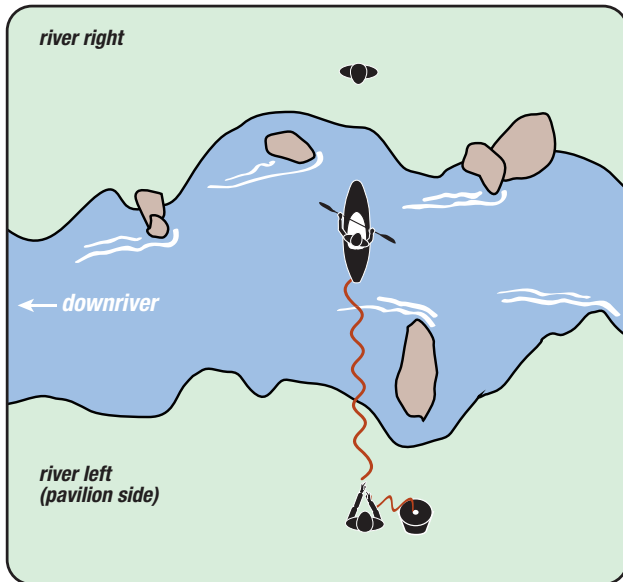


# MWA Whitewater Slalom: Stringing the Wires

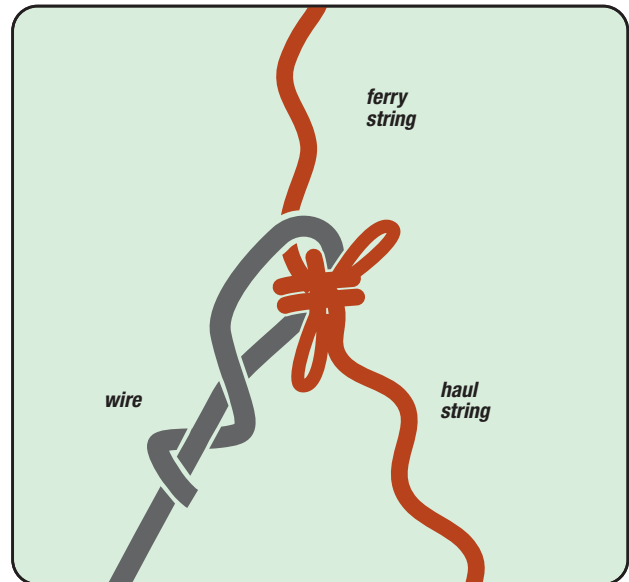
## Step 1

Volunteers are divided into two teams of AT LEAST *two people* for each side of the river (three per side would be better). We need six people on river right to form at least 2 or 3 teams. The teams should have radios on each side of the river, and each team should be on different channels so chatter does not overlap. After a team locates flagged trees with matching gate numbers, the river left group hands a string to boater. String will be ferried to river right.



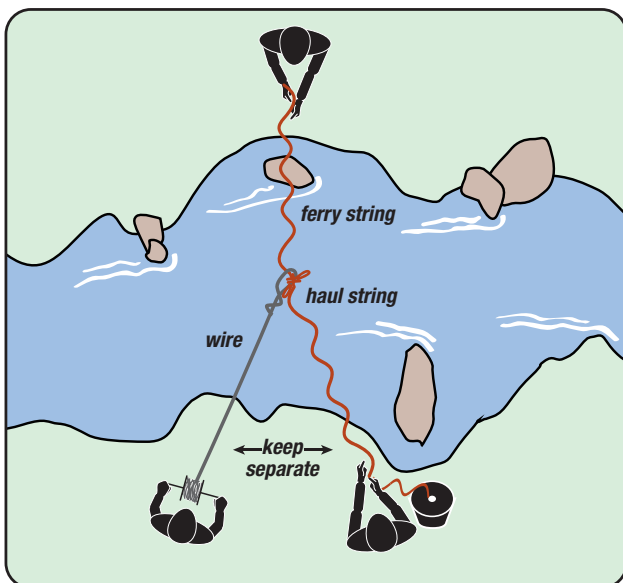
## Step 2

After the ferry string is delivered to river right, the group on river left makes a loop in the end of the wire and ties the ferry string to the wire with a mid-line knot (no special knot as long as it's secure). Team needs to verify that they are working on the same flagged gate number.



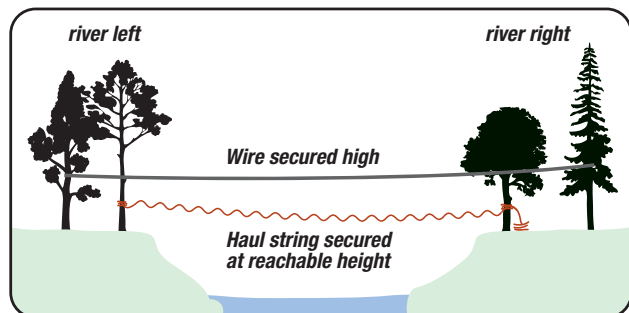
## Step 3

River right pulls ferry string across river, hauling 1 wire with 1 string. The string attached to the wire will be used later as a haul line to pull the gate crossbar over the river. It is important to keep the haul line away from the wire so it doesn't get wrapped around the wire.



## Step 4

River right group ties wire AS HIGH AS POSSIBLE on tree. This will require a ladder for the first few sets of gates (if possible, use a blanket or mat to minimize damage to the tree). The Haul String should be tied lower to the ground onto a separate nearby tree. This is so the string will be less likely to get wrapped around the wire and crews can later reach the string without need of a ladder. After river right group has secured their wire and string, river left group pulls wire TIGHT and secures it as high as possible onto flagged tree. Tie the haul string low onto separate tree.



Correct

Wrap wires several times around trees before securing. This minimizes possible damage to tree bark and puts less tension on the securing loop.



Incorrect

# MWA Whitewater Slalom: Setting the Gates

## Step 1

Stringing the gates requires teams with at least one person on river right and three people on river left. Use radios set to the same channel; the channel should be different than other teams so chatter does not overlap. The river left group will need three buckets of string; river right will only need a radio (and a knife in case it's needed to cut string). River left group clips gate number onto crossbar. Gate number should match the number written on the flagged trees. Clip crossbar onto wire, making sure gate number faces the correct direction for downstream vs. upstream gates. The Red Slash always points away from the direction the paddler should run the gate. Tie the haul line from river right to the correct side of the crossbar. Tie a new string to the opposite end of the crossbar. This new string will be used to haul the crossbar back towards river left when needed.

## Step 2

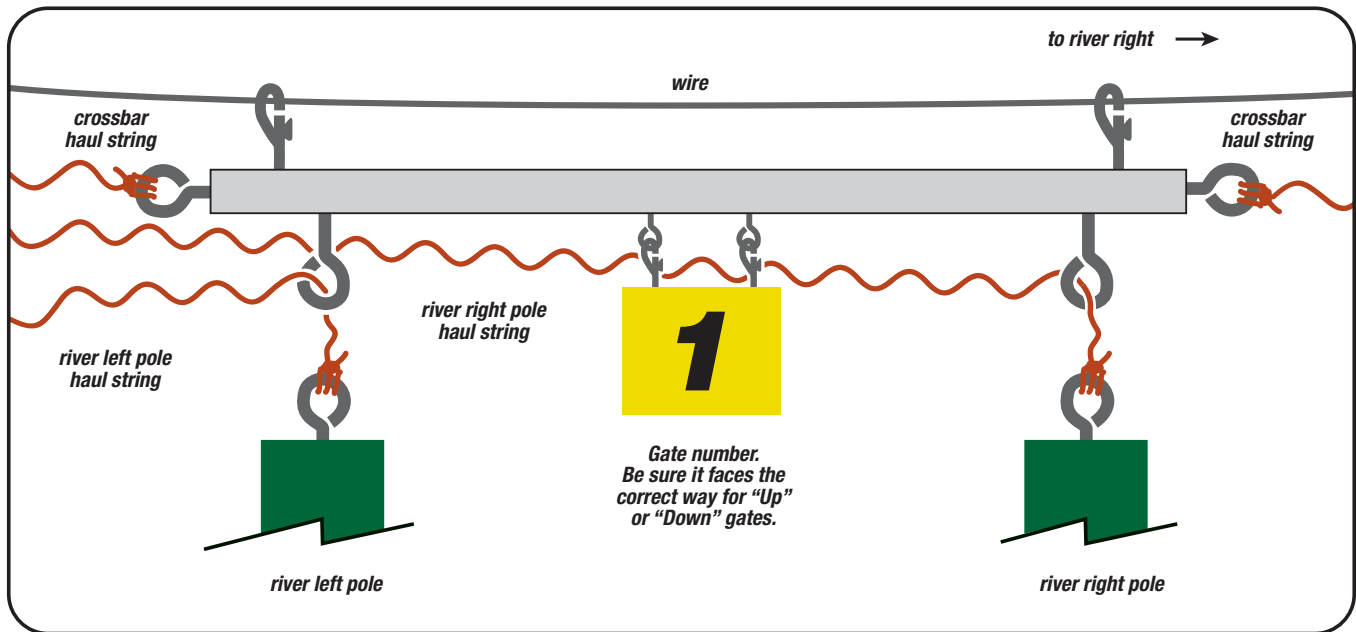
Thread strings through each of the eye hooks at the bottom of the crossbar. Tie a pole to each of these strings (Green for downstream/Red for upstream). Do NOT twist the string around the eye hook. It needs to feed smoothly, and even one twist will create too much friction to raise & lower the pole.



Correct



Incorrect



## Step 3

River right pulls the crossbar across the river. River left team feeds string out as gate is pulled while keeping the strings spread apart. The course designer will direct the gate to the correct spot over the river. Once the gate is positioned left or right, both river left & right haul lines can be securely tied to trees.

## Step 4

The course designer will direct the two poles to the desired height. Once the height has been set, the pole strings can be securely tied to separate trees.

