



Beach Surveys and Data Assessment, Mackay Region

COPE Data – Salonika Beach

Coastal Impacts Unit

2015

Prepared by

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Front Cover Photo: Salonika Beach November 1994 looking North

Source: BPA file

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1 Introduction

1.1 Preamble

The Coastal Observation Program Engineering (COPE) data collection system was designed to collect data at selected sites along the Queensland coast to assist in the understanding of coastal processes and the way these processes affect the coast line. COPE was managed for the Beach Protection Authority (BPA) (now disbanded) by the Department of Harbours and Marine up until 1989 and then by the Coastal Management Branch in what is now the Department of Environment and Heritage Protection (DEHP). COPE data was progressively analysed and reports at selected sites were compiled up to mid-1996¹ when the program was abandoned. After that date very little further analysis was carried out, however all data was archived for possible future use. Custodianship of this data rests with the Coastal Impacts Unit of the Department of Science, Information Technology, and Innovation (DSITI).

For this report, raw data was provided by DSITI for Salonika Beach – COPE Station Number 18020. This data had not been pre-processed to identify errors in the recordings and/or errors from the transfer of the data from the recording sheets to the computer data file.

In February 2015, the Coastal Impacts Unit of DSITI commissioned GHD to compile a report on the COPE data from the Salonika Beach site, located north of Mc Canna St and south of Cole St. The report is modelled on the Bilinga site report compiled in February 2014 by GHD for the Department of Science, Information Technology, Innovation and Arts (DSITIA).

DSITI provided the following data:

1. Recorded raw data in the form of a text file – this was data compiled directly from the recording sheets;
2. Sieve data from the analysis of the sand samples collected by the observers at the site;
3. Beach profile data collected by the observers at the site and subsequent data collected by staff from DSITI at Deagon; and
4. Photographs and other relevant information about the Salonika Beach COPE Station extracted from the BPA files.

GHD, through its Principal Coastal Engineer, Paul O’Keeffe, a former engineer to the BPA, was able to source other background information on the COPE program and make assessments of the data analysis based on first-hand experience with the COPE program.

In addition, the BPA Beach Conservation newsletters were reviewed for any articles on the COPE program relating to the Salonika Beach site. However, no articles that provided additional information on the Salonika Beach COPE station were identified.

Reference documents and technical papers that have been used to assist in the preparation of this report are listed in Section 4.

¹ This date concurs with the recollection of Paul O’Keeffe (GHD) and Sel Sultmann (DEHP), Coastal Engineer and Dune Conservationist respectively for the BPA at the time that the COPE program was finalised.

1.2 The Program

The BPA required basic data on the behaviour of Queensland's beaches in order to provide evidence-based coastal management advice to Local Authorities. The COPE project aimed to collect information on wind, waves and beach behaviour in areas where extensive investigations were not practical and where otherwise little or no data existed.

The project was based on the recruitment of volunteer observers who were prepared to record a series of basic parameters daily for at least a three year period. The COPE project was operational from late in 1971 to about mid-1996².

1.3 Site Selection

In selecting a site for a COPE station, consideration was given to:

1. The general shoreline configuration and the possibility of extrapolation of data to other adjacent beaches;
2. The distribution of stations along Queensland's coastline; and
3. The need to correlate the COPE data with planned or existing data collection programs.

1.4 Instruments

The COPE observers were supplied with a basic kit of recording instruments including:

1. 30 m tape measure;
2. Wind meter;
3. Stop watch;
4. 2.0 m measuring sticks;
5. Recording forms;
6. Fluorescent dye (Rhodamine or Fluorescence);
7. 1.5 m support stick (as suggested by Appendix A – Instructions for filling out COPE recording form);
8. Hand held level (as suggested by Appendix A – Instructions for filling out COPE recording form); and
9. Plastic bags and envelopes for sand samples, mailing envelopes for the return of recording sheets, clipboard, pencils and erasers.

A graduated reference pole was usually installed on the beach to serve as the base point for all measurements in plan and the control for vertical levelling.

1.5 Observers

The majority of COPE observers were volunteers. Some stations were also operated by Government and Local Authority employees who carried out the observations as part of their official duties.

² Refer previous footnote

1.6 Accuracy

Individual observers differed in their subjective assessment of the various parameters recorded as part of the COPE program. Wave parameters such as height, and angle of approach together with surf zone width and the location of vegetation line all required visual assessment. The accuracy of recorded details varied from observer to observer and possibly from recording to recording.

Although the BPA was confident that all observers made their observations to the best of their ability and accepted these observations without adjustment, the existence of random and non-random errors in the recorded data was to be expected.

Problems associated with the use of data containing these errors are minimised in a number of ways as follows:

1. Regular visits were made to the COPE stations by the BPA's COPE Field Officer to provide a check on any bias introduced into the recordings by incorrect observation procedures.
2. It was determined that, with a large number of observations taken on a regular basis, a reasonable assessment can be made of the average values of the observed parameters provided the observation errors are random. A minimum recording period of three years was adopted for the analysis and publication of the data, in order to minimise the effects of random errors.
3. Five day moving averages are applied to observations of the various beach width and foreshore slope parameters to filter out random errors.
4. Pre-processing of the raw data was undertaken to remove obvious errors from either recording errors and/or errors from the transfer of the data from the recording sheets to the computer data file. For this report, these errors and how they were corrected have been documented in the Data Presentation section.

For these reasons, the BPA concluded that published COPE data can be used with confidence provided the above inherent limitations are recognised.

1.7 Presentation of Data

The purpose of this report is to present COPE data for Salonika Beach for the 4 years' worth of data recorded between 1979 and 1982, and the continued profile data supplied by DSITI from December 1979 to November 1995 in a useful statistical form.

The 4 year period can be considered to be representative of the long term average meteorological condition and the statistics presented on wind, wave and beach movements can be regarded as typical of the ambient conditions. However, this recording period is too short to be representative in terms of the average occurrence of extreme events such as cyclones and floods, and this should be taken into account when consideration is given to the influence of such events on trends of long term beach behaviour.

2 Station Particulars

2.1 Location

Salonika Beach is located south-east of Mackay on the Eastern Queensland coastline. The beach is approximately two kilometres long extending south from a rocky headland on the southern side of Half Tide Boat Harbour to a small creek. The location of the Salonika Beach COPE station is south of Cole St and north of McCanna St, as shown on Figure 6 and Figure 7.

2.2 Observers

From information available, the main observer for the Salonika Beach site was Mrs Rita Coulter. She took measurements during the work week from April 1979 until July 1991.



Figure 1 COPE observers at Salonika Beach taking measurements at the COPE reference pole in Nov 1979.

Table 1 Summary of Salonika beach observers

Year	Observer
1979-1987	Rita Coulter

2.3 Reports from Beach Conservation

Beach Conservation was the title of the newsletter of the Beach Protection Authority of Queensland and was published quarterly between September 1970 and June 1990. Various aspects of the COPE program were frequently featured in the newsletter including two main articles on the operation of the program in April 1977 (Issue No 27) and June 1990 (Issue No 69). However, no articles that provided additional information on the Salonika Beach COPE station were identified.

2.4 Site History

Listed below is information compiled from the BPA files for this site, including details of the installation and maintenance of the COPE pole. A photograph of the installed COPE pole is shown in Figure 2.

1. 08 April 1979 – Observations commenced
2. 03 July 1979 – Pole installed by Pioneer Shire on behalf of Sarina Shire
3. 03 July 1979 – Survey profile recorded
4. 28 July 1982 – Top of pole replaced, survey location of Cope Pole
5. 22 September 1982 - Final Observation Recorded
6. 08 December 1982 - Observer Rita Coulter has completed 3 years of recording and will now only do monthly profiles
7. 25 January 1984 - Replacement of pole and salvage of old pole
8. 24 February 1984 - Top section of pole replaced
9. 09 June 1988 – Pole repainted
10. 10 July 1991 – Top section of pole replaced and Observer Rita Coulter has ceased taking monthly profiles.
11. 17 July 1995 – All observations ceased.

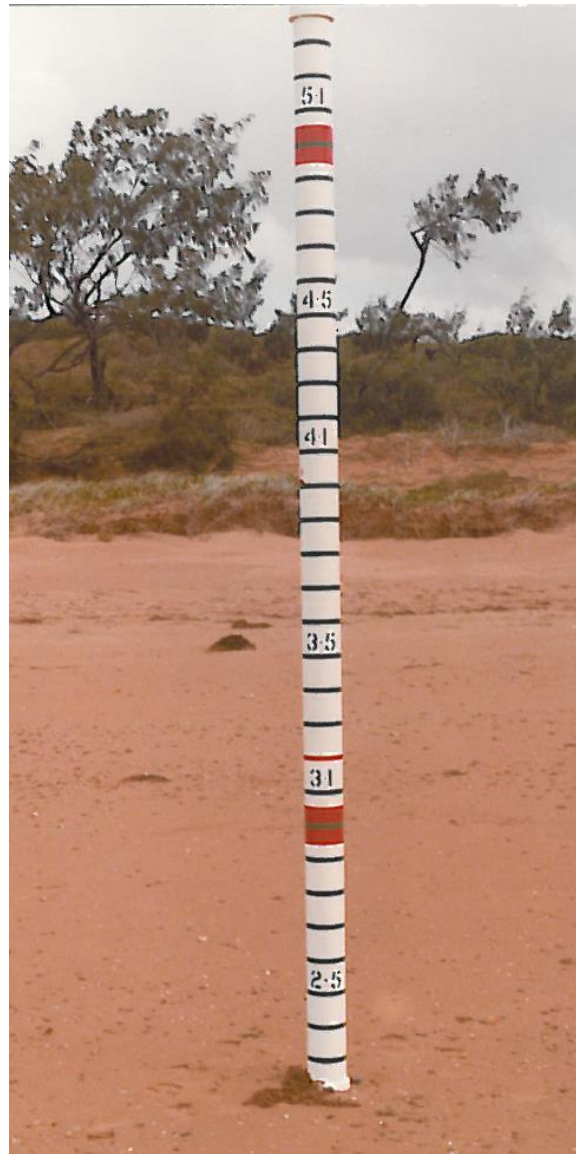


Figure 2 Salonika Beach COPE pole, May 1984

2.5 Observed Parameters

The observers at this station recorded the majority of observations in the morning between 6 am and 11:30 am during the recording period.

Data was recorded on the original recording sheet shown in Figure 8 from 8 April 1979 to 22 September 1982, with the following parameters being recorded:

- Wave period (s);
- Wave height (average) (m);
- Wave angle (degrees);
- Wave type;
- Surf zone width (s);
- Offshore bar (presence);
- Wind speed (mph);
- Wind direction (degrees);

- State of tide;
- Berm elevation (m);
- Distance to berm (m);
- Distance to the vegetation (m);
- Foreshore slope (degrees);
- Current speed longshore (m/min);
- Current direction longshore;
- Sand sample;

Surf zone width on the original recording sheet was the estimated distance between the shore and the breakers offshore.

All directions in this report are magnetic. Sector bearings derived from True North were converted to magnetic bearings using the magnetic variation shown on marine charts.

The first recorded sand sample was taken in April 1979, and from then on, samples were taken every few months.

A profile of the beach was recorded semi frequently throughout the recording period with additional profiles recorded within the month depending on the state of the beach and the occurrence of storm events from 1981 to 1996. The beach profiles are shown in Figure 34 to Figure 50. It should be noted that the COPE location is always located at chainage 0 and that the first beach profile recorded in December 1979 has been repeated on each chart as a reference level.

2.6 Tidal Information

Tidal information from the 1979 Official Tide Tables (H&M 1979) for Hay Point is presented in Table 2. These tide levels at Salonika Beach will be the same as Hay Point as Salonika Beach is just south of the measuring site. The levels are on Gauge Zero.

It should be noted that in 2010, the tidal plane levels were updated for the current Tidal Datum Epoch 1992 - 2011, using the latest available tidal observations, prediction information and allowance for sea level rise. The current tidal plane levels are provided in the 2015 Official Tide Tables (MSQ 2015) and the levels for Hay Point are presented in Table 2. The datum is LAT.

Table 2 Tidal planes

Tidal Plane	1979 (m Gauge Zero)	2015 (m LAT)
	Hay Point	Hay Point
1. Highest Astronomical Tide (HAT)	6.7	7.14
2. Mean High Water Springs (MHWS)	5.49	5.80

Tidal Plane	1979 (m Gauge Zero)	2015 (m LAT)
3. Mean High Water Neaps (MHWN)	4.23	4.48
4. Australian Height Datum (AHD)		3.34
5. Mean Sea Level (MSL)	3.11	3.37
6. Mean Low Water Neaps (MLWN)	1.99	2.25
7. Mean Low Water Springs (MLWS)	0.74	0.94
8. Lowest Astronomical Tide (LAT)	-0.1	0.0

The tidal plane levels have increased by 0.2 m for MLWS and 0.31 m for MHWS.

2.7 Beach Description

The beach at the Salonika Beach COPE station exhibits the following characteristics:

- Typical beach slopes: Based on the original recording between 8 April 1979 and 22 September 1982 the beach slope oscillated between 1 and 8 degrees, with an average of 4.26 degrees; as shown on Figure 58.
- Beach width: Varied from 80 to 170 m measured from the seaward toe of the frontal dune to the Low Water Mark over the 17 year period (1979 - 1995) (by inspection of the monthly beach profiles in Figure 34 to Figure 50);
- D_{50} grain size: 0.52 mm averaged over 48 samples collected over the six years (1979 – 1991); and
- Adjoining landform: Low vegetated dune seaward of residential housing.

Images of the beach are provided in Figure 3 and Figure 4.



Figure 3 Salonika Beach, 4 August 1983 – Looking north



Figure 4 Salonika Beach, 4 August 1983 – Looking south

2.8 Meteorological Events

The following cyclones were recorded by the Brisbane Bureau of Meteorology as having tracks within 400 km of Salonika Beach between January 1979 and January 1983. It is considered that these meteorological events may have had some effect on the condition of Salonika Beach.

- Cyclone GORDON: 08 January – 11 January 1979
- Cyclone KERRY: 12 February – 04 March 1979
- Cyclone PAUL: 02 January – 08 January 1980
- Cyclone RUTH: 11 February – 18 February 1980
- Cyclone SIMON: 21 February – 28 February 1980
- Cyclone FREDa: 24 February – 07 March 1981
- Cyclone ABIGAIL: 22 January – 05 February 1982
- Cyclone DOMINIC: 01 April – 14 April 1982
- Cyclone DES 14 January – 23 January 1983
- Cyclone ELINOR: 10 February – 03 March 1983
- Cyclone FRITZ: 09 December – 13 December 1983
- Cyclone GRACE: 11 January – 20 January 1984

- Cyclone HARVEY: 03 February – 09 February 1984
- Cyclone INGRID: 20 February – 25 February 1984
- Cyclone LANCE: 04 April – 07 April 1984
- Cyclone MONICA; 25 December – 28 December 1984
- Cyclone NIGEL: 14 January - 16 January 1985
- Cyclone PIERRE: 18 February – 24 February 1985
- Cyclone VERNON: 21 January – 24 January 1986
- Cyclone ALFRED: 02 March – 08 March 1986
- Cyclone BLANCH: 21 May – 27 May 1987
- Cyclone CHARLIE: 21 February – 01 March 1988
- Cyclone DELILAH: 28 December 1988 – 01 January 1989
- Cyclone AIVU: 01 April – 05 April 1989
- Cyclone FELICITY: 13 December – 20 December 1989
- Cyclone NANCY: 28 January – 04 February 1990
- Cyclone HILDA: 04 March – 07 March 1990
- Cyclone IVOR: 16 March – 26 March 1990
- Cyclone JOY: 18 December – 27 December 1990
- Cyclone KELVIN: 24 February – 05 March 1991
- Cyclone FRAN: 09 March – 17 March 1992
- Cyclone OLIVER: 05 February – 12 February 1993
- Cyclone ROGER: 12 March – 21 March 1993
- Cyclone REWA: 28 December 1993 – 21 January 1994
- Cyclone VIOLET: 03 March – 08 March 1995

See Figure 60 to Figure 65 for the cyclone tracks for a 400 km radius centred just east of Mackay over the recording period of 1976 – 1979, 1980 – 1982, 1983 – 1984, 1985 – 1988, 1989 – 1991 and 1992 - 1996.

2.9 Station Supervision

The observers were instructed in the recording program by the BPA COPE Field Officer and the initial instruction period was followed by regular visits to the station during the period of recordings presented in this report.

Installation of the reference pole for this station was carried out by the Pioneer Shire Council. Maintenance of the pole was carried out by the BPA COPE Field Officer.

3 Data

3.1 General

COPE data for this station for the 4 year period, April 1979 to September 1982, is presented in the tables in Section 5 - Tabular Results and the figures in Section 6 - Data Presentation. The data has been analysed statistically and/or smoothed to reveal long term averages or trends. A brief description of each of the observed parameters is given below with the relevant figure references.

3.2 Wind

The observer recorded the wind speed at the beach using a hand held wind meter at 1.5 m above beach level. Initially, the wind direction was recorded as a cardinal direction, and the speed was recorded in knots (kn).

A summary of annual wind speed direction percentage occurrences is shown as a wind rose in Figure 10.

3.3 Waves

The average and maximum breaker height (trough to crest) was usually estimated to the nearest 0.1 metre. Previous studies (Patterson and Blair, 1983) have shown that the estimate of average breaker height is comparable with the equivalent deep water significant wave height.

The observers estimated the wave period by recording the time taken for eleven wave crests (the duration of 10 waves) to pass a point.

Prior to 31 October 1981 wave direction was recorded as a compass bearing (refer Figure 8). The direction recorded was then converted to a sector, as shown in the following paragraph. After 31 October 1981, wave direction at Salonika beach was recorded using the protractor in Figure 9 placed parallel to the shore.

Wave direction is estimated as one of five direction sectors in relation to the shore normal direction from which the waves were approaching the beach. From aerial photography the shore normal direction (True North) was determined to be 93 degrees for the Salonika Beach COPE site. The compass bearings (Adjusted for magnetic declination) for the sectors are displayed in Table 3 and in the diagram below:

Table 3 Sector directions (Magnetic North)

Sector	Direction
1	11° to 71°
2	71° to 96°
3	96° to 106°
4	106° to 131°
5	131° to 191°

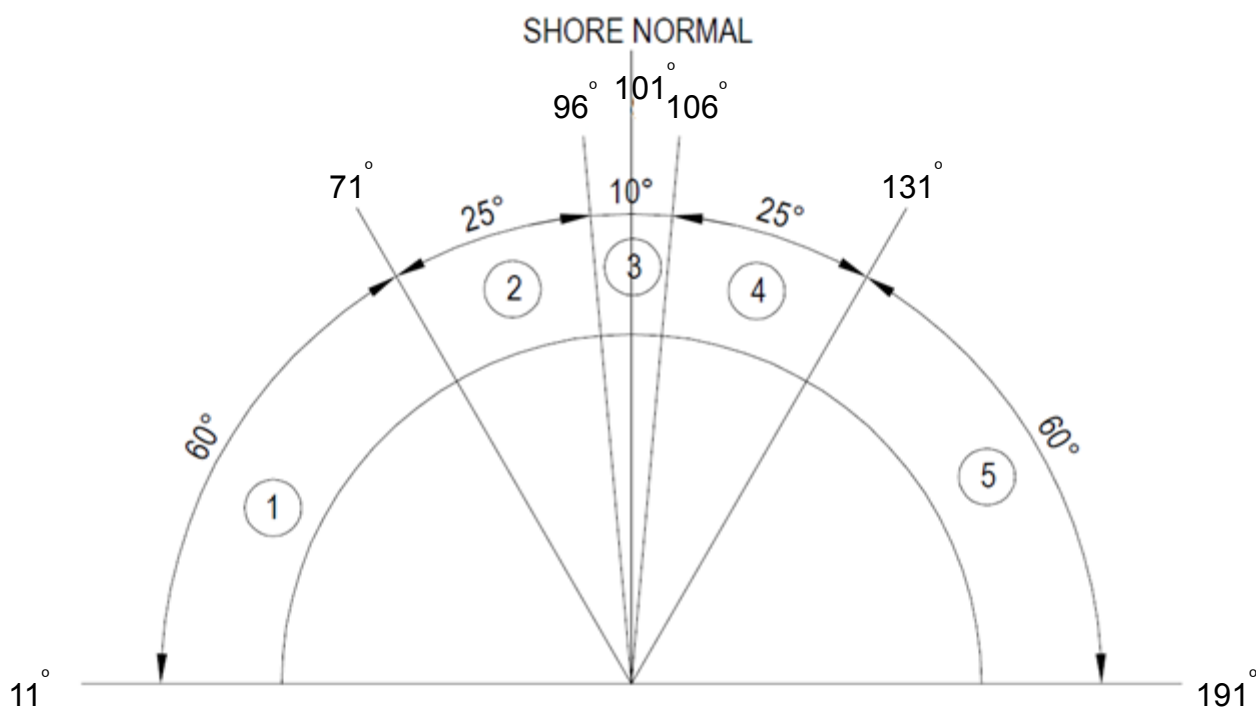


Figure 5 Sector Distribution (Magnetic North)

Note: At the Salonika beach COPE station, the shore normal direction is approximately 101 degrees east of magnetic north.

Statistical representations of the observed wave data include:

- The percentage of wave height recordings which exceed any given wave height for all directions combined (Figure 11);
- The percentage occurrence of various combinations of wave heights, periods and directions (Figure 12 to Figure 16);
- Surf zone width with an indication of existence or otherwise of an offshore bar (Figure 17 to Figure 20); and
- Tabulation of the occurrence of various wave heights, periods, types and directions (Table 4 to Table 7).

Wave direction data in this report is presented as per the sectors summarised in Table 3.

3.4 Longshore Currents

The observer measured the distance parallel to the shoreline that a float or dye patch in the surf zone moved in one minute. Current direction is either upcoast (positive) or downcoast (negative), with the upcoast direction being to the left when facing the sea from the beach.

The readings were then converted to a velocity which was plotted on a monthly basis (Figure 21 to Figure 24). A summary table for the mean upcoast and downcoast components and overall annual averages are provided on each of these yearly figures.

3.5 Beach Profile Parameters

Fixed contour elevation was measured by using the supplied level and the 1.5 m support pole. The observer would stand the pole in the top of the berm, and by using the level, would site and record the elevation from the graduated COPE pole. The distance to the fixed contour was recorded using a tape measure. The fixed contour has been interpreted as being on top of a berm.

Sand level at the reference pole and the distance to the vegetation line were also recorded.

Changes in these parameters with time indicate how the beach moves in response to varying wave conditions. Plots of these parameters are shown in Figure 25 to Figure 33.

Foreshore slopes were recorded at this station between 8 April 1979 and 22 September 1982 (using the original recording form) and are shown in Figure 58.

Figure 33 show summaries of monthly averages of the distance to berm and the distance to vegetation line for the full recording period.

3.6 Monthly Beach Profiles

Measurements of beach profiles at Salonika were usually taken monthly. However, if the beach experienced appreciable erosion or accretion during the month, the observer was requested to take an additional beach profile. Monthly beach profiles are shown in Figure 34 to Figure 50. It should be noted that the profile taken in December 1979 has been repeated in each graph so comparisons between profiles can be easily made.

3.7 Sand Sample Particle Size Distribution

A total of 48 sand samples were collected over eleven years (1979 to 1991) when the station was operational. The data indicates that samples underwent a standard sieve analysis to determine the particle size distribution. The lower boundary (D_{16}), upper boundary (D_{84}) and the average D_{50} were derived from the data and are summarised in Figure 57. Particle Size Distribution D_{50} is the value of the particle diameter at 50% in the cumulative distribution. For Salonika, the average $D_{50}=0.52$ mm, then 50% of the particles in the sample are larger than 0.5 mm, and 50% smaller than 0.5 mm with the same concept applied for D_{16} and D_{84} .

4 References

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2. BC No 69 – Andrews, M.J. and Blair, R.J., *Coastal Observation Programme – Engineering (COPE)*, Beach Conservation newsletter No. 69, June 1990.
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5 Tabular Results

Table 4 Monthly and annual – mean wave height/mean wave period and wave direction occurrences. Salonika Beach. Year 1979

Month	No. Observations	Mean Wave Period (s)	Mean Wave Height (m)	No of Obs.	Percentage occurrences - wave direction (Sector)					
					1	2	3	4	5	Calm
Jan	0			0						
Feb	0			0						
Mar	0			0						
Apr	12	6.2	0.3	12	0	1	10	1	0	0
May	31	5.0	0.4	31	0	2	10	15	0	4
Jun	22	6.3	0.4	22	0	1	7	14	0	0
Jul	29	4.9	0.3	29	0	1	9	13	0	6
Aug	30	3.9	0.2	30	0	7	9	2	0	12
Sep	30	4.8	0.4	30	0	6	12	5	0	7
Oct	30	4.8	0.3	30	0	11	10	2	1	6
Nov	28	5.7	0.3	28	0	23	1	3	0	1
Dec	26	5.0	0.4	26	0	19	1	3	0	3
Whole Year	238	5.2	0.3	238	0	71	69	58	1	39

Table 5 Monthly and annual – mean wave height/mean wave period and wave direction occurrences. Salonika Beach. Year 1980

Month	No. Observations	Mean Wave Period (s)	Mean Wave Height (m)	No of Obs.	Percentage occurrences - wave direction (Sector)					
					1	2	3	4	5	Calm
Jan	31	5.3	0.2	31	0	24	2	1	0	4
Feb	29	5.2	0.6	29	0	11	5	7	0	6
Mar	3	4.7	0.4	3	0	0	0	3	0	0
Apr	23	5.5	0.4	23	0	2	4	14	0	3
May	20	6.3	0.3	20	0	2	6	10	0	2
Jun	29	5.5	0.3	29	0	2	4	18	0	5
Jul	31	4.9	0.2	31	0	2	7	12	0	10
Aug	28	7.1	0.4	28	0	2	8	18	0	0
Sep	28	4.0	0.2	28	2	3	6	6	1	10
Oct	24	5.5	0.3	24	4	14	5	1	0	0
Nov	29	4.8	0.3	29	0	17	8	3	0	1
Dec	28	4.9	0.4	28	0	6	11	8	0	3
Whole Year	303	5.3	0.3	303	6	85	66	101	1	44

Table 6 Monthly and annual – mean wave height/mean wave period and wave direction occurrences. Salonika Beach. Year 1981

Month	No. Observations	Mean Wave Period (s)	Mean Wave Height (m)	No of Obs.	Percentage occurrences - wave direction (Sector)					
					1	2	3	4	5	Calm
Jan	30	5.2	0.4	30	0	7	13	7	0	3
Feb	27	5.2	0.5	27	0	4	11	8	0	4
Mar	28	6.4	0.4	28	0	7	14	5	0	2
Apr	13	6.9	0.2	13	0	3	8	1	0	1
May	26	5.8	0.5	26	0	5	6	12	0	3
Jun	29	5.6	0.2	29	0	3	10	7	0	9
Jul	30	5.8	0.3	30	0	2	6	18	0	4
Aug	29	5.0	0.2	29	0	4	12	9	0	4
Sep	21	4.9	0.4	21	0	3	3	13	0	2
Oct	26	5.6	0.4	26	0	4	5	17	0	0
Nov	23	4.8	0.4	23	0	10	5	6	0	2
Dec	27	4.0	0.2	27	1	5	8	6	0	7
Whole Year	309	5.4	0.3	309	1	57	101	109	0	41

Table 7 Monthly and annual – mean wave height/mean wave period and wave direction occurrences. Salonika Beach. Year 1982

Month	No. Observations	Mean Wave Period (s)	Mean Wave Height (m)	No of Obs.	Percentage occurrences - wave direction (Sector)					
					1	2	3	4	5	Calm
Jan	29	4.3	0.4	29	1	7	3	14	0	4
Feb	26	5.4	0.5	26	0	4	5	15	0	2
Mar	28	4.5	0.4	28	0	1	11	12	0	4
Apr	24	5.5	0.5	24	0	0	0	22	0	2
May	10	5.2	0.3	10	0	0	0	10	0	0
Jun	30	5.2	0.3	30	0	0	1	15	6	8
Jul	26	5.6	0.2	26	0	1	0	4	20	1
Aug	29	5.9	0.5	29	0	0	0	1	28	0
Sep	18	3.2	0.2	18	1	0	0	5	6	6
Oct	0			0						
Nov	0			0						
Dec	0			0						
Whole Year	220	5.0	0.4	220	2	13	20	98	60	27

6 Data Presentation

The data analysis for the Salonika Beach COPE stations is presented in the following figures.

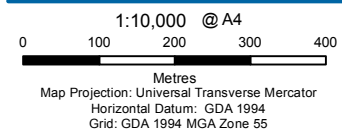


LEGEND

- ★ COPE Station
- Major Watercourses
- Railway
- Suburb
- Street/Local Road

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Site Plan Figure 6 Salonika Beach COPE Site Plan



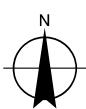
LEGEND

- ★ COPE Station
- Major Watercourses
- Rails
- Highway
- Secondary Road
- Local Connector Road
- Street/Local Road
- Suburb

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1:100,000 @ A4
 0 750 1,500 2,250 3,000
 Metres
 Map Projection: Universal Transverse Mercator
 Horizontal Datum: GDA 1994
 Grid: GDA 1994 MGA Zone 55



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Locality Plan

Figure 7 Salonika Beach COPE Locality Plan

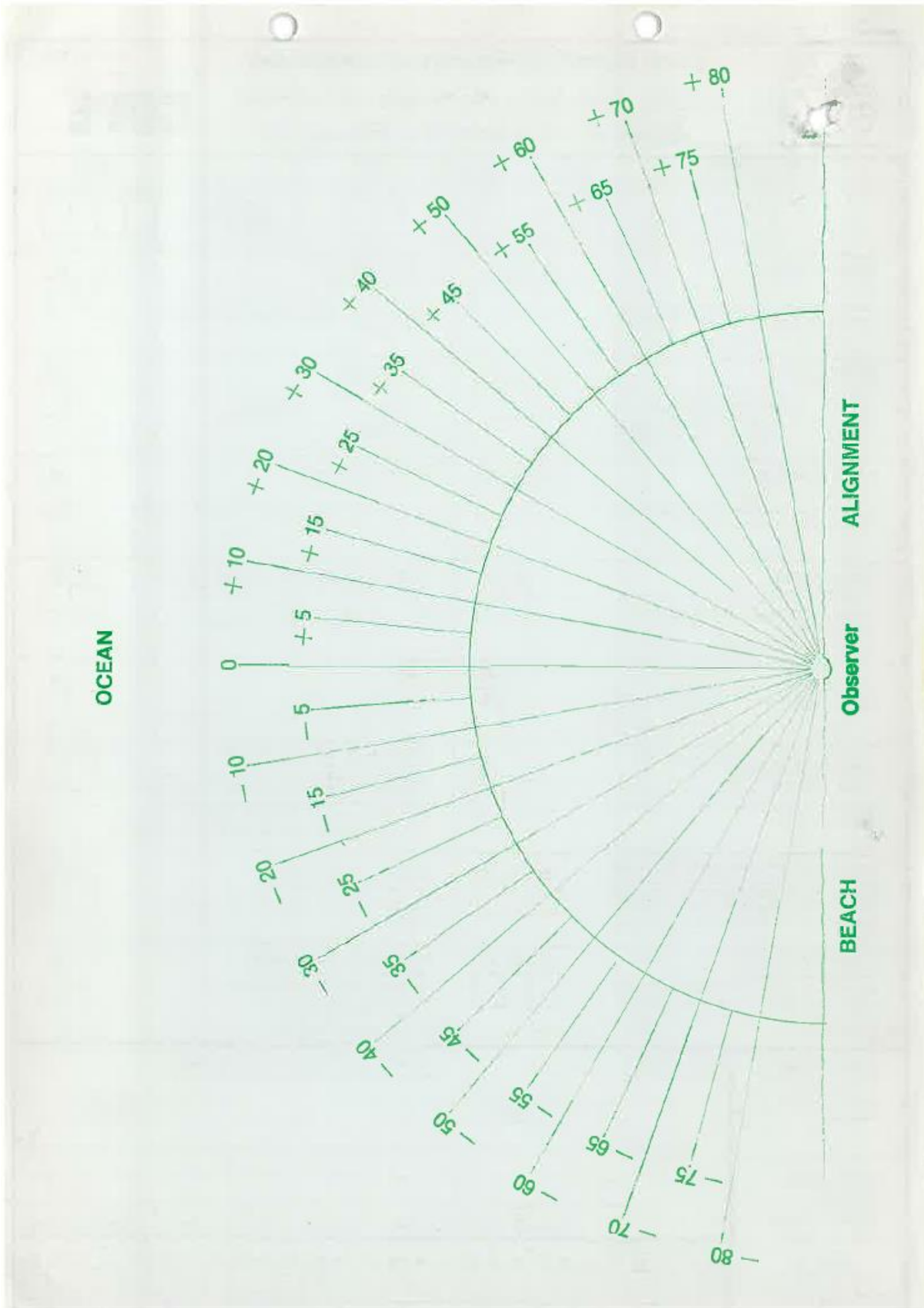


Figure 9 COPE Recording Sheet – Old Format, Page 2



Wind Rose – Salonika Beach

Salonika Beach : April 1979 - September 1982

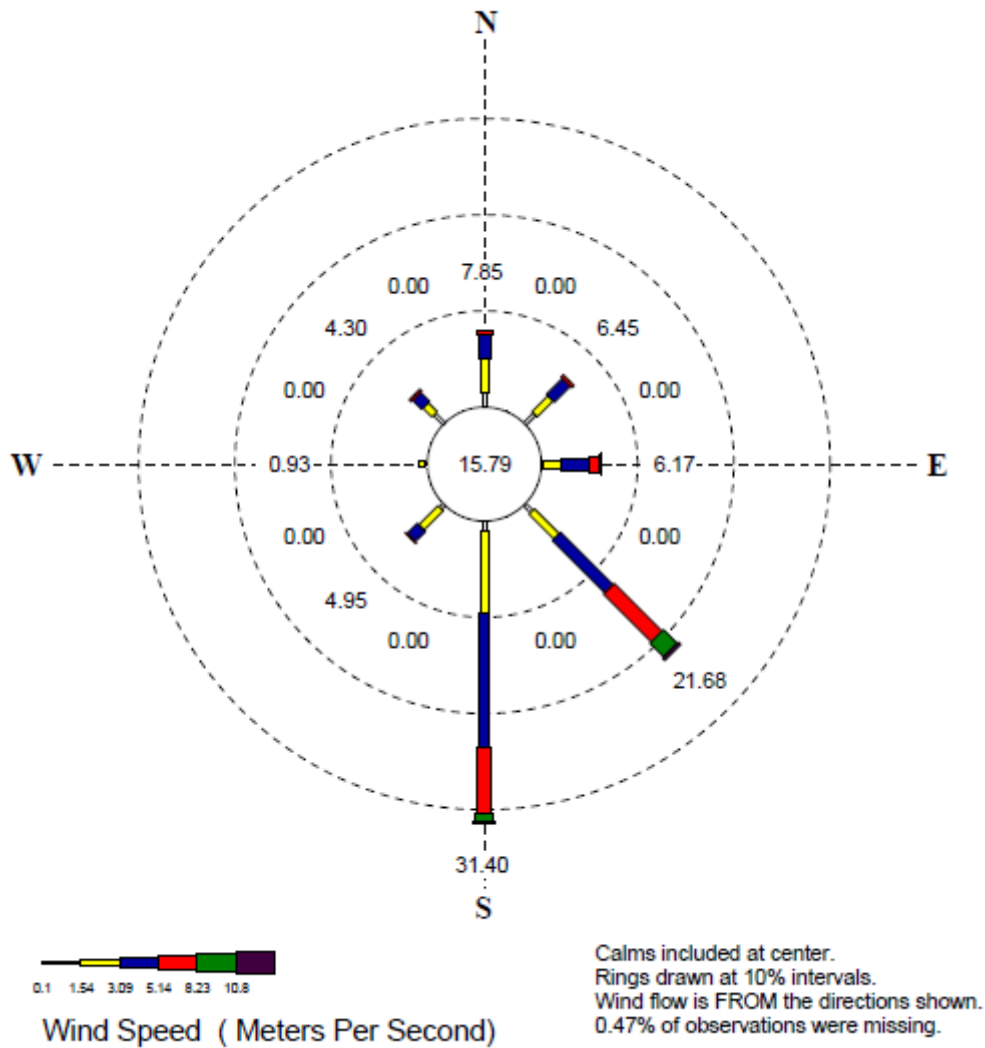


Figure 10 Wind Rose Diagram – Salonika Beach (Wind speed percentage occurrences)

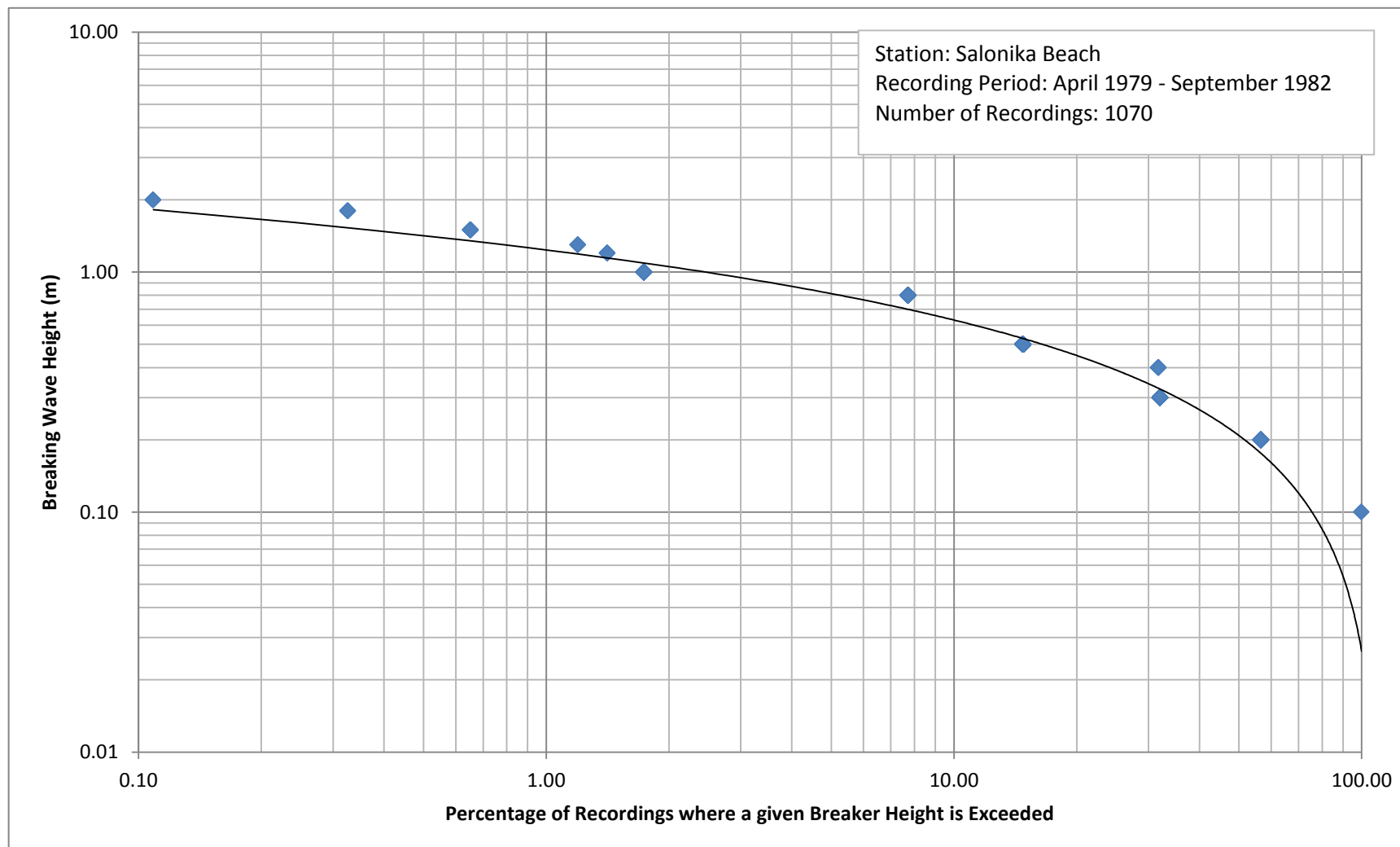


Figure 11 Wave height percentage exceedance



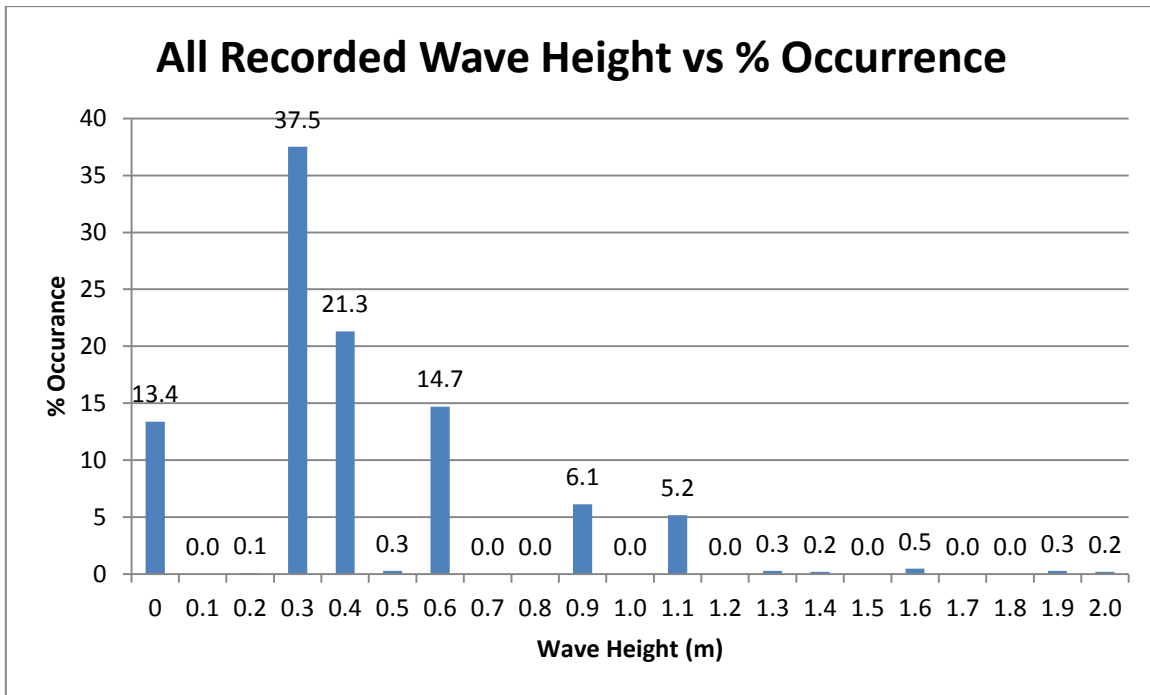


Figure 12 Percentage occurrence of wave height Apr 1979 to Sep 1982

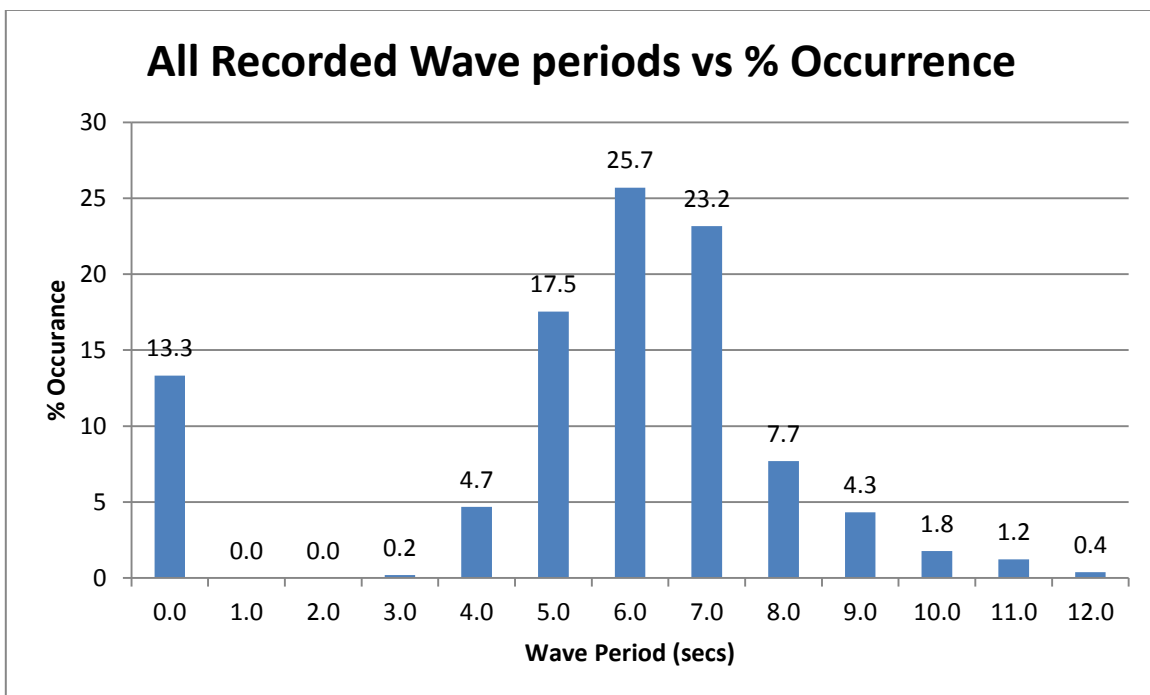


Figure 13 Percentage occurrence of wave period Apr 1979 to Sep 1982

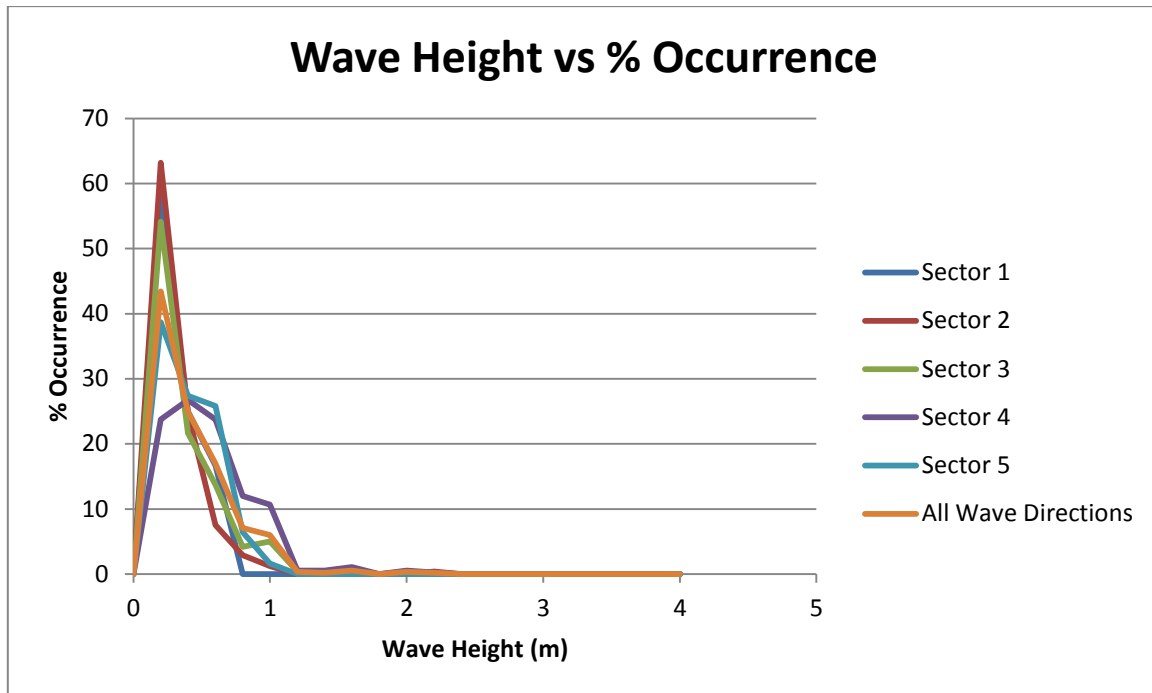


Figure 14 Wave direction analysis – wave height vs occurrence Apr 1979 to Sep 1982

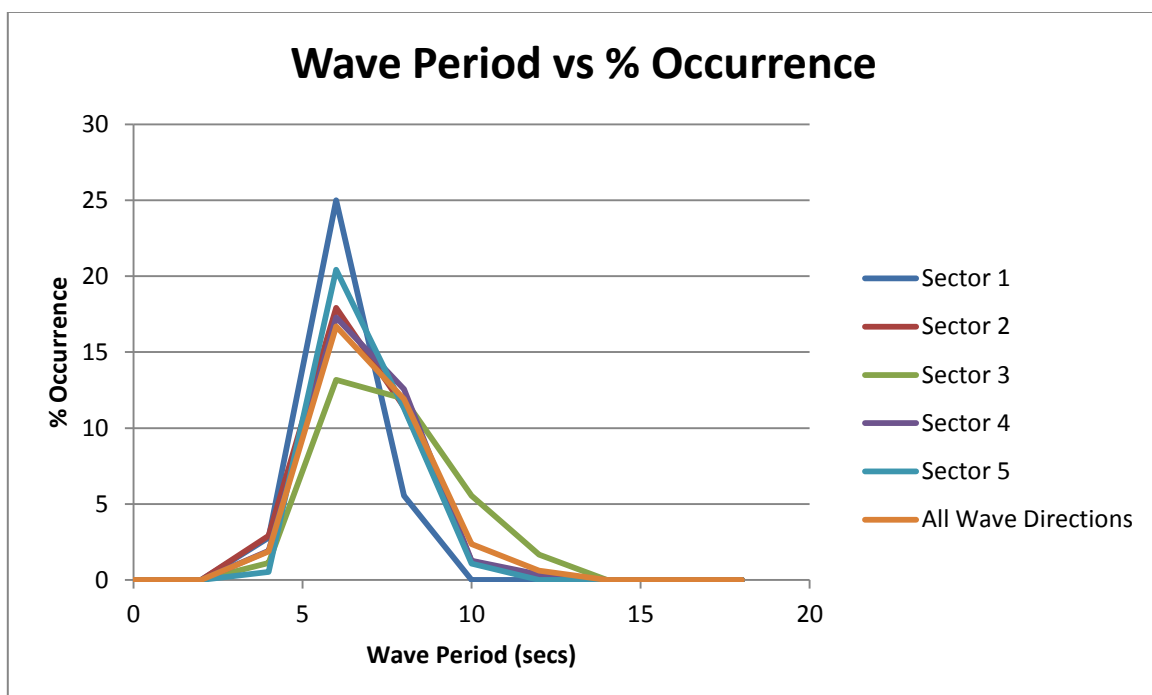


Figure 15 Wave direction analysis – wave period vs occurrence Apr 1979 to Sep 1982

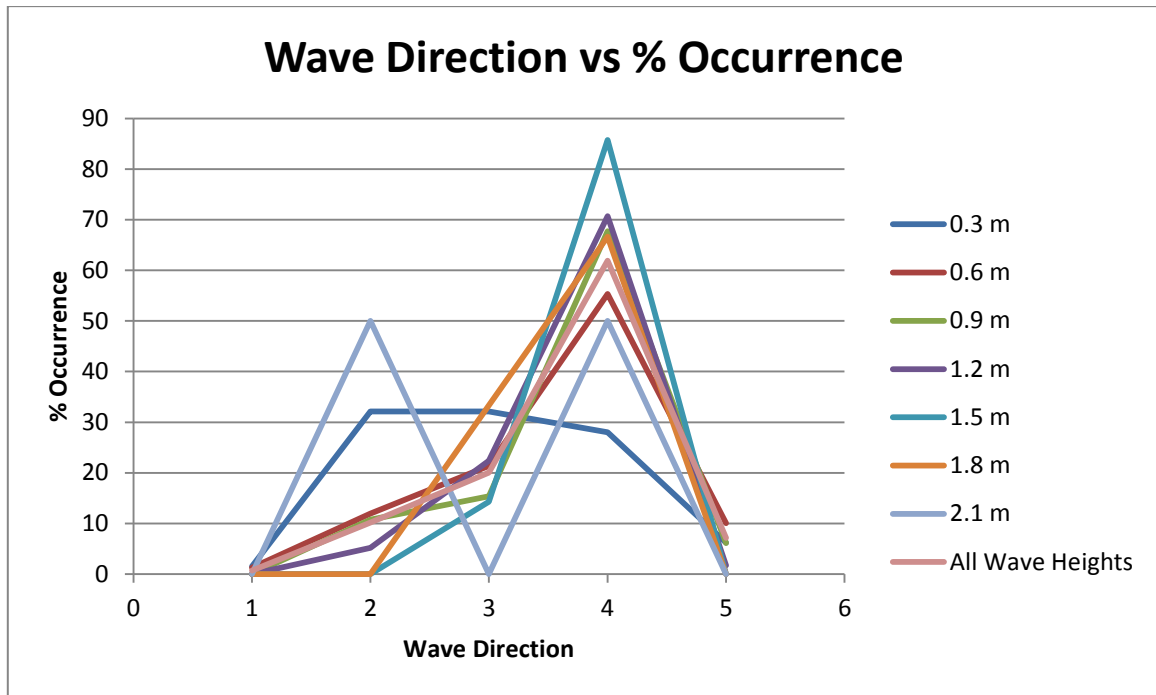


Figure 16 Wave direction analysis – wave direction vs occurrence Apr 1979 to Sep 1982

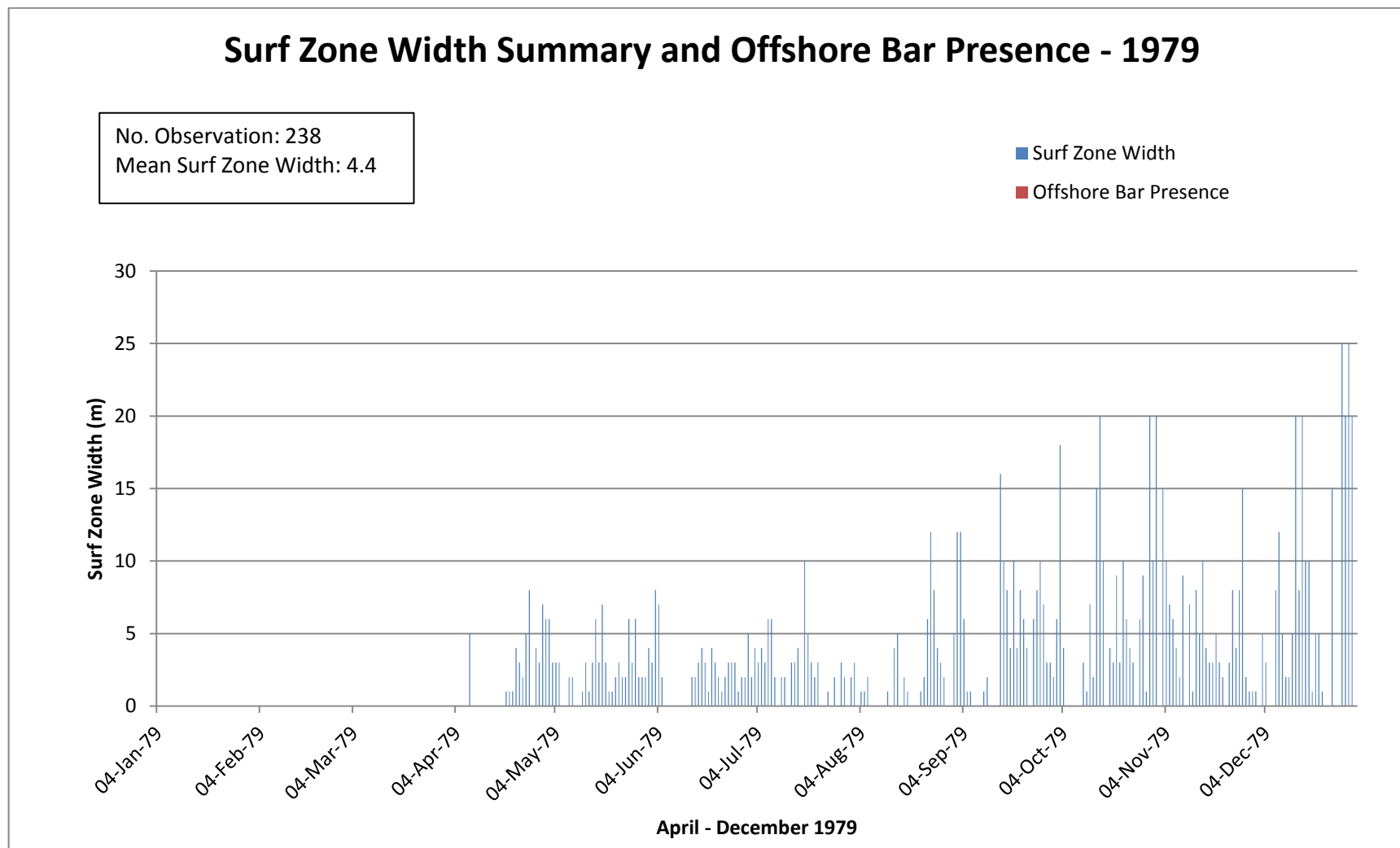


Figure 17 Surf Zone Width - 1979



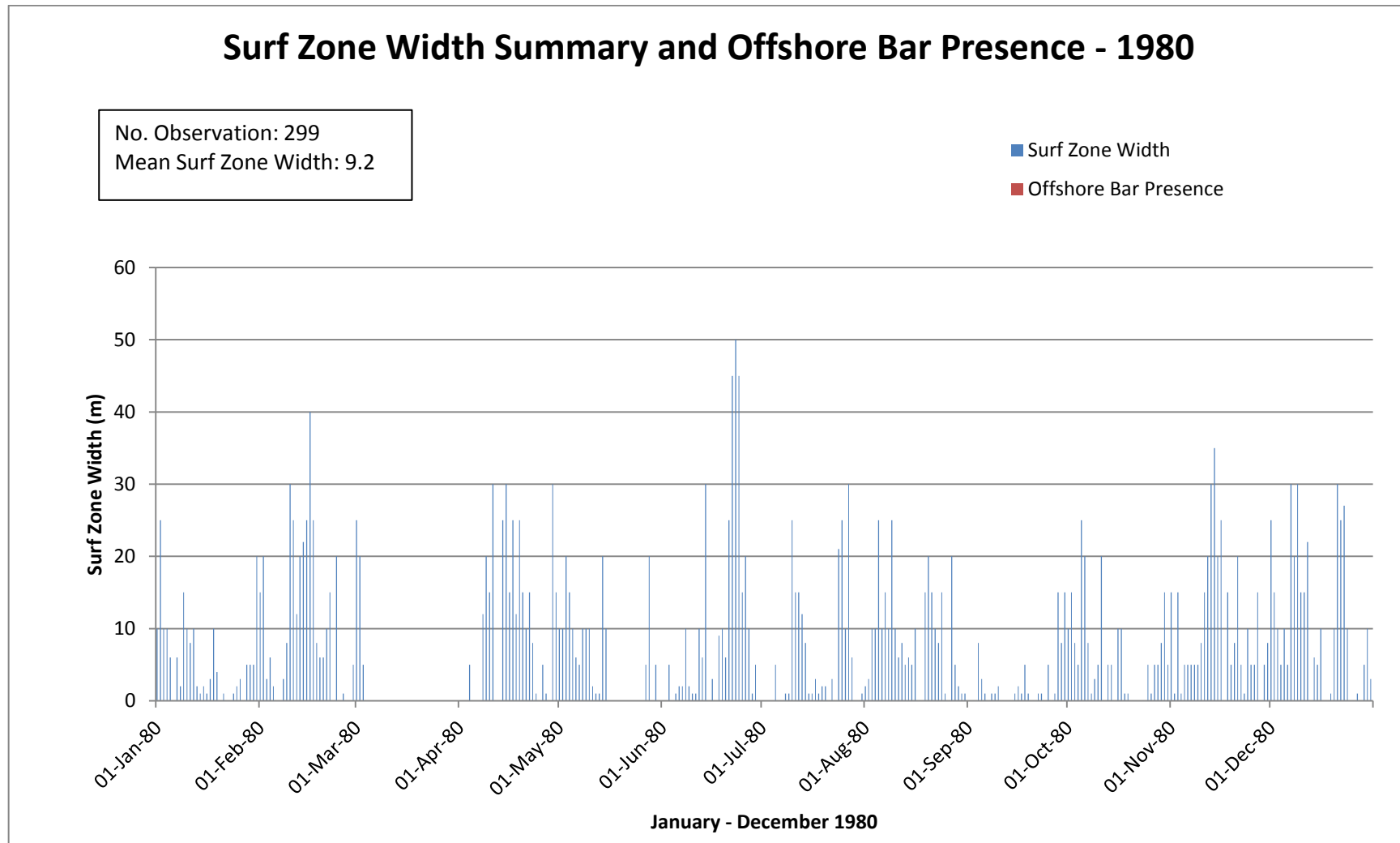


Figure 18 Surf Zone Width - 1980



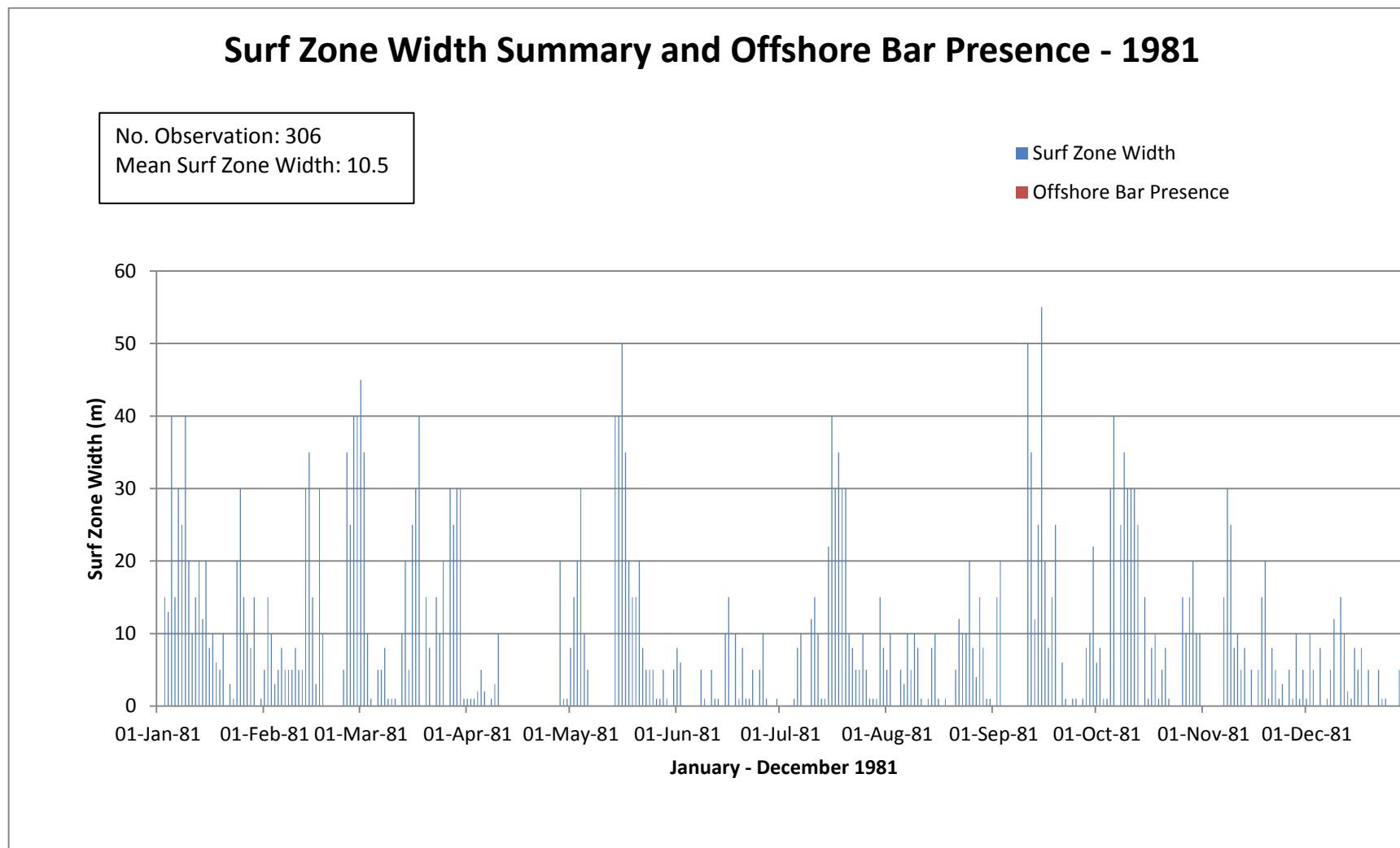


Figure 19 Surf Zone Width - 1981



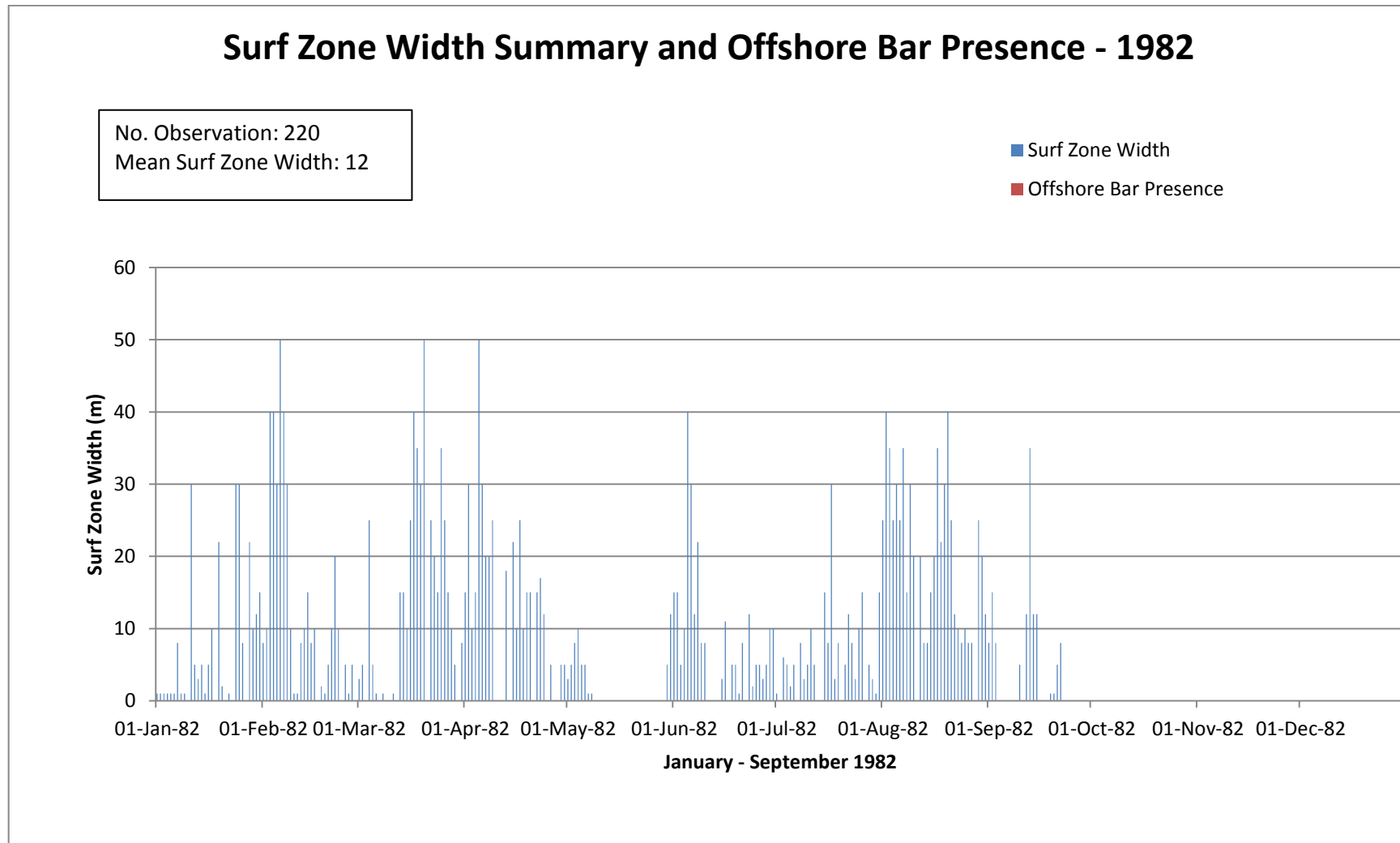


Figure 20 Surf Zone Width - 1982



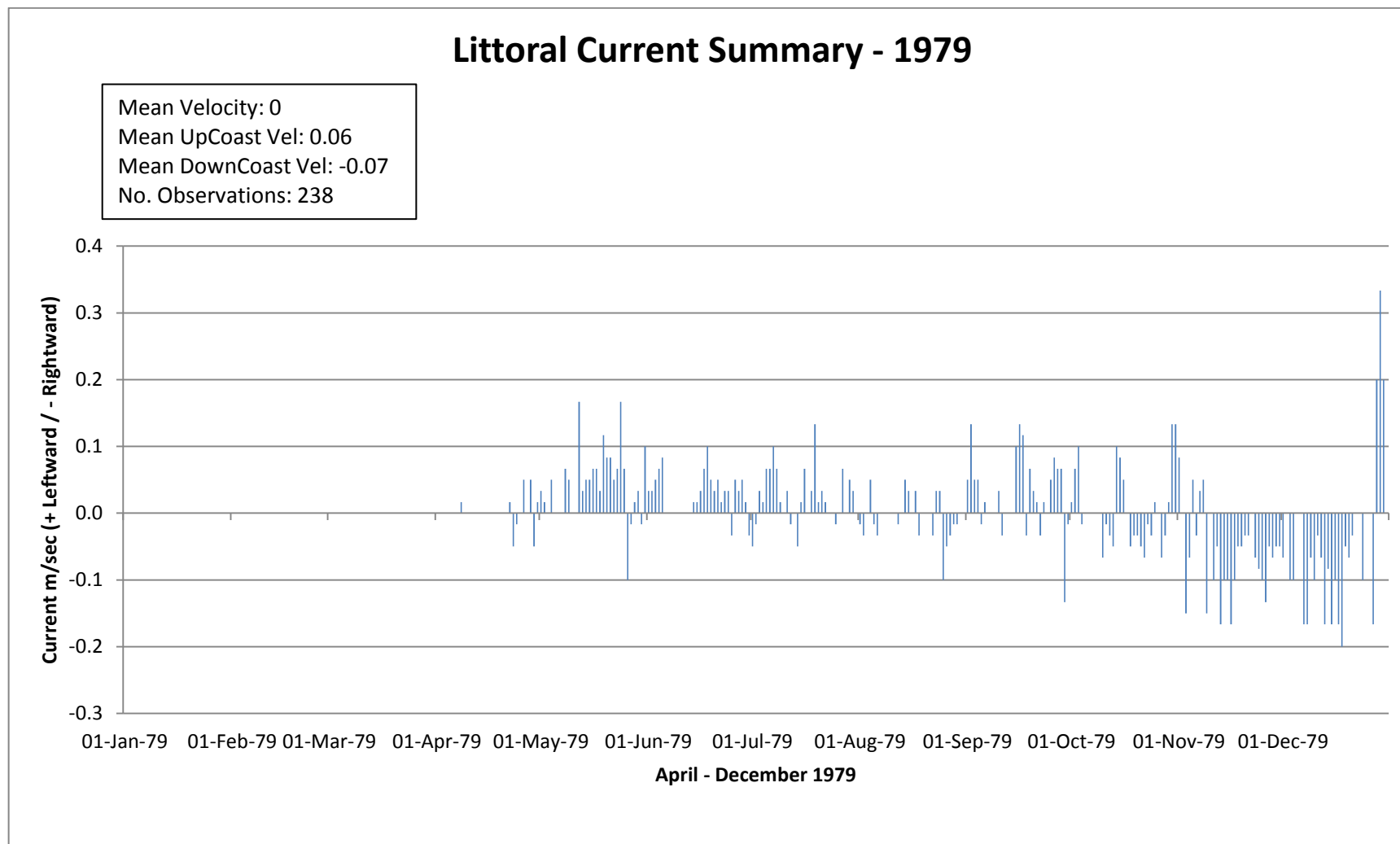


Figure 21 Littoral Current Summary 1979



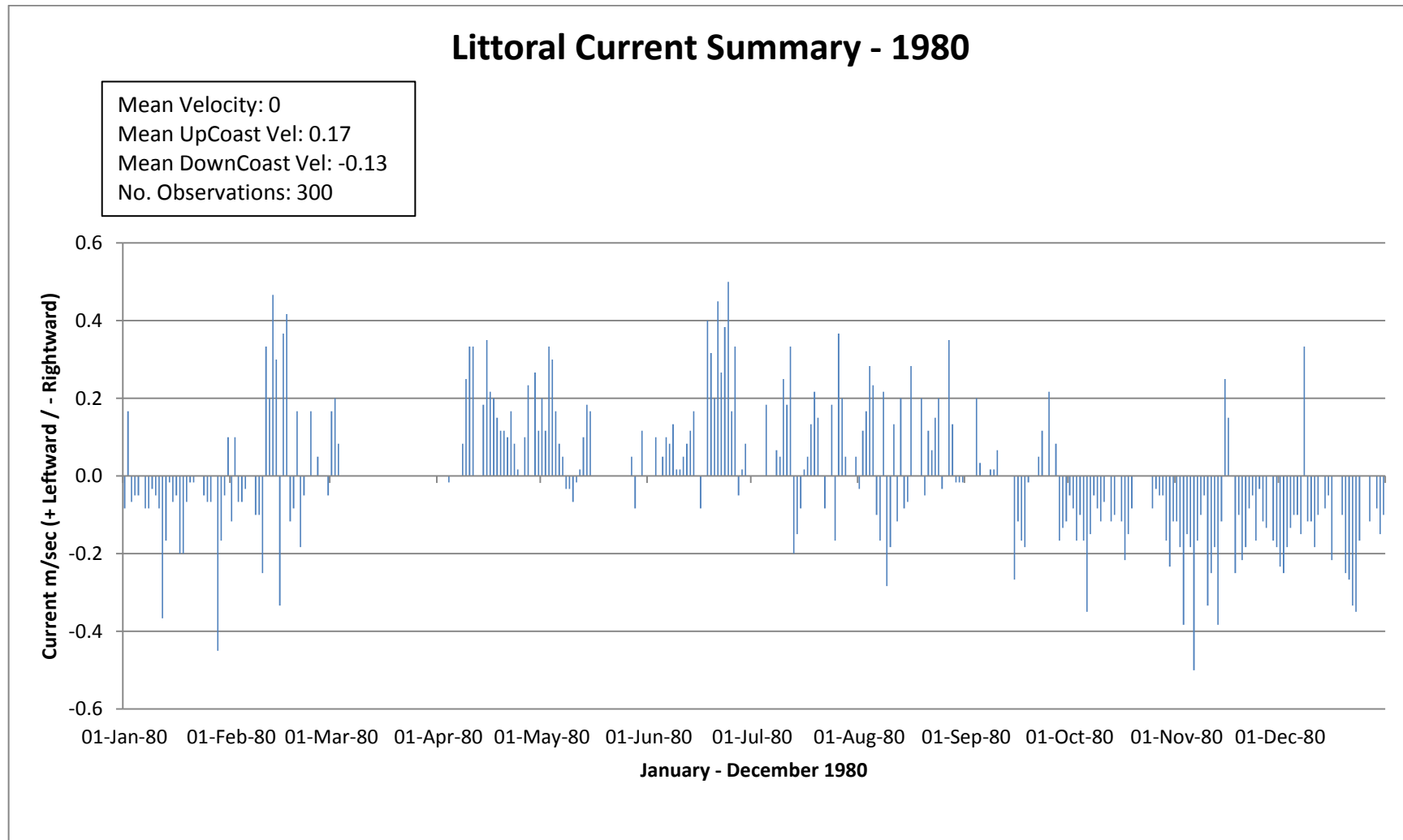


Figure 22 Littoral Current Summary 1980



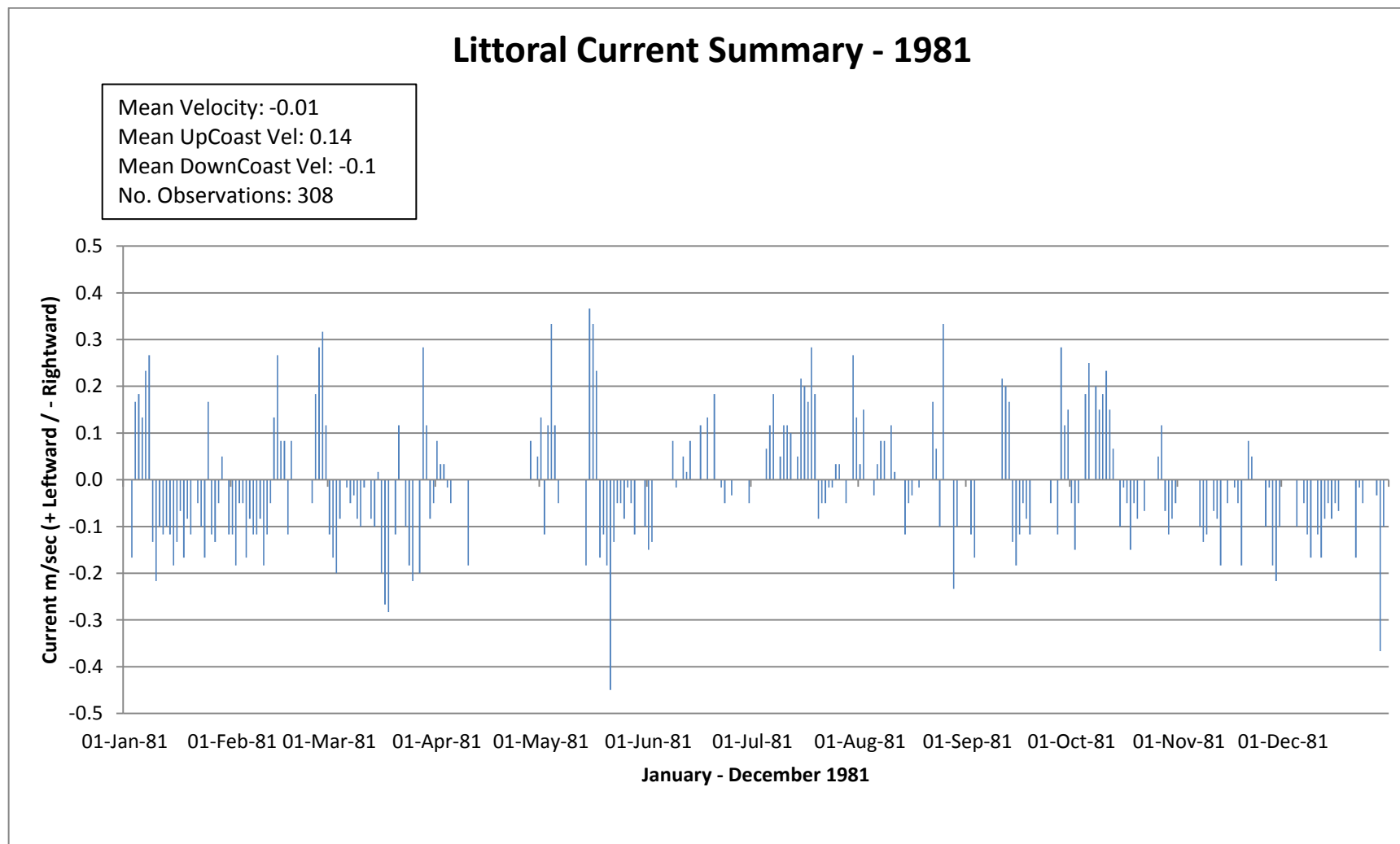


Figure 23 Littoral Current Summary 1981



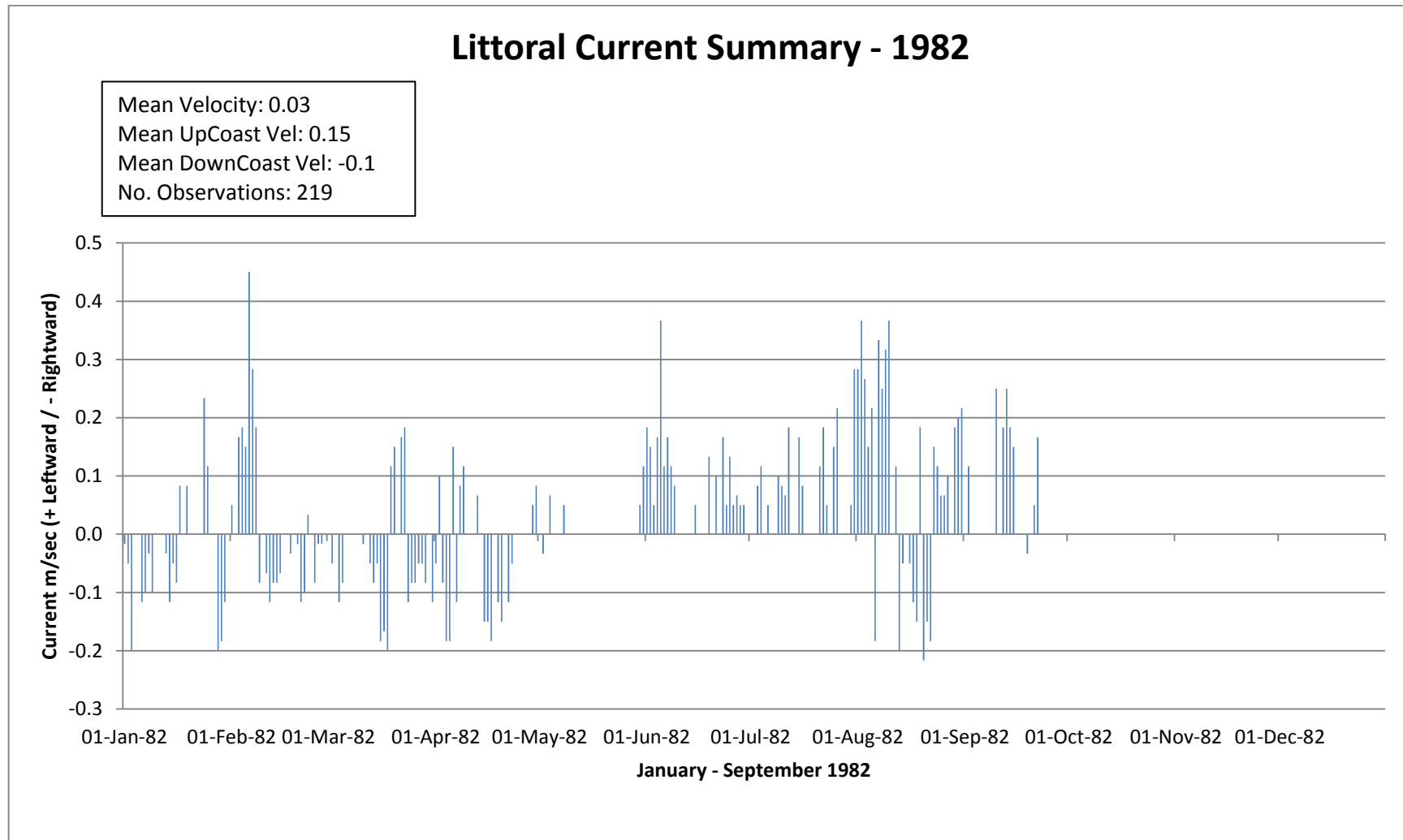


Figure 24 Littoral Current Summary 1982



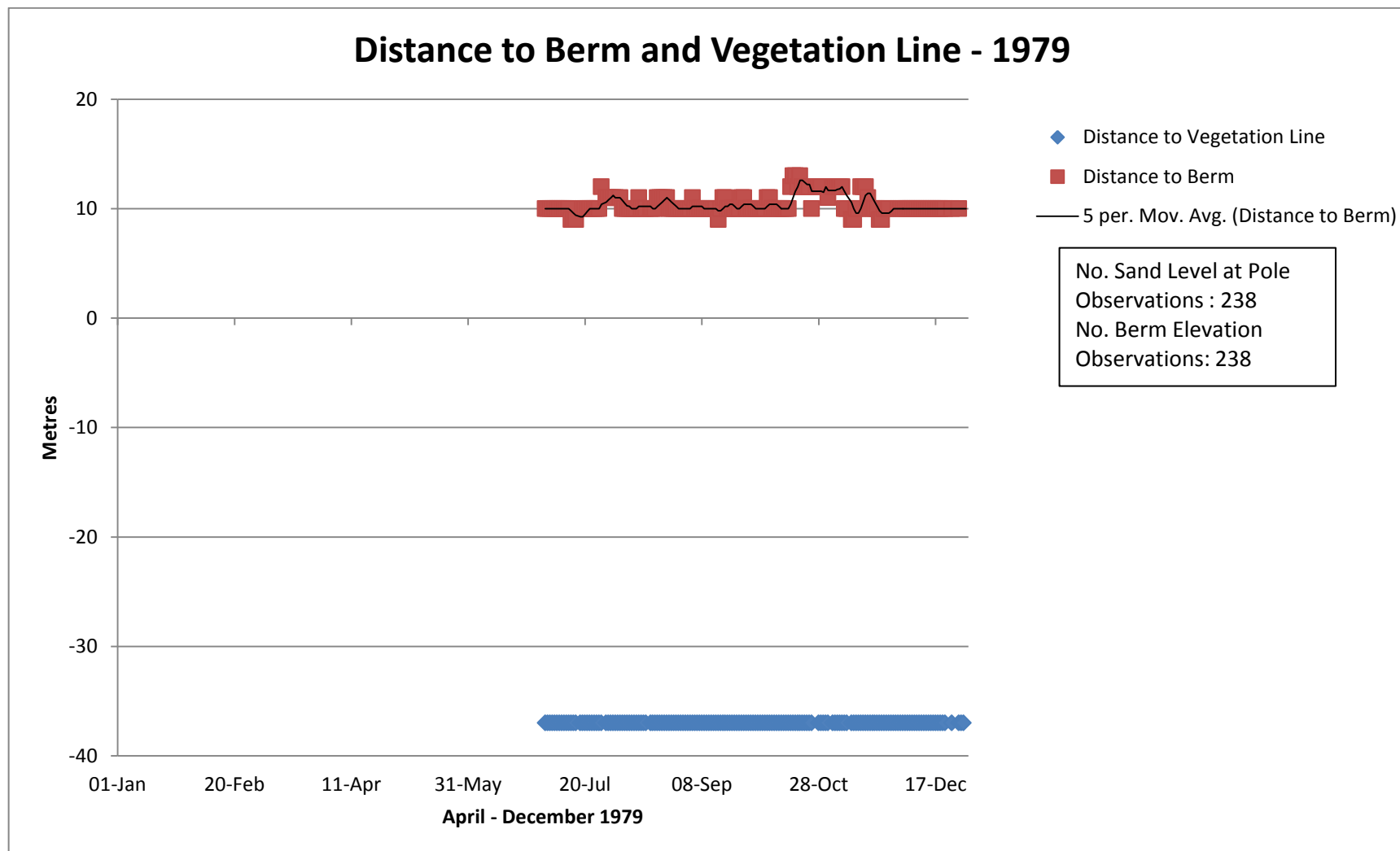


Figure 25 Beach profile parameters – Distance to berm and vegetation line- 1979



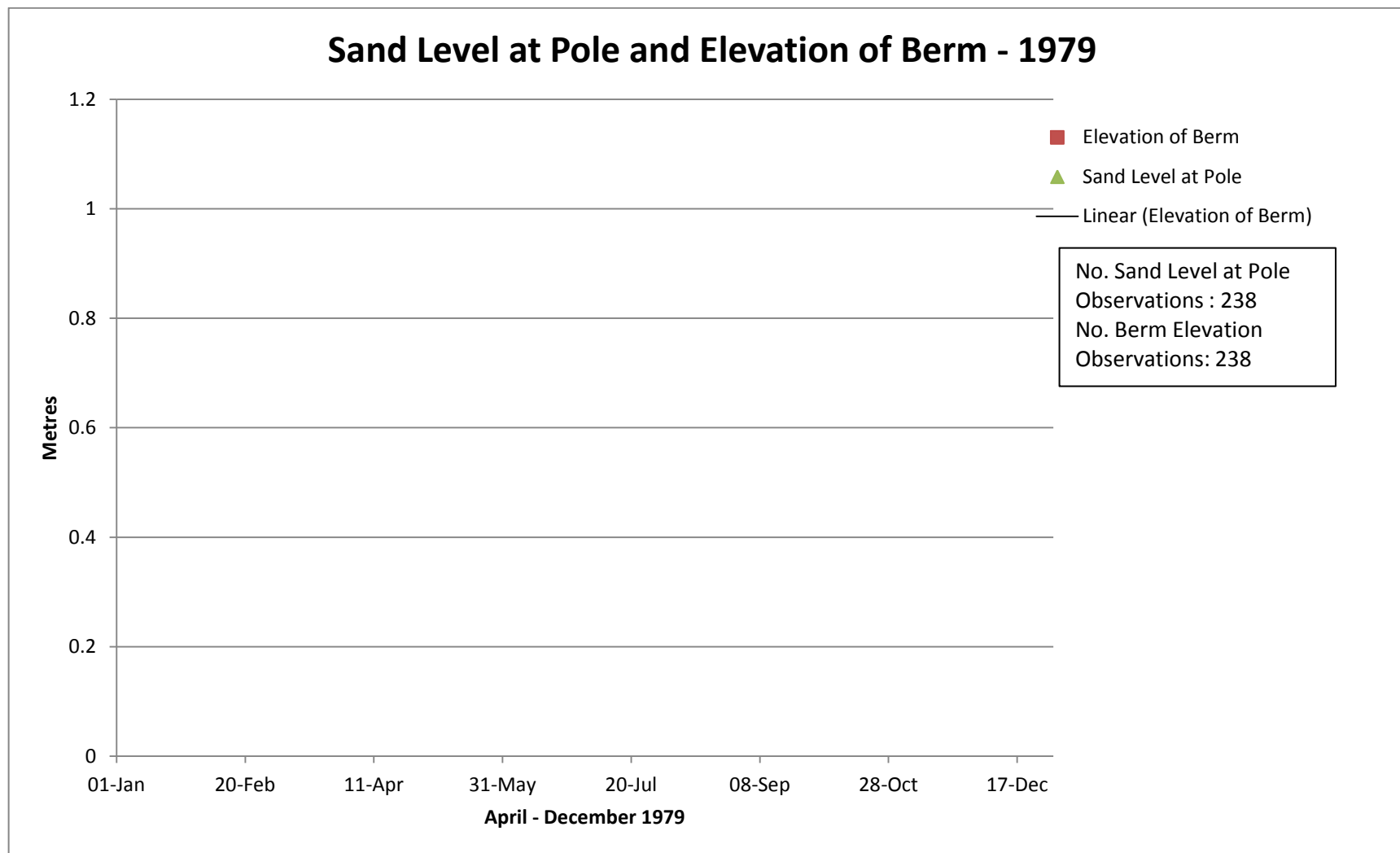


Figure 26 Beach profile parameters – Sand level at pole and elevation of berm- 1979



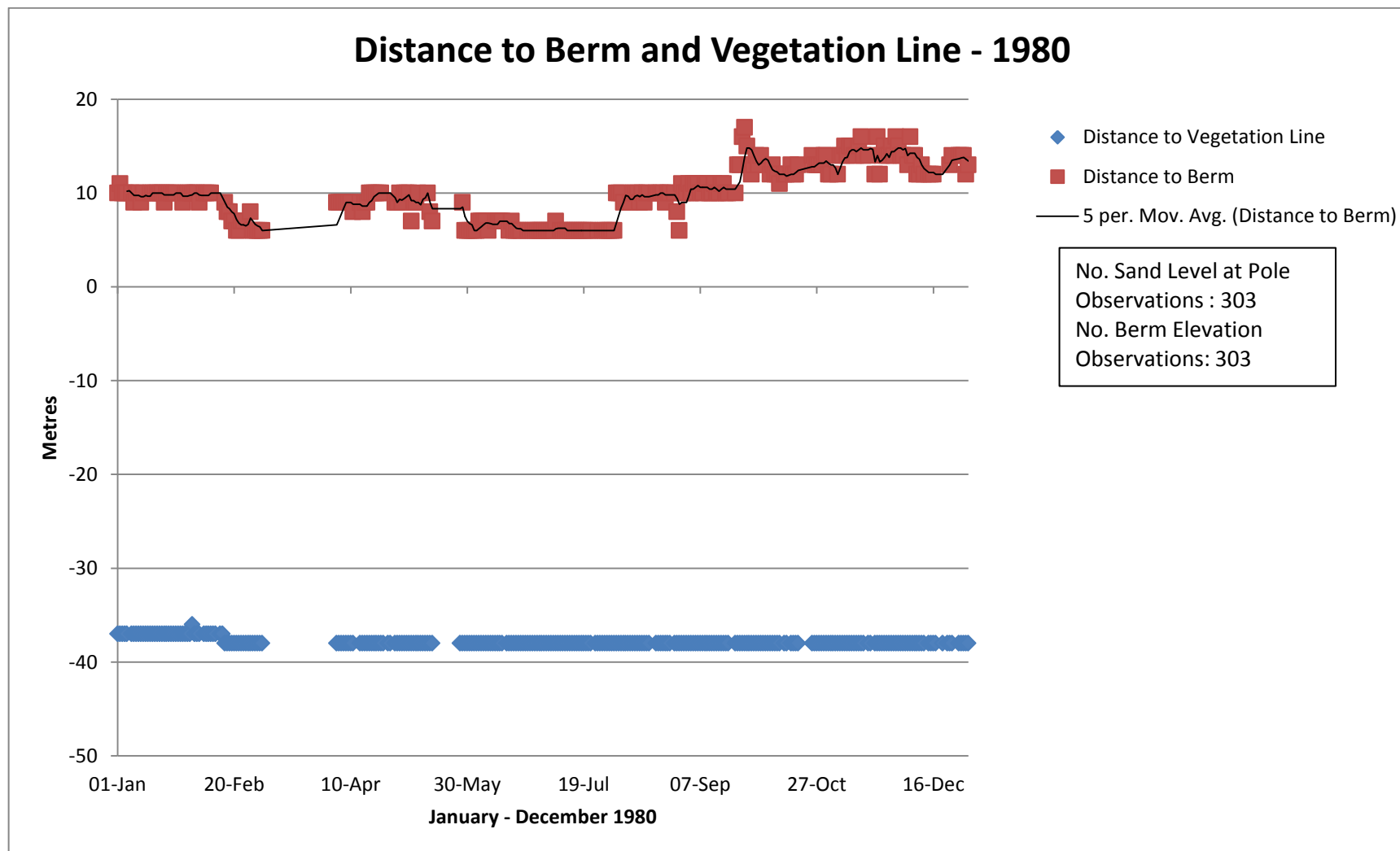


Figure 27 Beach profile parameters – Distance to berm and vegetation line- 1980



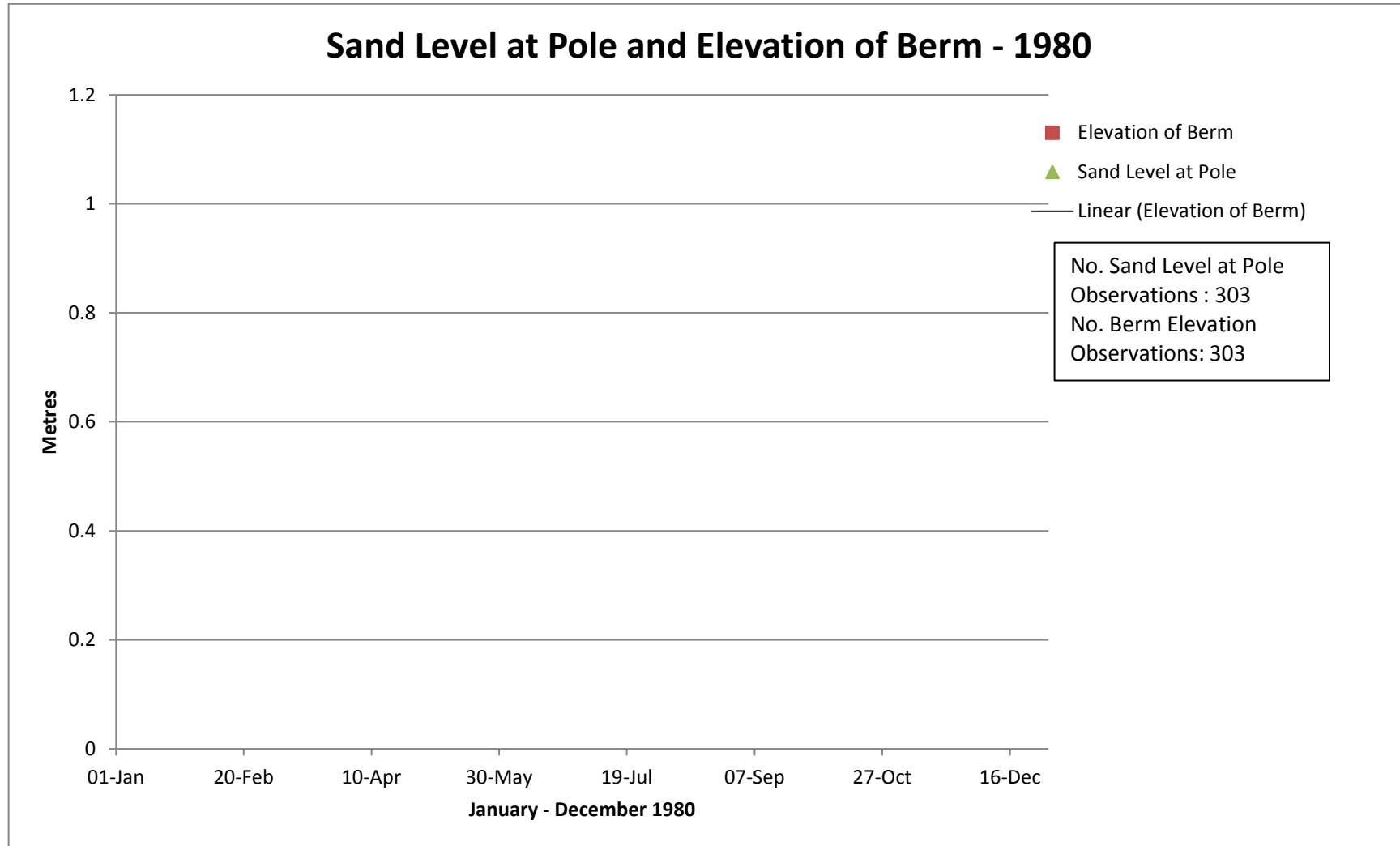


Figure 28 Beach profile parameters – Sand level at pole and elevation of berm- 1980



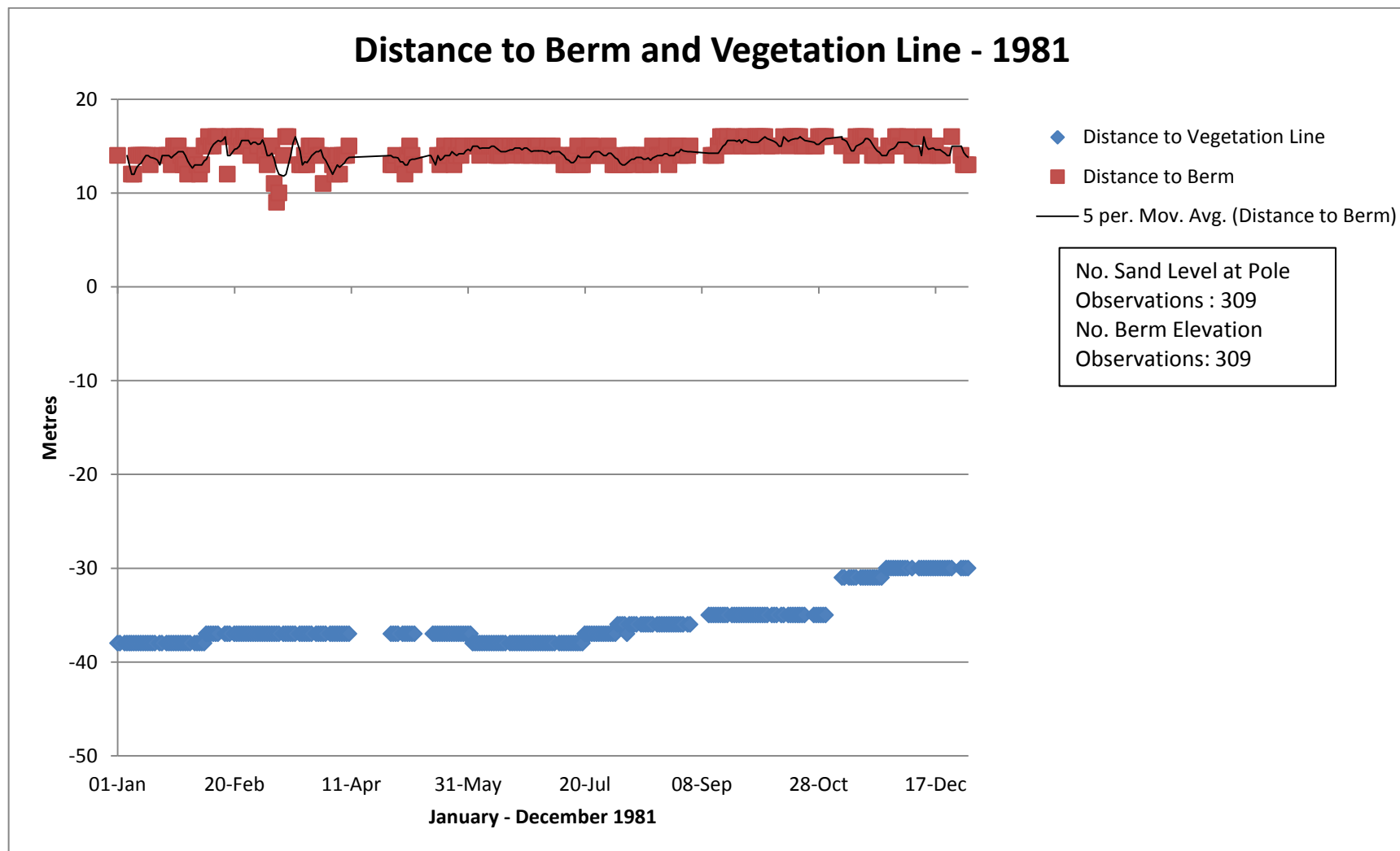


Figure 29 Beach profile parameters – Distance to berm and vegetation line- 1981



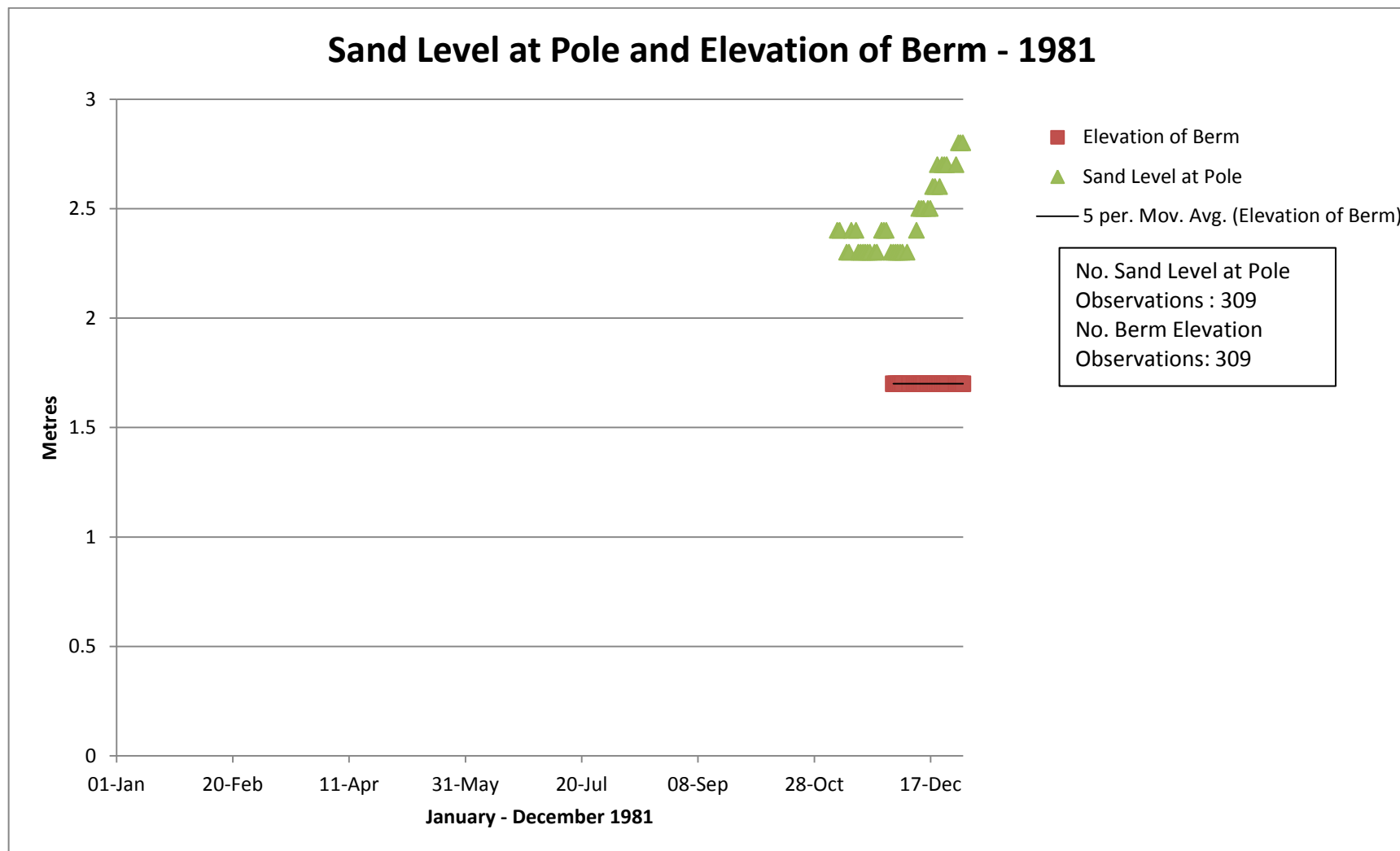


Figure 30 Beach profile parameters – Sand level at pole and elevation of berm- 1981



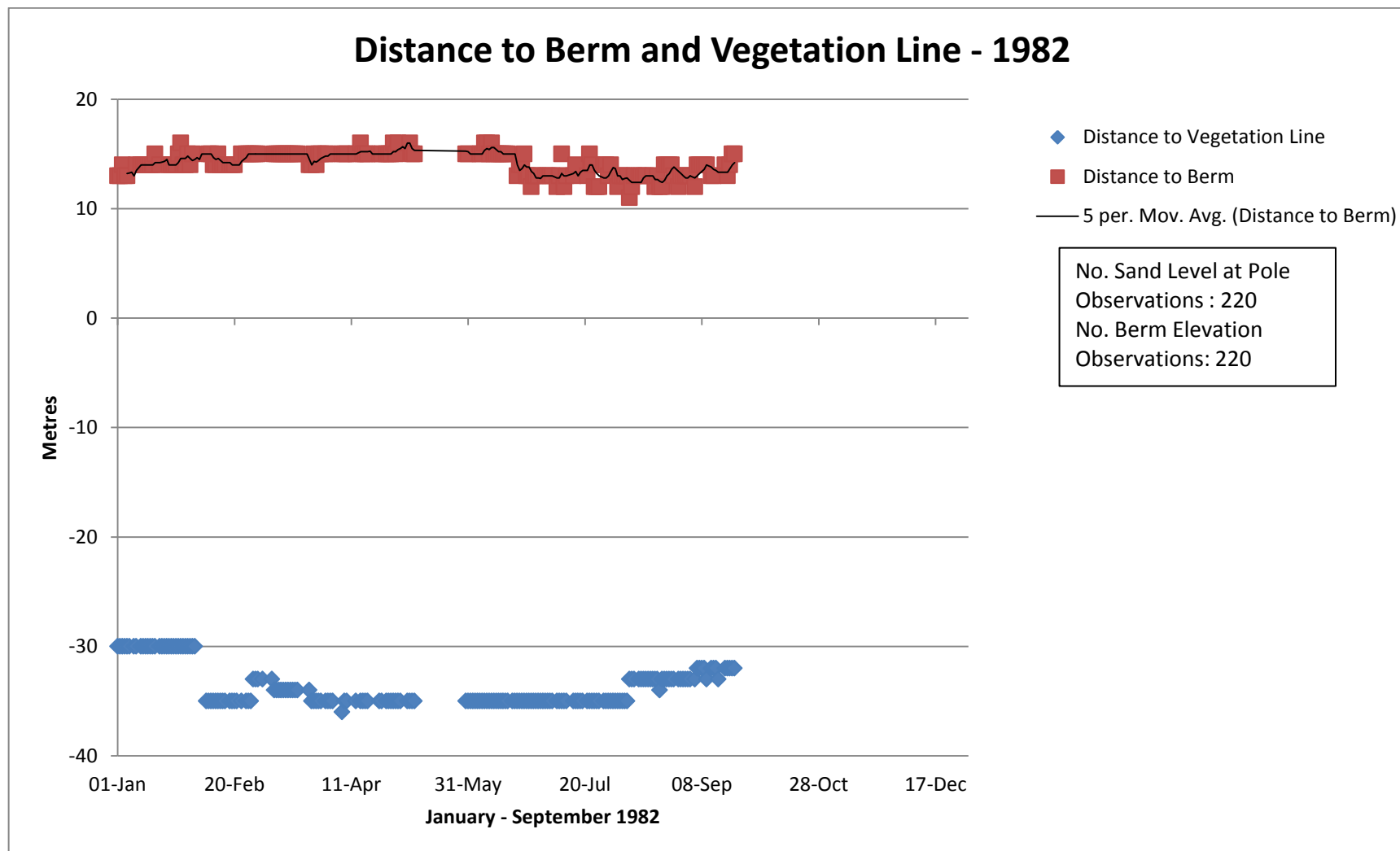


Figure 31 Beach profile parameters – Distance to berm and vegetation line- 1982



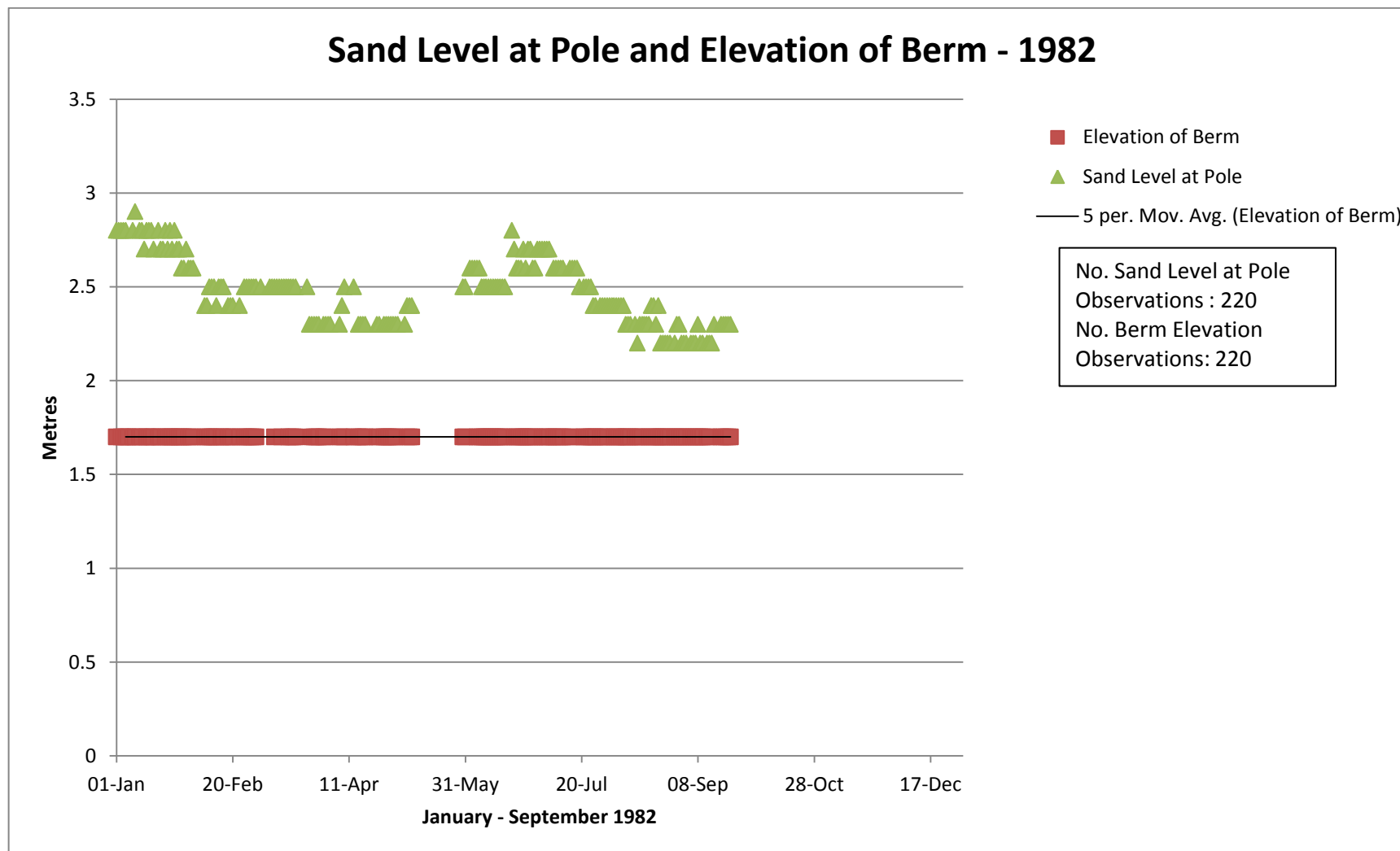


Figure 32 Beach profile parameters – Sand level at pole and elevation of berm- 1982



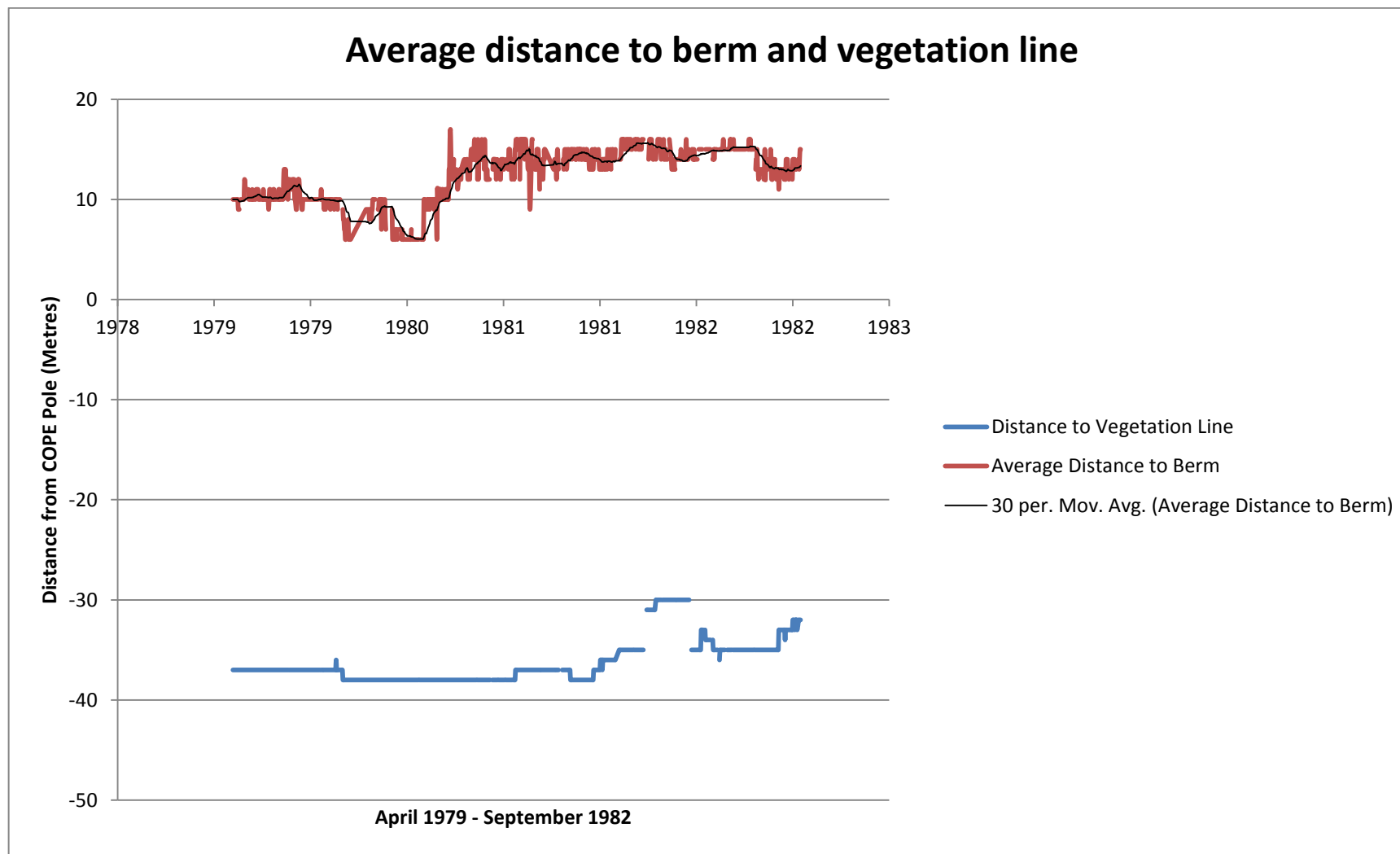


Figure 33 Average distance to berm and vegetation line



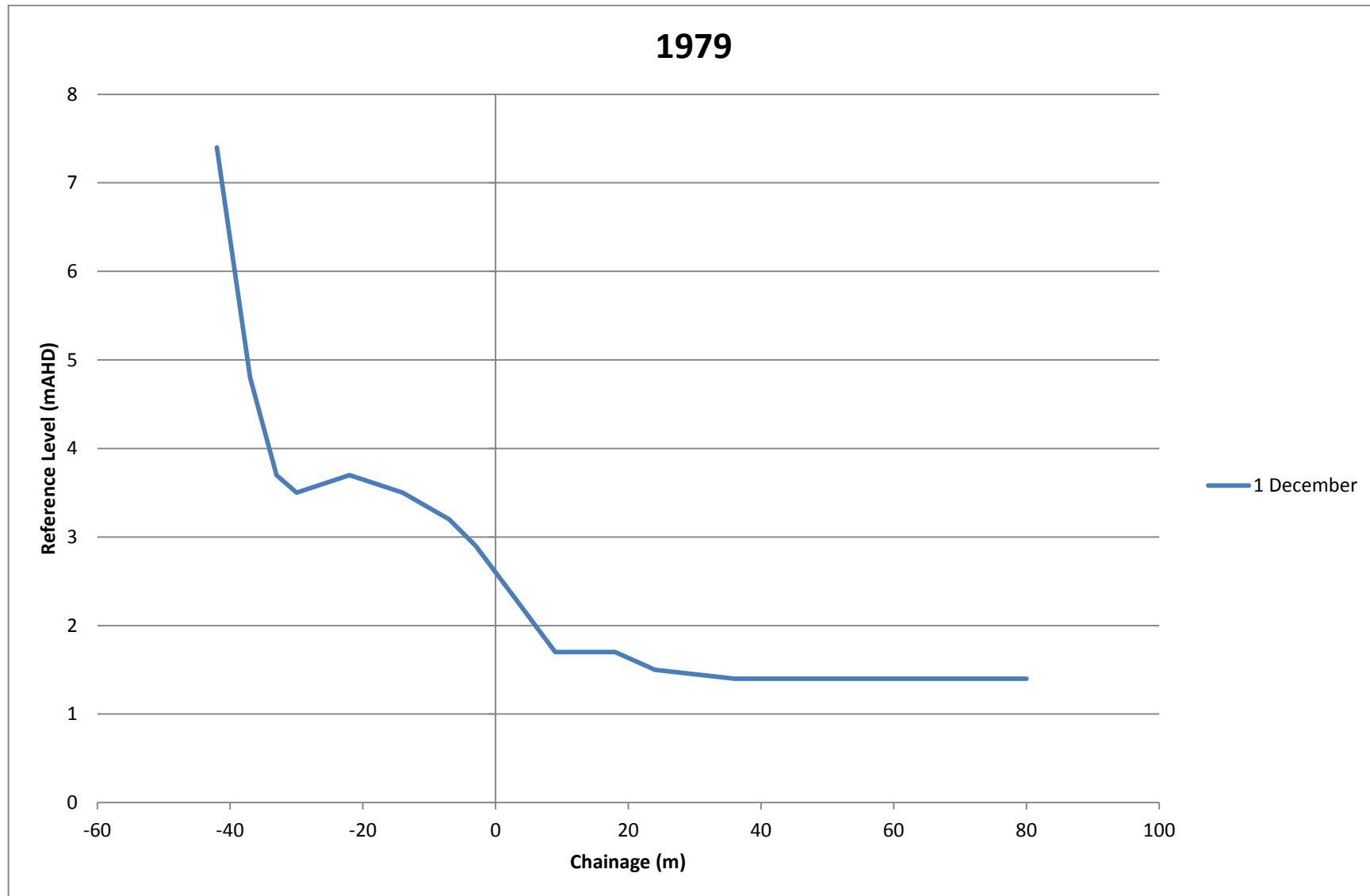


Figure 34 Monthly beach profile – 1979



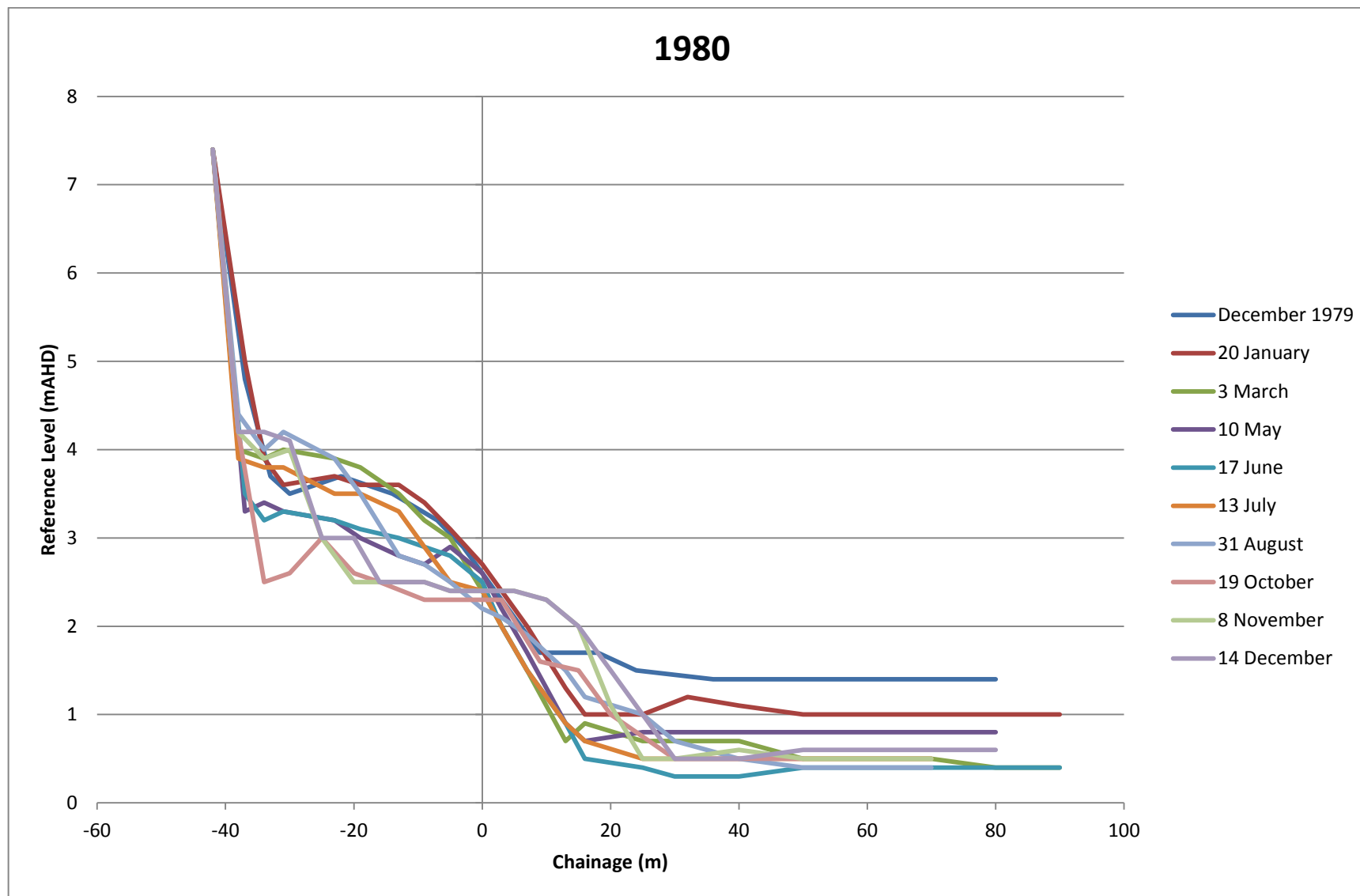


Figure 35 Monthly beach profile – 1980



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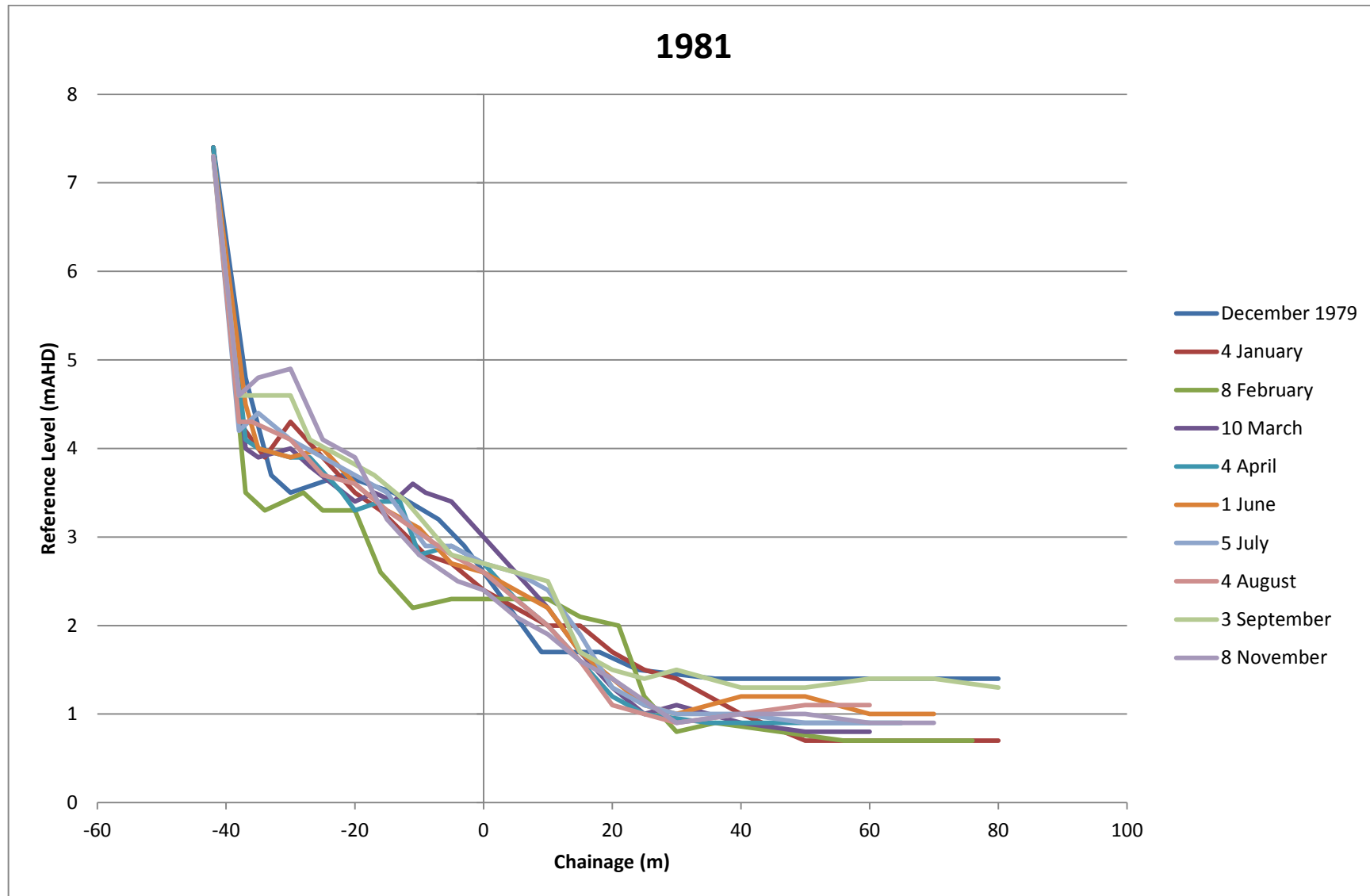


Figure 36 Monthly beach profile – 1981



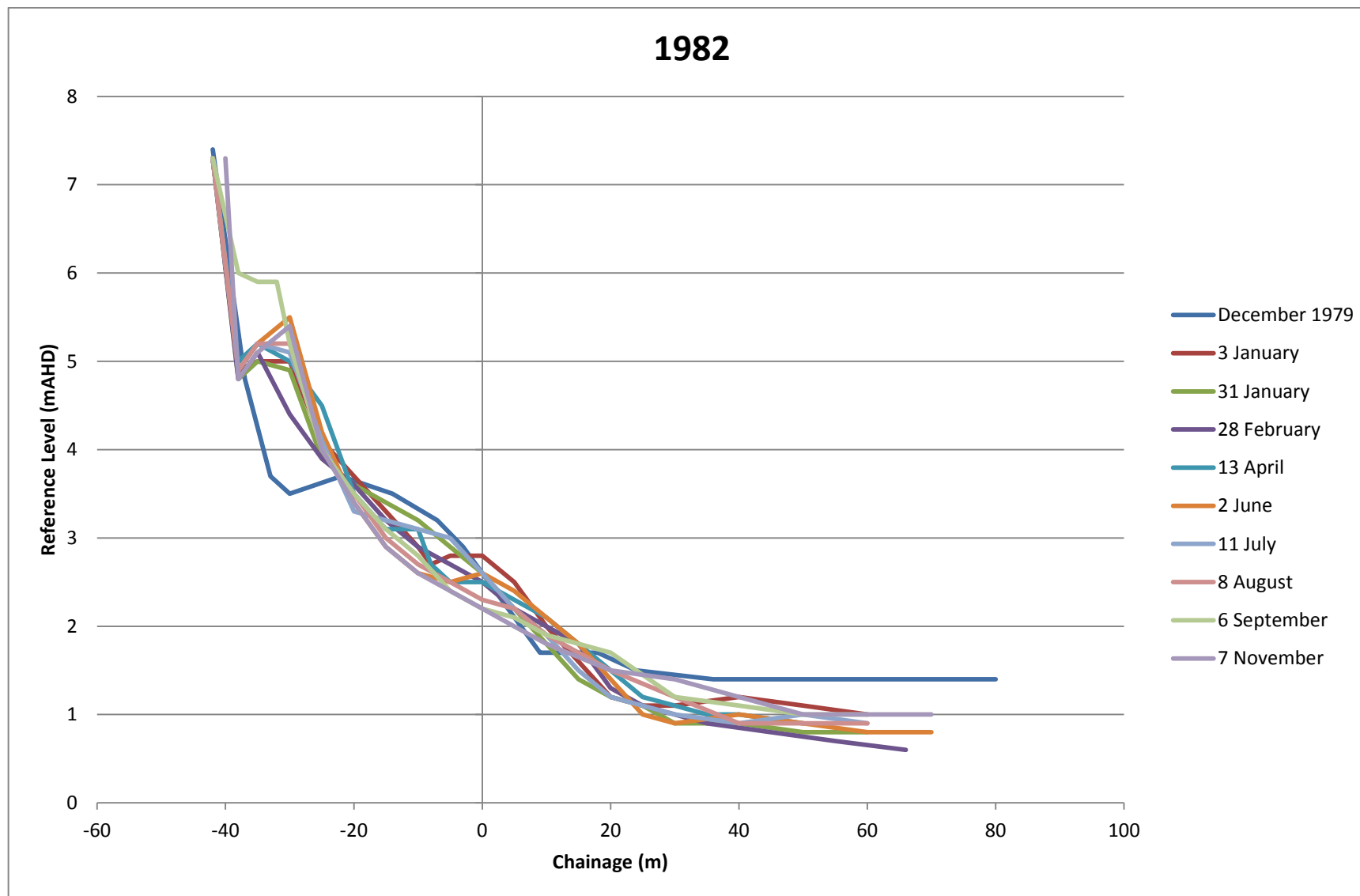


Figure 37 Monthly beach profile - 1982



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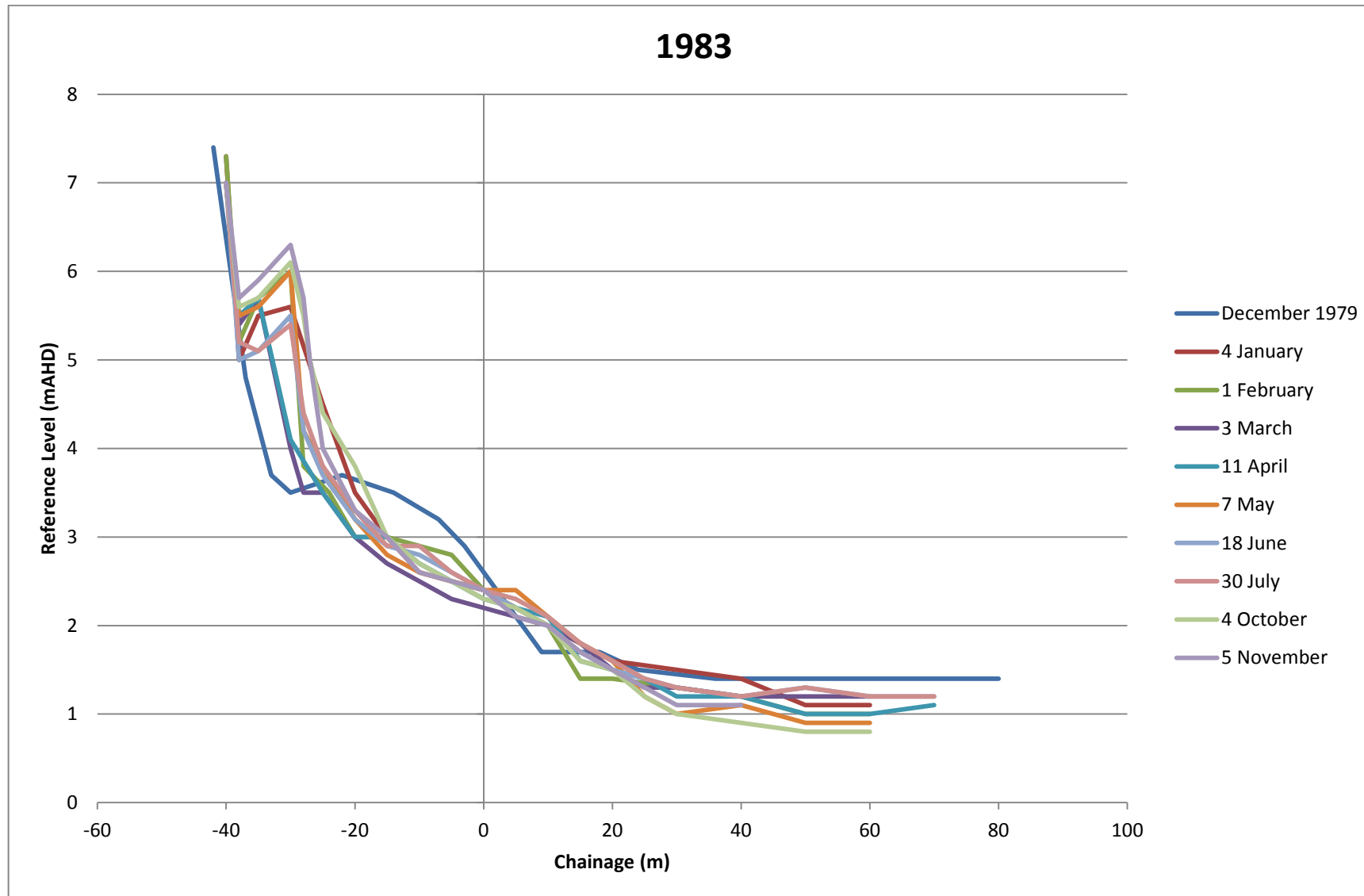


Figure 38 Monthly beach profile - 1983



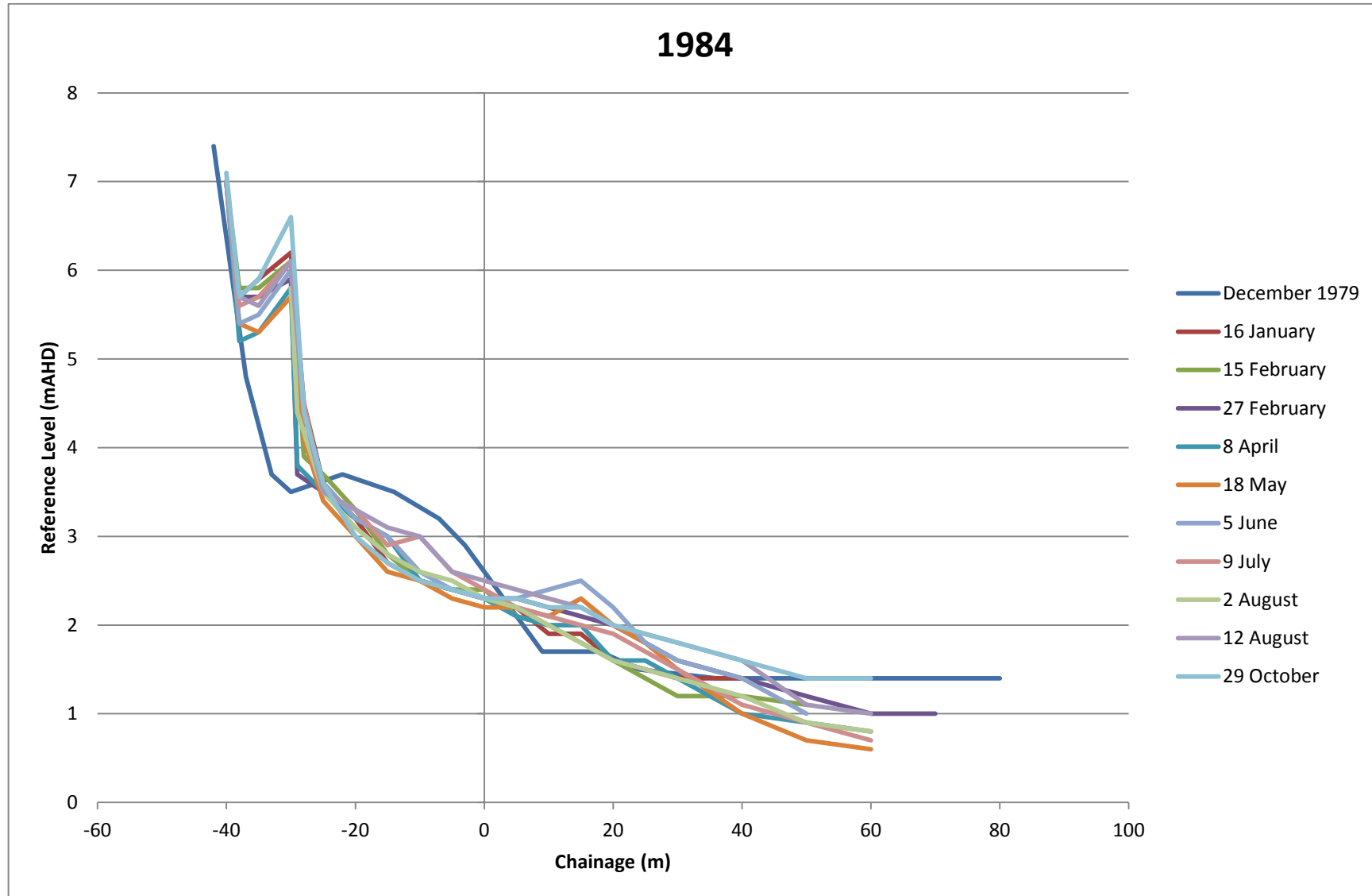


Figure 39 Monthly beach profile – 1984



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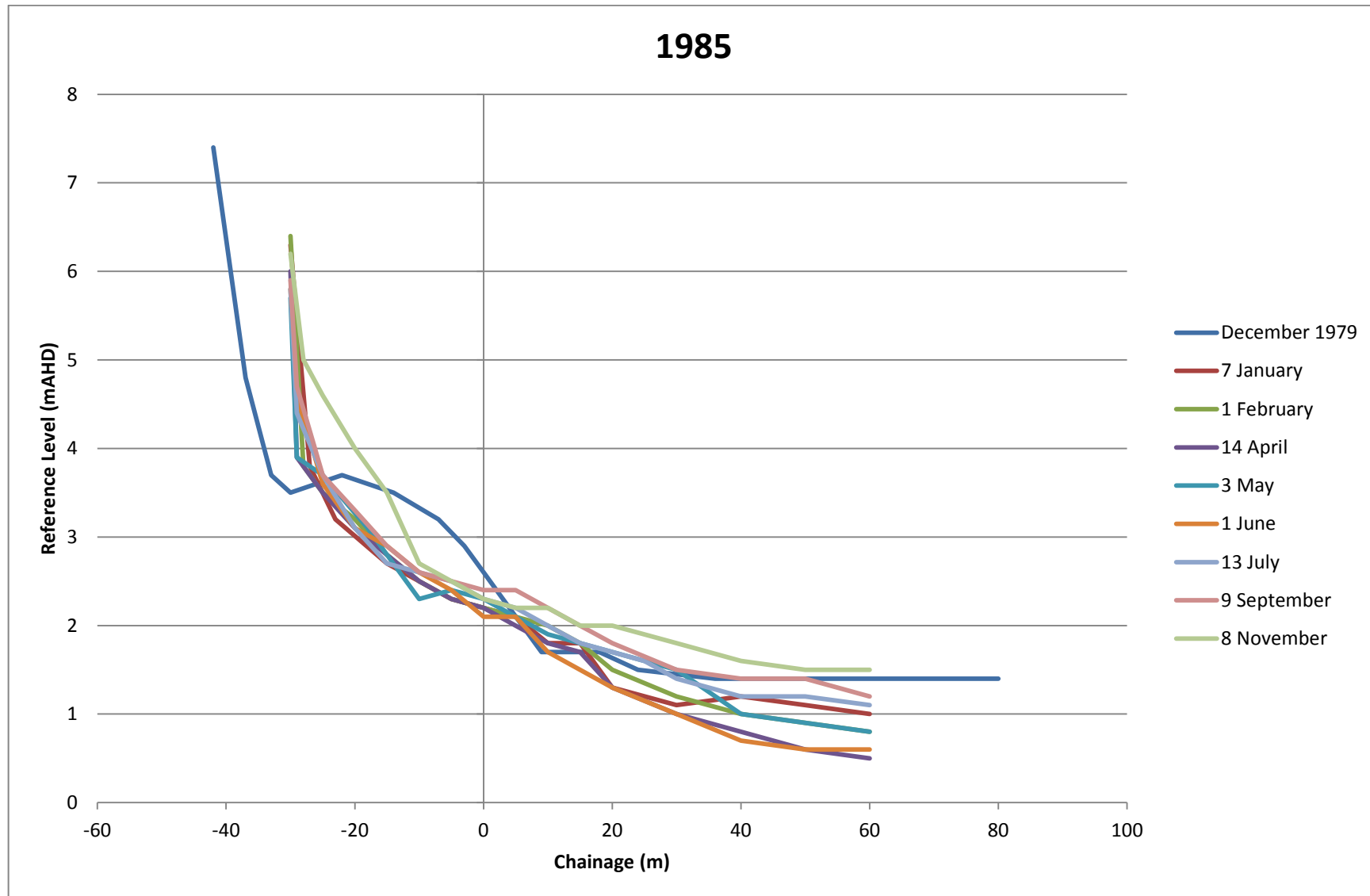


Figure 40 Monthly beach profile – 1985



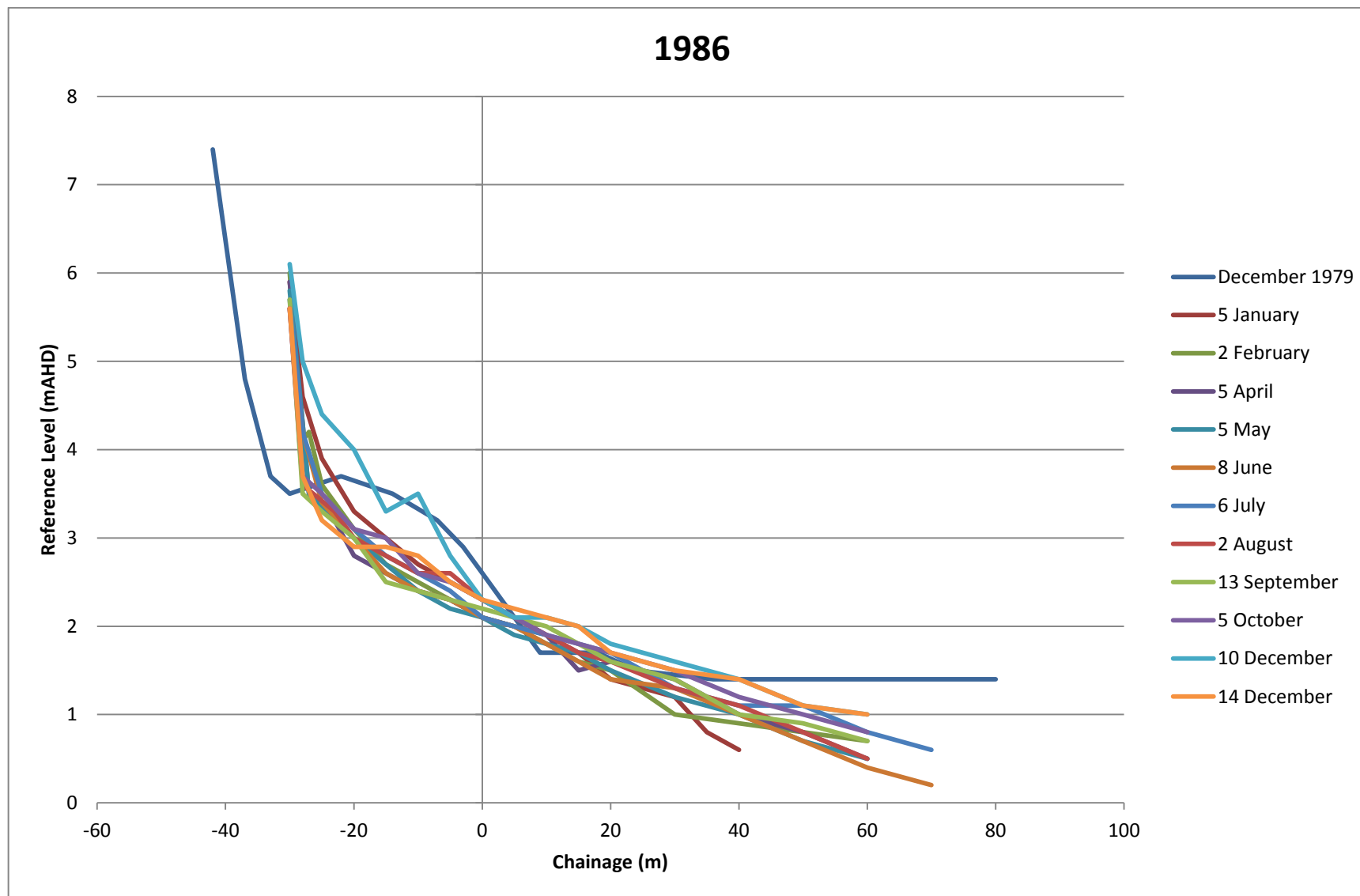


Figure 41 Monthly beach profile – 1986



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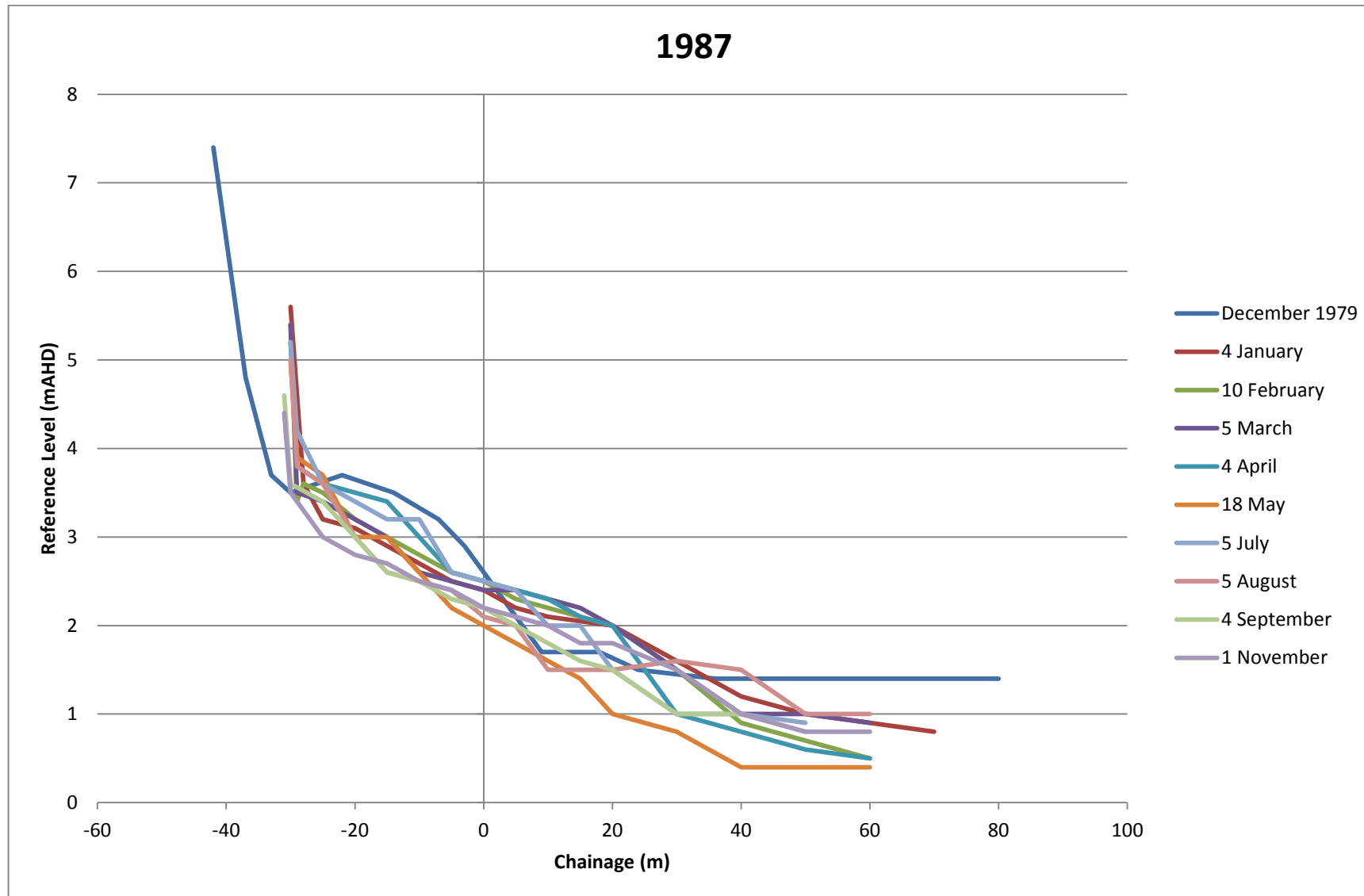


Figure 42 Monthly beach profile – 1987



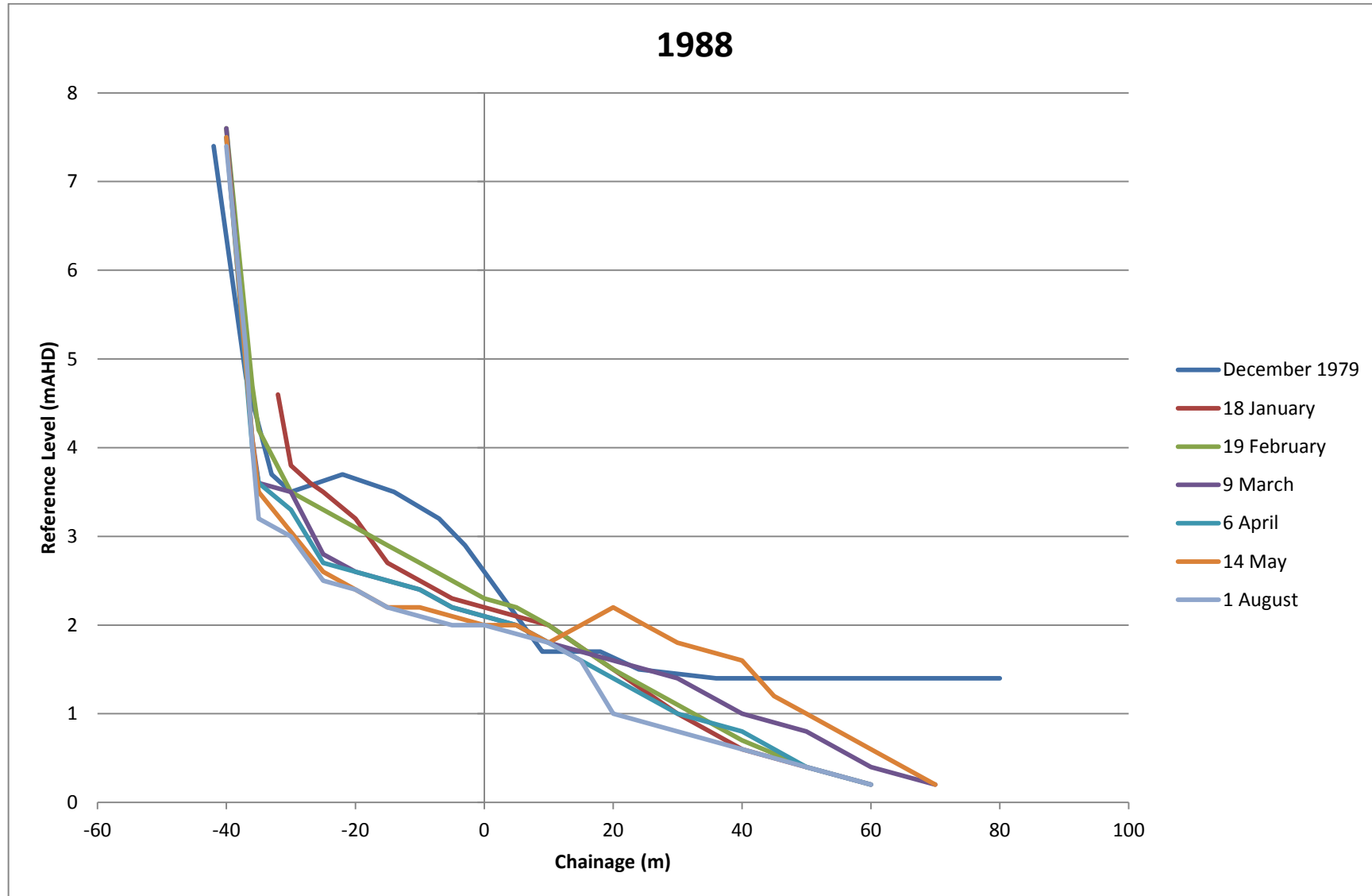


Figure 43 Monthly beach profile – 1988



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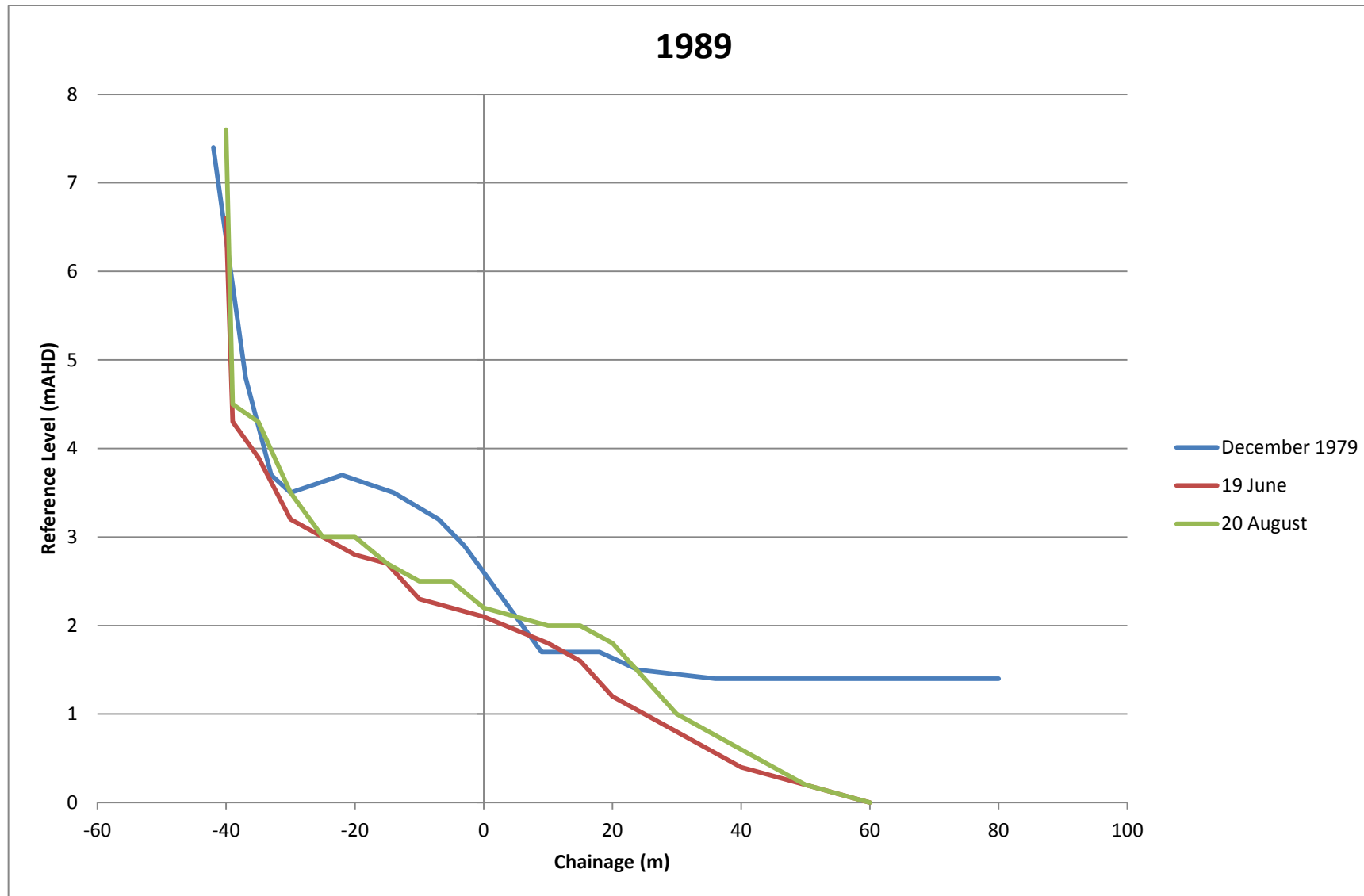


Figure 44 Monthly beach profile – 1989



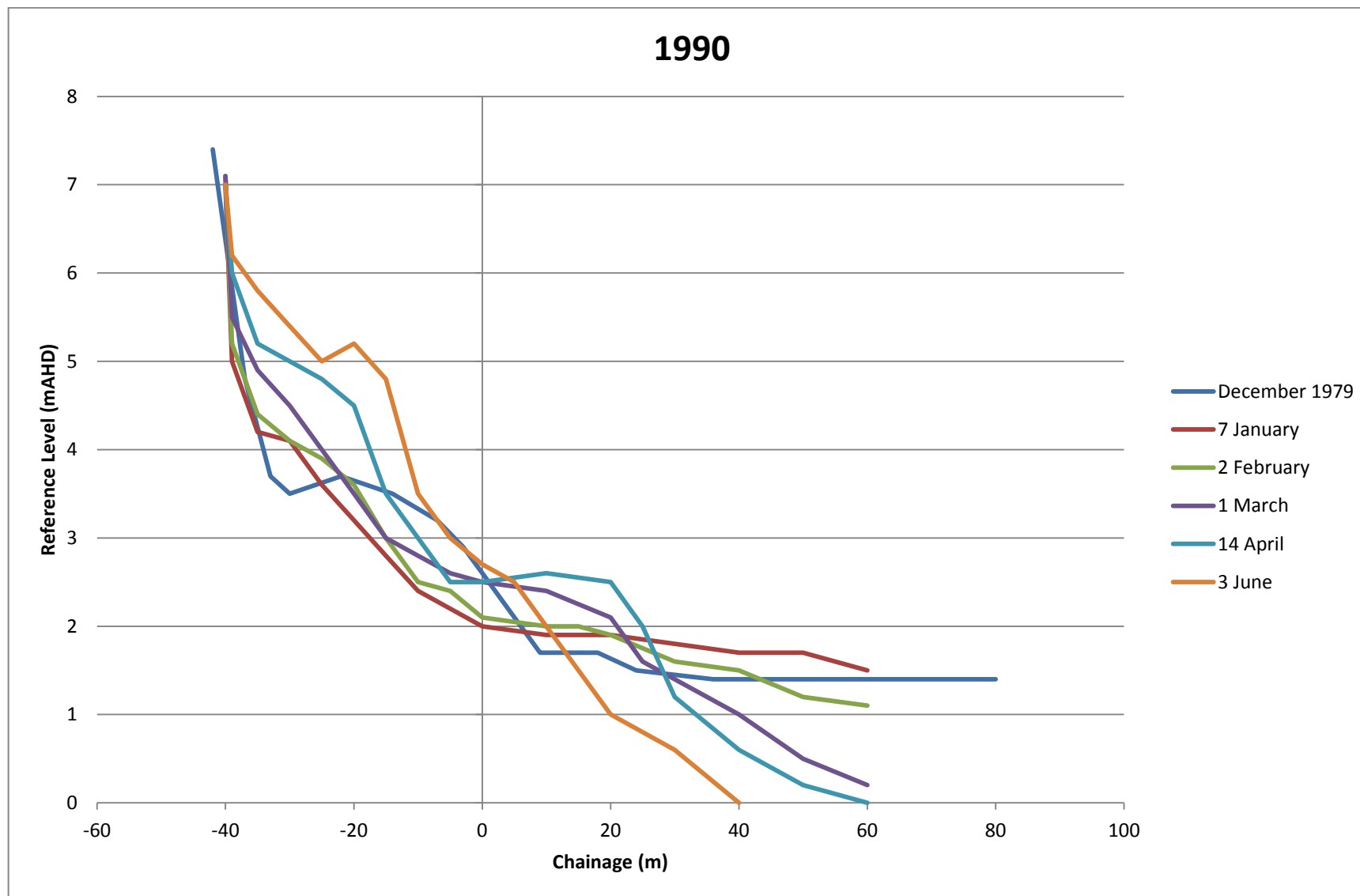


Figure 45 Monthly beach profile – 1990



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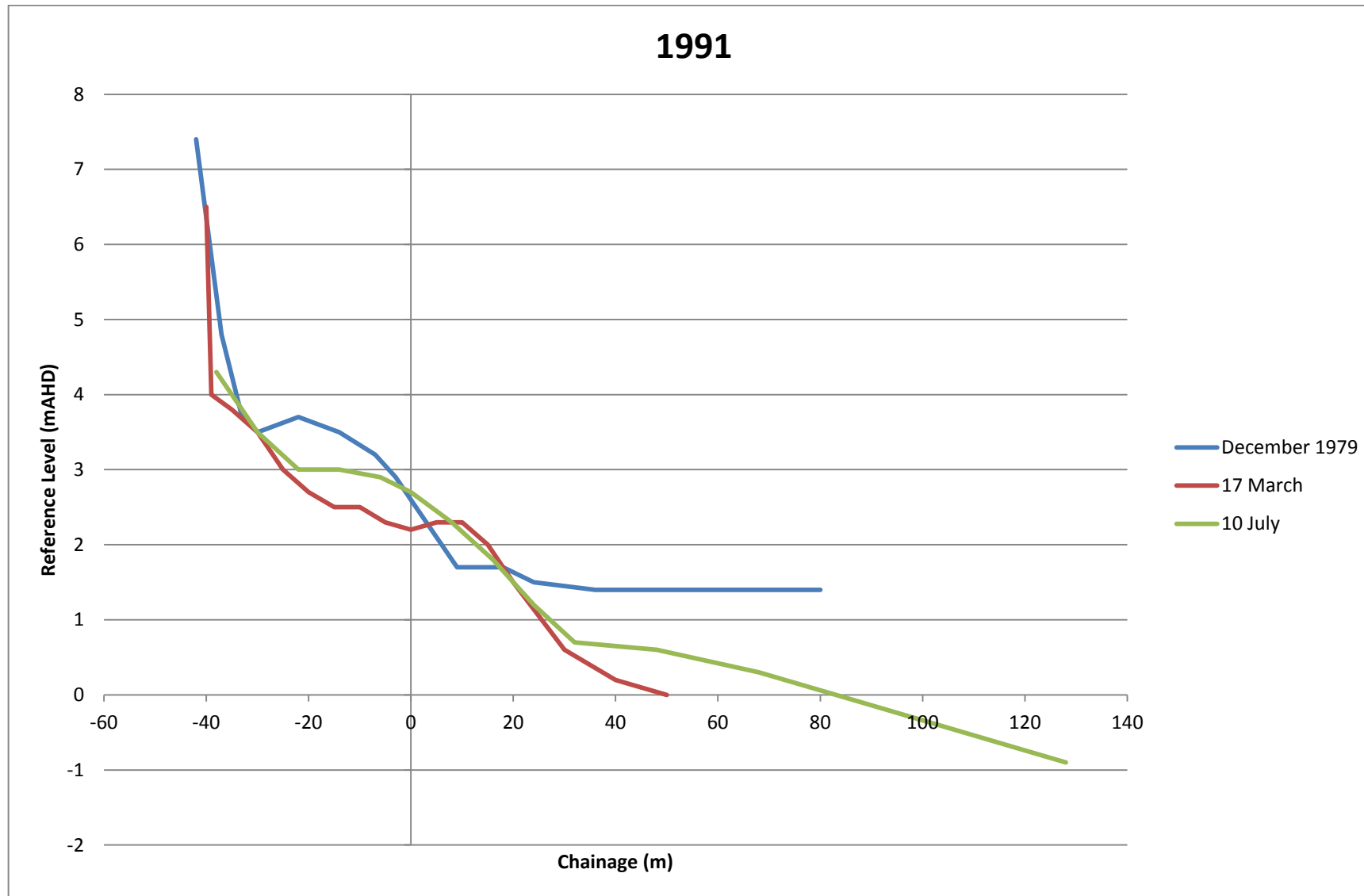


Figure 46 Monthly beach profile – 1991



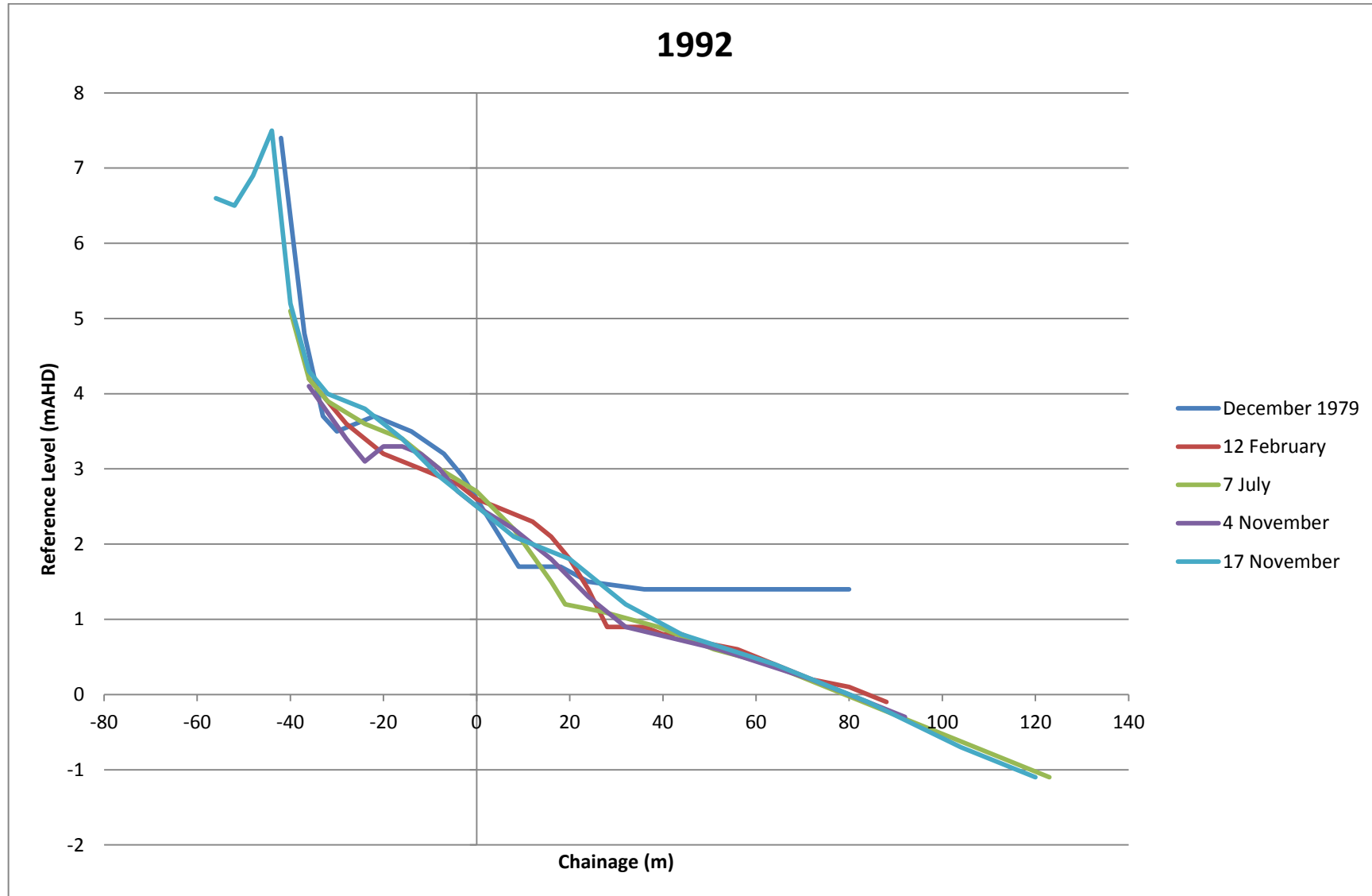


Figure 47 Monthly beach profile – 1992



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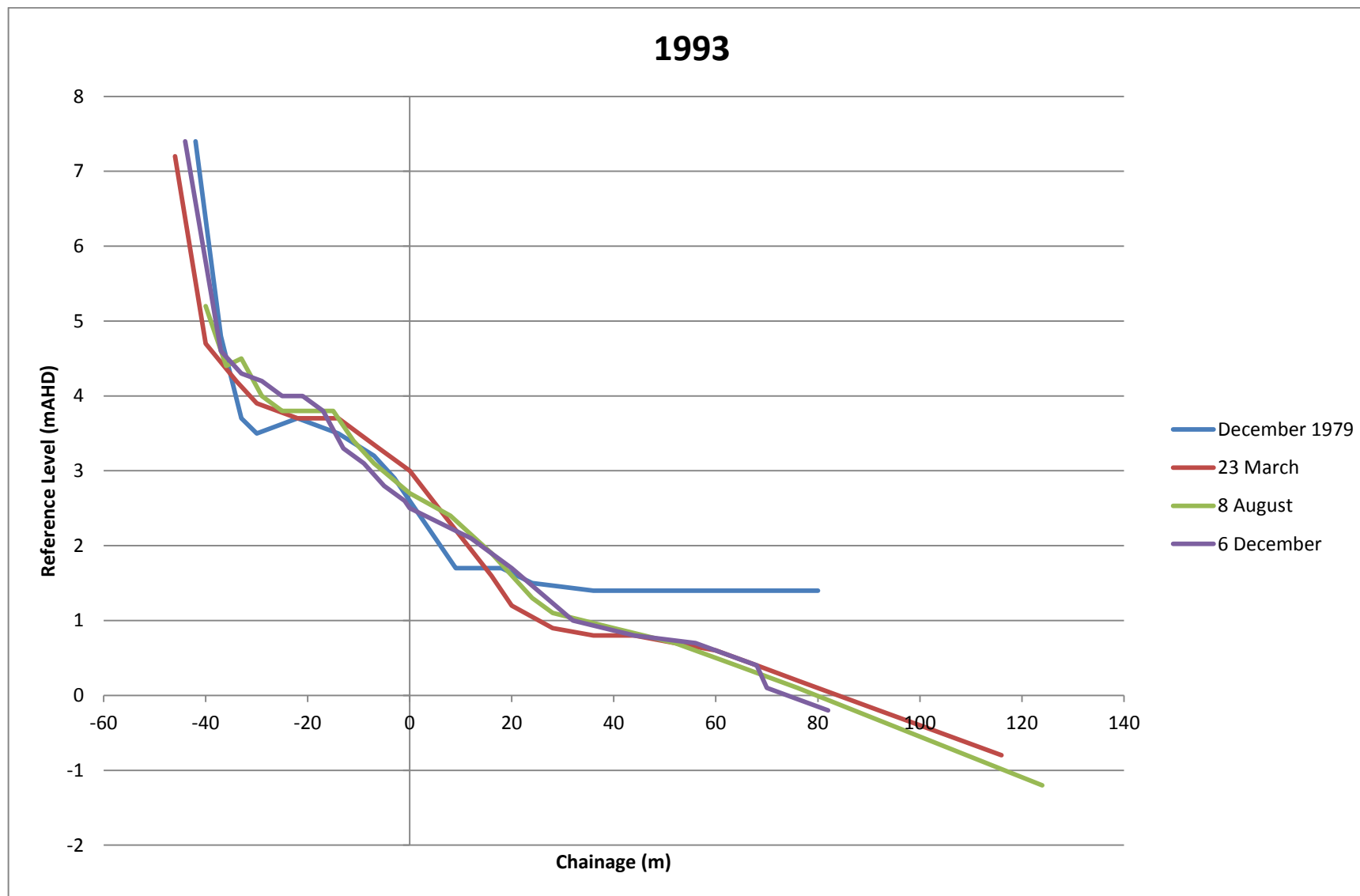


Figure 48 Monthly beach profile – 1993



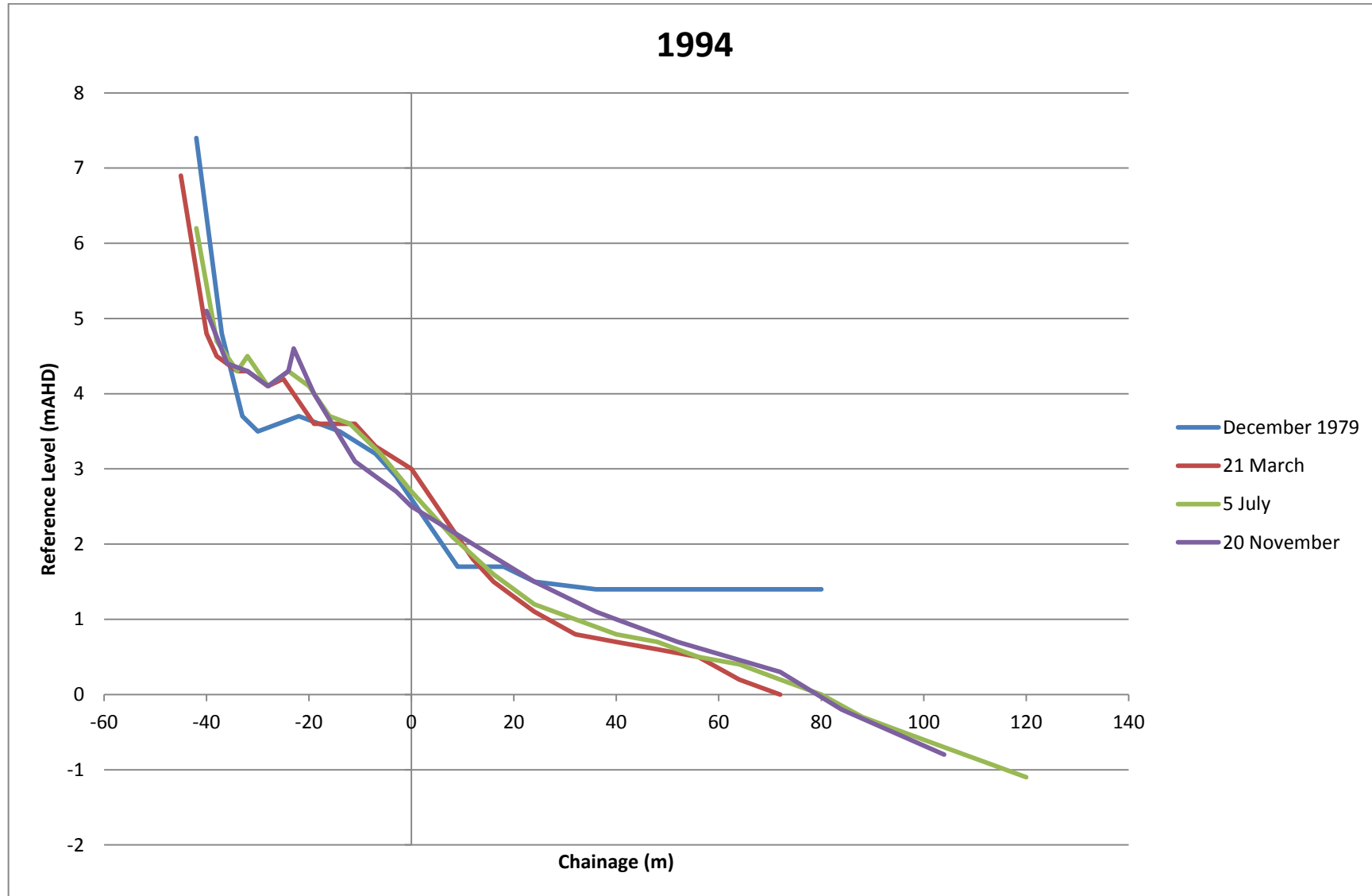


Figure 49 Monthly beach profile – 1994



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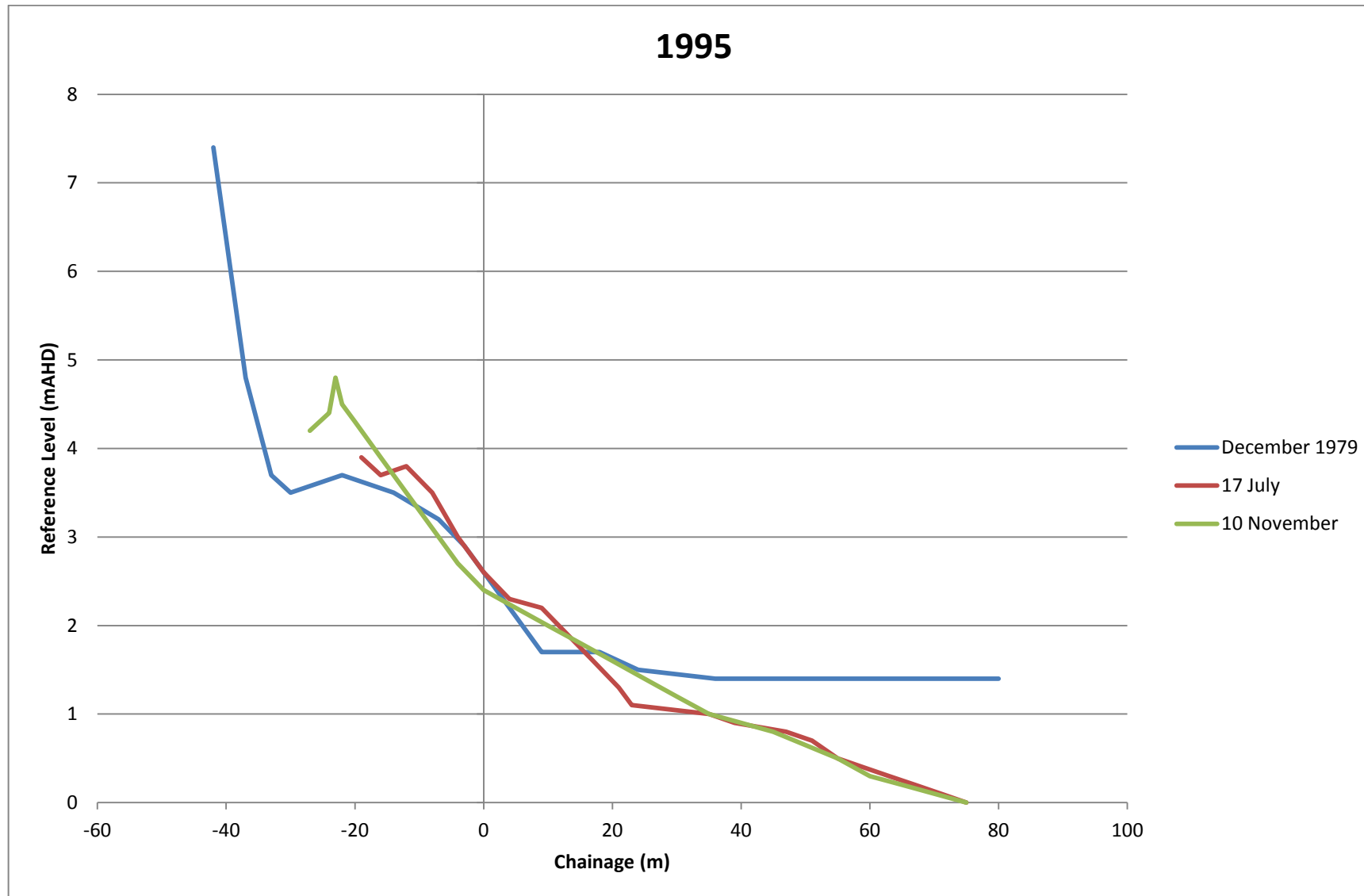


Figure 50 Monthly beach profile – 1995



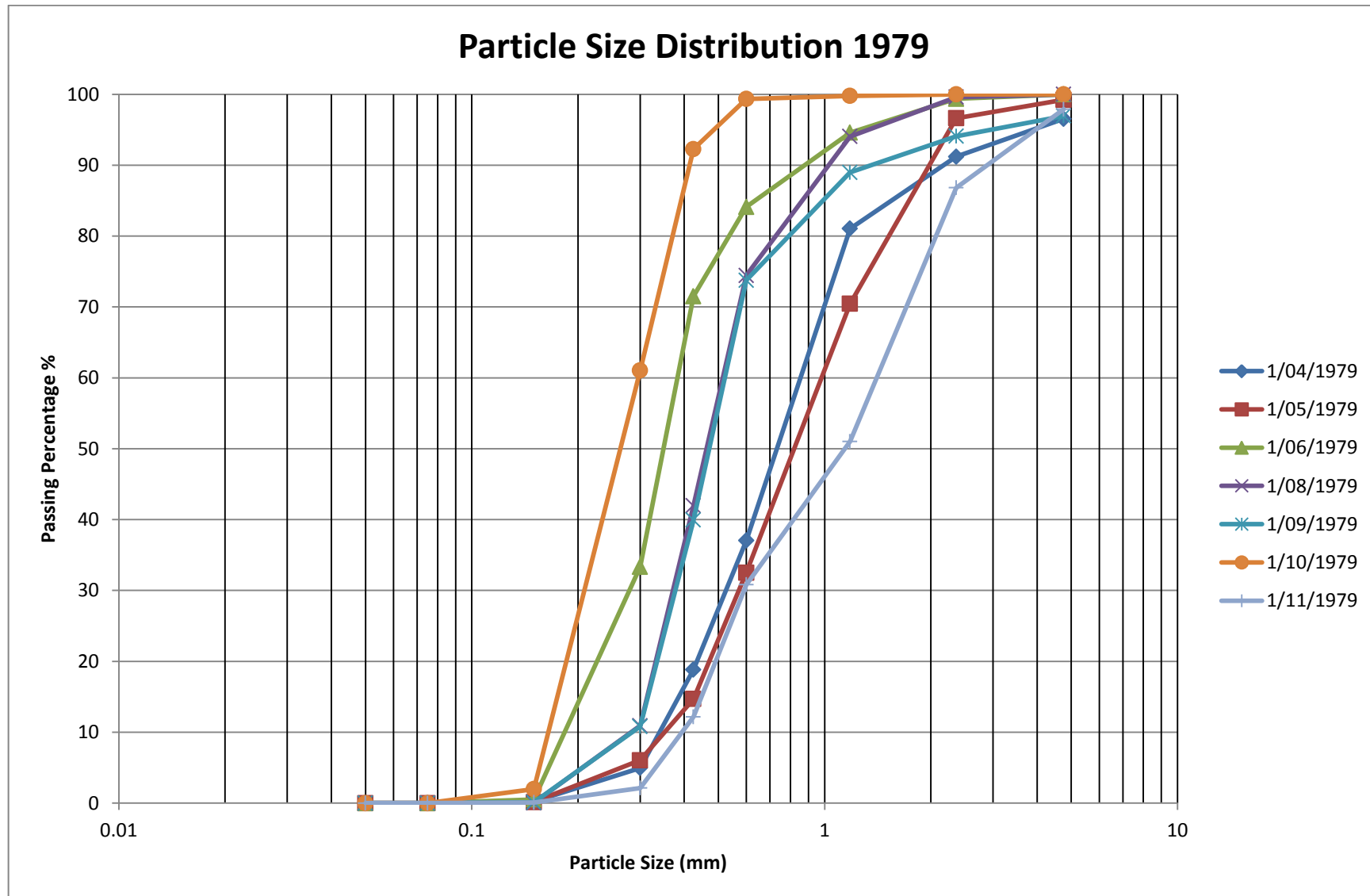


Figure 51 Particle size distribution 1979



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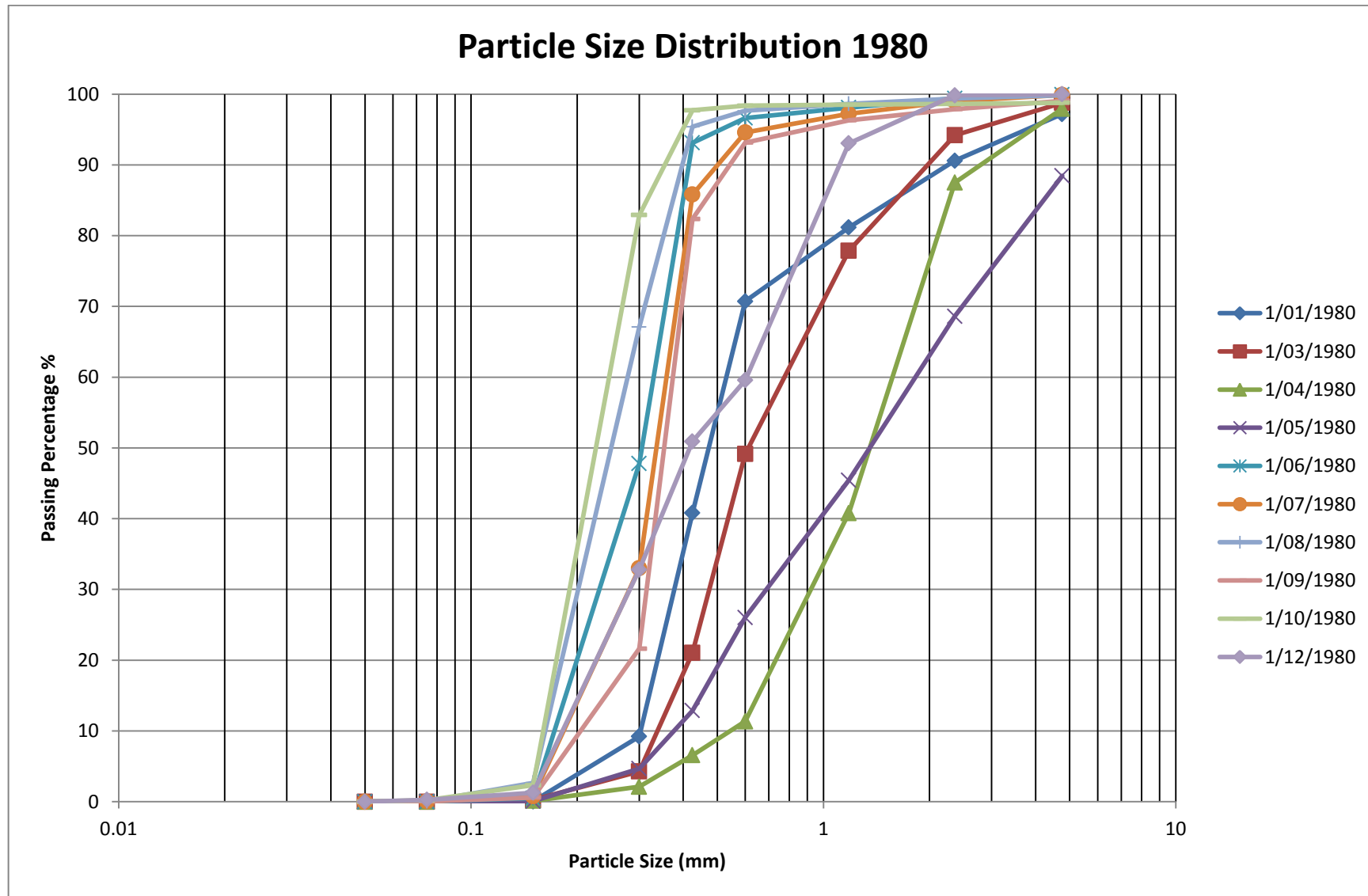


Figure 52 Particle size distribution 1980



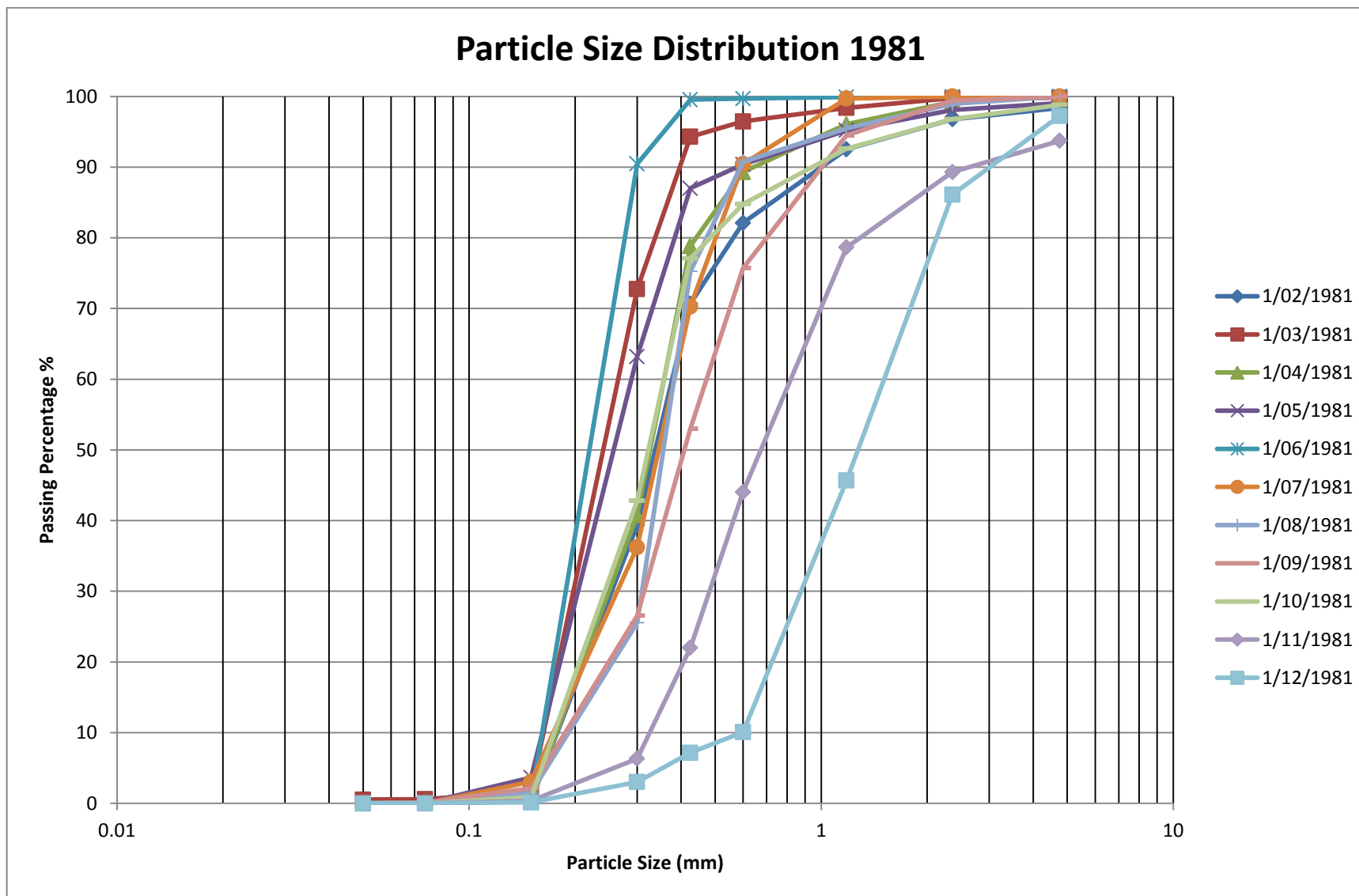


Figure 53 Particle size distribution 1981



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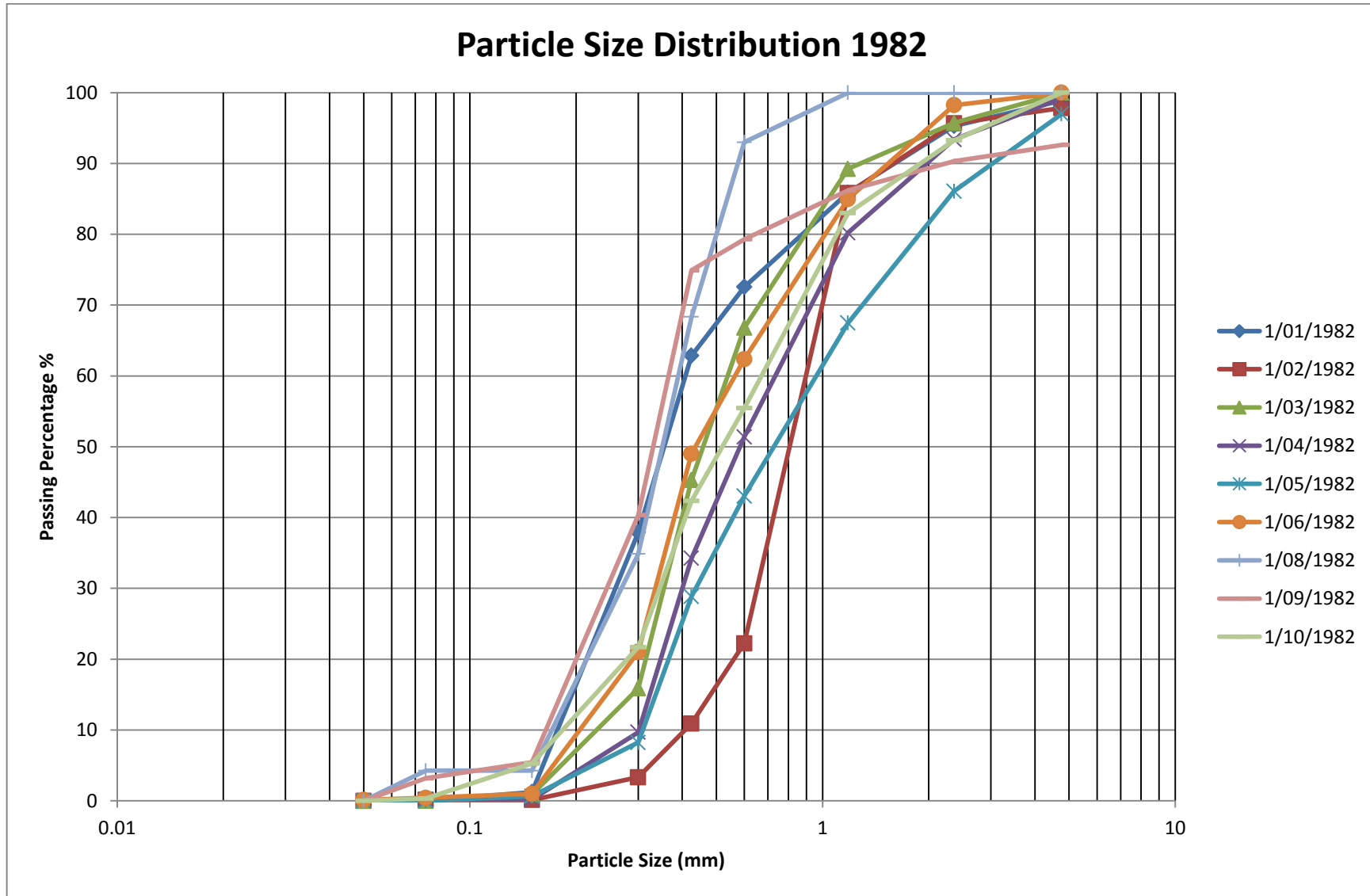


Figure 54 Particle size distribution 1982



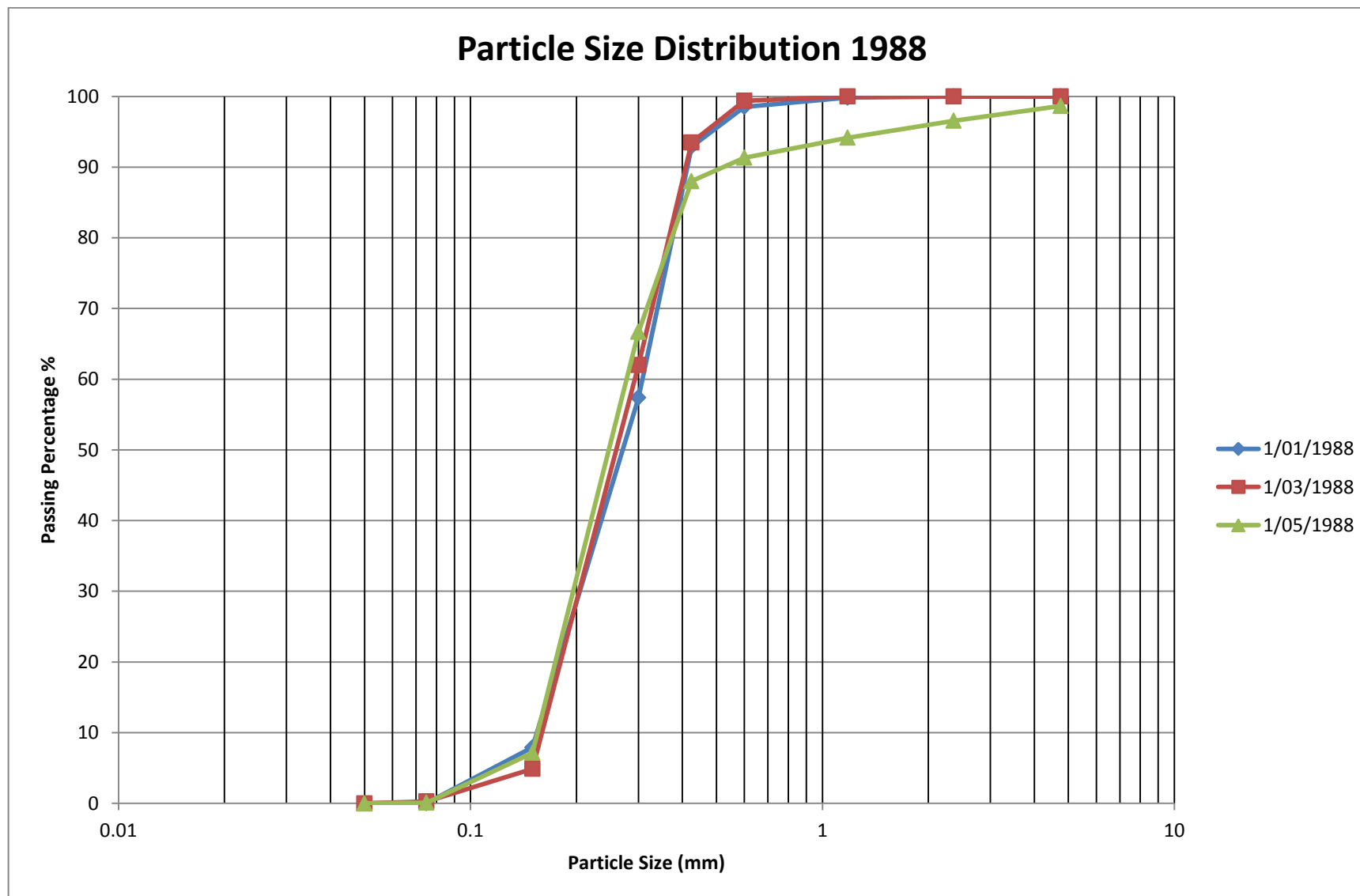


Figure 55 Particle size distribution 1988



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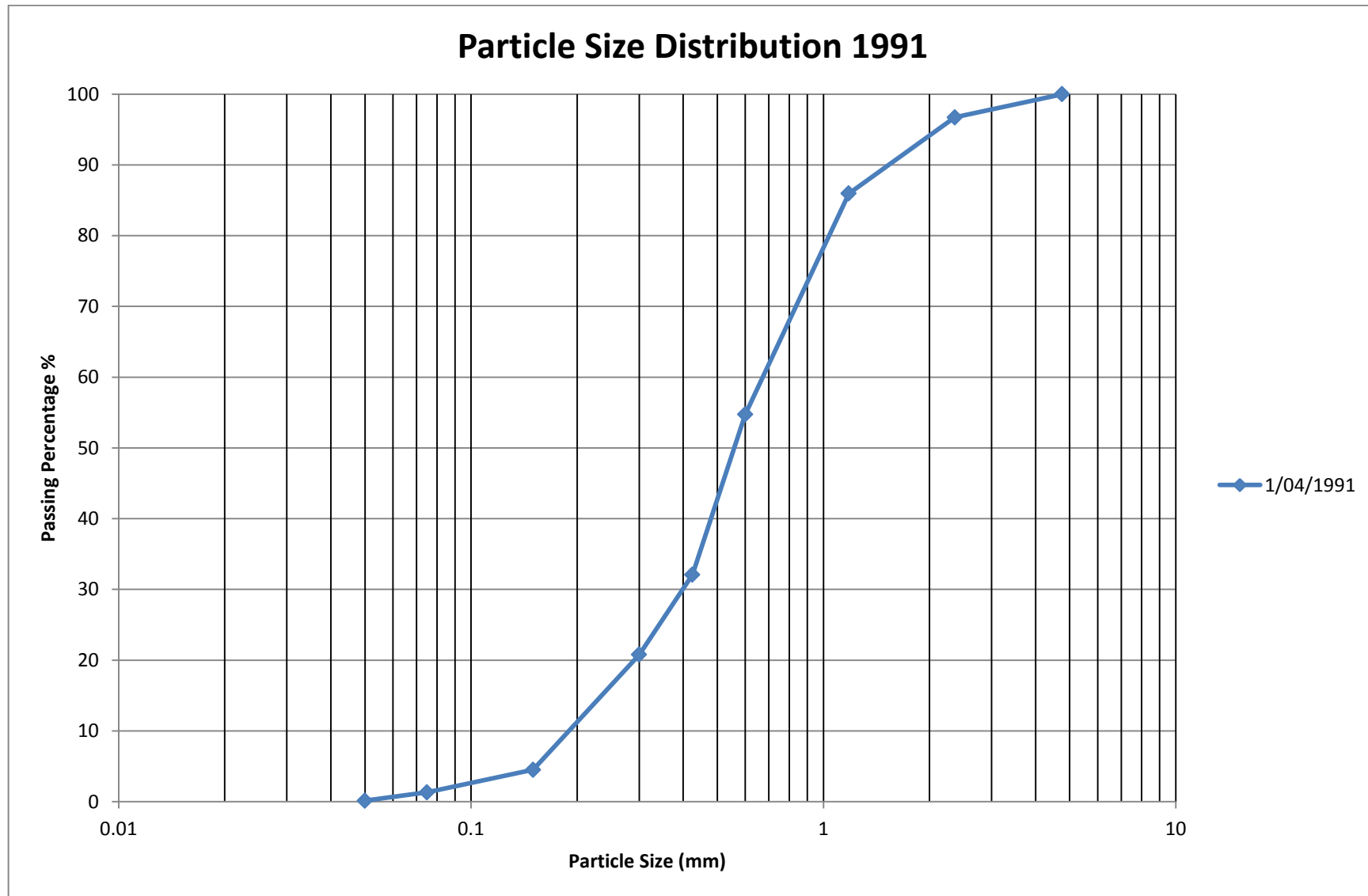


Figure 56 Particle size distribution 1991



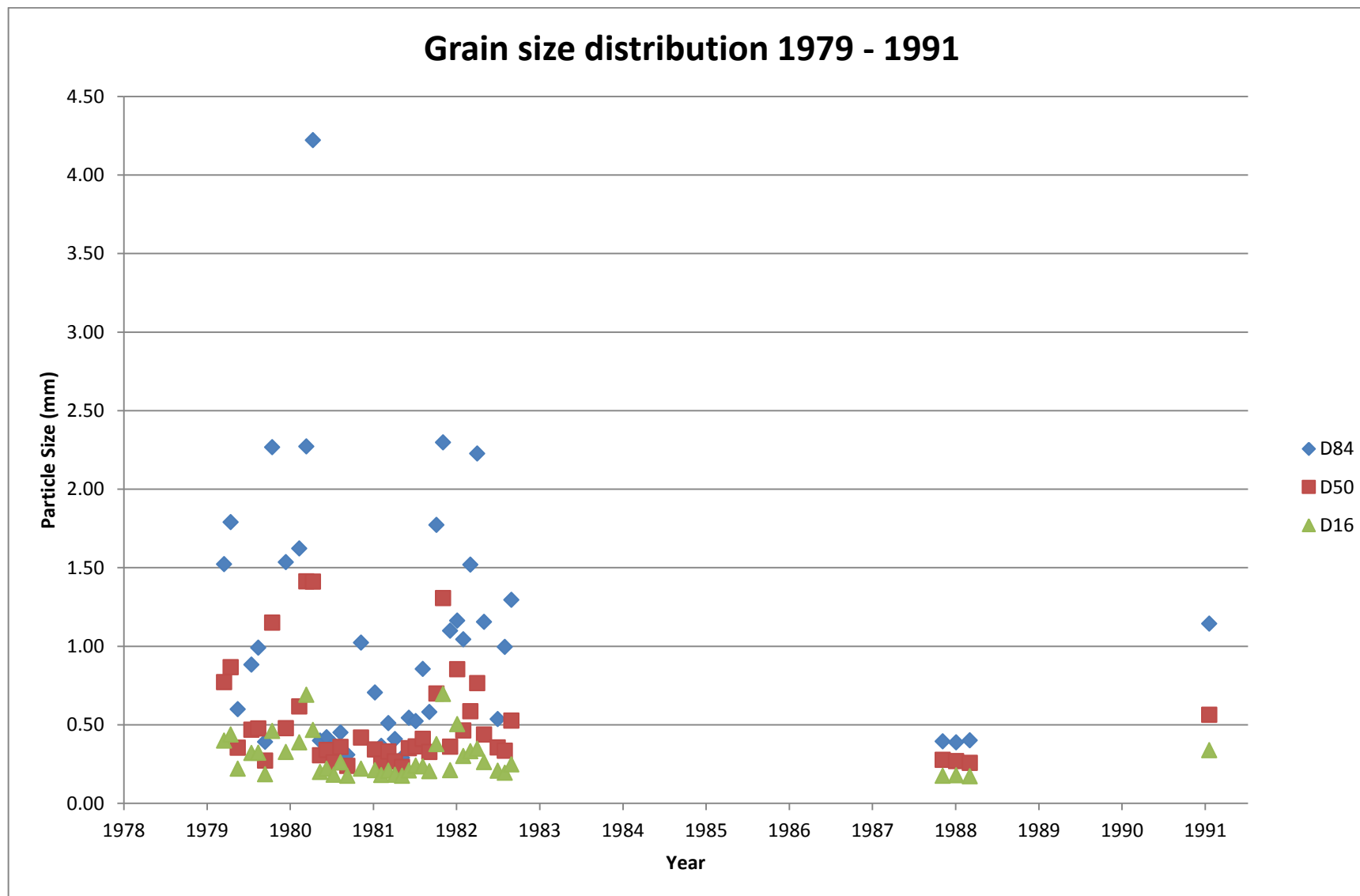


Figure 57 Grain size distribution 1979 - 1991



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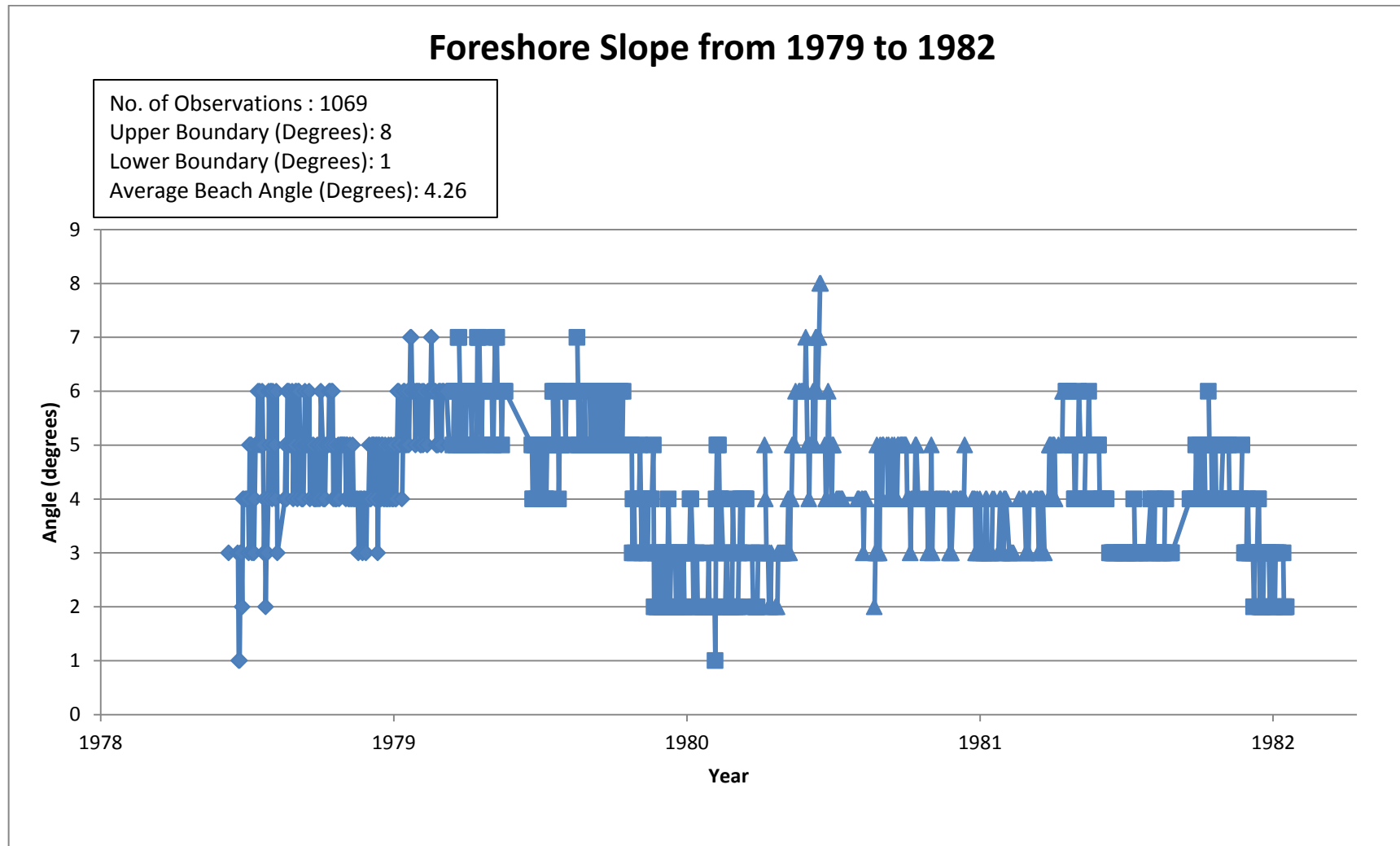


Figure 58 Foreshore slope summary



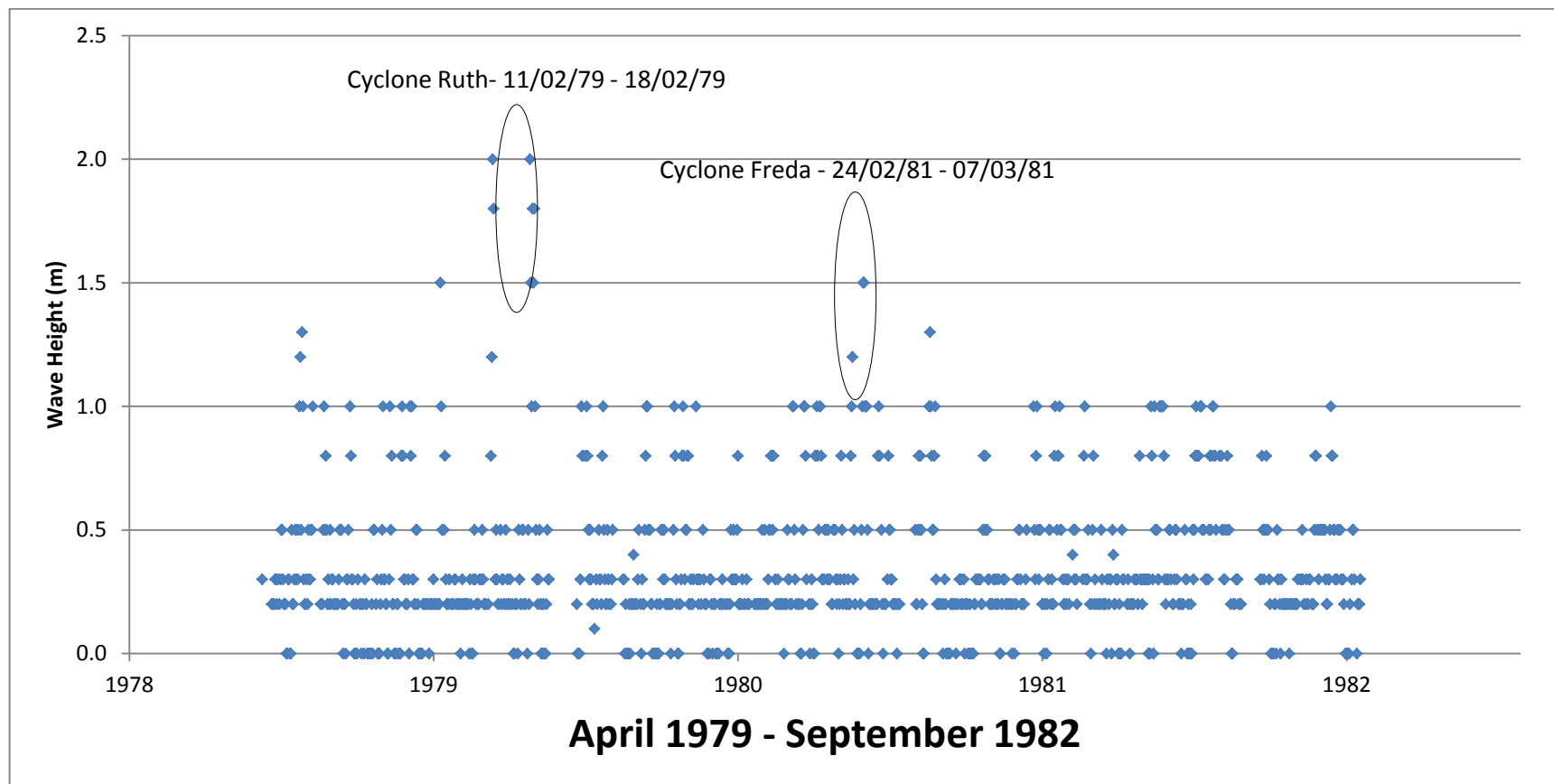


Figure 59 Wave height and cyclone influence



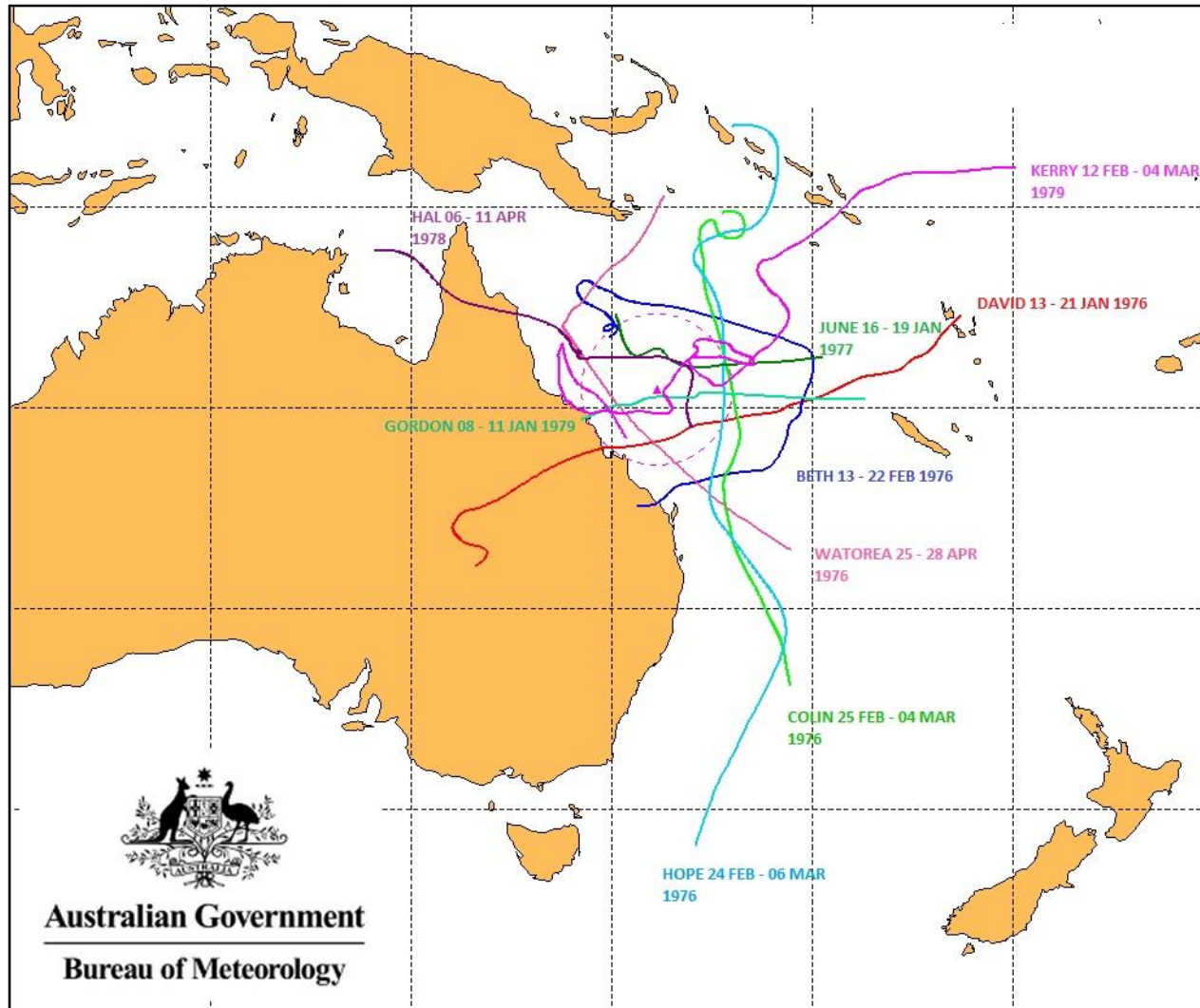


Figure 60 Cyclone tracks 1976 to 1979

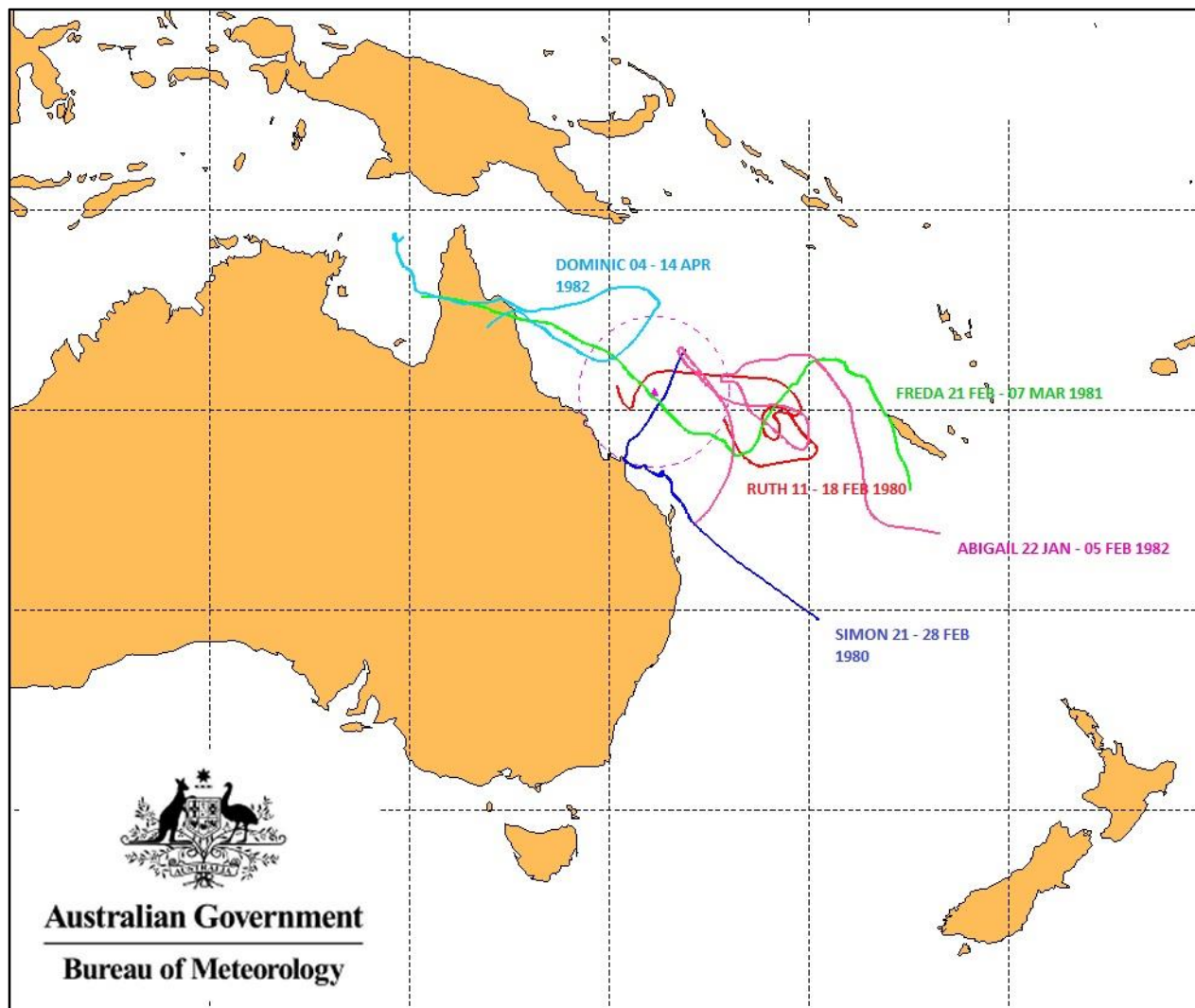


Figure 61 Cyclone tracks 1980 to 1982

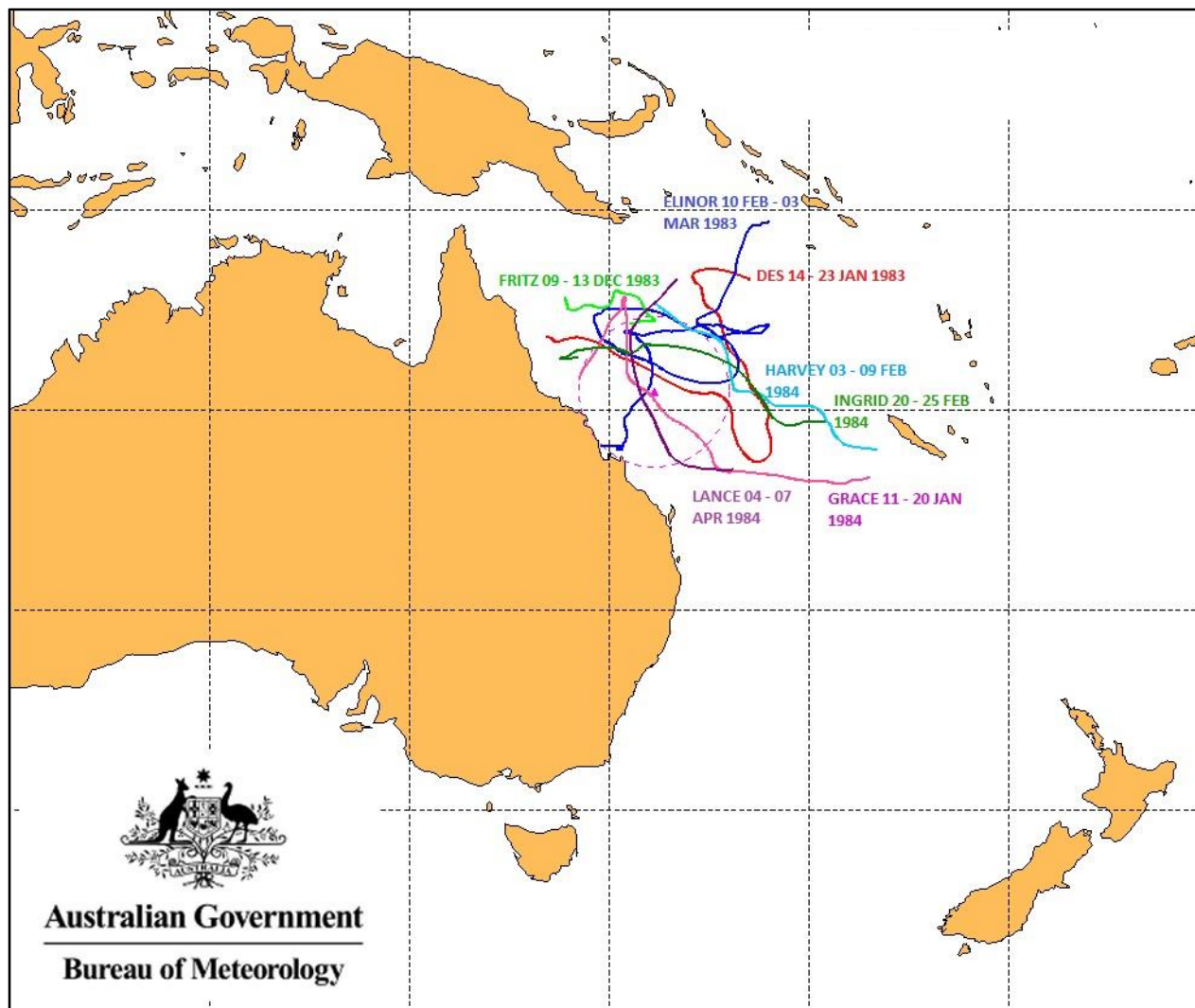


Figure 62 Cyclone tracks 1983 to 1984

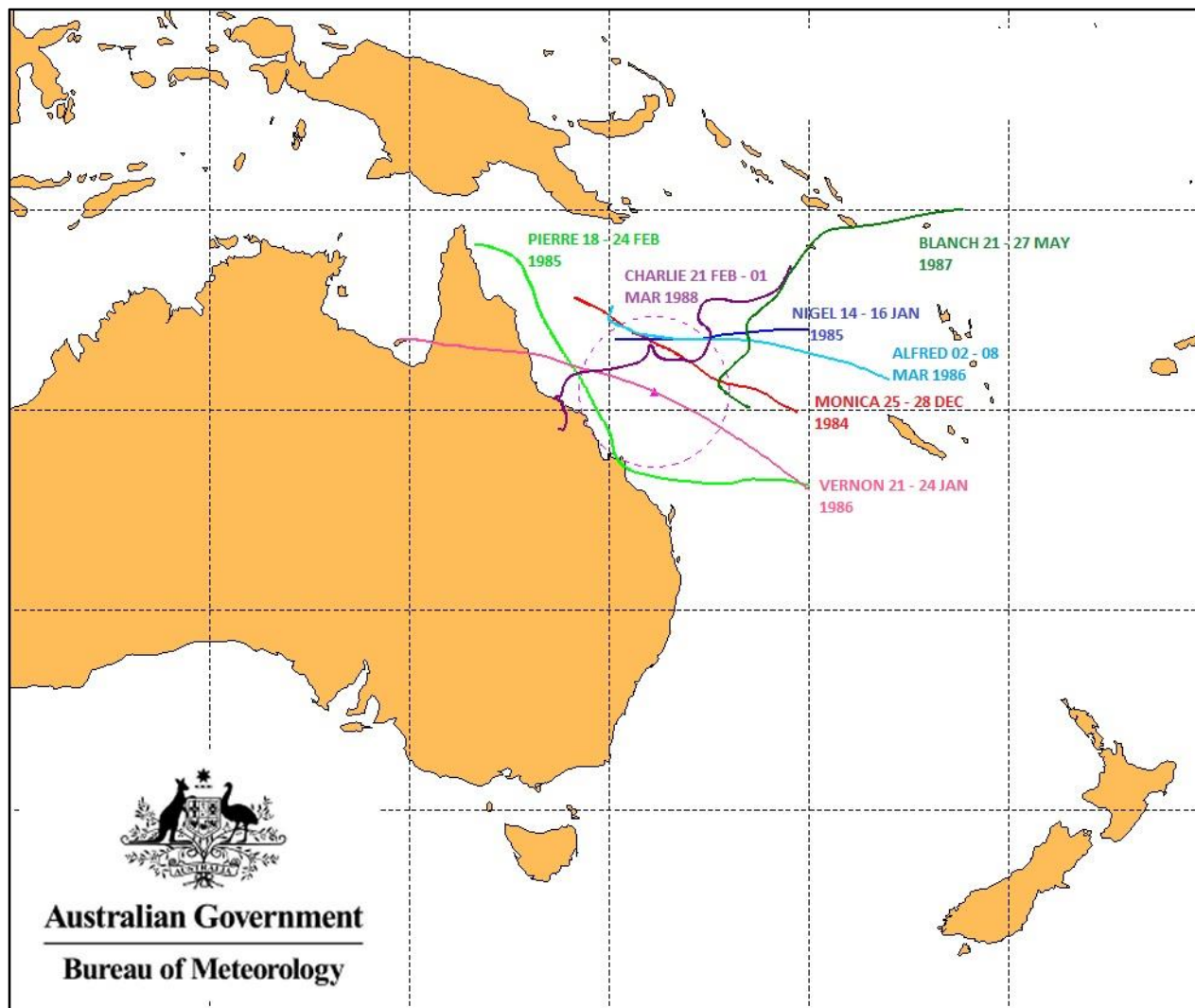


Figure 63 Cyclone tracks 1985 to 1988

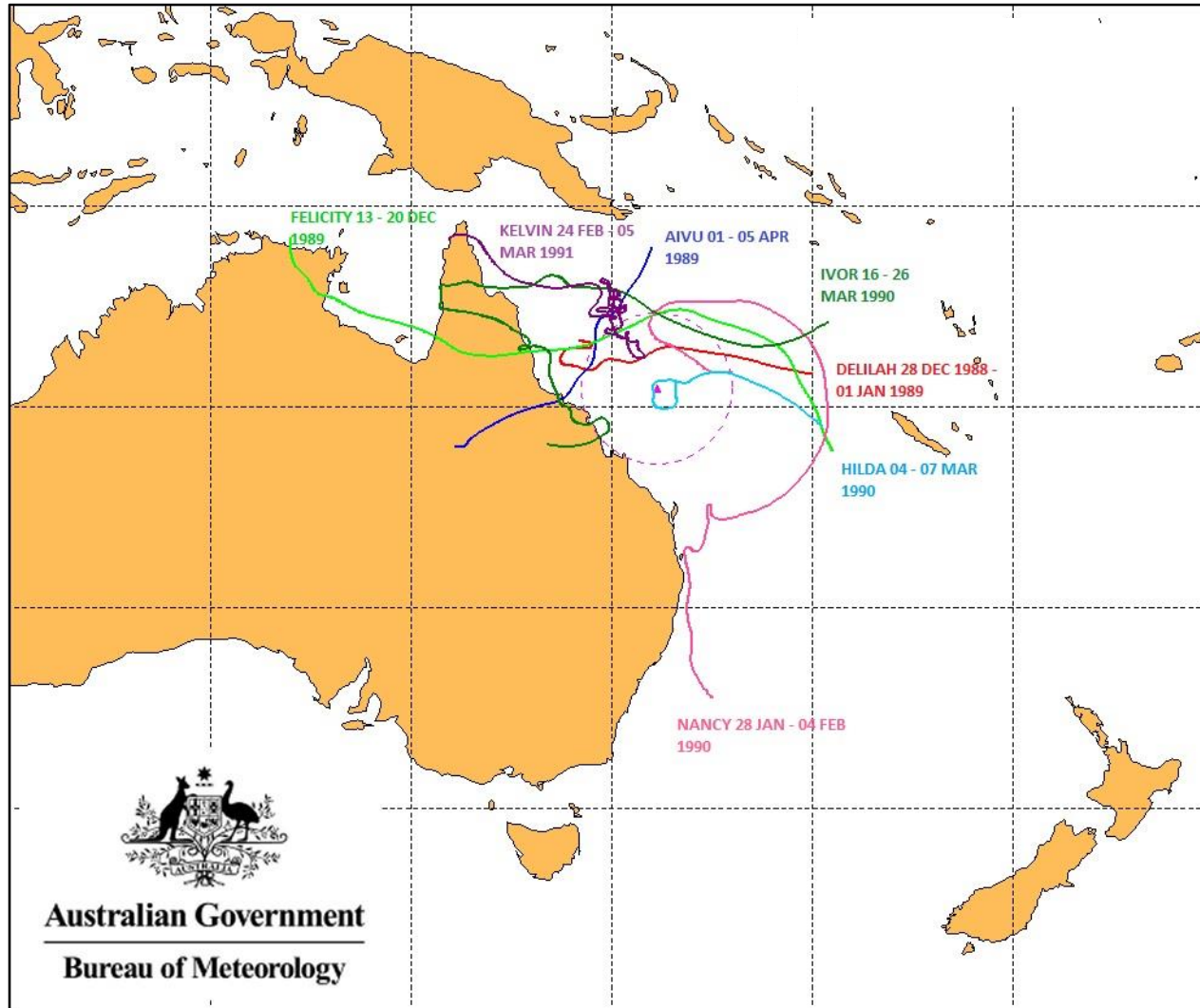


Figure 64 Cyclone tracks 1989 to 1991

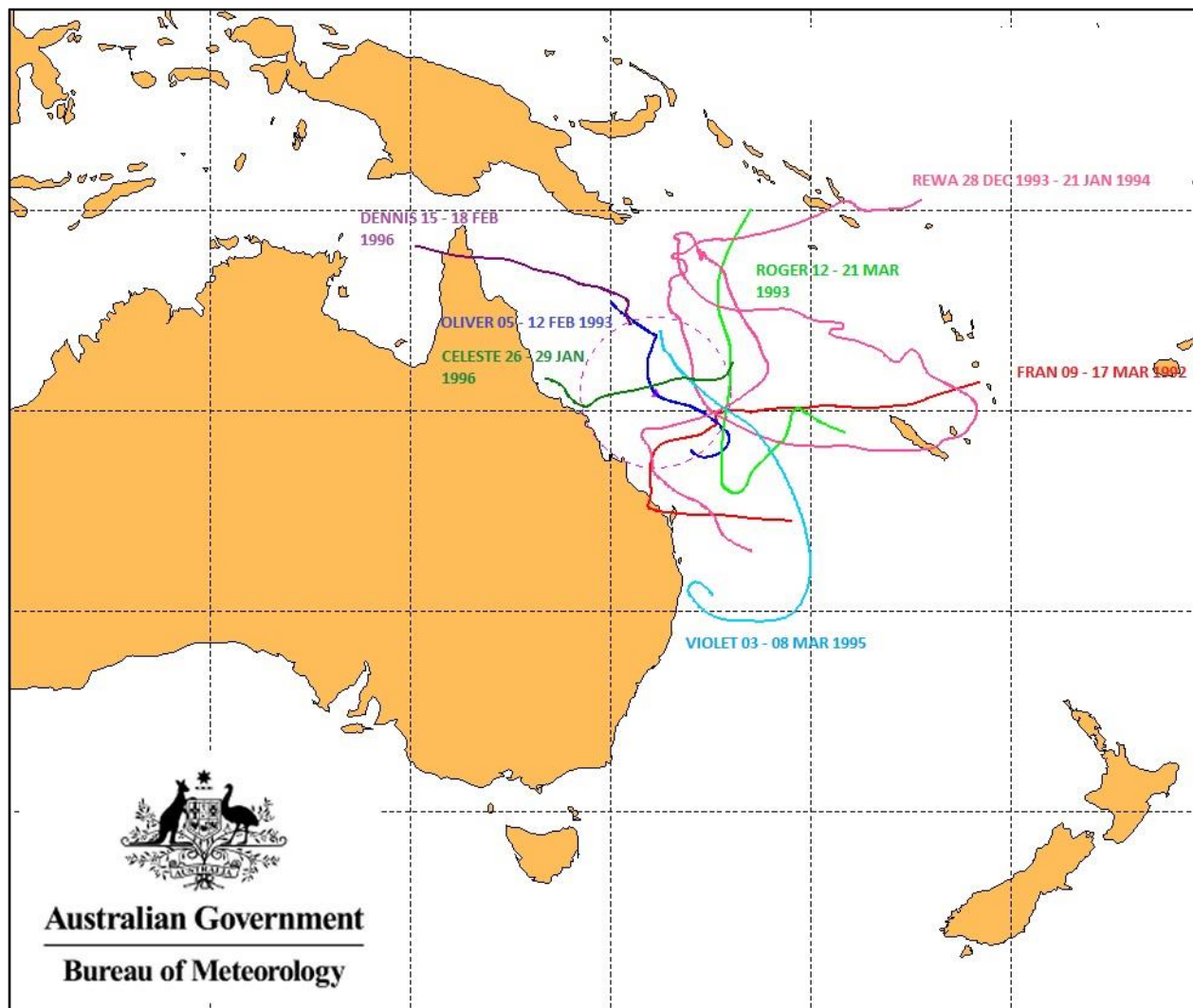


Figure 65 Cyclone tracks 1992 to 1996

Table 8 Amendments to Data

Date	Parameter	Changed From	Changed To	Justification
19/04/79	Wave period	11	7	Change period from 11 to 7 on the basis that it was recorded as 1 min 10 sec when the period on either side indicate that it should be 70 secs
20/04/79	Wave period	12.4	8.4	Change period from 12.4 to 8.4 on the basis that it was recorded as 1 min 24 sec when the period on either side indicate that it should be 84 secs
21/04/79	Wave period	12.6	8.6	Change period from 12.6 to 8.6 on the basis that it was recorded as 1 min 26 sec when the period on either side indicate that it should be 86 secs
22/04/79	Wave period	10	6	Change period from 10 to 6 on the basis that it was recorded as 1 min when the period on either side indicate that it should be 60 secs
28/05/79	Wave period	12	8	Change period from 12 to 8 on the basis that it was recorded as 1 min and 20sec when the period on either side indicate that it should be 80 secs
27/11/79	Current speed	30	3	Surrounding data is consistent with 30, assume transcription error
09/05/80	Wave period	12.9	8.9	Change period from 12.9 to 8.9 on the basis that it was recorded as 1 min and 29sec when the period on either side indicate that it should be 89 secs
14/06/80	Current speed	40	4	Surrounding data is consistent with 40, assume transcription error
11/10/80	Current speed	40	4	Surrounding data is consistent with 40, assume transcription error
15/02/81	Wave period	14.2	8.2	Change period from 14.2 to 8.2 on the basis that it was recorded as 1 min 42 sec when the period on either side indicate that it should be 82 secs
06/02/82	Wave period	14.2	8.2	Change period from 14.2 to 8.2 on the basis that it was recorded as 1 min 42 sec when the period on either side indicate that it should be 82 secs

08/05/82	Distance to berm	18	15	Surrounding data is consistent with 15, assume transcription error
18/06/82	Wave period	12.3	8.3	Change period from 12.3 to 8.3 on the basis that it was recorded as 1 min 30 sec when the period on either side indicate that it should be 83 secs
20/06/82	Wave period	15.11	11.1	Change period from 15.11 to 11.1 on the basis that it was recorded as 1 min 51 sec when the period on either side indicate that it should be 111 secs

Note: On the new recording sheet, surf zone widths (m) were recorded as the time (s) it takes for an average wave to traverse the surf zone. Using the following equation from Patterson & Blair 1983, the value was converted into metres:

$$\text{Surf Zone Width (metres)} = 0.86 \times g^{\frac{1}{2}} \times H_{obs}^{\frac{1}{2}} \times t_w$$

where:

$$g = \text{acceleration due to gravity} = 9.81\text{m/s}^2$$

$$H_{obs} = \text{observed wave height (m)}$$

$$t_w = \text{elapsed time for a wave of average height to transgress the surf zone from the break point to the final runup position on the beach (s)}$$

Where a correction to the surf zone width was required, a value was estimated by using a surf zone parameter for a wave with a similar height and period. This value was then converted from seconds to metres using the above formula.

Appendix A – Cope Instructions

The following text is an extract from BPA newsletter – Beach Conservation No. 69 in which the COPE program was the feature article. The extract describes how the recordings were performed for the **new format** recording sheet, which was introduced in March 1986.

OBSERVATIONS

The data is recorded on special forms which are suitable for computer processing. An example is shown in Figure 2. The wave parameters recorded are:

- (i) estimate of wave heights (average and maximum);
- (ii) wave period (average time interval between waves);
- (iii) wave direction (as a compass bearing);
- (iv) surf zone width (traverse time of surf zone by average wave).

The beach parameters recorded, using the installed reference pole are:

- (i) elevation of the fixed contour or beach berm;
- (ii) distance to the fixed contour or beach berm;
- (iii) distance to the average vegetation line;
- (iv) sand level at the pole.

Wind speed and compass direction are determined by the use of a hand held wind meter.


The longshore current in the surf zone causes the transportation of sand along the beach, and it is important that this current is measured. This is done by introducing a harmless dye into the water and measuring the distance that the dye patch travels along the beach in one minute. Wave action soon dissipates the dye.

The survey of a monthly beach profile, using the installed reference pole, provides information on beach movements. During periods of change, such as cyclonic wave attack, profiles are usually taken before and after the event. All reference poles are surveyed at the time of installation to allow replacement in the same position if they are destroyed or are washed out by erosion.

The average sand grain size is an element to be considered in the assessment of longshore sand transport rates. Therefore, a monthly sample is taken from a specified beach level and analysed to reveal any seasonal or long term changes.

The following document details the instructions on how to fill out the **old format** recording sheet which was discontinued in March 1986.

FORM No. BE3



BEACH PROTECTION AUTHORITY - QUEENSLAND

Instructions for filling out COPE recording form

COASTAL OBSERVATION PROGRAMME - ENGINEERING
(COPE)

STATION IDENTIFICATION:

Each site for COPE has been assigned a numerical code consisting of five digits. The first two digits define the Shire or City in which the site is located, and the remaining three digits define the particular beach and reference mark position within a particular Local Authority area. A space is provided to write in the name of the beach at which the observation is made.

DATE:

Record the year, month and day in the spaces provided on each page of the recording sheet.

TIME: (Column 2)

Record the time to the nearest quarter-hour in **Eastern Standard Time (E.S.T.)** at which the observation is made. (e.g. 10.00 a.m. Daylight Saving Time is 0900 E.S.T.). The 24-hour clock system of recording time is used to avoid any confusion between a.m. and p.m. (e.g. 0900 is 9.00 a.m. and 1500 is 3.00 p.m.).

Daily observations should be made as close as possible to 0900 hours, and twice-daily observations should be made once in the morning and once in the afternoon and as close as possible to 0900 and 1500 hours. Observations should be made at the **same time every day.**

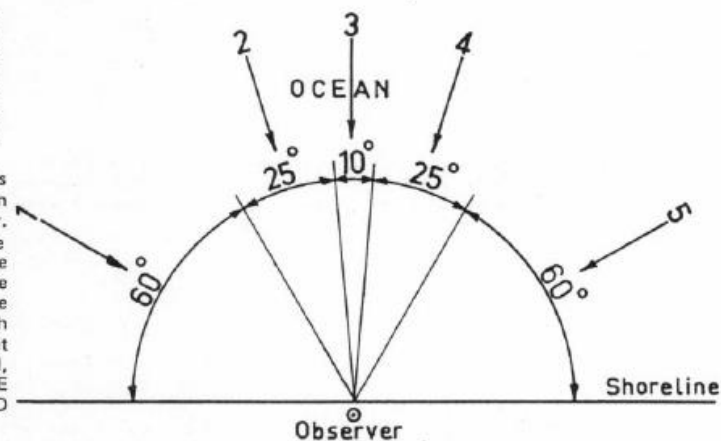
WAVE OBSERVATIONS:
(These observations are to be made twice daily.)

(a) **Wave Period:** (Column 3). Record the time in seconds for eleven wave "crests" to pass a stationary point. Eleven "crests" will include ten complete waves (crests and trough). Crest 1 is zero-time, crest 11 is cut time.

(b) **Wave Height:** (Column 4). This observation is based solely on the judgement of the observer. The observer's best estimate will be sufficient. Record the breaking wave height to the nearest one-fifth metre. If wave height is less than one-fifth metre (0.2), the wave height is "O". If no waves exist at all, mark "O" for both **WAVE HEIGHT** and **WAVE PERIOD** columns.

(c) **Wave Direction:** (Column 5). Darken the space which best describes the direction of the approaching waves according to Fig. 1 above. If no waves exist at all, write the direction as "O".

Fig. 1 WAVE DIRECTION CODE



- (d) **Type of Breaking Waves:** (Column 6). If no waves exist, leave the item blank, otherwise choose only **ONE** of the following four types of waves:

Spilling – Spilling occurs when the wave crest becomes unstable at the top and the crest flows down the front face of the wave, producing an irregular, foamy water surface. This wave is sometimes referred to as a “roller” (see Fig. 2 below). Mark “SP” for spilling.

Plunging – Plunging occurs when the wave crest curls over the front face of the wave and falls into the base of the wave, producing a high splash and much foam. This wave is sometimes referred to as a “dumper” (see Fig. 3 below). Mark “PL” for plunging.

Plunging/Spilling – Darken this space only when there is a combination of spilling and plunging waves. Mark “PS” for plunging/spilling.

Surging – Surging occurs when the wave crest remains unbroken while the base of the front of the wave advances up the beach (see Fig. 4 below). Mark “S” for surging.

- (e) **Surf Zone Width:** (Column 7). This observation is based on the judgement of the observer. The observer’s best estimate is sufficient. Record the distance, to the nearest whole metre, from the water line at the time of observation to the line of the most seaward row of breakers, at the time of observation. If no waves exist at all, mark “O”. If two or more breaker zones exist, record the distance to the most seaward row of breakers of the most seaward breaker zone.

- (f) **Offshore Bar:** (Column 8). Record whether or not a significant offshore bar exists. This may be determined as “yes” if there is a distinct gutter between the initial breakpoint and the beach, allowing the wave to reform; and “no” if the wave continues in a broken state from the initial breakpoint to the beach (see Fig. 5).

Fig. 2

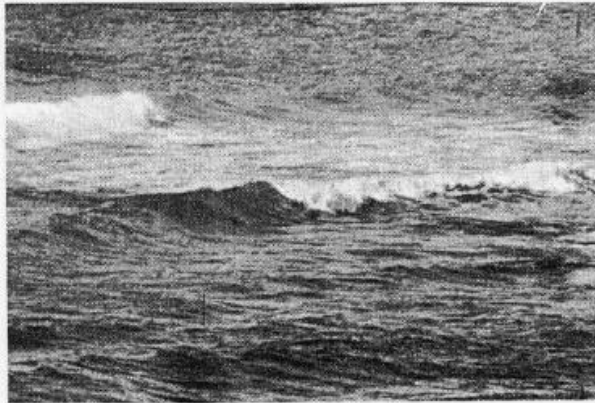


Fig. 3

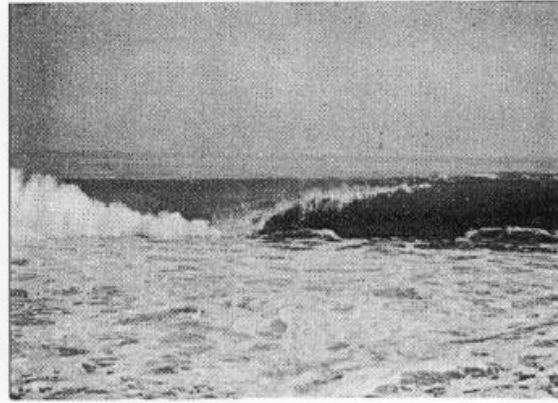


Fig. 4

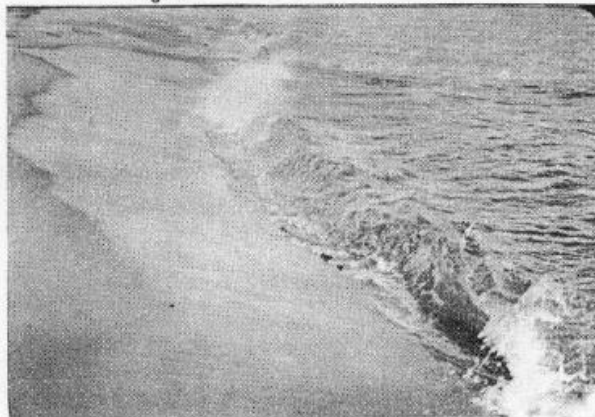


Fig. 5



WIND OBSERVATIONS: (These observations are to be made twice daily).

- (a) **Wind Velocity:** (Column 9). A wind meter is provided for each observer. The instructions provided with the meter should be followed to obtain wind velocity measurements.
- (b) **Wind Direction:** (Column 10). Determine the orientation of the beach with respect to the compass directions, and record the direction **from which** the wind is coming. The direction of true north should be indicated on the reference mark or nearby.

STATE OF TIDE: (Column 11). (This observation is to be made twice daily).

Indicate the relative state of tide by marking one of the ranges: low tide "0/4", quarter tide "1/4", half tide "2/4", three-quarter tide "3/4", full tide "4/4", and mark whether the tide is rising "R", falling "F", or stationary "S" at the time of observation.

BEACH OBSERVATIONS: (These observations are to be made once daily.)

- (a) **Elevation of the most seaward beach berm crest:** (Column 12). To obtain this, a graduated reference pole has been installed on the beach and the observer has been provided with a hand level. The observer should also have a 1.5 m-long support for the level. To use the Clinometer as a level, set the bubble level to zero and sight through the instrument to the reference pole so that the bubble is centred on the cross hair. To obtain this measurement, the observer must place himself on the most seaward berm crest and take a reading of the reference pole (see Fig. 6 below). This reading minus 1.5 metres (length of support) is recorded on the form. If no berm can be easily recognised mark "NB" for no berm.
- (b) **Distance to the most seaward berm crest from the reference pole:** (Column 13). Record the distance (to the nearest whole metre) between where the level reading is taken and the reference pole (see Fig. 6 below). If no berm exists, leave the distance **blank**: **DO NOT** mark the "0". If the distance is measured landward from the reference pole, the distance is a minus value. After erosion the berm may be at the erosion scarp.
- (c) **Distance to the vegetation line from the reference pole:** (Column 14). Record the distance to the nearest whole metre between the reference pole and a line along the average seaward extent of the existing perennial vegetation. If the distance is measured landward from the reference pole, the distance is a minus value.
- (d) **Angle of Foreshore Slope:** (Column 15). This observation can be made by placing the support pole for the level on the foreshore slope and laying the level on the support, as shown in Fig. 7 below. The foreshore is the uniform sloped section of the beach between H.W.M. and L.W.M. Next, adjust the bubble level so as to centre the bubble in the bubble tube, and then note reading on the DEGREE scale.

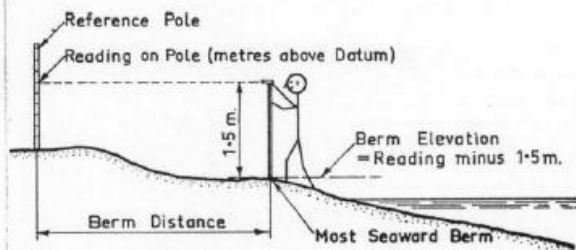


Fig. 6

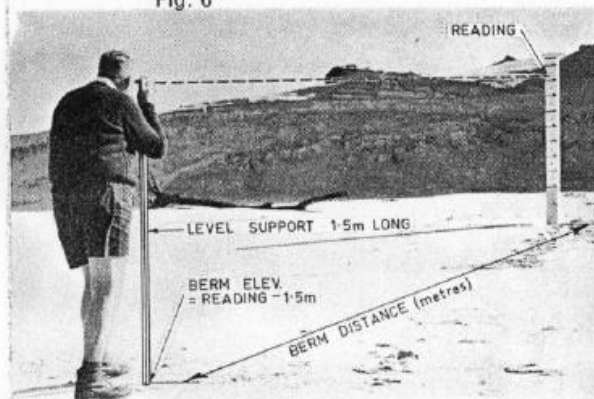


Fig. 7



Continued overleaf

LITTORAL CURRENT OBSERVATIONS: (These observations are to be made once daily.)

- (a) **Current Velocity:** (Column 16). For this measurement the observer is provided with dye. The dye is **very** powerful, and care must be observed when handling it so as not to allow any dye to accidentally spill. The dye should be thrown as near as possible to the midpoint of the surf zone. The observer will note the position of the dye at entry to the breaker zone and the position of the dye after an elapsed time of one minute. The distance between these two positions is entered in the spaces provided on the form. If no current is evident, darken the "O" marks.
- (b) **Current Direction:** (Column 17). If no current is evident, mark "C" for "calm". Otherwise indicate whether the dye patch moves downcoast or upcoast: In general, current that flows to the north is considered upcoast, and that which flows to the south is considered downcoast.

SAND SAMPLES:

Sand samples should be collected once a month in the special plastic bags provided. The sample should be obtained from the foreshore slope of the beach at about half tide level. Identify the sample with the name and code number of the beach, and record the date and time the sample was collected. Write this information directly on the outside of the specially provided padded envelope.

PHOTOGRAPHS: (Optional)


Photographs are to be taken once a month, preferably early each month and at low tide. General panoramic views of the beach in the up and down coast directions are desired. Photographs should be taken from the same location each time and view the same area with a recognisable landmark in the background. Each photo must be identified with the name and code number of the beach, and the date and time and tide level when it was taken.

COMMENTS:

Note any remarks or sketches or unusual events (e.g. erosion scarps, cyclone damage, surge etc.) in the comments column of the recording form.

Remember: There are about 50 COPE stations in Queensland.

Remember: To mark all recording sheets, sand samples and photographs with your code number, and time and date.

	<i>Issued by</i>
	BEACH PROTECTION AUTHORITY OF QUEENSLAND Department of Harbours and Marine Edward Street, Brisbane 4000 (G.P.O. Box 2195, Brisbane 4001)

Appendix B – Historical Photographs



Figure 66 Salonika Beach, looking north, November 1979



Figure 67 Salonika Beach, looking south, November 1979



Figure 68 Salonika Beach, looking north, July 1989



Figure 69 **Salonika Beach, looking south, July 1989**



Figure 70 Salonika Beach, looking north, November 1994



Figure 71 Salonika Beach, looking south, November 1994