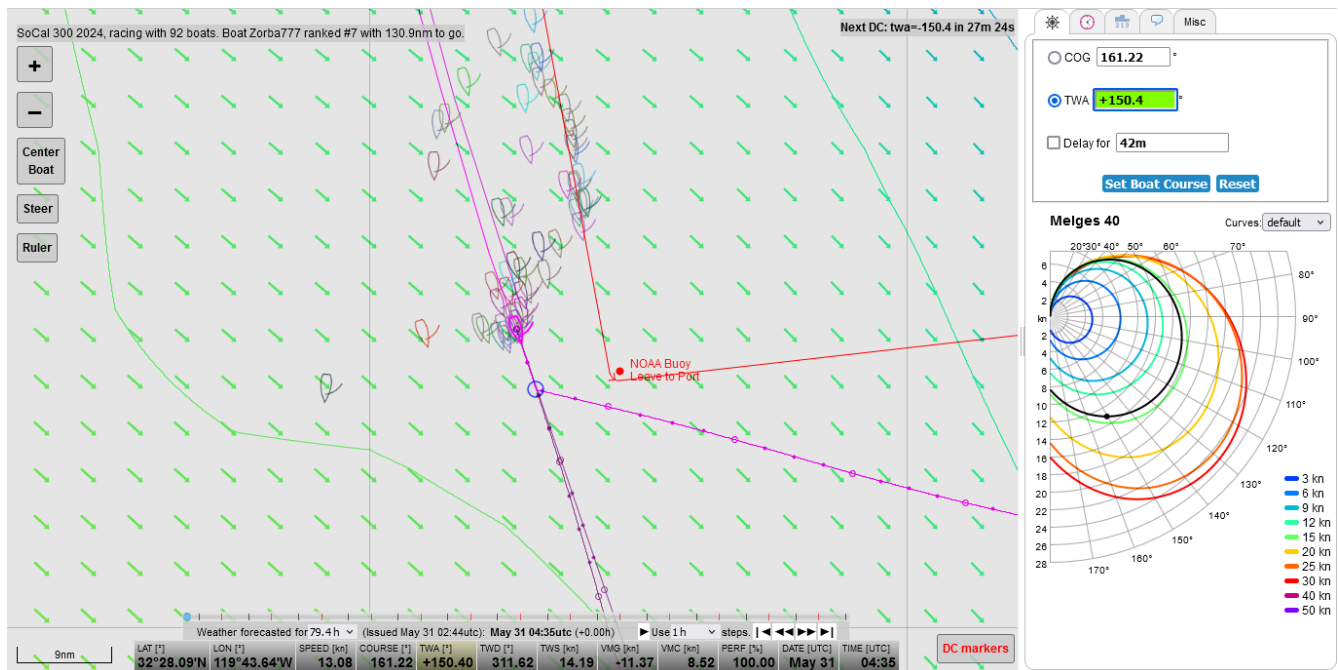


SoCal 300 2024 – Report by Zorba777

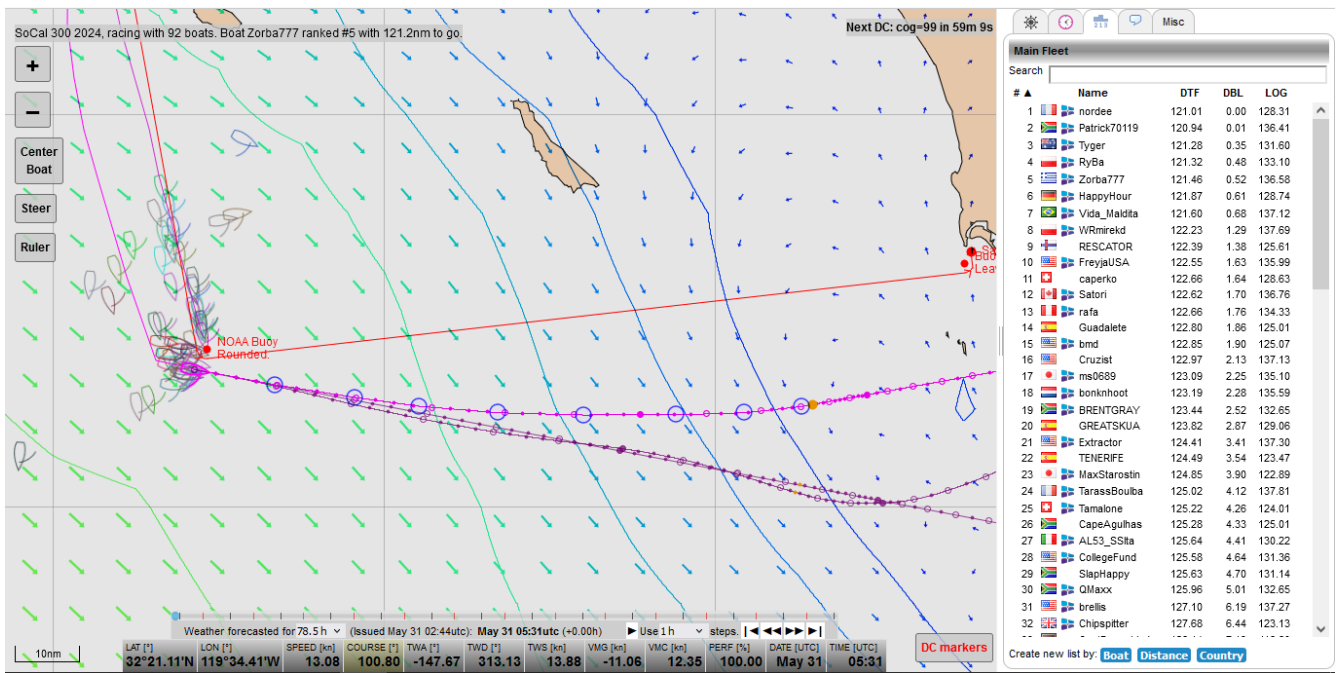
This looked like a very simple race with a very simple polar. But it turned out quite differently.

Starting in virtually no winds made it complicated to get to the first waypoint in a good position. Luckily for the European participants, the subsequent overnight passage posed no big challenges. But then we got a difficult finish where it also took a bit of WX luck.

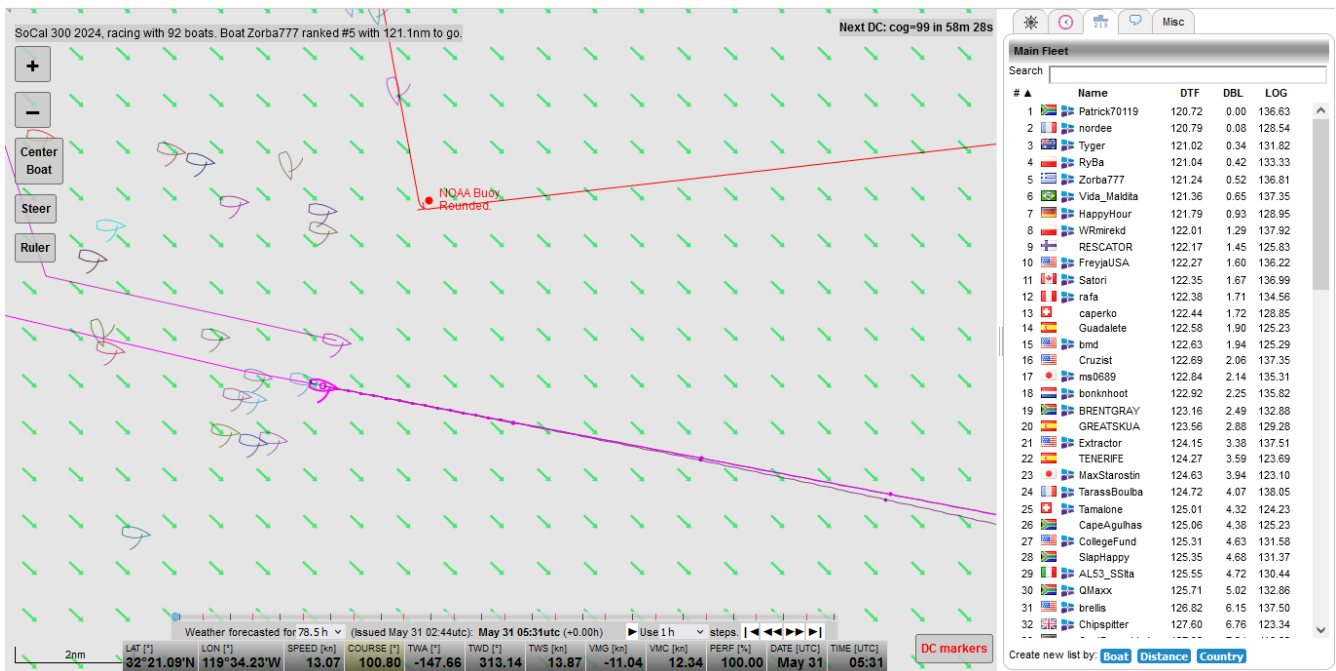
I did make some screenshots:



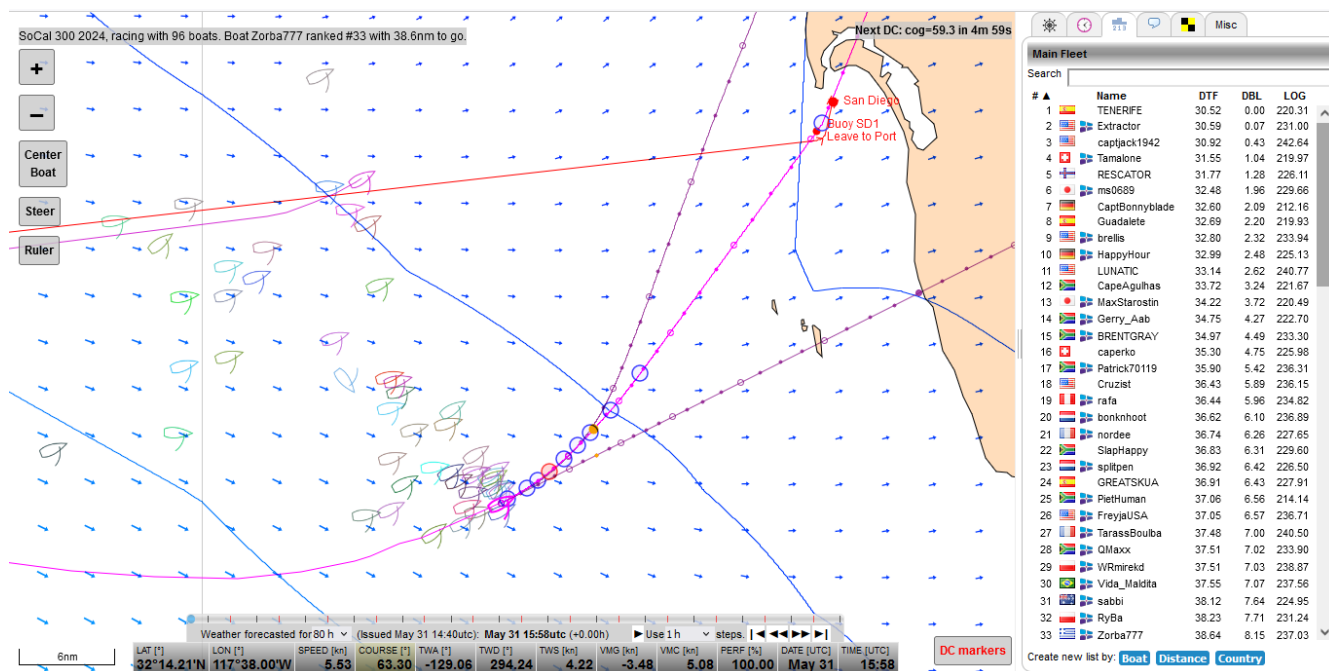
Here we are on the way to the last main buoy.



Because we had to arch our way into San Diego it was a bit of a gamble when to take the gybe. And the upcoming WX would easily throw off our well-routed plans.



Here a bit of a close up. Mirek and Satori, who were my most direct competitors at that point, had gone a bit deeper to the South. Would that pay off? Patrick70119 had gybed earlier, which could pay off if the next WX changed.



It became a bit of a nailbiter, but the weather didn't change. Mirek was not to be denied, and I only managed to keep 1 second ahead of Satori, who had given a great fight on the last day. If I remember correctly that was also the order in which we had passed Kinton Point after the start of the race. So basically nothing changed. We all know how hard it is to pass Mirek once he has a lead. Well sailed once again. And Satori did mighty well too, just a few seconds here and there.

Coming second exceeded my expectation for this race, as I had never seen this type of polar.

Thanks all for racing, and see you in the next one.

Zorba777