



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:		Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, Bureau of Resource Management	
Department Contract Administrator or Grant Coordinator:		Tegwin Taylor, Wildlife Health Biologist	
(If applicable) Department Reference #:			
Amount: (Contract/Amendment/Grant)	133,116.00	Advantage CT / RQS #:	09A-20250508*2634
CONTRACT	Proposed Start Date:	6/1/2025	Proposed End Date: 5/29/2026
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:		Biodiversity Research Institute	
Brief Description of Goods/Services/Grant:		Assessment of PFAS in common eiders and bald eagles	

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.

As part of the State of Maine's PFAS response, the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife is pursuing research collaborations to better understand the impact of PFAS on native wildlife species of Maine. In 2024, Casco Bay experienced a PFAS spill of aqueous firefighting foam at Brunswick Landing. Subsequent investigations by Maine Department of Environmental Protection have detected high levels of PFAS in the water, sediment, shellfish and fish at the site of the spill. Two resident Maine birds, common eiders and bald eagles, are particularly beneficial species to evaluate for PFAS exposure in this area. Both species have resident breeding populations in Casco Bay and both species are predators in the local aquatic food webs. Sampling these species in 2025 represents a unique opportunity to assess PFAS exposure both before and after the spill, particularly in the case of common eiders, which nest near the spill site and were extensively sampled prior to the spill. Sampling proposed here provides an opportunity to provide a post-spill measure of PFAS exposure that can be used in long-term monitoring.

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

The Biodiversity Research Institute (BRI) has conducted long-term sampling and monitoring of many Maine birds, with support and collaboration from IFW, for decades. BRI personnel has the expertise and exceptional field capabilities to support this project. BRI staff have previously sampled common eiders in Casco Bay, which will serve as valuable reference data for this project. BRI is also providing in-kind support through personnel hours and use of a vehicle and boat. Additionally, BRI staff have access to a PFAS laboratory and can analyze samples for PFAS at a significantly reduced rate compared to commercial labs.

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

BRI has developed internal capacity to analyze PFAS compounds in plasma at a reduced cost relative to commercial labs (\$250 for plasma vs. ~\$550 - 570 at many commercial labs). BRI will analyze ~160 wild bird samples for IFW. BRI will also provide one boat and one vehicle, a substantial proportion of staff time, and half of equipment costs as in-kind donations to this project.

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

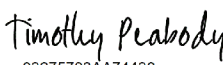
This collaborative project is best suited for BRI. BRI has rare PFAS laboratory capabilities, and BRI staff have exceptional field capabilities and experience with this type of research, making this project a unique opportunity to study common eiders and bald eagles in Maine. There are a limited number of organizations in Maine who have these capabilities and resources, however, we will look into other organizations to see how they compare to BRI the next time we need these services.

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.

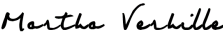
Signature of requesting
Department's Commissioner
(or designee):Signed by:

03275703AA74438...

Typed Name:

Timothy Peabody

Date:

5/8/2025

Signature of DAFS
Procurement Official:DocuSigned by:

891CE7A1493D45B...

Typed Name:

Martha verhille

Date:

6/9/2025