

Office of Regulatory Management
Economic Review Form

Agency name	Virginia Marine Resources Commission
Virginia Administrative Code (VAC) Chapter citation(s)	4VAC20-1120
VAC Chapter title(s)	Pertaining to Tilefish and Groupers
Action title	To change the recreational Blueline Tilefish season to coincide with the beginning of the recreational black seabass season.
Date this document prepared	December 19, 2023
Regulatory Stage (including Issuance of Guidance Documents)	Final

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: Changing this regulation will have no direct costs.</p> <p>Indirect Costs: Changing this regulation will have no indirect costs.</p> <p>Direct Benefits: Changes to this regulation will align the beginning of the recreational blueline tilefish and black seabass seasons, lowering the release mortality of keeper-sized black seabass indirectly caught while targeting blueline tilefish. Currently, the blueline tilefish begins 14 days before the recreational black seabass season opens. These two species cohabitate on many of the same deep water offshore wrecks where release mortality of black seabass can be high due to barometric trauma. Aligning the beginning of the blueline tilefish and black seabass recreational seasons will lower the discard mortality of keeper-sized black seabass caught by recreational anglers targeting blueline tilefish.</p> <p>Indirect Benefits: Changes to this regulation will allow anglers to harvest multiple species from the same wrecks on the same trip. Anglers will no longer be required to release high numbers of larger deep-water black seabass, a species that anglers target for its high food value.</p>	
(2) Present Monetized Values	Direct & Indirect Costs	Direct & Indirect Benefits
	(a) \$0	(b) \$0
(3) Net Monetized Benefit	\$	
(4) Other Costs & Benefits (Non-Monetized)	This regulation change will allow recreational anglers to harvest keeper-sized black seabass indirectly caught while targeting blueline tilefish.	
(5) Information Sources	NOAA-funded recreation data collection programs, the Access Point Angler Intercept Survey (APAIS), Fishing Effort Survey, and For-Hire Survey.	

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

(1) Direct & Indirect Costs & Benefits (Monetized)	<p>Keeping this regulation status quo will have no direct or indirect cost.</p> <p>Keeping this regulation status quo will have no direct or indirect benefit.</p>
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(2) Present Monetized Values	Direct & Indirect Costs	Direct & Indirect Benefits
	(a) \$0	(b) \$0
(3) Net Monetized Benefit	\$0	
(4) Other Costs & Benefits (Non-Monetized)		
(5) Information Sources		

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

(1) Direct & Indirect Costs & Benefits (Monetized)	There were no alternative options considered other than status quo (listed above).	
(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)	This regulatory change will have no direct or indirect cost to local partners.	
	This regulatory change will have no direct or indirect benefits for local partners.	
(2) Present Monetized Values	Direct & Indirect Costs	Direct & Indirect Benefits

	(a) \$0	(b) \$0
(3) Other Costs & Benefits (Non-Monetized)	None	
(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

(1) Direct & Indirect Costs & Benefits (Monetized)	There are no direct or indirect costs for families. There are no direct or indirect benefits for families.	
(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)	This regulatory change will have no direct or indirect cost to small businesses. This regulatory change will have no direct or indirect benefits to small businesses.	
(2) Present Monetized Values	Direct & Indirect Costs	Direct & Indirect Benefits

	(a)	(b)
(3) Other Costs & Benefits (Non-Monetized)		
(4) Alternatives		
(5) Information Sources		

Changes to Number of Regulatory Requirements

Table 5: Regulatory Reduction

For each individual action, please fill out the appropriate chart to reflect any change in regulatory requirements, costs, regulatory stringency, or the overall length of any guidance documents.

Change in Regulatory Requirements

VAC Section(s) Involved*	Authority of Change	Initial Count	Additions	Subtractions	Total Net Change in Requirements
4VAC20-1120-35	(M/A):	0	0	0	0
	(D/A):	0	0	0	0
	(M/R):	5	0	0	0
	(D/R):	3	0	0	0
				Grand Total of Changes in Requirements:	(M/A):0 (D/A):0 (M/R):0 (D/R):0

Key:

Please use the following coding if change is mandatory or discretionary and whether it affects externally regulated parties or only the agency itself:

(M/A): Mandatory requirements mandated by federal and/or state statute affecting the agency itself

(D/A): Discretionary requirements affecting agency itself

(M/R): Mandatory requirements mandated by federal and/or state statute affecting external parties, including other agencies

(D/R): Discretionary requirements affecting external parties, including other agencies

Cost Reductions or Increases (if applicable)

VAC Section(s) Involved	Description of Regulatory Requirement	Initial Cost	New Cost	Overall Cost Savings/Increases

Other Decreases or Increases in Regulatory Stringency (if applicable)

VAC Section(s) Involved	Description of Regulatory Change	Overview of How It Reduces or Increases Regulatory Burden
4VAC20-1120	Changing the recreational blueline tilefish season to coincide with the beginning of the recreational black seabass season.	Changing the start of the recreational blueline tilefish season will not increase or reduce regulatory burden.

Length of Guidance Documents (only applicable if guidance document is being revised)

Title of Guidance Document	Original Length	New Length	Net Change in Length

*If the agency is modifying a guidance document that has regulatory requirements, it should report any change in requirements in the appropriate chart(s).