

1 Introduction

1.1 The purpose of these terms and conditions is to provide Vincent Wildlife Trust (VWT) with clear authority to make use of environmental records submitted to the National Pine Marten Monitoring Programme (Marten Map) via VWT's online recording systems and to set out our policy on sharing and use of the data we receive and hold, so that contributors to Marten Map can understand how their data will be used and made available to others.

1.2 VWT collects and manages data and images collected or collated by individuals, groups, and public and private organisations. The data may have been collected from an incidental encounter, a one-off survey, a series of surveys over time, or a long-term monitoring programme. Data includes pine marten and other species records collected from den boxes, trail cameras, scat collection or sightings.

2 Our aims and objectives

2.1 VWT is a mammal conservation charity registered in England which has been at the forefront of efforts to restore self-sustaining populations of pine martens in England and Wales since the 1980s. Among VWT's charitable aims is the advancement of the conservation of threatened mammals through a greater understanding of their ecology.

2.2 VWT has established Marten Map to inform conservation managers working on the recovery of pine martens in Britain. VWT collects pine marten field data from volunteers, citizen scientists, conservation projects, wildlife groups and organisations and aims to make that data available for the purpose of supporting conservation work, education, research, and not-for-profit decision making, in a way that does not compromise the privacy of individuals or the security of sensitive areas and wildlife.

2.3 Biodiversity data can come in many different forms, but for the purposes of Marten Map, data comprises:

- reported records of a particular species (most commonly, pine marten *Martes martes*), or taxonomic group of species (eg, deer) at a specific spatial reference, and including a time and date reference, the lifecycle stage and sex of the species, as well as details of how the record was collected;
- metadata associated with the record, which may include the name [and contact details] of the recorder, the project or organisation to which they are associated, and the name of the surveyor (if different from the recorder);
- images or recordings captured (eg, from a camera).

3 Submitting data

3.1 Data can be submitted to Marten Map via the following methods:

- data captured by way of a survey set up for that purpose should be submitted via the Survey123 online pine marten monitoring survey form;
- incidental observations of live or dead pine martens or pine marten scat can be submitted using the public Survey123 form at (<https://arcgis.is/L1fG0>);
- with the prior agreement of VWT only, data provided in bulk can be submitted to VWT in a spreadsheet in the approved format.

3.2 Please read the [Marten Map user guidance](#) before submitting your data via the Survey123 online pine marten monitoring survey form.

3.3 Your data remains your property, and you have the right to request the removal of any of your records from the Marten Map database.

3.4 By providing data to Marten Map, you are saying that:

- the content is yours, or you have the permission of the owner to agree to the content being used and shared in the way allowed under these terms;
- you have the permission of every individual whose personal information (such as name) you are submitting; and
- you agree that your records may be validated and verified by our staff or volunteers, who may contact you in connection with those records, and may amend your records as a result.

3.5 You must ensure that any data supplied to Marten Map is accurate and complete, and that any records have been collected legally.

3.6 You must tell VWT – and provide the necessary details – if you become aware of any:

- change in copyright ownership; or
- any significant errors that would affect the validity of the data; or
- any confidentiality, privacy or data protection issues relating to the data that you have submitted.
- withdrawal of permission on any data to be shared or used in the ways set out in these terms that you have submitted but which is owned by someone else.

3.7 All records are validated (checked for ‘completeness’ and accuracy of transmission), and verified (ensuring the accuracy of the identification of the species or information being recorded) by VWT before they are included in VWT’s database of records.

3.8 By submitting data to Marten Map, you grant VWT a non-exclusive licence in perpetuity to store, process, use and distribute that data as set out below in Section 4 – Use of your data.

4 Use of your data

4.1 VWT believes that biodiversity data should be easily accessible to enable their use for not-for-profit decision-making, education, research and other public-benefit purposes. VWT may use your data for diverse purposes such as scientific research, conservation, education, and the arts.

4.2 VWT will not use or share your data in a way that it believes is against the public interest or could cause damage to wildlife or the environment.

4.3 VWT may copy or export your data to different formats to help with management and accessibility.

4.4 VWT may combine your data with data from other sources and may use it to produce original material, such as maps or diagrams, which may be published or included in publicly available materials. Records made public are published at a resolution which maintains the confidentiality of precise survey locations.

5 Sharing your data

5.1 VWT is committed to protecting your privacy and security. Personal data is used only in accordance with our Privacy Policy, which is available to view at pinemartens.uk/privacy-policy.

5.2 VWT may share your verified records or material derived from your data with other organisations or people to further scientific, educational or conservation aims, and grant licences to others to use the data. However, it does not sell data for commercial purposes.

5.3 In order to protect sensitive sites, the precise location of records may be obscured before sharing or publishing the data.

5.4 National Biodiversity Network Atlas (NBN Atlas)

Verified pine marten records from Marten Map are shared to the NBN Atlas on a regular (usually annual) basis. From there, the records are made available to a number of other websites via the NBN web services, and to an international audience via the Global Biodiversity Information Framework (GBIF). The location of records is provided at a 1km resolution only. Each record only details the recorded presence of a pine marten within a 1km square. No personal information will be shared with NBN Atlas.

5.5 VWT may restrict access to certain data submitted to Marten Map for the following reasons:

- 5.5.1** if the release of that data is likely to increase the risk of environmental damage or put protected or sensitive species at risk;
- 5.5.2** if the release of that data is likely to jeopardise the supply of data and collation of future data resources;
- 5.5.3** if the data provider has requested that certain data or information is withheld, either permanently or temporarily. For example, where data may be commercially sensitive, or where the data is under preparation prior to publication, or where data is subject to a data exchange agreement with conditions that restrict its use and sharing; or
- 5.5.4** if the data contains personal information.

6 Photos and videos

6.1 Images and videos provided to Marten Map will be used for verification purposes only and will not be used for other purposes or shared with third parties except with your express consent.

6.2 From time-to-time images and videos may be used for social media or promotion purposes but express consent will be sought.

7 Changes to these terms

These terms may be updated from time to time (current version is June 2025). The latest version will always be available at [Martens on the Move | National Pine Marten Monitoring](#).