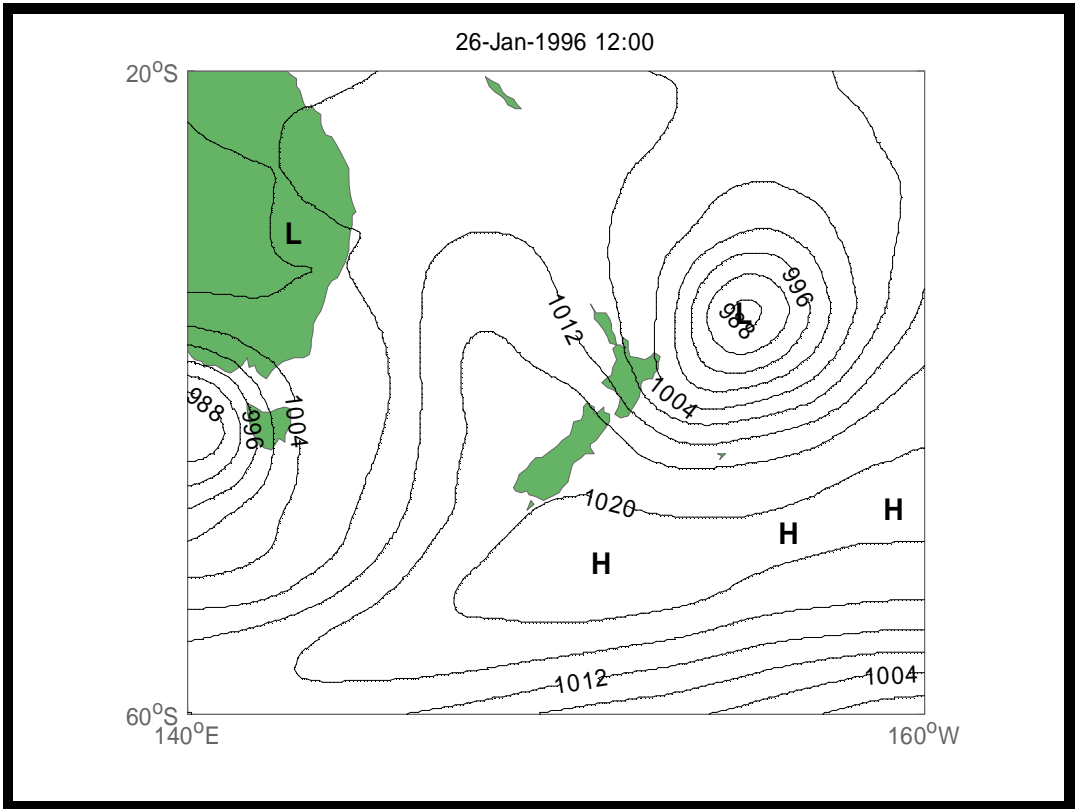


Coastal Storm Database - Event Summary

Date: 26-28 Jan 1996	Wind Direction:
Event Type: Wave	Gisborne Duration (Hours): -
Location: Gisborne	Wellington Duration (Hours): -
Origin: Subtropics	Pressure Gradient: ESE to SE
Type: Cyclone-Anticyclone Pair	



Synoptic Conditions

A subtropical low from north of NZ (east of New Caledonia) moved southward at a time when the NZ area and Chatham Islands were covered by a large intense anticyclone. The initial collision of these systems generated a weak ENE to NE airstream over the ocean area to the northeast of NZ. On the 25th this cyclone was northeast of East Cape and had a strong easterly flow on its southern side. It wasn't until the 26th that a strong ESE airstream started to affect the eastern North Island. The strong pressure gradient was enhanced by the presence of an anticyclone south of the Chatham Islands which also covered the South Island. This cyclone sat off East Cape through to the 27th, during which it was surrounded by high pressures to the west, south and east.

Sea Conditions

Big swells along the East Coast

Maximum Wave Statistics

Location	Max Wave Height (m)	Period (s)
Wellington	3.3	7
Napier	4.9	8
Gisborne	5.2	8

*Highest Significant Wave Height

Maximum Wind Gusts (kph and dir)

Date	Gisborne	Napier	Wellington
26-Jan-96			80 (S)
27-Jan-96			50 (S)
28-Jan-96			48 (SE)

Impact Area

Gisborne

Napier

Wellington

Impacts and Damages

- Waves entered Anaura Bay campground
- Big seas experienced along coast
- Replica of Endeavour ship battling 3-4m seas off Napier and 56 km/hr southerli
- Fast ferries cancelled in Cook Strait due to high seas; conventional ferries continued

Data Source

- 1 Drenched Sailors Glad to Make Port: Gisborne Herald, 27/01/1996, p1
 - 2 Battered Replica Heads for Coast: Gisborne Herald, 26/01/1996, p1
 - 3 Tracking Storm But Nothing Happening: Gisborne Herald, 25/01/1996, p1
 - 4 Endeavour Ready for Windy Journey: Dominion Post, 29/01/1996, p1
 - 5 Fast Ferry Travellers in Rough Conditions: Dominion Post, 27/01/1996, p1
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