

**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:		Marine Resources/Marine Mammal Research/Passive Acoustics Program	
Department Contract Administrator or Grant Coordinator:		Anita Murray/Amanda Webb	
(If applicable) Department Reference #:		N/A	
Amount: (Contract/Amendment/Grant)	\$6,502.53	Advantage CT / RQS #:	13A 2023091800000000784
CONTRACT	Proposed Start Date:		Proposed End Date:
AMENDMENT	Original Start Date:	9/22/2023	Effective Date:
	Previous End Date:	9/5/2024	New End Date:
GRANT	Project Start Date:		Grant Start Date:
	Project End Date:		Grant End Date:
Vendor/Provider/Grantee Name, City, State:		Saints & Angels Scalloping Company, LLC, New Bedford, MA	
Brief Description of Goods/Services/Grant:		Vessel support for retrieval/deployment of passive acoustic monitoring moorings for whale research	

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 checked="" 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.

The F/V Saints & Angels was contracted to provide vessel support for a multi-day, overnight offshore cruise during which DMR staff retrieved and/or deployed passive acoustic monitoring (PAM) moorings for North Atlantic right whale (NARW) research. 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. The F/V Saints & Angels provided a captain and a 2-person crew as well as enough fuel to safely retrieve and deploy PAM moorings at 32 monitoring sites in the GoM. The vessel also provided a large deck space for storing, retrieving, and deploying numerous PAM moorings plus anchors, and enclosed workspaces for servicing PAM equipment. Given these PAM sites occur over such a large area (16,150 sq. miles) in the GoM, this work constitutes a unique task for DMR as overnight multi-day cruises are required to complete the work, during which DMR staff will remain aboard the vessel for multiple days and nights. For this reason, the F/V Saints & Angels enclosed area also includes multiple berths (sleeping accommodations), two heads (bathrooms), and a galley (kitchen). The original contract is being amended to cover additional costs not original anticipated. The cruise took longer than expected leading to additional costs for time at sea and fuel, which equates to \$6,502.53. Thus, the total costs for this cruise was \$67,752.53.

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

Saints & Angels Scalloping Company, LLC is the sole provider of the vessel support required for this type of work because of the F/V Saints & Angels distinctive specifications as well as the captain and crew's unique expertise in retrieving/deploying PAM moorings. The F/V Saints & Angels has a beam (width) of 28 ft, which is large enough to store numerous PAM moorings plus anchors and still have room to attach the anchors to the PAM moorings before deployment and for retrieving PAM moorings. The F/V Saints & Angels is 110 ft in length and is certified by the Coast Guard for offshore trips up to 100 nm from shore, therefore, this vessel is large enough to safely travel to our furthest offshore PAM sites, which are ~70-75 nm from shore. This vessel also has enough berths to accommodate 9 people in total – 6 DMR staff, the captain, and 2 crew. The vessel has a fuel capacity of 14,000 gallons, which is sufficient for the multi-day cruises required to complete this work. Currently, there are no vessels in Maine that meet these specifications, which are required to safely complete this work. Additionally, the F/V Saints & Angels captain and crew have conducted numerous offshore cruises during which PAM moorings were retrieved and/or deployed. They, therefore, already understand and have extensive experience with the vessel maneuvering and crew operations needed to successfully retrieve and/or deploy PAM moorings. This prior expertise is unique to this vendor and ensured the success of this work.

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 costs for diesel fuel at the time of the cruise, and the total amount of time spent at sea to successfully complete the cruise. These costs are fair and reasonable given the price of diesel, the F/V Saints & Angels specifications as well as the captain

PART III: SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

and crew's unique expertise in retrieving/deploying PAM moorings, which meant DMR staff could safely and successfully accomplish the retrieval/deployment of our PAM moorings.

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

Until a similar provider for vessel support for DMR's PAM work can be identified, Saints & Angels Scalloping Company, LLC is the sole provider for multi-day offshore PAM cruises, which is the type of vessel support required for DMR's PAM research.

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):	<i>Carl Wilson</i> Carl Wilson (Dec 1, 2023 16:55 EST)		
Typed Name:	Carl Wilson, Director of Marine Science	Date:	Dec 1, 2023
Signature of DAFS Procurement Official:	DocuSigned by: <i>Martha Verhille</i> 891CE7A1493D45B...		
Typed Name:	Martha Verhille	Date:	12/4/2023







PJF- CT 13A 20230918-784 -amendment 11-28-23

Final Audit Report

2023-12-01

Created:	2023-12-01
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