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This document was created in response to a Freedom of Information request made to CSIRO.

FOI Number: FOI2016/47

Date: 6 October 2017

Request:

The **reverse-drift analysis** performed on "objects of interest", that were detected (whether by satellite or aerial search) during the early phase (15 March 2014 to 28 March 2014) of the search for MH370, in a region bounded, at the times of detection, by coordinates 42° South to 47° South and 88° East to 92° East; this analysis being performed with a view to determining probable position of said objects on the morning of 8th March 2014 when the flight is thought to have terminated. Specifically, I would like to request the document or documents that contains the following information:-

- a) listing of "objects" that were included in the analysis
- b) the methodology and assumptions employed
- c) the inferred "reverse track" of said objects and best estimate(s) of position(s) on the morning of 8 March 2014, including information on the spatial uncertainty or probability attached to such estimate(s).
- d) for each object included in the analysis, the [LAT/LONG] periodic reverse-drifted track positions and inferred position of origin, preferably in a .csv or .kmz electronic file format.

In the event that more than one reverse-drift analysis was conducted, I kindly request that you provide me with the <u>each of the said documents</u> as they were successively revised or refined; or as they pertain to separate sub-sets of objects.

Document(s): 2

For more information, please refer to CSIRO's FOI disclosure log at www.csiro.au/FOILog

From:

Griffin, David (O&A, Hobart)

Sent:

Thursday, 20 March 2014 4:35 PM

To:

rccaus@amsa.gov.au; Irving, Paul

Cc:

Kachel, Nick (Comms, Newcastle)

Subject:

MH370 animation for possible media use.

Dear RCC/Paul,

I gather an item has been seen about '2500km SW of Perth', le about 435 91E, which is not too far, in the scheme of things, from the search area.

ABC have asked if I can talk to them about currents in the region generally.

I have prepared some material (animations and stills) for either you, or me, to present:

1)a big picture view of simulated drift over the last ~week: http://www.marine.csiro.au/ofam1/om/OM_nr00_MH370_Au_tp3/index.html

2)longer-term simulations, for past years, just to answer the speculation about debris washing up on Perth's beaches:

http://www.cmar.csiro.au/moste/ofam3/O3s1_MH370_Au_tp3m/index.html

please call to discuss.

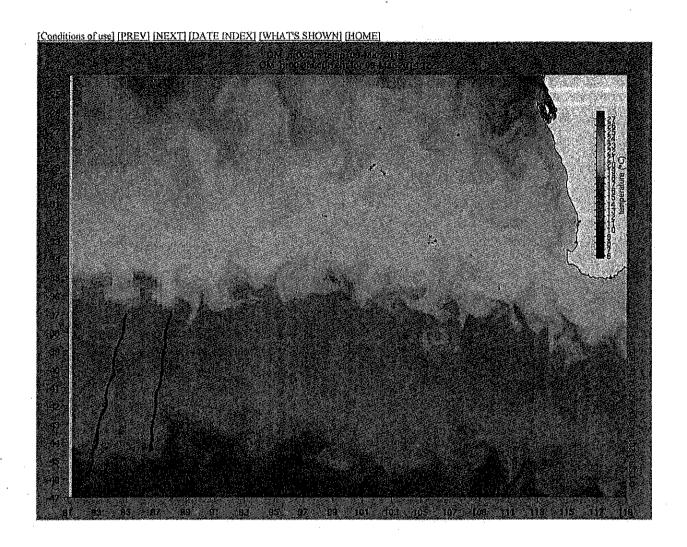
David

:47

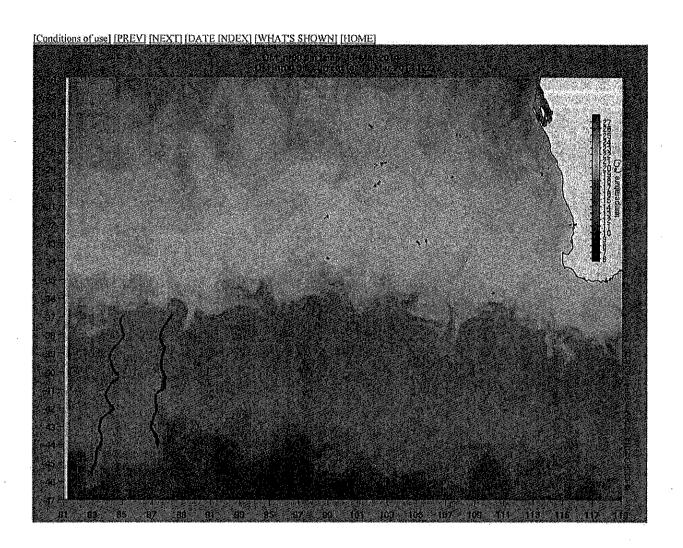
Dr David Griffin, Physical Oceanographer CSIRO Marine and Atmospheric Research.

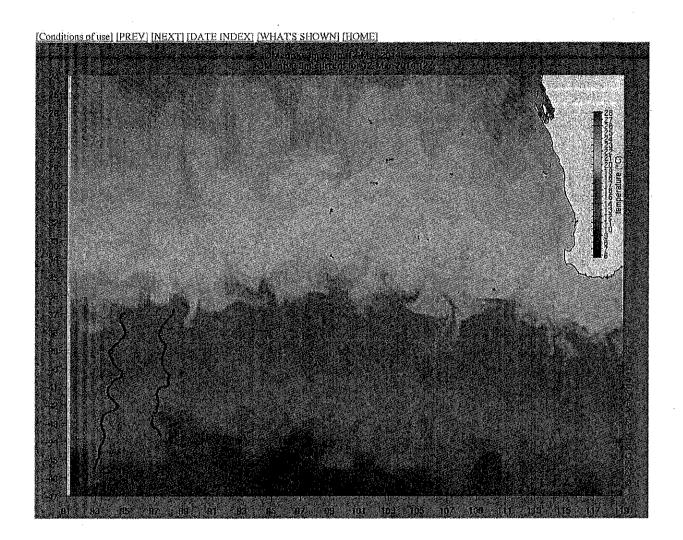
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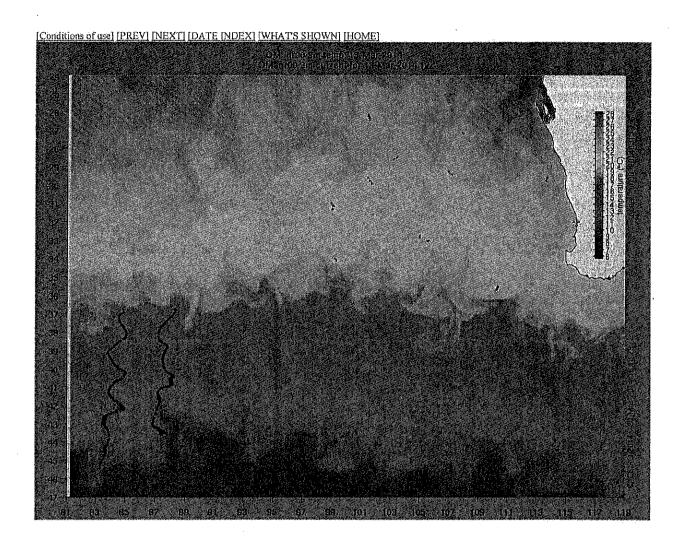
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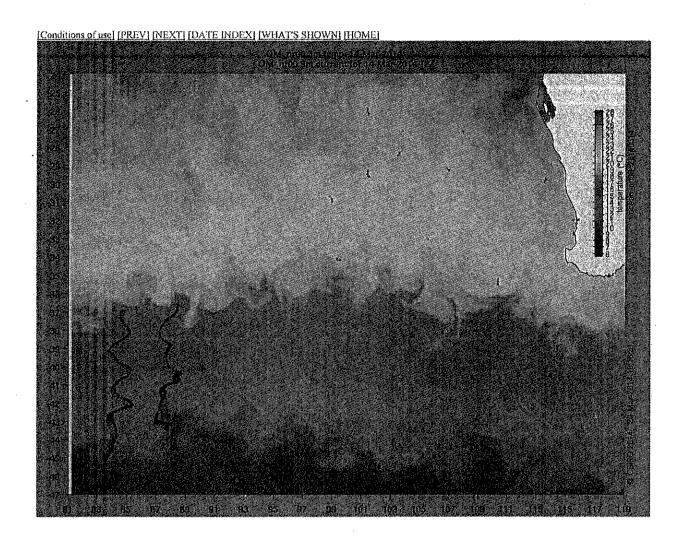


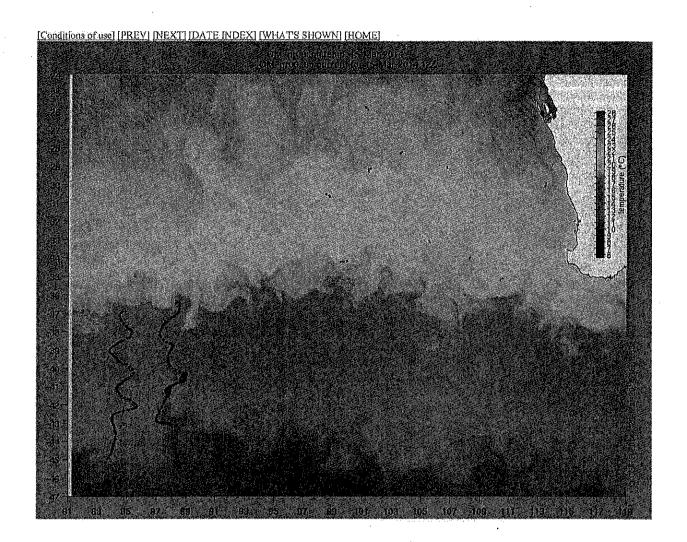


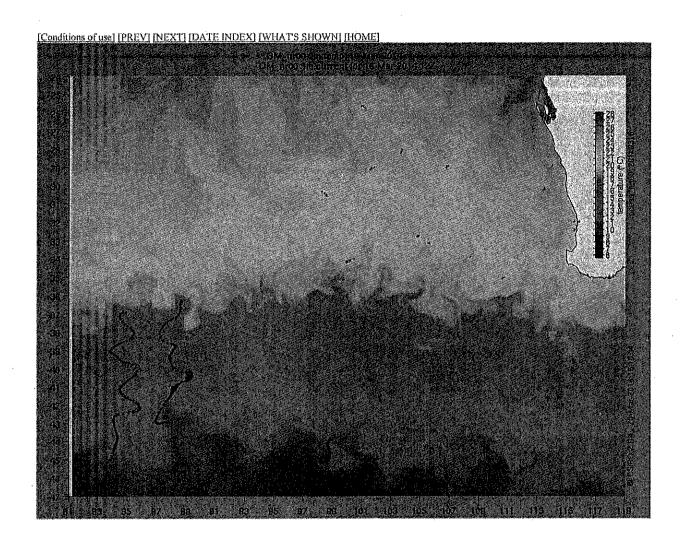


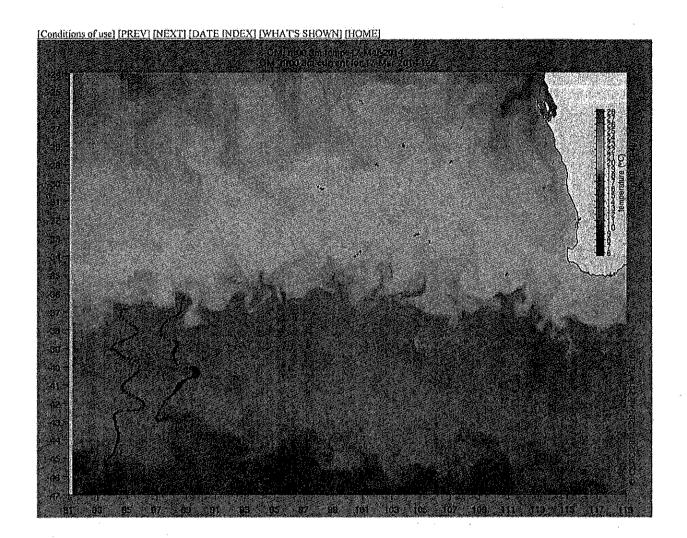


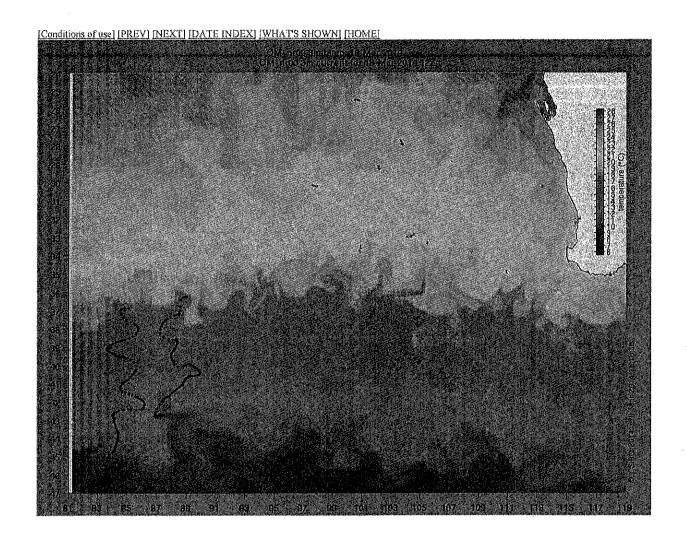












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[HOME]

From:

Griffin, David (O&A, Hobart)

Sent:

Wednesday, 26 March 2014 11:18 PM

To:

s 47F, s47G(1)

Subject:

RE: MH370

1477 3A75[1](0

I've done both backward and forward trajectories, each with two sorts of ocean model, model A on the left and model B (both Bluelink) on the right. The 4 satellite-sightings are numbered 1..5, item 4 is off-screen to the east. Panels also include real drifters as little magenta arrow heads at 12h intervals. Overlain are blue arrow heads showing the model velocity at that point. The total r.m.s model error for the day is shown - typically 10-20cm/s.

Watch the back-track starting at 20 March:

http://www.marine.csiro.au/ofam1/om/OM_nr01_MH370_tp3sr/20140320.html

and step back to 8 March. If the models were perfect and these were all pieces of plane they would all come together. They don't. But they do get closer together rather than diverging, as we might expect random pieces of ocean debris to. I'm hoping that as we improve the models we can get better convergence and a smaller search area. But I think the models are already good enough to say with some degree of certainty that no pair of sightings is the same object seen twice. I'll check that tomorrow but I suspect that the implied model errors would far exceed the errors we see against the drifting buoys. The caveat is that it has not been very windy since the buoys were deployed.

I then do a forward-track from the centre of the back-track clouds, Click forward from: http://www.marine.csiro.au/ofam1/om/OM_nr01_MH370_tp3s/20140308.html

We have to change models to go closer to the present: http://www.marine.csiro.au/ofam1/om/OM fc7d MH370 tp3s/20140325.html

I'm sure I can trust you not to pass these on. They are not secret but nor are they public yet. Your comments are most welcome.

David

From:

s 47F, s47G(1)(a)

Sent: Wednesday, March 26, 2014 2:31 AM

To: Griffin, David (CMAR, Hobart)

Subject: Re: MH370

David,

Good to hear from you. That is a remarkably good result after 8-12 days of drift. I didn't think BlueLink extended that far. Are

you feeding your results into AMSA? I suggest you use a very low leeway factor for the item seen on the 16th & 18th – only 0.1 to 0.2% wind speed.

Looking forward to seeing your trajectories.

Regards.

s 47F, s47G(1)(a)

1



From: David Griffin

s 47F

Date: Monday, 24 March 2014 12:16

To:

s 47F, s47G(1)(a)

Subject: MH370

Hi Mar area (a)

I'm just watching TV. Good point about looking for more sat images closer to the time of the crash.

But even using just the 4 items I've got fixes on, I reckon I know where the plane crashed +-30nm (maybe more) but today I was really amazed how consistent the back-tracked locations are. I'll show you the trajectories soon.

For now, please don't repeat this to media.

best regards, David

