

### **Manager Profile**

Salt Funds Management is a boutique investment management firm wholly owned by its employees which specialises in actively seeking to maximise returns while managing the risks of the investment. Salt examines investments for their environmental and social impact as well as the quality of their governance.

#### **Investment Strategy**

The Salt Enhanced Property Fund targets a portfolio of shares of New Zealand and Australian property trusts, companies and other propertyrelated securities with exposure to commercial, residential, retail, tourism, industrial, medical, educational, rural, retirement, and other property sectors. The Fund July also, at our discretion, short sell securities, hold cash, lever its assets and utilise active currency management to generate returns.

### Fund Facts at 31 July 2024

Benchmark	S&P/NZX All Real Estate Gross Index
Fund Assets	\$21 million
Inception Date	11 December 2014
Portfolio Managers	Matthew Goodson, CFA Nicholas Falconer, MBA

#### Unit Price at 31 July 2024

Application	1.3796
Redemption	1.3740

#### **Investment Limits**

The limits for the Enhanced Property Fund are shown below:

Gross Equity Exposure <sup>1</sup>	70% – 200%
Net Equity Exposure <sup>1</sup>	70% – 100%
Unlisted Securities <sup>1</sup>	0% – 5%
Cash or Cash Equivalents	0% – 30%

1. To NZ and Australian property and property-related securities.

#### Fund Exposures at 31 July 2024

Long Exposure	105.27%
Short Exposure	6.58%
Gross Equity Exposure	111.86%
Net Equity Exposure	98.69%

#### Fund Allocation at 31 July 2024

NZ Listed Property Shares	91.41%
AU Listed Property Shares	7.35%
Cash & Cash Equivalents	1.25%

### Fund Performance to 31 July 2024

Period	Fund Return	Benchmark Return
1 month	5.26%	5.79%
3 months	-1.67%	-0.70%
6 months	-3.78%	-3.13%
1 year	-6.65%	-6.96%
2 years p.a.	-4.20%	-4.44%
3 years p.a.	-5.97%	-6.70%
5 years p.a.	-1.01%	-2.34%
7 years p.a.	4.66%	4.04%
Inception p.a.	6.69%	5.79%

Performance is after all fees and does not include imputation credits or PIE tax.

# Cumulative Strategy Performance to 31 July 2024



Fund performance has been rebased to 100 from inception. Past performance is not a reliable indicator of future performance and no representation or warranty, express or implied, is made regarding future performance.

Top Overweights	Top Underweights/Shorts
GDI Property Group	Kiwi Property Group
Asset Plus	Property For Industry
Servcorp	Precinct Properties NZ
Elanor Commercial Property Fund	Goodman Property Trust
Millennium & Copthorne Hotels	Scentre Group

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## **Property Market Commentary**

The S&P/NZX All Real Estate Gross Index had a very strong July rising +5.8% – broadly in line with the wider market where the NZX50 Gross Index returned +5.9%. The strong performance can in part be linked to continued expectations of lower rates as the NZ 10-year bond continued to fall over the month and sat at 4.40% by month-end – declining further in the first few days of August to be under 4.2% at the time of writing. Australian and international real estate stocks also had strong months with the FTSE EPRA/NAREIT Index rising +6.7% and the Australian S&P/ASX200 A-REIT Accumulation Index similarly up +6.8%.

The best performer of the local REITs in a strong month for returns was Investore (IPL, +12.6%) followed by Precinct (PCT, +8.5%), Kiwi Property (KPG, +8.4%), and Stride (SPG, +7.6%). The industrial exposed stocks while still positive had the lowest returns and underperformed the market.

Aside from market movements, there were no notable updates from the local REITs. Although happening in August it's worth noting that KPG has cancelled the sale contract for Vero with their prospective buyer – disappointingly, they had not undertaken the contract requirements including deposit payment or applying for OIO approval.

## Salt Enhanced Property Fund Commentary

The fund returned +5.26% for the month of July, an underperformance of 53 basis points. This was a good month for overall returns, however the positive performances of our off-benchmark positions were not enough to offset the relative underperformance of our underweights in large-cap NZ REITs.

Pleasingly, our Australian positions added over 50 bps of outperformance in the month led by GDI (GDI, +8.0%) and Servcorp (SRV, +6.9%) rising ahead of both the Australian and NZ markets. Despite the strength of the Australian market, our shorts only netted off around 30 bps.

At the time of writing, we estimate that the Fund offers a year-ahead gross dividend yield of 7.3% to a New Zealand investor.

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Nicholas Falconer, MBA

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