

STATEMENT OF ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

STONE RIDGE TRUST

STONE RIDGE BITCOIN STRATEGY FUND

Class I	BTCIX
Class M	BTCMX

July 26, 2021

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Stone Ridge Trust consists of four series, including the Stone Ridge Bitcoin Strategy Fund (the “Fund”). Additional Stone Ridge Trust funds are offered in separate prospectuses and statements of additional information.

The Fund is an investment portfolio of Stone Ridge Trust, an open-end series management investment company organized as a Delaware statutory trust.

This Statement of Additional Information (“SAI”) is not a prospectus and is only authorized for distribution when preceded or accompanied by the Fund’s current prospectus dated July 26, 2021, as supplemented from time to time (the “Prospectus”). This SAI supplements and should be read in conjunction with the Prospectus. Copies of the Prospectus and/or Annual Report may be obtained without charge by writing the Fund at the address, or by calling the toll-free telephone number, listed above.

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ADDITIONAL INVESTMENT INFORMATION, RISKS AND RESTRICTIONS

The Prospectus discusses the investment objective of the Fund, as well as the principal investment strategies it employs to achieve its objective and the principal investment risks associated with those strategies. Additional information about the strategies and other investment practices the Fund may employ and certain related risks of the Fund are described below. The Fund is a non-diversified investment portfolio of Stone Ridge Trust (the “Trust”), an open-end series management investment company organized as a Delaware statutory trust on September 28, 2012.

There is no assurance that the Fund’s investment objective will be achieved. Additionally, since the Fund’s investment objective has been adopted as a non-fundamental investment policy, the Fund’s investment objective may be changed by the Board of Trustees of the Trust (the “Board”) without a vote of shareholders.

Capitalized terms used in this SAI and not otherwise defined have the meanings given to them in the Prospectus. References in this SAI to the Fund investing in any instrument, security or strategy includes direct or indirect investment, including gaining exposure through derivatives or other investment companies.

Additional Investment Information and Risks

Additional Information Regarding Leverage. The Fund will seek to achieve and maintain the Target Exposure by using leverage through futures contracts, which will provide leveraged exposure to the underlying asset to the extent the notional exposure provided by the futures contract exceeds the margin posted by the Fund, and through reverse repurchase agreements. Although the use of leverage may create an opportunity for increased returns of the Fund, it also results in additional risks and can magnify the effect of any losses and thus could negatively impact the Fund’s business and results of operation and have important adverse consequences to the Fund’s investments. The loss on leverage transactions may substantially exceed the initial investment.

The terms of financing arrangements entered into by the Fund may restrict the Fund’s operating flexibility, including covenants that, among others, may limit the Fund’s ability to: (i) pay distributions in certain circumstances, (ii) incur additional debt and (iii) engage in certain transactions. If the Fund secures its leverage through the pledging of collateral, the Fund may, if the Fund is unable to generate sufficient cash flow to meet principal and interest payments on its indebtedness, be subject to risk that it is required to surrender its collateral and that such collateral may be liquidated at inopportune times or at prices that are not favorable to the Fund and cause significant losses. If a lender seizes and liquidates pledged collateral, such collateral may be sold at distressed price levels. The Fund will fail to realize the full value of such asset in a distressed sale.

The Fund may be required to pay commitment fees and other costs of borrowings under the terms of a credit facility. Moreover, interest on borrowings will be an expense of the Fund. With the use of borrowings, there is a risk that the interest rates paid by the Fund on the amount it borrows will be higher than the return on the Fund’s investments. Such additional costs and expenses may affect the operating results of the Fund.

During the economic downturn that began in 2008, the U.S. capital markets experienced historic dislocations and liquidity disruptions, which caused financing to be unavailable in many cases and, even if available, caused the cost of prospective financings to increase. These circumstances materially impacted liquidity in the debt markets, making financing terms for borrowers able to find financing less attractive, and in many cases have resulted in the unavailability of certain types of debt financing. Uncertainty in the debt and equity markets may negatively impact the Fund’s ability to access financing on favorable terms or at all. The inability to obtain additional financing could have a material adverse effect on the Fund’s operations and on its ability to meet its debt obligations. If it is unable to refinance any of its indebtedness on commercially reasonable terms or at all, the Fund’s returns may be harmed.

Floating Rate and Variable Rate Obligations. The Fund can invest in debt securities that have floating or variable interest rates.

Because the interest rates on floating rate bonds adjust periodically to reflect current market rates, falling short-term interest rates should tend to decrease the income payable to the Fund on its floating rate investments and rising rates should tend to increase that income. However, investments in floating rate and variable rate obligations should also mitigate the fluctuations in the Fund's net asset value during periods of changing interest rates, compared to changes in values of fixed-rate debt securities. Nevertheless, changes in interest rates can affect the value of the Fund's floating rate investments, especially if rates change sharply in a short period, because the resets of the interest rates on the investments occur periodically and will not all happen simultaneously with changes in prevailing rates. Having a shorter average reset period for its portfolio of investments may help mitigate that risk.

The interest rate on a floating rate demand note is adjusted automatically according to a stated prevailing market rate, such as the Prime Rate, the 91-day U.S. Treasury Bill rate or some other standard. The instrument's rate is adjusted automatically each time the base rate is adjusted. The interest rate on a variable rate note is also based on a stated prevailing market rate but is adjusted automatically at specified intervals. Generally, the changes in the interest rate on such securities reduce the fluctuation in their market value. As interest rates decrease or increase, the potential for capital appreciation or depreciation is less than that for fixed-rate obligations of the same maturity.

Floating rate and variable rate demand notes that have a stated maturity in excess of one year may have features that permit the holder to recover the principal amount of the underlying security at specified intervals not exceeding one year and upon no more than 30 days' notice. The issuer of that type of note normally has a corresponding right in its discretion, after a given period, to prepay the outstanding principal amount of the note plus accrued interest. Generally, the issuer must provide a specified number of days' notice to the holder. The Fund can also invest in step-coupon bonds that have a coupon rate that changes periodically during the life of the security on pre-determined dates that are set when the security is issued.

Future Use of LIBOR Risk. The Fund's payment obligations, financing terms and investments in certain instruments (including debt securities and derivatives) may be tied to floating rates, such as the London Interbank Offered Rate ("LIBOR"). LIBOR is the offered rate for short-term Eurodollar deposits between major international banks. On March 5, 2021, the UK Financial Conduct Authority ("FCA") and LIBOR's administrator, ICE Benchmark Administration ("IBA"), announced that most LIBOR settings will no longer be published after the end of 2021 and a majority of U.S. dollar LIBOR settings will no longer be published after June 30, 2023. It is possible that the FCA may compel the IBA to publish a subset of LIBOR settings after these dates on a "synthetic" basis, but any such publications would be considered non-representative of the underlying market. Actions by regulators have resulted in the establishment of alternative reference rates to LIBOR in most major currencies. Various financial industry groups have been planning for transition away from LIBOR, but there are obstacles to converting certain securities and transactions to new reference rates. Markets are developing slowly and questions around liquidity in these rates and how to appropriately adjust these rates to mitigate any economic value transfer at the time of transition remain a significant concern. It is difficult to predict the full impact of the transition away from LIBOR on the Fund. The transition process may involve, among other things, increased volatility or illiquidity in markets for instruments that currently rely on LIBOR. The transition may also result in a reduction in the value of certain LIBOR-based investments held by the Fund or reduce the effectiveness of related transactions such as hedges. Any such effects of the transition away from LIBOR, as well as other unforeseen effects, could result in losses for the Fund. Since the usefulness of LIBOR as a benchmark could also deteriorate during the transition period, effects could occur prior to the end of the publication of the relevant LIBOR setting.

Money Market Instruments. The Fund may invest in money market instruments, which are U.S. dollar-denominated, high-quality, short-term debt obligations, to provide liquidity, for temporary defensive purposes, or for other purposes. Money market instruments may have fixed, variable or floating interest rates. Examples of money market instruments include obligations issued or guaranteed by the U.S. government (or any of its agencies or instrumentalities); bank obligations, such as time deposits, certificates of deposit and bankers' acceptances; commercial paper; and variable amount master demand notes.

Additional Information Regarding Reverse Repurchase Agreements. The Fund enters into reverse repurchase agreements with banks and brokers, with the Fund as the initial seller of securities to the banks or brokers. In this case, a reverse repurchase agreement involves a sale by the Fund of portfolio securities concurrently with an agreement by the Fund to repurchase the same securities at a later date at a fixed price. During the reverse repurchase agreement period, the Fund continues to receive principal and interest payments on the securities.

If the buyer in a reverse repurchase agreement files for bankruptcy or becomes insolvent, the Fund's use of proceeds from the sale of its securities may be restricted while the other party or its trustee or receiver determines whether to honor the Fund's right to repurchase the securities. Furthermore, in that situation the Fund may be unable to recover the securities it sold in connection with a reverse repurchase agreement and as a result would realize a loss equal to the difference between the value of the securities and the payment it received for them. This loss would be greater to the extent the buyer paid less than the value of the securities the Fund sold to it (e.g., a buyer may only be willing to pay \$95 for a security with a market value of \$100). The Fund's use of reverse repurchase agreements also subjects the Fund to interest costs based on the difference between the sale and repurchase price of a security involved in such a transaction. Additionally, reverse repurchase agreements entail the same risks as OTC derivatives. These include the risk that the counterparty to the reverse repurchase agreement may not be able to fulfill its obligations, that the parties may disagree as to the meaning or application of contractual terms, or that the instrument may not perform as expected.

In October 2020, the Commission adopted Rule 18f-4 under the 1940 Act ("Rule 18f-4"). As required by Rule 18f-4, the Fund has adopted and implemented a derivatives risk management program to govern its use of derivatives. The Fund's derivatives risk management program includes policies and procedures that are reasonably designed to manage the Fund's derivatives risks. As required by Rule 18f-4, the Fund's derivatives exposure (including its use of futures contracts and reverse repurchase agreements) is limited through a value-at-risk ("VaR") test. Very generally, VaR is an estimate of an instrument's or portfolio's potential losses over a given time horizon and at a specified confidence level. Rule 18f-4 may restrict the Fund's ability to engage in certain derivatives transactions and/or increase the costs of such derivatives transactions, which could adversely affect the value of the Fund's investments and/or performance of the Fund. While elements prescribed by Rule 18f-4 such as the derivatives risk management program and the VaR limit are designed to assist in the assessment and management of derivatives risk, there is no guarantee they will be effective in reducing the risks inherent in the Fund's derivative investments.

Legal and Regulatory Risk. The Fund may be adversely affected by new (or revised) laws or regulations that may be imposed by the CFTC, the Commission, the U.S. Federal Reserve or other banking regulators, or other governmental regulatory authorities or self-regulatory organizations that supervise the financial markets. The Fund may also be adversely affected by changes in the enforcement or interpretation of existing statutes and rules. In addition, the securities and futures markets are subject to comprehensive statutes, regulations and margin requirements. The CFTC, the Commission, the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, other regulators and self-regulatory organizations and exchanges are authorized to take extraordinary actions in the event of market emergencies. The regulation of derivatives transactions and funds that engage in such transactions is an evolving area of law and is subject to modification by government and judicial action.

New regulations could, among other things, adversely affect the value of the investments held by the Fund, restrict the Fund's ability to engage in certain derivatives transactions (for example, by making certain types of derivatives transactions no longer available to the Fund) and/or increase the costs of such derivatives transactions (for example, by increasing margin or capital requirements) and the Fund's ability to execute certain investment strategies may be adversely affected as a result. It is unclear how the regulatory changes will affect counterparty risk.

Controlled Foreign Corporation. The Subsidiary is a controlled foreign corporation (a "CFC") for U.S. federal income tax purposes. A U.S. person that owns (directly, indirectly, or constructively) 10% or more of the total combined voting power of all classes of stock of a foreign corporation or 10% or more of the total value of shares

of all classes of stock of a foreign corporation is a “U.S. Shareholder” of such foreign corporation for purposes of the CFC provisions of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the “Code”). The Fund is a U.S. Shareholder of the Subsidiary and owns 100% of all classes of stock of the Subsidiary. As a result, the Subsidiary is treated as a CFC and the Fund will generally be required to take into account each year, as ordinary income, its share of certain amounts of the Subsidiary’s income, whether or not the Subsidiary distributes such amounts to the Fund. The Fund’s investment in the Subsidiary could cause the Fund to recognize taxable income in excess of cash generated by such investments, potentially requiring the Fund to borrow money or to dispose of certain investments to make the distributions required to qualify for treatment as a regulated investment company under subchapter M of Chapter 1 of the Code (“RIC”) and to eliminate a Fund-level tax and could affect the amount, timing and character of the Fund’s distributions.

Management and Operational Risk; Cyber-Security Risk. The Fund is subject to management risk because it relies on the Adviser’s ability to achieve its investment objective. The Fund runs the risk that the Adviser’s investment techniques will fail to produce desired results and cause the Fund to incur significant losses. The Adviser may select investments that do not perform as anticipated by the Adviser, may choose to hedge or not to hedge positions at disadvantageous times and may fail to use derivatives effectively. In addition, the Adviser’s workforce, as well as the workforces of the Fund’s other service providers and counterparties, may also be adversely affected by the COVID-19 pandemic or efforts to mitigate the pandemic, including government-mandated shutdowns, requests or orders for employees to work remotely, and other social distancing measures, which could result in an adverse impact on the Fund’s ability to conduct its business.

Any imperfections, errors, or limitations in quantitative analyses and models used by the Adviser as part of its investment process could affect the Fund’s performance. Models that appear to explain prior market data can fail to predict future market events. Further, the data used in models may be inaccurate or may not include the most recent information about a company or a security.

The Fund also is subject to the risk of loss as a result of other services provided by the Adviser and other service providers, including pricing, administrative, accounting, tax, legal, custody, transfer agency and other services. Operational risk includes the possibility of loss caused by inadequate procedures and controls, human error and cyber-attacks, disruptions, and failures affecting, or by, a service provider. For example, trading delays or errors (both human and systematic) could prevent the Fund from benefiting from potential investment gains or avoiding losses.

The Fund and its service providers’ use of internet, technology and information systems may expose the Fund to potential risks linked to cyber-security breaches of those technological or information systems. Cyber-security breaches could allow unauthorized parties to gain access to proprietary information, customer data or Fund assets, or cause the Fund or its service providers to suffer data corruption or lose operational functionality. With the increased use of technology, mobile device and cloud-based service offerings and the dependence on the internet and computer systems to perform necessary business functions, investment companies (such as the Fund) and their service providers (including the Adviser) may be prone to operational and information security risks resulting from cyber-attacks and/or other technological malfunctions. In general, cyber-attacks are deliberate, but unintentional events may have similar effects. Cyber-attacks include, among others, stealing or corrupting data maintained online or digitally, preventing legitimate users from accessing information or services on a website, ransomware, releasing confidential information without authorization, and causing operational disruption. Successful cyber-attacks against, or security breakdowns of, the Fund, the Adviser, or the custodian, transfer agent, or other third-party service provider may adversely affect the Fund or its shareholders. For instance, cyber-attacks may interfere with the processing of shareholder transactions, interfere with quantitative models, affect the Fund’s ability to calculate its NAV, cause the release of private shareholder information or confidential Fund information, impede trading, cause reputational damage, result in theft of Fund assets, and subject the Fund to regulatory fines, penalties or financial losses, reimbursement or other compensation costs, and additional compliance costs. Similar types of cyber-security risks are also present for issuers of securities in which the Fund invests or such issuers’ counterparties, which could result in material adverse consequences for such issuers and

could cause the Fund's investment in such securities to lose value. While the Adviser has established business continuity plans and systems that it believes are reasonably designed to prevent cyber-attacks, there are inherent limitations in such plans and systems including the possibility that certain risks have not been, or cannot be, identified. Service providers may have limited indemnification obligations to the Adviser or the Fund, each of whom could be negatively impacted as a result.

Redemption Risk. The Fund may need to sell portfolio securities to meet redemption requests. Under certain circumstances, the Fund could experience a loss when selling portfolio securities to meet redemption requests, including in the event of (i) significant redemption activity by shareholders, including when a single investor or a few large investors make a significant redemption of Fund shares, (ii) a disruption in the normal operation of the markets in which the Fund buys and sells portfolio securities or (iii) the Fund's inability to sell certain portfolio securities because such securities are illiquid. In such circumstances, the Fund could be forced to sell portfolio securities at unfavorable prices in an effort to generate sufficient cash to pay redeeming shareholders. The Fund may suspend redemptions or the payment of redemption proceeds when permitted by applicable regulations.

Epidemic and Pandemic Risk. The COVID-19 pandemic, which began in December 2019 and has spread worldwide, has caused many governments to implement measures to slow the spread of the outbreak through quarantines, travel restrictions, heightened border scrutiny and other measures. The outbreak and government measures taken in response have also had a significant impact, both directly and indirectly, on businesses and commerce, as worker shortages have occurred, supply chains have been disrupted, production has been suspended, and demand for certain goods and services, such as medical services and supplies, has spiked, while demand for other goods and services, such as travel, has fallen. The impact of the COVID-19 pandemic has adversely affected the economies of many nations and the entire global economy, the financial performance of individual issuers, borrowers and sectors and the health of capital markets and other markets generally in potentially significant and unforeseen ways. The COVID-19 crisis has also exacerbated other pre-existing political, social and economic risks in certain countries or globally. Other public health crises that may arise in the future could have similar or other unforeseen effects. The duration of the COVID-19 outbreak or any such future outbreak and its effects cannot be determined with certainty. The COVID-19 outbreak has led, and in the future the COVID-19 outbreak or other future public health crises could lead, to a significant economic downturn or recession, increased market volatility, a greater number of market closures, higher default rates and adverse effects on the values and liquidity of securities or other assets. Such impacts, which may vary across asset classes, may adversely affect the performance of the Fund's investments, the Fund and your investment in the Fund. The impact of COVID-19 or any future public health crisis may also heighten the other risks disclosed in the Prospectus or SAI.

Illiquid Securities. Illiquid investments include investments that the Adviser reasonably expects cannot be sold or disposed of in seven calendar days or less under then-current market conditions without the sale or disposition significantly changing the market value of the investment. The Fund may hold illiquid securities, including, among other instruments, securities of private issuers, securities traded in unregulated or shallow markets and securities that are purchased in private placements and are subject to legal or contractual restrictions on resale. Because relatively few purchasers of these securities may exist, especially in the event of adverse economic and liquidity conditions or adverse changes in the issuer's financial condition, the Fund may not be able to initiate a transaction or liquidate a position in such investments at a desirable price or time. Disposing of illiquid securities may involve time-consuming negotiation and legal expenses, and selling them promptly at an acceptable price may be difficult or impossible.

Expense Risk. Your actual costs of investing in the Fund may be higher than the expenses shown in "Annual Fund Operating Expenses" for a variety of reasons. For example, expense ratios may be higher than those shown if overall net assets decrease. The Fund's expense limitation agreement, which generally remains in effect for a period of one year, mitigates this risk. However, there is no assurance that the Adviser will renew such expense limitation agreement from year-to-year.

Portfolio Turnover. Purchases and sales of portfolio investments may be made as considered advisable by the Adviser in the best interests of the shareholders. The Fund's portfolio turnover rate may vary from year-to-year, as well as within a year. Higher portfolio turnover rates can result in corresponding increases in portfolio transaction costs for the Fund and may result in higher taxes when Fund shares are held in a taxable account.

For reporting purposes, the Fund's portfolio turnover rate is calculated by dividing the lesser of purchases or sales of portfolio securities for the fiscal year by the monthly average of the value of the portfolio securities owned by the Fund during the fiscal year. In determining such portfolio turnover, all securities whose maturities at the time of acquisition were one year or less are excluded. A 100% portfolio turnover rate would occur, for example, if all of the securities in the Fund's investment portfolio (other than short-term money market securities) were replaced once during the fiscal year. The Fund may engage in active and frequent trading to try to achieve its investment objective. Portfolio turnover will not be a limiting factor should the Adviser deem it advisable to purchase or sell securities.

Investment Restrictions

Fundamental Investment Restrictions. The following investment restrictions of the Fund are designated as fundamental policies and as such cannot be changed without the approval of the holders of a majority of the Fund's outstanding voting securities. Under the 1940 Act, a "majority" vote is defined as the vote of the holders of the lesser of: (a) 67% or more of the shares of the Fund present at a meeting if the holders of more than 50% of the outstanding shares are present or represented by proxy at the meeting; or (b) more than 50% of the outstanding shares of the Fund. Under these restrictions, the Fund:

- (1) may issue senior securities to the extent permitted by applicable law;
- (2) may borrow money to the extent permitted by applicable law;
- (3) may underwrite securities to the extent permitted by applicable law;
- (4) may purchase or sell real estate to the extent permitted by applicable law;
- (5) may make loans to the extent permitted by applicable law;
- (6) may purchase or sell commodities to the extent permitted by applicable law; and
- (7) may not invest more than 25% of its net assets in a particular industry or group of industries (other than securities issued or guaranteed by the U.S. government or its agencies or instrumentalities).

For purposes of Fundamental Investment Restriction (7), foreign governments, supranational entities and bitcoin and bitcoin-related instruments, including bitcoin futures contracts and pooled investment vehicles that invest directly or indirectly in bitcoin, are not considered to be part of any industry or industries.

Where applicable, the foregoing investment restrictions shall be interpreted based on the applicable rules, regulations and pronouncements of the Commission and its Staff.

Summary of 1940 Act Restrictions on Certain Activities

All percentage limitations on investments will apply at the time of investment and shall not be considered violated unless an excess or deficiency occurs or exists immediately after and as a result of such investment, except that with respect to Fundamental Investment Restriction (2) above, the Fund will take steps to restore the asset coverage ratio required under applicable law within three days after such deficiency occurs (excluding Sundays and holidays) or such longer period as may be permitted by applicable regulations. Except for the investment restrictions listed above as fundamental or to the extent designated as such in the Prospectus, the other investment policies described in this SAI or in the Prospectus are not fundamental and may be changed by

approval of the Board. As an open-end investment company, the Fund may not acquire any illiquid investment if, immediately after the acquisition, the Fund would have invested more than 15% of its net assets in illiquid investments that are assets.

Temporary Defensive Positions

Normally, the Fund invests substantially all of its assets to meet its investment objective. The Fund may invest the remainder of its assets in securities with remaining maturities of less than one year or cash equivalents, or may hold cash. For temporary defensive purposes, including during periods of unusual cash flows, the Fund may depart from its principal investment strategies and invest part or all of its assets in these securities or may hold cash. The Fund may adopt defensive strategies when the Adviser believes securities in which the Fund normally invests have special or unusual risks or are less attractive due to adverse market, economic, political or other conditions.

DISCLOSURE OF PORTFOLIO HOLDINGS

The Board has adopted, on behalf of the Fund, policies and procedures relating to disclosure of the Fund's portfolio securities. These policies and procedures are designed to protect the confidentiality of the Fund's portfolio holdings that are not publicly available ("Confidential Portfolio Holdings") and to prevent the selective disclosure of such information. These policies and procedures may be modified at any time with the approval of the Board.

The holdings of the Fund currently are disclosed in quarterly filings with the Commission on Form N-PORT as of the end of the first and third quarters of the Fund's fiscal year and on Form N-CSR as of the second and fourth quarters of the Fund's fiscal year. In addition, the Fund may disclose to the general public its holdings information from time to time.

The Trust may disclose Confidential Portfolio Holdings to certain persons, including shareholders of the Trust (including shareholders of record of indirect investments in the Fund through another fund managed by the Adviser), qualified potential shareholders as determined by the Adviser (including qualified potential shareholders who are considering an indirect investment in the Fund through another fund managed by the Adviser), and their consultants or agents ("Permitted Recipients"). This information may be made available as soon as the business day following the date to which the information relates.

Except as otherwise noted, to receive Confidential Portfolio Holdings, Permitted Recipients must enter into a confidentiality agreement with the Adviser and the Trust that requires that the Confidential Portfolio Holdings be used solely for purposes determined by senior management of the Adviser to be in the best interest of the shareholders of the Fund.

If the Adviser becomes aware that a recipient has or is likely to violate the terms of a confidentiality agreement regarding Confidential Portfolio Holdings, the Adviser shall cease providing such information to such recipient.

If an employee of the Adviser identifies a potential conflict with respect to the disclosure of Confidential Portfolio Holdings between the interest of the Fund's shareholders, on the one hand, and the Adviser or an affiliated person of the Adviser or the Fund, on the other, the Adviser is required to inform the Trust's Chief Compliance Officer ("CCO") of the potential conflict, and the CCO has the power to decide whether, in light of the circumstances, disclosure should be permitted.

The Trust may also disclose Confidential Portfolio Holdings on a selective basis if the CCO (or an individual designated by the CCO) approves the disclosure and determines that: (i) there is a legitimate business purpose for such disclosure; (ii) recipients are subject to a duty of confidentiality, including a duty not to trade on the nonpublic information; and (iii) the disclosure is in the best interests of Fund shareholders.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, Confidential Portfolio Holdings of the Fund may generally be made available more frequently and prior to its public availability (i) to the Adviser, the Fund’s administrator, custodian, principal underwriter and certain other service providers (such as pricing services, proxy voting services, financial printers, pricing information vendors, third parties that deliver analytical, statistical, or consulting services, ratings and rankings agencies and other unaffiliated third parties or their affiliates that provide services and may require Confidential Portfolio Holdings to provide services to the Fund) (collectively, “Service Providers”); (ii) to an accounting firm, an auditing firm or outside legal counsel retained by the Service Providers, their affiliates, or the Fund; (iii) to certain Fund affiliates; (iv) as required by law and (v) to any other party for a legitimate business purpose upon waiver or exception with the approval of the CCO.

The policies and procedures of the Fund provide that none of the Fund, its service providers, the Adviser, or any other party may receive compensation in connection with the disclosure of Confidential Portfolio Holdings.

The Adviser has primary responsibility for ensuring that the Fund’s Confidential Portfolio Holdings are disclosed only in accordance with these policies. As part of this responsibility, the Adviser will maintain such internal policies and procedures as it believes are reasonably necessary for preventing the unauthorized disclosure of Confidential Portfolio Holdings.

MANAGEMENT OF THE FUND

Board of Trustees

The business and affairs of the Fund are managed under the oversight of the Board subject to the laws of the State of Delaware and the Trust’s Third Amended and Restated Agreement and Declaration of Trust (the “Declaration of Trust”). The Trustees are responsible for oversight of the practices and processes of the Fund and its service providers, rather than active management of the Fund, including in matters relating to risk management. The Trustees seek to understand the key risks facing the Fund, including those involving conflicts of interest; how Fund management identifies and monitors those risks on an ongoing basis; how Fund management develops and implements controls to mitigate those risks; and how Fund management tests the effectiveness of those controls. The Board cannot foresee, know or guard against all risks, nor are the Trustees guarantors against risk. The officers of the Fund conduct and supervise the Fund’s daily business operations. Trustees who are not deemed to be “interested persons” of the Fund as defined in the 1940 Act are referred to as “Independent Trustees.” Trustees who are deemed to be “interested persons” of the Fund are referred to as “Interested Trustees.”

The Board meets as often as necessary to discharge its responsibilities. Currently, the Board conducts regular quarterly meetings, including in-person, telephonic or videoconference meetings, and holds special in-person or telephonic meetings as necessary to address specific issues that require attention prior to the next regularly scheduled meeting. At these meetings, officers of the Trust provide the Board (or one of its committees) with written and oral reports on regulatory and compliance matters, operational and service provider matters, organizational developments, product proposals, audit results and insurance and fidelity bond coverage. In addition, it is expected that the Independent Trustees meet at least annually to review, among other things, investment management agreements and certain plans and other agreements and to consider such other matters as they deem appropriate.

The Board has established two standing committees — an Audit Committee and a Valuation Committee — to assist the Board in its oversight of risk as part of its broader oversight of the Fund’s affairs. The Committees, both of which are comprised solely of the Board’s Independent Trustees, are described below. The Board may establish other committees, or nominate one or more Trustees to examine particular issues related to the Board’s oversight responsibilities, from time to time. Each Committee meets periodically to perform its delegated oversight functions and reports its findings and recommendations to the Board.

The Board does not have a lead Independent Trustee. The Board, taking into consideration its oversight responsibility of the Fund, including the Fund's regular use of fair valuation and the Board's extensive experience overseeing the development and implementation of fair valuation processes, believes that its leadership structure is appropriate. In addition, the Board's use of Committees (each of which is chaired by an Independent Trustee with substantial industry experience) and the chair's role as chief executive officer of the Adviser, serve to enhance the Board's understanding of the operations of the Fund and the Adviser.

Board members of the Trust, together with information as to their positions with the Trust, principal occupations and other board memberships, are shown below. Unless otherwise noted, each Trustee has held each principal occupation and board membership indicated for at least the past five years. Each Trustee's mailing address is c/o Stone Ridge Asset Management LLC, 510 Madison Avenue, 21st Floor, New York, New York 10022.

Independent Trustees

Name (Year of Birth)	Position(s) Held with the Trust	Term of Office and Length of Time Served ⁽¹⁾	Principal Occupation(s) During the Past 5 Years	Number of Portfolios in the Fund Complex Overseen by Trustee ⁽²⁾	Other Directorships/ Trusteeships Held by Trustee During the Past 5 Years
Jeffery Ekberg (1965)	Trustee	since 2012	Self-employed (personal investing), since 2011; Principal, TPG Capital, L.P. (private equity firm) until 2011; Chief Financial Officer, Newbridge Capital, LLC (subsidiary of TPG Capital, L.P.) until 2011	52	None.
Daniel Charney (1970)	Trustee	since 2012	Co-President, Cowen and Company, Cowen Inc. (financial services firm) since 2012	52	None.

Interested Trustee

Name (Year of Birth)	Position(s) Held with the Trust	Term of Office and Length of Time Served ⁽¹⁾	Principal Occupation(s) During the Past 5 Years	Number of Portfolios in the Fund Complex Overseen by Trustee ⁽²⁾	Other Directorships/ Trusteeships Held by Trustee During the Past 5 Years
Ross Stevens ⁽³⁾ (1969)	Trustee, Chairman	since 2012	Founder and Chief Executive Officer of Stone Ridge since 2012	52	None.

(1) Each Trustee serves until resignation or removal from the Board.

(2) The Fund Complex includes the Trust and Stone Ridge Trust II, Stone Ridge Trust IV, Stone Ridge Trust V, Stone Ridge Trust VI, Stone Ridge Residential Real Estate Income Fund I, Inc., Stone Ridge Longevity Risk Premium Fixed Income Master Trust 2045 and trusts that invest substantially all of their assets in a series of Stone Ridge Longevity Risk Premium Fixed Income Master Trust 2045, other investment companies managed by the Adviser.

(3) Mr. Stevens is an "interested person" of the Trust, as defined in Section 2(a)(19) of the 1940 Act, due to his position with the Adviser.

Additional Information About the Trustees.

Jeffery Ekberg — Through his experience as a senior officer, director and accountant of financial and other organizations, Mr. Ekberg contributes experience overseeing financial and investment organizations to the Board. The Board also benefits from his previous experience as a member of the board of other funds.

Daniel Charney — Through his experience as a senior officer of financial and other organizations, Mr. Charney contributes his experience in the investment management industry to the Board.

Ross Stevens — Through his experience as a senior executive of financial organizations, Mr. Stevens contributes his experience in the investment management industry to the Board.

Additional Information About the Board’s Committees. The Trust has an Audit Committee and a Valuation Committee. The members of both the Audit Committee and the Valuation Committee consist of all the Independent Trustees, namely Messrs. Ekberg and Charney. Mr. Ekberg is the Audit Committee Chair and has been designated as the Audit Committee financial expert. Mr. Charney is the Valuation Committee Chair.

In accordance with its written charter, the Audit Committee’s primary purposes are: (1) to oversee the Trust’s accounting and financial reporting policies and practices, and its internal controls and procedures; (2) to oversee the quality and objectivity of the Trust’s and the Fund’s financial statements and the independent audit thereof; (3) to oversee the activities of the CCO; (4) to oversee the Trust’s compliance program adopted pursuant to Rule 38a-1 under the 1940 Act, and the Trust’s implementation and enforcement of its compliance policies and procedures thereunder; (5) to oversee the Trust’s compliance with applicable laws in foreign jurisdictions, if any; and (6) to oversee compliance with the Code of Ethics by the Trust and the Adviser.

The Audit Committee reviews the scope of the Fund’s audits, the Fund’s accounting and financial reporting policies and practices and its internal controls. The Audit Committee approves, and recommends to the Independent Trustees for their ratification, the selection, appointment, retention or termination of the Fund’s independent registered public accounting firm and approves the compensation of the independent registered public accounting firm. The Audit Committee also approves all audit and permissible non-audit services provided to the Fund by the independent registered public accounting firm and all permissible non-audit services provided by the Fund’s independent registered public accounting firm to the Adviser and any affiliated service providers if the engagement relates directly to the Fund’s operations and financial reporting. The Audit Committee met five times during the fiscal year ended October 31, 2020.

The Valuation Committee also operates pursuant to a written charter. The duties and powers, to be exercised at such times and in such manner as the Valuation Committee shall deem necessary or appropriate, are as follows: (1) reviewing, from time to time, the Trust’s valuation policy and procedures (the “Valuation Policy”), which Valuation Policy serves to establish policies and procedures for the valuation of the Fund’s assets; (2) making any recommendations to the Trust’s audit committee and/or the Board regarding (i) the functioning of the Valuation Policy, or (ii) the valuation(s) of individual assets; (3) consulting with the Adviser regarding the valuation of the Fund’s assets, including fair valuation determinations of any such assets; (4) periodically reviewing information regarding fair value and other determinations made pursuant to the Trust’s valuation procedures; (5) reporting to the Board on a regular basis regarding the Valuation Committee’s duties; (6) making recommendations in conjunction with the Board’s annual (or other periodical) review of the Trust’s Valuation Policy; (7) periodically reviewing information regarding industry developments in connection with valuation of assets; and (8) performing such other duties as may be assigned to it, from time to time, by the Board. The Valuation Committee met four times during the fiscal year ended October 31, 2020.

Trustee Ownership of the Fund. The following table shows the dollar range of equity securities owned by the Trustees in the Fund and in other investment companies overseen by the Trustee within the same family of investment companies as of December 31, 2020. Investment companies are considered to be in the same family if they share the same investment adviser or principal underwriter and hold themselves out to investors as related companies for purposes of investment and investor services. The information as to ownership of securities that appears below is based on statements furnished to the Fund by its Trustees and executive officers.

	<u>Dollar Range of Equity Securities in the Fund</u>	<u>Aggregate Dollar Range of Equity Securities in All Registered Investment Companies Overseen by Trustee in Family of Investment Companies⁽¹⁾</u>
Independent Trustees		
Jeffery Ekberg	None	Over \$100,000
Daniel Charney	None	Over \$100,000
Interested Trustee		
Ross Stevens ⁽²⁾	None	Over \$100,000

(1) Family of Investment Companies includes the Trust and Stone Ridge Trust II, Stone Ridge Trust IV and Stone Ridge Trust V, Stone Ridge Trust VI, Stone Ridge Residential Real Estate Income Fund I, Inc., Stone Ridge Longevity Risk Premium Fixed Income Master Trust 2045 and trusts that invest substantially all of their assets in a series of Stone Ridge Longevity Risk Premium Fixed Income Master Trust 2045, other investment companies managed by the Adviser.

(2) Beneficial ownership through the Adviser's or its affiliates' investments in the Fund.

Other than as disclosed in the following table, none of the Independent Trustees or their family members beneficially owned any class of securities of the Adviser or principal underwriter of the Fund, or a person (other than a registered investment company) directly or indirectly controlling, controlled by or under common control with the Adviser or the principal underwriter of the Fund, as of June 1, 2021.

<u>Name of Director</u>	<u>Name of Owners and Relationships to Director</u>	<u>Company</u>	<u>Title of Class</u>	<u>Value of Securities</u>	<u>Percent of Class</u>
Daniel Charney	Self	New York Digital Investment Group LLC	Convertible Promissory Note	\$1,000,000	0.31%
Jeffery Ekberg	Self	New York Digital Investment Group LLC	Convertible Promissory Note	\$500,000	0.15%

Compensation of Board Members. Each Trustee who is not an employee of the Adviser is compensated by an annual retainer. Each such Trustee's compensation is invested in Stone Ridge funds. The Trust does not pay retirement benefits to its Trustees and officers. The Fund pays a portion of the compensation of the CCO. Other officers and Interested Trustees of the Trust are not compensated by the Fund. The following table sets forth compensation to be received by the Independent Trustees for the Fund's initial fiscal year ending October 31, 2021:

<u>Independent Trustees</u>	<u>Aggregate Compensation From the Fund</u>	<u>Total Compensation From the Fund Complex⁽¹⁾ Paid to Trustee</u>
Jeffery Ekberg	\$3,648	\$350,000
Daniel Charney	\$3,648	\$350,000

(1) The Fund Complex includes the Trust and Stone Ridge Trust II, Stone Ridge Trust IV and Stone Ridge Trust V, Stone Ridge Trust VI, Stone Ridge Residential Real Estate Income Fund I, Inc., Stone Ridge Longevity Risk Premium Fixed Income Master Trust 2045 and trusts that invest substantially all of their assets in a series of Stone Ridge Longevity Risk Premium Fixed Income Master Trust 2045, other investment companies managed by the Adviser.

Officers of the Trust

<u>Name (Year of Birth) and Address^{(1) (2)}</u>	<u>Position(s) Held with the Trust</u>	<u>Term of Office and Length of Time Served⁽³⁾</u>	<u>Principal Occupation(s) During Past 5 Years</u>
Ross Stevens (1969)	President, Chief Executive Officer and Principal Executive Officer	since 2012	Founder of Stone Ridge Asset Management LLC, Chief Executive Officer and President of the Adviser, since 2012.
Lauren D. Macioce (1978)	Chief Compliance Officer, Secretary, Chief Legal Officer and Anti- Money Laundering Compliance Officer	since 2016	General Counsel and Chief Compliance Officer of the Adviser, since 2016; prior to that Associate at Ropes & Gray LLP (law firm).
Anthony Zuco (1975)	Treasurer, Principal Financial Officer, Chief Financial Officer and Chief Accounting Officer	since 2018	Supervising Fund Controller at the Adviser, since 2015; prior to that Controller at Owl Creek Asset Management L.P. (investment advisory firm).
Alexander Nyren (1980)	Assistant Secretary	since 2018	Head of Reinsurance of the Adviser, since 2018; member of Reinsurance portfolio management team at the Adviser, since 2013.
David Thomas (1980)	Assistant Treasurer	since 2018	Member of Operations at the Adviser, since 2015; prior to that member of Operations at KCG Holdings, Inc. (financial services firm).
Leson Lee (1975)	Assistant Treasurer	since 2019	Member of Operations at the Adviser, since 2018; prior to that Treasury Manager at Eton Park Capital Management (investment advisory firm).
Domingo Encarnacion (1983)	Assistant Treasurer	since 2020	Tax Manager at the Adviser, since 2016; prior to that Tax Manager at PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP (accounting firm).

(1) Each officer's mailing address is c/o Stone Ridge Asset Management LLC, 510 Madison Avenue, 21st Floor, New York, NY 10022.

(2) Each of the officers is an affiliated person of the Adviser as a result of his or her position with the Adviser.

(3) The term of office of each officer is indefinite.

Code of Ethics. The Trust and the Adviser have adopted a code of ethics in accordance with Rule 17j-1 under the 1940 Act. This code of ethics permits the personnel of these entities to invest in securities under some circumstances, including securities that the Fund may purchase or hold.

The code of ethics is available on the EDGAR database of the Commission's website at www.sec.gov. In addition, copies of the code of ethics may be obtained, after mailing the appropriate duplicating fee, by e-mail request to publicinfo@sec.gov.

PROXY VOTING POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

Attached as Appendix B to this SAI is the summary of the guidelines and procedures that the Adviser uses to determine how to vote proxies relating to portfolio securities, including the procedures that the Adviser uses when a vote presents a conflict between the interests of Fund shareholders, on the one hand, and those of the Adviser or any affiliated person of the Fund or the Adviser, on the other. This summary of the guidelines gives a general indication as to how the Adviser will vote proxies relating to portfolio securities on each issue listed. However, the guidelines do not address all potential voting issues or the intricacies that may surround individual proxy votes. For that reason, there may be instances in which votes may vary from the guidelines presented. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Adviser always endeavors to vote proxies relating to portfolio securities in accordance with the Fund's investment objective. Information on how the Fund voted proxies relating to portfolio securities during the most recent prior 12-month period ending June 30 is available without charge, (1) upon request, by calling (855) 609-3680, and (2) on the Commission's website at www.sec.gov.

CONTROL PERSONS AND PRINCIPAL HOLDERS OF SECURITIES

As of the date of this SAI, Stone Ridge owned 100% of the outstanding shares of the Fund.

As of the date of this SAI, the Trustees and officers of the Trust as a group owned, directly or indirectly, 100% of the outstanding shares of the Fund as a result of Ross Stevens' beneficial ownership through the Adviser and its affiliates' investments in the Fund.

INVESTMENT ADVISORY AND OTHER SERVICES

The Adviser

Stone Ridge Asset Management LLC is the Adviser of the Fund. The Adviser was organized as a Delaware limited liability company in 2012. The manager of the general partner of the managing member of the Adviser is Ross Stevens.

Stone Ridge Asset Management LLC serves as the Adviser of the Fund pursuant to an investment management agreement. The investment management agreement has an initial term of two years from its effective date and continues in effect with respect to the Fund (unless terminated sooner) if its continuance is specifically approved at least annually by the affirmative vote of: (i) a majority of the Independent Trustees, cast in person at a meeting called for the purpose of voting on such approval; and (ii) a majority of the Board or the holders of a majority of the outstanding voting securities of the Fund. The investment management agreement may nevertheless be terminated at any time without penalty, on 60 days' written notice, by the Board, by vote of holders of a majority of the outstanding voting securities of the Fund or by the Adviser. The investment management agreement terminates automatically in the event of its assignment (as defined in the 1940 Act).

Pursuant to the Fund's investment management agreement, the Adviser agrees to manage the investment and reinvestment of the Fund's assets, determine what investments will be purchased, held, sold or exchanged by the Fund and what portion, if any, of the assets of the Fund will be held uninvested, and continuously review, supervise and administer the investment program of the Fund. The Adviser bears its own operating and overhead expenses attributable to its duties under the investment management agreement (such as salaries, bonuses, rent, office and administrative expenses, depreciation and amortization, and auditing expenses), except that the Fund bears travel expenses (or an appropriate portion thereof) of Trustees or Fund officers who are partners, directors, trustees or employees of the Adviser to the extent that such expenses relate to attendance at meetings of the Board or any committees thereof or advisers thereto, and the Fund bears all or a portion of the expenses related to the Trust's CCO, as may be approved by the Board from time to time.

The Fund bears all other costs of its operations, including ordinary administrative and operating expenses, including the management fee and all expenses associated with the pricing of Fund assets; risk management

expenses; ordinary and recurring investment expenses, including all fees and expenses directly related to portfolio transactions and positions for the Fund’s account (including brokerage, clearing and settlement costs), custodial costs and interest charges; professional fees (including expenses of consultants, experts and specialists); fees and expenses in connection with repurchase offers and any repurchases or redemptions of Fund shares; expenses in connection with the filing of Form PQR; compensation of members of the Board of Trustees who are not directors, officers or employees of the Adviser or of any “affiliated person” (other than a registered investment company) of the Adviser; legal expenses (including legal and other out-of-pocket expenses incurred in connection with the organization of the Fund and the offering of its shares); accounting and auditing expenses incurred in preparing, printing and delivering all reports (including such expenses incurred in connection with any Fund document) and tax information for shareholders and regulatory authorities; and all filing costs, fees, travel expenses and any other expenses directly related to the investment of the Fund’s assets. The Fund will pay any extraordinary expenses it may incur, including any litigation expenses.

As compensation for its advisory services, the Fund pays the Adviser a fee, computed daily and paid monthly in arrears, at the annual rate of 0.50% of the Fund’s average daily net assets.

Under the terms of the investment management agreement, neither the Adviser nor its affiliates shall be liable for losses or damages incurred by the Fund, unless such losses or damages are attributable to willful misfeasance, bad faith or gross negligence on the part of either the Adviser or its affiliates or from reckless disregard by it of its obligations and duties under the management contract (“disabling conduct”). In addition, the Fund will indemnify the Adviser and its affiliates and hold each of them harmless against any losses or damages not resulting from disabling conduct.

The Adviser contractually agreed to waive its management fee and/or pay or otherwise bear operating and other expenses of the Fund or a Class thereof (including organizational and offering expenses, but excluding the Fund’s investment management fee, financial intermediary fees and expenses (including shareholder servicing fees and expenses, sub-transfer agency servicing fees and expenses and fees and expenses for custodial services rendered to shareholders), brokerage and transactional expenses, borrowing and other investment-related costs and fees including interest and commitment fees, short dividend expense, acquired fund fees and expenses, taxes, litigation and indemnification expenses, judgments and extraordinary expenses not incurred in the ordinary course of the Fund’s business (collectively, the “Excluded Expenses”)) solely to the extent necessary to limit the total annualized expenses, other than Excluded Expenses, of the applicable Class to the percentage specified below of the average daily net assets attributable to such Class.

<u>Expense Cap</u>
0.50% for Class I Shares
0.65% for Class M Shares

The Adviser shall be entitled to recoup in later periods expenses attributable to a Class that the Adviser has paid or otherwise borne (whether through reduction of its management fee or otherwise) to the extent that expenses for the Class of shares (including offering expenses, but excluding Excluded Expenses) after such recoupment do not exceed the lower of (i) the annual expense limitation rate in effect at the time of the actual waiver/ reimbursement and (ii) the annual expense limitation rate in effect at the time of the recoupment; *provided* that the Adviser shall not be permitted to recoup any such fees or expenses beyond three years from the end of the month in which such fee was reduced or such expense was reimbursed.

Portfolio Managers

Paul Germain, Li Song and Allen Steere are jointly and primarily responsible for the day-to-day management of the Fund. The following tables set forth certain additional information with respect to the Portfolio Managers. The information is as of June 30, 2021.

Other Accounts Managed by the Portfolio Managers

The table below identifies the number of accounts for which the Portfolio Managers have day-to-day management responsibilities and the total assets in such accounts, within each of the following categories: registered investment companies, other pooled investment vehicles and other accounts.

<u>Portfolio Manager</u>	<u>Registered Investment Companies</u>		<u>Other Pooled Investment Vehicles</u>		<u>Other Accounts</u>	
	<u>Number of Accounts⁽¹⁾</u>	<u>Total Assets (in millions)</u>	<u>Number of Accounts</u>	<u>Total Assets (in millions)</u>	<u>Number of Accounts</u>	<u>Total Assets (in millions)</u>
Paul Germain	5	\$6,074	8	\$2,579	2	\$1,485
Li Song	2	\$222	0	\$0	0	\$0
Allen Steere	2	\$222	0	\$0	0	\$0

(1) Includes the Fund.

The table below identifies the number of accounts for which the Portfolio Managers have day-to-day management responsibilities and the total assets in such accounts with respect to which the advisory fee is based on the performance of the account, within each of the following categories: registered investment companies, other pooled investment vehicles and other accounts.

<u>Portfolio Manager</u>	<u>Registered Investment Companies for which the Adviser receives a performance-based fee</u>		<u>Other Pooled Investment Vehicles managed for which the Adviser receives a performance-based fee</u>		<u>Other Accounts managed for which the Adviser receives a performance-based fee</u>	
	<u>Number of Accounts</u>	<u>Total Assets (in millions)</u>	<u>Number of Accounts</u>	<u>Total Assets (in millions)</u>	<u>Number of Accounts</u>	<u>Total Assets (in millions)</u>
Paul Germain	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0
Li Song	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0
Allen Steere	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0

Potential Conflicts of Interest

Each of the Portfolio Managers is also responsible for managing other accounts in addition to the Fund, including other accounts of the Adviser or its affiliates. Other accounts may include other investment companies registered under the 1940 Act, unregistered investment companies that rely on Section 3(c)(1) or Section 3(c)(7) of the 1940 Act, separately managed accounts, foreign investment companies and accounts or investments owned by the Adviser or its affiliates or the Portfolio Managers. Management of other accounts in addition to the Fund can present certain conflicts of interest, as described below.

From time to time, conflicts of interest arise between a Portfolio Manager's management of the investments of the Fund, on the one hand, and the management of other accounts, on the other. The other accounts might have similar or different investment objectives or strategies as the Fund, or otherwise hold, purchase or sell securities or other assets or instruments that are eligible to be held, purchased or sold by the Fund, or may take positions that are opposite in direction from those taken by the Fund. In addition, investors in, or the owners of, certain accounts managed by the Adviser are also investors in the Adviser or its affiliates and/or have indicated an intention to invest additional assets in accounts managed by the Adviser and for which the Adviser will receive a management fee.

As a fiduciary, the Adviser owes a duty of loyalty to its clients and must treat each client fairly. The Adviser and the Fund have adopted compliance policies and procedures that are designed to avoid, mitigate, monitor and oversee areas that could present potential conflicts of interest.

Allocation of Limited Time and Attention. A Portfolio Manager who is responsible for managing multiple accounts may devote unequal time and attention to the management of those accounts. As a result, the Portfolio

Manager may not be able to formulate as complete a strategy or identify equally attractive investment opportunities for each of the accounts as might be the case if he or she were to devote substantially more attention to the management of a single account. The effects of this potential conflict may be more pronounced where accounts overseen by a particular Portfolio Manager have different investment strategies.

Allocation of Investment Opportunities. Conflicts of interest arise as a result of the Adviser's or its affiliates' management of a number of accounts with similar or different investment strategies. When the Adviser or its affiliates purchase or sell securities or other assets or instruments for more than one account, the trades must be allocated in a manner consistent with their fiduciary duties. The Adviser and its affiliates attempt to allocate investments in a fair and equitable manner over time among client accounts, with no account receiving preferential treatment over time. To this end, the Adviser and its affiliates have adopted policies and procedures that are intended to provide the Adviser and its affiliates with flexibility to allocate investments in a manner that is consistent with their fiduciary duties. There is no guarantee, however, that the policies and procedures adopted by the Adviser and its affiliates will be able to detect and/or prevent every situation in which an actual or potential conflict may appear.

An investment opportunity may be suitable for both the Fund and other accounts, but may not be available in sufficient quantities for both the Fund and the other accounts to participate fully. If a Portfolio Manager identifies a limited investment opportunity that may be suitable for multiple accounts, the opportunity may be allocated among these several accounts; as a result of these allocations, there may be instances in which the Fund will not participate in a transaction that is allocated among other accounts or the Fund may not be allocated the full amount of an investment opportunity. Similarly, there may be limited opportunity to sell an investment held by the Fund and another account. In addition, different account guidelines and/or differences within particular investment strategies may lead to the use of different investment practices for accounts with a similar investment strategy. Whenever decisions are made to buy or sell securities or other assets or instruments by the Fund and one or more of the other accounts simultaneously, the Adviser and its affiliates may aggregate the purchases and sales of the securities or other assets or instruments. The Adviser and its affiliates will not necessarily purchase or sell the same securities or other assets or instruments at the same time, in the same direction or in the same proportionate amounts for all eligible accounts, particularly if different accounts have different amounts of capital under management by the Adviser or its affiliates, different amounts of investable cash available, different strategies or different risk tolerances. As a result, although the Adviser and its affiliates may manage different accounts with similar or identical investment objectives, or may manage accounts with different objectives that trade in the same securities or other assets or instruments, the portfolio decisions relating to these accounts, and the performance resulting from such decisions, may differ from account to account, and the trade allocation and aggregation and other policies and procedures of the Fund or the Adviser and its affiliates could have a detrimental effect on the price or amount of the securities or other assets or instruments available to the Fund from time to time. Because the aforementioned considerations may differ between the Fund and other accounts, the investment activities of the Fund and other accounts may differ considerably from time to time. In addition, the Fund could be disadvantaged because of activities conducted by the Adviser or its affiliates for their other accounts, or by the Adviser or its affiliates for their own accounts, as a result of, among other things, the difficulty of liquidating an investment for more than one account where the market cannot absorb the sale of the combined positions.

As a result of regulations governing the ability of certain clients of the Adviser and its affiliates to invest side-by-side, it is possible that the Fund may not be permitted to participate in an investment opportunity at the same time as another fund or another account managed by the Adviser or its affiliates. These limitations may limit the scope of investment opportunities that would otherwise be available to the Fund. The decision as to which accounts may participate in any particular investment opportunity will take into account applicable law and the suitability of the investment opportunity for, and the strategy of, the applicable accounts. It is possible that the Fund may be prevented from participating due to such investment opportunity being more appropriate, in the discretion of the Adviser and its affiliates, for another account.

Conflicts of Interest Among Strategies. At times, a Portfolio Manager may determine that an investment opportunity may be appropriate for only some of the accounts for which he or she exercises investment responsibility, or may decide that certain of the accounts should take differing positions with respect to a particular security or other asset or instrument. In these cases, the Portfolio Manager may place separate transactions for one or more accounts, which may affect the market price of the security or other asset or instrument or the execution of the transaction, or both, to the detriment or benefit of one or more other accounts. Similarly, the Adviser or its affiliates may take positions in accounts or investments owned by them or on behalf of clients that are similar to or different from those taken by one or more client accounts.

Conflicts may also arise in cases when accounts invest in different parts of an issuer's capital structure, including circumstances in which one or more accounts own private securities or obligations of an issuer and other accounts may own public securities of the same issuer. Actions by investors in one part of the capital structure could disadvantage investors in another part of the capital structure. In addition, purchases or sales of the same investment may be made for two or more accounts on the same date. There can be no assurance that an account will not receive less (or more) of a certain investment than it would otherwise receive if this conflict of interest among accounts did not exist. In effecting transactions, it may not be possible, or consistent with the investment objectives of accounts, to purchase or sell securities or other assets or instruments at the same time or at the same prices.

Selection of Service Providers. The Adviser or its affiliates may be able to select or influence the selection of service providers to clients, including the brokers and dealers that are used to execute securities or other transactions for the accounts that they supervise. In addition to executing trades, some brokers and dealers may provide the Adviser or its affiliates with brokerage and research services (as those terms are defined in Section 28(e) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the "Exchange Act")), which may result in the payment of higher brokerage fees than might have otherwise been available. These services may be more beneficial to certain accounts than to others. In addition, the Adviser or its affiliates have received and may receive loans or other services from service providers to clients. Although such services are negotiated at arm's length, they pose conflicts of interest to the Adviser or its affiliates in selecting such service providers.

Related Business Opportunities. The Adviser or its affiliates may provide more services (such as distribution or recordkeeping) for some types of accounts than for others. In such cases, a Portfolio Manager may benefit, either directly or indirectly, by devoting disproportionate attention to the management of accounts that provide greater overall returns to the Adviser and its affiliates.

Affiliates of the Adviser own and trade bitcoin and bitcoin-related derivatives for their own account, and in the ordinary course of their business provide bitcoin-focused asset management, custody, trading, financing and technology services to their clients. The Fund invests in pooled investment vehicles that invest directly or indirectly in bitcoin, and such pooled investment vehicles may engage one or more affiliates of the Adviser as service providers (e.g., for bitcoin custody or execution services). These affiliates of the Adviser would receive compensation in exchange for their services, which creates a potential conflict of interest by giving the Adviser an incentive to invest in pooled investment vehicles that use one or more of the Adviser's affiliates as service providers rather than in pooled investment vehicles that utilize unaffiliated service providers, even if investing in the latter would be better for the Fund (i.e., with lower costs and/or less tracking error with respect to the price of bitcoin).

Broad and Wide-Ranging Activities. The Adviser and its related parties engage in a broad spectrum of activities and may expand the range of services that they provide over time. The Adviser and its related parties will generally not be restricted in the scope of their business or in the performance of any such services (whether now offered or undertaken in the future), even if such activities could give rise to conflicts of interest, and whether or not such conflicts are described herein. In the ordinary course of their business activities, including activities with third-party service providers, lenders and/or counterparties, the Adviser and its related parties engage in activities where the interests of the Adviser and its related parties or the interests of their clients'

conflict with the interests of the shareholders of the Fund. Certain employees of the Adviser, including certain Portfolio Managers, also have responsibilities relating to the business of one or more related parties. These employees are not restricted in the amount of time that may be allocated to the business activities of the Adviser's related parties, and the allocation of such employees' time between the Adviser and its related parties may change over time.

Variation in Compensation. A conflict of interest arises where the financial or other benefits available to the Adviser differ among the accounts that it manages. The structure of the Adviser's management fee differs among accounts (such as where certain accounts pay higher management fees or a performance or incentive fee), which means the Adviser might be motivated to help certain accounts over others. In addition, a Portfolio Manager or the Adviser might be motivated to favor accounts in which such Portfolio Manager has an interest or in which the Adviser and/or its affiliates have interests. Similarly, the desire to maintain or raise assets under management or to enhance the Adviser's performance record or to derive other rewards, financial or otherwise, could influence the Adviser to lend preferential treatment to those accounts that could most significantly benefit the Adviser.

Investments in the Fund by the Adviser. The Adviser or its affiliates purchase shares from the Fund from time to time, and may hold a material position in the Fund. The Adviser or its affiliates face conflicting interests in determining whether, when and in what amount to redeem Fund shares. If the Adviser or its affiliate redeems a significant amount of Fund shares, this may adversely affect the Fund's performance to the extent that the Fund is required to sell investments when it would not otherwise do so.

Investments by Adviser or Related Entities. The Adviser, its affiliates and/or related entities have made investments in bitcoin, other digital assets and instruments linked to digital assets, including bitcoin futures contracts, for its or their own accounts, prior to the commencement of investment operations of the Fund, and may continue to do so following the commencement of investment operations of the Fund. Affiliates of the Adviser have made and may in the future make additional investments in bitcoin, other digital assets and/or instruments linked to digital assets, including bitcoin futures contracts, on behalf of their customers.

In addition, the Adviser or a related entity may invest in entities that may act as sources of leverage for the Fund. The Adviser or a related entity may invest in entities that may provide financial or other services for the Fund.

Certain Potential Conflicts Relating to Expenses. The allocation of fees and expenses among the Fund and other funds or accounts advised by the Adviser will often require the Adviser to exercise its discretion to select an allocation method it determines to be appropriate in light of the particular facts and circumstances. The Adviser will be subject to conflicts of interest in making such determinations, and there can be no assurance that any allocations (i) will reflect an entity's *pro rata* share of such expenses based on the amounts invested (or anticipated to be invested) and/or the market value of the investment held (or anticipated to be held) by each fund advised by the Adviser, or (ii) will be in proportion to the number of participating funds advised by the Adviser or the proportion of time spent on each such fund. Similarly, the determination of whether an expense (for instance, the fees and expenses of service providers who work on Fund-related matters) is appropriately borne by the Fund (or a specific class of shares) or the Adviser often cannot be resolved by reference to a pre-existing formula and will require the exercise of discretion, and the Adviser will be subject to conflicts of interest in making such determinations.

Portfolio Manager Compensation

Portfolio Managers receive a base salary and may also receive a bonus. Compensation of a Portfolio Manager is determined at the discretion of the Adviser and may be deferred. It may be based on a number of factors including the Portfolio Manager's experience, responsibilities, the perception of the quality of his or her work efforts, and the consistency with which he or she demonstrates kindness to other employees, trading counterparties, vendors and clients. As a firm focused on beta, the compensation of Portfolio Managers is not based upon the performance of client accounts that the Portfolio Managers manage. The Adviser reviews the compensation of each Portfolio Manager at least annually.

Portfolio Manager Securities Ownership

None of the Portfolio Managers listed in the above table beneficially owned any shares of the Fund as of the date of this SAI because the Fund had not yet commenced operations.

Principal Underwriter

Subject to the conditions described in the “Shareholder Information” section of the Prospectus, shares of the Fund are offered on a continuous basis through ALPS Distributors, Inc. (the “Distributor”), located at 1290 Broadway, Suite 1000, Denver, Colorado 80203, as distributor pursuant to a distribution agreement (the “Distribution Agreement”) between the Distributor and the Trust, on behalf of the Fund. Pursuant to the Distribution Agreement, the Distributor shall devote its best efforts to effect sales of shares of the Fund but shall not be obligated to sell any certain number of shares. The Distributor receives no compensation from the Fund for distribution of the Fund’s shares.

Distribution Plan Pursuant to Rule 12b-1

As described in the Prospectus, the Fund has adopted a Rule 12b-1 plan for its Class M shares (the “12b-1 Plan”). The 12b-1 Plan, among other things, permits the Class M share class of the Fund to pay Rule 12b-1 fees to financial intermediaries through the Distributor at annual rates not exceeding 0.15% of the average daily net assets of the Class M share class of the Fund, such fee to be calculated and accrued daily and paid monthly. Pursuant to Rule 12b-1 under the 1940 Act, the 12b-1 Plan (together with the Distribution Agreement) were approved by the Board, including a majority of the Trustees who are not interested persons of the Fund (as defined in the 1940 Act) and who have no direct or indirect financial interest in the operations of the 12b-1 Plan or the Distribution Agreement. The 12b-1 Plan is intended to benefit the Class M shares by providing additional ongoing shareholder services to Class M shareholders.

The 12b-1 Plan may be terminated by vote of a majority of the Independent Trustees, or by vote of a majority of the outstanding voting securities of the Class M shares of the Fund. The 12b-1 Plan may be amended by a vote of the Board, including a majority of the Independent Trustees, cast in person at a meeting called for that purpose. Any change in the 12b-1 Plan that would materially increase the fees payable thereunder by the Class M shares of the Fund requires approval by a vote of the holders of a majority of such shares outstanding. The Board reviews quarterly a written report detailing the costs that have been incurred.

The 12b-1 Plan will continue in effect for successive one-year periods; *provided* that each such continuance is specifically approved (i) by the vote of a majority of the Independent Trustees and (ii) by the vote of a majority of the entire Board cast in person at a meeting called for that purpose or by a vote of a majority of the outstanding Class M shares.

No Independent Trustee has any direct or indirect financial interest in the operation of the 12b-1 Plan. Except as disclosed in the Prospectus, no interested person of the Fund has any direct or indirect financial interest in the operation of the 12b-1 Plan except to the extent that the Distributor, the Adviser or certain of their employees may be deemed to have such an interest as a result of benefits derived from the successful operation of the 12b-1 Plan.

Other Service Providers

Administrator. The Trust has entered into an administration agreement with U.S. Bancorp Fund Services, LLC, doing business as U.S. Bank Global Fund Services (the “Administrator”) pursuant to which the Administrator provides administrative services to the Fund. The Administrator is responsible for (i) the general administrative duties associated with the day-to-day operations of the Fund; (ii) conducting relations with the custodian, independent registered public accounting firm, legal counsel and other service providers; (iii) providing regulatory reporting; and (iv) providing necessary office space, equipment, personnel, compensation and

facilities for handling the affairs of the Fund. In performing its duties and obligations under the administration agreement, the Administrator shall not be held liable except for a loss arising out of the Administrator's refusal or failure to comply with the terms of the administration agreement or from its bad faith, negligence or willful misconduct in the performance of its duties under the administration agreement.

U.S. Bank Global Fund Services also serves as fund accountant to the Fund under a separate agreement with the Trust and is responsible for calculating the Fund's total NAV, total net income and NAV per share of the Fund on a daily basis.

Transfer Agent/Dividend Disbursing Agent. U.S. Bancorp Fund Services, LLC, doing business as U.S. Bank Global Fund Services (the "Transfer Agent") is the transfer agent for the Fund's shares and the dividend disbursing agent for payment of dividends and distributions on Fund shares. The principal business address of the Transfer Agent is 615 East Michigan Street, Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53202.

Custodian. U.S. Bank, N.A. (the "Custodian"), located at 1555 N. River Center Drive, Suite 302, Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53212, serves as the custodian for the Fund. As such, the Custodian holds in safekeeping certificated securities and cash belonging to the Fund and, in such capacity, is the registered owner of securities in book-entry form belonging to the Fund. Upon instruction, the Custodian receives and delivers cash and securities of the Fund in connection with Fund transactions and collects all dividends and other distributions made with respect to portfolio securities of the Fund. The Custodian also maintains certain accounts and records of the Fund.

Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm. Ernst & Young LLP serves as the Fund's independent registered public accountant. Ernst & Young LLP provides audit services and assistance and consultation in connection with the review of Commission filings and certain tax compliance services. Ernst & Young LLP is located at 220 South 6th Street, Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402.

Counsel. Ropes & Gray LLP serves as counsel to the Fund, and is located at 800 Boylston Street, Boston, Massachusetts 02199.

TAX STATUS

The following discussion of U.S. federal income tax consequences of investment in the Fund is based on the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Code"), U.S. Treasury regulations and other applicable authority, as of the date of the preparation of this SAI. These authorities are subject to change by legislative or administrative action, possibly with retroactive effect. The following discussion is only a summary of some of the important U.S. federal income tax considerations generally applicable to investments in the Fund and does not address all aspects of taxation that may apply to shareholders or to particular shareholders. Shareholders should consult their own tax advisers regarding their particular situation and the possible application of federal, state, local or non-U.S. tax laws.

Taxation of the Fund

The Fund currently intends to elect to be treated and to qualify and be treated as a RIC under Subchapter M of Chapter 1 of the Code. In order to qualify for the special tax treatment accorded RICs and their shareholders, the Fund generally must, among other things:

- (a) derive at least 90% of its gross income for each taxable year from (i) dividends, interest, payments with respect to certain securities loans, and gains from the sale or other disposition of stock, securities or foreign currencies, or other income (including gains from options, futures, or forward contracts) derived with respect to its business of investing in such stock, securities, or currencies, and (ii) net income derived from interests in "qualified publicly traded partnerships" (as defined below);
- (b) diversify its holdings so that, at the end of each quarter of the Fund's taxable year, (i) at least 50% of the value of the Fund's total assets is represented by cash and cash items, U.S. government securities,

securities of other RICs, and other securities limited in respect of any one issuer to a value not greater than 5% of the value of the Fund's total assets and not more than 10% of the outstanding voting securities of such issuer, and (ii) not more than 25% of the value of the Fund's total assets is invested, including through corporations in which the Fund owns a 20% or more voting stock interest, (x) in the securities (other than those of the U.S. government or other RICs) of any one issuer or of two or more issuers that the Fund controls and that are engaged in the same, similar, or related trades or businesses, or (y) in the securities of one or more qualified publicly traded partnerships (as defined below); and

- (c) distribute with respect to each taxable year at least 90% of the sum of its investment company taxable income (as that term is defined in the Code without regard to the deduction for dividends paid – generally, taxable ordinary income and the excess, if any, of net short-term capital gains over net long-term capital losses) and any net tax-exempt interest income, for such year.

In general, for purposes of the 90% gross income requirement described in paragraph (a) above, income derived from a partnership will be treated as qualifying income only to the extent such income is attributable to items of income of the partnership that would be qualifying income if realized directly by the RIC. However, 100% of the net income derived from an interest in a “qualified publicly traded partnership” (a partnership (x) the interests in which are traded on an established securities market or are readily tradable on a secondary market or the substantial equivalent thereof, and (y) that derives less than 90% of its income from the qualifying income described in paragraph (a)(i) above) will be treated as qualifying income. In general, such entities will be treated as partnerships for federal income tax purposes because they meet the passive income requirement under Code section 7704(c)(2). In addition, although in general the passive loss rules of the Code do not apply to RICs, such rules do apply to a RIC with respect to items attributable to an interest in a qualified publicly traded partnership.

For purposes of the diversification test in (b) above, the term “outstanding voting securities of such issuer” will include the equity securities of a qualified publicly traded partnership. Also, for purposes of the diversification test in (b) above, the identification of the issuer (or, in some cases, issuers) of a particular Fund investment can depend on the terms and conditions of that investment. In some cases, identification of the issuer (or issuers) is uncertain under current law, and an adverse determination or future guidance by the Internal Revenue Service (“IRS”) with respect to issuer identification for a particular type of investment may adversely affect the Fund's ability to meet the diversification test in (b) above. In addition, if the Fund were to own 20% or more of the voting interests of a corporation, the Fund would be required to “look through” such corporation to its holdings and combine the appropriate percentage of such corporation's assets with the Fund's assets for purposes of satisfying the 25% diversification test described in (b)(ii) above.

Gains from foreign currencies (including foreign currency options, foreign currency swaps, foreign currency futures and foreign currency forward contracts) currently constitute qualifying income for purposes of the 90% gross income test, described in (a) above. However, the Treasury Department has the authority to issue regulations (possibly with retroactive effect) excluding from the definition of “qualifying income” the Fund's foreign currency gains to the extent that such income is not directly related to the Fund's principal business of investing in stock or securities.

The Fund's investment strategy will potentially be limited by its intention to qualify for treatment as a RIC. The tax treatment of certain of the Fund's investments under one or more of the qualification or distribution tests applicable to RICs is not certain. An adverse determination or future guidance by the IRS or a change in law might affect the Fund's ability to qualify for such treatment.

If the Fund qualifies as a RIC that is accorded special tax treatment, the Fund generally will not be subject to U.S. federal income tax on its income distributed in a timely manner to its shareholders in the form of dividends (including Capital Gain Dividends, as defined below). If the Fund were to fail to meet the income, diversification or distribution tests described above, the Fund could in some cases cure such failure, including by paying a Fund-level tax, paying interest, making additional distributions or disposing of certain assets. If the Fund were ineligible to or otherwise did not cure such failure for any year, or if the Fund were otherwise to fail to qualify as

a RIC accorded special tax treatment for such year, the Fund would be a “C corporation” and, as such, would be subject to tax on its taxable income at corporate rates, and all distributions from earnings and profits, including any distributions of net tax-exempt income and net long-term capital gains, would be taxable to shareholders as ordinary income. Some portions of such distributions could be eligible for the dividends-received deduction in the case of corporate shareholders and may be eligible to be treated as “qualified dividend income” in the case of shareholders taxed as individuals, provided, in both cases, that the shareholder meets certain holding period and other requirements in respect of the Fund’s shares (as described below). In addition, the Fund could be required to recognize unrealized gains, pay substantial taxes and interest and make substantial distributions before re-qualifying as a RIC that is accorded special tax treatment.

The Fund currently intends to distribute to its shareholders, at least annually, substantially all of its investment company taxable income (computed without regard to the dividends-paid deduction), any net tax-exempt income and any net capital gains. Investment company taxable income that is retained by the Fund will be subject to tax at regular corporate rates. The Fund may also retain for investment its net capital gain. If the Fund retains any net capital gain, it will be subject to tax at the regular corporate rates on the amount retained, but it may designate the retained amount as undistributed capital gains in a notice mailed within 60 days of the close of the Fund’s taxable year to its shareholders who, in turn, (i) will be required to include in income for U.S. federal income tax purposes, as long-term capital gain, their shares of such undistributed amount, and (ii) will be entitled to credit their proportionate shares of the tax paid by the Fund on such undistributed amount against their U.S. federal income tax liabilities, if any, and to claim refunds on properly-filed U.S. tax returns to the extent the credit exceeds such liabilities. If the Fund makes this designation, for U.S. federal income tax purposes, the tax basis of shares owned by a shareholder of the Fund will be increased by an amount equal under current law to the difference between the amount of undistributed capital gains included in the shareholder’s gross income under clause (i) of the preceding sentence and the tax deemed paid by the shareholder under clause (ii) of the preceding sentence. The Fund is not required to, and there can be no assurance that the Fund will, make this designation if it retains all or a portion of its net capital gain in a taxable year.

In determining its net capital gain, including in connection with determining the amount available to support a Capital Gain Dividend, its taxable income and its earnings and profits, a RIC generally may elect to treat part or all of any post-October capital loss (defined as any net capital loss attributable to the portion, if any, of the taxable year after October 31, or, if there is no such loss, the net long-term capital loss or net short-term capital loss attributable to any such portion of the taxable year), or late-year ordinary loss (generally, the sum of its (i) net ordinary loss from the sale, exchange or other taxable disposition of property attributable to the portion, if any, of the taxable year after October 31, and its (ii) other net ordinary loss attributable to the portion, if any, of the taxable year after December 31) as if incurred in the succeeding taxable year.

If the Fund fails to distribute in a calendar year at least an amount equal to the sum of 98% of its ordinary income for such year and 98.2% of its capital gain net income for the one-year period ending on October 31 of such year, plus any retained amount for the prior year, the Fund will be subject to a nondeductible 4% excise tax on the undistributed amounts. For these purposes, ordinary gains and losses from the sale, exchange or other taxable disposition of property that would be properly taken into account after October 31 are treated as arising on January 1 of the following calendar year. For purposes of the excise tax, the Fund will be treated as having distributed any amount on which it has been subject to corporate income tax in the taxable year ending within the calendar year. A dividend paid to shareholders in January of a year generally is deemed to have been paid on December 31 of the preceding year, if the dividend is declared and payable to shareholders of record on a date in October, November or December of that preceding year. The Fund intends generally to make distributions sufficient to avoid imposition of the 4% excise tax, although there can be no assurance that it will be able to do so.

Fund Distributions

Shareholders subject to U.S. federal income tax will be subject to tax on dividends received from the Fund, regardless of whether received in cash or reinvested in additional shares. Such distributions generally will be

taxable to shareholders in the calendar year in which the distributions are received, except that a dividend declared and payable to shareholders of record in October, November or December and paid to shareholders the following January generally is deemed to have been paid by the Fund on the preceding December 31. Distributions received by tax-exempt shareholders generally will not be subject to U.S. federal income tax to the extent permitted under applicable tax law.

For U.S. federal income tax purposes, distributions of investment income generally are taxable to shareholders as ordinary income. Taxes to shareholders on distributions of capital gains are determined by how long the Fund owned (and is treated for U.S. federal income tax purposes as having owned) the investments that generated them, rather than how long a shareholder has owned his or her shares. In general, the Fund will recognize long-term capital gain or loss on investments it has owned (or is deemed to have owned) for more than one year, and short-term capital gain or loss on investments it has owned (or is deemed to have owned) for one year or less. Tax rules can alter the Fund's holding period in investments and thereby affect the tax treatment of gain or loss on such investments. Distributions of net capital gain (that is, the excess of net long-term capital gain over net short-term capital loss, in each case determined with reference to any loss carryforwards) that are properly reported by the Fund as capital gain dividends ("Capital Gain Dividends") generally will be taxable to shareholders as long-term capital gains includible in net capital gain and taxed to individuals at reduced rates. The IRS and the Department of the Treasury have issued regulations that impose special rules in respect of Capital Gain Dividends received through partnership interests constituting "applicable partnership interests" under Section 1061 of the Code. Distributions of net short-term capital gain (as reduced by any long-term capital loss for the taxable year) will be taxable to shareholders as ordinary income, and shareholders will not be able to offset distributions of the Fund's net short-term capital gains with capital losses that they recognize with respect to their other investments. As required by federal law, detailed federal tax information with respect to each calendar year will be furnished to each shareholder early in the succeeding year.

The ultimate tax characterization of the Fund's distributions made in a taxable year cannot finally be determined until after the end of that taxable year. The Fund may make total distributions during a taxable year in an amount that exceeds the Fund's "current and accumulated earnings and profits" (generally, the net investment income and net capital gains of the Fund with respect to that year), in which case the excess generally will be treated as a return of capital, which will be tax-free to the holders of the shares, up to the amount of the shareholder's tax basis in the applicable shares, with any amounts exceeding such basis treated as gain from the sale of such shares.

Capital losses in excess of capital gains ("net capital losses") are not permitted to be deducted against the Fund's net investment income. Instead, potentially subject to certain limitations, the Fund may carry net capital losses from any taxable year forward to subsequent taxable years without expiration to offset capital gains, if any realized during such subsequent taxable years. Capital loss carryforwards are reduced to the extent they offset current-year net realized capital gains, whether the Fund retains or distributes such gains. The Fund must apply such carryforwards first against gains of the same character. The Fund's available capital loss carryforwards, if any, will be set forth in its annual shareholder report for each fiscal year.

"Qualified dividend income" received by an individual will be taxed at the rates applicable to net capital gain. In order for some portion of the dividends received by the Fund shareholder to be qualified dividend income, the Fund must meet holding period and other requirements with respect to some portion of the dividend-paying stocks in its portfolio and the shareholder must meet holding period and other requirements with respect to the Fund's shares. In general, a dividend will not be treated as qualified dividend income (at either the Fund or shareholder level) (1) if the dividend is received with respect to any share of stock held for fewer than 61 days during the 121-day period beginning on the date that is 60 days before the date on which such share becomes ex-dividend with respect to such dividend (or, in the case of certain preferred stock, 91 days during the 181-day period beginning 90 days before such date), (2) to the extent that the recipient is under an obligation (whether pursuant to a short sale or otherwise) to make related payments with respect to positions in substantially similar or related property, (3) if the recipient elects to have the dividend income treated as investment income for

purposes of the limitation on deductibility of investment interest, or (4) if the dividend is received from a foreign corporation that is (a) not eligible for the benefits of a comprehensive income tax treaty with the United States (with the exception of dividends paid on stock of such a foreign corporation readily tradable on an established securities market in the United States) or (b) treated as a PFIC.

In general, distributions of investment income reported by the Fund as derived from qualified dividend income will be treated as qualified dividend income by a shareholder taxed as an individual, provided both the shareholder and the Fund meet the holding period and other requirements described above. If the aggregate qualified dividends received by the Fund during any taxable year are 95% or more of its gross income (excluding net long-term capital gain over net short-term capital loss), then 100% of the Fund's dividends (other than Capital Gain Dividends) will be eligible to be treated as qualified dividend income. It is unclear whether or to what extent distributions from the Fund will constitute qualified dividend income.

In general, dividends of net investment income received by corporate shareholders of the Fund will qualify for the dividends-received deduction generally available to corporations to the extent of the amount of eligible dividends received by the Fund from domestic corporations for the taxable year. A dividend received by the Fund will not be treated as a dividend eligible for the dividends-received deduction (1) if it has been received with respect to any share of stock that the Fund has held for less than 46 days (91 days in the case of certain preferred stock) during the 91-day period beginning on the date which is 45 days before the date on that such share becomes ex-dividend with respect to such dividend (during the 181-day period beginning 90 days before such date in the case of certain preferred stock) or (2) to the extent that the Fund is under an obligation (pursuant to a short sale or otherwise) to make related payments with respect to positions in substantially similar or related property. Moreover, the dividends-received deduction may otherwise be disallowed or reduced (1) if the corporate shareholder fails to satisfy the foregoing requirements with respect to its shares of the Fund or (2) by application of various provisions of the Code (for instance, the dividends-received deduction is reduced in the case of a dividend received on debt-financed portfolio stock (generally, stock acquired with borrowed funds)). It is unclear whether or to what extent distributions from the Fund will qualify for the dividends-received deduction.

Any distribution of income that is attributable to (i) income received by the Fund in lieu of dividends with respect to securities on loan pursuant to a securities lending transaction or (ii) dividend income received by the Fund on securities it temporarily purchased from a counterparty pursuant to a repurchase agreement that is treated for U.S. federal income tax purposes as a loan by the Fund, will not constitute qualified dividend income to individual shareholders and will not be eligible for the dividends-received deduction for corporate shareholders.

The Code generally imposes a 3.8% Medicare contribution tax on the net investment income of certain individuals, trusts and estates to the extent their income exceeds certain threshold amounts. For these purposes, "net investment income" generally includes, among other things, (i) distributions paid by the Fund of net investment income and capital gains as described above, and (ii) any net gain from the sale, redemption or exchange of Fund shares. Shareholders are advised to consult their tax advisers regarding the possible implications of this additional tax on their investment in the Fund.

Dividends and distributions on shares of the Fund are generally subject to U.S. federal income tax as described herein to the extent they do not exceed the Fund's realized income and gains ("current and accumulated earnings and profits"), even though such dividends and distributions may economically represent a return of a particular shareholder's investment. Such distributions are likely to occur in respect of shares purchased at a time when the net asset value of the Fund reflects either unrealized gains, or realized and undistributed income or gains, which were therefore included in the price the shareholder paid. Such realized income or gains may be required to be distributed regardless of whether the Fund's net asset value also reflects unrealized losses. Such distributions may reduce the fair market value of the Fund's shares below the shareholder's cost basis in those shares.

Sale, Exchange or Redemption of Shares

The sale, exchange or redemption of shares of the Fund will generally give rise to a gain or loss. In general, any gain or loss realized upon a taxable disposition of shares will be treated as long-term capital gain or loss if the shareholder has held the shares for more than 12 months. Otherwise, the gain or loss generally will be treated as short-term capital gain or loss. However, any loss realized upon a taxable disposition of shares held for six months or less will be treated as long-term, rather than short-term, to the extent of any Capital Gain Dividends received (or deemed received) by the shareholder with respect to those shares. All or a portion of any loss realized upon a taxable disposition of shares will be disallowed under the Code's "wash sale" rule if other substantially identical shares of the Fund are purchased within 30 days before or after the disposition. In such a case, the basis of the newly purchased shares will be adjusted to reflect the disallowed loss.

If the Fund were to be deemed a "nonpublicly offered" RIC as described in "Expenses Subject to Special Pass-Through Rules" below, depending on a shareholder's percentage ownership in the Fund, a shareholder's partial redemption of Fund shares could cause the shareholder to be treated as having received a distribution under Section 301 of the Code ("Section 301 distribution") unless the redemption is treated as being either (i) "substantially disproportionate" with respect to such shareholder or (ii) otherwise "not essentially equivalent to a dividend" under the relevant rules of the Code. A Section 301 distribution is not treated as a sale or exchange giving rise to capital gain or loss, but rather is treated as a dividend to the extent supported by the Fund's current and accumulated earnings and profits, with the excess treated as a return of capital reducing the shareholder's tax basis in its Fund shares, and thereafter as capital gain. Where a redeeming shareholder is treated as receiving a dividend, there is a risk that other shareholders of the Fund whose percentage interests in the Fund increase as a result of such redemption will be treated as having received a taxable distribution from the Fund.

Upon the sale, exchange or redemption of Fund shares, the Fund or, in the case of shares purchased through a financial intermediary, the financial intermediary may be required to provide you and the IRS with cost basis and certain other related tax information about the Fund shares you sold, exchanged or redeemed. See "Tax Basis Information" below for more information.

Bitcoin Transactions

The Fund's use of bitcoin can be limited by the Fund's intention to qualify as a RIC, and can bear on the Fund's ability to so qualify. Income and gains from digital assets and digital asset-linked derivatives may not constitute qualifying income to a regulated investment company for purposes of the 90% gross income test described above. If the Fund were to treat income or gain from a particular instrument as qualifying income and the income or gain were later determined not to constitute qualifying income and, together with any other nonqualifying income, caused the Fund's nonqualifying income to exceed 10% of its gross income in any taxable year, the Fund would fail to qualify as a regulated investment company unless it is eligible to and does pay a tax at the Fund level. The Fund currently expects to pursue its bitcoin strategy primarily through investments in the Subsidiary.

If the Fund invests in bitcoin through a pooled investment vehicle there may be certain circumstances in which the Fund may recognize and be required to distribute income without a corresponding receipt of cash (for example in the event a hard fork occurs). Such distributions may be made from the cash assets of the Fund or by liquidation of portfolio securities, if necessary (including when it is not advantageous to do so). The Fund may realize gains or losses from such liquidations. In the event the Fund realizes net capital gains from such transactions, its shareholders may receive a larger capital gain distribution than they would in the absence of such transactions.

Controlled Foreign Corporations

The Subsidiary will be a "controlled foreign corporation" ("CFCs") for U.S. federal income tax purposes. A U.S. person who owns (directly, indirectly or constructively) 10% or more of the total combined voting power of all

classes of stock of a foreign corporation or 10% or more of the total value of shares of all classes of stock of a foreign corporation is a “U.S. Shareholder” of such foreign corporation for purposes of the CFC provisions of the Code. If the Fund is a “U.S. Shareholder” of a CFC, the Fund will generally be required to include in gross income for U.S. federal income tax purposes for each taxable year of the Fund its pro rata share of the CFC’s “subpart F income” (defined below) for the CFC’s taxable year ending within the Fund’s taxable year whether or not such income is distributed by the CFC. “Subpart F income” generally includes interest, original issue discount, dividends, net gains from the disposition of stocks or securities, receipts with respect to securities loans, net gains from transactions (including futures, forward and similar transactions) in commodities (likely including, for this purpose, bitcoin and potentially other cryptocurrencies), and net payments received with respect to equity swaps and similar derivatives. Subpart F income is treated as ordinary income and is included in net investment income, regardless of the character of the CFC’s underlying income. Net losses incurred by a CFC during a tax year do not flow through to the Fund and thus will not be available to offset income or capital gain generated from the Fund’s other investments. In addition, net losses incurred by a CFC during a tax year generally cannot be carried forward by the CFC to offset gains realized by it in subsequent tax years. The Fund’s recognition of any subpart F income from an investment in a CFC will increase the Fund’s tax basis in such CFC. Distributions by the CFC to the Fund will be tax-free, to the extent of the CFC’s previously undistributed subpart F income, and will correspondingly reduce the Fund’s tax basis in the CFC, and any distributions in excess of the Fund’s tax basis in such CFC will be treated as realized gain. To the extent the Fund recognizes subpart F income in excess of actual cash distributions from a CFC, the Fund may be required to borrow money or sell assets (including when it is not advantageous to do so) to generate the cash necessary to distribute as dividends to its shareholders all of its income and gains and therefore to eliminate any tax liability at the Fund level.

Generally, a foreign corporation is a CFC if, on any day of its taxable year, more than 50% of the voting power or value of its stock is owned (directly, indirectly or constructively) by U.S. Shareholders.

A foreign corporation such as the Subsidiary generally will not be subject to U.S. taxation unless it is treated as engaged in a U.S. trade or business. The rules regarding whether the Subsidiary will be treated as engaged in a U.S. trade or business as a result of its investments in bitcoin are not certain. The Subsidiary expects to operate in a manner such that it is not so treated; if it were, the Subsidiary would be subject to U.S. federal income tax on a net basis at the corporate rate and would be subject to an additional branch profits tax, thus reducing the yield of the Fund’s investment in the Subsidiary.

In general, in order to qualify as a RIC, the Fund must, among other things, derive at least 90% of its gross income from certain specified sources (“qualifying income”). Under regulations, subpart F inclusions from investments in CFCs will constitute “qualifying income” for the purposes of the 90% gross income requirement to the extent it is either (i) timely and currently repatriated or (ii) derived with respect to the Fund’s business of investing in stock, securities or currencies.

Passive Foreign Investment Companies

A passive foreign investment company (“PFIC”) is any foreign corporation: (i) 75% or more of the gross income of which for the taxable year is passive income, or (ii) the average percentage of the assets of which (generally by value, but by adjusted tax basis in certain cases) that produce or are held for the production of passive income is at least 50%. Generally, passive income for this purpose means dividends, interest (including income equivalent to interest), royalties, rents, annuities, the excess of gains over losses from certain property transactions and commodities transactions and foreign currency gains. Passive income for this purpose does not include rents and royalties received by the foreign corporation from active business and certain income received from related persons. A foreign corporation in which the Fund invests, including a foreign issuer of event-linked bonds, will not be treated as a PFIC with respect to the Fund if such corporation is a CFC (as defined herein) and the Fund is a U.S. Shareholder (as defined herein) thereof.

Equity investments by the Fund in PFICs could potentially subject the Fund to a U.S. federal income tax or other charge (including interest charges) on the distributions received from the PFIC or on proceeds received from the

disposition of shares in the PFIC. This tax cannot be eliminated by making distributions to Fund shareholders. However, the Fund may elect to avoid the imposition of that tax. For example, if the Fund is in a position to and elects to treat a PFIC as a “qualified electing fund” (i.e., make a “QEF election”), the Fund will be required to include its share of the PFIC’s income and net capital gains annually, regardless of whether it receives any distribution from the PFIC. Alternatively, the Fund may make an election to mark the gains (and to a limited extent losses) in such holdings “to the market” as though it had sold and repurchased its holdings in those PFICs on the last day of the Fund’s taxable year. Such gains and losses are treated as ordinary income and loss. The QEF and mark-to-market elections may accelerate the recognition of income (without the receipt of cash) and increase the amount required to be distributed by the Fund to avoid taxation. Making either of these elections therefore may require the Fund to liquidate other investments (including when it is not advantageous to do so) to meet its distribution requirement, which also may accelerate the recognition of gain and affect the Fund’s total return. Dividends paid by PFICs will not be eligible to be treated as “qualified dividend income.”

It is not always possible to identify a foreign corporation as a PFIC, and the Fund may therefore incur the tax and interest charges described above in some instances.

Foreign Taxation

Income and proceeds received by the Fund from sources within foreign countries may be subject to withholding and other taxes imposed by such countries. Tax treaties between certain countries and the U.S. may reduce or eliminate such taxes. If more than 50% of the Fund’s assets at the close of the taxable year consist of the securities of foreign corporations, the Fund may elect to permit shareholders to claim a credit or deduction on their income tax returns for their pro rata portions of qualified taxes paid by the Fund to foreign countries in respect of foreign securities that the Fund has held, under Code rules, for at least the minimum period specified in the Code. For this purpose, “securities of foreign corporations” generally includes securities of foreign governments. In such cases, shareholders will include in gross income from foreign sources their pro rata shares of such taxes paid by the Fund. A shareholder’s ability to claim an offsetting foreign tax credit or deduction in respect of such foreign taxes is subject to certain limitations imposed by the Code, which may result in the shareholder’s not receiving a full credit or deduction (if any) for the amount of such taxes. For example, shareholders who do not itemize on their U.S. federal income tax returns may claim a credit but not a deduction for such foreign taxes. Even if the Fund were eligible to make such an election for a given year, it may determine not to do so. Shareholders that are not subject to U.S. federal income tax, and those who invest in the Fund through tax-advantaged accounts (including those who invest through individual retirement accounts or other tax-advantaged retirement plans), generally will receive no benefit from any tax credit or deduction passed through by the Fund.

Investments in Other Investment Companies

If the Fund receives dividends from another investment company, including an ETF, that qualifies as a RIC, and the investment company reports such dividends as qualified dividend income, then the Fund is permitted in turn to report a portion of its distributions as qualified dividend income, provided the Fund meets holding period and other requirements with respect to shares of the investment company.

If the Fund receives dividends from such an investment company and the investment company reports such dividends as eligible for the dividends-received deduction, then the Fund is permitted in turn to report its distributions derived from those dividends as eligible for the dividends-received deduction as well, provided the Fund meets holding period and other requirements with respect to shares of the investment company.

Original Issue Discount, Pay-in-Kind Securities, and Market Discount

Some debt obligations with a fixed maturity date of more than one year from the date of issuance (and all zero-coupon debt obligations with a fixed maturity date of more than one year from the date of issuance) will be treated as debt obligations that are issued originally at a discount. Generally, the amount of the original issue

discount (“OID”) is treated as interest income and is included in the Fund’s taxable income (and required to be distributed by the Fund) over the term of the debt obligation, even though payment of that amount is not received until a later time (i.e., upon partial or full repayment or disposition of the debt security) or is received in kind rather than in cash. Increases in the principal amount of an inflation-indexed bond will be treated as OID.

Some debt obligations with a fixed maturity date of more than one year from the date of issuance that are acquired by the Fund in the secondary market may be treated as having “market discount.” Very generally, market discount is the excess of the stated redemption price of a debt obligation (or in the case of an obligation issued with OID, its “revised issue price”) over the purchase price of such obligation. In the case of higher-risk securities, the amount of market discount may be unclear. See “Higher-Risk Securities.” Subject to the discussion below regarding Section 451 of the Code, (i) generally, any gain recognized on the disposition of, and any partial payment of principal on, a debt obligation having market discount is treated as ordinary income to the extent the gain, or principal payment, does not exceed the “accrued market discount” on such debt obligation, (ii) alternatively, the Fund may elect to accrue market discount currently, in which case the Fund will be required to include the accrued market discount in the Fund’s income (as ordinary income) and thus distribute it over the term of the debt security, even though payment of that amount is not received until a later time, upon partial or full repayment or disposition of the debt security, and (iii) the rate at which the market discount accrues, and thus is included in the Fund’s income, will depend upon which of the permitted accrual methods the Fund elects.

Some debt obligations with a fixed maturity date of one year or less from the date of issuance may be treated as having “acquisition discount” (very generally, the excess of the stated redemption price over the purchase price), or OID in the case of certain types of debt obligations. Generally, the Fund will be required to include the acquisition discount, or OID, in income (as ordinary income) over the term of the debt obligation, even though payment of that amount is not received until a later time (i.e., upon partial or full repayment or disposition of the debt security) or is received in kind rather than in cash. The Fund may make one or more of the elections applicable to debt obligations having acquisition discount, or OID, which could affect the character and timing of recognition of income.

In addition, payment-in-kind securities will give rise to income that is required to be distributed and is taxable even though the Fund holding the security receives no interest payment in cash on the security during the year.

If the Fund holds the foregoing kinds of securities, it may be required to pay out as an income distribution each year an amount that is greater than the total amount of cash interest the Fund actually received. Such distributions may be made from the cash assets of the Fund or by liquidation of portfolio securities, if necessary (including when it is not advantageous to do so). The Fund may realize gains or losses from such liquidations. In the event the Fund realizes net capital gains from such transactions, its shareholders may receive a larger capital gain distribution than they would in the absence of such transactions.

Securities Purchased at a Premium

Very generally, where the Fund purchases a bond at a price that exceeds the redemption price at maturity – that is, at a premium – the premium is amortizable over the remaining term of the bond. In the case of a taxable bond, if the Fund makes an election applicable to all such bonds it purchases, which election is irrevocable without consent of the IRS, the Fund reduces the current taxable income from the bond by the amortized premium and reduces its tax basis in the bond by the amount of such offset; upon the disposition or maturity of such bonds, the Fund is permitted to deduct any remaining premium allocable to a prior period.

Higher-Risk Securities

Investments in debt obligations that are at risk of or in default present special tax issues for the Fund. Tax rules are not entirely clear about issues such as whether, when or to what extent the Fund should recognize market discount on a debt obligation; when the Fund may cease to accrue interest, OID or market discount; when and to what extent deductions may be taken for bad debts or worthless securities; and how payments received on

obligations in default should be allocated between principal and income. These and other related issues will be addressed by the Fund when, as and if it invests in such securities, in order to seek to ensure that it distributes sufficient income to preserve its eligibility for treatment as a RIC and does not become subject to U.S. federal income or excise tax.

Issuer Deductibility of Interest

A portion of the interest paid or accrued on certain high yield discount obligations owned by the Fund may not be deductible to (and thus, may affect the cash flow of) the issuer. If a portion of the interest paid or accrued on certain high yield discount obligations is not deductible, that portion will be treated as a dividend for purposes of the corporate dividends received deduction. In such cases, if the issuer of the high yield discount obligations is a domestic corporation, dividend payments by the Fund may be eligible for the dividends-received deduction to the extent of the deemed dividend portion of such accrued interest. Interest paid on debt obligations owned by the Fund, if any, that are considered for U.S. tax purposes to be payable in the equity of the issuer or a related party will not be deductible to the issuer, possibly affecting the cash flow of the issuer.

Futures and Other Transactions

The tax treatment of certain positions entered into by the Fund, including regulated futures contracts, will be governed by section 1256 of the Code (“Section 1256 Contracts”). Gains or losses on Section 1256 Contracts generally are considered 60% long-term and 40% short-term capital gains or losses (“60/40”), although certain foreign currency gains and losses from such contracts may be treated as ordinary in character. Also, Section 1256 Contracts held by the Fund at the end of each taxable year (and, for purposes of the 4% excise tax, on certain other dates as prescribed under the Code) are “marked to market” with the result that unrealized gains or losses are treated as though they were realized and the resulting gain or loss is treated as ordinary or 60/40 gain or loss, as applicable.

In addition to the special rules described above in respect of futures, the Fund’s other hedging, short sale, securities loan or similar transactions may be subject to one or more special tax rules (e.g., mark-to-market, notional principal contract, straddle, constructive sale, wash sale and short sale rules). These rules may affect whether gains and losses recognized by the Fund are treated as ordinary or capital or as short-term or long-term, accelerate the recognition of income or gains to the Fund, defer losses to the Fund and cause adjustments in the holding periods of the Fund’s securities. These rules could therefore affect the amount, timing and/or character of distributions to shareholders. Because these and other tax rules applicable to these types of transactions are in some cases uncertain under current law, an adverse determination or future guidance by the IRS with respect to these rules may affect whether the Fund has made sufficient distributions, and otherwise satisfied the relevant requirements, to maintain its qualification as a regulated investment company and avoid a Fund-level tax.

The Fund’s use of commodity-linked derivatives can be limited by the Fund’s intention to qualify as a RIC, and can bear on the Fund’s ability to so qualify. Income and gains from certain commodity-linked derivatives does not constitute qualifying income to a regulated investment company for purposes of the 90% gross income test described above. The tax treatment of certain other commodity-linked instruments in which the Fund might invest, including (“ETNs”) and certain structured notes, is not certain, in particular with respect to whether income or gains from such instruments constitute qualifying income to a RIC. If the Fund were to treat income or gain from a particular instrument as qualifying income and the income or gain were later determined not to constitute qualifying income and, together with any other nonqualifying income, caused the Fund’s nonqualifying income to exceed 10% of its gross income in any taxable year, the Fund would fail to qualify as a regulated investment company unless it is eligible to and does pay a tax at the Fund level.

Certain of the Fund’s investments in derivative instruments are likely to produce a difference between the Fund’s book income and the sum of its taxable income and net tax-exempt income (if any). If the Fund’s book income is less than the sum of its taxable income and net tax-exempt income (if any), the Fund could be required to make distributions exceeding book income to qualify as a regulated investment company that is accorded special tax

treatment and to avoid a Fund-level tax. If, in the alternative, the Fund's book income exceeds the sum of its taxable income (including realized capital gains) and net tax-exempt income (if any), the distribution (if any) of such excess will be treated as (i) a dividend to the extent of the Fund's remaining earnings and profits (including earnings and profits arising from tax-exempt income), (ii) thereafter, as a return of capital to the extent of the recipient's basis in its shares and (iii) thereafter, as gain from the sale or exchange of a capital asset.

Tax-Exempt Shareholders

Income of a RIC that would be UBTI if earned directly by a tax-exempt entity will not generally be attributed as UBTI to a tax-exempt shareholder of a RIC. Notwithstanding this "blocking" effect, a tax-exempt shareholder could recognize UBTI by virtue of its investment in the Fund if shares in the Fund constitute debt-financed property in the hands of the tax-exempt shareholder within the meaning of Section 514(b) of the Code.

Foreign Currency Transactions

The Fund's transactions in foreign currency-denominated debt obligations and certain futures contracts (and similar instruments) may give rise to ordinary income or loss to the extent such income or loss results from fluctuations in the value of the foreign currency concerned. Any such net gains could require a larger dividend toward the end of the calendar year. Any such net losses will generally reduce and potentially require the recharacterization of prior ordinary income distributions. Such ordinary income treatment may accelerate Fund distributions to shareholders and increase the distributions taxed to shareholders as ordinary income. Any net ordinary losses so created cannot be carried forward by the Fund to offset income or gains earned in subsequent taxable years.

Foreign Shareholders

In general, the Fund's dividends are not subject to a U.S. withholding tax when paid to a shareholder that is not a "U.S. Person" within the meaning of the Code (such a shareholder, a "foreign shareholder") to the extent properly reported by the Fund as (1) interest-related dividends or short-term capital gains dividends, each as defined below and subject to certain conditions described below, (2) Capital Gain Dividends or (3) distributions treated as a return of capital with respect to such foreign shareholder.

The exception to withholding for "interest-related dividends" generally applies with respect to distributions (other than distributions to a foreign shareholder (w) that does not provide a satisfactory statement that the beneficial owner is not a U.S. person, (x) to the extent that the dividend is attributable to certain interest on an obligation if the foreign shareholder is the issuer or is a 10% shareholder of the issuer, (y) that is within certain foreign countries that have inadequate information exchange with the United States or (z) to the extent the dividend is attributable to interest paid by a person that is a related person of the foreign shareholder and the foreign shareholder is a controlled foreign corporation) from U.S.-source interest income of types similar to those not subject to U.S. federal income tax if earned directly by an individual foreign shareholder, to the extent such distributions are properly reported as such by the Fund in a written notice to shareholders ("interest-related dividends"). The exception to withholding for "short-term capital gain dividends" generally applies with respect to distributions (other than (a) distributions to an individual foreign shareholder who is present in the United States for a period or periods aggregating 183 days or more during the year of the distribution or (b) distributions subject to special rules regarding the disposition of U.S. real property interests) of net short-term capital gains in excess of net long-term capital losses to the extent such distributions are properly reported by the Fund ("short-term capital gain dividends"). The Fund is permitted to report such part of its dividends as interest-related or short-term capital gain dividends as are eligible, but is not required to do so. In the case of shares held through an intermediary, the intermediary may withhold even if the Fund reports all or a portion of a payment as an interest-related or short-term capital gain dividend to shareholders. These exemptions from withholding will not be available to foreign shareholders of the Fund if it does not currently report its dividends as interest-related or short-term capital gain dividends. Foreign shareholders should contact their intermediaries regarding the application of these rules to their accounts.

Distributions by the Fund to foreign shareholders other than Capital Gain Dividends, interest-related dividends, and short-term capital gain dividends (e.g., distributions attributable to dividends and foreign-source interest income) are generally subject to withholding of U.S. federal income tax at a rate of 30% (or lower applicable treaty rate).

Under U.S. federal tax law, a foreign shareholder generally is not subject to U.S. federal income tax on gains (and is not allowed a deduction for losses) realized on the sale of shares of the Fund or on Capital Gain Dividends, interest-related dividends or short-term capital gain dividends unless (i) such gain or dividend is effectively connected with the conduct of a trade or business carried on by such holder within the United States, (ii) in the case of an individual holder, the holder is present in the United States for a period or periods aggregating 183 days or more during the year of the sale or the receipt of the Capital Gain Dividend and certain other conditions are met or (iii) the special rules relating to gain attributable to the sale or exchange of “U.S. real property interests” (“USRPIs”) apply to the foreign shareholder’s sale of shares of the Fund or to the Capital Gain Dividend the foreign shareholder received (as described below).

Special rules would apply if the Fund were a qualified investment entity (“QIE”) because it is either a “U.S. real property holding corporation” (“USRPHC”) or would be a USRPHC but for the operation of certain exceptions to the definition of USRPIs described below. Very generally, a USRPHC is a domestic corporation that holds USRPIs the fair market value of which equals or exceeds 50% of the sum of the fair market values of the corporation’s USRPIs, interests in real property located outside the United States and other trade or business assets. USRPIs generally are defined as any interest in U.S. real property and any interest (other than solely as a creditor) in a USRPHC or, very generally, an entity that has been a USRPHC in the last five years. A RIC that holds, directly or indirectly, significant interests in REITs may be a USRPHC. Interests in domestically controlled QIEs, including REITs and RICs that are QIEs, not-greater-than-10% interests in publicly traded classes of stock in REITs and not-greater-than-5% interests in publicly traded classes of stock in RICs generally are not USRPIs, but these exceptions do not apply for purposes of determining whether a RIC is a QIE.

If an interest in the Fund were a USRPI, a greater-than-5% foreign shareholder or any foreign shareholder if shares of the Fund are not considered regularly traded on an established securities market generally would be required to file a U.S. tax return in connection with the sale of its Fund shares, and pay related taxes due on any gain realized on the sale.

Moreover, if the Fund were a USRPHC or, very generally, had been one in the last five years, it would be required to withhold on amounts distributed to a greater-than-5% foreign shareholder to the extent such amounts would not be treated as a dividend, i.e., are in excess of the Fund’s current and accumulated “earnings and profits” for the applicable taxable year. Such withholding generally is not required if the Fund is a domestically controlled QIE.

If the Fund were a QIE, under a special “look-through” rule, any distributions by the Fund to a foreign shareholder attributable directly or indirectly to (i) distributions received by the Fund from a lower-tier RIC or REIT that the Fund is required to treat as USRPI gain in its hands and (ii) gains realized on the disposition of USRPIs by the Fund would retain their character as gains realized from USRPIs in the hands of the Fund’s foreign shareholders and would be subject to U.S. tax withholding. In addition, such distributions could result in the foreign shareholder being required to file a U.S. tax return and pay tax on the distributions at regular U.S. federal income tax rates. The consequences to a foreign shareholder, including the rate of such withholding and character of such distributions (e.g., as ordinary income or USRPI gain), would vary depending upon the extent of the foreign shareholder’s current and past ownership of the Fund.

Foreign shareholders of the Fund also may be subject to “wash sale” rules to prevent the avoidance of the tax-filing and — payment obligations discussed above through the sale and repurchase of Fund shares.

Foreign shareholders should consult their tax advisers and, if holding shares through intermediaries, their intermediaries, concerning the application of these rules to their investment in the Fund.

Foreign shareholders with respect to whom income from the Fund is effectively connected with a trade or business conducted by the foreign shareholder within the United States will in general be subject to U.S. federal income tax on the income derived from the Fund at the graduated rates applicable to U.S. citizens, residents or domestic corporations, whether such income is received in cash or reinvested in shares of the Fund and, in the case of a foreign corporation, may also be subject to a branch profits tax. If a foreign shareholder is eligible for the benefits of a tax treaty, any effectively connected income or gain will generally be subject to U.S. federal income tax on a net basis only if it is also attributable to a permanent establishment maintained by the shareholder in the United States. More generally, foreign shareholders who are residents in a country with an income tax treaty with the United States may obtain different tax results than those described herein, and are urged to consult their tax advisers.

In order to qualify for any exemptions from withholding described above or for lower withholding tax rates under income tax treaties, or to establish an exemption from backup withholding, a foreign shareholder must comply with special certification and filing requirements relating to its non-U.S. status (including, in general, furnishing an IRS Form W-8BEN, W-8BEN-E or substitute form). Foreign shareholders in the Fund should consult their tax advisers in this regard.

Special rules (including withholding and reporting requirements) apply to foreign partnerships and those holding Fund shares through foreign partnerships. Additional considerations may apply to foreign trusts and estates. Investors holding Fund shares through foreign entities should consult their tax advisers about their particular situation. A beneficial holder of Fund shares who is a foreign shareholder may be subject to state and local tax and to the U.S. federal estate tax in addition to the federal tax on income referred to above.

Backup Withholding

The Fund generally is required to withhold and remit to the U.S. Treasury a percentage of the taxable distributions and redemption proceeds paid to any individual shareholder (i) who fails to properly furnish the Fund with a correct taxpayer identification number, (ii) who has under-reported dividend or interest income, or (iii) who fails to certify to the Fund that he or she is not subject to such withholding.

Backup withholding is not an additional tax. Any amounts withheld may be credited against the shareholder's U.S. federal income tax liability; *provided* that the appropriate information is furnished to the IRS.

Tax Basis Information

The Fund (or its administrative agent) must report to the IRS and furnish to Fund shareholders the cost basis information and holding period for Fund shares. The Fund will permit Fund shareholders to elect from among several IRS-accepted cost basis methods, including average cost. In the absence of an election, shareholder cost basis will be determined under the default method selected by the Fund. The cost basis method a shareholder elects (or the cost basis method applied by default) may not be changed with respect to a redemption of shares after the settlement date of the redemption. Fund shareholders should consult with their tax advisers to determine the best IRS-accepted cost basis method for their tax situation and to obtain more information about how the new cost basis reporting rules apply to them.

Tax Shelter Reporting Regulations

Under U.S. Treasury regulations, if a shareholder recognizes a loss with respect to the Fund's shares of \$2 million or more for an individual shareholder or \$10 million or more for a corporate shareholder, the shareholder must file with the IRS a disclosure statement on Form 8886. Direct shareholders of portfolio securities are in many cases excepted from this reporting requirement, but under current guidance, shareholders of a RIC are not excepted. Future guidance may extend the current exception from this reporting requirement to shareholders of most or all RICs. The fact that a loss is reportable under these regulations does not affect the legal determination of whether the taxpayer's treatment of the loss is proper. Shareholders should consult their tax advisers to determine the applicability of these regulations in light of their individual circumstances.

Shareholder Reporting Obligations With Respect to Foreign Bank and Financial Accounts

Shareholders that are U.S. persons and own, directly or indirectly, more than 50% of the Fund by vote or value could be required to report annually their “financial interest” in the Fund’s “foreign financial accounts,” if any, on FinCEN Form 114, Report of Foreign Bank and Financial Accounts. Shareholders should consult a tax adviser, and persons investing in the Fund through an intermediary should contact their intermediary, regarding the applicability to them of this reporting requirement.

Other Reporting and Withholding Requirements

Sections 1471-1474 of the Code and the U.S. Treasury Regulations and IRS guidance issued thereunder (collectively, “FATCA”) generally require the Fund to obtain information sufficient to identify the status of each of its shareholders under FATCA or under an applicable intergovernmental agreement (an “IGA”). If a shareholder fails to provide this information or otherwise fails to comply with FATCA or an IGA, the Fund or its agents may be required to withhold under FATCA 30% of the distributions, other than distributions properly reported as Capital Gain Dividends, the Fund pays to that shareholder. If a payment by the Fund is subject to FATCA withholding, the Fund or its agent is required to withhold even if such payment would otherwise be exempt from withholding under the rules applicable to foreign shareholders described above. The IRS and the Department of Treasury have issued proposed regulations providing that the gross proceeds of share redemptions or exchanges and Capital Gain Dividends the Fund pays will not be subject to FATCA withholding.

Each prospective investor is urged to consult its tax adviser regarding the applicability of FATCA and any other reporting requirements with respect to the prospective investor’s own situation, including investments through an intermediary. In addition, foreign countries have implemented or are considering, and may implement, laws similar in purpose and scope to FATCA, as more fully described above.

Expenses Subject to Special Pass-Through Rules

The Fund will not be considered to be a “publicly offered” RIC if it does not have at least 500 investors at all times during a taxable year, it is not regularly traded on an established securities market, and its shares are not treated as continuously offered pursuant to a public offering. It is possible that the Fund will not be treated as a “publicly offered” RIC for one or more of its taxable years. Very generally, pursuant to Treasury Department regulations, expenses of a RIC that is not “publicly offered,” except those specific to its status as a RIC or separate entity (e.g., registration fees or transfer agency fees), are subject to special “pass-through” rules. These expenses (which include direct and certain indirect advisory fees) are treated as additional dividends to certain Fund shareholders (generally including other RICs that are not “publicly offered,” individuals and entities that compute their taxable income in the same manner as an individual), and are, other than in the case of a shareholder that is a RIC that is not “publicly offered,” not deductible by those shareholders under current law.

Shares Purchased Through Tax-Qualified Plans

Special tax rules apply to investments through defined contribution plans and other tax-qualified plans. Shareholders should consult their tax advisers to determine the suitability of shares of the Fund as an investment through such plans, and the precise effect of an investment on their particular tax situation.

Shareholders should consult their own tax advisers as to the state or local tax consequences of investing in the Fund.

PORTFOLIO TRANSACTIONS AND BROKERAGE

Investment Decisions and Portfolio Transactions

Investment decisions for the Fund are made with a view to achieving its investment objective. Investment decisions are the product of many factors in addition to basic suitability for the particular client involved (including the Fund). Some securities considered for investment by the Fund also may be appropriate for other

accounts managed by the Adviser. Thus, a particular security may be bought or sold for certain accounts even though it could have been bought or sold for other accounts at the same time. If a purchase or sale of securities consistent with the investment policies of the Fund and one or more of these other accounts is considered at or about the same time, transactions in such securities will generally be allocated among the Fund and other accounts in the manner described above under “Potential Conflicts of Interest — Allocation of Investment Opportunities” and “— Conflicts of Interest Among Strategies” above. When the Adviser determines that an investment opportunity is appropriate for the Fund and one or more other accounts, the Adviser will generally execute transactions for the Fund on an aggregated basis with the other accounts when the Adviser believes that to do so will allow it to obtain best execution and to negotiate more favorable commission rates or other transaction costs than might have otherwise been paid had such orders been placed independently. Aggregation, or “bunching,” describes a procedure whereby an investment adviser combines the orders of two or more clients into a single order for the purpose of obtaining better prices and lower execution costs.

Brokerage and Research Services

There is generally no stated commission in the case of securities traded on a principal basis in the over-the-counter markets, but the price paid by the Fund usually includes an undisclosed dealer commission or markup. In underwritten offerings, the price paid by the Fund includes a disclosed, fixed commission or discount retained by the underwriter or dealer. Transactions on U.S. stock exchanges and other agency transactions involve the payment by the Fund of negotiated brokerage commissions. Such commissions vary among different brokers. Also, a particular broker may charge different commissions according to such factors as the difficulty and size of the transaction. Transactions in non-U.S. securities generally involve the payment of fixed brokerage commissions, which are generally higher than those in the United States. The purchase by the Fund of participations or assignments may be pursuant to privately negotiated transactions pursuant to which the Fund may be required to pay fees to the seller or forego a portion of payments in respect of the participation agreement.

The Adviser places orders for the purchase and sale of portfolio securities and futures contracts and buys and sells such securities and futures contracts for the Fund through multiple brokers and dealers. The Adviser will place trades for execution only with approved brokers or dealers. In effecting such purchases and sales, the Adviser seeks the most favorable price and execution of the Fund’s orders. In doing so, the Fund may pay higher commissions than the lowest available when the Adviser believes it is reasonable to do so. In seeking the most favorable price and execution, the Adviser, having in mind the Fund’s best interests, considers all factors it deems relevant, including, price, the size of the transaction, the nature of the market for the security, the amount of the commission, the timing of the transaction taking into account market prices and trends, the reputation, experience and financial stability of the broker-dealer involved and the quality of service rendered by the broker-dealer in that or other transactions.

It has for many years been a common practice in the investment advisory business for advisers of investment companies and other institutional investors to receive research and brokerage products and services (together, “research and brokerage services”) from broker-dealers that execute portfolio transactions for the clients of such advisers. Consistent with this practice, the Adviser may receive research and brokerage services from broker-dealers with which the Adviser places the Fund’s portfolio transactions. These research and brokerage services, which in some cases also may be purchased for cash, may include, among other things, such items as general economic and security market reviews, industry and company reviews, evaluations of securities, recommendations as to the purchase and sale of securities, and services related to the execution of securities transactions. The advisory fees paid by the Fund are not reduced because the Adviser receives such research and brokerage services even though the receipt of such research and brokerage services relieves the Adviser from expenses it might otherwise bear. Research and brokerage services provided by broker-dealers chosen by the Adviser to place the Fund’s transactions may be useful to the Adviser in providing services to the Adviser’s other clients, although not all of these research and brokerage services may be necessarily useful and of value to the Adviser in managing the Fund. Conversely, research and brokerage services provided to the Adviser by

broker-dealers in connection with trades executed on behalf of other clients of the Adviser may be useful to the Adviser in managing the Fund, although not all of these research and brokerage services may be necessarily useful and of value to the Adviser in managing such other clients. To the extent the Adviser uses such research and brokerage services, it will use them for the benefit of all clients, to the extent reasonably practicable. Currently, the Adviser does not direct portfolio transactions for the Fund to a particular broker-dealer because the broker-dealer provides soft dollar benefits to the Adviser.

In reliance on the “safe harbor” provided by Section 28(e) of the Exchange Act, the Adviser may cause the Fund to pay a broker-dealer that provides “brokerage and research services” (as defined for purposes of Section 28(e)) to the Adviser an amount of commission for effecting a securities transaction for the Fund in excess of the commission that another broker-dealer would have charged for effecting that transaction if the Adviser makes a good faith determination that the commissions are reasonable in relation to the value of brokerage and research services provided, viewed in terms of either a particular transaction or the Adviser’s overall responsibilities to all discretionary accounts.

The Adviser may place orders for the purchase and sale of exchange-listed portfolio securities with a broker-dealer that is an affiliate of the Adviser where, in the judgment of the Adviser, such firm will be able to obtain a price and execution at least as favorable as other qualified broker-dealers. Pursuant to rules of the Commission, a broker-dealer that is an affiliate of the Adviser may receive and retain compensation for effecting portfolio transactions for the Fund on a securities exchange if the commissions paid to such an affiliated broker-dealer by the Fund on exchange transactions do not exceed “usual and customary brokerage commissions.” The rules define “usual and customary” commissions to include amounts that are “reasonable and fair compared to the commission, fee or other remuneration received or to be received by other brokers in connection with comparable transactions involving similar securities being purchased or sold on a securities exchange during a comparable period of time.”

Regular Broker Dealers. The Fund is required to identify the securities of its regular brokers or dealers (as defined in Rule 10b-1 under the 1940 Act) or their parent companies held by the Fund as of the close of its most recent fiscal year and state the value of such holdings. As of the date of this SAI, the Fund did not hold any securities of its regular brokers or dealers or their parent companies.

DESCRIPTION OF THE TRUST

The Trustees are responsible for the management and supervision of the Trust. The Trust’s Declaration of Trust permits the Trustees to issue an unlimited number of full and fractional shares of beneficial interest of the Fund or other series of the Trust with or without par value. Under the Declaration of Trust, the Trustees have the authority to create and classify shares of beneficial interest in separate series and classes without further action by shareholders. Additional series may be added in the future. The Trustees also have authorized the issuance of two classes of shares for the Fund, designated as Class I and Class M. Additional classes of shares may be authorized in the future.

The shares of each class of the Fund represent an equal proportionate interest in the net assets attributable to that class of the Fund. Holders of each class of shares have certain exclusive voting rights on matters relating to their respective distribution plan, if any. The different classes of the Fund may bear different expenses relating to the cost of holding shareholder meetings necessitated by the exclusive voting rights of any class of shares.

Dividends paid by the Fund, if any, with respect to each class of shares will be calculated in the same manner, at the same time and on the same day and will be in the same amount, except for differences resulting from the facts that: (i) the distribution and service fees, if any, relating to each class will be borne exclusively by that class; and (ii) each class of shares will bear any class expenses properly allocable to that class of shares, subject to the conditions the IRS imposes with respect to the multiple-class structures. Similarly, the NAV per share may vary depending on which class of shares is purchased. No interest will be paid on uncashed dividend or redemption checks.

Unless otherwise required by the 1940 Act or the Declaration of Trust, the Trust has no intention of holding annual meetings of shareholders. Trust shareholders may remove a Trustee by the affirmative vote of at least two-thirds of the Trust's outstanding shares and the Trustees shall promptly call a meeting for such purpose when requested to do so in writing by the record holders of a majority of the outstanding shares of the Trust. Shareholders may, under certain circumstances, communicate with other shareholders in connection with requesting a special meeting of shareholders. However, at any time that less than a majority of the Trustees holding office were elected by the shareholders, the Trustees will call a special meeting of shareholders for the purpose of electing Trustees.

In the event of liquidation, shareholders of each Class are entitled to share pro rata in the net assets of the Fund available for distribution to these shareholders. Shares entitle their holders to one vote per share (and fractional votes for fractional shares), are freely transferable and have no preemptive, subscription or conversion rights. When issued, shares are fully paid and non-assessable.

The Declaration of Trust disclaims shareholder liability for acts or obligations of the Trust. The Declaration of Trust further provides for indemnification out of the Fund's property for all loss and expense of any shareholder held personally liable for the obligations of the Fund by reason of owning shares of the Fund. Thus, the risk of a shareholder incurring financial loss on account of shareholder liability is considered remote since it is limited to circumstances in which the disclaimer is inoperative and the Fund itself would be unable to meet its obligations.

The Declaration of Trust further provides that the Board will not be liable for errors of judgment or mistakes of fact or law. However, nothing in the Declaration of Trust protects a Trustee against any liability to which the Trustee would otherwise be subject by reason of willful misfeasance, bad faith, gross negligence or reckless disregard of the duties involved in the conduct of his or her office. The Declaration of Trust of the Trust provides for indemnification by the Trust of Trustees and officers of the Trust; however, such persons may not be indemnified against any liability to the Trust or the Trust's shareholders to whom he or she would otherwise be subject by reason of willful misfeasance, bad faith, gross negligence or reckless disregard of the duties involved in the conduct of his or her office.

PURCHASES AND REDEMPTION OF SHARES

The Fund reserves the right to reject any purchase order application that conflicts with the Fund's internal policies or the policies of any regulatory authority. All checks must be in U.S. Dollars drawn on a domestic bank (i.e., a bank with a branch in the U.S.). The Fund will not accept payment in cash or money orders. The Fund does not accept postdated checks or any conditional order or payment. To prevent check fraud, the Fund will not accept third-party checks, Treasury checks, credit card checks, traveler's checks or starter checks for the purchase of shares.

If you elect to receive distributions and/or dividends by check and the post office cannot deliver the check, or if the check remains uncashed for six months, the Fund reserves the right to reinvest the distribution check in your Fund account at the then current NAV per share and to reinvest all subsequent distributions in shares of the Fund.

Information provided on the account application may be used by the Fund to verify the accuracy of the information or for background or financial history purposes. A joint account will be administered as a joint tenancy with right of survivorship, unless the joint owners notify the transfer agent of a different intent. A shareholder's account is governed by the laws of the State of Delaware. For telephone transactions, the Transfer Agent will take measures to verify the identity of the caller, such as asking for name, account number, Social Security or other taxpayer ID number and other relevant information. If appropriate measures are taken, the Transfer Agent is not responsible for any loss that may occur to any account due to an unauthorized telephone call. Also, for your protection, telephone redemptions are not permitted on accounts whose names or addresses have changed within the past 30 days. Proceeds from telephone transactions can only be mailed to the address of record or sent via wire or ACH to the bank of record pre-established on the account.

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

As of the date of this SAI, the Fund had not yet commenced operations and thus does not have audited financial statements.

APPENDIX A

SECURITIES RATINGS

The rating of a rating service represents the service's opinion as to the credit quality of the security being rated. However, the ratings are general and are not absolute standards of quality or guarantees as to the creditworthiness of an issuer. Consequently, the Adviser believes that the quality of debt securities in which the Fund invests should be continuously reviewed. A rating is not a recommendation to purchase, sell or hold a security, because it does not take into account market value or suitability for a particular investor. When a security has received a rating from more than one service, each rating should be evaluated independently. Ratings are based on current information furnished by the issuer or obtained by the ratings services from other sources, which they consider reliable. Ratings may be changed, suspended or withdrawn as a result of changes in or unavailability of such information or for other reasons.

The following is a description of the characteristics of ratings used by Moody's and S&P Global Ratings.

Moody's Ratings*

Aaa—Obligations rated Aaa are judged to be of the highest quality, subject to the lowest level of credit risk.

Aa—Obligations rated Aa are judged to be of high quality and are subject to very low credit risk.

A—Obligations rated A are judged to be upper-medium-grade and are subject to low credit risk.

Baa—Obligations rated Baa are judged to be medium-grade and subject to moderate credit risk and as such may possess certain speculative characteristics.

Ba—Obligations rated Ba are judged to be speculative and are subject to substantial credit risk.

B—Obligations rated B are considered speculative and are subject to high credit risk.

Caa—Obligations rated Caa are judged to be speculative of poor standing and are subject to very high credit risk.

Ca—Obligations rated Ca are highly speculative and are likely in, or very near, default, with some prospect of recovery of principal and interest.

C—Obligations rated C are the lowest rated and are typically in default, with little prospect for recovery of principal or interest.

*Note: Moody's appends numerical modifiers 1, 2 and 3 to each generic rating classification from Aa through Caa. The modifier 1 indicates that the obligation ranks in the higher end of its generic rating category; the modifier 2 indicates a mid-range ranking; and the modifier 3 indicates a ranking in the lower end of that generic rating category.

S&P Global Ratings*

AAA—An obligation rated 'AAA' has the highest rating assigned by S&P Global Ratings. The obligor's capacity to meet its financial commitments on the obligation is extremely strong.

AA—An obligation rated 'AA' differs from the highest-rated obligations only to a small degree. The obligor's capacity to meet its financial commitments on the obligation is very strong.

A—An obligation rated 'A' is somewhat more susceptible to the adverse effects of changes in circumstances and economic conditions than obligations in higher-rated categories. However, the obligor's capacity to meet its financial commitments on the obligation is still strong.

BBB—An obligation rated ‘BBB’ exhibits adequate protection parameters. However, adverse economic conditions or changing circumstances are more likely to weaken the obligor’s capacity to meet its financial commitments on the obligation.

BB; B; CCC; CC; and C—Obligations rated ‘BB’, ‘B’, ‘CCC’, ‘CC’ and ‘C’ are regarded as having significant speculative characteristics. ‘BB’ indicates the least degree of speculation and ‘C’ the highest. While such obligations will likely have some quality and protective characteristics, these may be outweighed by large uncertainties or major exposures to adverse conditions.

BB—An obligation rated ‘BB’ is less vulnerable to nonpayment than other speculative issues. However, it faces major ongoing uncertainties or exposure to adverse business, financial or economic conditions that could lead to the obligor’s inadequate capacity to meet its financial commitments on the obligation.

B—An obligation rated ‘B’ is more vulnerable to nonpayment than obligations rated ‘BB’, but the obligor currently has the capacity to meet its financial commitments on the obligation. Adverse business, financial or economic conditions will likely impair the obligor’s capacity or willingness to meet its financial commitments on the obligation.

CCC—An obligation rated ‘CCC’ is currently vulnerable to nonpayment and is dependent upon favorable business, financial and economic conditions for the obligor to meet its financial commitments on the obligation. In the event of adverse business, financial or economic conditions, the obligor is not likely to have the capacity to meet its financial commitments on the obligation.

CC—An obligation rated ‘CC’ is currently highly vulnerable to nonpayment. The ‘CC’ rating is used when a default has not yet occurred but S&P Global Ratings expects default to be a virtual certainty, regardless of the anticipated time to default.

C—An obligation rated ‘C’ is currently highly vulnerable to nonpayment, and the obligation is expected to have lower relative seniority or lower ultimate recovery compared with obligations that are rated higher.

D—An obligation rated ‘D’ is in default or in breach of an imputed promise. For non-hybrid capital instruments, the ‘D’ rating category is used when payments on an obligation are not made on the date due, unless S&P Global Ratings believes that such payments will be made within five business days in the absence of a stated grace period or within the earlier of the stated grace period or 30 calendar days. The ‘D’ rating also will be used upon the filing of a bankruptcy petition or the taking of similar action and where default on an obligation is a virtual certainty, for example due to automatic stay provisions. A rating on an obligation is lowered to ‘D’ if it is subject to a distressed exchange offer.

NR—This indicates that a rating has not been assigned or is no longer assigned.

* The ratings from ‘AA’ to ‘CCC’ may be modified by the addition of a plus (+) or minus (-) sign to show relative standing within the rating categories.

APPENDIX B

STONE RIDGE ASSET MANAGEMENT LLC

PROXY VOTING POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

I. Governing Standards

The Registered Funds have delegated to the Adviser the responsibility for voting Registered Fund securities. Private Funds or Managed Account Clients may delegate such responsibility to the Adviser. As a fiduciary, an investment adviser with proxy voting authority has a duty to monitor corporate events and to vote proxies, as well as a duty to cast votes in the best interest of clients and not subrogate client interests to its own interests. The Adviser has adopted these written proxy voting policies and procedures (the “Proxy Policy”) as required under Rule 206(4)-6 under the Advisers Act. In addition to covering the voting of equity securities, the Proxy Policy also applies generally to voting and/or consent rights of fixed income securities, including but not limited to, plans of reorganization, and waivers and consents under applicable indentures. The Proxy Policy does not apply, however, to consent rights that primarily entail decisions to buy or sell investments, such as tender or exchange offers, conversions, put options, redemption and Dutch auctions. The Proxy Policy, which has been designed to ensure that the Adviser votes proxies in the best interest of its Clients and provides Clients with information about how their proxies are voted, contains procedures to mitigate material conflicts of interests between Clients and the Adviser and its affiliated persons when voting proxies.

For the avoidance of doubt, the Proxy Policy applies to shareholder votes and consents that the Adviser has authority to exercise on behalf of a Client, including votes and consents for private entities that do not involve proxies. All references to votes by proxy in this Proxy Policy shall be interpreted to include both votes by proxy and votes and consents that do not involve proxies.

II. Policy

The Proxy Policy applies to those Client accounts that contain voting securities and for which the Adviser has been delegated the authority to vote client proxies. When voting proxies for Client accounts, the Adviser’s primary objective is to make voting decisions solely in the best interest of all Clients for which it manages assets. The Adviser has selected an unaffiliated third party proxy research and voting service, Institutional Shareholder Services Inc. (“ISS” or the “Proxy Voting Service”), to assist it in researching, recordkeeping and voting of proxies.

With respect to each proxy received, the Proxy Voting Service researches the financial implications of the proposals and provides a recommendation to the Adviser as to how to vote on each proposal based on the Proxy Voting Service’s research of the individual facts and circumstances and the Proxy Voting Service’s application of its research findings to an applicable set of guidelines, the ISS’ Proxy Voting Summary Guidelines (“ISS Guidelines”). The ISS Guidelines are intended to provide a general overview by highlighting the key policies that ISS applies to companies listed in the applicable geographic region. However, ISS’ analysis is on a case-by-case basis, taking into consideration sector, industry and business performance factors. The ISS Guidelines have been approved by the Adviser and, although the Adviser intends to vote consistently with the voting recommendation of the Proxy Voting Service, upon the recommendation of the applicable portfolio managers, the Adviser may determine to override any recommendation made by the Proxy Voting Service or abstain from voting. In the event that the Proxy Voting Service does not provide a recommendation with respect to a proposal, as in the case of votes involving private issuers, the Adviser may determine to vote on the proposals directly and will do so in a manner consistent with the principles set forth in this Proxy Policy.

In certain circumstances, the Proxy Voting Service may use an electronic vote management system to automatically submit the votes to be counted or to populate votes shown on the Proxy Voting Service’s electronic voting platform with its recommendations based on the Adviser’s voting instructions to the Proxy Voting

Service. The Proxy Voting Service will provide the Adviser access to any additional soliciting materials filed by an issuer after the Proxy Voting Service has published its recommendations and pre-populated the votes in the electronic vote management system so that the Adviser may consider such information prior to voting a proxy.

The Adviser may determine not to vote a proxy or review additional soliciting materials if: (1) the effect on the applicable economic interests or the value of the portfolio holding is insignificant in relation to an individual Client account or in the aggregate with all Client accounts; (2) the cost of voting the proxy or reviewing additional soliciting materials outweighs the possible benefit to the applicable Client account, including situations where a jurisdiction imposes share blocking restrictions that may affect the ability of the portfolio managers to effect trades in the related security; or (3) the Adviser otherwise has determined that it is consistent with its fiduciary obligations not to vote the proxy or review additional soliciting materials.

In addition, neither the Adviser nor the Proxy Voting Service will be able to vote for any securities on loan by an account. In the event that the Adviser is aware of a material vote on behalf of a Client with respect to securities on loan by the custodian, the Adviser will call back the loan to vote the proxy if the Adviser determines that the benefits to the Client of voting on such proposal outweigh the benefits to the client of having the security remain out on loan, and if time permits.

The Adviser will not accept direction on how to vote individual proxies for which it has voting responsibility from any other person or organization other than Adviser personnel or the Proxy Voting Service.

III. Conflicts of Interest Procedures

For voting of securities, the Adviser believes that application of the ISS Guidelines to vote proxies should, in most cases, adequately address any possible conflicts of interest, as the ISS Guidelines are predetermined. As a general practice, the Adviser will vote in accordance with the voting recommendation provided by ISS. In the event that the Adviser wishes to vote against the independent voting recommendation, the Adviser requires CCO approval prior to a vote being cast.

Upon the identification or notice received by the CCO that there is a potential conflict of interest with respect to casting a vote, the CCO will discuss the proxy with the relevant portfolio manager(s) and other senior management in order to determine if the potential conflict is material. In instances where a portfolio manager proposes to vote a proxy inconsistent with the ISS Guidelines and a potential immaterial conflict is identified, the CCO will review the proxy votes in order to determine whether a portfolio manager's voting rationale appears reasonable. Upon the detection of a material potential conflict of interest, the CCO has final decision-making authority regarding the Adviser's course of action for the proxy. The CCO will seek to cause the proxy to be voted in a manner consistent with the Client's best interests.

IV. Review

The Adviser will supervise and, no less frequently than annually, review its proxy voting activities and the implementation of the Proxy Voting Policy.

The Adviser will periodically evaluate whether the Proxy Voting Service has the capacity and competency to adequately analyze the matters for which the Adviser is responsible for voting.

V. Proxy Voting Policies and Procedures Specific to Registered Funds

The Registered Funds will disclose in their SAIs and for closed-end funds, in item 7 of the Form N-CSR, a description of their policies and procedures used to determine how to vote proxies relating to portfolio securities, including the procedures used when a vote presents a conflict between the interests of Registered Fund shareholders, on the one hand, and those of the Registered Fund's investment adviser; principal underwriter; or any affiliated person of the Fund, its investment adviser, or its principal underwriter, on the other.

The Registered Funds are also required to include in their SAIs any policies and procedures of the Adviser or any other third party that the Registered Funds use, or that are used on the Registered Funds' behalf, to determine how to vote proxies relating to portfolio securities.

Rule 30b1-4 under the 1940 Act requires mutual funds to file with the SEC an annual record of proxies voted by a fund on Form N-PX. Form N-PX must be filed each year no later than August 31 and must contain each Registered Fund's proxy voting record for the most recent twelve-month period ending June 30.

The Registered Funds must also state in their disclosure documents (in their SAIs and shareholder reports) that information regarding how the Registered Fund voted proxies relating to portfolio securities during the most recent 12-month period ended June 30 is available (1) without charge, upon request, by calling a specified toll-free (or collect) telephone number; or on or through the Registered Fund's website at a specified Internet address; or both; and (2) on the SEC's website at <http://www.sec.gov>.

If a Registered Fund discloses that its proxy voting record is available by calling a toll-free (or collect) telephone number, and the Registered Fund (or financial intermediary through which shares of the Registered Fund may be purchased or sold) receives a request for this information, the Registered Fund (or financial intermediary) must send the information disclosed in the Registered Fund's most recently filed report on Form N-PX within three business days of receipt of the request, by first-class mail or other means designed to ensure equally prompt delivery.

If a Registered Fund discloses that its proxy voting record is available on or through its website, the Registered Fund must make available free of charge the information disclosed in the Registered Fund's most recently filed report on Form N-PX on or through its website as soon as reasonably practicable after filing the report with the SEC. The information disclosed in the Fund's most recently filed report on Form N-PX must remain available on or through the Registered Fund's website for as long as the Registered Fund remains subject to the requirements of Rule 30b1-4 and discloses that the Registered Fund's proxy voting record is available on or through its website.

It is the responsibility of Legal and Compliance to ensure that the Registered Funds satisfy the disclosure requirements.