

Form **990**
 Department of the Treasury
 Internal Revenue Service

Return of Organization Exempt From Income Tax
Under section 501(c), 527, or 4947(a)(1) of the Internal Revenue Code (except black lung benefit trust or private foundation)
 The organization may have to use a copy of this return to satisfy state reporting requirements

OMB No 1545-0047
2012
Open to Public Inspection

A For the 2012 calendar year, or tax year beginning 01-01-2012, 2012, and ending 12-31-2012

B Check if applicable: <input type="checkbox"/> Address change <input type="checkbox"/> Name change <input type="checkbox"/> Initial return <input type="checkbox"/> Terminated <input type="checkbox"/> Amended return <input type="checkbox"/> Application pending	C Name of organization NORTH COUNTRY TRAIL ASSOCIATION INC Doing Business As		D Employer identification number 38-2423480
	Number and street (or P O box if mail is not delivered to street address) Room/suite 229 EAST MAIN STREET	E Telephone number (616) 897-5987	
	City or town, state or country, and ZIP + 4 LOWELL, MI 49331		G Gross receipts \$ 943,051

F Name and address of principal officer BRUCE MATTHEWS 229 EAST MAIN STREET LOWELL, MI 49331	H(a) Is this a group return for affiliates? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No H(b) Are all affiliates included? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No If "No," attach a list (see instructions)
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I Tax-exempt status 501(c)(3) 501(c) () (Insert no) 4947(a)(1) or 527

J Website: WWW.NORTHCOUNTRYTRAIL.ORG

K Form of organization Corporation Trust Association Other **L** Year of formation 1981 **M** State of legal domicile MI

Part I Summary

1 Briefly describe the organization's mission or most significant activities
 TO CONSTRUCT, MAINTAIN AND PROMOTE THE NORTH COUNTRY NATIONAL SCENIC TRAIL

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

3 Number of voting members of the governing body (Part VI, line 1a)	3	15
4 Number of independent voting members of the governing body (Part VI, line 1b)	4	15
5 Total number of individuals employed in calendar year 2012 (Part V, line 2a)	5	10
6 Total number of volunteers (estimate if necessary)	6	924
7a Total unrelated business revenue from Part VIII, column (C), line 12	7a	0
b Net unrelated business taxable income from Form 990-T, line 34	7b	0

		Prior Year	Current Year
		8 Contributions and grants (Part VIII, line 1h)	828,234
9 Program service revenue (Part VIII, line 2g)	60,175	28,024	
10 Investment income (Part VIII, column (A), lines 3, 4, and 7d)	1,225	1,509	
11 Other revenue (Part VIII, column (A), lines 5, 6d, 8c, 9c, 10c, and 11e)	37,052	32,203	
12 Total revenue—add lines 8 through 11 (must equal Part VIII, column (A), line 12)	926,686	908,564	

		Prior Year	Current Year
		13 Grants and similar amounts paid (Part IX, column (A), lines 1-3)	0
14 Benefits paid to or for members (Part IX, column (A), line 4)	0	0	
15 Salaries, other compensation, employee benefits (Part IX, column (A), lines 5-10)	438,768	460,601	
16a Professional fundraising fees (Part IX, column (A), line 11e)	0	0	
b Total fundraising expenses (Part IX, column (D), line 25) 108,357			
17 Other expenses (Part IX, column (A), lines 11a-11d, 11f-24e)	479,627	471,209	
18 Total expenses Add lines 13-17 (must equal Part IX, column (A), line 25)	918,395	931,810	
19 Revenue less expenses Subtract line 18 from line 12	8,291	-23,246	

		Beginning of Current Year	End of Year
		20 Total assets (Part X, line 16)	413,548
21 Total liabilities (Part X, line 26)	66,301	20,259	
22 Net assets or fund balances Subtract line 21 from line 20	347,247	325,958	

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	2013-03-28 Date
	BRUCE MATTHEWS EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR Type or print name and title	

Paid Preparer Use Only	Prnt/Type preparer's name RICHARD L CHRISMAN CPA	Preparer's signature	Date	Check <input type="checkbox"/> if self-employed	PTIN P00170264
	Firm's name HUNGERFORD ALDRIN NICHOLS & CARTER PC			Firm's EIN 38-2184825	
	Firm's address 2910 LUCERNE DRIVE SE GRAND RAPIDS, MI 495467175			Phone no (616) 949-3200	

May the IRS discuss this return with the preparer shown above? (see instructions) Yes No

Part III Statement of Program Service Accomplishments

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

1 Briefly describe the organization's mission

THE NORTH COUNTRY TRAIL ASSOCIATION IS A NOT FOR PROFIT ENTITY CREATED TO CONSTRUCT, MAINTAIN, PROTECT AND PROMOTE THE NORTH COUNTRY NATIONAL SCENIC TRAIL

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 \$ 216,165 including grants of \$) (Revenue \$ 21,722)
 THE ASSOCIATION PROVIDES PUBLIC EDUCATION PROGRAMS AND CARTOGRAPHY SERVICES TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC REGARDING THE NORTH COUNTRY NATIONAL SCENIC TRAIL THEY RESPOND TO REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION AND MAPS

4b (Code) (Expenses \$ 294,448 including grants of \$) (Revenue \$ 28,024)
 THE ASSOCIATION WORKS IN PLANNING TRAIL ROUTES AS WELL AS WORKING TO CONSTRUCT AND MAINTAIN THE TRAILS THEY ALSO HELP WITH LAND ACQUISITION FOR ADDITIONAL TRAIL ROUTES

4c (Code) (Expenses \$ 177,850 including grants of \$) (Revenue \$)
 THE ASSOCIATION HELPS SUPPORT A VAST VOLUNTEER NETWORK IN SUPPORT OF THE TRAIL

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

4e Total program service expenses 688,463

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)? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule A</i>	Yes	
2 Is the organization required to complete <i>Schedule B, Schedule of Contributors</i> (see instructions)?	Yes	
3 Did the organization engage in direct or indirect political campaign activities on behalf of or in opposition to candidates for public office? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule C, Part I</i>		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? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule C, Part II</i>	Yes	
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? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule C, Part III</i>		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? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part I</i>		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? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part II</i>		No
8 Did the organization maintain collections of works of art, historical treasures, or other similar assets? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part III</i>		No
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? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part IV</i>		No
10 Did the organization, directly or through a related organization, hold assets in temporarily restricted endowments, permanent endowments, or quasi-endowments? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part V</i>	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? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part VI</i>	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? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part VII</i>		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? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part VIII</i>		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? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part IX</i>		No
e Did the organization report an amount for other liabilities in Part X, line 25? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part X</i>		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)? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part X</i>	Yes	
12a Did the organization obtain separate, independent audited financial statements for the tax year? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Parts XI and XII</i>	Yes	
b Was the organization included in consolidated, independent audited financial statements for the tax year? <i>If "Yes," and if the organization answered "No" to line 12a, then completing Schedule D, Parts XI and XII is optional</i>		No
13 Is the organization a school described in section 170(b)(1)(A)(ii)? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule E</i>		No
14a Did the organization maintain an office, employees, or agents outside of the United States?		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? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule F, Parts I and IV</i>		No
15 Did the organization report on Part IX, column (A), line 3, more than \$5,000 of grants or assistance to any organization or entity located outside the United States? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule F, Parts II and IV</i>		No
16 Did the organization report on Part IX, column (A), line 3, more than \$5,000 of aggregate grants or assistance to individuals located outside the United States? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule F, Parts III and IV</i>		No
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? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule G, Part I (see instructions)</i>		No
18 Did the organization report more than \$15,000 total of fundraising event gross income and contributions on Part VIII, lines 1c and 8a? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule G, Part II</i>		No
19 Did the organization report more than \$15,000 of gross income from gaming activities on Part VIII, line 9a? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule G, Part III</i>		No
20a Did the organization operate one or more hospital facilities? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule H</i>		No
b If "Yes" to line 20a, did the organization attach a copy of its audited financial statements to this return?		

Part IV Checklist of Required Schedules (continued)

21	Did the organization report more than \$5,000 of grants and other assistance to any government or organization in the United States on Part IX, column (A), line 1? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule I, Parts I and II</i>	21	No
22	Did the organization report more than \$5,000 of grants and other assistance to individuals in the United States on Part IX, column (A), line 2? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule I, Parts I and III</i>	22	No
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? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule J</i>	23	No
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? <i>If "Yes," answer lines 24b through 24d and complete Schedule K. If "No," go to line 25</i>	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) and 501(c)(4) organizations. Did the organization engage in an excess benefit transaction with a disqualified person during the year? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part I</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? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part I</i>	25b	No
26	Was a loan to or by a current or former officer, director, trustee, key employee, highest compensated employee, or disqualified person outstanding as of the end of the organization's tax year? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part II</i>	26	No
27	Did the organization provide a grant or other assistance to an officer, director, trustee, key employee, substantial contributor or employee thereof, a grant selection committee member, or to a 35% controlled entity or family member of any of these persons? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part III</i>	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, or key employee? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part IV</i>	28a	No
b	A family member of a current or former officer, director, trustee, or key employee? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part IV</i>	28b	No
c	An entity of which a current or former officer, director, trustee, or key employee (or a family member thereof) was an officer, director, trustee, or direct or indirect owner? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part IV</i>	28c	No
29	Did the organization receive more than \$25,000 in non-cash contributions? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule M</i>	29	No
30	Did the organization receive contributions of art, historical treasures, or other similar assets, or qualified conservation contributions? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule M</i>	30	No
31	Did the organization liquidate, terminate, or dissolve and cease operations? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule N, Part I</i>	31	No
32	Did the organization sell, exchange, dispose of, or transfer more than 25% of its net assets? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule N, Part II</i>	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? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule R, Part I</i>	33	No
34	Was the organization related to any tax-exempt or taxable entity? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule R, Part II, III, or IV, and Part V, line 1</i>	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)? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule R, Part V, line 2</i>	35b	
36	Section 501(c)(3) organizations. Did the organization make any transfers to an exempt non-charitable related organization? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule R, Part V, line 2</i>	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? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule R, Part VI</i>	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 Compliance

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

		Yes	No
1a	Enter the number reported in Box 3 of Form 1096. Enter -0- if not applicable.		
1b	Enter the number of Forms W-2G included in line 1a. Enter -0- if not applicable.		
1c	Did the organization comply with backup withholding rules for reportable payments to vendors and reportable gaming (gambling) winnings to prize winners?		
2a	Enter the number of employees reported on Form W-3, Transmittal of Wage and Tax Statements, filed for the calendar year ending with or within the year covered by this return.		
2b	If at least one is reported on line 2a, did the organization file all required federal employment tax returns? Note. If the sum of lines 1a and 2a is greater than 250, you may be required to e-file (see instructions).	Yes	
3a	Did the organization have unrelated business gross income of \$1,000 or more during the year?		No
3b	If "Yes," has it filed a Form 990-T for this year? If "No," provide an explanation in Schedule O.		
4a	At any time during the calendar year, did the organization have an interest in, or a signature or other authority over, a financial account in a foreign country (such as a bank account, securities account, or other financial account)?		No
b	If "Yes," enter the name of the foreign country: _____ See instructions for filing requirements for Form TD F 90-22.1, Report of Foreign Bank and Financial Accounts.		
5a	Was the organization a party to a prohibited tax shelter transaction at any time during the tax year?		No
5b	Did any taxable party notify the organization that it was or is a party to a prohibited tax shelter transaction?		No
5c	If "Yes," to line 5a or 5b, did the organization file Form 8886-T?		
6a	Does the organization have annual gross receipts that are normally greater than \$100,000, and did the organization solicit any contributions that were not tax deductible as charitable contributions?		No
6b	If "Yes," did the organization include with every solicitation an express statement that such contributions or gifts were not tax deductible?		
7	Organizations that may receive deductible contributions under section 170(c).		
a	Did the organization receive a payment in excess of \$75 made partly as a contribution and partly for goods and services provided to the payor?		No
7b	If "Yes," did the organization notify the donor of the value of the goods or services provided?		
7c	Did the organization sell, exchange, or otherwise dispose of tangible personal property for which it was required to file Form 8282?		No
7d	If "Yes," indicate the number of Forms 8282 filed during the year.		
7e	Did the organization receive any funds, directly or indirectly, to pay premiums on a personal benefit contract?		No
7f	Did the organization, during the year, pay premiums, directly or indirectly, on a personal benefit contract?		No
7g	If the organization received a contribution of qualified intellectual property, did the organization file Form 8899 as required?		
7h	If the organization received a contribution of cars, boats, airplanes, or other vehicles, did the organization file a Form 1098-C?		
8	Sponsoring organizations maintaining donor advised funds and section 509(a)(3) supporting organizations. Did the supporting organization, or a donor advised fund maintained by a sponsoring organization, have excess business holdings at any time during the year?		
9	Sponsoring organizations maintaining donor advised funds.		
9a	Did the organization make any taxable distributions under section 4966?		
9b	Did the organization make a distribution to a donor, donor advisor, or related person?		
10	Section 501(c)(7) organizations. Enter		
10a	Initiation fees and capital contributions included on Part VIII, line 12.		
10b	Gross receipts, included on Form 990, Part VIII, line 12, for public use of club facilities.		
11	Section 501(c)(12) organizations. Enter		
11a	Gross income from members or shareholders.		
11b	Gross income from other sources (Do not net amounts due or paid to other sources against amounts due or received from them).		
12a	Section 4947(a)(1) non-exempt charitable trusts. Is the organization filing Form 990 in lieu of Form 1041?		
12b	If "Yes," enter the amount of tax-exempt interest received or accrued during the year.		
13	Section 501(c)(29) qualified nonprofit health insurance issuers.		
13a	Is the organization licensed to issue qualified health plans in more than one state? Note. See the instructions for additional information the organization must report on Schedule O.		
13b	Enter the amount of reserves the organization is required to maintain by the states in which the organization is licensed to issue qualified health plans.		
13c	Enter the amount of reserves on hand.		
14a	Did the organization receive any payments for indoor tanning services during the tax year?		No
14b	If "Yes," has it filed a Form 720 to report these payments? If "No," provide an explanation in Schedule O.		

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

Check if Schedule O contains a response to any question in this Part VI

Section A. Governing Body and Management

		Yes	No
1a	Enter the number of voting members of the governing body at the end of the tax year		
	If there are material differences in voting rights among members of the governing body, or if the governing body delegated broad authority to an executive committee or similar committee, explain in Schedule O		
1b	Enter the number of voting members included in line 1a, above, who are independent		
2	Did any officer, director, trustee, or key employee have a family relationship or a business relationship with any other officer, director, trustee, or key employee?		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?		No
4	Did the organization make any significant changes to its governing documents since the prior Form 990 was filed?		No
5	Did the organization become aware during the year of a significant diversion of the organization's assets?		No
6	Did the organization have members or stockholders?		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?		No
7b	Are any governance decisions of the organization reserved to (or subject to approval by) members, stockholders, or persons other than the governing body?		No
8	Did the organization contemporaneously document the meetings held or written actions undertaken during the year by the following		
8a	The governing body?	Yes	
8b	Each committee with authority to act on behalf of the governing body?	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		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?	Yes	
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?	Yes	
11a	Has the organization provided a complete copy of this Form 990 to all members of its governing body before filing the form?		No
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	Yes	
12b	Were officers, directors, or trustees, and key employees required to disclose annually interests that could give rise to conflicts?	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	Yes	
13	Did the organization have a written whistleblower policy?	Yes	
14	Did the organization have a written document retention and destruction policy?	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	Yes	
15b	Other officers or key employees of the organization	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?		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?		

Section C. Disclosure

17	List the States with which a copy of this Form 990 is required to be filed <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MI, <input type="checkbox"/> NY, <input type="checkbox"/> OH, <input type="checkbox"/> ND, <input type="checkbox"/> MN, <input type="checkbox"/> WI, <input type="checkbox"/> PA
18	Section 6104 requires an organization to make its Form 1023 (or 1024 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. <input type="checkbox"/> Own website <input type="checkbox"/> Another's website <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Upon request <input type="checkbox"/> 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, physical address, and telephone number of the person who possesses the books and records of the organization <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NORTH COUNTRY TRAIL ASSOCIATION 229 E MAIN STREET LOWELL, MI (616) 897-5987

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

Check if Schedule O contains a response to any question in this Part VII

Section A. Officers, Directors, Trustees, Key Employees, and Highest Compensated Employees

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

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

• List all of the organization's **current** key employees, if any See instructions for definition of "key employee "

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

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

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

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

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

(A) Name and Title	(B) Average hours per week (list any hours for related organizations below dotted line)	(C) Position (do not check more than one box, unless person is both an officer and a director/trustee)						(D) Reportable compensation from the organization (W- 2/1099-MISC)	(E) Reportable compensation from related organizations (W- 2/1099-MISC)	(F) Estimated amount of other compensation from the organization and related organizations
		Individual trustee or director	Institutional Trustee	Officer	Key employee	Highest compensated employee	Former			
(1) DAVE CORNELL BOARD MEMBER	1 00	X					0	0	0	
(2) LARRY HAWKINS PRESIDENT	5 00	X		X			0	0	0	
(3) MARY COFFIN VP EAST	5 00	X		X			0	0	0	
(4) JOYCE APPEL BOARD MEMBER	1 00	X					0	0	0	
(5) JACK COHEN BOARD MEMBER	1 00	X					0	0	0	
(6) GARRETT DILL BOARD MEMBER	1 00	X					0	0	0	
(7) JOHN HEJAM BOARD MEMBER	1 00	X					0	0	0	
(8) LORANA JINKERSON SECRETARY	5 00	X		X			0	0	0	
(9) GAYLORD YOST VP WEST	5 00	X		X			0	0	0	
(10) TOM MOBERG FIRST VP	5 00	X		X			0	0	0	
(11) BRIAN PAVEK BOARD MEMBER	1 00	X					0	0	0	
(12) LYNDA RUMMEL BOARD MEMBER	1 00	X					0	0	0	
(13) RAY VLASAK BOARD MEMBER	1 00	X					0	0	0	
(14) JOHN LEINEN JR BOARD MEMBER	1 00	X					0	0	0	
(15) DOUG THOMAS BOARD MEMBER	1 00	X					0	0	0	
(16) BRUCE MATTHEWS EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR	40 00			X			70,400	0	4,396	
(17) LAURA LINDSTROM FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATOR	20 00			X			21,100	0	0	

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

(A) Name and Title	(B) Average hours per week (list any hours for related organizations below dotted line)	(C) Position (do not check more than one box, unless person is both an officer and a director/trustee)						(D) Reportable compensation from the organization (W-2/1099-MISC)	(E) Reportable compensation from related organizations (W-2/1099-MISC)	(F) Estimated amount of other compensation from the organization and related organizations
		Individual trustee or director	Institutional Trustee	Officer	Key employee	Highest compensated employee	Former			
1b Sub-Total										
c Total from continuation sheets to Part VII, Section A										
d Total (add lines 1b and 1c)							91,500	0	4,396	

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

	Yes	No
3 Did the organization list any former officer, director or trustee, key employee, or highest compensated employee on line 1a? <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>		No
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) Name and business address	(B) Description of services	(C) Compensation

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 **▶**0

Part VIII Statement of Revenue

Check if Schedule O contains a response to any question in this Part VIII

		(A) Total revenue	(B) Related or exempt function revenue	(C) Unrelated business revenue	(D) Revenue excluded from tax under sections 512, 513, or 514	
Contributions, Gifts, Grants and Other Similar Amounts	1a Federated campaigns . . . 1a					
	b Membership dues 1b					
	c Fundraising events 1c	7,646				
	d Related organizations 1d					
	e Government grants (contributions) 1e	486,578				
	f All other contributions, gifts, grants, and similar amounts not included above 1f	352,604				
	g Noncash contributions included in lines 1a-1f \$					
	h Total. Add lines 1a-1f	846,828				
Program Service Revenue	2a PROGRAM SERVICE REVENUE					
		Business Code				
	b	900099	28,024	28,024		
	c					
	d					
	e					
	f All other program service revenue					
g Total. Add lines 2a-2f	28,024					
Other Revenue	3 Investment income (including dividends, interest, and other similar amounts)	1,509			1,509	
	4 Income from investment of tax-exempt bond proceeds					
	5 Royalties					
	6a Gross rents	(i) Real	11,155			
		(ii) Personal				
		b Less rental expenses	0			
		c Rental income or (loss)	11,155			
	d Net rental income or (loss)	11,155			11,155	
	7a Gross amount from sales of assets other than inventory	(i) Securities				
		(ii) Other				
		b Less cost or other basis and sales expenses				
		c Gain or (loss)				
	d Net gain or (loss)					
	8a Gross income from fundraising events (not including \$ 7,646 of contributions reported on line 1c) See Part IV, line 18	a	26,088			
		b Less direct expenses b	26,762			
c Net income or (loss) from fundraising events		-674			-674	
9a Gross income from gaming activities See Part IV, line 19	a					
	b Less direct expenses b					
	c Net income or (loss) from gaming activities					
10a Gross sales of inventory, less returns and allowances	a	23,129				
	b Less cost of goods sold b	7,725				
	c Net income or (loss) from sales of inventory	15,404	15,404			
Miscellaneous Revenue	Business Code					
11a OTHER REVENUE	900099	6,318	6,318			
b						
c						
d All other revenue						
e Total. Add lines 11a-11d		6,318				
12 Total revenue. See Instructions		908,564	49,746	0	11,990	

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 to any question in this Part IX

Do not include amounts reported on lines 6b, 7b, 8b, 9b, and 10b of Part VIII.		(A) Total expenses	(B) Program service expenses	(C) Management and general expenses	(D) Fundraising expenses
1	Grants and other assistance to governments and organizations in the United States. See Part IV, line 21.				
2	Grants and other assistance to individuals in the United States. See Part IV, line 22.				
3	Grants and other assistance to governments, organizations, and individuals outside the United States. See Part IV, lines 15 and 16.				
4	Benefits paid to or for members.				
5	Compensation of current officers, directors, trustees, and key employees.	95,896	32,989	59,167	3,740
6	Compensation not included above, to disqualified persons (as defined under section 4958(f)(1)) and persons described in section 4958(c)(3)(B).				
7	Other salaries and wages.	288,908	206,997	22,536	59,375
8	Pension plan accruals and contributions (include section 401(k) and 403(b) employer contributions).	8,214	6,663	1,440	111
9	Other employee benefits.	31,337	21,842	3,326	6,169
10	Payroll taxes.	36,246	22,844	7,383	6,019
11	Fees for services (non-employees)				
a	Management.				
b	Legal.				
c	Accounting.	26,681	19,298	7,230	153
d	Lobbying.				
e	Professional fundraising services. See Part IV, line 17.				
f	Investment management fees.				
g	Other (If line 11g amount exceeds 10% of line 25, column (A) amount, list line 11g expenses on Schedule O).				
12	Advertising and promotion.	689	689		
13	Office expenses.	74,135	48,991	4,254	20,890
14	Information technology.	1,068	979	89	
15	Royalties.				
16	Occupancy.	26,808	21,782	3,594	1,432
17	Travel.	60,672	39,958	17,113	3,601
18	Payments of travel or entertainment expenses for any federal, state, or local public officials.				
19	Conferences, conventions, and meetings.	1,573	890	608	75
20	Interest.				
21	Payments to affiliates.				
22	Depreciation, depletion, and amortization.	866	866		
23	Insurance.	9,116	1,435	7,681	
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	TRAIL FACILITY AND MAIN	117,975	117,975		
b	TRAIL EQUIPMENT AND SUP	51,626	51,541		85
c	OUTREACH AND HOSPITALIT	34,024	27,590		6,434
d	NORTHSTAR EXPENSES	24,593	24,593		
e	All other expenses	41,383	40,541	569	273
25	Total functional expenses. Add lines 1 through 24e.	931,810	688,463	134,990	108,357
26	Joint costs. Complete this line only if the organization reported in column (B) joint costs from a combined educational campaign and fundraising solicitation. Check here <input type="checkbox"/> if following SOP 98-2 (ASC 958-720)				

Part X Balance Sheet

Check if Schedule O contains a response to any question in this Part X

		(A)		(B)
		Beginning of year		End of year
Assets	1 Cash—non-interest-bearing 	71,295	1	53,319
	2 Savings and temporary cash investments 	188,551	2	152,346
	3 Pledges and grants receivable, net	110,818	3	63,736
	4 Accounts receivable, net	7,715	4	7,462
	5 Loans and other receivables from current and former officers, directors, trustees, key employees, and highest compensated employees Complete Part II of Schedule L		5	
	6 Loans and other receivables from other disqualified persons (as defined under section 4958(f)(1)), persons described in section 4958(c)(3)(B), and contributing employers and sponsoring organizations of section 501(c)(9) voluntary employees' beneficiary organizations (see instructions) Complete Part II of Schedule L		6	
	7 Notes and loans receivable, net		7	
	8 Inventories for sale or use	6,509	8	4,754
	9 Prepaid expenses and deferred charges	8,193	9	4,906
	10a Land, buildings, and equipment cost or other basis Complete Part VI of Schedule D	10a 57,914		
	b Less accumulated depreciation	10b 30,317	20,467	10c 27,597
	11 Investments—publicly traded securities		11	32,097
	12 Investments—other securities See Part IV, line 11		12	
	13 Investments—program-related See Part IV, line 11		13	
	14 Intangible assets		14	
	15 Other assets See Part IV, line 11		15	
16 Total assets. Add lines 1 through 15 (must equal line 34)		413,548	16	346,217
Liabilities	17 Accounts payable and accrued expenses 	46,425	17	6,573
	18 Grants payable		18	
	19 Deferred revenue	19,876	19	13,686
	20 Tax-exempt bond liabilities		20	
	21 Escrow or custodial account liability Complete Part IV of Schedule D		21	
	22 Loans and other payables to current and former officers, directors, trustees, key employees, highest compensated employees, and disqualified persons Complete Part II of Schedule L		22	
	23 Secured mortgages and notes payable to unrelated third parties		23	
	24 Unsecured notes and loans payable to unrelated third parties		24	
	25 Other liabilities (including federal income tax, payables to related third parties, and other liabilities not included on lines 17-24) Complete Part X of Schedule D		25	
	26 Total liabilities. Add lines 17 through 25		66,301	26
Net Assets or Fund Balances	Organizations that follow SFAS 117 (ASC 958), check here <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> and complete lines 27 through 29, and lines 33 and 34.			
	27 Unrestricted net assets	231,786	27	265,103
	28 Temporarily restricted net assets	115,048	28	60,442
	29 Permanently restricted net assets	413	29	413
	Organizations that do not follow SFAS 117 (ASC 958), check here <input type="checkbox"/> and complete lines 30 through 34.			
	30 Capital stock or trust principal, or current funds		30	
	31 Paid-in or capital surplus, or land, building or equipment fund		31	
	32 Retained earnings, endowment, accumulated income, or other funds		32	
33 Total net assets or fund balances		347,247	33	325,958
34 Total liabilities and net assets/fund balances		413,548	34	346,217

Part XI Reconciliation of Net Assets

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

1	Total revenue (must equal Part VIII, column (A), line 12)	1	908,564
2	Total expenses (must equal Part IX, column (A), line 25)	2	931,810
3	Revenue less expenses Subtract line 2 from line 1	3	-23,246
4	Net assets or fund balances at beginning of year (must equal Part X, line 33, column (A))	4	347,247
5	Net unrealized gains (losses) on investments	5	1,957
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	0
10	Net assets or fund balances at end of year Combine lines 3 through 9 (must equal Part X, line 33, column (B))	10	325,958

Part XII Financial Statements and Reporting

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

		Yes	No
1	Accounting method used to prepare the Form 990 <input type="checkbox"/> Cash <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Accrual <input type="checkbox"/> 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 <input type="checkbox"/> Separate basis <input type="checkbox"/> Consolidated basis <input type="checkbox"/> Both consolidated and separate basis		No
2b	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 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Separate basis <input type="checkbox"/> Consolidated basis <input type="checkbox"/> Both consolidated and separate basis	Yes	
2c	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
3b	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		

SCHEDULE A
(Form 990 or 990EZ)

Public Charity Status and Public Support

OMB No 1545-0047

2012

Open to Public Inspection

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

▶ Attach to Form 990 or Form 990-EZ. ▶ See separate instructions.

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

Name of the organization
NORTH COUNTRY TRAIL ASSOCIATION INC

Employer identification number
38-2423480

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

The organization is not a private foundation because it is (For lines 1 through 11, check only one box)

- 1 A church, convention of churches, or association of churches described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(i)**.
- 2 A school described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(ii)**. (Attach Schedule E)
- 3 A hospital or a cooperative hospital service organization described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(iii)**.
- 4 A medical research organization operated in conjunction with a hospital described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(iii)**. Enter the hospital's name, city, and state _____
- 5 An organization operated for the benefit of a college or university owned or operated by a governmental unit described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(iv)**. (Complete Part II)
- 6 A federal, state, or local government or governmental unit described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(v)**.
- 7 An organization that normally receives a substantial part of its support from a governmental unit or from the general public described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(vi)**. (Complete Part II)
- 8 A community trust described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(vi)** (Complete Part II)
- 9 An organization that normally receives (1) more than 33 1/3% of its support from contributions, membership fees, and gross receipts from activities related to its exempt functions—subject to certain exceptions, and (2) no more than 33 1/3% of its support from gross investment income and unrelated business taxable income (less section 511 tax) from businesses acquired by the organization after June 30, 1975 See **section 509(a)(2)**. (Complete Part III)
- 10 An organization organized and operated exclusively to test for public safety See **section 509(a)(4)**.
- 11 An organization organized and operated exclusively for the benefit of, to perform the functions of, or to carry out the purposes of one or more publicly supported organizations described in section 509(a)(1) or section 509(a)(2) See **section 509(a)(3)**. Check the box that describes the type of supporting organization and complete lines 11e through 11h
 a Type I b Type II c Type III - Functionally integrated d Type III - Non-functionally integrated
- e By checking this box, I certify that the organization is not controlled directly or indirectly by one or more disqualified persons other than foundation managers and other than one or more publicly supported organizations described in section 509(a)(1) or section 509(a)(2)
- f If the organization received a written determination from the IRS that it is a Type I, Type II, or Type III supporting organization, check this box
- g Since August 17, 2006, has the organization accepted any gift or contribution from any of the following persons?
 (i) A person who directly or indirectly controls, either alone or together with persons described in (ii) and (iii) below, the governing body of the supported organization?
 (ii) A family member of a person described in (i) above?
 (iii) A 35% controlled entity of a person described in (i) or (ii) above?
- h Provide the following information about the supported organization(s)

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

(i) Name of supported organization	(ii) EIN	(iii) Type of organization (described on lines 1- 9 above or IRC section (see instructions))	(iv) Is the organization in col (i) listed in your governing document?		(v) Did you notify the organization in col (i) of your support?		(vi) Is the organization in col (i) organized in the U S ?		(vii) Amount of monetary support
			Yes	No	Yes	No	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 fails to qualify under the tests listed below, please complete Part III.)

Section A. Public Support

Calendar year (or fiscal year beginning in) ▶	(a) 2008	(b) 2009	(c) 2010	(d) 2011	(e) 2012	(f) Total
1 Gifts, grants, contributions, and membership fees received (Do not include any "unusual grants.")	759,824	727,302	794,519	828,234	839,182	3,949,061
2 Tax revenues levied for the organization's benefit and either paid to or expended on its behalf						
3 The value of services or facilities furnished by a governmental unit to the organization without charge						
4 Total. Add lines 1 through 3	759,824	727,302	794,519	828,234	839,182	3,949,061
5 The portion of total contributions by each person (other than a governmental unit or publicly supported organization) included on line 1 that exceeds 2% of the amount shown on line 11, column (f)						
6 Public support. Subtract line 5 from line 4						3,949,061

Section B. Total Support

Calendar year (or fiscal year beginning in) ▶	(a) 2008	(b) 2009	(c) 2010	(d) 2011	(e) 2012	(f) Total
7 Amounts from line 4	759,824	727,302	794,519	828,234	839,182	3,949,061
8 Gross income from interest, dividends, payments received on securities loans, rents, royalties and income from similar sources	12,288	8,173	10,336	11,067	12,664	54,528
9 Net income from unrelated business activities, whether or not the business is regularly carried on	2,000					2,000
10 Other income Do not include gain or loss from the sale of capital assets (Explain in Part IV)				7,332	6,318	13,650
11 Total support (Add lines 7 through 10)						4,019,239
12 Gross receipts from related activities, etc (see instructions)					12	540,933
13 First five years. If the Form 990 is for the organization's first, second, third, fourth, or fifth tax year as a 501(c)(3) organization, check this box and stop here <input type="checkbox"/>						

Section C. Computation of Public Support Percentage

14 Public support percentage for 2012 (line 6, column (f) divided by line 11, column (f))	14	98.250 %
15 Public support percentage for 2011 Schedule A, Part II, line 14	15	98.570 %
16a 33 1/3% support test—2012. 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 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
b 33 1/3% support test—2011. 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 <input type="checkbox"/>		
17a 10%-facts-and-circumstances test—2012. If the organization did not check a box on line 13, 16a, or 16b, and line 14 is 10% or more, and if the organization meets the "facts-and-circumstances" test, check this box and stop here. Explain in Part IV how the organization meets the "facts-and-circumstances" test The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization <input type="checkbox"/>		
b 10%-facts-and-circumstances test—2011. If the organization did not check a box on line 13, 16a, 16b, or 17a, and line 15 is 10% or more, and if the organization meets the "facts-and-circumstances" test, check this box and stop here. Explain in Part IV how the organization meets the "facts-and-circumstances" test The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization <input type="checkbox"/>		
18 Private foundation. If the organization did not check a box on line 13, 16a, 16b, 17a, or 17b, check this box and see instructions <input type="checkbox"/>		

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

(Complete only if you checked the box on line 9 of Part I or if the organization failed to qualify under Part II. If the organization fails to qualify under the tests listed below, please complete Part II.)

Section A. Public Support

Calendar year (or fiscal year beginning in) ▶	(a) 2008	(b) 2009	(c) 2010	(d) 2011	(e) 2012	(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) 2008	(b) 2009	(c) 2010	(d) 2011	(e) 2012	(f) Total
9 Amounts from line 6						
10a Gross income from interest, dividends, payments received on securities loans, rents, royalties and income from similar sources						
b Unrelated business taxable income (less section 511 taxes) from businesses acquired after June 30, 1975						
c Add lines 10a and 10b						
11 Net income from unrelated business activities not included in line 10b, whether or not the business is regularly carried on						
12 Other income. Do not include gain or loss from the sale of capital assets (Explain in Part IV.)						
13 Total support. (Add lines 9, 10c, 11, and 12.)						
14 First five years. If the Form 990 is for the organization's first, second, third, fourth, or fifth tax year as a 501(c)(3) organization, check this box and stop here <input type="checkbox"/>						

Section C. Computation of Public Support Percentage

15 Public support percentage for 2012 (line 8, column (f) divided by line 13, column (f))	15	
16 Public support percentage from 2011 Schedule A, Part III, line 15	16	

Section D. Computation of Investment Income Percentage

17 Investment income percentage for 2012 (line 10c, column (f) divided by line 13, column (f))	17	
18 Investment income percentage from 2011 Schedule A, Part III, line 17	18	

- 19a 33 1/3% support tests—2012.** 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—2011.** 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 **Supplemental Information.** Complete this part to provide the explanations required by Part II, line 10; Part II, line 17a or 17b; and Part III, line 12. Also complete this part for any additional information. (See instructions).

Facts And Circumstances Test

Explanation

SCHEDULE C (Form 990 or 990-EZ)

Political Campaign and Lobbying Activities

OMB No 1545-0047

2012

Open to Public Inspection

Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service

For Organizations Exempt From Income Tax Under section 501(c) and section 527
Complete if the organization is described below. Attach to Form 990 or Form 990-EZ.
See separate instructions.

If the organization answered "Yes" to Form 990, Part IV, Line 3, or Form 990-EZ, Part V, line 46 (Political Campaign Activities), then

- Section 501(c)(3) organizations Complete Parts I-A and B Do not complete Part I-C
Section 501(c) (other than section 501(c)(3)) organizations Complete Parts I-A and C below Do not complete Part I-B
Section 527 organizations Complete Part I-A only

If the organization answered "Yes" to Form 990, Part IV, Line 4, or Form 990-EZ, Part VI, line 47 (Lobbying Activities), then

- Section 501(c)(3) organizations that have filed Form 5768 (election under section 501(h)) Complete Part II-A Do not complete Part II-B
Section 501(c)(3) organizations that have NOT filed Form 5768 (election under section 501(h)) Complete Part II-B Do not complete Part II-A

If the organization answered "Yes" to Form 990, Part IV, Line 5 (Proxy Tax) or Form 990-EZ, Part V, line 35c (Proxy Tax), then

- Section 501(c)(4), (5), or (6) organizations Complete Part III

Table with 2 columns: Name of the organization (NORTH COUNTRY TRAIL ASSOCIATION INC) and Employer identification number (38-2423480)

Part I-A Complete if the organization is exempt under section 501(c) or is a section 527 organization.

- 1 Provide a description of the organization's direct and indirect political campaign activities in Part IV
2 Political expenditures \$
3 Volunteer hours

Part I-B Complete if the organization is exempt under section 501(c)(3).

- 1 Enter the amount of any excise tax incurred by the organization under section 4955 \$
2 Enter the amount of any excise tax incurred by organization managers under section 4955 \$
3 If the organization incurred a section 4955 tax, did it file Form 4720 for this year? Yes No
4a Was a correction made? Yes No
b If "Yes," describe in Part IV

Part I-C Complete if the organization is exempt under section 501(c), except section 501(c)(3).

- 1 Enter the amount directly expended by the filing organization for section 527 exempt function activities \$
2 Enter the amount of the filing organization's funds contributed to other organizations for section 527 exempt function activities \$
3 Total exempt function expenditures Add lines 1 and 2 Enter here and on Form 1120-POL, line 17b \$
4 Did the filing organization file Form 1120-POL for this year? Yes No
5 Enter the names, addresses and employer identification number (EIN) of all section 527 political organizations to which the filing organization made payments

Table with 5 columns: (a) Name, (b) Address, (c) EIN, (d) Amount paid from filing organization's funds, (e) Amount of political contributions received and promptly and directly delivered to a separate political organization

Part II-A Complete if the organization is exempt under section 501(c)(3) and filed Form 5768 (election under section 501(h)).

- A** Check if the filing organization belongs to an affiliated group (and list in Part IV each affiliated group member's name, address, EIN, expenses, and share of excess lobbying expenditures)
- B** Check if the filing organization checked box A and "limited control" provisions apply

Limits on Lobbying Expenditures (The term "expenditures" means amounts paid or incurred.)	(a) Filing organization's totals	(b) Affiliated group totals												
1a Total lobbying expenditures to influence public opinion (grass roots lobbying)														
b Total lobbying expenditures to influence a legislative body (direct lobbying)														
c Total lobbying expenditures (add lines 1a and 1b)														
d Other exempt purpose expenditures														
e Total exempt purpose expenditures (add lines 1c and 1d)														
f Lobbying nontaxable amount Enter the amount from the following table in both columns														
<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width: 35%;">If the amount on line 1e, column (a) or (b) is:</th> <th style="width: 65%;">The lobbying nontaxable amount is:</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Not over \$500,000</td> <td>20% of the amount on line 1e</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Over \$500,000 but not over \$1,000,000</td> <td>\$100,000 plus 15% of the excess over \$500,000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Over \$1,000,000 but not over \$1,500,000</td> <td>\$175,000 plus 10% of the excess over \$1,000,000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Over \$1,500,000 but not over \$17,000,000</td> <td>\$225,000 plus 5% of the excess over \$1,500,000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Over \$17,000,000</td> <td>\$1,000,000</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	If the amount on line 1e, column (a) or (b) is:	The lobbying nontaxable amount is:	Not over \$500,000	20% of the amount on line 1e	Over \$500,000 but not over \$1,000,000	\$100,000 plus 15% of the excess over \$500,000	Over \$1,000,000 but not over \$1,500,000	\$175,000 plus 10% of the excess over \$1,000,000	Over \$1,500,000 but not over \$17,000,000	\$225,000 plus 5% of the excess over \$1,500,000	Over \$17,000,000	\$1,000,000		
If the amount on line 1e, column (a) or (b) is:	The lobbying nontaxable amount is:													
Not over \$500,000	20% of the amount on line 1e													
Over \$500,000 but not over \$1,000,000	\$100,000 plus 15% of the excess over \$500,000													
Over \$1,000,000 but not over \$1,500,000	\$175,000 plus 10% of the excess over \$1,000,000													
Over \$1,500,000 but not over \$17,000,000	\$225,000 plus 5% of the excess over \$1,500,000													
Over \$17,000,000	\$1,000,000													
g Grassroots nontaxable amount (enter 25% of line 1f)														
h Subtract line 1g from line 1a If zero or less, enter -0-														
i Subtract line 1f from line 1c If zero or less, enter -0-														
j If there is an amount other than zero on either line 1h or line 1i, did the organization file Form 4720 reporting section 4911 tax for this year?		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No												

4-Year Averaging Period Under Section 501(h)
(Some organizations that made a section 501(h) election do not have to complete all of the five columns below. See the instructions for lines 2a through 2f on page 4.)

Lobbying Expenditures During 4-Year Averaging Period					
Calendar year (or fiscal year beginning in)	(a) 2009	(b) 2010	(c) 2011	(d) 2012	(e) Total
2a Lobbying nontaxable amount					
b Lobbying ceiling amount (150% of line 2a, column(e))					
c Total lobbying expenditures					
d Grassroots nontaxable amount					
e Grassroots ceiling amount (150% of line 2d, column (e))					
f Grassroots lobbying expenditures					

Part II-B Complete if the organization is exempt under section 501(c)(3) and has NOT filed Form 5768 (election under section 501(h)).

For each "Yes" response to lines 1a through 1i below, provide in Part IV a detailed description of the lobbying activity.		(a)		(b)
		Yes	No	Amount
1	During the year, did the filing organization attempt to influence foreign, national, state or local legislation, including any attempt to influence public opinion on a legislative matter or referendum, through the use of			
a	Volunteers?	Yes		
b	Paid staff or management (include compensation in expenses reported on lines 1c through 1i)?	Yes		
c	Media advertisements?		No	
d	Mailings to members, legislators, or the public?		No	
e	Publications, or published or broadcast statements?		No	
f	Grants to other organizations for lobbying purposes?		No	
g	Direct contact with legislators, their staffs, government officials, or a legislative body?	Yes		12,235
h	Rallies, demonstrations, seminars, conventions, speeches, lectures, or any similar means?		No	
i	Other activities?		No	
j	Total. Add lines 1c through 1i			12,235
2a	Did the activities in line 1 cause the organization to be not described in section 501(c)(3)?		No	
b	If "Yes," enter the amount of any tax incurred under section 4912			
c	If "Yes," enter the amount of any tax incurred by organization managers under section 4912			
d	If the filing organization incurred a section 4912 tax, did it file Form 4720 for this year?			

Part III-A Complete if the organization is exempt under section 501(c)(4), section 501(c)(5), or section 501(c)(6).

	Yes	No
1 Were substantially all (90% or more) dues received nondeductible by members?	1	
2 Did the organization make only in-house lobbying expenditures of \$2,000 or less?	2	
3 Did the organization agree to carry over lobbying and political expenditures from the prior year?	3	

Part III-B Complete if the organization is exempt under section 501(c)(4), section 501(c)(5), or section 501(c)(6) and if either (a) BOTH Part III-A, lines 1 and 2, are answered "No" OR (b) Part III-A, line 3, is answered "Yes."

1	Dues, assessments and similar amounts from members	1	
2	Section 162(e) nondeductible lobbying and political expenditures (do not include amounts of political expenses for which the section 527(f) tax was paid).	2a	
a	Current year	2b	
b	Carryover from last year	2c	
c	Total	3	
3	Aggregate amount reported in section 6033(e)(1)(A) notices of nondeductible section 162(e) dues	4	
4	If notices were sent and the amount on line 2c exceeds the amount on line 3, what portion of the excess does the organization agree to carryover to the reasonable estimate of nondeductible lobbying and political expenditure next year?	5	
5	Taxable amount of lobbying and political expenditures (see instructions)		

Part IV Supplemental Information

Complete this part to provide the descriptions required for Part I-A, line 1, Part I-B, line 4, Part I-C, line 5, Part II-A (affiliated group list), Part II-A, line 2, and Part II-B, line 1. Also, complete this part for any additional information.

Identifier	Return Reference	Explanation
EXPLANATION OF LOBBYING ACTIVITIES	PART II-B, LINE 1	MET WITH REPRESENTATIVES AND SENATORS TO ENCOURAGE THEM TO CONTINUE FUNDING THE NATIONAL TRAILS SYSTEM, REROUTE THE MINNESOTA ARROWHEAD REGION AS A SEGMENT OF THE NORTH COUNTRY NATIONAL SCENIC TRAIL, AND APPROPRIATE MORE FUNDING FOR THE NORTH COUNTRY TRAIL

SCHEDULE D (Form 990)

OMB No 1545-0047

Supplemental Financial Statements

2012

Open to Public Inspection

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

Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service

Name of the organization NORTH COUNTRY TRAIL ASSOCIATION INC

Employer identification number

38-2423480

Part I Organizations Maintaining Donor Advised Funds or Other Similar Funds or Accounts. Complete if the organization answered "Yes" to Form 990, Part IV, line 6.

Table with 2 columns: (a) Donor advised funds, (b) Funds and other accounts. Rows include total number at end of year, aggregate contributions, aggregate grants, aggregate value, and questions about donor informed consent.

Part II Conservation Easements. Complete if the organization answered "Yes" to Form 990, Part IV, line 7.

Form for Part II Conservation Easements. Includes questions about purpose of easements, number of easements, and monitoring requirements. Includes a table for 'Held at the End of the Year' with rows 2a, 2b, 2c, 2d.

Part III Organizations Maintaining Collections of Art, Historical Treasures, or Other Similar Assets. Complete if the organization answered "Yes" to Form 990, Part IV, line 8.

Form for Part III Organizations Maintaining Collections of Art, Historical Treasures, or Other Similar Assets. Includes questions about reporting requirements and amounts for revenues and assets.

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" to 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 Beginning balance	
1d Additions during the year	
1e Distributions during the year	
1f Ending balance	

2a Did the organization include an amount on Form 990, Part X, line 21? 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" to 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	28,108	28,094			
b Contributions	1,250		28,083		
c Net investment earnings, gains, and losses	2,739	14	11		
d Grants or scholarships					
e Other expenditures for facilities and programs					
f Administrative expenses					
g End of year balance	32,097	28,108	28,094		

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

- a** Board designated or quasi-endowment 99.000 %
 - b** Permanent endowment 1.000 %
 - c** Temporarily restricted endowment
- The percentages in lines 2a, 2b, and 2c should equal 100%

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

	Yes	No
(i) unrelated organizations	3a(i)	No
(ii) related organizations	3a(ii)	No

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

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

Part VI Land, Buildings, and Equipment. 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		20,000		20,000
b Buildings				
c Leasehold improvements				
d Equipment		12,559	12,559	0
e Other		25,355	17,758	7,597
Total. Add lines 1a through 1e. (Column (d) must equal Form 990, Part X, column (B), line 10(c).)				27,597

Part VII Investments—Other Securities. 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		
Other		
Total. (Column (b) must equal Form 990, Part X, col (B) line 12)		

Part VIII Investments—Program Related. See Form 990, Part X, line 13.

(a) Description of investment type	(b) Book value	(c) Method of valuation Cost or end-of-year market value
Total. (Column (b) must equal Form 990, Part X, col (B) line 13)		

Part IX Other Assets. See Form 990, Part X, line 15.

(a) Description	(b) Book value
Total. (Column (b) must equal Form 990, Part X, col.(B) line 15.)	

Part X Other Liabilities. See Form 990, Part X, line 25.

1 (a) Description of liability	(b) Book value
Federal income taxes	
Total. (Column (b) must equal Form 990, Part X, col (B) line 25)	

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

Part XI Reconciliation of Revenue per Audited Financial Statements With Revenue per Return

1	Total revenue, gains, and other support per audited financial statements		1	945,008
2	Amounts included on line 1 but not on Form 990, Part VIII, line 12			
a	Net unrealized gains on investments	2a	1,957	
b	Donated services and use of facilities	2b		
c	Recoveries of prior year grants	2c		
d	Other (Describe in Part XIII)	2d	34,487	
e	Add lines 2a through 2d			2e 36,444
3	Subtract line 2e from line 1			3 908,564
4	Amounts included on Form 990, Part VIII, line 12, but not on line 1			
a	Investment expenses not included on Form 990, Part VIII, line 7b	4a		
b	Other (Describe in Part XIII)	4b		
c	Add lines 4a and 4b			4c 0
5	Total revenue Add lines 3 and 4c . (This must equal Form 990, Part I, line 12)			5 908,564

Part XII Reconciliation of Expenses per Audited Financial Statements With Expenses per Return

1	Total expenses and losses per audited financial statements		1	966,297
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	34,487	
e	Add lines 2a through 2d			2e 34,487
3	Subtract line 2e from line 1			3 931,810
4	Amounts included on Form 990, Part IX, line 25, but not on line 1 :			
a	Investment expenses not included on Form 990, Part VIII, line 7b	4a		
b	Other (Describe in Part XIII)	4b		
c	Add lines 4a and 4b			4c 0
5	Total expenses Add lines 3 and 4c . (This must equal Form 990, Part I, line 18)			5 931,810

Part XIII Supplemental Information

Complete this part to 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

Identifier	Return Reference	Explanation
PART XI, LINE 2D - OTHER ADJUSTMENTS		COST OF GOODS SOLD 7,725 SPECIAL EVENTS EXPENSE 26,762
PART XII, LINE 2D - OTHER ADJUSTMENTS		COST OF GOODS SOLD 7,725 SPECIAL EVENTS EXPENSE 26,762
		PART XI LINE 2D AND PART XII LINE 2D - THIS IS COST OF GOODS SOLD AND SPECIAL EVENTS EXPENSES NETTED WITH REVENUE ON THE TAX RETURN AND SHOWN AS AN EXPENSE ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENT
		PART XIV, LINE 2 THE ASSOCIATION EVALUATES TAX POSITIONS TAKEN ON ITS FEDERAL EXEMPT ORGANIZATION BUSINESS INCOME TAX RETURNS IN ACCORDANCE WITH GENERALLY ACCEPTED ACCOUNTING PRINCIPLES WHICH REQUIRE THAT TAX POSITIONS TAKEN BE MORE LIKELY THAN NOT TO BE SUSTAINED MANAGEMENT BELIEVES THAT THE ASSOCIATION HAS NO SIGNIFICANT UNRECOGNIZED TAX BENEFITS UNDER THAT CRITERIA PENALTIES AND INTEREST, IF ANY, ASSESSED BY INCOME TAXING AUTHORITIES ARE INCLUDED IN OPERATING EXPENSES THE ASSOCIATION'S FEDERAL EXEMPT ORGANIZATION BUSINESS INCOME TAX RETURNS ARE GENERALLY SUBJECT TO EXAMINATION BY TAXING AUTHORITIES FOR THREE YEARS AFTER THEY WERE FILED

SCHEDULE O
(Form 990 or 990-EZ)

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

Supplemental Information to Form 990 or 990-EZ

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

OMB No 1545-0047

2012

Open to Public Inspection

Name of the organization
NORTH COUNTRY TRAIL ASSOCIATION INC

Employer identification number

38-2423480

Identifier	Return Reference	Explanation
	FORM 990, PART VI, SECTION B, LINE 11	A DRAFT OF FORM 990 IS PROVIDED TO THE IN-HOUSE ACCOUNTANT WHO THEN REVIEWS AND APPROVES THE RETURN THE FORM 990 IS NOT REVIEWED BY THE ORGANIZATIONS GOVERNING BOARD PRIOR TO FILING IT
	FORM 990, PART VI, SECTION B, LINE 12C	THE CONFLICT OF INTEREST POLICY IS REVISED AND APPROVED YEARLY BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS BOARD MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES ARE REQUIRED TO COMPLETE AN ANNUAL DISCLOSURE YEARLY BEFORE EACH DECEMBER 31ST
	FORM 990, PART VI, SECTION B, LINE 15	COMPENSATION FOR THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR IS REVIEWED ANNUALLY BY THE BOARD, COMPARED TO SIMILAR ORGANIZATIONS FOR REASONABLENESS, AND APPROVED BY THE BOARD BOARD OFFICERS AND TRUSTEES DO NOT RECEIVE ANY COMPENSATION
	FORM 990, PART VI, SECTION C, LINE 19	THE ORGANIZATION MAKES ITS GOVERNING DOCUMENTS AVAILABLE ON THEIR WEBSITE THE ORGANIZATION MAKES THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND FEDERAL FORM 990 AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST
		THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS ASSUMES THE RESPONSIBILITY OF SELECTING THE INDEPENDENT CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS ASSUMES THE RESPONSIBILITY OF ACCEPTING THE AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS BY THE INDEPENDENT CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT