EUROPEAN FISHERIES CONTROL AGENCY

Maritime Surveillance:
Cooperation in Practice
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Pascal Savouret
Executive Director

EFCA at a glance

The European Fisheries Control Agency (EFCA) is a European Union body established in 2005 to organise operational coordination of fisheries control and inspection activities by Member States and to assist them to cooperate so as to comply with the rules of the Common EU Fisheries Policy in order to ensure its effective and uniform application.

- **Staff of 58** (19 Nationalities)

- **3 Units**

-Unit A (HR & Finance)
-Unit B Capacity Building
-Unit C Operational Coordination

The EU Common Fisheries Policy (CFP)

The CFP is a set of rules for managing European fishing fleets and for conserving fish stocks

One of the main CFP policies is **fisheries management**

Input/output controls:

-Access to waters
-Fishing licenses and permits
-Quota uptake
-Fishing effort
-Reporting requirements

Maritime Surveillance and fisheries management

Monitoring and enforcement of the Input/output controls requires effective maritime surveillance tools

Vessel Monitoring System (VMS)

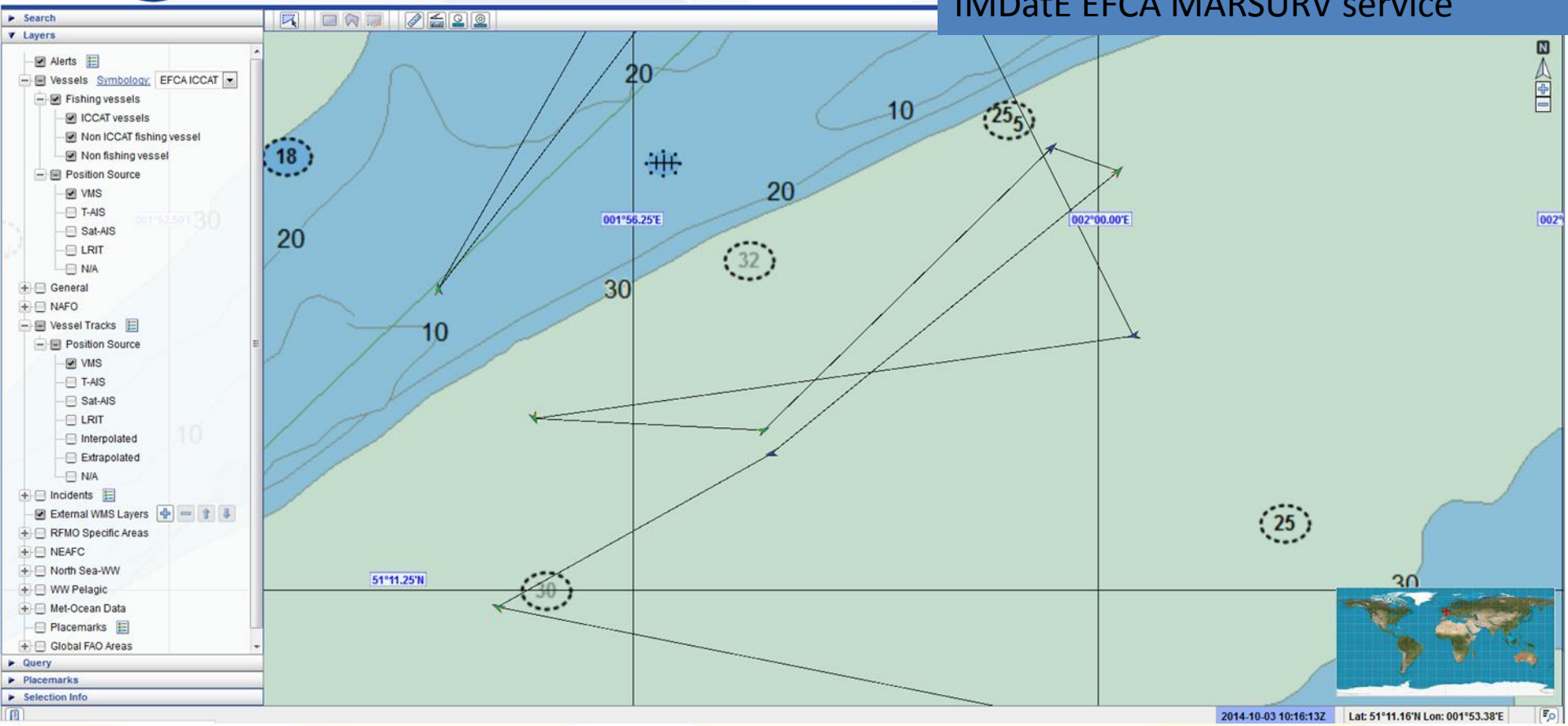
-satellite based system providing position every 2 hours
-disadvantage: cooperative system, at relatively low frequency

IMDatE EFCA MARSURV Service

-providing access to other position data sources T-AIS, Sat-AIS and LRIT
-integration & correlation with VMS and other info providing for integrated tracks

Vessel Monitoring System (VMS)

IMDatE EFCA MARSURV service



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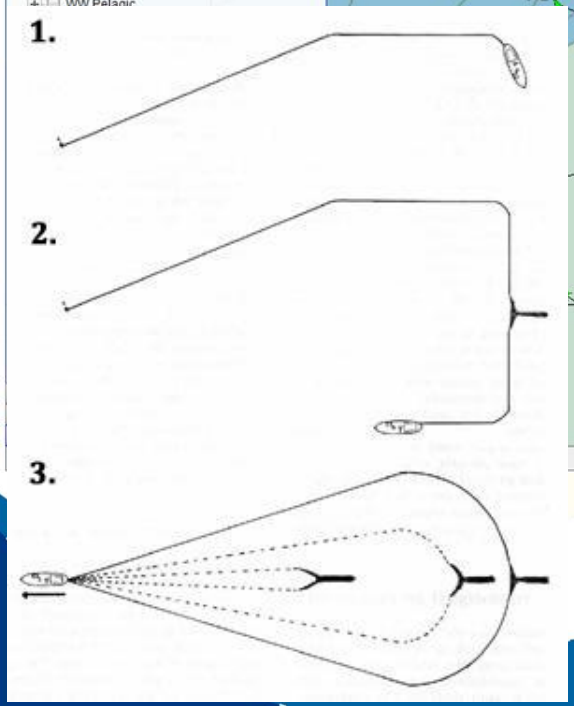


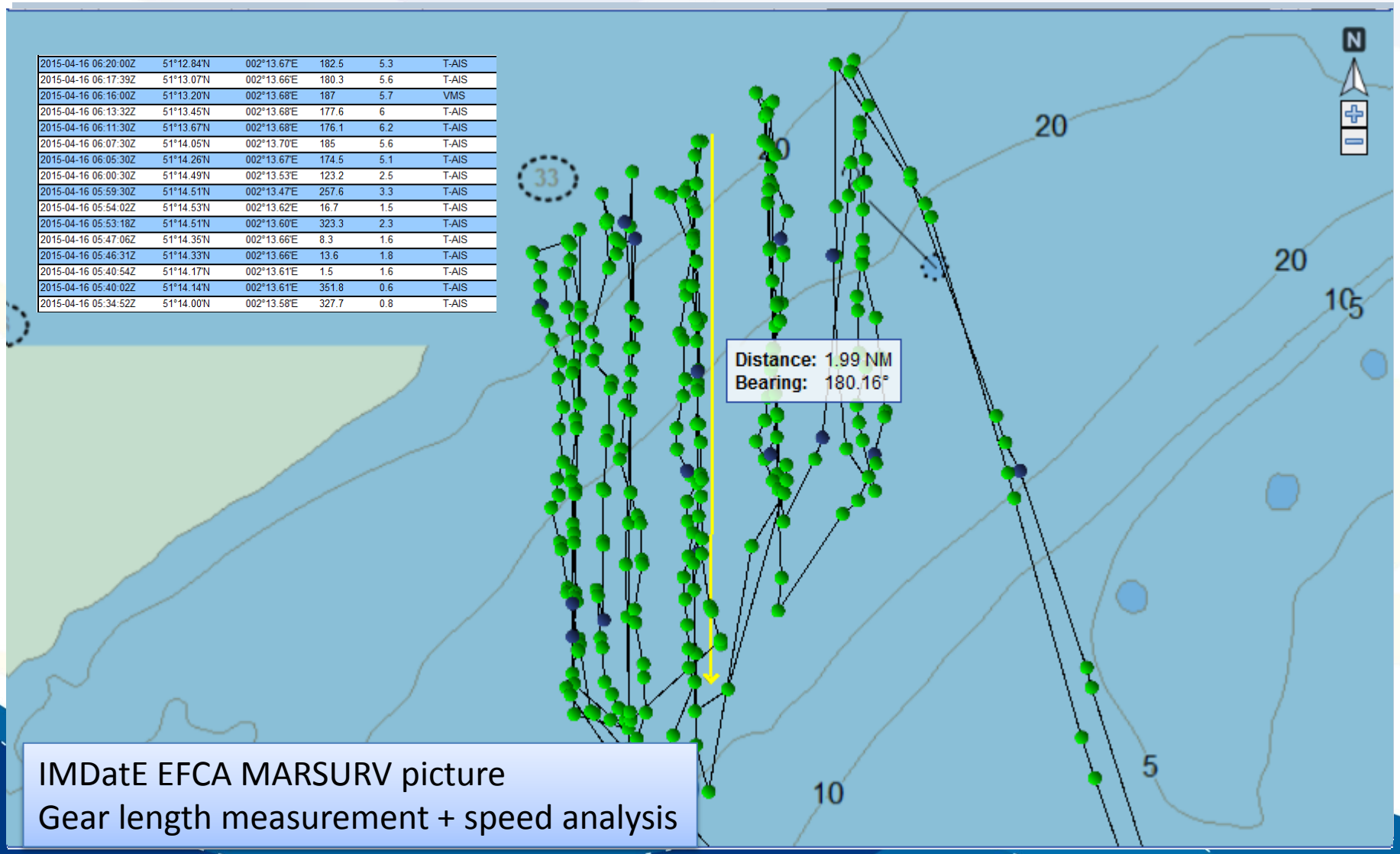
In practice: verification of static gear

The use of static gear is regulated (technical measures), some static gear can only be used at certain depths.

Challenge:

- Technical inspection at sea is cumbersome (mesh size, length)
- Gear can be several km long
- Difficult to detect the gear & establish dimensions visually

Monitoring of deployment of static fishing gear



IMDatE EFCA MARSURV picture
Gear length measurement + speed analysis

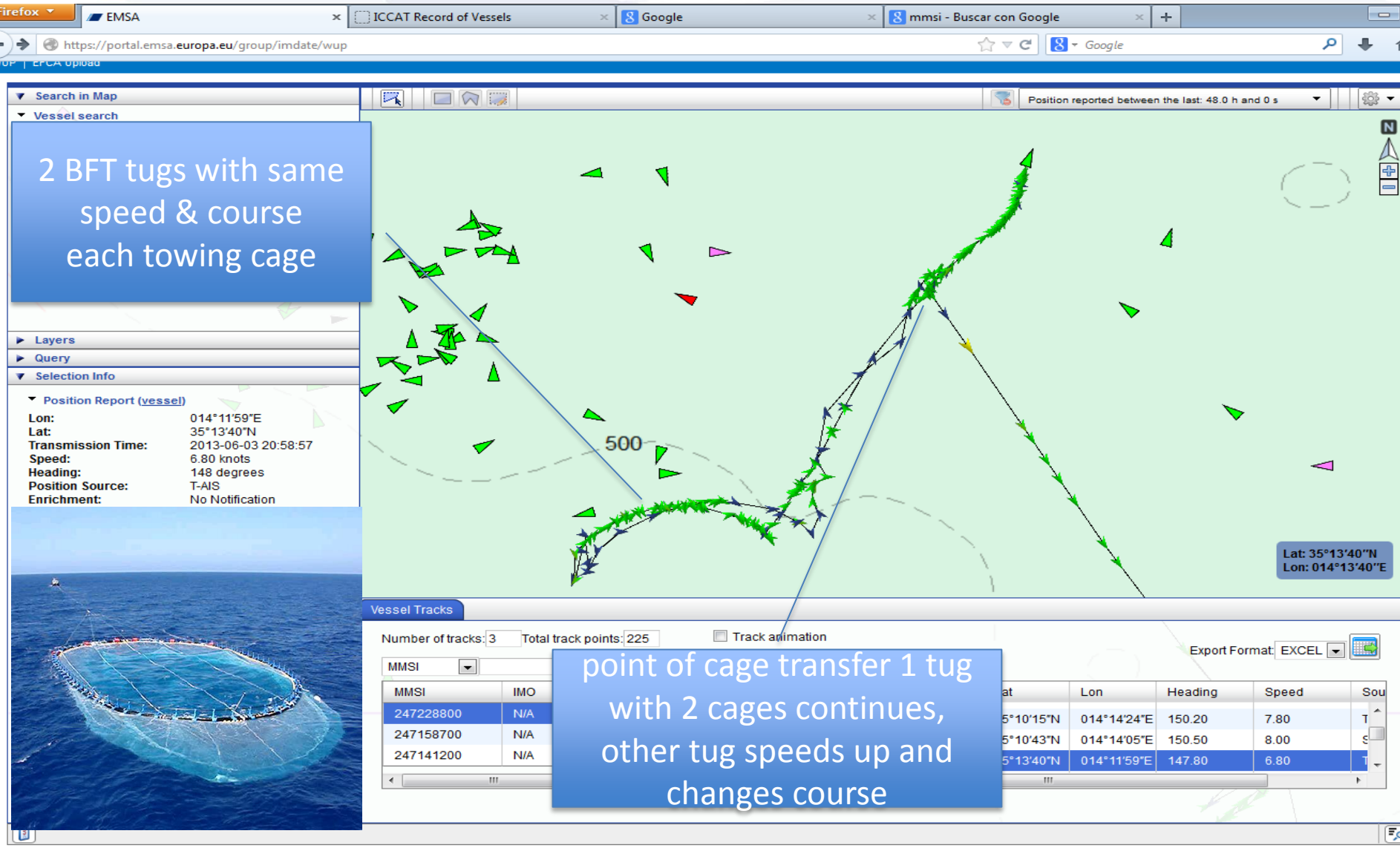
In practice: Bluefin tuna (BFT) fisheries

The BFT fishing vessels have to adhere to strict reporting and catch recording rules

Challenge:

- BFT catching operations are very fast
- Complex operations involving different vessels
- High value fish, transferred & transported at sea
- Fishing season is very short

Monitoring of BFT fisheries reporting obligations

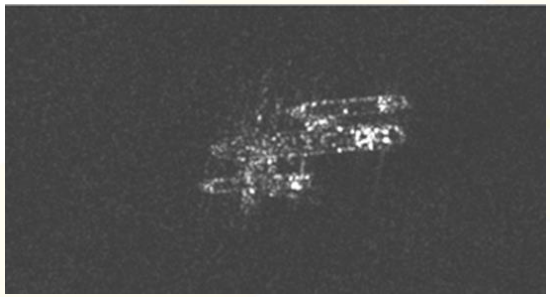


Improved behavior monitoring and targeting

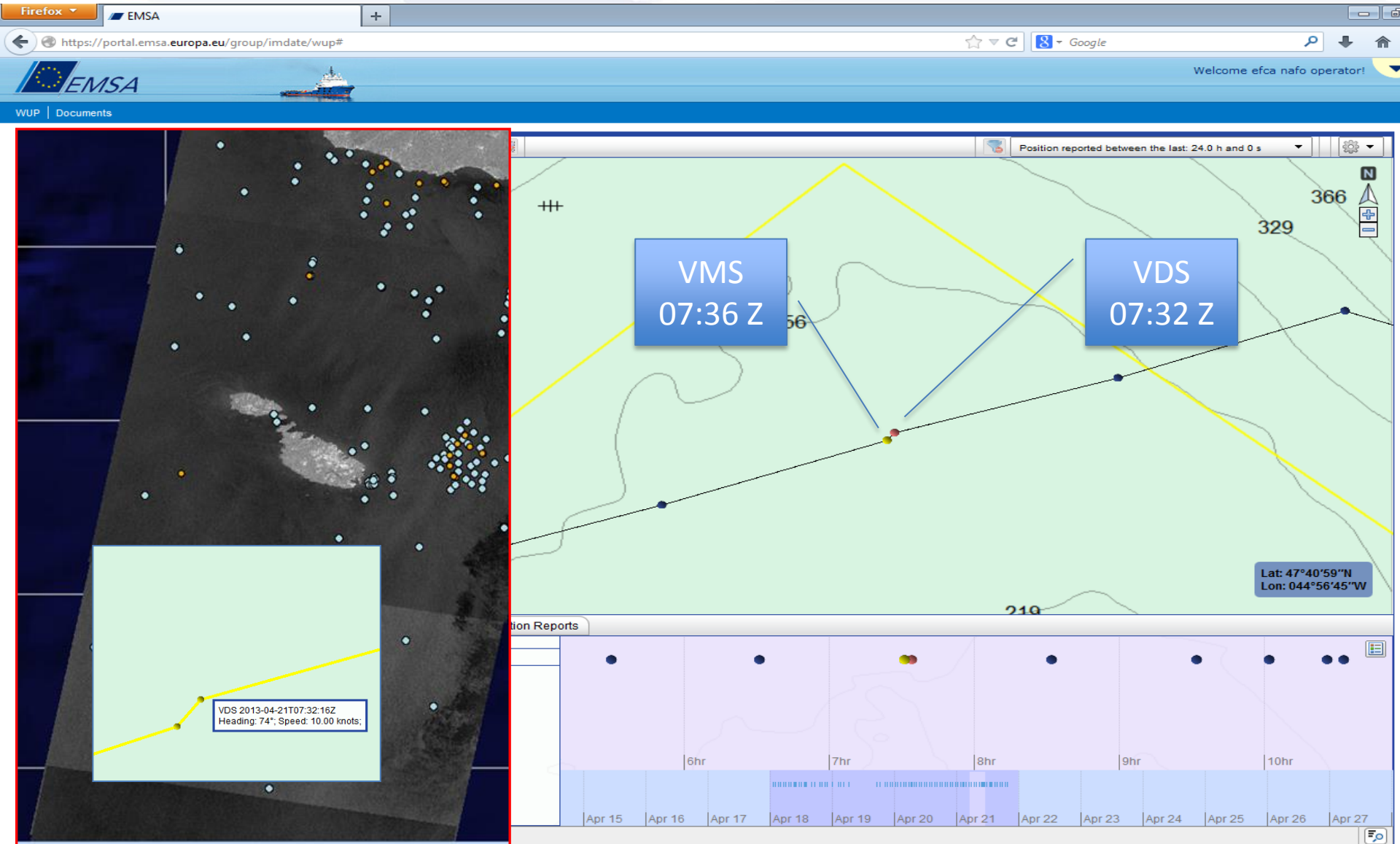
Automated correlation of various datasets provided by different user communities result in a more focused detection of possible non compliance .

Adding an additional dimension to the classic datasets, innovative inter-agency cooperation projects are looking at;

-Including VDS detection
-Using RPAS technologies
-Exchanging surveillance information



Cross checking using VDS



Inter-agency cooperation

Cooperation arrangement between Frontex, EMSA and EFCA (since 2009)

- Exchange of best practices (training, seminars)
- Cooperation in various projects (IMDatE, CYRIS, etc…)
- Exchange of information

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Challenge:

- Sharing VMS (SARSURPIC, EUROSUR…)

www.efca.europa.eu

THANK YOU!