



EIGENLAYER

EigenLayer
Smart Contract Security Review

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Introduction

Sigma Prime was commercially engaged to perform a time-boxed security review of the EigenLayer smart contracts. The review focused solely on the security aspects of the Solidity implementation of the contract, though general recommendations and informational comments are also provided.

Disclaimer

Sigma Prime makes all effort but holds no responsibility for the findings of this security review. Sigma Prime does not provide any guarantees relating to the function of the smart contract. Sigma Prime makes no judgements on, or provides any security review, regarding the underlying business model or the individuals involved in the project.

Document Structure

The first section provides an overview of the functionality of the EigenLayer smart contracts contained within the scope of the security review. A summary followed by a detailed review of the discovered vulnerabilities is then given which assigns each vulnerability a severity rating (see [Vulnerability Severity Classification](#)), an *open/closed/resolved* status and a recommendation. Additionally, findings which do not have direct security implications (but are potentially of interest) are marked as *informational*.

Outputs of automated testing that were developed during this assessment are also included for reference (in the Appendix: [Test Suite](#)).

The appendix provides additional documentation, including the severity matrix used to classify vulnerabilities within the EigenLayer smart contracts.

Overview

EigenLayer is a restaking service on the Ethereum mainnet that utilizes already staked assets as collateral to secure new services. Assets which have already been staked, such as an Ethereum validator's ETH, can be placed under the control of the EigenLayer smart contracts to act as stake securing additional services such as rollups, bridges or Dapps.

The purpose of Eigenlayer is to provide a generalised permissionless platform by which these stakers can be connected to middlewares in need of securing their services. In return for securing a system, stakers are paid additional yield on top of their existing staking rewards.

Security Assessment Summary

This review was conducted on the files hosted on the [EigenLayer repository](#) and were assessed at commit [2500148f](#).

A previous review of the codebase was undertaken in Q1 of 2023.

Note: the OpenZeppelin libraries and dependencies were excluded from the scope of this assessment.

Retesting activities targeted commit [25f9cc9a](#).

Additionally, mitigations for issues found in the [Code4rena contest](#) were reviewed in PRs [#34](#) and [#36](#).

The manual code review section of the report is focused on identifying any and all issues/vulnerabilities associated with the business logic implementation of the contracts. This includes their internal interactions, intended functionality and correct implementation with respect to the underlying functionality of the Ethereum Virtual Machine (for example, verifying correct storage/memory layout). Additionally, the manual review process focused on all known Solidity anti-patterns and attack vectors. These include, but are not limited to, the following vectors: re-entrancy, front-running, integer overflow/underflow and correct visibility specifiers. For a more thorough, but non-exhaustive list of examined vectors, see [\[1, 2\]](#).

To support this review, the testing team used the following automated testing tools:

- Mythril: <https://github.com/ConsenSys/mythril>
- Slither: <https://github.com/TrailofBits/slither>
- Surya: <https://github.com/ConsenSys/surya>

Output for these automated tools is available upon request.

Findings Summary

The testing team identified a total of 6 issues during this assessment. Categorised by their severity:

- High: 1 issue.
- Low: 1 issue.
- Informational: 4 issues.

Detailed Findings

This section provides a detailed description of the vulnerabilities identified within the EigenLayer smart contracts. Each vulnerability has a severity classification which is determined from the likelihood and impact of each issue by the matrix given in the Appendix: [Vulnerability Severity Classification](#).

A number of additional properties of the contracts, including gas optimisations, are also described in this section and are labelled as “informational”.

Each vulnerability is also assigned a status:

- **Open:** the issue has not been addressed by the project team.
- **Resolved:** the issue was acknowledged by the project team and updates to the affected contract(s) have been made to mitigate the related risk.
- **Closed:** the issue was acknowledged by the project team but no further actions have been taken.

Summary of Findings

ID	Description	Severity	Status
EGN2-01	Middleware can Deny Withdrawals by Revoking Slashing Prior to Queueing Withdrawal	High	Resolved
EGN2-02	Domain Separator not Recalculated in Case of a Hard Fork	Low	Resolved
EGN2-03	Delayed Withdrawals can be Created During Paused State	Informational	Resolved
EGN2-04	Funds can be Lost Due to SelfDestructed Staker Contract	Informational	Closed
EGN2-05	Novel Staking Risks Posed by Middleware	Informational	Resolved
EGN2-06	Miscellaneous General Comments	Informational	Resolved

EGN2-01	Middleware can Deny Withdrawals by Revoking Slashing Prior to Queueing Withdrawal		
Asset	Slasher.sol, StrategyManager.sol		
Status	Resolved: See Resolution		
Rating	Severity: High	Impact: High	Likelihood: Medium

Description

The `Slasher.sol` contract manages middleware rights and capabilities for a given operator, whilst the `StrategyManager.sol` relies on this contract to determine if withdrawals are allowed. If a given slasher (middleware) revokes their own rights to slash for an `operator` using `Slasher.recordLastStakeUpdateAndRevokeSlashingAbility()`, a staker will be unable to queue withdrawals. A condition for this edge case is that a staker maintains only one middleware.

The `StrategyManager.queueWithdrawal()` leverages the function modifier `onlyNotFrozen(msg.sender)` to determine if a user is able to initiate a withdrawal. Rejecting withdrawals is managed by updating the `frozenStatus[operator]` and can only be done by an approved middleware that the operator has opted into slashing. Once a withdrawal is queued, a staker can complete the withdrawal by calling `StrategyManager.completeQueuedWithdrawal()`.

The `StrategyManager._completeQueuedWithdrawal()` checks the `Slasher.canWithdraw()` which requires the following conditions to be met:

1. `withdrawalStartBlock < update.stakeUpdateBlock` : requiring the withdrawal to be initiated prior the latest update from the slasher.
2. `uint(block.timestamp) > update.latestServeUntil` : requiring the withdrawal to be completed after the slasher's serving period has elapsed.

These two conditions are valid and required for the system to function under normal circumstances. However, in the event that a middleware operates maliciously, or accidentally revokes their slashing ability by calling `Slasher.recordLastStakeUpdateAndRevokeSlashingAbility()` prior to a withdrawal being queued, condition (1) above will fail. Effectively preventing the completion of queued withdrawals.

Recommendations

The resolution discussed with the development team involves only validating condition (2) when there is a single approved middleware for a given operator.

Resolution

The issue has been fixed in commit [42bfa82c](#). The implemented fixes will ensure that if all middleware services have been revoked, condition (1) is bypassed. This ensures that on full withdrawal, only the condition `uint(block.timestamp) > update.latestServeUntil` will be required.

EGN2-02	Domain Separator not Recalculated in Case of a Hard Fork		
Asset	DelegationManager.sol, StrategyManager.sol		
Status	Resolved: See Resolution		
Rating	Severity: Low	Impact: Low	Likelihood: Low

Description

The `DOMAIN_SEPARATOR` in `DelegationManager` and `StrategyManager` is set during initialisation and will not change after the contract is initialised. This feature is used to prevent replay attacks from impacting users providing SECP256k1 signatures across different EVM compatible chains.

However, if a hard fork occurs after the contract deployment, the `DOMAIN_SEPARATOR` would become invalid on one of the forked chains as the `block.chainid` will be different to the one used in the initialiser.

The user may try to course correct by providing the old `block.chainid` in their `digestHash` when message signing. The submitted signature can then be reused on both chains provided the staker's `nonce` has not changed in the parent chain. This could lead to a user being compromised with unexpected or unwanted delegation or strategy decisions being made in the parent chain on their behalf.

To summarise any message signed on one fork will be valid on both forks.

Recommendations

A solution is to add a `getDomainSeparator()` function which will calculate and return the correct domain separator dynamically in case of a hard fork. That is if the `block.chainid` is different to that used in `DOMAIN_SEPARATOR` then the `DOMAIN_SEPARATOR` needs to be recalculated with the current `block.chainid`.

A possible implementation of a solution can be found in [here](#).

Resolution

The issue has been fixed in commit [714dbb61](#). The implemented fix validates if `block.chainid != ORIGINAL_CHAIN_ID` then the domain separator will be recalculated.

EGN2-03	Delayed Withdrawals can be Created During Paused State	
Asset	DelayedWithdrawal Router.sol	
Status	Resolved: See Resolution	
Rating	Informational	

Description

The `claimDelayedWithdrawals()` function, which is used to claim delayed withdrawals, can be paused using the `onlyWhenNotPaused(PAUSED_DELAYED_WITHDRAWAL_CLAIMS)` modifier. However, this modifier is not present on the `createDelayedWithdrawal()` function.

This can lead to a scenario in which, if the `DelayedWithdrawal Router` contract is paused, `EigenPods` can still create delayed withdrawals that are recorded using the `block.timestamp`. Therefore, users can wait out the withdrawal delay period during the paused state, potentially allowing them to withdraw funds immediately after the contract is unpaused, rather than waiting for the entire withdrawal delay period.

The impact is a user may create a pending withdrawal, if `PAUSED_NEW_FREEZING` is also set, they would not be slashable until the contracts are unpaused. This is related to the off-chain pausing logic determining which functions may be simultaneously paused.

Recommendations

Consider adding the `onlyWhenNotPaused` modifier to the `createDelayedWithdrawal()` function to prevent the creation of delayed withdrawals while the contract is in a paused state.

Additionally, it is recommended to have a predetermined logic table off-chain which states the functions that may be paused simultaneously.

Resolution

The issue has been fixed in commit [721ced7e](#). The implemented fixes add the recommended `onlyWhenNotPaused()` modifier to the `createDelayedWithdrawal()` function.

EGN2-04	Funds can be Lost Due to SelfDestructed Staker Contract	
Asset	StrategyManager.sol	
Status	Closed: See Resolution	
Rating	Informational	

Description

A contract can be passed into `StrategyManager.depositIntoStrategyWithSignature()` as the staker address, this contract will then be responsible for verifying signatures using ERC1271. However, an edge case exists that may deny withdrawal transactions from being created, due to the requirement of `msg.sender` in `StrategyManager.queueWithdrawal()`.

Checks performed on line [] rely on the OpenZeppelin's Address library to validate if the staker is a contract. In the edge case, involving a single transaction, where the staker's contract calls the `SELFDESTRUCT` opcode prior to calling the function `StrategyManager.depositIntoStrategyWithSignature()`, the `Address.isContract()` will return `true`.

This would result in the check on line [] passing, and since the contract's destruction is only acted on at the end of the transaction, the call to `IERC1271(staker).isValidSignature(digestHash, signature)` should pass. This will lead to a valid deposit being made, with no way to extract the funds back out (as the contract bytecode is destroyed after the transaction is finalised).

Recommendations

Several approaches for solving this issue may be applicable. Providing a backup withdrawal address when using signature deposits, could allow a user to exit if assigned staker contract proves incapable or unwilling to cooperate (as in the aforementioned edge case). Alternatively, documentation that clearly directs implementation of a staker contract to avoid the use of any `SELFDESTRUCT` opcodes.

Resolution

This issue has been marked as 'no fix' with the development team responding "We acknowledge this finding and for now have decided to leave this concern unaddressed."

EGN2-05	Novel Staking Risks Posed by Middleware	
Asset	Slasher: sol	
Status	Resolved: See Resolution	
Rating	Informational	

Description

Middleware (as named by EigenLayer) poses a unique value proposition within the liquid staking derivative ecosystem. Their premise is that middlewares can leverage existing stake assigned to a single operator, allowing multiple different protocols to leverage the same stake to secure their network, protocol or application. With novel value propositions comes the reasonably novel risk to staking protocols of 'cross-protocol security implications'. Previously calculated staking risks, and therefore relevant rewards have only accounted for risks to the platform that staking is occurring on. With EigenLayer's middleware contracts, situations may arise that may previously have been unprofitable that are now profitable. Essentially, protocol risk becomes entangled and compounded within subsets of other protocols.

For instance, knowing the slashing penalties involved, it may previously have been unprofitable to commit an attestation or proposal violation on Ethereum. However, as we enter a state where multiple protocols and applications (all providing their own rewards) leverage the same stake, an operator can potentially violate all protocols and risk being slashed if the rewards potentially outweigh the slashing penalty risk.

Stakers, Operators and Middleware alike are all impacted in various ways through compounding risks of operators adding multiple 'unsafe' or even 'malicious' middlewares to their whitelist. One middleware could hold a group of other middlewares ransom, by threatening or enacting slashing of its operators if compromising the security of other middlewares can yield more reward than the cost of ruining their own network.

Recommendations

The testing team acknowledges that EigenLayer does not aim to enforce the use of secure middleware on any Operator. However, the testing team recommends the following actions;

1. Documentation should clearly state the risks of using middleware for operators
2. Documentation should clearly state the risks of too many middlewares using the same subset of operators
3. Potentially adding functionality that allows middlewares to dictate which operators match their risk profile. For instance, it could be deemed unsafe for one protocol to use a potentially high risk set of operators using an extremely large set of middlewares.

Resolution

The development team has acknowledged this issue and will strive to ensure that the relationships between middlewares, operators and stakers are clearly defined.

EGN2-06	Miscellaneous General Comments	
Asset	contracts/*	
Status	Resolved: See Resolution	
Rating	Informational	

Description

This section details miscellaneous findings discovered by the testing team that do not have direct security implications:

1. Use of Magic Numbers Constants should be defined rather than using magic numbers. The number `100` is used for `MAX_WITHDRAWAL_DELAY_BLOCKS`.
 - StrategyManagerStorage line [1]
 - DelayedWithdrawRouter line [1]

`days / seconds` should be used instead.
2. Lack of zero-address Check The `recipient` address in `DelayedWithdrawRouter.createDelayedWithdrawal()` is missing a zero-address check.
3. Redundant Code The `if` statement, in `EigenPod.sol` on line [1] is redundant. `if (!hasRestaked)`
4. Project Files with Outdated Naming Conventions The `package.json` file in the project root directory still references `eigenlayer-contracts` instead of the new branding of `eigenlayer-contracts`

Recommendations

Ensure that the comments are understood and acknowledged, and consider implementing the suggestions above.

Resolution

The development team have acknowledged these findings, addressing them where appropriate as follows:

1. Use of Magic Numbers: The development team has acknowledged this feedback, and decided to maintain the current format of the `MAX_WITHDRAWAL_DELAY_BLOCKS` constant.
2. Lack of zero-address Check: Zero address check has been added to the `DelayedWithdrawalRouter.createDelayedWithdrawal` function in the following commit [762f732d](#)
3. Redundant Code: The development team has acknowledged this feedback, however, stated "the intention of the code is clearer the way it is, even if a bit extraneous".
4. Project Files with Outdated Naming Conventions: This issue was resolved in the following commit [da0262af](#).

Appendix A Test Suite

A non-exhaustive list of tests were constructed to aid this security review and are given along with this document. The `forge` framework was used to perform these tests and the output is given below.

```
Running tests for test/DelayedWithdrawalRouterUnit.t.sol:DelayedWithdrawalRouterUnitTests
[PASS] testCreateDelayedWithdrawalNonzeroAmount(uint,address,address) (runs: , , : )
[PASS] testGetClaimableUserDelayedWithdrawals(uint,uint,uint,address,bool) (runs: , , : )
Test result: ok. passed; failed; finished in . s

Running tests for test/InvestmentManager.t.sol:InvestmentTests
[PASS] testDepositEigen(uint) (runs: , , : )
[PASS] testDepositNonexistentStrategy(address) (runs: , , : )
[PASS] testDepositStrategies(uint) (runs: , , : )
[PASS] testDepositUnsupportedToken() (gas: )
[PASS] testFrontRunFirstDepositor() (gas: )
[PASS] testPreventSlashing() (gas: )
[PASS] testRevertOnZeroDeposit() (gas: )
[PASS] testWithdrawDeposit(uint):(uint) (runs: , , : )
[PASS] testWithdrawSequences() (gas: )
Test result: ok. passed; failed; finished in . s

Running tests for test/Delegation.t.sol:DelegationTests
[PASS] testCannotInitMultipleTimesDelegation(address) (runs: , , : )
[PASS] testCannotRegisterAsOperatorTwice(address,address) (runs: , , : )
[PASS] testCannotSetDelegationTermsZeroAddress() (gas: )
[PASS] testDelegateToInvalidSignature(address,uint,uint,uint,bytes,bytes) (runs: , , : )
[PASS] testDelegateToValidSignature(address,uint,uint,uint) (runs: , , : )
[PASS] testDelegateToInvalidOperator(address,address) (runs: , , : )
[PASS] testDelegation(address,address,uint,uint) (runs: , , : )
[PASS] testDelegationOnMultipleStrategies(uint,address,address) (runs: , , : )
[PASS] testDelegationReceived(address,address) (runs: , , : )
[PASS] testDelegationToUnregisteredDelegation(address) (runs: , , : )
[PASS] testRegisterAsOperatorMultipleTimes(address) (runs: , , : )
[PASS] testSelfOperatorDelegation(address) (runs: , , : )
[PASS] testSelfOperatorRegister() (gas: )
[PASS] testTwoSelfOperatorsRegister() (gas: )
[PASS] testUndelegate(address,address,address) (runs: , , : )
Test result: ok. passed; failed; finished in . s

Running tests for test/EigenPods.t.sol:EigenPodTests
[PASS] testAttemptedWithdrawAfterVerifyingWithdrawalCredentials() (gas: )
[PASS] testDependencyChangesGetPod() (gas: )
[PASS] testDeployAndVerifyNewEigenPod():(address) (gas: )
[PASS] testDeployNewEigenPodWithActiveValidator() (gas: )
[PASS] testDeployNewEigenPodWithWrongWithdrawalCreds(address) (runs: , , : )
[PASS] testDeployingEigenPodRevertsWhenPaused() (gas: )
[PASS] testDoubleFullWithdraw() (gas: )
[PASS] testFullWithdrawFlow():(address) (gas: )
[PASS] testFullWithdrawProof() (gas: )
[PASS] testPartialWithdrawFlow():(address) (gas: )
[PASS] testProveOverCommittedStakeOnWithdrawnValidator() (gas: )
[PASS] testProveOverCommittedBalance() (gas: )
[PASS] testProveSingleWithdrawalCredential() (gas: )
[PASS] testProvingMultipleWithdrawalsForSameSlot() (gas: )
[PASS] testStake(bytes,bytes,bytes) (runs: , , : )
[PASS] testStaking() (gas: )
[PASS] testUpdateSlashedBeaconBalance() (gas: )
[PASS] testVerifyCorrectWithdrawalCredentialsRevertsWhenPaused() (gas: )
[PASS] testVerifyOvercommittedStakeRevertsWhenPaused() (gas: )
[PASS] testVerifyWithdrawalCredentialsWithInadequateBalance() (gas: )
[PASS] testWithdrawBeforeRestaking() (gas: )
[PASS] testWithdrawBeforeRestakingAfterRestaking() (gas: )
[PASS] testWithdrawFromPod() (gas: )
[PASS] testWithdrawRestakedBeaconChainETHRevertsWhenPaused() (gas: )
Test result: ok. passed; failed; finished in . s
```

```
Running tests for test/Slasher.t.sol:SlasherTests
[PASS] testFreezeOperator() (gas: )
[PASS] testOnlyCanSlash(address,uint ) (runs: , : )
[PASS] testOptIn(address,address) (runs: , : )
[PASS] testOrderingRecordStakeUpdateVuln() (gas: )
[PASS] testRecordFirstStakeUpdate() (gas: )
[PASS] testRecordLastStakeUpdateAndRevokeSlashingAbility() (gas: )
[PASS] testRecordStakeUpdate() (gas: )
[PASS] testRecursiveCallRevert() (gas: )
[PASS] testResetFrozenOperator(address) (runs: , : )
Test result: ok. passed; failed; finished in . s
```

Appendix B Vulnerability Severity Classification

This security review classifies vulnerabilities based on their potential impact and likelihood of occurrence. The total severity of a vulnerability is derived from these two metrics based on the following matrix.

Impact	High	Medium	High	Critical
	Medium	Low	Medium	High
	Low	Low	Low	Medium
		Low	Medium	High
		Likelihood		

Table 1: Severity Matrix - How the severity of a vulnerability is given based on the *impact* and the *likelihood* of a vulnerability.

References

- [1] Sigma Prime. Solidity Security. Blog, 2018, Available: <https://blog.sigmaprime.io/solidity-security.html>. [Accessed 2018].
- [2] NCC Group. DASP - Top 10. Website, 2018, Available: <http://www.dasp.co/>. [Accessed 2018].

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