

**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/HQ-Finance		
(If applicable) Department Reference #:		N/A		
Amount: (Contract/Amendment/Grant)		\$ 37,270.00	Advantage CT / <u>RQS</u> #:	13A 20240412000000001482
CONTRACT	Proposed Start Date:	4/1/2024	Proposed End Date:	6/20/2024
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:		VC0000268339 Blue Ocean Gear Inc 440A Coloma St. Sausalito, CA		
Brief Description of Goods/Services/Grant:		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 NFWF grant # 81546 to create the Maine Innovative Gear Library (MIGL) and Community Engagement Program. A portion of these funds are to set aside to purchase 25 Blue Ocean Gear Smart Buoys, chargers and accessories 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 technology allows for fishermen testing on-demand gear to find their gear faster and identify any movement earlier. 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 Smart Buoy technology is novel and therefore the goods offered by this manufacturer is unique. It is not possible to purchase the same technology from another company. Blue Ocean Gear supplies Smart Buoys to work in tandem with on-demand fishing technologies to provide geolocation and real-time tracking for deployed fishing gear.

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 25 Smart Buoys, 5 chargers and 25 data subscriptions. The smart buoys will add a layer of real-time tracking to deployed fishing gear while at the surface.

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

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

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


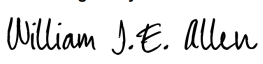
Does this request utilize ARPA/MJRP funds?

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

<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, ARPA funds (025) – If Yes, please be aware of the requirements from awarding federal agencies.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 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):	 Meredith Mendelson (Apr 12, 2024 11:59 EDT)		
Typed Name:	Meredith Mendelson, Deputy Commissioner of DMR	Date:	04/12/24
Signature of DAFS Procurement Official:	DocuSigned by:  2D5B6E39F57E44A...		
Typed Name:	William J.E. Allen	Date:	4/17/2024

NOI 0420240408 04/18/2024 - 04/24/2024






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Final Audit Report

2024-04-12

Created:	2024-04-12
By:	Mickenzy Breton (mickenzy.breton@maine.gov)
Status:	Signed
Transaction ID:	CBJCHBCAABAANeFYWVlzse41wqHkE_Fz0872mkk-FltG

"PJF - RQS 13A 20240412-1482" History

-  Document created by Mickenzy Breton (mickenzy.breton@maine.gov)
2024-04-12 - 3:34:02 PM GMT
-  Document emailed to Meredith Mendelson (meredith.mendelson@maine.gov) for signature
2024-04-12 - 3:34:05 PM GMT
-  Email viewed by Meredith Mendelson (meredith.mendelson@maine.gov)
2024-04-12 - 3:59:02 PM GMT
-  Document e-signed by Meredith Mendelson (meredith.mendelson@maine.gov)
Signature Date: 2024-04-12 - 3:59:41 PM GMT - Time Source: server
-  Agreement completed.
2024-04-12 - 3:59:41 PM GMT