



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:	Marine Resources/Bureau of Marine Science/Marine Mammal Research/Passive Acoustics Program			
Department Contract Administrator or Grant Coordinator:	Anita Murray/HQ-Finance			
(If applicable) Department Reference #:	N/A			
Amount: (Contract/Amendment/Grant)	\$ 30,000	Advantage CT/RQS #:	13A	20240327000000002636
CONTRACT	Proposed Start Date:	3/18/2024	Proposed End Date:	6/30/2026
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:		Dr. Danielle Harris, University of Saint Andrews		
Brief Description of Goods/Services/Grant:		Dr. Danielle Harris will work with Dr Anita Murray to estimate whale density using passive acoustic data.		

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 checked="" 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.

Dr Danielle Harris is a co-investigator in a collaborative research project with DMR that is mainly funded by an award from NOAA's Species Recovery Grant to States. The overall project objective is to determine when right and fin whales occur off the coast of Maine, and in what numbers. Dr. Harris will work with Anita Murray to estimate whale density or density of whale vocal activity using passive acoustic data. Dr. Harris plays a critical role in this project as DMR could not conduct the acoustic density analysis without her expertise and guidance. Her salary and travel costs for this work will be covered with ARPA funds.

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

Dr. Danielle Harris is a world-renowned expert in acoustic density estimation. She has developed the methodologies used to estimate whale density or density of whale vocal activity using passive acoustic data, and has published numerous papers on this topic. Her expertise is extremely unique and her collaboration with DMR is vital to the success of this research project.

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

The negotiated costs are based on the associated salary costs for Dr. Harris's time and for her to travel to DMR for two in-person meetings.

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

Dr. Harris's expertise is extremely unique as she is one of the pioneers of acoustic density estimation of whales. For this reason, there are no competitive options for the services she will provide.

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):	 Meredith Mendelson (Mar 27, 2024 15:42 EDT)		
Typed Name:	Meredith Mendelson, Deputy Commissioner of DMR	Date:	3/27/24
Signature of DAFS Procurement Official:	DocuSigned by:  41C2BA36FAF44CD...		
Typed Name:	kathy Paquette	Date:	4/19/2024

PJF- CT 13A 20240327-2636

Final Audit Report

2024-03-27

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