



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 Resource Assessment Section	
Department Contract Administrator or Grant Coordinator:		Sue-Ann Brann	
(If applicable) Department Reference #:			
Amount: (Contract/Amendment/Grant)	\$ \$337,060	Advantage CT / RQS #:	09A-20240306000000002411
CONTRACT	Proposed Start Date:	4/1/2024	Proposed End Date: 12/31/2025
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:		Maine Audubon, Falmouth, ME	
Brief Description of Goods/Services/Grant:		To manage endangered beach-nesting birds on both private and public beaches for 2024 and 2025 spring-summer-fall season and monitor migrating shorebirds.	

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.

With oversight by MDIFW, Maine Audubon (MA) will play the lead role in monitoring shorebirds and nesting plovers on about 30 beaches, negotiating landowner agreements, erecting and moving fencing throughout the season, training volunteers, conducting core outreach activities, coordinating with municipalities and other partners (e.g. MDIFW, Bureau of Public Lands (BPL)/State Parks, USFWS, and RCNWR), maintaining weekly updates on Maine Audubon's website, and producing a final report. Maine Audubon will work with Rachel Carson NWR staff to monitor and manage Least Tern populations. They will also continue to expand shorebird monitoring efforts. During the breeding season, MA will take the lead to ensure all partners have the information needed to plan their management activities (beach cleaning, predator control, warden patrols). Please see the attached "Maine Coastal Birds: Recovery, Conservation, and Outreach proposal for 2024 and 2025" for additional detail.

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

This work is part of the MDIFW 's ongoing recovery efforts for Piping Plovers and Least Terns in Maine. Since the mid-1980s MDIFW has contracted with Maine Audubon to manage plover and tern breeding and nesting areas. Maine Audubon has a long contractual history with MDIFW, working with MDIFW to achieve state recovery goals for Piping Plovers and Least Terns for the last 40+ years. Maine Audubon has expert knowledge of plover and tern biology, nesting requirements, locations of nesting areas, and information regarding ownership of nesting areas as well considerable outreach capabilities. Considerable match is accumulated and documented during each field season as several municipalities offer services for piping plover management and dozens of private individuals coordinate with MA staff to assist MDIFW to document time and monitor the beach nesting birds on nearly a daily basis. These volunteer activities (time and mileage) are thoroughly documented and generated over \$130K of match used to acquire appropriate federal dollars.

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

Maine Audubon has established a volunteer network and landowner outreach program that is an important component of plover, tern, and shorebird management. Dozens of volunteers work thousands of hours monitoring Maine's plover and tern nesting beaches. Maine Audubon has developed over 150 landowner agreements to allow access to nesting areas. MDIFW worked closely with Maine Audubon to develop and submit a detailed proposal and budget including the Maine Audubon staff time needed to accomplish the tasks outlined in the attached proposal. With increasing plover populations the past six years, and birds nesting in areas not previously occupied, the scope of management has increased, resulting in a need for additional staff and equipment needs. This is a two-year proposal for the field seasons of 2024 and 2025.

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

The project described here is a two-year proposal. We anticipate that a detailed strategic plan for future plover and tern management with updated goals and objectives for these species will be developed in 2024.

PART III: SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

These updated goals and objectives may change the future direction of some of the beach-nesting bird management activities.

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>Judith A Camuso</i> <small>2E11918D8425475...</small>		
Typed Name:	Judy Camuso	Date:	3/6/2024
Signature of DAFS Procurement Official:	DocuSigned by: <i>Martha Verhille</i> <small>891CE7A1493D45B...</small>		
Typed Name:	Martha Verhille	Date:	3/13/2024