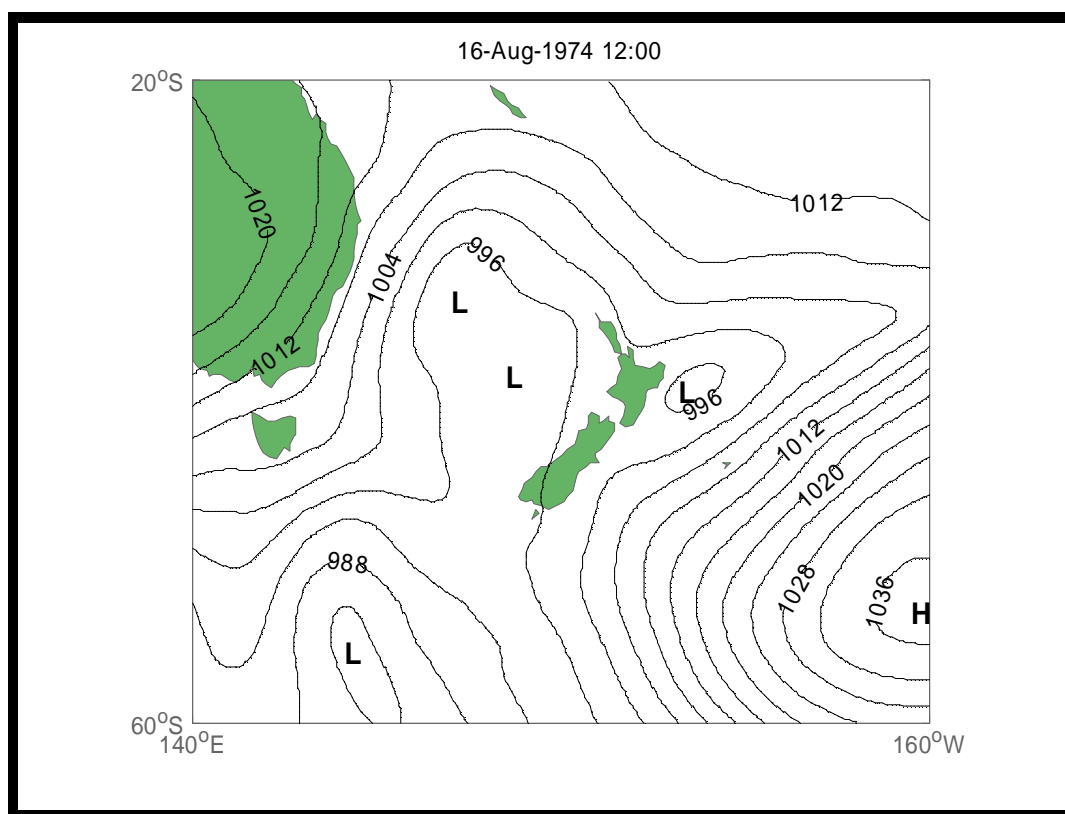


# Coastal Storm Database - Event Summary

Date: <b>16-17 Aug 1974</b>	Wind Direction: <b>NE</b>
Event Type: <b>Wave/Erosion</b>	Gisborne Duration (Hours): -
Location: <b>Gisborne/Napier</b>	Wellington Duration (Hours): -
Origin: <b>Subtropics</b>	Pressure Gradient: <b>E to NE</b>
Type: <b>East Coast Low</b>	



## Synoptic Conditions

The cause of the large waves in Gisborne and Napier are from a NE airstream that developed between a subtropical low northeast of East Cape and a large anticyclone southeast of the Chatham Islands. On the 15th this small intense cyclone moved closer to East Cape and had a strong E to NE airstream on the southern side.

## Sea Conditions

Heavy seas on Gisborne and Napier coast  
Estimated 20ft swell in Napier

## Maximum Wind Gusts (kph and dir)

Date	Gisborne	Napier	Wellington
16-Aug-74	33 (W)	19 (W)	26 (NE)
17-Aug-74	48 (NW)	37 (NW)	26 (SW)

## Impact Area

Gisborne

## Impacts and Damages

- Four groins at Wainui Beach have been detached from the foredune due to rip current scouring
- Waves washed away ~6ft of foredune at Wainui Beach and exposed protection works previously covered
- Heavy seas from Mahia to East Cape

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Impact Area	Impacts and Damages
Napier	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Estimated 20ft (6m) waves on the coast</li><li>● State of Emergency declared in 4 coastal towns of Clive, East Clive, Haumoana and Te Awhanga because of flooding and erosion</li><li>● 100 acres (40 hectares) of Hertaunga Plains under water</li><li>● Flooding at Marine Parade</li><li>● Huges waves battered Hawkes Bay coast from Napier to Cape Kidnappers; worst hit was seafront houses between Haumoana and Te Awhanga; estimated 20ft of road and grass eroded</li></ul>
Mahia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Commercial fishing had mooring lines snapped by surge going into Whangawehi harbour</li><li>● Waves estimated at 15ft (4.5m) off Mahia near Whangawehi harbour</li></ul>

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#### Data Source

- 1 Boats Are Torn from Moorings in 'Safe' Harbour: Gisborne Herald, 17/08/1974, p12
  - 2 Flooding on Coast Continues: New Zealand Herald, 19/08/1974, p1
  - 3 Wainui Battered As Worst Seas for Years Lash Coast: Gisborne Herald, 17/08/1974, p1
  - 4 Haumoana Families Evacuated: Gisborne Herald, 17/08/1974, p12
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