



HELO Weather

McMurdo Weather
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Duty Forecaster: x42524
Briefing Counter: x43353

Date (L): Wednesday, 17 December 2025

Brief Time (L): 0600

Briefing Number: 12-025

FCSTR: Mark Millen

REGIONAL SUMMARY

Indications are that a Ross Sea Low will track to the true east of Ross Island today. The latest model guidance has the low tracking further to the east, less intense, and a few hours later than it was showing yesterday, but as it approaches its nearest point to Ross Island we expect it to energize a low on the Ross Ice Shelf to the true south that will then bring in strong winds and blowing snow. Expect potentially dangerous weather that could result in **“Severe Weather Conditions”** from **17/1400L to 18/0300L** with strong winds, gusting **25 to 40 knots**, and poor surface visibility, **0000 to 1000 meters**, due to new falling snow and blowing snow on the ice shelf first, to include Williams and Phoenix Airfields, and then pushing into McMurdo Station and all locations on the rock.

HAZARDS

Due to strong winds, poor visibility due to blowing snow and low ceilings expect Moderate Turbulence surface to 3,000 feet and Moderate Rime Icing surface to 3,000 feet.

LATEST MCMURDO OBSERVATION

METAR NZCM 161455Z AUTO 11020G26KT 9000 OVC004 M10/M11 A2959 RMK AO2 PK WND 11026/1447 CIG 003V005 SLP026 T10961109 58004

RUNWAY TAFS

TAF NZFX 161457Z 1615/1715 (1704/1804NZDT) 10016KT 0800 FZFG BKN004 OVC120 620043 520009 QNH2955INS
GRID27016KT

TEMPO 1615/1620 (1704/1709NZDT) 0400 FZFG BLSN

BECMG 1701/1703 (1714/1716NZDT) 15012G18KT 3200 BR BLSN BKN007 BKN120 620073 520009 QNH2952INS
GRID32012G18KT

BECMG 1704/1706 (1717/1719NZDT) 11020G25KT 2400 BLSN BKN010 BKN120 620103 520009 QNH2950INS
GRID28020G25KT

TEMPO 1706/1712 (1719/1801NZDT) 15020G30KT 1000 BLSN GRID32020G30KT

TAF NZWD 161457Z 1615/1715 (1704/1804NZDT) 07012KT 9999 BKN004 OVC120 620043 520009 QNH2958INS
GRID24012KT

BECMG 1620/1622 (1709/1711NZDT) 10015G20KT 9999 DRSN BKN007 BKN120 620073 520009 QNH2953INS
GRID27015G20KT

TEMPO 1702/1706 (1715/1719NZDT) 11020G25KT 2400 BLSN BKN010 BKN120 GRID28020G25KT

BECMG 1704/1706 (1717/1719NZDT) 07010G15KT 9999 DRSN BKN010 BKN120 620103 520009 QNH2950INS
GRID24010G15KT

MCMURDO HELIPAD FORECAST (VALID TIME: 16/0600L – 1800L)

SFC WIND (TRUE): 10025G35KT
SFC VISIBILITY (SM): 3 BR BLSN TEMPO 06-18L 1 BLSN
SKY CONDITION (AGL): BKN003 OVC010 TEMPO VV003
MIN ALSTG: 29.50INS
HAZARDS: MDT TURBC SFC-030, MDT RIME ICING SFC-30

SITE & AREA FORECASTS (VALID TIME: 16/0600L – 1800L)

CONE Z

SFC WIND (TRUE): 09009KT, BECMG 18020G25KT AFT 14L
SFC VISIBILITY (SM): 1/2 SN BR, BECMG 0 FZFG BLSN AFT 14L
SKY CONDITION (MSL): VV002
MIN ALSTG: 29.74INS
HAZARDS: MDT TURBC SFC-30, MDT RIME ICING SFC-030

F6

SFC WIND (TRUE): 05012KT
SFC VISIBILITY (SM): UNRES, VC BLSN AFT 14L
SKY CONDITION (MSL): SCT010 BKN020
MIN ALSTG: 29.50INS
HAZARDS: LGT TURBC SFC-030

LAKE HOARE

SFC WIND (TRUE): 10009KT
SFC VISIBILITY (SM): 4 BR
SKY CONDITION (MSL): SCT010 OVC180
MIN ALSTG: 29.45INS
HAZARDS: NIL

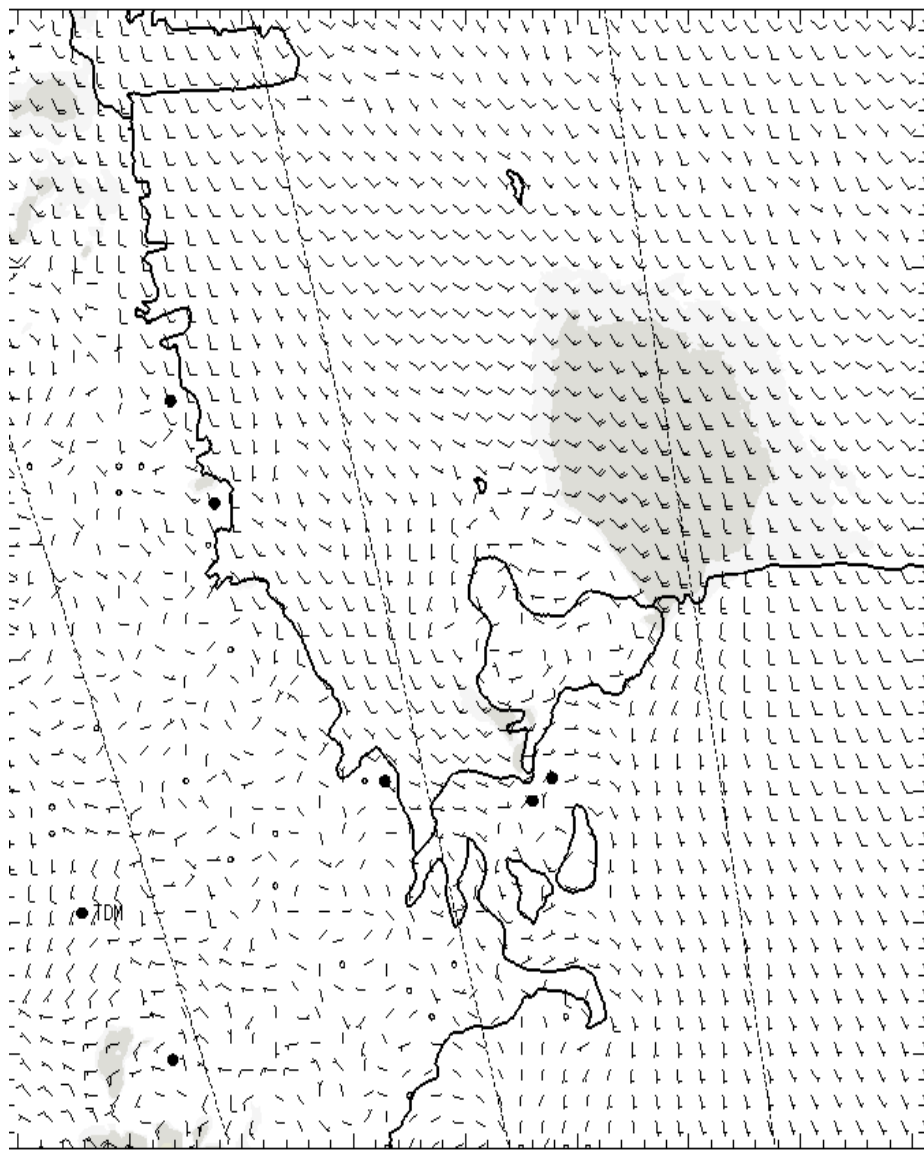
LAKE BONNEY

SFC WIND (TRUE): VRB06KT, BECMG 05013G20KT AFT 13L
SFC VISIBILITY (SM): 2 BR
SKY CONDITION (MSL): SCT010 OVC180
MIN ALSTG: 29.44INS
HAZARDS: NIL

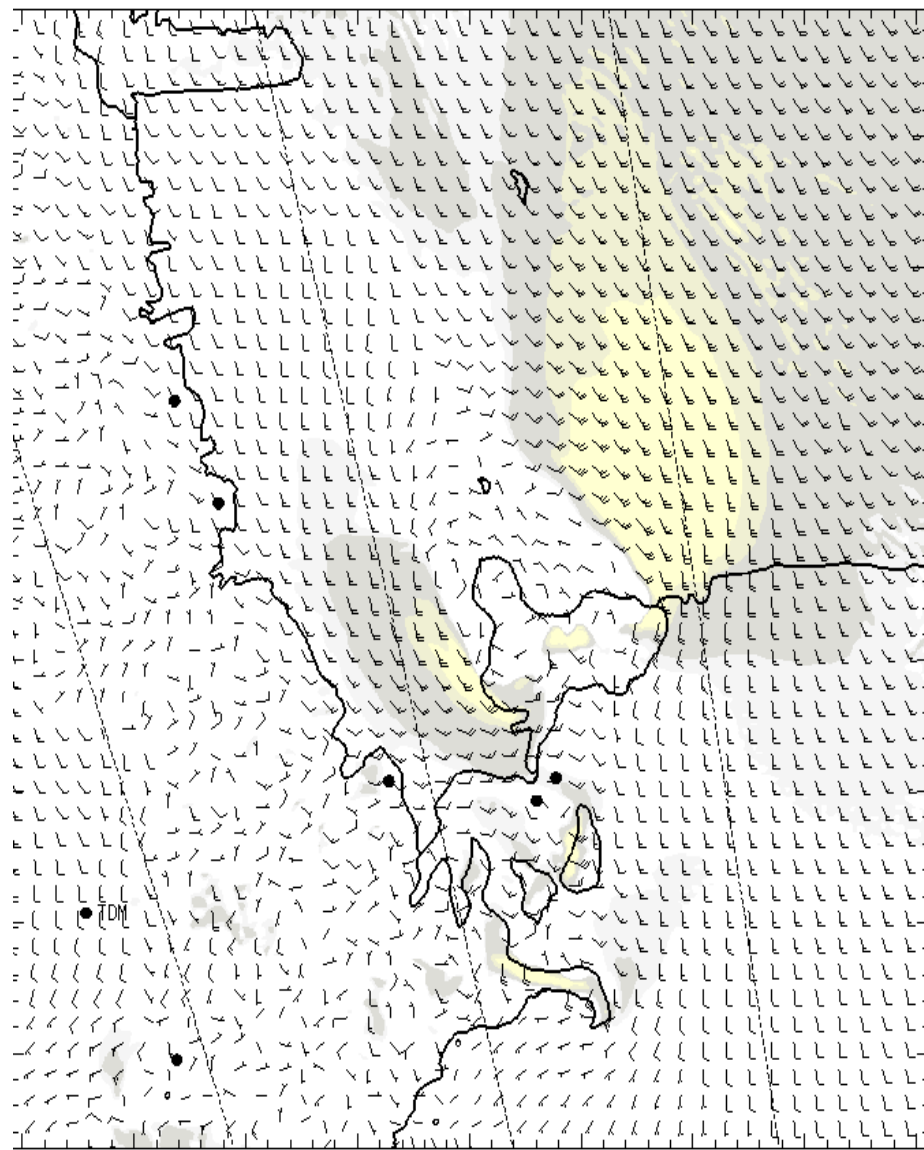
LAKE FRYXELL

SFC WIND (TRUE): VRB06KT, BECMG 13010G15KT AFT 13L
SFC VISIBILITY (SM): 3 BR
SKY CONDITION (MSL): SCT010 OVC180
MIN ALSTG: 29.49INS
HAZARDS: NIL

SFC

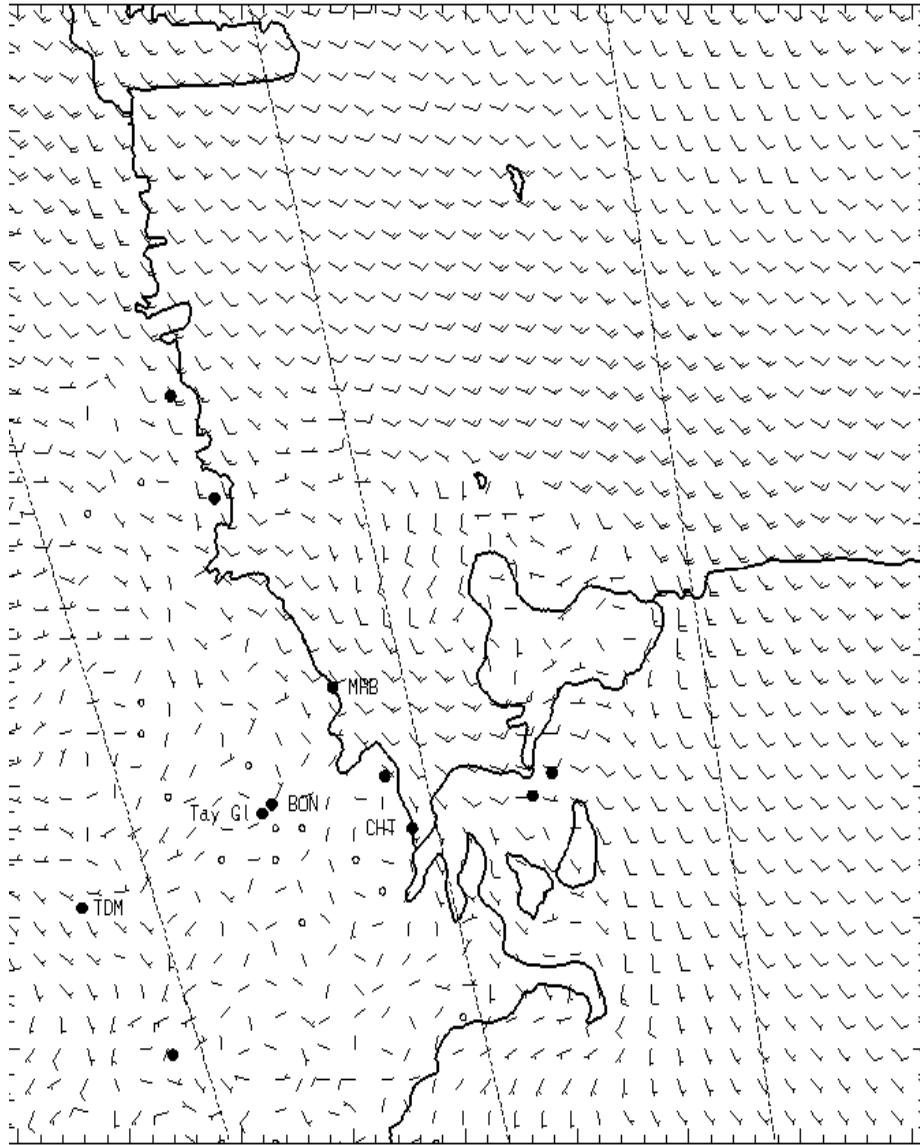


0600L

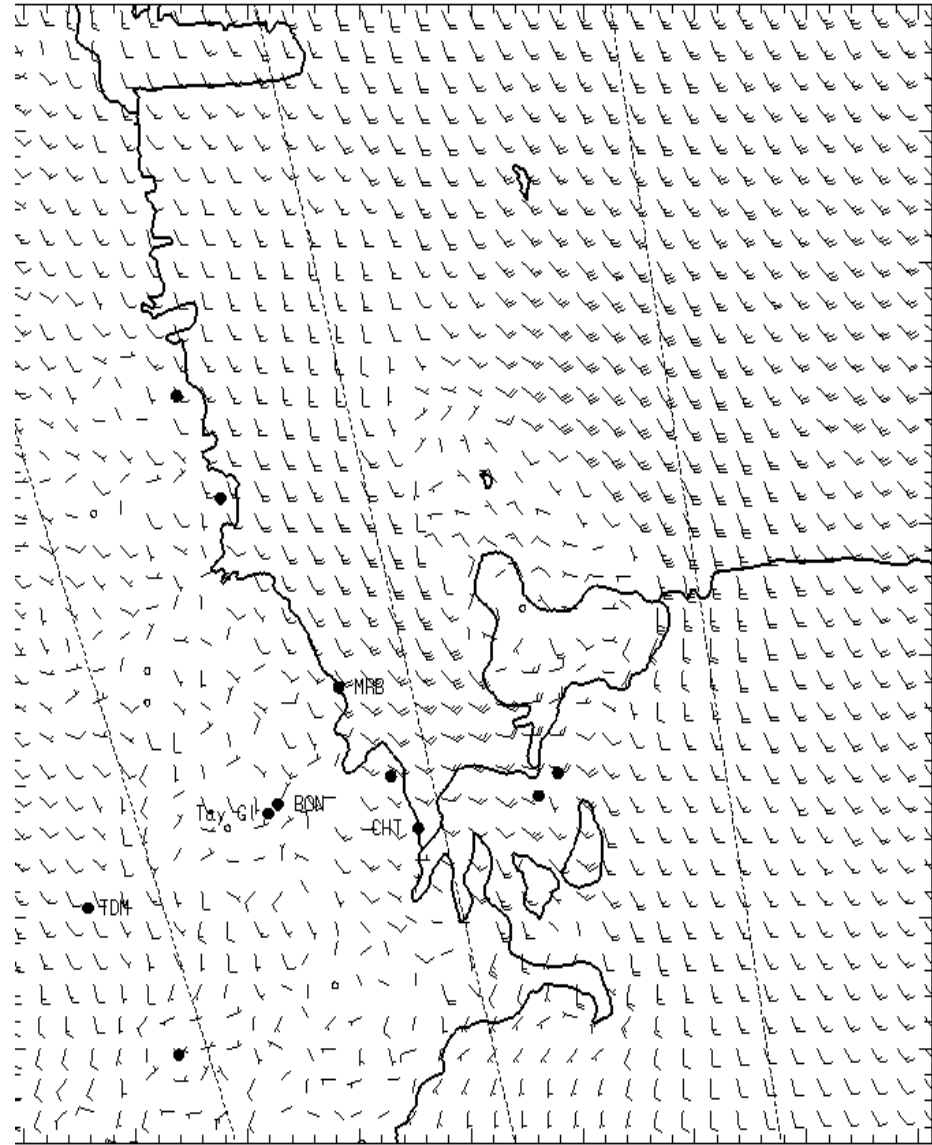


1200L

1,000 ft AGL

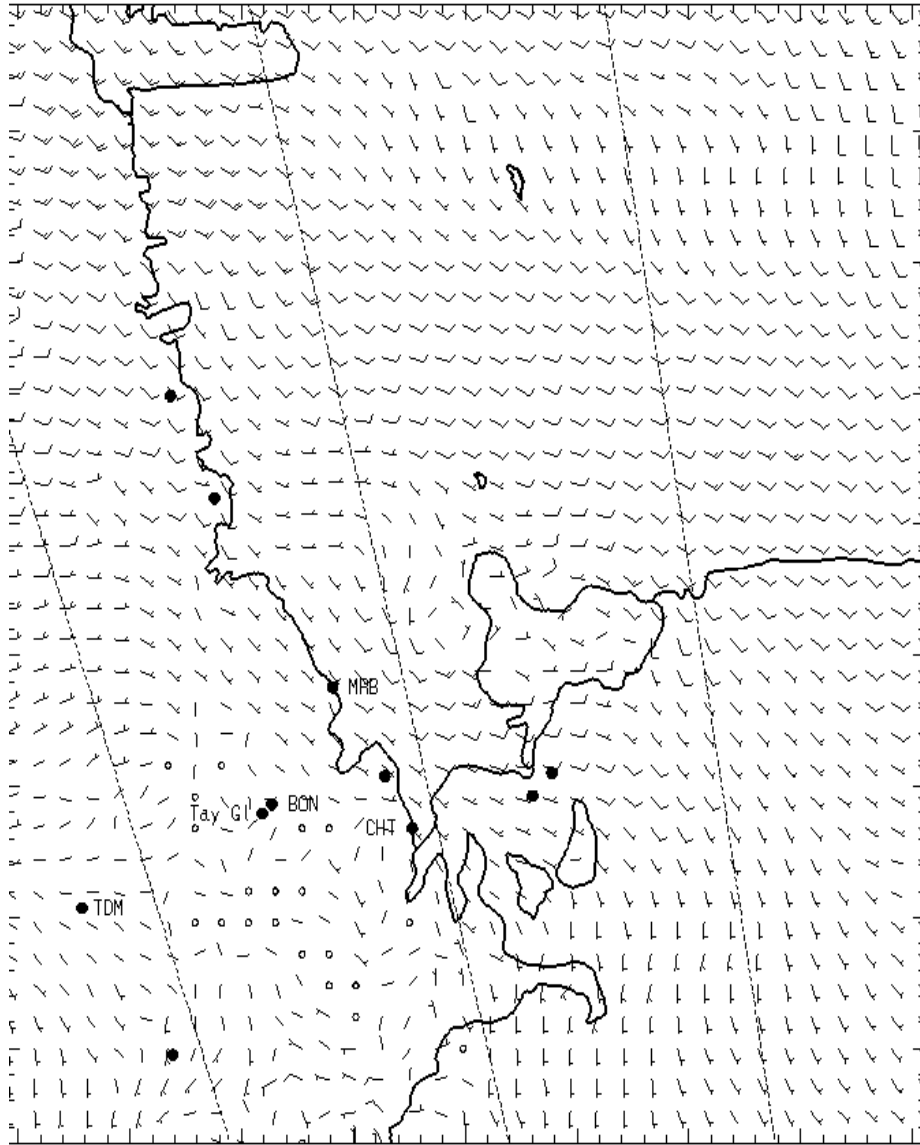


0600L

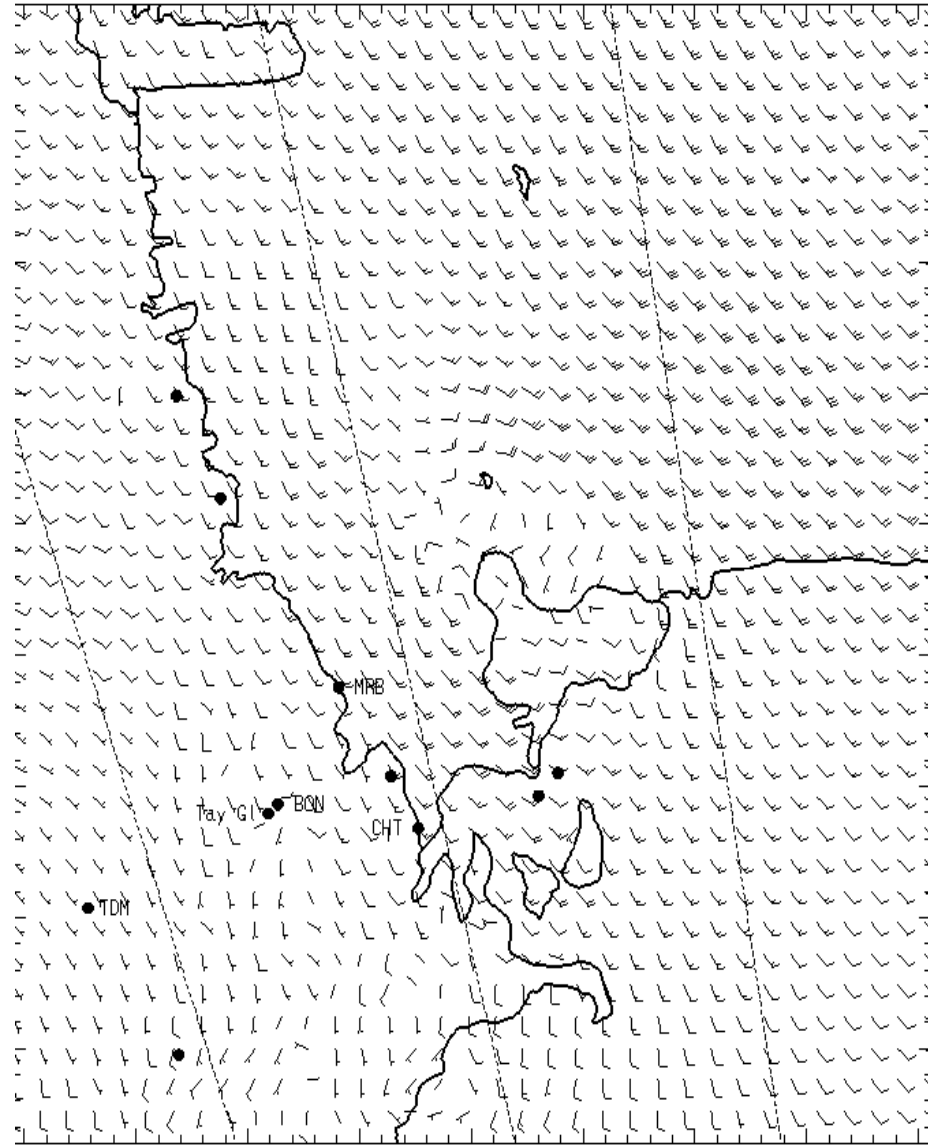


1200L

3,000 ft AGL

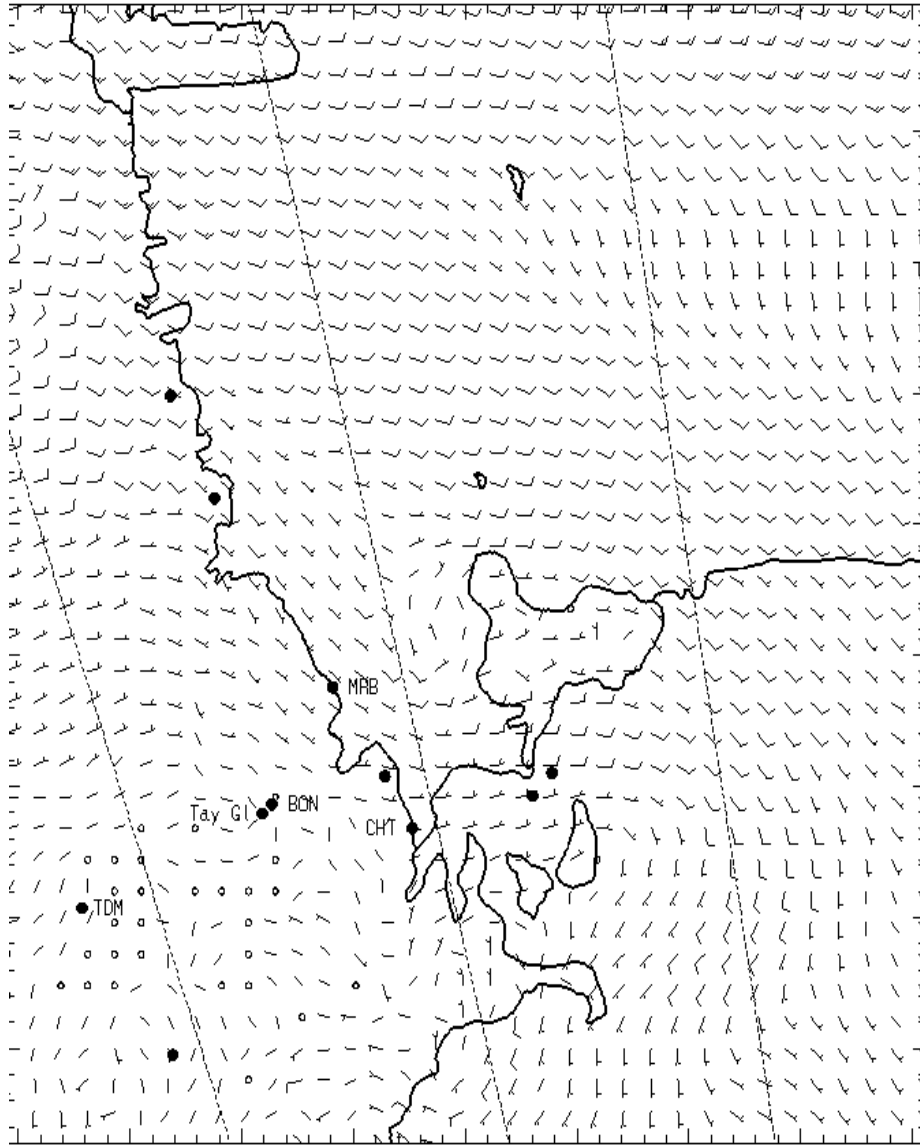


0600L

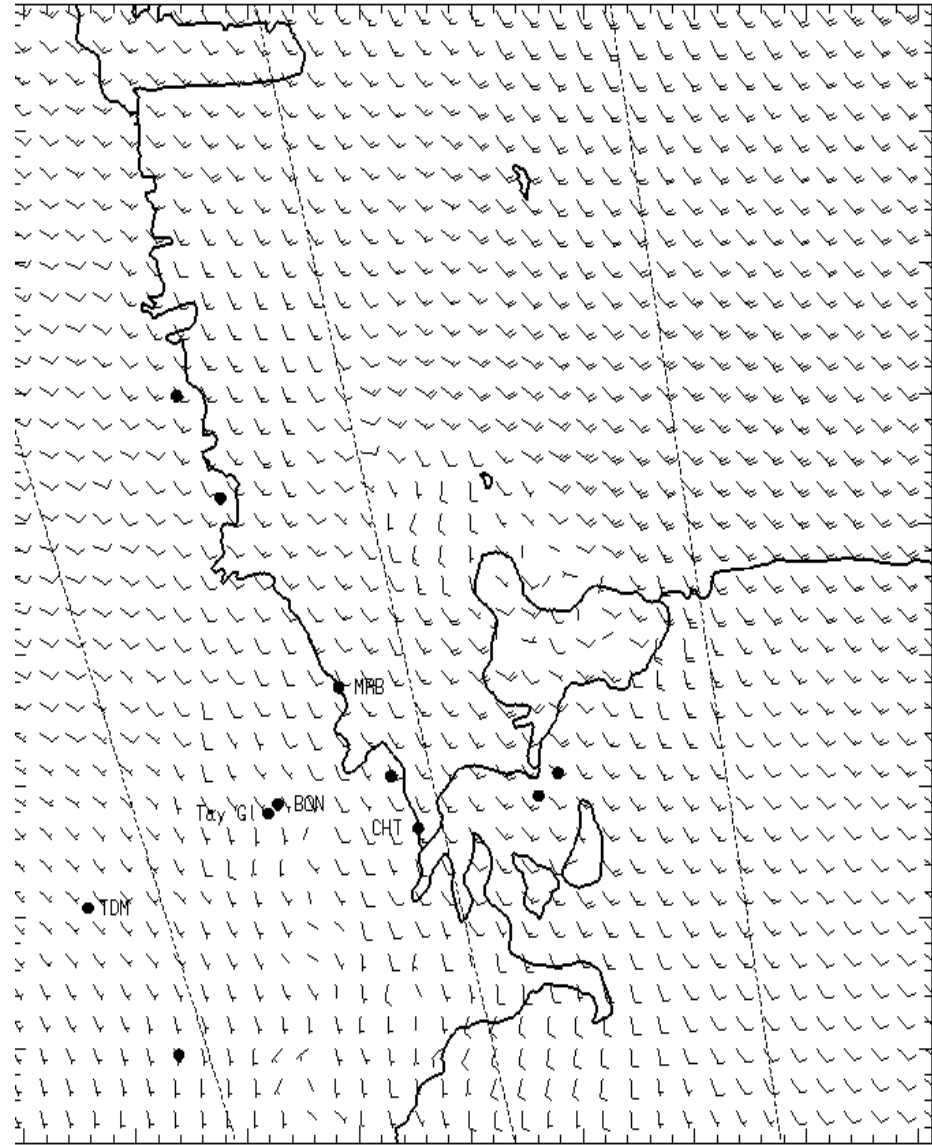


1200L

5,000 ft AGL



0600L



1200L