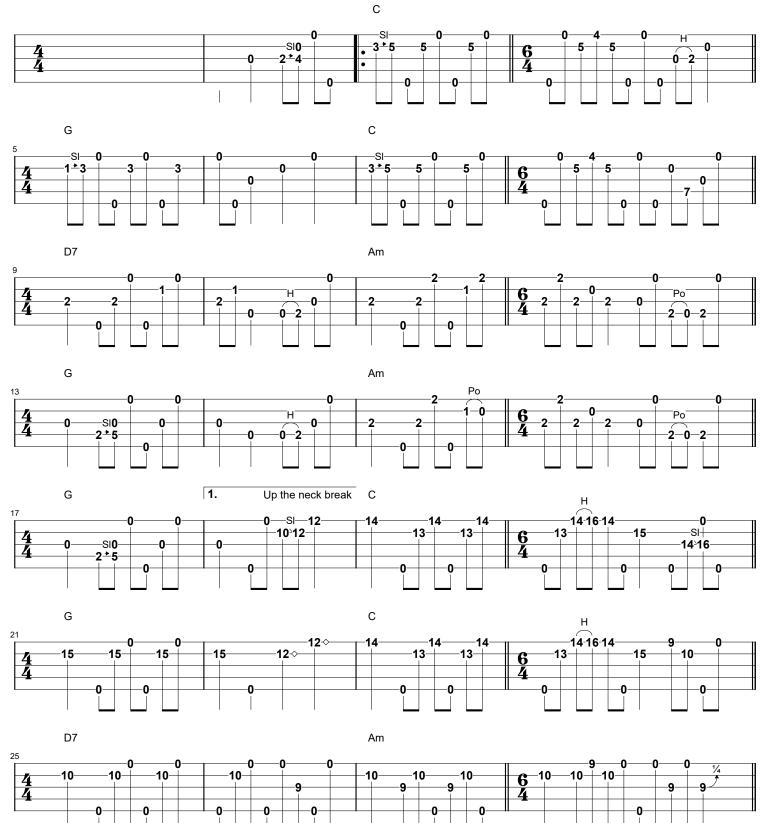
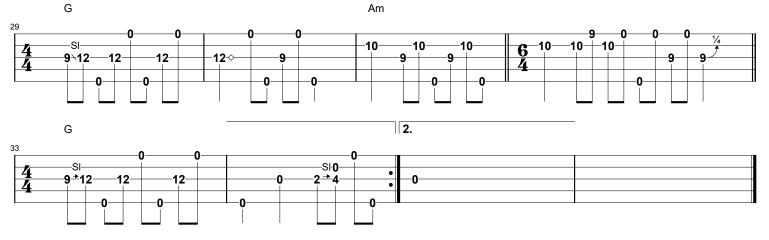
Elk River Blues Ernie Carpenter

Arrangement (c) copyright 2022 by Donald J. Borchelt Banjo Tuning: gDGBD





The Elk River begins in high country in Pocahontus County, West Virginia, about ten miles north of town of Marlington. From there it wanders west between the mountains, through Braxton, Clay, and Kanawha County, until it flows into the Kanawha River at Charleston. West Virginia fiddler Ernie Carpenter (1909 - 1997) was born in Sutton, along the Elk River in Braxton County. Carpeter said that he composed this tune as a lament, after the Army Corps of Engineers built a dam on the Elk River at Sutton, which flooded Carpenter's land and homestead.