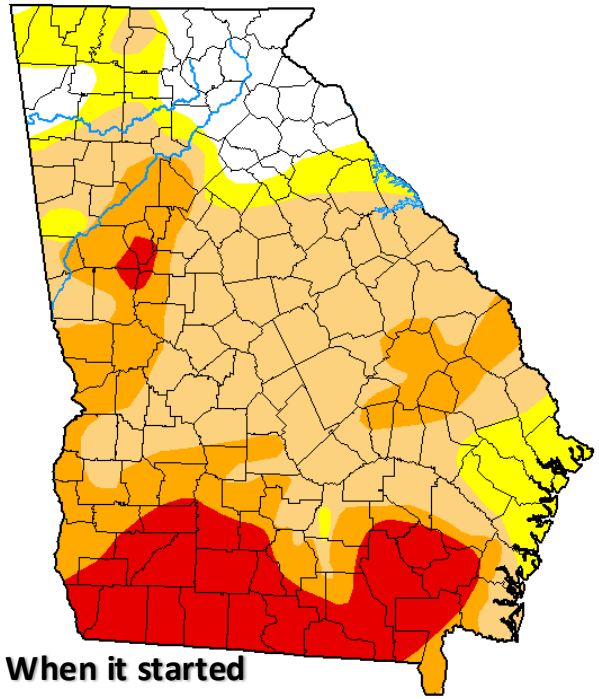
Chatham County 2026 Update

Ture Carlson

tacarlson@chathamcounty.org

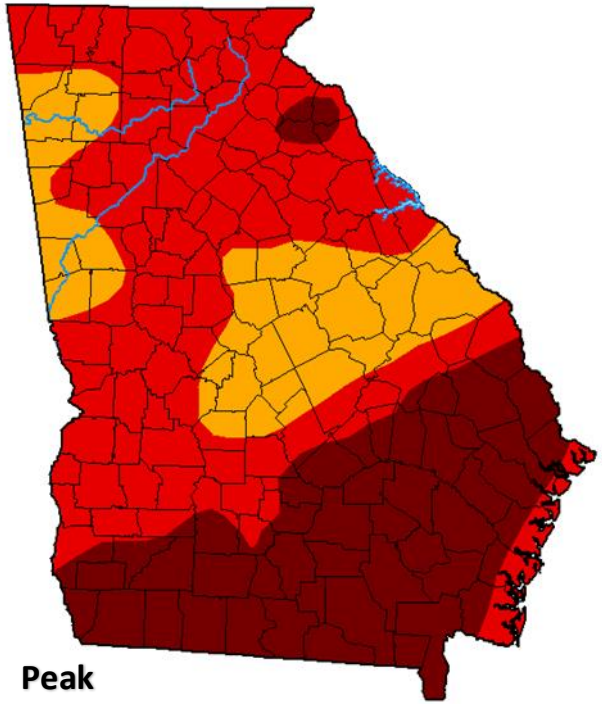
Georgia Drought

U.S. Drought Monitor
Georgia



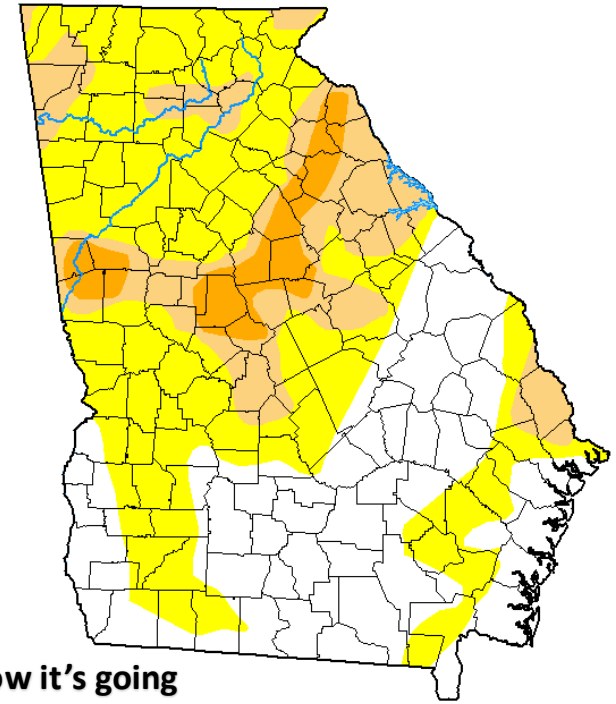
When it started
November 11, 2025

U.S. Drought Monitor
Georgia



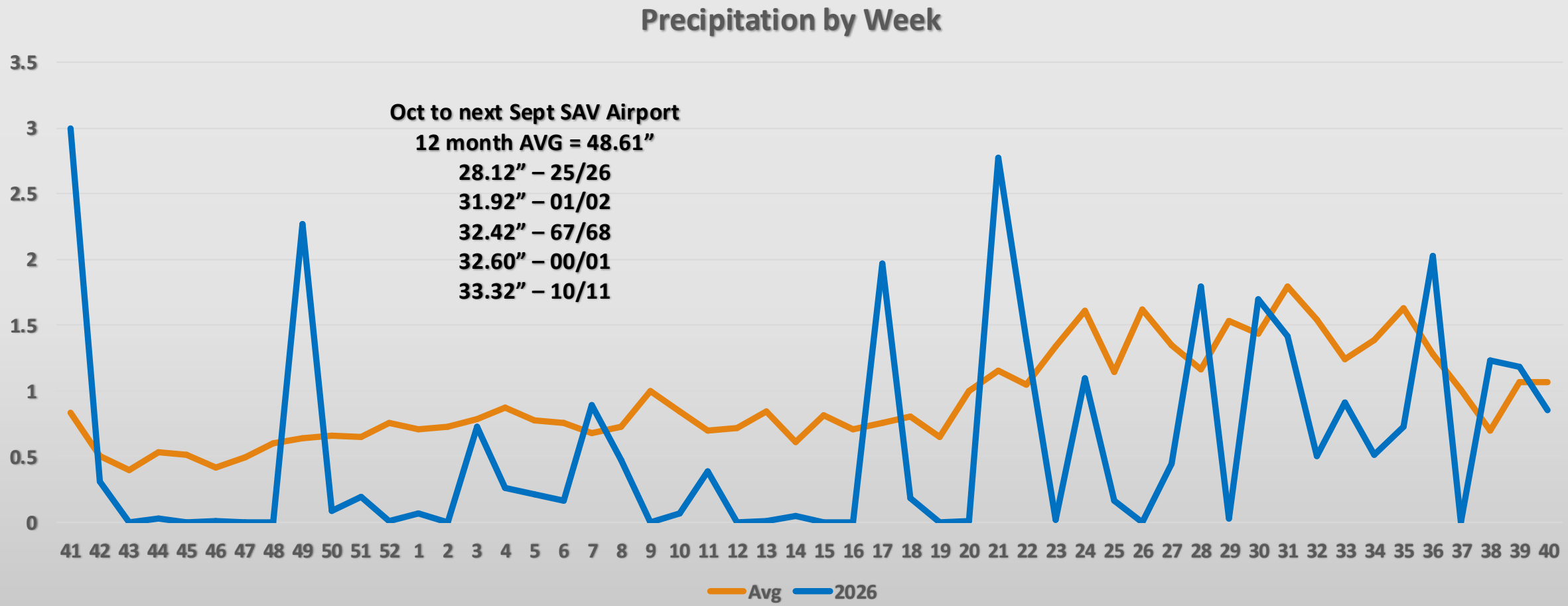
Peak
May 5th

U.S. Drought Monitor
Georgia



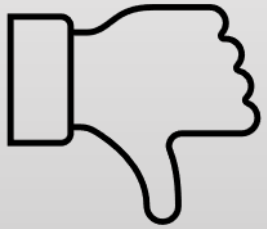
How it's going
October 13th

Driest 12 Month Period 1955 - 2025



Chatham County Temps

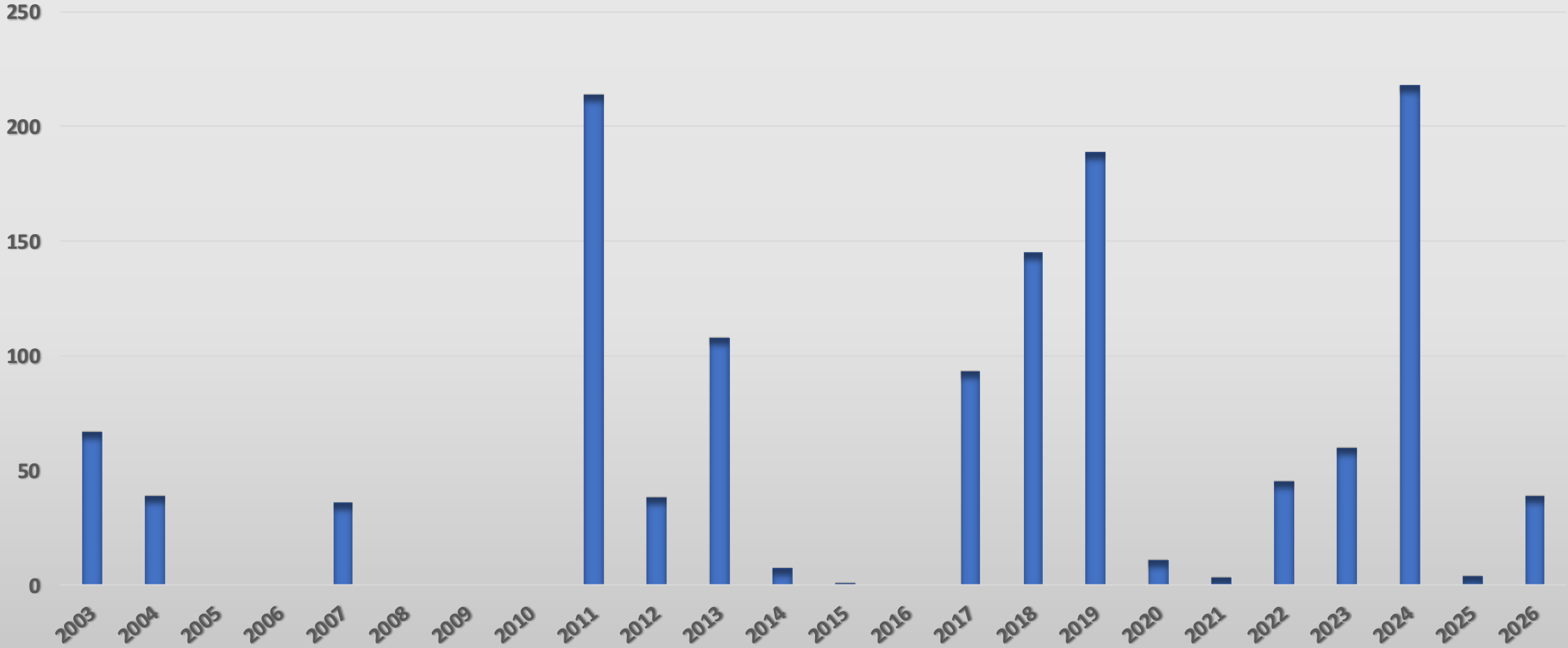
- Dry and cool is best
- 2026 monthly average temp compared to all time monthly average
  - January 49.7°F down from 50.7°F (-1°F)
  - February 53.5°F down from 54.0°F (-0.5°F)
  - March 64.6°F up from 60.0°F (+4.6°F)
  - April 69.8°F up from 66.7°F (+3.1°F)
  - May 74.8°F up from 74.1°F (+0.7°F)
  - June 80.9°F up from 80.2°F (+0.7°F)
  - July 85.7°F up from 83.0°F (+2.7°F)
  - August 84.1°F up from 82.1°F (+2.0°F)
  - September 79.0°F up from 77.7°F (+1.3°F)



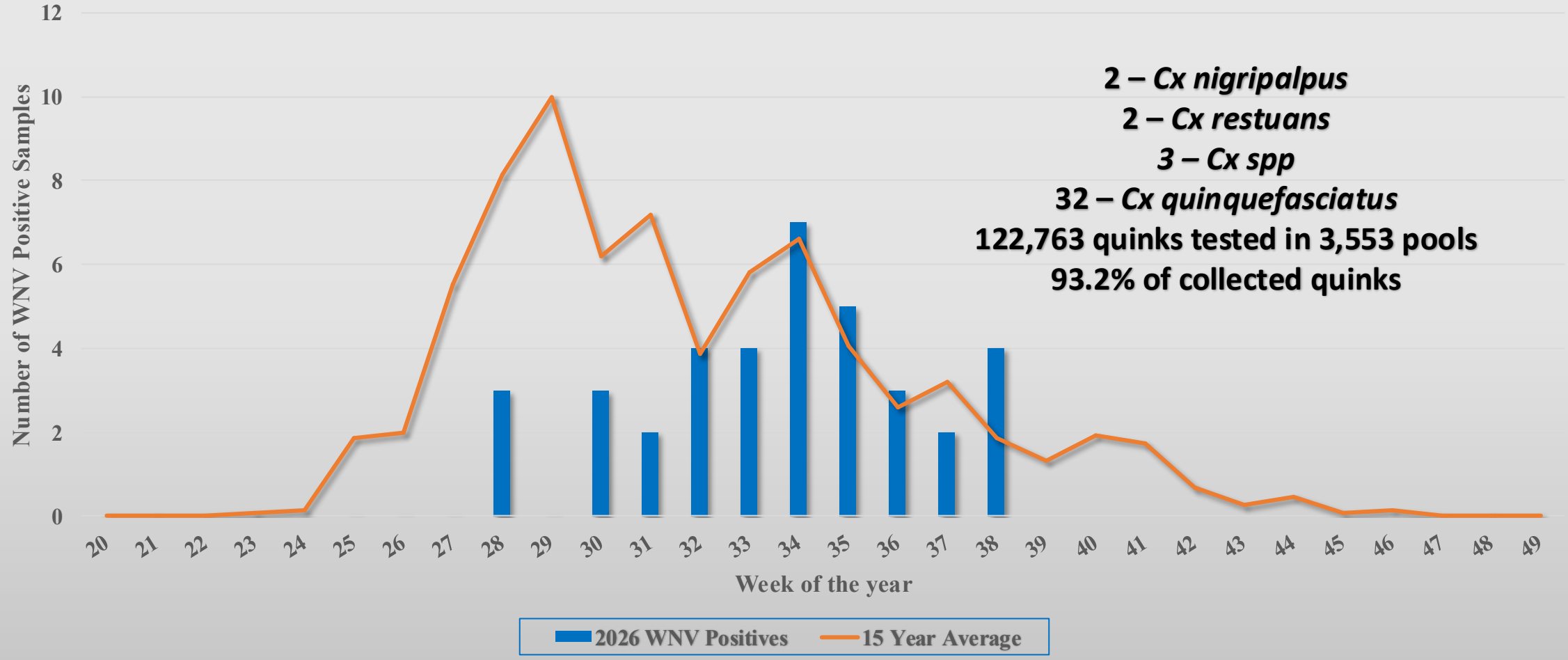
West Nile Positive Mosquitoes

- **In January!**
  - **In-house PCR, WNV positive *Cx resutans* collected January 8th**
- **In April!**
  - **UGA PCR, WNV positive *Cx restuans* collected April 6th**
- **In July! – never mind that makes sense**
- **Moderate Year**
  - **39 WNV positives**
  - **17 locations**
  - **3 sentinel chicken**
  - **2 human cases**

West Nile Positive Mosquito Samples

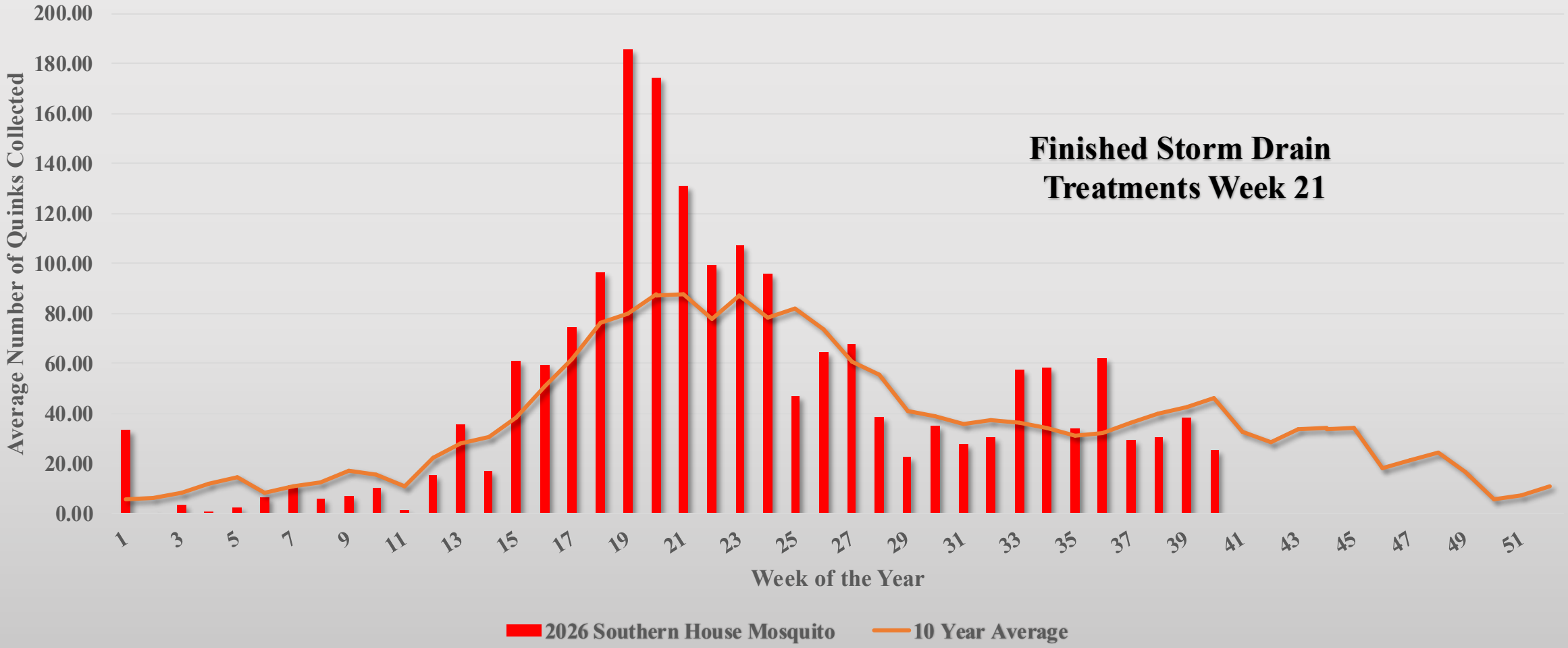


West Nile Positive Mosquito Samples



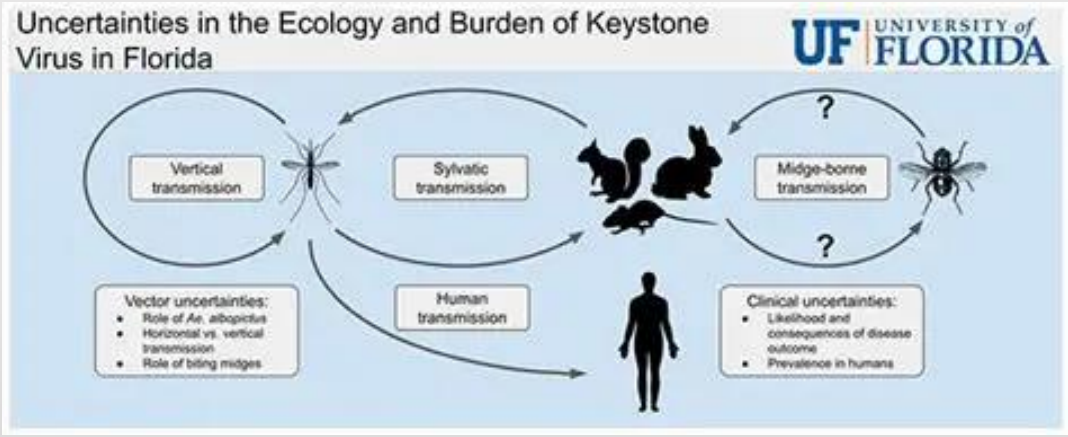
2 – *Cx nigripalpus*
2 – *Cx restuans*
3 – Cx spp
32 – *Cx quinquefasciatus*
122,763 quinks tested in 3,553 pools
93.2% of collected quinks

Southern House Mosquito Population

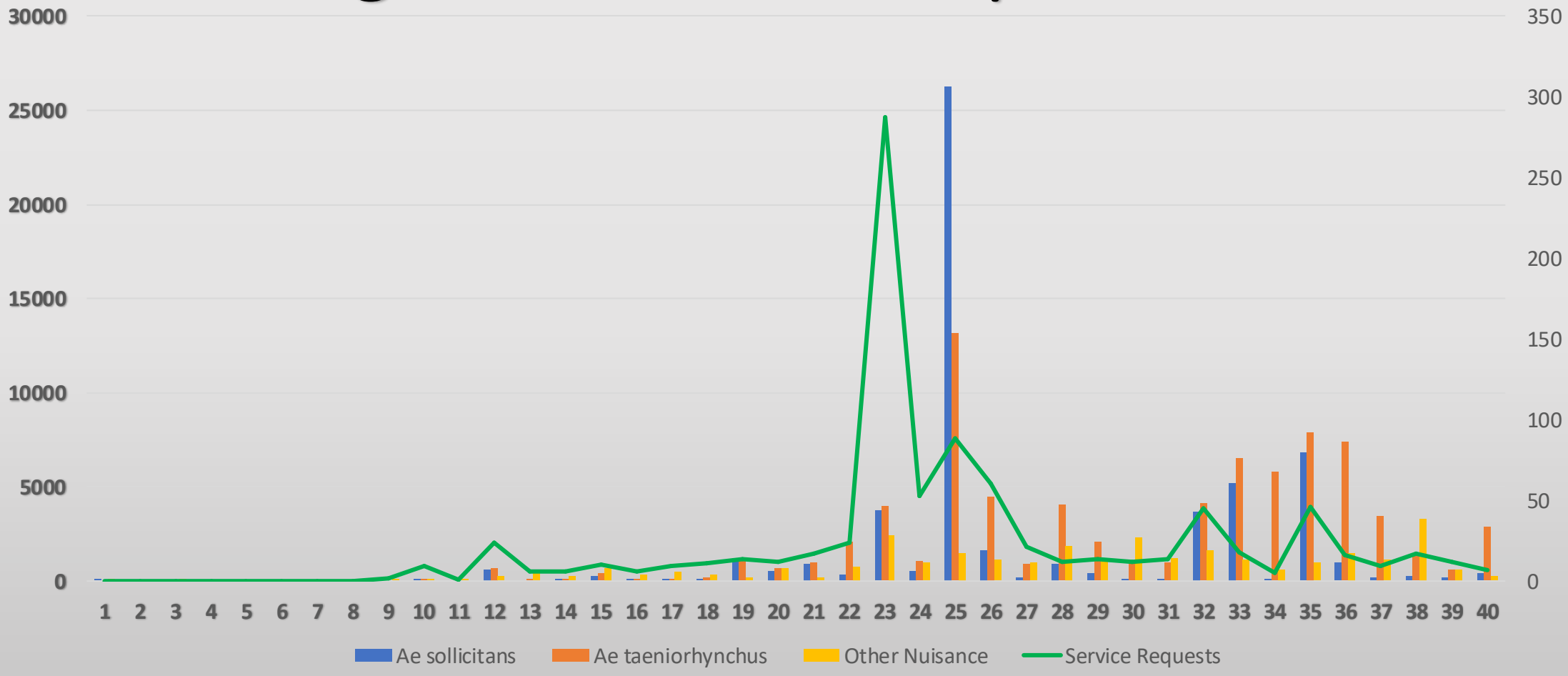


Bunyavirus Positive Mosquitoes

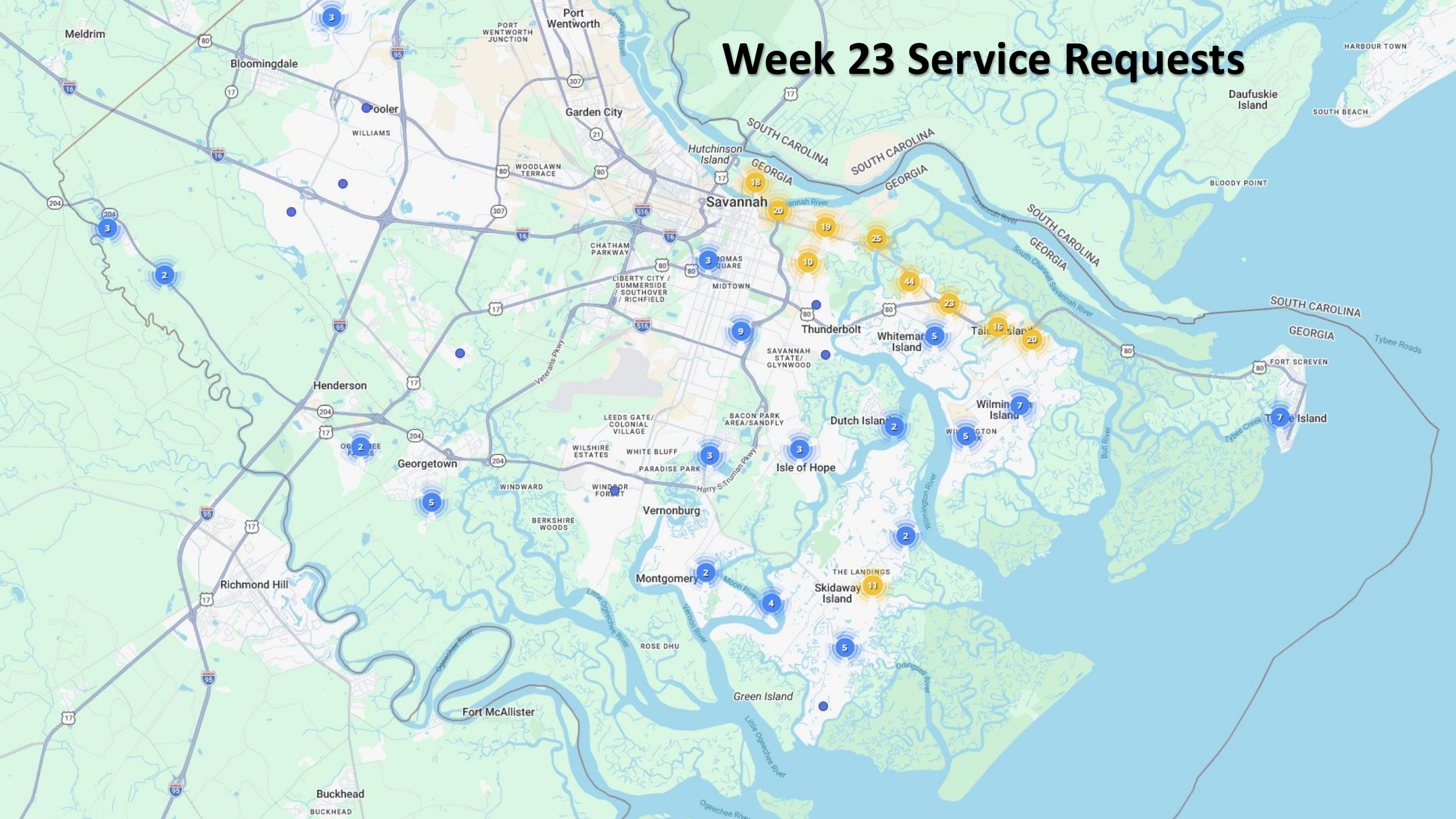
- **Three Bunyavirus positive mosquito pools**
  - ***Cq perturbans* collected June 30th**
  - ***Ae infirmatus* collected July 14th**
  - ***Ae atlanticus* collected August 4th**
  - **First time collected since 2013**
  - **Samples most likely Keystone Virus**
    - **Public Health implications are not clear**
      - **Appears to be minimal**
    - **Georgia collections date back to at least 1963**
      - **Equine Encephalitis outbreak in Waycross**
        - **EEE, WEE, Flanders, Tensaw, and Keystone all collected during the investigation**



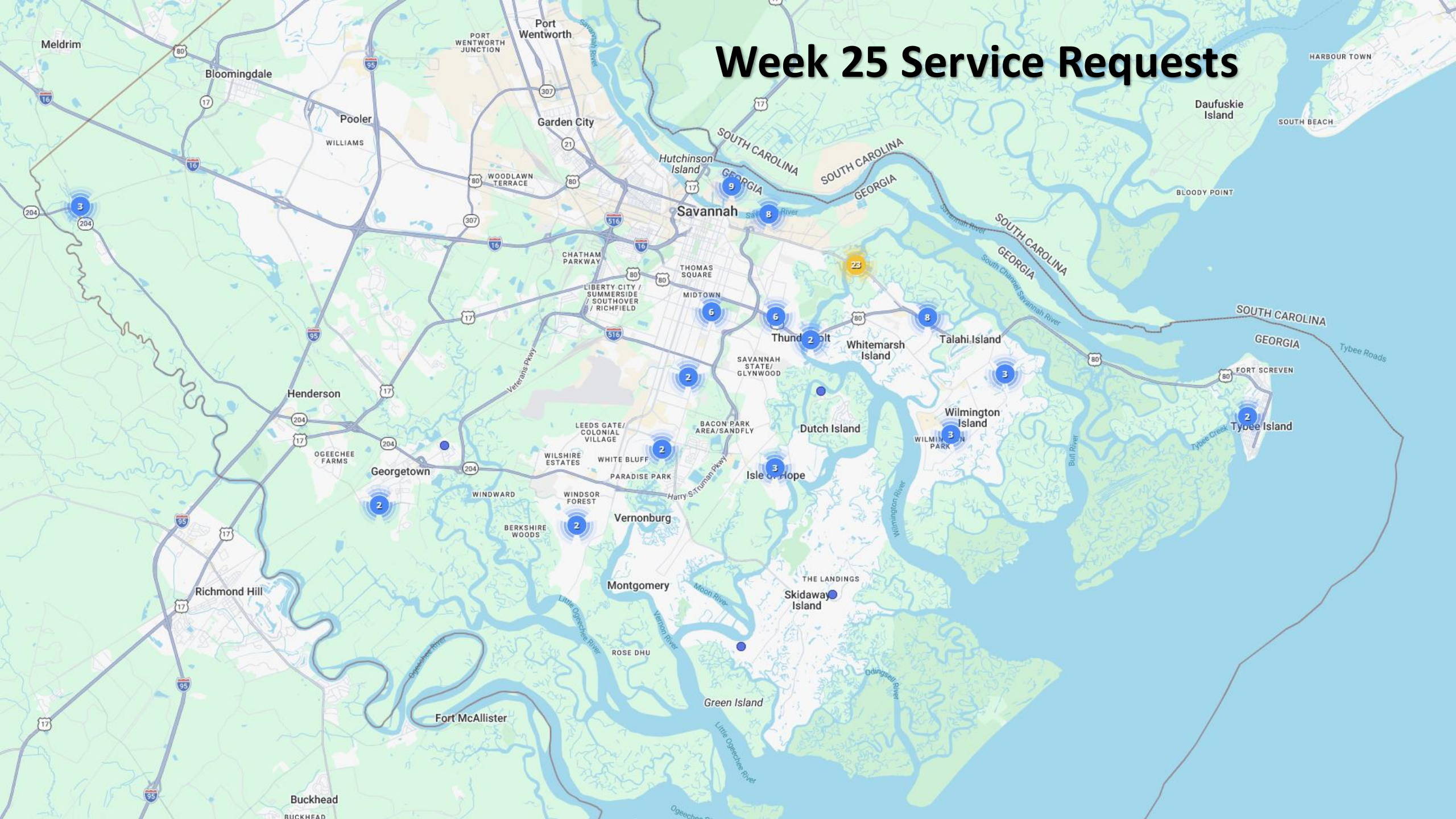
Large Salt Marsh Mosquito Brood



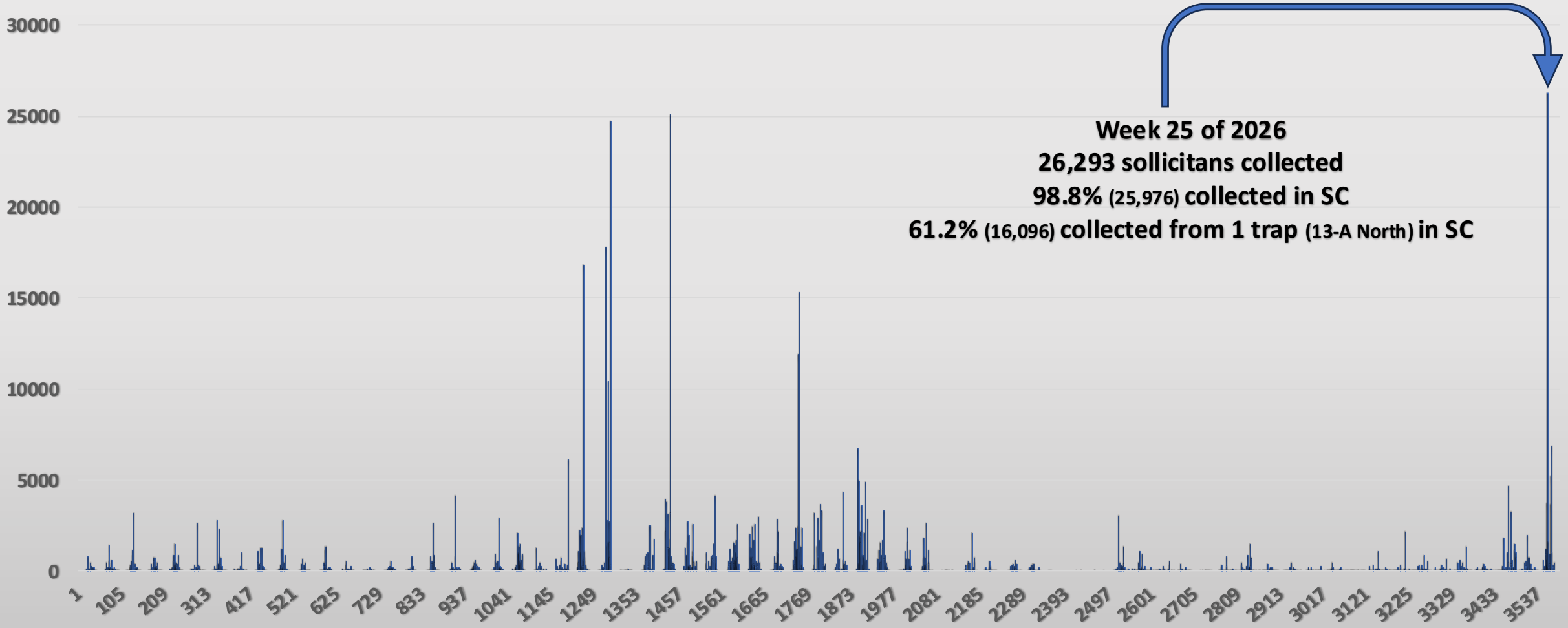
Week 23 Service Requests



Week 25 Service Requests



Ae sollicitans 1958 - 2026



Send Mosquitoes To Anyone Who Asks

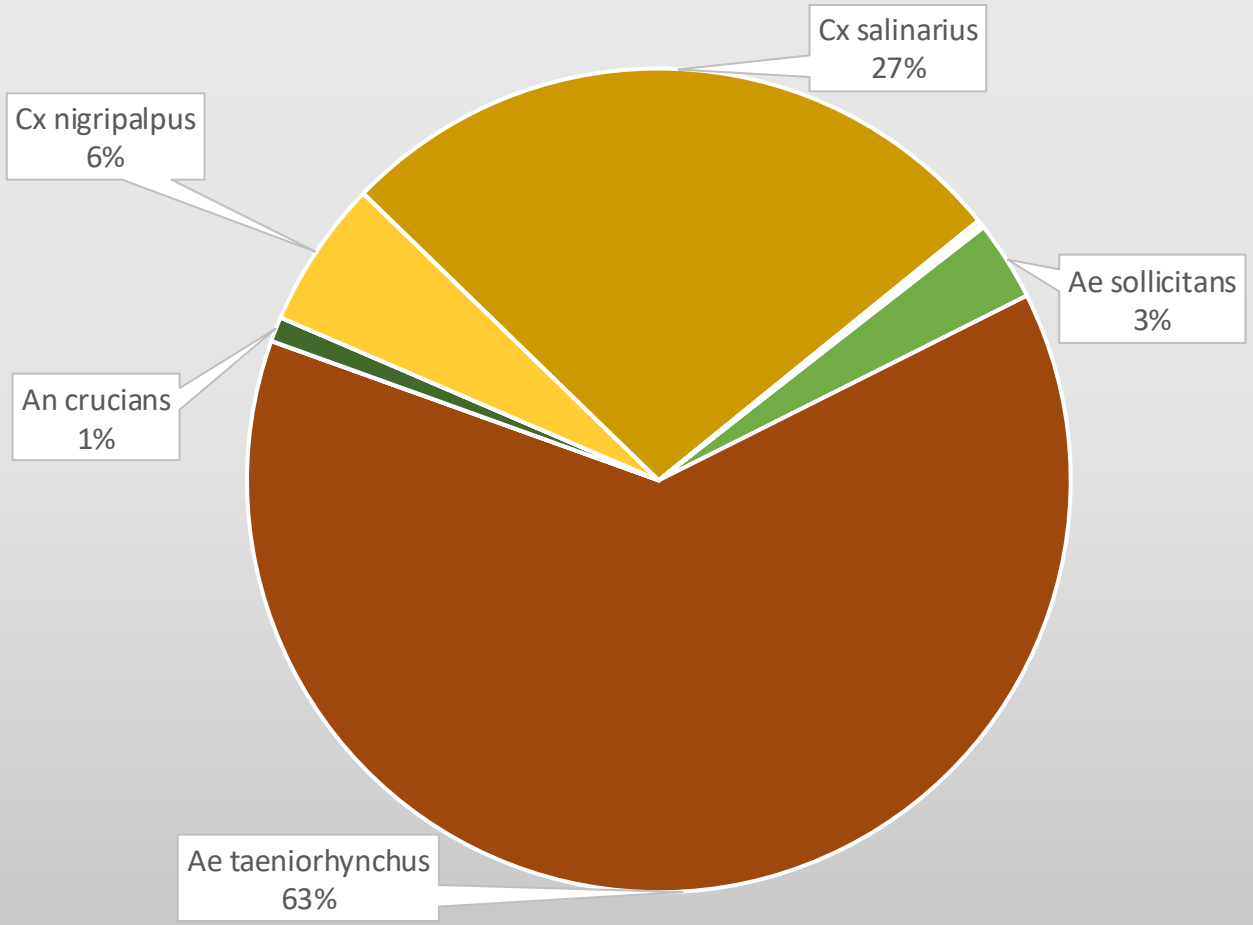
- **Dr. Chen at Mercer University**
  - **Sequencing WNV to see changes in strains**
- **Dr. Rafferty with CDC**
  - **Sequencing Anopheles species**
- **Sean Sweeney at University of South Carolina**
  - **Looking for Cache Valley Virus in *taeniorhynchus*, *sollicitans*, *ferox***
- **Dr. Mead at University of Georgia**
  - **Test mosquitoes for everything**
- **Annaliese Pena with Florida Medical Entomology Lab**
  - **Virus seasonality in *albopictus* male and females**

Other Arthropod Work

- **Dr. Vasquez at Mercer University**
  - **Culicoides, to work with species identification**
- **Taylor Pearson with University of Georgia**
  - **Ticks**
- **Georgia Dept. of Agriculture**
  - **Collecting and submitting Yellow Legged Hornets**



Digitizing Historical Data



- **Most mosquitoes caught in one week**
  - **Week 36, 1982 (early September)**
    - **Total of 332,570**
      - ***Ae taeniorhynchus* – 209,150**
      - ***Cx salinarius* – 89,348**
      - ***Cx nigripalpus* – 19,282**
      - ***Ae sollicitans* – 10,426**
      - ***An crucians* – 3,228**
    - **332,043 from CDC Traps**
      - **31 CDC trap nights**
      - **13 sites**
    - **527 From NJLTs**
      - **50 NJLT trap nights**
      - **25 sites**

Digitizing Historical Data



- **Most mosquitoes collected in a single night at one location**
  - **June 19, 1985**
    - **Elba Bridge**
      - **CDC trap hung under the bridge**
    - **Total of 45,824**
      - ***Ae taeniorhynchus* – 45,056**
      - ***Ae sollicitans* – 512**
      - ***An crucians* – 256**

Top 20 Mosquito Species Collected

