

Terms of Use for the 'SWFSbase' BLAST Server

Last updated 24th February, 2026

The Society for Wildlife Forensic Sciences (SWFS) is committed to enhancing the capabilities of forensic laboratories globally in conducting wildlife-related forensic analysis. Recognizing the importance of access to a comprehensive and reliable database, SWFS has established the SWFSbase BLAST SERVER ("SWFSbase"), an extensive repository containing sequence data and comprehensive metadata to support taxonomic identification for wildlife forensic casework.

These Terms of Use represent a binding agreement between you, the User, and SWFS regarding your access to and utilization of the SWFSbase.

SWFSbase contains data originating from publicly available repositories (e.g. NCBI), and proprietary data owned by various contributing wildlife forensic laboratories. All proprietary data remain the property of the contributing laboratories, and publicly sourced data remain subject to the terms and conditions of their original repositories.

By signing this agreement, approved users commit to utilizing this data in compliance with the terms specified below.

SWFSbase Users:

SWFSbase users agree to use the data for the sole purpose of facilitation of wildlife forensic analysis for casework.

If users would like to use the data in research or for scientific publications they must meet one of the following criteria:

- The User has ownership of the original data.
- The User has written consent from the organization that owns the originally generated data to use the data in the User's scientific research.
- The data is already publicly available (e.g. it is available on NCBI).

The security of the user's login details for SWFSbase is the User's responsibility and any misuse linked to a particular user login will be considered the User's responsibility.

SWFSbase Contributors:

Participating laboratories may, but are not required to, submit data to SWFSbase through the designated submission workflow. SWFSbase contributors are valued for their commitment to enhancing the database and furthering its overall mission.

- Contributors acknowledge that sharing data exclusively for forensic identification and analysis, without involving research purposes, typically does not invoke data laws related to intellectual property. However, contributors agree to remain aware of and comply with any applicable laws governing the data they share with SWFSbase.

The Administrators of the SWFSbase possess the authority to oversee and enforce these Terms of Use. We reserve the right to amend or modify these Terms of Use at any time and for any reason. Users will be notified of any changes through updates to this Terms of Use document.

By signing this document, and when using the SWFSbase, you agree to abide by all Terms of Use described here.

Name: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Note: For the Terms and Conditions of the SequenceServer Cloud platform, please refer to: <https://sequencesserver.com/terms-and-conditions/>