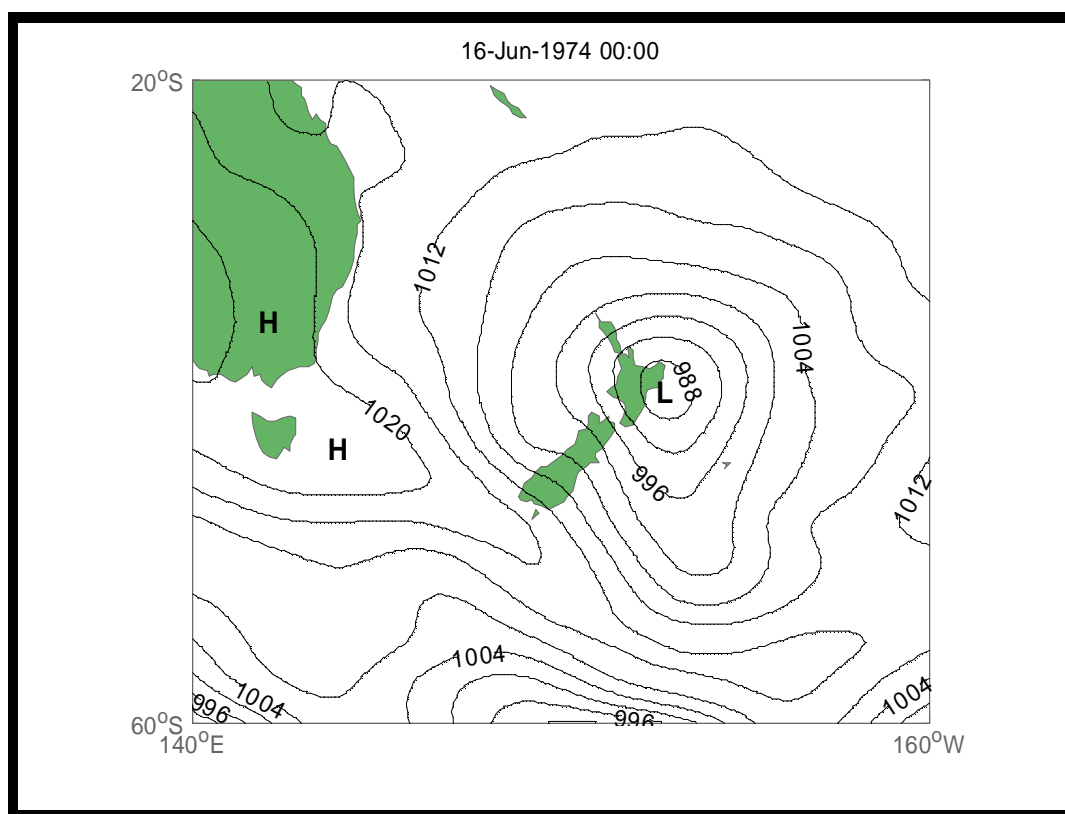


Coastal Storm Database - Event Summary

Date: 15-19 Jun 1974	Wind Direction: S
Event Type: Wind/Wave/Erosion	Gisborne Duration (Hours): 30
Location: Gisborne/Napier/Wellington	Wellington Duration (Hours): 95
Origin: Tasman Sea	Pressure Gradient: S to SE
Type: East Coast Low	



Synoptic Conditions

A large cyclone in the north Tasman sea sat atop a southern ridge and had a large anticyclone to the eastward. This cyclone eventually moved eastward towards NZ during which it weakened and then re-intensified as it crossed NZ. On the 15th this cyclone was over the Gisborne region and had a strong SE airstream on its southern side that swept over the eastern South Island and lower North Island. This strong flow continued on the 16th as the cyclone moved slowly eastward and a ridge spread over the lower South Island. Furthermore, the strong flow spread up the eastern North Island on the 16th. The SE flow continued on the 17th as a southerly flow but with less velocity and strengthened again on the 18th as the departing cyclone extended a trough eastward over the Chatham Islands.

Sea Conditions

Heavy seas in Gisborne and Napier

Maximum Wind Gusts (kph and dir)

Date	Gisborne	Napier	Wellington
15-Jun-74	32 (NE)	89 (SW)	96 (S)
16-Jun-74	115 (SW)	106 (SW)	126 (S)
17-Jun-74	80 (S)	59 (W)	119 (S)
18-Jun-74	61 (S)	56 (SW)	93 (SW)
19-Jun-74	69 (S)	33 (NW)	87 (S)

Impact Area	Impacts and Damages
Gisborne	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Erosion at Whangara Beach from heavy seas threatens burial ground on foreshore ● Slips around Makorori and Tatapouri hills reducing traffic to one lane ● Strong surge in Port strained moorings ● Seas pounding slipway building in middle of Gisborne harbour ● Slips block railways out of Gisborne
Napier	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● One section at Haumoana lost 10ft of section from erosion ● At Clifton, sea reached over road into domain and camp near boat ramp ● Houses flooded at seaside locations of Clifton Beach, Te Awanga and Haumoana ● Widespread flooding throughout Hawkes Bay ● High tides and large seas sent sea up foreshore and onto properties at Te Awanga, Haumoana and along Napier's Marine Parade
Wairoa	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Several roofs blown off houses, and downed trees cut telephone and power line ● Wairoa isolated due to floodwaters and slips
Canterbury	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Waves hurled rocks onto highway near Kaikoura ● Waves upto 50ft (15m) estimated off the South Island coast near Christchurch; biggest waves since 1949 at New Brighton Beach ● Boats washed ashore and planks on wharf at Kaikoura lifted; ● Beach at Kaikoura eroded large embayment 30ft wide and 4ft deep ● Waves crashed over retaining walls at New Brighton at high tide, and over railway line near Goose Bay ● Goose Bay Motor camp had fences washed away and waves reaching back door

Data Source

- 1 Trail of Debris as Huge Waves hit S.I Coast: Gisborne Herald, 21/06/1974, p10
- 2 Swirling Seas Flood Napier's Marine Parade: Gisborne Herald, 22/06/1974, p14
- 3 Erosion Threat to Whangara Burial Ground: Gisborne Herald, 21/06/1974, p10
- 4 Roads, Railway Still Blocked by Slips: Gisborne Herald, 18/06/1974, p1
- 5 Wairoa is Cut Off for the Weekend: Gisborne Herald, 17/06/1974, p1
- 6 Man Drowns as Floods Force Families to Flee: Gisborne Herald, 17/06/1974, p1
- 7 Settlers Stranded, Port and Crops Take a Battering: Gisborne Herald, 17/06/1974, p1