



Weather Research Center



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Press Release

For Immediate Release

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### **Tropical Storm Tammy Was the Eighth Tropical Cyclone to Make Landfall Along the US Coast This Year.**

**Houston** – The record breaking 2005 Atlantic Hurricane season continues with Hurricane Stan making landfall in Mexico and Tropical Storm Tammy making landfall along the Florida/Georgia coast. Tammy was the eighth tropical cyclone that has made landfall along the battered US coastline this year. With the season being so busy it is hard to remember the first hurricane of the season, Hurricane Dennis, which ravaged the Alabama/Florida coast in July. Followed soon after by Hurricane Emily just south of Brownsville, Texas, then powerful Hurricane Katrina along the Louisiana/ Mississippi Coast, Hurricane Ophelia along the North Carolina coast and Hurricane Rita along the Texas/Louisiana border. The tropics still remain very active for October with several areas of disturbed weather being monitored for any signs of development.

Hurricane Stan and Tropical Storm Tammy verify WRC's Orbital Cyclone Strike Outlook, which called for 100% chance of an October cyclone. WRC meteorologists are hoping that the outlook for November, which calls for a 66% chance of experiencing a tropical storm or cyclone, does not verify.

Having this many tropical cyclones make landfall along the US coast is a rare event. Since 1871, there have only been 12 other years when seven or more cyclones made US landfall, and only two of these years, 1916 and 1985, had more with eight and nine respectively. We've had 19 named cyclones this year, which is third only to 1933 which had 21, and 1995 which had 19. 1887 had 17 cyclones that we know of. Remember satellite did not start recording hurricanes until the 1960's.

Unfortunately there is also a 20% chance of having a tropical storm or hurricane in December. So this looks like it will continue to be a record breaking hurricane season.

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**Mission:** WRC advances the science of weather and the knowledge of the weather's impact on the global community through research, prediction, and education.

The rule for deciding to evacuate is “you need to run from the water and hide from the wind.” If your property lies in the Storm Surge Zone, then you must plan and evacuate when told. If you are well inland and out of an inland flooding zone then you should prepare to ride out the storm in your home. [See our Family Hurricane Survival Guide at [www.wxresearch.org/family](http://www.wxresearch.org/family)]. All people living along the US Atlantic and Gulf coasts should continue to be vigilant and keep their entire stock of hurricane supplies on hand until December. The empty store shelves in Houston demonstrate how a family should prepare year round and keep the supplies they need on hand instead of waiting until the last minute to prepare.

Comparable years to 2005, in this phase of the OCSI are 1887, 1898, 1910, 1922, 1932, 1942, 1953, 1985 and 1995. Seven of these eleven years had storms in November and two of these years had storms in December.

When you review the other years in this phase of the OCSI there was one year – 1887 – when there were 9 storms or hurricanes after October 1<sup>st</sup>. In 1887, the Atlantic Hurricane season finally ended on December 12<sup>th</sup>.

Hurricane Season ended in each of these years on the following dates:

1887	December 12
1888	November 4
1910	October 23
1922	October 21
1932	November 10
1942	November 11
1953	December 9
1963	October 29
1973	October 28
1985	November 23
1995	November 1

The forecast released for this year in March 2005 has proven correct. The first coastline this season to experience a landfall was the Alabama and Florida border hit by Tropical Storm Arlene. According to the OCSI model, there was a 70% chance of a tropical storm or hurricane making landfall on that section of the US coast. The other section of the coastline which had a 70% chance of a tropical storm or hurricane making landfall was the Texas coast. This verified with the landfall of Hurricane Rita on the Texas/Louisiana border. The Georgia to North Carolina coast has a 60% chance of a landfalling tropical storm or hurricane and this verified with Hurricane Ophelia. The Louisiana to Alabama coast had a 50% chance of experiencing a tropical storm or hurricane. Tropical Storm Arlene, Tropical Storm Cindy, Hurricane Dennis, Hurricane Katrina and Hurricane Rita struck this section of the coast. This demonstrates how active the 2005 hurricane season has been and how important it is for all coastal residents to prepare for each hurricane season.

Weather Research Center was founded in 1987 by Jill F. Hasling and her father, Dr. John C. Freeman, both Certified Consulting Meteorologists and Fellows of the American Meteorological Society. Weather Research Center is a 501 (c)(3) non-profit corporation and was founded to respond to a need to educate the public about weather and weather safety. WRC is the successor organization to the Institute of Storm Research founded in 1966 at the University of St. Thomas.

Freeman and Hasling's groundbreaking research in orbital influences on the atmosphere, long range predication, marine and tropical weather forecasting for the community and the corporate clients provides the WRC with the solid experience for its operations.

### **Current Activities**

Since WRC inception in December 1987, WRC meteorologists have served over 500,000 people in the regional and national community. The Center's activities are focused on: 1) education of newly graduated meteorologists in corporate, global marine and tropical weather forecasting, 2) outreach/community education programs for school children and adults, and 3) weather research.