**STAGE FLASH**

**Date: 25 April 2021**

**Day: 4 Flash N°: 21**

**Special stage: SS20 Zagorska Sela – Kumrovec 2 Distance: 14.09 km**

**Weather: Bright, blue skies, 18 degrees**

**Road conditions: Dry, largely clean but gravel dragged onto road in some sections**

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**Car #7. PIERRE-LOUIS LOUBET/VINCENT LANDAIS**

“Unfortunately, with my mistake of yesterday we missed a good result. I’m sure the luck will turn. I have to work on it. Anyway, thanks to the team we could come back to learn but we didn’t push too much. Thanks to them they did a fantastic job to repair the car yesterday and thanks to my gravel crew. It was a nice job so thank you.”

**Car #42. CRAIG BREEN/PAUL NAGLE**

“Yesterday morning was such a disappointment, 100 metres into the day and already it was game over. It was difficult to really go at 150 per cent on those tricky stages but, okay, I enjoyed it and I learned a lot. Hopefully we have a lot of food for thought. Hopefully it will not be too long [that I am back in a World Rally Car].”

**Car #18. TAKAMOTO KATSUTA/DANIEL BARRITT**

“This one is very tricky, most tricky stage on this weekend, so I take it easy. Of course, it would be nice to take some points but, honestly, I’m still not that clever yet so I have to improve more. When it’s ready I try to push. It has been a very tough weekend but thank you to Juho [Hänninen] and the guys and my gravel crews and the team guys who did a great job. So, we had enough confidence on every stage and some good stage times so it was really nice.”

**Car #44. GUS GREENSMITH/CHRIS PATTERSON**

“There were a few points in there that caught me out. The weekend on the whole was pretty positive, it’s shame about today but generally okay.”

**Car #16. ADRIEN FOURMAUX/RENAUD JAMOUL**

“I’m really, really happy about our weekend, just a bit disappointed for one thing that the rally is finished now. It was just perfect, I can only say thank you M-Sport and Red Bull for all the opportunity and also the FFSA, they still believe in me after four years. To be honest it’s just incredible. It was an incredible weekend for us. I think we had an amazing pace in some stages, what a weekend. I don’t know [when we will be back in the car]. You will have to ask M-Sport for that.”

**Car #8. OTT TÄNAK/MARTIN JÄRVEOJA**

“The surface is nice and I like the Tarmac and I already enjoy it. Even now on his stage I try but it’s far away from my comfort zone and it’s not natural at all. For me there is a job to do but Thierry is doing very well, at least somebody in our car is good.”

**Car #11. THIERRY NEUVILLE/MARTIJN WYDAEGHE**

“I pushed very hard but I overshoot a junction in the stage so I lost easily three seconds. But we have tried, we have tried our best. I was absolutely on the limit of the car all the time, trying to enjoy, which we obviously did. Martijn did a good job, it wasn’t easy for the co-drivers. But we are happy to be here.”

**Car #33. ELFYN EVANS/SCOTT MARTIN**

“That last corner, I just got onto the loose and completely missed the next corner so for sure it wasn’t all lost there but I say one second was gone. That’s a shame but it was a big fight all weekend and hats off to Seb for that last stage. Next time.”

**Car #1. SÉBASTIEN OGIER/JULIEN INGRASSIA**

“I think it won’t be enough for the win but it’s been an eventful weekend for me after this morning. Let’s say we are here and we have to look forward.”

**Car #24. MADS ØSTBERG/TORSTEIN ERIKSEN**

“That was excellent today. It was one of the worst days I’ve had in a rally car. To do a day like today with no brakes. I can’t believe I’m at the end. So many times I couldn’t stop the car and I just had to roll and be really careful. I have no idea why we have this issue, but we forget about that now. We have won the first rally this year and of course we are very happy with that.”

**Car #25. TEMMU SUNINEN/MIKO MARKKULA**

“In the end the performance was pretty good. It was quite a difficult situation when we didn’t have a proper test in the dry but we managed to get to use the car and show the performance of the car and that’s good. Hopefully [we’ll be back in the top class in Portugal], I’m really missing the big class.”

**Car #22. MARCO BULACIA/MARCELO OHANNESIAN**

“We are very happy, it was a very difficult race but our pace was great the entire weekend. We are very happy and we are improving our pacenotes and our work with the gravel crew. I am looking forward to the first event on gravel in Portugal.”

**Car #20. ANDREAS MIKKELSEN/OLA FLØENE**

“In the end I don’t think we had the optimal tyre choice, but I pushed as hard as I could anyway.”

**COMMENTS**

Sébastien Ogier/Julien Ingrassia won the Wolf Power Stage by 3.0s to clinch a dramatic victory on the Croatia Rally by 0.6s ahead of their Toyota team-mates Elfyn Evans/Scott Martin, who started the deciding stage leading by 3.9s. Both crews suffered moments in their thrilling battle for victory, as did Hyundai’s third-place finishers Thierry Neuville/Martijn Wydaeghe. Craig Breen/Paul Nagle were second fastest through the Wolf Power Stage ahead of Neuville/Wydaeghe. Evans/Martin and Ott Tänak/Martin Järveoja were fourth and fifth quickest to complete the list of Wolf Power Stage points-scorers.