



Preliminary Comments  
Draft (Internal Use Only)

**PS.io**

CertiK Verified on Sept 2nd, 2022





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**PS.io**

These preliminary comments were prepared by Certik, the leader in Web3.0 security.

## Executive Summary

### TYPES

DeFi

### ECOSYSTEM

Ethereum

### METHODS

Manual Review, Static Analysis

### LANGUAGE

Solidity

### TIMELINE

Delivered on 09/02/2022

### KEY COMPONENTS

N/A

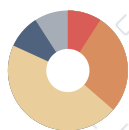
### CODEBASE

<https://github.com/project-seed-io/contracts-solidity>[...View All](#)

### COMMITTS

<63d2f3128c592bc7d13b20c41436e0beb8b85f71>[...View All](#)

## Vulnerability Summary

**11**

Total Findings

**0**

Resolved

**0**

Mitigated

**0**

Partially Resolved

**0**

Acknowledged

**0**

Declined

**11**

Unresolved

### 1 Critical

1 Unresolved

Critical risks are those that impact the safe functioning of a platform and must be addressed before launch. Users should not invest in any project with outstanding critical risks.

### 3 Major

3 Unresolved

Major risks can include centralization issues and logical errors. Under specific circumstances, these major risks can lead to loss of funds and/or control of the project.

### 0 Medium

Medium risks may not pose a direct risk to users' funds, but they can affect the overall functioning of a platform.

### 5 Minor

5 Unresolved

Minor risks can be any of the above, but on a smaller scale. They generally do not compromise the overall integrity of the project, but they may be less efficient than other solutions.

### 1 Informational

1 Unresolved

Informational errors are often recommendations to improve the style of the code or certain operations to fall within industry best practices. They usually do not affect the overall functioning of the code.

### 1 Discussion

1 Unresolved

The impact of the issue is yet to be determined, hence requires further clarifications from the project team.

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# CODEBASE | PS.IO

## Repository

<https://github.com/project-seed-io/contracts-solidity>

## Commit

[63d2f3128c592bc7d13b20c41436e0beb8b85f71](#)

# AUDIT SCOPE | PS.IO

7 files audited ● 6 files with Unresolved findings ● 1 file without findings

ID	File	SHA256 Checksum
● SLB	bridge-created by nonceblox/ShillLock.sol	4620089043e68797c80dd4481d2180eac3351f9f0638c1179f55a84aceadddf1
● NFE	nftengine-created by nonceblox/NFTEngine.sol	f5552259f5aef48f16a5d25f499838cb784aede23b80c91416cabd1c64fa23cf
● SHL	shill erc20 -created by nonceblox/Shill.sol	c46e041142db22d2a002e44110ced7a0d0fa931f7ec8bba09aec98ef519d6f11
● CSU	staking-modified by ps/extensions/CappableStaking.sol	f886c89af68d56b1cc22f192d33f47ead01c5af2c773ac9b22f1ba1b318fc874
● STN	staking-modified by ps/Staking.sol	6943a093d2fee7c900b1580d3d0554ce158e5a91118e87bd83b0af13214ad220
● APB	utils/AccessProtected.sol	b5fe59a3f38361cc5795d030f275793f1e10e7b85067cc1c3cf3db2a664daeda
● ISU	staking-modified by ps/interfaces/ISStaking.sol	a9549f27fcfe059c43dd9f1c22e571f6b24c9ed5a15a48a023acbff038072bab

## APPROACH & METHODS | PS.IO

This report has been prepared for PS.io to discover issues and vulnerabilities in the source code of the PS.io project as well as any contract dependencies that were not part of an officially recognized library. A comprehensive examination has been performed, utilizing Manual Review and Static Analysis techniques.

The auditing process pays special attention to the following considerations:

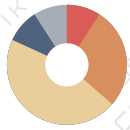
- Testing the smart contracts against both common and uncommon attack vectors.
- Assessing the codebase to ensure compliance with current best practices and industry standards.
- Ensuring contract logic meets the specifications and intentions of the client.
- Cross referencing contract structure and implementation against similar smart contracts produced by industry leaders.
- Thorough line-by-line manual review of the entire codebase by industry experts.

The security assessment resulted in findings that ranged from critical to informational. We recommend addressing these findings to ensure a high level of security standards and industry practices. We suggest recommendations that could better serve the project from the security perspective:

- Testing the smart contracts against both common and uncommon attack vectors;
- Enhance general coding practices for better structures of source codes;
- Add enough unit tests to cover the possible use cases;
- Provide more comments per each function for readability, especially contracts that are verified in public;
- Provide more transparency on privileged activities once the protocol is live.



## FINDINGS | PS.IO



11

Total Findings

1

Critical

3

Major

0

Medium

5

Minor

1

Informational

1

Discussion

This report has been prepared to discover issues and vulnerabilities for PS.io. Through this audit, we have uncovered 11 issues ranging from different severity levels. Utilizing Static Analysis techniques to complement rigorous manual code reviews, we discovered the following findings:

ID	Title	Category	Severity	Status
<b><u>CON-01</u></b>	<b>Centralization Related Risks</b>	<b>Centralization / Privilege</b>	<b>Major</b>	<b>Unresolved</b>
<u>CON-02</u>	Third Party Dependency	Volatile Code	Minor	Unresolved
<u>CON-03</u>	Lack Of Zero Address Validation	Volatile Code	Minor	Unresolved
<u>CON-04</u>	Missing Input Validation	Volatile Code	Minor	Unresolved
<b><u>SHL-01</u></b>	<b>Initial Token Distribution</b>	<b>Centralization / Privilege</b>	<b>Major</b>	<b>Unresolved</b>
<u>STN-01</u>	Critical State Variable Not Updated	Logical Issue	Critical	Unresolved
<u>STN-02</u>	Potential Reentrancy Attack (Sending Ether Or Tokens)	Volatile Code	Major	Unresolved
<u>STN-03</u>	Unchecked ERC-20 <code>transfer()</code> / <code>transferFrom()</code> Call	Volatile Code	Minor	Unresolved
<u>STN-04</u>	Function <code>loadReward()</code> Has No Access Control	Control Flow	Minor	Unresolved
<u>STN-07</u>	<code>if</code> Condition Will Never Be Met	Logical Issue	Discussion	Unresolved
<u>STN-06</u>	Incompatibility With Deflationary Tokens	Logical Issue	Informational	Unresolved



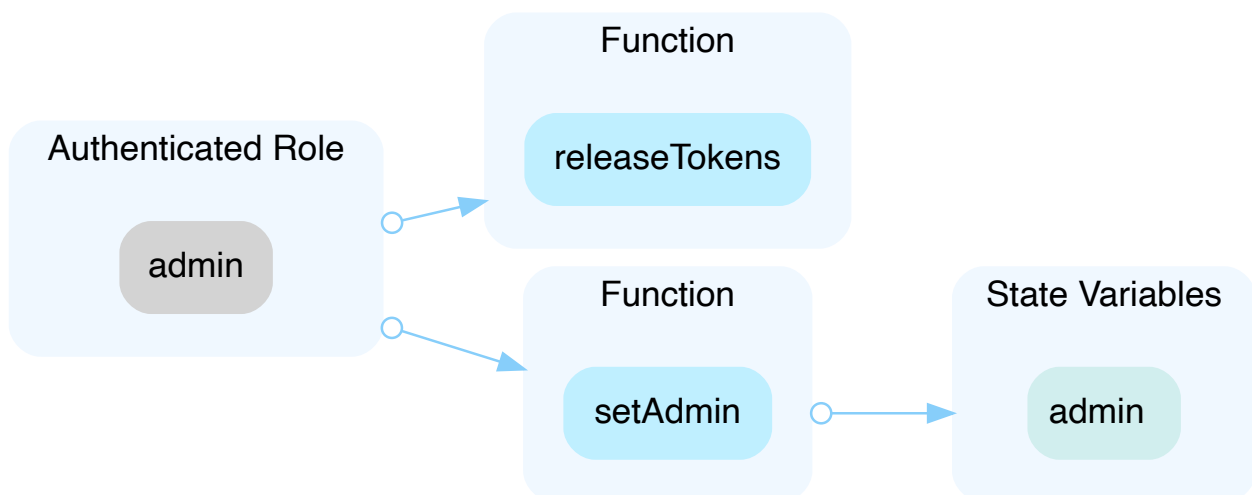


## CON-01 | CENTRALIZATION RELATED RISKS

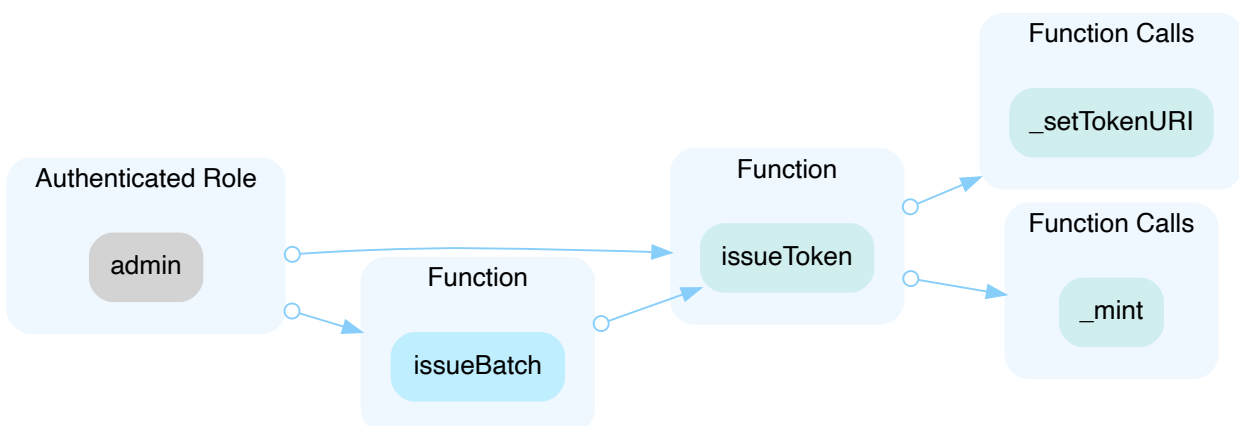
Category	Severity	Location	Status
Centralization / Privilege	Major	bridge-created by nonceblox/ShillLock.sol: 33, 38; nftengine-created by nonceblox/NFTEngine.sol: 26, 42; staking-modified by ps/Staking.sol: 64, 70, 74; staking-modified by ps/extensions/CappableStaking.sol: 32; utils/AccessProtected.sol: 18	Pending

### Description

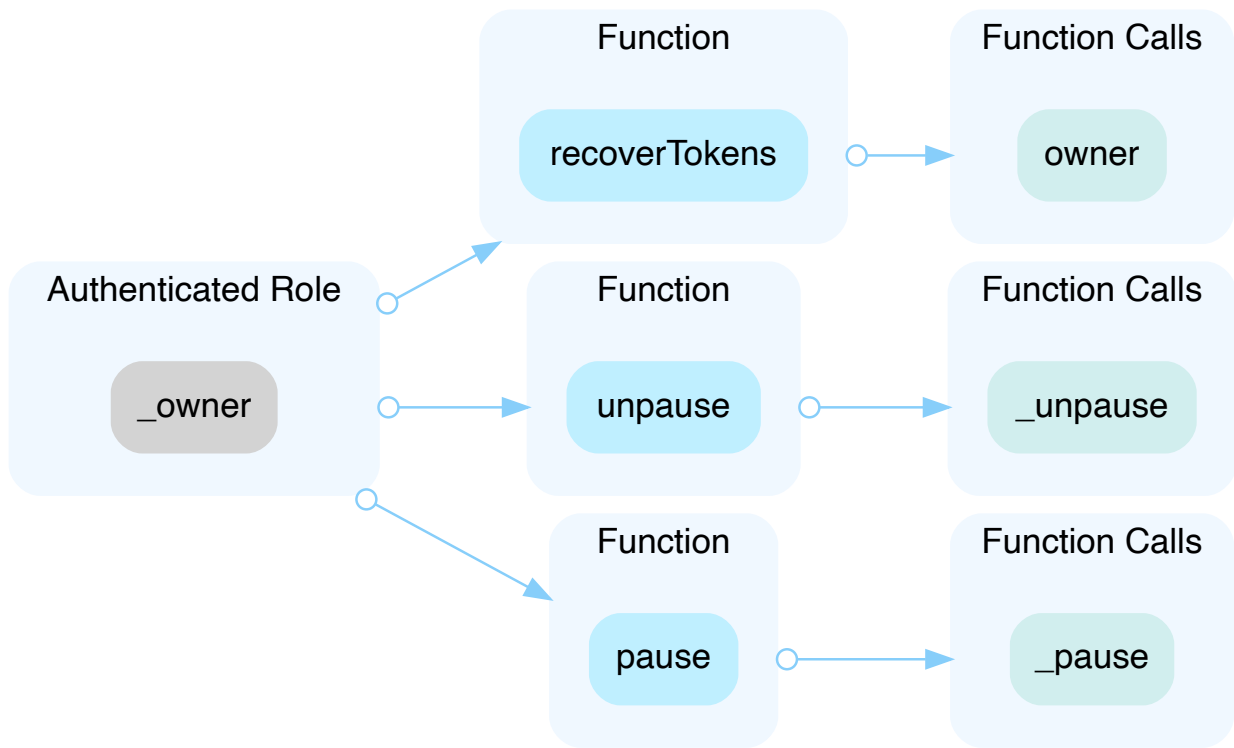
In the contract `ShillLock` the role `admin` has authority over the functions shown in the diagram below. Any compromise to the `admin` account may allow the hacker to take advantage of this authority and drain all tokens by calling function `releaseTokens()`.



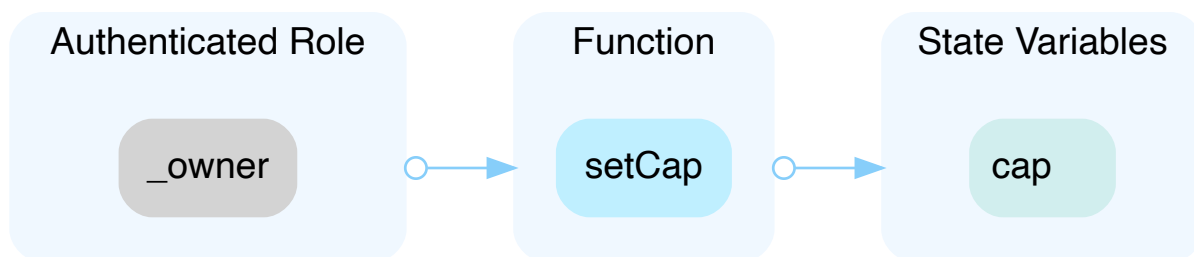
In the contract `NFTEngine` the role `admin` has authority over the functions shown in the diagram below. Any compromise to the `admin` account may allow the hacker to take advantage of this authority and mint NFTs to attacker-controlled addresses by calling function `issueToken()` or `issueBatch()`.



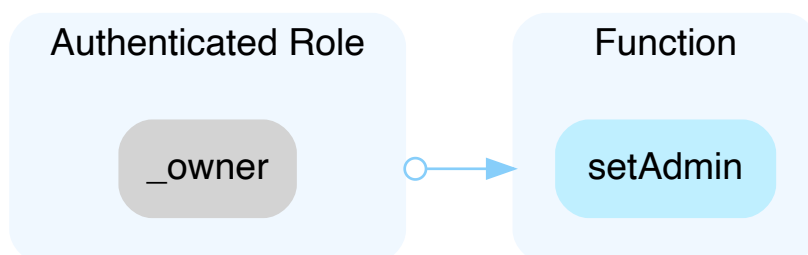
In the contract `Staking` the role `_owner` has authority over the functions shown in the diagram below. Any compromise to the `_owner` account may allow the hacker to take advantage of this authority and drain all tokens from the contract, as well as pause the main utility of the contract, keeping users from claiming rewards or unstaking their tokens.



In the contract `CappableStaking` the role `_owner` has authority over the functions shown in the diagram below. Any compromise to the `_owner` account may allow the hacker to take advantage of this authority and change the cap amount, making it difficult for users to call `stake()`.



In the contract `AccessProtected` the role `_owner` has authority over the functions shown in the diagram below. Any compromise to the `_owner` account may allow the hacker to take advantage of this authority and set an attacker-controlled address as an admin or revoke original admins by calling function `setAdmin()`.



## Recommendation

The risk describes the current project design and potentially makes iterations to improve in the security operation and level of decentralization, which in most cases cannot be resolved entirely at the present stage. We advise the client to carefully manage the privileged account's private key to avoid any potential risks of being hacked. In general, we strongly recommend centralized privileges or roles in the protocol be improved via a decentralized mechanism or smart-contract-based accounts with enhanced security practices, e.g., multisignature wallets. Indicatively, here are some feasible suggestions that would also mitigate the potential risk at a different level in terms of short-term, long-term and permanent:

### Short Term:

Timelock and Multi sign ( $\frac{2}{3}$ ,  $\frac{3}{5}$ ) combination *mitigate* by delaying the sensitive operation and avoiding a single point of key management failure.

- Time-lock with reasonable latency, e.g., 48 hours, for awareness on privileged operations;  
AND
- Assignment of privileged roles to multi-signature wallets to prevent a single point of failure due to the private key compromised;  
AND
- A medium/blog link for sharing the timelock contract and multi-signers addresses information with the public audience.

### Long Term:

Timelock and DAO, the combination, *mitigate* by applying decentralization and transparency.

- Time-lock with reasonable latency, e.g., 48 hours, for awareness on privileged operations;  
AND
- Introduction of a DAO/governance/voting module to increase transparency and user involvement.  
AND
- A medium/blog link for sharing the timelock contract, multi-signers addresses, and DAO information with the public audience.

### Permanent:

Renouncing the ownership or removing the function can be considered *fully resolved*.

- Renounce the ownership and never claim back the privileged roles.  
OR
- Remove the risky functionality.



## CON-02 | THIRD PARTY DEPENDENCY

Category	Severity	Location	Status
Volatile Code	Minor	bridge-created by nonceblox/ShillLock.sol: 11; nftengine-created by nonceblox/NFTEngine.sol: 26~27; staking-modified by ps/Staking.sol: 13, 14	Pending

### Description

The contract is serving as the underlying entity to interact with one or more third party protocols. The scope of the audit treats third party entities as black boxes and assumes their functional correctness. However, in the real world, third parties can be compromised and this may lead to lost or stolen assets. In addition, upgrades of third parties can possibly create severe impacts, such as increasing fees of third parties, migrating to new LP pools, etc.

```
11 IERC20 public immutable token;
```

- The contract `ShillLock` interacts with third party contract with `IERC20` interface via `token`.

```
13 address public override stakingToken;
```

- The contract `Staking` interacts with third party contract with `IERC20` interface via `stakingToken`.

```
14 address public override rewardToken;
```

- The contract `Staking` interacts with third party contract with `IERC20` interface via `rewardToken`.

```
26 string memory hash
```

- The contract `NFTEngine` has functions `issueToken()` and `issueBatch()` which rely on a third party to provide input `hash` that is unique for the purposes of minting ERC721 tokens.

### Recommendation

We understand that the business logic requires interaction with the third parties. We encourage the team to constantly monitor the statuses of third parties to mitigate the side effects when unexpected activities are observed.



## **CON-03** | LACK OF ZERO ADDRESS VALIDATION

Category	Severity	Location	Status
Volatile Code	Minor	bridge-created by nonceblox/ShillLock.sol: 19~20, 33~34; utils/Acce ssProtected.sol: 18~19, 29~30	Pending

### **Description**

The cited functions lack important checks that the input addresses are never `address(0)`.

### **Recommendation**

We recommend the client add a line to each function requiring that each address input is not `address(0)`.



## CON-04 | MISSING INPUT VALIDATION

Category	Severity	Location	Status
Volatile Code	Minor	bridge-created by nonceblox/ShillLock.sol: 28~29, 33~34; staking-modified by ps/Staking.sol: 101~102; utils/AccessProtected.sol: 18~19	Pending

### Description

In contract `ShillLock` :

- The function `lockTokens()` is missing input validation that `_amount` is nonzero.
- The function `releaseTokens()` is missing input validation that `_amount` is nonzero.

In contract `AccessProtected` :

- The function `setAdmin()` is missing input validation that bool `enabled` is not already set as the output for mapping `_admins[admin]`.

In contract `Staking` :

- The function `unstake()` is missing input validation that `_amount` is non-zero.

### Recommendation

We recommend adding in the validation checks specified above to prevent unexpected errors.

## SHL-01 | INITIAL TOKEN DISTRIBUTION

Category	Severity	Location	Status
Centralization / Privilege	● Major	shill erc20 -created by nonceblox/Shill.sol: 8	● Pending

### Description

Tokens are minted to the contract owner when deploying the contract. This is a centralization risk as the contract owner can distribute tokens without obtaining the consensus of the community.

### Recommendation

We recommend the team provide an outline regarding the initial token distribution process. Additionally, we recommend making efforts to restrict the access of the token deployer's private key.

## STN-01 | CRITICAL STATE VARIABLE NOT UPDATED

Category	Severity	Location	Status
Logical Issue	<span>●</span> Critical	staking-modified by ps/Staking.sol: 102~103, 110~111, 116~117, 122~123, 127	<span>●</span> Pending

### Description

In function `claimReward()`, the stakeholder information is loaded into temporary variable `stakeholder` in memory, and is never used to update the storage information for the stakeholder. As such, when `stakeholder.timestamp` is updated to be `block.timestamp` in function `claimReward()`, it does not update the state, it only updates the temporary memory variable. Function `unstake()` has a similar issue.

With this vulnerability, attackers may drain almost all reward tokens and lock all users' staking tokens by calling `claimReward()` multiple times after `block.timestamp` is larger than `stopTime`.

As a result, other users are unable to receive staking tokens by calling function `unstake()` since the reward token amount may be insufficient and the transaction may revert.

### Recommendation

We recommend updating the state variable `stakeholder.timestamp` for the user to avoid such an exploit.

## STN-02 | POTENTIAL REENTRANCY ATTACK (SENDING ETHER OR TOKENS)

Category	Severity	Location	Status
Volatile Code	Major	staking-modified by ps/Staking.sol: 106, 110~112, 116~117, 126~128, 170	Pending

### Description

A reentrancy attack can occur when the contract creates a function that makes an external call to another untrusted contract before resolving any effects. If the attacker can control the untrusted contract, they can make a recursive call back to the original function, repeating interactions that would have otherwise not run after the external call resolved the effects.

#### External call(s)

```
106         _withdrawReward(msg.sender);
```

- This function call executes the following external call(s).
- In `Staking._withdrawReward`,
  - `IERC20(rewardToken).transfer(_to, reward)`

#### State variables written after the call(s)

```
110         stakeholder.staked -= _amount;  
111         stakeholder.stakedRatio -= stakedRatio;
```

```
116         stakeholder.timestamp = 0;
```

#### External call(s)

```
126         _withdrawReward(msg.sender);
```

- This function call executes the following external call(s).
- In `Staking._withdrawReward`,
  - `IERC20(rewardToken).transfer(_to, reward)`

## State variables written after the call(s)

```
127     stakeholder.timestamp = block.timestamp;  
128
```

## Recommendation

We recommend using the Checks-Effects-Interactions Pattern to avoid the risk of calling unknown contracts or applying OpenZeppelin ReentrancyGuard library - `nonReentrant` modifier for the aforementioned functions to prevent reentrancy attack.

## STN-03 | UNCHECKED ERC-20 `transfer()` / `transferFrom()` CALL

Category	Severity	Location	Status
Volatile Code	Minor	staking-modified by ps/Staking.sol: 60, 66, 96, 165, 170	Pending

### Description

The return value of the `transfer()`/`transferFrom()` call is not checked.

```
60         IERC20(rewardToken).transferFrom(msg.sender, address(this),  
rewardAmount);
```

```
66         _token.transfer(owner(), balance);
```

```
96         IERC20(stakingToken).transferFrom(msg.sender, address(this), _amount);
```

```
165        IERC20(stakingToken).transfer(_to, _amount);
```

```
170        IERC20(rewardToken).transfer(_to, reward);
```

### Recommendation

Since some ERC-20 tokens return no values and others return a `bool` value, they should be handled with care. We recommend using the [OpenZeppelin's SafeERC20.sol](#) implementation to interact with the `transfer()` and `transferFrom()` functions of external ERC-20 tokens. The OpenZeppelin implementation checks for the existence of a return value and reverts if `false` is returned, making it compatible with all ERC-20 token implementations.

## STN-04 | FUNCTION `loadReward()` HAS NO ACCESS CONTROL

Category	Severity	Location	Status
Control Flow	Minor	staking-modified by ps/Staking.sol: 59~60	Pending

### Description

The function `loadReward()` can be called by anyone. This function transfers the `rewardAmount` of `rewardToken` from the `msg.sender` to the contract. While this action can be performed by any user on their own and the user calling the function would need to approve the contract to transfer the specified amount of tokens, it is in the user's best interest to keep this function protected.

### Recommendation

We recommend adding in the modifier `onlyOwner` from the `Ownable` inheritance.

## STN-07 | if CONDITION WILL NEVER BE MET

Category	Severity	Location	Status
Logical Issue	● Discussion	staking-modified by ps/Staking.sol: 88~90	● Pending

### Description

The condition,

```
if (stakeholder.timestamp == 0)
```

will never be met, because in the previous line `stakeholder.timestamp` is set to `block.timestamp`. Therefore, the `if` block logic will never be executed.

### Recommendation

We recommend the client reviews the code in the cited lines and revises the function based upon their intention.



## STN-06 | INCOMPATIBILITY WITH DEFLATIONARY TOKENS

Category	Severity	Location	Status
Logical Issue	● Informational	staking-modified by ps/Staking.sol: 85, 96	● Pending

### Description

When transferring deflationary ERC20 tokens, the input amount may not be equal to the received amount due to the charged transaction fee. For example, if a user sends 100 deflationary tokens (with a 10% transaction fee), only 90 tokens actually arrived to the contract. However, a failure to discount such fees may allow the same user to withdraw 100 tokens from the contract, which causes the contract to lose 10 tokens in such a transaction.

```
96      IERC20(stakingToken).transferFrom(msg.sender, address(this), _amount);
```

- Transferring tokens by `_amount`.

```
85      stakeholder.staked += _amount;
```

- The `_amount` appears to be used for bookkeeping purposes without compensating the potential transfer fees.

### Recommendation

We recommend the client review whether a deflationary token will be used as the `stakingToken` and add necessary mitigation mechanisms to keep track of accurate balances if there is a need to support deflationary tokens.

OPTIMIZATIONS | PS.IO

ID	Title	Category	Severity	Status
<u>CON-05</u>	Improper Usage Of <code>public</code> And <code>external</code> Type	Gas Optimization	Optimization	<div><div></div> Unresolved</div>
<u>STN-05</u>	Variables That Could Be Declared As Immutable	Gas Optimization	Optimization	<div><div></div> Unresolved</div>

## **CON-05** | IMPROPER USAGE OF `public` AND `external` TYPE

Category	Severity	Location	Status
Gas Optimization	● Optimization	nftengine-created by nonceblox/NFTEngine.sol: 42~43; staking-modified by ps/Staking.sol: 70, 74, 78, 101, 122, 138, 142, 153, 160; staking-modified by ps/extensions/Cappabl eStaking.sol: 28, 32; utils/AccessProtected.sol: 29	● Pending



### **Description**

`public` functions that are never called by the contract could be declared as `external`.

### **Recommendation**

We recommend the client use the external attribute for public functions that are never called within the contract.

## **STN-05** | VARIABLES THAT COULD BE DECLARED AS IMMUTABLE

Category	Severity	Location	Status
Gas Optimization	 Optimization	staking-modified by ps/Staking.sol: 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19	 Pending

### **Description**

The linked variables assigned in the constructor can be declared as `immutable`. Immutable state variables can be assigned during contract creation but will remain constant throughout the lifetime of a deployed contract. An advantage of immutable variables is that reading them is significantly cheaper than reading from regular state variables since they will not be stored in storage.

### **Recommendation**

We recommend declaring these variables as immutable. Please note that the `immutable` keyword only works in Solidity version `v0.6.5` and up.

## APPENDIX | PS.IO

### Finding Categories

Categories	Description
Centralization / Privilege	Centralization / Privilege findings refer to either feature logic or implementation of components that act against the nature of decentralization, such as explicit ownership or specialized access roles in combination with a mechanism to relocate funds.
Gas Optimization	Gas Optimization findings do not affect the functionality of the code but generate different, more optimal EVM opcodes resulting in a reduction on the total gas cost of a transaction.
Logical Issue	Logical Issue findings detail a fault in the logic of the linked code, such as an incorrect notion on how block.timestamp works.
Control Flow	Control Flow findings concern the access control imposed on functions, such as owner-only functions being invoke-able by anyone under certain circumstances.
Volatile Code	Volatile Code findings refer to segments of code that behave unexpectedly on certain edge cases that may result in a vulnerability.

### Checksum Calculation Method

The "Checksum" field in the "Audit Scope" section is calculated as the SHA-256 (Secure Hash Algorithm 2 with digest size of 256 bits) digest of the content of each file hosted in the listed source repository under the specified commit.

The result is hexadecimal encoded and is the same as the output of the Linux "sha256sum" command against the target file.

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