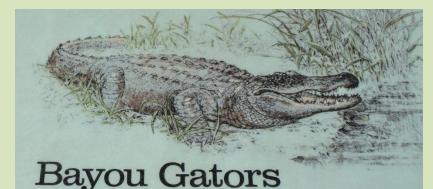
Mississippi Gulf Coast 6/2010



Oil spill arrived three days later.

Alligators are seldom seen at midday, resting at the bottom of the bayou. To warm up they sun themselves along the banks. Like their prey, 'gators are more active from dusk to dawn, dining on fish, crabs, frogs and wading birds.

Alligators do not thrive in saltwater. Although the bayou connects with gulf, freshwater flows constantly into the marshes. 'Gators tolerate this brackish mixture, but are smaller than their inland relatives, averaging only five to seven feet long.

Keep your distance — alligators can be dangerous to human

























