

Contributing to the Search for Kiwi

James "Kiwi" Johnston is a paraglider who went missing on August 22 in Nevada. It is possible that he became separated from his GPS tracker, or that it stopped working, becoming lost in the air. The SAR (Search and Rescue) team has been aided by high resolution satellite images over a large swath of Nevada. SAR Air & Ground teams have exhausted search of the area surrounding the location of his last GPS Ping. Because the possible search area is so large, we are relying on a small army of people to visually scan each satellite image square, and report high probability matches to unusual objects to the Ground SAR team. Will you help us?

Option 1) Help us review prioritised areas

Search this data to help ensure that every square of satellite data is reviewed by a human, as well as enabling the possibility of using machine learning to aid further search efforts.

1. Register as a search volunteer: [Google Form](#)
2. You will receive an invite via email as soon as possible (we have to review this), meanwhile see option 2 using an alternative method, try both and take your pick.
3. Join the prioritised tile review effort via the link given in the email, hosted by amazon sagemaker.

Here you will be presented with 500m x 500m tiles of satellite data (0.5m resolution), your job is to label the images for potential paraglider wings like below, instructions are provided on the page. Once you receive your email it should take less than 5 minutes to start making a real contribution.

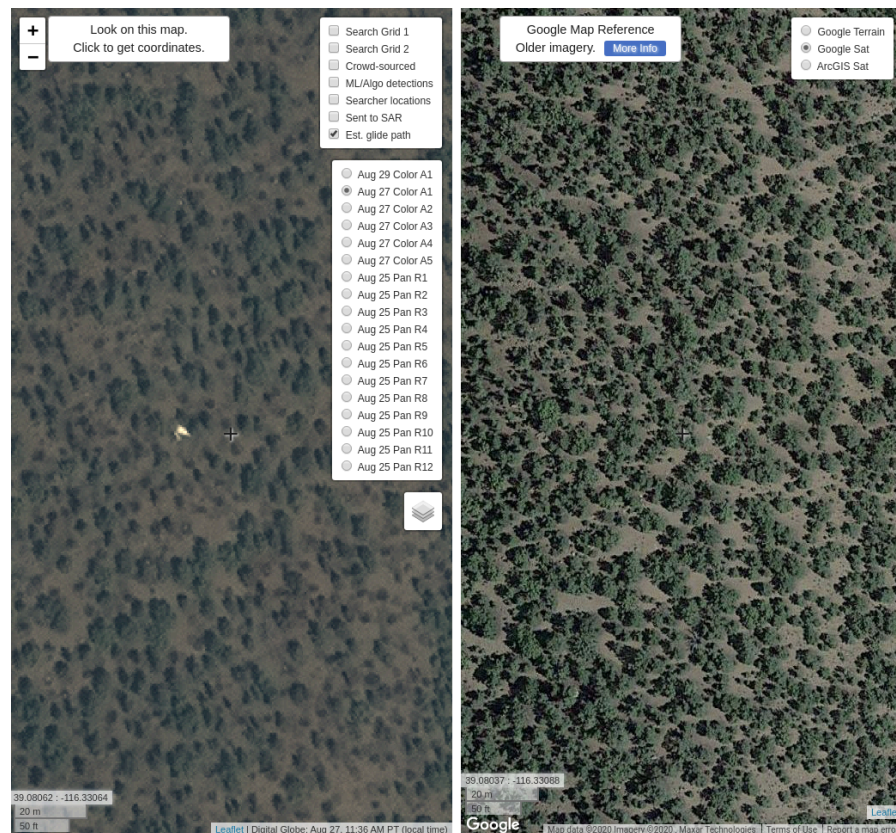


You have the option to report high/medium/low confidence sightings, use your judgement. We will review these reports and forward them to Search and Rescue!

Option 2) Join the wider search

Join the search at <https://9mile.xcskies.com/> .

- Compare old vs new images
- Report objects that you think might be a paraglider - these are checked and sent to Search and Rescue
- View other community reports



This option is more technically involved but adds context from older imagery and more freedom of where to search. The simplest way to contribute is by giving your care and attention to option 1.

Basic steps:

1. Explore the map, searching for objects in the left window, look for new objects that don't appear in the right window.
 - a. Concentrate on Aug 27 A1-A5 (select imagery set on right panel)
2. Click the object of interest
3. Give a confidence score (1-5) and a brief description e.g. "white rectangle"
4. Submit the report, we will review these and send them to Search and Rescue!

Additional instructions w/ images on using 9mile.xcskies - [Here](#)

Additionally:

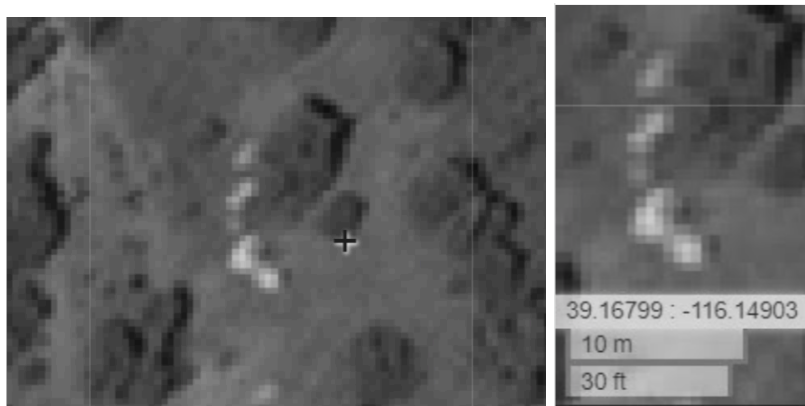
Join the chat - <https://t.me/joinchat/RyiYI1ZWxJX509e8ux-gJA>

Further information - [Paraglider Pilot Missing in Nevada](#)

Questions? Email findthatkiwi@gmail.com

REFERENCE IMAGES FOR GROUND HITS

1. Satellite Image Hit from xcskies:

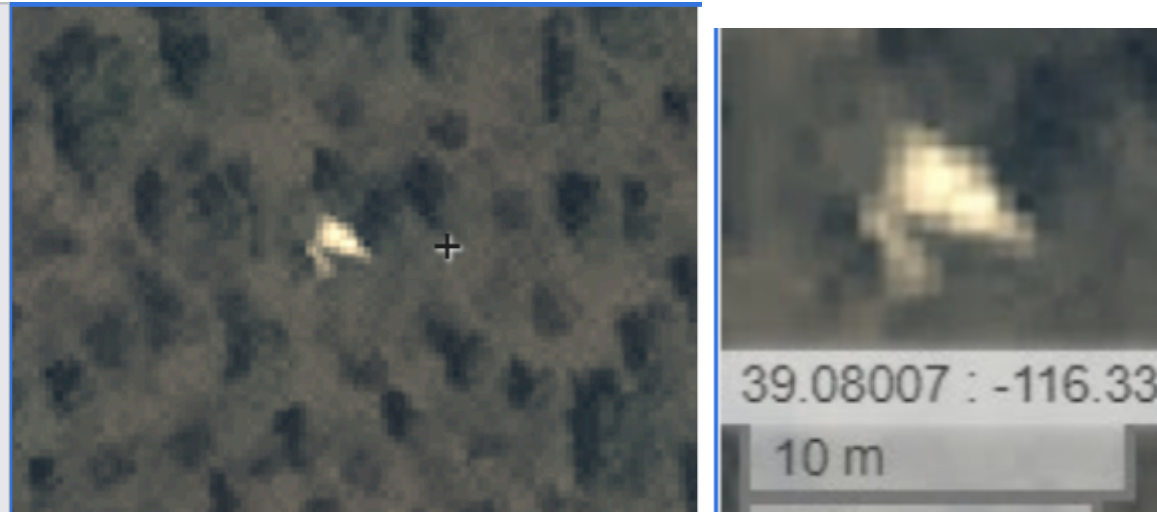


Ground Truth:(piece of paper for reference)



SCROLL FOR MORE

2. Satellite Image hit from XC Skies:

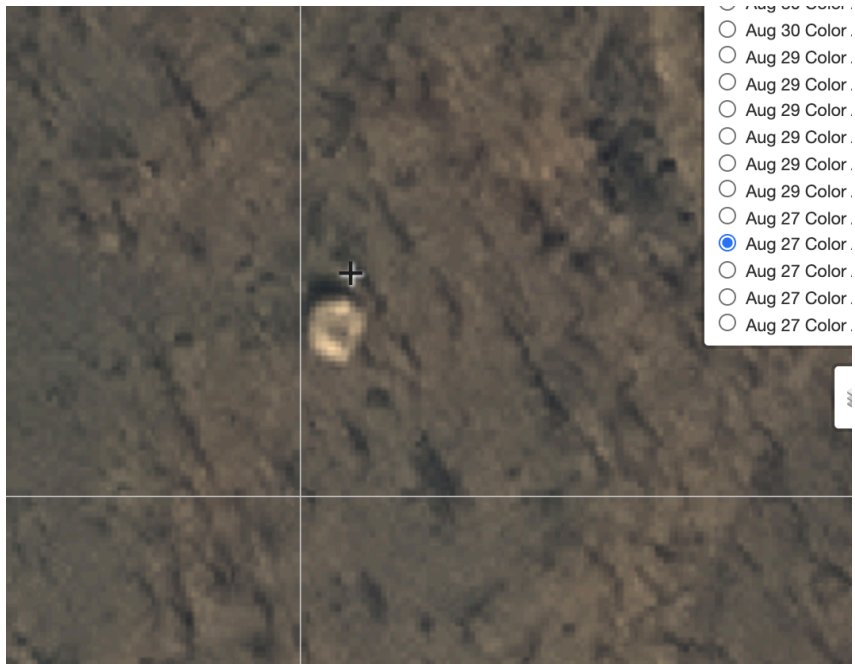


Ground truth, once were pulled out of the trees: turned out to be mylar. So close but alas....



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3. xcSkies image



GROUND TRUTH: giant boulder that moved

