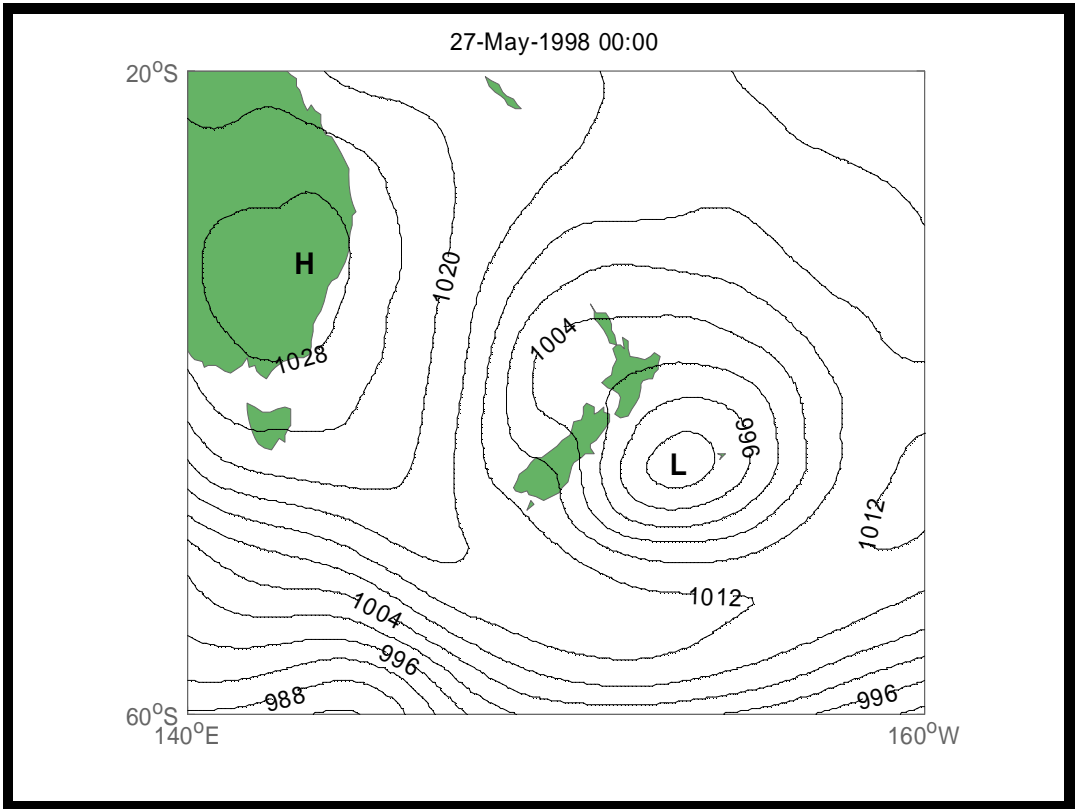


Coastal Storm Database - Event Summary

Date: 26-28 May 1998	Wind Direction: SW
Event Type: Wind/Wave	Gisborne Duration (Hours): -
Location: Wellington	Wellington Duration (Hours): 42
Origin: Tasman Sea	Pressure Gradient: S to SSW
Type: East Coast Low	



Synoptic Conditions

A cyclone developed west of NZ and passed through Cook Strait at the same time that a large intense anticyclone following it moved into the Tasman sea and extended a ridge to the southeast below NZ. On the 26th this cyclone was just west of the Chatham Islands and covered the eastern South Island and Cook Strait area with a strong S to SSW airstream. The cyclone remained near-stationary over the next 24-hours and the strong southerly continued to affect the Cook Strait area.

Sea Conditions

6-8m swells in Cook Strait

Maximum Wave Statistics

Location	Max Wave Height (m)	Period (s)
Wellington	3.2	7
Napier	3.2	7
Gisborne	4.1	7

*Highest Significant Wave Height

Maximum Wind Gusts (kph and dir)

Date	Gisborne	Napier	Wellington
------	----------	--------	------------

Maximum Wind Gusts (kph and dir)

Date	Gisborne	Napier	Wellington
26-May-98			69 (S)
27-May-98			89 (SW)
28-May-98			74 (S)

Impact Area

Wellington

Impacts and Damages

- High seas in Cook Strait stopped Cook Strait ferries; 6-8m swells
- Flash flooding due to insufficient stormwater systems around city

Data Source

- 1 Ferry Sailings Cancelled: Dominion Post, 28/05/1998, p1
 - 2 City's Heaviest Recorded Downpour: Dominion Post, 27/05/1998, p3
 - 3 Cloudburst Chaos: Dominion Post, 26/05/1998, p1
-