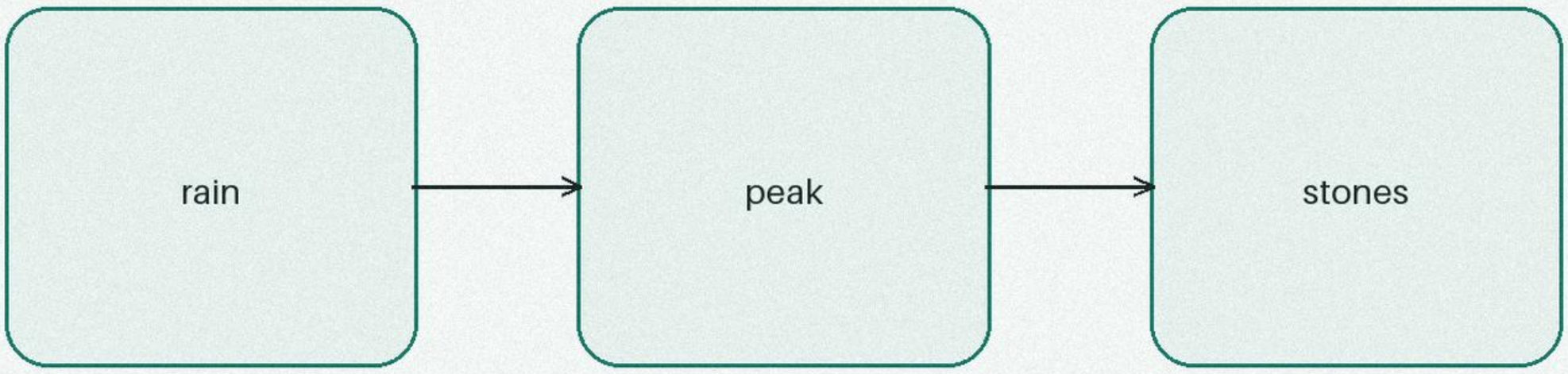
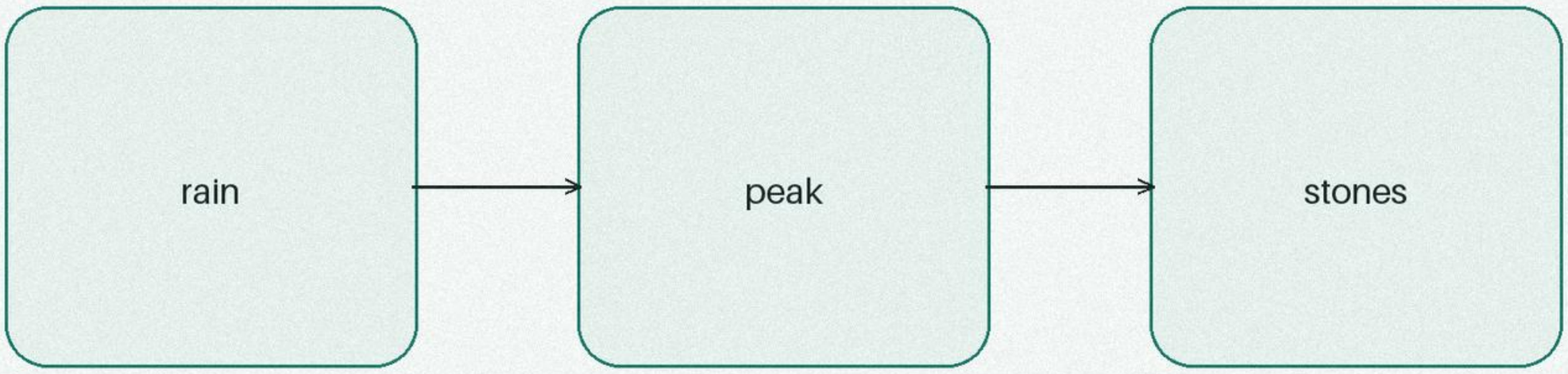
Creek Gauge Diary



A notebook of one small creek: height, colour, and whether the stepping stones showed.

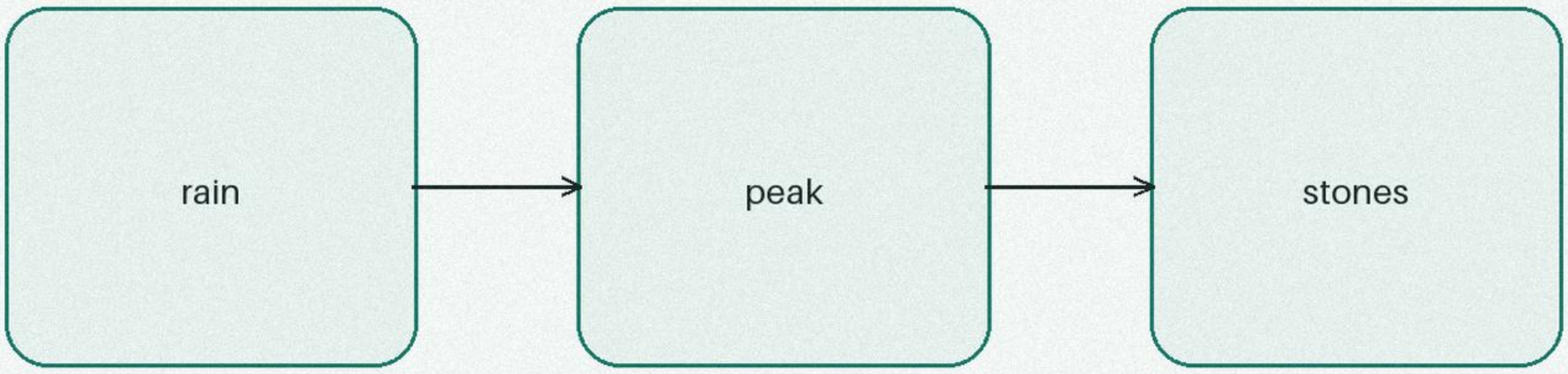
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After a night of rain



The creek peaks before breakfast and is back by noon.

After a night of rain



A night of steady rain lifts the creek about twenty centimetres by dawn. By lunch the stepping stones are back, unless the rain is still falling.

August goes dry



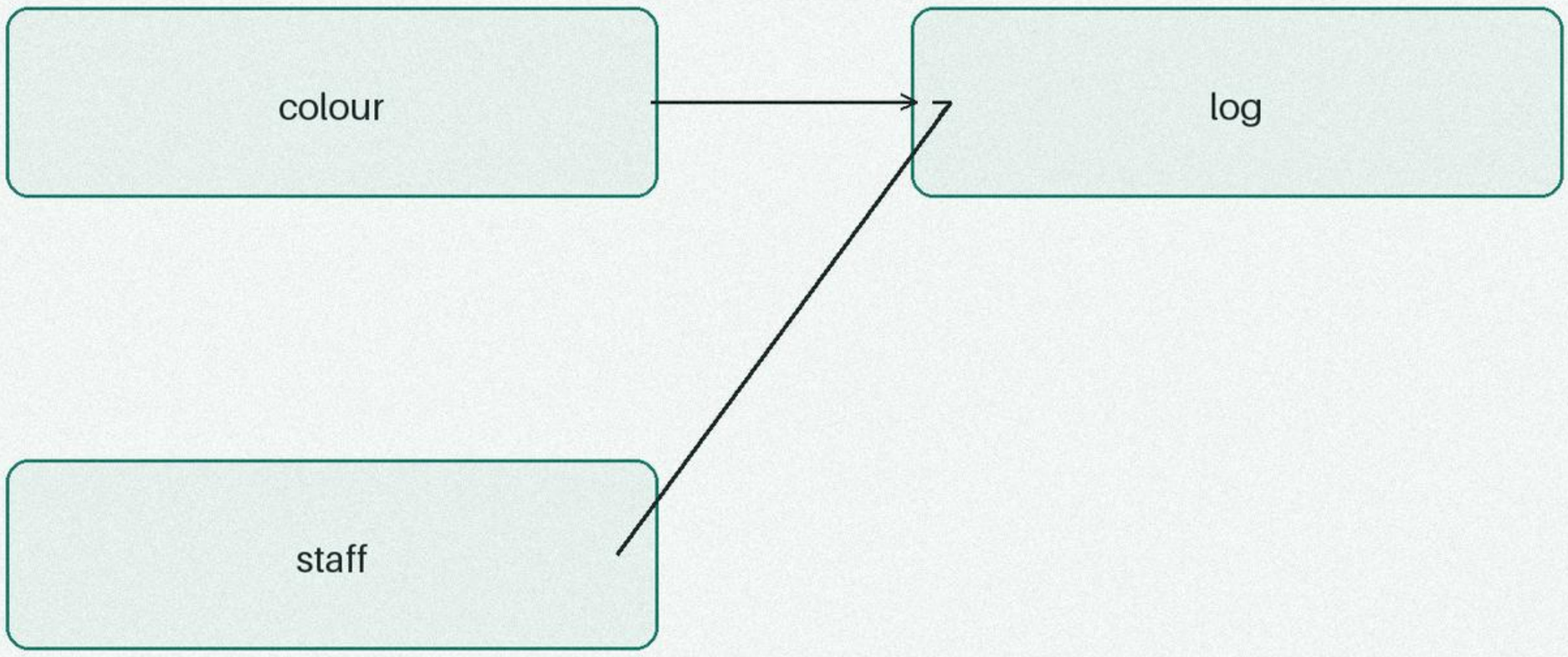
The gauge still stands; the water does not.

August goes dry



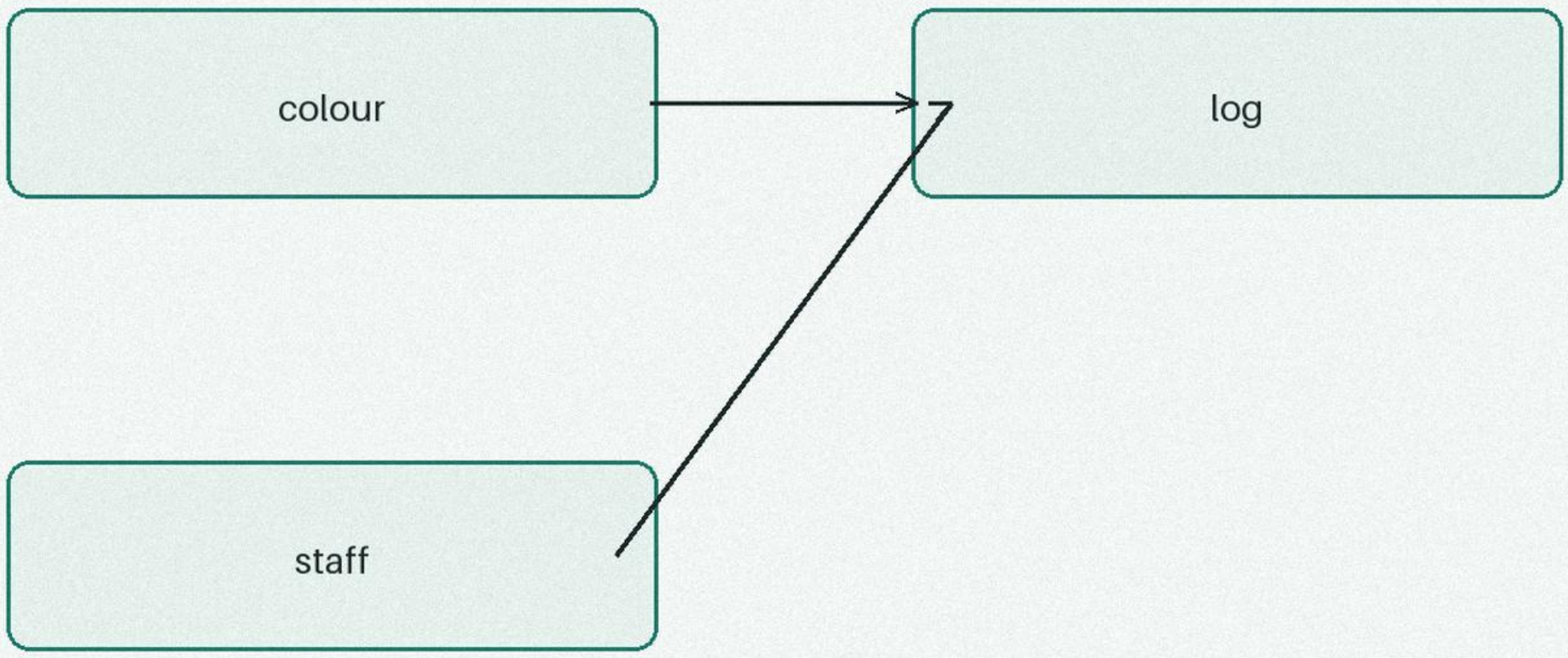
By August the channel is a chain of pools and the staff reads a dry zero. The diary keeps the zero instead of skipping the week, so the gap is a measurement and not a forgotten visit.

Colour means silt, not depth



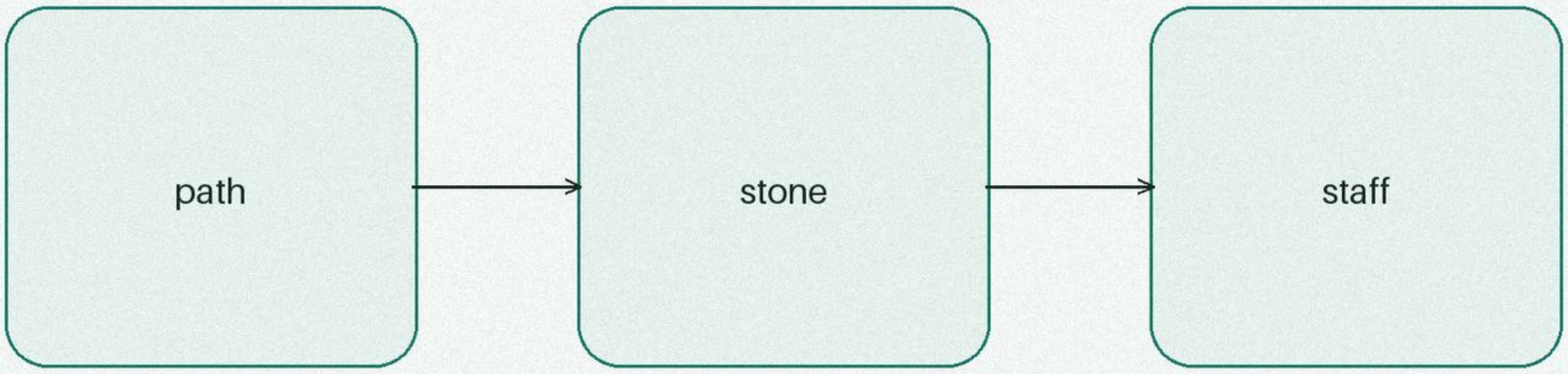
Brown water can still be shallow.

Colour means silt, not depth



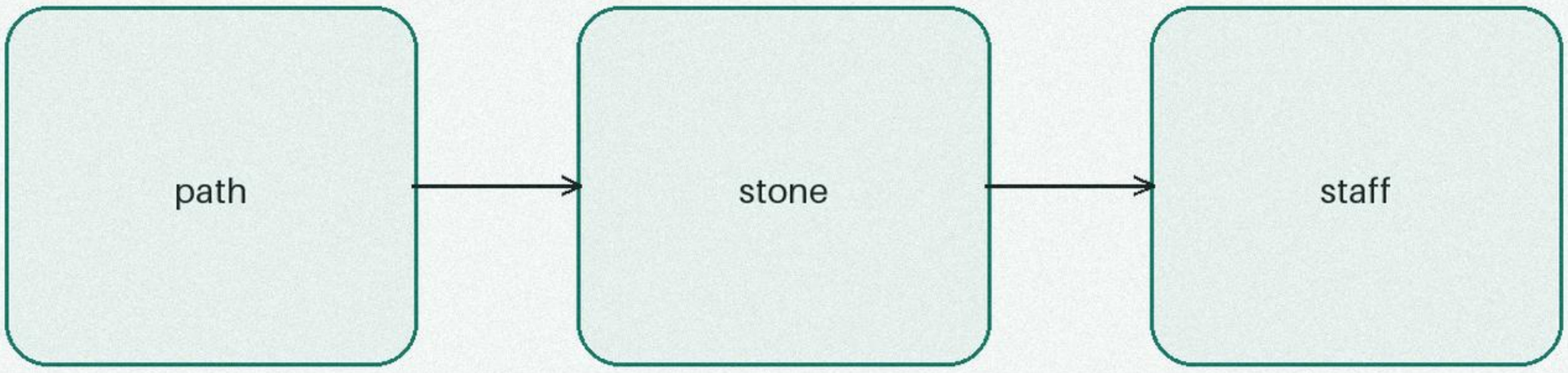
The creek turns brown when the fields upstream are bare. That colour arrives even when the staff has only moved a little, so colour is a note about silt, not a second gauge.

How to read the staff



Eye level with the mark, not from the bank above.

How to read the staff



Looking down from the path makes the water look lower than it is. The useful reading is taken with the eye next to the mark, which means stepping onto the flat stone even when it is wet.