Form **990**

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

Return of Organization Exempt From Income Tax

Under section 501(c), 527, or 4947(a)(1) of the Internal Revenue Code (except black lung benefit trust or private foundation)

▶ The organization may have to use a copy of this return to satisfy state reporting requirements.

OMB No. 1545-0047

2011

Open to Public Inspection

A For the 2011 calendar year, or tax year beginning January 1, 2011, and ending December 31, 20 11

B Check if applicable:
- ☐ Address change
- ☐ Name change
- ☐ Initial return
- ☐ Terminated
- ☐ Amended return
- ☐ Application pending

C Name of organization: The Sierra Fund

Doing Business As

Number and street (or P.O. box if mail is not delivered to street address): 432 Broad Street | Room/suite

City or town, state or country, and ZIP + 4: Nevada City, CA 95959

D Employer identification number: 68-0485725

E Telephone number: 530-265-8454

G Gross receipts $ 1,002,205

F Name and address of principal officer: Elizabeth J. Martin, CEO

H(a) Is this a group return for affiliates? ☐ Yes ☑ No

H(b) Are all affiliates included? ☐ Yes ☐ No
If "No," attach a list. (see instructions)

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

J Website: ▶ www.sierrafund.org

H(c) Group exemption number ▶

K Form of organization: ☑ Corporation ☐ Trust ☐ Association ☐ Other ▶

L Year of formation: 2001

M State of legal domicile: CA

Part I Summary

Activities & Governance

1 Briefly describe the organization's mission or most significant activities: The Sierra Fund is a non-profit community foundation providing philanthropic stewardship and charitable services to support environmental conservation in the Sierra Nevada region. We partner with private donors and public agencies to increase and organize investment in the land, air water, and human resources of the Sierra Nevada.

2 Check this box ▶ ☐ 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	5
4	Number of independent voting members of the governing body (Part VI, line 1b)	4	5
5	Total number of individuals employed in calendar year 2011 (Part V, line 2a)	5	6
6	Total number of volunteers (estimate if necessary)	6	0
7a	Total unrelated business revenue from Part VIII, column (C), line 12	7a	0
b	Net unrelated business taxable income from Form 990-T, line 34	7b	

			Prior Year	Current Year
Revenue	8	Contributions and grants (Part VIII, line 1h)	731,788	996,586
	9	Program service revenue (Part VIII, line 2g)		
	10	Investment income (Part VIII, column (A), lines 3, 4, and 7d)	12,384	4,093
	11	Other revenue (Part VIII, column (A), lines 5, 6d, 8c, 9c, 10c, and 11e)	753	1,526
	12	Total revenue—add lines 8 through 11 (must equal Part VIII, column (A), line 12)	744,925	1,002,205
Expenses	13	Grants and similar amounts paid (Part IX, column (A), lines 1–3)	77,985	100,869
	14	Benefits paid to or for members (Part IX, column (A), line 4)		
	15	Salaries, other compensation, employee benefits (Part IX, column (A), lines 5–10)	379,620	301,720
	16a	Professional fundraising fees (Part IX, column (A), line 11e)		
	b	Total fundraising expenses (Part IX, column (D), line 25) ▶		
	17	Other expenses (Part IX, column (A), lines 11a–11d, 11f–24e)	413,844	592,984
	18	Total expenses. Add lines 13–17 (must equal Part IX, column (A), line 25)	871,449	995,573
	19	Revenue less expenses. Subtract line 18 from line 12	-126,524	6,632
			Beginning of Current Year	**End of Year**
Net Assets or Fund Balances	20	Total assets (Part X, line 16)	622,457	491,797
	21	Total liabilities (Part X, line 26)	165,000	27,707
	22	Net assets or fund balances. Subtract line 21 from line 20	457,457	464,090

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 | 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

For Paperwork Reduction Act Notice, see the separate instructions.

Cat. No. 11282Y

Form **990** (2011)

Part III **Statement of Program Service Accomplishments**

Check if Schedule O contains a response to any question in this Part III . . . . . ☑

1 Briefly describe the organization's mission:

The Sierra Fund is a non-profit community foundation providing philanthropic stewardship and charitable services to support environmental conservation in the Sierra Nevada region. We partner with private doors and public agencies to increase and organize investment in the land, air, water, and human resources of the Sierra Nevada.

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 and section 4947(a)(1) trusts 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 $ 227,552 including grants of $ 5,905) (Revenue $ 295,086)

Mining Project:

The Sierra Fund's "Mining Toxic Legacy Initiative" is aimed at increasing public awareness fo the ongoing impacts of a century and a half of gold mining in the Sierra Nevada. The Sierra Fund's Mining's Toxic Legacy Initiative has taken major steps in increasing coordination to address the ongoing impacts of abandoned mines in the Sierra including convening our Mining Toxins Working Group. Following the input of our long time "Gold Ribbon" advisory panel, this new collaborative structure in the last year has work to promote research, funding, and community involvement in our Initiative activities. In 2011 we also launched our "Humbug Creek Assessment Project" a demonstration project to assess and address impacts from California's largest abandoned hydraulic mine.

4b (Code:) (Expenses $ 79,331 including grants of $ 51,000) (Revenue $ 47,552)

Philanthropic Services: Donor Advised Funds

The Sierra Fund provides a philanthropic vehicle for donors committed to the Sierra Nevada. We have eight donor advised funds that provide funding to crucial efforts in the Sierra and beyond, and one memorial fund with a mission to further the values of one of our founding Board members. In 2011, grants and loans were made from our donor-advised funds supporting 27 exemplary efforts in the region and around the country.

4c (Code:) (Expenses $ 522,965 including grants of $) (Revenue $ 497,273)

Philanthropic Services: Deer Creek Tribute Trail

Another aspect of our philanthropic vehicle is the ability to provide pass through funding for projects such as the Deer Creek Tribute Trail. In 2011, The Sierra Fund completed Phase I of the Deer Creek Tribute Trail and Restoration Project, through working with community members to provide the bridge loans necessary to finance the up-front costs of the project. As the result of these efforts eight individuals and families stepped forward to provide short-term loans to help build the Tribute Trail. The Sierra Fund managed these loans, and the many partners in this collaborative effort to build a nine-mile trail in our community honoring the first peoples of the watershed, and the Chinese pioneers who came here during the Gold Rush. As a direct result of our efforts, the project was successfully completed, and a dedication ceremony held in June 2011.

4d Other program services (Describe in Schedule O.)
(Expenses $ 98,016 including grants of $ 18,114) (Revenue $ 16,498)

4e **Total program service expenses** ▶ 927,864

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)? *If "Yes," complete Schedule A*	1	✔	
2	Is the organization required to complete *Schedule B, Schedule of Contributors* (see instructions)?	2	✔	
3	Did the organization engage in direct or indirect political campaign activities on behalf of or in opposition to candidates for public office? *If "Yes," complete Schedule C, Part I*	3		✔
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? *If "Yes," complete Schedule C, Part II*	4		✔
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? *If "Yes," complete Schedule C, Part III*	5		✔
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? *If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part I*	6	✔	
7	Did the organization receive or hold a conservation easement, including easements to preserve open space, the environment, historic land areas, or historic structures? *If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part II*	7		✔
8	Did the organization maintain collections of works of art, historical treasures, or other similar assets? *If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part III*	8		✔
9	Did the organization report an amount in Part X, line 21; serve as a custodian for amounts not listed in Part X; or provide credit counseling, debt management, credit repair, or debt negotiation services? *If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part IV*	9		✔
10	Did the organization, directly or through a related organization, hold assets in temporarily restricted endowments, permanent endowments, or quasi-endowments? *If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part V*	10		✔
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? *If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part VI*	11a		✔
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? *If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part VII*	11b		✔
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? *If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part VIII*	11c		✔
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? *If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part IX*	11d		✔
e	Did the organization report an amount for other liabilities in Part X, line 25? *If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part X*	11e		✔
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)? *If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part X*	11f		✔
12 a	Did the organization obtain separate, independent audited financial statements for the tax year? *If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Parts XI, XII, and XIII*	12a		✔
b	Was the organization included in consolidated, independent audited financial statements for the tax year? *If "Yes," and if the organization answered "No" to line 12a, then completing Schedule D, Parts XI, XII, and XIII is optional*	12b		✔
13	Is the organization a school described in section 170(b)(1)(A)(ii)? *If "Yes," complete Schedule E*	13		✔
14 a	Did the organization maintain an office, employees, or agents outside of the United States?	14a		✔
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? *If "Yes," complete Schedule F, Parts I and IV*	14b		✔
15	Did the organization report on Part IX, column (A), line 3, more than $5,000 of grants or assistance to any organization or entity located outside the United States? *If "Yes," complete Schedule F, Parts II and IV*	15		✔
16	Did the organization report on Part IX, column (A), line 3, more than $5,000 of aggregate grants or assistance to individuals located outside the United States? *If "Yes," complete Schedule F, Parts III and IV*	16		✔
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? *If "Yes," complete Schedule G, Part I (see instructions)*	17		✔
18	Did the organization report more than $15,000 total of fundraising event gross income and contributions on Part VIII, lines 1c and 8a? *If "Yes," complete Schedule G, Part II*	18		✔
19	Did the organization report more than $15,000 of gross income from gaming activities on Part VIII, line 9a? *If "Yes," complete Schedule G, Part III*	19		✔
20 a	Did the organization operate one or more hospital facilities? *If "Yes," complete Schedule H*	20a		✔
b	If "Yes" to line 20a, did the organization attach a copy of its audited financial statements to this return?	20b		

Part IV **Checklist of Required Schedules** *(continued)*

			Yes	No
21	Did the organization report more than $5,000 of grants and other assistance to any government or organization in the United States on Part IX, column (A), line 1? *If "Yes," complete Schedule I, Parts I and II*	21	✔	
22	Did the organization report more than $5,000 of grants and other assistance to individuals in the United States on Part IX, column (A), line 2? *If "Yes," complete Schedule I, Parts I and III*	22	✔	
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? *If "Yes," complete Schedule J*	23		✔
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? *If "Yes," answer lines 24b through 24d and complete Schedule K. If "No," go to line 25*	24a		✔
b	Did the organization invest any proceeds of tax-exempt bonds beyond a temporary period exception?	24b		✔
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?	24c		✔
d	Did the organization act as an "on behalf of" issuer for bonds outstanding at any time during the year?	24d		✔
25a	**Section 501(c)(3) and 501(c)(4) organizations.** Did the organization engage in an excess benefit transaction with a disqualified person during the year? *If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part I*	25a		✔
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? *If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part I*	25b		
26	Was a loan to or by a current or former officer, director, trustee, key employee, highly compensated employee, or disqualified person outstanding as of the end of the organization's tax year? *If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part II*	26		✔
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? *If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part III*	27		✔
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? *If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part IV*	28a		✔
b	A family member of a current or former officer, director, trustee, or key employee? *If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part IV*	28b		✔
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? *If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part IV*	28c		✔
29	Did the organization receive more than $25,000 in non-cash contributions? *If "Yes," complete Schedule M*	29		✔
30	Did the organization receive contributions of art, historical treasures, or other similar assets, or qualified conservation contributions? *If "Yes," complete Schedule M*	30	✔	
31	Did the organization liquidate, terminate, or dissolve and cease operations? *If "Yes," complete Schedule N, Part I*	31		✔
32	Did the organization sell, exchange, dispose of, or transfer more than 25% of its net assets? *If "Yes," complete Schedule N, Part II*	32		✔
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? *If "Yes," complete Schedule R, Part I*	33		✔
34	Was the organization related to any tax-exempt or taxable entity? *If "Yes," complete Schedule R, Parts II, III, IV, and V, line 1*	34		✔
35a	Did the organization have a controlled entity within the meaning of section 512(b)(13)?	35a		✔
b	Did the organization receive any payment from or engage in any transaction with a controlled entity within the meaning of section 512(b)(13)? *If "Yes," complete Schedule R, Part V, line 2*	35b		✔
36	**Section 501(c)(3) organizations.** Did the organization make any transfers to an exempt non-charitable related organization? *If "Yes," complete Schedule R, Part V, line 2*	36		✔
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? *If "Yes," complete Schedule R, Part VI*	37		✔
38	Did the organization complete Schedule O and provide explanations in Schedule O for Part VI, lines 11 and 19? **Note.** All Form 990 filers are required to complete Schedule O	38	✔	

Part V Statements Regarding Other IRS Filings and Tax Compliance

Check if Schedule O contains a response to any question in this Part V . . . . . ☐

					Yes	No
1a	Enter the number reported in Box 3 of Form 1096. Enter -0- if not applicable	1a	6			
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	✔	
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	6			
b	If at least one is reported on line 2a, did the organization file all required federal employment tax returns?			2b	✔	
	Note. If the sum of lines 1a and 2a is greater than 250, you may be required to *e-file* (see instructions)					
3a	Did the organization have unrelated business gross income of $1,000 or more during the year?			3a		✔
b	If "Yes," has it filed a Form 990-T for this year? *If "No," provide an explanation in Schedule O*			3b		
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		✔
b	If "Yes," enter the name of the foreign country: ► ---------- See instructions for filing requirements for Form TD F 90-22.1, Report of Foreign Bank and Financial Accounts.					
5a	Was the organization a party to a prohibited tax shelter transaction at any time during the tax year?			5a		✔
b	Did any taxable party notify the organization that it was or is a party to a prohibited tax shelter transaction?			5b		
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?			6a		✔
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	✔	
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		✔
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		✔
f	Did the organization, during the year, pay premiums, directly or indirectly, on a personal benefit contract?			7f		✔
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 and section 509(a)(3) supporting organizations.** Did the supporting organization, or a donor advised fund maintained by a sponsoring organization, have excess business holdings at any time during the year?			8		✔
9	**Sponsoring organizations maintaining donor advised funds.**					
a	Did the organization make any taxable distributions under section 4966?			9a		✔
b	Did the 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?			13a		
	Note. See the instructions for additional information the organization must report on Schedule O.					
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		✔
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 to any question 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.	1a 5			
b	Enter the number of voting members included in line 1a, above, who are independent .	1b 5			
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?		2		✔
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? .		3		✔
4	Did the organization make any significant changes to its governing documents since the prior Form 990 was filed?		4		
5	Did the organization become aware during the year of a significant diversion of the organization's assets? .		5		✔
6	Did the organization have members or stockholders?		6		✔
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?		7a		✔
b	Are any governance decisions of the organization reserved to (or subject to approval by) members, stockholders, or persons other than the governing body?		7b		
8	Did the organization contemporaneously document the meetings held or written actions undertaken during the year by the following:				
a	The governing body?		8a	✔	
b	Each committee with authority to act on behalf of the governing body?		8b	✔	
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*		9		✔

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?	10a		✔
b	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?	10b		
11a	Has the organization provided a complete copy of this Form 990 to all members of its governing body before filing the form?	11a	✔	
b	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*	12a	✔	
b	Were officers, directors, or trustees, and key employees required to disclose annually interests that could give rise to conflicts?	12b	✔	
c	Did the organization regularly and consistently monitor and enforce compliance with the policy? *If "Yes," describe in Schedule O how this was done*	12c	✔	
13	Did the organization have a written whistleblower policy?	13	✔	
14	Did the organization have a written document retention and destruction policy?	14	✔	
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?			
a	The organization's CEO, Executive Director, or top management official	15a	✔	
b	Other officers or key employees of the organization	15b		
	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?	16a		✔
b	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?	16b		

Section C. Disclosure

17 List the states with which a copy of this Form 990 is required to be filed ▶ CA

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

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, physical address, and telephone number of the person who possesses the books and records of the organization: ▶ Emily Rivenes, 432 Broad Street, Nevada City, CA 95959; 530-265-8454 X12

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

Check if Schedule O contains a response to any question 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 (describe hours for related organizations in Schedule O)	(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			
(1) Patty Brissenden, Chair		✔								
(2) John Regan, Treasurer		✔								
(3) Alison Harvey, Secretary		✔								
(4) Esther Feldman		✔								
(5) Dr. Lisa Thompson		✔								
(6) Elizabeth J. Martin, CEO	40			✔				83,455		
(7)										
(8)										
(9)										
(10)										
(11)										
(12)										
(13)										
(14)										

Part VII **Section A. Officers, Directors, Trustees, Key Employees, and Highest Compensated Employees** *(continued)*

(A) Name and title	(B) Average hours per week (describe hours for related organizations in Schedule O)	(C) Position (do not check more than one box, unless person is both an officer and a director/trustee): Individual trustee or director	Institutional trustee	Officer	Key employee	Highest compensated employee	Former	(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
(15)										
(16)										
(17)										
(18)										
(19)										
(20)										
(21)										
(22)										
(23)										
(24)										
(25)										
1b Sub-total . . . . . ▶								83,455		
c Total from continuation sheets to Part VII, Section A . . . . . ▶										
d Total (add lines 1b and 1c) . . . . . ▶								83,455		

2 Total number of individuals (including but not limited to those listed above) who received more than $100,000 of reportable compensation from the organization ▶ 0

			Yes	No
3	Did the organization list any **former** officer, director, or trustee, key employee, or highest compensated employee on line 1a? *If "Yes," complete Schedule J for such individual*	3		✔
4	For any individual listed on line 1a, is the sum of reportable compensation and other compensation from the organization and related organizations greater than $150,000? *If "Yes," complete Schedule J for such individual*	4		✔
5	Did any person listed on line 1a receive or accrue compensation from any unrelated organization or individual for services rendered to the organization? *If "Yes," complete Schedule J for such person*	5		✔

Section B. Independent Contractors

1 Complete this table for your five highest compensated independent contractors that received more than $100,000 of compensation from the organization. Report compensation for the calendar year ending with or within the organization's tax year.

(A) Name and business address	(B) Description of services	(C) Compensation
American Rivers	Tribute Trail Contract	227,228
Erickson Construction	Tribute Trail Bridge Cont	151,151

2 Total number of independent contractors (including but not limited to those listed above) who received more than $100,000 of compensation from the organization ▶ 2

Part VIII Statement of Revenue

				(A) Total revenue	(B) Related or exempt function revenue	(C) Unrelated business revenue	(D) Revenue excluded from tax under sections 512, 513, or 514
Contributions, Gifts, Grants and Other Similar Amounts	1a	Federated campaigns	1a				
	b	Membership dues	1b				
	c	Fundraising events	1c	10,704			
	d	Related organizations	1d				
	e	Government grants (contributions)	1e	514,223			
	f	All other contributions, gifts, grants, and similar amounts not included above	1f	471,659			
	g	Noncash contributions included in lines 1a-1f: $					
	h	**Total.** Add lines 1a–1f ▶		996,586			
Program Service Revenue			Business Code				
	2a						
	b						
	c						
	d						
	e						
	f	All other program service revenue					
	g	**Total.** Add lines 2a–2f ▶					
Other Revenue	3	Investment income (including dividends, interest, and other similar amounts) ▶		4,093	4,093		
	4	Income from investment of tax-exempt bond proceeds ▶					
	5	Royalties ▶					
			(i) Real / (ii) Personal				
	6a	Gross rents					
	b	Less: rental expenses					
	c	Rental income or (loss)					
	d	Net rental income or (loss) ▶					
			(i) Securities / (ii) Other				
	7a	Gross amount from sales of assets other than inventory					
	b	Less: cost or other basis and sales expenses					
	c	Gain or (loss)					
	d	Net gain or (loss) ▶					
	8a	Gross income from fundraising events (not including $ ____ of contributions reported on line 1c). See Part IV, line 18	a				
	b	Less: direct expenses	b				
	c	Net income or (loss) from fundraising events ▶					
	9a	Gross income from gaming activities. See Part IV, line 19	a				
	b	Less: direct expenses	b				
	c	Net income or (loss) from gaming activities ▶					
	10a	Gross sales of inventory, less returns and allowances	a				
	b	Less: cost of goods sold	b				
	c	Net income or (loss) from sales of inventory ▶					
		Miscellaneous Revenue	Business Code				
	11a	Refunds		828	828		
	b	Misc.		698	698		
	c						
	d	All other revenue					
	e	**Total.** Add lines 11a–11d ▶		1,526			
	12	**Total revenue.** See instructions. ▶		1,002,205	1,002,205		

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) but are not required to complete columns (B), (C), and (D).

Check if Schedule O contains a response to any question 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 governments and organizations in the United States. See Part IV, line 21	93,369	93,369		
2 Grants and other assistance to individuals in the United States. See Part IV, line 22 . . .	7,500	7,500		
3 Grants and other assistance to governments, organizations, and individuals outside the United States. See Part IV, lines 15 and 16 . .				
4 Benefits paid to or for members				
5 Compensation of current officers, directors, trustees, and key employees	83,455	71,771	3,338	8,346
6 Compensation not included above, to disqualified persons (as defined under section 4958(f)(1)) and persons described in section 4958(c)(3)(B) . .				
7 Other salaries and wages	153,297	131,835	15,330	6,132
8 Pension plan accruals and contributions (include section 401(k) and 403(b) employer contributions)	14,700	12,622	1,490	588
9 Other employee benefits	29,512	25,380	2,952	1180
10 Payroll taxes	20,756	17,850	2,076	830
11 Fees for services (non-employees):				
a Management				
b Legal	4,000	4,000		
c Accounting	2,450		2,450	
d Lobbying				
e Professional fundraising services. See Part IV, line 17				
f Investment management fees				
g Other	512,746	512,746		
12 Advertising and promotion	7,312	731	731	5,850
13 Office expenses	11,065	2,214	7,744	1,107
14 Information technology	5,099	4,079	510	510
15 Royalties				
16 Occupancy	14,163	13,172	567	424
17 Travel	5,440	4,352		1,088
18 Payments of travel or entertainment expenses for any federal, state, or local public officials				
19 Conferences, conventions, and meetings .	12,367	8,657		3,710
20 Interest	6,581	6,581		
21 Payments to affiliates				
22 Depreciation, depletion, and amortization .				
23 Insurance	3,620	3,366	145	109
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 Bank Fees	109		109	
b Unrealized change value	7,639	7,639		
c Miscellaneous	393		393	
d				
e All other expenses				
25 **Total functional expenses.** Add lines 1 through 24e	995,573	927,864	37,835	29,874
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 ▶ ☐ if following SOP 98-2 (ASC 958-720)				

Part X Balance Sheet

			(A) Beginning of year		(B) End of year
Assets	1	Cash—non-interest-bearing	200,267	1	211,875
	2	Savings and temporary cash investments	65,012	2	31,735
	3	Pledges and grants receivable, net		3	
	4	Accounts receivable, net	157,635	4	52,260
	5	Receivables from current and former officers, directors, trustees, key employees, and highest compensated employees. Complete Part II of Schedule L		5	
	6	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)		6	
	7	Notes and loans receivable, net		7	
	8	Inventories for sale or use		8	
	9	Prepaid expenses and deferred charges		9	
	10a	Land, buildings, and equipment: cost or other basis. Complete Part VI of Schedule D — 10a			
	b	Less: accumulated depreciation — 10b		10c	
	11	Investments—publicly traded securities	199,543	11	195,927
	12	Investments—other securities. See Part IV, line 11		12	
	13	Investments—program-related. See Part IV, line 11		13	
	14	Intangible assets		14	
	15	Other assets. See Part IV, line 11		15	
	16	**Total assets.** Add lines 1 through 15 (must equal line 34)	622,457	16	491,797
Liabilities	17	Accounts payable and accrued expenses		17	12,707
	18	Grants payable		18	
	19	Deferred revenue		19	
	20	Tax-exempt bond liabilities		20	
	21	Escrow or custodial account liability. Complete Part IV of Schedule D		21	
	22	Payables to current and former officers, directors, trustees, key employees, highest compensated employees, and disqualified persons. Complete Part II of Schedule L		22	
	23	Secured mortgages and notes payable to unrelated third parties		23	
	24	Unsecured notes and loans payable to unrelated third parties	165,000	24	15,000
	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		25	
	26	**Total liabilities.** Add lines 17 through 25	165,000	26	27,707
Net Assets or Fund Balances		**Organizations that follow SFAS 117, check here ▶ ☐ and complete lines 27 through 29, and lines 33 and 34.**			
	27	Unrestricted net assets		27	
	28	Temporarily restricted net assets		28	
	29	Permanently restricted net assets		29	
		Organizations that do not follow SFAS 117, check here ▶ ☐ 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	457,457	32	464,090
	33	Total net assets or fund balances	457,457	33	464,090
	34	Total liabilities and net assets/fund balances	457,457	34	464,090

Part XI Reconciliation of Net Assets

Check if Schedule O contains a response to any question in this Part XI . . . . . ☐

1	Total revenue (must equal Part VIII, column (A), line 12)	1	1,002,205
2	Total expenses (must equal Part IX, column (A), line 25)	2	995,573
3	Revenue less expenses. Subtract line 2 from line 1	3	6,632
4	Net assets or fund balances at beginning of year (must equal Part X, line 33, column (A))	4	457,457
5	Other changes in net assets or fund balances (explain in Schedule O)	5	1
6	Net assets or fund balances at end of year. Combine lines 3, 4, and 5 (must equal Part X, line 33, column (B))	6	464,090

Part XII Financial Statements and Reporting

Check if Schedule O contains a response to any question in this Part XII . . . . . ☐

			Yes	No
1	Accounting method used to prepare the Form 990: ☐ Cash ☑ Accrual ☐ 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?	2a		✔
b	Were the organization's financial statements audited by an independent accountant?	2b		✔
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?	2c		
	If the organization changed either its oversight process or selection process during the tax year, explain in Schedule O.			
d	If "Yes" to line 2a or 2b, check a box below to indicate whether the financial statements for the year were issued on a separate basis, consolidated basis, or both: ☐ Separate basis ☐ Consolidated basis ☐ Both consolidated and separate basis			
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?	3a		✔
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	3b		