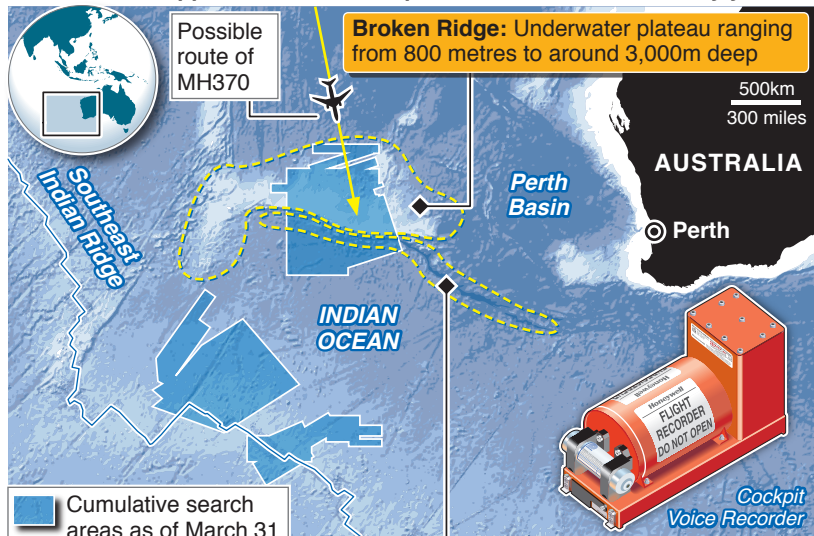


# Time running out to find MH370 black box

With signals from the black box from Flight MH370 expected to degrade soon, the hunt for the plane could involve an exhaustive search of a vast area of unmapped ocean floor – a process that could take many years



**Diamantina trench:** Believed to be up to 5,800m deep, but never precisely mapped. Side-scanning sonar or multi-beam echo sounders would have difficulty distinguishing debris from crevices in trench

Broken Ridge sediment, made of compacted microscopic plankton shells, unlikely to inhibit ping from black box. **But rocks on Diamantina trench could scatter sound**