

Western Asset High Yield Defined Opportunity Fund Inc.  
Form N-CSR  
October 26, 2012

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

**FORM N-CSR**

**CERTIFIED SHAREHOLDER REPORT OF REGISTERED  
MANAGEMENT INVESTMENT COMPANIES**

Investment Company Act file number 811-22444

Western Asset High Yield Defined Opportunity Fund Inc.  
(Exact name of registrant as specified in charter)

620 Eighth Avenue, 49th Floor, New York, NY  
(Address of principal executive offices)

10018  
(Zip code)

Robert I. Frenkel, Esq.

Legg Mason & Co., LLC

100 First Stamford Place

Stamford, CT 06902  
(Name and address of agent for service)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (888) 777-0102

Date of fiscal year end: August 31

Date of reporting period: August 31, 2012

---

ITEM 1.

REPORT TO STOCKHOLDERS.

The **Annual** Report to Stockholders is filed herewith.

---

August 31, 2012

**Annual Report**

**Western Asset High Yield Defined Opportunity Fund Inc.**

**(HYI)**

INVESTMENT PRODUCTS: NOT FDIC INSURED • NO BANK GUARANTEE • MAY LOSE VALUE

II

Western Asset High Yield Defined Opportunity Fund Inc.

**Fund objectives**

The Fund's primary investment objective is to provide high income. As a secondary objective, the Fund will seek capital appreciation.

**What's inside**

Letter from the chairman	II
Investment commentary	III
Fund overview	1
Fund at a glance	7
Spread duration	8
Effective duration	9
Schedule of investments	10
Statement of assets and liabilities	24
Statement of operations	25
Statements of changes in net assets	26
Financial highlights	27
Notes to financial statements	28
Report of independent registered public accounting firm	43
Additional information	44
Annual chief executive officer and principal financial officer certifications	50
Other shareholder communications regarding accounting matters	51
Dividend reinvestment plan	52

**Letter from the chairman**

**Dear Shareholder,**

We are pleased to provide the annual report of Western Asset High Yield Defined Opportunity Fund Inc. for the twelve-month reporting period ended August 31, 2012. Please read on for a detailed look at prevailing economic and market conditions during the Fund's reporting period and to learn how those conditions have affected Fund performance.

As always, we remain committed to providing you with excellent service and a full spectrum of investment choices. We also remain committed to supplementing the support you receive from your financial advisor. One way we accomplish this is through our website, [www.lmcef.com](http://www.lmcef.com). Here you can gain immediate access to market and investment information, including:

- Fund prices and performance,
- Market insights and commentaries from our portfolio managers, and
- A host of educational resources.

We look forward to helping you meet your financial goals.

Sincerely,

R. Jay Gerken, CFA

Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer

September 28, 2012

## Investment commentary

### Economic review

The U.S. economy continued to grow over the twelve months ended August 31, 2012, albeit at an uneven pace. U.S. gross domestic product (GDP)<sup>i</sup> growth, as reported by the U.S. Department of Commerce, was 1.3% and 4.1% in the third and fourth quarters of 2011, respectively. Economic growth in the U.S. then decelerated, as the Commerce Department reported that first quarter 2012 GDP growth was 2.0%. This was primarily due to less robust private inventory and non-residential fixed investments. The economy slowed further in the second quarter, as GDP growth was a tepid 1.3%. Moderating growth was partially due to weaker consumer spending, which rose only 1.5% in the second quarter, versus 2.4% during the first three months of the year.

The weak job market remained weak. While there was some improvement during the reporting period, unemployment remained elevated. When the reporting period began, unemployment, as reported by the U.S. Department of Labor, was 9.1%. Unemployment then generally declined and was 8.1% in April 2012, the lowest rate since January 2009. However, the unemployment rate then moved higher, reaching 8.3% in July, before dipping to 8.1% in August.

Meanwhile the housing market brightened, as sales have started to improve and home prices appear to be firming. According to the National Association of Realtors (NAR), existing-home sales fluctuated throughout the period. However, existing-home sales rose 7.8% on a seasonally adjusted basis in August 2012 versus the previous month. This represented the largest increase in 27 months. In addition, the NAR reported that the median existing-home price for all housing types was \$187,400 in July 2012, up 9.5% from July 2011. This marked the sixth consecutive month that home prices rose compared to the same period a year earlier and was the largest year-over-year increase since January 2006.

While the manufacturing sector overcame a soft patch that occurred in the summer of 2011, it again weakened late in the reporting period. Looking back, based on the Institute for Supply Management's PMI (PMI)<sup>ii</sup>, in August 2011 the manufacturing sector expanded at its weakest pace in two years, with a reading of 50.6 (a reading below 50 indicates a contraction, whereas a reading above 50 indicates an expansion). The PMI was then somewhat choppy over the next eight months, but rose as high as 54.8 in April 2012. The PMI then fell to 49.7 in June, which represented the first contraction in the manufacturing sector since July 2009. While the PMI ticked up to 49.8 in July, it fell to 49.6 in August, and remained in contraction territory.

The Federal Reserve Board (Fed)<sup>iii</sup> took a number of actions as it sought to meet its dual mandate of fostering maximum employment and price stability. As has been the case since December 2008, the Fed kept the federal funds rate at a historically low range between zero and 0.25%. In September 2011, the Fed announced its intention to purchase \$400 billion of longer-term Treasury securities and to sell an equal amount of shorter-term Treasury securities by June 2012 (often referred to as Operation Twist). In January 2012, the Fed extended the period it expects to keep rates on hold, saying economic conditions including low rates of resource utilization and a subdued

IV

Western Asset High Yield Defined Opportunity Fund Inc.

**Investment commentary (continued)**

outlook for inflation over the medium run are likely to warrant exceptionally low levels for the federal funds rate at least through late 2014. In June, the Fed announced that it would extend Operation Twist until the end of 2012. Finally, in September, after the reporting period ended, the Fed announced a third round of quantitative easing, which involves purchasing \$40 billion each month of agency mortgage-backed securities on an open-end basis. In addition, the Fed said that it would further extend Operation Twist and keep the federal funds rate on hold until at least mid-2015.

As always, thank you for your confidence in our stewardship of your assets.

Sincerely,

R. Jay Gerken, CFA

Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer

September 28, 2012

All investments are subject to risk including the possible loss of principal. Past performance is no guarantee of future results.

- i Gross domestic product (GDP) is the market value of all final goods and services produced within a country in a given period of time.
- ii The Institute for Supply Management's PMI is based on a survey of purchasing executives who buy the raw materials for manufacturing at more than 350 companies. It offers an early reading on the health of the manufacturing sector.
- iii The Federal Reserve Board (Fed) is responsible for the formulation of policies designed to promote economic growth, full employment, stable prices and a sustainable pattern of international trade and payments.
- iv The federal funds rate is the rate charged by one depository institution on an overnight sale of immediately available funds (balances at the Federal Reserve) to another depository institution; the rate may vary from depository institution to depository institution and from day to day.

## **Fund overview**

### **Q. What is the Fund's investment strategy?**

**A.** The Fund's primary investment objective is to provide high income. As a secondary investment objective, the Fund will seek capital appreciation. We believe the extensive credit research and security selection expertise of Western Asset Management Company (Western Asset) will be key factors in driving Fund performance.

The Fund seeks to achieve its investment objectives by investing, under normal market conditions, at least 80% of its net assets in a portfolio of high-yield corporate fixed-income securities with varying maturities. Currently, the Fund focuses on lower-quality and higher-yielding opportunities in the below investment grade corporate debt markets. Under normal market conditions, the Fund may also invest up to 20% of its net assets in fixed-income securities issued by U.S. or foreign governments, agencies and instrumentalities and/or fixed-income securities that are of investment grade quality. The Fund has a limited term and as a fundamental policy, intends to liquidate and distribute substantially all of its net assets to stockholders after making appropriate provisions for any liabilities of the Fund, after 15 years, on or about September 30, 2025.

In purchasing securities and other investments for the Fund, Western Asset, the Fund's subadviser, may take full advantage of the entire range of maturities offered by fixed-income securities and may adjust the average maturity or duration of the Fund's portfolio from time to time, depending on its assessment of the relative yields available on securities of different durations and its expectations of future changes in interest rates. The Fund may utilize a variety of derivative instruments primarily for hedging and risk management purposes, although the Fund may also use derivative instruments for investment purposes.

At Western Asset, we utilize a fixed-income team approach, with decisions derived from interaction among various investment management sector specialists. The sector teams are comprised of Western Asset's senior portfolio management personnel, research analysts and an in-house economist. Under this team approach, management of client fixed-income portfolios will reflect a consensus of interdisciplinary views within the Western Asset organization. The individuals responsible for development of investment strategy, day-to-day portfolio management, oversight and coordination of the Fund are Stephen A. Walsh, Michael C. Buchanan and Christopher F. Kilpatrick.

### **Q. What were the overall market conditions during the Fund's reporting period?**

**A.** The spread sectors (non-Treasuries) experienced periods of volatility during the reporting period, but ultimately generated positive results. Risk aversion generally ruled the markets in September 2011, given mostly disappointing economic data, the European sovereign debt crisis and the Standard & Poor's rating downgrade of U.S. sovereign debt. Most spread sectors then rallied in October, given hopes of progress in Europe and some better-than-expected economic data.



**Fund overview (cont d)**

While risk aversion returned in November, demand for the spread sectors resumed in December and generally remained robust during the next three months. This shift in investor sentiment was triggered by indications that the U.S. economy was gathering momentum and signs of progress in the European sovereign debt crisis. However, fears that the economy may be experiencing a soft patch and contagion fears from Europe led to periods of heightened risk aversion during portions of March, April and May. The spread sectors then rallied from June through August as investor sentiment improved.

Short-term Treasury yields rose, whereas long-term Treasury yields declined during the reporting period. When the period began, two-year Treasury yields were 0.20%. They moved as low as 0.16% on September 19, 2011 and as high as 0.41% on March 20, 2012. Ten-year Treasury yields were 2.23% at the beginning of the period and peaked at 2.42% on October 27, 2011. On July 25, 2012, ten-year Treasuries closed at an all-time low of 1.43%. Yields then edged higher due to some positive developments in Europe and hopes for additional Federal Reserve Board ( Fed )ii actions to stimulate the economy. When the reporting period ended on August 31, 2012, two-year Treasury yields were 0.22% and ten-year Treasury yields were 1.57%.

All told, the Barclays U.S. Aggregate Indexiii, returned 5.78% during the reporting period. Comparatively, riskier fixed-income securities, including high yield bonds, produced stronger results. Over the reporting period, the Barclays U.S. Corporate High Yield 2% Issuer Cap Index (the Index )iv returned 13.84%. The Fund s unmanaged benchmarks, the Barclays U.S. Corporate High Yield 2% Issuer Cap Index B Componentv and the Barclays U.S. Corporate High Yield 2% Issuer Cap Index Caa Componentvi, returned 13.78% and 14.76%, respectively, over the same timeframe.

**Q. How did we respond to these changing market conditions?**

**A.** We made a number of adjustments to the portfolio during the reporting period. From a sector perspective, we increased the Fund s allocations to Financials and Utilities, while reducing its exposures in Basic Industry<sup>1</sup> and Capital Goods<sup>2</sup>. As valuations became less attractive toward the end of the period we looked to protect the Fund s outperformance. We marginally increased the average quality of the portfolio by increasing exposure to B-rated securities and paring our exposure to CCC-rated securities. Additionally, we actively participated in the new issuance market by selectively purchasing securities that we felt were attractively valued.

The Fund employed U.S. Treasury futures to manage its yield curvevii positioning and duration, which was a modest negative for performance during the reporting period. We covered our small short on five year Treasuries in mid-August 2012, after yields rose from 0.54% to over 0.80% in just three

<sup>1</sup> Basic Industry consists of the following industries: Chemicals, Metals & Mining and Paper.

<sup>2</sup> Capital Goods consists of the following industries: Aerospace & Defense, Building Materials, Diversified Manufacturing, Construction Machines, Packaging and Environmental.



weeks. We ended the period with no Treasury futures in the Fund. Options on high-yield index swaps were used to opportunistically manage the Fund's exposure to the high-yield market. These market hedges were intended to protect the portfolio from risk-off periods, while maintaining the Fund's exposure to higher beta (and higher income) idiosyncratic investments. All told, these swaptions had no meaningful impact on performance during the period. Finally, currency forwards were used to hedge the Fund's currency risk and manage our non-U.S. dollar currency exposures. The gains in our currency hedges served their purpose by offsetting the decline in the value of our euro and sterling bonds when translated back to U.S. dollars. All told, derivatives contributed to the Fund's net performance.

### Performance review

For the twelve months ended August 31, 2012, Western Asset High Yield Defined Opportunity Fund Inc. returned 13.16% based on its net asset value (NAV)<sup>viii</sup> and 18.40% based on its New York Stock Exchange (NYSE) market price per share. The Fund's unmanaged benchmarks, the Barclays U.S. Corporate High Yield 2% Issuer Cap Index B Component and the Barclays U.S. Corporate High Yield 2% Issuer Cap Index Caa Component, returned 13.78% and 14.76%, respectively, for the same period. The Lipper High Yield Closed-End Funds Category Averageix returned 12.79% over the same time frame. Please note that Lipper performance returns are based on each fund's NAV.

During the twelve-month period, the Fund made distributions to shareholders totaling \$1.76 per share. The performance table shows the Fund's twelve-month total return based on its NAV and market price as of August 31, 2012. **Past performance is no guarantee of future results.**

### Performance Snapshot as of August 31, 2012

	<b>12-Month Total Return*</b>
<b>Price Per Share</b>	
\$18.36 (NAV)	13.16%
\$19.74 (Market Price)	18.40%

All figures represent past performance and are not a guarantee of future results.

\* Total returns are based on changes in NAV or market price, respectively.

Total return assumes the reinvestment of all distributions at NAV. Prior to January 1, 2012, total return assumed the reinvestment of all distributions in additional shares in accordance with the Fund's Dividend Reinvestment Plan.

Total return assumes the reinvestment of all distributions in additional shares in accordance with the Fund's Dividend Reinvestment Plan.

Q. What were the leading contributors to performance?

A. The largest contributor to the Fund's relative performance during the reporting period was security selection. The largest contributors to performance included our Republic of Venezuela sovereign exposure and overweights to corporate issuers CMA CGM, Hapag-Lloyd AG and Royal Bank of

**Fund overview (cont d)**

Scotland, to name just a few. Venezuela sovereign bonds, which began the period at cheap valuations, benefited from higher oil prices and a decreased probability of President Chavez being reelected. CMA CGM and Hapag-Lloyd AG are global shipping companies headquartered in Europe. These bonds had performed poorly in the prior reporting period due to a variety of factors, including fears of long-term decelerating global economic growth, higher oil prices and issues related to the ongoing European sovereign debt crisis. These bonds rallied significantly from distressed levels during the reporting period, as both of the companies' fundamentals stabilized and investor concerns dissipated. Our Royal Bank of Scotland exposure benefited from continued balance sheet and capital ratio improvement, with the company selling off non-core assets during the period. Additionally, European macro concerns subsided toward the end of the reporting period, with rumors that the European Central Bank (ECB) was considering decisive actions, including the formation of a unified European banking commission. Post end of the reporting period, the ECB announced these actions.

Elsewhere, sector positioning in a number of areas was positive for results. Leading the way was our overweight in the Capital Goods<sup>1</sup> sector, as it was the best performing sector within the Index. Having an underweight in Energy was also beneficial given its weak results during the reporting period.

**Q. What were the leading detractors from performance?**

**A.** The largest detractors from the Fund's relative performance during the reporting period were certain individual issuer exposures. Specifically, our positions in Hawker Beechcraft Acquisitions and Petroplus Finance were negatives for results. Hawker Beechcraft Acquisitions is a manufacturer of business, special-mission and trainer aircraft. The company has been plagued by a highly levered balance sheet, moderating corporate business spending and fears of government expenditure reductions. We sold our position at a loss in December 2011, believing bond prices were overly optimistic. The company's fundamentals continued to deteriorate and the company filed for bankruptcy in May 2012. Our sale proved beneficial as the company's bonds underperformed the market post our exiting the position. Petroplus Finance is a European oil refiner. In December 2011, a \$1 billion credit line to the company was frozen by its bank lenders. The company was unable to avoid bankruptcy as it reduced its output and closed several refineries. Fortunately, we reduced our exposure at the end of 2011, but we should have exited the position completely as its bonds continued to move significantly lower throughout the reporting period as asset sales were disappointing. We exited the position at the end of the period.

In terms of sector positioning, an underweight to Technology was a negative for results given strong performance from higher risk technology

<sup>1</sup> Capital Goods consists of the following industries: Aerospace & Defense, Building Materials, Diversified Manufacturing, Construction Machines, Packaging and Environmental.

companies. Elsewhere our overweights to the Transportation<sup>1</sup> and Wireless<sup>2</sup> sectors were modest drags on results.

#### Looking for additional information?

The Fund is traded under the symbol **HYI** and its closing market price is available in most newspapers under the NYSE listings. The daily NAV is available on-line under the symbol **XHYIX** on most financial websites. *Barron's* and the *Wall Street Journal's* Monday edition both carry closed-end fund tables that provide additional information. In addition, the Fund issues a quarterly press release that can be found on most major financial websites as well as [www.lmcef.com](http://www.lmcef.com).

In a continuing effort to provide information concerning the Fund, shareholders may call 1-888-777-0102 (toll free), Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Eastern Time, for the Fund's current NAV, market price and other information.

Thank you for your investment in Western Asset High Yield Defined Opportunity Fund Inc. As always, we appreciate that you have chosen us to manage your assets and we remain focused on achieving the Fund's investment goals.

Sincerely,

Western Asset Management Company

September 18, 2012

**RISKS:** *The Fund's investments are subject to credit risk, inflation risk and interest rate risk. As interest rates rise, bond prices fall, reducing the value of the Fund's share price. The Fund may invest in lower-rated high-yield bonds which are subject to greater credit risk (risk of default) than higher-rated obligations. Investments in foreign securities involve risks, including the possibility of losses due to changes in currency exchange rates and negative developments in the political, economic, or regulatory structure of specific countries or regions. These risks are greater in emerging markets. The Fund may make significant investments in derivative instruments. Derivative instruments can be illiquid, may disproportionately increase losses, and have a potentially large impact on Fund performance.*

Portfolio holdings and breakdowns are as of August 31, 2012 and are subject to change and may not be representative of the portfolio managers current or future investments. Please refer to pages 10 through 23 for a list and percentage breakdown of the Fund's holdings. The mention of sector breakdowns is for informational purposes only and should not be construed as a recommendation to purchase or sell any securities. The

## Edgar Filing: Western Asset High Yield Defined Opportunity Fund Inc. - Form N-CSR

information provided regarding such sectors is not a sufficient basis upon which to make an investment decision. Investors seeking financial advice regarding the appropriateness of investing in any securities or investment strategies discussed should consult their financial professional. The Fund's top five sector holdings (as a percentage of net assets) as of August 31, 2012 were: Consumer Discretionary (22.7%), Industrials (15.8%), Materials (12.1%), Financials (9.5%) and Telecommunication Services (7.7%). The Fund's portfolio composition is subject to change at any time.

- 1 Transportation consists of the following industries: Airlines, Railroads and other transportation related services.
- 2 Wireless is included in the Telecommunication Services sector.

**Fund overview (cont d)**

All investments are subject to risk including the possible loss of principal. Past performance is no guarantee of future results. All index performance reflects no deduction for fees, expenses or taxes. Please note that an investor cannot invest directly in an index.

The information provided is not intended to be a forecast of future events, a guarantee of future results or investment advice. Views expressed may differ from those of the firm as a whole.

- i Duration is the measure of the price sensitivity of a fixed-income security to an interest rate change of 100 basis points. Calculation is based on the weighted average of the present values for all cash flows.
- ii The Federal Reserve Board ( Fed ) is responsible for the formulation of policies designed to promote economic growth, full employment, stable prices and a sustainable pattern of international trade and payments.
- iii The Barclays U.S. Aggregate Index is a broad-based bond index comprised of government, corporate, mortgage- and asset-backed issues, rated investment grade or higher, and having at least one year to maturity.
- iv The Barclays U.S. Corporate High Yield 2% Issuer Cap Index is an index of the 2% Issuer Cap component of the Barclays U.S. Corporate High Yield Index, which covers the U.S. dollar-denominated, non-investment grade, fixed-rate, taxable corporate bond market.
- v The Barclays U.S. Corporate High Yield 2% Issuer Cap Index is an index of the 2% Issuer Cap component of the Barclays U.S. Corporate High Yield Index, which covers the U.S. dollar-denominated, non-investment grade, fixed-rate, taxable corporate bond market. The B Component is comprised of B-rated securities included in this Index.
- vi The Barclays U.S. Corporate High Yield 2% Issuer Cap Index is an index of the 2% Issuer Cap component of the Barclays U.S. Corporate High Yield Index, which covers the U.S. dollar-denominated, non-investment grade, fixed-rate, taxable corporate bond market. The Caa Component is comprised of Caa-rated securities included in this Index.
- vii The yield curve is the graphical depiction of the relationship between the yield on bonds of the same credit quality but different maturities.
- viii Net asset value ( NAV ) is calculated by subtracting total liabilities and outstanding preferred stock (if any) from the closing value of all securities held by the Fund (plus all other assets) and dividing the result (total investments) by the total number of the common shares outstanding. The NAV fluctuates with changes in the market prices of securities in which the Fund has invested. However, the price at which an investor may buy or sell shares of the Fund is the Fund's market price as determined by supply of and demand for the Fund's shares.
- ix Lipper, Inc., a wholly-owned subsidiary of Reuters, provides independent insight on global collective investments. Returns are based on the twelve-month period ended August 31, 2012, including the reinvestment of all distributions, including returns of capital, if any, calculated among the 7 funds in the Fund's Lipper category.



**Fund at a glance (unaudited)**

**Investment breakdown (%) as a percent of total investments**

The bar graph above represents the composition of the Fund's investments as of August 31, 2012 and August 31, 2011 and does not include derivatives, such as futures contracts, written options and forward foreign currency contracts. The Fund is actively managed. As a result, the composition of the Fund's investments is subject to change at any time.

Represents less than 0.1%.

**Spread duration (unaudited)**

**Economic Exposure August 31, 2012**

Spread duration measures the sensitivity to changes in spreads. The spread over Treasuries is the annual risk-premium demanded by investors to hold non-Treasury securities. Spread duration is quantified as the % change in price resulting from a 100 basis points change in spreads. For a security with positive spread duration, an increase in spreads would result in a price decline and a decline in spreads would result in a price increase. This chart highlights the market sector exposure of the Fund's sectors relative to the selected benchmark sectors as of the end of the reporting period.

---

Benchmark	60% Barclays U.S. Corporate High Yield	2% Issuer Cap Index B Component & 40% Barclays U.S. Corporate High Yield	2% Issuer Cap Index Caa Component
EM	Emerging Markets		
HY	High Yield		
HYI	Western Asset High Yield Defined Opportunity Fund Inc.		
IG Credit	Investment Grade Credit		

**Effective duration (unaudited)****Interest Rate Exposure August 31, 2012**

Effective duration measures the sensitivity to changes in relevant interest rates. Effective duration is quantified as the % change in price resulting from a 100 basis points change in interest rates. For a security with positive effective duration, an increase in interest rates would result in a price decline and a decline in interest rates would result in a price increase. This chart highlights the interest rate exposure of the Fund's sectors relative to the selected benchmark sectors as of the end of the reporting period.

---

Benchmark	60% Barclays U.S. Corporate High Yield	2% Issuer Cap Index B Component & 40% Barclays U.S. Corporate High Yield	2% Issuer Cap Index Caa Component
EM	Emerging Markets		
HY	High Yield		
HYI	Western Asset High Yield Defined Opportunity Fund Inc.		
IG Credit	Investment Grade Credit		

10

Western Asset High Yield Defined Opportunity Fund Inc. 2012 Annual Report

**Schedule of investments**

August 31, 2012

**Western Asset High Yield Defined Opportunity Fund Inc.**

<b>Security</b>	<b>Rate</b>	<b>Maturity Date</b>	<b>Face Amount</b>	<b>Value</b>
<b>Corporate Bonds &amp; Notes 84.1%</b>				
<b>Consumer Discretionary 20.5%</b>				
<b>Auto Components 0.4%</b>				
Europcar Groupe SA	11.500%	5/15/17	350,000EUR \$	417,118(a)
Europcar Groupe SA, Senior Notes	9.375%	4/15/18	1,540,000EUR	1,452,759(a)
<b>Total Auto Components</b>				<b>1,869,877</b>
<b>Automobiles 0.7%</b>				
Chrysler Group LLC/CG Co.-Issuer Inc., Secured Notes	8.250%	6/15/21	2,260,000	2,395,600
Jaguar Holding Co. II/Jaguar Merger Sub Inc., Senior Notes	9.500%	12/1/19	430,000	481,600(a)
<b>Total Automobiles</b>				<b>2,877,200</b>
<b>Diversified Consumer Services 1.1%</b>				
Odeon & UCI Finco PLC, Senior Secured Notes	9.000%	8/1/18	1,079,000GBP	1,713,291(a)
Service Corp. International, Senior Notes	7.500%	4/1/27	1,030,000	1,085,363
ServiceMaster Co., Senior Notes	8.000%	2/15/20	580,000	621,325
ServiceMaster Co., Senior Notes	7.000%	8/15/20	980,000	1,002,050(a)
<b>Total Diversified Consumer Services</b>				<b>4,422,029</b>
<b>Hotels, Restaurants &amp; Leisure 9.5%</b>				
Affinity Gaming LLC/Affinity Gaming Finance Corp., Senior Notes	9.000%	5/15/18	950,000	971,375(a)
Bossier Casino Venture Holdco Inc., Senior Secured Bonds	14.000%	2/9/18	1,005,864	863,735(a)(b)(c)(d)
Boyd Acquisition Sub LLC/Boyd Acquisition Finance Corp., Senior Notes	8.375%	2/15/18	570,000	584,963(a)
Boyd Gaming Corp., Senior Notes	9.125%	12/1/18	740,000	770,525
Boyd Gaming Corp., Senior Notes	9.000%	7/1/20	890,000	886,662(a)
Caesars Entertainment Operating Co. Inc., Senior Notes	10.750%	2/1/16	1,100,000	836,000
Caesars Entertainment Operating Co. Inc., Senior Secured Notes	11.250%	6/1/17	3,000,000	3,247,500
Carrols Restaurant Group Inc., Senior Secured Notes	11.250%	5/15/18	1,130,000	1,217,575(a)
CCM Merger Inc., Senior Notes	9.125%	5/1/19	1,120,000	1,131,200(a)
CityCenter Holdings LLC/CityCenter Finance Corp., Secured Notes	10.750%	1/15/17	1,058,778	1,127,599(b)
CKE Restaurants Inc., Senior Secured Notes	11.375%	7/15/18	2,396,000	2,770,375
Codere SA, Senior Secured Notes	8.250%	6/15/15	2,000,000EUR	2,138,260(a)
Downstream Development Quapaw, Senior Secured Notes	10.500%	7/1/19	1,090,000	1,149,950(a)
Gala Group Finance PLC, Senior Secured Notes	8.875%	9/1/18	1,410,000GBP	2,104,538(a)

See Notes to Financial Statements.



**Western Asset High Yield Defined Opportunity Fund Inc.**

<b>Security</b>	<b>Rate</b>	<b>Maturity Date</b>	<b>Face Amount</b>	<b>Value</b>
<b><i>Hotels, Restaurants &amp; Leisure continued</i></b>				
Hoa Restaurant Group LLC/Hoa Finance Corp., Senior Secured Notes	11.250%	4/1/17	3,000,000	\$ 2,778,750(a)
Landry's Inc., Senior Notes	9.375%	5/1/20	1,050,000	1,115,625(a)
Mastro's Restaurants LLC/RRG Finance Corp., Senior Secured Notes	12.000%	6/1/17	1,000,000	1,045,000(a)
MGM Resorts International, Senior Notes	5.875%	2/27/14	1,250,000	1,306,250
Mohegan Tribal Gaming Authority, Senior Secured Notes	10.500%	12/15/16	3,610,000	3,230,950(a)
NCL Corp. Ltd., Senior Notes	9.500%	11/15/18	6,270,000	6,928,350
Rivers Pittsburgh Borrower LP/Rivers Pittsburgh Finance Corp., Senior Secured Notes	9.500%	6/15/19	295,000	314,175(a)
Seneca Gaming Corp., Senior Notes	8.250%	12/1/18	1,410,000	1,459,350(a)
Seven Seas Cruises S de RL LLC, Senior Secured Notes	9.125%	5/15/19	1,570,000	1,640,650
<b><i>Total Hotels, Restaurants &amp; Leisure</i></b>				<b>39,619,357</b>
<b><i>Household Durables 1.1%</i></b>				
Norcraft Cos. LP/Norcraft Finance Corp., Senior Secured Notes	10.500%	12/15/15	4,500,000	<b>4,500,000</b>
<b><i>Leisure Equipment &amp; Products 0.3%</i></b>				
Party City Holdings Inc., Senior Notes	8.875%	8/1/20	1,210,000	<b>1,285,625(a)</b>
<b><i>Media 4.9%</i></b>				
Carmike Cinemas Inc., Secured Notes	7.375%	5/15/19	430,000	461,713
Cengage Learning Acquisitions Inc., Senior Secured Notes	11.500%	4/15/20	1,610,000	1,702,575(a)
Clear Channel Worldwide Holdings Inc., Senior Subordinated Notes	7.625%	3/15/20	760,000	741,000
Clear Channel Worldwide Holdings Inc., Senior Subordinated Notes	7.625%	3/15/20	110,000	105,600
Entercom Radio LLC, Senior Notes	10.500%	12/1/19	910,000	1,001,000
Good Sam Enterprises LLC, Secured Notes	11.500%	12/1/16	1,500,000	1,565,625
LBI Media Inc., Senior Secured Notes	9.250%	4/15/19	1,080,000	988,200(a)
Nara Cable Funding Ltd., Senior Secured Notes	8.875%	12/1/18	1,000,000	912,500(a)
Ono Finance II PLC, Senior Bonds	10.875%	7/15/19	4,631,000	3,727,955(a)
Polish Television Holding BV, Senior Secured Notes, step bond	11.250%	5/15/17	1,600,000EUR	2,062,792(a)
Polish Television Holding BV, Senior Secured Notes, step bond	11.250%	5/15/17	600,000EUR	773,547(a)
Seat Pagine Gialle SpA, Senior Secured Bonds	10.500%	1/31/17	581,000EUR	511,547(a)(e)

See Notes to Financial Statements.

12

Western Asset High Yield Defined Opportunity Fund Inc. 2012 Annual Report

**Schedule of investments (cont d)**

August 31, 2012

**Western Asset High Yield Defined Opportunity Fund Inc.**

<b>Security</b>	<b>Rate</b>	<b>Maturity Date</b>	<b>Face Amount</b>	<b>Value</b>
<b>Media continued</b>				
Univision Communications Inc., Senior Secured Notes	6.750%	9/15/22	3,070,000 \$	3,096,862(a)
UPCB Finance II Ltd., Senior Notes	6.375%	7/1/20	2,000,000EUR	2,641,380(a)
<b>Total Media</b>				<b>20,292,296</b>
<b>Multiline Retail 0.4%</b>				
Bon-Ton Department Stores Inc., Senior Secured Notes	10.625%	7/15/17	530,000	431,950(a)
Neiman Marcus Group Inc., Senior Secured Notes	7.125%	6/1/28	1,100,000	1,061,500
<b>Total Multiline Retail</b>				<b>1,493,450</b>
<b>Specialty Retail 1.5%</b>				
Edcon Proprietary Ltd., Senior Secured Notes	9.500%	3/1/18	1,950,000EUR	2,311,679(a)
Gymboree Corp., Senior Notes	9.125%	12/1/18	1,940,000	1,852,700
Michaels Stores Inc., Senior Subordinated Notes	13.000%	11/1/16	1,332,000	1,413,598
Spencer Spirit Holdings Inc./Spencer Gifts LLC/Spirit Halloween Superstores, Senior Notes	11.000%	5/1/17	770,000	818,125(a)
<b>Total Specialty Retail</b>				<b>6,396,102</b>
<b>Textiles, Apparel &amp; Luxury Goods 0.6%</b>				
Boardriders SA, Senior Notes	8.875%	12/15/17	1,500,000EUR	1,896,133(a)
Empire Today LLC/Empire Today Finance Corp., Senior Secured Notes	11.375%	2/1/17	550,000	578,875(a)
<b>Total Textiles, Apparel &amp; Luxury Goods</b>				<b>2,475,008</b>
<b>Total Consumer Discretionary</b>				
<b>Consumer Staples 2.6%</b>				<b>85,230,944</b>
<b>Beverages 0.1%</b>				
Innovation Ventures LLC/Innovation Ventures Finance Corp., Senior Secured Notes	9.500%	8/15/19	240,000	221,400(a)
<b>Food &amp; Staples Retailing 0.4%</b>				
New Albertsons Inc., Senior Notes	7.250%	5/1/13	220,000	220,000
Post Holdings Inc., Senior Notes	7.375%	2/15/22	1,320,000	1,397,550(a)
<b>Total Food &amp; Staples Retailing</b>				<b>1,617,550</b>
<b>Food Products 1.7%</b>				
Boparan Holdings Ltd., Senior Notes	9.875%	4/30/18	1,000,000GBP	1,675,183(a)
Foodcorp Ltd., Senior Secured Notes	8.750%	3/1/18	700,000EUR	916,779(a)
Foodcorp Ltd., Senior Secured Notes	8.750%	3/1/18	530,000EUR	694,133(a)
Harmony Foods Corp., Senior Secured Notes	10.000%	5/1/16	530,000	551,200(a)
Simmons Foods Inc., Senior Secured Notes	10.500%	11/1/17	3,600,000	3,132,000(a)
<b>Total Food Products</b>				<b>6,969,295</b>

See Notes to Financial Statements.





**Western Asset High Yield Defined Opportunity Fund Inc.**

<b>Security</b>	<b>Rate</b>	<b>Maturity Date</b>	<b>Face Amount</b>	<b>Value</b>
<b>Personal Products 0.0%</b>				
Prestige Brands Inc., Senior Notes	8.125%	2/1/20	170,000	\$ 189,125
<b>Tobacco 0.4%</b>				
Alliance One International Inc., Senior Notes	10.000%	7/15/16	1,925,000	1,965,906
<b>Total Consumer Staples</b>				<b>10,963,276</b>
<b>Energy 6.2%</b>				
<b>Energy Equipment &amp; Services 1.0%</b>				
Hercules Offshore Inc., Senior Notes	10.250%	4/1/19	730,000	750,075(a)
Hercules Offshore LLC, Senior Secured Notes	10.500%	10/15/17	2,040,000	2,121,600(a)
Vantage Drilling Co., Senior Secured Notes	11.500%	8/1/15	1,310,000	1,454,100
<b>Total Energy Equipment &amp; Services</b>				<b>4,325,775</b>
<b>Oil, Gas &amp; Consumable Fuels 5.2%</b>				
Arch Coal Inc., Senior Notes	8.750%	8/1/16	1,540,000	1,547,700
Berry Petroleum Co., Senior Notes	6.375%	9/15/22	1,270,000	1,355,725
Calumet Specialty Products Partners LP/Calumet Finance Corp., Senior Notes	9.375%	5/1/19	910,000	960,050
Calumet Specialty Products Partners LP/Calumet Finance Corp., Senior Notes	9.375%	5/1/19	270,000	284,850
Calumet Specialty Products Partners LP/Calumet Finance Corp., Senior Notes	9.625%	8/1/20	570,000	608,475(a)
Coffeyville Resources LLC/Coffeyville Finance Inc., Senior Secured Notes	9.000%	4/1/15	930,000	995,100(a)
Comstock Resources Inc., Senior Notes	9.500%	6/15/20	890,000	941,175
Crosstex Energy LP/Crosstex Energy Finance Corp., Senior Notes	7.125%	6/1/22	1,860,000	1,855,350(a)
Everest Acquisition LLC/Everest Acquisition Finance Inc., Senior Notes	9.375%	5/1/20	100,000	108,875(a)
Halcon Resources Corp., Senior Notes	9.750%	7/15/20	1,290,000	1,319,025(a)
Kodiak Oil & Gas Corp., Senior Notes	8.125%	12/1/19	1,250,000	1,329,688(a)
Milagro Oil & Gas Inc., Secured Notes	10.500%	5/15/16	1,040,000	733,200
Overseas Shipholding Group Inc., Senior Notes	8.125%	3/30/18	2,630,000	1,643,750
Pioneer Energy Services Corp., Senior Notes	9.875%	3/15/18	130,000	141,375
Plains Exploration & Production Co., Senior Notes	6.750%	2/1/22	200,000	217,000
Quicksilver Resources Inc., Senior Notes	11.750%	1/1/16	1,100,000	1,083,500
Samson Investment Co., Senior Notes	9.750%	2/15/20	2,380,000	2,454,375(a)
SandRidge Energy Inc., Senior Notes	7.500%	2/15/23	1,240,000	1,249,300(a)
Westmoreland Coal Co./Westmoreland Partners, Senior Secured Notes	10.750%	2/1/18	830,000	773,975
Xinergy Ltd., Senior Secured Notes	9.250%	5/15/19	2,980,000	2,004,050(a)
<b>Total Oil, Gas &amp; Consumable Fuels</b>				<b>21,606,538</b>
<b>Total Energy</b>				<b>25,932,313</b>

See Notes to Financial Statements.

**Schedule of investments (cont d)**

August 31, 2012

**Western Asset High Yield Defined Opportunity Fund Inc.**

<b>Security</b>	<b>Rate</b>	<b>Maturity Date</b>	<b>Face Amount</b>	<b>Value</b>
<b>Financials 6.2%</b>				
<b>Commercial Banks 2.4%</b>				
BankAmerica Institutional Capital B, Junior Subordinated Bonds	7.700%	12/31/26	100,000	\$ 102,250(a)
Barclays Bank PLC, Subordinated Notes	10.179%	6/12/21	1,550,000	1,948,001(a)
Intesa Sanpaolo SpA, Senior Notes	3.625%	8/12/15	1,490,000	1,401,555(a)
Royal Bank of Scotland Group PLC, Junior Subordinated Notes, Medium-Term Notes	7.640%	9/29/17	7,000,000	5,600,000(f)(g)
Santander Issuances SAU, Notes	5.911%	6/20/16	900,000	844,015(a)
<b>Total Commercial Banks</b>				<b>9,895,821</b>
<b>Diversified Financial Services 3.6%</b>				
Bankrate Inc., Senior Secured Notes	11.750%	7/15/15	2,340,000	2,632,500
Capital One Capital V, Junior Subordinated Notes, Cumulative Trust Preferred Securities	10.250%	8/15/39	3,770,000	3,901,950
International Lease Finance Corp., Senior Notes	5.750%	5/15/16	1,000,000	1,048,460
International Lease Finance Corp., Senior Notes	8.750%	3/15/17	1,900,000	2,208,750
International Lease Finance Corp., Senior Notes	8.250%	12/15/20	3,140,000	3,685,223
TransUnion Holding Co. Inc., Senior Notes	9.625%	6/15/18	1,100,000	1,199,000(a)(b)
ZFS Finance USA Trust II, Bonds	6.450%	12/15/65	500,000	528,750(a)(f)
<b>Total Diversified Financial Services</b>				<b>15,204,633</b>
<b>Insurance 0.2%</b>				
Liberty Mutual Group, Junior Subordinated Bonds	7.800%	3/7/37	720,000	765,900(a)
<b>Total Financials</b>				<b>25,866,354</b>
<b>Health Care 5.2%</b>				
<b>Health Care Equipment &amp; Supplies 0.7%</b>				
Hologic Inc., Senior Notes	6.250%	8/1/20	550,000	585,063(a)
Ontex IV SA, Senior Notes	9.000%	4/15/19	1,400,000EUR	1,633,253(a)
Ontex IV SA, Senior Notes	9.000%	4/15/19	680,000EUR	793,294(a)
<b>Total Health Care Equipment &amp; Supplies</b>				<b>3,011,610</b>
<b>Health Care Providers &amp; Services 4.0%</b>				
Acadia Healthcare Co. Inc., Senior Notes	12.875%	11/1/18	730,000	850,450
AMERIGROUP Corp., Senior Notes	7.500%	11/15/19	780,000	912,600
CHS/Community Health Systems Inc., Senior Notes	8.000%	11/15/19	1,890,000	2,050,650
CRC Health Corp., Senior Subordinated Notes	10.750%	2/1/16	3,724,000	3,342,290
Crown Newco 3 PLC, Senior Notes	8.875%	2/15/19	225,000GBP	341,190(a)

See Notes to Financial Statements.

**Western Asset High Yield Defined Opportunity Fund Inc.**

<b>Security</b>	<b>Rate</b>	<b>Maturity Date</b>	<b>Face Amount</b>	<b>Value</b>
<b>Health Care Providers &amp; Services continued</b>				
Crown Newco 3 PLC, Senior Subordinated Notes	8.875%	2/15/19	1,125,000GBP \$	1,705,947(a)
DJO Finance LLC/DJO Finance Corp., Senior Notes	10.875%	11/15/14	620,000	650,225
ExamWorks Group Inc., Senior Notes	9.000%	7/15/19	780,000	813,150
INC Research LLC, Senior Notes	11.500%	7/15/19	590,000	581,150(a)
InVentiv Health Inc., Senior Notes	10.250%	8/15/18	1,210,000	1,025,475(a)
Labco SAS, Senior Secured Notes	8.500%	1/15/18	1,330,000EUR	1,618,506(a)
Physiotherapy Associates Holdings Inc., Senior Notes	11.875%	5/1/19	320,000	336,000(a)
Tenet Healthcare Corp., Senior Notes	6.875%	11/15/31	2,610,000	2,290,275
Vanguard Health Systems Inc., Senior Notes	0.000%	2/1/16	36,000	25,650
<b>Total Health Care Providers &amp; Services</b>				<b>16,543,558</b>
<b>Pharmaceuticals 0.5%</b>				
ConvaTec Healthcare E SA, Senior Notes	10.875%	12/15/18	1,530,000EUR	2,068,766(a)
<b>Total Health Care</b>				<b>21,623,934</b>
<b>Industrials 15.0%</b>				
<b>Aerospace &amp; Defense 1.8%</b>				
Ducommun Inc., Senior Notes	9.750%	7/15/18	600,000	630,750
Kratos Defense & Security Solutions Inc., Senior Secured Notes	10.000%	6/1/17	2,150,000	2,300,500
Wyle Services Corp., Senior Subordinated Notes	10.500%	4/1/18	4,200,000	4,557,000(a)
<b>Total Aerospace &amp; Defense</b>				<b>7,488,250</b>
<b>Airlines 1.4%</b>				
DAE Aviation Holdings Inc., Senior Notes	11.250%	8/1/15	4,275,000	4,424,625(a)
Delta Air Lines Inc., Pass-Through Certificates, Secured Notes	8.021%	8/10/22	1,456,731	1,500,433
<b>Total Airlines</b>				<b>5,925,058</b>
<b>Building Products 0.8%</b>				
Ashton Woods USA LLC/Ashton Woods Finance Co., Senior Subordinated Notes	11.000%	6/30/15	1,040,000	980,200(a)(d)
Reliance Intermediate Holdings LP, Senior Secured Notes	9.500%	12/15/19	1,190,000	1,326,850(a)
Spie BondCo 3 SCA, Secured Notes	11.000%	8/15/19	617,000EUR	793,524(a)
<b>Total Building Products</b>				<b>3,100,574</b>
<b>Commercial Services &amp; Supplies 2.4%</b>				
Altegrity Inc., Senior Subordinated Notes	11.750%	5/1/16	1,500,000	1,260,000(a)
American Reprographics Co., Senior Notes	10.500%	12/15/16	4,000,000	4,160,000
JM Huber Corp., Senior Notes	9.875%	11/1/19	680,000	756,500(a)
Monitronics International Inc., Senior Notes	9.125%	4/1/20	2,070,000	2,121,750

See Notes to Financial Statements.

**Schedule of investments (cont d)**

August 31, 2012

**Western Asset High Yield Defined Opportunity Fund Inc.**

<b>Security</b>	<b>Rate</b>	<b>Maturity Date</b>	<b>Face Amount</b>	<b>Value</b>
<b>Commercial Services &amp; Supplies continued</b>				
Taylor Morrison Communities Inc./Monarch Communities Inc., Senior Notes	7.750%	4/15/20	1,300,000	\$ 1,381,250(a)
Taylor Morrison Communities Inc./Monarch Communities Inc., Senior Notes	7.750%	4/15/20	320,000	340,000(a)
<b>Total Commercial Services &amp; Supplies</b>				<b>10,019,500</b>
<b>Construction &amp; Engineering 1.0%</b>				
Abengoa Finance SAU, Senior Notes	8.875%	11/1/17	5,000,000	4,350,000(a)
<b>Electrical Equipment 1.0%</b>				
NES Rentals Holdings Inc., Senior Secured Notes	12.250%	4/15/15	4,250,000	4,207,500(a)
<b>Machinery 1.4%</b>				
Dematic SA, Senior Secured Notes	8.750%	5/1/16	1,890,000	2,022,300(a)
Global Brass and Copper Inc., Senior Secured Notes	9.500%	6/1/19	1,000,000	1,057,500(a)
Heidelberger Druckmaschinen AG, Senior Notes	9.250%	4/15/18	1,500,000EUR	1,443,326(a)
Heidelberger Druckmaschinen AG, Senior Notes	9.250%	4/15/18	600,000EUR	577,330(a)
SPL Logistics Escrow LLC, Senior Secured Notes	8.875%	8/1/20	710,000	734,850(a)
<b>Total Machinery</b>				<b>5,835,306</b>
<b>Marine 1.0%</b>				
Horizon Lines LLC, Secured Notes	13.000%	10/15/16	1,154,708	1,102,746(a)(b)
Horizon Lines LLC, Senior Secured Notes	11.000%	10/15/16	806,000	801,970(a)
Navios Maritime Acquisition Corp./Navios Acquisition Finance U.S. Inc., Senior Secured Notes	8.625%	11/1/17	2,480,000	2,337,400
<b>Total Marine</b>				<b>4,242,116</b>
<b>Road &amp; Rail 1.8%</b>				
Florida East Coast Holdings Corp., Senior Notes	10.500%	8/1/17	3,287,721	2,958,949(b)
Jack Cooper Holdings Corp., Senior Secured Notes	13.750%	12/15/15	2,026,000	2,046,260(a)
Quality Distribution LLC/QD Capital Corp., Secured Notes	9.875%	11/1/18	2,130,000	2,311,050
<b>Total Road &amp; Rail</b>				<b>7,316,259</b>
<b>Trading Companies &amp; Distributors 0.6%</b>				
H&E Equipment Services Inc., Senior Notes	7.000%	9/1/22	1,110,000	1,154,400(a)
UR Financing Escrow Corp., Senior Notes	7.625%	4/15/22	1,336,000	1,446,220(a)
<b>Total Trading Companies &amp; Distributors</b>				<b>2,600,620</b>
<b>Transportation 1.6%</b>				
CMA CGM, Senior Notes	8.875%	4/15/19	1,600,000EUR	1,298,050(a)

See Notes to Financial Statements.

Western Asset High Yield Defined Opportunity Fund Inc. 2012 Annual Report

**Western Asset High Yield Defined Opportunity Fund Inc.**

<b>Security</b>	<b>Rate</b>	<b>Maturity Date</b>	<b>Face Amount</b>	<b>Value</b>
<b>Transportation continued</b>				
Hapag-Lloyd AG, Senior Notes	9.750%	10/15/17	2,000,000	\$ 1,960,000(a)
Syncreon Global Ireland Ltd./Syncreon Global Finance US Inc., Senior Notes	9.500%	5/1/18	3,450,000	3,553,500(a)
<b>Total Transportation</b>				<b>6,811,550</b>
<b>Transportation Infrastructure 0.2%</b>				
Aguila 3 SA, Senior Secured Notes	7.875%	1/31/18	630,000	667,012(a)
<b>Total Industrials</b>				<b>62,563,745</b>
<b>Information Technology 2.7%</b>				
<b>Electronic Equipment, Instruments &amp; Components 0.8%</b>				
NXP BV/NXP Funding LLC, Senior Secured Notes	9.750%	8/1/18	3,000,000	3,442,500(a)
<b>Internet Software &amp; Services 0.2%</b>				
Zayo Group LLC/Zayo Capital Inc., Senior Secured Notes	8.125%	1/1/20	790,000	843,325
<b>IT Services 1.5%</b>				
First Data Corp., Senior Notes	10.550%	9/24/15	3,324,847	3,424,592
First Data Corp., Senior Notes	11.250%	3/31/16	550,000	530,750
First Data Corp., Senior Notes	12.625%	1/15/21	1,150,000	1,170,125
SRA International Inc., Senior Notes	11.000%	10/1/19	1,120,000	1,145,200
<b>Total IT Services</b>				<b>6,270,667</b>
<b>Semiconductors &amp; Semiconductor Equipment 0.1%</b>				
Advanced Micro Devices Inc., Senior Notes	7.500%	8/15/22	270,000	267,300(a)
<b>Software 0.1%</b>				
Legend Acquisition Sub Inc., Senior Notes	10.750%	8/15/20	460,000	456,550(a)
<b>Total Information Technology</b>				<b>11,280,342</b>
<b>Materials 11.3%</b>				
<b>Chemicals 1.8%</b>				
Ineos Group Holdings PLC, Senior Notes	7.875%	2/15/16	1,800,000EUR	2,026,316(a)
Kerling PLC, Senior Secured Notes	10.625%	2/1/17	1,300,000EUR	1,463,450(a)
Kloekner Pentaplast GmbH & Co. KG, Senior Secured Notes	11.625%	7/15/17	370,000EUR	482,838(a)
Orion Engineered Carbons Bondco GmbH, Senior Secured Bonds	10.000%	6/15/18	1,305,000EUR	1,797,365(a)
Styrolution GmbH, Senior Secured Notes	7.625%	5/15/16	1,600,000EUR	1,801,169(a)
<b>Total Chemicals</b>				<b>7,571,138</b>
<b>Containers &amp; Packaging 3.8%</b>				
Ardagh Packaging Finance PLC, Senior Notes	9.250%	10/15/20	2,500,000EUR	3,207,390(a)
Beverage Packaging Holdings Luxembourg II SA, Senior Notes	8.000%	12/15/16	430,000EUR	534,093(a)
Beverage Packaging Holdings Luxembourg II SA, Senior Notes	9.500%	6/15/17	1,900,000EUR	2,353,973(a)

See Notes to Financial Statements.



**Schedule of investments (cont d)**

August 31, 2012

**Western Asset High Yield Defined Opportunity Fund Inc.**

<b>Security</b>	<b>Rate</b>	<b>Maturity Date</b>	<b>Face Amount</b>	<b>Value</b>
<b>Containers &amp; Packaging continued</b>				
Pretium Packaging LLC/Pretium Finance Inc., Senior Secured Notes	11.500%	4/1/16	4,500,000	\$ 4,567,500
Reynolds Group Issuer Inc./Reynolds Group Issuer LLC/Reynolds Group Issuer (Luxembourg) SA, Senior Notes	8.500%	5/15/18	2,740,000	2,787,950
Viskase Cos. Inc., Senior Secured Notes	9.875%	1/15/18	2,000,000	2,100,000(a)
<b>Total Containers &amp; Packaging</b>				<b>15,550,906</b>
<b>Metals &amp; Mining 3.8%</b>				
FMG Resources (August 2006) Pty Ltd., Senior Notes	7.000%	11/1/15	1,280,000	1,264,000(a)
FMG Resources (August 2006) Pty Ltd., Senior Notes	8.250%	11/1/19	1,510,000	1,510,000(a)
Midwest Vanadium Pty Ltd., Senior Secured Notes	11.500%	2/15/18	3,130,000	2,144,050(a)
Mirabela Nickel Ltd., Senior Notes	8.750%	4/15/18	620,000	460,350(a)
Molycorp Inc., Senior Secured Notes	10.000%	6/1/20	1,380,000	1,317,900(a)
Novelis Inc., Senior Notes	8.750%	12/15/20	810,000	909,225
Optima Specialty Steel Inc., Senior Secured Notes	12.500%	12/15/16	910,000	962,325(a)
Ryerson Holding Corp., Senior Secured Notes	0.000%	2/1/15	5,000,000	2,550,000
Ryerson Inc., Senior Secured Notes	12.000%	11/1/15	1,904,000	1,946,840
Steel Dynamics Inc., Senior Notes	6.125%	8/15/19	540,000	562,950(a)
Tempel Steel Co., Senior Secured Notes	12.000%	8/15/16	780,000	756,600(a)
Thompson Creek Metals Co. Inc., Senior Notes	12.500%	5/1/19	1,480,000	1,346,800
<b>Total Metals &amp; Mining</b>				<b>15,731,040</b>
<b>Paper &amp; Forest Products 1.9%</b>				
Appleton Papers Inc., Senior Secured Notes	10.500%	6/15/15	1,010,000	1,085,750(a)
Appleton Papers Inc., Senior Secured Notes	11.250%	12/15/15	3,100,000	3,115,500
PE Paper Escrow GmbH, Senior Secured Notes	11.750%	8/1/14	362,621EUR	486,299(a)
Verso Paper Holdings LLC/Verso Paper Inc., Senior Secured Notes	11.750%	1/15/19	1,868,000	1,485,060(a)
Verso Paper Holdings LLC/Verso Paper Inc., Senior Secured Notes	8.750%	2/1/19	1,020,000	469,200
Verso Paper Holdings LLC/Verso Paper Inc., Senior Subordinated Notes	11.375%	8/1/16	2,280,000	1,402,200
<b>Total Paper &amp; Forest Products</b>				<b>8,044,009</b>
<b>Total Materials 46,897,093</b>				
<b>Telecommunication Services 7.7%</b>				
<b>Diversified Telecommunication Services 4.2%</b>				
Cogent Communications Group Inc., Senior Secured Notes	8.375%	2/15/18	5,000,000	5,462,500(a)

See Notes to Financial Statements.





**Western Asset High Yield Defined Opportunity Fund Inc.**

<b>Security</b>	<b>Rate</b>	<b>Maturity Date</b>	<b>Face Amount</b>	<b>Value</b>
<b><i>Diversified Telecommunication Services</i></b>				
<b><i>continued</i></b>				
Intelsat Luxembourg SA, Senior Notes	11.250%	2/4/17	3,000,000	\$ 3,161,250
Level 3 Financing Inc., Senior Notes	8.625%	7/15/20	920,000	987,850
SBA Telecommunications Inc., Senior Notes	5.750%	7/15/20	470,000	492,913(a)
Unitymedia GmbH, Senior Secured Notes	9.500%	3/15/21	1,600,000EUR	2,306,805(a)
Unitymedia GmbH, Senior Secured Notes	9.500%	3/15/21	440,000EUR	634,371(a)
Wind Acquisition Finance SA, Senior Secured Notes	11.750%	7/15/17	1,000,000EUR	1,113,153(a)
Wind Acquisition Holdings Finance SpA, Senior Notes	12.250%	7/15/17	5,073,769	3,577,007(a)(b)
<b><i>Total Diversified Telecommunication Services</i></b>				<b>17,735,849</b>
<b><i>Wireless Telecommunication Services 3.5%</i></b>				
Cricket Communications Inc., Senior Notes	7.750%	10/15/20	1,000,000	975,000
MetroPCS Wireless Inc., Senior Notes	6.625%	11/15/20	1,370,000	1,423,087
Phones4u Finance PLC, Senior Secured Notes	9.500%	4/1/18	1,150,000GBP	1,775,813(a)
Phones4u Finance PLC, Senior Secured Notes	9.500%	4/1/18	150,000GBP	231,628(a)
Sprint Capital Corp., Senior Notes	6.875%	11/15/28	5,780,000	5,259,800
Sprint Capital Corp., Senior Notes	8.750%	3/15/32	2,120,000	2,151,800
Sprint Nextel Corp., Senior Notes	9.000%	11/15/18	2,220,000	2,625,150(a)
<b><i>Total Wireless Telecommunication Services</i></b>				<b>14,442,278</b>
<b><i>Total Telecommunication Services</i></b>				<b>32,178,127</b>
<b><i>Utilities 6.7%</i></b>				
<b><i>Electric Utilities 2.5%</i></b>				
AES Ironwood LLC, Secured Notes	8.857%	11/30/25	774,789	896,818
Midwest Generation LLC, Pass-Through Certificates	8.560%	1/2/16	1,026,812	903,594
Northeast Generation Co., Senior Secured Notes	8.812%	10/15/26	2,640,235	3,080,900
Reliant Energy Mid-Atlantic Power Holdings LLC, Senior Notes	9.681%	7/2/26	3,350,000	3,601,250
Texas Competitive Electric Holdings Co. LLC/TCEH Finance Inc., Senior Secured Notes	11.500%	10/1/20	2,340,000	1,895,400(a)
<b><i>Total Electric Utilities</i></b>				<b>10,377,962</b>
<b><i>Independent Power Producers &amp; Energy Traders 4.2%</i></b>				
Atlantic Power Corp., Senior Notes	9.000%	11/15/18	960,000	1,008,000
Dynegy Inc., Bonds	7.670%	11/8/16	1,180,000	755,200(e)
Energy Future Intermediate Holding Co. LLC/EFIH Finance Inc., Secured Notes	11.750%	3/1/22	5,430,000	5,810,100(a)
Energy Future Intermediate Holding Co. LLC/EFIH Finance Inc., Senior Secured Notes	6.875%	8/15/17	780,000	800,475(a)

See Notes to Financial Statements.

## Western Asset High Yield Defined Opportunity Fund Inc. 2012 Annual Report

## Schedule of investments (cont d)

August 31, 2012

## Western Asset High Yield Defined Opportunity Fund Inc.

Security	Rate	Maturity Date	Face Amount	Value
<b>Independent Power Producers &amp; Energy Traders continued</b>				
Energy Future Intermediate Holding Co. LLC/EFIH Finance Inc., Senior Secured Notes	10.000%	12/1/20	480,000	\$ 541,200
First Wind Holdings Inc., Senior Secured Notes	10.250%	6/1/18	1,380,000	1,386,900(a)
Foresight Energy LLC/Foresight Energy Corp., Senior Notes	9.625%	8/15/17	2,635,000	2,694,288(a)
Mirant Americas Generation LLC, Senior Notes	9.125%	5/1/31	2,840,000	2,953,600
Mirant Mid Atlantic LLC, Pass-Through Certificates	10.060%	12/30/28	1,461,442	1,622,200
<b>Total Independent Power Producers &amp; Energy Traders</b>				<b>17,571,963</b>
<b>Total Utilities</b>				<b>27,949,925</b>
<b>Total Corporate Bonds &amp; Notes (Cost \$355,144,699)</b>				<b>350,486,053</b>
<b>Collateralized Senior Loans 2.5%</b>				
<b>Consumer Discretionary 1.0%</b>				
<b>Diversified Consumer Services 0.5%</b>				
Realogy Corp., Second Lien Term Loan	13.500%	10/15/17	2,000,000	2,035,000(h)
<b>Hotels, Restaurants &amp; Leisure 0.5%</b>				
Stockbridge/SBE Holdings LLC, Term Loan B	13.000%	5/2/17	2,150,000	2,150,000(h)
<b>Total Consumer Discretionary</b>				<b>4,185,000</b>
<b>Energy 1.1%</b>				
<b>Oil, Gas &amp; Consumable Fuels 1.1%</b>				
Chesapeake Energy Corp., Term Loan	8.500%	12/1/17	4,530,000	4,550,725(h)
<b>Industrials 0.4%</b>				
<b>Machinery 0.4%</b>				
Intelligrated Inc., Second Lien Term Loan	10.500%	12/31/19	1,740,000	1,753,050(h)
<b>Total Collateralized Senior Loans (Cost \$10,293,772)</b>				<b>10,488,775</b>
<b>Convertible Bonds &amp; Notes 2.0%</b>				
<b>Consumer Discretionary 1.2%</b>				
<b>Diversified Consumer Services 1.2%</b>				
Realogy Corp., Senior Subordinated Bonds	11.000%	4/15/18	5,000,000	4,850,000(a)
<b>Materials 0.8%</b>				
<b>Chemicals 0.8%</b>				
Hercules Inc.	6.500%	6/30/29	4,000,000	3,312,500
<b>Total Convertible Bonds &amp; Notes (Cost \$8,015,089)</b>				<b>8,162,500</b>
<b>Sovereign Bonds 3.8%</b>				
<b>Argentina 1.3%</b>				
Republic of Argentina, Discount Notes	8.280%	12/31/33	3,524,933	2,414,579
Republic of Argentina, Senior Notes	8.750%	6/2/17	3,030,000	2,817,900
<b>Total Argentina</b>				<b>5,232,479</b>

See Notes to Financial Statements.

**Western Asset High Yield Defined Opportunity Fund Inc.**

<b>Security</b>	<b>Rate</b>	<b>Maturity Date</b>	<b>Face Amount</b>	<b>Value</b>
<b>Venezuela 2.5%</b>				
Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela	5.750%	2/26/16	5,970,000	\$ 5,387,925(a)
Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, Senior Bonds	9.250%	9/15/27	5,820,000	5,107,050
<b>Total Venezuela</b>				<b>10,494,975</b>
<b>Total Sovereign Bonds (Cost \$15,597,054)</b>				<b>15,727,454</b>
<b>Shares</b>				
<b>Common Stocks 0.3%</b>				
<b>Consumer Discretionary 0.0%</b>				
<b>Hotels, Restaurants &amp; Leisure 0.0%</b>				
Bossier Casino Venture Holdco Inc.			68,957	137,914*(c)(d)
<b>Industrials 0.3%</b>				
<b>Marine 0.3%</b>				
Horizon Lines Inc., Class A Shares			633,775	1,140,795*
<b>Total Common Stocks (Cost \$2,671,210)</b>				<b>1,278,709</b>
<b>Convertible Preferred Stocks 1.4%</b>				
<b>Financials 1.4%</b>				
<b>Diversified Financial Services 1.4%</b>				
Citigroup Inc. (Cost \$7,184,331)	7.500%		64,700	5,998,337
<b>Preferred Stocks 2.0%</b>				
<b>Financials 1.9%</b>				
<b>Consumer Finance 1.9%</b>				
GMAC Capital Trust I	8.125%		319,200	7,922,544(f)
<b>Industrials 0.1%</b>				
<b>Road &amp; Rail 0.1%</b>				
Jack Cooper Holdings Corp.	20.000%		3,773	377,300(a)(c)(f)
<b>Total Preferred Stocks (Cost \$8,146,168)</b>				<b>8,299,844</b>
<b>Expiration Date</b>				
<b>Purchased Options 0.1%</b>				
Credit default swaption with Barclays Capital Inc. to buy protection on Markit CDX.NA.HY.18 Index, Put @ \$97.50 (Cost \$256,568)		10/17/12	20,691,000	237,160
<b>Warrants</b>				
<b>Warrants 0.0%</b>				
Jack Cooper Holdings Corp.		12/15/17	1,686	126,450*
Jack Cooper Holdings Corp.		5/6/18	846	63,450*
<b>Total Warrants (Cost \$46,253)</b>				<b>189,900</b>
<b>Total Investments before Short-Term Investments (Cost \$407,355,144)</b>				<b>400,868,732</b>

See Notes to Financial Statements.



## Western Asset High Yield Defined Opportunity Fund Inc. 2012 Annual Report

**Schedule of investments (cont d)**

August 31, 2012

**Western Asset High Yield Defined Opportunity Fund Inc.**

<b>Security</b>	<b>Rate</b>	<b>Maturity Date</b>	<b>Face Amount</b>	<b>Value</b>
<b>Short-Term Investments</b> 1.8%				
<b>Repurchase Agreements</b> 1.8%				
Goldman Sachs & Co. repurchase agreement dated 8/31/12; Proceeds at maturity \$7,600,144; (Fully collateralized by U.S. government agency obligations, 1.250% due 9/28/16; Market value \$7,790,465) (Cost \$7,600,000)	0.170%	9/4/12	7,600,000	\$ 7,600,000
<b>Total Investments</b> 98.0% (Cost \$414,955,144#)				<b>408,468,732</b>
Other Assets in Excess of Liabilities 2.0%				8,209,201
<b>Total Net Assets</b> 100.0%				<b>\$416,677,933</b>

Face amount/notional amount denominated in U.S. dollars, unless otherwise noted.

\* Non-income producing security.

(a) Security is exempt from registration under Rule 144A of the Securities Act of 1933. This security may be resold in transactions that are exempt from registration, normally to qualified institutional buyers. This security has been deemed liquid pursuant to guidelines approved by the Board of Directors, unless otherwise noted.

(b) Payment-in-kind security for which part of the income earned may be paid as additional principal.

(c) Security is valued in good faith in accordance with procedures approved by the Board of Directors (See Note 1).

(d) Illiquid security (unaudited).

(e) The coupon payment on these securities is currently in default as of August 31, 2012.

(f) Variable rate security. Interest rate disclosed is as of the most recent information available.

(g) Security has no maturity date. The date shown represents the next call date.

(h) Interest rates disclosed represent the effective rates on collateralized senior loans. Ranges in interest rates are attributable to multiple contracts under the same loan.

# Aggregate cost for federal income tax purposes is \$416,069,686.

**Abbreviations used in this schedule:**

EUR	Euro
GBP	British Pound

See Notes to Financial Statements.

**Western Asset High Yield Defined Opportunity Fund Inc.****Schedule of Written Options**

<b>Security</b>	<b>Expiration Date</b>	<b>Strike Price</b>	<b>Notional Amount</b>	<b>Value</b>
Credit default swaption with Barclays Capital Inc. to buy protection on Markit CDX.NA.HY.18 Index, Call	10/17/12	\$99.00	20,691,000	\$112,770
Credit default swaption with Barclays Capital Inc. to buy protection on Markit CDX.NA.HY.18 Index, Call	9/19/12	98.00	8,019,000	59,170
Credit default swaption with Barclays Capital Inc. to sell protection on Markit CDX.NA.HY.18 Index, Put	10/17/12	94.50	20,691,000	81,658
<b>Total Written Options</b>				
<b>(Premiums received \$259,241)</b>				<b>\$253,598</b>

Notional amount denominated in U.S. dollars, unless otherwise noted.

See Notes to Financial Statements.

## Western Asset High Yield Defined Opportunity Fund Inc. 2012 Annual Report

**Statement of assets and liabilities**

August 31, 2012

**Assets:**

Investments, at value (Cost \$414,955,144)	\$408,468,732
Foreign currency, at value (Cost \$612,721)	620,536
Cash	24,052
Interest receivable	9,420,727
Premiums receivable on written options	200,703
Unrealized appreciation on forward foreign currency contracts	55,315
Principal paydown receivable	8,209
Prepaid expenses	26,044
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>418,824,318</b>

**Liabilities:**

Unrealized depreciation on forward foreign currency contracts	933,584
Payable for securities purchased	576,904
Investment management fee payable	280,614
Written options, at value (premiums received \$259,241)	253,598
Accrued expenses	101,685
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>2,146,385</b>

**Total Net Assets****\$416,677,933****Net Assets:**

Par value (\$0.001 par value, 22,697,687 shares issued and outstanding; 100,000,000 shares authorized)	\$ 22,698
Paid-in capital in excess of par value	431,898,990
Undistributed net investment income	5,868,701
Accumulated net realized loss on investments, futures contracts, written options and foreign currency transactions	(13,763,528)
Net unrealized depreciation on investments, written options and foreign currencies	(7,348,928)

**Total Net Assets****\$416,677,933****Shares Outstanding**

22,697,687

**Net Asset Value**

\$18.36

See Notes to Financial Statements.



**Statement of operations**

For the Year Ended August 31, 2012

**Investment Income:**

Interest	\$ 39,281,312
Dividends	1,087,817
<b>Total Investment Income</b>	<b>40,369,129</b>

**Expenses:**

Investment management fee (Note 2)	3,194,730
Transfer agent fees	114,195
Directors' fees	62,564
Audit and tax	42,600
Fund accounting fees	39,894
Shareholder reports	37,492
Legal fees	22,497
Stock exchange listing fees	14,789
Custody fees	11,875
Insurance	10,413
Miscellaneous expenses	8,719
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>3,559,768</b>

**Net Investment Income****36,809,361****Realized and Unrealized Gain (Loss) on Investments, Futures Contracts, Written Options and Foreign Currency Transactions (Notes 1, 3 and 4):**

Net Realized Gain (Loss) From:	
Investment transactions	(12,690,645)
Futures contracts	(332,051)
Written options	187,880
Foreign currency transactions	7,598,960
<b>Net Realized Loss</b>	<b>(5,235,856)</b>

## Change in Net Unrealized Appreciation (Depreciation) From:

Investments	18,324,666
Futures contracts	17,226
Written options	5,643
Foreign currencies	(383,582)
<b>Change in Net Unrealized Appreciation (Depreciation)</b>	<b>17,963,953</b>

**Net Gain on Investments, Futures Contracts, Written Options and Foreign Currency Transactions****12,728,097****Increase in Net Assets from Operations****\$ 49,537,458**

See Notes to Financial Statements.

## Western Asset High Yield Defined Opportunity Fund Inc. 2012 Annual Report

**Statements of changes in net assets****For the Year Ended August 31, 2012  
and the Period Ended August 31, 2011****Operations:**

	<b>2012</b>	<b>2011</b>
Net investment income	\$ 36,809,361	\$ 29,451,590
Net realized gain (loss)	(5,235,856)	62,743
Change in net unrealized appreciation (depreciation)	17,963,953	(25,312,881)
<b><i>Increase in Net Assets From Operations</i></b>	<b><i>49,537,458</i></b>	<b><i>4,201,452</i></b>

**Distributions to Shareholders From (Note 1):**

Net investment income	(37,685,249)	(29,440,835)
Net realized gains	(1,924,307)	
<b><i>Decrease in Net Assets From Distributions to Shareholders</i></b>	<b><i>(39,609,556)</i></b>	<b><i>(29,440,835)</i></b>

**Fund Share Transactions:**

Net proceeds from sale of shares (0 and 22,189,177 shares issued, respectively)		422,925,916
Reinvestment of distributions (336,836 and 171,674 shares issued, respectively)	5,861,704	3,201,794
<b><i>Increase in Net Assets From Fund Share Transactions</i></b>	<b><i>5,861,704</i></b>	<b><i>426,127,710</i></b>
<b><i>Increase in Net Assets</i></b>	<b><i>15,789,606</i></b>	<b><i>400,888,327</i></b>

**Net Assets:**

Beginning of year	400,888,327	
<b>End of year*</b>	<b>\$416,677,933</b>	<b>\$400,888,327</b>
* Includes undistributed (overdistributed) net investment income, respectively, of:	\$5,868,701	\$(1,010,414)

For the period October 27, 2010 (commencement of operations) through August 31, 2011.

See Notes to Financial Statements.

**Financial highlights**

For a share of capital stock outstanding throughout each year ended August 31, unless otherwise noted:

	<b>2012<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>2011<sup>2</sup></b>
<b>Net asset value, beginning of year</b>	\$17.93	\$19.06 <sup>3</sup>
<b>Income (loss) from operations:</b>		
Net investment income	1.63	1.33
Net realized and unrealized gain (loss)	0.56	(1.14)
<b>Total income from operations</b>	<b>2.19</b>	<b>0.19</b>
<b>Less distributions from:</b>		
Net investment income	(1.67)	(1.32)
Net realized gains	(0.09)	
<b>Total distributions</b>	<b>(1.76)</b>	<b>(1.32)</b>
<b>Net asset value, end of year</b>	\$18.36	\$17.93
<b>Market price, end of year</b>	\$19.74	\$18.43
<b>Total return, based on NAV<sup>4,5</sup></b>	<b>13.16%</b>	<b>0.90%</b>
<b>Total return, based on Market Price<sup>6</sup></b>	<b>18.40%</b>	<b>(1.16)%</b>
<b>Net assets, end of year (millions)</b>	\$417	\$401
<b>Ratios to average net assets:</b>		
Gross expenses	0.89%	0.93% <sup>7</sup>
Net expenses <sup>8</sup>	0.89	0.91 <sup>7,9</sup>
Net investment income	9.22	8.11 <sup>7</sup>
<b>Portfolio turnover rate</b>	53%	56%

1 Per share amounts have been calculated using the average shares method.

2 For the period October 27, 2010 (commencement of operations) through August 31, 2011.

3 Initial public offering price of \$20.00 per share less offering costs and sales load totaling \$0.94 per share.

4 Performance figures may reflect compensating balance arrangements, fee waivers and/or expense reimbursements. In the absence of compensating balance arrangements, fee waivers and/or expense reimbursements, the total return would have been lower. Past performance is no guarantee of future results. Total returns for periods of less than one year are not annualized.

5 The total return calculation assumes that distributions are reinvested at NAV. Prior to January 1, 2012, the total return calculation assumed the reinvestment of all distributions in accordance with the Fund's dividend reinvestment plan. Past performance is no guarantee of future results. Total returns for periods of less than one year are not annualized.

6 The total return calculation assumes that distributions are reinvested in accordance with the Fund's dividend reinvestment plan. Past performance is no guarantee of future results. Total returns for periods of less than one year are not annualized.

7 Annualized.

8 The impact of compensating balance arrangements, if any, was less than 0.01%.

9 The investment manager has agreed to reimburse all organization expenses.

See Notes to Financial Statements.

## Notes to financial statements

### 1. Organization and significant accounting policies

Western Asset High Yield Defined Opportunity Fund Inc. (the Fund) was incorporated in Maryland on July 20, 2010 and is registered as a non-diversified, limited-term, closed-end management investment company under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the 1940 Act). The Fund's primary investment objective is to provide high income. As a secondary investment objective, the Fund will seek capital appreciation. The Fund seeks to achieve its investment objectives by investing, under normal market conditions, at least 80% of its net assets in a portfolio of high-yield corporate fixed income securities with varying maturities. The Fund intends to liquidate on or about September 30, 2025 and distribute substantially all of its net assets to stockholders, after making appropriate provisions for any liabilities of the Fund.

The following are significant accounting policies consistently followed by the Fund and are in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP). Estimates and assumptions are required to be made regarding assets, liabilities and changes in net assets resulting from operations when financial statements are prepared. Changes in the economic environment, financial markets and any other parameters used in determining these estimates could cause actual results to differ. Subsequent events have been evaluated through the date the financial statements were issued.

**(a) Investment valuation.** The valuations for fixed income securities (which may include, but are not limited to, corporate, government, municipal, mortgage-backed, collateralized mortgage obligations and asset-backed securities) and certain derivative instruments are typically the prices supplied by independent third party pricing services, which may use market prices or broker/dealer quotations or a variety of valuation techniques and methodologies. The independent third party pricing services use inputs that are observable such as issuer details, interest rates, yield curves, prepayment speeds, credit risks/spreads, default rates and quoted prices for similar securities. Short-term fixed income securities that will mature in 60 days or less are valued at amortized cost, unless it is determined that using this method would not reflect an investment's fair value. Futures contracts are valued daily at the settlement price established by the board of trade or exchange on which they are traded. Equity securities for which market quotations are available are valued at the last reported sales price or official closing price on the primary market or exchange on which they trade. When the Fund holds securities or other assets that are denominated in a foreign currency, the Fund will normally use the currency exchange rates as of 4:00 p.m. (Eastern Time). If independent third party pricing services are unable to supply prices for a portfolio investment, or if the prices supplied are deemed by the manager to be unreliable, the market price may be determined by the manager using quotations from one or more broker/dealers or at the transaction price if the security has recently been purchased and no

value has yet been obtained from a pricing service or pricing broker. When reliable prices are not readily available, such as when the value of a security has been significantly affected by events after the close of the exchange or market on which the security is principally traded, but before the Fund calculates its net asset value, the Fund values these securities as determined in accordance with procedures approved by the Fund's Board of Directors.

The Board of Directors is responsible for the valuation process and has delegated the supervision of the daily valuation process to the Legg Mason North American Fund Valuation Committee (the Valuation Committee). The Valuation Committee, pursuant to the policies adopted by the Board of Directors, is responsible for making fair value determinations, evaluating the effectiveness of the Fund's pricing policies, and reporting to the Board of Directors. When determining the reliability of third party pricing information for investments owned by the Fund, the Valuation Committee, among other things, conducts due diligence reviews of pricing vendors, monitors the daily change in prices and reviews transactions among market participants.

The Valuation Committee will consider pricing methodologies it deems relevant and appropriate when making fair value determinations. Examples of possible methodologies include, but are not limited to, multiple of earnings; discount from market of a similar freely traded security; discounted cash-flow analysis; book value or a multiple thereof; risk premium/yield analysis; yield to maturity; and/or fundamental investment analysis. The Valuation Committee will also consider factors it deems relevant and appropriate in light of the facts and circumstances. Examples of possible factors include, but are not limited to, the type of security; the issuer's financial statements; the purchase price of the security; the discount from market value of unrestricted securities of the same class at the time of purchase; analysts' research and observations from financial institutions; information regarding any transactions or offers with respect to the security; the existence of merger proposals or tender offers affecting the security; the price and extent of public trading in similar securities of the issuer or comparable companies; and the existence of a shelf registration for restricted securities.

For each portfolio security that has been fair valued pursuant to the policies adopted by the Board of Directors, the fair value price is compared against the last available and next available market quotations. The Valuation Committee reviews the results of such back testing monthly and fair valuation occurrences are reported to the Board of Directors quarterly.

The Fund uses valuation techniques to measure fair value that are consistent with the market approach and/or income approach, depending on the type of security and the particular circumstance. The market approach uses prices and other relevant information generated by market transactions involving identical or comparable securities. The income approach uses valuation techniques to discount estimated future cash flows to present value.

## Western Asset High Yield Defined Opportunity Fund Inc. 2012 Annual Report

**Notes to financial statements (cont d)**

GAAP establishes a disclosure hierarchy that categorizes the inputs to valuation techniques used to value assets and liabilities at measurement date. These inputs are summarized in the three broad levels listed below:

- Level 1 quoted prices in active markets for identical investments
  
- Level 2 other significant observable inputs (including quoted prices for similar investments, interest rates, prepayment speeds, credit risk, etc.)
  
- Level 3 significant unobservable inputs (including the Fund's own assumptions in determining the fair value of investments)

The inputs or methodologies used to value securities are not necessarily an indication of the risk associated with investing in those securities.

The following is a summary of the inputs used in valuing the Fund's assets and liabilities carried at fair value:

Description	ASSETS			Total
	Quoted Prices (Level 1)	Other Significant Observable Inputs (Level 2)	Significant Unobservable Inputs (Level 3)	
Long-term investments :				
Corporate bonds & notes		\$349,622,318	\$ 863,735	\$350,486,053
Collateralized senior loans		10,488,775		10,488,775
Convertible bonds & notes		8,162,500		8,162,500
Sovereign bonds		15,727,454		15,727,454
Common stocks:				
Consumer discretionary			137,914	137,914
Industrials	\$ 1,140,795			1,140,795
Convertible preferred stocks	5,998,337			5,998,337
Preferred stocks:				
Financials	7,922,544			7,922,544
Industrials		377,300		377,300
Purchased options		237,160		237,160
Warrants		189,900		189,900
<b>Total long-term investments</b>	<b>\$15,061,676</b>	<b>\$384,805,407</b>	<b>\$1,001,649</b>	<b>\$400,868,732</b>

Edgar Filing: Western Asset High Yield Defined Opportunity Fund Inc. - Form N-CSR

<b>Short-term investments</b>		<b>7,600,000</b>		<b>7,600,000</b>
<b>Total investments</b>	<b>\$15,061,676</b>	<b>\$392,405,407</b>	<b>\$1,001,649</b>	<b>\$408,468,732</b>
Other financial instruments:				
Forward foreign currency contracts		55,315		55,315
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$15,061,676</b>	<b>\$392,460,722</b>	<b>\$1,001,649</b>	<b>\$408,524,047</b>



**LIABILITIES**

<b>Description</b>	<b>Quoted Prices (Level 1)</b>	<b>Other Significant Observable Inputs (Level 2)</b>	<b>Significant Unobservable Inputs (Level 3)</b>	<b>Total</b>
Other financial instruments:				
Written options		\$ 253,598		\$ 253,598
Forward foreign currency contracts		933,584		933,584
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$1,187,182</b>		<b>\$1,187,182</b>

See Schedule of Investments for additional detailed categorizations.

**(b) Repurchase agreements.** The Fund may enter into repurchase agreements with institutions that its investment adviser has determined are creditworthy. Each repurchase agreement is recorded at cost. Under the terms of a typical repurchase agreement, the Fund acquires a debt security subject to an obligation of the seller to repurchase, and of the Fund to resell, the security at an agreed-upon price and time, thereby determining the yield during the Fund's holding period. When entering into repurchase agreements, it is the Fund's policy that its custodian or a third party custodian, acting on the Fund's behalf, take possession of the underlying collateral securities, the market value of which, at all times, at least equals the principal amount of the repurchase transaction, including accrued interest. To the extent that any repurchase transaction maturity exceeds one business day, the value of the collateral is marked-to-market and measured against the value of the agreement in an effort to ensure the adequacy of the collateral. If the counterparty defaults, the Fund generally has the right to use the collateral to satisfy the terms of the repurchase transaction. However, if the market value of the collateral declines during the period in which the Fund seeks to assert its rights or if bankruptcy proceedings are commenced with respect to the seller of the security, realization of the collateral by the Fund may be delayed or limited.

**(c) Futures contracts.** The Fund uses futures contracts generally to gain exposure to, or hedge against, changes in interest rates or gain exposure to, or hedge against, changes in certain asset classes. A futures contract represents a commitment for the future purchase or sale of an asset at a specified price on a specified date.

Upon entering into a futures contract, the Fund is required to deposit cash or cash equivalents with a broker in an amount equal to a certain percentage of the contract amount. This is known as the initial margin and subsequent payments (variation margin) are made or received by the Fund each day, depending on the daily fluctuation in the value of the contract. For certain futures, including foreign denominated futures, variation margin is not settled daily, but is recorded as a net variation margin payable or receivable. Futures contracts are valued daily at the settlement price established by the board of trade or exchange on which they are traded. The daily changes in contract value are recorded as unrealized gains or losses in the Statement of Operations and the Fund recognizes a realized gain or loss when the contract is closed.

**Notes to financial statements (cont d)**

Futures contracts involve, to varying degrees, risk of loss in excess of the amounts reflected in the financial statements. In addition, there is the risk that the Fund may not be able to enter into a closing transaction because of an illiquid secondary market.

**(d) Written options.** When the Fund writes an option, an amount equal to the premium received by the Fund is recorded as a liability, the value of which is marked-to-market daily to reflect the current market value of the option written. If the option expires, the premium received is recorded as a realized gain. When a written call option is exercised, the difference between the premium received plus the option exercise price and the Fund's basis in the underlying security (in the case of a covered written call option), or the cost to purchase the underlying security (in the case of an uncovered written call option), including brokerage commission, is recognized as a realized gain or loss. When a written put option is exercised, the amount of the premium received is subtracted from the cost of the security purchased by the Fund from the exercise of the written put option to form the Fund's basis in the underlying security purchased. The writer or buyer of an option traded on an exchange can liquidate the position before the exercise of the option by entering into a closing transaction. The cost of a closing transaction is deducted from the original premium received resulting in a realized gain or loss to the Fund.

The risk in writing a covered call option is that the Fund may forego the opportunity of profit if the market price of the underlying security increases and the option is exercised. The risk in writing a put option is that the Fund may incur a loss if the market price of the underlying security decreases and the option is exercised. The risk in writing an uncovered call option is that the Fund is exposed to the risk of loss if the market price of the underlying security increases. In addition, there is the risk that the Fund may not be able to enter into a closing transaction because of an illiquid secondary market.

**(e) Swaptions.** The Fund purchases and writes swaption contracts to manage exposure to an underlying instrument. The Fund may also purchase or write options to manage exposure to fluctuations in interest rates or to enhance yield. Swaption contracts written by the Fund represent an option that gives the purchaser the right, but not the obligation, to enter into a previously agreed upon swap contract at a future date. Swaption contracts purchased by the Fund represent an option that gives the Fund the right, but not the obligation, to enter into a previously agreed upon swap contract at a future date.

When the Fund writes a swaption, an amount equal to the premium received by the Fund is recorded as a liability, the value of which is marked-to-market daily to reflect the current market value of the swaption written. If the swaption expires, the Fund realizes a gain equal to the amount of the premium received.

When the Fund purchases a swaption, an amount equal to the premium paid by the Fund is recorded as an investment on the Statement of Assets and Liabilities, the value of which is marked-to-market daily to reflect the current market value of the swaption purchased. If the swaption expires, the Fund realizes a loss equal to the amount of the premium paid.

Swaptions are marked-to-market daily based upon quotations from market makers. Changes in the value of the swaption are reported as unrealized gains or losses in the Statement of Operations.

**(f) Swap agreements.** The Fund may invest in swaps for the purpose of managing its exposure to interest rate, credit or market risk, or for other purposes, including to increase the Fund's return. The use of swaps involves risks that are different from those associated with other portfolio transactions.

Swap contracts are marked-to-market daily and changes in value are recorded as unrealized appreciation (depreciation). Gains or losses are realized upon termination of the swap agreement. Collateral, in the form of restricted cash or securities, may be required to be held in segregated accounts with the Fund's custodian in compliance with the terms of the swap contracts. Securities posted as collateral for swap contracts are identified in the Schedule of Investments and restricted cash, if any, is identified on the Statement of Assets and Liabilities. Risks may exceed amounts recorded in the Statement of Assets and Liabilities. These risks include changes in the returns of the underlying instruments, failure of the counterparties to perform under the contracts' terms, and the possible lack of liquidity with respect to the swap agreements.

Payments received or made at the beginning of the measurement period are reflected as a premium or deposit, respectively, on the Statement of Assets and Liabilities. These upfront payments are amortized over the life of the swap and are recognized as realized gain or loss in the Statement of Operations. Net periodic payments received or paid by the Fund are recognized as a realized gain or loss in the Statement of Operations.

#### **Credit default swaps**

The Fund may enter into credit default swap ( CDS ) contracts for investment purposes, to manage its credit risk or to add leverage. CDS agreements involve one party making a stream of payments to another party in exchange for the right to receive a specified return in the event of a default by a third party, typically corporate or sovereign issuers, on a specified obligation, or in the event of a write-down, principal shortfall, interest shortfall or default of all or part of the referenced entities comprising a credit index. The Fund may use a CDS to provide protection against defaults of the issuers (i.e., to reduce risk where the Fund has exposure to an issuer) or to take an active long or short position with respect to the likelihood of a particular issuer's default. As a seller of protection, the Fund generally receives an upfront payment or a stream of payments throughout the term of the swap provided that there is

**Notes to financial statements (cont d)**

no credit event. If the Fund is a seller of protection and a credit event occurs, as defined under the terms of that particular swap agreement, the maximum potential amount of future payments (undiscounted) that the Fund could be required to make under a credit default swap agreement would be an amount equal to the notional amount of the agreement. These amounts of potential payments will be partially offset by any recovery of values from the respective referenced obligations. As a seller of protection, the Fund effectively adds leverage to its portfolio because, in addition to its total net assets, the Fund is subject to investment exposure on the notional amount of the swap. As a buyer of protection, the Fund generally receives an amount up to the notional value of the swap if a credit event occurs.

Implied spreads are the theoretical prices a lender receives for credit default protection. When spreads rise, market perceived credit risk rises and when spreads fall, market perceived credit risk falls. The implied credit spread of a particular referenced entity reflects the cost of buying/selling protection and may include upfront payments required to enter into the agreement. Wider credit spreads and decreasing market values, when compared to the notional amount of the swap, represent a deterioration of the referenced entity's credit soundness and a greater likelihood or risk of default or other credit event occurring as defined under the terms of the agreement. Credit spreads utilized in determining the period end market value of credit default swap agreements on corporate or sovereign issues are disclosed in the Notes to Financial Statements and serve as an indicator of the current status of the payment/performance risk and represent the likelihood or risk of default for credit derivatives. For credit default swap agreements on asset-backed securities and credit indices, the quoted market prices and resulting values, particularly in relation to the notional amount of the contract as well as the annual payment rate, serve as an indication of the current status of the payment/performance risk.

The Fund's maximum risk of loss from counterparty risk, as the protection buyer, is the fair value of the contract (this risk is mitigated by the posting of collateral by the counterparty to the Fund to cover the Fund's exposure to the counterparty). As the protection seller, the Fund's maximum risk is the notional amount of the contract. Credit default swaps are considered to have credit risk-related contingent features since they require payment by the protection seller to the protection buyer upon the occurrence of a defined credit event.

Entering into a CDS agreement involves, to varying degrees, elements of credit, market and documentation risk in excess of the related amounts recognized on the Statement of Assets and Liabilities. Such risks involve the possibility that there will be no liquid market for these agreements, that the counterparty to the agreement may default on its obligation to perform or disagree as to the meaning of the contractual terms in the agreement, and that there will be unfavorable changes in net interest rates.

**(g) Forward foreign currency contracts.** The Fund enters into a forward foreign currency contract to hedge against foreign currency exchange rate risk on its non-U.S. dollar denominated securities or to facilitate settlement of a foreign currency denominated portfolio transaction. A forward foreign currency contract is an agreement between two parties to buy and sell a currency at a set price with delivery and settlement at a future date. The contract is marked-to-market daily and the change in value is recorded by the Fund as an unrealized gain or loss. When a forward foreign currency contract is closed, through either delivery or offset by entering into another forward foreign currency contract, the Fund recognizes a realized gain or loss equal to the difference between the value of the contract at the time it was opened and the value of the contract at the time it is closed.

Forward foreign currency contracts involve elements of market risk in excess of the amounts reflected on the Statement of Assets and Liabilities. The Fund bears the risk of an unfavorable change in the foreign exchange rate underlying the forward foreign currency contract. Risks may also arise upon entering into these contracts from the potential inability of the counterparties to meet the terms of their contracts.

**(h) Foreign currency translation.** Investment securities and other assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are translated into U.S. dollar amounts based upon prevailing exchange rates on the date of valuation. Purchases and sales of investment securities and income and expense items denominated in foreign currencies are translated into U.S. dollar amounts based upon prevailing exchange rates on the respective dates of such transactions.

The Fund does not isolate that portion of the results of operations resulting from fluctuations in foreign exchange rates on investments from the fluctuations arising from changes in market prices of securities held. Such fluctuations are included with the net realized and unrealized gain or loss on investments.

Net realized foreign exchange gains or losses arise from sales of foreign currencies, including gains and losses on forward foreign currency contracts, currency gains or losses realized between the trade and settlement dates on securities transactions, and the difference between the amounts of dividends, interest, and foreign withholding taxes recorded on the Fund's books and the U.S. dollar equivalent of the amounts actually received or paid. Net unrealized foreign exchange gains and losses arise from changes in the values of assets and liabilities, other than investments in securities, on the date of valuation, resulting from changes in exchange rates.

Foreign security and currency transactions may involve certain considerations and risks not typically associated with those of U.S. dollar denominated transactions as a result of, among other factors, the possibility of lower levels of governmental supervision and regulation of foreign securities markets and the possibility of political or economic instability.

**(i) Loan participations.** The Fund may invest in loans arranged through private negotiation between one or more financial institutions. The Fund's

**Notes to financial statements (cont d)**

investment in any such loan may be in the form of a participation in or an assignment of the loan. In connection with purchasing participations, the Fund generally will have no right to enforce compliance by the borrower with the terms of the loan agreement related to the loan, or any rights of off-set against the borrower and the Fund may not benefit directly from any collateral supporting the loan in which it has purchased the participation.

The Fund assumes the credit risk of the borrower, the lender that is selling the participation and any other persons interpositioned between the Fund and the borrower. In the event of the insolvency of the lender selling the participation, the Fund may be treated as a general creditor of the lender and may not benefit from any off-set between the lender and the borrower.

**(j) Credit and market risk.** The Fund invests in high-yield and emerging market instruments that are subject to certain credit and market risks. The yields of high-yield and emerging market debt obligations reflect, among other things, perceived credit and market risks. The Fund's investments in securities rated below investment grade typically involve risks not associated with higher rated securities including, among others, greater risk related to timely and ultimate payment of interest and principal, greater market price volatility and less liquid secondary market trading. The consequences of political, social, economic or diplomatic changes may have disruptive effects on the market prices of investments held by the Fund. The Fund's investments in non-U.S. dollar denominated securities may also result in foreign currency losses caused by devaluations and exchange rate fluctuations.

**(k) Foreign investment risks.** The Fund's investments in foreign securities may involve risks not present in domestic investments. Since securities may be denominated in foreign currencies, may require settlement in foreign currencies or pay interest or dividends in foreign currencies, changes in the relationship of these foreign currencies to the U.S. dollar can significantly affect the value of the investments and earnings of the Fund. Foreign investments may also subject the Fund to foreign government exchange restrictions, expropriation, taxation or other political, social or economic developments, all of which affect the market and/or credit risk of the investments.

**(l) Counterparty risk and credit-risk-related contingent features of derivative instruments.** The Fund may invest in certain securities or engage in other transactions, where the Fund is exposed to counterparty credit risk in addition to broader market risks. The Fund may invest in securities of issuers, which may also be considered counterparties as trading partners in other transactions. This may increase the risk of loss in the event of default or bankruptcy by the counterparty or if the counterparty otherwise fails to meet its contractual obligations. The Fund's investment manager attempts to mitigate counterparty risk by (i) periodically assessing the creditworthiness of its trading partners, (ii) monitoring and/or limiting the amount of its net exposure to each individual counterparty based on its assessment and (iii) requiring collateral from the counterparty for certain transactions. Market events and

changes in overall economic conditions may impact the assessment of such counterparty risk by the investment manager. In addition, declines in the values of underlying collateral received may expose the Fund to increased risk of loss.

The Fund has entered into master agreements with certain of its derivative counterparties that provide for general obligations, representations, agreements, collateral, events of default or termination and credit related contingent features. The credit related contingent features include, but are not limited to, a percentage decrease in the Fund's net assets or NAV over a specified period of time. If these credit related contingent features were triggered, the derivatives counterparty could terminate the positions and demand payment or require additional collateral.

As of August 31, 2012, the Fund held written options and forward foreign currency contracts with credit related contingent features which had a liability position of \$1,187,182. If a contingent feature in the master agreements would have been triggered, the Fund would have been required to pay this amount to its derivatives counterparties.

**(m) Security transactions and investment income.** Security transactions are accounted for on a trade date basis. Interest income, adjusted for amortization of premium and accretion of discount, is recorded on the accrual basis. Dividend income is recorded on the ex-dividend date. Foreign dividend income is recorded on the ex-dividend date or as soon as practicable after the Fund determines the existence of a dividend declaration after exercising reasonable due diligence. The cost of investments sold is determined by use of the specific identification method. To the extent any issuer defaults or a credit event occurs that impacts the issuer, the Fund may halt any additional interest income accruals and consider the realizability of interest accrued up to the date of default or credit event.

**(n) Distributions to shareholders.** Distributions from net investment income of the Fund, if any, are declared quarterly and paid on a monthly basis. Distributions of net realized gains, if any, are declared at least annually. Distributions to shareholders of the Fund are recorded on the ex-dividend date and are determined in accordance with income tax regulations, which may differ from GAAP.

**(o) Compensating balance arrangements.** The Fund has an arrangement with its custodian bank whereby a portion of the custodian's fees is paid indirectly by credits earned on the Fund's cash on deposit with the bank.

**(p) Federal and other taxes.** It is the Fund's policy to comply with the federal income and excise tax requirements of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (the Code), as amended, applicable to regulated investment companies. Accordingly, the Fund intends to distribute its taxable income and net realized gains, if any, to shareholders in accordance with timing requirements

**Notes to financial statements (cont d)**

imposed by the Code. Therefore, no federal or state income tax provision is required in the Fund's financial statements.

Management has analyzed the Fund's tax positions taken on income tax returns for all open tax years and has concluded that as of August 31, 2012 no provision for income tax is required in the Fund's financial statements. The Fund's federal and state income and federal excise tax returns for tax years for which the applicable statutes of limitations have not expired are subject to examination by Internal Revenue Service and state departments of revenue.

Under the applicable foreign tax laws, a withholding tax may be imposed on interest, dividends and capital gains at various rates.

**(q) Reclassification.** GAAP requires that certain components of net assets be reclassified to reflect permanent differences between financial and tax reporting. These reclassifications have no effect on net assets or net asset value per share. During the current year, the following reclassifications have been made:

	<b>Undistributed Net Investment Income</b>	<b>Accumulated Net Realized Loss</b>
(a)	\$7,755,003	\$(7,755,003)

(a) Reclassifications are primarily due to foreign currency transactions treated as ordinary income for tax purposes and differences between book and tax amortization of premium on fixed income securities.

**2. Investment management agreement and other transactions with affiliates**

Legg Mason Partners Fund Advisor, LLC ( LMPFA ) is the Fund's investment manager. Western Asset Management Company ( Western Asset ) is the Fund's subadviser. Western Asset Management Company Pte. Ltd. ( Western Singapore ), Western Asset Management Company Ltd ( Western Japan ) and Western Asset Management Company Limited ( Western Asset Limited ) serve as additional subadvisers to the Fund, under additional subadvisory agreements with Western Asset. LMPFA, Western Asset, Western Singapore, Western Japan and Western Asset Limited are wholly-owned subsidiaries of Legg Mason, Inc. ( Legg Mason ).

LMPFA provides administrative and certain oversight services to the Fund. The Fund pays an investment management fee, calculated daily and paid monthly, at an annual rate of 0.80% of the Fund's average daily net assets.



LMPFA delegates to Western Asset the day-to-day portfolio management of the Fund. Western Singapore, Western Japan and Western Asset Limited provide certain advisory services to the Fund relating to currency transactions and investments in non-U.S. dollar denominated debt securities. For its services, LMPFA pays Western Asset 70% of the net management fee it receives from the Fund. In turn, Western Asset pays each of Western Singapore,

Western Japan and Western Asset Limited a fee for its services at no additional expense to the Fund. Each of Western Singapore, Western Japan and Western Asset Limited receives a fee from Western Asset, payable monthly, in an amount equal to an annual rate of 0.56% of the Fund's average daily net assets related to the Fund's assets that Western Asset allocates to Western Singapore, Western Japan and Western Asset Limited, respectively, to manage.

All officers and one Director of the Fund are employees of Legg Mason or its affiliates and do not receive compensation from the Fund.

### 3. Investments

During the year ended August 31, 2012, the aggregate cost of purchases and proceeds from sales of investments (excluding short-term investments) were as follows:

Purchases	\$208,516,672
Sales	206,508,315

At August 31, 2012, the aggregate gross unrealized appreciation and depreciation of investments for federal income tax purposes were as follows:

Gross unrealized appreciation	\$ 16,467,378
Gross unrealized depreciation	(24,068,332)
<b>Net unrealized depreciation</b>	<b>\$ (7,600,954)</b>

At August 31, 2012, the Fund had the following open forward foreign currency contracts:

Foreign Currency	Counterparty	Local Currency	Market Value	Settlement Date	Unrealized Gain (Loss)
<b>Contracts to Buy:</b>					
Euro	Citibank, N.A.	1,700,000	\$ 2,140,044	11/16/12	\$ 41,047
Euro	Citibank, N.A.	700,000	881,195	11/16/12	14,268
					<b>55,315</b>
<b>Contracts to Sell:</b>					
British Pound	Citibank, N.A.	389,056	617,625	11/16/12	(11,381)
British Pound	Credit Suisse	3,549,820	5,635,332	11/16/12	(106,559)
British Pound	UBS AG	1,383,773	2,196,737	11/16/12	(36,833)
Euro	Citibank, N.A.	9,526,466	11,992,388	11/16/12	(187,810)
Euro	Credit Suisse	10,023,025	12,617,481	11/16/12	(190,182)

Edgar Filing: Western Asset High Yield Defined Opportunity Fund Inc. - Form N-CSR

Euro	JPMorgan Chase & Co.	8,074,709	10,164,844	11/16/12	(177,721)
Euro	UBS AG	13,874,636	17,466,080	11/16/12	(223,098)
					<b>(933,584)</b>
<b>Net unrealized loss on open forward foreign currency contracts</b>					<b>\$(878,269)</b>

**Notes to financial statements (cont d)**

During the year ended August 31, 2012, written option transactions for the Fund were as follows:

	<b>Notional Amount</b>	<b>Premiums</b>
Written options, outstanding as of August 31, 2011		
Options written	\$ 64,801,000	\$ 447,121
Options closed		
Options exercised		
Options expired	(15,400,000)	(187,880)
<b>Written options, outstanding as of August 31, 2012</b>	<b>\$ 49,401,000</b>	<b>\$ 259,241</b>

**4. Derivative instruments and hedging activities**

Financial Accounting Standards Board Codification Topic 815 requires enhanced disclosure about an entity's derivative and hedging activities.

Below is a table, grouped by derivative type, that provides information about the fair value and the location of derivatives within the Statement of Assets and Liabilities at August 31, 2012.

**ASSET DERIVATIVES<sup>1</sup>**

	<b>Foreign Exchange Risk</b>	<b>Credit Risk</b>	<b>Total</b>
Purchased options <sup>2</sup>		\$237,160	\$237,160
Forward foreign currency contracts	\$55,315		55,315
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$55,315</b>	<b>\$237,160</b>	<b>\$292,475</b>

**LIABILITY DERIVATIVES<sup>1</sup>**

	<b>Foreign Exchange Risk</b>	<b>Credit Risk</b>	<b>Total</b>
Written options		\$253,598	\$ 253,598
Forward foreign currency contracts	\$933,584		933,584
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$933,584</b>	<b>\$253,598</b>	<b>\$1,187,182</b>

<sup>1</sup> Generally, the balance sheet location for asset derivatives is receivables/net unrealized appreciation (depreciation) and for liability derivatives is payables/net unrealized appreciation (depreciation).

- 2 Market value of purchased options is reported in Investments at value in the Statement of Assets and Liabilities.

The following tables provide information about the effect of derivatives and hedging activities on the Fund's Statement of Operations for the year ended August 31, 2012. The first table provides additional detail about the amounts and sources of gains (losses) realized on derivatives during the period. The second table provides additional information about the change in unrealized appreciation (depreciation) resulting from the Fund's derivatives and hedging activities during the period.

**AMOUNT OF REALIZED GAIN (LOSS) ON DERIVATIVES RECOGNIZED**

	<b>Interest Rate Risk</b>	<b>Foreign Exchange Risk</b>	<b>Credit Risk</b>	<b>Total</b>
Purchased options <sup>1</sup>			\$(231,000)	\$ (231,000)
Written options			187,880	187,880
Futures contracts	\$(332,051)			(332,051)
Forward foreign currency contracts		\$7,831,815		7,831,815
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$(332,051)</b>	<b>\$7,831,815</b>	<b>\$ (43,120)</b>	<b>\$7,456,644</b>

<sup>1</sup> Net realized gain (loss) from purchased options is reported in net realized gain (loss) from investment transactions in the Statement of Operations.

**CHANGE IN UNREALIZED APPRECIATION (DEPRECIATION) ON DERIVATIVES RECOGNIZED**

	<b>Interest Rate Risk</b>	<b>Foreign Exchange Risk</b>	<b>Credit Risk</b>	<b>Total</b>
Purchased options <sup>1</sup>			\$(19,408)	\$ (19,408)
Written options			5,643	5,643
Futures contracts	\$17,226			17,226
Forward foreign currency contracts		\$(393,997)		(393,997)
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$17,226</b>	<b>\$(393,997)</b>	<b>\$(13,765)</b>	<b>\$(390,536)</b>

<sup>1</sup> The change in unrealized appreciation (depreciation) from purchased options is reported in the change in net unrealized appreciation (depreciation) from investments in the Statement of Operations.

During the year ended August 31, 2012, the volume of derivative activity for the Fund was as follows:

	<b>Average Market Value</b>
Purchased options	\$ 21,840
Written options	44,746
Forward foreign currency contracts (to buy)	1,947,632
Forward foreign currency contracts (to sell)	61,674,181
Futures contracts (to sell)	16,394,207

At August 31, 2012, there were no open positions held in this derivative.

**5. Distributions subsequent to August 31, 2012**

On August 8, 2012, the Fund's Board of Directors declared three distributions, each in the amount of \$0.1450 per share, payable on September 28, 2012, October 26, 2012 and November 30, 2012 to shareholders of record on September 21, 2012, October 19, 2012 and November 23, 2012, respectively.

**6. Income tax information and distributions to shareholders**

The tax character of distributions paid during the fiscal years ended August 31, was as follows:

	<b>2012</b>	<b>2011</b>
<b>Distributions Paid From:</b>		
Ordinary income	\$39,609,556	\$29,440,835

Western Asset High Yield Defined Opportunity Fund Inc. 2012 Annual Report

**Notes to financial statements (cont d)**

As of August 31, 2012, the components of accumulated earnings on a tax basis were as follows:

Undistributed ordinary income net	\$ 5,114,475
Capital loss carryforward*	(12,648,986)
Other book/tax temporary differences(a)	754,226
Unrealized appreciation (depreciation)(b)	(8,463,470)
<b>Total accumulated earnings (losses) net</b>	<b>\$(15,243,755)</b>

\* As of August 31, 2012, the Fund had the following net capital loss carryforward remaining:

<b>Year of Expiration</b>	<b>Amount</b>
No Expiration	\$(12,648,986)**

This amount will be available to offset any future taxable capital gains.

\*\* Under the Regulated Investment Company Modernization Act of 2010, the Fund is permitted to carry forward these capital losses for an unlimited period. Additionally, these capital losses retain their character as either short-term or long-term capital losses rather than being considered all short-term as under previous law.

(a) Other book/tax temporary differences are attributable primarily to the realization for tax purposes of unrealized losses on foreign currency contracts, differences between book/tax difference in the accrual of interest income on securities in default and book/tax differences in the timing of the deductibility of various expenses.

(b) The difference between book-basis and tax-basis unrealized appreciation (depreciation) is attributable primarily to the tax deferral of losses on wash sales and the difference between book and tax amortization methods for premiums on fixed income securities.

**7. Recent accounting pronouncement**

In May 2011, the Financial Accounting Standards Board issued Accounting Standards Update No. 2011-04, Fair Value Measurement (Topic 820) Amendments to Achieve Common Fair Value Measurement and Disclosure Requirements in U.S. GAAP and IFRSs ( ASU No. 2011-04 ). ASU No. 2011-04 establishes common requirements for measuring fair value and for disclosing information about fair value measurements. ASU No. 2011-04 is effective during interim and annual periods beginning after December 15, 2011. Management has evaluated ASU No. 2011-04 and concluded that it does not materially impact the financial statement amounts; however, as required, additional disclosure has been included about fair value measurement.



**Report of independent registered public accounting firm**

**The Board of Directors and Shareholders  
Western Asset High Yield Defined Opportunity Fund Inc.:**

We have audited the accompanying statement of assets and liabilities of Western Asset High Yield Defined Opportunity Fund Inc., including the schedule of investments, as of August 31, 2012, and the related statement of operations for the year then ended, and the statements of changes in net assets and the financial highlights for the year then ended and for the period from October 27, 2010 (commencement of operations) to August 31, 2011. These financial statements and financial highlights are the responsibility of the Fund's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements and financial highlights based on our audits.

We conducted our audits in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States). Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements and financial highlights are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. Our procedures included confirmation of securities owned as of August 31, 2012, by correspondence with the custodian and brokers or by other appropriate auditing procedures. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the financial statements and financial highlights referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Western Asset High Yield Defined Opportunity Fund Inc. as of August 31, 2012, and the results of its operations for the year then ended, and the changes in its net assets and the financial highlights for the year then ended and for the period from October 27, 2010 (commencement of operations) to August 31, 2011, in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles.

New York, New York  
October 18, 2012

44

Western Asset High Yield Defined Opportunity Fund Inc.

**Additional information (unaudited)****Information about Directors and Officers**

The business and affairs of Western Asset High Yield Defined Opportunity Fund Inc. (the Fund) are conducted by management under the supervision and subject to the direction of its Board of Directors. The business address of each Director is c/o R. Jay Gerken, 620 Eighth Avenue, 49th Floor, New York, New York 10018. Information pertaining to the Directors and officers of the Fund is set forth below.

**Independent Directors :****Carol L. Colman**

Year of birth	1946
Position(s) held with Fund1	Director and Member of the Nominating and Audit Committees, Class I
Term of office1 and length of time served	Since 2010
Principal occupation(s) during past five years	President, Colman Consulting Company (consulting)
Number of portfolios in fund complex overseen by Director (including the Fund)	28
Other board memberships held by Director	None

**Daniel P. Cronin**

Year of birth	1946
Position(s) held with Fund1	Director and Member of the Nominating and Audit Committees, Class I
Term of office1 and length of time served	Since 2010
Principal occupation(s) during past five years	Retired; formerly, Associate General Counsel, Pfizer Inc. (prior to and including 2004)
Number of portfolios in fund complex overseen by Director (including the Fund)	28
Other board memberships held by Director	None

**Paolo M. Cucchi**

Year of birth	1941
Position(s) held with Fund1	Director and Member of the Nominating and Audit Committees, Class I
Term of office1 and length of time served	Since 2010
Principal occupation(s) during past five years	Professor of French and Italian at Drew University; formerly, Vice President and Dean of College of Liberal Arts at Drew University (1984 to 2009)
Number of portfolios in fund complex overseen by Director (including the Fund)	28
Other board memberships held by Director	None

**Independent Directors cont d****Leslie H. Gelb**

Year of birth	1937
Position(s) held with Fund <sup>1</sup>	Director and Member of the Nominating and Audit Committees, Class II
Term of office <sup>1</sup> and length of time served	Since 2010
Principal occupation(s) during past five years	President Emeritus and Senior Board Fellow (since 2003), The Council on Foreign Relations; formerly, President, (prior to 2003), the Council on Foreign Relations; formerly, Columnist, Deputy Editorial Page Editor and Editor, Op-Ed Page, The New York Times
Number of portfolios in fund complex overseen by Director (including the Fund)	28
Other board memberships held by Director	Director of two registered investment companies advised by Aberdeen Asset Management Asia Limited (since 1994)

**William R. Hutchinson**

Year of birth	1942
Position(s) held with Fund <sup>1</sup>	Director and Member of the Nominating and Audit Committees, Class II
Term of office <sup>1</sup> and length of time served	Since 2010
Principal occupation(s) during past five years	President, W.R. Hutchinson & Associates Inc. (Consulting) (since 2001)
Number of portfolios in fund complex overseen by Director (including the Fund)	28
Other board memberships held by Director	Director (Non-Executive Chairman of the Board (since December 1, 2009)), Associated Banc Corp. (banking) (since 1994)

**Riordan Roett**

Year of birth	1938
Position(s) held with Fund <sup>1</sup>	Director and Member of the Nominating and Audit Committees, Class III
Term of office <sup>1</sup> and length of time served	Since 2010
Principal occupation(s) during past five years	The Sarita and Don Johnston Professor of Political Science and Director of Western Hemisphere Studies, Paul H. Nitze School of Advanced International Studies, The John Hopkins University (since 1973)
Number of portfolios in fund complex overseen by Director (including the Fund)	28
Other board memberships held by Director	None

46

Western Asset High Yield Defined Opportunity Fund Inc.

**Additional information (unaudited) (continued)**

**Information about Directors and Officers**

**Independent Directors continued**

**Jeswald W. Salacuse**

Year of birth	1938
Position(s) held with Fund <sup>1</sup>	Director and Member of the Nominating and Audit Committees, Class III
Term of office <sup>1</sup> and length of time served	Since 2010
Principal occupation(s) during past five years	Henry J. Braker Professor of Commercial Law, The Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy, Tufts University (since 1986); President and Member, Arbitration Tribunal, World Bank/ICSID (since 2004)
Number of portfolios in fund complex overseen by Director (including the Fund)	28
Other board memberships held by Director	Director of two registered investment companies advised by Aberdeen Asset Management Asia Limited (since 1993)

**Interested Director and Officer:**

**R. Jay Gerken<sup>2</sup>**

Year of birth	1951
Position(s) held with Fund <sup>1</sup>	Director, Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer, Class II
Term of office <sup>1</sup> and length of time served	Since 2010
Principal occupation(s) during past five years	Managing Director of Legg Mason & Co., LLC ( Legg Mason & Co. ) (since 2005); Officer and Trustee/Director of 159 funds associated with Legg Mason Partners Fund Advisor, LLC ( LMPFA ) or its affiliates (since 2006) and Legg Mason & Co. predecessors (prior to 2006); President and Chief Executive Officer ( CEO ) of LMPFA (since 2006); President and CEO of Smith Barney Fund Management LLC ( SBFM ) (formerly a registered investment adviser) (since 2002)
Number of portfolios in fund complex overseen by Director (including the Fund)	159
Other board memberships held by Director	None

**Additional Officers:****Ted P. Becker****Legg Mason****620 Eighth Avenue, New York, NY 10018**

Year of birth	1951
Position(s) held with Fund1	Chief Compliance Officer
Term of office1 and length of time served	Since 2010
Principal occupation(s) during past five years	Director of Global Compliance at Legg Mason (since 2006); Chief Compliance Officer of LMPFA (since 2006); Managing Director of Compliance of Legg Mason & Co. (since 2005); Chief Compliance Officer of certain mutual funds associated with Legg Mason & Co. or its affiliates (since 2006)

**Vanessa A. Williams****Legg Mason****100 First Stamford Place, Stamford, CT 06902**

Year of birth	1979
Position(s) with Fund1	Identity Theft Prevention Officer
Term of office1 and length of time served	Since 2011
Principal occupation(s) during past five years	Vice President of Legg Mason & Co. (since 2012); Identity Theft Prevention Officer of certain mutual funds associated with Legg Mason & Co. or its affiliates (since 2011); Chief Anti-Money Laundering Compliance Officer of certain mutual funds associated with Legg Mason & Co. or its affiliates (since 2011); formerly, Senior Compliance Officer of Legg Mason & Co. (2008 to 2011); formerly, Compliance Analyst of Legg Mason & Co. (2006 to 2008) and Legg Mason & Co. predecessor (prior to 2006)

**Robert I. Frenkel****Legg Mason****100 First Stamford Place, Stamford, CT 06902**

Year of birth	1954
Position(s) held with Fund1	Secretary and Chief Legal Officer
Term of office1 and length of time served	Since 2010
Principal occupation(s) during past five years	Vice President and Deputy General Counsel of Legg Mason (since 2006); Managing Director and General Counsel of Global Mutual Funds for Legg Mason & Co. (since 2006) and Legg Mason & Co. predecessors (since 1994); Secretary and Chief Legal Officer of certain mutual funds associated with Legg Mason & Co. or its affiliates (since 2006) and Legg Mason & Co. predecessors (prior to 2006)



48	Western Asset High Yield Defined Opportunity Fund Inc.	
----	--	--

**Additional information (unaudited) (cont d)**

**Information about Directors and Officers**

**Additional Officers cont d**

**Thomas C. Mandia**

**Legg Mason**

**100 First Stamford Place, Stamford, CT 06902**

Year of birth	1962
Position(s) held with Fund <sup>1</sup>	Assistant Secretary
Term of office <sup>1</sup> and length of time served	Since 2010
Principal occupation(s) during past five years	Managing Director and Deputy General Counsel of Legg Mason & Co. (since 2005) and Legg Mason & Co. predecessors (prior to 2005); Secretary of LMPFA (since 2006); Assistant Secretary of certain mutual funds associated with Legg Mason & Co. or its affiliates (since 2006) and Legg Mason & Co. predecessors (prior to 2006); Secretary of SBFM (since 2002)

**Richard F. Sennett**

**Legg Mason**

**100 International Drive, Baltimore, MD 21202**

Year of birth	1970
Position(s) held with Fund <sup>1</sup>	Principal Financial Officer
Term of office <sup>1</sup> and length of time served	Since 2011
Principal occupation(s) during past five years	Principal Financial Officer of certain mutual funds associated with Legg Mason & Co. or its affiliates (since 2011); Managing Director of Legg Mason & Co. and Senior Manager of the Treasury Policy group for Legg Mason & Co.'s Global Fiduciary Platform (since 2011); formerly, Chief Accountant within the SEC's Division of Investment Management (2007 to 2011); formerly, Assistant Chief Accountant within the SEC's Division of Investment Management (2002 to 2007)

**Steven Frank**

**Legg Mason**

**55 Water Street, New York, NY 10041**

Edgar Filing: Western Asset High Yield Defined Opportunity Fund Inc. - Form N-CSR

Year of birth	1967
Position(s) held with Fund1	Treasurer
Term of office1 and length of time served	Since 2010
Principal occupation(s) during past five years	Vice President of Legg Mason & Co. and Legg Mason & Co. predecessors (since 2002); Treasurer of certain mutual funds associated with Legg Mason & Co. or its affiliates (since 2010); formerly, Controller of certain mutual funds associated with Legg Mason & Co. or its affiliates (prior to 2010)



	Western Asset High Yield Defined Opportunity Fund Inc.	49
--	--	----

**Additional Officers cont d**

**Jeanne M. Kelly**

**Legg Mason**

**620 Eighth Avenue, New York, NY 10018**

Year of birth	1951
Position(s) with Fund <sup>1</sup>	Senior Vice President
Term of office <sup>1</sup> and length of time served	Since 2010
Principal occupation(s) during past five years	Senior Vice President of certain mutual funds associated with Legg Mason & Co. or its affiliates (since 2007); Senior Vice President of LMPFA (since 2006); Managing Director of Legg Mason & Co. (since 2005) and Legg Mason & Co. predecessors (prior to 2005)

Directors who are not interested persons of the Fund within the meaning of Section 2(a)(19) of the 1940 Act.

<sup>1</sup> The Fund's Board of Directors is divided into three classes: Class I, Class II and Class III. The terms of office of the Class I, II and III Directors expire at the Annual Meetings of Stockholders in the year 2012, year 2013 and year 2014, respectively, or thereafter in each case when their respective successors are duly elected and qualified. The Fund's executive officers are chosen each year at the first meeting of the Fund's Board of Directors following the Annual Meeting of Stockholders, to hold office until the meeting of the Board following the next Annual Meeting of Stockholders and until their successors are duly elected and qualified.

<sup>2</sup> Mr. Gerken is an interested person of the Fund as defined in the 1940 Act because Mr. Gerken is an officer of LMPFA and certain of its affiliates.

50	Western Asset High Yield Defined Opportunity Fund Inc.	
----	--	--

**Annual chief executive officer and principal financial officer certifications (unaudited)**

The Fund's Chief Executive Officer ( CEO ) has submitted to the NYSE the required annual certification and the Fund also has included the Certifications of the Fund's CEO and Principal Financial Officer required by Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act in the Fund's Form N-CSR filed with the SEC for the period of this report.

	Western Asset High Yield Defined Opportunity Fund Inc.	51
--	--	----

**Other shareholder communications regarding accounting matters (unaudited)**

The Fund's Audit Committee has established guidelines and procedures regarding the receipt, retention and treatment of complaints regarding accounting, internal accounting controls or auditing matters (collectively, "Accounting Matters"). Persons with complaints or concerns regarding Accounting Matters may submit their complaints to the Chief Compliance Officer ("CCO"). Persons who are uncomfortable submitting complaints to the CCO, including complaints involving the CCO, may submit complaints directly to the Fund's Audit Committee Chair (together with the CCO, "Complaint Officers"). Complaints may be submitted on an anonymous basis.

The CCO may be contacted at:  
Legg Mason & Co., LLC  
Compliance Department  
620 Eighth Avenue, 49th Floor  
New York, New York 10018

Complaints may also be submitted by telephone at 1-800-742-5274.

Complaints submitted through this number will be received by the CCO.

52	Western Asset High Yield Defined Opportunity Fund Inc.	
----	--	--

**Dividend reinvestment plan (unaudited)**

Unless you elect to receive distributions in cash (i.e., opt-out), all dividends, including any capital gain dividends, on your Common Stock will be automatically reinvested by American Stock Transfer & Trust Company LLC, as agent for the stockholders (the Plan Agent), in additional shares of Common Stock under the Fund's Dividend Reinvestment Plan (the Plan). You may elect not to participate in the Plan by contacting the Plan Agent. If you do not participate, you will receive all cash distributions paid by check mailed directly to you by American Stock Transfer & Trust Company LLC, as dividend paying agent.

If you participate in the Plan, the number of shares of Common Stock you will receive will be determined as follows:

(1) If the market price of the Common Stock on the record date (or, if the record date is not a NYSE trading day, the immediately preceding trading day) for determining stockholders eligible to receive the relevant dividend or distribution (the determination date) is equal to or exceeds 98% of the net asset value per share of the Common Stock, the Fund will issue new Common Stock at a price equal to the greater of (a) 98% of the net asset value per share at the close of trading on the NYSE on the determination date or (b) 95% of the market price per share of the Common Stock on the determination date.

(2) If 98% of the net asset value per share of the Common Stock exceeds the market price of the Common Stock on the determination date, the Plan Agent will receive the dividend or distribution in cash and will buy Common Stock in the open market, on the NYSE or elsewhere, for your account as soon as practicable commencing on the trading day following the determination date and terminating no later than the earlier of (a) 30 days after the dividend or distribution payment date, or (b) the record date for the next succeeding dividend or distribution to be made to the stockholders; except when necessary to comply with applicable provisions of the federal securities laws. If during this period: (i) the market price rises so that it equals or exceeds 98% of the net asset value per share of the Common Stock at the close of trading on the NYSE on the determination date before the Plan Agent has completed the open market purchases or (ii) if the Plan Agent is unable to invest the full amount eligible to be reinvested in open market purchases, the Plan Agent will cease purchasing Common Stock in the open market and the Fund shall issue the remaining Common Stock at a price per share equal to the greater of (a) 98% of the net asset value per share at the close of trading on the Exchange on the determination date or (b) 95% of the then current market price per share.

Common Stock in your account will be held by the Plan Agent in non-certificated form. Any proxy you receive will include all shares of Common Stock you have received under the Plan.

	Western Asset High Yield Defined Opportunity Fund Inc.	53
--	--	----

You may withdraw from the Plan (i.e., opt-out) by notifying the Plan Agent in writing at P.O. Box 922, Wall Street Station, New York, NY 10269-0560 or by calling the Plan Agent at 1-888-888-0151. Such withdrawal will be effective immediately if notice is received by the Plan Agent not less than ten business days prior to any dividend or distribution record date; otherwise such withdrawal will be effective as soon as practicable after the Plan Agent's investment of the most recently declared dividend or distribution on the Common Stock. The Plan may be amended or supplemented by the Fund upon notice in writing mailed to stockholders at least 30 days prior to the record date for the payment of any dividend or distribution by the Fund for which the termination is to be effective.

Upon any termination, you will be sent a certificate or certificates for the full number of shares of Common Stock held for you under the Plan and cash for any fractional share of Common Stock. You may elect to notify the Plan Agent in advance of such termination to have the Plan Agent sell part or all of your Common Stock on your behalf. You will be charged a service charge and the Plan Agent is authorized to deduct brokerage charges actually incurred for this transaction from the proceeds.

There is no service charge for reinvestment of your dividends or distributions in Common Stock. However, all participants will pay a pro rata share of brokerage commissions incurred by the Plan Agent when it makes open market purchases. Because all dividends and distributions will be automatically reinvested in additional shares of Common Stock, this allows you to add to your investment through dollar cost averaging, which may lower the average cost of your Common Stock over time. Dollar cost averaging is a technique for lowering the average cost per share over time if the Fund's net asset value declines. While dollar cost averaging has definite advantages, it cannot assure profit or protect against loss in declining markets.

Automatically reinvesting dividends and distributions does not mean that you do not have to pay income taxes due upon receiving dividends and distributions. Investors will be subject to income tax on amounts reinvested under the Plan.

The Fund reserves the right to amend or terminate the Plan if, in the judgment of the Board of Directors, the change is warranted. There is no direct service charge to participants in the Plan; however, the Fund reserves the right to amend the Plan to include a service charge payable by the participants. Additional information about the Plan and your account may be obtained from the Plan Agent at 6201 15th Avenue, Brooklyn, New York 11219 or by calling the Plan Agent at 1-888-888-0151.

**Western Asset**

**High Yield Defined Opportunity Fund Inc.**

**Directors**

Carol L. Colman  
Daniel P. Cronin  
Paolo M. Cucchi  
Leslie H. Gelb  
R. Jay Gerken  
*Chairman*  
William R. Hutchinson  
Riordan Roett  
Jeswald W. Salacuse

**Officers**

R. Jay Gerken  
*President and Chief Executive Officer*  
Richard F. Sennett  
*Principal Financial Officer*  
Ted P. Becker  
*Chief Compliance Officer*  
Vanessa A. Williams  
*Identity Theft Prevention Officer*  
Robert I. Frenkel  
*Secretary and Chief Legal Officer*  
Thomas Mandia  
*Assistant Secretary*  
Steven Frank  
*Treasurer*  
Jeanne M. Kelly  
*Senior Vice President*

**Western Asset High Yield Defined Opportunity Fund Inc.**

620 Eighth Avenue  
49th Floor  
New York, NY 10018

**Investment manager**

Legg Mason Partners Fund  
Advisor, LLC

**Subadvisers**

Western Asset Management Company  
Western Asset Management Company Limited  
Western Asset Management Company Ltd  
Western Asset Management Company Pte. Ltd.

**Custodian**

State Street Bank and Trust Company  
1 Lincoln Street  
Boston, MA 02111

**Transfer agent**

American Stock Transfer & Trust Company  
59 Maiden Lane  
New York, NY 10038

**Independent registered public accounting firm**

KPMG LLP  
345 Park Avenue  
New York, NY 10154

**Legal counsel**

Simpson Thacher & Bartlett LLP  
425 Lexington Avenue  
New York, NY 10017

**New York Stock Exchange Symbol**

HYI

## **Legg Mason Funds Privacy and Security Notice**

### **Your Privacy and the Security of Your Personal Information is Very Important to the Legg Mason Funds**

This Privacy and Security Notice (the "Privacy Notice") addresses the Legg Mason Funds' privacy and data protection practices with respect to nonpublic personal information the Funds receive. The Legg Mason Funds include any funds sold by the Funds' distributor, Legg Mason Investor Services, LLC, as well as Legg Mason-sponsored closed-end funds and certain closed-end funds managed or sub-advised by Legg Mason or its affiliates. The provisions of this Privacy Notice apply to your information both while you are a shareholder and after you are no longer invested with the Funds.

### **The Type of Nonpublic Personal Information the Funds Collect About You**

The Funds collect and maintain nonpublic personal information about you in connection with your shareholder account. Such information may include, but is not limited to:

- Personal information included on applications or other forms;
- Account balances, transactions, and mutual fund holdings and positions;
- Online account access user IDs, passwords, security challenge question responses; and
- Information received from consumer reporting agencies regarding credit history and creditworthiness (such as the amount of an individual's total debt, payment history, etc.).

### **How the Funds Use Nonpublic Personal Information About You**

The Funds do not sell or share your nonpublic personal information with third parties or with affiliates for their marketing purposes, or with other financial institutions or affiliates for joint marketing purposes, unless you have authorized the Funds to do so. The Funds do not disclose any nonpublic personal information about you except as may be required to perform transactions or services you have authorized or as permitted or required by law. The Funds may disclose information about you to:

- Employees, agents, and affiliates on a "need to know" basis to enable the Funds to conduct ordinary business or comply with obligations to government regulators;
- Service providers, including the Funds' affiliates, who assist the Funds as part of the ordinary course of business (such as printing, mailing services, or processing or servicing your account with us) or otherwise perform services on the Funds' behalf, including companies that may perform marketing services solely for the Funds;

Edgar Filing: Western Asset High Yield Defined Opportunity Fund Inc. - Form N-CSR

- The Funds' representatives such as legal counsel, accountants and auditors; and
- Fiduciaries or representatives acting on your behalf, such as an IRA custodian or trustee of a grantor trust.

**NOT PART OF THE ANNUAL REPORT**



**Legg Mason Funds Privacy and Security Notice (cont d)**

Except as otherwise permitted by applicable law, companies acting on the Funds' behalf are contractually obligated to keep nonpublic personal information the Funds provide to them confidential and to use the information the Funds share only to provide the services the Funds ask them to perform.

The Funds may disclose nonpublic personal information about you when necessary to enforce their rights or protect against fraud, or as permitted or required by applicable law, such as in connection with a law enforcement or regulatory request, subpoena, or similar legal process. In the event of a corporate action or in the event a Fund service provider changes, the Funds may be required to disclose your nonpublic personal information to third parties. While it is the Funds' practice to obtain protections for disclosed information in these types of transactions, the Funds cannot guarantee their privacy policy will remain unchanged.

**Keeping You Informed of the Funds' Privacy and Security Practices**

The Funds will notify you annually of their privacy policy as required by federal law. While the Funds reserve the right to modify this policy at any time they will notify you promptly if this privacy policy changes.

**The Funds' Security Practices**

The Funds maintain appropriate physical, electronic and procedural safeguards designed to guard your nonpublic personal information. The Funds' internal data security policies restrict access to your nonpublic personal information to authorized employees, who may use your nonpublic personal information for Fund business purposes only.

Although the Funds strive to protect your nonpublic personal information, they cannot ensure or warrant the security of any information you provide or transmit to them, and you do so at your own risk. In the event of a breach of the confidentiality or security of your nonpublic personal information, the Funds will attempt to notify you as necessary so you can take appropriate protective steps. If you have consented to the Funds using electronic communications or electronic delivery of statements, they may notify you under such circumstances using the most current email address you have on record with them.

In order for the Funds to provide effective service to you, keeping your account information accurate is very important. If you believe that your account information is incomplete, not accurate or not current, or if you have questions about the Funds' privacy practices, write the Funds using the contact information on your account statements, email the Funds by clicking on the Contact Us section of the Funds' website at [www.leggmason.com](http://www.leggmason.com), or contact the Fund at 1-888-777-0102.

Revised April 2011

**NOT PART OF THE ANNUAL REPORT**

**Western Asset High Yield Defined Opportunity Fund Inc.**

Western Asset High Yield Defined Opportunity Fund Inc.  
620 Eighth Avenue  
49th Floor  
New York, NY 10018

Notice is hereby given in accordance with Section 23(c) of the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended, that from time to time the Fund may purchase at market prices, shares of its common stock in the open market.

The Fund files its complete schedule of portfolio holdings with the Securities and Exchange Commission ( SEC ) for the first and third quarters of each fiscal year on Form N-Q. The Fund's Forms N-Q are available on the SEC's website at [www.sec.gov](http://www.sec.gov). The Fund's Forms N-Q may be reviewed and copied at the SEC's Public Reference Room in Washington D.C., and information on the operation of the Public Reference Room may be obtained by calling 1-800-SEC-0330. To obtain information on Form N-Q from the Fund, shareholders can call 1-888-777-0102.

Information on how the Fund voted proxies relating to portfolio securities during the prior 12-month period ended June 30th of each year and a description of the policies and procedures that the Fund uses to determine how to vote proxies related to portfolio transactions are available (1) without charge, upon request, by calling 1-888-777-0102, (2) on the Fund's website at [www.lmcef.com](http://www.lmcef.com) and (3) on the SEC's website at [www.sec.gov](http://www.sec.gov).

This report is transmitted to the shareholders of Western Asset High Yield Defined Opportunity Fund Inc. for their information. This is not a prospectus, circular or representation intended for use in the purchase or sale of shares of the Fund or any securities mentioned in this report.

American Stock  
Transfer & Trust Company  
59 Maiden Lane  
New York, NY 10038

**WASX013977 10/12 SR12-1774**

ITEM 2. CODE OF ETHICS.

The registrant has adopted a code of ethics that applies to the registrant's principal executive officer, principal financial officer, principal accounting officer or controller.

ITEM 3. AUDIT COMMITTEE FINANCIAL EXPERT.

The Board of Trustees of the registrant has determined that William R. Hutchinson, a member of the Board's Audit Committee, possesses the technical attributes identified in Instruction 2(b) of Item 3 to Form N-CSR to qualify as an audit committee financial expert, and has designated Mr. Hutchinson as the Audit Committee's financial expert. Mr. Hutchinson is an independent Trustee pursuant to paragraph (a)(2) of Item 3 to Form N-CSR.

ITEM 4. PRINCIPAL ACCOUNTANT FEES AND SERVICES.

a) Audit Fees. The aggregate fees billed in the last fiscal year ending August 31, 2011 and August 31, 2012 (the Reporting Periods) for professional services rendered by the Registrant's principal accountant (the Auditor) for the audit of the Registrant's annual financial statements, or services that are normally provided by the Auditor in connection with the statutory and regulatory filings or engagements for the Reporting Period, was \$0 in 2011 and \$49,500 in 2012.

b) Audit-Related Fees. The aggregate fees billed in the Reporting Period for assurance and related services by the Auditor that are reasonably related to the performance of the Registrant's financial statements were \$0 in 2011 and \$0 in 2012.

In addition, there were no Audit-Related Fees billed in the Reporting Period for assurance and related services by the Auditor to the Registrant's investment adviser (not including any sub-adviser whose role is primarily portfolio management and is subcontracted with or overseen by another investment adviser), and any entity controlling, controlled by or under common control with the investment adviser that provides ongoing services to the Western Asset High Yield Defined Opportunity Fund Inc. (service affiliates), that were reasonably related to the performance of the annual audit of the service affiliates. Accordingly, there were no such fees that required pre-approval by the Audit Committee for the Reporting Period.

(c) Tax Fees. The aggregate fees billed in the Reporting Period for professional services rendered by the Auditor for tax compliance, tax advice and tax planning (Tax Services) were \$0 in 2011 and \$0 in 2012. These services consisted of (i) review or preparation of U.S. federal, state, local and excise tax returns; (ii) U.S. federal, state and local tax planning, advice and assistance regarding statutory, regulatory or administrative developments, and (iii) tax advice regarding tax qualification matters and/or treatment of various financial instruments held or proposed to be acquired or held.

There were no fees billed for tax services by the Auditors to service affiliates during the Reporting Period that required pre-approval by the Audit Committee.

d) All Other Fees. There were no other fees billed in the Reporting Period for products and services provided by the Auditor, other than the services reported in paragraphs (a) through (c) for the Item 4 for the Western Asset High Yield Defined Opportunity Fund Inc.

All Other Fees. There were no other non-audit services rendered by the Auditor to Legg Mason Partners Fund Advisors, LLC ( LMPFA ), and any entity controlling, controlled by or under common control with LMPFA that provided ongoing services to Western Asset High Yield Defined Opportunity Fund Inc. requiring pre-approval by the Audit Committee in the Reporting Period.

(e) Audit Committee s pre-approval policies and procedures described in paragraph(c) (7) of Rule 2-01 of Regulation S-X.

(1) The Charter for the Audit Committee (the Committee ) of the Board of each registered investment company (the Fund ) advised by LMPFA or one of their affiliates (each, an Adviser ) requires that the Committee shall approve (a) all audit and permissible non-audit services to be provided to the Fund and (b) all permissible non-audit services to be provided by the Fund s independent auditors to the Adviser and any Covered Service Providers if the engagement relates directly to the operations and financial reporting of the Fund. The Committee may implement policies and procedures by which such services are approved other than by the full Committee.

The Committee shall not approve non-audit services that the Committee believes may impair the independence of the auditors. As of the date of the approval of this Audit Committee Charter, permissible non-audit services include any professional services (including tax services), that are not prohibited services as described below, provided to the Fund by the independent auditors, other than those provided to the Fund in connection with an audit or a review of the financial statements of the Fund. Permissible non-audit services may not include: (i) bookkeeping or other services related to the accounting records or financial statements of the Fund; (ii) financial information systems design and implementation; (iii) appraisal or valuation services, fairness opinions or contribution-in-kind reports; (iv) actuarial services; (v) internal audit outsourcing services; (vi) management functions or human resources; (vii) broker or dealer, investment adviser or investment banking services; (viii) legal services and expert services unrelated to the audit; and (ix) any other service the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board determines, by regulation, is impermissible.

Pre-approval by the Committee of any permissible non-audit services is not required so long as: (i) the aggregate amount of all such permissible non-audit services provided to the Fund, the Adviser and any service providers controlling, controlled by or under common control with the Adviser that provide ongoing services to the Fund ( Covered Service Providers ) constitutes not more than 5% of the total amount of revenues paid to the independent

auditors during the fiscal year in which the permissible non-audit services are provided to (a) the Fund, (b) the Adviser and (c) any entity controlling, controlled by or under common control with the Adviser that provides ongoing services to the Fund during the fiscal year in which the services are provided that would have to be approved by the Committee; (ii) the permissible non-audit services were not recognized by the Fund at the time of the engagement to be non-audit services; and (iii) such services are promptly brought to the attention of the Committee and approved by the Committee (or its delegate(s)) prior to the completion of the audit.

(2) For the Western Asset High Yield Defined Opportunity Fund Inc., the percentage of fees that were approved by the audit committee, with respect to: Audit-Related Fees were 100% and 100% for 2011 and 2012; Tax Fees were 100% and 100% for 2011 and 2012; and Other Fees were 100% and 100% for 2011 and 2012.

(f) N/A

(g) Non-audit fees billed by the Auditor for services rendered to Western Asset High Yield Defined Opportunity Fund Inc., LMPFA and any entity controlling, controlled by, or under common control with LMPFA that provides ongoing services to Western Asset High Yield Defined Opportunity Fund Inc. during the reporting period were \$0 in 2012.

(h) Yes. Western Asset High Yield Defined Opportunity Fund Inc.'s Audit Committee has considered whether the provision of non-audit services that were rendered to Service Affiliates, which were not pre-approved (not requiring pre-approval), is compatible with maintaining the Accountant's independence. All services provided by the Auditor to the Western Asset High Yield Defined Opportunity Fund Inc. or to Service Affiliates, which were required to be pre-approved, were pre-approved as required.

ITEM 5.

AUDIT COMMITTEE OF LISTED REGISTRANTS.

a) Registrant has a separately-designated standing Audit Committee established in accordance with *Section 3(a)58(A) of the Exchange Act*. The Audit Committee consists of the following Board members:

William R. Hutchinson

Paolo M. Cucchi

Daniel P. Cronin

Carol L. Colman

Leslie H. Gelb

Dr. Riordan Roett

Jeswald W. Salacuse

b) Not applicable

---

ITEM 6. SCHEDULE OF INVESTMENTS.

Included herein under Item 1.

ITEM 7. DISCLOSURE OF PROXY VOTING POLICIES AND PROCEDURES FOR CLOSED-END MANAGEMENT INVESTMENT COMPANIES.

**Proxy Voting Guidelines and Procedures**

Legg Mason Partners Fund Advisor, LLC ( LMPFA ) delegates the responsibility for voting proxies for the fund to the subadviser through its contracts with the subadviser. The subadviser will use its own proxy voting policies and procedures to vote proxies. Accordingly, LMPFA does not expect to have proxy-voting responsibility for the fund. Should LMPFA become responsible for voting proxies for any reason, such as the inability of the subadviser to provide investment advisory services, LMPFA shall utilize the proxy voting guidelines established by the most recent subadviser to vote proxies until a new subadviser is retained.

The subadviser's Proxy Voting Policies and Procedures govern in determining how proxies relating to the fund's portfolio securities are voted and are provided below. Information regarding how each fund voted proxies (if any) relating to portfolio securities during the most recent 12-month period ended June 30 is available without charge (1) by calling 888-777-0102, (2) on the fund's website at <http://www.lmcef.com> and (3) on the SEC's website at <http://www.sec.gov>.

**Background**

Western Asset Management Company ( WA ), Western Asset Management Company Limited ( WAML ), Western Asset Management Company Ltd ( WAMCL ) and Western Asset Management Company Pte. Ltd. ( WAMC ) (together Western Asset ) have adopted and implemented policies and procedures that we believe are reasonably designed to ensure that proxies are voted in the best interest of clients, in accordance with our fiduciary duties and SEC Rule 206(4)-6 under the Investment Advisers Act of 1940 ( Advisers Act ). Our authority to vote the proxies of our clients is established through investment management agreements or comparable documents, and our proxy voting guidelines have been tailored to reflect these specific contractual obligations. In addition to SEC requirements governing advisers, our proxy voting policies reflect the long-standing fiduciary standards and responsibilities for ERISA accounts. Unless a manager of ERISA assets has been expressly precluded from voting proxies, the Department of Labor has determined that the responsibility for these votes lies with the Investment Manager.

In exercising its voting authority, Western Asset will not consult or enter into agreements with officers, directors or employees of Legg Mason Inc. or any of its affiliates (except that WA, WAML, WAMCL and WAMC may so consult and agree with each other) regarding the voting of any securities owned by its clients.

**Policy**



Western Asset's proxy voting procedures are designed and implemented in a way that is reasonably expected to ensure that proxy matters are handled in the best interest of our clients. While the guidelines included in the procedures are intended to provide a benchmark for voting standards, each vote is ultimately cast on a case-by-case basis, taking into consideration Western Asset's contractual obligations to our clients and all other relevant facts and circumstances at the time of the vote (such that these guidelines may be overridden to the extent Western Asset deems appropriate).

---

## Procedures

### Responsibility and Oversight

The Western Asset Legal and Compliance Department ( Legal and Compliance Department ) is responsible for administering and overseeing the proxy voting process. The gathering of proxies is coordinated through the Corporate Actions area of Investment Support ( Corporate Actions ). Research analysts and portfolio managers are responsible for determining appropriate voting positions on each proxy utilizing any applicable guidelines contained in these procedures.

### Client Authority

The Investment Management Agreement for each client is reviewed at account start-up for proxy voting instructions. If an agreement is silent on proxy voting, but contains an overall delegation of discretionary authority or if the account represents assets of an ERISA plan, Western Asset will assume responsibility for proxy voting. The Legal and Compliance Department maintains a matrix of proxy voting authority.

### Proxy Gathering

Registered owners of record, client custodians, client banks and trustees ( Proxy Recipients ) that receive proxy materials on behalf of clients should forward them to Corporate Actions. Proxy Recipients for new clients (or, if Western Asset becomes aware that the applicable Proxy Recipient for an existing client has changed, the Proxy Recipient for the existing client) are notified at start-up of appropriate routing to Corporate Actions of proxy materials received and reminded of their responsibility to forward all proxy materials on a timely basis. If Western Asset personnel other than Corporate Actions receive proxy materials, they should promptly forward the materials to Corporate Actions.

### Proxy Voting

Once proxy materials are received by Corporate Actions, they are forwarded to the Legal and Compliance Department for coordination and the following actions:

- a. Proxies are reviewed to determine accounts impacted.
  
- b. Impacted accounts are checked to confirm Western Asset voting authority.

## Edgar Filing: Western Asset High Yield Defined Opportunity Fund Inc. - Form N-CSR

c. Legal and Compliance Department staff reviews proxy issues to determine any material conflicts of interest. (See conflicts of interest section of these procedures for further information on determining material conflicts of interest.)

d. If a material conflict of interest exists, (i) to the extent reasonably practicable and permitted by applicable law, the client is promptly notified, the conflict is disclosed and Western Asset obtains the client's proxy voting instructions, and (ii) to the extent that it is not reasonably practicable or permitted by applicable law to notify the client and obtain such instructions (e.g., the client is a mutual fund or other commingled vehicle or is an ERISA plan client), Western Asset seeks voting instructions from an independent third party.

e. Legal and Compliance Department staff provides proxy material to the appropriate research analyst or portfolio manager to obtain their recommended vote. Research analysts and portfolio managers determine votes on a case-by-case basis taking into account the voting guidelines contained in these procedures. For avoidance of doubt, depending on the best interest of each individual client, Western Asset may vote the same proxy differently for different clients. The analyst's or portfolio manager's basis for their decision is documented and maintained by the Legal and Compliance Department.

---

f. Legal and Compliance Department staff votes the proxy pursuant to the instructions received in (d) or (e) and returns the voted proxy as indicated in the proxy materials.

#### Timing

Western Asset personnel act in such a manner to ensure that, absent special circumstances, the proxy gathering and proxy voting steps noted above can be completed before the applicable deadline for returning proxy votes.

#### Recordkeeping

Western Asset maintains records of proxies voted pursuant to Section 204-2 of the Advisers Act and ERISA DOL Bulletin 94-2. These records include:

- a. A copy of Western Asset's policies and procedures.
- b. Copies of proxy statements received regarding client securities.
- c. A copy of any document created by Western Asset that was material to making a decision how to vote proxies.
- d. Each written client request for proxy voting records and Western Asset's written response to both verbal and written client requests.
- e. A proxy log including:
  1. Issuer name;
  2. Exchange ticker symbol of the issuer's shares to be voted;
  3. Committee on Uniform Securities Identification Procedures (CUSIP) number for the shares to be voted;
  4. A brief identification of the matter voted on;
  5. Whether the matter was proposed by the issuer or by a shareholder of the issuer;

## Edgar Filing: Western Asset High Yield Defined Opportunity Fund Inc. - Form N-CSR

6. Whether a vote was cast on the matter;
7. A record of how the vote was cast; and
8. Whether the vote was cast for or against the recommendation of the issuer's management team.

Records are maintained in an easily accessible place for five years, the first two in Western Asset's offices.

### Disclosure

Part II of the WA Form ADV, the WAML Form ADV, the WAMCL Form ADV and the WAMC Form ADV, each, contain a description of Western Asset's proxy policies. Clients will be provided a copy of these policies and procedures upon request. In addition, upon request, clients may receive reports on how their proxies have been voted.

---

Conflicts of Interest

All proxies are reviewed by the Legal and Compliance Department for material conflicts of interest. Issues to be reviewed include, but are not limited to:

1. Whether Western Asset (or, to the extent required to be considered by applicable law, its affiliates) manages assets for the company or an employee group of the company or otherwise has an interest in the company;
2. Whether Western Asset or an officer or director of Western Asset or the applicable portfolio manager or analyst responsible for recommending the proxy vote (together, "Voting Persons") is a close relative of or has a personal or business relationship with an executive, director or person who is a candidate for director of the company or is a participant in a proxy contest; and
3. Whether there is any other business or personal relationship where a Voting Person has a personal interest in the outcome of the matter before shareholders.

**Voting Guidelines**

Western Asset's substantive voting decisions turn on the particular facts and circumstances of each proxy vote and are evaluated by the designated research analyst or portfolio manager. The examples outlined below are meant as guidelines to aid in the decision making process.

Guidelines are grouped according to the types of proposals generally presented to shareholders. Part I deals with proposals which have been approved and are recommended by a company's board of directors; Part II deals with proposals submitted by shareholders for inclusion in proxy statements; Part III addresses issues relating to voting shares of investment companies; and Part IV addresses unique considerations pertaining to foreign issuers.

**I. Board Approved Proposals**

The vast majority of matters presented to shareholders for a vote involve proposals made by a company itself that have been approved and recommended by its board of directors. In view of the enhanced corporate governance practices currently being implemented in public companies, Western Asset generally votes in support of decisions reached by independent boards of directors. More specific guidelines related to certain board-approved proposals are as follows:

1. Matters relating to the Board of Directors

## Edgar Filing: Western Asset High Yield Defined Opportunity Fund Inc. - Form N-CSR

Western Asset votes proxies for the election of the company's nominees for directors and for board-approved proposals on other matters relating to the board of directors with the following exceptions:

a. Votes are withheld for the entire board of directors if the board does not have a majority of independent directors or the board does not have nominating, audit and compensation committees composed solely of independent directors.

b. Votes are withheld for any nominee for director who is considered an independent director by the company and who has received compensation from the company other than for service as a director.

---

c. Votes are withheld for any nominee for director who attends less than 75% of board and committee meetings without valid reasons for absences.

d. Votes are cast on a case-by-case basis in contested elections of directors.

## 2. Matters relating to Executive Compensation

Western Asset generally favors compensation programs that relate executive compensation to a company's long-term performance. Votes are cast on a case-by-case basis on board-approved proposals relating to executive compensation, except as follows:

a. Except where the firm is otherwise withholding votes for the entire board of directors, Western Asset votes for stock option plans that will result in a minimal annual dilution.

b. Western Asset votes against stock option plans or proposals that permit replacing or repricing of underwater options.

c. Western Asset votes against stock option plans that permit issuance of options with an exercise price below the stock's current market price.

d. Except where the firm is otherwise withholding votes for the entire board of directors, Western Asset votes for employee stock purchase plans that limit the discount for shares purchased under the plan to no more than 15% of their market value, have an offering period of 27 months or less and result in dilution of 10% or less.

## 3. Matters relating to Capitalization

The management of a company's capital structure involves a number of important issues, including cash flows, financing needs and market conditions that are unique to the circumstances of each company. As a result, Western Asset votes on a case-by-case basis on board-approved proposals involving changes to a company's capitalization except where Western Asset is otherwise withholding votes for the entire board of directors.

a. Western Asset votes for proposals relating to the authorization of additional common stock.

b. Western Asset votes for proposals to effect stock splits (excluding reverse stock splits).



c. Western Asset votes for proposals authorizing share repurchase programs.

4. Matters relating to Acquisitions, Mergers, Reorganizations and Other Transactions

Western Asset votes these issues on a case-by-case basis on board-approved transactions.

5. Matters relating to Anti-Takeover Measures

Western Asset votes against board-approved proposals to adopt anti-takeover measures except as follows:

a. Western Asset votes on a case-by-case basis on proposals to ratify or approve shareholder rights plans.

b. Western Asset votes on a case-by-case basis on proposals to adopt fair price provisions.

---

## 6. Other Business Matters

Western Asset votes for board-approved proposals approving such routine business matters such as changing the company's name, ratifying the appointment of auditors and procedural matters relating to the shareholder meeting.

- a. Western Asset votes on a case-by-case basis on proposals to amend a company's charter or bylaws.
- b. Western Asset votes against authorization to transact other unidentified, substantive business at the meeting.

## II. Shareholder Proposals

SEC regulations permit shareholders to submit proposals for inclusion in a company's proxy statement. These proposals generally seek to change some aspect of a company's corporate governance structure or to change some aspect of its business operations. Western Asset votes in accordance with the recommendation of the company's board of directors on all shareholder proposals, except as follows:

1. Western Asset votes for shareholder proposals to require shareholder approval of shareholder rights plans.
2. Western Asset votes for shareholder proposals that are consistent with Western Asset's proxy voting guidelines for board-approved proposals.
3. Western Asset votes on a case-by-case basis on other shareholder proposals where the firm is otherwise withholding votes for the entire board of directors.

## III. Voting Shares of Investment Companies

Western Asset may utilize shares of open or closed-end investment companies to implement its investment strategies. Shareholder votes for investment companies that fall within the categories listed in Parts I and II above are voted in accordance with those guidelines.

1. Western Asset votes on a case-by-case basis on proposals relating to changes in the investment objectives of an investment company taking into account the original intent of the fund and the role the fund plays in the clients' portfolios.

## Edgar Filing: Western Asset High Yield Defined Opportunity Fund Inc. - Form N-CSR

2. Western Asset votes on a case-by-case basis all proposals that would result in increases in expenses (e.g., proposals to adopt 12b-1 plans, alter investment advisory arrangements or approve fund mergers) taking into account comparable expenses for similar funds and the services to be provided.

### IV. Voting Shares of Foreign Issuers

In the event Western Asset is required to vote on securities held in non-U.S. issuers i.e. issuers that are incorporated under the laws of a foreign jurisdiction and that are not listed on a U.S. securities exchange or the NASDAQ stock market, the following guidelines are used, which are premised on the existence of a sound corporate governance and disclosure framework. These guidelines, however, may not be appropriate under some circumstances for foreign issuers and therefore apply only where applicable.

---

1. Western Asset votes for shareholder proposals calling for a majority of the directors to be independent of management.
  
2. Western Asset votes for shareholder proposals seeking to increase the independence of board nominating, audit and compensation committees.
  
3. Western Asset votes for shareholder proposals that implement corporate governance standards similar to those established under U.S. federal law and the listing requirements of U.S. stock exchanges, and that do not otherwise violate the laws of the jurisdiction under which the company is incorporated.
  
4. Western Asset votes on a case-by-case basis on proposals relating to (1) the issuance of common stock in excess of 20% of a company's outstanding common stock where shareholders do not have preemptive rights, or (2) the issuance of common stock in excess of 100% of a company's outstanding common stock where shareholders have preemptive rights.

**Retirement Accounts**

For accounts subject to ERISA, as well as other Retirement Accounts, Western Asset is presumed to have the responsibility to vote proxies for the client. The Department of Labor ( DOL ) has issued a bulletin that states that investment managers have the responsibility to vote proxies on behalf of Retirement Accounts unless the authority to vote proxies has been specifically reserved to another named fiduciary. Furthermore, unless Western Asset is expressly precluded from voting the proxies, the DOL has determined that the responsibility remains with the investment manager.

In order to comply with the DOL's position, Western Asset will be presumed to have the obligation to vote proxies for its Retirement Accounts unless Western Asset has obtained a specific written instruction indicating that: (a) the right to vote proxies has been reserved to a named fiduciary of the client, and (b) Western Asset is precluded from voting proxies on behalf of the client. If Western Asset does not receive such an instruction, Western Asset will be responsible for voting proxies in the best interests of the Retirement Account client and in accordance with any proxy voting guidelines provided by the client.

**ITEM 8. INVESTMENT PROFESSIONALS OF CLOSED-END MANAGEMENT INVESTMENT COMPANIES.**

**(a)(1):**

NAME AND ADDRESS	LENGTH OF TIME SERVED	PRINCIPAL OCCUPATION(S) DURING PAST 5 YEARS
Stephen A. Walsh	Since 2010	Responsible for the day-to-day management with other members of the Fund's portfolio management team; Deputy Chief Investment Officer of Western Asset from 2000 to 2008; Chief Investment Officer of Western Asset since 2008.

Edgar Filing: Western Asset High Yield Defined Opportunity Fund Inc. - Form N-CSR

Western Asset

385 East Colorado Blvd. Pasadena, CA  
91101

Christopher F. Kilpatrick	Since 2012	Responsible for the day-to-day management with other members of the Fund's portfolio management team; employed by Western Asset Management as an investment professional for at least the past five years.
---------------------------	------------	--

Western Asset

385 East Colorado Blvd. Pasadena, CA  
91101

Michael C. Buchanan	Since 2010	Responsible for the day-to-day management with other members of the Fund's portfolio management team; formerly, Managing Director and head of U.S. Credit Products from 2003-2005 at Credit Suisse Asset Management
---------------------	------------	---

Western Asset

385 East Colorado Blvd. Pasadena, CA  
91101

---

**(a)(2): DATA TO BE PROVIDED BY FINANCIAL CONTROL**

The following tables set forth certain additional information with respect to the fund's investment professionals for the fund. Unless noted otherwise, all information is provided as of August 31, 2012.

## Other Accounts Managed by Investment Professionals

The table below identifies the number of accounts (other than the fund) for which the fund's investment professionals have day-to-day management responsibilities and the total assets in such accounts, within each of the following categories: registered investment companies, other pooled investment vehicles, and other accounts. For each category, the number of accounts and total assets in the accounts where fees are based on performance is also indicated.

Investment Professional(s)	Registered Investment Companies	Other Pooled Investment Vehicles	Other Accounts
Stephen A. Walsh	99 registered investment companies with \$176.4 billion in total assets under management	226 Other pooled investment vehicles with \$99.1 billion in assets under management*	723 Other accounts with \$175.6 billion in total assets under management**
Christopher F. Kilpatrick	None	None	None
Michael C. Buchanan	43 registered investment Companies with \$33.0 billion in total assets Under management	44 Other pooled investment vehicles with \$25.1 billion in assets under management***	191 Other accounts with \$50.6 billion in total assets under management****

\* Includes 6 accounts managed, totaling \$863 million, for which advisory fee is performance based.

\*\* Includes 70 accounts managed, totaling \$16.3 billion, for which advisory fee is performance based.

\*\*\* Includes 4 accounts managed, totaling \$560 million, for which advisory fee is performance based.

\*\*\*\* Includes 22 accounts managed, totaling \$7.1 billion, for which advisory fee is performance based.

*The numbers above reflect the overall number of portfolios managed by employees of Western Asset Management Company (Western Asset). Mr. Walsh is involved in the management of all the Firm's portfolios, but they are not solely responsible for particular portfolios. Western Asset's investment discipline emphasizes a team approach that combines the efforts of groups of specialists working in different market sectors. They are responsible for overseeing implementation of Western Asset's overall investment ideas and coordinating the work of the various sector teams. This structure ensures that client portfolios benefit from a consensus that draws on the expertise of all team members.*

**(a)(3): Investment Professional Compensation**

With respect to the compensation of the investment professionals, Western Asset's compensation system assigns each employee a total compensation range, which is derived from annual market surveys that benchmark each role with its job function and peer universe. This method is designed to reward employees with total compensation reflective of the external market value of their skills, experience, and ability to produce desired results. Standard compensation includes competitive base salaries, generous employee benefits, and a retirement plan.

In addition, the subadviser's employees are eligible for bonuses. These are structured to closely align the interests of employees with those of the subadviser, and are determined by the professional's job function and pre-tax performance as measured by a formal review process. All bonuses are completely discretionary. The principal factor considered is an investment professional's investment performance versus appropriate peer groups and benchmarks (*e.g.*, a securities index and with respect to a fund, the benchmark set forth in the fund's Prospectus to which the fund's average annual total returns are compared or, if none, the benchmark set forth in the fund's annual report). Performance is reviewed on a 1, 3 and 5 year basis for compensation with 3 years having the most emphasis. The subadviser may also measure an investment professional's pre-tax investment performance against other benchmarks, as it determines appropriate. Because investment professionals are generally responsible for multiple accounts (including the funds) with similar investment strategies, they are generally compensated on the performance of the aggregate group of similar accounts, rather than a specific account. Other factors that may be considered when making bonus decisions include client service, business development, length of service to the subadviser, management or supervisory responsibilities, contributions to developing business strategy and overall contributions to the subadviser's business.

Finally, in order to attract and retain top talent, all professionals are eligible for additional incentives in recognition of outstanding performance. These are determined based upon the factors described above and include Legg Mason stock options and long-term incentives that vest over a set period of time past the award date.

**Potential Conflicts of Interest**

*Conflicts of Interest*

The manager, the subadviser and investment professionals have interests which conflict with the interests of the fund. There is no guarantee that the policies and procedures adopted by the manager, the subadviser and the fund will be able to identify or mitigate these conflicts of interest.

Some examples of material conflicts of interest include:

*Allocation of Limited Time and Attention.* An investment professional who is responsible for managing multiple funds and/or accounts may devote unequal time and attention to the management of those funds and/or accounts. An investment professional may not be able to formulate as complete a strategy or identify equally attractive investment opportunities for each of those funds and accounts as might be the case if he or she were to devote substantially more attention to the management of a single fund. Such an investment professional may make general determinations across multiple funds, rather than tailoring a unique approach for each fund. The effects of this conflict may be more pronounced where funds and/or accounts overseen by a particular investment professional have different investment strategies.

*Allocation of Limited Investment Opportunities; Aggregation of Orders.* If an investment professional identifies a limited investment opportunity that may be suitable for multiple funds and/or accounts, the opportunity may be allocated among these several funds or accounts, which may limit the fund's ability to take full advantage of the investment opportunity. Additionally, the subadviser may aggregate transaction

---



orders for multiple accounts for purpose of execution. Such aggregation may cause the price or brokerage costs to be less favorable to a particular client than if similar transactions were not being executed concurrently for other accounts. In addition, the subadviser's trade allocation policies may result in the fund's orders not being fully executed or being delayed in execution.

*Pursuit of Differing Strategies.* At times, an investment professional may determine that an investment opportunity may be appropriate for only some of the funds and/or accounts for which he or she exercises investment responsibility, or may decide that certain of the funds and/or accounts should take differing positions with respect to a particular security. In these cases, the investment professional may place separate transactions for one or more funds or accounts which may affect the market price of the security or the execution of the transaction, or both, to the detriment or benefit of one or more other funds and/or accounts. For example, an investment professional may determine that it would be in the interest of another account to sell a security that the fund holds long, potentially resulting in a decrease in the market value of the security held by the fund.

*Cross Trades.* Investment professionals may manage funds that engage in cross trades, where one of the manager's funds or accounts sells a particular security to another fund or account managed by the same manager. Cross trades may pose conflicts of interest because of, for example, the possibility that one account sells a security to another account at a higher price than an independent third party would pay or otherwise enters into a transaction that it would not enter into with an independent party, such as the sale of a difficult-to-obtain security.

*Selection of Broker/Dealers.* Investment professionals may select or influence the selection of the brokers and dealers that are used to execute securities transactions for the funds and/or accounts that they supervise. In addition to executing trades, some brokers and dealers provide the subadviser with brokerage and research services. These services may be taken into account in the selection of brokers and dealers whether a broker is being selected to effect a trade on an agency basis for a commission or (as is normally the case for the funds) whether a dealer is being selected to effect a trade on a principal basis. This may result in the payment of higher brokerage fees and/or execution at a less favorable price than might have otherwise been available. The services obtained may ultimately be more beneficial to certain of the manager's funds or accounts than to others (but not necessarily to the funds that pay the increased commission or incur the less favorable execution). A decision as to the selection of brokers and dealers could therefore yield disproportionate costs and benefits among the funds and/or accounts managed.

*Variation in Financial and Other Benefits.* A conflict of interest arises where the financial or other benefits available to an investment professional differ among the funds and/or accounts that he or she manages. If the amount or structure of the investment manager's management fee and/or an investment professional's compensation differs among funds and/or accounts (such as where certain funds or accounts pay higher management fees or performance-based management fees), the investment professional might be motivated to help certain funds and/or accounts over others. Similarly, the desire to maintain assets under management or to enhance the investment professional's performance record or to derive other rewards, financial or otherwise, could influence the investment professional in affording preferential treatment to those funds and/or accounts that could most significantly benefit the investment professional. An investment professional may, for example, have an incentive to allocate favorable or limited opportunity investments or structure the timing of investments to favor such funds and/or accounts. Also, an investment professional's or the manager's or the subadviser's desire to increase assets under management could influence the investment professional to keep a fund open for new investors without regard to potential benefits of closing the fund to new investors. Additionally, the investment professional might be motivated to favor funds and/or accounts in which he or she has an ownership interest or in which the investment manager and/or its affiliates have ownership interests. Conversely, if an investment professional does not personally hold an investment in the fund, the investment professional's conflicts of interest with respect to the fund may be more acute.

*Related Business Opportunities.* The investment manager or its affiliates may provide more services (such as distribution or recordkeeping) for some types of funds or accounts than for others. In such cases, an investment professional may benefit, either directly or indirectly, by devoting disproportionate attention to



the management of funds and/or accounts that provide greater overall returns to the investment manager and its affiliates.

**(a)(4): Investment Professional Securities Ownership**

The table below identifies the dollar range of securities beneficially owned by each investment professional as of August 31, 2012.

Investment Professional(s)	Dollar Range of Portfolio Securities Beneficially Owned
Stephen A. Walsh	A
Christopher F. Kilpatrick	A
Michael C. Buchanan	A

Dollar Range ownership is as follows:

- A: none
- B: \$1 - \$10,000
- C: 10,001 - \$50,000
- D: \$50,001 - \$100,000
- E: \$100,001 - \$500,000
- F: \$500,001 - \$1 million
- G: over \$1 million

**ITEM 9. PURCHASES OF EQUITY SECURITIES BY CLOSED-END MANAGEMENT INVESTMENT COMPANY AND AFFILIATED PURCHASERS.**

NONE.

ITEM 10. SUBMISSION OF MATTERS TO A VOTE OF SECURITY HOLDERS.

NONE.

ITEM 11. CONTROLS AND PROCEDURES.

(a) The registrant's principal executive officer and principal financial officer 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")) are effective as of a date within 90 days of the filing date of this report that includes the disclosure required by this paragraph, based on their evaluation of the disclosure controls and procedures required by Rule 30a-3(b) under the 1940 Act and 15d-15(b) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934.

(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) that occurred during the second fiscal quarter of the period covered by this report that have materially affected, or are likely to materially affect the registrant's internal control over financial reporting.

ITEM 12. EXHIBITS.

(a) (1) Code of Ethics attached hereto.

Exhibit 99.CODE ETH

(a) (2) Certifications pursuant to section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 attached hereto.

Exhibit 99.CERT

(b) Certifications pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 attached hereto.

Exhibit 99.906CERT

---

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, there unto duly authorized.

**Western Asset High Yield Defined Opportunity Fund Inc.**

By: /s/ R. Jay Gerken  
R. Jay Gerken  
Chief Executive Officer of  
**Western Asset High Yield Defined Opportunity Fund Inc.**

Date: October 26, 2012

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: /s/ R. Jay Gerken  
R. Jay Gerken  
Chief Executive Officer of  
**Western Asset High Yield Defined Opportunity Fund Inc.**

Date: October 26, 2012

By: /s/ Richard F. Sennett  
Richard F. Sennett  
Principal Financial Officer of  
**Western Asset High Yield Defined Opportunity Fund Inc.**

Date: October 26, 2012

---