



Habitat Restoration Project 2008

- Cobourg Brook: Cobourg, Ontario -

Holmes/Town of Cobourg Property Bank Stabilization Project

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

Habitat Project Funding Lead: *Department of Fisheries and Oceans Canada*

Date Completed: *November 15, 2008*

The location of the bank stabilization project is partially on Town of Cobourg land and the remainder is on the Holmes property. The land was used as a pasture at one time and a significant amount of vegetation had been cleared right up to the streams edge. A 40m section of stream bank parallel with the Highway 401 had severely eroded due to a composition of fine soil, steep bank face and being void of woody vegetation (figure 1). This caused excess sediment to enter the creek, which is known to impede aquatic life. It was evident during the spring freshet that the stream bank was experiencing lateral movement. Visits to the site by the OFAH staff determined that re-grading the slope to 2:1, strengthening the bank with angular stone and planting trees and shrubs would be the best course of action for the creek and its inhabitants. Five LUNKERS were incorporated into the design to provide in stream cover for Atlantic salmon by mimicking overhanging banks (figure 2&3). The direct benefits of the Holmes/Town of Cobourg bank stabilization project reduced the sediment entering the creek, improved and recreated riparian habitat and provided in stream cover for fish. The project was complete mid November when the ground had begun to freeze (figure 4). Therefore, tree and shrub planting will resume in the spring of 2009.



Figure 1: Bank severely eroded on Holmes/Town of Cobourg Property.



Figure 2: LUNKERS placed in stream to create habitat for Atlantic salmon and other coldwater fish species in Cobourg Brook.



Figure 3: LUNKERS with boulders holding it in place in Cobourg Brook.



Figure 4: Holmes/Town of Cobourg Property Bank Stabilization project complete.