# **EAGLE SMID CAP SELECT**

Second Quarter | 2024



Not FDIC Insured May Lose Value No Bank Guarantee

## **EAGLE SMID CAP SELECT**

The Eagle SMID Cap Select Strategy is a "best ideas" portfolio, leveraging the team's long-tenured experience in the small-mid cap space. The portfolio consists of 25-35 of the team's high conviction ideas. Generally these stocks have the most durable business models, the strongest management teams, and long-term sustainable growth profiles.

## INVESTMENT PHILOSOPHY

The team believes in three key principles:

- Durable franchises differentiate themselves through long-term investment in their products and services, employees, community and culture;
- Such intangible investments are often misvalued as investors fail to recognize their resiliency; and
- Consistent alpha may be achieved using a repeatable process to identify such franchises, exploit
  periodic mispricing, and mitigate unpredictable macro-level risk in portfolio construction

## INVESTMENT STRATEGY<sup>1</sup>

We are long-term investors, constructing portfolios of high-quality "blue chip" small-mid cap companies.

Our approach focuses on identifying **Durable Franchises**, which are companies that have:

- Defensible business models with differentiated products and services;
- A conservative financial profile; and
- Management teams that think and act for the long-term interests of all constituents

We create a **Focus List** which contains approved portfolio holdings and "bench" ideas.

We establish and build positions when short-term investors fail to recognize the value of durable franchises

## **ESG CONSIDERATIONS**

ESG analysis is integrated into our approach from initial company analysis and subsequently monitored throughout the investment's life cycle.

We focus on materiality to determine what issues are most/least important for each company.

We seek to encourage companies to enhance their commitment to all stakeholders.

In addition to seeking out those companies that take into account the interest of all constituents, our sell discipline is also willing to consider divesting our portfolio of companies that have violated this responsibility.

## **RESULT**

Over a full market cycle, the team would expect the portfolio to outperform the benchmark Russell 2500<sup>TM</sup> Index with less risk and volatility.

TOP 10 HOLDINGS					
Reinsurance Group of America	5.07%				
Bio-Techne	4.44%				
EXL Service Holdings	4.30%				
Bright Horizons Family Solutions	4.15%				
IDEX	4.08%				
NICE	4.08%				
FirstService	3.99%				
Inter Parfums	3.95%				
Houlihan Lokey	3.95%				
Manhattan Associates	3.82%				

## STATISTICAL INFORMATION

Portfolio	Index*
19.58x	16.08x
10.09%	14.02%
29.05%	37.36%
12.78%	6.64%
9.03%	4.08%
7.70%	3.14%
\$8.04 B	\$8.13 B
25-35	
	19.58x 10.09% 29.05% 12.78% 9.03% 7.70% \$8.04 B

## PORTFOLIO MANAGEMENT TEAM:

Jason Wulff, CFA Matthew McGeary, CFA Matthew Spitznagle, CFA E.G. Woods, CFA

<sup>\*</sup>Russell 2500™ Index

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Weighted average

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>Weighted harmonic average

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup>Median



## PERFORMANCE<sup>2</sup> as of June 30, 2024

		Second Quarter	Year to Date	One Year	Three Years	Five Years	Since Inception (May 31, 2018)
Eagle SMID Cap Select	Gross	-8.03%	-4.81%	-0.26%	0.44%	9.93%	10.08%
Eagle SMID Cap Select	Net	-8.74%	-6.24%	-3.21%	-2.57%	6.71%	6.86%
Russell 2500 <sup>™</sup> Index		-4.27%	2.35%	10.47%	-0.29%	8.31%	7.22%

The calculation of the performance data includes reinvestment of all income and gains and is depicted on a time-weighted and size-weighted average for the entire period. Performance is shown after deduction of transaction costs and both "gross" (before the deduction of management fees) and "net" (after the deduction of management fees). The net returns reflect the application of the highest wrap fee of 3% annum.

## CALENDAR YEAR RETURNS<sup>2</sup>

		2023	2022	2021	2020	2019
Eagle SMID Cap Select	Gross	19.47%	-18.18%	29.23%	24.30%	32.59%
Eagle SMID Cap Select	Net	15.97%	-20.75%	25.63%	20.72%	28.92%
Russell 2500 <sup>™</sup> Index		17.44%	-18.37%	18.17%	19.98%	27.74%

The performance data quoted represents past performance. Past performance does not guarantee future results. Investment return and principal value will fluctuate so that an investor's portfolio, 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 current month-end performance information, please call your financial professional or visit eagleasset.com.

## TRAILING STANDARD DEVIATION as of June 30, 2024

		One Year	Three Years	Five Years	Since Inception (May 31, 2018)
Eagle SMID Cap Select	Gross	16.38%	18.31%	24.97%	24.69%
Russell 2500 <sup>™</sup> Index		17.73%	16.10%	25.76%	25.63%

Source: Callan; standard deviation is not statistically relevant for periods less than three years

The information provided above should not be construed as a recommendation to buy, sell or hold any particular security. The data is shown for informational purposes only and is not indicative of future portfolio characteristics or returns. Portfolio holdings are not stagnant and may change over time without prior notice. Past performance does not guarantee future results. Please note that the holdings identified do not represent all of the securities purchased, sold or recommended for the composite. They are provided for informational purposes only.

Not every investment opportunity will meet all of the stringent investment criteria mentioned to the same degree. Trade-offs must be made, which is where experience and judgment play a key role. Accounts are invested at the discretion of the portfolio management team and may take up to 60 days to become fully invested.

#### Risks Associated with SMID Cap Select Investing

Risks Associated with Small/Mid Cap Investing in small and mid-sized companies is based on the premise that small and mid-sized companies will increase their earnings and grow into larger, more valuable companies. However, as with all equity investing, there is the risk that a company will not achieve its expected earnings results, or that an unexpected change in the market or within the company will occur, both of which may adversely affect investment results. Historically, small amd mid-cap stocks have experienced greater volatility than larger equity asset classes, and they may be less liquid than larger-cap stocks. Thus, relative to larger, more liquid stocks, investing in small and mid-cap stocks involves potentially greater volatility and risk. The biggest risk of equity investing is that returns can fluctuate and investors can lose money.

#### <sup>2</sup>Performance Disclosures

The performance data quoted represents past performance. Past performance does not guarantee future results. Investment return and principal value will fluctuate so that an investor's portfolio, 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 current month-end performance information, please call your financial professional or visit eagleasset.com. The net returns reflect the application of the highest wrap fee of 3% annum.

#### **Descriptions and Definitions**

The Russell 2500™ Index measures the performance of the small to midcap segment of the US equity universe, commonly referred to as "smid" cap. The Russell 2500™ Index is a subset of the Russell 3000® Index. It includes approximately 2500 of the smallest securities based on a combination of their market cap and current index membership. The Russell 2500™ Index is constructed to provide a comprehensive and unbiased barometer for the small to mid-cap segment. The index is completely reconstituted annually to ensure larger stocks do not distort the performance and characteristics of the true small to mid-cap opportunity set. The Index figures do not reflect any deduction for fees, expenses, trading costs or taxes.

Indices are unmanaged, and one cannot invest directly in an index.

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### About Eagle Asset Management

Eagle Asset Management, a boutique in the Raymond James Investment Management family, provides a broad array of fundamental equity and fixed-income strategies designed to meet the long-term goals of institutional and individual investors. Eagle's multiple independent investment teams have the autonomy to pursue investment decisions guided by their individual philosophies and strategies.

## LEARN MORE ABOUT THE EAGLE SMID CAP SELECT PORTFOLIO.

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