Salt Global Listed Infrastructure Fund Fact Sheet – January 2026

Manager Profile

Salt is an active fund manager. Our investment philosophy centres on the belief that share markets have characteristics that lead to market inefficiencies that can be exploited over time to deliver superior risk-adjusted returns.

Fund Name Change

As of 13 June, the Salt Sustainable Global Listed Infrastructure Fund was renamed the Salt Global Listed Infrastructure Fund. There is no change to investment disciplines or approach; however, this aligns the fund better with current global regulatory trends

Investment Strategy

The Fund's investment objective is to outperform (after fees and expenses but before NZ tax) the total return of its benchmark, the FTSE Global Core Infrastructure 50/50 Net Tax Index on a rolling three-year basis. The Fund targets a portfolio of global infrastructure companies with sustainable total return potential and superior Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) credentials and factor scores with respect to the benchmark index.

Fund Facts at 31 January 2026

Benchmark	FTSE Global Core Infrastructure 50/50 Net Tax Index
Fund Assets	$146.7 million
Inception Date	18 August 2021
Underlying Manager	Cohen & Steers

Unit Price at 31 January 2026

Application	1.1759
Redemption	1.1711

Investment Guidelines

The guidelines for the Global Listed Infrastructure Fund are:

Global equities	95% – 100%
Cash	0% – 5%

Target investment Mix

The target investment mix for the Global Listed Infrastructure Fund is:

Global equities	100%

Fund Allocation at January 2026

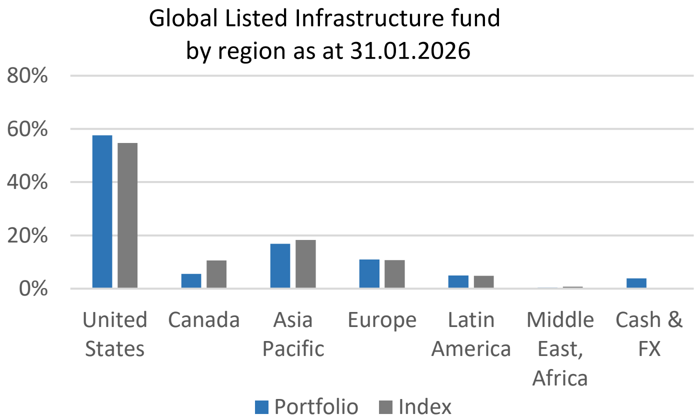
Global equities	96.1%
Cash & short-term, FX forwards (net)	3.9%

Fund Performance to 31 January 2026

Period	Fund Return	Active Return vs. benchmark
1 month	3.25%	+0.14%
3 month	4.75%	+0.78%
6 month	9.07%	+2.48%
1 year	16.20%	+2.74%
2 years p.a.	17.69%	+3.14%
3 years p.a.	10.30%	+1.85%
Since inception p.a.	8.38%	+2.27%

Performance is before fees and PIE tax and adjusted for imputation credits. Benchmark performance is gross.

Fund regional weightings as at 31 January 2026*



Largest holdings

Top 10 holdings	Sector	Top 10 holdings	Sector
NextEra Energy	Electric	Entergy	Electric
The Williams Companies	Midstream	CSX	Freight Rail
TC Energy	Midstream	National Grid (UK)	Electric
Union Pacific	Freight Rail	Sempra Energy	Gas Dist.
Intl. Container Term Services	Marine Ports	Grupo Aeroport. de Sur-B	Airports

The fund's top 10 holdings comprise 38.5% of the portfolio.

Source: Cohen & Steers Monthly Investment Report 31 January 2026

SALT FUNDS MANAGEMENT
Level 3, The Imperial Buildings, 44 Queen Street | PO Box 106-587, Auckland 1143
P: +64 9 967 7276 | E: info@saltfunds.co.nz | www.saltfunds.co.nz

Sustainability metrics (for information only)

Fund ESG Scores	Portfolio	Index
Cohen & Steers ESG score	6.55	6.46

Source: Cohen & Steers Investment Report, 31 January 2026

Market Review

The Salt Global Infrastructure Fund rose strongly in January, fully reversing the modestly-negative December return, as enthusiasm for electricity generation & the energy sector resumed. The Fund gained +3.25%% (before fees) and performed slightly ahead of its benchmark. For the year, the fund has produced a robust 16.20% return and outperformed by 2.7%. Concern about increasing risks to economic growth and heightened volatility amid US policy changes persist, but have not yet undermined broad equity markets. Infrastructure is resilient in times of slow-downs and is able to adjust to regulatory changes and shocks. Therefore, we consider it a more stable and reliable growth exposure.

- January was a volatile month for financial markets largely due to geo-political developments. The year started with a US intervention in Venezuela to remove President Maduro. This was followed by threats by President Trump to impose tariffs on European countries opposed to his takeover of Greenland. Tensions eased somewhat following meeting at the World Economic Forum in Davos.

- Despite the political noise, Developed Market equities ended the month up +2.3% (in USD) over the month on the back of better-than-expected activity data and soft inflation prints. The Global Aggregate bond index rose a more muted +0.9% (in USD) over the same period with yields rising due to the strong activity data, fiscal concerns and an intensification of political pressure on the US Federal Reserve by the Trump administration.

- Activity data was generally stronger than expected in the US with industrial production and retail sales coming in above expectations. And while non-farm payrolls came in below expectations, the unemployment rate fell to 4.4%. The combination of solid activity growth, an unemployment rate close to trend and inflation above target saw the US Federal Reserve leave interest rates unchanged at the end of the month after three consecutive 25bp cuts.

- Economic momentum across the European Union remained subdued, with weak industrial activity and only a tentative recovery in consumption. Inflation data supports the narrative of the European Central Bank being on hold for the foreseeable future.

- Japan saw a significant rise in bond yields during the month. Japan's already fragile fiscal position has been further challenged following Prime Minister Sanae Takaichi's decision to call a snap election (for February 8th) alongside pledges to cut food taxes for two years. The BoJ left interest rates unchanged over the month.

- China's annual average growth of +5.0% for the calendar year was in line with the official target, but there was a noticeable slowdown into the end of the year with the December quarter coming in at +4.5%, down from 4.8% in September. If the Chinese leadership intends announcing a GDP target of 4.5% for 2026 at the upcoming National People's Congress in March, more stimulus will be required, particularly targeted at domestic demand.

- Inflation data continued to surprise to the upside over the month in Australia. That combined with labour market data showing a sharp fall in the unemployment rate to 4.1% had markets pricing a 75% chance of an interest rate hike at the RBA's February meeting.

- Strong activity data and a higher-than-expected inflation print in New Zealand has seen markets bring forward expectations of the start of the next interest rate hiking cycle. Markets now see the first full 25bp hike in September and a total of two hikes by the end of the year. This compares with latest RBNZ projections of a first hike in February 2027.

Portfolio Review January 2026

Listed infrastructure advanced in January, outperforming global equities. Markets were broadly resilient, although a complex mix of geopolitical and trade-related risks—partly driven by U.S. foreign policy—added to global uncertainty. Emerging markets had a strong month, surpassing their developed peers, aided by a softer U.S. dollar.

The Federal Reserve left its benchmark policy rate unchanged amid above-trend economic growth and moderating inflation. The 10-year U.S. Treasury yield finished higher amid questions about the new Chair's independence and future strategy.

Midstream energy was the top-performing subsector in January. High natural gas prices—stemming from extreme cold weather and short-term supply disruptions—bolstered sentiment. The sector also gained from rising structural gas demands tied to liquefied natural gas (LNG) exports and data centre power requirements. Marine ports lagged as shares of an Indian port operator—the largest subsector constituent—faced pressure following renewed regulatory scrutiny.

Railways underperformed amidst mixed fourth quarter earnings updates. Regulated utilities showed solid performance, with water and electric utilities leading the way. Within water, U.K. utilities outperformed after the release of the government's "A New Vision for Water" policy framework. The framework appears beneficial for investors relative to expectations. U.S. water utilities, however, pulled back as earlier gains faded.

Among electric utilities, sustained demand from AI data centres underpinned performance. Gas distribution trailed, largely due to wildfire litigation concerns surrounding a key subsector constituent. Communications was the weakest-performing sector, with cell tower operators facing customer litigation. Satellite operators, meanwhile, fared relatively well.

Among passenger transportation sectors, airports performed best, but with regional divergence. Strong traffic expectations lifted a Spanish operator, while Mexican airports benefited from a stable regulatory backdrop and optimism around improving traffic growth. Indian airports underperformed amid weak local markets and new health-related screening across parts of Asia. Toll roads slightly trailed the benchmark, though Brazilian operators demonstrated relative outperformance in line with broader emerging market strength.

Portfolio performance

The portfolio had a positive total return for the month and performed in line with its benchmark index over the period. It was ahead of benchmark for the three-month period, and for the full year to January.

Key contributors

• **Stock selection in marine ports:** Having no exposure to Adani Ports, an Indian port operator, helped relative performance. The stock fell sharply following reports of a U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission investigation into senior executives, compounded by broader weakness in Indian equities. We remain concerned about corporate governance issues at the company.

• **Stock selection in midstream energy:** The portfolio's overweight investment in The Williams Companies, a leading U.S. natural gas pipeline operator, proved beneficial as higher natural gas prices provided a supportive backdrop. With its large-scale pipeline expansions underway, and growing investments in gas-fired power infrastructure for data centres, we believe the company is well positioned to capitalize on steadily growing gas demand.

• **Stock selection in electric utilities:** An out-of-benchmark holding in RWE, a German power producer, outperformed as colder weather lifted European gas prices. Progress in renewables—including a strategic partnership with private investor KKR to build and operate two wind farms off the British coast to power three million homes, and a long-term renewables power purchase agreement with Global Switch, a U.K.-based data centre—also strengthened cash flow visibility. We continue to favour the stock given the attractive environment for power generators.

Key detractors

• **Stock selection in gas distribution:** An overweight investment in Southern California–based utility Sempra Energy detracted. The stock was pressured by a lawsuit against Southern California Gas, a company subsidiary, in relation to wildfires in January 2025, alleging the subsidiary's gas system contributed to the fire's spread. The subsidiary carries substantial wildfire insurance and intends to defend themselves against the litigation.

• **Out-of-benchmark allocation to environmental services:** Our investment in Waste Connections, a North American environmental services company, detracted from performance. Analysts slightly lowered earnings expectations in R360 Environmental Solutions Canada, the company's energy-waste subsidiary. We believe the recent underperformance is overdone, as the company's revenue exposure related to this risk is limited, and overall earnings continue to be underpinned by pricing-led organic growth in the core solid waste business.

• Out-of-benchmark allocation to transport logistics: The portfolio's exposure to Qube logistics hurt relative performance. The stock underperformed after the company announced an extension to its exclusivity period with Macquarie Asset Management, prompting a more cautious stance on Macquarie's potential acquisition of Qube. A Transport Workers union strike by Qube drivers over wage demands and better working conditions also affected performance.

Investment Outlook (Cohen & Steers commentary)

We seek to maintain a generally balanced portfolio given the current market environment and the elevated level of geopolitical tension. Beyond geopolitical factors, government actions—such as direct involvement in infrastructure or trade measures—add uncertainty to market dynamics. The uncertainty premium being priced into the market is beneficial for infrastructure as an asset class, which provides predictability in environments of weaker economic growth and sticky inflation.

Given the many global crosscurrents, we favour higher-quality businesses that we believe can perform relatively well in this challenging growth environment.

We believe power demand is at a positive inflection point, driven by the growing relationship between power generation, grid reliability and rapid data centre expansion. Electric and gas infrastructure will be critical to support this demand, presenting significant investment opportunities within the asset class. However, we are also closely monitoring customer affordability and potential regulatory risks tied to elevated electricity prices.

As active investors, we believe we are well positioned to identify and capitalize on the diverse investment opportunities arising from macro uncertainty. We continue to evaluate a wide range of economic outcomes, currency fluctuations, rate outlooks, and growth trajectories that may result from country-specific policy actions. We are cautiously optimistic from an economic perspective, with monetary and fiscal policy expected to support the U.S. economy through at least the first half of the year, while remaining vigilant regarding inflation risks.