

2010

Open to Public Inspection

Form 990-EZ

Short Form Return of Organization Exempt From Income Tax

Under section 501(c), 527, or 4947(a)(1) of the Internal Revenue Code (except black lung benefit trust or private foundation)

Sponsoring organizations of donor advised funds and controlling organizations as defined in section 512(b)(13) must file Form 990. All other organizations with gross receipts less than \$500,000 and total assets less than \$1,250,000 at the end of the year may use this form.

The organization may have to use a copy of this return to satisfy state reporting requirements

Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service

A For the 2010 calendar year, or tax year beginning 2009, and ending 2010

- B Check if applicable: Address change, Name change, Initial return, Terminated, Amended return, Application pending

Please use IRS label or print or type. See Specific Instructions.

C Name of organization: Sierra Madre Foundation for Geological Research. Address: 522 Cottonwood Creek Rd, Durango, CO 81301

D Employer identification number: 74-2260009. E Telephone number: 970-259-5607. F Group Exemption Number

Section 501(c)(3) organizations and 4947(a)(1) nonexempt charitable trusts must attach a completed Schedule A (Form 990 or 990-EZ).

G Accounting Method: Cash [checked] Accrual Other (specify)

I Website:

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

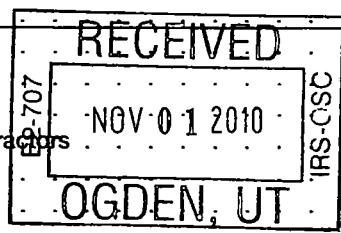
H Check [checked] if the organization is not required to attach Schedule B (Form 990, 990-EZ, or 990-PF).

K Check [] if the organization is not a section 509(a)(3) supporting organization and its gross receipts are normally not more than \$25,000. A Form 990-EZ or Form 990 return is not required, but if the organization chooses to file a return, be sure to file a complete return

L Add lines 5b, 6b, and 7b, to line 9 to determine gross receipts; if \$500,000 or more, file Form 990 instead of Form 990-EZ \$

Part I Revenue, Expenses, and Changes in Net Assets or Fund Balances (See the instructions for Part I.)

Table with columns for Revenue, Expenses, and Net Assets. Rows include Contributions, Program service revenue, Membership dues, Investment income, Gross amount from sale of assets, Special events and activities, Gross sales of inventory, Other revenue, Total revenue, Grants and similar amounts paid, Salaries, Professional fees, Occupancy, Printing, Other expenses, Total expenses, Excess or (deficit) for the year, Net assets or fund balances at beginning of year, Other changes in net assets, Net assets or fund balances at end of year.



Part II Balance Sheets. If Total assets on line 25, column (B) are \$1,250,000 or more, file Form 990 instead of Form 990-EZ.

(See the instructions for Part II.)

Table with columns (A) Beginning of year and (B) End of year. Rows include Cash, savings, and investments; Land and buildings; Other assets; Total assets; Total liabilities; Net assets or fund balances.

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Part V Other Information (Note the statement requirements in the instructions for Part V.)

		Yes	No
33	Did the organization engage in any activity not previously reported to the IRS? If "Yes," attach a detailed description of each activity		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
34	Were any changes made to the organizing or governing documents? If "Yes," attach a conformed copy of the changes		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
35	If the organization had income from business activities, such as those reported on lines 2, 6a, and 7a (among others), but not reported on Form 990-T, attach a statement explaining why the organization did not report the income on Form 990-T.		
a	Did the organization have unrelated business gross income of \$1,000 or more or was it subject to section 6033(e) notice, reporting, and proxy tax requirements?		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b	If "Yes," has it filed a tax return on Form 990-T for this year?		
36	Did the organization undergo a liquidation, dissolution, termination, or significant disposition of net assets during the year? If "Yes," complete applicable parts of Schedule N	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
37a	Enter amount of political expenditures, direct or indirect, as described in the instructions. ▶ 37a 0		
b	Did the organization file Form 1120-POL for this year?		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
38a	Did the organization borrow from, or make any loans to, any officer, director, trustee, or key employee or were any such loans made in a prior year and still outstanding at the end of the period covered by this return?		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b	If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part II and enter the total amount involved 38b		
39	Section 501(c)(7) organizations. Enter:		
a	Initiation fees and capital contributions included on line 9 39a		
b	Gross receipts, included on line 9, for public use of club facilities 39b		
40a	Section 501(c)(3) organizations. Enter amount of tax imposed on the organization during the year under: section 4911 ▶ 0 ; section 4912 ▶ 0 ; section 4955 ▶ 0		
b	Section 501(c)(3) and 501(c)(4) organizations. Did the organization engage in any section 4958 excess benefit transaction during the year or is it aware that it engaged in an excess benefit transaction with a disqualified person in a prior year, and that the transaction has not been reported on any of the organization's prior Forms 990 or 990-EZ? If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part I		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c	Section 501(c)(3) and 501(c)(4) organizations. Enter amount of tax imposed on organization managers or disqualified persons during the year under sections 4912, 4955, and 4958 ▶ 0		
d	Section 501(c)(3) and 501(c)(4) organizations. Enter amount of tax on line 40c reimbursed by the organization ▶ 0		
e	All organizations. At any time during the tax year, was the organization a party to a prohibited tax shelter transaction? If "Yes," complete Form 8886-T.		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
41	List the states with which a copy of this return is filed. ▶		
42a	The organization's books are in care of ▶ Charles Burnham Telephone no. ▶ 970-259-5607 Located at ▶ 522 Cottonwood Creek Rd, Durango, CO 81301 ZIP + 4 ▶ 81301		
b	At any time during the calendar year, did the organization have an interest in or a signature or other authority over a financial account in a foreign country (such as a bank account, securities account, or other financial account)?		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	If "Yes," enter the name of the foreign country: ▶ See the instructions for exceptions and filing requirements for Form TD F 90-22.1, Report of Foreign Bank and Financial Accounts.		
c	At any time during the calendar year, did the organization maintain an office outside of the U.S.?		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	If "Yes," enter the name of the foreign country: ▶		
43	Section 4947(a)(1) nonexempt charitable trusts filing Form 990-EZ in lieu of Form 1041—Check here and enter the amount of tax-exempt interest received or accrued during the tax year ▶ 43		<input type="checkbox"/>
44	Did the organization maintain any donor advised funds? If "Yes," Form 990 must be completed instead of Form 990-EZ		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
45	Is any related organization a controlled entity of the organization within the meaning of section 512(b)(13)? If "Yes," Form 990 must be completed instead of Form 990-EZ		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Part VI **Section 501(c)(3) organizations and section 4947(a)(1) nonexempt charitable trusts only.** All section 501(c)(3) organizations and section 4947(a)(1) nonexempt charitable trusts must answer questions 46-49b and complete the tables for lines 50 and 51.

- | | Yes | No |
|--|------------|-------------------------------------|
| 46 Did the organization engage in direct or indirect political campaign activities on behalf of or in opposition to candidates for public office? If "Yes," complete Schedule C, Part I | 46 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 47 Did the organization engage in lobbying activities? If "Yes," complete Schedule C, Part II | 47 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 48 Is the organization a school as described in section 170(b)(1)(A)(ii)? If "Yes," complete Schedule E | 48 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 49a Did the organization make any transfers to an exempt non-charitable related organization? | 49a | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| b If "Yes," was the related organization a section 527 organization? | 49b | <input type="checkbox"/> |

50 Complete this table for the organization's five highest compensated employees (other than officers, directors, trustees and key employees) who each received more than \$100,000 of compensation from the organization. If there is none, enter "None."

(a) Name and address of each employee paid more than \$100,000	(b) Title and average hours per week devoted to position	(c) Compensation	(d) Contributions to employee benefit plans & deferred compensation	(e) Expense account and other allowances
None				

f Total number of other employees paid over \$100,000 ▶ _____

51 Complete this table for the organization's five highest compensated independent contractors who each received more than \$100,000 of compensation from the organization. If there is none, enter "None."

(a) Name and address of each independent contractor paid more than \$100,000	(b) Type of service	(c) Compensation
None		

d Total number of other independent contractors each receiving over \$100,000 . . . ▶ _____

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

▶ Charles W. Burnham 1 Oct. 25, 2010
 Signature of officer Date
 ▶ Charles Burnham, Treasurer
 Type or print name and title

Paid Preparer's Use Only

Preparer's signature ▶ _____ Date _____ Check if self-employed Preparer's identifying number (See instructions) _____
 Firm's name (or yours if self-employed), address, and ZIP + 4 ▶ _____ EIN ▶ _____
 Phone no. ▶ _____

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

SCHEDULE A
(Form 990 or 990-EZ)

Public Charity Status and Public Support

OMB No 1545-0047

2009

Open to Public Inspection

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

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

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

Name of the organization Sierra Madre Foundation for Geological Research	Employer identification number 74 : 2260009
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Part I Reason for Public Charity Status (All organizations must complete this part.) See instructions.

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

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

	Yes	No
(i) A person who directly or indirectly controls, either alone or together with persons described in (ii) and (iii) below, the governing body of the supported organization?	11g(i)	✓
(ii) A family member of a person described in (i) above?	11g(ii)	✓
(iii) A 35% controlled entity of a person described in (i) or (ii) above?	11g(iii)	✓
 - h Provide the following information about the supported organization(s).

(i) Name of supported organization	(ii) EIN	(iii) Type of organization (described on lines 1-9 above or IRC section (see instructions))	(iv) Is the organization in col (i) listed in your governing document?		(v) Did you notify the organization in col (i) of your support?		(vi) Is the organization in col (i) organized in the U.S.?		(vii) Amount of support
			Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	
Cornell University	150532082	2	✓		✓		✓		\$0
Harvard University	042103580	2	✓		✓		✓		\$0
Total									\$0

SCHEDULE N
(Form 990 or 990-EZ)

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

Liquidation, Termination, Dissolution, or Significant Disposition of Assets

▶ Complete if the organization answered "Yes" to Form 990, Part IV, lines 31 or 32; or Form 990-EZ, line 38.

▶ Attach certified copies of any articles of dissolution, resolutions, or plans.

▶ Attach to Form 990 or 990-EZ.

OMB No. 1545-0047

2009

Open to Public Inspection

Name of the organization

Sierra Madre Foundation for Geological Research

Employer identification number

74 ; 2260009

Part I Liquidation, Termination, or Dissolution. Complete this part if the organization answered "Yes" to Form 990, Part IV, line 31, or Form 990-EZ, line 38. Use Schedule N-1 if additional space is needed.

1	(a) Description of asset(s) distributed or transaction expenses paid	(b) Date of distribution	(c) Fair market value of asset(s) distributed or amount of transaction expenses	(d) Method of determining FMV for asset(s) distributed or transaction expenses	(e) EIN of recipient	(f) Name and address of recipient	(g) IRC section of recipient(s) (if tax-exempt) or type of entity
	Cash	Sept 2, 2010	\$5000	Book value	150532082	Dept of Earth & Atmospheric Sci., Cornell Univ, Ithaca, NY 14853	501c(3)
	Cash	Sept 2, 2010	\$5000	Book value	042103580	Dept of Earth & Planetary Sciences, Harvard Univ, Cambridge, MA 02138	501c(3)

	Yes	No
2 Did or will any officer, director, trustee, or key employee of the organization:		
a Become a director or trustee of a successor or transferee organization?		✓
b Become an employee of, or independent contractor for, a successor or transferee organization?		✓
c Become a direct or indirect owner of a successor or transferee organization?		✓
d Receive, or become entitled to, compensation or other similar payments as a result of the organization's liquidation, termination, or dissolution?		✓
e If the organization answered "Yes" to any of the questions in this line, provide the name of the person involved and explain in Part III. ▶		

Part I Liquidation, Termination, or Dissolution (continued)

Note. If the organization distributed all of its assets during the tax year, then Form 990, Part X, column (B) should equal --0--.

- 3 Did the organization distribute its assets in accordance with its governing instrument(s)? If "No," describe in Part III
4a Did the organization request or receive a letter from the IRS that the organization's exempt status was terminated?
b If "Yes," provide the date of the letter. Attach a copy of the letter and, if applicable, the organization's request for the letter.
5a Is the organization required to notify the attorney general or other appropriate state official of its intent to dissolve, liquidate, or terminate?
b If "Yes," did the organization provide such notice?
6 Did the organization discharge or pay all liabilities in accordance with state laws?
7a Did the organization have any tax-exempt bonds outstanding during the year?
b Did the organization discharge or defease tax-exempt bond liabilities in accordance with the Internal Revenue Code and state laws?
c If "Yes," describe in Part III how the organization defeased or otherwise settled these liabilities. If "No," explain in Part III.

Table with 2 columns: Yes, No. Rows 3, 4a, 5a, 5b, 6, 7a, 7b.

Part II Sale, Exchange, Disposition, or Other Transfer of More Than 25% of the Organization's Assets. Complete this part if the organization answered "Yes" to Form 990, Part IV, line 32, or Form 990-EZ, line 36. Use Schedule N-1 if additional space is needed.

Table with 7 columns: (a) Description of asset(s) distributed or transaction expenses paid; (b) Date of distribution; (c) Fair market value of asset(s) distributed or amount of transaction expenses; (d) Method of determining FMV for asset(s) distributed or transaction expenses; (e) EIN of recipient; (f) Name and address of recipient; (g) IRC section of recipient(s) (if tax-exempt) or type of entity.

2 Did or will any officer, director, trustee, or key employee of the organization:

- a Become a director or trustee of a successor or transferee organization?
b Become an employee of, or independent contractor for, a successor or transferee organization?
c Become a direct or indirect owner of a successor or transferee organization?
d Receive, or become entitled to, compensation or other similar payments as a result of the organization's significant disposition of assets?
e If the organization answered "Yes" to any of the questions in this line, provide the name of the person involved and explain in Part III.

Table with 2 columns: Yes, No. Rows 2a, 2b, 2c, 2d.

Part III **Supplemental Information.** Complete to provide the information required by Part I, lines 2e, 7c; Part II, line 2e; and any additional information.

Statement 1: Form 990-EZ; Page 1; Line number 16

Reimburse treasurer for 1997-2009 Wyoming Non-profit Corporation Fees previously paid,
and for expenses related to dissolution of the Foundation.

Statement 2: Form 990-EZ; Page 1; Line number 20

The change in fund balances reported on Line 20 is accounted for by the distribution of \$10000 explained in Part I
of Schedule N, which represents the complete dissolution of the organization's assets.

STATE OF WYOMING
Office of the Secretary of State

I, MAX MAXFIELD, Secretary of State of the State of Wyoming, do hereby certify that the filing requirements for the issuance of this certificate have been fulfilled.

CERTIFICATE OF DISSOLUTION

Sierra Madre Foundation for Geological Research

I have affixed hereto the Great Seal of the State of Wyoming and duly executed this official certificate at Cheyenne, Wyoming on this **18th** day of **August, 2010**.



Filed Date: 08/18/2010

Max Maxfield

Secretary of State

By: _____ Lisa Gonzales