

Coastal Storm Database - Event Summary

Date: 28-29 Jun 1946	Wind Direction: S
Event Type: Wind/Wave/Erosion	Gisborne Duration (Hours): -
Location: Gisborne/Napier/Wellington	Wellington Duration (Hours): -
Origin: Tasman Sea	Pressure Gradient: S to SE
Type: East Coast Low	

Synoptic Conditions

A cyclone approached Cook Strait from the (north) Tasman sea; on the 28th this cyclone was just east of Auckland and an anticyclone over eastern Australia extended onto southern NZ. This cyclone then moved eastward to be northeast of the North Island.

Sea Conditions

Waves estimated at 3m on Wellington south coast;
Heavy seas along the east coast

Impact Area

Impacts and Damages

Gisborne	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Slip blockages on Gisborne-Napier railway line• Slips on state highway 35 (north of Gisborne) between Gisborne and Tokomaru Bay; large slip at Tatapouri• Extensive flooding; approximately 200 hectares of estuary at Waipaoa river mouth inundated
Napier	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Large waves smashed in front door of Awatoto seafront house; waves eventually swept through house• Wave estimated at 6-9 m on Hawkes Bay coast
East Coast	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Heavy seas along the east coast
Wairoa	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Flooding
Wellington	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• No ships left Port including inter-island ferries• Delays to incoming coastal vessels due to heavy seas along east coast• Heavy seas pounded the coast near Moa Point; wave estimated at 10ft (3m)
Canterbury	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Erosion at Sumner beach by heavy swells; beach/sand dune eroded for a length of ~ 320 m from the Sumner Surf Life-saving club

Data Source

- 1 Bitter Southerly - Wellington Storm - No Ships Put Out: Gisborne Herald, 1/07/1946, p5
- 2 Floods in Wairoa - 3 1/2in on Saturday - Communications Delays: Gisborne Herald, 1/07/1946, p
- 3 High Reading - Gisborne Rainfall - 2.09in in 24 Hours: Gisborne Herald, 1/07/1946, p5
- 4 Line Blockages - Rail Dislocation - Passengers by Road - Subsidence Extends: Gisborne Herald, 1/07/1946, p5
- 5 Waimata Flood - Timber Hazard - Pressure on Bridge - Heavy Rain in Valley: Gisborne Herald, 1/07/1946, p5
- 6 Main Roads Open - Care to Be Exercised - Slips on County Roads: Gisborne Herald, 1/07/1946, p8
- 7 Waipaoa River Flood Discharge - New Outlet Made - Damage Minimal - River Falls Quickly: Gisborne Herald, 1/07/1946, p5
- 8 Erosion by Sea - Sumner Damage - Stone Wall Broken - Range at Lyttelton: Gisborne Herald, 2/07/1946, p2
- 9 High Seas Cause Erosion Damage at Sumner Beach: Dominion Post, 2/07/1946, p8
- 10 Swirling Seas Sweep Through Awatoto House: Dominion Post, 2/07/1946, p8
- 11 Gisborne Has Worst Storm Since 1944: Dominion Post, 1/07/1946, p8
- 12 Southerly Wind and Rain Sweep Many Parts of Province: Dominion Post, 1/07/1946, p8
- 13 Mountainous Seas Round East Coast: Ships Take Shelter: Dominion Post, 1/07/1946, p8
- 14 Southerly Gale - Gust of 73 mph - Shipping Affected: Evening Post, 29/06/1946, p8