



Australian Government

## Joint Agency Coordination Centre

### MH370 Operational Search Update

**24 June 2015**

This operational report has been developed to provide regular updates on the progress of the search effort for MH370. Our work will continue to be thorough and methodical, so sometimes weekly progress may seem slow. Please be assured that work is continuing and is aimed at finding MH370 as quickly as possible.

#### Key developments this week

- *GO Phoenix* ceased search operations on 20 June and commenced passage to Singapore. The vessel is expected to arrive around 30 June, whereupon it will be demobilised from search activities.
- *Fugro Discovery* paused search operations on 18 June and arrived at the Port of Fremantle on 24 June for routine resupply operations.
- *Fugro Equator* paused search operations on 23 June and is currently en route to Fremantle to conduct routine resupply operations. The vessel is expected to arrive in port around 29 June.

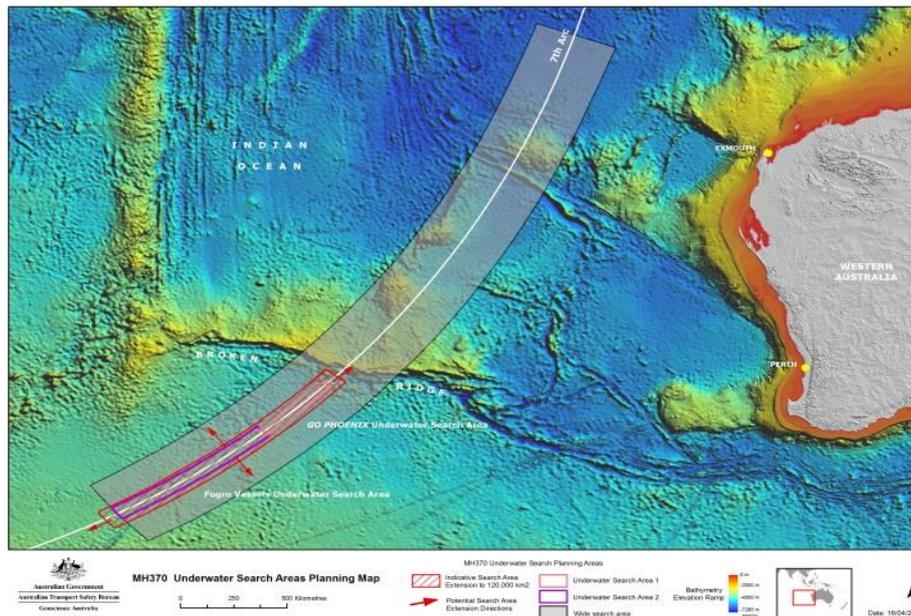
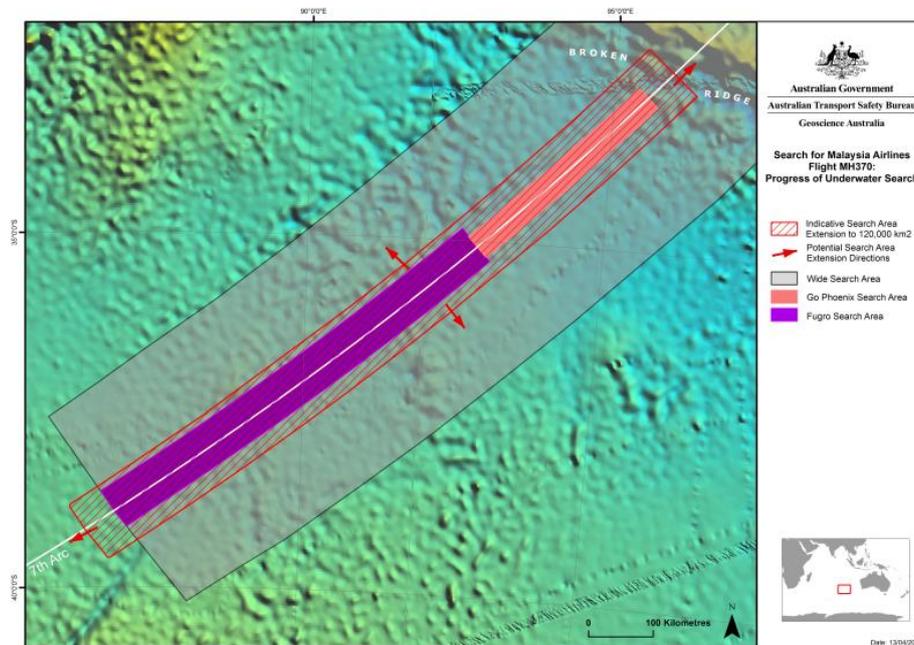
#### Underwater search

As announced in April, the search area has been expanded beyond an original 60,000 square kilometre search area to enable up to 120,000 square kilometres to be searched if required.

Search plans were revised in April to ensure that the complete 120,000 square kilometre area can be searched as quickly and effectively as possible if required. The Fugro vessels have undergone winterisation to enable continuous search operations during winter. The safety of the search crews, as always, remains a priority and vessels and equipment utilised will vary to reflect operational needs, particularly during the winter months.

Over the coming week, neither vessel will be in the search area as they transit to and from the Port of Fremantle. Regular port visits to resupply are a routine and necessary part of search operations. Following resupply, both vessels will return to the search area to continue the ongoing search for MH370.

More than 50,000 square kilometres of the seafloor have been searched so far.



The Search Strategy Working Group continues to review evidence associated with MH370 which may result in further refinement of, or prioritisation within, the search area.

In the event the aircraft is found and accessible, Australia, Malaysia and the People's Republic of China have agreed to plans for recovery activities including securing all the evidence necessary for the accident investigation.

## Weather

The weather in the search area is forecast to be unfavourable over the next week, however, both search vessels will be in transit to and from the Port of Fremantle. Search operations will continue through the winter months, but pauses are anticipated.

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