



DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES
DIVISION OF 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 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: | | Inland Fisheries and Wildlife | |
| Department Contract Administrator or Grant Coordinator: | | Nathan Webb | |
| (If applicable) Department Reference #: | | Wildlife Division | |
| Amount: (Contract/Amendment/Grant) | \$ 201,553 | Advantage CT / RQS #: | 09A-20240508000000003172 |
| CONTRACT | Proposed Start Date: | 4/15/2024 | Proposed End Date: 1/31/2025 |
| 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: | | National Audubon Society's Seabird Institute 12 Audubon Road Bremen, ME 04551 | |
| Brief Description of Goods/Services/Grant: | | Seabird GPS tracking study | |

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.

One of the goals of the Governor's Energy Office is to foster a renewable offshore wind industry that helps Maine become a leader in floating technology while fighting Climate Change; harnessing Renewable Energy; creating Jobs and Economic Growth; and sustaining Maine's Maritime Heritage, wildlife and fisheries, and the Gulf of Maine Environment. To begin to understand potential impacts on wildlife resources from the pending implementation of offshore wind in the Gulf of Maine, baseline information is needed now to help inform wise development of this important industry.

To better understand life history needs, daily movements and seasonal migration patterns, and overall utilization of the Gulf of Maine environment by Maine's coastal islands seabird populations, National Audubon Society's Seabird Institute will capture and affix GPS tags to birds of importance to Maine including Roseate Terns (State Endangered species), Leach's Storm Petrels (Special Concern species), Atlantic Puffins (State Threatened species), Common Terns, and Arctic Terns (State Threatened species). Data are internally archived in the individual tags until downloaded via UHF signal to a basestation located near their breeding locations.

Data collected from this effort will help MDIFW and its partners and other offshore wind stakeholders to inform various offshore wind planning processes currently underway by expanding our knowledge base of potential wind development areas in the Gulf that have the potential to be most impactful to these species. Project deliverables include a technical report that summarizes the design and implementation of the tagging efforts, tagging data analyses, and key assumptions and results.

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

MDIFW does not have the capacity to conduct formal research in the Gulf of Maine, so to directly enter into a contract with National Audubon Society's Seabird Institute supports the Department's need to conduct research to inform recommendations into the development of offshore wind in the Gulf of Maine.

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

The National Audubon Society is a nonprofit conservation organization with expert knowledge and international experience that is used to protect birds and their habitats now and into the future. The Institute takes an applied science approach to research, with data and study results providing feedback to improve management and monitoring, with an emphasis on a standardized approach to facilitate comparison of data across islands and years. The result is consistent, long-term data sets which will allow MDIFW and our partners to better understand patterns and variations in the dynamic Gulf of Maine environment, which is critical in long-term planning for environmentally-

PART III: SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

sound offshore wind siting. This contract will be administered as a subaward between the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife (Recipient) and National Audubon Society's Seabird Institute (Subrecipient). The Department has determined that the costs are fair and reasonable based on our knowledge and experience of the costs associated with conducting field research on wildlife along the coast of Maine.

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

The National Audubon Society is a nonprofit conservation organization with expert knowledge and international experience with bird research and conservation and with an active ongoing research seabird research program in the Gulf of Maine. We will work with National Audubon to ensure that they collaborate with and mentor key partner organizations that might then be better prepared to compete for future bird research contracts in the Gulf of Maine.

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); PURCHASES BY THE STATE

Does the requesting Department signatory understand and acknowledge Maine's COI Statute?

Yes, the requesting Department signatory understands and acknowledges [Title 17, Chapter 101, §3104](#).

PART VI: APPROVALS

The signatures below indicate approval of this procurement request.

| | | | |
|--|---|-------|-----------|
| Signature of requesting Department's Commissioner (or designee): |  | | |
| Typed Name: | Judith A. Camuso | Date: | 5/9/2024 |
| Signature of DAFS Procurement Official: |  | | |
| Typed Name: | Kathy Paquette | Date: | 5/16/2024 |