



**Australian Government**  
**Bureau of Meteorology**

**Severe Tropical Cyclone *Kirsty***  
10 – 19 March 1985

Perth Tropical Cyclone Warning Centre  
Bureau of Meteorology

**A. Summary**

*Kirsty*, the most intense tropical cyclone of the season, began forming on 1 March in a monsoonal trough lying east-west to the south of Java. The pre-cyclonic low drifted westward and deepened very slowly. During 5 March, when the system was just northwest of Cocos Island, rapid intensification took place and cyclonic status was reached by 0300 UTC 6 March.

Under the influence of an upper-level anticyclone located over Cocos, *Kirsty* moved southwest and deepened rapidly after 0000 UTC 8 March. The lowest pressure, estimated at 920 hPa, was reached at 0600 UTC 9 March at 14.7°S, 85.0°E. This intensity was maintained until 0000 UTC 10 March when the system began to weaken and recurve. Maintaining a southeasterly track, *Kirsty* weakened over cooler water and lost cyclonic strength by 0600 UTC 16 March. The remnant low became embedded in a basically westerly stream and eventually dissipated off Cape Naturaliste at 0000 UTC 19 March.

While the strongest wind recorded was 93km/h at 1800 UTC 7 March, 110 km from the centre, winds are estimated to have reached 200 km/h close to the centre during 9 March. Over the full life cycle the system travelled about 6900 km, however as the track was over the sea and distant from land, no damage is known to have occurred.

There was no known impact associated with TC *Kirsty*.

Table 1 Best track summary for Tropical Cyclone Kirsty 1 – 19 March 1985.

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 knots	Central Pressure hPa	Rad. of Gales nm
1985	3	1	0000	10.5	112.0	20	1006	
1985	3	1	0600	10.5	110.3	20	1004	
1985	3	1	1200	10.5	110.3	20	1004	
1985	3	1	1800	10.5	109.6	20	1004	
1985	3	2	0000	10.4	108.7	20	1005	
1985	3	2	0600	10.3	107.7	25	1003	
1985	3	2	0900	10.3	107.3	25	1003	
1985	3	2	1200	10.2	106.9	20	1004	
1985	3	2	1600	10.1	106.3	20	1004	
1985	3	2	1800	10.1	106.0	20	1004	
1985	3	2	2100	10.1	105.6	20	1005	
1985	3	3	0000	10.1	105.2	20	1005	
1985	3	3	0300	10.1	104.8	25	1003	
1985	3	3	0600	10.1	104.4	25	1002	
1985	3	3	0900	10.1	104.0	25	1002	
1985	3	3	1200	10.1	103.6	25	1002	
1985	3	3	1600	10.2	103.0	25	1002	
1985	3	3	1800	10.2	102.7	25	1003	
1985	3	4	0000	10.2	101.9	25	1003	
1985	3	4	0600	10.2	101.3	25	1002	
1985	3	4	1200	10.2	100.7	25	1002	
1985	3	4	1800	10.3	100.1	25	1002	
1985	3	5	0000	10.3	99.5	25	1002	
1985	3	5	0600	10.4	98.7	25	1001	
1985	3	5	0900	10.5	98.3	30	999	
1985	3	5	1200	10.5	97.9	30	999	
1985	3	5	1600	10.5	97.3	35	998	
1985	3	5	1800	10.6	97.0	35	997	
1985	3	5	2100	10.6	96.5	35	997	
1985	3	6	0000	10.6	95.9	35	997	
1985	3	6	0300	10.7	95.3	40	995	
1985	3	6	0600	10.8	94.7	45	993	
1985	3	6	1200	11.0	93.9	45	990	
1985	3	6	1800	11.3	93.0	50	988	
1985	3	7	0000	11.7	92.4	50	986	
1985	3	7	0600	12.2	91.7	60	982	
1985	3	7	1200	12.8	90.6	65	978	65
1985	3	7	1800	13.2	89.3	65	975	60
1985	3	8	0000	13.5	88.5	75	970	105
1985	3	8	0600	13.5	87.7	80	966	
1985	3	8	1200	13.6	87.1	90	954	
1985	3	8	1800	13.9	86.4	95	950	
1985	3	9	0000	14.2	86.0	105	941	115
1985	3	9	0600	14.7	85.4	120	920	165

1985	3	9	1200	15.3	85.1	120	920	205
1985	3	9	1800	15.9	84.8	120	920	
1985	3	10	0000	16.5	84.8	120	920	
1985	3	10	0600	17.2	84.8	120	923	
1985	3	10	1200	18.0	84.9		941	
1985	3	10	1800	18.6	84.9	95	947	215
1985	3	11	0000	19.0	85.0	90	954	
1985	3	11	0600	19.2	85.0	80	963	
1985	3	11	1200	19.5	85.1	75	971	220
1985	3	11	1800	19.9	85.2	65	976	
1985	3	12	0000	20.3	85.3	65	976	180
1985	3	12	0600	20.7	85.7	65	976	255
1985	3	12	1200	21.3	85.9	65	976	205
1985	3	12	1800	22.0	86.2	65	976	205
1985	3	13	0000	22.6	86.6	65	976	250
1985	3	13	0600	23.3	87.2	65	978	275
1985	3	13	1200	24.0	87.9	60	982	195
1985	3	13	1800	24.5	88.6	55	984	
1985	3	14	0000	24.9	89.6	50	986	
1985	3	14	0600	25.3	90.8	50	988	
1985	3	14	1200	25.8	92.0	45	990	
1985	3	14	1800	26.3	93.2	45	991	
1985	3	15	0000	26.9	94.4	45	992	
1985	3	15	0600	27.4	95.6	45	993	
1985	3	15	1200	27.9	96.6	40	994	
1985	3	15	1800	28.4	97.3	40	994	
1985	3	16	0000	28.9	98.1	40	995	
1985	3	16	0600	29.5	98.9	35	997	
1985	3	16	1200	30.2	99.5	35	998	
1985	3	16	1800	31.0	100.1	30	999	
1985	3	17	0000	32.1	100.8	30	1000	
1985	3	17	0600	33.3	101.8	25	1002	
1985	3	17	1200	33.7	103.6	25	1003	
1985	3	17	1800	34.1	105.5	20	1004	
1985	3	18	0000	34.5	107.5	20	1005	
1985	3	18	0600	34.7	109.7	20	1006	
1985	3	18	1200	34.6	111.4	15	1008	
1985	3	18	1800	34.3	112.4	10	1010	
1985	3	19	0000	33.6	113.0	10	1012	

Figure 1. Track of Tropical Cyclone *Kirsty* 1 – 19 March 1985  
All times in WST.

