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2016 ATLANTIC HURRICANE OUTLOOK

For Immediate Release

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HOUSTON, TEXAS USA – Weather Research Center President Jill F. Hasling, CCM using WRC's Cyclone Strike Index [CSI] predicts that the Gulf of Mexico coast along the west coast of Florida and the Texas coast has the highest risk of experiencing landfall of a tropical cyclone this year. The Gulf of Mexico Oil leases have a 90% chance of experiencing a named tropical cyclone during the 2016 hurricane season.

Below is the outlook for the 2016 Atlantic Hurricane Season which will start June 1st and will run through November 30, 2016. 2016 is in Phase 9 of the CSI. The years that make up Phase 9 of the CSI are 1875, 1886, 1897, 1909, 1921, 1931, 1941, 1952, 1962, 1972, 1984, 1994, and 2004. Phase 9 calls for a 90% probability of a named tropical cyclone impacting the Gulf of Mexico Offshore Leases. There is a 70% chance that a named storm will make landfall along the west coast of Florida and a 60% chance a tropical storm or hurricane will make landfall along the Texas Coast. Climatology is based on the number of years out the total years from 1878 to 1985 that experienced landfall on the section of coast indicated expressed in percent. In other words in any year, Texas has a 56% chance of experiencing a landfall of tropical storm or hurricane.

The secondary predictors of the index call for 7 to 10 named tropical cyclones forming in the Atlantic with 4 of these cyclones intensifying into hurricanes. Three of the tropical cyclones are expected to make landfall along the United States Coast. There is also a 60% chance that one of the hurricanes will intensify into a category 3 or higher hurricane somewhere in the Atlantic. It also looks like the season could start off early in June with a 45% chance of a named cyclone forming and continue through December which has a 9% chance of named cyclone forming in the Atlantic.

<u>COAST</u>	<u>CSI</u>	<u>CLIMATOLOGY</u>
Gulf of Mexico - Offshore Leases	90%	85%
Texas	60%	51%
Louisiana to Alabama	40%	59%
West Florida	70%	71%
East Florida	30%	41%
Georgia to N. Carolina	40%	56%
East Coast of US	20%	36%
Mexico	50%	40%

<u>OTHER PREDICTORS</u>	<u>CSI</u>
Number of Named Storms	7-10
Number of Hurricanes	4
Number of Hurricane Days	16
Number of Tropical Storms Days	55
US Landfalls	3
Category 3, 4, 5 Hurricanes	60%

Significant Hurricanes from this Phase of the CSI that have impacted the Gulf of Mexico and Texas were the 1875 and 1886 hurricanes which destroyed Indianola. Also in 1909 both Texas and Louisiana experienced significant hurricanes in the same season. Hurricane Ivan in 2004 just missed the oil leases and caused a 100 foot wave in the Gulf of Mexico. This could be an indication that the Gulf of Mexico could experience a significant hurricane this year.

The Cyclone Strike Index [CSI] Outlooks have been issued each year since 1985. The seasonal index has verified 87% of the time in the regards to the section with the highest possibility of landfall. Taking into account the areas of coastline with the second highest chance of landfall, the index verifies at 97%.

For more information on the outlook go to <http://www.wxresearch.com>.

For further information or questions regarding the hurricane outlook, please do not hesitate to contact Jill Hasling, CCM at wrc@wxresearch.org or 713-529-3076

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