

We appreciate SARE for bringing attention to National Geographic's program HURRICANE SUMMER. Below is an excerpt from their web site.

<http://lists.ifas.ufl.edu/cgi-bin/wa.exe?A2=ind0409&L=sanet-mg&D=0&P=19121>

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Explore the Awesome Power of Mother Nature in National Geographic Channel's World

WASHINGTON, Sept. 29 /PRNewswire/ -- CHARLEY. FRANCES. IVAN. JEANNE. In the span of six weeks, four powerful hurricanes devastated the Caribbean and Florida, leaving behind thousands dead; billions of dollars in damages; and a relief effort that even eclipsed the one following the 2001 terrorist attacks.

Not since 1886 have four major storms battered one state in such a short time span. But what factors contributed to this summer's unprecedented barrage of storms? And what's it like to come face to face with this relentless destructive power -- and live to tell about it?

On Tuesday, October 5 at 9 p.m. ET/PT, experience firsthand the fury of these violent storms as National Geographic Channel's "Hurricane Summer" takes viewers from the eye of these monsters to the personal stories on the ground. Meet a scientist who searches for clues by flying into these storms. Relive accounts of unimaginable loss and dramatic survival from Florida residents. And learn why a one-degree rise in water temperatures may have helped set in motion the forces that led to this historic season of destruction.

When hurricanes threaten, most people head for safety. But for NOAA hurricane expert Chris Landsea, the study of these deadly storms is his life.

His goal is to measure firsthand each storm's destructive power in the hope that his work will help predict the path of its devastation. Landsea flew into all four storms that struck Florida, adding to his understanding of this hurricane summer and his terrifying prediction that this new active hurricane cycle could last another 40 years. In fact, as Landsea explains, scientists have confirmed that the Atlantic Ocean has warmed one degree, which many hypothesize is enough to create a catastrophic hurricane cycle.

The special also features a couple determined to beat Mother Nature. The Sigler family built their dream home in Pensacola Beach, FL, only to see it destroyed by previous hurricanes. Instead of abandoning their dream, this determined couple set out to build a hurricane proof house. After intense research and detailed design by a group of highly trained architects and engineers, the Sigler's built a massive, round "Dome Home," capable of withstanding winds of more than 300 mph. As Ivan approached, Mr. Sigler got permission to stay behind, and weather the storm. Taking an almost direct hit, Sigler tells of his experience, and how the "Dome Home" handled her first major test.

As the Atlantic Ocean calms for the time being, Floridians breathe a sigh of relief. But if weather experts are to be believed, this is just the beginning.

Based at National Geographic Society headquarters in Washington, D.C., the National Geographic Channel is a joint venture between National Geographic Television & Film (NGT&F) and Fox Cable Networks. National Geographic Channel debuted to an initial 10 million homes in January 2001, and has been one of the fastest growing networks in history. The Channel has carriage with all of the nation's major cable and satellite television providers, making it currently available to more than 52 million homes. For more information, please visit <http://www.nationalgeographic.com/channel>.