

# **Investors Exchange Product Information Circular 2022 - 0139**

Date: April 4, 2022

Re: DoubleLine ETF Trust

This Information Circular is being issued to advise you that the following securities have been approved for trading pursuant to unlisted trading privileges ("UTP") on the Investors Exchange ("IEX" or the "Exchange") as UTP Derivative Securities pursuant to IEX Rule 16.160. Compliance and supervisory personnel should note that, among other things, this Information Circular discusses the need to deliver a prospectus to customers purchasing shares of the exchange-traded funds. Please forward this Information Circular to interested persons within your organization.

### **Exchange-Traded Fund / Symbol**

DoubleLine Opportunistic Bond ETF
DoubleLine Shiller CAPE U.S. Equities ETF

DBND DCPE

Issuer/Trust: DoubleLine ETF Trust

Issuer/Trust Website: www.doubleline.com

Primary Listing Exchange: NYSE Arca

The purpose of this information circular is to outline various rules and policies that will be applicable to trading in these new products pursuant to the Exchange's unlisted trading privileges, as well as to provide certain characteristics and features of the products. For a more complete description of the Issuer, the securities and the underlying market instruments or indexes, visit the Issuer Website, consult the Prospectus available on the Issuer Website or examine the Issuer Registration Statement or review the most current information bulletin issued by the Primary Listing Exchange.

#### **Background Information on the Funds**

The DoubleLine ETF Trust (the "Trust") is a management investment company registered under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the "1940 Act"), consisting of several investment portfolios. This circular relates only to the OneAscent Core Plus Bond ETF (the "Fund"). The shares of the Fund are referred to herein as "Shares."

**DoubleLine Opportunistic Bond ETF** - The Fund is an actively managed exchange-traded fund ("ETF"). Under normal circumstances, the Fund intends to invest at least 80% of its net assets, plus the amount of any borrowings for investment purposes, in fixed income instruments or other investments with economic characteristics similar to fixed income instruments. These investments include securities issued or guaranteed by the United States Government, its agencies, instrumentalities or sponsored corporations; corporate obligations; agency and non-agency mortgage-backed securities of any kind, including commercial and residential mortgage-backed securities; asset-backed securities; securitized investments such as collateralized debt obligations ("CDOs"), including collateralized loan obligations ("CLOs"); inflation indexed bonds; covenant-lite loans; foreign fixed-income securities (corporate and government, including foreign hybrid securities); emerging market fixed income securities (corporate and government); municipal bond securities; fixed income securities offered through private placements; and fixed and floating rate





debt instruments of any kind (including, among others, bank loans, assignments, participations, subordinated loans, debtor-in-possession loans, exit facilities, delayed funding loans and revolving credit facilities). The Fund's investments may be issued in any currency and may bear fixed or variable interest rates of any maturity. The market value of derivatives that have economic characteristics similar to the investments included in the Fund's 80% policy will be counted for purposes of such policy. If the Fund changes its 80% investment policy, it will notify shareholders at least 60 days in advance of the change.

The Fund may invest in fixed income instruments of any credit quality, including those that are at the time of investment unrated or rated BB+ or lower by S&P or Ba1 or lower by Moody's or the equivalent by any other nationally recognized statistical rating organization. Corporate bonds and certain other fixed income instruments rated below investment grade, or such instruments that are unrated and determined by DoubleLine ETF Adviser LP (the "Adviser") to be of comparable quality, are high yield, high risk bonds, commonly known as "junk bonds". The Fund may invest up to 50% of its net assets in junk bonds, bank loans and assignments rated below investment grade or unrated but determined by the Adviser to be of comparable quality. The Adviser does not consider the term "junk bonds" to include any mortgage-backed securities or any other asset-backed securities, regardless of their credit rating or credit quality. The Fund may invest without limit in below investment grade mortgage-backed securities and other asset-backed securities.

The Fund may invest up to 5% of its net assets in defaulted corporate securities. The Fund might do so, for example, where the portfolio managers believe the restructured enterprise valuations or liquidation valuations may exceed current market values. The Fund may invest a portion of its assets in inverse floaters and interest-only and principal-only securities.

The Fund may also invest a portion of its assets in fixed income instruments (including hybrid securities) issued or guaranteed by companies, financial institutions and government entities in emerging market countries. An "emerging market country" is a country that, at the time the Fund invests in the related fixed income instruments, is classified as an emerging or developing economy by any supranational organization such as an institution in the International Bank of Reconstruction and Development or any affiliate thereof (the "World Bank Group") or the United Nations, or an agency thereof, or is considered an emerging market country for purposes of constructing a major emerging market securities index.

The Fund may pursue its investment objective and obtain exposures to some or all of the asset classes described above by investing in other investment companies, including other open-end or closed-end investment companies and ETFs, in each case affiliated or unaffiliated with the Fund. The amount of the Fund's investment in certain investment companies may be limited by law or by tax considerations.

In managing the Fund's portfolio, the portfolio managers typically use a controlled risk approach. The techniques of this approach attempt to control the principal risk components of the fixed income markets and may include, among other factors, consideration of the Adviser's view of the following: the potential relative performance of various market sectors, security selection available within a given sector, the risk/reward equation for different asset classes, liquidity conditions in various market sectors, the shape of the yield curve and projections for changes in the yield curve, potential fluctuations in the overall level of interest rates, and current fiscal policy.



The portfolio managers utilize active asset allocation in managing the Fund's investments and have significant latitude to invest across fixed income sectors with varying weightings.

The Adviser monitors the duration of the Fund's portfolio securities to seek to assess and, in its discretion, adjust the Fund's exposure to interest rate risk. In managing the Fund's investments, under normal market conditions, the portfolio managers intend to seek to construct an investment portfolio with a dollarweighted average effective duration of no less than two years and no more than eight years. Duration is a measure of the expected life of a fixed income instrument that is used to determine the sensitivity of a security's price to changes in interest rates. Effective duration is a measure of the Fund's portfolio duration adjusted for the anticipated effect of interest rate changes on bond and mortgage prepayment rates as determined by the Adviser. The effective duration of the Fund's investment portfolio may vary materially from its target range, from time to time, and there is no assurance that the effective duration of the Fund's investment portfolio will always be within its target range.

The Fund may enter into derivatives transactions and other instruments of any kind for hedging purposes or otherwise to gain, or reduce, exposure to one or more asset classes or issuers. When seeking to effect or create investment leverage, the Fund typically will use derivatives transactions. The Fund may use futures contracts and options on futures contracts, in order to gain efficient investment exposures as an alternative to cash investments or to hedge against portfolio exposures; interest rate swaps, to gain indirect exposures to interest rates, issuers, or currencies, or to hedge against portfolio exposures; put and call options, and exchange-traded and structured notes, to take indirect positions on indexes, securities, currencies, or other indicators of value, or to hedge against portfolio exposures.

Additionally, the Fund may purchase or sell securities on a when-issued, delayed delivery or forward commitment basis, including United States agency mortgage-backed securities that forward-settle (e.g., "To Be Announced" Securities" ("TBAs")). The Fund may seek to obtain market exposure to the securities in which it primarily invests by entering into a series of purchase and sale contracts or by using other investment techniques (such as buy backs or dollar rolls), which may create investment leverage.

Portfolio securities may be sold at any time. Sales typically occur when the Fund's portfolio managers determine to take advantage of what the portfolio managers consider to be a better investment opportunity, when the portfolio managers believe the portfolio securities no longer represent relatively attractive investment opportunities, when the portfolio managers perceive deterioration in the credit fundamentals of the issuer, or when the individual security has reached the portfolio managers' sell target. The Fund's investment strategy may involve active and frequent trading of portfolio securities.

The Fund is classified as a non-diversified fund under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the "1940 Act"), and may invest in the securities of a smaller number of issuers than a diversified fund.

**DoubleLine Shiller CAPE U.S. Equities ETF** - Under normal circumstances, the Fund invests at least 80% of its net assets in U.S. equity securities, including exchange-traded investment companies that provide exposure to U.S. equity securities, subject to the limitations described below. This investment policy may be changed by the Fund upon 60 days' prior written notice to shareholders. Under normal market conditions, the Fund invests its assets in securities that are listed on a national securities exchange registered with the SEC, and that trade



contemporaneously with the Fund's shares. The Fund may invest in equity securities of companies of any market capitalization other than penny stocks.

An issuer is considered to be a U.S. equity issuer if: (i) its principal place of business is located in the U.S.; (ii) at least 50% of its assets are located in the U.S. and/or (iii) it derives at least 50% of its revenues from the U.S.

The Shiller Barclays CAPE® US Sector TR USD Index. In seeking to achieve the Fund's investment objective, when making investment decisions for the Fund, DoubleLine ETF Adviser LP (the "Adviser") considers the underlying constituents of the Shiller Barclays CAPE® US Sector TR USD Index (the "Index"), but the Fund is not limited in its ability to invest in companies other than those underlying the Index. The Index incorporates the principles of long-term investing distilled by Dr. Robert Shiller and expressed through the CAPE® (Cyclically Adjusted Price Earnings) ratio (the "CAPE® Ratio"). The classic CAPE® Ratio assesses equity market valuations and averages ten years of inflation-adjusted earnings to account for earnings and market cycles. By contrast, traditional valuation measures, such as the price-earnings (PE) ratio, typically rely on earnings information from only the past year. The Index uses a relative version of the classic CAPE® Ratio to identify undervalued sectors while also seeking to exclude a sector that may appear undervalued, but which may have also had recent relative price underperformance due to fundamental issues with the sector that may negatively affect the sector's long-term total return. There can be no assurance that the Index will provide a better measure of value than more traditional measures, over any period or over the long term.

The Index's composition is determined monthly. Each month, the Index's methodology ranks eleven US sectors based on a modified CAPE® Ratio (a "value" factor) and a twelve-month price momentum factor (a "momentum" factor). Each US sector is represented by a sector ETF that tracks a sector index, which is an ETF in the family of Select Sector SPDR Funds or, in the case of the real estate sector, the iShares Dow Jones U.S. Real Estate Index Fund. The Index methodology selects the five US sectors with the lowest modified CAPE® Ratio — the sectors that are the most undervalued according to the CAPE® Ratio. Only four of these five sectors, however, end up in the Index for a given month, as the sector with the worst 12-month price momentum ("total return") among the five selected sectors is eliminated. The Index methodology allocates an equally weighted long (i.e., investment) exposure to the four remaining US sectors. As of the date of this Prospectus, the eleven sectors that may be selected by the Index methodology include Communication Services, Consumer Discretionary, Consumer Staples, Energy, Financials, Health Care, Industrials, Materials, Technology, Utilities and Real Estate. The Index is rebalanced on a monthly basis.

Through the Fund's investments related to the Index, the Fund will have focused exposures to the sectors making up the Index at any given time. As a result, the Fund's net asset value may be affected to a greater degree by factors affecting those sectors or industries than a fund that invests more broadly. Because the Fund is actively managed, the Adviser has the discretion to invest in securities not included in the Index and may over or underweight a particular sector as it deems appropriate in seeking the Fund's investment objective.

The Adviser will seek investment exposure to the sectors comprising the Index by investing directly in some or all of the securities that are included in those sectors. Although the Fund seeks to create an investment return that approximates that of the Index and the Fund will, at all times during normal market conditions, have investment exposure to issuers underlying the Index, the Fund does not seek to track or replicate the Index. The Adviser or the Fund's Board may in their sole





discretion, after providing any required notice to shareholders, select, in place of the Index, another index (such as the S&P 500® Index) or a basket of reference investments. The Fund may gain exposure to any substitute index or basket of investments in any manner the Adviser determines appropriate, including those described above with respect to how the Fund may obtain exposure to the Index.

Subject to the applicable limitations described below, the Fund may pursue its investment objective and obtain exposures to some or all of the asset classes described above by investing in other exchange-traded investment companies, including listed closed-end investment companies, ETFs and government money market funds, in each case affiliated or unaffiliated with the Fund.

Portfolio securities may be sold at any time. Sales typically occur when the Fund's portfolio managers determine to take advantage of what the portfolio managers consider to be a better investment opportunity, when the portfolio managers believe the portfolio securities no longer represent relatively attractive investment opportunities, when the portfolio managers perceive deterioration in the credit fundamentals of the issuer, or when the individual security has reached the portfolio managers' sell target. The Fund's investment strategy may involve active and frequent trading of portfolio securities.

The Fund operates in reliance on an exemptive order from the SEC (the "Order"), which limits the types of investments the Fund may hold to those listed in the Fund's application for the Order. Under the terms of the Order, the Fund is permitted to invest only in exchange-traded funds, exchange-traded notes, exchange listed common stocks, exchange-traded preferred stocks, exchange-traded American Depositary Receipts ("ADRs"), exchange-traded real estate investment trusts, exchange-traded commodity pools, exchange-traded metal trusts, exchange-traded currency trusts and exchange-traded futures that trade on a U.S. exchange contemporaneously with the Fund's shares, as well as cash and cash equivalents (which are short-term U.S. Treasury securities, government money market funds, and repurchase agreements). The Fund will not buy securities that are illiquid investments (as defined in rule 22e-4(a)(8) under the 1940 Act) at the time of purchase. The Fund may, however, hold an illiquid investment if it becomes illiquid after purchase. The Fund's investment strategies and practices, including those listed above, are subject to these limitations.

The Fund is classified as a non-diversified fund under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the "1940 Act"), and may invest in the securities of a smaller number of issuers than a diversified fund.

The Fund invests in equity securities of small, medium and large market capitalization companies and in growth and value stocks.

The Fund invests in securities of issuers located throughout the world, including U.S. and foreign companies, without regard to geographic location. Under normal circumstances, the Fund invests at least 40% of its net assets in foreign and emerging market securities and typically holds investments tied economically to at least three countries outside the U.S.

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

As described more fully in the Trust's prospectus and Statement of Additional Information, the Fund will issue and redeem Shares on a continuous basis at their net asset value ("NAV") only in





large blocks of Shares (each, a "Creation Unit"). Creation Units will be issued and redeemed principally in-kind for securities included in the underlying index. Except when aggregated in Creation Units, the Shares may not be redeemed with the Fund.

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 and is recognized as the owner of all Shares for all purposes.

The NAV of each Fund is generally determined as of the close of trading (normally 4:00 p.m., Eastern Time) on each day the New York Stock Exchange is open for business. The NAV of the Fund is calculated 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 outstanding shares of the Fund, generally rounded to the nearest cent.

#### Purchases and Redemptions in Creation Unit Size

IEX Members are hereby informed that procedures for purchases and redemptions of Shares in Creation Units are described in the Trust's Prospectus and SAI and that Shares are not individually redeemable but are redeemable only in Creation Unit aggregations or multiples thereof.

#### **Principal Risks**

Interested persons are referred to the discussion in the prospectus for the Fund of the principal risks of an investment in the Fund. These may include, but are not limited to, asset class risk, authorized participant concentration risk, concentration risk, currency risk, cyber security risk, equity securities risk, fluctuation of net asset value risk (NAV), index risk, industry/sector risk, issuer risk, management risk, market maker risk, market risk, market trading risk, non-correlation risk, non-diversification risk, passive investment risk, replication management risk, securities lending risk, tracking error risk, trading issues risk, and valuation risk.

In addition, the market prices of the Shares will fluctuate in accordance with changes in NAV as well as the supply and demand for the Shares. As a result, the Shares may trade at market prices that may differ from their NAV. The NAV of the Shares of the Fund will fluctuate with changes in the market value of the Fund's holdings.

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

Trading in the Shares on IEX is subject to IEX trading rules.

## Trading Hours

The value of the Index underlying the Shares will be disseminated to data vendors every 15 seconds during the Regular Trading Session. The Shares will trade on IEX between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Please note that trading in the Shares during the Exchange's Pre-Market and Post-Market Sessions ("Extended Market Sessions") may result in additional trading risks which include: (1) that the current underlying indicative value may not be updated during the Extended Market Sessions, (2) lower liquidity in the Extended Market Sessions may impact pricing, (3) higher volatility in the Extended Market Sessions may impact pricing, (4) wider spreads may occur in the Extended Markets Sessions, and (5) because the indicative value is not calculated or widely disseminated during the Extended Market Sessions, an investor who is unable to calculate an implied value for the Shares in those sessions may be at a disadvantage to market professionals.





#### **Delivery of a Prospectus**

Exchange Members should be mindful of applicable prospectus delivery requirements under the federal securities laws with respect to transactions in the Fund. Prospectuses may be obtained through the Fund's website. The Prospectus for the Fund does not contain all of the information set forth in the Funds 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 its Registration Statement.

In the event that the Fund relies upon an order by the SEC exempting the Shares from certain prospectus delivery requirements under Section 24(d) of the 1940 Act and in the future make available a written product description, Exchange Rules require that Exchange Members provide to all purchasers of Shares a written description of the terms and characteristics of such securities, in a form prepared by the Issuer of the Fund, no later than the time a confirmation of the first transaction in the Shares is delivered to such purchaser. In addition, Exchange Members shall include such a written description with any sales material relating to the Shares that is provided to customers or the public. Any other written materials provided by an IEX member to customers or the public making specific reference to the Shares as an investment vehicle must include a statement in substantially the following form: "A circular describing the terms and characteristics of [the UTP Derivative Securities] has been prepared by the [open-ended management investment company name] and is available from your broker. It is recommended that you obtain and review such circular before purchasing [the UTP Derivative Securities].

An Exchange member carrying an omnibus account for a non-member broker-dealer is required to inform such non-member that execution of an order to purchase Shares for such omnibus account will be deemed to constitute agreement by the non-member to make such written description available to its customers on the same terms as are directly applicable to such Exchange member under this rule. Upon request of a customer, Exchange Members also shall provide a copy of the Prospectus.

### **Suitability**

Trading in the securities on the Exchange will be subject to the provisions of IEX Rule 3.170 and other applicable suitability rules. Members recommending transactions in the securities to customers should make a determination that the recommendation is suitable for the customer.

#### **Trading Halts**

The Exchange will halt trading in the Shares of a security in accordance with the Exchange's Rules. The grounds for a halt include a halt because the intraday indicative value of the security and/or the value of its underlying index are not being disseminated as required, a halt for other regulatory reasons or due to other conditions or circumstances deemed to be detrimental to the maintenance of a free and orderly market.

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

The Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC") has issued letters granting exemptive, interpretive and no-action relief from certain provisions of rules under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 for exchange- traded securities listed and traded on a registered national securities exchange that meet certain criteria.



AS WHAT FOLLOWS IS ONLY A SUMMARY OF THE RELIEF OUTLINED IN THE NO-ACTION LETTERS REFERENCED ABOVE, THE EXCHANGE ADVISES INTERESTED PARTIES TO CONSULT THE NO-ACTION LETTERS FOR MORE COMPLETE INFORMATION REGARDING THE MATTERS COVERED THEREIN AND THE APPLICABILITY OF THE RELIEF GRANTED IN RESPECT OF TRADING IN SECURITIES. INTERESTED PARTIES SHOULD ALSO CONSULT THEIR PROFESSIONAL ADVISORS.

#### **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 SEC has granted an exemption from Rule 101 under Regulation M to permit persons participating in a distribution of Shares of the above-mentioned Fund to engage in secondary market transactions in such Shares during their participation in such a distribution. In addition, the SEC has granted relief under Regulation M to permit persons who may be deemed to be participating in the distribution of Shares of the above-mentioned 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 SEC 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 SEC has also granted an exemption pursuant to paragraph (e) of Rule 102 under Regulation M to allow the redemption of Fund Shares in Creation Unit Aggregations during the continuous offering of Shares.

#### Rule 14e-5

An exemption from Rule 14e-5 has been granted to permit any person acting as a dealer-manager of a tender offer for a component security of the 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 position has been taken under Rule 14e-5 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, if made in conformance with the following:

- 1. 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 purchase; or
- 2. 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
- 3. such bids or purchases are not effected for the purpose of facilitating such tender offer.

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





The SEC has taken a no-action position 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. (See letter from Catherine McGuire, Chief Counsel, SEC Division of Market Regulation, to Securities Industry Association, Derivative Products Committee, dated November 21, 2005.)

This Information Circular is not a statutory prospectus. Members should consult the Prospectus for a security and the security's website for relevant information.

Please contact IEX Regulation at 646-343-2000 with any inquiries regarding this Information Circular.