



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

## **Tropical Cyclone Ned**

25 March – 1 April 1989  
Perth Tropical Cyclone Warning Centre  
Bureau of Meteorology

### **A. Summary**

A low that formed off the west Kimberley coast developed as it moved to the west reaching cyclone intensity on 26 March well north of the Pilbara coast. *Ned* intensified reaching category 4 intensity early on 29 March well to the west northwest of Exmouth. *Ned* then weakened owing to increasing wind shear as it moved southwards. A strong mid-latitude trough approaching from the southwest accelerated the remains of *Ned* to the southeast crossing near Perth on the morning of 1 April. Strong winds were reported at Rottnest Island and in the Rockingham area, and caused power disruptions and isolated roof damage.

### **B. Meteorological Description**

A series of transient lows analysed within a broad low-pressure trough near the northwest Australian coast were resolved as one discrete circulation north of Port Hedland at 0600 UTC 25 March. The low moved west and deepened, reaching cyclone intensity at 1200 UTC 26 March near 17.23°S, 115.3°E.

An eye had developed by 0000 UTC 28 March and was discernible from satellite imagery until 1200 UTC 29 March. The cyclone reached maximum intensity at 0000 UTC 29 March with a central pressure of 941 hPa.

*Ned* began to weaken under increasing vertical shear, particularly after 0000 UTC 30 March, and satellite imagery revealed that the low-level circulation centre had separated from the upper-level cirrus canopy.

Although weakened by vertical shear, *Ned* continued to hold sufficient structure to generate gales as it moved slowly south, parallel to the coast. The approach of a strong cold front during 31 March caused the cyclone to move southeast and accelerate.

*Ned* crossed the coast near Perth at around 2300 UTC 31 March causing power disruptions and isolated roof damage; wind gusts of 110 km/h were recorded. The decaying remnants of *Ned* lost all identity near 34.5°S, 120.8°E at 0600 1 April.

### **C. Impact**

Strong winds caused power disruptions and isolated roof damage in the Perth metropolitan area.

### **D. Observations**

There were reports of strong winds and possible gales at Rottnest Island and in the Rockingham area.

Table 1. Best track summary for Ned, 25 – 30 March 1989

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
1989	03	25	0600	17.4	119.8	0	1003	
1989	03	25	1200	17.1	119.1	0	1001	
1989	03	25	1800	16.8	118.1	25	999	
1989	03	26	0000	16.9	116.9	30	997	
1989	03	26	0600	17.1	115.8	35	995	
1989	03	26	1200	17.2	115.3	40	992	
1989	03	26	1800	17.4	114.6	45	989	
1989	03	27	0000	17.8	113.8	45	986	
1989	03	27	0600	18.1	113.0	50	982	
1989	03	27	1200	18.3	112.2	55	977	
1989	03	27	1800	18.8	111.0	65	967	
1989	03	28	0000	19.0	110.2	80	954	
1989	03	28	0600	19.6	109.6	85	948	
1989	03	28	1200	20.1	109.2	85	945	
1989	03	28	1800	20.4	109.1	90	942	
1989	03	29	0000	20.7	109.1	90	941	
1989	03	29	0600	21.0	109.0	85	945	
1989	03	29	1200	21.5	109.0	80	954	
1989	03	29	1800	22.0	109.0	70	964	
1989	03	30	0000	22.4	108.9	60	972	
1989	03	30	0600	23.2	108.5	50	984	
1989	03	30	1200	24.0	108.4	45	989	
1989	03	30	1800	25.0	108.5	40	992	
1989	03	31	0000	26.1	108.7	35	994	
1989	03	31	0600	27.2	109.2	35	996	
1989	03	31	0900	27.9	109.8	30	997	
1989	03	31	1200	28.5	110.5	30	998	
1989	03	31	1500	29.2	110.6	25	999	
1989	03	31	1800	30.2	113.0	25	1000	
1989	03	31	2100	31.5	114.8		1001	
1989	04	1	0000	32.7	116.6		1002	
1989	04	1	0300	33.8	118.6		1002	
1989	04	1	0600	34.5	120.8		1003	

Figure 1. Track of Tropical Cyclone Ned, 25 March – 1 April 1989

All times in WST.

