



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

## **Tropical Cyclone *Selwyn*** 21 – 26 February 1986

Perth Tropical Cyclone Warning Centre  
Bureau of Meteorology

### **A. Summary**

A low that formed well north of the west Pilbara coast reached cyclone intensity late on 22 February and reached category two intensity late on 23 February as it moved to the southwest. Tropical cyclone *Selwyn* weakened over open waters being downgraded to a tropical low on 26 February. There was no known impact.

### **B. Meteorological Description**

Tropical cyclone *Selwyn* developed in the Indian Ocean, some 825 km north of Barrow Island at 13.4°S, 114.3°E within an extensive low pressure area that extended from Christmas Island to Darwin and southwest to Perth. The southern extent of the low pressure area contained the decaying remains of cyclone *Rhonda*.

The developing low moved south-southeast during 21 February 1986 and after 0300 UTC on 22 February commenced a sustained south-westerly track. The lowest central pressure of 980hPa was attained at 1800 UTC 23 February near 18.9°S, 110.9°E and was maintained until 0900 UTC 24 February at 20.3°S, 108.3°E.

Further intensification was inhibited by shearing associated with increasing upper-level north-westerly winds and underlying low-level easterly winds from a ridge lying across the eastern Indian Ocean and southern Western Australia. By 0600 UTC 25 February the central pressure had risen to 995hPa at 22.5°S, 106.5°E and the system took on a more southerly track before losing identity near 24.2°S, 106.3°E by 0600 UTC 26 February.

The track of the system was entirely maritime and no reports of winds in excess of gale force were received.

### **C. Impact**

There was no known impact associated with Tropical cyclone *Selwyn*.

**Table 1 Best track summary for Tropical Cyclone Selwyn 21 – 26 February 1986.** 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
1986	02	21	0600	13.4	114.3	25	1003	
1986	02	21	1200	14.0	114.5	25	1002	
1986	02	21	1800	14.3	114.8	25	1001	
1986	02	22	0000	14.8	114.9	25	1001	
1986	02	22	0600	15.4	114.8	30	1000	
1986	02	22	1200	15.8	114.3	35	998	
1986	02	22	1800	16.1	113.7	35	996	
1986	02	23	0000	16.7	113.0	45	992	
1986	02	23	0600	17.5	112.4	45	990	
1986	02	23	1200	18.2	111.7	50	986	
1986	02	23	1800	18.9	110.9	60	980	
1986	02	24	0000	19.1	110.0	60	980	
1986	02	24	0600	19.9	108.9	60	980	
1986	02	24	1200	20.7	108.0	55	984	
1986	02	24	1800	21.3	107.3	45	990	
1986	02	25	0000	21.9	106.9	45	990	
1986	02	25	0600	22.5	106.5	40	995	
1986	02	25	1200	23.0	106.2	35	998	
1986	02	25	1800	23.6	106.1	35	998	
1986	02	26	0000	24.0	106.2	30	1000	
1986	02	26	0600	24.2	106.3	25	1002	
1986	02	25	0600	9.3	130.3		1004	

Note: Radius of gales field incomplete.

Figure 1. Track of Tropical Cyclone *Selwyn* 21 – 26 February 1986  
*All times in WST.*

