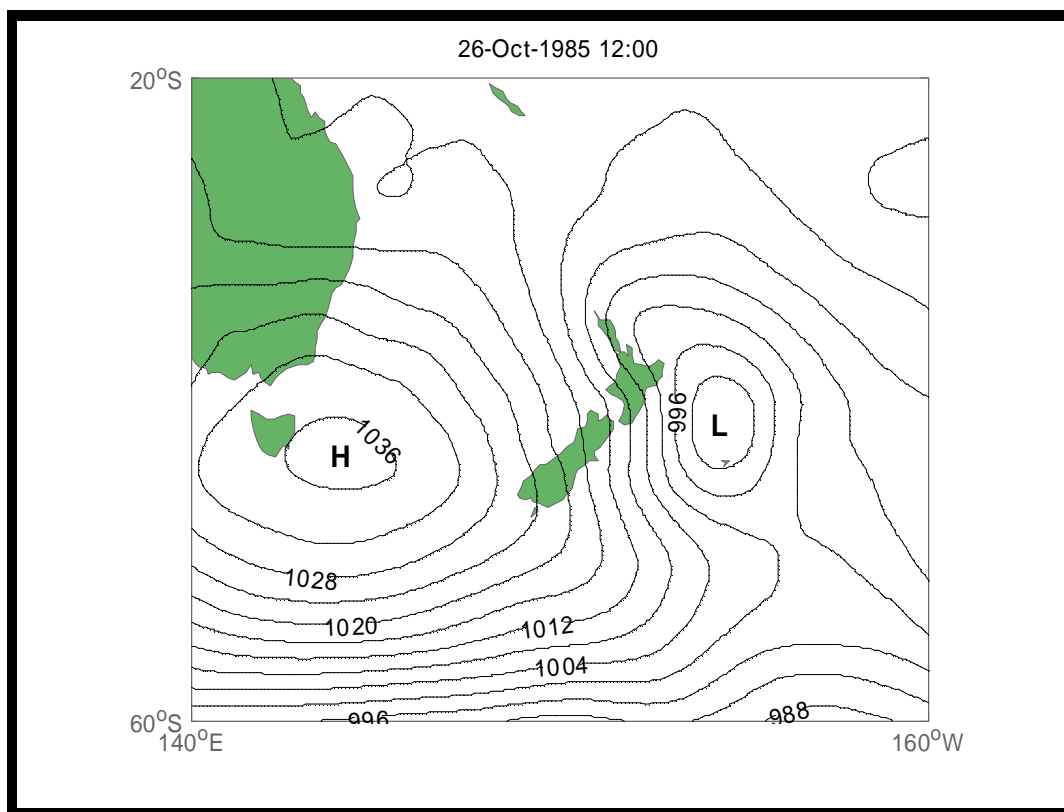


Coastal Storm Database - Event Summary

Date: 25-28 Oct 1985	Wind Direction: S
Event Type: Wind/Wave	Gisborne Duration (Hours): -
Location: Gisborne/Wellington	Wellington Duration (Hours): 61
Origin: Tasman Sea	Pressure Gradient: S to SSE
Type: East Coast Low	



Synoptic Conditions

A cyclone from continental southeastern Australia tracked eastward across NZ and on the 25th was over the North Island. At the same time the South Island was under the influence of an intense ridge of high pressure. Between these weather systems a strong S to SSE airstream developed and swept over the eastern South Island and into Cook Strait. On the 26th the cyclone had intensified and moved over the Chatham Islands and the southerly pressure gradient strengthened over the eastern North Island.

Sea Conditions

Heavy seas along East Coast

Maximum Wave Statistics

Location	Max Wave Height (m)	Period (s)
Wellington	5.4	8
Napier	5.4	9
Gisborne	7.0	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
25-Oct-85	52 (NW)	70 (S)	102 (S)
26-Oct-85	76 (S)	87 (SW)	126 (S)
27-Oct-85	82 (S)	74 (S)	119 (S)
28-Oct-85	61 (S)	28 (S)	70 (S)

Impact Area**Impacts and Damages**

Gisborne	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• River mouth near Port was impassable for rescue boat• Heavy seas in Poverty Bay• Snow in hill country around city
Wellington	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Some flights disrupted when airport closed during evening; 15 friendship flights cancelled• Heavy seas in Cook Strait; lead to delays for ferries

Data Source

- 1 Winter Returns with Southerly: Dominion Post, 28/10/1985, p4
 - 2 High Hits New Low: Gisborne Herald, 29/10/1985, p1
 - 3 Services Out in Force as Area Lashed by Gale: Gisborne Herald, 29/10/1985, p1
 - 4 Snow for Weekend: Gisborne Herald, 26/10/1985, p1
 - 5 Capital Shivers: Evening Post, 26/10/1985, p3
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