



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
Table with 4 columns: Department Office/Division/Program, Department Contract Administrator or Grant Coordinator, (If applicable) Department Reference #, Amount: (Contract/Amendment/Grant), Advantage CT / RQS #, Proposed Start Date, Proposed End Date, Original Start Date, Effective Date, Previous End Date, New End Date, Project Start Date, Grant Start Date, Project End Date, Grant End Date, Vendor/Provider/Grantee Name, City, State, Brief Description of Goods/Services/Grant.

PART II: JUSTIFICATION FOR VENDOR SELECTION
Check the box below for the justification(s) that applies to this request. (Check all that apply.)
Table with 4 columns: A. Competitive Process, B. Amendment, C. Single Source/Unique Vendor, D. Proprietary/Copyright/Patents, E. Emergency, F. University Cooperative Project, G. Grant, H. State Statute/Agency Directed, I. Federal Agency Directed, J. Willing and Qualified, K. Client Choice, 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.**

Innovasea is the sole provider of the acoustic receiver/releases that we use in our current passive acoustic monitoring (PAM) project. As part of a large-scale North Atlantic right whale monitoring program DMR is conducting, we are expanding our PAM work by starting a new PAM project that consist of 26 PAM sites that span the inshore and offshore waters of Maine. For this reason, we need to purchase acoustic receivers/releases for this new project. The acoustic receivers/releases sold by Innovasea are unique in that they serve a dual purpose of acting as receivers for fish telemetry research and as acoustic releases for the mooring system we use to anchor our acoustic recorders (which we use to monitor whales) to the sea floor. The receiver capabilities of this equipment allow us to track fish species that are acoustically tagged contributing data to fisheries research conducted by DMR as well as our colleagues in the Atlantic Cooperative Telemetry Network. The release capabilities of this equipment allow for the reliable and repeatable retrieval of our subsurface moorings, which contain the acoustic recorders we use to monitor whales. The whale monitoring data from this project, in combination with our existing PAM work, will be used to determine how whales use the Gulf of Maine. Therefore, using these acoustic receivers/releases in our new PAM project will allow us to maintain consistency with our existing PAM project as well as the PAM research we do in collaboration with NOAA.

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

Innovasea is the sole provider of these acoustic receivers/releases. The release capabilities of the Innovasea receivers/releases have proven to be a reliable means of retrieving our subsurface moorings in our current PAM project, and in a PAM project with our partners at NOAA. In addition, these are the only acoustic releases that also serve as acoustic receivers for fish telemetry work being conducted by DMR and other researchers in the Gulf of Maine. Using these acoustic receivers/releases in our new PAM project will also ensure continuity with current PAM projects.

- 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 from Innovasea which is the sole provider of these acoustic receivers/releases. The quoted costs are fair and reasonable for this type of equipment given the dual functionality of acting as a receiver for fish telemetry research and as a release for mooring systems used to anchor acoustic recorders used in whale monitoring.

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

Until a similar acoustic receiver/release system is sold by another company, Innovasea is the sole provider for this particular piece of equipment, which is a vital part of the fish and whale research DMR conducts.

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

Does this request utilize ARPA/MJRP funds?

 Yes, MJRP funds (023) – If Yes, please attach the approved Business Case(s). Yes, ARPA funds (025) – If Yes, please be aware of the requirements from awarding federal agencies. 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 Keliher, Commissioner

Date:

12/12/23

Signature of DAFS
Procurement Official:DocuSigned by:
William J.E. Allen
2D5B6E39F57E44A...

Typed Name: William J.E. Allen

Date:

1/2/2024

NOI 0120240004 01/03/2024 - 01/09/2024