



Habitat Restoration Project 2009

- Duffins Creek: Pickering, Ontario -

Transport Canada Pickering Lands Leung Pond Live Willow Shrub Staking

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

Habitat Project Funding Lead: *Canada-Ontario Agreement*

Date Completed: *December 2, 2009*

The Live Willow Staking project was located on the Transport Canada Pickering Lands just north of the Pickering Lands Site Office at the old Leung Pond. The site had a large pond present on it earlier this year due to a dam that was holding water back. TRCA staff slowly drained the pond throughout the summer and a large culvert was installed in the fall. The channel upstream of the culvert had re-formed in the soft soil and live staking using willow cuttings would provide a head start in the spring for rooted vegetation and provide stability to the bank (figure 1). This project enhanced the riparian cover, improved water temperatures, minimized erosion and sediment deposition and aided in nutrient uptake. On December 2nd, staff from the OFAH and one from the TRCA logged a combined (six staff) total of 12 hours to plant 1,500 live willow shrub stakes (figure 2). The total planted area for this project was 825m² and the length of Duffins Creek enhanced was 60m (figure 3).



Figure 1: Staff collecting willow cuttings to stake into ground.



Figure 2: Planting live staked willows into the ground to stabilize soil.



Figure 3: OFAH and TRCA staff completing live staking on Transport Canada Pickering Lands.