



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:		Marine Resources, Bureau of Public Health & Aquaculture		
Department Contract Administrator or Grant Coordinator:		David Miller/Amanda Webb		
(If applicable) Department Reference #:		N/A		
Amount: (Contract/Amendment/Grant)	\$ 50,000	Advantage <u>CT</u> / RQS #:	13A 20240311000000002449	
CONTRACT	Proposed Start Date:		Proposed End Date:	
AMENDMENT	Original Start Date:	4/30/2024	Effective Date:	2/5/2025
	Previous End Date:	12/31/2024	New End Date:	12/31/2026
GRANT	Project Start Date:		Grant Start Date:	
	Project End Date:		Grant End Date:	
Vendor/Provider/Grantee Name, City, State:		Carver Shellfish dba A.C. Inc 125 Black Duck Cove Rd, Beals, ME 04611		
Brief Description of Goods/Services/Grant:		Contract mahogany quahog vessel for biotoxin sampling offshore		

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 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 Department of Marine Resources (DMR), Bureau of Public Health is tasked with monitoring the bivalve shellfish resources of the State of Maine for biotoxin threats. This monitoring program is mandated by the National Shellfish Sanitation Program Model Ordinance, compliance with which allows Maine shellfish to be exported out of state. Testing must be done on all species commercially harvested. Maine allows an offshore mahogany quahog fishery provided biotoxin testing toxin levels are below quarantine limits and thus safe for human consumption. DMR requires access to a commercial fishing vessel to harvest mahogany quahog samples at specified locations and times for biotoxin testing.

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

The harvest of mahogany quahogs occurs offshore at water depths of 200-300 feet utilizing specialized fishing equipment. The Department does not have a boat, fishing gear or personnel to collect mahogany quahog samples independently. The vessels owned by A.C. Inc are equipped to harvest mahogany quahogs. They have experienced captains and crews to run the vessels and harvest gear as well as knowledge of the fishing grounds. There is now only one company that participates in this fishery and the only one available to contract for the biotoxin testing service.

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

A.C. Inc is the only company able to provide the boat sampling services to DMR. Their per trip price of \$2,000 which accounts for a 12 -14 hour sampling day covering a large area off Jonesport Maine, conducting 12 -14 tows to collect the samples and transport to and from their home port. This is the same per trip cost DMR paid for the same contracted services in 2022 & 2023.

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

For a variety of reasons participation in this fishery has declined to a point where this is the only vendor available to provide sampling services to DMR. DMR continues to evaluate and pursue new testing protocols that incorporate more shoreside lot testing thereby reducing the cost and reliance on boat sampling.

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.


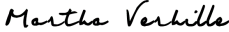
PART V: CONFLICTS OF INTEREST (COI); CONTRACT WITH THE STATE

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):	 Meredith Mendelson (Feb 5, 2025 17:02 EST)		
Typed Name:	Meredith Mendelson, Deputy Commissioner	Date:	02/05/25
Signature of DAFS Procurement Official:	<small>DocuSigned by:</small>  <small>891CE7A1493D45B...</small>		
Typed Name:	Martha Verhille	Date:	2/12/2025

PJF- CT 13A 20240311-2449 Amendment

Final Audit Report

2025-02-05

Created:	2025-02-05
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