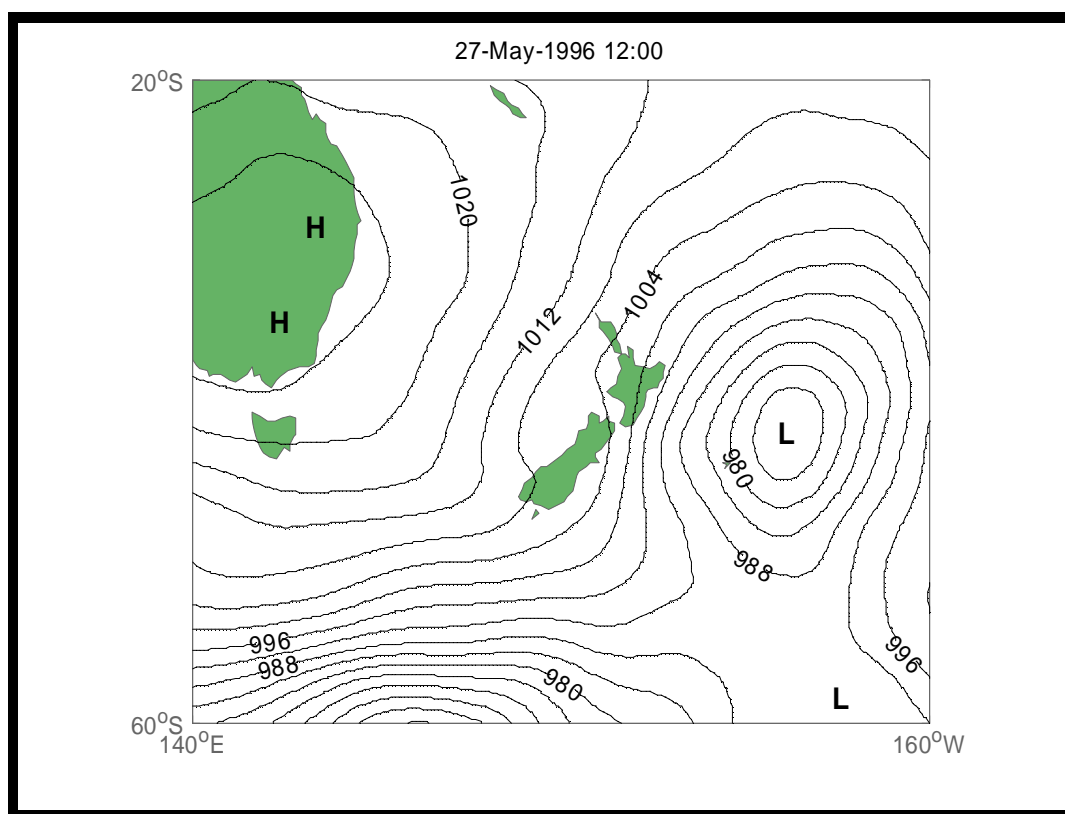


# Coastal Storm Database - Event Summary

Date: <b>27-28 May 1996</b>	Wind Direction:
Event Type: <b>Wave</b>	Gisborne Duration (Hours): -
Location: <b>Wellington</b>	Wellington Duration (Hours): -
Origin: <b>Eastern NZ</b>	Pressure Gradient: <b>S to SSW</b>
Type: <b>East Coast Secondary Low</b>	



## Synoptic Conditions

A trough from the southern ocean moved over NZ on the 25th. In its wake was a strong S to SSW off the eastern South Island. The trough then developed into a closed system north of the Chatham Islands, and the strong SSW airstream was maintained over NZ. On the 27th the pressure gradient was most intense in the Cook Strait area and lower North Island. This cyclone was responsible for the large swells on the east coast of the North Island.

## Sea Conditions

5m swell off Wellington south coast

## Maximum Wave Statistics

Location	Max Wave Height (m)	Period (s)
Wellington	5.5	9
Napier	4.9	9
Gisborne	6.6	9

\*Highest Significant Wave Height

## Maximum Wind Gusts (kph and dir)

Date	Gisborne	Napier	Wellington
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**Maximum Wind Gusts (kph and dir)**

Date	Gisborne	Napier	Wellington
27-May-96			98 (S)
28-May-96			56 (S)

**Impact Area**

Wellington

**Impacts and Damages**

- Driving hazardous along Eastern Bays Marine Drive due to stormy harbour-side; reduced to one lane at times
- Wild weather in Cook Strait cancelled some ferry crossings

**Data Source**

- 1 Wild Day in Strait as Ferry Heaves To: Gisborne Herald, 28/05/1996, p14
- 2 Dramatic Ferry Trip: Evening Post, 28/05/1996, p3
- 3 Ferry Sailings Disrupted by Rough Weather: Evening Post, 28/07/1996, p3