

MasterChef Audit

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A Vulnerability Rating Scale

01 | Executive Summary

Overview

PancakeSwap engaged OtterSec to perform an assessment of the MasterChef program. This assessment was conducted between November 8th and November 13th, 2022.

Critical vulnerabilities were communicated to the team prior to the delivery of the report to speed up remediation. After delivering our audit report, we worked closely with the team to streamline patches and confirm remediation. We delivered final confirmation of the patches November 15th, 2022.

Key Findings

Over the course of this audit engagement, we produced 5 findings total.

In particular, there was an issue with reward distribution if pools are not updated with upkeep (OS-MAS-ADV-00).

We also made recommendations around clean coding practices and general security recommendations. These recommendations serve to clarify the purpose and logic of functions in the program and can help prevent future security vulnerabilities stemming from misunderstanding or needlessly entangled code.

Overall, the Pancake Swap team was responsive to feedback and great to work with.

02 | **Scope**

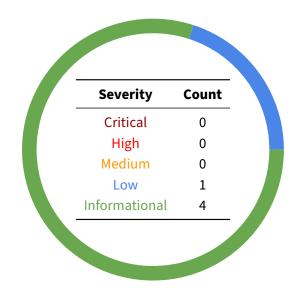
The source code was delivered to us in a git repository at github.com/pancakeswap/aptos-contracts. This audit was performed against commit 430e3e9.

Name	Description
MasterChef	A staking contract for providing liquidity and rewarding those providers.

03 | Findings

Overall, we report 5 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 don't have an immediate impact but will help mitigate 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-MAS-ADV-00	Low	Resolved	Reward distribution can have accounting issues if there is a time gap between pool update and upkeep

OS-MAS-ADV-00 [low] [resolved] | Accounting Issues In Reward Distribution

Description

For accurate reward distribution, pools need to be updated before calling upkeep. However, updating is optional with with_update to avoid reaching a gas limit. When there is a time gap between the upkeep and pool update functions being called, there can be small accounting issues with not enough rewards.



Proof of Concept

If there is a one second gap in between upkeep and update_pool being called, more reward than exists is accounted for.

Remediation

We recommend adding a last_upkeep_timestamp.

Patch

Reward calculations is now

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 antipatterns and could lead to security issues in the future.

ID	Description
OS-MAS-SUG-00	Validate asset from pool table instead of helper function
OS-MAS-SUG-01	Cake transfer should abort on violation.
OS-MAS-SUG-02	Upkeep admin can set end_timestamp to be U64_MAX and therefore rewards to zero.
OS-MAS-SUG-03	set_pool mutates pool reward allocations, but the order of operations can be changed to avoid overflow

OS-MAS-SUG-00 | Validate From LP Table Instead Of Helper Function

Description

Both deposit and withdraw use the function is_valid_lp to validate that a token exists. We recommend validating lp against master_chef_mut.lp_to_pid instead.



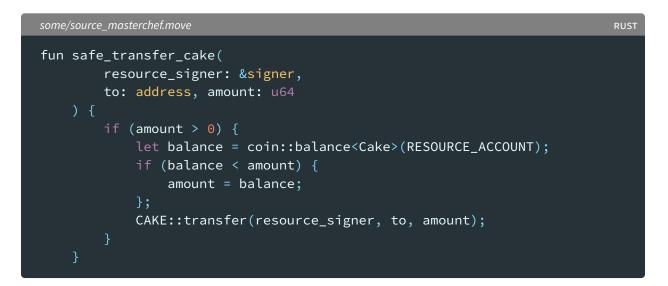
Remediation



OS-MAS-SUG-01 | CAKE Transfer Should Abort On Violation

Description

During CAKE distribution, safe_transfer_cake checks the balance of Cake is greater than or equal to the amount withdrawn. If this condition is violated, we recommend aborting, rather than silently lowering the amount to the balance.



Remediation

PancakeSwap acknowledged that this condition should never be violated.

$OS\text{-}MAS\text{-}SUG\text{-}02 \mid \textbf{Safeguard Upkeep Footgun Over Changing MasterChef Life}$

Description

An upkeep admin can set elapsed and therefore end_timestamp of MasterChef to U64_MAX. This would cause cake_per_second and reward distribution to be zero.

Remediation

Enforce a reasonable limit to elapsed, and/or allow admin to update end_timestamp.



OS-MAS-SUG-03 | Change Order Of Operations In Set Pool

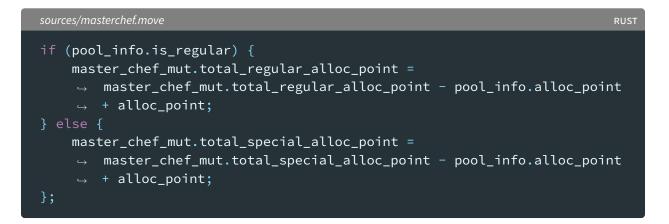
Description

The function set_pool mutates the total allocation points, but the order can be optimized to prevent overflow.

sources/masterchef.move	RUST
if (pool_info.is_regular) { master_chef_mut.total_regular_alloc_point =	
} else {	
master_chef_mut.total_special_alloc_point = → master_chef_mut.total_special_alloc_point + alloc_point -	
\rightarrow pool_info.alloc_point;	
};	

Remediation

The order of operations was updated to subtract before adding.



$A \mid$ Vulnerability Rating Scale

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

Examples:
 Misconfigured authority or access control validation Improperly designed economic incentives leading to loss of funds
Vulnerabilities that could lead to 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
Vulnerabilities that could lead to denial of service scenarios or degraded usability.
Examples:
 Malicious input that causes computational limit exhaustion Forced exceptions in normal user flow
Low probability vulnerabilities which could still be exploitable but require extenuating circumstances or undue risk.
Examples:
Oracle manipulation with large capital requirements and multiple transactions
Best practices to mitigate future security risks. These are classified as general findings.
Examples:
Explicit assertion of critical internal invariantsImproved input validation