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25 June 2020

A series of cold fronts headed for the southern parts of South Africa.

The southern parts of the country are about to witness a series of cold fronts starting from later this afternoon, continuing into the weekend.

The first cold front associated with a steep upper-air trough is expected to make landfall later today (25/06/2020) and should move over the Western Cape Province, clearing from Friday, 26 June 2020, midday. This system is expected to result in strong north-westerly winds (60-75 km/h), touching gale force winds (80 – 85 km/h) along the south-west coast, where very rough seas are expected.

Another cold front is expected on Saturday afternoon, 27 June 2020, resulting in strong to gale force (80-85 km/h) winds along the south-west and south coast and adjacent interior, high seas as well as heavy rain leading to localized flooding in places over the western mountains, where rainfall amounts between 25 to 35 mm, reaching 50 mm are also expected.

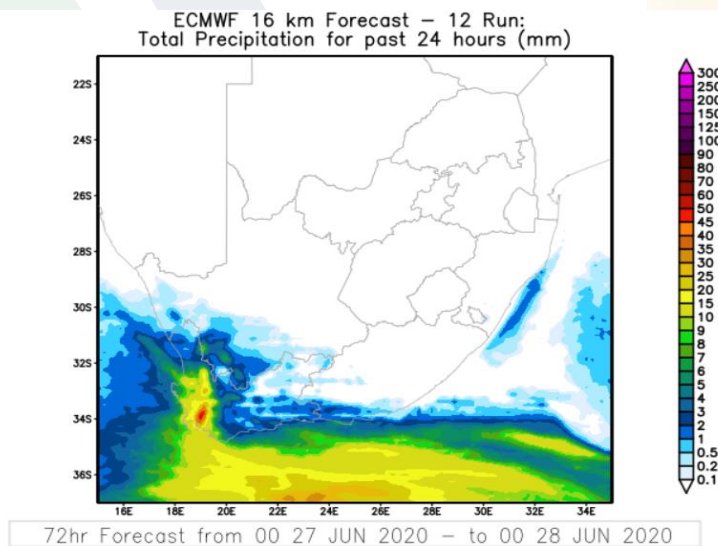


Figure 1: 24-hour rainfall as projected by the ECMWF model for Saturday, 27 June 2020.

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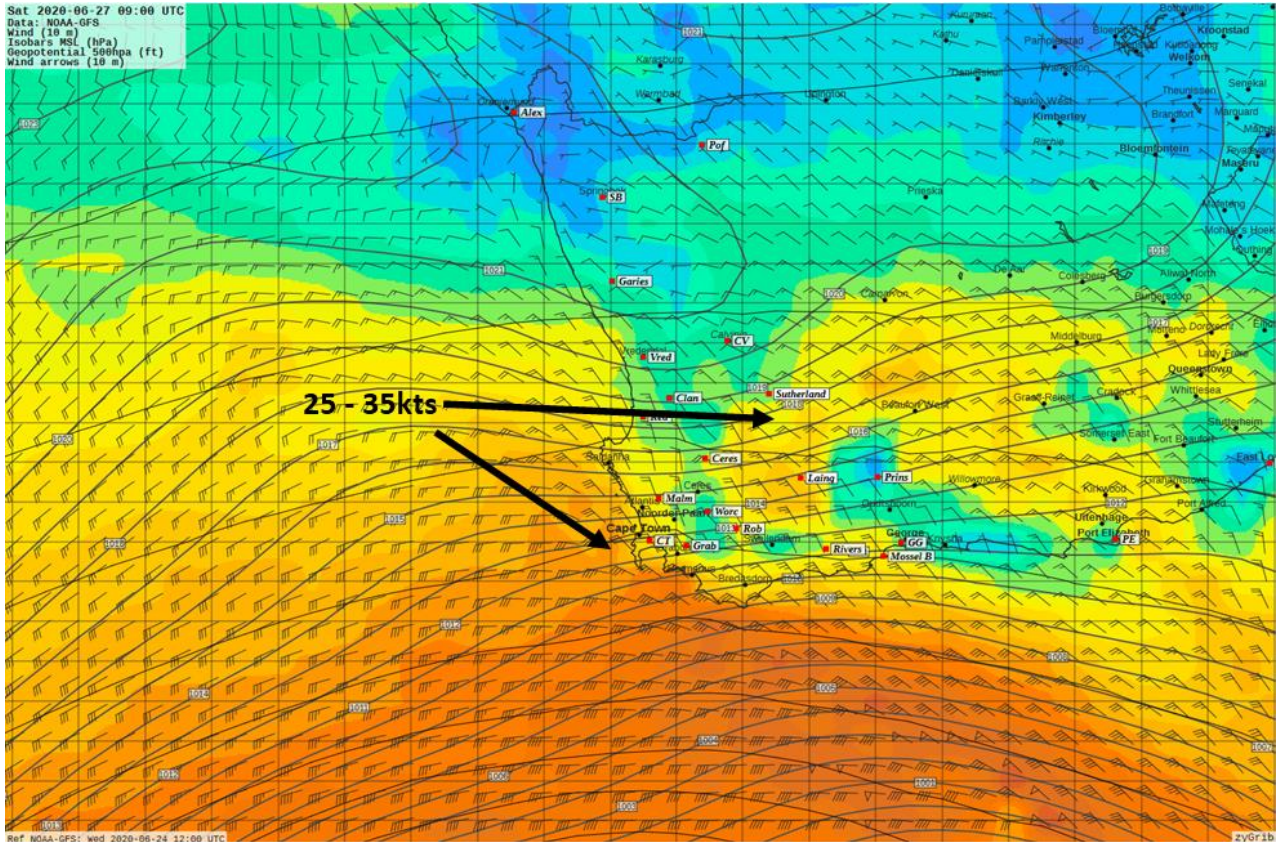


Figure 2: Surface winds projected by the GFS model for Saturday, 27 June 2020.

The public is advised to stay home due to the strong winds affecting the roads, especially for high-sided vehicles and localized temporary structures.

Possible impacts due to high seas include:

Localised damage to coastal infrastructure (e.g. walkways, pipelines, property, road and rail routes);
 localised damage to modification of beaches, dunes and/or estuaries and localised disruptions to beachfront activities (e.g. beaches/shoreline not safe for swimming, shore/rock angling).

Beach goers are advised to take caution as seas are expected to be choppy during the weekend.

The South African Weather Service will continue to monitor any further developments relating to this weather system and will issue subsequent updates as required. Furthermore, the public is urged and encouraged to regularly follow weather forecasts on television and radio.

Updated information in this regard will regularly be available at www.weathersa.co.za as well as via the SA Weather Service Twitter account @SAWeatherServic.

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