

## **TACTICAL BOND FUND**

As of December 31, 2023

INSTITUTIONAL SHARES | **STBJX** 

### **INVESTMENT OBJECTIVES**

The Fund's two investment objectives are to provide total return (with income contributing a significant part) and to limit volatility and downside risk.

### **BENCHMARKS**

**Primary**: Bloomberg US Aggregate Bond Index **Secondary**: ICE BofA US High Yield Index See Benchmark Definitions to the right.

## PORTFOLIO CHARACTERISTICS

Inception Date: October 1, 2019
Total assets (all classes): \$1,736.4 M
Total number of holdings: 35

### MINIMUM INITIAL INVESTMENT

Inst Class \$10,000

## **PORTFOLIO MANAGEMENT**

### Kenneth L. Sleeper, MBA, PhD

Co-Founder & Managing Director
Education: PhD, University of Southern California;
MBA, Business Administration, University of
Southern California

### Ryan Harder, CFA

Chief Investment Strategist & Portfolio Manager
Education: BA Economics, Brock University
M.Sc., Int'l Securities, Investment Banking, ICMA
Centre, University of Reading

### Doug Loeffler, CFA, CAIA

Executive Vice President of Investment Management
Education: MBA, Business Administration,
University of Chicago
BA, Economics, Washington State University

## Marshall Quan

Lead Portfolio Analyst, Portfolio Manager
Education: BS, Business Administration, Cal State
University at Dominguez Hills

## **Fund Profile**

#### Disciplined Risk Management: We

believe in disciplined risk management. This includes a tactical approach, rulesbased decisions, consistency, and a focus on limiting drawdowns.

# Rules-Based Investment Process: We focus on trend following, broad assetclass diversification, securities exhibiting strong risk-adjusted returns, a Trailing Stop Discipline seeking to limit

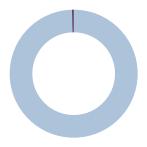
drawdowns, and the ability to move to 100% cash.

### Team-Based Portfolio Management:

Our investment management team has a combined 160 years of experience. All of our managers convene every day to review every asset class and every holding.

## **Allocations**

■ High Yield Corp. Bonds 99.6%■ Cash and Equivalents 0.4%



## **Top Holdings**

BlackRock High Yield Bond Instl	26.8%
SPDR® Blmbg High Yield Bd ETF	13.5%
iShares iBoxx \$ High Yield Corp Bd ETF	10.7%
iShares Broad USD High Yield Corp Bd ETF	10.5%
SPDR® Blmbg ST HY Bd ETF	7.4%
Osterweis Strategic Income	7.0%
Xtrackers USD High Yield Corp Bd ETF	4.5%
City National Rochdale Fxd Inc Opps N	4.2%
iShares 0-5 Year High Yield Corp Bd ETF	3.6%
SPDR® Portfolio High Yield Bond ETF	2.7%
Subtotal	90.9%

## **Benchmark Definitions & Fund Risk Disclosures**

**The Bloomberg US Aggregate Bond Index** is a broad-based flagship benchmark that measures the investment grade, US dollar-denominated, fixed-rate taxable bond market.

**The ICE BofA US High Yield Index** tracks the performance of U.S. dollar denominated below investment grade corporate debt publicly issued in the U.S. domestic market.

Portfolio holdings are subject to change and should not be considered investment advice.

The Sierra Tactical Bond Fund has fixed income risk as a rise in interest rates causes a decline in the value of the underlying funds owned by the fund. Other risk factors impacting fixed income securities include credit risk, maturity risk, market risk, extension risk, illiquid security risks, foreign securities risk and prepayment risk. These risks could affect the value of a particular investment by the Fund possibly causing the Fund's share price and total return to be reduced and fluctuate more than other types of investments. In addition, some of the underlying funds in which the Fund will from time to time invest in are sometimes referred to as high-yield or junk bonds. Because the Fund will seldom hold an underlying fund for 12 months or more, investors who own the Fund in taxable accounts will be subject to federal income tax at short-term rates.

### **TERMS & DEFINITIONS**

**Standard Deviation** is a statistical concept used in investment management to measure risk for the variability of return of a fund's performance. A high standard deviation represents greater risk.

**Sharpe Ratio** uses standard deviation to measure a fund's risk-adjusted returns. The higher a fund's Sharpe Ratio, the better a fund's returns have been relative to the risk it has taken on.

**Downside Deviation** is a risk statistic measuring volatility. It is a variation of Standard Deviation that focuses only upon the "bad" volatility.

**Sortino Ratio** is a modification of the Sharpe Ratio that differentiates harmful volatility from general volatility by taking into account the Standard Deviation of negative asset returns, called Downside Deviation.

**Max Drawdown** is an indicator of the risk of a portfolio chosen based on a certain strategy. It measures the largest single drop from peak to bottom in the value of a portfolio (before a new peak is achieved) using month-end data

### **ANNUAL OPERATING EXPENSES**

	Inst Class
Management Fees & Other Expenses	1.23%
12b-1 Fees	0.00%
Total Annual Fund Operating Expenses	1.59%

The expense ratios shown are as of January 30, 2023. Expenses include the underlying fund expenses. Please see the Fund's prospectus for more details. The Total Annual Fund Operating Expenses includes the fees and expenses of the underlying funds, which are estimated at 0.36%/yr

## **Performance Metrics Since Inception\***

	Cumulative Return	Return	Standard Deviation %	Sharpe Ratio	Downside Deviation %	Sortino Ratio	Maximum Drawdown
Inst Class (STBJX)	23.54%	5.20%	6.70	0.50	3.14	1.07	-7.63%
Primary Benchmark	-2.95%	-0.72%	6.46	-0.38	4.86	-0.51	-18.41%
Secondary Benchmark	15.35%	3.49%	10.27	0.20	7.78	0.26	-21.54%

<sup>\*</sup>The inception date for the Sierra Tactical Bond Fund, Instl Class shares, is October 1, 2019. The metrics calculated above require a full month of performance for inclusion and thus begin on November 1, 2019.

## **Historical Returns**

	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019*
Inst Class (STBJX)	7.17%	-4.07%	1.50%	16.02%	2.49%
Primary Benchmark	5.53%	-13.01%	-1.54%	7.51%	0.01%
Secondary Benchmark	13.46%	-11.22%	5.36%	6.17%	2.68%

## **Returns By Quarter**

Year	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Year	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
2023	1.37%	1.18%	0.07%	4.41%	2021	0.65%	2.50%	0.49%	-2.10%
2022	-2.16%	-2.08%	0.30%	-0.16%	2020	7.03%	1.90%	2.69%	3.59%
					2019	_	_	_	2 49%*

## **Average Annual Total Returns and Volatility**

		Annualized				
	YTD	1 Year	3 Year	5 Year	Since Inception*	
Inst Class (STBJX)	7.17%	7.17%	1.43%	_	5.20%	
Primary Benchmark	5.53%	5.53%	-3.31%	_	-0.72%	
Secondary Benchmark	13.46%	13.46%	2.00%	_	3.49%	
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Downside Deviation %						
Inst Class (STBJX)	_	3.67	3.09	_	3.14	
Primary Benchmark	_	5.16	5.69	_	4.86	
Secondary Benchmark	_	3.22	6.04	_	7.78	

Past performance does not guarantee future results and there is no assurance that the Fund will achieve its investment objective.

The performance quoted herein represents past performance for Institutional Class (STBJX). For performance numbers to the most current month end, please call toll-free 1-844-727-1813 or visit our website, sierramutualfunds.com. Current performance may be lower or higher than the performance data quoted above. Past performance is no guarantee of future results. The investment return and principal value of an investment in the Fund will fluctuate, so that an investors' share, when redeemed, may be worth more or less than their original cost.

Investors should carefully consider the investment objectives, risks, charges, and expenses of the Fund. This and other information about the Fund is contained in the prospectus and should be read carefully investing. The prospectus can be obtained at sierramutualfunds.com or by calling 1-844-727-1813. The Sierra Mutual Funds are distributed by Northern Lights Distributors, LLC, Member FINRA/SIPC.

Unless otherwise noted, all information is from Morningstar as of December 31, 2023. Allocations, top holdings, fund performance and characteristics are subject to change without notice.

Cumulative performance from inception is the total increase in value of an investment in the Instl Class Shares, assuming reinvestment of dividends and capital gains.

vidends and capital gains. Investors cannot directly invest in an index and unmanaged index returns do not reflect any fees, expenses or sales charges.



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