

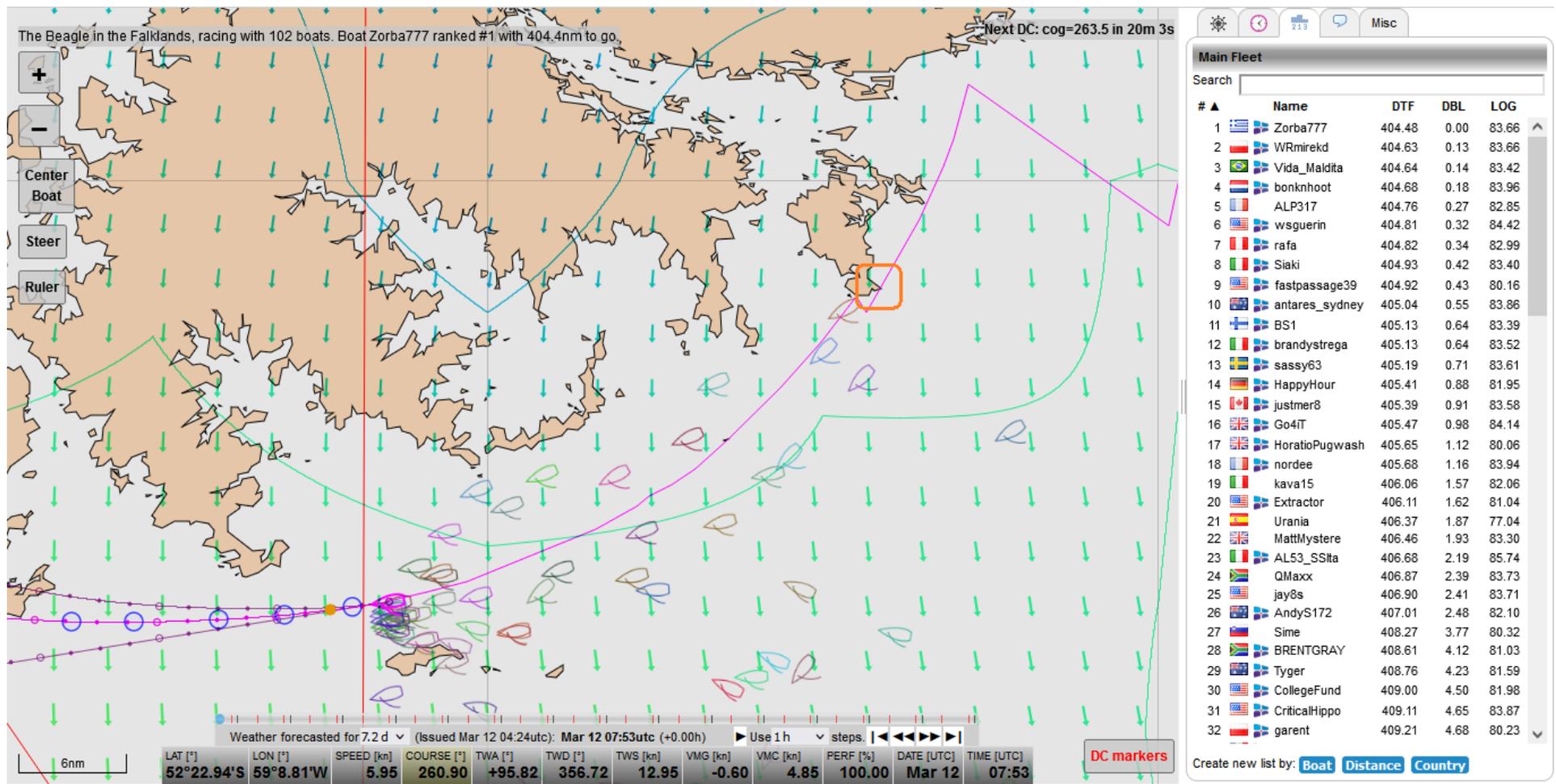
Beagle in the Falklands 2024

by Zorba777

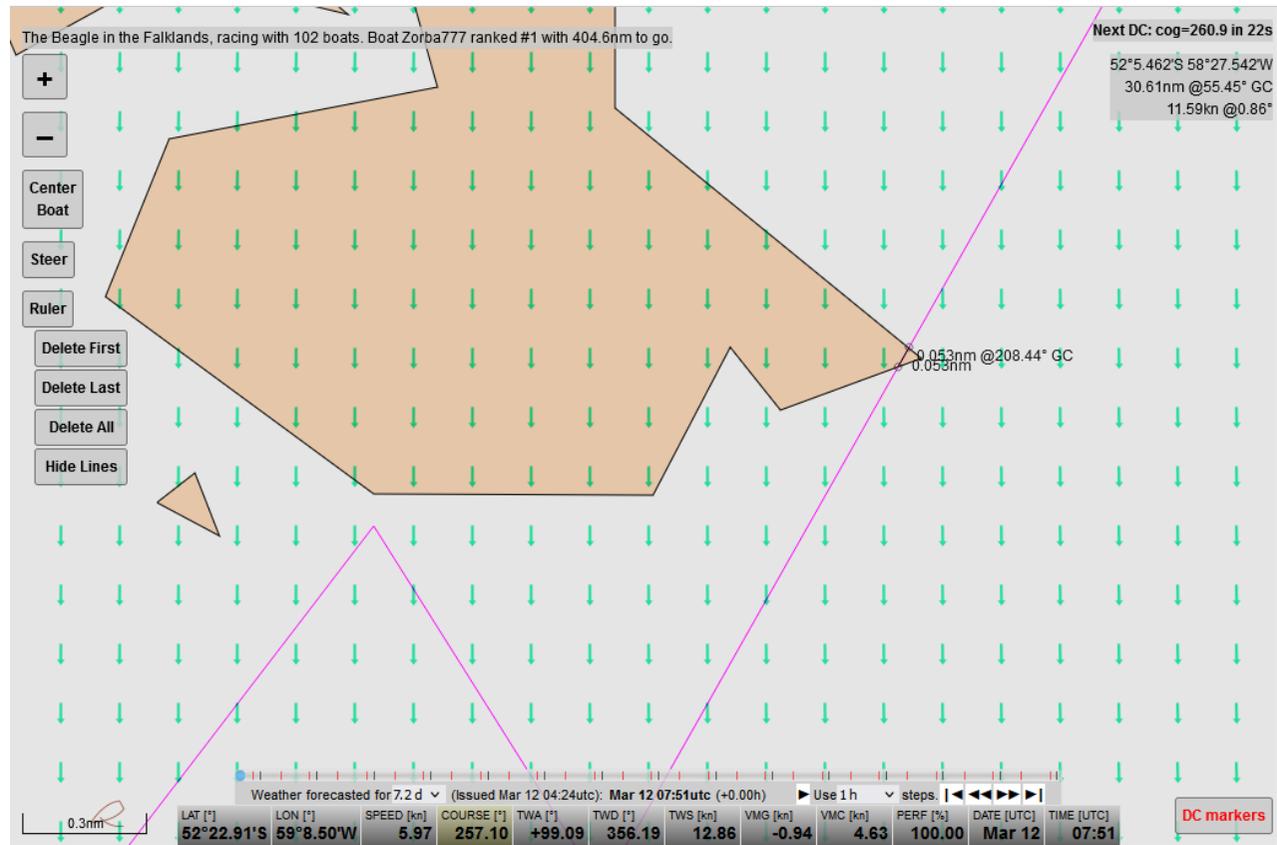
I haven't been SOLing for nearly 2 years for a number of reasons. Because a long wait at the Bulgarian border recently I somehow decided to take a look at the Sailonline website and saw that the Sea of Cortez race was being redone. And that was a course I remember creating some years ago. It prompted me to join in with a richly late start and get the hang a bit again.

Well, you know how goes, I thought why not join the next one too and that was Beagle in the Falklands. I have never done any well in a tallship, but whatever. Expectations were definitely low.

I had a really good start and made a few screenshots at key moments, as I always used to do. It's interesting to review your blunders, mistakes or dare we say it, "sudden strokes of genius", with the benefit of hindsight. Live and learn and that also goes on SOL. But I digress.

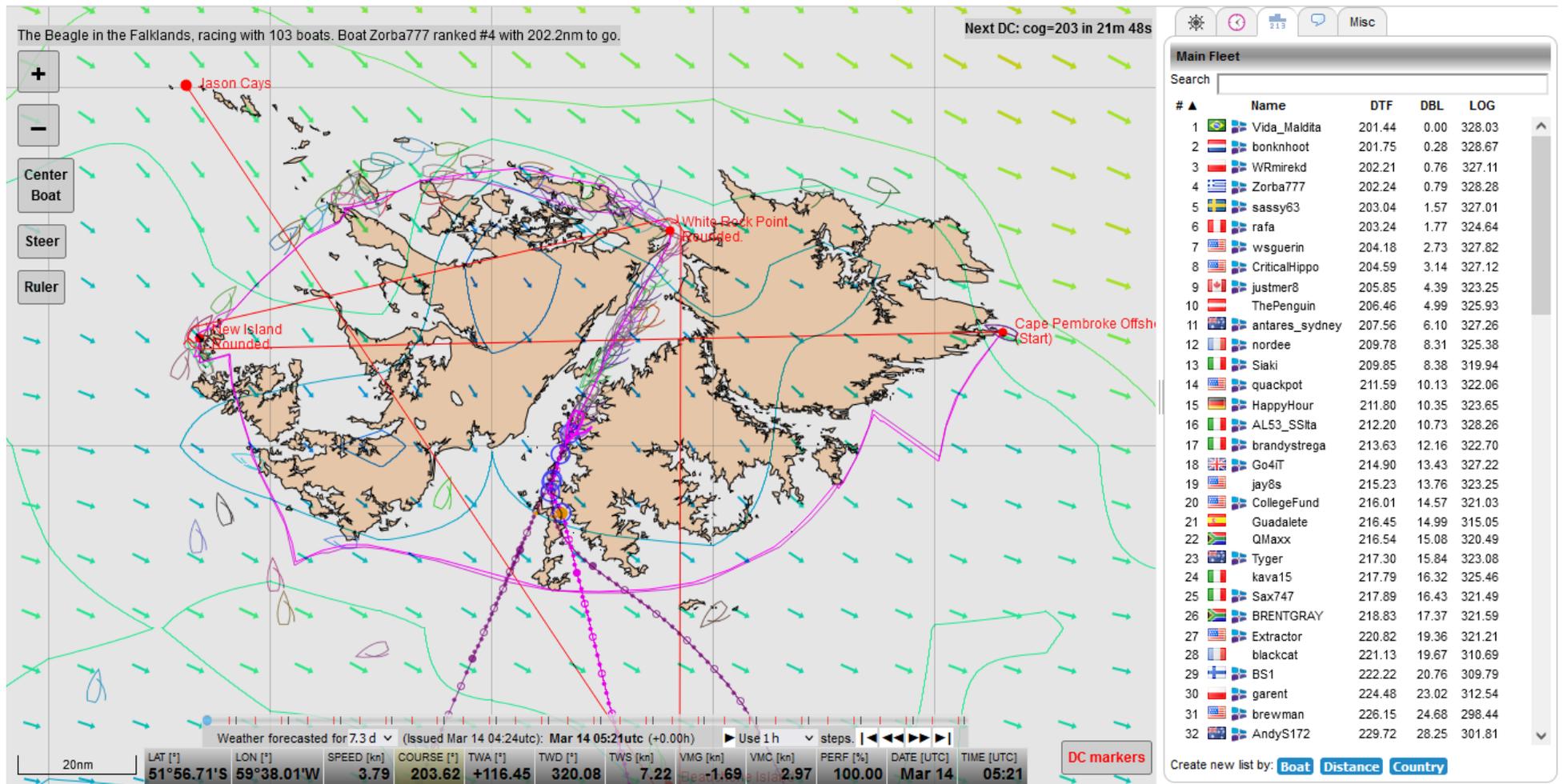


Here I am in the lead after the first night (European time), but that came with a rather lucky overland jump, which actually should have finished my race, but it didn't. I don't know how accurate the maps are but this is a close up:

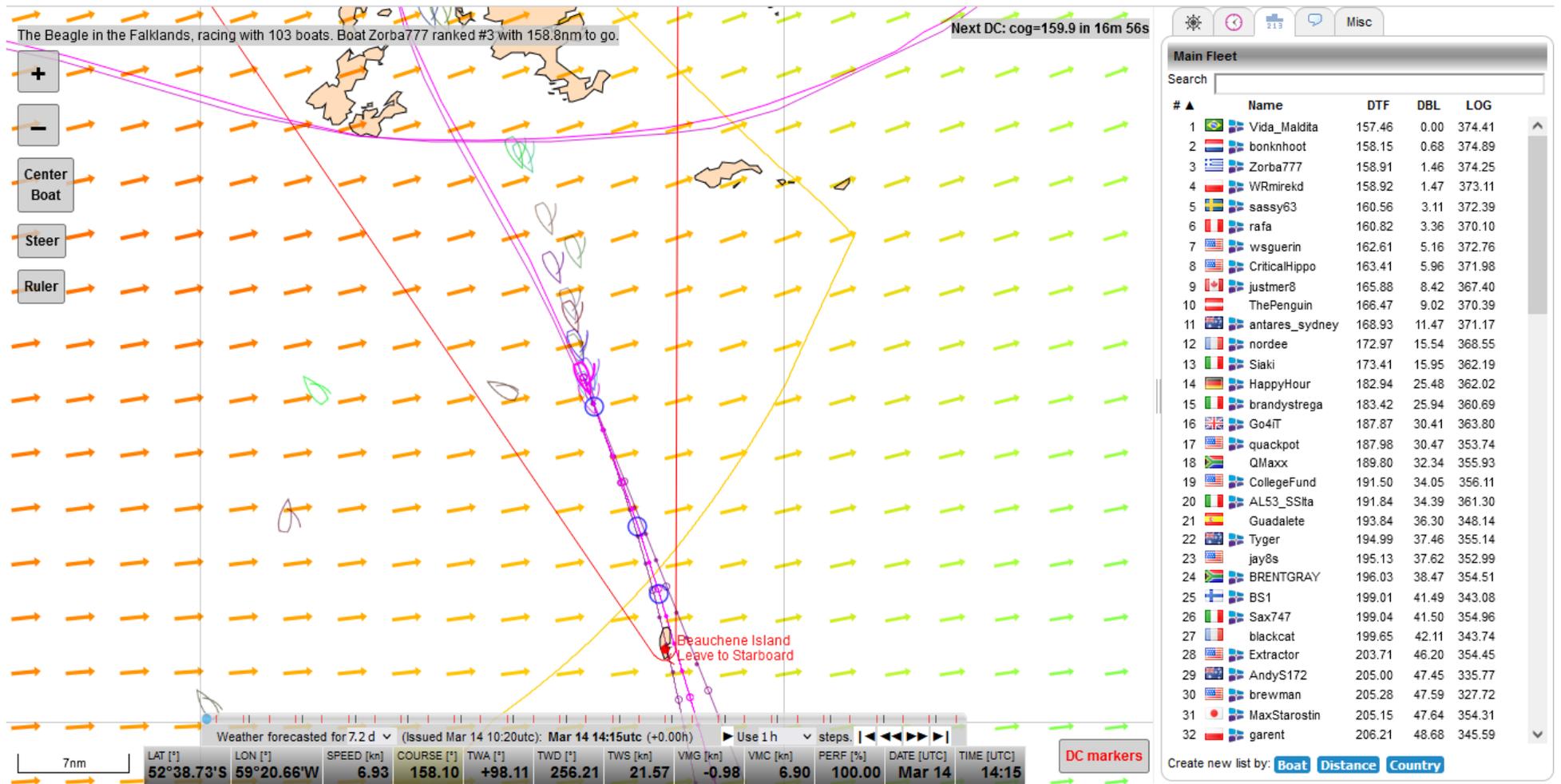


I measured it at something close to 0.053 NM. Thanks @ij for the long server jump!
I am not a stranger to overland jump records, so I will file this one as a possible record for a tallship.

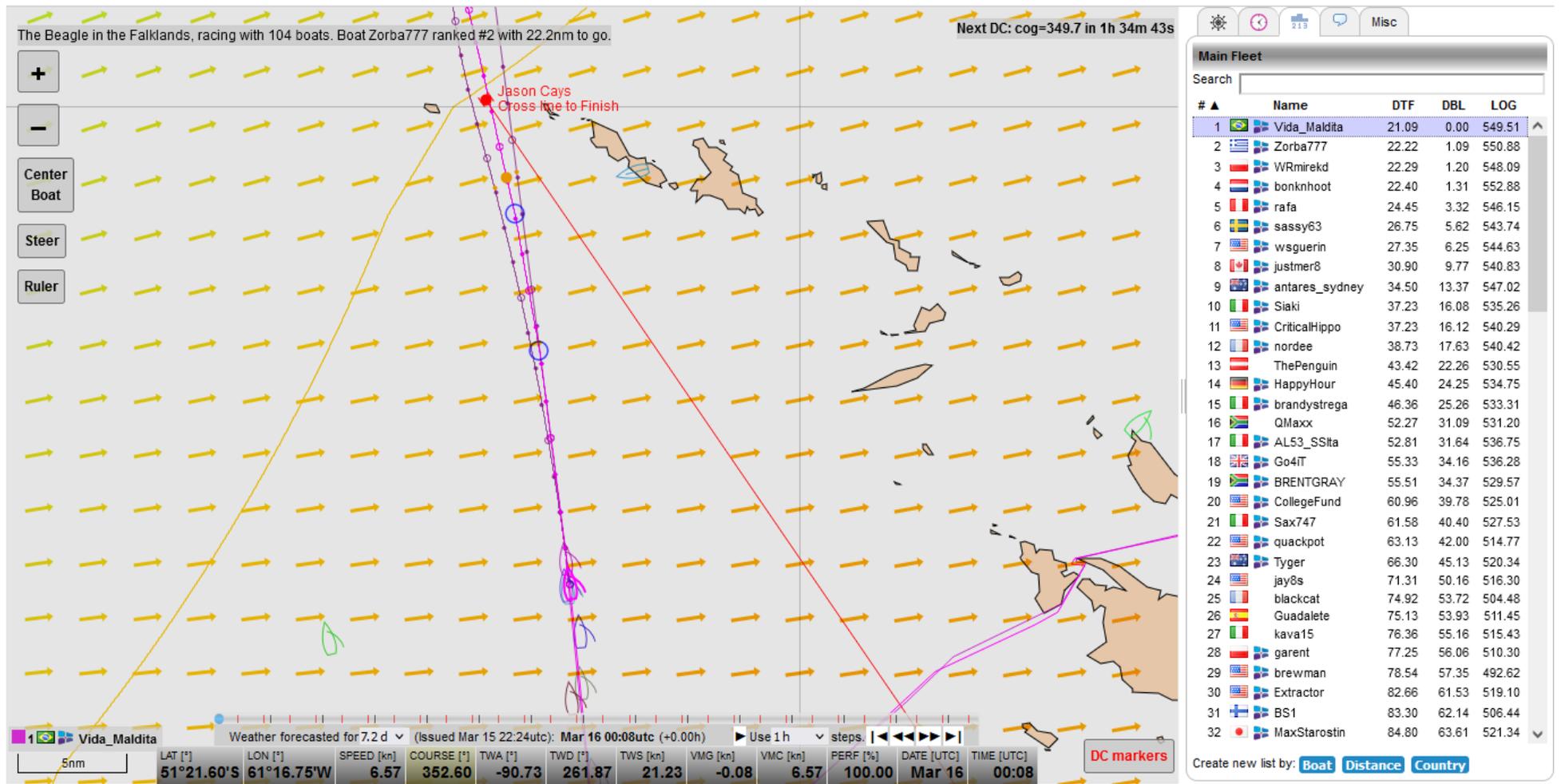
This made me think I should probably continue to ride that luck in this race, even though I would have to do some narrow passages on DCs, in which I felt quite rusty. That showed especially in the rounding of New Island, which I did with 2 or 3 tacks and too far from the shore. It cost me a few places, here down to 4th, but still going fine.



Here a nice picture of how all the boats were distributed around and in between the Falklands. Winds were strong and quite favorable for most of the race, so narrow passages didn't post too much of a problem. Vida_Maldita got a commanding lead at this point, but I was still close with @Mirek and @Bonk, and I suppose they also need to work or sleep sometimes.



Here we are on the way to Beauchene island, and it became a fight for seconds with @Mirek. Something I remember all too well from my more active SOLing times. But weatherwise the race remained easy at this point, so it was unlikely that this battle would be decided here. On it went with @Bonk now firmly in 2nd place. The overnight passage on the way to the finish line would decide the podium.



DCs had to do it and somehow my honored colleagues must have had a few glitches too as I ended up in 2nd place, with Mirek finishing right behind me. Definitely a fun race and an excellent track with interesting tactical options for the more adventurous or for those who try their luck going SOTP.

Thanks all and til the next one. Zorba777