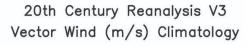
Panama to Honolulu: a beast of a race in a beast of a boat

1 1

Planning

I downloaded the average winds for the race area and it looked pretty clear what to do - on average.



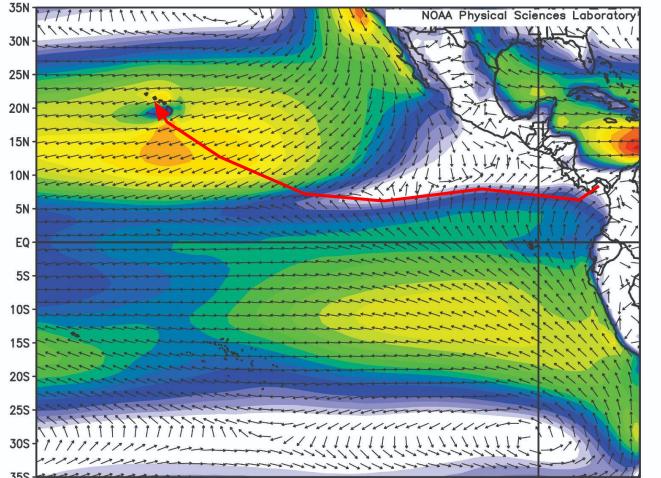
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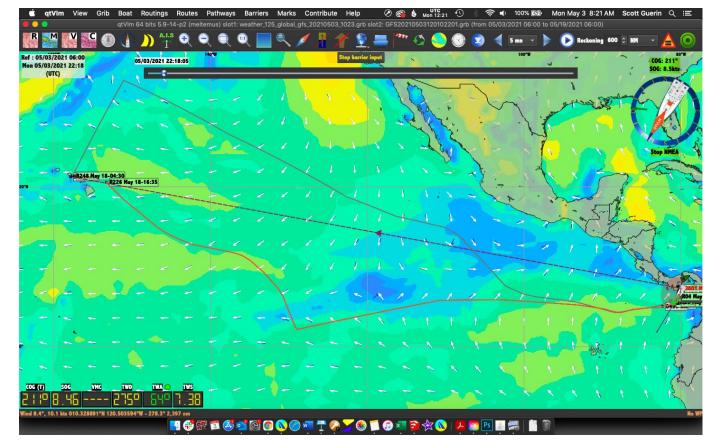
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5



But a day or two after the start, my routing was flopping between a southerly average course and a northerly route.

The fleet crawled out of Panama in very light winds.



The podium die was cast early on.

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## Tuesday, May 4, 2100 UTC

SlideRule always seemed to have a bit more speed as he continues to extend.

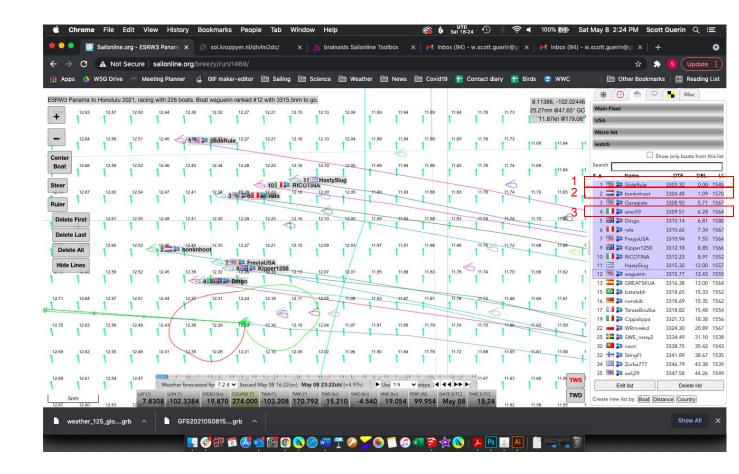
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teer	19.99	19.88	19.76	19.65	19.54	19.43	19.35	19.31	19.28	19.25	19.23	19.22	19.21	19.20	79.20	79.21	79.12	19.03	78.90	3 L ARMOROCH		18.78	
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uler	19.98	19.85	19.72	19.60	19.48	19.37	19.27	19.22	<b>*</b> 9.18	19.14	<b>7</b> 9.10	19.07	19.05	19.03	79.02	19.01	78.92	78.84	18.75 31	12 🚍 🎥 bonknhoot	4311.68	31.12	2
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## Thursday, May 6, 0112 UTC

SlideRule moves into the lead for good while my premature podiumization was not to last...

Арр	s 🔺	WSG Driv	e 🤐 N	Aeeting Pla	anner 💡	📕 GIF ma	aker-edito	r 🗎 S	ailing 🗎	Science	e 🗎 w	leather 🕞	🗎 News	🗎 Covi	d19 🚹	Contact	diary 🚹	Birds	🗢 wwc	🗎 🛅 Other Bookmarks	ts   🖽 Rea	ading L	Lis
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SlideRule extends, while WS misses a couple weekend WXs and stays south of the pack. That lead to my comment that I liked Go4iT's northerly track.

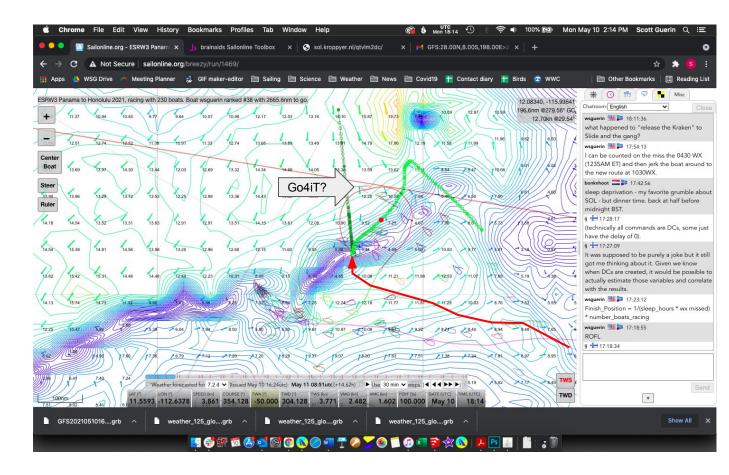


## Monday, May 10, 1814 UTC

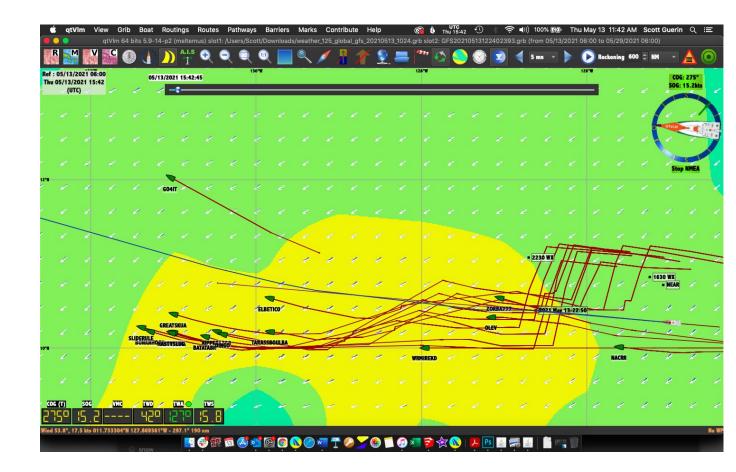
WS (red track) headed north spying a gap in the goo that closed off.

I think that Go4iT got through and into the wind nicely even further to the north.

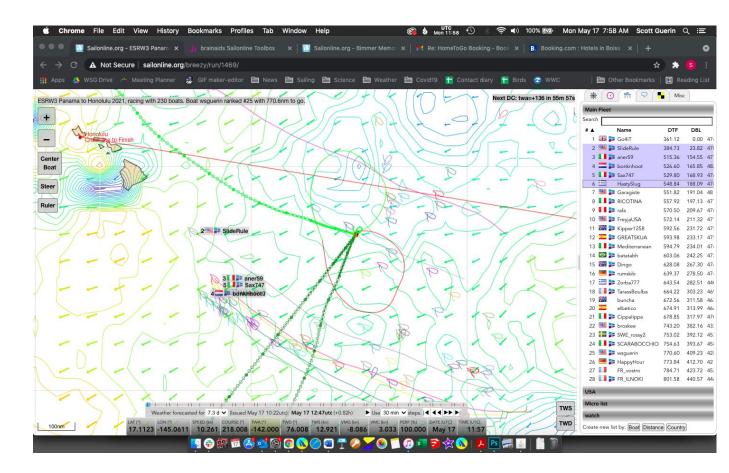
Slide and the gang stay close together in the South to tackle their gap - how did they see that one?



Go4iT had made their move north some days ago, and for awhile it looks like a brilliant roll of the dice.



While Go4iT (just off screen at top) has held the top position for some days, Slide's better angle to the wind, resulting speed, and astonishing 150nm lead over the pack gets him off his Gunboat and onto the barstool first.



## Thursday, May 20, 1206 UTC

Go4iT (blue track) screamed in like a missile finishing a highly respectable 16th. They went North at the right time, I later followed.

WS (red track) makes a final try for top 35 but it was not to be.

Some said this race was boring, it was not, but being in the lead pack then falling back to follow the leaders is maddening and humbling. And then, following the leaders really IS boring!

So I took a late, ill-considered, counter-to-QT flyer as a result and it didn't pay off. It went against the odds as shown in the average wind chart at the top of this report.

My hat is off to not only the podium who really kept their eyes on the ball, but to the rest of the SOL fleet, admins, and newcomers.

