



Major Pools of the Upper Wood River

The upper section of the Wood River that runs approximately two miles downstream from the bridge on State Route 165 contains a number of significant pools. Although the river is constantly changing through the seasons in the annual cycle of flood and low water, these pools have maintained their characteristic positions, shapes, and sizes over a time sufficiently long enough that they have been given unofficial names by those who frequent them. These names have been passed on by word-of-mouth along with reports of catches, insect hatches, and water conditions – but not every fisherman knows them. This effort is meant to save that information for the record and to share it among those who pursue the trout.

The map below indicates nine major pools on this stretch of the river. Each pool is named and described briefly with latitude-longitude coordinates, a diagram giving a general impression of its characteristics, and photographs. Descriptions are written from a point of view at the head of the pool and looking downstream. Diagrams are schematic and depict the basic features that are unlikely to change very much. Water flow direction is shown by an arrow. Camera icons show the position and direction of the photographs.

Thanks to Burt Strom, Dick Pearce, and Ed Lombardo, Sr. for their help and information.

Further information about the pools is welcomed and comments or suggestions can be sent to gtboden@gmail.com.

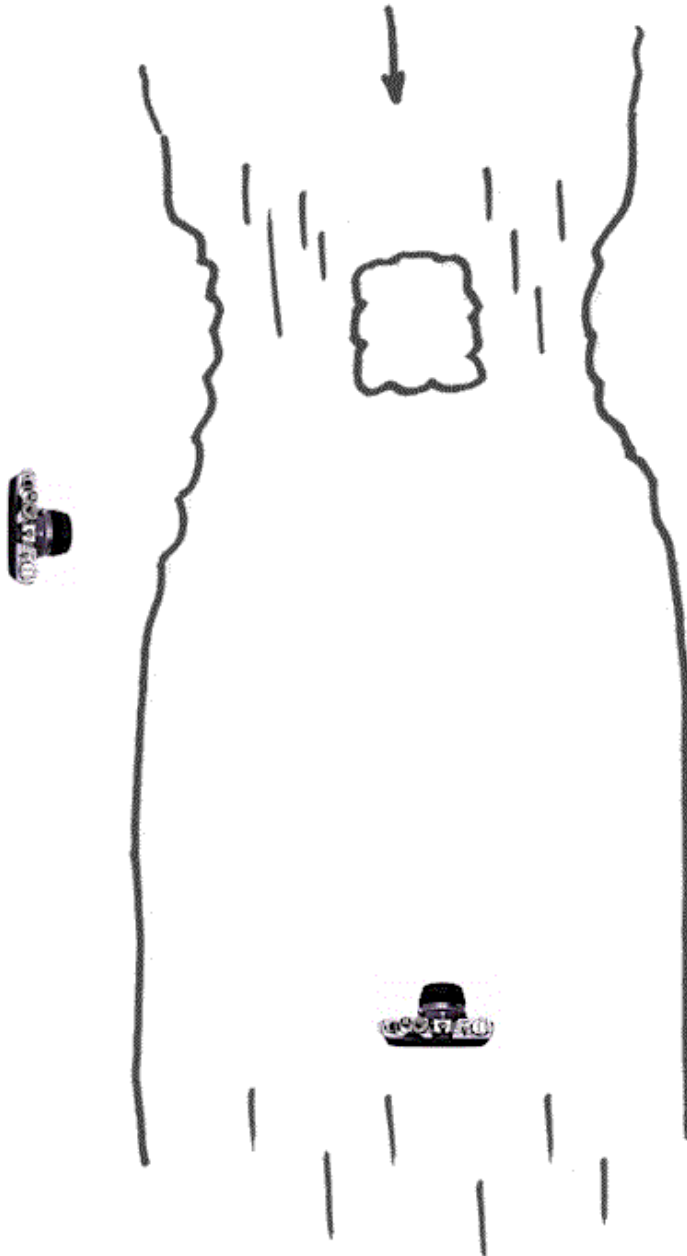
**Gary Boden
-March 2010**

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Pool 1 - “Check Station Pool” or “Stone Bridge Pool” N 41° 34.382’, W 071° 43.255’

This pool lies immediately downstream from a stone bridge abutment in the center of the river. The right (west) bank is high and armored with large rocks. Stream width is about 30 feet and the pool length is about the same, gradually shallowing at the tail end. Check Station parking lot lies to the right (west) side.





Upstream view from tail-end of pool

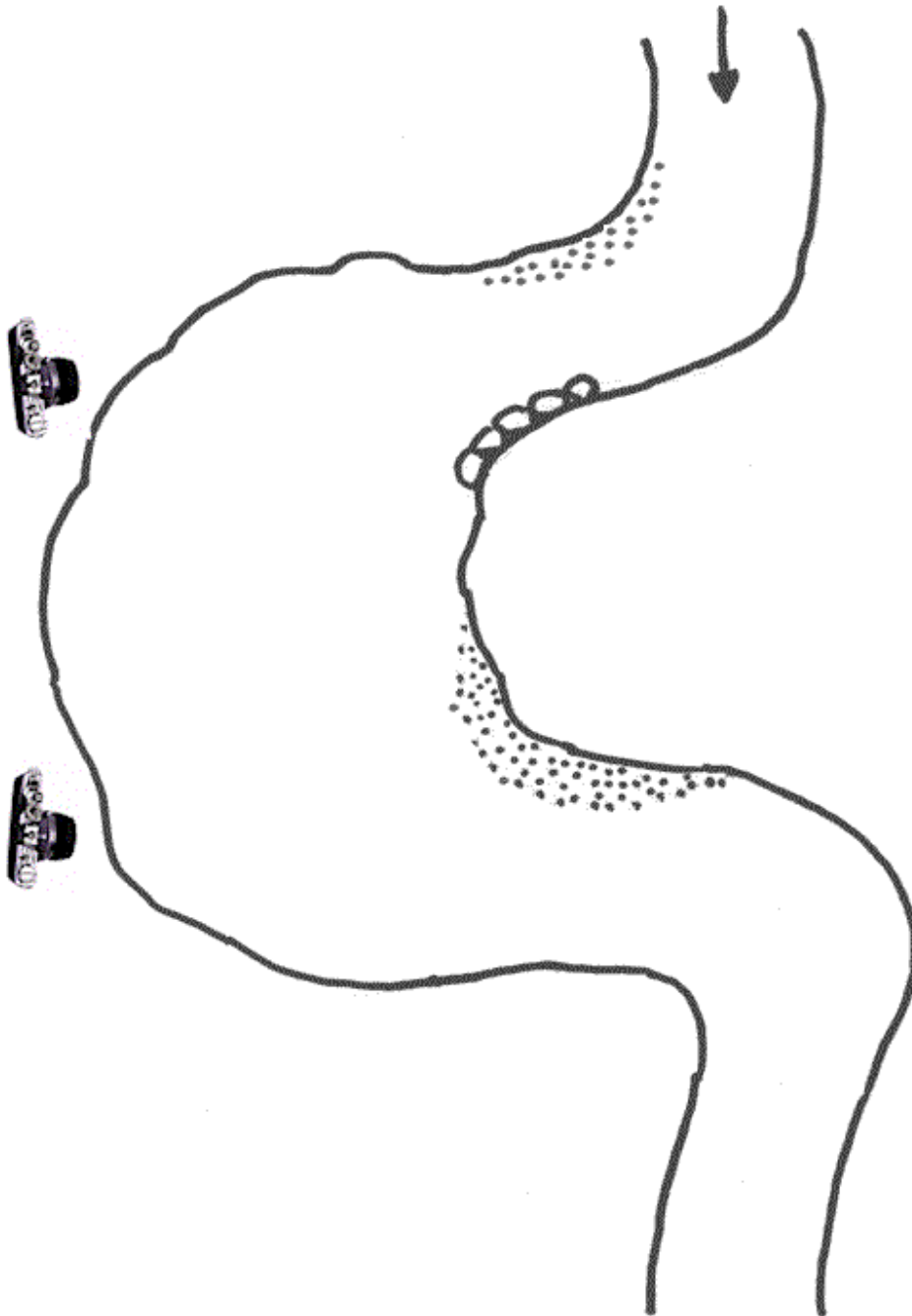


Cross-stream view

Pool 2 - "Trico Pool"

N 41° 34.158', W 071° 42.996'

Three bends in the river create a series of pools. The upper pool starts with a right bend, stays narrow, and is stony under the left (east) bank. It opens into a broad, sandy-bottomed pool about 35 feet wide that arcs to the left. This pool then narrows to about 20 feet with a sand bar on the left. After a short run the river makes a sharp right bend into a trailing pool.





Upstream view of the first pool opening up into the large central pool

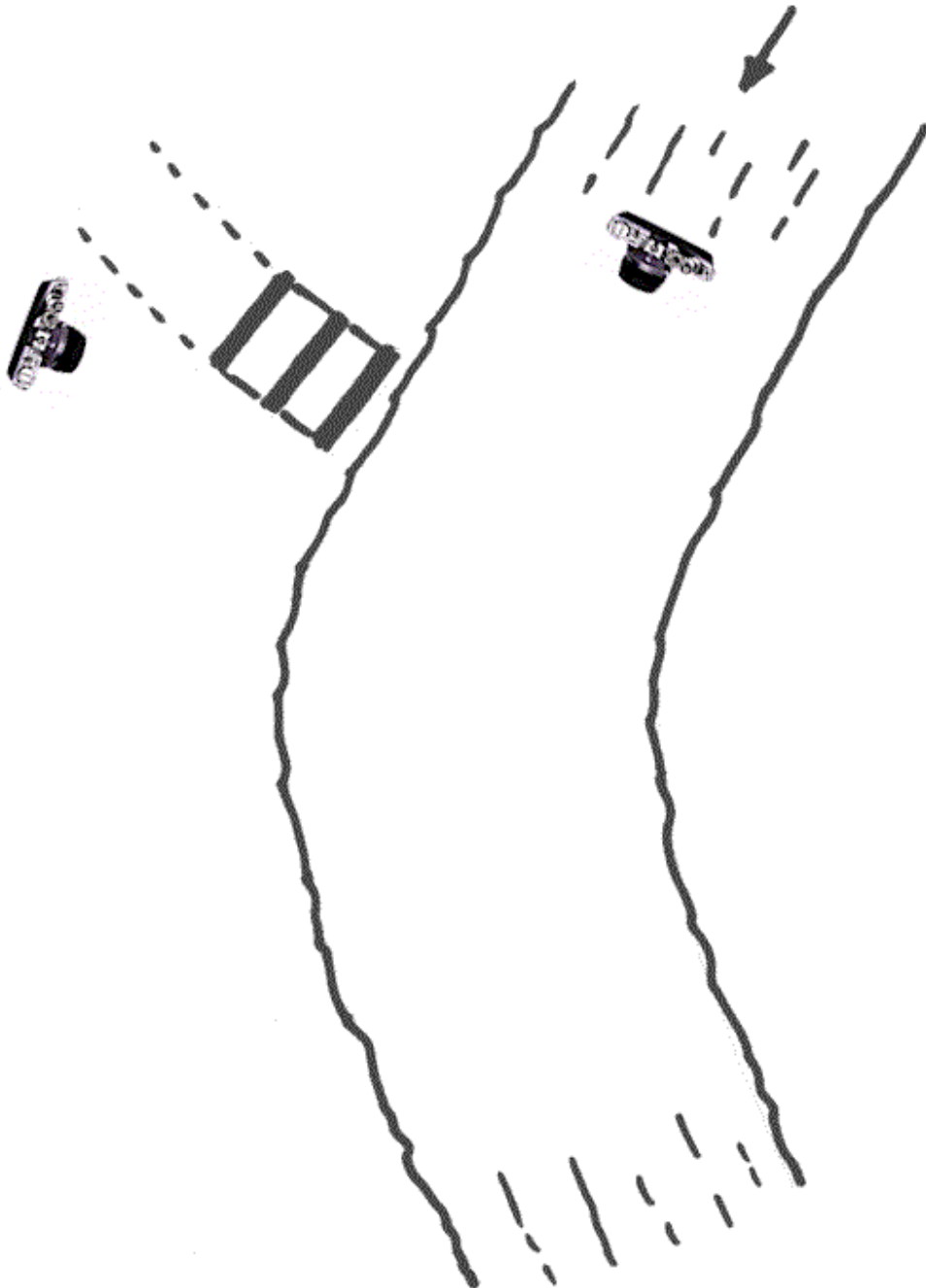


Downstream view of the narrowing central pool

Pool 3 - "High Banks Pool"

N 41° 33.885', W 071° 42.899'

This pool lies at the foot of an improved landing a short distance down from the parking area at the end of the Deep Pond Access road. Stream width is about 25 feet. This is the start of steeply-sloped "high banks" on the right (west) side.





Cross-stream view

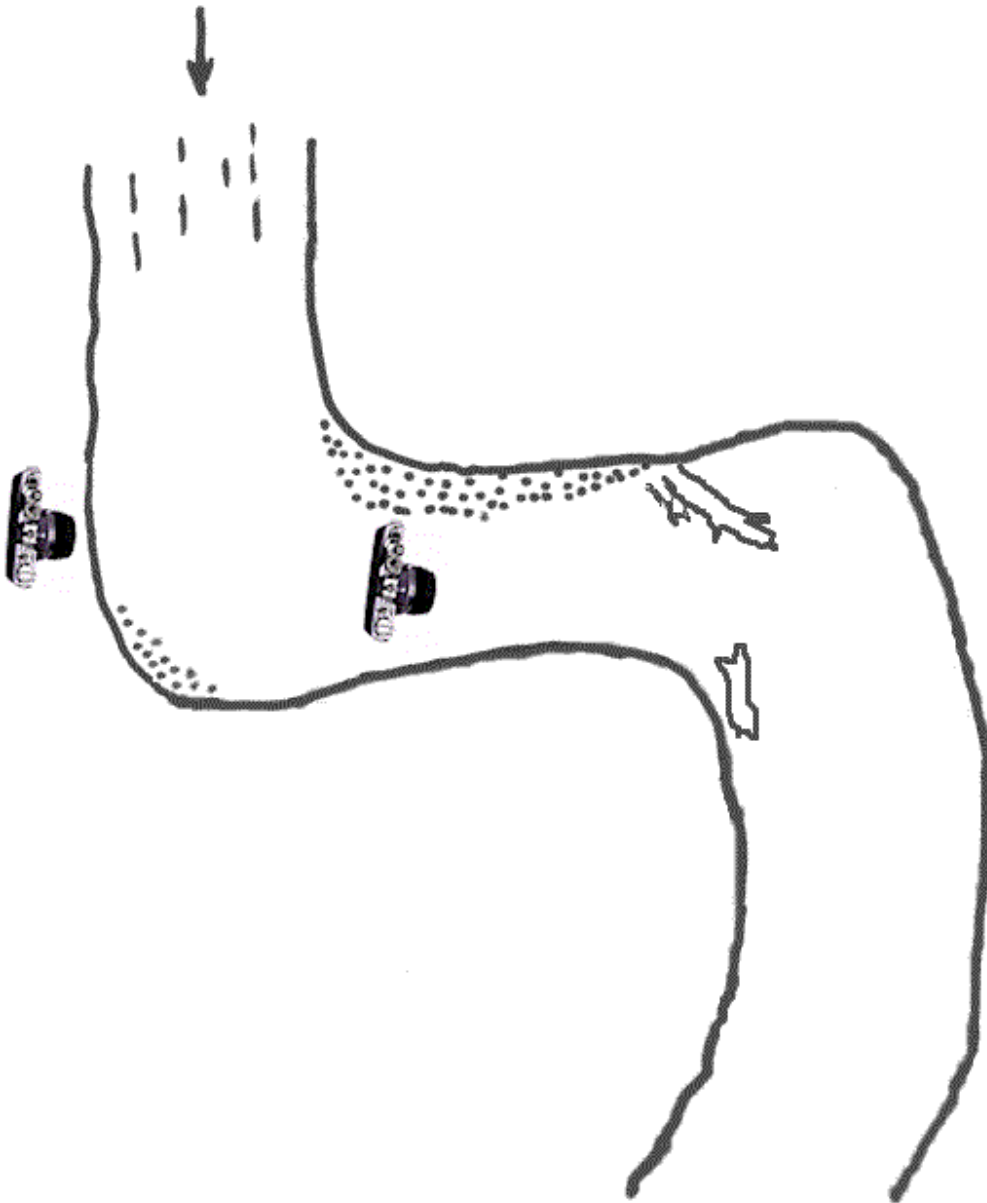


Downstream view from head of pool

Pool 4 - "The 'S' Pool"

N 41° 33.762', W 071° 42.825'

This pool makes an S-curve at the south end of the "high banks" stretch of shallow water and about 500 feet downstream from pool 3. A sharp left bend creates a small pool under the south side bank across from a sandbar. Stream width is about 15 feet. Several fallen trees lie in the back half of the pool as it makes a sharp right bend.





Downstream view from head of pool

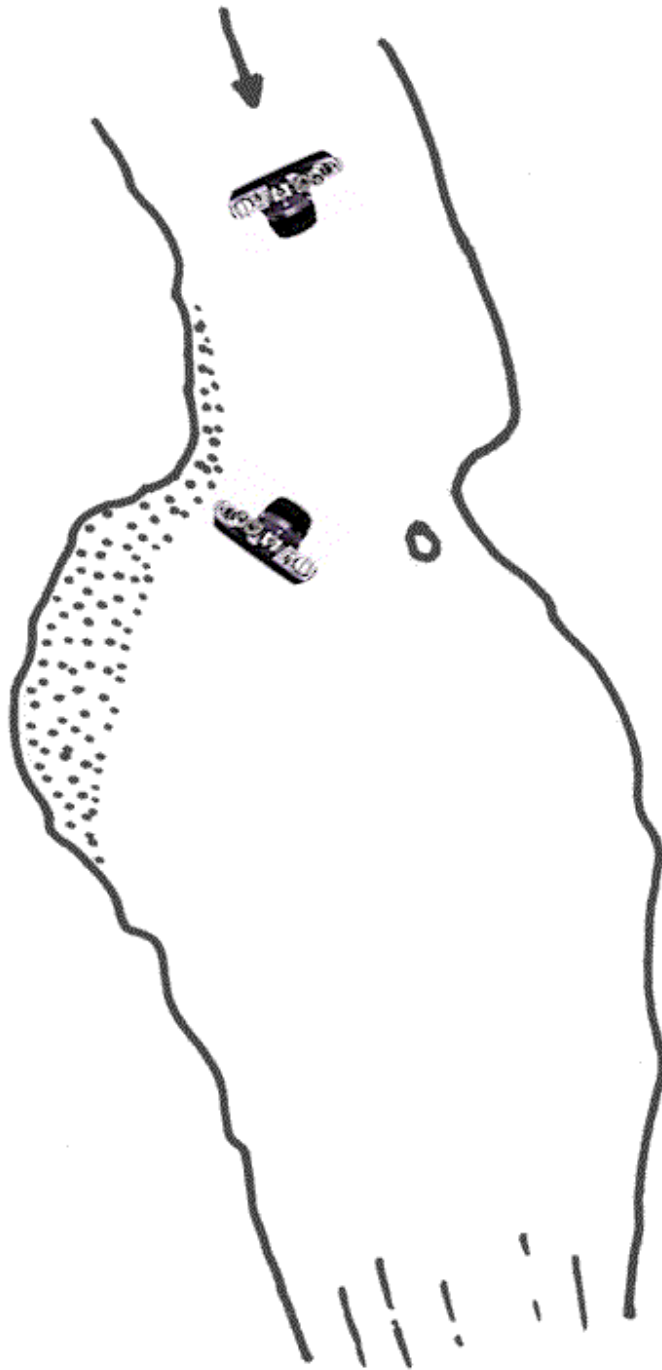


Downstream views of pool middle section

Pool 5 - "Magic Pool"

N 41° 33.562', W 071° 42.820'

Upstream the channel hugs and undercuts the left (east) bank, gradually opening up into a broad, sandy-bottomed pool that shallows at the tail end. When water levels are low, a sandy beach is exposed on the right (west) side. A submerged rock lies in the channel opposite the beach.





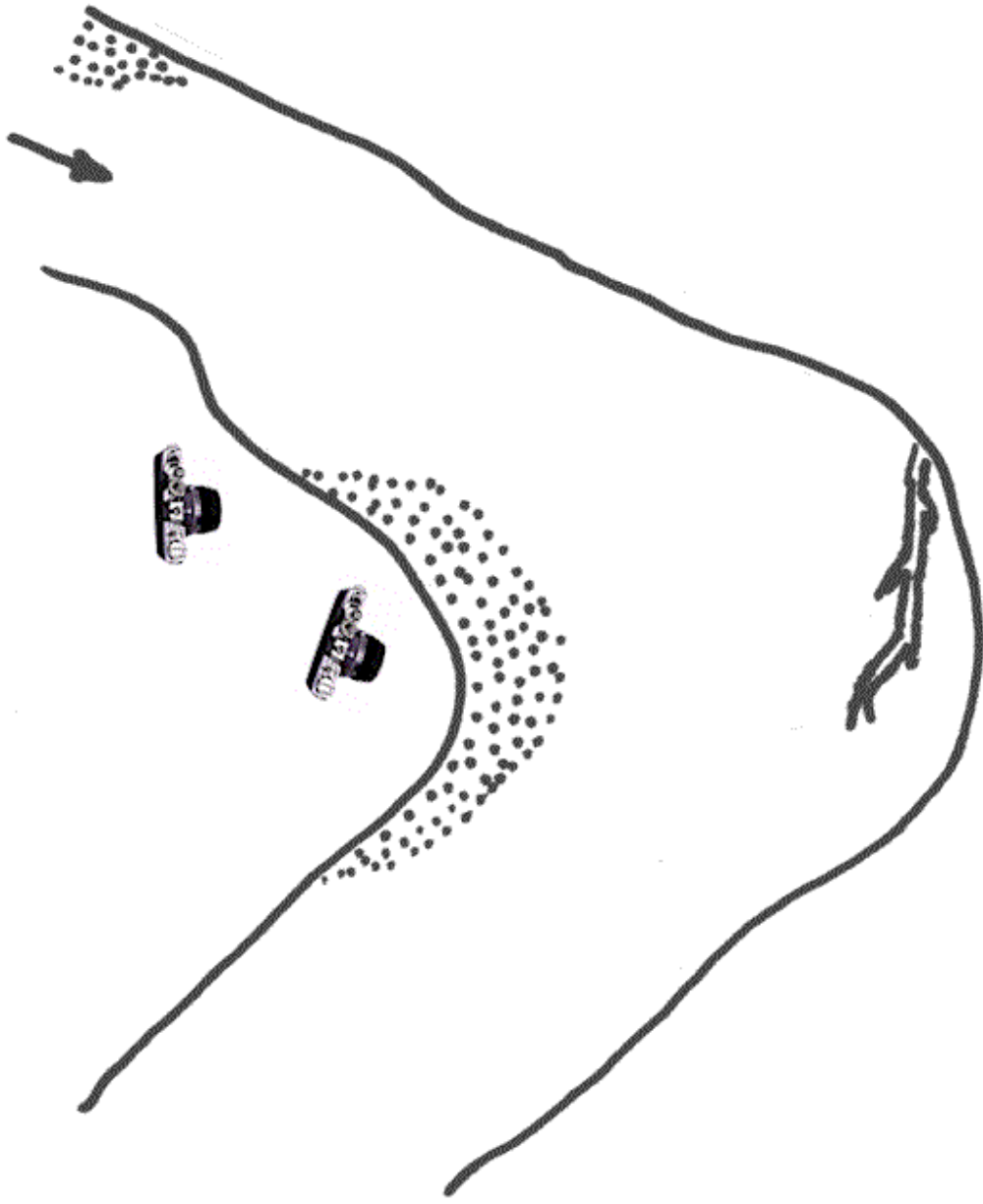
Upstream view of undercut east bank



Downstream view of undercut east bank and broad pool

Pool 6 - “First Logjam Pool” or “Million Dollar Pool” N 41° 33.321’, W 071° 42.841’

This pool lies about 300 feet downstream from “The Pines” parking area. A sandy beach on right (west) side is exposed when water levels are low. Undercut banks, a deep pool and obstructions exist on left (east) side.





Cross-stream view from sandy beach

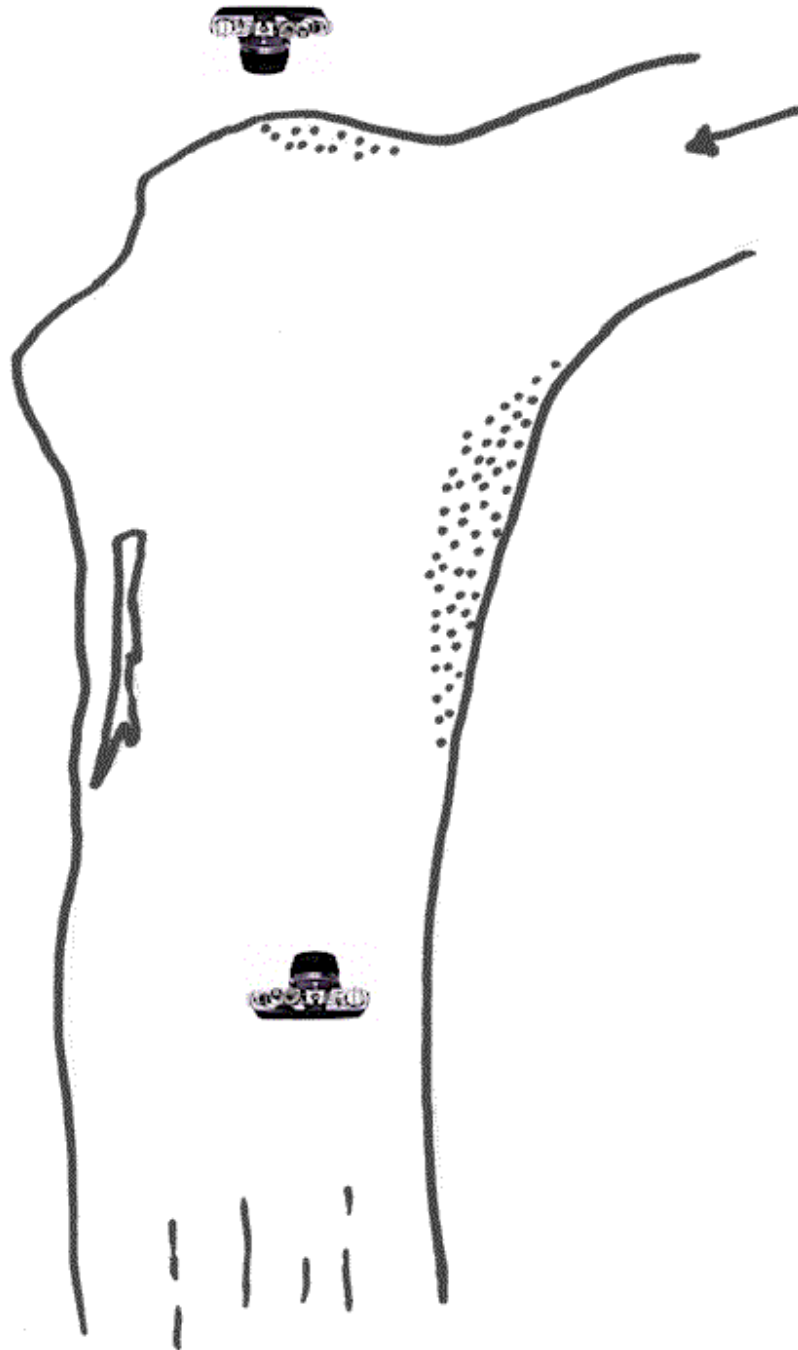


Downstream view of pool

Pool 7 - "The Mud Hole"

N 41° 33.281', W 071° 42.878'

A left bend about 200 feet downstream from pool 6 creates a pool with a shallow sandy left (east) bank. A canopy of trees shades the downstream half of this 20 foot wide pool.





Downstream view at mid-pool bend

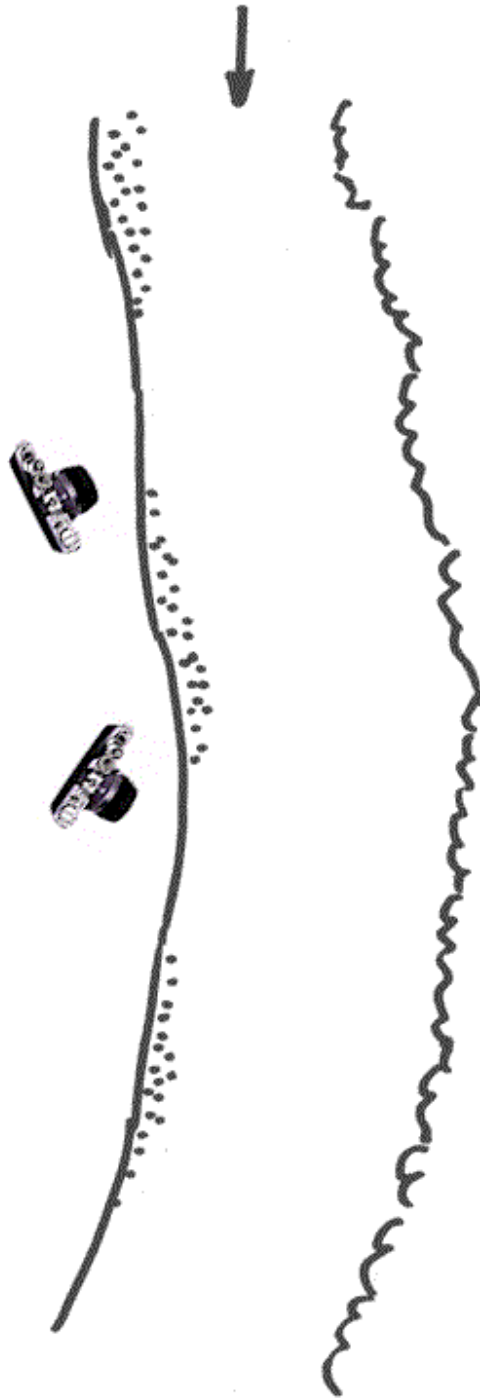


Upstream view from tail-end

Pool 8 - “Brookie Alley” or “Canopy Pool”

N 41° 33.187’, W 071° 42.832’

Numerous shallow pools run along a 300 foot stretch of undercut banks on left (east) side and overhanging vegetation. The right (west) side is generally sandy and shallow.





Upstream view of a pool and undercut east bank

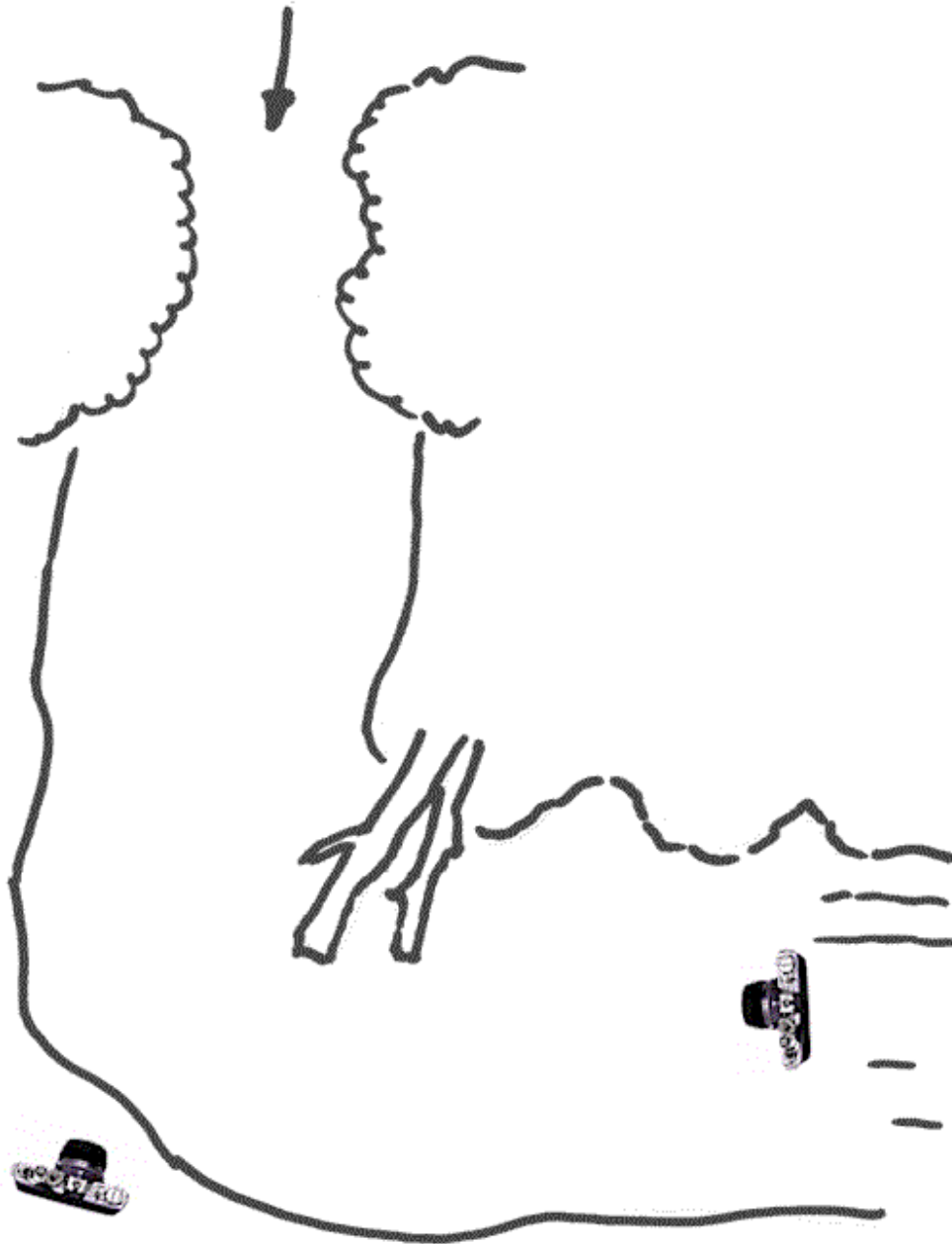


Downstream view of undercut east bank

Pool 9 - "Second Logjam Pool" or "Cut Tree"

N 41° 33.111', W 071° 42.879'

Starting under a canopy of trees, this deep pool lies at a sharp left bend in the river. On the left (east) bank, fallen tree trunks stretch out from the bank. At the tail end of the pool the left side is shallow and sandy.





Upstream view from mid-pool bend



Upstream view from tail-end of pool