

RACE SCREEN PRINTS AND COMMENTS

SATORI SYC

FOR THE

LAKE SUPERIOR LIGHTS 2020 (569 nm)

STARTING AT 1600 UTC NOVEMBER 20, 2020

FINISHING AT 11:57:03 UTC NOVEMBER 23, 2020

SKIPPER - JOHN GAMBLES RCYC and SYC

(Satori finished 7th of 156 boats racing of the 187 boats registered)

(Satori is ranked 60th of 256 in SYC World Rankings after 12 races)

Lake Superior Lights 2020

Chart and Info: Lake Superior Lights 2020 (569nm)

Start time: Nov 20 2020 19:00:00 UTC

Start by Wisconsin Point Light at position: 46N43.2000 091W58.8000

Marks:

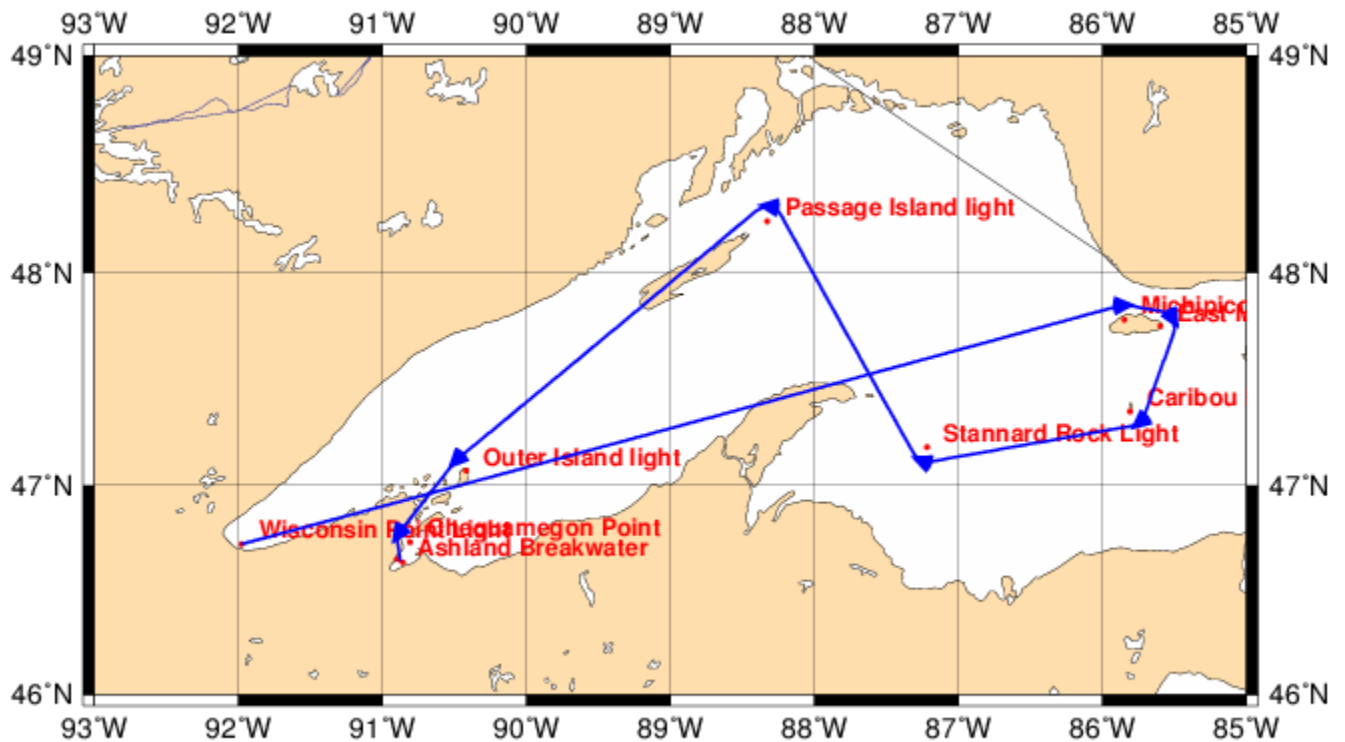
BRG is the bearing from ship to mark at scoring position.

- | | | |
|----------------------------|---|-----------|
| 1: Michipicoten Island | - Leave 47N46.8000 085W51.0000 to Starboard | - BRG 178 |
| 2: East Michipicoten Light | - Leave 47N45.0000 085W36.0000 to Starboard | - BRG 240 |
| 3: Caribou Island Light | - Leave 47N21.0000 085W48.6000 to Starboard | - BRG 320 |
| 4: Stannard Rock Light | - Leave 47N10.8000 087W13.2000 to Starboard | - BRG 022 |
| 5: Passage Island light | - Leave 48N14.3400 088W19.8000 to Port | - BRG 187 |
| 6: Outer Island light | - Leave 47N04.2000 090W25.2000 to Port | - BRG 134 |
| 7: Chequamegon Point | - Leave 46N43.8000 090W48.6000 to Port | - BRG 123 |

Finish line:

Line by Ashland Breakwater between marks A and B at positions:

- A: 46N37.9295 090W51.5196
B: 46N38.8705 090W54.0806



Lake Superior Lights 2020

I had been looking forward to this Race because it was on the Great Lakes. It being close to home I particularly wanted the Canadians to place well. As many of you know, and as was talked about in the Chatroom, the November gales of Lake Superior on the big lake they call Gitcha Gumee are well known and particularly so because of the Wreck of the Edmund Fitzgerald and Gordon Lightfoot's haunting song about the sinking of this bulk carrier on November 10, 1975 and the loss of its crew of 29.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PH0K6ojmGZA>

While I sail on the Great Lakes in my on-the-water boat **Shibumi**, I have not sailed on Lake Superior and I am not sure that I would want to as late as November!

In the hope of performing well I did more advance preparation than usual. While I did not live up to my delusions of grandeur I am proud of **Satori's** performance. As a relative newcomer to SOL, coming on board for the N2B Race in June, a 7th place finish was encouraging to me and I hope will inspire all of you SOLers who are learning about SOL and QtVIm (Qt) like me. I even had my 5 minutes of glory 265 nms into the Race by being in first place while rounding Michipicoten Island.....but I did overestimate the time! **WRmirekd** was even kind enough to give **Satori** a second chance along the north shore of the Island!

This was a close race with an exciting finish as we in the EST Time Zone sailed on SOL in the dark of early morning, while navigating through the Apostle Islands. As **Vibex** said in the Chatroom this would have been a nightmare finish IRL. The rest of you may not have noticed that it was dark! **WRmirekd**, not a stranger to the Podium and last year's winner, led **rumskib**, another Podium regular, by just 31 seconds, with **Wolff** following in another 20 seconds to complete the Podium. How close is that after 65 hours and 572.17 nms? Congratulations to them. Actually only 6 minutes and 40 seconds separated the Top Ten. There was almost no room for mistakes and unfortunately I made a few after Michipicoten Island! The timing of the WX reports did not help! They seemed to arrive at the most inopportune times in the Race!

In advance of the race I went to the Archives of SOL to see the Reports on last year's race including **Bimmer's** time-lapsed video of that race. <http://www.sailonline.org/blog/2019/nov/28/lake-superior-lights-2019-results/>. Always worthwhile knowing how last year's race went. The Reports of winner **WRmirekd** and **bonknhoot** were particularly informative and influenced my thinking in this my first participation in this Race which has been raced by SOLers for over 10 years. I had a look at the charts of the Apostle Islands since I knew that they would likely feature in the start, although in the end they did not, but they certainly featured in the finish. I was particularly pleased that the latest version of Qt did, in fact, avoid coasts in most of my routings.

I thought that the 265 nms of open water to Michipicoten Island would provide the opportunity for the Leaders and this turned out to be true for about 20 boats including **Satori** and the winners. I thought that the other shorter Legs where we all had to come back together to round a Mark were less likely to provide an opportunity of time and miles. While I was using a Qt routing, which I not only updated at each WX, I also produced new routings between each WX. At the same time I was looking ahead at the weather on SOL, using the 24 hour predictor line setting as recommended by **Zorba777** and watching the competition just like IRL. You know who the usual suspects are who have a high chance of being on the Podium! I don't think there is any shame in wondering why they are doing what they are doing. I am not talking about hitching to their stern and not racing my own race. What weather are they

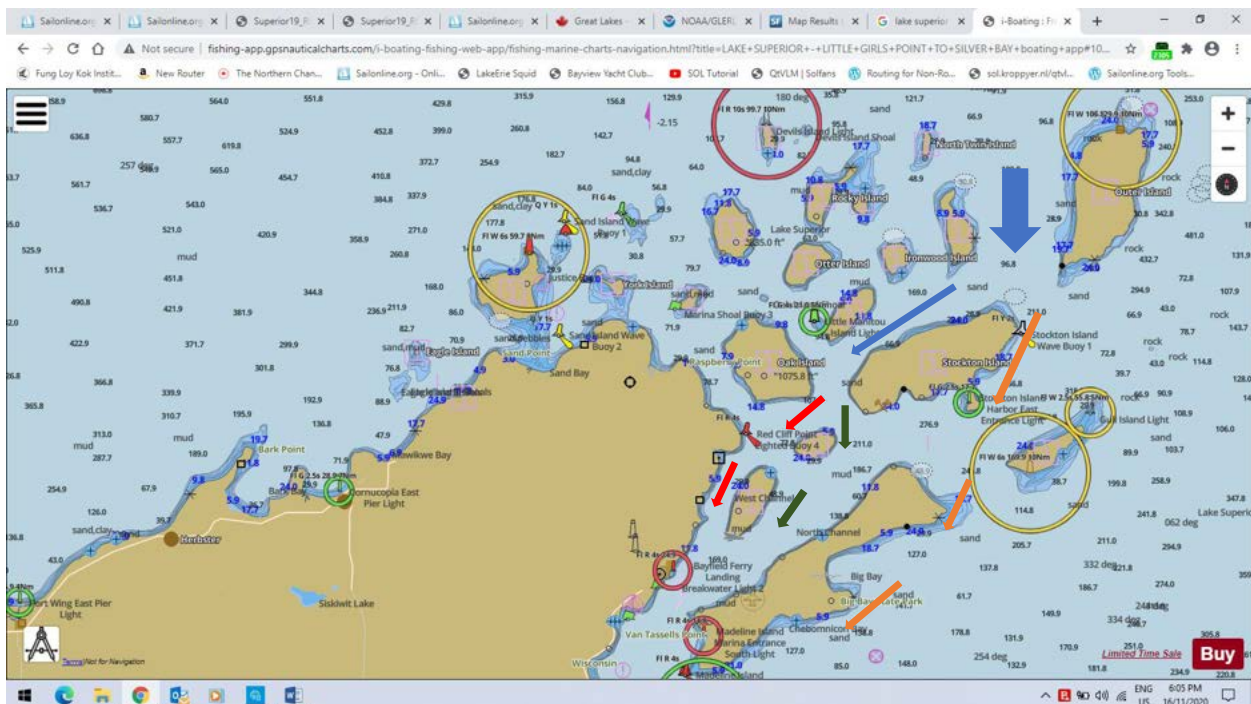
Lake Superior Lights 2020

searching for? At the same time I am conscious of the Ensign they are flying and the Time Zone they live in and whether they will be attending to WX Reports in the middle of their night. As I and others have said before “long-distance races are won and lost at night”! As **Zorba777** said in the Chatroom he was not the one to be following in this Race since he was not going to wake for the middle of the night WX!

How **Satori** played the huge header to the north on the first Leg was going to dictate. This was the time for the SOL Ruler and paper and pencil and triangles to see if boat speed and increased distance would be better than a more direct route to Michipicoten Island. How far do I take the header to the north? Yes, I had Qt to guide me with routings, which is a big advantage, but I still have trouble discarding what I would have to be doing if I was sailing by the SOMPs. There was a multitude of views on the best route, even among those using Qt, because the north/south chorus line ultimately spread out over some 30 nms. The Top 10/20 boats were closely grouped all through this Leg and farther north than most. Oh, and don't look at the SOL DTF ranking! The ultimate Leaders were far enough away from the Rhumbline to be ranked in 90's at this point.

I thought that the next major decision was going to be whether to route north or south of Isle Royale after rounding the Passage Island Light which Qt said **Satori** was going to arrive at around 20:24 UTC. How nice, just 21 minutes before the next WX. Will **Satori** be committed to the north or south? Will the WX suggest that it was not the best route? Will I be able to change? Well that is exactly what happened! I had a route south of the Island and north was now the favoured route. Fortunately, I was not so committed that I could not change to pass Isle Royale on the north side as I did but it required a course change.

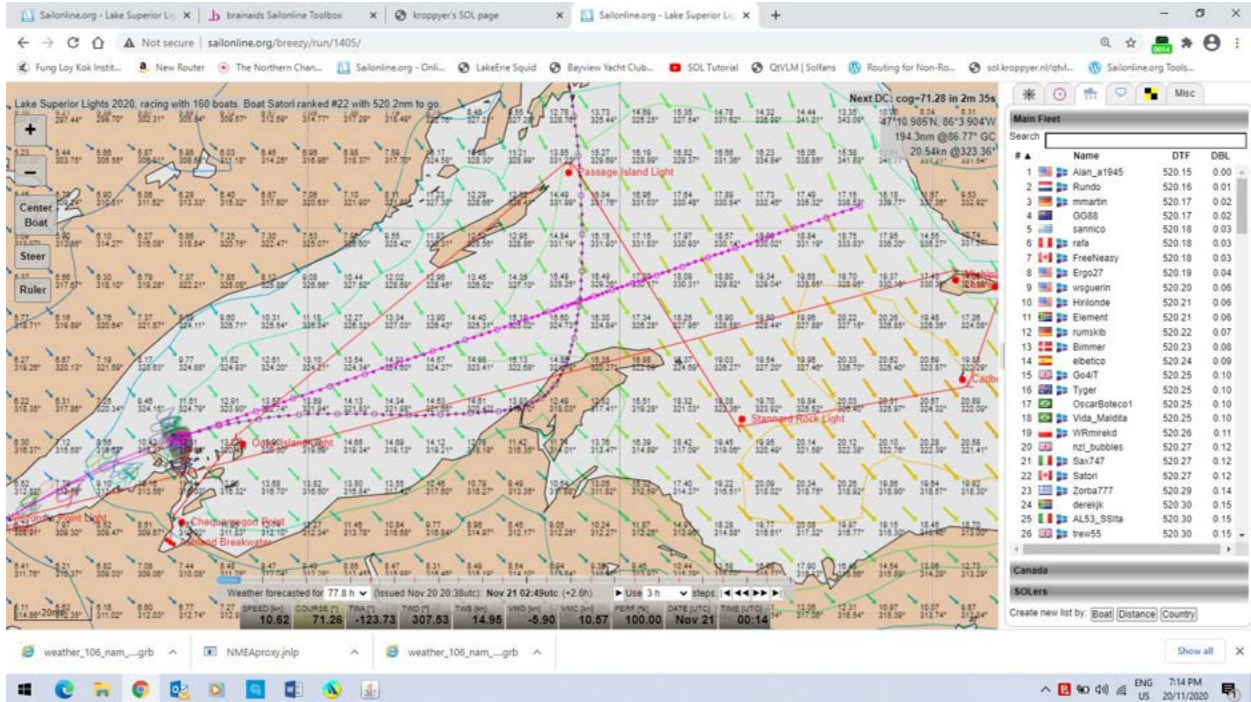
I saw from last year's Report of **WRmirekd** that there were at least 3 routes through the Apostle Islands to the Finish Line as the Leaders jockeyed for position.



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As you know that is exactly what happened this year as well and made for an exciting finish. And, wouldn't you know it, the 08:45 WX was coming out while we were passing through the Islands! Is there someone in SOL with a mischievous mind who can plan this well? I abandoned the Qt route, as I think most of the Leaders did, got on the helm and covered the competition. On the following Screen Prints you can see what transpired. Qt had **Satori** sailing the westerly (red) route, a number chose the easterly (yellow) route outside the Islands in a last minute attempt to improve their position. I chose the (green) route in between as did **WRmirekd**. Most who did so maintained their position. **rafa** stayed in the westerly (red) route perhaps influenced by the fact that in the Chatroom he was said to have tried the easterly (yellow) route last year to no avail. I had my SOL ruler in use checking the comparative distances of each of the routes to round the Chequamegon Point Light to Port.

Now the race. Here is a Screen Print 5 hours and 14 minutes and 42 nms into the race. Fortunately the best route to Michipicoten Island did not take us through the Apostle Islands. Notice how the fleet has fanned out! Apparently as many ideas as there are boats! You will see that I have the Setting for the Predictor Line at 24 hours, a suggestion made by **Zorba777** in one of his Reports. Here you can see from where the COG and TWA predictor lines cross that sailing TWA was 2 hours longer than the COG course but it did come into play in **Satori's** routing, but later rather than earlier, taking **Satori** north.



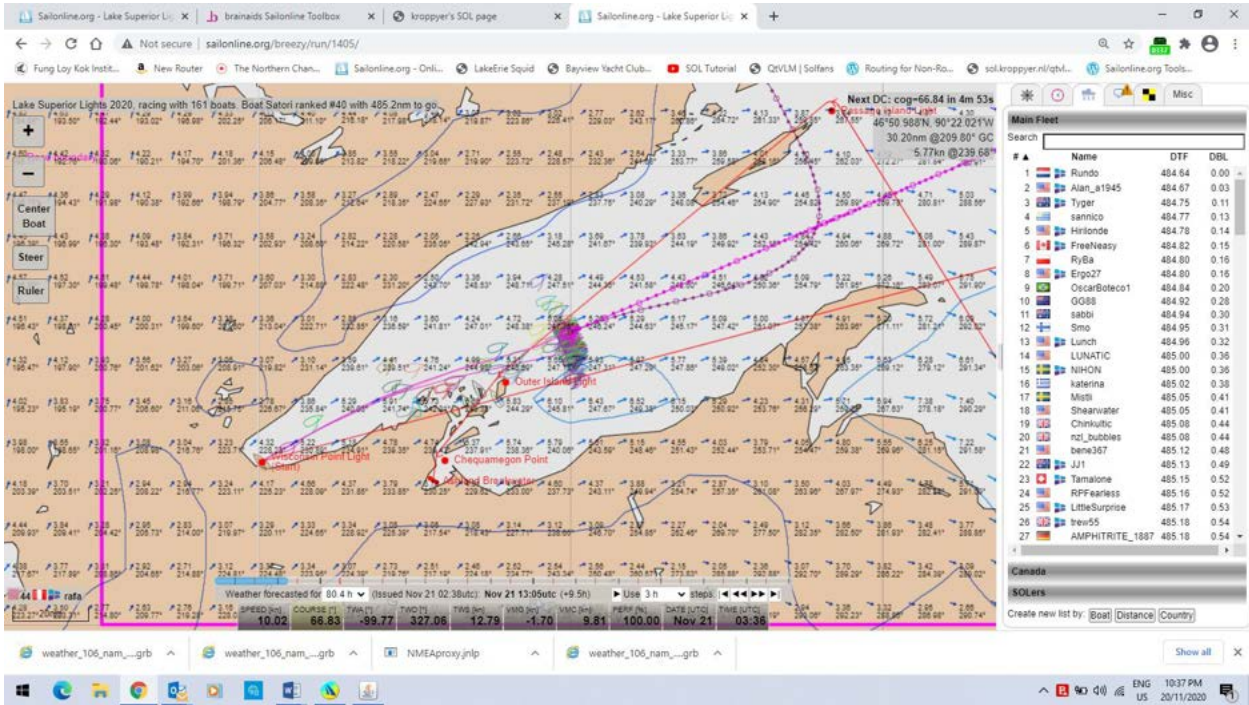
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Here is a Qt Screen Print at 03:35 UTC 8 hours and 35 minutes into the Race and 50 minutes after the last 09:45 WX. The Purple dotted line is the Qt Pathway I set up for the whole race course. The Orange line is the Qt route using the Pathway. The Green line is the route from the start to POI 010 the first mark on the Pathway placed at the west end of Michipicoten Island and is the route that **Satori** is sailing. I chose to use this route because I wanted to manually helm Satori around the north shore of Michipicoten Island as close to the shore line as possible, a must do according to **WRmirekd** in his Report on last year's race. This paid off because twice **Satori** was in first place along the shore line and, if you can believe it, ahead of **WRmirekd**....but not for long! You can see how the wind veering to the north factored into the routing.

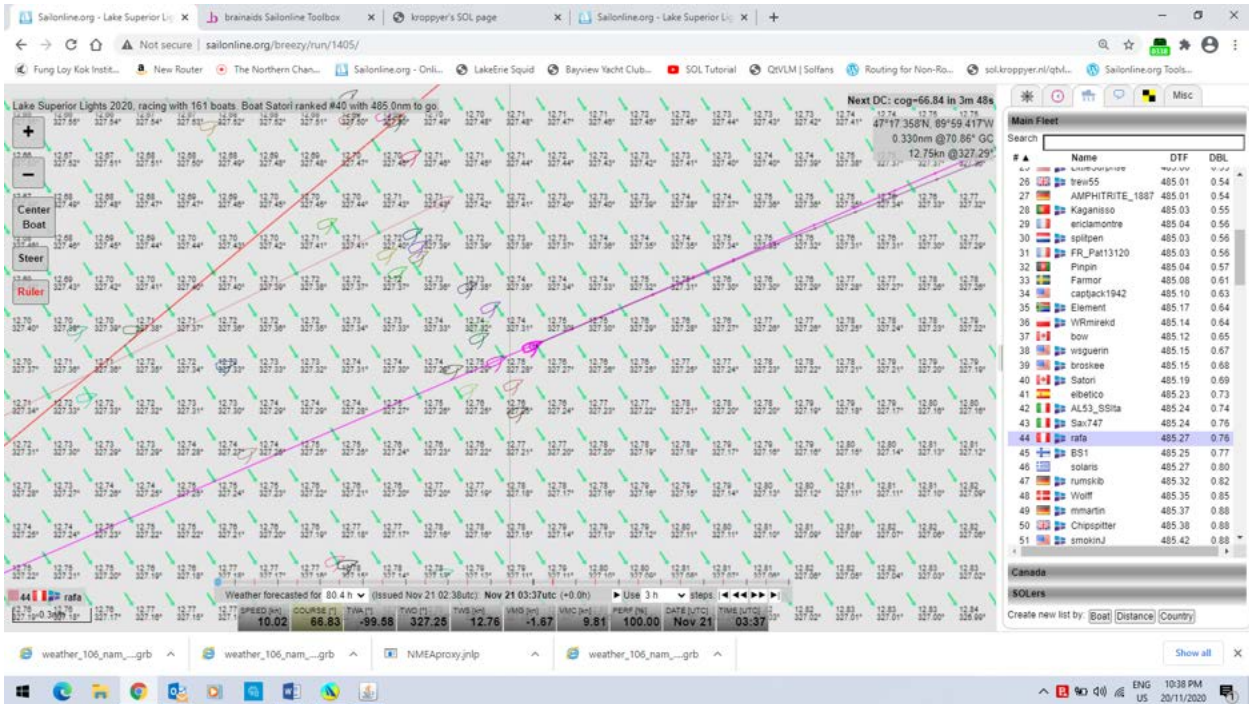


Lake Superior Lights 2020

Here is the SOL Screen Print at the same time first in low resolution.

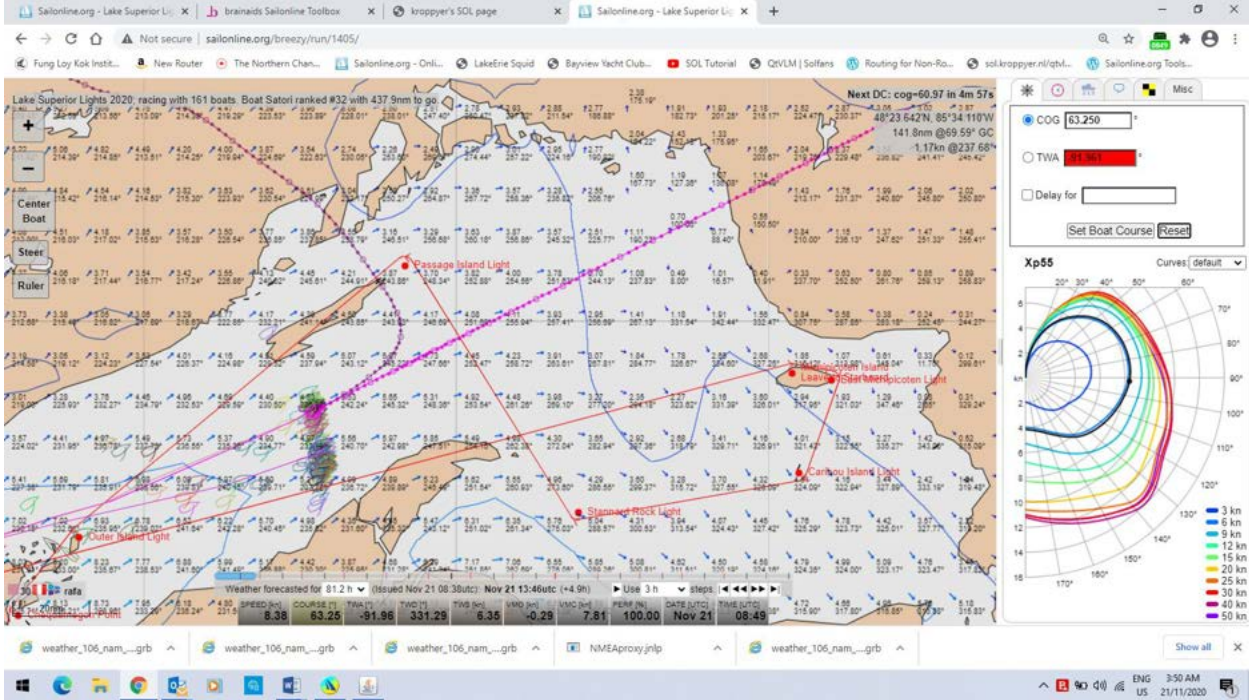


Here in higher resolution. This is only 87 nms into the Race but you are looking at the ultimate Leaders.

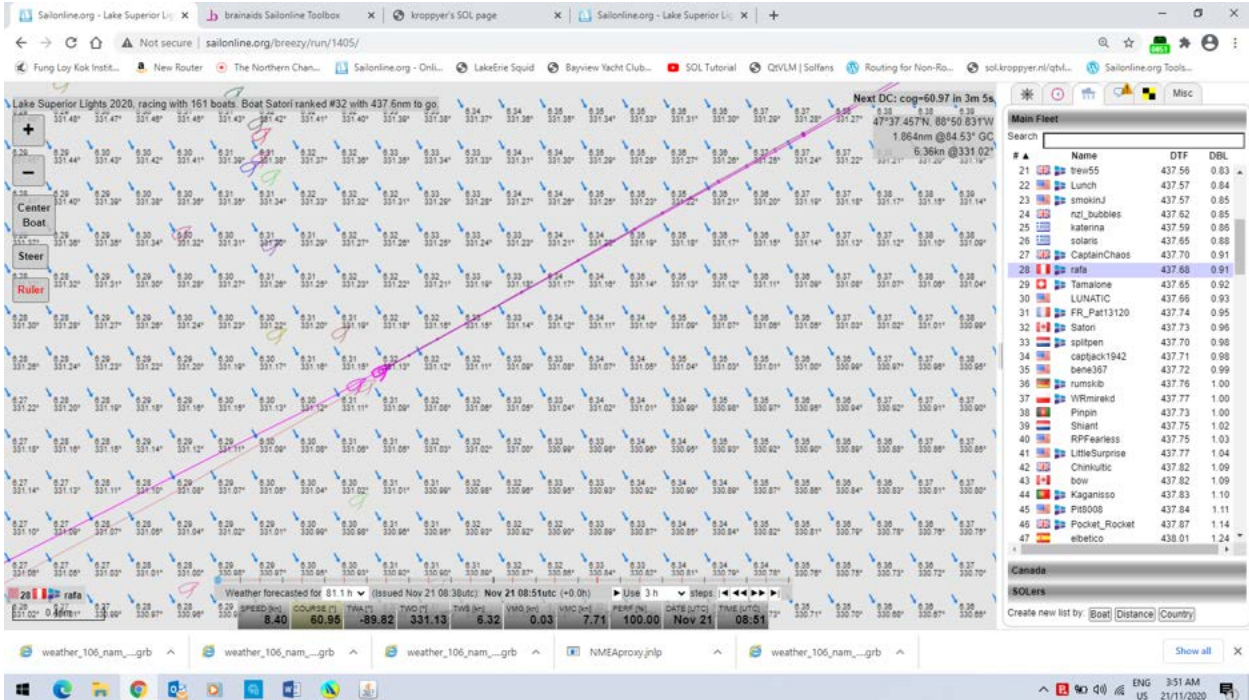


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Here is a Screen Print 13 hours 49 minutes and 137 nms into the Race after the 08:45 UTC WX. You can see that the bulk of the fleet is to the south of **Satori**. The winds shown are 4.9 hrs ahead. Higher winds and a more direct route to Michipicoten Island but ultimately they will prove to be 1 to 2 hours behind **Satori**! Screens following may tell you why, if there are lessons to be learned by those sailing by SOMPs!



Here in higher resolution are the Leaders at the same point in time.

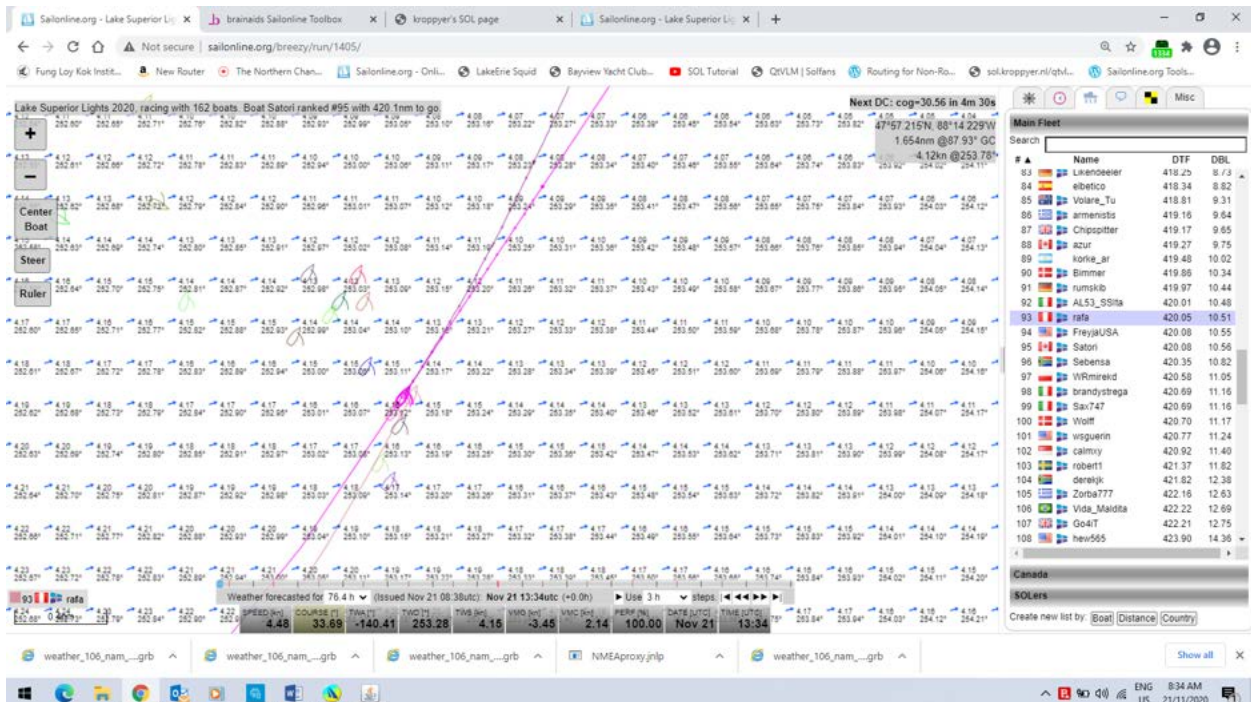


Lake Superior Lights 2020

Here is a Qt Screen Print with a new Red route that **Satori** is sailing after the 08:45 UTC WX.

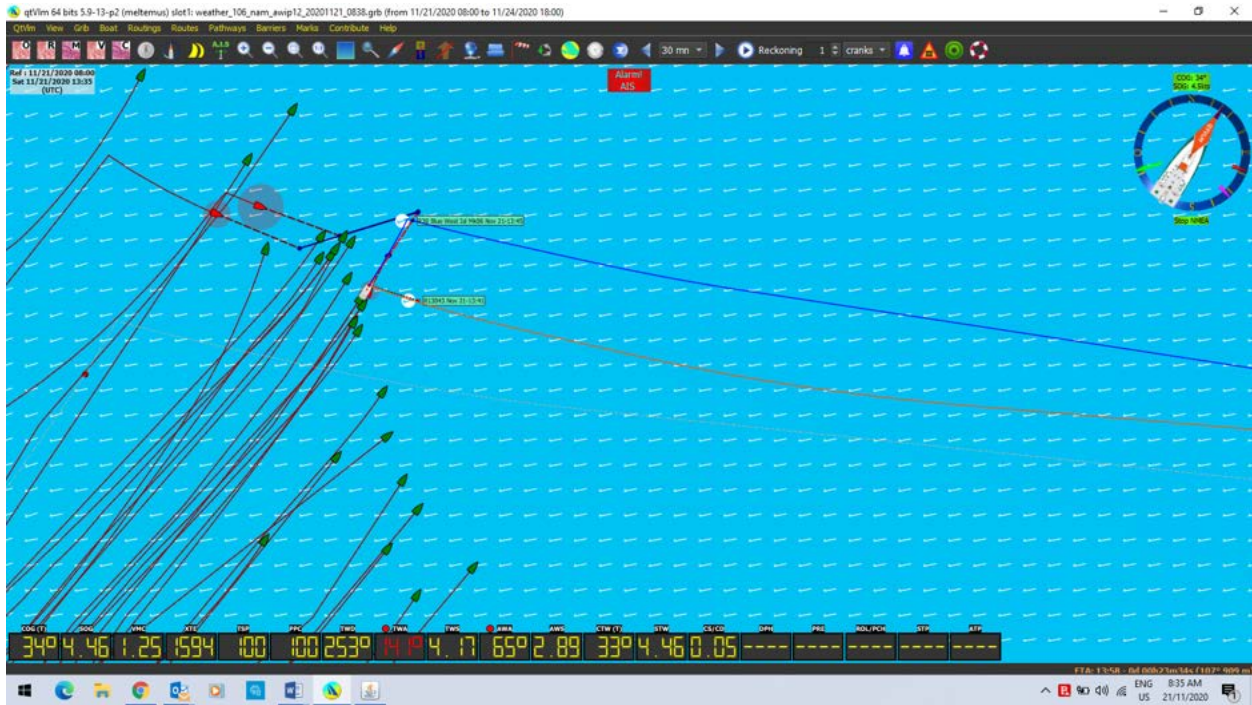


Here 5 hours later are the Top Ten heading north-east to gybe to Michipicoten Island.

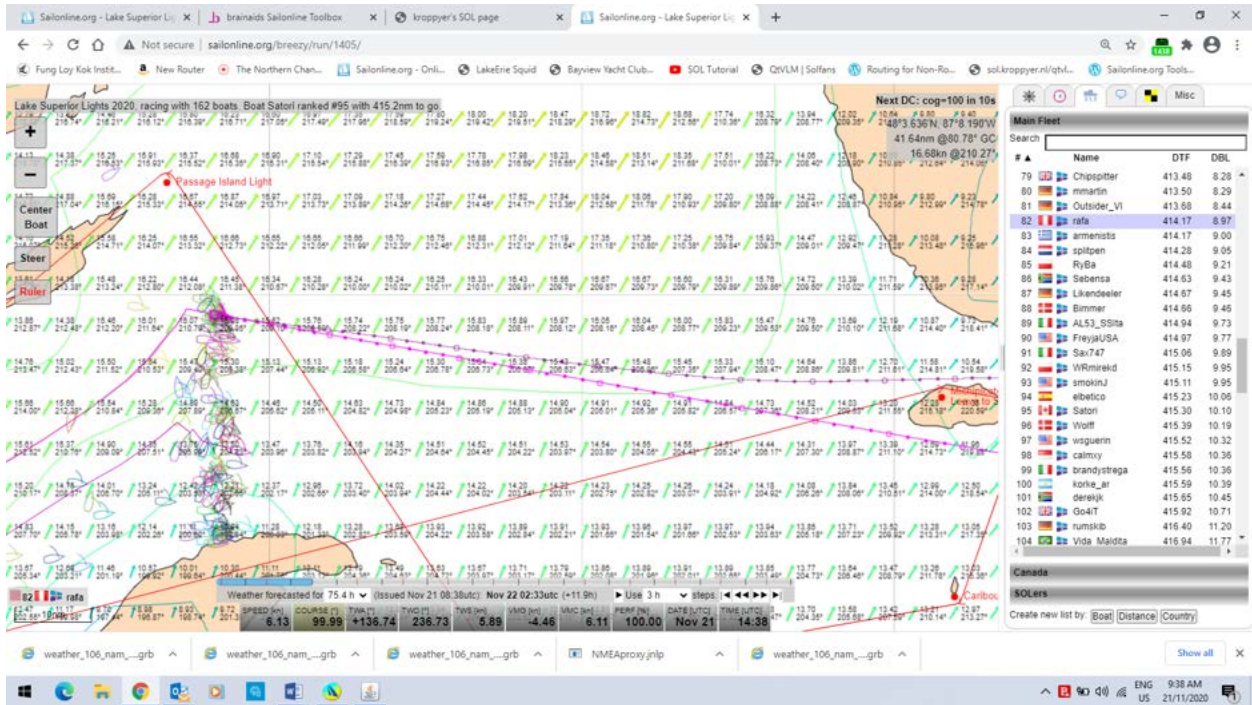


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Here is a Qt Screen Print at the same time. **Satori** is sailing the Blue route.

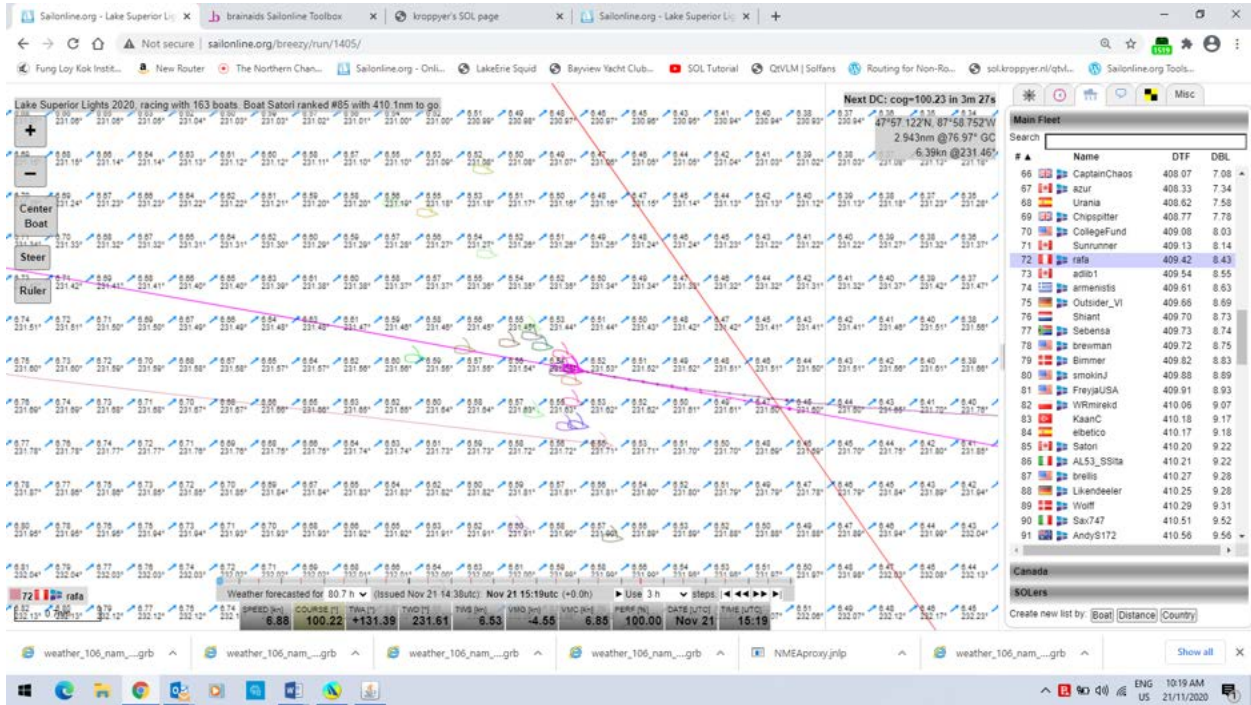


Here after the gybe to Michipicoten Island the chorus line covers 30 nms. The ones farthest south are 1 hour behind.

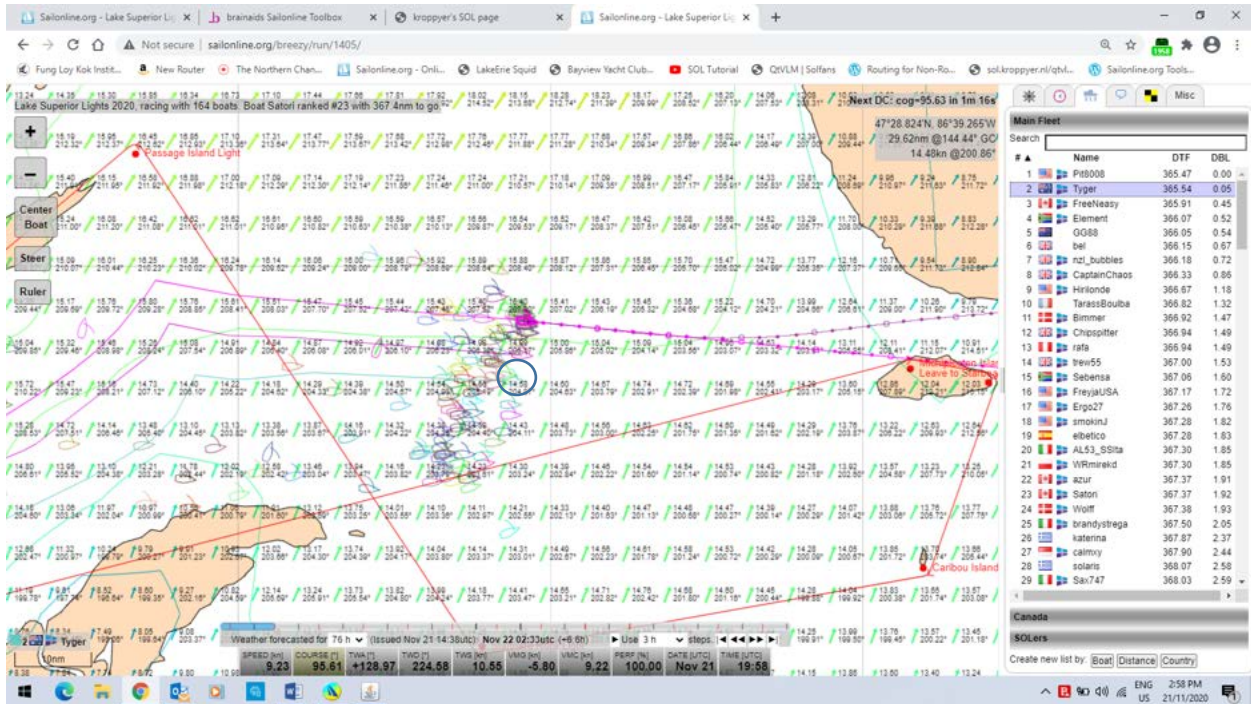


Lake Superior Lights 2020

Are these the leaders? We will know at Michipicoten Island in 10 hours!

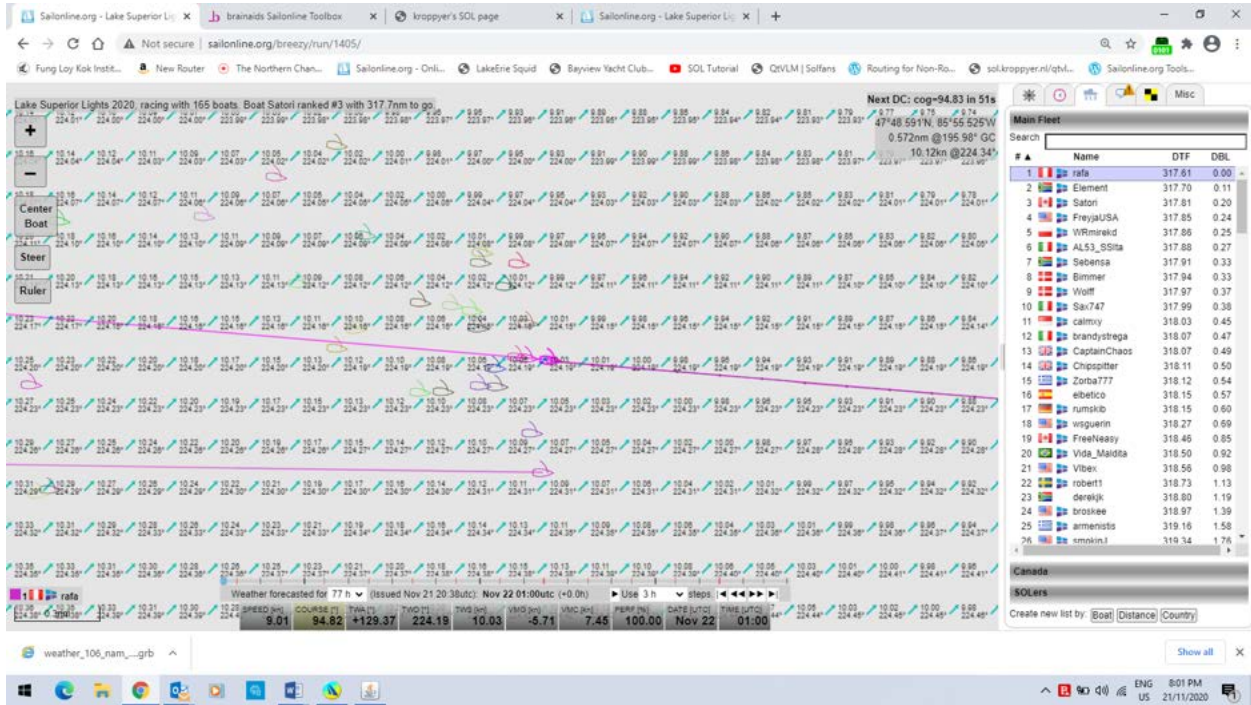


I did a routing for **Tyger** and his ETA at the West Island Mark is 02:08 UTC 23 minutes behind **Satori**.

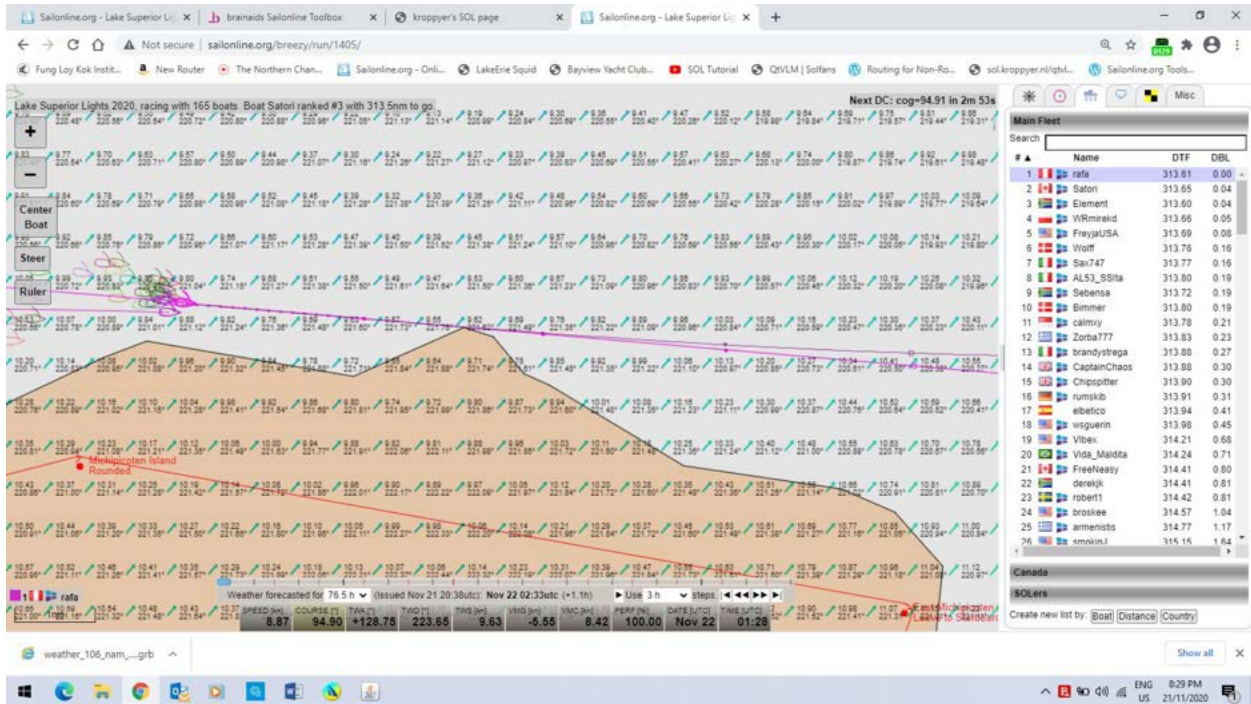


Lake Superior Lights 2020

Here are the Leaders about 52 nms from Michipicoten Island. **rafa** is closer to the rhumbline.

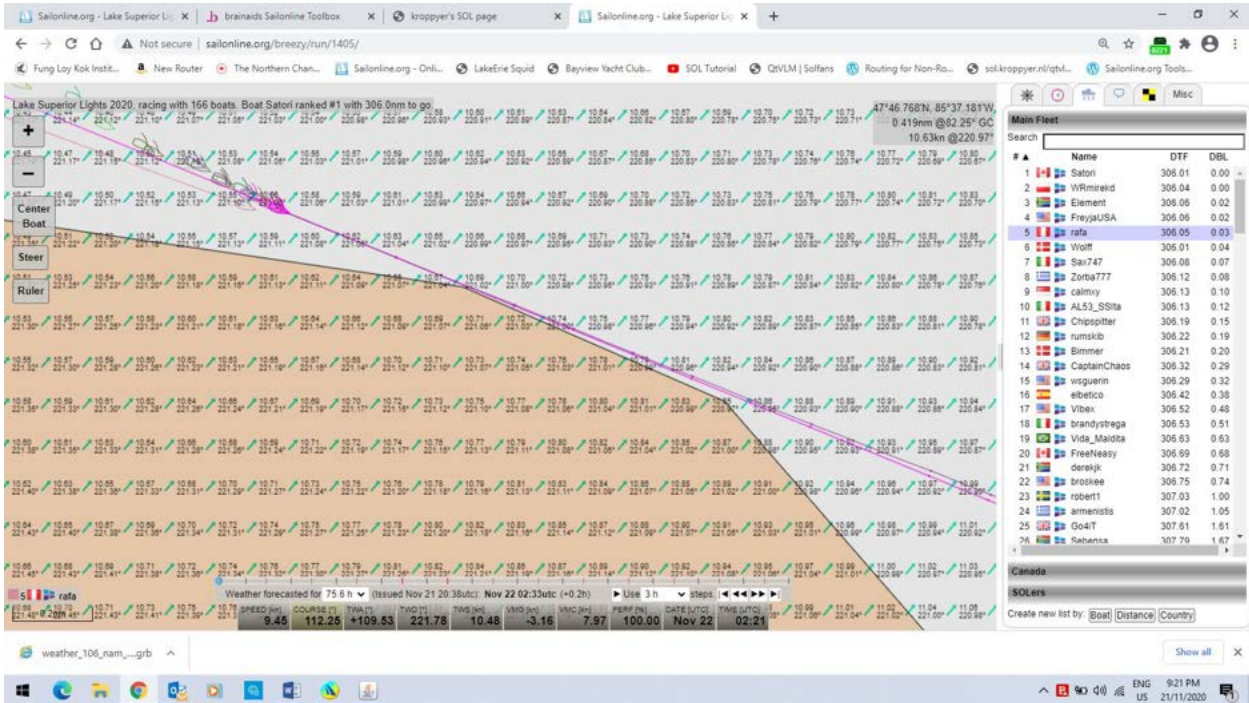


28 minutes later here are the Leaders approaching Michipicoten Island.

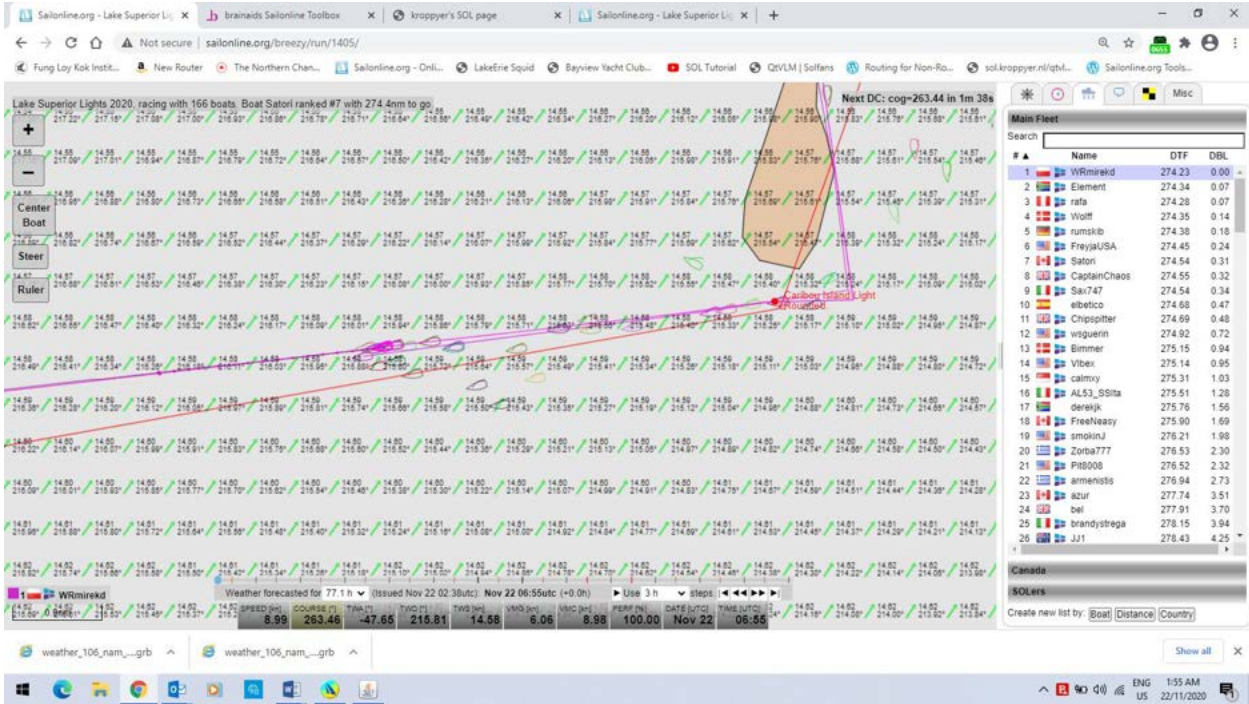


Lake Superior Lights 2020

Here is **Satori's** 5 minutes of glory in first place ahead of **WRmirekd** rounding Michipicoten Island!

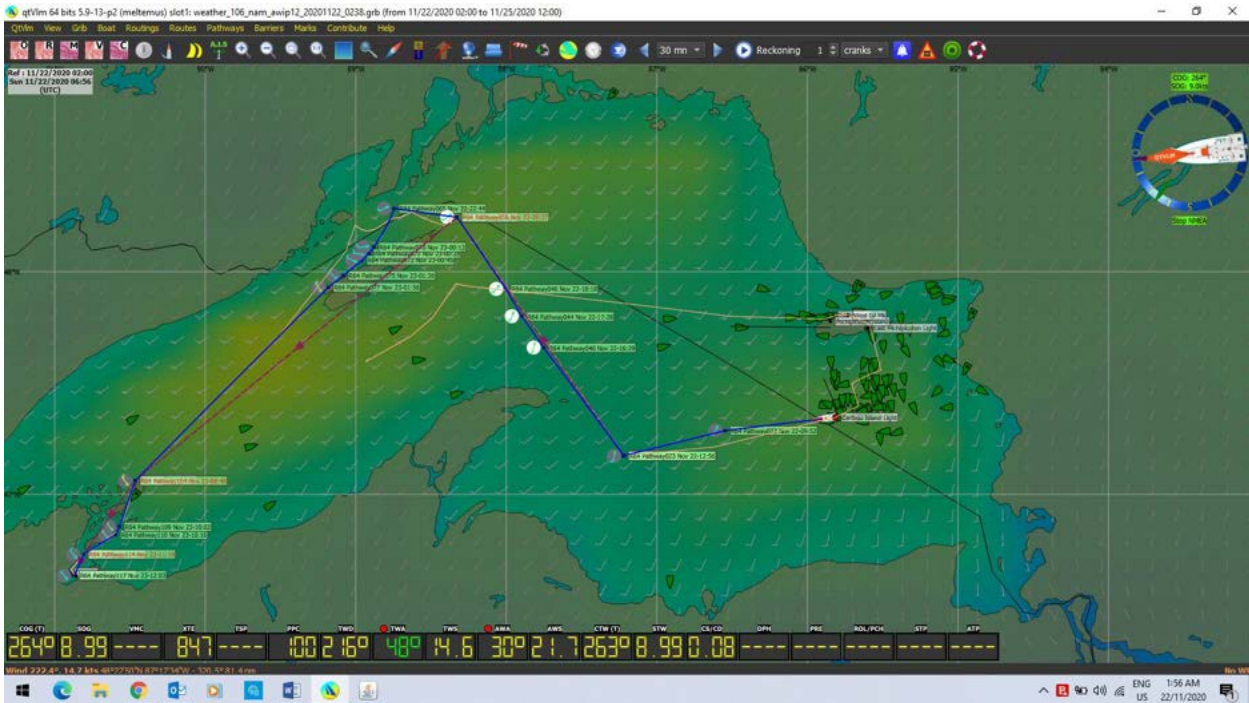


Here are the Leaders 4 hrs and 34 minutes later having rounded the Caribou Island Light. **WRmirekd** has maintained the lead 32 nms after Michipicoten Island and is now 0.31 nms ahead of **Satori**. To my surprise **FreyjaUSA** went down the west side of Caribou Island in the stronger winds and curved back around the Caribou Island Light and in the process got just ahead of **Satori**. A lead of one place that he was able to maintain all the way to the Finish Line.

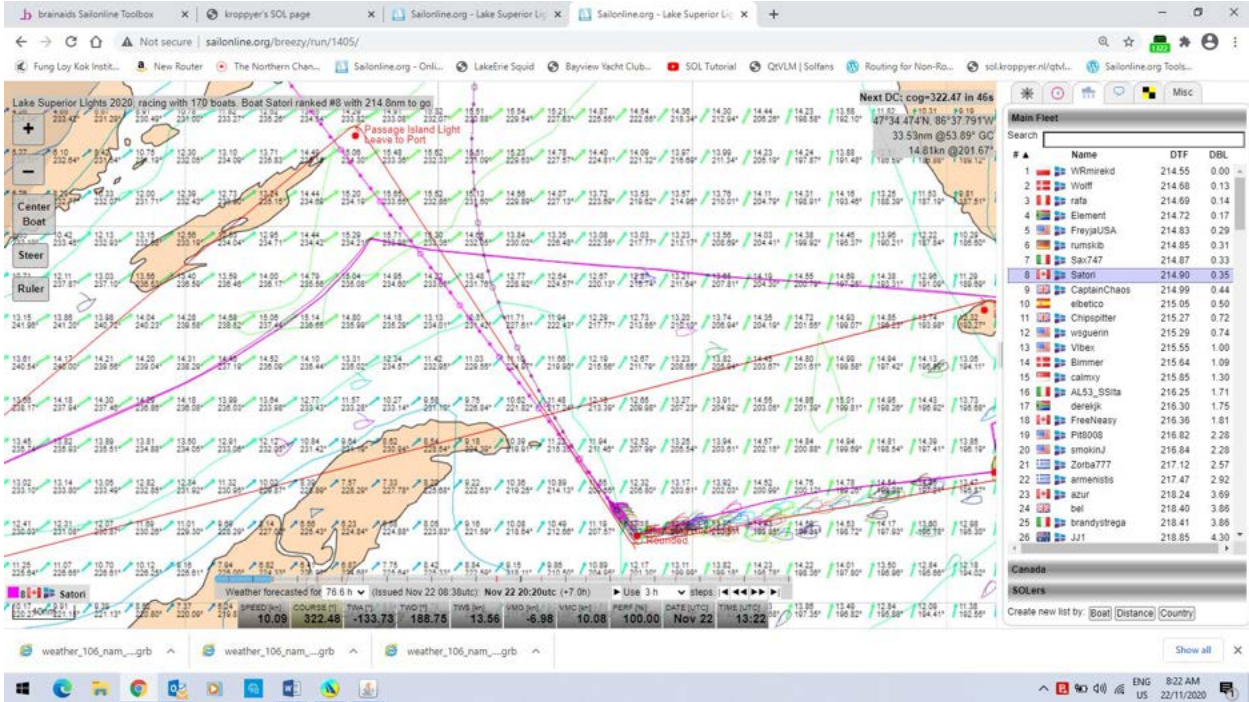


Lake Superior Lights 2020

Here is the Qt blue route that **Satori** is sailing.

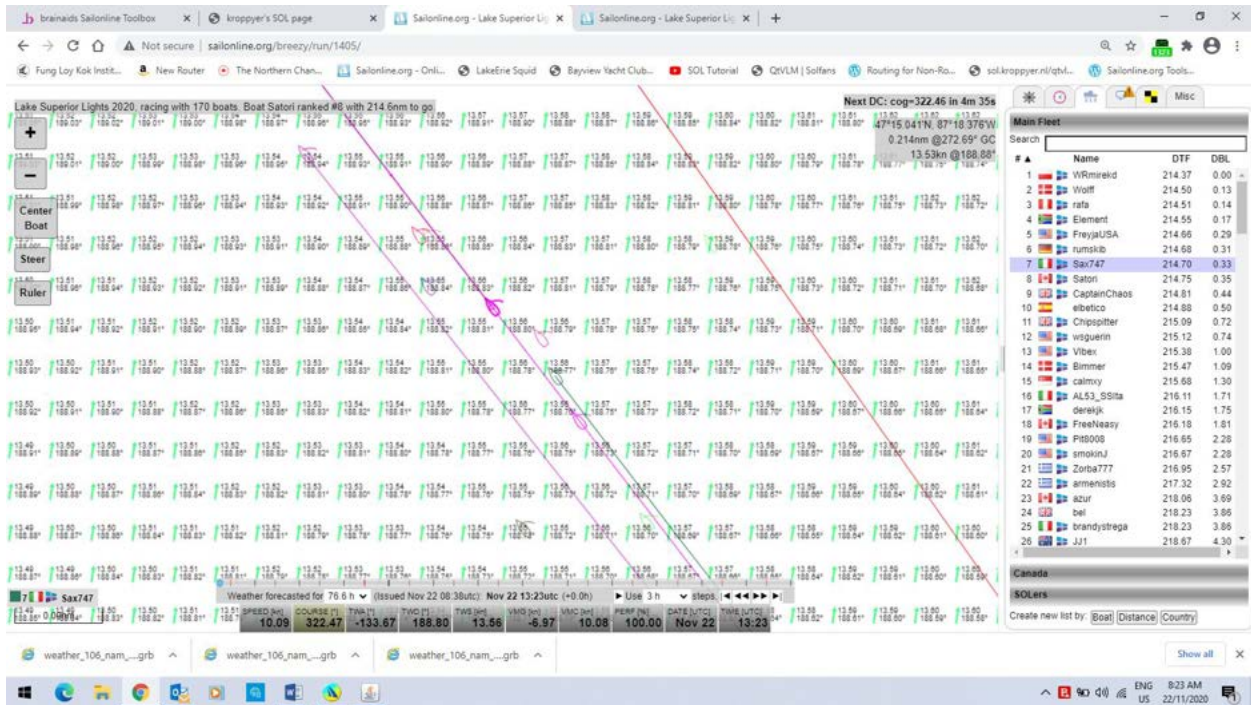


After rounding the Stannard Rock Light another header starting in about an hour. There is some shuffling among the Top Ten.

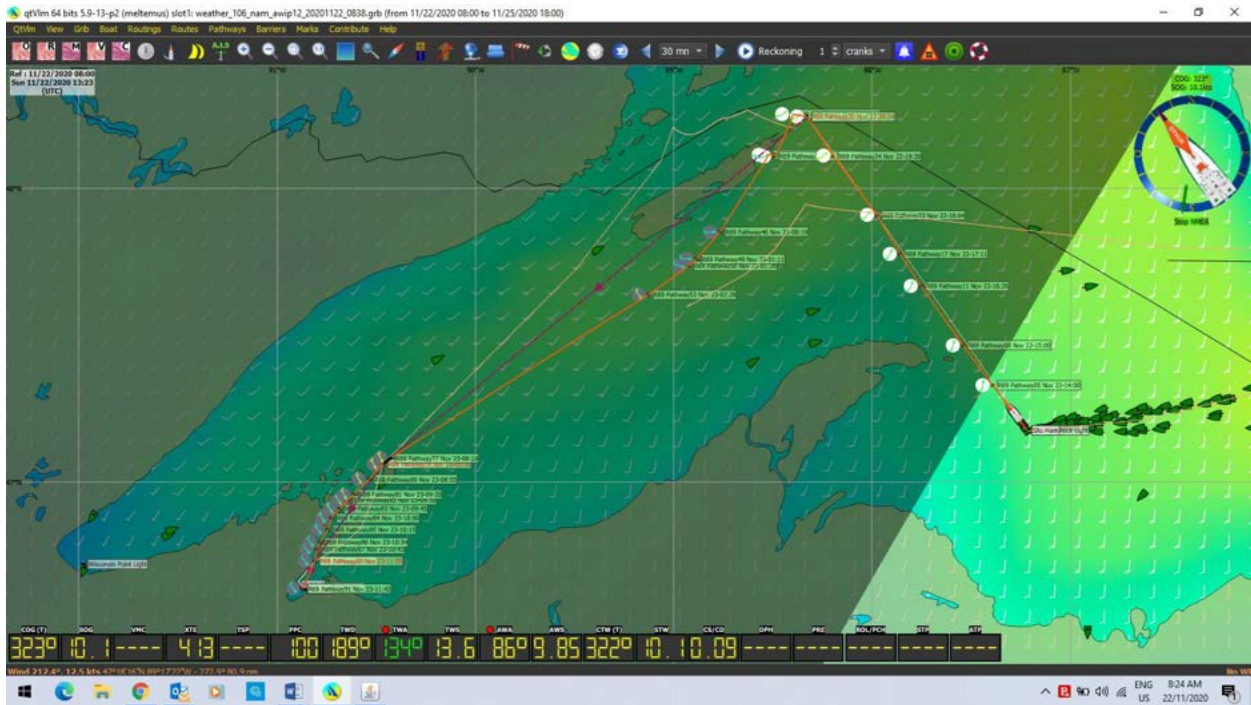


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Here is the same screen in higher resolution.

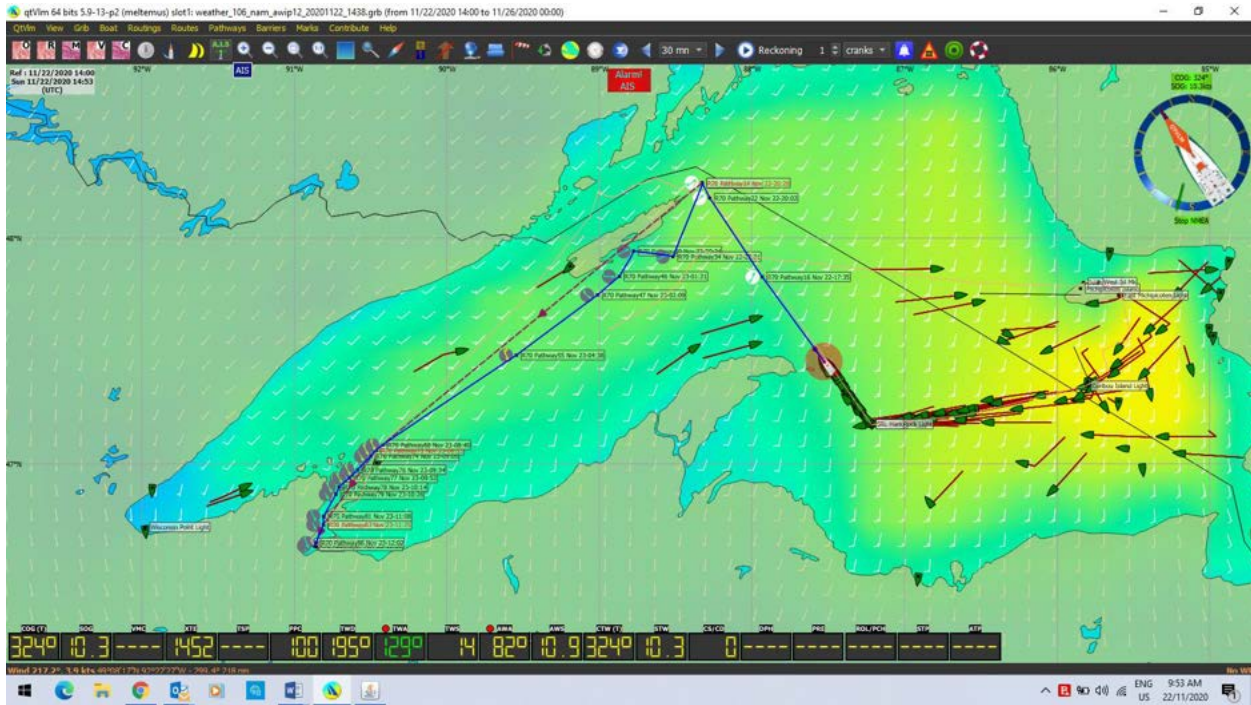


Here is the Qt screen at the same time with a new orange route for Satori that changes the routing from north of Isle Royale to south.

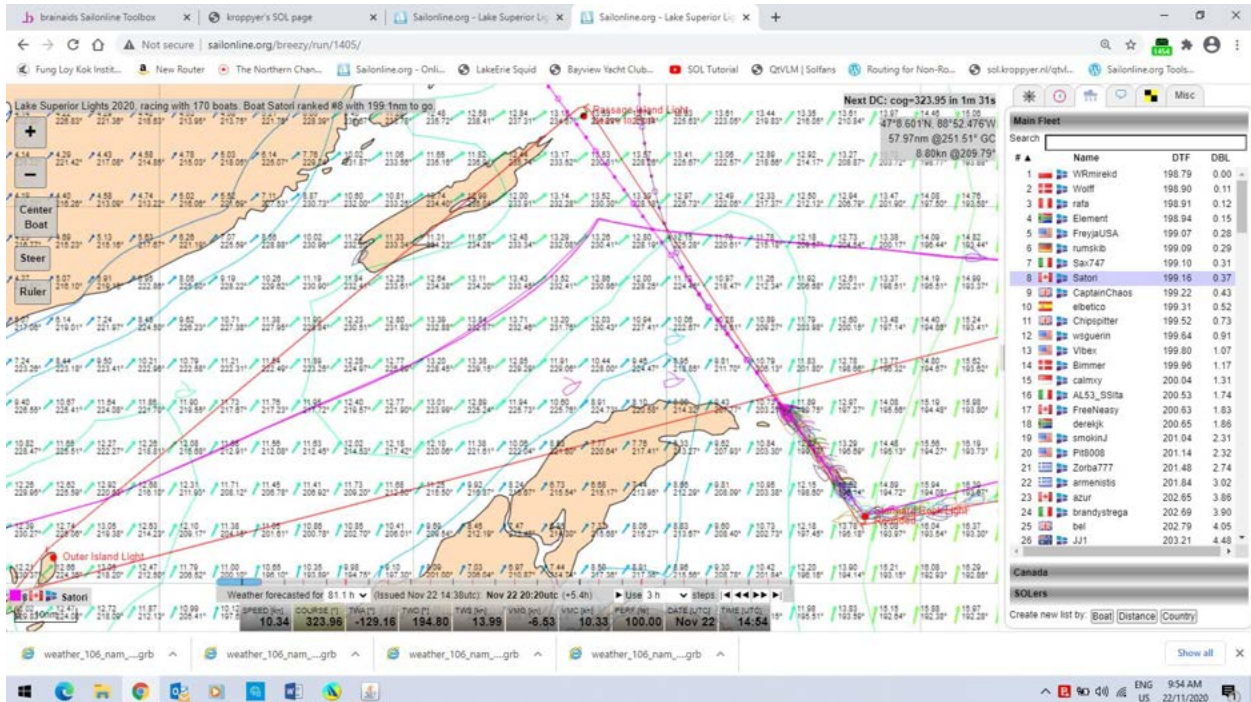


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An hour and 23 minutes later after the 14:45 UTC WX **Satori** is now sailing this new Blue Qt route.

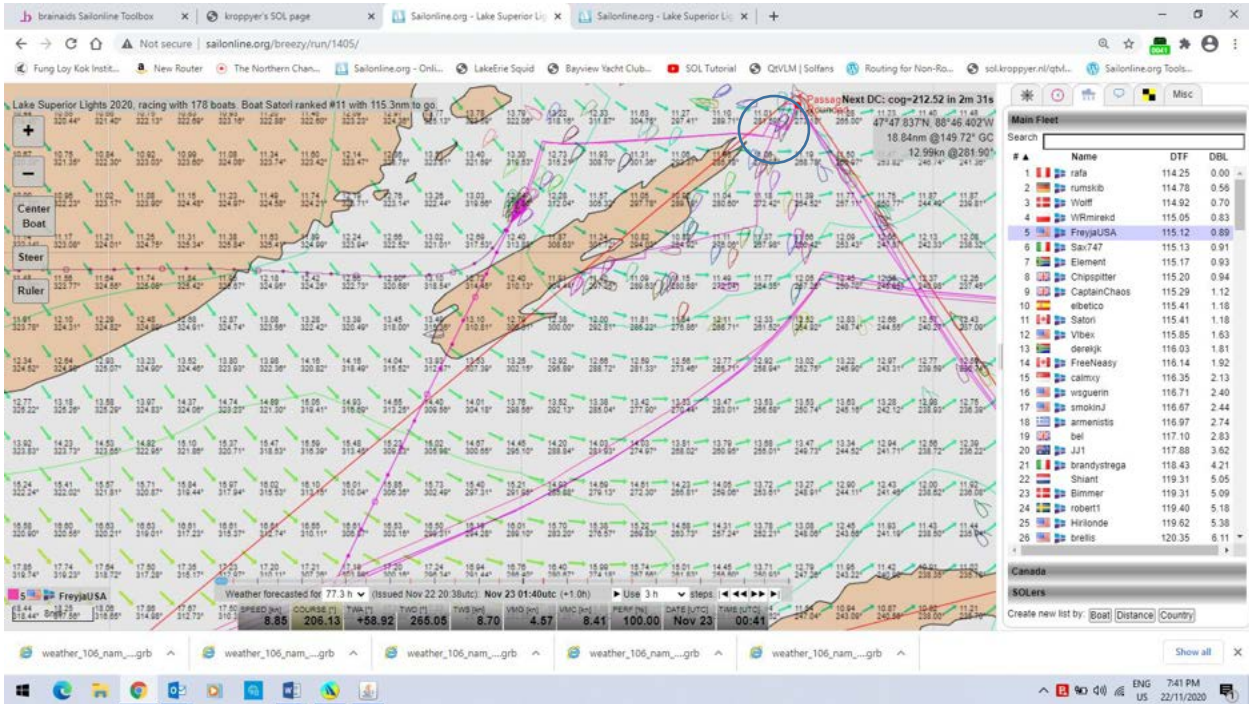


Here is the SOL screen at the same time showing the continuing header.

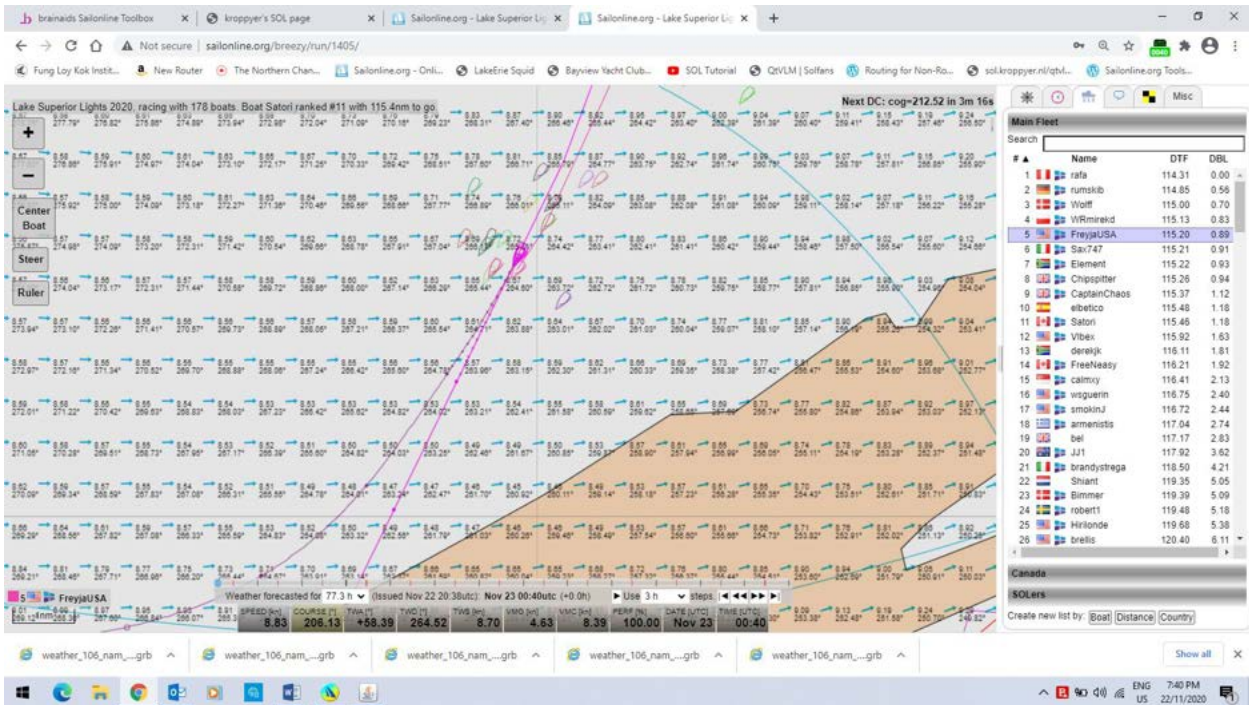


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At 20:45 UTC the WX arrived 17 minutes after rounding the Passage Island Light and changed the favoured route from south of Isle Royale to north. **Satori** could still change but it required a couple of tacks.



Here are the ones leading on the north side of Isle Royale with a 115 nms to go.



Lake Superior Lights 2020

With 65 nms to go and as I said in the Chatroom I am just recovering from a Qt crash!

Lake Superior Lights 2020, racing with 179 boats. Boat Satori ranked #7 with 65.3nm to go.

Next DC: cog=230.19 in 2m 31s

Outer Island Light

Weather forecasted for 78.5 h (Issued Nov 23 02:38UTC) Nov 23 05:27UTC (+0.0h)

Chatroom [English]

Satori 04:59:13 @BadgerOne like too but I lost route and pathway it cost me 11 minutes in finish time by the time I had it reconstructed properly.

BadgerOne 04:27:07 Satori - oops I try to avoid upgrading qt in the middle of a race...

Satori 03:31:26 Just recovering from a Qt Crash while creating a route after the last WX. Uploaded latest version which obviously came out while Qt has been open during race. Therefore no notification.

wsguerrin 11:22 23 52:13 @zorb, you up? you have some COGs in the machinery screwing your plan up I fear!

smokinJ 11:22 23 50:50 I'm seeing some action maybe I need to follow suit!

wsguerrin 11:22 23 49:45 Here's to the horses https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ESF-O_19SI

Pist008 11:22 23 41:27 smokinJ - not so sure, my timing here is bad, should have taken 1 hitch in phase right after the mark.

smokinJ 11:22 23 36:29

Here are the Leaders approaching the Outer Island Light. The Podium positions are established with 32 nms to go.

Lake Superior Lights 2020, racing with 180 boats. Boat Satori ranked #8 with 33.1nm to go.

Next DC: cog=227.27 in 4m 51s

Outer Island Light

Weather forecasted for 75.5 h (Issued Nov 23 02:38UTC) Nov 23 08:29UTC (+0.0h)

#	Name	DTF	DBL
1	VRReikid	32.50	0.00
2	rumskib	32.59	0.01
3	Wolff	32.66	0.06
4	Sax747	32.77	0.17
5	FreyaUSA	32.87	0.28
6	CaptainChaos	32.96	0.37
7	Satori	33.22	0.63
8	elbetico	33.14	0.64
9	Vibex	33.35	0.85
10	rafa	33.46	0.87
11	Element	33.78	1.20
12	FreeVesley	33.94	1.37
13	smokinJ	34.31	1.80
14	calmny	34.32	1.82
15	Chippipiter	34.42	1.92
16	armenistis	34.87	2.27
17	bel	35.22	2.72
18	brandystrega	35.31	2.81
19	Pist008	35.66	3.07
20	wsguerrin	36.40	3.81
21	Bimmer	36.96	4.38
22	robert11	37.17	4.68
23	JJ1	37.32	4.82
24	Herlonde	37.96	5.46
25	Shanz	39.37	6.78
26	AL53-SStta	40.87	8.37

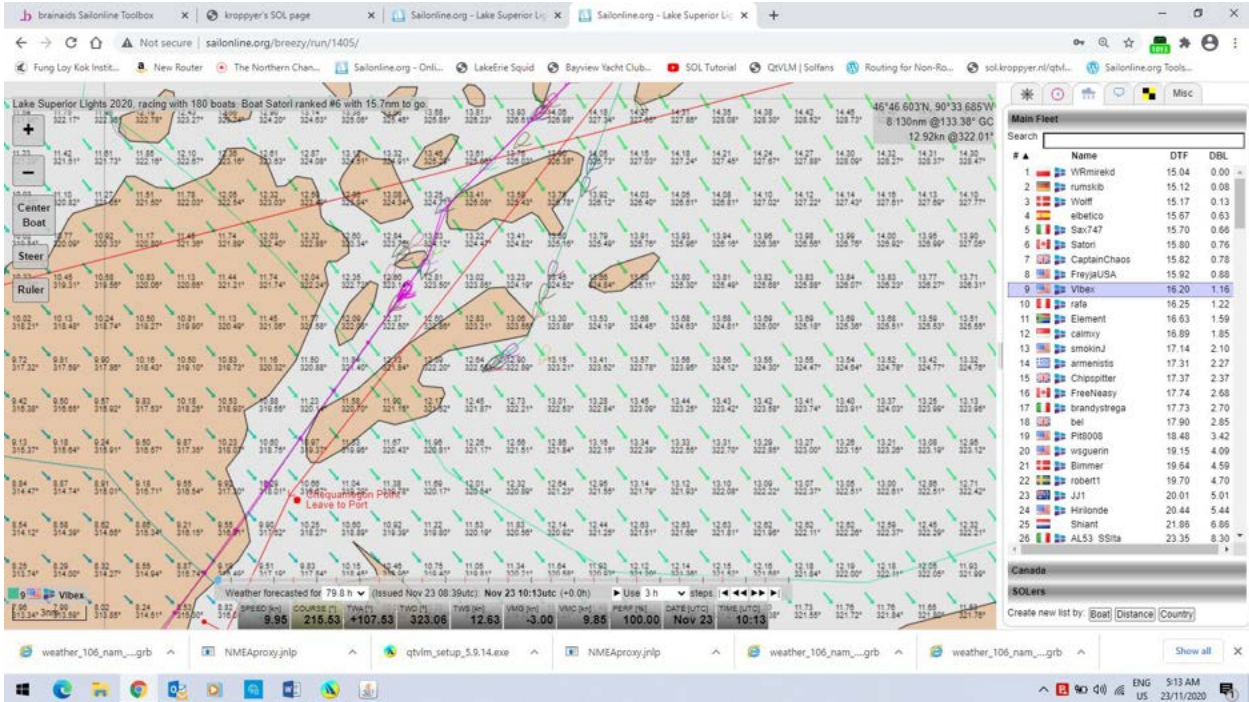
Canada

SOLERS

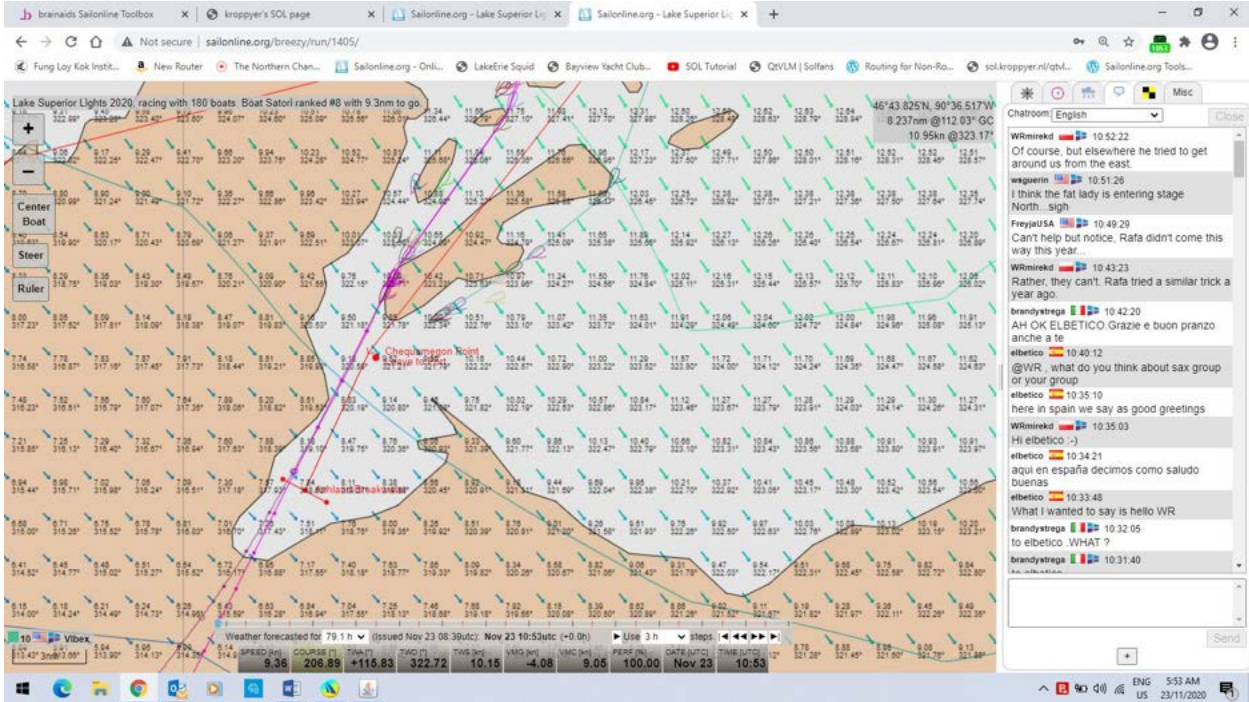
Create new list by: [Boat] [Distance] [Country]

Lake Superior Lights 2020

The Leaders have split taking one of the three routes through the Apostle Islands described on the Chart on Page 4.

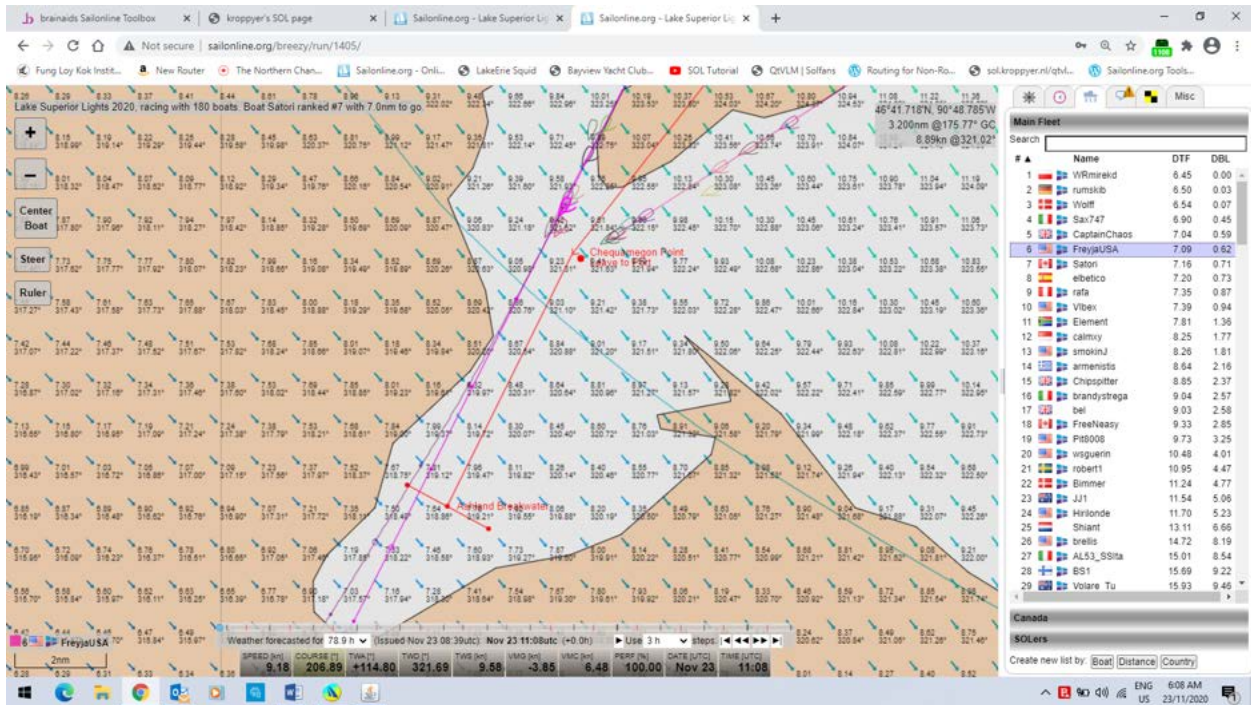


Approaching Chequamegon Point Light. The bets are on.....!

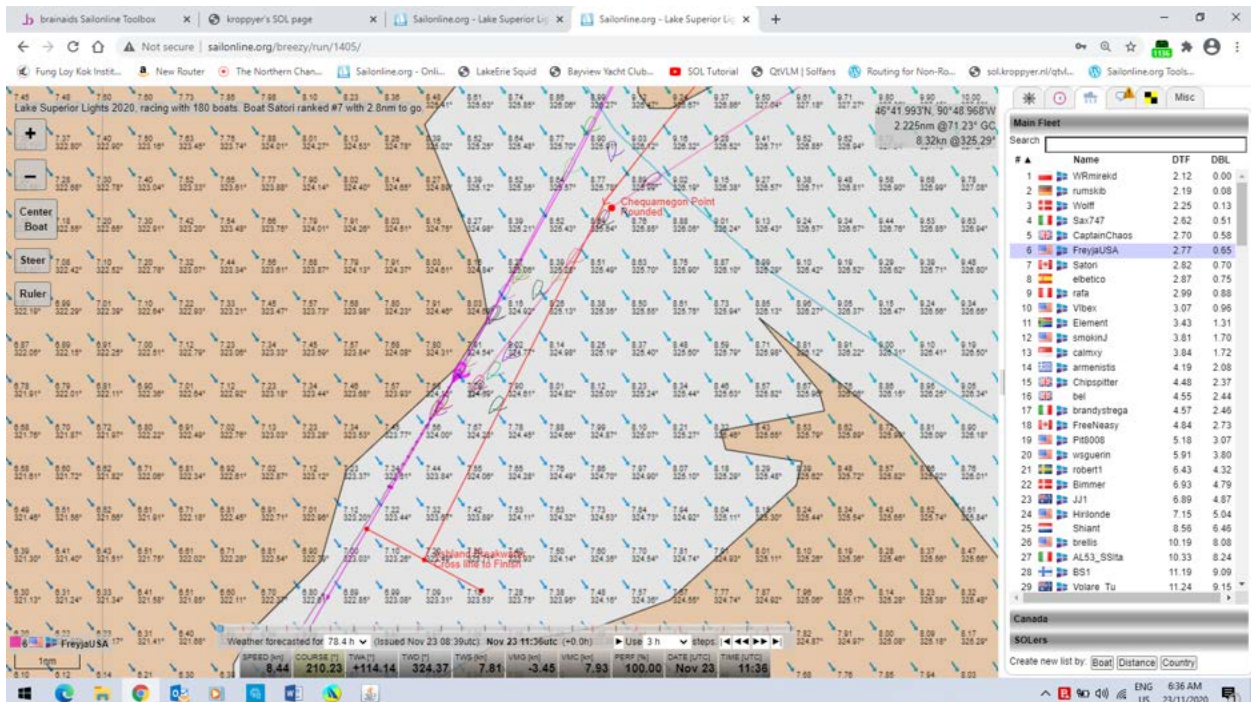


Lake Superior Lights 2020

The drama continues!

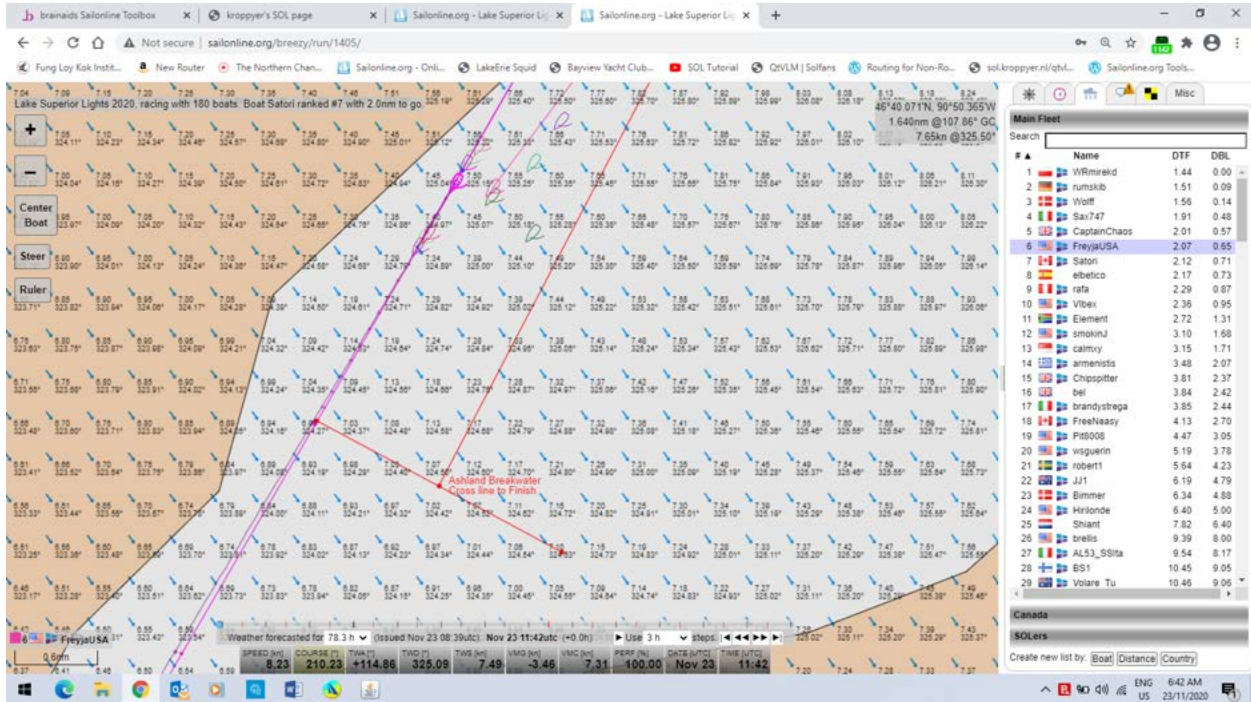


What is the shortest route to the Finish Line? Can Satori get there ahead of FreyjaUSA?

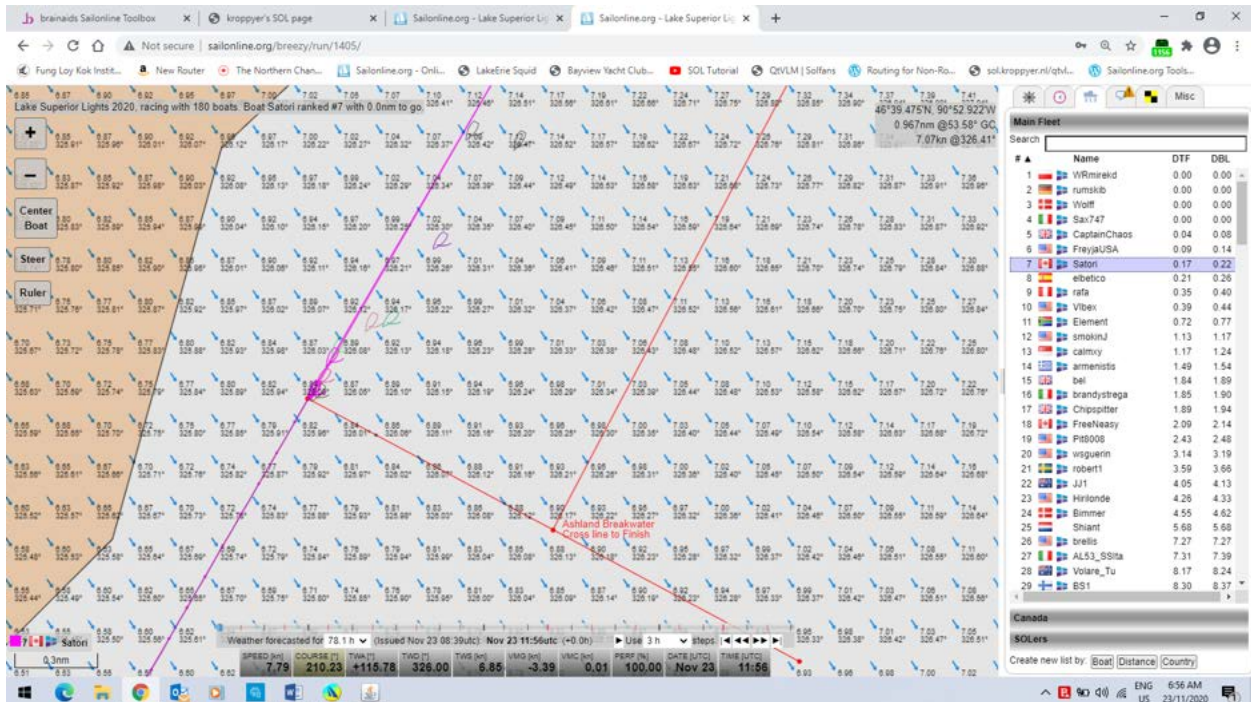


Lake Superior Lights 2020

Another 2 nms!



WRmirekd, rumskib and Wolff collect the trophies and FreyjaUSA beats Satori by 38 seconds after some 65 hrs. Only 6 minutes and 40 seconds separate the Top Ten. An exciting finish!



Lake Superior Lights 2020

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Leaderboard for Lake Superior Lights 2020

Lake Superior Lights 2020, racing with 180 boats.
Rankings: SYC ranking

LOGGED IN AS SATORI

SYC MEMBER
(expires: 2021-06-17)
Add another year

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Please also consider making a donation - all amounts are greatly appreciated!

Donate

Rank	Boat Name	Boat Type	DTG	DBL	Finish Time (UTC)
1	WRmirekd	Xp55	0	0	2020-11-23 11:51:58
2	rumskib	Xp55	0	0	2020-11-23 11:52:29
3	Wolff	Xp55	0	0	2020-11-23 11:52:49
4	Sax747	Xp55	0	0	2020-11-23 11:55:13
5	CaptainChaos	Xp55	0	0	2020-11-23 11:55:58
6	FreyjaUSA	Xp55	0	0	2020-11-23 11:56:25
7	Satori	Xp55	0	0	2020-11-23 11:57:03
8	eBetic	Xp55	0	0	2020-11-23 11:57:22
9	rafa	Xp55	0	0	2020-11-23 11:58:25
10	Vibex	Xp55	0	0	2020-11-23 11:58:38
11	Element	Xp55	0	0	2020-11-23 12:01:09
12	smokinJ	Xp55	0.2	0.4	
13	calmsy	Xp55	0.2	0.4	
14	armenistis	Xp55	0.5	0.7	
15	bel	Xp55	0.9	1.1	
16	brandystrega	Xp55	0.9	1.1	
17	Chipsplitter	Xp55	0.9	1.2	
18	FreeVeasy	Xp55	1.1	1.3	
19	PtB008	Xp55	1.5	1.7	

Next Race:
Announced soon

Current Races:
Lake Superior Lights 2020

Welcome to the Great Lakes region of North America and to a SAILonline classic 'lighthouse' race, this time 572 nm in our Xp55s around Lake Superior, starting at Wisconsin Point Light. Click here to see some of the other famous lighthouses you will see on course. This race always proves to be an interesting challenge as the waters and shorelines of Lake Superior are among the most rugged and isolated in the United States!
Race #1405
INFO by brainaid.de
Xp55 PARTICULARS
NAM_AWIP WX Updates:
0245 / 0845 / 1445 / 2045
Ranking: SYC

Stay safe,
John/Satori