World War II Activity Sheet 1: Interpreting geophysics

Understanding a wreck site is a challenge, as information from the Remote Operated Vehicle (ROV) and geophysical images are often difficult to interpret. Your challenge is to recreate the wreck site of the B-24 Liberator bomber found on the seafloor of the South Coast REC study area.



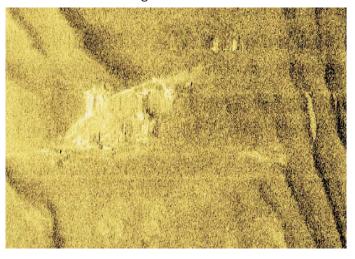
Instructions:

- Read the passage and use the information to identify aircraft parts found for the B-24 bomber on the seafloor.
- Watch the exploring an aircraft wreck film.
- Create a site plan of the wreck. To do this you can
- EITHER use the attached cut-out sheet
 OR download the Interactive Whiteboard Lesson:
 Interpreting Geophysics

Clues:

Remember what happens to a plane when it crashes

This is a side scan image of the aircraft wreck.



Description of the site

Now use the Multibeam Bathymetry image to interpret the wreck site. It is impossible to make out all the different parts of the plane on this image. The video taken by the ROV tells us what survives on the seafloor and how it is laid out.

Wing 1

Wing 1 is lying in a NW-SE orientation in the east of the site, with the end of the wing pointing SE. It is lying upside down so you can see the brake flaps along its edge.

The two engines numbered Engine 1 and Engine 2 are still attached to the slots in the wing. The one at the North end has the propeller still attached. The engine at the south end has its propeller laying flat on the seafloor in front of it.

The fuselage

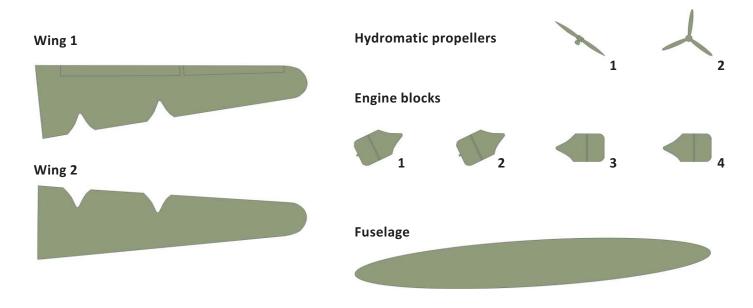
The fuselage has a WSW to ENE orientation. Wing 1 is located at the east end of the fuselage. The north end of Wing 1 lies on top of the fuselage.

Wing 2

Wing 2 has a N-S orientation. The N end lies under the middle of the fuselage. The end of Wing 2 points to the South. The Engine slots look to the east. Engine 3 and 4 are still attached to the slots in the wing. The propellers are missing.



Cut out the aircraft parts and position and glue them on the geophysical image, using the description on the previous page.



Is this what you thought an aircraft wreck site would look like?

Why do you think it looks like this?

Teacher's notes: Answer page

