

## River Glossary, Terminology and Advice

Feature	Description	Advice
<b>Boil</b>	Elevated area created by water churning upward	In big water boils can move & turn boat wildly
<b>Boil line</b>	Boundary between upstream & downstream flow below a hydraulic	The farther downstream the boil line, the more dangerous the hydraulic
<b>Downstream "V"</b>	Flow lines pointing downstream, usually between obstacles	Marks free flow and clear passage if clearance is sufficient.
<b>Eddy</b>	Area shadowed from flow downstream of a rock or similar obstacle	Safe resting area on the river if entered properly
<b>Eddy Line</b>	Marks downstream vs. upstream flow behind an obstacle	Cross the eddy line via "peel in" or "eddy turn" to "catch" the eddy.
<b>Foam pile</b>	White frothy water washing back into a hole	See "hydraulic"
<b>Horizon Line</b>	Looking downstream, the line where the river drops at a cascade or waterfall	The steeper the drop the less will be visible downstream, → scout
<b>Hydraulic</b>	Hole formed where water flows over obstruction into deeper water	Hydraulics can be surfed by experienced paddlers but can trap novices
<b>Keeper</b>	Large or wide hydraulic which tends to trap paddlers	Avoid as possible, scout and portage if necessary
<b>Pool</b>	Section of calm water between rapids	Recovery zone for some, boring for others
<b>Pour Over</b>	Water pouring over a ledge or other steep feature	Downstream hydraulic can be dangerous (keeper) → avoid/portage
<b>Sieve</b>	Two or more tightly spaced rocks which cannot pass boats	High danger of entrapment, avoid or high-side & rescue
<b>Strainer</b>	Any obstacle which will stop objects but allow water to flow through	Extreme danger of entrapment/drowning → avoid or portage
<b>Standing waves (wave train)</b>	Formed where water passing through a constriction enters a pool	Fun play areas for experienced paddlers, capsizes novices
<b>Stopper</b>	A hole or hydraulic which is large enough to stop a boat momentarily	Experienced paddlers enjoy, novices are nervous.