



University of Missouri – Atlantic Ocean Basin Tropical Forecast 2018

<i>Number of Named Storms:</i>	<i>13</i>
<i>Tropical Storms:</i>	<i>6</i>
<i>Category 1-2</i>	<i>5</i>
<i>Category 3-5</i>	<i>2</i>

Regional (where they will form):

<i>West Atlantic (to 45° W):</i>	<i>6</i>
<i>East Atlantic (to 45° W)</i>	<i>1</i>
<i>Gulf of Mexico</i>	<i>4</i>
<i>Caribbean</i>	<i>2</i>

This year, models project the Eastern Tropical Pacific to be evolving toward at least warm-neutral to weak El Niño sea surface temperatures (SSTs). During the spring months, the La Niña of 2017-18 has been waning. Previous research has demonstrated a correlation toward fewer Atlantic region storms during El Niño conditions. This is due to the development of mid-Atlantic subtropical shear, and this year the Atlantic may have some potential for this shear to develop. Also, based on the previous 90-day evolution of the Madden Julian (MJO) / Intraseasonal Oscillation (ISO), we project the MJO to be in the western hemisphere (and possibly wet) at the climatologically peak time of the tropical cyclone season. We also used the climatological contingencies / analogs from previous studies by this group. These studies show that there are generally more storms during the negative phase of the PDO and there is some ENSO variability during this PDO phase. Additionally, the previous two decades have been quite active compared to the entire climatological record. Forecast submitted by Joran Rabinowitz and Anthony Lupo.