

Picasso Network

Security Assessment

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Table of Contents

Executive Summary		3
Overview		3
Key Findings		3
Scope		4
Findings		5
Vulnerabilities		6
OS-CFI-ADV-00	Ability To Initialize Multiple Times	8
OS-CFI-ADV-01	Discrepancies In Deposit Functionality	9
OS-CFI-ADV-02	Missing Receipt Token Balance Check	10
OS-CFI-ADV-03	Incorrect Stake Adjustment	11
OS-CFI-ADV-04	Lack Of Instruction Sysvar Validation	12
OS-CFI-ADV-05	Inaccurate Reward Calculation	13
OS-CFI-ADV-06	Floating-Point Precision Loss	14
OS-CFI-ADV-07	Potential Fund Lockup	15
OS-CFI-ADV-08	Rounding Error On Integer Division	16
General Findings		17
OS-CFI-SUG-00	Incorrect Handling Of Pyth Exponents	18
OS-CFI-SUG-01	Presence Of Duplicate Entries	19
OS-CFI-SUG-02	Uneven Stake Distribution	21
OS-CFI-SUG-03	Context Signer Correction	22
OS-CFI-SUG-04	Enforce Mandatory Service Assignment	23
OS-CFI-SUG-05	Code Redundancy	24

Procedure		29
Vulnerability Rating Scale		28
Appendices		
OS-CFI-SUG-07 Code Maturity		26
OS-CFI-SUG-06 Code Optimisation		25
	TABL	E OF CONTENTS



01 — Executive Summary

Overview

Picasso Network engaged OtterSec to assess the **emulated-light-client** program. This assessment was conducted between February 6th and April 19th, 2024. For more information on our auditing methodology, refer to Appendix B.

Key Findings

We produced 17 findings throughout this audit engagement.

In particular, we identified several critical vulnerabilities, including unauthorized alterations to staking parameters (OS-CFI-ADV-00) and the lack of account validation in the deposit and staking functionalities (OS-CFI-ADV-01). We further highlighted potential precision loss and overflow issues due to the conversion of large integer values to f64 (OS-CFI-ADV-06), and the possibility of locking funds during withdrawal due to a lack of compatibility with empty values for the optional service parameter (OS-CFI-ADV-07).

Additionally, the stake distribution is incorrect due to rounding errors in deposit and withdrawal functionalities (OS-CFI-ADV-08).

We also made suggestions regarding consistency in code documentation and comments describing the actual functionalities and the usage of proper error messages (OS-CFI-SUG-07). Furthermore, we recommended the removal of redundant code (OS-CFI-SUG-05) and advised certain optimizations to improve the overall efficiency of the system (OS-CFI-SUG-06).

02 — Scope

The source code was delivered to us in a Git repository at https://github.com/ComposableFi/emulated-light-client. This audit was performed against commit ae55a30. We conducted two follow-up reviews on commit 5d479f1 and on PR#346.

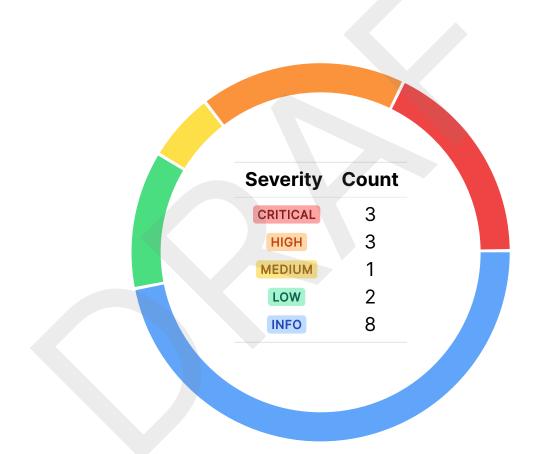
A brief description of the programs is as follows:

Name	Description
emulated-light-client	The module describes a bridge between Solana and Cosmos using Inter-Blockchain Communication (IBC).

03 — Findings

Overall, we reported 17 findings.

We split the findings into **vulnerabilities** and **general findings**. Vulnerabilities have an immediate impact and should be remediated as soon as possible. General findings do not have an immediate impact but will aid in mitigating future vulnerabilities.



04 — Vulnerabilities

Here, we present a technical analysis of the vulnerabilities we identified during our audit. These vulnerabilities have *immediate* security implications, and we recommend remediation as soon as possible.

Rating criteria can be found in Appendix A.

ID	Severity	Status	Description
OS-CFI-ADV-00	CRITICAL	RESOLVED ⊗	<pre>initialize uses init_if_needed , al- lowing unauthorized alterations to staking pa- rameters.</pre>
OS-CFI-ADV-01	CRITICAL	RESOLVED ⊗	Lack of account validation for remaining_accounts and missing parameters for identifying the specific mint of the staked amount.
OS-CFI-ADV-02	CRITICAL	RESOLVED ⊗	Absence of a check for a non-zero balance in the depositor's receipt_token_account within the set_service instruction.
OS-CFI-ADV-03	HIGH	RESOLVED ⊗	update_token_price incorrectly calculates the change in stake, resulting in a decrease in stake when the token price increases. Additionally, the delegations field in StakeToken is not updated.
OS-CFI-ADV-04	HIGH	RESOLVED ⊗	The lack of validation for the instruction sysvar account in validate_remaining_accounts and set_stake may lead to unintended or insecure utilization.
OS-CFI-ADV-05	HIGH	RESOLVED ⊗	withdrawal_request fails to update the last_received_rewards_height parameter, which may result in inaccurate reward calculations if a withdrawal request is canceled and raised again.

Picasso Network Audit 04 — Vulnerabilities

OS-CFI-ADV-06	MEDIUM	RESOLVED ⊗	The conversion of large integer values to f64 in update_token_price may result in precision loss and overflow issues due to the limited range of floating-point numbers.
OS-CFI-ADV-07	LOW	RESOLVED ⊗	There is a possibility of funds being locked during withdrawal due to a lack of compatibility with None values for the optional service parameter.
OS-CFI-ADV-08	LOW	RESOLVED ⊗	Incorrect stake distribution due to rounding errors in deposit and withdraw results in locked funds.

Ability To Initialize Multiple Times | CRITICAL

OS-CFI-ADV-00

Description

In the Initialize instruction, when initializing the staking parameters due to the use of init_if_needed, the staking parameters may be altered with new values multiple times by anyone. The ability to initialize the staking parameters multiple times may result in security vulnerabilities. For example, an attacker may repeatedly call the **Initialize** instruction with different parameters, altering the staking configuration and affecting the entire protocol.

```
>_ restaking/programs/restaking/src/lib.rs
                                                                                                  rust
pub struct Initialize<'info> {
    pub admin: Signer<'info>,
    pub staking_params: Account<'info, StakingParams>,
    pub rewards_token_mint: Account<'info, Mint>,
    #[account(init_if_needed, payer = admin, seeds = [REWARDS_SEED, TEST_SEED], bump,
    pub rewards_token_account: Account<'info, TokenAccount>,
```

Remediation

Use init instead of init_if_needed for the Initialize instruction. This ensures that the initialization happens only once.

Patch

Fixed by using init instead of init_if_needed for Initialize in e565006.

Discrepancies In Deposit Functionality | CRITICAL

OS-CFI-ADV-01

Description

deposit uses remaining_accounts for the CPI call to the guest chain program (solana_ibc::cpi::set_stake). However, the function lacks explicit validation checks on the remaining_accounts in deposit instruction. Similarly, the solana_ibc::cpi::set_stake function also lacks explicit validation checks for the accounts passed in the CpiContext.

```
>_ restaking/programs/restaking/src/lib.rs
                                                                                                     rust
pub fn deposit<'a, 'info>(
    ctx: Context<'a, 'a, 'info, Deposit<'info>>,
    service: Option<Service>,
    amount: u64,
) -> Result<()> {
    if guest_chain_program_id.is_some() {
        \lceil \dots \rceil
        let cpi_program = ctx.remaining_accounts[3].clone();
            CpiContext::new_with_signer(cpi_program, cpi_accounts, seeds);
        solana_ibc::cpi::set_stake(cpi_ctx, amount as u128)?;
    0k(())
```

Additionally, when invoking solana_ibc::cpi::set_stake, it is crucial to include parameters that identify the specific mint of the staked amount. Tokens on Solana may have different decimal places, and each mint may have a different scale. Without passing information about the mint of the staked amount, there is a risk of updating the stake value with an incorrect scale.

Remediation

Add validation checks in both deposit and solana_ibc::cpi::set_stake to ensure that the required accounts are present and have the correct ownership. Include the mint information as a parameter when calling set_stake.

Patch

Fixed by adding validation checks to the remaining_accounts in b7847d9 and by asserting that the decimals of the **token_mint** are 9 in 8b24f28.

Missing Receipt Token Balance Check | CRITICAL

OS-CFI-ADV-02

Description

In the implementation of set_service instruction, there is a section of code that sets the service for the stake that was deposited before quest chain initialization without explicitly checking if the depositor's receipt_token_account has a non-zero balance. The code assumes that the depositor has a sufficient balance in their receipt_token_account to cover the stake, but it fails to check for it explicitly.

```
rust
>_ restaking/programs/restaking/src/lib.rs
pub fn set_service<'a, 'info>(
   ctx: Context<'a, 'a, 'info, SetService<'info>>,
   service: Service,
) -> Result<()> {
   [...]
   vault_params.service = Some(service);
   let guest_chain_program_id =
        staking_params.guest_chain_program_id.unwrap(); // Infallible
   let amount = vault_params.stake_amount;
```

Proof of Concept

- A malicious user sets an arbitrary service for a genuine user's vault_params by calling the set_service instruction using the genuine user's vault_params and an arbitrary Service.
- Since the code does not check for a non-zero balance in the receipt_token_account , the malicious user may abuse the system by setting an unauthorized stake for themselves using the original depositor's vault_params.

Remediation

Explicitly check if the depositor's receipt_token_account has a non-zero balance before proceeding with the stake setting. This check ensures that the depositor has access to their respective vault_params

Patch

Fixed by checking if the depositor's receipt_token_account has a non-zero balance in e10222d.

Picasso Network Audit 04 — Vulnerabilities

Incorrect Stake Adjustment HIGH

OS-CFI-ADV-03

Description

There is a critical flaw in the update_token_price related to how it calculates the change in stake for validators based on the updated token price. The delegations field in the StakeToken structure is utilized to determine the amount staked with each validator. However, this field is not updated anywhere in the code, implying that it may not reflect the actual current state of stakes.

```
>_ restaking-v2/src/lib.rs
                                                                                                  rust
pub fn update_token_price(ctx: Context<UpdateTokenPrice>) -> Result<()> {
    let set_stake_arg = staked_token
        .delegations
        .iter()
        .map(|&(validator_idx, amount)| {
            let amount = amount as i128;
            let validator = validators[validator_idx as usize];
            let change_in_stake = (previous_price as i128 -
                final_amount_in_sol as i128) *
                amount:
            (sigverify::ed25519::PubKey::from(validator), change_in_stake)
        .collect();
```

Additionally, the calculation of **change_in_stake** utilizes

(previous_price as i128 - final_amount_in_sol as i128). If previous_price is less than final_amount_in_sol, the change in stake will be negative, which implies the stake will decrease when the price increases. This is counterintuitive, as an increase in token price should ideally result in an increase in stake value. Consequently, validators may receive less stake than they should, affecting the overall staking system's integrity.

Remediation

Update the **delegations** field whenever tokens are deposited or withdrawn to reflect the current state accurately and adjust the formula to correctly calculate the change in stake based on the increase or decrease in token price.

Patch

Resolved in eb3b581.

Picasso Network Audit 04 — Vulnerabilities

Lack Of Instruction Sysvar Validation HIGH

OS-CFI-ADV-04

Description

The **instruction** sysvar account is passed to both **deposit** and **set_service** instructions, but its validation is not performed in **validate_remaining_accounts** and **set_stake**. Thus, it may be possible to replace or manipulate the **instruction** sysvar account, and they might be able to inject unauthorized instructions into the CPI calls.

```
>_ restaking/programs/restaking/src/lib.rs

#[derive(Accounts)]
pub struct Deposit<'info> {
    #[account(mut)]
    pub depositor: Signer<'info>,
    [...]
    ///CHECK:
    pub instruction: AccountInfo<'info>,
    [...]
}

#[derive(Accounts)]
pub struct SetService<'info> {
    #[account(mut)]
    depositor: Signer<'info>,
    [...]
    ///CHECK:
    pub instruction: AccountInfo<'info>,
    [...]
}
```

Remediation

Both the **validation::validate_remaining_accounts** and **set_stake** should include explicit validation for the **instruction** sysvar account. The validation should ensure that the account's address matches the expected value.

Patch

Fixed by checking the instruction sysvar account in b221448.

Picasso Network Audit 04 — Vulnerabilities

Inaccurate Reward Calculation HIGH

OS-CFI-ADV-05

Description

In withdrawal_request, the last_received_rewards_height parameter of vault_params is not updated to the current_height after rewards are calculated and transferred.

```
>_ restaking/programs/restaking/src/lib.rs

pub fn withdrawal_request(ctx: Context<WithdrawalRequest>) -> Result<()> {
    let vault_params = &mut ctx.accounts.vault_params;
    let staking_params = &mut ctx.accounts.staking_params;
    let stake_token_mint = ctx.accounts.token_mint.key();
    [...]
    vault_params.withdrawal_request = Some(withdrawal_request_params);
    [...]
}
```

If a user cancels a withdrawal request and later requests withdrawal again, the function erroneously considers the **last_received_rewards_height** as the height when the last rewards were claimed, rather than the height when the last withdrawal request was raised. This affects the reward calculation because it will be based on outdated information.

Remediation

Update the <code>last_received_rewards_height</code> parameter to the current height after rewards are calculated and transferred within <code>withdrawal_request</code>.

Patch

Fixed by updating the last_received_rewards_height parameter accordingly in e69bba3.

Floating-Point Precision Loss MEDIUM



OS-CFI-ADV-06

Description

The vulnerability in update_token_price arises from the conversion of values to f64 for arithmetic operations. Specifically, the calculation of **final_amount_in_sol** involves large integer values that are converted into | f64 | before division. This may result in issues due to the limitations and precision characteristics of floating-point arithmetic.

```
>_ restaking-v2/src/lib.rs
                                                                                                 rust
pub fn update_token_price(ctx: Context<UpdateTokenPrice>) -> Result<()> {
   let final_amount_in_sol = (token_price.price as i128 *
        10_i128.pow(sol_price.exponent.abs().try_into().unwrap()) *
        10i128.pow(SOL_DECIMALS as u32))
        (sol_price.price as i128 *
            10_i128.pow(token_price.exponent.abs().try_into().unwrap()) *
            10i128.pow(token_decimals as u32)) as f64;
```

While calculating the **final amount in sol**, the following multiplication: token_price.price * 10**sol_price.exponent * 10**SOL_DECIMALS is converted into f64 before division. This conversion may result in a loss of precision, especially if this multiplication results in a very large number.

Remediation

Increase the range from f64 to f128 so that larger numbers may be accommodated.

Patch

Fixed in 9a6a233 by converting the price from **u64** to **f64**, dividing it, and then finding the sum of exponents and multiplying it with the previous value.

Potential Fund Lockup Low

OS-CFI-ADV-07

Description

The deposit instruction includes an optional service parameter, which is of type Option<Service>. This parameter is used to specify a service associated with the staking operation. The vulnerability arises from the fact that the presence of the service parameter is later used as a condition during withdrawal. Specifically, the withdrawal logic includes a check on the service parameter.

```
>_ restaking/programs/restaking/src/lib.rs
                                                                                                   rust
pub fn deposit<'a, 'info>(
    ctx: Context<'a, 'a, 'info, Deposit<'info>>,
    service: Option<Service>,
    amount: u64,
) -> Result<()> {
    [\ldots]
     vault_params.service =
            if guest_chain_program_id.is_some() { service } else { None };
```

The code assumes that the service parameter will always be **Some(service)** during withdrawal. However, if the deposit instruction is called with None for the service parameter, this condition will not be met. Thus, if a deposit is made without specifying a service (i.e., None is passed), and the withdrawal logic assumes that there is always a service (is_some() condition), it may result in the lockup of funds.

Remediation

Modify withdraw to ensure compatibility with None values for the service parameter, preventing fund lockup.

Patch

Fixed by adding the instruction set_service to set the service parameter after depositing funds in 57edfe8.

Picasso Network Audit 04 — Vulnerabilities

Rounding Error On Integer Division Low



OS-CFI-ADV-08

Description

The vulnerability arises from the integer division performed when calculating stake_per_validator in deposit and withdraw. This division truncates any remainder, effectively rounding down the value. Consequently, a small portion of the total amount is not fully distributed among the validators with each deposit or withdrawal, resulting in a gradual accumulation of locked funds. Over time, the accumulated locked funds may become significant, impacting the overall efficiency of the staking system.

Remediation

Check if the original_amount is evenly divisible by the number of validators ($original_amount \% \ validators_len == 0$), and calculate $\verb|stake_per_validator|$ as $(original_amount / validators_len) * price.$

Patch

Resolved in f0e4ca4.

05 — General Findings

Here, we present a discussion of general findings during our audit. While these findings do not present an immediate security impact, they represent anti-patterns and may result in security issues in the future.

ID	Description
OS-CFI-SUG-00	<pre>update_token_price assumes that Pyth price feed exponents are always negative, which may not be true for future feeds.</pre>
OS-CFI-SUG-01	During the creation and updating of whitelisted tokens and validator lists, there is inadequate handling for duplicates.
OS-CFI-SUG-02	The issue revolves around the distribution of stakes among validators during deposit and withdrawal operations.
OS-CFI-SUG-03	Proposal to replace
OS-CFI-SUG-04	Recommendation for changing the to Service in deposit to prevent users from setting vault_params.service to None.
OS-CFI-SUG-05	There are several instances of redundant or unnecessary code within the code base.
OS-CFI-SUG-06	Optimize token::transfer and burn_nft by introducing a boolean argument or using empty seeds to enable unsigned invocation in cases where signed invocation is unnecessary.
OS-CFI-SUG-07	Suggestions regarding consistency in code documentation and comments concerning the actual functionalities described by them, and the usage of proper error messages.

Incorrect Handling Of Pyth Exponents

OS-CFI-SUG-00

Description

update_token_price assumes that the exponents provided by the Pyth price feeds are always negative. This assumption may not hold if future price feeds or updates from Pyth include positive exponents. The function performs a critical calculation where it adjusts token and SOL prices based on their exponents. The exponents are utilized to scale prices up or down to a common format. If the price feed provides a positive exponent in the future, this may result in unintended results.

Remediation

Explicitly check for positive exponents and abort the process if any are encountered.

Presence Of Duplicate Entries

OS-CFI-SUG-01

Description

Upon the creation of whitelisted_tokens and validators lists, the check to ensure that these lists do not already contain duplicates is improperly implemented. If duplicates exist in the input data, they will be included in the common_state lists, resulting in redundant entries. During the update process, update_token_whitelist attempts to check if new tokens are already whitelisted, and update_validator_list attempts to check if new validators are already present.

However, update_token_whitelist only checks if any token from new_token_mints is already in whitelisted_tokens, but it does not check if there are duplicates within new_token_mints itself. Thus, if new_token_mints contains duplicates, they will still be added to the whitelisted_tokens list. Similarly, update_validator_list checks if new validators are already in the list but does not verify if new_validators contains duplicates. Thus, duplicates within new_validators will be inserted into the validators list.

```
>_ restaking-v2/src/lib.rs

pub fn update_validator_list(
    ctx: Context<UpdateStakingParams>,
    new_validators: Vec<Pubkey>,
) -> Result<()> {
    let staking_params = &mut ctx.accounts.common_state;
    let contains_validator = new_validators
```

```
.iter()
    .any(|validator| staking_params.validators.contains(validator));
if contains_validator {
    return Err(error!(ErrorCodes::ValidatorAlreadyAdded));
    }
[...]
}
```

Remediation

Eliminate any duplicates from the input data during the initial creation of whitelisted_tokens and validators. Also, modify update_token_whitelist and update_validator_list functions to check for duplicates within new_token_mints and new_validators respectively.

Uneven Stake Distribution

OS-CFI-SUG-02

Description

The current implementation of adding or subtracting remaining amounts to or from the first validator may fail withdrawals if deposits and withdrawals are not evenly divisible by the number of validators, resulting in imbalances in individual validator stakes. This inconsistency may result in certain validators not having enough stake during withdrawals.

If deposits are made with amounts divisible by validators_len and withdrawals are made with amounts not divisible by validators_len, the withdrawal may fail because the first candidate may not have enough stake. Similarly, if deposits are made with amounts not divisible by validators_len (with the remainder added to the first validator's stake) and withdrawals are made with amounts divisible by validators_len, the withdrawal may fail because the remaining candidates may not have enough stake.

Remediation

Do not add or subtract the remaining amounts to or from the first validator to ensure even distribution.

Context Signer Correction

OS-CFI-SUG-03

Description

The **CpiContext::new_with_signer** method is used to create the context for cross-program invocation. This method is typically used when a program expects a signed invocation, and it includes the account's seeds for signature verification.

Remediation

If set_stake does not require the staking_params account or its seeds for signature verification, using CpiContext::new is more appropriate and simplifies context creation.

Enforce Mandatory Service Assignment

OS-CFI-SUG-04

Description

While handling the vault_params.service field in deposit, it is currently defined as
Option<Service>, allowing it to be either Some(Service) or None. The logic in the deposit function
uses this option to conditionally set the vault_params.service based on
guest_chain_program_id.is_some.

```
>_ restaking/programs/restaking/src/lib.rs

pub fn deposit<'a, 'info>(
    ctx: Context<'a, 'a, 'a, 'info, Deposit<'info>>,
    service: Option<Service>,
    amount: u64,
) -> Result<()> {
    [...]
}
```

However, the problem arises from the fact that, even if <code>guest_chain_program_id</code> is <code>Some</code>, implying the guest chain is initialized, the service may still be set to <code>None</code>. This is due to the optionality of the <code>Service</code> type. Users may set <code>vault_params.service</code> to <code>None</code> even after the chain is initialized, undermining the intended behavior of the logic.

Remediation

Change the type of vault_params.service from Option<Service> to just Service . This modification ensures that a valid Service must always be provided once the guest chain is initialized.

Code Redundancy

OS-CFI-SUG-05

Description

- The max_validators value is currently stored in both the Config and Candidates. However, only the value of max_validators from Candidates is utilized. Therefore, the max_validators value in Config may be removed to reduce redundancy.
- 2. Within the **InitMint** structure, the **associated_token_program** field is not required and may be omitted as the **InitMint** operation does not directly interact with associated token accounts.

- 3. In bit::fmt, in the else branch, off is set to zero. Consequently, when len is decremented by 8 off, since off is already zero, 8 off will always equal eight. Therefore, in each iteration where len is already greater than or equal to eight, this operation is unnecessary and should be removed.
- 4. In **CommonState**, the **guest_chain_program_id** is not utilized and may be removed.

Remediation

Ensure that all redundant and unnecessary code is removed from the codebase.

Code Optimisation

OS-CFI-SUG-06

Description

- There is unnecessary signing and seed usage in certain token::transfer function calls. Specifically, in the deposit instruction, there are calls to token::transfer that do not require seeds or a signed invocation.
- 2. handle in set receives NodeRef (nref) as an argument. It extracts the pointer nref.0 and hash nref.1 from this structure and then passes the entire nref to handle_branch and handle_extension, even though the hash (nref.1) is not needed in these calls.

```
>_ common/sealable-trie/src/trie/set.rs

fn handle(&mut self, nref: NodeRef) -> Result<(Ptr, CryptoHash)> {
    let nref = (nref.ptr.ok_or(Error::Sealed)?, nref.hash);
    [...]
    debug_assert_eq!(*nref.1, node.hash());
    match node {
        Node::Branch { children } => self.handle_branch(nref, children),
        Node::Extension { key, child } => {
            self.handle_extension(nref, key, child)
        }
    }
}
```

3. Within **get** in **trie**, **get_impl** is called with the **include_proof** parameter set to *true*, indicating that a proof should be included in the result. However, in the subsequent line, the proof is ignored, and only the value is retained. Including a proof in the **get_impl** call when it will not be used is inefficient.

Remediation

- 1. Modify token::transfer to handle both signed and unsigned invocations. This may be achieved by introducing a boolean argument or by checking the length of seeds.
- 2. Pass only the Ptr part (nref.0) to these functions, as the hash (nref.1) is not needed in those calls.
- 3. It would be more efficient to call **get_impl** with **include_proof** set to false if the proof is not intended to be used.

Code Maturity OS-CFI-SUG-07

Description

1. The documentation for the RawNode structure in nodes states that <key> is a 36-byte array, however, it should be clarified that the actual bytes of the key extension are contained in a 34-byte array. This is because the first two bytes of the prefix are displayed separately in the binary representation and are used to store information about the length of the key and the number of most significant bits to skip.

```
>_ common/sealable-trie/src/nodes.rs

// Extension: 1000_kkkk kkkk_kooo <key> <ref>
// `kkkk` is the length of the key in bits and `ooo` is number of most
// significant bits in <key> to skip before getting to the key. <key> is
// 36-byte array which holds the key extension. Only `o..o+k` bits in it
// are the actual key; others are set to zero.
```

2. In **validation_context**, the error message returned by **get_packet_commitment** is incorrect. Instead of returning the **PacketCommitmentNotFound** error when the commitment is not found, it currently returns the **PacketReceiptNotFound** error.

3. Certain accounts are unnecessarily passed to instructions. Specifically, within withdrawal_request and cancel_withdrawal_request, the nft_metadata account is included. This account is not directly involved in the withdrawal or cancellation process.

Remediation

1. Update the documentation to reflect that the actual bytes of the key extension are contained in a 34-byte array, and the two bytes at the prefix are used for additional information about the key.

- 2. Ensure **get_packet_commitment** makes use of the **PacketCommitmentNotFound** error.
- 3. Remove the unnecessary account from the instruction accounts to streamline and optimize the code.



A — Vulnerability Rating Scale

We rated our findings according to the following scale. Vulnerabilities have immediate security implications. Informational findings may be found in the General Findings.

CRITICAL

Vulnerabilities that immediately result in a loss of user funds with minimal preconditions.

Examples:

- · Misconfigured authority or access control validation.
- Improperly designed economic incentives leading to loss of funds.

HIGH

Vulnerabilities that may result in a loss of user funds but are potentially difficult to exploit.

Examples:

- · Loss of funds requiring specific victim interactions.
- · Exploitation involving high capital requirement with respect to payout.

MEDIUM

Vulnerabilities that may result in denial of service scenarios or degraded usability.

Examples:

- Computational limit exhaustion through malicious input.
- Forced exceptions in the normal user flow.

LOW

Low probability vulnerabilities, which are still exploitable but require extenuating circumstances or undue risk.

Examples:

Oracle manipulation with large capital requirements and multiple transactions.

INFO

Best practices to mitigate future security risks. These are classified as general findings.

Examples:

- Explicit assertion of critical internal invariants.
- · Improved input validation.

B — Procedure

As part of our standard auditing procedure, we split our analysis into two main sections: design and implementation.

When auditing the design of a program, we aim to ensure that the overall economic architecture is sound in the context of an on-chain program. In other words, there is no way to steal funds or deny service, ignoring any chain-specific quirks. This usually requires a deep understanding of the program's internal interactions, potential game theory implications, and general on-chain execution primitives.

One example of a design vulnerability would be an on-chain oracle that could be manipulated by flash loans or large deposits. Such a design would generally be unsound regardless of which chain the oracle is deployed on.

On the other hand, auditing the program's implementation requires a deep understanding of the chain's execution model. While this varies from chain to chain, some common implementation vulnerabilities include reentrancy, account ownership issues, arithmetic overflows, and rounding bugs.

As a general rule of thumb, implementation vulnerabilities tend to be more "checklist" style. In contrast, design vulnerabilities require a strong understanding of the underlying system and the various interactions: both with the user and cross-program.

As we approach any new target, we strive to comprehensively understand the program first. In our audits, we always approach targets with a team of auditors. This allows us to share thoughts and collaborate, picking up on details that others may have missed.

While sometimes the line between design and implementation can be blurry, we hope this gives some insight into our auditing procedure and thought process.