

Office of Regulatory Management
Economic Review Form

Agency name	Board of Wildlife Resources
Virginia Administrative Code (VAC) Chapter citation(s)	4VAC15-40-310 (New)
VAC Chapter title(s)	Game: In General
Action title	Tracking collars for bear and deer hunting with dogs
Date this document prepared	March 22, 2024
Regulatory Stage (including Issuance of Guidance Documents)	Exempt Proposed

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)

<p>(1) Direct & Indirect Costs & Benefits (Monetized)</p>	<p>Direct Costs: Requiring all hunters pursuing deer or bear with hounds (dogs) in the Commonwealth to have GPS tracking collars on all dogs used in a hunt would require each dog to wear a GPS tracking collar. While these collars are already in common use among many hound hunters, for those that would need to purchase them, retail costs range from \$250-350.</p> <p>Indirect Costs: This proposal is not anticipated to have any indirect costs.</p> <p>Direct Benefits: This proposal will provide the Department a much better ability to address hunting hound conflicts with private landowners when problems arise, as tracking collars provide hound hunters the ability to know both where their dogs are at any particular time as well as the ability to retrieve/catch them when necessary. It is important to note that most deer and bear hound hunters in the Commonwealth already use GPS tracking collars, as they aid in assuring that hound hunters can successfully track and thus retrieve their hunting hounds during or following a hunt. Throughout our recent Hunting Hound-Landowner Stakeholder Advisory Committee (SAC) process (March 2023 – January 2024), it was revealed that a very large percentage of avid hound hunters already have and use this technology. While this regulatory proposal does mandate a cost to hunters that currently does not exist, it is necessary to reduce hunting hound conflicts to assure that the future of hunting with hounds persists in Virginia.</p> <p>Indirect Benefits: This proposal is not anticipated to have any indirect benefits.</p>	
<p>(2) Present Monetized Values</p>	<p>Direct & Indirect Costs</p>	<p>Direct & Indirect Benefits</p>
	<p>(a) \$250-350 per dog (for those dogs that do not currently have GPS collars)</p>	<p>(b) Indeterminate</p>
<p>(3) Net Monetized Benefit</p>	<p>Indeterminate</p>	
<p>(4) Other Costs & Benefits (Non-Monetized)</p>	<p>This proposal would promote the future of a very large segment of deer and bear hunters in the Commonwealth – those that pursue deer and bear with hounds. Such hunters contribute to the economy in the form of other hunting supplies, food, gas, and other expenditures within their local communities, as well as revenue generation for the Department in the form of hunting licenses sold. It is of note that hunting is a large contributor to the overall Virginia economy, with past surveys indicating that annual expenditures by hunters in the Commonwealth exceed \$877 million.</p>	

(5) Information Sources	2023-2024 DWR Hound Hunter-Private Landowner Stakeholder Advisory Committee Final Report (2024); 2011 National Survey of Hunting, Fishing, and Wildlife-Based Recreation
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Table 1b: Costs and Benefits under the Status Quo (No change to the regulation)

(1) Direct & Indirect Costs & Benefits (Monetized)	<p>Direct Costs: Increasing hunting hound conflicts with private landowners through time is leading to more calls to DWR Dispatch, requiring more Conservation Police Officer man hours to investigate landowner issues when unwanted hunting hounds are present on their lands. In the absence of this regulation, DWR’s ability to regulate and enforce the proper use of hounds to hunt deer and bear will continue to be lacking and calls will continue to increase in volume.</p> <p>Indirect Costs: Increasing hunting hound conflict through time is further dividing the hunting community, leading to more staff time and resources at DWR in attempting to address the issue with a lack of any further regulatory authorities to address the problem.</p> <p>Direct Benefits: There are no direct benefits associated with the status quo.</p> <p>Indirect Benefits: There are no indirect benefits associated with the status quo.</p>	
(2) Present Monetized Values	Direct & Indirect Costs	Direct & Indirect Benefits
	(a) N/A	(b) N/A
(3) Net Monetized Benefit	None	
(4) Other Costs & Benefits (Non-Monetized)	None	
(5) Information Sources	N/A	

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

(1) Direct & Indirect Costs & Benefits (Monetized)	<p>Direct Costs: There are no alternatives to be reasonably considered other than the proposed. The ability of a hound hunter to know where their dogs are at all times is required to address issues when they arise and enforce any existing or future proposed regulations (as with 4VAC15-40-320 proposed in addition).</p>
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	Indirect Costs: N/A Direct Benefits: N/A Indirect Benefits: N/A	
(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	

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)	Direct Costs: This proposal is not anticipated to have any impact on local partners. Indirect Costs: This proposal is not anticipated to have any impact on local partners. Direct Benefits: This proposal is not anticipated to have any impact on local partners. Indirect Benefits: This proposal is not anticipated to have any impact on local partners.	
(2) Present Monetized Values	Direct & Indirect Costs	Direct & Indirect Benefits
	(a) N/A	(b) N/A

(3) Other Costs & Benefits (Non-Monetized)	N/A
(4) Assistance	N/A
(5) Information Sources	N/A

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)	<p>Direct Costs: This proposal would require those who hunt deer or bear with hounds who do not have GPS tracking collars to acquire them.</p> <p>Indirect Costs: This proposal is not anticipated to have any impact on families.</p> <p>Direct Benefits: This proposal will serve to help the Department mitigate and minimize hunting hound conflicts with families that are suffering repeated issues with hunting hounds and hound hunters on their lands.</p> <p>Indirect Benefits: This proposal is not anticipated to have any impact on families.</p>	
(2) Present Monetized Values	Direct & Indirect Costs	Direct & Indirect Benefits
	(a) N/A	(b) N/A
(3) Other Costs & Benefits (Non-Monetized)	N/A	
(4) Information Sources	N/A	

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

<p>(1) Direct & Indirect Costs & Benefits (Monetized)</p>	<p>Direct Costs: This proposal is not anticipated to have any cost impact upon small businesses.</p> <p>Indirect Costs: This proposal is not anticipated to have any cost impact upon small businesses.</p> <p>Direct Benefits: This proposal is not anticipated to have any cost impact upon small businesses.</p> <p>Indirect Benefits: This proposal is not anticipated to have any cost impact upon small businesses.</p>	
<p>(2) Present Monetized Values</p>	<p>Direct & Indirect Costs</p>	<p>Direct & Indirect Benefits</p>
	<p>(a) N/A</p>	<p>(b) Indeterminate</p>
<p>(3) Other Costs & Benefits (Non-Monetized)</p>	<p>N/A</p>	
<p>(4) Alternatives</p>	<p>N/A</p>	
<p>(5) Information Sources</p>	<p>N/A</p>	

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	Initial Count	Additions	Subtractions	Net Change
4VAC15-40-310 (New)	0 (section does not currently exist)	2	0	2

Cost Reductions or Increases (if applicable)

VAC Section(s) Involved	Description of Regulatory Requirement	Initial Cost	New Cost	Overall Cost Savings/Increases
4VAC15-40-310 (New)	GPS collar requirement	0	\$250-350 per dog (for those dogs that do not currently have GPS collars)	\$250-350 per dog increase (for those dogs that do not currently have GPS collars)

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
N/A		

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

Title of Guidance Document	Original Length	New Length	Net Change in Length
N/A			