What better way to become impassioned about protecting your home watershed and its inhabitants than to get outside and enjoy it? That’s what the Swan Rangers do every Saturday after sharing breakfast at the Echo Lake Café north of Bigfork!

This informal “stop and smell the roses” outing club is all about folks sharing their knowledge of the Swan Range while hiking, snowshoeing and skiing – all within a half-hour drive of the Café! It’s open to everyone and the day’s outing is planned over breakfast so it suits the abilities of those going out that particular Saturday.

The group celebrated its 200th outing in October 2009 and has seen all sorts of wildlife on the outings, including grizzly bear, deer, elk, mountain goat, and the tracks of pine marten, lynx, wolverine and more! To learn more about the Swan Rangers, to read some of their weekly reports, or to sign up for their weekly emails, visit the “hiking” page at www.swanrange.org!