

### QUARTERLY FUND REVIEW

# **BUCK | Treasury Option Income ETF**

### FUND OVERVIEW

**The Simplify Treasury Option Income ETF (BUCK)** seeks to provide monthly income by investing at least 80% of its net assets in U.S. Treasury securities while adding additional value through an options income strategy.

The fund is intended to be a cash or fixed income alternative, as it seeks to enhance typical yields of a more traditional, passive investment in short-dated fixed income.

### PERFORMANCE REVIEW

BUCK returned 1.29% in the quarter, slightly outperforming the ICE BofA US 3-month Treasury Bills Index which had a return of 1.17%. The outperformance was predominantly from option-writing strategies (0.18%) as frontend interest rates moved lower during the quarter with the FED cutting by 0.25% at both their November and December meetings. This could lead to a lower yield for the fund going forward. However, our outlook for BUCK is robust as the path forward for the FED appears to be a gradual pace of interest rate cuts to bring down the Federal Funds Rate to a more neutral level which will potentially keep rates range-bound. There continues to be higher-than-historical average volatility premia in fixed income products, providing an opportunity to realize healthy risk-adjusted returns.

#### ANNUALIZED CUMULATIVE TOTAL RETURN TOTAL RETURN Since Since 3 mo 6 mo YTD 1 Year Inception Inception NAV 1.29% 3.76% 7.22% 12.93% 7.22% 5.74% **Market Price** 1.44% 3.76% 7.27% 12.64% 7.27% 5.63% ICE BofA US 3-Month 1.17% 2.55% 5.25% 11.30% 5.25% 5.04% **Treasury Bill Index**

### Performance as of 12/31/24 | Inception Date: 10/27/22

The performance data quoted represents past performance and does not guarantee future results. Current performance may be lower or higher than the performance data quoted. In addition, investment returns and the 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. For performance data current to the most recent month-end, please call (855) 772-8488 or go to <u>https://www.simplify.us/etfs</u>.

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### FUND DETAILS as of 12/31/24

### **TOP TEN HOLDINGS\***

POSITION	ALLOCATION
T Bills	75.41%
T Bills	23.52%
US BOND FUTR OPTN Feb25P 95	0.02%
US BOND FUTR OPTN Feb25C 137	0.01%
US BOND FUTR OPTN Feb25C 134	0.00%
US BOND FUTR OPTN Feb25C 138	0.00%
US BOND FUTR OPTN Feb25P 96	0.00%
US BOND FUTR OPTN Feb25C 135	0.00%
US BOND FUTR OPTN Mar25C 122	0.00%
US BOND FUTR OPTN Feb25C 122	-0.07%
Cash	1.33%

Gross Expense Ratio	0.36%
SEC 30-Day Yield	4.08%

\*Holdings are subject to change without notice.

### DEFINITIONS

**ICE BofA US 3-Month Treasury Bill Index:** An unmanaged index that is comprised of a single U.S. Treasury issue with approximately three months to final maturity, purchased at the beginning of each month and held for one full month.

**Market Price:** The current price at which shares are bought and sold. Market returns are based upon the last trade price.

**NAV:** The dollar value of a single share, based on the value of the underlying assets of the fund minus its liabilities, divided by the number of shares outstanding. Calculated at the end of each business day.

**Option:** An option is a contract that gives the buyer the right to either buy (in the case of a call option) or sell (in the case of a put option) an underlying asset at a pre-determined price ("strike") by a specific date ("expiry"). An "outright" is another name for a single option leg. A "spread" is when options are bought at one strike and an equal amount of options are sold at a different strike, all at the same expiry.

**SEC 30-Day Yield:** The yield is calculated with a standardized formula and represents net investment income earned by a fund over a 30-day period, expressed as an annual percentage rate based on the fund's share price. The yield includes the effect of any fee waivers and/or reimbursements. Without waivers, yields would be reduced. This is also referred to as the "standardized yield", "30-Day Yield" and "Current Yield". The unsubsidized SEC 30-Day Yield does not reflect the effect of any fee waivers and/or expense reimbursements.

**Volatility:** A measure of how much and how quickly prices move over a given span of time.

### **IMPORTANT INFORMATION:**

Investors should carefully consider the investment objectives, risks, charges, and expenses of Exchange Traded Funds (ETFs) before investing. To obtain an ETF's prospectus or Summary prospectus containing this and other important information, please call (855) 772-8488, or visit SimplifyETFs.com. Please read the prospectus carefully before you invest.

#### An investment in the fund involves risk, including possible loss of principal.

The fund is actively-managed is subject to the risk that the strategy may not produce the intended results.

The Fund invests in ETFs (Exchange-Traded Funds) and entails higher expenses than if invested into the underlying ETF directly. The lower the credit quality, the more volatile performance will be. When junk bonds sell off, the lowest-rated bonds are typically hit hardest known as blow up risk. Likewise, the riskiest bonds typically rise fastest in a bull market however these investments that don't have a credit rating are typically the most volatile, hard to price and the least liquid.

The use of derivative instruments involves risks different from, or possibly greater than, the risks associated with investing directly in securities and other traditional investments. These risks include (i) the risk that the counterparty to a derivative transaction may not fulfill its contractual obligations; (ii) risk of mispricing or improper valuation; and (iii) the risk that changes in the value of the derivative may not correlate perfectly with the underlying asset, rate, or index. Derivative prices are highly volatile and may fluctuate substantially during a short period of time. The use of leverage by the Fund, such as borrowing money to purchase securities or the use of options, will cause the Fund to incur additional expenses and magnify the Fund's gains or losses. The Fund's investment in fixed income securities is subject to credit risk (the debtor may default) and prepayment risk (an obligation paid early) which could cause its share price and total return to be reduced. Typically, as interest rates rise the value of bond prices will decline and the fund could lose value.

While the option overlay is intended to improve the Fund's performance, there is no guarantee that it will do so. Utilizing an option overlay strategy involves the risk that as the buyer of a put or call option, the Fund risks losing the entire premium invested in the option if the Fund does not exercise the option. Also, securities and options traded in over-the-counter markets may trade less frequently and in limited volumes and thus exhibit more volatility and liquidity risk.

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