

New Jersey Highlands Council **Letter 8**

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Attributes

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Web Response

The Pequannock River Coalition (PRC) has been working in the Pequannock River Watershed and Wanaque River Watershed area since 1994. PRC is a vocal advocate of the current Highlands plan, which has been producing positive gains for all New Jersey residents. By protecting our critical lands and waterways, and preserving wildlife habitat through sensible limits on development, the Act is promoting the healthy future of our state. In fact, the Act works so well, we believe similar restrictions would be beneficial statewide. Before the Act, PRC devoted much time to commenting on inappropriate development, and educating the public on the damage this caused. Since the Act, the need for this has largely been eliminated, especially in the Preservation Area. PRC strongly recommends that the Highlands Regional Master Plan maintain the current level of protection and current restrictions.

Our monitoring of water quality gives us a special relationship to and knowledge of the Highlands water resources. PRC is a vocal advocate of the current Highlands plan, which has been producing positive gains for all New Jersey residents. By protecting our critical lands and waterways through sensible limits on development, the Act is promoting the healthy future of our state. This is vital, not only for residents of the Highlands dependent on local water supply, but for businesses and people across New Jersey who take their water from this region. These restrictions are equally important to many flood-prone communities. Only preservation of upland regions can hold flood levels to the current status. Before the Act, PRC devoted much time to commenting on inappropriate development, and educating the public on the damage this caused. Since the Act, the need for this has largely been eliminated, especially in the Preservation Area. We believe the Act works so well, that similar restrictions would be beneficial statewide. PRC strongly recommends that the Highlands Regional Master Plan maintain the current level of protection and current restrictions.

Respondent

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