

Caution: Forms printed from within Adobe Acrobat products may not meet IRS or state taxing agency specifications. When using Acrobat, select the "Actual Size" in the Adobe "Print" dialog.

CLIENT'S COPY

Kerkering, Barberio & Co.
Certified Public Accountants

January 29, 2026

Big Waters Land Trust, Inc.
P.O. Box 902
Osprey, FL 34229

Enclosed are the original and one copy of the 2024 exempt organization return, as follows...

2024 Form 990

"Client Copy" and this instruction sheet are for your files. Because part or all of the data contained in the returns are based on information you furnished, but not verified by us, we ask that you review the returns immediately to ensure that they are correct to the best of your knowledge. If you have any questions, please contact us promptly.

Please follow the filing instructions on the Filing Instruction Sheets attached to your copy of each return. The copy should be retained for your files.

Kerkering, Barberio, & Co.

TAX RETURN FILING INSTRUCTIONS

FORM 990

FOR THE YEAR ENDING

September 30, 2025

Prepared For:

Big Waters Land Trust, Inc.
P.O. Box 902
Osprey, FL 34229

Prepared By:

Kerkering, Barberio & Co.
P.O. Box 49348
Sarasota, FL 34230-6348

Amount Due or Refund:

Not applicable

Make Check Payable To:

Not applicable

Mail Tax Return and Check (if applicable) To:

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service Center
Ogden, UT 84201-0027

Return Must be Mailed On or Before:

Special Instructions:

Return of Organization Exempt From Income Tax

OMB No. 1545-0047

Form 990

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.

2024

Open to Public Inspection

A For the 2024 calendar year, or tax year beginning **OCT 1, 2024** and ending **SEP 30, 2025**

B Check if applicable: <input type="checkbox"/> Address change <input type="checkbox"/> Name change <input type="checkbox"/> Initial return <input type="checkbox"/> Final return/terminated <input type="checkbox"/> Amended return <input type="checkbox"/> Application pending	C Name of organization Big Waters Land Trust, Inc.		D Employer identification number 20-0345249
	Doing business as		E Telephone number 941-918-2100
	Number and street (or P.O. box if mail is not delivered to street address)	Room/suite	
	City or town, state or province, country, and ZIP or foreign postal code Osprey, FL 34229		G Gross receipts \$ 8,145,621.
	F Name and address of principal officer: Christine P. Johnson same as C above		H(a) Is this a group return for subordinates? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No H(b) Are all subordinates included? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> 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: **http://bigwaterslandtrust.org**

K Form of organization: Corporation Trust Association Other **L** Year of formation: **2003** **M** State of legal domicile: **FL**

Part I Summary

Activities & Governance	1 Briefly describe the organization's mission or most significant activities: See Schedule O		
	2 Check this box <input type="checkbox"/> 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	13
	4 Number of independent voting members of the governing body (Part VI, line 1b)	4	13
	5 Total number of individuals employed in calendar year 2024 (Part V, line 2a)	5	24
	6 Total number of volunteers (estimate if necessary)	6	217
	7 a Total unrelated business revenue from Part VIII, column (C), line 12	7a	0.
b Net unrelated business taxable income from Form 990-T, Part I, line 11	7b	0.	
Revenue	8 Contributions and grants (Part VIII, line 1h)	Prior Year	Current Year
	9 Program service revenue (Part VIII, line 2g)	6,667,359.	4,275,883.
	10 Investment income (Part VIII, column (A), lines 3, 4, and 7d)	130,159.	139,754.
	11 Other revenue (Part VIII, column (A), lines 5, 6d, 8c, 9c, 10c, and 11e)	496,456.	620,617.
	12 Total revenue - add lines 8 through 11 (must equal Part VIII, column (A), line 12)	-160,055.	-88,700.
		7,133,919.	4,947,554.
Expenses	13 Grants and similar amounts paid (Part IX, column (A), lines 1-3)	0.	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)	1,576,211.	1,657,408.
	16a Professional fundraising fees (Part IX, column (A), line 11e)	0.	0.
	b Total fundraising expenses (Part IX, column (D), line 25)	363,180.	
	17 Other expenses (Part IX, column (A), lines 11a-11d, 11f-24e)	3,860,470.	2,159,200.
18 Total expenses. Add lines 13-17 (must equal Part IX, column (A), line 25)	5,436,681.	3,816,608.	
19 Revenue less expenses. Subtract line 18 from line 12	1,697,238.	1,130,946.	
Net Assets or Fund Balances	20 Total assets (Part X, line 16)	Beginning of Current Year	End of Year
	21 Total liabilities (Part X, line 26)	37,600,249.	38,852,882.
	22 Net assets or fund balances. Subtract line 21 from line 20	481,729.	586,341.
	37,118,520.	38,266,541.	

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		Date		
	Christine P. Johnson, President Type or print name and title				
Paid Preparer Use Only	Preparer's name	Preparer's signature	Date	Check <input type="checkbox"/> if self-employed	PTIN
	Brian Simmons				P00360690
Preparer Use Only	Firm's name	Firm's EIN		Phone no.	
	Kerkering, Barberio & Co.	59-1753337		941-365-4617	
	Firm's address				
	P.O. Box 49348 Sarasota, FL 34230-6348				

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 or note to any line in this Part III

1 Briefly describe the organization's mission: To protect land and water for the benefit of people and nature.

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

3 Did the organization cease conducting, or make significant changes in how it conducts, any program services? Yes No

4 Describe the organization's program service accomplishments for each of its three largest program services, as measured by expenses.

4a (Code:) (Expenses \$ 3,265,749. including grants of \$ 0.) (Revenue \$ 139,754.) In our 22-year history, Big Waters Land Trust has protected 69 properties totaling 20,071 acres, for the benefit of people and nature. The organization collaborated with 67 private, public, and not-for-profit organizations in the past year. The organization's mission is supported by over 800 donors annually. Cumulatively over the past 22 years, total revenues exceeded \$72,000,000 derived from contributions, grants, and other program fees such as contract work with Sarasota County's environmentally sensitive land acquisitions program. Education programs include programming for youth and adults that connect people of all ages and abilities to nature and to each other, building a conservation community.

4b (Code:) (Expenses \$ including grants of \$) (Revenue \$)

4c (Code:) (Expenses \$ including grants of \$) (Revenue \$)

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

4e Total program service expenses 3,265,749.

Part IV Checklist of Required Schedules

Table with 3 columns: Question ID, Yes, No. Rows include questions 1 through 21 regarding organizational requirements and schedules A through I.

Part IV Checklist of Required Schedules (continued)

Table with 3 columns: Question, Yes, No. Rows 22-38 covering various organizational requirements and schedules.

Part V Statements Regarding Other IRS Filings and Tax Compliance

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

Table with 3 columns: Question, Yes, No. Rows 1a-1c regarding Form 1096, Forms W-2G, and backup withholding rules.

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

Table with columns for question number, question text, and Yes/No response boxes. Includes questions 2a through 17 regarding employee counts, tax returns, unrelated business income, foreign accounts, prohibited transactions, and charitable contributions.

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

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

Section A. Governing Body and Management

Table with 3 columns: Question, Yes, No. Rows include: 1a Enter the number of voting members... 13; 1b Enter the number of voting members included... 13; 2 Did any officer, director, trustee, or key employee have a family relationship... X; 3 Did the organization delegate control over management duties... X; 4 Did the organization make any significant changes to its governing documents... X; 5 Did the organization become aware during the year of a significant diversion of the organization's assets... X; 6 Did the organization have members or stockholders... X; 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... X; 7b Are any governance decisions of the organization reserved to (or subject to approval by) members, stockholders, or persons other than the governing body... X; 8 Did the organization contemporaneously document the meetings held or written actions undertaken during the year by the following: a The governing body? X; b Each committee with authority to act on behalf of the governing body? X; 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 on Schedule O... X

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

Table with 3 columns: Question, Yes, No. Rows include: 10a Did the organization have local chapters, branches, or affiliates? X; 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?; 11a Has the organization provided a complete copy of this Form 990 to all members of its governing body before filing the form? X; 11b Describe on 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 X; 12b Were officers, directors, or trustees, and key employees required to disclose annually interests that could give rise to conflicts? X; 12c Did the organization regularly and consistently monitor and enforce compliance with the policy? If "Yes," describe on Schedule O how this was done X; 13 Did the organization have a written whistleblower policy? X; 14 Did the organization have a written document retention and destruction policy? X; 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? a The organization's CEO, Executive Director, or top management official X; b Other officers or key employees of the organization X; If "Yes" to line 15a or 15b, describe the process on 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? X; 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 FL
18 Section 6104 requires an organization to make its Forms 1023 (1024 or 1024-A, if applicable), 990, and 990-T (section 501(c)(3)s only) available for public inspection. Indicate how you made these available. Check all that apply.
[X] Own website [X] Another's website [X] Upon request [] Other (explain on Schedule O)
19 Describe on 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
Christine P. Johnson - 941-918-2100
P.O. Box 902, Osprey, FL 34229

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

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

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

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

- List all of the organization's **current** officers, directors, trustees (whether individuals or organizations), regardless of amount of compensation. Enter -0- in columns (D), (E), and (F) if no compensation was paid.
 - List all of the organization's **current** key employees, if any. See the 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, box 6 of Form 1099-MISC, and/or box 1 of Form 1099-NEC) of more than \$100,000 from the organization and any related organizations.
 - List all of the organization's **former** officers, key employees, and highest compensated employees who received more than \$100,000 of reportable compensation from the organization and any related organizations.
 - List all of the organization's **former directors or trustees** that received, in the capacity as a former director or trustee of the organization, more than \$10,000 of reportable compensation from the organization and any related organizations.
- See the 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.

(A) Name and title	(B) Average hours per week (list any hours for related organizations below 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/1099-NEC)	(E) Reportable compensation from related organizations (W-2/1099-MISC/1099-NEC)	(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) Christine Johnson President	40.00			X			168,272.	0.	38,390.	
(2) James Caldwell Board Member	5.00	X					0.	0.	0.	
(3) Patrick Carlton Board Member	5.00	X					0.	0.	0.	
(4) Carol Cater Board Member	5.00	X					0.	0.	0.	
(5) Mike Knupp Board Member	5.00	X					0.	0.	0.	
(6) Joe Lieberman Board Member	5.00	X					0.	0.	0.	
(7) Elizabeth Moore Board Member	5.00	X					0.	0.	0.	
(8) Patrick Pedonti Board Member	5.00	X					0.	0.	0.	
(9) Eileen Scudder-Zimmerman Board Member	5.00	X					0.	0.	0.	
(10) Daniel Vigne Board Member	5.00	X					0.	0.	0.	
(11) Rob Brown Board Chair	10.00	X		X			0.	0.	0.	
(12) Sherry Davis Vice Chair	5.00	X		X			0.	0.	0.	
(13) Mario Bernardis Treasurer	5.00	X		X			0.	0.	0.	
(14) David Crawford Secretary	5.00	X		X			0.	0.	0.	

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	1 a	Federated campaigns	1a					
	b	Membership dues	1b					
	c	Fundraising events	1c	229,949.				
	d	Related organizations	1d					
	e	Government grants (contributions)	1e					
	f	All other contributions, gifts, grants, and similar amounts not included above ...	1f	4,045,934.				
	g	Noncash contributions included in lines 1a-1f	1g	\$ 1,376,108.				
	h	Total. Add lines 1a-1f		4,275,883.				
Program Service Revenue	2 a	Program Income	Business Code					
			541900	139,754.	139,754.			
	b							
	c							
	d							
	e							
	f	All other program service revenue						
g	Total. Add lines 2a-2f			139,754.				
Other Revenue	3	Investment income (including dividends, interest, and other similar amounts)		312,439.			312,439.	
	4	Income from investment of tax-exempt bond proceeds						
	5	Royalties						
	6 a	Gross rents	6a	(i) Real				
				(ii) Personal				
	b	Less: rental expenses ...	6b					
	c	Rental income or (loss)	6c					
	d	Net rental income or (loss)						
	7 a	Gross amount from sales of assets other than inventory	7a	(i) Securities				
				(ii) Other				
	b	Less: cost or other basis and sales expenses	7b	3,059,186.	17,288.			
	c	Gain or (loss)	7c	325,466.	-17,288.			
	d	Net gain or (loss)			308,178.		308,178.	
8 a	Gross income from fundraising events (not including \$ 229,949. of contributions reported on line 1c). See Part IV, line 18	8a						
			32,893.					
b	Less: direct expenses	8b	121,593.					
c	Net income or (loss) from fundraising events			-88,700.		-88,700.		
9 a	Gross income from gaming activities. See Part IV, line 19	9a						
b	Less: direct expenses	9b						
c	Net income or (loss) from gaming activities							
10 a	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							
Miscellaneous Revenue	11 a		Business Code					
	b							
	c							
	d	All other revenue						
	e	Total. Add lines 11a-11d						
12	Total revenue. See instructions			4,947,554.	139,754.	0.	531,917.	

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 ...				
2 Grants and other assistance to domestic individuals. See Part IV, line 22				
3 Grants and other assistance to foreign organizations, foreign governments, and foreign individuals. See Part IV, lines 15 and 16				
4 Benefits paid to or for members				
5 Compensation of current officers, directors, trustees, and key employees	206,374.	158,908.	10,319.	37,147.
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	1,137,735.	836,773.	88,588.	212,374.
8 Pension plan accruals and contributions (include section 401(k) and 403(b) employer contributions)	40,304.	30,012.	3,785.	6,507.
9 Other employee benefits	174,926.	133,005.	12,490.	29,431.
10 Payroll taxes	98,069.	71,829.	7,453.	18,787.
11 Fees for services (nonemployees):				
a Management				
b Legal	250.	250.		
c Accounting	25,195.		25,195.	
d Lobbying	1,367.	1,367.		
e Professional fundraising services. See Part IV, line 17				
f Investment management fees	26,996.		26,996.	
g Other. (If line 11g amount exceeds 10% of line 25, column (A), amount, list line 11g expenses on Sch O.)	212,263.	212,263.		
12 Advertising and promotion	17,674.	17,674.		
13 Office expenses	10,619.	10,619.		
14 Information technology	75,083.	34,953.	8,823.	31,307.
15 Royalties				
16 Occupancy	132,426.	130,534.	550.	1,342.
17 Travel	25,880.	23,962.	71.	1,847.
18 Payments of travel or entertainment expenses for any federal, state, or local public officials ...				
19 Conferences, conventions, and meetings	19,486.	18,033.		1,453.
20 Interest				
21 Payments to affiliates				
22 Depreciation, depletion, and amortization	186,302.	172,218.	3,409.	10,675.
23 Insurance	55,946.	55,946.		
24 Other expenses. Itemize expenses not covered above. (List miscellaneous expenses on line 24e. If line 24e amount exceeds 10% of line 25, column (A), amount, list line 24e expenses on Schedule O.)				
a <u>Quads Project Expense</u>	867,310.	867,310.		
b <u>Land Acquisition Progra</u>	384,995.	384,995.		
c <u>Printing and Reproducti</u>	40,939.	35,065.		5,874.
d <u>Bad Debt Expense</u>	25,673.	25,573.		100.
e All other expenses	50,796.	44,460.		6,336.
25 Total functional expenses. Add lines 1 through 24e	3,816,608.	3,265,749.	187,679.	363,180.
26 Joint costs. Complete this line only if the organization reported in column (B) joint costs from a combined educational campaign and fundraising solicitation. Check here <input type="checkbox"/> if following SOP 98-2 (ASC 958-720)				

Part X Balance Sheet

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

		(A) Beginning of year		(B) End of year
Assets	1 Cash - non-interest-bearing	4,110.	1	2,825.
	2 Savings and temporary cash investments	5,339,981.	2	5,657,764.
	3 Pledges and grants receivable, net	280,647.	3	571,708.
	4 Accounts receivable, net	61,422.	4	25,701.
	5 Loans and other receivables from 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	
	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	
	7 Notes and loans receivable, net		7	
	8 Inventories for sale or use		8	
	9 Prepaid expenses and deferred charges	168,654.	9	172,191.
	10a Land, buildings, and equipment: cost or other basis. Complete Part VI of Schedule D	10a 28,945,053.		
	b Less: accumulated depreciation	10b 1,778,582.	26,886,883.	10c 27,166,471.
	11 Investments - publicly traded securities	4,858,552.	11	5,256,222.
	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 33)	37,600,249.	16	38,852,882.	
Liabilities	17 Accounts payable and accrued expenses	223,150.	17	385,728.
	18 Grants payable		18	
	19 Deferred revenue	248,329.	19	197,113.
	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 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	
	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	10,250.	25	3,500.
	26 Total liabilities. Add lines 17 through 25	481,729.	26	586,341.
Net Assets or Fund Balances	Organizations that follow FASB ASC 958, check here <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> and complete lines 27, 28, 32, and 33.			
	27 Net assets without donor restrictions	12,129,947.	27	12,545,426.
	28 Net assets with donor restrictions	24,988,573.	28	25,721,115.
	Organizations that do not follow FASB ASC 958, check here <input type="checkbox"/> 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	37,118,520.	32	38,266,541.
	33 Total liabilities and net assets/fund balances	37,600,249.	33	38,852,882.

Part XI Reconciliation of Net Assets

Check 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	4,947,554.
2	Total expenses (must equal Part IX, column (A), line 25)	2	3,816,608.
3	Revenue less expenses. Subtract line 2 from line 1	3	1,130,946.
4	Net assets or fund balances at beginning of year (must equal Part X, line 32, column (A))	4	37,118,520.
5	Net unrealized gains (losses) on investments	5	17,075.
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 on Schedule O)	9	0.
10	Net assets or fund balances at end of year. Combine lines 3 through 9 (must equal Part X, line 32, column (B))	10	38,266,541.

Part XII Financial Statements and Reporting

Check 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: <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 on Schedule O.		
2a Were the organization's financial statements compiled or reviewed by an independent accountant?		X
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		
b Were the organization's financial statements audited by an independent accountant?	X	
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		
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?	X	
If the organization changed either its oversight process or selection process during the tax year, explain on Schedule O.		
3a As a result of a federal award, was the organization required to undergo an audit or audits as set forth in the Uniform Guidance, 2 C.F.R. Part 200, Subpart F?		X
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 on Schedule O and describe any steps taken to undergo such audits		

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) 2020	(b) 2021	(c) 2022	(d) 2023	(e) 2024	(f) Total
1 Gifts, grants, contributions, and membership fees received. (Do not include any "unusual grants.")	1927610.	8086296.	2837034.	6667334.	4276383.	23794657.
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	1927610.	8086296.	2837034.	6667334.	4276383.	23794657.
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)						4366993.
6 Public support. Subtract line 5 from line 4.						19427664.

Section B. Total Support

Calendar year (or fiscal year beginning in)	(a) 2020	(b) 2021	(c) 2022	(d) 2023	(e) 2024	(f) Total
7 Amounts from line 4	1927610.	8086296.	2837034.	6667334.	4276383.	23794657.
8 Gross income from interest, dividends, payments received on securities loans, rents, royalties, and income from similar sources	139,990.	226,392.	125,852.	294,768.	312,439.	1099441.
9 Net income from unrelated business activities, whether or not the business is regularly carried on						
10 Other income. Do not include gain or loss from the sale of capital assets (Explain in Part VI.)	1.	3.				4.
11 Total support. Add lines 7 through 10						24894102.
12 Gross receipts from related activities, etc. (see instructions)					12	752,923.
13 First 5 years. If the Form 990 is for the organization's first, second, third, fourth, or fifth tax year as a section 501(c)(3) organization, check this box and stop here						<input type="checkbox"/>

Section C. Computation of Public Support Percentage

14 Public support percentage for 2024 (line 6, column (f), divided by line 11, column (f))	14	78.04 %
15 Public support percentage from 2023 Schedule A, Part II, line 14	15	84.11 %
16a 33 1/3% support test - 2024. 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 - 2023. 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 - 2024. 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		<input type="checkbox"/>
b 10% -facts-and-circumstances test - 2023. 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		<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 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

Table with 7 columns: (a) 2020, (b) 2021, (c) 2022, (d) 2023, (e) 2024, (f) Total. Rows include: 1 Gifts, grants, contributions, and membership fees received; 2 Gross receipts from admissions, merchandise sold or services performed; 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; 5 The value of services or facilities furnished by a governmental unit; 6 Total; 7a Amounts included on lines 1, 2, and 3 received from disqualified persons; 7b Amounts included on lines 2 and 3 received from other than disqualified persons; 8 Public support.

Section B. Total Support

Table with 7 columns: (a) 2020, (b) 2021, (c) 2022, (d) 2023, (e) 2024, (f) Total. Rows include: 9 Amounts from line 6; 10a Gross income from interest, dividends, payments received on securities loans, rents, royalties, and income from similar sources; 10b Unrelated business taxable income (less section 511 taxes) from businesses acquired after June 30, 1975; 10c Add lines 10a and 10b; 11 Net income from unrelated business activities not included on 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.

14 First 5 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

Table with 2 columns: Description, Percentage. Row 15: Public support percentage for 2024 (line 8, column (f), divided by line 13, column (f)) 15%. Row 16: Public support percentage from 2023 Schedule A, Part III, line 15 16%.

Section D. Computation of Investment Income Percentage

Table with 2 columns: Description, Percentage. Row 17: Investment income percentage for 2024 (line 10c, column (f), divided by line 13, column (f)) 17%. Row 18: Investment income percentage from 2023 Schedule A, Part III, line 17 18%.

19a 33 1/3% support tests - 2024. 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 - 2023. 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 box 12a, Part I, complete Sections A and B. If you checked box 12b, Part I, complete Sections A and C. If you checked box 12c, Part I, complete Sections A, D, and E. If you checked box 12d, 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>		
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>		
3a Did the organization have a supported organization described in section 501(c)(4), (5), or (6)? <i>If "Yes," answer lines 3b and 3c below.</i>		
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>		
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>		
4a Was any supported organization not organized in the United States ("foreign supported organization")? <i>If "Yes," and if you checked box 12a or 12b in Part I, answer lines 4b and 4c below.</i>		
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>		
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>		
5a Did the organization add, substitute, or remove any supported organizations during the tax year? <i>If "Yes," answer lines 5b and 5c 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>		
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?		
c Substitutions only. Was the substitution the result of an event beyond the organization's control?		
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>		
7 Did the organization provide a grant, loan, compensation, or other similar payment to a substantial contributor (as 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).</i>		
8 Did the organization make a loan to a disqualified person (as defined in section 4958) not described on line 7? <i>If "Yes," complete Part I of Schedule L (Form 990).</i>		
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>		
b Did one or more disqualified persons (as defined on 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>		
c Did a disqualified person (as defined on 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>		
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>		
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>		

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 on lines 11b and 11c below, the governing body of a supported organization?		
11a		
b A family member of a person described on line 11a above?		
11b		
c A 35% controlled entity of a person described on line 11a or 11b above? <i>If "Yes" to line 11a, 11b, or 11c, provide detail in Part VI.</i>		
11c		

Section B. Type I Supporting Organizations

	Yes	No
1 Did the governing body, members of the governing body, officers acting in their official capacity, or membership of one or more supported organizations have the power to regularly appoint or elect at least a majority of the organization's officers, 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 officers, 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>		
1		
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>		
2		

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>		
1		

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?		
1		
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>		
2		
3 By reason of the relationship described on line 2, above, 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>		
3		

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 <input type="checkbox"/> The organization satisfied the Activities Test. Complete line 2 below.		
b <input type="checkbox"/> The organization is the parent of each of its supported organizations. Complete line 3 below.		
c <input type="checkbox"/> The organization supported a governmental entity. Describe in Part VI how you supported a governmental entity (see instructions).		
2 Activities Test. Answer lines 2a and 2b 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>		
2a		
b Did the activities described on line 2a, above, 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>		
2b		
3 Parent of Supported Organizations. Answer lines 3a and 3b 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>If "Yes" or "No," provide details in Part VI.</i>		
3a		
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>		
3b		

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):		
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 0.015 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 0.035.	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 0.85 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	<input type="checkbox"/> 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	1
2	Amounts paid to perform activity that directly furthers exempt purposes of supported organizations, in excess of income from activity	2
3	Administrative expenses paid to accomplish exempt purposes of supported organizations	3
4	Amounts paid to acquire exempt-use assets	4
5	Qualified set-aside amounts (prior IRS approval required - <i>provide details in Part VI</i>)	5
6	Other distributions (describe in Part VI). See instructions.	6
7	Total annual distributions. Add lines 1 through 6.	7
8	Distributions to attentive supported organizations to which the organization is responsive (<i>provide details in Part VI</i>). See instructions.	8
9	Distributable amount for 2024 from Section C, line 6	9
10	Line 8 amount divided by line 9 amount	10

Section E - Distribution Allocations (see instructions)	(i) Excess Distributions	(ii) Underdistributions Pre-2024	(iii) Distributable Amount for 2024
1 Distributable amount for 2024 from Section C, line 6			
2 Underdistributions, if any, for years prior to 2024 (reasonable cause required - <i>explain in Part VI</i>). See instructions.			
3 Excess distributions carryover, if any, to 2024			
a From 2019			
b From 2020			
c From 2021			
d From 2022			
e From 2023			
f Total of lines 3a through 3e			
g Applied to under distributions of prior years			
h Applied to 2024 distributable amount			
i Carryover from 2019 not applied (see instructions)			
j Remainder. Subtract lines 3g, 3h, and 3i from line 3f.			
4 Distributions for 2024 from Section D, line 7: \$			
a Applied to underdistributions of prior years			
b Applied to 2024 distributable amount			
c Remainder. Subtract lines 4a and 4b from line 4.			
5 Remaining underdistributions for years prior to 2024, if any. Subtract lines 3g and 4a from line 2. For result greater than zero, <i>explain in Part VI</i> . See instructions.			
6 Remaining underdistributions for 2024. Subtract lines 3h and 4b from line 1. For result greater than zero, <i>explain in Part VI</i> . See instructions.			
7 Excess distributions carryover to 2025. Add lines 3j and 4c.			
8 Breakdown of line 7:			
a Excess from 2020			
b Excess from 2021			
c Excess from 2022			
d Excess from 2023			
e Excess from 2024			

Schedule A (Form 990) 2024

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.)

Lined area for supplemental information.

**Schedule B
(Form 990)**

(Rev. December 2024)
Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

Schedule of Contributors

Attach to Form 990, 990-EZ, or 990-PF.
Go to www.irs.gov/Form990 for the latest information.

OMB No. 1545-0047

Name of the organization

Big Waters Land Trust, Inc.

Employer identification number

20-0345249

Organization type (check one):

Filers of:

Section:

Form 990 or 990-EZ

501(c)(3) (enter number) organization

4947(a)(1) nonexempt charitable trust **not** treated as a private foundation

527 political organization

Form 990-PF

501(c)(3) exempt private foundation

4947(a)(1) nonexempt charitable trust treated as a private foundation

501(c)(3) taxable private foundation

Check if your organization is covered by the **General Rule** or a **Special Rule**.

Note: Only a section 501(c)(7), (8), or (10) organization can check boxes for both the General Rule and a Special Rule. See instructions.

General Rule

For an organization filing Form 990, 990-EZ, or 990-PF that received, during the year, contributions totaling \$5,000 or more (in money or property) from any one contributor. Complete Parts I and II. See instructions for determining a contributor's total contributions.

Special Rules

For an organization described in section 501(c)(3) filing Form 990 or 990-EZ that met the 33 1/3% support test of the regulations under sections 509(a)(1) and 170(b)(1)(A)(vi), that checked Schedule A (Form 990), Part II, line 13, 16a, or 16b, and that received from any one contributor, during the year, total contributions of the greater of **(1)** \$5,000; or **(2)** 2% of the amount on (i) Form 990, Part VIII, line 1h; or (ii) Form 990-EZ, line 1. Complete Parts I and II.

For an organization described in section 501(c)(7), (8), or (10) filing Form 990 or 990-EZ that received from any one contributor, during the year, total contributions of more than \$1,000 *exclusively* for religious, charitable, scientific, literary, or educational purposes, or for the prevention of cruelty to children or animals. Complete Parts I (entering "N/A" in column (b) instead of the contributor name and address), II, and III.

For an organization described in section 501(c)(7), (8), or (10) filing Form 990 or 990-EZ that received from any one contributor, during the year, contributions *exclusively* for religious, charitable, etc., purposes, but no such contributions totaled more than \$1,000. If this box is checked, enter here the total contributions that were received during the year for an *exclusively* religious, charitable, etc., purpose. Don't complete any of the parts unless the **General Rule** applies to this organization because it received *nonexclusively* religious, charitable, etc., contributions totaling \$5,000 or more during the year \$ _____

Caution: An organization that isn't covered by the General Rule and/or the Special Rules doesn't file Schedule B (Form 990), but it **must** answer "No" on Part IV, line 2, of its Form 990; or check the box on line H of its Form 990-EZ or on its Form 990-PF, Part I, line 2, to certify that it doesn't meet the filing requirements of Schedule B (Form 990).

For Paperwork Reduction Act Notice, see the instructions for Form 990, 990-EZ, or 990-PF.

Schedule B (Form 990) (Rev. 12-2024)

Name of organization Big Waters Land Trust, Inc.	Employer identification number 20-0345249
--	---

Part I Contributors (see instructions). Use duplicate copies of Part I if additional space is needed.

(a) No.	(b) Name, address, and ZIP + 4	(c) Total contributions	(d) Type of contribution
<u>1</u>	<hr/> <hr/> <hr/>	\$ <u>1,100,000.</u>	Person <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Payroll <input type="checkbox"/> Noncash <input type="checkbox"/> (Complete Part II for noncash contributions.)
<u>2</u>	<hr/> <hr/> <hr/>	\$ <u>975,363.</u>	Person <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Payroll <input type="checkbox"/> Noncash <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (Complete Part II for noncash contributions.)
<u>3</u>	<hr/> <hr/> <hr/>	\$ <u>150,000.</u>	Person <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Payroll <input type="checkbox"/> Noncash <input type="checkbox"/> (Complete Part II for noncash contributions.)
<u>4</u>	<hr/> <hr/> <hr/>	\$ <u>100,000.</u>	Person <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Payroll <input type="checkbox"/> Noncash <input type="checkbox"/> (Complete Part II for noncash contributions.)
<u>5</u>	<hr/> <hr/> <hr/>	\$ <u>435,000.</u>	Person <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Payroll <input type="checkbox"/> Noncash <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (Complete Part II for noncash contributions.)
<hr/> <hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/> <hr/>	\$ _____	Person <input type="checkbox"/> Payroll <input type="checkbox"/> Noncash <input type="checkbox"/> (Complete Part II for noncash contributions.)

Name of organization Big Waters Land Trust, Inc.	Employer identification number 20-0345249
--	---

Part II Noncash Property (see instructions). Use duplicate copies of Part II if additional space is needed.

(a) No. from Part I	(b) Description of noncash property given	(c) FMV (or estimate) (See instructions.)	(d) Date received
2	Various Securities _____ _____ _____	\$ 965,000.	11/28/25
5	Conservation Easements _____ _____ _____	\$ 385,000.	09/26/25
	_____ _____ _____	\$ _____	_____
	_____ _____ _____	\$ _____	_____
	_____ _____ _____	\$ _____	_____
	_____ _____ _____	\$ _____	_____

Name of organization Big Waters Land Trust, Inc.	Employer identification number 20-0345249
--	---

Part III Exclusively religious, charitable, etc., contributions to organizations described in section 501(c)(7), (8), or (10) that total more than \$1,000 for the year from any one contributor. Complete columns (a) through (e) and the following line entry. For organizations completing Part III, enter the total of exclusively religious, charitable, etc., contributions of **\$1,000 or less** for the year. (Enter this info. once.) \$ _____
Use duplicate copies of Part III if additional space is needed.

(a) No. from Part I	(b) Purpose of gift	(c) Use of gift	(d) Description of how gift is held
(e) Transfer of gift			
Transferee's name, address, and ZIP + 4		Relationship of transferor to transferee	
(e) Transfer of gift			
Transferee's name, address, and ZIP + 4		Relationship of transferor to transferee	
(e) Transfer of gift			
Transferee's name, address, and ZIP + 4		Relationship of transferor to transferee	
(e) Transfer of gift			
Transferee's name, address, and ZIP + 4		Relationship of transferor to transferee	
(e) Transfer of gift			
Transferee's name, address, and ZIP + 4		Relationship of transferor to transferee	
(e) Transfer of gift			
Transferee's name, address, and ZIP + 4		Relationship of transferor to transferee	

SCHEDULE C
(Form 990)

Political Campaign and Lobbying Activities

OMB No. 1545-0047

2024

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

If the organization answered "Yes" on 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 I-B. Do not complete Part I-C.
- Section 501(c) (other than section 501(c)(3)) organizations: Complete Parts I-A and I-C below. Do not complete Part I-B.
- Section 527 organizations: Complete Part I-A only.

If the organization answered "Yes" on 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" on Form 990, Part IV, line 5 (Proxy Tax) (see separate instructions), or Form 990-EZ, Part V, line 35c (Proxy Tax) (see separate instructions), then:

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

Name of organization Big Waters Land Trust, Inc.	Employer identification number (EIN) 20-0345249
--	---

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 campaign activity expenditures \$ _____
- 3 Volunteer hours for political campaign activities

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 EINs of all section 527 political organizations to which the filing organization made payments. For each organization listed, enter the amount paid from the filing organization's funds. Also enter the amount of political contributions received that were promptly and directly delivered to a separate political organization, such as a separate segregated fund or a political action committee (PAC). If additional space is needed, provide information in Part IV.

(a) Name	(b) Address	(c) EIN	(d) Amount paid from filing organization's funds. If none, enter -0-.	(e) Amount of political contributions received and promptly and directly delivered to a separate political organization. If none, enter -0-.

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 (grassroots lobbying)	0.													
b Total lobbying expenditures to influence a legislative body (direct lobbying)	1,367.													
c Total lobbying expenditures (add lines 1a and 1b)	1,367.													
d Other exempt purpose expenditures	3,264,382.													
e Total exempt purpose expenditures (add lines 1c and 1d)	3,265,749.													
f Lobbying nontaxable amount. Enter the amount from the following table in both columns.	313,287.													
<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width: 30%;">IF the amount on line 1e, column (a) or (b), is:</th> <th>THEN 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:	THEN 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:	THEN 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)	78,322.													
h Subtract line 1g from line 1a. If zero or less, enter -0-	0.													
i Subtract line 1f from line 1c. If zero or less, enter -0-	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 separate instructions for lines 2a through 2f.)

Lobbying Expenditures During 4-Year Averaging Period					
Calendar year (or fiscal year beginning in)	(a) 2021	(b) 2022	(c) 2023	(d) 2024	(e) Total
2a Lobbying nontaxable amount	229,785.	233,806.	392,244.	313,287.	1,169,122.
b Lobbying ceiling amount (150% of line 2a, column(e))					1,753,683.
c Total lobbying expenditures	1,366.	836.	1,027.	1,367.	4,596.
d Grassroots nontaxable amount	57,446.	58,452.	98,061.	78,322.	292,281.
e Grassroots ceiling amount (150% of line 2d, column (e))					438,422.
f Grassroots lobbying expenditures	1,366.				1,366.

Schedule C (Form 990) 2024

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)).

Table with 3 main columns: (a) Yes/No, (b) Amount. Rows include: 1 During the year, did the filing organization attempt to influence foreign, national, state, or local legislation...; 2a Did the activities in line 1 cause the organization to not be described in section 501(c)(3)?

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

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

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."

Table with 3 columns: Question, Yes, No. Rows include: 1 Dues, assessments, and similar amounts from members; 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); 3 Aggregate amount reported in section 6033(e)(1)(A) notices of nondeductible section 162(e) dues; 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 expenditures next year?; 5 Taxable amount of lobbying and political expenditures.

Part IV Supplemental Information

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, lines 1 and 2 (see instructions); and Part II-B, line 1. Also, complete this part for any additional information.

Schedule C, Part II-A

The Big Waters Land Trust will engage in lobbying for policy related initiatives. Direct expenses for "Policy" was only \$1,367 for the year.

SCHEDULE D
(Form 990)

(Rev. December 2024)

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

**Open to Public
Inspection**

Name of the organization **Big Waters Land Trust, Inc.** Employer identification number **20-0345249**

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

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

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

1 Purpose(s) of conservation easements held by the organization (check all that apply):

Preservation of land for public use (for example, recreation or education) Preservation of a 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 Tax Year
a Total number of conservation easements	21
b Total acreage restricted by conservation easements	2,307.17
c Number of conservation easements on a certified historic structure included on line 2a	0
d Number of conservation easements included on line 2c acquired after July 25, 2006, and not on a historic structure listed in the National Register	0

3 Number of conservation easements modified, transferred, released, extinguished, or terminated by the organization during the tax year 0

4 Number of states where property subject to conservation easement is located 1

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 114

7 Amount of expenses incurred in monitoring, inspecting, handling of violations, and enforcing conservation easements during the year 5,025.

8 Does each conservation easement reported on line 2d 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 FASB 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 FASB 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 FASB 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.

Schedule D (Form 990) (Rev. 12-2024)

LHA 432051 01-02-25

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. (Col. (b) must equal Form 990, Part X, line 12, col. (B))		

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. (Col. (b) must equal Form 990, Part X, line 13, col. (B))		

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, line 15, col. (B))	

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) Security Deposits	3,500.
(3)	
(4)	
(5)	
(6)	
(7)	
(8)	
(9)	
Total. (Column (b) must equal Form 990, Part X, line 25, col. (B))	3,500.

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 FASB ASC 740. Check here if the text of the footnote has been provided in Part XIII ...

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

Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 12a.

1	Total revenue, gains, and other support per audited financial statements		1	4,941,901.
2	Amounts included on line 1 but not on Form 990, Part VIII, line 12:			
a	Net unrealized gains (losses) on investments	2a	17,075.	
b	Donated services and use of facilities	2b	4,268.	
c	Recoveries of prior year grants	2c		
d	Other (Describe in Part XIII.)	2d		
e	Add lines 2a through 2d	2e	21,343.	
3	Subtract line 2e from line 1	3	4,920,558.	
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	26,996.	
b	Other (Describe in Part XIII.)	4b		
c	Add lines 4a and 4b	4c	26,996.	
5	Total revenue. Add lines 3 and 4c. (This must equal Form 990, Part I, line 12.)	5	4,947,554.	

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	3,793,880.
2	Amounts included on line 1 but not on Form 990, Part IX, line 25:			
a	Donated services and use of facilities	2a	4,268.	
b	Prior year adjustments	2b		
c	Other losses	2c		
d	Other (Describe in Part XIII.)	2d		
e	Add lines 2a through 2d	2e	4,268.	
3	Subtract line 2e from line 1	3	3,789,612.	
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	26,996.	
b	Other (Describe in Part XIII.)	4b		
c	Add lines 4a and 4b	4c	26,996.	
5	Total expenses. Add lines 3 and 4c. (This must equal Form 990, Part I, line 18.)	5	3,816,608.	

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.

Part II, Line 5:

Each conservation easement property in BWLT's portfolio is monitored at least once annually by means of a site visit conducted by one or more BWLT staff, during which a report is completed regarding the condition of the property. The report and any accompanying documentation, such as photos and maps, are archived according to BWLT Records Policy.

Part II, line 9:

Conservation easements, either purchased or donated, are initially valued at their appraised value. When donated, the appraised value is reflected as an unrestricted gift of land in the statements of activities. When purchased, the difference between the purchase price and the appraised value is reflected as an unrestricted gift of land in the statement of activities.

Once the development rights for a specific conservation easement are extinguished, generally immediately after acquisition, a valuation allowance is established to reduce the carrying value of the conservation easement to a nominal value of \$1, in order to reflect the lack of marketability of the easement, due to the extinguishment of development rights. The valuation is reflected as "Program Expenses" in the statements of activities.

Part V, line 4:

The quasi-endowment funds of Big Waters Land Trust are intended to support

Part XIII Supplemental Information (continued)

the organization's current operations and capital needs, as well as the costs to manage, monitor, insure, and provide legal defense of the protected properties. Traditional endowment funds are designated by the donor and support specific properties' stewardship costs.

Part X, Line 2:

Under the Income Taxes Topic of the FASB Accounting Standards Codification, the Organization has reviewed and evaluated the relevant technical merits of each of its tax positions in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America for accounting for uncertainty in income taxes, and determined that there are no uncertain tax positions that would have a material impact on the financial statements of the Organization.

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 (add col. (a) through col. (c))	
		Feast Upon the Fields (event type)	Party In Paradise (event type)	2 (total number)		
Revenue	1	Gross receipts	179,066.	72,500.	10,508.	262,074.
	2	Less: Contributions	146,941.	72,500.	10,508.	229,949.
	3	Gross income (line 1 minus line 2)	32,125.			32,125.
Direct Expenses	4	Cash prizes				
	5	Noncash prizes				
	6	Rent/facility costs				
	7	Food and beverages	30,255.	325.	789.	31,369.
	8	Entertainment	650.	395.	3,400.	4,445.
	9	Other direct expenses	36,084.	9,141.	9,582.	54,807.
	10	Direct expense summary. Add lines 4 through 9 in column (d)				90,621.
11	Net income summary. Subtract line 10 from line 3, column (d)				-58,496.	

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	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes _____ % <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes _____ % <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes _____ % <input type="checkbox"/> 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: _____

**SCHEDULE J
(Form 990)**

(Rev. December 2024)
Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

Compensation Information

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.

OMB No. 1545-0047

Open to Public
Inspection

Name of the organization **Big Waters Land Trust, Inc.** Employer identification number **20-0345249**

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. <input type="checkbox"/> First-class or charter travel <input type="checkbox"/> Travel for companions <input type="checkbox"/> Tax indemnification and gross-up payments <input type="checkbox"/> Discretionary spending account <input type="checkbox"/> Housing allowance or residence for personal use <input type="checkbox"/> Payments for business use of personal residence <input type="checkbox"/> Health or social club dues or initiation fees <input type="checkbox"/> Personal services (such as 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, and officers, including the CEO/Executive Director, regarding the items checked on line 1a?	2	
3 Indicate which, if any, of the following the 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. <input type="checkbox"/> Compensation committee <input type="checkbox"/> Independent compensation consultant <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Form 990 of other organizations <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Written employment contract <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Compensation survey or study <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 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	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b Participate in or receive payment from a supplemental nonqualified retirement plan?	4b	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c Participate in or receive payment from an equity-based compensation arrangement?	4c	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
If "Yes" to any of lines 4a-c, list the persons and provide the applicable amounts for each item in Part III.		
Only section 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	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b Any related organization?	5b	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b Any related organization?	6b	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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 on lines 5 and 6? If "Yes," describe in Part III	7	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
9 If "Yes" on line 8, did the organization also follow the rebuttable presumption procedure described in Regulations section 53.4958-6(c)?	9	

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

Schedule J (Form 990) (Rev. 12-2024)

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 aren't 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 and/or 1099-NEC 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) Christine Johnson President	(i)	158,272.	10,000.	0.	5,329.	33,061.	206,662.	0.
	(ii)	0.	0.	0.	0.	0.	0.	0.
	(i)							
	(ii)							
	(i)							
	(ii)							
	(i)							
	(ii)							
	(i)							
	(ii)							
	(i)							
	(ii)							
	(i)							
	(ii)							
	(i)							
	(ii)							
	(i)							
	(ii)							
	(i)							
	(ii)							
	(i)							
	(ii)							
	(i)							
	(ii)							

**SCHEDULE M
(Form 990)**

Noncash Contributions

OMB No. 1545-0047

2024

Open to Public Inspection

Complete if the organizations answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 29 or 30.
Attach to Form 990.

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

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

Name of the organization **Big Waters Land Trust, Inc.** Employer identification number **20-0345249**

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	5	987,713.	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	X	5	385,000.	Fair Market Value
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 (<u>Beer donated fo</u>)	X	1	2,000.	FMV
26 Other (<u>Admission ticke</u>)	X	2	1,395.	Supporting Invoices
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 V, Donee Acknowledgement **29**

	Yes	No
30a During the year, did the organization receive by contribution any property reported on Part I, lines 1 through 28, that it must hold for at least 3 years from the date of the initial contribution, and which isn't required to be used for exempt purposes for the entire holding period?		X
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?	X	
32a Does the organization hire or use third parties or related organizations to solicit, process, or sell noncash contributions?		X
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. Schedule M (Form 990) 2024

**SCHEDULE O
(Form 990)**

(Rev. December 2024)

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

Supplemental Information to Form 990 or 990-EZ

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

Attach to Form 990 or Form 990-EZ.

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

OMB No. 1545-0047

**Open to Public
Inspection**

Name of the organization

Big Waters Land Trust, Inc.

Employer identification number

20-0345249

Form 990, Part I, Line 1 Mission or most significant activities

Big Waters Land Trust protects land and water for the benefit of people and nature. A nationally accredited land trust, we partner with landowners, businesses, government, and the community to identify critical land parcels and protect them in perpetuity. Over our 22 years, we've protected 20,070 acres across 69 properties. Our urgent work is accomplished by purchasing natural areas, holding voluntary land conservation agreements, creating, and restoring native habitats, and educating for responsible land and water stewardship. We continue to steward natural areas on thirty-two different properties totaling over 3,100 acres. This includes pine flatwoods restoration on Pine Island in Lee County, Myakka River restoration in Manatee and Sarasota Counties, and scrub restoration in Myakka City. Our work contributes to water quality, flood prevention, wildlife corridor connectivity, habitat protection, and unique public access, benefiting all those who call our region home. This year, we protected critical burrowing owl habitat in Cape Coral by partnering with the City of Cape Coral, the Fish and Wildlife Foundation of Florida, and Cape Coral Friends of Wildlife. We also partnered to preserve rare coastal habitat and native American history. After years of collaborations and negotiations, we protected 14.5 acres of the Elling Eide Center on Little Sarasota Bay using Sarasota County's ESLP. In Englewood, we conserved 34 acres on Sandpiper Key, the property protects the mangroves and seagrass beds that keep Lemon Bay clean and was added to the Charlotte Harbor Aquatic Preserve for the public to enjoy forever. We also permanently protected 13 acres of wetlands and wildlife habitat adjacent to Crane Park on the Myakka River in Manatee County. We worked with the landowner to use Manatee County's Environmental Land Fund to expand this community green space, providing more public access to nature. A true win-win for both people and wildlife. And earlier this year, together with our partner Sarasota Audubon Society, we broke ground on Rewilding the Quads at the Celery Fields! Our community education, youth education, outreach events, speaking engagements, and volunteer programs continue to grow, increasing the number of community members engaged to 6,748. This fiscal year we rolled out our first ever Conservation Plan which informed our next five-year Strategic Plan: A Promise to Protect.

Form 990, Part I, Line 6 Volunteers

Volunteers participate in the following ways: Board of Trustees, Board of Advisors, Committees, pro bono legal work, advocacy, office administration, youth and community education, special event planning and implementation, community outreach events, and land stewardship activities.

Form 990, Part VI, Section B, line 11b:

The completed annual Form 990 is reviewed by staff and approved by Big Waters Land Trust management. The audit committee then reviews the Form 990 with management staff, recommends to the Board that they accept its recommendation to approve the 990 and authorizes management to file the

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

Schedule O (Form 990) (Rev. 12-2024)

LHA 432211 01-15-25

Name of the organization Big Waters Land Trust, Inc.	Employer identification number 20-0345249
--	---

Form 990 with the IRS. The Board then reviews and acts on the audit committee's recommendation.

Form 990, Part VI, Section B, Line 12c:
Board members, staff, and volunteers are required to annually review, acknowledge their understanding of and compliance with, and sign the conflict of interest policy. The board is apprised of the response results and acts on all potential conflicts in accordance with required policy procedures.

Form 990, Part VI, Section B, Line 15:
The President's contract and compensation are reviewed annually by the chair and vice-chair. They compare the compensation to industry standards and comparisons, share their findings with and solicit input from all the trustees. The finance committee and the board of trustees approve the budget, including the President's compensation.

Form 990, Part VI, Section C, Line 19:
Big Waters Land Trust's governing documents, conflict of interest policy, and audited financial statements, as well as the Form 990, are available for review in the organization's office. The past five years' Form 990 and audited financial statements, as well as the five-year Strategic Plan and Conservation Plan are available on the Land Trust's website. Form 990 and audited financial statements are also available for review on-line at Guidestar and through the Community Foundation of Sarasota County's Giving Partner website.

Form 990, Part VIII, line 8
The organization's net revenues from the Party in Paradise, Feast Upon the Fields, and Wild About Nature events consist of contribution revenues, sponsorships revenues, and ticket sales netted with the related expenses. The Party in Paradise event was cancelled in November 2025 due to the impact of hurricane Milton. Revenues from the event are from donors and sponsors that did not request a refund or change in donation restriction.

The net revenue from the Party in Paradise and Feast Upon the Fields was \$251,566. Included in this amount is \$219,441 in sponsorships and other contributions which for IRS purposes is reported on Form 990, Part VIII, line 1c as contributions.

Form 990, Part XII, Line 2c Audit review process
There were no changes to the audit review process.