FIRST TRUST HIGH INCOME LONG/SHORT FUND Form N-Q March 28, 2013

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

> > FORM N-Q

QUARTERLY SCHEDULE OF PORTFOLIO HOLDINGS OF REGISTERED MANAGEMENT INVESTMENT COMPANY

Investment Company Act file number 811-22442

First Trust High Income Long/Short Fund

(Exact name of registrant as specified in charter)

120 East Liberty Drive, Suite 400 Wheaton, IL 60187

(Address of principal executive offices) (Zip code)

W. Scott Jardine, Esq. First Trust Portfolios L.P. 120 East Liberty Drive, Suite 400 Wheaton, IL 60187

(Name and address of agent for service)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: 630-765-8000

Date of fiscal year end: October 31

Date of reporting period: January 31, 2013

Form N-Q is to be used by management investment companies, other than small business investment companies registered on Form N-5 (ss.ss. 239.24 and 274.5 of this chapter), to file reports with the Commission, not later than 60 days after the close of the first and third fiscal quarters, pursuant to rule 30b1-5 under the Investment Company Act of 1940 (17 CFR 270.30b1-5). The Commission may use the information provided on Form N-Q in its regulatory, disclosure review, inspection, and policymaking roles.

A registrant is required to disclose the information specified by Form N-Q, and the Commission will make this information public. A registrant is not required to respond to the collection of information contained in Form N-Q unless the Form displays a currently valid Office of Management and Budget ("OMB") control number. Please direct comments concerning the accuracy of the information collection burden estimate and any suggestions for reducing the burden to the Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, 100 F Street, NE, Washington, DC 20549. The OMB has reviewed this collection of information under the clearance requirements of 44 U.S.C. ss. 3507.

ITEM 1. SCHEDULE OF INVESTMENTS. The Schedule of Investments is attached herewith.

FIRST TRUST HIGH INCOME LONG/SHORT FUND PORTFOLIO OF INVESTMENTS JANUARY 31, 2013 (UNAUDITED)

Ρ	PRINCIPAL VALUE	DESCRIPTION	STATED COUPON	STATED MATURITY	
ORP	ORATE BONDS A	AND NOTES - 82.6%			
		AUTOMOTIVE - 4.1%			
5	334,000	Chrysler Group LLC/Chrysler Group	0.00%		~
	4,367,000	Co-Issuer, Inc Chrysler Group LLC/Chrysler Group	8.00%	06/15/19	\$
		Co-Issuer, Inc	8.25%	06/15/21	
	2,376,000	Ford Motor Co. (a)	9.22%	09/15/21	
	553 , 000	Ford Motor Co. (a)	8.90%	01/15/32	
	3,000,000	Ford Motor Co. (a)	7.75%	06/15/43	
	2,480,000 21,432	Ford Motor Co. (a) General Motors Unsecured Claim Trust	9.98%	02/15/47	
		Units (Transferable) (b)	N/A	N/A	
	5,396,000	Goodyear Tire & Rubber (The) Co. (a)	7.00%	05/15/22	
	4,872,000	Navistar International Corp. (a)	8.25%	11/01/21	
	1,682,000	Tomkins Inc., LLC	9.00%	10/01/18	
		BANKING - 3.7%			
	740,000	Ally Financial, Inc. (a)	8.00%	11/01/31	
	2,285,000	Ally Financial, Inc. (a)	8.00%	11/01/31	
	5,610,000 6,750,000	Bank of America Corp Deutsche Postbank Funding Trust IV	7.63%	06/01/19	
		(EUR) (c) (d)	5.98%	06/29/49	
	3,250,000	Dresdner Funding Trust I (e)	8.15%	06/30/31	
	4,000,000	Fifth Third Capital Trust IV (a) (d)	6.50%	04/15/37	
	4 500 000	BASIC INDUSTRY - 9.3%	0 0 0	04/01/00	
	4,500,000	AK Steel Corp. (a)	8.38%	04/01/22	
	5,250,000	Aleris International, Inc	7.63%	02/15/18	
	3,450,000 1,255,000	Alpha Natural Resources, Inc. (a)	6.00% 7.00%	06/01/19 06/15/19	
	1,428,000	Arch Coal, Inc.	7.00%	10/01/20	
	1,125,000	Arch Coal, Inc Arch Coal, Inc	7.25%	06/15/21	
	4,405,000	Associated Materials LLC (a)	9.13%	11/01/17	
	3,635,000	Boise Paper Holdings LLC/Boise Finance Co. (a)	9.00%		
	1 357 000		9.00%	11/01/17	
	1,357,000 3,600,000	Century Aluminum Co. (a) Cloud Peak Energy Resources Corp., LLC		05/15/14	
	6,500,000	(a) Hexion U.S. Finance Corp./Hexion Nova	8.25%	12/15/17	
	0 655 063	Scotia Finance ULC (a)	8.88%	02/01/18	
	8,655,000	Huntsman International LLC (a)	8.63%	03/15/21	
	1,300,000	Momentive Performance Materials Inc	10.00%	10/15/20	
	2,725,000	Momentive Performance Materials, Inc	9.00%	01/15/21	
	4,000,000	Polypore International, Inc. (a)	7.50%	11/15/17	
	5,150,000	Texas Industries, Inc. (a)	9.25%	08/15/20	

4,000,000	USG Corp.	(a)	6.30%	11/15/16
1,878,000	USG Corp.	(e)	8.38%	10/15/18

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See Notes to Quarterly Portfolio of Investments Page 1

FIRST TRUST HIGH INCOME LONG/SHORT FUND PORTFOLIO OF INVESTMENTS - (CONTINUED) JANUARY 31, 2013 (UNAUDITED)

PRINCIPAL VALUE	DESCRIPTION	STATED COUPON	STATED MATURITY	
ORPORATE BONDS	AND NOTES - (CONTINUED)			
	CAPITAL GOODS - 6.4%			
4,031,000	•	7.50%	03/01/14	\$
3,265,000		9.75%	07/15/18	
5,000,000 3,625,000		8.50%	11/01/20	
	Corp. (e)	8.38%	05/15/19	
3,760,000		7.38%	06/01/17	
7,500,000		8.50%	05/15/18	
2,085,000	Reynolds Group Issuer, Inc., LLC	9.88%	08/15/19	
4,050,000	-	6.00%	05/15/21	
4,000,000	Transdigm, Inc. (a)	7.75%	12/15/18	
4,650,000	Triumph Group, Inc. (a)	8.63%	07/15/18	
	CONSUMER NON-CYCLICAL - 0.4%			
2 240 000		6.63%	08/15/22	
2,240,000	Smithfield Foods, Inc	0.00%	00/13/22	
	ENERGY - 9.5%			
2,535,000				
	Pipeline Finance Corp. (e)	5.88%	08/01/23	
3,540,000		7.75%	10/15/22	
3,974,000	1	6.75%	11/01/20	
5,700,000		9.50%	02/15/15	
600,000	1 91 1 1	7.25%	12/15/18	
1,970,000		6.63%	08/15/20	
3,275,000	54 54 .	9.38%	05/01/20	
3,000,000		6.50%	05/01/21	
800,000	1 . ,	6.88%	11/15/18	
4,000,000		8.00%	09/01/17	
2,636,000	Linn Energy LLC/Linn Energy Finance Corp. (e)	6.25%	11/01/19	
4,240,000	Linn Energy LLC/Linn Energy Finance			
	Corp	8.63%	04/15/20	
5,500,000		8.63%	10/15/18	
5,900,000	Plains Exploration & Production Co	6.50%	11/15/20	

	Energy Finance Corp. (a)	9.38%	06/01/16	
3,248,000	Samson Investment Co. (e)	9.75%	02/15/20	
4,750,000	Swift Energy Co	8.88%	01/15/20	
3,425,000	Targa Resources Partners L.P./Targa			
	Resources Partners Finance Corp. (a)	7.88%	10/15/18	

	FINANCIAL SERVICES - 7.0%			
1,665,000	CIT Group, Inc	5.00%	05/15/17	
10,000,000	CIT Group, Inc	4.25%	08/15/17	1
10,500,000	GE Capital Trust IV (EUR) (c) (d)	4.63%	09/15/66	1
410,000	General Electric Capital Corp. (EUR) (c)			
	(d)	5.50%	09/15/67	

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FIRST TRUST HIGH INCOME LONG/SHORT FUND PORTFOLIO OF INVESTMENTS - (CONTINUED) JANUARY 31, 2013 (UNAUDITED)

PRINCIPAL VALUE	DESCRIPTION	STATED COUPON	STATED MATURITY	V
CORPORATE BONDS	AND NOTES - (CONTINUED)			
	FINANCIAL SERVICES - (CONTINUED)			
\$ 7,500,000 8,000,000 5,000,000 700,000	Enterprises Finance Corp. (a) SLM Corp. (a) Springleaf Finance Corp. (a)	8.00% 8.00% 6.90% 6.00%	01/15/18 03/25/20 12/15/17 02/15/67	Ş
				4
665,000 5,074,000 2,500,000 5,600,000 3,150,000	Alere, Inc. (e) Davita Healthcare Partners, Inc HCA Holdings, Inc	9.00% 7.25% 5.75% 7.75% 10.50%	05/15/16 07/01/18 08/15/22 05/15/21 11/01/18	
2,450,000 1,800,000 3,050,000	<pre>(EUR) (c) (d) American International Group, Inc. (EUR) (c) (d) American International Group, Inc. (GBP) (c) (d)</pre>	8.00% 4.88% 8.63%	05/22/38 03/15/67 05/22/38	
10,950,000 5,000,000	(GBP) (c) (d)	5.75% 6.38%	03/15/67 03/29/67	1

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6,500,000 3,500,000	Glen Meadow Pass Through Trust (d) (e). Liberty Mutual Group, Inc. (d) (e) Lincoln National Corp. (a) (d) Lincoln National Corp. (a) (d)	6.51% 7.00% 7.00% 6.05%	02/12/67 1 03/15/37 05/17/66 04/20/67
0 001 000	MEDIA - 1.1%		
3,931,000	Clear Channel Communications, Inc.	5.50%	12/15/16
1,800,000	Clear Channel Communications, Inc.	3.300	12/10/10
	(a)	9.00%	03/01/21
456,000	Clear Channel Worldwide Holdings, Inc	7.63%	03/15/20
3,193,000	Clear Channel Worldwide Holdings,	1.00%	05/15/20
	Inc	7.63%	03/15/20
	SERVICES - 16.8%		
4,432,448	American Airlines Pass Through Trust		
	2001-01	6.98%	05/23/21
3,500,000	ARAMARK Corp. (a)	8.50%	02/01/15
1,095,000	Ashtead Capital, Inc. (e)	6.50%	07/15/22
5,500,000	Avis Budget Car Rental LLC/Avis Budget		
	Finance, Inc. (a)	9.63%	03/15/18
1,426,000	Avis Budget Car Rental LLC/Avis Budget	0 0 5 9	01/15/10
6,500,000	Finance, Inc. (a) Beazer Homes USA, Inc. (a)	8.25% 8.13%	01/15/19 06/15/16
5,228,240	Continental Airlines 2003-ERJ1 Pass	0.1.0	00/10/10
3,220,210	Through Trust	7.88%	07/02/18

See Notes to Quarterly Portfolio of Investments Page 3

FIRST TRUST HIGH INCOME LONG/SHORT FUND PORTFOLIO OF INVESTMENTS - (CONTINUED) JANUARY 31, 2013 (UNAUDITED)

PRINCIPAL VALUE		DESCRIPTION	STATED COUPON	STATED MATURITY	V
CORPO	DRATE BONDS A	ND NOTES - (CONTINUED)			
		SERVICES - (CONTINUED)			
\$	2,543,576	Continental Airlines 2005-ERJ1 Pass			
		Through Trust	9.80%	04/01/21	\$
	1,649,381	Delta Air Lines 2009–1 Series B Pass			
		Through Trust	9.75%	12/17/16	
	9,000,000	Harrah's Operating, Inc., Co	10.00%	12/15/18	
	8,000,000	Hertz (The) Corp	7.50%	10/15/18	
	5,250,000	Iron Mountain, Inc. (a)	8.38%	08/15/21	
	3,500,000	Isle of Capri Casinos, Inc. (a)	7.75%	03/15/19	
	4,160,000	K Hovnanian Enterprises, Inc. (e)	7.25%	10/15/20	
	1,000,000	MGM Resorts International (e)	6.75%	10/01/20	
	3,500,000	Mohegan Tribal Gaming Authority (e)	10.50%	12/15/16	

3,236,793	Northwest Airlines 2001-1 Class B Pass			
	Through Trust	7.69%	04/01/17	
4,127,000	Pinnacle Entertainment, Inc	7.75%	04/01/22	
1,780,000	Pulte Group, Inc. (a)	7.63%	10/15/17	
4,570,000	Pulte Group, Inc. (a)	7.88%	06/15/32	
3,319,000	Shea Homes L.P./Shea Homes Funding			
	Corp.	8.63%	05/15/19	
5,500,000	Standard Pacific Corp. (a)	8.38%	05/15/18	
3,079,825	UAL 2009-2B Pass Through Trust (e)	12.00%	01/15/16	
7,000,000	United Air Lines, Inc. (e)	12.00%	11/01/13	
375,000 7,062,000	United Rentals North America, Inc United Rentals North America, Inc.	7.38%	05/15/20	
	(a)	8.38%	09/15/20	
367,000 6,971,154	United Rentals North America, Inc US Airways 2000-3C Pass Through	7.63%	04/15/22	
0/0/1/101	Trust	8.39%	03/01/22	
	11400	0.000	00,01,01	
				11
5 500 000	TECHNOLOGY & ELECTRONICS - 5.2%	C 450		
5,500,000	Alcatel-Lucent USA, Inc. (a)	6.45%	03/15/29	
5,675,000	CommScope, Inc. (e)	8.25%	01/15/19	
9,050,000	First Data Corp. (e)	8.88%	08/15/20	1
8,834,000	Freescale Semiconductor, Inc. (e)	10.13%	03/15/18	
6,460,000	Sungard Data Systems, Inc. (e)	6.63%	11/01/19	
				ر
				J
	TELECOMMUNICATIONS - 6.0%			
7,000,000	Frontier Communications Corp. (a)	9.00%	08/15/31	
2,411,000	Hughes Satellite Systems Corp. (a)	7.63%	06/15/21	
3,500,000	MetroPCS Wireless, Inc. (a)	7.88%	09/01/18	
10,000,000	Sprint Capital Corp. (a)	8.75%	03/15/32	1
2,600,000	Sprint Nextel Corp	9.13%	03/01/17	
6,000,000	Sprint Nextel Corp. (a)	9.25%	04/15/22	
2,428,000	Viasat, Inc	6.88%	06/15/20	
3,200,000	Windstream Corp. (e)	6.38%	08/01/23	
	UTILITY - 2.6%			
6,736,000	Calpine Corp. (e)	7.88%	07/31/20	
Page 4 S	See Notes to Quarterly Portfolio of Investm	nents		
FIRST TRUST HIGH	INCOME LONG/SHORT FUND			
	STMENTS - (CONTINUED)			
JANUARY 31, 2013				

JANUARY 31, 2013 (UNAUDITED)

PRINCIPAL VALUE	DESCRIPTION	STATED COUPON	STATED MATURITY	V
CORPORATE BONDS AND NOTE	CS - (CONTINUED)			

UTILITY - (CONTINUED)

\$ 3,350,000	Energy Future Intermediate Holding Co., LLC/Energy Future Intermediate			
	Holding Finance, Inc. (a)	10.00%	12/01/20	\$
5,000,000	NRG Energy, Inc. (a)	8.25%	09/01/20	
2,150,000	Texas Competitive Electric Holdings Co. LLC/Texas Competitive Electric			
	Holdings Finance, Inc. (e)	11.50%	10/01/20	
				1
	TOTAL CORPORATE BONDS AND NOTES			 58

PRINCIPAL VALUE				
(LOCAL		STATED	STATED	V
CURRENCY)	DESCRIPTION	COUPON	MATURITY	(US D
FOREIGN CORPORATE BON	 DS AND NOTES - 29.5%			

BANKING - 7.7%

6,500,000	ABN AMRO Bank N.V. (EUR) (d)	4.31%	03/29/49	
2,200,000	Barclays Bank PLC (GBP)	10.00%	05/21/21	
2,000,000	Belfius Funding N.V. (GBP) (f)	1.23%	02/09/17	
8,264,000	Canada Square Operations PLC (GBP) (d).	7.50%	05/29/49	1
5,325,000	HBOs Capital Funding L.P. (GBP) (d)	6.46%	11/30/18	
3,300,000	IKB Deutsche Industriebank AG (EUR) (f)	1.09%	05/28/13	
175,000	IKB Deutsche Industriebank AG (EUR)	4.50%	07/09/13	
4,350,000	Industrial Senior Trust (USD) (e)	5.50%	11/01/22	
2,100,000	Mizuho Capital Investment, Ltd. (USD)			
	(a) (d) (e)	14.95%	12/29/49	
3,000,000	National Westminster Bank PLC (GBP)			
	(d)	5.98%	01/21/45	
3,000,000	Royal Bank of Scotland N.V. (EUR)			
	(f)	4.70%	06/10/19	

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BASIC INDUSTRY - 6.1% 04/01/16 02/25/22 10/15/39 185,000 Arcelormittal (USD) 7.25% 03/01/41 3,451,000 Boart Longyear Management Pty., Ltd. 04/01/21 11/01/15 05/15/15 02/15/16 12/15/20 04/15/36

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FIRST TRUST HIGH INCOME LONG/SHORT FUND PORTFOLIO OF INVESTMENTS - (CONTINUED) JANUARY 31, 2013 (UNAUDITED)

PRINCIPAL VALUE (LOCAL CURRENCY)	DESCRIPTION	STATED COUPON	STATED MATURITY	V (US D
 FOREIGN CORPORATE	BONDS AND NOTES - (CONTINUED)			
6,785,000	BASIC INDUSTRY - (CONTINUED) Vedanta Resources PLC (USD) (e)	8.25%	06/07/21	\$ 4
	CAPITAL GOODS - 1.0%	0.050		
	Ardagh Packaging Finance (EUR) Bombardier, Inc. (USD) (e)	9.25% 6.13%	10/15/20 01/15/23	
6 000 000	CONSUMER NON-CYCLICAL - 2.2% JBS Finance II Ltd. (USD) (e)	8.25%	01/29/18	
5,900,000	Minerva Luxembourg S.A. (USD) (e) Virgolino de Oliveira Finance Ltd. (USD)	7.75%	01/31/23	
0,000,000	(e)	11.75%	02/09/22	
				1
	ENERGY - 3.8% CHC Helicopter S.A. (USD) (a) Georgian Oil and Gas Corp. (USD) (e)	9.25% 6.88%	10/15/20 05/16/17	1
	OGX Petroleo e Gas Participacoes S.A. (USD) (e)	8.50%	06/01/18	
	Petroleos de Venezuela S.A. (USD) Precision Drilling Corp. (USD)	12.75% 6.63%	02/17/22 11/15/20	
				2
7 450 000	FINANCIAL SERVICES - 1.1% Banque PSA Finance S.A. (USD) (e)	5.75%	04/04/21	
7,430,000	banque F5A Finance 5.A. (05D) (e)	5.75%	04/04/21	
4,128,000	FOREIGN SOVEREIGN - 0.7% Portugal Obrigacoes do Tesouro Ot (EUR)	4.95%	10/25/23	
	INCURANCE 0.18			
1,650,000 3,500,000 5,000,000	INSURANCE - 2.1% Aviva PLC (EUR) (d) CNP Assurances (EUR) (d) ING Groep N.V. (GBP) (d)	6.88% 5.25% 5.14%	05/22/38 05/16/36 03/29/49	
3,500,000	Oil Insurance Ltd. (USD) (e) (f)	3.29%	12/29/49	

	SERVICES - 3.2%			
4,600,000	Desarrolladora Homex Sab de CV (USD)			
	(e)	9.75%	03/25/20	
1,800,000	Empresas ICA Sab de CV (USD) (e)	8.38%	07/24/17	
5,250,000	Hapag-Lloyd AG (USD) (e)	9.75%	10/15/17	
5,755,000	Royal Caribbean Cruises Ltd. (USD)			
	(a)	7.50%	10/15/27	
4,500,000	Urbi Desarrollos Urbanos Sab de CV			
	(USD) (e)	9.75%	02/03/22	
			-	
				2
			-	
	TELECOMMUNICATIONS - 1.6%			
2,857,000	En Germany Holdings B.V. (EUR)	10.75%	11/15/15	
4,900,000	Intelsat Luxembourg S.A. (USD) (a)	11.25%	02/04/17	
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FIRST TRUST HIGH INCOME LONG/SHORT FUND PORTFOLIO OF INVESTMENTS - (CONTINUED) JANUARY 31, 2013 (UNAUDITED)

PRINCIPAL VALUE (LOCAL CURRENCY)	DESCRIPTION	STATED COUPON	STATED MATURITY	V (US D
FOREIGN CORPORATE	BONDS AND NOTES - (CONTINUED)			
	TELECOMMUNICATIONS - (CONTINUED)			
2,550,000	Intelsat Luxembourg S.A. (USD) (a)	11.50%	02/04/17	\$
				1
	TOTAL FOREIGN CORPORATE BONDS AND NOTES (Cost \$198,324,377)			20

PRINCIPAL VALUE		DESCRIPTION		STATED MATURITY (h)	77
	VALUE	DESCRIPTION	RATE (g)	MAIORIII (II)	v
SENIC	OR FLOATING-R	ATE LOAN INTERESTS - 4.4%			
		AUTOMOTIVE - 2.3%			
\$	7,154,123	Allison Transmission, Inc	3.71%	08/07/17	
	7,131,105	Federal Mogul Corp Term Loan B	2.15%	12/27/14	
	2,493,750	Navistar, Inc. Term Loan B	7.00%	08/17/17	
				-	

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5,925,000	ENERGY - 0.9% Meg Energy Term Loan	4.00%	03/18/18	
	REAL ESTATE - 0.5% Realogy Initial Term Loan B Realogy Synthetic Letter of Credit	4.46% 4.46%	10/10/16 10/10/16	
4,861,111	SERVICES - 0.7% US Airways Term Loan TOTAL SENIOR FLOATING-RATE LOAN INTERESTS (Cost \$ 30,911,486)	2.70%	03/23/14	

PRINCIPAL VALUE	DESCRIPTION	STATED COUPON	STATED MATURITY	
ASSET-BACKED SECU	JRITIES - 1.8%			
	Ace Securities Corp.			
3,296,558	-	0.32%	12/25/36	
2,461,784		0.26%	10/25/36	
1,952,886	Series 2007-NC1, Class Al (f) Keycorp Student Loan Trust	0.30%	04/25/37	
2,729,921		0.63%	05/25/29	
1,018,810		0.30%	09/25/36	
9,966,425	Series 2006-FR4, Class A2A (f)	0.28%	08/25/36	
FIRST TRUST HIGH	See Notes to Quarterly Portfolio of Investme INCOME LONG/SHORT FUND CSTMENTS - (CONTINUED) (UNAUDITED)		5	
PRINCIPAL VALUE	DESCRIPTION	STATED COUPON	STATED MATURITY	
ASSET-BACKED SECU	JRITIES - (CONTINUED)			
\$ 1,182,263	Soundview Home Equity Loan Trust Series 2006-EQ2, Class A2 (f)	0.31%	01/25/37	Ş
	TOTAL ASSET-BACKED SECURITIES			
MODECACE DACKED				

MORTGAGE-BACKED SECURITIES - 1.0%

COLLATERALIZED MORTGAGE OBLIGATIONS - 1.0%

1,682,272	Morgan Stanley Mortgage Loan Trust Series 2007-6XS, Class 2A1S (f) Specialty Underwriting & Residential Finance	0.31%	02/25/47
2,209,980 3,880,495	Series 2006-BC4, Class A2B (f) Wells Fargo Mortgage Backed Securities Trust Series 2006-AR7, Class 2A4 (f)	0.31%	09/25/37
0,000,100	TOTAL MORTGAGE-BACKED SECURITIES		-
SHARES	DESCRIPTION		
COMMON STOCKS - 1	.7%		
•	AUTOMOTIVE - 1.2% Ford Motor Co General Motors Co. (i)		
75,700	BANKING - 0.5% Citigroup, Inc TOTAL COMMON STOCKS		-
WARRANTS - 0.3%	(Cost \$14,700,177)		_
	AUTOMOTIVE - 0.3% General Motors Co. (i) General Motors Co. (i)		
	TOTAL WARRANTS	•••••	
SHORT-TERM INVEST 15,586,793	MENTS - 2.2% Dreyfus Government Cash Management	•••••	
	TOTAL SHORT-TERM INVESTMENTS	••••	- -
	TOTAL INVESTMENTS - 123.5%		
Page 8 S	ee Notes to Quarterly Portfolio of Investments		
	INCOME LONG/SHORT FUND STMENTS - (CONTINUED) (UNAUDITED)		
PRINCIPAL VALUE		STATED COUPON	STATED MATURITY

U.S.	GOVERNMENT	BONDS	SOLD	SHORT	-	(23.7%)	

\$ (20,500,000) United States Treasury Note 0.25% 03/31/14 \$ (2

 United States Treasury Note United States Treasury Note	0.88% 2.00%	02/28/17 02/15/22	(12 (2
TOTAL U.S. GOVERNMENT BONDS SOLD SHORT (Proceeds \$167,794,344)			(16
NET OTHER ASSETS AND LIABILITIES - 0.2%			
NET ASSETS - 100.0%			\$ 71

- (a) This security or a portion of this security is segregated as collateral for investments sold short.
- (b) The Fund previously held non-transferable trust units that were originally issued to facilitate distribution of General Motors common stock and warrants pursuant to the General Motors Bankruptcy Plan of Reorganization. The non-transferable trust units existed only for the purpose of receiving any residual cash, if any, from the General Motors Bankruptcy. These units were received in exchange for the previously owned General Motors 8.375% Corporate Notes that were scheduled to mature on 7/15/33. On June 12, 2012, the holders of these units received new transferable General Motors Unsecured Claim (GUC) Trust Units, which were created to hold and administer the common stock and warrants of General Motors Company to be contributed to the GUC Trust under the General Motors Bankruptcy Plan of Reorganization.
- (c) Security issued by a U.S. incorporated entity, that has its principal value denominated in the listed foreign currency.
- (d) Fixed-to-floating rate security. The interest rate shown reflects the fixed rate in effect at January 31, 2013. At a predetermined date, the fixed rate will change to a floating rate.
- (e) This security, sold within the terms of a private placement memorandum, is exempt from registration upon resale under Rule 144A of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "1933 Act"), and may be resold in transactions exempt from registration, normally to qualified institutional buyers. Pursuant to procedures adopted by the Fund's Board of Trustees, this security has been determined to be liquid by MacKay Shields LLC, the Fund's sub-advisor. Although market instability can result in periods of increased overall market illiquidity, liquidity for each security is determined based on security specific factors and assumptions, which require subjective judgment. At January 31, 2013, securities noted as such amounted to \$190,296,487, or 26.79% of net assets.
- (f) Floating rate security. The interest rate shown reflects the rate in effect at January 31, 2013.
- (g) Senior Floating-Rate Loan Interests ("Senior Loans") in which the Fund invests pay interest at rates which are periodically predetermined by reference to a base lending rate plus a premium. These base lending rates are generally (i) the lending rate offered by one or more major European banks, such as the London Inter-Bank Offered Rate ("LIBOR"), (ii) the prime rate offered by one or more United States banks or (iii) the certificate of deposit rate. Certain Senior Loans are subject to a LIBOR floor that establishes a minimum LIBOR rate. The interest rate shown reflects the rate in effect at January 31, 2013.
- (h) Senior Loans generally are subject to mandatory and/or optional

prepayment. As a result, the actual remaining maturity of Senior Loans may be substantially less than the stated maturities shown.

- (i) Non-income producing security.
- (j) Aggregate cost for financial reporting purposes, which approximates the aggregate cost for federal income tax purposes. As of January 31, 2013, the aggregate gross unrealized appreciation for all securities in which there was an excess of value over tax cost was \$56,408,690 and the aggregate gross unrealized depreciation for all securities in which there was an excess of tax cost over value was \$14,362,448.

FIRST TRUST HIGH INCOME LONG/SHORT FUND PORTFOLIO OF INVESTMENTS - (CONTINUED) JANUARY 31, 2013 (UNAUDITED)

Currency Abbreviations: EUR Euro Dollar GBP British Pound Sterling USD United States Dollar

VALUATION INPUTS A summary of the inputs used to value the Fund's investments as of January 31, 2013 is as follows (see Note A - Portfolio Valuation in the Notes to Quarterly Portfolio of Investments):

		ASSETS TABLE				
INVESTMENTS		TOTAL VALUE AT 1/31/2013		LEVEL 1 QUOTED PRICES		LEVEL 2 SIGNIFICANT OBSERVABLE INPUTS
Corporate Bonds and Notes* Foreign Corporate Bonds and Notes* Senior Floating-Rate Loan Interests* Asset-Backed Securities Mortgage-Backed Securities Common Stocks* Warrants* Short-Term Investments		2,408,952 15,586,793		 11,767,505 2,408,952 15,586,793		209,939,536 31,094,879 13,119,364 6,912,958
Total Investments						847,528,415
Other Financial Instruments: Forward Foreign Currency Contracts**		838,373				
Total	\$ ==	878,130,038	\$ ==	29,763,250	\$ ==	848,366,788
	LIA	BILITIES TABLE				

		LEVEL 2
TOTAL	LEVEL 1	SIGNIFICANT
VALUE AT	QUOTED	OBSERVABLE

INVESTMENTS		1/31/2013		PRICES	 INPUTS
U.S. Government Bonds Sold Short Forward Foreign Currency Contracts**			\$		(168,634,403) (2,460,905)
Total	\$ ==	(171,095,308)	\$ ===		\$ (171,095,308)

* See the Portfolio of Investments for industry breakout.

** See the Schedule of Forward Foreign Currency Contracts for contract and currency detail.

Page 10 See Notes to Quarterly Portfolio of Investments

The following table presents the activity of the Fund's investments measured at fair value on a recurring basis using significant unobservable inputs (Level 3) for the period presented.

BEGINNING BALANCE AT OCTOBER 31, 2012		
Corporate Bonds and Notes	\$	2,100
Net Realized Gain (Loss)		
Net Change in Unrealized Appreciation/Depreciation		
Purchases		
Sales		
Corporate Bonds and Notes		(2,100)
Transfers In		
Transfers Out		
ENDING BALANCE AT JANUARY 31, 2013		
Corporate Bonds and Notes		
Total Level 3 holdings	\$	
	===	

All transfers in and out of the Levels during the period are assumed to be transferred on the last day of the period at their current value. There were no transfers between levels at January 31, 2013.

There was no net change in unrealized appreciation (depreciation) from Level 3 investments held as of January 31, 2013.

See Notes to Quarterly Portfolio of Investments Page 11

FIRST TRUST HIGH INCOME LONG/SHORT FUND SCHEDULE OF FORWARD FOREIGN CURRENCY CONTRACTS JANUARY 31, 2013 (UNAUDITED)

		FORWARD H	FOREIGN CURRENCY	CONTRACTS	
				PURCHASE	SAL
SETTLEMENT		AMOUNT	AMOUNT	VALUE AS OF	VALUE A
DATE	COUNTERPARTY	PURCHASED (a)	SOLD (a)	JANUARY 31, 2012	JANUARY 3

02/28/13	JPM	USD	68,420,283	EUR	52,195,000	\$ 68,420,283	\$ 70,8
02/28/13	JPM	USD	55,554,953	GBP	34,505,000	55,554,953	54,7
Net Unrealized	Appreciation	(Depr	eciation)			 	

(a) Please see Portfolio of Investments for currency descriptions.

Counterparty Abbreviations: JPM JPMorgan Chase

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NOTES TO QUARTERLY PORTFOLIO OF INVESTMENTS

FIRST TRUST HIGH INCOME LONG/SHORT FUND JANUARY 31, 2013 (UNAUDITED)

VALUATION AND INVESTMENT PRACTICES

A. PORTFOLIO VALUATION:

The net asset value ("NAV") of the Common Shares of First Trust High Income Long/Short Fund (the "Fund") is determined daily, as of the close of regular trading on the New York Stock Exchange ("NYSE"), normally 4:00 p.m. Eastern time, on each day the NYSE is open for trading. If the NYSE closes early on a valuation day, the NAV is determined as of that time. Domestic debt securities and foreign securities are priced using data reflecting the earlier closing of the principal markets for those securities. The NAV per Common Share is calculated by dividing the value of all assets of the Fund (including accrued interest and dividends), less all liabilities (including accrued expenses, dividends declared but unpaid and any borrowings of the Fund), by the total number of Common Shares outstanding.

The Fund's investments are valued daily in accordance with valuation procedures adopted by the Fund's Board of Trustees and in accordance with provisions of the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the "1940 Act"). The Fund's securities will be valued as follows:

Corporate bonds, notes, U.S. Government Securities, Mortgage-backed Securities ("MBS"), Asset-backed Securities ("ABS") and other debt securities are valued on the basis of valuations provided by dealers who make markets in such securities or by an independent pricing service approved by the Fund's Board of Trustees, which may use the following valuation inputs when available:

- benchmark yields;
- reported trades;
- broker/dealer quotes;
- issuer spreads;
- 5) benchmark securities;

- 6) bids and offers; and
- 7) reference data including market research publications.

A ready market does not exist for some of these investments. As such, these values may differ from the values that would have been used had a ready market for these investments existed, and the differences could be material.

Common stocks and other equity securities listed on any national or foreign exchange (excluding the NASDAQ(R) Stock Market LLC ("NASDAQ") and the London Stock Exchange Alternative Investment Market ("AIM")) are valued at the last price on the exchange on which they are principally traded or, for NASDAQ and AIM securities, the official closing price. Securities traded on more than one securities exchange are valued at the last sale price or official closing price, as applicable, at the close of the securities exchange representing the principal market for such securities.

Securities traded in the over-the-counter market are valued at their closing bid prices.

Credit default swaps, if any, are valued using a pricing service or, if the pricing service does not provide a value, by quotes provided by the selling dealer or financial institution.

The loan assignments, participations and commitments ("Senior Loans")(1) held in the Fund are not listed on any securities exchange or board of trade. Senior Loans are typically bought and sold by institutional investors in individually negotiated private transactions that function in many respects like an over-the-counter secondary market, although typically no formal market-makers exist. This market, while having grown substantially since its inception, generally has fewer trades and less liquidity than the secondary market for other types of securities. Some Senior Loans have few or no trades, or trade infrequently, and information regarding a specific Senior Loan may not be widely available or may be incomplete. Accordingly, determinations of the market value of Senior Loans may be based on infrequent and dated information. Because there is less reliable, objective data available, elements of judgment may play a greater role in valuation of Senior Loans than for other types of securities. Typically, Senior Loans are valued using information provided by a third party pricing service. The third party pricing service primarily uses over-the-counter pricing from dealer runs and broker quotes from indicative sheets to value the Senior Loans.

Forward foreign currency contracts are valued at the current day's interpolated foreign exchange rate, as calculated using the current day's spot rate, and the thirty, sixty, ninety, and one-hundred eighty day forward rates provided by an independent pricing service.

Debt securities having a remaining maturity of sixty days or less when purchased are valued at cost adjusted for amortization of premiums and accretion of discounts.

1 The terms "security" and "securities" used throughout the Notes to Quarterly Portfolio of Investments include Senior Loans

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NOTES TO QUARTERLY PORTFOLIO OF INVESTMENTS - (CONTINUED)

FIRST TRUST HIGH INCOME LONG/SHORT FUND JANUARY 31, 2013 (UNAUDITED)

In the event the pricing service or dealer does not provide a valuation, or the valuations received are deemed unreliable, the Fund's Board of Trustees has designated First Trust Advisors L.P. ("First Trust") to use a fair value method to value the Fund's securities. Additionally, if events occur after the close of the principal markets for certain securities (e.g., domestic debt and foreign securities) that could materially affect the Fund's NAV, First Trust may use a fair value method to value the Fund's securities. The use of fair value pricing is governed by valuation procedures adopted by the Fund's Board of Trustees, and in accordance with the provisions of the 1940 Act. As a general principle, the fair value of a security is the amount which the Fund might reasonably expect to receive for the security upon its current sale. In light of the judgment involved in fair valuations, there can be no assurance that a fair value assigned to a particular security will be the amount which the Fund might be able to receive upon its current sale. Fair valuation of a security is based on the consideration of all available information, including, but not limited to, the following:

- 1) the fundamental business data relating to the issuer;
- an evaluation of the forces which influence the market in which these securities are purchased and sold;
- the type, size and cost of a security;
- 4) the financial statements of the issuer;
- 5) the credit quality and cash flow of the issuer, based on the Sub-Advisor's or external analysis;
- the information as to any transactions in or offers for the security;
- 7) the price and extent of public trading in similar securities (or equity securities) of the issuer/borrower, or comparable companies;
- 8) the coupon payments;
- 9) the quality, value and salability of collateral, if any, securing the security;
- 10) the business prospects of the issuer, including any ability to obtain money or resources from a parent or affiliate and an assessment of the issuer's management;
- 11) the prospects for the issuer's industry, and multiples (of earnings and/or cash flows) being paid for similar businesses in that industry; and
- 12) other relevant factors.

The Fund is subject to fair value accounting standards that define fair value, establish the framework for measuring fair value and provide a three-level hierarchy for fair valuation based upon the inputs to the valuation as of the measurement date. The three levels of the fair value hierarchy are as follows:

- o Level 1 Level 1 inputs are quoted prices in active markets for identical investments. An active market is a market in which transactions for the investment occur with sufficient frequency and volume to provide pricing information on an ongoing basis.
- o Level 2 Level 2 inputs are observable inputs, either directly or indirectly, and include the following:
 - o Quoted prices for similar investments in active markets.
 - o Quoted prices for identical or similar investments in markets that are non-active. A non-active market is a market where there are few transactions for the investment, the prices are not current, or price quotations vary substantially either over time or among market makers, or in which little information is released publicly.
 - Inputs other than quoted prices that are observable for the investment (for example, interest rates and yield curves observable at commonly quoted intervals, volatilities, prepayment speeds, loss severities, credit risks, and default rates).
 - Inputs that are derived principally from or corroborated by observable market data by correlation or other means.
- o Level 3 Level 3 inputs are unobservable inputs. Unobservable inputs may reflect the reporting entity's own assumptions about the assumptions that market participants would use in pricing the investment.

The inputs or methodology used for valuing investments are not necessarily an indication of the risk associated with investing in those investments. A summary of the inputs used to value the Fund's investments as of January 31, 2013, is included with the Fund's Portfolio of Investments.

B. SECURITIES TRANSACTIONS:

Securities transactions are recorded as of the trade date. Realized gains and losses from securities transactions are recorded on the identified cost basis.

Securities purchased on a when-issued, delayed-delivery or forward purchase commitment basis may have extended settlement periods. The value of the security so purchased is subject to market fluctuations during this period. The Fund maintains liquid assets with a current value at least equal to the amount of its when-issued, delayed-delivery or forward purchase commitments until payment is made. At January 31, 2013, the Fund had no when-issued, delayed-delivery or forward purchase commitments.

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NOTES TO QUARTERLY PORTFOLIO OF INVESTMENTS - (CONTINUED)

FIRST TRUST HIGH INCOME LONG/SHORT FUND JANUARY 31, 2013 (UNAUDITED)

C. UNFUNDED LOAN COMMITMENTS:

The Fund may enter into certain credit agreements, all or a portion of which may be unfunded. The Fund is obligated to fund these loan commitments at the borrower's discretion. The Fund did not have unfunded delayed draw loan commitments as of January 31, 2013.

D. FORWARD FOREIGN CURRENCY CONTRACTS:

The Fund is subject to foreign currency risk in the normal course of pursuing its investment objectives. Forward foreign currency contracts are agreements to exchange one currency for another at a future date and at a specified price. The Fund uses forward foreign currency contracts to facilitate transactions in foreign securities and to manage the Fund's foreign currency exposure. These contracts are valued daily, and the Fund's net equity therein, representing unrealized gain or loss on the contracts as measured by the difference between the forward foreign exchange rates at the dates of entry into the contracts and the forward rates at the reporting date, is included on the Schedule of Forward Foreign Currency Contracts. Risks arise from the possible inability of counterparties to meet the terms of their contracts and from movement in currency and securities values and interest rates. Due to the risks, the Fund could incur losses in excess of the net unrealized value shown on the Schedule of Forward Foreign Currency Contracts.

During the period ended January 31, 2013, the open and close notional values of forward foreign currency contracts were \$245,668,005 and \$(229,733,092), respectively.

E. FOREIGN CURRENCY:

The books and records of the Fund are maintained in U.S. dollars. Foreign currencies, investments and other assets and liabilities are translated into U.S. dollars at the exchange rates prevailing at the end of the period. Purchases and sales of investments and items of income and expense are translated on the respective dates of such transactions.

F. SHORT SALES:

Short sales are utilized for investment and risk management purposes and are transactions in which securities or other instruments (such as options, forwards, futures or other derivative contracts) are sold that are not currently owned in the Fund's portfolio. When a short sale is engaged in, the security sold short must be borrowed and delivered to the counterparty. Short selling allows the Fund to profit from a decline in a market price to the extent such decline exceeds the transaction costs and the costs of borrowing the securities. The Fund will pay a fee or premium to borrow the securities and is obligated to repay the lenders of the securities. Any dividends or interest that accrues on the securities during the period of the loan are due to the lenders. A gain, limited to the price at which the security was sold short, or a loss, unlimited in size, will be recognized upon the termination of the short sale. Any such gain or loss may be offset, completely or in part, by the change in the value of the long portion of the Fund's portfolio. The Fund is subject to the risk it may be unable to reacquire a security to terminate a short position except at a price substantially in excess of the last quoted price. Also, there is the risk that the counterparty to a short sale may fail to honor its contractual terms, causing a loss to the Fund.

ITEM 2. CONTROLS AND PROCEDURES.

- (a) The registrant's principal executive and principal financial officers, or persons performing similar functions, have concluded that the registrant's disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Rule 30a-3(c) under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the "1940 Act") (17 CFR 270.30a-3(c))) are effective, as of a date within 90 days of the filing date of the report that includes the disclosure required by this paragraph, based on their evaluation of these controls and procedures required by Rule 30a-3(b) under the 1940 Act (17 CFR 270.30a-3(b)) and Rules 13a-15(b) or 15d-15(b) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (17 CFR 240.13a-15(b) or 240.15d-15(b)).
- (b) There were no changes in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting (as defined in Rule 30a-3(d) under the 1940 Act (17 CFR 270.30a-3(d)) that occurred during the registrant's last fiscal quarter that have materially affected, or are reasonably likely to materially affect, the registrant's internal control over financial reporting.

ITEM 3. EXHIBITS.

Certifications pursuant to Rule 30a-2(a) under the 1940 Act and Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 are attached hereto.

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and the Investment Company Act of 1940, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized.

(Registrant) First Trust High Income Long/Short Fund

By (Signature and Title)* /s/ Mark R. Bradley

Mark R. Bradley, President and Chief Executive Officer (principal executive officer)

Date March 19, 2013

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and the Investment Company Act of 1940, this report has been signed below by the following persons on behalf of the registrant and in the capacities and on the dates indicated.

By (Signature and Title)*

/s/ Mark R. Bradley

Mark R. Bradley, President and Chief Executive Officer (principal executive officer)

Date March 19, 2013

By (Signature and Title)*

/s/ James M. Dykas

James M. Dykas, Treasurer, Chief Financial Officer and Chief Accounting Officer (principal financial officer)

Date March 19, 2013

* Print the name and title of each signing officer under his or her signature.