



Australian Government
Bureau of Meteorology

Tropical Cyclone Oscar

28 December 1993 – 9 January 1994

Perth Tropical Cyclone Warning Centre
Bureau of Meteorology

A. Summary

TC *Oscar* was a small, weak system throughout its lifetime and only barely reached cyclone intensity for a period of 12 hours on 3 January northwest of Broome. It was first analysed as a 1005 hPa low on 28 December near Darwin and moved on a generally west southwest course parallel to the Kimberley and Pilbara coasts finally dissipating early on 9 January near 16°S 109°E.

At no stage did TC *Oscar* have any impact on the WA coast or on any of the offshore reporting stations.

B. Meteorological Description

Intensity analysis

Tropical cyclone *Oscar* barely reached tropical cyclone intensity for a period of about 12 hours on 3 January. A low was first analysed as a tropical low on 28 December near Darwin. It moved on a west-southwesterly course parallel to the north-west Australian coast and dissipated early on 9 January off the northwest Australian coastline. The initial development of *Oscar* was aided by the combination of a moderate westerly monsoon flow to the north (enhanced by typhoon *Nell* passing across the Philippines), and a favourable positioning beneath the upper-level ridge axis. Intensification was inhibited by vertical wind shear.

Motion and Structure

Oscar was steered by the lower and middle level easterly flow to the north of the subtropical ridge axis. It was located on the western flank of an upper level high for all its lifetime and thereby experienced moderate shear, this explains the difficulty in *Oscar* developing fully as a cyclone.

C. Impact

At no stage did *Oscar* have any impact on the WA coast or on any of the offshore reporting stations.

D. Observations

Wind/Pressure and Rainfall

There was no report of significant wind and rainfall associated with TC *Oscar*.

Table 1. Best track summary for *Oscar 28 December 1993 – 9 January 1994*

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
1993	12	28	0000	12.1	129.7	20	1005	
1993	12	28	1200	11.2	129.5	20	1005	
1993	12	29	0000	10.8	129.0	20	1004	
1993	12	29	1200	10.8	128.3	25	1002	
1993	12	30	0000	10.9	128.1	25	1000	
1993	12	30	1200	11.1	127.2	30	998	
1993	12	31	0000	11.3	126.4	35	996	
1993	12	31	1200	12.1	126.0	30	998	
1994	01	1	0000	12.5	124.6	25	1000	
1994	01	1	1200	13.6	123.5	25	1002	
1994	01	2	0000	14.6	121.7	25	1000	
1994	01	2	1200	15.5	121.0	30	999	
1994	01	3	0000	16.7	120.3	35	995	25
1994	01	3	0300	16.9	119.9	35	995	25
1994	01	3	0600	17.1	119.5	35	995	25
1994	01	3	0900	17.0	119.0	35	995	25
1994	01	3	1200	16.9	118.5	35	996	
1994	01	3	1800	17.2	117.9	30	998	
1994	01	4	0000	17.4	117.3	25	1000	
1994	01	4	1200	17.2	116.4	25	1000	
1994	01	5	0000	16.7	115.7	25	1000	
1994	01	5	0600	16.4	115.4	25	1000	
1994	01	5	1200	16.8	114.9	25	1000	
1994	01	6	0000	16.9	114.0	20	1005	
1994	01	6	1200	16.9	112.9	20	1005	
1994	01	7	0000	17.1	111.9	20	1005	
1994	01	7	1200	17.1	111.6	20	1005	
1994	01	8	0000	17.0	111.3	20	1005	
1994	01	8	1200	16.5	110.2	20	1005	
1994	01	9	0000	16.0	109.4	0	1008	

Figure 1. Track of Tropical Cyclone Oscar, 28 December 1993 – 9 January 1994.
All times in WST.

