

Marine Forecast Service Changes Coastal Waters

The Australian Government has provided funding to roll-out the NexGen Forecast & Warning System (NexGen FWS) to upgrade the operational forecasting systems in each State. The NexGen FWS will enable the Bureau to provide more meaningful and detailed forecast services to the Australian community.

Warning Summary at issue time included

Improved layout with clear sections for winds, seas and swell

Coastal waters forecasts will be available individually for each zone

IDV10251

Coastal Waters Forecast for Victoria West Coast

Issued at 5:10 am EDT on Tuesday 21 October 2008 for the period until midnight EDT Thursday 23 October 2008.

Please be aware

Wind gusts can be 40 percent stronger than the averages given here, and maximum waves may be up to twice the height.

New label outlining the extent of the forecast

Warning Summary at issue time

Strong wind warning for Victorian waters between Port Fairy and 60nm east of Gabo Island.

Details of warnings are available on the Bureau's website www.bom.gov.au, by telephone 1300-659-217 or through some TV and radio broadcasts.

Weather Situation

A cold front will pass through Bass Strait on Wednesday and will then develop over the Bight on Wednesday afternoon. A cold front will reach the Tasman Sea by Thursday. A weak cold front will approach southwestern Victoria later Friday.

Change to heading 'Synoptic Situation' to 'Weather Situation'

Forecast for Tuesday until midnight

Winds: South to southwesterly 10 to 15 knots becoming southwesterly 15 to 20 knots around midday then tending south to southwesterly up to 30 knots by early evening. **Seas:** Below 1 metre increasing up to 2 metres around midday. **Swell:** Southwesterly 2 to 3 metres.

Forecast for Wednesday

Winds: South to southeasterly 15 to 20 knots tending east to southeasterly up to 15 knots around midday. **Seas:** 1 to 2 metres decreasing below 1.5 metres around dawn. **Swell:** Southwesterly 3 metres.

Forecast for Thursday

Winds: East to northeasterly 5 to 15 knots tending northeast to northwesterly up to 10 knots during the afternoon. **Seas:** Below 1 metre. **Swell:** Southwesterly 3 metres decreasing below 2 metres from midday.

The next routine forecast will be issued at 4:50 pm EDT Tuesday.

* Calls to 1300 numbers cost around 27c/min incl. GST, higher from mobiles or public phones.

Clear headings to describe the forecast period

FURTHER INFORMATION

www.bom.gov.au/NexGenFWS