



# LESTER ASSET MANAGEMENT

RESPONSIBLE GROWTH



## GLOBAL BIODIVERSITY FUND REPORT 30 June 2025

### 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 investment 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 using a proprietary framework for final stock selection. The Fund also benefits from the expertise of an experienced Advisory Board for guidance and insight into specific companies, industry developments, and emerging opportunities.

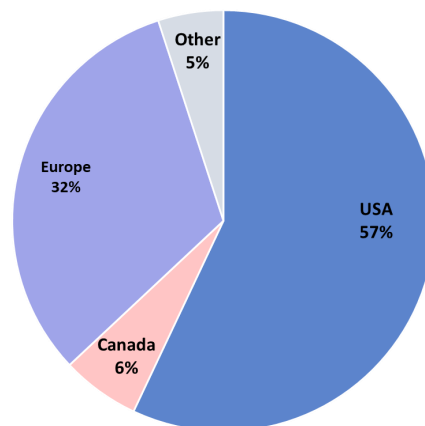
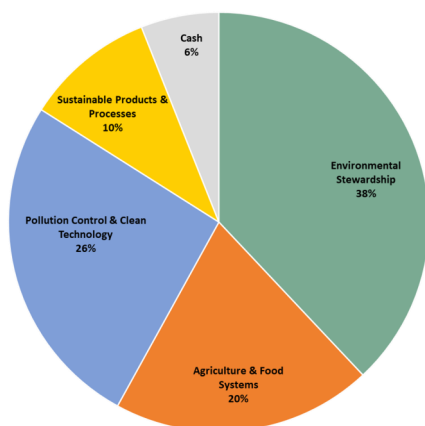
### INVESTMENT THEMES



### PERFORMANCE (since inception February 12, 2024)

|   | 1 MONTH | QTD  | YTD  | 1 YEAR | Since Inception |
|---|---------|------|------|--------|-----------------|
| <b>LYNX GLOBAL BIODIVERSITY FUND*</b>           | 1.0%    | 7.5% | 3.9% | 9.2%   | 10.5%           |
| <b>MSCI WORLD TR INDEX (\$CAD)**</b>            | 3.6%    | 5.8% | 4.1% | 16.4%  | 19.4%           |
| <b>S&amp;P CLEAN ENERGY TR INDEX (\$CAD)***</b> | 3.0%    | 9.9% | 9.9% | -0.6%  | -4.7%           |

### FUND ALLOCATION BY INVESTMENT THEME AND GEOGRAPHY



### TOP 10 HOLDINGS

|                      | %   |
|----------------------|-----|
| Cash                 | 5.7 |
| Veolia Environnement | 3.9 |
| Novonesis B          | 3.9 |
| Clean Harbors        | 3.6 |
| Itron                | 3.6 |
| Eurofins Scientific  | 3.4 |
| AECOM                | 3.3 |
| Republic Services    | 3.3 |
| Xylem                | 3.2 |
| Corteva              | 3.1 |

## QUARTERLY COMMENTARY

During the 2nd quarter, the **Lynx Global Biodiversity Fund** generated a gross return of **+7.5%**, versus **+5.8%** for the **MSCI World Index Total Return** in Canadian dollars. While the Technology sector led the strong global equity market performance, our strategy delivered even better returns, driven by solid financial results and outlooks across our portfolio. The majority of our holdings either reaffirmed or increased their financial outlook, highlighting the quality and resilience of the companies in our strategy. During the brief but sharp market selloff in April, we added to our high-conviction names while adding a new position in **Bentley Systems**, an engineering software provider whose clients are primarily infrastructure design and environmental consulting firms serving defensive end-markets such as public works and utilities. As markets rebounded, several holdings approached our valuation targets and were trimmed. Top performers during the quarter included **Montrose Environmental Group** (environmental services), **Eurofins Scientific** (laboratory testing), and **Itron** (smart grid metering), all of which delivered strong operating results. The main detractors were **Zoetis** (animal health), **Trex** (sustainable outdoor decking), and **Arcadis** (environmental engineering & consulting). Despite competitive pressures, Zoetis delivered solid results, and we remain confident in its market leadership, strong brand, and long-term growth prospects. Trex reported softer results as the home renovation market remains challenged, though we are optimistic that channel inventory rebuilding is underway. Arcadis continues to deliver on its profitability initiatives, although market sentiment appears slow to recognize its progress. While the 2nd quarter rally was notable, we expect further market volatility and will take advantage of such to reinvest at attractive prices.

## 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 ; Alexis Tanguay, MS.c, CFA - Research Analyst, Global Equities**

## STRATEGY CHARACTERISTICS

|                       |  |
|-----------------------|--|
| <b>Inception Date</b> | February 12th, 2024  |
| <b>Strategy AUM</b>   | \$19.2 million   |
| <b>Style</b>          | All-Cap, GARP, thematic  |
| <b>Process</b>        | Thematic screening & SDG indicators  |
| <b>Portfolio</b>      | 35 to 45 diversified holdings  |
| <b>Risk Profile</b>   | Low cyclical exposure<br>Low market correlation<br>Low portfolio turnover<br>Maximum position size: 5%<br>Maximum themes weight: 40% |

## POOLED FUND TERMS

|                                  |   |                 |            |              |
|----------------------------------|---|-----------------|------------|--------------|
| <b>Inception Date</b>            | February 12th, 2024   |                 |            |              |
| <b>Fund AUM</b>                  | \$18.8 million  |                 |            |              |
| <b>Minimum Investment</b>        | \$150,000 (or less for accredited investors)  |                 |            |              |
| <b>Eligible Accounts</b>         | Non-Registered and Registered (RRSP, RESP, TFSA...)   |                 |            |              |
| <b>Distribution</b>              | AB, BC, MB, ON, QC, by way of Offering Memorandum   |                 |            |              |
| <b>Total Expense Ratio (TER)</b> | Management Fee (as listed below) + a maximum of 0.5% for operating expenses + trading and custodial charges |                 |            |              |
| <b>Fund Units****</b>            | <b>SERIES</b>   | <b>FUNDSERV</b> | <b>NAV</b> | <b>MGMT.</b> |
|                                  | F   | LAF300          | \$11.20    | 1.5%         |
|                                  | I   | LAF301          | \$11.30    | 1.0%         |
|                                  | O   | LAF302          | \$11.48    | TBD          |

## 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:

TEL: 514-849-5566  
TOLL FREE: 1-866-849-5566  
EMAIL: [reception@lesterasset.com](mailto:reception@lesterasset.com)

### HEAD OFFICE:

1800 McGill College Avenue, Suite 2102  
Montreal, QC H3A 3J6  
[www.lesterasset.com](http://www.lesterasset.com)



FREQUENT  
CONTRIBUTOR ON



\*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. \*\*\* NASDAQ Clean Edge Green Energy is the benchmark that has been used since November 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.