

Office of Regulatory Management
Economic Review Form

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| Agency name | DWR |
| Virginia Administrative Code (VAC) Chapter citation(s) | 4VAC15-380 |
| VAC Chapter title(s) | Watercraft: Motorboat Numbering |
| Action title | May 2026 – Ch. 380 |
| Date this document prepared | 5/29/2026 |
| Regulatory Stage (including Issuance of Guidance Documents) | Proposed Exempt |

Cost Benefit Analysis

Complete Tables 1a and 1b for all regulatory actions. You do not need to complete Table 1c if the regulatory action is required by state statute or federal statute or regulation and leaves no discretion in its implementation.

Table 1a should provide analysis for the regulatory approach you are taking. Table 1b should provide analysis for the approach of leaving the current regulations intact (i.e., no further change is implemented). Table 1c should provide analysis for at least one alternative approach. You should not limit yourself to one alternative, however, and can add additional charts as needed.

Report both direct and indirect costs and benefits that can be monetized in Boxes 1 and 2. Report direct and indirect costs and benefits that cannot be monetized in Box 4. See the ORM Regulatory Economic Analysis Manual for additional guidance.

Table 1a: Costs and Benefits of the Proposed Changes (Primary Option)

| | | |
|--|--|---|
| (1) Direct & Indirect Costs & Benefits (Monetized) | <p>Direct Costs: These increased fees will cost Virginians registering motorboats in the Commonwealth an additional \$5 every three years. Additionally, it will cost an additional \$5 to receive a temporary registration certificate from the department.</p> <p>Indirect Costs: None</p> <p>Direct Benefits: Will generate an estimated \$556,000 in annual revenue to the department that is much needed to keep up with personnel and operating expenses that promote and enhance water access across the Commonwealth.</p> <p>Indirect Benefits: None</p> | |
| (2) Present Monetized Values | Direct & Indirect Costs | Direct & Indirect Benefits |
| | (a) \$5-10 additionally per year spent by Virginia boaters on DWR boat registration and/or temporary registration certification | (b) The department can sustain personnel to maintain and carry out operational expenses that support safe boating education, water access locations, and law enforcement on the water that benefits all Virginians that enjoy the water using registered motorboats and vessels |
| (3) Net Monetized Benefit | Department can continue to provide services to boaters that the public has been accustomed to. | |
| (4) Other Costs & Benefits (Non-Monetized) | N/A | |
| (5) Information Sources | DWR data | |

Table 1b: Costs and Benefits under the Status Quo (No change to the regulation)

| | | |
|--|--|--|
| (1) Direct & Indirect Costs & Benefits (Monetized) | <p>Direct Costs: Department boating division is entering FY27 under a 10% reduction in expenditures to accommodate a lean budget scenario, as all other department divisions are doing.</p> <p>Indirect Costs: Reduced funding will decrease department exposure and services offered to Virginia’s boaters</p> <p>Direct Benefits: There is no direct benefit to department not receiving increased revenue from boating</p> <p>Indirect Benefits: There are none</p> | |
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| | | |
|--|-------------------------|----------------------------|
| (2) Present Monetized Values | Direct & Indirect Costs | Direct & Indirect Benefits |
| | (a) N/A | (b) N/A |
| (3) Net Monetized Benefit | N/A | |
| (4) Other Costs & Benefits (Non-Monetized) | N/A | |
| (5) Information Sources | N/A | |

Table 1c: Costs and Benefits under Alternative Approach(es)

| | | |
|--|---|----------------------------|
| (1) Direct & Indirect Costs & Benefits (Monetized) | Direct Costs: There is no alternative approach Indirect Costs: Direct Benefits: Indirect Benefits: | |
| (2) Present Monetized Values | Direct & Indirect Costs | Direct & Indirect Benefits |
| | (a) | (b) |
| (3) Net Monetized Benefit | | |
| (4) Other Costs & Benefits (Non-Monetized) | | |
| (5) Information Sources | | |

Impact on Local Partners

Use this chart to describe impacts on local partners. See Part 8 of the ORM Cost Impact Analysis Guidance for additional guidance.

Table 2: Impact on Local Partners

| | | |
|--|--|----------------------------|
| (1) Direct & Indirect Costs & Benefits (Monetized) | <p>Direct Costs: It is not anticipated that this increased fee will impact local partners such as industry partners or localities. If anything, the fee will make such partnerships stronger in the fact that the department will be better suited financially to provide coordination and cooperative efforts with boating groups, localities interested in or who benefit from recreational boating and boating access.</p> <p>Indirect Costs:</p> <p>Direct Benefits:</p> <p>Indirect Benefits:</p> | |
| (2) Present Monetized Values | Direct & Indirect Costs | Direct & Indirect Benefits |
| | (a) | (b) |
| (3) Other Costs & Benefits (Non-Monetized) | | |
| (4) Assistance | | |
| (5) Information Sources | | |

Impacts on Families

Use this chart to describe impacts on families. See Part 8 of the ORM Cost Impact Analysis Guidance for additional guidance.

Table 3: Impact on Families

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|--|--|--|
| (1) Direct & Indirect Costs & Benefits (Monetized) | <p>Direct Costs: These fee hikes would cost Virginia families who register motorboats an additional \$5 every three years, or an extra \$5 to obtain a temporary registration certificate should they need one.</p> <p>Indirect Costs:</p> <p>Direct Benefits:</p> <p>Indirect Benefits:</p> | |
|--|--|--|

| | | |
|--|-------------------------|----------------------------|
| (2) Present Monetized Values | Direct & Indirect Costs | Direct & Indirect Benefits |
| | (a) | (b) |
| (3) Other Costs & Benefits (Non-Monetized) | | |
| (4) Information Sources | | |

Impacts on Small Businesses

Use this chart to describe impacts on small businesses. See Part 8 of the ORM Cost Impact Analysis Guidance for additional guidance.

Table 4: Impact on Small Businesses

| | | |
|--|---|----------------------------|
| (1) Direct & Indirect Costs & Benefits (Monetized) | <p>Direct Costs: It is not anticipated that this increased fee will impact local businesses, especially those dealing in or in close proximity to water access / boating areas such as boat ramps and marinas. Those who would pay an additional \$5 in boating registration fees every 3 years will likely not change spending or travel behavior to boat recreationally within the Commonwealth.</p> <p>Indirect Costs:</p> <p>Direct Benefits:</p> <p>Indirect Benefits:</p> | |
| (2) Present Monetized Values | Direct & Indirect Costs | Direct & Indirect Benefits |
| | (a) | (b) |
| (3) Other Costs & Benefits (Non-Monetized) | | |
| (4) Alternatives | | |
| (5) Information Sources | | |