Privacy Impact Assessment
APHIS ServiceNow System

Policy, E-Government and Fair Information Practices

Version: 1.3
Date: April 13, 2021
Prepared for: USDA OCIO-Policy, E-Government and Fair Information Practices (PE&F)
Privacy Impact Assessment for the
APHIS ServiceNow System
April 13, 2021

Contact Point
M. Brandon Peach
Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service
(919) 855-7139

Reviewing Official
Tonya Woods, APHIS Privacy Act Officer
United States Department of Agriculture
(301) 851-4076

Chief Privacy Office
Office of Chief Information Office
United States Department of Agriculture
Abstract

This Privacy Impact Assessment (PIA) is for the USDA, Animal and Plant Health Inspection ServiceNow System. The ServiceNow Software as a Service (SaaS) provides Information Technology Service Management (ITSM) capabilities. The PIA was conducted because the ServiceNow SaaS has the potential to store personally identifiable information (PII) within the cloud provided solution.

Overview

The Animal and Plant Health Inspection Services (APHIS) of the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) is charged with protecting the health and value of American agriculture and natural resources from the introduction of destructive plant and animal diseases and pests. These efforts support the overall mission to protect and promote agriculture and natural resources. The purpose of the ServiceNow SaaS is to provide complete ITSM capabilities to federal and non-federal employees working to fulfill the mission of inspecting and protecting animal and plant materials within the United States.

Marketing and Regulatory Programs Business Services (MRPBS) is located within APHIS, which is the lead agency in providing administrative support for Marketing and Regulatory Programs (MRP). MRPBS has several divisions which address a variety of employee and customer needs: to provide administrative support services in the area of budget, finance, human resources, information technology, procurement, emergency incident management, property management, and related administrative services.

This PIA is being created for the APHIS ServiceNow instance which is a cloud provided solution.

Section 1.0 Characterization of the Information

The following questions are intended to define the scope of the information requested and/or collected as well as reasons for its collection as part of the program, system, rule, or technology being developed.

1.1 What information is collected, used, disseminated, or maintained in the system?

APHIS ServiceNow collects workstation (computer, tablet, server names) name, email address, contact numbers, general location (i.e. State or Intl.) and if the data is coming from a Government employee or someone from the general public in order to get IT service.
1.2 What are the sources of the information in the system?

Information sources for the system include user-generated data from fullfillers and users participating in the various business process hosted on the MRP ServiceNow platform as well as automated imports for User data from the USDA Enterprise Active Directory (EAD).

1.3 Why is the information being collected, used, disseminated, or maintained?

The data is being collected in order to provide helpdesk services to the customer for various APHIS and AMS-owned applications, as well as managing operations and business management processes internal to MRP Information Technology Branch. The information may be used to create reports and other files related to customer query and problem response; query monitoring; and customer feedback records; and related trend analysis and reporting.

1.4 How is the information collected?

APHIS and Agriculture Marketing Service (AMS) affiliated information come from the Enterprise Active Directory (EAD). Non-APHIS affiliated information is provided by the customer via emailed or provided over the phone to the helpdesk personnel. Configuration items are imported into the ServiceNow system manually by manual process.

1.5 How will the information be checked for accuracy?

APHIS and AMS affiliated data is validated against EAD regularly and non-APHIS or AMS affiliated is verified manually each time a user calls in or an issue is discovered. When data is provided via email the data is entered into the Service Desk solution as provided by the customer and is not checked for accuracy.

When the data is provided over the phone, the only validation of the data happens when the information about the customer’s contact information is automatically pulled directly from Active Directory when the correct customer is selected in the search box.

For e-Authentication (eAuth) related system access and transactions, eAuth does this externally.

1.6 What specific legal authorities, arrangements, and/or agreements defined the collection of information?

MRP ServiceNow has been established to support MRP APHIS and AMS agency programs through agreement between MRP IT. Authority to conduct these processes are supported in the following legal authorities:


c. OMB Circular A-130: Managing Information as a Strategic Resource

d. OMB Circular A-119: Federal Participation in the Development and Use of Voluntary Consensus Standards and in Conformity Assessment Activities

e. OMB M-11-29


1.7 Privacy Impact Analysis: Given the amount and type of data collected, discuss the privacy risks identified and how they were mitigated.

The primary privacy risk was the unauthorized disclosure of employee and other personal data, as identified in Section 1.3. Privacy rights of the employees and external parties/persons will be protected by USDA, APHIS and MRPBS management by the following means:
- Designated technician shall have access to the data in the system is controlled by formal authorization. Each individual’s supervisor must identify (authorize) what functional roles that individual needs in the APHIS ServiceNow instance.
- All access to the system is controlled by the USDA eAuth. No action can be performed without first authenticating into the system.
- Application limits access to relevant information by assigned application functions to roles. This prevents access to unauthorized information.

The USDA eAuth warning banner must be acknowledged at application login.

Section 2.0 Uses of the Information

The following questions are intended to delineate clearly the use of information and the accuracy of the data being used.

2.1 Describe all the uses of information.

The information is only used as contact information in order to provide service to the customer. Configuration information is used to assist customers or other IT service management function

2.2 What types of tools are used to analyze data and what type of data may be produced?

Not Applicable – no special tools are used.
2.3 If the system uses commercial or publicly available data please explain why and how it is used.

Not Applicable.

2.4 Privacy Impact Analysis: Describe any types of controls that may be in place to ensure that information is handled in accordance with the above described uses.

The APHIS ServiceNow instance is protected through the user of eAuth/ADFS and LincPass.

Section 3.0 Retention

The following questions are intended to outline how long information will be retained after the initial collection.

3.1 How long is information retained?

APHIS is proposing to retain information/records. Items are retained per the General Records Schedule (GRS) 24: Information Technology Operation and Management Records, with one set of records following a newly established schedule. Records are destroyed based on the subject matter. http://www.archives.gov/records-mgmt/grs.html

The data is retained as per specified for system backup and tape libraries. Data is backed up as a monthly full backup, with daily incremental backups, and then superseded by the next full backup. System Data is retained for based on the type of data. User records are retained in operation for a minimum of three years prior to being archived. System logs are retained indefinitely in a on-premise server. Records dealing with processes occurring on the MRP ServiceNow instance are retained indefinitely in the ServiceNow instance or instance archive. Data archives are retained indefinitely.

3.2 Has the retention period been approved by the component records officer and the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA)?

The scheduling of the records retention schedule has not been approved by NARA. The request has been submitted and pending approval since April 2019.

3.3 Privacy Impact Analysis: Please discuss the risks associated with the length of time data is retained and how those risks are mitigated.

The data in the system is used for administrative purposes. The PII collected is minimum and no risk had been identified related to the use of the data.
Section 4.0 Internal Sharing and Disclosure

The following questions are intended to define the scope of sharing within the United States Department of Agriculture.

4.1 With which internal organization(s) is the information shared, what information is shared and for what purpose?

Not Applicable

4.2 How is the information transmitted or disclosed?

Not Applicable

4.3 Privacy Impact Analysis: Considering the extent of internal information sharing, discuss the privacy risks associated with the sharing and how they were mitigated.

Not Applicable

Section 5.0 External Sharing and Disclosure

The following questions are intended to define the content, scope, and authority for information sharing external to USDA which includes Federal, state and local government, and the private sector.

5.1 With which external organization(s) is the information shared, what information is shared, and for what purpose?

Not Applicable: No data is shared outside of USDA.

5.2 Is the sharing of personally identifiable information outside the Department compatible with the original collection? If so, is it covered by an appropriate routine use in a SORN? If so, please describe. If not, please describe under what legal mechanism the program or system is allowed to share the personally identifiable information outside of USDA.

Not Applicable

5.3 How is the information shared outside the Department and what security measures safeguard its transmission?

Not Applicable
5.4 Privacy Impact Analysis: Given the external sharing, explain the privacy risks identified and describe how they were mitigated.

Not Applicable

Section 6.0 Notice

The following questions are directed at notice to the individual of the scope of information collected, the right to consent to uses of said information, and the right to decline to provide information.

6.1 Does this system require a SORN and if so, please provide SORN name and URL.

No SORN is required under the Privacy Act.

6.2 Was notice provided to the individual prior to collection of information?

There is no notification provided to the individual prior to the collection of the information because the potential data, if any, is provided on a voluntary basis by the callers to the helpdesk.

6.3 Do individuals have the opportunity and/or right to decline to provide information?

Yes, providing personal information is at the discretion of the customer leaving contact information.

6.4 Do individuals have the right to consent to particular uses of the information? If so, how does the individual exercise the right?

Yes, users have the right to provide or not provide required information. If the individual refused to provide required information, then the system will not continue processing the customer’s request.

6.5 Privacy Impact Analysis: Describe how notice is provided to individuals, and how the risks associated with individuals being unaware of the collection are mitigated.

All users who access the APHIS ServiceNow application are presented with the standard USDA warning banner that must be acknowledged prior to logging into the system.
Section 7.0 Access, Redress and Correction

The following questions are directed at an individual’s ability to ensure the accuracy of the information collected about them.

7.1 What are the procedures that allow individuals to gain access to their information?

Through the APHIS ServiceNow Self-Service Portal, customers can see part of their profile and can notify us of changes. APHIS employees can update their information through self-service tools provided by USDA-OCIO Client Experience Center (CEC) which updates the USDA Enterprise Active Directory (EAD). Those changes would be pushed down to their APHIS ServiceNow profile.

7.2 What are the procedures for correcting inaccurate or erroneous information?

The customer is contacted to correct the email address. Phone numbers are verified whenever a customer calls in. The data is checked for accuracy by the customer when entering ticket information into the service desk solution. Information about internal customers’ contact information is automatically pulled directly from Active Directory when the correct customer is selected in the search box. For eAuthentication related system access and transactions, eAuthentication does this externally, and is not part of the APHIS Enterprise Infrastructure (AEI) boundary.

7.3 How are individuals notified of the procedures for correcting their information?

User information for customers internal to the USDA are updated automatically by the USDA Enterprise Active Directory. These customers are notified by the USDA Office of the Chief Information Officer (OCIO) of their ability to update their information via self-service options hosted on the USDA OCIO Client Experience Center (CEC) Digital Workspace. External customers are able to update their information via the APHIS or AMS HelpDesk they contact for support. Customers receive automated notifications supplying them with information on whom to contact for assistance.

7.4 If no formal redress is provided, what alternatives are available to the individual?

See 7.1 comment and/or submit a Privacy Act request.
7.5 **Privacy Impact Analysis:** Please discuss the privacy risks associated with the redress available to individuals and how those risks are mitigated.

There is no identified risk associated with the redress.

Section 8.0 Technical Access and Security

The following questions are intended to describe technical safeguards and security measures.

8.1 **What procedures are in place to determine which users may access the system and are they documented?**

APHIS implements a Rules of Behavior (ROB) for which all users must consent prior to being granted systems credentials for access. The system inherits the USDA implementation of User Security Awareness training which is provided annually by the Department.

8.2 **Will Department contractors have access to the system?**

Yes

8.3 **Describe what privacy training is provided to users either generally or specifically relevant to the program or system?**

APHIS Marketing and Regulatory Programs Business Services (MRPBS), under the information Systems Security Manager (ISSM) staff, administers and tracks APHIS Security & Privacy training. Training is required annually and the records are maintained as part of office documentation for employees and contractors.

8.4 **Has Certification & Accreditation been completed for the system or systems supporting the program?**

Yes, the Assessment & Authorization was granted on February 24, 2016.

8.5 **What auditing measures and technical safeguards are in place to prevent misuse of data?**

All users are required to have an individual user account (level 2 eAuth account) as well as a user account within APHIS ServiceNow to access the system. Defined user roles and record access controls provide appropriate access to data. Administrators regularly audit access.
8.6 **Privacy Impact Analysis:** Given the sensitivity and scope of the information collected, as well as any information sharing conducted on the system, what privacy risks were identified and how do the security controls mitigate them?

Not Applicable

Section 9.0 Technology

The following questions are directed at critically analyzing the selection process for any technologies utilized by the system, including system hardware and other technology.

**9.1 What type of project is the program or system?**

The APHIS ServiceNow instance is a platform-as-a-service offering (managed, hosted service) that includes all required hardware, network, software, user administration, system / application monitoring, maintenance / administration and other required management activities to automate the following IT enterprise support functions:

- Change Management.
- Release & Deployment Management;
- Service desk (incident management);
- Problem management;
- Knowledge management;
- Service request and service catalog; and,
- Service Asset & Configuration Management; Hardware and Software Asset Management.

**9.2 Does the project employ technology which may raise privacy concerns? If so please discuss their implementation.**

The system does not utilize any technologies that would raise the privacy concerns.

Section 10.0 Third Party Websites/Applications

The following questions are directed at critically analyzing the privacy impact of using third party websites and/or applications.

**10.1 Has the System Owner (SO) and/or Information Systems Security Program Manager (ISSPM) reviewed Office of Management and**
Budget (OMB) memorandums M-10-22 “Guidance for Online Use of Web Measurement and Customization Technology” and M-10-23 “Guidance for Agency Use of Third-Party Websites and Applications”?

Yes

10.2 What is the specific purpose of the agency’s use of 3rd party websites and/or applications?

3rd party websites and applications are not being used in conjunction with the MRP APHIS ServiceNow Platform as a Service.

10.3 What personally identifiable information (PII) will become available through the agency’s use of 3rd party websites and/or applications.

PII collected in the system includes Name, Address, and contact information (Phone, email, etc.) is either collected automatically for the internal user/employee from the USDA Enterprise Active directory or volunteered by the external customer or member of the public. This information is not shared external to the MRP ServiceNow Platform via 3rd party application or website.

10.4 How will the PII that becomes available through the agency’s use of 3rd party websites and/or applications be used?

Not applicable

10.5 How will the PII that becomes available through the agency’s use of 3rd party websites and/or applications be maintained and secured?

This information is maintained and accessed only by those who have a distinct role granted to them by the MRP ServiceNow Administrator and the customer themselves via public facing web portal. This information is encrypted at rest and in transit which being completely contained withing the ServiceNow FedRAMP HI government community cloud and not shared outside of the MRP APHIS ServiceNow platform.

10.6 Is the PII that becomes available through the agency’s use of 3rd party websites and/or applications purged periodically?

Not Applicable
10.7  Who will have access to PII that becomes available through the agency’s use of 3rd party websites and/or applications?

Not applicable

10.8  With whom will the PII that becomes available through the agency’s use of 3rd party websites and/or applications be shared - either internally or externally?

PII is only available for use in IT Service, Business, and Operations management processes within the MRP ServiceNow platform by authorized users.

10.9  Will the activities involving the PII that becomes available through the agency’s use of 3rd party websites and/or applications require either the creation or modification of a system of records notice (SORN)?

Not Applicable

10.10 Does the system use web measurement and customization technology?

No

10.11 Does the system allow users to either decline to opt-in or decide to opt-out of all uses of web measurement and customization technology?

Not Applicable

10.12 Privacy Impact Analysis: Given the amount and type of PII that becomes available through the agency’s use of 3rd party websites and/or applications, discuss the privacy risks identified and how they were mitigated.

Not Applicable PII stored within the MRP ServiceNow Platform is in not accessible from unlicensed users and not shared externally. Only trained, licensed fulfillers are allowed to access information that may be deemed PII. These fulfillers are only granted access to the system upon request to and approval by the system administrator(s) and governed by USDA Information Security, IT Rules of Behavior, and Privileged Access regulation and policy surrounding the use of PII. Customers are notified of the Terms and
Conditions of the usage of a government system at both the USDA eAuthentication and MRP ServiceNow at login screens

Responsible Officials

Approval Signature

Brandon Peach
System Owner – APHIS ServiceNow
Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service
United States Department of Agriculture

Preston Griffin
APHIS Information System Security Program Manager
Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service
United States Department of Agriculture

Tonya Woods
APHIS Privacy Act Officer
Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service
United States Department of Agriculture