

## **Marine Mammal Research Network, LLC Privacy Policy**

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This Privacy Policy explains the information that Marine Mammal Research Network, LLC (“MMRN,” “we” “us” or “our”) MMRN collects when you use this website and its services, how that information is used, with whom it may be shared, and your privacy choices.

### **1. Introduction**

This Privacy Policy covers Marine Mammal Research Network, LLC and its operation of this website. [Through this website, we provide a platform for marine mammal researchers and research project providers to connect and interact with one another to advance the staffing of research efforts and opportunities and to promote such research projects and to promote such researchers that are available to engage with such research projects (collectively, the “services”).

### **Acceptance and Changes**

By accessing this website, the information on it, or using the services provided MMRN and this website, you accept this Privacy Policy, which is part of our Terms of Service. We may modify this Privacy Policy from time to time. We will post any modified version of our Privacy Policy at <https://marinemammalresearch.org>. If we change the Privacy Policy in a way that materially lessens our commitments to you, we will provide notice to registered users by email or other methods.

### **2. Children's Privacy**

We do not knowingly collect personal information from individuals who are under the minimum required ages specified herein. You must be at least 18 years old or the age of majority in your jurisdiction, whichever is greater, to use our services. Individuals under the applicable age may use our services only through a parent or legal guardian's account and with their involvement. If you are a parent or legal guardian who believes your child has provided personal information to MMRN without your consent, you may ask us to delete such information by contacting us at [contact@marinemammalresearch.org](mailto:contact@marinemammalresearch.org).

### **3. Data We Collect About You**

We collect information about you when you use our services. In addition, third parties may collect information about you when you use our services. Collected information may include or reflect personal information that could identify you, as well as non-personal information, including the types of information listed below (collectively, “User Data”).

#### **Information and Content Permissions**

Content you provide to us may be displayed on this website, at our discretion. Content you provide may include text, audio clips, videos, photographs or other digital images or content. Any content you provide to us may be viewed and otherwise accessed by others on this website, and associated metadata (e.g., titles, closed captions, descriptions, tags, etc.) may be viewable by others.

#### **Other Information You May Submit**

You may also submit data to us for limited purposes such as requesting support; participating in a

study or survey, advertising a research project or position in need of researchers or other participants, applying for a job or research project or position, advertising your availability for a research project or position or signing up to receive communications from us or another user.

### **Automatically Collected Information**

When you access this website, we automatically collect certain types of data regardless of whether you choose to engage with MMRN services. This data includes your IP address, technical information about your device (e.g., browser type, operating system, basic device information), the web page you visited or search query you entered before reaching us, and your activities while interacting with this website. We may track your activities using cookies and similar technologies. By using our services, you agree to our use of these methods as set forth in our Cookie Policy in Section 14.

### **Information Collected by Third Parties**

Some third parties may collect data about you when you use our services. This may include data you submit or automatically collected information (in the case of third-party analytics providers, advertising partners and third-party product and services integrated with this website). We may obtain data from third parties about you. We may combine that data with information that we have collected from you.

## **4. How We Use Your Data**

We may use User Data for the following purposes:

- **Identification and authentication:** We use User Data to verify the people that use our services.
- **Delivery of our services:** We use User Data to provide our services including connecting researchers and research project providers, providing customer support, and to otherwise complying with our contractual obligations to you.
- **Communicating with you:** We use User Data when we communicate with you (e.g., when we respond to a customer support or other inquiry).
- **Improving our services:** We use User Data to understand how our services are being used and how we can improve them. In general, we analyze aggregated data, rather than specific user data. We may, however, need to analyze a specific case to address a specific problem.
- **Exercising our rights:** Where reasonably necessary, we use User Data to exercise our legal rights and prevent abuse or misuse of our services. For example, we may use User Data to detect and prevent fraud, spam, or content that violates our Terms of Service.
- **Legal compliance:** We use User Data where we are legally required to do so. For example, we may need to gather User Data to respond to a subpoena or court order.
- **Protecting your information:** Where appropriate, we may anonymize, backup, and delete certain data.

We may use algorithms and other automated means to implement any of the above. Whenever we process User Data for one of these purposes, we have determined that one or more of the following lawful bases apply: (a) performance of a contract, (b) legitimate commercial interest, (c) compliance with a legal obligation; or (d) consent. If you require further information about the

balancing test that MMRN has undertaken to justify its reliance on legitimate interest as a lawful basis of processing, see Section 15 for information on how to contact us.

## 5. With Whom We Share Your Data

We share data with third parties as follows:

**As you instruct:** We may make the information you provide to us available to others as you instruct when using our services.

**With your consent:** We may share User Data with third parties where we have obtained your express consent to do so. The core service provided by this website is the connection of researchers with research project providers. If you are a researcher using our services to connect with a research project provider, you hereby consent to our provision of your personal contact information, and other User Data to research project providers that are associated with us, and to display certain of that information publicly on our website that will be viewable to other visitors to this website. If you are a research project provider using our services to connect with researchers, you hereby consent to our provision of your or your organization's information and other User Data to researchers that have created a profile or account with us, and to display relevant information publicly on our website that will be viewable to other visitors to this website.

**Authorized vendors:** We may share User Data with third-party vendors that help us operate our services, process payments, and comply with your instructions and our contractual obligations. This includes payment processors, content delivery networks (CDNs), cloud-based hosting services, monitoring services, email service providers, quality assurance and testing vendors, fraud and abuse prevention vendors, customer relations management (CRM) vendors, and shipment vendors.

**Advisors:** We may share User Data with our auditors and advisors for planning, financial reporting, accounting, auditing, tax filings, and legal compliance.

**Certain legal situations:** We may share User Data where we believe disclosure is necessary to comply with a legal obligation or in connection with a corporate transaction as discussed in Section 6.

**Aggregated or anonymized information:** We may publicly disclose non-personal aggregated or anonymized information such as our number of visitors and registered users.

### Organization-Administered Accounts

You may register for MMRN services using an email address provided or assigned to you by an organization (such as your work email address). If the organization establishes a direct relationship with us, they may convert your personal account to become part of the organization's account. This means the organization may: (a) take control of the account, including any content whether uploaded before or after the date that the organization converts your account to the organization's account; and/or (b) delete your account.

If you sign up for a MMRN account using an email address issued to you by an organization, MMRN may share your personal information (e.g., name, email address) with such organization. If you do not want an organization to access or otherwise control an account, use a personal email address and do not use an organizational email address when creating an account.

## 6. Legal and Safety-Related Disclosures

We may disclose User Data in response to official requests (e.g., court orders, subpoenas, search warrants, national security requests, etc.) ("requests") that we receive from government authorities or parties to legal proceedings. We may disclose user data to report suspected crimes.

We handle U.S. requests in accordance with U.S. law. If the request originates from a foreign jurisdiction, we will typically disclose information where we in good faith believe that disclosure is permitted by both U.S. law and local law. In all cases, we may raise or waive any legal objection or right available to us, in our sole discretion.

We may disclose user data where we reasonably believe that someone's life is at risk. For example, if we become aware of a person threatening to commit suicide, we may share that person's data with appropriate entities that may have the ability to help.

We may disclose user data in situations involving legal claims against us or one of our users. If you submit a Digital Millennium Copyright Act (DMCA) or other takedown notice, we may share that notice with the affected user. If you challenge such a notice, we may share your response with the complainant.

We may share User Data with potential transaction partners, advisors, and others in the event our company is, in whole or part, acquired by a third party. In such case, we will use reasonable efforts to require the acquiring entity to comply with this Privacy Policy.

## **7. Data Retention**

We retain User Data for as long as you are registered. When you terminate your registration, we will delete your content. We may retain logs of automatically collected information (for internal analytics and security purposes), your email address, and communications with you. When we no longer have a business reason for retaining data, we will delete or anonymize it.

We retain deleted User Data on our servers for a short period in case you wish to reverse deletion. Once we delete User Data, we may not be able to recover it. If you have previously made any User Data public, that information (which may include an image thumbnail) may be discoverable in a search engine's cache for a time. We have no control over search engines.

If we receive legal process pertaining to your account, we will retain User Data for as long as we in good faith believe is necessary to comply with the legal process. Similarly, if we believe that your account has been involved in wrongdoing, we may preserve User Data to defend or assert our rights.

## **8. Your Privacy Choices**

You may make certain choices about User Data:

- You may choose not to provide us with certain information. For example, you may choose not to provide optional information about yourself, your organization or your research projects.
- You may choose to limit the information we display publicly to website visitors about you, your organization or research project by giving us clear instructions when you submit content, about what we can and can't display on the website.
- You may change or correct information voluntarily submitted to us. We encourage you to keep User Data current by informing us of any relevant changes during the period you may be actively associated with MMRN services.

- You may opt out of receiving emails from us. See Section 9 for more details.
- You may limit the use of cookies. See our Cookie Policy in Section 14 for options.
- You may close your account (which will delete all User Data) or delete certain User Data.
- Users in certain jurisdictions may have additional rights. See Section 13 for more details.

## **9. Communications from Us**

If you register for MMRN services, you may receive emails from us. This may include newsletters and promotion of researchers and research project opportunities. You may always opt out from receiving email messages by informing MMRN services directly via the contact page, by emailing [contact@marinemammalresearch.org](mailto:contact@marinemammalresearch.org), or by replying to any communications from MMRN. Please note that any opt-out request may take several days to process.

## **10. Protecting Your Information**

We use physical, technical, and organizational security measures to safeguard User Data from unauthorized or accidental disclosure. Despite these efforts, no information system can be 100% secure, so we cannot guarantee the absolute security of your information. Users also have a role to play in keeping their data safe. You should use a strong, unique password for your registration for MMRN services, and to not share it with others. You should only grant access rights to people who you know and trust, and, even then, you should be careful in granting all access rights.

## **11. Your Responsibilities**

You may receive other people's data in using our service. If you receive information from other users, you must process that information in compliance with your published privacy policy and all applicable laws, including those concerning privacy, data security, and online marketing.

## **12. Third-Party Services**

We may provide access to online services that we do not own or operate via hyperlinks or integrations. These services fall outside of this Privacy Policy and we have no control over the data they collect. Once on a third-party site or when interacting with a third-party integration, your personal data and other information may be collected and used by such third parties in pursuant to their terms and conditions and privacy policies. We encourage you to read the privacy policies of such services before using them.

## **13. International Data Transfers and Certain User Rights**

### **13.1 Location of Data**

MMRN is based in the United States. We provide services globally using computer systems, servers, and databases located in the U.S. and other countries. When you use our services from outside of the U.S., your information may be transferred to and processed in the U.S.. Please note that U.S. data and privacy laws may not be as comprehensive as those in your country. Residents of certain countries may be subject to additional protections as set forth in Sections 14.2 and 14.3 below.

### **13.2 GDPR (EEA and UK Users)**

This Section 13.2 applies only to natural persons residing in the European Economic

Area and the United Kingdom (for the purpose of this section only, "you" or "your" shall be limited accordingly). It is MMRN's policy to comply with the EEA's General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR). In accordance with the GDPR, we may transfer your personal information from your home country to the U.S. (or other countries) based upon the following legal bases:

- **Legitimate business interests:** We could not provide our services or comply with our legal obligations without transferring your personal information to the U.S.

- **Model Clauses:** Our use of Standard Contractual Clauses (also known as "Model Clauses") where appropriate.

- **You have the right to:** opt out of non-essential cookies (see our Cookie Policy); access, correct, delete, restrict, or object to our use of your personal information; be forgotten; port User Data; and withdraw consents. We enable exercise of these rights primarily through our services (which we reserve the right to modify). For example, we allow users to change their information and close their accounts. We also fulfil our obligations in response to direct requests. We will endeavor to process requests within one month. Please note that we may not be able to comply with requests to the extent that they would cause us to violate any law or infringe any other person's rights. We reserve the right to request appropriate identification. We will process requests free of charge unless they would impose an unreasonable cost on us.

- **Contact Us:** If you have a request, complaint or inquiry, please contact our Data Protection Officer at the address listed in Section 15. We are committed to working with you to obtain a fair resolution of any issue. You also have the right to file a complaint with the supervisory data protection authority of your jurisdiction.

### 13.3 California Users

Under California's "Shine the Light" law, California residents have the right to opt out of disclosing information to third parties for the purpose of allowing such third parties to directly market their products and services. At this time, we do not engage in this type of disclosure.

Under the California Consumer Privacy Act ("CCPA"), California consumers have the following rights, which can be exercised directly or in certain cases, through an authorized agent:

- **Right to Know:** You have the right to request information about the categories and sources of personal information we collect, our purposes for collecting the information, and the types of third parties that receive that information. Details about our data collection, use and third-party disclosures are described above in this privacy policy. In addition, you have the right to request a copy of your personal information. You may exercise this right once per 12-month period by contacting us at the contact information in Section 15.

- **Right to Delete:** You have the right to request that we delete some or all of the personal information that we have about you. Deleting all data will typically require the removal of your account, along with all User Data. Notwithstanding the foregoing, we may retain information to provide services you have used, honor opt-outs, prevent fraud, spam, and other abuse, comply with our legal obligations, cooperate with law enforcement, and to exercise and defend our rights. You may exercise your right to delete by contacting us at the contact

information in Section 15.

- **Non-Discrimination:** We won't discriminate against you because you exercise any rights herein.

To exercise your rights to know and delete, we must be able to verify your identity as the owner of the registered MMRN account you are inquiring about. We may not be able to fulfill your request until we can do so. In general, we verify identity by confirming that you are the owner of the email address associated with the account or profile. An authorized agent submitting a request on your behalf must also have access to the email address associated with the account or profile, along with sufficient evidence that you have authorized that person to submit the request on your behalf. Although you need not have a MMRN account or profile to submit a request, we may not be able to locate certain information to process your request if you don't have one.

#### 14. MMRN Cookie Policy

MMRN uses cookies and similar tracking technologies on this website. By using this website, you consent to the placement and use of cookies and similar technologies on your computer or mobile device.

- **Cookie Basics:** A cookie is a small text file that is stored in your web browser that allows MMRN or a third party to recognize you using a unique identifier.
- **Who sets the Cookies:** First-party cookies are set by MMRN. Third-party cookies are set by companies other than MMRN, such as analytics providers and advertisers.
- **What they do:** "Essential" cookies enable services we offer. "Non-essential" cookies help us understand how our services are being used (i.e., analytics) and deliver advertisements. Some cookies may track you across multiple websites you visit (including ones not operated by us) to help deliver advertisements that may be relevant to you.
- **How long they last:** Cookies may be either "session" or "persistent." A session cookie expires (i.e., is deleted) when you close your browser. A persistent cookie remains until it expires or you delete the cookies via your browser settings. Expiration dates are set in the cookies themselves and may vary in length, depending on the purpose of the cookie.

**Cookies Found on MMRN Services:** When you visit this website, MMRN and third parties will set cookies in your browser. MMRN sets essential cookies to enable certain features and remember your preferences. Third parties set cookies for both essential and non-essential purposes including analytics (e.g., Google Analytics) and advertising (e.g., Facebook). These third parties may use cookies, web beacons, and other storage technologies to collect or receive information from our websites and elsewhere on the internet and use that information to provide measurement services and target ads.

**Changing Your Cookie Preferences:** You may limit the cookies set in your browser by taking the steps described below. Note that declining cookies may impact your ability to use our services.

- **Browser settings:** You may change your browser's settings to delete cookies that have already been set and to reject new cookies. Please visit the website of your internet browser provider to learn how to configure your browser to meet your configuration preferences regarding cookies. You may also visit our sites in your browser's "private" or "incognito" mode, in which case cookies will be set, but deleted when you close your

browser.

- EU users: Users located in the EU may adjust their preferences in their Cookie Settings.
- Third party advertising opt-outs: Certain third parties provide ways to opt out of advertising cookies across multiple sites. You can learn more by visiting the sites of the Network Advertising Initiative (<https://optout.networkadvertising.org>) or the Digital Advertising Alliance (<https://www.aboutads.info>). In addition, there are third party plug-ins and apps that help manage cookies.
- Google cookies: Google provides ways to manage or opt out certain of its advertising cookies (<https://adssettings.google.com>) and analytics cookies (<https://tools.google.com/dlpage/gaoptout>). You may read Google's Privacy Policy at <https://policies.google.com/privacy>.

**Similar Technologies:** We may use technologies that resemble cookies to help track user activities and preferences. For example, we may use web beacons (tiny graphics with a unique identifier embedded on web pages or emails) to track your activities and communicate with cookies. You cannot opt out of web beacons used on webpages, but you can limit their use by opting out of the cookies they interact with. You can opt out of web beacons used in emails by setting your email client to render emails in text mode only.

## 15. How to Contact Us

For any questions, inquiries, or complaints relating to your privacy, please contact us at:

Marine Mammal Research Network, LLC  
Attention: Officer in charge of Data Protection for MMRN Website  
2875 SE Bibb Ct.  
Port Saint Lucie, FL 34984  
[contact@marinemammalresearch.org](mailto:contact@marinemammalresearch.org)