VanEck Merk Gold Trust Form SC 13G/A February 15, 2019

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

SCHEDULE 13G/A Under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (Amendment No. 3)*

VanEck Merk Gold Trust (Name of Issuer)

VanEck Merk Gold Shares (Title of Class of Securities)

921078101 (CUSIP Number)

December 31, 2018 (Date of Event Which Requires Filing of this Statement)

Check the appropriate box to designate the rule pursuant to which this Schedule is filed:

Rule 13d-1(b)

Rule 13d-1(c)

Rule 13d-1(d)

The information required in the remainder of this cover page shall not be deemed to be "filed" for the purpose of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Act") or otherwise subject to the liabilities of that section of the Act but shall be subject to all other provisions of the Act (however, see the Notes).

^{*} The remainder of this cover page shall be filled out for a reporting person's initial filing on this form with respect to the subject class of securities, and for any subsequent amendment containing information which would alter the disclosures provided in a prior cover page.

Page 2 CUSIP No. 921078101 of 7 NAME OF REPORTING PERSON Merk Investments LLC 1 CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX IF (a) 2 A MEMBER OF A GROUP (b) SEC USE ONLY 3 CITIZENSHIP OR PLACE OF United States of America **ORGANIZATION** 4 NUMBER OF **5 SOLE VOTING POWER** 28,429 (1) **SHARES** BENEFICIALLY 6SHARED VOTING POWER 853,800 (2) **OWNED BY EACH 7 SOLE DISPOSITIVE POWER** 882,229 REPORTING **PERSON 8 SHARED DISPOSITIVE POWER** WITH: AGGREGATE AMOUNT BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH 882,229 (3) 9 REPORTING PERSON

10 CHECK BOX IF THE AGGREGATE
AMOUNT IN ROW 9 EXCLUDES
CERTAIN SHARES

PERCENT OF CLASS REPRESENTED 7.73% (4)
BY AMOUNT IN ROW 9

TYPE OF REPORTING PERSON IA

(3)

⁽¹⁾ Represents shares received directly from the Issuer by Merk Investments LLC for its services as a sponsor to the Issuer, over which Merk Investments LLC holds sole voting power.

Represents shares held by the Merk Hard Currency Fund (the "Fund") and the Merk Global Opportunity Fund LP,

⁽²⁾ over which Merk Investments LLC, as investment advisor and manager holds shared voting power and sole dispositive power.

Merk Investments, LLC disclaims beneficial ownership of the 537,800 shares held by the Fund pursuant to Rule 13d-4.

(4) Based on 11,415,895 shares outstanding as of December 31, 2018, as reported by the Issuer to Merk Investments LLC.

of 7 NAME OF REPORTING PERSON Merk Hard Currency Fund 1 CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX IF (a) 2 A MEMBER OF A GROUP (b) SEC USE ONLY 3 CITIZENSHIP OR PLACE OF Delaware **ORGANIZATION** 4 NUMBER OF **5 SOLE VOTING POWER SHARES** BENEFICIALLY 6SHARED VOTING POWER 537,800 (1) OWNED BY **EACH 7SOLE DISPOSITIVE POWER REPORTING PERSON 8 SHARED DISPOSITIVE POWER** WITH: AGGREGATE AMOUNT BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH 537,800 9 REPORTING PERSON CHECK BOX IF THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT IN ROW 9 EXCLUDES 10 **CERTAIN SHARES** PERCENT OF CLASS REPRESENTED 4.71% BY AMOUNT IN ROW 9 11

TYPE OF REPORTING PERSON

12

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Represents shares held directly by the Fund, over which the Fund and Merk Investments LLC, as investment advisor and manager of the Fund, share voting power. Merk Investments LLC has sole dispositive power over the shares. The Fund disclaims beneficial ownership of the shares pursuant to Rule 13d-4.

IV

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Item 1(a).

Name of Issuer:

VanEck Merk Gold Trust

Item

Address of Issuer's Principal Executive Offices:

VanEck Merk Gold Trust c/o Merk Investments LLC 44 Montgomery Street, #3730, San Francisco, California 94104

Item

Name of Person Filing:

This statement is filed by Merk Investments, LLC and the Merk Hard Currency Fund (the "Fund"). Merk Investments, LLC is sponsor of the Issuer and investment adviser to the Fund.

Item

2(b). Address of Principal Business Office or, if None, Residence:

The address for the principal business office of Merk Investments, LLC is:

Merk Investments LLC 44 Montgomery Street, #3730 San Francisco, California 94104

The address for the principal business office of the Merk Hard Currency Fund is:

Merk Hard Currency Fund P.O. Box 588 Portland, Maine 04112

Item 2(c).

Citizenship:

The Fund is a series of a Delaware statutory trust, and Merk Investments LLC is a Delaware limited liability company.

Item 2(d).

Title of Class of Securities:

VanEck Merk Gold shares, no par value.

Item 2(e).

CUSIP Number:

921078101

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Item 3. If This Statement is Filed Pursuant to §§240.13d-1(b), or 240.13d-2(b) or (c), Check Whether the Person Filing is a:

- (a) Broker or dealer registered under Section 15 of the Act (15 U.S.C. 78o).
- (b) Bank as defined in Section 3(a)(6) of the Act (15 U.S.C. 78c).
- (c) Insurance company as defined in Section 3(a)(19) of the Act (15 U.S.C. 78c).
- (d) Investment company registered under Section 8 of the Investment Company Act of 1940 (15 U.S.C. 80a-8).
- (e) An investment adviser in accordance with §240.13d-1(b)(1)(ii)(E);
- (f) An employee benefit plan or endowment fund in accordance with §240.13d-1(b)(1)(ii)(F);
- (g) A parent holding company or control person in accordance with §240.13d-1(b)(ii)(G);
- (h) A savings association as defined in Section 3(b) of the Federal Deposit Insurance Act (12 U.S.C. 1813);
- (i) A church plan that is excluded from the definition of an investment company under Section 3(c)(14) of the Investment Company Act (15 U.S.C. 80a-3);
- (j) A non-U.S. institution in accordance with §240.13d-1(b)(1)(ii)(J)
- (k) Group, in accordance with §240.13d-1(b)(1)(ii)(K).

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Item 4. Ownership.

Provide the following information regarding the aggregate number and percentage of the class of securities of the issuer identified in Item 1.

(a) Amount beneficially owned:

882,229

(b) Percent of class:

7.73%

Number of shares as (c) to which such person has:

(i) Sole power to vote or to direct the vote 28,429

Shared

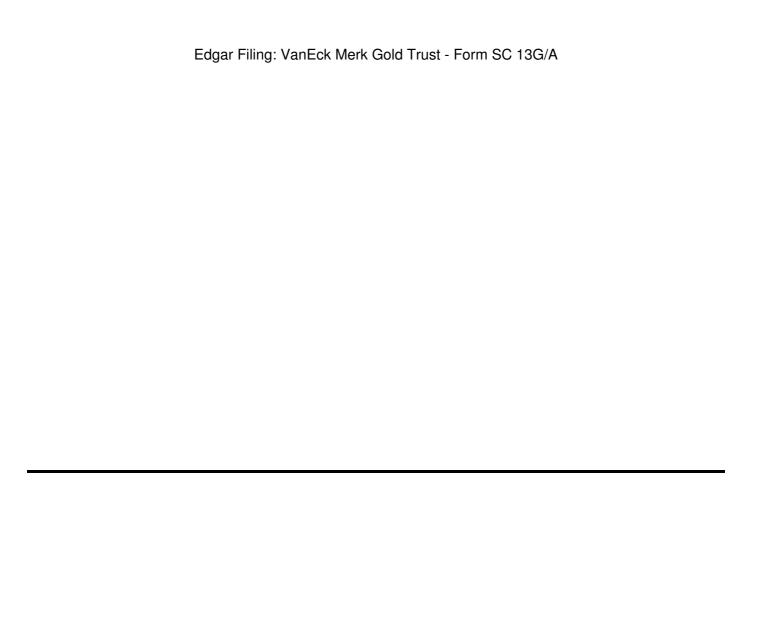
power to vote or to direct the vote 853,800

(iii) or to direct the disposition of 882,229

Shared power to dispose or

Sole power to dispose

(iv) to direct the disposition of



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Item

5. Ownership of Five Percent or Less of a Class.

If this statement is being filed to report the fact that as of the date hereof a reporting person has ceased to be the beneficial owner of more than five percent of the class of securities, check the following [X]

Item

6 Ownership of More Than Five Percent on Behalf of Another Person

N/A

Item Identification and Classification of the Subsidiary Which Acquired the Security Being Reported on by the

7. Parent Holding Company or Control Person.

N/A

Item 8.

Identification and Classification of Members of the Group.

N/A

Item

Notice of Dissolution of Group.

N/A

Item

Certification.

10.

By signing below I certify that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, the securities referred to above were acquired and are held in the ordinary course of business and were not acquired and are not held for the purpose of or with the effect of changing or influencing the control of the issuer of the securities and were not acquired and are not held in connection with or as a participant in any transaction having that purpose or effect, other than activities solely in connection with a nomination under Section 240.14a-11.

After reasonable inquiry and to the best of my knowledge and belief, I certify that the information set forth in this statement is true, complete and correct.

Date: February 14, 2019

MERK INVESTMENTS, LLC

Signature: /s/ Axel Merk

Name: Axel Merk

Title: President and Chief Investment Officer

MERK HARD CURRENCY FUND

Signature: /s/ Karen Shaw

Name: Karen Shaw

Title: Treasurer Forum Funds, on behalf of the Merk Hard Currency Fund