

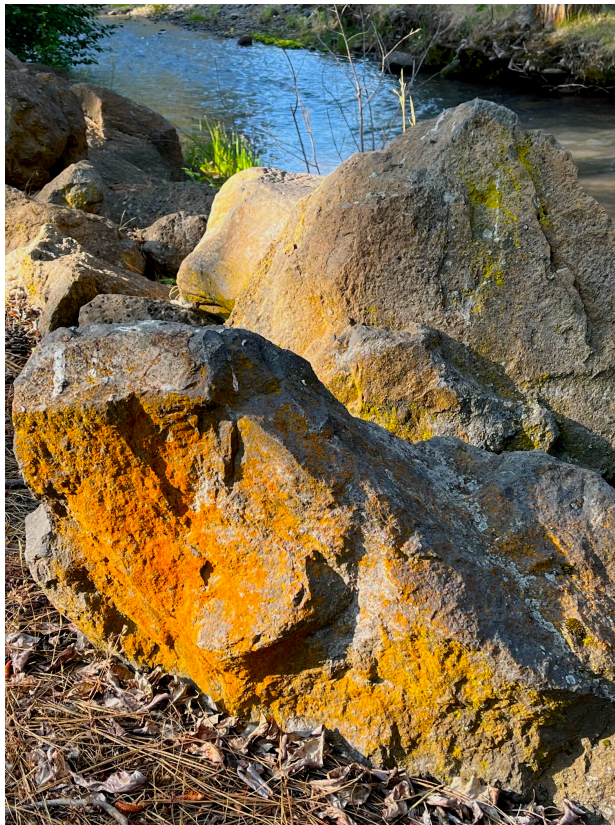
### **PMRCAA Notes Four...**

We need to see ourselves physically and emotionally within the context of the environment. Even the most accomplished pictorial work, if it does not physically surround us, acts as a window through which we view the land but not necessarily experience it. Pattern, however, can envelop its wearer, the viewer.

The day-glo colors of lichen—fluorescent yellow-green, hot orange—distinguish themselves within the more expected and natural hues of the Whychus Creek riparian zone. On the National Park Service website it's written, "Lichens are a paradox...durable enough to grow on tree bark and bare rock, yet sensitive to pollution and air quality." [nps.gov/articles/lichens-and-air-quality.htm](https://www.nps.gov/articles/lichens-and-air-quality.htm). Becky Lukens shared that same thought with me, that the Wolf Lichen (the outrageously lime green variety) is an indicator of air quality. By the way, despite being nature's own air purifier and thriving in pristine environments, it's been concocted into a toxin to poison wolves (hence the name). A vibrant warning sign and a deadly color.

It was only a matter of time before the colors of lichen appeared in the work. They exploded across a large piece of fabric—poured, dripped and sprayed, then stenciled and left over night and pinned to the backside of the Old Shop.

<https://roundhousefoundation.org/pine-meadow-ranch/programs/>



Lichen-covered rocks, Whychus Creek





My poured and stenciled fabric, in process, pinned on the backside of the Old Shop. Its colors are drawn from the Whychus Creek and the brilliantly hued lichen that covers many of its rocks and a natural occurring dichotomy, being both a potential toxin as well as an air purifier and indicator of healthy air.