

East Hamilton Recreational Trail Hub & Waterfront Link

CLIENT: City of Hamilton

PROJECT CONSULTANTS:

City of Hamilton, DTAH, McCormick Rankin, St. Williams Nursery and Ecology Centre, IBI Group, Dougan & Associates, Dillon Consulting, and Ecoplans Ltd.

AWARD: 2013 CSLA Regional Merit Award



This multi-disciplinary project involved the design and construction of a new trail connection, a **habitat restoration** project, and a multi-use bridge. The design team included the City of Hamilton, DTAH, McCormick Rankin, St. Williams Nursery and Ecology Centre, IBI Group, Dougan & Associates, Dillon Consulting and Ecoplans Limited. Habitat restoration of the former landfill sites and the **provincially significant Red Hill Marsh** was a critical component in **adding ecological and visual quality** to the trail hub. A restoration of two abandoned landfill sites created vital pollinator and bird habitat along a major migratory bird corridor. Efforts were focused on **removal of invasive and non-native plant species**, and the establishment of **native forbs, grasses and shrubs**. Red Hill Marsh needed to be restored since over time the Marsh had filled with silt washed down from the Red Hill Creek. This created a perched condition with minimal fish and other wildlife habitat. To restore marsh functions, **channels and mounds** were created to **diversify open water and upland habitat** and **increase breeding grounds** for Chinook Salmon and Northern Pike. D&A provided both the initial natural heritage characterization (including wetland communities) and produced the detailed designs for wetland habitat that were used to tender and build the project. This assignment was awarded the **2013 CSLA REGIONAL MERIT AWARD** in the Design Category.



Photos: Top left: Restored Red Hill Marsh, Left: Pedestrian bridge over QEW & Red Hill Marsh, Above: Wildlife utilizing restored wetland

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