

# PFIX | Simplify Interest Rate Hedge Equity ETF

## FUND OVERVIEW

The **Simplify Interest Rate Hedge ETF (PFIX)** seeks to hedge interest rate movements arising from rising long-term interest rates and to benefit from market stress when fixed income volatility increases, while providing the potential for income. The fund holds a large position in over-the-counter (OTC) interest rate options intended to provide a direct and transparent convex exposure to large upward moves in interest rates and interest rate volatility.

Using OTC derivatives, usually only available to institutional investors, PFIX is designed to be functionally similar to owning a position in long-dated put options on 20-year US Treasury bonds. Since the option position is held for an extended period, the ETF provides a simple and transparent interest rate hedge.

## PERFORMANCE REVIEW

PFIX total return for the quarter was 48.65%. The fund's primary drivers of value continue to be its swaption-based exposure to forward rates at the long end of the rates curve and the implied volatilities associated with options on those same rates. For the quarter, the forward rates that are the underlying for the swaptions were up more than 0.90% and the normal model implied volatilities that map to the swaption's values were up more than 0.12%. Additionally, time decay on the swaptions was essentially offset by carry along an inverted forward rates curve. These moves, in combination with cross products that capture the interaction between rate and vol sensitivity, dominated the fund's performance for the quarter. The fund's other positions in Treasury Bills, Treasury Notes, swaps and cash, in aggregate combined with fees, netted out to be nearly zero.

**Performance as of 09/30/23** | Inception Date: 05/10/21

|  | CUMULATIVE TOTAL RETURN |         |        |                 | ANNUALIZED TOTAL RETURN |                 |
|--|-------------------------|---------|--------|-----------------|-------------------------|-----------------|
|  | 3 Mo                    | 6 Mo    | YTD    | Since Inception | 1 Year                  | Since Inception |
| <b>NAV</b>                                     | 48.64%                  | 52.48%  | 32.86% | 92.95%          | 41.92%                  | 31.63%          |
| <b>Market Price</b>                            | 52.74%                  | 58.05%  | 34.76% | 94.23%          | 42.20%                  | 32.03%          |
| <b>ICE US Treasury 20+ Year Bond Index 4PM</b> | -12.99%                 | -15.07% | -9.53% | -32.01%         | -10.77%                 | -14.90%         |

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 <https://www.simplify.us/etfs>.

## FUND DETAILS as of 09/30/23

### TOP TEN HOLDINGS\*

| POSITION              | ALLOCATION |
|-----------------------|------------|
| B 03/28/24 Govt       | 38.30%     |
| T 0 1/4 09/30/25 Govt | 33.58%     |
| SWO425MSY             | 8.00%      |
| SWO425GSY             | 7.18%      |
| SWO425BOY             | 3.62%      |
| SWO450GSX             | 2.01%      |
| B 12/19/23 Govt       | 1.29%      |
| SWO400MSX             | 0.91%      |
| SWO4SRBOA             | 0.74%      |
| SWO450BOA             | 0.14%      |
| Cash                  | 4.23%      |

|                                      |       |
|--------------------------------------|-------|
| <b>Gross Expense Ratio</b>           | 0.50% |
| <b>Net Expense Ratio</b>             | —     |
| <b>SEC 30-Day Yield</b>              | 3.30% |
| <b>SEC 30-Day Yield Unsubsidized</b> | 3.30% |

\*Holdings are subject to change without notice.

### DEFINITIONS

**Market Price:** The current price at which shares are bought and sold. Market returns are based upon the last trade price.

**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.

**Option:** An option is a contract that gives the buyer the right to either buy (in the case of a call option) or sell (in the case of a put option) an underlying asset at a pre-determined price ("strike") by a specific date ("expiry"). An "outright" is another name for a single option leg. A "spread" is when options are bought at one strike and an equal amount of options are sold at a different strike, all at the same expiry.

**Payer Swaption:** The purchaser has the right, but not the obligation, to enter a swap contract at a future date by which they would pay a specified fixed rate and receive floating for the full swap term.

**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:**

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**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 visit SimplifyETFs.com. Please read the prospectus carefully before you invest.**

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

The fund is actively-managed is subject to the risk that the strategy may not produce the intended results. The fund is new and has a limited operating history to evaluate.

The use of derivative instruments involves risks different from, or possibly greater than, the risks associated with investing directly in securities and other traditional investments. These risks include (i) the risk that the counterparty to a derivative transaction may not fulfill its contractual obligations; (ii) risk of mispricing or improper valuation; and (iii) the risk that changes in the value of the derivative may not correlate perfectly with the underlying asset, rate, or index. Derivative prices are highly volatile and may fluctuate substantially during a short period of time. The use of leverage by the Fund, such as borrowing money to purchase securities or the use of options, will cause the Fund to incur additional expenses and magnify the Fund's gains or losses. The earnings and prospects of small and medium sized companies are more volatile than larger companies and may experience higher failure rates than larger companies. Small and medium sized companies normally have a lower trading volume than larger companies, which may tend to make their market price fall more disproportionately than larger companies in response to selling pressures and may have limited markets, product lines, or financial resources and lack management experience.

The Fund invests in ETFs (Exchange-Traded Funds) and is therefore subject to the same risks as the underlying securities in which the ETF invests as well as entails higher expenses than if invested into the underlying ETF directly.

While the option overlay is intended to improve the Fund's performance, there is no guarantee that it will do so. Utilizing an option overlay strategy involves the risk that as the buyer of a put or call option, the Fund risks losing the entire premium invested in the option if the Fund does not exercise the option. Also, securities and options traded in over-the-counter markets may trade less frequently and in limited volumes and thus exhibit more volatility and liquidity risk.

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