

MARINE SERVICE IMPROVEMENTS FOR TASMANIA

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The Bureau of Meteorology is upgrading its forecast system to provide more detailed forecasts across Australia.

From June 2011, new and improved services will be introduced in Tasmania.

Here are some of the changes that you will see:

- Coastal Waters forecasts will be provided individually for each coastal zone, with an improved layout for easier reading.
- Four new forecasts will be provided for the Derwent Estuary, Storm Bay, Channel and Frederick Henry & Norfolk Bay. These forecasts will provide wind and wave information for the next four days. Warnings will now be issued for these areas.
- Marine wind warnings will now be issued for today and tomorrow, and included in the forecast. A statewide summary will show warnings for coastal and local waters.
- Four day forecasts and a small craft alert service will be provided for the inland lakes on the Southwest plateau and the Central Plateau.

Example of Coastal Waters Forecast

Coastal Waters Forecast for Tasmania Southeast Coast: Tasman Island to South East Cape

Forecast issued at 5:05 am EDT on Tuesday 25 January 2011 for the period until midnight EDT Thursday 27 January 2011.

Warning Summary at issue time

Strong wind warning during Tuesday and Wednesday for Southeast Coast.

Weather Situation

A weakening cold front will approach western Bass Strait later on Tuesday before drifting across Tasmania early Wednesday. Another weak cold front will move over Tasmania on Thursday before a high pressure system lingers around Bass Strait on Friday

Forecast for Tuesday until midnight

Strong wind warning during Tuesday for Southeast Coast.

Winds Mainly north to northwest 10 to 20 knots, reaching 25 to possibly 30 knots about the south late. Inshore afternoon sea breezes.

Seas 1 to 2 metres.

Swell 1 Southeasterly about 1.5 metres tending easterly 1.5 metres late this evening.

Swell 2 Northeasterly 0.5 metres.

Wednesday 26 January

Strong wind warning during Wednesday for Southeast Coast.

Winds West to northwest 15 to 25 knots, possibly 30 knots about the south, tending west to southwest at 10 to 20 knots during the morning then easing to 5 to 15 knots in the afternoon. Becoming variable in the afternoon and evening with inshore sea breezes.

Seas 1 to 2 metres.

Swell Southwest to 2 metres.

Marine Wind Warnings will now be issued for today and tomorrow

Forecasts updated every 6 hours whenever a warning is current

Forecast will now include wind warnings

Coastal forecasts may report two swells

