

Natural Capital Tool - Privacy Statement

The Natural Capital Tool (hereafter “NCT”) is owned by NatureScot. It has been developed under the Farming with Nature Programme (“the Project”) with the aim of providing a free and easy-to-use spatial tool to facilitate a natural capital approach to land management in Scotland.

NatureScot contracts a company called EOLAS Insight Ltd for support and maintenance of the NCT. There is a Data Processing Agreement between NatureScot and EOLAS Insight Ltd that ensures personal and private data is subject to UK General Data Protection Regulation (UK GDPR) rules and only used for the purposes of the Project. NatureScot piloted the NCT in 2023/2024 and are carrying out a second phase of testing of this Beta product in 2025.

1. WHAT INFORMATION DO WE COLLECT ABOUT YOU, AND WHY?

Information	Why?
Your name and email address	To communicate with you and create an account for the NCT
IP address	For EOLAS Insight Ltd to maintain system security and to troubleshoot technical issues
Questionnaires and survey data	To receive and analyse feedback to help future design and development

2. WHAT DO WE DO WITH THAT INFORMATION, AND WHY?

Note: Information may also be shared with Liverpool John Moores University, with whom NatureScot are working in partnership on the Project.

Information	Sharing?	Why shared?
Your name and email address	EOLAS Insight Ltd collects the data and shares with NatureScot (and vice versa)	To create an account in the NCT
IP address	EOLAS Insight Ltd collects the data and shares with NatureScot	To maintain system security and to troubleshoot technical issues

Information	Sharing?	Why shared?
Questionnaires and survey data	NatureScot can share anonymised results with third parties	To demonstrate how the aims of the Project are being delivered

3. HOW LONG MAY WE KEEP YOUR PERSONAL INFORMATION FOR?

Whilst your account is active, NatureScot will retain your personal information and the data collected for as long as the NCT, or its successor, is operational.

4. HOW ARE WE KEEPING THE DATA SECURE?

NatureScot aims to protect your personal information through a system of organisational and technical security measures. EOLAS Insight Ltd will ensure that:

- All personal individual contact data is only used for the purposes of the NCT.
- Data is stored securely within AWS Cognito, with the NCT system itself holding only a user ID that is used to link with AWS Cognito.
- The platform has been penetration tested and meets the criteria specified within the National Cyber Security Centre 14 Cloud Security Principles assessment.
- All NatureScot laptops are managed and encrypted. Users require a Corporate account and a valid username and password.
- User-based access control is implemented to ensure staff have the correct levels of access to the data.

Dedicated user accounts are created for each participant with their email. Users can only access their own scenario details and cannot view the scenario details of other users. The database that houses the user data and user authentication is currently hosted in AWS in the UK.

5. WHAT OTHER INFORMATION DO WE COLLECT AND SHARE?

Information	Sharing?	Why shared?
System generated outputs and modelling scenarios (not geospatial)	EOLAS Insight Ltd collects the data and shares with NatureScot (and vice versa) NatureScot can share anonymised data with third parties	Analysis of anonymised results may be used to inform NatureScot work in relation to natural capital and nature restoration
Boundary for area of interest	EOLAS Insight Ltd collects the data and shares with NatureScot (and vice versa)	Analysis of anonymised results may be used to inform NatureScot work in relation to natural capital and nature restoration, with further consent

Information	Sharing?	Why shared?
	Boundaries held as a geospatial object with a name provided by the user.	required from the user. This consent would only be asked for from users who have agreed to pilot the tool.

We are aware that data sharing is understandably a source of anxiety for land managers, particularly for those within an agricultural context. We want to reassure users that:

- Boundaries held as a geospatial object will not be attached to specific land users or landowners;
- No specific boundary or personal scenarios inputted into the tool will be used to drive policy change, unless express consent is given from the user; and
- Scenarios are not attached to any form of payment or subsidy, such as the Basic Payment Scheme or Agri-Environment Climate Scheme.

6. MY PRIVACY AND TECHNOLOGY?

Please see Appendix for further information on the data and information collected if you use the NCT.

7. WHAT ARE YOUR RIGHTS?

You have the right to know what information we hold about you and you have the right to ask us for copies of this information. You also have the right to ask us to rectify inaccurate data about you. You also have the right to ask us to stop processing your data until corrections are made or when you have concerns about our use of your data. You have the right to appeal to the UK Information Commissioner (<https://ico.org.uk/>) if you are not happy with our response following a request to access your information or for rectification of inaccuracies. For further details see [your personal data rights](#).

NatureScot is a Scottish Public Authority and is subject to the provisions of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 and the Environmental Information (Scotland) Regulations 2004. We are therefore obliged to consider the release of any information held by us in response to a request. In providing any response to a request, we will fully consider our obligations under data protection legislation.

8. HOW CAN YOU CONTACT US?

Please contact NatureScot's Data Protection Officer (DPO) if you want to discuss any data related issues. The DPO can be contacted at: DPO@nature.scot Battleby, Redgorton, Perth, PH1 3EW, 01738 444177.

For any other Project related query, please email natcaptool@nature.scot.

APPENDIX - FURTHER INFORMATION ON YOUR PRIVACY IN RELATION TO THE NCT

Information automatically collected

In summary: Some information — such as your Internet Protocol (IP) address and/or browser and device characteristics — is collected automatically when you visit the NCT.

We automatically collect certain information when you visit, use, or navigate the NCT. This information does not reveal your specific identity (like your name or contact information) but may include device and usage information, such as your IP address, browser and device characteristics, operating system, language preferences, referring URLs, device name, country, location, information about how and when you use the NCT, and other technical information. This information is primarily needed to maintain the security and operation of the NCT, and for our internal analytics and reporting purposes.

We also collect information through cookies and similar technologies for analytical purposes only.

The information we collect includes:

- **Log and Usage Data.** Log and usage data is service-related, diagnostic, usage, and performance information our servers automatically collect when you access or use the NCT and which we record in log files. Depending on how you interact with us, this log data may include your IP address, device information, browser type, and settings and information about your activity in the NCT (such as the date/time stamps associated with your usage, pages and files viewed, searches, and other actions you take such as which features you use), device event information (such as system activity, error reports (sometimes called "crash dumps"), and hardware settings).
- **Device Data.** We collect device data such as information about your computer, phone, tablet, or other device you use to access the NCT. Depending on the device used, this device data may include information such as your IP address (or proxy server), device and application identification numbers, location, browser type, hardware model, Internet service provider and/or mobile carrier, operating system, and system configuration information.