



# **Financial Statements**

## **February 28, 2025 (Unaudited)**

### **Tidal Trust III**

TradersAI Large Cap Equity & Cash ETF | HFSP | The Nasdaq Stock Market, LLC

TradersAI Large Cap Equity & Cash ETF

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**TradersAI Large Cap Equity & Cash ETF**  
**Schedule of Investments**  
**February 28, 2025 (Unaudited)**

<b>PURCHASED OPTIONS - 0.1%</b> <sup>(a)(b)(c)</sup>	<b>Notional Amount</b>	<b>Contracts</b>	<b>Value</b>
<b>Put Options - 0.1%</b>			
E-mini S&P 500 Index, Expiration: 3/4/2025; Exercise Price: \$5,800.00	\$ 35,780	6	\$ 1,155
<b>TOTAL PURCHASED OPTIONS (Cost \$6,083)</b>			<u>1,155</u>
<b>SHORT-TERM INVESTMENTS - 2.0%</b>		<b>Shares</b>	
<b>Money Market Funds - 2.0%</b>			
First American Government Obligations Fund - Class X, 4.29% <sup>(d)</sup>		30,389	<u>30,389</u>
<b>TOTAL SHORT-TERM INVESTMENTS (Cost \$30,389)</b>			<u>30,389</u>
<b>TOTAL INVESTMENTS - 2.1% (Cost \$36,472)</b>			\$ 31,544
Other Assets in Excess of Liabilities - 97.9%			<u>1,471,175</u>
<b>TOTAL NET ASSETS - 100.0%</b>			<u><u>\$ 1,502,719</u></u>

Percentages are stated as a percent of net assets.

- (a) Exchange-traded.
- (b) 100 shares per contract.
- (c) Held in connection with written option contracts. See Schedule of Written Options for further information.
- (d) The rate shown represents the 7-day annualized effective yield as of February 28, 2025.

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

**TradersAI Large Cap Equity & Cash ETF**  
**Schedule of Written Options Contracts**  
**February 28, 2025 (Unaudited)**

<b>WRITTEN OPTIONS - 0.0%</b> <sup>(a)(b)(c)</sup>	<b>Notional Amount</b>	<b>Contracts</b>	<b>Value</b>
<b>Put Options – (0.0)%</b> <sup>(c)</sup>			
E-mini S&P 500 Index, Expiration: 3/4/2025; Exercise Price: \$5,760.00	\$ (35,780)	(6)	\$ (645)
<b>TOTAL WRITTEN OPTIONS (Premiums received \$3,816)</b>			<b>\$ (645)</b>

Percentages are stated as a percent of net assets.

- (a) Exchange-traded.
- (b) 100 shares per contract.
- (c) Does not round to 0.1% or (0.1)%, as applicable.

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

**TradersAI Large Cap Equity & Cash ETF**  
**Schedule of Futures Contracts**  
**February 28, 2025 (Unaudited)**

The TradersAI Large Cap Equity & Cash ETF had the following futures contracts outstanding with Interactive Brokers LLC:

**FUTURES CONTRACTS - (3.7)%**

<b>Description</b>	<b>Contracts Purchased</b>	<b>Expiration Date</b>	<b>Notional Value</b>	<b>Value /</b>
				<b>Unrealized Appreciation (Depreciation)</b>
S&P 500 Index	6	03/21/25	\$ 1,788,975	\$ (55,439)
<b>Net Unrealized Appreciation (Depreciation)</b>				<b>\$ (55,439)</b>

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

**Statement of Assets and Liabilities**  
**February 28, 2025 (Unaudited)**

	<b>TradersAI Large Cap Equity &amp; Cash ETF</b>
<b>ASSETS:</b>	
Investments, at value (cost \$36,472) (Note 2)	\$ 31,544
Deposit at broker for future contracts	1,468,448
Deposits with brokers for other investments	57,237
Receivable for investments sold	3,816
Interest receivable	2,635
Other assets	2,267
Total assets	<u>1,565,947</u>
<b>LIABILITIES:</b>	
Written option contracts, at value (cost \$3,816) (Note 2)	645
Unrealized depreciation on futures contracts	55,439
Payable for investments purchased	6,083
Payable to adviser (Note 4)	1,061
Total liabilities	<u>63,228</u>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>	<u><u>\$ 1,502,719</u></u>
<b>NET ASSETS CONSISTS OF:</b>	
Paid-in capital	\$ 1,508,080
Total distributable earnings/(accumulated losses)	(5,361)
<b>NET ASSETS</b>	<u><u>\$ 1,502,719</u></u>
Net assets	\$ 1,502,719
Shares issued and outstanding <sup>(a)</sup>	75,000
Net asset value per share	\$ 20.04

(a) Unlimited shares authorized without par value.

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

**Statement of Operations**  
**For the Period Ended February 28, 2025 (Unaudited)**

	<b>TradersAI Large Cap Equity &amp; Cash ETF<sup>(a)</sup></b>
<b>INVESTMENT INCOME:</b>	
Interest income	\$ 11,708
<b>Total investment income</b>	<b>11,708</b>
<b>EXPENSES:</b>	
Investment advisory fee (Note 4)	4,437
<b>Total expenses</b>	<b>4,437</b>
<b>NET INVESTMENT INCOME (LOSS)</b>	<b>7,271</b>
<b>REALIZED AND UNREALIZED GAIN (LOSS)</b>	
Net realized gain (loss) from:	
Investments	(1,021)
Written options	130,981
Futures contracts	(70,070)
<b>Net realized gain (loss)</b>	<b>59,890</b>
Net change in unrealized appreciation (depreciation) on:	
Investments	(4,928)
Written options	3,171
Futures contracts	(55,439)
<b>Net change in unrealized appreciation (depreciation)</b>	<b>(57,196)</b>
<b>Net realized and unrealized gain (loss)</b>	<b>2,694</b>
<b>NET INCREASE (DECREASE) IN NET ASSETS RESULTING FROM OPERATIONS</b>	<b>\$ 9,965</b>

(a) Inception date for the Fund was October 23, 2024.

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

## Statement of Changes in Net Assets

	TradersAI Large Cap Equity & Cash ETF <sup>(a)</sup>
	For the Period Ended February 28, 2025
	(Unaudited)
<b>OPERATIONS:</b>	
Net investment income (loss)	\$ 7,271
Net realized gain (loss)	59,890
Net change in unrealized appreciation (depreciation)	(57,196)
Net increase (decrease) in net assets resulting from operations	9,965
<b>DISTRIBUTIONS TO SHAREHOLDERS:</b>	
Distributions to shareholders	(15,326)
Total distributions to shareholders	(15,326)
<b>CAPITAL TRANSACTIONS:</b>	
Subscriptions	1,507,778
ETF transaction fees (Note 9)	302
Net increase (decrease) in net assets from capital transactions	1,508,080
<b>NET INCREASE (DECREASE) IN NET ASSETS</b>	1,502,719
<b>NET ASSETS:</b>	
Beginning of the period	—
End of the period	\$ 1,502,719
<b>SHARES TRANSACTIONS</b>	
Subscriptions	75,000
Total increase/(decrease) in shares outstanding	75,000

(a) Inception date for the Fund was October 23, 2024.

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



## Financial Highlights

For a share outstanding throughout the period presented

	TradersAI Large Cap Equity & Cash ETF
	Period Ended February 28, 2025 <sup>(a)</sup> (Unaudited)
<b>PER SHARE DATA:</b>	
Net asset value, beginning of period	\$20.00
<b>INVESTMENTS OPERATIONS:</b>	
Net investment income (loss) <sup>(b)</sup>	0.14
Net realized and unrealized gain (loss) <sup>(c)</sup>	0.19
Total from investment operations	0.33
<b>LESS DISTRIBUTIONS FROM:</b>	
Net investment income	(0.05)
Net realized gains	(0.25)
Total distributions	(0.30)
<b>CAPITAL TRANSACTIONS:</b>	
ETF transaction fees per share	0.01
Net asset value, end of period	\$20.04
<b>TOTAL RETURN<sup>(e)</sup></b>	1.73%
<b>SUPPLEMENTAL DATA AND RATIOS:</b>	
Net assets, end of period (in thousands)	\$1,503
Ratio of expenses to average net assets <sup>(d)</sup>	1.25%
Ratio of net investment income to average net assets <sup>(d)</sup>	2.05%
Portfolio turnover rate <sup>(e)(f)</sup>	0%

(a) Inception date for the Fund was October 23, 2024.

(b) Net investment income per share has been calculated based on average shares outstanding during the period.

(c) Realized and unrealized gains and losses per share in the caption are balancing amounts necessary to reconcile the change in net asset value per share for the period and may not reconcile with the aggregate gains and losses in the Statement of Operations due to share transactions for the period.

(d) Annualized for periods less than one year.

(e) Not annualized for periods less than one year.

(f) Portfolio turnover rate excludes in-kind transactions.

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

# Notes to Financial Statements

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February 28, 2025 (Unaudited)

## NOTE 1 - ORGANIZATION

The TradersAI Large Cap Equity & Cash ETF (the “Fund”) is a diversified series of shares of beneficial interest of Tidal Trust III (the “Trust”). The Trust was organized as a Delaware statutory trust on May 19, 2016 and is registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the “SEC”) under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the “1940 Act”), as an open-end management investment company and the offering of the Fund’s shares (“Shares”) is registered under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended. The Trust is governed by its Board of Trustees (the “Board”). Tidal Investments LLC (“Tidal Investments” or the “Adviser”), a Tidal Financial Group company, serves as investment adviser to the Fund and Traders A.I. Inc. (the “Sub-Adviser”), serves as sub-adviser to the Fund. The Fund is an investment company and accordingly follows the investment company accounting and reporting guidance of the Financial Accounting Standards Board (“FASB”) Accounting Standards Codification Topic 946 “Financial Services — Investment Companies.” The Fund commenced operations on October 23, 2024

The investment objective of the Fund is to seek maximum total return.

## NOTE 2 - SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The following is a summary of significant accounting policies consistently followed by the Fund. These policies are in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (“U.S. GAAP”).

**Security Valuation** - Equity securities, which may include Real Estate Investment Trusts (“REITs”), listed on a securities exchange, market or automated quotation system for which quotations are readily available (except for securities traded on the Nasdaq Stock Market, LLC (“NASDAQ”)), including securities traded over-the-counter, are valued at the last quoted sale price on the primary exchange or market (foreign or domestic) on which they are traded on the valuation date (or at approximately 4:00 p.m. EST if a security’s primary exchange is normally open at that time), or, if there is no such reported sale on the valuation date, at the most recent quoted bid price or mean between the most recent quoted bid and ask prices for long and short positions. For a security that trades on multiple exchanges, the primary exchange will generally be considered the exchange on which the security is generally most actively traded. For securities traded on NASDAQ, the NASDAQ Official Closing Price will be used. Prices of securities traded on the securities exchange will be obtained from recognized independent pricing agents each day that the Fund is open for business.

Under Rule 2a-5 of the 1940 Act, a fair value policy will be determined for securities for which quotations are not readily available by the Valuation Designee (as defined in Rule 2a-5) in accordance with the Pricing and Valuation Policy and Fair Value Procedures, as applicable, of the Adviser, subject to oversight by the Board. When a security is “fair valued,” consideration is given to the facts and circumstances relevant to the particular situation, including a review of various factors set forth in the Adviser’s Pricing and Valuation Policy and Fair Value Procedures, as applicable. Fair value pricing is an inherently subjective process, and no single standard exists for determining fair value. Different funds could reasonably arrive at different values for the same security. The use of fair value pricing by a fund may cause the net asset value (“NAV”) of its shares to differ significantly from the NAV that would be calculated without regard to such considerations.

As described above, the Fund utilizes various methods to measure the fair value of its investments on a recurring basis. U.S. GAAP establishes a hierarchy that prioritizes inputs to valuation methods. The three levels of inputs are:

Level 1 – Unadjusted quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities that the Fund has the ability to access.

## Notes to Financial Statements

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Level 2 – Observable inputs other than quoted prices included in Level 1 that are observable for the asset or liability, either directly or indirectly. These inputs may include quoted prices for the identical instrument on an inactive market, prices for similar instruments, interest rates, prepayment speeds, credit risk, yield curves, default rates and similar data.

Level 3 – Unobservable inputs for the asset or liability, to the extent relevant observable inputs are not available; representing the Fund's own assumptions about the assumptions a market participant would use in valuing the asset or liability and would be based on the best information available.

The availability of observable inputs can vary from security to security and is affected by a wide variety of factors, including, for example, the type of security, whether the security is new and not yet established in the marketplace, the liquidity of markets, and other characteristics particular to the security. To the extent that valuation is based on models or inputs that are less observable or unobservable in the market, the determination of fair value requires more judgment. Accordingly, the degree of judgment exercised in determining fair value is greatest for instruments categorized in Level 3.

The inputs used to measure fair value may fall into different levels of the fair value hierarchy. In such cases, for disclosure purposes, the level in the fair value hierarchy within which the fair value measurement falls in its entirety, is determined based on the lowest level input that is significant to the fair value measurement in its entirety.

	<u>Level 1</u>	<u>Level 2</u>	<u>Level 3</u>	<u>Total</u>
<b>Assets:</b>				
<u>Investments:</u>				
Purchased Options	\$ -	\$ 1,155	\$ -	\$ 1,155
Short-Term Investments	<u>30,389</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>30,389</u>
Total Investments	<u>\$ 30,389</u>	<u>\$ 1,155</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 31,544</u>
<b>Liabilities:</b>				
<u>Other Financial Instruments:<sup>(a)</sup></u>				
Written Options	\$ -	\$ (645)	\$ -	\$ (645)
Futures Contracts	<u>(55,439)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(55,439)</u>
Total Other Financial Instruments	<u>\$ (55,439)</u>	<u>\$ (645)</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ (56,084)</u>

Refer to the Schedule of Investments for further disaggregation of investment categories.

<sup>(a)</sup> Other Financial Instruments are derivative instruments not reflected on the Schedule of Investments, such as futures and forward currency contracts, which are presented at the unrealized appreciation/depreciation on the investment.

The Fund has provided additional disclosures below regarding derivatives and hedging activity intending to improve financial reporting by enabling investors to understand how and why the Fund uses futures contracts (a type of derivative), how they are accounted for and how they affect an entity's results of operations and financial position. The Fund may use derivatives for risk management purposes or as part of their investment strategies. Derivatives are financial contracts whose values depend on, or are derived from, the value of an underlying asset, reference rate or

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index. The Fund may use derivatives to earn income and enhance returns, to hedge or adjust the risk profile of its portfolio, to replace more traditional direct investments or to obtain exposure to otherwise inaccessible markets.

The average notional amount for open futures contracts is based on the monthly notional amounts. The notional amount for open futures contracts represents the U.S. dollar value of the contract as of the day of opening the transaction or latest contract reset date.

For the period ended February 28, 2025, the Fund's monthly average notional amount are described below:

	Average Contracts	Average Notional Amount
Purchased options	2	\$ 14,418
Written options	(2)	(14,418)
Long futures contracts	2	721,830

The following tables show the effects of derivative instruments on the financial statements.

### *Statement of Assets & Liabilities*

Fair value of derivative instruments as of February 28, 2025:

Derivative Instruments	Asset Derivatives		Liability Derivatives	
	Statement of Assets and Liabilities	Fair Value	Statement of Assets and Liabilities	Fair Value
Purchased options	Investments, at value	\$ 1,155	None	\$ -
Written options	None	-	Written option contracts, at value	645
Equities Risk – Futures contracts	None	-	Unrealized depreciation on futures contracts	55,439

The effect of derivative instruments on the Statement of Operations for the period ended February 28, 2025:

Derivative Instruments	Location of Gain (Loss) on Derivatives Recognized as Income	Realized Gain (Loss) on Derivatives Recognized as Income	Change in Unrealized Appreciation (Depreciation) on Derivatives Recognized in Income
Purchased options	Net realized gain (loss) and unrealized appreciation (depreciation) on Investments	\$ -	\$ (4,928)
Written options	Net realized gain (loss) and unrealized appreciation (depreciation) on Written option contracts	130,981	3,171
Equities Risk – Futures contracts	Net realized gain (loss) and unrealized appreciation (depreciation) on futures contracts	(70,070)	(55,439)

## Notes to Financial Statements

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The Fund is not subject to master netting agreements; therefore, no additional disclosures regarding netting agreements are required.

**Federal Income Taxes** - The Fund has elected to be taxed as a “regulated investment company” and intends to distribute substantially all taxable income to its shareholders and otherwise comply with the provisions of the Internal Revenue Code applicable to regulated investment companies. Therefore, no provision for federal income taxes or excise taxes has been made.

In order to avoid imposition of the excise tax applicable to regulated investment companies, the Fund intends to declare, as dividends in each calendar year, at least 98% of its net investment income (earned during the calendar year) and at least 98.2% of its net realized capital gains (earned during the twelve months ended October 31) plus undistributed amounts, if any, from prior years. As a registered investment company, the Fund is subject to a 4% excise tax that is imposed if the Fund does not distribute by the end of any calendar year at least the sum of (i) 98% of its ordinary income (not taking into account any capital gain or loss) for the calendar year and (ii) 98.2% of its capital gain in excess of its capital loss (adjusted for certain ordinary losses) for a one year period generally ending on October 31 of the calendar year (unless an election is made to use the Fund’s fiscal year). The Fund generally intends to distribute income and capital gains in the manner necessary to minimize (but not necessarily eliminate) the imposition of such excise tax. The Fund may retain income or capital gains and pay excise tax when it is determined that doing so is in the best interest of shareholders. Management evaluates the costs of the excise tax relative to the benefits of retaining income and capital gains, including that such undistributed amounts (net of the excise tax paid) remain available for investment by the Fund and are available to supplement future distributions. Tax expense is disclosed in the Statement of Operations, if applicable.

**Securities Transactions and Investment Income** - Investment securities transactions are accounted for on the trade date. Gains and losses realized on sales of securities are determined on a specific identification basis. Discounts/premiums on debt securities purchased are accreted/amortized over the life of the respective securities using the effective interest method. Interest income is recorded on the ex-dividend date. Interest income is recorded on an accrual basis. Other non-cash dividends are recognized as investment income at the fair value of the property received. Withholding taxes on foreign dividends have been provided for in accordance with the Fund’s understanding of the applicable country’s tax rules and rates.

**Futures Contracts** - Generally, a futures contract is a standard binding agreement to buy or sell a specified quantity of an underlying reference instrument, such as a specific security, currency or commodity, at a specified price at a specified later date. A “sale” of a futures contract means the acquisition of a contractual obligation to deliver the underlying reference instrument called for by the contract at a specified price on a specified date. A “purchase” of a futures contract means the acquisition of a contractual obligation to acquire the underlying reference instrument called for by the contract at a specified price on a specified date. The purchase or sale of a futures contract will allow the Fund to increase or decrease its exposure to the underlying reference instrument without having to buy the actual instrument.

The underlying reference instruments to which futures contracts may relate include non-U.S. currencies, interest rates, stock and bond indices, and debt securities, including U.S. government debt obligations. In most cases the contractual obligation under a futures contract may be offset, or “closed out,” before the settlement date so that the parties do not have to make or take delivery. The closing out of a contractual obligation is usually accomplished by buying or selling, as the case may be, an identical, offsetting futures contract. This transaction, which is effected through a member of an exchange, cancels the obligation to make or take delivery of the underlying instrument or

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asset. Although some futures contracts by their terms require the actual delivery or acquisition of the underlying instrument or asset, some require cash settlement.

Futures contracts may be bought and sold on U.S. and non-U.S. exchanges. Futures contracts in the U.S. have been designed by exchanges that have been designated “contract markets” by the Commodities Futures Trading Commission and must be executed through a futures commission merchant (“FCM”), which is a brokerage firm that is a member of the relevant contract market. Each exchange guarantees performance of the contracts as between the clearing members of the exchange, thereby reducing the risk of counterparty default. Futures contracts may also be entered into on certain exempt markets, including exempt boards of trade and electronic trading facilities, available to certain market participants. Because all transactions in the futures market are made, offset or fulfilled by an FCM through a clearinghouse associated with the exchange on which the contracts are traded, the Fund will incur brokerage fees when they buy or sell futures contracts.

To the extent the Fund invests in futures contracts, the Fund will generally buy and sell futures contracts on contract markets (including exchanges or boards of trade) where there appears to be an active market for the futures contracts, but there is no assurance that an active market will exist for any particular contract or at any particular time. An active market makes it more likely that futures contracts will be liquid and bought and sold at competitive market prices. In addition, many of the futures contracts available may be relatively new instruments without a significant trading history. As a result, there can be no assurance that an active market will develop or continue to exist.

When the Fund enters into a futures contract, it must deliver to an account controlled by the FCM (that has been selected by the Fund), an amount referred to as “initial margin” that is typically calculated as an amount equal to the volatility in market value of a contract over a fixed period. Initial margin requirements are determined by the respective exchanges on which the futures contracts are traded and the FCM. Thereafter, a “variation margin” amount may be required to be paid by the Fund or received by the Fund in accordance with margin controls set for such accounts, depending upon changes in the marked-to market value of the futures contract. The account is marked-to market daily and the variation margin is monitored by the Adviser and Custodian (defined below) on a daily basis. When the futures contract is closed out, if the Fund has a loss equal to or greater than the margin amount, the margin amount is paid to the FCM along with any loss in excess of the margin amount. If the Fund has a loss of less than the margin amount, the excess margin is returned to the Fund. If the Fund has a gain, the full margin amount and the amount of the gain is paid to the Fund.

Some futures contracts provide for the delivery of securities that are different than those that are specified in the contract. For a futures contract for delivery of debt securities, on the settlement date of the contract, adjustments to the contract can be made to recognize differences in value arising from the delivery of debt securities with a different interest rate from that of the particular debt securities that were specified in the contract. In some cases, securities called for by a futures contract may not have been issued when the contract was written.

**Options** - An option is a contract that gives the purchaser of the option, in return for the premium paid, the right to buy an underlying reference instrument, such as a specified security, currency, index, or other instrument, from the writer of the option (in the case of a call option), or to sell a specified reference instrument to the writer of the option (in the case of a put option) at a designated price during the term of the option. The premium paid by the buyer of an option will reflect, among other things, the relationship of the exercise price to the market price and the volatility of the underlying reference instrument, the remaining term of the option, supply, demand, interest rates and/or currency exchange rates. An American style put or call option may be exercised at any time during the option period while a European style put or call option may be exercised only upon expiration or during a fixed period prior thereto. Put and call options are traded on national securities exchanges and in the OTC market.

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Options traded on national securities exchanges are within the jurisdiction of the SEC or other appropriate national securities regulator, as are securities traded on such exchanges. As a result, many of the protections provided to traders on organized exchanges will be available with respect to such transactions. In particular, all option positions entered into on a national securities exchange in the United States are cleared and guaranteed by the Options Clearing Corporation, thereby reducing the risk of counterparty default. Furthermore, a liquid secondary market in options traded on a national securities exchange may be more readily available than in the OTC market, potentially permitting the Fund to liquidate open positions at a profit prior to exercise or expiration, or to limit losses in the event of adverse market movements. There is no assurance, however, that higher than anticipated trading activity or other unforeseen events might not temporarily render the capabilities of the Options Clearing Corporation inadequate, and thereby result in the exchange instituting special procedures which may interfere with the timely execution of the Fund's orders to close out open options positions.

As the buyer of a call option, the Fund has a right to buy the underlying reference instrument (e.g., a currency or security) at the exercise price at any time during the option period (for American style options). The Fund may enter into closing sale transactions with respect to call options, exercise them, or permit them to expire. For example, the Fund may buy call options on underlying reference instruments that it intends to buy with the goal of limiting the risk of a substantial increase in their market price before the purchase is effected. Unless the price of the underlying reference instrument changes sufficiently, a call option purchased by the Fund may expire without any value to the Fund, in which case the Fund would experience a loss to the extent of the premium paid for the option plus related transaction costs.

As the buyer of a put option, the Fund has the right to sell the underlying reference instrument at the exercise price at any time during the option period (for American style options). Like a call option, the Fund may enter into closing sale transactions with respect to put options, exercise them or permit them to expire. The Fund may buy a put option on an underlying reference instrument owned by the Fund (a protective put) as a hedging technique in an attempt to protect against an anticipated decline in the market value of the underlying reference instrument. Such hedge protection is provided only during the life of the put option when the Fund, as the buyer of the put option, is able to sell the underlying reference instrument at the put exercise price, regardless of any decline in the underlying instrument's market price. The Fund may also seek to offset a decline in the value of the underlying reference instrument through appreciation in the value of the put option. A put option may also be purchased with the intent of protecting unrealized appreciation of an instrument when the Adviser or Sub-Adviser deems it desirable to continue to hold the instrument because of tax or other considerations. The premium paid for the put option and any transaction costs would reduce any short-term capital gain that may be available for distribution when the instrument is eventually sold. Buying put options at a time when the buyer does not own the underlying reference instrument allows the buyer to benefit from a decline in the market price of the underlying reference instrument, which generally increases the value of the put option.

If a put option was not terminated in a closing sale transaction when it has remaining value, and if the market price of the underlying reference instrument remains equal to or greater than the exercise price during the life of the put option, the buyer would not make any gain upon exercise of the option and would experience a loss to the extent of the premium paid for the option plus related transaction costs. In order for the purchase of a put option to be profitable, the market price of the underlying reference instrument must decline sufficiently below the exercise price to cover the premium and transaction costs.

Writing options may permit the writer to generate additional income in the form of the premium received for writing the option. The writer of an option may have no control over when the underlying reference instruments must be sold (in the case of a call option) or purchased (in the case of a put option) because the writer may be notified of

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exercise at any time prior to the expiration of the option (for American style options). In general, though, options are infrequently exercised prior to expiration. Whether or not an option expires unexercised, the writer retains the amount of the premium. Writing “covered” call options means that the writer owns the underlying reference instrument that is subject to the call option. Call options may also be written on reference instruments that the writer does not own.

As the writer of a covered call option, the Fund gives up the potential for capital appreciation above the exercise price of the option should the underlying reference instrument rise in value. If the value of the underlying reference instrument rises above the exercise price of the call option, the reference instrument will likely be “called away,” requiring the Fund to sell the underlying instrument at the exercise price. In that case, the Fund will sell the underlying reference instrument to the option buyer for less than its market value, and the Fund will experience a loss (which will be offset by the premium received by the Fund as the writer of such option). If a call option expires unexercised, the Fund will realize a gain in the amount of the premium received. If the market price of the underlying reference instrument decreases, the call option will not be exercised and the Fund will be able to use the amount of the premium received to hedge against the loss in value of the underlying reference instrument. The exercise price of a call option will be chosen based upon the expected price movement of the underlying reference instrument. The exercise price of a call option may be below, equal to (at-the-money), or above the current value of the underlying reference instrument at the time the option is written.

As the writer of a put option, the Fund has a risk of loss should the underlying reference instrument decline in value. If the value of the underlying reference instrument declines below the exercise price of the put option and the put option is exercised, the Fund, as the writer of the put option, will be required to buy the instrument at the exercise price, which will exceed the market value of the underlying reference instrument at that time. The Fund will incur a loss to the extent that the current market value of the underlying reference instrument is less than the exercise price of the put option. However, the loss will be offset in part by the premium received from the buyer of the put. If a put option written by the Fund expires unexercised, the Fund will realize a gain in the amount of the premium received.

**Distributions to Shareholders** - Distributions to shareholders from net investment income, if any, for the Fund are declared and paid if any, annually. Distributions to shareholders from net realized gains on securities, if any, for the Fund normally are declared and paid on at least annually. Distributions are recorded on the ex-dividend date.

**Use of Estimates** - The preparation of financial statements in conformity with U.S. GAAP requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenue and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

**Share Valuation** - The NAV per share of the Fund is calculated by dividing the sum of the value of the securities held by the Fund, plus cash or other assets, minus all liabilities by the total number of shares outstanding for the Fund, rounded to the nearest cent. Fund shares will not be priced on the days on which the NASDAQ is closed for trading.

**Guarantees and Indemnifications** - In the normal course of business, the Fund enters into contracts with service providers that contain general indemnification clauses. The Fund’s maximum exposure under these arrangements is unknown as this would involve future claims that may be made against the Fund that have not yet occurred. However, based on experience, the Fund expects the risk of loss to be remote.



## Notes to Financial Statements

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February 28, 2025 (Unaudited)

**Illiquid Investments** - Pursuant to Rule 22e-4 under the 1940 Act, the Fund has adopted a Board-approved Liquidity Risk Management Program (the “Program”) that requires, among other things, that the Fund limit its illiquid investments that are assets to no more than 15% of the value of the Fund’s net assets. An illiquid investment is any security that the Fund reasonably expects cannot be sold or disposed of in current market conditions in seven calendar days or less without the sale or disposition significantly changing the market value of the investment. If the Fund should be in a position where the value of illiquid investments held by the Fund exceeds 15% of the Fund’s net assets, the Fund will take such steps as set forth in the Program.

### NOTE 3 - PRINCIPAL INVESTMENT RISKS

**Intraday Trading Strategy Risks.** The Fund’s intra-day trading strategy subjects the Fund to various risks. Due to the rapid execution of trades, there is a risk that orders may not be filled at the desired price, especially in fast-moving or illiquid markets, leading to slippage where the actual execution price deviates from the intended price, adversely affecting the Fund’s performance. The Fund’s trading signals, generated by proprietary algorithms and reviewed by human traders, may not perform as expected due to flaws in the algorithms, incorrect data inputs, or unforeseen market conditions, and human judgment in reviewing signals may introduce errors or biases. Additionally, the Fund’s ability to execute trades at favorable prices may be affected by the liquidity of the underlying securities or derivatives; during periods of low liquidity, it may be difficult to enter or exit positions without significantly impacting the price, which could lead to larger losses or reduced gains. Furthermore, the strategy involves closing positions at the end of the trading day based on market price action and predefined levels, and unexpected market movements near the close of trading could force the Fund to exit positions at unfavorable prices, potentially leading to losses.

**Derivatives Risk.** Derivatives are financial instruments that derive value from the underlying reference asset or assets, such as stocks, bonds, commodities, currencies, funds (including ETFs), interest rates or indexes. The Fund’s investments in derivatives may pose risks in addition to, and greater than, those associated with directly investing in securities or other ordinary investments, including risk related to the market, imperfect correlation with underlying investments or the Fund’s other portfolio holdings, higher price volatility, lack of availability, counterparty risk, liquidity, valuation and legal restrictions. The use of derivatives is a highly specialized activity that involves investment techniques and risks different from those associated with ordinary portfolio securities transactions. The use of derivatives may result in larger losses or smaller gains than directly investing in the underlying reference asset(s). Because derivatives often require only a limited initial investment, the use of derivatives may expose the Fund to losses in excess of those amounts initially invested. In addition, the Fund’s investments in derivatives are subject to the following risks:

**Futures Contracts.** Risks of futures contracts include: (i) an imperfect correlation between the value of the futures contract and the underlying asset; (ii) possible lack of a liquid secondary market; (iii) the inability to close a futures contract when desired; (iv) losses caused by unanticipated market movements, which may be unlimited; (v) an obligation for the Fund to make daily cash payments to maintain its required margin, particularly at times when the Fund may have insufficient cash; and (vi) unfavorable execution prices from rapid selling.

**Options.** Purchasing and writing put and call options are highly specialized activities and entail greater than ordinary investment risks. The Fund may not fully benefit from or may lose money on an option if changes in its value do not correspond as anticipated to changes in the value of the underlying securities. If the Fund is not able to sell an option held in its portfolio, it would have to exercise the option to realize any profit and would incur transaction costs upon the purchase or sale of the underlying securities. Ownership of options involves the payment of premiums, which may adversely affect the Fund’s performance.

## Notes to Financial Statements

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February 28, 2025 (Unaudited)

**Counterparty Risk.** Counterparty risk is the likelihood or probability that a party involved in a transaction might default on its contractual obligation. Where the Fund enters into derivative contracts that are exchange-traded, the Fund is subject to the counterparty risk associated with the Fund's clearing broker or clearinghouse. Relying on a counterparty exposes the Fund to the risk that a counterparty will not settle a transaction in accordance with its terms and conditions because of a dispute over the terms of the contract (whether or not bona fide) or because of a credit or liquidity problem, thus causing the Fund to suffer a loss. If a counterparty defaults on its payment obligations to the Fund, this default will cause the value of an investment in the Fund to decrease. In addition, to the extent the Fund deals with a limited number of counterparties, it will be more susceptible to the credit risks associated with those counterparties.

As with any investment, there is a risk that you could lose all or a portion of your principal investment in the Fund. The Fund is subject to the above principal risks, as well as other principal risks which may adversely affect the Fund's NAV, trading price, yield, total return and/or ability to meet its objective. For more information about the risks of investing in the Fund, see the section in the Fund's Prospectus titled "Additional Information About the Fund — Principal Investment Risks."

### NOTE 4 - COMMITMENTS AND OTHER RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

The Adviser serves as investment adviser to the Fund pursuant to an investment advisory agreement between the Adviser and the Trust, on behalf of the Fund (the "Advisory Agreement"), and, pursuant to the Advisory Agreement, provides investment advice to the Fund and oversees the day-to-day operations of the Fund, subject to the direction and oversight of the Board. The Adviser is also responsible for trading portfolio securities for the Fund, including selecting broker-dealers to execute purchase and sale transactions. The Adviser provides oversight of the Sub-Adviser and review of the Sub-Adviser's performance.

Pursuant to the Advisory Agreement, the Fund pays the Adviser a unitary management fee (the "Investment Advisory Fee") of 1.25% based on the average daily net assets of the Fund. Out of the Investment Advisory Fee, the Adviser is obligated to pay or arrange for the payment of substantially all expenses of the Fund, including the cost of transfer agency, custody, fund administration, and all other related services necessary for the Fund to operate. Under the Advisory Agreement, the Adviser has agreed to pay all expenses incurred by the Fund except for interest charges on any borrowings, dividends and other expenses on securities sold short, taxes, brokerage commissions and other expenses incurred in placing orders for the purchase and sale of securities and other investment instruments, acquired fund fees and expenses, accrued deferred tax liability, extraordinary expenses, distribution fees and expenses paid by the Fund under any distribution plan adopted pursuant to Rule 12b-1 under the 1940 Act (collectively, "Excluded Expenses"), and the Investment Advisory Fee payable to the Adviser. The Investment Advisory Fees incurred are paid monthly to the Adviser. Investment Advisory Fees for the period ended February 28, 2025 are disclosed in the Statement of Operations.

The Sub-Adviser serves as investment sub-adviser to the Fund, pursuant to a sub-advisory agreement between the Adviser and the Sub-Adviser with respect to the Fund (the "Sub-Advisory Agreement"). Pursuant to the Sub-Advisory Agreement, the Sub-Adviser is responsible for the day-to-day management of the Fund's portfolio, including determining the securities purchased and sold by the Fund, subject to the supervision of the Adviser and the Board. The Sub-Adviser is paid a fee by the Adviser, which is calculated and paid monthly, at an annual rate of 0.04% of the Fund's average daily net assets. The Sub-Adviser has agreed to assume the Adviser's obligation to pay all expenses incurred by the Fund, except for Excluded Expenses. For assuming the payment obligation, the Adviser has agreed to pay to the Sub-Adviser the profits, if any, generated by the Fund's Investment Advisory Fee, less a contractual fee retained by the Adviser. Expenses incurred by the Fund and paid by the Sub-Adviser include fees charged by Tidal (defined below), which is an affiliate of the Adviser.

## Notes to Financial Statements

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February 28, 2025 (Unaudited)

Tidal ETF Services LLC ("Tidal"), a Tidal Financial Group company and an affiliate of the Adviser, serves as the Fund's administrator and, in that capacity, performs various administrative and management services for the Fund. Tidal coordinates the payment of Fund-related expenses and manages the Trust's relationships with its various service providers. Tidal prepares various federal and state regulatory filings, reports and returns for the Fund, including regulatory compliance monitoring and financial reporting; prepares reports and materials to be supplied to the Board; and monitors the activities of the Fund's custodian.

Forside Fund Services, LLC (the "Distributor") acts as the Fund's principal underwriter in a continuous public offering of the Fund's shares.

Certain officers and a trustee of the Trust are affiliated with the Adviser. Neither the affiliated trustee nor the Trust's officers receive compensation from the Fund.

The Board has adopted a Distribution (Rule 12b-1) Plan (the "Plan") pursuant to Rule 12b-1 under the 1940 Act. In accordance with the Plan, the Fund is authorized to pay an amount up to 0.25% of its average daily net assets each year to pay distribution fees for the sale and distribution of its Shares. No Rule 12b-1 fees are currently paid by the Fund, and there are no plans to impose these fees. However, in the event Rule 12b-1 fees are charged in the future, because the fees are paid out of the Fund's assets on an ongoing basis, over time these fees will increase the cost of your investment and may cost you more than certain other types of sales charges.

### **NOTE 5 - SEGMENT REPORTING**

In accordance with the FASB Accounting Standards Update (ASU) 2023-07, Segment Reporting (Topic 280): Improvements to Reportable Segment Disclosures, the Fund has evaluated its business activities and determined that it operates as a single reportable segment.

The Fund's investment activities are managed by the Adviser, which serves as the Chief Operating Decision Maker ("CODM"). The Adviser is responsible for assessing the Fund's financial performance and allocating resources. In making these assessments, the Adviser evaluates the Fund's financial results on an aggregated basis, rather than by separate segments. As such, the Fund does not allocate operating expenses or assets to multiple segments, and accordingly, no additional segment disclosures are required. There were no intra-entity sales or transfers during the reporting period.

The Fund primarily generates income through dividends, interest, and realized/unrealized gains on its investment portfolio. Expenses incurred, including management fees, fund operating expenses, and transaction costs, are considered general fund-level expenses and are not allocated to specific segments or business lines.

Management has determined that the Fund does not meet the criteria for disaggregated segment reporting under ASU 2023-07 and will continue to evaluate its reporting requirements in accordance with applicable accounting standards.

### **NOTE 6 - PURCHASES AND SALES OF SECURITIES**

For the period ended February 28, 2025, the cost of purchases and proceeds from the sales or maturities of securities, excluding short-term investments, U.S. government securities, and in-kind transactions were \$5,561,284 and \$5,559,627, respectively.

## Notes to Financial Statements

February 28, 2025 (Unaudited)

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For the period ended February 28, 2025, there were no purchases or sales of long-term U.S. government securities.

For the period ended February 28, 2025, there were no in-kind transactions associated with creations or redemptions for the Fund.

### NOTE 7 - INCOME TAXES AND DISTRIBUTIONS TO SHAREHOLDERS

The Fund is subject to examination by U.S. taxing authorities for the tax periods since the commencement of operations. The amount and character of tax basis distributions and composition of net assets, including undistributed (accumulated) net investment income (loss), are finalized at the fiscal year-end; accordingly, tax basis balances have not been determined for the period ended February 28, 2025. Differences between the tax cost of investments and the cost noted in the Schedule of Investments will be determined at fiscal year-end. During the period ended February 28, 2025 (estimated), the tax character of distributions were as follows:

<u>Distributions paid from:</u>	<u>February 28, 2025<sup>(a)</sup></u>
Ordinary Income	\$ 15,326

<sup>(a)</sup> Ordinary income includes short-term capital gains.

### NOTE 8 - SHARES TRANSACTIONS

Shares of the Fund are listed and traded on the NASDAQ. Market prices for the shares may be different from their NAV. The Fund issues and redeems shares on a continuous basis at NAV, generally in large blocks of shares, called Creation Units. Creation Units are issued and redeemed principally in-kind for securities included in a specified universe. Once created, shares generally trade in the secondary market at market prices that change throughout the day. Except when aggregated in Creation Units, shares are not redeemable securities of the Fund. Creation Units may only be purchased or redeemed by Authorized Participants. An Authorized Participant is either (i) a broker-dealer or other participant in the clearing process through the Continuous Net Settlement System of the National Securities Clearing Corporation or (ii) a Depository Trust Company participant and, in each case, must have executed a Participant Agreement with the Distributor. Most retail investors do not qualify as Authorized Participants nor have the resources to buy and sell whole Creation Units. Therefore, they are unable to purchase or redeem the shares directly from the Fund. Rather, most retail investors may purchase shares in the secondary market with the assistance of a broker and are subject to customary brokerage commissions or fees.

The Fund currently offers one class of shares, which has no front-end sales load, no deferred sales charge, and no redemption fee. A fixed transaction fee is imposed for the transfer and other transaction costs associated with the purchase or sale of Creation Units. The standard fixed transaction fee for the Fund is \$300, payable to the Custodian. The fixed transaction fee may be waived on certain orders if the Fund's Custodian has determined to waive some or all of the costs associated with the order or another party, such as the Adviser, has agreed to pay such fee. In addition, a variable fee may be charged on all cash transactions or substitutes for Creation Units and Redemption Units of up to a maximum of 2% of the value of the Creation Units and Redemption Units subject to the transaction. Variable fees received by the Fund, if any, are disclosed in the capital shares transactions section of the Statement of Changes in Net Assets. The Fund may issue an unlimited number of shares of beneficial interest, with no par value. All shares of the Fund have equal rights and privileges.

### NOTE 9 - RECENT MARKET EVENTS

## Notes to Financial Statements

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February 28, 2025 (Unaudited)

U.S. and international markets have experienced and may continue to experience significant periods of volatility in recent years and months due to a number of economic, political and global macro factors including uncertainty regarding inflation and central banks' interest rate changes, the possibility of a national or global recession, trade tensions and tariffs, political events, armed conflict, war, and geopolitical conflict. These developments, as well as other events, could result in further market volatility and negatively affect financial asset prices, the liquidity of certain securities and the normal operations of securities exchanges and other markets, despite government efforts to address market disruptions. As a result, the risk environment remains elevated. The Adviser and Sub-Adviser will monitor developments and seek to manage the Fund in a manner consistent with achieving the Fund's investment objective, but there can be no assurance that they will be successful in doing so.

### **NOTE 10 - SUBSEQUENT EVENTS**

In preparing these financial statements, management has evaluated events and transactions for potential recognition or disclosure through the date the financial statements were issued. Management has determined that there are no subsequent events that would need to be recognized or disclosed in the Fund's financial statements.

#### Item 8. Changes in and Disagreements with Accountants for Open-End Investment Companies.

There have been no changes in or disagreements with the Fund's accountants.

#### Item 9. Proxy Disclosure for Open-End Investment Companies.

There were no matters submitted to a vote of shareholders during the period covered by the report.

#### Item 10. Remuneration Paid to Directors, Officers, and Others of Open-End Investment Companies.

See Item 7(a). Under the Investment Advisory Agreement, in exchange for a single unitary management fee from each Fund, the Adviser has agreed to pay all expenses incurred by the Fund, including Trustee compensation, except for certain excluded expenses.

#### Item 11. Statement Regarding Basis for Approval of Investment Advisory Contract.

Pursuant to Section 15(c) of the Investment Company Act of 1940 (the "1940 Act"), at a meeting held on July 25, 2024, the Board of Trustees (the "Board") of Tidal Trust III (the "Trust") considered the approval of:

- an Investment Advisory Agreement (the "Advisory Agreement") between Tidal Investments LLC (the "Adviser") and the Trust, on behalf of the Fund;
- an Investment Sub-Advisory Agreement (the "Sub-Advisory Agreement") between the Adviser and Traders A.I., Inc. ("Traders A.I."), with respect to the TradersAI Large Cap Equity & Cash ETF (the "TradersAI ETF").

Pursuant to Section 15 of the 1940 Act, the Agreements must be approved by the vote of a majority of the Trustees who are not parties to the Agreements or "interested persons" of any party thereto, as defined in the 1940 Act (the "Independent Trustees"), cast in person at a meeting called for the purpose of voting on such approval. It is noted that in accordance with the SEC's temporary exemptive relief for in-person approvals, these approvals shall be ratified at the next in-person Board meeting.

In preparation for such meeting, the Board requested and reviewed a wide variety of information from the Adviser and Sub-Adviser.

In reaching its decision, the Board, including the Independent Trustees, considered all factors it believed relevant, including: (i) the nature, extent and quality of the services to be provided to the Fund's shareholders by the Adviser and Sub-Adviser; (ii) the costs of the services to be provided and the profits to be realized by the Adviser and Sub-Adviser from services to be provided to the Fund, including any fall-out benefits; (iii) comparative fee and expense data for the Fund in relation to other investment companies with similar investment objectives; (iv) the extent to which economies of scale would be realized as the Fund grows and whether the advisory fee for the

Fund reflects these economies of scale for the benefit of the Fund; and (v) other financial benefits to the Adviser or Sub-Adviser and their affiliates resulting from services rendered to the Fund. The Board's review included written and oral information furnished to the Board prior to and at the meeting held on July 25, 2024. Among other things, the Adviser and Sub-Adviser provided responses to a detailed series of questions, which included information about the Adviser's and Sub-Adviser's operations, service offerings, personnel, compliance program and financial condition. The Board then discussed the written and oral information that it received before the meeting, and the oral presentations and any other information that the Board received at the meeting and deliberated on the approval of the Agreements in light of this information.

The Independent Trustees were assisted throughout the contract review process by independent legal counsel. The Independent Trustees relied upon the advice of such counsel and their own business judgment in determining the material factors to be considered in evaluating the approval of the Agreements, and the weight to be given to each such factor. The conclusions reached with respect to the Agreements were based on a comprehensive evaluation of all the information provided and not any single factor. Moreover, each Trustee may have placed varying emphasis on particular factors in reaching conclusions with respect to the Fund. The Independent Trustees conferred amongst themselves and independent legal counsel in executive sessions both with and without representatives of management.

**Nature, Extent and Quality of Services to be Provided.** The Trustees considered the scope of services to be provided under the Advisory Agreement and Sub-Advisory Agreement. In considering the nature, extent and quality of the services to be provided by the Adviser and Sub-Adviser, the Board reviewed the Adviser's and Sub-Adviser's compliance infrastructure and its financial strength and resources. The Board also considered the experience of the personnel of the Adviser and Sub-Adviser working with ETFs. The Board also considered other services to be provided to the Fund by the Adviser and Sub-Adviser, such as selecting broker-dealers for executing portfolio transactions, monitoring adherence to the Fund's investment restrictions, and monitoring compliance with various Fund policies and procedures and with applicable securities regulations. Based on the factors above, as well as those discussed below, the Board concluded that it was satisfied with the nature, extent and quality of the services to be provided to the Fund by the Adviser and the Sub-Adviser based on their experience, personnel, operations and resources.

**Historical Performance.** The Board noted that the Fund had not yet commenced operations and that therefore there was no prior performance to review.

**Cost of Services Provided, Profitability and Economies of Scale.** The Board reviewed the proposed advisory fee for the Fund and compared them to the management fees and total operating expenses of its Peer Group. The Board noted that the comparisons to the total expense ratios were the most relevant comparisons, given the fact that the advisory fee for the Fund is a "unified fee."

The Board noted the importance of the fact that the proposed advisory fee for the Fund is a "unified fee," meaning that the shareholders of the Fund pay no expenses except for interest charges on any borrowings, dividends and other expenses on securities sold short, taxes, brokerage commissions and other expenses incurred in placing orders for the purchase and sale of securities and other investment instruments, acquired fund fees and expenses, accrued deferred tax liability, distribution fees and expenses paid by the Fund under any distribution plan adopted pursuant to Rule 12b-1 under the Investment Company Act of 1940 Act, as amended (the "1940 Act"), litigation expenses, non-routine or extraordinary expenses, and the unitary

management fee payable to the Adviser. The Board also noted that the Adviser was responsible for compensating the Trust's other service providers and paying the Fund's other expenses (except as noted above) out of its own fees and resources. The Board further noted that because the Fund is new, it was difficult to estimate the profitability of the Fund to the Adviser. The Board, however, considered collateral or "fall-out" benefits that the Adviser and its affiliates may derive as a result of their relationship with the Fund.

The Board noted that because the Fund is new, it also was difficult to estimate whether the Fund would experience economies of scale. The Board noted that the Adviser will review expenses as the Fund's assets grow. The Board determined to evaluate economies of scale on an ongoing basis if the Funds achieve asset growth.

The Board also reviewed the proposed sub-advisory fee paid to the Sub- for its respective services. The Board considered the fee in light of the services being provided. The Board determined that the proposed fee reflected an appropriate allocation of the advisory fee paid to the Adviser and Sub-Adviser given the work performed by the firm. The Board also considered that the Fund has a sponsor that has agreed to assume the payment of any fund expenses above the level of the unitary fee. The Board considered that pursuant to these arrangements, if fund expenses, including a payment to the Adviser of a certain amount, fall below the level of the unitary fee, the Adviser will pay any remaining portion of the unitary fee to the sponsor out of its profits. The Board concluded that the proposed fee for the Fund was reasonable in light of the services rendered.

The Board also considered that the sub-advisory fee is paid to the Sub-Adviser out of the Adviser's unified fee and represents an arm's-length negotiation between the Adviser and Sub-Adviser. For these reasons, the Trustees determined that the profitability to the Sub-Adviser from its relationships with its Fund was not a material factor in their deliberations with respect to consideration of approval of the Sub-Advisory Agreement. The Board considered that, because this fee is paid by the Adviser out of its unified fee, any economies of scale would not benefit shareholders and, thus, were not relevant for the consideration of the approval of the sub-advisory fee.

**Conclusion.** No single factor was determinative to the decision of the Board. Based on the Board's deliberations and its evaluation of the information described above and such other matters as were deemed relevant, the Board, including the Independent Trustees, unanimously: (a) concluded that the terms of the Advisory Agreement and Sub-Advisory Agreement are fair and reasonable; (b) concluded that the Adviser's and Sub-Adviser's fees are reasonable in light of the services that the Adviser and Sub-Adviser will provide to the Fund; and (c) agreed to approve the Agreements for an initial term of two years.