Finding Fish - The Wind and Other Currents

headed out onto Lough Mask with our boatman Paddy (are half the men in Ireland named Patrick?!). A good wind blew under the blazing sun but we had no joy until Paddy took a risk and made a drift over a near-shore reef that was only inches beneath the surface. Sure enough, three browns in three drifts were the result, all on the upwind side of the limestone hull-scraper. Vince had sacrificed a trout the day before and found the grand total of four small beetles and four houseflies in its stomach. With such a miserly serving, it was no wonder the browns were ignoring the dinner bell.

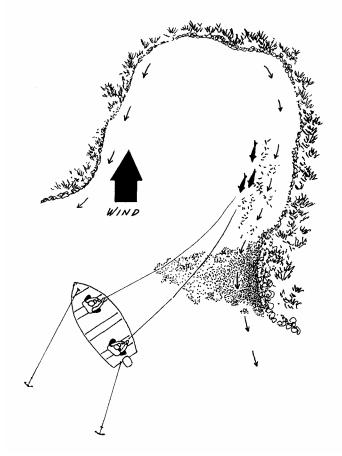


Figure 9: Anglers anchored to fish food-carrying current passing over a submerged point; a current created by the wind blowing into the cove.

Some bottom features in mid-depth water, say 6 - 15' (2 - 4.5 m), will cause food to settle out of a current. For example, a ditch running at an angle to a current causes it to slow down for a distance and deposit