



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 \$5,000 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/Bureau of Marine Science/Biomonitoring and Assessment Division/Commercial Landings Program	
Department Contract Administrator or Grant Coordinator:		Robert Watts 207-633-9412	
(If applicable) Department Reference #:		N/A	
Amount: (Contract/Amendment/Grant)	\$ 17,880	Advantage CT / RQS #:	13A 20240918000000000435
CONTRACT	Proposed Start Date:	10/1/2024	Proposed End Date: 9/30/2025
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:		Bluefin Data LLC 3014 Dauphine ST, STE A PMB 29021 New Orleans, LA 70117	
Brief Description of Goods/Services/Grant:		Software support and maintenance for reporting software.	

PART II: JUSTIFICATION FOR VENDOR SELECTION			
Check the box below for the justification(s) that applies to this request. (Check all that apply.)			
<input type="checkbox"/>	A. Competitive Process	<input type="checkbox"/>	G. Grant
<input type="checkbox"/>	B. Amendment	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	H. State Statute/Agency Directed
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	C. Single Source/Unique Vendor	<input type="checkbox"/>	I. Federal Agency Directed
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	D. Sole Source/Agency Directed	<input type="checkbox"/>	J. Willing and Qualified
<input type="checkbox"/>	E. Emergency	<input type="checkbox"/>	K. Client Choice
<input type="checkbox"/>	F. University Cooperative Project	<input type="checkbox"/>	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.

In a previous contract agreement (CT#13A-20080606*11975), the Department purchased unlimited copies of the "Trip Ticket System" custom software for Maine seafood dealers to use to report detailed information according to DMR regulations. In this agreement, the Provider will provide backup support, will be available for troubleshooting software problems and provide program upgrades as needed. This program is essential, as seafood dealers in Maine use the software to comply with DMR regulations. The information is used by DMR, National Marine Fisheries Service and other state agencies in fisheries management.

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

This is custom-made software used by the seafood industry that is only available from Bluefin Data LLC. This vendor is the only entity that can provide support and maintenance.

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

DMR and NMFS provide Bluefin Data LLC with regular updates to DMR licenses and vessel permit information. The software is then modified to accommodate these updates and is sent to the seafood dealers using the program. Also, changes to the codes accepted by DMR and NMFS are updated periodically, and this vendor accommodates for these changes. The price paid has been unchanged for several years for state only dealers and is fair and reasonable, considering the updates required.

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

If other companies express an interest in building software that could capture and transmit the needed information at a lower price than is currently paid, DMR would consider offering that software to Maine's seafood dealers.

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):	 Meredith Mendelson (Sep 18, 2024 13:07 EDT)		
Typed Name:	Meredith Mendelson, Deputy Commissioner	Date:	09/18/24
Signature of DAFS Procurement Official:	DocuSigned by:  EA813178102243C...		
Typed Name:	Joseph Zrioka Director of IT Procurement	Date:	9/25/2024

The service is not proprietary. Other vendors could bid for the service. Please post.






PJF RQS 20240918-0435

Final Audit Report

2024-09-18

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