



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:	DHHS/MCDCP/Environmental Health Program			
Department Contract Administrator or Grant Coordinator:	Chris Moiles / Stephanie Wood			
(If applicable) Department Reference #:	CD0-26-5308			
Agency Department Code:	10A	Advantage CT / RQS #:	20260609000CD0265308	
Amount: (Contract/Amendment/Grant)	\$39,204.02			
CONTRACT	Proposed/Original Start Date:	6/1/2026	Proposed/Most Recent End Date:	5/30/2027
AMENDMENT	New Effective Date:		New End Date (if Applicable):	
GRANT	Project Start Date:		Grant Start Date:	
	Project End Date:		Grant End Date:	
Vendor/Provider/Grantee Name, City, State:	Wolfe's Neck Center for Agriculture & the Environment Freeport, ME			
Brief Description of Goods/Services/Grant:	The provider will provide the Department with access to their farm to allow for continuation of a field study to understand the movement of PFAS from the soil into the eggs of chickens.			

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.

The 130th Legislature (7 M.R.S.A., Chapter 10-D) established the PFAS Fund to support farmers whose land and/or water are contaminated with per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS). The PFAS Fund is administered by Department of Agriculture Conservation and Forestry (DACF). Expenditures from the PFAS Fund are guided by an implementation plan adopted by the PFAS Fund Advisory Committee on July 10, 2023. The plan includes the allocation of funds for research to help farmers make informed decisions about how to adjust their operations to remain viable when PFAS contamination is identified on their farm. PFAS contamination of eggs from chickens with access to PFAS contaminated soil has emerged as an issue for some farmers and homeowners with backyard chickens.

Maine CDC has received funding from the PFAS Fund to perform a second year of field work to understand the major pathways by which PFAS in soil contaminates the eggs of chickens with access to the soil and develop soil screening levels to help farmers make informed decisions. The planned work is an extension of work conducted during the summer of 2025 under a separate PFAS Fund award to Harvard University in which Maine CDC was a collaborator. This prior work was performed at the Wolfe's Neck Center for Agriculture & the Environment. The farm is a non-profit education and research farm and will provide personnel who will perform farm animal husbandry, chicken coop maintenance, and regular egg sample collection under the supervision of the farm's Director of Research.

Supporting other State agencies is part of the statutory mission of the Maine CDC's public health programs that specifically focus on environmental health and that are staffed by individuals with training in toxicology, epidemiology, environmental medicine, and related fields (22 M.R.S.A. § 1692). These professionals advise State agencies and boards, including the DACF, and have statutory authority to conduct and contract for investigations as necessary to determine whether particular problems are related to environmental factors.

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.

The Wolfe's Neck Center for Agriculture & the Environment (WNC) is uniquely qualified to provide DHHS the farm site and supporting personnel necessary to carry out the funded study. WNC is a nonprofit organization dedicated to advancing sustainable agriculture through education, research, and community engagement. WNC actively participates in interdisciplinary, multi-partner research collaborations to provide real-world data shared with farmers and the public. WNC maintains a working farm that includes a flock of chickens used to support egg production for local use and sale, and to support education and community engagement. WNC has a Farm Operations Manager and staff to perform animal husbandry, chicken coop maintenance, egg collection, sorting and storage, and provide expertise in poultry management, including an intern supported by other funding and thus available at no cost to this contract. WNC also has a Director of Research to help coordinate broader PFAS research at the farm and will assist in this project. WNC participated in a research effort on the movement of PFAS from soil to chicken eggs lead by Harvard University with Maine CDC as a collaborator in 2025. Thus, WNC is set up for another year of conducting this study and provides a unique, well suited study site.

PART III: SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

Due to a prior history of land application of PFAS contaminated biosolids, the WNC has several hay fields with low level PFAS contamination that are suitable for the study of PFAS accumulation into eggs of chickens with access to the soil. In 2025, WNC hosted Harvard University and Maine CDC for a field study entitled “Understanding and Managing the Transfer of Diverse PFAS in Biosolids Impacted Soils to Poultry and Eggs” that was funded by a DAC first round of Major Grants for the Study of PFAS in Agricultural Systems. This hosting agreement was between Harvard University and WNC. During this first year, WNC staff built a mobile chicken coop used to study the accumulation of PFAS in eggs of chickens and developed and implemented protocols for the care of the chickens and the daily collection of eggs.

WNC was listed as a subaward on the awarded grant for funding Maine CDC research and WNC provided a budget and a letter of collaboration that was reviewed as part of the competitive review and award process.

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

Costs for a hosting Farm fee, supplies, and personnel were negotiated with the vendor, and are based on their standard rates or current costs of standard supplies maintaining a flock of egg laying chickens. These costs were specifically described and reviewed as part of the competitive DACF PFAS Fund grants award process and were approved.

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

We expect that this study will be completed by the end of the two-year period of the contract, and we do not anticipate needing future competition for these services. If future work does become needed, Maine CDC will review at that time whether any other farm sites available that can provide a similar level of a hosting site and personnel at a lower cost.

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):

Typed Name:

Jim Lopatosky, Director of Contract
Management

Date:

22-Jun-26

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:

Kathy Blais

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Typed Name:

Kathy Blais

Date:

7/22/2026