HUNTER GLOBAL FIXED INTEREST FUND



31 August 2018

Report & Commentary

Fund Information	31 August 2018			
Fund Size	\$648 million			
Fund Type	PIE			
Investment management	PIMCO			
Benchmark	Bloomberg Barclays Global Aggregate Index - \$NZ hedged			
Performance (gross)	1 month	3 months	12 months	
Portfolio (%)	+0.30%	+0.78%	+1.95%	
Benchmark (%)	+0.31%	+0.53%	+1.14%	
Alpha (%)	-0.01%	+0.25%	+0.81%	

The performance in this fact sheet is gross of fees and tax. Investors should also refer to the quarterly Fund Update, which is available on hunterinvestments.co.nz and hunterinvestments.co.nz and <a href="https:/

Performance update

The Hunter Global Fixed Interest Fund returned +0.30% for the month of August, largely in line with the benchmark return of +0.31% (being the Bloomberg Barclays Global Aggregate Index - \$NZ hedged).

The Fund benefited from PIMCO's duration positioning in intermediate maturity US bonds which provided additional carry and modest gains as yields in that maturity sector fell modestly. Similarly, an underweight to Italian duration also contributed as yields have continued to rise since the appointment of an anti-establishment coalition Government in June.

Security selection, particularly investment grade corporate industrials, also contributed. However, emerging market sovereign debt and currency exposure detracted as did a slight overweight to high yield corporate debt.

Investment markets

Risk sentiment waned in August as emerging market assets struggled, in part due to idiosyncratic effects, while the strengthening USD exacerbated the situation. Argentina and Turkey both saw their currencies fall around 25% in August. Meanwhile, flight to quality trades saw developed market yields broadly lower and credit spreads widen modestly.

Conversely, robust US growth and softening trade tensions saw US equities continue to rise.

Monetary policy remained a focus globally with the US continuing to signal a gradual path to normalisation and the UK raising rates 0.25% to 0.75% following strong labour and wage data.

Portfolio positioning

The Fund continues to remain defensively positioned, underweight duration overall, although positioning differs somewhat country to country. (5.5 years vs index at 7.0 years).

Within regions, the Fund holds a modest overweight to intermediate U.S. duration as U.S. rates offer an attractive pick-up versus other developed market interest rates. The Fund is also positioned for further curve steepening in the US as the Fed continues to raise rates there.

PIMCO is overweight to the 3-5 year section of the European curve where "carry" opportunities are attractive. They remain underweight longer maturities where they see scope for yields to rise and also underweight French duration as the ECB ends QE and as a hedge against volatility in semicore rates. The Fund is modestly underweight Italian duration, given recent political uncertainty, and is slightly underweight to UK duration where PIMCO view rates as overvalued. Japanese duration is also underweight.

The Fund has a modest exposure to US TIPS to protect against any inflation surprises.

The Fund is long the USD against a basket of low yielding Asian currencies and is also modestly long a diversified basket of high yielding emerging market currencies versus the EUR.

In the credit risk sector, the Fund remains underweight investment-grade corporate credit preferring the non-agency mortgage sector due to their attractive yields, downside protection and the outlook for price appreciation in the US housing market.

The Fund also holds exposure to Danish "callable" mortgages and Swedish "covered" bonds which PIMCO view as offering an attractive source of "safe spread".

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Hunter Global Fixed Interest Fund Investment Portfolio Characteristics

Investment Statistics					
Effective Duration	5.5				
Benchmark Duration	7.0				
Average Maturity	8.0				
Average Coupon	2.4				
Average Quality	AA-				
Total Carry	5.1				

Quality Breakdown				
Market Value		Market Value		
% Portfolio		% Benchmark		
61.8	AAA	39.6		
6.4	AA	16.4		
14.6	Α	28.9		
10.1	BBB	15.1		
7.1	Sub Inv Grade	0.0		
100	Total	100		

Regional Breakdown by currency of settlement)					
Duration Weigh	ted Exposure	Duration Weighted Exposure			
% Portfolio	% Benchmark		Years Portfolio	Years Benchmark	
3.6	1.2	Australia/NZ	0.2	0.1	
4.9	22.0	Japan	0.3	1.5	
25.2	24.4	Europe - EMU	1.4	1.7	
6.6	1.5	Europe - Non EMU	0.4	0.1	
5.1	7.7	United Kingdom	0.3	0.5	
55.4	40.6	North America	3.1	2.8	
1.7	1.2	Emerging Markets	0.1	0.1	
-2.6	1.5	Other	-0.1	0.1	
100	100	Total	5.5	7.0	

1	Regional Breakdown Variance Portfolio vs. Benchmark (DWE Years)							
0.5								
0	_							
-0.5			·-·-·					
-1	Australia/NZ	Japan	Europe - EMU	Europe - Non EMU	United Kingdom	North America	Emerging Markets	Other



Curve Exposure					
Duration Weig	hted Exposure		Duration We	ighted Exposure	
% Portfolio			Years Portfolio Years Benchm		
14.2	0.1	0 - 1 years	0.8	0.0	
-6.3	6.7	1 - 3 years	-0.3	0.5	
57.5	13.6	3 - 5 years	3.2	0.9	
18.1	31.1	5-10 years	1.0	2.2	
16.4	48.5	10+ years	0.9	3.4	
100	100	Total	5.5	7.0	

Sector Breakdown					
Duration Weig	hted Exposure		Duration Weighted Exposure		
% Portfolio	% Portfolio		Years Portfolio	Years Benchmark	
29.8	58.6	Government	1.6	4.1	
7.7	8.2	Agency/Semi	0.4	0.6	
29.7	10.7	Mortgage	1.6	0.8	
13.2	16.8	Inv Grade Corp	0.7	1.2	
1.7	0.0	High Yield Corp	0.1	0.0	
4.2	5.7	Emerging Markets	0.2	0.4	
13.7	0.0	Cash Equivalents	0.8	0.0	
100	100	Total	5.5	7.0	

