



MERK[®] | MUTUAL
FUNDS

MERK HARD CURRENCY FUND[®]

Investor Shares (MERKX)

Institutional Shares (MHCIX)

SEMI ANNUAL REPORT

(UNAUDITED)

SEPTEMBER 30, 2021

MERK HARD CURRENCY FUND
SCHEDULE OF INVESTMENTS

SEPTEMBER 30, 2021

Principal	Security Description	Currency	Rate	Maturity	Value in USD
Foreign Bonds-68.5% ^(a)					
Non-U.S. Government - Australia - 5.0%					
\$ 3,800,000	Australia Government Bond	AUD	2.000%	12/21/21	\$ 2,758,923
Non-U.S. Government - Austria - 4.3%					
2,000,000	Republic of Austria Government Bond ^(b)	EUR	3.650	04/20/22	2,371,752
Non-U.S. Government - New Zealand - 8.4%					
6,300,000	New Zealand Government Bond	NZD	5.500	04/15/23	4,645,725
Non-U.S. Government - Sweden - 4.4%					
21,000,000	Sweden Government Bond	SEK	3.500	06/01/22	2,460,265
Non-U.S. Government Agency - Germany - 6.2%					
30,000,000	Kreditanstalt fuer Wiederaufbau, EMTN	NOK	1.125	05/12/22	3,441,674
Non-U.S. Government Agency - Sweden - 10.1%					
49,000,000	Kommuninvest I Sverige AB, MTN	SEK	0.250	06/01/22	5,609,601
Regional Agencies - Australia - 4.4%					
3,200,000	Queensland Treasury Corp.	AUD	6.000	07/21/22	2,422,902
Regional Authority - Australia - 4.6%					
3,400,000	New South Wales Treasury Corp.	AUD	6.000	03/01/22	2,517,896
Regional Authority - Canada - 16.8%					
3,000,000	Province of Alberta Canada	CAD	1.600	09/01/22	2,395,831
2,600,000	Province of British Columbia Canada	CAD	3.250	12/18/21	2,065,467
3,000,000	Province of New Brunswick Canada	CAD	3.350	12/03/21	2,380,578
3,000,000	Province of Saskatchewan Canada	CAD	9.600	02/04/22	2,442,373
					9,284,249
Supranational Bank - Luxembourg - 4.3%					
2,000,000	European Financial Stability Facility, EMTN	EUR	3.500	02/04/22	2,349,391
Total Foreign Bonds (Cost \$38,417,115)					37,862,378
Foreign Treasury Securities-15.7% ^(a)					
Non-U.S. Government - Canada - 4.0%					
2,800,000	Canadian Treasury Bill	CAD	0.165	10/28/21	2,210,400
Non-U.S. Government - Norway - 11.7%					
56,500,000	Norway Treasury Bill ^{(b)(c)}	NOK	0.112 - 0.130	12/15/21	6,461,401
Total Foreign Treasury Securities (Cost \$8,883,302)					8,671,801
U.S. Government & Agency Obligations-9.9% ^(a)					
U.S. Treasury Securities - 9.9%					
5,500,000	U.S. Treasury Bill (Cost \$5,499,862)	USD	0.045	10/21/21	5,499,775
Shares					
Exchange Traded Product - 1.9%					
61,300	VanEck Merk Gold Trust ETF ^{(a)(d)(e)} (Cost \$654,071)	USD			1,047,617
Shares					
Money Market Fund - 1.9%					
1,025,759	Morgan Stanley Institutional Liquidity Funds Treasury Securities Portfolio, Institutional Class ^(f) (Cost \$1,025,759)	USD	0.010		1,025,759
Investments, at value - 97.9% (Cost \$54,480,109)					\$ 54,107,330
Foreign Currencies - 1.7% (Cost \$956,270)					937,866
Net Unrealized Gain/Loss on Forward Currency Contracts - (0.3)%					(146,145)
Other Assets & Liabilities, Net - 0.7%					368,619
NET ASSETS - 100.0%					\$ 55,267,670

EMTN European Medium Term Note

ETF Exchange Traded Fund

MTN Medium Term Note

(a) All or a portion of these securities are segregated to cover outstanding forward currency contract exposure.

- (b) Security exempt from registration under Rule 144A under the Securities Act of 1933. As of September 30, 2021, the value of these securities amounted to \$8,833,153 or 16.0% of net assets.
- (c) Rate presented is yield to maturity.
- (d) Affiliate.
- (e) Non-income producing security.
- (f) Dividend yield changes daily to reflect current market conditions. Rate was the quoted yield as of September 30, 2021.

Affiliated investments are investments that are managed by the Adviser, and are noted in the Merk Hard Currency Fund's Schedule of Investments. Transactions during the period with affiliates were as follows:

Exchange Traded Product

VanEck Merk Gold Trust ETF	Balance 3/31/2021	Gross Additions	Gross Reductions	Change in Unrealized Appreciation	Balance 9/30/2021	Realized Gain/(Loss)	Investment Income
Shares/							
Principal	61,300	–	–	–	61,300		
Cost	\$ 654,071	\$ –	\$ –	\$ –	\$ 654,071	\$ –	–
Value	1,019,419	–	–	28,198	1,047,617		

As of September 30, 2021, the Merk Hard Currency Fund had the following forward currency contracts outstanding:

Counterparty	Contracts to Purchase/(Sell)	Settlement Date	Settlement Value	Net Unrealized Appreciation (Depreciation)
BNY Mellon Capital Markets, LLC	(2,200,000) British Pound Sterling	10/06/21	\$ (2,960,619)	\$ (3,685)
	2,200,000 British Pound Sterling	10/06/21	3,045,374	(81,070)
	2,200,000 British Pound Sterling	10/20/21	2,960,676	3,684
	(380,000,000) Japanese Yen	10/06/21	(3,406,193)	(8,297)
	380,000,000 Japanese Yen	10/06/21	3,479,567	(65,077)
	380,000,000 Japanese Yen	10/20/21	3,406,520	8,300
				<u>\$ (146,145)</u>

The following is a summary of the inputs used to value the Fund's investments and other financial instruments and liabilities as of September 30, 2021.

The inputs or methodology used for valuing securities are not necessarily an indication of the risks associated with investing in those securities. For more information on valuation inputs, and their aggregation into the levels used in the table below, please refer to the Security Valuation section in Note 2 of the accompanying Notes to Financial Statements.

	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Total
Assets				
Investments at Value				
Foreign Bonds	\$ –	\$ 37,862,378	\$ –	\$ 37,862,378
Foreign Treasury Securities	–	8,671,801	–	8,671,801
U.S. Government & Agency Obligations	–	5,499,775	–	5,499,775
Exchange Traded Product	1,047,617	–	–	1,047,617
Money Market Fund	–	1,025,759	–	1,025,759
Investments, at value	<u>\$ 1,047,617</u>	<u>\$ 53,059,713</u>	<u>\$ –</u>	<u>\$ 54,107,330</u>
Other Financial Instruments*				
Forward Currency Contracts	–	11,984	–	11,984
Total Assets	<u>\$ 1,047,617</u>	<u>\$ 53,071,697</u>	<u>\$ –</u>	<u>\$ 54,119,314</u>
Liabilities				
Other Financial Instruments*				
Forward Currency Contracts	\$ –	\$ (158,129)	\$ –	\$ (158,129)
Total Liabilities	<u>\$ –</u>	<u>\$ (158,129)</u>	<u>\$ –</u>	<u>\$ (158,129)</u>

* Other Financial Instruments are derivatives not reflected in the Schedule of Investments, such as forward currency contracts, which are valued at the unrealized appreciation (depreciation) at period end.

PORTFOLIO HOLDINGS

% of Total Net Assets

Foreign Bonds	68.5%
Foreign Treasury Securities	15.7%
U.S. Government & Agency Obligations	9.9%
Exchange Traded Product	1.9%
Money Market Fund	1.9%
Other Assets & Liabilities, Net	2.1%
	<u>100.0%</u>

ASSETS

Total Investments, at value (Cost \$53,826,038)	\$	53,059,713
Total Investments in affiliates, at value (Cost \$654,071)		1,047,617
Total Investments in affiliates, at value (Cost \$54,480,109)	\$	54,107,330
Foreign currency (Cost \$956,270)		937,866
Receivables:		
Fund shares sold		39,694
Dividends and interest		377,210
Unrealized gain on forward currency contracts		11,984
Total Assets		<u>55,474,084</u>

LIABILITIES

Unrealized loss on forward currency contracts		158,129
Payables:		
Fund shares redeemed		617
Accrued Liabilities:		
Investment adviser fees		35,884
Distribution fees		9,480
Other expenses		2,304
Total Liabilities		<u>206,414</u>

NET ASSETS

\$	<u>55,267,670</u>
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COMPONENTS OF NET ASSETS

Paid-in capital	\$	63,807,456
Distributable earnings		(8,539,786)
NET ASSETS	\$	<u>55,267,670</u>

SHARES OF BENEFICIAL INTEREST AT NO PAR VALUE (UNLIMITED SHARES AUTHORIZED)

Investor Shares	4,910,113
Institutional Shares	1,001,609

NET ASSET VALUE, OFFERING AND REDEMPTION PRICE PER SHARE

Investor Shares (based on net assets of \$45,749,195, respectively)	\$	9.32
Institutional Shares (based on net assets of \$9,518,475, respectively)	\$	<u>9.50</u>

STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS

SIX MONTHS ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2021

INVESTMENT INCOME	
Dividend income	\$ 38
Interest income (Net of foreign withholding taxes of \$11,596, respectively)	640,029
Net amortization expense	(641,009)
Total Investment Loss	<u>(942)</u>
EXPENSES	
Investment adviser fees	290,719
Non 12b-1 shareholder servicing fees:	
Investor Shares	12,040
Institutional Shares	2,497
Distribution fees:	
Investor Shares	60,200
Interest expense	7,554
Total Expenses	<u>373,010</u>
Fees waived	(2,130)
Net Expenses	<u>370,880</u>
NET INVESTMENT LOSS	<u>(371,822)</u>
NET REALIZED AND UNREALIZED GAIN (LOSS)	
Net realized gain (loss) on:	
Investments in unaffiliated issuers	780,679
Foreign currency transactions	(12,375)
Net realized gain	<u>768,304</u>
Net change in unrealized depreciation on:	
Investments in unaffiliated issuers	(1,676,027)
Investments in affiliated issuers	28,198
Foreign currency translations	(76,845)
Net change in unrealized appreciation (depreciation)	<u>(1,724,674)</u>
NET REALIZED AND UNREALIZED LOSS	<u>(956,370)</u>
DECREASE IN NET ASSETS RESULTING FROM OPERATIONS	<u>\$ (1,328,192)</u>

STATEMENTS OF CHANGES IN NET ASSETS

	For the Six Months Ended September 30, 2021	For the Year Ended March 31, 2021
OPERATIONS		
Net investment loss	\$ (371,822)	\$ (624,653)
Net realized gain	768,304	2,890,306
Net change in unrealized appreciation (depreciation)	(1,724,674)	4,447,453
Increase (Decrease) in Net Assets Resulting from Operations	<u>(1,328,192)</u>	<u>6,713,106</u>
DISTRIBUTIONS TO SHAREHOLDERS		
CAPITAL SHARE TRANSACTIONS		
Sale of shares:		
Investor Shares	2,085,448	6,595,742
Institutional Shares	1,478,344	1,073,350
Redemption of shares:		
Investor Shares	(4,270,619)	(12,915,229)
Institutional Shares	(1,188,576)	(6,238,951)
Decrease in Net Assets from Capital Share Transactions	<u>(1,895,403)</u>	<u>(11,485,088)</u>
Decrease in Net Assets	<u>(3,223,595)</u>	<u>(4,771,982)</u>
NET ASSETS		
Beginning of Period	58,491,265	63,263,247
End of Period	<u>\$ 55,267,670</u>	<u>\$ 58,491,265</u>
SHARE TRANSACTIONS		
Sale of shares:		
Investor Shares	217,720	714,946
Institutional Shares	151,464	116,750
Redemption of shares:		
Investor Shares	(444,319)	(1,416,182)
Institutional Shares	(122,542)	(709,742)
Decrease in Shares	<u>(197,677)</u>	<u>(1,294,228)</u>

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

These financial highlights reflect selected data for a share outstanding throughout each period.

	For the Six	For the Years Ended March 31,				
	Months Ended September 30, 2021	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017
INVESTOR SHARES						
NET ASSET VALUE, Beginning of Period	\$ 9.55	\$ 8.52	\$ 9.10	\$ 10.06	\$ 9.27	\$ 9.81
INVESTMENT OPERATIONS						
Net investment income (loss) (a)	(0.06)	(0.10)	(0.05)	(0.08)	(0.12)	(0.12)
Net realized and unrealized gain (loss)	(0.17)	1.13	(0.53)	(0.80)	1.00	(0.42)
Total from Investment Operations	(0.23)	1.03	(0.58)	(0.88)	0.88	(0.54)
DISTRIBUTIONS TO SHAREHOLDERS FROM						
Net investment income	—	—	—	(0.08)	(0.09)	—
NET ASSET VALUE, End of Period	\$ 9.32	\$ 9.55	\$ 8.52	\$ 9.10	\$ 10.06	\$ 9.27
TOTAL RETURN	(2.41)%(b)	12.09%	(6.37)%	(8.73)%	9.54%	(5.50)%
RATIOS/SUPPLEMENTARY DATA						
Net Assets at End of Period (000's omitted)	\$45,749	\$49,033	\$49,712	\$64,575	\$85,874	\$92,355
Ratios to Average Net Assets:						
Net investment income (loss)	(1.32)%(c)	(1.08)%	(0.57)%	(0.88)%	(1.21)%	(1.27)%
Net expenses	1.32%(c)	1.31%	1.34%	1.35%	1.27%	1.24%
Interest expenses	0.05%(c)	0.03%	0.06%	0.08%	—%	—%
Net expenses without interest expenses	1.27%(c)	1.28%	1.28%	1.27%	1.27%	1.24%
Gross expenses (d)	1.33%(c)	1.33%	1.36%	1.38%	1.30%	1.30%
PORTFOLIO TURNOVER RATE (e)	13%(b)	107%	53%	65%	35%	81%
INSTITUTIONAL SHARES						
NET ASSET VALUE, Beginning of Period	\$ 9.72	\$ 8.66	\$ 9.23	\$ 10.18	\$ 9.38	\$ 9.90
INVESTMENT OPERATIONS						
Net investment income (loss) (a)	(0.05)	(0.08)	(0.03)	(0.06)	(0.10)	(0.10)
Net realized and unrealized gain (loss)	(0.17)	1.14	(0.54)	(0.80)	1.02	(0.42)
Total from Investment Operations	(0.22)	1.06	(0.57)	(0.86)	0.92	(0.52)
DISTRIBUTIONS TO SHAREHOLDERS FROM						
Net investment income	—	—	—	(0.09)	(0.12)	—
NET ASSET VALUE, End of Period	\$ 9.50	\$ 9.72	\$ 8.66	\$ 9.23	\$ 10.18	\$ 9.38
TOTAL RETURN	(2.26)%(b)	12.24%	(6.18)%	(8.47)%	9.82%	(5.25)%
RATIOS/SUPPLEMENTARY DATA						
Net Assets at End of Period (000's omitted)	\$9,518	\$9,458	\$13,551	\$16,462	\$22,624	\$17,821
Ratios to Average Net Assets:						
Net investment income (loss)	(1.07)%(c)	(0.83)%	(0.31)%	(0.64)%	(0.95)%	(1.02)%
Net expenses	1.07%(c)	1.06%	1.09%	1.10%	1.02%	0.99%
Interest expenses	0.05%(c)	0.03%	0.06%	0.08%	—%	—%
Net expenses without interest expenses	1.02%(c)	1.03%	1.03%	1.02%	1.02%	0.99%
Gross expenses (d)	1.08%(c)	1.08%	1.11%	1.13%	1.05%	1.05%
PORTFOLIO TURNOVER RATE (e)	13%(b)	107%	53%	65%	35%	81%

(a) Calculated based on average shares outstanding during each period.

(b) Not annualized.

(c) Annualized.

(d) Reflects the expense ratio excluding any waivers and/or reimbursements.

(e) The portfolio turnover rate is calculated without regard to any securities whose maturities or expiration dates at the time of acquisition were one year or less.

Note 1. Organization

The Merk Hard Currency Fund (the “Fund”) is a non-diversified portfolio of Forum Funds (the “Trust”). The Trust is a Delaware statutory trust that is registered as an open-end, management investment company under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the “Act”). Under its Trust Instrument, the Trust is authorized to issue an unlimited number of the Fund’s shares of beneficial interest without par value. The Fund currently offers two classes of shares: Investor Shares and Institutional Shares. The Fund seeks to profit from a rise in hard currencies relative to the U.S. dollar. The Fund’s Investor Shares and Institutional Shares commenced operations on May 10, 2005 and April 1, 2010, respectively.

Note 2. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

The Fund is an investment company and follows accounting and reporting guidance under Financial Accounting Standards Board (“FASB”) Accounting Standards Codification (“ASC”) Topic 946, “Financial Services – Investment Companies.” These financial statements are prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (“GAAP”), which require management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities, the disclosure of contingent liabilities at the date of the financial statements, and the reported amounts of increases and decreases in net assets from operations during the fiscal period. Actual amounts could differ from those estimates. The following summarizes the significant accounting policies of the Fund:

Security Valuation – Securities are valued at market prices using the last quoted trade or official closing price from the principal exchange where the security is traded, as provided by independent pricing services on each Fund business day. In the absence of a last trade, securities are valued at the mean of the last bid and ask price provided by the pricing service. Debt securities may be valued at prices supplied by a fund’s pricing agent based on broker or dealer supplied valuations or matrix pricing, a method of valuing securities by reference to the value of other securities with similar characteristics such as rating, interest rate and maturity. Futures contracts are valued at the day’s settlement price on the exchange where the contract is traded. Forward currency contracts are generally valued based on interpolation of forward curve data points obtained from major banking institutions that deal in foreign currencies and currency dealers. Shares of non-exchange traded open-end mutual funds are valued at net asset value (“NAV”). Short-term investments that mature in sixty days or less may be valued at amortized cost.

The Fund values its investments at fair value pursuant to procedures adopted by the Trust’s Board of Trustees (the “Board”) if (1) market quotations are not readily available or (2) the Adviser, as defined in Note 3, believes that the values available are unreliable. The Trust’s Valuation Committee, as defined in the Fund’s registration statement, performs certain functions as they relate to the administration and oversight of the Fund’s valuation procedures. Under these procedures, the Valuation Committee convenes on a regular and ad hoc basis to review such investments and considers a number of factors, including valuation methodologies and significant unobservable inputs, when arriving at fair value.

The Valuation Committee may work with the Adviser to provide valuation inputs. In determining fair valuations, inputs may include market-based analytics that may consider related or comparable assets or liabilities, recent transactions, market multiples, book values and other relevant investment information. Adviser inputs may include an income-based approach in which the anticipated future cash flows of the investment are discounted in determining fair value. Discounts may also be applied based on the nature or duration of any restrictions on the disposition of the investments. The Valuation Committee performs regular reviews of valuation methodologies, key inputs and assumptions, disposition analysis and market activity.

Fair valuation is based on subjective factors and, as a result, the fair value price of an investment may differ from the security’s market price and may not be the price at which the asset may be sold. Fair valuation could result in a different NAV than a NAV determined by using market quotes.

GAAP has a three-tier fair value hierarchy. The basis of the tiers is dependent upon the various “inputs” used to determine the value of the Fund’s investments. These inputs are summarized in the three broad levels listed below:

Level 1 - Quoted prices in active markets for identical assets and liabilities.

Level 2 - Prices determined using significant other observable inputs (including quoted prices for similar securities, interest rates, prepayment speeds, credit risk, etc.). Short-term securities with maturities of sixty days or less are valued at amortized cost, which approximates market value, and are categorized as Level 2 in the hierarchy. Municipal securities, long-term U.S. government obligations

and corporate debt securities are valued in accordance with the evaluated price supplied by a pricing service and generally categorized as Level 2 in the hierarchy. Other securities that are categorized as Level 2 in the hierarchy include, but are not limited to, warrants that do not trade on an exchange, securities valued at the mean between the last reported bid and ask quotation and international equity securities valued by an independent third party with adjustments for changes in value between the time of the securities' respective local market closes and the close of the U.S. market.

Level 3 - Significant unobservable inputs (including the Fund's own assumptions in determining the fair value of investments).

The aggregate value by input level, as of September 30, 2021, for the Fund's investments is included at the end of the Fund's Schedule of Investments.

Security Transactions, Investment Income and Realized Gain and Loss – Investment transactions are accounted for on the trade date. Dividend income is recorded on the ex-dividend date. Income and capital gains on some foreign securities may be subject to foreign withholding taxes, which are accrued as applicable. Interest income is recorded on an accrual basis. Premium is amortized to the next call date above par and discount is accreted to maturity using the effective interest method. Identified cost of investments sold is used to determine the gain and loss for both financial statement and federal income tax purposes.

Foreign Currency Translations – Foreign currency amounts are translated into U.S. dollars as follows: (1) assets and liabilities at the rate of exchange at the end of the respective period; and (2) purchases and sales of securities and income and expenses at the rate of exchange prevailing on the dates of such transactions. The portion of the results of operations arising from changes in the exchange rates and the portion due to fluctuations arising from changes in the market prices of securities are not isolated. Such fluctuations are included with the net realized and unrealized gain or loss on investments.

Foreign Currency Transactions – The Fund may enter into transactions to purchase or sell foreign currency contracts and options on foreign currency. Forward currency contracts are agreements to exchange one currency for another at a future date and at a specified price. A fund may use forward currency contracts to facilitate transactions in foreign securities, to manage a fund's foreign currency exposure and to protect the U.S. dollar value of its underlying portfolio securities against the effect of possible adverse movements in foreign exchange rates. These contracts are intrinsically valued daily based on forward rates, and a fund's net equity therein, representing unrealized gain or loss on the contracts as measured by the difference between the forward foreign exchange rates at the dates of entry into the contracts and the forward rates at the reporting date, is recorded as a component of NAV. These instruments involve market risk, credit risk, or both kinds of risks, in excess of the amount recognized in the Statement of Assets and Liabilities. Risks arise from the possible inability of counterparties to meet the terms of their contracts and from movement in currency and securities values and interest rates. Due to the risks associated with these transactions, a fund could incur losses up to the entire contract amount, which may exceed the net unrealized value included in its NAV.

The values of each individual forward currency contract outstanding as of September 30, 2021, are disclosed in the Fund's Schedule of Investments.

Futures Contracts – The Fund may purchase futures contracts to gain exposure to market changes, which may be more efficient or cost effective than actually buying the securities. A futures contract is an agreement between parties to buy or sell a security at a set price on a future date. Upon entering into such a contract, a fund is required to pledge to the broker an amount of cash, U.S. Government obligations or other high-quality debt securities equal to the minimum "initial margin" requirements of the exchange on which the futures contract is traded. Pursuant to the contract, the fund agrees to receive from or pay to the broker an amount of cash equal to the daily fluctuation in the value of the contract. Such receipts or payments are known as "variation margin" and are recorded by the fund as unrealized gains or losses. When the contract is closed, the fund records a realized gain or loss equal to the difference between the value of the contract at the time it was opened and value at the time it was closed. Risks of entering into futures contracts include the possibility that there may be an illiquid market and that a change in the value of the contract may not correlate with changes in the value of the underlying securities.

Distributions to Shareholders – Distributions to shareholders of net investment income, if any, are declared and paid quarterly. Distributions to shareholders of net capital gains and foreign currency gains, if any, are declared and paid at least annually. Distributions to shareholders are recorded on the ex-dividend date. Distributions are based on amounts calculated in accordance with applicable federal income tax regulations, which may differ from GAAP. These differences are due primarily to differing treatments of income and gain on various investment securities held by the Fund, timing differences and differing characterizations of distributions made by the Fund.

Federal Taxes – The Fund intends to continue to qualify each year as a regulated investment company under Subchapter M of Chapter 1, Subtitle A, of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended ("Code"), and to distribute all of its taxable income to shareholders. In addition, by distributing in each calendar year substantially all of its net investment income and capital gains, if any, the Fund will not

be subject to a federal excise tax. Therefore, no federal income or excise tax provision is required. The Fund files a U.S. federal income and excise tax return as required. The Fund's federal income tax returns are subject to examination by the Internal Revenue Service for a period of three fiscal years after they are filed. As of September 30, 2021, there are no uncertain tax positions that would require financial statement recognition, de-recognition or disclosure.

Income and Expense Allocation – The Trust accounts separately for the assets, liabilities and operations of each of its investment portfolios. Expenses that are directly attributable to more than one investment portfolio are allocated among the respective investment portfolios in an equitable manner.

The Fund's class-specific expenses are charged to the operations of that class of shares. Income and expenses (other than expenses attributable to a specific class) and realized and unrealized gains or losses on investments are allocated to each class of shares based on the class' respective net assets to the total net assets of the Fund.

Commitments and Contingencies – In the normal course of business, the Fund enters into contracts that provide general indemnifications by the Fund to the counterparty to the contract. The Fund's maximum exposure under these arrangements is dependent on future claims that may be made against the Fund and, therefore, cannot be estimated; however, based on experience, the risk of loss from such claims is considered remote. The Fund has determined that none of these arrangements requires disclosure on the Fund's balance sheet.

Note 3. Fees and Expenses

Investment Adviser – Merk Investments LLC (the "Adviser") is the investment adviser to the Fund. Pursuant to an investment advisory agreement, the Adviser receives an advisory fee from the Fund at an annual rate of 1.00% of the Fund's average daily net assets.

Under the terms of the Investment Advisory Agreement for the Fund, the Adviser is obligated to pay all expenses of the Fund except Board-approved shareholder servicing fees, borrowing costs, taxes, brokerage costs, commissions, and extraordinary and non-recurring expenses and expenses that the Fund is authorized to pay under Rule 12b-1.

Distribution – Foreside Fund Services, LLC serves as the Fund's distributor (the "Distributor"). The Fund has adopted a Distribution Plan (the "Plan") for Investor Shares in accordance with Rule 12b-1 of the Act. Under the Plan, the Fund pays the Distributor and/or any other entity as authorized by the Board a fee of up to 0.25% of the average daily net assets of Investor Shares. The Distributor is not affiliated with the Adviser or Atlantic Fund Administration, LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Apex US Holdings, LLC (d/b/a Apex Fund Services) ("Apex") or their affiliates.

Other Service Providers – Apex provides fund accounting, fund administration, compliance and transfer agency services to the Fund. Apex also provides certain shareholder report production and EDGAR conversion and filing services. Apex provides a Principal Executive Officer, a Principal Financial Officer, a Chief Compliance Officer and an Anti-Money Laundering Officer to the Fund, as well as certain additional compliance support functions.

Trustees and Officers – The Trust pays each independent Trustee an annual retainer of \$31,000 for services to the Trust (\$41,000 for the Chairman). The Audit Committee Chairman receives an additional \$2,000 annually. The Trustees and Chairman may receive additional fees for special Board meetings. Each Trustee is also reimbursed for all reasonable out-of-pocket expenses incurred in connection with his duties as a Trustee, including travel and related expenses incurred in attending Board meetings. Certain officers of the Trust are also officers or employees of the above named service providers, and during their terms of office received no compensation from the Fund. Pursuant to the terms of the investment advisory agreement, the Trustees' fees attributable to the Fund are paid by the Adviser.

Note 4. Fees Waived

During the period, the Fund invested in VanEck Merk Gold Trust ETF, an exchange traded product sponsored by the Adviser. As of September 30, 2021, the Fund owned approximately 0.19% of VanEck Merk Gold Trust ETF. The Adviser has agreed to waive fees in an amount equal to the fee it receives from VanEck Merk Gold Trust ETF based on the Fund's investment in VanEck Merk Gold Trust ETF (NYSE:OUNZ). For the period ended September 30, 2021, the Adviser waived fees of \$2,130 for the Fund.

Note 5. Security Transactions

The cost of purchases and proceeds from sales of investment securities (including maturities), other than short-term investments during the period ended September 30, 2021, were as follows:

<u>Purchases</u>	<u>Sales</u>
\$ 9,943,535	\$ 3,463,701

Note 6. Summary of Derivative Activity

The volume of open derivative positions may vary on a daily basis as the Fund transacts derivative contracts in order to achieve the exposure desired by the Adviser. The total notional value of activity for the period ended September 30, 2021 for any derivative type that was held during the period is as follows:

Forward Currency Contracts	\$ 315,540,466
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The Fund's use of derivatives during the period ended September 30, 2021, was limited to forward currency contracts.

Following is a summary of the effect of derivatives on the Statement of Assets and Liabilities for the Fund as of September 30, 2021:

<u>Location:</u>	<u>Currency Contracts</u>
Asset derivatives:	
Unrealized gain on forward currency contracts	\$ 11,984
Liability derivatives:	
Unrealized loss on forward currency contracts	\$ 158,129

Realized and unrealized gains and losses on derivatives contracts during the period ended September 30, 2021, by the Fund are recorded in the following locations on the Statement of Operations:

<u>Location:</u>	<u>Currency Contracts</u>
Net realized gain (loss) on:	
Foreign currency transactions	\$ (28,423)
Net change in unrealized appreciation (depreciation) on:	
Foreign currency translations	(58,938)

The Fund is subject to enforceable master netting agreements, or netting arrangements, with certain counterparties. These agreements govern the terms of certain transactions, and reduce the counterparty risk associated with relevant transactions by specifying offsetting mechanisms and collateral posting arrangements at pre-arranged exposure levels. Master netting agreements may not be specific to each different asset type; in such instances, they would allow the Fund to close out and net its total exposure to a specified counterparty in the event of a default with respect to any and all the transactions governed under a single agreement with the counterparty. Collateral terms are contract specific for forward currency contracts. Although collateral or margin requirements may differ by type of derivative or investment, as applicable, the Fund typically receives cash posted as collateral (with rights of rehypothecation) or agrees to have such collateral posted to a third party custodian under a tri-party arrangement that enables the Fund to take control of such collateral in the event of a counterparty default.

ISDA Agreements govern OTC derivative transactions entered into by the Fund and select counterparties. ISDA Agreements maintain provisions for general obligations, representations, agreements, collateral and events of default or termination. Under the Fund's separate and distinct ISDA Agreements for forward currency contracts, the Fund may be required to post collateral on derivatives if the Fund is in a net liability position with the counterparty. Additionally, counterparties may immediately terminate derivatives contracts if the Fund fails to maintain sufficient asset coverage for its contracts. An election to terminate early could be material to the financial statements. In limited circumstances, the ISDA Agreement may contain additional provisions that add additional counterparty protection beyond coverage of existing daily exposure if the counterparty has a decline in credit quality below a predefined level. These amounts, if any, may

be segregated with a third party custodian. The gross fair value of OTC derivative instruments, amounts available for offset, collateral received or pledged and net exposure by instrument as of period end, is disclosed below.

The following table presents, as of September 30, 2021, the gross and net derivative assets and liabilities that are netted on the statement of assets and liabilities or that are subject to a master netting agreement. The table also presents information about the related collateral amounts.

	<u>Gross Asset (Liability) as Presented in the Statements of Assets and Liabilities</u>	<u>Financial Instruments (Received) Pledged*</u>	<u>Cash Collateral (Received) Pledged*</u>	<u>Net Amount</u>
<i>Merk Hard Currency Fund</i>				
Assets:				
Over-the-counter derivatives**	\$ 11,984	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 11,984
Liabilities:				
Over-the-counter derivatives**	\$ (158,129)	\$ 158,129	\$ —	\$ —

* The actual financial instruments and cash collateral (received) pledged may be in excess of the amounts shown in the table. The table only reflects collateral amounts up to the amount of the financial instrument disclosed on the Statement of Assets and Liabilities.

** Over-the-counter derivatives may consist of forward currency contracts. The amounts disclosed above represent the exposure to one or more counterparties. For further detail on individual derivative contracts and the corresponding unrealized appreciation (depreciation), see the Schedule of Investments.

Note 7. Federal Income Tax

As of September 30, 2021, the cost for federal income tax purposes is substantially the same for financial statement purposes and the components of net unrealized appreciation was as follows:

Gross Unrealized Appreciation	\$ 682,042
Gross Unrealized Depreciation	<u>(1,054,821)</u>
Net Unrealized Depreciation	<u>\$ (372,779)</u>

As of March 31, 2021, accumulated loss on a tax basis were as follows:

<u>Capital and Other Losses</u>	<u>Unrealized Appreciation</u>	<u>Total</u>
\$ (8,488,577)	\$ 1,276,983	\$ (7,211,594)

The difference between components of accumulated loss on a tax basis and the amounts reflected in the Statement of Assets and Liabilities are primarily due to grantor trust adjustments and forward contracts.

As of March 31, 2021, the Fund had \$521,510 in short term capital loss carryforwards and \$7,967,067 available in long term capital loss carry forwards that have no expiration date.

Note 8. Underlying Investments in Other Pooled Investment Vehicles

The Fund currently invests a portion of its assets in the VanEck Merk Gold Trust ETF. The Fund may eliminate its investments at any time if the Adviser determines that it is in the best interest of the Fund and its shareholders.

The performance of the Fund may be directly affected by the performance of the VanEck Merk Gold Trust ETF. The financial statements of the VanEck Merk Gold Trust ETF, including the schedule of investments, can be found at the Merk Funds website www.merkfunds.com, or the Securities and Exchange Commission's website www.sec.gov and should be read in conjunction with the Fund's financial statements. As of September 30, 2021 the percentage of the Fund's net assets invested in the VanEck Merk Gold Trust ETF was 1.9%.

Note 9. Subsequent Events

Subsequent events occurring after the date of this report through the date these financial statements were issued have been evaluated for potential impact, and the Fund has had no such events. Management has evaluated the need for additional disclosures and/or adjustments resulting from subsequent events. Based on this evaluation, no additional disclosures or adjustments were required to the financial statements as of the date the financial statements were issued.

Investment Advisory Agreement Approval

At the June 11, 2021 Board Meeting, the Board, including the Independent Trustees, considered the approval of the continuance of the investment advisory agreement between the Adviser and the Trust pertaining to the Fund (the “Advisory Agreement”). In preparation for its deliberations, the Board requested and reviewed written responses from the Adviser to a due diligence questionnaire circulated on the Board's behalf concerning the services provided by the Adviser. The Board also discussed the materials with Fund counsel and, as necessary, with the Trust's administrator. During its deliberations, the Board received an oral presentation from the Adviser, and was assisted by the advice of Trustee counsel.

At the meeting, the Board reviewed, among other matters: (1) the nature, extent and quality of the services provided to the Fund by the Adviser, including information on the investment performance of the Fund; (2) the costs of the services provided and profitability to the Adviser of its relationship with the Fund; (3) the advisory fee and total expense ratio of the Fund compared to those of a relevant peer group of funds; (4) the extent to which economies of scale may be realized as the Fund grows and whether the advisory fee enables the Fund's investors to share in the benefits of economies of scale; and (5) other benefits received by the Adviser from its relationship with the Fund. In addition, the Board recognized that the evaluation process with respect to the Adviser was an ongoing one and, in this regard, the Board considered information provided by the Adviser at regularly scheduled meetings during the past year.

Nature, Extent and Quality of Services

Based on written materials received, a presentation from a senior representative of the Adviser and a discussion with the Adviser about the Adviser's personnel, operations and financial condition, the Board considered the quality of services provided by the Adviser under the Advisory Agreement. In this regard, the Board considered information regarding the experience, qualifications and professional background of the portfolio manager and other personnel at the Adviser with principal responsibility for the Fund's investments, as well as the investment philosophy and decision-making process of the Adviser and the capability and integrity of the Adviser's senior management and staff.

The Board considered also the adequacy of the Adviser's resources. The Board noted the Adviser's representation that the firm is in stable financial condition and that the firm has the operational capability, the necessary staffing and experience, and the financial strength necessary to continue providing high-quality investment advisory services to the Fund. Based on the presentation and the materials provided by the Adviser in connection with the Board's consideration of the renewal of the Advisory Agreement, the Board concluded that, overall, it was satisfied with the nature, extent and quality of services to be provided to the Fund under the Advisory Agreement.

Performance

In connection with a presentation by the Adviser regarding its approach to managing the Fund, the Board reviewed the performance of the Fund compared to its primary benchmark index and to a peer group of funds identified by Broadridge Financial Solutions, Inc. (“Broadridge”) as having characteristics similar to the Fund.

The Board observed that the Fund outperformed its primary benchmark index, the JPMorgan 3-Month Global Cash Index, for the one- and 10-year periods ended March 31, 2021, and for the period since the Fund's inception on May 10, 2005, and underperformed the primary benchmark for the three- and five-year periods ended March 31, 2021. The Board noted the Adviser's representation that the Fund's underperformance relative to its primary benchmark index during the noted periods could be attributed, at least in part, to the Fund's mix of currency exposures compared to those of the benchmark.

The Board also considered the Fund's performance relative to its Broadridge peer group. In this regard, the Board noted the Adviser's representation that there are important differences between the investment strategy of the Fund and the investment strategy of the one other fund in the Broadridge peer group, including that the Fund focuses on currencies of the G-10 and Singapore, whereas the Broadridge peer fund's strategy focused more on Brazil and emerging market currencies. The Board noted that the unique nature of the Fund's investment strategy resulted in a limited universe of comparable funds. At the suggestion of the Adviser, the Board also considered the performance of the Fund to the performance of the Inverse U.S. Dollar Index, which the Adviser believed to be more closely aligned with the strategy of the Fund than the peer fund included in the Broadridge peer group. The Board observed that the Fund outperformed the Inverse U.S. Dollar Index for the one-year period ended March 31, 2021, and underperformed Index for the three- and five-year periods ended March 31, 2021. The Board also noted the Adviser's representation that current market factors, including current global deflationary environment, were indicative of a potential decline in the U.S. Dollar, which should benefit the Fund.

Compensation

The Board evaluated the Adviser's compensation for providing advisory services to the Fund and analyzed comparative information on actual advisory fee rates and actual total expense ratios the Fund's Broadridge peer group. The Board observed that the Adviser's actual advisory fee rate and actual total expense ratios were each higher than the median of the Broadridge peers. The Board noted, however, that the Fund operates pursuant to unified advisory fee agreement. Under this agreement, the Adviser pays substantially all service provider fees in connection with the management and operation of the Fund (with certain exceptions) from the single, all-inclusive management fee. The Board noted the Adviser's representation that the Broadridge peer fund did not employ a unified fee structure and therefore a direct advisory fee comparison is not meaningful. Based on the unified nature of the fee and expense arrangements and the Adviser's discussion of the aggregate costs and profitability of the Adviser's mutual fund activities, the Board concluded that the Adviser's advisory fee rate charged to the Fund was within the range of reasonable fees.

Cost of Services and Profitability

The Board considered information provided by the Adviser regarding its costs of services and profitability with respect to the Fund. In this regard, the Board considered the Adviser's resources devoted to the Fund and noted the Adviser's representation that, it does not allocate its expenses to specific products. The Board noted the Adviser's representation, however, that administrative and compliance costs attributable to the Fund were believed to have increased in recent years relative to the Adviser's other advisory clients. Based on these and other applicable considerations, including the Adviser's discussion of the aggregate costs and profitability of the Adviser's mutual fund activities, the Board concluded that the Adviser's profits attributable to management of the Fund were reasonable.

Economies of Scale

The Board evaluated whether the Fund would benefit from any economies of scale. In this respect, the Board considered the Fund's fee structure, asset size, and net expense ratio, giving effect to the Adviser's unitary fee structure. The Board noted the Adviser's representation that the Fund potentially could benefit from economies of scale in the future as assets grow, but the Adviser was not proposing breakpoints or changes in fees at this time in light of the Fund's low level of assets under management. Based on the foregoing information and other applicable considerations, the Board concluded that the asset level of the Fund was not consistent with the existence of economies of scale and that economies of scale were not a material factor in renewing the Advisory Agreement.

Other Benefits

The Board noted the Adviser's representation that, as a result of the Adviser's management of the Fund, it may benefit from increased public exposure, possibly leading to increased business that is unrelated to the Fund. Based on the foregoing representations, the Board concluded that other benefits received by the Adviser from its relationship with the Fund were not a material factor to consider in approving the Advisory Agreement.

Conclusion

The Board did not identify any single factor as being of paramount importance, and different Trustees may have given different weight to different factors. The Board reviewed a memorandum from Fund counsel discussing the legal standards applicable to its consideration of the Advisory Agreement. Based on its review, including consideration of each of the factors referenced above, and its consideration of information received throughout the year from the Adviser, the Board determined, in the exercise of its business judgment, that the advisory arrangement, as outlined in the Advisory Agreement, was fair and reasonable in light of the services to be performed, expenses to be incurred and such other matters as the Board considered relevant.

Liquidity Risk Management Program

The Fund has adopted and implemented a written liquidity risk management program, as required by Rule 22e-4 (the "Liquidity Rule") under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended. The liquidity risk management program is reasonably designed to assess and manage the Fund's liquidity risk, taking into consideration, among other factors, the Fund's investment strategy and the liquidity of the portfolio investments during normal and reasonably foreseeable stressed conditions; its short and long-term cash flow projections and its cash holdings and access to other funding sources.

The Board approved the designation of the Trust's Valuation Committee as the administrator of the liquidity risk management program (the "Program Administrator"). The Program Administrator is responsible for the administration and oversight of the program and for reporting to the Board on at least an annual basis regarding, among other things, the program's operation, adequacy, and effectiveness. The Program Administrator assessed the Fund's liquidity risk profile based on information gathered for the period July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021 in order to prepare a written report to the Board for review at its meeting held on September 9, 2021.

The Program Administrator's written report stated that: (i) the Fund is able to meet redemptions in normal and reasonably foreseeable stressed conditions and without significant dilution of remaining shareholders' interests in the Fund; (ii) the Fund's strategy is appropriate for an open-end mutual fund; (iii) the liquidity classification determinations regarding the Fund's portfolio investments, which take into account a variety of factors and may incorporate analysis from one or more third-party data vendors, remained appropriate; (iv) the Fund did not approach the internal triggers set forth in the liquidity risk management program or the regulatory percentage limitation (15%) on holdings in illiquid investments; (v) it continues to be appropriate to not set a "highly liquid investment minimum" for the Fund because the Fund primarily holds "highly liquid investments"; and (vi) the liquidity risk management program remains reasonably designed and adequately implemented to prevent violations of the Liquidity Rule. No significant liquidity events impacting the Fund or proposed changes to the Program were noted in the report.

Proxy Voting Information

A description of the policies and procedures that the Fund uses to determine how to vote proxies relating to securities held in the Fund's portfolio is available, without charge and upon request, by calling (866) 637-5386 and on the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission's (the "SEC") website at www.sec.gov. The Fund's proxy voting record for the most recent twelve-month period ended June 30 is available, without charge and upon request, by calling (866) 637-5386 and on the SEC's website at www.sec.gov.

Availability of Quarterly Portfolio Schedules

The Fund files its complete schedule of portfolio holdings with the SEC for the first and third quarters of each fiscal year on Form N-PORT. Forms N-PORT are available free of charge on the SEC's website at www.sec.gov.

Shareholder Expense Example

As a shareholder of the Fund, you incur ongoing costs, including management fees, distribution and/or service (12b-1) fees and other Fund expenses. This example is intended to help you understand your ongoing costs (in dollars) of investing in the Fund and to compare these costs with the ongoing costs of investing in other mutual funds.

The example is based on an investment of \$1,000 invested at the beginning of the period and held for the entire period from April 1, 2021 through September 30, 2021.

Actual Expenses – The first line under each share class of the table below provides information about actual account values and actual expenses. You may use the information in this line, together with the amount you invested, to estimate the expenses that you paid over the period. Simply divide your account value by \$1,000 (for example, an \$8,600 account value divided by \$1,000 = 8.6), then multiply the result by the number in the first line under the heading entitled "Expenses Paid During Period" to estimate the expenses you paid on your account during the period.

Hypothetical Example for Comparison Purposes – The second line under each share class of the table below provides information about hypothetical account values and hypothetical expenses based on the Fund's actual expense ratio and an assumed rate of return of 5% per year before expenses, which is not the Fund's actual return. The hypothetical account values and expenses may not be used to estimate the actual ending account balance or expenses you paid for the period. You may use this information to compare the ongoing costs of investing in the Fund and other funds. To do so, compare this 5% hypothetical example with the 5% hypothetical examples that appear in the shareholder reports of other funds.

Please note that the expenses shown in the table are meant to highlight your ongoing costs only. Therefore, the second line of the table is useful in comparing ongoing costs only and will not help you determine the relative total costs of owning different funds.

	Beginning Account Value April 1, 2021		Ending Account Value September 30, 2021		Expenses Paid During Period*	Annualized Expense Ratio*
Investor Shares						
Actual	\$ 1,000.00	\$	975.92	\$	6.54	1.32%
Hypothetical (5% return before expenses)	\$ 1,000.00	\$	1,018.45	\$	6.68	1.32%
Institutional Shares						
Actual	\$ 1,000.00	\$	977.37	\$	5.30	1.07%
Hypothetical (5% return before expenses)	\$ 1,000.00	\$	1,019.70	\$	5.42	1.07%

* Expenses are equal to the Fund's annualized expense ratio multiplied by the average account value over the period, multiplied by the number of days in the most recent fiscal half-year (183) divided by 365 to reflect the half-year period.

FOR MORE INFORMATION



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This report is submitted for the general information of the shareholders of the Fund. It is not authorized for distribution to prospective investors unless preceded or accompanied by an effective prospectus, which includes information regarding the Fund's risks, objectives, fees and expenses, experience of its management and other information.

208-SAR-0921