



Habitat Restoration Project 2008

- Cobourg Brook: Cobourg, Ontario -

Holmes Property Boulder Placement Project

Habitat Project Lead: *Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters (OFAH)*

Habitat Project Funding Lead: *Canada - Ontario Agreement (COA)*

Date Completed: *August 12, 2008*

This project occurred on the Holmes property upstream of the Town of Cobourg bank stabilization project. This project enhanced the in-stream cover for Atlantic salmon in stream run areas void of in-stream obstacles. The placement of boulders in the stream increases roughness, habitat diversity/complexity, sort bed material to improve fish spawning habitat and disperse water velocity to allow for fish resting areas. Over 100 boulders (12-18 inch) were placed in the stream, creating 150m of in stream habitat for Atlantic salmon (figure 1). A John Deer tractor was rented for two days to transport the boulders from the road to the different sections of the stream. Once the boulders were in the stream they were moved around with the help of one volunteer, two O.F.A.H. staff and a Community Stream Steward Program summer student for a total of eight hours over three days. Boulders were placed in three meter spaced clusters of 7-8 rocks spaced one meter apart to allow for spring freshet ice and debris movement (figure 2). To secure the boulders in place a hole was dug by hand to bury the boulder 1/4 its depth into the substrate. The patterns that were used to place the boulders were a downstream pointing "V" and an upstream pointing "V" using three boulders.



Figure 1: Placing boulders in the Cobourg Brook on the Holmes property to improve fish spawning habitat and resting areas.



Figure 2: Completed boulder placement in the stream on the Holmes property.