



Habitat Restoration Project 2009

- Cobourg Brook: Cobourg, Ontario -

Baker Property Cattle Fencing & Low-level Stream Crossing

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

Habitat Project Funding Lead: *Canada-Ontario Agreement*

Date Completed: *September 9, 2009*

This project was located on the Baker property and involved fencing cattle out of a stream and creating a stream crossing. In previous years the land had been rented to a farmer with 400 head of cattle, this created obvious damage to the stream, as the livestock eroded the stream banks (figure 1). The current farmer only has 10 head of cattle and therefore needs much less area for his cattle to graze. Fencing the cattle out of the stream and providing a single crossing point will reduce the amount of sedimentation into the stream and will provide improved water quantity and quality at the site as well as downstream of the site. This project was completed in the fall of 2009. Planting mixed trees at the site is a proposed project for 2010. Enhancing the riparian cover along the stream will furthermore stabilize the stream bank, provide shading over the water, and improve the water quality, decreasing the temperature of the stream. The crossing created allowed cattle to access water at one point on the stream and allow them to cross into other portions of the field. In total a six meter wide crossing was created and the bank was re-graded to an 8:1 slope. The crossing extends 20m on both sides of the stream (figure 2). After the slope was re-graded, a layer of sand was placed as a base followed by a black synthetic cloth (figure 3). The next layer consists of washed gravel and finally round stone on top. A total area of 31,174m² was protected from access by cattle and a total of 411m of stream was restored (figure 4).

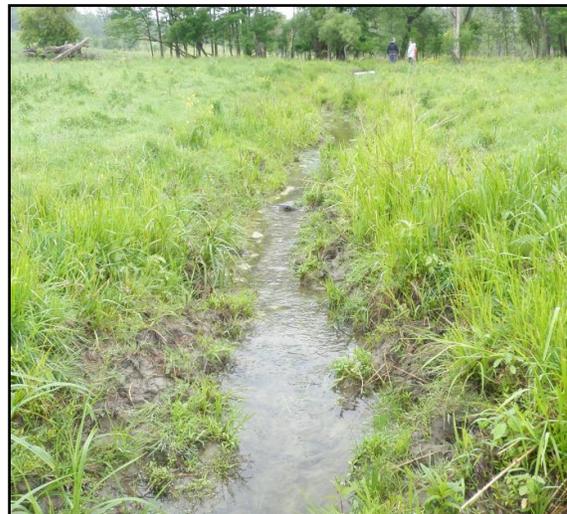


Figure 1: Stream heavily eroded from cattle before fencing and crossing was created.



Figure 2: Re-grading of stream to bring slope to 8:1 ratio.



Figure 3: Placing synthetic cloth down to protect soil from washing away.



Figure 4: Completed cattle crossing on the Baker property.