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SHORT TAX PERIOD DUE TO CHANGE IN FISCAL YEAR.

Form **990-EZ**

Department of the Treasury  
Internal Revenue Service

**Short Form  
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)

- Sponsoring organizations of donor advised funds, organizations that operate one or more hospital facilities, and certain controlling organizations as defined in section 512(b)(13) must file Form 990 (see instructions).
- All other organizations with gross receipts less than \$200,000 and total assets less than \$500,000 at the end of the year may use this form.
- The organization may have to use a copy of this return to satisfy state reporting requirements.

OMB No. 1545-1150

2010  
2010

Open to Public  
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**A For the 2010 calendar year, or tax year beginning 1 FEBRUARY 2011, 2010, and ending 31 JULY 2011**

**B Check if applicable:**  **C Name of organization:** Missouri River Bird Observatory  
**D Employer identification number:** 27-2746275  
 Address change  
 Name change  
 Initial return  
 Terminated  
 Amended return  
 Application pending  
**E Telephone number:** 660-886-8788  
**F Group Exemption Number:** ►

**G Accounting Method:**  Cash  Accrual **H Check ►**  if the organization is not required to attach Schedule B (Form 990, 990-EZ, or 990-PF).

**I Website:** ► **J Tax-exempt status (check only one):**  501(c)(3)  501(c)( ) (insert no.)  4947(a)(1) or  527

**K Check ►**  If the organization is not a section 509(a)(3) supporting organization and its gross receipts are normally not more than \$50,000. A Form 990-EZ or Form 990 return is not required though Form 990-N (e-postcard) may be required (see instructions). But if the organization chooses to file a return, be sure to file a complete return.

**L Add lines 5b, 6c, and 7b, to line 8 to determine gross receipts. If gross receipts are \$200,000 or more, or if total assets (Part II, line 25, column (B) below) are \$500,000 or more, file Form 990 instead of Form 990-EZ.** ► \$ 25405.30

**Part I Revenue, Expenses, and Changes in Net Assets or Fund Balances (see the instructions for Part I.)**  
Check if the organization used Schedule O to respond to any question in this Part I.

Revenue	1 Contributions, gifts, grants, and similar amounts received . . . . .	1	24485.30
	2 Program service revenue including government fees and contracts . . . . .	2	0
	3 Membership dues and assessments . . . . .	3	0
	4 Investment income . . . . .	4	0
	5a Gross amount from sale of assets other than inventory . . . . .	5a	0
	b Less: cost or other basis and sales expenses . . . . .	5b	0
	c Gain or (loss) from sale of assets other than inventory (Subtract line 5b from line 5a) . . . . .	5c	008.0
	6 Gaming and fundraising events		
	a Gross income from gaming (attach Schedule G if greater than \$15,000) . . . . .	6a	0
	b Gross income from fundraising events (not including \$ 0 of contributions from fundraising events reported on line 1) (attach Schedule G if the sum of such gross income and contributions exceeds \$15,000) . . . . .	6b	0
	c Less: direct expenses from gaming and fundraising events . . . . .	6c	0
	d Net income or (loss) from gaming and fundraising events (add lines 6a and 6b and subtract line 6c) . . . . .	6d	0
	7a Gross sales of inventory, less returns and allowances . . . . .	7a	0
	b Less: cost of goods sold . . . . .	7b	0
	c Gross profit or (loss) from sales of inventory (Subtract line 7b from line 7a) . . . . .	7c	0
	8 Other revenue (describe in Schedule O) . . . . .	8	740.00
	9 Total revenue. Add lines 1, 2, 3, 4, 5c, 6d, 7c, and 8 . . . . . ►	9	25405.30
Expenses	10 Grants and similar amounts paid (list in Schedule O) . . . . .	10	0
	11 Benefits paid to or for members . . . . .	11	0
	12 Salaries, other compensation, and employee benefits . . . . .	12	16785.83
	13 Professional fees and other payments to independent contractors . . . . .	13	0
	14 Occupancy, rent, utilities, and maintenance . . . . .	14	2379.07
	15 Printing, publications, postage, and shipping . . . . .	15	104.55
	16 Other expenses (describe in Schedule O) . . . . .	16	8949.62
Net Assets	17 Total expenses. Add lines 10 through 16 . . . . . ►	17	28219.07
	18 Excess or (deficit) for the year (Subtract line 17 from line 9) . . . . .	18	-2813.77
	19 Net assets or fund balances at beginning of year (from line 27, column (A)) (must agree with end-of-year figure reported on prior year's return) . . . . .	19	18077.91
	20 Other changes in net assets or fund balances (explain in Schedule O) . . . . .	20	
	21 Net assets or fund balances at end of year. Combine lines 18 through 20 . . . . . ►	21	15264.14

For Paperwork Reduction Act Notice, see the separate instructions.

Cat. No. 10642I

Form **990-EZ** (2010)

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26

**Part II Balance Sheets.** (see the instructions for Part II.)Check if the organization used Schedule O to respond to any question in this Part II 

	(A) Beginning of year	(B) End of year
22 Cash, savings, and investments	18077.91	22 15264.14
23 Land and buildings		23
24 Other assets (describe in Schedule O)		24
25 Total assets		25
26 Total liabilities (describe in Schedule O)		26
27 Net assets or fund balances (line 27 of column (B) must agree with line 21)	27	15264.14

**Part III Statement of Program Service Accomplishments** (see the instructions for Part III.)Check if the organization used Schedule O to respond to any question in this Part III What is the organization's primary exempt purpose? **Environmental/Wildlife Conservation**

Describe what was achieved in carrying out the organization's exempt purposes. In a clear and concise manner, describe the services provided, the number of persons benefited, and other relevant information for each program title.

28 Avian research and monitoring activities were conducted, resulting in >3000 migratory and breeding birds recorded in a variety of important habitats. These data are provided to land managers for use in conservation planning. (All activities performed by MRBO staff; no grants paid).		
(Grants \$ ) If this amount includes foreign grants, check here	► <input type="checkbox"/>	28a 18779.48
29 Wildlife and environmental education programs reached more than 1000 people of all ages. Programs included viewing wild birds-in-hand, discussions of animal life histories and habitat, and related activities to encourage critical thinking about environmental issues. (no grants paid out)		
(Grants \$ ) If this amount includes foreign grants, check here	► <input type="checkbox"/>	29a 9439.59
30		
(Grants \$ ) If this amount includes foreign grants, check here	► <input type="checkbox"/>	30a
31 Other program services (describe in Schedule O)		
(Grants \$ ) If this amount includes foreign grants, check here	► <input type="checkbox"/>	31a
32 Total program service expenses (add lines 28a through 31a)	► <input type="checkbox"/>	32 28219.07

**Part IV List of Officers, Directors, Trustees, and Key Employees.** List each one even if not compensated. (see the instructions for Part IV.)Check if the organization used Schedule O to respond to any question in this Part IV 

(a) Name and address	(b) Title and average hours per week devoted to position	(c) Compensation (if not paid, enter -0-)	(d) Contributions to employee benefit plans & deferred compensation	(e) Expense account and other allowances
Dana Ripper 27331 Highway WW, Marshall, MO 65340	Director. 70-80 hours/week	\$1000/month	0	0
Ethan Duke 27331 Highway WW, Marshall, MO 65340	Assistant Director. 70-80 hr	\$1500/month	0	0
Jim Niemann 30686 Randy Drive, Sedalia, MO 65301	Board Chairman	none	0	0
Seth Gallagher 230 Cherry Street, Fort Collins, CO 80521	Board Vice-Chair	none	0	0
Lynn Hodgens Schaffer 6 Ivy Lane, Lakewood, NY 14750	Board Secretary	none	0	0
P. Christopher Freeman 15368 LIV 2386, Chillicothe, MO 64601	Board Member	none	0	0
Michele Reinke 500 College Avenue, Marshall, MO 65340	Board Member	none	0	0
Diane Benedetti 1205 Stonebriar Court, Naperville, IL 60540	Board Member	none	0	0
Roxanne Stockdall 409 N. Magnolia, Green Ridge, MO 65332	Board Member	none	0	0

**Expenses**  
(Required for section 501(c)(3) and 501(c)(4) organizations and section 4947(a)(1) trusts; optional for others.)

**Part V Other Information (Note the statement requirements in the instructions for Part V.)**  
 Check if the organization used Schedule O to respond to any question in this Part V. 

	Yes	No
33 Did the organization engage in any activity not previously reported to the IRS? If "Yes," provide a detailed description of each activity in Schedule O	33	✓
34 Were any significant changes made to the organizing or governing documents? If "Yes," attach a conformed copy of the amended documents if they reflect a change to the organization's name. Otherwise, explain the change on Schedule O (see instructions)	34	✓
35 If the organization had income from business activities, such as those reported on lines 2, 6a, and 7a (among others), but not reported on Form 990-T, explain in Schedule O why the organization did not report the income on Form 990-T.		
a Did the organization have unrelated business gross income of \$1,000 or more or was it a section 501(c)(4), 501(c)(5), or 501(c)(6) organization subject to section 6033(e) notice, reporting, and proxy tax requirements?	35a	✓
b If "Yes," has it filed a tax return on Form 990-T for this year (see instructions)?	35b	
36 Did the organization undergo a liquidation, dissolution, termination, or significant disposition of net assets during the year? If "Yes," complete applicable parts of Schedule N	36	✓
37a Enter amount of political expenditures, direct or indirect, as described in the instructions. ► <input type="text" value="37a"/> 0	37a	0
b Did the organization file Form 1120-POL for this year?	37b	✓
38a Did the organization borrow from, or make any loans to, any officer, director, trustee, or key employee or were any such loans made in a prior year and still outstanding at the end of the tax year covered by this return?	38a	✓
b If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part II and enter the total amount involved	38b	
39 Section 501(c)(7) organizations. Enter:	39a	
a Initiation fees and capital contributions included on line 9	39a	
b Gross receipts, included on line 9, for public use of club facilities	39b	
40a Section 501(c)(3) organizations. Enter amount of tax imposed on the organization during the year under:		
section 4911 ► <input type="text" value="0"/> ; section 4912 ► <input type="text" value="0"/> ; section 4955 ► <input type="text" value="0"/>	40b	✓
b Section 501(c)(3) and 501(c)(4) organizations. Did the organization engage in any section 4958 excess benefit transaction during the year, or did it engage in an excess benefit transaction in a prior year that has not been reported on any of its prior Forms 990 or 990-EZ? If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part I		
c Section 501(c)(3) and 501(c)(4) organizations. Enter amount of tax imposed on organization managers or disqualified persons during the year under sections 4912, 4955, and 4958		
d Section 501(c)(3) and 501(c)(4) organizations. Enter amount of tax on line 40c reimbursed by the organization		
e All organizations. At any time during the tax year, was the organization a party to a prohibited tax shelter transaction? If "Yes," complete Form 8886-T.	40e	✓
41 List the states with which a copy of this return is filed. ►		
42a The organization's books are in care of ► <b>Dana Ripper</b> Telephone no. ► <b>660-886-8788</b> Located at ► <b>27331 Highway WW, Marshall, MO</b> ZIP + 4 ► <b>65340</b>		
b 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)?	42b	✓
If "Yes," enter the name of the foreign country: ► See the instructions for exceptions and filing requirements for Form TD F 90-22.1, Report of Foreign Bank and Financial Accounts.		
c At any time during the calendar year, did the organization maintain an office outside of the U.S.? If "Yes," enter the name of the foreign country: ►	42c	✓
43 Section 4947(a)(1) nonexempt charitable trusts filing Form 990-EZ in lieu of Form 1041—Check here and enter the amount of tax-exempt interest received or accrued during the tax year ► <input type="checkbox"/> 43		
44a Did the organization maintain any donor advised funds during the year? If "Yes," Form 990 must be completed instead of Form 990-EZ	44a	✓
b Did the organization operate one or more hospital facilities during the year? If "Yes," Form 990 must be completed instead of Form 990-EZ	44b	✓
c Did the organization receive any payments for indoor tanning services during the year?	44c	✓
d If "Yes" to line 44c, has the organization filed a Form 720 to report these payments? If "No," provide an explanation in Schedule O	44d	

		Yes	No
45	Is any related organization a controlled entity of the organization within the meaning of section 512(b)(13)?	45	✓
a	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," Form 990 and Schedule R may need to be completed instead of Form 990-EZ (see instructions).	45a	✓
46	Did the organization engage, directly or indirectly, in political campaign activities on behalf of or in opposition to candidates for public office? If "Yes," complete Schedule C, Part I.	46	✓

**Part VI** **Section 501(c)(3) organizations and section 4947(a)(1) nonexempt charitable trusts only.** All section 501(c)(3) organizations and section 4947(a)(1) nonexempt charitable trusts must answer questions 47-49b and 52, and complete the tables for lines 50 and 51.

Check if the organization used Schedule O to respond to any question in this Part VI

		Yes	No
47	Did the organization engage in lobbying activities? If "Yes," complete Schedule C, Part II.	47	✓
48	Is the organization a school as described in section 170(b)(1)(A)(ii)? If "Yes," complete Schedule E.	48	✓
49a	Did the organization make any transfers to an exempt non-charitable related organization?	49a	✓
b	If "Yes," was the related organization a section 527 organization?	49b	
50	Complete this table for the organization's five highest compensated employees (other than officers, directors, trustees and key employees) who each received more than \$100,000 of compensation from the organization. If there is none, enter "None."		

(a) Name and address of each employee paid more than \$100,000	(b) Title and average hours per week devoted to position	(c) Compensation	(d) Contributions to employee benefit plans & deferred compensation	(e) Expense account and other allowances
<b>NONE</b>				

f	Total number of other employees paid over \$100,000 ►
51	Complete this table for the organization's five highest compensated independent contractors who each received more than \$100,000 of compensation from the organization. If there is none, enter "None."

(a) Name and address of each independent contractor paid more than \$100,000	(b) Type of service	(c) Compensation
<b>NONE</b>		

d	Total number of other independent contractors each receiving over \$100,000 ►
52	Did the organization complete Schedule A? Note: All section 501(c)(3) organizations and 4947(a)(1) nonexempt charitable trusts must attach a completed Schedule A ► <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

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.

<b>Sign Here</b>	<b>Dana Ripper</b>		<i>Dana Ripper</i>	14 JAN 2012
	Signature of officer	Date		
	<b>Dana Ripper, Director</b>			
	Type or print name and title			
<b>Paid Preparer Use Only</b>	Print/Type preparer's name	Preparer's signature	Date	Check <input type="checkbox"/> if self-employed
	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

## 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. ► See separate instructions.

OMB No. 1545-0047

**2010**

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Name of the organization

Missouri River Bird Observatory. TAX PERIOD 1 FEB 2011 - 31 JULY 2011

Employer identification number

27-2746275

### 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 11, 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.)
- 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)(vi). (Complete Part II.)
- 9  An organization that normally receives: (1) more than 33 1/3% 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 33 1/3% 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.)
- 10  An organization organized and operated exclusively to test for public safety. See section 509(a)(4).
- 11  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 that describes the type of supporting organization and complete lines 11e through 11h.
  - a  Type I      b  Type II      c  Type III—Functionally integrated      d  Type III—Other
  - e  By checking this box, I certify that the organization is not controlled directly or indirectly by one or more disqualified persons other than foundation managers and other than one or more publicly supported organizations described in section 509(a)(1) or section 509(a)(2).
  - f If the organization received a written determination from the IRS that it is a Type I, Type II, or Type III supporting organization, check this box . . . . .
  - g Since August 17, 2006, has the organization accepted any gift or contribution from any of the following persons?
    - (i) A person who directly or indirectly controls, either alone or together with persons described in (ii) and (iii) below, the governing body of the supported organization? . . . . .
    - (ii) A family member of a person described in (i) above? . . . . .
    - (iii) A 35% controlled entity of a person described in (i) or (ii) above? . . . . .

	Yes	No
11g(i)		
11g(ii)		
11g(iii)		

h Provide the following information about the supported organization(s).

(i) Name of supported organization	(ii) EIN	(iii) Type of organization (described on lines 1-9 above or IRC section (see instructions))	(iv) Is the organization in col. (i) listed in your governing document?		(v) Did you notify the organization in col. (i) of your support?		(vi) Is the organization in col. (i) organized in the U.S.?		(vii) Amount of support
			Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	
(A)									
(B)									
(C)									
(D)									
(E)									
<b>Total</b>									

**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) 2006	(b) 2007	(c) 2008	(d) 2009	(e) 2010	(f) Total
1 Gifts, grants, contributions, and membership fees received. (Do not include any "unusual grants.") . . . . .					24465.30	24465.30
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 <b>Total.</b> 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 <b>Public support.</b> Subtract line 5 from line 4. . . . .						

**Section B. Total Support**

Calendar year (or fiscal year beginning in) ►	(a) 2006	(b) 2007	(c) 2008	(d) 2009	(e) 2010	(f) Total
7 Amounts from line 4 . . . . .					24465.30	24465.30
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 IV.) . . . . .						
11 <b>Total support.</b> Add lines 7 through 10 . . . . .						25405.30
12 Gross receipts from related activities, etc. (see instructions) . . . . .					12	740.00
13 <b>First five years.</b> 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>						

**Section C. Computation of Public Support Percentage**

14 Public support percentage for 2010 (line 6, column (f) divided by line 11, column (f)) . . . . .	14	%
15 Public support percentage from 2009 Schedule A, Part II, line 14 . . . . .	15	%
16a <b>33½% support test—2010.</b> If the organization did not check the box on line 13, and line 14 is 33½% or more, check this box and stop here. The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization . . . . . ► <input type="checkbox"/>		
b 33½% support test—2009. If the organization did not check a box on line 13 or 16a, and line 15 is 33½% or more, check this box and stop here. The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization . . . . . ► <input type="checkbox"/>		
17a <b>10%-facts-and-circumstances test—2010.</b> 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 IV how the organization meets the "facts-and-circumstances" test. The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization . . . . . ► <input type="checkbox"/>		
b <b>10%-facts-and-circumstances test—2009.</b> 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 IV how the organization meets the "facts-and-circumstances" test. The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization . . . . . ► <input type="checkbox"/>		
18 <b>Private foundation.</b> 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 9 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) 2006	(b) 2007	(c) 2008	(d) 2009	(e) 2010	(f) Total
1 Gifts, grants, contributions, and membership fees received. (Do not include any "unusual grants.")						
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 . . .						
3 Gross receipts from activities that are not an unrelated trade or business under section 513						
4 Tax revenues levied for the organization's benefit and either paid to or expended on its behalf . . .						
5 The value of services or facilities furnished by a governmental unit to the organization without charge . . .						
6 Total. Add lines 1 through 5 . . .						
7a Amounts included on lines 1, 2, and 3 received from disqualified persons .						
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						
c Add lines 7a and 7b . . .						
8 Public support (Subtract line 7c from line 6.) . . .						

**Section B. Total Support**

Calendar year (or fiscal year beginning in) ►	(a) 2006	(b) 2007	(c) 2008	(d) 2009	(e) 2010	(f) Total
9 Amounts from line 6 . . .						
10a Gross income from interest, dividends, payments received on securities loans, rents, royalties and income from similar sources .						
b Unrelated business taxable income (less section 511 taxes) from businesses acquired after June 30, 1975 . . .						
c Add lines 10a and 10b . . .						
11 Net income from unrelated business activities not included in line 10b, whether or not the business is regularly carried on						
12 Other income. Do not include gain or loss from the sale of capital assets (Explain in Part IV.) . . .						
13 Total support. (Add lines 9, 10c, 11, and 12.) . . .						
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 2010 (line 8, column (f) divided by line 13, column (f)) . . .	15	%
16 Public support percentage from 2009 Schedule A, Part III, line 15 . . .	16	%

**Section D. Computation of Investment Income Percentage**

17 Investment income percentage for 2010 (line 10c, column (f) divided by line 13, column (f)) . . .	17	%
18 Investment income percentage from 2009 Schedule A, Part III, line 17 . . .	18	%
19a 33½% support tests—2010. If the organization did not check the box on line 14, and line 15 is more than 33½%, and line 17 is not more than 33½%, check this box and stop here. The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization ► <input type="checkbox"/>		
b 33½% support tests—2009. If the organization did not check a box on line 14 or line 19a, and line 16 is more than 33½%, and line 18 is not more than 33½%, 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** **Supplemental Information.** Complete this part to provide the explanations required by Part II, line 10; Part II, line 17a or 17b; and Part III, line 12. Also complete this part for any additional information. (See instructions).

**Part II, line 12: \$740.00 was received from schools and families for whom we conducted education programs to cover some travel and materials expenses.**

## 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.

OMB No. 1545-0047

**2010**

Open to Public  
Inspection

Name of the organization

Missouri River Bird Observatory - for 1 FEBRUARY 2011 - 31 JULY 2011

Employer identification number

27-2746275

**THIS FILING REPRESENTS A SHORT TAX PERIOD DUE TO THE CHANGE IN THE MISSOURI RIVER BIRD OBSERVATORY'S FISCAL YEAR**

**FROM 31 JANUARY to 31 JULY. A 990-N e-postcard was filed for the period of 1 August 2010 - 31 January 2011. WITH THIS CURRENT  
FILING, THE ORGANIZATION SHOULD BE ON THE NEW FISCAL YEAR CYCLE OF 1 AUGUST - 31 JULY. Thank you.**

**Part I, line 8: \$ 740.00 was received from schools and families for whom we conducted education programs to cover some travel and  
materials costs.**

**Part I, line 16: Other Expenses detailed:**

**Travel costs for research and education programs: \$ 2540.23**

**Field Supplies for research programs: \$ 2666.68**

**Insurance - organizational liability and directors/officers coverage: \$ 1829.92**

**Professional meetings and trainings: \$ 892.96**

**Software and web development: \$ 511.00**

**Workshop for educators: \$ 351.00**

**Affiliation fees: \$ 114.00**

**Office supplies: \$ 43.83**

**Part V, line 34: The Board and Key Employees of the Missouri River Bird Observatory elected to change our Fiscal Year End to 31 July.**

**The Observatory also became an organization that accepts membership dues in the form of tax deductible donations. The revised By-Laws  
are attached with changes highlighted.**

**BYLAWS**  
**MISSOURI RIVER BIRD OBSERVATORY**  
**A Missouri Nonprofit Conservation Corporation**

*As approved by the Board of Directors 18 June 2010  
Amended by the Board of Directors 15 August 2011  
amendments highlighted in **bold underlined text***

**Article I –Name and Purpose**

**Section 1 – Name:** The name of the organization shall be the "The Missouri River Bird Observatory." It has incorporated under Missouri statutes for not-for-profit corporations.

**Section 2 – Purpose:** The purpose of the Missouri River Bird Observatory (MRBO) is to contribute to the conservation of Missouri's migratory and resident birds through scientific research, community outreach, and education. This entity will gather information about avian communities and habitat use that will assist state, federal, and private natural resource managers in their efforts to implement conservation programs. MRBO will also provide opportunities for Missouri students to learn about species and habitat conservation.

**Article II – Membership**

**Section 1 – Membership:** Voting Membership shall consist of the Board of Directors and the corporation Officers.

**Section 2 - Public Membership:** Beginning 1 August 2011, the general public may join MRBO as Student, Individual, Supporting, Contributing, or Steward Members. Public memberships do not include Directors meeting attendance or voting rights, but consist of a donation to MRBO. Members receive one MRBO gift appropriate to the donation level (i.e. a hat, mug, or t-shirt with MRBO logo), and the MRBO seasonal newsletter as member benefits.

**Article III – Board of Directors**

**Section 1 – Board role, size, and compensation:** The affairs of the corporation shall be managed, supervised, and controlled by a self-perpetuating board of directors consisting of not less than four (4) and not more than (10) persons. Board members receive no compensation for their services.

**Section 2 – Specific Powers:** The Board of Directors shall have the power to:

1. Appoint and remove, at the pleasure of the Board, all corporate officers, agents and employees; provide powers and duties for them as are consistent with the law, the articles of incorporation and these bylaws; and determine the compensation of all officers, agents, and employees.
  
2. Borrow money and incur indebtedness on the corporation's behalf and cause to be executed and delivered for the corporation's purposes, in the corporate name, promissory

notes, bonds, debentures, deeds of trust, mortgages, pledges, hypothecations and other evidences of debt.

**Section 3 – Meetings:** The annual meeting of the board of directors shall be held during the months of August or September, subsequent to the Fiscal Year End of 31 July.

All meetings of the board, regular or special, shall be held at the time and place within or without the State of Missouri as determined by the chairperson or, if not designated by the chairperson, then as determined by the board of directors. The annual meeting shall be held for the purpose of electing officers and directors and transacting other business as may come before the meeting. Special meetings of the board of directors may be called by or at the request of the chairperson, or in the absence of the chairperson, by the secretary, or any two directors. Members of the board of directors or of any committees designated by the board of directors may participate in a meeting of the board or committee by means of conference telephone or similar communications technology whereby all persons participating in the meeting can communicate with each other. Participation in a meeting in this manner shall constitute presence in person at the meeting.

Any action which is required to be or may be taken at a meeting of the directors, or of any committee of the directors, may be taken without a meeting if consents in writing set forth the action to be taken and are signed by all members of the board or of the committee as the case may be.

The consent shall have the same force as the effect of a unanimous vote at a meeting duly held and may be stated as such in any certificate or document. The secretary shall file the consents with the minutes of the meetings of the board of directors or of the committee as the case may be.

**Section 4 – Notice:** Notice of any annual or special meeting shall be given at least five days prior thereto by written notice delivered personally, via electronic mail with receipt confirmation, or mailed to each director at such director's business or home address. If mailed, such notices shall be deemed to be delivered when deposited in the United States mail in a sealed envelope so addressed with postage thereon prepaid. Any director may waive notice of any meeting. The attendance of a director at any meeting shall constitute a waiver of notice of such meeting except where a director attends a meeting for the express purpose of objecting to the transaction of any business because the meeting is not lawfully convened. Neither the business to be transacted, nor the purpose of any regular or special meeting of the board of directors needs to be specified in the notice or waiver of notice of such meeting.

**Section 5 – Quorum:** Two-thirds of the incumbent members of the board of directors shall constitute a quorum for the transacting of business at any meeting of the board of directors.

**Section 6 - Manner of Acting:** The act of the majority of the directors present at a meeting of the directors at which a quorum is present shall be the act of the board of directors unless a greater number is required under the Articles of Incorporation, these bylaws, or any applicable laws of the state of Missouri. The chairperson shall only cast a

vote pertaining to decisions made by the board of directors when a vote of the regular board members results in a tie. In such an instance the vote of the chairperson is required.

#### **Article IV -Terms and Election of Directors**

**Section 1 – Terms:** Each director shall be elected for a term of two (2) years, at an annual meeting of the board of directors. Vacancies occurring on the board of directors, including vacancies due to an increase in the number of directors, may be filled by the directors then in office. Any director may succeed himself/herself for up to five consecutive terms.

**Section 2 – Vacancies:** When vacancies occur, the board shall consider the following criteria for the selection of board members:

- a) Two-thirds (2/3) of board members shall be residents or affiliates of parties in the State of Missouri.
- b) The board of directors shall regularly seek the advice and counsel of the beneficiaries of all activities promoted by the Corporation with regard to board member selection.
- c) No more than 49% of the persons serving on the Board may be “interested persons”. An interested person is (a) any person compensated by the corporation for services rendered to it within the previous 12 months, whether as a full-time or part-time employee, independent contractor, or otherwise, and (b) any brother, sister, ancestor, descendant, spouse, domestic partner or person in a substantially similar relationship, brother-in-law, sister-in-law, son-in-law, daughter-in-law, mother-in- law or father-in-law of such person.

**Section 3 – Current Board of Directors (positions elected 4 February 2011; resignations and new appointments reflected 15 August 2011):** The members of the board of directors at the time of the passing of these bylaws shall be:

1) Jim Niemann, **Chairman of the Board**  
Alcan Cable  
30686 Randy Drive  
Sedalia, Missouri 65301

2) **Seth Gallagher, Vice-Chair of the Board**  
Rocky Mountain Bird Observatory  
230 Cherry Street  
Fort Collins, CO 80521

3) Lynn Hodgens Schaffer, **Secretary of the Board**  
Chautauqua County, New York District Attorney's Office  
6 Ivy Lane  
Lakewood, New York 14750

4) Chris Freeman, Board Member  
Missouri Department of Conservation

15368 LIV 2386  
Chillicothe, Missouri 64601

5) Michelle Reinke, Board Member  
Missouri Valley College  
500 College Avenue  
Marshall, Missouri 65340

6) Diane Benedetti, Business Advisor  
North American Fur Association  
1205 Stonebriar Court  
Naperville, Illinois 60564

**7) Roxanne Stockdall, Board Member**  
Missouri Master Naturalists – Hi-Lonesome Chapter  
409 N. Magnolia  
Green Ridge, Missouri 65332

### **Section 3 – Removal:**

The board of directors may, by resolution adopted by a majority of the directors, remove a fellow board member for just cause. If a board member is absent from three consecutive regular meetings of the board of directors, that board member may be removed by an action of the majority of the board members present at a regular or special meeting.

## **Article V – Officers of the Board**

### **Section 1 - Officers of the Board:**

- a) Officers: The officers of the Missouri River Bird Observatory Board of Directors shall be the Chairperson, Vice Chairperson, and Secretary/Treasurer.
- b) Term: Each officer shall take office at the January meeting and shall serve for a term of two years.
- c) Removal: Motions requesting the removal of an officer for not performing the duties of his/her office may only be entertained at a regular meeting. The proposed action must be included on the pre-meeting announcement agenda. Such action requires approval of two-thirds of the membership present at the meeting.
- d) Duties: The officers shall perform those duties customarily assigned to the offices held.

1) Chairperson -The chairperson shall preside at the meetings of the Missouri River Bird Observatory, shall make committee appointments, and shall otherwise be responsible for the conduct of the business of the organization.

2) Vice Chairperson -The vice chairperson shall assist the chairperson as may be requested by him/her, and shall perform the duties of the chairperson in his/her absence or in the event of his/her inability or refusal to act.

3) Secretary/Treasurer -The secretary/treasurer shall be responsible for keeping the minutes of the meetings of the corporation and distributing copies of these minutes to all current members at least a week prior to the next meeting. They shall see that all notices are duly given in accordance with the provisions of these bylaws; maintain a list of members; and in general, perform all duties incident to the office of secretary. They shall also be responsible for keeping and receiving records of all the funds of the Missouri River Bird Observatory; deposit such funds in a depository approved by the officers; and pay authorized expenses upon order of the officers.

**Section 2 - Past Chairperson:** The past chairperson shall serve as an ex-officio officer providing assistance to the chairperson and other officers until a transition has been completed.

#### **Article VI - Committees**

The board of directors, as necessary, may designate regular or special project committees, or such committees as designated by the chairperson.

- a) The Chairperson of a committee shall be a representative from the board of directors.
- b) The chairperson of the Missouri River Bird Observatory shall be an ex-officio member of all committees.
- c) Meetings of each committee may be called by its chairperson or by the chairperson of the Missouri River Bird Observatory on five days notice to the members of the committee. Committees shall meet as often as is necessary to conduct their business.
- d) All committees shall keep brief minutes of committee meetings and submit a summary of the minutes at regular board meetings.
- e) The action of a majority of the members present and voting at a committee meeting shall be the action of the committee.
- f) Each board member may be an active member of one or more committees.

#### **Article VII – Director and Staff**

**Section 1 — Executive Director:** The executive director has day-to-day responsibilities for the organization, including carrying out the organization's goals and policies. The executive director will attend all board meetings, report on the progress of the organization, answer questions of the board members and carry out the duties described in the job description. The board can designate other duties as necessary. The executive director may be removed from office for just cause by a two-thirds majority vote by the Board of Directors.

**Section 2 – Assistant Director:** The assistant director assists the executive director in carrying out the day-to-day activities of MRBO in accordance with the organization's goals and policies. The board can designate other duties as necessary. The assistant director may be removed from office for just cause by a two-thirds majority vote by the Board of Directors.

**Section 3 - Chief Financial Officer:** The chief financial officer shall: (i) keep and maintain, or cause to be kept and maintained, adequate and correct books and accounts of the corporation's properties and transactions, (ii) send or cause to be sent to the members and directors such financial statements and reports as are required to be given by law, by these bylaws or by the Board, (iii) deposit, or cause to be deposited, all money and other

valuables in the name and to the credit of the corporation with such depositories as the Board may designate, (iv) disburse the corporation's funds as the Board may order, (v) render to the executive director, chair of the Board and the Board when requested, an account of all transactions as chief financial officer and of the financial condition of the corporation and (vi) have such other powers and perform such other duties as the Board or the bylaws may require. The chief financial officer may be removed from office for just cause by a two-thirds majority vote by the Board of Directors.

The initial officers of the Missouri River Bird Observatory shall be:

**Executive Director:**

Dana Ripper  
27331 Highway WW  
Marshall, Missouri 65340

**Assistant Director:**

Ethan Duke  
27331 Highway WW  
Marshall, Missouri 65340

The executive director and assistant director shall share the duties of the chief financial officer until such time as the Missouri River Bird Observatory is financially capable of compensating an individual chosen by the board of directors to act as the chief financial officer.

**Article VIII - Insurance**

This corporation shall have the right, and shall use its best efforts, to purchase and maintain insurance to the full extent permitted by law on behalf of its officers, directors, employees and other agents, to cover any liability asserted against or incurred by any officer, director, employee or agent in such capacity or arising from the officer's, director's, employee's or agent's status as such.

**Article IX. Indemnification**

- a) To the fullest extent permitted by law, this corporation shall indemnify its directors, officers, employees and other persons as described in Missouri Code XXIII, Chapter 355 (Non-profit Corporation Law), Sections 355.471 and 355.476, including persons formerly occupying any such positions, against all expenses, judgments, fines, settlements, and other amounts actually and reasonably incurred by them in connection with any "proceeding" as that term is used in that section, and including any action by or in the right of the corporation, by reason of the fact that the person is or was a person described in that section.
- b) On written request to the Board by any person seeking indemnification under Missouri Code sections 355.471 and 355.476, the Board shall promptly decide under Missouri Code section 355.501 whether the applicable standard of conduct under Missouri Code sections 355.471 or 355.476 has been met and, and, if so, the Board shall authorize indemnification. If the Board cannot authorize indemnification because the number of directors who are parties to the proceeding with respect to which indemnification is

sought prevents the formation of a quorum of directors who are not parties to that proceeding, the Board shall promptly call a meeting of members. At that meeting, the members shall determine under Missouri Code section 355.501 whether the applicable standard of conduct has been met and, if so, the members present at the meeting in person or by proxy shall authorize indemnification.

#### **Article IX - Amendments**

These bylaws may be amended by a two-thirds majority vote of the members present and voting at any duly called meeting or special meeting of the corporation called for that purpose. Each proposed amendment shall be presented at a meeting prior to being voted upon and shall be printed in the minutes of that meeting.

#### **Article X - Parliamentary Authority**

- a) Robert's Rules of Order Revised shall govern the Missouri River Bird Observatory in all cases in which they are applicable and in which they are not in conflict with these bylaws.
- b) The above bylaws are hereby adopted and made immediately effective by affirmative vote by the undersigned directors this 18<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2010. **The above by-laws are amended by affirmative vote by the undersigned Directors this 15<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2011.**



*Jim Neimann*  
Jim Neimann, Board Chairman  
Purchasing Manager  
Alcan Cable



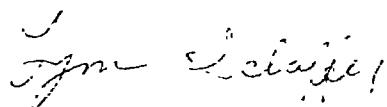
*Dana Ripper*  
Dana Ripper, Executive Director  
Avian Biologist  
Missouri River Bird Observatory



*Seth Gallagher*  
Seth Gallagher, Board Vice-Chair  
Stewardship Division Director  
Rocky Mountain Bird Observatory



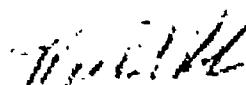
*Ethan Duke*  
Ethan Duke, Assistant Director  
Avian Biologist  
Missouri River Bird Observatory



*Lynn Hodgens-Schaffer*  
Lynn Hodgens-Schaffer, Board Secretary  
Assistant District Attorney  
Chautauqua County, New York



*Chris Freeman*  
Chris Freeman, Board Member  
Manager/Wildlife Biologist  
Missouri Department of Conservation



*Michelle Reinke*  
Michelle Reinke, Board Member  
Associate Professor of Biology  
Missouri Valley College



*Diane Benedetti*  
Diane Benedetti, Business Advisor  
International Marketing Director  
North American Fur Auctions



*Roxanne Stockdell*  
Roxanne Stockdell, Board Member  
Missouri Master Naturalist  
Hi-Lonesome Chapter MMN