

## Office of Regulatory Management

## Economic Review Form

<b>Agency name</b>	Board of Wildlife Resources
<b>Virginia Administrative Code (VAC) Chapter citation(s)</b>	4 VAC 15-20
<b>VAC Chapter title(s)</b>	Definitions and Miscellaneous: In General
<b>Action title</b>	Elimination of permit fee; establishment of late fee; reference updates
<b>Date this document prepared</b>	October 11, 2022

**Cost Benefit Analysis**

Table 1a must be completed for all actions. Tables 1b and 1c must be completed for actions (or portions thereof) where the agency is exercising discretion, including those where some of the changes are mandated by state or federal law or regulation. Tables 1b and 1c are not needed if **all** changes are mandated, and the agency is not exercising any discretion. In that case, enter a statement to that effect.

- (1) Direct Costs & Benefits: Identify all specific, direct economic impacts (costs and/or benefits), anticipated to result from the regulatory change. (A direct impact is one that affects entities regulated by the agency and which directly results from the regulatory change itself, without any intervening steps or effects. For example, the direct impact of a regulatory fee change is the change in costs for these regulated entities.) When describing a particular economic impact, specify which new requirement or change in requirement creates the anticipated economic impact. Keep in mind that this is the proposed change versus the status quo. One bullet has been provided, add additional bullets as needed.
- (2) Quantitative Factors:
  - (a) Enter estimated dollar value of total (overall) direct costs described above.
  - (b) Enter estimated dollar value of total (overall) direct benefits described above.
  - (c) Enter the present value of the direct costs based on the worksheet.
  - (d) Enter the present value of the direct benefits based on the worksheet.
- (3) Benefits-Costs Ratio: Calculate d divided by c OR enter it from the worksheet.
- (4) Net Benefit: Calculate d minus c OR enter it from the worksheet.
- (5) Indirect Costs & Benefits: Identify all specific, indirect economic impacts (costs and/or benefits), anticipated to result from the regulatory change. (An indirect impact is one that results from responses to the regulatory change, but which are not directly required by the regulation. Indirect impacts of a regulatory fee change on regulated entities could include a change in the prices they charge, changes in their operating procedures or employment levels, or decisions to enter or exit the regulated profession or market. Indirect impacts also include responses by other entities that have close economic ties to the regulated entities, such as suppliers or partners.) If there are no indirect costs or benefits, include a specific statement to that effect.

- (6) Information Sources: Describe the sources of information used to determine the benefits and costs, including the source of the Quantitative Factors. If dollar amounts are not available, indicate why they are not.
- (7) Optional: Use this space to add any further information regarding the data provided in this table, including calculations, qualitative assessments, etc.

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

<p>(1) Direct Costs &amp; Benefits</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Elimination of fee for special use authorization for certain events and uses of Department boat ramps.</b></li> </ul> <p>Direct Costs: Costs associated with this regulatory change will be nominal. Few in number and sporadically enforced, permit fees associated with the types of events and uses that require a special use authorization have been only \$10 for nonprofit use, and \$50 for private/commercial use. Less than \$500 in revenue was generated annually from these permits.</p> <p>Direct Benefits: Elimination of the fee will save the public money, while not impacting the Department’s revenues. Often, administrative costs associated with collecting the fees from these permits exceed the actual financial benefit to the agency, though the true financial benefit to the agency will be indeterminate.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Establishment of a late fee for wildlife rehabilitation and wildlife exhibitor permit renewals.</b></li> </ul> <p>Direct Costs: The establishment of a late fee for renewal of wildlife rehabilitation and wildlife exhibitor permits, while creating a new option for late renewal, will cost those who avail themselves of this opportunity money. The fees will range from \$10 to \$25 per individual permittee; of course they may be avoided entirely if renewal is completed on time.</p> <p>Direct Benefits: The establishment of a late fee allows for the Department to consider late renewals in a manner that is fair to other permittees who meet required timeframes, and provide at least some incentive for permittees to follow renewal guidelines. Due to the low number of individuals who request late renewal, it is estimated that the amount collected will total less than \$100 annually.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Reference updates.</b></li> </ul> <p>Direct Costs: Reference updates from the 2020 List of Native and Naturalized Fauna of Virginia to the 2022 version of that list are not anticipated to have any fiscal impact.</p>
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	Direct Benefits: Reference updates from the 2020 List of Native and Naturalized Fauna of Virginia to the 2022 version of that list are not anticipated to have any fiscal impact.		
(2) Quantitative Factors	Estimated Dollar Amount	Present Value	
Direct Costs	(a) ~\$100 (late fees for certain permits)	(c) >\$500 (annual fees collected for special use authorizations)	
Direct Benefits	(b) >\$500 (annual fees collected for special use authorizations that will be saved )	(d) ~\$100 (savings for certain permittees currently experienced by not having established late fees)	
(3) Benefits-Costs Ratio	0.2	(4) Net Benefit	~\$400
(5) Indirect Costs & Benefits	The primary indirect benefit will be an allowance for late renewal by wildlife rehabilitation and wildlife exhibitor permittees, which is technically not currently allowed. This will result in avoiding disruption to their operations. Fiscal implications of this are indeterminate.		
(6) Information Sources	Department of Wildlife Resources 2021 Special Use Authorization for Boat Ramps data; records of requests for late renewal of wildlife rehabilitation and wildlife exhibitor permits.		
(7) Optional			

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

*This table addresses current requirements and the implications of not making any changes. In other words, describe the costs and benefits of maintaining the current regulatory requirements as is.*

(1) Direct Costs & Benefits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Elimination of fee for special use authorization for certain events and uses of Department boat ramps.</b></li> </ul> <p>Direct Costs: Leaving the status quo in place would continue the practice of imposing these fees, costing the regulated community approximately \$500 annually in total fees.</p> <p>Direct Benefits: The status quo would continue to give the Department the benefit of the revenue from these fees. Often, however, administrative costs associated with collecting the fees from these permits exceed the actual financial benefit to the agency, though the true financial benefit to the agency will be indeterminate.</p>
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Establishment of a late fee for wildlife rehabilitation and wildlife exhibitor permit renewals.</b></li> </ul> <p>Direct Costs: Leaving the status quo in place deprives the Department of a procedure for allowing late renewal of wildlife rehabilitator and wildlife exhibitor permits. Establishment of a truly no-fee alternative would create no incentive for compliance whatsoever, which past experience demonstrated to lead to sporadic compliance with renewal deadlines.</p> <p>Direct Benefits: The status quo would avoid the nominal late fees for permittees who are late on their permit renewals.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Reference updates.</b></li> </ul> <p>Direct Costs: There is not an anticipated fiscal impact associated with using one version of the referenced list or the other.</p>		
(2) Quantitative Factors	Estimated Dollar Amount	Present Value	
Direct Costs	(a) ~\$500 (special use authorization fees paid, in total)	(c) ~\$500 (special use authorization fees paid, in total)	
Direct Benefits	(b) ~\$100 (savings for certain permittees currently experienced by not having established late fees)	(d) ~\$100 (savings for certain permittees currently experienced by not having established late fees)	
(3) Benefits-Costs Ratio	-0.2	(4) Net Benefit	~ -\$400
(5) Indirect Costs & Benefits	An indirect cost of the status quo is that the true ability of wildlife rehabilitator and wildlife exhibitor permittees to renew late is unknown, and is handled on a case-by-case basis.		
(6) Information Sources	Department of Wildlife Resources 2021 Special Use Authorization for Boat Ramps data; records of requests for late renewal of wildlife rehabilitation and wildlife exhibitor permits.		
(7) Optional			

**Table 1c: Costs and Benefits under an Alternative Approach**

*This table addresses an alternative approach to accomplishing the objectives with different requirements. These alternative approaches may include the use of reasonably available*

*alternatives in lieu of regulation, or information disclosure requirements or performance standards instead of regulatory mandates.*

<p>(1) Direct Costs &amp; Benefits</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li> <p><b>Elimination of fee for special use authorization for certain events and uses of Department boat ramps.</b></p> <p>Direct Costs: Alternative fee levels for special use authorizations could be considered, though with the current amounts of \$10 and \$50, no further reduction in the amount of the fees is judged to be of benefit to the regulated community or the agency. Heightened fees are viewed as unnecessary and still unlikely to lead to a meaningful revenue stream for the Department.</p> <p>Direct Benefits: No alternatives are expected to result in a more meaningful benefit than the current change.</p> </li> <li> <p><b>Establishment of a late fee for wildlife rehabilitation and wildlife exhibitor permit renewals.</b></p> <p>Direct Costs: An alternative of a no-fee late renewal provision, based on past experience, would result in sporadic compliance and present an unfair set of circumstances to those permittees who renew on time.</p> <p>Direct Benefits: An alternative of a no-fee late renewal provision would result in savings for those wildlife rehabilitator and wildlife exhibitor permit holders who wish to renew late.</p> </li> <li> <p><b>Reference updates.</b></p> <p>Direct Costs: There is not an anticipated fiscal impact associated with using one version of the referenced list or the other.</p> </li> </ul>		
<p>(2) Quantitative Factors</p>	<p>Estimated Dollar Amount</p>	<p>Present Value</p>	
<p>Direct Costs</p>	<p>(a) Indeterminate based upon fee levels that could be selected.</p>	<p>(c) Indeterminate based upon fee levels that could be selected.</p>	
<p>Direct Benefits</p>	<p>(b) Indeterminate based upon fee levels that could be selected.</p>	<p>(d) Indeterminate based upon fee levels that could be selected.</p>	
<p>(3) Benefits-Costs Ratio</p>	<p>Indeterminate</p>	<p>(4) Net Benefit</p>	<p>Indeterminate</p>

(5) Indirect Costs & Benefits	Indeterminate
(6) Information Sources	Department of Wildlife Resources 2021 Special Use Authorization for Boat Ramps data; records of requests for late renewal of wildlife rehabilitation and wildlife exhibitor permits.
(7) Optional	

**Impact on Local Partners**

- (1) Describe the direct costs and benefits (as defined on page 1) for local partners in terms of real monetary costs and FTEs. Local partners include local or tribal governments, school divisions, or other local or regional authorities, boards, or commissions. If local partners are not affected, include a specific statement to that effect and a brief explanation of the rationale.
- (2) Quantitative Factors:
  - (a) Enter estimated dollar value of total (overall) direct costs described above.
  - (b) Enter estimated dollar value of total (overall) direct benefits described above.
- (3) Indirect Costs & Benefits: Describe any indirect benefits and costs (as defined on page 1) for local partners that are associated with all significant changes. If there are no indirect costs or benefits, include a specific statement to that effect.
- (4) Information Sources: describe the sources of information used to determine the benefits and costs, including the source of the Quantitative Factors. If dollar amounts are not available, indicate why they are not.
- (5) Assistance: Identify the amount and source of assistance provided for compliance in both funding and training or other technical implementation assistance.
- (6) Optional: Use this space to add any further information regarding the data provided in this table, including calculations, qualitative assessments, etc.

Note: If any of the above information was included in Table 1, use the same information here.

**Table 2: Impact on Local Partners**

(1) Direct Costs & Benefits	Local partners are not anticipated to be affected by this regulatory change. Special use authorizations are not typically requested by localities, and most wildlife rehabilitator and wildlife exhibitor permittees are held by private parties. Where a local partner could be affected, any impact would be the same as is experienced by the private parties discussed above.
(2) Quantitative Factors	Estimated Dollar Amount
Direct Costs	(a) N/A

Direct Benefits	(b) N/A
(3) Indirect Costs & Benefits	N/A
(4) Information Sources	Department of Wildlife Resources 2021 Special Use Authorization for Boat Ramps data; records of requests for late renewal of wildlife rehabilitation and wildlife exhibitor permits.
(5) Assistance	N/A
(6) Optional	

**Economic Impacts on Families**

- (1) Describe the direct costs and benefits (as defined on page 1) to a typical family of three (average family size in Virginia according to the U. S. Census) arising from any proposed regulatory changes that would affect the costs of food, energy, housing, transportation, healthcare, and education. If families are not affected, include a specific statement to that effect and a brief explanation of the rationale.
- (2) Quantitative Factors:
  - (a) Enter estimated dollar value of direct costs.
  - (b) Enter estimated dollar value of direct benefits.
- (3) Indirect Costs & Benefits: Describe any indirect costs and benefits (as defined on page 1) to a typical family of three that are most likely to result from the proposed changes.
- (4) Information Sources: describe the sources of information used to determine the benefits and costs, including the source of the Quantitative Factors. If dollar amounts are not available, indicate why not.
- (5) Optional: Use this space to add any further information regarding the data provided in this table, including calculations, qualitative assessments, etc.

Note: If any of the above information was included in Table 1, use the same information here.

**Table 3: Impact on Families**

(1) Direct Costs & Benefits	Families are not anticipated to be affected by these regulatory changes. As noted above, these changes pertain to private individuals or organizations seeking to engage in various activities; no provision directly addresses or impacts the family unit.
(2) Quantitative Factors	Estimated Dollar Amount

Direct Costs	(a) N/A
Direct Benefits	(b) N/A
(3) Indirect Costs & Benefits	The only manner in which the family may be indirectly benefitted by these changes is to the extent that a private individual with a family saves the special use authorization fee noted herein; in which case that individual will retain those resources for the potential benefit of their family. Likewise, the only potential indirect cost to the family is to the extent that a wildlife rehabilitator or exhibitor who must pay the fee has a family, in which case those resources will no longer be available.
(4) Information Sources	Department of Wildlife Resources 2021 Special Use Authorization for Boat Ramps data; records of requests for late renewal of wildlife rehabilitation and wildlife exhibitor permits.
(5) Optional	

**Impacts on Small Businesses**

- (1) Describe the direct costs and benefits (as defined on page 1) for small businesses. For purposes of this analysis, “small business” means the same as that term is defined in § 2.2-4007.1. If small businesses are not affected, include a specific statement to that effect and a brief explanation of the rationale.
- (2) Quantitative Factors:
  - (a) Enter estimated dollar value of direct costs.
  - (b) Enter estimated dollar value of direct benefits.
- (3) Indirect Costs & Benefits: Describe the indirect benefits and costs (as defined on page 1) for small businesses that are most likely to result from the proposed changes.
- (4) Alternatives: Add a qualitative discussion of any equally effective alternatives that would make the regulatory burden on small business more equitable compared to other affected business sectors, and how those alternatives were identified.
- (5) Information Sources: describe the sources of information used to determine the benefits and costs, including the source of the Quantitative Factors. If dollar amounts are not available, indicate why not.
- (6) Optional: Use this space to add any further information regarding the data provided in this table, including calculations, qualitative assessments, etc.

Note: If any of the above information was included in Table 1, use the same information here.

**Table 4: Impact on Small Businesses**



(1) Direct Costs & Benefits	Costs to small businesses will be limited to those wildlife rehabilitators and wildlife exhibitors who are small businesses and who become subject to the late renewal fees that are established. Not all such permittees are small businesses and it is uncertain what percentage of late renewals would emanate from small businesses, but given the discussion above, the total annual cost is anticipated to be less than ~\$100 collectively.
(2) Quantitative Factors	Estimated Dollar Amount
Direct Costs	(a) ~\$100 or less
Direct Benefits	(b) Indeterminate. While the late renewal fee comes at a cost, it also provides the benefit to any of those permittees who may be considered small businesses to avoid interruption to their business by allowing for late permit renewal when a deadline is missed.
(3) Indirect Costs & Benefits	Indirect benefits to any small businesses who are wildlife rehabilitation or wildlife exhibitor permittees who seek to renew late are an efficient process allowing for late renewal, which will avoid potential disruption to their business.
(4) Alternatives	Any alternatives for small businesses would be indistinguishable from alternatives for other affected parties; see the Alternatives discussion above.
(5) Information Sources	Department of Wildlife Resources 2021 Special Use Authorization for Boat Ramps data; records of requests for late renewal of wildlife rehabilitation and wildlife exhibitor permits.
(6) Optional	

**Changes to Number of Regulatory Requirements**

*For each individual VAC Chapter amended, repealed, or promulgated by this regulatory action, list (a) the initial requirement count, (b) the count of requirements that this regulatory package is adding, (c) the count of requirements that this regulatory package is reducing, (d) the net change in the number of requirements. This count should be based upon the text as written when this stage was presented for executive branch review. Five rows have been provided, add or delete rows as needed.*

**Table 5: Total Number of Requirements**

Chapter number	Number of Requirements			
	Initial Count	Additions	Subtractions	Net Change

4 VAC 15-20-50	2 (registration and renewal, subsection B)	0	0	0
4 VAC 15-20-200	17 (individual fees)	3 (late fees)	2 (special use authorization fees)	1