

ADAMS NATURAL RESOURCES FUND

# **SEMI-ANNUAL REPORT** JUNE 30, 2023



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The first half of 2023 felt a little bit like watching a tennis match as the market kept toggling between two distinct economic viewpoints. One day it looked like the worst was over. The next signaled that the worst might be just beginning. Inflation is cooling but remains stubbornly persistent. Likewise, some investors believe the U.S. Federal Reserve's aggressive interest-rate hiking cycle will end soon. Others are just as certain that the economy's resilience will force the Fed to keep raising rates until inflation is closer to its 2% target. The question of whether a recession is imminent remains unanswered, and more economists, looking through the lens of ongoing resilience, are tilting toward the possibility of the elusive soft landing. In fact, we may be experiencing that rare phenomenon now.



"Stock selection in Energy drove the Fund's relative performance...our Fund posted relative gains across four of the five Energy industry aroups." The yield curve between two-year and 10-year U.S. Treasury notes has been inverted since July 2022. That's one of the tried-and-true recession indicators, having preceded every U.S. recession in the last 50 years. The current inversion, approaching a full year, is the longest we've seen since 1980, and the gap has repeatedly reached multi-decade depths. That's certainly a big check mark in the column that a recession is possible. But the jobs market disagrees: The Sahm Rule—which signals the start of a recession when the three-month moving average of the unemployment rate rises by 0.5% or more relative to the previous 12-month low—has also marked each recession since 1960, with no false positives. This

time, it has yet to flash, which supports the idea that at least in the short term, a recession may be avoidable.

The S&P 500 Index advanced 16.9% in the first half of 2023, fueled almost entirely by a group of growth-oriented technology stocks that benefited from their exposure to artificial intelligence (AI). The capabilities of ChatGPT attracted significant attention early in the year and sparked investor interest in the stocks that will support the continued development of AI. At the same time, recessionary fears, concerns about the banking sector, and the U.S. debt ceiling negotiations weighed on broad segments of the market.

After outperforming the S&P 500 by more than 80% in 2022, Energy stocks struggled in the first half of 2023. The sector was one of four in the broad index that produced a negative return, declining 5.5%. Adams Natural Resources Fund, with exposure to both Energy and Materials, returned -3.1% on net asset value (NAV) and -3.6% on market value.

Crude oil prices, like the U.S. economy and much of the U.S. equity market, struggled to find a foothold amid a sea of conflicting data. West Texas Intermediate prices declined approximately 12% year-to-date and ended June down more than 40% from the 2022 high. Investors were concerned about demand amid recessionary fears and potential weakness in the post-COVID recovery in China. Yet China's April consumption of 16 million barrels per day set a record. On the supply side, production cuts from OPEC and other countries have helped support prices, but withdrawals from the U.S. Strategic Petroleum Reserve (SPR) and higher than expected output from Russia have mitigated OPEC's balancing efforts. Withdrawals from the SPR are coming to an end, and the Department of Energy has indicated a desire to start replenishing its supply. If market consensus and the International Energy Agency forecasts are correct. demand will outstrip supply in the second half of 2023, which could provide a more favorable supply/demand dynamic and push prices higher. Natural gas prices also declined during the period, falling 30%, and ended June down more than 70% from the high in August of 2022. U.S. storage inventory remains above the five-year average, so price has been providing the signal that U.S. production needs to decline in the near term.

Stock selection in Energy drove the Fund's relative performance, while our Materials holdings underperformed. Weakness in energy stocks was widespread in the first half of the year as only six stocks in the sector generated a positive return. In this environment, our Fund posted relative gains across four of the five Energy industry groups, led by Exploration & Production (E&P), Refining & Marketing, and Equipment & Services.

Within the E&P group, our overweight position in Pioneer Natural Resources as well as our underweights in Devon Energy and APA Corporation were key drivers of relative outperformance. Pioneer has one of the largest acreage positions in the Permian Basin and the company is among the lowest cost operators in the U.S. After some concerns emerged last year about well productivity, the company optimized its drilling program to improve results. Signs of progress in the first quarter led to a positive market response.

Our Refining & Marketing investments returned -2.6% in the first half, compared with the benchmark's -3.5% return. The group had a volatile six months, leading the sector in the first quarter before trailing in the second. Our overweight in Marathon Petroleum, the only refiner to generate a positive return so far in 2023, was the key contributor to performance. Marathon Petroleum's strategic refining footprint allows it to optimize its pricing strategy to maximize margins. In addition, its strong balance sheet continues to allow for aggressive cash returns to shareholders through dividends and share repurchases. In the last fifteen months the company has reduced its share count by 30%, with expectations for continued share repurchases going forward.

Oilfield services provider TechnipFMC was a key contributor within the Equipment & Services group. The company is one of two global providers of subsea infrastructure for offshore exploration and production—an industry that has consolidated significantly in the last 10 years. This has positioned the company to benefit from the recent acceleration in demand in most international offshore markets. We expect strong orders today to result in faster growth and margin expansion in the years ahead.

The Fund's Materials holdings weighed on relative performance, as the Fund's 6.6% sector return trailed that of the benchmark's 7.7% return. The Metals & Mining industry group was the major detractor in the first half. Our investment in aluminum producer Alcoa Corporation declined sharply amid pressure on aluminum prices. While we continue to believe that aluminum is in a favorable long-term position, we exited our position as we await more clarity about the risks of recession.

For the six months ended June 30, 2023, the total return on the Fund's net asset value ("NAV") per share (with dividends and capital gains reinvested) was -3.1%. This compares to a -3.3% total return for the Fund's benchmark, comprised of the S&P 500 Energy Index (83% weight) and the S&P 500 Materials Index (17% weight) in 2023. The total return on the market price of the Fund's shares for the period was -3.6%.

For the twelve months ended June 30, 2023, the Fund's total return on NAV was 19.1%. Comparable return for the Fund's benchmark was 18.3%. The Fund's total return on market price was 15.2%.

During the first half of this year, the Fund paid distributions to shareholders in the amount of \$5.0 million, or \$.20 per share, consisting of \$.03 net investment income, \$.03 long-term capital gain, and \$.02 short-term capital gain, realized in 2022, and \$.12 net investment income realized in 2023, all taxable in 2023. On July 20, 2023, an additional net investment income dividend of \$.10 per share was declared for payment on September 1, 2023. These constitute the first three payments toward our annual 6% minimum distribution rate commitment.

Considering the uncertainty of the macroeconomic environment, the broad market's performance thus far in 2023 is somewhat surprising. The same can be said for investors' abrupt shift from punishing the biggest, most growth-oriented technology stocks in 2022 to making them the dominant driver of performance this year. All the uncertainty and conflicting economic data probably helped boost the Al theme's prominence in 2023, because there wasn't a lot else to draw the market's focus. Thus far earnings have held up well, but the upcoming earnings reports will be closely watched for signs of a slowdown. If corporate profits come under enough pressure to drive more widespread layoffs and slow capital spending, households may start to cut back on spending, which could lead to a recession. We will be paying careful attention as the outcome will likely impact the price of oil and other commodities.

In an environment with conflicting economic signals, we will stay disciplined and trust our process. We will continue to identify high-quality companies with earnings and cash flow drivers trading at attractive prices, while also paying close attention to the balance between risk and reward.

By order of the Board of Directors,

Jam P. Ha ---

James P. Haynie, CFA Chief Executive Officer & President July 20, 2023

#### Disclaimers

This report contains "forward-looking statements" within the meaning of the Securities Act of 1933 and the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. By their nature, all forward-looking statements involve risks and uncertainties, and actual results could differ materially from those contemplated by the forward-looking statements. Several factors that could materially affect the Fund's actual results are the performance of the portfolio of stocks held by the Fund, the conditions in the U.S. and international financial markets, the price at which shares of the Fund will trade in the public markets, and other factors discussed in the Fund's periodic filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

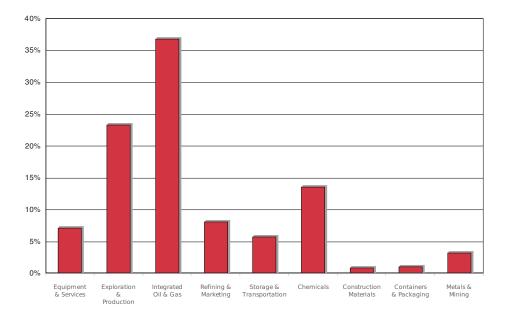
This report is transmitted to the shareholders of the Fund for their information. It is not a prospectus, circular or representation intended for use in the purchase or sale of shares of the Fund or of any securities mentioned in the report. The rates of return will vary and the principal value of an investment will fluctuate. Shares, if sold, may be worth more or less than their original cost. Past performance is no guarantee of future investment results.

#### June 30, 2023 (unaudited)

### **Ten Largest Equity Portfolio Holdings**

	Market Value	Percent of Net Assets
Exxon Mobil Corporation	\$143,514,442	23.1%
Chevron Corporation	84,665,472	13.6
ConocoPhillips	44,073,207	7.1
Schlumberger N.V.	27,071,653	4.4
Linde plc	24,655,876	4.0
Marathon Petroleum Corporation	21,537,419	3.5
Pioneer Natural Resources Company	20,925,180	3.4
Phillips 66	17,795,524	2.9
Hess Corporation	17,005,850	2.7
EOG Resources, Inc.	15,136,635	2.4
	\$416,381,258	67.1%

### **Industry Weightings**



#### June 30, 2023 (unaudited)

Assets			
Investments at value*:			
Common stocks (cost \$460,325,560)	\$616,376,450		
Short-term investments (cost \$4,380,008)	4,379,938	\$620	),756,388
Cash		-	150,375
Investment securities sold		2	2,313,347
Dividends receivable			597,834
Prepaid expenses and other assets		1	1,865,026
Total Assets		625	5,682,970
Liabilities			
Investment securities purchased		2	2,305,627
Net unrealized loss on open total return swap			
agreements* (note 4)			3,495
Due to officers and directors (note 8)			474,899
Accrued expenses and other liabilities		1	1,945,347
Total Liabilities		2	1,729,368
Net Assets		\$620	),953,602
Net Assets			
Common Stock at par value \$0.001 per share, authorized			
50,000,000 shares; issued and outstanding 25,033,377			
shares (includes 14,437 deferred stock units) (note 7)		\$	25,033
Additional capital surplus		458	3,680,938
Total distributable earnings (loss)		162	2,247,631
Net Assets Applicable to Common Stock		\$620	),953,602
Net Asset Value Per Share of Common Stock		\$	24.81

See Schedule of Investments beginning on page 16.

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

Six Months Ended June 30, 2023 (unaudited)

#### Investment Income

Change in Net Assets from Operations

Income:	
Dividends (net of \$6,359 in foreign taxes)	\$ 10,624,239
Other income	182,062
Total Income	10,806,301
Expenses:	
Investment research compensation and benefits	908,693
Administration and operations compensation and benefits	490,155
Occupancy and other office expenses	124,762
Investment data services	101,947
Directors' compensation	209,000
Shareholder reports and communications	94,620
Transfer agent, custody, and listing fees	62,732
Accounting, recordkeeping and other professional fees	53,862
Insurance	27,549
Audit and tax services	59,285
Legal services	7,015
Total Expenses	2,139,620
Net Investment Income	8,666,681
Realized Gain (Loss) and Change in Unrealized Appreciation	
Net realized gain (loss) on investments	2,904,117
Change in unrealized appreciation on investments	(33,563,630)
Change in unrealized appreciation on total return swap agreements	(3,495)
Net Gain (Loss)	(30,663,008)

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

\$(21,996,327)

	(unaudited) Six Months Ended June 30, 2023	Year Ended December 31, 2022
From Operations:		
Net investment income	\$ 8,666,681	\$ 19,631,978
Net realized gain (loss)	2,904,117	20,793,927
Change in unrealized appreciation	(33,567,125)	165,060,409
Change in Net Assets from Operations	(21,996,327)	205,486,314
Distributions to Shareholders from:		
Total distributable earnings	(5,025,187)	(39,911,119)
From Capital Share Transactions:		
Value of shares issued in payment of		
distributions (note 5)	16,239	15,172,259
Cost of shares purchased (note 5)	(3,377,564)	—
Change in Net Assets from Capital		
Share Transactions	(3,361,325)	15,172,259
Total Change in Net Assets	(30,382,839)	180,747,454
Net Assets:		
Beginning of period	651,336,441	470,588,987
End of period	\$620,953,602	\$651,336,441

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

Adams Natural Resources Fund, Inc. (the "Fund") is registered under the Investment Company Act of 1940 ("1940 Act") as a non-diversified investment company. The Fund is an internally managed closed-end fund specializing in energy and other natural resources stocks. The investment objectives of the Fund are preservation of capital, the attainment of reasonable income from investments, and an opportunity for capital appreciation.

### **1. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

**Basis of Presentation** — The accompanying financial statements were prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America ("GAAP") for investment companies, which require the use of estimates by Fund management. Management believes that estimates and valuations are appropriate; however, actual results may differ from those estimates and the valuations reflected in the financial statements may differ from the value the Fund ultimately realizes. Additionally, unpredictable events such as natural disasters, war, terrorism, global pandemics, and similar public health threats may significantly affect the economy, markets, and companies in which the Fund invests. The Fund could be negatively impacted if the value of portfolio holdings are harmed by such events.

**Affiliates** — Adams Diversified Equity Fund, Inc. ("ADX"), a diversified, closed-end investment company, owns 8.7% of the Fund's outstanding shares and is, therefore, an "affiliated company" as defined by the 1940 Act. During the six months ended June 30, 2023, the Fund paid dividends and capital gain distributions of \$43,735 to ADX. Directors of the Fund are also directors of ADX. The Fund, ADX, and Adams Funds Advisers, LLC ("AFA"), an ADX-affiliated investment adviser to external parties, have a shared management team.

**Expenses** — The Fund shares personnel, systems, and other infrastructure items with ADX and AFA and is charged a portion of the shared expenses. To protect the Fund from potential conflicts of interest, policies and procedures are in place covering the sharing of expenses among the entities. Expenses solely attributable to an entity are charged to that entity. Expenses that are not solely attributable to one entity are allocated in accordance with the Fund's expense sharing policy. The Fund's policy dictates that expenses, other than those related to personnel, are attributed to AFA based on the average estimated amount of time spent by all personnel on AFA-related activities relative to overall job functions; the remaining portion is attributed to the Fund and ADX based on relative net assets excluding affiliated holdings. Personnel-related expenses are attributed to AFA based on the individual's time spent on AFA-related activities; the remaining portion is attributed to the Fund and ADX based on relative net assets excluding affiliated holdings. Personnel-related activities; the remaining portion is attributed to the Fund and ADX based on relative net assets excluding affiliated holdings are updated on relative market values of portfolio securities covered for research staff and relative net assets excluding affiliated holdings for all others. Expense allocations are updated quarterly. Because AFA has no assets under management, only those expenses directly attributable to AFA are charged to AFA.

For the six months ended June 30, 2023, shared expenses totaled \$9,506,570, of which \$7,366,442 and \$508 were charged to ADX and AFA, respectively, in accordance with the Fund's expense sharing policy. There were no amounts due to, or due from, affiliated companies at June 30, 2023.

**Investment Transactions, Investment Income, and Distributions** — The Fund's investment decisions are made by the portfolio management team with recommendations from the research staff. Policies and procedures are in place covering the allocation of

#### NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

investment opportunities among the Fund and its affiliates to protect the Fund from potential conflicts of interest. Investment transactions are accounted for on trade date. Realized gains and losses on sales of investments are recorded on the basis of specific identification. Dividend income and distributions to shareholders are recognized on the ex-dividend date.

**Valuation** — The Fund's financial instruments are reported at fair value, which is defined as the price that would be received from selling an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date. The Fund has a Valuation Committee ("Committee") so that financial instruments are appropriately priced at fair value in accordance with GAAP and the 1940 Act. Subject to oversight and approval by the Board of Directors, the Committee establishes methodologies and procedures to value securities for which market quotations are not readily available.

GAAP establishes the following hierarchy that categorizes the inputs used to measure fair value:

- Level 1 fair value is determined based on market data obtained from independent sources; for example, quoted prices in active markets for identical investments;
- Level 2 fair value is determined using other assumptions obtained from independent sources; for example, quoted prices for similar investments;
- Level 3 fair value is determined using the Fund's own assumptions, developed based on the best information available under the circumstances.

Investments in securities traded on national exchanges are valued at the last reported sale price as of the close of regular trading on the relevant exchange on the day of valuation. Over-the-counter and listed equity securities for which a sale price is not available are valued at the last quoted bid price. Money market funds are valued at net asset value. These securities are generally categorized as Level 1 in the hierarchy.

Total return swap agreements are valued using independent, observable inputs, including underlying security prices, dividends, and interest rates. These securities are generally categorized as Level 2 in the hierarchy.

	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Total
Assets:				
Common stocks	\$616,376,450	\$ —	\$—	\$616,376,450
Short-term investments	4,379,938	_	_	4,379,938
Total investments	\$620,756,388	\$ —	\$—	\$620,756,388
Liabilities:				
Total return swap agreements*	\$ —	\$(3,495)	\$—	\$ (3,495)

At June 30, 2023, the Fund's financial instruments were classified as follows:

\* Unrealized appreciation (depreciation)

#### 2. FEDERAL INCOME TAXES

No federal income tax provision is required since the Fund's policy is to qualify as a regulated investment company under the Internal Revenue Code and to distribute substantially all of its taxable income and gains to its shareholders. Additionally, management has analyzed the tax positions included in federal income tax returns from the previous three years that remain subject to examination, and concluded no provision was required. Any income tax-related interest or penalties would be recognized as

income tax expense. At June 30, 2023, the identified cost of securities for federal income tax purposes was \$464,879,439 and net unrealized appreciation aggregated \$155,876,949, consisting of gross unrealized appreciation of \$185,714,581 and gross unrealized depreciation of \$29,837,632.

Distributions are determined in accordance with the Fund's annual 6% minimum distribution rate commitment, based on the Fund's average market price, and income tax regulations, which may differ from GAAP. Such differences are primarily related to the Fund's retirement plans, equity-based compensation, wash sales, and tax straddles for total return swaps. Differences that are permanent are reclassified in the capital accounts of the Fund's annual financial statements and have no impact on net assets.

#### **3. INVESTMENT TRANSACTIONS**

Purchases and sales of portfolio investments, other than short-term investments, securities lending collateral, and derivative transactions, during the six months ended June 30, 2023 were \$72,194,168 and \$72,616,136, respectively.

### 4. DERIVATIVES

The Fund may invest in derivative instruments. The Fund uses derivatives for a variety of purposes, including, but not limited to, the ability to gain or limit exposure to particular market sectors or securities, to provide additional capital gains, to limit equity price risk in the normal course of pursuing its investment objectives, and/or to obtain leverage.

Total Return Swap Agreements — The Fund utilizes total return swap agreements in carrying out a paired trade strategy, where it enters into a long contract for a single stock and a short contract for a sector exchange-traded fund in comparable notional amounts. Total return swap agreements involve commitments based on a notional amount to pay interest in exchange for a market-linked return of a reference security. Upon closing a long contract, the Fund will receive a payment to the extent the total return of the reference security is positive for the contract period and exceeds the offsetting interest rate obligation or will make a payment if the total return is negative for the contract period. Upon closing a short contract, the Fund will receive a payment to the extent the total return of the reference security is negative for the contract period and exceeds the offsetting interest rate obligation or will make a payment if the total return is positive for the contract period. The fair value of each total return swap agreement is determined daily and the change in value is recorded as a change in unrealized appreciation on total return swap agreements in the Statement of Operations. Payments received or made upon termination during the period are recorded as a realized gain or loss on total return swap agreements in the Statement of Operations.

Total return swap agreements entail risks associated with counterparty credit, liquidity, and equity price risk. Such risks include that the Fund or the counterparty may default on its obligation, that there is no liquid market for these agreements, and that there may be unfavorable changes in the price of the reference security. To mitigate the Fund's counterparty credit risk, the Fund enters into master netting and collateral arrangements with the counterparty. A master netting agreement allows either party to terminate the agreement prior to termination date and provides the ability to offset amounts the Fund owes the counterparty against the amounts the counterparty owes the Fund for a single net settlement. The Fund's policy is to net all derivative instruments subject to a netting agreement and offset the value of derivative liabilities against the value of derivative assets. The net cumulative unrealized gain (asset) on open total return swap agreements is

presented in the Statement of Assets and Liabilities. The fair value of each open total return swap agreement is presented on the Schedule of Investments. During the six months ended June 30, 2023, the average daily notional amounts of open long and short total return swap agreements, an indicator of the volume of activity, were \$34,505 and \$(33,837), respectively.

A collateral arrangement requires each party to provide collateral with a value, adjusted daily and subject to a minimum transfer amount, equal to the net amount owed to the other party under the agreement. The counterparty provides cash collateral to the Fund and the Fund provides collateral by segregating portfolio securities, subject to a valuation allowance, into a tri-party account at its custodian. At June 30, 2023, there were no securities pledged as collateral and no cash collateral was held by the Fund.

### **5. CAPITAL STOCK**

The Fund has 5,000,000 authorized and unissued preferred shares, \$0.001 par value.

During the six months ended June 30, 2023, the Fund issued 763 shares of its Common Stock at a weighted average price of \$21.28 per share as dividend equivalents to holders of deferred stock units under the 2005 Equity Incentive Compensation Plan.

On December 16, 2022, the Fund issued 707,496 shares of its Common Stock at a price of \$21.40 per share (the average market price on December 7, 2022) to shareholders of record November 21, 2022, who elected to take stock in payment of the year-end distribution. During the year ended December 31, 2022, the Fund issued 1,472 shares of Common Stock at a weighted average price of \$21.64 per share as dividend equivalents to holders of deferred stock units under the 2005 Equity Incentive Compensation Plan.

The Fund may purchase shares of its Common Stock from time to time, in accordance with parameters set by the Board of Directors, at such prices and amounts as the portfolio management team deems appropriate. Additionally, the Fund will repurchase shares under the Fund's enhanced discount management and liquidity program, subject to certain restrictions, when the discount exceeds 15% of net asset value for at least 30 consecutive trading days. The enhanced program also provides that the Fund will engage in a proportional tender offer to repurchase shares when the discount exceeds 19% of net asset value for 30 consecutive trading days, not to exceed one such offer in any twelve-month period.

	Sh	ares	Amount		
	Six months ended June 30, 2023	Year ended December 31, 2022	Six months ended June 30, 2023	Year ended December 31, 2022	
Shares issued in payment of distributions Shares purchased (at a weighted average discount from net asset value of	763	708,968	\$ 16,239	\$15,172,259	
16.0% in 2023)	(160,942)	—	(3,377,564	) —	
Net change	(160,179)	708,968	\$(3,361,325	) \$15,172,259	

Transactions in its Common Stock for 2023 and 2022 were as follows:

#### 6. RETIREMENT PLANS

The Fund sponsors a qualified defined contribution plan for all employees with at least six months of service and a nonqualified defined contribution plan for eligible employees to

supplement the qualified plan. The Fund matches employee contributions made to the plans and, subject to Board approval, may also make a discretionary contribution to the plans. During the six months ended June 30, 2023, the Fund recorded matching contributions of \$91,017 and a liability, representing the 2023 discretionary contribution, of \$32,147.

### 7. EQUITY-BASED COMPENSATION

The Fund's 2005 Equity Incentive Compensation Plan, adopted at the 2005 Annual Meeting and reapproved at the 2010 Annual Meeting, expired on April 27, 2015. Restricted stock units granted to non-employee directors that are 100% vested, but payment of which has been deferred by the election of the director, remain outstanding at June 30, 2023.

Outstanding awards were granted at fair market value on grant date (determined by the average of the high and low price on that date) and earn an amount equal to the Fund's per share distribution, payable in reinvested shares, which are paid concurrently with the payment of the original share grant.

A summary of the activity during the six months ended June 30, 2023 is as follows:

Awards	Units	Weighted Average Grant-Date Fair Value
Balance at December 31, 2022	15,130	\$26.26
Reinvested dividend equivalents	763	21.28
Issued	(1,456)	21.37
Balance at June 30, 2023	14,437	\$26.43

At June 30, 2023, the Fund had no unrecognized compensation cost. The total fair value of awards issued during the six months ended June 30, 2023 was \$31,092.

#### 8. OFFICER AND DIRECTOR COMPENSATION

The aggregate remuneration paid by the Fund during the six months ended June 30, 2023 to officers and directors amounted to \$1,628,949, of which \$240,092 was paid to independent directors. These amounts represent the taxable income, including \$31,092 in deferred director compensation from previous years, to the Fund's officers and directors and, therefore, may differ from the amounts reported in the accompanying Statement of Operations that are recorded and expensed in accordance with GAAP. At June 30, 2023, \$474,899 was due to officers and directors, representing amounts related to estimated cash compensation and estimated retirement plan discretionary contributions payable to officers and reinvested dividend payments on deferred stock awards payable to directors.

### 9. PORTFOLIO SECURITIES LOANED

The Fund makes loans of securities to approved brokers to earn additional income. The loans are collateralized by cash and/or U.S. Treasury and government agency obligations valued at 102% of the value of the securities on loan. The market value of the loaned securities is calculated based upon the most recent closing prices and any additional required collateral is delivered to the Fund on the next business day. On loans collateralized by cash, the cash collateral is invested in a registered money market fund. The Fund accounts for securities lending transactions as secured financing and retains a portion of the income from lending fees and interest on the investment of cash collateral. The Fund also continues to receive dividends on the securities loaned. Gain or loss in the

fair value of securities loaned that may occur during the term of the loan will be for the account of the Fund. At June 30, 2023, the Fund had no securities on loan. The Fund is indemnified by the custodian, serving as lending agent, for the loss of loaned securities and has the right under the lending agreement to recover the securities from the borrower on demand.

### 10. LEASES

The Fund and its affiliates lease office space and equipment under non-cancelable lease agreements expiring at various dates through 2026. Payments are made in aggregate pursuant to these agreements but are deemed variable for each entity, as the allocable portion to each entity fluctuates when applying the expense sharing policy among all affiliates at each payment date. Variable payments of this nature do not require recognition of an asset or an offsetting liability in the Statement of Assets and Liabilities and are recognized as rental expense on a straight-line basis over the lease term within occupancy and other office expenses in the Statement of Operations. During the six months ended June 30, 2023, the Fund recognized rental expense of \$52,820.

	(unaudited) Six Months Ended		_				
	June 30.	June 30.	````````````````````````````````````	/ear End	ed Dece	mber 31	,
	2023	2022	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018
Per Share Operating Performance							
Net asset value, beginning of period	\$25.85	\$19.22	\$19.22	\$13.76	\$18.79	\$17.71	\$23.26
Net investment income	0.35	0.38	0.80	0.55	0.45	0.80(	a) 0.42
Net realized gain (loss) and change in unrealized	(1.22)	3.05	7.57	5.86	(4.95)	1 1 1	(4 77)
appreciation	( )	3.05	-		(4.85)		(4.77)
Total from operations Less distributions from:	(0.87)	3.43	8.37	6.41	(4.40)	2.21	(4.35)
	(0, 4E)	(0.40)	(0.70)	(0.50)	(0.47)	(0.70)	(0, 4E)
Net investment income	(0.15)	(0.16)	(0.79)	```	` '	( /	```
Net realized gain	(0.05)	(0.04)	(0.84)	(0.35)	(0.26)	(0.32)	(0.40)
Return of capital	(0.20)	(0.20)	(1.62)	(0.01)	(0.73)	(1 10)	(0.32)
	(0.20)	(0.20)	(1.63)	(0.91)	(0.73)	(1.10)	(1.17)
Capital share repurchases (note 5)	0.03	_	_	_	0.14	_	_
Reinvestment of distributions	—	—	(0.11)	(0.04)	(0.04)	(0.03)	(0.03)
Total capital share transactions	_	_	(0.11)	(0.04)	0.10	(0.03)	(0.03)
Net asset value, end of period	\$24.81	\$22.45		\$19.22			\$17.71
Market price, end of period	\$20.82	\$19.47	\$21.80	\$16.52	\$11.37	\$16.46	\$14.57
Total Investment Return (b)							
Based on market price	-3.6%	19.0%	42.2%	53.6%	-26.6%	21.1%	-21.4%
Based on net asset value	-3.1%	17.9%	44.9%	47.7%	-22.2%	13.7%	-18.5%
Ratios/Supplemental Data (c)							
Net assets, end of period (in millions)	\$621	\$550	\$651	\$471	\$332	\$561	\$523
Ratio of expenses to average net assets	0.64%	0.63%	0.56%	0.88%	1.47%	0.97%	0.79%
Ratio of net investment income to average net assets	2.78%	3.32%	3.31%	3.15%	3.27%	4.18%	1.89%
Portfolio turnover	23.0%	27.1%	24.3%	20.7%	31.8%	29.5%	47.0%
Number of shares outstanding at end of period (in 000's)	25,033	24,485	25,194	24,485	24,122	29,875	29,534

(a) In 2019, the Fund received additional dividend income of \$9,693,399, or \$0.33 per Fund share, from the acquisition of Anadarko Petroleum Corporation by Occidental Petroleum Corporation.

(b) Total investment return is calculated assuming a purchase of a Fund share at the beginning of the period and a sale on the last day of the period reported either at net asset value or market price per share, excluding any brokerage commissions. Distributions are assumed to be reinvested at the price received in the Fund's dividend reinvestment plan.

(c) Ratios and portfolio turnover presented on an annualized basis.

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

### June 30, 2023

(unaudited)

Common Stocks — 99.3%           Energy — 80.8%           Equipment & Services — 7.1%           Baker Hughes Company         202,800         \$ 6,410,508           Halliburton Company         193,853         6,395,210           Schlumberger N.V.         551,133         27,071,653           TechnipFMC plc (b)         241,600         4,015,392           APA Corporation A Production — 23.3%         43,892,763           Chard Energy Corporation warrants, strike price         \$ 166,37,1         warrant for .5774 share, expires           9/1/24 (b)         2,654         61,838           Chord Energy Corporation warrants, strike price         \$ 1,327         21,020           ConcocPhillips         425,376         44,073,207           Coterra Energy Inc.         150,100         3,797,530           Devon Energy Corporation warrants, strike price         \$ 133,70,1         warrant for .5774 share, expires           9/1/26 (b)         1,327         21,020         ConcocPhillips           ConcocPhillips         425,376         44,073,207           Coterra Energy Inc.         97,800         12,847,008           EOG Resources, Inc.         132,267         15,136,633           EQT Corporation         161,400         2,525,382           He		Shares	Value (a)
Equipment & Services — 7.1%           Baker Hughes Company         202,800         \$ 6,410,508           Halliburton Company         193,853         6,395,210           Schlumberger N.V.         551,133         27,071,653           TechnipFMC plc (b)         241,600         4,015,392           APA Corporation         56,000         1,913,520           Canadian Natural Resources Limited         64,200         3,611,892           Chord Energy Corporation warrants, strike price         \$ 166,37, 1 warrant for .5774 share, expires         9/1/24 (b)         2,654         61,838           Chord Energy Corporation warrants, strike price         \$ 1,327         21,020         ConcocoPhillips         425,376         44,073,207           Coterra Energy Inc.         150,100         3,797,530         Devon Energy Corporation warrants, strike price         \$ 133,70,1 warrant for .5774 share, expires         9/1/25 (b)         1,327         21,020           ConcocoPhillips         425,376         44,073,207         Coterra Energy Inc.         150,100         3,797,530           Devon Energy Corporation         126,000         6,090,840         Diamondback Energy, Inc.         97,800         12,847,008           EQG Resources, Inc.         132,267         15,136,635         EQT Corporation         16,251         9,77	Common Stocks — 99.3%		
Baker Hughes Company         202,800         \$         6,410,508           Halliburton Company         193,853         6,395,210           Schlumberger N.V.         551,133         27,071,653           TechnipFMC plc (b)         241,600         4,015,392           APA Corporation         56,000         1,913,520           Canadian Natural Resources Limited         64,200         3,611,892           Chord Energy Corporation warrants, strike price         \$166,37,1 warrant for .5774 share, expires         9/1/24 (b)           Chord Energy Corporation warrants, strike price         \$133,70,1 warrant for .5774 share, expires         9/1/25 (b)         1,327           CoroocoPhillips         425,376         44,073,207           Coterta Energy Inc.         150,100         3,797,530           Devon Energy Corporation         126,000         6,090,840           Diamondback Energy, Inc.         97,800         12,847,008           EOG Resources, Inc.         132,267         15,136,635           EQT Corporation         162,51         9,775,559           Pioneer Natural Resources Company         101,000         20,925,180           Marathon Oil Corporation         138,130         143,514,442           Exxon Mobil Corporation         138,130         144,845,770	Energy — 80.8%		
Halliburton Company       193,853       6,395,210         Schlumberger N.V.       551,133       27,071,653         TechnipFMC plc (b)       241,600       4,015,392         Exploration & Production — 23.3%       43,892,763         APA Corporation       56,000       1,913,520         Canadian Natural Resources Limited       64,200       3,611,892         Chord Energy Corporation       225       34,605         Chord Energy Corporation warrants, strike price       \$163.37, 1 warrant for .5774 share, expires       9/1/24 (b)         9/1/24 (b)       1,327       21,020         ConocoPhillips       425,376       44,073,207         Coterra Energy Corporation       126,000       6,090,840         Diamondback Energy, Inc.       97,800       12,847,008         EOG Resources, Inc.       132,267       15,136,635         EQT Corporation       125,089       17,005,850         Marathon Oil Corporation       125,089       17,005,850         Marathon Oil Corporation       130,200       7,025,704         Occidental Petroleum Corporation       1338,130       143,514,442         Z28,179,914       228,179,914       144,845,770         Integrated Oil & Gas — 36.7%       228,179,914         Chevron Cor	Equipment & Services — 7.1%		
Schlumberger N.V.         551,133         27,071,653           TechnipFMC plc (b)         241,600         4,015,392           Exploration & Production — 23.3%         4,3892,763           APA Corporation         56,000         1,913,520           Canadian Natural Resources Limited         64,200         3,611,892           Chord Energy Corporation warrants, strike price \$166,37,1 warrant for .5774 share, expires 9/1/24 (b)         2,654         61,838           Chord Energy Corporation warrants, strike price \$133,70,1 warrant for .5774 share, expires 9/1/25 (b)         1,327         21,020           ConocoPhillips         425,376         44,073,207           Coterra Energy Inc.         150,100         3,797,530           Devon Energy Corporation         126,000         6,090,841           Diamondback Energy, Inc.         97,800         12,847,008           EOG Resources, Inc.         132,207         15,136,635           EQT Corporation         61,400         2,525,382           Hess Corporation         126,009         7,025,704           Occidental Petroleum Corporation         126,089         17,026,850           Marathon Oil Corporation         1305,200         7,025,704           Occidental Petroleum Corporation         1338,130         143,514,442           Ex	Baker Hughes Company	202,800	\$ 6,410,508
TechnipFMC plc (b)         241,600         4,015,392 (43,892,763)           Exploration & Production — 23.3%	Halliburton Company	193,853	6,395,210
43,892,763           Exploration & Production — 23.3%           APA Corporation         56,000           Canadian Natural Resources Limited         64,200           Store Energy Corporation warrants, strike price         225           Store Energy Corporation warrants, strike price         225           Store Energy Corporation warrants, strike price         2,654           Store Energy Corporation warrants, strike price         5133.70, 1 warrant for .5774 share, expires           Store Energy Corporation warrants, strike price         1,327           Store Energy Corporation warrants, strike price         1,327           Store Energy Corporation warrants, strike price         1,327           Strike Energy Inc.         150,100           Diamondback Energy, Inc.         97,800           Devon Energy Corporation         122,000           Diamondback Energy, Inc.         132,267           Diamondback Energy, Inc.         132,267           Diamondback Energy Inc.         132,267           Diamondback Energy Inc.         132,267           Ocidental Petroleum Corporation         166,251           Marathon Oil Corporation         166,251           Marathon Oil Corporation         1,338,130           Integrated Oil & Gas — 36.7%         144,845,770 <td< td=""><td>Schlumberger N.V.</td><td>551,133</td><td>27,071,653</td></td<>	Schlumberger N.V.	551,133	27,071,653
Exploration & Production — 23.3%         Image: Choroprotion         56,000         1,913,520           Canadian Natural Resources Limited         64,200         3,611,892         3,605           Chord Energy Corporation warrants, strike price \$166.37, 1 warrant for .5774 share, expires 9/1/24 (b)         2,654         61,838           Chord Energy Corporation warrants, strike price \$133.70, 1 warrant for .5774 share, expires 9/1/25 (b)         1,327         21,020           ConcocPhillips         425,376         44,073,207           Coterra Energy Inc.         150,100         3,797,530           Devon Energy Corporation         126,000         6,090,840           Diamondback Energy, Inc.         97,800         12,847,008           EOG Resources, Inc.         132,267         15,136,635           EQT Corporation         61,400         2,555.382           Hess Corporation         126,000         7,025,704           Occidental Petroleum Corporation         166,251         9,775,559           Pioneer Natural Resources Company         101,000         20,925,180           Marathon Oil Corporation         13,38,130         1443,514,442           Z28,179,914         228,179,914         228,179,914           Marathon Petroleum Corporation         186,575         17,795,524           Valero	TechnipFMC plc (b)	241,600	4,015,392
APA Corporation         56,000         1,913,520           Canadian Natural Resources Limited         64,200         3,611,892           Chord Energy Corporation         225         34,605           Chord Energy Corporation warrants, strike price \$166.37, 1 warrant for .5774 share, expires 9/1/24 (b)         2,654         61,838           Chord Energy Corporation warrants, strike price \$133.70, 1 warrant for .5774 share, expires 9/1/25 (b)         1,327         21,020           ConcocPhillips         425,376         44,073,207         Cotract Energy Corporation         126,000         6,090,840           Diamondback Energy, Inc.         97,800         12,847,008         EOG Resources, Inc.         132,267         15,136,635           EQT Corporation         61,400         2,525,382         Hess Corporation         125,089         17,005,850           Marathon Oli Corporation         125,089         17,005,850         7,025,704         0.252,784           Occidental Petroleum Corporation         166,251         9,775,559         Pioneer Natural Resources Company         101,000         20,925,180           Integrated Oil & Gas — 36.7%         Integrated O			43,892,763
Canadian Natural Resources Limited         64,200         3,611,892           Chord Energy Corporation warrants, strike price \$166.37, 1 warrant for .5774 share, expires         2,654         61,838           Chord Energy Corporation warrants, strike price \$133,70, 1 warrant for .5774 share, expires         2,654         61,838           Chord Energy Corporation warrants, strike price \$133,70, 1 warrant for .5774 share, expires         1,327         21,020           ConocoPhillips         425,376         44,073,207           Coterra Energy Inc.         150,100         3,797,530           Devon Energy Corporation         126,000         6,090,840           Diamondback Energy, Inc.         97,800         12,847,008           EOG Resources, Inc.         132,267         15,136,635           EQT Corporation         61,400         2,525,382           Hess Corporation         125,089         17,005,850           Marathon Oil Corporation         305,200         7,025,704           Occidental Petroleum Corporation         166,251         9,775,559           Pioneer Natural Resources Company         101,000         20,925,180           Integrated Oil & Gas — 36.7%         228,179,914         228,179,914           Chevron Corporation         133,8130         143,514,442         228,179,914	Exploration & Production — 23.3%		
Chord Energy Corporation         225         34,605           Chord Energy Corporation warrants, strike price \$166.37, 1 warrant for .5774 share, expires         2,654         61,838           Chord Energy Corporation warrants, strike price \$133,70, 1 warrant for .5774 share, expires         2,654         61,838           Chord Energy Corporation warrants, strike price \$133,70, 1 warrant for .5774 share, expires         1,327         21,020           ConocoPhillips         425,376         44,073,207           Coterra Energy Inc.         150,100         3,797,530           Devon Energy Corporation         126,000         6,090,840           Diamondback Energy, Inc.         97,800         12,847,008           EOG Resources, Inc.         132,267         15,136,635           EQT Corporation         61,400         2,525,382           Hess Corporation         126,089         17,005,850           Marathon Oil Corporation         305,200         7,025,704           Occidental Petroleum Corporation         166,251         9,775,559           Pioneer Natural Resources Company         101,000         20,925,180           Integrated Oil & Gas — 36.7%         228,179,914         228,179,914           Chevron Corporation         1,338,130         143,514,442         228,179,914           Refining & Mark	APA Corporation	56,000	1,913,520
Chord Energy Corporation warrants, strike price \$166.37, 1 warrant for .5774 share, expires 9/1/24 (b)         2,654         61,838           Chord Energy Corporation warrants, strike price \$133.70, 1 warrant for .5774 share, expires 9/1/25 (b)         1,327         21,020           ConocoPhillips         425,376         44,073,207           Cotora Energy Inc.         150,100         3,797,530           Devon Energy Corporation         126,000         6,090,840           Diamondback Energy, Inc.         97,800         12,847,008           EOG Resources, Inc.         132,267         15,136,635           EQT Corporation         61,400         2,525,382           Hess Corporation         125,089         17,005,850           Marathon Oil Corporation         166,251         9,775,559           Pioneer Natural Resources Company         101,000         20,925,180           Integrated Oil & Gas — 36.7%         144,845,770           Chevron Corporation         1,338,130         143,514,442           Z28,179,914         228,179,914           Refining & Marketing — 8.0%         49,420,743           Marathon Petroleum Corporation         184,712         21,537,419           Phillips 66         186,575         17,795,524           Valero Energy Corporation         86,000         <	Canadian Natural Resources Limited	64,200	3,611,892
\$166.37, 1 warrant for .5774 share, expires       2,654       61,838         Chord Energy Corporation warrants, strike price       \$133.70, 1 warrant for .5774 share, expires       9/1/25 (b)       1,327       21,020         ConcocoPhillips       425,376       44,073,207       Coterra Energy Inc.       150,100       3,797,530         Devon Energy Corporation       126,000       6,090,840       0       3,797,530         Devon Energy Corporation       126,000       6,090,840       0       2,827       15,136,635         EQG Resources, Inc.       132,267       15,136,635       EQT Corporation       61,400       2,525,382         Hess Corporation       61,400       2,525,382       Hess Corporation       125,089       17,005,850         Marathon Oil Corporation       1305,200       7,025,704       0       029,925,180         Occidental Petroleum Corporation       166,251       9,775,559       Pioneer Natural Resources Company       101,000       20,925,180         Integrated Oil & Gas — 36.7%       144,845,770       144,845,770       144,845,770         Integrated Oil & Gas — 36.7%       228,179,914       228,179,914         Refining & Marketing — 8.0%       44,665,472       21,537,419         Phillips 66       186,575       17,795,524       49,420	Chord Energy Corporation	225	34,605
Chord Energy Corporation warrants, strike price \$133.70, 1 warrant for .5774 share, expires 9/1/25 (b)         1,327         21,020           ConocoPhillips         425,376         44,073,207           Coterra Energy Inc.         150,100         3,797,530           Devon Energy Corporation         126,000         6,090,840           Diamondback Energy, Inc.         97,800         12,847,008           EOG Resources, Inc.         132,267         15,136,635           EQT Corporation         61,400         2,525,382           Hess Corporation         125,089         17,005,850           Marathon Oil Corporation         305,200         7,025,704           Occidental Petroleum Corporation         166,251         9,775,559           Pioneer Natural Resources Company         101,000         20,925,180           It48,845,770         144,845,770           Integrated Oil & Gas — 36.7%         228,179,914           Chevron Corporation         1,338,130         143,514,442           228,179,914         228,179,914           Refining & Marketing — 8.0%         49,420,743           Marathon Petroleum Corporation         186,575         17,795,524           Valero Energy Corporation         86,000         10,087,800           49,420,743         49,420,74	\$166.37, 1 warrant for .5774 share, expires		
\$133.70, 1 warrant for .5774 share, expires         9/1/25 (b)       1,327       21,020         ConocoPhillips       425,376       44,073,207         Coterra Energy Inc.       150,100       3,797,530         Devon Energy Corporation       126,000       6,090,840         Diamondback Energy, Inc.       97,800       12,847,008         EOG Resources, Inc.       132,267       15,136,635         EQT Corporation       61,400       2,525,382         Hess Corporation       125,089       17,005,850         Marathon Oil Corporation       305,200       7,025,704         Occidental Petroleum Corporation       166,251       9,775,559         Pioneer Natural Resources Company       101,000       20,925,180         Integrated Oil & Gas — 36.7%       144,845,770         Chevron Corporation       1,338,130       143,514,442         Exxon Mobil Corporation       184,712       21,537,419         Phillips 66       186,575       17,795,524         Valero Energy Corporation       86,000       10,087,800         Storage & Transportation — 5.7%       44,042,743         Kinder Morgan, Inc.       779,292       13,419,408         ONEOK, Inc.       87,500       5,400,500         Ta		2,654	61,838
ConocoPhillips         425,376         44,073,207           Coterra Energy Inc.         150,100         3,797,530           Devon Energy Corporation         126,000         6,090,840           Diamondback Energy, Inc.         97,800         12,847,008           EOG Resources, Inc.         132,267         15,136,635           EQT Corporation         61,400         2,525,382           Hess Corporation         125,089         17,005,850           Marathon Oil Corporation         305,200         7,025,704           Occidental Petroleum Corporation         166,251         9,775,559           Pioneer Natural Resources Company         101,000         20,925,180           Integrated Oil & Gas — 36.7%         144,845,770           Chevron Corporation         538,071         84,665,472           Exxon Mobil Corporation         1,338,130         143,514,442           228,179,914         228,179,914           Refining & Marketing — 8.0%         49,420,743           Marathon Petroleum Corporation         184,712         21,537,419           Phillips 66         186,575         17,79,5524           Valero Energy Corporation         49,420,743         49,420,743           Storage & Transportation — 5.7%         49,420,743	\$133.70, 1 warrant for .5774 share, expires		
Coterra Energy Inc.         150,100         3,797,530           Devon Energy Corporation         126,000         6,090,840           Diamondback Energy, Inc.         97,800         12,847,008           EOG Resources, Inc.         132,267         15,136,635           EQT Corporation         61,400         2,525,382           Hess Corporation         125,089         17,005,850           Marathon Oil Corporation         305,200         7,025,704           Occidental Petroleum Corporation         166,251         9,775,559           Pioneer Natural Resources Company         101,000         20,925,180           Integrated Oil & Gas — 36.7%         144,845,770           Chevron Corporation         1,338,130         143,514,442           Exxon Mobil Corporation         1,338,130         143,514,442           Z28,179,914         228,179,914         228,179,914           Refining & Marketing — 8.0%         186,575         17,795,524           Valero Energy Corporation         184,712         21,537,419           Phillips 66         186,575         17,795,524           Valero Energy Corporation         86,000         10,087,800           49,420,743         3         349,420,743           Storage & Transportation — 5.7%			
Devon Energy Corporation         126,000         6,090,840           Diamondback Energy, Inc.         97,800         12,847,008           EOG Resources, Inc.         132,267         15,136,635           EQT Corporation         61,400         2,525,382           Hess Corporation         125,089         17,005,850           Marathon Oil Corporation         305,200         7,025,704           Occidental Petroleum Corporation         166,251         9,775,559           Pioneer Natural Resources Company         101,000         20,925,180           Integrated Oil & Gas — 36.7%         144,845,770           Chevron Corporation         538,071         84,665,472           Exxon Mobil Corporation         1,338,130         143,514,442           228,179,914         228,179,914           Refining & Marketing — 8.0%         186,575         17,795,524           Valero Energy Corporation         184,712         21,537,419           Phillips 66         186,575         17,795,524           Valero Energy Corporation         86,000         10,087,800           49,420,743         3         349,420,743           Storage & Transportation — 5.7%         Kinder Morgan, Inc.         779,292         13,419,408           ONEOK, Inc.         <		,	, ,
Diamondback Energy, Inc.         97,800         12,847,008           EOG Resources, Inc.         132,267         15,136,635           EQT Corporation         61,400         2,525,382           Hess Corporation         125,089         17,005,850           Marathon Oil Corporation         305,200         7,025,704           Occidental Petroleum Corporation         166,251         9,775,559           Pioneer Natural Resources Company         101,000         20,925,180           Integrated Oil & Gas — 36.7%         144,845,770           Chevron Corporation         538,071         84,665,472           Exxon Mobil Corporation         1,338,130         143,514,442           228,179,914         228,179,914           Refining & Marketing — 8.0%         228,179,914           Marathon Petroleum Corporation         184,712         21,537,419           Phillips 66         186,575         17,795,524           Valero Energy Corporation         86,000         10,087,800           49,420,743         3         34,419,408           ONEOK, Inc.         779,292         13,419,408           ONEOK, Inc.         87,500         5,400,500           Targa Resources Corp.         116,100         8,835,210           William			
EOG Resources, Inc.         132,267         15,136,635           EQT Corporation         61,400         2,525,382           Hess Corporation         125,089         17,005,850           Marathon Oil Corporation         305,200         7,025,704           Occidental Petroleum Corporation         166,251         9,775,559           Pioneer Natural Resources Company         101,000         20,925,180           Integrated Oil & Gas — 36.7%         144,845,770           Chevron Corporation         538,071         84,665,472           Exxon Mobil Corporation         1,338,130         143,514,442           228,179,914         228,179,914           Refining & Marketing — 8.0%         186,575         17,795,524           Valero Energy Corporation         184,712         21,537,419           Phillips 66         186,575         17,795,524           Valero Energy Corporation         86,000         10,087,800           49,420,743         3         3           Storage & Transportation — 5.7%         116,100         8,835,210           Kinder Morgan, Inc.         779,292         13,419,408           ONEOK, Inc.         87,500         5,400,500           Targa Resources Corp.         116,100         8,835,210			
EQT Corporation         61,400         2,525,382           Hess Corporation         125,089         17,005,850           Marathon Oil Corporation         305,200         7,025,704           Occidental Petroleum Corporation         166,251         9,775,559           Pioneer Natural Resources Company         101,000         20,925,180           Integrated Oil & Gas — 36.7%         144,845,770           Chevron Corporation         538,071         84,665,472           Exxon Mobil Corporation         1,338,130         143,514,442           Z28,179,914         228,179,914           Refining & Marketing — 8.0%         186,575         17,795,524           Marathon Petroleum Corporation         184,712         21,537,419           Phillips 66         186,575         17,795,524           Valero Energy Corporation         86,000         10,087,800           49,420,743         3         3           Storage & Transportation — 5.7%         13,419,408           NNEOK, Inc.         779,292         13,419,408           ONEOK, Inc.         87,500         5,400,500           Targa Resources Corp.         116,100         8,835,210           Williams Companies, Inc.         236,350         7,712,101		,	
Hess Corporation         125,089         17,005,850           Marathon Oil Corporation         305,200         7,025,704           Occidental Petroleum Corporation         166,251         9,775,559           Pioneer Natural Resources Company         101,000         20,925,180           Integrated Oil & Gas — 36.7%         144,845,770           Chevron Corporation         538,071         84,665,472           Exxon Mobil Corporation         1,338,130         143,514,442           Z28,179,914         228,179,914           Refining & Marketing — 8.0%         186,575         17,795,524           Valero Energy Corporation         184,712         21,537,419           Phillips 66         186,575         17,795,524           Valero Energy Corporation         86,000         10,087,800           49,420,743         49,420,743         49,420,743           Storage & Transportation — 5.7%         13,419,408         5,400,500           Kinder Morgan, Inc.         779,292         13,419,408           ONEOK, Inc.         87,500         5,400,500           Targa Resources Corp.         116,100         8,835,210           Williams Companies, Inc.         236,350         7,712,101	,	,	, ,
Marathon Oil Corporation         305,200         7,025,704           Occidental Petroleum Corporation         166,251         9,775,559           Pioneer Natural Resources Company         101,000         20,925,180           Integrated Oil & Gas — 36.7%           Chevron Corporation         538,071         84,665,472           Exxon Mobil Corporation         1,338,130         143,514,442           Z28,179,914         228,179,914           Refining & Marketing — 8.0%         Image: Corporation         184,712         21,537,419           Phillips 66         186,575         17,795,524         Valero Energy Corporation         86,000         10,087,800           Storage & Transportation — 5.7%           Kinder Morgan, Inc.         779,292         13,419,408           ONEOK, Inc.         87,500         5,400,500           Targa Resources Corp.         116,100         8,835,210           Williams Companies, Inc.         236,350         7,712,101	•		
Occidental Petroleum Corporation         166,251         9,775,559           Pioneer Natural Resources Company         101,000         20,925,180           Integrated Oil & Gas — 36.7%         144,845,770           Chevron Corporation         538,071         84,665,472           Exxon Mobil Corporation         1,338,130         143,514,442           Z28,179,914         228,179,914           Refining & Marketing — 8.0%         186,575         17,795,524           Marathon Petroleum Corporation         186,575         17,795,524           Valero Energy Corporation         86,000         10,087,800           49,420,743         49,420,743         49,420,743           Storage & Transportation — 5.7%         116,100         8,835,210           Kinder Morgan, Inc.         779,292         13,419,408           ONEOK, Inc.         87,500         5,400,500           Targa Resources Corp.         116,100         8,835,210           Williams Companies, Inc.         236,350         7,712,101	·	,	
Pioneer Natural Resources Company       101,000       20,925,180         Integrated Oil & Gas — 36.7%       144,845,770         Chevron Corporation       538,071       84,665,472         Exxon Mobil Corporation       1,338,130       143,514,442         Z28,179,914       228,179,914         Refining & Marketing — 8.0%       228,179,914         Marathon Petroleum Corporation       184,712       21,537,419         Phillips 66       186,575       17,795,524         Valero Energy Corporation       86,000       10,087,800         49,420,743       49,420,743         Storage & Transportation — 5.7%       116,100       8,835,210         Kinder Morgan, Inc.       779,292       13,419,408         ONEOK, Inc.       87,500       5,400,500         Targa Resources Corp.       116,100       8,835,210         Williams Companies, Inc.       236,350       7,712,101		,	, ,
Integrated Oil & Gas — 36.7%         144,845,770           Chevron Corporation         538,071         84,665,472           Exxon Mobil Corporation         1,338,130         143,514,442           228,179,914         228,179,914           Refining & Marketing — 8.0%         184,712         21,537,419           Phillips 66         186,575         17,795,524           Valero Energy Corporation         86,000         10,087,800           49,420,743         49,420,743           Storage & Transportation — 5.7%         116,100         8,835,210           Kinder Morgan, Inc.         779,292         13,419,408           ONEOK, Inc.         87,500         5,400,500           Targa Resources Corp.         116,100         8,835,210           Williams Companies, Inc.         236,350         7,712,101			
Integrated Oil & Gas — 36.7%         1           Chevron Corporation         538,071         84,665,472           Exxon Mobil Corporation         1,338,130         143,514,442           228,179,914         228,179,914           Refining & Marketing — 8.0%         221,537,419           Marathon Petroleum Corporation         184,712         21,537,419           Phillips 66         186,575         17,795,524           Valero Energy Corporation         86,000         10,087,800           49,420,743         49,420,743         49,420,743           Storage & Transportation — 5.7%         13,419,408         0NEOK, Inc.           Kinder Morgan, Inc.         779,292         13,419,408           ONEOK, Inc.         87,500         5,400,500           Targa Resources Corp.         116,100         8,835,210           Williams Companies, Inc.         236,350         7,712,101	Pioneer Natural Resources Company	101,000	
Exxon Mobil Corporation       1,338,130       143,514,442         228,179,914       228,179,914         Refining & Marketing — 8.0%       184,712       21,537,419         Marathon Petroleum Corporation       184,712       21,537,419         Phillips 66       186,575       17,795,524         Valero Energy Corporation       86,000       10,087,800         49,420,743       49,420,743         Storage & Transportation — 5.7%       13,419,408         NEOK, Inc.       779,292       13,419,408         ONEOK, Inc.       87,500       5,400,500         Targa Resources Corp.       116,100       8,835,210         Williams Companies, Inc.       236,350       7,712,101	Integrated Oil & Gas — 36.7%		144,845,770
Z28,179,914           Refining & Marketing — 8.0%           Marathon Petroleum Corporation         184,712         21,537,419           Phillips 66         186,575         17,795,524           Valero Energy Corporation         86,000         10,087,800           49,420,743         49,420,743           Storage & Transportation — 5.7%         779,292         13,419,408           ONEOK, Inc.         87,500         5,400,500           Targa Resources Corp.         116,100         8,835,210           Williams Companies, Inc.         236,350         7,712,101	Chevron Corporation	538,071	84,665,472
Refining & Marketing — 8.0%         184,712         21,537,419           Marathon Petroleum Corporation         186,575         17,795,524           Phillips 66         186,575         17,795,524           Valero Energy Corporation         86,000         10,087,800           49,420,743         49,420,743           Storage & Transportation — 5.7%         779,292         13,419,408           ONEOK, Inc.         87,500         5,400,500           Targa Resources Corp.         116,100         8,835,210           Williams Companies, Inc.         236,350         7,712,101	Exxon Mobil Corporation	1,338,130	143,514,442
Marathon Petroleum Corporation         184,712         21,537,419           Phillips 66         186,575         17,795,524           Valero Energy Corporation         86,000         10,087,800           49,420,743         49,420,743           Storage & Transportation — 5.7%         779,292         13,419,408           ONEOK, Inc.         87,500         5,400,500           Targa Resources Corp.         116,100         8,835,210           Williams Companies, Inc.         236,350         7,712,101			228,179,914
Phillips 66         186,575         17,795,524           Valero Energy Corporation         86,000         10,087,800           49,420,743         49,420,743           Storage & Transportation — 5.7%         779,292         13,419,408           ONEOK, Inc.         87,500         5,400,500           Targa Resources Corp.         116,100         8,835,210           Williams Companies, Inc.         236,350         7,712,101	Refining & Marketing — 8.0%		
Valero Energy Corporation         86,000         10,087,800           49,420,743         49,420,743           Storage & Transportation 5.7%         779,292         13,419,408           NEOK, Inc.         87,500         5,400,500           Targa Resources Corp.         116,100         8,835,210           Williams Companies, Inc.         236,350         7,712,101	Marathon Petroleum Corporation	184,712	21,537,419
Storage & Transportation — 5.7%         49,420,743           Kinder Morgan, Inc.         779,292         13,419,408           ONEOK, Inc.         87,500         5,400,500           Targa Resources Corp.         116,100         8,835,210           Williams Companies, Inc.         236,350         7,712,101	Phillips 66	186,575	17,795,524
Storage & Transportation — 5.7%         779,292         13,419,408           Kinder Morgan, Inc.         779,500         5,400,500           ONEOK, Inc.         87,500         5,400,500           Targa Resources Corp.         116,100         8,835,210           Williams Companies, Inc.         236,350         7,712,101	Valero Energy Corporation	86,000	10,087,800
Kinder Morgan, Inc.779,29213,419,408ONEOK, Inc.87,5005,400,500Targa Resources Corp.116,1008,835,210Williams Companies, Inc.236,3507,712,101			49,420,743
ONEOK, Inc.         87,500         5,400,500           Targa Resources Corp.         116,100         8,835,210           Williams Companies, Inc.         236,350         7,712,101	Storage & Transportation — 5.7%		
Targa Resources Corp.         116,100         8,835,210           Williams Companies, Inc.         236,350         7,712,101	Kinder Morgan, Inc.	779,292	13,419,408
Williams Companies, Inc.         236,350         7,712,101	ONEOK, Inc.	87,500	5,400,500
• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	Targa Resources Corp.	116,100	8,835,210
35,367,219	Williams Companies, Inc.	236,350	7,712,101
			35,367,219

### SCHEDULE OF INVESTMENTS (CONTINUED)

## June 30, 2023

(unaudited)

	Shares	Value (a)
Materials — 18.5%		
Chemicals — 13.5%		
Air Products and Chemicals, Inc.	31,200	\$ 9,345,336
Albemarle Corporation	9,000	2,007,810
Celanese Corporation	36,177	4,189,297
CF Industries Holdings, Inc.	11,769	817,004
Corteva Inc.	66,245	3,795,838
Dow, Inc.	65,745	3,501,579
DuPont de Nemours, Inc.	95,926	6,852,953
Eastman Chemical Company	8,900	745,108
Ecolab Inc.	31,400	5,862,066
FMC Corporation	10,055	1,049,139
International Flavors & Fragrances Inc.	21,006	1,671,868
Linde plc	64,700	24,655,876
LyondellBasell Industries N.V.	61,800	5,675,094
Mosaic Company	25,601	896,035
PPG Industries, Inc.	47,800	7,088,740
Sherwin-Williams Company	21,200	5,629,024
		83,782,767
Construction Materials — 0.8%		
Martin Marietta Materials, Inc.	5,200	2,400,788
Vulcan Materials Company	9,800	2,209,312
	,	4,610,100
Containers & Packaging — 1.0%		
Amcor plc	125,100	1,248,498
Avery Dennison Corporation	5,500	944,900
Ball Corporation	23,300	1,356,293
International Paper Company	28,200	897,042
Packaging Corporation of America	7,600	1,004,416
Sealed Air Corporation	8,900	356,000
WestRock Company	15,400	447,678
Webli took company	10,100	6,254,827
Metals & Mining — 3.2%		0,204,027
Freeport-McMoRan, Inc.	180,500	7,220,000
Newmont Corporation	128,900	5,498,874
Nucor Corporation	22,200	3,640,356
Steel Dynamics, Inc.	12,526	1,364,457
Teck Resources Limited	54,600	2,298,660
	54,000	2,298,000
al Common Stocks		20,022,347
Cost \$460,325,560)		616,376,450

#### June 30. 2023 (unaudited) Shares Value (a) Short-Term Investments - 0.7% Money Market Funds — 0.7% Northern Institutional Treasury Portfolio, 5.00% (c) 576,568 \$ 576,568 Western Asset Institutional Liquid Reserves Fund, 5.16% (c) 3,804,511 3,803,370 **Total Short-Term Investments** (Cost \$4,380,008) 4.379.938 Total — 100.0% of Net Assets (Cost \$464,705,568) 620,756,388 Other Assets Less Liabilities - 0.0% 197,214 Net Assets - 100.0% \$620.953.602

#### Total Return Swap Agreements - 0.0%

D	Description					Value and Unrealized
Terms	Contract Type	Underlying Security	Termination Date	Notional Amount	Unrealized Appreciation (Assets)	Depreciation (Liabilities)
Receive total return on underlying security and pay financing amount based on notional amount and daily U.S. Federal Funds rate plus 0.55%.	Long	Crown Holdings, Inc. (35,900 shares)	8/1/2024	\$ 3,127,059	\$ —	\$(8,426)
Pay total return on underlying security and receive financing amount based on notional amount and daily U.S. Federal Funds rate less 0.45%.	Short	Materials Select Sector SPDR Fund (37,600 shares)	8/1/2024	(3,118,364)	2,452	_
Receive total return on underlying security and pay financing amount based on notional amount and daily U.S. Federal Funds rate plus 0.55%.	Long	First Solar, Inc. (16,400 shares)	8/1/2024	3,118,288	_	(812)
Pay total return on underlying security and receive financing amount based on notional amount and daily U.S. Federal Funds rate less 0.45%.	Short	Materials Select Sector SPDR Fund (18,800 shares)	8/1/2024	(1,559,182)	1,226	_
Pay total return on underlying security and receive financing amount based on notional amount and daily U.S. Federal Funds rate less 0.45%.	Short	Energy Select Sector SPDR Fund (17,800 shares)	8/1/2024	(1,446,891)	2,065	_
Gross unrealized gain (loss) on ope	n total retui	rn swap agreements			\$5,743	\$(9,238)
Net unrealized loss on open total re	turn swap a	greements (d)				\$(3,495)

- (a) Common stocks and warrants are listed on the New York Stock Exchange or NASDAQ and are valued at the last reported sale price on the day of valuation.
- (b) Presently non-dividend paying.
- (c) Rate presented is as of period-end and represents the annualized yield earned over the previous seven days.
- (d) Counterparty for all open total return swap agreements is Morgan Stanley.

#### During the Six Months Ended June 30, 2023 (unaudited)

	Dollar Amount Traded in the Period	Percent of Net Assets Held at Period-End
Additions		
Schlumberger N.V.	\$6,571,676	4.4%
Kinder Morgan, Inc.	6,559,740	2.2
Targa Resources Corp.	6,026,164	1.4
Marathon Oil Corporation	4,126,854	1.1
LyondellBasell Industries N.V.	3,975,084	0.9
PPG Industries, Inc.	3,973,419	1.1
DuPont de Nemours, Inc.	3,808,549	1.1
Canadian Natural Resources Limited	3,578,823*	0.6
TechnipFMC plc	3,200,910*	0.6
Newmont Corporation	2,472,008	0.9
Teck Resources Limited	2,305,627*	0.4
Celanese Corporation	1,896,413	0.7
Ecolab Inc.	1,519,194	0.9
Air Products and Chemicals, Inc.	1,366,966	1.5
Pioneer Natural Resources Company	1,283,118	3.4
Reductions		
Occidental Petroleum Corporation	9,761,055	1.6
Marathon Petroleum Corporation	4,338,365	3.5
Sherwin-Williams Company	4,013,014	0.9
Halliburton Company	3,968,277	1.0
Coterra Energy Inc.	3,786,831	0.6
ConocoPhillips	3,679,769	7.1
Martin Marietta Materials, Inc.	3,369,052	0.4
FMC Corporation	3,091,963	0.2
Cheniere Energy, Inc.	2,956,636	—
Nucor Corporation	2,494,442	0.6
CF Industries Holdings, Inc.	2,204,784	0.1
Devon Energy Corporation	1,515,120	1.0
Steel Dynamics, Inc.	1,473,262	0.2
Freeport-McMoRan, Inc.	1,397,072	1.2
EOG Resources, Inc.	1,160,527	2.4

\* New position

The transactions presented above represent all new and fully-eliminated positions and up to the fifteen largest net additions and reductions to existing portfolio securities during the period, and exclude those in sector exchange-traded funds.

Year	(000's) Value Of Net Assets	(000's) Shares Outstanding	Net Asset Value Per Share	Market Value Per Share	Income Dividends Per Share	Capital Gains Distributions Per Share	Return of Capital Distributions Per Share	Total Dividends and Distributions Per Share	Annual Distribution Rate*
2013	\$863,690	26,775	\$32.26	\$27.38	\$.46	\$1.42	\$—	\$1.88	7.2%
2014	754,506	27,381	27.56	23.84	.51	1.38	_	1.89	6.6
2015	582,677	28,097	20.74	17.74	.38	1.00	—	1.38	6.2
2016	685,882	28,555	24.02	20.17	.41	.73	—	1.14	6.1
2017	674,388	28,999	23.26	19.84	.46	.72	_	1.18	6.1
2018	522,997	29,534	17.71	14.57	.45	.40	.32	1.17	6.0
2019	561,469	29,875	18.79	16.46	.78	.32	—	1.10	6.9
2020	331,942	24,122	13.76	11.37	.47	.26	_	.73	6.1
2021	470,589	24,485	19.22	16.52	.56	.35	_	.91	6.3
2022	651,336	25,194	25.85	21.80	.79	.84	—	1.63	8.1
June 30, 2023	620,954	25,033	24.81	20.82	.25**	.05	—	.30**	_

\* The annual distribution rate is the total dividends and distributions per share divided by the Fund's average month-end stock price. The average month-end stock price is determined for the twelve months ended October 31, which is consistent with the calculation used for the annual 6% minimum distribution rate commitment adopted in September 2012.

\*\* Includes amounts declared but not yet paid.

#### ANNUAL MEETING OF STOCKHOLDERS

#### (unaudited)

The Annual Meeting of Stockholders was held on April 20, 2023. The following votes were cast for directors:

	Votes For	Votes Withheld
Kenneth J. Dale	19,462,665	560,889
Frederic A. Escherich	19,413,069	610,485
James P. Haynie	19,475,768	547,786
Mary Chris Jammet	19,453,448	570,106
Lauriann C. Kloppenburg	19,452,899	570,655
Jane Musser Nelson	19,447,931	575,623
Mark E. Stoeckle	19,330,021	693,533

A proposal to ratify the selection of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP as the independent registered public accounting firm for the Fund for 2023 was approved with 19,605,456 votes for, 232,293 votes against, and 185,805 shares abstaining.

(unaudited)

#### **Distribution Commitment and Payment Schedule**

The Fund established an annual 6% minimum distribution rate commitment that has been met or exceeded since its adoption in 2012. The commitment is not a guarantee, and may be changed by the Board should market or other conditions warrant. Distributions are generated from portfolio income and capital gains derived from managing the portfolio. If such earnings do not meet the distribution commitment, or it's deemed in the best interest of shareholders, the Fund may return capital.

The Fund presently pays distributions four times a year, as follows: (a) three interim distributions on or about March 1, June 1, and September 1, and (b) a "year-end" distribution, payable in late December, consisting of the estimated balance of the net investment income for the year, the net realized capital gains earned through October 31 and, if applicable, a return of capital. Shareholders may elect to receive the year-end distribution in stock, cash, or both. In connection with this distribution, all shareholders of record are sent a distribution announcement notice and an election card in mid-November. Shareholders holding shares in "street" or brokerage accounts make their elections by notifying their brokerage house representative.

#### **Electronic Delivery of Shareholder Reports**

The Fund offers shareholders the benefits and convenience of viewing Quarterly and Annual Reports and other shareholder materials online. With your consent, paper copies of these documents will cease with the next mailing and will be provided via e-mail. Reduce paper mailed to your home and help lower the Fund's printing and mailing costs. To enroll, please visit the following websites:

Registered shareholders with the Fund's transfer agent, American Stock Transfer & Trust Company ("AST"): *www.astfinancial.com* 

Shareholders using brokerage accounts: http://enroll.icsdelivery.com/PEO

#### **Proxy Voting Policies and Record**

A description of the policies and procedures that the Fund uses to determine how to vote proxies relating to portfolio securities owned by the Fund and the Fund's proxy voting record for the 12-month period ended June 30, 2023 are available (i) without charge, upon request, by calling the Fund's toll free number at (800) 638-2479; (ii) on the Fund's website: *www.adamsfunds.com*; and (iii) on the Securities and Exchange Commission's website: *www.sec.gov*.

### Statement on Quarterly Filing of Complete Portfolio Schedule

In addition to publishing its complete schedule of portfolio holdings in the First and Third Quarter Reports to Shareholders, the Fund also files its complete schedule of portfolio holdings for the first and third quarters of each fiscal year with the Securities and Exchange Commission on Form N-PORT. The form is available on the Commission's website: *www.sec.gov.* The Fund also posts a link to its filings on its website: *www.adamsfunds.com.* 

#### **Board of Directors**

Kenneth J. Dale $^{(1)(2)(5)}$ Frederic A. Escherich $^{(1)(2)(3)(4)}$ James P. Haynie $^{(1)}$  Mary Chris Jammet<sup>(1)(2)(3)(4)</sup> Lauriann C. Kloppenburg<sup>(1)(2)(3)(4)</sup> Jane Musser Nelson<sup>(2)(3)(4)</sup>

Mark E. Stoeckle<sup>(3)(4)</sup>

(1) Member of Executive Committee

- (2) Member of Audit Committee
- (3) Member of Compensation Committee
- (4) Member of Nominating and Governance Committee
- (5) Chair of the Board

#### Officers

James P. Haynie, CFA Gregory W. Buckley Brian S. Hook, CFA, CPA Janis F. Kerns

Michael A. Kijesky, CFA Michael E. Rega, CFA Jeffrey R. Schollaert, CFA Christine M. Sloan, CPA Chief Executive Officer and President Executive Vice President Vice President and Chief Financial Officer Vice President, General Counsel, Secretary, and Chief Compliance Officer Vice President—Research Vice President—Research Vice President—Research Treasurer and Director of Human Resources

500 East Pratt Street, Suite 1300, Baltimore, MD 21202 410.752.5900 800.638.2479 *Website:* www.adamsfunds.com *Tickers:* PEO (NYSE), XPEOX (NASDAQ) *Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm:* PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP *Custodian of Securities:* The Northern Trust Company *Transfer Agent & Registrar:* American Stock Transfer & Trust Company, LLC Stockholder Relations Department 6201 15<sup>th</sup> Avenue Brooklyn, NY 11219 (866) 723-8330 *Website:* www.astfinancial.com *Email:* info@astfinancial.com