



PALADIN
BLOCKCHAIN SECURITY

Smart Contract Security Assessment

Final Report

For ApeSwap (NFA Staking)

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The audit report has made all reasonable attempts to provide clear and articulate recommendations to the Project team with respect to the rectification, amendment and/or revision of any highlighted issues, vulnerabilities or exploits within the contracts provided. It is the sole responsibility of the Project team to sufficiently test and perform checks, ensuring that the contracts are functioning as intended, specifically that the functions therein contained within said contracts have the desired intended effects, functionalities and outcomes of the Project team.

1 Overview

This report has been prepared for ApeSwap's NFA Staking contract on the Binance Smart Chain (BSC). Paladin provides a user-centred examination of the smart contracts to look for vulnerabilities, logic errors or other issues from both an internal and external perspective.

1.1 Summary

| | |
|---------------------|---|
| Project Name | ApeSwap (NFA Staking) |
| URL | https://apeswap.finance |
| Platform | Binance Smart Chain |
| Language | Solidity |

1.2 Contracts Assessed

| Name | Contract | Live Code Match |
|---------------------------|--|---|
| NFAStaking (instances) | 0x0aAd4a7509617c9254B20e565bFcf58B917Fac2c 0xeb6D978c6cA8BF3c2ffaC5536e13021920E4e3E6 0xBabFEce5c014ec5cE5A7Dd36625F942CA0f7E313 0xed66A25F551555e03456356510628060166f81F9 0x9CAe4d6Fd1Ad948C810D6F1b4Fdbd69716BA50a0 |  MATCH |

1.3 Findings Summary

| Severity | Found | Resolved | Partially Resolved | Acknowledged (no change made) |
|-----------------|-----------|----------|--------------------|----------------------------------|
| ● High | 2 | 2 | - | - |
| ● Medium | 1 | 0 | - | 1 |
| ● Low | 3 | 2 | - | 1 |
| ● Informational | 5 | 4 | - | 1 |
| Total | 11 | 8 | - | 3 |

Classification of Issues

| Severity | Description |
|-----------------|--|
| ● High | Exploits, vulnerabilities or errors that will certainly or probabilistically lead towards loss of funds, control, or impairment of the contract and its functions. Issues under this classification are recommended to be fixed with utmost urgency. |
| ● Medium | Bugs or issues with that may be subject to exploit, though their impact is somewhat limited. Issues under this classification are recommended to be fixed as soon as possible. |
| ● Low | Effects are minimal in isolation and do not pose a significant danger to the project or its users. Issues under this classification are recommended to be fixed nonetheless. |
| ● Informational | Consistency, syntax or style best practices. Generally pose a negligible level of risk, if any. |

1.3.1 NFAStaking

| ID | Severity | Summary | Status |
|----|----------|--|--------------|
| 01 | HIGH | Contract can be drained of all rewards due to a miscalculation of the reward mechanism within the emergency withdraw function | RESOLVED |
| 02 | HIGH | emergencyWithdrawAll reverts when you have more than 1 NFT in the contract | RESOLVED |
| 03 | MEDIUM | Governance can transfer any token balance in the contract to themselves | ACKNOWLEDGED |
| 04 | LOW | Governance can adjust rewards in hindsight by setting setRewardPerBlock | RESOLVED |
| 05 | LOW | Gas use can become unbounded in any function that has to iterate over a user's NFTs | RESOLVED |
| 06 | LOW | setRewardPerBlock has no maximum safeguard | ACKNOWLEDGED |
| 07 | INFO | TIER should be uint256 | RESOLVED |
| 08 | INFO | Unnecessary computation in critical sections, leading to higher than needed gas usage | RESOLVED |
| 09 | INFO | Typographical errors | RESOLVED |
| 10 | INFO | NFT_CONTRACT, NFA_TIERS, REWARD_TOKEN, _rewardPerBlock, startBlock and bonusEndBlock are never verified on initialization, leading to an unusable pool with operations that revert | ACKNOWLEDGED |
| 11 | INFO | msg.sender is unnecessarily cast to address(msg.sender) | RESOLVED |

2 Findings

2.1 NFAStaking

The NFAStaking contract is a MasterChef contract with only a single pool that allows its users to stake NFTs. Each NFT rarity tier will have a separate NFAStaking contract as each deployment of the contract only allows a specific NFT rarity to be staked. Checking of the NFT's rarity tier is done via another contract which is outside the scope of this audit. The NFAStaking contract still supports the traditional safety features such as emergency withdrawal.

Similar to a Masterchef, pool emissions will be rewarded to the stakers based on the amount of NFTs they have staked. If a user stakes half of the total NFTs within the pool, they will earn half of the emissions.

One notable aspect of the NFAStaking contract is that there is no deposit fee because NFTs are being deposited.

2.1.1 Privileged Roles and Actions

The following functions can be called by the owner of the contract:

- `transferOwnership`
- `renounceOwnership`
- `setBonusEndBlock`
- `setRewardPerBlock`
- `emergencyRewardWithdraw`
- `sweepToken`

2.1.2 Issues & Recommendations

| | |
|--------------------|---|
| Issue #01 | Contract can be drained of all rewards due to a miscalculation of the reward mechanism within the emergency withdraw function |
| Severity | HIGH SEVERITY |
| Location | <u>Lines 259-270</u> <pre>function emergencyWithdraw(uint256[] calldata _ids) external nonReentrant { UserInfo storage user = userInfo[msg.sender]; for (uint256 i=0; i<_ids.length; i++) { require(userHoldings[msg.sender].contains(_ids[i]), "Unauthorized id"); userHoldings[msg.sender].remove(_ids[i]); user.amount--; totalStaked--; NFT_CONTRACT.transferFrom(address(this), address(msg.sender), _ids[i]); } user.rewardDebt = 0; emit EmergencyWithdraw(msg.sender, user.amount); }</pre> |
| Description | <p>There is an egregious exploit that is possible that results in the draining of all rewards from the contract.</p> <p>This exploit involves the use of <code>emergencyWithdraw</code> and <code>withdraw</code> or <code>deposit</code> and the manipulation of their inputs. This Masterchef/pool contract is unique in that it lets you stake NFTs instead of regular tokens. The consequence of this is that when depositing and withdrawing, the amount of the token is not specified but instead the IDs of the NFTs have to be specified for either action.</p> <p>The way we encode the NFTs we want for depositing or withdrawing is in a data structure called an array, which is a contiguous list of elements, in this case the IDs of the NFTs. One unfortunate consequence of this data structure is it is possible to encode an "empty" array - one with no elements.</p> <p><code>emergencyWithdraw</code> takes this array of NFT IDs to withdraw as the user may just want to withdraw a subset of the NFTs they have staked inside this contract.</p> |

The emergency withdrawal logic is as follows: for every NFT ID specified, transfer it back to the sender, and when done, set the `user.rewardDebt` to 0. This logic does not hold when the user is able to choose what gets withdrawn, even specifying “nothing” to withdraw. If the user withdraws “nothing”, the `user.rewardDebt` still gets set to 0, even if their NFTs are still staked within the contract.

Now let us turn to the deposit logic: first update the pool, calculate the user’s pending rewards and if there are rewards pending, transfer that balance to the user. Next, for each NFT specified, transfer it into the contract. For reference the calculation for the rewards is as follows:

```
uint256 pending = user.amount * poolInfo.accRewardTokenPerShare /  
1e30 - user.rewardDebt;
```

Notice the use of `user.rewardDebt` to make sure the user only gets what they are owed. So we know that in `emergencyWithdraw`, the `user.rewardDebt` is set to 0, and we know that `user.rewardDebt` is subtracted from the pending rewards to make sure the user doesn’t get more than they are entitled to.

We can now explore the exploit:

- Step 1: Deposit any amount of NFTs into the contract, as the amount of NFTs staked must be greater than 0 or rewards will always be 0.
- Step 2: `emergencyWithdraw` passing an empty array to signify withdrawing no NFTs. This will set your `user.rewardDebt` to 0, but leave your NFTs in the contract.
- Step 3: `deposit` specifying an empty array for what you want to deposit. Your rewards will be calculated but `user.rewardDebt` is 0, meaning you will have an amount of rewards greater than 0.
- Step 4: Repeat 2 and 3 until the contract is drained of the reward token balance.

| | |
|-----------------------|---|
| Recommendation | Consider removing <code>emergencyWithdraw</code> completely. <code>emergencyWithdrawAll</code> should be used instead with a reasonable limit on the amount of tokens a user can deposit. Consider also renaming this all function to <code>emergencyWithdraw</code> for third-party tool compliance. |
|-----------------------|---|

Resolution

The partial withdraw method has been removed in favor of an emergency withdrawal method which withdraws all tokens.

| | |
|------------------|---|
| Issue #02 | emergencyWithdrawAll reverts when you have more than 1 NFT in the contract |
|------------------|---|

Severity
 HIGH SEVERITY

Location
Lines 273-285

```
function emergencyWithdrawAll() external nonReentrant {
    UserInfo storage user = userInfo[msg.sender];
    uint256 len = userHoldings[msg.sender].length();
    for (uint256 i = 0; i < len; i++) {
        uint256 currentId = userHoldings[msg.sender].at(i);
        userHoldings[msg.sender].remove(currentId);
        user.amount--;
        totalStaked--;
        NFT_CONTRACT.transferFrom(address(this),
address(msg.sender), currentId);
    }
    user.rewardDebt = 0;
    emit EmergencyWithdraw(msg.sender, user.amount);
}
```

Description

Presently, the `emergencyWithdrawAll` function will always revert due to a misimplementation of the iteration logic to remove all the individual NFTs from the user's stored balance. To understand this revert we must understand some of the implementation details of `emergencyWithdrawAll`. Under the hood, the NFTs staked are ultimately stored in an array, a contiguous list of NFT IDs.

The logic to remove these NFTs involves manipulating this array, which is error prone. One common pitfall is to remove things from the array while iterating (going from element to element, start to end).

When removing the NFTs we first see how many we have, the length of the array, then start at the first element and work our way to the last element, getting the element using an array operation called indexing this means specifying a number from 0 to the length of the array minus one (because we start at 0, we cannot go all the way to the length of the array as we would have one extra number, so we subtract 1). If we happen to specify a number that is not in those bounds, the contract will revert.

Therefore, whenever we visit an element (NFT ID), we remove it from the array via its index, and then we transfer that ID from the contract back to the owner. Now, however, the array is one less in length, and we are still going to iterate like the array hasn't changed, as we computed the length beforehand. This means we will inevitably index the array where no element exists, and this will always revert.

| | |
|-----------------------|---|
| Recommendation | Consider iterating backwards so that removing from the array does not result in indexing out of bounds. |
|-----------------------|---|

Resolution

The function has been renamed to `emergencyWithdraw` and now iterates from the last index to the first. It should be noted that OpenZeppelin might not have this as a behavioral constraint on the behavior of an enumerable set, so the client must be careful when upgrading to newer or different `EnumerableSet` versions.

Issue #03

Governance can transfer any token balance in the contract to themselves

Severity

MEDIUM SEVERITY

Location

Lines 288, 298
`emergencyRewardWithdraw` and `sweepToken`

Description

The contract contains functions to withdraw tokens from the contract. The combination of these functions allows governance to withdraw any token balance from the contract. This could be considered a risk if the governance is untrusted as they could withdraw the reward token and potentially steal or dump it. Furthermore, if governance keys are ever compromised, a malicious third party could do this.

| | |
|-----------------------|---|
| Recommendation | Consider adding a timelock to make this transparent to users, and removing <code>emergencyRewardWithdraw</code> . |
|-----------------------|---|

Resolution

ACKNOWLEDGED

| | |
|-----------------------|--|
| Issue #04 | Governance can adjust rewards in hindsight by setting setRewardPerBlock |
| Severity |  LOW SEVERITY |
| Location | <u>Lines 251-254</u> <pre>function setRewardPerBlock(uint256 _rewardPerBlock) external onlyOwner { rewardPerBlock = _rewardPerBlock; emit LogUpdatePool(bonusEndBlock, rewardPerBlock); }</pre> |
| Description | <p>setRewardPerBlock does not update the pool before changing the rewardBlock. This means that the next update will erroneously use the new value instead of the legacy one.</p> <p>This gives governance the opportunity to adjust setRewardPerBlock then update the pool, lowering or increasing the amount of rewards owed retrospectively.</p> |
| Recommendation | Consider updating the pool prior to setting the rewardPerBlock in setRewardPerBlock by calling updatePool() as the first line of the function. Consider furthermore capping the maximum rewardPerBlock. |
| Resolution |  RESOLVED <p>updatePool is now called at the start of the setRewardPerBlock function.</p> |

| | |
|-----------------------|--|
| Issue #05 | Gas use can become unbounded in any function that has to iterate over a user's NFTs |
| Severity | LOW SEVERITY |
| Description | This contract is novel in that instead of staking an amount of some token, it stakes individual NFTs. To compensate for this, the contract uses a lot of iteration. Gas usage scales poorly with iteration meaning if a user possesses a large number of NFTs the loop can run out of gas locking these NFTs within the contract indefinitely. |
| Recommendation | Consider adding a limit on the number of NFTs that a user can have staked that results in gas costs that are under the gas limit. |
| Resolution | RESOLVED |
| | Governance can now enforce a maximum number of NFTs to prevent this issue. This limit is initially set to 50. |

| | |
|-----------------------|---|
| Issue #06 | setRewardPerBlock has no maximum safeguard |
| Severity | LOW SEVERITY |
| Location | <u>Lines 251-254</u> <pre>function setRewardPerBlock(uint256 _rewardPerBlock) external onlyOwner { rewardPerBlock = _rewardPerBlock; emit LogUpdatePool(bonusEndBlock, rewardPerBlock); }</pre> |
| Description | Projects sometimes accidentally update their emission rate to a severely high number either by accident or with malicious intent to allow governance to increase it to a large emission rate and then potentially dump these immediately after. |
| Recommendation | Consider adding a MAX_EMISSION_RATE variable and setting it to a reasonable value. |
| | <pre>require(_rewardPerBlock <= MAX_EMISSION_RATE, "Too high");</pre> |
| Resolution | ACKNOWLEDGED |

Issue #07**TIER should be uint256****Severity**

INFORMATIONAL

LocationLine 46

uint8 public TIER;

Description

TIER is restricted to uint8 but is passed to `isNfaOfRarityTier` which expects a uint256. uint8 also consumes the same gas and storage on blockchain which makes this more than unnecessary. If the client were to implement gas usage tests, they would notice that moving to uint256 will even slightly decrease gas usage as it requires less conversion and validation logic.

Recommendation

Consider making TIER uint256.

Resolution

RESOLVED

Issue #08**Unnecessary computation in critical sections, leading to higher than needed gas usage****Severity**

INFORMATIONAL

Description

In deposit and withdraw, the user amount and total staked are computed on every iteration, but they can be derived from the input arrays lengths.

Recommendation

Consider computing `user.amount` and `totalStaked` outside the loop using the lengths of the array.

Resolution

RESOLVED

Severity INFORMATIONAL**Location**Line 64

```
// Total allocation poitns. Must be the sum of all allocation  
points in all pools.
```

Lines 209 and 263

```
require(userHoldings[msg.sender].contains(_ids[i]), "Unauthorized  
id");
```

Description

Some of these typographical errors will also appear in logs on the blockchain.

Recommendation

Consider fixing these errors.

Resolution RESOLVED

| | |
|-----------------------|--|
| Issue #10 | NFT_CONTRACT, NFA_TIERS, REWARD_TOKEN, _rewardPerBlock, startBlock and bonusEndBlock are never verified on initialization, leading to an unusable pool with operations that revert |
| Severity | INFORMATIONAL |
| Description | <p>When initializing the NFASTaking contract, the addresses for NFT_CONTRACT, NFA_TIERS, and REWARD_TOKEN are not checked to ensure they support their respective interfaces. This could lead to an unusable pool.</p> <p>When initializing the NFASTaking contract, rewardPerBlock could start at a high number causing functions of the contract to revert.</p> <p>startBlock and bonusEndBlock are not validated in the initializer, meaning any erroneous combination of blocks can render the contracts reward system unusable.</p> |
| Recommendation | <p>Consider validating the above addresses during initialization.</p> <p>Consider validating the rewardPerBlock on initialization.</p> <p>Consider validating that startBlock is in the future and bonusEndBlock is later. Furthermore, on the adjustment function of bonusEndBlock it might be valuable to add validation logic as well.</p> |
| Resolution | ACKNOWLEDGED |
| Issue #11 | msg.sender is unnecessarily cast to address(msg.sender) |
| Severity | INFORMATIONAL |
| Description | msg.sender is cast to address(msg.sender) throughout the contract when used with safeTransferRewardInternal and other functions. This is unnecessary. |
| Recommendation | Consider replacing all occurrences of address(msg.sender) with msg.sender. |
| Resolution | RESOLVED |



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