

State of Maine Procurement Justification Form

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 website (Forms page) for additional instructions.

PART I: OVERVIEW				
Department Office/Division/Program:	Department of Marine Resources			
Department Contract Administrator or Grant Coordinator:	Matthew Davis / Lauren Brown			
(If applicable) Department Reference #:				
Amount: (Contract/Amendment/Grant)	\$ 144,500.00	Advantage	CT-13A-20200423000000002966	
CONTRACT	Proposed Start Date:	May 1, 2020	Proposed End Date:	October 1, 2020
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:	Gulf of Maine Lobster Foundation (GOMLF) Kennebunk, ME 04043			
Brief Description of Goods/Services/Grant:	Administer the 2020 Maine Ventless Trap Survey (Vessel Services)			

PART II: JUSTIFICATION FOR VENDOR SELECTION			
Mark an "X" before the justification(s) that applies to this request. (Check all that apply.)			
	A. Competitive Process		G. Grant
	B. Amendment		H. State Statute/Agency Directed
X	C. Single Source/Unique Vendor		I. Federal Agency Directed
	D. Proprietary/Copyright/Patents	X	J. Willing and Qualified
	E. Emergency		K. Client Choice
	F. University Cooperative Project		L. Other Authorization

PART III: SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION
Please respond to ALL of the following:
1. Provide a more detailed description and explain the need for the goods, services or grant to supplement the response in Part I.
The purpose of this contract is to administer vessel services for the 2020 Maine fishery-independent Ventless Trap Survey (VTS). The Ventless Trap Survey is a collaborative effort between the DMR, Gulf of Maine Lobster Foundation (GOMLF), and commercial Lobster Fishery to monitor juvenile and pre-recruit lobsters in the Gulf of Maine. The data collected herein is an essential indicator for lobster stock assessment and management of the lobster resource.

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PART III: SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

2. Provide a brief justification for the selected vendor to supplement the response in Part II.

The Ventless Trap Survey (VTS) is a fishery-independent program that monitors the entire coast of Maine during the months of June, July, and August. The Gulf of Maine Lobster Foundation (GOMLF) has been a reputable source for collaborative research (Float Rope Exchange/Buyback and Ghost Gear Recovery) with the lobster fishery in the past and has historically administered payments in a timely manner. The DMR has partnered with the GOMLF since 2006 on the VTS and has developed a strong working relationship with them. The GOMLF has a rotating competitive RFP that was created for the industry to simplify the process, improve industry involvement, and to focus on survey objectives. The fishing industry relies on daily or weekly payments while the State payment system is inefficient for these purposes. It is necessary that an outside organization rapidly administers vessel compensation to ensure that a positive relationship with industry participants is maintained, and to encourage ongoing participation. The DMR has chosen to partner with the GOMLF for this purpose due to their low indirect cost, which would be notably higher through other organizations.

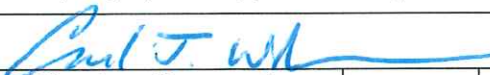
3. Explain how the negotiated costs or rates are fair and reasonable; or how the funding was allocated to grantee.

The GOMLF charges an indirect rate of 5% for the proposed survey, which is reduced from their 2018 rate of 20%. Lobster industry collaborators are selected and contracted through a competitive bid process.

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

Collaborative research is essential to fisheries and ecosystem monitoring, which is further enhanced by industry participation and consideration of the experimental knowledge represented by the commercial fishing industry. The GOMLF was established to foster collaborative research between stakeholders. Future competition will be promoted through competitive RFP's with strict goals and milestones for applicants.

PART IV: APPROVALS

Signature of requesting Department's Commissioner (or designee):	<i>By signing below, I signify that I approve of this procurement request.</i>		
			
Printed Name:	Carl Wilson, Director - Bureau of Marine Science	Date:	3.17.2020
Signature of DAFS Procurement Official:	<small>DocuSigned by:</small> <i>Kathy Paquette</i>		
Printed Name:	Kathy Paquette	Date:	4/23/2020