



NOAA NATIONAL HURRICANE CENTER



New Record Holder for Latest Hurricane in the Season to Strike U.S. Coastline

Thanks to evidence found as part of the Atlantic hurricane database reanalysis project, there is a new record holder for the latest hurricane in a season to ever to strike the United States coastline.

The new record is Hurricane Kate, which struck the Florida panhandle on November 21, 1985, as a Category 2 hurricane on the Saffir-Simpson Hurricane Wind Scale.

The old record was held by a Category 1 hurricane which struck southwest Florida on December 1, 1925.

During the last several years, meteorologists at NOAA's National Hurricane Center and NOAA's Hurricane Research Division have been reanalyzing historic hurricanes, using today's analysis techniques to reassess the track and peak winds of these cyclones.

As part of the reanalysis effort, new observations were obtained that showed that the December 1, 1925, system did not reach hurricane intensity, and the system was officially downgraded to a tropical storm. Much of the research for this downgrade was conducted by Mr. Daniel Gladstein of Boca Raton, Florida.

For more about the Atlantic hurricane database reanalysis project, please see:
http://www.aoml.noaa.gov/hrd/data_sub/re_anal.html

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