

Coastal Storm Database - Event Summary

Date: 24 Apr 1938	Wind Direction:
Event Type: Wind/Wave	Gisborne Duration (Hours): -
Location: Gisborne	Wellington Duration (Hours): -
Origin: Subtropics	Pressure Gradient: S to SE
Type: East Coast Low	

Synoptic Conditions

A cyclone to developed north of Norfolk Island from a shallow trough on the 23rd and deepened while moving southeast-ward; on the 25th it was east of Gisborne and SE winds said to have reached gale force between East Cape and Cook Strait and then later turned SW

Sea Conditions

Heavy seas in Poverty Bay

Impact Area

Gisborne

Impacts and Damages

- Roads blocked and bridges down isolated Ruatoria
- Two bridges damaged at Tokomaru Bay from floodwaters
- Heavy seas in Poverty Bay
- Bridges swept away on Waipaoa river from floodwaters
- Exceptionally heavy rain put rivers into flood

Napier

- Flooding isolates city after 3 days of torrential rain

Wairoa

- Town isolated by flooding

Data Source

- 1 Flood Surge - Torrential Rain - Roads Inundated: Gisborne Herald, 26/04/1938, p6
- 2 Ruatoria Isolated - Every Road Blocked - Many Bridges Down - Cream Supply Lost: Gisborne Herald, 26/04/1938, p5
- 3 Havoc at Waioamatatini: Gisborne Herald, 26/04/1938, p5
- 4 Terrific Rain - Flood on Coast - Tokomaru Bay Damage: Gisborne Herald, 26/04/1938, p5
- 5 Hard Fight Fails - Beaten by the Sea - New Outlet Excavated - Settlers Arduous Work: Gisborne Herald, 26/04/1938, p4
- 6 Phenomenal Rain - Damage at Muriwai - One Bridge Swept Away - Large Tracts Flooded: Gisborne Herald, 26/04/1938, p4
- 7 Widespread Storm and Flood Havoc: Gisborne Herald, 26/04/1938, p4