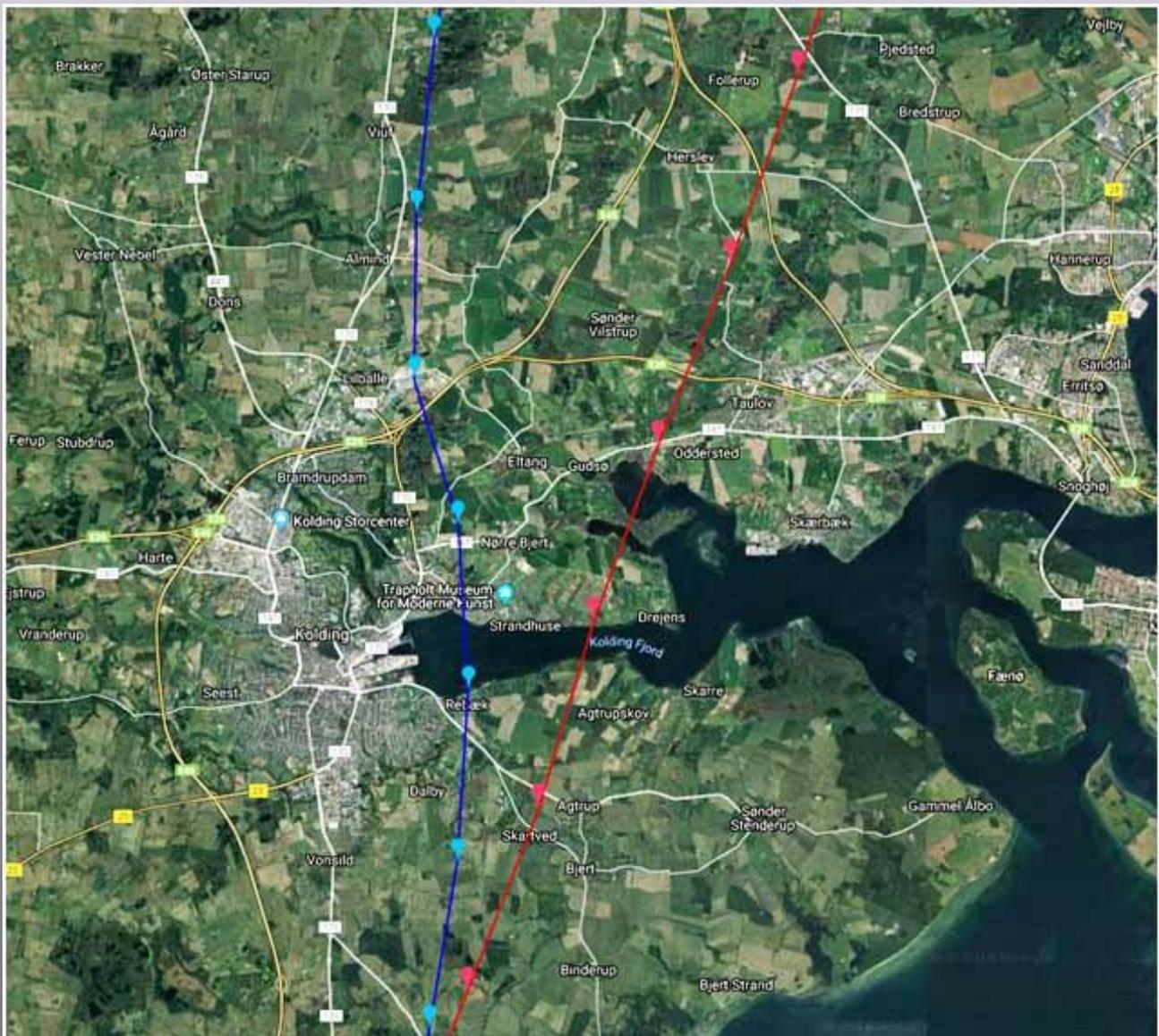


GPS in pigeon racing 2018- 2

Ove Fuglsang Jensen ©



2018 GPS in pigeon racing version 2

In this last part of GPS flights 2018, there are only in 3 racing days, and in some the race from Germany are missing. To choose a pigeon to have an GPS-ring on in a race, will always be a qualified guess, and the very best pigeons are not chosen to have a GPS-ring on, but the second best pigeons with some routine and experience. These pigeons are at least 2 years or more old. As seen I have only used one pigeon in one year, and never used GPS-rings in race for youngsters, as they can be lost. This season I have not lost an GPS-ring, and good for that because they cost 50 dollars.

GPS in the start

Sometimes the signal is not on when the GPS-ring are activated, but are active few minutes after release. The pigeon in a basket in the lorry, can be situated in the lorry in a way that the GPS-ring do not pick up the signal from the satellite before the pigeon are released.



The red pigeons GPS-ring pick up the signal in the lorry, while the blue pigeon pick up the signal 3 minutes after release.

Altona 21. July

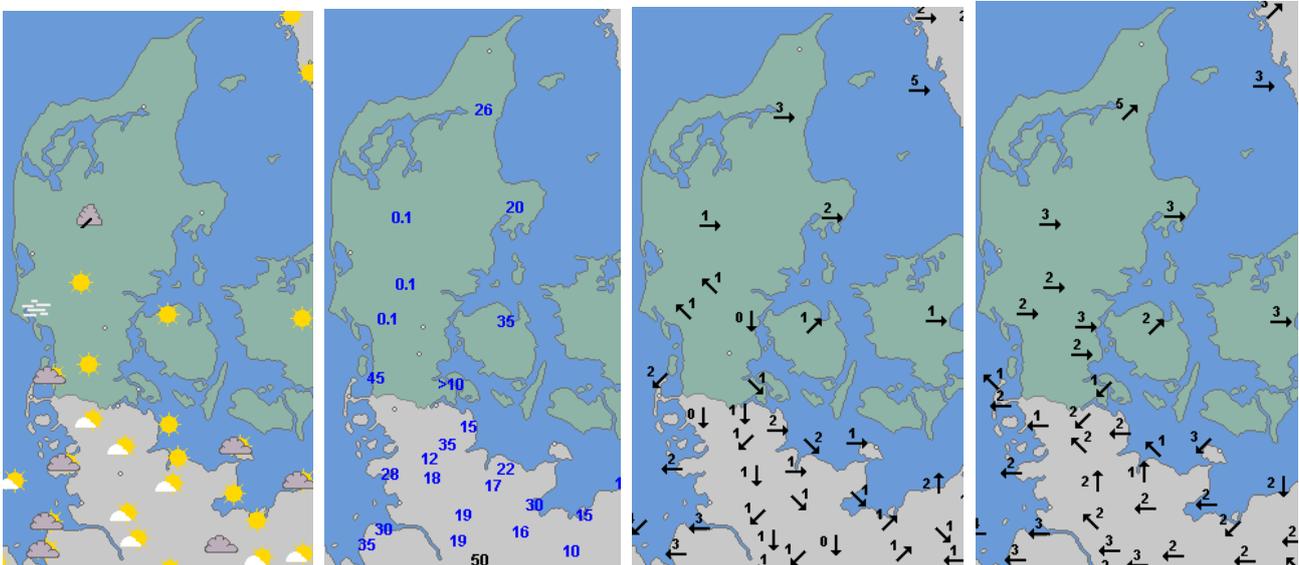


212-16-1917U - The father are Koopman- The mother inbred Vermote.

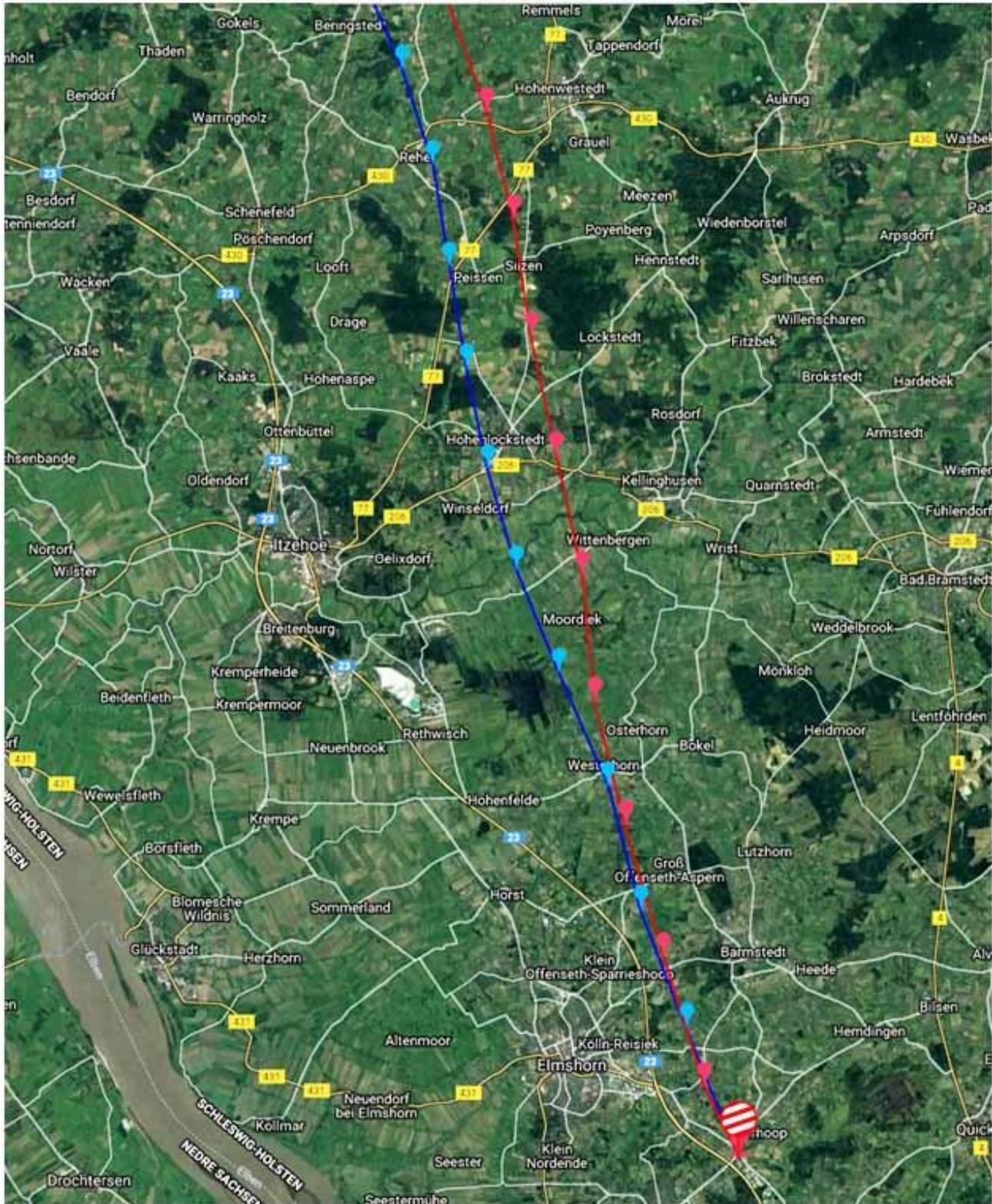


212-16-1677U. Delbar -Van riel

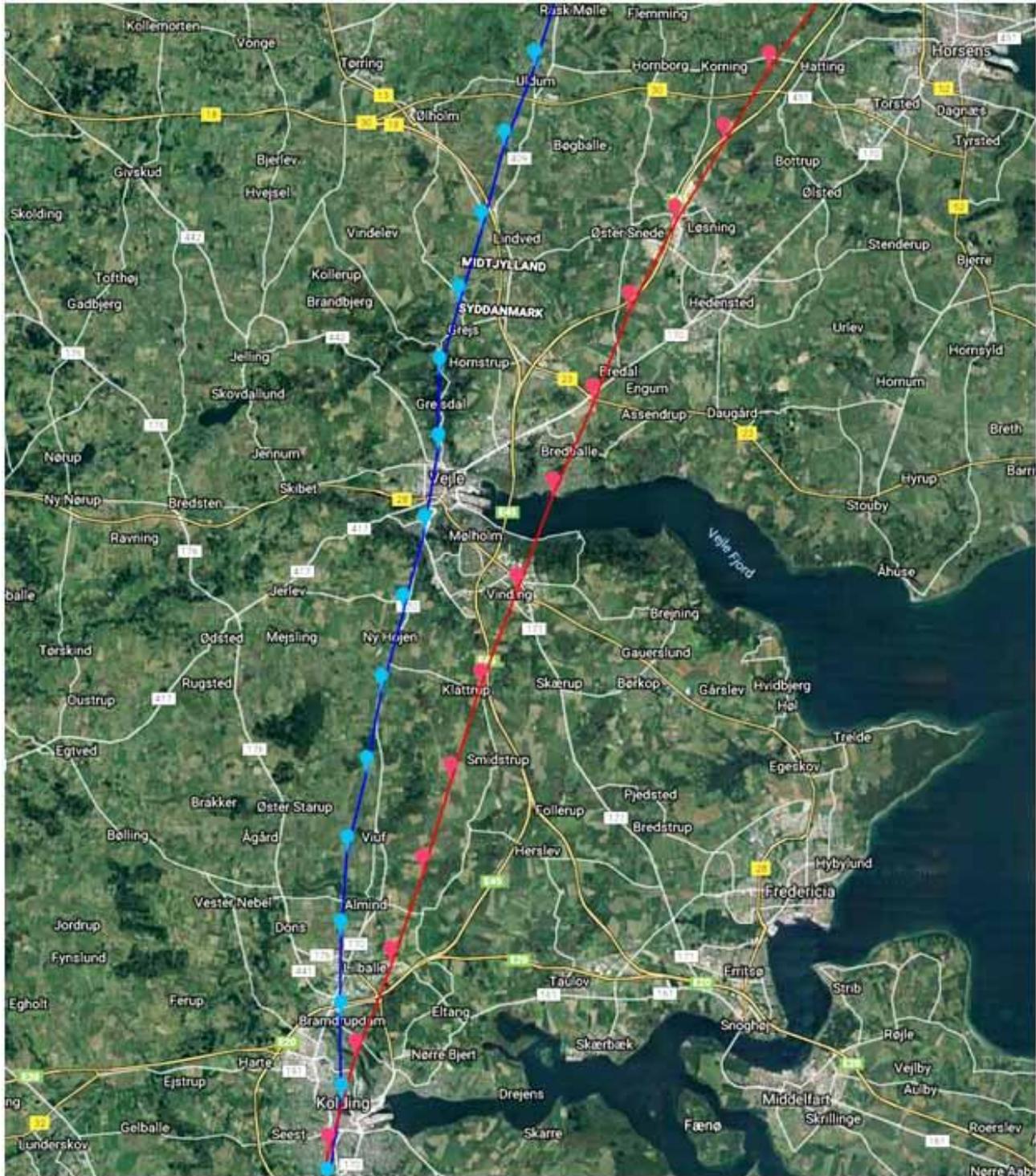
Weather 21. July 07.00am



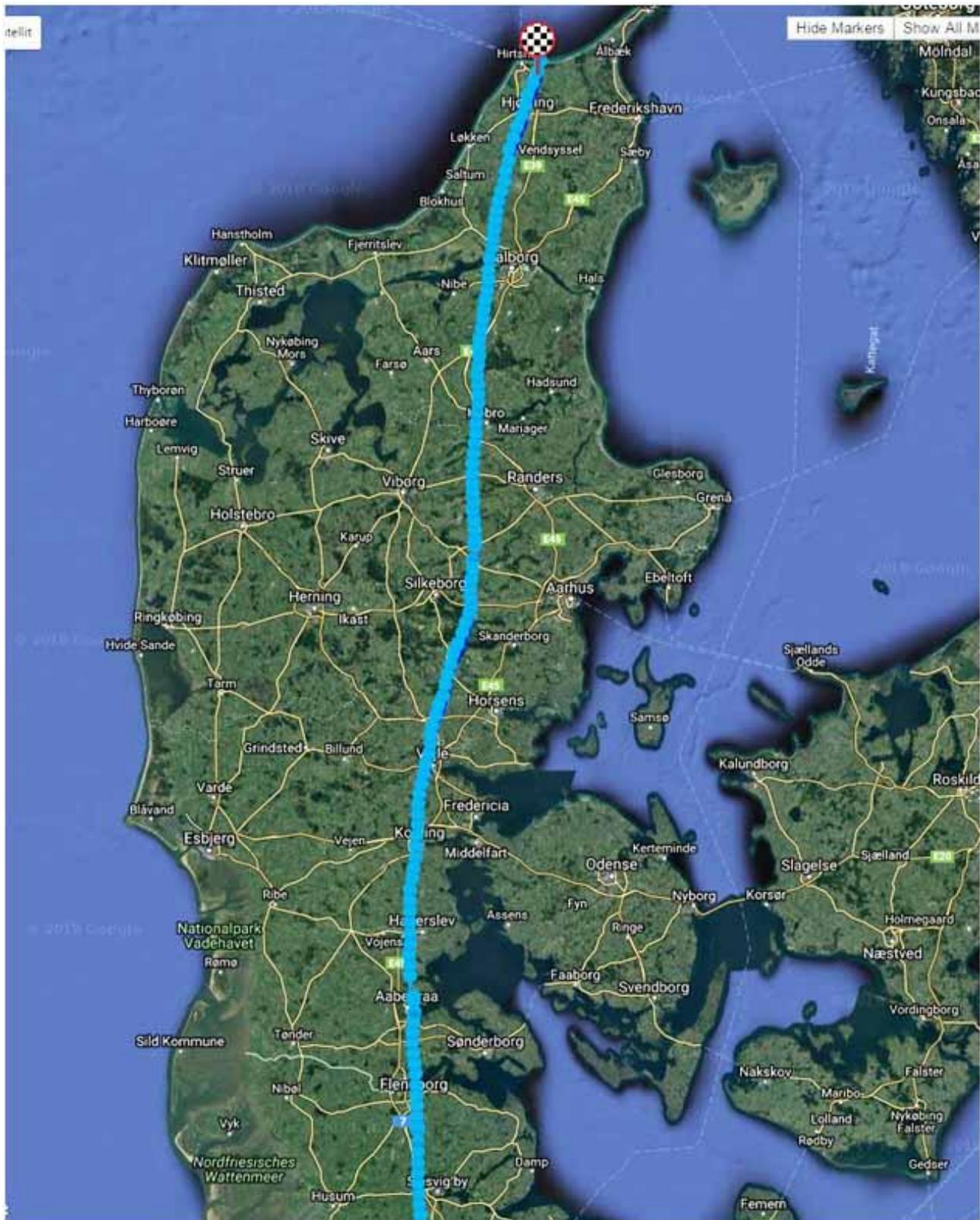
Partially cloudy, visibility good in Germany and Jylland east, bad visibility in Jylland west (100meters), lightly dispersed wind but west in north, 11 am the wind get fresh from west, a low pressure over Denmark east makes these winds.



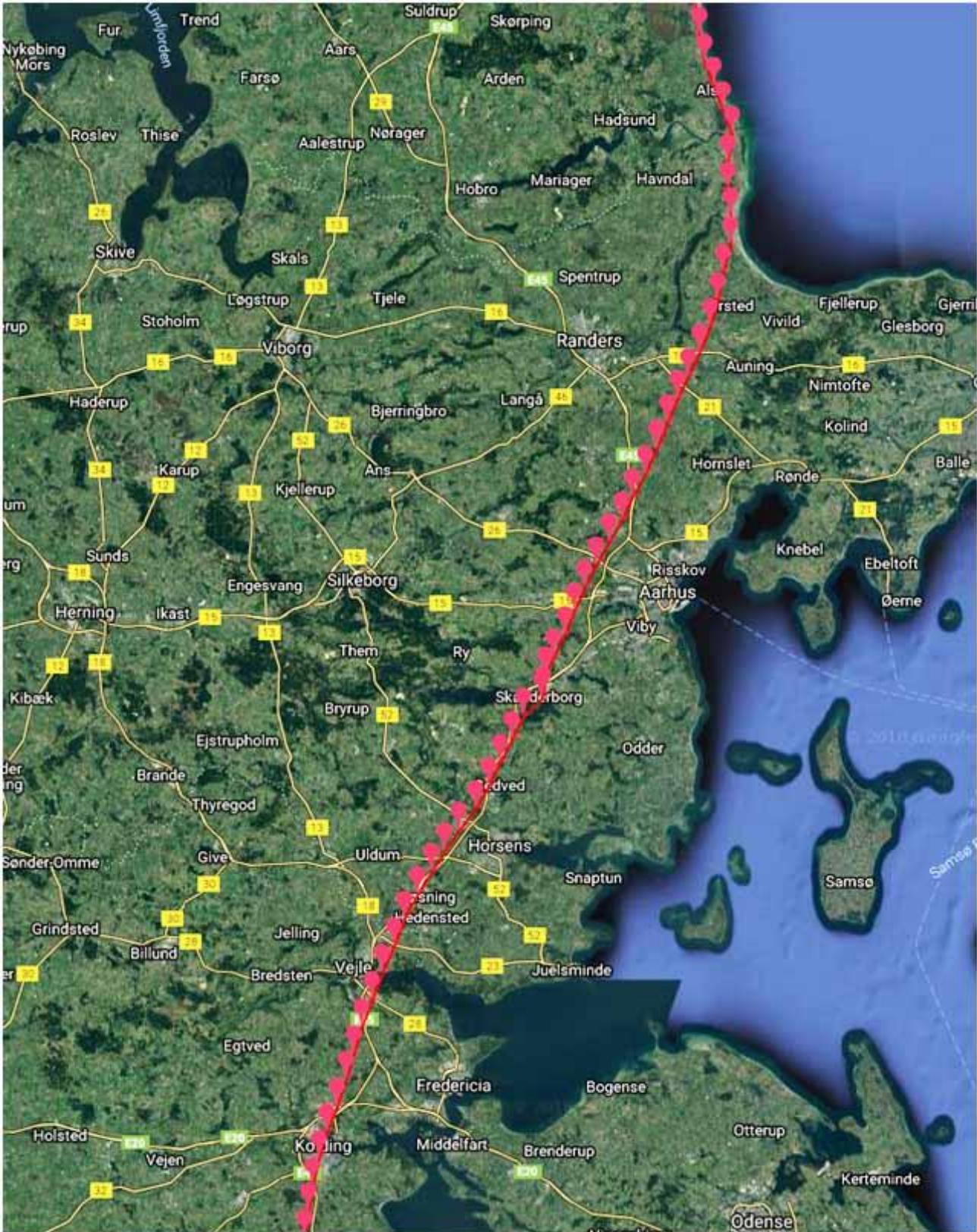
When released from Altona, the speed in the first stretching are relative high, where the blue pigeon reach 1662mpm. (100km/hour), and the red pigeon reach 1784mpm. (107km/hour). To gain that speed, the pigeons use their "high-speed-muscles" in a sort of explosion for a fast start.



The two hens takes the same route as far as the town of Kolding, where the flock they are in goes separate ways. The blue hen goes straight north, but the red hen takes a more easterly route. Let us take these routes separates!



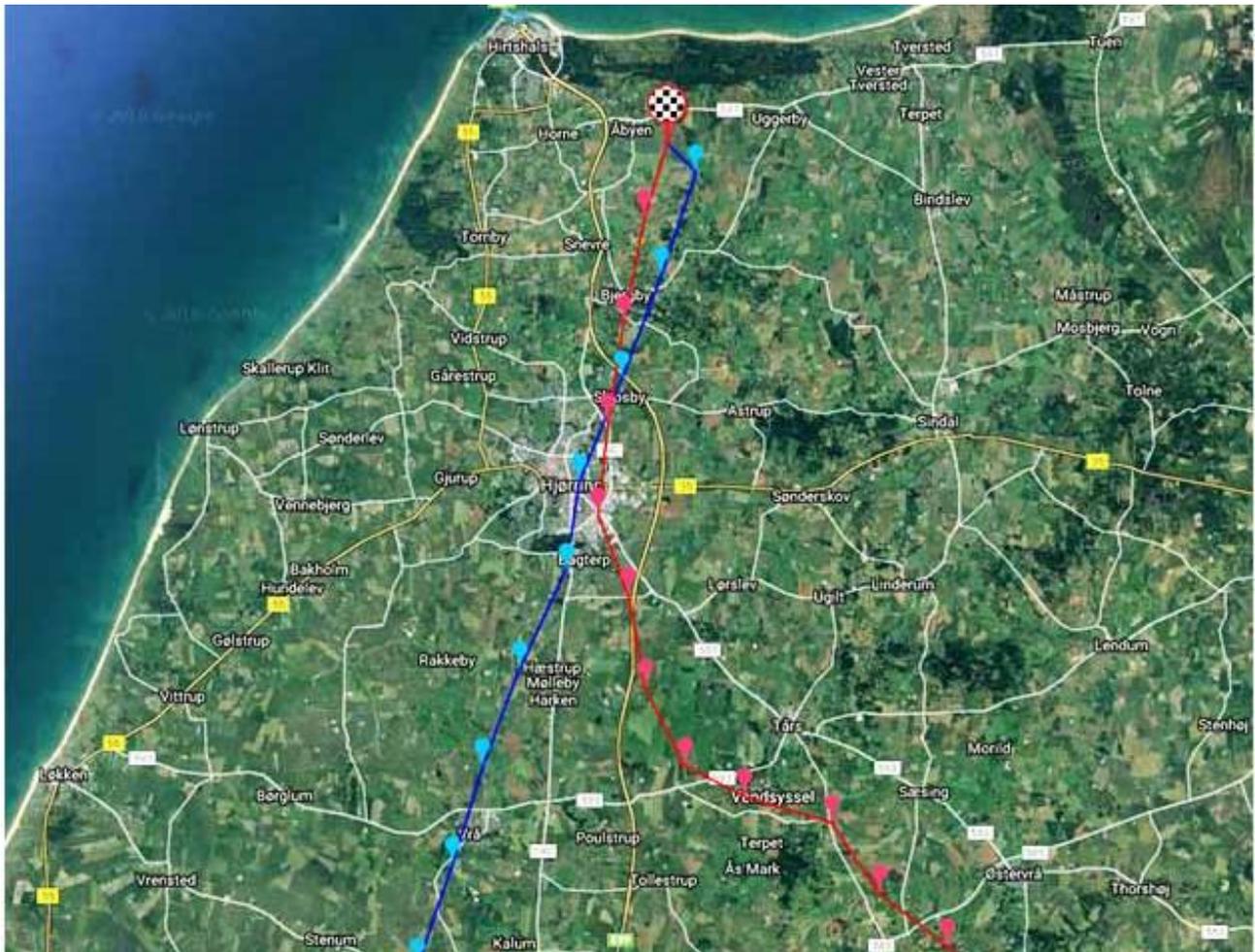
Blue pigeon 1677U follow the route to the loft in a straight line even if the wind from the west are heavy, which shows a good navigating. On the other hand, 1677U are too slow to have a place in the top, because the hen are not in a top shape.



Red pigeon 1917U seems to go the complete wrong way to the left, and this hen properly follow the wrong flock to the north.



North of the waterway Limfjorden, the red pigeon finds itself too easterly, and turn northwest to the town of Hjørring. This hen has properly followed a flock of pigeons going to the eastside of Jylland, but realize the wrong bearing and turn northwest.



Both hens are 2 years old, but 1677U are born in early spring, and 1917U are born late summer. Therefore 1917U do not have the experience as the elderly 1677U have. The red pigeon take a route past Hjørring, which properly are together with pigeons from this area.

Download ruterne Altona 21. July

Blå rute 212-16-1677U:

<https://skyleader.com.tw/share/20180815Cc375j>

Rød rute 212-16-1671U:

<https://skyleader.com.tw/share/20180815L1rF7H>

Det kan ikke lade sig gøre at vise Blå og Rød rute i samme fil!

Vamdrup 21. July

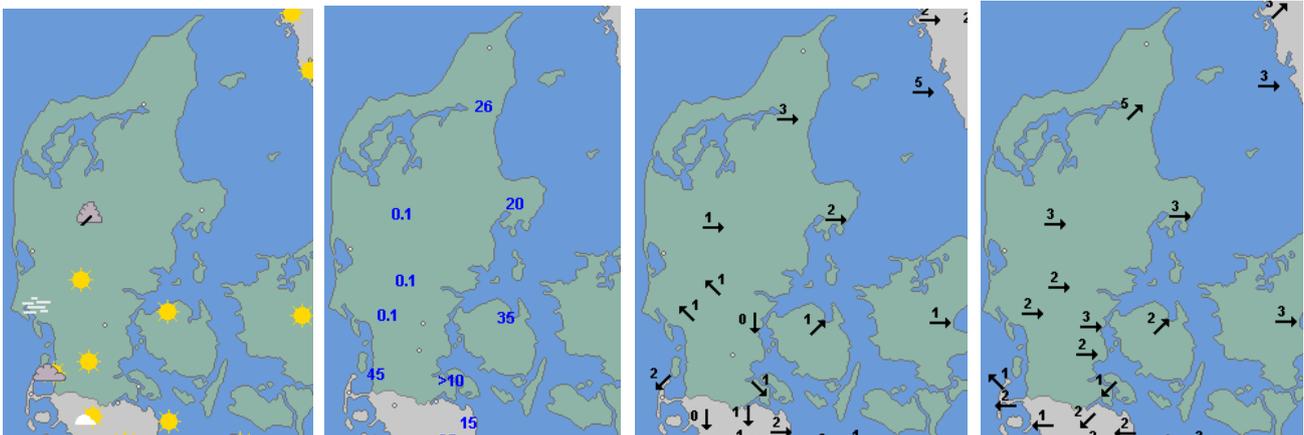


212-16-1694A Fuglsang breed

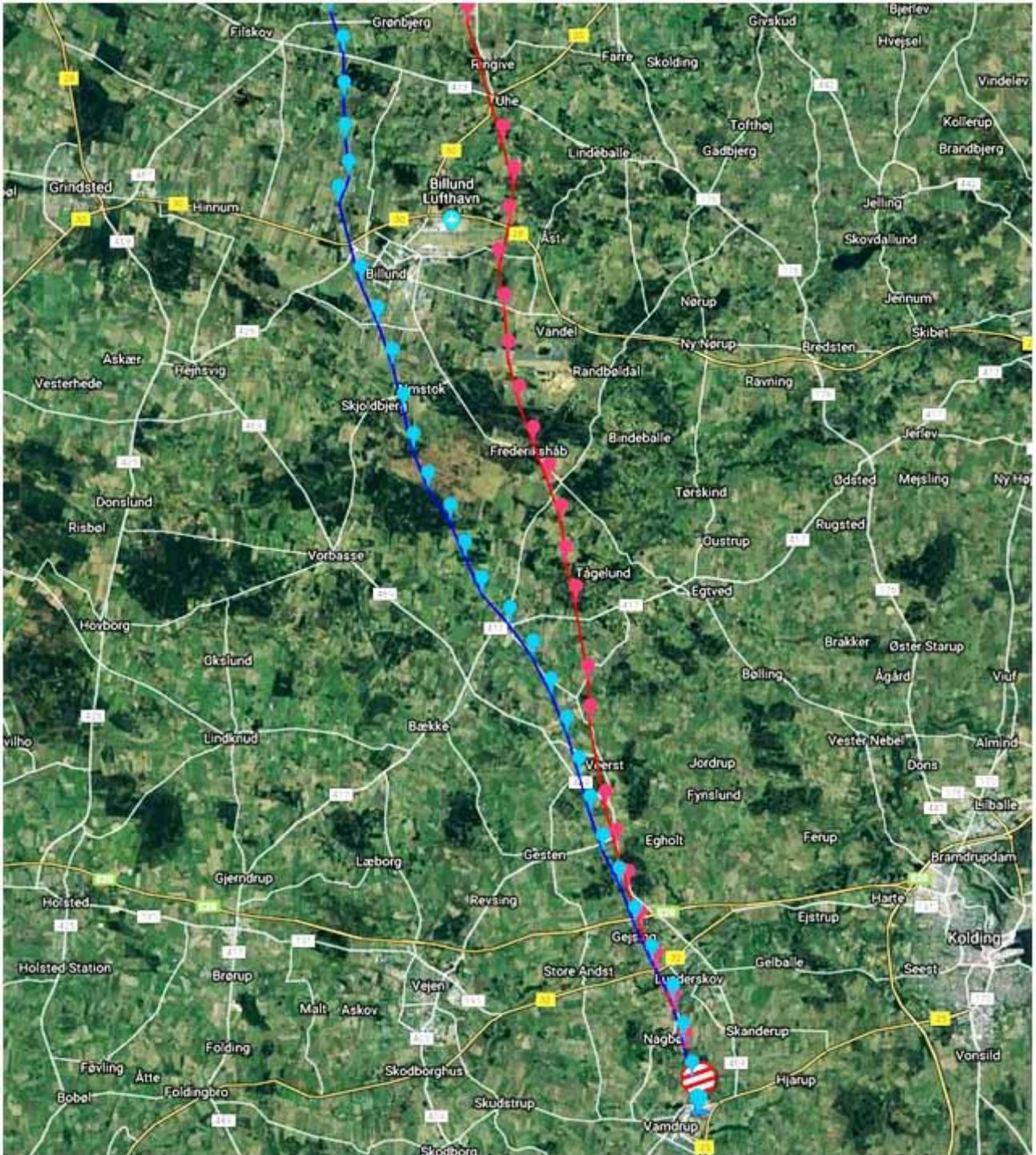


212-17-0048U Koopman - Vermote

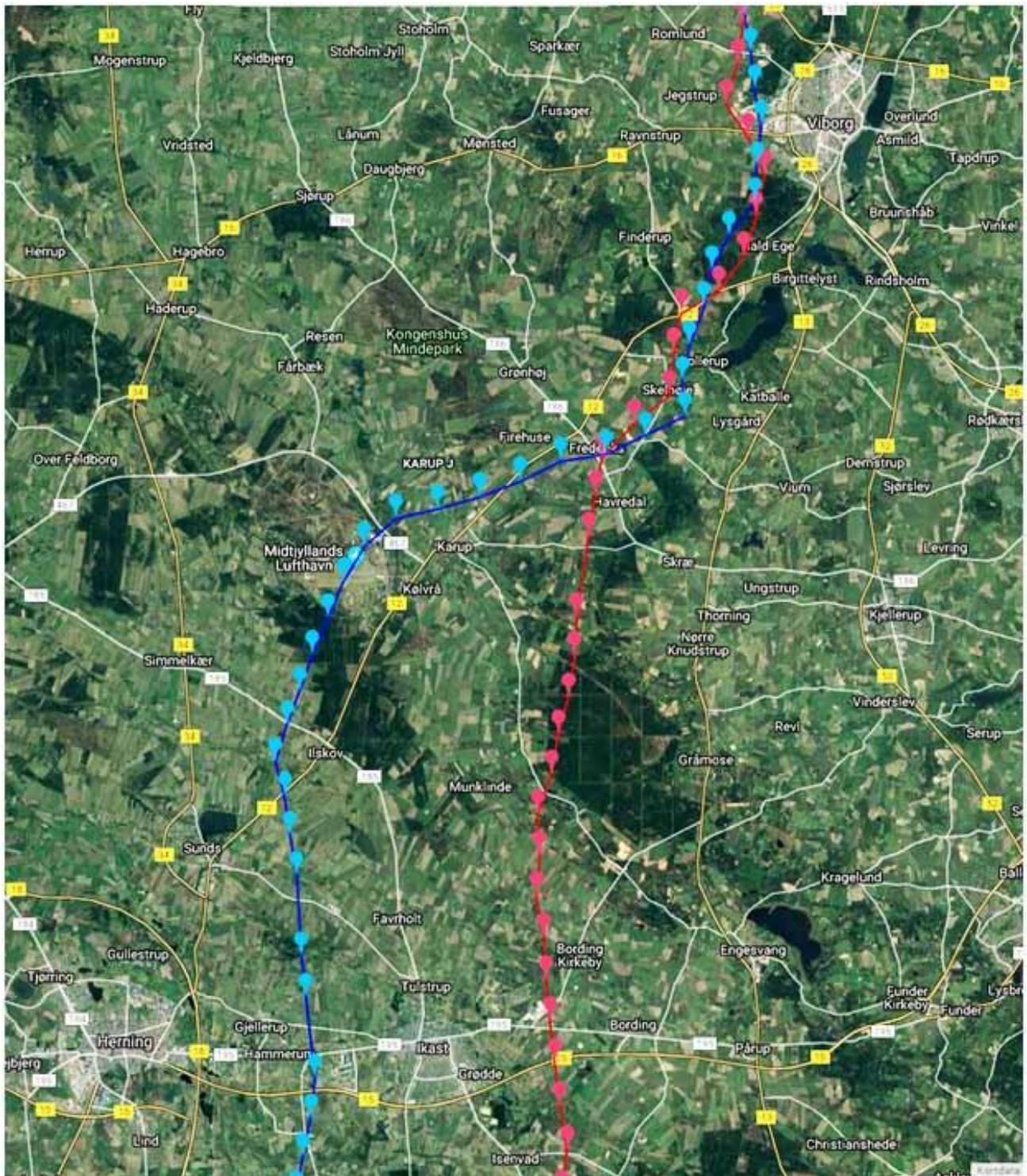
Weather 21. July 7.00am



Partially cloudy, visibility good in Germany and Jylland east, bad visibility in Jylland west (100meters), lightly dispersed wind but west in north, 11 am the wind get fresh from west, a low pressure over Denmark east makes these winds.



After release the speed are moderate 12-1300mpm., but later on speed of over 1400mpm. are achieved. Each of the two pigeons are here following a different flock of pigeons than the other one. Let us see what happens further on the route!



The blue pigeon takes a bearing more to the west than red pigeon, the blue pigeon are as west as the town of Herning, where the red pigeon are in a flock going in a more direct line to the loft. South of the town of Viborg, the blue pigeon suddenly takes a turning to the east and cross the route of the red pigeon. However it is too late for blue pigeon, because it is 9-10 minutes behind the red pigeon, and this was the result of the race.



Of importance to notice in this pigeon race, are the fact that the winds always play a role in where the flock of pigeon make their routes. The winds in the release site are weak winds from the north and southeast, which makes the routes of the pigeons in the center of Jylland. Even if the wind in the north are even to fresh from the west, the flocks of pigeon keeps a steady bearing and the routes are in the western part of the northern region. To look at the routes, one should think there are easterly winds!

We can learn from this pigeon race, that the wind are important for a race, but when the pigeons get a good bearing they follow this bearing even if the wind are fresh from west.

Download routes Vamdrup 21. July

Blå due 212-16-1694A:

<https://skyleader.com.tw/share/20180817jGF2mp>

Rød due 212-17-0048A:

<https://skyleader.com.tw/share/20180721yydbse>

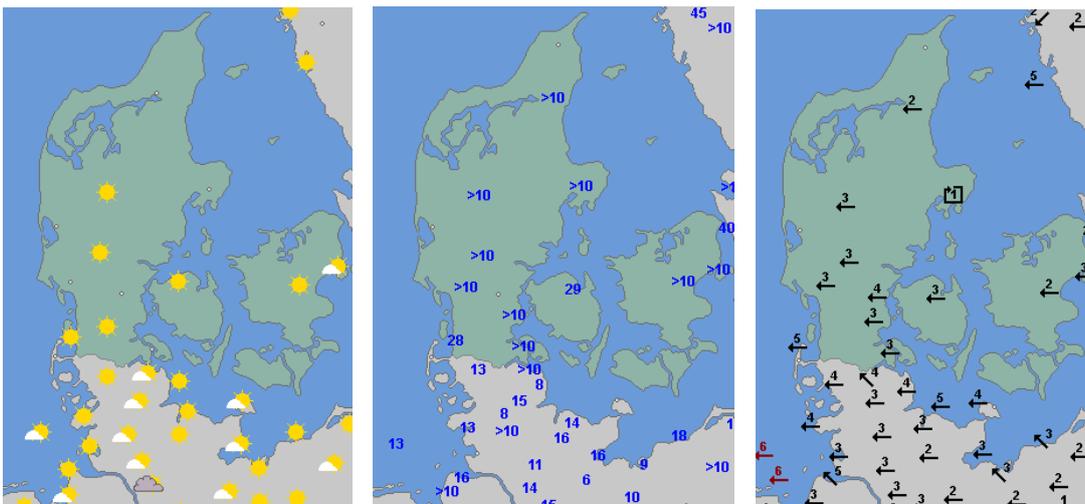
Husum 28. July



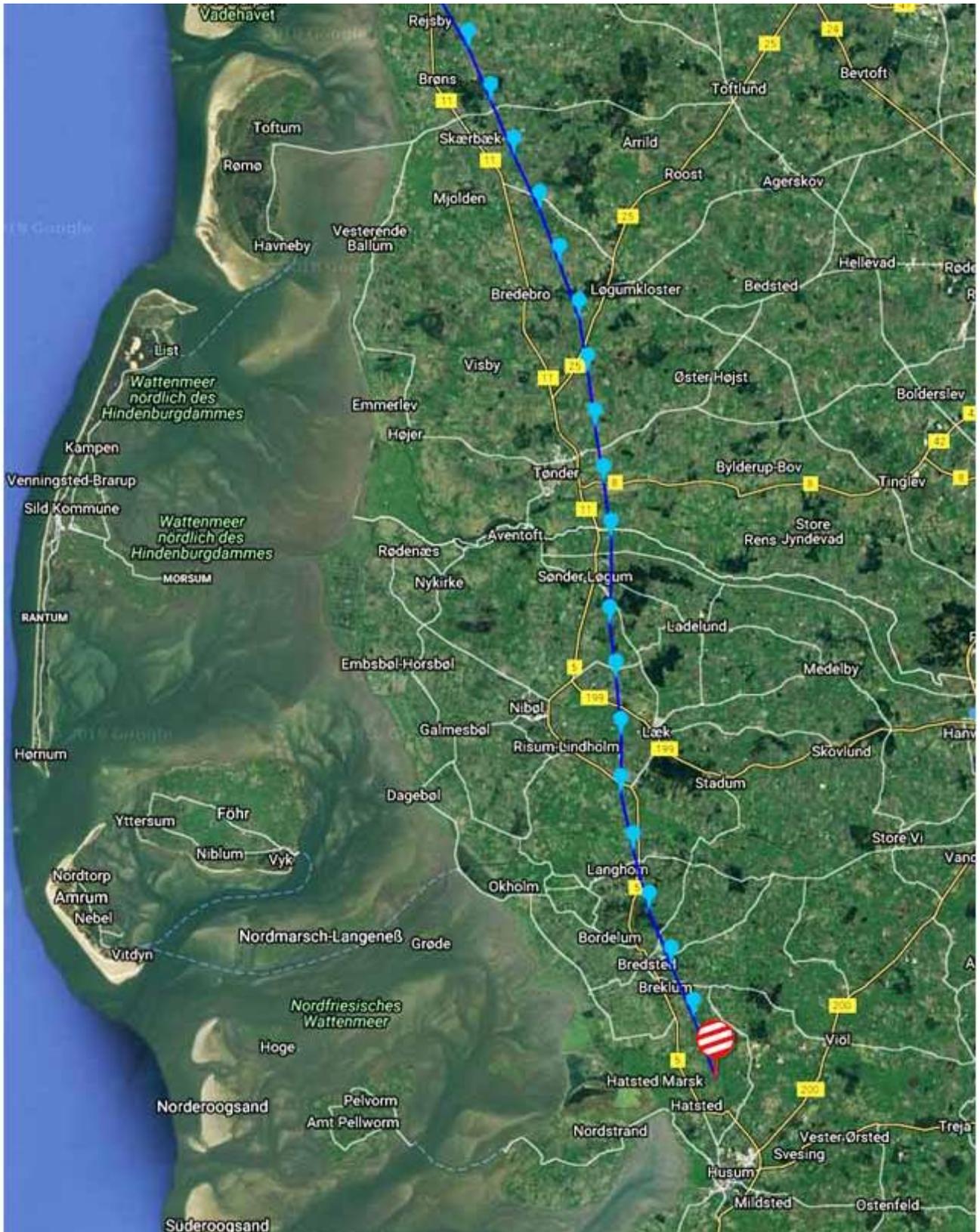
212-16-1671U.
Fuglsang breed.

This hen are a very stable racer, and have the advantage not to have any trouble to wear a GPS-ring, which is a good thing if a pigeon are used for a GPS-race. .

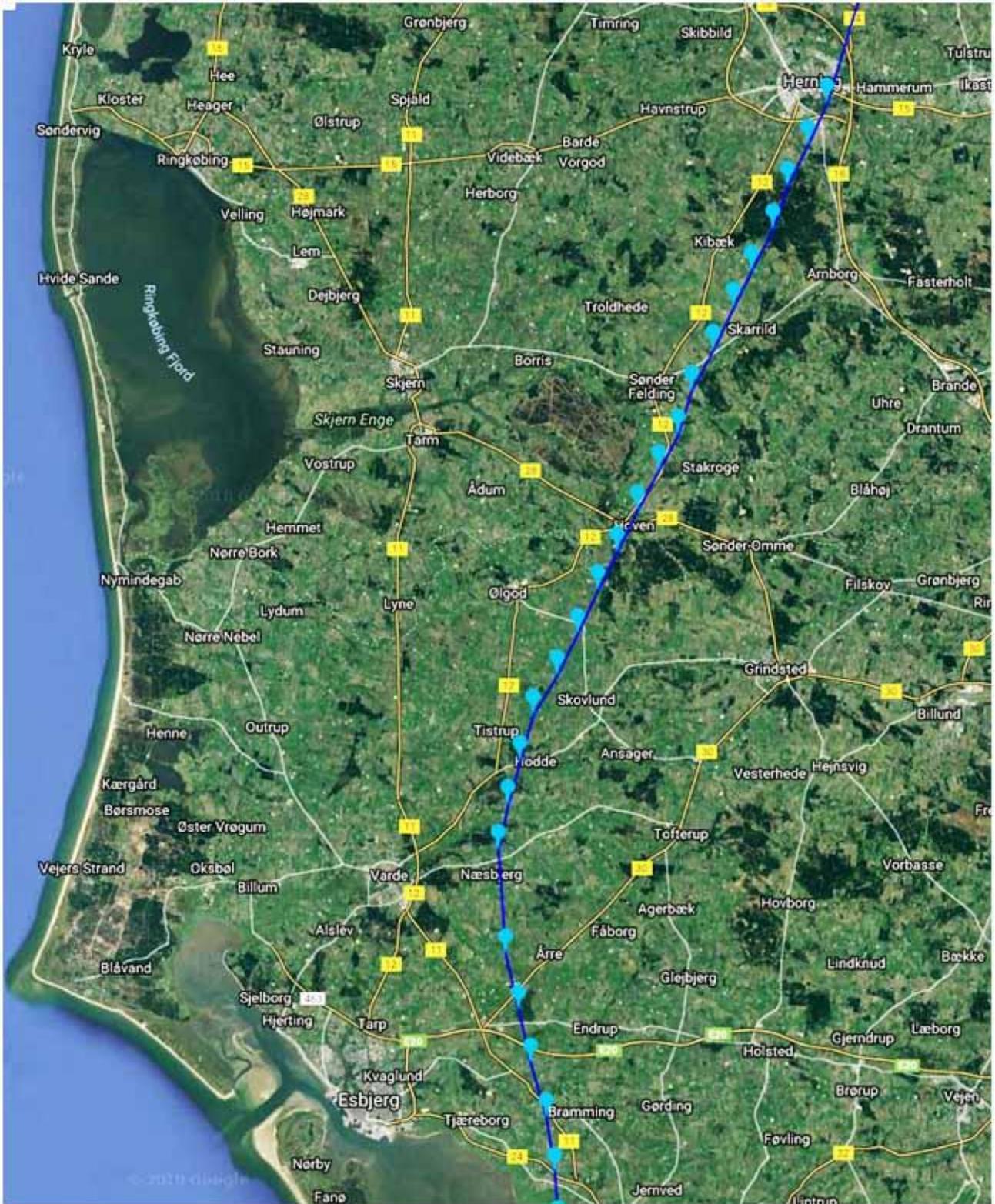
Weather 28. July 06.30am



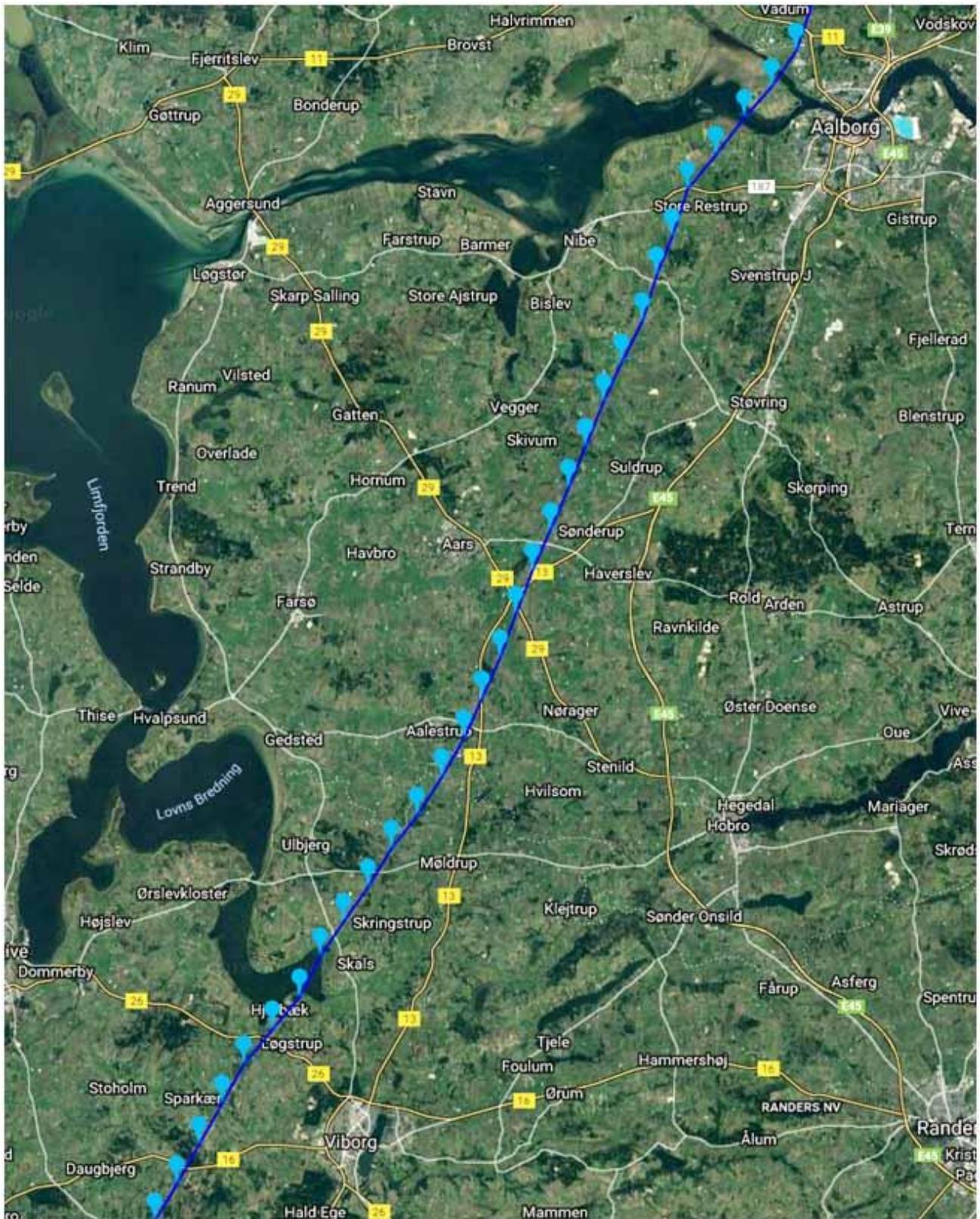
Weather partially cloudy, visibility good, light to smooth wind from east



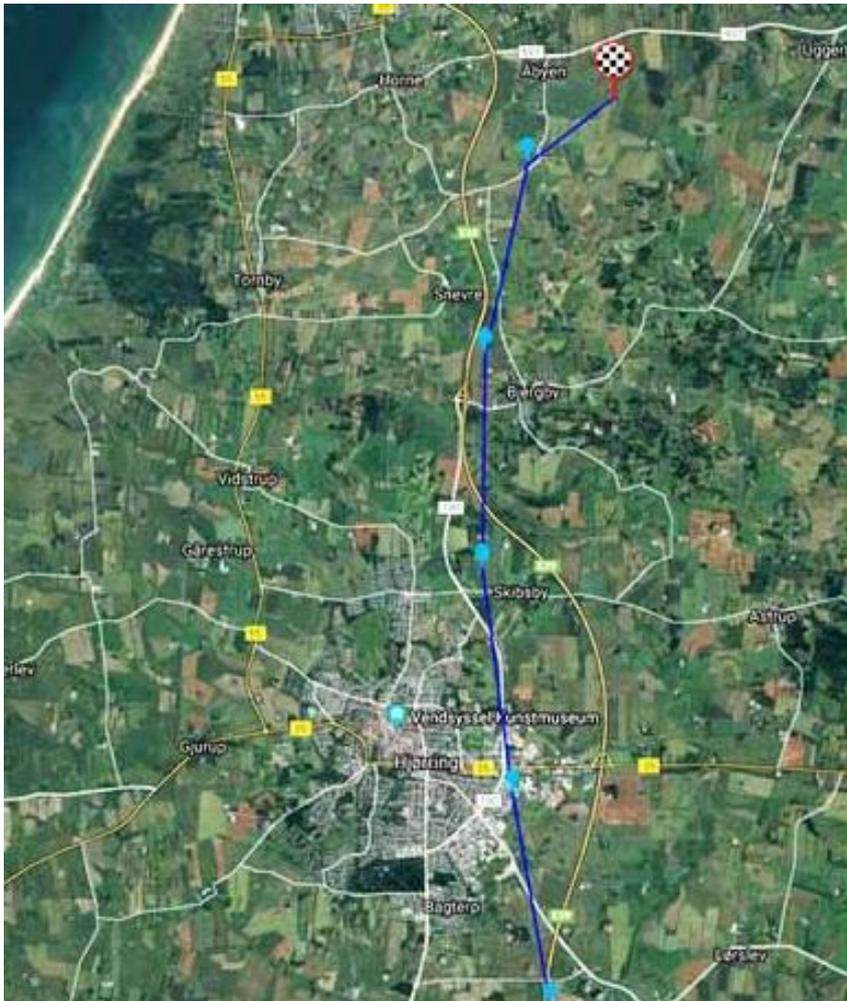
Start after release goes up to 1400mpm., and notice that the height of the route here in the very flat landscape without trees, many places are 7-14 meters over the landscape.



East of the town Esbjerg, the route goes northeast against the town of Herning. In general the flying height are 30-50 meters and the speed on average 1100mpm.



From Herning the route goes west of Viborg and towards the bigger town Ålborg. The speed in average can be 1000mpm., but sometimes under that speed. Notice that the pigeon goes very low over the water west of Ålborg.



As seen in the GPS-routes, I live north of a larger town Hjørring, and it is not unusual that my pigeon follow pigeons who have the lofts in Hjørring. Are their many pigeons in a race, the individual pigeon will have a trend to follow the flock, until it has to "break out" of the flock and head for the loft. The outcome of a race can depend of where the individual fancier lives, but also how willing the individual pigeon "breaks out" from the flock.

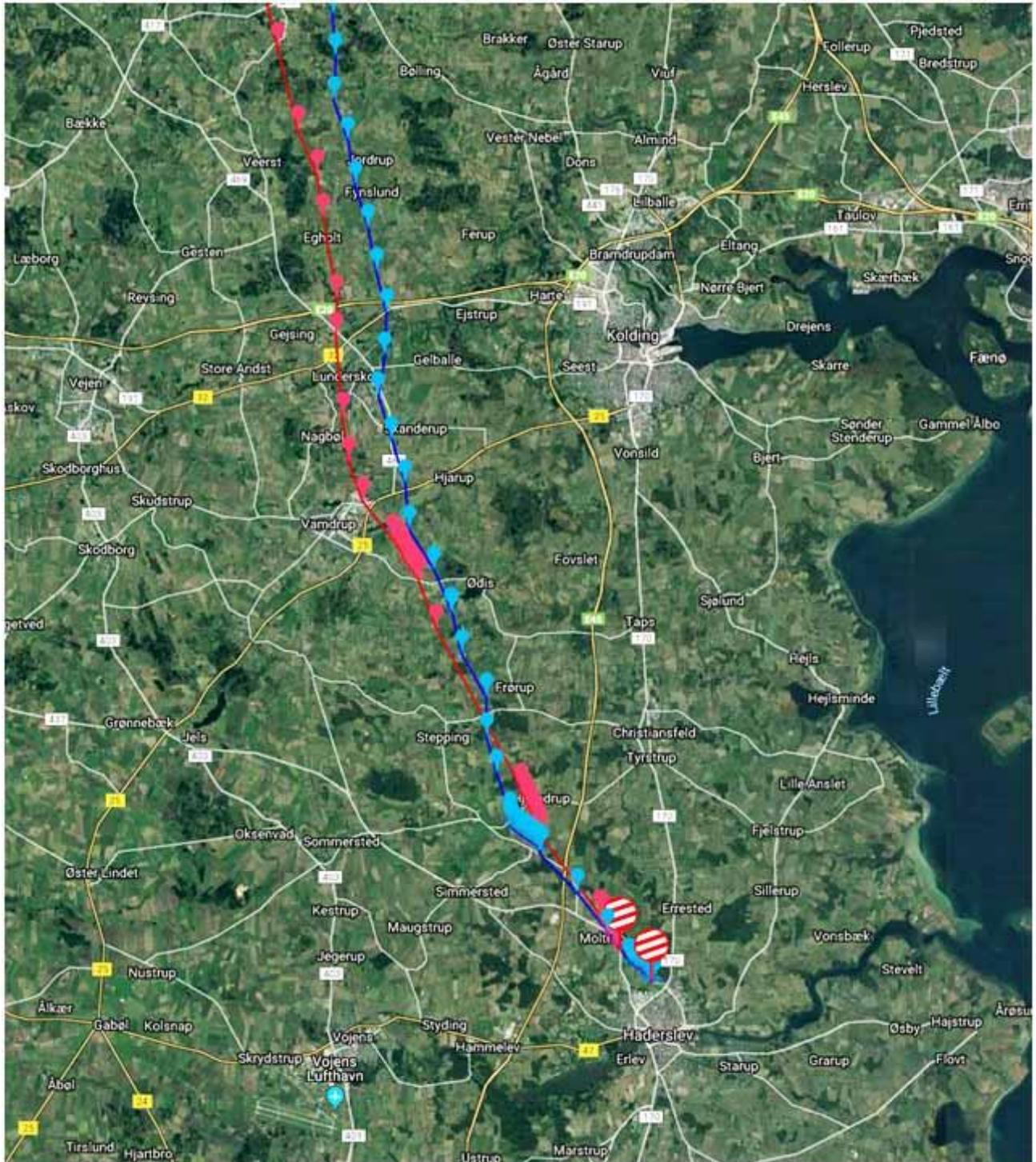


Here one can see the pigeon crossing the water very low and also crossing the landing fields of the airport very low.

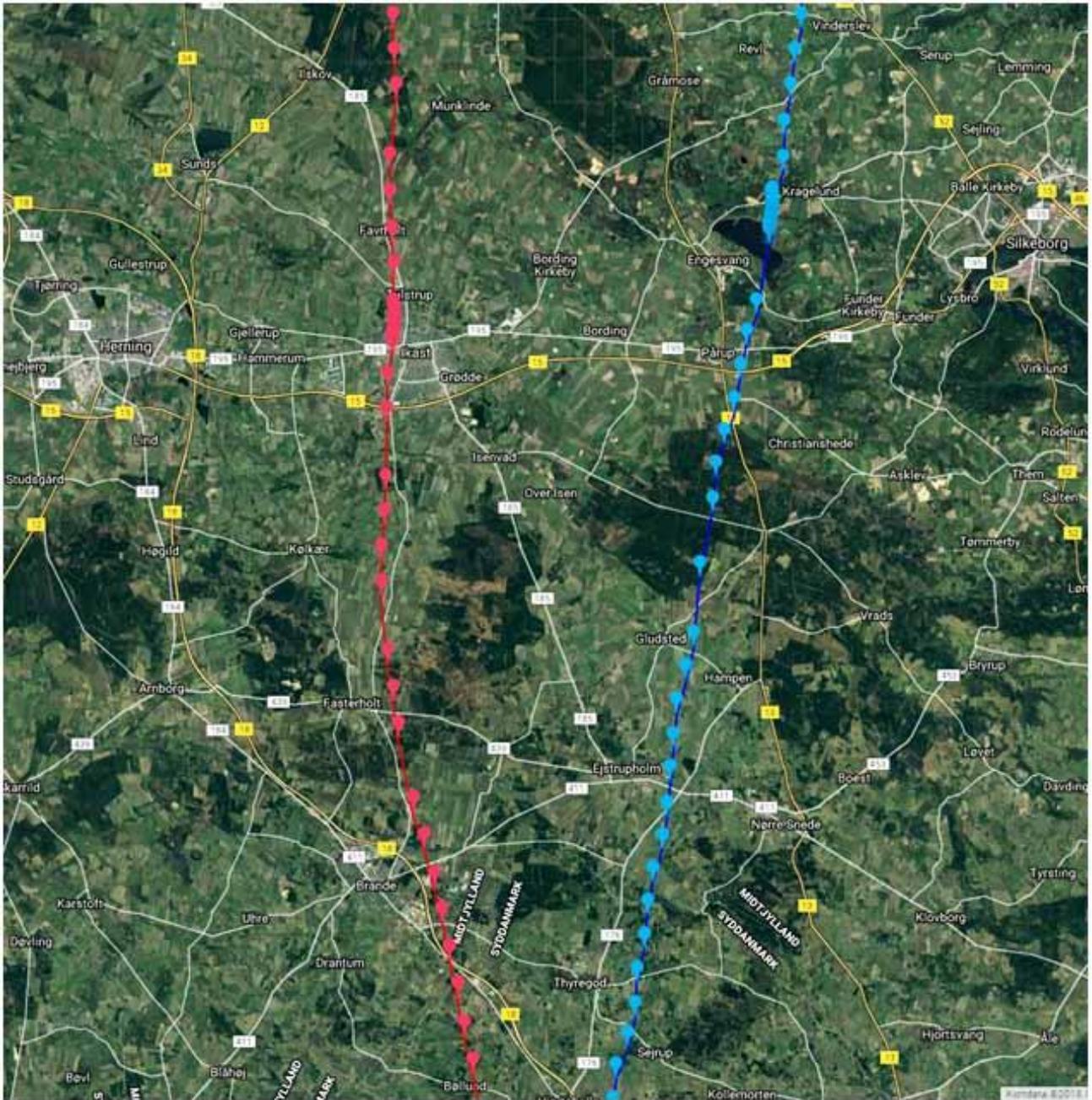
Download route Husum 28. July

Blue route for 212-16-1671U:

<https://skyleader.com.tw/share/20180819UqNDwy>



When the start goes from the baskets the speed of the pigeons are after a few kilometers very fast. The cock 0048 achieve the highest speed with 1875mpm. (112km/hour). The two flocks which the two cocks are following, goes at the same path over Vamdrup and west of Kolding.



The two flocks of pigeons, takes a different bearing on the way north, where the blue pigeon takes a more straight bearing to the loft, whereas the red pigeon seems to go much too the west, and it can be due to the easterly wind pressing the flock towards the west. The GPS-ring on the red pigeon loose the contact with the satellite for an hour, and I have never seen that before and do not know the reason.



North of the waterway Limfjorden, it is obvious that the red pigeon has lost at least 15 minutes to the blue pigeon, and the reason is of course that the blue pigeon has a more straight and correct bearing to the loft, and that will save time.

This race in easterly winds are typically for the trends in easterly winds, where the pigeon flock goes west of Ålborg. In all pigeon races the wind definitely is of big importance, but if an individual pigeon shall reach its loft in shortest time, it has to compensate for the wind and find a good bearing. The good pigeon finds a good bearing and the bad pigeon just follows the wind too much and will hereby lose the race.

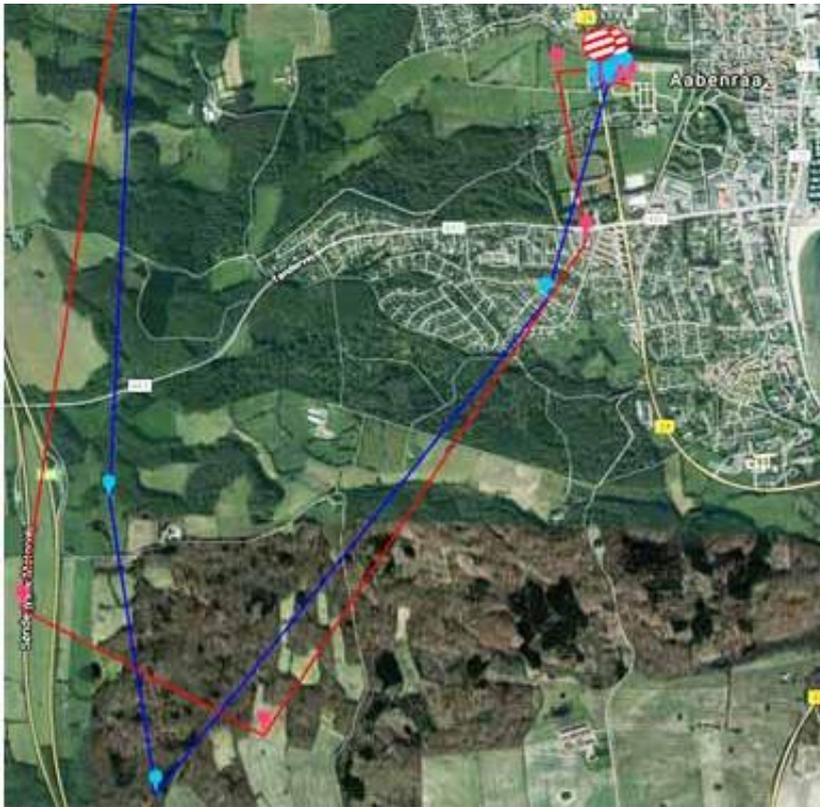
Download routes Haderslev 28. July

Blå rute for 212-17-0048A:

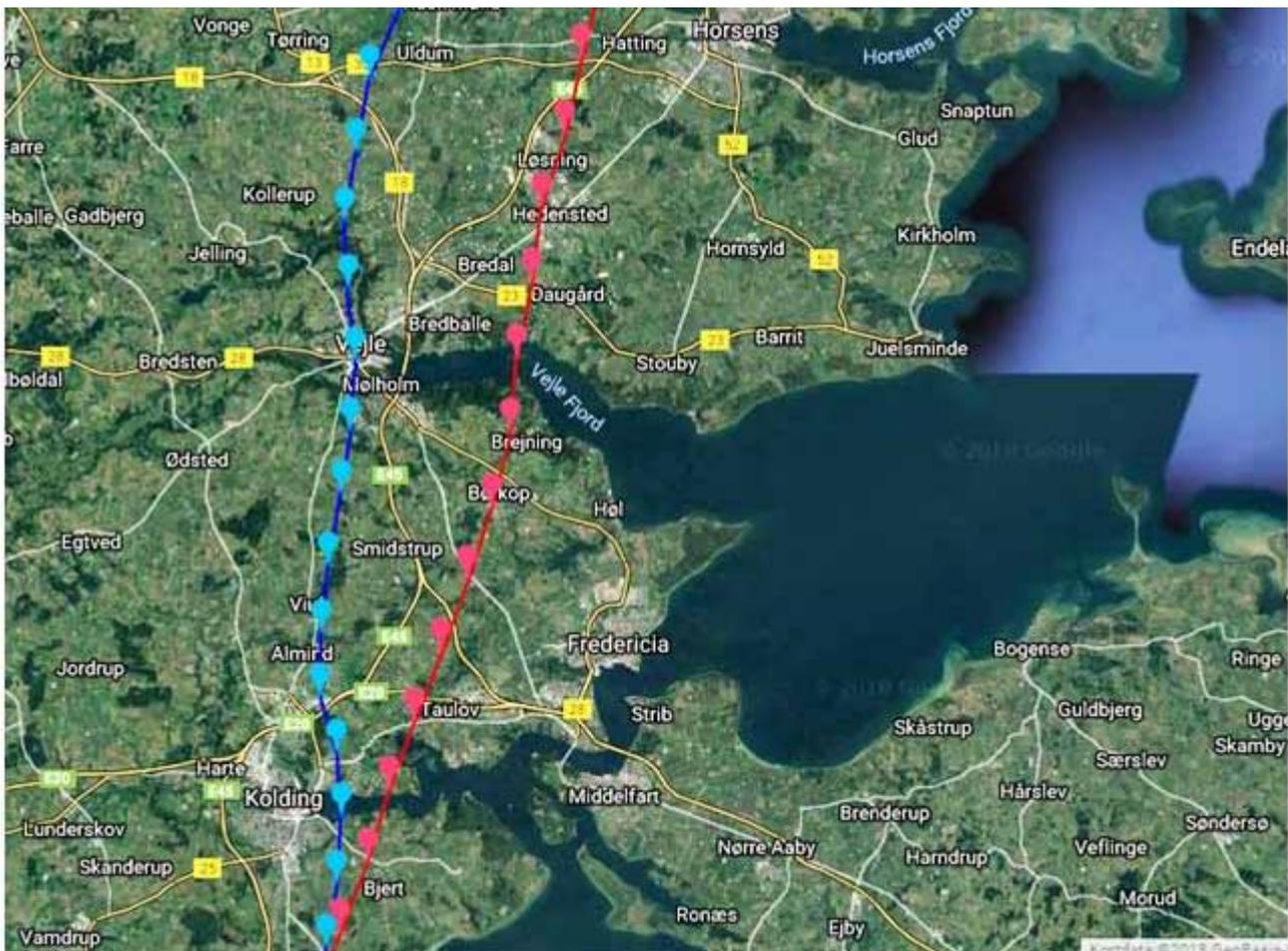
<https://skyleader.com.tw/share/20180821jN0dRT>

Rød rute for 212-15-1367A:

<https://skyleader.com.tw/share/20180821d0oePo>



The releasesite are in the middle of the town, and it looks like the flocks of pigeons goes southwest, and then turn against the north in the right direction. Doing this manevre the pigeons goes 300 meters up, but the speed are moderate 12-1300mpm. In the picture below the two pigeons are in 2 flocks going in different direction to the north, where blue pigeon goes more to the west.





These parts of the routes for the two pigeons are very interesting because they use different strategy on the way: Blue pigeon are crossing the big forest of Rold Skov in the height of 100 meters and further north passes the bigger town of Ålborg in 65 meters height. The red pigeon goes more easterly and sometimes go to 100 meters of height, but when it arrives to the waterway of Limfjorden, the pigeon goes very low to 2-6 meters over the water and fields along the fjord. *A racing pigeon will always adjust the flying height after the landscape it is flying in.*



In the last part of the routes, the two pigeons routes are crossing, and one can wonder why the blue pigeon takes a turn to the east (the battery runs out of power in the blue pigeon). The red pigeon takes a bend and in same time go to 157 meters of height. The blue pigeon arrived 10 minutes before the red pigeon.

Download routes Åbenrå 4, August

Blå rute for 212-17-0048A:

<https://skyleader.com.tw/share/20180805MfDMci>

Rød rute for 212-16-1917U:

<https://skyleader.com.tw/share/20180822zx8xTG>

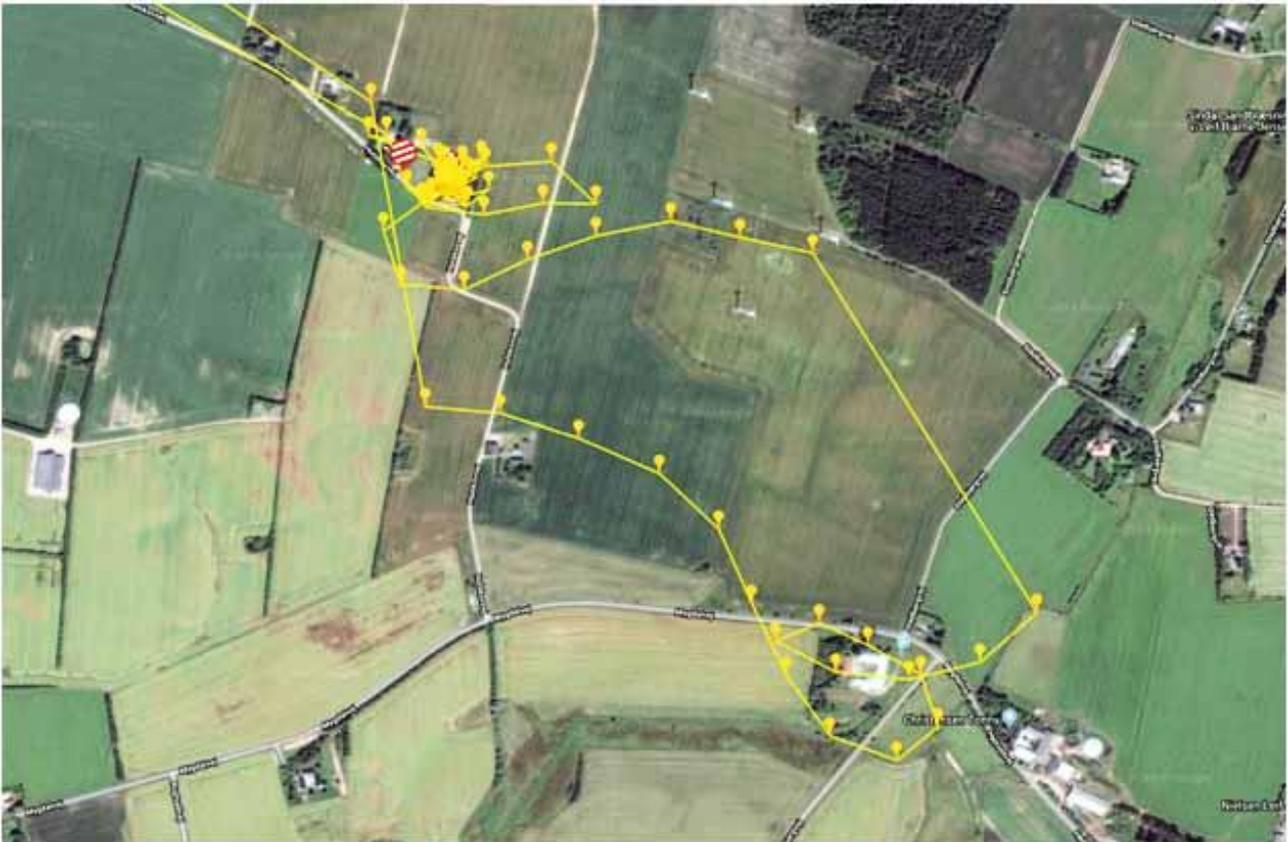
Youngsters around the loft 30. July

Where do the youngsters go?

It is often heard from fanciers to comment on their youngsters flying away from the loft - where do they go?

In experiments in the 1970's it was proved that racing pigeons could navigate back to the loft blindfolded with frosted lenses, but they could not navigate the last 5-10kilometers which shall be done visual. The youngster natural instinct urge them to explore the surroundings of the loft, and will in that way help the youngsters to navigate all the way to the loft when the first tossing are actual. A racing pigeon knows the landscape around the loft in detail: They know every building, every tree, forest, lakes, hilltop etc.

This flock of youngsters have been trained 6 times and they know the landscape well already.



The first trip goes to a farm nearby, which they mean to have a closer look.



The next trip is longer and last over 20 minutes. At first the route goes northwest to the loft of Søren Jensen and further on to the small town of Horne where the flock passes the loft of Herluf Jensen. The trip proceed to the west and goes to the coast and into the forest and after that the flock turn back and passes in Horne the loft of Johannes Bæk and the flock proceed back to the their own loft. The route have a length of 30 kilometers and have 3 visits to other lofts and at the coast and forest - hope the youngsters have learned something!

Download youngsters around loft 30. July

Youngster 212-18-0161 - Megens:

<https://skyleader.com.tw/share/20180822GGk8vW>

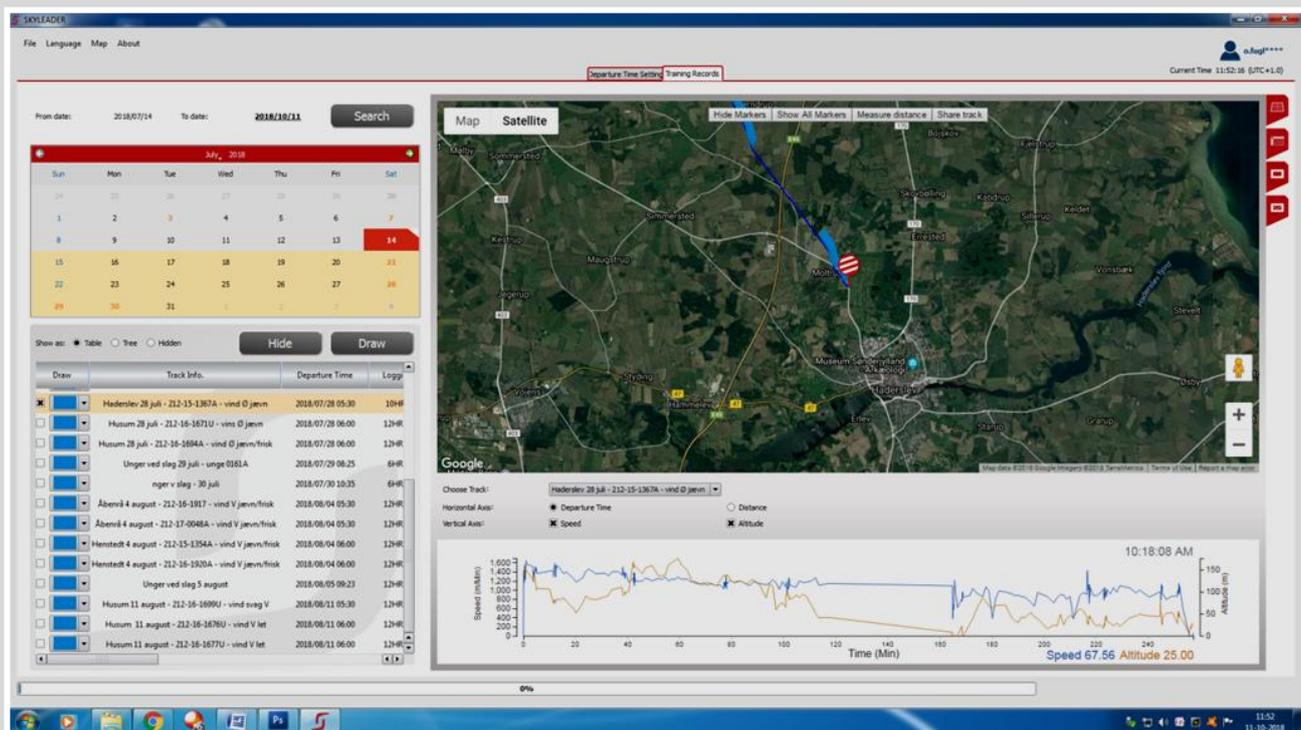
GPS-rings on your own pigeon?

Sky-leader GPS system are easy

The GPS-routes shown in this article are Sky-leader version 4, and the GPS-ring fits on top of the pigeons ring on the right leg (ring with number).

To start up the ring for a race one just set the date and time to start and thereafter set the number of hours. It is best to set time ½ hour before the suspected release and also give the number of hours additional.

When the pigeon returns home just take the data in ringreader (are battery runned down just put a new loaded battery on). There is a box where the text for the track are written: Releasesite - date - pigeon number - weather and this text follow the track in the set up in the program. Later on it is easy to find a specific race and pigeon.



At the bottom left many of my GPS-tracks are listed as described.

Address website Sky-leader:

<http://www.sky-leader.com/>