



DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES  
**DIVISION OF 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 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.*

### PART I: OVERVIEW

Department Office/Division/Program:		IFW / Resource Management / Wildlife Research and Assessment Section / Bird Group			
Department Contract Administrator or Grant Coordinator:		Erynn Call			
(If applicable) Department Reference #:					
Amount: (Contract/Amendment/Grant)		\$ 72,744	Advantage CT / RQS #:		CT-09A-20231106*1327
CONTRACT	Proposed Start Date:	11/13/2023	Proposed End Date:		11/13/2025
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:		Conservation Science Global, Cape May, New Jersey, 08204			
Brief Description of Goods/Services/Grant:		Implementation of the Eastern Golden Eagle research in Maine to expand knowledge of the species presence, distribution, habitat use, and movement. This will support MDIFW as part of environmental review, and species planning (e.g., SWAP and species conservation plans), and expand community science involvement in conservation efforts.			

### 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. 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.

Golden Eagles are of conservation concern in North America as populations are at best stable and may be declining or being held beneath carrying capacity (Millsap et al. 2022, Slabe et al. 2022). The eastern population is genetically distinct and is of concern throughout its range due to its small size, vulnerability to human threats, and considerable knowledge gaps (Katzner et al. 2012, 2020, Doyle et al. 2016). This population is listed as vulnerable or endangered in several states and provinces. In Maine, Golden Eagles are listed as endangered within the Maine Endangered Species Act and a Species of Greatest Conservation Need within the Maine Wildlife Action Plan (SGCN Priority 2). Breeding birds were extirpated from the state in 1997, but Maine serves as a migratory corridor and hosts a wintering population. Further, eagles telemetered for other studies have been noted near eyries during summer, suggesting that existing eyries have the potential to host breeding eagles in the future. However, the extent of use during summer and distribution and habitat use throughout the year remains largely unknown. This study will expand public outreach efforts and gather camera trap and telemetry data to better understand Golden Eagle presence, distribution, habitat use, and movement patterns in Maine throughout the year. In doing so, we will directly benefit eastern Golden Eagle populations at state and range-wide scales, with the goal being to improve the conservation of Golden Eagles in Maine and support similar efforts focused on the eastern population. This project incorporates priorities identified by the Eastern Golden Eagle Working Group and highlights research, outreach, and survey needs of a species that is listed as a Regional and Priority 2 Species of Greatest Conservation Need in the Maine State Wildlife Action Plan. The primary objectives are to 1) increase public awareness and participation in the conservation of golden eagles in Maine, and 2) address knowledge gaps and apply results to direct specific conservation and management actions.

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

MDIFW does not have the staff capacity, nor the expertise in capturing and affixing transmitters to golden eagles required to achieve the objectives of this project. Conservation Science Global is a team of wildlife biologists and data scientists who offer a breadth of research capabilities for wildlife and ecosystem conservation and management. Collectively, this group provides the expertise necessary to better understand historic and current Golden Eagle distribution in Maine, place camera traps, capture and affix satellite transmitters, as well as manage telemetry and camera trap databases. Tricia A. Miller is a Senior Research Wildlife Biologist and Executive Director of Conservation Science Global (CSG). She has been studying the eastern population of Golden Eagles since 2005, completing her dissertation on the ecology of the eastern population. She has extensive experience trapping and tagging Golden Eagles during winter, having trapped >70 across the eastern US. She has >50 published manuscripts and was a co-author of the Golden Eagle account on Birds of the World. She is also a founding member of the Eastern Golden Eagle Working Group. Miller will lead all aspects of the work conducted by CSG, including trapping, ordering telemetry units, data analysis, and supervision of CSG staff.

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

As stated previously, we believe that Conservation Science Global has the specialized expertise necessary for partnering on this project to increase our knowledge and conservation of Golden Eagles in Maine. CSG and Trish Miller have provided a reasonable budget for personnel compensation of their time.

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

This project aims to take initial steps in enhancing our comprehension of the presence, distribution, and movements of Golden Eagles. The gathered insights will play a crucial role in guiding the conservation of this species in Maine and across its entire range. Moreover, this endeavor is just the beginning, as more research opportunities will arise in the future. This may lead to demand for similar services in the future.

**PART IV: AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT (ARPA) / MAINE JOBS & RECOVERY PLAN (MJRP)**

Does this request utilize ARPA/MJRP funds?

Yes – If Yes, please attach the approved Business Case(s).

No – If No, proceed to Part V.

**PART V: APPROVALS**

The signatures below indicate approval of this procurement request.

Signature of requesting Department's Commissioner (or designee):	DocuSigned by:  03275703AA74438...		
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Typed Name:	Tim Peabody	Date:	11/9/2023
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Signature of DAFS Procurement Official:	DocuSigned by:  891CE7A1493D45B...		
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Typed Name:	Martha Verhille	Date:	11/28/2023
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