



Australian Government

## Joint Agency Coordination Centre

### MH370 Operational Search Update

11 May 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.

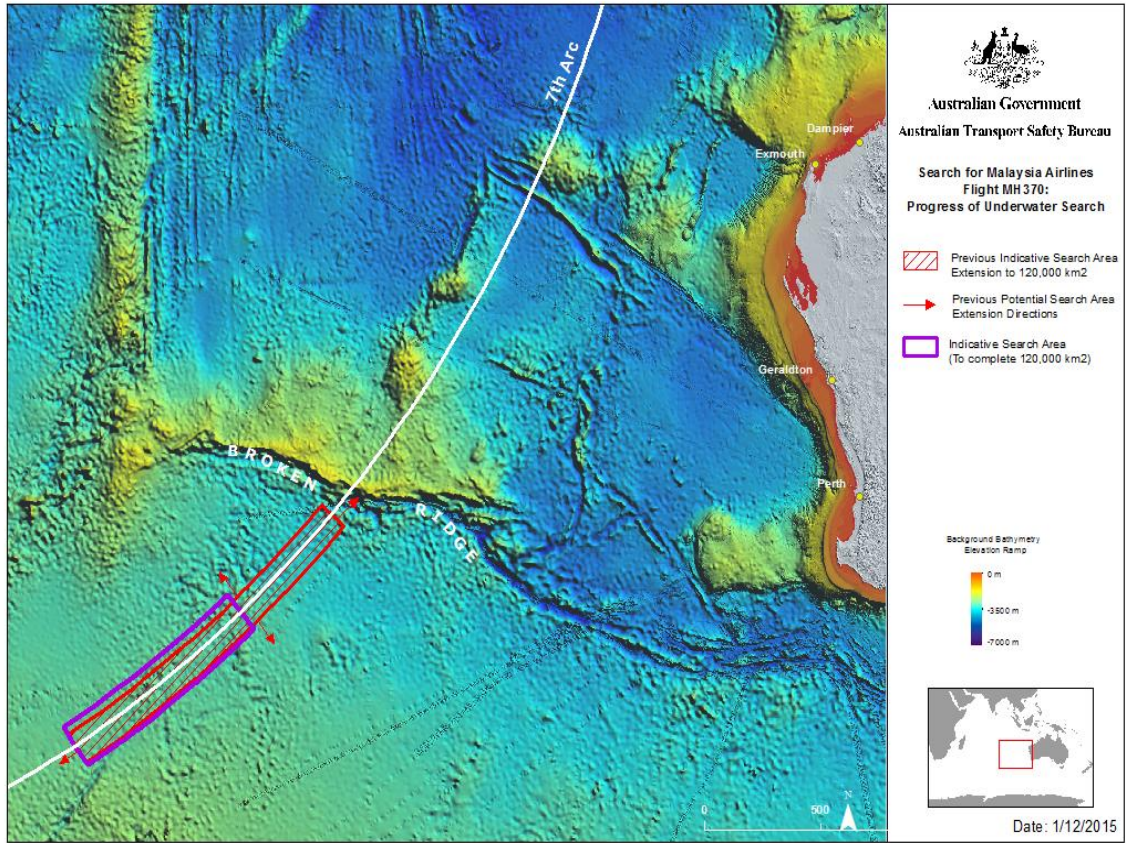
#### Key developments this week

- Poor weather conditions prompted the crew of *Fugro Discovery* to recover the deep tow vehicle and go to weather avoidance on 8 May. The vessel is expected to depart for Fremantle later today.
- *Fugro Equator* departed Fremantle for the search area on 6 May but poor weather has slowed transit to the search area. The vessel is anticipated to arrive on 11 May but weather conditions in the coming days are expected to preclude search operations.
- *Dong Hai Jiu 101* completed testing of the SLH-ProSAS-60 deep tow system and departed for the search area on 10 May.

#### Underwater search operations

More than 105,000 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

Winter weather has set in, with wave heights in the search area expected to peak at 12 metres and winds of up to 50 knots. Search operations are likely to be disrupted, but will resume as weather permits.

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