



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: | | Inland Fisheries and Wildlife / Wildlife Division / Game Section | |
| Department Contract Administrator or Grant Coordinator: | | Lee Kantar, Senior Resource Biologist Diana Harper, Office Associate II | |
| (If applicable) Department Reference #: | | | |
| Agency Department Code: | | Advantage CT / RQS #: | CT-09A-20250923*0561 |
| Amount: (Contract/Amendment/Grant) | | \$170,850.00 | |
| CONTRACT | Proposed/Original Start Date: | 1/1/2026 | Proposed/Most Recent End Date: 2/28/2026 |
| 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: | | Native Range Capture Services, Inc. / Elko, NV | |
| Brief Description of Goods/Services/Grant: | | Aerial capture of moose | |

| 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 type="checkbox"/> | H. State Statute/Agency Directed |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | C. Single Source/Unique Vendor | <input type="checkbox"/> | I. Federal Agency Directed |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | D. Proprietary/Copyright/Patents | <input type="checkbox"/> | J. Willing and Qualified |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | E. Emergency | <input type="checkbox"/> | K. Client Choice |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | F. Higher Education 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.

MDIFW needs an experienced helicopter pilot and crew to capture and collar moose in northwestern Maine. Moose will be fitted with GPS collars that will enable wildlife biologists to locate the animals, detect mortalities, and investigate cause of death. The moose project has been a multi-year project done in cooperation with other wildlife agencies and universities. Past cooperators include New Hampshire Fish and Game, University of New Hampshire (UNH), Vermont Fish and Wildlife, the University of Maine and the Penobscot Nation. The moose project will determine the annual mortality rates of juvenile moose in northwestern Maine, as well as the primary causes of mortality. Information acquired by this project will be used to model population changes, guide management recommendations, and determine the allocation of hunting permits for moose in Maine and other jurisdictions.

The primary mission of the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife is to ensure that Maine wildlife populations continue to thrive for current and future generations. Moose hunting needs to be regulated to ensure that harvest rates function to maintain or improve the overall health of the population. To determine whether harvest rates are in line with wildlife management goals and objectives, survival rates and causes of mortality are critical to wildlife biologist's information needs. Population trends are ultimately determined by reproduction and survival rates, which this study is attempting to determine.

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.

There are few providers who conduct aerial wildlife capture work that have the equipment and personnel with the expertise to capture moose in winter conditions in northern environments. The State of Maine does not have specialized equipment or personnel with the expertise and time to conduct aerial capture work for moose.

This multi-year study has been a cooperative venture between Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont and the Penobscot Nation. Scientific studies strive to limit the variability in methods (e.g., capture techniques) across study areas and over time. Therefore, the Department must use similar capture methods to achieve comparable results. The procedure for isolating a moose for capture with a helicopter, the amount of time it takes to capture a moose, the way the moose is handled, and whether chemical immobilization drugs are used all affect the amount of stress an animal is put under. Stress must be controlled during capture events to prevent capture myopathy (i.e., severe stress from a capture event that is often fatal). The variance in the amount of stress moose will experience during capture is better controlled if only a single vendor is used to capture moose. We do not want to bias our study design by varying the physiological response of moose to capture by using a different aerial capture provider each year.

The University of New Hampshire chose Native Range because they have considerable experience capturing moose (over 1,000 moose captures) and because they offer their services at a very competitive price.

Native Range has considerable experience in working northern climates (e.g., Alaska, Montana, Oregon, North Dakota, Wyoming, Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, and Saskatchewan), while other capture services (e.g., Dragonfly Aviation) primarily work in southern states/climates (i.e., Texas, Georgia, and Mexico). The winter conditions in northern Maine require crews experienced working in northern climates to execute safe and efficient captures.

PART III: SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

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

Originally, the Provider was vetted and contracted under the UNH’s competitive bidding process. Previously, UNH compared the costs of capturing moose between Native Range Capture Services (the Provider), Dragonfly Aviation, and Aerotech. Native Range submitted a bid of \$1,090/animal, Dragonfly Aviation was \$655, and Aerotech was \$1,890. UNH recognized that all companies met the basic criteria established in the bid request, but selection of Native Range was made principally after considering differences in vendors’ experience relative to the efficient, safe, and humane treatment of animals during capture. In addition, Native Range has the most experience working under the demanding environmental conditions confronted in northern Maine.

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

The Department will continue to evaluate providers of aerial capture services. Proficiency, safety, and year-to-year repeatability in animal handling techniques are key elements in MDIFW’s study design for this moose study and will remain primary factors in the Department’s evaluation of capture service providers. The highest potential for new opportunities for another vendor to provide these services will occur with the initiation of a new study. Barring poor performance by the Provider, the Department would strive to achieve year-to-year consistency in animal capture techniques by using the same provider throughout the study.

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

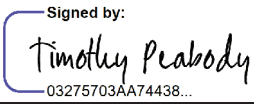
Maine law contains Conflict of Interest statutes directed to State Departments, State Officers, and Employees Generally under MRS [Title 5, §18](#) and [§18-A](#), in harmony with MRS [Title 17, §3104](#).

The requesting department’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): | Signed by:  <small>03275703AA74438...</small> | | |
| Typed Name: | Timothy Peabody | Date: | 9/29/2025 |

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: Sterling Doiron <small>4C537C52B588437...</small> | | |
| Typed Name: | Sterling Doiron | Date: | 10/14/2025 |

Certificate Of Completion

| | |
|---|-----------------------------|
| Envelope Id: C5F0B1BF-9989-4C92-89C4-47B299229A5A | Status: Completed |
| Subject: PJF to sign: Native Range Capture Services 20250923_0561 PJF | |
| Source Envelope: | |
| Document Pages: 4 | Signatures: 1 |
| Certificate Pages: 4 | Initials: 0 |
| AutoNav: Enabled | Envelope Originator: |
| Envelopeld Stamping: Enabled | Diana Harper |
| Time Zone: (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada) | 353 Water Street |
| | 41 SHS |
| | Augusta, ME 04333-0041 |
| | diana.harper@maine.gov |
| | IP Address: 198.182.163.126 |

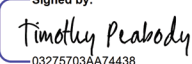
Record Tracking

| | | |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------|
| Status: Original | Holder: Diana Harper | Location: DocuSign |
| 9/26/2025 9:35:52 AM | diana.harper@maine.gov | |
| Security Appliance Status: Connected | Pool: StateLocal | |
| Storage Appliance Status: Connected | Pool: Inland Fisheries and Wildlife | Location: Docusign |

Signer Events

Timothy Peabody
 timothy.e.peabody@maine.gov
 Deputy Commissioner
 Security Level: Email, Account Authentication (None)

Signature

Signed by:

 03275703AA74438...
 Signature Adoption: Pre-selected Style
 Using IP Address: 198.182.163.113

Timestamp

Sent: 9/26/2025 9:37:16 AM
 Viewed: 9/29/2025 5:12:44 AM
 Signed: 9/29/2025 5:13:23 AM

Electronic Record and Signature Disclosure:
 Accepted: 9/29/2025 5:12:44 AM
 ID: 9a4555be-c648-416e-8c46-eb473a68ebc4

| In Person Signer Events | Signature | Timestamp |
|------------------------------|------------------|----------------------|
| Editor Delivery Events | Status | Timestamp |
| Agent Delivery Events | Status | Timestamp |
| Intermediary Delivery Events | Status | Timestamp |
| Certified Delivery Events | Status | Timestamp |
| Carbon Copy Events | Status | Timestamp |
| Witness Events | Signature | Timestamp |
| Notary Events | Signature | Timestamp |
| Envelope Summary Events | Status | Timestamps |
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| Certified Delivered | Security Checked | 9/29/2025 5:12:44 AM |
| Signing Complete | Security Checked | 9/29/2025 5:13:23 AM |
| Completed | Security Checked | 9/29/2025 5:13:23 AM |

| Payment Events | Status | Timestamps |
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|----------------|--------|------------|

Electronic Record and Signature Disclosure

Certificate Of Completion

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Status: Completed

Subject: Complete with Docusign: Native Range Capture Services 20250923_0561 PJF Signed.pdf

Source Envelope:

Document Pages: 5

Signatures: 1

Envelope Originator:

Certificate Pages: 1

Initials: 0

Sterling Doiron

AutoNav: Disabled

77 State House Station

Envelopeld Stamping: Disabled

111 Sewall Street

Time Zone: (UTC-05:00) Eastern Time (US & Canada)

Augusta, ME 04333

Sterling.Doiron@maine.gov

IP Address: 198.182.163.121

Record Tracking

Status: Original

Holder: Sterling Doiron

Location: DocuSign

10/14/2025 | 08:54

Sterling.Doiron@maine.gov

Signer Events

Sterling Doiron

Sterling.Doiron@maine.gov

Sterling Doiron

Security Level: Email, Account Authentication (None)

Signature

Signed by:

 Sterling Doiron
 4C537C52B586437...

Signature Adoption: Pre-selected Style

Using IP Address: 198.182.163.121

Timestamp

Sent: 10/14/2025 | 08:54

Viewed: 10/14/2025 | 08:54

Signed: 10/14/2025 | 08:54

Freeform Signing

Electronic Record and Signature Disclosure:

Not Offered via Docusign

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Hashed/Encrypted

10/14/2025 | 08:54

Certified Delivered

Security Checked

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Signing Complete

Security Checked

10/14/2025 | 08:54

Completed

Security Checked

10/14/2025 | 08:54

Payment Events

Status

Timestamps