



PROCUREMENT JUSTIFICATION FORM (PJF)

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 intranet site (Forms page) for additional instructions.

Table with 4 columns and 10 rows. Section: PART I: OVERVIEW. Fields include: Department Office/Division/Program, Department Contract Administrator or Grant Coordinator, (If applicable) Department Reference #, Amount, Advantage CT / RQS #, Proposed Start Date, Proposed End Date, Original Start Date, Effective Date, Previous End Date, New End Date, Project Start Date, Grant Start Date, Project End Date, Grant End Date, Vendor/Provider/Grantee Name, City, State, Brief Description of Goods/Services/Grant.

Section: PART II: JUSTIFICATION FOR VENDOR SELECTION. Check the box below for the justification(s) that applies to this request. (Check all that apply.) Table with 4 columns and 6 rows. Options: A. Competitive Process, B. Amendment, C. Single Source/Unique Vendor, D. Proprietary/Copyright/Patents, E. Emergency, G. Grant, H. State Statute/Agency Directed, I. Federal Agency Directed, J. Willing and Qualified, K. Client Choice.

<input type="checkbox"/>	F. University Cooperative Project	<input type="checkbox"/>	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.

Innovasea is the sole provider of the acoustic VR100-300 deck boxes and VHTx-69 kHz transponding hydrophones used to recover our passive acoustic monitoring (PAM) moorings. The deck box and hydrophone are used to communicate with the VR2AR acoustic receiver/release on the PAM mooring which is attached to the anchor. Without this communication, the PAM mooring cannot be released from the anchor and thus recovered. This research is a high priority task for DMR because the data will provide critical information about the presence of NARWs in the Gulf of Maine (GoM). This information will support the development of regulations that reduce the risk of NARW entanglement in fishing gear. Given these 26 PAM sites occur over such a large area (16,150 sq. miles) in the GoM, this work requires both offshore overnight multi-day cruises and inshore day trips to complete the work. Due to the scope of the work, vessel availability, and acoustic data processing needs, the inshore and offshore cruises will overlap going forward. For each cruise, 2 deck box/hydrophone set ups (a primary and a backup) are needed. If the primary malfunctions, not having a backup requires canceling mid-cruise and then rescheduling once the equipment can be repaired resulting in a significant financial loss as well as data loss if the acoustic recorders cannot be recovered before their batteries run out. The PAM team currently has one deck box/hydrophone set up and was borrowing a second that is no longer available, thus three deck box/hydrophone set ups need to be purchased.

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

Innovasea is the sole provider of these deck boxes/transponding hydrophones as they are paired with the VR2AR acoustic release/receivers used on our PAM moorings. The release capabilities of the Innovasea receivers/releases have proven to be a reliable means of retrieving our subsurface moorings in our current PAM project, and in a PAM project with our partners at NOAA. In addition, these are the only acoustic releases that also serve as acoustic receivers for fish telemetry work being conducted by DMR and other researchers in the Gulf of Maine. Using these acoustic receivers/releases ensures continuity with current PAM projects and requires the Innovasea deck box/transponding hydrophones in order to be recovered.

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

The negotiated costs are based on the quoted amount from Innovasea which is the sole provider of these acoustic deck boxes/transponding hydrophones. The quoted costs are fair and reasonable for this type of equipment given their necessity for retrieving PAM moorings.

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


Until a similar acoustic deck box/transponding hydrophone is sold by another company, Innovasea is the sole provider for this particular piece of equipment, which is a vital part of the fish and whale research DMR conducts.

**PART III: SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION****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):  
[Patrick Keliher \(Aug 27, 2024 12:59 EDT\)](#)

Typed Name:

Patrick Keliher, Commissioner

Date:

08/27/24

Signature of DAFS  
Procurement Official:DocuSigned by:  
  
BE7E88805EFD419...

Typed Name:

sherri Brooker

Date:

9/13/2024

# PJF RQS 13A 20240823-0253

Final Audit Report

2024-08-27

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