# **HUNTER GLOBAL FIXED INTEREST FUND**



### **Report & Commentary**

31 July 2018

Fund Information	31 July 2018		
Fund Size	\$648 million		
Fund Type	PIE		
Investment management	PIMCO		
Benchmark	Bloomberg Barclays Global Aggregate Index - \$NZ hedged		
Performance (gross)	1 month	3 months	12 months
Portfolio (%)	+0.26%	+087%	+2.85%
Benchmark (%)	+0.03%	+0.60%	+1.84%
Alpha (%)	+0.23%	+0.27%	+1.01%

The performance in this fact sheet is gross of fees and tax. Investors should also refer to the quarterly Fund Update, which is available on <u>hunterinvestments.co.nz</u> and <u>business.govt.nz/disclose</u>.

#### Performance update

The Hunter Global Fixed Interest Fund returned +0.26% for the month of July, outperforming the benchmark return of +0.03% (being the Bloomberg Barclays Global Aggregate Index - \$NZ hedged).

The Fund benefited from PIMCO's duration underweight in Japan as yields rose there. Similarly, exposure to Mexican and Argentinian Peso's also contributed as both appreciated against the US dollar. Exposure to "hard currency" emerging market debt also added value.

However, an overweight to German duration detracted as yields rose through Europe. An underweight to investment grade corporate debt also detracted as credit spreads narrowed in July.

#### **Investment markets**

Riskier assets rebounded in July on the back of a robust economic growth reading in the US and an apparent easing in trade tensions between the US and Europe following a meeting between US President Trump and European Commission President Jean-Claude Juncker.

However, markets continue to expect policy normalisation from the Federal Reserve but diverging growth momentum across other major economies suggesting less synchronised central bank activity going forward. While US growth appears to be on solid ground, growth measures remain mixed in other regions and, in particular, the Eurozone and Japan.

PIMCO's Cyclical outlook remains for above trend world growth in 2018 with low, but gently rising, inflation but the risks of either a "right" or "left" tail event have risen.

## Portfolio positioning

The Fund continues to remain defensively positioned, underweight duration overall, although less so in prior months as global growth continues to diverge. (5.7 years vs index at 7.0 years)

Within regions, the Fund holds a modest overweight to intermediate U.S. duration as U.S. rates offer an attractive pick-up versus other developed market interest rates.

PIMCO is also now underweight core European duration as they see limited room for interest rates to rally. They are also modestly underweight Italian duration given the political uncertainty.

The Fund is also underweight duration in Japan but is overweight Swedish and Danish duration as an attractive alternative to core Europe.

The Fund has a modest exposure to US TIPS to protect against any inflation surprises.

The Fund continues to have exposure to a diversified basket of high yielding emerging market currencies (including RUB, ARS, MXN and INR) that PIMCO believes will outperform in a stable developed markets currency environment.

In the credit risk sector, the Fund remains underweight investment-grade corporate credit preferring the non-agency mortgage sector due to their attractive yields, downside protection and the outlook for price appreciation in the US housing market.

The Fund also holds exposure to Danish "callable" mortgages and Swedish "covered" bonds which PIMCO view as offering an attractive source of "safe spread".

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# 31 July 2018

# Hunter Global Fixed Interest Fund Investment Portfolio Characteristics

Investment Statistics			
Effect	ive Duration	5.7	
Bench	mark Duration	7.0	
Avera	ge Maturity	8.2	
Avera	ge Coupon	2.4	
Avera	ge Quality	AA-	
Total	Carry	5.3	

Quality Breakdown			
Market Value % Portfolio		Market Value % Benchmark	
61.9	AAA	39.6	
6.5	AA	16.2	
13.9	Α	28.9	
10.3	BBB	15.3	
7.4	Sub Inv Grade	0.0	
100	Total	100	

		Curve Exposure		
Duration Weighted Exposure			Duration We	ighted Exposure
% Portfolio	% Benchmark		Years Portfolio	Years Benchmark
13.6	0.1	0 - 1 years	0.8	0.0
-6.2	6.7	1 - 3 years	-0.3	0.5
52.3	12.8	3 - 5 years	3.0	0.9
19.0	32.1	5-10 years	1.1	2.3
21.3	48.3	10+ years	1.2	3.4
100	100	Total	5.7	7.0

Regional Breakdown by currency of settlement)				
Duration Weighted Exposure			Duration Weighted Exposure	
% Portfolio	% Benchmark		Years Portfolio	Years Benchmark
3.9	1.1	Australia/NZ	0.2	0.1
4.7	22.2	Japan	0.3	1.6
25.0	24.4	Europe - EMU	1.4	1.7
6.7	1.6	Europe - Non EMU	0.4	0.1
4.9	7.8	United Kingdom	0.3	0.5
55.4	40.4	North America	3.1	2.8
1.8	1.2	Emerging Markets	0.1	0.1
-2.4	1.5	Other	-0.1	0.1
100	100	Total	5.7	7.0

Sector Breakdown				
<b>Duration Weighted Exposure</b>			<b>Duration Weighted Exposure</b>	
% Portfolio	% Benchmark		Years Portfolio	Years Benchmark
33.1	58.7	Government	1.9	4.1
5.8	8.1	Agency/Semi	0.3	0.6
29.6	11.0	Mortgage	1.7	0.8
12.6	16.6	Inv Grade Corp	0.7	1.2
1.7	0.0	High Yield Corp	0.1	0.0
4.1	5.6	<b>Emerging Markets</b>	0.2	0.4
13.1	0.0	Cash Equivalents	0.7	0.0
100	100	Total	5.7	7.0



