Eddy-Weather Forecast for St. Kilda Swimmers

Final Update: 09h30 Friday 27 June 2014

Summary:

The best weather window (in terms of lightest winds) now appears to be from ~04h Monday (30th June) to ~00h Wednesday (2nd July). From early to mid-morning Wednesday onwards, a strong south-westerly flow will arrive (with consequent large swell), so it would be imperative to have finished the swim no later than the (~early) morning of Wednesday.

More details:

The current fresh east to north-easterlies (Beaufort F4-6) will moderate tomorrow (Saturday 28th June) but are likely to remain light to moderate, F3-4 (perhaps locally 5) until Sunday afternoon (29th June). They will start to decrease once the wind direction starts to back from the north/north-east into the north/north-west. There is considerable uncertainty as to the exact time that this will happen, it is most likely sometime between Sunday ~12h and Monday, ~9-12h. Remember also that Hushinish may be sheltered by the hills from some directions, so the state of the wind there may not be the same as it is several miles out to sea.

Thereafter, there will be a "weather window" of light winds but the duration of this has been shortening in recent weather models runs to less than 50hrs long; the mesoscale model GFS has the southwesterlies arriving around midnight Tuesday night (00z Wed 2 July).

There is also a risk of some fog patches, mist, occasional drizzle later Monday/Tuesday; otherwise fair.

On the following pages are the GFS wind forecast charts (legend at bottom):

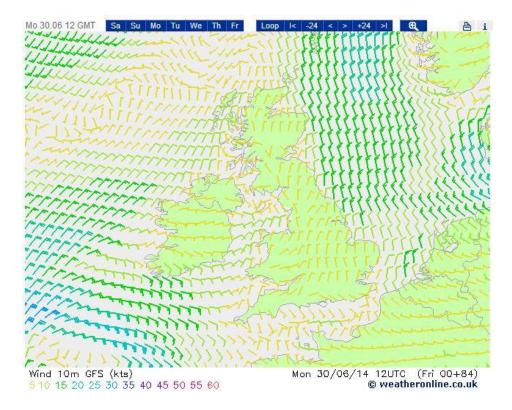
For 12h Sunday:



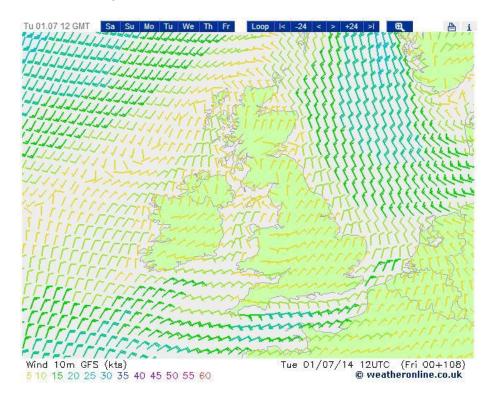
For 06h Monday:



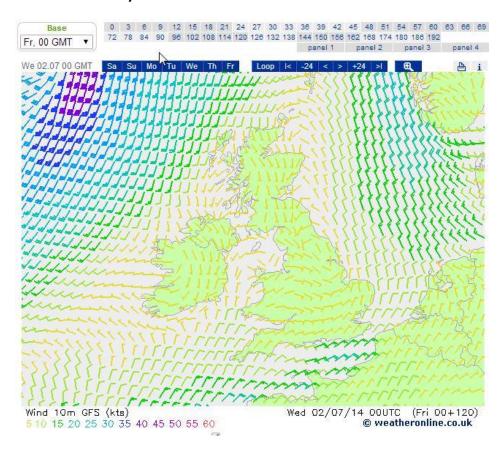
For 12z Monday:



For 12z Tuesday:



For 00z Wednesday:



With the best of luck from Eddie to everyone undertaking the swim!

Eddy/Eddie Graham, Stornoway, 09h30, 27 June 2014

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https://twitter.com/eddy_weather

http://bit.ly/1qGLyJm