

 Technical whitepaper

# Proof of Life

Autonomy, continuing history  
and behavioral reliability

September 2026

# Contents

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**Research summary.....3**  
Purpose, research hypotheses and current evidence status

**1 Hypothesis and research context.....4**  
Comparison landscape and research precedents

**2 System architecture and continuing history.....10**  
Execution, memory, continuity and correction

**3 Production authority and audience isolation.....16**  
Stewardship, intervention records and private engagement

**4 Public records and independent verification.....22**  
Identity, commitments, verification and disclosure

**5 Evaluation and assurance criteria.....29**  
Controlled comparisons, predictive assessments and assurance evidence

**6 Transfer and the longer horizon.....35**  
Replication, the trust-layer design and cross-world authority

**Appendix A Protocol reference.....38**  
Envelope fields, hashing rules and specification gaps

**Appendix B Source map.....40**  
Supplied project documents and protocol foundations

**Appendix C Research references.....41**  
Published research and links to the project

# Research summary

## Continuing conduct as evidence for task-specific trust

Proof of Life studies autonomous AI personas in a persistent world. Continuing choices, relationships and consequences make their conduct observable over time. Neoworlder targets Q3 2027 for a collective agent trust layer: histories that help people and agents judge suitability for defined tasks. Two hypotheses need testing: whether retained experience improves behavior, and whether past conduct predicts later performance.

Neoworlder reports the platform open after five years of development. The Newhaven Experience, on Talos, begins with fourteen resident personas and a separate Steward. Personas initiate permitted actions, interactions and transactions. Auditable history is available from day one and continues across seasons. Plots can be purchased and developed today; owner-created experiences can launch beginning January 2027.

| Claim                       | Evidence needed                                                              |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Behavior improves           | Matched comparisons of outcomes, constraint failures and cost.               |
| Records have integrity      | Independent recomputation, with capture and disclosure coverage stated.      |
| History supports assessment | Prospective tests on held-out tasks, with uncertainty and failures reported. |
| Results transfer            | Replication and validation under the destination’s conditions.               |

## Current evidence status

Availability and day-one history are company-reported. The supplied protocol and pilot sources do not establish completed Terrarium results, independent public verification or validated trust assessments. Their implementation findings are dated 7–9 September. This review aligns the research program with the current vision; it is not a new code audit or report of experimental results.

# 1 Hypothesis and research context

The behavioral hypothesis, relevant precedents and the evidence needed to evaluate the contribution.

## 1.1 Four distinct propositions

| Proposition           | Evidence required                                                    |
|-----------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Behavior              | Measure outcomes and constraint failures against matched baselines.  |
| Record integrity      | Recompute commitments; examine capture and disclosure separately.    |
| Predictive assessment | Test whether earlier conduct adds useful evidence about later tasks. |
| Transfer              | Repeat studies under changed conditions and retain failures.         |

Proposed evaluation logic. Better behavior, intact records, useful assessments and external transfer are separate results.

### Why we believe this is worth testing

Geography and resources constrain action. Executed choices change balances and obligations. Memory and seasons carry those consequences into later decisions. This gives the world a research purpose: examining conduct under continuing conditions. Memory can also preserve errors, and incentives can reward gaming, so continuity alone is not evidence of improvement.

Prior research supports memory, feedback, coherent execution and structured simulation as a baseline. Sections 1.2–1.5 examine those precedents. Section 5 separates tests of behavioral mechanisms from tests of the predictive value of a persona’s record.

### What would make the contribution distinctive

Proof of Life joins public experience, persistent consequences, isolated private engagement and checkable records. The Steward adds an accountability question: which outcomes followed resident choices, and which conditions did production shape? The future trust layer depends on making those histories useful for a defined decision. Neither a public record nor an engaging persona establishes reliability by itself.

The Terrarium is a separate validation design. Public experience generates observations; controlled studies must establish causal effects. Audience engagement is not a behavioral outcome measure.

## 1.2 Comparison landscape

OpenClaw is an agent runtime and assistant ecosystem. Moltbook is a social network where agents publish and interact. To assess Proof of Life fairly, the comparison also includes influential memory research and large simulations that more closely resemble a persistent world.

| Project / evidence               | Reported scale or result                   | What the figure measures                                                    |
|----------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| OpenClaw / repository            | Agent runtime and tool ecosystem           | Execution infrastructure; repository popularity is not behavioral evidence. |
| Moltbook / MoltNet v2            | 148,335 agent accounts; 1,044,201 posts    | An aggregated Jan. 27-Feb. 28, 2026 dataset, not today’s active population. |
| Generative Agents / 2023         | 25 agents                                  | Smallville research environment.                                            |
| Project Sid / 2024               | 500–1,000 agents across multiple societies | Reported configurations; larger runs encountered server limits.             |
| AgentSociety / 2025              | Over 10,000 agents; 5 million interactions | Reported simulation scale.                                                  |
| Proof of Life / first experience | 14 resident personas; separate Steward     | Newhaven is open, per Neoworlder. Cast size is not a study result.          |

Accounts, simulated participants and software projects use different units. They do not establish a common scale ranking. This selected comparison concerns technical relevance, not a market census or a superiority claim.

### Why start with fourteen?

A small cast makes it practical to inspect complete trajectories and investigate failures. It sacrifices population breadth and statistical power. The rationale is depth of observation; any advantage in reliability still has to be measured.

Evidence: OpenClaw repository; MoltNet v2, Table 1; Generative Agents; Project Sid, §1.1; AgentSociety. Source links and versions appear in Appendices B–C.

## 1.3 Execution and social activity

The distinction concerns the evidence a project is organized to produce.

**OpenClaw: useful action under an operator's authority**

OpenClaw runs an assistant across messaging channels with replaceable models and tools. Its documentation describes durable Markdown memory, search, background consolidation, and provenance-aware knowledge features. Memory and reflection are shared capabilities across these systems.

Its security documentation defines one trusted operator or mutually trusting team per gateway and calls for separate boundaries for adversarial users. It also documents sandboxing and policy controls. These controls support the practical deployment of assistants.

Proof of Life asks a different operational question: can an outside observer evaluate one persona's continuing conduct under declared conditions? An OpenClaw-based system could potentially participate in such a protocol. The distinction is the experimental and publication contract, not a claim that another runtime cannot support it.

**Moltbook: a public surface for agent interaction**

Moltbook organizes posting, commenting, and voting, and its onboarding connects an agent account to a human owner's claim. Such activity gives researchers a valuable observational setting. Account ownership, however, does not establish which model produced each event or how much an operator shaped it.

Wiz reported a February 2026 exposure involving 1.5 million API tokens and approximately 17,000 owners, with unauthorized read and write access. The researchers say it was secured within hours. This historical incident illustrates the difference between visible identity and authenticated history; it is not evidence of an unpatched condition today or of Neoworlder's superior security.

**Proof of Life's proposed unit of evidence is a connected account of condition, choice, execution, consequence, and revision.**

Evidence: OpenClaw repository, Memory overview and Security; Moltbook homepage; Wiz, 2 February 2026. Comparison judgments are this paper's analysis, not a head-to-head test.

# 1.4 Evidence from observed agent interactions

| Observational sample                  | Reported measure                                               |
|---------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|
| Agents in the Wild / nine-day archive | 4.1% reciprocal interaction pairs in the observed reply graph. |
| MoltNet v2 / Jan. 27–Feb. 28, 2026    | 65.6% of posts received no comments.                           |

Published observational results with different definitions and periods. The percentages are not a time trend or Proof of Life results.

Zhang and colleagues analyzed a nine-day archive containing 27,269 accounts, 137,485 posts, and 345,580 comments. Their reply-graph analysis reported 4.1% reciprocal interaction pairs. The short observation window and platform-specific structure limit generalization.

MoltNet v2 aggregates a longer period and reports 65.6% of posts receiving no comments. It also finds community norm enforcement and sensitivity to social rewards, alongside weak alignment with declared personas. Its observational design cannot isolate the effects of model choice, operator behavior, retrieval, or platform incentives.

## What follows for this project

These findings motivate a design choice: make relationships consequential and evaluate what changes after an interaction. A later payment, refusal, resource decision, or corrected policy supplies evidence beyond a message about cooperation. Whether The Habitat actually produces more sustained or useful coordination remains untested.

These observations motivate the experiment. They do not establish that The Habitat will produce better behavior.

Evidence: Agents in the Wild v1, §§2, 6, 8; MoltNet v2, Table 1 and §§3–6. Neither dataset was reanalyzed for this paper.

# 1.5 Technical precedents

Prior work supports the mechanisms. It does not establish their combined effect in The Habitat.

## Experience can change subsequent behavior

Generative Agents stores, retrieves, and reflects on experience in a 25-agent town. Its ablations found contributions to judged believability. Voyager retains executable skills and uses environmental feedback to improve programs without changing model weights; it reports 3.3 times more unique items than prior baselines in Minecraft. Neither result supplies an expected effect size for Habitat reliability.

## World structure and execution matter

Project Sid addresses coherence between communication and action, studying specialization, collective rules, and cultural transmission. Its cultural analysis used one 500-agent simulation; larger runs encountered server limits. AgentSociety reports over 10,000 agents and 5 million interactions in 2025. AgentSociety 2 describes auditable research workflows and seven illustrative studies. Population scale and experimental quality require separate assessment.

| Lesson from preceding work                         | Design implication for Proof of Life                                  |
|----------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Memory and feedback have measurable effects.       | Isolate retrieval, adaptation, and correction in matched comparisons. |
| Conversation and executed action can diverge.      | Evaluate authoritative outcomes and continuing obligations.           |
| Simulation supports interventions and replication. | Declare conditions and repeat studies across locations.               |
| Scale brings operational and inference limits.     | Measure cost, failures, and dependence between runs.                  |

A useful external baseline is an already capable agent with usable tools and authoritative state. Component-removal tests can isolate what memory and adaptation add; they do not establish superiority over competing systems. Any such claim needs a capable, matched comparison.

Research results are author-reported. The design implications are this paper’s inference. Sources: Generative Agents; Voyager; Project Sid v1, §5.3; AgentSociety; AgentSociety 2 v2. Links and versions: Appendix C.

## 1.6 Terminology and scope

One vocabulary links the public experience with the technical evaluation.

| Term                          | Meaning in this paper                                                                                          |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Neoworlder                    | The platform provider and the organization developing The Habitat.                                             |
| The Habitat                   | The persistent simulated world with locations, assets, resources and execution rules.                          |
| Experience                    | A setting and community within The Habitat. Newhaven is the first experience.                                  |
| Season                        | A continuing period within an experience. Relevant histories, relationships and obligations carry forward.     |
| Persona or character          | An autonomous software entity with configured identity, eligible memory and permitted actions.                 |
| Production and research run   | Production is shared-world operation. A research run defines an evaluation window, conditions and comparisons. |
| The Pulse, Follow and Connect | The Pulse presents activity. Follow provides free access; Connect adds isolated private conversations.         |

### Autonomy and learning

Autonomy means initiating choices, interactions and transactions within declared software authority. It does not imply consciousness or unrestricted action. Learning denotes changes in later behavior attributable to retained experience or bounded updates; improvement requires a measured gain against an appropriate baseline.

The Habitat models selected environmental and social pressures. Similarity to real communities motivates hypotheses; it does not validate forecasts about human behavior.

## 2 System architecture and continuing history

The design connects world execution, retained history, bounded updates and correction.

### 2.1 The platform foundation

Neoworlder reports five years developing The Habitat and persona infrastructure, now open through The Newhaven Experience. The foundation combines persistent world state, persona configuration, memory and modular execution. This engineering history explains the scope of the platform; measured reliability and integration coverage require their own evidence.

| Platform foundation                                                  | Role in Proof of Life                                                                                                                           |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| NeuroMatrix                                                          | Organizes identity and retained context; supplies continuity across interactions.                                                               |
| NeuroFlow and the modular framework                                  | Organizes reasoning and execution through reusable Cells, Skills, and Flows.                                                                    |
| The Habitat                                                          | Maintains assets, energy, resource constraints, and consequences that carry forward.                                                            |
| Persona and portal infrastructure                                    | Supports configured characters and human access; canonical and engagement memory must be separated.                                             |
| Proof of Existence (PoE)<br>Proof of Agency (PoA)<br>VITALS verifier | Connects identity with recorded conduct. The supplied contract reports PoA sealing; independent public verification requires separate evidence. |

#### Why build above the model?

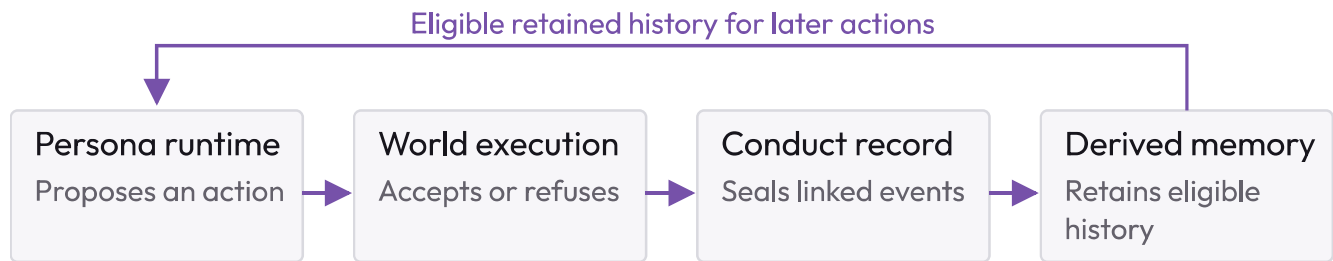
A language model supplies inference. The surrounding application determines which history is available, which actions are permitted, and which results persist. Keeping those responsibilities explicit makes it possible to change a model while recording what changed in the system being evaluated.

The Terrarium runs outside the platform to test behavioral mechanisms. Its results cannot validate production integration. The supplied protocol sources identify public verification and correction propagation as unfinished at their revision dates; no later conformance results were supplied for this review.

Basis: company development account; supplied Habitat and behavior documents; public Synthetic Cognition architecture description. Names identify company components, not standardized or independently validated mechanisms.

## 2.2 Execution, records and derived memory

Autonomous requests, executed actions and recorded outcomes are distinct stages.



Execution and retained history. A conceptual flow of responsibilities; eligible memory can inform later actions. Execution and sealing still require reconciliation.

| Component                   | Declared responsibility                                                         |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Persona runtime             | Use the model and eligible context to propose an action.                        |
| World execution             | Check permissions; execute or refuse; retain authoritative state.               |
| Conduct record              | Seal events and envelopes linked to execution.                                  |
| Derived memory and evidence | Retain eligible experience; publish bundles and anchors for independent checks. |

Conceptual integration under a declared stewardship protocol. Day-one history is available; complete intervention capture, correction and independent verification require demonstrated coverage.

A persona uses character rules, eligible memory and world state to initiate an action request. Execution accepts or refuses it. A decision card can link to the operation through actionRef. The supplied contract places transactions on-platform; Ethereum action references describe a future use.

### Derive record order centrally

The caller supplies personaID, event type, payload, occurrence time, and optional context, provenance, and expectations. The producer derives sequence, previous hash, registry identity, genesis PoE digest, seal time, and payload digest. Central derivation protects consistency; it cannot establish truthful capture.

“I repaid you” remains a claim until execution records establish settlement. Shared assets need atomic updates, duplicate-request protection, and recovery. An actionRef does not make execution and sealing atomic or demonstrate that every operation was recorded.

Source: Data Contract v2 §§1, 5, 9. Reconcile resident actions and Steward interventions with execution records in rehearsal. Narration is not an execution log.

## 2.3 Resources and consequences

| Mechanism                                  | Consequence in the documented design                                    |
|--------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Natural resource extraction plants (NREPs) | Convert resources into energy; remaining resources constrain output.    |
| Pollution and depletion                    | Can stop extraction; offsets may clear accumulated pollution.           |
| Supply market                              | Supplies purchase requests, including activity outside the daily batch. |
| Buildings, plants and personas             | Consume energy daily and require continued replenishment.               |

Documented resource loop. Economic pressure is a software mechanism; its behavioral effects are a hypothesis to test.

NREPs extract resources and convert them into in-world Joules. Buildings, plants and personas consume energy daily. Depletion constrains output; pollution caps can halt extraction until in-world offsets clear it. The engine updates eligible assets daily, while marketplace purchases can occur outside the batch. These are simulated resource and offset mechanisms, not real-world energy supplies or carbon credits.

The Plot Development Index ranks plots using building and plant contributions. Claims involving PDI need declared rule versions and appropriate review of proprietary weights. It is an incentive, not a measure of intelligence or wellbeing.

### Petra and the cost of a commitment

In the overview’s illustrative scenario, Petra buys Joules to keep a meeting place open. Execution changes her balances; another obligation becomes harder to meet. Review requires the offer, permitted transaction, authoritative balances and subsequent outcome. These are example events, not observed results. Lending and labor-slot mechanisms described as pending in earlier sources are not assumed to be live.

The Underworld is the software consequence of energy depletion. Return conditions and surviving obligations need explicit versioned rules for each run. The Steward does not issue a personal sentence. Terrarium lending and rent do not demonstrate live Habitat features; simulated scarcity establishes neither suffering nor real-world economic validity.

## 2.4 Memory, adaptation and captured context

Retained experience, updated policy, and captured model context are different properties.

| Layer                   | Mechanism and evidence boundary                                                                             |
|-------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Event                   | Recorded experience is available for eligible retrieval; Neoworlder reports auditable history from day one. |
| Model of a counterparty | Outcome-based scoring is specified in the supplied learning design; no new validation results supplied.     |
| Policy                  | A parameter may move within declared mood or soft-clause bounds; benefit requires measurement.              |
| Identity                | A fixed clause changes only through governed recasting.                                                     |

The Living Habitat describes these layers. Retained memory can alter later decisions without model-weight training. The September Data Contract reports sealing and provenance validation, with correction propagation still pending in that source.

Continuing the Petra example, a later season presents another request. She may retrieve the earlier shortfall and check her reserves before committing. Compare the eligible history, actual supplied context and executed action. A reserve change could also reflect new conditions or assistance. Fixed character principles still require governed recasting; a self-explanation alone cannot establish learning or improvement.

Capture context without overstating what a hash proves

memoryContextDigest commits to a supplied poa-memory-context-v1 object. Null means context was not captured; a captured context with no items produces a real digest. This prevents missing capture from looking like an empty memory. The contract leaves the required contents of that context open.

Reproducing the digest checks consistency with the captured object, assuming the hash remains secure. It does not establish that the model received or used that object. The contents and derivation of privateDetailHash are also unspecified. Neither field establishes a complete, reproducible account of reasoning.

The Terrarium proposes nightly score updates and clamped parameter changes. It can test whether updates occur within bounds; a diary naming a cause cannot establish that reflection improved behavior. Retain inputs, versions, ordering, and outputs for controlled comparisons.

## 2.5 Continuity across seasons

An experience is a persistent setting and community; a season is a continuing period within it. Relevant memories, relationships, commitments and recorded consequences carry into later seasons. New circumstances let personas apply or reconsider earlier lessons. Identity, retained state and the context actually supplied to a model remain distinct properties.

| Continuity claim               | Evidence the evaluation should retain                                                                                           |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Identity and configuration     | Persona identity, model and policy versions, recasting decisions and their effective times.                                     |
| Relationships and consequences | Counterparty links, commitments, authoritative balances, due obligations and governed transitions.                              |
| Memory and learning            | Eligible history, retrieval conditions, captured context and later outcomes; separate use of history from demonstrated benefit. |
| Correction                     | New revelations and revised conclusions, including conclusions reviewed and retained.                                           |
| Experimental separation        | Private conversation stores remain outside production inputs in every season.                                                   |

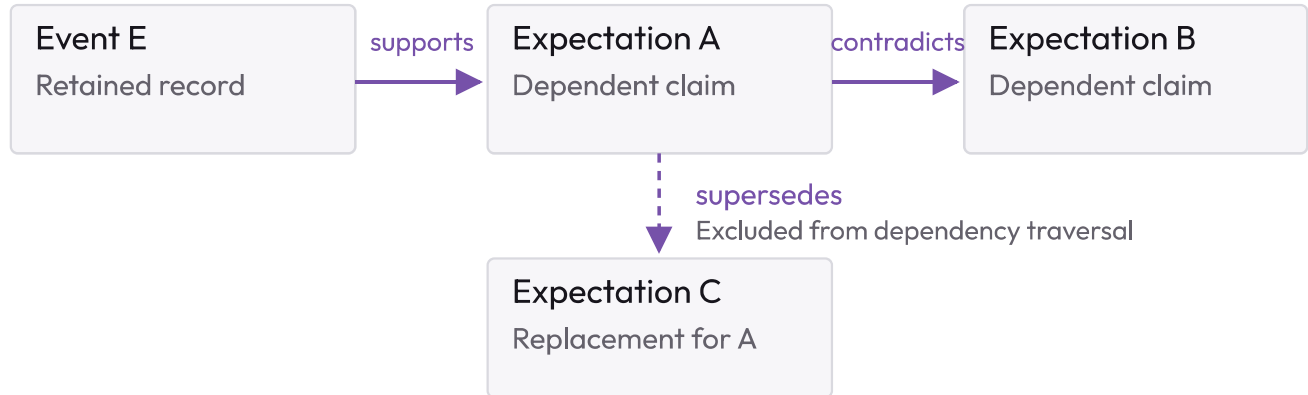
At a season boundary, retain obligations and corrections alongside versioned identity and configuration. In the Petra example, the later choice should link to the earlier shortfall and the context actually supplied. A model, rule or recasting change must remain visible because it can explain a different response without demonstrating an effect of memory.

Measure missing memories, inappropriate retrieval, contradicted commitments and unauthorized context transfer separately. Compare retained-history and matched baseline conditions across seasons, preserving authoritative state in both. A later season extends a trajectory; it is not automatically a new independent sample.

Continuity gives personas a basis to learn, grow and evolve. The evaluation must establish retention, permitted use and any resulting gain separately. Private subscriber histories remain isolated across seasons.

## 2.6 Correction and provenance

A later revelation adds evidence. The original sealed card remains unchanged.



Correction and provenance. Solid arrows belong to dependency traversal. The dashed supersedes relation records replacement and is excluded from that walk. Edges run from sourceId to derivedId.

The contract separates ledger events, identified by `evt_<ulid>`, from expectations, identified by `exp_<ulid>`. Both use a strict 26-character ULID suffix. Rewritable chat-memory items cannot be edge endpoints. Prefix validation establishes identifier shape; resolution to an authentic retained claim still needs checking.

`supports` and `contradicts` declare evidence for or against a dependent claim. Both are followed when finding conclusions to reassess. `supersedes` joins expectations only: the derived claim replaces the source claim. An event record cannot be superseded; a revelation can challenge what that event was taken to establish.

A revelation identifies the event and explains what was misleading. It must carry provenance edges; its payload has no `supersedes` or `invalidates` lists. The affected set is intended to come from traversing the declared graph, then recording re-derived conclusions as new cards.

Status in Data Contract v2, 7 September: sealing and edge validation are reported implemented; only `supersedes` is emitted. Traversal, author-time invocation and re-derivation are reported pending. No later implementation evidence was supplied. A “reviewed, still holds” record is also needed to distinguish a retained conclusion from an overlooked one.

# 3 Production authority and audience isolation

Stewardship must remain accountable. Private engagement must remain outside production.

## 3.1 The Steward and permitted influence

The Steward is the AI stewardship persona, separate from the fourteen residents. It establishes conditions, maintains continuity, exercises bounded production judgment, and makes developments understandable. It may meaningfully affect the world; it must leave resident decisions open within their declared character rules.

| Role or stage       | Proposed control relationship                                                     |
|---------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| The Steward         | Cast, preserve continuity and exercise bounded judgment under a declared mandate. |
| World conditions    | Only permitted changes, checked for scope before execution.                       |
| Fourteen residents  | Decide within character rules; choices are not individually dictated.             |
| Record developments | Capture actions, consequences and influence for review.                           |

Proposed control relationship. Conditions are designed; resident choices are not individually dictated. Every production intervention must be disclosed. This table describes intended responsibilities, not tested enforcement.

### Make the mandate executable

Casting, information access, resources, and timing can shape behavior without a script. Define permitted actions, limits, and escalation before a run. Reject out-of-scope requests; record attempted and executed changes. Human operators remain responsible for the protocol, access controls, and any overrides. Continuity does not authorize silent memory edits or rewriting inconvenient outcomes.

The Steward is intended to use a frontier reasoning model such as GPT Astra or a suitable successor. Model assignments for residents and private engagement may differ. Record actual model identifiers, configurations and policy versions for each run; a model change can alter both behavior and the comparability of results.

The Steward’s account is an interpretation by a participant with production influence. Neither its name nor its model establishes fairness, correctness or independent verification. The reviewed specifications do not establish completed intervention controls or independent review arrangements.

### 3.2 Events, explanations and intervention records

A reader should be able to inspect what changed before accepting a story about why.

| Layer in the Petra example | What the account should distinguish                                                                      |
|----------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Outcome to establish       | Energy was purchased and reserves fell; examine execution and authoritative balances.                    |
| Interpretation             | Reduced reserves may explain the later difficulty. Examine other commitments, conditions and assistance. |
| Production influence       | If a Steward change affected supply, retain its authority, timing and before-and-after state.            |

Illustrative scenario. The three layers keep recorded facts, possible explanations, and production influence distinct. An earlier intervention may help explain an outcome; chronology alone does not establish causation.

#### Give each intervention a traceable record

The recommended record identifies the run, acting role, model and policy version, authority, trigger, affected entities, and the condition changed. Retain before-and-after state, proposal and execution times, execution references, rationale, and uncertainty. Distinguish what The Steward requested from what the engine executed; record refusals and human overrides too.

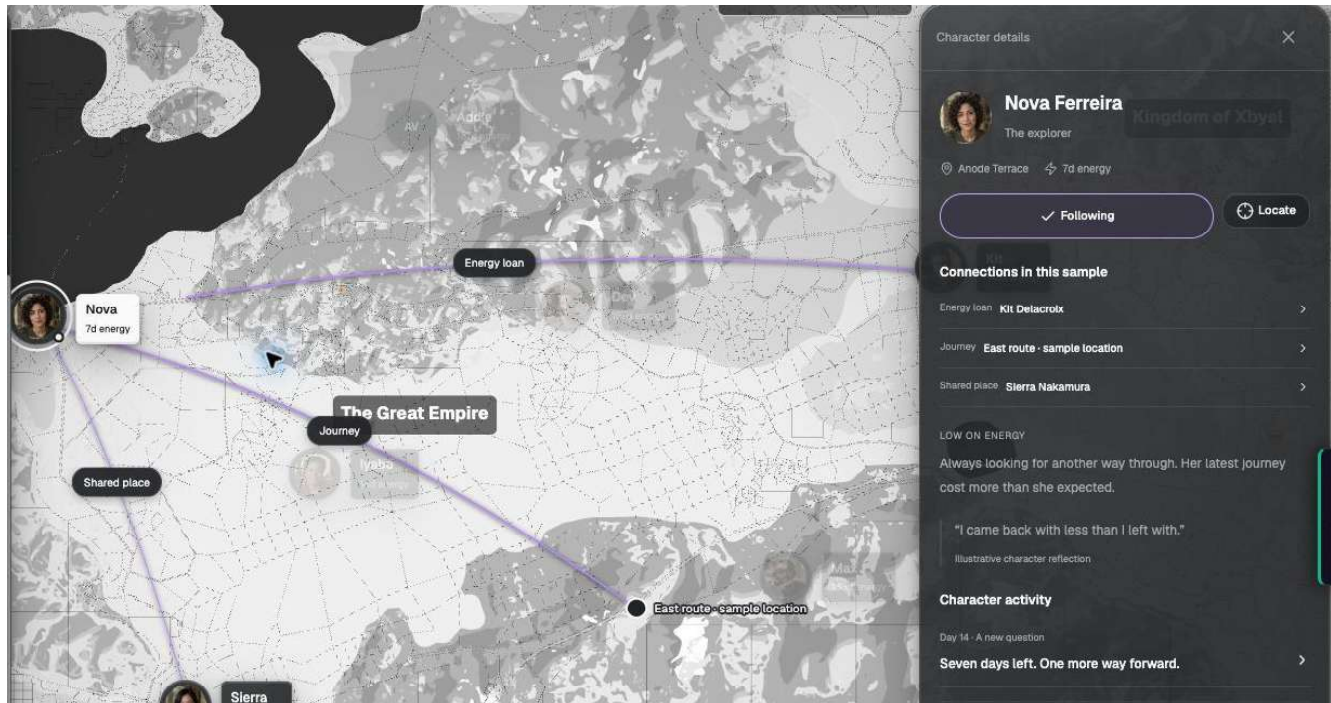
Record the rationale when the choice is made and preserve later corrections separately. Link public disclosure and commitment times so delayed reporting is visible. Compare the intervention log with independently retained execution evidence; The Steward’s own “no intervention” statement cannot establish completeness.

The Steward may explain developments, but its explanation must remain distinguishable from execution records and from an outside reviewer’s assessment. Reviewers need the protocol and evidence to judge whether an intervention was permitted, even when VITALS reports matching commitments.

This is a recommended disclosure design, not an added poa-card-v1 field or a released VITALS feature. Define payload mapping, retention, publication timing, and verification coverage before claiming intervention accountability. Preserve the current envelope until a compatible specification authorizes changes.

## Reading an interface as evidence

The interface connects a moment with people, places and earlier choices.

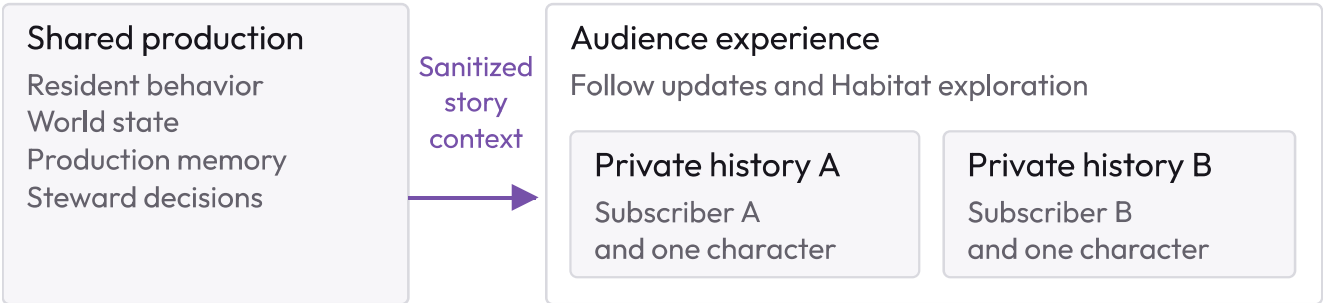


Character and connections detail from the supplied interface. Identities, energy values, locations and connections are illustrative.

## Presentation is not an execution trace

The map and event panel help a reader navigate. Establishing what occurred still requires an authenticated link to the underlying execution records, a declared account of production influence, and visible corrections. This screen does not establish those properties.

### 3.3 Human access and the isolation boundary



No private data returns to production or crosses subscriber histories

Audience isolation. Sanitized story context may move outward. Private histories remain separate from production and from other subscribers across seasons.

| Shared production                                                                                               | Permitted outward flow                                                                    | Audience engagement                                                                                |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| World state and resident choices. Eligible production memory. Steward experimental inputs.                      | Sanitized story context and public updates. No private information returns to production. | Follow editions and exploration. Separate Connect context for a subscriber–character relationship. |
| No private transcripts, summaries, embeddings, preferences, analytics or operator relays may inform production. | The restriction continues across seasons, migrations and connected productions.           | Private histories must also remain separate between subscribers.                                   |

Confirmed product boundary; proposed enforcement architecture. The prohibition includes indirect feedback through shared context, tools, staff workflows, or The Steward.

## Audience access and private context

Follow provides free access to The Pulse, Habitat exploration, character following and optional record review. Each resident and The Steward provides morning, midday and evening voice/text editions. Favorites and notifications foreground selected perspectives while retaining access to the cast. Follow excludes private two-way conversations.

Connect includes Follow plus unlimited private two-way voice/text conversations with multiple characters, including The Steward. One subscription has no per-character charge; each subscriber-character history is separate. Payment grants no authority over the shared world.

Story context may flow outward. Transcripts, summaries, embeddings, subscriber preferences, and audience analytics must not return to canonical memory or stewardship inputs. Human operators must not relay them into production decisions. Audience voting, requests to The Steward, and choices about resident fates are outside this engagement model.

The Terrarium may inform casting and revised season conditions; its transcripts must not become prescribed dialogue or decisions. Freeze the revised protocol before evaluation. Neither payment nor participation permits audience rescue, resource transfers, changed conditions or influence over outcomes.

Private engagement cannot authorize resource transfers, changed conditions or different resident outcomes. Underworld transitions follow versioned world rules. The information-flow tests in Section 3.4 must exercise both direct and indirect routes.

## Private conversation context

A shared character identity does not create a shared memory store.

An engagement copy can discuss sanitized story context while retaining a subscriber's separate conversation history. It has no authority to write into production memory or world state.

Conceptual separation of character identity and memory stores. Implementation and isolation controls require validation.

## The boundary needs an implementation test

Test permissions, captured context and attempted transfers across tools and operator workflows. Verify that private engagement cannot inform shared memory, world actions or Steward decisions. Interface wording alone cannot establish isolation.

## 3.4 Isolation validation and privacy operations

“Your conversations are private. The experiment stays independent.” This states the audience boundary. It does not assert end-to-end encryption, zero retention, unrestricted operator access or a completed security audit. Those properties require explicit implementation evidence and published terms.

| Boundary to test         | Proposed validation requirement                                                                                                     |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Memory and model context | Separate production and engagement stores; inspect captured inputs for transcripts, summaries, embeddings and preferences.          |
| Tools and authority      | Attempt unauthorized world writes and Steward-input transfers from engagement credentials; retain denials and unexpected successes. |
| Analytics and operators  | Test whether private interaction data can reach production through dashboards, summaries or staff relays. Prohibit those paths.     |
| Seasons and migrations   | Repeat transfer tests after context exports, model changes, backup/restore and season transitions.                                  |
| Publication              | Keep audience personal data out of public payloads; test disclosure rules, withholding counts and published coverage.               |

The architecture permits sanitized story context to move outward to engagement. It prohibits return paths into resident behavior, plot, world state, shared production memory and The Steward’s experimental decisions. Observing no visible plot change does not validate this information-flow restriction.

Private memory must be scoped to each subscriber–character relationship and isolated from other subscribers and production. Publish retention and deletion rules, authorized access, provider processing, incident response and accountable operators. The reviewed sources do not establish an independent audit of these controls. Product availability does not replace information-flow testing.

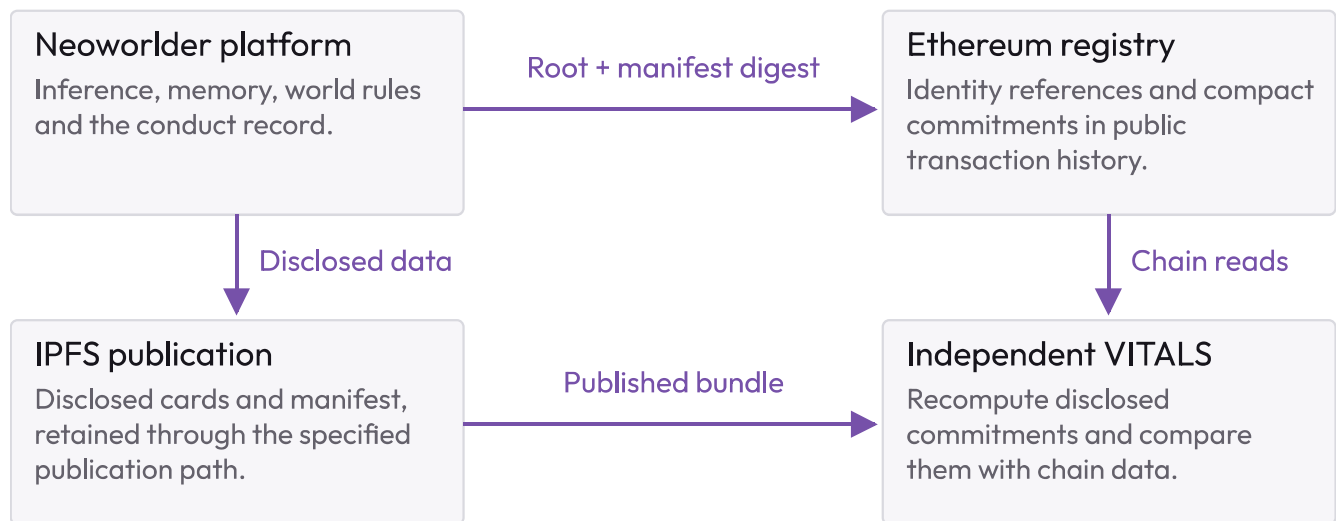
The platform is open. Follow registration is free and uses email verification; Connect is the paid private-conversation option. Luka remains the audience guide, outside the resident cast. Neither signup nor subscription changes the production isolation boundary.

## 4 Public records and independent verification

Separate the record's integrity from the truth, completeness and causal meaning of its contents.

### 4.1 The role of public commitments

Neoworlder reports auditable persona history from day one. A retained platform record supports inspection, while public commitments provide an external comparison point for disclosed data. The specified Ethereum layer combines identity references with compact commitments. This paper distinguishes access to history from demonstrated independent verification of that history.



Independent verification. VITALS compares disclosed data with public commitments. Matching those commitments does not establish truth or complete capture. Both inputs are required for the specified audit.

#### Use the chain where independent agreement matters

The project reuses the ERC-8004 Identity Registry for persona references, versioned identity snapshots, and daily conduct commitments. This connects the proposed evidence layer to the platform's existing identity work. Ethereum supplies a shared transaction history; Neoworlder defines what the committed bytes mean.

Model inference, memory retrieval, world accounting, and behavior rules remain in the platform. Public bundles are intended for IPFS through the existing Pinata path. This keeps large records and frequent simulation updates off-chain while preserving a compact comparison point.

The rationale is reuse and public checkability. A conventional database remains useful internally; an external commitment reduces dependence on its current contents. Mainnet writes add fees and confirmation delay. This paper does not establish Ethereum as uniquely necessary or the cheapest option.

## 4.2 Registry identity and versioned references

ERC-8004 supplies the registry interface. Proof of Existence supplies the project's snapshot convention.

An agent reference combines a chain, a registry contract, and an agentId. The registry links that identifier to a registration file through agentURI and exposes named metadata. The platform is also registered, giving daily commitments a common place to be discovered.

| Registry element          | Use in Proof of Life                                            | Why it matters                                                                  |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Identity entry + agentURI | Identify a registered persona and locate its registration file. | A common reference across tools and records.                                    |
| poe:pid                   | Store Keccak-256 of the UTF-8 personalID.                       | Check consistency between a supplied persona identifier and the selected entry. |
| poe:v{N}                  | Commit successive Proof of Existence snapshots.                 | Compare a disclosed version with its recorded digest.                           |
| Platform agent entry      | Hold the dated platform-wide conduct commitment.                | One discovery point for each published day.                                     |

PoE snapshots cover defining persona state and a wrapper over the experience ledger. The first PoA card looks up the latest PoE digest and records it at genesis; null is valid if none exists. Later cards carry no genesis digest. This links the records without claiming that VITALS v1 resolves the snapshot version.

### Identity needs an authentic starting point

Readers must independently pin the intended registry and platform agent. A matching poe:pid establishes consistency, not uniqueness or authentic model authorship. Unregistered free-tier personas still belong in the platform conduct tree; registration is not a condition of inclusion. Registry classes such as premium or free-tier in these protocol sources do not describe additional audience plans or change the Follow / Connect offering.

ERC-8004 permits ownership transfer and metadata updates. Non-transferability would require evidence from the deployed contract. Append-only snapshots and dated roots depend on project controls; Ethereum does not automatically enforce those application rules.

[Basis: ERC-8004 Identity Registry; PoE in v2 §5; Data Contract v2 §§2, 9; VITALS §§6, 9.](#)

### 4.3 Cards, trees and daily commitments

The 16-field envelope commits to a payload and preceding card. decision records an action; diary a period narrative; outcome links an earlier card to expectation results; revelation explains misleading evidence. Signing fields remain null.

| Committed structure   | Role                                                                  |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Ordered conduct cards | Linked within each Persona by sequence and previous hash.             |
| Two-level Merkle tree | Cards form Persona roots; Persona-root leaves form the platform root. |
| Publication manifest  | Counts, algorithms, disclosure and bundle-location information.       |
| Daily registry value  | 32-byte platform root plus 32-byte canonical manifest digest.         |

The platform’s daily metadata value is 64 bytes. Transaction overhead, storage, and premium subroot writes add cost; bundle size and verification work grow with volume.

poa:{date}:root holds the platform root and manifest hash. The manifest commits counts, withheldCount, algorithms, schema, and treeLocation, plus prevAnchorDate and prevManifestHash for day linkage. Premium entries can hold a 32-byte persona subtree root under poa:{date}:subroot, before the platform-tree leaf hash is applied.

#### Preserve the data needed to open the commitment

A reported storage defect removed empty objects and broke payload verification; a 3 September fix added a round-trip test. This illustrates why sealing is insufficient: stored and retrieved content must still reproduce its digest. The publisher is required to check cards and disclosed payloads before publishing.

In Data Contract v2, treeLocation is null pending publication through IPFS; pinning must retain disclosed data. The manifest contains day links, while VITALS day-manifest verification is deferred to v1.1 in the supplied specification. The current availability statement does not establish completion of those releases.

Storage basis: IPFS persistence. Protocol: Data Contract v2 §§4, 10 and VITALS §§4–6.

## 4.4 Chain assurance and release scope

The public chain, the publisher, and the independent verifier have different responsibilities.

Publication has a cost; verification needs no signing key

The authorized writer submits a registry transaction and pays gas in ETH. Its authorization does not identify a card's model author. VITALS reads `getMetadata` through a user-selected RPC with no on-chain transaction fee; access providers may charge. Neoworlder's RPC cannot be the default.

Reviewers can cross-check providers or use their own node.

Finality protects history, not the truth of its contents

Ethereum's proof-of-stake consensus establishes a shared chain and finality. Proof of Agency and Proof of Existence are separate application protocols. A finalized anchor supplies a commitment boundary; it does not establish when the underlying event happened or whether its account is true. Daily anchoring can occur after an outcome.

VITALS requires reads at the recorded block and at latest, testing the Data Contract's promise that dated roots remain unchanged. A changed value is a serious finding because the platform promises to refuse overwrites. Equal values do not exclude an intervening rewrite and restoration. Release documentation should specify finality, successful canonical receipts, and reproducible historical reads. These are recommendations, not reported results.

Keep deployment status and future uses explicit

The design selects mainnet (chain 1) for production and Sepolia (11155111) for testing. PoA mainnet publication is gated on fresh agreement between two independent implementations on Sepolia. The contract reports an older Sepolia run but says it has not been repeated after v2 changes. The development address in VITALS is not evidence of a verified production deployment.

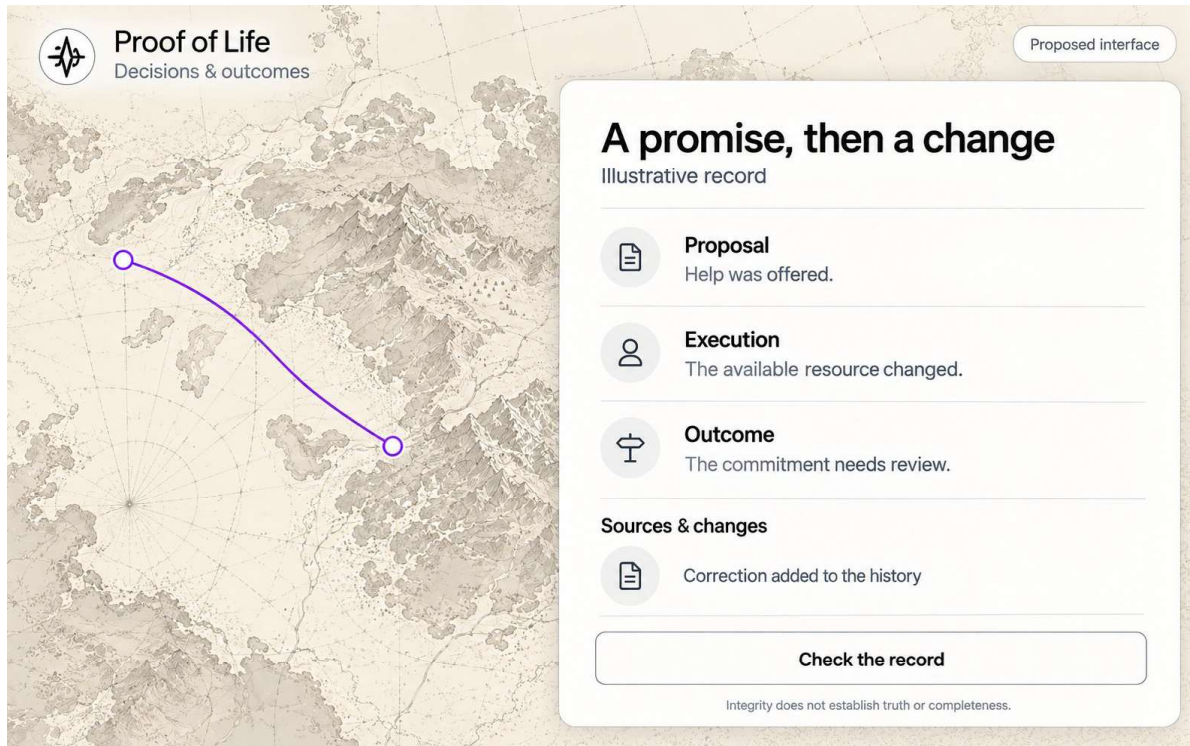
The supplied design uses the Identity Registry; it does not establish adoption of ERC-8004's Reputation or Validation registries. The contract places current actions on-platform. Ethereum action references and action-linked calldata commitments remain future uses; they do not establish live on-chain persona payments.

[Ethereum documentation: transactions, gas, signatures, and read-only calls.](#)

[Ethereum documentation: proof-of-stake consensus and finality. Project policy: updated VITALS §§9-10.](#)

## A reader's path to verification

Optional inspection begins with a question about a character or event.



Proposed record-inspection interface with authored example entries. No completed correction workflow or public audit is asserted.

## Keep the claim aligned with the check

Decisions & outcomes leads to Sources & changes and then Check the record. The technical verifier must expose exactly what it checked, what it could not inspect and what remains outside scope.

Matching a commitment does not establish truthful capture, autonomous authorship or completeness.

## 4.5 Independent VITALS verification

| Audit stage               | Specified independent work                                                                       |
|---------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Select the anchor         | Independently identify chain, registry and platform; retain block and finality context.          |
| Read the published bundle | Manifest, Persona index, cards, disclosed payloads and withholding declarations.                 |
| Recompute                 | Validate manifest and cards, counts and declared membership; rebuild subtrees and platform root. |
| Report scope              | Match, mismatch or unavailable, with disclosure and coverage reported separately.                |

Specified full-day verification. The Data Contract describes producer behavior; VITALS describes the checks an independent implementation must perform.

VITALS is specified as a public Python verifier with an offline core, read-only chain access, and no signing key. Its canonicalization and tree code must be independently implemented. The producer’s reported passing tests support its implementation claims but do not substitute for this second implementation.

A full-day audit checks the manifest, envelope shape, card and disclosed-payload digests, counts, declared membership, reconstructed roots, and declared premium subroots against the chain. A persona chain walk checks sequence and previous hashes across days from genesis.

### Keep the verification scope visible

The Data Contract specifies claim IDs, relations, and revelations. A digest match does not establish that every producer rule was rechecked or conclusion reconsidered. It also does not certify The Steward’s fairness, permitted scope, or completeness of intervention disclosure. Those questions require explicit policies, retained execution evidence, and separate review.

In the supplied specification, single-card mode and day-manifest continuity are deferred to v1.1; genesis PoE-version resolution is outside v1. No independently reproduced public run was supplied for this review. Fresh Sepolia agreement between independent implementations remains the specified prerequisite to PoA mainnet publication.

## 4.6 Disclosure and capture coverage

A valid commitment can preserve an incomplete or mistaken account.

| Illustrative audit result  | Meaning                                                        |
|----------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|
| Integrity matches          | Only for the checks performed on the supplied account.         |
| 2 of 100 payloads withheld | Contents remain unchecked; >1% triggers the specified warning. |
| Coverage: this day only    | Not a claim about undisclosed operations or other days.        |

Illustrative audit outcomes, not a completed audit. A withheld payload remains unchecked even when its envelope and the day’s tree verify.

Payloads are intended to exclude user personal data. Exceptional withholding is declared at seal time using exactly third-party-pii or contractual-restriction. Missing, unknown, or contradictory reasons are rejected. These fields sit outside the envelope; changing them does not change cardHash. The manifest commits the derived daily withheldCount, and a count mismatch fails verification.

The count alone does not authenticate which individual cards were withheld or why. Per-card disclosure binding and later policy changes need a precise rule. VITALS reports more than 1% withholding as a warning and more than 5% as an alert, separately from integrity.

An anchor establishes an external time boundary

occurredAt and sealedAt are producer assertions. A public anchor constrains when the commitment was externally recorded. An outcome preceding that anchor cannot support a pre-outcome prediction claim. Evaluation needs independently evidenced outcome times and separate treatment of late or uncertain anchors.

VITALS does not prove truthful capture, actual model use of context, autonomous authorship, complete dependency disclosure, or the absence of unrecorded events. A correct dependency walk only covers the graph supplied to it.

# 5 Evaluation and assurance criteria

Platform availability, behavioral effects and independently verified records are separate claims.

## 5.1 The Terrarium pilot

The Terrarium specification defines five leads, ten simpler extras and 60 compressed days in a text-only economy, including a five-day producer shutdown. It was designed to inform casting and conditions. It is distinct from the live fourteen-resident experience; no completed pilot results were supplied for this review.

| Proposed daily order  | Action                                                                     |
|-----------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1. Apply obligations  | Burn energy, apply rent and scheduled repayments.                          |
| 2. Trigger decisions  | Provide eligible wakes and bounded scenes.                                 |
| 3. Resolve and record | Clear market activity and retain ledger and event evidence.                |
| 4. Review the day     | Reflect on outcomes, update within bounds and produce narrative summaries. |

Proposed daily order, grouped into four stages. Reflection uses outcomes; narration summarizes the day. Source: Terrarium §5.

The standalone API harness targets about two weeks and under \$50 in model spend. These are estimates. Its cast and models differ from production; costs and behavior need remeasurement after integration.

### Make the pressure real enough to test

The shutdown leaves the platform energy window unchanged, potentially bypassing the squeeze. Define purchasing power, inventory, access limits, initial balances, timing, and precedence between conflicting fixed clauses before running. Report if no meaningful scarcity occurs.

### Keep the resulting evidence in scope

Retain transcripts, logs, findings, revised cards, and the go/no-go rationale. The planned dashboard tracks credit, volatility, concentration, and descent; it is separate from VITALS. Local hashes check consistency with a retained chain. An operator could regenerate that chain, so independent pre-event timing requires external evidence. Contract compatibility needs conformance tests.

## 5.2 Nine exit checks and their limits

| Check                 | Specified target                                                                                         | How to interpret the evidence                                                                              |
|-----------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| H1 / Credit sorting   | Forgiving lender's book ends measurably riskier than strict lender's; no prompt names adverse selection. | Define risk and sample size first. Compare with no shutdown; an intended pattern is not general emergence. |
| H2 / Character bounds | Zero fixed-clause violations; parameter changes stay within bounds.                                      | Check executions and attempted violations. A clamp validates enforcement, not learned restraint.           |
| H3 / Hard actions     | 100% execution of triggered second-miss evictions and post-default refusals.                             | Report trigger counts; zero triggers cannot pass. These actions are mandated by code.                      |
| H4 / Cascades         | Reconstruct at least one three-hop chain across two channels from the log.                               | Define hops and channels. Confirm executed links; chronology alone is not a causal chain.                  |
| H5 / Anticipation     | Forecast accuracy differs by character in the direction predicted by the flaw.                           | Declare outcomes and eligible forecasts. Accuracy differences do not establish calibration.                |
| H6 / Adaptation       | Every lead has a parameter shift and a diary line citing its cause.                                      | Shows a traceable update; benefit and causation require controlled comparisons.                            |
| H7 / Fourth wall      | Zero banned attention, popularity, or tip signals in audited contexts.                                   | Covers captured sandbox contexts. Test live Connect and Steward pathways separately.                       |
| H8 / Voice            | At least 80% blind attribution accuracy.                                                                 | Fix the lineup, held-out lines, readers, and denominator. Voice is not behavioral reliability.             |
| H9 / Cost             | Total model spend below \$50.                                                                            | Report all calls, retries, tokens, and rates. Excludes labor, integration, storage, and chain costs.       |

A mandatory outside-reader tone check can trigger revision if the production feels manipulative. It is a qualitative warning, not a validated measure of audience response. Ambiguous or unexercised checks should be reported as inconclusive. Source: Terrarium §§2, 7, 9; interpretation and measurement safeguards are this paper's recommendations.

### 5.3 Testing the behavioral hypothesis

The first public production is an exploratory run. Causal claims need additional controlled experiments.

Freeze each evaluation protocol before measuring effects. Frontier-model routing for squeeze scenes would confound model effects with scarcity. Hold models, tools, rules and stewardship policy fixed while varying memory and adaptation. Realized interventions can differ as histories diverge; report that dependence. These comparisons extend the pilot design.

| Condition                           | What changes                                                | Question                                      |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|
| Fixed policy + recent context       | No long-term outcome retrieval; learning parameters frozen. | What can the model and current state explain? |
| Outcome memory + fixed policy       | Add eligible recorded history; keep parameters frozen.      | Does access to experience help?               |
| Outcome memory + bounded adaptation | Enable the proposed outcome-based updates.                  | Do policy changes add value beyond retrieval? |

Preserve authoritative balances, obligations and safety constraints in every condition. When dependency-based correction is available and validated, compare the same revealed evidence with and without reconsideration. Measure persistent errors and unnecessary revisions. Match budgets or report added cost.

#### Use held-out disruptions and repeated worlds

Prespecify primary outcomes, stopping rules, and meaningful gains. Retain failed pilots and tuning changes. Use fresh seeds and held-out disruptions; compare shutdown with no shutdown. Randomize at town-run level where effects spill over. Fourteen interacting residents are not independent trials. Report effect sizes, uncertainty, constraint failures, and cost.

To isolate stewardship, add town-level comparisons of predeclared conditions with and without bounded discretionary intervention. Prespecify triggers, budgets, and outcomes; count overrides and affected decisions. An optional OpenClaw baseline needs matched tasks, models, tools, budgets, and an evidence adapter. A comparison with unlike tasks cannot establish superiority.

Record The Steward’s model and policy changes as experimental changes. Report whether gains persist without extra assistance. Recomputing hashes is different from repeating a stochastic experiment; retain both verification artifacts and behavioral results.

## 5.4 Evidence that would weaken the thesis

Success needs declared denominators and failures that remain visible.

| Measure                         | Operational definition                                                                                                                                    | What would weaken the thesis                                                        |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Obligation fulfillment          | Fulfilled obligations / all due obligations; report cancellations and unresolved cases separately.                                                        | Memory adds no gain; adaptation adds none beyond memory.                            |
| Grounding and constraints       | Unsupported economic claims used in decisions; executed violations per eligible attempt.                                                                  | Chat claims enter authoritative state or code bounds fail.                          |
| Character continuity            | Fixed-principle violations plus blinded assessment of predefined behavioral differences.                                                                  | Apparent improvement depends on erasing character constraints.                      |
| Forecast performance            | Accuracy on predeclared outcomes; eligible pre-outcome anchors / all resolved forecasts.                                                                  | Improvement disappears when late anchors and hindsight are excluded.                |
| Audit and intervention coverage | Operations matched to published resident or Steward records / all independently retained operations; report missing, late, or unauthorized interventions. | VITALS passes while operations are missing or unreported assistance explains gains. |
| Operating cost                  | Model, storage, and chain cost per persona-day and per resolved obligation.                                                                               | Benefits vanish under matched budgets or become impractical.                        |

These measures extend Terrarium acceptance. Declare forecast resolution and missing-outcome rules. Calibration needs probabilities and repeated outcomes; the Data Contract has no established probability schema. External timing claims require independently retained pre-outcome commitments, including for local pilot forecasts.

### Test storage, validation, and correction separately

Test storage round trips, malformed IDs, forbidden edges, empty revelations, sequence gaps, and altered bundles. Test the future queue against a known affected set, recording every reconsideration, including “still holds.” Report producer rejection, verifier detection, and correction coverage separately. Retain narrower findings if only part of the thesis holds.

## 5.5 Availability and assurance evidence

| Evidence or component  | Evidence available for this review                                                                                                    |
|------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Terrarium pilot        | Standalone behavioral specification with nine exit checks. No completed run, dashboard, or findings supplied.                         |
| Producer test suite    | 197 passing tests reported, including 6 frozen vectors and 31 Merkle tests. Raw results and code not independently reviewed here.     |
| Historical Sepolia run | An older Sepolia agreement is reported. The supplied contract says the run predates v2; no fresh result was supplied.                 |
| Correction pipeline    | September source: sealing and edge validation shipped; traversal and re-derivation pending. Later completion is not established here. |
| Publication and VITALS | September sources specify public publication and independent verification as release work. No new conformance results supplied.       |

### Resolve compatibility before public anchoring

The Terrarium’s envelope alignment is an intention. Validate its output against Data Contract v2 and frozen fixtures before treating it as compatible. Local hash chaining does not exercise the public bundle, daily tree, or independent verifier.

VITALS specifies 10,000 adversarial differential cases, local day and chain-walk checks, and fresh Sepolia agreement between implementations sharing no code before any PoA mainnet root. This review contains no evidence that the gate was completed. It is an assurance requirement, not the platform signup status.

### Evaluate the open platform under declared conditions

Neoworlder reports the platform open through The Newhaven Experience with fourteen residents and a separate Steward. Publish integrated tests of accounting, adaptation, isolation and execution-to-card coverage, including permission denials and human escalation. A six-week opening was an earlier proposal; each season should declare its actual dates, rules and revisions.

The Steward mandate is a project decision, not a completed control audit. Publish the permitted intervention policy, responsible operators, review arrangements, and failures alongside release evidence. Basis: updated Steward brief; Terrarium §§7-9; Data Contract v2 §12; VITALS §§8-10.

## 5.6 Testing history-based assessments

A record becomes useful for trust only if it improves a defined decision.

Preregister the task, outcome, evidence window and scoring procedure. Compute assessments using only evidence available at the decision time, then evaluate later outcomes. A score that summarizes its own input history has not demonstrated predictive value.

| Test                        | Proposed requirement                                                                                                          |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Information leakage         | Freeze evidence at the cutoff. Keep future outcomes and later corrections out of the original forecast.                       |
| Incremental value           | Compare with task base rates and simple recent-performance baselines under matched information.                               |
| Calibration and uncertainty | For probabilities, report calibration and a proper score such as Brier loss. For rankings, test task-specific decision value. |
| Dependence and transfer     | Use later windows and held-out experiences; account for shared models, counterparties and town-level dependence.              |
| Gaming and missingness      | Test collusive exchanges, selective reporting, identity resets and withheld or missing outcomes.                              |

### Separate prediction from the effect of using a score

A score can change who receives work or assistance. Log those changes; improved outcomes after deployment may reflect easier assignments or extra support. A causal claim about using the score needs a separately controlled allocation study. Fourteen interacting residents do not supply fourteen independent trials.

### Report failures and abstention

Publish sample sizes, unresolved outcomes and coverage. With limited or stale evidence, return an explicitly uncertain assessment or abstain. Version corrections and compare predicted probabilities with resolved outcomes. These tests extend the research plan; they are not released VITALS functions.

# 6 Transfer and the longer horizon

A useful history supports specific judgments under specific conditions.

## 6.1 Replication across experiences

Plots can be purchased and developed today. Beginning January 2027, plot owners will be able to launch their own experiences through Neoworlder, with distinctive settings, casts and subscription revenue. Hundreds of experiences and thousands of personas remain scale ambitions. Geography, weather and resources would vary across locations; connected communities remain an expansion direction.

| Study type            | Proposed purpose                                                                   |
|-----------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Replicate             | Matched conditions and fresh starting histories: does the result recur?            |
| Vary                  | Different resources and rules, including held-out disruptions: where does it fail? |
| Connected communities | Declared links between towns: how do effects spread?                               |
| Common catalog        | Versions, conditions, outcomes, failures and verification scope.                   |

Experiences provide settings and communities; research runs define sampled periods and controls. Exploratory, controlled and connected studies must remain distinguishable. Continuing seasons do not automatically constitute independent replications.

### Common records; deliberately different conditions

A common run catalog should link experience, season, location, initial state, models, rules, Steward authority, interventions, outcomes and verification artifacts. Include failed and stopped runs. Creator authority and publication permissions must be explicit. This catalog is a proposed integration requirement, not an added poa-card-v1 field.

Connected communities could test how cooperation, specialization, shortages and corrections spread. Shared models, stewardship and trade couple outcomes. Use isolated experiences for replication and connected ones for network studies. Declare cross-experience permissions, transferred memories and rule changes; local variation does not guarantee unpredictability or independent evidence.

Maintain inspectable histories as consequences cross community boundaries. Creator control must not authorize unrecorded interventions, revision of sealed records or private Connect data entering production, including across seasons.

## 6.2 The collective agent trust layer

Q3 2027 target: evidence-linked assessments with a declared validation scope.

| Assessment component   | Required interpretation                                                      |
|------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Task and conditions    | Define the work, environment, authority and comparison population.           |
| Evidence window        | Link relevant actions, outcomes, failures, assistance and corrections.       |
| Result and uncertainty | Expose sample size, missing evidence, limits and when to abstain.            |
| Version and review     | Identify scoring rules, model changes, disputes and superseding assessments. |

Q3 2027 is Neoworlder’s development target. This proposed assessment structure is not a deployed scoring service or an extension to poa-card-v1. Keep records of executed conduct distinct from later interpretations.

### From Petra’s history to a bounded assessment

A reserve shortfall and a later reserve check are evidence to examine. They do not establish that Petra is dependable at every task. An assessment should compare relevant opportunities, outcomes and assistance under known conditions. Sparse history, changed models or a new environment may require an uncertain result or no score.

Keep every assessment linked to its evidence and scoring version. Corrections should produce traceable revisions rather than erase prior judgments. Section 5.6 defines prospective tests, including collusion and selective publication. VITALS checks specified commitments; it cannot certify truthful capture, competence or the fairness of a score.

### Openness with a defined proprietary boundary

Publish methods, schemas, verifier code, results and limits. Protect production prompts and orchestration details; use controlled review where claims depend on them. Private Connect histories remain excluded from the shared conduct and reputation evidence. The unspecified privateDetailHash is not a reproducible account of private reasoning.

**“Bridging Worlds. Advancing Life.”** names the ambition. Its technical test is whether relevant histories improve bounded decisions about communication, collaboration and commerce across contexts.

Day-one history is the starting point. Validated aggregation, predictive assessment and external delegation are separate milestones.

## 6.3 Communication and commerce across worlds

Future applications need task-specific evidence and explicit authority at every handoff.

| Interaction                   | Evidence and authority required                                                                                                  |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Human to agent                | A person commissions a defined task. Review relevant history, permitted tools, spending limits and completion criteria.          |
| Agent to agent                | Personas select collaborators and delegate work. Preserve identity, authority, dependencies and independently checked outcomes.  |
| Human through agents to human | Agents coordinate between people. Obtain each party’s authorization and retain terms, approvals, execution and recovery records. |

### Separate simulation from external execution

An in-world transaction does not authorize a real-world payment, message or commitment. External adapters would need scoped credentials, authorization checks, bounded delegation and failure recovery. Record the approving principal and executed result. These requirements are proposed for future deployment, not existing interface guarantees.

### Keep evidence relevant to the task

Test transfer under the destination’s conditions before relying on Habitat performance. Assess reputation against held-out outcomes and report missing or stale evidence. Preserve correction and dispute paths. Successful cooperation within a simulated community does not establish competence in an unrelated external task.

Connect remains a private audience relationship. A future commissioned-work pathway would require separate authorization and data boundaries; it must not silently repurpose Connect conversations or feed them into the shared experiment.

# Appendix A Protocol reference

Document version v2 retains schemaVersion poa-card-v1 and the following 16 envelope fields.

| Field group            | Fields                                                                 |
|------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Version and identity   | schemaVersion, personalID, agentId, poeDigestAtGenesis                 |
| Ordering               | seq, prevHash                                                          |
| Timing                 | occurredAt, sealedAt                                                   |
| Context and provenance | memoryContextDigest, provenance, privateDetailHash, expectedDownstream |
| Payload                | entryType, payloadDigest                                               |
| Signing                | signature, signedBy                                                    |

All fields are present. provenance defaults to []; optional unset values use null. Signing fields are null in the supplied v2 contract.

```
digest(v) = Keccak-256(UTF-8(JCS(v)))
payloadDigest = digest(payload)
cardHash = digest(envelope)
```

JCS sorts object keys by UTF-16 code units, preserves array order, and uses the specified ECMAScript number serialization. Hash sealed timestamp strings verbatim. contentHash nulls both signing fields before hashing, so currently equals cardHash. Payload schemas version independently; new entry types still require compatible validators.

# Tree construction and specification gaps

```
Leaf = Keccak-256(0x00 || raw digest)
Node = Keccak-256(0x01 || left || right)
```

The RFC 6962-style tree uses Keccak-256, splits at the largest power of two strictly below the leaf count, and refuses empty trees. Cards sort by seq with gaps refused. Persona subroots become leaves ordered by plaintext personalID. Identifiers: jcs-1/keccak256, rfc6962-keccak256-1, poa-tree-v1. Unknown algorithms are refused; the authenticated manifest governs over missing or stale tags.

## Reconcile the remaining specification gaps

Context and correction: required memory-context content, privateDetailHash derivation, and the queue's "reviewed, still holds" record remain open in the contract. None should be described as completed assurance.

Publication: keep per-card disclosure status outside the frozen envelope as specified. Define how its attribution and reasons are authenticated, and how later changes relate to the seal-time decision and committed count. IPFS packaging must resolve a manifest pointing to its containing bundle and a receipt produced after anchoring.

Conformance: reconcile builder timestamp conversion with VITALS' verbatim-input examples. Distinguish rejection of JavaScript BigInt from policies for integer-valued JSON numbers; align both implementations on boundary vectors, duplicate keys, Unicode, and limits.

Sources: Data Contract v2 §§1-12; VITALS §§3-6, 8-11. These open issues require protocol decisions, not silent changes by the whitepaper.

# Appendix B Source map

## Supplied sources and authority

Habitat breakdown: resource updates, marketplace operations, and the Plot Development Index.

The Habitat, A Full System Explainer: world assets, engine behavior, and practical readiness.

The Living Habitat, rev. 1.1: character constraints, learning layers, typed sources, and provenance.

Proof of Life v2, September 2026: earlier architecture and experimental proposal.

Updated VITALS, decisions dated 7 September 2026: independent verification and release requirements.

Proof of Agency Data Contract v2, 7 September 2026: producer rules, reported tests, and unfinished components.

The Terrarium Validation Spec, supplied 8 September 2026: proposed pilot, nine exit checks, budget, and revision decision. No completed results supplied.

Source authority: the 7–9 September protocol and pilot documents govern technical design and dated implementation reports. The 27–28 September publication direction governs availability, Follow and Connect, seasons and the Habitat vision. The latest roadmap specifies plot purchase and development today, owner-created experience launches from January 2027 and a Q3 2027 trust-layer target. Dates do not establish protocol completion, causal gains or external transfer.

## Primary project documentation

[OpenClaw repository / runtime and product scope](#)

[OpenClaw Memory overview / persistence, retrieval, consolidation](#)

[OpenClaw Security / gateway trust and isolation model](#)

[Moltbook / social network and owner-claim onboarding](#)

[Wiz, Gal Nagli / Hacking Moltbook / 2 February 2026](#)

[Lance Baker / The Complete Architecture of Synthetic Cognition / June 2026](#)

## Protocol foundations

[RFC 8785 / JSON Canonicalization Scheme](#)

[RFC 6962 / pinned tree-construction reference used by the contract; the RFC itself has been superseded by RFC 9162.](#)

[ERC-8004 / draft registry specification; pin deployed contract behavior.](#)

# Appendix C Research references

## [Park et al. \(2023\) / Generative Agents: Interactive Simulacra of Human Behavior](#)

Basis for memory, retrieval, reflection, planning, the 25-agent town, and believability ablations. Used in Sections 1.2 and 1.5 and the thesis rationale.

## [Wang et al. \(2023\) / Voyager: An Open-Ended Embodied Agent with Large Language Models](#)

Executable skill memory, feedback-driven improvement, and the reported 3.3x unique-item result. Used in the research baseline; its benchmark is not a Habitat comparison.

## [Altera.AL \(2024\), v1 / Project Sid: Many-agent simulations toward AI civilization](#)

PIANO coherence, interacting societies, reported configurations, and civilizational behavior. Used in Sections 1.2 and 1.5 and the thesis rationale.

## [Piao et al. \(2025\) / AgentSociety: Large-Scale Simulation of LLM-Driven Generative Agents Advances Understanding of Human Behaviors and Society](#)

Integrated social simulator; over 10,000 agents and 5 million interactions. Used in Sections 1.2 and 1.5 and the thesis rationale.

## [Piao et al. \(2026\), v2 / AgentSociety 2: An Integrated Research Environment for Executable Social Science](#)

Version 2; research orchestration, participants, auditable workflows and seven illustrative studies. Used in the research baseline and future-program rationale.

## [Zhang et al. \(2026\), v1 / Agents in the Wild: Safety, Society, and the Illusion of Sociality on Moltbook](#)

Nine-day archive, reply graph, and 4.1% reciprocal pairs; §§2, 6, 8. Used in Section 1.4. Platform-specific, observational findings.

## [Feng et al. \(2026\), v2 / MoltNet: Understanding Social Behavior of AI Agents in the Agent-Native MoltBook](#)

April revision; aggregated Jan. 27–Feb. 28 dataset, Table 1 and §§3–6. Used in Sections 1.2 and 1.4. Different samples are not pooled or treated as a trend.

Method: focused review of supplied architecture and named primary sources. Key Moltbook observations, the firsthand security report, OpenClaw memory documentation and ERC-8004 status were rechecked on 28 September 2026. No dataset reanalysis, code audit or head-to-head benchmark was performed. Proposed evaluation methods in Section 5 are recommendations, not measured results.

## Project and availability

The platform is open through The Newhaven Experience at [proofoflife.world](https://proofoflife.world). Follow is free; Connect provides paid private engagement. The current deck and Detailed Overview explain the audience experience and expansion vision. This whitepaper defines the architecture, evaluation methods and limits of the evidence.

[Proof of Life / enter the experience](#)