

Office of Regulatory Management  
Economic Review Form

<b>Agency name</b>	Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR)
<b>Virginia Administrative Code (VAC) Chapter citation(s)</b>	4 VAC 50-20
<b>VAC Chapter title(s)</b>	Chapter 20. Impounding Structure Regulations
<b>Action title</b>	This grant manual provides guidance regarding the policies, criteria, conditions, and procedures for determining project eligibility and awarding grants from the Virginia Dam Safety, Flood Prevention and Protection Assistance Fund to local governments and private entities for specified dam safety issues.  Amend Guidance Document: <u>2024</u> Grant Manual for the Virginia Dam Safety, Flood Prevention and Protection Assistance Fund (currently identified as DCR-VSWCB-018) to <u>2025</u> , announcing that applications are due: 4:00 p.m. EST, February 28, 2025.
<b>Date this document prepared</b>	July 21, 2024
<b>Regulatory Stage (including Issuance of Guidance Documents)</b>	Amend current Guidance Document

**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)	Direct benefits: This grant manual details how local governments and private entities are able to apply for funds to assist with the cost of developing engineering studies or performing necessary structural improvements to a dam. Local governments and private entities are able to receive up to 50% of the cost of the engineering studies or the cost of the structural repair in the form of a grant and up to 90% of the cost if a loan is provided. The local government or private entity is required to provide the remaining financial resources as a match to the grant or loan. This reduces the financial burden related to the ownership and maintenance of dams.	
(2) Present Monetized Values	Direct & Indirect Costs	Direct & Indirect Benefits
	(a)	(b) There is \$5 million available for grants to both local governments and private dam owners.
(3) Net Monetized Benefit		
(4) Other Costs & Benefits (Non-Monetized)	<p>Costs: There may be some minimal time impacts related to completing the application. These impacts have been reduced by offering (and strongly encouraging) the use of an electronic application submittal process.</p> <p>Benefits: Additional information about a dam that assists with determining the dam’s potential risks enables first responders to react appropriately during a storm event or other disaster. Offering financial assistance to ensure necessary structural improvements are undertaken assists the owner in achieving compliance with the Dam Safety Act (§10.1-604.1 et. seq.) and its regulations (4VAC50-20), while improving public safety.</p>	
(5) Information Sources		

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

(1) Direct & Indirect Costs & Benefits (Monetized)	Changes must be made to this grant manual to accurately reflect the amount of funds and types of funds that are available to applicants for the 2025 grant round. Funding varies each year based on the appropriations provided in the Appropriation Act.	
(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		

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

(1) Direct & Indirect Costs & Benefits (Monetized)	There is no other available alternative approach. Section 10.1-603.18 of the Code of Virginia requires the Director of the Department of Conservation and Recreation to develop a guidance document governing project eligibility and project priority criteria.	
(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: No direct costs are associated with this action.</p> <p>Indirect Costs: No indirect costs are associated with this action.</p> <p>Direct Benefits: There are many dams that are owned by local governments. This grant assists local governments by providing financial</p>
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	<p>assistance for the necessary engineering studies and structural improvements on their dams. Please see Table 1a for more information.</p> <p>Indirect Benefits: Local governments benefit from additional information about the risk a dam poses during a storm event or other disaster; this information would enable first responders to act appropriately during that event. Please see Table 1a for more information</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**

(1) Direct & Indirect Costs & Benefits (Monetized)	<p>Direct Costs: No direct costs are associated with this action.</p> <p>Indirect Costs: No indirect costs are associated with this action.</p> <p>Direct Benefits: No direct benefits are associated with this action.</p> <p>Indirect Benefits: No indirect benefits are associated with this action.</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: No direct costs are associated with this action.</p> <p>Indirect Costs: No indirect costs are associated with this action.</p> <p>Direct Benefits: Two of the project categories that dam owners (both local governments and private entities) may apply for require engineering studies. There are many small engineering and consulting firms that would be able to perform these studies and assist the dam owner.</p> <p>Indirect Benefits: No indirect benefits are associated with this action.</p>	
(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	Net Change
n/a	<b>Statutory:</b>				
	<b>Discretionary:</b>				

*Cost Reductions or Increases (if applicable)*

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

*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
Grant Manual for the Virginia Dam Safety, Flood Prevention and Protection Assistance Fund	32 pages	31 pages (with track-changes)	-1 page