



Australian Government
Bureau of Meteorology

Severe Tropical Cyclone *Alison*

7 - 13 November 1998

Perth Tropical Cyclone Warning Centre
Bureau of Meteorology

A. Summary

A depression with a clear cloud signature was evident to the northeast of the Cocos Islands from the 7th. There was initially significant vertical shear over the system and it developed only slowly. Tropical cyclone intensity was reached on 8 November when a separate outflow developed over it. Intensification then became more rapid and the cyclone moved off towards the southwest under the influence of north-easterly steering. Vertical shear then began to limit development. On 11 November it moved through a break in the ridge subsequently encountering stronger vertical wind shear and cooler seas, causing it to weaken.

B. Meteorological Description

Alison formed within an active near equatorial trough. Initial development was hampered by strong northeast shear over the system.

Structure

Alison tracked on the northwest flank of the mid-level anticyclone. Its movement changed abruptly towards the northwest following shearing. *Alison* moved into a region of strong shear south of the mid-level ridge axis and weakened rapidly.

C. Impact

There is no known damage from Tropical Cyclone *Alison*.

D. Observations

Gales were recorded at Cocos Islands for about 1 hour between 18 and 19 UTC on 8 November.

Table 1. Best track summary for *Alison* 7- 13 November 1998.

Note: Add 8 hours to convert to WST. Refer to best track database for complete track details.

Year	Month	Day	Hour (UTC)	Position Latitude S	Position Longitude E	Max wind 10min knots	Central Pressure hPa	Rad. of Gales nm
1998	11	7	0100	10.2	98.2	25	1002	
1998	11	7	0400	10.3	98.4	25	1002	
1998	11	7	0700	10.3	98.6	25	1000	
1998	11	7	1000	10.4	98.8	25	1000	
1998	11	7	1300	10.4	98.9	30	998	
1998	11	7	1600	10.5	99.0	30	998	
1998	11	7	1900	10.5	99.1	35	996	
1998	11	7	2200	10.6	99.2	35	996	
1998	11	8	0100	10.9	99.3	35	994	25
1998	11	8	0400	11.3	99.2	40	992	40
1998	11	8	0700	11.8	99.0	40	990	45
1998	11	8	1000	12.1	98.6	50	985	50
1998	11	8	1300	12.4	98.2	55	980	50
1998	11	8	1600	12.6	97.7	60	975	50
1998	11	8	1900	12.8	97.4	65	970	65
1998	11	8	2200	13.0	97.0	70	965	65
1998	11	9	0100	13.2	96.5	75	960	80
1998	11	9	0400	13.3	96.0	75	960	80
1998	11	9	0700	13.5	95.6	80	955	95
1998	11	9	1000	13.8	95.2	80	955	95
1998	11	9	1300	14.1	94.8	80	955	80
1998	11	9	1600	14.4	94.5	75	960	80
1998	11	9	1900	14.6	94.3	75	960	75
1998	11	9	2200	14.8	94.0	75	960	75
1998	11	10	0100	15.1	93.8	75	960	75
1998	11	10	0400	15.3	93.6	70	965	75
1998	11	10	0700	15.7	93.5	70	965	75
1998	11	10	1000	16.0	93.4	65	970	75
1998	11	10	1300	16.3	93.2	65	970	70
1998	11	10	1600	16.5	92.9	60	975	60
1998	11	10	1900	16.7	92.7	60	975	50
1998	11	10	2200	17.0	92.5	60	975	45
1998	11	11	0100	17.3	92.3	55	980	45
1998	11	11	0400	17.6	92.1	55	980	40
1998	11	11	0700	17.9	92.0	55	980	40
1998	11	11	1000	18.1	91.9	50	985	
1998	11	11	1300	18.3	91.7	50	985	
1998	11	11	1600	18.5	91.6	50	985	
1998	11	11	1900	18.7	91.5	50	985	
1998	11	11	2200	18.8	91.4	40	990	
1998	11	12	0100	18.9	91.3	40	990	
1998	11	12	0400	19.1	91.2	35	995	
1998	11	12	0700	19.1	91.1	35	995	
1998	11	12	1000	18.9	90.9	30	998	
1998	11	12	1300	18.7	90.8	25	1000	
1998	11	12	1900	18.2	90.7	25	1000	
1998	11	13	0100	17.1	90.6	20	1005	
1998	11	13	0700	16.5	89.8	20	1005	
1998	11	13	1000	15.9	88.8	20	1005	

Figure 1. Track of Tropical Cyclone Alison, 8 – 13 November 1998.
All times in WST.

