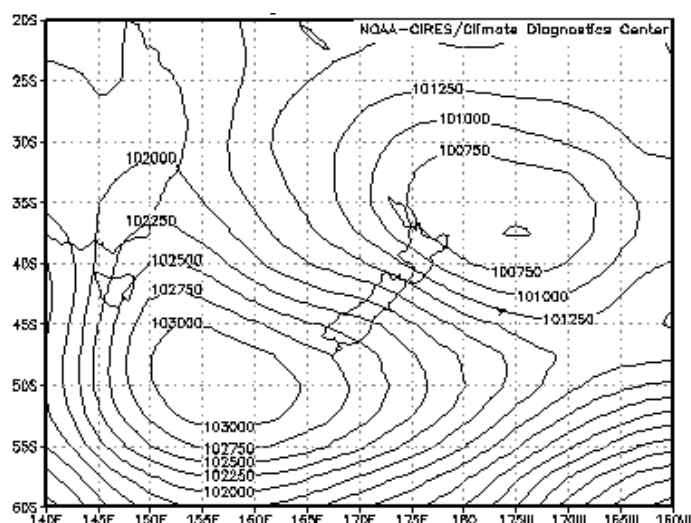


Coastal Storm Database - Event Summary

Date: **21-22 Jul 1955**
Event Type: **Wave/Erosion**
Location: **Gisborne**
Origin: **Eastern NZ**
Type: **East Coast Low**

Wind Direction: **SE**
Gisborne Duration (Hours): -
Wellington Duration (Hours): -
Pressure Gradient:

23-Jul-1955 0:00



Synoptic Conditions

A cyclone from the Tasman sea propagated eastward and crossed NZ as a trough on the 18th. At this time, the trough was embedded between two anticyclones. A secondary centre then developed over the Cook Strait area and moved northward onto the North Island after being "cut-off" from the southern ocean by a ridge of high pressure to the south of NZ. On the 21st the cyclone was over North Cape and had a ridge to the southward and a strong ESE airstream developed over the South Island and through Cook Strait. The ESE flow then moved northward and spread over the eastern North Island on the 22nd.

Sea Conditions

Heavy seas along Gisborne coast

Impact Area

Gisborne
Napier
Wellington

Impacts and Damages

- Heavy surf has eroded foreshore at Wainui Beach and one house dangling over the edge and an adjacent house very close to edge; occupants evacuated
- Large areas of Heretaunga Plains under water
- Heavy rain forced closure of airport from 2pm and two flights cancelled and another diverted
- More than 200 slips reported around city; created blocked roads, threatening houses
- Gust of 74 km/hr

Data Source

- 1 Wainui Settlers Ask for Expert Survey of Beach: Gisborne Herald, 25/07/1955, p6
 - 2 Volunteers Work Hard to Curb Threat to Wainui Beach Home: Gisborne Herald, 25/07/1955, p9
 - 3 Wainui Erosion Threat: Family Leaves Home: Gisborne Herald, 22/07/1955, p9
 - 4 Main Trunk Line, Cleared of Slips, Open for Traffic: Dominion Post, 25/07/1955, p7
 - 5 Day-Long Battle with Sea to Save Two Wainui Homes: Dominion Post, 25/07/1955, p7
 - 6 Widespread Flooding in Hawkes Bay: Dominion Post, 23/07/1955, p12
 - 7 Capital Has 4 1/2in. Of Rain in Week: Dominion Post, 23/07/1955, p12
 - 8 Heavy Rain Brings Down 200 Slips in Wellington Area: Dominion Post, 21/07/1955, p14
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