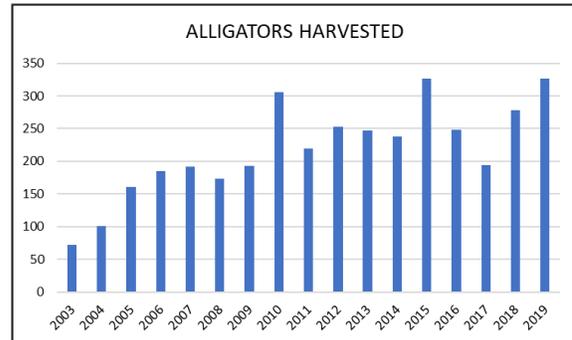


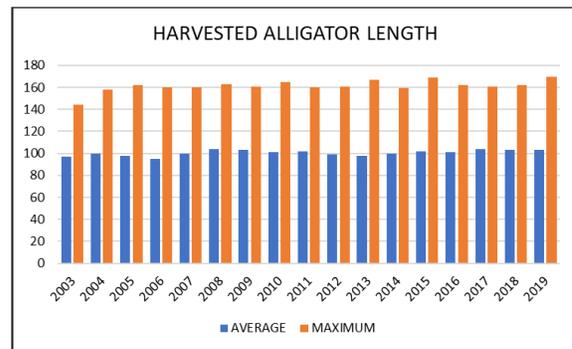
Alligator Program Highlights

FY 2020

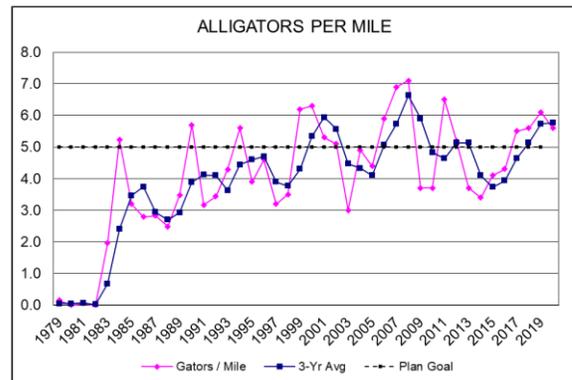
Georgia alligator hunters harvested 326 alligators during the 2019 alligator hunting season. This is up slightly from the 10-year average of 264 alligators. There were 1000 alligator hunters drawn for the quota hunt. The 326 successful hunters each hunted an average of 2.74 nights.



Average length of harvested alligators was 104 inches, which is very similar to the long-term average of 101 inches. The longest alligator harvested in 2019 was 169.75 inches. Alligator length is reported by the hunter, and this is the longest alligator reported since alligator hunting began. The long-term average length is 161 inches.



Georgia WRD staff surveyed 169.3 miles of rivers, creeks, coastal areas, and reservoir shorelines and counted 944 alligators, for a 2020 population index of 5.6 alligators per mile. This year's index brings the 3-year average to 5.8 alligators per mile, slightly above the alligator management plan's goal of 5 alligators per mile for the statewide average. Annual spotlight surveys are the best method to determine alligator population trends.



Region staff reported handling 227 nuisance calls related to alligators and issued 293 alligator capture permits to agent trappers, which led to the capture of 76 alligators. Because the fiscal year ends in the middle of alligator complaint season, reported captures will increase as the summer continues.

