



Waiting 15 minutes following a COVID-19 vaccine.

Best images of 2021

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PHOTOS BY CINDI CHRISTIE



Designed using Adobe Photoshop Lightroom



Welcome to the 15th edition of the annual “Best Images” books. Much of 2021 has been spent overseeing a home remodeling project and hiding out like hermits from the ever-spreading COVID-19. We hope for more freedom in the year ahead. Here’s to having a camera handy and finding beauty, and the unexpected, wherever life takes you. Be healthy.

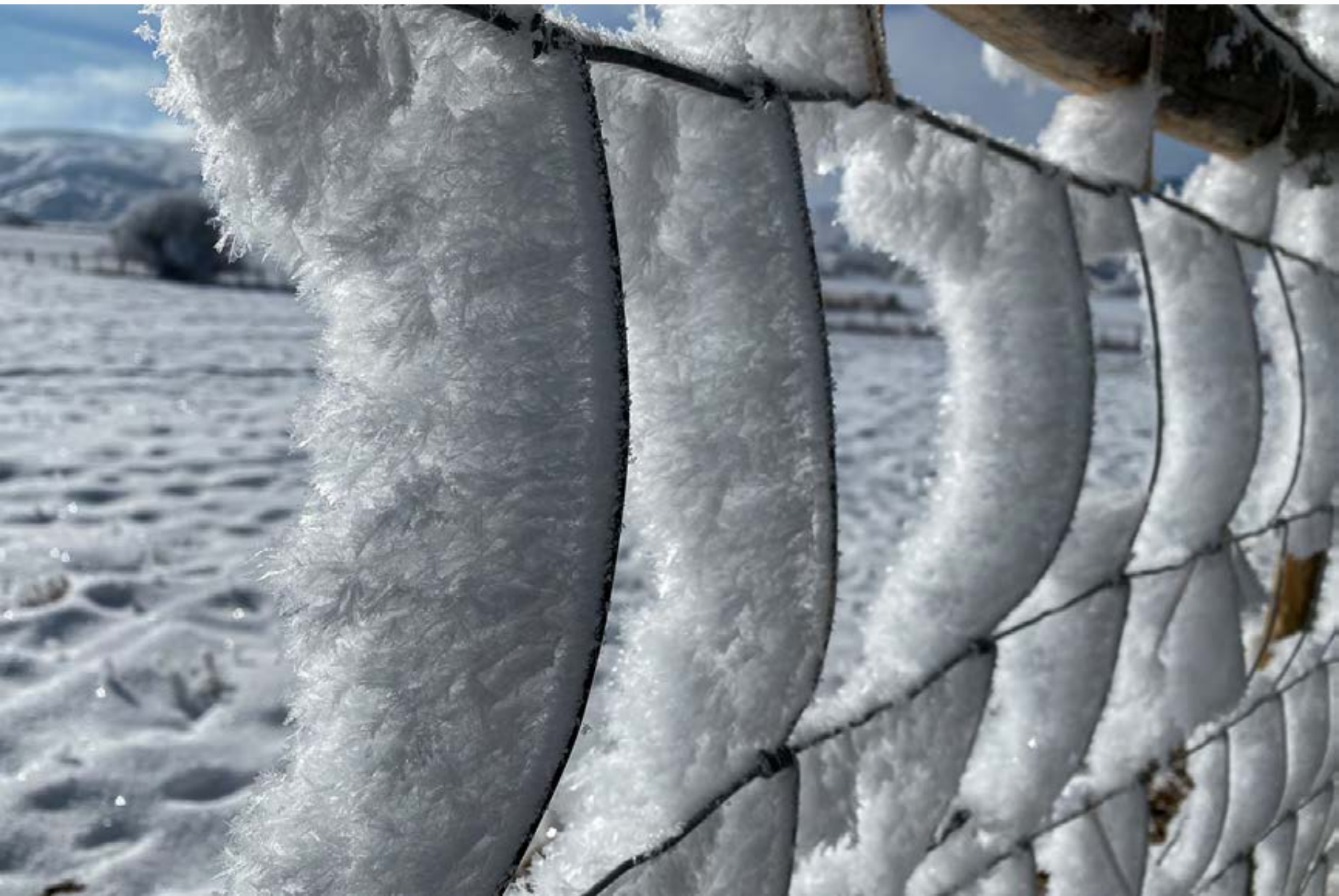
Cover: Upper Mesa Falls was a highlight of a late spring camping trip. A rainbow showed up right on schedule for our morning visit. More photos can be seen later in this book. This page: Stacks of hickory wood planks cover the living room floor. Alder cabinets and quartz countertops are the stars of the kitchen.





The Salmon River flows underneath an abandoned bridge used to connect Highway 93 with Twin Peaks Ranch Road. At right, Mackay Reservoir's water level is too low to launch a boat. Drought affected all parts of the state.





Freezing fog overnight leaves behind feathery ice throughout Salmon's landscape on January 24.







A rustic red barn door, and fence posts and poles, are seen on the grounds of the Sacajawea Interpretive, Cultural & Educational Center in Salmon. Visitors can learn more about Sacajawea, the Agai'dika Shoshone-Bannock tribes, the Lewis and Clark expedition, and early Idaho life at the center as well as hike its trails.



Seen from the Grand View Campground in the Caribou-Targhee National Forest near Ashton, Idaho, Lower Mesa Falls on Henry's Fork of the Snake River plummets 65 feet. At right and following pages, a rainbow is seen in the spray of Upper Mesa Falls a few miles away. The river is 114 feet below.



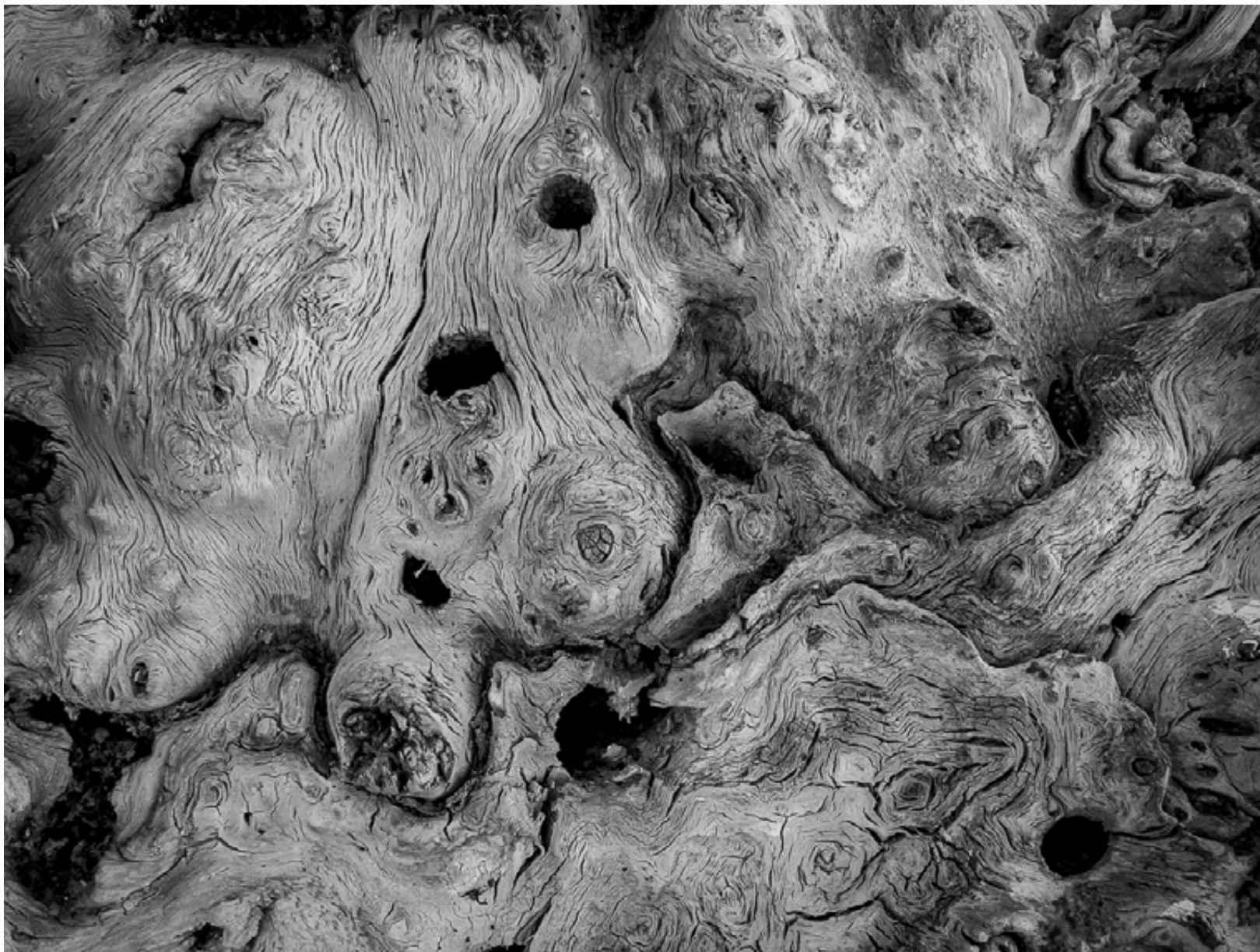
Water from Henry's Fork of the Snake River ripples over jagged triangular pieces of rock at the Upper Coffeepot campground in Island Park, Idaho.











Swirls and holes are seen in the detail of a tree trunk At right, clouds pass over Salmon's Discovery Hill sparse landscape, delivering morning snow flurries. This is a favorite dog-walking location. Both photos were made in October.



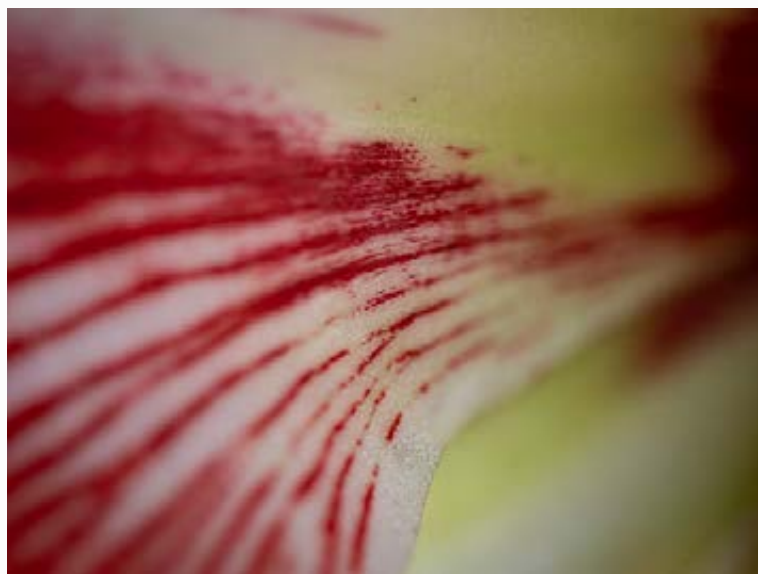
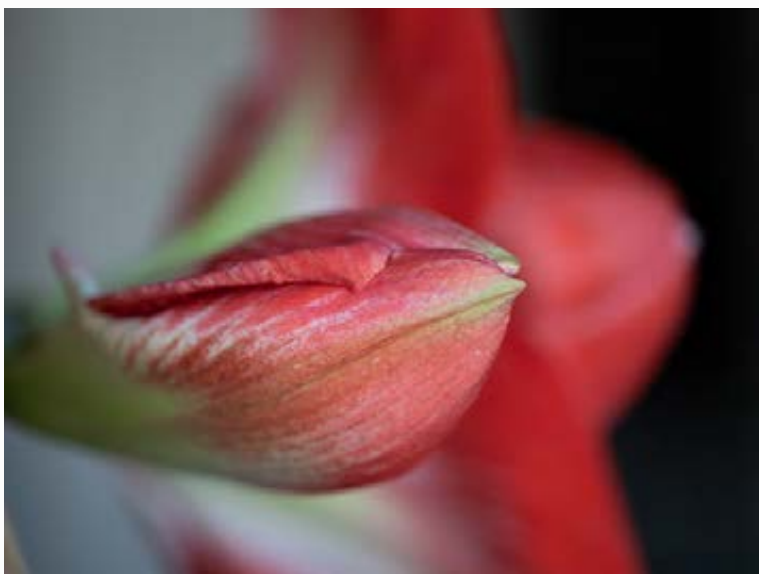


Pictographs adorn rocks along the Salmon River Road (Forest Road 030) in Lemhi County. An interpretive sign reads: The pictographs (drawings) on the rock wall ... were made with crushed, iron-rich earth and a binder, such as animal fat. They may have recorded the sacred dreams of a shaman (religious leader), or may have been signs telling others about local resources, or have illustrated the tribe's history.



Colorful, dramatic clouds deliver a thunderstorm on July 2.





A Twinkle amaryllis blooms repeatedly throughout the winter months.





A *Papilio amaryllis* flowers in maroon, green and yellow.