



Australian Government
Joint Agency Coordination Centre

MH370 Operational Search Update

26 August 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

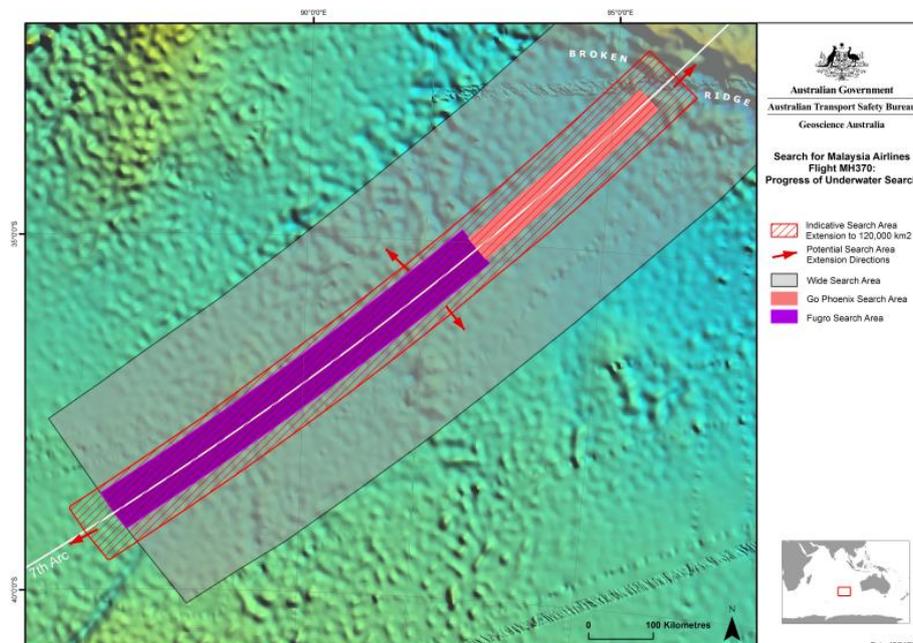
- *Fugro Discovery* continues to conduct search operations. The vessel's next resupply visit to port is scheduled for mid-September.
- *Fugro Equator* continues to conduct search operations. The vessel's next resupply visit to port is scheduled for late September.

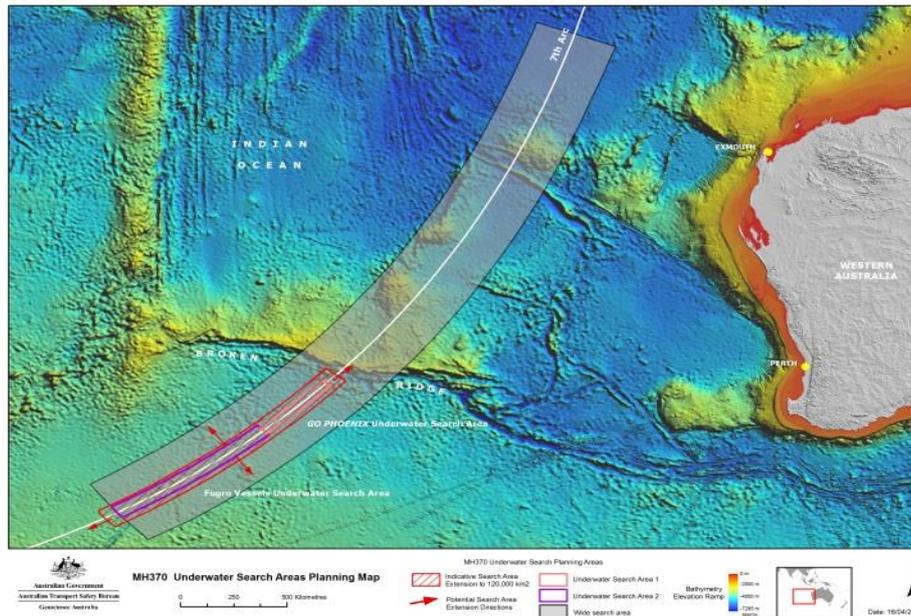
Underwater search

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 area can be searched as quickly and effectively as possible. The Fugro vessels have undergone winterisation to enable continuous search operations over the winter and autumn months. The safety of the search crews, as always, remains a priority and vessels and equipment utilised will vary to reflect operational needs.

More than 60,000 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 is forecast to deteriorate in the coming week with anticipated gale-force winds and predicted waves of up to 6-7 metres. Search operations will carry on through the winter months, but pauses are anticipated.

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