



## Habitat Restoration Project 2010

- Cobourg Brook: Cobourg, Ontario -

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### Hie Pond-to-stream Interface Reconstruction

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

Habitat Project Funding Lead: *Ontario Wildlife Foundation*

Date Completed: *September 8, 2010*

A large volume of people access the Hie private property for a number of activities including fishing, hunting, hiking, dog walking and even camping. A dug pond on the property, parallel to the creek was created by the land owner more than 20 years ago to rehabilitate injured race horses. The gravel berm between the pond and the stream was rapidly eroding because of the lack of riparian vegetation (figure 1). Foot traffic is one of the reasons for the lack of trees and shrubs which had aided in the erosion of the bank that caused excess sediment to enter the creek, which is known to impede aquatic life. Stream bank erosion is a problem for Atlantic salmon because it releases sediment that deposits downstream in spawning areas. If the stream bank was left to erode completely and connect with the pond it would raise the temperature in the coldwater stream which is detrimental to the development of Atlantic salmon eggs. Visits to the site by OFAH staff determined that using large root wads and woody debris would be the best course of action for the creek and its inhabitants (figure 2). The direct benefits of the Hie Pond-to-stream Interface Reconstruction project would be to reduce the amount of sediment entering the creek, improve in-stream and riparian habitat, and enhance/increase the riparian cover. This project involved the completion of a 60 meter long root wad and cedar log bank creation over the course of 14 days. It required the use of heavy equipment, and 13 volunteers from the OFAH and the Atlantic Salmon Restoration Program logging over 379 hours (figure 3 & 4).



Figure 1: Eroded bank on Hie Property.



Figure 2: Installing logs and root wads to hold the bank in place.



Figure 3: OFAH staff member and dog sit in front of completed pond to stream interface reconstruction project.



Figure 4: Completed project - 60m of bank stabilization.