



DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES  
OFFICE OF STATE PROCUREMENT SERVICES  
STATE OF MAINE

## PROCUREMENT JUSTIFICATION FORM (PJF)

This form must accompany all contract requests and sole source requisitions (RQS) over \$5,000 submitted to the Office of State 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 Procurement Services intranet site (Forms page) for additional instructions.*

PART I: OVERVIEW				
Department Office/Division/Program:		Department of Marine Resources, Division of Marine Mammal Research, Habitat Sampling Program		
Department Contract Administrator or Grant Coordinator:		Amy Wyeth		
(If applicable) Department Reference #:		N/A		
Amount: (Contract/Amendment/Grant)		\$ 79,065.00	Advantage CT / RQS #:	13A 20250305000000001257
CONTRACT	Proposed Start Date:	04/12/2025	Proposed End Date:	06/30/2025
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:		Environmental Analytical Systems, Barry's Bay, ON, Canada		
Brief Description of Goods/Services/Grant:		Purchase a MultiNet Mini for collecting depth stratified zooplankton samples		

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.

We are purchasing a MultiNet Mini, a plankton sampler with 5 closing nets, 2 electronic flowmeters, and an integrated depth meter. Zooplankton samples are typically collected using a single net to sample the entire water column. Critical information that is missing from these datasets are depth stratified zooplankton distribution and the ability to identify the presence of zooplankton patches (e.g. Calanus aggregations, the primary food source of the critically endangered North Atlantic Right Whale). The MultiNet Mini is one of the few depth-stratified zooplankton samples on the market, and the only one small enough to be deployed from the R/V Maine and without a conducting cable. Depth stratified zooplankton data is needed in the Gulf of Maine as we develop measures to reduce risk for the critically endangered NARW in a region that both supports foraging for whales and the American Lobster fishery, the most valuable single-species fishery in the U.S.

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

Environmental Analytical Systems is the only vendor that makes a zooplankton sampler with multiple nets that is small enough to be deployed from the R/V Maine and can be deployed without a conducting cable. The MultiNet is specialized equipment that uniquely suits our needs, and is anticipated to be applicable to future projects within the Department and with collaborating partners.

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

The negotiated costs are fair and reasonable based on current market rates for equivalent technology. The nets can either be pre-programmed to shut at specific depths or, with a conducting cable, nets can be triggered to close live. Additionally, the MultiNet is designed to be towed either vertically or obliquely. Given this flexibility, the MultiNet is reasonably priced as it can be deployed from a range of vessels and oceanographic conditions.

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

Procuring the MultiNet is a one-time purchase. Should we need to update or replace the nets in the future, we will continue to explore other source options.

### 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.


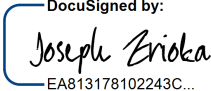
**PART V: CONFLICTS OF INTEREST (COI); CONTRACT WITH THE STATE**

Maine law contains Conflict of Interest statutes directed to State Departments, State Officers, and Employees Generally under MRS [Title 5, §18](#) and [§18-A](#), in harmony with MRS [Title 17, §3104](#).

☒ The requesting department signatory understands and acknowledges Maine's Conflict of Interest statutes.

**PART VI: APPROVALS**

The signatures below indicate approval of this procurement request.

Signature of requesting Department's Commissioner (or designee):	 <a href="#">Meredith Mendelson (Apr 16, 2025 15:59 EDT)</a>		
Typed Name:	Meredith Mendelson, Deputy Commissioner	Date:	16/04/2025
Signature of DAFS Procurement Official:	 <small>EA813178102243C...</small>		
Typed Name:	Joseph Zrioka, Director of IT Procurement	Date:	4/28/2025






# PJF RQS 13A 20250305-1257

Final Audit Report

2025-04-16

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