

RESOLUTION 2009-25
NEW JERSEY HIGHLANDS WATER PROTECTION AND PLANNING COUNCIL
APPROVAL OF CONTRACT FOR CRITICAL HABITAT CONSERVATION AND
MANAGEMENT CONSULTANT

WHEREAS, the Highlands Water Protection and Planning Act (Highlands Act) has created a public body corporate and politic with corporate succession known as the Highlands Water Protection and Planning Council (Highlands Council); and

WHEREAS, Section 6.g of the Highlands Act authorizes the Highlands Council to enter into any and all agreements or contracts to effectuate the purposes of the Highlands Act; and

WHEREAS, on July 17, 2008, the Highlands Council adopted Resolution 2008-27 thereby adopting the Highlands Regional Master Plan (RMP); and

WHEREAS, the RMP includes goals, policies, and objectives; specifically Policy 1F5 establishing a Critical Habitat Conservation and Management Program through a Critical Habitat Conservation and Management Plan; and

WHEREAS, to support the Highlands Council in the development of Critical Habitat Conservation and Management Program and Plan, the Highlands Council prepared a Request for Qualifications (RFQ), dated November 6, 2008, seeking the qualifications of firms to advise and assist the Highlands Council; and

WHEREAS, seven firms submitted responses and qualifications prior to the deadline of December 5, 2008; and

WHEREAS, the Highlands Council staff evaluated the qualifications of the firms and identified the top three qualifying firms based on work experience and professional qualifications; and

WHEREAS, the Highlands Council prepared a Request for Proposal (RFP), dated January 16, 2009, and sought a detailed proposal from the top three qualifying firms that responded to the RFQ; and

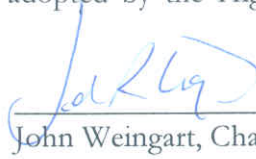
WHEREAS, the firms submitted responses and proposals prior to the deadline of February 6, 2009; and

WHEREAS, the Highlands Council staff evaluated the qualifications and proposals of the applicants and recommended that Biohabitats, Inc. (Biohabitats) is best suited to meet the needs articulated by the Highlands Council's RFP and further recommends that the Highlands Council authorize the Executive Director to enter a contract with Biohabitats for critical habitat conservation and management consulting services;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Highlands Council that the Executive Director, or her designee, is hereby authorized to enter into a contract with Biohabitats for an amount not to exceed \$85,000, provided that the Executive Director may authorize additional amounts under this contract pursuant to her authority under the Highlands Council Bylaws.

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was adopted by the Highlands Council at its regular meeting held on the 26th day of February 26, 2009.



John Weingart, Chairman

Vote on the Approval of this Resolution

	<u>Motion</u>	<u>Second</u>	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Abstain</u>	<u>Absent</u>
Councilmember Alstede						✓
Councilmember Calabrese			✓			
Councilmember Carluccio	✓		✓			
Councilmember Cogger			✓			
Councilmember Kovach		✓	✓			
Councilmember Letts			✓			
Councilmember Pasquarelli			✓			
Councilmember Peterson						✓
Councilmember Schrier			✓			
Councilmember Vetrano						✓
Councilmember Way			✓			
Councilmember Whitenack						✓
Councilmember Weingart			✓			