



## 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/Game Section			
Department Contract Administrator or Grant Coordinator:		Jennifer Vashon			
(If applicable) Department Reference #:					
Amount: (Contract/Amendment/Grant)		\$ 93,756.36	Advantage CT / RQS #:	09A-20241118000000001278	
CONTRACT	Proposed Start Date:	1/1/2025	Proposed End Date:	2/28/2026	
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:		University of New Hampshire – Sponsored Research, 114 Service Building, 51 College Rd. Durham, NH 03824			
Brief Description of Goods/Services/Grant:		Analysis of existing moose and tick abundance data from multiple methodologies to identify a cost-effective approach for future monitoring.			

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
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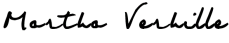
Please respond to ALL of the questions in the following sections.

<b>PART III: SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION</b>	
<b>1.</b>	Provide a more detailed description and explain the need for the goods, services or grant to supplement the response in Part I.
<p>Since 2011, the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife (MDIFW) has been monitoring moose annually using aerial surveys to track statewide populations. However, aerial surveys are expensive and dangerous, so alternative methods are of interest. A recent regional collaborative effort has resulted in a large camera network (Northeast Wildlife Monitoring Network; NEWMN), extensive data, and the opportunity to compare camera-based estimates of abundance and herd composition with existing aerial-based estimates since the NEWMN network overlaps with the MDIFW's aerial survey routes. Using these two existing data sources will also allow the provider to assess the accuracy and tradeoffs of each approach to inform recommendations on future monitoring methods.</p>	
<b>2.</b>	Provide a brief justification for the selected vendor to supplement the response in Part II. Reference the RFP number, if applicable.
<p>This contract builds off a regional collaborative study where Dr. Alexej Siren (UNH) and other collaborators designed the field methodology (camera array) and analysis, provided the field equipment, developed a database to store and manage the data, and developed initial models. The data collected from this effort provides additional opportunity to assess a need specific to Maine. Given the expertise of Dr. Siren and his involvement with the field methodology and data collection, it would be most efficient to work with Dr. Siren to complete the analysis and address specific question relevant to the state of Maine's management of moose.</p>	
<b>3.</b>	Explain how the negotiated costs or rates are fair and reasonable; or how the funding was allocated to grantee.
<p>The original study that generated the data for this effort was provided at no cost to the State of Maine as part of a regional collaborative effort between several northeast Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Units, Universities, and state agencies. Thus, MDIFW has received the data that will be used in the analyses at no cost and will only be responsible for the cost of the data analysis of specific interest to MDIFW, publishing of research findings in 2 peer-reviewed journals, and presentation of the research at a professional conference.</p>	
<b>4.</b>	Describe the plan for future competition for the goods or services.
<p>For similar future needs, we will submit RFPs to ensure a competitive process for this service.</p>	

<b>PART IV: AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT (ARPA) / MAINE JOBS &amp; RECOVERY PLAN (MJRP)</b>	
Does this request utilize ARPA/MJRP funds?	
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, MJRP funds (023) – If Yes, please attach the approved Business Case(s).	

<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, ARPA funds (025) – If Yes, please be aware of the requirements from awarding federal agencies.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No – If No, proceed to Part V.

<b>PART V: CONFLICTS OF INTEREST (COI); CONTRACT WITH THE STATE</b>
<p><i>Maine law contains Conflict of Interest statutes directed to State Departments, State Officers, and Employees Generally under MRS <u>Title 5, §18</u> and <u>§18-A</u>, in harmony with MRS <u>Title 17, §3104</u>.</i></p>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The requesting department signatory understands and acknowledges Maine’s Conflict of Interest statutes.

<b>PART VI: APPROVALS</b>			
The signatures below indicate approval of this procurement request.			
Signature of requesting Department’s Commissioner (or designee):	Signed by:  <small>2E11918D8425475...</small>	Date:	12/23/2024
Typed Name:	Judith A. Camuso		
Signature of DAFS Procurement Official:	DocuSigned by:  <small>891CE7A1493D45B...</small>	Date:	12/27/2024
Typed Name:	Martha Verhille		