## ILLINOIS



Flood-related disasters are the costliest and most frequent type of disaster facing the United States. From 2000 to 2018, flood-related events cost more than **\$830 billion in economic losses**,<sup>1</sup> accounted for **73% of presidential disaster declarations**,<sup>2</sup> and caused more than **6,200 deaths**.<sup>1</sup> Floods are an **immediate threat to 53 military installations** across the nation.<sup>3</sup>

These numbers reflect what Americans and people across the globe already know: **floods are affecting our way of life.** Addressing the challenges posed by flooding and other extreme weather impacts will require individuals, communities, and state and federal governments to work collaboratively to build a more sustainable future for us all.

Surging Waters: Science Empowering Communities in the Face of Flooding is a report produced by AGU that shows how science is essential to finding solutions to mitigate flooding now and in the future. For more information, visit **www.scienceisessential.org**.

## TO EMPOWER COMMUNITIES TO UNDERSTAND AND ADDRESS THEIR FLOOD RISK, POLICY MAKERS CAN:



**Support robust and steadily increasing funding** to science-based federal agencies.

**Support science centers and programs** that research region-specific flooding concerns and incentivize scientists working within their communities.



**Support legislation** that ensures science can be conducted and inform policy freely and openly.



**Support policies** to manage flooding and its impacts that account for a changing world.



Between 2000 and 2018, floods and flash floods caused **\$3 billion in** property damages in Illinois.<sup>4</sup>

Illinois experienced **1,537 flood** events between 2000 and 2018 – averaging to **1.5 floods per week.**<sup>4</sup>



Flooding is an **immediate threat to Scott Airforce Base** in St. Clair County, IL.<sup>3</sup>

The **U.S. Geological Service Water Science Centers** fund and conduct water research and monitoring **driven by state priorities** 

## CONTACT THE ILLINOIS OFFICES:

Urbana, IL: 217-328-8747 DeKalb, IL: 815-756-9207 Mt Vernon, IL: 618-242-4495

The **NOAA National Sea Grant College Program** supports coastal communities through research and extension programs **shaped by local needs.** 

**CONTACT THE MAIN OFFICE:** West Lafayette, IN: 765-496-6009 BETWEEN 2010 AND 2019...

The Central Midwest Water Science Center spent \$40 MILLION on Illinois's flood research and education priorities.<sup>5</sup>

In 2017, Illinois-Indiana Sea Grant reached **11,600** K-12 STUDENTS and supported **20 UNDERGRADUATE** and GRADUATE STUDENTS.<sup>6</sup>

**PREPARE YOUR DISTRICT FOR FLOODS: ready.gov/floods**. Assess your home or office's flood risk: **msc.fema.gov**. **NEED HELP NOW?** Contact the Illinois Emergency Management Agency: **217-782-2700** 

1. NOAA. U.S. Billion-Dollar Weather and Climate Disasters. National Centers for Environmental Information (NCEI) (2019). Available at: https://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/billions/. (Accessed: 23rd July 2019) 2. The Pew Charitable Trusts. Infrastructure Upgrades Can Help U.S. Businesses Better Withstand Disasters (2019). Available at: https://www.pewtrusts.org/en/research-and-analysis/articles/2019/05/15/infrastructure-upgrades-canhelp-us-businesses-better-withstand-disasters. (Accessed: 5th July 2019) 3. US Department of Defense. Report on effects of a changing climate. (2019). 4. NOAA National Centers for Environmental Information. Storm Events Database. Available at: https://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/stormevents. (Accessed: 14th August 2019) 5. Beussink, A; Central Midwest Water Science Center. Personal communication. (2019). 6. NOAA. Illinois-Indiana Sea Grant. Sea Grant (2018). Available at: https://seagrant.noaa.gov/Program-Locations/ILIN. (Accessed: 20th August 2019)