Pass Climb	2:45	20
Gordon Pass	3:50	22
Upper Holland Lake	4:25	24
Upper Holland Lake side trip	4:45	25
Holland Pass	5:50	28
Holland Lookout (?) Tr.	6:00	28½
Holland Lookout side trip	6:40	28½
Holland Lake Hotel	8:05-8:55	34
Holland Lake R.S.	9:15	35
Bed	10:30	

Monday, 3 September 1928

<u>Activity/Location</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Miles</u>
(illegible)		
Start	7:00	0
Elbow Lake Road	7:55	2½
Elbow Lake	9:30-10:15	7½
(illegible)		
Glacier Creek	(illegible)	12½
Glacier Lake	12:40	15
Lagoon Lake	12:40	17½
Turquoise Lake	1:20	18
Mountaineer Peak	3:10	22
Second Peak	3:45	23½
Third Peak	4:25	25
High Park Lake	5:00	27
Divide	5:50	29
Lost Lake	6:15	30½
Daughters-of-the-Sun Mountain	7:40	32½
Camp	8:35	34
Fire started	8:50	-
Supper	9:15	

Tuesday, 4 September 1928

<u>Activity/Location</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Miles</u>
Breakfast	4:45	
Start	5:30	0
St. Charles Mountain	6:50-7:10	2
Deep Canyon	7:30	2½
Porcupine Peak	8:40-8:55	4
Nameless Peak	9:45-9:55	6½
Heart Lake	10:45	8
Glacier Lake Trail	12:35	11½
Cross Glacier Creek	1:05	13½
Annoyance Tr. (?)	1:15	14
Elbow Lake L.O. Trail	1:45	15
Elbow Lake	2:15-3:05	18
Main road	4:40	24
Seely P.O.	9:20	42
Supper	9:30	
Bed	10:10	



(Prepared by the Flathead Group of the Sierra Club)