

# ***Find the Nina* weekly update Oct. 4, 2013**

## **IMPORTANT**

*Finding the Nina* work is funded by the crew family members, private citizens, and through fundraisers, and 100% of the money is used for air search operations and drift model analysis. Every person involved in this project is a volunteer and freely donate their time and efforts for this humanitarian cause. Our remaining funds have reached a critical low point and we are no longer conducting air searches; instead, we are saving our money to be able to react when as 100% solid Nina sighting is found. Please continue to support the viewing of Tomnod maps, asking our government to help, and keeping the Nina crew and their families in your prayers.

## **Outstanding Support for Tomnod Map Reviewing!**

Did you know . . .

- That we have 13,043 people signed up on Tomnod to contribute to the Nina search?
- You have reviewed a staggering 3,248,584 Tomnod maps?
- You have “tagged” 224,864 possible targets?
- You have reviewed over 40 different satellite images covering more than 160,000 square kilometers of the Tasman Sea?
- We have Tomnod viewers from the United States, Mexico, Brazil, United Kingdom, The Netherlands, France, Germany, Australia, New Zealand, and Namibia . . . a true worldwide effort!
- And we have approx. 10 new Tomnod images coming today and need your reviews!

This has been a huge challenge . . . but we will not be satisfied until we find the Nina and her crew. **The Nina crew families, Texas EquuSearch, DigitalGlobe, and Tomnod sincerely thank you for this fantastic work!**

## **Special Thanks to DigitalGlobe and Tomnod**

Going into the *Find the Nina* project we knew our aerial searches of the Tasman Sea would be limited because of the huge area to cover (note the Tasman Sea is the size of the U.S. Gulf of Mexico) and only a small portion could safely be observed with private airplanes. Satellite imagery was a completely new concept for us and currently not used in ocean SAR. Our research into satellite providers found DigitalGlobe to be the leading provider and their new subsidiary, Tomnod, offered a unique solution of viewing satellite imagery on the Internet. Contact was made and a fantastic partnership was formed! DigitalGlobe has provided hundreds of thousands of dollars of free images and Tomnod has provided outstanding service with their Internet implementation and Crowd Sourcing technology. And like us, they all are volunteering their time to Find the Nina. When the Nina is found, it will open a new door to safer ocean travel for mariners worldwide. Thank you DigitalGlobe and Tomnod teams for all you do!

## **Current Activities**

We are evaluating 3 possible targets found via Tomnod maps and Google Earth raw data images. To verify exact locations of these targets, we have asked DigitalGlobe/Tomnod to re-

image several areas so we have the most up-to-date images to base our flight ops decisions on. Once these newest images are received, we have a “Tiger team” of expert viewers who will analyze the raw data and determine exact latitude and longitude. Note that one of these targets appears to be a capsized sailing vessel, but our team of experts have compared the structure of the keel and the symmetry of the bow and do not believe this is the Nina. However, we will continue to define its location and notify authorities that another vessel may be in peril.

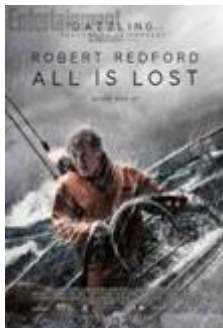
### **Send Us Your Sightings**

You have done an outstanding job reviewing Tomnod maps and sending in your findings to [findthenina@gmail.com](mailto:findthenina@gmail.com) and please keep it up. I also congratulate you on the quality of the sightings you send in as these are the targets we evaluate closely and react to. Our 3 top priority targets were all sent in by Tomnod viewers.

### ***All is Lost*, a Robert Redford film**

*All is Lost*, is a daring cinematic and acting challenge that places Robert Redford’s mariner at the center of a looming ocean disaster. He plays a man whose sailboat becomes crippled as he battles one deep-sea misfortune after another. Story line sound familiar? Robin Wright, mother of Nina crew member 19-year old Danielle Wright, is trying to contact Mr. Redford to share the Nina story as a possible real-life Epilogue and solicit his help to support us and all mariners. You can support Robin’s mission by sending messages to the following email addresses stating that you support the *Find the Nina* cause and very much would like Mr. Redford’s assistance in keeping the message and hopes alive.

- [http://famous-relationships.topsynergy.com/Robert\\_Redford/Contact.asp](http://famous-relationships.topsynergy.com/Robert_Redford/Contact.asp)
- <http://www.sundance.org/about/contacts/>



### **Change.org Petition to the U.S. State Dept. and Secretary John Kerry**

We have over 1,600 signatures asking the U.S. State Dept. to provide support for Finding the Nina. This is a significant number; however, a more impactful message can be sent with more signatures. Therefore, we have recruited volunteers, who are reaching out to Yacht Clubs in California, Florida, Washington, D.C., Connecticut, and Maryland and asking for their help in getting more signatures and support. The objective is to get U.S. help in searching for the Nina, but the technology we are deploying with satellite imagery is setting new standards for Search and Rescue of mariners in harm’s way, and very important to the boating community. Once we

reach our signature goal, then this petition will be delivered to the State Dept. by Ricky Wright, father of 19-year old Danielle Wright, Nina crew member. If you would like to help please contact our Media Director, Tim Payner at [ninarescuepress@gmail.com](mailto:ninarescuepress@gmail.com).

### **Search for Damion Diamond and Richard Choi**

The two men went missing 2nd June, off the NSW central coast, Norah Heads. They were seen around midday approx. 3 nautical miles East off Bird Island and the last SOS text message was received via the Belmont Phone Tower at around 1:45 pm. 2 lifejackets were found washed up on Birubi Beach at Anna Bay (there were 5 lifejackets on the boat). Searches were conducted South of Norah Heads and North of Port Stephens as well as seaward toward Lord Howe Island, but no sign of the boat has been found. However, like our *Find the Nina* campaign, authorities conducted only a limited search and have now given up. You can receive the latest information at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/530064283731585>. And if you are tired of almost non-existing SAR help from local authorities in Australia and New Zealand, then contact your elected representatives, regional maritime agencies, and help organize outraged citizens about what can be done to support the lives of sailors.



### **Keep up with the latest news**

We have created a website to help keep our Nina community of volunteers updated about activities. Bookmark this site and refer back often [www.evxx.com](http://www.evxx.com)

### **Larry Slack**

Texas EquuSearch Volunteer [www.txeq.org](http://www.txeq.org)