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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 private foundations)

▶ **Do not enter social security numbers on this form as it may be made public.**
▶ **Information about Form 990-EZ and its instructions is at www.irs.gov/form990.**

OMB No 1545-1150

2016

Open to Public Inspection

A For the 2016 calendar year, or tax year beginning 01-01-2016 , and ending 12-31-2016

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

C Name of organization
MONTANA WATER RESOURCES ASSOCIATION

Number and street (or P O box, if mail is not delivered to street address) Room/suite
PO BOX 4927

City or town, state or province, country, and ZIP or foreign postal code
HELENA, MT 596044927

D Employer identification number
81-0340531

E Telephone number
(406) 235-4555

F Group Exemption Number ▶

G Accounting Method Cash Accrual Other (specify) ▶ _____

I Website: ▶ N/A

J Tax-exempt status (check only one) - 501(c)(3) 501(c)(4) ◀(insert no) 4947(a)(1) or 527

H Check if the organization is **not** required to attach Schedule B (Form 990, 990-EZ, or 990-PF)

K Form of organization Corporation Trust Association Other _____

L Add lines 5b, 6c, and 7b to line 9 to determine gross receipts If gross receipts are \$200,000 or more, or if total assets (Part II, column (B) below) are \$500,000 or more, file Form 990 instead of Form 990-EZ ▶ \$ 70,821

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	11,828
	2	Program service revenue including government fees and contracts	2	
	3	Membership dues and assessments	3	45,961
	4	Investment income	4	
	5a	Gross amount from sale of assets other than inventory	5a	
	b	Less cost or other basis and sales expenses	5b	
	5c	Gain or (loss) from sale of assets other than inventory (Subtract line 5b from line 5a)	5c	
	6	Gaming and fundraising events		
	a	Gross income from gaming (attach Schedule G if greater than \$15,000)	6a	
b	Gross income from fundraising events (not including \$ _____ 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	1,203	
c	Less direct expenses from gaming and fundraising events	6c		
d	Net income or (loss) from gaming and fundraising events (add lines 6a and 6b and subtract line 6c)	6d	1,203	
7a	Gross sales of inventory, less returns and allowances	7a		
b	Less cost of goods sold	7b		
7c	Gross profit or (loss) from sales of inventory (Subtract line 7b from line 7a)	7c		
8	Other revenue (describe in Schedule O)	8	11,829	
9	Total revenue. Add lines 1, 2, 3, 4, 5c, 6d, 7c, and 8 ▶	9	70,821	
Expenses	10	Grants and similar amounts paid (list in Schedule O)	10	
	11	Benefits paid to or for members	11	
	12	Salaries, other compensation, and employee benefits	12	40,000
	13	Professional fees and other payments to independent contractors	13	625
	14	Occupancy, rent, utilities, and maintenance	14	
	15	Printing, publications, postage, and shipping	15	557
	16	Other expenses (describe in Schedule O)	16	30,126
17	Total expenses. Add lines 10 through 16 ▶	17	71,308	
Net Assets	18	Excess or (deficit) for the year (Subtract line 17 from line 9)	18	-487
	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	2,010
	20	Other changes in net assets or fund balances (explain in Schedule O)	20	0
	21	Net assets or fund balances at end of year Combine lines 18 through 20	21	1,523

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	2,010	22 1,523
23 Land and buildings		23
24 Other assets (describe in Schedule O)		24
25 Total assets	2,010	25 1,523
26 Total liabilities (describe in Schedule O).	0	26 0
27 Net assets or fund balances (line 27 of column (B) must agree with line 21)	2,010	27 1,523

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

		Expenses
		(Required for section 501(c)(3) and 501(c)(4) organizations, optional for others)
What is the organization's primary exempt purpose? REPRESENT WATER USERS ON WATER ISSUES		
Describe the organization's program service accomplishments for each of its three largest program services, as measured by expenses. In a clear and concise manner, describe the services provided, the number of persons benefited, and other relevant information for each program title		
28 See Additional Data Table		
(Grants \$) If this amount includes foreign grants, check here <input type="checkbox"/>	28a	
29		
(Grants \$) If this amount includes foreign grants, check here <input type="checkbox"/>	29a	
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)	32	69,509

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 title	(b) Average hours per week devoted to position	(c) Reportable compensation (Forms W-2/1099-MISC) (if not paid, enter -0-)	(d) Health benefits, contributions to employee benefit plans, and deferred compensation	(e) Estimated amount of other compensation
BILL HRISTCO	0 25	0	0	0
DIRECTOR				
JENN PATRICK	0 25	0	0	0
PRESIDENT				
DENNIS MIOTKE	0 25	0	0	0
DIRECTOR				
DON STEINBEISSER	0 25	0	0	0
DIRECTOR				
GORDON WIND	0 25	0	0	0
DIRECTOR				
HOLLY FRANZ	0 50	0	0	0
DIRECTOR				
JAY THOM	0 25	0	0	0
DIRECTOR				
JOHN CROWLEY	0 25	0	0	0
FIRST VICE PRESIDENT				
SHARON FOSTER	1 00	0	0	0
TREASURER				
JAMES BROWER	0 25	0	0	0
SECOND VICE PRESIDENT				
LYNN RETTIG	0 25	0	0	0
DIRECTOR				
MICHAEL MURPHY	30 00	40,000	0	0
EXEC DIRECTOR/SECRETARY				

Part V Other Information (Note the Schedule A and personal benefit contract 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 significant activity not previously reported to the IRS? If "Yes," provide a detailed description of each activity in Schedule O		No
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)		No
35a	Did the organization have unrelated business gross income of \$1,000 or more during the year from business activities (such as those reported on lines 2, 6a, and 7a, among others)?		No
35b	If "Yes," to line 35a, has the organization filed a Form 990-T for the year? If "No," provide an explanation in Schedule O		
35c	Was the organization a section 501(c)(4), 501(c)(5), or 501(c)(6) organization subject to section 6033(e) notice, reporting, and proxy tax requirements during the year? If "Yes," complete Schedule C, Part III		No
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		No
37a	Enter amount of political expenditures, direct or indirect, as described in the instructions ▶ 37a 0		
37b	Did the organization file Form 1120-POL for this year?		
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?		No
38b	If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part II and enter the total amount involved		
39	Section 501(c)(7) organizations Enter		
39a	Initiation fees and capital contributions included on line 9		
39b	Gross receipts, included on line 9, for public use of club facilities		
40a	Section 501(c)(3) organizations Enter amount of tax imposed on the organization during the year under section 4911 ▶ _____, section 4912 ▶ _____, section 4955 ▶ _____		
40b	Section 501(c)(3), 501(c)(4), and 501(c)(29) 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		No
40c	Section 501(c)(3), 501(c)(4), and 501(c)(29) organizations Enter amount of tax imposed on organization managers or disqualified persons during the year under sections 4912, 4955, and 4958 ▶ _____ 0		
40d	Section 501(c)(3), 501(c)(4), and 501(c)(29) organizations Enter amount of tax on line 40c reimbursed by the organization ▶ _____ 0		
40e	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		No
41	List the states with which a copy of this return is filed ▶ _____		
42a	The organization's books are in care of ▶ SHARON FOSTER Telephone no ▶ (406) 442-3292 Located at ▶ 3840 NORTH MONTANA AVENUE HELENA, MT ZIP + 4 ▶ 59602		
42b	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)? If "Yes," enter the name of the foreign country ▶ _____		No
42c	See the instructions for exceptions and filing requirements for FinCEN Form 114, Report of Foreign Bank and Financial Accounts (FBAR) At any time during the calendar year, did the organization maintain an office outside the U S ? If "Yes," enter the name of the foreign country ▶ _____		No
43	Section 4947(a)(1) nonexempt charitable trusts filing Form 990-EZ in lieu of Form 1041 - Check here <input type="checkbox"/> and enter the amount of tax-exempt interest received or accrued during the tax year ▶ 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		No
44b	Did the organization operate one or more hospital facilities during the year? If "Yes," Form 990 must be completed instead of Form 990-EZ		No
44c	Did the organization receive any payments for indoor tanning services during the year?		No
44d	If "Yes," to line 44c, has the organization filed a Form 720 to report these payments? If "No," provide an explanation in Schedule O		
45a	Did the organization have a controlled entity within the meaning of section 512(b)(13)?		No
45b	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)		

	Yes	No
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	No

Part VI Section 501(c)(3) organizations only
 All section 501(c)(3) organizations 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 or have a section 501(h) election in effect during the tax year? 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 title of each employee	(b) Average hours per week devoted to position	(c) Reportable compensation (Forms W-2/1099-MISC)	(d) Health benefits, contributions to employee benefit plans, and deferred compensation	(e) Estimated amount of other compensation

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 business address of each independent contractor	(b) Type of service	(c) Compensation

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 must attach a completed Schedule A ▶ Yes 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.

***** Signature of officer	2017-05-12 Date
SHARON FOSTER, TREASURER Type or print name and title	

Paid Preparer Use Only	Print/Type preparer's name MEGHAN BRONEC CPA	Preparer's signature	Date 2017-05-12	Check <input type="checkbox"/> if self-employed	PTIN P00399092	
	Firm's name ▶ WIPFLI LLP			Firm's EIN ▶ 39-0758449		
	Firm's address ▶ PO BOX 1699 HELENA, MT 59624			Phone no (406) 442-5520		

May the IRS discuss this return with the preparer shown above? See instructions ▶ Yes No

Additional Data

Software ID:

Software Version:

EIN: 81-0340531

Name: MONTANA WATER RESOURCES ASSOCIATION

Form 990EZ, Part III - Statement of Program Service Accomplishments

Describe the organization's program service accomplishments for each of its three largest program services, as measured by expenses. In a clear and concise manner, describe the services provided, the number of persons benefited, and other relevant information for each program title.	Expenses (Required for section 501(c)(3) and 501(c)(4) organizations; optional for others.)	
28 INFORM MEMBERS OF WATER RESOURCE ISSUES THROUGH NEWSLETTERS (THE MONTANA WATERLINE), MEETINGS, ETC SERVING APPROXIMATELY 10,000 PEOPLE (Grants \$ 3,728) <p style="text-align: right;">If this amount includes foreign grants, check here . . . <input type="checkbox"/></p>	28a	32,850

Form 990EZ, Part III - Statement of Program Service Accomplishments

<p>Describe the organization's program service accomplishments for each of its three largest program services, as measured by expenses. In a clear and concise manner, describe the services provided, the number of persons benefited, and other relevant information for each program title.</p>	<p>Expenses (Required for section 501(c)(3) and 501(c)(4) organizations; optional for others.)</p>	
<p>29 FOLLOW & SHARE WATER RESOURCES ISSUES THROUGH MEMBERSHIP IN NATIONAL WATER RESOURCES ASSOCIATION (Grants \$ 0)</p> <p style="text-align: right;">If this amount includes foreign grants, check here . . . <input type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>29a</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">8,000</p>

Form 990EZ, Part III - Statement of Program Service Accomplishments

<p>Describe the organization's program service accomplishments for each of its three largest program services, as measured by expenses. In a clear and concise manner, describe the services provided, the number of persons benefited, and other relevant information for each program title.</p>	<p>Expenses (Required for section 501(c)(3) and 501(c)(4) organizations; optional for others.)</p>	
<p>30 REPRESENT WATER USERS ON VARIOUS AGRICULTURAL COMMITTEES FOR THE GOVERNOR, DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE & DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES (Grants \$ 0) If this amount includes foreign grants, check here . . . <input type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>30a</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">28,659</p>

**TY 2016 Transfers Personal Benefits
Contracts Declaration**

Name: MONTANA WATER RESOURCES ASSOCIATION

EIN: 81-0340531

Declaration: THE ORGANIZATION DID NOT, DURING THE YEAR, RECEIVE ANY FUNDS, DIRECTLY, OR INDIRECTLY, TO PAY PREMIUMS ON A PERSONAL BENEFIT CONTRACT. THE ORGANIZATION, DID NOT, DURING THE YEAR, PAY ANY PREMIUMS, DIRECTLY, OR INDIRECTLY, ON A PERSONAL BENEFIT CONTRACT.

SCHEDULE O
(Form 990 or 990-EZ)

Supplemental Information to Form 990 or 990-EZ

OMB No 1545-0047

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

▶ Attach to Form 990 or 990-EZ.

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

2016

Open to Public Inspection

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

Name of the organization

MONTANA WATER RESOURCES ASSOCIATION

Employer identification number

81-0340531

990 Schedule O, Supplemental Information

Return Reference	Explanation
FORM 990-EZ, PART I, LINE 8 - OTHER REVENUE	DESCRIPTION MISCELLANEOUS INCOME AMOUNT 555 DESCRIPTION CONVENTION INCOME AMOUNT 10,074 DESCRIPTION ADVERTISING INCOME AMOUNT 1,200 TOTAL TO FORM 990-EZ, LINE 8 11,829

990 Schedule O, Supplemental Information

Return Reference	Explanation
FORM 990-EZ, PART I, LINE 16 - OTHER EXPENSES	DESCRIPTION OFFICE SUPPLIES AMOUNT 862 DESCRIPTION TELEPHONE AMOUNT 600 DESCRIPTION DUES & SUBSCRIPTIONS AMOUNT 2,262 DESCRIPTION LOBBYING AMOUNT 150 DESCRIPTION PAYROLL TAXES AMOUNT 3,521 DESCRIPTION CONVENTION EXPENSE AMOUNT 5,924 DESCRIPTION BANK CHARGES AMOUNT 260 DESCRIPTION TRAVEL AMOUNT 3,235 DESCRIPTION PROMOTION AMOUNT 1,083 DESCRIPTION NWRA NATIONAL DUES AMOUNT 8,000 DESCRIPTION MILEAGE REIMBURSEMENT AMOUNT 2,430 DESCRIPTION MISCELLANEOUS AMOUNT 799 DESCRIPTION SCHOLARSHIP EXPENSE AMOUNT 1,000 TOTAL TO FORM 990-EZ, LINE 16 30,126