

**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:		Department of Marine Resources/Bureau of Marine Science/Marine Mammal/MIGL	
Department Contract Administrator or Grant Coordinator:		Briony Donahue/Amanda Webb	
(If applicable) Department Reference #:		N/A	
Amount: (Contract/Amendment/Grant)	\$ 214,144.00	Advantage CT / RQS #:	13A 20240322000000001380
CONTRACT	Proposed Start Date:	3/15/2024	Proposed End Date: 6/30/2024
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:		SMELTS, Sedro Woolley WA, 98284	
Brief Description of Goods/Services/Grant:		On-Demand Experimental fishing technology	

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.

Maine DMR has received funds from the Consolidated Appropriation Act Funds from ASMFC to create the Maine Innovative Gear Library (MIGL) and to purchase experimental on-demand fishing gear to disperse to participating commercial lobster and gillnet fishermen in Maine.

The ability to test these emergent gear retrieval systems is important for assessing their viability within commercial fixed gear fisheries and evaluating potential impacts to heterogenous fishing operations.

The need to test and evaluate this novel equipment is a direct result of needing to reduce the risk of fishing gear to protected species, including the North Atlantic right whale. This on-demand fishing system reduces the risk of the traditional vertical line to these species by removing it from the water column. Providing options to fishermen is a key component to ensuring they are able to sustain high fishing effort within the parameters of protected species requirements.

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

This on-demand fishing gear is novel and therefore the goods offered by this manufacturer is unique. It is not possible to purchase the same technology from another company. SMELTS supplies on-demand fishing gear using liftbag technology with both Edgetech and Teledyne acoustics and it's own retrieval system and underwater units.

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

The MIGL seeks to purchase various types of on-demand fishing gear from many manufacturers to allow Maine fishermen the ability to test experimental technologies of various retrieval types, cost and technology sophistication. The MIGL will purchase from up to 10 different manufacturers to create the inventory needed for 50 fishermen to test at least 2 retrieval units each.

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

There is an incredibly limited market for purchasing these emergent and relatively untested retrieval systems. DMR will continue to monitor product development in this space for other suitable options for testing.

As testing of on-demand fishing technology increases, the MIGL seeks to provide feedback to manufacturers to increase the functionality and cost efficiency of specific technologies.

PART IV: AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT (ARPA) / MAINE JOBS & RECOVERY PLAN (MJRP)

Does this request utilize ARPA/MJRP funds?


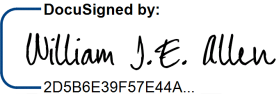
Yes, MJRP funds (023) – If Yes, please attach the approved Business Case(s).

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: APPROVALS

The signatures below indicate approval of this procurement request.

Signature of requesting Department's Commissioner (or designee):			
Typed Name:	Patrick Keliher, Commissioner of DMR	Date:	3/25/24
Signature of DAFS Procurement Official:	<small>DocuSigned by:</small>  <small>2D5B8E39F57E44A...</small>		
Typed Name:	William J.E. Allen	Date:	4/17/2024

NOI 0420240406 04/18/2024 - 04/24/2024