

# NATIONAL CLIMATE ASSESSMENT

Volume II: Impacts, Risks, and  
Adaptation in the United States  
November 23rd, 2018

The Global Change Research Act of 1990 created the U.S. Global Change Research Program (USGCRP) to coordinate and integrate federal research on changes in the global environment and their implications for society. During the past two decades, the U.S., through the USGCRP, has made the world's largest scientific investment in climate change research, leading to major advances in several key areas. The law requires the USGCRP to deliver a report every four years to help inform our government by providing a thorough examination of the effects of climate change on the United States.

**4<sup>TH</sup>** Report  
issued since 2000.

**1,524**  
page report.

**Below are a few key points from the report issued November 23rd, 2018:**



“Climate change creates new risks and exacerbates existing vulnerabilities in communities across the United States, presenting growing challenges to human health and safety, quality of life, and the rate of economic growth.”



“Coastal communities are expected to suffer financial impacts as chronic high-tide flooding leads to higher costs and lower property values.”



“Our Nation's aging and deteriorating infrastructure is further stressed by increases in heavy precipitation events, coastal flooding, heat, wildfires, and other extreme events, as well as changes to average precipitation and temperature, with the potential for cascading impacts that threaten our economy, national security, and essential services.”



“While mitigation and adaptation efforts have expanded substantially in the last four years, they do not yet approach the scale considered necessary to avoid substantial damages to the economy, environment, and human health over the coming decades.”

**Don't Despair! Major efforts are being made globally to address these problems and will be shared in the Spring 2019 Green Sheet due out later this week.**

**EARTH WEEK: APRIL 22 - 26, 2019**  
Presented by R&S Sustainability Committee

