

QUARTERLY FUND REVIEW | As of September 30, 2023

CTA | Simplify Managed Futures Strategy ETF

FUND OVERVIEW

The Simplify Managed Futures Strategy ETF (CTA) seeks long-term capital appreciation by systematically investing in commodity and financial futures (excluding equities and currencies) in an attempt to create an absolute return profile that also has a low correlation to equities and can provide support in risk-off events.

To this end, CTA deploys a suite of systematic models that have been designed by Altis Partners, a commodity trading advisor with over 20 years of experience.

PERFORMANCE REVIEW

CTA put up its second consecutive quarter of +7.88% gains and outpaced its peers on the back of a consistent long crude oil/short duration position, along with other well-timed calls in commodities e.g., short gold. More broadly, the managed futures sector again displayed its diversifying advantages to both equities and bonds, beating the 60/40 stock/bond blended portfolio by over 11%, and doing so with lower volatility. Curve shape has been an important tailwind for returns in the fund, as inverted yield curves and persistent levels of backwardation (e.g., crude oil) have worked in tandem with trend direction. Going forward, we expect that poor fundamentals for the broader bond market and corporate profitability challenges due to persistently higher inflation will be a benefit to trend-following strategies.

| | CUMULATIVE TOTAL RETURN | | | | ANNUALIZED TOTAL RETURN | |
|--------------|-------------------------|--------|-------|--------------------|----------------------------|--------------------|
| | 3 Mo | 6 Mo | YTD | Since Inception | 1 Year | Since Inception |
| NAV | 7.88% | 18.26% | 5.37% | 17.82% | -0.23% | 11.03% |
| Market Price | 8.43% | 18.53% | 6.73% | 16.91% | -0.28% | 10.50% |
| SG CTA Index | 1.78% | 7.36% | 1.88% | 9.17% | -3.02% | 5.77% |

Performance as of 09/30/23 | Inception Date: 03/07/22

The performance data quoted represents past performance and does not guarantee future results. Current performance may be lower or higher than the performance data quoted. In addition, investment returns and the principal value of an investment will fluctuate so that an investor's shares, when redeemed, may be worth more or less than their original cost. For performance data current to the most recent month-end, please call (855) 772-8488 or go to <u>https://www.simplify.us/etfs</u>.

FUND DETAILS as of 09/30/23

TOP TEN HOLDINGS*

| POSITION | ALLOCATION | |
|-----------------|------------|--|
| B 01/11/24 Govt | 60.50% | |
| LCZ3 Comdty | 26.75% | |
| B 10/03/23 Govt | 18.50% | |
| SBH4 Comdty | 12.73% | |
| LCG4 Comdty | 7.82% | |
| B 12/21/23 Govt | 7.78% | |
| SBK4 Comdty | 4.08% | |
| CLX3 Comdty | 3.57% | |
| CLH4 Comdty | 3.43% | |
| CLJ4 Comdty | 2.22% | |
| Cash | 11.15% | |

FUND DETAILS

| Gross Expense Ratio | 0.75% | |
|----------------------------------|-------|--|
| Net Expense Ratio | — | |
| SEC 30-Day Yield | 2.81% | |
| SEC 30-Day Yield Unsubsidized | 2.81% | |

*Holdings are subject to change without notice.

DEFINITIONS

Alpha: An investment strategy's ability to beat the market, or its "edge." Alpha is thus also often referred to as "excess return" or the "abnormal rate of return" in relation to a benchmark, when adjusted for risk.

Backwardation: The pattern of higher futures prices for shorter expiration futures contracts.

Carry: A model that looks to "roll down" bond yield curves and exit positions before maturity to consistently capture the roll.

Contango: The pattern of higher futures contract prices for longer expiration contracts.

Duration: A measure of the sensitivity of the price of a bond or other debt instrument to a change in interest rates.

Long/Short Managed Futures: A systematic, rulebased investment strategy that can generally go long or short futures contracts across equities, fixed income, commodities, and foreign-exchange markets. **Market Price:** The current price at which shares are bought and sold. Market returns are based upon the last trade price.

Mean Reversion: Designed to help prevent the trend system from becoming excessively positioned in a market that is deemed to be trading over or under its fundamental market value.

NAV: The dollar value of a single share, based on the value of the underlying assets of the fund minus its liabilities, divided by the number of shares outstanding. Calculated at the end of each business day.

Price Trend: Core strategy that forecasts market direction and invests accordingly (both long and short), relying on persistence of price movement to generate returns.

Reverse Repurchase Agreements: Contracts in which a seller of securities, usually U.S. government securities or other money market instruments, agrees to buy the securities back at a specified time and price. Reverse Repurchase agreements are primarily used as a shortterm investment vehicle for cash positions.



DEFINITIONS (cont'd)

Risk-Off: A model that looks to protect the portfolio from an equity drawdown by quickly buying bonds in weaker equity markets and remaining out of bond in stronger equity markets. This is distinct from a long bond trend signal given its typically shorter forecasting horizon and reliance on equity index signals rather than a bond signal.

Rolling: occurs when the Fund closes out of a Futures Contract as it nears its expiration and replaces it with a contract that has a later expiration.

Schedule K-1: A federal tax document used to report the income, losses, and dividends of a business' or financial entity's partners or an S corporation's shareholders.

SEC 30-Day Yield: The yield is calculated with a standardized formula and represents net investment income earned by a fund over a 30-day period, expressed as an annual percentage rate based on the fund's share price. The yield includes the effect of any fee waivers and/or reimbursements. Without waivers, yields would be reduced. This is also referred to as the "standardized yield", "30-Day Yield" and "Current Yield". The unsubsidized SEC 30-Day Yield does not reflect the effect of any fee waivers and/or expense reimbursements.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION:

Investors should carefully consider the investment objectives, risks, charges and expenses of Exchange Traded Funds (ETFs) before investing. To obtain an ETF's prospectus containing this and other important information, please call (855) 772-8488 or view or download a prospectus online. Please read the prospectus carefully before you invest.

An investment in the fund involves risk, including possible loss of principal.

The fund is new and has a limited operating history to evaluate. The fund is actively-managed and subject to the risk that the strategy may not produce the intended results. The fund will also rely on the Futures Adviser's judgments about the value and potential appreciation of particular securities which if assessed incorrectly could negatively affect the Fund.

The Fund's use of futures may involve different or greater risks than investing directly in securities and the contract may not correlate perfectly with the underlying asset. These risks include leverage risk which means a small percentage of assets invested in futures can have a disproportionately large impact on the Fund. This risk could cause the Fund to lose more than the principal amount invested. Futures contracts may become mispriced or improperly valued when compared to the adviser's expectation and may not produce the desired investment results. The Fund's exposure to futures contracts is subject to risks related to rolling. Extended periods of contango or backwardation can cause significant losses for the Fund. Any short sales of the futures contracts by the fund theoretically involves unlimited loss potential since the market price of securities sold short may continuously increase.

Investments linked to commodity or currency futures contracts including exposure to non-U.S. currencies can be highly volatile affected by market movements, changes in interest rates or factors affecting a particular industry or commodity. Changes in currency exchange rates can be unpredictable or change quickly which will affect the value of the Fund.

Simplify ETFs are distributed by Foreside Financial Services, LLC. Foreside and Simplify are not related.

© 2023 Simplify ETFs. All rights reserved.