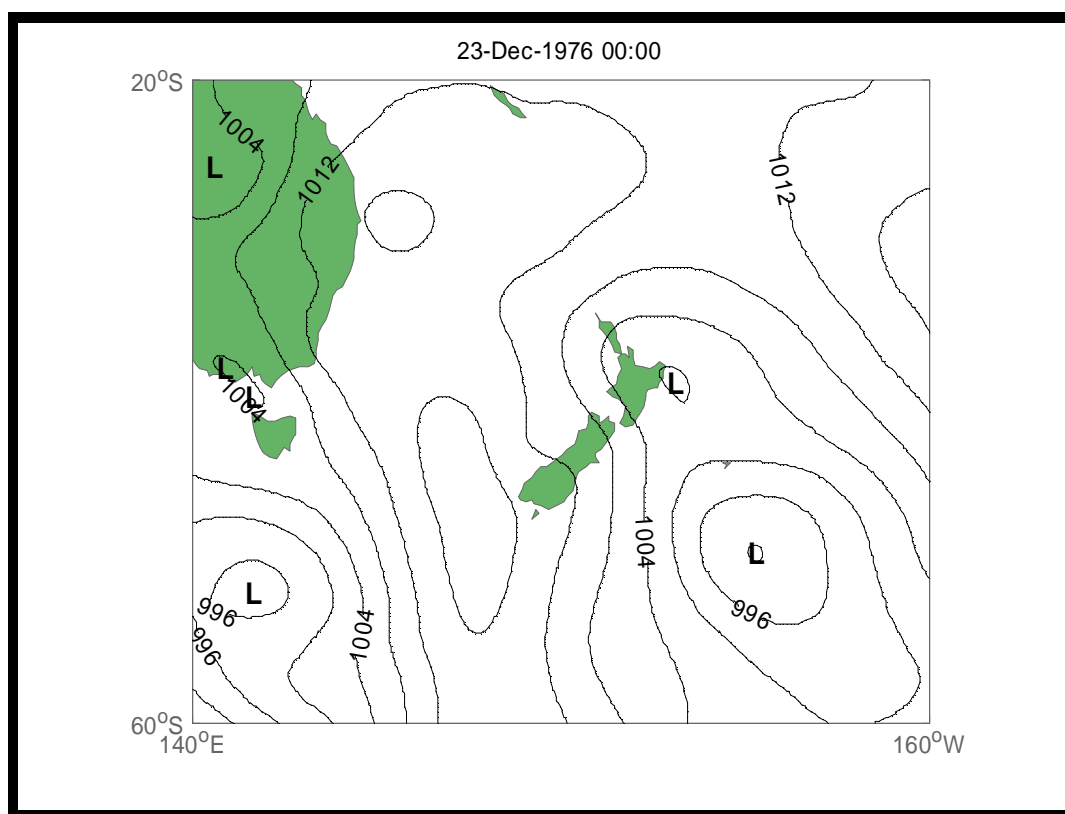


Coastal Storm Database - Event Summary

Date: 22-24 Dec 1976	Wind Direction: S
Event Type: Wind/Wave	Gisborne Duration (Hours): 22
Location: Gisborne/Wellington	Wellington Duration (Hours): 54
Origin: Subtropics	Pressure Gradient: S to SSE
Type: East Coast Low	



Synoptic Conditions

A cyclone developed in the subtropical region northwest of North Cape (from what appeared to be a southern ocean trough). This cyclone then passed through Cook Strait and was east of NZ from the 20th. On the 22nd this cyclone was south of the Chatham Islands with a trough to the north over the North Island. At the same time a large elongated anticyclone was west of NZ and covered the South Island. Between these systems a southerly airstream developed and swept over the eastern South Island and through Cook Strait. On the 23rd a secondary cyclonic centre developed from the trough and maintained the S to SSE flow over the North Island and became very intense on the 24th when the anticyclone in the Tasman sea extended a ridge under this cyclone.

Sea Conditions

2-3m swell in Gisborne

Maximum Wind Gusts (kph and dir)

Date	Gisborne	Napier	Wellington
22-Dec-76	52 (W)	50 (E)	82 (S)
23-Dec-76	82 (S)	80 (S)	74 (S)
24-Dec-76	89 (S)	76 (S)	93 (S)

Impact Area

Gisborne

Impacts and Damages

- Departure of vessel halted because of strong winds and 2-3m swell at port

Impact Area	Impacts and Damages
	entrance
Wairoa	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Power outages in city and at Wainui• Severe snowstorm in high country

Data Source

- 1 White Christmas in High Country: Gisborne Herald, 24/12/1976, p10
 - 2 Storm Gives Power Board Men Bleak Night in the Rain: Gisborne Herald, 24/12/1976, p10
-