Global Hard Assets

Confluence INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT

September 30, 2026

Objective

Invests in hard asset companies that are directly responsible for mining, extracting, or producing tangible commodities such as gold, oil, or coal. Investment objective is capital appreciation.

Investment Philosophy

The Global Hard Assets strategy comprises investments in hard assets, which we define as tangible commodities, such as a gold bar, a barrel of oil, or a ton of coal. The portfolio primarily includes common stocks of companies in the hard assets sector which are directly responsible for mining, extracting, or producing the hard assets. The portfolio also typically holds various hard asset exchange-traded funds (ETFs), specifically selected to avoid K-1s for tax considerations, thus giving the portfolio exposure to actual commodities which tend to be less affected by financial market factors.

We believe there is value in commodities due to long-term international economic and geopolitical trends that are likely to continue in place for many years and are likely to provide underlying support for commodity prices through the next several economic cycles, even if inflation fails to rise. At the same time, commodities tend to do well under conditions of rising inflation. In particular, we expect these three key trends will support rising hard asset prices in the long run: 1) lack of confidence in fiat currencies will undermine their function as stores of value, which will encourage global savers to use hard assets as an alternative; 2) growth of large emerging economies, which tend to be more resource intensive, will boost commodity demand; 3) decline of US economic and military dominance will lead to a more unstable multi-polar world and encourage inventory accumulation.

Overview

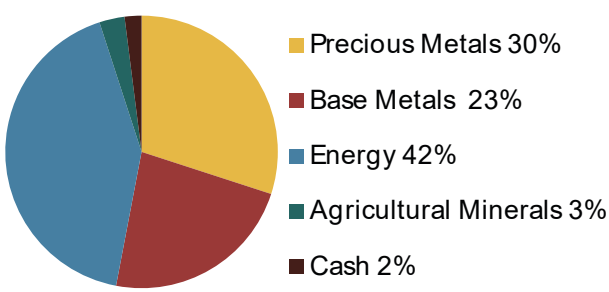
- Invests in hard asset companies directly responsible for mining, extracting, or producing tangible commodities
- Investment approach utilizes a top-down, global market view coupled with bottom-up proprietary research
- Investable universe consists of global equities and ETFs focused on the hard assets sector
- Appropriate for clients whose primary objective is capital appreciation
- Strategy assets: $89.6 million[1]

[1] *Total strategy assets include $44.8 million assets under management (AUM) and $44.8 million assets under advisement (AUA); as of 6/30/26.*

Portfolio Holdings[2]

Characteristics	
Dividend Yield	1.9%
Number of Positions	35-55
Annual Turnover *(5-Yr Rolling as of 12/31/25)*	35%

Commodity Class Allocation



10 Largest Holdings	Weight
SPDR Gold MiniShares Trust ETF	5.5%
Agnico Eagle Mines Ltd.	4.6%
Core Natural Resources Inc.	4.3%
Southern Copper Corp.	3.9%
Newmont Mining Corp.	3.6%
Anglo American plc	3.6%
Glencore plc	3.5%
Shell plc	3.4%
Lundin Mining Corp.	3.4%
BP plc	3.2%

See GIPS Report on pages 3-4

Investment Process

Top-Down Approach

Our disciplined investment process utilizes a top-down approach to identify investable sectors, coupled with bottom-up, security selection.

1) Geopolitical and global macro analyses define

- Sector weightings
- Acceptable geographic locations of reserves

2) Allocation decisions

- Investments are screened based upon our view of commodities compared to equities
- Commodity vs. equity weightings are decided

3) Security Selection

- Equity security selection
- ETF selection

Bottom-Up Security Selection Criteria

Once a universe of securities is identified utilizing the macro-analysis, we seek to identify companies that have the ability to increase production and grow reserves over time, thus appreciating capital.

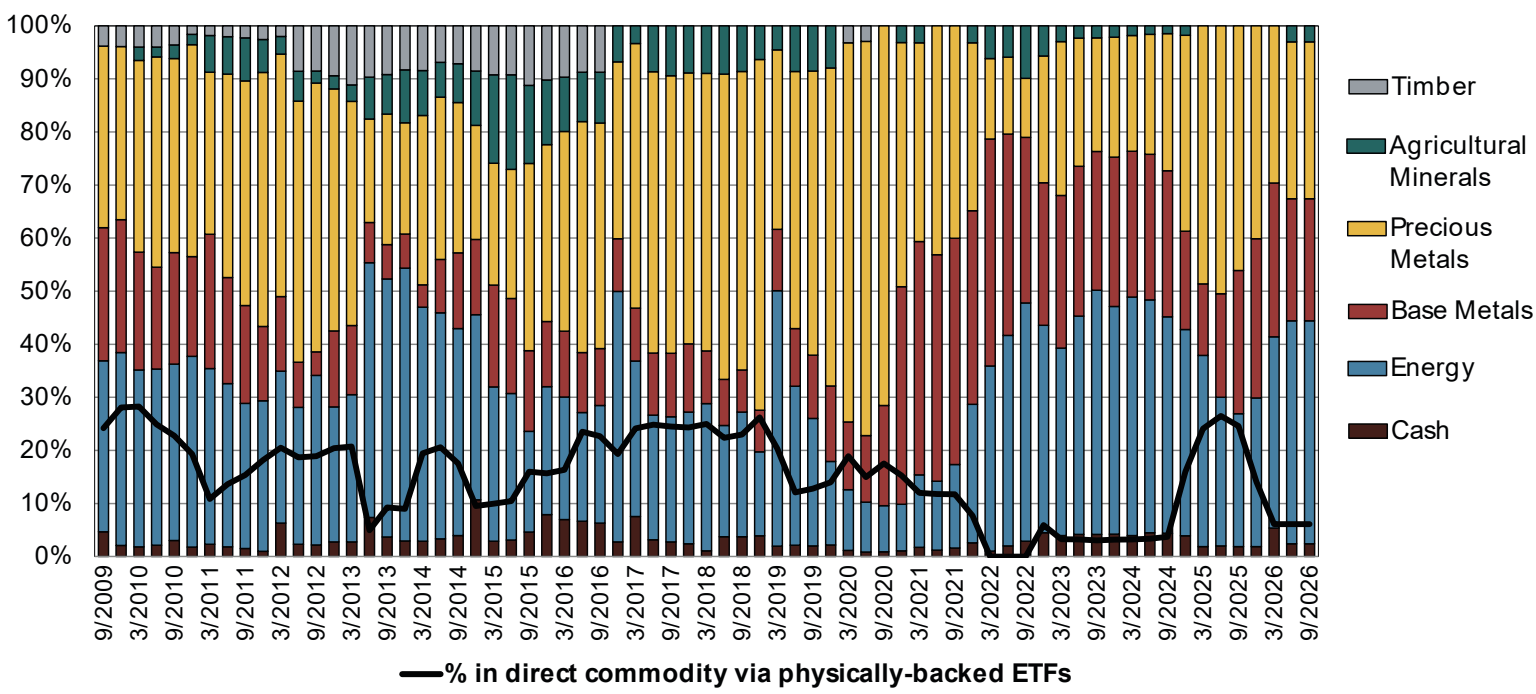
- Companies that extract, mine, or produce hard assets
- Suitable companies possess an ability to grow reserves and increase production
- Companies domiciled in politically stable countries with developed contract law
- Securities, including ETFs, provide exposure to a desired tangible asset
- Sector weights are defined by Confluence's macro and geopolitical views
- Securities provide exposure to underlying hard assets that are trading at significant discounts to our estimate of value

Sell Discipline

To help preserve capital, portfolio positions are continually reviewed. A company's stock may be sold if:

- Strategic or macro views have changed
- The company reaches or exceeds our estimate of full valuation
- The underlying hard asset reaches or exceeds our estimate of full valuation causing sector rotation of capital
- Business fundamentals deteriorate
- The company's country of domicile becomes unstable
- The company's reserves drastically decline

Historical Allocations[2]



Performance

Composite Returns[3] (For periods ending September 30, 2026)

	Since Inception**	15-Year*	10-Year*	5-Year*	3-Year*	1-Year	YTD	QTD
Global Hard Assets *Pure Gross-of-Fees[4]*	5.8%	5.5%	10.9%	19.5%	25.8%	22.3%	9.4%	8.5%
Max Net-of-Fees[5]	2.7%	2.4%	7.7%	16.0%	22.0%	18.7%	7.0%	7.7%
Custom Benchmark	6.1%	6.0%	12.3%	20.3%	22.9%	32.0%	27.1%	12.2%

Calendar Year	Pure Gross-of-Fees[4]	Max Net-of-Fees[5]	Custom Benchmark	Difference (Gross-Benchmark)	# of Portfolios	Composite Assets (000s)	Total Firm Assets (000s)	Composite 3yr Std Dev	Benchmark 3yr Std Dev	Composite Dispersion
2009**	14.3%	13.4%	9.1%	5.1%	1	$1,660	$533,832	N/A	N/A	N/A
2010	37.7%	33.6%	28.8%	8.9%	13	$6,853	$751,909	N/A	N/A	N/A
2011	(20.4%)	(22.8%)	(11.0%)	(9.4%)	122	$24,223	$937,487	N/A	N/A	0.5%
2012	5.0%	1.9%	(2.1%)	7.1%	110	$21,537	$1,272,265	24.9%	22.4%	0.4%
2013	(15.4%)	(18.0%)	(5.7%)	(9.8%)	92	$16,831	$1,955,915	22.4%	20.6%	0.6%
2014	(14.0%)	(16.6%)	(21.6%)	7.6%	79	$11,842	$2,589,024	17.1%	17.8%	0.3%
2015	(27.4%)	(29.6%)	(34.0%)	6.6%	53	$5,653	$3,175,419	16.2%	20.4%	0.3%
2016	23.3%	19.7%	50.9%	(27.6%)	41	$5,596	$4,413,659	18.6%	25.4%	0.3%
2017	2.4%	(0.7%)	4.8%	(2.4%)	34	$5,038	$5,944,479	17.0%	23.1%	0.2%
2018	(16.2%)	(18.7%)	(19.2%)	3.0%	27	$3,540	$5,486,737	15.0%	19.4%	0.3%
2019	12.4%	9.1%	10.5%	1.9%	25	$3,644	$7,044,708	14.7%	16.9%	0.4%
2020	24.4%	20.7%	(3.8%)	28.1%	26	$5,789	$6,889,798	25.9%	33.0%	0.2%
2021	12.6%	9.2%	40.2%	(27.7%)	31	$8,187	$7,761,687	26.1%	33.1%	0.7%
2022	9.3%	6.0%	23.5%	(14.2%)	50	$11,357	$6,931,635	29.7%	35.2%	0.3%
2023	10.7%	7.4%	7.8%	2.9%	52	$13,193	$7,200,019	23.0%	22.0%	0.5%
2024	5.2%	2.1%	5.2%	0.0%	48	$12,593	$7,280,773	23.1%	21.4%	0.5%
2025	62.0%	57.2%	36.1%	25.9%	93	$30,985	$6,769,052	17.5%	14.7%	1.2%

**Average annualized returns* ***Inception is 10/1/2009* *See performance disclosures on last page.*

Portfolio Benchmark

Custom Benchmark – Custom benchmark (blended monthly) consists of: FTSE/CoreCommodity CRB Excess Return Index 30%, S&P Oil and Gas Exploration and Production 30%, S&P Metals and Mining 25%, NYSE Gold Miners Index 15%. (*Source: Bloomberg*)

Confluence Global Hard Assets Committee

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Disclosures

[2] **Portfolio Holdings & Historical Allocations**—All investments carry a certain degree of risk, including possible loss of principal. It is important to review your investment objectives, risk tolerance, and liquidity needs before choosing an investment style or manager. Equity securities are subject to market risk and may decline in value due to adverse company, industry or general economic conditions. There can be no assurance that any investment objective will be achieved. Sector weightings/holdings of individual client portfolios in the strategy may differ, sometimes significantly, from these listings. Historical allocations reflect the model allocations over time. Portfolio yield: composite level weighted average yield, calculated based on annualized current dividends; source: FactSet. Benchmark sources: Bloomberg, S&P Dow Jones Indices/FTSE Russell. Annual turnover 5-yr rolling calculated from sample accounts for periods ending 12/31/2025.

[3] **Performance Composite Returns—Confluence Investment Management LLC claims compliance with the Global investment Performance Standards (GIPS®) and has prepared and presented this report in compliance with the GIPS standards. Confluence Investment Management LLC has been independently verified for the periods August 1, 2008, through December 31, 2025. The verification report is available upon request. A firm that claims compliance with the GIPS standards must establish policies and procedures for complying with all the applicable requirements of the GIPS standards.**
Verification provides assurance on whether the firm's policies and procedures related to composite maintenance, as well as the calculation, presentation, and distribution of performance, have been designed in compliance with the GIPS standards and have been implemented on a firm-wide basis. Verification does not provide assurance on the accuracy of any specific performance report.

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The Global Hard Assets strategy was incepted on October 1, 2009, and the current Global Hard Assets Composite was created on October 1, 2009. Confluence Investment Management LLC is an independent registered investment adviser. Results are based on fully discretionary accounts under management, including those accounts no longer with the firm. Past performance is not indicative of future results. The U.S. Dollar is the currency used to express performance. Returns are presented gross and net of all fees and include the reinvestment of all income.

[4] Pure gross returns are shown as supplemental information to the disclosures required by the GIPS® standards.

[5] Net-of-fee performance was calculated using the highest applicable annual bundled fee of 3.00% applied quarterly. This fee includes brokerage commissions, portfolio management, consulting services and custodial services. The Confluence fee schedule for this composite is as follows: 0.60% on the first $500,000; 0.55% on the next $500,000; and 0.50% over $1,000,000. There are no incentive fees. Clients pay an all-inclusive fee based on a percentage of assets under management. The collection of fees produces a compounding effect on the total rate of return net of fees. Bundled fee accounts make up 100% of the composite for all periods. Actual investment advisory fees incurred by clients may vary. Wrap fee schedules are provided by independent wrap sponsors and are available upon request from the respective wrap sponsor.

Effective June 30, 2026, the benchmark indices for this composite were retroactively reassigned: the CRB Commodity Index was changed to the FTSE/CoreCommodity CRB Excess Return Index.

A complete list of composite descriptions is available upon request. Policies for valuing investments, calculating performance, and preparing GIPS Reports are available upon request. The annual composite dispersion is an equal-weighted standard deviation, using gross-of-fee returns, calculated for the accounts in the composite for the entire year. The three-year annualized standard deviation measures the variability of the composite gross returns over the preceding 36-month period. The Global Hard Assets Composite contains fully discretionary Global Hard Assets wrap accounts. The Global Hard Assets portfolio is focused on investments in hard assets which are defined as tangible commodities, such as a gold bar, a barrel of oil or a ton of coal. The portfolio comprises common stocks of companies in the hard assets sector and hard asset ETFs which give the portfolio exposure to actual commodities.

**Results shown for the year 2009 represent partial period performance from October 1, 2009, through December 31, 2009. N/A-Composite Dispersion: Information is not statistically meaningful due to an insufficient number of portfolios in the composite for the entire year. N/A-3yr Std Dev: Composite does not have 3 years of monthly performance history.

Global Hard Assets includes securities and asset classes that typically have greater price volatility. Global Hard Assets is subject to commodity pricing, supply & demand and regulatory risks, in addition to US and non-US equities, non-diversification and currency risks. Prices of various commodities and natural resources may be affected by factors such as drought, floods, weather, changes in storage costs, changing supply and demand relationships, transportation costs, embargoes, tariffs and other regulatory developments, as well as foreign currency exchange rates and international interest rates, many of which factors are unpredictable.