



## 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:	Kelsey Sullivan and Diana Harper		
(If applicable) Department Reference #:	N/A		
Amount: (Contract/Amendment/Grant)	\$ 19,938.10	Advantage CT / RQS #:	CT-09A-20230328*2482
CONTRACT	Proposed Start Date:	1/1/2023	Proposed End Date: 12/31/2024
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:	USDA, APHIS, WS PO Box 979043 St. Louis, MO 63197-9000		
Brief Description of Goods/Services/Grant:	To reduce the breeding population of great black-backed gull population on Flag Island and adjacent islands using an integration of methods. This work is part of a research project with MDIFW, US Fish and Wildlife Services (USFWS), US Geological Service (USGS), and Biodiversity Research Institute (BRI) to determine duckling survival rates through black-backed gull management.		

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.

Common Eiders are a USFWS Focal Species and a high priority of the Sea Duck Joint Venture (SDJV). Maine plays a primary role in addressing the conservation and management actions necessary for reversing their population decline given the primary range that this subspecies occupies. This work serves to evaluate a priority management action identified in the draft Common Eider Focal Species Plan, and links management actions to the Atlantic Flyway Gull Management Plan. Improving our understanding of the survival rates of common eider ducklings has been identified as one of the highest priorities in the recent report to the SDJV: Implications of Demographic Uncertainty for Harvest Management of North American Sea Ducks – Guidance for Prioritizing Sea Duck Joint Venture Research and Monitoring Investments. This work is needed to evaluate the effectiveness of gull control as a management tool for increasing common eider duckling survival in localized areas, to ensure accountability in the issuance of permits that authorize such control programs. It is believed that extremely low rates of duckling survival are the greatest limiting factor affecting the population growth and stability of common eiders in the Gulf of Maine. This project will result in recommendations on the effectiveness of gull control as a means of increasing duckling survival in key areas of eider breeding, and whether this approach can be implemented at a scale that is measurable. Results will also be used to inform policy decisions on authorizing take for migratory birds and evaluating its effectiveness for addressing management and/or conservation objectives.

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

USDA Wildlife Services is uniquely qualified, licensed, and permitted to conduct wildlife damage management actions using these specific tools, protocols, and chemicals. Wildlife Services has the proper equipment and staff to handle all the logistical activities the control methods and disposal of lethally controlled gulls.

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

USDA APHIS Wildlife Services has the total all-around experience with working with Maine’s wildlife for population control. They have provided us with a reasonable budget of personnel compensation, vehicle costs, supplies and equipment to conduct gull control services and damage management.

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

If we become aware of another vendor with the expertise and equipment to complete the required work, we will establish a competitive process to select the most qualified vendor and competitive pricing.

**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):		
Typed Name:	Nathan Webb	Date: 3/30/2023
Signature of DAFS Procurement Official:	<small>DocuSigned by:</small> 	
Typed Name:	<small>891CE7A1493D45B...</small> Martha Verhille	Date: 4/4/2023