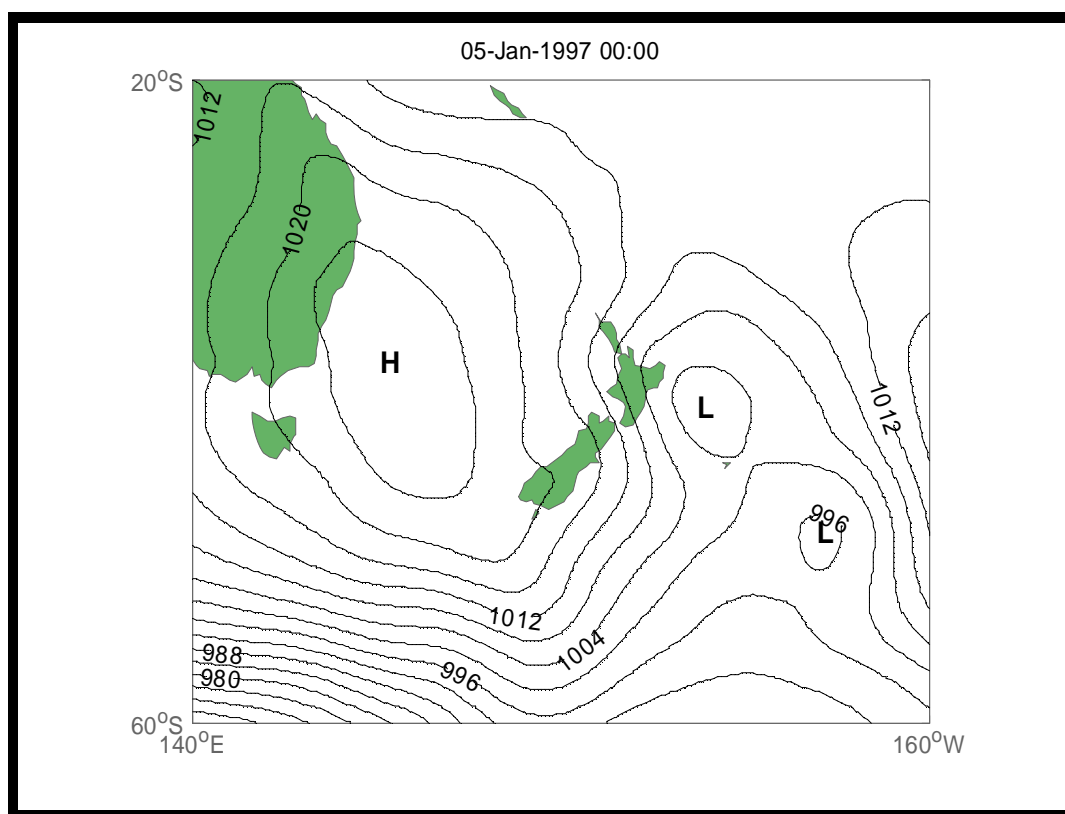


Coastal Storm Database - Event Summary

Date: 4-5 Jan 1997	Wind Direction: S
Event Type: Wind/Wave	Gisborne Duration (Hours): -
Location: Gisborne/Wellington	Wellington Duration (Hours): 28
Origin: Eastern NZ	Pressure Gradient: S to SSE
Type: East Coast Secondary Low	



Synoptic Conditions

A trough from the southern ocean moved northeast-ward over NZ and developed a closed centre north of the Chatham Islands. At the same time a large intense anticyclone in the Tasman Sea was moving eastward and extended a ridge to the southeast over the South Island. Between these two systems a strong S to SSE airstream developed over NZ and was strongest in the Cook Strait area. As the ridge strengthened and the cyclone moved only slowly eastward the strong SSE flow was maintained and became most intense over the upper eastern North Island.

Sea Conditions

High seas along east coast

Maximum Wave Statistics

Location	Max Wave Height (m)	Period (s)
Wellington	3.2	6
Napier	5.0	8
Gisborne	6.3	9

*Highest Significant Wave Height

Maximum Wind Gusts (kph and dir)

	Date	Gisborne	Napier	Wellington
	04-Jan-97			76 (S)
	05-Jan-97			82 (S)
Impact Area	Impacts and Damages			
Gisborne	●	High seas along coast sent campers packing		
Wellington	●	Three return trips of Lynx ferry cancelled due to strong winds and high seas (> 3.5m)		
Data Source				
1	Campers Seek Refuge from Rain: Gisborne Herald, 6/01/1997, p1			
2	Bad Weather Stops Lynx Sailing, Stranded 300: Evening Post, 6/01/1997, p3			
3	Wintry Blast Passes On: Dominion Post, 6/01/1997, p3			