

EDGA & EDGX STOCK EXCHANGES					
Regulatory Information Circular					
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**Subject:** Grail McDonnell Core Taxable Bond ETF

**Grail McDonnell Intermediate Municipal Bond ETF** 

## **Background Information on the Funds**

The Grail Advisors ETF Trust (the "Trust") is a management investment company registered under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the "1940 Act"). The Trust consists of several exchange-traded funds (each, a "Fund" and collectively, the "Funds"). This circular refers only to the Funds listed above. The shares of each of the Funds listed above are referred to herein as "Shares." Grail Advisors, LLC (the "Adviser") is the investment adviser for the Funds. McDonnell Investment Management, LLC ("McDonnell") serves as each ETF's subadviser.

The Grail McDonnell Intermediate Municipal Bond ETF (GMMB) seeks a high level of current tax-exempt income and higher risk-adjusted returns relative to its benchmark. GMMB invests, under normal circumstances, at least 80% of its net assets (plus the amount of any borrowings for investment purposes) in debt securities with interest payments exempt from federal income taxes. GMMB will typically invest in municipal securities and will invest, under normal market conditions, primarily in tax exempt general obligation, revenue and private activity bonds and notes, which are issued by or on behalf of states, territories or possessions of the U.S. and the District of Columbia and their political subdivisions, agencies and instrumentalities (including Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands and Guam). Tax-exempt means that the bonds pay interest that is excluded from gross income for regular federal income tax purposes. GMMB's investments generally include municipal securities with a full range of maturities and broad issuer and geographic diversification. While GMMB may invest in securities of any maturity, under normal circumstances, the dollar-weighted average maturity of the portfolio is expected to range from three to ten years.

McDonnell, as the sub-adviser, employs a total return investment strategy which emphasizes sector and security selection and yield curve positioning. Sector and security decisions are reached through robust fundamental credit analysis as well as an assessment that incorporates the sector and security's credit momentum. The total return strategy places a limited dependence on adjusting the portfolio in anticipation of a change in the level of interest rates. GMMB invests primarily in investment grade securities, which are securities rated in one of the top four credit quality categories by at least one nationally recognized statistical rating organization rating that security (a "rating agency"). GMMB considers pre-refunded bonds or escrowed to maturity municipal securities, regardless of rating, to be investment grade securities. GMMB may invest up to 20% of its net assets in high yield securities or below investment-grade securities rated BB+ (or comparable) or below by a rating agency or, if unrated, determined by McDonnell to be of comparable quality. GMMB may invest up to 20% of

its assets in taxable debt securities. These may include securities issued by the U.S. Government and/or its agencies, corporate debt securities, mortgage-backed and other asset-backed securities, and securities of other investment companies, including other ETFs. GMMB may only invest in U.S. dollar-denominated securities.

GMMB may invest in derivative instruments, such as futures and interest rate, total return and credit default swaps. Investments in derivatives must be consistent with GMMB's investment objective and may only be used to manage risk and not to enhance leverage. Use of certain derivative instruments may give rise to taxable income.

GMTB seeks a high level of current income and higher risk-adjusted returns relative to its benchmark. GMTB invests, under normal circumstances, at least 80% of its net assets (plus the amount of any borrowings for investment purposes) in debt securities. GMTB will invest primarily in investment-grade securities, including securities issued by the U.S. Government and/or its agencies, municipal securities, mortgage-backed and other asset-backed securities and corporate and bank obligations, including commercial paper, corporate notes and bonds. While GMTB may invest in securities of any maturity, under normal circumstances, the average duration of the portfolio is typically expected to range from three to six years. Duration is a measure of the underlying portfolio's price sensitivity to changes in interest rates.

McDonnell, as the sub-adviser, employs a total return investment strategy which emphasizes sector and security selection and yield curve positioning. Sector and security decisions are reached through robust fundamental credit analysis as well as an assessment that incorporates the sector and security's credit momentum. The total return strategy places a limited dependence on adjusting the portfolio in anticipation of a change in the level of interest rates.

The Grail McDonnell Core Taxable Bond ETF (GMTB) invests primarily in investment grade securities, which are securities rated in one of the top four credit quality categories by at least one nationally recognized statistical rating organization rating that security (a "rating agency"). GMTB may invest up to 20% of its net assets in high yield securities or below investment-grade securities rated BB+ (or comparable) or below by a rating agency or, if unrated, determined by McDonnell to be of comparable quality.

GMTB may invest without limit in securities issued by the U.S. Government, its agencies and instrumentalities, up to 90% of its assets in mortgage-backed and other asset-backed securities, and up to 80% of its assets in corporate bonds. In addition, GMTB may invest up to 30% of its assets in municipal securities. GMTB may only invest in U.S. dollar-denominated securities. It may also invest in securities of other investment companies, including other ETFs and money market funds.

GMTB may invest in derivative instruments, such as futures and interest rate, total return and credit default swaps. Investments in derivatives must be consistent with GMTB's investment objective and may only be used to manage risk and not to enhance leverage. Use of certain derivative instruments may give rise to taxable income.

For more information regarding each Fund's investment strategy, please read the prospectus for the Funds.

As described more fully in the Trust's prospectus and Statement of Additional Information ("SAI"), the Funds issue and redeem Shares at net asset value ("NAV") only in large blocks of 50,000 Shares (each block of Shares called a "Creation Unit") or multiples thereof. As a

practical matter, only broker-dealers or large institutional investors with creation and redemption agreements (called Authorized Participants) can purchase or redeem these Creation Units. Except when aggregated in Creation Units, the Shares may not be redeemed with the Funds.

Each Fund pays out dividends from its net investment income to shareholders monthly. Each Fund distributes its net capital gains, if any, annually.

Shares are held in book-entry form, which means that no Share certificates are issued. The Depository Trust Company or its nominee is the record owner of all outstanding Shares of the Funds and is recognized as the owner of all Shares for all purposes.

The NAV per Share for each Fund is computed by dividing the value of the net assets of the Fund (i.e., the value of its total assets less total liabilities) by the total number of Shares outstanding. Expenses and fees are accrued daily and taken into account for purposes of determining NAV. The NAV per Share of the Fund will be determined as of the close of trading (normally, 4:00 p.m. Eastern Time ("ET")) on each day that the Exchange is open for business (a "Business Day"). Any assets or liabilities denominated in currencies other than the U.S. dollar are converted into U.S. dollars at the current market rates on the date of valuation as quoted by one or more sources.

The registration statement for the Funds describes the various fees and expenses for the Funds' Shares. For a more complete description of the Funds and the underlying indexes, visit the Funds' website at <a href="https://www.grailadvisors.com">www.grailadvisors.com</a>.

## Purchases and Redemptions in Creation Unit Size

Exchange members are hereby informed that procedures for purchases and redemptions of Shares in Creation Unit Size are described in the Trust's prospectus and SAI and that Shares are not individually redeemable but are redeemable only in Creation Unit Size aggregations or multiples thereof.

## **Principal Risks**

Interested persons are referred to the discussion in the prospectus for the Funds of the principal risks of an investment in the Funds. These include tracking error risk (factors causing a Fund's performance to not match the performance of its underlying index), market trading risk (for example, trading halts, trading above or below net asset value), investment style risk, sector risk, investment approach risk, non-diversification risk, issuer-specific risk, management risk, issuer-specific risk, management risk, credit risk, derivatives risk, foreign investment risk, interest rate risk, and municipal securities risk.

#### **Exchange Rules Applicable to Trading in the Shares**

The Shares are considered equity securities, thus rendering trading in the Shares subject to the Exchange's existing rules governing the trading of equity securities.

# **Trading Hours**

Trading in the shares on EDGA and EDGX Exchanges (the "Exchanges") is on a UTP basis and is subject to the Exchanges' equity trading rules. The shares will trade from 8:00 a.m. until 8:00 p.m. Eastern Time. Members trading the shares during the Extended Market Sessions (Pre-

opening and Post-closing sessions) are exposed to the risk of the lack of the calculation or dissemination of underlying index value or intraday indicative value ("IIV"). For certain derivative securities products, an updated underlying index value or IIV may not be calculated or publicly disseminated in the Extended Market hours. Since the underlying index value and IIV are not calculated or widely disseminated during Extended Market hours, an investor who is unable to calculate implied values for certain derivative securities products during Extended Market hours may be at a disadvantage to market professionals.

#### **Trading Halts**

The Exchanges will halt trading in the Shares of a Trust in accordance with Exchange Rules 14.1(c)(4). The grounds for a halt under this Rule include a halt by the primary market because it stops trading the Shares and/or a halt because dissemination of the IIV or applicable currency spot price has ceased, or a halt for other regulatory reasons. In addition, the Exchanges will stop trading the Shares of a Trust if the primary market de-lists the Shares.

# **Delivery of a Prospectus**

Pursuant to federal securities laws, investors purchasing Shares must receive a prospectus prior to or concurrently with the confirmation of a transaction. Investors purchasing Shares directly from the Fund (by delivery of the Deposit Amount) must also receive a prospectus.

Prospectuses may be obtained through the Distributor or on the Fund's website. The Prospectus does not contain all of the information set forth in the registration statement (including the exhibits to the registration statement), parts of which have been omitted in accordance with the rules and regulations of the SEC. For further information about the Fund, please refer to the Trust's registration statement.

## **Exemptive, Interpretive and No-Action Relief Under Federal Securities Regulations**

The SEC has issued exemptive, interpretive or no-action relief from certain provisions of rules under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the "Act") regarding trading in the above mentioned exchange-traded funds.

## **Regulation M Exemptions**

Generally, Rules 101 and 102 of Regulation M prohibit any "distribution participant" and its "affiliated purchasers" from bidding for, purchasing, or attempting to induce any person to bid for or purchase any security which is the subject of a distribution until after the applicable restricted period, except as specifically permitted in Regulation M. The provisions of the Rules apply to underwriters, prospective underwriters, brokers, dealers, and other persons who have agreed to participate or are participating in a distribution of securities.

The Commission issued a No-Action Letter by which persons participating in a distribution of shares of a fund may engage in secondary market transactions in such shares during their participation in such a distribution, despite the requirements of from Rule 101 under Regulation M. In addition, the SEC has permitted persons who may be deemed to be participating in the distribution of shares of a fund (i) to purchase securities for the purpose of purchasing creation unit aggregations of fund shares and (ii) to tender securities for redemption in Creation Unit Aggregations. Further, the Commission has clarified that the tender of fund shares to the Fund for redemption does not constitute a bid for or purchase of any of the Funds' securities during

the restricted period of Rule 101. The Commission has issued a No-Action Letter to paragraph (e) of Rule 102 under Regulation M which allow the redemption of fund shares in creation unit aggregations during the continuous offering of shares.

# Customer Confirmations for Creation or Redemption of Fund Shares (SEC Rule 10b-10)

Broker—dealers who handle purchases or redemptions of Fund shares in Creation Units for customers will be permitted to provide such customers with a statement of the number of Creation Unit Aggregations created or redeemed without providing a statement of the identity, number and price of shares of the individual securities tendered to the Fund for purposes of purchasing creation unit aggregations ("Deposit Securities") or the identity, number and price of shares to be delivered by the Trust to the redeeming holder ("Redemption Securities"). The composition of the securities required to be tendered to the Fund for creation purposes and of the securities to be delivered on redemption will be disseminated each business day and will be applicable to requests for creations or redemption, as the case may be, on that day. This exemptive relief under Rule 10b-10 with respect to creations and redemptions is subject to the following conditions:

- Confirmations to customers engaging in creations or redemptions must state that all information required by Rule 10b-10 will be provided upon request;
- 2) Any such request by a customer for information required by Rule 10b-10 will be filed in a timely manner, in accordance with Rule 10b-10(c);
- 3) Except for the identity, number and price of shares of the component securities of the Deposit Securities and Redemption Securities, as described above, confirmations to customers must disclose all other information required by Rule 10b-10(a).

#### SEC Rule 14e-5

The Commission has permitted any person acting as a dealer-manager of a tender offer for a component security of fund (1) to redeem fund shares in creation unit aggregations from the issuer that may include a security subject to such tender offer and (2) to purchase fund shares during such tender offer. In addition, a No-Action has been issued under Rule 14e-5 states that if a broker-dealer acting as a dealer-manager of a tender offer for a security of the Fund purchases or arranges to purchase such securities in the secondary market for the purpose of tendering such securities to purchase one or more creation unit aggregations of shares, it must be made in conformance with the following:

- i. such bids or purchases are effected in the ordinary course of business, in connection with a basket of 20 or more securities in which any security that is the subject of a distribution, or any reference security, does not comprise more than 5% of the value of the basket purchased; or
- ii. purchases are effected as adjustments to such basket in the ordinary course of business as a result of a change in the composition of the underlying index; and
- iii. such bids or purchases are not affected for the purpose of facilitating such tender offer.

# Section 11(d)(1); SEC Rules 11d1-1 and 11d1-2

Section 11(d)(1) of the Act generally prohibits a person who is both a broker and a dealer from effecting any transaction in which the broker-dealer extends credit to a customer on any security which was part of a new issue in the distribution of which he participated as a member of a selling syndicate or group within thirty days prior to such transaction. The Commission has clarified that Section 11(d)(1) does not apply to broker-dealers that are not authorized participants (and, therefore, do not create creation unit aggregations) that engage in both proprietary and customer transactions in shares of a fund in the secondary market, and for broker-dealer authorized participants that engage in creations of creation unit aggregations. This relief is subject to specific conditions, including the condition that such broker-dealer (whether or not an authorized participant) does not, directly or indirectly, receive from the fund complex any payment, compensation or other economic incentive to promote or sell the shares of a fund to persons outside the fund complex, other than non-cash compensation permitted under NASD Rule 2830 (I)(5)(A), (B) or (C). See letter dated November 22, 2005 from Brian A Bussey, Assistant Chief Counsel, SEC Division of Market Regulation, to Barclays Global Investors, N.A., dated November 22, 2005. The Commission has issued a No-Action Letter under Section 11(d)(1) of the Act states that broker-dealers may treat shares of a fund, for purposes of Rule 11d1-2, as "securities issued by a registered open-end investment company as defined in the Investment Company Act" and thereby extend credit or maintain or arrange for the extension or maintenance of credit on shares that have been owned by the persons to whom credit is provided for more than 30 days, in reliance on the exemption contained in the rule.

## **SEC Rule 15c1-5 and 15c1-6**

The Commission has issued a No-Action letter with respect to Rule 15c1-5 and Rule 15c1-6 as to the required disclosure of control by a broker or dealer with respect to creations and redemptions of fund shares and secondary market transactions therein.

This Regulatory Information Circular is not a statutory Prospectus. Members should consult the Trust's Registration Statement, SAI, Prospectus and the Fund's website for relevant information.

# Appendix A

Ticker	Fund Name	Cusip
GMMB	Grail McDonnell Intermediate Municipal Bond ETF	384742706
GMTB	Grail McDonnell Core Taxable Bond ETF	384742805