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Form 990

Department of the TreasuryInternal Revenue Service

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.

Go to www.irs.gov/Form990 for instructions and the latest information.

OMB No. 1545-0047

2019

Open to Public Inspection

A For the 2019 calendar year, or tax year beginning 01-01-2019, and ending 12-31-2019

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

C Name of organization
Houston Zoo Inc

Doing business as

Number and street (or P.O. box if mail is not delivered to street address) Room/suite
1513 Cambridge

City or town, state or province, country, and ZIP or foreign postal code
Houston, TX 77030

F Name and address of principal officer:
Lee Ehmke
1513 Cambridge
Houston, TX 77030

D Employer identification number
74-1590271

E Telephone number
(713) 533-6501

G Gross receipts \$ 87,957,811

H(a) Is this a group return for subordinates?
☐ Yes ☒ No
H(b) Are all subordinates included?
☐ Yes ☐ No
If "No," attach a list. (see instructions)
H(c) Group exemption number ▶

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

J Website: ▶ www.houstonzoo.org

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

L Year of formation: 1920

M State of legal domicile: TX

Part I Summary

Activities & Governance

1 Briefly describe the organization's mission or most significant activities:
We strive to be a zoo that practices exemplary animal care, delivers an outstanding guest experience, creates a workplace that instills respect and teamwork, provides learning opportunities, promotes conservation awareness, and inspires community support.

2 Check this box ☐ if the organization discontinued its operations or disposed of more than 25% of its net assets.

3 Number of voting members of the governing body (Part VI, line 1a) 37

4 Number of independent voting members of the governing body (Part VI, line 1b) 37

5 Total number of individuals employed in calendar year 2019 (Part V, line 2a) 675

6 Total number of volunteers (estimate if necessary) 937

7a Total unrelated business revenue from Part VIII, column (C), line 12 0

7b Net unrelated business taxable income from Form 990-T, line 39

Revenue

8 Contributions and grants (Part VIII, line 1h)

9 Program service revenue (Part VIII, line 2g)

10 Investment income (Part VIII, column (A), lines 3, 4, and 7d)

11 Other revenue (Part VIII, column (A), lines 5, 6d, 8c, 9c, 10c, and 11e)

12 Total revenue—add lines 8 through 11 (must equal Part VIII, column (A), line 12)

Expenses

13 Grants and similar amounts paid (Part IX, column (A), lines 1–3)

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)

16b Total fundraising expenses (Part IX, column (D), line 25) ▶3,988,520

17 Other expenses (Part IX, column (A), lines 11a–11d, 11f–24e)

18 Total expenses. Add lines 13–17 (must equal Part IX, column (A), line 25)

19 Revenue less expenses. Subtract line 18 from line 12

Net Assets or Fund Balances

20 Total assets (Part X, line 16)

21 Total liabilities (Part X, line 26)

22 Net assets or fund balances. Subtract line 21 from line 20

Prior Year

Current Year

Beginning of Current Year

End of Year

Part II Signature Block

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

Sign Here

Signature of officer
Lee Ehmke President & CEO
Type or print name and title

2020-11-13
Date

Paid Preparer Use Only

Print/Type preparer's name
Firm's name ▶ Blazek & Vetterling
Firm's address ▶ 2900 Wesleyan Suite 200
Houston, TX 77027

Preparer's signature
Date

Check ☐ if self-employed
Firm's EIN ▶ 76-0269860
Phone no. (713) 439-5739

PTIN P01386215

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 (2019)

Part III Statement of Program Service AccomplishmentsCheck if Schedule O contains a response or note to any line in this Part III ☐**1** Briefly describe the organization's mission:

Connect communities with animals, inspiring action to save wildlife.

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 \$ 39,615,013 including grants of \$) (Revenue \$ 38,765,314)
See Additional Data	

4b	(Code:) (Expenses \$ 4,354,596 including grants of \$ 3,383,437) (Revenue \$)
See Additional Data	

4c	(Code:) (Expenses \$ 2,021,938 including grants of \$) (Revenue \$ 1,434,363)
See Additional Data	

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

4e	Total program service expenses ▶	45,991,547
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Part IV Checklist of Required Schedules

	Yes	No
1 Is the organization described in section 501(c)(3) or 4947(a)(1) (other than a private foundation)? If "Yes," complete Schedule A	1 Yes	
2 Is the organization required to complete Schedule B, Schedule of Contributors (see instructions)?	2 Yes	
3 Did the organization engage in direct or indirect political campaign activities on behalf of or in opposition to candidates for public office? If "Yes," complete Schedule C, Part I	3	No
4 Section 501(c)(3) organizations. Did the organization engage in lobbying activities, or have a section 501(h) election in effect during the tax year? If "Yes," complete Schedule C, Part II	4	No
5 Is the organization a section 501(c)(4), 501(c)(5), or 501(c)(6) organization that receives membership dues, assessments, or similar amounts as defined in Revenue Procedure 98-19? If "Yes," complete Schedule C, Part III	5	No
6 Did the organization maintain any donor advised funds or any similar funds or accounts for which donors have the right to provide advice on the distribution or investment of amounts in such funds or accounts? If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part I	6	No
7 Did the organization receive or hold a conservation easement, including easements to preserve open space, the environment, historic land areas, or historic structures? If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part II	7	No
8 Did the organization maintain collections of works of art, historical treasures, or other similar assets? If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part III	8 Yes	
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	9 Yes	
10 Did the organization, directly or through a related organization, hold assets in temporarily restricted endowments, permanent endowments, or quasi endowments? If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part V	10 Yes	
11 If the organization's answer to any of the following questions is "Yes," then complete Schedule D, Parts VI, VII, VIII, IX, or X as applicable.		
a Did the organization report an amount for land, buildings, and equipment in Part X, line 10? If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part VI	11a Yes	
b Did the organization report an amount for investments—other securities—in Part X, line 12 that is 5% or more of its total assets reported in Part X, line 16? If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part VII	11b	No
c Did the organization report an amount for investments—program related—in Part X, line 13 that is 5% or more of its total assets reported in Part X, line 16? If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part VIII	11c	No
d Did the organization report an amount for other assets in Part X, line 15 that is 5% or more of its total assets reported in Part X, line 16? If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part IX	11d	No
e Did the organization report an amount for other liabilities in Part X, line 25? If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part X	11e	No
f Did the organization's separate or consolidated financial statements for the tax year include a footnote that addresses the organization's liability for uncertain tax positions under FIN 48 (ASC 740)? If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part X	11f	No
12a Did the organization obtain separate, independent audited financial statements for the tax year? If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Parts XI and XII	12a Yes	
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	12b	No
13 Is the organization a school described in section 170(b)(1)(A)(ii)? If "Yes," complete Schedule E	13	No
14a Did the organization maintain an office, employees, or agents outside of the United States?	14a	No
b Did the organization have aggregate revenues or expenses of more than \$10,000 from grantmaking, fundraising, business, investment, and program service activities outside the United States, or aggregate foreign investments valued at \$100,000 or more? If "Yes," complete Schedule F, Parts I and IV	14b Yes	
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	15 Yes	
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	16 Yes	
17 Did the organization report a total of more than \$15,000 of expenses for professional fundraising services on Part IX, column (A), lines 6 and 11e? If "Yes," complete Schedule G, Part I (see instructions)	17 Yes	
18 Did the organization report more than \$15,000 total of fundraising event gross income and contributions on Part VIII, lines 1c and 8a? If "Yes," complete Schedule G, Part II	18 Yes	
19 Did the organization report more than \$15,000 of gross income from gaming activities on Part VIII, line 9a? If "Yes," complete Schedule G, Part III	19	No
20a Did the organization operate one or more hospital facilities? If "Yes," complete Schedule H	20a	No
b If "Yes" to line 20a, did the organization attach a copy of its audited financial statements to this return?	20b	
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	21 Yes	

Part IV Checklist of Required Schedules (continued)

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

Part V Statements Regarding Other IRS Filings and Tax ComplianceCheck 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 188	
b	Enter the number of Forms W-2G included in line 1a. Enter -0- if not applicable	1b 0	
c	Did the organization comply with backup withholding rules for reportable payments to vendors and reportable gaming (gambling) winnings to prize winners?	1c Yes	

Part V **Statements Regarding Other IRS Filings and Tax Compliance** *(continued)*

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Part VI

Governance, Management, and Disclosure For each "Yes" response to lines 2 through 7b below, and for a "No" response to lines 8a, 8b, or 10b below, describe the circumstances, processes, or changes in Schedule O. See instructions.

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

Section A. Governing Body and Management

		Yes	No
1a	Enter the number of voting members of the governing body at the end of the tax year If there are material differences in voting rights among members of the governing body, or if the governing body delegated broad authority to an executive committee or similar committee, explain in Schedule O.	1a	37
1b	Enter the number of voting members included in line 1a, above, who are independent	1b	37
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	No
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	No
4	Did the organization make any significant changes to its governing documents since the prior Form 990 was filed?	4	No
5	Did the organization become aware during the year of a significant diversion of the organization's assets?	5	No
6	Did the organization have members or stockholders?	6	No
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	Yes
7b	Are any governance decisions of the organization reserved to (or subject to approval by) members, stockholders, or persons other than the governing body?	7b	No
8	Did the organization contemporaneously document the meetings held or written actions undertaken during the year by the following:		
a	The governing body?	8a	Yes
b	Each committee with authority to act on behalf of the governing body?	8b	Yes
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	No

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

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

Section C. Disclosure

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

18 Section 6104 requires an organization to make its Form 1023 (or 1024-A if applicable), 990, and 990-T (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:
 ▶Jeri Nordbrock 1513 Cambridge Houston, TX 77030 (713) 533-6750

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

See instructions for the order in which to list the persons above.

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

[illegible]

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

[illegible]

1b Sub-Total		
c Total from continuation sheets to Part VII, Section A		
d Total (add lines 1b and 1c)	1,763,585	135,119

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 ▶ 24

		Yes	No
3	Did the organization list any former officer, director or trustee, key employee, or highest compensated employee on line 1a? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule J for such individual</i>		No
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? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule J for such individual</i>	Yes	
5	Did any person listed on line 1a receive or accrue compensation from any unrelated organization or individual for services rendered to the organization? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule J for such person</i>		No

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)	(B)	(C)
Name and business address	Description of services	Compensation
Tellepsen Builders 777 Benmar 400 Houston, TX 77060	Construction	16,603,718
Brave Architecture 4617 Montrose Blvd C230 Houston, TX 77006	Architect	1,537,329
Studio HansonRoberts 250 Madrona 220 Bainbridge Island, WA 98110	Architect	3,565,020
Strike Marketing 906 Rutland Street Houston, TX 77008	Advertising	1,384,345
Service Systems Associates 4624 Central Park Denver, CO 80238	Food service	2,701,371

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 ► 17

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Part VIII		Statement of Revenue						
Check if Schedule O contains a response or note to any line in this Part VIII								
		(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)			
		Total revenue	Related or exempt function revenue	Unrelated business revenue	Revenue excluded from tax under sections 512 - 514			
Contributions, Gifts, Grants and Other Similar Amounts	1a	Federated campaigns	1a					
	b	Membership dues	1b	7,538,100				
	c	Fundraising events	1c	1,264,744				
	d	Related organizations	1d					
	e	Government grants (contributions)	1e					
	f	All other contributions, gifts, grants, and similar amounts not included above	1f	23,638,551				
	g	Noncash contributions included in lines 1a - 1f:\$	1g	2,771,998				
	h	Total. Add lines 1a-1f		32,441,395				
Program Service Revenue	Business Code							
	2a	Admission fees	900099	15,322,836	15,322,836			
	b	City management fee	561499	10,127,489	10,127,489			
	c	Concessions	722210	3,956,216	3,956,216			
	d	Educ. progr. & events	611600	10,793,136	10,793,136			
	e							
	f	All other program service revenue.						
	g	Total. Add lines 2a-2f		40,199,677				
Other Revenue	3		Investment income (including dividends, interest, and other similar amounts)	601,681		601,681		
	4		Income from investment of tax-exempt bond proceeds	0				
	5		Royalties	0				
	6a	Gross rents	(i) Real	(ii) Personal				
			6a					
			b	Less: rental expenses	6b			
			c	Rental income or (loss)	6c			
	d		Net rental income or (loss)	0				
	7a	Gross amount from sales of assets other than inventory	(i) Securities	(ii) Other				
			7a	14,302,145				
			b	Less: cost or other basis and sales expenses	7b	13,578,647		
			c	Gain or (loss)	7c	723,498		
	d		Net gain or (loss)	723,498		723,498		
	8a	Gross income from fundraising events (not including \$ 1,264,744 of contributions reported on line 1c). See Part IV, line 18	8a	412,913				
			b	Less: direct expenses	8b	446,833		
			c		Net income or (loss) from fundraising events	-33,920		-33,920
	9a	Gross income from gaming activities. See Part IV, line 19	9a					
			b	Less: direct expenses	9b			
			c		Net income or (loss) from gaming activities	0		
	10a	Gross sales of inventory, less returns and allowances	10a					
b			Less: cost of goods sold	10b				
c			Net income or (loss) from sales of inventory	0				
Miscellaneous Revenue		Business Code						
11a								
b								
c								
d		All other revenue						
e		Total. Add lines 11a-11d		0				
12		Total revenue. See instructions		73,932,331	40,199,677	1,291,259		

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Part IX Statement of Functional Expenses

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

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

Do not include amounts reported on lines 6b, 7b, 8b, 9b, and 10b of Part VIII.	(A) Total expenses	(B) Program service expenses	(C) Management and general expenses	(D) Fundraising expenses
1 Grants and other assistance to domestic organizations and domestic governments. See Part IV, line 21	1,383,398	1,383,398		
2 Grants and other assistance to domestic individuals. See Part IV, line 22	14,496	14,496		
3 Grants and other assistance to foreign organizations, foreign governments, and foreign individuals. See Part IV, lines 15 and 16.	1,985,543	1,985,543		
4 Benefits paid to or for members	0			
5 Compensation of current officers, directors, trustees, and key employees	1,009,471	432,668	400,369	176,434
6 Compensation not included above, to disqualified persons (as defined under section 4958(f)(1)) and persons described in section 4958(c)(3)(B)	0			
7 Other salaries and wages	21,425,619	18,487,981	991,197	1,946,441
8 Pension plan accruals and contributions (include section 401 (k) and 403(b) employer contributions)	707,765	610,425	32,353	64,987
9 Other employee benefits	2,697,542	2,296,728	146,624	254,190
10 Payroll taxes	1,663,101	1,414,652	97,679	150,770
11 Fees for services (non-employees):				
a Management	0			
b Legal	67,070		67,070	
c Accounting	28,472		28,472	
d Lobbying	0			
e Professional fundraising services. See Part IV, line 17	156,000			156,000
f Investment management fees	105,806		105,806	
g Other (If line 11g amount exceeds 10% of line 25, column (A) amount, list line 11g expenses on Schedule O.)	4,022,120	3,004,267	703,455	314,398
12 Advertising and promotion	1,559,749	1,534,985	16,076	8,688
13 Office expenses	848,984	584,663	52,725	211,596
14 Information technology	397,352	181,131	137,344	78,877
15 Royalties	0			
16 Occupancy	946,537	916,751	21,662	8,124
17 Travel	358,567	326,924	13,360	18,283
18 Payments of travel or entertainment expenses for any federal, state, or local public officials	0			
19 Conferences, conventions, and meetings	585,307	373,819	3,279	208,209
20 Interest	7,615		7,615	
21 Payments to affiliates	0			
22 Depreciation, depletion, and amortization	8,754,159	8,754,159		
23 Insurance	643,294	579,116	31,145	33,033
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 Supplies	1,959,317	1,928,080	250	30,987
b Printing & publications	647,226	292,136	29,627	325,463
c Grounds/Events	485,369	484,533	608	228
d Equipment expense	437,103	405,092	30,199	1,812
e All other expenses	0			
25 Total functional expenses. Add lines 1 through 24e	52,896,982	45,991,547	2,916,915	3,988,520
26 Joint costs. Complete this line only if the organization reported in column (B) joint costs from a combined educational campaign and fundraising solicitation. Check here ☐ if following SOP 98-2 (ASC 958-720).				

Part X Balance SheetCheck if Schedule O contains a response or note to any line in this Part IX ☐

				(A) Beginning of year		(B) End of year	
Assets	1	Cash—non-interest-bearing		12,852,677	1	19,681,656	
	2	Savings and temporary cash investments		20,093,319	2	9,918,910	
	3	Pledges and grants receivable, net		54,592,432	3	59,616,920	
	4	Accounts receivable, net		627,463	4	654,804	
	5	Loans and other payables to any current or former officer, director, trustee, key employee, creator or founder, substantial contributor, or 35% controlled entity or family member of any of these persons			5	0	
	6	Loans and other receivables from other disqualified persons (as defined under section 4958(f)(1)), and persons described in section 4958(c)(3)(B)			6	0	
	7	Notes and loans receivable, net			7	0	
	8	Inventories for sale or use		90,526	8	102,910	
	9	Prepaid expenses and deferred charges		994,815	9	1,022,378	
	10a	Land, buildings, and equipment: cost or other basis. Complete Part VI of Schedule D	10a	205,268,635			
	b	Less: accumulated depreciation	10b	66,498,745	117,642,177	10c	138,769,890
	11	Investments—publicly traded securities		19,452,380	11	22,580,443	
	12	Investments—other securities. See Part IV, line 11			12	1,060,347	
	13	Investments—program-related. See Part IV, line 11			13	0	
	14	Intangible assets			14	0	
	15	Other assets. See Part IV, line 11			15	0	
16	Total assets. Add lines 1 through 15 (must equal line 34)		226,345,789	16	253,408,258		
Liabilities	17	Accounts payable and accrued expenses		5,572,772	17	8,933,849	
	18	Grants payable			18		
	19	Deferred revenue		3,751,880	19	4,139,254	
	20	Tax-exempt bond liabilities			20		
	21	Escrow or custodial account liability. Complete Part IV of Schedule D		70,483	21	107,779	
	22	Loans and other payables to any current or former officer, director, trustee, key employee, creator or founder, substantial contributor, or 35% controlled entity or family member of any of these persons			22		
	23	Secured mortgages and notes payable to unrelated third parties			23	832,307	
	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		
	26	Total liabilities. Add lines 17 through 25		9,395,135	26	14,013,189	
Net Assets or Fund Balances	Organizations that follow FASB ASC 958, check here ☒ and complete lines 27, 28, 32, and 33.						
	27	Net assets without donor restrictions		144,066,349	27	161,036,906	
	28	Net assets with donor restrictions		72,884,305	28	78,358,163	
	Organizations that do not follow FASB ASC 958, check here ☐ and complete lines 29 through 33.						
	29	Capital stock or trust principal, or current funds			29		
	30	Paid-in or capital surplus, or land, building or equipment fund			30		
	31	Retained earnings, endowment, accumulated income, or other funds			31		
	32	Total net assets or fund balances		216,950,654	32	239,395,069	
33	Total liabilities and net assets/fund balances		226,345,789	33	253,408,258		

Part XI Reconciliation of Net AssetsCheck if Schedule O contains a response or note to any line in this Part XI ☐

1	Total revenue (must equal Part VIII, column (A), line 12)	1	73,932,331
2	Total expenses (must equal Part IX, column (A), line 25)	2	52,896,982
3	Revenue less expenses. Subtract line 2 from line 1	3	21,035,349
4	Net assets or fund balances at beginning of year (must equal Part X, line 33, column (A))	4	216,950,654
5	Net unrealized gains (losses) on investments	5	1,409,066
6	Donated services and use of facilities	6	
7	Investment expenses	7	
8	Prior period adjustments	8	
9	Other changes in net assets or fund balances (explain in Schedule O)	9	
10	Net assets or fund balances at end of year. Combine lines 3 through 9 (must equal Part X, line 33, column (B))	10	239,395,069

Part XII Financial Statements and ReportingCheck if Schedule O contains a response or note to any line in this Part XII ☐

	Yes	No
1 Accounting method used to prepare the Form 990: ☐ 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		No
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	Yes	
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.	Yes	
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?		No
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.		

Additional Data

Software ID: 19009920
Software Version: 2019v5.0
EIN: 74-1590271
Name: Houston Zoo Inc

Form 990 (2019)

Form 990, Part III, Line 4a:

Aspiring to be one of the best zoos in the country, the Houston Zoo is focused on ensuring that visitors from both within and outside the Houston area feel like they have been as close to the wild as they can get. The Houston Zoo's animal care team, Conservation Education Department, Zoo Rangers, and our Guest Relations personnel lead this effort. The Zoo's animal keepers provide uncompromising excellence in animal care as well as world class guest experiences. During this reporting period, the Houston Zoo animal care participated in Meet the Keeper talks, behind-the-scenes tours, and many other personal animal experiences for our guests which encourage appreciation and empathy for animals in the zoo and in the wild. These experiences help our guests understand how they can help save animals in the wild and how the Houston Zoo directly supports the conservation of various species across the globe. Providing diverse learning experiences, the Houston Zoo's Education Department promotes connections with the natural world, empowering our guests to inquire, act, and conserve. During this reporting period, the Houston Zoo's Education Department personnel conducted interpretive programs on the grounds reaching approximately 481,327 participants. The Zoo is also committed to ensuring all Houstonians, regardless of means, have access to the Zoo. The Zoo ranks in the bottom 50% of zoo admission prices for comparable accredited zoos in the United States and below average for Texas zoos and similar local attractions. Guests are offered free or heavily discounted pricing through multiple programs. Lone Star Card program - Admission of up to 2 adults and 3 children for \$5.25 each when card is presented. Military program - Admission of up to 2 adults and 3 children at 50% discount with military ID. Schools and Groups - Free admission to all schools (school children, teachers and chaperones), within the Houston city limits, accredited by the Texas Education Agency or the Texas Private School Accreditation Commission. Free Days - Free admission to the public on the first Tuesday of each month from September to May. Lone Star, Schools Active Military & Groups

Free Days Total	2019	186,010	112,053	53,081	351,144	2018	186,523	107,880	57,033	351,436
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Form 990, Part III, Line 4b:

The Houston Zoos Wildlife Conservation Program was initiated in 2004 to facilitate leadership in conservation efforts related to the survival of threatened wildlife, the wise use of natural resources, and the appreciation of our natural world. As of fiscal year 2019, we currently support 42 projects in 22 countries around the world including the US. Accordingly, the Houston Zoo has committed 6% of its annual operating budget to support this program, which compares favorably with other zoos, most of which do not make such substantial commitments to conservation from their operating budgets. The Houston Zoo recognizes the need to work both close to home, supporting a number of wildlife reintroduction projects right here in Texas, and also across the globe where we support critical efforts aligned with the animals we house here at the Houston Zoo. These programs quite often focus not only on wildlife but as much on the support of the human communities living with those species on a daily basis. We believe conservation is not just about saving species but about improving the lives of the local communities so they see the benefits of protecting animals in the wild. Through partnerships with local, national, and international conservation agencies and non-governmental organizations (NGOs), such as the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, US Fish and Wildlife Service, and the Association of Zoos and Aquariums (AZA), the Houston Zoo actively participates in programs designed to protect both animals and their natural habitats worldwide.

Form 990, Part III, Line 4c:

The Zoos conservation education programs offer a continuum of learning from birth to adulthood including fee-based educational programs, on-site live interpretation, adult volunteers and interns, and interpretive planning. Fee-based programs include family programs, early childhood programs, summer camp, overnights and ZooMobiles. Conservation Education Programs (1/1/2019 to 12/31/1019): Total persons served: 517,865 (includes onsite guest interactions by staff, teens and volunteer interpreters, pre-schedule fee-based programming) Pro-bono programming: The Houston Zoo values being a Zoo for All. Conservation Education supports this value by offering free weeklong summer camp experiences for need-based children ages 4-16. In addition, 20% of our ZooMobile programs are pro-bono for the community and we award college scholarships to our Zoo Crew teens that are graduating out of the program to college. Summer Camp scholarships: 223 campers ZooMobile programs: 64 programs reaching approx. 5,407 people Zoo Crew teen college scholarships: 4 teens 36 projects in 21 countries in 2019

Form 990, Part VII - Compensation of Officers, Directors, Trustees, Key Employees, Highest Compensated Employees, and Independent Contractors										
(A) Name and Title	(B) Average hours per week (list any hours for related organizations below dotted line)	(C) Position (do not check more than one box, unless person is both an officer and a director/trustee)						(D) Reportable compensation from the organization (W- 2/1099-MISC)	(E) Reportable compensation from related organizations (W- 2/1099-MISC)	(F) Estimated amount of other compensation from the organization and related organizations
		Individual trustee or director	Institutional Trustee	Officer	Key employee	Highest compensated employee	Former			
Lee Ehmke President & CEO	40.00 0.00			X				436,755	0	18,799
Sheryl Kolasinski COO	40.00 0.00			X				243,514	0	17,275
Mark Van Wickler Exhibit Design Dir	40.00 0.00							200,765	0	14,708
John Trahan CFO	40.00 0.00			X				200,152	0	15,306
Roberto Espinosa VP Development	40.00 0.00							166,606	0	15,748
Kristin Finney VP HR	40.00 0.00							150,518	0	15,482
Peter Riger VP Conservation	40.00 0.00							150,486	0	12,396
Lisa Avendano VP Animal Ops	40.00 0.00							150,149	0	12,375
Leslie Forestier VP Finance	40.00 0.00			X				64,640	0	13,030
Stacy Methvin Board Chair	4.00 0.00	X		X				0	0	0

Form 990, Part VII - Compensation of Officers, Directors, Trustees, Key Employees, Highest Compensated Employees, and Independent Contractors

(A) Name and Title	(B) Average hours per week (list any hours for related organizations below dotted line)	(C) Position (do not check more than one box, unless person is both an officer and a director/trustee)						(D) Reportable compensation from the organization (W- 2/1099-MISC)	(E) Reportable compensation from related organizations (W- 2/1099-MISC)	(F) Estimated amount of other compensation from the organization and related organizations
		Individual trustee or director	Institutional Trustee	Officer	Key employee	Highest compensated employee	Former			
Joe Cleary Vice Chair	1.00 0.00	X		X				0	0	0
Cullen Geiselman Vice Chair	1.00 0.00	X		X				0	0	0
Robert Graham Vice Chair	1.00 0.00	X		X				0	0	0
Neal Manne Vice Chair	1.00 0.00	X		X				0	0	0
Jim Postl Vice Chair	1.00 0.00	X		X				0	0	0
Suzanne Nimocks Imm Past Chair	1.00 0.00	X		X				0	0	0
Sami Ahmad Board Member	1.00 0.00	X						0	0	0
Roxanne Almaraz Board Member	1.00 0.00	X						0	0	0
Bill Barnett Member Emeritus	1.00 0.00	X						0	0	0
Carlos Bueno Board Member	1.00 0.00	X						0	0	0

Form 990, Part VII - Compensation of Officers, Directors, Trustees, Key Employees, Highest Compensated Employees, and Independent Contractors										
(A) Name and Title	(B) Average hours per week (list any hours for related organizations below dotted line)	(C) Position (do not check more than one box, unless person is both an officer and a director/trustee)						(D) Reportable compensation from the organization (W- 2/1099-MISC)	(E) Reportable compensation from related organizations (W- 2/1099-MISC)	(F) Estimated amount of other compensation from the organization and related organizations
		Individual trustee or director	Institutional Trustee	Officer	Key employee	Highest compensated employee	Former			
Roberto Contreras Board Member	1.00 0.00	X						0	0	0
Joshua Davidson Board Member	1.00 0.00	X						0	0	0
Joe Dilg Board Member	1.00 0.00	X						0	0	0
Mike Dishberger Board Member	1.00 0.00	X						0	0	0
Jeff Dudderar Board Member	1.00 0.00	X						0	0	0
Anne Duncan Member Emeritus	1.00 0.00	X						0	0	0
Robert Edwards Board Member	1.00 0.00	X						0	0	0
Jenny Elkins Board Member	1.00 0.00	X						0	0	0
Kat Gallagher Board Member	1.00 0.00	X						0	0	0
Amy Garrou Board Member	1.00 0.00	X						0	0	0

Form 990, Part VII - Compensation of Officers, Directors, Trustees, Key Employees, Highest Compensated Employees, and Independent Contractors

(A) Name and Title	(B) Average hours per week (list any hours for related organizations below dotted line)	(C) Position (do not check more than one box, unless person is both an officer and a director/trustee)						(D) Reportable compensation from the organization (W- 2/1099-MISC)	(E) Reportable compensation from related organizations (W- 2/1099-MISC)	(F) Estimated amount of other compensation from the organization and related organizations
		Individual trustee or director	Institutional Trustee	Officer	Key employee	Highest compensated employee	Former			
Eureka Gilkey Board Member	1.00 0.00	X						0	0	0
Marty Goossen Board Member	1.00 0.00	X						0	0	0
Gillian Hobson Board Member	1.00 0.00	X						0	0	0
Tandra Jackson Board Member	1.00 0.00	X						0	0	0
Jill Jewett Board Member	1.00 0.00	X						0	0	0
Myrtle Jones Board Member	1.00 0.00	X						0	0	0
Peggy Kostial Board Member	1.00 0.00	X						0	0	0
Kimberly McKay Board Member	1.00 0.00	X						0	0	0
Clay Neff Board Member	1.00 0.00	X						0	0	0
Bruce Niemeyer Board Member	1.00 0.00	X						0	0	0

Form 990, Part VII - Compensation of Officers, Directors, Trustees, Key Employees, Highest Compensated Employees, and Independent Contractors

(A) Name and Title	(B) Average hours per week (list any hours for related organizations below dotted line)	(C) Position (do not check more than one box, unless person is both an officer and a director/trustee)						(D) Reportable compensation from the organization (W- 2/1099-MISC)	(E) Reportable compensation from related organizations (W- 2/1099-MISC)	(F) Estimated amount of other compensation from the organization and related organizations
		Individual trustee or director	Institutional Trustee	Officer	Key employee	Highest compensated employee	Former			
Alie Pruner Board Member	1.00 0.00	X						0	0	0
Ron Rand Board Member	1.00 0.00	X						0	0	0
Tim Roberts Board Member	1.00 0.00	X						0	0	0
Brent Smolik Board Member	1.00 0.00	X						0	0	0
Bas Solleveld Board Member	1.00 0.00	X						0	0	0
Macey Stokes Board Member	1.00 0.00	X						0	0	0
Molly Voorhees Board Member	1.00 0.00	X						0	0	0
Cynthia Walker Board Member	1.00 0.00	X						0	0	0
Randa Duncan Williams Member Emeritus	1.00 0.00	X						0	0	0
Austin Young Member Emeritus	1.00 0.00	X						0	0	0

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 for instructions and the latest information.

OMB No. 1545-0047

2019

Open to Public Inspection

Name of the organization
Houston Zoo Inc

Employer identification number
74-1590271

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 **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		
Total						

Part II

Support Schedule for Organizations Described in Sections 170(b)(1)(A)(iv) and 170(b)(1)(A)(vi)
(Complete only if you checked the box on line 5, 7, or 8 of Part I or if the organization failed to qualify under Part III.
If the organization failed to qualify under the tests listed below, please complete Part III.)

Section A. Public Support							
	Calendar year (or fiscal year beginning in) ►	(a) 2015	(b) 2016	(c) 2017	(d) 2018	(e) 2019	(f) Total
1	Gifts, grants, contributions, and membership fees received. (Do not include any "unusual grant.") . .	14,246,988	16,879,194	33,435,509	65,803,520	32,441,395	162,806,606
2	Tax revenues levied for the organization's benefit and either paid to or expended on its behalf						0
3	The value of services or facilities furnished by a governmental unit to the organization without charge..						0
4	Total. Add lines 1 through 3	14,246,988	16,879,194	33,435,509	65,803,520	32,441,395	162,806,606
5	The portion of total contributions by each person (other than a governmental unit or publicly supported organization) included on line 1 that exceeds 2% of the amount shown on line 11, column (f). .						54,897,706
6	Public support. Subtract line 5 from line 4.						107,908,900

Section B. Total Support							
Calendar year (or fiscal year beginning in) ►		(a) 2015	(b) 2016	(c) 2017	(d) 2018	(e) 2019	(f) Total
7	Amounts from line 4. . .	14,246,988	16,879,194	33,435,509	65,803,520	32,441,395	162,806,606
8	Gross income from interest, dividends, payments received on securities loans, rents, royalties and income from similar sources	666,304	603,974	536,064	538,598	601,681	2,946,621
9	Net income from unrelated business activities, whether or not the business is regularly carried on . . .						0
10	Other income. Do not include gain or loss from the sale of capital assets (Explain in Part VI.). . .						0
11	Total support. Add lines 7 through 10						165,753,227
12	Gross receipts from related activities, etc. (see instructions)					12	187,197,761
13	First five years. If the Form 990 is for the organization's first, second, third, fourth, or fifth tax year as a section 501(c)(3) organization, check this box and stop here ► ☐						

Section C. Computation of Public Support Percentage		
14	Public support percentage for 2019 (line 6, column (f) divided by line 11, column (f))	14 65.100 %
15	Public support percentage for 2018 Schedule A, Part II, line 14	15 63.370 %
16a	33 1/3% support test—2019. If the organization did not check the box on line 13, and line 14 is 33 1/3% or more, check this box and stop here. The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization ▶ ☒	
b	33 1/3% support test—2018. If the organization did not check a box on line 13 or 16a, and line 15 is 33 1/3% or more, check this box and stop here. The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization ▶ ☐	
17a	10%-facts-and-circumstances test—2019. If the organization did not check a box on line 13, 16a, or 16b, and line 14 is 10% or more, and if the organization meets the "facts-and-circumstances" test, check this box and stop here. Explain in Part VI how the organization meets the "facts-and-circumstances" test. The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization ▶ ☐	
b	10%-facts-and-circumstances test—2018. If the organization did not check a box on line 13, 16a, 16b, or 17a, and line 15 is 10% or more, and if the organization meets the "facts-and-circumstances" test, check this box and stop here. Explain in Part VI how the organization meets the "facts-and-circumstances" test. The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization ▶ ☐	
18	Private foundation. If the organization did not check a box on line 13, 16a, 16b, 17a, or 17b, check this box and see instructions ▶ ☐	

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) 2015	(b) 2016	(c) 2017	(d) 2018	(e) 2019	(f) Total
1 Gifts, grants, contributions, and membership fees received. (Do not include any "unusual grants.") .						
2 Gross receipts from admissions, merchandise sold or services performed, or facilities furnished in any activity that is related to the organization's tax-exempt purpose						
3 Gross receipts from activities that are not an unrelated trade or business under section 513						
4 Tax revenues levied for the organization's benefit and either paid to or expended on its behalf. . .						
5 The value of services or facilities furnished by a governmental unit to the organization without charge						
6 Total. Add lines 1 through 5						
7a Amounts included on lines 1, 2, and 3 received from disqualified persons						
b Amounts included on lines 2 and 3 received from other than disqualified persons that exceed the greater of \$5,000 or 1% of the amount on line 13 for the year.						
c Add lines 7a and 7b. .						
8 Public support. (Subtract line 7c from line 6.)						

Section B. Total Support

Calendar year (or fiscal year beginning in) ►	(a) 2015	(b) 2016	(c) 2017	(d) 2018	(e) 2019	(f) Total
9 Amounts from line 6. . .						
10a Gross income from interest, dividends, payments received on securities loans, rents, royalties and income from similar sources. .						
b Unrelated business taxable income (less section 511 taxes) from businesses acquired after June 30, 1975.						
c Add lines 10a and 10b.						
11 Net income from unrelated business activities not included in line 10b, whether or not the business is regularly carried on.						
12 Other income. Do not include gain or loss from the sale of capital assets (Explain in Part VI.) . .						
13 Total support. (Add lines 9, 10c, 11, and 12.) . .						
14 First five years. If the Form 990 is for the organization's first, second, third, fourth, or fifth tax year as a section 501(c)(3) organization, check this box and stop here. ► ☐						

Section C. Computation of Public Support Percentage

15 Public support percentage for 2019 (line 8, column (f) divided by line 13, column (f))	15	
16 Public support percentage from 2018 Schedule A, Part III, line 15	16	

Section D. Computation of Investment Income Percentage

17 Investment income percentage for 2019 (line 10c, column (f) divided by line 13, column (f))	17	
18 Investment income percentage from 2018 Schedule A, Part III, line 17	18	

19a 33 1/3% support tests—2019. 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 ► ☐

b 33 1/3% support tests—2018. 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 ► ☐

20 Private foundation. If the organization did not check a box on line 14, 19a, or 19b, check this box and see instructions ► ☐

Part IV Supporting Organizations

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

Section A. All Supporting Organizations

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

Part IV

Supporting Organizations (continued)

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

Section B. Type I Supporting Organizations

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

Section C. Type II Supporting Organizations

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

Section D. All Type III Supporting Organizations

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

Section E. Type III Functionally-Integrated Supporting Organizations

1 Check the box next to the method that the organization used to satisfy the Integral Part Test during the year (see instructions):		
a ☐ The organization satisfied the Activities Test. Complete line 2 below.		
b ☐ The organization is the parent of each of its supported organizations. Complete line 3 below.		
c ☐ The organization supported a governmental entity. Describe in Part VI how you supported a government entity (see instructions)		
2 Activities Test. Answer (a) and (b) below.		
a Did substantially all of the organization's activities during the tax year directly further the exempt purposes of the supported organization(s) to which the organization was responsive? <i>If "Yes," then in Part VI identify those supported organizations and explain how these activities directly furthered their exempt purposes, how the organization was responsive to those supported organizations, and how the organization determined that these activities constituted substantially all of its activities.</i>		
b Did the activities described in (a) constitute activities that, but for the organization's involvement, one or more of the organization's supported organization(s) would have been engaged in? <i>If "Yes," explain in Part VI the reasons for the organization's position that its supported organization(s) would have engaged in these activities but for the organization's involvement.</i>		
3 Parent of Supported Organizations. Answer (a) and (b) below.		
a Did the organization have the power to regularly appoint or elect a majority of the officers, directors, or trustees of each of the supported organizations? <i>Provide details in Part VI.</i>		
b Did the organization exercise a substantial degree of direction over the policies, programs and activities of each of its supported organizations? <i>If "Yes," describe in Part VI the role played by the organization in this regard.</i>		

Part V

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

1		☐ Check here if the organization satisfied the Integral Part Test as a qualifying trust on Nov. 20, 1970 (explain in Part VI). See instructions. All other Type III non-functionally integrated supporting organizations must complete Sections A through E.	
Section A - Adjusted Net Income		(A) Prior Year	(B) Current Year (optional)
1	Net short-term capital gain	1	
2	Recoveries of prior-year distributions	2	
3	Other gross income (see instructions)	3	
4	Add lines 1 through 3	4	
5	Depreciation and depletion	5	
6	Portion of operating expenses paid or incurred for production or collection of gross income or for management, conservation, or maintenance of property held for production of income (see instructions)	6	
7	Other expenses (see instructions)	7	
8	Adjusted Net Income (subtract lines 5, 6 and 7 from line 4)	8	
Section B - Minimum Asset Amount		(A) Prior Year	(B) Current Year (optional)
1	Aggregate fair market value of all non-exempt-use assets (see instructions for short tax year or assets held for part of year):	1	
a	Average monthly value of securities	1a	
b	Average monthly cash balances	1b	
c	Fair market value of other non-exempt-use assets	1c	
d	Total (add lines 1a, 1b, and 1c)	1d	
e	Discount claimed for blockage or other factors (explain in detail in Part VI):		
2	Acquisition indebtedness applicable to non-exempt use assets	2	
3	Subtract line 2 from line 1d	3	
4	Cash deemed held for exempt use. Enter 1-1/2% of line 3 (for greater amount, see instructions).	4	
5	Net value of non-exempt-use assets (subtract line 4 from line 3)	5	
6	Multiply line 5 by .035	6	
7	Recoveries of prior-year distributions	7	
8	Minimum Asset Amount (add line 7 to line 6)	8	
Section C - Distributable Amount			Current Year
1	Adjusted net income for prior year (from Section A, line 8, Column A)	1	
2	Enter 85% of line 1	2	
3	Minimum asset amount for prior year (from Section B, line 8, Column A)	3	
4	Enter greater of line 2 or line 3	4	
5	Income tax imposed in prior year	5	
6	Distributable Amount. Subtract line 5 from line 4, unless subject to emergency temporary reduction (see instructions)	6	
7	☐ Check here if the current year is the organization's first as a non-functionally-integrated Type III supporting organization (see instructions)		

Part V

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

Section D - Distributions			Current Year
1			Amounts paid to supported organizations to accomplish exempt purposes
2			Amounts paid to perform activity that directly furthers exempt purposes of supported organizations, in excess of income from activity
3			Administrative expenses paid to accomplish exempt purposes of supported organizations
4			Amounts paid to acquire exempt-use assets
5			Qualified set-aside amounts (prior IRS approval required)
6			Other distributions (describe in Part VI). See instructions
7			Total annual distributions. Add lines 1 through 6.
8			Distributions to attentive supported organizations to which the organization is responsive (provide details in Part VI). See instructions
9			Distributable amount for 2019 from Section C, line 6
10			Line 8 amount divided by Line 9 amount

Section E - Distribution Allocations (see instructions)	(i) Excess Distributions	(ii) Underdistributions Pre-2019	(iii) Distributable Amount for 2019
1			Distributable amount for 2019 from Section C, line 6
2			Underdistributions, if any, for years prior to 2019 (reasonable cause required-- explain in Part VI). See instructions.
3			Excess distributions carryover, if any, to 2019:
a			From 2014.
b			From 2015.
c			From 2016.
d			From 2017.
e			From 2018.
f			Total of lines 3a through e
g			Applied to underdistributions of prior years
h			Applied to 2019 distributable amount
i			Carryover from 2014 not applied (see instructions)
j			Remainder. Subtract lines 3g, 3h, and 3i from 3f.
4			Distributions for 2019 from Section D, line 7:
			\$
a			Applied to underdistributions of prior years
b			Applied to 2019 distributable amount
c			Remainder. Subtract lines 4a and 4b from 4.
5			Remaining underdistributions for years prior to 2019, if any. Subtract lines 3g and 4a from line 2. If the amount is greater than zero, explain in Part VI. See instructions.
6			Remaining underdistributions for 2019. Subtract lines 3h and 4b from line 1. If the amount is greater than zero, explain in Part VI. See instructions.
7			Excess distributions carryover to 2020. Add lines 3j and 4c.
8			Breakdown of line 7:
a			Excess from 2015.
b			Excess from 2016.
c			Excess from 2017.
d			Excess from 2018.
e			Excess from 2019.

Additional Data

Software ID: 19009920

Software Version: 2019v5.0

EIN: 74-1590271

Name: Houston Zoo Inc

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).

Facts And Circumstances Test

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 for instructions and the latest information.

OMB No. 1545-0047

2019

Open to Public Inspection

Name of the organization
Houston Zoo Inc

Employer identification number
74-1590271

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?

☐ Yes ☐ 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?

☐ Yes ☐ 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).

☐ Preservation of land for public use (e.g., recreation or education)

☐ Preservation of an historically important land area

☐ Protection of natural habitat

☐ Preservation of a certified historic structure

☐ 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.

	Held at the End of the Year
a Total number of conservation easements	2a
b Total acreage restricted by conservation easements	2b
c Number of conservation easements on a certified historic structure included in (a)	2c
d Number of conservation easements included in (c) acquired after 7/25/06, and not on a historic structure listed in the National Register	2d

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?

☐ Yes ☐ 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)?

☐ Yes ☐ 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 ► \$

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

Cat. No. 52283D

Schedule D (Form 990) 2019

Part III

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

3

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

a☒ Public exhibition

b☒ Scholarly research

c☒ Preservation for future generations

d☒ Loan or exchange programs

e☐ Other

4

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

5

During the year, did the organization solicit or receive donations of art, historical treasures or other similar assets to be sold to raise funds rather than to be maintained as part of the organization's collection?

☐ Yes

☒ No

Part IV

Escrow and Custodial Arrangements.

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

1a

Is the organization an agent, trustee, custodian or other intermediary for contributions or other assets not included on Form 990, Part X?

☐ Yes

☒ No

b

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

	Amount
1c	
1d	
1e	
1f	

c

Beginning balance

d

Additions during the year

e

Distributions during the year

f

Ending balance

2a

Did the organization include an amount on Form 990, Part X, line 21, for escrow or custodial account liability?

☒ Yes

☐ No

b

If "Yes," explain the arrangement in Part XIII. Check here if the explanation has been provided in 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	11,709,422	12,473,441	10,825,755	9,253,968	9,343,383
b	Contributions	1,292,829	33,368	9,000	1,054,000	22,532
c	Net investment earnings, gains, and losses	2,407,539	-711,865	1,710,324	598,621	-7,048
d	Grants or scholarships				31,704	29,687
e	Other expenditures for facilities and programs	93,982	8,200			
f	Administrative expenses	87,920	77,322	71,638	49,130	75,212
g	End of year balance	15,227,888	11,709,422	12,473,441	10,825,755	9,253,968

2

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

a

Board designated or quasi-endowment

54.540 %

b

Permanent endowment

23.210 %

c

Temporarily restricted endowment

22.250 %

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

3a

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

(i) unrelated organizations

(ii) related organizations

b

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

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

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			
b	Buildings			
c	Leasehold improvements	163,709,822	59,800,079	103,909,743
d	Equipment	14,352,269	6,698,666	7,653,603
e	Other	27,206,544		27,206,544
Total.	Add lines 1a through 1e. (Column (d) must equal Form 990, Part X, column (B), line 10(c).)			138,769,890

Part VII

Investments—Other Securities.

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

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

Part VIII

Investments—Program Related.

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

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

Part IX

Other Assets.

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

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

Part X

Other Liabilities.

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

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

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

Schedule D (Form 990) 2019

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	75,235,591
2	Amounts included on line 1 but not on Form 990, Part VIII, line 12:		
a	Net unrealized gains (losses) on investments	2a	1,409,066
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	1,409,066
3	Subtract line 2e from line 1	3	73,826,525
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	105,806
b	Other (Describe in Part XIII.)	4b	
c	Add lines 4a and 4b	4c	105,806
5	Total revenue. Add lines 3 and 4c . (This must equal Form 990, Part I, line 12.)	5	73,932,331

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	52,791,176
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	52,791,176
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	105,806
b	Other (Describe in Part XIII.)	4b	
c	Add lines 4a and 4b	4c	105,806
5	Total expenses. Add lines 3 and 4c . (This must equal Form 990, Part I, line 18.)	5	52,896,982

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.

Return Reference	Explanation
See Additional Data Table	

Part XIII **Supplemental Information** *(continued)*

Return Reference	Explanation

Additional Data

Software ID: 19009920
Software Version: 2019v5.0
EIN: 74-1590271
Name: Houston Zoo Inc

Supplemental Information

Return Reference	Explanation
Part III, Line 1a: If organization elected under SFAS 116 to not report are, historical treasures, o	In accordance with industry practice, the Houston Zoo does not capitalize animal and horticultural collections; acquisitions are reported as expenditures in the period of acquisition. The Houston Zoo is responsible for the health and welfare of its animal and horticultural collections. The Houston Zoo maintains records of its collections and any exchanges with other organizations. Under the direction of the Board of Directors, the President, and the curatorial staff, collections continue to be cared for, used, and expanded. In 2019 and 2018, the Houston Zoo expended approximately \$25,000 and \$32,000, respectively, to expand its collections. In an ongoing commitment to enhance worldwide reproduction and conservation of animals, the Houston Zoo exchanges animals with other organizations. Consistent with industry practice, the Houston Zoo does not record any liability for such exchange arrangements as generally these arrangements are without monetary consideration.

Supplemental Information	
Return Reference	Explanation
Part III, Line 4: Description of organization's collections and how it furthers its purpose.	The Houston Zoo is a conservation, education, and recreation organization dedicated to the reproduction, protection, and exhibition of animals in their habitats. The Houston Zoo provides a fun, unique and inspirational experience fostering appreciation, knowledge and care for the natural world.

Supplemental Information	
Return Reference	Explanation
Part IV, Line 2b: Explanation of escrow account liability	At 12/31/19, the Zoo held funds on behalf of the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Tapir Specialist Group (TSG), which studies tapirs and their habitat in order to gain a better understanding of their biology and promote their long-term survival in the wild. TSG has no mechanism for managing incoming or outgoing funds in the United States. Donors who wish to support TSG make donations to the Houston Zoo on behalf of TSG which the Zoo holds until the TSG Chair requests funding for travel, fieldwork, or individual grants for work performed in Tapir range countries in Central/South America and Malaysia.

Supplemental Information	
Return Reference	Explanation
Part V, Line 4: Intended uses of the endowment fund.	To provide ongoing support for operating needs and program services that are consistent with the Houston Zoo's mission, and to provide growth and expansion of programs and/or creation of new programs.

SCHEDULE F
(Form 990)

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

Statement of Activities Outside the United States

► Complete if the organization answered "Yes" to Form 990, Part IV, line 14b, 15, or 16.
► Attach to Form 990.
► Go to www.irs.gov/Form990 for instructions and the latest information.

OMB No. 1545-0047

2019

Open to Public Inspection

Name of the organization
Houston Zoo Inc

Employer identification number
74-1590271

Part I

General Information on Activities Outside the United States. Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 14b.

- 1 For grantmakers. Does the organization maintain records to substantiate the amount of its grants and other assistance, the grantees' eligibility for the grants or assistance, and the selection criteria used to award the grants or assistance? ☒ Yes ☐ No
- 2 For grantmakers. Describe in Part V the organization's procedures for monitoring the use of its grants and other assistance outside the United States.
- 3 Activities per Region. (The following Part I, line 3 table can be duplicated if additional space is needed.)

(a) Region	(b) Number of offices in the region	(c) Number of employees, agents, and independent contractors in the region	(d) Activities conducted in region (by type) (such as, fundraising, program services, investments, grants to recipients located in the region)	(e) If activity listed in (d) is a program service, describe specific type of service(s) in the region	(f) Total expenditures for and investments in the region
See Add'l Data					
3a Sub-total					1,985,543
b Total from continuation sheets to Part I					
c Totals (add lines 3a and 3b)					1,985,543

Part II **Grants and Other Assistance to Organizations or Entities Outside the United States.** Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 15, for any recipient who received more than \$5,000. Part II can be duplicated if additional space is needed.

[illegible]

2 Enter total number of recipient organizations listed above that are recognized as charities by the foreign country, recognized as tax-exempt by the IRS, or for which the grantee or counsel has provided a section 501(c)(3) equivalency letter

19

3 Enter total number of other organizations or entities

Part III	Grants and Other Assistance to Individuals Outside the United States. Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 16.
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Part III can be duplicated if additional space is needed.

[illegible]

Part IV Foreign Forms

- 1 Was the organization a U.S. transferor of property to a foreign corporation during the tax year? *If "Yes," the organization may be required to file Form 926, Return by a U.S. Transferor of Property to a Foreign Corporation (see Instructions for Form 926)* ☐ Yes ☒ No
- 2 Did the organization have an interest in a foreign trust during the tax year? *If "Yes," the organization may be required to separately file Form 3520, Annual Return to Report Transactions with Foreign Trusts and Receipt of Certain Foreign Gifts, and/or Form 3520-A, Annual Information Return of Foreign Trust With a U.S. Owner (see Instructions for Forms 3520 and 3520-A; don't file with Form 990)* ☐ Yes ☒ No
- 3 Did the organization have an ownership interest in a foreign corporation during the tax year? *If "Yes," the organization may be required to file Form 5471, Information Return of U.S. Persons with Respect to Certain Foreign Corporations. (see Instructions for Form 5471)* ☐ Yes ☒ No
- 4 Was the organization a direct or indirect shareholder of a passive foreign investment company or a qualified electing fund during the tax year? *If "Yes," the organization may be required to file Form 8621, Information Return by a Shareholder of a Passive Foreign Investment Company or Qualified Electing Fund. (see Instructions for Form 8621)* . ☐ Yes ☒ No
- 5 Did the organization have an ownership interest in a foreign partnership during the tax year? *If "Yes," the organization may be required to file Form 8865, Return of U.S. Persons with Respect to Certain Foreign Partnerships (see Instructions for Form 8865)* ☐ Yes ☒ No
- 6 Did the organization have any operations in or related to any boycotting countries during the tax year? *If "Yes," the organization may be required to separately file Form 5713, International Boycott Report (see Instructions for Form 5713; don't file with Form 990).* ☐ Yes ☒ No

Part V Supplemental Information

Provide the information required by Part I, line 2 (monitoring of funds); Part I, line 3, column (f) (accounting method; amounts of investments vs. expenditures per region); Part II, line 1 (accounting method); Part III (accounting method); and Part III, column (c) (estimated number of recipients), as applicable. Also complete this part to provide any additional information. See instructions.

990 Schedule F, Supplemental Information

Return Reference	Explanation
Part I, Line 2 - Grantmakers Explanation For Monitoring Use of Funds Outside US	The Houston Zoo's selection standards for awarding grants are based on our mission statement goals and long term development of regional programs. We do not solicit proposals nor do we have a formal process for receiving and evaluating grant requests. Instead we actively seek out projects that fit the guidelines of the Zoo's Wildlife Conservation Program (see Part III, Line 4b). We then meet with the researchers to see how well they fit with our Zoo. We do not spend much money up front until we are satisfied that the researchers will communicate and interact with the Zoo (web, media, reports, speaker requests, articles, etc.), and their research program is sustainable over the next 1-3 years that we intend to partner with them. We monitor their progress through periodic site visits where practicable and request that they provide periodic reports of activities.

Additional Data

Software ID: 19009920

Software Version: 2019v5.0

EIN: 74-1590271

Name: Houston Zoo Inc

Form 990 Schedule F Part I - Activities Outside The United States

(a) Region	(b) Number of offices in the region	(c) Number of employees or agents in region	(d) Activities conducted in region (by type) (i.e., fundraising, program services, grants to recipients located in the region)	(e) If activity listed in (d) is a program service, describe specific type of service(s) in region	(f) Total expenditures for region
East Asia/Pacific	0	0	Program	Conservation	383,530
Sub-Saharan Africa	0	0	Program	Conservation	1,185,133

Form 990 Schedule F Part I - Activities Outside The United States					
(a) Region	(b) Number of offices in the region	(c) Number of employees or agents in region	(d) Activities conducted in region (by type) (i.e., fundraising, program services, grants to recipients located in the region)	(e) If activity listed in (d) is a program service, describe specific type of service(s) in region	(f) Total expenditures for region
Cntl America/Caribbean	0	0	Program	Conservation	66,087
South America	0	0	Program	Conservation	325,764

Form 990 Schedule F Part I - Activities Outside The United States					
(a) Region	(b) Number of offices in the region	(c) Number of employees or agents in region	(d) Activities conducted in region (by type) (i.e., fundraising, program services, grants to recipients located in the region)	(e) If activity listed in (d) is a program service, describe specific type of service(s) in region	(f) Total expenditures for region
Europe	0	0	Program	Conservation	16,650
North America	0	0	Program	Conservation	8,379

Form 990 Schedule F Part II - Grants or Entities Outside The United States								
(a) Name of organization	(b) IRS code section and EIN(if applicable)	(c) Region	(d) Purpose of grant	(e) Amount of cash grant	(f) Manner of cash disbursement	(g) Amount of non-cash assistance	(h) Description of non-cash assistance	(i) Method of valuation (book, FMV, appraisal, other)
		E Asia/Pacific	See Part V	26,730	Wire			
		E Asia/Pacific	See Part V	30,000	Wire			

Form 990 Schedule F Part II - Grants or Entities Outside The United States								
(a) Name of organization	(b) IRS code section and EIN(if applicable)	(c) Region	(d) Purpose of grant	(e) Amount of cash grant	(f) Manner of cash disbursement	(g) Amount of non-cash assistance	(h) Description of non-cash assistance	(i) Method of valuation (book, FMV, appraisal, other)
		E Asia/Pacific	See Part V	41,000	Wire			
		E Asia/Pacific	See Part V	50,000	Wire			

Form 990 Schedule F Part II - Grants or Entities Outside The United States								
(a) Name of organization	(b) IRS code section and EIN(if applicable)	(c) Region	(d) Purpose of grant	(e) Amount of cash grant	(f) Manner of cash disbursement	(g) Amount of non-cash assistance	(h) Description of non-cash assistance	(i) Method of valuation (book, FMV, appraisal, other)
		E Asia/Pacific	See Part V	6,000	Wire			
		E Asia/Pacific	See Part V	82,500	Wire			

Form 990 Schedule F Part II - Grants or Entities Outside The United States								
(a) Name of organization	(b) IRS code section and EIN(if applicable)	(c) Region	(d) Purpose of grant	(e) Amount of cash grant	(f) Manner of cash disbursement	(g) Amount of non-cash assistance	(h) Description of non-cash assistance	(i) Method of valuation (book, FMV, appraisal, other)
		Europe	See Part V	16,650	Wire			
		North America	See Part V	7,814	Wire			

Form 990 Schedule F Part II - Grants or Entities Outside The United States								
(a) Name of organization	(b) IRS code section and EIN(if applicable)	(c) Region	(d) Purpose of grant	(e) Amount of cash grant	(f) Manner of cash disbursement	(g) Amount of non-cash assistance	(h) Description of non-cash assistance	(i) Method of valuation (book, FMV, appraisal, other)
		South America	See Part V	106,175	Wire			
		South America	See Part V	113,350	Wire			

Form 990 Schedule F Part II - Grants or Entities Outside The United States								
(a) Name of organization	(b) IRS code section and EIN(if applicable)	(c) Region	(d) Purpose of grant	(e) Amount of cash grant	(f) Manner of cash disbursement	(g) Amount of non-cash assistance	(h) Description of non-cash assistance	(i) Method of valuation (book, FMV, appraisal, other)
		South America	See Part V	52,215	Wire			
		South America	See Part V	54,000	Wire			

Form 990 Schedule F Part II - Grants or Entities Outside The United States								
(a) Name of organization	(b) IRS code section and EIN(if applicable)	(c) Region	(d) Purpose of grant	(e) Amount of cash grant	(f) Manner of cash disbursement	(g) Amount of non-cash assistance	(h) Description of non-cash assistance	(i) Method of valuation (book, FMV, appraisal, other)
		Sub-Sah Africa	See Part V	149,522	Wire			
		Sub-Sah Africa	See Part V	164,500	Wire			

Form 990 Schedule F Part II - Grants or Entities Outside The United States								
(a) Name of organization	(b) IRS code section and EIN(if applicable)	(c) Region	(d) Purpose of grant	(e) Amount of cash grant	(f) Manner of cash disbursement	(g) Amount of non-cash assistance	(h) Description of non-cash assistance	(i) Method of valuation (book, FMV, appraisal, other)
		Sub-Sah Africa	See Part V	175,699	Wire			
		Sub-Sah Africa	See Part V	35,449	Wire			

Form 990 Schedule F Part II - Grants or Entities Outside The United States								
(a) Name of organization	(b) IRS code section and EIN(if applicable)	(c) Region	(d) Purpose of grant	(e) Amount of cash grant	(f) Manner of cash disbursement	(g) Amount of non-cash assistance	(h) Description of non-cash assistance	(i) Method of valuation (book, FMV, appraisal, other)
		Sub-Sah Africa	See Part V	439,825	Wire			
		Sub-Sah Africa	See Part V	76,600	Wire			

Form 990 Schedule F Part II - Grants or Entities Outside The United States								
(a) Name of organization	(b) IRS code section and EIN(if applicable)	(c) Region	(d) Purpose of grant	(e) Amount of cash grant	(f) Manner of cash disbursement	(g) Amount of non-cash assistance	(h) Description of non-cash assistance	(i) Method of valuation (book, FMV, appraisal, other)
		Sub-Sah Africa	See Part V	87,000	Wire			

Form 990 Schedule F Part III - Grants and Assistance to Individuals Outside The U S							
(a) Type of grant or assistance	(b) Region	(c)Number of recipients	(d) Amount of cash grant	(e) Manner of cash disbursement	(f) Amount of non-cash assistance	(g) Description of non-cash assistance	(h) Method of valuation (book, FMV, appraisal, other)
Conservation support	Central America	11	66,086	Wire transfer			
Conservation support	East Asia/Pacific	6	147,300	Wire transfer			

Form 990 Schedule F Part III - Grants and Assistance to Individuals Outside The U S							
(a) Type of grant or assistance	(b) Region	(c)Number of recipients	(d) Amount of cash grant	(e) Manner of cash disbursement	(f) Amount of non-cash assistance	(g) Description of non-cash assistance	(h) Method of valuation (book, FMV, appraisal, other)
Conservation support	North America	1	565	Wire transfer			
Conservation support	South America	1	24	Wire transfer			

Form 990 Schedule F Part III - Grants and Assistance to Individuals Outside The U S							
(a) Type of grant or assistance	(b) Region	(c)Number of recipients	(d) Amount of cash grant	(e) Manner of cash disbursement	(f) Amount of non-cash assistance	(g) Description of non-cash assistance	(h) Method of valuation (book, FMV, appraisal, other)
Conservation support	Sub-Sah Africa	4	56,539	Wire transfer			

Supplemental Information Regarding Fundraising or Gaming Activities

2019

Open to Public Inspection

Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, lines 17, 18, or 19, or if the organization entered more than \$15,000 on Form 990-EZ, line 6a.

▶ Go to www.irs.gov/Form990 for instructions and the latest information.

Employer identification number

74-1590271

1 Indicate whether the organization raised funds through any of the following activities. Check all that apply.

- a** ☒ Mail solicitations
- b** ☒ Internet and email solicitations
- c** ☒ Phone solicitations
- d** ☒ In-person solicitations
- e** ☒ Solicitation of non-government grants
- f** ☒ Solicitation of government grants
- g** ☒ Special fundraising events

2a Did the organization have a written or oral agreement with any individual (including officers, directors, trustees or key employees listed in Form 990, Part VII) or entity in connection with professional fundraising services? ☒ Yes ☐ No

b If "Yes," list the 10 highest paid individuals or entities (fundraisers) pursuant to agreements under which the fundraiser is to be compensated at least \$5,000 by the organization.

(i) Name and address of individual or entity (fundraiser)	(ii) Activity	(iii) Did fundraiser have custody or control of contributions?		(iv) Gross receipts from activity	(v) Amount paid to (or retained by) fundraiser listed in col. (i)	(vi) Amount paid to (or retained by) organization
		Yes	No			
Sterling Associates 55 Waugh Dr 601 Houston, TX 77007	Centennial campaign		No	15,505,800	156,000	15,349,800
Total ►				15,505,800	156,000	15,349,800

3 List all states in which the organization is registered or licensed to solicit contributions or has been notified it is exempt from registration or licensing.

TX

Part II Fundraising Events. Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 18, or reported more than \$15,000 of fundraising event contributions and gross income on Form 990-EZ, lines 1 and 6b. List events with gross receipts greater than \$5,000.

		(a) Event #1	(b) Event #2	(c) Other events	(d) Total events
		<u>Zoo Ball</u> (event type)	<u>Conserv Gala</u> (event type)	(total number)	(add col. (a) through col. (c))
Revenue	1 Gross receipts	972,436	705,221		1,677,657
	2 Less: Contributions	802,007	462,737		1,264,744
	3 Gross income (line 1 minus line 2)	170,429	242,484		412,913
Direct Expenses	4 Cash prizes				
	5 Noncash prizes				
	6 Rent/facility costs	21,003	2,547		23,550
	7 Food and beverages	66,290	83,468		149,758
	8 Entertainment	7,500	1,475		8,975
	9 Other direct expenses	140,235	124,315		264,550
	10 Direct expense summary. Add lines 4 through 9 in column (d) ▶				446,833
	11 Net income summary. Subtract line 10 from line 3, column (d) ▶				-33,920

Part III Gaming. Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 19, or reported more than \$15,000 on Form 990-EZ, line 6a.

		(a) Bingo	(b) Pull tabs/Instant bingo/progressive bingo	(c) Other gaming	(d) Total gaming (add col.(a) through col.(c))
Revenue	1 Gross revenue				
Direct Expenses	2 Cash prizes				
	3 Noncash prizes				
	4 Rent/facility costs				
	5 Other direct expenses				
	6 Volunteer labor	☐ Yes _____ % ☐ No	☐ Yes _____ % ☐ No	☐ Yes _____ % ☐ No	
	7 Direct expense summary. Add lines 2 through 5 in column (d) ▶				
	8 Net gaming income summary. Subtract line 7 from line 1, column (d) ▶				

9 Enter the state(s) in which the organization conducts gaming activities: _____

a Is the organization licensed to conduct gaming activities in each of these states? ☐ Yes ☐ No

b If "No," explain: _____

10a Were any of the organization's gaming licenses revoked, suspended or terminated during the tax year? ☐ Yes ☐ No

b If "Yes," explain: _____

11	Does the organization conduct gaming activities with nonmembers?	☐ Yes	☐ No
12	Is the organization a grantor, beneficiary or trustee of a trust or a member of a partnership or other entity formed to administer charitable gaming?	☐ Yes	☐ No
13	Indicate the percentage of gaming activity conducted in:		
a	The organization's facility	13a	%
b	An outside facility	13b	%
14	Enter the name and address of the person who prepares the organization's gaming/special events books and records:		
	Name ►		
	Address ►		
15a	Does the organization have a contract with a third party from whom the organization receives gaming revenue?	☐ Yes	☐ No
b	If "Yes," enter the amount of gaming revenue received by the organization ► \$ and the amount of gaming revenue retained by the third party ► \$		
c	If "Yes," enter name and address of the third party:		
	Name ►		
	Address ►		
16	Gaming manager information:		
	Name ►		
	Gaming manager compensation ► \$		
	Description of services provided ►		
	☐ Director/officer	☐ Employee	☐ Independent contractor
17	Mandatory distributions:		
a	Is the organization required under state law to make charitable distributions from the gaming proceeds to retain the state gaming license?		☐ Yes ☐ No
b	Enter the amount of distributions required under state law distributed to other exempt organizations or spent in the organization's own exempt activities during the tax year ► \$		

Part IV Supplemental Information. Provide the explanations required by Part I, line 2b, columns (iii) and (v); and Part III, lines 9, 9b, 10b, 15b, 15c, 16, and 17b, as applicable. Also provide any additional information. See instructions.

Return Reference	Explanation
------------------	-------------

Note: To capture the full content of this document, please select landscape mode (11" x 8.5") when printing.

Schedule I
(Form 990)

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 for the latest information.

OMB No. 1545-0047

2019

Open to Public
Inspection

Department of the
Treasury
Internal Revenue Service
Name of the organization
Houston Zoo Inc

Employer identification number

74-1590271

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? ☒ Yes ☐ No
- 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.

(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) See Additional Data							
(2)							
(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 21

3 Enter total number of other organizations listed in the line 1 table 0

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) Conservation research support	2	14,496			
(2)					
(3)					
(4)					
(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.

Return Reference	Explanation
Grantmaker's Description of How Grants are Used	The Houston Zoo's selection criteria for awarding grants are based on our mission statement goals and long term development of regional programs. We do not solicit proposals nor do we have a formal process for receiving and evaluating grant requests. Instead we actively seek out projects that fit the areas of interest of the Zoo's leadership and staff. We then meet with the researchers to see how well they fit with our Zoo. We do not spend much money up front until we are satisfied that they will communicate and interact with the Zoo (web, media, reports, speaker requests, articles, etc.) and their research program is sustainable over the next 1-3 years that we intend to partner with them. We monitor their progress through periodic site visits where practicable and request periodic reports of activities.

Additional Data

Software ID: 19009920
Software Version: 2019v5.0
EIN: 74-1590271
Name: Houston Zoo Inc

Form 990,Schedule I, Part II, Grants and Other Assistance to Domestic Organizations and Domestic Governments.

(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 non-cash assistance	(h) Purpose of grant or assistance
Americans for Oxford Inc 500 Fifth Avenue 32nd Floor New York, NY 10110	52-1495060	501(c)(3)	59,607	0			Ruaha Carnivore Project Support
Bat Conservation Intl Inc 500 N Capital of TX Highway Austin, TX 78746	74-2553144	501(c)(3)	40,000	0			Support Bat Walk Program

Form 990, Schedule I, Part II, Grants and Other Assistance to Domestic Organizations and Domestic Governments.							
(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 non-cash assistance	(h) Purpose of grant or assistance
Baylor College of Medicine PO Box 301207 Dallas, TX 75303	74-1613878	501(c)(3)	393,734	0			EEHV Research Project
Conservation Breeding Group 12101 Johnny Cake Ridge Road Apple Valley, MN 55124	41-1719362	501(c)(3)	10,000	0			Operating Support - Breeding

Form 990, Schedule I, Part II, Grants and Other Assistance to Domestic Organizations and Domestic Governments.							
(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 non-cash assistance	(h) Purpose of grant or assistance
Dian Fossey Gorilla Fund Intl 800 Cherokee Avenue SE Atlanta, GA 30315	52-1118866	501(c)(3)	20,000	0			Operating Support
Ecology Project International 315 S 4th St E Missoula, MT 59801	91-2163952	501(c)(3)	50,000	0			Galapagos Educational Program

Form 990, Schedule I, Part II, Grants and Other Assistance to Domestic Organizations and Domestic Governments.							
(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 non-cash assistance	(h) Purpose of grant or assistance
Four Corners Institute 3409 Lake Vanessa Circle NW Salem, OR 97304	85-0457996	501(c)(3)	13,750	0			Giant Otter Conservation Program
Friends of Laguna Atascosa NW 22817 Ocelot Road Los Fresnos, TX 78566	74-2815350	501(c)(3)	30,000	0			Ocelot Recovery Program

Form 990, Schedule I, Part II, Grants and Other Assistance to Domestic Organizations and Domestic Governments.							
(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 non-cash assistance	(h) Purpose of grant or assistance
Global Wildlife Conservation PO Box 129 Austin, TX 78767	26-2887967	501(c)(3)	11,000	0			IUCN Pavilion
Gorilla Rehab & Conserv Ctr PO Box 334 Cumberland, ME 04021	46-2308758	501(c)(3)	29,500	0			Operating Support

Form 990, Schedule I, Part II, Grants and Other Assistance to Domestic Organizations and Domestic Governments.							
(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 non-cash assistance	(h) Purpose of grant or assistance
Intl Elephant Foundation PO Box 366 Azle, TX 76098	75-2815706	501(c)(3)	20,000	0			Operating Support
Intl Rhino Foundation 201 Main Street 2600 Fort Worth, TX 76102	75-2395006	501(c)(3)	10,000	0			Operating Support

Form 990, Schedule I, Part II, Grants and Other Assistance to Domestic Organizations and Domestic Governments.							
(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 non-cash assistance	(h) Purpose of grant or assistance
International Crane Fdn E 11376 Shady Lane Road Baraboo, WI 53913	39-1187711	501(c)(3)	67,186	0			Whooping Crane Recovery Support
Lincoln Park Zoo 2001 N Clark Street Chicago, IL 60614	36-2512404	501(c)(3)	20,000	0			Operating Support

Form 990, Schedule I, Part II, Grants and Other Assistance to Domestic Organizations and Domestic Governments.							
(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 non-cash assistance	(h) Purpose of grant or assistance
Minnesota Zoo Foundation 13000 Zoo Boulevard Apple Valley, MN 55124	51-0147653	501(c)(3)	10,000	0			Malaysian Tiger Conservation
Mountain Gorilla Vet Project PO Box 356 Davis, CA 95617	06-1752363	501(c)(3)	110,000	0			Operating Support

Form 990, Schedule I, Part II, Grants and Other Assistance to Domestic Organizations and Domestic Governments.							
(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 non-cash assistance	(h) Purpose of grant or assistance
Smithsonian Natl Zoological PO Box 37012 MRC 5507 Washington, DC 20013	53-0206027	501(c)(3)	60,000	0			Panama Amphibian Rescue
UC Davis 1089 Veterinary Medicine Dr Davis, CA 95616	94-6036494	501(c)(3)	51,022	0			Wildlife Conservation Program

Form 990, Schedule I, Part II, Grants and Other Assistance to Domestic Organizations and Domestic Governments.							
(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 non-cash assistance	(h) Purpose of grant or assistance
Wildlife Conservation Network 209 Mississippi Street San Francisco, CA 94107	30-0108469	501(c)(3)	245,735	0			Various conservation projects
Wildlife Guardians PO Box 2378 Alexandria, VA 22301	36-4712624	501(c)(3)	110,512	0			Operating Support

Form 990, Schedule I, Part II, Grants and Other Assistance to Domestic Organizations and Domestic Governments.							
(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 non-cash assistance	(h) Purpose of grant or assistance
Wildtracks PO Box 765 Indian Hills, CO 80454	47-5083846	501(c)(3)	8,360	0			Belizean Primates Support

Schedule J (Form 990)	Compensation Information	OMB No. 1545-0047
		2019
Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service	For certain Officers, Directors, Trustees, Key Employees, and Highest Compensated Employees ▶ Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 23. ▶ Attach to Form 990. ▶ Go to www.irs.gov/Form990 for instructions and the latest information.	
Name of the organization Houston Zoo Inc		Employer identification number 74-1590271

Part I Questions Regarding Compensation		Yes	No
1a Check the appropriate box(es) if the organization provided any of the following to or for a person listed on Form 990, Part VII, Section A, line 1a. Complete Part III to provide any relevant information regarding these items.			
☐ First-class or charter travel	☐ Housing allowance or residence for personal use		
☐ Travel for companions	☐ Payments for business use of personal residence		
☐ Tax idemnification and gross-up payments	☐ Health or social club dues or initiation fees		
☐ Discretionary spending account	☐ Personal services (e.g., maid, chauffeur, chef)		
b If any of the boxes on Line 1a are checked, did the organization follow a written policy regarding payment or reimbursement or provision of all of the expenses described above? If "No," complete Part III to explain		1b	
2 Did the organization require substantiation prior to reimbursing or allowing expenses incurred by all directors, trustees, officers, including the CEO/Executive Director, regarding the items checked on Line 1a?		2	
3 Indicate which, if any, of the following the filing organization used to establish the compensation of the organization's CEO/Executive Director. Check all that apply. Do not check any boxes for methods used by a related organization to establish compensation of the CEO/Executive Director, but explain in Part III.			
☒ Compensation committee	☐ Written employment contract		
☐ Independent compensation consultant	☒ Compensation survey or study		
☒ Form 990 of other organizations	☒ Approval by the board or compensation committee		
4 During the year, did any person listed on Form 990, Part VII, Section A, line 1a, with respect to the filing organization or a related organization:			
a Receive a severance payment or change-of-control payment?		4a	No
b Participate in, or receive payment from, a supplemental nonqualified retirement plan?		4b	Yes
c Participate in, or receive payment from, an equity-based compensation arrangement?		4c	No
If "Yes" to any of lines 4a-c, list the persons and provide the applicable amounts for each item in Part III.			
Only 501(c)(3), 501(c)(4), and 501(c)(29) organizations must complete lines 5-9.			
5 For persons listed on Form 990, Part VII, Section A, line 1a, did the organization pay or accrue any compensation contingent on the revenues of:			
a The organization?		5a	No
b Any related organization?		5b	No
If "Yes," on line 5a or 5b, describe in Part III.			
6 For persons listed on Form 990, Part VII, Section A, line 1a, did the organization pay or accrue any compensation contingent on the net earnings of:			
a The organization?		6a	No
b Any related organization?		6b	No
If "Yes," on line 6a or 6b, describe in Part III.			
7 For persons listed on Form 990, Part VII, Section A, line 1a, did the organization provide any nonfixed payments not described in lines 5 and 6? If "Yes," describe in Part III.		7	No
8 Were any amounts reported on Form 990, Part VII, paid or accrued pursuant to a contract that was subject to the initial contract exception described in Regulations section 53.4958-4(a)(3)? If "Yes," describe in Part III.		8	No
9 If "Yes" on line 8, did the organization also follow the rebuttable presumption procedure described in Regulations section 53.4958-6(c)?		9	

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

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

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

(A) Name and Title		(B) Breakdown of W-2 and/or 1099-MISC compensation			(C) Retirement and other deferred compensation	(D) Nontaxable benefits	(E) Total of columns (B)(i)-(D)	(F) Compensation in column (B) reported as deferred on prior Form 990
		(i) Base compensation	(ii) Bonus & incentive compensation	(iii) Other reportable compensation				
1 John Trahan CFO	(i)	200,000	152		8,471	6,835	215,458	
	(ii)							
2 Kristin Finney VP HR	(i)	150,356	162		6,021	9,461	166,000	
	(ii)							
3 Lee Ehmke President & CEO	(i)	436,601	154		11,412	7,387	455,554	
	(ii)							
4 Lisa Avendano VP Animal Ops	(i)	149,996	153		6,020	6,355	162,524	
	(ii)							
5 Mark Van Wickler Exhibit Design Dir	(i)	200,613	152		7,321	7,387	215,473	
	(ii)							
6 Peter Riger VP Conservation	(i)	150,333	153		6,041	6,355	162,882	
	(ii)							
7 Roberto Espinosa VP Development	(i)	166,454	152		6,056	9,692	182,354	
	(ii)							
8 Sheryl Kolasinski COO	(i)	243,360	154		9,888	7,387	260,789	
	(ii)							

Part III **Supplemental Information**

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

Return Reference	Explanation
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SCHEDULE M
(Form 990)

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

Noncash Contributions

►Complete if the organizations answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, lines 29 or 30.
► Attach to Form 990.
►Go to www.irs.gov/Form990 for the latest information.

OMB No. 1545-0047

2019

Open to Public Inspection

Name of the organization
Houston Zoo Inc

Employer identification number
74-1590271

Part I

Types of Property

	(a) Check if applicable	(b) Number of contributions or items contributed	(c) Noncash contribution amounts reported on Form 990, Part VIII, line 1g	(d) Method of determining noncash contribution amounts
1 Art—Works of art				
2 Art—Historical treasures				
3 Art—Fractional interests				
4 Books and publications				
5 Clothing and household goods				
6 Cars and other vehicles				
7 Boats and planes				
8 Intellectual property				
9 Securities—Publicly traded	X	9	2,657,770	NYSE
10 Securities—Closely held stock				
11 Securities—Partnership, LLC, or trust interests				
12 Securities—Miscellaneous				
13 Qualified conservation contribution—Historic structures				
14 Qualified conservation contribution—Other				
15 Real estate—Residential				
16 Real estate—Commercial				
17 Real estate—Other				
18 Collectibles				
19 Food inventory				
20 Drugs and medical supplies				
21 Taxidermy				
22 Historical artifacts				
23 Scientific specimens				
24 Archeological artifacts				
25 Other ► (Auction items)	X	60	64,315	FMV
26 Other ► (Food/beverages)	X	1	49,913	FMV
27 Other ► ()				
28 Other ► ()				

29

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

29

30a

During the year, did the organization receive by contribution any property reported in Part I, lines 1 through 28, that it must hold for at least three years from the date of the initial contribution, and which isn't required to be used for exempt purposes for the entire holding period?

30a

Yes

No

b

If "Yes," describe the arrangement in Part II.

31

Does the organization have a gift acceptance policy that requires the review of any nonstandard contributions?

31

Yes

32a

Does the organization hire or use third parties or related organizations to solicit, process, or sell noncash contributions?

32a

No

b

If "Yes," describe in Part II.

33

If the organization didn't report an amount in column (c) for a type of property for which column (a) is checked, describe in Part II.

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

Cat. No. 51227J

Schedule M (Form 990) (2019)

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

Return Reference	Explanation
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SCHEDULE O
(Form 990 or 990-EZ)Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service
Name of the organization
Houston Zoo Inc**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 for the latest information.

OMB No. 1545-0047

2019**Open to Public
Inspection****Employer identification number**

74-1590271

990 Schedule O, Supplemental Information

Return Reference	Explanation
Form 990, Part VI, Line 11b: Form 990 Review Process	Form 990 is reviewed by the CEO and the CFO. Once reviewed internally, the Form is reviewed and approved by the Audit Committee. A copy of the Form is provided to each Board member prior to filing with the IRS.

990 Schedule O, Supplemental Information

Return Reference	Explanation
Form 990, Part VI, Line 12c: Explanation of Monitoring and Enforcement of Conflicts	The Zoo's Board of Directors has a conflict of interest policy to ensure that both the Zoo and its directors and officers are protected from concerns of conflict of interest. The policy asks the directors and officers to disclose their relationship with other organizations or people that might give rise to a situation in which the officer or director would be subject to criticism for a conflict. Each year the Zoo asks its directors and officers to complete and file a form with the Zoo to meet this requirement. The Chairperson of the Audit Committee is responsible for the oversight process and the Chairperson of the Board of Directors is responsible for addressing any conflicts that may be disclosed in the process.

990 Schedule O, Supplemental Information

Return Reference	Explanation
Form 990, Part VI, Line 15a: Compensation Review & Approval Process - CEO, Top Management	The compensation of the President/CEO is determined by the Compensation Committee of the Board of Directors. The Committee reviews both comparable salaries for similar positions listed on other organizations' Form 990s as well as comparable position salaries in the American Zoological Association Salary Survey.

990 Schedule O, Supplemental Information

Return Reference	Explanation
Form 990, Part VI, Line 15b: Compensation Review and Approval Process for Officers and Key Employees	See above for the process followed for other officers and key employees.

990 Schedule O, Supplemental Information

Return Reference	Explanation
Form 990, Part VI, Line 19: Other Organization Documents Publicly Available	These documents are provided upon request.