

State of Maine Procurement Justification Form

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 website (Forms page) for additional instructions.

PART I: OVERVIEW

Department Office/Division/Program:		Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, Bureau of Resource Management, Wildlife Division			
Department Contract Administrator or Grant Coordinator:		Amanda Cross			
(If applicable) Department Reference #:					
Amount: (Contract/Amendment/Grant)		\$ 11,100	Advantage CT / RQS #:		
CONTRACT	Proposed Start Date:	08/15/20	Proposed End Date:	09/30/2021	
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:		The Nature Conservancy, Brunswick, Maine			
Brief Description of Goods/Services/Grant:		GIS revisions to the statewide Focus Area conservation model			

PART II: JUSTIFICATION FOR VENDOR SELECTION

Mark an "X" before the justification(s) that applies to this request. (Check all that apply.)

	A. Competitive Process		G. Grant
	B. Amendment		H. State Statute/Agency Directed
X	C. Single Source/Unique Vendor		I. Federal Agency Directed
	D. Proprietary/Copyright/Patents	X	J. Willing and Qualified
	E. Emergency		K. Client Choice
	F. University Cooperative Project		L. Other Authorization

PART III: SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

Please respond to ALL of the following:

1. Provide a more detailed description and explain the need for the goods, services or grant to supplement the response in Part I.

Maine's 140 Focus Areas ('Focus Areas') of Statewide Ecological Significance are delineated areas containing unusually high concentrations of natural resources (e.g., rare fish and wildlife habitats, rare plants and natural communities, and intact large habitat blocks). Focus Areas were developed by the Beginning with Habitat (BwH) program (a partnership among public and non-profit organizations housed at the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife) to help guide wildlife conservation priorities and funding programs across the state. However, Focus Areas have not been revised in over ten years and lack updated information and new datasets

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PART III: SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

required by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for fulfillment of our State Wildlife Action Plan (SWAP). In order to prepare for the upcoming SWAP revision (to begin in 2022), we will be working with our BwH partners to review and re-delineate the existing Focus Areas over the next year. Funds for this project are provided by State Wildlife Grants and must be spent by September 30, 2021.

The delineation of Focus Areas requires mastery of complex Geographic Information System (GIS) models and expertise with natural resource and climate change spatial datasets. Because Focus Areas are used by many organizations throughout the state, clear and frequent communication with our public agency and non-profit partners during the revision will be key. In order to complete this project, we require a skilled, efficient, and universally respected GIS expert who can communicate the technical nuances of this project to our partners. Therefore, we have selected The Nature Conservancy (TNC) in Maine's Spatial Scientist to perform this work.

2. Provide a brief justification for the selected vendor to supplement the response in Part II.

TNC's Spatial Scientist was a primary developer and delineator of the original Focus Areas over ten years ago and is a statewide expert on the climate change datasets required for revising Focus Areas. The funds (State Wildlife Grants) for this project must be spent by September 30, 2021, so it is crucial to have a vendor who can immediately work on this project. The Spatial Scientist's proficiency with the Focus Area model, professional networks with other GIS experts, and immediate schedule availability are crucial to completing this project within the allowable timeframe. Furthermore, the vendor will be able to provide the full match amount (35%; see #3 below for more information) required by the funding source (State Wildlife Grants), which eliminates our need to dedicate any state match for the vendor's work on this project.

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

The negotiated cost (\$11,1000, fully burdened) reflects approximately 10% (or 5.2 weeks) of TNC's Spatial Scientist's time needed to complete this project. TNC has agreed to waive their typical 23% charge for indirect costs (valued at \$2530) and will donate at least \$1320 of professional services in order to fully meet the 35% match rate required by the federal grant funding this work.

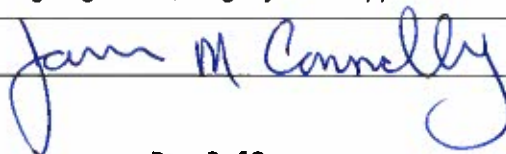
4. Describe the plan for future competition for the goods or services.

We do not expect to update Focus Areas again for at least five to ten years.

PART IV: APPROVALS

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

By signing below, I signify that I approve of this procurement request.



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Printed Name:	<i>James McConnolly</i>	Date:	<i>7/31/2020</i>
Signature of DAFS Procurement Official:	<small>DocuSigned by:</small> <i>Sue H. Garcia</i>		
Printed Name:	<small>E5DB92AC0F8D490...</small> <i>Sue H. Garcia</i>	Date:	<i>8/5/2020</i>

