



PROCUREMENT JUSTIFICATION FORM (PJF)

This form must accompany all contract requests and sole source requisitions (RQS) over \$5,000 submitted to the Division of Procurement Services.

INSTRUCTIONS: Please provide the requested information in the white spaces below. All responses (except signatures) must be typed; no hand-written forms will be accepted. See the guidance document posted with this form on the Division of Procurement Services intranet site (Forms page) for additional instructions.

PART I: OVERVIEW				
Department Office/Division/Program:		Department of Marine Resources		
Department Contract Administrator or Grant Coordinator:		Casey Yanos/Angela Hopkins		
(If applicable) Department Reference #:				
Amount: (Contract/Amendment/Grant)		\$ 105,088	Advantage CT / RQS #:	13A 20221212000000001647
CONTRACT	Proposed Start Date:	12/1/2022	Proposed End Date:	6/30/2024
AMENDMENT	Original Start Date:	Click or tap to enter a date.	Effective Date:	
	Previous End Date:	Click or tap to enter a date.	New End Date:	Click or tap to enter a date.
GRANT	Project Start Date:		Grant Start Date:	
	Project End Date:		Grant End Date:	
Vendor/Provider/Grantee Name, City, State:		University of Maine (Christine Beittl), Orono, ME		
Brief Description of Goods/Services/Grant:		To complete a survey of regional fishers to explore the influence of proposed offshore wind infrastructure on cultural identities of place to understand cultural values, historical context, and local ecological knowledge.		

PART II: JUSTIFICATION FOR VENDOR SELECTION			
Check the box below for the justification(s) that applies to this request. (Check all that apply.)			
<input type="checkbox"/>	A. Competitive Process	<input type="checkbox"/>	G. Grant
<input type="checkbox"/>	B. Amendment	<input type="checkbox"/>	H. State Statute/Agency Directed
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	C. Single Source/Unique Vendor	<input type="checkbox"/>	I. Federal Agency Directed
<input type="checkbox"/>	D. Proprietary/Copyright/Patents	<input type="checkbox"/>	J. Willing and Qualified
<input type="checkbox"/>	E. Emergency	<input type="checkbox"/>	K. Client Choice
<input type="checkbox"/>	F. University Cooperative Project	<input type="checkbox"/>	L. Other Authorization

Please respond to ALL of the questions in the following sections.

PART III: SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

1. Provide a more detailed description and explain the need for the goods, services or grant to supplement the response in Part I.

The purpose of this Contract is to explore the influence of proposed offshore wind infrastructure on cultural identities of place by employing storytelling as both method and data for understanding cultural values, historical context, and local ecological knowledge. There is a great deal of uncertainty around whether offshore wind can coexist with commercial fisheries partly due to a lack of understanding of use of ocean space by fishers. The Maine research array will serve as a test site to permit the empirical evaluation of floating offshore wind turbines and provides an opportunity to observe how floating wind turbines can co-exist with current ocean users, including the fishing industry, before they are scaled up to a commercial level. In this way, the research array will serve as a laboratory to understand and evaluate social-ecological stressors, impacts, and opportunities. The team will use participatory mapping, storytelling, and open-ended oral history interviewing techniques to document the current and past uses among commercial fishers in the area proposed for the Maine research array. This project will allow us to gather fine-scale information about cultural values, historical context, marine resource use patterns, and local ecological knowledge about the proposed area, which may be used to inform fisheries management. Further, this project will contribute to a broader understanding about the distribution of benefits and risks associated with offshore wind in the Gulf of Maine for coastal communities and the fishing industry. Ongoing engagement with stakeholders in the fishing industry will allow us to build relationships with stakeholders and co-design a framework for both data collection and research dissemination through participatory mapping and storytelling methodologies. This project will advance understanding of concerns among fishers about offshore wind development and encourage productive conversations, collaborations, and stakeholder-driven policymaking on large-scale infrastructure projects in ocean and coastal spaces. This study has three main objectives: 1) to document current and past uses of the area proposed for the research array and explore how fishers' use of ocean space is changing through participatory mapping exercises and interviews, 2) given the past, current, and potential future use of ocean spaces, we will explore what mechanisms are in place to support Maine's fisheries during this time of critical technological change in the use of ocean spaces, and 3) to understand the general attitude and concerns among fishers about offshore wind development; its potential impacts on culture, identity, economic growth, or ecological changes; and ideas or opportunities for research (i.e. turbines as fish aggregating areas). When combined with scientific data, stories may offer a more compelling perspective that is critical for understanding and communicating how socioenvironmental change is lived and experienced and the stories collected through these interviews are essential for our understanding of the overall impacts that Gulf of Maine offshore wind projects may have.

The Provider shall oversee a PhD student and undergraduate assistant from the University of Maine who will assist with the surveys, background research, and compilation and dissemination of information. The Provider will work with DMR staff to obtain all the necessary data to complete the analysis. The project team, including all University of Maine and DMR staff working on and advising the project, will meet at least monthly to provide updates and get feedback on direction, needs, and timelines.

2. Provide a brief justification for the selected vendor to supplement the response in Part II. Reference the RFP number, if applicable.

Christine Beitzl at the University of Maine is the named Principal Investigator for this project and is essential to its success. Christine is an anthropologist with extensive experience working in coastal fishing communities on questions at the intersection of socio-political, ecological, and economic systems. She has a proven track record of working with the data collected in these types of efforts and disseminating her results in sources that will be the most impactful.

PART III: SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

3. Explain how the negotiated costs or rates are fair and reasonable; or how the funding was allocated to grantee.

The negotiated costs are based on the quoted amount for Dr. Beitzl as well as a PhD student and an undergraduate assistant from the University of Maine who will assist with this project. All personnel costs are subject to University of Maine approved rates.

4. Describe the plan for future competition for the goods or services.

This is a difficult skill to make competitive since it is so specialized and grant funds cannot be obtained with designating these skilled people on the proposal at the time of submission. The recruitment of post docs who assist with this work can be a competitive process.

PART IV: AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT (ARPA) / MAINE JOBS & RECOVERY PLAN (MJRP)

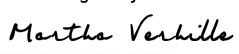
Does this request utilize ARPA/MJRP funds?

Yes – If Yes, please attach the approved Business Case(s).

No – If No, proceed to Part V.

PART V: APPROVALS

The signatures below indicate approval of this procurement request.

Signature of requesting Department's Commissioner (or designee):			
Typed Name:	Patrick C. Keliher	Date:	1/12/23
Signature of DAFS Procurement Official:	DocuSigned by: 		
Typed Name:	891CE7A1493D45B... Martha verhille	Date:	1/13/2023