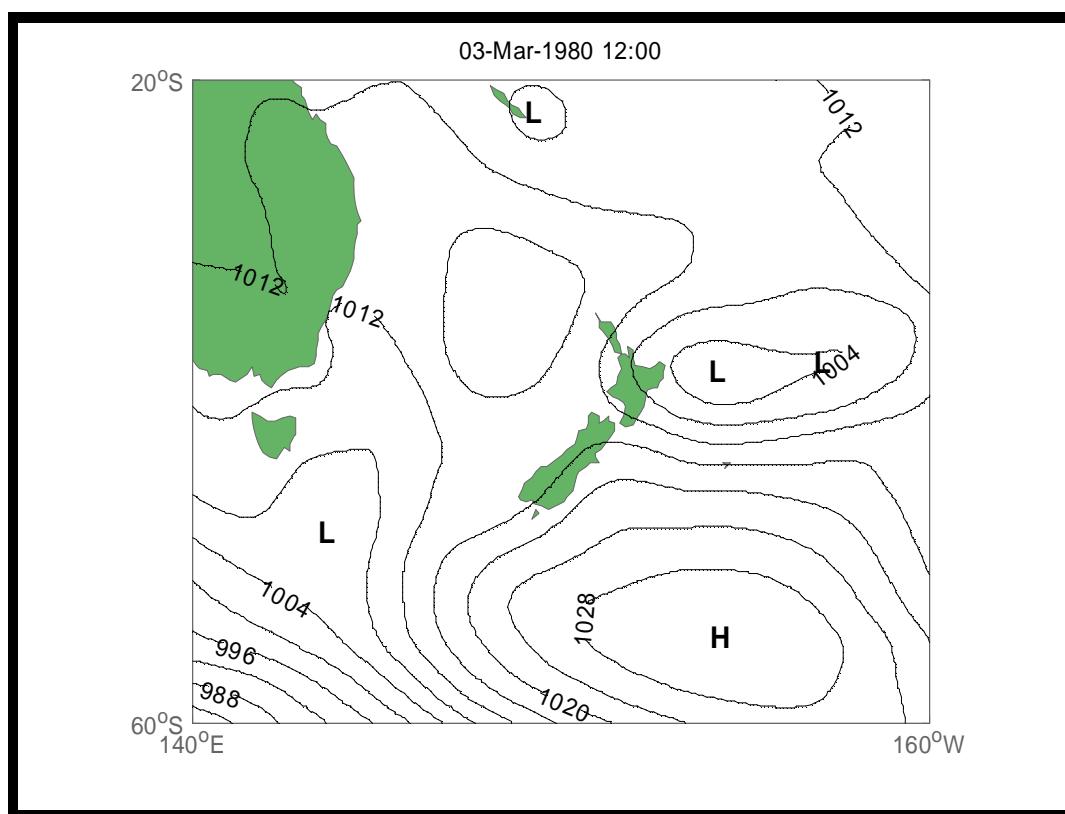


# Coastal Storm Database - Event Summary

Date: <b>3-4 Mar 1980</b>	Wind Direction:
Event Type: <b>Wave</b>	Gisborne Duration (Hours): -
Location: <b>Gisborne/Wellington</b>	Wellington Duration (Hours): -
Origin: <b>Subtropics</b>	Pressure Gradient: <b>E to SE</b>
Type: <b>Cyclone-Anticyclone Pair</b>	



## Synoptic Conditions

A weak low pressure centre developed off the Brisbane coast, tracked southeast-ward and crossed NZ. During this period, a strong blocking anticyclone occupied the area south of NZ between 50 and 60S. On the 3rd, the cyclone was sitting atop the blocking high and between then a strong E to SE airstream was directed over the eastern North Island until the 6th. This pressure gradient and easterly airstream was responsible for the large waves on the Gisborne coast.

## Sea Conditions

Heavy seas along east coast (Gisborne, Wellington)

## Maximum Wave Statistics

Location	Max Wave Height (m)	Period (s)
Wellington	4.2	8
Napier	3.9	9
Gisborne	4.3	8

\*Highest Significant Wave Height

## Maximum Wind Gusts (kph and dir)

Date	Gisborne	Napier	Wellington
------	----------	--------	------------

---

**Maximum Wind Gusts (kph and dir)**

Date	Gisborne	Napier	Wellington
03-Mar-80	48 (S)	41 (S)	78 (S)
04-Mar-80	57 (S)	43 (SE)	45 (S)

**Impact Area**

Gisborne  
Wellington  
Canterbury

**Impacts and Damages**

- Harbourmaster inspects breakwater damage after heavy seas
- Several ferry crossings cancelled
- Main railway line blocked by slips near Kaikoura

**Data Source**

- 1 Floods Deter Ferries: Dominion Post, 4/03/1980, p1
- 2 [Picture]: Gisborne Herald, 5/03/1980, p10