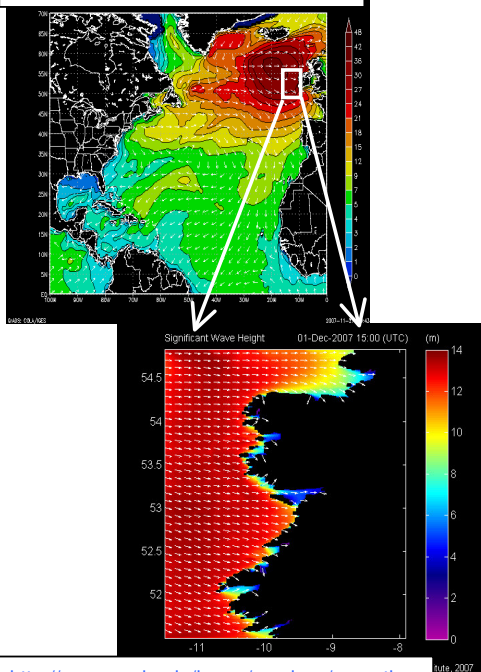




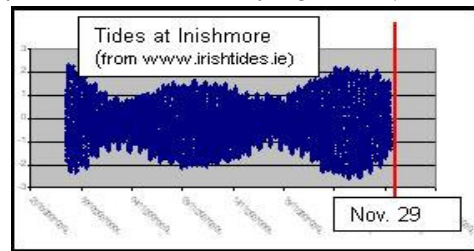
<https://www.fnmoc.navy.mil/public/>



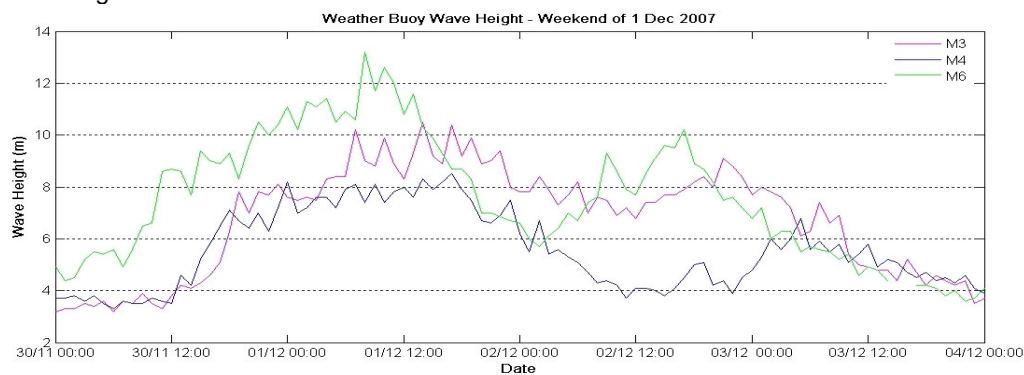
<http://www.marine.ie/home/services/operational/oceanography/WaveForecast.htm>

The images to the left show a map of the North Atlantic area (top), with a detail concentrating on the west Coast of Ireland (bottom). Superimposed on these maps are different wave heights that were forecast using a numerical model across the region - the scales show some areas are at the upper end of the scale.

These unusually large waves were generated by the slow passage of a low-pressure storm passing just to the north of Ireland during the last weekend of November 2007. This had important implications for the western seaboard as waves significantly higher than normal arrived at the coastline, potentially putting life and property at risk. A risk of flooding was also present due to relatively high tides (see below):



The plot below shows how the forecasted waves became a reality as the offshore buoy network ([www.marine.ie/databuoy](http://www.marine.ie/databuoy)) measured the storm passing through. This led to the much more dangerous coastal zone waves that were observed over the weekend.



Some statistics:

> Mean (Max) wave height over period 30 Nov - 4 Dec: M3=6.7(10.5); M4\*\*=5.5(8.5); M6=7.6(13.2)

>Mean (Max) wave height for this time of year (last week Nov. / first week Dec.) of previous years:  
M3 = 3.5(9.3); M4\*\*=3.1(7.7); M1\*=4(13.4)

>Maximum waves ever recorded before last weekend  
M3=12.9 (18 Jan 2005); M4=10.2 (20 Nov 2006); M1\*= 13.4 (3 Dec 2006, 18 Jan 2005)

\*M6 only deployed for 14 months so used M1 statistics

\*\*M4 moved into deeper waters during 2007