

Potential Impacts to Commercial Fishing

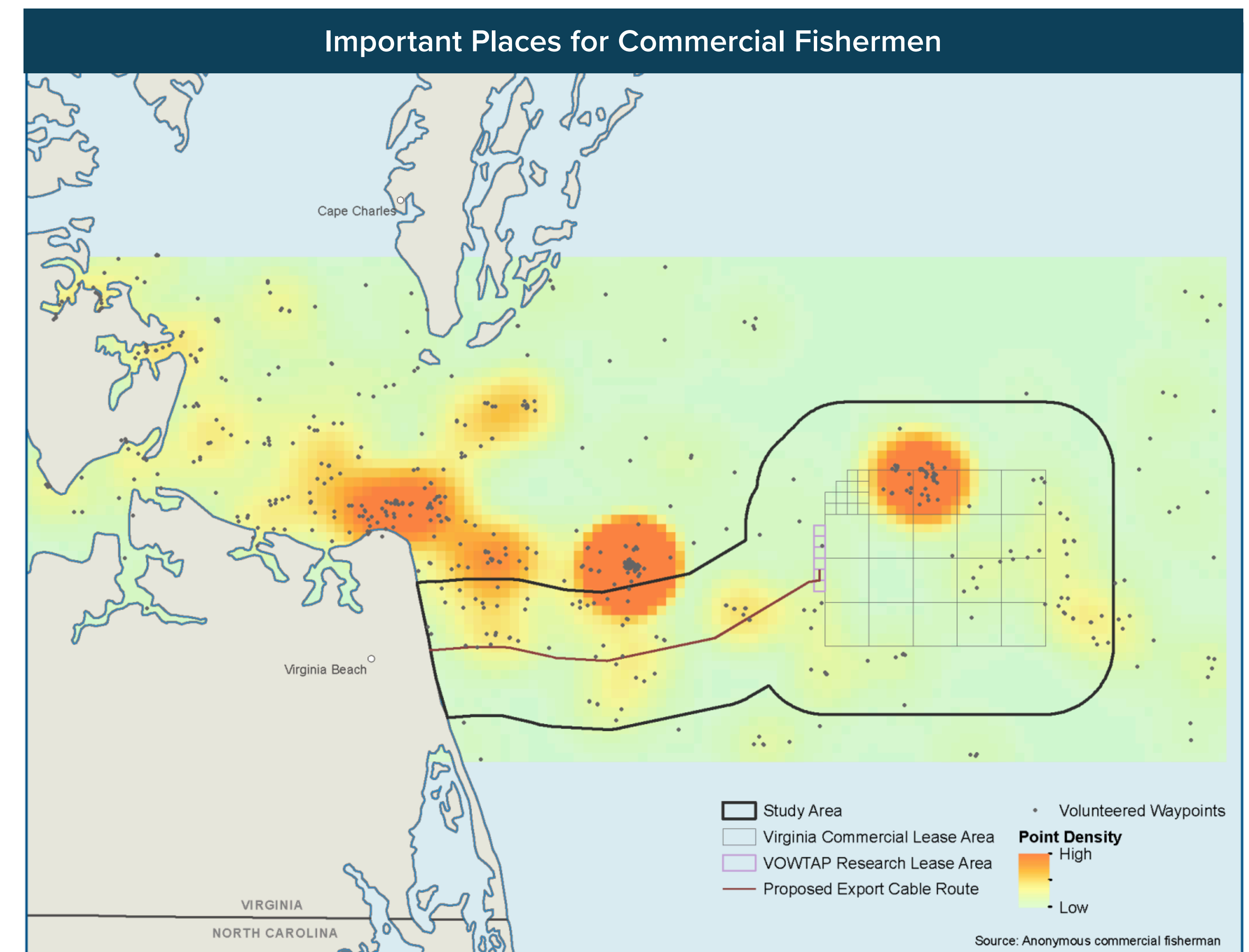
Construction

- Displacement of fishing vessels during installation of WTGs/OSS and during cable laying
- Increased vessel traffic in ports and within offshore work areas

Operations

The long-term presence of offshore wind structures in the Lease Area could result in:

- Long-term space use conflicts for fishing and transiting within the Lease Area
- Increased risk of allision or collision for fishing vessels in the Lease Area
- Habitat modification in the Lease Area and along submarine export cable corridors
- Potential for gear entanglement and loss due to interactions with exposed cables
- Artificial reef effect may increase density of structure-oriented fish



Source: Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM). 2016. Collaborative Fisheries Planning for Virginia's Offshore Wind Energy Area. Accessed at: <https://www.boem.gov/sites/default/files/environmental-stewardship/Environmental-Studies/Renewable-Energy/VWEA-Final-Report.pdf>