



Australian Government
Joint Agency Coordination Centre
MH370 Operational Search Update

9 March 2016

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 underwater search operations.
- *Fugro Equator* continues to conduct underwater search operations.
- *Havila Harmony* suspended underwater search operations due to poor weather conditions and transited north to continue its work where more favourable conditions prevail.
- *Dong Hai Jiu 101* suspended underwater search operations due to poor weather conditions, and will resume operations once safe to do so.
- Debris, suspected to be from an aircraft, was found in Mozambique. The Governments of Australia, Malaysia, and Mozambique are making arrangements for the debris to be transported to the Australian Transport Safety Bureau laboratories in Canberra. The debris will be examined by investigators from Australia and Malaysia, as well as specialists from Boeing, to confirm if it comes from an aircraft and if so, attempt to establish its origin.
- In addition, suspected aircraft debris was found on La Réunion. Negotiations are occurring with relevant authorities to arrange for examination of the debris.
- The Malaysian ICAO Annex 13 Safety Investigation Team released the second interim statement on the progress of the investigation into the disappearance of MH370. The report can be viewed at: <http://www.mh370.gov.my/index.php/en/390-2nd-interim-statement-mh370-safety-investigation>.

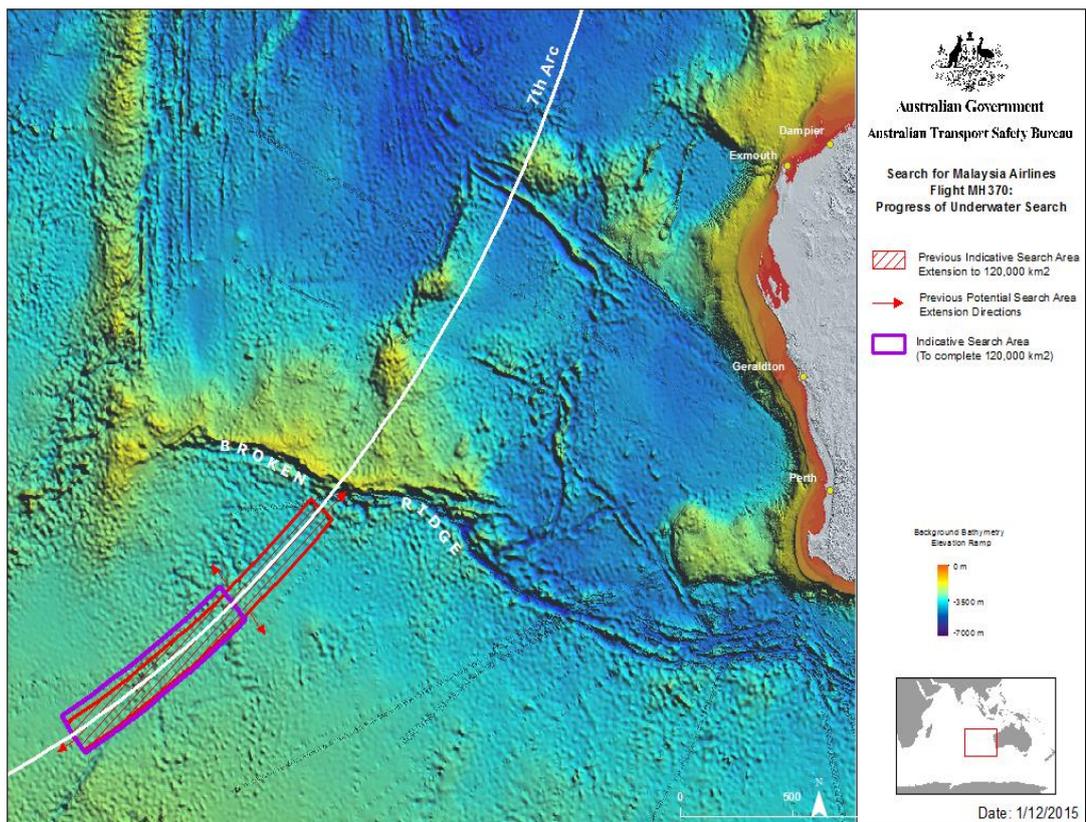
Underwater search operations

Weather may continue to impact on search operations but generally, more favourable conditions are being experienced.

More than 90,000 square kilometres of the seafloor have been searched so far.

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.

Consistent with the undertaking given by the Governments of Australia, Malaysia and the People's Republic of China in April last year, 120,000 square kilometres will be thoroughly searched. It is anticipated this will be completed around the middle of the year. In the absence of credible new information that leads to the identification of a specific location of the aircraft, Governments have agreed that there will be no further expansion of the search area.



Weather

Current weather conditions in parts of the search area are poor and forecast to continue to be so over the coming days.

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