



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:		Inland Fisheries and Wildlife/Wildlife Division		
Department Contract Administrator or Grant Coordinator:		Nathan Webb, Wildlife Director		
(If applicable) Department Reference #:		WS Agreement Number 22-7223-8029		
Amount: (Contract/Amendment/Grant)	\$ 45,386.38	Advantage CT / RQS #:	09A-2022042700000002633	
CONTRACT	Proposed Start Date:		Proposed End Date:	
AMENDMENT	Original Start Date:	05/01/2022	Effective Date:	05/01/2024
	Previous End Date:	04/30/2024	New End Date:	12/31/2024
GRANT	Project Start Date:		Grant Start Date:	
	Project End Date:		Grant End Date:	
Vendor/Provider/Grantee Name, City, State:		USDA APHIS Wildlife Services PO Box 979043, St. Louis, MO 63197		
Brief Description of Goods/Services/Grant:		Wildlife Sample Collection		

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 checked="" 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.

The Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife was established to “preserve, protect, and enhance the inland fisheries and wildlife resources of the state” and to “promote the wise use” of those resources. In fall 2021, we became aware of the potential for contamination of deer by PFAS at levels that could impact human health and issued a “Do Not Eat” advisory for deer meat in the Fairfield area. This initial advisory was based on a relatively small sample of deer from a limited geographic area. As part of the State of Maine’s overall response to PFAs contamination, MDIFW plans to sample additional deer and other wildlife species in other locations across the state to determine if additional consumption advisories are warranted. This will require lethally sampling wildlife during times of year when they are seasonally distributed and consuming forage similar to what hunters will encounter during established hunting seasons. Mose of the sample collection will need to occur from August to September 2024 in order to provide updated information to hunters prior to the start of hunting seasons in October.

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 staff capacity or specialized equipment to complete this task.

USDA APHIS Wildlife Services is uniquely qualified to provide program support, equipment, traps, and staffing. They have specialized expertise lethally collecting wildlife in both rural and urban environments and are trained in biological sample collection. They have access to a nationwide network of specialists with experience working on a variety of wildlife species. Lethally removing wildlife requires a diverse set of specialized skills to be effective. Considering the entire diverse need, USDA APHIS Wildlife Services is the most feasible entity to work with.

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 USDA APHIS Wildlife Services has the total all-around experience with working with Maine’s wildlife, including in populated urban areas. They have provided us with a reasonable budget of personnel compensation, vehicle costs, supplies and equipment to conduct wildlife sample collection.

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

If we become aware of another vendor with the expertise and equipment to complete the required work, we will establish a competitive process to select the most qualified vendor and competitive pricing.

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.

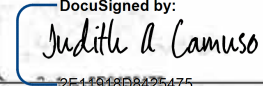
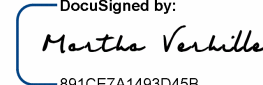
PART V: CONFLICTS OF INTEREST (COI); CONTRACT WITH THE STATE

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):			
Typed Name:	Judith A. Camuso	Date:	11/8/2024
Signature of DAFS Procurement Official:			
Typed Name:	Martha verhille	Date:	11/13/2024