PROCUREMENT JUSTIFICATION FORM (PJF)

This form must accompany all contract requests and sole source requisitions (RQS) <u>over \$10,000</u> 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:				Department of Marine Resources/Marine Mammal/Maine Innovative Gear Library (MIGL)					
Department Contract Administrator or Grant Coordinator:			Briony Donahue/HQ-Finance						
(If applicable) Department Reference #:			N/A						
Agency Department Code:		13A	Advantage CT /		RQS #: 2024050900		0000003177		
Amount: \$ 950 (Contract/Amendment/Grant		\$ 950,0	950,000						
CONTRACT	Proposed/0 Sta	ed/Original Start Date:		7/2025	Proposed/Most Recent End Date:		5/16/2026		
AMENDMENT	New Effective Date:		8/4/2025		New End Date (if Applicable):				
GRANT	Project Start Date:				Grant Start Date:				
	Project End Date:				Grant End Date:				
Vendor/Provider/Grantee Name,			VC1000034248/Gulf of Maine Lobster Foundation						
City, State:			(GOMLF)/Kennebunk, ME						
Brief Description of Goods/Services/Grant:			Administer MIGL participant payments						

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					
\boxtimes	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					

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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 purpose of this contract is to administer payments for the Maine Innovative Gear Library (MIGL) to participating industry members. The MIGL will be working with lobster and gillnet participants to test ondemand and innovative fishing gear aimed to reduce vertical lines in the water column. The Gulf of Maine Lobster Foundation (GOMLF) is partnered with DMR as part of the NFWF award along with 6 other Maine organizations who work directly with the fishing community. This has the potential to reduce risk to protected species such as the endangered North Atlantic Right Whale. The data collected as part of this work is essential to inform management of the viability and best practices of these gear in different parts of the coast of Maine. GOMLF is best suited to provide compensation to participating fishermen involved in gear testing.

This amendment adds additional funding from OMNI into the contract.

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

The Maine Innovative Gear Library is a program that seeks to work directly with fixed gear fishermen in Maine to test on-demand and innovative gear in diverse communities along the coast. GOMLF is a partner in the Maine Innovative Gear Library Community and Engagement Outreach program funded through a grant with NFWF. GOMLF has been a reputable source for collaborative research and has a history of working collaboratively to administer payments for vessel services. The fishing industry relies on daily or weekly payments while the State payment system is inefficient for these purposes. It is necessary that an outside organization rapidly administers vessel compensation to ensure a positive relationship with participants working to test gear with the MIGL. DMR has chosen to partner with GOMLF due to their low indirect cost, which would be notably through other organizations.

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

The GOMLF charges an indirect rate of 5%, which is less than other organizations working with the Maine Innovative Gear Library. GOMLF is also part of the Maine Innovative Gear Library outreach NFWF grant.

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

This project is essential to inform management of the successes and failures of novel on-demand and innovative gear aimed at reducing the number of vertical lines in the water column. Funding for this work is through the Consolidated Appropriations Act. Payments to participating fishermen will be adjusted if participation reaches max capacity.

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PART IV: AMERICAN RESCI	UE PLAN ACT (ARPA) / MAINE JOBS &	RECOV	ERY 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 agencies.	Yes, please be aware of the requiremen	nts from a	awarding federal			
⊠ No – If No, proceed to Part	V.					
PART V: CONFLIC	CTS OF INTEREST (COI); CONTRACT W	ITH THE	STATE			
	Interest statutes directed to State Depart RS <u>Title 5, §18</u> and <u>§18-A</u> , in harmony w					
□ The requesting department statutes.	signatory understands and acknowledge	es Maine	's Conflict of Interest			
DADT VI. ADDDOVALC						
PART VI: APPROVALS						
-	approval of this procurement request.					
Signature of requesting Department's Commissioner						
(or designee):	Carl Wilson (Aug 7, 2025 10:08:49 EDT)					
Typed Name:	Carl Wilson, Commissioner	Date:	07/08/2025			
PART VII: EMERGENCY – Re	equired only if selecting E. Emergency	/ Justific	cation			
The signature below indicates request.	approval by the Commissioner or design	ee of thi	s procurement			
Signature of requesting						
Department's Commissioner						
(or designee):		Date:				
Typed Name:		Date.				
Signature of DAFS	Signed by:					
Procurement Official:	William J.E. allen 2D5B6E39F57E44A					
Typed Name:		Date:	8/13/2025			

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Final Audit Report 2025-08-07

Created: 2025-08-06

By: Mickenzy Breton (mickenzy.breton@maine.gov)

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