AAM/Insight Select Income Fund Commentary

CPUAX • CPUCX • CPUIX

Fourth Quarter 2023

The following commentary is from Insight Investment, the sub-advisor to the Fund and the "we" throughout the commentary. Please note that this discussion provides a very detailed review of the market and an analysis of the strategies utilized by Fund. Some of this analysis may be difficult for the average investor to fully understand. It is presented here for those who may have an interest in such a discussion and as always, we encourage investors to discuss questions with a financial professional.

PERFORMANCE REVIEW

The AAM/Insight Select Income Fund (the "Fund") Class A, Class C and Class I shares returned 8.15% (4.86% net of load), 7.95% and 8.22% respectively for the quarter ending December 31, 2023. Over the same period, the Bloomberg US Credit Bond Index returned 8.15% and the Bloomberg US Aggregate Bond Index returned 6.82%. Since the Fund's inception on an annualized basis, the Fund's Class A, Class C and Class I shares have increased 2.52% (2.23% net of load), 1.75% and 2.77% respectively. Over the same period, the Bloomberg US Credit Bond Index was up 2.32% and the Bloomberg US Aggregate Bond Index was up 1.43%.

MARKET REVIEW

The main theme of the quarter was widespread acceptance that interest rates had peaked, given moderating inflation and some signs of loosening in the labor market. The Federal Reserve pivoted from hawkish rhetoric in December, projecting three rate cuts in 2024.

Government bond markets performed very well. 10-year US Treasury yields reversed their Q3 increase, ending the quarter 69 basis points (bp) lower at 3.88%, having briefly exceeded 5% (for the first time since 2007) during October.

In the US, headline Consumer Price Index (CPI) fell to 3.1%. Core inflation remained relatively sticky. Job growth remained robust despite there being a lack of positive momentum in some of the key leading economic indicators. Meanwhile, the equivalent service sector Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI) has shown some resilience above 50 but has yet to accelerate higher. Consumer confidence bounced sharply in December, signaled by the University of Michigan Consumer Sentiment measure which increased to 69.7, as expectations for the path of inflation has improved.

Political discord within the Republican party saw the House of Representatives without a Speaker for much of October, following Kevin McCarthy's removal from office. The party eventually agreed upon Mike Johnson from Louisiana.

The Bloomberg US Investment Grade Corporate Index had an excess return of 203 bp, driven primarily by gains made in November. All sectors, except for airlines, achieved positive excess returns over the period. The strongest-performing sectors were wireline telecommunications, media entertainment, oil field services, life insurers, real estate investment trusts (REITs) and basic industries. As along with airlines, lagging sectors included construction machinery, pharmaceuticals, consumer products and integrated energy.

The fund maintained a modest duration overweight for much of the quarter given our outlook that the Fed has likely concluded its hiking cycle. Ultimately the fund finished the period with a neutral position relative to the benchmark given the size and speed of the rate move during the quarter. There were no major changes to the high-level sector allocations; the team continues to seek short-dated, high income generating investments with attractive valuations paired with longer-maturity, higher quality issues. Overall credit exposure remains slightly below the fund's historical average but increased slightly during the quarter. The fund selectively added to banking and consumer cyclicals. The fund also added in capital goods while continuing to run

Performance as of 12/31/23 (%)

Class	Quarter	YTD	1-Year	3-Year	5-Year	10-Year	Since Inception (4/19/13)	Expense Ratios (net / gross)
Class A - CPUAX	8.15	9.03	9.03	-3.18	2.67	2.95	2.52	0.79% / 1.00%
With sales charge[1]	4.86	5.78	5.78	-4.16	2.04	2.64	2.23	
Class C - CPUCX[2]	7.95	8.08	8.08	-3.94	1.89	2.18	1.75	1.56% / 1.77%
Class I - CPUIX	8.22	9.18	9.18	-2.98	2.93	3.22	2.77	0.56% / 0.77%
US Credit Bond Index[3]	8.15	8.18	8.18	-3.21	2.45	2.83	2.32	
US Aggregate Bond Index[4]	6.82	5.53	5.53	-3.31	1.10	1.81	1.43	

The Fund's advisor has contractually agreed to waive certain fees/expenses (including advisory fees and fund operating expenses) until October 31, 2033 and may recoup previously waived expenses that it assumed during the previous three-year period. Performance is annualized for periods longer than one year. Redemption fee if redeemed within 90 days of purchase: 2.00%.

[1]Sales charge for Class A: 3.00%, maximum deferred sales charge 1.00%. [2]Class C shares are subject to a contingent deferred sales charge of 1.00% when redeemed within 12 months of purchase. Performance returns would be lower if this charge was reflected. [3]Bloomberg US Credit Bond Index measures the performance of investment grade corporate debt and agency bonds that are dollar denominated and have a remaining maturity of greater than one year. [4]The Bloomberg US Aggregate Bond Index is an unmanaged, broad based index composed of US dollar denominated, investment grade, fixed-rate taxable bonds with at least $250 million par amount outstanding and at least one year to final maturity. It is not possible to invest directly in an index.

The performance data quoted represents past performance and is not a guarantee of future results. Investment return and principal value of an investment will fluctuate so that an investor's shares, when redeemed, may be worth more or less than their original cost. Current performance may be lower or higher than the performance information quoted. To obtain performance information current to the most recent month-end, please call 1-888-966-9661.

an overweight in midstream energy. At the same time, the team rotated out of some basic industry and communications issues.

Our investment outlook remains constructive for income generation. We are comfortable looking through near-term, technically-driven volatility that may arise after the strong rally in both risk assets and rates at the end of the year. Our outlook does not suggest that this should become a trend given our economic backdrop and our overall market views.

FUND PERFORMANCE REVIEW

- Security selection was the largest contributor to relative performance during the quarter. Gains were generated by selection within US Industrials, US High Yield Credit, and the non-US developed sectors. Security selection with the emerging market allocation of the portfolio was a modest detractor.
- Sector allocation was a detractor during the quarter as investment grade credit performed extremely well having generated 203 bp of excess return during the quarter at the index level. The fund maintains a diversified portfolio including modest allocations to the securitized and US treasury sectors both of which underperformed credit during the period. The allocation to US high yield credit was additive from an allocation perspective.
- Duration and yield curve positioning also added to relative performance as the fund was slightly overweight duration along the belly of the curve while rates decreased during the period.

INVESTMENT OUTLOOK

Our view on the US economy remains largely unchanged. While we believe Gross Domestic Product (GDP) growth may be weaker in 2024, we also think the path may be more likely to be positive than negative. We see potential for sub-trend GDP growth of 1.6% and for inflation to continue declining towards target, averaging approximately 2.4% in 2024. We anticipate three 0.25% rate cuts, in line with the Federal Reserve's projections, but lower than what the market is currently pricing.

As US Treasury yields have fallen substantially in November and December, there may be limited scope for them to decline further in the near term. We believe some upward retracement may create buying opportunities.

Risks to our economic forecast remain skewed to downside, which could potentially be supportive for duration. We also forecast the first Fed rate cut around mid-summer. We do expect companies to have an increased focused on expense management, implying that we could see some labor market softness.

We believe this may be a particularly supportive environment for investors to lock in higher yields. We see potential in short-dated high yield credit early in 2024 to help drive income generation in the portfolio. We retain an active approach to credit selection, aiming to benefit from the ability to exploit the distortions within credit markets and single-name dispersion at a security selection level.

We expect defaults to remain around the 3% level for 2024 in both the US and Europe. We believe idiosyncratic risk can potentially remain the key driver of performance in 2024. We feel there could be significant issuance early in 2024 following the recent market strength. Growth is slowing as the long lag from tighter policy bites, more so in Europe and China than in the US; however, the magnitude of the slowdown appears to be relatively modest by all accounts, which we think could keep defaults in check.

For more information on AAM/Insight Select Income Fund, please contact a financial professional or visit aamlive.com.

You should carefully consider the investment objectives, potential risks, management fees, and charges and expenses of the Fund before investing. The Fund's prospectus and summary prospectus contains this and other information about the Fund, and should be read carefully before investing. You may obtain a current copy of the Fund's prospectus and summary prospectus by calling 888.966.9661. Past performance does not guarantee future results.

The Fund's investment sub-advisor is Insight North America LLC (INA). INA is part of 'Insight' or 'Insight Investment', the corporate brand for certain asset management companies operated by Insight Investment Management Limited including, among others, Insight Investment Management (Global) Limited and Insight Investment International Limited.

Views are current as of the date of this publication and subject to change. This Information herein may contain, include or is based upon forward-looking statements within the meaning of the federal securities laws, specifically Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended. Forward-looking statements include all statements, other than statements of historical fact, that address future activities, events or developments, including without limitation, business or investment strategy or measures to implement strategy, competitive strengths, goals expansion and growth of our business, plans, prospects and references to future or success. You can identify these statements by the fact that they do not relate strictly to historical or current facts. Words such as 'anticipate,' 'estimate,' 'expect,' 'project,' 'intend,' 'plan,' 'believe,' and other similar words are intended to identify these forward-looking statements. Forward-looking statements can be affected by inaccurate assumptions or by known or unknown risks and uncertainties. Many such factors will be important in determining our actual future results or outcomes. Consequently, no forward-looking statement can be guaranteed. Our actual results or outcomes may vary materially. Given these uncertainties, you should not place undue reliance on these forward-looking statements.

Risks: All investments are subject to risks including the potential loss of principal. The Fund's principal risks are outlined here. More information about these risks may be found in the Fund's prospectus. There can be no guarantee that any strategy (risk management or otherwise) will be successful. Fixed income securities decrease in value if interest rates rise. The Fund may not be able to sell some or all of the investments that it holds, or may only be able to sell those investments at less than desired prices. High yield bonds ("junk bonds") involve greater risks of default, downgrade, or price declines. Convertible securities and warrants are subject to potentially greater volatility than the general market. Foreign securities may be more volatile than the securities of U.S. issuers because of economic and other conditions. These risks are heightened in emerging markets. Investments denominated in foreign currencies are subject to changes in value relative to the U.S. dollar. Real Estate Investment Trusts (REITs) are subject to risks similar to those associated with direct ownership of real estate, including losses from casualty or condemnation, and changes in local and general economic conditions, supply and demand, interest rates, zoning laws, regulatory limitations on rents, property taxes and operating expenses. Master Limited Partnership Units (MLPs) risk includes the risks associated with a similar investment in equity securities. Additional risks include cash flow risk, tax risk, risk associated with a potential conflict of interest between unit holders and the MLP's general partner, and capital markets risk. Securities lending involves certain potential risks, primarily counterparty, market, liquidity and reinvestment risks. Additionally, the Fund may employ hedging techniques that involve a variety of derivative transactions, including futures contracts, swaps, exchange-listed and over-the-counter put and call options on securities or on financial indices, and various interest rate and foreign-exchange transactions (collectively, "Hedging Instruments"). Hedging Instrument Risks involves certain potential risks, primarily counterparty, market, liquidity and reinvestment risks. Investing in an ETF will provide the Fund with exposure to the securities comprising the index on which the ETF is based and will expose the Fund to risks similar to those of investing directly in those securities.

Information about the indices shown here is provided to allow for comparison of the performance of the Fund to that of certain well-known and widely recognized indices. There is no representation that such index is an appropriate benchmark for such comparison. You cannot invest directly in an index and the indices represented do not take into account trading commissions and/or other brokerage or custodial costs. The volatility of the indices may be materially different from that of the Fund. In addition, the Fund's holdings may differ substantially from the securities that comprise the indices shown. Total return comprises price appreciation/depreciation and income as a percentage of the original investment. Insight does not provide tax or legal advice and all investors are strongly urged to consult their tax and legal professionals regarding any potential strategy or investment.

Definitions: Beta is a measure of the volatility, or systematic risk, of a security or a portfolio in comparison to the market as a whole. A beta of 1 indicates that the security's price moves with the market. A beta of less than 1 means that the security is theoretically less volatile than the market. A beta of greater than 1 indicates that the security's price is theoretically more volatile than the market. **Bloomberg US Investment Grade (IG) Corporate Index** measures the investment grade, fixed-rate, taxable corporate bond market. It includes USD-denominated securities publicly issued by US and non-US industrial, utility and financial issuers. **Bond ratings** are grades given to bonds that indicate their credit quality as determined by a private independent rating services which evaluates a bond issuer's financial strength, or its ability to pay a bond's principal and interest in a timely fashion. Ratings are expressed as letters: AAA, AA, A, and BBB are investment grade ratings; BB, B, CCC/CC/C and D are below-investment grade ratings. Lower-rated securities present a greater risk of loss to principal and interest than higher-rated securities. US Government or agency securities are generally considered to be of the highest quality. The **Consumer Price Index (CPI)** is a measure of the average change over time in the prices paid by urban consumers for a market basket of consumer goods and services. Duration is a measure of the sensitivity of the price of a bond or other debt instrument to a change in interest rates. It measures how long it takes, in years, for an investor to be repaid the bond's price by the bond's total cash flows. **Excess return** is the difference in a return earned and the risk-free rate, which is usually estimated using the most recent short-term government treasury bill. **Gross domestic product (GDP)** is the monetary value of all finished goods and services made within a country during a specific period. GDP provides an economic snapshot of a country, used to estimate the size of an economy and growth rate. The **Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI)** is an index of the prevailing direction of economic trends in the manufacturing and service sectors. It serves to summarize whether market conditions are expanding, staying the same, or contracting as viewed by purchasing managers. Bond credit **spreads** refer to the difference in yield between a US Treasury bond and another debt security of the same maturity but different credit quality. Credit spreads are often used as a barometer of economic health; widening is viewed as "bad" and narrowing is viewed as "good". A **yield curve** is a graph in which the yield of fixed-interest securities with equal credit quality is plotted against the length of time to maturity from shortest to longest.

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Insight INVESTMENT

A·A·M MUTUAL FUNDS