



LESTER ASSET MANAGEMENT

RESPONSIBLE GROWTH



GLOBAL BIODIVERSITY FUND REPORT August 30, 2024

INVESTMENT STRATEGY AND PROCESS

Lester Asset Management Inc. (“LAM”) launched the Lynx Global Biodiversity Fund (the “Fund”) in February 2024 as an actively managed thematic global equity strategy. The Fund seeks to provide long-term capital appreciation by investing in equity securities of publicly traded companies listed on recognized global stock exchanges that operate businesses that help protect and promote biodiversity. The Fund aims to meet its objectives by investing in companies that will benefit from powerful long-term global trends related to achieving nature-positive goals and implementing nature-based solutions to halt and reverse nature loss and land degradation, protect and improve the quality of the environment, promote sustainability, and address related issues such as water and food security. The stock selection process is robust using fundamental bottom-up internal research and analysis of companies best meeting one of four internally developed biodiversity-linked investment themes derived from UN Biodiversity Framework (COP15) targets, EU Taxonomy Environmental Objectives, and UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), while also taking ESG and other factors into consideration. The Fund also benefits from the expertise of an experienced Advisory Board for guidance and insight into specific companies, industry developments, and emerging opportunities.

INVESTMENT THEMES

<p>Environmental Stewardship</p>  <p>Assessment & Monitoring Remediation & Restoration Natural Resource Management Green Infrastructure</p>	<p>Pollution Control and Clean Technology</p>  <p>Water & Wastewater Treatment Waste Management & Recycling Air Filtration & Emission Control Clean Technology</p>	<p>Sustainable Products and Processes</p>  <p>Sustainable Products Supply Chain Solutions Circular Economy Processes Energy Efficiency</p>	<p>Sustainable Agriculture and Food Systems</p>  <p>Agrotechnology & Agriscience Soil & Crop Management Food & Beverage Systems Aquaculture</p>
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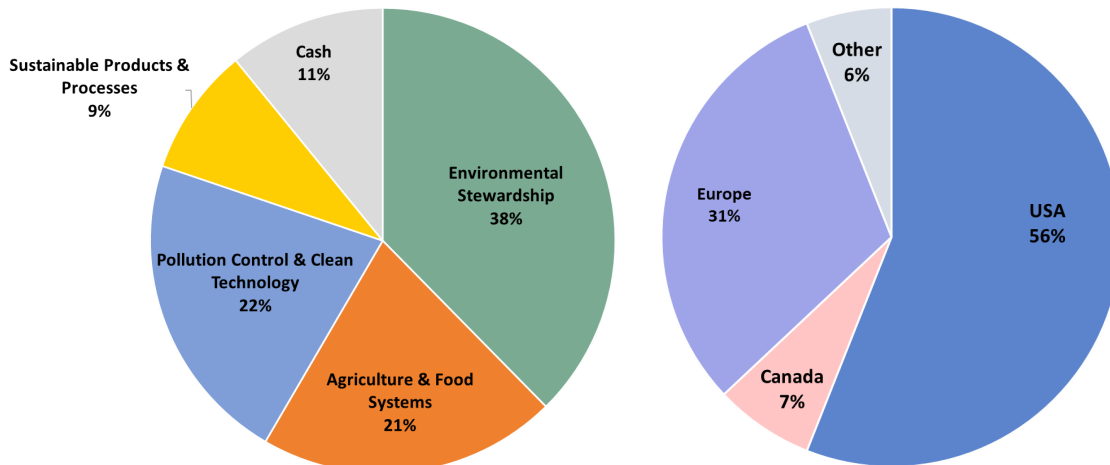
PERFORMANCE (since inception February 12, 2024)

	1 MONTH	3 MONTHS	6 MONTHS	Since Inception
LYNX GLOBAL BIODIVERSITY FUND*	-0.1%	5.3%	10.4%	11.8%
MSCI WORLD INDEX (\$CAD)**	0.2%	5.5%	10.2%	13.2%

TOP 10 HOLDINGS

	%
Cash	10.5
WSP Global	3.3
Eurofins Scientific	3.3
Clean Harbors	3.1
Arcadis	3.1
Bureau Veritas	3.1
Ecolab	3.0
Xylem	3.0
Veolia Environnement	3.0
SGS	2.9

FUND ALLOCATION BY INVESTMENT THEME AND GEOGRAPHY



MONTHLY COMMENTARY

In August, the **Lynx Global Biodiversity Fund** decreased by **-0.1%** versus an increase of **+0.2%** for the MSCI World Total Return Index in Canadian dollars. As global markets tumbled in early August due to weaker economic indicators such as U.S. employment and manufacturing, defensive sectors—most notably REITs, Healthcare, and Consumer Staples, outperformed throughout the month, causing us to slightly lag relative to the benchmark. Since its inception on February 12, 2024, the Fund has generated a gross return of **+11.8%** compared to **+13.2%** for the MSCI World. We are pleased with these results, as they were achieved despite the Fund being, on average, only approximately 65% invested during the period, as inflows from subscriptions were gradually deployed, and without owning any of the MAG7 stocks which have been the main drivers of U.S. and global equity returns. Our top contributors were **Brambles** (wood pallet recycling), which reported higher free cash flow and increased their dividend; **Ecolab** (industrial water solutions), which recovered strongly after we added to our position on weakness at the end of July; and **Tetra Tech** (environmental consulting and engineering), which raised its financial guidance. Our main detractors included **Trex** (sustainable decking), which announced weaker-than-anticipated orders; **Stantec** (environmental consulting and engineering), which sold-off despite releasing strong results; and **Tomra** (reverse vending machines and recycling sorting equipment), which experienced some profit-taking after a strong post-earnings rally in July. With the UN targets to halt and reverse biodiversity loss, upcoming corporate disclosure on nature-related financial impacts, dependencies, and risks, and stricter regulations against “greenwashing,” we are more confident than ever that our thematic global investment strategy will produce strong long term returns.

PORTFOLIO MANAGERS



Matthew Kaszel, CFA - Portfolio Manager, Global Equities

Matthew joined the firm in 2022 as a Portfolio Manager specializing in Global Equities. With a solid background in finance, he brings over nine years of experience as a research analyst and portfolio manager at an established investment management firm in Montreal. Matthew holds a B. Com in Finance from the John Molson School of Business and is a Chartered Financial Analyst (CFA). Beyond his professional duties, Matthew is involved in several environmental finance and educational initiatives. He is a member of the TNFD forum (Taskforce on Nature-related Financial Disclosures) and a participant in Nature Action 100, a global initiative encouraging corporate action to mitigate nature and biodiversity loss. He is also a board member of the Loyola High School Foundation where he also serves on the investment committee.

Investment team: Stephen Takacsy, B. Eng, MBA - Chief Investment Officer ; Rala Chen, MBA, CFA - Research Analyst, Global Equities

STRATEGY CHARACTERISTICS

Inception Date	February 12th, 2024
Strategy AUM	\$16.7 million
Style	All-Cap, GARP, thematic
Process	Thematic screening & SDG indicators
Portfolio	35 to 45 diversified holdings
Risk Profile	Low cyclical exposure Low market correlation Low portfolio turnover Maximum position size: 5% Maximum themes weight: 40%

POOLED FUND TERMS

Inception Date	February 12th, 2024																
Fund AUM	\$16.5 million																
Minimum Investment	\$150,000 (or less for accredited investors)																
Eligible Accounts	Non-Registered and Registered (RRSP, RESP, TFSA...)																
Distribution	AB, BC, MB, ON, QC, by way of Offering Memorandum																
Total Expense Ratio (TER)	Management Fee (as listed below) + a maximum of 0.5% for operating expenses + trading and custodial charges																
Fund Units***	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>SERIES</th> <th>FUNDSERV</th> <th>NAV</th> <th>MGMT.</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>F</td> <td>LAF300</td> <td>\$11.07</td> <td>1.5%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>I</td> <td>LAF301</td> <td>\$11.10</td> <td>1.0%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>O</td> <td>LAF302</td> <td>\$11.18</td> <td>TBD</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	SERIES	FUNDSERV	NAV	MGMT.	F	LAF300	\$11.07	1.5%	I	LAF301	\$11.10	1.0%	O	LAF302	\$11.18	TBD
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ABOUT THE FIRM

Lester Asset Management is a Montreal-based independent portfolio management firm serving private clients and institutions, with a fiduciary duty to always act in the best interests of its clients. The Firm also manages institutional funds for the *Quebec Emerging Managers Program*. The Firm is committed to preserving and growing the financial wealth of its clients through responsible and ethical investing while also providing a high level of personalized service to meet its clients’ evolving needs. The Firm is focused on the active value-added management of its core strategies: Canadian Equity, Canadian Fixed Income, and Global Equity, aiming to outperform the main indices and add value by achieving higher returns than the market with lower risk. In 2021, the Firm received a Global Manager Research (GMR) *Top Performer* award for its 1-year return in the Canadian Fixed Income category, and in 2022 it received two more GMR *Top Performer* awards for its 5-year and 10-year returns in the Canadian Fixed Income Plus category. The Firm is also a signatory of the United Nations’ Principles of Responsible Investing and is a member of the Taskforce on Nature-related Financial Disclosure (TNFD) Forum and the Nature Action 100 engagement team.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

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*Returns for the Lynx Global Biodiversity Fund (the “Fund”) are gross of management fees **The MSCI World Index is the benchmark that has been used since inception of the Fund in February 2024, and reflects the Fund’s policy of investing in global equity securities. *** Returns on the different unit series of the Fund will vary due to applicable management fees. Please read the Offering Memorandum before investing in the Fund. The Fund’s returns are not guaranteed as unit values change frequently and past performance may not be repeated.

