

Coastal Services data report No. 2000.3 ISSN 1449–7611



Foreword

This summary of wave climate in Queensland is the earliest of the series of technical wave reports that will be prepared annually by the Coastal Services Unit. It represents a change in the way wave data is presented by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Previously, the wave data recording program technical report series comprised separate reports prepared for each region, covering all data recorded at a site from deployment to date of report.

Annual reports will not replace the more comprehensive regional reports. Instead, they will serve to supplement and enhance the reporting ability of the Coastal Services Unit by providing more timely information on wave climates in Queensland.

Regional wave data reports will continue to provide the more thorough, long-time presentation of regional conditions. Using the information presented annually, it is hoped that in future, regional reports will be updated every five years.

Annual reports will cover the year from 1 November to 31 October. The start of the reporting year therefore coincides with the start of the annual cyclone season that extends from 1 November through to 30 April. This period is also classed as *summer* in both this annual report and the regional technical reports. The remainder of the year (1 May to 31 October) is classed as *winter* in these reports.

Annual reports present wave information in a similar format to the regional reports, however they also include (for the first time), plots of monthly average significant wave heights and directional wave rose (where possible).

Cover photo: The photo on the cover of this report shows ideal surfing waves breaking on northern Gold Coast beaches during storm events emanating from a 992hPa low in the Tasman Sea in July 2001.

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Abstract

This report summarises the primary analyses of wave data recorded using Datawell non-directional and directional Waverider buoys positioned at selected locations along the Queensland coast for the 2000–01

seasonal year.

The data recorded covers the period from 1 November, 2000 to 31 October, 2001, which embraces all of the

seasonal variations for one year, and includes the 2000-01 cyclone season.

The data is divided into seasonal groupings for analysis and no estimations of wave directions have been

provided, unless calculated by a directional buoy.

This report has been prepared by the EPA's Coastal Services Unit, Environmental Sciences Division. The EPA

acknowledges the following team members who contributed their time and effort to the preparation of this

report:

John Mohoupt; Vince Cunningham; Gary Hart; Jeff Shortell; Daniel Conwell; Colin Newport; Darren Hanis;

Martin Hansen and Jim Waldron.

Disclaimer

While reasonable care and attention have been exercised in the collection, processing and compilation of the

wave data included in this report, the Coastal Services Unit does not guarantee the accuracy and reliability of

this information in any way. Neither the Queensland Government nor the EPA accepts liability for any decisions

or actions taken on the basis of this report.

Environmental Protection Agency

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1.0 Introduction

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), as part of its long-term data collection program, has maintained a network of wave recording stations along the Queensland coast since 1968.

The network of wave recording stations has been grouped into three categories:

Long-term sites: These sites form part of long-term data collection activities along the Queensland

coast that collect wave statistics used for coastal management purposes. The

stations are fully funded and operated by the EPA.

EPA project sites: These sites are of limited duration, associated with some specific coastal activity,

and are used to assess wave conditions for coastal investigation projects and/or to help monitor works such as beach nourishment. The stations are fully funded and

operated by the EPA, as specific projects.

Joint project sites: The life of these sites varies in duration, and they are associated with specific

projects, to assess wave conditions or to monitor works. These stations are

operated in conjunction with (and jointly funded by) other agencies.

The 2000–01 site groups are shown in table 1.

Table 1
Wave recording stations
for season 2000–01

Long term	EPA project	Joint project	Joint project partners
Brisbane	Moreton Bay	Tweed Heads	TRESBP *
Mackay	Mooloolaba	Gold Coast	GCCC [†]
Townsville	Dunk Island	Hay Point	PCQ #
Cairns		Weipa	PCQ #
Emu Park			

Tweed River Entrance Sand Bypassing Project (joint project of Queensland and New South Wales Governments with support from Gold Coast City Council)

This report is the first of a series of reports intended to make wave information more readily available by summarising the primary analysis of wave data collected at the buoy locations along the Queensland coastline and presenting wave climate information for the period 1 November, 2000 to 31 October, 2001.

For all stations, the wave data collected for the current year is statistically compared to the long-term average conditions at the site. Brief details of the recording equipment, the methods of handling raw data and the type of analyses employed are provided within this report.

2.0 Recording equipment configuration

For the duration of this summary report the EPA's Coastal Services Unit's wave recording program utilised the Waverider system, manufactured by Datawell of the Netherlands to measure the sea surface fluctuations at an offshore location. Both non-directional and directional Waverider buoys were in operation during the period of this report.

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⁺ Gold Coast City Council

^{*} Ports Corporation of Queensland

Both the directional and non-directional Waverider buoys measure vertical acceleration by means of an accelerometer that is mounted on a gravity-stabilised platform, suspended in a fluid-filled plastic sphere, located at the bottom of the buoy. The vertical accelerations are then twice integrated to give displacement.

The directional buoy also measures horizontal accelerations using a further two fixed accelerometers and an onboard fluxgate compass to give the directional displacement in two horizontal axes. By use of a transformation matrix, these measured accelerations in the north–south and east–west directions are calculated.

The vertical buoy displacement, representing the instantaneous water level, and directional data (if present), are then transmitted to a receiver station as a frequency-modulated, high frequency radio signal.

Non-directional Waverider receiver stations comprise of a computer-based system utilising the Datawell DIWAR Waverider receiver/digitiser. The water level data, digitised at 0·39s intervals (2·56Hz), is recorded in bursts of 4096 points (approximately 26min) and recorded on the hard disk of the computer.

Directional Waverider receiver stations also comprise a PC-based system utilising the Datawell WAREC Wave-direction receiver/digitiser. The water level data, digitised at 0.78s intervals (1.28Hz), is recorded in bursts of 2048 points (approximately 26min) and recorded on the hard disk of the PC.

The proprietary software running on the PC controls the timing of data recording, and processes the data in 'near real time' to provide a set of standard sea-state parameters and spectra that may be accessed remotely via the public telephone network. Recorded data and analysis results are downloaded daily to a central computer system in Brisbane for checking, further processing and archiving.

Further information on the operation of the Waverider buoy and the recording systems can be obtained from the sources listed in section 7.0 of this report.

3.0 Laboratory calibration checks

Waverider buoys used by the Agency are calibrated before deployment and also after recovery. Normally, a buoy is calibrated once every twelve months. Calibration is performed at the EPA's Deagon site using a buoy calibrator to simulate sinusoidal waves with vertical displacements of either 2m or 2·7m depending on whether a 0·7m or 0·9m diameter buoy is being tested. The calibrator is electrically controlled and the frequency may be varied from 0·016–0·25Hz. It is usual to check three frequencies during a calibration. The following characteristics of the buoy are also checked during the calibration procedure:

- compass (directional buoy);
- phase and amplitude response;
- · accelerometer platform stability;
- platform tilt;
- · battery capacity; and
- power output.

There are no adjustments to the recorded wave data, based on the laboratory calibration results. Monthly averages are calculated based on available data and no wave data records are rejected based on low capture rates. Research [Bacon and Carter (1991), Allan and Komar (2001)] has suggested rejecting entire records where less than a certain threshold has been recorded. All Queensland wave-recording sites generally have high-percentage capture rates for the seasonal year (table 4) and thus minimal bias is introduced into calculations.

4.0 Wave recording and analysis procedures

The PC-based wave recording system generally records data at (nominally) half-hourly intervals.

Recorded non-directional wave data is analysed in the time domain by the zero up-crossing method and in the frequency domain by spectral analysis using Fast Fourier Transform (FFT) techniques to give 128 spectral estimates in bands of 0.01Hz.

The directional wave data undergoes initial processing on the buoy, where the datasets are divided into data sub-sets and each sub-set is analysed using FFT techniques. The output from this processing is then transmitted to the shore station, along with the raw data, where it undergoes further analysis using FFT techniques to produce 128 spectral estimates in bands of 0.005Hz.

Wave parameters resulting from the time and frequency domain analysis included the following:

S(f) Energy density spectrum.

Hsig Significant wave height (time domain), the average of the highest third of the waves in the record.

Hmax Highest individual wave in the record (time domain).

Hrms Root mean square of the wave heights in the record (time domain).

Tsig Significant wave period (time domain), the average period of the highest third of waves in the record.

Tz Average period of all zero up-crossing waves in the record (time domain).

Tp Wave period corresponding to the peak of the energy density spectrum (frequency domain).

Tc Average period of all the waves in the record based on successive crests (time domain).

These parameters form the basis for the summary plots and tables included in this report.

5.0 Data losses

Data losses can be divided into two categories: losses due to equipment failure and losses during data processing due to signal corruption. Common causes of data corruption include radio interference and a spurious low frequency component in the water level signal caused by a tilting accelerometer platform in the Waverider buoy.

Analysis of recorded data by the PC-based systems includes some data rejection checks which may result in a small number of spurious and rejected data points being replaced using an interpolation procedure, otherwise the entire series is rejected.

As discussed above, the various sources of data losses can cause occasional gaps in the data record. Gaps may be relatively short, caused by rejection of data records or much longer if caused by malfunction of the Waverider buoy or the recording equipment.

In the calculation of wave climate statistics, each record is assigned a total duration equal to half the recording interval on either side of that record. The durations on the side of those records adjacent to gaps in the data are limited to a maximum value dependent on the nominal recording interval of those records.

With the nominal recording interval set at one hour, the maximum allowable total duration of a record is equal to three hours. Any duration on either side of a record greater than 90min (half the maximum allowable total duration) is set to the maximum allowable of exactly 90min, and a gap in the data is reported.

6.0 Data presentation

No attempt has been made to interpret the recorded data for design purposes or to apply corrections for refraction, diffraction and shoaling to obtain equivalent deep-water waves. Before any use is made of this data, the exact location of the buoy, and the water depth in which the buoy was moored, should be noted. Details are presented in the location history plans (figures 1.1 to 12.1) for each site shown later in this report. The non-directional Waverider recording system utilised by the EPA is designed to record vertical movements of the water surface only and any wave directions must be assigned to the individual wave records by other means.

Data capture rates for each wave site over the seasonal year are presented in table 4.

A summary of major meteorological events, where the recorded Hsig value reached the storm threshold wave height for a site, for the 2000–01 seasonal year is shown in table 5. Wave parameters Hsig, Hmax, Tp, and other relevant information are listed for each event. Only cyclone or storm events that contributed to the Hsig reaching the storm threshold value at any of the wave sites are listed in the table.

Table 6 lists the names and dates of all cyclones that occurred along the Queensland coastline during the 2000–01 season (figure 13).

Figure A presents a large-scale view of the locations of wave recording stations in operation around the Queensland coastline for the 2000–01 seasonal year. Detailed station location maps are presented for all sites in figures 1.1 to 12.1.

Details of wave recorder installations for each site are shown on the first page of each site section, and include information on buoy location, recording station location, recording intervals and data collection.

The wave climate data presented in this report is based on statistical analyses of the parameters obtained from the recorded wave data. Programs developed by the EPA provide statistical information on percentage of time occurrence and exceedance for wave heights and periods. The results of these analyses are presented in figures § 2, § 3 and § 4 for each site, where § represents the site number. In each of these three figures for each site, the term *All data* refers to the entire available dataset collected for that site (table 2). To determine how much emphasis should be placed on this data, recording histories are shown in table 2 below. In addition, similar statistical analysis provides monthly averages of wave heights for the seasonal year and all data.

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Table 2 Wave recording history

Site	Start date	End date	Restart	End date	Total years
Cairns Nearshore	04/05/1975	31/10/2001			26.51
Mackay Offshore	19/09/1975	31/10/2001			26.13
Townsville	20/11/1975	31/10/2001			25.96
Brisbane	31/10/1976	31/10/2001			25.02
Weipa	22/12/1978	31/10/2001			22.87
Hay Point	24/03/1977	25/05/1987	03/03/1993	31/10/2001	18.84
Gold Coast	21/02/1987	31/10/2001			14.70
Tweed Heads	13/01/1995	31/10/2001			6.80
Emu Park	24/07/1996	31/10/2001			5.27
Dunk Island	18/12/1998	31/10/2001			2.87
Mooloolaba	20/04/2000	31/10/2001			1.53
Moreton Bay	19/10/2000	31/10/2001			1.03

denotes a directional site in year 2000–01

Daily wave recordings for the seasonal year are shown for all sites, however directional sites show average water temperature and peak direction (Dir_p) recordings as well.

Directional wave roses for the 2000–01 seasonal year are presented for the sites shown in table 3 below. Wave roses summarise wave occurrence at a directional site by indicating their size, direction and frequency. Each branch of a wave rose represents waves coming from that direction with branches divided into three Hsig segments of varying range. The length of each branch represents the total percentage of waves from that direction with the length of each segment within a branch representing the percentage of waves, in that size range, arriving from that direction for all wave periods. Calm wave conditions have been defined as below 0.5m and are represented as a percentage inside the centre circle. Periods of deployment as a directional site will vary from site to site as indicated in table 3 below. Note that a 0.2 percent cut-off has been applied to the data as the wave roses are only intended as a visual guide to the wave climate at a site.

Table 3
Directional wave recording history for current directional sites

Site	Start date	End date	Total years
Tweed Heads	13/01/1995	31/10/2001	6.80
Emu Park	24/07/1996	31/10/2001	5.27
Brisbane	20/01/1997	31/10/2001	4.78
Townsville	12/10/2000	31/10/2001	1.05

This report covers the seasonal year from 1 November, 2000 to 31 October, 2001 where, for the purposes of analysis, summer has been taken as the period from 1 November to 30 April of the following year and winter covers the period 1 May to 31 October in any one year.

7.0 References

Permanent International Association of Navigation Congresses (1986), List of Sea State Parameters

Datawell, Operation and Service Manual for the Non-directional Waverider (2000)

Datawell, Manual of the Digital Waverider Receiver Type DIWAR (1992)

Datawell, Operations and Service Manual for Directional Waverider (2001)

Lawson and Treloar Pty Ltd (2002), Real Time Wave Analysis Package

Queensland Transport, The Official Tide Tables & Boating Safety Guide 2002

Australian Hydrographic Service, Australian National Tide Tables 2002

Bureau of Meteorology, Monthly Weather Reviews

8.0 Other reports in this series

Wave data recording program, Cairns Region	Report No. W01.1	2 May 1975 to 3 Sept 1978
Wave data recording program, Cairns Region	Report No. W01.1	2 May 1975 to 11 Jun 1985
Wave data recording program, Cairns Region	Report No. W01.3	2 May 1975 to 30 Apr 1997
Wave data recording program, Mackay Region	Report No. W02.1	17 Sept 1975 to 5 Nov 1976
Wave data recording program, Mackay Region	Report No. W02.1	17 Sept 1975 to 23 Aug 1985
	•	•
Wave data recording program, Mackay Region	Report No. W02.3	17 Sept 1975 to 30 Oct 1996
Wave data recording program, Townsville Region	Report No. W03.1	16 July 1975 to 23 Feb 1979
Wave data recording program, Townsville Region	Report No. W03.2	19 Nov 1975 to 29 Dec 1987
Wave data recording program, Supplied Coast	Report No. W03.3	19 Nov 1975 to 30 Apr 1997
Wave data recording program, Sunshine Coast Region	Report No.W04.1	5 Apr 1974 to 5 Jul 1977
Wave data recording program, Burnett Heads Region	Report No. W05.1	5 May 1976 to 5 Mar 1982
Wave data recording program, Burnett Heads Region	Report No. W05.2	5 May 1976 to 13 Oct 1988
Wave data recording program, Abbot Point Region	Report No. W06.1	6 May 1977 to 9 Aug 1979
Wave data recording program, Abbot Point Region	Report No. W06.2	6 May 1977 to 31 Oct 1996
Wave data recording program, Weipa Region	Report No. W07.1	21 Dec 1978 to 7 Apr 1983
Wave data recording program, Weipa Region	Report No. W07.2	21 Dec 1978 to 30 Apr 1997
Wave data recording program, Gladstone Region	Report No. W08.1	19 Dec 1979 to 16 May 1983
Wave data recording program, Brisbane Region	Report No. W09.1	30 Oct 1976 to 30 Jun 1983
Wave data recording program, Brisbane Region	Report No. W09.2	30 Oct 1976 to 30 Jun 1994
Wave data recording program, Brisbane Region	Report No. W09.3	30 Oct 1976 to 28 Feb 1997
Wave data recording program, Bowen Region	Report No. W10.1	14 Sept 1978 to 15 Nov 1984
Wave data recording program, Moreton Island Region	Report No.W11.1	15 Jun 1983 to 12 Apr 1985
Wave data recording program, Bramston Beach Region	Report No.W12.1	16 Dec 1981 to 28 Oct 1985
Wave data recording program, Hay Point Region	Report No. W13.1	22 Mar 1977 to 25 May 1987
Wave data recording program, Hay Point Region	Report No. W13.2	22 Mar 1977 to 31 Oct 1996
Wave data recording program, Gold Coast Region	Report No. W14.1	20 Feb 1987 to 30 Jun 1994
Wave data recording program, Gold Coast Region	Report No. W14.2	20 Feb 1987 to 28 Feb 1997
Wave data recording program, Kirra	Report No. W15.1	25 Aug 1988 to 30 Jun 1994
Wave data recording program, Kirra	Report No. W15.2	25 Aug 1988 to 28 Feb 1997
Wave data recording program, Repulse Bay	Report No. W16.1	2 Jun 1994 to 22 Oct 1995
Wave data recording program, Hayman Island	Report No. W17.1	26 Oct 1995 to 14 Oct 1996
Wave data recording program, Tweed Region	Report No. W18.1	15 Jan 1995 to 28 Feb 1997
Wave data recording program, Lucinda	Report No. W19.1	2 Mar 1995 to 13 May 1996
Annual summary for season 2001–02	Report No. 2004.4	1 Nov 2001 to 31 Oct 2002
Annual summary for season 2002–03	Report No. 2004.1	1 Nov 2002 to 31 Oct 2003
Dunk Island	Report No. 2004.2	18 Dec 1998 to 14 Nov 2002
	•	

Table 4Wave recording program — summary of data capture for season 2000–01

					Data capt	ure {%} (Ba	sed on activ	e periods)					
Station	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Average
Tweed Heads	100.00	99.90	99.93	99.86	99.93	95.76	97.85	99.51	98.32	100.00	99.86	99.93	99.24
Gold Coast	100.00	99.90	90.79	62.65	99.66	99.65	99.87	99.30	98.39	99.67	99.31	99.59	95.73
Brisbane	98.33	100.00	99.92	99.85	99.87	99.31	99.66	99.65	98.19	99.59	99.86	99.66	99.49
Moreton Bay	89.58	95.76	97.92	92.04	92.81	92.22	86.76	89.72	90.86	87.43	90.54	92.55	91.52
Mooloolaba	98.92	99.40	100.00	99.33	99.26	98.06	99.33	99.38	99.53	99.19	98.82	99.60	99.24
Emu Park	91.39	93.95	94.76	97.82	95.16	86.11	99.06	99.17	99.60	99.47	95.28	95.83	95.63
Hay Point	100.00	99.39	99.80	99.85	99.80	99.58	98.79	99.93	99.46	99.46	99.30	99.67	99.59
Mackay	26.11	86.02	93.60	72.47	77.42	62.50	93.01	82.08	98.08	96.69	84.58	87.77	80.03
Townsville	57.49	67.96	71.71	40.63	80.44	88.40	91.53	90.63	91.53	91.53	92.85	92.20	79.74
Dunk Island	30.56	74.13	79.03	99.86	65.32	96.94	99.19	99.86	100.00	97.18	99.86	35.28	81.43
Cairns	48.75	100.00	100.00	99.41	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	99.93	95.67
Weipa	85.41	98.37	81.44	97.39	71.10	66.67	88.64	91.45	91.79	89.59	81.11	82.32	85.44

Denotes a directional site in 2000–01

Table 5 Major meteorological events

Meteorological event	Central	Date	Estimated	Maximum	Maximum	Тр	
	pressure		position of	Hsig	Hmax		
			cyclone relative	recorded	recorded		
			to buoy	(Note 1)	(Note 2)	(Note 3)	
	(hpa)		(km)	(m)	(m)	(s)	
	Twee	ed: 2m thresho	ld (Hsig)				
High in Tasman Sea	1024	15/11/2000		2.11	3.63	7.22	
High in Tasman Sea and	1020	20/01/2001		2.95	4.96	9.93	
Low off Moreton coast	1008						
High in Tasman Sea and	1028	2/02/2001		3.95 (4.39)	6.59	10.16	
Low over Central Queensland	1004						
High in Tasman Sea and	1020	8/02/2001		2.16	3.57	9.28	
Monsoon trough in Torres Strait	1004						
High in Tasman Sea	1020	19/02/2001		2.17	3.51	9.29	
Low in north Tasman Sea	1000	5/03/2001		3.02 (3.27)	4.72	11.09	
High in Tasman Sea and	1032	9/03/2001		2.40	4.17	9.15	
Low over northeast New South Wales	1008	0/04/0004		0.40	0.57	44.40	
High over Great Australian Bight and	1028	2/04/2001		2.10	3.57	11.42	
Monsoon Lows in the Coral Sea	1008	44/04/0004	4000 F	2.07 (4.45)	5.04	45.00	
High in the Tasman Sea and	1020	11/04/2001	1600 E	3.87 (4.15)	5.91	15.29	
Tropical cyclone Sose in New Hebrides area	990	22/05/2004		2.25	2.02	0.20	
High west of Tasmania and	1004	22/05/2001		2.25	3.93	9.38	
Low well off the Moreton coast	1028	E/07/2004		2 44 (2 05)	F 65	12.64	
Low between New Caledonia and New Zealand	992 1032	5/07/2001 26/07/2001		3.44 (3.95) 2.49	5.65 4.17	13.64 7.36	
High in Tasman Sea and Low over northern New South Wales	1032	26/07/2001		2.49	4.17	7.30	
High off Queensland coast	1020	1/09/2001		2.06	3.59	6.60	
Highs over Victoria and	1016	27/09/2001		2.06	3.59	11.06	
Low in Tasman Sea	1012	27/09/2001		2.03	3.31	11.00	
High over Central Queensland and	1012	5/10/2001		2.01	3.34	11.43	
Low in Tasman Sea	1008	0/10/2001		2.01	0.04	11.40	
Low in Tabilian Sca		oast: 2m thresl	nold (Hsia)				
High in Tasman Sea and	1020	19/01/2001	iola (Hoig)	2.89	5.04	10.06	
Low over central Queensland	1004	10/01/2001		2.00	0.04	10.00	
High in Tasman Sea and	1024	1/02/2001		3.86 (4.05)	6.47	9.62	
Low over southeast Queensland	1004	1702/2001		0.00 (1.00)	0.11	0.02	
High in Tasman Sea	1020	19/02/2001		2.00	3.33	10.39	
Low off Moreton coast	1000	6/03/2001		2.95 (3.27)	5.08	11.59	
High in Tasman Sea and	1032	9/03/2001		2.34	4.00	9.48	
Low over northeast New South Wales	1008						
High over Great Australian Bight and	1028	2/04/2001		2.13	3.59	11.17	
Monsoon Lows in Coral Sea	1008						
High in Tasman Sea and	1028	7/04/2001	1900 NE	2.07	3.33	7.70	
Tropical cyclone Sose in New Hebrides area	980						
High in Tasman Sea and	1020	11/04/2001	1600 E	3.21 (3.37)	5.26	13.79	
Tropical cyclone Sose in New Hebrides area	990						
Brisbane: 4m threshold (Hsig)							
High in Tasman Sea and	1020	19/01/2001		4.52	7.37	9.85	
Low off Moreton coast	1008						
High in Tasman Sea and	1024	1/02/2001		4.87 (5.43)	8.07	9.90	
Low over southeast Queensland	1004						
Low off Moreton coast	1000	7/03/2001		4.57 (4.91)	7.19	11.37	
High over Great Australian Bight	1032	12/04/2001		4.68 (5.02)	7.35	8.65	
Low between New Caledonia and New Zealand	992	6/07/2001		4.11	5.95	15.21	
		Bay: 1.5m thre	shold (Hsig)				
High in Tasman Sea and	1028	2/02/2001		1.51 (1.69)	2.57	4.62	
Low off the Central Queensland coast	1004						

Table 5Major meteorological events (cont'd)

Meteorological event	Central	Date	Estimated	Maximum	Maximum	Тр
S .	pressure		position of	Hsig	Hmax	·
			cyclone relative	recorded	recorded	
			to buoy	(Note 1)	(Note 2)	(Note 3)
	(hpa)		(km)	(m)	(m)	(s)
	Mooloo	laba: 2m thres	hold (Hsig)			
High in Tasman Sea	1024	13/11/2000		2.01	3.51	13.62
High in Tasman Sea	1024	17/11/2000		2.16	3.65	8.15
High in Tasman Sea	1024	1/01/2001		2.28	3.80	7.59
High in Tasman Sea and	1020	20/01/2001		2.48	4.21	9.71
Low off Moreton	1008					
High in Tasman Sea and	1028	2/02/2001		3.52 (3.87)	5.67	9.01
Low off Central Coast	1004					
High in Tasman Sea and	1016	9/02/2001		2.17	3.76	8.79
Low in Arafura Sea	1000					
High in Tasman Sea	1020	18/02/2001		2.01	3.51	6.63
Low off Moreton coast	1000	6/03/2001		2.48	4.31	14.89
High in Tasman Sea and	1032	28/03/2001		2.04	3.41	6.88
Low in Coral Sea	1008					
High over Great Australian Bight and	1028	2/04/2001		2.22	3.56	11.35
Monsoon Lows in Coral Sea	1008					
High in Tasman Sea and	1020	11/04/2001	1600 E	2.87 (3.42)	4.48	14.23
Tropical cyclone Sose in New Hebrides area	990					
High over New South Wales and Tasman Sea	1028	28/06/2001		2.06	3.51	7.75
Low between New Caledonia and New Zealand	992	6/07/2001		2.79 (3.02)	4.52	14.99
Louidina	Emu P	ark: 2m thresh	old (Hsig)			
High in Tasman Sea	1024	16/11/2000		2.07	3.52	6.47
High over Tasmania	1027	31/12/2000		2.36 (2.57)	4.08	7.18
High in Tasman Sea and	1028	6/02/2001		2.12	3.81	6.23
Monsoon trough in Torres Strait	1008					
High in Tasman Sea	1024	14/03/2001		2.09	3.68	6.71
High in Tasman Sea and	1028	31/03/2001		2.1 (2.31)	3.47	6.63
Low in Coral Sea	1012					
High over Tasman Sea and Victoria	1028	28/06/2001		2.10	3.69	6.21
N	lackay: 2m	threshold (Hsi	g)			
High in Tasman Sea and	1024	26/11/2000		2.39	4.25	6.75
Monsoon trough in Torres Strait	-					
High in Tasman Sea	1024	1/01/2001		2.68 (2.68)	5.29	7.05
High in Tasman Sea	1024	3/01/2001		2.40	4.06	7.51
High in Tasman Sea and	1020	8/02/2001		2.61 (2.69)	4.52	6.92
Monsoon trough in Torres Strait	1004	40/00/000		0.05	6.46	0.46
High in eastern Tasman Sea	1020	19/02/2001		2.05	3.40	6.48
Low in Coral Sea	1000	23/02/2001		2.44	3.87	7.77
High in Tasman Sea and	1028	1/04/2001		2.38	3.86	6.67
Monsoon Lows in southern Coral Sea	1012	E/04/000:	0400 515	0.54 (0.55)	4.40	7.50
High over Victoria and developing	1024	5/04/2001	2100 ENE	2.51 (2.55)	4.40	7.50
Tropical cyclone Sose in New Hebrides area	1003	4.4/0.4/0004		0.00	0.50	7.04
High over NSW	1028	14/04/2001		2.03	3.52	7.21
High in Tasman Soa	1024	30/06/2001 20/09/2001		2.39	4.09	7.05 6.84
High in Tasman Sea	1030		old (Heim)	2.05	3.74	6.84
Tropical cyclone Winsome	992	11/02/2001	600 WSW	1.75	2.02	10.48
Monsoon trough over northern Australia	1004	15/02/2001	000 00300	2.54 (2.67)	2.93 4.21	8.82
(tropical cyclone Wylva from 16/02/2001) Tropical cyclone Abigail	1004	26/02/2001	450 SSW	2.28 (2.46)	3.67	8.70
,,				- (=)	1	1 3

Table 5Major meteorological events (cont'd)

Meteorological event	Central	Date	Estimated	Maximum	Maximum	Тр
	pressure		position of	Hsig	Hmax	
			cyclone relative	recorded	recorded	
			to buoy	(Note 1)	(Note 2)	(Note 3)
	(hpa)		(km)	(m)	(m)	(s)
	Dunk Isla	and: 1.5m thre	shold (Hsig)			
High in Tasman Sea and	1024	5/12/2000		1.75	2.91	5.69
Monsoon trough in Torres Strait	-					
High in Tasman Sea	1024	4/01/2001		1.67	3.09	5.73
High in Tasman Sea and	1020	8/02/2001		1.81 (1.94)	3.31	5.81
Monsoon trough in Torres Strait	1004					
High in Tasman Sea and	1012	10/02/2001		1.52	2.74	5.52
Low in Arafura Sea	996					
High in Tasman Sea	1020	17/02/2001		1.94 (2.16)	3.58	6.14
Tropical cyclone Abigail	1000	24/02/2001	150 ENE	1.81 (1.92)	3.22	6.01
High in Tasman Sea	1024	30/03/2001		2.05 (2.15)	3.45	6.22
High over New South Wales and formation of	1024	5/04/2001	2250 E	1.54	2.77	5.40
tropical cyclone Sose in New Hebrides area	1003					
High over New South Wales	1028	13/04/2001		1.75	3.29	5.88

Notes:

The Hsig values presented in column (1) and the Hmax values presented in column (2) are the maximum values recorded for each event and are not necessarily coincident in time.

Due to possible statistical errors arising from finite length records used in calculating wave climate, the above storm peak Hsig and Hmax values are derived from the time series smoothed by a simple three-hourly moving average following the recommendation of Forristall G.Z. Heideman J.C. Leggett I.M. Roskam B. & Vanderschuren L. (1996), Effect of Sampling Variability on Hindcast and Measured Wave Heights, *Journal of Waterway, Port, Costal and Ocean Engineering*, 122 (5), September/October 1996.

Values shown in brackets are the un-smoothed heights. All wave plots that follow display un-smoothed data!

The Tp values presented in column (3) and the Hsig values presented in column (1) are coincident as a single event on the date shown.

Sites listed as operational but not listed in the above table did not record wave heights exceeding the storm threshold.

For the seasonal year, the highest Significant Wave Height (Hsig) was 4.87m (5.43m un-smoothed) and the highest Maximum Wave Height (Hmax) was 8.07m (8.59m un-smoothed), both recorded at the Brisbane station on the 1 February 2001 during the presence of a High in the Tasman Sea and a Low over south-east Queensland. (The highest un-smoothed Maximum Wave Height of 8.93m was recorded on 12 April, 2001.)

Meteorological information was obtained from the *Monthly Weather Review* published by the Bureau of Meteorology (Brisbane).

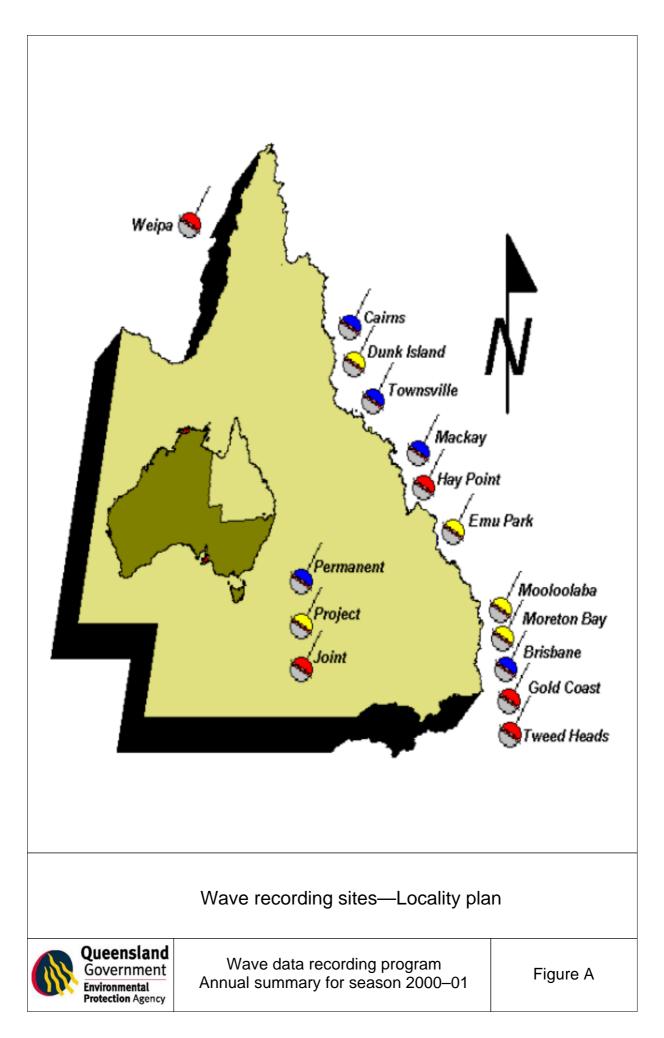
Table 6Queensland cyclones for season 2000–01

Cyclone	Date
Wylva	February 2001
Abigail	February 2001

Cyclone tracks are shown in figure 13.

Notes:

Tropical cyclones Winsome and Sose are not shown in table 6 or figure 13 because they occurred outside the Queensland region, however they did impact on wave conditions at some stations.



Tweed

Wave recording station

Details of wave recorder installation

Maximum possible analysis days (last record–first record) = 365.0

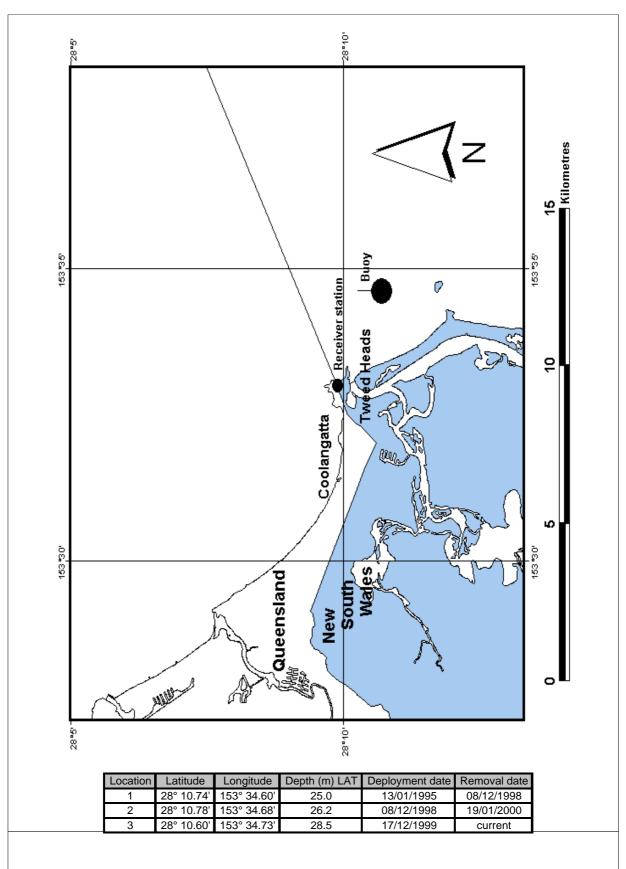
Total days used in analysis = 363.467

Gaps in data from selected dates (days) = 1.533

Gaps in data from duration analysis (days) = 1.533

Number of records used in analysis = 16,245

HAT at nearest standard port: Tweed River breakwater, 1.89m

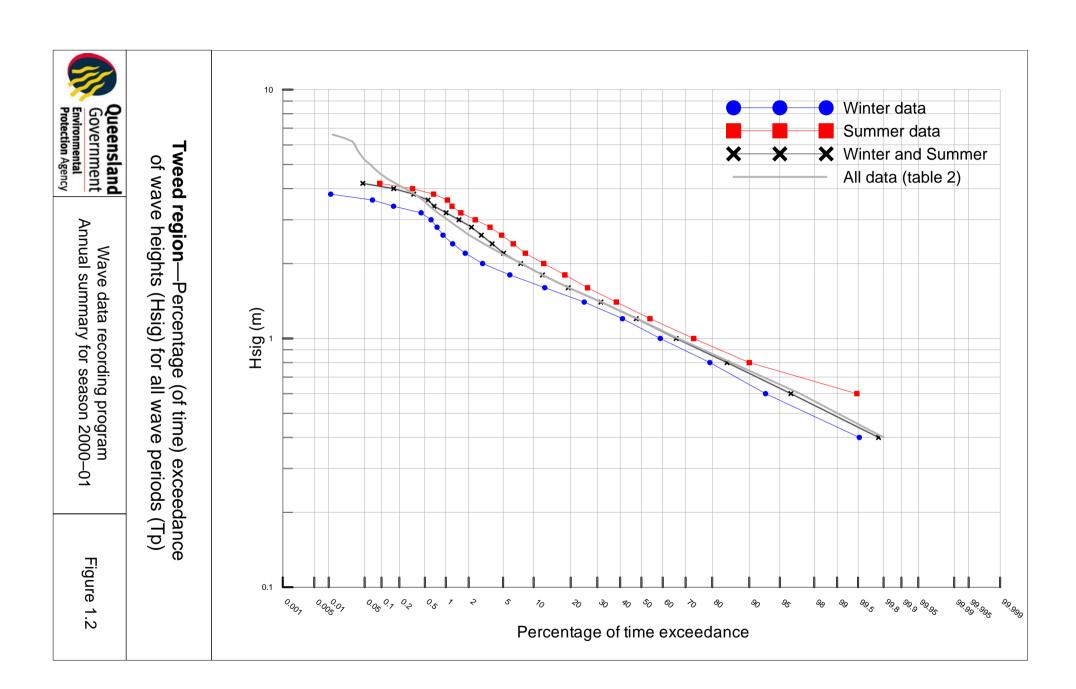


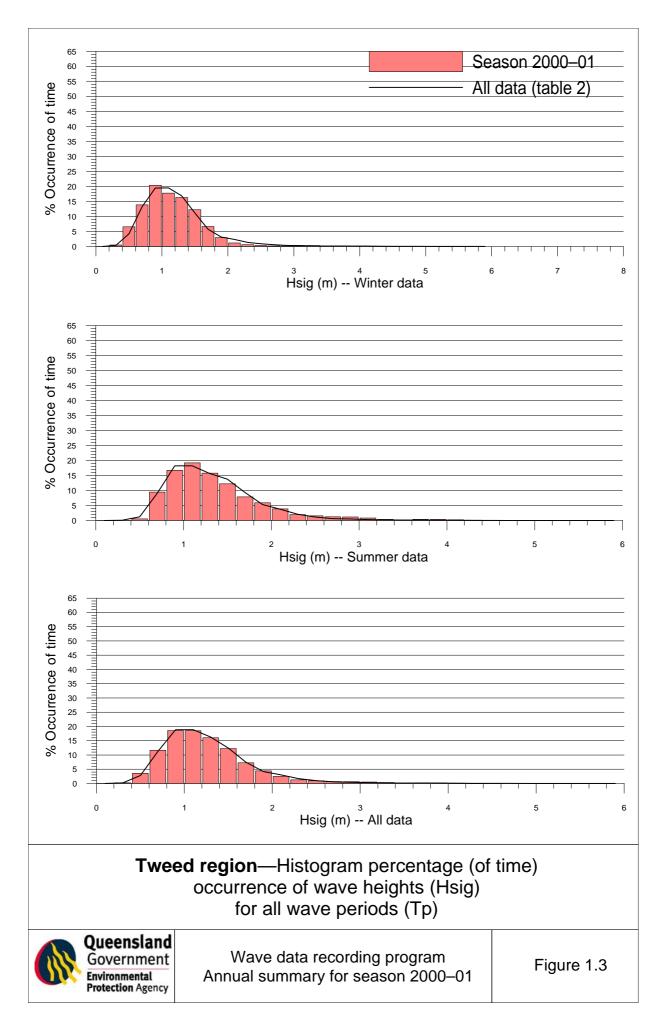
Tweed region—Locality plan

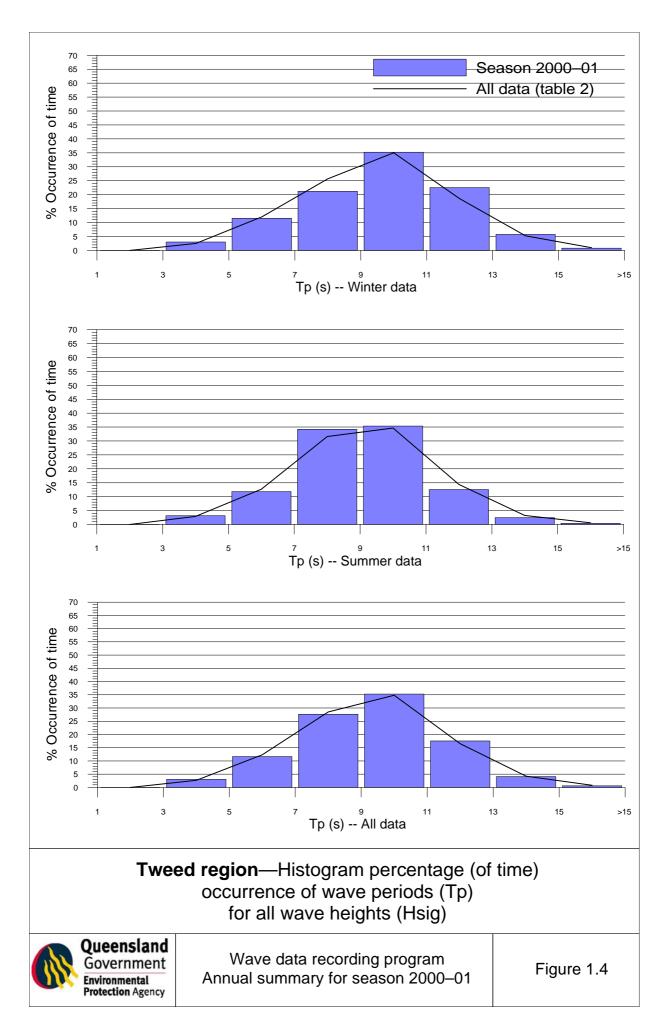


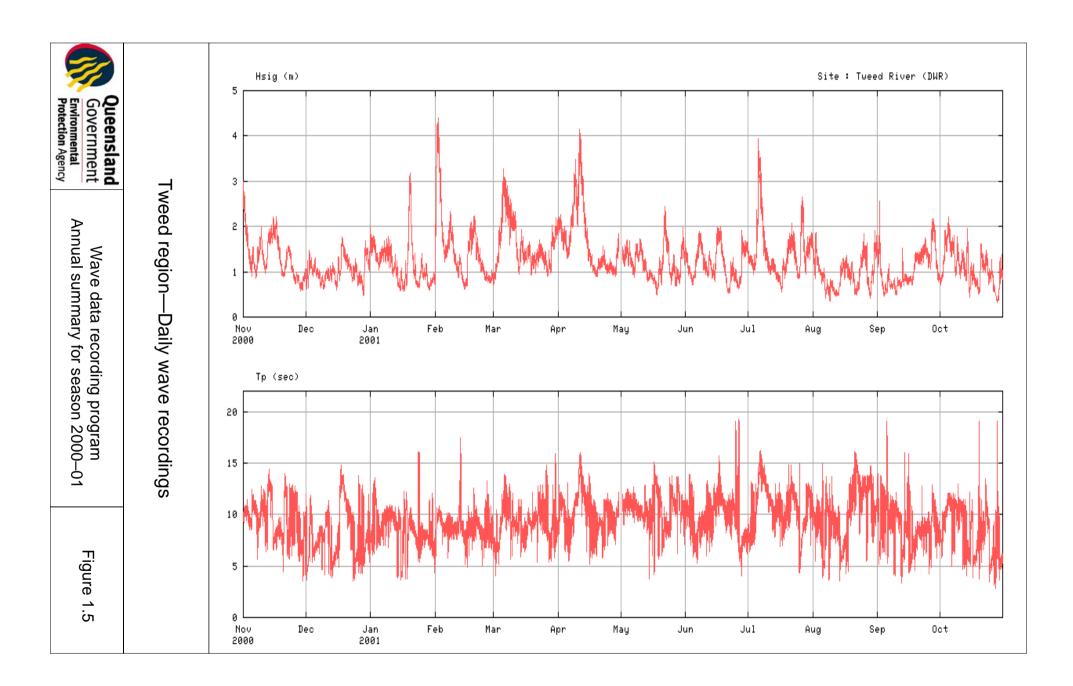
Wave data recording program Annual summary for season 2000–01

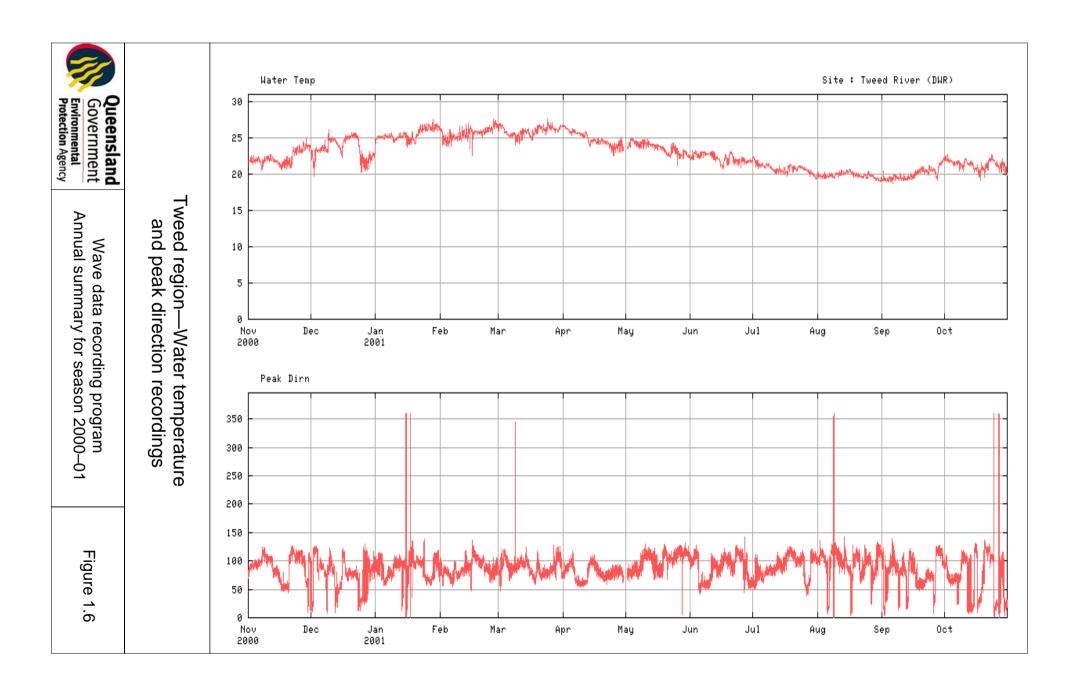
Figure 1.1

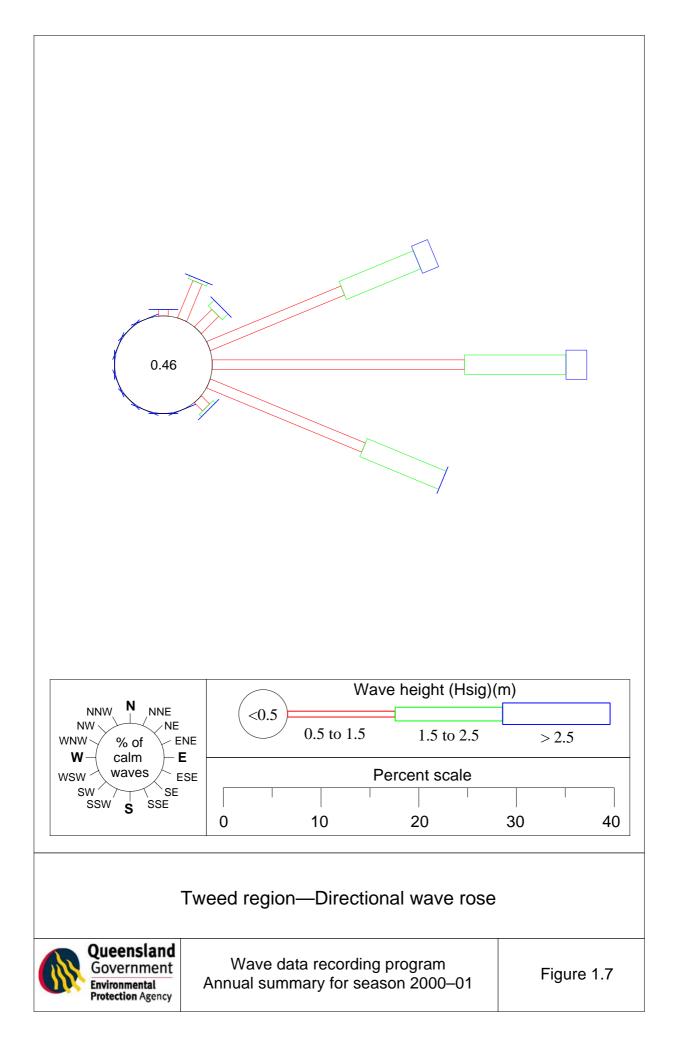












Gold Coast

Wave recording station

Details of wave recorder installation

Maximum possible analysis days (last record–first record) = 365.0

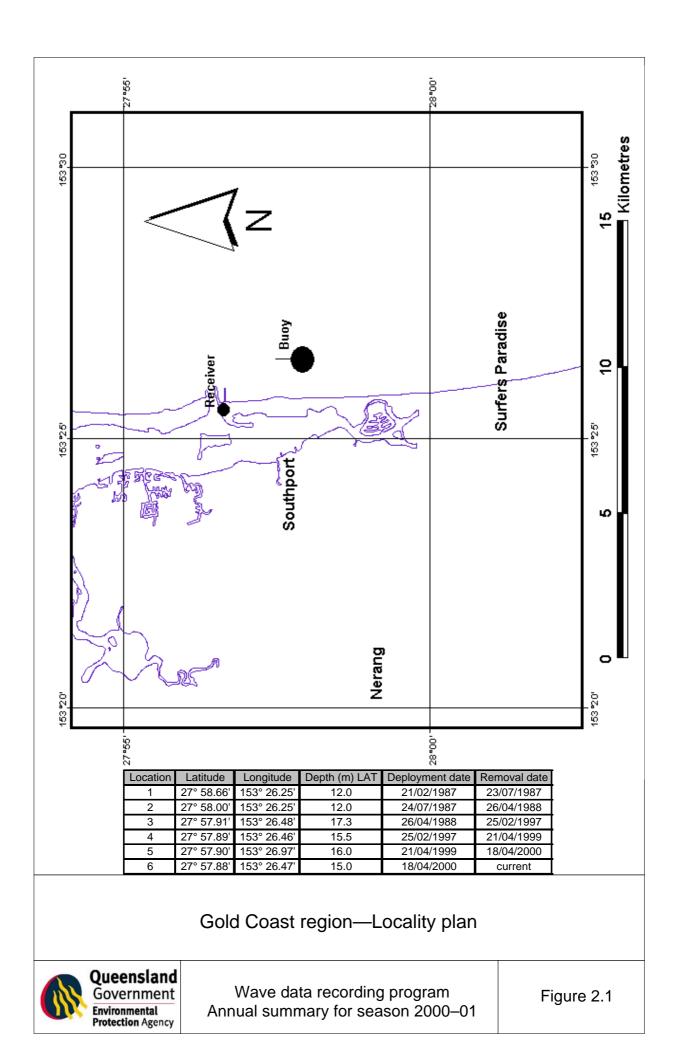
Total days used in analysis = 352.352

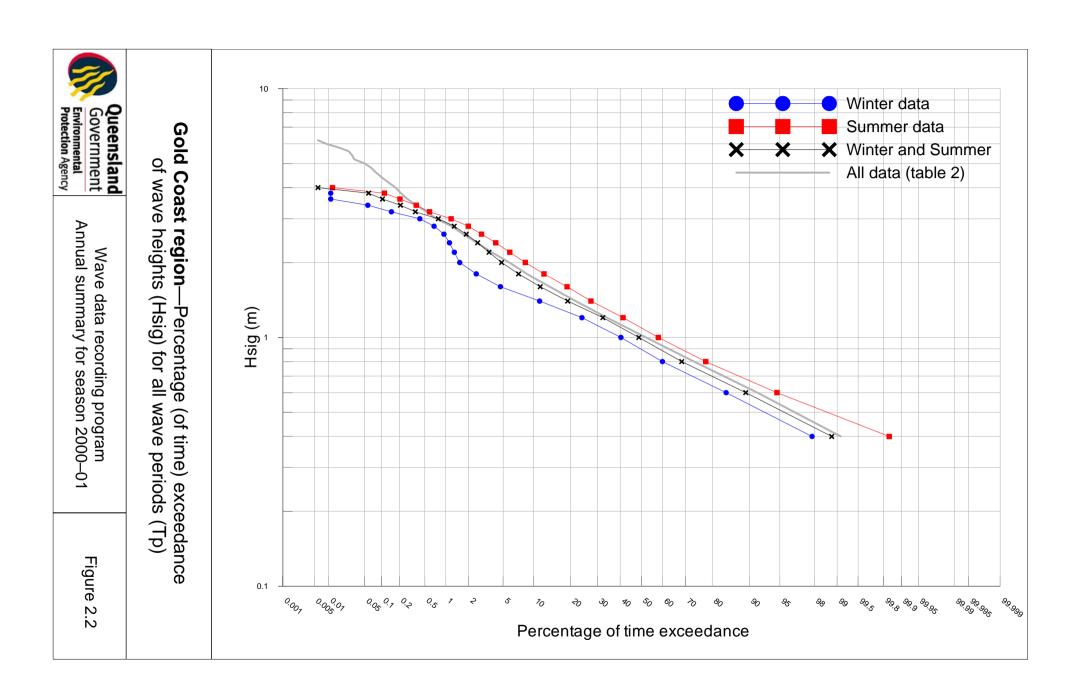
Gaps in data from selected dates (days) = 12.648

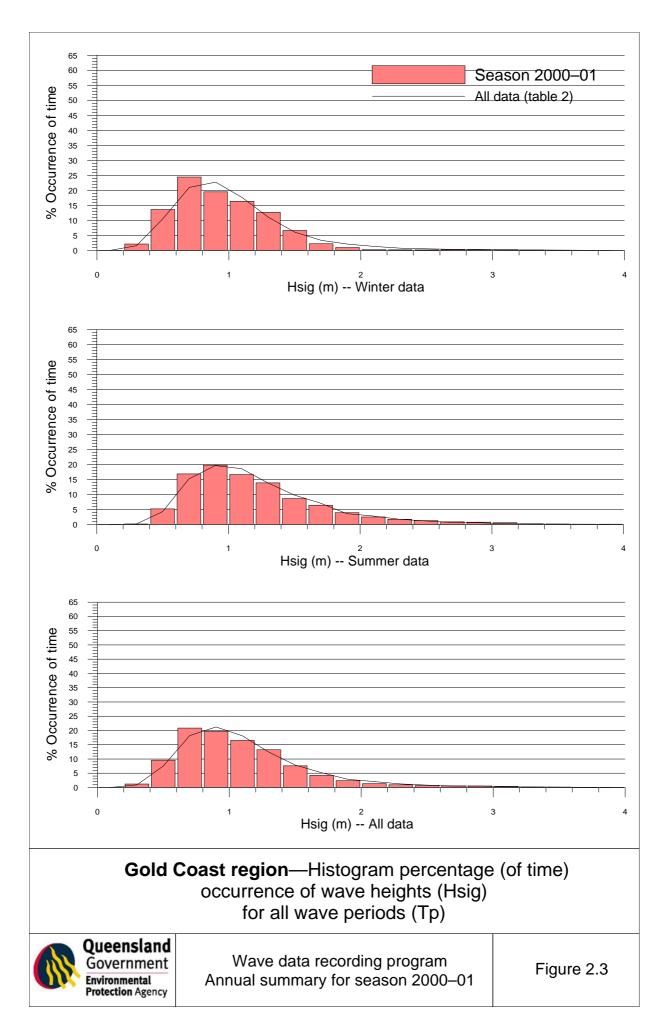
Gaps in data from duration analysis (days) = 12.647

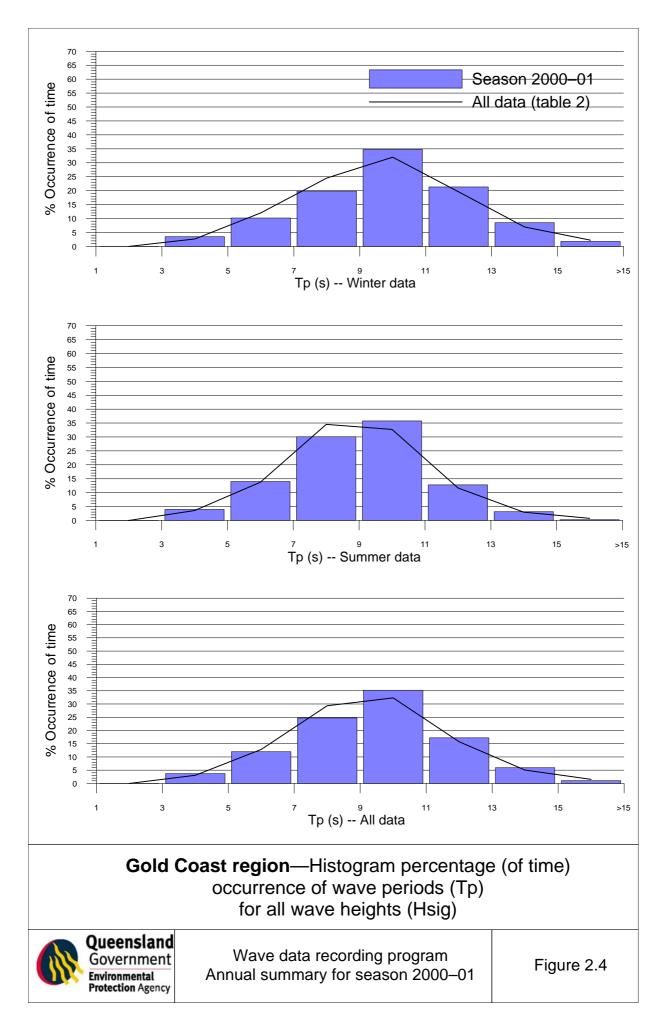
Number of records used in analysis = 15,641

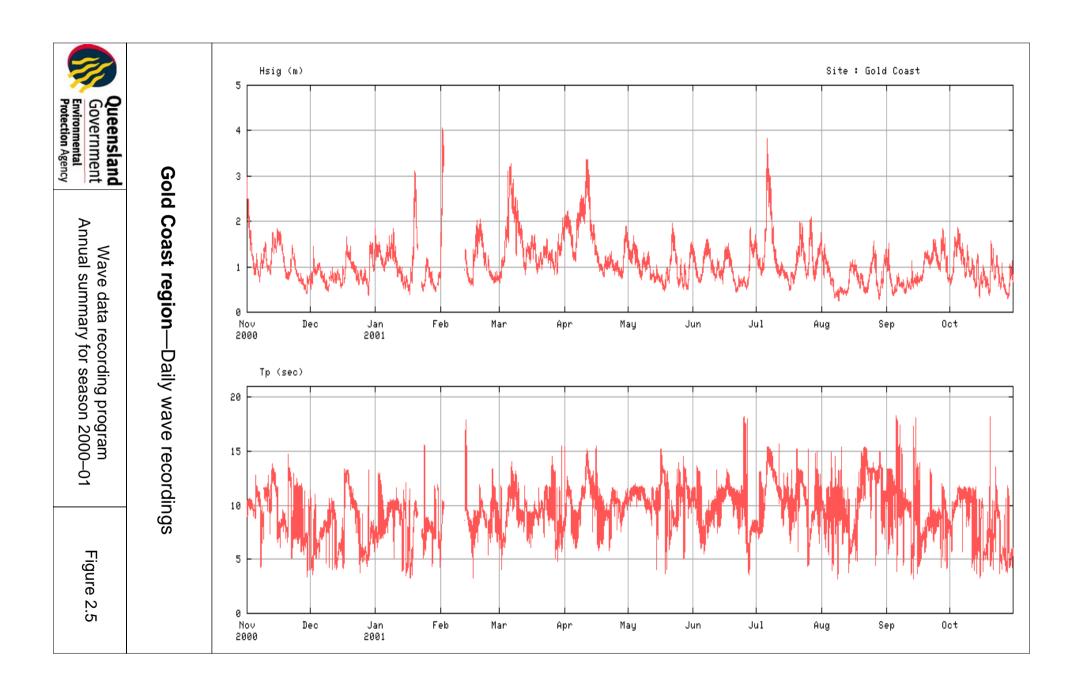
HAT at nearest standard port: Gold Coast seaway, 1.89m











Brisbane

Wave recording station

Details of wave recorder station

Maximum possible analysis days (last record–first record) = 365.0

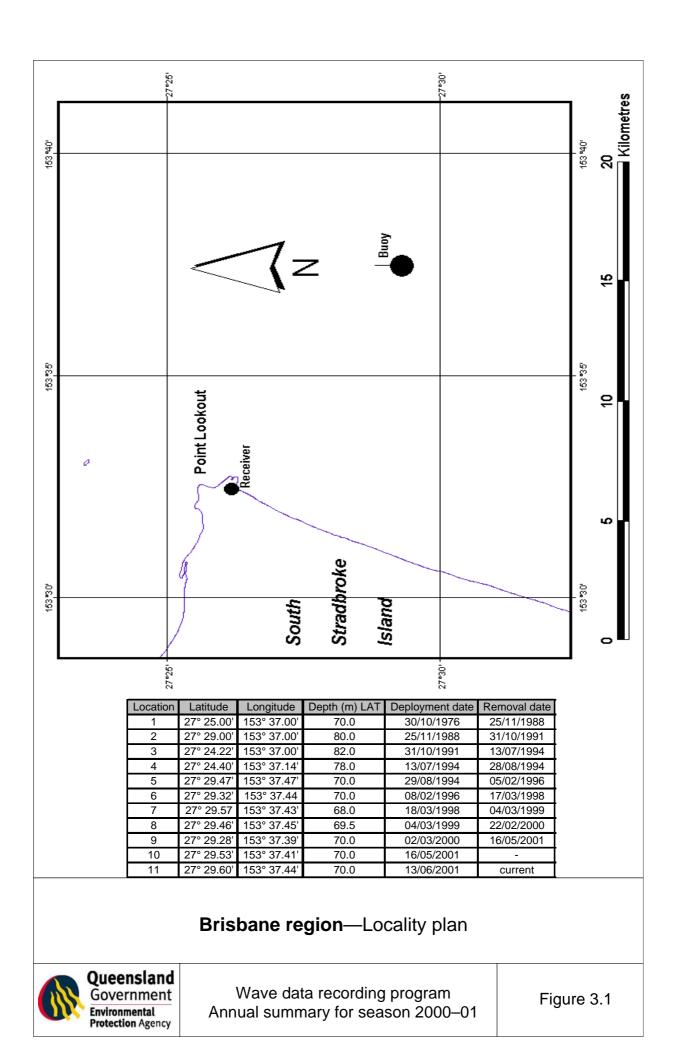
Total days used in analysis = 364.875

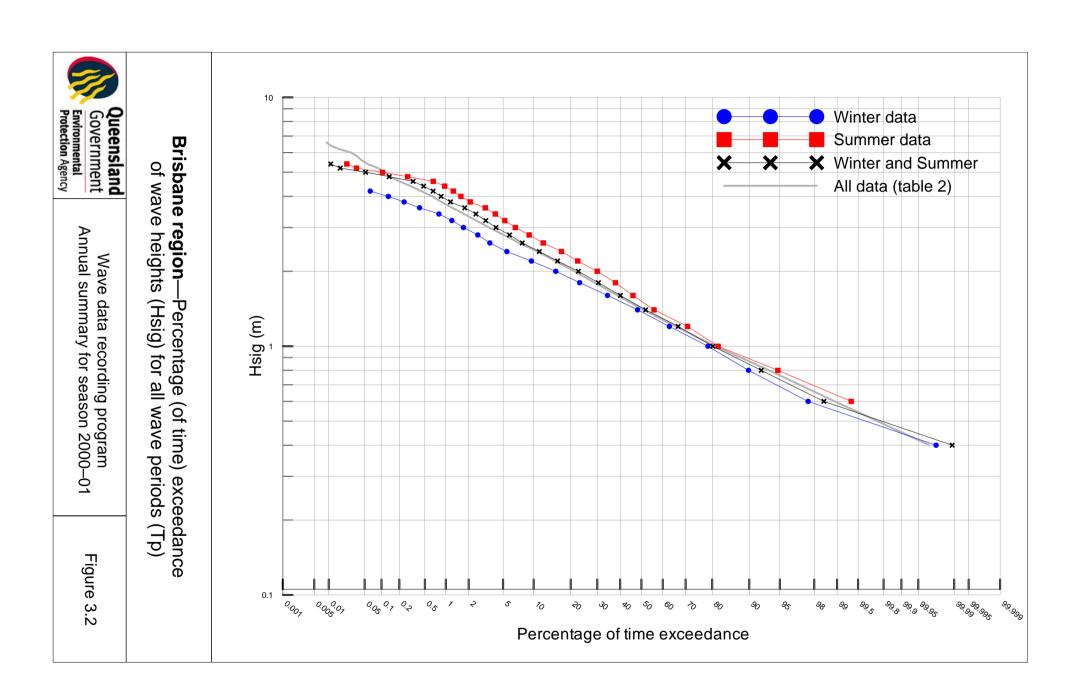
Gaps in data from selected dates (days) = 0.125

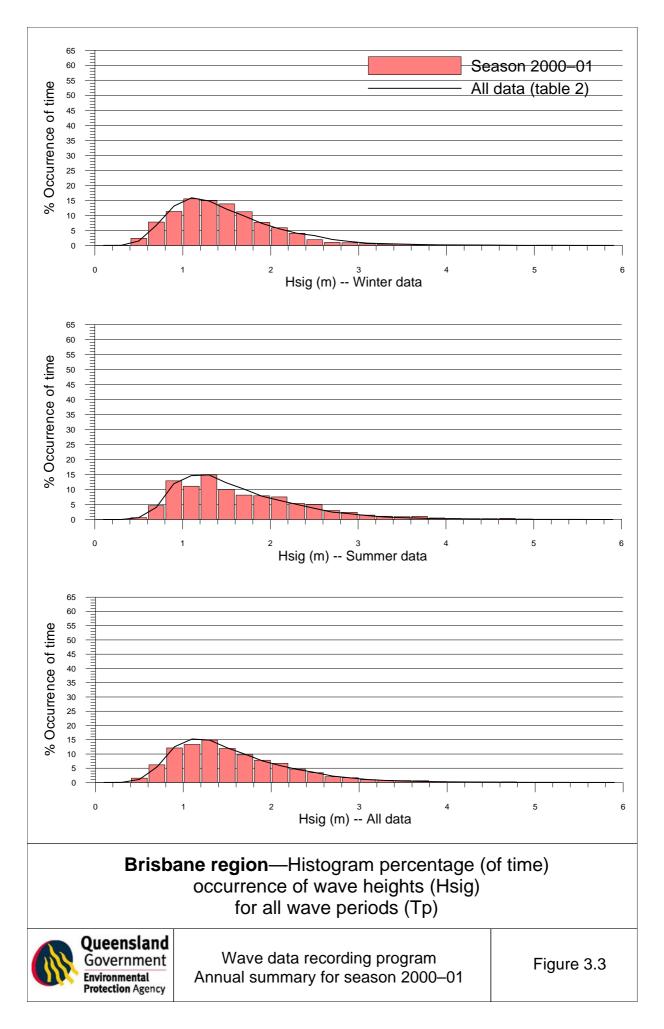
Gaps in data from duration analysis (days) = 0.125

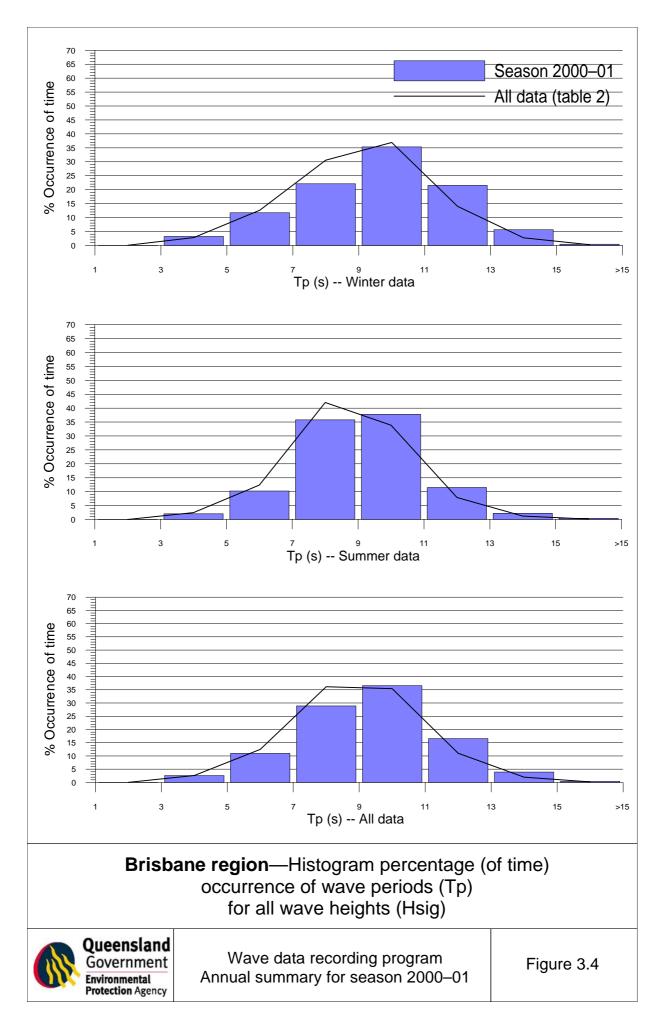
Number of records used in analysis = 15,726

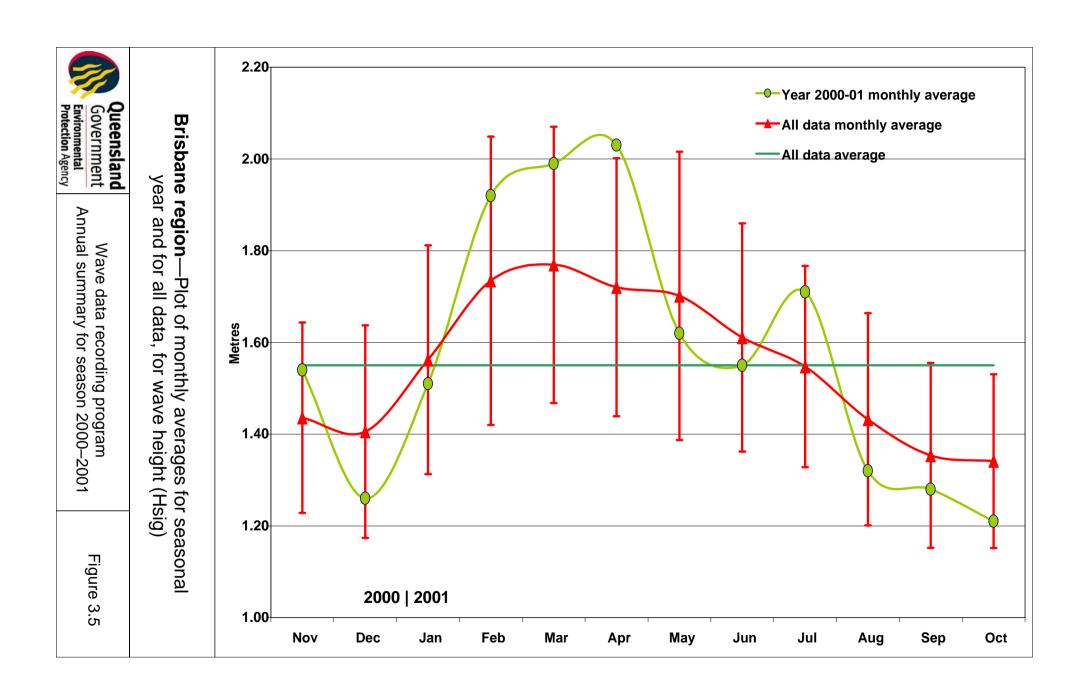
HAT at nearest standard port: Gold Coast seaway, 1.89m

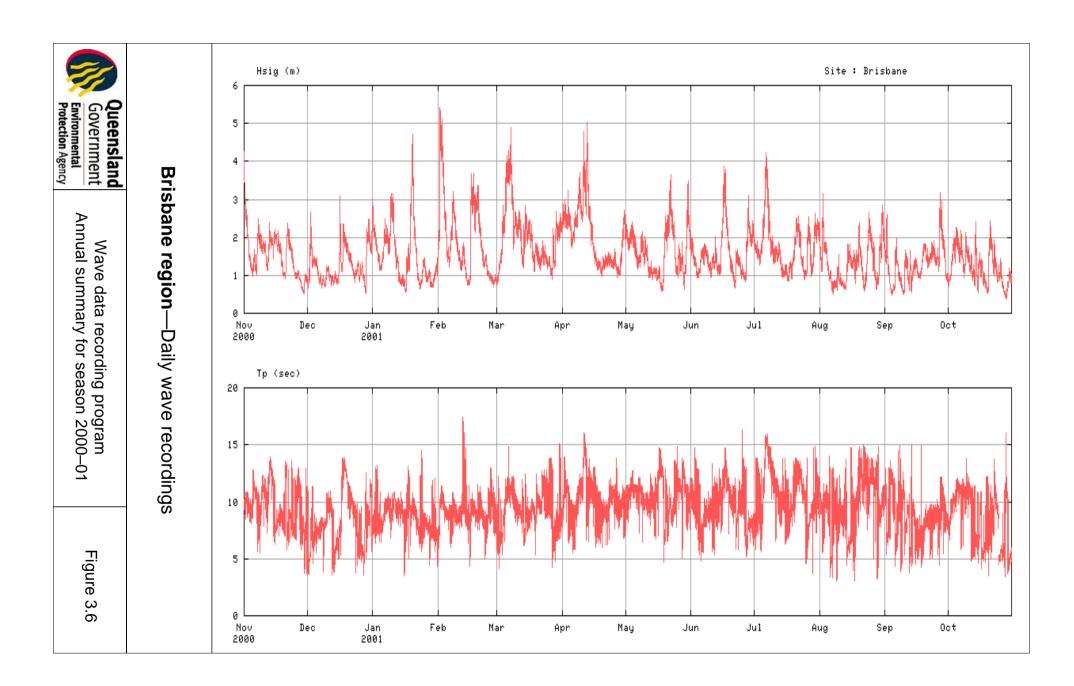


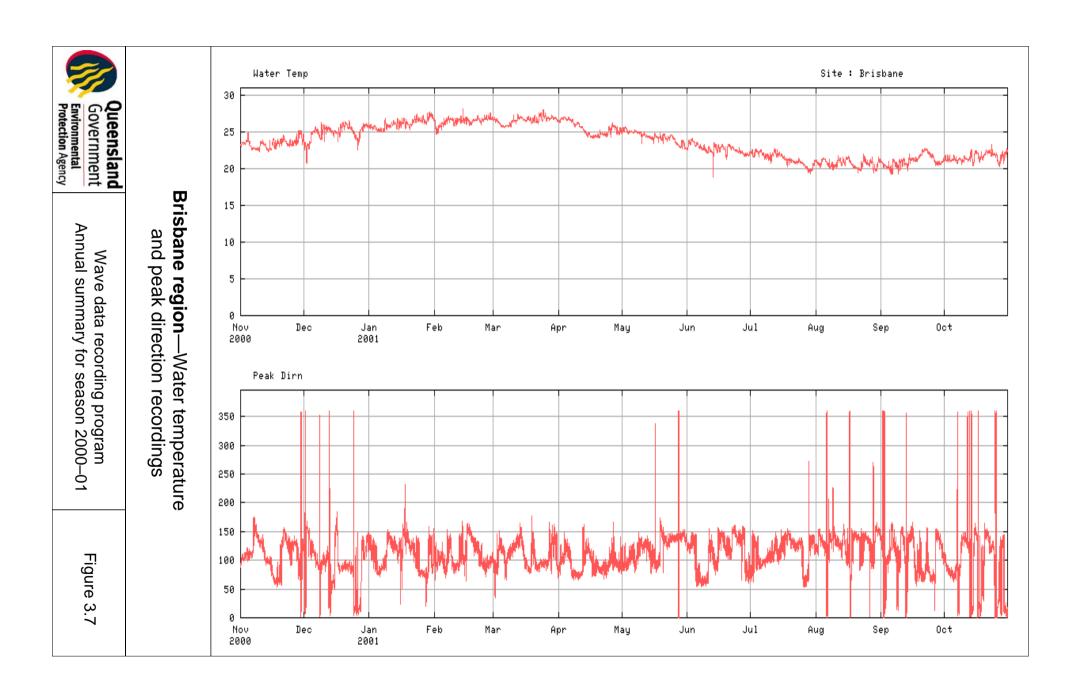


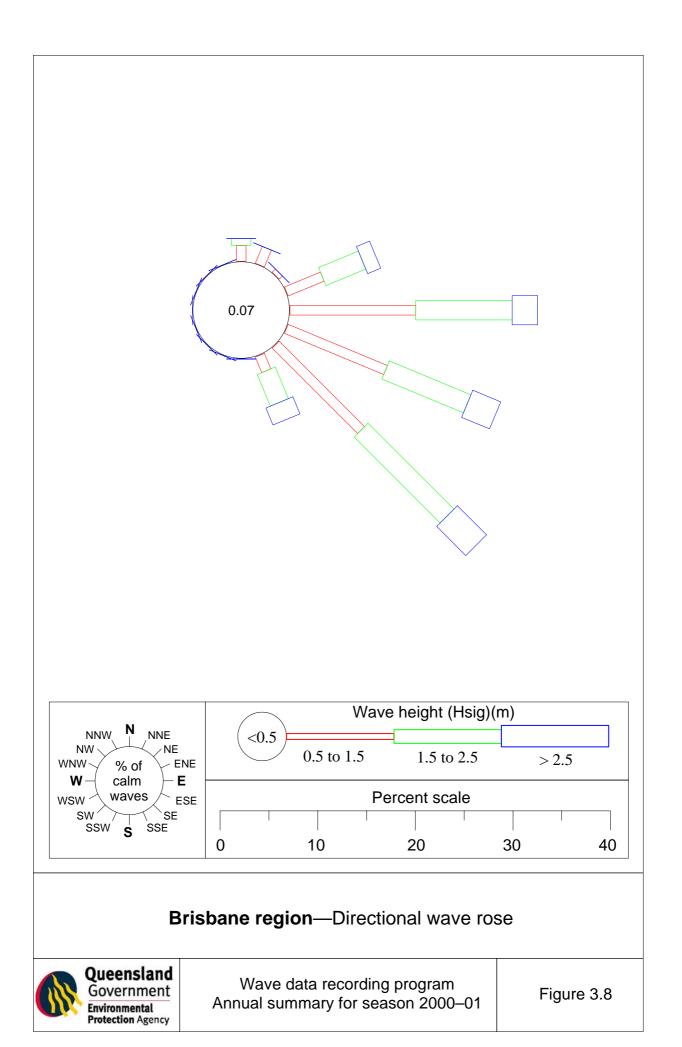












Moreton Bay

Wave recording station

Details of wave recorder station

Maximum possible analysis days (last record–first record) = 365.0

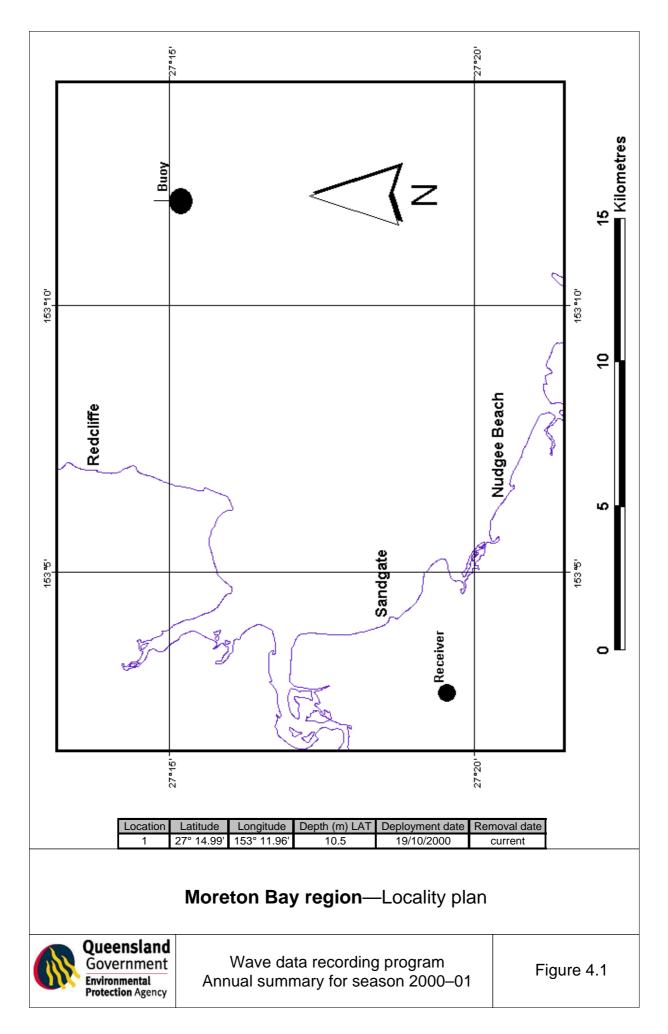
Total days used in analysis = 364.312

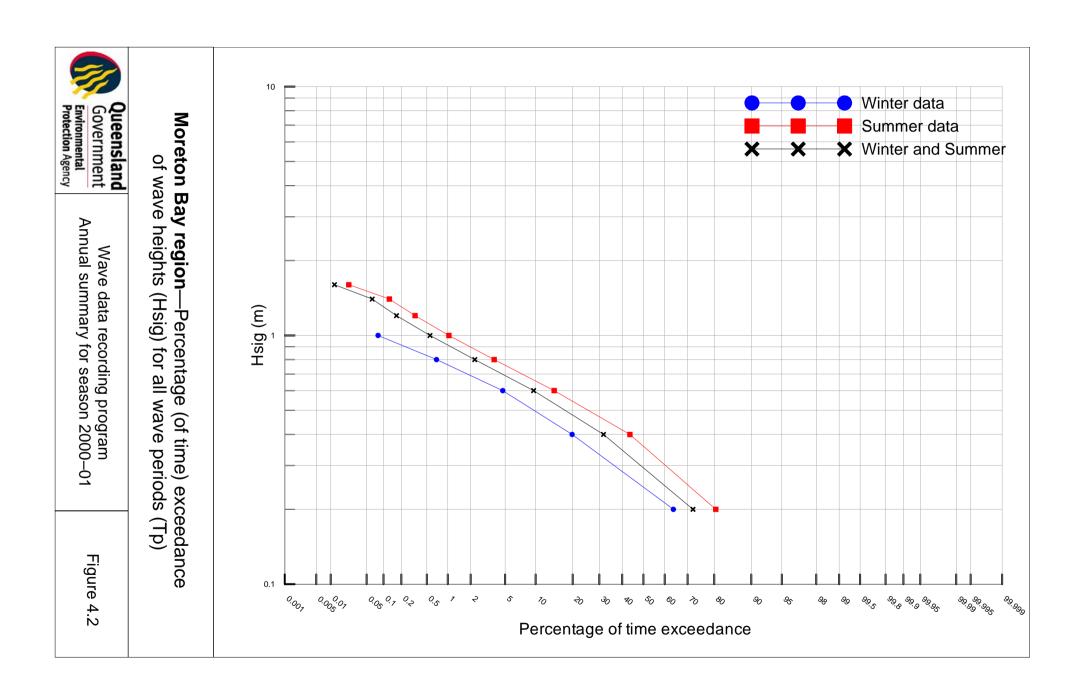
Gaps in data from selected dates (days) = 0.688

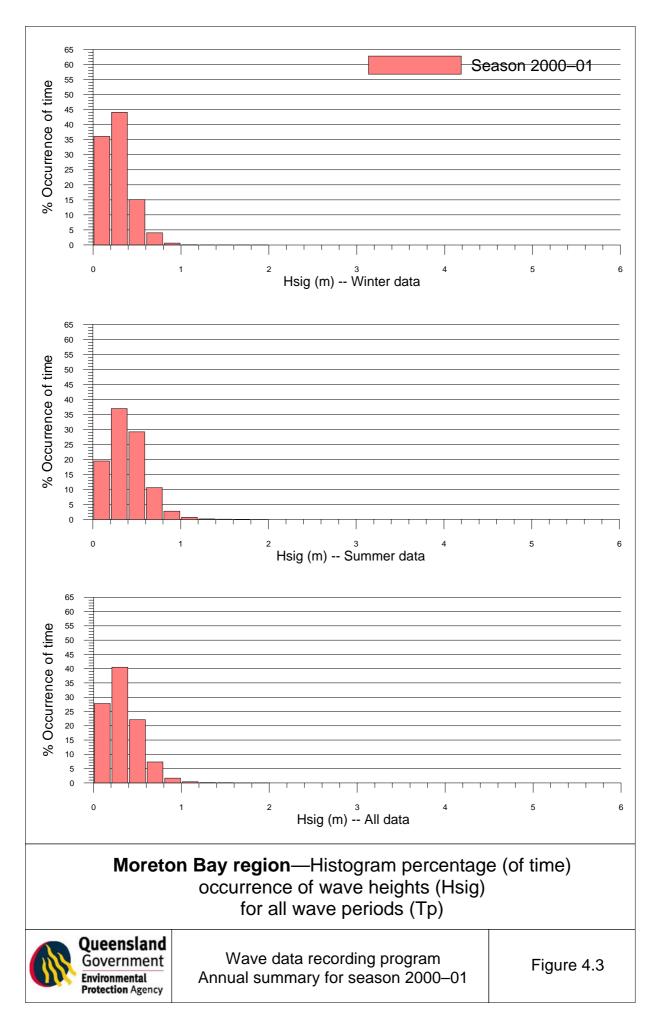
Gaps in data from duration analysis (days) = 2.250

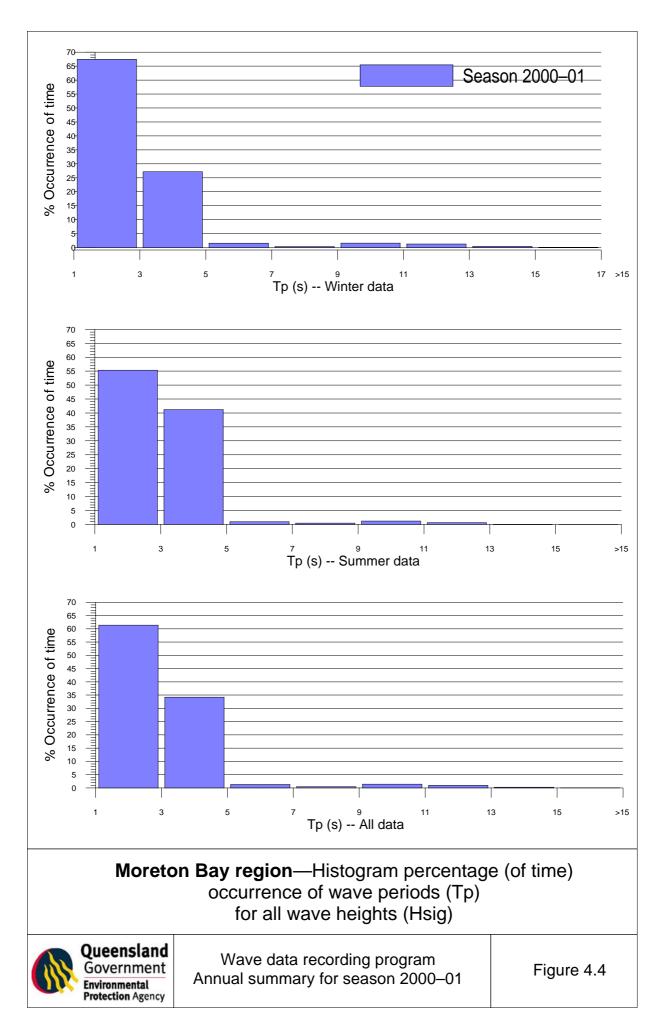
Number of records used in analysis = 16,132

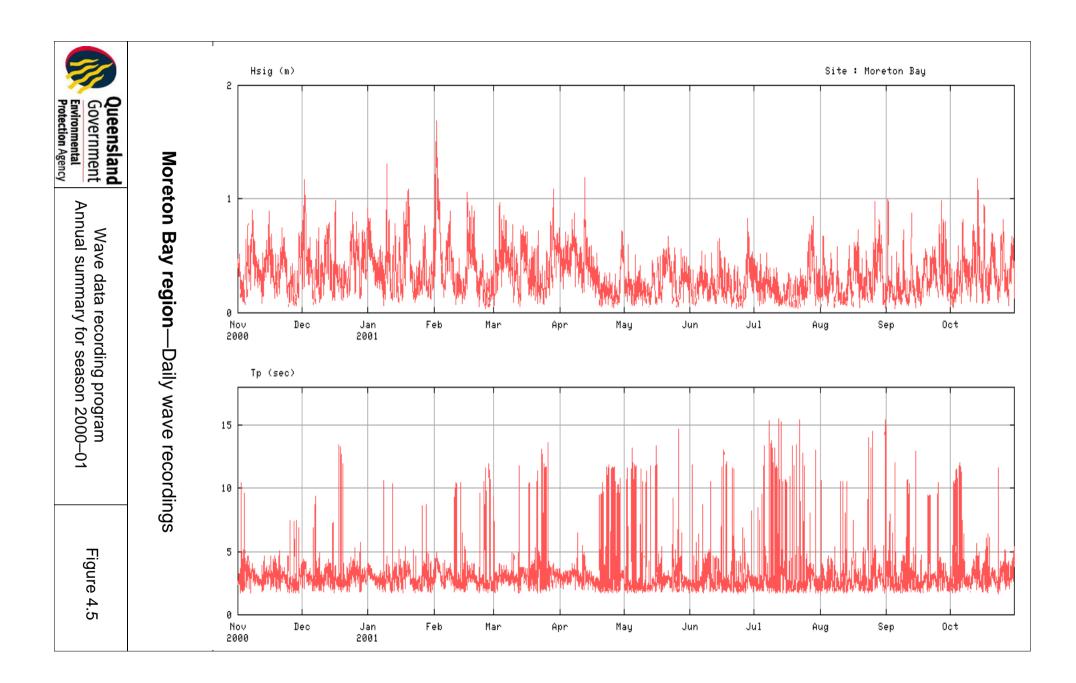
HAT at nearest standard port: Brisbane bar, 2.71m











Mooloolaba

Wave recording station

Details of wave recorder station

Maximum possible analysis days (last record–first record) = 365.0

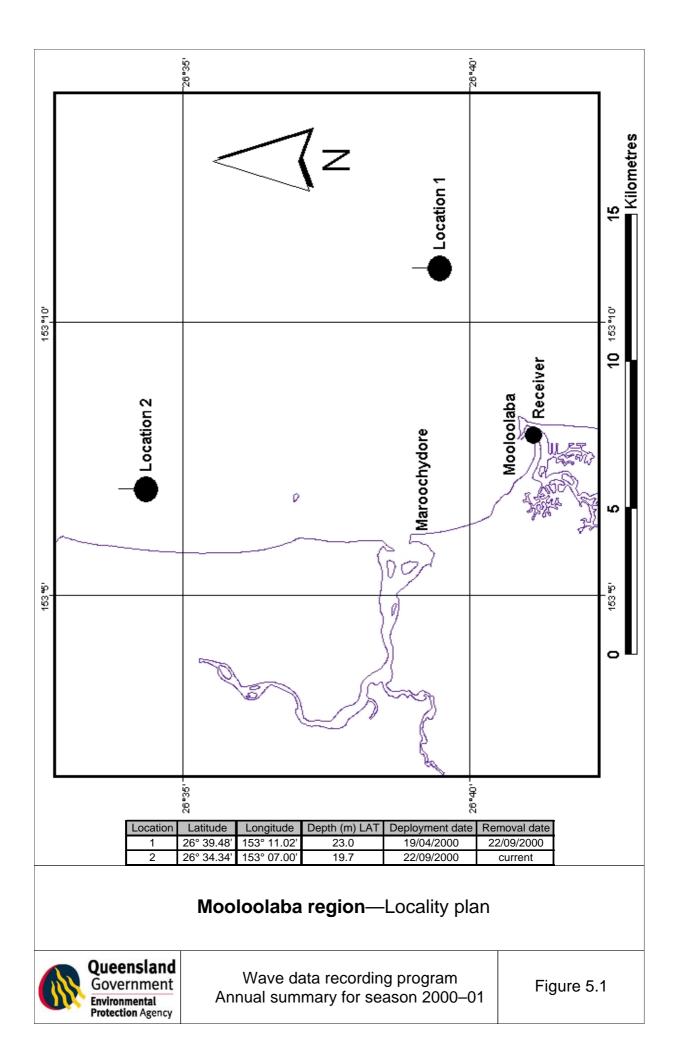
Total days used in analysis = 364.665

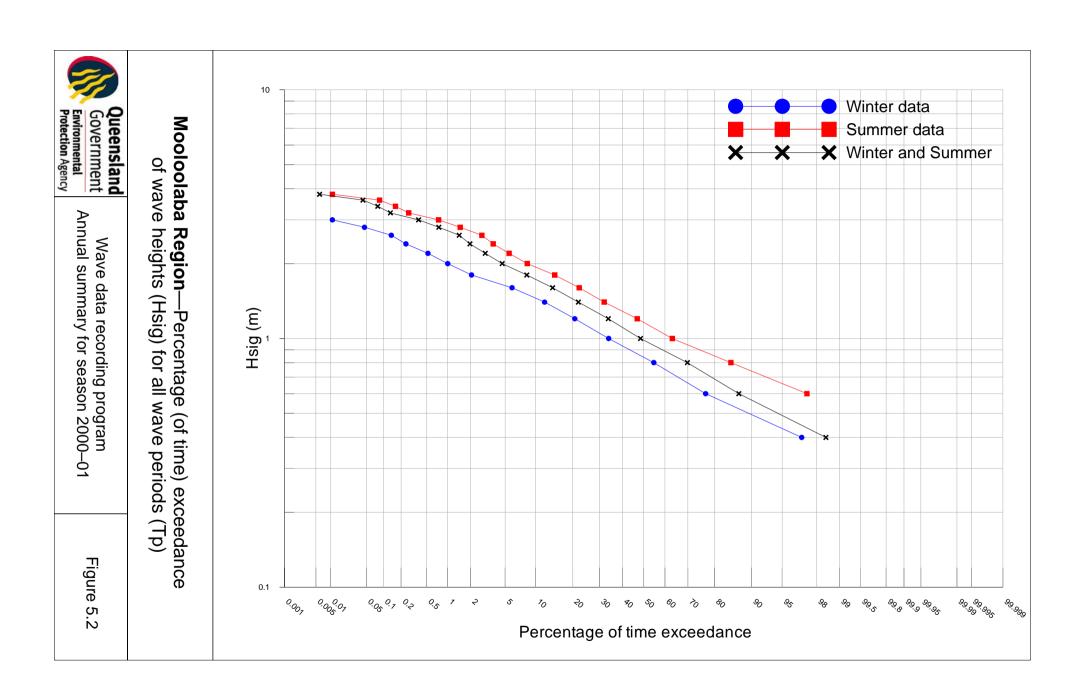
Gaps in data from selected dates (days) = 0.335

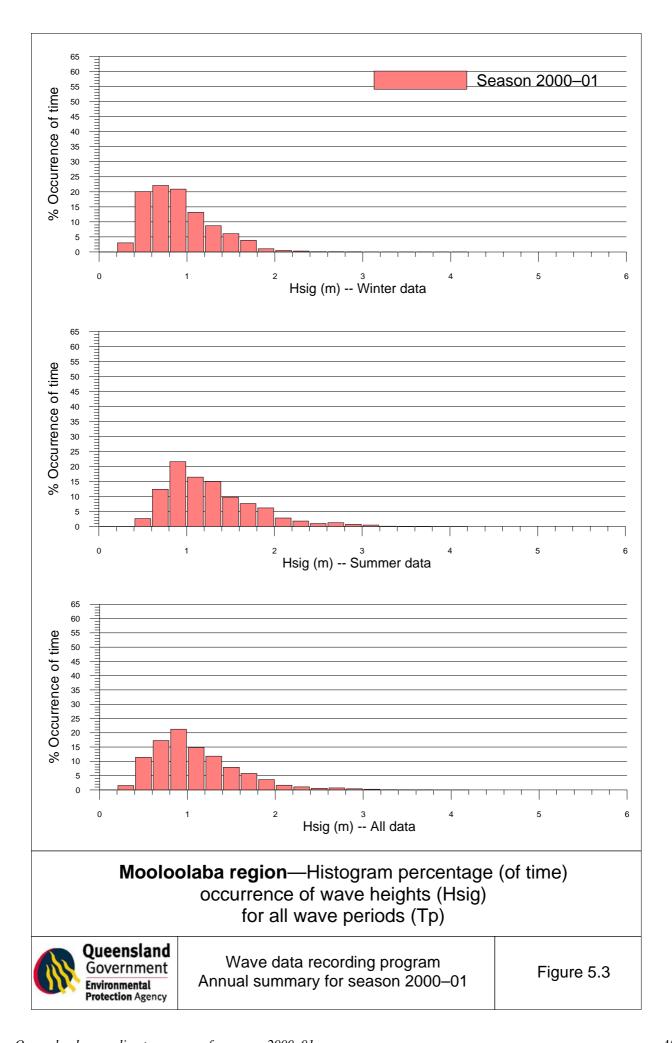
Gaps in data from duration analysis (days) = 0.334

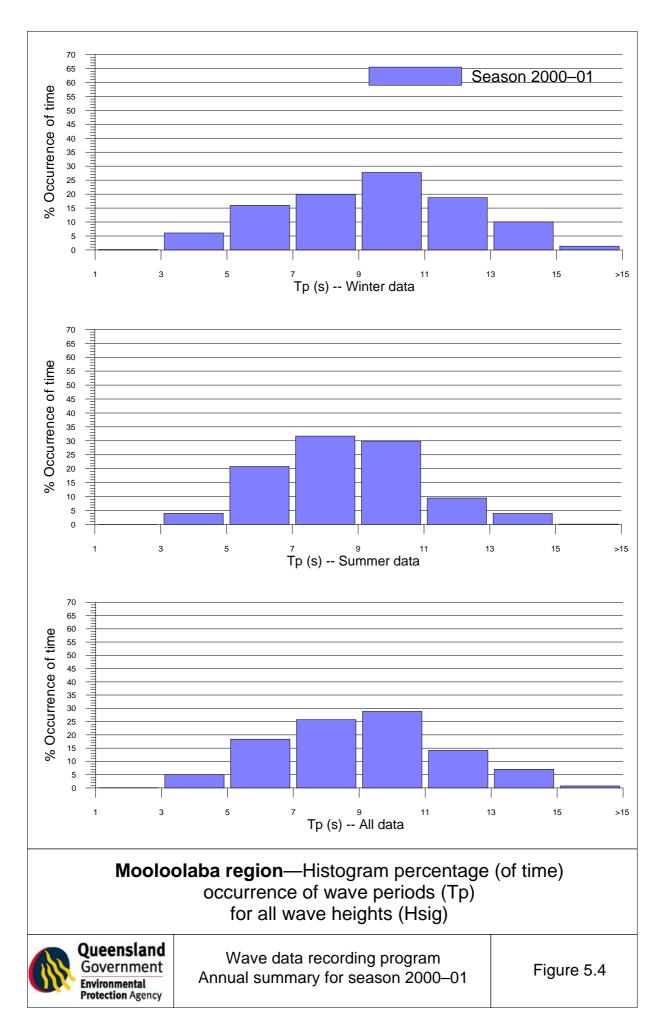
Number of records used in analysis = 16,535

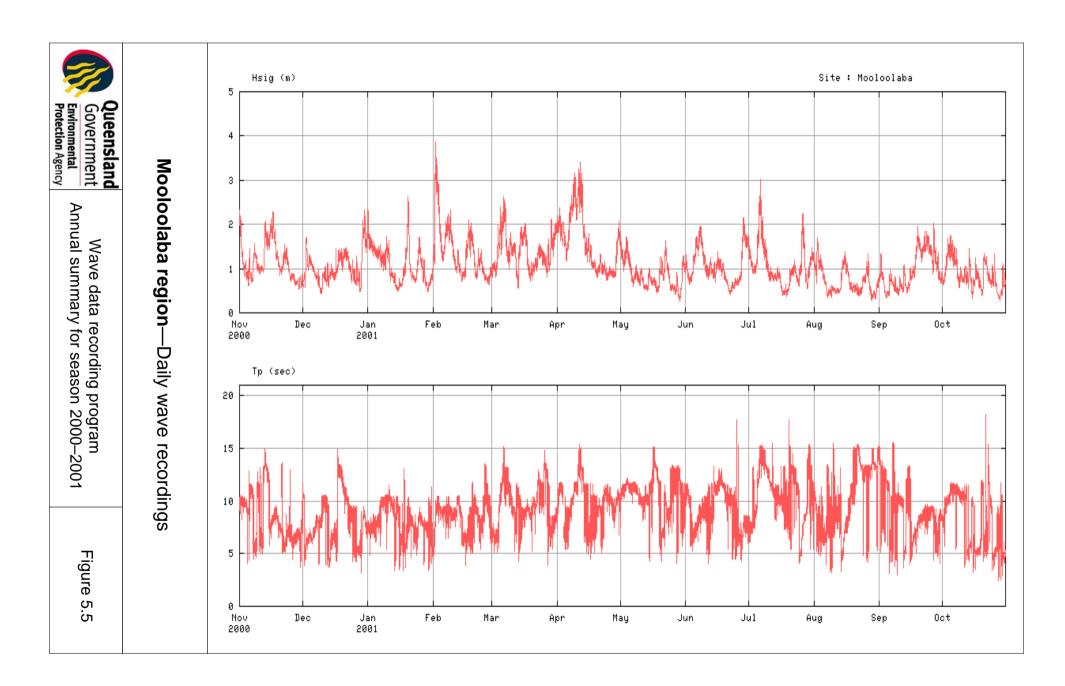
HAT at nearest standard port: Mooloolaba, 2.13m











Emu Park

Wave recording station

Details of wave recorder station

Maximum possible analysis days (last record–first record) = 365.0

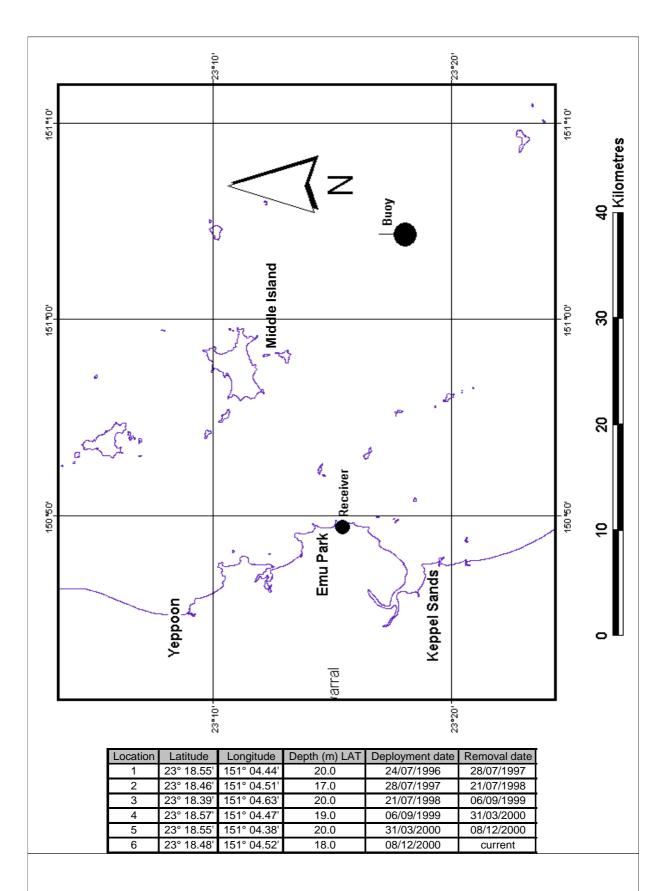
Total days used in analysis = 357.000

Gaps in data from selected dates (days) = 8.000

Gaps in data from duration analysis (days) = 8.000

Number of records used in analysis = 8,415

HAT at nearest standard port: Middle Island, 5.3m

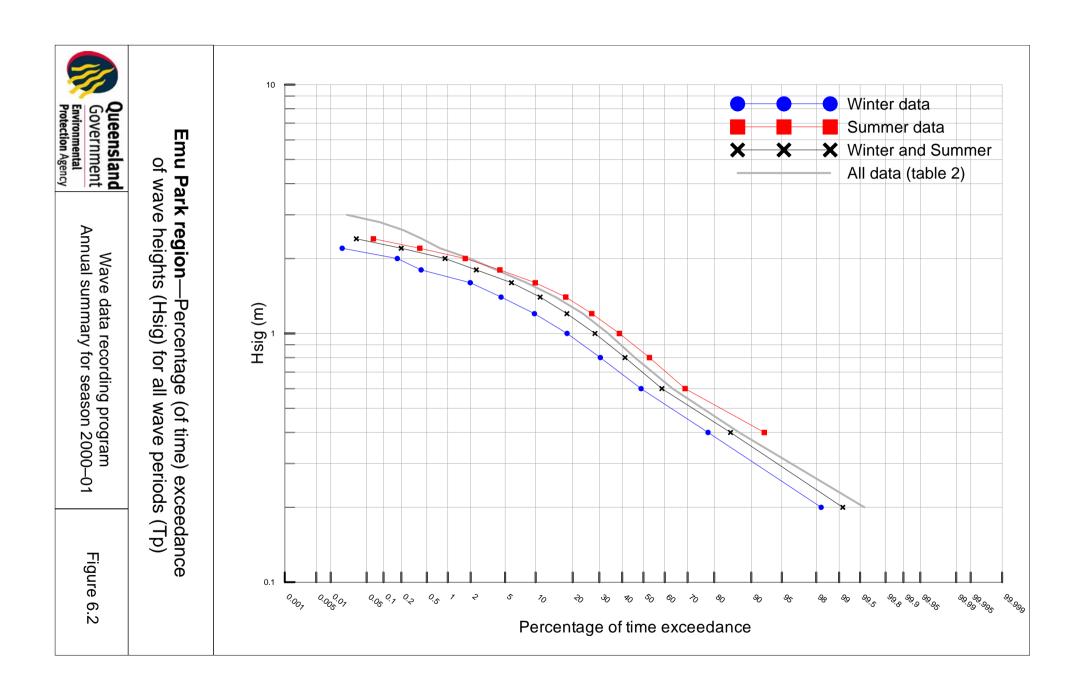


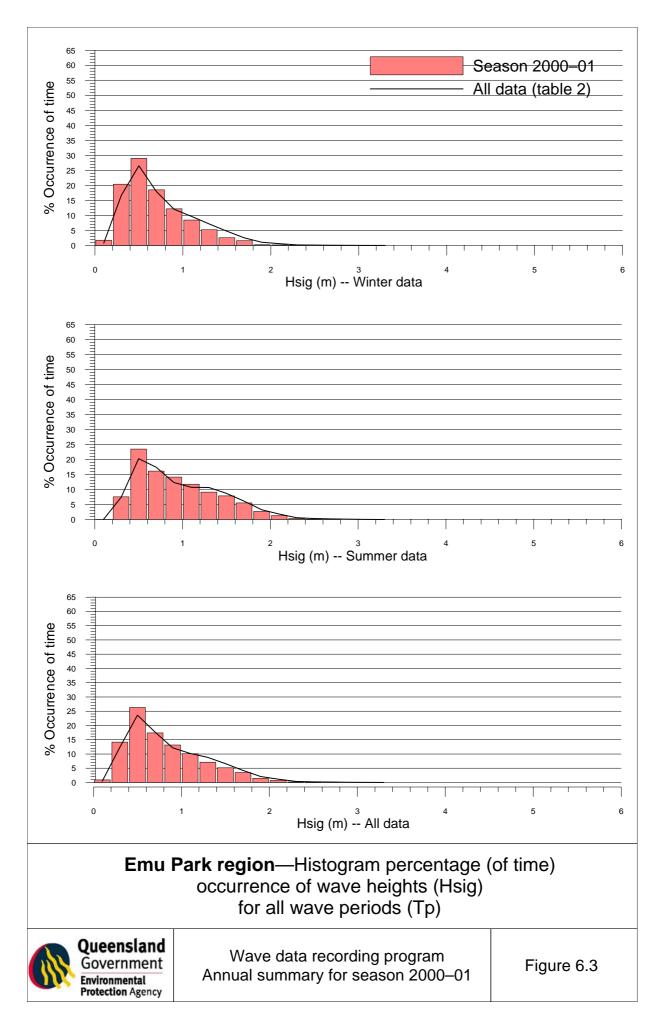
Emu Park region—Locality plan

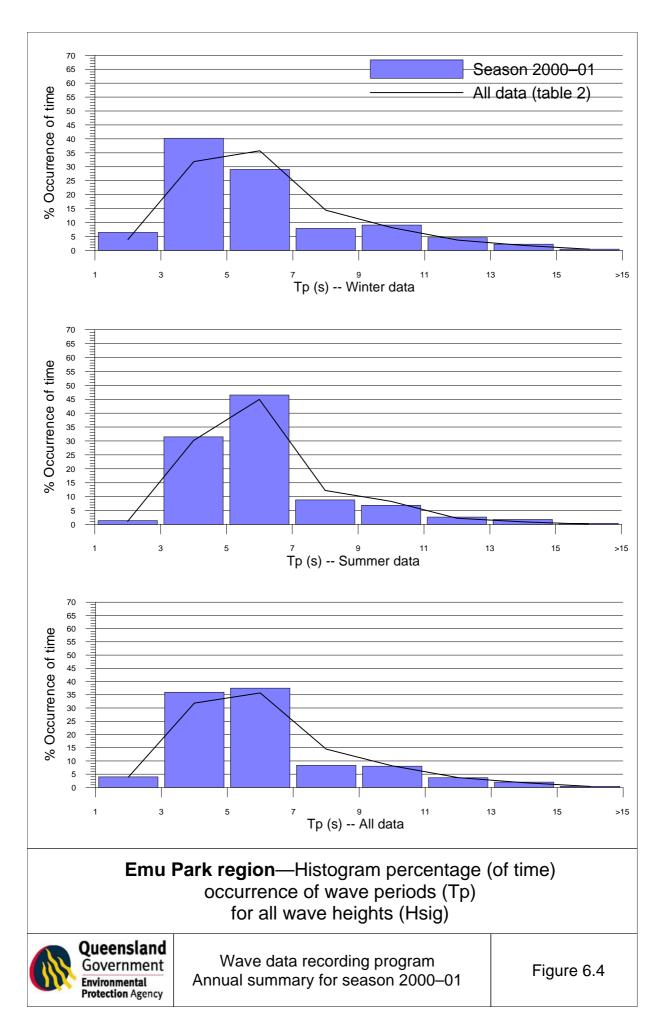


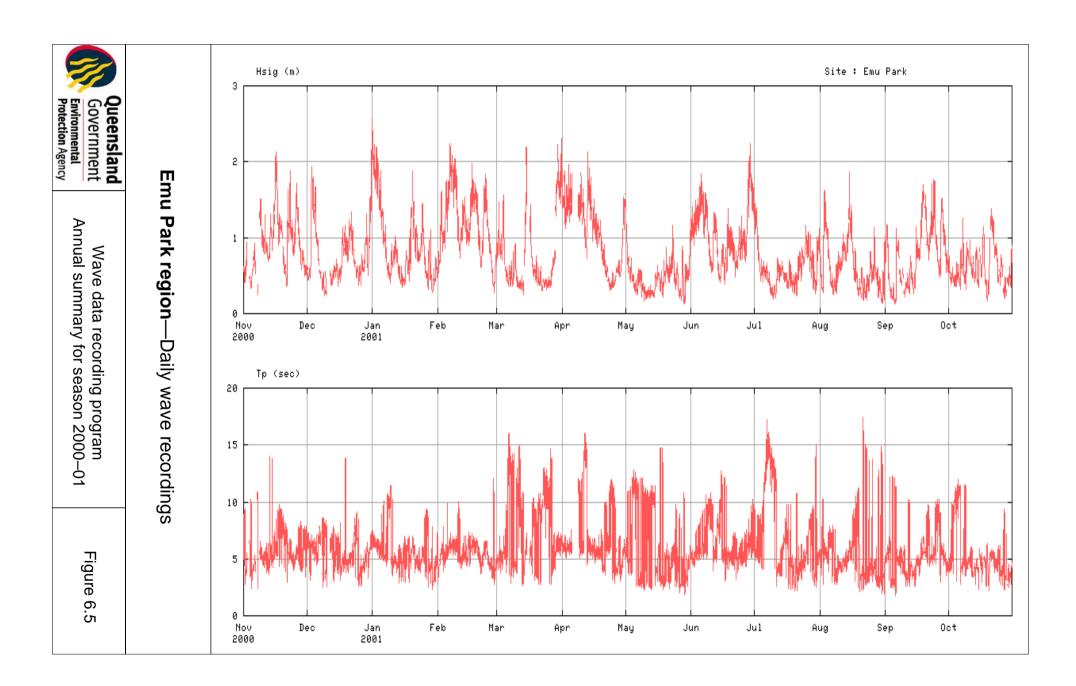
Wave data recording program Annual summary for season 2000–01

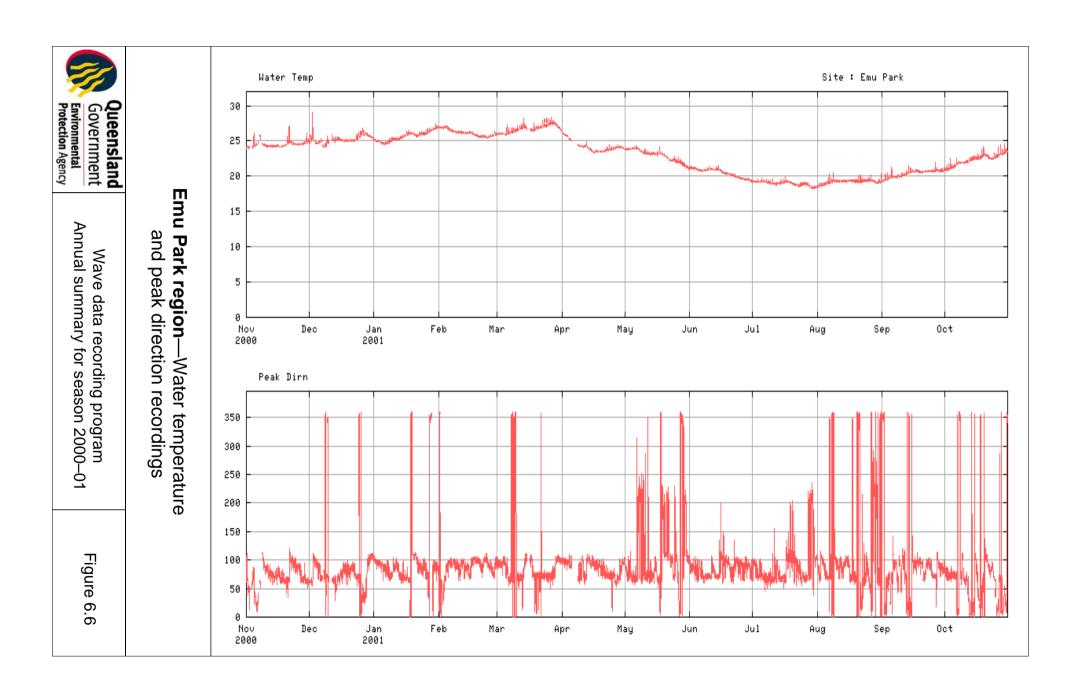
Figure 6.1

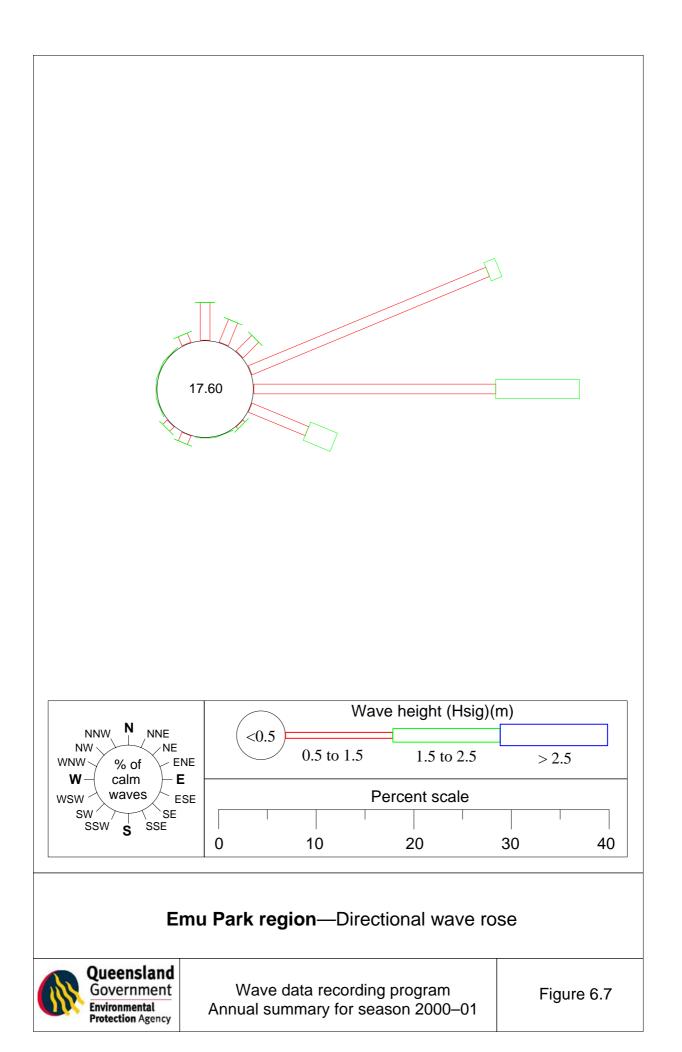












Hay Point

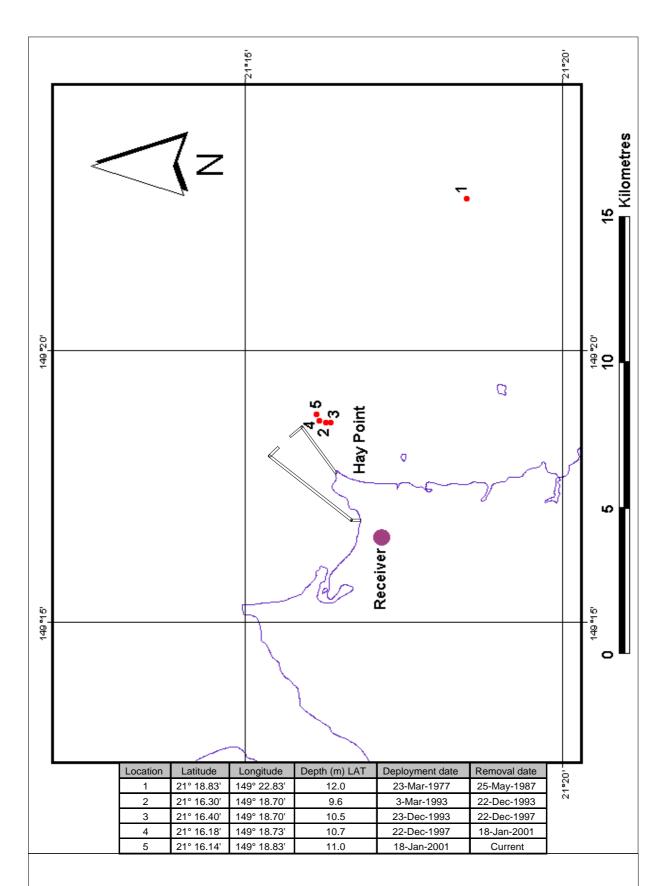
Wave recording station

Details of wave recorder station

Maximum possible analysis days (last record–first record) = 365.0

Total days used in analysis = 365.0Gaps in data from selected dates (days) = 0.001Gaps in data from duration analysis (days) = 0.000Number of records used in analysis = 17,448

HAT at nearest standard port: Hay Point, 7.14m

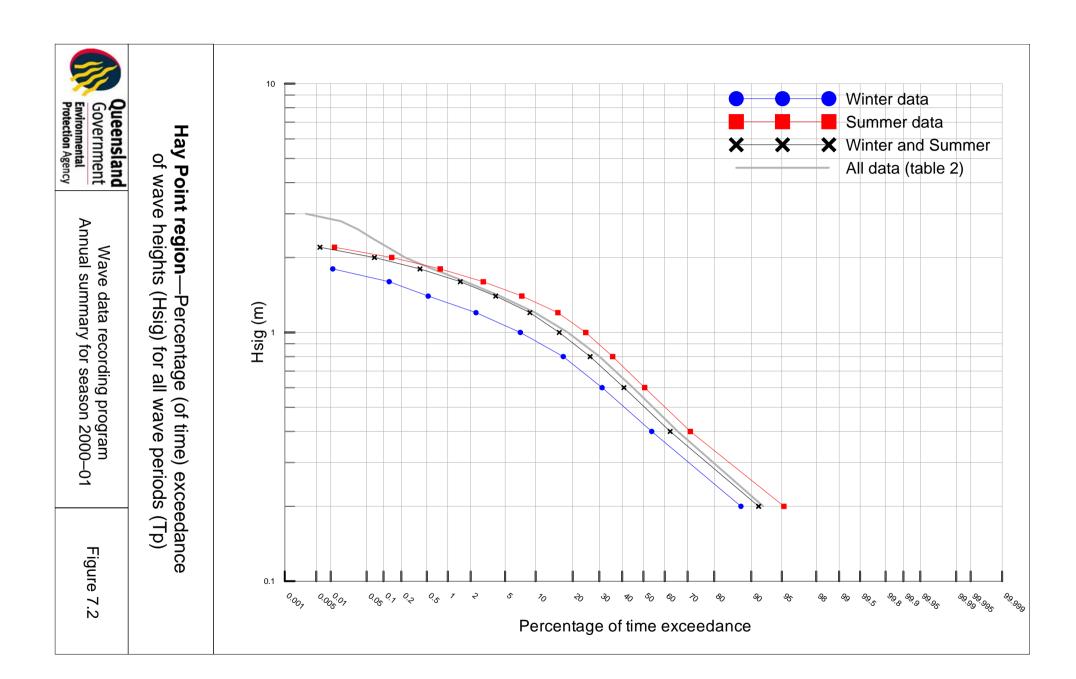


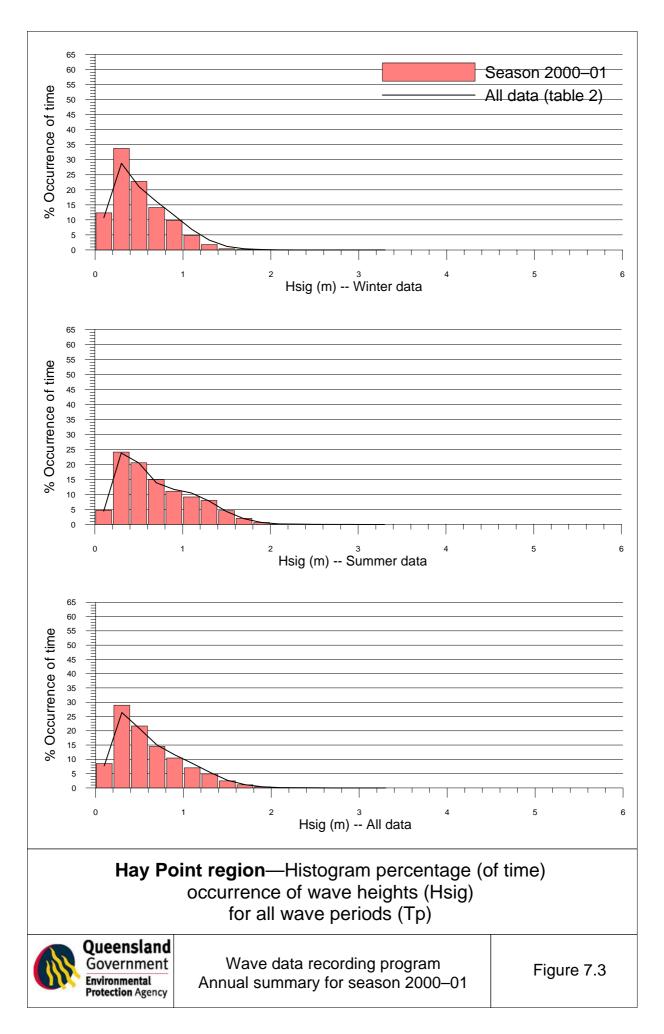
Hay Point region—Locality plan

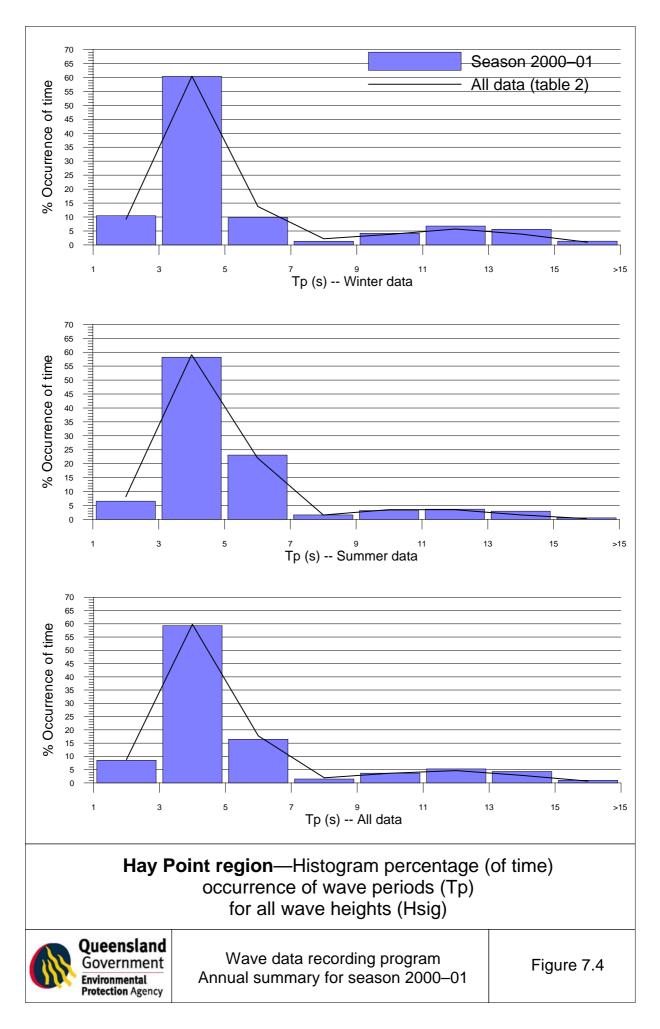


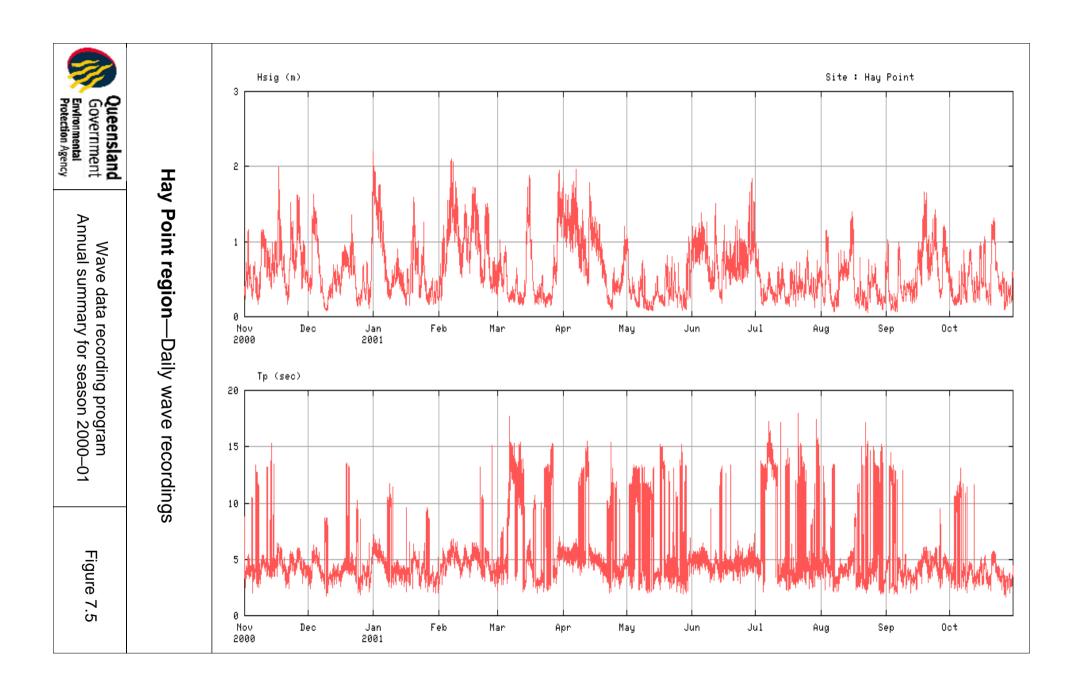
Wave data recording program Annual summary for season 2000-01

Figure 7.1









Mackay

Wave recording station

Details of wave recorder station

Maximum possible analysis days (last record–first record) = 365.0

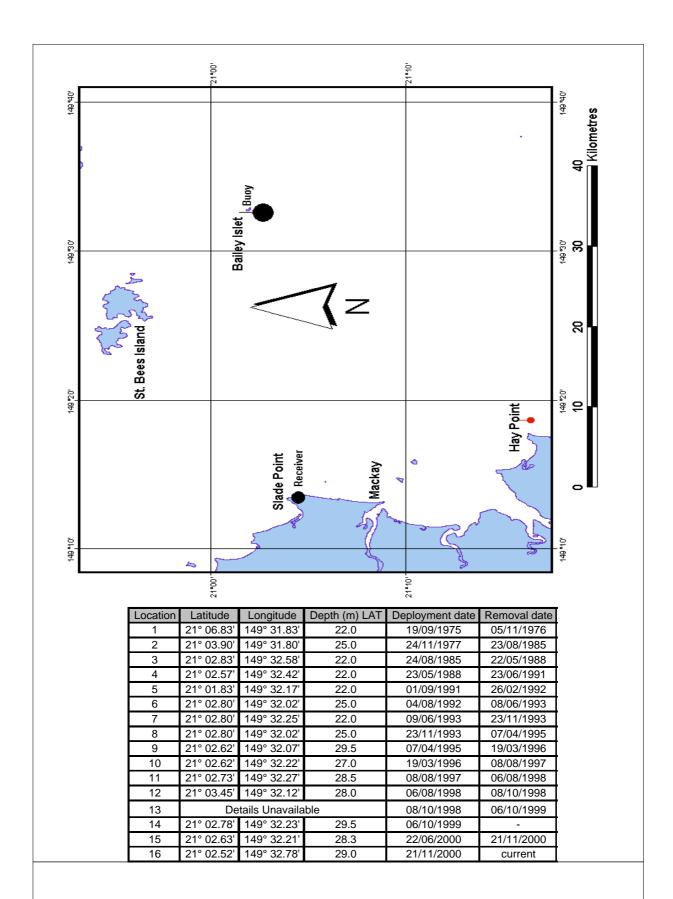
Total days used in analysis = 328.272

Gaps in data from selected dates (days) = 36.728

Gaps in data from duration analysis (days) = 36.728

Number of records used in analysis = 6,946

HAT at nearest standard port: Saint Bees Island, 5.72m

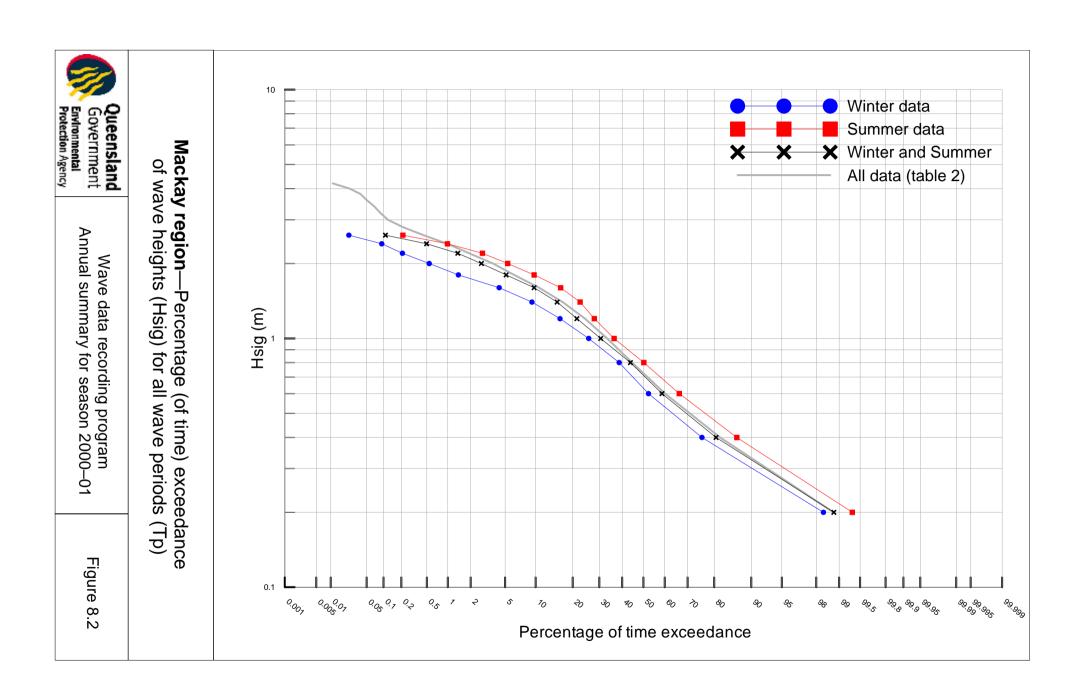


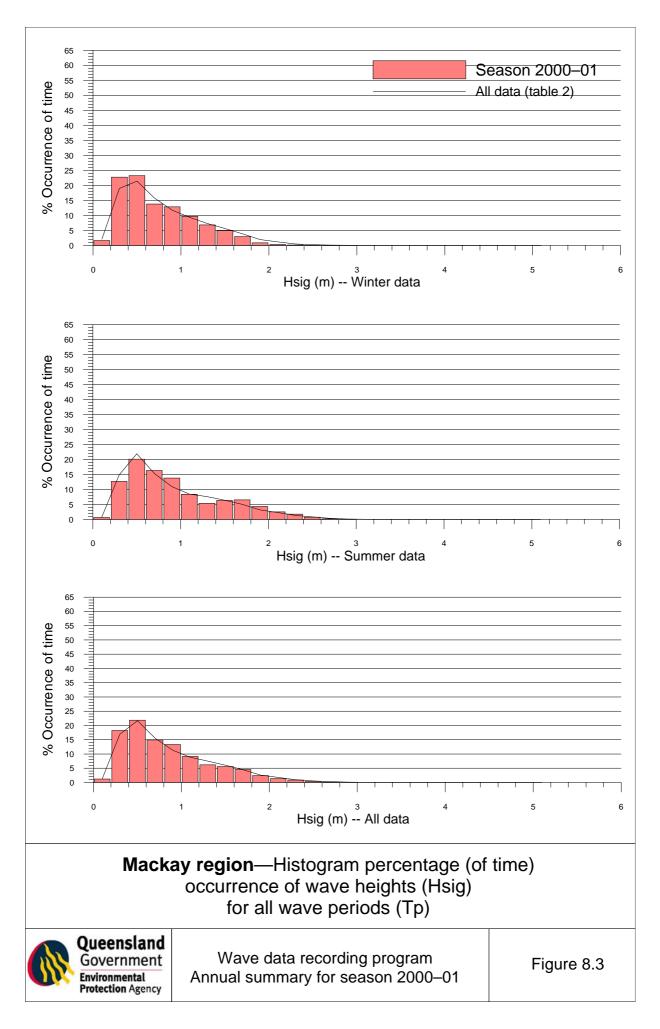
Mackay region—Locality plan

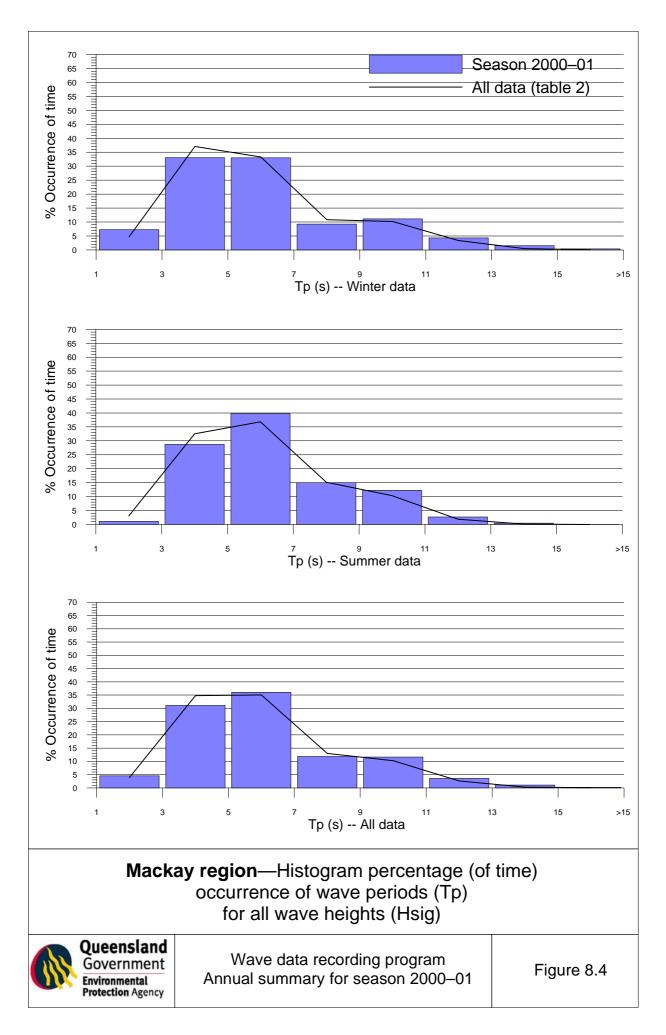


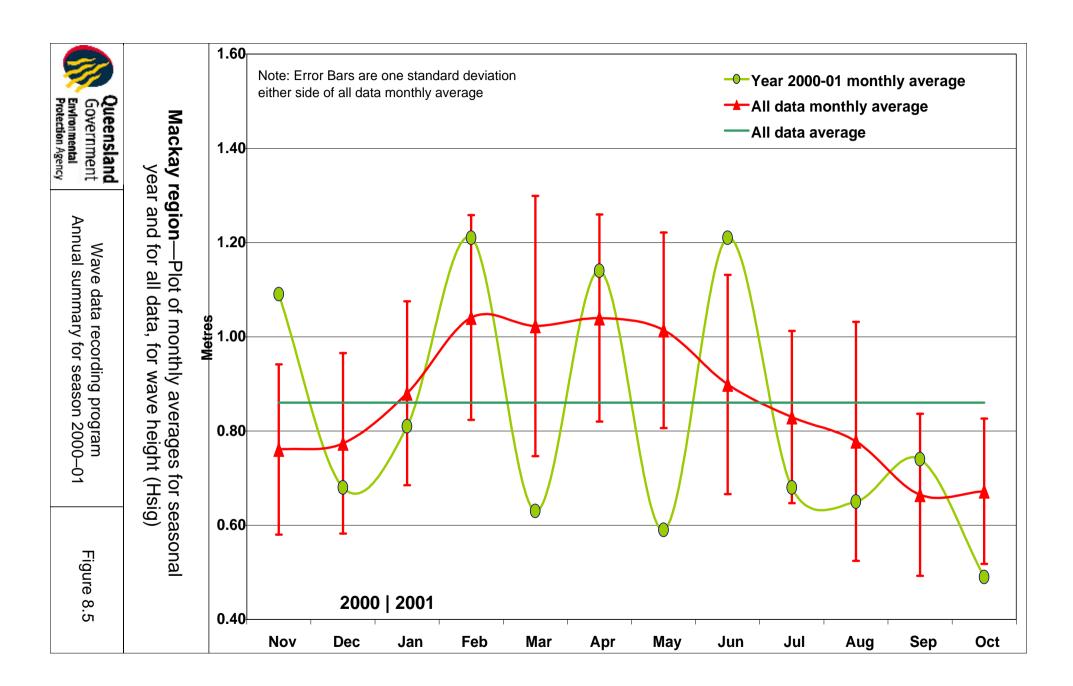
Wave data recording program
Annual summary for season 2000–01

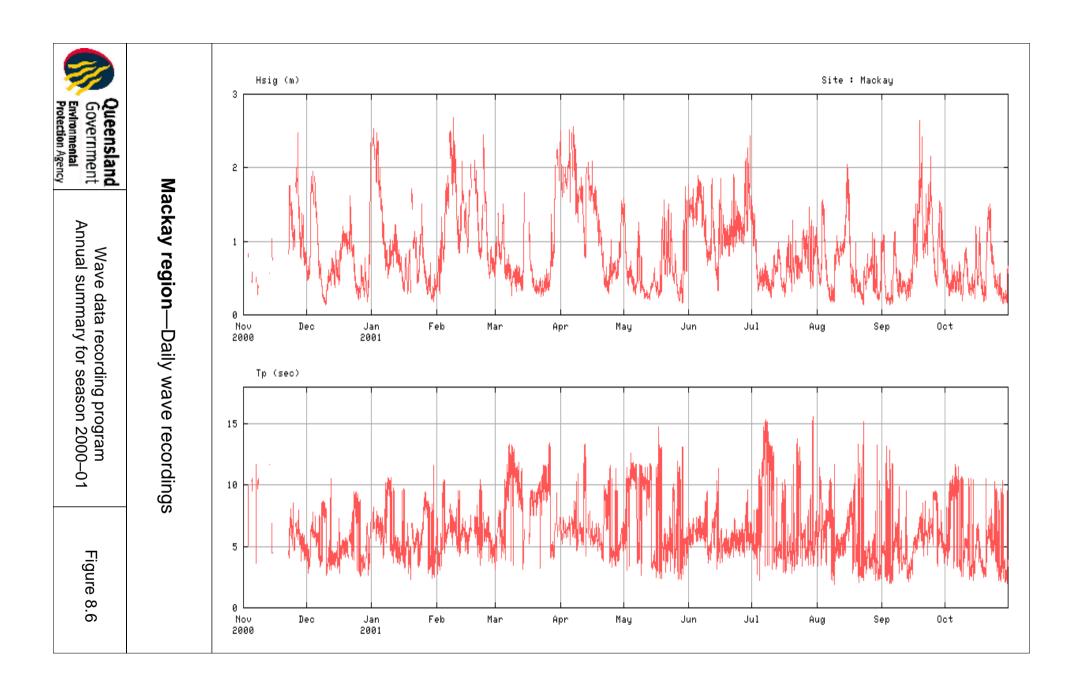
Figure 8.1











Townsville

Wave recording station

Details of wave recorder station

Number of records used in analysis

Maximum possible analysis days (last record–first record) = 365.0

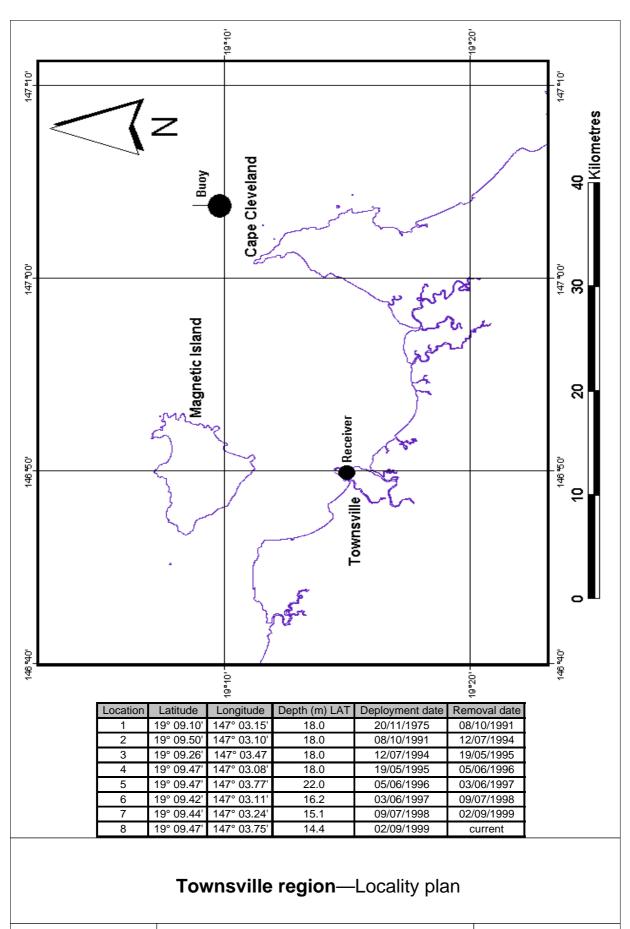
Total days used in analysis = 331.893

Gaps in data from selected dates (days) = 33.107

Gaps in data from duration analysis (days) = 33.107

HAT at nearest standard port: Cape Ferguson, 3.73m

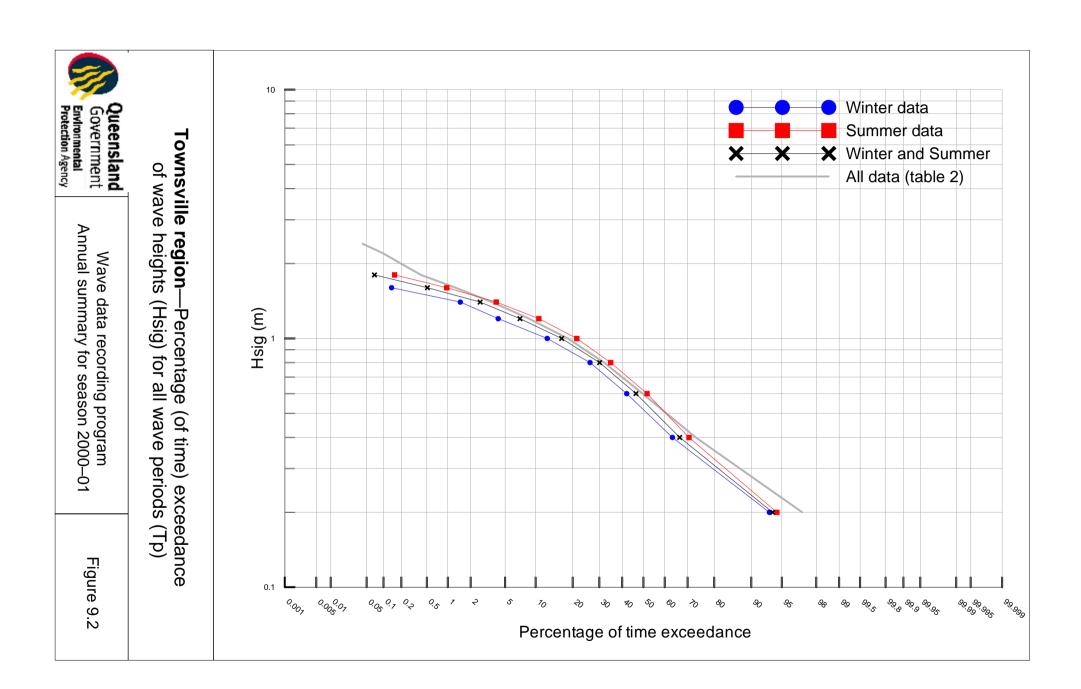
= 13,301

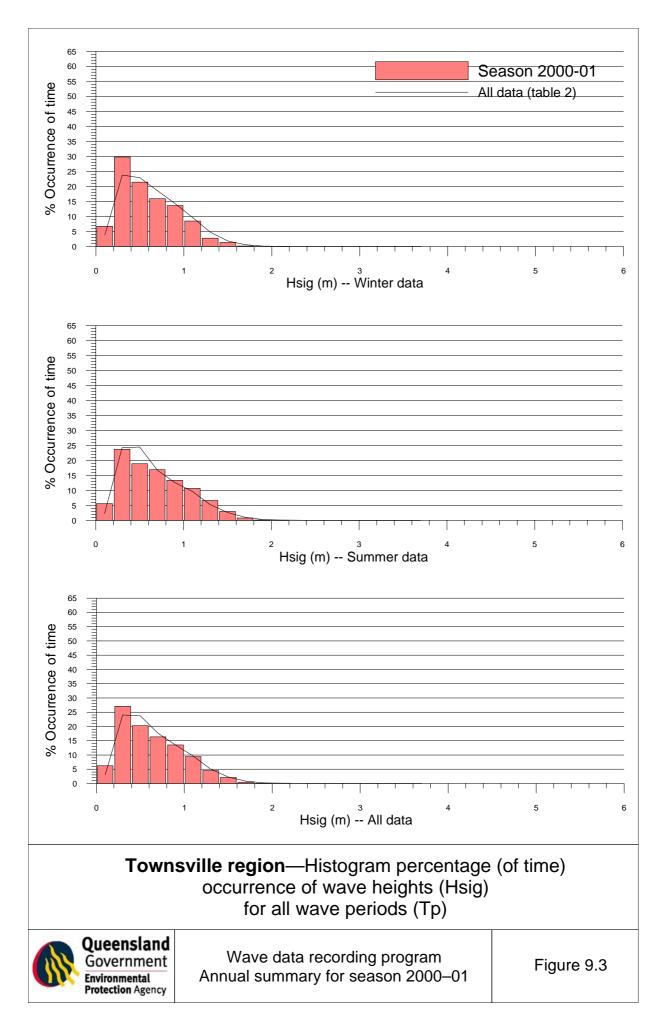


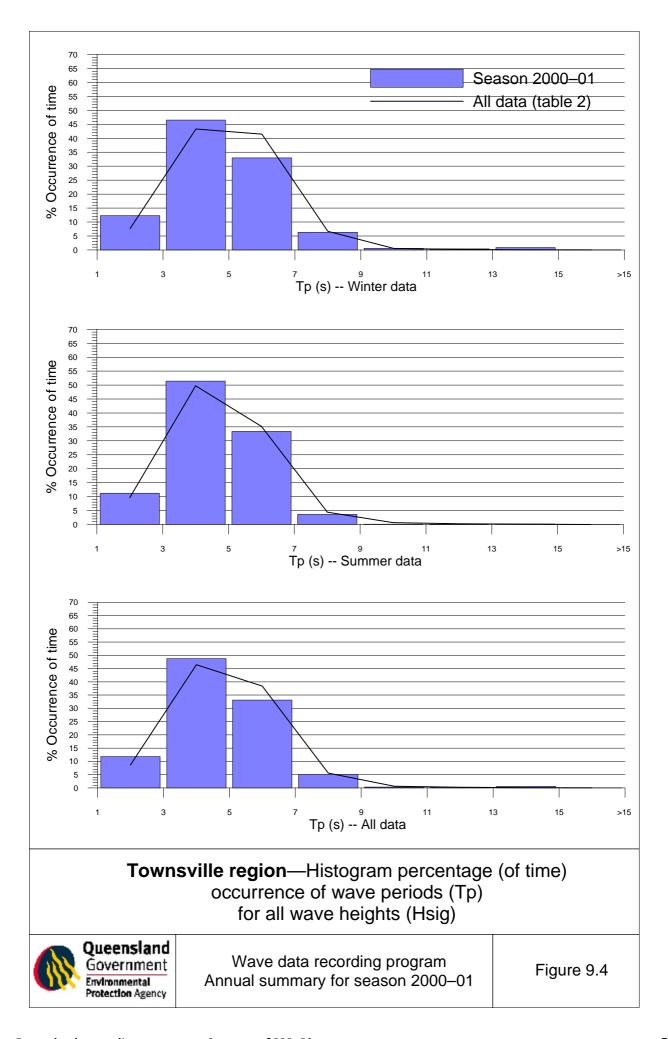


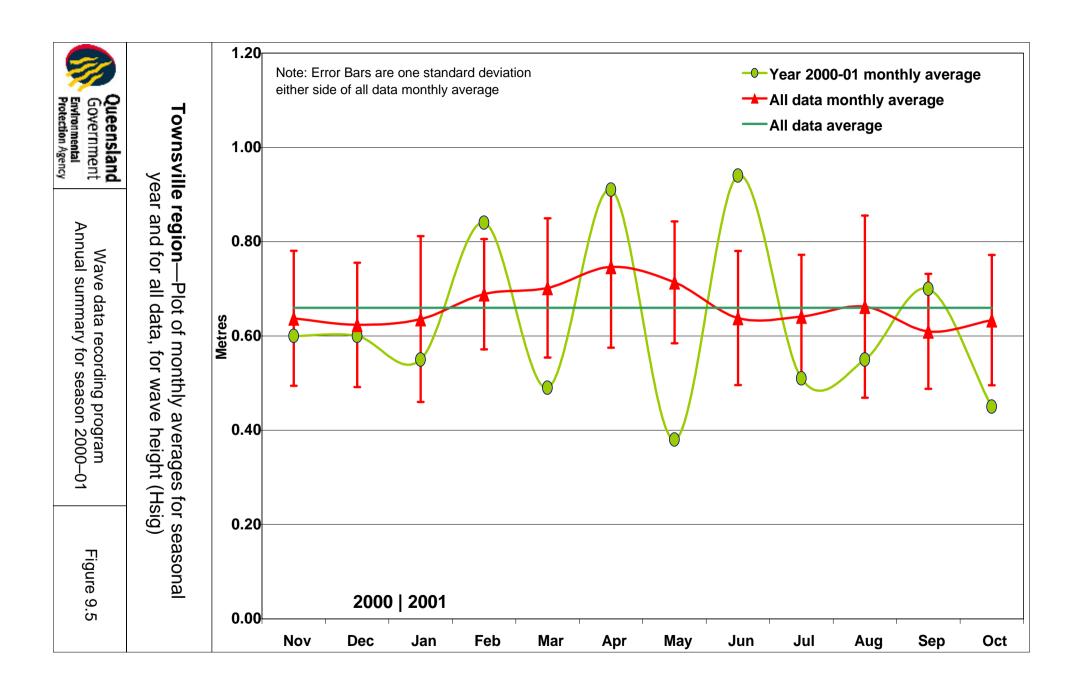
Wave data recording program Annual summary for season 2000–01

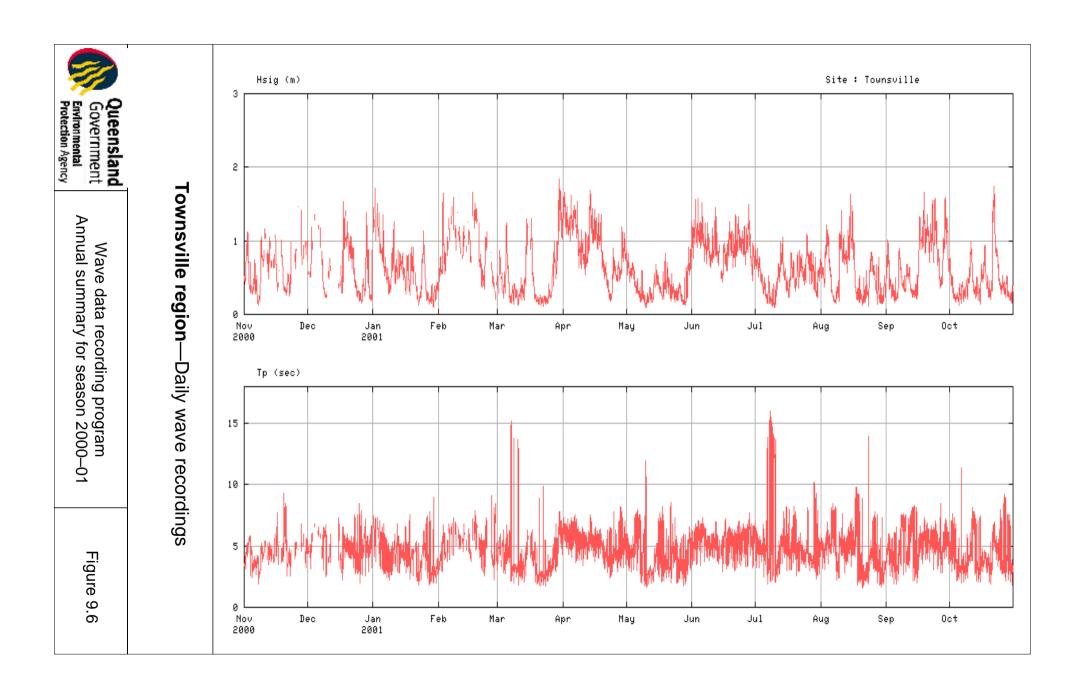
Figure 9.1

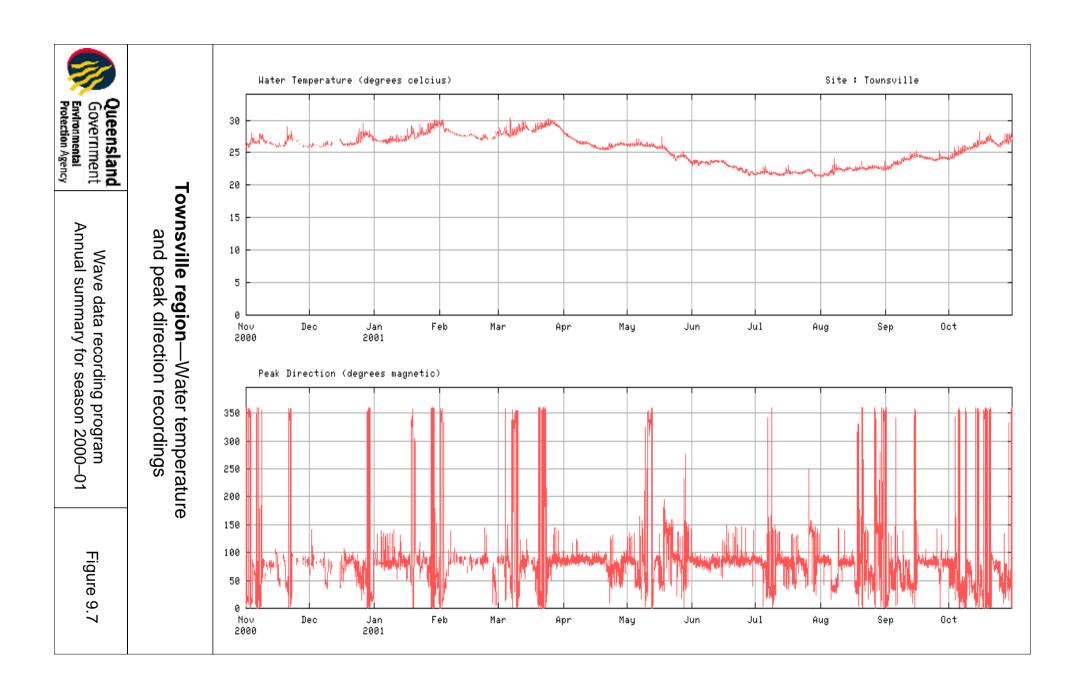


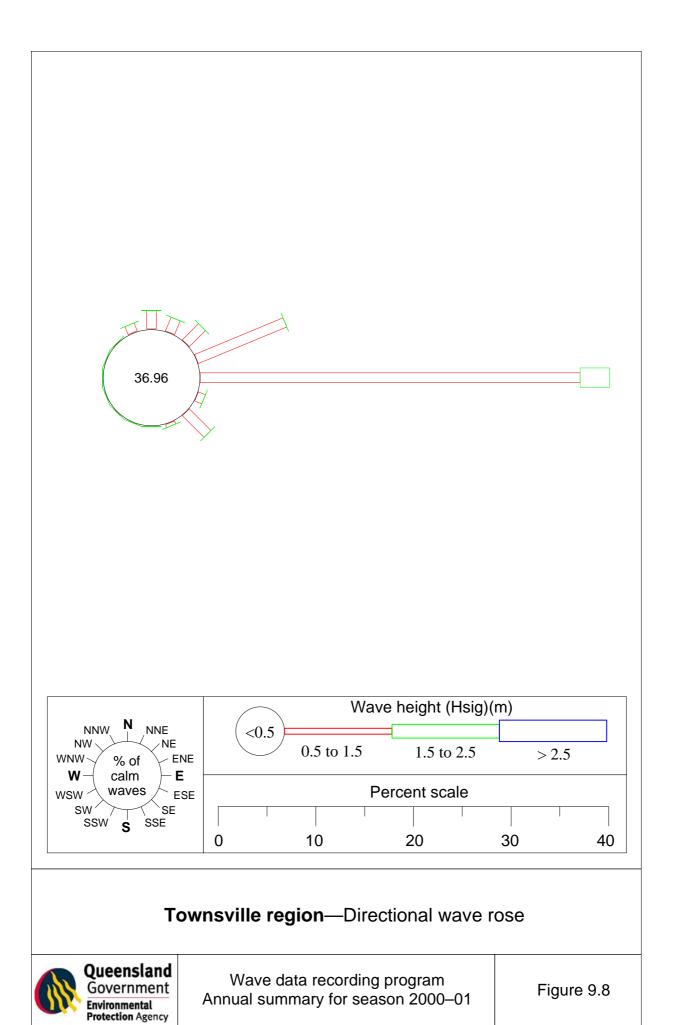












Dunk Island

Wave recording station

Details of wave recorder station

Maximum possible analysis days (last record–first record) = 365.0

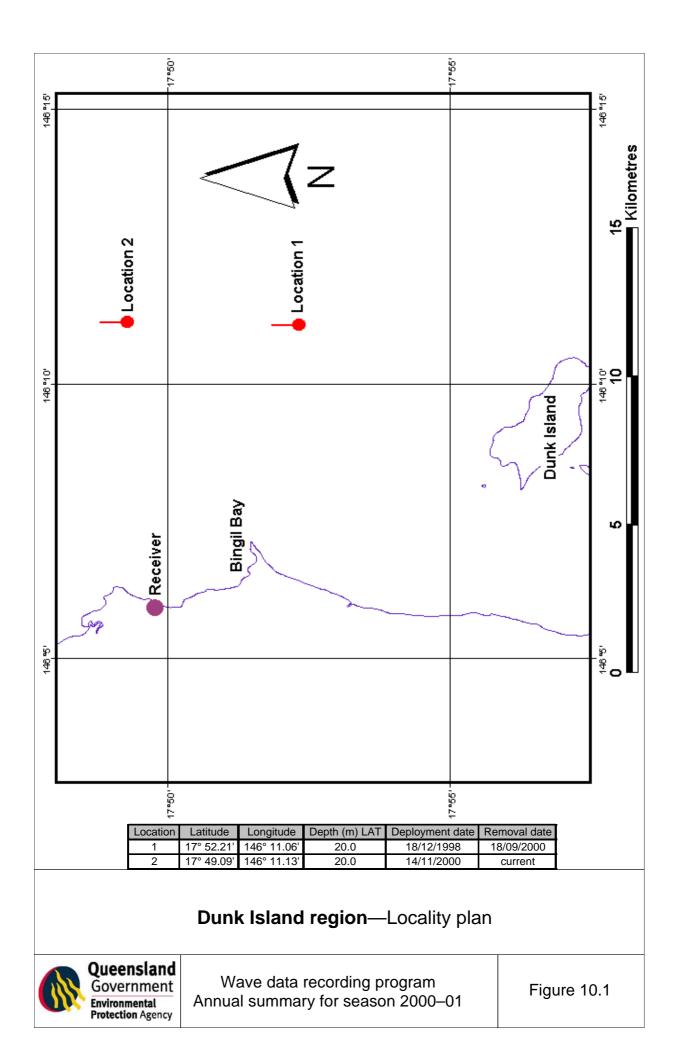
Total days used in analysis = 306.457

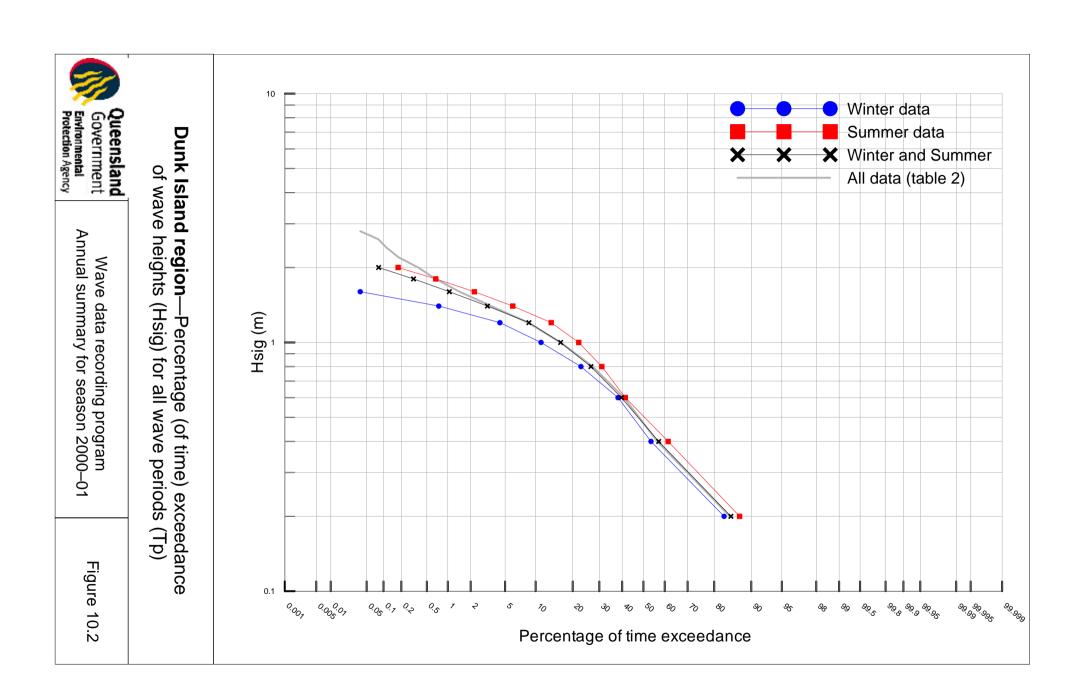
Gaps in data from selected dates (days) = 58.543

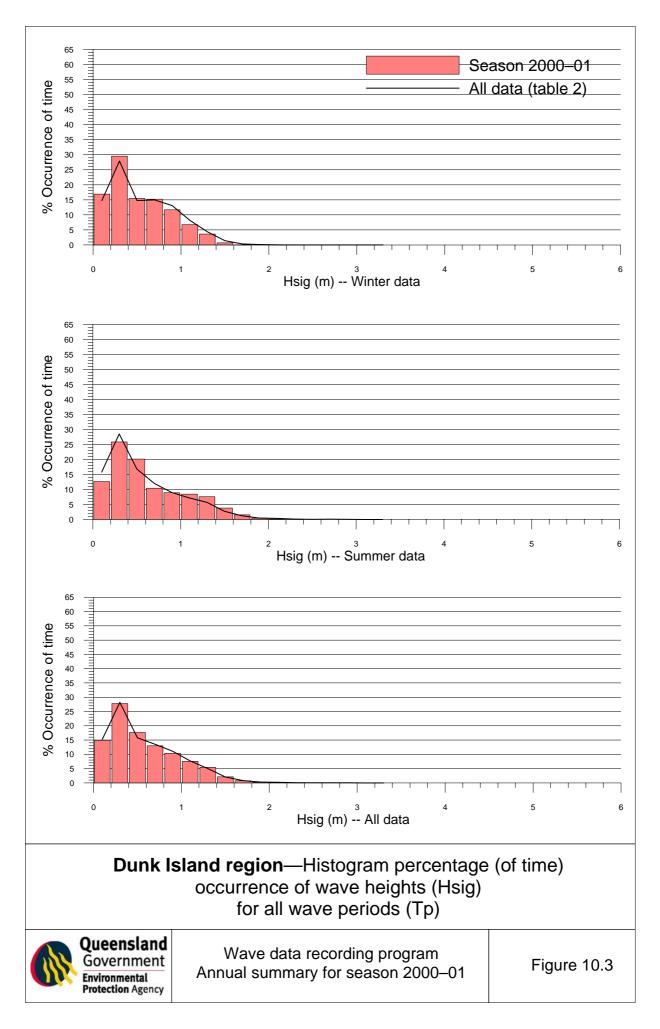
Gaps in data from duration analysis (days) = 44.918

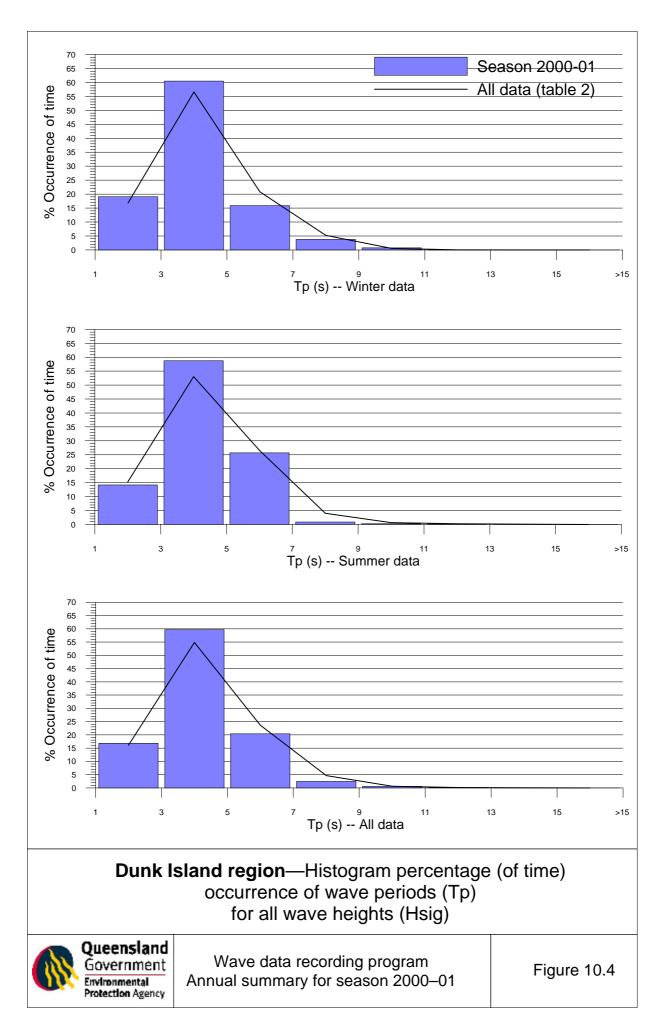
Number of records used in analysis = 14,009

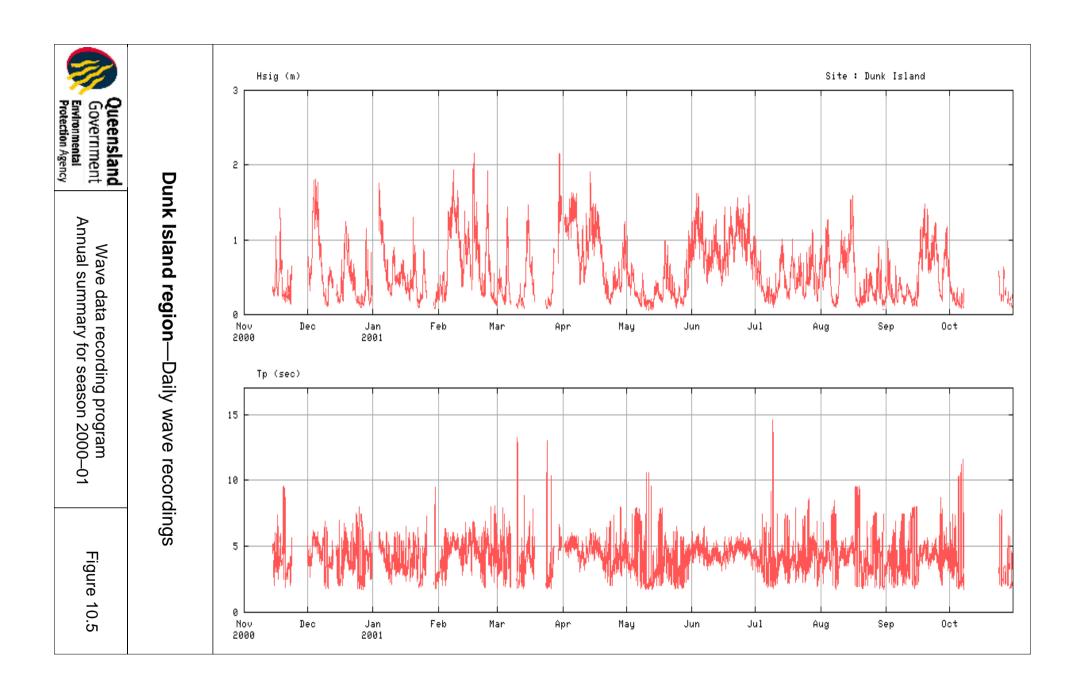
HAT at nearest standard port: South Barnard Island, 3.4m











Cairns

Wave recording station

Details of wave recorder station

Maximum possible analysis days (last record–first record) = 365.0

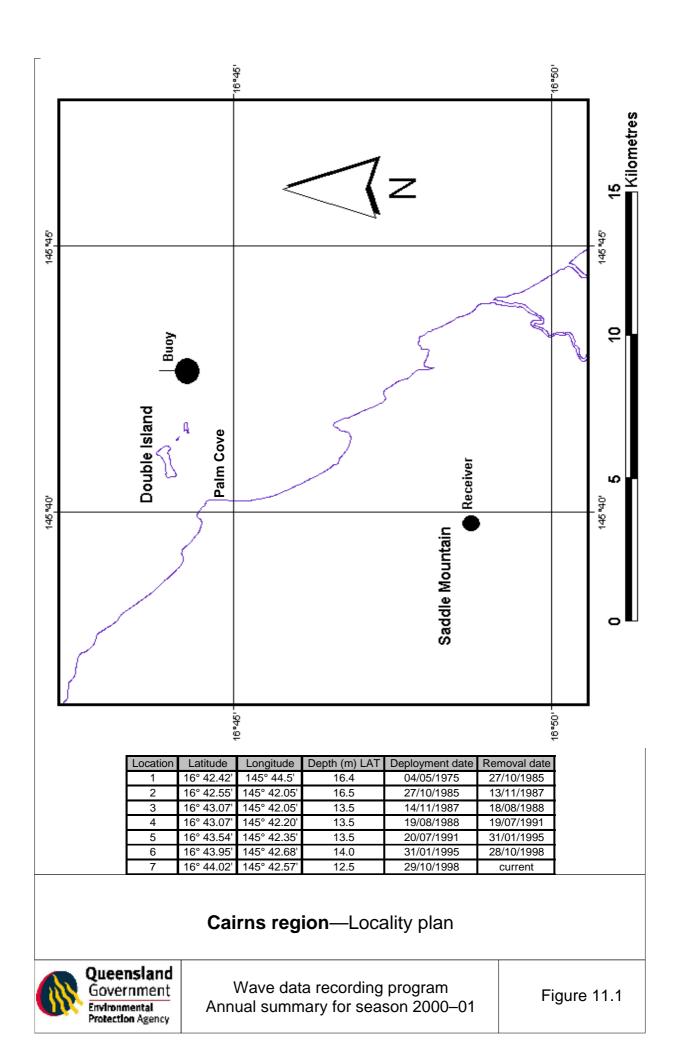
Total days used in analysis = 349.416

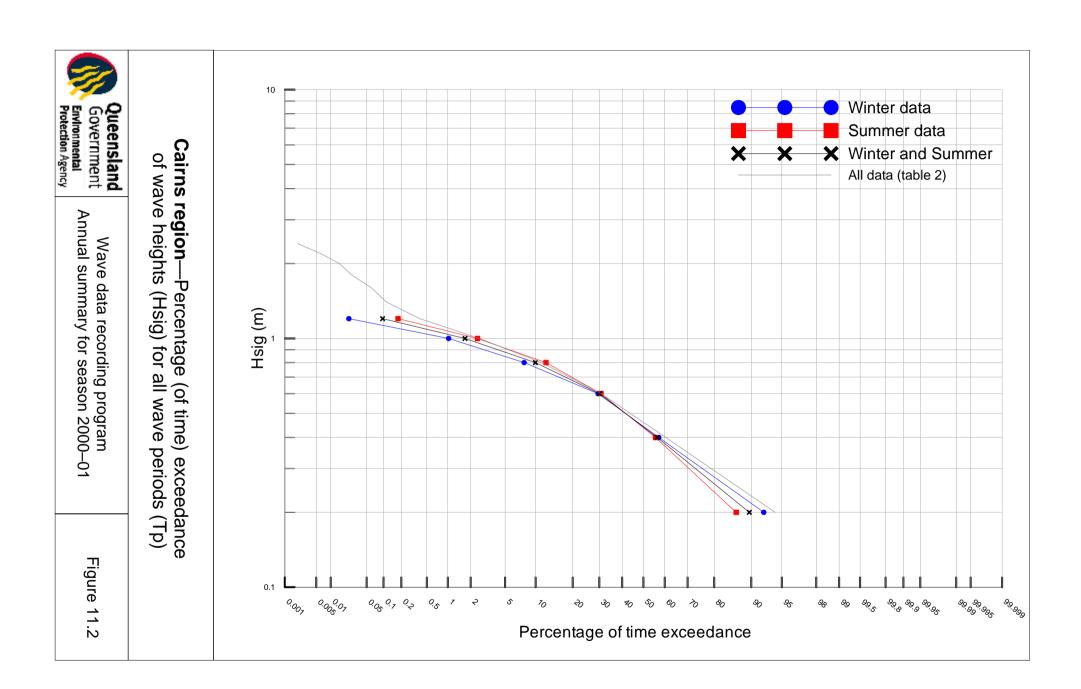
Gaps in data from selected dates (days) = 15.584

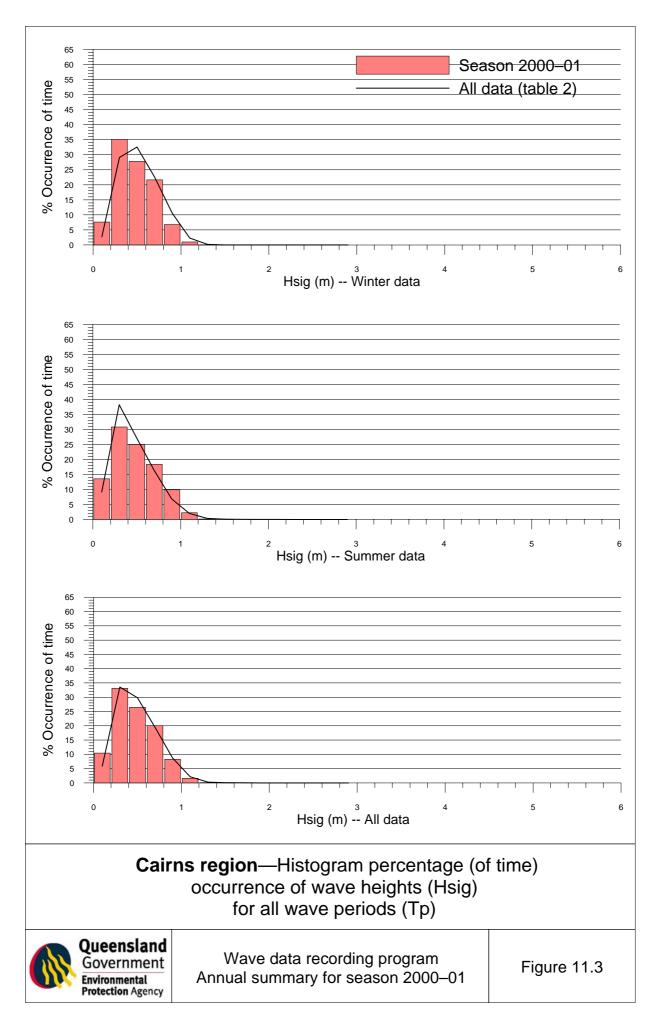
Gaps in data from duration analysis (days) = 15.584

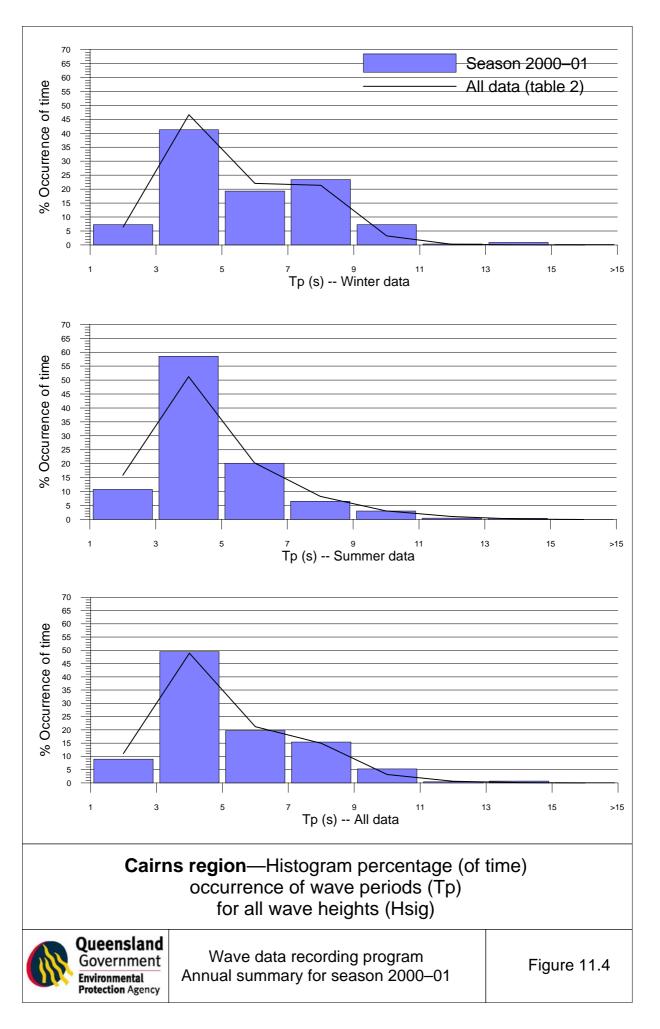
Number of records used in analysis = 13,878

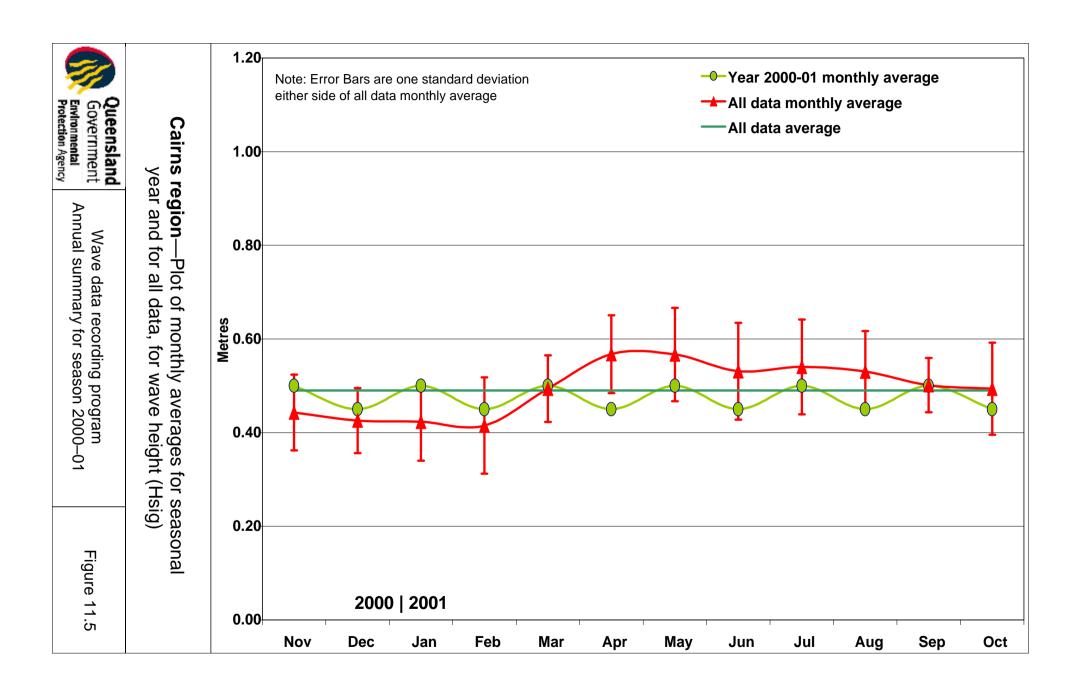
HAT at nearest standard port: Palm Cove, 3.1m

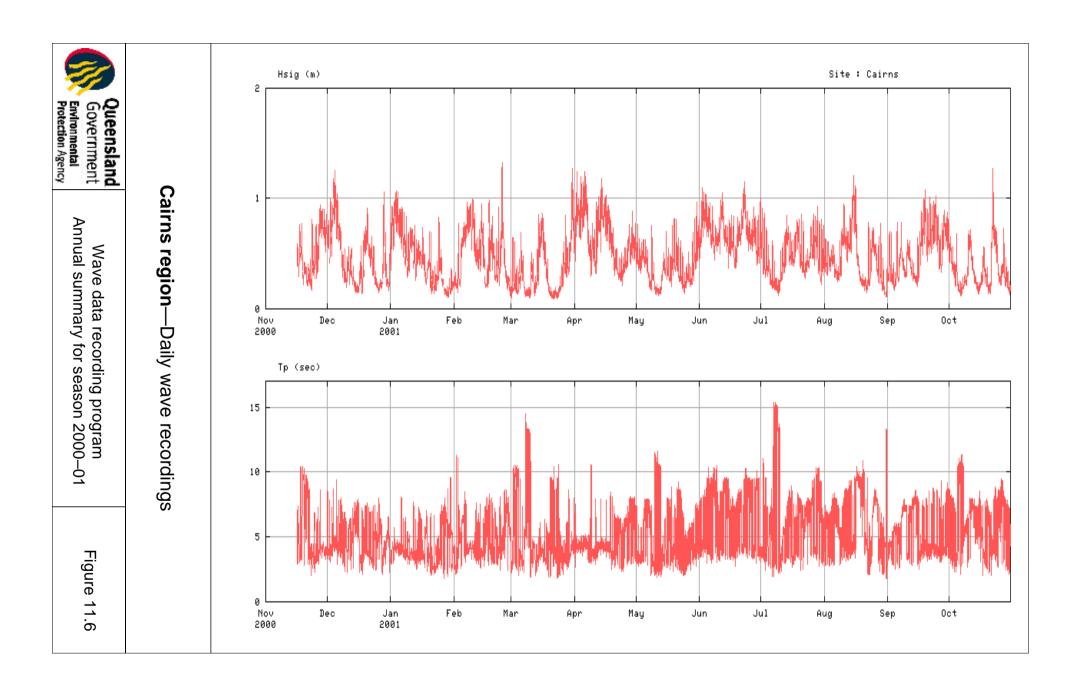












Weipa

Wave recording station

Details of wave recorder station

Maximum possible analysis days (last record–first record) = 365.0

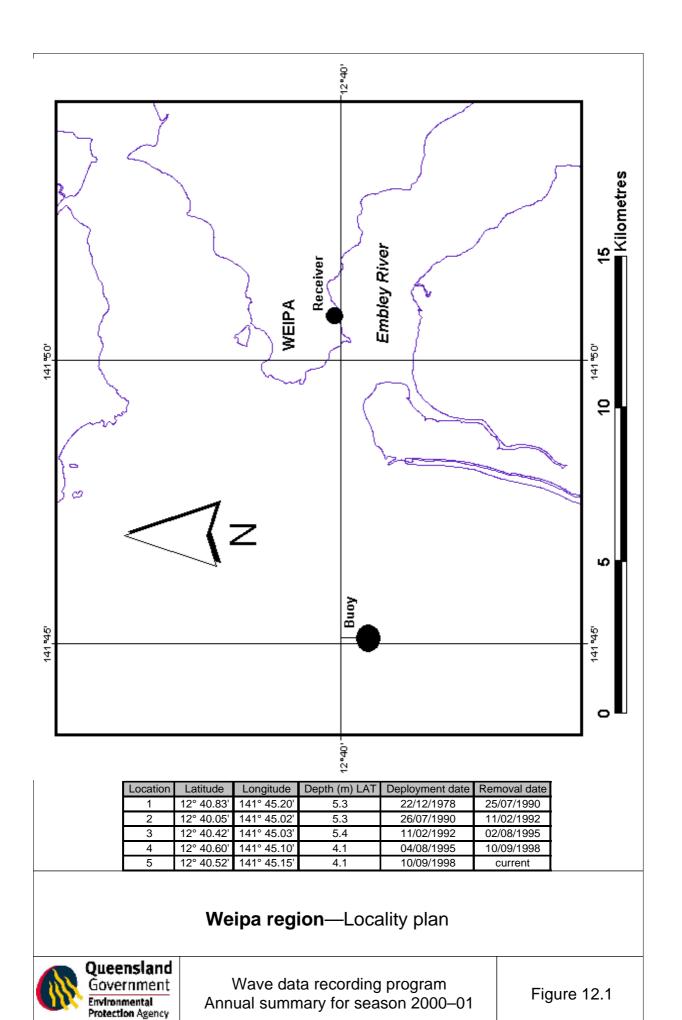
Total days used in analysis = 335.448

Gaps in data from selected dates (days) = 29.551

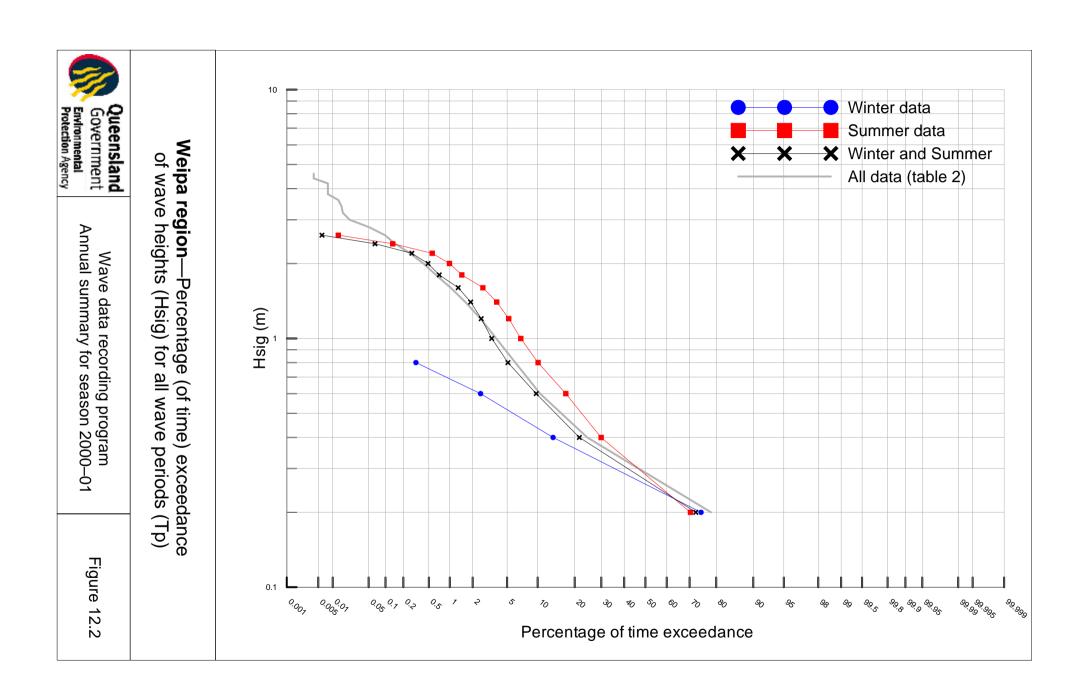
Gaps in data from duration analysis (days) = 29.968

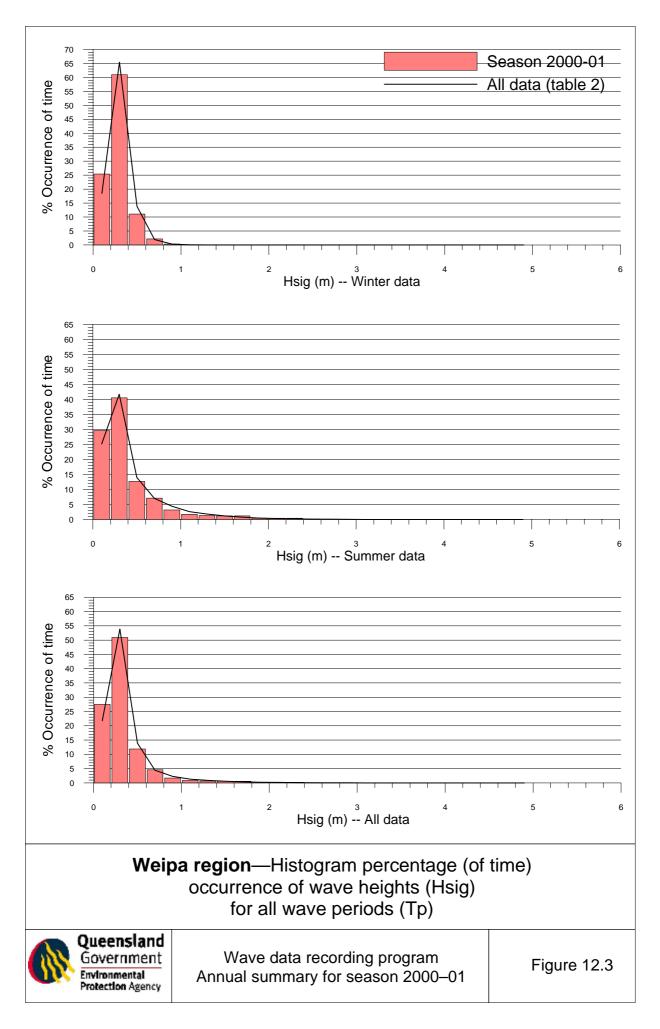
Number of records used in analysis = 13,796

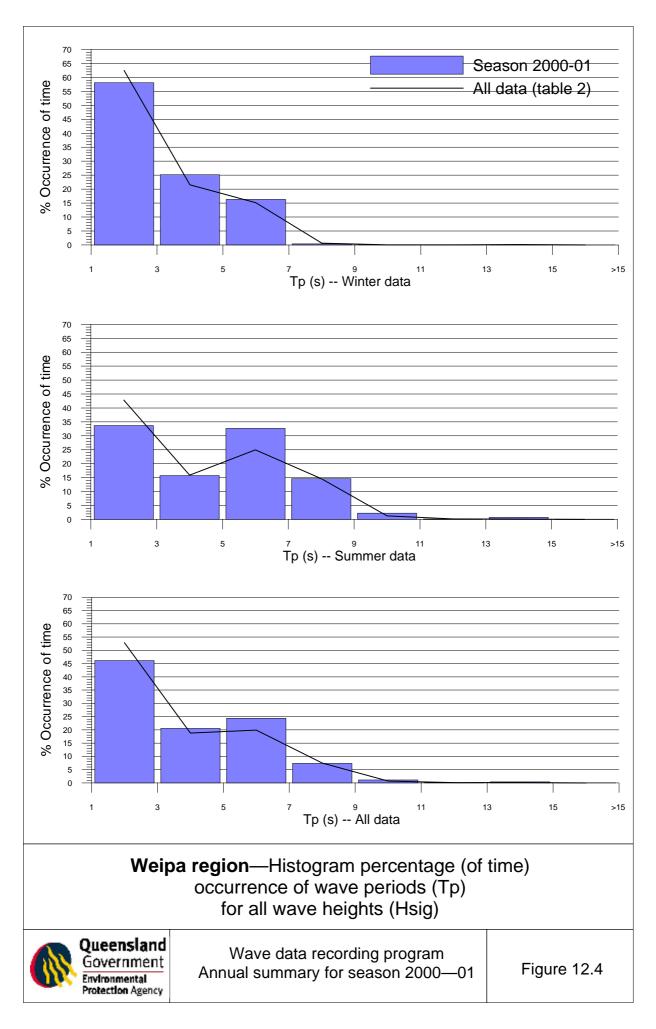
HAT at nearest standard port: Weipa, 3.38m

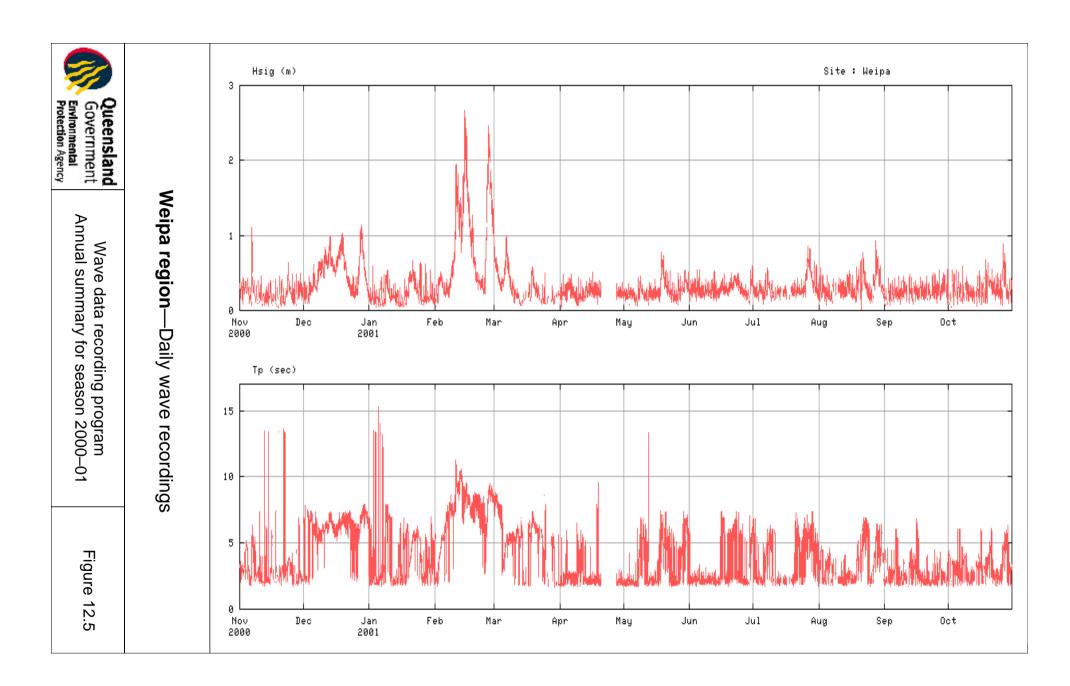


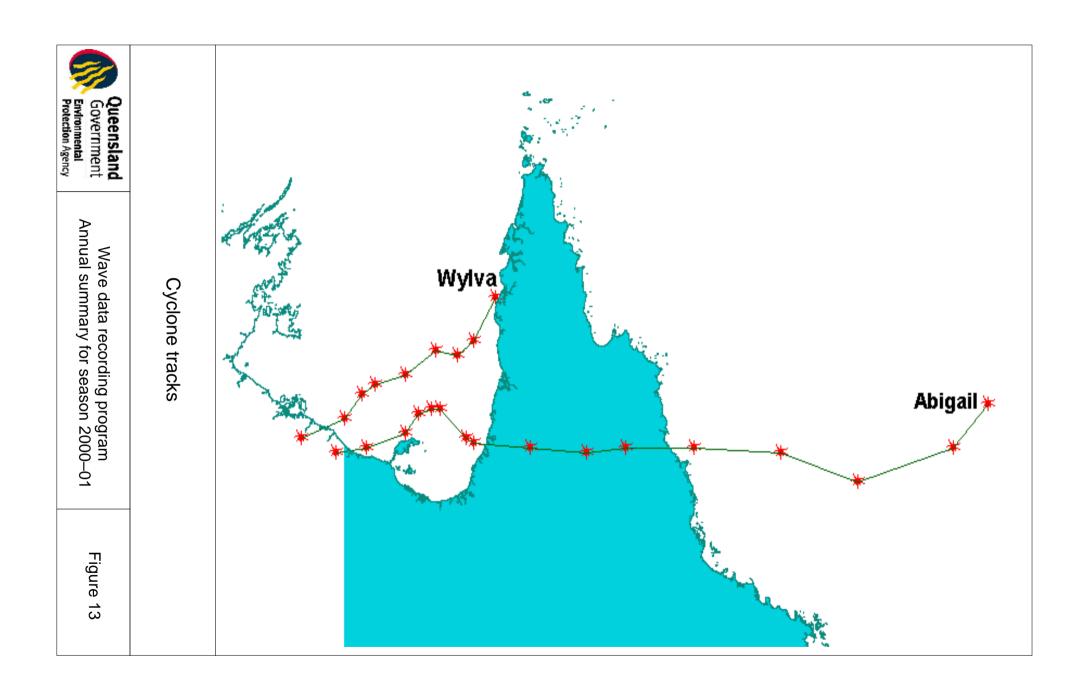
Queensland wave climate summary for season 2000–01 May 2004 • ISSN 1449–7611 • Coastal Services data report No 2000.3







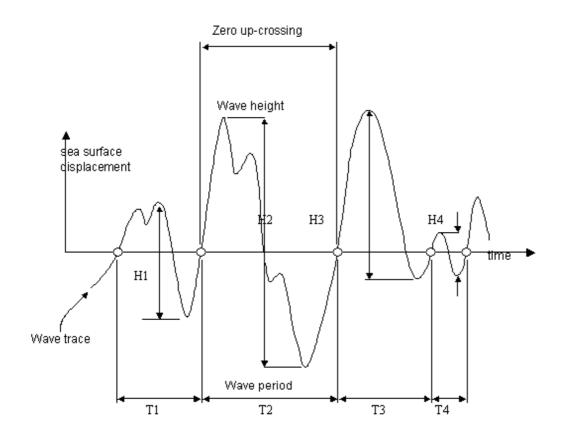




Zero crossing analysis

A direct, repeatable and widely accepted method to extract representative statistics from wave traces recorded by a Waverider buoy is the zero crossing method. For the zero upcrossing method, the method employed by the Agency, a wave is defined as the portion of the record between two successive zero upcrossings. The waves are ranked, with their corresponding periods, and statistical wave parameters computed.

An explanation of wave parameters is presented in the Glossary of terms.



Zero up-crossing analysis



Wave data recording program Annual summary for season 2000-01

Figure 14

Appendix A

Glossary of terms

Wave parameter	Description
H _s	Significant wave height defined as average of highest $\frac{1}{3}$ of zero up-crossing wave heights
TH _{sig}	The average period of the highest $\frac{1}{3}$ of zero up-crossing wave heights
H _{rms}	Root mean square wave height from the time domain
H _{max}	The maximum zero up-crossing wave height in a record
T _c	The crest period
T _z	The zero crossing period from the time domain
H10	Average of the highest 10 percent of all waves in a record
TH10	The period of the H10 waves
TH _{max}	Period of maximum height, zero up-crossing
Tz _{max}	The maximum zero crossing in a record
H _{m0}	Estimate of the significant wave height from frequency domain $4\sqrt{m_0}$
T ₀₂	Average period from spectral moments zero and two, defined by $\sqrt{m_0/m_2}$
Tp	Period at the peak spectral energy
Dir_p	Direction the Peak Period waves are coming from (in ° magnetic)