



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/68/Program:		Inland Fisheries and Wildlife/Wildlife Division	
Department Contract Administrator or Grant Coordinator:		Nathan Webb, Wildlife Director	
(If applicable) Department Reference #:			
Amount: (Contract/Amendment/Grant)	\$ 68,890.47	Advantage CT / RQS #:	09A-202412020000001407
CONTRACT	Proposed Start Date:	1/1/2025	Proposed End Date: 12/31/2025
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:		USDA APHIS Wildlife Services PO Box 979043, St. Louis, MO 63197	
Brief Description of Goods/Services/Grant:		Identify, assess, and potentially remove predators at key piping plover and least tern beaches in Maine	

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.	<p>In 1986, the piping plover and least tern were listed as “State Endangered” under the Maine Endangered Species Act. Conservation of piping plovers and least terns is a cooperative partnership of MDIFW, Maine Audubon, Bureau of Public Lands/State Parks, USFWS and Rachel Carson National Wildlife Refuge, and USDA APHIS Wildlife Services. Both plovers and terns require intensive management and protection measures to nest successfully on Maine’s southern beaches, and ultimately to prevent State extirpation.</p> <p>Despite extensive protection and management efforts, predators continue to be an issue on all piping plover and least tern nesting areas. Predation, coupled with habitat loss, resulted in Maine’s piping plover population declining from a high of 66 pairs in 2002 to only 22 pairs in 2008. The Piping Plover and Least Tern Recovery Group have identified predator control as the top need to improve productivity and sustain or increase piping plover and least tern populations, and ultimately prevent extirpation. Through this procurement, USDA APHIS Wildlife Services will identify, assess, and potentially remove predators at key piping plover and least tern beaches in Maine using established protocols and policies.</p>
2. Provide a brief justification for the selected vendor to supplement the response in Part II. Reference the RFP number, if applicable.	<p>MDIFW does not have staff capacity or specialized equipment to complete this task.</p> <p>USDA APHIS Wildlife Services is uniquely qualified to provide program support, equipment, and expertise working with endangered species on 22 beaches between Ogunquit and Georgetown, Maine. They have the knowledge on how best to efficiently assess and remove all the various predators in a manner that ensures public safety. Predator control requires a diverse set of specialized skills and considerable tact to keep the activity a low profile and continue to be effective. In addition, management of some predator species requires equipment or federal permits that are difficult to obtain and not widely available within the private sector. Considering the entire diverse need, USDA APHIS Wildlife Services is the only entity with the skills and resources to complete this work.</p> <p>Click or tap here to enter text.</p>
3. Explain how the negotiated costs or rates are fair and reasonable; or how the funding was allocated to grantee.	<p>We are unaware of any other individuals or organizations with the skills, equipment, and knowledge to conduct this work in Maine. We have discussed predator control issues and the ramifications of the loss of either of these two species from Maine with other Fish and Wildlife agencies and we are working towards a long-term plan that will ensure the protection of these species while reducing the need for predator management.</p>
4. Describe the plan for future competition for the goods or services.	<p>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.</p>

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.

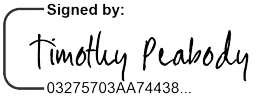
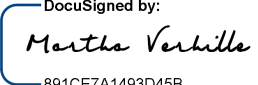
PART V: CONFLICTS OF INTEREST (COI); CONTRACT WITH THE STATE

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):	Signed by:  03275703AA74438...		
Typed Name:	Timothy Peabody	Date:	12/3/2024
Signature of DAFS Procurement Official:	DocuSigned by:  891CE7A1493D45B...		
Typed Name:	Martha verhille	Date:	12/16/2024