Financial Statements

June 30, 2008 and 2007

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INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

To the Commissioners of New Jersey Highlands Water Protection & Planning Council Directly Administered Funds

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the directly administered funds of New Jersey Highlands Water Protection & Planning Council (the "Council") as of and for the years ended June 30, 2008 and 2007. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Council's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audits.

We conducted our audits in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Council's directly administered funds as of June 30, 2008 and 2007, and the changes in its financial position for the years then ended, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

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INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT (CONTINUED)

In accordance with Government Auditing Standards, we have also issued our report dated July 31, 2009 on our consideration of the Council's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and other matters. The purpose of that report is to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with Government Auditing Standards and should be considered in assessing the results of our audit.

The Management's Discussion and Analysis is not a required part of the basic financial statements but is supplementary information required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board. We have applied certain limited procedures, which consisted principally of inquiries of management, regarding the methods of measurement and presentation of the required supplementary information. However, we did not audit the information and express no opinion on it.

July 31, 2009

Contistues Public accountable

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

This section of the annual financial report for the New Jersey Highlands Water Protection & Planning Council (the "Council") presents our discussion and analysis of the Council's financial performance of directly administered funds during the fiscal year ended June 30, 2008. Please read it in conjunction with the Council's financial statements and accompanying notes.

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

Current assets increased by \$204,381 (or 12%)

Current liabilities decreased by \$6,314 (or 5%)

Operating revenues increased by \$26,640 (or 2%)

Operating expenses decreased by \$(175,609) (or 15%)

Net assets increased by \$261,212 (or 15%)

OVERVIEW OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The annual financial report consists of two parts: Management's Discussion and Analysis (this section) and the basic financial statements, which consist of government-wide and governmental fund financial statements, which are linked by a reconciliation. The government-wide financial statements are prepared using the economic resources management focus and the accrual basis of accounting; the governmental fund financial statements are prepared using the current financial resources measurement focus and the modified accrual basis of accounting.

FINANCIAL ANALYSIS OF THE COUNCIL

Balance Sheets

The following table summarizes the changes in the statements of net assets between June 30, 2008 and 2007. Explanations of significant changes follow the report:

	June 30,			% Increase
	2008	2007	Difference	(Decrease)
ASSETS				
Current assets				
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 1,893,512	\$ 1,697,622	\$ 195,890	12 %
Due from State of NJ	353	353	=	- %
Prepaid expenses	8,491		8,491	100 %
Total current assets	1,902,356	1,697,975	204,381	12 %
Property and equipment, net of accumulated depreciation of				
\$153,700 (2008) and \$88,357 (2007)	168,088	117,571	50.517	43 %
Total assets	\$ 2,070,444	\$ 1,815,546	\$ 254,898	14 %
LIABILITY AND NET ASSETS				
Liability				
Accounts payable	\$ 119,510	\$ 125,824	\$ (6,314)	(5)%
Total liability	119,510	125,824	(6,314)	(5)%
Net assets				NUMBER
Restricted - Regional Master Plan	1,101,013	1,085,252	15,761	1 %
Unrestricted	849,921	604,470	245,451	41 %
Total net assets	1,950,934	1,689,722	261,212	15 %
Total liability and net assets	\$ 2,070,444	\$ 1,815,546	\$ 254,898	14 %

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS (CONTINUED)

FINANCIAL ANALYSIS OF THE COUNCIL (CONTINUED)

Current assets: Cash and cash equivalents increased by approximately 12%, or \$195,890, during fiscal year 2008, due to an excess of appropriations revenue over expenditures.

Liability: Liabilities decreased by approximately 5%, or \$6,314. At the end of fiscal year 2008, payables were \$119,510 compared to \$125,824 at the end of fiscal year 2007, which includes outstanding obligations accrued at the end of the year.

Statements of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Net Assets

The following table summarizes the changes in statements of revenues, expenses and changes in net assets between June 30, 2008 and 2007. Explanations of significant changes follow the report:

	Year End	ed June 30,		% Increase
	2008	2007	Difference	_(Decrease)
Operating Revenues				
State appropriations - RMP	\$ 500,000	\$ 500,000	\$ -	- %
State appropriations - operating	750,075	725,000	25,075	3 %
Other	6,104	4,539	1,565	34 %
Total operating revenues	1,256,179	1,229,539	26,640	2 %
Operating Expenses				
RMP expenditures	484,239	574,065	(89,826)	(16)%
Administrative expenses	445,385	550,268	(104,883)	(19)%
Provision for depreciation	65,343	46,243	19,100	41 %
Total operating expenses	994,967	1,170,576	(175,609)	(15)%
Change in net assets	\$ 261,212	\$ 58,963	\$ 202,249	343 %

Other revenues: Other revenues increased by \$1,565 due to an increase in the fees charged for copies in response to Open Public Records Act ("OPRA") requests.

Operating expenses: Operating expenses decreased by \$175,609 primarily due to a decrease in expenditures dedicated to the Regional Master Plan ("RMP").

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS (CONTINUED)

CAPITAL ASSETS AND DEBT ADMINISTRATION

Capital Assets

The Council's capital assets include computer equipment, furniture and leasehold improvements made to its facilities. Net capital assets increased by \$50,517 during fiscal year 2008. The change in net capital assets includes the depreciation of the new and existing furniture and computer equipment. The following table summarizes the changes in capital assets between June 30, 2008 and 2007:

	June 30,				% Increase			
		2008		2007		Difference	(Decrease	
Furniture	\$	57,806	\$	55,870	\$	1,936		%
Computer equipment		242,785		133,846		108,939		%
Leasehold improvements	_	21,197	_	16,212		4,985	31	%
Total capital assets		321,788		205,928		115,860	56	%
Less: accumulated depreciation	_	(153,700)	_	(88,357)		(65,343)	74	%
Capital assets, net	\$	168,088	\$	117,571	\$	50,517	43	%

Capital Debt

The Council had no debt for the years ended June 30, 2008 and 2007.

CONTACTING THE COUNCIL'S FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

This financial report is designed to provide New Jersey citizens, taxpayers and legislators with a general overview of the Council's finances for its directly administered funds and to demonstrate the Council's accountability for the appropriations and revenues that it receives. If you have questions about this report or need additional financial information, contact the Council at (908) 879-6737 or visit its website at: www.highlands.state.nj.us.

STATEMENT OF NET ASSETS AND GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS BALANCE SHEET June 30, 2008

ASSETS	Governmental Funds	Adjustments (Note E)	Statement of Net Assets
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 1,893,512	\$ -	6 1 000 510
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 1,093,312	D -	\$ 1,893,512
Due from State of New Jersey	+ 1	353	353
Prepaid expenses	(4)	8,491	8,491
Property and equipment, net		168,088	168,088
Total Assets	\$ 1,893,512	\$ 176,932	\$ 2,070,444
LIABILITY AND FUND BALANCE/NET ASSETS			
Liability			
Accounts payable	\$ 119,510	\$ -	\$ 119,510
Total Liability	119,510	-	119,510
Fund Balance/Net Assets			
Restricted - Regional Master Plan	1,101,013	15	1,101,013
Unrestricted	672,989	176,932	849,921
Total Fund Balance/Net Assets	1,774,002	176,932	1,950,934
Total Liability and Fund Balance/Net Assets	\$ 1,893,512	\$ 176,932	\$ 2,070,444

STATEMENT OF NET ASSETS AND GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS BALANCE SHEET ${\it June~30,2007}$

	Governmental Funds	Adjustments (Note E)	Statement of Net Assets
ASSETS			
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 1,697,622	\$ -	\$ 1,697,622
Due from State of New Jersey	-	353	353
Property and equipment, net		117,571	117,571
Total Assets	\$ 1,697,622	<u>\$ 117,924</u>	\$ 1,815,546
LIABILITY AND FUND BALANCE/NET ASSETS			
Liability			
Accounts payable	\$ 125,824	\$ -	\$ 125,824
Total Liability	125,824		125,824
Fund Balance/Net Assets			
Restricted - Regional Master Plan	1,085,252	-	1,085,252
Unrestricted	486,546	117,924	604,470
Total Fund Balance/Net Assets	1,571,798	117,924	1,689,722
Total Liability and Fund Balance/Net Assets	\$ 1,697,622	\$ 117,924	\$ 1,815,546

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES AND GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE/NET ASSETS

Year Ended June 30, 2008

	Governmental Funds	Adjustments (Note E)	Statement of Net Assets
Revenues			
State appropriations - Regional Master Plan	\$ 500,000	\$ -	\$ 500,000
State appropriations - operating	750,075	_ 9	750,075
Other	6,104		6,104
Total revenues	1,256,179		1,256,179
Expenditures			
Materials and supplies	46,126	45	46,126
Professional fees	13,000		13,000
Rent and utilities	221,002	27	221,002
Depreciation		65,343	65,343
Capital outlay	115,860	(115,860)	(m
Other operating expenses	173,748	(8,491)	165,257
Regional Master Plan expenditures	484,239		484,239
Total expenditures	1,053,975	(59,008)	994,967
Change in fund balance/net assets	202,204	59,008	261,212
Fund balance/net assets, beginning of year	1,571,798	117,924	1,689,722
Fund balance/net assets, end of year	\$ 1,774,002	\$ 176,932	\$ 1,950,934

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES AND GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE/NET ASSETS

Year Ended June 30, 2007

	Governmental Funds	Adjustments (Note E)	Statement of Net Assets
Revenues			
State appropriations - Regional Master Plan	\$ 500,000	\$ -	\$ 500,000
State appropriations - operating	1,000,000	(275,000)	725,000
Other	4,539		4,539
Total revenues	1,504,539	(275,000)	1,229,539
Expenditures			
Materials and supplies	75,368		75,368
Professional fees	5,000	-	5,000
Rent and utilities	160,807	-	160,807
Depreciation	\$	46,243	46,243
Capital outlay	51,327	(51,327)	-
Other operating expenses	309,093	~	309,093
Regional Master Plan expenditures	574,065		574,065
Total expenditures	1,175,660	(5,084)	_1,170,576_
Change in fund balance/net assets	328,879	(269,916)	58,963
Fund balance/net assets, beginning of year	1,242,919	387,840	1,630,759
Fund balance/net assets, end of year	\$ 1,571,798	<u>\$ 117,924</u>	\$ 1,689,722

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

A. NATURE OF ACTIVITIES AND SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Nature of Activities

New Jersey Highlands Water Protection & Planning Council (the "Council"), located in Chester, New Jersey, was created by the State of New Jersey (the "State") on November 30, 2004, pursuant to the Highlands Water Protection and Planning Act (the "Act") that preserves open space and protects the State's greatest diversity of natural resources including the precious water resources that supply drinking water to more than half of New Jersey's families. The Act documents the geographical boundary of the Highlands Region and establishes the Highlands Preservation Area and the Highlands Planning Area. The Council is charged with carrying out the provisions of the Act, including the development of a regional master plan for the Highlands Region. State appropriations fund all directly administered expenditures included in these financial statements. The Council's debt and certain other program related activities are only included in the State of New Jersey's financial statements.

Significant Accounting Policies

Basis of Accounting

The accompanying financial statements have been prepared in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America as prescribed by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board ("GASB").

The accompanying financial statements include only the accounts and activity of the directly administered funds of the Council.

The basic financial statements consist of government-wide and governmental fund financial statements.

The Council combines government-wide and governmental fund financial statements, which are linked together by a reconciliation.

The government-wide financial statements are prepared using the economic resources measurement focus and the accrual basis of accounting. Revenues are recognized when earned, and expenditures are recognized when incurred.

The governmental fund financial statements are prepared using the current financial resources measurement focus and the modified accrual basis of accounting. Revenues are recorded when measurable and available. Expenditures are recognized when the related liability is incurred.

Cash Equivalents

The Council considers all highly liquid debt instruments with original maturities of ninety days or less to be cash equivalents.

Concentration of Risk

The Council maintains cash balances which may exceed federally insured limits. It historically has not experienced any credit-related losses.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

A. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

Use of Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported in the financial statements and accompanying notes to the financial statements. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

Due from State of New Jersey

Amounts due from the State of New Jersey consist of appropriations receivable from the June 30, 2008 and 2007, State of New Jersey budgets, respectively.

Property and Equipment

Property and equipment are recorded at cost when purchased in the government-wide financial statements. Depreciation is computed by the straight-line method over the estimated useful lives of the assets, which are 3 years for computers and computer equipment, and 7 years for furniture and equipment. Leasehold improvements are depreciated over the lesser of the length of the related leases or the estimated useful lives of the assets. Property and equipment are expensed when purchased in the governmental fund financial statements. Repairs and maintenance which do not extend the useful lives of the related assets are expensed as incurred.

Income Taxes

As a public body, the Council is exempt from both federal and state taxes under existing statute.

B. CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

The Council has adopted GASB Statement No. 40, Deposit and Investment Risk Disclosures, which requires uncollateralized deposits exposed to custodial credit risk to be disclosed. The custodial credit risk for deposits is the risk that, in the event of the failure of a depository financial institution, a government will not be able to recover deposits that are in the possession of an outside party. The following is a summary of the Council's cash deposits by financial institution and the amount exposed to custodial credit risk. The Council's deposits at Peapack-Gladstone Bank are insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation up to \$100,000.

	buile 50.			
B 1 01 1 -	2008	2007		
Peapack-Gladstone Bank	\$1,936,225	\$1,762,936		
Collateralized deposits	100,000	100,000		
Total deposits exposed to custodial credit risk	\$1,836,225	\$1,662,936		
Total book balance of deposits	\$1,893,512	\$1,697,622		

June 30

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

C. RESTRICTED NET ASSETS

Restricted net assets are available for the development of the Regional Master Plan. Restricted net assets amounted to \$1,101,013 and \$1,085,252 at June 30, 2008 and 2007, respectively.

D. COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES

The Council leases office space at 100 North Road in Chester, New Jersey under an operating lease expiring December 31, 2009. Rent and utilities expenses under all leases was \$221,002 and \$160,807 for the years ended June 30, 2008 and 2007, respectively.

Future minimum lease payments under operating leases are as follows:

Year Ending June 30, 2010

\$ 78,652

E. ADJUSTMENTS - RECONCILIATION OF DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS AND GOVERNMENT-WIDE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(1) When capital assets that are to be used in governmental activities are purchased or constructed, the cost of those assets is reported as an expenditure in governmental funds. However, the statement of net assets includes those capital assets among the assets of the Council as a whole.

	June				
		2008		2007	
Leasehold improvements	\$	21,197	\$	16,212	
Furniture and equipment		57,806		55,870	
Computers and computer equipment	_	242,785		133,846	
Total cost of property and equipment		321,788		205,928	
Accumulated depreciation	_	(153,700)	_	(88,357)	
Property and equipment, net	\$	168,088	\$	117,571	
Capital outlay	\$	115,860	\$	51,327	

(2) Receivables from the State of New Jersey are not part of the Council's governmental fund activities because no portion of this balance is available for use by the Council at year end.

	June 30,			
	2008	2007		
Due from State of New Jersey	\$ 353	\$ 353		

(3) Depreciation expense in the governmental fund (\$0 for both 2008 and 2007) differs from depreciation expense in the statement of activities (\$65,343 for 2008 and \$46,243 for 2007). The difference is a result of the long-term economic focus of the statement of activities versus the current financial resources focus of the governmental funds.



INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING AND ON COMPLIANCE AND OTHER MATTERS BASED ON AN AUDIT OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS PERFORMED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS

To the Commissioners of New Jersey Highlands Water Protection & Planning Council Directly Administered Funds

We have audited the financial statements of the directly administered funds of New Jersey Highlands Water Protection & Planning Council (the "Council") as of and for the year ended June 30, 2008, and have issued our report thereon dated July 31, 2009. We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States.

Internal Control over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit, we considered the Council's internal control over financial reporting as a basis for designing our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Council's internal control over financial reporting. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Council's internal control over financial reporting.

A control deficiency exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent or detect misstatements on a timely basis. A significant deficiency is a control deficiency, or combination of control deficiencies, that adversely affects the entity's ability to initiate, authorize, record, process, or report financial data reliably in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles such that there is more than a remote likelihood that a misstatement of the entity's financial statements that is more than inconsequential will not be prevented or detected by the entity's internal control.

A material weakness is a significant deficiency, or combination of significant deficiencies, that results in more than a remote likelihood that a material misstatement of the financial statements will not be prevented or detected by the entity's internal control.

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INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING AND ON COMPLIANCE AND OTHER MATTERS BASED ON AN AUDIT OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS PERFORMED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS (CONTINUED)

Internal Control over Financial Reporting (Continued)

Our consideration of internal control over financial reporting was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and would not necessarily identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be significant deficiencies or material weaknesses. We did not identify any deficiencies in internal control over financial reporting that we consider to be material weaknesses, as defined above.

Compliance and Other Matters

Cortified Public accountable

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the Council's financial statements are free of material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations and contracts, noncompliance with which could have direct and material effect on the determination of financial statement amounts. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit, and accordingly, we do not express such opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of the Commissioners, the audit committee, management, and others within the Council and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

July 31, 2009