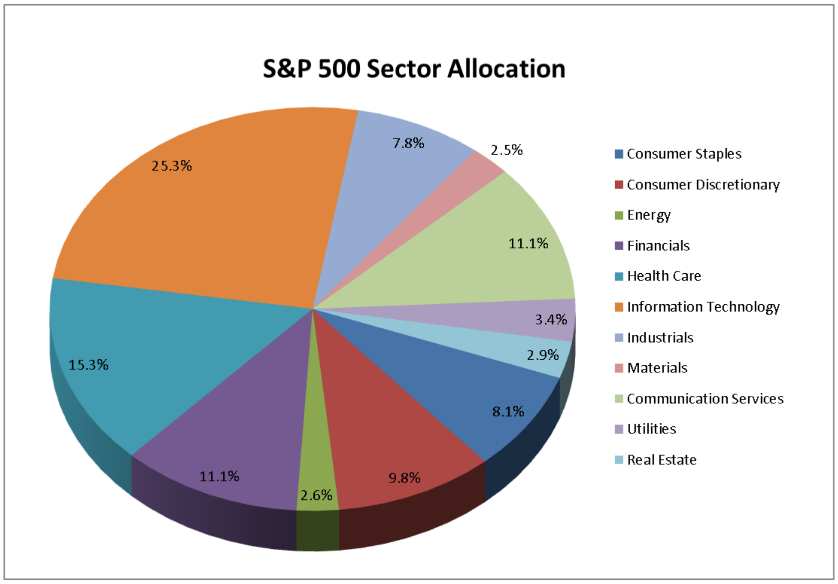
BetaShares

UMAX commentary –April 2020 (March Option Period)

Adviser Use Only



Source: Bloomberg, as of 20 March 2020

UMAX: ASX	
NAV per unit (March 20)	$ 17.6675
NAV per unit (February 21)	$ 22.3818

March Option Period Returns	
UMAX Total Return	-21.06%
S&P 500 Total Return	-21.54%
Over (Under) Performance	0.38%

March Options at Inception	
1-Mth Implied Vol.	14.2%
Portfolio Delta	-0.26
% Portfolio Written	96%

April Options at Inception	
1-Mth Implied Vol.	58.2%
Portfolio Delta	-0.26
% Portfolio Written	96%

Distribution Per Unit History (by ex-date)	
2 January 2020	$0.2889
1 October 2019	$0.2615
1 July 2019	$0.2826
1 April 2019	$0.3117

The UMAX total return was -21.06% between 21 February 2020 and 20 March 2020 (“March Option Period” or “March Period”). The S&P 500® Index (the “S&P 500” or “Index”) had a total return of -21.54%, in AUD terms, during the same March Period. The Index had one of its worst period returns ever during the March Period, the volatility of which exceeded that of the global financial crisis in 2008. With the Index making new highs at the beginning of the year, this was truly a sharp change in fortunes not dissimilar to the market crash of 1987. A rapid spread of the coronavirus globally led the World Health Organization to finally declare a global pandemic and force the rest of the world into lockdown, eight weeks after China was forced down the same path. With the expected economic impact of the lockdown to have a large negative impact on GDP for the first half of the year, shares in all sectors sold off. Of all the constituents in the Index, only six managed positive returns during the period. The VIX volatility Index ended the March Option Period dramatically higher at 66, almost a fourfold increase from the previous period. The new April 2020 options were written with approximately 96% coverage, 11.9% out-of-the money and to an initial portfolio delta of -0.20

Information Technology (Index weight: 25.3%)

The IT sector was not spared the overall market weakness, returning -28.2% during the March Period. Only one name managed to buck the trend, Citrix systems was one of the few shares to trade higher during the March Period. As a large part of the workforce was forced to work from home, remote access systems providers could benefit.

Financials (Index weight: 11.1%)

The Financials sector returned -38.7% during the March Period. That is tied for the worst performing sector this period. Banks will likely be negatively impacted by the large shock to the economy - credit losses are due to increase, while net interest margins come under pressure as the Federal Reserve quickly reduced interest rates to near zero. Insurance companies also stand to lose as their investment portfolios shrink with the market downturn, while also dealing with potential business interruption insurance claims.

<u>Real Estate</u> (Index weight: 2.9%)

The Real Estate sector returned -35% during the March Period. All 31 names in the sector traded lower. Much like the rest of the economy, investors worried that tenants would have trouble paying their rent. Credit risk could become a big issue for both residential and commercial REITs. REITs involved with malls and other commercial outlets suffered the most, as those businesses were ordered to shut down by the government.

<u>Healthcare</u> (Index weight: 15.3%)

The Healthcare sector returned -23.8% during the March Period. This was, despite the large loss, the second best performance in the Index. The sector had two stocks with positive returns: Gilead Sciences Inc. and Regeneron Pharma, both potentially benefiting from treating the current pandemic. Healthcare service stocks, however, fared more poorly as many clinics were shut down due to the non-essential nature of their services.

<u>Consumer Discretionary</u> (Index weight: 9.8%)

The Consumer Discretionary sector returned -31.0% during the March Period. Discretionary spending stands to be significantly impacted by the pandemic. Cruise companies fared the worst, as cruise ship activity is unlikely to return to normal anytime soon. Heavy debt loads and lost revenue sent Carnival Corp, Royal Caribbean Cruises and Norwegian Cruise Lines lower. All three stocks were down over -70% during the period.

<u>Industrials</u> (Index weight: 7.8%)

The Industrials sector returned -38.7% during the March Period. Airline names continued to be one of the worst performing sub-sectors, with most flights grounded due to the pandemic. Delta Air Lines ("DAL") and United Airlines Holdings ("UAL") retreated -63.1% and -68.6% in the period.

<u>Consumer Staples</u> (Index weight: 8.1%)

The Consumer Staples sector was the best performing sector in the Index, despite returning -22.3% during the March Period. As governments followed through with lockdowns, consumers stocked up on groceries and basic supplies. Kroger Co. ("KR"), owner of supermarket chains and convenient stores, traded 4.8% higher during the period.

<u>Energy</u> (Index weight: 2.6%)

The Energy sector was yet again the worst performing sector in the Index during the March Period, losing over half its value. The Energy sector continues to struggle as the pandemic has vastly reduced oil demand. Short-term WTI crude oil futures lost over -50% of their value during the period.

<u>Materials</u> (Index weight: 2.5%)

The Materials sector retreated by -32.9% during the March Period. All 28 stocks in the sector traded lower during the period.

<u>Communication Services</u> (Index weight: 11.1%)

The Communication Services was the second-best performing sector, returning -26.9% during the March Period. Netflix Inc. ("NFLX") was the top performing stock in the sector during the period. As the lockdown forces most people to be at home, Netflix may subsequently benefit from increased demand for streaming services.

<u>Utilities</u> (Index weight: 3.4%)

Even the Utilities sector, usually a safe haven during market volatility, underperformed the Index during the March Period, returning -32.4%.

The Fund's equity exposures continue to be obtained indirectly via its holding of one or more US-listed exchange traded funds.