



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 \$10,000 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:		Marine Resources/Marine Science/Landings/Landings Program	
Department Contract Administrator or Grant Coordinator:		Robert B Watts II	
(If applicable) Department Reference #:		N/A	
Agency Department Code:	13A	Advantage CT / RQS #:	20191204000000001758
Amount: (Contract/Amendment/Grant)		\$ 17,000	
CONTRACT	Proposed/Original Start Date:	12/13/2019	Proposed/Most Recent End Date: 9/30/2026
AMENDMENT	New Effective Date:	7/1/2026	New End Date (if Applicable): N/A
GRANT	Project Start Date:		Grant Start Date:
	Project End Date:		Grant End Date:
Vendor/Provider/Grantee Name, City, State:		Bluefin Data LLC, New Orleans, LA	
Brief Description of Goods/Services/Grant:		To continue the maintenance and support to the VESL application.	

PART II: JUSTIFICATION FOR VENDOR SELECTION			
Check the box below for the justification(s) that applies to this request. (Check all that apply.)			
☐	A. Competitive Process	☐	G. Grant
☒	B. Amendment	☐	H. State Statute/Agency Directed
☒	C. Single Source/Unique Vendor	☐	I. Federal Agency Directed
☐	D. Proprietary/Copyright/Patents	☐	J. Willing and Qualified
☐	E. Emergency	☐	K. Client Choice
☐	F. Higher Education Cooperative Project	☐	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.

With the implementation of 100% mandatory electronic lobster reporting that started in January 2023, harvesters are utilizing the VESL application created in this contract to fulfill those reporting requirements. This amendment is to continue the maintenance and support for this application.

2. Provide a brief justification for the selected vendor to supplement the response in Part II. Reference the solicitation (RFP/RFA/RFQ) number if applicable.

Bluefin Data LLC was the contractor selected by RFP# 201906110 to build the original VESL program the terms of which have since expired. This vendor is the only one able to maintain this proprietary software that they developed for DMR.

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

The funding amount matches the rates they quoted during their successful RFP process. Their rates are based on their standard funding costs and were found to be acceptable during their RFP review.

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

These services will be going back through the competitive bidding process given that the terms of the RFP on which the original contract was based are set to expire and this amendment is to ensure that these vital services remain in place while that competitive process occurs.

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) or (026) – 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's signatory affirms, understands, and acknowledges Maine's Conflict of Interest statutes and, in accordance with those statutes and to the best of their knowledge, has determined that no conflict of interest exists at the time of this contract, renewal, or amendment.

PART VI: APPROVALS

Governor/Department Commissioner or Designee

1. The signature below indicates approval of this procurement request.

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

Signed by:

Meredith Mendelson

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Typed Name:

Meredith Mendelson, Deputy
Commissioner

Date:

6/23/2026

2. Additional signature required **ONLY if box E (Emergency) is selected in PART II**. The signature below indicates approval by the Department's Commissioner, or the designee specifically authorized to approve emergency procurement requests.Signature of requesting
Department's Commissioner
(or designee):

Typed Name:

Date:

****OSPS Section Only****Signature of DAFS
Procurement Official:

Signed by:

Marcello Genovese

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Typed Name:

Marcello Genovese

Date:

6/23/2026