## Manning & Napier Fund, Inc.

# **Credit Series**



September 30, 2025

## Overall Morningstar Ranking (Class I)

#### \*\*\*\*

MCDIX received a 5-Star Overall Rating out of 430 Intermediate Core Bond funds, based on risk adjusted returns derived from a weighted average of the Fund's 3-year and 5-year Morningstar metrics.

See next page for additional details.

### **Investment Objective**

To provide long-term total return.

#### Investment Strategy

Under normal circumstances, at least 80% of the Series' assets will be invested in U.S. dollar denominated credit-related instruments and other financial instruments, principally derivative instruments and exchange-traded funds (ETFs), with economic characteristics similar to credit-related instruments. The Series will principally invest in investment grade securities, and is not subject to maturity or duration restrictions.

#### **Portfolio Managers**

#### Name

Name	Experience
Marc Bushallow, CFA®	23 years industry 18 years firm
Keith Harwood	27 years industry 27 years firm
Brad Cronister, CFA®	13 years industry 13 years firm

#### **Credit Quality Distribution**

	Series	Bloomberg Aggregate
AAA	9.06%	2.73%
AA	32.59%	72.46%
Α	21.26%	10.96%
BBB	18.25%	11.25%
NR	18.84%	2.17%

#### **Effective Duration Breakdown**

	Series	Bloomberg Aggregate
Cash (<0)	1.99%	
<1 Year	13.89%	0.66%
1 - 3 Years	20.91%	27.03%
3 - 5 Years	27.83%	22.77%
5 - 7 Years	23.74%	17.03%
7 - 10 Years	11.11%	16.10%
10 + Years	0.53%	16.41%

Fund In	formation			Minimum	Gross	Net
	Ticker	Cusip	Inception	Investment	Expenses	Expenses
Class I	MCDIX	56382R183	09/23/2024	\$1,000,000	0.51%	0.50%
Class S	MCDSX	56382R175	09/23/2024	\$2,000	0.63%	0.63%

Minimum investment for Class I may be waived for certain qualified retirement plans and discretionary investment accounts of the Advisor. Minimum investment for Class S may be waived for certain qualified retirement plans, participants in an automatic investment program, and discretionary investment accounts of the Advisor.

Class S net expenses include a 12b-1 fee of 0.25%, of which up to 0.25% is available as a shareholder servicing fee.

Annualized Performance							
	QTR	YTD	1Y	3Y	5Y	10Y	Inception (04/14/2020)
Class I	1.92%	5.87%	4.21%	6.36%	1.35%		2.22%
Class S	1.87%	5.76%	4.04%	6.13%	1.12%		1.98%
Bloomberg U.S. Intermediate Credit	1.98%	6.52%	4.97%	6.69%	1.60%		2.26%
Bloomberg Aggregate	2.03%	6.13%	2.88%	4.93%	-0.45%		-0.10%

Performance data quoted represents past performance and does not guarantee future results. Performance for periods greater than one year is annualized. The investment return and principal value of an investment will fluctuate, so that an investor's shares, when redeemed, may be worth more or less than their original cost. Current performance may be higher or lower than that quoted; investors can obtain the most recent month-end performance at <a href="www.manning-napier.com">www.manning-napier.com</a> or by calling (800) 466-3863.

Class S and Class I performance is based on the Credit Series Class W inception of 04/14/2020. For periods through 09/23/2024 (the inception date of the Class S and I shares), performance for the Class S and Class I shares is hypothetical and is based on the historical performance of the Class W shares adjusted for the Class S and Class I shares' charges and expenses.

## **30-Day SEC Yield** (as of 09/30/2025)

	Yield
Class I	4.24%

If fees had not been waived, the 30-day SEC Yield (as of 09/30/2025) would have been 4.23% for Class I.

#### **Sector Allocation**

Sector	Series	Bloomberg Aggregate	Relative Weighting
Mortgages	37.89%	24.35%	
Corporate Credit	36.26%	23.95%	
Non-US Govt & Supranational Credit		2.38%	ı
Municipals		0.70%	
Securitized Credit	21.38%	1.88%	
US Agency	2.48%	1.20%	I
US Treasury		45.53%	
Preferred			
Cash and Equivalents	1.99%		ı
Other			-

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## **Credit Series**



#### September 30, 2025

Fund Characteristics				
	Series	Bloomberg Aggregate		
Average Effective Duration	4.12y	6.04y		
Average Effective Maturity	5.51y	8.22y		
Fund Assets (\$M)	\$286M			
Number of Holdings	151			

# What You Should Know About Investing

All investments involve risks, including possible loss of principal. There is an inverse relationship between bond prices and interest rates; as interest rates rise, bond prices (and therefore the value of bond funds) fall. Likewise, as interest rates fall, bond prices and the value of bond funds rise. Investments in derivatives can be highly volatile and involve risks in addition to the risks of the underlying instrument on which the derivative is based, such as counterparty, correlation and liquidity risk. Also, the use of leverage increases exposure to the market and may magnify potential losses.

#### **Fund Commentary**

The U.S. economy remained resilient this quarter, as strong consumer spending and an AI-driven capex boom offset labor market softness, tariff impact uncertainty, and sticky inflation. Job growth slowed sharply, with hiring plans at multi-year lows, prompting the Federal Reserve to cut rates in September and signal further easing ahead.

During the quarter, Treasury yields declined across the curve while credit spreads tightened, resulting in modest gains for bond markets overall. In this environment, longer-duration securities and corporate bonds emerged as the top performers. Within the municipal market, tax-exempt bonds outpaced their taxable counterparts, supported by favorable technical factors — most notably, sustained investor demand for tax-free income.

The Credit Series posted positive absolute returns for the quarter but marginally underperformed the broad market (as represented by the Bloomberg US Aggregate Bond Index). Underperformance was driven by a combination of negative selection within commercial mortgage-backed securities and a lower duration as yields fell across the curve.

Overall, we continue to view securitized debt as relatively attractive and focus on securities with seniority in the capital structure that are backed by asset classes with high-quality fundamentals and low credit risk (i.e., student loans, data centers, etc.). Within mortgages, we have been finding value in private residential mortgage-backed securities, which trade at a discount similar to agency mortgage-backed securities. Furthermore, we focus on bonds with lower convexity risk (i.e., lower risk of increased prepayment speeds should yields fall or decreased speeds should yields rise). Finally, we remain cautious on investment grade corporate credit as spreads remain elevated on a historical basis.

Looking ahead, we believe the outlook for interest rates remains uncertain as markets contend with stickier inflation, a weakening labor market, and implications of both domestic and foreign policies. In our view, elevated market volatility is likely to persist for the foreseeable future.

In this environment, our active approach to fixed income management enables us to focus on risk mitigation while selectively pursuing compelling investment opportunities.

We remain confident that our disciplined investment process equips us with the tools necessary to navigate a challenging and dynamic market landscape.

#### **Definitions**

**Duration:** A measure of the sensitivity of a fixed income security's price to changes in interest rates. It indicates the expected life of the security and how much its price will change with a 1% change in interest rates. Securities with shorter durations are generally less affected by interest rate changes than those with longer durations.

Credit quality ratings: are measured on a scale that generally ranges from AAA (highest) to D (lowest). Not Rated (NR) is used to classify securities for which a rating is not available. Credit quality ratings reflect the median of Moody's Investors Services and Standard & Poor's ratings. Data obtained from Bloomberg.

For more information about any of the Manning & Napier Fund, Inc. Series, you may obtain a prospectus at <a href="www.manning-napier.com">www.manning-napier.com</a> or by calling (800) 466-3863. Before investing, carefully consider the objectives, risks, charges and expenses of the investment and read the prospectus carefully as it contains this and other information about the investment company.

The data presented in the commentary is for informational purposes only. It is not to be considered a specific recommendation. Portfolio Composition data for the Series (excluding SEC yield) provided by FactSet. Industry Breakdown is provided by FactSet. Portfolio turnover provided by Morningstar. Cash allocation may vary slightly given the different sources of data. Analysis: Manning & Napier. Investments will change over time. The "Other" category contains securities such as ETFs and others that cannot otherwise be classified.

Manning & Napier Fund, Inc. Credit Series I was rated against Intermediate Core Bond funds and had a 5 star rating for the three year, a 5 star rating for the five year, and a 5 star rating overall, as of 09/30/2025, out of 430, 382, and 430 funds respectively. Ratings for other share classes may differ. The Morningstar Ratingrm for funds, or "star rating", is calculated for managed products (including mutual funds, variable annuity and variable life subaccounts, exchange-traded funds, closed-end funds, and separate accounts) with at least a three-year history. Exchange-traded funds and open-ended mutual funds are considered a single population for comparative purposes. It is calculated based on a Morningstar Risk-Adjusted Return measure that accounts for variation in a managed product's monthly excess performance, placing more emphasis on downward variations and rewarding consistent performance. The top 10% of products in each product category receive 5 stars, the next 22.5% receive 2 stars and the bottom 10% receive 1 star. The Overall Morningstar Ratingrm for a managed product is derived from a weighted average of the performance figures associated with its three-, five- and ten-year (if applicable) Morningstar Ratingrm metrics. The weights are: 100% three-year rating for 36 - 59 months of total returns, 60% five-year rating/40% three-year rating for 60 - 119 months of total returns, and 50% 10-year rating/30% five-year rating/20% three-year rating for 120 or more months of total returns. While the 10-year overall star rating formula seems to give the most weight to the 10-year period, the most recent three-year period actually has the greatest impact because it is included in all three rating periods. Morningstar, inc. is a global investment research firm providing data, information, and analysis of stocks and mutual funds. ©2025 Morningstar, inc. All rights reserved. The information contained herein: (i) is proprietary to Morningstar and/or its content providers; (2) may not be copied, adapted or distribut

The Bloomberg U.S. Aggregate Bond (BAB) Index is an unmanaged, market-value weighted index of U.S. domestic investment-grade debt issues, including government, corporate, asset-backed, and mortgage-backed securities, with maturities of one year or more. Index returns do not reflect any fees or expenses. Index returns provided by Intercontinental Exchange (ICE).

The Bloomberg U.S. Intermediate Credit Index measures the investment grade, US dollar-denominated, fixed-rate, taxable corporate and government-related bond markets with a maturity greater than 1 year and less than 10 years. It is composed of the US Corporate Index and a non-corporate component that includes non-US agencies, sovereigns, supranationals and local authorities constrained by maturity. Index returns provided by Intercontinental Exchange (ICE).

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The Manning & Napier Fund, Inc. is managed by Manning & Napier Advisors, LLC. Manning & Napier Investor Services, Inc., an affiliate of Manning & Napier Advisors, LLC, is the distributor of the Fund shares.