



DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES  
**DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT SERVICES**  
 STATE OF MAINE

## 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:		Inland Fisheries and Wildlife / Wildlife / Diversity Group		
Department Contract Administrator or Grant Coordinator:		Amy McLaughlin and Diana Harper		
(If applicable) Department Reference #:		N/A		
Amount: (Contract/Amendment/Grant)		\$ 40,000	Advantage CT / RQS #:	CT-09A-20230301*2199
CONTRACT	Proposed Start Date:	Click or tap to enter a date.	Proposed End Date:	Click or tap to enter a date.
AMENDMENT	Original Start Date:	<b>4/15/2023</b>	Effective Date:	<b>12/31/2023</b>
	Previous End Date:	<b>12/31/2023</b>	New End Date:	<b>12/31/2024</b>
GRANT	Project Start Date:		Grant Start Date:	
	Project End Date:		Grant End Date:	
Vendor/Provider/Grantee Name, City, State:		Logan Parker, Ecologist Maine Natural History Observatory 317 Guzzle Road Gouldsboro, ME 04607		
Brief Description of Goods/Services/Grant:		Design and implementation of a field study on Eastern whip-poor-wills to gather more information on breeding and migration ecology, habitat use, and diet composition. This will support the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife in formulating conservation plans for this species.		

## 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 checked="" 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.

Aerial insectivores, including nightjars, are experiencing widespread declines across North America. Despite its cryptic appearance and secretive breeding biology, the decline of the Eastern whip-poor-will (*Antrostomus vociferus*) is apparent, as evidenced by the disappearance of the bird's loud and recognizable "song" from nighttime choruses across its breeding range in recent decades. Drivers of whip-poor-will decline are thought to be multifaceted and include habitat alteration and destruction, loss of suitable prey, and increased predation. Long-term monitoring efforts were initiated in Maine in 2017 to begin quantifying this bird's distribution and abundance within the state, however, there are significant knowledge gaps in several areas of this bird's life history and breeding biology. We know little to nothing about reproductive success, nest predation rates, and diet composition of whip-poor-will on their breeding grounds within Maine. We know even less about the migratory ecology of Maine's whip-poor-wills, missing fundamental details on migratory timings, pathways, migratory connectivity, stopover locations, and potential threats. This project aims to complement ongoing monitoring efforts to gather critically needed data in these areas of whip-poor-will ecology. These complementary research pursuits will generate a wealth of knowledge in several currently unknown aspects of Maine's nightjar ecology to inform their management within the state.

Grant money will be allocated in a contract agreement for a scope of work that includes capture and tagging of adult whip-poor-wills, monitoring of nests, gathering of data on habitat, collecting fecal samples from birds for dietary composition analysis, and providing ongoing training to volunteers for nightjar surveys.

The amendment is to continue this work into another calendar year.

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

Logan Parker is intimately connected with the nightjar research community and has been working on nightjars for over 7 years. He has also field trained with the leading experts on this species. In addition, he lead the special species surveys for the 5 years of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Maine Breeding Bird Atlas, including conducting nightjar surveys and training volunteers to conduct surveys. He continues to train volunteers to run the nightjar surveys in Maine.

We do not know of anyone within Maine with a similar level of experience and expertise on this particular species.

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

Negotiated costs are fair and reasonable and reflect reasonable allocation of costs, with an hourly rate of \$25/hour for approximately 40 weeks at 40 hours/week.

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

Avian aerial insectivores are declining across North America, with a 31.8% decline in populations since 1970, with some of the steepest declines occurring in the Northeast. Drivers of these declines are currently unknown but could include a number of different factors which could vary by species. This project will provide further information on just one of the species within this guild. With the need for further research on

**PART III: SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION**

other species, we expect additional opportunities for contractors for studies on other aerial insectivore species, creating additional competition for such services in the future.

**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):	DocuSigned by: <i>Tim Peabody</i> 03275703AA74438...		
Typed Name:	Tim Peabody	Date:	12/18/2023
Signature of DAFS Procurement Official:	DocuSigned by: <i>Martha Verhille</i> 891CE7A1493D45B...		
Typed Name:	Martha Verhille	Date:	1/2/2024