United States Brent Oil Fund, LP Form S-1 March 31, 2016

As filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on March 31, 2016

**Registration No. 333-**

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM S-1 REGISTRATION STATEMENT UNDER THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933

United States Brent Oil Fund, LP (Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in Its Charter)

Delaware	6770	27-0925904
(State or Other Jurisdiction of	(Primary Standard Industrial	(I.R.S. Employer
Incorporation or Organization)	Classification Code Number)	Identification Number)

United States Commodity Funds LLC	Carolyn M. Yu
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Oakland, California 94612	Oakland, California 94612
510.522.9600	510.522.9600
(Address, Including Zip Code, and Telephone Number,	(Name, Address, Including Zip Code, and Telephone
Including	Number,
Area Code, of Registrant's Principal Executive Offices)	Including Area Code, of Agent for Service)
· ·	

Copies to: James M. Cain, Esq. Sutherland Asbill & Brennan LLP 700 Sixth Street, N.W., Suite 700 Washington, DC 20001-3980 202.383.0100

Approximate date of commencement of proposed sale to the public: As soon as practicable after this registration statement becomes effective.

If any of the securities being registered on this Form are to be offered on a delayed or continuous basis pursuant to Rule 415 under the Securities Act of 1933, check the following box. x

If this Form is filed to register additional securities for an offering pursuant to Rule 462(b) under the Securities Act of 1933, check the following box and list the Securities Act registration statement number of the earlier effective registration statement for the same offering. o

If this Form is a post-effective amendment filed pursuant to Rule 462(c) under the Securities Act of 1933, check the following box and list the Securities Act registration statement number of the earlier effective registration statement for the same offering. o

If this Form is a post-effective amendment filed pursuant to Rule 462(d) under the Securities Act of 1933, check the following box and list the Securities Act registration statement number of the earlier effective registration statement for the same offering. o

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, a non-accelerated filer, or a smaller reporting company. See the definitions of "large accelerated filer," "accelerated filer" and "smaller reporting company" in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act. (Check one):

Large accelerated filer o Accelerated filer o Non-accelerated filer x Smaller reporting company o

### CALCULATION OF REGISTRATION FEE

Title of Each Class of Securities to be Registered	Amount to be Registered(1)	Proposed Maximum Offering Price Per Share(1)	Proposed Maximum Aggregate Offering Price(1)	Amount of Registration Fee(1)
Shares of United States Brent Oil Fund, LP	0	N/A	\$1	\$0

As discussed below, pursuant to Rule 415(a)(6) under the Securities Act, this registration Statement carries over 32,200,000 of unsold shares that have been previously registered, with respect to which the registrant applied previously paid filing fees of \$139,500. The filing fee previously paid with respect to such shares being carried forward to this Registration Statement will continue to apply to such unsold shares.

Pursuant to Rule 415(a)(6) under the Securities Act, the securities registered pursuant to this Registration Statement include unsold securities previously registered for sale pursuant to the registrant's registration statement on Form S-1 (File No. 333-187501) initially filed by the registrant on March 25, 2013 (the "Prior Registration Statement").

Approximately 32,200,000 such shares of beneficial interests registered on the Prior Registration Statement remain unsold. The unsold shares (and associated filing fees paid) are being carried forward to this Registration Statement. Pursuant to Rule 415(a)(6), the offering of unsold shares under the Prior Registration Statement will be deemed terminated as of the date of effectiveness of this Registration Statement.

The registrant hereby amends this Registration Statement on such date or dates as may be necessary to delay its effective date until the Registrant shall file a further amendment which specifically states that this Registration Statement shall thereafter become effective in accordance with Section 8(a) of the Securities Act of 1933 or until the Registration Statement shall become effective on such date as the Securities and Commission, acting pursuant to said Section 8(a), may determine.

### PROSPECTUS

### United States Brent Oil Fund, LP®\*

### 32,200,000 Shares

### \*Principal U.S. Listing Exchange: NYSE Arca, Inc.

The United States Brent Oil Fund, LP ("BNO") is an exchange traded fund organized as a limited partnership that issues shares that trade on the NYSE Arca stock exchange ("NYSE Arca"). BNO's investment objective is to track a benchmark of short-term futures contracts. BNO pays its general partner, United States Commodity Funds LLC ("USCF"), a limited liability company a management fee and incurs operating costs. BNO and USCF are located at 1999 Harrison Street, Suite 1530, Oakland, CA 94612. The telephone number for both BNO and USCF is 510.522.9600. In order for a hypothetical investment in shares to break even over the next 12 months, assuming a selling price of \$12.22 (the net asset value as of December 31, 2015), the investment would have to generate 0.82% return or \$0.10.

BNO is an exchange traded fund. This means that most investors who decide to buy or sell shares of BNO shares place their trade orders through their brokers and may incur customary brokerage commissions and charges. Shares trade on the NYSE Arca under the ticker symbol "BNO" and are bought and sold throughout the trading day at bid and ask prices like other publicly traded securities.

Shares trade on the NYSE Arca after they are initially purchased by "Authorized Participants," institutional firms that purchase shares in blocks of 50,000 shares called "baskets" through BNO's marketing agent, ALPS Distributors, Inc. (the "Marketing Agent"). The price of a basket is equal to the net asset value ("NAV") of 50,000 shares on the day that the order to purchase the basket is accepted by the Marketing Agent. The NAV per share is calculated by taking the current market value of BNO's total assets (after close of NYSE Arca) subtracting any liabilities and dividing that total by the total number of outstanding shares. The offering of BNO's shares is a "best efforts" offering, which means that neither the Marketing Agent nor any Authorized Participant is required to purchase a specific number or dollar amount of shares. USCF pays the Marketing Agent a marketing fee consisting of a fixed annual amount plus an incentive fee based on the amount of shares sold. Authorized Participants will not receive from BNO, USCF or any of their affiliates any fee or other compensation in connection with the sale of shares. Aggregate compensation paid to the Marketing Agent and any affiliate of USCF for distribution-related services in connection with this offering of shares will not exceed ten percent (10%) of the gross proceeds of the offering.

Investors who buy or sell shares during the day from their broker may do so at a premium or discount relative to the market value of the underlying Brent crude oil futures contracts in which BNO invests due to supply and demand forces at work in the secondary trading market for shares that are closely related to, but not identical to, the same forces influencing the prices of Brent crude oil and the Brent crude oil futures contracts that serve as BNO's investment benchmark. Investing in BNO involves risks similar to those involved with an investment directly in the crude oil market, the correlation risk described above, and other significant risks. See "**Risk Factors Involved with an Investment in BNO**" beginning on page 4.

The offering of BNO's shares is registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC") in accordance with the Securities Act of 1933 (the "1933 Act"). The offering is intended to be a continuous offering and is not expected to terminate until all of the registered shares have been sold or three years from the date of the original offering, whichever is earlier, unless extended as permitted under the rules under the 1933 Act, although the offering may be temporarily suspended if and when no suitable investments for BNO are available or practicable. BNO is not a mutual fund registered under the Investment Company Act of 1940 ("1940 Act") and is not subject to regulation under such Act.

#### NEITHER THE SEC NOR ANY STATE SECURITIES COMMISSION HAS APPROVED OR DISAPPROVED OF THE SECURITIES OFFERED IN THIS PROSPECTUS, OR DETERMINED IF THIS PROSPECTUS IS TRUTHFUL OR COMPLETE. ANY REPRESENTATION TO THE CONTRARY IS A CRIMINAL OFFENSE.

BNO is a commodity pool and USCF is a commodity pool operator subject to regulation by the Commodity Futures Trading Commission and the National Futures Association under the Commodities Exchange Act.

#### THE COMMODITY FUTURES TRADING COMMISSION HAS NOT PASSED UPON THE MERITS OF PARTICIPATING IN THIS POOL NOR HAS THE COMMISSION PASSED ON THE ADEQUACY OR ACCURACY OF THIS DISCLOSURE DOCUMENT.

The date of this prospectus is , 2016.

### COMMODITY FUTURES TRADING COMMISSION

### **RISK DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

YOU SHOULD CAREFULLY CONSIDER WHETHER YOUR FINANCIAL CONDITION PERMITS YOU TO PARTICIPATE IN A COMMODITY POOL. IN SO DOING, YOU SHOULD BE AWARE THAT COMMODITY INTEREST TRADING CAN QUICKLY LEAD TO LARGE LOSSES AS WELL AS GAINS. SUCH TRADING LOSSES CAN SHARPLY REDUCE THE NET ASSET VALUE OF THE POOL AND CONSEQUENTLY THE VALUE OF YOUR INTEREST IN THE POOL. IN ADDITION, RESTRICTIONS ON REDEMPTIONS MAY AFFECT YOUR ABILITY TO WITHDRAW YOUR PARTICIPATION IN THE POOL.

FURTHER, COMMODITY POOLS MAY BE SUBJECT TO SUBSTANTIAL CHARGES FOR MANAGEMENT, AND ADVISORY AND BROKERAGE FEES. IT MAY BE NECESSARY FOR THOSE POOLS THAT ARE SUBJECT TO THESE CHARGES TO MAKE SUBSTANTIAL TRADING PROFITS TO AVOID DEPLETION OR EXHAUSTION OF THEIR ASSETS. THIS DISCLOSURE DOCUMENT CONTAINS A COMPLETE DESCRIPTION OF EACH EXPENSE TO BE CHARGED THIS POOL AT PAGE 29 AND A STATEMENT OF THE PERCENTAGE RETURN NECESSARY TO BREAK EVEN, THAT IS, TO RECOVER THE AMOUNT OF YOUR INITIAL INVESTMENT, AT PAGE 30.

THIS BRIEF STATEMENT CANNOT DISCLOSE ALL THE RISKS AND OTHER FACTORS NECESSARY TO EVALUATE YOUR PARTICIPATION IN THIS COMMODITY POOL. THEREFORE, BEFORE YOU DECIDE TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS COMMODITY POOL, YOU SHOULD CAREFULLY STUDY THIS DISCLOSURE DOCUMENT, INCLUDING A DESCRIPTION OF THE PRINCIPAL RISK FACTORS OF THIS INVESTMENT, AT PAGE 4.

YOU SHOULD ALSO BE AWARE THAT THIS COMMODITY POOL MAY TRADE FOREIGN FUTURES OR OPTIONS CONTRACTS. TRANSACTIONS ON MARKETS LOCATED OUTSIDE THE UNITED STATES, INCLUDING MARKETS FORMALLY LINKED TO A UNITED STATES MARKET, MAY BE SUBJECT TO REGULATIONS WHICH OFFER DIFFERENT OR DIMINISHED PROTECTION TO THE POOL AND ITS PARTICIPANTS. FURTHER, UNITED STATES REGULATORY AUTHORITIES MAY BE UNABLE TO COMPEL THE ENFORCEMENT OF THE RULES OF REGULATORY AUTHORITIES OR MARKETS IN NON-UNITED STATES JURISDICTIONS WHERE TRANSACTIONS FOR THE POOL MAY BE EFFECTED.

SWAPS TRANSACTIONS, LIKE OTHER FINANCIAL TRANSACTIONS, INVOLVE A VARIETY OF SIGNIFICANT RISKS. THE SPECIFIC RISKS PRESENTED BY A PARTICULAR SWAP TRANSACTION NECESSARILY DEPEND UPON THE TERMS OF THE TRANSACTION AND YOUR CIRCUMSTANCES. IN GENERAL, HOWEVER, ALL SWAPS TRANSACTIONS INVOLVE SOME COMBINATION OF MARKET RISK, CREDIT RISK, COUNTERPARTY CREDIT RISK, FUNDING RISK, LIQUIDITY RISK, AND OPERATIONAL RISK.

HIGHLY CUSTOMIZED SWAPS TRANSACTIONS IN PARTICULAR MAY INCREASE LIQUIDITY RISK, WHICH MAY RESULT IN A SUSPENSION OF REDEMPTIONS. HIGHLY LEVERAGED TRANSACTIONS MAY EXPERIENCE SUBSTANTIAL GAINS OR LOSSES IN VALUE AS A RESULT OF RELATIVELY SMALL CHANGES IN THE VALUE OR LEVEL OF AN UNDERLYING OR RELATED MARKET FACTOR.

IN EVALUATING THE RISKS AND CONTRACTUAL OBLIGATIONS ASSOCIATED WITH A PARTICULAR SWAP TRANSACTION, IT IS IMPORTANT TO CONSIDER THAT A SWAP

TRANSACTION MAY BE MODIFIED OR TERMINATED ONLY BY MUTUAL CONSENT OF THE ORIGINAL PARTIES AND SUBJECT TO AGREEMENT ON INDIVIDUALLY NEGOTIATED TERMS. THEREFORE, IT MAY NOT BE POSSIBLE FOR THE COMMODITY POOL OPERATOR TO MODIFY, TERMINATE, OR OFFSET THE POOL'S OBLIGATIONS OR THE POOL'S EXPOSURE TO THE RISKS ASSOCIATED WITH A TRANSACTION PRIOR TO ITS SCHEDULED TERMINATION DATE.

i

### TABLE OF CONTENTS

Disclosure Document:Prospectus Summary1BNO's Investment Objective and Strategy1Principal Investment Risks of an Investment in BNO2BNO's Fees and Expenses3Risk Factors Involved With an Investment in BNO4Investment Risk4Correlation Risk5Tax Risk7OTC Contract Risk9Other Risks9Additional Information About BNO, its Investment Objective and Investments15Impact of Contango and Backwardation on Total Returns17What are the Trading Policies of BNO?21Prior Performance of BNO23BNO's Operations24USCF and its Management and Traders24BNO's Service Providers24No's Service Providers24
Prospectus Summary1BNO's Investment Objective and Strategy1Principal Investment Risks of an Investment in BNO2BNO's Fees and Expenses3Risk Factors Involved With an Investment in BNO4Investment Risk4Correlation Risk5Tax Risk7OTC Contract Risk9Other Risks9Additional Information About BNO, its Investment Objective and Investments15Impact of Contango and Backwardation on Total Returns17What are the Trading Policies of BNO?21Prior Performance of BNO23BNO's Operations24USCF and its Management and Traders24BNO's Service Providers27
BNO's Investment Objective and Strategy1Principal Investment Risks of an Investment in BNO2BNO's Fees and Expenses3Risk Factors Involved With an Investment in BNO4Investment Risk4Correlation Risk5Tax Risk7OTC Contract Risk9Other Risks9Additional Information About BNO, its Investment Objective and Investments15Impact of Contango and Backwardation on Total Returns17What are the Trading Policies of BNO?21Prior Performance of BNO22Composite Performance Data for BNO23BNO's Operations24USCF and its Management and Traders24BNO's Service Providers27
Principal Investment Risks of an Investment in BNO2BNO's Fees and Expenses3Risk Factors Involved With an Investment in BNO4Investment Risk4Correlation Risk5Tax Risk7OTC Contract Risk9Other Risks9Other Risks9Additional Information About BNO, its Investment Objective and Investments15Impact of Contango and Backwardation on Total Returns17What are the Trading Policies of BNO?21Prior Performance of BNO22Composite Performance Data for BNO23BNO's Operations24USCF and its Management and Traders24BNO's Service Providers27
BNO's Fees and Expenses3Risk Factors Involved With an Investment in BNO4Investment Risk4Correlation Risk5Tax Risk5Tax Risk7OTC Contract Risk9Other Risks9Additional Information About BNO, its Investment Objective and Investments15Impact of Contango and Backwardation on Total Returns17What are the Trading Policies of BNO?21Prior Performance of BNO22Composite Performance Data for BNO23BNO's Operations24USCF and its Management and Traders24BNO's Service Providers.27
Risk Factors Involved With an Investment in BNO4Investment Risk4Correlation Risk5Tax Risk7OTC Contract Risk9Other Risks9Additional Information About BNO, its Investment Objective and Investments15Impact of Contango and Backwardation on Total Returns17What are the Trading Policies of BNO?21Prior Performance of BNO22Composite Performance Data for BNO23BNO's Operations24USCF and its Management and Traders24BNO's Service Providers27
Investment Risk4Correlation Risk5Tax Risk7OTC Contract Risk9Other Risks9Additional Information About BNO, its Investment Objective and Investments15Impact of Contango and Backwardation on Total Returns17What are the Trading Policies of BNO?21Prior Performance of BNO22Composite Performance Data for BNO23BNO's Operations24USCF and its Management and Traders24BNO's Service Providers27
Correlation Risk5Tax Risk7OTC Contract Risk9Other Risks9Additional Information About BNO, its Investment Objective and Investments15Impact of Contango and Backwardation on Total Returns17What are the Trading Policies of BNO?21Prior Performance of BNO22Composite Performance Data for BNO23BNO's Operations24USCF and its Management and Traders24BNO's Service Providers27
Tax Risk7OTC Contract Risk9Other Risks9Additional Information About BNO, its Investment Objective and Investments15Impact of Contango and Backwardation on Total Returns17What are the Trading Policies of BNO?21Prior Performance of BNO22Composite Performance Data for BNO23BNO's Operations24USCF and its Management and Traders24BNO's Service Providers27
OTC Contract Risk9Other Risks9Additional Information About BNO, its Investment Objective and Investments15Impact of Contango and Backwardation on Total Returns17What are the Trading Policies of BNO?21Prior Performance of BNO22Composite Performance Data for BNO23BNO's Operations24USCF and its Management and Traders24BNO's Service Providers27
Other Risks9Additional Information About BNO, its Investment Objective and Investments15Impact of Contango and Backwardation on Total Returns17What are the Trading Policies of BNO?21Prior Performance of BNO22Composite Performance Data for BNO23BNO's Operations24USCF and its Management and Traders24BNO's Service Providers27
Additional Information About BNO, its Investment Objective and Investments15Impact of Contango and Backwardation on Total Returns17What are the Trading Policies of BNO?21Prior Performance of BNO22Composite Performance Data for BNO23BNO's Operations24USCF and its Management and Traders24BNO's Service Providers27
Impact of Contango and Backwardation on Total Returns17What are the Trading Policies of BNO?21Prior Performance of BNO22Composite Performance Data for BNO23BNO's Operations24USCF and its Management and Traders24BNO's Service Providers27
What are the Trading Policies of BNO?21Prior Performance of BNO22Composite Performance Data for BNO23BNO's Operations24USCF and its Management and Traders24BNO's Service Providers27
Prior Performance of BNO22Composite Performance Data for BNO23BNO's Operations24USCF and its Management and Traders24BNO's Service Providers27
Composite Performance Data for BNO23BNO's Operations24USCF and its Management and Traders24BNO's Service Providers27
BNO's Operations24USCF and its Management and Traders24BNO's Service Providers27
USCF and its Management and Traders24BNO's Service Providers27
BNO's Service Providers 27
BNO's Fees and Expenses 29
Breakeven Analysis 30
Conflicts of Interest 30
Ownership or Beneficial Interest in BNO 32
USCF's Responsibilities and Remedies 32
Liability and Indemnification 32
Meetings 33
Termination Events 33
Provisions of Law 33
Books and Records 34
Statements, Filings, and Reports 34
Fiscal Year 35
Governing Law; Consent to Delaware Jurisdiction 35
Legal Matters 35
U.S. Federal Income Tax Considerations 35
Backup Withholding 43
Other Tax Considerations 44
Investment by ERISA Accounts 44
Form of Shares 46
Transfer of Shares 47
What is the Plan of Distribution? 48
Calculating Per Share NAV 49
Creation and Redemption of Shares 50
<u>Use of Proceeds</u> 54
Information You Should Know 55
Summary of Promotional and Sales Material 55
Intellectual Property 55

Where You Can Find More Information	56
Statement Regarding Forward-Looking Statements	56
Incorporation by Reference of Certain Information	56
Privacy Policy	57
Appendix A	A-1
Glossary of Defined Terms	A-1

ii

### PROSPECTUS SUMMARY

This is only a summary of the prospectus and, while it contains material information about BNO and its shares, it does not contain or summarize all of the information about BNO and the shares contained in this prospectus that is material and/or which may be important to you. You should read this entire prospectus, including "Risk Factors Involved with an Investment in BNO" beginning on page 5, before making an investment decision about the shares. For a glossary of defined terms, see Appendix A.

### BNO

United States Brent Oil Fund, LP ("BNO"), a Delaware limited partnership, is a commodity pool that continuously issues common shares of beneficial interest that may be purchased and sold on the NYSE Arca stock exchange ("NYSE Arca"). BNO is managed and controlled by United States Commodity Funds LLC ("USCF"), a Delaware limited liability company. USCF is registered as a commodity pool operator ("CPO") with the Commodity Futures Trading Commission ("CFTC") and is a member of the National Futures Association ("NFA").

### **BNO's Investment Objective and Strategy:**

The investment objective of BNO is for the daily changes in percentage terms of its shares' per share net asset value ("NAV") to reflect the daily changes in percentage terms of the spot price of Brent crude oil, as measured by the daily changes in the price of a specified short-term futures contract on Brent crude oil called the "Benchmark Futures Contract", less BNO's expenses.

### What is the "Benchmark Futures Contract"?

The Benchmark Futures Contract is the futures contract on Brent crude oil as traded on the Ice Futures Europe Exchange (the "ICE Futures") that is the near month contract to expire, except when the near month contract is within two weeks of expiration, in which case it will be measured by the futures contract that is the next month contract to expire.

BNO seeks to achieve its investment objective by investing primarily in futures contracts for crude oil, heating oil, gasoline, natural gas and other petroleum-based fuels that are traded on the New York Mercantile Exchange (the "NYMEX"), the ICE Futures Exchange or other U.S. and foreign exchanges (collectively, "Futures Contracts"), and to a lesser extent, in order to comply with regulatory requirements or in view of market conditions, other crude oil-related investments such as cash-settled options on Futures Contracts, forward contracts for crude oil, cleared swap contracts and non-exchange traded ("over-the-counter" or "OTC") transactions that are based on the price of crude oil and other petroleum-based fuels, Futures Contracts and indices based on the foregoing (collectively, "Other Crude Oil-Related Investments"). Market conditions that USCF currently anticipates could cause BNO to invest in Other Crude Oil-Related Oil-Related Investments include those allowing BNO to obtain greater liquidity or to execute transactions with more favorable pricing. For convenience and unless otherwise specified, Futures, Contracts and Other Crude Oil-Related Investments, collectively are referred to as "Crude Oil Interests" in this prospectus.

In addition, USCF believes that market arbitrage opportunities cause daily changes in BNO's share price on the NYSE Arca on a percentage basis to closely track daily changes in BNO's per share NAV on a percentage basis. USCF

further believes that the daily changes in prices of the Benchmark Futures Contract have historically tracked the daily changes in the spot price of Brent crude oil. USCF believes that the net effect of these relationships will be the daily changes in the price of BNO's shares on NYSE Arca on a percentage basis will closely track the daily changes in the spot price of Brent crude oil on a percentage basis, less BNO's expenses.

Specifically, BNO seeks to achieve its investment objective by investing so that the average daily percentage change in BNO's NAV for any period of 30 successive valuation days will be within plus/minus ten percent (10%) of the average daily percentage change in the price of the Benchmark Futures Contract over the same period.

Investors should be aware that BNO's investment objective is *not* for its NAV or market price of shares to equal, in dollar terms, the spot price of Brent crude oil or any particular futures contract based on Brent crude oil *nor* is its BNO's investment objective for the percentage change in its NAV to reflect the percentage change of the price of any particular futures contract as measured over a time period *greater than one day*. This is because natural market forces called contango and backwardation have impacted the total return on an investment in BNO's shares during the past year relative to a hypothetical direct investment in Brent crude oil and, in the future, it is likely that the relationship between the market price of BNO's shares and the changes in the spot price of Brent crude oil will continue to be so impacted by contango and backwardation. (It is important to note that the disclosure above ignores the potential costs associated with physically owning and storing Brent crude oil, which could be substantial.)

#### Principal Investment Risks of an Investment in BNO

An investment in BNO involves a degree of risk. Some of the risks you may face are summarized below. A more extensive discussion of these risks appears beginning on page 4.

#### **Investment Risk**

Investors may choose to use BNO as a means of investing indirectly in Brent crude oil. There are significant risks and hazards inherent in the Brent crude oil industry that may cause the price of Brent crude oil to widely fluctuate.

#### **Correlation Risk**

To the extent that investors use BNO as a means of indirectly investing in Brent crude oil, there is the risk that the daily changes in the price of BNO's shares on the NYSE Arca on a percentage basis will not closely track the daily changes in the spot price of Brent crude oil on a percentage basis. This could happen if the price of shares traded on the NYSE Arca does not correlate closely with the value of BNO's NAV; the changes in BNO's NAV do not correlate closely with the changes in the price of the Benchmark Futures Contract; or the changes in the price of the Benchmark Futures Contract do not closely correlate with the changes in the cash or spot price of Brent crude oil. This is a risk because if these correlations do not exist, then investors may not be able to use BNO as a cost-effective way to indirectly invest in Brent crude oil or as a hedge against the risk of loss in Brent crude oil-related transactions.

The price relationship between the near month contract to expire and the next month contract to expire that compose the Benchmark Futures Contract will vary and may impact both the total return over time of BNO's NAV, as well as the degree to which its total return tracks other Brent crude oil price indices' total returns. In cases in which the near month contract's price is lower than the next month contract's price (a situation known as "contango" in the futures markets), then absent the impact of the overall movement in Brent crude oil prices the value of the benchmark contract's price is higher than the next month contract's price (a situation. In cases in which the near month contract's price is higher than the next month contract's price (a situation known as "backwardation" in the futures markets), then absent the impact of the overall movement in Brent crude oil prices the value of the overall movement in Brent crude oil prices markets), then absent the impact of the overall movement in the next month contract's price is higher than the next month contract's price (a situation known as "backwardation" in the futures markets), then absent the impact of the overall movement in Brent crude oil prices the value of the benchmark contract would tend to rise as it approaches expiration.

#### Tax Risk

BNO is organized and operated as a limited partnership in accordance with the provisions of its limited partnership agreement and applicable state law, and therefore, has a more complex tax treatment than conventional mutual funds.

### **Over-the-Counter ("OTC") Contract Risk**

BNO may also invest in Other Crude Oil-Related Investments, many of which are negotiated or "OTC" contracts that are not as liquid as Futures Contracts and expose BNO to credit risk that its counterparty may not be able to satisfy its obligations to BNO.

### **Other Risks**

BNO pays fees and expenses that are incurred regardless of whether it is profitable.

Unlike mutual funds, commodity pools or other investment pools that manage their investments in an attempt to realize income and gains and distribute such income and gains to their investors, BNO generally does not distribute

cash to limited partners or other shareholders. You should not invest in BNO if you will need cash distributions from BNO to pay taxes on your share of income and gains of BNO, if any, or for any other reason.

You will have no rights to participate in the management of BNO and will have to rely on the duties and judgment of USCF to manage BNO.

BNO is subject to actual and potential inherent conflicts involving USCF, various commodity futures brokers and Authorized Participants. USCF's officers, directors and employees do not devote their time exclusively to BNO. USCF's persons are directors, officers or employees of other entities that may compete with BNO for their services, including other commodity pools (funds) that USCF manages (these funds are referred to in this prospectus as the "Related Public Funds" and are identified in the Glossary). USCF could have a conflict between its responsibilities to BNO and to those other entities. As a result of these and other relationships, parties involved with BNO have a financial incentive to act in a manner other than in the best interests of BNO and the shareholders.

#### **BNO's Fees and Expenses**

This table describes the fees and expenses that you may pay if you buy and hold shares of BNO. You should note that you may pay brokerage commissions on purchases and sales of BNO's shares, which are not reflected in the table. Authorized Participants will pay applicable creation and redemption fees. *See* "Creation and Redemption of Shares-*Creation and Redemption Transaction Fee*," page 53.

### Annual Fund Operating Expenses (expenses that you pay each year as a percentage of the value of your investment)

Management Fees <sup>(1)</sup>	0.75 %
Other Fund Expenses <sup>(1)</sup>	0.30 %
Expense Waiver <sup>(2)</sup>	(0.15)%
Net Other Fund Expenses	0.15 %
Total Annual Fund Operating Expenses After Expense Waiver	0.90 %

(1) Based on amounts for the year ended December 31, 2015. The individual expense amounts in dollar terms are shown in the table below.

Management fees	\$690,367
Professional fees	\$147,894
Brokerage commissions	\$114,922
Director fees and insurance	\$10,575

USCF has voluntarily agreed to pay certain expenses typically borne by BNO, to the extent that such expenses (2) exceed 0.15% of BNO's NAV, on an annualized basis. USCF has no obligation to continue such payments. If this agreement were terminated, the Annual Fund Operating Expenses could increase, which would negatively impact your total return from an investment in BNO.

### RISK FACTORS INVOLVED WITH AN INVESTMENT IN BNO

You should consider carefully the risks described below before making an investment decision. You should also refer to the other information included in this prospectus as well as information found in our periodic reports, which include BNO's financial statements and the related notes, that are incorporated by reference. See "Incorporation By Reference of Certain Information", page 56.

BNO's investment objective is for the daily changes in percentage terms of its shares' per share NAV to reflect the daily changes in percentage terms of the spot price of Brent crude oil as measured by the daily changes in the price of the futures contract for Brent crude oil traded on the ICE Futures that is the near month contract to expire, except when the near month contract is within two weeks of expiration, in which case the futures contract will be the next month contract to expire (the "Benchmark Futures Contract"), less BNO's expenses. BNO seeks to achieve its investment objective through investments in futures contracts for crude oil, diesel-heating oil, gasoline, natural gas and other petroleum-based fuels that are traded on the ICE Futures, NYMEX, or other U.S. and foreign exchanges (collectively, "Futures Contracts"), and Other Crude Oil-Related Investments such that the daily changes in its NAV, measured in percentage terms, will closely track the changes in the price of the Benchmark Futures Contract, also measured in percentage terms. BNO's investment strategy is designed to provide investors with a cost-effective way to invest indirectly in Brent crude oil and to hedge against movements in the spot price of Brent crude oil. An investment in BNO involves investment risk similar to a direct investment in Futures Contracts and Other Crude Oil-Related Investments, and correlation risk, or the risk that investors purchasing shares to hedge against movements in the price of Brent crude oil will have an efficient hedge only if the price they pay for their shares closely correlates with the price of Brent crude oil. In addition to investment risk and correlation risk, an investment in BNO involves tax risks, OTC risks, and other risks.

#### **Investment Risk**

The NAV of BNO's shares relates directly to the value of the Benchmark Futures Contracts and other assets held by BNO and fluctuations in the prices of these assets could materially adversely affect an investment in BNO's shares. Past performance is not necessarily indicative of future results; all or substantially all of an investment in BNO could be lost.

The net assets of BNO consist primarily of investments in Futures Contracts and, to a lesser extent, in Other Crude Oil-Related Investments. The NAV of BNO's shares relates directly to the value of these assets (less liabilities, including accrued but unpaid expenses), which in turn relates to the price of light, sweet crude oil in the marketplace. Brent crude oil prices depend on local, regional, and global events or conditions that affect supply and demand for oil.

*Economic conditions impacting Brent crude oil.* The demand for Brent crude oil correlates closely with general economic growth rates. The occurrence of recessions or other periods of low or negative economic growth will typically have a direct adverse impact on crude oil prices. Other factors that affect general economic conditions in the world or in a major region, such as changes in population growth rates, periods of civil unrest, government austerity programs, or currency exchange rate fluctuations, can also impact the demand for Brent crude oil. Sovereign debt downgrades, defaults, inability to access debt markets due to credit or legal constraints, liquidity crises, the breakup or restructuring of fiscal, monetary, or political systems such as the European Union, and other events or conditions that impair the functioning of financial markets and institutions also may adversely impact the demand for Brent crude oil.

*Other Brent crude oil demand-related factors.* Other factors that may affect the demand for crude oil and therefore its price, include technological improvements in energy efficiency; seasonal weather patterns, which affect the demand for crude oil associated with heating and cooling; increased competitiveness of alternative energy sources that have so far generally not been competitive with oil without the benefit of government subsidies or mandates; and changes in technology or consumer preferences that alter fuel choices, such as toward alternative fueled vehicles.

*Other Brent crude oil supply-related factors.* Brent crude oil prices also vary depending on a number of factors affecting supply. For example, increased supply from the development of new oil supply sources and technologies to enhance recovery from existing sources tends to reduce crude oil prices to the extent such supply increases are not offset by commensurate growth in demand. Similarly, increases in industry refining or petrochemical manufacturing capacity may impact the supply of Brent crude oil. World oil supply levels can also be affected by factors that reduce available supplies, such as adherence by member countries to the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries ("OPEC") production quotas and the occurrence of wars, hostile actions, natural disasters, disruptions in competitors' operations, or unexpected unavailability of distribution channels that may disrupt supplies. Technological change can also alter the relative costs for companies in the petroleum industry to find, produce, and refine oil and to manufacture petrochemicals, which in turn may affect the supply of and demand for oil.

*Other factors impacting the Brent crude oil market.* The supply of and demand for crude oil may also be impacted by changes in interest rates, inflation, and other local or regional market conditions, as well as by the development of alternative energy sources.

*Price Volatility May Possibly Cause the Total Loss of Your Investment.* Futures contracts have a high degree of price variability and are subject to occasional rapid and substantial changes. Consequently, you could lose all or substantially all of your investment in BNO.

### **Correlation Risk**

Investors purchasing shares to hedge against movements in the price of crude oil will have an efficient hedge only if the price investors pay for their shares closely correlates with the price of crude oil. Investing in BNO's shares for hedging purposes involves the following risks:

The market price at which the investor buys or sells shares may be significantly less or more than NAV. Daily percentage changes in NAV may not closely correlate with daily percentage changes in the price of the Benchmark Futures Contract.

Daily percentage changes in the prices of the Benchmark Futures Contract may not closely correlate with daily percentage changes in the price of Brent crude oil.

The market price at which investors buy or sell shares may be significantly less or more than NAV.

BNO's NAV per share will change throughout the day as fluctuations occur in the market value of BNO's portfolio investments. The public trading price at which an investor buys or sells shares during the day from their broker may be different from the NAV of the shares. Price differences may relate primarily to supply and demand forces at work in the secondary trading market for shares that are closely related to, but not identical to, the same forces influencing the prices of the Brent crude oil and the Benchmark Futures Contract at any point in time. USCF expects that exploitation of certain arbitrage opportunities by Authorized Participants and their clients and customers will tend to cause the public trading price to track NAV per share closely over time, but there can be no assurance of that.

The NAV of BNO's shares may also be influenced by non-concurrent trading hours between the NYSE Arca and the various futures exchanges on which crude oil is traded. While the shares trade on the NYSE Arca from 9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Eastern Time, the trading hours for the futures exchanges on which Brent crude oil trade may not necessarily coincide during all of this time. For example, while the shares trade on the NYSE Arca until 4:00 p.m. Eastern Time, liquidity in the global light sweet crude market will be reduced after the close of the NYMEX at 2:30 p.m. Eastern Time. As a result, during periods when the NYSE Arca is open and the futures exchanges on which Brent crude oil is traded are closed, trading spreads and the resulting premium or discount on the shares may widen and, therefore, increase the difference between the price of the shares and the NAV of the shares.

### Daily percentage changes in BNO's NAV may not correlate with daily percentage changes in the price of the Benchmark Futures Contract.

It is possible that the daily percentage changes in BNO's NAV per share may not closely correlate to daily percentage changes in the price of the Benchmark Futures Contract. Non-correlation may be attributable to disruptions in the market for Brent crude oil, the imposition of position or accountability limits by regulators or exchanges, or other extraordinary circumstances. As BNO approaches or reaches position limits with respect to the Benchmark Futures Contract and other Futures Contracts or in view of market conditions, BNO may begin investing in Other Crude Oil-Related Investments. In addition, BNO is not able to replicate exactly the changes in the price of the Benchmark Futures Futures Contract because the total return generated by BNO is reduced by expenses and transaction costs, including those incurred in connection with BNO's trading activities, and increased by interest income from BNO's holdings of Treasuries (defined below). Tracking the Benchmark Futures Contract requires trading of BNO's portfolio with a view

to tracking the Benchmark Futures Contract over time and is dependent upon the skills of USCF and its trading principals, among other factors.

### Daily percentage changes in the price of the Benchmark Futures Contract may not correlate with daily percentage changes in the spot price of Brent crude oil.

The correlation between changes in prices of the Benchmark Futures Contract and the spot price of Brent crude oil may at times be only approximate. The degree of imperfection of correlation depends upon circumstances such as variations in the speculative oil market, supply of and demand for Futures Contracts (including the Benchmark Futures Contract) and Other Crude Oil-Related Investments, and technical influences in oil futures trading.

### Natural forces in the oil futures market known as "backwardation" and "contango" may increase BNO's tracking error and/or negatively impact total return.

The design of BNO's Benchmark Futures Contract is such that every month it begins by using the near month contract to expire until the near month contract is within two weeks of expiration, when, over a four day period, it transitions to the next month contract to expire as its benchmark contract and keeps that contract as its benchmark until it becomes the near month contract and close to expiration. In the event of a Brent crude oil futures market where near month contracts trade at a higher price than next month to expire contracts, a situation described as "backwardation" in the futures market, then absent the impact of the overall movement in Brent crude oil prices the value of the benchmark contract would tend to rise as it approaches expiration. Conversely, in the event of a Brent crude oil futures market where near month contracts trade at a lower price than next month contracts, a situation described as "contango" in the futures market, then absent the impact of the overall movement in Brent crude oil prices the value of the benchmark contract would tend to decline as it approaches expiration. When compared to total return of other price indices, such as the spot price of Brent crude oil, the impact of backwardation and contango may cause the total return of BNO's per share NAV to vary significantly. Moreover, absent the impact of rising or falling oil prices, a prolonged period of contango could have a significant negative impact on BNO's per share NAV and total return and investors could lose part or all of their investment. See "Additional Information About BNO, its Investment Objective and Investments" for a discussion of the potential effects of contango and backwardation.

## Accountability levels, position limits, and daily price fluctuation limits set by the exchanges have the potential to cause tracking error, which could cause the price of shares to substantially vary from the price of the Benchmark Futures Contract.

Futures contracts include typical and significant characteristics. Most significantly, the CFTC and U.S. designated contract markets, such as the NYMEX and ICE Futures, have established accountability levels and position limits on the maximum net long or net short futures contracts in commodity interests that any person or group of persons under common trading control (other than as a hedge, which is not applicable to BNO's investments) may hold, own or control. The net position is the difference between an individual or firm's open long contracts and open short contracts in any one commodity. In addition, most U.S.-based futures exchanges limit the daily price fluctuation for futures contracts. Currently, the ICE Futures imposes position and accountability limits that are similar to those imposed by U.S.-based futures exchanges and also limits the maximum daily price fluctuation, while some other non-U.S. futures exchanges have not adopted such limits.

Position limits differ from accountability levels in that they represent fixed limits on the maximum number of futures contracts that any person may hold and cannot allow such limits to be exceeded without express CFTC authority to do so. In addition to accountability levels and position limits that may apply at any time, the Futures Exchanges may impose position limits on contracts held in the last few days of trading in the near month contract to expire. It is unlikely that BNO will run up against such position limits. BNO does not typically hold the near month contract in its Benchmark Futures Contracts. In addition, BNO's investment strategy is to close out its positions during each rebalancing period in advance of the period right before expiration and purchase new contracts. As such, BNO does not anticipate that position limits that apply to the last few days prior to a contract's expiration will impact it. For the year ended December 31, 2015, BNO did not exceed position limits imposed by the NYMEX or ICE Futures.

The CFTC has proposed to adopt limits on speculative positions in 28 physical commodity futures and option contracts and swaps that are economically equivalent to such contracts in the agriculture, energy and metals markets and rules addressing the circumstances under which market participants would be required to aggregate their positions with other persons under common ownership or control (the "Position Limit Rules"). The Position Limit Rules, as proposed, would apply to the futures contracts that BNO invests in to meet its investment objective. The Position Limit Rules would, among other things: identify which contracts are subject to speculative position limits; set thresholds that restrict the number of speculative positions that a person may hold in a spot month, individual month,

and all months combined; create an exemption for positions that constitute *bona fide* hedging transactions; impose responsibilities on designated contract markets ("DCMs") and swap execution facilities ("SEFs") to establish position limits or, in some cases, position accountability rules; and apply to both futures and swaps across four relevant venues: OTC, DCMs, SEFs as well as non-U.S. located platforms. The CFTC's first attempt at finalizing the Position Limit Rules, in 2011, was successfully challenged by market participants in 2012 and, since then, the CFTC has re-proposed them and solicited comments from market participants multiple times.

Until such time as the Position Limit Rules are adopted, the regulatory architecture in effect prior to the adoption of the Position Limit Rules will govern transactions in commodities and related derivatives (collectively, "Referenced Contracts"). Under that system, the CFTC enforces federal limits on speculation in agricultural products (e.g., corn, wheat and soy), while futures exchanges enforce position limits and accountability levels for agricultural and certain energy products (e.g., oil and natural gas). As a result, BNO may be limited with respect to the size of its investments in any commodity subject to these limits. Finally, subject to certain narrow exceptions, the Position Limit Rules require the aggregation, for purposes of the position limits, of all positions in the 28 Referenced Contracts held by a single entity and its affiliates, regardless of whether such position existed on U.S. futures exchanges, non-U.S. futures exchanges, in cleared swaps or in OTC swaps. Under the CFTC's existing position limits requirements and the Position Limit Rules, a market participant is generally required to aggregate all positions for which that participant controls the trading decisions with all positions for which that participant has a 10 percent or greater ownership interest in an account or position, as well as the positions of two or more persons acting pursuant to an express or implied agreement or understanding. At this time, it is unclear how the Position Limit Rules may affect BNO, but the effect may be substantial and adverse. By way of example, the Proposed Aggregation Requirements in combination with the Position Limit Rules may negatively impact the ability of BNO to meet its investment objective through limits that may inhibit USCF's ability to sell additional Creation Baskets of BNO.

All of these limits may potentially cause a tracking error between the price of BNO's shares and the price of the Benchmark Futures Contract. This may in turn prevent investors from being able to effectively use BNO as a way to hedge against crude oil-related losses or as a way to indirectly invest in crude oil.

BNO has not limited the size of its offering and is committed to utilizing substantially all of its proceeds to purchase Futures Contracts and Other Crude Oil-Related Investments. If BNO encounters accountability levels, position limits, or price fluctuation limits for Futures Contracts on the NYMEX or ICE Futures, it may then, if permitted under applicable regulatory requirements, purchase Futures Contracts on other exchanges that trade listed crude oil futures or enter into swaps or other transactions to meet its investment objective. In addition, if BNO exceeds accountability levels on either the NYMEX or ICE Futures and is required by such exchanges to reduce its holdings, such reduction could potentially cause a tracking error between the price of BNO's shares and the price of the Benchmark Futures Contract.

### Tax Risk

### An investor's tax liability may exceed the amount of distributions, if any, on its shares.

Cash or property will be distributed at the sole discretion of USCF. USCF has not and does not currently intend to make cash or other distributions with respect to shares. Investors will be required to pay U.S. federal income tax and, in some cases, state, local, or foreign income tax, on their allocable share of BNO's taxable income, without regard to whether they receive distributions or the amount of any distributions. Therefore, the tax liability of an investor with respect to its shares may exceed the amount of cash or value of property (if any) distributed.

### An investor's allocable share of taxable income or loss may differ from its economic income or loss on its shares.

Due to the application of the assumptions and conventions applied by BNO in making allocations for tax purposes and other factors, an investor's allocable share of BNO's income, gain, deduction or loss may be different than its economic profit or loss from its shares for a taxable year. This difference could be temporary or permanent and, if permanent, could result in it being taxed on amounts in excess of its economic income.

Items of income, gain, deduction, loss and credit with respect to shares could be reallocated, and for taxable periods beginning after December 31, 2017, BNO could be liable for U.S. federal income tax, if the U.S. Internal Revenue Service ("IRS") does not accept the assumptions and conventions applied by BNO in allocating those items,

#### with potential adverse consequences for an investor.

The U.S. tax rules pertaining to partnerships are complex and their application to large, publicly traded partnerships such as BNO is in many respects uncertain. BNO applies certain assumptions and conventions in an attempt to comply with the intent of the applicable rules and to report taxable income, gains, deductions, losses and credits in a manner that properly reflects shareholders' economic gains and losses. These assumptions and conventions may not fully comply with all aspects of the Internal Revenue Code (the "Code") and applicable Treasury Regulations, however, and it is possible that the IRS will successfully challenge BNO's allocation methods and require BNO to reallocate items of income, gain, deduction, loss or credit in a manner that adversely affects investors. If this occurs, investors may be required to file an amended tax return and to pay additional taxes plus deficiency interest.

In addition, for periods beginning after December 31, 2017, BNO may be liable for U.S. federal income tax on any "imputed understatement" of tax resulting from an adjustment as a result of an IRS audit. The amount of the imputed understatement generally includes increases in allocations of items of income or gains to any investor and decreases in allocations of items of deduction, loss, or credit to any investor without any offset for any corresponding reductions in allocations of items of income or gain to any investor or increases in allocations of items of deduction, loss, or credit to any investor or increases in allocations of items of deduction, loss, or credit to any investor. If BNO is required to pay any U.S. federal income taxes on any imputed understatement, the resulting tax liability would reduce the net assets of BNO and would likely have an adverse impact on the value of the shares. Under certain circumstances, BNO may be eligible to make an election to cause the investors to take into account the amount of any imputed understatement, including any interest and penalties. The ability of a publicly traded partnership such as BNO to make this election is uncertain. If the election is made, BNO would be required to provide investors who owned beneficial interests in the shares in the year to which the adjusted allocations relate with a statement setting forth their proportionate shares of the adjustment ("Adjusted K-1s"). The investors would be required to take the adjustment into account in the taxable year in which the Adjusted K-1 is issued may be less favorable to the investor than if the adjustment were taken into account in the reviewed year.

### BNO could be treated as a corporation for federal income tax purposes, which may substantially reduce the value of the shares.

BNO has received an opinion of counsel that, under current U.S. federal income tax laws, BNO will be treated as a partnership that is not taxable as a corporation for U.S. federal income tax purposes, provided that (i) at least 90 percent of BNO's annual gross income will be derived from (x) income and gains from commodities (not held as inventory) or futures, forwards, options, swaps and other notional principal contracts with respect to commodities, and (y) interest income, (ii) BNO is organized and operated in accordance with its governing agreements and applicable law and (iii) BNO does not elect to be taxed as a corporation for federal income tax purposes. Although USCF anticipates that BNO has satisfied and will continue to satisfy the "qualifying income" requirement for all of its taxable years, that result cannot be assured. BNO has not requested and will not request any ruling from the IRS with respect to its classification as a partnership not taxable as a corporation for federal income tax purposes. If the IRS were to successfully assert that BNO is taxable as a corporate tax rates. In addition, although USCF does not currently intend to make distributions with respect to shares, any distributions would be taxable to shareholders as dividend income. Taxation of BNO as a corporation could materially reduce the after-tax return on an investment in shares and could substantially reduce the value of the shares.

### BNO is organized and operated as a limited partnership in accordance with the provisions of the LP Agreement and applicable state law, and therefore, BNO has a more complex tax treatment than traditional mutual funds.

BNO is organized and operated as a limited partnership in accordance with the provisions of the LP Agreement and applicable state law. No U.S. federal income tax is paid by BNO on its income. Instead, BNO will furnish shareholders each year with tax information on IRS Schedule K-1 (Form 1065) and each U.S. shareholder is required to report on its U.S. federal income tax return its allocable share of the income, gain, loss and deduction of BNO.

This must be reported without regard to the amount (if any) of cash or property the shareholder receives as a distribution from BNO during the taxable year. A shareholder, therefore, may be allocated income or gain by BNO but receive no cash distribution with which to pay the tax liability resulting from the allocation, or may receive a distribution that is insufficient to pay such liability.

In addition to federal income taxes, shareholders may be subject to other taxes, such as state and local income taxes, unincorporated business taxes, business franchise taxes and estate, inheritance or intangible taxes that may be imposed

by the various jurisdictions in which BNO does business or owns property or where the shareholders reside. Although an analysis of those various taxes is not presented here, each prospective shareholder should consider their potential impact on its investment in BNO. It is each shareholder's responsibility to file the appropriate U.S. federal, state, local and foreign tax returns.

### If BNO is required to withhold tax with respect to any Non-U.S. shareholders, the cost of such withholding may be borne by all shareholders.

Under certain circumstances, BNO may be required to pay withholding tax with respect to allocations to Non-U.S. shareholders. Although the LP Agreement provides that any such withholding will be treated as being distributed to the Non-U.S. shareholder, BNO may not be able to cause the economic cost of such withholding to be borne by the Non-U.S. shareholder on whose behalf such amounts were withheld since it does not generally expect to make any distributions. Under such circumstances, the economic cost of the withholding may be borne by all shareholders, not just the shareholders on whose behalf such amounts were withheld. This could have a material impact on the value of the shares.

### **OTC Contract Risk**

### Currently, OTC transactions are subject to changing regulation.

A portion of BNO's assets may be used to trade OTC contracts, such as forward contracts or swap or spot contracts. OTC contracts are typically contracts traded on a principal-to-principal, non-cleared basis through dealer markets that are dominated by major money center and investment banks and other institutions. The markets for OTC contracts rely upon the integrity of market participants in lieu of the additional regulation imposed by the CFTC on participants in the futures markets. While certain regulations adopted over the past two years are intended to provide additional protections to participants in the OTC market, OTC contracts could expose BNO in certain circumstances to significant losses in the event of trading abuses or financial failure by participants. In addition, such regulations could impose new obligations on BNO. As an example, as a result of such new regulations, if BNO enters into certain interest rate and credit default swaps, such swaps will be required to be centrally cleared. Other types of swaps are expected to be required to be cleared in the future.

### BNO will be subject to credit risk with respect to counterparties to OTC contracts entered into by BNO or held by special purpose or structured vehicles.

BNO faces the risk of non-performance by the counterparties to the OTC contracts. Unlike in futures contracts, the counterparty to these contracts is generally a single bank or other financial institution, rather than a clearing organization backed by a group of financial institutions. As a result, there will be greater counterparty credit risk in these transactions. A counterparty may not be able to meet its obligations to BNO, in which case BNO could suffer significant losses on these contracts.

If a counterparty becomes bankrupt or otherwise fails to perform its obligations due to financial difficulties, BNO may experience significant delays in obtaining any recovery in a bankruptcy or other reorganization proceeding. BNO may obtain only limited recovery or may obtain no recovery in such circumstances.

### Valuing OTC derivatives may be less certain than actively traded financial instruments.

In general, valuing OTC derivatives is less certain than valuing actively traded financial instruments such as exchange traded futures contracts and securities or cleared swaps because the price and terms on which such OTC derivatives are entered into or can be terminated are individually negotiated, and those prices and terms may not reflect the best price or terms available from other sources. In addition, while market makers and dealers generally quote indicative prices or terms for entering into or terminating OTC contracts, they typically are not contractually obligated to do so, particularly if they are not a party to the transaction. As a result, it may be difficult to obtain an independent value for an outstanding OTC derivatives transaction.

### **Other Risks**

Certain of BNO's investments could be illiquid, which could cause large losses to investors at any time or from time to time.

Futures positions cannot always be liquidated at the desired price. It is difficult to execute a trade at a specific price when there is a relatively small volume of buy and sell orders in a market. A market disruption, such as a foreign government taking political actions that disrupt the market for its currency, its crude oil production or exports, or another major export, can also make it difficult to liquidate a position. Because both Futures Contracts and Other Crude Oil-Related Investments may be illiquid, BNO's Crude Oil Interests may be more difficult to liquidate at favorable prices in periods of illiquid markets and losses may be incurred during the period in which positions are being liquidated. The large size of the positions that BNO may acquire increases the risk of illiquidity both by making its positions more difficult to liquidate and by potentially increasing losses while trying to do so.

OTC contracts that are not subject to clearing may be even less marketable than futures contracts because they are not traded on an exchange, do not have uniform terms and conditions, and are entered into based upon the creditworthiness of the parties and the availability of credit support, such as collateral, and in general, they are not transferable without the consent of the counterparty. These conditions make such contracts less liquid than standardized futures contracts traded on a commodities exchange and could adversely impact BNO's ability to realize the full value of such contracts. In addition, even if collateral is used to reduce counterparty credit risk, sudden changes in the value of OTC transactions may leave a party open to financial risk due to a counterparty default since the collateral held may not cover a party's exposure on the transaction in such situations.

### BNO is not actively managed and tracks the Benchmark Futures Contract during periods in which the price of the Benchmark Futures Contract is flat or declining as well as when the price is rising.

BNO is not actively managed by conventional methods. Accordingly, if BNO's investments in Crude Oil Interests are declining in value, BNO will not close out such positions except in connection with paying the proceeds to an Authorized Participant upon the redemption of a basket or closing out futures positions in connection with the monthly change in the Benchmark Futures Contract. USCF will seek to cause the NAV of BNO's shares to track the Benchmark Futures Contract during periods in which its price is flat or declining as well as when the price is rising.

### The NYSE Arca may halt trading in BNO's shares, which would adversely impact an investor's ability to sell shares.

BNO's shares are listed for trading on the NYSE Arca under the market symbol "BNO." Trading in shares may be halted due to market conditions or, in light of NYSE Arca rules and procedures, for reasons that, in the view of the NYSE Arca, make trading in shares inadvisable. In addition, trading is subject to trading halts caused by extraordinary market volatility pursuant to "circuit breaker" rules that require trading to be halted for a specified period based on a specified market decline. Additionally, there can be no assurance that the requirements necessary to maintain the listing of BNO's shares will continue to be met or will remain unchanged.

The liquidity of the shares may also be affected by the withdrawal from participation of Authorized Participants, which could adversely affect the market price of the shares.

In the event that one or more Authorized Participants which have substantial interests in the shares withdraw from participation, the liquidity of the shares will likely decrease, which could adversely affect the market price of the shares and result in investors incurring a loss on their investment.

Shareholders that are not Authorized Participants may only purchase or sell their shares in secondary trading markets, and the conditions associated with trading in secondary markets may adversely affect investors' investment in the shares.

Only Authorized Participants may create or redeem Redemption Baskets. All other investors that desire to purchase or sell shares must do so through the NYSE Arca or in other markets, if any, in which the shares may be traded. Shares may trade at a premium or discount to NAV per share.

### The lack of an active trading market for BNO's shares may result in losses on an investor's investment in BNO at the time the investor sells the shares.

Although BNO's shares are listed and traded on the NYSE Arca, there can be no guarantee that an active trading market for the shares will be maintained. If an investor needs to sell shares at a time when no active trading market for them exists, the price the investor receives upon sale of the shares, assuming they were able to be sold, likely would be lower than if an active market existed.

### Limited partners may have limited liability in certain circumstances, including potentially having liability for the return of wrongful distributions.

Under Delaware law, a limited partner might be held liable for BNO's obligations as if it were a general partner if the limited partner participates in the control of the partnership's business and the persons who transact business with the partnership think the limited partner is the general partner.

A limited partner will not be liable for assessments in addition to its initial capital investment in any of BNO's shares. However, a limited partner may be required to repay to BNO any amounts wrongfully returned or distributed to it under some circumstances. Under Delaware law, BNO may not make a distribution to limited partners if the distribution causes BNO's liabilities (other than liabilities to partners on account of their partnership interests and nonrecourse liabilities) to exceed the fair value of BNO's assets. Delaware law provides that a limited partner who receives such a distribution and knew at the time of the distribution that the distribution violated the law will be liable to the limited partnership for the amount of the distribution for three years from the date of the distribution.

### USCF is leanly staffed and relies heavily on key personnel to manage BNO and other funds.

In managing and directing the day-to-day activities and affairs of BNO, USCF relies heavily on Messrs. John P. Love and Stuart P. Crumbaugh. If Messrs. Love or Crumbaugh were to leave or be unable to carry out their present responsibilities, it may have an adverse effect on the management of BNO. Furthermore, Messrs. Love or Crumbaugh are currently involved in the management of the Related Public Funds.

# The Sixth Amended and Restated Limited Liability Company Agreement of USCF (the "LLC Agreement") provides limited authority to the Non-Management Directors, and any Director of USCF may be removed by USCF's parent company, which is a closely-held private company where the majority of shares has historically been voted by one person.

USCF's Board of Directors currently consists of four Management Directors, each of whom are shareholders of USCF's parent, Wainwright Holdings, Inc. ("Wainwright"), and three Non-Management Directors, each of whom are considered independent for purposes of applicable NYSE Arca and SEC rules. Under USCF's LLC Agreement, the Non-Management Directors have only such authority as the Management Directors expressly confer upon them, which means that the Non-Management Directors may have less authority to control the actions of the Management Directors than is typically the case with the independent members of a company's Board of Directors. In addition, any Director may be removed by written consent of Wainwright, which is the sole member of USCF. Wainwright is a privately held company in which the majority of shares are held by or on behalf of Nicholas D. Gerber and his immediate family members (the "Gerber Family"). Historically, shares of Wainwright have been voted by, and on behalf of, the Gerber Family by Nicholas D. Gerber, and it is anticipated that such trend will continue in the future. Accordingly, although USCF is governed by the USCF Board of Directors, which consists of both Management Directors and Non-Management Directors, pursuant to the LLC Agreement, it is possible for Mr. Gerber to exercise his control of Wainwright to effect the removal of any Director (including the Non-Management Directors which comprise the Audit Committee) and to replace that Director with another Director. Having control in one person could have a negative impact on USCF and BNO, including their regulatory obligations.

### There is a risk that BNO will not earn trading gains sufficient to compensate for the fees and expenses that it must pay and as such BNO may not earn any profit.

BNO pays brokerage charges of approximately 0.08% of average total net assets based on brokerage fees of \$3.50 per buy or sell, management fees of 0.75% of NAV on its average net assets, and OTC spreads and extraordinary expenses (*e.g.*, subsequent offering expenses, other expenses not in the ordinary course of business, including the indemnification of any person against liabilities and obligations to the extent permitted by law and required under the LP Agreement and under agreements entered into by USCF on BNO's behalf and the bringing and defending of actions at law or in equity and otherwise engaging in the conduct of litigation and the incurring of legal expenses and the settlement of claims and litigation) that cannot be quantified.

These fees and expenses must be paid in all cases regardless of whether BNO's activities are profitable. Accordingly, BNO must earn trading gains sufficient to compensate for these fees and expenses before it can earn any profit.

### Regulation of the commodity interests and energy markets is extensive and constantly changing; future regulatory developments are impossible to predict but may significantly and adversely affect BNO.

The futures markets are subject to comprehensive statutes, regulations, and margin requirements. In addition, the CFTC and futures exchanges are authorized to take extraordinary actions in the event of a market emergency, including, for example, the retroactive implementation of speculative position limits or higher margin requirements, the establishment of daily price limits and the suspension of trading. Regulation of commodity interest transactions in the United States is a rapidly changing area of law and is subject to ongoing modification by governmental and

judicial action. Considerable regulatory attention has been focused on non-traditional investment pools that are publicly distributed in the United States. In addition, various national governments outside of the United States have expressed concern regarding the disruptive effects of speculative trading in the energy markets and the need to regulate the derivatives markets in general. The effect of any future regulatory change on BNO is impossible to predict, but it could be substantial and adverse.

### An investment in BNO may provide little or no diversification benefits. Thus, in a declining market, BNO may have no gains to offset losses from other investments, and an investor may suffer losses on an investment in BNO while incurring losses with respect to other asset classes.

Historically, Futures Contracts and Other Crude Oil-Related Investments have generally been non-correlated to the performance of other asset classes such as stocks and bonds. Non-correlation means that there is a low statistically valid relationship between the performance of futures and other commodity interest transactions, on the one hand, and stocks or bonds, on the other hand.

However, there can be no assurance that such non-correlation will continue during future periods. If, contrary to historic patterns, BNO's performance were to move in the same general direction as the financial markets, investors will obtain little or no diversification benefits from an investment in BNO's shares. In such a case, BNO may have no gains to offset losses from other investments, and investors may suffer losses on their investment in BNO at the same time they incur losses with respect to other investments.

Variables such as drought, floods, weather, embargoes, tariffs and other political events may have a larger impact on crude oil prices and crude oil-linked instruments, including Futures Contracts and Other Crude Oil-Related Investments, than on traditional securities. These additional variables may create additional investment risks that subject BNO's investments to greater volatility than investments in traditional securities.

Non-correlation should not be confused with negative correlation, where the performance of two asset classes would be opposite of each other. There is no historical evidence that the spot price of crude oil and prices of other financial assets, such as stocks and bonds, are negatively correlated. In the absence of negative correlation, BNO cannot be expected to be automatically profitable during unfavorable periods for the stock market, or vice versa.

### BNO is not a registered investment company so shareholders do not have the protections of the 1940 Act.

BNO is not an investment company subject to the 1940 Act. Accordingly, investors do not have the protections afforded by that statute, which, for example, requires investment companies to have a majority of disinterested directors and regulates the relationship between the investment company and its investment manager.

### Trading in international markets could expose BNO to credit and regulatory risk.

BNO invests primarily in Futures Contracts, a significant portion of which are traded on United States exchanges, including the NYMEX. However, a portion of BNO's trades may take place on markets and exchanges outside the United States. Some non-U.S. markets present risks because they are not subject to the same degree of regulation as their U.S. counterparts. Trading on such non-U.S. markets or exchanges presents risks because they are not subject to the same degree of regulation as their U.S. counterparts, including potentially different or diminished investor protections. In trading contracts denominated in currencies other than U.S. dollars, BNO is subject to the risk of adverse exchange-rate movements between the dollar and the functional currencies of such contracts. Additionally, trading on non-U.S. exchanges is subject to the risks presented by exchange controls, expropriation, increased tax burdens and exposure to local economic declines and political instability. An adverse development with respect to any of these variables could reduce the profit or increase the loss earned on trades in the affected international markets.

### BNO and USCF may have conflicts of interest, which may permit them to favor their own interests to the detriment of shareholders.

BNO is subject to actual and potential inherent conflicts involving USCF, various commodity futures brokers and Authorized Participants. USCF's officers, directors and employees do not devote their time exclusively to BNO. These persons are directors, officers or employees of other entities that may compete with BNO for their services, including the Related Public Funds. They could have a conflict between their responsibilities to BNO and to those other entities. As a result of these and other relationships, parties involved with BNO have a financial incentive to act in a manner other than in the best interests of BNO and the shareholders. USCF has not established any formal procedure to resolve conflicts of interest. Consequently, investors are dependent on the good faith of the respective parties subject to such conflicts of interest to resolve them equitably. Although USCF attempts to monitor these conflicts, it is extremely difficult, if not impossible, for USCF to ensure that these conflicts do not, in fact, result in adverse consequences to the shareholders.

BNO may also be subject to certain conflicts with respect to the Futures Commission Merchant ("FCM"), including, but not limited to, conflicts that result from receiving greater amounts of compensation from other clients, or purchasing opposite or competing positions on behalf of third party accounts traded through the FCM. In addition, USCF's principals, officers, directors or employees may trade futures and related contracts for their own account. A conflict of interest may exist if their trades are in the same markets and at the same time as BNO trades using the clearing broker to be used by BNO. A potential conflict also may occur if USCF's principals, officers, directors or employees trade their accounts more aggressively or take positions in their accounts which are opposite, or ahead of, the positions taken by BNO.

### BNO could terminate at any time and cause the liquidation and potential loss of an investor's investment and could upset the overall maturity and timing of an investor's investment portfolio.

BNO may terminate at any time, regardless of whether BNO has incurred losses, subject to the terms of the LP Agreement. In particular, unforeseen circumstances, including the adjudication of incompetence, bankruptcy, dissolution, or removal of USCF as the general partner of BNO could cause BNO to terminate unless a majority interest of the limited partners within 90 days of the event elects to continue the partnership and appoints a successor general partner, or the affirmative vote of a majority in interest of the limited partners subject to certain conditions. However, no level of losses will require USCF to terminate BNO. BNO's termination would cause the liquidation and potential loss of an investor's investment. Termination could also negatively affect the overall maturity and timing of an investor's investment portfolio.

### BNO does not expect to make cash distributions.

BNO has not previously made any cash distributions and intends to reinvest any realized gains in additional Crude Oil Interests rather than distributing cash to limited partners. Therefore, unlike mutual funds, commodity pools or other investment pools that actively manage their investments in an attempt to realize income and gains from their investing activities and distribute such income and gains to their investors, BNO generally does not expect to distribute cash to limited partners. An investor should not invest in BNO if the investor will need cash distributions from BNO to pay taxes on its share of income and gains of BNO, if any, or for any other reason. Nonetheless, although BNO does not intend to make cash distributions, the income earned from its investments held directly or posted as margin may reach levels that merit distribution, *e.g.*, at levels where such income is not necessary to support its underlying investments in Crude Oil Interests and investors adversely react to being taxed on such income without receiving distributions that could be used to pay such tax. If this income becomes significant then cash distributions may be made.

### An unanticipated number of redemption requests during a short period of time could have an adverse effect on BNO's NAV.

If a substantial number of requests for redemption of Redemption Baskets are received by BNO during a relatively short period of time, BNO may not be able to satisfy the requests from BNO's assets not committed to trading. As a consequence, it could be necessary to liquidate positions in BNO's trading positions before the time that the trading strategies would otherwise dictate liquidation.

### Money Market Reform

On July 23, 2014, the SEC adopted final rules to reform money market funds such that institutional prime money market funds will float their net asset value as well as impose rules such that all money market funds' boards of directors will be required to implement rules to discourage and prevent runs by investors through the use of redemption fees and gates. Money market funds have two years from the date of adoption to implement the reform. BNO currently invests in money market funds, as well as Treasuries with a maturity date of two years or less, as an investment for assets not used for margin or collateral in the Futures Contracts. It is unclear at this time what the impact of money market reform would have on BNO's ability to hedge risk, however, the imposition of a floating NAV could cause BNO to limit remaining assets solely to Treasuries and cash.

As the regulatory requirements are constantly evolving, it is difficult to predict the effect any regulatory changes may have on BNO.

### The failure or bankruptcy of a clearing broker could result in a substantial loss of BNO's assets and could impair BNO in its ability to execute trades.

In the event of the bankruptcy of a clearing broker or an Exchange's clearing house, BNO could be exposed to a risk of loss with respect to its assets that are posted as margin. If such a bankruptcy were to occur, BNO would be afforded the protections granted to customers of an FCM, and participants to transactions cleared through a clearing house,

under the United States Bankruptcy Code and applicable CFTC regulations. Such provisions generally provide for a pro rata distribution to customers of customer property held by the bankrupt FCM or an Exchange's clearing house if the customer property held by the FCM or the Exchange's clearing house is insufficient to satisfy all customer claims. In any case, there can be no assurance that these protections will be effective in allowing BNO to recover all, or even any, of the amounts it has deposited as margin.

On January 13, 2014, new regulations became effective relating to enhanced customer protections, risk management programs, internal monitoring and controls, capital and liquidity standards, customer disclosures and auditing and 20 examination programs for FCMs. There can be no assurance that the implementation of these regulations will prevent losses to, or not materially adversely affect, BNO or its investors.

Notwithstanding that BNO could sustain losses upon the failure or bankruptcy of its FCM, the majority of BNO's assets are held in Treasuries, cash and/or cash equivalents with the Custodian and would not be impacted by the bankruptcy of an FCM.

The failure or bankruptcy of BNO's Custodian could result in a substantial loss of BNO's assets.

The majority of BNO's assets are held in Treasuries, cash and/or cash equivalents with the Custodian. The insolvency of the Custodian could result in a complete loss of BNO's assets held by that Custodian, which, at any given time, would likely comprise a substantial portion of BNO's total assets.

### Third parties may infringe upon or otherwise violate intellectual property rights or assert that USCF has infringed or otherwise violated their intellectual property rights, which may result in significant costs and diverted attention.

It is possible that third parties might utilize BNO's intellectual property or technology, including the use of its business methods, trademarks and trading program software, without permission. USCF has a patent for BNO's business method and has registered its trademarks. BNO does not currently have any proprietary software. However, if it obtains proprietary software in the future, any unauthorized use of BNO's proprietary software and other technology could also adversely affect its competitive advantage. BNO may not have adequate resources to implement procedures for monitoring unauthorized uses of its patents, trademarks, proprietary software and other technology similar to that of USCF or claim that USCF has violated their intellectual property rights, including their copyrights, trademark rights, trade names, trade secrets and patent rights. As a result, USCF may have to litigate in the future to protect its trade secrets, determine the validity and scope of other parties' proprietary rights, defend itself against claims that it has infringed or otherwise violated other parties' rights, or defend itself against claims that its rights are invalid. Any litigation of this type, even if USCF is successful and regardless of the merits, may result in significant costs, divert its resources from BNO, or require it to change its proprietary software and other technology or enter into royalty or licensing agreements.

### Due to the increased use of technologies, intentional and unintentional cyber-attacks pose operational and information security risks.

With the increased use of technologies such as the Internet and the dependence on computer systems to perform necessary business functions, BNO is susceptible to operational and information security risks. In general, cyber incidents can result from deliberate attacks or unintentional events. Cyber-attacks include, but are not limited to, gaining unauthorized access to digital systems for purposes of misappropriating assets or sensitive information, corrupting data, or causing operational disruption. Cyber-attacks may also be carried out in a manner that does not require gaining unauthorized access, such as causing denial-of-service attacks on websites. Cyber security failures or breaches of BNO's clearing broker or third party service provider (including, but not limited to, index providers, the administrator and transfer agent, the custodian), have the ability to cause disruptions and impact business operations, potentially resulting in financial losses, the inability of BNO shareholders to transact business, violations of applicable privacy and other laws, regulatory fines, penalties, reputational damage, reimbursement or other compensation costs, and/or additional compliance costs.

In addition, substantial costs may be incurred in order to prevent any cyber incidents in the future. BNO and its shareholders could be negatively impacted as a result. While BNO has established business continuity plans, there are inherent limitations in such plans.

### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ABOUT BNO, ITS INVESTMENT OBJECTIVE AND INVESTMENTS

BNO is a Delaware limited partnership organized on September 2, 2009. It operates pursuant to the terms of the Third Amended and Restated Agreement of Limited Partnership dated as of March 1, 2013 (as amended from time to time, the "LP Agreement"), which grants full management control to USCF. The Limited Partnership Agreement is posted on BNO's website at *www.unitedstatescommodityfunds.com*. BNO maintains its main business office at 1999 Harrison Street, Suite 1530, Oakland, California 94612.

The net assets of BNO consist primarily of investments in Futures Contracts, and, to a lesser extent, in order to comply with regulatory requirements or in view of market conditions, Other Crude Oil-Related Investments. Market conditions that USCF currently anticipates could cause BNO to invest in Other Crude Oil-Related Investments include those allowing BNO to obtain greater liquidity or to execute transactions with more favorable pricing.

BNO invests substantially the entire amount of its assets in Futures Contracts while supporting such investments by holding the amounts of its margin, collateral and other requirements relating to these obligations in short-term obligations of the United states of two years or less ("Treasuries"), cash and cash equivalents. The daily holdings of BNO are available on BNO's website at *www.unitedstatescommodityfunds.com*.

BNO invests in Crude Oil Interests to the fullest extent possible without being leveraged or unable to satisfy its current or potential margin or collateral obligations with respect to its investments in Crude Oil Interests. In pursuing this objective, the primary focus of USCF, is the investment in Oil Futures Contracts and the management of BNO's investments in short-term Treasuries, cash and/or cash equivalents for margining purposes and as collateral.

BNO seeks to invest in a combination of Crude Oil Interests such that the daily changes in its NAV, measured in percentage terms, will closely track the daily changes in the price of the Benchmark Futures Contract, also measured in percentage terms. As a specific benchmark, USCF endeavors to place BNO's trades in Crude Oil Interests and otherwise manage BNO's investments so that "A" will be within plus/minus ten percent (10%) of "B", where:

A is the average daily percentage change in BNO's per share NAV for any period of 30 successive valuation days, *i.e.*, any NYSE Arca trading day as of which BNO calculates its per share NAV; and

B is the average daily percentage change in the price of the Benchmark Futures Contract over the same period. USCF believes that market arbitrage opportunities will cause the daily changes in BNO's share price on the NYSE Arca on a percentage basis to closely track daily changes in BNO's per share NAV. USCF further believes that the daily changes in BNO's NAV in percentage terms will closely track the daily changes in percentage terms in the Benchmark Futures Contract, less BNO's expenses.

The following two graphs demonstrate the correlation between the changes in the NAV of BNO and the changes in the Benchmark Futures Contract. The first graph exhibits the daily changes for the last 30 valuation days ended December 31, 2015; the second graph measures monthly changes from December 2010 through December 2015.

# \*PAST PERFORMANCE IS NOT NECESSARILY INDICATIVE OF FUTURE RESULTS

## \*PAST PERFORMANCE IS NOT NECESSARILY INDICATIVE OF FUTURE RESULTS

USCF employs a "neutral" investment strategy in order to track changes in the price of the Benchmark Futures Contract regardless of whether the price goes up or goes down. BNO's "neutral" investment strategy is designed to permit investors generally to purchase and sell BNO's shares for the purpose of investing indirectly in Brent crude oil in a cost-effective manner, and/or to permit participants in the oil or other industries to hedge the risk of losses in their Brent crude oil-related transactions. Accordingly, depending on the investment objective of an individual investor, the risks generally associated with investing in Brent crude oil and/or the risks involved in hedging may exist. In addition, an investment in BNO involves the risk that the daily changes in the price of BNO's shares, in percentage terms, will not accurately track the daily changes in the Benchmark Futures Contract, in percentage terms, will not closely correlate with daily changes in the spot prices of Brent crude oil, in percentage terms.

As an example, for the year ended December 31, 2015, the actual total return of BNO as measured by changes in its per share NAV was (45.42)%. This is based on an initial per share NAV of \$22.39 on December 31, 2014 and an ending per share NAV as of December 31, 2015 of \$12.22. During this time period, BNO made no distributions to its shareholders. However, if BNO's daily changes in its per share NAV had instead exactly tracked the changes in the daily total return of the Benchmark Futures Contract, BNO would have had an estimated per share NAV of \$12.32 as of December 31, 2015, for a total return over the relevant time period of (44.98)%. The difference between the actual per share NAV total return of BNO of (45.42)% and the expected total return based on the Benchmark Futures Contract of (44.98)% was an error over the time period of (0.44)%, which is to say that BNO's actual total return underperformed the benchmark result by that percentage. BNO incurs expenses primarily composed of the management fee, brokerage commissions for the buying and selling of futures contracts, and other expenses. The impact of these expenses tends to cause daily changes in the per share NAV of BNO to track slightly lower than daily changes in the price of the Benchmark Oil Futures Contract.

#### Impact of Contango and Backwardation on Total Returns

Contango and backwardation are natural market forces that have impacted the total return on an investment in BNO's shares during the past year relative to a hypothetical direct investment in crude oil. In the future, it is likely that the relationship between the market price of BNO's shares and the changes in the spot price of Brent crude oil will continue to be so impacted by contango and backwardation. (It is important to note that this comparison ignores the potential costs associated with physically owning and storing crude oil, which could be substantial.)

Several factors determine the total return from investing in a futures contract position. One factor that impacts the total return that will result from investing in near month futures contracts and "rolling" those contracts forward each month is the price relationship between the current near month contract and the next month contract. For example, if the price of the near month contract is higher than the next month contract (a situation referred to as "backwardation" in the futures market), then absent any other change there is a tendency for the price of a next month contract to rise in value as it becomes the near month contract (a situation referred to as "contango" in the futures market), then absent any other change there is a "contango" in the futures market), then absent any other contract to as "contango" in the futures market), then absent any other contract to as "contango" in the futures market), then absent any other contract to as "contango" in the futures market), then absent any other contract and approaches expiration. Conversely, if the price of a near month contract is lower than the next month contract (a situation referred to as "contango" in the futures market), then absent any other change there is a tendency for the price of a next month contract and approaches expiration.

As an example, assume that the price of crude oil for immediate delivery (the "spot" price), was \$50 per barrel, and the value of a position in the near month futures contract was also \$50. Over time, the price of the barrel of crude oil will fluctuate based on a number of market factors, including demand for oil relative to its supply. The value of the near month contract will likewise fluctuate in reaction to a number of market factors. If investors seek to maintain their position in a near month contract and not take delivery of the oil, every month they must sell their current near month contract as it approaches expiration and invest in the next month contract.

If the futures market is in backwardation, *e.g.*, when the price of crude oil futures contracts that expire later than the near month contract are lower than the near month contract's price, the investor would be buying a next month contract for a lower price than the current near month contract. Using the \$50 per barrel price above to represent the front month price, the price of the next month contract could be \$49 per barrel, that is, 2% cheaper than the front month contract. Hypothetically, and assuming no other changes to either prevailing crude oil prices or the price relationship between the spot price, the near month contract and the next month contract (and ignoring the impact of commission costs and the income earned on cash and/or cash equivalents), the value of the \$49 next month contract would rise as it approaches expiration and becomes the new near month contract with a price of \$50. In this example, the value of an investment in the second month contract would tend to rise faster than the spot price of crude oil, or fall slower. As a result, it would be possible in this hypothetical example for the spot price of crude oil to have risen 10% after some period of time, while the value of the investment in the second month futures contract would have risen 12%, assuming backwardation is large enough or enough time has elapsed. Similarly, the spot price of crude oil could have fallen 10% while the value of an investment in the futures contract could have fallen only 8%. Over time, if backwardation remained constant, the difference would continue to increase.

If the futures market is in contango, the investor would be buying a next month contract for a higher price than the current near month contract. Using again the \$50 per barrel price above to represent the front month price, the price of the next month contract could be \$51 per barrel, that is, 2% more expensive than the front month contract. Hypothetically, and assuming no other changes to either prevailing crude oil prices or the price relationship between the spot price, the near month contract and the next month contract (and ignoring the impact of commission costs and the income earned on cash and/or cash equivalents), the value of the next month contract would fall as it approaches expiration and becomes the new near month contract with a price of \$50. In this example, it would mean that the value of an investment in the second month would tend to rise slower than the spot price of crude oil, or fall faster. As a result, it would be possible in this hypothetical example for the spot price of crude oil to have risen 10% after some period of time, while the value of the investment in the second month futures contract will have risen only 8%, assuming contango is large enough or enough time has elapsed. Similarly, the spot price of crude oil could have fallen 10% while the value of an investment in the second month futures contract could have fallen 12%. Over time, if contango remained constant, the difference would continue to increase.

The chart below compares the price of the near month contract to the average price of the near 12-month contracts over the last 10 years. When the price of the near month contract is higher than the average price of the near 12 month contracts, the market would be described as being in backwardation. When the price of the near month contract is lower than the average price of the near 12 month contracts, the market would be described as being in contango. Although the prices of the near month contract and the average price of the near 12 month contracts do tend to move up or down together, it can be seen that at times the near month prices are clearly higher than the average price of the near 12 month contracts (backwardation), and other times they are below the average price of the near 12 month contracts (contango).

## \*PAST PERFORMANCE IS NOT NECESSARILY INDICATIVE OF FUTURE RESULTS

An alternative way to view the same data is to subtract from the dollar price of the near month contract the average dollar price of the near 12-months contracts for Brent crude oil. If the resulting number is a positive number, then the near month price is higher than the average price of the near 12-months contracts and the market could be described as being in backwardation. If the resulting number is a negative number, then the near month price is lower than the average price of the near 12-months contracts and the market could be described as being in contango. The chart below shows the results from subtracting the average dollar price of the near 12-month contracts from the near month price for the 10 year period between December 31, 2005 and December 31, 2015. Investors will note that the crude oil market spent time in both backwardation and contango.

## \*PAST PERFORMANCE IS NOT NECESSARILY INDICATIVE OF FUTURE RESULTS

Historically, the crude oil futures markets have experienced periods of contango and backwardation, with backwardation being in place roughly as often as contango since oil futures trading started in 1982. In recent years, U.S. crude oil markets experienced long periods of contango, while Brent crude oil moved into a state of backwardation in 2011. Following the global financial crisis in the fourth quarter of 2008, the crude oil market moved into contango and remained in contango for a period of several years. During parts of 2009, the level of contango was unusually steep as a combination of slack U.S. and global demand for crude oil and issues involving the physical transportation and storage of crude oil at Cushing, Oklahoma, the primary pricing point for oil traded in the U.S., led to unusually high inventories of crude oil. A combination of improved transportation and storage capacity, along with growing demand for crude oil globally, moderated the inventory build-up and lead to reduced levels of contango by 2011. Due to a historic storage surplus, the Brent crude oil futures market was in a state of contango during the year ended December 31, 2015. Both WTI and Brent finished the year in a state of contango.

Periods of contango or backwardation do not materially impact BNO's investment objective of having the percentage changes in its per share NAV track the daily percentage changes in the price of the Benchmark Futures Contract since the impact of backwardation and contango tend to equally impact the daily percentage changes in price of both BNO's shares and the Benchmark Futures Contract. It is impossible to predict with any degree of certainty whether backwardation or contango will occur in the future. It is likely that both conditions will occur during different periods.

In managing BNO's assets, USCF does not use a technical trading system that issues buy and sell orders. USCF instead employs a quantitative methodology whereby each time a Creation Basket is sold, USCF purchases Crude Oil Interests, such as the Benchmark Futures Contract, that have an aggregate market value that approximates the amount of Treasuries and/or cash received upon the issuance of the Creation Basket.

The specific Futures Contracts purchased depend on various factors, including a judgment by USCF as to the appropriate diversification of BNO's investments in futures contracts with respect to the month of expiration, and the prevailing price volatility of particular contracts. While USCF has made significant investments in ICE Futures Contracts, for various reasons, including the ability to enter into the precise amount of exposure to the crude oil market, position limits or other regulatory requirements limiting BNO's holdings, and market conditions, it may invest in Futures Contracts traded on other exchanges or invest in Other Crude Oil-Related Investments. To the extent that BNO invests in Crude Oil Interests, it would prioritize investments in contracts and instruments that are economically equivalent to the Benchmark Futures Contract, including cleared swaps that satisfy such criteria, and then, to a lesser extent, it would invest in other types of cleared swaps and other contracts, instruments and non-cleared swaps, such as swaps in the over-the-counter market (or commonly referred to as the "OTC market"). If BNO is required by law or regulation, or by one of its regulators, including a futures exchange, to reduce its position in the Benchmark Futures Contracts to the applicable position limit or to a specified accountability level or if market conditions dictate it would be more appropriate to invest in Other Crude Oil-Related Investments, a substantial portion of BNO's assets could be invested in accordance with such priority in Other Crude Oil-Related Investments that are intended to replicate the return on the Benchmark Futures Contract. As BNO's assets reach higher levels, it is more likely to exceed position limits, accountability levels or other regulatory limits and, as a result, it is more likely that it will invest in accordance with such priority in Other Crude Oil-Related Investments at such higher levels. In addition, market conditions that USCF currently anticipates could cause BNO to invest in Other Crude Oil-Related Investments include those allowing BNO to obtain greater liquidity or to execute transactions with more favorable pricing. See "Risk Factors Involved with an Investment in BNO" for a discussion of the potential impact of regulation on BNO's ability to invest in OTC transactions and cleared swaps.

USCF may not be able to fully invest BNO's assets in Futures Contracts having an aggregate notional amount exactly equal to BNO's NAV. For example, as standardized contracts, the Futures Contracts are for a specified amount of a particular commodity, and BNO's NAV and the proceeds from the sale of a Creation Basket are unlikely to be an exact multiple of the amounts of those contracts. As a result, in such circumstances, BNO may be better able to achieve the exact amount of exposure to changes in price of the Benchmark Futures Contract through the use of Other Crude Oil-Related Investments, such as OTC contracts that have better correlation with changes in price of the Benchmark Futures Contract.

BNO anticipates that to the extent it invests in Futures Contracts other than contracts on Brent crude oil (such as futures contracts for diesel-heating oil, natural gas, and other petroleum-based fuels) and Other Crude Oil-Related Investments, it will enter into various non-exchange-traded derivative contracts to hedge the short-term price movements of such Crude Oil Interests against the current Benchmark Futures Contract.

USCF does not anticipate letting BNO's Futures Contracts expire and taking delivery of the underlying commodity. Instead, USCF closes existing positions, *e.g.*, when it changes the Benchmark Futures Contract or Other Crude Oil-Related Investments or it otherwise determines it would be appropriate to do so and reinvests the proceeds in new Futures Contracts or Other Crude Oil-Related Investments. Positions may also be closed out to meet orders for Redemption Baskets and in such case proceeds for such baskets will not be reinvested.

The Benchmark Futures Contract is changed from the near month contract to the next month contract over a four-day period. Each month the Benchmark Futures Contract changes starting at the end of the day on the date two weeks prior to expiration of the near month contract for that month. During the first three days of the period, the applicable value of the Benchmark Futures Contract is based on a combination of the near month contract and the next month

contract as follows: (1) day 1 consists of 75% of the then near month contract's price plus 25% of the price of the next month contract, divided by 75% of the near month contract's prior day's price plus 25% of the price of the next month contract, (2) day 2 consists of 50% of the then near month contract's price plus 50% of the price of the next month contract, divided by 50% of the near month contract's prior day's price plus 50% of the price of the next month contract and (3) day 3 consists of 25% of the then near month contract's price plus 75% of the price of the next month contract, divided by 25% of the near month contract's price plus 75% of the price of the next month contract, divided by 25% of the near month contract's price plus 75% of the price of the next month contract. On day 4, the Benchmark Futures Contract is the next month contract to expire at that time and that contract remains the Benchmark Futures Contract until the beginning of the following month's change in the Benchmark Futures Contract over a four-day period.

On each day during the four-day period, USCF anticipates it will "roll" BNO's positions in Crude Oil Interests by closing, or selling, a percentage of BNO's positions in Crude Oil Interests and reinvesting the proceeds from closing those positions in new Crude Oil Interests that reflect the change in the Benchmark Futures Contract.

The anticipated dates that the monthly four-day roll period will commence are posted on BNO's website at *www.unitedstatescommodityfunds.com*, and are subject to change without notice.

By remaining invested as fully as possible in Futures Contracts or Other Crude Oil-Related Investments, USCF believes that the daily changes in percentage terms in BNO's per share NAV will continue to closely track the daily changes in percentage terms in the price of the Benchmark Futures Contract. USCF believes that certain arbitrage opportunities result in the price of the shares traded on the NYSE Arca closely tracking the per share NAV of BNO. Additionally, Futures Contracts traded on the ICE Futures have closely tracked the spot price of Brent crude oil. Based on these expected interrelationships, USCF believes that the daily changes in the price of BNO's shares traded on the NYSE Arca on a percentage basis have closely tracked and will continue to closely track on a daily basis, the changes in the spot price of Brent crude oil on a percentage basis.

# What are the Trading Policies of BNO?

## Liquidity

BNO invests only in Futures Contracts and Other Crude Oil-Related Investments that, in the opinion of USCF, are traded in sufficient volume to permit the ready taking and liquidation of positions in these financial interests and in Other Crude Oil-Related Investments that, in the opinion of USCF may be readily liquidated with the original counterparty or through a third party assuming the position of BNO.

# Spot Commodities

While the Futures Contracts traded on the exchange can be physically settled, BNO does not intend to take or make physical delivery. BNO may from time to time trade in Other Crude Oil-Related Investments, including contracts based on the spot price of Brent crude oil.

# Leverage

USCF endeavors to have the value of BNO's Treasuries, cash and cash equivalents, whether held by BNO or posted as margin or other collateral, at all times approximate the aggregate market value of its obligations under its Futures Contracts and Other Crude Oil-Related Investments. Commodity pools' trading positions in futures contracts or other related investments are typically required to be secured by the deposit of margin funds that represent only a small percentage of a futures contract's (or other commodity interest's) entire market value. While USCF has not and does not intend to leverage BNO's assets, it is not prohibited from doing so under the LP Agreement.

# Borrowings

Borrowings are not used by BNO unless BNO is required to borrow money in the event of physical delivery, if BNO trades in cash commodities, or for short-term needs created by unexpected redemptions.

# OTC Derivatives (Including Spreads and Straddles)

In addition to Futures Contracts, there are also a number of listed options on the Futures Contracts on the principal futures exchanges. These contracts offer investors and hedgers another set of financial vehicles to use in managing exposure to the crude oil market. Consequently, BNO may purchase options on crude oil Futures Contracts on these exchanges in pursuing its investment objective.

In addition to the Futures Contracts and options on the Futures Contracts, there also exists an active non-exchange-traded market in derivatives tied to crude oil. These derivatives transactions (also known as OTC

contracts) are usually entered into between two parties in private contracts. Unlike most of the exchange-traded Futures Contracts or exchange-traded options on the Futures Contracts, each party to such contract bears the credit risk of the other party, *i.e.*, the risk that the other party may not be able to perform its obligations under its contract.

To reduce the credit risk that arises in connection with such contracts, BNO will generally enter into an agreement with each counterparty based on the Master Agreement published by the International Swaps and Derivatives Association, Inc. ("ISDA") that provides for the netting of its overall exposure to its counterparty.

USCF assesses or reviews, as appropriate, the creditworthiness of each potential or existing counterparty to an OTC contract pursuant to guidelines approved by USCF's Board.

BNO may enter into certain transactions where an OTC component is exchanged for a corresponding futures contract ("Exchange for Related Position" or "EFRP" transactions). In the most common type of EFRP transaction entered into by BNO, the OTC component is the purchase or sale of one or more baskets of BNO shares. These EFRP transactions may expose BNO to counterparty risk during the interim period between the execution of the OTC component and the exchange for a corresponding futures contract. Generally, the counterparty risk from the EFRP transaction will exist only on the day of execution.

BNO may employ spreads or straddles in its trading to mitigate the differences in its investment portfolio and its goal of tracking the price of the Benchmark Futures Contract. BNO would use a spread when it chooses to take simultaneous long and short positions in futures written on the same underlying asset, but with different delivery months.

During the period ended December 31, 2015, BNO has limited its derivatives activities to Futures Contracts and EFRP Transactions. During the year 2014, BNO engaged 100% in trading in futures contracts listed on a foreign exchange, the ICE Futures. However, BNO did not engage in trading in forward contracts, including options on such contracts. BNO anticipates continuing to engage in trading in futures contracts listed on the ICE Futures exchange, however BNO does not anticipate trading in forward contracts or options on such contracts, but it may do so as outlined in BNO's listing exemptive order or as permitted under current regulations.

## Pyramiding

BNO has not and will not employ the technique, commonly known as pyramiding, in which the speculator uses unrealized profits on existing positions as variation margin for the purchase or sale of additional positions in the same or another commodity interest.

## **Prior Performance of BNO**

## \*PAST PERFORMANCE IS NOT NECESSARILY INDICATIVE OF FUTURE RESULTS

USCF manages BNO which is a commodity pool that issues shares traded on the NYSE Arca. The chart below shows, as of December 31, 2015, the number of Authorized Participants, the total number of baskets created and redeemed since inception and the number of outstanding shares for BNO.

# of Authorized			
Participants	<b>Baskets Purchased</b>	<b>Baskets Redeemed</b>	<b>Outstanding Shares</b>
9	315	180	6,750,000

Since the commencement of the offering of BNO shares to the public on June 2, 2010 to December 31, 2015, the inverse of the simple daily change in the Benchmark Futures Contract was (0.032)%, while the simple average daily change in the per share NAV of BNO over the same time period was (0.035)%. The average daily difference was (0.003)% (or (0.3) basis points, where 1 basis point equals 1/100 of 1%). As a percentage of the inverse of the daily movement of the benchmark futures contract, the average error in daily tracking by the per share NAV was (1.240)%, meaning that over this time period BNO's tracking error was within the plus or minus 10% range established as its benchmark tracking goal.

The table below shows the relationship between the trading prices of the shares and the daily NAV of BNO, since inception through December 31, 2015. The first row shows the average amount of the variation between BNO's closing market price and NAV, computed on a daily basis since inception, while the second and third rows depict the maximum daily amount of the end of day premiums and discounts to NAV since inception, on a percentage basis. USCF believes that maximum and minimum end of day premiums and discounts typically occur because trading in

the shares continues on the NYSE Arca until 4:00 p.m. New York time while regular trading in the benchmark futures contract on the NYMEX ceases at 2:30 p.m. New York time and the value of the relevant benchmark futures contract, for purposes of determining its end of day NAV, can be determined at that time.

	BNO
Average Difference	\$(0.03)
Max Premium %	5.46 %
Max Discount %	(3.13)%
22	

For more information on the performance of BNO, see the Performance Tables below.

#### \*PAST PERFORMANCE IS NOT NECESSARILY INDICATIVE OF FUTURE RESULTS

#### **COMPOSITE PERFORMANCE DATA FOR BNO**

Name of Commodity Pool: United States Brent Oil Fund, LP

Type of Commodity Pool: Exchange traded security

Inception of Trading: June 2, 2010

Aggregate Subscriptions (from inception through December 31, 2015): \$624,025,161

Total Net Assets as of December 31, 2015: \$82,492,110

NAV per Share as of December 31, 2015: \$12.22

Worst Monthly Percentage Draw-down: December 2014 (18.85)%

Worst Peak-to-Valley Draw-down: June 2014-November 2015 (43.56)%

Number of Shareholders (as of December 31, 2015): 8,461

Rates of Return*								
Month	2011	2012		2013	2014	2015		
January	6.61 %	3.64	%	5.02~%	(3.77	)% (9.38 )%		
February	10.42%	10.78	%	(2.86)%	3.04	% 15.87 %		
March	4.92 %	0.84	%	(0.41)%	(0.87	)% (12.89)%		
April	7.44 %	(2.36	)%	(6.87)%	0.28	% 18.75 %		
May	(7.17)%	(14.59	)%	(1.60)%	1.71	% (2.96 )%		
June	(3.40)%	(3.61	)%	1.93 %	3.26	% (4.11 )%		
July	3.94 %	7.50	%	5.94 %	(5.67	)% (18.60)%		
August	(1.55)%	10.61	%	6.69~%	(3.30	)% 2.39 %		
September	(9.85)%	(1.55	)%	(3.55)%	(8.82	)% (12.20)%		
October	8.51 %	(2.67	)%	1.18 %	(9.89	)% 1.09 %		
November	1.90 %	3.02	%	0.79~%	(18.83	3)% (11.47)%		
December	(2.65)%	0.65	%	1.34 %	(18.85	5)% (17.54)%		
Annual Rate of R								