

ISHARES GOLD TRUST  
Form 10-Q  
November 06, 2015  
[Table Of Contents](#)

---

---

**UNITED STATES**

**SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**

**Washington, D.C. 20549**

---

---

**FORM 10-Q**

---

---

**Quarterly report pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934  
For the quarterly period ended September 30, 2015**

**Transition report pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934  
For the transition period from \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_**

**Commission file number: 001-32418**

---

---

**iShares® Gold Trust**

**(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)**

---

---

**New York 81-6124036  
(State or other jurisdiction of (I.R.S. Employer  
incorporation or organization) Identification No.)**

**c/o iShares® Delaware Trust Sponsor LLC**

**400 Howard Street**

**San Francisco, California 94105**

**Attn: Product Management Team**

**iShares® Product Research & Development**

**(Address of principal executive offices)**

**(415) 670-2000**

**(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)**

---

N/A

**(Former name, former address and former fiscal year, if changed since last report)**

---

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant (1) has filed all reports required to be filed by Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to file such reports), and (2) has been subject to such filing requirements for the past 90 days. Yes No

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant has submitted electronically and posted on its corporate Web site, if any, every Interactive Data File required to be submitted and posted pursuant to Rule 405 of Regulation S-T (§232.405 of this chapter) during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to submit and post such files). Yes No

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.

Large accelerated filer

Accelerated filer

Non-accelerated filer

Smaller reporting company

(Do not check if a smaller reporting company)

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a shell company (as defined in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act).  
Yes No



Table Of Contents

**Table of Contents**

	<b><u>Page</u></b>
<b><u>PART I – FINANCIAL INFORMATION</u></b>	
Item 1. <u>Financial Statements (Unaudited)</u>	1
<u>Statements of Assets and Liabilities at September 30, 2015 and December 31, 2014</u>	1
<u>Statements of Operations for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2015 and 2014</u>	2
<u>Statements of Changes in Net Assets for the nine months ended September 30, 2015 and the year ended December 31, 2014</u>	3
<u>Statements of Cash Flows for the nine months ended September 30, 2015 and 2014</u>	4
<u>Schedule of Investments at September 30, 2015 and December 31, 2014</u>	5
<u>Notes to Financial Statements</u>	6
Item 2. <u>Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations</u>	10
Item 3. <u>Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk</u>	11
Item 4. <u>Controls and Procedures</u>	11
<b><u>PART II – OTHER INFORMATION</u></b>	
Item 1. <u>Legal Proceedings</u>	12
Item 1A. <u>Risk Factors</u>	12
Item 2. <u>Unregistered Sales of Equity Securities and Use of Proceeds</u>	13
Item 3. <u>Defaults Upon Senior Securities</u>	13
Item 4. <u>Mine Safety Disclosures</u>	13
Item 5. <u>Other Information</u>	13
Item 6. <u>Exhibits</u>	14
<b><u>SIGNATURES</u></b>	15



Table Of Contents**PART 1 – FINANCIAL INFORMATION****Item 1. Financial Statements****iShares® Gold Trust****Statements of Assets and Liabilities(a) (Unaudited)**

At September 30, 2015 and December 31, 2014

<b><u>(Dollar amounts in \$000's, except for per Share amounts)</u></b>	<b>September 30, 2015</b>	<b>December 31, 2014</b>
<b>Assets</b>		
Investment in gold bullion(b)	\$5,753,973	\$6,214,710
Total Assets	5,753,973	6,214,710
<b>Liabilities</b>		
Sponsor's fees payable	1,191	1,323
Total Liabilities	1,191	1,323
Commitments and contingent liabilities (Note 6)	—	—
<b>Net Assets</b>	<b>\$5,752,782</b>	<b>\$6,213,387</b>
Shares issued and outstanding(c)	534,650,000	535,400,000
Net asset value per Share (Note 2D)	\$10.76	\$11.61

---

(a) Previously reported as "Balance Sheets." Please refer to Note 2A.

(b) Cost of investment in gold bullion: \$6,238,712 and \$6,254,868, respectively.

(c) No par value, unlimited amount authorized.

*See notes to financial statements.*



Table Of Contents**iShares® Gold Trust****Statements of Operations(a) (Unaudited)**

For the three and nine months ended September 30, 2015 and 2014

<b><u>(Dollar amounts in \$000's, except for per Share amounts)</u></b>	<b>Three Months Ended September 30,</b>		<b>Nine Months Ended September 30,</b>	
	<b>2015</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2014</b>
<b>Expenses</b>				
Sponsor's fees	\$3,714	\$4,293	\$11,678	\$12,708
Total expenses	3,714	4,293	11,678	12,708
Net investment loss	(3,714	) (4,293	) (11,678	) (12,708
				)
<b>Net Realized and Unrealized Gain (Loss)</b>				
Net realized gain (loss) from:				
Investment in gold bullion sold to pay expenses	(256	) 293	(283	) 749
Gold bullion distributed for the redemption of Shares	(33,080	) 5,830	(33,416	) 15,012
Net realized gain (loss)	(33,336	) 6,123	(33,699	) 15,761
Net change in unrealized appreciation/depreciation	(280,316	) (529,525	) (444,581	) 48,807
Net realized and unrealized gain (loss)	(313,652	) (523,402	) (478,280	) 64,568
Net increase (decrease) in net assets resulting from operations	\$(317,366	) \$(527,695	) \$(489,958	) \$51,860
Net increase (decrease) in net assets per Share	\$(0.59	) \$(0.96	) \$(0.89	) \$0.10
Weighted-average Shares outstanding	541,303,261	548,120,652	547,987,363	544,528,205

---

(a) Previously reported as "Income Statements." Please refer to Note 2A.

*See notes to financial statements.*





Table Of Contents**iShares® Gold Trust****Statements of Changes in Net Assets(a) (Unaudited)**

For the nine months ended September 30, 2015 and the year ended December 31, 2014

	<b>Nine Months Ended</b>	<b>Year Ended</b>
<b>(Dollar amounts in \$000's)</b>	<b>September 30, 2015</b>	<b>December 31, 2014</b>
<b>Net Assets, Beginning of Period</b>	\$ 6,213,387	\$6,271,029
<b>Operations:</b>		
Net investment loss	(11,678	) (16,628 )
Net realized gain (loss)	(33,699	) 14,369
Net change in unrealized appreciation/depreciation	(444,581	) (40,158 )
Net decrease in net assets resulting from operations	(489,958	) (42,417 )
<b>Capital Share Transactions:</b>		
Contributions for Shares issued	628,701	590,757
Distributions for Shares redeemed	(599,348	) (605,982 )
Net increase (decrease) in net assets from capital share transactions	29,353	(15,225 )
Decrease in net assets	(460,605	) (57,642 )
<b>Net Assets, End of Period</b>	<b>\$ 5,752,782</b>	<b>\$6,213,387</b>
Shares issued and redeemed		
Shares issued	53,400,000	48,100,000
Shares redeemed	(54,150,000	) (50,700,000)
Net decrease in Shares issued and outstanding	(750,000	) (2,600,000 )

---

(a) Previously reported as "Statements of Changes in Shareholders' Equity (Deficit)." Please refer to Note 2A.

*See notes to financial statements.*



Table Of Contents**iShares® Gold Trust****Statements of Cash Flows (Unaudited)**

For the nine months ended September 30, 2015 and 2014

	<b>Nine Months Ended September 30,</b>	
	<b>2015</b>	<b>2014</b>
<b><u>(Dollar amounts in \$000's)</u></b>		
<b>Cash Flows from Operating Activities:</b>		
Proceeds from sales of investment in gold bullion sold to pay expenses	\$11,810	\$12,752
Expenses – Sponsor’s fees paid	(11,810 )	(12,752 )
Net cash provided by operating activities	—	—
Increase (decrease) in cash	—	—
Cash, beginning of period	—	—
Cash, end of period	\$—	\$—
<b>Reconciliation of Net Increase (Decrease) in Net Assets Resulting from Operations to Net Cash Provided by Operating Activities:</b>		
Net increase (decrease) in net assets resulting from operations	\$(489,958)	\$51,860
Adjustments to reconcile net increase (decrease) in net assets resulting from operations to net cash provided by operating activities:		
Proceeds from sales of investment in gold bullion sold to pay expenses	11,810	12,752
Net realized (gain) loss	33,699	(15,761 )
Net change in unrealized appreciation/depreciation	444,581	(48,807 )
Change in operating assets and liabilities:		
Sponsor’s fees payable	(132 )	(44 )
Net cash provided by operating activities	\$—	\$—
<b>Supplemental disclosure of non-cash information:</b>		
Gold bullion contributed for Shares issued	\$628,701	\$389,402
Gold bullion distributed for Shares redeemed	\$(599,348)	\$(360,752)

*See notes to financial statements.*

Table Of Contents**iShares® Gold Trust****Schedules of Investments (Unaudited)**

At September 30, 2015 and December 31, 2014

**(All balances in 000's, except percentage data)****September 30, 2015**

<b>Description</b>	<b>Ounces</b>	<b>Cost</b>	<b>Fair Value</b>
Gold bullion	5,165.1	\$6,238,712	\$5,753,973
Total Investment – 100.02%			5,753,973
Less Liabilities – (0.02)%			(1,191 )
Net Assets – 100.00%			\$5,752,782

**December 31, 2014**

<b>Description</b>	<b>Ounces</b>	<b>Cost</b>	<b>Fair Value</b>
Gold bullion	5,182.2	\$6,254,868	\$6,214,710
Total Investment – 100.02%			6,214,710
Less Liabilities – (0.02)%			(1,323 )
Net Assets – 100.00%			\$6,213,387

*See notes to financial statements.*

Table Of Contents

**iShares® Gold Trust**

**Notes to Financial Statements (Unaudited)**

September 30, 2015

**1 - Organization**

The iShares® Gold Trust (the “Trust”) was organized on January 21, 2005 as a New York trust. The trustee is The Bank of New York Mellon (the “Trustee”), which is responsible for the day-to-day administration of the Trust. The Trust’s sponsor is iShares® Delaware Trust Sponsor LLC, a Delaware limited liability company (the “Sponsor”). The Trust is governed by the Third Amended and Restated Depositary Trust Agreement (the “Trust Agreement”) executed by the Trustee and the Sponsor as of February 28, 2013. The Trust issues units of beneficial interest (or “Shares”) representing fractional undivided beneficial interests in its net assets.

The Trust seeks to reflect generally the performance of the price of gold. The Trust seeks to reflect such performance before payment of the Trust’s expenses and liabilities. The Trust is designed to provide a vehicle for investors to own interests in gold bullion.

The accompanying unaudited financial statements were prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (“U.S. GAAP”) for interim financial information and with the instructions for Form 10-Q and the rules and regulations of the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (the “SEC”). In the opinion of management, all material adjustments, consisting only of normal recurring adjustments considered necessary for a fair statement of the interim period financial statements have been made. Interim period results are not necessarily indicative of results for a full-year period. These financial statements and the notes thereto should be read in conjunction with the Trust’s financial statements included in its Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2014, as filed with the SEC on February 27, 2015.

The Trust qualifies as an investment company for accounting purposes and follows the accounting and reporting guidance under the Financial Accounting Standards Board Accounting Standards Codification Topic 946, *Financial Services – Investment Companies*, but is not registered, and is not required to be registered, as an investment company under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended.

**2 - Significant Accounting Policies**

*A. Basis of Accounting*

The following significant accounting policies are consistently followed by the Trust in the preparation of its financial statements in conformity with U.S. GAAP. The preparation of financial statements in conformity with U.S. GAAP requires management to make certain estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosures of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenue and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

Certain statements and captions in the financial statements for the prior year have been changed to conform to the current financial statement presentation. Certain amounts in the financial statements for the prior year have been reclassified to conform to the current financial statement presentation.

*B. Gold Bullion*

JPMorgan Chase Bank N.A., London branch (the “Custodian”), is responsible for the safekeeping of gold bullion owned by the Trust.

Gold bullion held by the Trust is valued at fair value, which is based on the price of gold determined in an auction hosted by ICE Benchmark Administration (the “IBA”) in the afternoon (London time), on each day that the London gold market is open for business, and announced by the London Bullion Market Association shortly thereafter (such price, the “LBMA Gold Price PM”). If there is no announced LBMA Gold Price PM on a business day, the Trustee is authorized to use the most recently announced price of gold determined in an auction hosted by the IBA in the morning (London time) of the day the valuation takes place (such price, the “LBMA Gold Price AM”). Prior to March 20, 2015, fair value of the gold bullion was based on the price of gold fixed in the afternoon of each working day (London time) by the London Gold Market Fixing Ltd. (such price, the “London PM Fix”). If there was no announced London PM Fix, the Trustee was authorized to use the most recently announced price fixed by the London Gold Market Fixing Ltd. in the morning (London time) of the day the valuation took place (such price, the “London AM Fix”).

Gain or loss on sales of gold bullion is calculated on a trade date basis using the average cost method.

Table Of Contents

The following tables summarize activity in gold bullion for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2015 and 2014 (all balances in 000's):

<b><u>Three Months Ended September 30, 2015</u></b>	<b>Ounces</b>	<b>Average Cost</b>	<b>Fair Value</b>	<b>Realized Gain (Loss)</b>
Beginning balance	5,394.6	\$6,521,548	\$6,317,125	\$—
Gold bullion contributed	88.9	101,982	101,982	—
Gold bullion distributed	(315.0 )	(380,733 )	(347,653 )	(33,080)
Gold bullion sold to pay expenses	(3.4 )	(4,085 )	(3,829 )	(256 )
Net realized loss	—	—	(33,336 )	—
Net change in unrealized appreciation/depreciation	—	—	(280,316 )	—
Ending balance	5,165.1	\$6,238,712	\$5,753,973	\$(33,336)

<b><u>Three Months Ended September 30, 2014</u></b>	<b>Ounces</b>	<b>Average Cost</b>	<b>Fair Value</b>	<b>Realized Gain (Loss)</b>
Beginning balance	5,297.3	\$6,387,552	\$6,965,884	\$—
Gold bullion contributed	69.8	91,225	91,225	—
Gold bullion distributed	(141.4 )	(170,668 )	(176,498 )	5,830
Gold bullion sold to pay expenses	(3.4 )	(4,028 )	(4,321 )	293
Net realized gain	—	—	6,123	—
Net change in unrealized appreciation/depreciation	—	—	(529,525 )	—
Ending balance	5,222.3	\$6,304,081	\$6,352,888	\$6,123

<b><u>Nine Months Ended September 30, 2015</u></b>	<b>Ounces</b>	<b>Average Cost</b>	<b>Fair Value</b>	<b>Realized Gain (Loss)</b>
Beginning balance	5,182.2	\$6,254,868	\$6,214,710	\$—
Gold bullion contributed	516.5	628,701	628,701	—
Gold bullion distributed	(523.5 )	(632,764 )	(599,348 )	(33,416)
Gold bullion sold to pay expenses	(10.1 )	(12,093 )	(11,810 )	(283 )
Net realized loss	—	—	(33,699 )	—
Net change in unrealized appreciation/depreciation	—	—	(444,581 )	—
Ending balance	5,165.1	\$6,238,712	\$5,753,973	\$(33,699)

<b><u>Nine Months Ended September 30, 2014</u></b>	<b>Ounces</b>	<b>Average Cost</b>	<b>Fair Value</b>	<b>Realized Gain (Loss)</b>
Beginning balance	5,220.5	\$6,272,422	\$6,272,422	\$—
Gold bullion contributed	298.6	389,402	389,402	—
Gold bullion distributed	(286.8 )	(345,740 )	(360,752 )	15,012



Edgar Filing: ISHARES GOLD TRUST - Form 10-Q

Gold bullion sold to pay expenses	(10.0 )	(12,003 )	(12,752 )	749
Net realized gain	—	—	15,761	—
Net change in unrealized appreciation/depreciation	—	—	48,807	—
Ending balance	5,222.3	\$6,304,081	\$6,352,888	\$ 15,761

*C. Calculation of Net Asset Value*

On each business day, as soon as practicable after 4:00 p.m. (New York time), the net asset value of the Trust is obtained by subtracting all accrued fees, expenses and other liabilities of the Trust from the fair value of the gold held by the Trust and other assets of the Trust. The Trustee computes the net asset value per Share by dividing the net asset value of the Trust by the number of Shares outstanding on the date the computation is made.

Table Of Contents

*D. Offering of the Shares*

Trust Shares are issued and redeemed continuously in aggregations of 50,000 Shares in exchange for gold bullion rather than cash. Individual investors cannot purchase or redeem Shares in direct transactions with the Trust. The Trust only transacts with registered broker-dealers that are eligible to settle securities transactions through the book-entry facilities of the Depository Trust Company and that have entered into a contractual arrangement with the Trust and the Sponsor governing, among other matters, the creation and redemption of Shares (such broker-dealers, the “Authorized Participants”). Holders of Shares of the Trust may redeem their Shares at any time acting through an Authorized Participant and in the prescribed aggregations of 50,000 Shares *provided*, that redemptions of Shares may be suspended during any period while regular trading on NYSE Arca, Inc. (“NYSE Arca”) is suspended or restricted, or in which an emergency exists as a result of which delivery, disposal or evaluation of gold is not reasonably practicable.

The per Share amount of gold exchanged for a purchase or redemption is calculated daily by the Trustee, using the LBMA Gold Price PM to calculate the gold amount in respect of any liabilities for which covering gold sales have not yet been made, and represents the per Share amount of gold held by the Trust, after giving effect to its liabilities, sales to cover expenses and liabilities and any losses that may have occurred. If there is no announced LBMA Gold Price PM on a business day, the Trustee is authorized to use the most recently announced LBMA Gold Price AM. Prior to March 20, 2015, the Trustee used the London PM Fix price to calculate the gold amount in respect of any liabilities for which covering gold sales had not yet been made. If there was no announced London PM Fix on a business day, the Trustee was authorized to use the most recently announced London AM Fix.

When gold bullion is exchanged in settlement of a redemption, it is considered a sale of gold bullion for accounting purposes.

*E. Federal Income Taxes*

The Trust is treated as a “grantor trust” for federal income tax purposes and, therefore, no provision for federal income taxes is required. Any interest, expenses, gains and losses are “passed through” to the holders of Shares of the Trust.

The Sponsor has reviewed the tax positions as of September 30, 2015 and has determined that no provision for income tax is required in the Trust’s financial statements.

**3 - Trust Expenses**

The Trust pays to the Sponsor a Sponsor's fee that accrues daily at an annualized rate equal to 0.25% of the net asset value of the Trust, paid monthly in arrears. The Sponsor has agreed to assume the following administrative and marketing expenses incurred by the Trust: the Trustee's fee, the Custodian's fee, NYSE Arca listing fees, SEC registration fees, printing and mailing costs, audit fees and expenses, and up to \$100,000 per annum in legal fees and expenses.

#### **4 - Related Parties**

The Sponsor and the Trustee are considered to be related parties to the Trust. The Trustee's fee is paid by the Sponsor and is not a separate expense of the Trust.

#### **5 - Indemnification**

The Trust Agreement provides that the Sponsor and its shareholders, directors, officers, employees, affiliates (as such term is defined under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended) and subsidiaries shall be indemnified from the Trust and held harmless against any loss, liability, or expense arising out of or in connection with the performance of their obligations under the Trust Agreement or any actions taken in accordance with the provisions of the Trust Agreement and incurred without their (1) negligence, bad faith or willful misconduct or (2) reckless disregard of their obligations and duties under the Trust Agreement.

The Trust has agreed to indemnify the Custodian for any loss incurred in connection with the custodian agreement, other than losses due to the Custodian's negligence, fraud or willful default.

#### **6 - Commitments and Contingent Liabilities**

In the normal course of business, the Trust may enter into contracts with service providers that contain general indemnification clauses. The Trust's maximum exposure under these arrangements is unknown as this would involve future claims that may be made against the Trust that have not yet occurred.

#### **7 - Concentration Risk**

Edgar Filing: ISHARES GOLD TRUST - Form 10-Q

Substantially all of the Trust's assets are holdings of gold bullion, which creates a concentration risk associated with fluctuations in the price of gold. Accordingly, a decline in the price of gold will have an adverse effect on the value of the Shares of the Trust. Factors that may have the effect of causing a decline in the price of gold include large sales by the official sector (governments, central banks, and related institutions), an increase in the hedging activities of gold producers, and changes in the attitude of speculators, investors and other market participants towards gold.

Table Of Contents**8 - Financial Highlights**

The following financial highlights relate to investment performance and operations for a Share outstanding for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2015 and 2014.

	<b>Three Months Ended September 30,</b>		<b>Nine Months Ended September 30,</b>	
	<b>2015</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2014</b>
Net asset value per Share, beginning of period	\$11.32	\$12.74	\$11.61	\$11.66
Net investment loss(a)	(0.01 )	(0.01 )	(0.02 )	(0.02 )
Net realized and unrealized gain (loss)(b)	(0.55 )	(0.95 )	(0.83 )	0.14
Net increase (decrease) in net assets from operations	(0.56 )	(0.96 )	(0.85 )	0.12
Net asset value per Share, end of period	\$10.76	\$11.78	\$10.76	\$11.78
Total return(c)(d)	(4.95 )%	(7.54 )%	(7.32 )%	1.03 %
Ratio to average net assets:				
Net investment loss(e)	(0.25 )%	(0.25 )%	(0.25 )%	(0.25 )%
Expenses(e)	0.25 %	0.25 %	0.25 %	0.25 %

---

(a) Based on average Shares outstanding during the period.

(b) The amounts reported for a Share outstanding may not accord with the change in aggregate gains and losses on investment for the period due to the timing of Trust Share transactions in relation to the fluctuating fair values of the Trust's underlying investment.

(c) Based on the change in net asset value of a Share during the period.

(d) Percentage is not annualized.

(e) Percentage is annualized.

**9 - Investment Valuation**

U.S. GAAP defines fair value as the price the Trust would receive to sell an asset or pay to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date. The Trust's policy is to value its investment

at fair value.

Various inputs are used in determining the fair value of assets and liabilities. Inputs may be based on independent market data (“observable inputs”) or they may be internally developed (“unobservable inputs”). These inputs are categorized into a disclosure hierarchy consisting of three broad levels for financial reporting purposes. The level of a value determined for an asset or liability within the fair value hierarchy is based on the lowest level of any input that is significant to the fair value measurement in its entirety. The three levels of the fair value hierarchy are as follows:

Level 1 – Unadjusted quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities;

Level 2 – Inputs other than quoted prices included within Level 1 that are observable for the asset or liability either directly or indirectly, including quoted prices for similar assets or liabilities in active markets, quoted prices for identical or similar assets or liabilities in markets that are not considered to be active, inputs other than quoted prices that are observable for the asset or liability, and inputs that are derived principally from or corroborated by observable market data by correlation or other means; and

Level 3 Unobservable inputs that are unobservable for the asset or liability, including the Trust’s assumptions used in determining the fair value of investments.

At September 30, 2015 and December 31, 2014, the value of the gold bullion held by the Trust is categorized as Level 1.

Table Of Contents

**Item 2. Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations**

*This information should be read in conjunction with the financial statements and notes to financial statements included in Item 1 of Part I of this Form 10-Q. The discussion and analysis that follows may contain statements that relate to future events or future performance. In some cases, such forward-looking statements can be identified by terminology such as “may,” “should,” “could,” “expect,” “plan,” “anticipate,” “believe,” “estimate,” “predict,” “potential” or the negative of these terms or other comparable terminology. Except as required by applicable disclosure laws, neither the Sponsor, nor any other person assumes responsibility for the accuracy or completeness of any forward-looking statements. Neither the Trust nor the Sponsor is under a duty to update any of the forward-looking statements to conform such statements to actual results or to a change in the Sponsor’s expectations or predictions.*

**Introduction**

The iShares® Gold Trust (the “Trust”) is a grantor trust formed under the laws of the State of New York. The Trust does not have any officers, directors, or employees, and is administered by The Bank of New York Mellon (the “Trustee”) acting as trustee pursuant to the Third Amended and Restated Depositary Trust Agreement (the “Trust Agreement”) between the Trustee and iShares® Delaware Trust Sponsor LLC, the sponsor of the Trust (the “Sponsor”). The Trust issues units of beneficial interest (or “Shares”) representing fractional undivided beneficial interests in its net assets. The assets of the Trust consist primarily of gold bullion held by a custodian as an agent of the Trust responsible only to the Trustee.

The Trust is a passive investment vehicle and seeks to reflect generally the performance of the price of gold. The Trust seeks to reflect such performance before payment of the Trust’s expenses and liabilities. The Trust does not engage in any activities designed to obtain a profit from, or ameliorate losses caused by, changes in the price of gold.

The Trust issues and redeems Shares only in exchange for gold, only in aggregations of 50,000 Shares or integral multiples thereof (each, a “Basket”), and only in transactions with registered broker-dealers that have previously entered into an agreement with the Trust governing the terms and conditions of such issuance (such broker-dealers, the “Authorized Participants”). A list of current Authorized Participants is available from the Sponsor or the Trustee.

Shares of the Trust trade on NYSE Arca, Inc. under the symbol “IAU.”

## **Valuation of Gold; Computation of Net Asset Value**

On each business day, as soon as practicable after 4:00 p.m. (New York time), the Trustee evaluates the gold held by the Trust and determines the net asset value of the Trust and the net asset value per Share. The Trustee values the gold held by the Trust using the price determined in an auction hosted by ICE Benchmark Administration (the "IBA") in the afternoon (London time) of the day the valuation takes place (such price, the "LBMA Gold Price PM"). If there is no announced LBMA Gold Price PM on a business day, the Trustee is authorized to use the most recently announced price of gold determined in an auction hosted by IBA in the morning (London time) of the day the valuation takes place (such price, the "LBMA Gold Price AM"). Having valued the gold held by the Trust, the Trustee then subtracts all accrued fees, expenses and other liabilities of the Trust from the value of the gold and other assets of the Trust. The result is the net asset value of the Trust. The Trustee computes the net asset value per Share by dividing the net asset value of the Trust by the number of Shares outstanding on the date the computation is made. Prior to March 20, 2015, the Trustee valued the gold held by the Trust using the announced price of gold fixed in the afternoon of each working day (London time) by the London Gold Market Fixing Ltd. (such price, the "London PM Fix"). If there was no announced London PM Fix, the Trustee was authorized to use the most recently announced price fixed by the London Gold Market Fixing Ltd. in the morning (London time) of the day the valuation took place (such price, the "London AM Fix").

## **Liquidity**

The Trust is not aware of any trends, demands, conditions or events that are reasonably likely to result in material changes to its liquidity needs. In exchange for a fee, the Sponsor has agreed to assume most of the expenses incurred by the Trust. As a result, the only ordinary expense of the Trust during the period covered by this report was the Sponsor's fee. The Trust's only source of liquidity is its sales of gold.

## **Critical Accounting Policies**

The financial statements and accompanying notes are prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. The preparation of these financial statements relies on estimates and assumptions that impact the Trust's financial position and results of operations. These estimates and assumptions affect the Trust's application of accounting policies. Below we describe the valuation of gold bullion, a critical accounting policy that we believe is important to understanding our results of operations and financial position. In addition, please refer to Note 2 to the financial statements for further discussion of the Trust's accounting policies.

## **Valuation of Gold Bullion**



Edgar Filing: ISHARES GOLD TRUST - Form 10-Q

There are other indicators of the value of gold bullion that are available that could be different than that chosen by the Trust. The LBMA Gold Price AM and LBMA Gold Price PM are used by the Trust because they are commonly used by the U.S. gold market as indicators of the value of gold, and are permitted to be used under the Trust Agreement. The use of indicators of the value of gold bullion other than the LBMA Gold Price AM and LBMA Gold Price PM could result in materially different fair value pricing of the gold held by the Trust.

Table Of Contents

**Results of Operations**

*The Quarter Ended September 30, 2015*

The Trust's net asset value fell from \$6,315,819,381 at June 30, 2015 to \$5,752,782,153 at September 30, 2015, an 8.91% decrease. The decrease in the Trust's net asset value resulted primarily from a decline in the LBMA Gold Price PM, which fell 4.87% from \$1,171.00 at June 30, 2015 to \$1,114.00 at September 30, 2015. The Trust's net asset value was also affected by a decrease in the number of outstanding Shares, which fell from 558,050,000 Shares at June 30, 2015 to 534,650,000 Shares at September 30, 2015, a consequence of 9,200,000 Shares (184 Baskets) being created and 32,600,000 Shares (652 Baskets) being redeemed during the quarter.

The 4.95% decline in the Trust's net asset value per Share from \$11.32 at June 30, 2015 to \$10.76 at September 30, 2015 is directly related to the 4.87% decrease in the LBMA Gold Price PM.

The Trust's net asset value per Share decreased slightly more than the price of gold on a percentage basis due to the Sponsor's fees, which were \$3,714,450 for the quarter, or 0.06% of the Trust's average weighted assets of \$5,888,894,336 during the quarter. The net asset value per Share of \$11.29 on July 1, 2015 was the highest during the quarter, compared with a low during the quarter of \$10.44 on July 24, 2015. The net asset value of the Trust is obtained by subtracting the Trust's expenses and liabilities on any day from the value of the gold owned by the Trust on that day; the net asset value per Share is obtained by dividing the net asset value of the Trust on a given day by the number of Shares outstanding on that day.

Net decrease in net assets resulting from operations for the quarter ended September 30, 2015 was \$317,365,957, resulting from a net investment loss of \$3,714,450, a net realized loss of \$255,612 from investment in gold bullion sold to pay expenses, a net realized loss of \$33,080,025 on gold distributed for the redemption of Shares and a net change in unrealized appreciation/depreciation on investment in gold bullion of \$280,315,870. Other than the Sponsor's fees of \$3,714,450, the Trust had no expenses during the quarter.

*The Nine Months September 30, 2015*

The Trust's net asset value fell from \$6,213,387,199 at December 31, 2014 to \$5,752,782,153 at September 30, 2015, a 7.41% decrease. The decrease in the Trust's net asset value resulted primarily from a decline in the gold price, which fell 7.11% from \$1,199.25 (the London AM Fix at December 31, 2014) to \$1,114.00 (the LBMA Gold Price PM at

September 30, 2015). The Trust's net asset value was also affected by a decrease in the number of outstanding Shares, which fell from 535,400,000 Shares at December 31, 2014 to 534,650,000 Shares at September 30, 2015, a consequence of 53,400,000 Shares (1,068 Baskets) being created and 54,150,000 Shares (1,083 Baskets) being redeemed during the period.

The 7.32% decline in the Trust's net asset value per Share from \$11.61 at December 31, 2014 to \$10.76 at September 30, 2015 is directly related to the 7.11% decrease in the gold price.

The Trust's net asset value per Share decreased slightly more than the price of gold on a percentage basis due to the Sponsor's fees, which were \$11,678,005 for the period, or 0.19% of the Trust's average weighted assets of \$6,243,808,296 during the period. The net asset value per Share of \$12.54 on January 22, 2015 was the highest during the period, compared with a low during the period of \$10.44 on July 24, 2015. The net asset value of the Trust is obtained by subtracting the Trust's expenses and liabilities on any day from the value of the gold owned by the Trust on that day; the net asset value per Share is obtained by dividing the net asset value of the Trust on a given day by the number of Shares outstanding on that day.

Net decrease in net assets resulting from operations for the nine months ended September 30, 2015 was \$489,957,766, resulting from a net investment loss of \$11,678,005, a net realized loss of \$283,053 from investment in gold bullion sold to pay expenses, a net realized loss of \$33,415,929 on gold bullion distributed for the redemption of Shares and a net change in unrealized appreciation/depreciation on investment in gold bullion of \$444,580,779. Other than the Sponsor's fees of \$11,678,005, the Trust had no expenses during the period.

### **Item 3. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk**

Not applicable.

### **Item 4. Controls and Procedures**

The duly authorized officers of the Sponsor performing functions equivalent to those a principal executive officer and principal financial officer of the Trust would perform if the Trust had any officers, with the participation of the Trustee, have evaluated the effectiveness of the Trust's disclosure controls and procedures, and have concluded that the disclosure controls and procedures of the Trust were effective as of the end of the period covered by this report to provide reasonable assurance that information required to be disclosed in the reports that the Trust files or submits

under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, is recorded, processed, summarized and reported, within the time periods specified in the applicable rules and forms, and that it is accumulated and communicated to the duly authorized officers of the Sponsor performing functions equivalent to those a principal executive officer and principal financial officer of the Trust would perform if the Trust had any officers, as appropriate to allow timely decisions regarding required disclosure.

There are inherent limitations to the effectiveness of any system of disclosure controls and procedures, including the possibility of human error and the circumvention or overriding of the controls and procedures.

There were no changes in the Trust's internal control over financial reporting that occurred during the period covered by this report that have materially affected, or are reasonably likely to materially affect, the Trust's internal control over financial reporting.

Table Of Contents

**PART II – OTHER INFORMATION**

**Item 1. Legal Proceedings**

None.

**Item 1A. Risk Factors**

The Risk Factor disclosure contained in the registrant's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2014, filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on February 27, 2015, is hereby amended by replacing the Risk Factor "*Changes in the administration of the London Gold Fix and any actual or perceived disruption of that benchmark may have an effect on the price of gold and, therefore, the value of your Shares*" with the following:

**Actual or perceived disruptions in the processes used to determine the new LBMA Gold Price PM, or lack of confidence in that benchmark, may adversely affect the return on your investment in the Shares (if any).**

Because the objective of the Trust is to reflect the performance of the price of gold, any disruptions affecting the processes regarding how the market determines the price of gold will have an effect on the value of the Shares.

The London PM Fix was the benchmark price for valuation of gold held by the Trust from December 9, 2010 until March 19, 2015. On March 19, 2015, the London PM Fix was discontinued and replaced by the LBMA Gold Price PM beginning March 20, 2015. The LBMA Gold Price AM and LBMA Gold Price PM are new gold price benchmark mechanisms administered by ICE Benchmark Administration ("IBA"), an independent specialist benchmark administrator appointed by the LBMA. Twice daily during London business hours, IBA hosts an electronic, physically settled, and tradable auction, during which buyers and sellers trade physical spot gold at a predetermined price and the price of the final auction is published to the market as the LBMA Gold Price AM and LBMA Gold Price PM for that day. IBA hosts each auction in rounds of 45 seconds (which may be adjusted by IBA by notice). The prices for each round of any auction are set by an independent chairperson appointed by IBA, who sets the prices in their sole discretion in line with the market conditions and the activity in the auction. An auction will conclude following a round in which the difference between the entered buying and selling interest (referred to as imbalance) does not exceed a certain volume of gold identified by IBA (initially set at 20,000 troy ounces), and the price for that round

will be published as the LBMA Gold Price AM (for the auction taking place at 10:00 a.m. (London time)) or the LBMA Gold Price PM (for the auction taking place at 3:00 p.m. (London time)) for that day. IBA has indicated that the chairperson responsible for setting the prices for the auctions will have the requisite credentials and experience and will be independent from any direct participant or sponsored client. However, because the identity of the chairperson will not be disclosed to the market, it will not be possible for the Trustee to independently assess the adequacy of the chairperson's qualifications or to assure the chairperson's independence from any third party or market participant. In addition, because the chairperson has unlimited discretion in setting the auction prices and does not rely on any automated algorithm for the price setting, there can be no assurance that the LBMA Gold Price AM or LBMA Gold Price PM will accurately reflect the fundamentals of the gold market. See "Business of the Trust – Valuation of Gold; Computation of Net Asset Value" for a description of how the LBMA Gold Price PM is determined.

Furthermore, while the features of the mechanism to determine the LBMA Gold Price AM and LBMA Gold Price PM may be improvements over the London AM Fix and London PM Fix, investors should keep in mind that electronic markets are not exempt from failures, as the experience of the initial public offerings of Facebook and BATS Global Markets illustrate. In addition, electronic trading platforms may be subject to influence by high-frequency traders with results that are highly contested by the industry, regulators and market observers.

As of the date of this filing, the LBMA Gold Price AM and LBMA Gold Price PM have been subjected to the test of actual trading markets for less than eight months. As with any innovation, it is possible that electronic failures or other unanticipated events may occur that could result in delays in the announcement of, or the inability of the system to produce, a LBMA Gold Price AM or LBMA Gold Price PM on any given day. In addition, if a perception were to develop that the LBMA Gold Price AM or LBMA Gold Price PM is vulnerable to manipulation attempts, or if the new administration proceedings surrounding the determination of the LBMA Gold Price AM or LBMA Gold Price PM are not received with confidence by the markets, the behavior of investors and traders in gold may change, and those changes may have an effect on the price of gold (and, consequently, the value of the Shares). In any of these circumstances, the intervention of extraneous events disruptive of the normal interaction of supply and demand of gold at any given time may result in distorted prices and losses on an investment in the Shares that, but for such extraneous events, might not have occurred.

Other effects of disruptions in the determination of the new LBMA Gold Price AM or LBMA Gold Price PM or any inaccuracies in setting of the auction prices on the operations of the Trust include the potential for an incorrect valuation of the Trust's gold, an inaccurate computation of the Sponsor's fees, and the sales of gold to cover Trust expenses at prices that do not accurately reflect the fundamentals of the gold market. Each of these events could have an adverse effect on the value of the Shares.

The LBMA has indicated that the LBMA Gold Price AM and LBMA Gold Price PM will be regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority of the United Kingdom (the "FCA"). While it has been reported that the LBMA has recently sought further guidance from the FCA on how the replacement benchmark will be regulated, the exact scope and content of the regulation is yet unknown. It is not possible to predict the effect of the FCA Rules and any other related reforms on the trading market for gold.

Edgar Filing: ISHARES GOLD TRUST - Form 10-Q

As of the date of this filing, the Sponsor has no reason to believe that the LBMA Gold Price PM may not fairly represent the price of the gold held by the Trust. Should this situation change, the Sponsor expects to use the powers granted by the Trust's governing documents to seek to replace the LBMA Gold Price PM with a more reliable indicator of the value of the Trust's gold. There is no assurance that such alternative value indicator will be identified, or that the process of changing from the LBMA Gold Price PM to a new benchmark price will not adversely affect the price of the Shares.

Table Of Contents

**Item 2. Unregistered Sales of Equity Securities and Use of Proceeds**

a) None.

b) Not applicable.

c) 32,600,000 Shares (652 Baskets) were redeemed during the quarter ended September 30, 2015.

<u>Period</u>	<b>Total Number of Shares Redeemed</b>	<b>Average Ounces of Gold Per Share</b>
07/01/15 to 07/31/15	17,300,000	0.0097
08/01/15 to 08/31/15	9,200,000	0.0097
09/01/15 to 09/30/15	6,100,000	0.0097
Total	32,600,000	0.0097

**Item 3. Defaults Upon Senior Securities**

None.

**Item 4. Mine Safety Disclosures**

Not applicable.



**Item 5. Other Information**

None.

13

---

Table Of Contents**Item 6. Exhibits**

<b>Exhibit No.</b>	<b>Description</b>
4.1	Third Amended and Restated Depositary Trust Agreement is incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.1 filed with Annual Report on Form 10-K on February 28, 2013
4.2	Standard Terms for Authorized Participant Agreements is incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.2 filed with Amendment No. 1 to Annual Report on Form 10-K on November 12, 2008
10.1	First Amended and Restated Custodian Agreement between The Bank of New York Mellon and JPMorgan Chase Bank N.A., London branch, is incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 filed with Current Report on Form 8-K on September 2, 2010
10.2	Sub-license Agreement is incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.2 filed with Amendment No. 1 to Annual Report on Form 10-K on November 12, 2008
10.3	First Amendment to First Amended and Restated Custodian Agreement between The Bank of New York Mellon and JPMorgan Chase Bank N.A., London branch, is incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 filed with Current Report on Form 8-K on February 14, 2012
31.1	Certification by Principal Executive Officer Pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002
31.2	Certification by Principal Financial Officer Pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002
32.1	Certification by Principal Executive Officer Pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as Adopted Pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002
32.2	Certification by Principal Financial Officer Pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as Adopted Pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002
101.INS	XBRL Instance Document
101.SCH	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Schema Document
101.CAL	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Calculation Linkbase Document
101.DEF	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Definition Linkbase Document
101.LAB	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Label Linkbase Document
101.PRE	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Presentation Linkbase Document



Table Of Contents

**SIGNATURES**

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned in the capacities\* indicated thereunto duly authorized.

iShares® Delaware Trust Sponsor LLC,  
Sponsor of the iShares® Gold Trust (registrant)

/s/ Patrick J. Dunne

**Patrick J. Dunne**  
**President and Chief Executive Officer**  
**(Principal executive officer)**

Date: November 6, 2015

/s/ Jack Gee

**Jack Gee**  
**Chief Financial Officer**  
**(Principal financial and accounting officer)**

Date: November 6, 2015

---

\* The registrant is a trust and the persons are signing in their capacities as officers of iShares® Delaware Trust Sponsor LLC, the Sponsor of the registrant.