



5 x 60

# BILLION DOLLAR DISASTERS

Combining human emotion with science, and profiling the harsh realities of our earth's extreme climate conditions, BILLION DOLLAR DISASTERS reveals the perils of man versus weather.



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# BILLION DOLLAR DISASTERS

5 x 60 —  
Available Immediately

Produced in 2001-2005

In the past 20 years, 44 weather related disasters exceeded \$1 billion in damages in the United States alone. In 1998, more than 32,000 people were killed, 300 million were left homeless and economic losses topped \$89 billion.

## EPISODES INCLUDE:

### Flood of the Millennium: The Red River Flood of 1997

The people of the Red River Valley in the Upper Midwest of the United States endured five months of climatic chaos. Beginning in November of 1996, people in the basin battled at least 8 full-scale blizzards. People froze to death and major transportation arteries were closed for up to 18 days. When the snow began to melt, all the water attempted to drain in to the Red River. The result was a flood scientists say is likely to occur only once every thousand years. The region suffered more than \$3 billion of damage and will take five to ten years to rebuild.

### Mount Saint Helens

It blew with a force of 27,000 atom bombs. When the Mount Saint Helens volcano erupted in May of 1980, it snapped trees 17 miles away. In just a few hours, the eruption destroyed 234 square miles of forestland and virtually all life on the mountain. It took officials two years to count the 57 people killed in the blast. Some of the dead were found still clutching their cameras. Luckily, nearly 200 people were able to escape.

### Hurricane Floyd

In 1999 it caused the largest peacetime evacuation in United States history. This category 2 hurricane caused a landfall in Eastern North Carolina causing severe flooding in North Carolina and some flooding in South Carolina, Virginia, Maryland, Pennsylvania, New York, New Jersey, Delaware, Rhode Island, Connecticut, Massachusetts, and Vermont. This resulted in 75 deaths and over \$6 billion of damage.

### Hurricane Andrew

In 1992 Hurricane Andrew was devastating; this category 4 hurricane hit the Bahamas, Florida and Louisiana causing \$27 billion in damage and the loss of 58 lives, making it one of the most expensive natural disaster in US history. Andrew pounded Florida and Louisiana destroying 25,000 homes and damaging 100,000 more.

### Venezuelan Mudslides

December, 1999 saw one of Latin America's deadliest catastrophes. In December of 1999 they were unprepared for 15 straight days of torrents. The heavy rains and rising water trapped many people. Then the deathblow, the heavy rains created giant mudslides that moved down mountainsides crushing everything in its way. Death toll estimates are 20,000-50,000. Actual numbers may never be known as many were buried beneath tons of earth.

## ABOUT THE PRODUCER

Murphy Entertainment Group (MEG) blends a creative team of writers, producers, researchers, videographers, editors, graphic artists and musicians committed to the production of quality television. Today, you can see MEG's programs on the Discovery Channel where their BILLION DOLLAR DISASTERS series of specials continue to generate strong ratings. MEG's WILDLIFE DETECTIVES series is a hit all over the world with National Geographic Channels International. You've also seen their work on Animal Planet, Bravo, ESPN and American Public Television.

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