



Marine Management Organisation

Privacy Notice

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The Marine Management Organisation is the controller for the personal data we collect. Our [personal information charter](#) explains more about what you can expect when we process your personal data, your rights, and how to contact us or make a complaint.

VESSEL MONITORING – VMS PRIVACY NOTICE

This privacy notice tells you what to expect us to do with your personal information when MMO collects it in relation to the vessel monitoring of over 12m fishing vessels.

The system is jointly managed by UK Fisheries Administrations (UKFAs).

Purpose for processing – why we are collecting your personal data

MMO collects information to verify that UK fishing vessels of 12 metre and above have a satellite tracking device (Vessel Monitoring System, or 'VMS') installed that sends positional data every 2 hours to the UK VMS Hub in accordance with Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 404/2011.

VMS data may also be used for, but not limited to, the following purposes:

- Supporting the aim of sustainable fishing practices
- Monitoring compliance
- Marine conservation
- Safety and security
- Research and analysis
- Informed decision-making

What personal data is collected

MMO collects vessel positional data in Latitude, Longitude, Course and Speed, as transmitted every 2 hours to the UK VMS Hub.

How your personal data has been obtained

MMO has obtained this data from the VMS tracking device, which is subsequently forwarded to UK VMS Hub.

Why we are able to process your personal data

The lawful basis for processing your data to is that it is necessary for the performance of a task carried out in the public interest, which is laid down by law, the Council Regulation (EU) 1224/2009 and Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 404/2011. The task is ensuring that fishing vessels of 12 metre and above have a satellite tracking device (Vessel Monitoring System (VMS) installed that sends positional data in Latitude, Longitude, Course and Speed every 2 hours to the UK VMS Hub.

Consent to process your personal data

The processing of your personal data is not based on consent. You cannot withdraw it.

Who we share your personal data with

The system is jointly owned and managed by UK Fisheries Administrations consisting of:

- Marine Management Organisation
- Marine Directorate (Scotland)
- Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (Northern Ireland)
- Department of Environment, Food and Agriculture (Isle of Man)
- Welsh Government

The UK Fisheries Administrations, Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authorities (IFCAs), UK Border Force, have visibility of your positional data. This access is underpinned by the Regulators Code.

Your data will be made available, on request, to the UK coastguard for search and rescue purposes. We may also share positional reports on request with UK Fisheries Monitoring Centre for monitoring and enforcement purposes, or other

agencies including but not limited to UK Police, HM Revenue & Customs, UK Border Force, Royal Navy and National Crime Agency.

Your positional data may also be published or disclosed in an anonymous and/or aggregated form, to other organisations, bodies or persons for other purposes, including scientific research.

We also share VMS data with the following organisations:

- Centre for Environment, Fisheries and Aquaculture Science (Cefas) for scientific research and stock assessment.
- National Maritime Information Centre (NMIC) to enhance the UK's overall maritime development, safety, security and resilience. NMIC is a component of the Joint Maritime Security Centre (JMSC).
- Maritime and Coastguard Agency (MCA) for safety at sea, search and rescue activities and environmental protection

Your data may also be disclosed to MMO's authorised agents, other fisheries departments in the UK, crown dependencies, other government departments and agencies, relevant authorities in the European Commission, other Member States and third countries.

In the event that your VMS device stops functioning, MMO will seek to inform the skipper or the owner. Your contact details may therefore be shared with the device supplier AST to diagnose the issue with the skipper or owner, to resolve the issue over the air instead of removing your device for repair or replacement.

MMO will only share your personal data where we are legally permitted to do so.

MMO respects your personal privacy when responding to access to information requests. We only share information when necessary to meet the statutory requirements of the Environmental Information Regulations 2004 and the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

How long we are keeping your personal data

MMO will keep your personal data in line with our data protection policy and retention schedule. We will only hold and process your data for so long as is necessary for the fulfilment of our stated purposes or when legally required to do so.

Please refer to our [Personal Information Charter](#) and the section 'How long we will keep data' for information on any potential exceptions.

Use of automated decision-making or profiling

The personal data you provide is not used for:

- automated decision making (making a decision by automated means without any human involvement)
- profiling (automated processing of personal data to evaluate certain things about an individual)

What happens if you do not provide the personal data

Failure to provide your positional data could result in further action being taken in-line with the MMO's [compliance enforcement strategy](#).

Transfer of your personal data outside of the United Kingdom

Where necessary, we may transfer or store personal information outside the UK to another country or Crown Dependency that is deemed adequate for data protection purposes. This means that the country or Crown Dependency has equivalent levels of data protection to that of the UK.

[Adequacy | ICO](#)

For example, we may share your personal information outside of the UK to the Marine Resources and Fisheries department of the Government of Jersey. The transfer complies with UK data protection law due to Adequacy Regulations.

MMO may also in some circumstances transfer data to other countries without an adequacy agreement, having first taken all precautions to ensure that it was safe to do so, complying with the terms of the UK GDPR by making sure [appropriate safeguards](#) are in place.

Where necessary, our data processors may share personal information outside of the UK. When doing so, they comply with the UK GDPR, making sure [appropriate safeguards](#) are in place.

Your rights

Based on the lawful processing above, your individual rights are:

Public Task

- The right to be informed
- The right of access
- The right to rectification
- The right to restrict processing
- The right to object

- Rights in relation to automated decision making and profiling

Read our [Personal Information Charter](#) to find out about your rights under the UK General Data Protection Regulation (UK GDPR) and the Data Protection Act 2018 (DPA 2018).

How to contact us or make a complaint

Read our [Personal Information Charter](#) to find our contact details, or how to make a complaint about our use of your personal data.