Weather Research Center

5104 Caroline Houston, Texas 77004 Phone: 713-529-3076 Fax: 713-528-3538 E-mail: wrc@wxresearch.org

For Immediate Release
December 1, 2006
For information, contact: 713-529-3076

WRC's 2007 Hurricane Prediction

Houston (2006) – According to Jill Hasling, Certified Consulting Meteorologist at Houston's Weather Research Center (WRC), the Center's 2007 OCSI hurricane outlook gives the Gulf Coast between Louisiana to Alabama the highest risk of experiencing a tropical storm or hurricane. The secondary predictors all for a total of 7 named storms with 4 of these named storms intensifying into hurricanes.

2007 WRC OCSI FORECAST FOR THE ATLANTIC

COAST	WRC OCSI	CLIMATOLOGY
Mexico	40%	40%
Texas	40%	51%
Louisiana to Alabama	70%	59%
West Florida	60%	71%
East Florida	30%	41%
Georgia to N. Carolina	60%	56%
East Coast of US	30%	36%
Gulf Oil Blocks	80%	88%

Secondary 2007 Predictors from the OCSI:

	Forecast
Number of Named Storms :	7
Number intensifying into Hurricanes:	4
Number of Hurricane Days:	7
US Landfalls:	3
Cat 3 or Higher Storms:	50%

The Houston-based Weather Research Center is one of a handful of organizations that make predictions each season. WRC uses a model called Orbital Cyclone Strike Index (OSCI) which uses the solar cycle to predict the risk for coastal residents each hurricane season. The OCSI model is based on the premise that there are orbital influences that are reflected in the global circulation pattern on the sun and subsequently the global circulation pattern of the earth. The sun's orbit influences the sun spot cycle. The 2007 Atlantic hurricane season is the second phase of a new Cycle in the Orbital Cyclone Strike Index [OCSI] which is used by the Center's meteorologists to predict the Atlantic hurricane activity through at least 2015. Other years in Phase 2 in the OCSI are 1879, 1890, 1902, 1914, 1924, 1934, 1945, 1955,

1965, 1977, 1987, and 1997. The tropical cyclone landfalls that occurred in these years are then used to calculate the probabilities of landfall on certain sections of the United States coast in percent.

During the 22-year period from 1985 to 2006, there have only been three years (1987, 1992, and 1999) when a storm or hurricane did not make landfall in the section of the United States coastline that had the highest risk. In all three of these years cyclones made landfall in the section of the coast with the second highest risk. This gives the OCSI an 86% accuracy rate.

The OCSI was developed by meteorologists, Dr. John C. Freeman and Jill F. Hasling. This index has been used since 1985 to make annual hurricane season forecasts of which section of the North American coast has the highest risk of experiencing a tropical storm or hurricane.
In addition to its ongoing research, WRC also provides storm and hurricane information via the Internet through Storm Navigator®. This service helps provide detailed storm updates and related information. WRC's current and past predictions can be found at www.wxresearch.com/outlook.

Founded in 1987, the non-profit Weather Research Center manages a worldwide forecasting operation and provides groundbreaking research to scientists around the world. Meteorologists work on severe weather advisories, marine forecasts, long-range outlooks, environmental studies and forensic meteorology services. Weather Research Center provides research into tropical cyclones as well as real-time weather forecasts. President Jill F. Hasling is a Fellow and Certified Consulting Meteorologist from the American Meteorological Society as well as a member of the National Council of Industrial Meteorologists.

For more information about the John C. Freeman Weather Museum at Weather Research Center, please call (713) 529-3076 or logon to www.wxresearch.org.

###