



Habitat Restoration Project 2010

- Duffins Creek: Ajax, Ontario -

Greenwood Conservation Area Failed Footbridge Removal & Bank Stabilization

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

Habitat Project Funding Lead: *OFAH*

Date Completed: *November August 10, 2010*

The Greenwood Conservation Area footbridge is a site of a previous stream restoration project. The staff at the Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA) noted that the foot-bridge was causing extreme bank stability issues on either side of the gabion stones (figure 1). In 2009, without the budget to completely remove the footbridge and gabions, the OFAH and TRCA staff completed a bridge erosion mitigation project and planting, installing logs and root wads to hold the banks of the river in place. In 2010, the TRCA and OFAH had funding support to completely disassemble and remove the footbridge and the gabion stones on either side of the bridge (figures 2 & 3). Once the bridge was removed the stone was displaced along the shoreline (approximately 40m), and then the banks were stabilized with logs and root wads. Finally, a layer of straw was placed down onto the soil on the sides of the bank to create a filter for soil that may come loose and prevent it from falling into the water (figure 4). The project was completed on August 10th, 2010 and involved 53 volunteers and 243 hours of support to complete (figure 5).



Figure 1: Failed footbridge in Greenwood Conservation Area.



Figure 2: TRCA staff cutting down footbridge.



Figure 3: TRCA and OFAH staff disassembling stone gabions on either side of former footbridge.



Figure 4: Staff members relocating stones along banks of Duffins Creek.



Figure 5: Completed footbridge removal and bank stabilization in Greenwood Conservation Area on Duffins Creek.