

**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:		Marine Resources/Marine Mammal Research/Passive Acoustics Program	
Department Contract Administrator or Grant Coordinator:		Anita Murray/ Amanda Webb	
(If applicable) Department Reference #:		N/A	
Amount: (Contract/Amendment/Grant)	\$ 117,220.00	Advantage CT / RQS #:	13A 20231212000000000878
CONTRACT	Proposed Start Date:	12/11/2023	Proposed End Date: 6/11/2024
AMENDMENT	Original Start Date:		Effective Date:
	Previous End Date:		New End Date:
GRANT	Project Start Date:		Grant Start Date:
	Project End Date:		Grant End Date:
Vendor/Provider/Grantee Name, City, State:		Ocean Instruments <sup>NZ</sup> , Auckland, New Zealand	
Brief Description of Goods/Services/Grant:		Acoustic recorders used in whale research	

**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.

Ocean Instruments<sup>NZ</sup> is the sole provider of the acoustic recorders that we use in our current passive acoustic monitoring (PAM) projects. 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 recorders for this new project. The acoustic recorders sold by Ocean Instruments<sup>NZ</sup> are unique in that they can be used to monitor for whales, and can be deployed for 4 months before the batteries have to be replaced. The data collected by these recorders will be used to determine how North Atlantic right whales, and other baleen whales, use the Gulf of Maine. Therefore, using these recorders 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.

Ocean Instruments<sup>NZ</sup> is the sole provider of these acoustic recorders. These recorders have proven to be a reliable means of monitoring for whales in current PAM project, and in a PAM project with our partners at NOAA. In addition, using these acoustic recorders 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 Ocean Instruments<sup>NZ</sup> which is the sole provider of these acoustic recorders. The quoted costs are fair and reasonable for this type of equipment given a single recorder can be used to monitor for whales for 4 months before the batteries need to be replaced.

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

Until a similar acoustic recorder that can monitor for whales, and last for 4 months, is sold by another company, Ocean Instruments<sup>NZ</sup> is the sole provider for this particular piece of equipment, which is a vital part of the research DMR conducts.


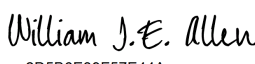
**PART IV: AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT (ARPA) / MAINE JOBS & RECOVERY PLAN (MJRP)**

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:	12/13/23
Signature of DAFS Procurement Official:	DocuSigned by:  2D5B6E39F57E44A...		
Typed Name:	William J.E. Allen	Date:	1/3/2024

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