



PROCUREMENT JUSTIFICATION FORM (PJF)

This form must accompany all contract requests and sole source requisitions (RQS) over \$5,000 submitted to the Office of State 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 Procurement Services intranet site (Forms page) for additional instructions.

PART I: OVERVIEW			
Department Office/Division/Program:	IFW/Warden Service		
Department Contract Administrator or Grant Coordinator:	Lt. Michael W Joy		
(If applicable) Department Reference #:	N/A		
Amount: (Contract/Amendment/Grant)	\$ \$135,613	Advantage CT / RQS #:	20250113*972
CONTRACT	Proposed Start Date:		Proposed End Date:
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:	Diamondback Airboat Cocoa, Florida		
Brief Description of Goods/Services/Grant:	Purchase of a Custom Built Diamondback Airboat		

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 checked="" 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 Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, Bureau of Warden Service has, pursuant to MRSA 12, Section 10105 (4), a statutory responsibility to conduct searches for people who have become lost, stranded or have drowned in the inland waters of the State of Maine.

The emergency need for this airboat is to replace the airboat assigned to Warden Service Division D (Moosehead Lake Region). Moosehead Lake is the largest lake in Maine and an attraction to many people enjoying the outdoors fishing, boating and snowmobiling. In the winter and early spring Moosehead has varied ice conditions, often causing dangerous situations for the public enjoying the lake. The airboat currently assigned to that division is forty years old and has proven to be unreliable and not mission ready. Due to the condition of the boat, it presents a safety concern for the wardens that are operating the boat and mission fulfillment. Airboats are the most efficient and safe craft for search and rescue on thin ice conditions. The preference would be to have the new boat on site before ice out on the lake, the reality is it will likely be later than that. The emergency is to replace the airboat as soon as possible to avoid any delays in having the appropriate equipment for rescues in this region.

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

There are four reasons for a non-competitive contract process:

- 1) Consistency - The Warden Service currently has two twenty-foot Diamondback airboats. The new airboat will be of a similar design to the other two boats. This will ensure that the boat systems and operating procedures will be identical to the other two airboats. I am responsible for training/certifying all wardens on basic airboat operation. Purchasing this boat from Diamondback airboat will significantly reduce the amount of training time needed to ensure the operators are operationally ready.
- 2) Multi-state Partnerships - New Hampshire Fish and Game has a twenty-foot Diamondback airboat similar to our two airboats. We conduct joint airboat training with New Hampshire Fish and Game. The purpose of this training is to ensure that each department has operators that are mission ready. In addition, the joint training also ensures we have additional resources available to assist with both state's mandated mission of search and rescue. Purchasing a Diamondback airboat that has familiar operating procedures will greatly enhance mission success and the safety of the wardens operating the boat.
- 3) Proven Performance - The Maine Warden Service purchased our first Diamondback airboat in 2013 and purchased our second Diamondback airboat in 2018. They have proven reliable and have definitely enhanced our mission success and the safety of the wardens that operate them.
- 4) Noise - Airboats are inherently loud. A few years ago, I was assigned to a legislative stakeholder group to adopt/create recommendations to address loud airboat noise. The loud airboat noise was from commercial harvesters that use airboats for harvesting shellfish. As part of this stakeholder group, I noise tested with a decibel meter, numerous airboats owned by commercial harvesters, local municipalities as well as the airboats owned by Warden

PART III: SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

Service. This Diamondback airboat that we are purchasing will be designed in a similar configuration as the two other Diamondback airboats the Bureau owns. This particular configuration is considerably quieter than other airboats.

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 due to the fact that we are purchasing direct from the manufacturer. We have already done business with them in the past and are extremely satisfied with their product. From my experience, they have great customer service support should it be needed.

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

The first Diamondback airboat Warden Service purchased is 11 years old and the last boat is six years old. They have proven reliable and have definitely enhanced our mission success and the safety of the wardens that operate them. We would expect to get that same proven reliability from the new Diamondback airboat as well. We intend to keep an eye on other airboat manufactures and reassess our needs for future products to that enhances our mandated mission – search and rescue. Currently, a new Diamondback airboat is essential to our mission success.

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.

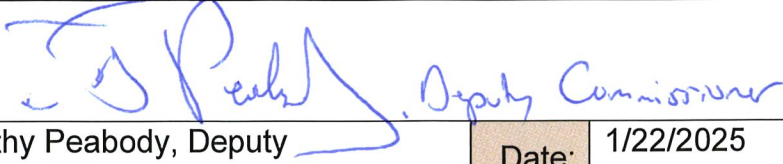
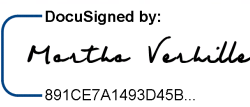
PART V: CONFLICTS OF INTEREST (COI); CONTRACT WITH THE STATE

Maine law contains Conflict of Interest statutes directed to State Departments, State Officers, and Employees Generally under MRS [Title 5, §18](#) and [§18-A](#), in harmony with MRS [Title 17, §3104](#).

The requesting department signatory understands and acknowledges Maine's Conflict of Interest statutes.

PART VI: APPROVALS

The signatures below indicate approval of this procurement request.

Signature of requesting Department's Commissioner (or designee):			
Typed Name:	Timothy Peabody, Deputy Commissioner	Date:	1/22/2025
Signature of DAFS Procurement Official:			
Typed Name:	Martha Verhille	Date:	1/23/2025