

Return of Organization Exempt From Income Tax

2016

Open to Public Inspection

Under section 501(c), 527, or 4947(a)(1) of the Internal Revenue Code (except private foundations)

▶ Do not enter social security numbers on this form as it may be made public.

▶ Information about Form 990 and its instructions is at www.irs.gov/form990.

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

A For the 2016 calendar year, or tax year beginning 01/01, 2016, and ending 12/31, 20 16

B Check if applicable:
 Address change
 Name change
 Initial return
 Final return/terminated
 Amended return
 Application pending

C Name of organization HIGHLANDS NATURE SANCTUARY INC
 Doing business as Arc of Appalachia
 Number and street (or P.O. box if mail is not delivered to street address) Room/suite
7660 Cave Road
 City or town, state or province, country, and ZIP or foreign postal code
Bainbridge, OH, 45612-9501

D Employer identification number
31-1434730

E Telephone number
937-365-5000

F Name and address of principal officer: Nancy Stranahan
7660 Cave Rd, Bainbridge, OH 45612-9501

G Gross receipts \$ 3,062,877

H(a) Is this a group return for subordinates? Yes No
H(b) Are all subordinates included? Yes No
 If "No," attach a list. (see instructions)

H(c) Group exemption number ▶

I Tax-exempt status: 501(c)(3) 501(c) () ◀ (insert no.) 4947(a)(1) or 527

J Website: ▶ www.arcofappalachia.org

K Form of organization: Corporation Trust Association Other ▶

L Year of formation: 1995

M State of legal domicile: OH

Part I Summary

| | | | | |
|-----------------------------|------------|---|--|----------------------------------|
| Activities & Governance | 1 | Briefly describe the organization's mission or most significant activities: <u>Our Mission: To protect the rich diversity of life within North America's Great Eastern Forest. Our Work: We acquire and steward wild lands in the Ohio region. We create</u> <u>(Continued on Schedule O, Statement 1)</u> | | |
| | 2 | Check this box <input type="checkbox"/> if the organization discontinued its operations or disposed of more than 25% of its net assets. | | |
| | 3 | Number of voting members of the governing body (Part VI, line 1a) | 3 | 9 |
| | 4 | Number of independent voting members of the governing body (Part VI, line 1b) | 4 | 9 |
| | 5 | Total number of individuals employed in calendar year 2016 (Part V, line 2a) | 5 | 19 |
| | 6 | Total number of volunteers (estimate if necessary) | 6 | 282 |
| | 7a | Total unrelated business revenue from Part VIII, column (C), line 12 | 7a | 2,076 |
| | b | Net unrelated business taxable income from Form 990-T, line 34 | 7b | 0 |
| Revenue | 8 | Contributions and grants (Part VIII, line 1h) | Prior Year 1,038,284 | Current Year 2,631,575 |
| | 9 | Program service revenue (Part VIII, line 2g) | 293,293 | 273,441 |
| | 10 | Investment income (Part VIII, column (A), lines 3, 4, and 7d) | 5,784 | 8,207 |
| | 11 | Other revenue (Part VIII, column (A), lines 5, 6d, 8c, 9c, 10c, and 11e) | 95,219 | 79,851 |
| | 12 | Total revenue—add lines 8 through 11 (must equal Part VIII, column (A), line 12) | 1,432,580 | 2,993,074 |
| Expenses | 13 | Grants and similar amounts paid (Part IX, column (A), lines 1–3) | 80,345 | 573 |
| | 14 | Benefits paid to or for members (Part IX, column (A), line 4) | 0 | 0 |
| | 15 | Salaries, other compensation, employee benefits (Part IX, column (A), lines 5–10) | 310,688 | 323,744 |
| | 16a | Professional fundraising fees (Part IX, column (A), line 11e) | 0 | 0 |
| | b | Total fundraising expenses (Part IX, column (D), line 25) ▶ <u>33,864</u> | | |
| | 17 | Other expenses (Part IX, column (A), lines 11a–11d, 11f–24e) | 310,307 | 376,224 |
| | 18 | Total expenses. Add lines 13–17 (must equal Part IX, column (A), line 25) | 701,340 | 700,541 |
| | 19 | Revenue less expenses. Subtract line 18 from line 12 | 731,240 | 2,292,533 |
| Net Assets or Fund Balances | 20 | Total assets (Part X, line 16) | Beginning of Current Year 12,747,726 | End of Year 15,054,402 |
| | 21 | Total liabilities (Part X, line 26) | 110,001 | 124,143 |
| | 22 | Net assets or fund balances. Subtract line 21 from line 20 | 12,637,725 | 14,930,259 |

Part II Signature Block

Under penalties of perjury, I declare that I have examined this return, including accompanying schedules and statements, and to the best of my knowledge and belief, it is true, correct, and complete. Declaration of preparer (other than officer) is based on all information of which preparer has any knowledge.

Sign Here

Signature of officer: Nancy Stranahan, Director Date: _____
 Type or print name and title

Paid Preparer Use Only

Print/Type preparer's name: _____ Preparer's signature: _____ Date: _____ Check if self-employed PTIN: _____
 Firm's name ▶: _____ Firm's EIN ▶: _____
 Firm's address ▶: _____ Phone no.: _____

May the IRS discuss this return with the preparer shown above? (see instructions) Yes No

Part III Statement of Program Service Accomplishments

Check if Schedule O contains a response or note to any line in this Part III

1 Briefly describe the organization's mission:

Our Mission: To protect the rich diversity of life within North America's Great Eastern Forest. Our Work: We acquire and steward wild lands in the Ohio region. We create sanctuaries where people can connect with the natural world. We teach about our forest heritage to inspire a global conservation ethic. We honor, in our work and our teachings, our Native American legacies.

2 Did the organization undertake any significant program services during the year which were not listed on the prior Form 990 or 990-EZ? Yes No

If "Yes," describe these new services on Schedule O.

3 Did the organization cease conducting, or make significant changes in how it conducts, any program services? Yes No

If "Yes," describe these changes on Schedule O.

4 Describe the organization's program service accomplishments for each of its three largest program services, as measured by expenses. Section 501(c)(3) and 501(c)(4) organizations are required to report the amount of grants and allocations to others, the total expenses, and revenue, if any, for each program service reported.

4a (Code:) (Expenses \$ 171,148 including grants of \$ 0) (Revenue \$ 0)

Land Acquisition & Preservation - In 2016 The Highland's Nature Sanctuary, Inc. (HNS) (dba the Arc of Appalachia) expanded its preserve holdings by 1,149 acres thus bringing the total natural areas preserved since the organizations inception in 1995 to 5,728 acres, representing 100 separate land projects in 18 preserve regions. All of these new land acquisitions were funded by a combination of private donations and Ohio Public Works' Clean Ohio grants. The total includes 296 acres on three conservation easements. The three easements include the 2016 donation of the 219-acre Red Stone Farm. Since 2008, HNS has also managed two sites on behalf of The Ohio History Connection: Fort Hill and Serpent Mound, both notable prehistoric Native American earthworks and natural areas. Thus the total number of acres of land managed by HNS during 2016, including the three monitored conservation easements and the two OHC sits, was 6,726 acres. During 2016, thirty-six miles of hiking trails were stewarded with two new trail systems, Junction Earthworks and Chalet Nivale, opened and free for public use. A major land stewardship priority was the removal of invasive plants. Removal efforts were concentrated at the Highlands Nature Sanctuary, Ohio River Bluffs, Chalet Nivale and the Junction Earthworks preserves. The second year of a partnership with the Ohio Department of
(Continued on Schedule O, Statement 2)

4b (Code:) (Expenses \$ 436,745 including grants of \$ 0) (Revenue \$ 342,147)

Education -The Highlands Nature Sanctuary, Inc. (HNS) (dba the Arc of Appalachia) is committed to teaching citizens about the value of their natural landscapes through workshops, field trips and guest lectures. A total of 3,500 individuals visited the Appalachian Forest Museum. HNS's five historic lodges hosted 1,713 guests who participated in educational programs, trail hiking and other outdoor experiences. Major programs hosted at the Highlands Nature Sanctuary during 2016 included the Wildflower Pilgrimage, two Women's retreats and the second year of the Artists in Residence program. A total of 3,676 individuals participated in these educational event. HNS continued management of two Ohio History Connection sites, Serpent Mound and Fort Hill. During 2016, Serpent Mound recorded nearly 32,000 visitors to the museum and earthworks, plus another estimated 8,000 visitors who did not get visually counted. Serpent Mound staff guided 50 school programs in 2016, reaching over 1,861 children. A car counter system at Fort Hill recorded 15,312 visits.

4c (Code:) (Expenses \$ including grants of \$) (Revenue \$)

4d Other program services (Describe in Schedule O.)
(Expenses \$ 0 including grants of \$ 0) (Revenue \$ 0)

4e Total program service expenses **607,893**

Part IV Checklist of Required Schedules

| | Yes | No |
|--|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1 Is the organization described in section 501(c)(3) or 4947(a)(1) (other than a private foundation)? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule A</i> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2 Is the organization required to complete <i>Schedule B, Schedule of Contributors</i> (see instructions)? | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3 Did the organization engage in direct or indirect political campaign activities on behalf of or in opposition to candidates for public office? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule C, Part I</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 4 Section 501(c)(3) organizations. Did the organization engage in lobbying activities, or have a section 501(h) election in effect during the tax year? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule C, Part II</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 5 Is the organization a section 501(c)(4), 501(c)(5), or 501(c)(6) organization that receives membership dues, assessments, or similar amounts as defined in Revenue Procedure 98-19? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule C, Part III</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 6 Did the organization maintain any donor advised funds or any similar funds or accounts for which donors have the right to provide advice on the distribution or investment of amounts in such funds or accounts? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part I</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 7 Did the organization receive or hold a conservation easement, including easements to preserve open space, the environment, historic land areas, or historic structures? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part II</i> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 8 Did the organization maintain collections of works of art, historical treasures, or other similar assets? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part III</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 9 Did the organization report an amount in Part X, line 21, for escrow or custodial account liability, serve as a custodian for amounts not listed in Part X; or provide credit counseling, debt management, credit repair, or debt negotiation services? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part IV</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 10 Did the organization, directly or through a related organization, hold assets in temporarily restricted endowments, permanent endowments, or quasi-endowments? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part V</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 11 If the organization's answer to any of the following questions is "Yes," then complete Schedule D, Parts VI, VII, VIII, IX, or X as applicable. | | |
| a Did the organization report an amount for land, buildings, and equipment in Part X, line 10? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part VI</i> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| b Did the organization report an amount for investments—other securities in Part X, line 12 that is 5% or more of its total assets reported in Part X, line 16? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part VII</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| c Did the organization report an amount for investments—program related in Part X, line 13 that is 5% or more of its total assets reported in Part X, line 16? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part VIII</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| d Did the organization report an amount for other assets in Part X, line 15 that is 5% or more of its total assets reported in Part X, line 16? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part IX</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| e Did the organization report an amount for other liabilities in Part X, line 25? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part X</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| f Did the organization's separate or consolidated financial statements for the tax year include a footnote that addresses the organization's liability for uncertain tax positions under FIN 48 (ASC 740)? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part X</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 12 a Did the organization obtain separate, independent audited financial statements for the tax year? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Parts XI and XII</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| b Was the organization included in consolidated, independent audited financial statements for the tax year? <i>If "Yes," and if the organization answered "No" to line 12a, then completing Schedule D, Parts XI and XII is optional</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 13 Is the organization a school described in section 170(b)(1)(A)(ii)? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule E</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 14 a Did the organization maintain an office, employees, or agents outside of the United States? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| b Did the organization have aggregate revenues or expenses of more than \$10,000 from grantmaking, fundraising, business, investment, and program service activities outside the United States, or aggregate foreign investments valued at \$100,000 or more? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule F, Parts I and IV.</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 15 Did the organization report on Part IX, column (A), line 3, more than \$5,000 of grants or other assistance to or for any foreign organization? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule F, Parts II and IV</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 16 Did the organization report on Part IX, column (A), line 3, more than \$5,000 of aggregate grants or other assistance to or for foreign individuals? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule F, Parts III and IV.</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 17 Did the organization report a total of more than \$15,000 of expenses for professional fundraising services on Part IX, column (A), lines 6 and 11e? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule G, Part I (see instructions)</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 18 Did the organization report more than \$15,000 total of fundraising event gross income and contributions on Part VIII, lines 1c and 8a? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule G, Part II</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 19 Did the organization report more than \$15,000 of gross income from gaming activities on Part VIII, line 9a? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule G, Part III</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

Part IV Checklist of Required Schedules *(continued)*

| | Yes | No |
|--|-----|----|
| 20 a Did the organization operate one or more hospital facilities? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule H</i> | | ✓ |
| b If "Yes" to line 20a, did the organization attach a copy of its audited financial statements to this return? | | |
| 21 Did the organization report more than \$5,000 of grants or other assistance to any domestic organization or domestic government on Part IX, column (A), line 1? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule I, Parts I and II</i> | | ✓ |
| 22 Did the organization report more than \$5,000 of grants or other assistance to or for domestic individuals on Part IX, column (A), line 2? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule I, Parts I and III</i> | | ✓ |
| 23 Did the organization answer "Yes" to Part VII, Section A, line 3, 4, or 5 about compensation of the organization's current and former officers, directors, trustees, key employees, and highest compensated employees? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule J</i> | ✓ | |
| 24a Did the organization have a tax-exempt bond issue with an outstanding principal amount of more than \$100,000 as of the last day of the year, that was issued after December 31, 2002? <i>If "Yes," answer lines 24b through 24d and complete Schedule K. If "No," go to line 25a</i> | | ✓ |
| b Did the organization invest any proceeds of tax-exempt bonds beyond a temporary period exception? | | |
| c Did the organization maintain an escrow account other than a refunding escrow at any time during the year to defease any tax-exempt bonds? | | |
| d Did the organization act as an "on behalf of" issuer for bonds outstanding at any time during the year? | | |
| 25a Section 501(c)(3), 501(c)(4), and 501(c)(29) organizations. Did the organization engage in an excess benefit transaction with a disqualified person during the year? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part I</i> | | ✓ |
| b Is the organization aware that it engaged in an excess benefit transaction with a disqualified person in a prior year, and that the transaction has not been reported on any of the organization's prior Forms 990 or 990-EZ? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part I</i> | | ✓ |
| 26 Did the organization report any amount on Part X, line 5, 6, or 22 for receivables from or payables to any current or former officers, directors, trustees, key employees, highest compensated employees, or disqualified persons? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part II</i> | | ✓ |
| 27 Did the organization provide a grant or other assistance to an officer, director, trustee, key employee, substantial contributor or employee thereof, a grant selection committee member, or to a 35% controlled entity or family member of any of these persons? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part III</i> | | ✓ |
| 28 Was the organization a party to a business transaction with one of the following parties (see Schedule L, Part IV instructions for applicable filing thresholds, conditions, and exceptions): | | |
| a A current or former officer, director, trustee, or key employee? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part IV</i> | | ✓ |
| b A family member of a current or former officer, director, trustee, or key employee? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part IV</i> | | ✓ |
| c An entity of which a current or former officer, director, trustee, or key employee (or a family member thereof) was an officer, director, trustee, or direct or indirect owner? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part IV</i> | ✓ | |
| 29 Did the organization receive more than \$25,000 in non-cash contributions? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule M</i> | ✓ | |
| 30 Did the organization receive contributions of art, historical treasures, or other similar assets, or qualified conservation contributions? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule M</i> | ✓ | |
| 31 Did the organization liquidate, terminate, or dissolve and cease operations? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule N, Part I</i> | | ✓ |
| 32 Did the organization sell, exchange, dispose of, or transfer more than 25% of its net assets? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule N, Part II</i> | | ✓ |
| 33 Did the organization own 100% of an entity disregarded as separate from the organization under Regulations sections 301.7701-2 and 301.7701-3? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule R, Part I</i> | | ✓ |
| 34 Was the organization related to any tax-exempt or taxable entity? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule R, Part II, III, or IV, and Part V, line 1</i> | | ✓ |
| 35a Did the organization have a controlled entity within the meaning of section 512(b)(13)? | | ✓ |
| b If "Yes" to line 35a, did the organization receive any payment from or engage in any transaction with a controlled entity within the meaning of section 512(b)(13)? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule R, Part V, line 2</i> | | |
| 36 Section 501(c)(3) organizations. Did the organization make any transfers to an exempt non-charitable related organization? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule R, Part V, line 2</i> | | ✓ |
| 37 Did the organization conduct more than 5% of its activities through an entity that is not a related organization and that is treated as a partnership for federal income tax purposes? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule R, Part VI</i> | | ✓ |
| 38 Did the organization complete Schedule O and provide explanations in Schedule O for Part VI, lines 11b and 19? Note. All Form 990 filers are required to complete Schedule O. | ✓ | |

Part V **Statements Regarding Other IRS Filings and Tax Compliance**

Check if Schedule O contains a response or note to any line in this Part V

| | | Yes | No | | |
|------------|--|------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|
| 1a | Enter the number reported in Box 3 of Form 1096. Enter -0- if not applicable | 1a | 17 | | |
| b | Enter the number of Forms W-2G included in line 1a. Enter -0- if not applicable | 1b | 0 | | |
| c | Did the organization comply with backup withholding rules for reportable payments to vendors and reportable gaming (gambling) winnings to prize winners? | 1c | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | | |
| 2a | Enter the number of employees reported on Form W-3, Transmittal of Wage and Tax Statements, filed for the calendar year ending with or within the year covered by this return | 2a | 19 | | |
| b | If at least one is reported on line 2a, did the organization file all required federal employment tax returns? Note. If the sum of lines 1a and 2a is greater than 250, you may be required to e-file (see instructions) | 2b | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | | |
| 3a | Did the organization have unrelated business gross income of \$1,000 or more during the year? | 3a | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | | |
| b | If "Yes," has it filed a Form 990-T for this year? If "No" to line 3b, provide an explanation in Schedule O | 3b | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | | |
| 4a | At any time during the calendar year, did the organization have an interest in, or a signature or other authority over, a financial account in a foreign country (such as a bank account, securities account, or other financial account)? | 4a | | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | |
| b | If "Yes," enter the name of the foreign country: ▶ _____ See instructions for filing requirements for FinCEN Form 114, Report of Foreign Bank and Financial Accounts (FBAR). | | | | |
| 5a | Was the organization a party to a prohibited tax shelter transaction at any time during the tax year? | 5a | | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | |
| b | Did any taxable party notify the organization that it was or is a party to a prohibited tax shelter transaction? | 5b | | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | |
| c | If "Yes" to line 5a or 5b, did the organization file Form 8886-T? | 5c | | | |
| 6a | Does the organization have annual gross receipts that are normally greater than \$100,000, and did the organization solicit any contributions that were not tax deductible as charitable contributions? | 6a | | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | |
| b | If "Yes," did the organization include with every solicitation an express statement that such contributions or gifts were not tax deductible? | 6b | | | |
| 7 | Organizations that may receive deductible contributions under section 170(c). | | | | |
| a | Did the organization receive a payment in excess of \$75 made partly as a contribution and partly for goods and services provided to the payor? | 7a | | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | |
| b | If "Yes," did the organization notify the donor of the value of the goods or services provided? | 7b | | | |
| c | Did the organization sell, exchange, or otherwise dispose of tangible personal property for which it was required to file Form 8282? | 7c | | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | |
| d | If "Yes," indicate the number of Forms 8282 filed during the year | 7d | | | |
| e | Did the organization receive any funds, directly or indirectly, to pay premiums on a personal benefit contract? | 7e | | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | |
| f | Did the organization, during the year, pay premiums, directly or indirectly, on a personal benefit contract? | 7f | | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | |
| g | If the organization received a contribution of qualified intellectual property, did the organization file Form 8899 as required? | 7g | | | |
| h | If the organization received a contribution of cars, boats, airplanes, or other vehicles, did the organization file a Form 1098-C? | 7h | | | |
| 8 | Sponsoring organizations maintaining donor advised funds. Did a donor advised fund maintained by the sponsoring organization have excess business holdings at any time during the year? | 8 | | | |
| 9 | Sponsoring organizations maintaining donor advised funds. | | | | |
| a | Did the sponsoring organization make any taxable distributions under section 4966? | 9a | | | |
| b | Did the sponsoring organization make a distribution to a donor, donor advisor, or related person? | 9b | | | |
| 10 | Section 501(c)(7) organizations. Enter: | | | | |
| a | Initiation fees and capital contributions included on Part VIII, line 12 | 10a | | | |
| b | Gross receipts, included on Form 990, Part VIII, line 12, for public use of club facilities | 10b | | | |
| 11 | Section 501(c)(12) organizations. Enter: | | | | |
| a | Gross income from members or shareholders | 11a | | | |
| b | Gross income from other sources (Do not net amounts due or paid to other sources against amounts due or received from them.) | 11b | | | |
| 12a | Section 4947(a)(1) non-exempt charitable trusts. Is the organization filing Form 990 in lieu of Form 1041? | 12a | | | |
| b | If "Yes," enter the amount of tax-exempt interest received or accrued during the year | 12b | | | |
| 13 | Section 501(c)(29) qualified nonprofit health insurance issuers. | | | | |
| a | Is the organization licensed to issue qualified health plans in more than one state? Note. See the instructions for additional information the organization must report on Schedule O. | 13a | | | |
| b | Enter the amount of reserves the organization is required to maintain by the states in which the organization is licensed to issue qualified health plans | 13b | | | |
| c | Enter the amount of reserves on hand | 13c | | | |
| 14a | Did the organization receive any payments for indoor tanning services during the tax year? | 14a | | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | |
| b | If "Yes," has it filed a Form 720 to report these payments? If "No," provide an explanation in Schedule O | 14b | | | |

Part VI Governance, Management, and Disclosure For each "Yes" response to lines 2 through 7b below, and for a "No" response to line 8a, 8b, or 10b below, describe the circumstances, processes, or changes in Schedule O. See instructions. Check if Schedule O contains a response or note to any line in this Part VI

Section A. Governing Body and Management

| | | Yes | No |
|-----------|--|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1a | Enter the number of voting members of the governing body at the end of the tax year If there are material differences in voting rights among members of the governing body, or if the governing body delegated broad authority to an executive committee or similar committee, explain in Schedule O. | | |
| 1b | Enter the number of voting members included in line 1a, above, who are independent | | |
| 2 | Did any officer, director, trustee, or key employee have a family relationship or a business relationship with any other officer, director, trustee, or key employee? | | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 3 | Did the organization delegate control over management duties customarily performed by or under the direct supervision of officers, directors, or trustees, or key employees to a management company or other person? | | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 4 | Did the organization make any significant changes to its governing documents since the prior Form 990 was filed? | | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 5 | Did the organization become aware during the year of a significant diversion of the organization's assets? | | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 6 | Did the organization have members or stockholders? | | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 7a | Did the organization have members, stockholders, or other persons who had the power to elect or appoint one or more members of the governing body? | | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 7b | Are any governance decisions of the organization reserved to (or subject to approval by) members, stockholders, or persons other than the governing body? | | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 8 | Did the organization contemporaneously document the meetings held or written actions undertaken during the year by the following: | | |
| 8a | The governing body? | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | |
| 8b | Each committee with authority to act on behalf of the governing body? | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | |
| 9 | Is there any officer, director, trustee, or key employee listed in Part VII, Section A, who cannot be reached at the organization's mailing address? If "Yes," provide the names and addresses in Schedule O | | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

Section B. Policies (This Section B requests information about policies not required by the Internal Revenue Code.)

| | | Yes | No |
|------------|--|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 10a | Did the organization have local chapters, branches, or affiliates? | | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 10b | If "Yes," did the organization have written policies and procedures governing the activities of such chapters, affiliates, and branches to ensure their operations are consistent with the organization's exempt purposes? | | |
| 11a | Has the organization provided a complete copy of this Form 990 to all members of its governing body before filing the form? | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | |
| 11b | Describe in Schedule O the process, if any, used by the organization to review this Form 990. | | |
| 12a | Did the organization have a written conflict of interest policy? If "No," go to line 13 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | |
| 12b | Were officers, directors, or trustees, and key employees required to disclose annually interests that could give rise to conflicts? | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | |
| 12c | Did the organization regularly and consistently monitor and enforce compliance with the policy? If "Yes," describe in Schedule O how this was done | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | |
| 13 | Did the organization have a written whistleblower policy? | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | |
| 14 | Did the organization have a written document retention and destruction policy? | | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 15 | Did the process for determining compensation of the following persons include a review and approval by independent persons, comparability data, and contemporaneous substantiation of the deliberation and decision? | | |
| 15a | The organization's CEO, Executive Director, or top management official | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | |
| 15b | Other officers or key employees of the organization | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | |
| | If "Yes" to line 15a or 15b, describe the process in Schedule O (see instructions). | | |
| 16a | Did the organization invest in, contribute assets to, or participate in a joint venture or similar arrangement with a taxable entity during the year? | | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 16b | If "Yes," did the organization follow a written policy or procedure requiring the organization to evaluate its participation in joint venture arrangements under applicable federal tax law, and take steps to safeguard the organization's exempt status with respect to such arrangements? | | |

Section C. Disclosure

- 17** List the states with which a copy of this Form 990 is required to be filed ► OH
- 18** Section 6104 requires an organization to make its Forms 1023 (or 1024 if applicable), 990, and 990-T (Section 501(c)(3)s only) available for public inspection. Indicate how you made these available. Check all that apply.
 Own website Another's website Upon request Other (explain in Schedule O)
- 19** Describe in Schedule O whether (and if so, how) the organization made its governing documents, conflict of interest policy, and financial statements available to the public during the tax year.
- 20** State the name, address, and telephone number of the person who possesses the organization's books and records: ►
Diana P Sells, (937)365-5000

Part VII Compensation of Officers, Directors, Trustees, Key Employees, Highest Compensated Employees, and Independent Contractors

Check if Schedule O contains a response or note to any line in this Part VII

Section A. Officers, Directors, Trustees, Key Employees, and Highest Compensated Employees

1a Complete this table for all persons required to be listed. Report compensation for the calendar year ending with or within the organization's tax year.

- List all of the organization's **current** officers, directors, trustees (whether individuals or organizations), regardless of amount of compensation. Enter -0- in columns (D), (E), and (F) if no compensation was paid.
- List all of the organization's **current** key employees, if any. See instructions for definition of "key employee."
- List the organization's five **current** highest compensated employees (other than an officer, director, trustee, or key employee) who received reportable compensation (Box 5 of Form W-2 and/or Box 7 of Form 1099-MISC) of more than \$100,000 from the organization and any related organizations.
- List all of the organization's **former** officers, key employees, and highest compensated employees who received more than \$100,000 of reportable compensation from the organization and any related organizations.
- List all of the organization's **former directors or trustees** that received, in the capacity as a former director or trustee of the organization, more than \$10,000 of reportable compensation from the organization and any related organizations.

List persons in the following order: individual trustees or directors; institutional trustees; officers; key employees; highest compensated employees; and former such persons.

Check this box if neither the organization nor any related organization compensated any current officer, director, or trustee.

| (A) Name and Title | (B) Average hours per week (list any hours for related organizations below dotted line) | (C) Position (do not check more than one box, unless person is both an officer and a director/trustee) | | | | | | (D) Reportable compensation from the organization (W-2/1099-MISC) | (E) Reportable compensation from related organizations (W-2/1099-MISC) | (F) Estimated amount of other compensation from the organization and related organizations |
|--------------------------------|--|---|-----------------------|---------|--------------|------------------------------|--------|--|---|---|
| | | Individual trustee or director | Institutional trustee | Officer | Key employee | Highest compensated employee | Former | | | |
| Martin McAllister Trustee | 1 0 | ✓ | | | | | | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Dave Minney Trustee | 1 0 | ✓ | | | | | | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Anne Randolph Trustee | 1 0 | ✓ | | | | | | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Michael Rigsby Trustee | 1 0 | ✓ | | | | | | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Betty Rogers Trustee | 1 0 | ✓ | | | | | | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Jim Silver Trustee | 1 0 | ✓ | | | | | | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Roy Willman Trustee | 1 0 | ✓ | | | | | | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Jean Farkas President | 5 0 | ✓ | | ✓ | | | | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Rick Perkins Vice President | 5 0 | ✓ | | ✓ | | | | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Martha Fikes Treasurer | 5 0 | ✓ | | ✓ | | | | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Dave Todt Secretary | 5 0 | ✓ | | ✓ | | | | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Nancy J Stranahan Director | 40 0 | | | ✓ | | | | 59,500 | 0 | 0 |
| Larry K Henry Co-Director | 0 0 | | | | ✓ | ✓ | | 12,000 | 0 | 0 |

Part VIII Statement of Revenue

Check if Schedule O contains a response or note to any line in this Part VIII

| | | | (A) Total revenue | (B) Related or exempt function revenue | (C) Unrelated business revenue | (D) Revenue excluded from tax under sections 512-514 | |
|---|---|--|----------------------|--|---|--|---|
| Contributions, Gifts, Grants and Other Similar Amounts | 1a Federated campaigns | 1a 0 | | | | | |
| | b Membership dues | 1b 0 | | | | | |
| | c Fundraising events | 1c 0 | | | | | |
| | d Related organizations | 1d 0 | | | | | |
| | e Government grants (contributions) | 1e 1,484,956 | | | | | |
| | f All other contributions, gifts, grants, and similar amounts not included above | 1f 1,146,619 | | | | | |
| | g Noncash contributions included in lines 1a-1f: \$ | 733,000 | | | | | |
| | h Total. Add lines 1a-1f ▶ | | 2,631,575 | | | | |
| Program Service Revenue | Business Code | | | | | | |
| | 2a Nature Education | 900099 | 273,441 | 273,441 | 0 | 0 | |
| | b _____ | | | | | | |
| | c _____ | | | | | | |
| | d _____ | | | | | | |
| | e _____ | | | | | | |
| | f All other program service revenue . | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | |
| g Total. Add lines 2a-2f ▶ | | 273,441 | | | | | |
| Other Revenue | 3 Investment income (including dividends, interest, and other similar amounts) ▶ | | 8,207 | 8,207 | 0 | 0 | |
| | 4 Income from investment of tax-exempt bond proceeds ▶ | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | |
| | 5 Royalties ▶ | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | |
| | 6a Gross rents | (i) Real | 0 | | | | |
| | | (ii) Personal | 0 | | | | |
| | | b Less: rental expenses | 0 | | | | |
| | | c Rental income or (loss) | 0 | | | | |
| | d Net rental income or (loss) ▶ | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | |
| | 7a Gross amount from sales of assets other than inventory | (i) Securities | 0 | | | | |
| | | (ii) Other | 0 | | | | |
| | | b Less: cost or other basis and sales expenses | 0 | | | | |
| | | c Gain or (loss) | 0 | | | | |
| | d Net gain or (loss) ▶ | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | |
| | 8a Gross income from fundraising events (not including \$ 0 of contributions reported on line 1c). See Part IV, line 18 | a | 0 | | | | |
| | | b Less: direct expenses | 0 | | | | |
| | | c Net income or (loss) from fundraising events . ▶ | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | 9a Gross income from gaming activities. See Part IV, line 19 | a | 0 | | | | |
| | | b Less: direct expenses | 0 | | | | |
| | | c Net income or (loss) from gaming activities . . ▶ | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | 10a Gross sales of inventory, less returns and allowances | a | 146,678 | | | | |
| b Less: cost of goods sold | | 69,803 | | | | | |
| c Net income or (loss) from sales of inventory . . ▶ | | | 76,875 | 76,875 | 0 | 0 | |
| Miscellaneous Revenue | | Business Code | | | | | |
| 11a Rebates | 900099 | 900 | 900 | 0 | 0 | | |
| b Crop Subsidies | 111000 | 2,076 | 0 | 2,076 | 0 | | |
| c _____ | | | | | | | |
| d All other revenue | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | |
| e Total. Add lines 11a-11d ▶ | | 2,976 | | | | | |
| 12 Total revenue. See instructions. ▶ | | 2,993,074 | 359,423 | 2,076 | 0 | | |

Part IX Statement of Functional Expenses

Section 501(c)(3) and 501(c)(4) organizations must complete all columns. All other organizations must complete column (A).

Check if Schedule O contains a response or note to any line in this Part IX

Do not include amounts reported on lines 6b, 7b, 8b, 9b, and 10b of Part VIII.

| | (A) Total expenses | (B) Program service expenses | (C) Management and general expenses | (D) Fundraising expenses |
|---|-----------------------|---------------------------------|--|-----------------------------|
| 1 Grants and other assistance to domestic organizations and domestic governments. See Part IV, line 21 | 573 | 573 | | |
| 2 Grants and other assistance to domestic individuals. See Part IV, line 22 | 0 | 0 | | |
| 3 Grants and other assistance to foreign organizations, foreign governments, and foreign individuals. See Part IV, lines 15 and 16 | 0 | 0 | | |
| 4 Benefits paid to or for members | 0 | 0 | | |
| 5 Compensation of current officers, directors, trustees, and key employees | 71,500 | 41,650 | 23,900 | 5,950 |
| 6 Compensation not included above, to disqualified persons (as defined under section 4958(f)(1)) and persons described in section 4958(c)(3)(B) | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 7 Other salaries and wages | 222,480 | 198,921 | 18,387 | 5,172 |
| 8 Pension plan accruals and contributions (include section 401(k) and 403(b) employer contributions) | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 9 Other employee benefits | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 10 Payroll taxes | 29,764 | 24,393 | 4,340 | 1,031 |
| 11 Fees for services (non-employees): | | | | |
| a Management | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| b Legal | 1,224 | 1,224 | 0 | 0 |
| c Accounting | 1,200 | 0 | 1,200 | 0 |
| d Lobbying | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| e Professional fundraising services. See Part IV, line 17 | 0 | | | 0 |
| f Investment management fees | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| g Other. (If line 11g amount exceeds 10% of line 25, column (A) amount, list line 11g expenses on Schedule O.) | 9,071 | 8,971 | 100 | 0 |
| 12 Advertising and promotion | 3,537 | 2,867 | 0 | 670 |
| 13 Office expenses | 53,084 | 33,657 | 1,541 | 17,886 |
| 14 Information technology | 4,201 | 1,736 | 80 | 2,385 |
| 15 Royalties | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 16 Occupancy | 194,307 | 194,307 | 0 | 0 |
| 17 Travel | 10,355 | 9,734 | 267 | 354 |
| 18 Payments of travel or entertainment expenses for any federal, state, or local public officials | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 19 Conferences, conventions, and meetings | 11,432 | 10,745 | 271 | 416 |
| 20 Interest | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 21 Payments to affiliates | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 22 Depreciation, depletion, and amortization | 79,115 | 79,115 | 0 | 0 |
| 23 Insurance | 8,698 | 0 | 8,698 | 0 |
| 24 Other expenses. Itemize expenses not covered above (List miscellaneous expenses in line 24e. If line 24e amount exceeds 10% of line 25, column (A) amount, list line 24e expenses on Schedule O.) | | | | |
| a ----- | | | | |
| b ----- | | | | |
| c ----- | | | | |
| d ----- | | | | |
| e All other expenses | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 25 Total functional expenses. Add lines 1 through 24e | 700,541 | 607,893 | 58,784 | 33,864 |
| 26 Joint costs. Complete this line only if the organization reported in column (B) joint costs from a combined educational campaign and fundraising solicitation. Check here <input type="checkbox"/> if following SOP 98-2 (ASC 958-720) | | | | |

Part X Balance Sheet

Check if Schedule O contains a response or note to any line in this Part X

| | | (A) | | (B) |
|---|--|-------------------|------------|-------------|
| | | Beginning of year | | End of year |
| Assets | 1 Cash—non-interest-bearing | 313,289 | 1 | 100,588 |
| | 2 Savings and temporary cash investments | 328,433 | 2 | 557,478 |
| | 3 Pledges and grants receivable, net | 0 | 3 | 0 |
| | 4 Accounts receivable, net | 2,615 | 4 | 0 |
| | 5 Loans and other receivables from current and former officers, directors, trustees, key employees, and highest compensated employees. Complete Part II of Schedule L | 0 | 5 | 0 |
| | 6 Loans and other receivables from other disqualified persons (as defined under section 4958(f)(1)), persons described in section 4958(c)(3)(B), and contributing employers and sponsoring organizations of section 501(c)(9) voluntary employees' beneficiary organizations (see instructions). Complete Part II of Schedule L | 0 | 6 | 0 |
| | 7 Notes and loans receivable, net | 77,132 | 7 | 31,278 |
| | 8 Inventories for sale or use | 16,267 | 8 | 14,652 |
| | 9 Prepaid expenses and deferred charges | 1,800 | 9 | 900 |
| | 10a Land, buildings, and equipment: cost or other basis. Complete Part VI of Schedule D | 15,410,141 | | |
| | b Less: accumulated depreciation | 1,060,633 | 10c | 14,349,508 |
| | 11 Investments—publicly traded securities | 0 | 11 | 0 |
| | 12 Investments—other securities. See Part IV, line 11 | 0 | 12 | 0 |
| | 13 Investments—program-related. See Part IV, line 11 | 0 | 13 | 0 |
| | 14 Intangible assets | 0 | 14 | 0 |
| | 15 Other assets. See Part IV, line 11 | 1 | 15 | -2 |
| 16 Total assets. Add lines 1 through 15 (must equal line 34) | 12,747,726 | 16 | 15,054,402 | |
| Liabilities | 17 Accounts payable and accrued expenses | 14,328 | 17 | 36,198 |
| | 18 Grants payable | 0 | 18 | 0 |
| | 19 Deferred revenue | 0 | 19 | 0 |
| | 20 Tax-exempt bond liabilities | 0 | 20 | 0 |
| | 21 Escrow or custodial account liability. Complete Part IV of Schedule D | 0 | 21 | 0 |
| | 22 Loans and other payables to current and former officers, directors, trustees, key employees, highest compensated employees, and disqualified persons. Complete Part II of Schedule L | 0 | 22 | 0 |
| | 23 Secured mortgages and notes payable to unrelated third parties | 95,673 | 23 | 87,945 |
| | 24 Unsecured notes and loans payable to unrelated third parties | 0 | 24 | 0 |
| | 25 Other liabilities (including federal income tax, payables to related third parties, and other liabilities not included on lines 17-24). Complete Part X of Schedule D | 0 | 25 | 0 |
| | 26 Total liabilities. Add lines 17 through 25 | 110,001 | 26 | 124,143 |
| Net Assets or Fund Balances | Organizations that follow SFAS 117 (ASC 958), check here <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> and complete lines 27 through 29, and lines 33 and 34. | | | |
| | 27 Unrestricted net assets | 12,637,725 | 27 | 14,930,259 |
| | 28 Temporarily restricted net assets | 0 | 28 | 0 |
| | 29 Permanently restricted net assets | 0 | 29 | 0 |
| | Organizations that do not follow SFAS 117 (ASC 958), check here <input type="checkbox"/> and complete lines 30 through 34. | | | |
| | 30 Capital stock or trust principal, or current funds | | 30 | |
| | 31 Paid-in or capital surplus, or land, building, or equipment fund | | 31 | |
| | 32 Retained earnings, endowment, accumulated income, or other funds | | 32 | |
| | 33 Total net assets or fund balances | 12,637,725 | 33 | 14,930,259 |
| 34 Total liabilities and net assets/fund balances | 12,747,726 | 34 | 15,054,402 | |

Part XI Reconciliation of Net Assets

Check if Schedule O contains a response or note to any line in this Part XI

| | | | |
|-----------|--|-----------|------------|
| 1 | Total revenue (must equal Part VIII, column (A), line 12) | 1 | 2,993,074 |
| 2 | Total expenses (must equal Part IX, column (A), line 25) | 2 | 700,541 |
| 3 | Revenue less expenses. Subtract line 2 from line 1 | 3 | 2,292,533 |
| 4 | Net assets or fund balances at beginning of year (must equal Part X, line 33, column (A)) | 4 | 12,637,725 |
| 5 | Net unrealized gains (losses) on investments | 5 | 0 |
| 6 | Donated services and use of facilities | 6 | 0 |
| 7 | Investment expenses | 7 | 0 |
| 8 | Prior period adjustments | 8 | 0 |
| 9 | Other changes in net assets or fund balances (explain in Schedule O) | 9 | 1 |
| 10 | Net assets or fund balances at end of year. Combine lines 3 through 9 (must equal Part X, line 33, column (B)) | 10 | 14,930,259 |

Part XII Financial Statements and Reporting

Check if Schedule O contains a response or note to any line in this Part XII

| | Yes | No |
|---|-----|----|
| 1 Accounting method used to prepare the Form 990: <input type="checkbox"/> Cash <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Accrual <input type="checkbox"/> Other If the organization changed its method of accounting from a prior year or checked "Other," explain in Schedule O. | | |
| 2a Were the organization's financial statements compiled or reviewed by an independent accountant? If "Yes," check a box below to indicate whether the financial statements for the year were compiled or reviewed on a separate basis, consolidated basis, or both: <input type="checkbox"/> Separate basis <input type="checkbox"/> Consolidated basis <input type="checkbox"/> Both consolidated and separate basis | | ✓ |
| b Were the organization's financial statements audited by an independent accountant? If "Yes," check a box below to indicate whether the financial statements for the year were audited on a separate basis, consolidated basis, or both: <input type="checkbox"/> Separate basis <input type="checkbox"/> Consolidated basis <input type="checkbox"/> Both consolidated and separate basis | | ✓ |
| c If "Yes" to line 2a or 2b, does the organization have a committee that assumes responsibility for oversight of the audit, review, or compilation of its financial statements and selection of an independent accountant? If the organization changed either its oversight process or selection process during the tax year, explain in Schedule O. | | |
| 3a As a result of a federal award, was the organization required to undergo an audit or audits as set forth in the Single Audit Act and OMB Circular A-133? | | ✓ |
| b If "Yes," did the organization undergo the required audit or audits? If the organization did not undergo the required audit or audits, explain why in Schedule O and describe any steps taken to undergo such audits. | | |

SCHEDULE A
(Form 990 or 990-EZ)

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

Public Charity Status and Public Support

Complete if the organization is a section 501(c)(3) organization or a section 4947(a)(1) nonexempt charitable trust.
▶ Attach to Form 990 or Form 990-EZ.

▶ Information about Schedule A (Form 990 or 990-EZ) and its instructions is at www.irs.gov/form990.

OMB No. 1545-0047

2016

Open to Public Inspection

| | |
|---|---|
| Name of the organization HIGHLANDS NATURE SANCTUARY INC | Employer identification number 31-1434730 |
|---|---|

Part I Reason for Public Charity Status (All organizations must complete this part.) See instructions.

The organization is not a private foundation because it is: (For lines 1 through 12, check only one box.)

- 1 A church, convention of churches, or association of churches described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(i)**.
- 2 A school described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(ii)**. (Attach Schedule E (Form 990 or 990-EZ).)
- 3 A hospital or a cooperative hospital service organization described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(iii)**.
- 4 A medical research organization operated in conjunction with a hospital described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(iii)**. Enter the hospital's name, city, and state: _____
- 5 An organization operated for the benefit of a college or university owned or operated by a governmental unit described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(iv)**. (Complete Part II.)
- 6 A federal, state, or local government or governmental unit described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(v)**.
- 7 An organization that normally receives a substantial part of its support from a governmental unit or from the general public described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(vi)**. (Complete Part II.)
- 8 A community trust described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(vii)**. (Complete Part II.)
- 9 An agricultural research organization described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(ix)** operated in conjunction with a land-grant college or university or a non-land-grant college of agriculture (see instructions). Enter the name, city, and state of the college or university: _____
- 10 An organization that normally receives: (1) more than 33¹/₃% of its support from contributions, membership fees, and gross receipts from activities related to its exempt functions—subject to certain exceptions, and (2) no more than 33¹/₃% of its support from gross investment income and unrelated business taxable income (less section 511 tax) from businesses acquired by the organization after June 30, 1975. See **section 509(a)(2)**. (Complete Part III.)
- 11 An organization organized and operated exclusively to test for public safety. See **section 509(a)(4)**.
- 12 An organization organized and operated exclusively for the benefit of, to perform the functions of, or to carry out the purposes of one or more publicly supported organizations described in **section 509(a)(1)** or **section 509(a)(2)**. See **section 509(a)(3)**. Check the box in lines 12a through 12d that describes the type of supporting organization and complete lines 12e, 12f, and 12g.
 - a **Type I.** A supporting organization operated, supervised, or controlled by its supported organization(s), typically by giving the supported organization(s) the power to regularly appoint or elect a majority of the directors or trustees of the supporting organization. **You must complete Part IV, Sections A and B.**
 - b **Type II.** A supporting organization supervised or controlled in connection with its supported organization(s), by having control or management of the supporting organization vested in the same persons that control or manage the supported organization(s). **You must complete Part IV, Sections A and C.**
 - c **Type III functionally integrated.** A supporting organization operated in connection with, and functionally integrated with, its supported organization(s) (see instructions). **You must complete Part IV, Sections A, D, and E.**
 - d **Type III non-functionally integrated.** A supporting organization operated in connection with its supported organization(s) that is not functionally integrated. The organization generally must satisfy a distribution requirement and an attentiveness requirement (see instructions). **You must complete Part IV, Sections A and D, and Part V.**
 - e Check this box if the organization received a written determination from the IRS that it is a Type I, Type II, Type III functionally integrated, or Type III non-functionally integrated supporting organization.
- f Enter the number of supported organizations
- g Provide the following information about the supported organization(s).

| (i) Name of supported organization | (ii) EIN | (iii) Type of organization (described on lines 1–10 above (see instructions)) | (iv) Is the organization listed in your governing document? | | (v) Amount of monetary support (see instructions) | (vi) Amount of other support (see instructions) |
|------------------------------------|----------|---|---|----|---|---|
| | | | Yes | No | | |
| (A) | | | | | | |
| (B) | | | | | | |
| (C) | | | | | | |
| (D) | | | | | | |
| (E) | | | | | | |
| Total | | | | | | |

Part II Support Schedule for Organizations Described in Sections 170(b)(1)(A)(iv) and 170(b)(1)(A)(vi)

(Complete only if you checked the box on line 5, 7, or 8 of Part I or if the organization failed to qualify under Part III. If the organization fails to qualify under the tests listed below, please complete Part III.)

Section A. Public Support

| Calendar year (or fiscal year beginning in) ► | (a) 2012 | (b) 2013 | (c) 2014 | (d) 2015 | (e) 2016 | (f) Total |
|--|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|-----------|
| 1 Gifts, grants, contributions, and membership fees received. (Do not include any "unusual grants.") | | | | | | |
| 2 Tax revenues levied for the organization's benefit and either paid to or expended on its behalf | | | | | | |
| 3 The value of services or facilities furnished by a governmental unit to the organization without charge | | | | | | |
| 4 Total. Add lines 1 through 3 | | | | | | |
| 5 The portion of total contributions by each person (other than a governmental unit or publicly supported organization) included on line 1 that exceeds 2% of the amount shown on line 11, column (f) | | | | | | |
| 6 Public support. Subtract line 5 from line 4 | | | | | | |

Section B. Total Support

| Calendar year (or fiscal year beginning in) ► | (a) 2012 | (b) 2013 | (c) 2014 | (d) 2015 | (e) 2016 | (f) Total |
|--|----------|----------|----------|----------|-----------|--------------------------|
| 7 Amounts from line 4 | | | | | | |
| 8 Gross income from interest, dividends, payments received on securities loans, rents, royalties and income from similar sources | | | | | | |
| 9 Net income from unrelated business activities, whether or not the business is regularly carried on | | | | | | |
| 10 Other income. Do not include gain or loss from the sale of capital assets (Explain in Part VI.) | | | | | | |
| 11 Total support. Add lines 7 through 10 | | | | | | |
| 12 Gross receipts from related activities, etc. (see instructions) | | | | | 12 | |
| 13 First five years. If the Form 990 is for the organization's first, second, third, fourth, or fifth tax year as a section 501(c)(3) organization, check this box and stop here | | | | | | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Section C. Computation of Public Support Percentage

| | | |
|--|-----------|--------------------------|
| 14 Public support percentage for 2016 (line 6, column (f) divided by line 11, column (f)) | 14 | % |
| 15 Public support percentage from 2015 Schedule A, Part II, line 14 | 15 | % |
| 16a 33 1/3% support test—2016. If the organization did not check the box on line 13, and line 14 is 33 1/3% or more, check this box and stop here. The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization | | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| b 33 1/3% support test—2015. If the organization did not check a box on line 13 or 16a, and line 15 is 33 1/3% or more, check this box and stop here. The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization | | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 17a 10%-facts-and-circumstances test—2016. If the organization did not check a box on line 13, 16a, or 16b, and line 14 is 10% or more, and if the organization meets the "facts-and-circumstances" test, check this box and stop here. Explain in Part VI how the organization meets the "facts-and-circumstances" test. The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization | | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| b 10%-facts-and-circumstances test—2015. If the organization did not check a box on line 13, 16a, 16b, or 17a, and line 15 is 10% or more, and if the organization meets the "facts-and-circumstances" test, check this box and stop here. Explain in Part VI how the organization meets the "facts-and-circumstances" test. The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization | | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 18 Private foundation. If the organization did not check a box on line 13, 16a, 16b, 17a, or 17b, check this box and see instructions | | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Part III Support Schedule for Organizations Described in Section 509(a)(2)

(Complete only if you checked the box on line 10 of Part I or if the organization failed to qualify under Part II. If the organization fails to qualify under the tests listed below, please complete Part II.)

Section A. Public Support

| Calendar year (or fiscal year beginning in) ► | (a) 2012 | (b) 2013 | (c) 2014 | (d) 2015 | (e) 2016 | (f) Total |
|---|----------|----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| 1 Gifts, grants, contributions, and membership fees received. (Do not include any "unusual grants.") | 332,111 | 541,999 | 1,537,280 | 1,038,284 | 2,631,575 | 6,081,249 |
| 2 Gross receipts from admissions, merchandise sold or services performed, or facilities furnished in any activity that is related to the organization's tax-exempt purpose | 346,760 | 342,321 | 354,418 | 446,305 | 407,844 | 1,897,648 |
| 3 Gross receipts from activities that are not an unrelated trade or business under section 513 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 4 Tax revenues levied for the organization's benefit and either paid to or expended on its behalf | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 5 The value of services or facilities furnished by a governmental unit to the organization without charge | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 6 Total. Add lines 1 through 5 | 678,871 | 884,320 | 1,891,698 | 1,484,589 | 3,039,419 | 7,978,897 |
| 7a Amounts included on lines 1, 2, and 3 received from disqualified persons | 8,958 | 13,385 | 6,896 | 12,429 | 7,945 | 49,613 |
| b Amounts included on lines 2 and 3 received from other than disqualified persons that exceed the greater of \$5,000 or 1% of the amount on line 13 for the year | 71,754 | 66,074 | 53,472 | 64,958 | 54,371 | 310,629 |
| c Add lines 7a and 7b | 80,712 | 79,459 | 60,368 | 77,387 | 62,316 | 360,242 |
| 8 Public support. (Subtract line 7c from line 6.) | | | | | | 7,618,655 |

Section B. Total Support

| Calendar year (or fiscal year beginning in) ► | (a) 2012 | (b) 2013 | (c) 2014 | (d) 2015 | (e) 2016 | (f) Total |
|---|----------|----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| 9 Amounts from line 6 | 678,871 | 884,320 | 1,891,698 | 1,484,589 | 3,039,419 | 7,978,897 |
| 10a Gross income from interest, dividends, payments received on securities loans, rents, royalties and income from similar sources | 12,787 | 7,522 | 7,433 | 17,559 | 21,382 | 66,683 |
| b Unrelated business taxable income (less section 511 taxes) from businesses acquired after June 30, 1975 | 747 | 747 | 3,671 | 2,076 | 2,076 | 9,317 |
| c Add lines 10a and 10b | 13,534 | 8,269 | 11,104 | 19,635 | 23,458 | 76,000 |
| 11 Net income from unrelated business activities not included in line 10b, whether or not the business is regularly carried on | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 12 Other income. Do not include gain or loss from the sale of capital assets (Explain in Part VI.) | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 13 Total support. (Add lines 9, 10c, 11, and 12.) | 692,405 | 892,589 | 1,902,802 | 1,504,224 | 3,062,877 | 8,054,897 |
| 14 First five years. If the Form 990 is for the organization's first, second, third, fourth, or fifth tax year as a section 501(c)(3) organization, check this box and stop here <input type="checkbox"/> | | | | | | |

Section C. Computation of Public Support Percentage

| | | |
|--|-----------|---------|
| 15 Public support percentage for 2016 (line 8, column (f) divided by line 13, column (f)) | 15 | 94.58 % |
| 16 Public support percentage from 2015 Schedule A, Part III, line 15 | 16 | 93.42 % |

Section D. Computation of Investment Income Percentage

| | | |
|--|-----------|--------|
| 17 Investment income percentage for 2016 (line 10c, column (f) divided by line 13, column (f)) | 17 | 0.94 % |
| 18 Investment income percentage from 2015 Schedule A, Part III, line 17 | 18 | 1.12 % |
| 19a 33 1/3% support tests—2016. If the organization did not check the box on line 14, and line 15 is more than 33 1/3%, and line 17 is not more than 33 1/3%, check this box and stop here . The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | | |
| b 33 1/3% support tests—2015. If the organization did not check a box on line 14 or line 19a, and line 16 is more than 33 1/3%, and line 18 is not more than 33 1/3%, check this box and stop here . The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization <input type="checkbox"/> | | |
| 20 Private foundation. If the organization did not check a box on line 14, 19a, or 19b, check this box and see instructions <input type="checkbox"/> | | |

Part IV Supporting Organizations

(Complete only if you checked a box in line 12 on Part I. If you checked 12a of Part I, complete Sections A and B. If you checked 12b of Part I, complete Sections A and C. If you checked 12c of Part I, complete Sections A, D, and E. If you checked 12d of Part I, complete Sections A and D, and complete Part V.)

Section A. All Supporting Organizations

| | Yes | No |
|--|-----|----|
| 1 Are all of the organization's supported organizations listed by name in the organization's governing documents? <i>If "No," describe in Part VI how the supported organizations are designated. If designated by class or purpose, describe the designation. If historic and continuing relationship, explain.</i> | | |
| 2 Did the organization have any supported organization that does not have an IRS determination of status under section 509(a)(1) or (2)? <i>If "Yes," explain in Part VI how the organization determined that the supported organization was described in section 509(a)(1) or (2).</i> | | |
| 3a Did the organization have a supported organization described in section 501(c)(4), (5), or (6)? <i>If "Yes," answer (b) and (c) below.</i> | | |
| b Did the organization confirm that each supported organization qualified under section 501(c)(4), (5), or (6) and satisfied the public support tests under section 509(a)(2)? <i>If "Yes," describe in Part VI when and how the organization made the determination.</i> | | |
| c Did the organization ensure that all support to such organizations was used exclusively for section 170(c)(2)(B) purposes? <i>If "Yes," explain in Part VI what controls the organization put in place to ensure such use.</i> | | |
| 4a Was any supported organization not organized in the United States ("foreign supported organization")? <i>If "Yes," and if you checked 12a or 12b in Part I, answer (b) and (c) below.</i> | | |
| b Did the organization have ultimate control and discretion in deciding whether to make grants to the foreign supported organization? <i>If "Yes," describe in Part VI how the organization had such control and discretion despite being controlled or supervised by or in connection with its supported organizations.</i> | | |
| c Did the organization support any foreign supported organization that does not have an IRS determination under sections 501(c)(3) and 509(a)(1) or (2)? <i>If "Yes," explain in Part VI what controls the organization used to ensure that all support to the foreign supported organization was used exclusively for section 170(c)(2)(B) purposes.</i> | | |
| 5a Did the organization add, substitute, or remove any supported organizations during the tax year? <i>If "Yes," answer (b) and (c) below (if applicable). Also, provide detail in Part VI, including (i) the names and EIN numbers of the supported organizations added, substituted, or removed; (ii) the reasons for each such action; (iii) the authority under the organization's organizing document authorizing such action; and (iv) how the action was accomplished (such as by amendment to the organizing document).</i> | | |
| b Type I or Type II only. Was any added or substituted supported organization part of a class already designated in the organization's organizing document? | | |
| c Substitutions only. Was the substitution the result of an event beyond the organization's control? | | |
| 6 Did the organization provide support (whether in the form of grants or the provision of services or facilities) to anyone other than (i) its supported organizations, (ii) individuals that are part of the charitable class benefited by one or more of its supported organizations, or (iii) other supporting organizations that also support or benefit one or more of the filing organization's supported organizations? <i>If "Yes," provide detail in Part VI.</i> | | |
| 7 Did the organization provide a grant, loan, compensation, or other similar payment to a substantial contributor (defined in section 4958(c)(3)(C)), a family member of a substantial contributor, or a 35% controlled entity with regard to a substantial contributor? <i>If "Yes," complete Part I of Schedule L (Form 990 or 990-EZ).</i> | | |
| 8 Did the organization make a loan to a disqualified person (as defined in section 4958) not described in line 7? <i>If "Yes," complete Part I of Schedule L (Form 990 or 990-EZ).</i> | | |
| 9a Was the organization controlled directly or indirectly at any time during the tax year by one or more disqualified persons as defined in section 4946 (other than foundation managers and organizations described in section 509(a)(1) or (2))? <i>If "Yes," provide detail in Part VI.</i> | | |
| b Did one or more disqualified persons (as defined in line 9a) hold a controlling interest in any entity in which the supporting organization had an interest? <i>If "Yes," provide detail in Part VI.</i> | | |
| c Did a disqualified person (as defined in line 9a) have an ownership interest in, or derive any personal benefit from, assets in which the supporting organization also had an interest? <i>If "Yes," provide detail in Part VI.</i> | | |
| 10a Was the organization subject to the excess business holdings rules of section 4943 because of section 4943(f) (regarding certain Type II supporting organizations, and all Type III non-functionally integrated supporting organizations)? <i>If "Yes," answer 10b below.</i> | | |
| b Did the organization have any excess business holdings in the tax year? <i>(Use Schedule C, Form 4720, to determine whether the organization had excess business holdings.)</i> | | |

Part IV Supporting Organizations (continued)

| | Yes | No |
|--|------------|----|
| 11 Has the organization accepted a gift or contribution from any of the following persons? | | |
| a A person who directly or indirectly controls, either alone or together with persons described in (b) and (c) below, the governing body of a supported organization? | 11a | |
| b A family member of a person described in (a) above? | 11b | |
| c A 35% controlled entity of a person described in (a) or (b) above? <i>If "Yes" to a, b, or c, provide detail in Part VI.</i> | 11c | |

Section B. Type I Supporting Organizations

| | Yes | No |
|---|----------|----|
| 1 Did the directors, trustees, or membership of one or more supported organizations have the power to regularly appoint or elect at least a majority of the organization's directors or trustees at all times during the tax year? <i>If "No," describe in Part VI how the supported organization(s) effectively operated, supervised, or controlled the organization's activities. If the organization had more than one supported organization, describe how the powers to appoint and/or remove directors or trustees were allocated among the supported organizations and what conditions or restrictions, if any, applied to such powers during the tax year.</i> | 1 | |
| 2 Did the organization operate for the benefit of any supported organization other than the supported organization(s) that operated, supervised, or controlled the supporting organization? <i>If "Yes," explain in Part VI how providing such benefit carried out the purposes of the supported organization(s) that operated, supervised, or controlled the supporting organization.</i> | 2 | |

Section C. Type II Supporting Organizations

| | Yes | No |
|--|----------|----|
| 1 Were a majority of the organization's directors or trustees during the tax year also a majority of the directors or trustees of each of the organization's supported organization(s)? <i>If "No," describe in Part VI how control or management of the supporting organization was vested in the same persons that controlled or managed the supported organization(s).</i> | 1 | |

Section D. All Type III Supporting Organizations

| | Yes | No |
|---|----------|----|
| 1 Did the organization provide to each of its supported organizations, by the last day of the fifth month of the organization's tax year, (i) a written notice describing the type and amount of support provided during the prior tax year, (ii) a copy of the Form 990 that was most recently filed as of the date of notification, and (iii) copies of the organization's governing documents in effect on the date of notification, to the extent not previously provided? | 1 | |
| 2 Were any of the organization's officers, directors, or trustees either (i) appointed or elected by the supported organization(s) or (ii) serving on the governing body of a supported organization? <i>If "No," explain in Part VI how the organization maintained a close and continuous working relationship with the supported organization(s).</i> | 2 | |
| 3 By reason of the relationship described in (2), did the organization's supported organizations have a significant voice in the organization's investment policies and in directing the use of the organization's income or assets at all times during the tax year? <i>If "Yes," describe in Part VI the role the organization's supported organizations played in this regard.</i> | 3 | |

Section E. Type III Functionally Integrated Supporting Organizations

| | | | |
|---|-----------|-----|----|
| 1 Check the box next to the method that the organization used to satisfy the Integral Part Test during the year (see instructions). | | | |
| a <input type="checkbox"/> The organization satisfied the Activities Test. Complete line 2 below. | | | |
| b <input type="checkbox"/> The organization is the parent of each of its supported organizations. Complete line 3 below. | | | |
| c <input type="checkbox"/> The organization supported a governmental entity. Describe in Part VI how you supported a government entity (see instructions). | | | |
| 2 Activities Test. Answer (a) and (b) below. | | Yes | No |
| a Did substantially all of the organization's activities during the tax year directly further the exempt purposes of the supported organization(s) to which the organization was responsive? <i>If "Yes," then in Part VI identify those supported organizations and explain how these activities directly furthered their exempt purposes, how the organization was responsive to those supported organizations, and how the organization determined that these activities constituted substantially all of its activities.</i> | 2a | | |
| b Did the activities described in (a) constitute activities that, but for the organization's involvement, one or more of the organization's supported organization(s) would have been engaged in? <i>If "Yes," explain in Part VI the reasons for the organization's position that its supported organization(s) would have engaged in these activities but for the organization's involvement.</i> | 2b | | |
| 3 Parent of Supported Organizations. Answer (a) and (b) below. | | | |
| a Did the organization have the power to regularly appoint or elect a majority of the officers, directors, or trustees of each of the supported organizations? <i>Provide details in Part VI.</i> | 3a | | |
| b Did the organization exercise a substantial degree of direction over the policies, programs, and activities of each of its supported organizations? <i>If "Yes," describe in Part VI the role played by the organization in this regard.</i> | 3b | | |

Part V Type III Non-Functionally Integrated 509(a)(3) Supporting Organizations

- 1** Check here if the organization satisfied the Integral Part Test as a qualifying trust on Nov. 20, 1970 (explain in Part VI). **See instructions.** All other Type III non-functionally integrated supporting organizations must complete Sections A through E.

| Section A - Adjusted Net Income | | (A) Prior Year | (B) Current Year (optional) |
|---|-----------|----------------|-----------------------------|
| 1 Net short-term capital gain | 1 | | |
| 2 Recoveries of prior-year distributions | 2 | | |
| 3 Other gross income (see instructions) | 3 | | |
| 4 Add lines 1 through 3. | 4 | | |
| 5 Depreciation and depletion | 5 | | |
| 6 Portion of operating expenses paid or incurred for production or collection of gross income or for management, conservation, or maintenance of property held for production of income (see instructions) | 6 | | |
| 7 Other expenses (see instructions) | 7 | | |
| 8 Adjusted Net Income (subtract lines 5, 6, and 7 from line 4). | 8 | | |
| Section B - Minimum Asset Amount | | (A) Prior Year | (B) Current Year (optional) |
| 1 Aggregate fair market value of all non-exempt-use assets (see instructions for short tax year or assets held for part of year): | | | |
| a Average monthly value of securities | 1a | | |
| b Average monthly cash balances | 1b | | |
| c Fair market value of other non-exempt-use assets | 1c | | |
| d Total (add lines 1a, 1b, and 1c) | 1d | | |
| e Discount claimed for blockage or other factors (explain in detail in Part VI): | | | |
| 2 Acquisition indebtedness applicable to non-exempt-use assets | 2 | | |
| 3 Subtract line 2 from line 1d. | 3 | | |
| 4 Cash deemed held for exempt use. Enter 1-1/2% of line 3 (for greater amount, see instructions). | 4 | | |
| 5 Net value of non-exempt-use assets (subtract line 4 from line 3) | 5 | | |
| 6 Multiply line 5 by .035. | 6 | | |
| 7 Recoveries of prior-year distributions | 7 | | |
| 8 Minimum Asset Amount (add line 7 to line 6) | 8 | | |
| Section C - Distributable Amount | | | Current Year |
| 1 Adjusted net income for prior year (from Section A, line 8, Column A) | 1 | | |
| 2 Enter 85% of line 1. | 2 | | |
| 3 Minimum asset amount for prior year (from Section B, line 8, Column A) | 3 | | |
| 4 Enter greater of line 2 or line 3. | 4 | | |
| 5 Income tax imposed in prior year | 5 | | |
| 6 Distributable Amount. Subtract line 5 from line 4, unless subject to emergency temporary reduction (see instructions). | 6 | | |
| 7 <input type="checkbox"/> Check here if the current year is the organization's first as a non-functionally integrated Type III supporting organization (see instructions). | | | |

SCHEDULE D (Form 990)

Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service

Supplemental Financial Statements

Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11a, 11b, 11c, 11d, 11e, 11f, 12a, or 12b. Attach to Form 990.

Information about Schedule D (Form 990) and its instructions is at www.irs.gov/form990.

OMB No. 1545-0047

2016

Open to Public Inspection

Name of the organization: HIGHLANDS NATURE SANCTUARY INC; Employer identification number: 31-1434730

Part I Organizations Maintaining Donor Advised Funds or Other Similar Funds or Accounts. Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 6.

Table with 2 columns: (a) Donor advised funds, (b) Funds and other accounts. Rows 1-4 for values, 5-6 for Yes/No questions.

Part II Conservation Easements. Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 7.

Questions 1-9 regarding conservation easements, including a table for 'Held at the End of the Tax Year' with rows 2a-2d.

Part III Organizations Maintaining Collections of Art, Historical Treasures, or Other Similar Assets. Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 8.

Questions 1a-2 regarding art and historical treasures, including revenue and asset reporting.

Part III Organizations Maintaining Collections of Art, Historical Treasures, or Other Similar Assets *(continued)*

3 Using the organization's acquisition, accession, and other records, check any of the following that are a significant use of its collection items (check all that apply):

- a** Public exhibition
- b** Scholarly research
- c** Preservation for future generations
- d** Loan or exchange programs
- e** Other

4 Provide a description of the organization's collections and explain how they further the organization's exempt purpose in Part XIII.

5 During the year, did the organization solicit or receive donations of art, historical treasures, or other similar assets to be sold to raise funds rather than to be maintained as part of the organization's collection? **Yes** **No**

Part IV Escrow and Custodial Arrangements.

Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 9, or reported an amount on Form 990, Part X, line 21.

1a Is the organization an agent, trustee, custodian or other intermediary for contributions or other assets not included on Form 990, Part X? **Yes** **No**

b If "Yes," explain the arrangement in Part XIII and complete the following table:

| | Amount |
|---|--------|
| 1c Beginning balance | |
| 1d Additions during the year | |
| 1e Distributions during the year | |
| 1f Ending balance | |

2a Did the organization include an amount on Form 990, Part X, line 21, for escrow or custodial account liability? **Yes** **No**

b If "Yes," explain the arrangement in Part XIII. Check here if the explanation has been provided on Part XIII

Part V Endowment Funds.

Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 10.

| | (a) Current year | (b) Prior year | (c) Two years back | (d) Three years back | (e) Four years back |
|---|------------------|----------------|--------------------|----------------------|---------------------|
| 1a Beginning of year balance | | | | | |
| b Contributions | | | | | |
| c Net investment earnings, gains, and losses | | | | | |
| d Grants or scholarships | | | | | |
| e Other expenditures for facilities and programs | | | | | |
| f Administrative expenses | | | | | |
| g End of year balance | | | | | |

2 Provide the estimated percentage of the current year end balance (line 1g, column (a)) held as:

- a** Board designated or quasi-endowment ▶%
- b** Permanent endowment ▶%
- c** Temporarily restricted endowment ▶%

The percentages on lines 2a, 2b, and 2c should equal 100%.

3a Are there endowment funds not in the possession of the organization that are held and administered for the organization by:

- (i)** unrelated organizations
- (ii)** related organizations

| | Yes | No |
|---------------|-----|----|
| 3a(i) | | |
| 3a(ii) | | |
| 3b | | |

b If "Yes" on line 3a(ii), are the related organizations listed as required on Schedule R?

4 Describe in Part XIII the intended uses of the organization's endowment funds.

Part VI Land, Buildings, and Equipment.

Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 11a. See Form 990, Part X, line 10.

| Description of property | (a) Cost or other basis (investment) | (b) Cost or other basis (other) | (c) Accumulated depreciation | (d) Book value |
|--|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------|------------------------------|----------------|
| 1a Land | 0 | 12,466,546 | | 12,466,546 |
| b Buildings | 0 | 2,896,715 | 1,047,033 | 1,849,682 |
| c Leasehold improvements | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| d Equipment | 0 | 46,880 | 13,600 | 33,280 |
| e Other | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Total. Add lines 1a through 1e. (Column (d) must equal Form 990, Part X, column (B), line 10c.) | | | | 14,349,508 |

Part VII Investments—Other Securities.

Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 11b. See Form 990, Part X, line 12.

| (a) Description of security or category (including name of security) | (b) Book value | (c) Method of valuation: Cost or end-of-year market value |
|---|----------------|--|
| (1) Financial derivatives | | |
| (2) Closely-held equity interests | | |
| (3) Other _____ | | |
| (A) _____ | | |
| (B) _____ | | |
| (C) _____ | | |
| (D) _____ | | |
| (E) _____ | | |
| (F) _____ | | |
| (G) _____ | | |
| (H) _____ | | |
| Total. (Column (b) must equal Form 990, Part X, col. (B) line 12.) ► | | |

Part VIII Investments—Program Related.

Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 11c. See Form 990, Part X, line 13.

| (a) Description of investment | (b) Book value | (c) Method of valuation: Cost or end-of-year market value |
|---|----------------|--|
| (1) _____ | | |
| (2) _____ | | |
| (3) _____ | | |
| (4) _____ | | |
| (5) _____ | | |
| (6) _____ | | |
| (7) _____ | | |
| (8) _____ | | |
| (9) _____ | | |
| Total. (Column (b) must equal Form 990, Part X, col. (B) line 13.) ► | | |

Part IX Other Assets.

Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 11d. See Form 990, Part X, line 15.

| (a) Description | (b) Book value |
|---|----------------|
| (1) _____ | |
| (2) _____ | |
| (3) _____ | |
| (4) _____ | |
| (5) _____ | |
| (6) _____ | |
| (7) _____ | |
| (8) _____ | |
| (9) _____ | |
| Total. (Column (b) must equal Form 990, Part X, col. (B) line 15.) ► | |

Part X Other Liabilities.

Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 11e or 11f. See Form 990, Part X, line 25.

| 1. (a) Description of liability | (b) Book value | |
|---|----------------|--|
| (1) Federal income taxes | | |
| (2) _____ | | |
| (3) _____ | | |
| (4) _____ | | |
| (5) _____ | | |
| (6) _____ | | |
| (7) _____ | | |
| (8) _____ | | |
| (9) _____ | | |
| Total. (Column (b) must equal Form 990, Part X, col. (B) line 25.) ► | | |

2. Liability for uncertain tax positions. In Part XIII, provide the text of the footnote to the organization's financial statements that reports the organization's liability for uncertain tax positions under FIN 48 (ASC 740). Check here if the text of the footnote has been provided in Part XIII

Part XI Reconciliation of Revenue per Audited Financial Statements With Revenue per Return.

Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 12a.

| | | | | |
|----------|--|-----------|-----------|--|
| 1 | Total revenue, gains, and other support per audited financial statements | | 1 | |
| 2 | Amounts included on line 1 but not on Form 990, Part VIII, line 12: | | | |
| a | Net unrealized gains (losses) on investments | 2a | | |
| b | Donated services and use of facilities | 2b | | |
| c | Recoveries of prior year grants | 2c | | |
| d | Other (Describe in Part XIII.) | 2d | | |
| e | Add lines 2a through 2d | | 2e | |
| 3 | Subtract line 2e from line 1 | | 3 | |
| 4 | Amounts included on Form 990, Part VIII, line 12, but not on line 1: | | | |
| a | Investment expenses not included on Form 990, Part VIII, line 7b | 4a | | |
| b | Other (Describe in Part XIII.) | 4b | | |
| c | Add lines 4a and 4b | | 4c | |
| 5 | Total revenue. Add lines 3 and 4c . (This must equal Form 990, Part I, line 12.) | | 5 | |

Part XII Reconciliation of Expenses per Audited Financial Statements With Expenses per Return.

Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 12a.

| | | | | |
|----------|---|-----------|-----------|--|
| 1 | Total expenses and losses per audited financial statements | | 1 | |
| 2 | Amounts included on line 1 but not on Form 990, Part IX, line 25: | | | |
| a | Donated services and use of facilities | 2a | | |
| b | Prior year adjustments | 2b | | |
| c | Other losses | 2c | | |
| d | Other (Describe in Part XIII.) | 2d | | |
| e | Add lines 2a through 2d | | 2e | |
| 3 | Subtract line 2e from line 1 | | 3 | |
| 4 | Amounts included on Form 990, Part IX, line 25, but not on line 1: | | | |
| a | Investment expenses not included on Form 990, Part VIII, line 7b | 4a | | |
| b | Other (Describe in Part XIII.) | 4b | | |
| c | Add lines 4a and 4b | | 4c | |
| 5 | Total expenses. Add lines 3 and 4c . (This must equal Form 990, Part I, line 18.) | | 5 | |

Part XIII Supplemental Information.

Provide the descriptions required for Part II, lines 3, 5, and 9; Part III, lines 1a and 4; Part IV, lines 1b and 2b; Part V, line 4; Part X, line 2; Part XI, lines 2d and 4b; and Part XII, lines 2d and 4b. Also complete this part to provide any additional information.

Schedule D, Part II, Line 3 - During 2016, ownership of the 89.55 Junction Earthworks parcel, on which The Highlands Nature Sanctuary, Inc. held a conservation easement, was transferred from The Archaeological Conservancy to The Highlands Nature Sanctuary, Inc.

Schedule D, Part II, Line 9 - Conservation easements are reported on the balance sheet as an asset at FMV at the time of acquisition.

**SCHEDULE J
(Form 990)**

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

Name of the organization

Compensation Information

For certain Officers, Directors, Trustees, Key Employees, and Highest Compensated Employees

▶ Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 23.
▶ Attach to Form 990.

▶ Information about Schedule J (Form 990) and its instructions is at www.irs.gov/form990.

OMB No. 1545-0047

2016

Open to Public Inspection

HIGHLANDS NATURE SANCTUARY INC

Employer identification number

31-1434730

Part I Questions Regarding Compensation

1a Check the appropriate box(es) if the organization provided any of the following to or for a person listed on Form 990, Part VII, Section A, line 1a. Complete Part III to provide any relevant information regarding these items.

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> First-class or charter travel | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Housing allowance or residence for personal use |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Travel for companions | <input type="checkbox"/> Payments for business use of personal residence |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Tax indemnification and gross-up payments | <input type="checkbox"/> Health or social club dues or initiation fees |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Discretionary spending account | <input type="checkbox"/> Personal services (such as, maid, chauffeur, chef) |

b If any of the boxes on line 1a are checked, did the organization follow a written policy regarding payment or reimbursement or provision of all of the expenses described above? If "No," complete Part III to explain

2 Did the organization require substantiation prior to reimbursing or allowing expenses incurred by all directors, trustees, and officers, including the CEO/Executive Director, regarding the items checked on line 1a?

3 Indicate which, if any, of the following the filing organization used to establish the compensation of the organization's CEO/Executive Director. Check all that apply. Do not check any boxes for methods used by a related organization to establish compensation of the CEO/Executive Director, but explain in Part III.

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Compensation committee | <input type="checkbox"/> Written employment contract |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Independent compensation consultant | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Compensation survey or study |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Form 990 of other organizations | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Approval by the board or compensation committee |

4 During the year, did any person listed on Form 990, Part VII, Section A, line 1a, with respect to the filing organization or a related organization:

- a** Receive a severance payment or change-of-control payment?
- b** Participate in, or receive payment from, a supplemental nonqualified retirement plan?
- c** Participate in, or receive payment from, an equity-based compensation arrangement?
- If "Yes" to any of lines 4a–c, list the persons and provide the applicable amounts for each item in Part III.

Only section 501(c)(3), 501(c)(4), and 501(c)(29) organizations must complete lines 5–9.

5 For persons listed on Form 990, Part VII, Section A, line 1a, did the organization pay or accrue any compensation contingent on the revenues of:

- a** The organization?
- b** Any related organization?
- If "Yes" on line 5a or 5b, describe in Part III.

6 For persons listed on Form 990, Part VII, Section A, line 1a, did the organization pay or accrue any compensation contingent on the net earnings of:

- a** The organization?
- b** Any related organization?
- If "Yes" on line 6a or 6b, describe in Part III.

7 For persons listed on Form 990, Part VII, Section A, line 1a, did the organization provide any nonfixed payments not described on lines 5 and 6? If "Yes," describe in Part III

8 Were any amounts reported on Form 990, Part VII, paid or accrued pursuant to a contract that was subject to the initial contract exception described in Regulations section 53.4958-4(a)(3)? If "Yes," describe in Part III

9 If "Yes" on line 8, did the organization also follow the rebuttable presumption procedure described in Regulations section 53.4958-6(c)?

| | Yes | No |
|----|-----|----|
| 1a | ✓ | |
| 2 | ✓ | |
| 4a | ✓ | |
| 4b | | ✓ |
| 4c | | ✓ |
| 5a | | ✓ |
| 5b | | ✓ |
| 6a | | ✓ |
| 6b | | ✓ |
| 7 | | ✓ |
| 8 | | ✓ |
| 9 | | |

Part II Officers, Directors, Trustees, Key Employees, and Highest Compensated Employees. Use duplicate copies if additional space is needed.

For each individual whose compensation must be reported on Schedule J, report compensation from the organization on row (i) and from related organizations, described in the instructions, on row (ii). Do not list any individuals that aren't listed on Form 990, Part VII.

Note: The sum of columns (B)(i)–(iii) for each listed individual must equal the total amount of Form 990, Part VII, Section A, line 1a, applicable column (D) and (E) amounts for that individual.

| (A) Name and Title | | (B) Breakdown of W-2 and/or 1099-MISC compensation | | | (C) Retirement and other deferred compensation | (D) Nontaxable benefits | (E) Total of columns (B)(i)–(D) | (F) Compensation in column (B) reported as deferred on prior Form 990 |
|--------------------|------|--|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|-------------------------|---------------------------------|---|
| | | (i) Base compensation | (ii) Bonus & incentive compensation | (iii) Other reportable compensation | | | | |
| 1 | (i) | 59,500 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 59,500 | 0 |
| | (ii) | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2 | (i) | 12,000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 12,000 | 0 |
| | (ii) | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 3 | (i) | | | | | | | |
| | (ii) | | | | | | | |
| 4 | (i) | | | | | | | |
| | (ii) | | | | | | | |
| 5 | (i) | | | | | | | |
| | (ii) | | | | | | | |
| 6 | (i) | | | | | | | |
| | (ii) | | | | | | | |
| 7 | (i) | | | | | | | |
| | (ii) | | | | | | | |
| 8 | (i) | | | | | | | |
| | (ii) | | | | | | | |
| 9 | (i) | | | | | | | |
| | (ii) | | | | | | | |
| 10 | (i) | | | | | | | |
| | (ii) | | | | | | | |
| 11 | (i) | | | | | | | |
| | (ii) | | | | | | | |
| 12 | (i) | | | | | | | |
| | (ii) | | | | | | | |
| 13 | (i) | | | | | | | |
| | (ii) | | | | | | | |
| 14 | (i) | | | | | | | |
| | (ii) | | | | | | | |
| 15 | (i) | | | | | | | |
| | (ii) | | | | | | | |
| 16 | (i) | | | | | | | |
| | (ii) | | | | | | | |

Part III Supplemental Information

Provide the information, explanation, or descriptions required for Part I, lines 1a, 1b, 3, 4a, 4b, 4c, 5a, 5b, 6a, 6b, 7, and 8, and for Part II. Also complete this part for any additional information.

Schedule J, Part I, Line 1a - Nancy Stranahan, Director, paid below market annual rent totaling \$4,200 for a house which is owned and maintained by The Highlands Nature Sanctuary, Inc. It is situated on an adjacent nature preserve. Director residence in the house provides 24/7 access for emergency lodging issues and added security from unauthorized encroachment on surrounding preserve lands. Although not mandated, on-site residence of the Director is strongly encouraged by the Board and is not considered taxable compensation.

Schedule J, Part I, Line 3 - The Board of Trustees annually reviews the Director's performance and sets the annual compensation level after a review of similar organizational pay scales.

Schedule J, Part I, Line 4 - On June 1, 2010, the Board of Trustees entered into a ten year severance agreement with former Co-director, Larry Henry for which payments during 2016 totaled \$12,000.

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**SCHEDULE L
(Form 990 or 990-EZ)**

Transactions With Interested Persons

OMB No. 1545-0047

2016

Open To Public Inspection

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

▶ **Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 25a, 25b, 26, 27, 28a, 28b, or 28c, or Form 990-EZ, Part V, line 38a or 40b.**
▶ **Attach to Form 990 or Form 990-EZ.**
▶ **Information about Schedule L (Form 990 or 990-EZ) and its instructions is at www.irs.gov/form990.**

Name of the organization

HIGHLANDS NATURE SANCTUARY INC

Employer identification number

31-1434730

Part I Excess Benefit Transactions (section 501(c)(3), section 501(c)(4), and 501(c)(29) organizations only).
Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 25a or 25b, or Form 990-EZ, Part V, line 40b.

| 1 | (a) Name of disqualified person | (b) Relationship between disqualified person and organization | (c) Description of transaction | (d) Corrected? | |
|-----|---------------------------------|---|--------------------------------|----------------|----|
| | | | | Yes | No |
| (1) | | | | | |
| (2) | | | | | |
| (3) | | | | | |
| (4) | | | | | |
| (5) | | | | | |
| (6) | | | | | |

2 Enter the amount of tax incurred by the organization managers or disqualified persons during the year under section 4958. ▶ \$ _____

3 Enter the amount of tax, if any, on line 2, above, reimbursed by the organization. ▶ \$ _____

Part II Loans to and/or From Interested Persons.
Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990-EZ, Part V, line 38a or Form 990, Part IV, line 26; or if the organization reported an amount on Form 990, Part X, line 5, 6, or 22.

| (a) Name of interested person | (b) Relationship with organization | (c) Purpose of loan | (d) Loan to or from the organization? | | (e) Original principal amount | (f) Balance due | (g) In default? | | (h) Approved by board or committee? | | (i) Written agreement? | |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------------------------|------|-------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|----|-------------------------------------|----|------------------------|----|
| | | | To | From | | | Yes | No | Yes | No | Yes | No |
| (1) | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| (2) | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| (3) | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| (4) | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| (5) | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| (6) | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| (7) | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| (8) | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| (9) | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| (10) | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Total | | | | | | ▶ \$ _____ | | | | | | |

Part III Grants or Assistance Benefiting Interested Persons.
Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 27.

| (a) Name of interested person | (b) Relationship between interested person and the organization | (c) Amount of assistance | (d) Type of assistance | (e) Purpose of assistance |
|-------------------------------|---|--------------------------|------------------------|---------------------------|
| (1) | | | | |
| (2) | | | | |
| (3) | | | | |
| (4) | | | | |
| (5) | | | | |
| (6) | | | | |
| (7) | | | | |
| (8) | | | | |
| (9) | | | | |
| (10) | | | | |

Part IV Business Transactions Involving Interested Persons.

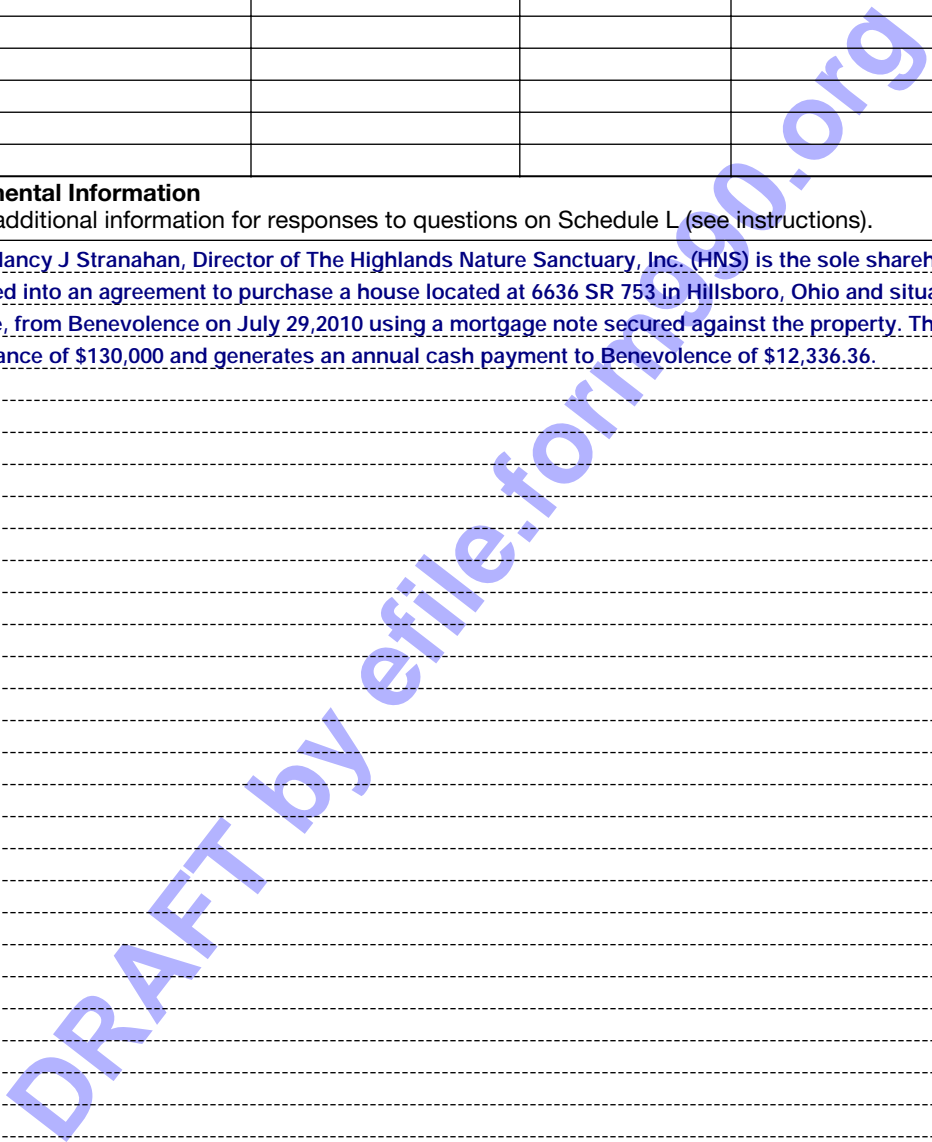
Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 28a, 28b, or 28c.

| | (a) Name of interested person | (b) Relationship between interested person and the organization | (c) Amount of transaction | (d) Description of transaction | (e) Sharing of organization's revenues? | |
|------|--------------------------------|---|---------------------------|--------------------------------|---|----|
| | | | | | Yes | No |
| (1) | Nancy J Stranahan, Benevolence | Director | 12,336 | See Part V | | ✓ |
| (2) | | | | | | |
| (3) | | | | | | |
| (4) | | | | | | |
| (5) | | | | | | |
| (6) | | | | | | |
| (7) | | | | | | |
| (8) | | | | | | |
| (9) | | | | | | |
| (10) | | | | | | |

Part V Supplemental Information

Provide additional information for responses to questions on Schedule L (see instructions).

Schedule L, Part IV - Nancy J Stranahan, Director of The Highlands Nature Sanctuary, Inc. (HNS) is the sole shareholder of Benevolence, an S Corp. HNS entered into an agreement to purchase a house located at 6636 SR 753 in Hillsboro, Ohio and situated adjacent to an existing HNS preserve, from Benevolence on July 29, 2010 using a mortgage note secured against the property. The 15 year, 5% note had an initial principal balance of \$130,000 and generates an annual cash payment to Benevolence of \$12,336.36.



**SCHEDULE M
(Form 990)**

Noncash Contributions

OMB No. 1545-0047

2016

**Open to Public
Inspection**

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

- ▶ **Complete if the organizations answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, lines 29 or 30.**
- ▶ **Attach to Form 990.**
- ▶ **Information about Schedule M (Form 990) and its instructions is at www.irs.gov/form990.**

Name of the organization

HIGHLANDS NATURE SANCTUARY INC

Employer identification number

31-1434730

Part I Types of Property

| | (a) Check if applicable | (b) Number of contributions or items contributed | (c) Noncash contribution amounts reported on Form 990, Part VIII, line 1g | (d) Method of determining noncash contribution amounts |
|--|----------------------------|---|--|---|
| 1 Art—Works of art | | | | |
| 2 Art—Historical treasures | | | | |
| 3 Art—Fractional interests | | | | |
| 4 Books and publications | | | | |
| 5 Clothing and household goods | | | | |
| 6 Cars and other vehicles | | | | |
| 7 Boats and planes | | | | |
| 8 Intellectual property | | | | |
| 9 Securities—Publicly traded | | | | |
| 10 Securities—Closely held stock | | | | |
| 11 Securities—Partnership, LLC, or trust interests | | | | |
| 12 Securities—Miscellaneous | | | | |
| 13 Qualified conservation contribution—Historic structures | | | | |
| 14 Qualified conservation contribution—Other | | | | |
| 15 Real estate—Residential | | | | |
| 16 Real estate—Commercial | | | | |
| 17 Real estate—Other | ✓ | 1 | 733,000 | See Part II |
| 18 Collectibles | | | | |
| 19 Food inventory | | | | |
| 20 Drugs and medical supplies | | | | |
| 21 Taxidermy | | | | |
| 22 Historical artifacts | | | | |
| 23 Scientific specimens | | | | |
| 24 Archeological artifacts | | | | |
| 25 Other ▶ (<u>Conservation Ease</u>) | ✓ | 1 | 0 | See Part II |
| 26 Other ▶ () | | | | |
| 27 Other ▶ () | | | | |
| 28 Other ▶ () | | | | |

29 Number of Forms 8283 received by the organization during the tax year for contributions for which the organization completed Form 8283, Part IV, Donee Acknowledgement **29** **0**

| | Yes | No |
|---|-----|----|
| 30a During the year, did the organization receive by contribution any property reported in Part I, lines 1 through 28, that it must hold for at least three years from the date of the initial contribution, and which isn't required to be used for exempt purposes for the entire holding period? | | ✓ |
| b If "Yes," describe the arrangement in Part II. | | |
| 31 Does the organization have a gift acceptance policy that requires the review of any nonstandard contributions? | ✓ | |
| 32a Does the organization hire or use third parties or related organizations to solicit, process, or sell noncash contributions? | | ✓ |
| b If "Yes," describe in Part II. | | |
| 33 If the organization didn't report an amount in column (c) for a type of property for which column (a) is checked, describe in Part II. | | |

Part II Supplemental Information. Provide the information required by Part I, lines 30b, 32b, and 33, and whether the organization is reporting in Part I, column (b), the number of contributions, the number of items received, or a combination of both. Also complete this part for any additional information.

Schedule M, Part I, Line 17 - Value of the donated property from the Barry N Wakeman Trust on 08/25/16 was determined by comparing the value of similar recent sales of land, houses and out building in the area. The donation included three houses and one barn on 18.9 acres located at 7240 and 7280 Cave Road in Highland county. No official appraisal was commissioned. The \$733,000 value appears as an in-kind donation on the financial statements.

Schedule M, Part I, Lines 25-28 - On 12/06/16, a conservation easement for a wet lands mitigation project on 219 acres at the Red Stone Farm in Hillsboro, Ohio was transferred to The Highlands Nature Sanctuary, Inc. No in-kind revenue was reported for this donation on the financial statements.

Schedule M, Part I, Line 33 - The Highlands Nature Sanctuary, Inc. does not report in-kind revenue on any gifts of land conservation easements.

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**SCHEDULE O
(Form 990 or 990-EZ)**

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

Supplemental Information to Form 990 or 990-EZ

Complete to provide information for responses to specific questions on
Form 990 or 990-EZ or to provide any additional information.

▶ Attach to Form 990 or 990-EZ.

▶ Information about Schedule O (Form 990 or 990-EZ) and its instructions is at www.irs.gov/form990.

OMB No. 1545-0047

2016

**Open to Public
Inspection**

Name of the organization

HIGHLANDS NATURE SANCTUARY INC

Employer identification number

31-1434730

Form 990, Part VI, Section B, Line 11b - The Form 990 was prepared by the Finance Director and reviewed by the Executive Director and Board Treasurer. A draft copy was then electronically disseminated to all Board members for review before the March 22nd Board meeting. Board comments or edits were communicated back to either the Executive Director or Finance Director and incorporated into the final documents if applicable. The Board voted for acceptance and submission of the Form 990 to the IRS during the March 22nd Board meeting.

Form 990, Part VI, Section B, Line 12c - During the first Board meeting of each calendar year and after a verbal discussion of the purpose and intent of the Conflict of Interest policy, each Board member is asked to complete and sign the written Conflict of Interest statement listing any possible past, current or future business dealings with the organization. The Board avoids doing business with any Board member.

Form 990, Part VI, Section B, Line 15 - The organization's Director and employees are modestly compensated and enjoy no fringe benefits other than those mandated by law. Full time staff are awarded holiday, sick and vacation leave according to the employment policy set by the Board. During 2016, the Executive Director's salary was determined by Board action after a full Board personnel evaluation and after a comparison review of salaries for similar positions. All other staff member salaries were set by the Executive Director and approved by the Board via the submission of the annual budget.

Form 990, Part VI, Section C, Line 19 - All governing documents, conflict of interest policy and financial statements are made readily available to anyone requesting such documentation. State registration documents are available on the Ohio Secretary of State's public website. Additional financial information can be obtained via the agency's own website and other public websites such as Guidestar.org.

Form 990, Part XI, Line 9 - Rounding errors

Activity Or Mission Description

Description

sanctuaries where people can connect with the natural world. We teach about our forest heritage to inspire a global conservation ethic. We honor, in our work and our teachings, our Native American legacies.

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First Program Service Accomplishments Description

Description

Rehabilitation and Correction and Alvis Halfway House located in Chillicothe, Ohio, facilitated the removal of invasive plants at the Junction Earthworks preserve. Additionally, selective mowing of a 20-acre Junction Earthworks field, revealed to the public the location of nine ancient earthwork foundations which remain intact beneath the earth's surface.

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