



Habitat Restoration Project 2007

- Duffins Creek: Pickering, Ontario -

Claremont Outdoor Education Centre Gabion Basket Removal

Habitat Project Lead: *Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters (OFAH) and Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA)*

Habitat Project Funding Lead: *TRCA*

Date Completed: *August 31, 2007*

The Claremont Outdoor Education Centre is used by local school boards for outdoor education purposes and is managed by the TRCA. The TRCA identified a site at the Outdoor Education Centre as in need of restoration. The gabion baskets that had been installed previously were beginning to fail and were in need of replacement. A TRCA crew and OFAH staff began removal of the gabion basket on August 31st. The wire and limestone that made up the gabion basket were taken off-site for disposal and the bank was then re-graded, after which it was stabilized through the placement of boulders (figure 1). Projects benefits include bank stabilization and the boulders in place which will allow a more natural look. The new bank will remain stable and will provide improved habitat opportunities for fish and wildlife (figures 2 & 3). 6 volunteers worked on the project including OFAH and TRCA staff and put in a total of 48 hours.



Figure 1: Contractor working on Gabion Basket Removal at Claremont Outdoor Education Centre.



Figure 2: completed naturalized look of large boulders in replacement of the gabion basket.



Figure 3: Bank enhancement site one year after restoration.