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## 2017 GULF OF MEXICO HURRICANE OUTLOOK

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**HOUSTON, TEXAS USA** – The 2017 Atlantic Hurricane Season officially starts June 1<sup>st</sup>. Jill F. Hasling, CCM using the Cyclone Strike Index [CSI] predicts that the Texas Coast and the west coast of Florida will have the highest risk of experiencing a tropical storm or hurricane this year with a 70% chance. The Gulf of Mexico oil leases have a 100% chance of experiencing a tropical storm or hurricane this year.

The Cyclone Strike Index [CSI] is made up of ten to twelve phases and 10 Cycles from 1878 to 1985. Predictions have been made for Cycle 11, 12 and 13. Phase 1 of Cycle 13 was in 2008 and 2017 is Phase 10. The last time we were in Phase 10 of the CSI was 2005 and the Gulf of Mexico experienced the following major hurricanes: Hurricane Dennis, Hurricane Emily, Hurricane Rita and Hurricane Katrina.

The CSI not only gives a prediction of which section of the United States coast has the highest risk of a landfall but also predicts the number of tropical storms and hurricanes that are expected during a hurricane season, the number of tropical storm and hurricane days, the number of tropical storms and hurricanes that will make landfall along the US coast, and the chance of a Category 3 or higher hurricane. These are called the CSI Secondary Predictors. The CSI Secondary Predictors of the index for 2017 call for 10 to 13 named tropical cyclones forming in the Atlantic with 5 of these cyclones intensifying into hurricanes. Four of the tropical cyclones are expected to make landfall along the United States Coast. There is a 50% chance that one of the hurricanes would intensify into a Category 3 or higher hurricane somewhere in the Atlantic. The season is expected to start early with a chance of a May tropical cyclone. The season is also expected to be a long season with named storms in December.

This is Phase 10 of the Cyclone Strike Index and includes years 1887, 1898, 1910, 1922, 1932, 1942, 1953, 1963, 1973, 1985, 1995, and 2005. Below is a list of notable Gulf of Mexico oil leases struck by Hurricanes in Phase 10 of the CSI.

- 1910 - Hurricane on West Florida Coast
- 1932 - Hurricane on Texas Coast
- 1942 - Hurricane on Texas Coast
- 1985 - Hurricane Elena on Louisiana  
Hurricane Kate on West Florida Coast
- 1995 - Hurricane Opal on West Florid Coast
- 2005 - Hurricane Emily Texas Coast  
Hurricane Dennis on Alabama Coast  
Hurricane Katrina on Louisiana/Mississippi Coast  
Hurricane Rita on Texas Coast

If you review the 10 years in Phase 10 of the CSI, 1887, 1898, 1910, 1922, 1932, 1942, 1953, 1963, 1973, and 1985, each of these years had at least one tropical cyclone over the Gulf of Mexico Oil Lease which indicates a 100% chance of experiencing at least one tropical cyclone. There have only been two of the ten years when the Gulf of Mexico Oil lease did not experience a hurricane over the leases, which indicates an 80% chance of a tropical cyclone of at least hurricane intensity over the oil leases this year.

There have only been 3 years out of these 10 years when only 1 tropical cyclone impacted the Gulf of Mexico Oil Leases and those were 1922, 1963 and 1973. The other years had 2 to 4 tropical cyclones move across the Gulf of Mexico oil leases. Eight of these ten years experienced a hurricane over the Gulf of Mexico Oil leases.

The last two CSI Phase 10 years were 1995 and 2005. In 1995 the Atlantic experienced 19 tropical cyclones with 11 of them reaching hurricane strength and in 2005 we experienced 27 tropical cyclones with 15 of them intensifying into hurricanes.

There have been eleven Atlantic Hurricane Seasons since 1871 that we know when there were 15 or more named tropical cyclones [1887, 1933, 1936, 1969, 1995, 2003, 2005, 2008, 2010, 2011, 2012, and 2016]. Since 1871, there have been 49 years when a season had 10 or more named tropical cyclones. The season with the most Atlantic tropical cyclones is 2005 with 27 named cyclones with 15 intensifying into hurricanes. Below is the list of the 11 years with 15 or more named Atlantic tropical cyclones

2005	27 named cyclones
1933	21 named cyclones
1995	19 named cyclones
2010	19 named cyclones
2012	19 named cyclones
1969	18 named cyclones
1887	17 named cyclones
2011	17 named cyclones
1936	16 named cyclones
2003	16 named cyclones
2016	16 named cyclones

The table below is the 2017 CSI Cyclone Strike Index Outlook for the Atlantic Basin. This table gives the percent chance each section of the United States' Coast and the Gulf of Mexico have to experience a landfall of a tropical storm or a hurricane. As you can see from the table, Texas and the west coast of Florida have the highest risk of experiencing a landfall with a 70% chance. The table also includes the percentage for each section of the US coast based on climatology. This is the percent chance that section coast has in any year determined by counting up the number of years since 1871 when a tropical storm or hurricane has made landfall on that section of the coast. For example based on climatology which is 1878 to 1985, 85% of the years had a tropical storm or hurricane move through the Gulf of Mexico oil leases. The CSI years had a tropical storm or hurricane move through the oil lease showing a risk of 100% this year. The table also includes a summary of the CSI Secondary Predictors for 2017.

## 2017 WRC CSI ATLANTIC HURRICANE OUTLOOK

<u>COAST</u>	<u>CSI</u>	<u>CLIMATOLOGY</u>
Gulf of Mexico - Offshore Leases	100%	85%
<b>Texas</b>	<b>70%</b>	<b>51%</b>
Louisiana to Alabama	50%	59%
<b>West Florida</b>	<b>70%</b>	<b>71%</b>
East Florida	30%	41%
Georgia to N. Carolina	60%	56%
East Coast of US	20%	36%
Mexico	50%	40%

### 2017

#### SECONDARY CSI PREDICTORS

	<u>CSI</u>
Number of Named Storms	10-13
Number of Hurricanes	5
Number of Hurricane Days	21
Number of Tropical Storms Days	68
US Landfalls	4
Category 3, 4, 5 Hurricanes	50%

*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/outlook>*

*For further information or questions regarding the hurricane outlook, please do not hesitate to contact Jill Hasling, CCM at [wrc@wxresearch.org](mailto:wrc@wxresearch.org) or 713-818-9346*

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