



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:		IFW / Resource Management / Wildlife Research & Assessment Section / Bird Group and Habitat Group	
Department Contract Administrator or Grant Coordinator:		Amy McLaughlin and Diana Harper	
(If applicable) Department Reference #:		N/A	
Amount: (Contract/Amendment/Grant)	\$ 23,000.00	Advantage CT / RQS #:	CT-09A-20230301*2199
CONTRACT	Proposed Start Date:	4/15/2023	Proposed End Date: 12/31/2023
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:		Logan Parker, Ecologist Maine Natural History Observatory 317 Guzzle Road Gouldsboro, ME 04607	
Brief Description of Goods/Services/Grant:		Design and implementation of a field study on Eastern whip-poor-wills to gather more information on breeding and migration ecology, habitat use, and diet composition. This will support the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife in formulating conservation plans for this species.	

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.

Aerial insectivores, including nightjars, are experiencing widespread declines across North America. Despite its cryptic appearance and secretive breeding biology, the decline of the Eastern whip-poor-will (*Antrostomus vociferus*) is apparent, as evidenced by the disappearance of the bird's loud and recognizable "song" from nighttime choruses across its breeding range in recent decades. Drivers of whip-poor-will decline are thought to be multifaceted and include habitat alteration and destruction, loss of suitable prey, and increased predation. Long-term monitoring efforts were initiated in Maine in 2017 to begin quantifying this bird's distribution and abundance within the state, however, there are significant knowledge gaps in several areas of this bird's life history and breeding biology. We know little to nothing about reproductive success, nest predation rates, and diet composition of whip-poor-will on their breeding grounds within Maine. We know even less about the migratory ecology of Maine's whip-poor-wills, missing fundamental details on migratory timings, pathways, migratory connectivity, stopover locations, and potential threats. This project aims to complement ongoing monitoring efforts to gather critically needed data in these areas of whip-poor-will ecology. These complementary research pursuits will generate a wealth of knowledge in several currently unknown aspects of Maine's nightjar ecology to inform their management within the state.

Grant money will be allocated in a contract agreement for a scope of work that includes capture and tagging of adult whip-poor-wills, monitoring of nests, gathering of data on habitat, collecting fecal samples from birds for dietary composition analysis, and providing ongoing training to volunteers for nightjar surveys.

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

Logan Parker is intimately connected with the nightjar research community and has been working on nightjars for over 6 years. He has also field trained with the leading experts on this species. In addition, he has been leading the special species surveys for the past 5 years for the 2nd Maine Breeding Bird Atlas, including conducting nightjar surveys and training volunteers to conduct surveys.

We do not know of anyone within Maine with a similar level of experience and expertise on this particular species.

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 and reflect reasonable allocation of costs, with an hourly rate of \$23/hour for approximately 25 weeks at 40 hours/week. Match for grant dollars is being partially provided by MNHO for nanotags and an extra MOTUS tower.

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

Avian aerial insectivores are declining across North America, with a 31.8% decline in populations since 1970, with some of the steepest declines occurring in the Northeast. Drivers of these declines are currently unknown but could include a number of different factors which could vary by species. This project will provide further information on just one of the species within this guild. With the need for further research on other species, we expect additional opportunities for contractors for studies on other aerial insectivore species, creating additional competition for such services in the future.

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:	Martha verhille	Date:	4/4/2023