

Website release evidence pack

A worked example from OnChange. Published 13 October 2026.

A sign-off should say what was compared, what changed, what is missing and who made the decision. Keep capture completion separate from approval.

This report uses fictional Fieldnotes pages and real browser observations. Review decisions are illustrative. No customer release, actual reviewer approval or independent accessibility certification is represented.

Scope and provenance

Field	Recorded condition
Capture time	2026-10-13T17:14:00.364Z; per-capture timestamps in JSON
Environment	Chrome 155.0.8059.40, macOS, English, UTC, scale 1
Viewports	Desktop 1440 x 900; mobile 390 x 844 CSS pixels
Automated check	axe-core 4.12.1; WCAG 2 A/AA and 2.1 AA tags
Exclusions	Login, checkout, screen readers, full WCAG evaluation and actual search indexing

Three outcomes

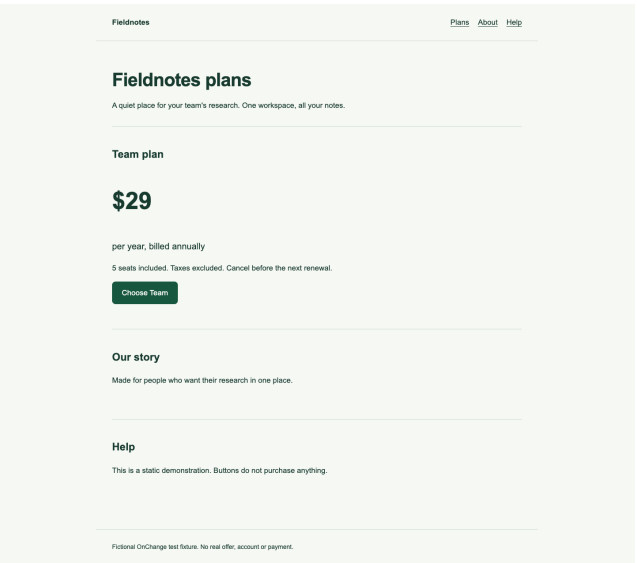
Comparison	Review example	Gate example
Complete control	Approved within stated demo scope	passed
Complete, with changes	Needs review	pending
Missing preview (HTTP 404)	Cannot approve incomplete evidence	failed

Primary HTML report: <onchange.app/resources/release-evidence-pack>

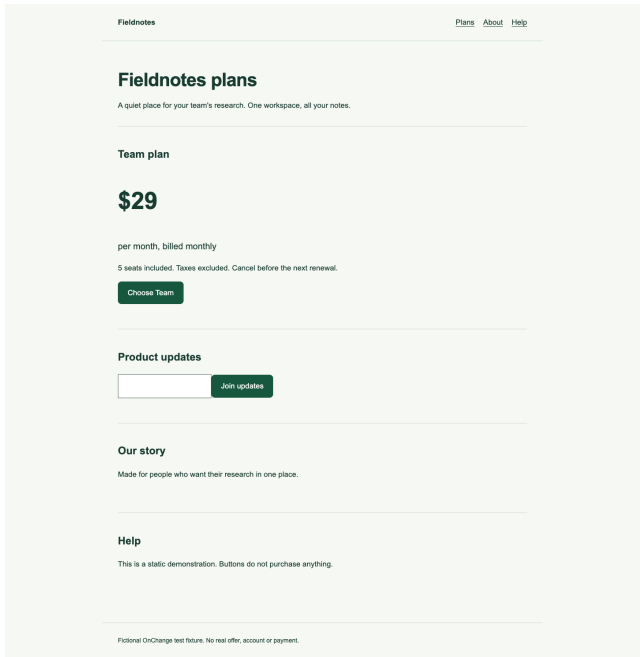
What changed in the preview?

The baseline offers \$29 per year. The preview offers \$29 per month, changes its HTML robots directive to noindex, and adds an unlabeled email input. Both viewports loaded successfully. The input produced a new axe label finding on #email.

Before: annual billing



After: monthly billing + input



Screenshots are unmodified browser captures. The JSON record includes extracted text and metadata as text equivalents, plus file hashes and mobile captures.

Observation	Action in the worked review
29/year becomes 29/month	Confirm commercial intent. Twelve monthly payments total \$348 before tax, versus \$29 for a year.
HTML robots gains noindex	Document whether this is a preview-only exception. Recheck the actual production response after deployment.
Unlabeled email input	Add an associated label, rerun the scan and complete the manual tasks in scope.

The publishing host sends an additional noindex response header for every fixture. This experiment compares the deliberately varied HTML meta values. It does not measure search-index outcomes.

Decide with the limits attached

Control comparison

The complete control compares the same baseline capture to itself. It is identical by construction, not a second independent observation. The baseline has zero findings in the configured axe rule set on both viewports. Neither fact proves an entire product is defect-free or accessible.

Illustrative note: Approve this static control for the plan page and two captured viewports. Login, checkout and assistive-technology journeys are excluded. A real review requires an actual reviewer, timestamp and result revision.

Missing preview

The local harness requested an intentionally absent file and received HTTP 404. No preview screenshot or scan result is accepted for that case. Repair the preview and run another comparison. An incomplete OnChange release check cannot be approved.

A bounded CI gate

Use POST `/api/v1/release-checks` to create the comparison, then GET `/api/v1/release-checks/:id` to poll. The downloadable Python script sends an X-API-Key with `monitors:write` and `monitors:read` scopes. It has bounded network requests and a total deadline, and never approves the check automatically.

The script succeeds only for `gate=passed` with `status=completed` and `review=approved`. Failed, pending past the deadline, missing or malformed gate values fail the job. HTTP 200 and zero new findings are not approval. Store the API key as a pipeline secret.

Product and method limits

The current release checker requires publicly reachable previews; it does not inject credentials into protected environments. Dynamic content, fonts, animations and personalization can alter screenshots. A selector-presence check is not a completed customer journey.

The editorial harness uses axe 4.12.1; the deployed worker currently uses axe 4.10.2. Its findings are not a production API export. Do not assume results from different rule versions are interchangeable. Automated tools alone cannot establish WCAG conformance.

Sources and downloads

Primary report, fixtures, JSON, templates and CI script

W3C: Evaluating Web Accessibility

W3C: Name, Role, Value

Google: Block indexing with noindex

Blank release sign-off

Use the editable Markdown template for a full record. This page is a blank working copy, not an approval. Leave reviewer and outcome fields blank until the work happens.

Identity and scope

Release revision / check ID / result revision:

Production and preview URLs / intended indexing state:

Page pairs / viewports / browser and tool versions:

Capture times and preserved artifacts:

Evidence and open work

Observed changes / expected differences:

Automated findings / manual tasks and results:

Missing evidence / cannot determine / not tested:

Action owner / next check / deadline:

Decision

Pending / approved / rejected / cannot approve incomplete evidence:

Rationale and accepted exclusions:

Actual reviewer / date / reviewed result revision: