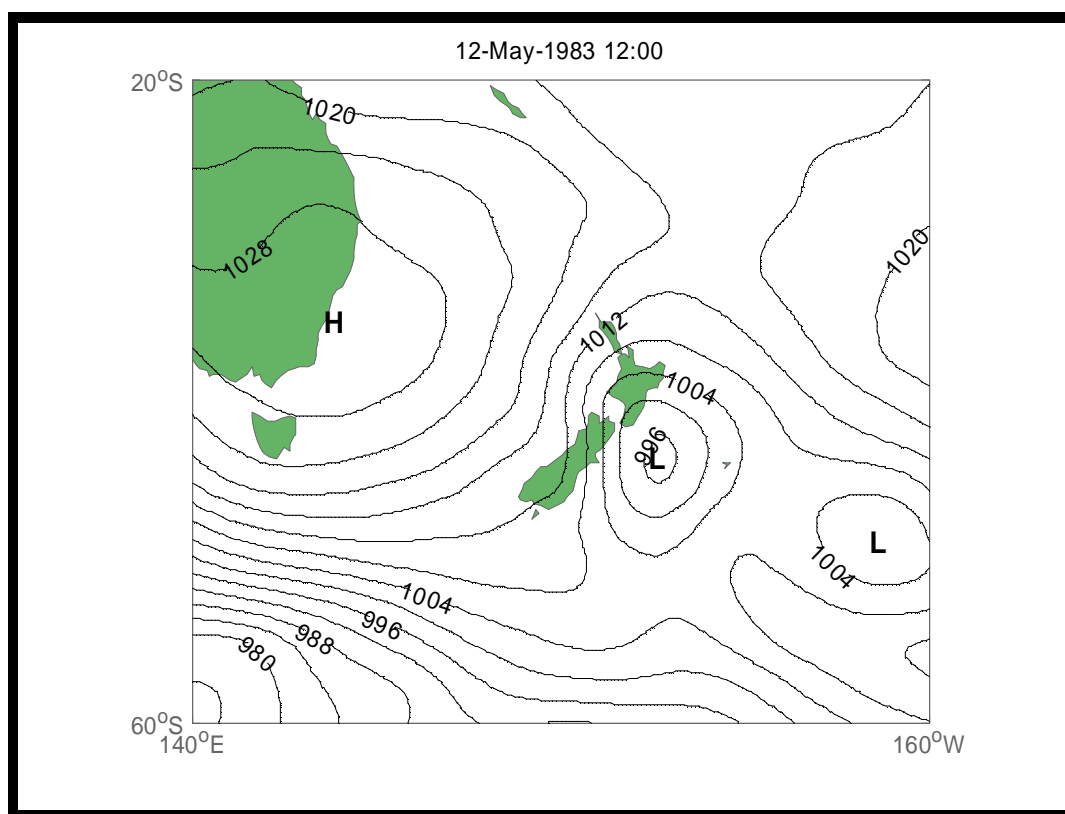


Coastal Storm Database - Event Summary

Date: 12-13 May 1983	Wind Direction: SW
Event Type: Wind/Wave	Gisborne Duration (Hours): -
Location: Wellington	Wellington Duration (Hours): 31
Origin: Southern Ocean	Pressure Gradient: S to SSW
Type: East Coast Secondary Low	



Synoptic Conditions

A secondary cyclone developed off the Canterbury coast from a southern ocean trough and covered NZ. On its western side was a strong southerly airstream that swept into the Cook Strait area. The strong pressure gradient was partly supported by a large intense anticyclone in the Tasman Sea and a weak ridge to the SE. The strong southerly later spread over the entire eastern North Island on the 13th, though with less intensity. The cyclone remained east of NZ for the next 24 hours since its eastward progress was halted by a large intense anticyclone in the central south Pacific ocean.

Sea Conditions

Heavy swells in Cook Strait
Measured wave heights off Gisborne reached just under 3m

Maximum Wave Statistics

Location	Max Wave Height (m)	Period (s)
Wellington	3.2	6
Napier	3.5	7
Gisborne	4.6	8

*Highest Significant Wave Height

Maximum Wind Gusts (kph and dir)

Date	Gisborne	Napier	Wellington
12-May-83	52 (NW)	74 (SW)	115 (SW)
13-May-83	67 (SW)	83 (SW)	115 (SW)

Impact Area

Wellington

Impacts and Damages

- Six Cook Strait ferry crossing cancelled
- Heavy southerly swell in Cook Strait experience by yacht

Data Source

- 1 Damaged Yacht Found: Dominion Post, 14/05/1983, p4
 - 2 Gales Halt Ferry Crossings: Dominion Post, 13/05/1983, p5
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