

## Return of Organization Exempt From Income Tax

OMB No. 1545-0047

Department of the Treasury  
Internal Revenue Service

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.
- Go to [www.irs.gov/Form990](http://www.irs.gov/Form990) for instructions and the latest information.

2017

Open to Public  
Inspection

2949316002022

8

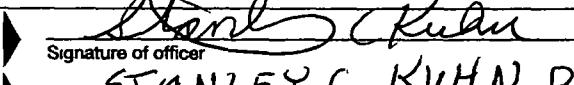
<b>A For the 2017 calendar year, or tax year beginning</b>		<b>, 2017, and ending</b>	
<b>B Check if applicable:</b>		<b>C Name of organization</b> FRIENDS OF NEAL SMITH NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE	
<input type="checkbox"/> Address change		<b>D Employer identification number</b> 42-1417678	
<input type="checkbox"/> Name change		<b>E Telephone number</b> 515-994-3400	
<input type="checkbox"/> Initial return			
<input type="checkbox"/> Final return/terminated			
<input type="checkbox"/> Amended return			
<input type="checkbox"/> Application pending		<b>F Name and address of principal officer:</b> JOAN VAN GORP, PRESIDENT, PRAIRIE CITY, IA 50228	
		<b>H(a) Is this a group return for subordinates?</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	
		<b>H(b) Are all subordinates included?</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
		If "No," attach a list. (see instructions)	
<b>I Tax-exempt status:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 501(c)(3) <input type="checkbox"/> 501(c) ( ) (insert no.) <input type="checkbox"/> 4947(a)(1) or <input type="checkbox"/> 527		<b>J Website:</b> ► <a href="http://WWW.TALLGRASS.ORG">WWW.TALLGRASS.ORG</a>	
<b>K Form of organization:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Corporation <input type="checkbox"/> Trust <input type="checkbox"/> Association <input type="checkbox"/> Other ►		<b>L Year of formation:</b> 1994	
		<b>M State of legal domicile:</b> IA	

**Part I Summary**

<b>Activities &amp; Governance</b>	1 Briefly describe the organization's mission or most significant activities: SUPPORT PROGRAMS AND EVENTS AT THE NEAL SMITH NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE. THIS INCLUDES OPERATING THE NATURE (BOOK) STORE, SUPPORTING K-12 EDUCATION COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIPS RELATED TO NATURAL RESOURCES AND SPECIAL EVENTS	RECEIVED	
	2 Check this box ► <input type="checkbox"/> if the organization discontinued its operations or disposed of more than 25% of its net assets.	3	8
	3 Number of voting members of the governing body (Part VI, line 1a)	4	8
	4 Number of independent voting members of the governing body (Part VI, line 1b)	5	8
	5 Total number of individuals employed in calendar year 2017 (Part V, line 2a)	6	200
	6 Total number of volunteers (estimate if necessary)	7a	
	7a Total unrelated business revenue from Part VIII, column (C), line 12	7b	
	b Net unrelated business taxable income from Form 990-T, line 34		
<b>Revenue</b>	8 Contributions and grants (Part VIII, line 1h)	Prior Year	Current Year
	9 Program service revenue (Part VIII, line 2g)	40,807	60,008.77
	10 Investment income (Part VIII, column (A), lines 3, 4, and 7d)	23,451	30,121.50
	11 Other revenue (Part VIII, column (A), lines 5, 6d, 8c, 9c, 10c, and 11e)	42,198	34,158.90
	12 Total revenue—add lines 8 through 11 (must equal Part VIII, column (A), line 12)	106,456	212,620.62
	13 Grants and similar amounts paid (Part IX, column (A), lines 1-3)	50,770	52,050.00
	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)		
	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)	133,505	183,682.48
	18 Total expenses. Add lines 13-17 (must equal Part IX, column (A), line 25)	184,275	235,732.48
19 Revenue less expenses. Subtract line 18 from line 12	(77,819)	(23,111.86)	
<b>Expenses</b>	Beginning of Current Year	End of Year	
	20 Total assets (Part X, line 16)	2,453,356	2,556,353.32
	21 Total liabilities (Part X, line 26)	0	0
	22 Net assets or fund balances. Subtract line 21 from line 20	2,453,356	2,556,353.32

**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.

<b>Sign Here</b>	<b>Signature of officer</b> 	<b>Date</b> 5/11/2018
	<b>Type or print name and title</b> STANLEY C. KUHN, BOARD TREASURER	

<b>Paid Preparer Use Only</b>	<b>Print/Type preparer's name</b>	<b>Preparer's signature</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Check <input type="checkbox"/> if self-employed</b>	<b>PTIN</b>
	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 (2017)

**Part III Statement of Program Service Accomplishments**Check if Schedule O contains a response or note to any line in this Part III 

1 Briefly describe the organization's mission:  
COOPERATE WITH THE USFWS BY INCREASING PUBLIC AWARENESS, APPRECIATION AND SUPPORT OF THE NEAL SMITH NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE. THIS INCLUDES OPERATION OF THE NATURE (BOOK) STORE, NATURAL RESOURCE RELATED SCHOLARSHIPS AND FACILITATING EXPANSION OF THE REFUGE IN COOPERATION WITH THE USFWS AND THE IOWA NATURAL HERITAGE FOUNDATION (INHF).

2 Did the organization undertake any significant program services during the year which were not listed on the prior Form 990 or 990-EZ?  Yes  No  
If "Yes," describe these new services on Schedule O.

3 Did the organization cease conducting, or make significant changes in how it conducts, any program services?  Yes  No  
If "Yes," describe these changes on Schedule O.

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

4a (Code: \_\_\_\_\_) (Expenses \$ 79,000 including grants of \$ \_\_\_\_\_) (Revenue \$ \_\_\_\_\_)  
THE FRIENDS LOANED AN ADDITIONAL \$79,000 TO THE IOWA NATURAL HERITAGE FOUNDATION (INHF) FOR THE PURCHASE OF A 47 ACRE IN-HOLDING AT THE REFUGE. THIS IS IN ADDITION TO A \$81,000 LOAN IN 2015 AND \$79,000 IN 2016 FOR THE SAME PROJECT. AN ADDITIONAL LOAN IN 2018 FOR \$79,000 WILL ENABLE THE INHF TO COMPLETE THE PURCHASE. UPON EXPECT SALE TO THE USFWS PROCEEDS, LESS COSTS INCURRED, WILL BE USED TO RETIRE THE LOAN. THIS IS LESS THAN AN "ARMS LEI TRANSACTION AS BOTH THE INHF AND THE FRIENDS SHARE AN OBJECTIVE OF FACILITATING THE SALE OF PRIVATE LAND IN-HOLDINGS AT THE REFUGE FROM WILLING SELLERS TO THE USFWS.

4b (Code: \_\_\_\_\_) (Expenses \$ 57,202.45 including grants of \$ 57,202.45) (Revenue \$ \_\_\_\_\_)  
THE FRIENDS RECEIVED A GRANT FROM THE NATIONAL FISH AND WILDLIFE FOUNDATION WHICH SUPPORTS A NATURAL RESOURCE OUTREACH PROGRAM TO OTHER ENTITIES IN THE SURROUNDING AREA. THIS INCLUDES SUPPORT OF PROFESSIONAL STAFF AND PRAIRIE SEED PURCHASES. THE PROJECT IS EXPECTED TO CONTINUE WITH ADDITIONAL SUPPORT IN 2018 AND 2019.

4c (Code: \_\_\_\_\_) (Expenses \$ 50,605 including grants of \$ \_\_\_\_\_) (Revenue \$ \_\_\_\_\_)  
THE FRIENDS SUPPORT COLLEGE STUDENT INTERNS WHO CONTRIBUTE SERVICES AS VOLUNTEERS AT THE PRAIRIE. THESE SERVICES ARE RELATED TO THEIR DEGREE OBJECTIVES AND INVOLVE ENVIRONMENTAL RESEARCH PROJECTS, COORDINATING PUBLIC EVENTS, AND ASSISTING WITH REFUGE OPERATIONS

4d Other program services (Describe in Schedule O.)  
(Expenses \$ 42,036.60 including grants of \$ 2,000.00) (Revenue \$ \_\_\_\_\_)

4e Total program service expenses ►

## 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	✓	
2 Is the organization required to complete Schedule B, Schedule of Contributors (see instructions)?	✓	
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	✓	
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	✓	
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	✓	
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	✓	
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	✓	
8 Did the organization maintain collections of works of art, historical treasures, or other similar assets? If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part III	✓	
9 Did the organization report an amount in Part X, line 21, for escrow or custodial account liability, serve as a custodian for amounts not listed in Part X; or provide credit counseling, debt management, credit repair, or debt negotiation services? If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part IV	✓	
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	✓	
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	✓	
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	✓	
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	✓	
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	✓	
e Did the organization report an amount for other liabilities in Part X, line 25? If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part X		
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		
12 a Did the organization obtain separate, independent audited financial statements for the tax year? If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Parts XI and XII	✓	
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 and XII is optional		
13 Is the organization a school described in section 170(b)(1)(A)(ii)? If "Yes," complete Schedule E	✓	
14 a Did the organization maintain an office, employees, or agents outside of the United States?	✓	
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	✓	
15 Did the organization report on Part IX, column (A), line 3, more than \$5,000 of grants or other assistance to or for any foreign organization? If "Yes," complete Schedule F, Parts II and IV	✓	
16 Did the organization report on Part IX, column (A), line 3, more than \$5,000 of aggregate grants or other assistance to or for foreign individuals? If "Yes," complete Schedule F, Parts III and IV	✓	
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)	✓	
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	✓	
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	✓	

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

		Yes	No
20a	Did the organization operate one or more hospital facilities? If "Yes," complete Schedule H.	✓	
20b	If "Yes" to line 20a, did the organization attach a copy of its audited financial statements to this return?		
21	Did the organization report more than \$5,000 of grants or other assistance to any domestic organization or domestic government on Part IX, column (A), line 1? If "Yes," complete Schedule I, Parts I and II		
22	Did the organization report more than \$5,000 of grants or other assistance to or for domestic individuals on Part IX, column (A), line 2? If "Yes," complete Schedule I, Parts I and III		
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		
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 25a		
24b	If the organization invest any proceeds of tax-exempt bonds beyond a temporary period exception?	✓	
24c	Did the organization maintain an escrow account other than a refunding escrow at any time during the year to defease any tax-exempt bonds?	✓	
24d	Did the organization act as an "on behalf of" issuer for bonds outstanding at any time during the year?	✓	
25a	<b>Section 501(c)(3), 501(c)(4), and 501(c)(29) organizations.</b> Did the organization engage in an excess benefit transaction with a disqualified person during the year? If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part I		
25b	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		
26	Did the organization report any amount on Part X, line 5, 6, or 22 for receivables from or payables to any current or former officers, directors, trustees, key employees, highest compensated employees, or disqualified persons? If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part II		
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		
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):		
28a	A current or former officer, director, trustee, or key employee? If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part IV	✓	
28b	A family member of a current or former officer, director, trustee, or key employee? If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part IV	✓	
28c	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	✓	
29	Did the organization receive more than \$25,000 in non-cash contributions? If "Yes," complete Schedule M		
30	Did the organization receive contributions of art, historical treasures, or other similar assets, or qualified conservation contributions? If "Yes," complete Schedule M		
31	Did the organization liquidate, terminate, or dissolve and cease operations? If "Yes," complete Schedule N, Part I		
32	Did the organization sell, exchange, dispose of, or transfer more than 25% of its net assets? If "Yes," complete Schedule N, Part II		
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		
34	Was the organization related to any tax-exempt or taxable entity? If "Yes," complete Schedule R, Part II, III, or IV, and Part V, line 1		
35a	Did the organization have a controlled entity within the meaning of section 512(b)(13)?		
35b	If "Yes" to line 35a, did the organization receive any payment from or engage in any transaction with a controlled entity within the meaning of section 512(b)(13)? If "Yes," complete Schedule R, Part V, line 2		
36	<b>Section 501(c)(3) organizations.</b> Did the organization make any transfers to an exempt non-charitable related organization? If "Yes," complete Schedule R, Part V, line 2		
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		
38	Did the organization complete Schedule O and provide explanations in Schedule O for Part VI, lines 11b and 19? <b>Note.</b> All Form 990 filers are required to complete Schedule O.	✓	

**Part V Statements Regarding Other IRS Filings and Tax Compliance**  
 Check if Schedule O contains a response or note to any line in this Part V 

		Yes	No
1a	Enter the number reported in Box 3 of Form 1096. Enter -0- if not applicable	1a	8
1b	Enter the number of Forms W-2G included in line 1a. Enter -0- if not applicable	1b	0
1c	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	
b	If at least one is reported on line 2a, did the organization file all required federal employment tax returns?  Note. If the sum of lines 1a and 2a is greater than 250, you may be required to e-file (see instructions)	2b	
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" to line 3b, 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 FinCEN Form 114, Report of Foreign Bank and Financial Accounts (FBAR).		
5a	Was the organization a party to a prohibited tax shelter transaction at any time during the tax year?	5a	✓
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 as charitable contributions?	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	<b>Organizations that may receive deductible contributions under section 170(c).</b>	7a	✓
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?	7b	
b	If "Yes," did the organization notify the donor of the value of the goods or services provided?	7c	✓
c	Did the organization sell, exchange, or otherwise dispose of tangible personal property for which it was required to file Form 8282?	7d	
d	If "Yes," indicate the number of Forms 8282 filed during the year	7e	✓
e	Did the organization receive any funds, directly or indirectly, to pay premiums on a personal benefit contract?	7f	✓
f	Did the organization, during the year, pay premiums, directly or indirectly, on a personal benefit contract?	7g	✓
g	If the organization received a contribution of qualified intellectual property, did the organization file Form 8899 as required?	7h	✓
h	If the organization received a contribution of cars, boats, airplanes, or other vehicles, did the organization file a Form 1098-C?	8	✓
8	<b>Sponsoring organizations maintaining donor advised funds.</b> Did a donor advised fund maintained by the sponsoring organization have excess business holdings at any time during the year?	9a	✓
9	<b>Sponsoring organizations maintaining donor advised funds.</b>	9b	✓
10	<b>Section 501(c)(7) organizations.</b> Enter:	10a	
a	Initiation fees and capital contributions included on Part VIII, line 12	10b	
b	Gross receipts, included on Form 990, Part VIII, line 12, for public use of club facilities	11a	
11	<b>Section 501(c)(12) organizations.</b> Enter:	11b	
a	Gross income from members or shareholders	12a	
b	Gross income from other sources (Do not net amounts due or paid to other sources against amounts due or received from them.)	12b	
12a	<b>Section 4947(a)(1) non-exempt charitable trusts.</b> Is the organization filing Form 990 in lieu of Form 1041?	13a	
b	If "Yes," enter the amount of tax-exempt interest received or accrued during the year	13b	
13	<b>Section 501(c)(29) qualified nonprofit health insurance issuers.</b>	13c	
a	Is the organization licensed to issue qualified health plans in more than one state?	14a	
b	Note. See the instructions for additional information the organization must report on Schedule O.	14b	
c	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		
14a	Enter the amount of reserves on hand		
b	If "Yes," has it filed a Form 720 to report these payments? If "No," provide an explanation in Schedule O		

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

### Section A. Governing Body and Management

1a Enter the number of voting members of the governing body at the end of the tax year. **1a** 8  
If there are material differences in voting rights among members of the governing body, or if the governing body delegated broad authority to an executive committee or similar committee, explain in Schedule O.

1b 8  
b Enter the number of voting members included in line 1a, above, who are independent

2 Did any officer, director, trustee, or key employee have a family relationship or a business relationship with any other officer, director, trustee, or key employee? **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.)

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. **11b**

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? **15a** ✓  
a The organization's CEO, Executive Director, or top management official **15b** ✓  
b Other officers or key employees of the organization  
If "Yes" to line 15a or 15b, describe the process in Schedule O (see instructions). **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 ► **IA**

18 Section 6104 requires an organization to make its Forms 1023 (or 1024 if applicable), 990, and 990-T (Section 501(c)(3)s only) available for public inspection. Indicate how you made these available. Check all that apply.  
 Own website  Another's website  Upon request  Other (explain in Schedule O)  
**19** Describe in Schedule O whether (and if so, how) the organization made its governing documents, conflict of interest policy, and financial statements available to the public during the tax year.

20 State the name, address, and telephone number of the person who possesses the organization's books and records: ►  
MARK LYLE, AT NEAL SMITH NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE, PRAIRIE CITY, IA 50228 515-994-3400

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

 Check if Schedule O contains a response or note to any line in this Part VII 
**Section A. Officers, Directors, Trustees, Key Employees, and Highest Compensated Employees**

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

- List all of the organization's **current** officers, directors, trustees (whether individuals or organizations), regardless of amount of compensation. Enter -0- in columns (D), (E), and (F) if no compensation was paid.

- List all of the organization's **current** key employees, if any. See instructions for definition of "key employee."
- List the organization's five **current** highest compensated employees (other than an officer, director, trustee, or key employee) who received reportable compensation (Box 5 of Form W-2 and/or Box 7 of Form 1099-MISC) of more than \$100,000 from the organization and any related organizations.

- List all of the organization's **former** officers, key employees, and highest compensated employees who received more than \$100,000 of reportable compensation from the organization and any related organizations.

- List all of the organization's **former directors or trustees** that received, in the capacity as a former director or trustee of the organization, more than \$10,000 of reportable compensation from the organization and any related organizations.

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

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

(A) Name and Title	(B) Average hours per week (list any hours for related organizations below dotted line)	(C) Position (do not check more than one box, unless person is both an officer and a director/trustee)						(D) Reportable compensation from the organization (W-2/1099-MISC)	(E) Reportable compensation from related organizations (W-2/1099-MISC)	(F) Estimated amount of other compensation from the organization and related organizations
		Or director	Individual trustee	Institutional trustee	Officer	Key employee	Highest compensated person			
(1) JOAN VAN GORP, PRESIDENT 602 EAST 5TH PRAIRIE CITY, IA 50228	12				✓			0	0	0
(2) STACY NELSON 10451 W 129TH ST, PRAIRIE CITY, IA 50228	8							0	0	0
(3) MARK LYLE, TREASURER 5870 FAIRWAY COURT, WEST DM, 50266	8				✓			0	0	0
(4) JONATHAN YENTIS 1444 NW 103 ST. CLIVE IA 50325-6502	8							0	0	0
(5) STANLEY KUHN, PAST TREASURER 1370 SW MAGAZINE RD. ANKENY IA 50023	8				✓			0	0	0
(6) JIM JOHNSON 2421 81ST CIRCLE, URBANDALE IA 50322	4							0	0	0
(7) SHARON TINKER 2105 NW SHARMIN DR ANKENY, IA 50023	10				✓			0	0	0
(8) DARYL HOWELL 1211 NORTH B ST, INDIANOLA IA 50125	10							0	0	0
(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 (list any hours for related organizations below dotted line)	(C) Position (do not check more than one box, unless person is both an officer and a director/trustee)					(D) Reportable compensation from the organization (W-2/1099-MISC)	(E) Reportable compensation from related organizations (W-2/1099-MISC)	(F) Estimated amount of other compensation from the organization and related organizations
		Officer	Key employee	Highest compensated employee	Former	Individual trustee			
(15)									
(16)									
(17)									
(18)									
(19)									
(20)									
(21)									
(22)									
(23)									
(24)									
(25)									

1b Sub-total . . . . . ►	0	0	0
c Total from continuation sheets to Part VII, Section A . . . . . ►			
d Total (add lines 1b and 1c) . . . . . ►	0	0	0

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 ►

	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
THERE WERE NO CONTRACTORS MEETING THE ABOVE DEFINITION.		
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 ►		

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

		(A) Total revenue	(B) Related or exempt function revenue	(C) Unrelated business revenue	(D) Revenue excluded from tax under sections 512-514	
<b>Contributions, Gifts, Grants and Other Similar Amounts</b>	<b>1a</b> Federated campaigns . . . . .	<b>1a</b>				
	<b>b</b> Membership dues . . . . .	<b>1b</b> 29,420.00				
	<b>c</b> Fundraising events . . . . .	<b>1c</b>				
	<b>d</b> Related organizations . . . . .	<b>1d</b>				
	<b>e</b> Government grants (contributions) . . . . .	<b>1e</b>				
	<b>f</b> All other contributions, gifts, grants, and similar amounts not included above . . . . .	<b>1f</b> 30,588.77				
	<b>g</b> Noncash contributions included in lines 1a-1f . . . . .					
	<b>h</b> <b>Total.</b> Add lines 1a-1f . . . . . ►	<b>60,008.77</b>				
<b>Program Service Revenue</b>	<b>Business Code</b>					
	<b>2a</b> CRP Income (see schedule O) . . . . .	<b>813312</b>	<b>37,250.00</b>	<b>37,250.00</b>		
	<b>b</b> National Fish and Wildlife Grant . . . . .	<b>813000</b>	<b>51,081.05</b>	<b>51,081.05</b>		
	<b>c</b> . . . . .					
	<b>d</b> . . . . .					
	<b>e</b> . . . . .					
	<b>f</b> All other program service revenue . . . . .					
	<b>g</b> <b>Total.</b> Add lines 2a-2f . . . . . ►	<b>88,331.05</b>				
<b>Other Revenue</b>	<b>3</b> Investment income (including dividends, interest, and other similar amounts) . . . . . ►	<b>30,121.90</b>	<b>30,121.90</b>			
	<b>4</b> Income from investment of tax-exempt bond proceeds ►					
	<b>5</b> Royalties . . . . . ►					
	<b>6a</b> Gross rents . . . . .	<b>(i) Real</b>	<b>(ii) Personal</b>			
	<b>b</b> Less: rental expenses . . . . .					
	<b>c</b> Rental income or (loss) . . . . .					
	<b>d</b> Net rental income or (loss) . . . . . ►					
	<b>7a</b> Gross amount from sales of assets other than inventory . . . . .	<b>(i) Securities</b>	<b>(ii) Other</b>			
<b>b</b> Less: cost or other basis and sales expenses . . . . .						
<b>c</b> Gain or (loss) . . . . .						
<b>d</b> Net gain or (loss) . . . . . ►						
<b>8a</b> Gross income from fundraising events (not including \$ . . . . . of contributions reported on line 1c). See Part IV, line 18 . . . . .	<b>a</b>					
<b>b</b> Less: direct expenses . . . . .	<b>b</b>					
<b>c</b> Net income or (loss) from fundraising events . . . . . ►						
<b>9a</b> Gross income from gaming activities. See Part IV, line 19 . . . . .	<b>a</b>					
<b>b</b> Less: direct expenses . . . . .	<b>b</b>					
<b>c</b> Net income or (loss) from gaming activities . . . . . ►						
<b>10a</b> Gross sales of inventory, less returns and allowances . . . . .	<b>a</b> 75,074.23					
<b>b</b> Less: cost of goods sold . . . . .	<b>b</b> 40,915.33					
<b>c</b> Net income or (loss) from sales of inventory . . . . . ►	<b>34,158.90</b>	<b>34,158.90</b>				
<b>Miscellaneous Revenue</b>		<b>Business Code</b>				
<b>11a</b> . . . . .						
<b>b</b> . . . . .						
<b>c</b> . . . . .						
<b>d</b> All other revenue . . . . .						
<b>e</b> <b>Total.</b> Add lines 11a-11d . . . . . ►						
<b>12</b> <b>Total revenue.</b> See instructions. . . . . ►	<b>212,620.62</b>	<b>64,280.80</b>				

**Part IX Statement of Functional Expenses**

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

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

<b>Do not include amounts reported on lines 6b, 7b, 8b, 9b, and 10b of Part VIII.</b>	<b>(A) Total expenses</b>	<b>(B) Program service expenses</b>	<b>(C) Management and general expenses</b>	<b>(D) Fundraising expenses</b>
1 Grants and other assistance to domestic organizations and domestic governments. See Part IV, line 21 . . . . .	1,445.00	1,445.00		
2 Grants and other assistance to domestic individuals. See Part IV, line 22 . . . . .	50,605.00	50,605.00		
3 Grants and other assistance to foreign organizations, foreign governments, and foreign individuals. See Part IV, lines 15 and 16 . . . . .				
4 Benefits paid to or for members . . . . .				
5 Compensation of current officers, directors, trustees, and key employees . . . . .				
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 . . . . .				
8 Pension plan accruals and contributions (include section 401(k) and 403(b) employer contributions) . . . . .				
9 Other employee benefits . . . . .				
10 Payroll taxes . . . . .				
11 Fees for services (non-employees):				
a Management . . . . .				
b Legal . . . . .				
c Accounting . . . . .				
d Lobbying . . . . .				
e Professional fundraising services. See Part IV, line 17 . . . . .	5,264.23		5,264.23	
f Investment management fees . . . . .	2,658.00		2,658.00	
g Other. (If line 11g amount exceeds 10% of line 25, column (A) amount, list line 11g expenses on Schedule O.) . . . . .	1,385.00	1385.00	1,624.20	
12 Advertising and promotion . . . . .	1,624.20		2,703.46	
13 Office expenses . . . . .	2,703.46			
14 Information technology . . . . .				
15 Royalties . . . . .				
16 Occupancy . . . . .				
17 Travel . . . . .				
18 Payments of travel or entertainment expenses for any federal, state, or local public officials . . . . .				
19 Conferences, conventions, and meetings . . . . .				
20 Interest . . . . .				
21 Payments to affiliates . . . . .				
22 Depreciation, depletion, and amortization . . . . .				
23 Insurance . . . . .	1,826.00	974.00	852.00	
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 LAND PURCHASE LOAN TO INHF . . . . .	79,000.00	79,000.00		
b POLINATORS FOR PEOPLE (P4P) . . . . .	57,202.45	57,202.45		
c PRAIRIE EVENT SUPPORT . . . . .	11,671.62	11,671.62		
d STUDENT TUITION & REFUGE EXPERIENCE . . . . .	6,775.70	6,775.70		
e All other expenses . . . . .	13,571.82	16,275.28		
25 Total functional expenses. Add lines 1 through 24e . . . . .	235,732.48	228,844.05	10,398.43	
26 Joint costs. Complete this line only if the organization reported in column (B) joint costs from a combined educational campaign and fundraising solicitation. Check here ► <input type="checkbox"/> if following SOP 98-2 (ASC 958-720) . . . . .				

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

		<b>(A)</b> Beginning of year	<b>(B)</b> End of year	
<b>Assets</b>	1 Cash—non-interest-bearing	40,584.26	<b>1</b> 30,958.48	
	2 Savings and temporary cash investments	2		
	3 Pledges and grants receivable, net	3		
	4 Accounts receivable, net	4		
	5 Loans and other receivables from current and former officers, directors, trustees, key employees, and highest compensated employees. Complete Part II of Schedule L	5		
	6 Loans and other receivables from other disqualified persons (as defined under section 4958(f)(1)), persons described in section 4958(c)(3)(B), and contributing employers and sponsoring organizations of section 501(c)(9) voluntary employees' beneficiary organizations (see instructions). Complete Part II of Schedule L	6		
	7 Notes and loans receivable, net	7	1,660,000.00	
	8 Inventories for sale or use	8	30,338.40	
	9 Prepaid expenses and deferred charges	9		
	10a Land, buildings, and equipment: cost or other basis. Complete Part VI of Schedule D	10a	250,000.00	
	b Less: accumulated depreciation	10b	10c	250,000 00
	11 Investments—publicly traded securities	11	722,432.86	
	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		
<b>16 Total assets.</b> Add lines 1 through 15 (must equal line 34)	16	2,453,355.52	2,556,353.32	
<b>Liabilities</b>	17 Accounts payable and accrued expenses	17		
	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 Loans and other payables to current and former officers, directors, trustees, key employees, highest compensated employees, and disqualified persons. Complete Part II of Schedule L	22		
	23 Secured mortgages and notes payable to unrelated third parties	23		
	24 Unsecured notes and loans payable to unrelated third parties	24		
	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		
<b>26 Total liabilities.</b> Add lines 17 through 25	26	0.00	0.00	
<b>Net Assets or Fund Balances</b>	<b>Organizations that follow SFAS 117 (ASC 958), check here ► <input type="checkbox"/></b> and complete lines 27 through 29, and lines 33 and 34.			
	27 Unrestricted net assets	27	2,406,402.12	
	28 Temporarily restricted net assets	28	1,033.00	
	29 Permanently restricted net assets	29	45,920.40	
	<b>Organizations that do not follow SFAS 117 (ASC 958), check here ► <input type="checkbox"/></b> and complete lines 30 through 34.			
	30 Capital stock or trust principal, or current funds	30		
	31 Paid-in or capital surplus, or land, building, or equipment fund	31		
	32 Retained earnings, endowment, accumulated income, or other funds	32		
	<b>33 Total net assets or fund balances</b>	33	2,453,355.52	
	<b>34 Total liabilities and net assets/fund balances</b>	34	2,556,353.32	

**Part XI Reconciliation of Net Assets**Check if Schedule O contains a response or note to any line in this Part XI 

1	212,620.62
2	235,732.48
3	(23,111.86)
4	2,453,355.52
5	47,109.66
6	
7	
8	
9	79,000.00
10	2,556,353.32

**Part XII Financial Statements and Reporting**Check if Schedule O contains a response or note to any line in this Part XII 

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?  
If "Yes," check a box below to indicate whether the financial statements for the year were compiled or reviewed on a separate basis, consolidated basis, or both:  
 Separate basis  Consolidated basis  Both consolidated and separate basis

b Were the organization's financial statements audited by an independent accountant?  
If "Yes," check a box below to indicate whether the financial statements for the year were audited on a separate basis, consolidated basis, or both:  
 Separate basis  Consolidated basis  Both consolidated and separate basis

c If "Yes" to line 2a or 2b, does the organization have a committee that assumes responsibility for oversight of the audit, review, or compilation of its financial statements and selection of an independent accountant?  
If the organization changed either its oversight process or selection process during the tax year, explain in Schedule O.

3a As a result of a federal award, was the organization required to undergo an audit or audits as set forth in the Single Audit Act and OMB Circular A-133?  
b If "Yes," did the organization undergo the required audit or audits? If the organization did not undergo the required audit or audits, explain why in Schedule O and describe any steps taken to undergo such audits.

	Yes	No
2a		✓
2b		✓
2c		
3a		✓
3b		

**SCHEDULE A**  
(Form 990 or 990-EZ)Department of the Treasury  
Internal Revenue Service**Public Charity Status and Public Support**

Complete if the organization is a section 501(c)(3) organization or a section 4947(a)(1) nonexempt charitable trust.

► Attach to Form 990 or Form 990-EZ.

► Go to [www.irs.gov/Form990](http://www.irs.gov/Form990) for instructions and the latest information.

OMB No. 1545-0047

**2017**Open to Public  
Inspection

Name of the organization

FRIENDS OF NEAL SMITH NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE

Employer identification number

42-1417678

09

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

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

1  A church, convention of churches, or association of churches described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(i)**.  
2  A school described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(ii)**. (Attach Schedule E (Form 990 or 990-EZ).)  
3  A hospital or a cooperative hospital service organization described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(iii)**.  
4  A medical research organization operated in conjunction with a hospital described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(iii)**. Enter the hospital's name, city, and state:  
5  An organization operated for the benefit of a college or university owned or operated by a governmental unit described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(iv)**. (Complete Part II.)  
6  A federal, state, or local government or governmental unit described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(v)**.  
7  An organization that normally receives a substantial part of its support from a governmental unit or from the general public described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(vi)**. (Complete Part II.)  
8  A community trust described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(vi)**. (Complete Part II.)  
9  An agricultural research organization described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(ix)** operated in conjunction with a land-grant college or university or a non-land-grant college of agriculture (see instructions). Enter the name, city, and state of the college or university:  
10  An organization that normally receives: (1) more than 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.)  
11  An organization organized and operated exclusively to test for public safety. See **section 509(a)(4)**.  
12  An organization organized and operated exclusively for the benefit of, to perform the functions of, or to carry out the purposes of one or more publicly supported organizations described in **section 509(a)(1)** or **section 509(a)(2)**. See **section 509(a)(3)**. Check the box in lines 12a through 12d that describes the type of supporting organization and complete lines 12e, 12f, and 12g.  
a  **Type I.** A supporting organization operated, supervised, or controlled by its supported organization(s), typically by giving the supported organization(s) the power to regularly appoint or elect a majority of the directors or trustees of the supporting organization. **You must complete Part IV, Sections A and B.**  
b  **Type II.** A supporting organization supervised or controlled in connection with its supported organization(s), by having control or management of the supporting organization vested in the same persons that control or manage the supported organization(s). **You must complete Part IV, Sections A and C.**  
c  **Type III functionally integrated.** A supporting organization operated in connection with, and functionally integrated with, its supported organization(s) (see instructions). **You must complete Part IV, Sections A, D, and E.**  
d  **Type III non-functionally integrated.** A supporting organization operated in connection with its supported organization(s) that is not functionally integrated. The organization generally must satisfy a distribution requirement and an attentiveness requirement (see instructions). **You must complete Part IV, Sections A and D, and Part V.**  
e  Check this box if the organization received a written determination from the IRS that it is a Type I, Type II, Type III functionally integrated, or Type III non-functionally integrated supporting organization.  
f Enter the number of supported organizations . . . . .  
g Provide the following information about the supported organization(s).

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

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

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

**Section A. Public Support**

Calendar year (or fiscal year beginning in) ►	(a) 2013	(b) 2014	(c) 2015	(d) 2016	(e) 2017	(f) Total
1 Gifts, grants, contributions, and membership fees received. (Do not include any "unusual grants.")	19,631	21,303	21,137	34,464	60,009	156,544
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 . . .	59,653	56,926	64,171	67,883	75,074	323,707
3 Gross receipts from activities that are not an unrelated trade or business under section 513 . . .					37,250	37,250
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 . . .	79,284	78,229	85,308	102,347	172,333	517,501
7a Amounts included on lines 1, 2, and 3 received from disqualified persons .	0	0	0	0	0	0
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	0	0	0	0	-37,250	-37,250
c Add lines 7a and 7b . . .	0	0	00	0	-37,250	-37,250
8 Public support. (Subtract line 7c from line 6.) . . . . .						480,251

**Section B. Total Support**

Calendar year (or fiscal year beginning in) ►	(a) 2013	(b) 2014	(c) 2015	(d) 2016	(e) 2017	(f) Total
9 Amounts from line 6 . . . . .	79,284	78,229	85,308	102,347	172,333	517,501
10a Gross income from interest, dividends, payments received on securities loans, rents, royalties, and income from similar sources .	22,944	38,792	32,850	32,850	30,122	148,159
b Unrelated business taxable income (less section 511 taxes) from businesses acquired after June 30, 1975 . . . .	0	0	0	0	0	0
c Add lines 10a and 10b . . . .	22,944	38,792	32,850	23,451	30,122	148,159
11 Net income from unrelated business activities not included in line 10b, whether or not the business is regularly carried on .	0	0	0	0	0	0
12 Other income. Do not include gain or loss from the sale of capital assets (Explain in Part VI.) . . . . .	0	0	0	0	37,250	37,250
13 Total support. (Add lines 9, 10c, 11, and 12.) . . . . .	102,228	117,021	118,158	125,798	374,788	837,993
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 2017 (line 8, column (f) divided by line 13, column (f)) . . . . .	15	57 %
16 Public support percentage from 2016 Schedule A, Part III, line 15 . . . . .	16	77 %

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

17 Investment income percentage for 2017 (line 10c, column (f) divided by line 13, column (f)) . . . . .	17	17.6 %
18 Investment income percentage from 2016 Schedule A, Part III, line 17 . . . . .	18	23 %
19a 33 1/3% support tests—2017. If the organization did not check the box on line 14, and line 15 is more than 33 1/3%, and line 17 is not more than 33 1/3%, check this box and stop here. The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization ► <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
b 33 1/3% support tests—2016. If the organization did not check a box on line 14 or line 19a, and line 16 is more than 33 1/3%, and line 18 is not more than 33 1/3%, check this box and stop here. The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization ► <input checked="" 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 VI** **Supplemental Information.** Provide the explanations required by Part II, line 10; Part II, line 17a or 17b; Part III, line 12; Part IV, Section A, lines 1, 2, 3b, 3c, 4b, 4c, 5a, 6, 9a, 9b, 9c, 11a, 11b, and 11c; Part IV, Section B, lines 1 and 2; Part IV, Section C, line 1; Part IV, Section D, lines 2 and 3; Part IV, Section E, lines 1c, 2a, 2b, 3a, and 3b; Part V, line 1; Part V, Section B, line 1e; Part V, Section D, lines 5, 6, and 8; and Part V, Section E, lines 2, 5, and 6. Also complete this part for any additional information. (See instructions.)

THIS ORGANIZATION MEETS THE REQUIREMENTS FOR PART I AND PART III WHICH HAVE BEEN COMPLETED. THIS ORGANIZATION

DOES NOT MEET THE REPORTING REQUIREMENTS FOR THE REMAINDER OF SCHEDULE A; THUS THOSE SECTIONS ARE BLANK.

**SCHEDULE D**  
**(Form 990)**Department of the Treasury  
Internal Revenue Service**Supplemental Financial Statements**

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

► Attach to Form 990.

► Go to [www.irs.gov/Form990](http://www.irs.gov/Form990) for instructions and the latest information.

OMB No. 1545-0047

**2017**Open to Public  
Inspection

Name of the organization

FRIENDS OF NEAL SMITH NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE

Employer identification number

42-1417678

**Part I Organizations Maintaining Donor Advised Funds or Other Similar Funds or Accounts.**

Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 6.

	(a) Donor advised funds	(b) Funds and other accounts
1 Total number at end of year . . . . .		
2 Aggregate value of contributions to (during year)		
3 Aggregate value of grants from (during year)		
4 Aggregate value at end of year . . . . .		
5 Did the organization inform all donors and donor advisors in writing that the assets held in donor advised funds are the organization's property, subject to the organization's exclusive legal control? . . . . .		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
6 Did the organization inform all grantees, donors, and donor advisors in writing that grant funds can be used only for charitable purposes and not for the benefit of the donor or donor advisor, or for any other purpose conferring impermissible private benefit? . . . . .		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

**Part II Conservation Easements.**

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

1 Purpose(s) of conservation easements held by the organization (check all that apply).	
<input type="checkbox"/> Preservation of land for public use (e.g., recreation or education)	<input type="checkbox"/> Preservation of a historically important land area
<input type="checkbox"/> Protection of natural habitat	<input type="checkbox"/> Preservation of a certified historic structure
<input type="checkbox"/> Preservation of open space	
2 Complete lines 2a through 2d if the organization held a qualified conservation contribution in the form of a conservation easement on the last day of the tax year.	
a Total number of conservation easements . . . . .	
b Total acreage restricted by conservation easements . . . . .	
c Number of conservation easements on a certified historic structure included in (a) . . . . .	
d Number of conservation easements included in (c) acquired after 7/25/06, and not on a historic structure listed in the National Register . . . . .	
3 Number of conservation easements modified, transferred, released, extinguished, or terminated by the organization during the tax year ►	
4 Number of states where property subject to conservation easement is located ►	
5 Does the organization have a written policy regarding the periodic monitoring, inspection, handling of violations, and enforcement of the conservation easements it holds? . . . . .	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
6 Staff and volunteer hours devoted to monitoring, inspecting, handling of violations, and enforcing conservation easements during the year ►	
7 Amount of expenses incurred in monitoring, inspecting, handling of violations, and enforcing conservation easements during the year ► \$	
8 Does each conservation easement reported on line 2(d) above satisfy the requirements of section 170(h)(4)(B)(i) and section 170(h)(4)(B)(ii)? . . . . .	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
9 In Part XIII, describe how the organization reports conservation easements in its revenue and expense statement, and balance sheet, and include, if applicable, the text of the footnote to the organization's financial statements that describes the organization's accounting for conservation easements.	

**Part III Organizations Maintaining Collections of Art, Historical Treasures, or Other Similar Assets.**

Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 8.

1a If the organization elected, as permitted under SFAS 116 (ASC 958), not to report in its revenue statement and balance sheet works of art, historical treasures, or other similar assets held for public exhibition, education, or research in furtherance of public service, provide, in Part XIII, the text of the footnote to its financial statements that describes these items.	
b If the organization elected, as permitted under SFAS 116 (ASC 958), to report in its revenue statement and balance sheet works of art, historical treasures, or other similar assets held for public exhibition, education, or research in furtherance of public service, provide the following amounts relating to these items:	
(i) Revenue included on Form 990, Part VIII, line 1 . . . . .	► \$ . . . . .
(ii) Assets included in Form 990, Part X . . . . .	► \$ . . . . .
2 If the organization received or held works of art, historical treasures, or other similar assets for financial gain, provide the following amounts required to be reported under SFAS 116 (ASC 958) relating to these items:	
a Revenue included on Form 990, Part VIII, line 1 . . . . .	► \$ . . . . .
b Assets included in Form 990, Part X . . . . .	► \$ . . . . .

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

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

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

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

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

**Part IV Escrow and Custodial Arrangements.**

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

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

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

	Amount
1c	
1d	
1e	
1f	

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

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

**Part V Endowment Funds.**

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

	(a) Current year	(b) Prior year	(c) Two years back	(d) Three years back	(e) Four years back
1a Beginning of year balance	46,953	53,386	59,172	57,042	54,9799
b Contributions	10,000				
c Net investment earnings, gains, and losses	1,558	414	1,644	3,115	3,137
d Grants or scholarships					
e Other expenditures for facilities and programs	-1424	-6,818	-7,430	-986	-1,073
g End of year balance	59,934	4,6953	53,386	59,172	57,042

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

a Board designated or quasi-endowment ► 0 %  
 b Permanent endowment ► 84 %  
 c Temporarily restricted endowment ► 16 %

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

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

	Yes	No
3a(i)		✓
3a(ii)		✓
3b		

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

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

**Part VI Land, Buildings, and Equipment.**

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

	Description of property	(a) Cost or other basis (investment)	(b) Cost or other basis (other)	(c) Accumulated depreciation	(d) Book value
1a Land			250,000		250,000
b Buildings					
c Leasehold improvements					
d Equipment					
e Other					

Total. Add lines 1a through 1e. (Column (d) must equal Form 990, Part X, column (B), line 10c.) ► 250,000

**Part VII Investments—Other Securities.**  
Complete if the organization answered “Yes” on Form 990, Part IV, line 11b. See Form 990, Part X, line 12.

(a) Description of security or category (including name of security)	(b) Book value	(c) Method of valuation: Cost or end-of-year market value
<b>(1) Financial derivatives</b>		
<b>(2) Closely-held equity interests</b>		
<b>(3) Other</b>		
(A) GENERAL INVESTMENT	693,854	M. VALUE 12/31/2017 BROKER STATEMENT
(B) PERMANENT ENDOWMENT	50,492	M. VALUE 12/31/2017 BROKER STATEMENT
(C) TEMPORARY ENDOWMENT	9,441	12/31/2017 CASH, BANK STATEMENT
(D)		
(E)		
(F)		
(G)		
(H)		

Total. (Column (b) must equal Form 990, Part X, col. (B) line 12.) ►

**Part VIII Investments—Program Related.**

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

(a) Description of investment	(b) Book value	(c) Method of valuation: Cost or end-of-year market value
(1)		
(2)		
(3)		
(4)		
(5)		
(6)		
(7)		
(8)		
(9)		

Total. (Column (b) must equal Form 990, Part X, col. (B) line 13.) ►

**Part IX Other Assets.**

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

(a) Description	(b) Book value
(1)	
(2)	
(3)	
(4)	
(5)	
(6)	
(7)	
(8)	
(9)	

Total. (Column (b) must equal Form 990, Part X, col. (B) line 15.) ►

**Part X Other Liabilities.**

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

1. (a) Description of liability	(b) Book value
(1) Federal income taxes	
(2)	
(3)	
(4)	
(5)	
(6)	
(7)	
(8)	
(9)	

Total. (Column (b) must equal Form 990, Part X, col. (B) line 25.) ►

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

**Part XI Reconciliation of Revenue per Audited Financial Statements With Revenue per Return.**  
Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 12a.

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

**Part XII Reconciliation of Expenses per Audited Financial Statements With Expenses per Return.**  
Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 12a.

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

**Part XIII Supplemental Information.**

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

ACCOUNTS ARE NOT AUDITED BY AN INDEPENDENT AUDITOR. FRIENDS' FINANCIAL STATEMENTS ARE CASH-BASED AND AGREE WITH

1/1/2017 AND 12/31/2017 BANK STATEMENTS AND INVESTMENT BROKER STATEMENTS. THE BOARD RECEIVES A FINANCIAL YTD

STATEMENT EACH MONTH. ALL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS ARE AVAILABLE FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION UPON REQUEST.

**SCHEDULE I**  
(Form 990)Department of the Treasury  
Internal Revenue Service**Grants and Other Assistance to Organizations,  
Governments, and Individuals in the United States**

Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 21 or 22.

► Attach to Form 990.

► Go to [www.irs.gov/Form990](http://www.irs.gov/Form990) for the latest information.

Name of the organization

FRIENDS OF NEAL SMITH NATIONAL

OMB No 1545-0047

2017

Open to Public  
InspectionEmployer identification number  
42-1417678**Part I General Information on Grants and Assistance**

1 Does the organization maintain records to substantiate the amount of the grants or assistance, the grantees' eligibility for the grants or assistance, and the selection criteria used to award the grants or assistance?

2 Describe in Part IV the organization's procedures for monitoring the use of grant funds in the United States

**Part II Grants and Other Assistance to Domestic Organizations and Domestic Governments.** Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 21, for any recipient that received more than \$5,000. Part II can be duplicated if additional space is needed.

(1) (a) Name and address of organization or government	(b) EIN	(c) IRC section (if applicable)	(d) Amount of cash grant	(e) Amount of non-cash assistance	(f) Method of valuation (book, FMV, appraisal, other)	(g) Description of noncash assistance	(h) Purpose of grant or assistance
(1) <i>NOT APPLICABLE - NO NO</i>							
(2) <i>SEE PART III &amp; IV</i>							
(3)							
(4)							
(5)							
(6)							
(7)							
(8)							
(9)							
(10)							
(11)							
(12)							

2 Enter total number of section 501(c)(3) and government organizations listed in the line 1 table

3 Enter total number of other organizations listed in the line 1 table

Schedule I (Form 990) (2017)

Cat No 50055P

For Paperwork Reduction Act Notice, see the Instructions for Form 990.

**Part III Grants and Other Assistance to Domestic Individuals.** Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 22.  
**Part III can be duplicated if additional space is needed.**

(a) Type of grant or assistance	(b) Number of recipients	(c) Amount of cash grant	(d) Amount of noncash assistance	(e) Method of valuation (book, FMV, appraisal, other)	(f) Description of noncash assistance
1 STUDENT INTERNS FOR LIVING EXPENSES					
2 WHILE VOLUNTEERING AT THE FEDERAL REFUGE	7	50,605			
3 COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIPS IN					
4 ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES	2	2,000			
5					
6					
7					

**Part IV Supplemental Information.** Provide the information required in Part I, line 2; Part III, column (b); and any other additional information.

THE FRIENDS SUPPORT COLLEGE STUDENT INTERNS WHO SERVE AS VOLUNTEERS AT THE NEAL SMITH NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE AS PART OF PURSUING A CAREER

RELATED TO THE ENVIRONMENT SCHOLARSHIPS ARE AWARDED COMPETITIVELY TO

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**SCHEDULE O**  
**(Form 990 or 990-EZ)**Department of the Treasury  
Internal Revenue Service**Supplemental Information to Form 990 or 990-EZ**Complete to provide information for responses to specific questions on  
Form 990 or 990-EZ or to provide any additional information.► Attach to Form 990 or 990-EZ.  
► Go to [www.irs.gov/Form990](http://www.irs.gov/Form990) for the latest information.

OMB No. 1545-0047

**2017**Open to Public  
Inspection

Name of the organization

FRIENDS OF NEAL SMITH NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE

Employer identification number

42-1417678

THE 990 AND RELATED SCHEDULES ARE PROVIDED TO BOARD MEMBERS FOR REVIEW PRIOR TO THE REGULAR APRIL 24, 2017 MEETING

ADJUSTMENTS ARE MADE CONSISTENT WITH BOARD INPUT. THIS REPORT, PLUS THE LAST SEVEN 990'S AND RELATED SCHEDULES, ARE

AVAILABLE TO THE PUBLIC AT THE REFUGE NATURE (BOOK) STORE. COPIES WILL BE PROVIDED UPON A WRITTEN OR ORAL REQUEST.

PART V. 1C. THERE WERE NO REPORTABLE PAYMENTS TO VENDORS.

PART VI. THERE ARE APPROXIMATELY 200 MEMBERS. MONTHLY MEETINGS ARE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC. MINUTES ARE AVAILABLE TO

ANYONE UPON REQUEST. ANNUAL BUDGETS ARE PREPARED AT THE BEGINNING OF THE CALENDAR YEAR AND AMENDED AS NEEDED.

THE WHISTLE BLOWER AND OTHER POLICIES ARE REVIEWED PERIODICALLY. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS ARE KEPT ON A "CASH" BASIS.

TRANSACTIONS ARE DOCUMENTED WITH INVOICES, CHECKS, OR ELECTRONIC EQUIVALENTS. ALL RECEIPTS ARE DEPOSITED INTACT.

AND INVESTMENT BALANCES ARE PROVIDED TO BOARD MEMBERS MONTHLY. THE ONLY CASH MAINTAINED AT THE REFUGE IS A \$200

CHANGE FUND. THERE WERE NO DONATIONS OVER \$5,000; THUS A SCHEDULE B IS NOT REQUIRED. THE RELATIVELY LARGE CASH AN

INVESTMENT AMOUNTS RESULT FROM A SUBSTANTIAL BEQUEST IN 2006. THE BOARD'S VISION IS THAT MOST OF THIS BEQUEST SHOULD

USED TO FACILITATE LAND PURCHASES WITHIN THE REFUGE BOUNDARY FROM WILLING SELLERS; ANTICIPATING SUBSEQUENT SALE TO

THE USFWS. INITIALLY, THE FRIENDS LOANED \$1,500,000 TO THE IOWA NATURAL HERITAGE FOUNDATION (INHF) TO ASSIST WITH A

A 840 ACRE IN-HOLDING PURCHASE. AN ADDITIONAL 47 ACRE TRACT WAS PURCHASED BY THE INHF IN 2015 FOR \$318,000. THE FRIEND

LOANED INHF \$81,000 IN 2015, \$79,000 IN 2016 \$79,000 IN 2017 AND EXPECT TO LOAN \$79,000 IN 2018 TO COMPLETE THIE PURCHASE

OF THE 47 ACRE TRACT. THESE ARE NOT "ARM'S LENGTH TRANSACTIONS" UPON SALE OF THESE TRACTS TO THE USFWS, THE PROCE

LESS INHF MANAGEMENT COSTS, WILL BE RETURNED TO THE FRIENDS TO FACILITATE ADDITIONAL TRANSACTIONS. IN 2017, INHF DEE

AN UNDIVIDED INTEREST IN A 321 ACRE PORTION OF THE 840 TRACT TO THE FRIENDS. THIS INTEREST WAS VALUED AT \$250,000, REDU

THE LOAN TO THE INHF BY THAT AMOUNT. THIS 321 ACREE ACQUISITION RESULTS IN THE FRIENDS BEING ELIGIBLE FOR CONSERVATION

PAYMENTS (CRP), \$37,250 IN 2017, REPORTED AS PROGRAM INCOME. THIS IS REPORTED AS "RELATED" BUSINESS INCOME, THUS NOT

TAXABLE INCOME. A NATIONAL FISH AND WILDLIFE FOUNDATION (NFWF) GRANT SUPPORTS PRAIRIE RELATED CONSERVATION ACTIVIT

OUTSIDE OF THE REFUGE. \$51,081 WAS RECEIVED FROM NFWF FOR THIS PROGRAM. NO OTHER SIGNIFICANT PROGRAM CHANGES

OCCURRED IN 2017. A COPY OF THE FRIEND'S BALANCE SHEETS, STATEMENTS OF ACTIVITIES AND RELATED NOTES FOR THE YEARS

2013-2017 ARE APPENDED TO FACILITATE FURTHER EXAMINATION.