

CROCODILE/HUMAN TENSIONS AROUND THE WORLD

Alligator

ALLIGATOR MISSISSIPPIENSIS

Lives primarily in freshwater swamps and marshes, but also in rivers, lakes and smaller bodies of water.
Adult male can grow to between 13 and 15 feet (4 and 4.5 meters) in length.
Some attacks on human, but rather began with people attempting to pick up, capture, or otherwise handle the animal.



They can be found in freshwater pools, wetlands, lakes, and slow-moving streams from Iran to the western fringes of Southeast Asia.
They can grow to 13 to 16.5 feet (about 4 to 5 meters)
Living in a crowded area, conflict with humans are not uncommon.
Listed as Vulnerable by the IUCN red list.

Mugger crocodile

CROCODYLUS PALUSTRIS



Lives primarily in Southeast Asia, from southern India through Australia's northern shores.
Can reach more than 20 feet (about 6 meters) in length and weigh more than 1,100 pounds (+500 kg).
One of the only 2 species of crocodilian that tolerate salt water.
Responsible for many attacks on human each year.

American crocodile

CROCODYLUS ACUTUS



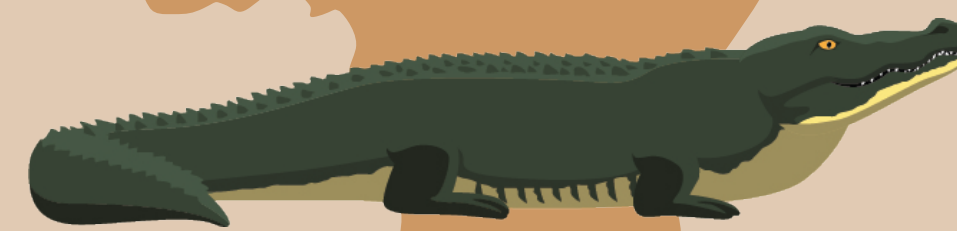
Inhabits a wide range of aquatic habitats from southern Florida and Mexico south through the Caribbean islands and Central America northern South America.
Can grow to approximately 16.5 feet (about 5 meters) in length.
American crocodiles prefer smaller vertebrates as prey, but reports of attacks on people can happen.
Listed as Vulnerable by the IUCN red list.



Black Caiman

MELANOSUCHUS NIGER

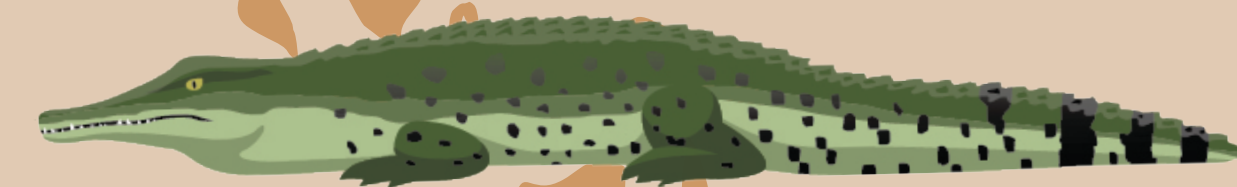
Resides in northern South America and can be found over much of the Amazon River basin from Peru and Ecuador eastward to Guyana and Suriname.
It often grow longer than 13 feet (about 4 meters)
Larger specimens have been known to attack people.



Nile crocodile

CROCODYLUS NILOTICUS

Lives in lakes, rivers, freshwater swamps, brackish water in most of Africa, save the Sahara, and part of Madagascar.
Can grow up to 16.5 to almost 20 feet (+ 5 to 6 meters) in length.
The species easily claims the title of the most-dangerous crocodilian, having the most attacks report per year.



Saltwater crocodile

CROCODYLUS POROSUS



REASONS FOR ATTACKS (or bite incident)

Hunting for food: All crocodilians are opportunistic feeders, humans are in the size range of prey that can be taken by larger crocodilian species.

Defense of territory: Some species are highly territorial and will defend their territory against intruders, including humans.

Defense of nest and/or young: Crocodilians will defend their nests from other predators. They also respond to distress calls (vocalisations) made by their young and may attack humans near hatchlings.

Mistaken identity: Some attacks might be directed at pets, people either being injured/killed by mistake or when they try to intervene. Fishermen checking nets, cleaning fish, or divers with fish kills may also be mistakenly attacked by crocodilians attracted to the fish.



Access to water

Attacks on humans are higher in regions where the population uses rivers and lakes as their primary water source for survival.



Population density

Loss of territory and the human demography amplify the human/crocodile possibility of conflict.



Crocodile species

Out of the 26 species of crocodiles those 6 species have the most records on human's attacks. Even if all crocodilians can potentially attack humans, diet, size and aggressiveness are different factors in consideration.