

## First 2007 Hurricane Season Predictions Say Active Year

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The advent of spring means that hurricane season is just around the corner. William Gray of Colorado State University has predicted a very active hurricane season in the Atlantic Ocean.

He said to expect at least nine hurricanes with a good chance that one will hit the coast. Overall, Gray predicts 17 named storms this year with five of them major hurricanes. While the prediction of a 74 percent chance of a major storm making landfall this year is above the 52 percent century average, it is virtually identical to the one he issued last year. Last year Gray's predictions were very similar to those offered by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, or NOAA, and the National Hurricane Center. The latter two organizations will publish their predictions for the 2007 season in late May. Keeping an eye on hurricane's remains important in the High Country as often they have a tendency to travel up from the Gulf Coast bringing rain and flooding to the area.