A Program of Maritime Blue

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Request for Qualifications:

PowerBI Participation Dashboard Developer to Support Quiet Sound's Voluntary Slowdown

Maritime Blue, on behalf of its Quiet Sound program, is now accepting Statements of Qualifications (SOQs) from organizations or individuals to lead the design and development of a PowerBI participation dashboard to support the timely delivery of participation data to relevant stakeholders. We invite you to submit your qualifications in accordance with the requirements set forth in this Request for Qualifications (RFQ).

Submission Deadline: December 9th, 2026 by 11:59pm PT.

Point of Contact: Communications regarding this RFQ should be directed to: info@quietsound.org

Project Overview and Background

Quiet Sound is a program of Maritime Blue, a 501(c)3 nonprofit dedicated to accelerating innovation in the Blue Economy. Quiet Sound is a non-regulatory coalition whose goal is to better understand and reduce the cumulative effects of acoustic and physical disturbance from large commercial vessels on endangered Southern Resident killer whales (SRKW) throughout their range in Washington state. As part of this effort, Quiet Sound implements a seasonal voluntary slowdown in Admiralty Inlet and north Puget Sound for large commercial vessels transiting to and from local ports during the fall and winter months.

Quiet Sound tracks participation in the slowdown using data provided by the Puget Sound Pilots and Speed Through Water-validated AIS data. Quiet Sound reports participation bi-weekly through our newsletter, or directly to fleet operations managers. To streamline our workflow and provide operations managers with near-real-time data to support decision-making and drive participation, Quiet Sound is replacing our manual data processes with a PowerBi participation dashboard. Note that the scope of this RFQ is limited to a pilot version of the dashboard designed with one intended user in mind (vessel operations managers), though future work may expand the user base to include industry associations and port partners.

Scope of Work

Quiet Sound is soliciting Statements of Qualifications for a developer to design and build a PowerBI dashboard interface, implement a centralized data storage solution, and establish data pipelines to access third-party data. The project is anticipated to follow the below timeline:

- **Design Phase (January - March):** The developer will create a wireframe of the dashboard for sign-off, including design of queries and data visualizations for vessel operations managers. Quiet Sound will orient the developer to the current formats, sources and frequency of updates to the vessel and transit data, and assist in mapping data sources and flows. Developer will create automated data pipelines to access datasets owned by third parties via APIs where they exist. Quiet Sound will develop data sharing agreements with third-party data providers. The developer will build a centralized data storage solution tailored to the internal capacity of the Quiet Sound team.
- **Build Phase (April - June):** The developer will build a static version of the dashboard using historical data from prior slowdown seasons to visualize data in different views.
- **Testing Phase (July - August):** The developer will test the dashboard's ability to extract, transform, and load data from third-party sources into the new storage solution. Quiet Sound will beta-test the dashboard with a pilot group of key users.
- **Implementation Phase (September - December):** Quiet Sound will implement the live dashboard for the 2027-28 slowdown season, monitor usability, and work with the developer to implement improvements based on user feedback. The developer will create technical documentation for hand-off.

Deliverables

- **March 30:** Wireframe of participation dashboard. Data pipelines mapped and storage solution designed.
- **June 30**: Dashboard mock-up created using historical data.
- **August 30:** Minimum viable product tested with a select group of vessel operations managers.
- **December 30:** Final version of dashboard. Technical documentation for system maintenance and a user guide for vessel operations managers.

Budget

Quiet Sound anticipates a maximum budgeted funding available for the PowerBI dashboard development contractor is $14,400.

Submission Instructions

Qualifications must be received no later than 11:59 p.m. PT on December 9th, 2026. Submissions should be sent to: info@quietsound.org. Submissions should be combined into a single pdf.

- **Transmittal Letter:** A brief letter confirming your understanding of the scope of work and certifying the signatory is authorized to bind the firm (1 page max).
- **Organizational Background & Expertise:** A description of your background, qualifications, and experience relevant to dashboard development. Include examples of similar projects

successfully undertaken in the last five (5) years, including client, end user or funder references and contact information (2 pages max).
- **Proposed Approach:** A description of your proposed approach to designing and creating the participation dashboard. This description should emphasize procedures for ensuring reliable data delivery from third-party providers, how a data storage solution will be selected and created, how you will ensure ease-of-use of the dashboard interface, and your organization's current workload and capacity to accomplish work within the required timeframes (2 pages max).
- **Personnel & Professional Qualifications:** Identification of key staff members assigned to the project and their resumes (1 page per person).
- **Legal & Compliance:** Documentation of organization's legal status and attest to your ability to comply with all applicable federal, state, and local laws, regulations and ordinances. Contractors must be able to successfully complete a subcontractor risk assessment provided by Maritime Blue. The contractor is not required to be a US-registered vendor.

Minimum Qualifications

Ideal contractors should demonstrate proven experience in the following technical areas:

- Developing and deploying interactive PowerBi dashboards for external stakeholders.
- Designing and building centralized data storage solutions suitable for small nonprofit teams.
- Creating automated Extract, Transform, and Load (ETL) processes to aggregate data from multiple third-party sources.

Evaluation Process and Criteria

Maritime Blue reserves the right to reject any and all qualifications not meeting the requirements of the RFQ. Submissions will be evaluated based on a combination of factors, focusing on the highest quality of service and the organization's ability to meet the project's needs. Criteria include but are not limited to:

- **Relevant Experience (30%):** Track record of completion of similar dashboard development projects and client testimonials.
- **Proposed Approach: (30%):** Strength of the proposed approach for designing, developing, and refining the dashboard including data pipelines and data storage solution.
- **Personnel Qualifications (20%):** Expertise and qualifications of key staff.
- **Ability to Meet Timelines (20%):** Demonstrated capacity to meet reporting and project timelines.

Terms and Conditions

- This RFQ is not a legally binding contract. Qualified organizations may be invited to submit a full Proposal including rates and level or effort or enter into direct negotiations for a Client Services Agreement.
- Payment will be made upon acceptance of services and a properly completed invoice, typically within 30 calendar days of receipt of invoice, subject to receipt of funds from the funders of this work.

- Any resulting contract will be denominated in USD whereby non-US vendors assume the exchange rate risk.