

Office of Regulatory Management
Economic Review Form

Agency name	Virginia Marine Resources Commission
Virginia Administrative Code (VAC) Chapter citation(s)	N/A
VAC Chapter title(s)	N/A
Action title	Establishment of VMRC Virginia Waterway Maintenance Fund Guidance Document
Date this document prepared	6/18/2025 resubmitted 11/17/2025
Regulatory Stage (including Issuance of Guidance Documents)	Pending final review by ORM

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>Approved legislation (HB1834) transfers administrative authority over the Virginia Waterway Maintenance Grant Program and Fund from the Virginia Port Authority (VPA) to the Virginia Marine Resources Commission (VMRC). This change requires VMRC to adopt and implement the existing Municipal Dredging Operating Program and Municipal Dredging Operating Agreement for ongoing municipal dredge activities. Additionally, VMRC must utilize the Fast-Track Permitting Program for Disposal of Dredged Material where applicable.</p> <p>While specific costs and benefits are difficult to quantify this transfer is expected to be fiscally neutral. This legislation is expected to streamline program oversight and improve coordination between state and local entities involved in shallow-draft dredging. The transition will enhance VMRC’s ability to respond to local waterway maintenance needs more directly and efficiently.</p> <p>To support this shift, the bill repeals the current VPA-administered statutory funding mechanism (§§ 62.1-132.3:3 and 62.1-132.3:4) and re-establishes it under VMRC authority (§§ 28.2-108.1 and 28.2-108.2). This restructuring aims to align dredge funding oversight with VMRC’s existing waterway management responsibilities.</p> <p>As a result, VMRC created a new Guidance Document, and through incorporating public comments received, and it is expected to lead to improved program clarity, enhanced service delivery to local governments, and better stewardship of state shallow-draft navigation resources.</p>	
(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)	N/A	
(5) Information Sources	N/A	

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

(1) Direct & Indirect Costs & Benefits (Monetized)	Establishment of VMRC's guidance are necessary to implement legislative changes enacted through HB1834, which transfers administrative authority over the Virginia Waterway Maintenance Grant Program and Fund from the Virginia Port Authority (VPA) to the Virginia Marine Resources Commission (VMRC). This legislation will be codified under new sections (§§ 28.2-108.1 and 28.2-108.2 of the Code of Virginia), repealing the previous statutory framework administered by VPA (§§ 62.1-132.3:3 and 62.1-132.3:4).	
(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)	N/A	
(5) Information Sources	N/A	

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

(1) Direct & Indirect Costs & Benefits (Monetized)	The establishment of these guidelines ensure compliance with HB1834. No other alternatives have been evaluated.	
(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)	N/A	
(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

(1) Direct & Indirect Costs & Benefits (Monetized)	N/A	
(2) Present Monetized Values	Direct & Indirect Costs	Direct & Indirect Benefits
	(a)	(b)
(3) Other Costs & Benefits (Non-Monetized)		

(4) Information Sources	
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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)	N/A	
(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
	(M/A):				
	(D/A):				
	(M/R):				
	(D/R):				
Grand Total of Changes in Requirements:					(M/A):
					(D/A):
					(M/R):
					(D/R):

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

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

Title of Guidance Document	Original Length	New Length	Net Change in Length
POLICY ON GRANTS TO LOCAL GOVERNMENTS FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR DREDGING ACTIVITIES	N/A	1,216 words	0 (this program was transferred to VMRC Authority under HB1834 from the VPA. As a result the removal of the VPA guidance document will have a net zero effect.

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