Department of Science, Information Technology and Innovation

Beach Surveys and Data Assessment, Mackay Region

COPE Report – Slade Point

Coastal Impacts Unit

2015

Queensland Government

Prepared by

GHD Pty Ltd (Reference 4128646) on behalf of:
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Front Cover Photo: Slade Point December 1985 looking South Source: BPA file

April 2015

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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-1996[1] 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 Slade Point – COPE Station Number 20050. 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 Slade Point site, located north of Lamberts beach esplanade and south of Albatross street. The report is modelled on the Bilinga site report compiled in February 2014 by GHD for the Department of Science, Information Technology and Innovation.

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 Slade Point 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 Slade Point site. However, no articles that provided additional information on the Slade Point 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-1996[2].

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 Flourescene);
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 Slade Point for the four years of data recorded between 1980 and 1983, and the continued profile data supplied by DSITI from August 1981 to October 1996 in a useful statistical form.

The four 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

Slade Point is located approximately 9 kilometres north-east of Mackay on the Eastern Queensland coastline. The beach, also known as Turners Beach, is approximately 250 metres long extending from a northern rocky outcrop to southern rocky outcrop. The location of the Slade Point COPE station is east of Gannet Street as shown on Figure 5 and Figure 6.

2.2 Observers

From information available, the main observers for the Slade Point site were B. Smolakous and Alf and Pam Rowe. They took daily measurements from November 1980 to the end of October 1983. After that, observers Alf and Pam Rowe contributed to the COPE program from 1983 to 1996 by taking monthly profile recordings and sand samples until 1996. The names of observers that participated as well as their involvement in the program is summarised in Table 1.

Table 1 Summary of Slade Point observers

Year	Observer	Year	Observer
1981	B. Smolakous and Alf and Pam Rowe	1989	Alf and Pam Rowe
1982	B. Smolakous and Alf and Pam Rowe	1990	Alf and Pam Rowe
1983	B. Smolakous and Alf and Pam Rowe	1991	Alf and Pam Rowe
1984	Alf and Pam Rowe	1992	Alf and Pam Rowe
1985	Alf and Pam Rowe	1993	Alf and Pam Rowe
1986	Alf and Pam Rowe	1994	Alf and Pam Rowe
1987	Alf and Pam Rowe	1995	Alf and Pam Rowe
1988	Alf and Pam Rowe	1996	Alf and Pam Rowe

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 Slade Point 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 1.

1. November 1980 – Observations commenced,
2. 4 June 1981 – COPE pole installed,
3. 29 October 1983 - Daily observations ceased, monthly profiles and sand samples continued,
4. June 1985 – Pole repainted,
5. 1989 – Pole chipped and rusted around connecting flange
6. 1994 – Top section of the pole replaced, badly rusted section 0.4 m below the flange was replaced,
7. 1996 – All observations ceased.

Figure 1 **Slade Point COPE pole, 4 August 1983**

2.5 Observed Parameters

The observers at this station recorded the majority of observations in the morning between 6 am and 12 pm.

Data was recorded on the original recording sheet shown in Figure 7 from 11 November 1980 to 29 October 1983, 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;
- Sand level at pole (COPE reference pole) (m).

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 September 1981, 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 31 to Figure 46. It should be noted that the COPE location is always located at chainage 0 and that the first beach profile recorded in August 1981 has been repeated on each chart as a reference level.

2.6 Tidal Information

Tidal information from the 1981 Official Tide Tables (H&M 1981) for Mackay Harbour is presented in Table 1. Mackay Harbour is 4 km south of the Slade Point COPE station. The levels in 1981 are assumed to be on Lowest Astronomical Tide (LAT) datum.

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 by Maritime Safety Queensland (MSQ 2015) and the levels for Mackay Port are presented in Table 2. The datum for the 2015 levels is LAT.

Table 2 Tidal planes

Tidal Plane	1981 (m Gauge Datum)	2015 (m LAT)
	Mackay Port	Mackay Port
1. Highest Astronomical Tide (HAT)	6.6	6.58
2. Mean High Water Springs (MHWS)	5.52	5.29
3. Mean High Water Neaps (MHWN)	4.08	4.07
4. Australian Height Datum (AHD)	2.941	2.941
5. Mean Sea Level (MSL)	2.99	3.02
6. Mean Low Water Neaps (MLWN)	1.83	1.96
7. Mean Low Water Springs (MLWS)	0.58	0.74
8. Lowest Astronomical Tide (LAT)	-0.1	0.0

The tidal plane levels have increased by 0.16 m for MLWS and decreased by 0.02 m for HAT, however the value of AHD relative to LAT is constant.

2.7 Beach Description

The beach at the Slade Point COPE station exhibits the following characteristics:

- Typical beach slopes: Based on the original recording between 11 November 1980 and 29 October 1983 the beach slope oscillated between 2 and 14 degrees, with an average of 6.4 degrees; as shown on Figure 65.
- Beach width: Varied from 40 to 50 m measured from the seaward toe of the frontal dune to the Low Water Mark over the sixteen year period (1981 - 1996) (by inspection of the monthly beach profiles in Figure 31 to Figure 46);
- D_{50} grain size: 0.82 mm averaged over 112 samples collected over the seventeen years (1980 – 1996); and
- Adjoining landform: Low vegetated dune seaward of residential housing.

Images of the beach are provided in Figure 2 and Figure 3.

Figure 2 Slade Point, December 1985 – Looking north

Figure 3 Slade Point, December 1985 – Looking south

2.8 Meteorological Events

The following cyclones were recorded by the Brisbane Bureau of Meteorology as having tracks within 400 km of Slade Point between January 1979 and December 1997. It is considered that these meteorological events may have had some effect on the condition of Slade Point.

- 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
- Cyclone CELESTE: 26 January – 29 January 1996
- Cyclone DENNIS: 15 February – 18 February 1996

See Figure 67 to Figure 72 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 four year period November 1980 to October 1983 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). Wind speed data in this report is presented in metres per second (m/s).

A summary of annual wind speed direction percentage occurrences is shown as a wind rose in Figure 9.

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. This site did not collect data long enough to adopt the new format for observations, so they did not have the option for wave height methods. 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 24 October 1980, wave direction was recorded as a compass bearing (refer Figure 7). The direction recorded was then converted to a sector, as shown in the following paragraph. After 24 October 1981 wave direction at Slade Point was recorded using the protractor in Figure 8 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 70 degrees for the Slade Point 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	348° to 48°
2	48° to 73°
3	73° to 83°
4	83° to 108°
5	108° to 168°

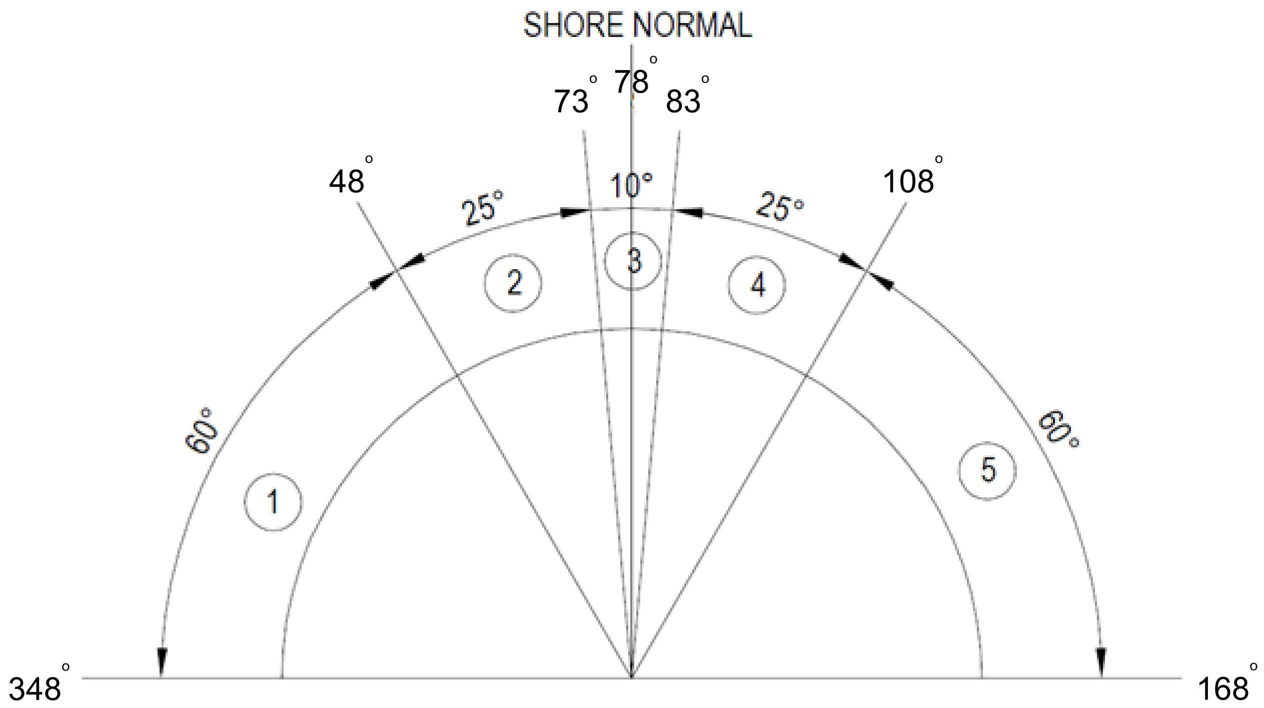

Figure 4 Sector Distribution (Magnetic North)

Note: At the Slade Point COPE station, the shore normal direction is approximately 78 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 10);
- The percentage occurrence of various combinations of wave heights, periods and directions (Figure 11 to Figure 15);
- Surf zone width with an indication of existence or otherwise of an offshore bar (Figure 16 to Figure 19); 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 20 to Figure 23). 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 to Figure 29.

Foreshore slopes were recorded at this station between 11 November 1980 and 29 October 1983 (using the original recording form) and are shown in Figure 65.

Figure 30 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 Slade Point 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 31 to Figure 46. It should be noted that the profile taken in August 1981 has been repeated in each graph so comparisons between profiles can be easily made.

3.7 Sand Sample Particle Size Distribution

A total of 112 sand samples were collected over seventeen years (1980 to 1996) 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 64. Particle Size Distribution D_{50} is the value of the particle diameter at 50% in the cumulative distribution. For Slade Point, the average D_{50}=0.82 mm, then 50% of the particles in the sample are larger than 0.82 mm, and 50% smaller than 0.82 mm with the same concept applied for D_{16} and D_{84}.

4 References

1. BC No 27 – Jones, C.M., *COPE (Coastal Observation Programme Engineering)*, Beach Conservation newsletter No 21, October 1975.
2. BC No 69 – Andrews, M.J. and Blair, R.J., *Coastal Observation Programme – Engineering (COPE)*, Beach Conservation newsletter No. 69, June 1990.
3. H&M 1981 - *1981 Official Tide Tables*, Department of Harbours and Marine Queensland, 1981.
4. Beach Surveys and Data Assessment, Gold Coast Region, COPE Data – Bilinga beach Coastal Impact Unit February 2014 – GHD Pty Ltd, *COPE Data Bilinga Beach*, for Department of Science, Information Technology, Innovation and Arts, February 2014.
5. MSQ 2015 – *Semi diurnals and diurnal tidal planed, http://www.msq.qld.gov.au/tides/tidal - planes.aspx*, Maritime Safety Queensland, 2015.
6. Patterson & Blair 1983 - Patterson, D.C. and Blair, R.J., *Visually Determined Wave Parameters*, 6th Australian Conference on Coastal and Ocean Engineering, Gold Coast, July 1983.
7. Robinson & Jones 1977 – Robinson, D.A. and Jones, C.M., *Queensland Volunteer Coastal Observation Programme – Engineering (COPE)*, 3rd Australian Conference on Coastal and Ocean Engineering, Melbourne, April 1977.

5 Tabular Results

Table 4 Monthly and annual – mean wave height/mean wave period and wave direction occurrences. Slade Point. Year 1980

Month	No. Observations	Mean Wave Period (s)	Mean Wave Height (m)	No of Obs.	Percentage occurences - wave direction (Sector)					
					1	2	3	4	5	Calm
Jan	0			0						
Feb	0			0						
Mar	0			0						
Apr	0			0						
May	0			0						
Jun	0			0						
Jul	0			0						
Aug	0			0						
Sep	0			0						
Oct	0			0						
Nov	20	4.6	0.4	20	0	2	3	15	0	0
Dec	31	4.6	0.4	31	1	5	8	16	0	1
Whole Year	**51**	**4.6**	**0.4**	**51**	**1**	**7**	**11**	**31**	**0**	**1**

Table 5 Monthly and annual – mean wave height/mean wave period and wave direction occurrences. Slade Point. Year 1981

Month	No. Observations	Mean Wave Period (s)	Mean Wave Height (m)	No of Obs.	Percentage occurences - wave direction (Sector)					
					1	2	3	4	5	Calm
Jan	31	4.9	0.4	31	0	5	6	20	0	0
Feb	27	4.8	0.5	27	0	7	2	17	0	1
Mar	31	5.9	0.5	31	1	0	12	18	0	0
Apr	29	5.0	0.4	29	0	2	7	20	0	0
May	30	6.8	0.5	30	0	0	7	23	0	0
Jun	30	3.3	0.1	30	3	2	2	10	0	13
Jul	31	4.8	0.4	31	0	1	5	13	8	4
Aug	31	3.9	0.2	31	0	4	11	9	1	6
Sep	30	5.6	0.6	30	1	3	3	23	0	0
Oct	31	4.8	0.6	31	1	2	3	22	2	0
Nov	29	4.4	0.4	29	1	10	6	10	1	1
Dec	30	4.5	0.3	30	1	8	4	13	2	2
Whole Year	**360**	**4.9**	**0.4**	**360**	**8**	**44**	**68**	**198**	**14**	**27**

Table 6 Monthly and annual – mean wave height/mean wave period and wave direction occurrences. Slade Point. Year 1982

Month	No. Observations	Mean Wave Period (s)	Mean Wave Height (m)	No of Obs.	Percentage occurences - wave direction (Sector)					
					1	2	3	4	5	Calm
Jan	30	4.8	0.4	30	0	3	7	15	0	5
Feb	27	4.8	0.6	27	0	4	4	14	0	5
Mar	29	5.5	0.7	29	0	2	10	16	0	1
Apr	29	5.3	0.8	29	0	0	4	23	0	2
May	30	5.0	0.5	30	0	0	2	22	0	6
Jun	30	5.5	0.5	30	0	1	4	18	0	7
Jul	31	5.3	0.4	31	0	2	1	20	1	7
Aug	31	5.6	0.8	31	0	0	4	26	1	0
Sep	30	4.8	0.2	30	0	8	2	14	0	6
Oct	31	4.1	0.3	31	0	8	5	12	1	5
Nov	30	4.8	0.6	30	0	3	7	18	0	2
Dec	31	3.4	0.4	31	0	7	6	7	0	11
Whole Year	**359**	**4.9**	**0.5**	**359**	**0**	**38**	**56**	**205**	**3**	**57**

Table 7 Monthly and annual – mean wave height/mean wave period and wave direction occurrences. Slade Point. Year 1983

Month	No. Observations	Mean Wave Period (s)	Mean Wave Height (m)	No of Obs.	Percentage occurences - wave direction (Sector)					
					1	2	3	4	5	Calm
Jan	30	5.9	0.7	30	0	6	1	22	0	1
Feb	28	4.5	0.6	28	0	0	7	21	0	0
Mar	30	5.4	0.6	30	0	5	3	15	1	6
Apr	6	5.9	0.3	6	0	2	1	2	0	1
May	26	5.6	0.8	26	0	1	1	22	0	2
Jun	30	5.6	0.6	30	0	0	0	25	0	5
Jul	31	5.5	0.5	31	0	0	1	26	0	4
Aug	30	4.1	0.5	30	0	0	1	20	0	9
Sep	25	3.1	0.3	25	0	1	0	14	0	10
Oct	26	4.3	0.4	26	0	12	2	8	0	4
Nov	0			0						
Dec	0			0						
Whole Year	**262**	**5.0**	**0.5**	**262**	**0**	**27**	**17**	**175**	**1**	**42**

6 Data Presentation

The data analysis for the Slade Point COPE stations is presented in the following figures.

LEGEND

- COPE Station
- Major Watercourses
- Local Connector Road
- Street/Local Road
- Unconstructed Road
- Railway
- Suburb

1:10,000 @ A4

0 100 200 300 400

Metres
Map Projection: Universal Transverse Mercator
Horizontal Datum: GDA 1994
Grid: GDA 1994 MGA Zone 55

N

Department of Science, Innovation Technology and Innovation
COPE Data Reports - Hay Point Region

Job Number | 41-28646
Revision | A
Date | 07 Apr 2015

Slade Cope Site

Figure 5 Slade Point COPE Site Plan

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145 Ann Street Brisbane QLD 4000 Australia **T** 61 7 3316 3000 **F** 61 7 3316 3333 **E** bnemail@ghd.com **W** www.ghd.com

Data source: GHD: Cope Station (2015); DNRM: Rail; Major Watercourse (2014) Baseline Roads (2015); ABS: Suburb Boundaries (2014); Google Earth Pro: Imagery (Extracted 01/04/15). Created by: CW

LEGEND

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

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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Date	06 May 2015

Locality Plan

Figure 6 Slade Point COPE Locality Plan

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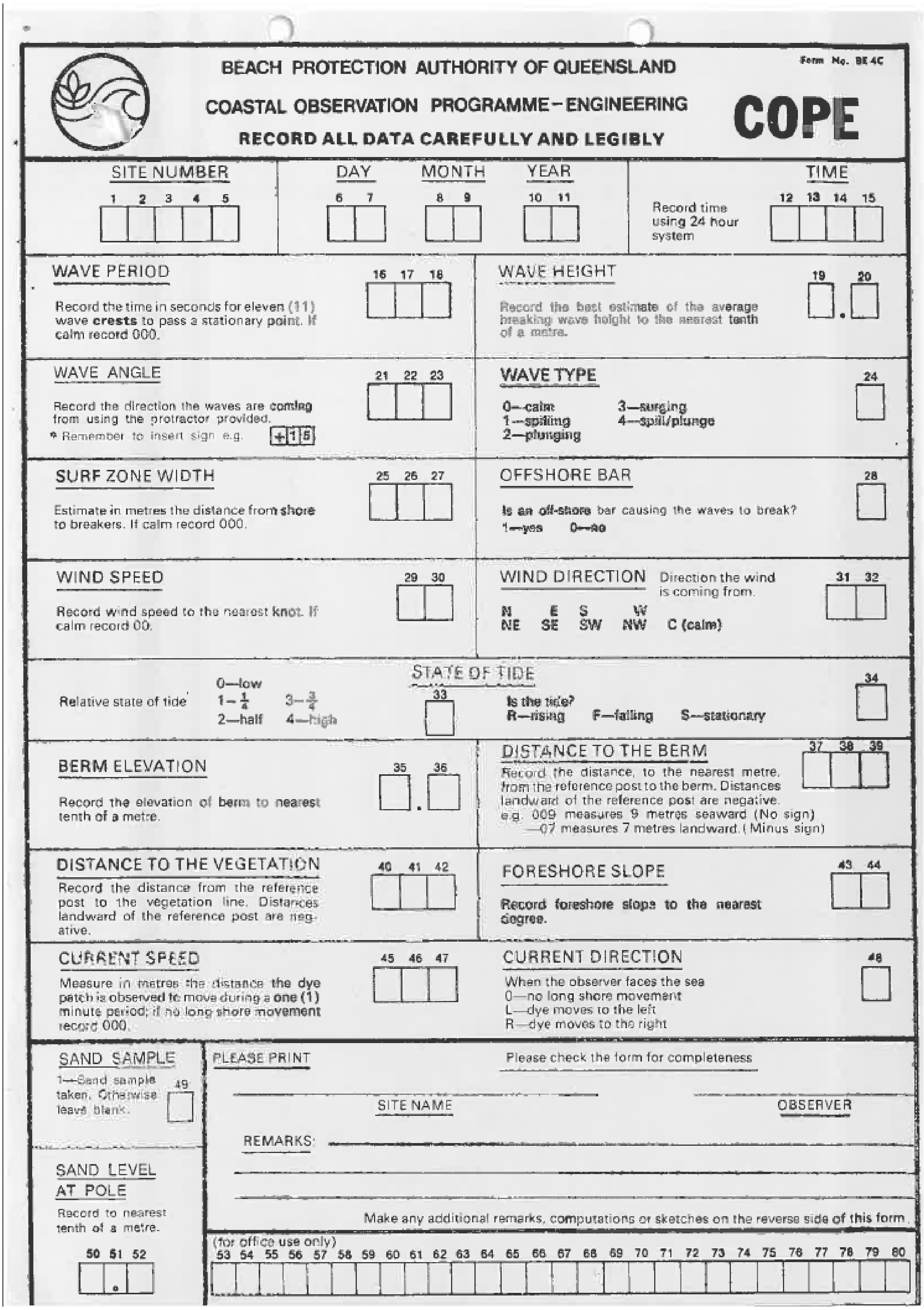
145 Ann Street Brisbane QLD 4000 Australia **T** 61 7 3316 3000 **F** 61 7 3316 3333 **E** bnemail@ghd.com **W** www.ghd.com

Data source: GHD: Cope Station (2015); DNRM: Rail; Major Watercourse (2014) Baseline Roads (2015); ABS: Suburb Boundaries (2014); Google Earth Pro: Imagery (Extracted 01/04/15). Created by: CW



Form No. BE 4C

BEACH PROTECTION AUTHORITY OF QUEENSLAND

COASTAL OBSERVATION PROGRAMME – ENGINEERING

RECORD ALL DATA CAREFULLY AND LEGIBLY

COPE

SITE NUMBER 1 2 3 4 5

DAY 6 7 | MONTH 8 9 | YEAR 10 11

TIME 12 13 14 15 — Record time using 24 hour system

WAVE PERIOD 16 17 18 — Record the time in seconds for eleven (11) wave **crests** to pass a stationary point. If calm record 000.

WAVE HEIGHT 19 . 20 — Record the best estimate of the average breaking wave height to the nearest tenth of a metre.

WAVE ANGLE 21 22 23 — Record the direction the waves are coming from using the protractor provided.
* Remember to insert sign e.g. + 1 5

WAVE TYPE 24 — 0—calm 1—spilling 2—plunging 3—surging 4—spill/plunge

SURF ZONE WIDTH 25 26 27 — Estimate in metres the distance from shore to breakers. If calm record 000.

OFFSHORE BAR 28 — Is an off-shore bar causing the waves to break? 1—yes 0—no

WIND SPEED 29 30 — Record wind speed to the nearest knot. If calm record 00.

WIND DIRECTION 31 32 — Direction the wind is coming from. N NE E SE S SW W NW C (calm)

STATE OF TIDE

Relative state of tide 33 — 0—low 1—¼ 2—half 3—¾ 4—high

34 — Is the tide? R—rising F—falling S—stationary

BERM ELEVATION 35 . 36 — Record the elevation of berm to nearest tenth of a metre.

DISTANCE TO THE BERM 37 38 39 — Record the distance, to the nearest metre, from the reference post to the berm. Distances landward of the reference post are negative. e.g. 009 measures 9 metres seaward (No sign) —07 measures 7 metres landward. (Minus sign)

DISTANCE TO THE VEGETATION 40 41 42 — Record the distance from the reference post to the vegetation line. Distances landward of the reference post are negative.

FORESHORE SLOPE 43 44 — Record foreshore slope to the nearest degree.

CURRENT SPEED 45 46 47 — Measure in metres the distance the dye patch is observed to move during a one (1) minute period; if no long shore movement record 000.

CURRENT DIRECTION 48 — When the observer faces the sea 0—no long shore movement L—dye moves to the left R—dye moves to the right

SAND SAMPLE 49 — 1—Sand sample taken. Otherwise leave blank.

PLEASE PRINT

Please check the form for completeness

SITE NAME

OBSERVER

REMARKS:

Make any additional remarks, computations or sketches on the reverse side of this form.

SAND LEVEL AT POLE 50 51 . 52 — Record to nearest tenth of a metre.

(for office use only) 53 54 55 56 57 58 59 60 61 62 63 64 65 66 67 68 69 70 71 72 73 74 75 76 77 78 79 80

Figure 7 COPE Recording Sheet – Old Format, Page 1

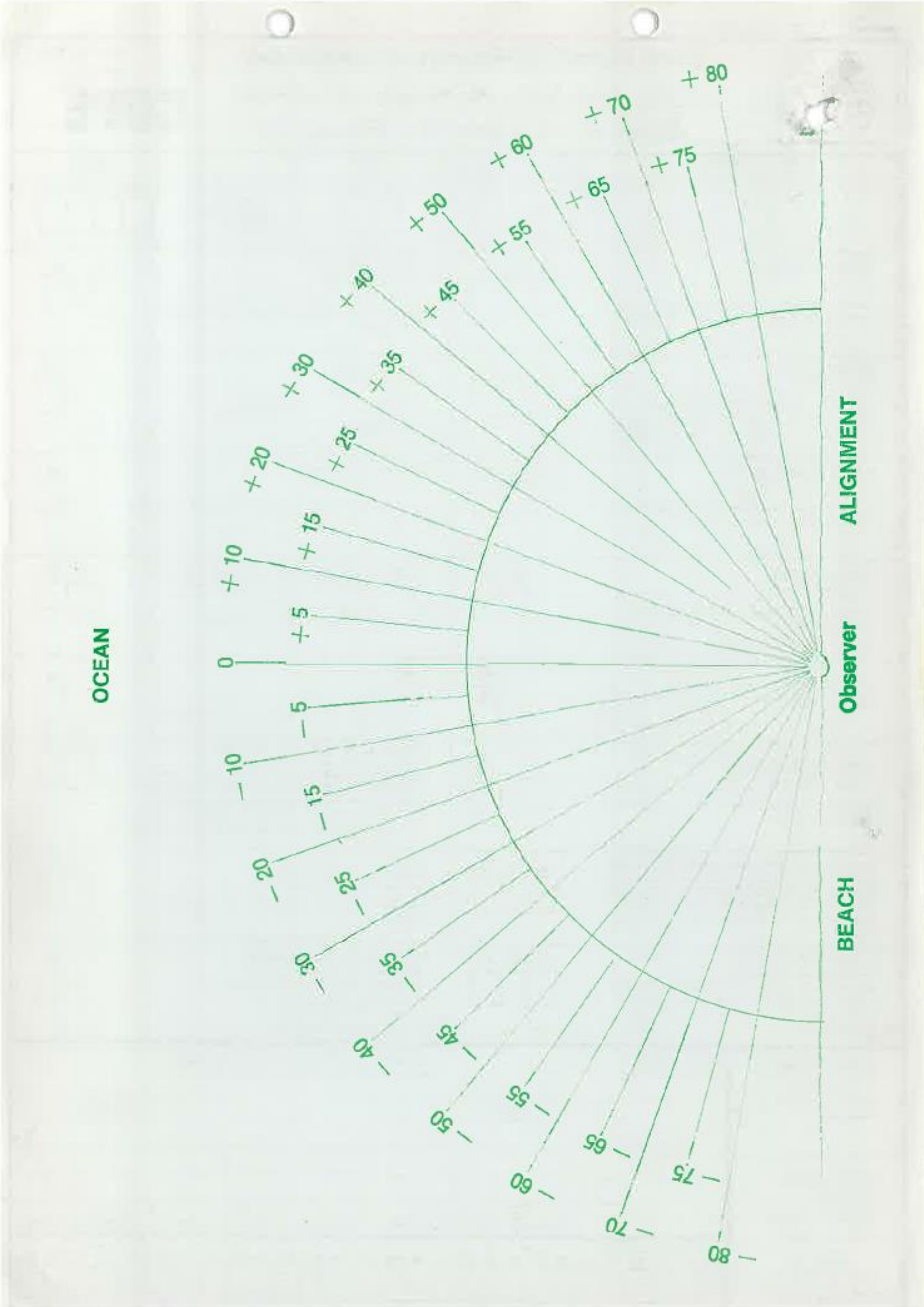


Figure 8 COPE Recording Sheet – Old Format, Page 2

Wind Rose – Slade Point

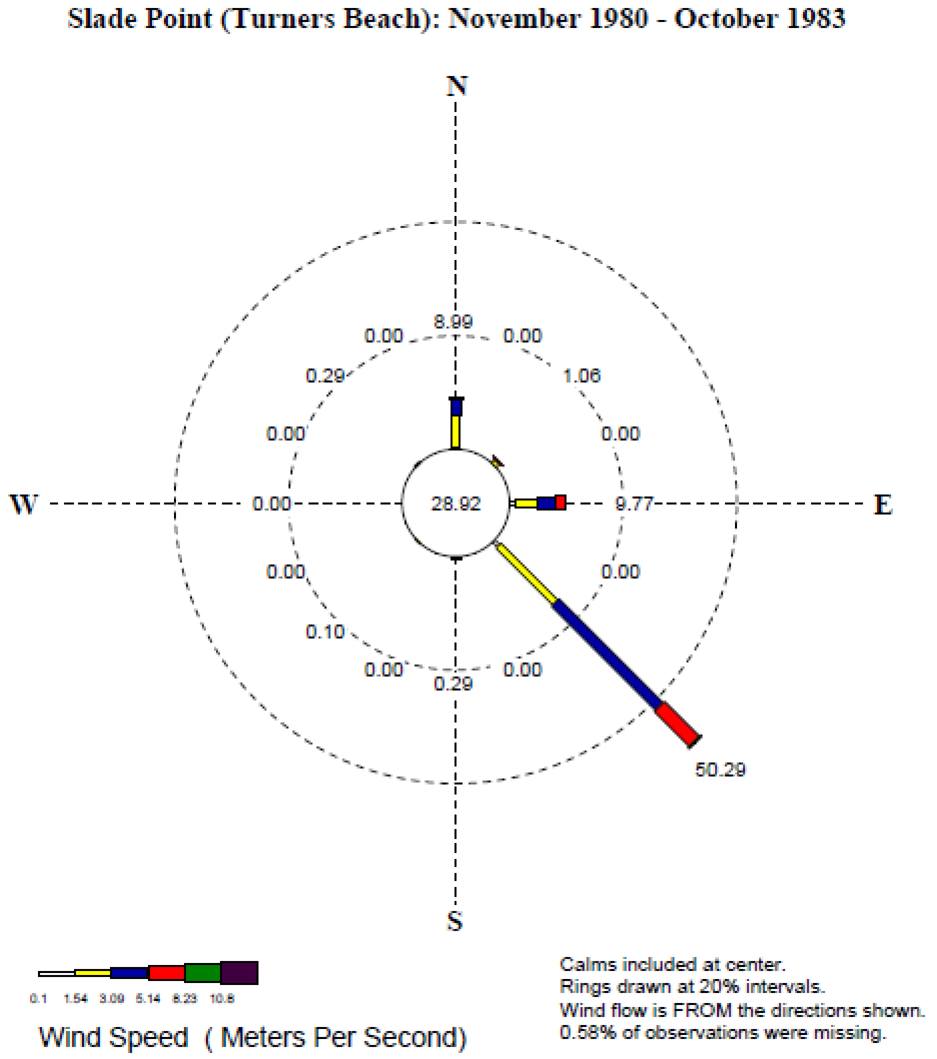


Figure 9 Wind Rose Diagram – Slade Point (Wind speed percentage occurrences)

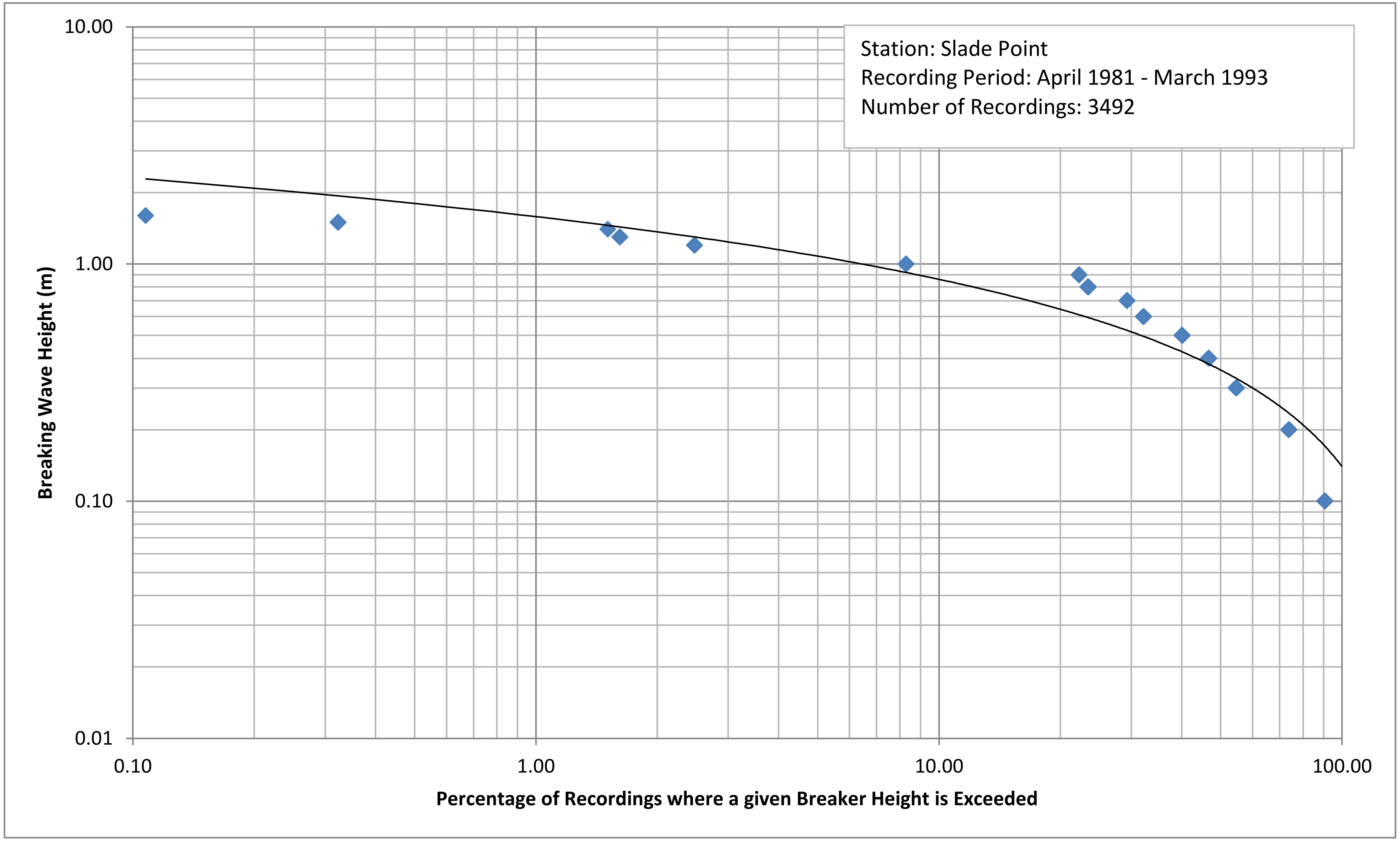


Figure 10 Wave height percentage exceedance

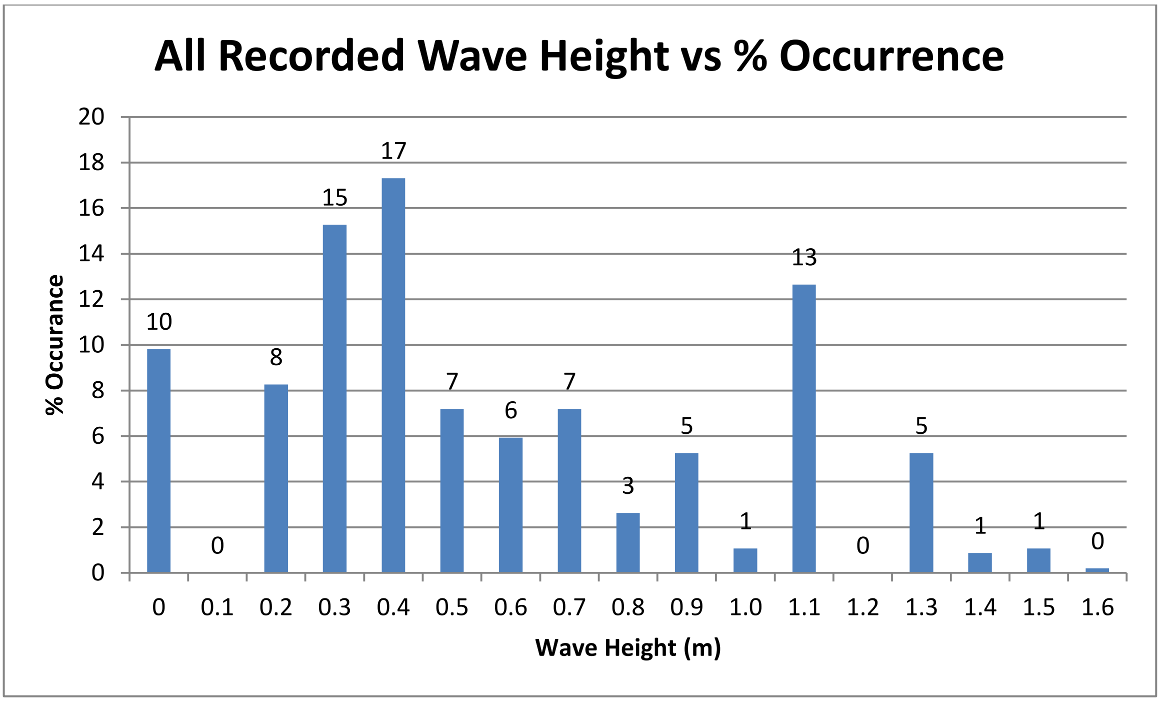


Figure 11 Percentage occurrence of wave height Nov 1980 to Oct 1983

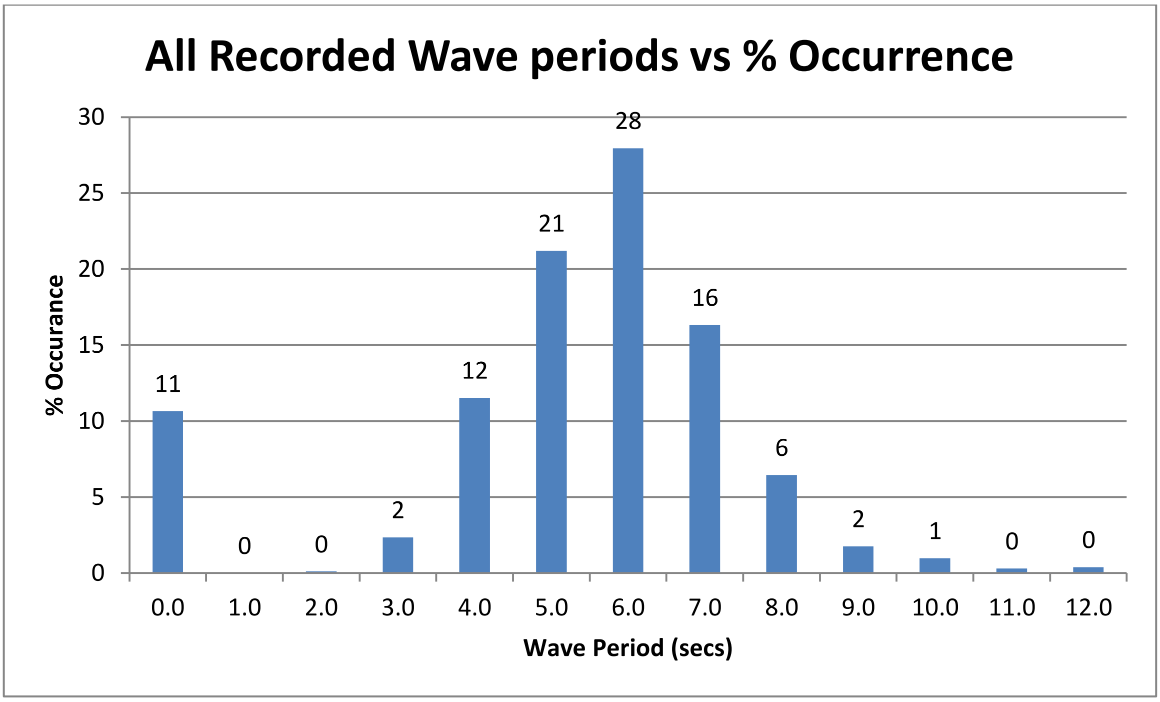


Figure 12 Percentage occurrence of wave period Nov 1980 to Oct 1983

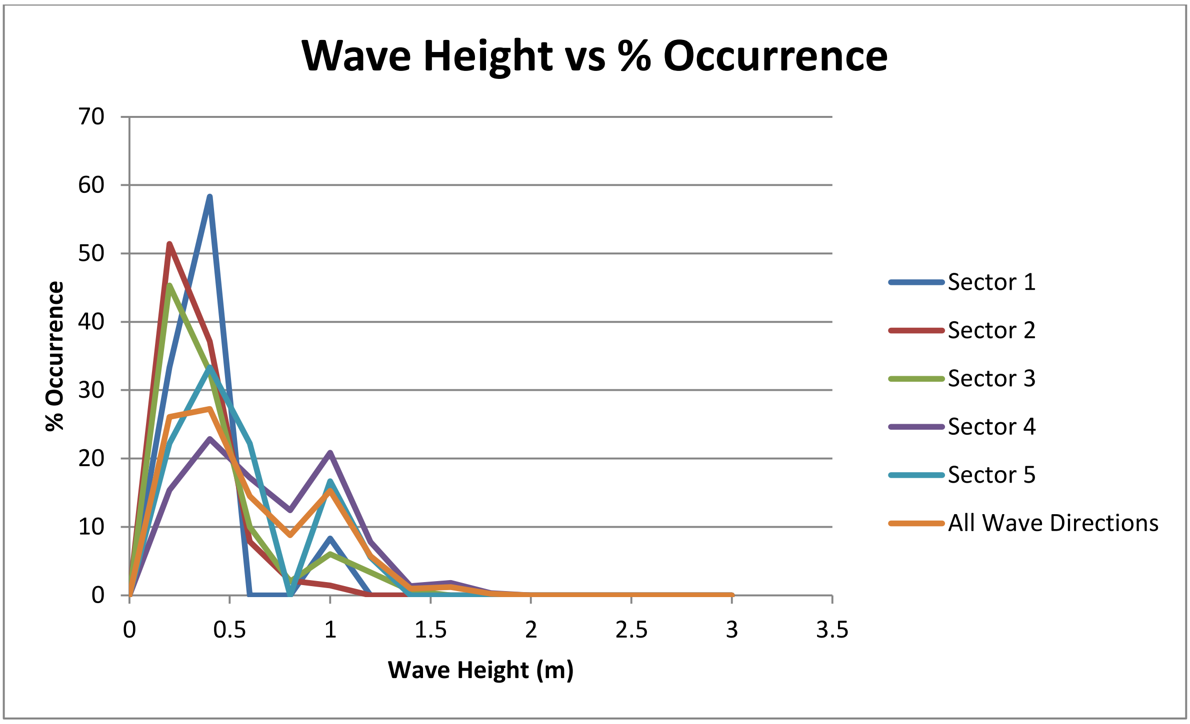


Figure 13 Wave direction analysis – wave height vs occurrence Nov 1980 to Oct 1983

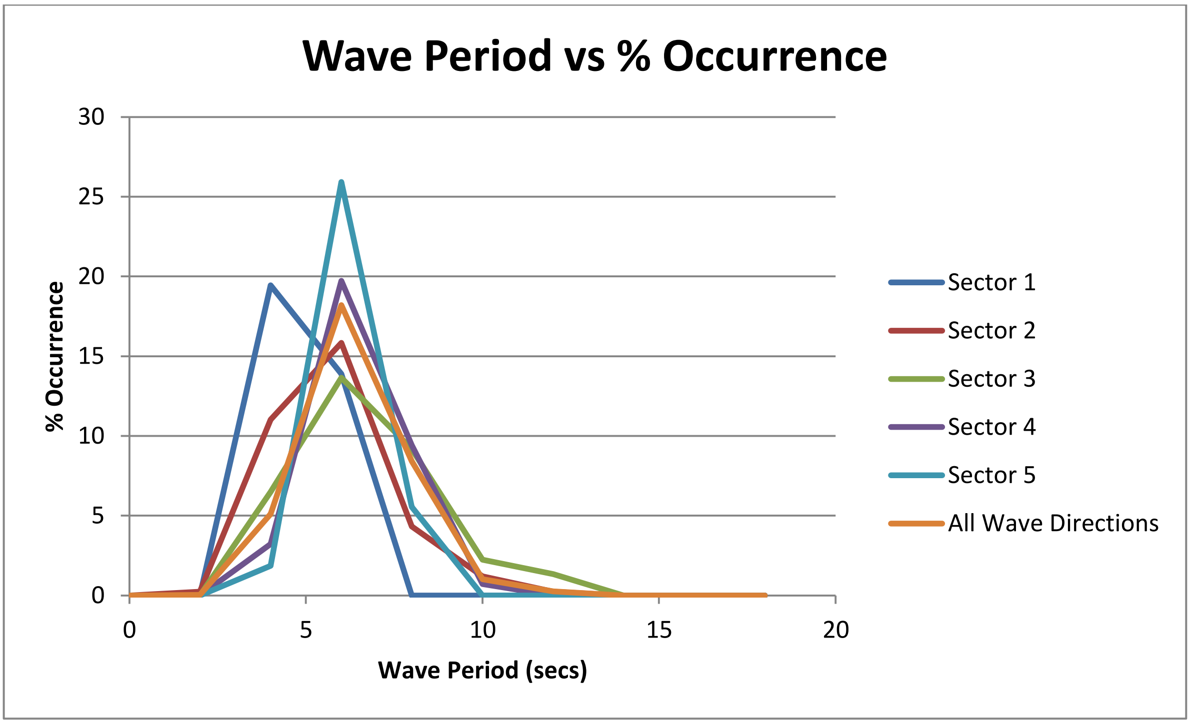


Figure 14 Wave direction analysis – wave period vs occurrence Nov 1980 to Oct 1983

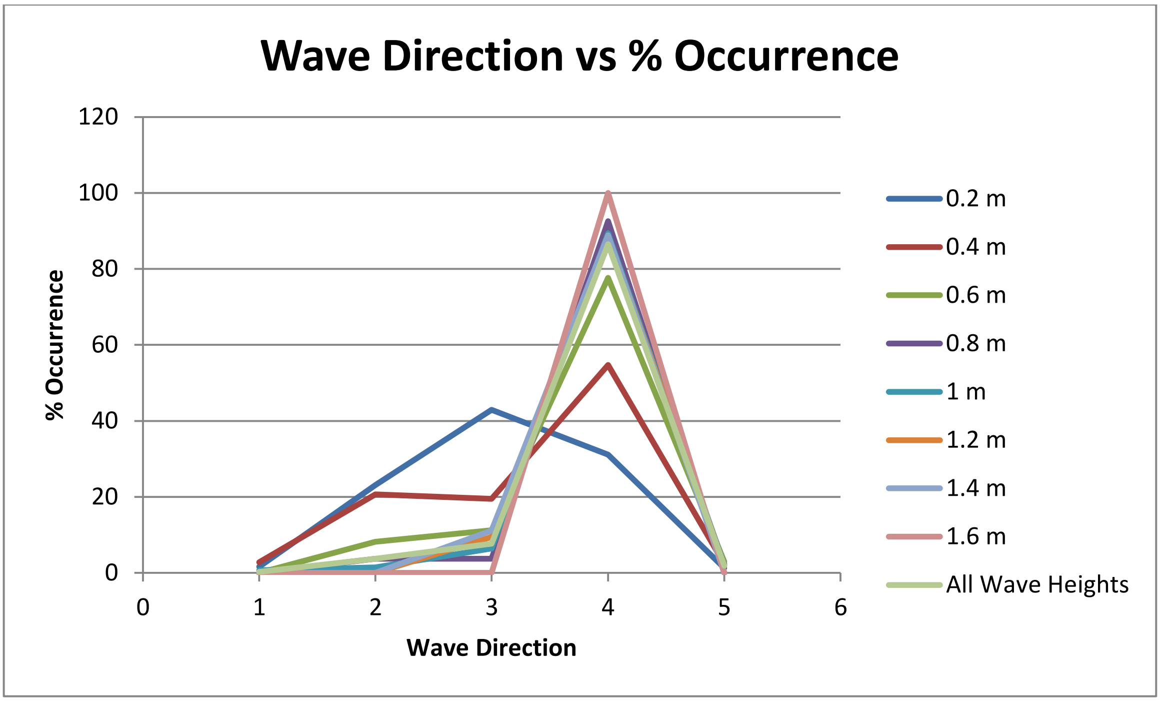


Figure 15 Wave direction analysis – wave direction vs occurrence Nov 1980 to Oct 1983

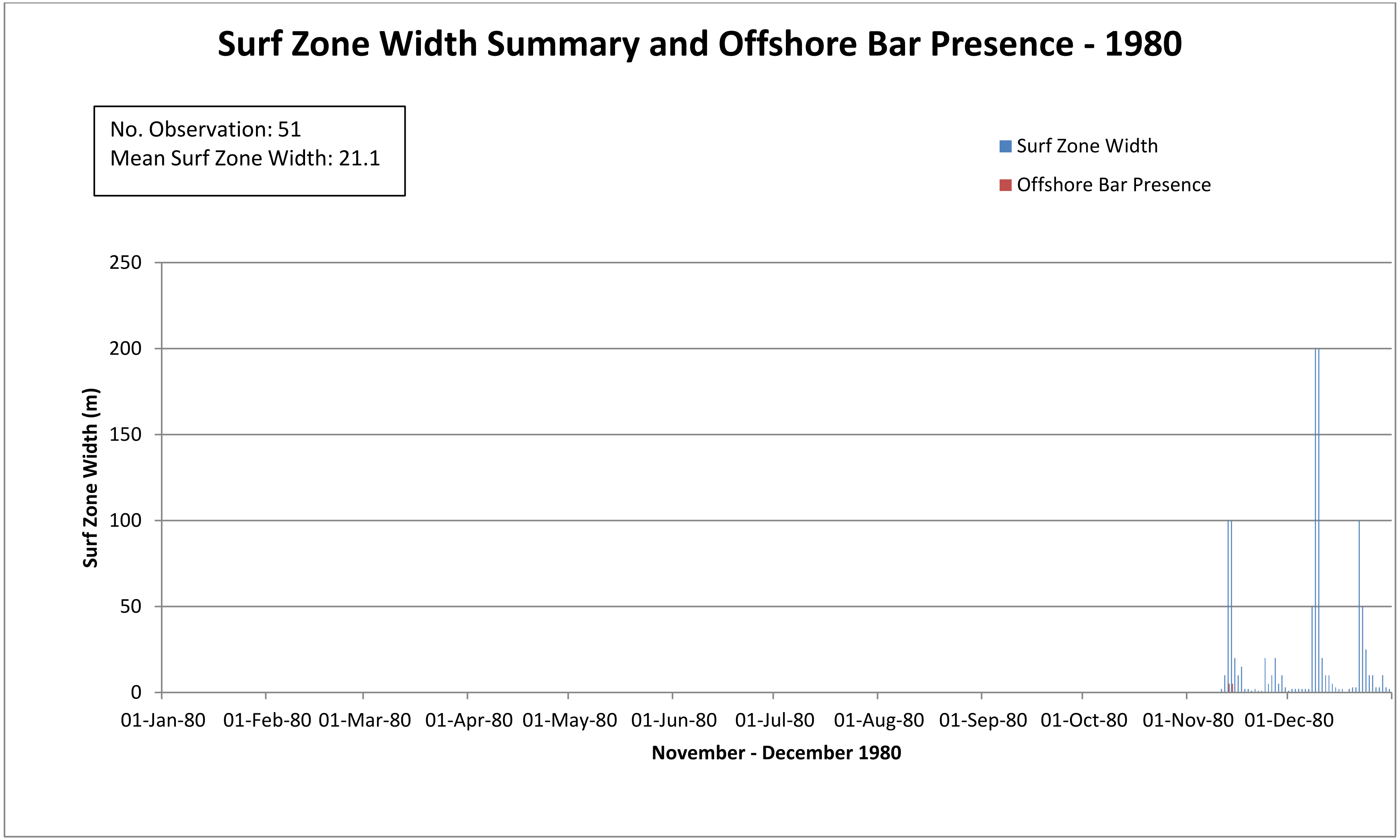


Figure 16 Surf Zone Width - 1980

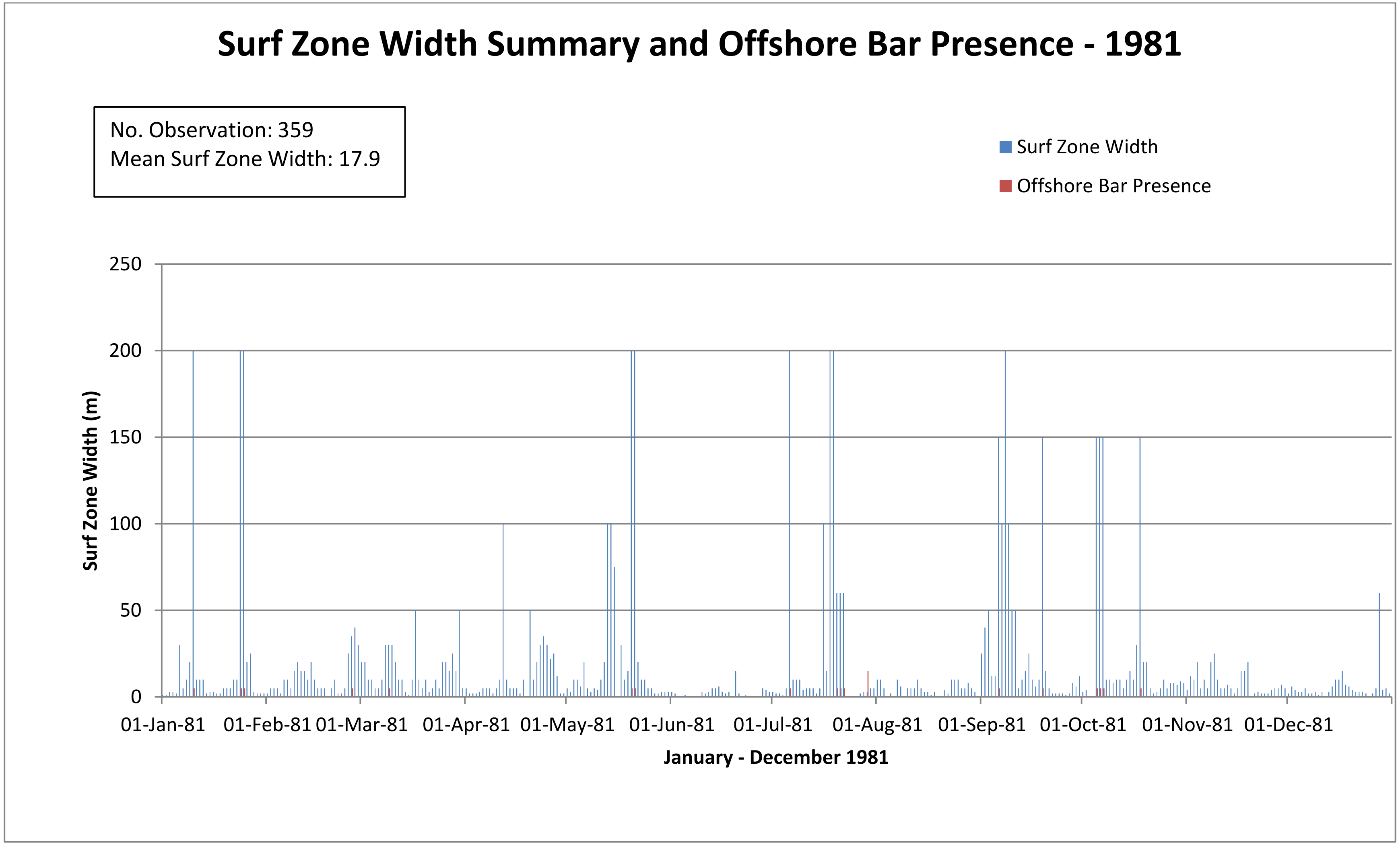


Figure 17 Surf Zone Width - 1981

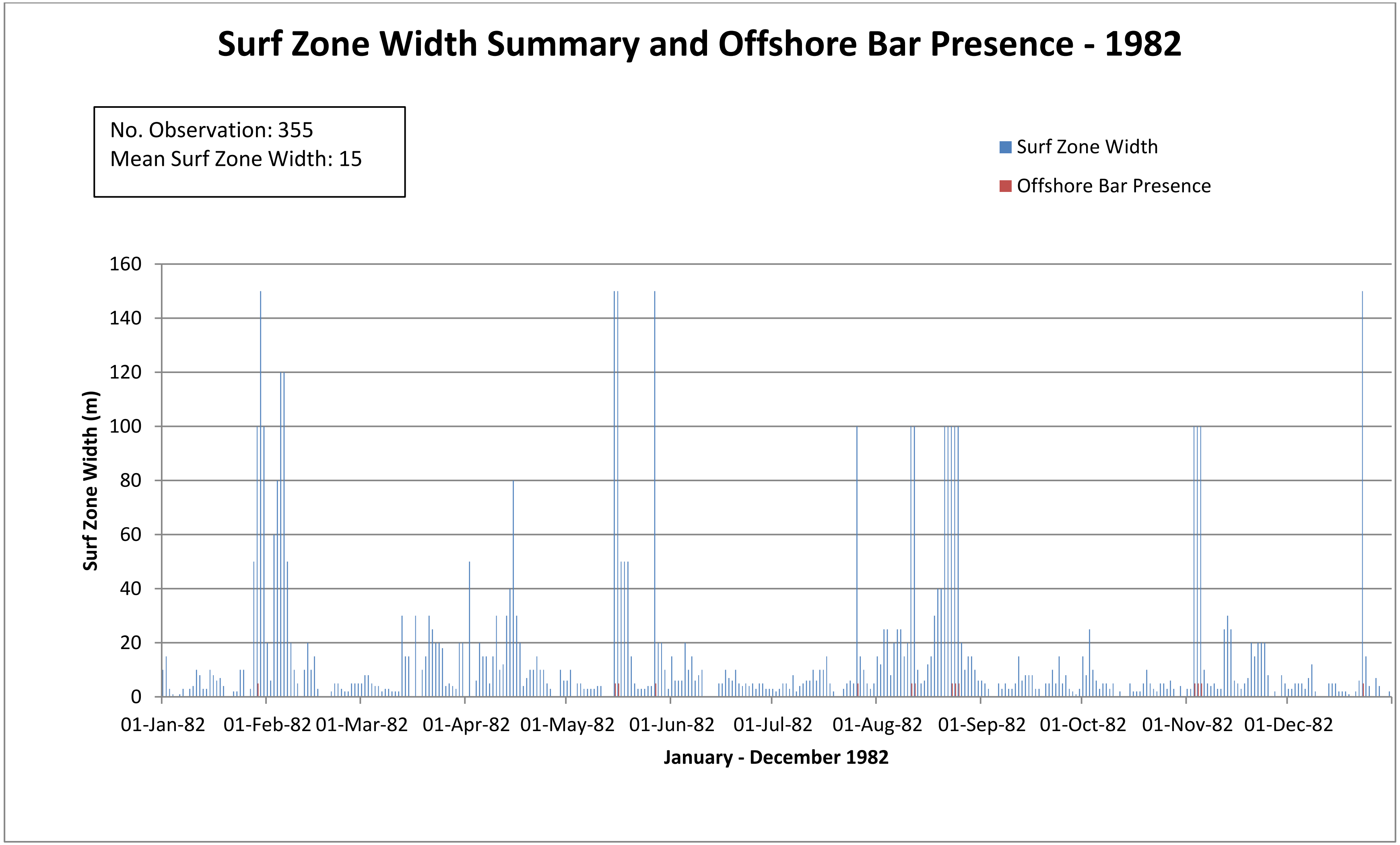


Figure 18 Surf Zone Width - 1982

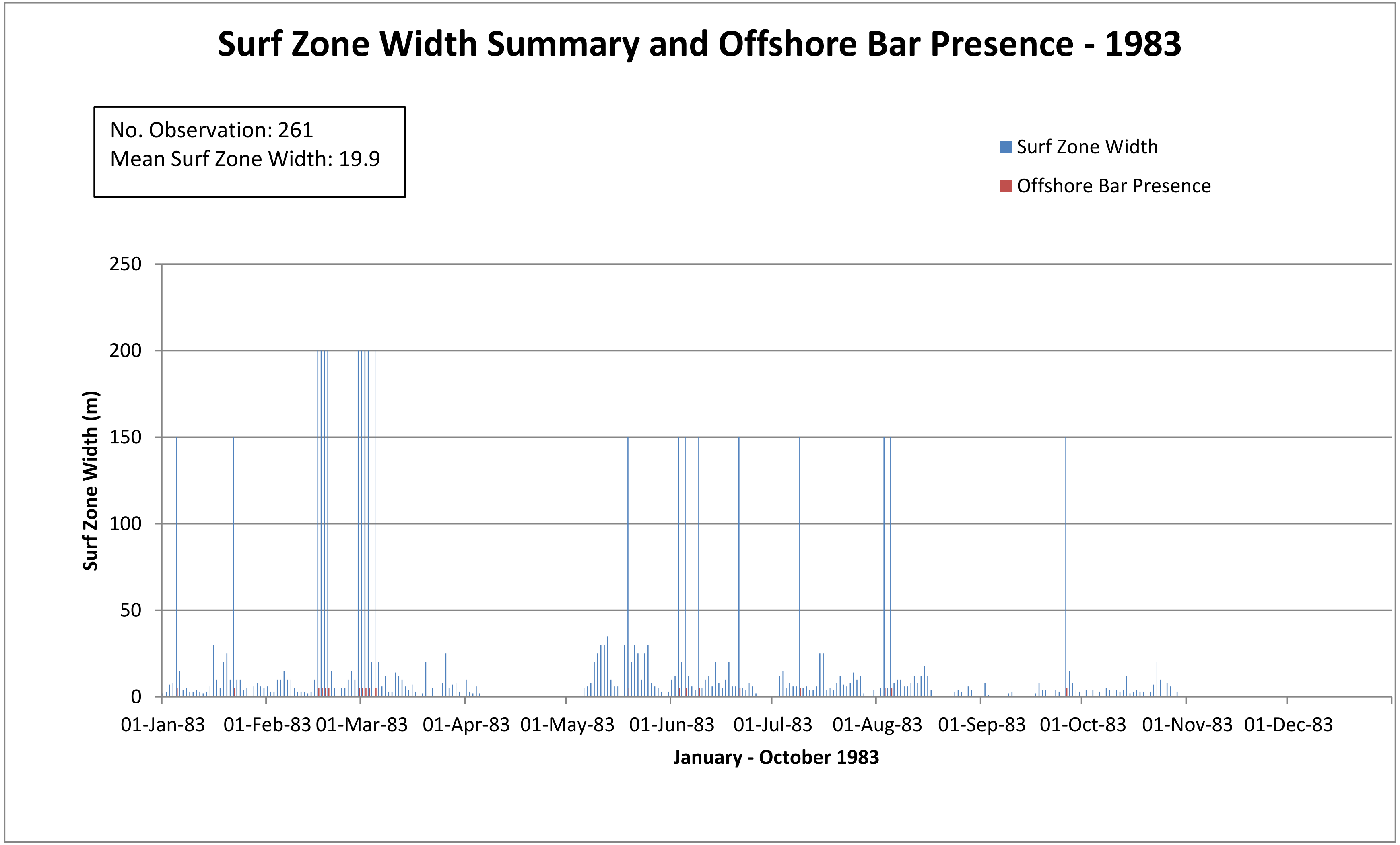


Figure 19 Surf Zone Width - 1983

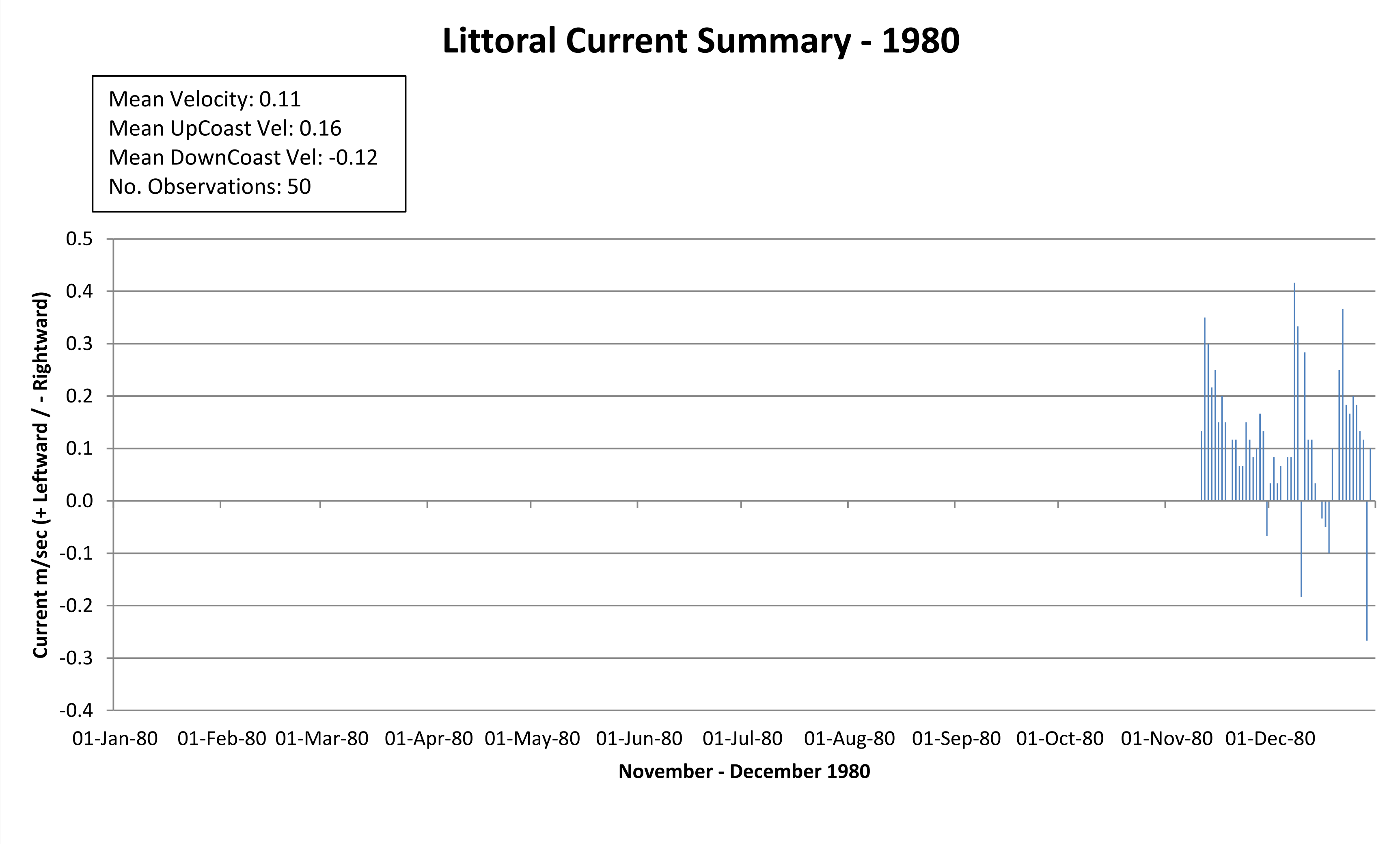


Figure 20 Littoral Current Summary 1980

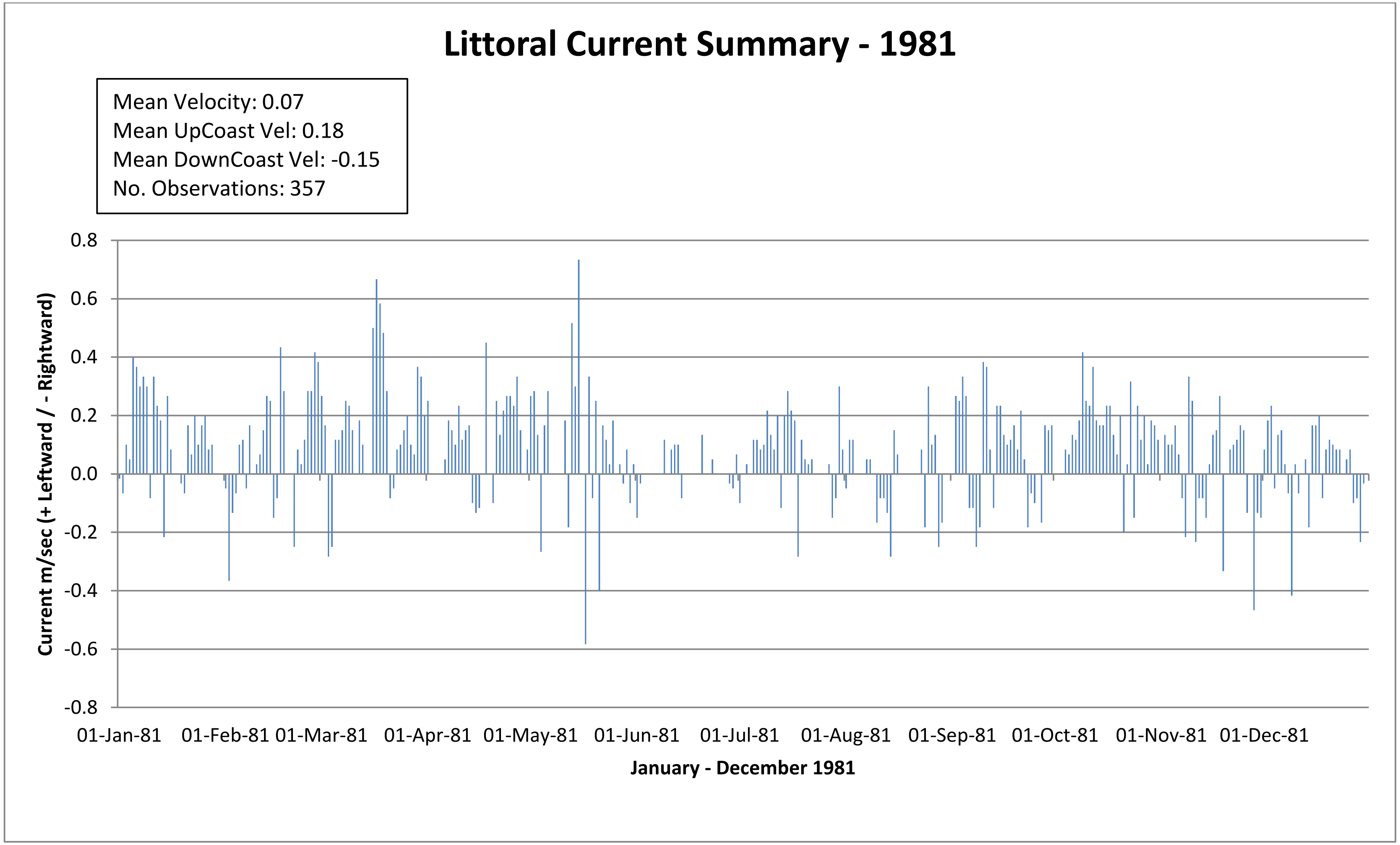


Figure 21 Littoral Current Summary 1981

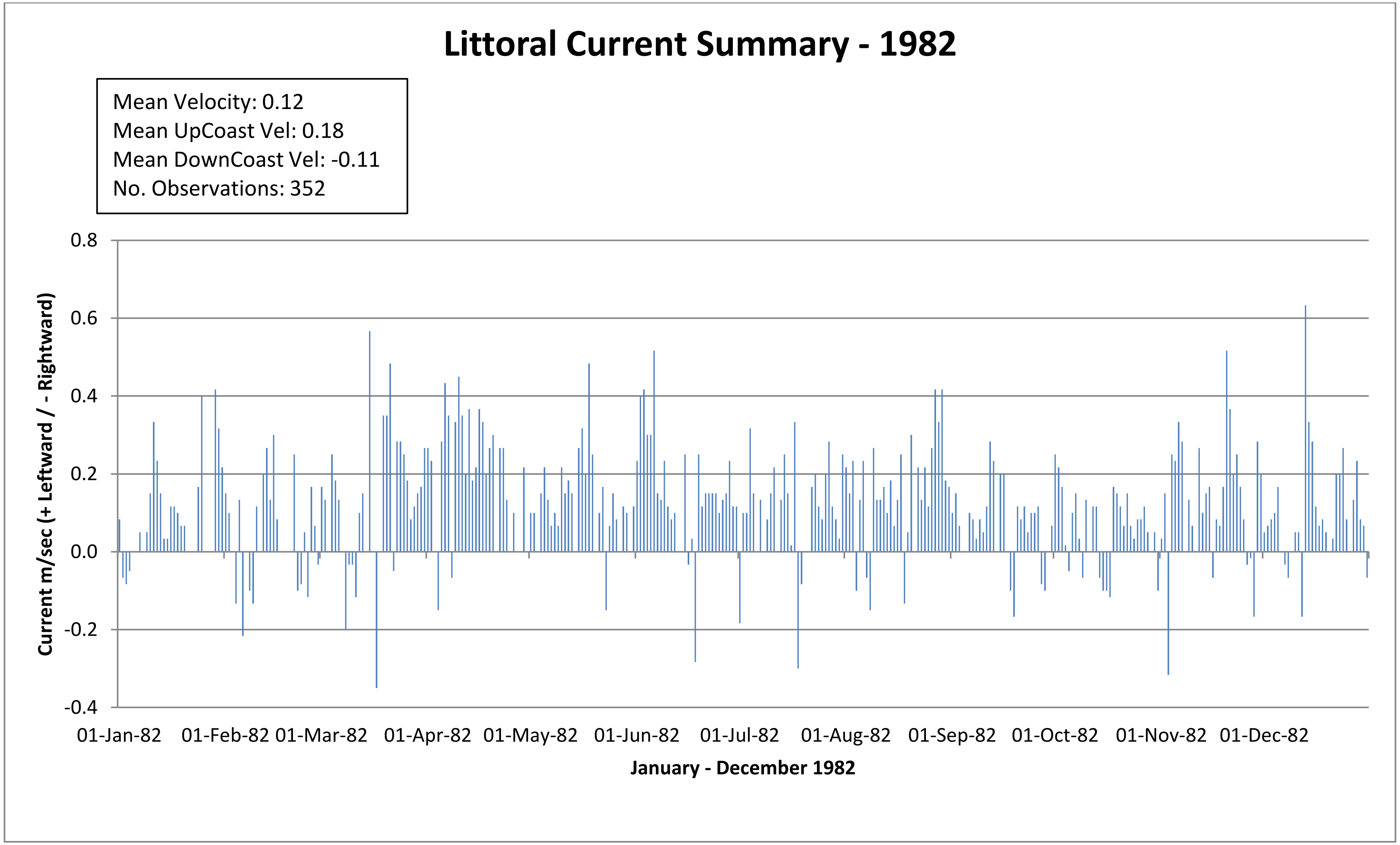


Figure 22 Littoral Current Summary 1982

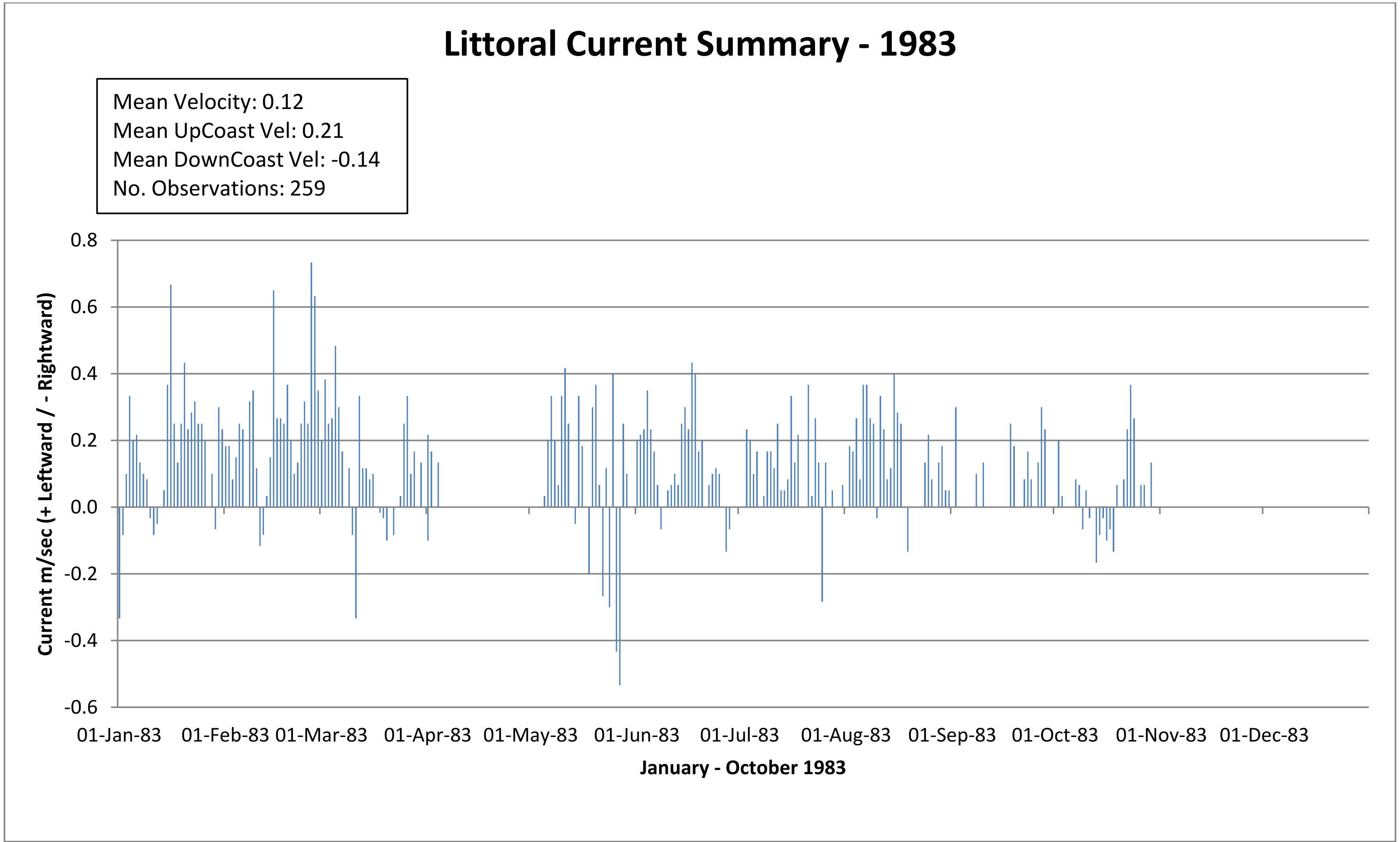


Figure 23 Littoral Current Summary 1983

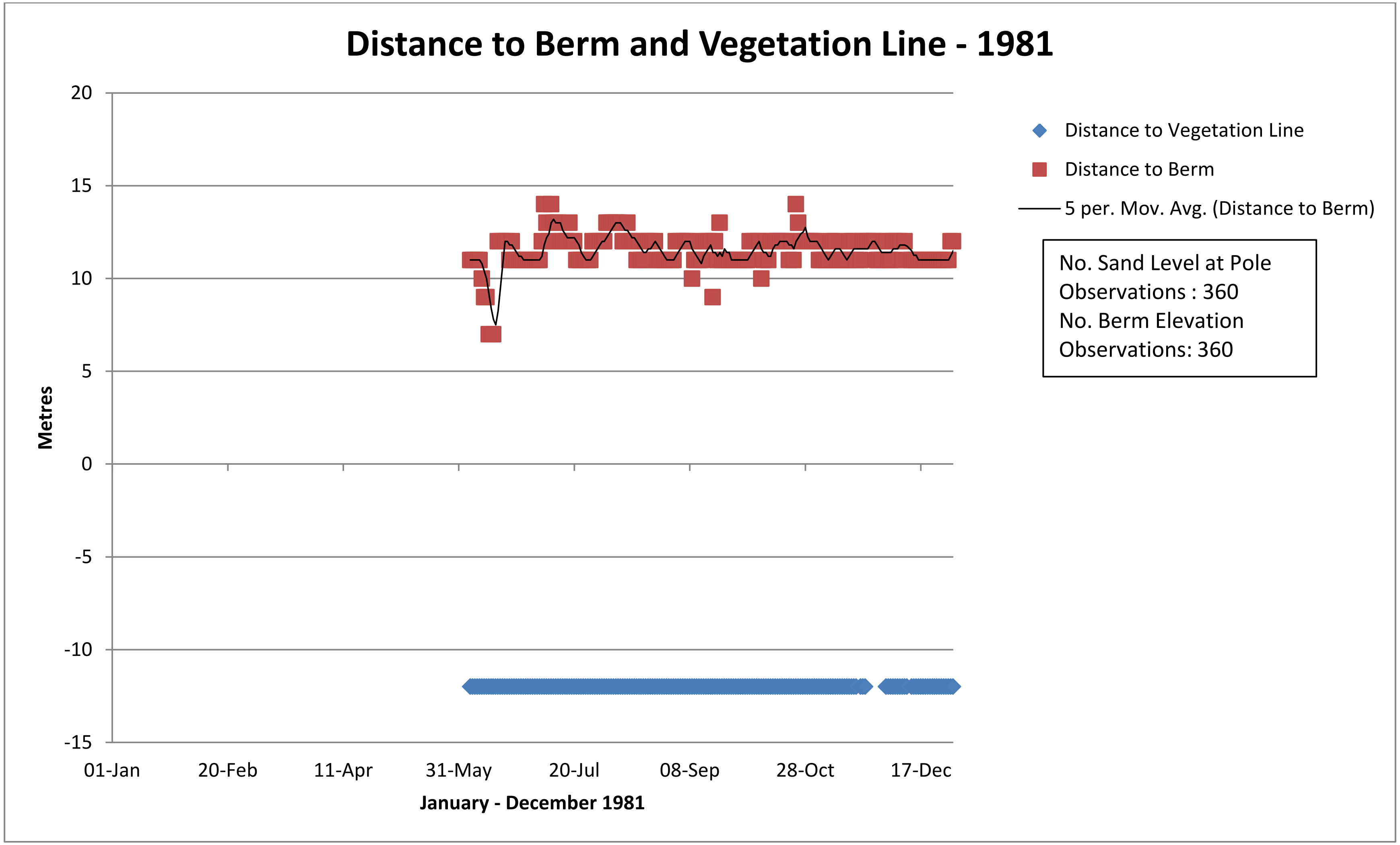


Figure 24 Beach profile parameters – Distance to berm and vegetation line- 1981

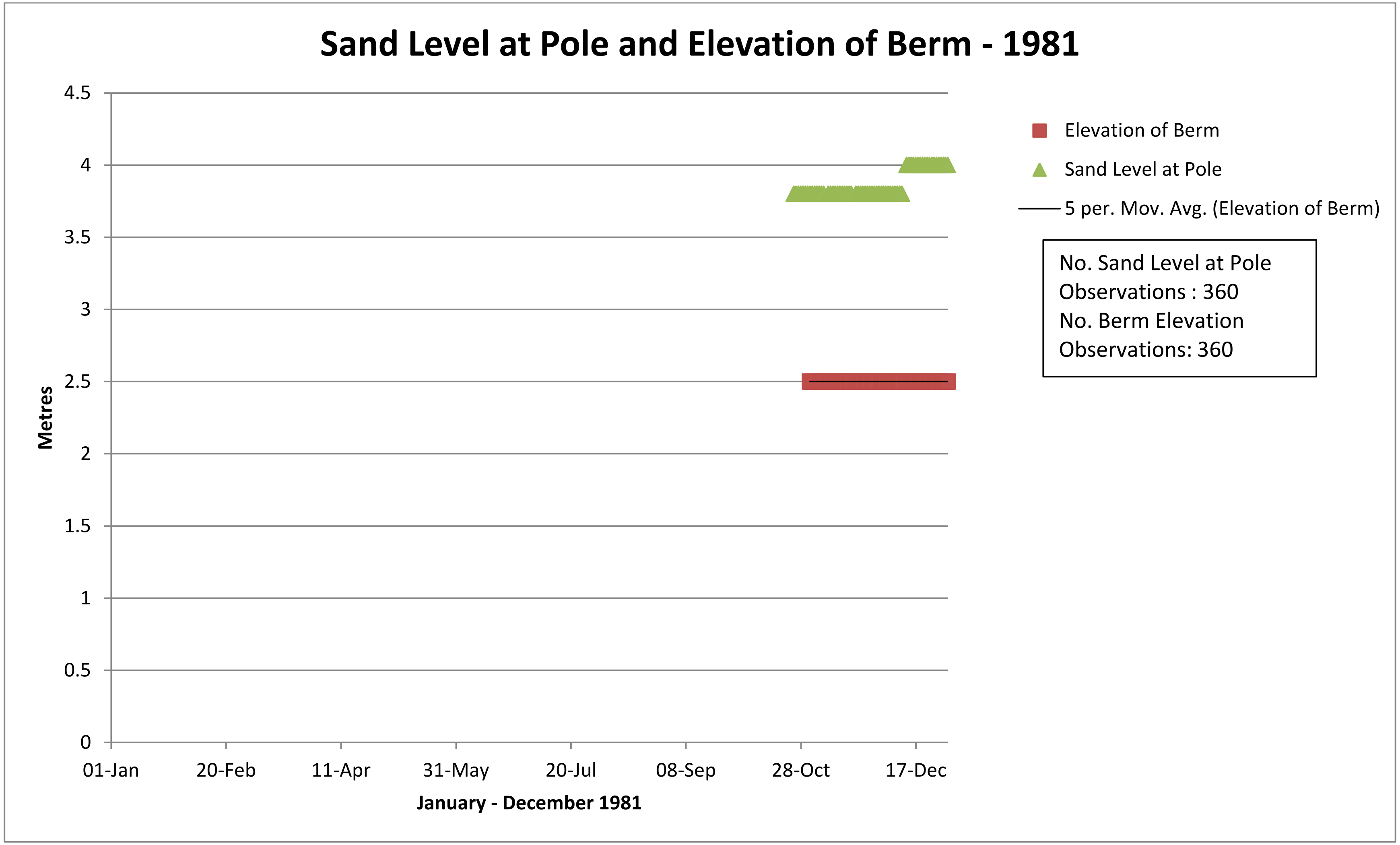


Figure 25 Beach profile parameters – Sand level at pole and elevation of berm- 1981

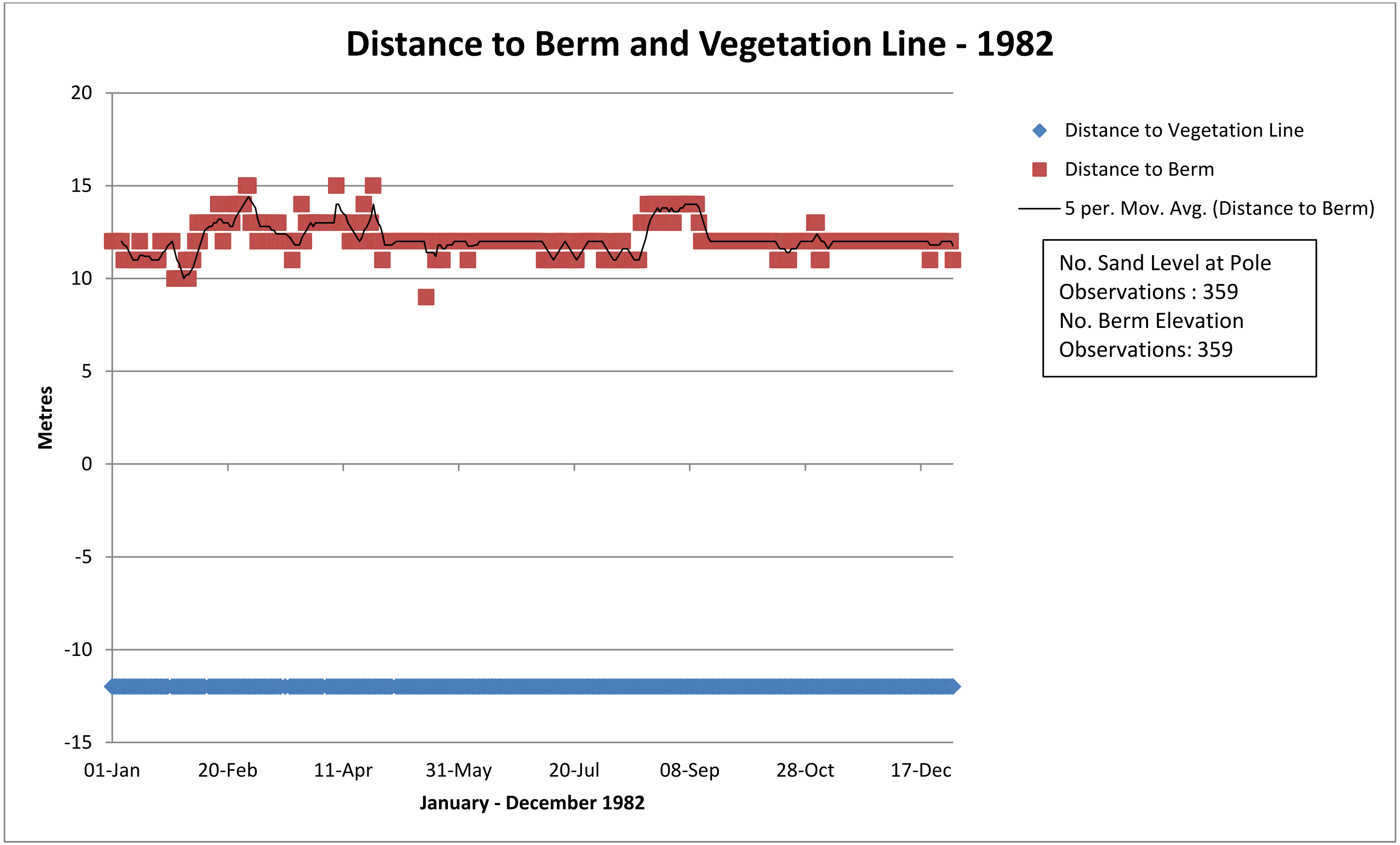


Figure 26 Beach profile parameters – Distance to berm and vegetation line- 1982

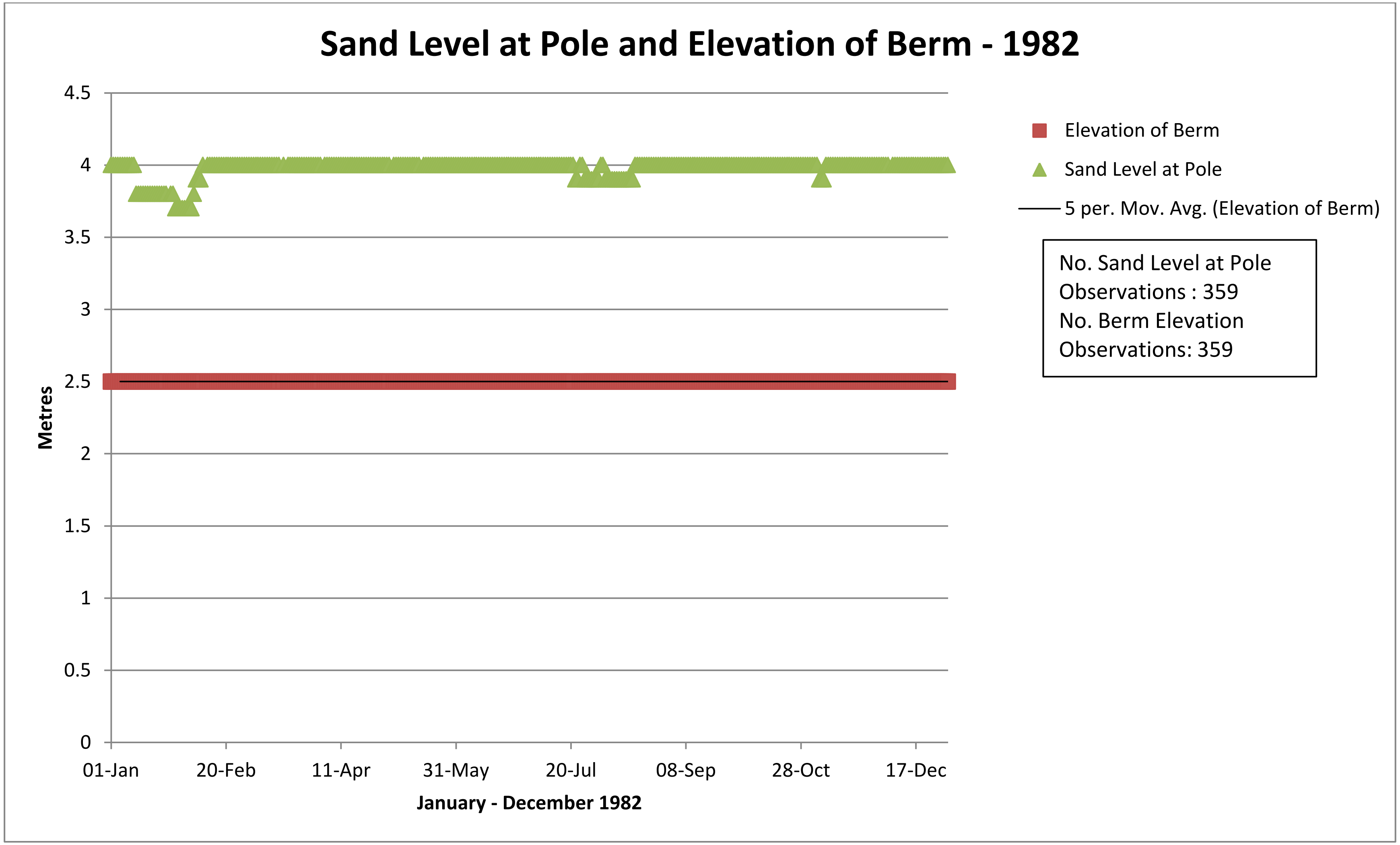


Figure 27 Beach profile parameters – Sand level at pole and elevation of berm- 1982

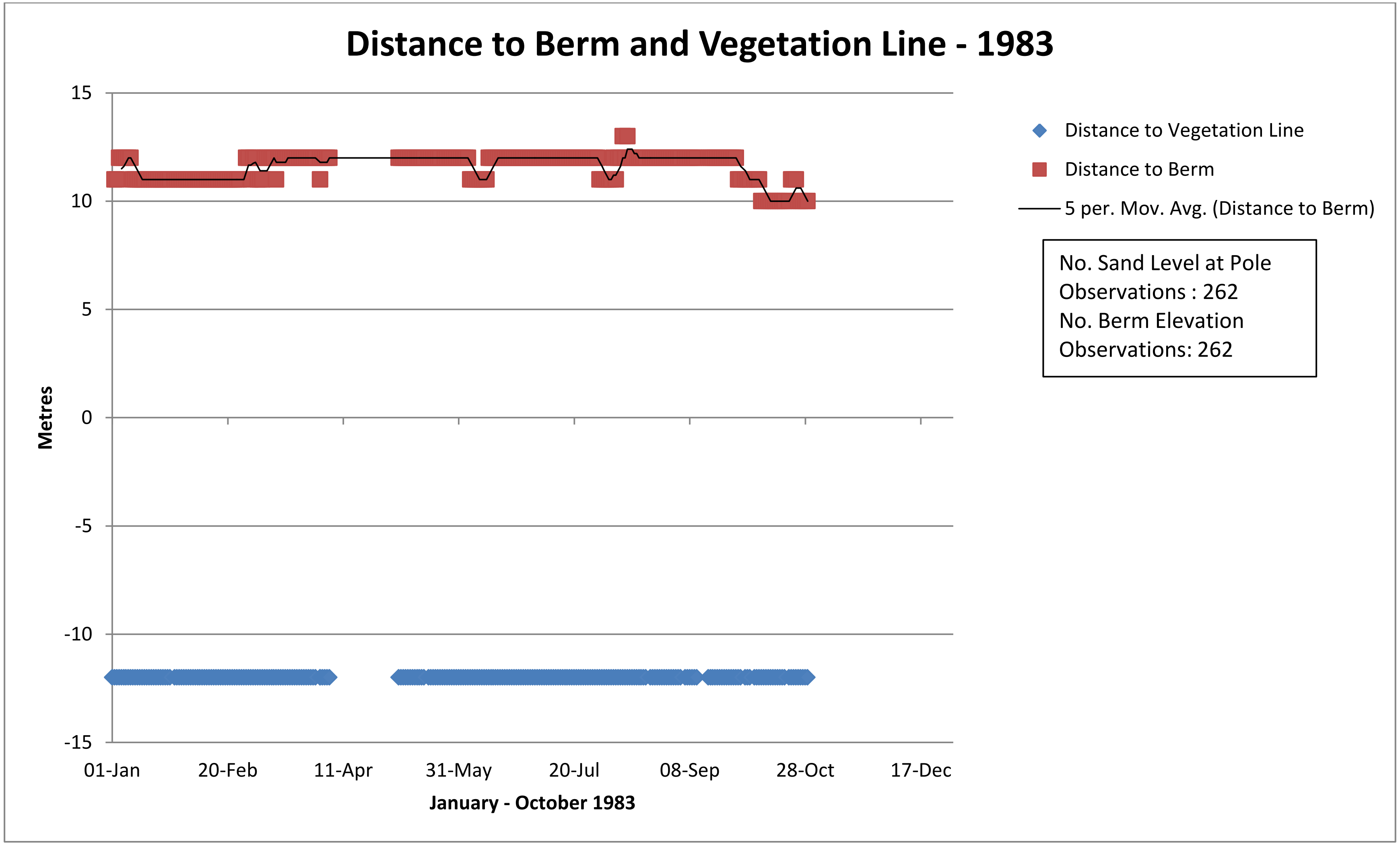


Figure 28 Beach profile parameters – Distance to berm and vegetation line- 1983

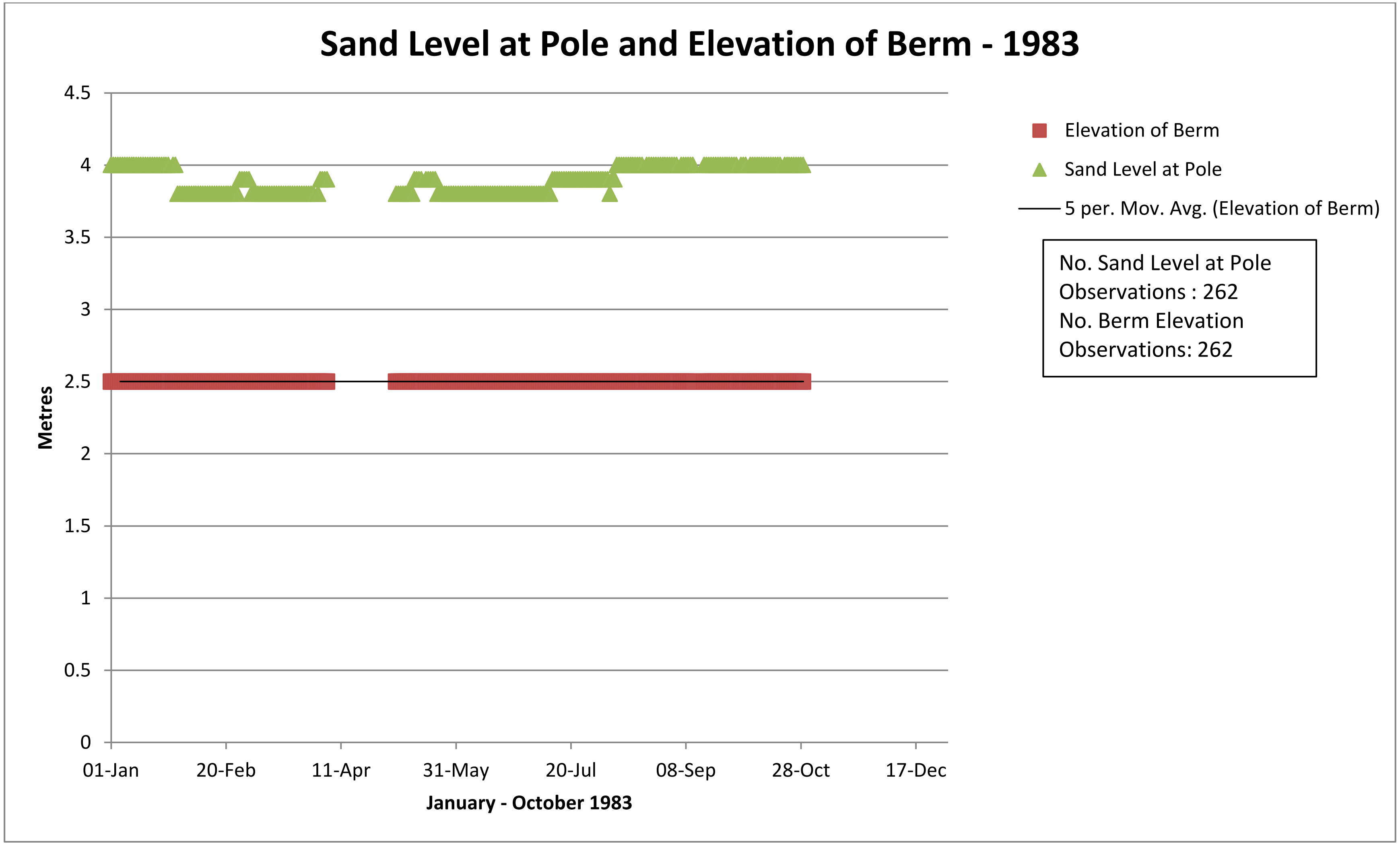


Figure 29 Beach profile parameters – Sand level at pole and elevation of berm- 1983

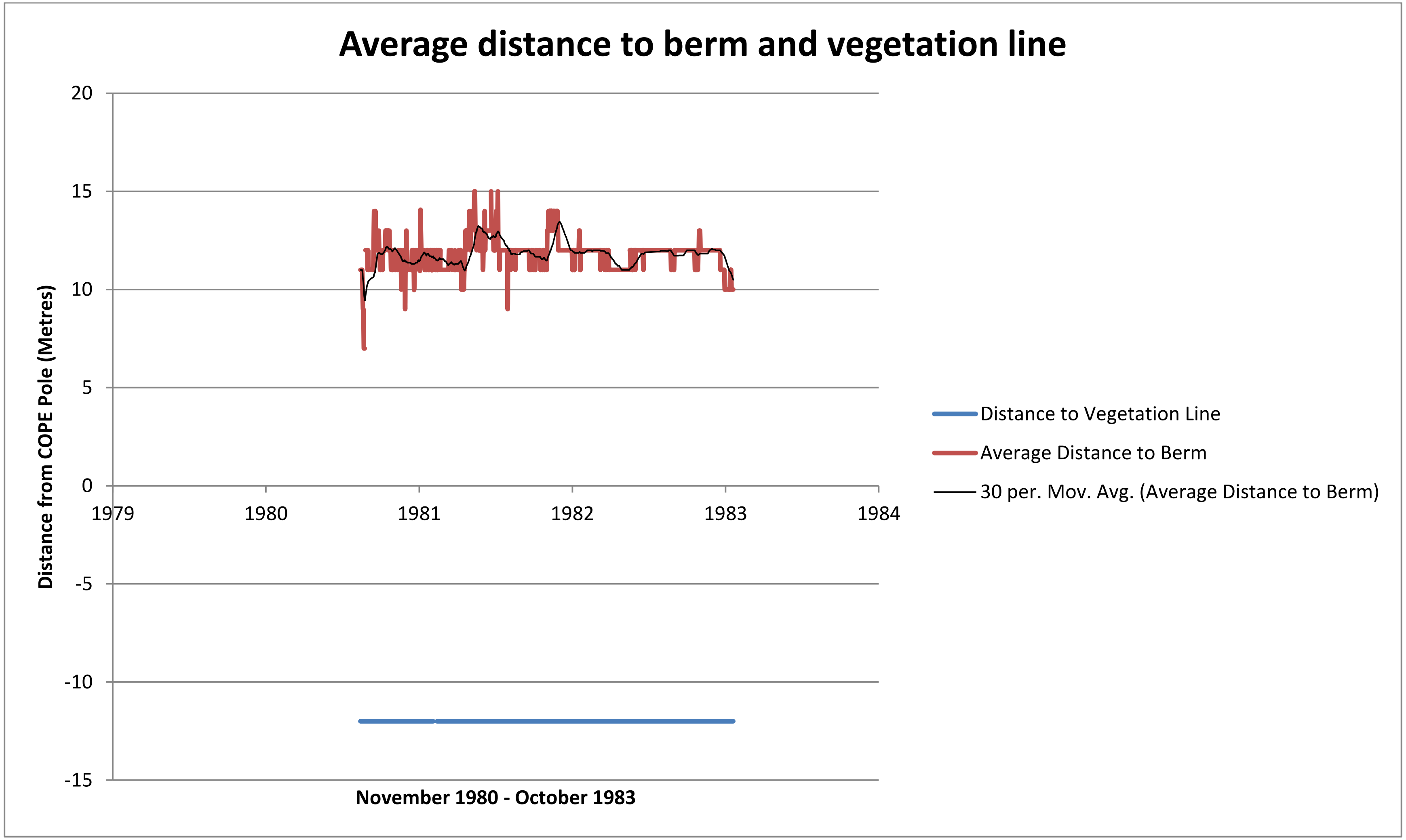


Figure 30 **Average distance to berm and vegetation line**

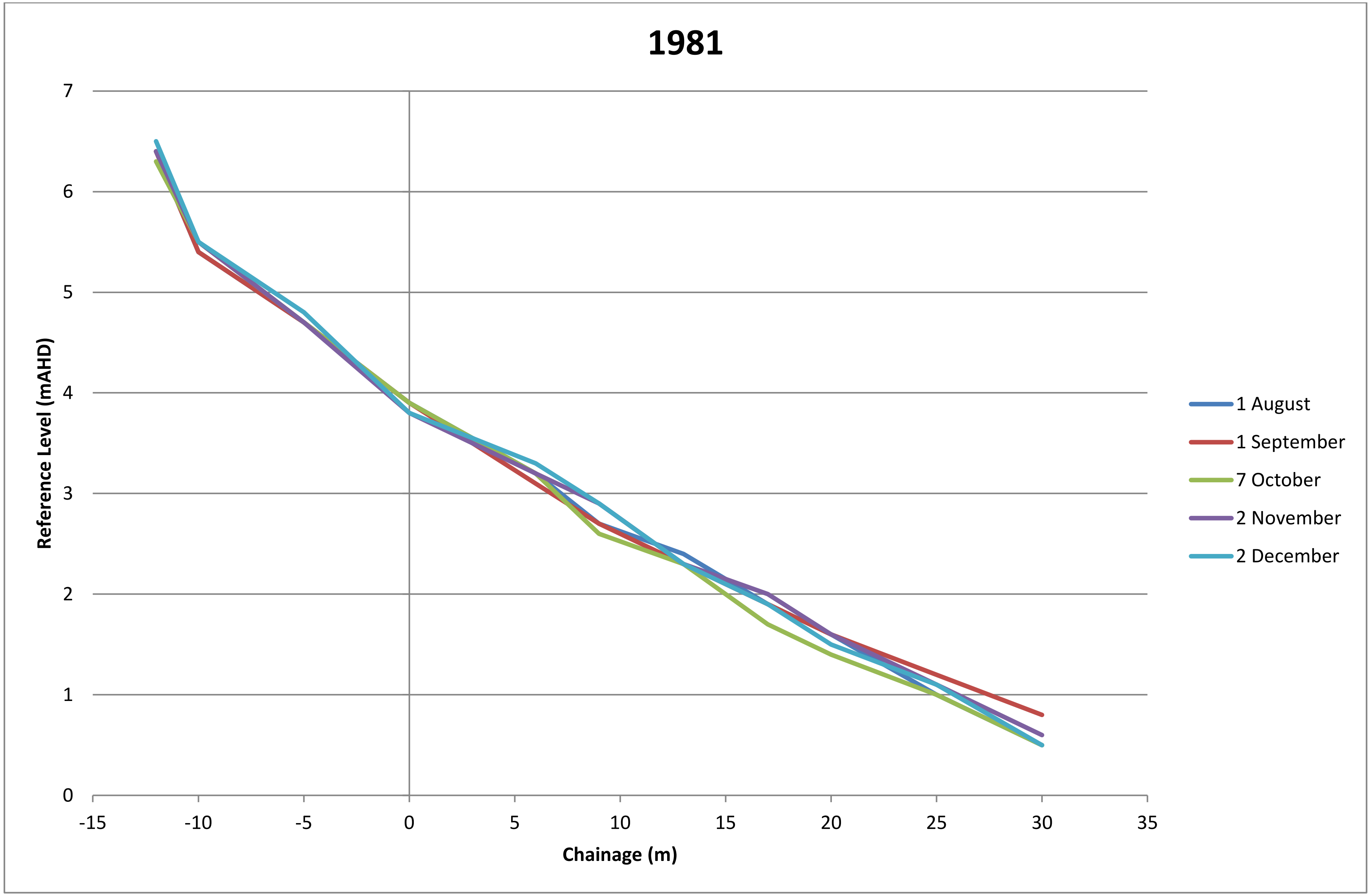


Figure 31 Monthly beach profile – 1981

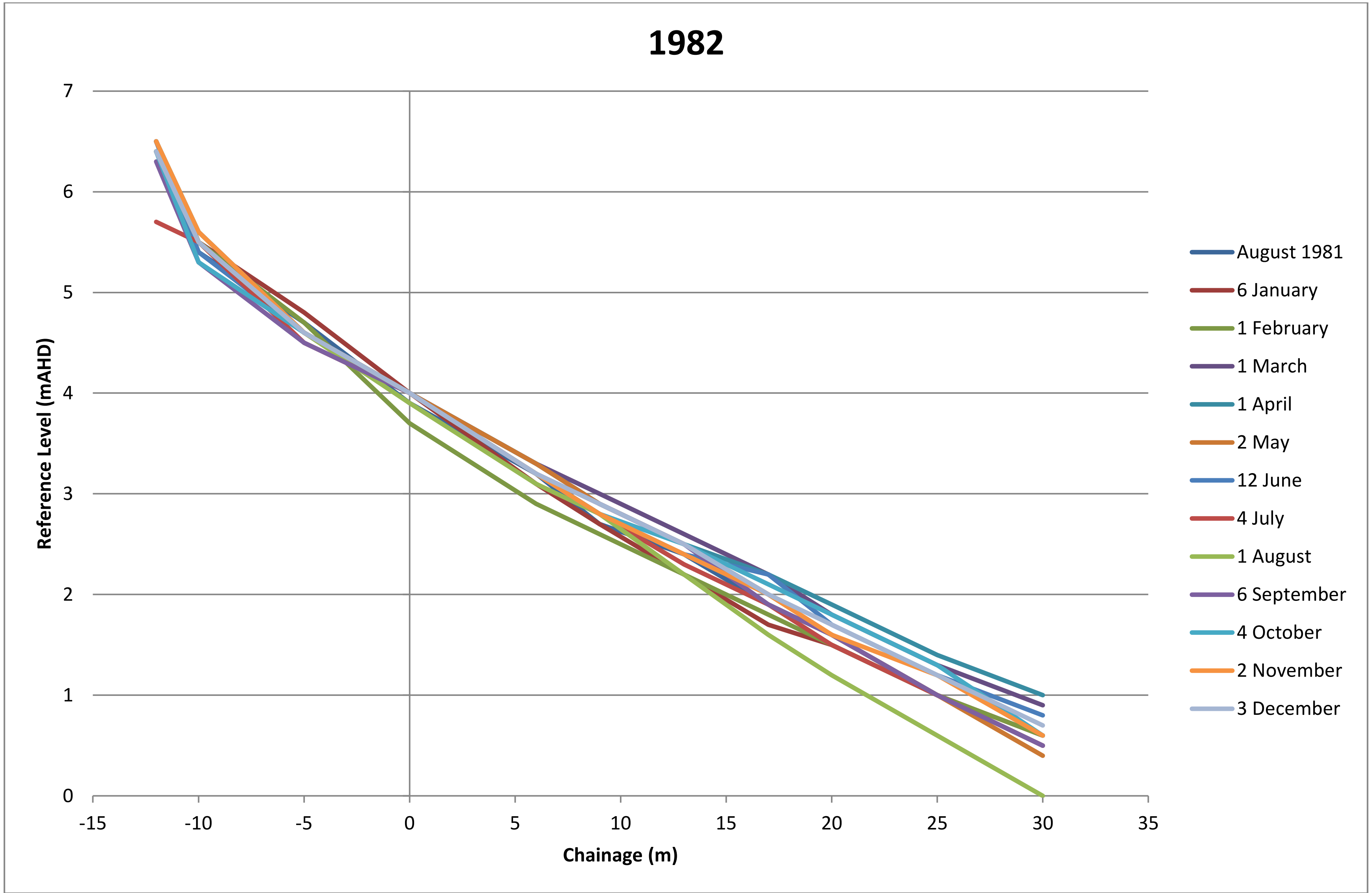


Figure 32 Monthly beach profile - 1982

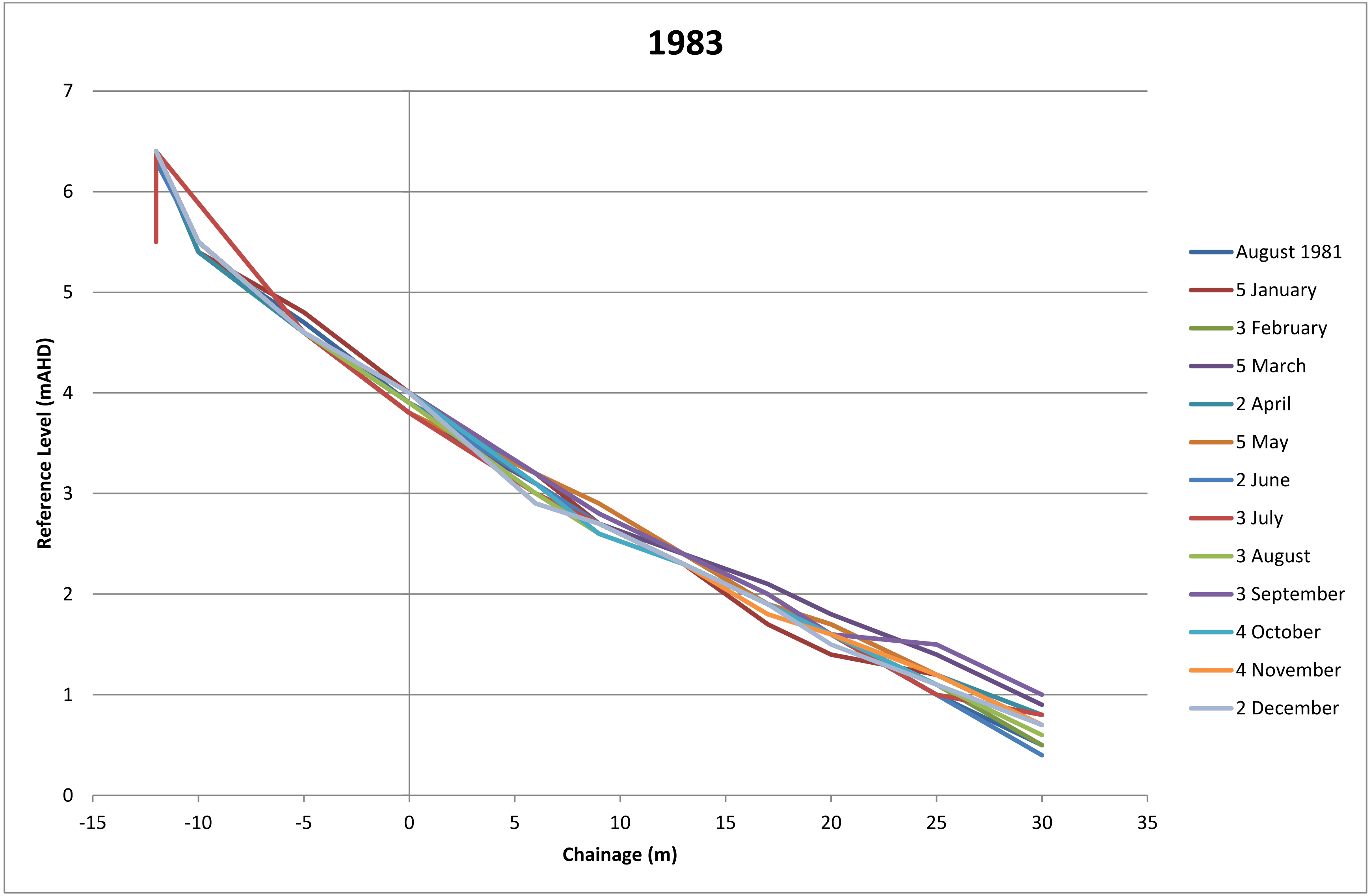


Figure 33 Monthly beach profile - 1983

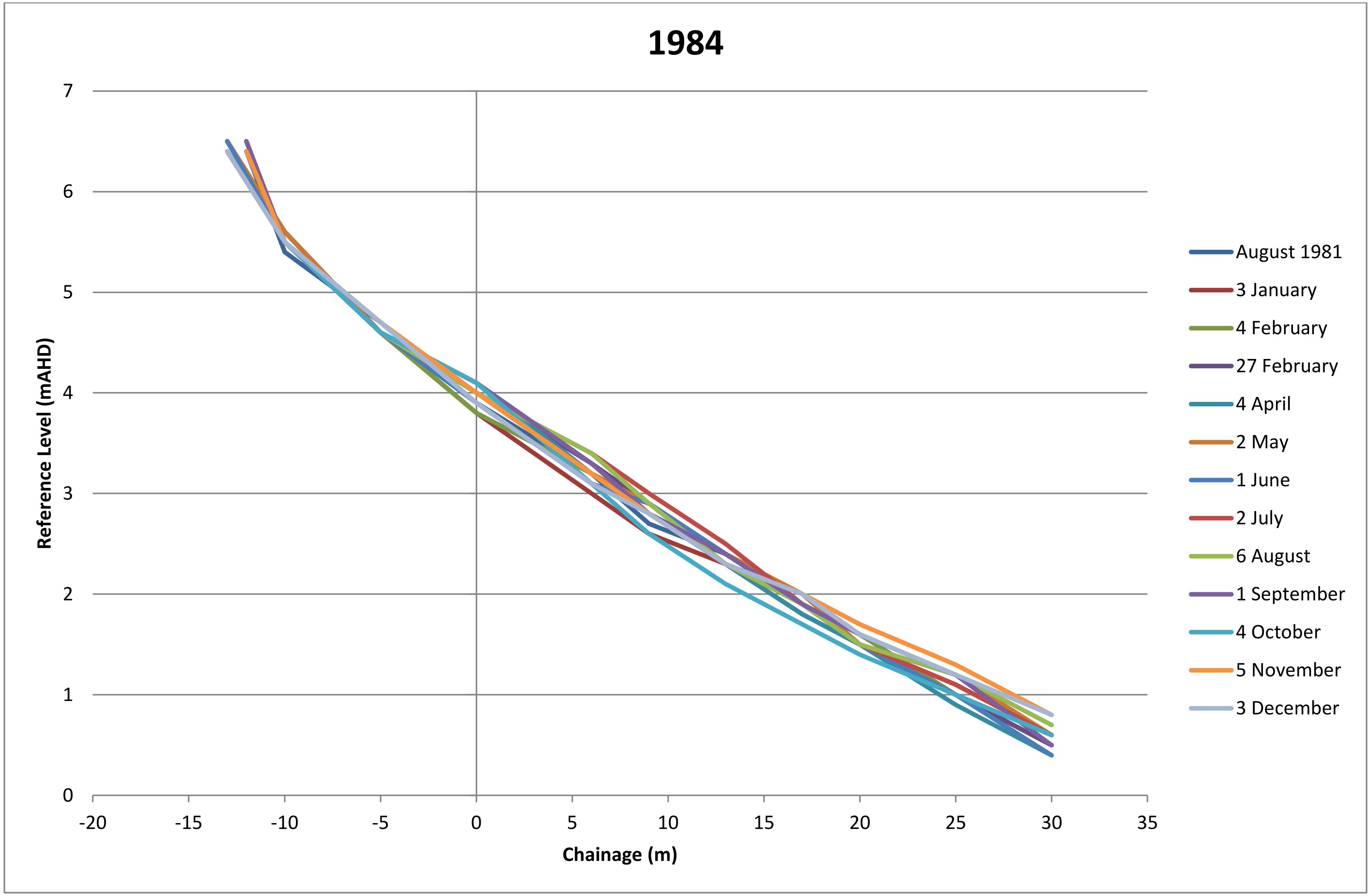


Figure 34 Monthly beach profile – 1984

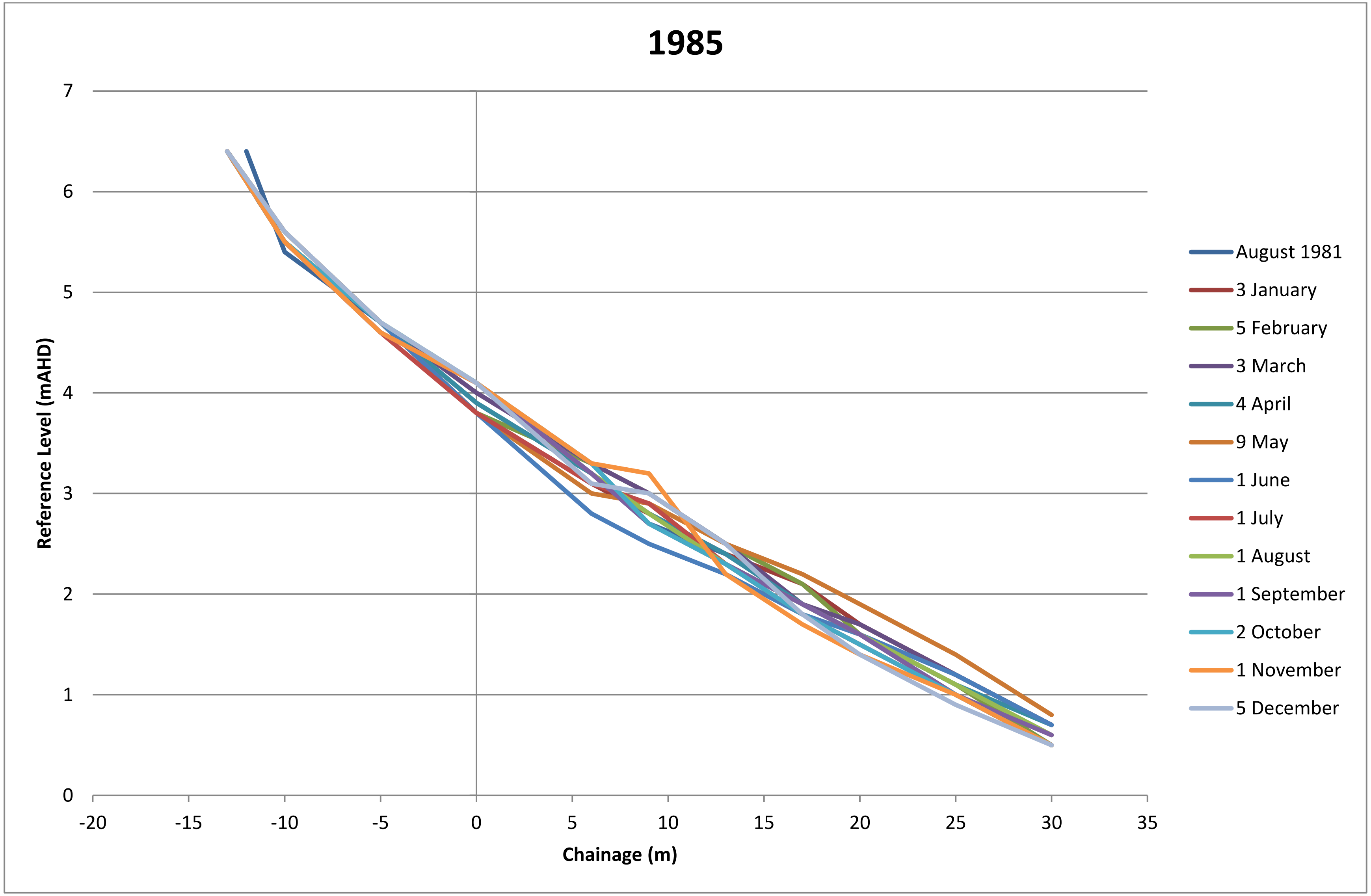


Figure 35 Monthly beach profile – 1985

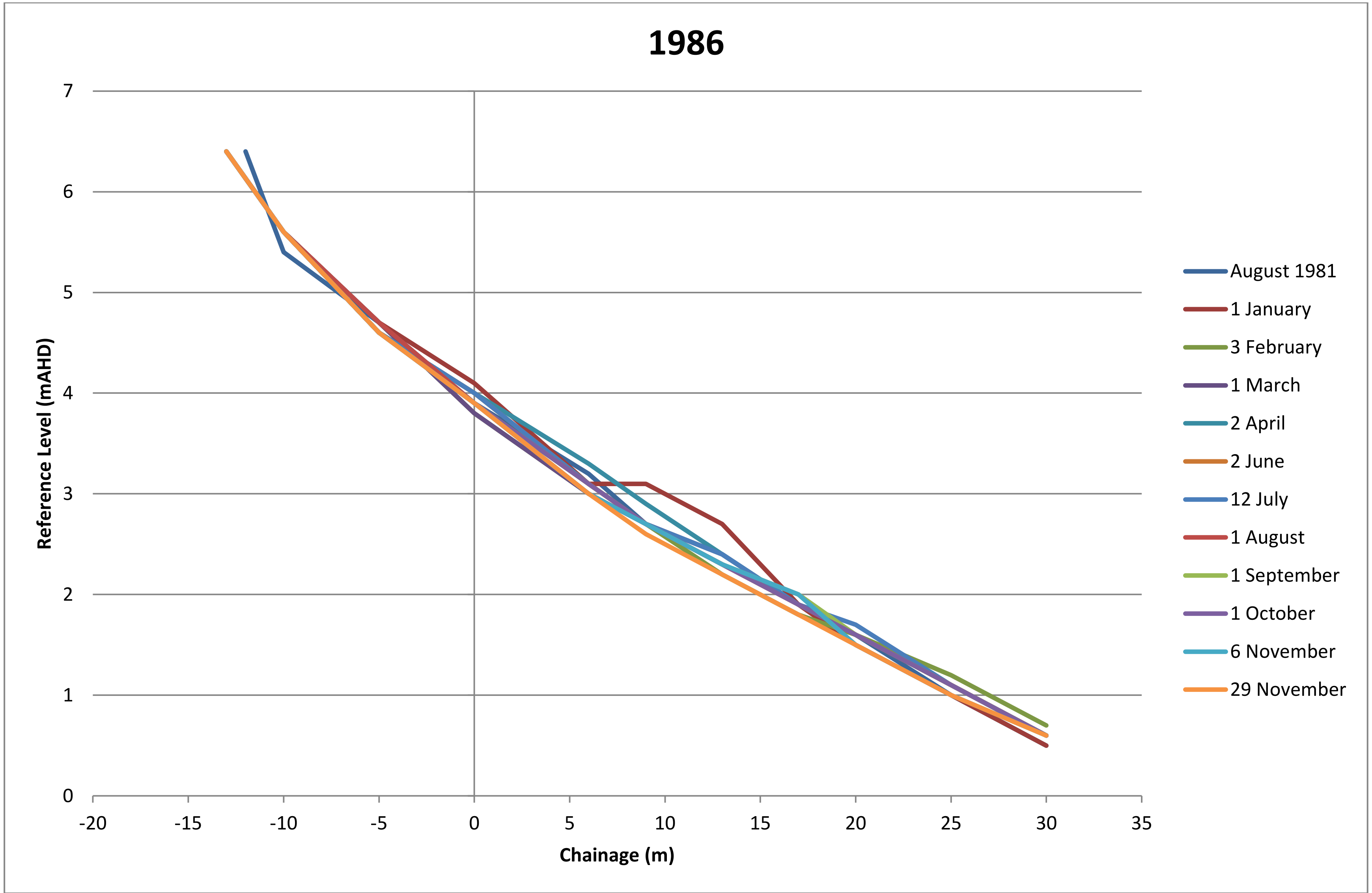


Figure 36 Monthly beach profile – 1986

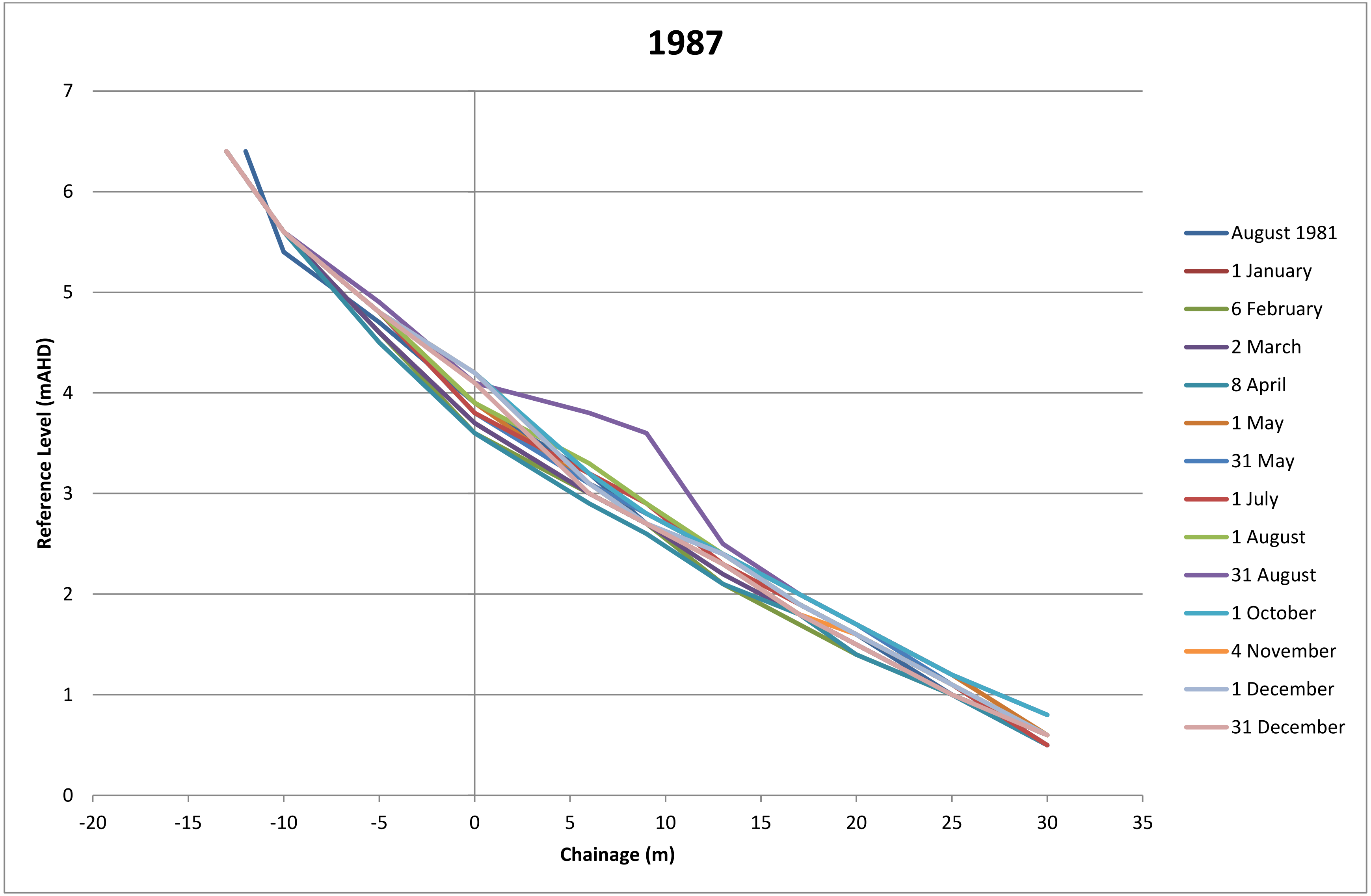


Figure 37 Monthly beach profile – 1987

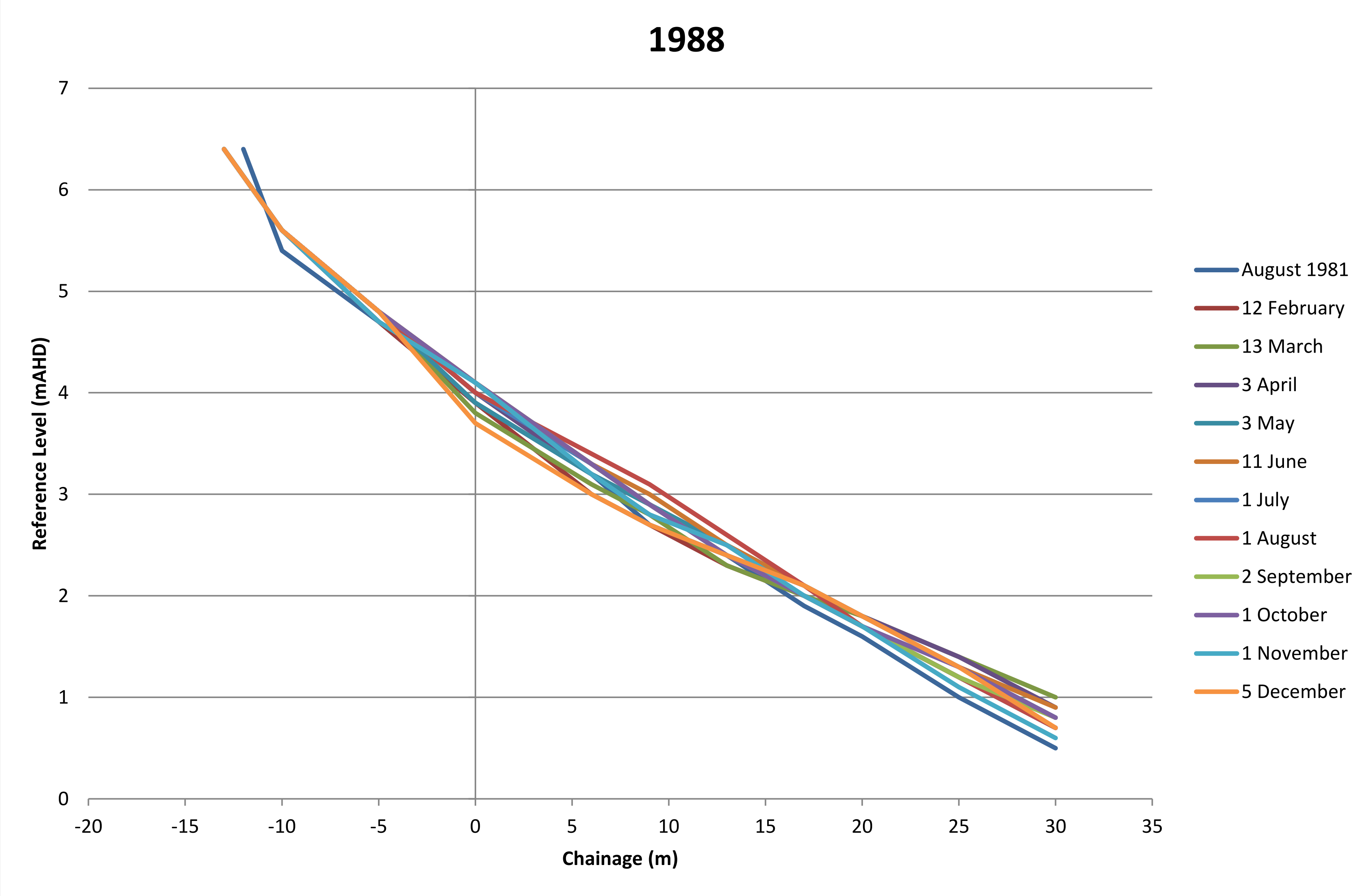


Figure 38 Monthly beach profile – 1988

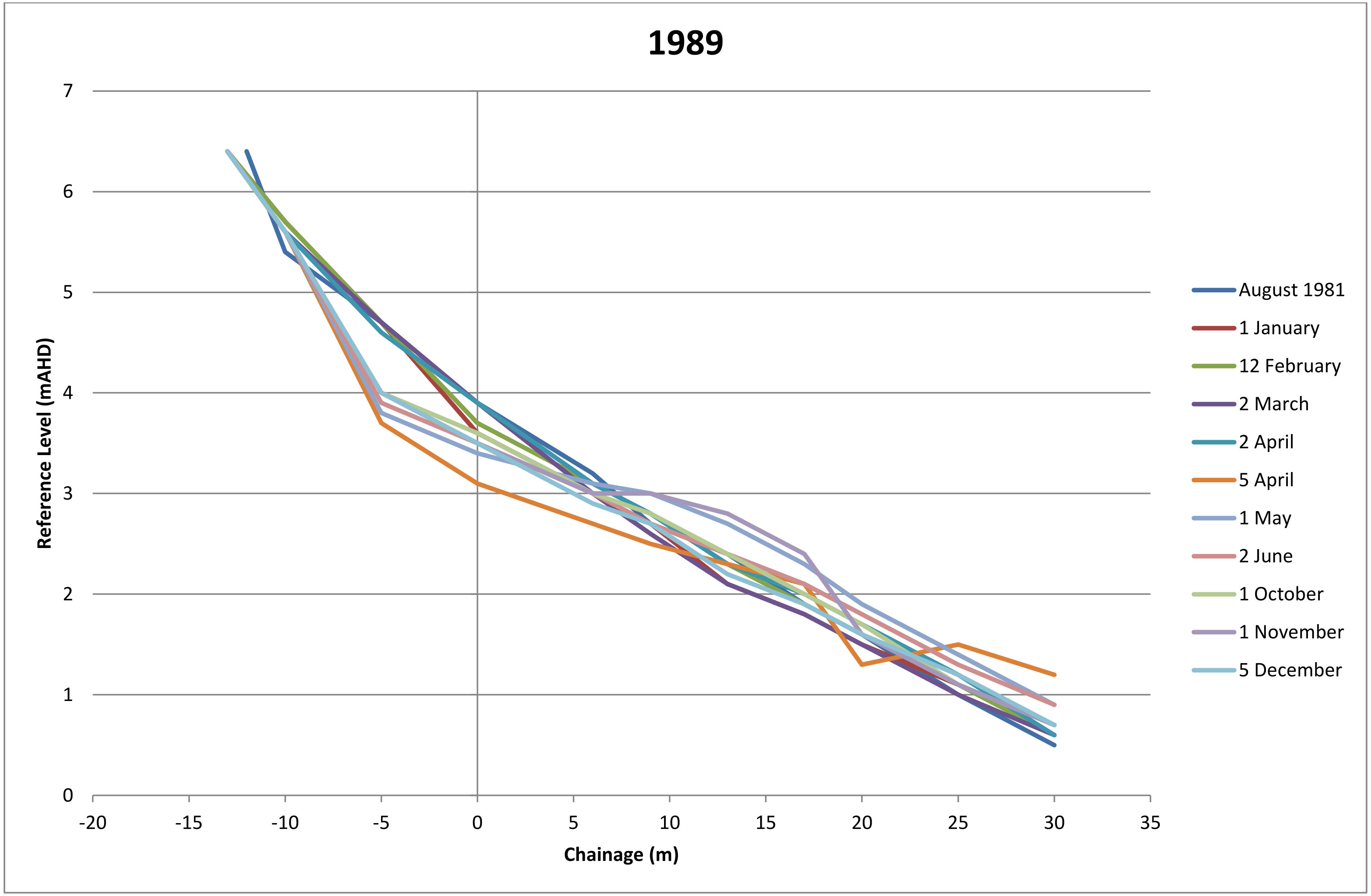


Figure 39 Monthly beach profile – 1989

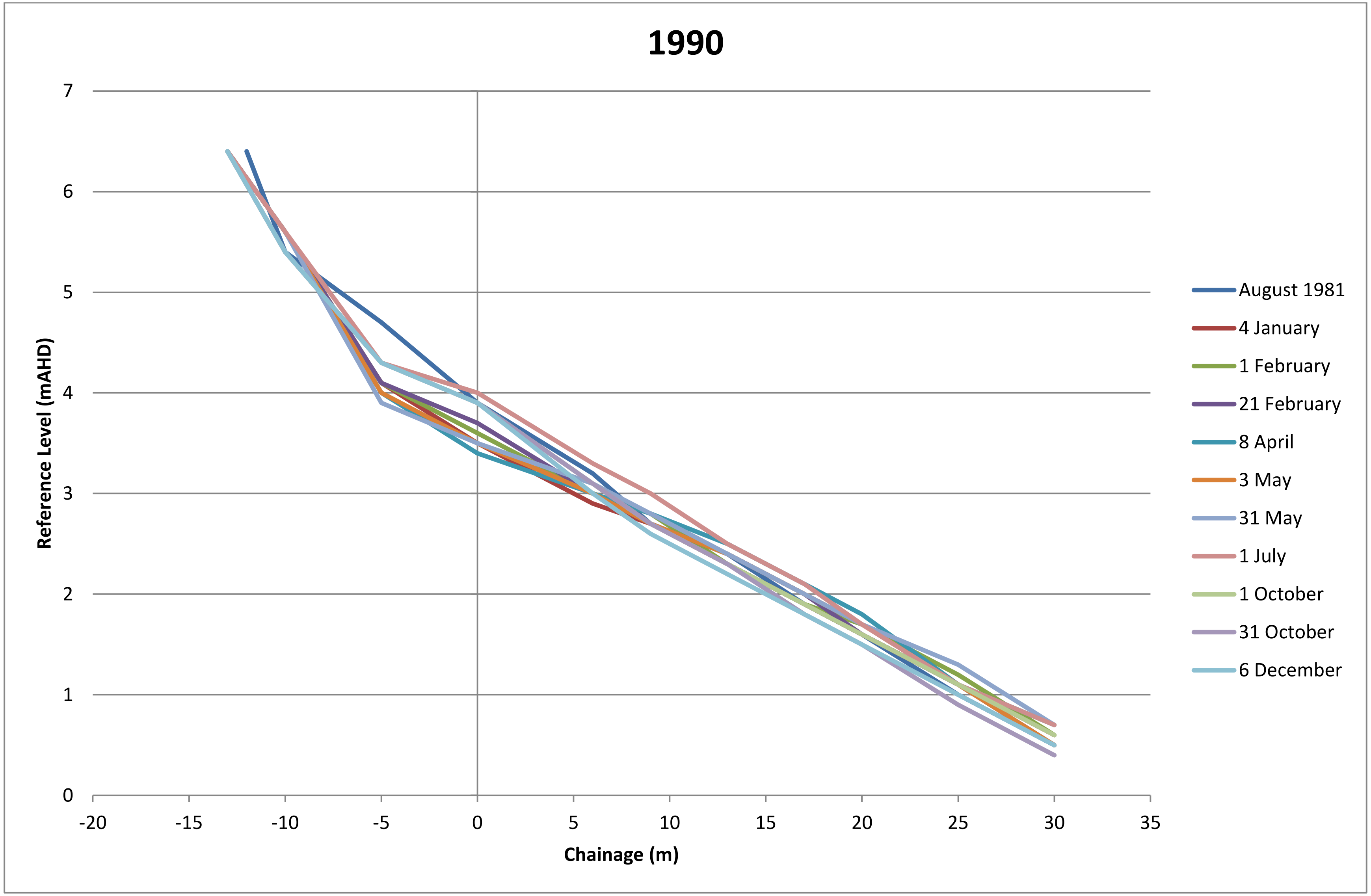


Figure 40 Monthly beach profile – 1990

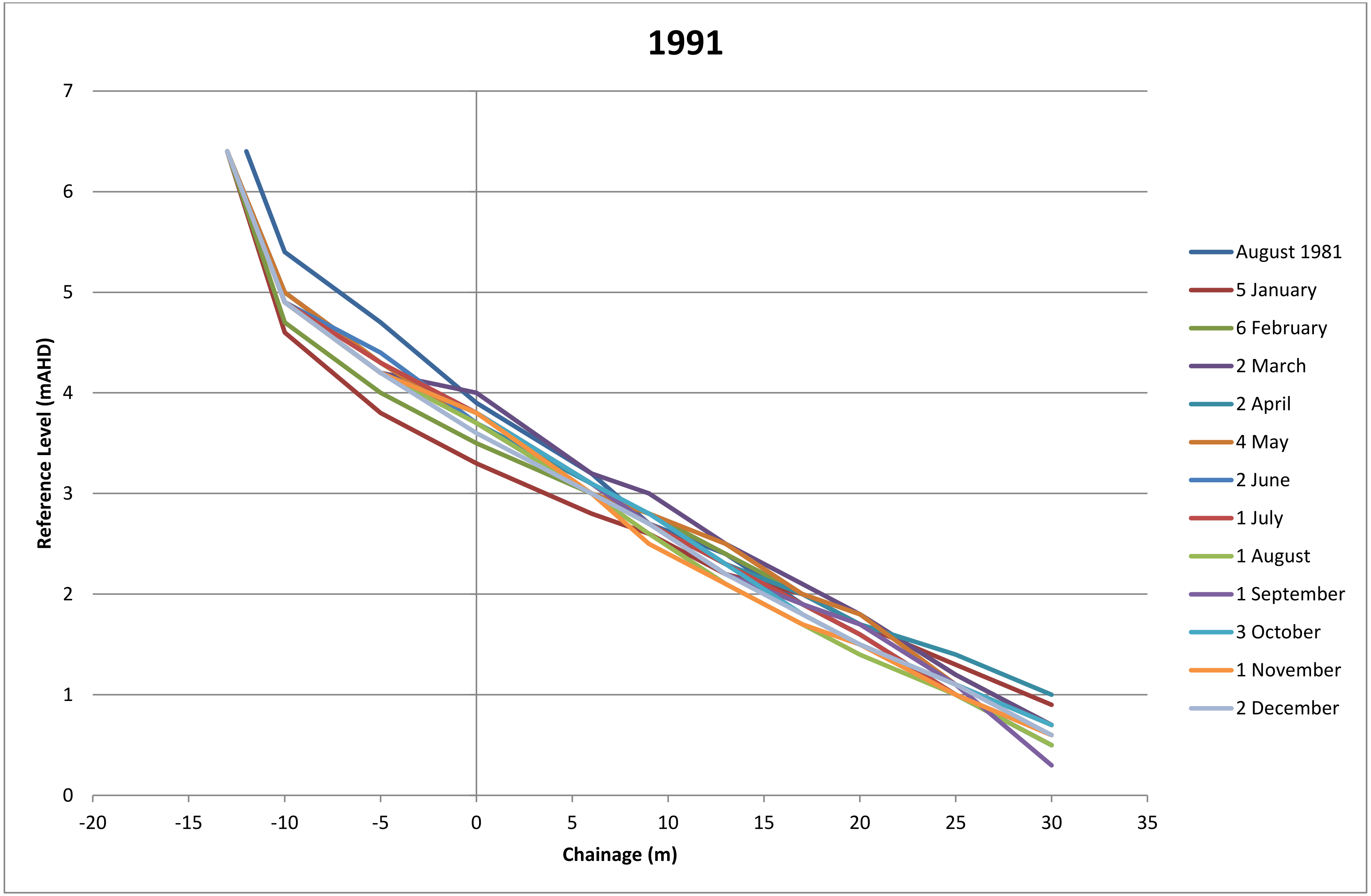


Figure 41 Monthly beach profile – 1991

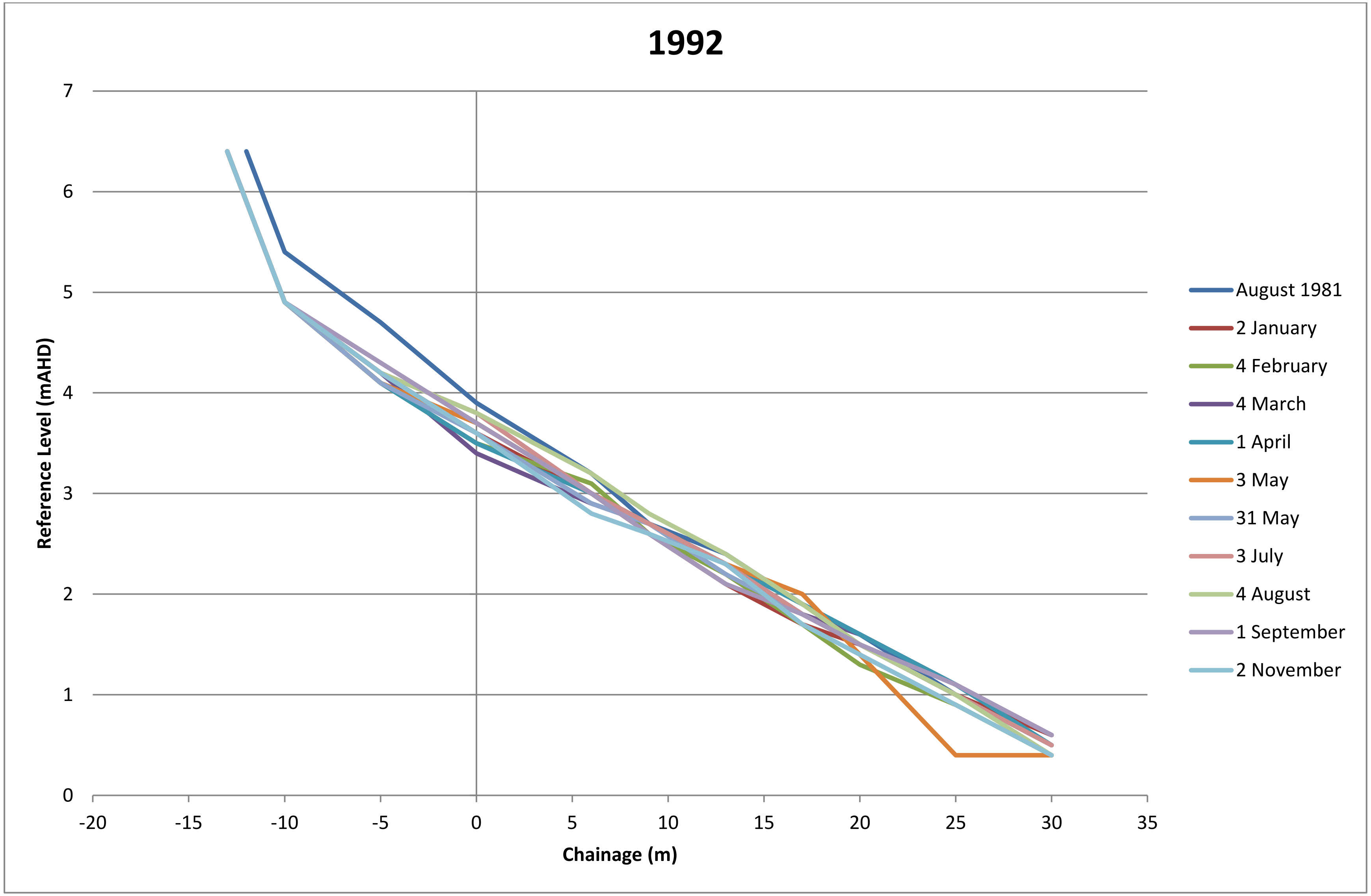


Figure 42 Monthly beach profile – 1992

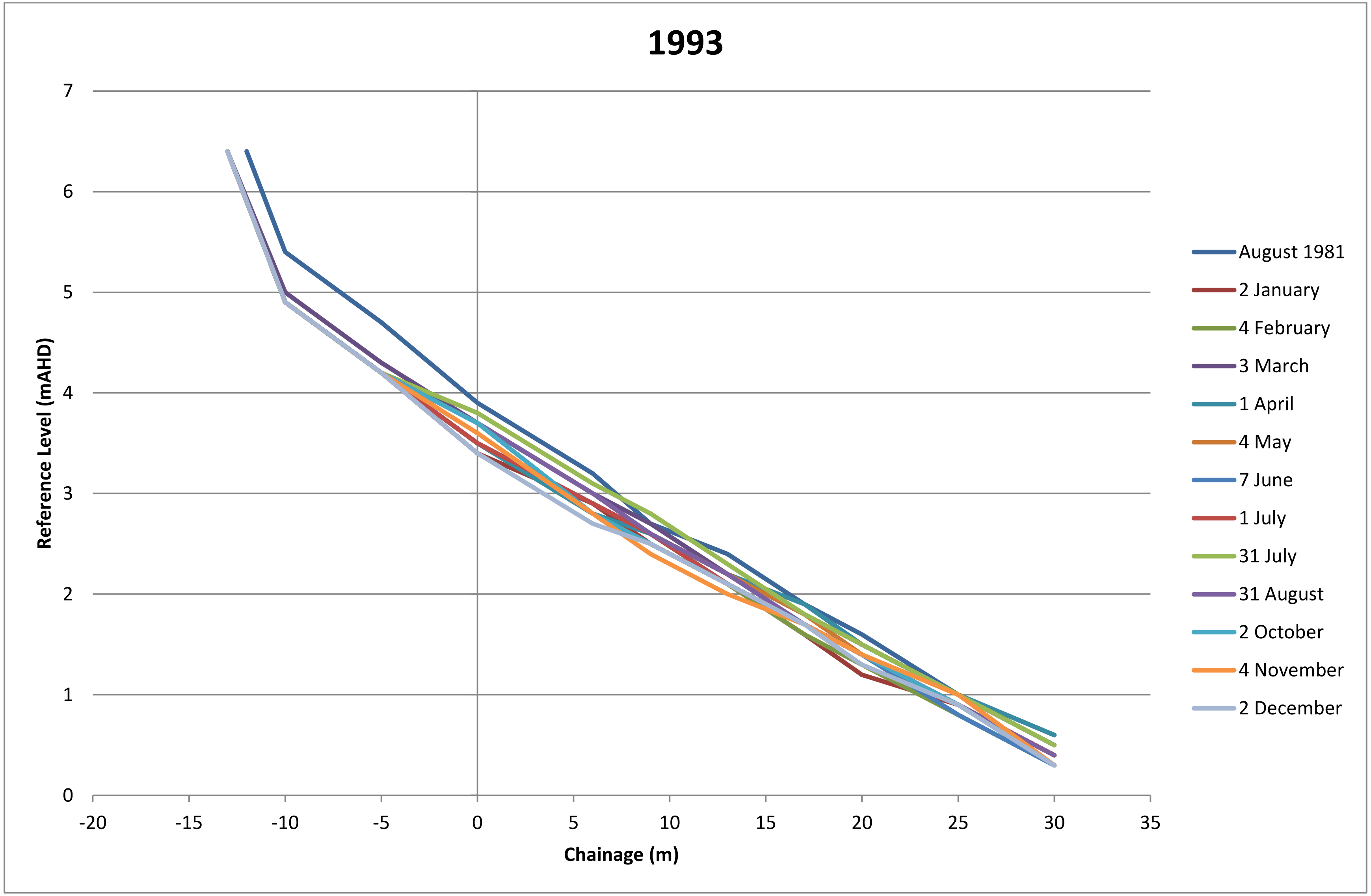


Figure 43 Monthly beach profile – 1993

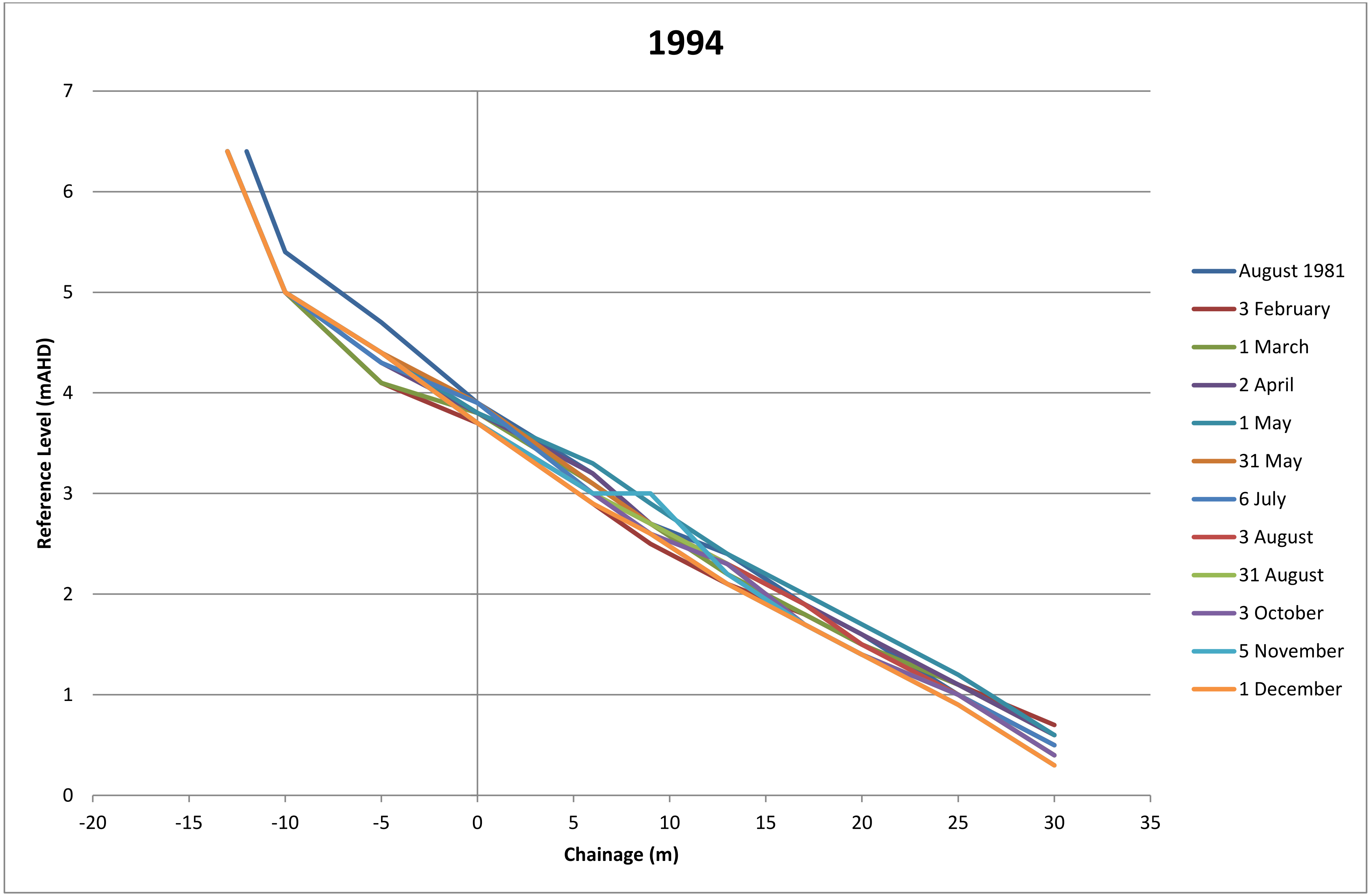


Figure 44 Monthly beach profile – 1994

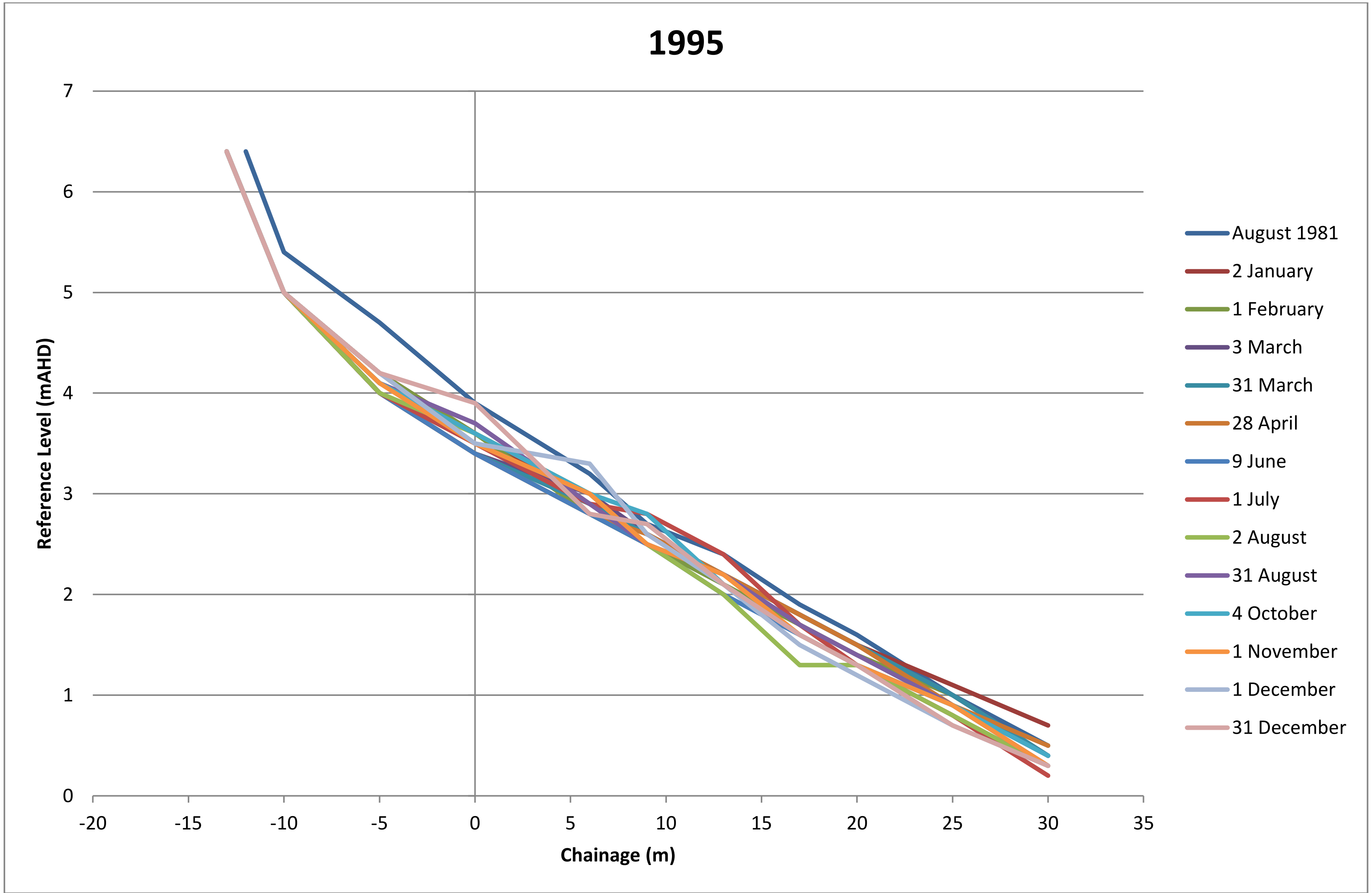


Figure 45 Monthly beach profile – 1995

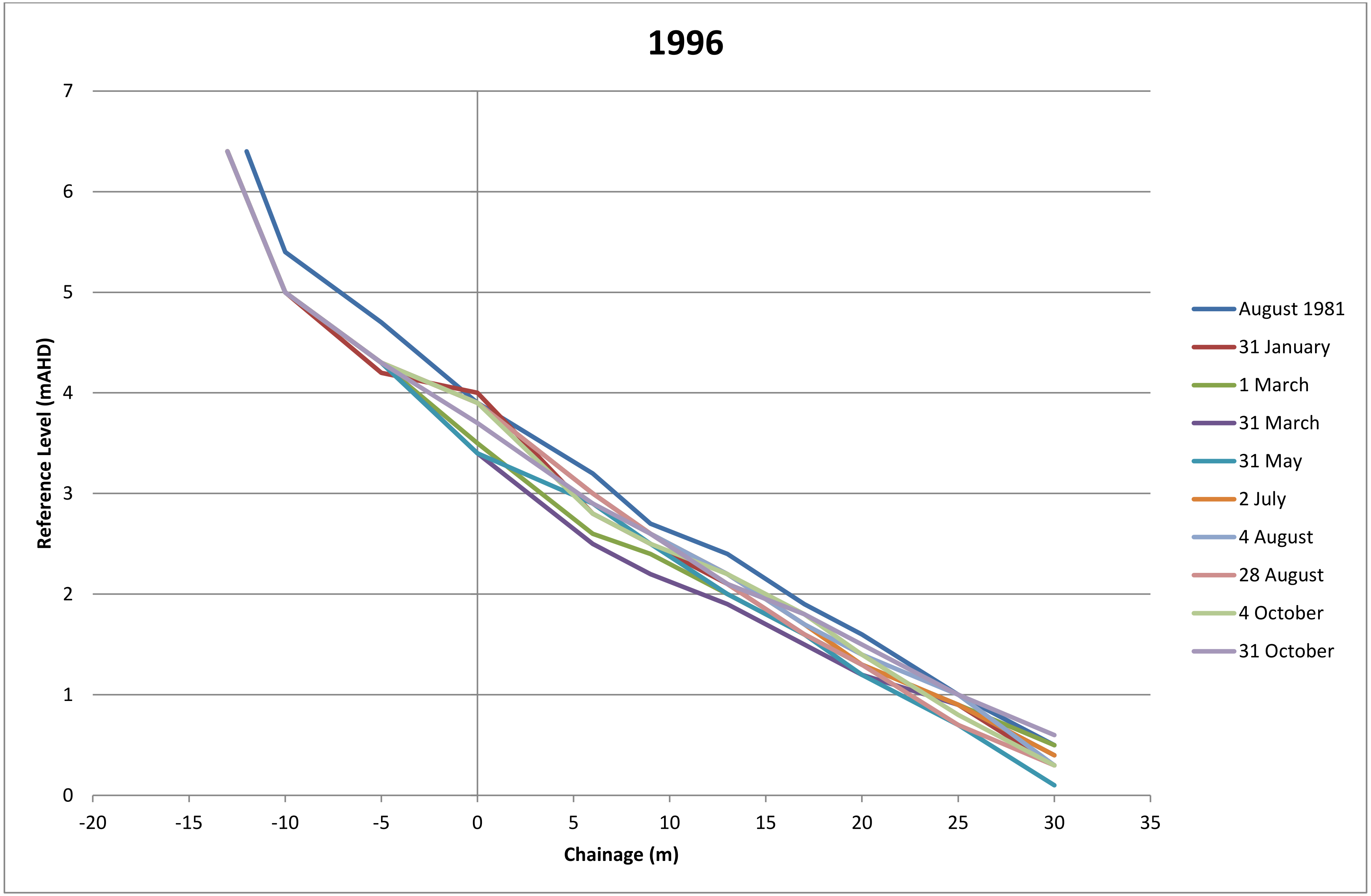


Figure 46 Monthly beach profile – 1996

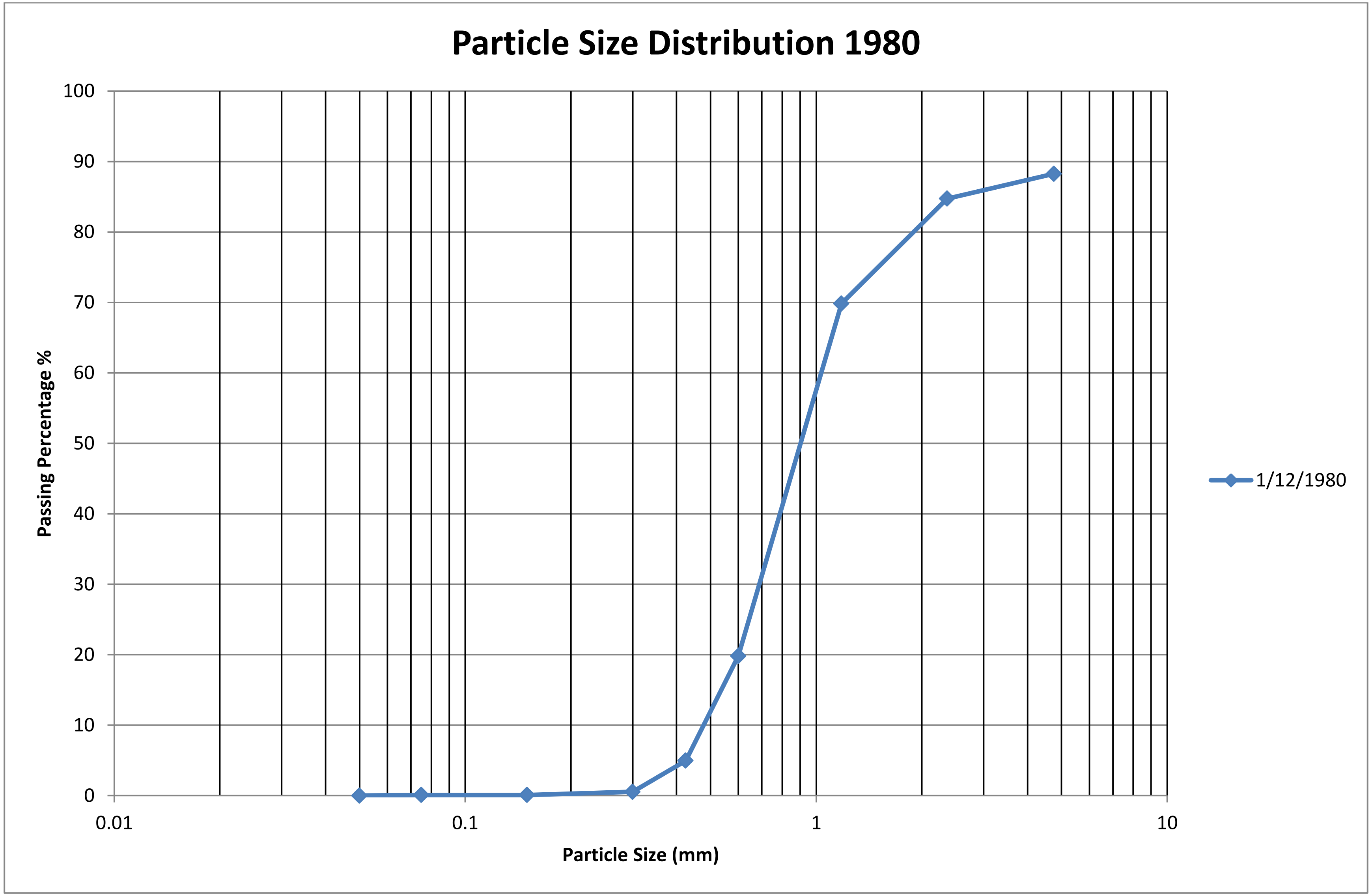


Figure 47 Particle size distribution 1980

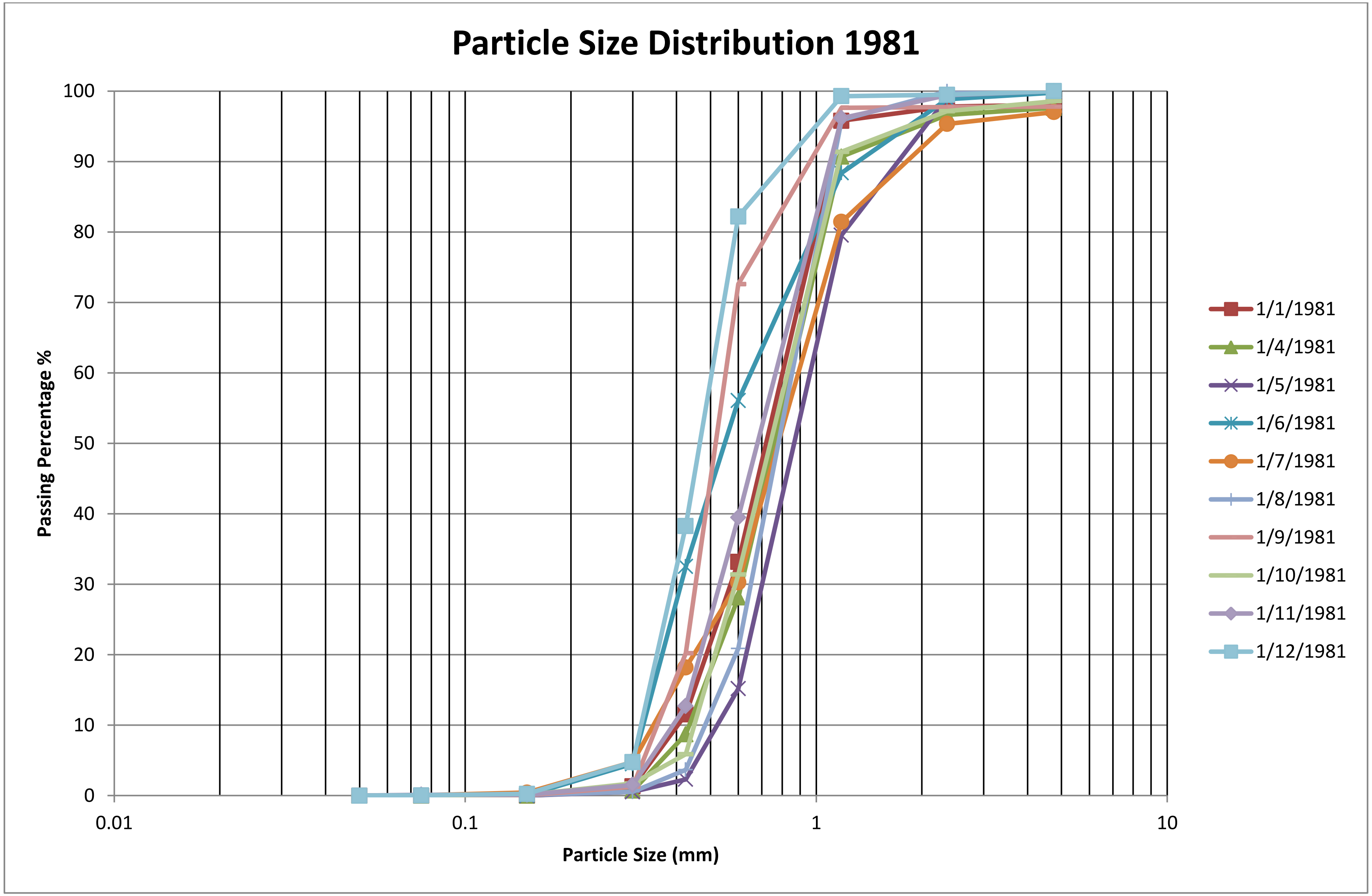


Figure 48 Particle size distribution 1981

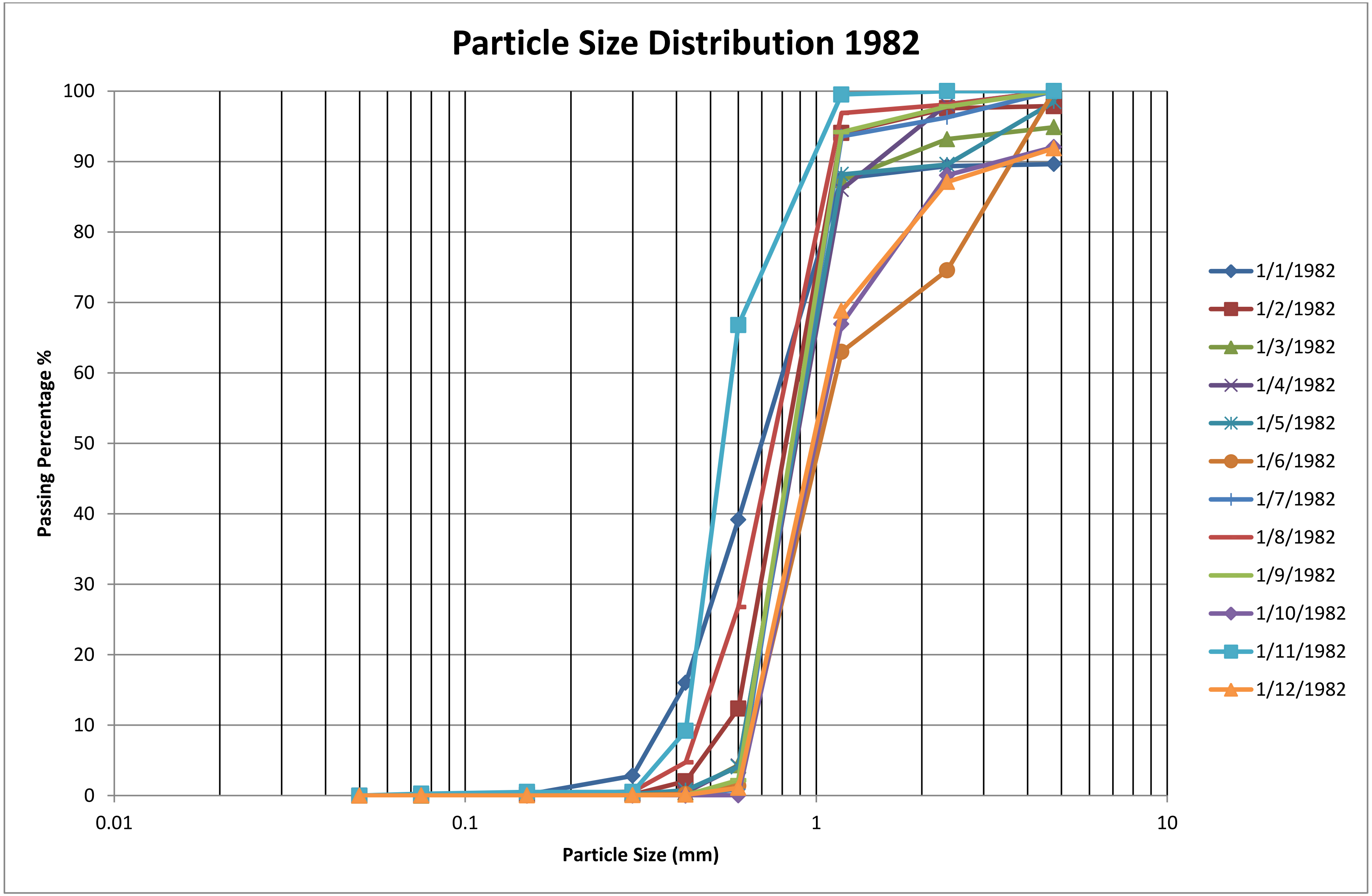


Figure 49 Particle size distribution 1982

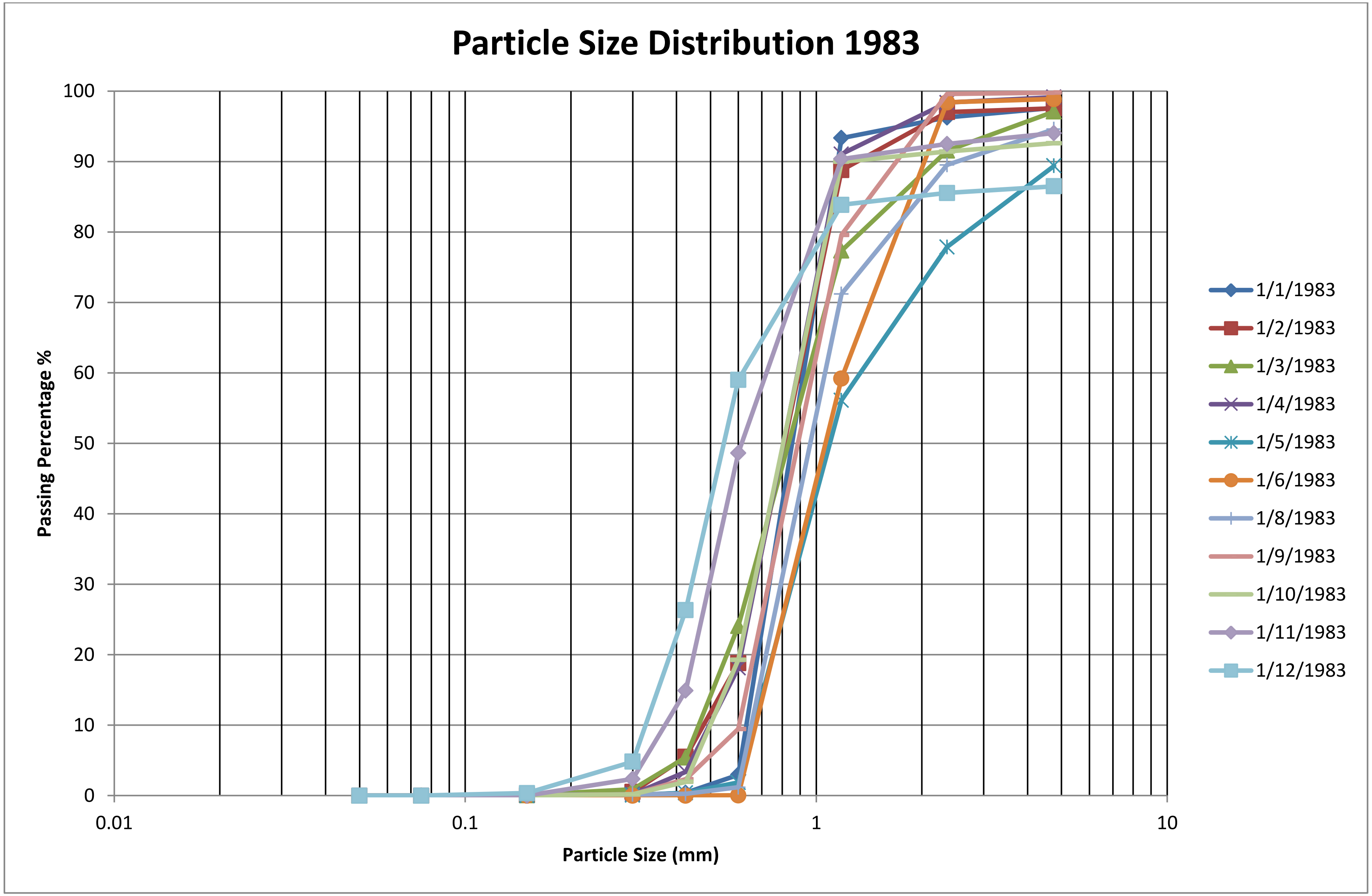


Figure 50 Particle size distribution 1983

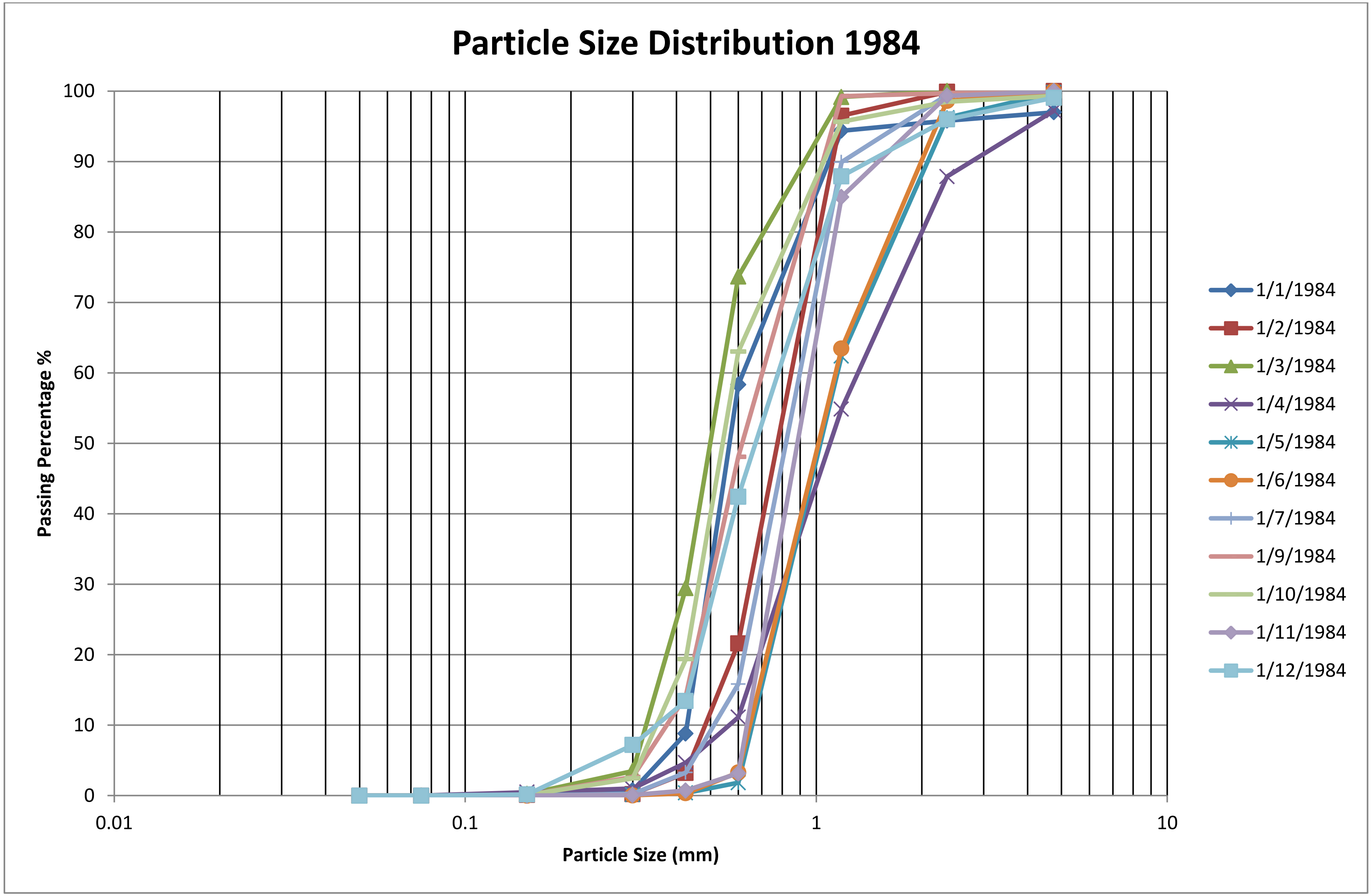


Figure 51 Particle size distribution 1984

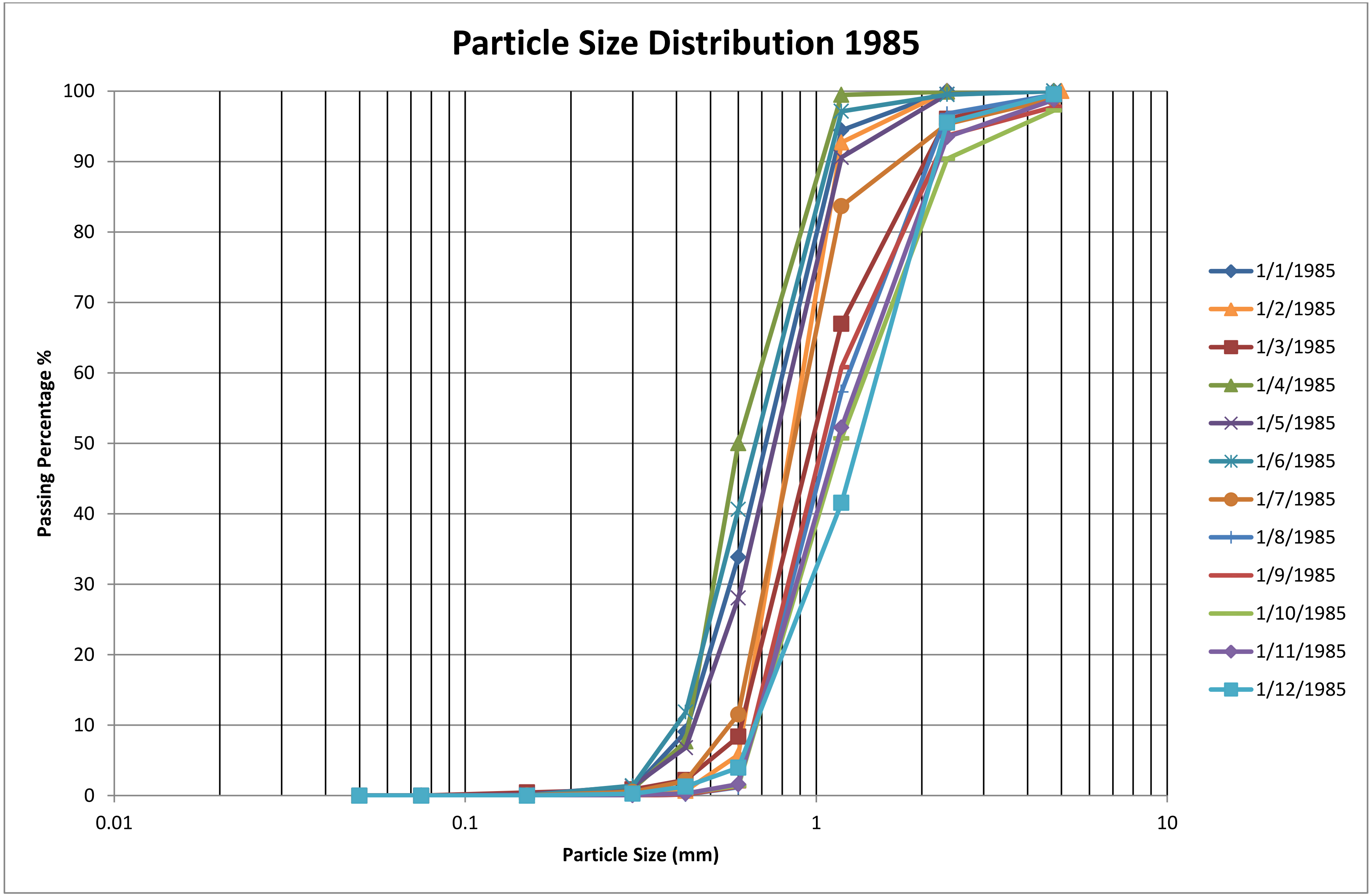


Figure 52 Particle size distribution 1985

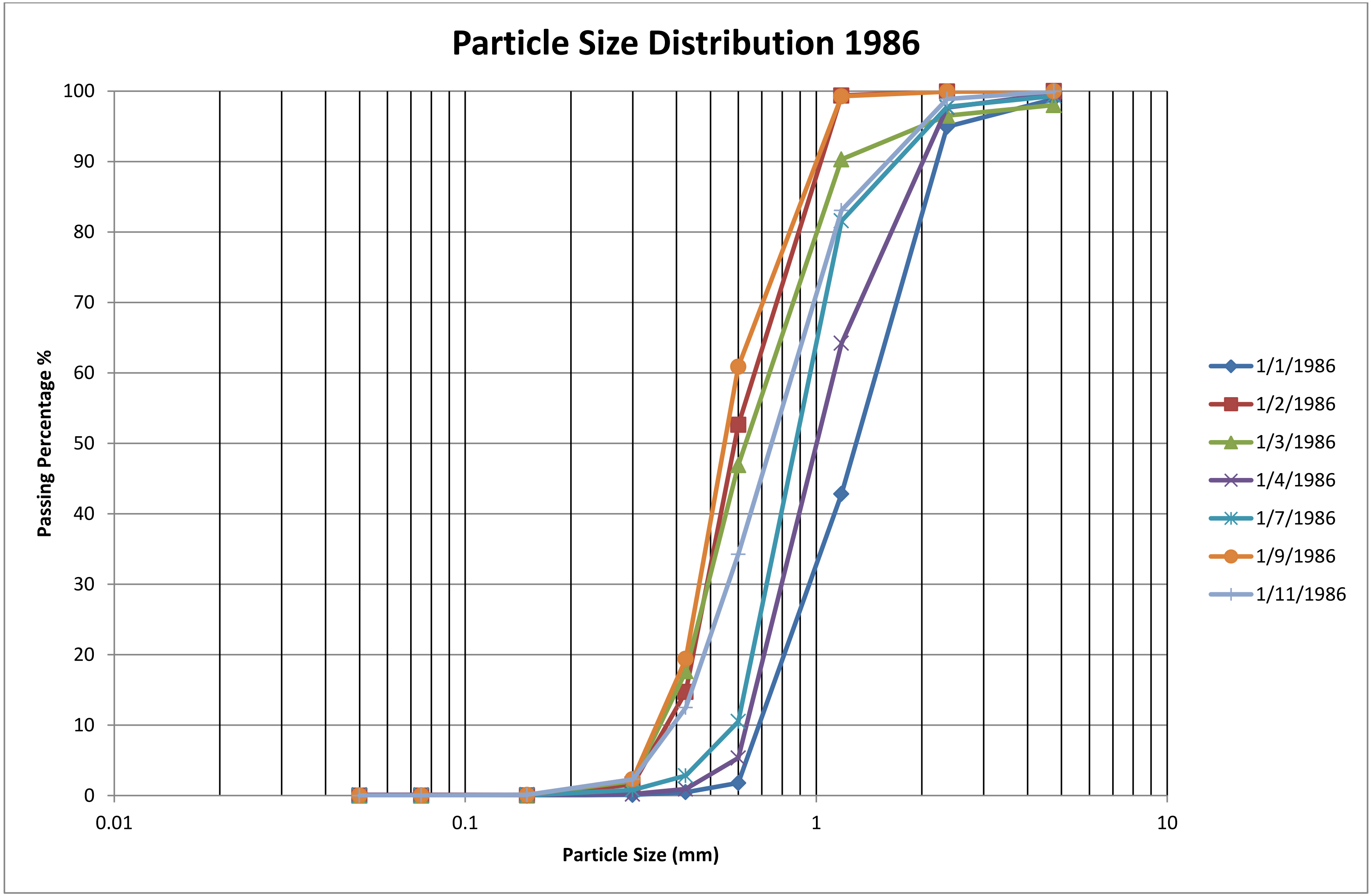


Figure 53 Particle size distribution 1986

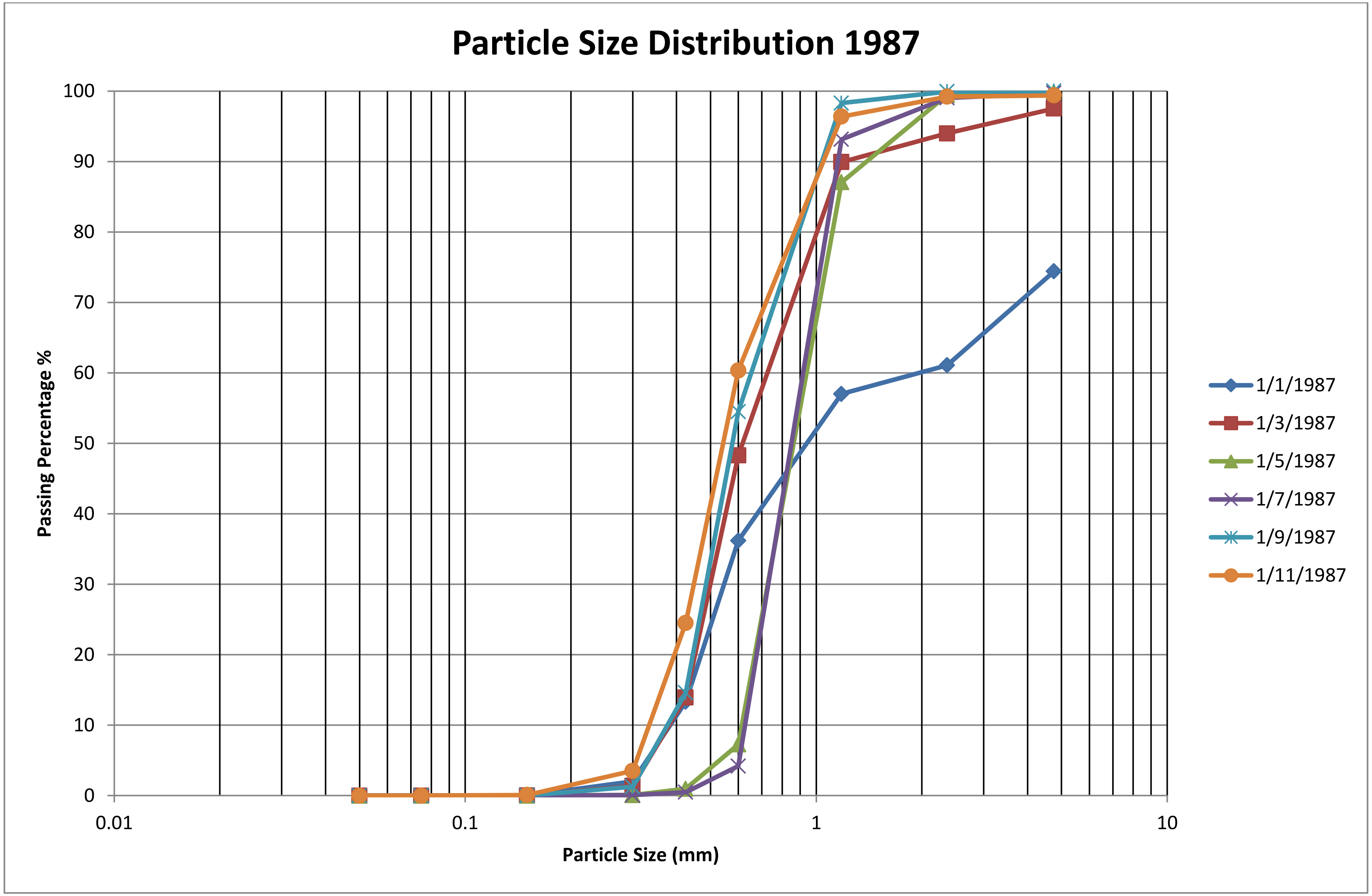


Figure 54 Particle size distribution 1987

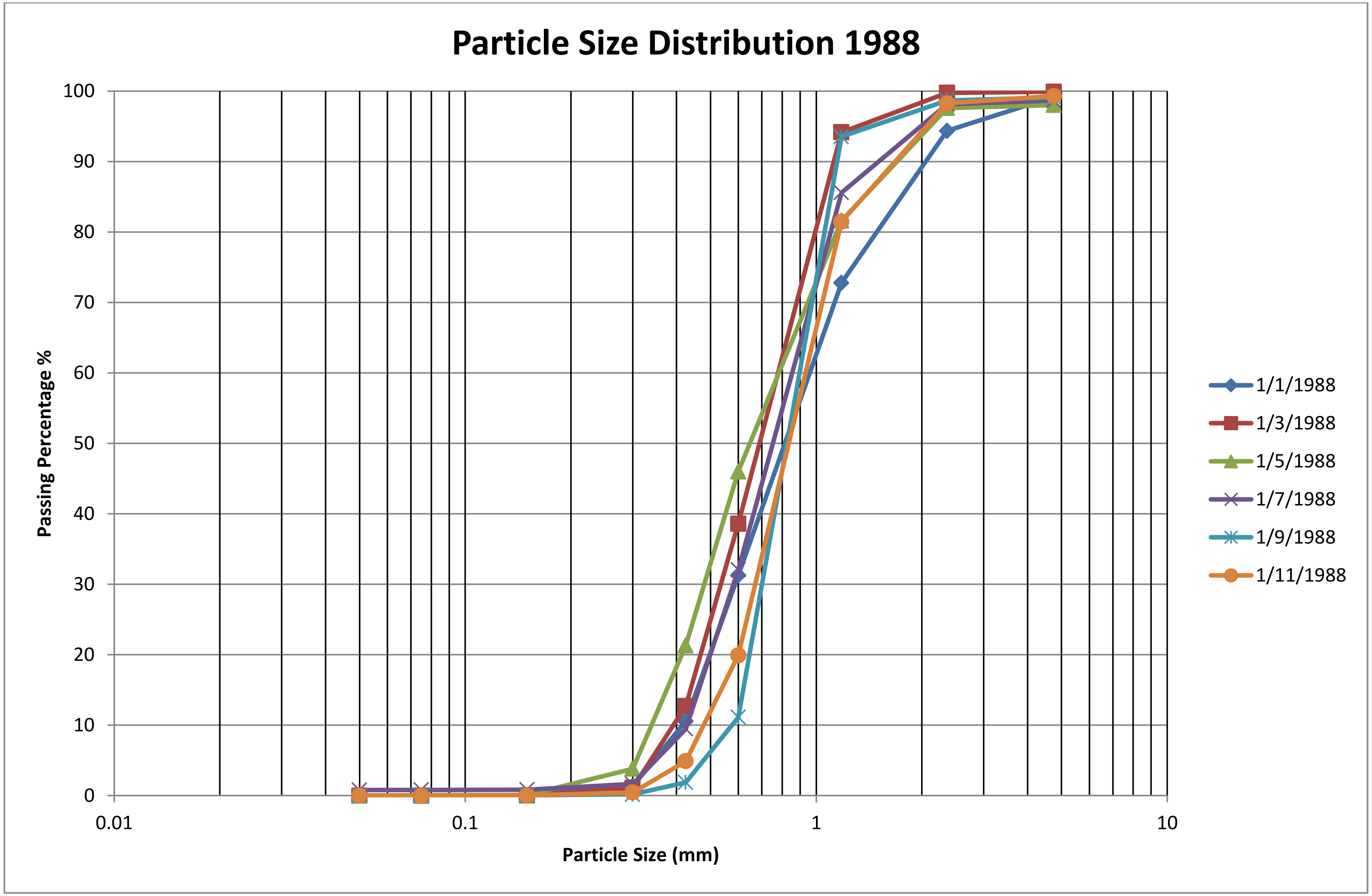


Figure 55 **Particle size distribution 1988**

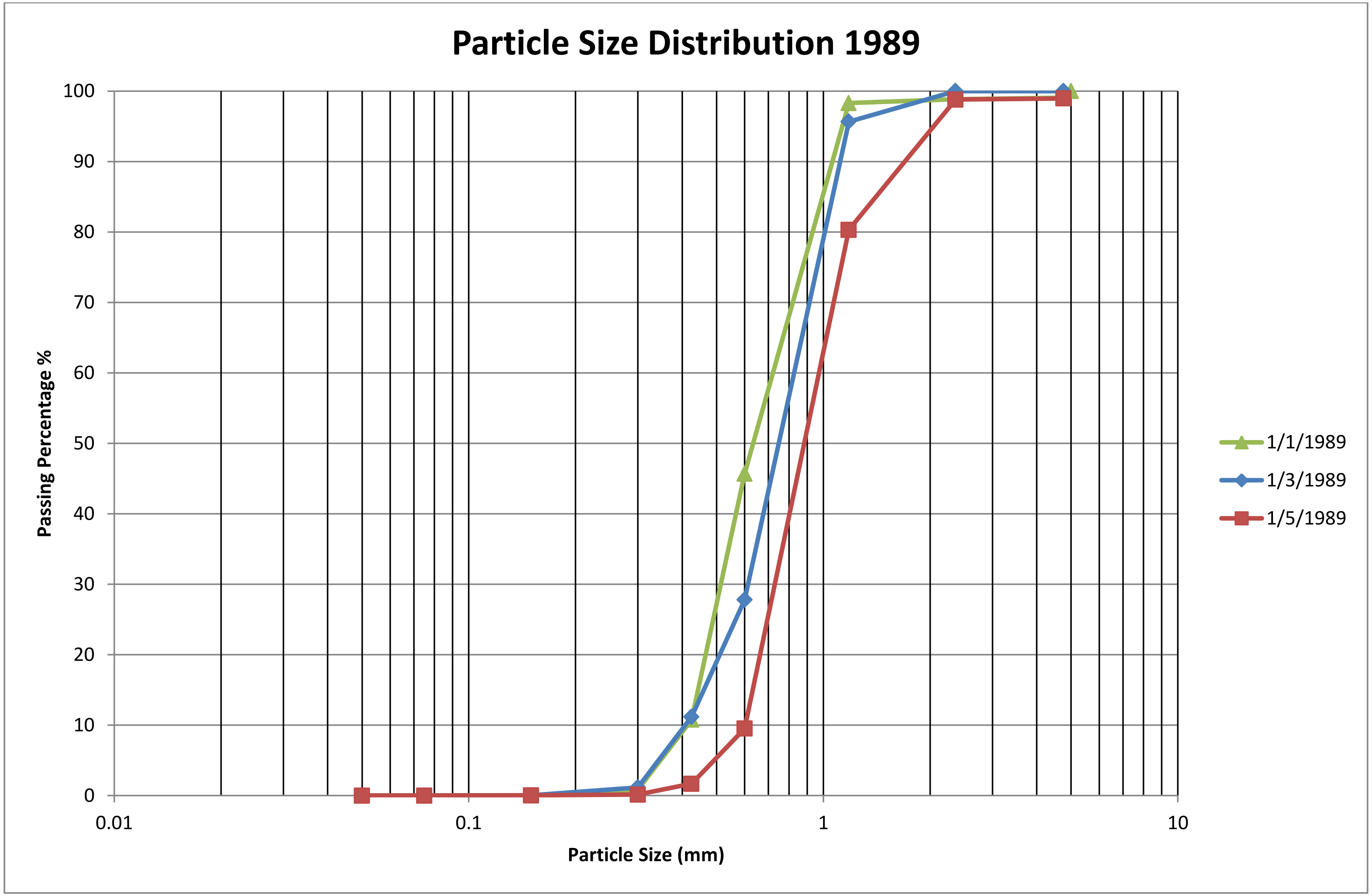


Figure 56 Particle size distribution 1989

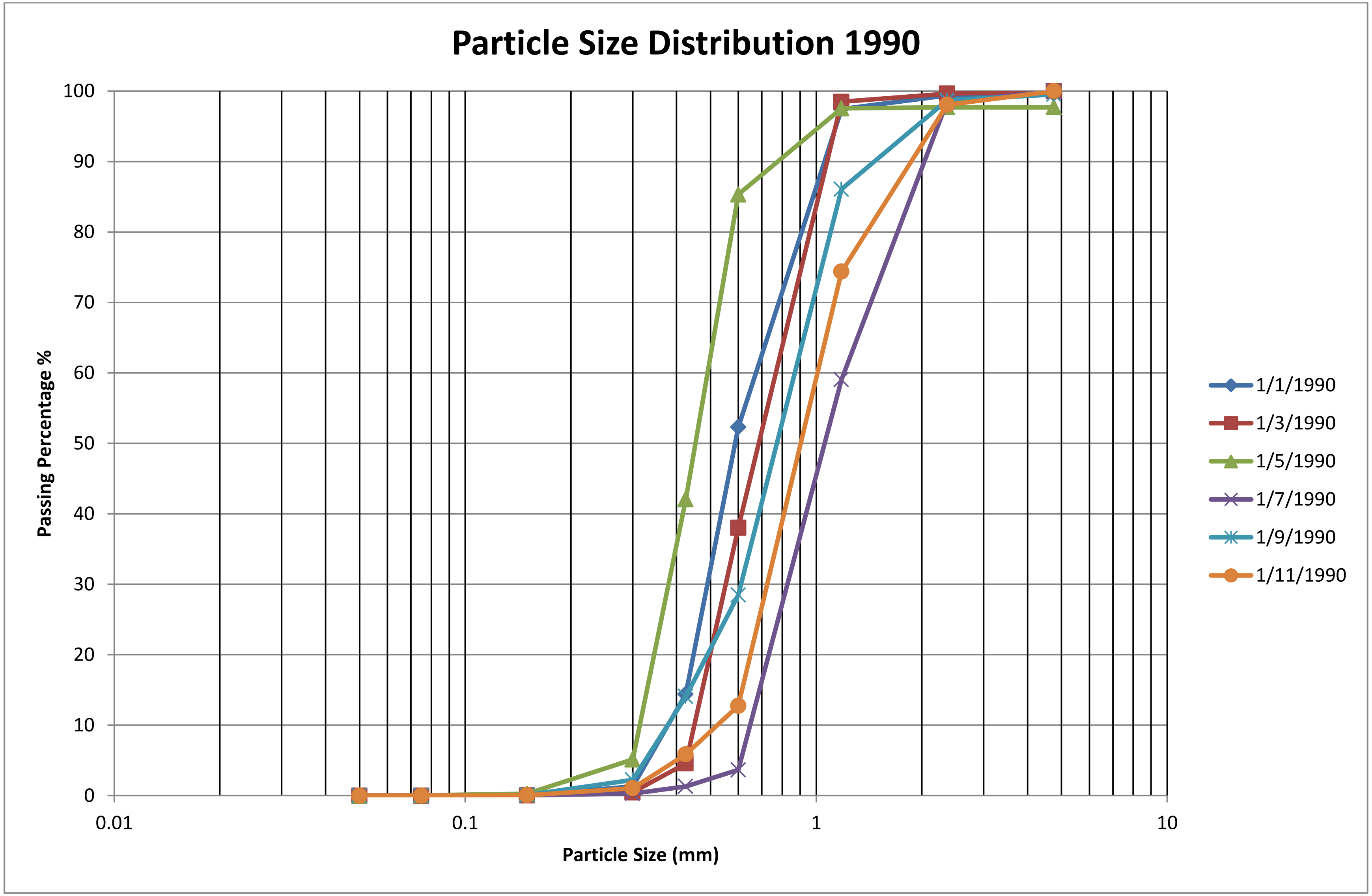


Figure 57 Particle size distribution 1990

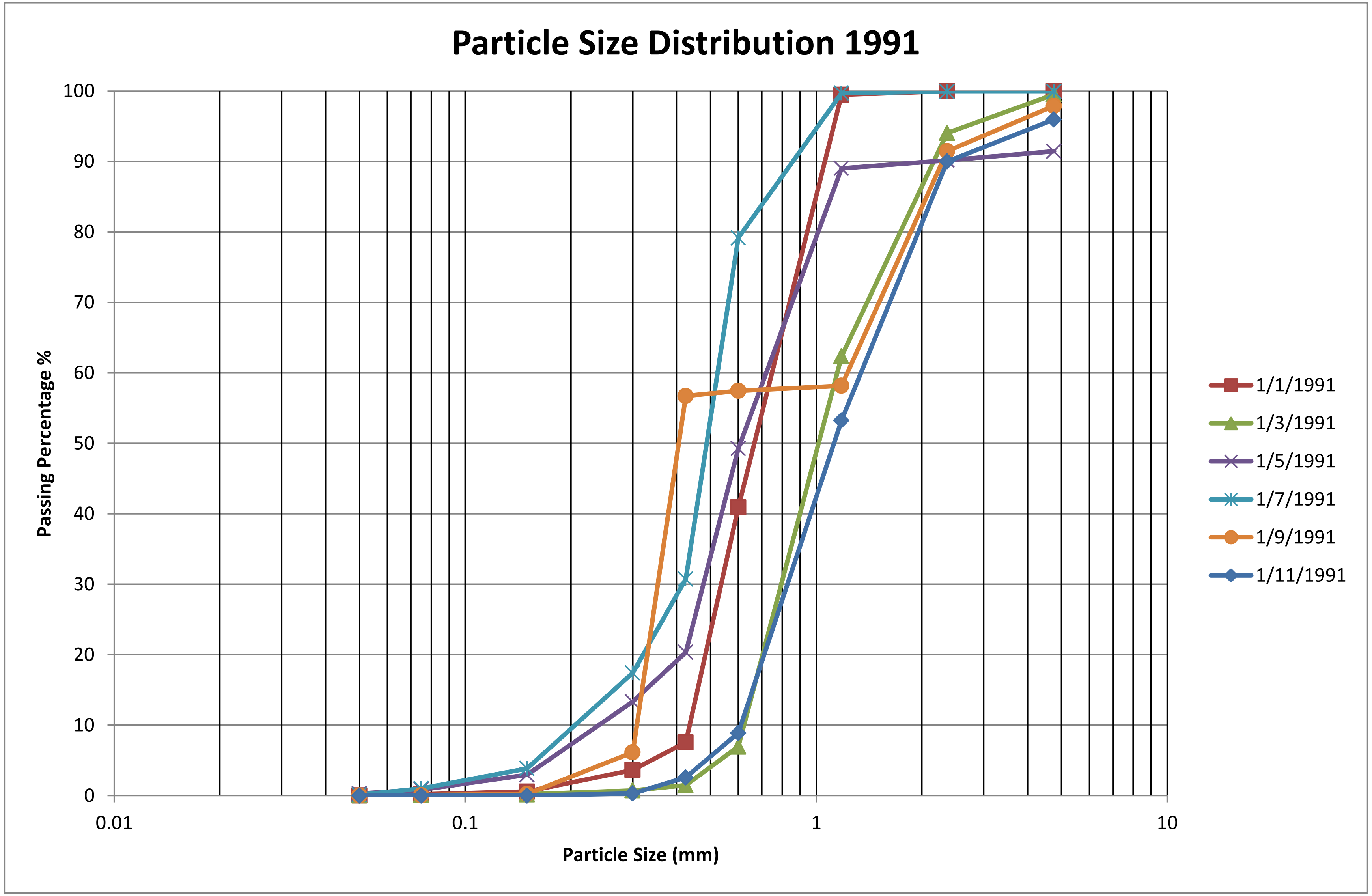


Figure 58 Particle size distribution 1991

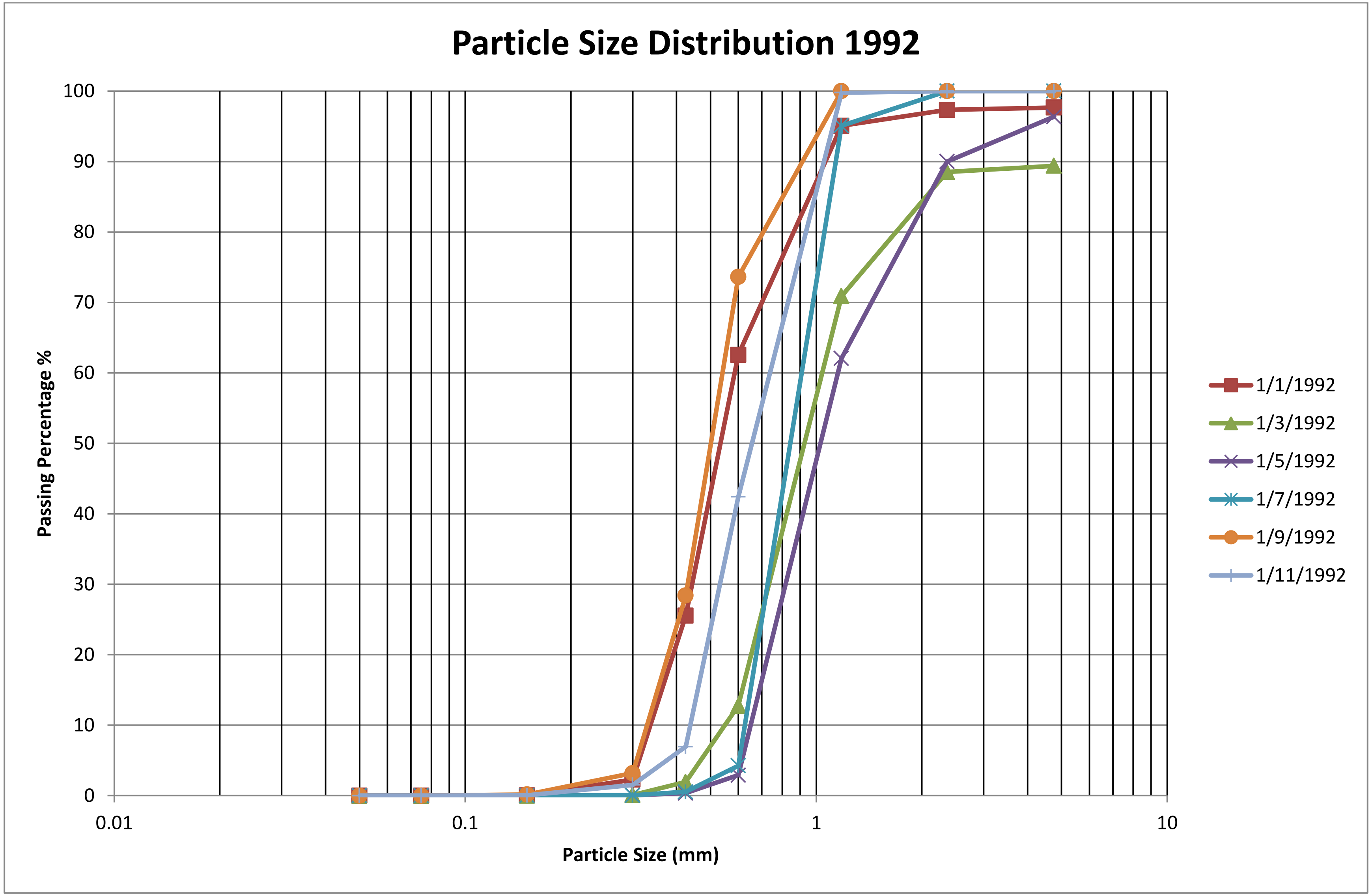


Figure 59 Particle size distribution 1992

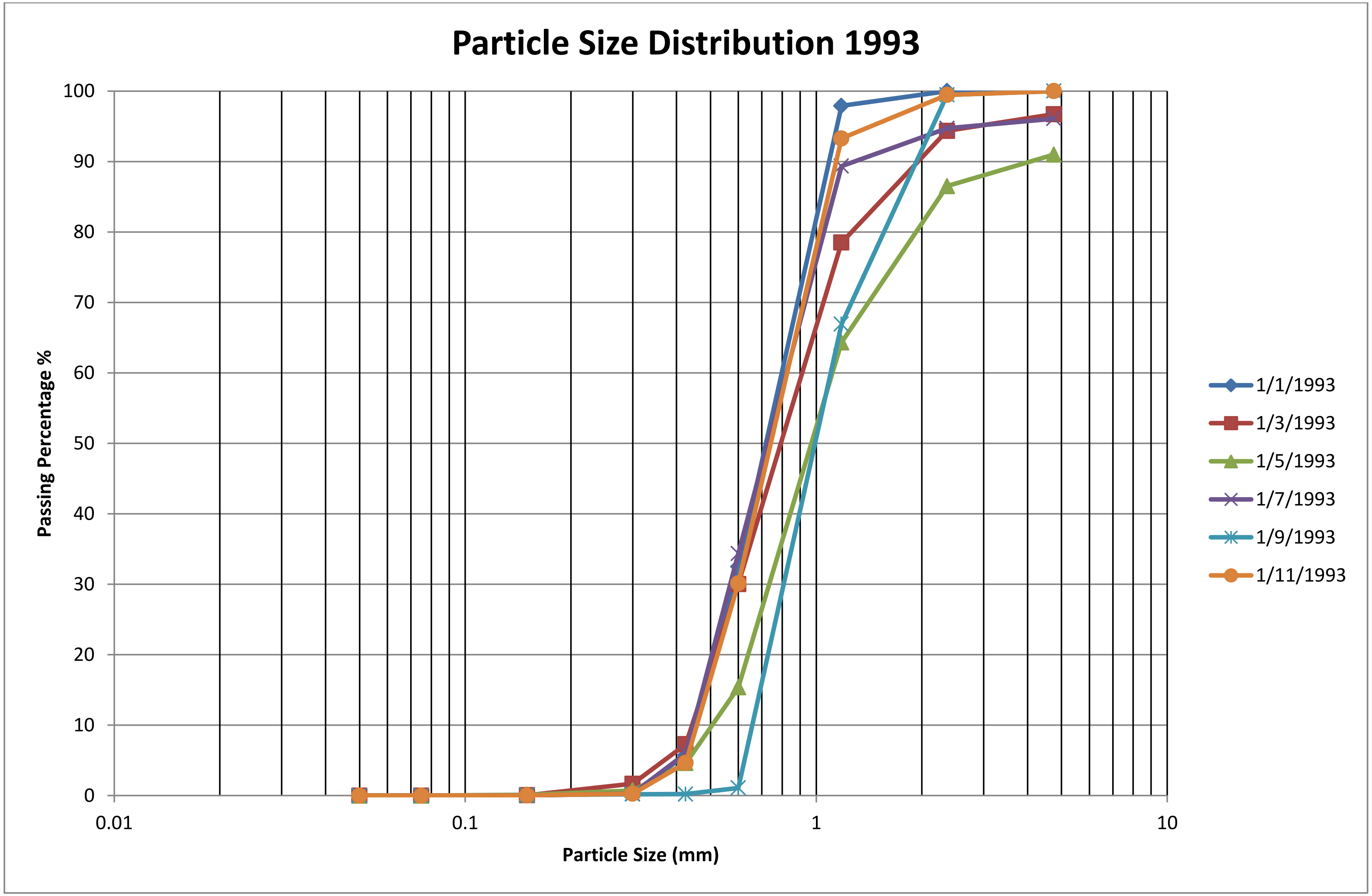


Figure 60 Particle size distribution 1993

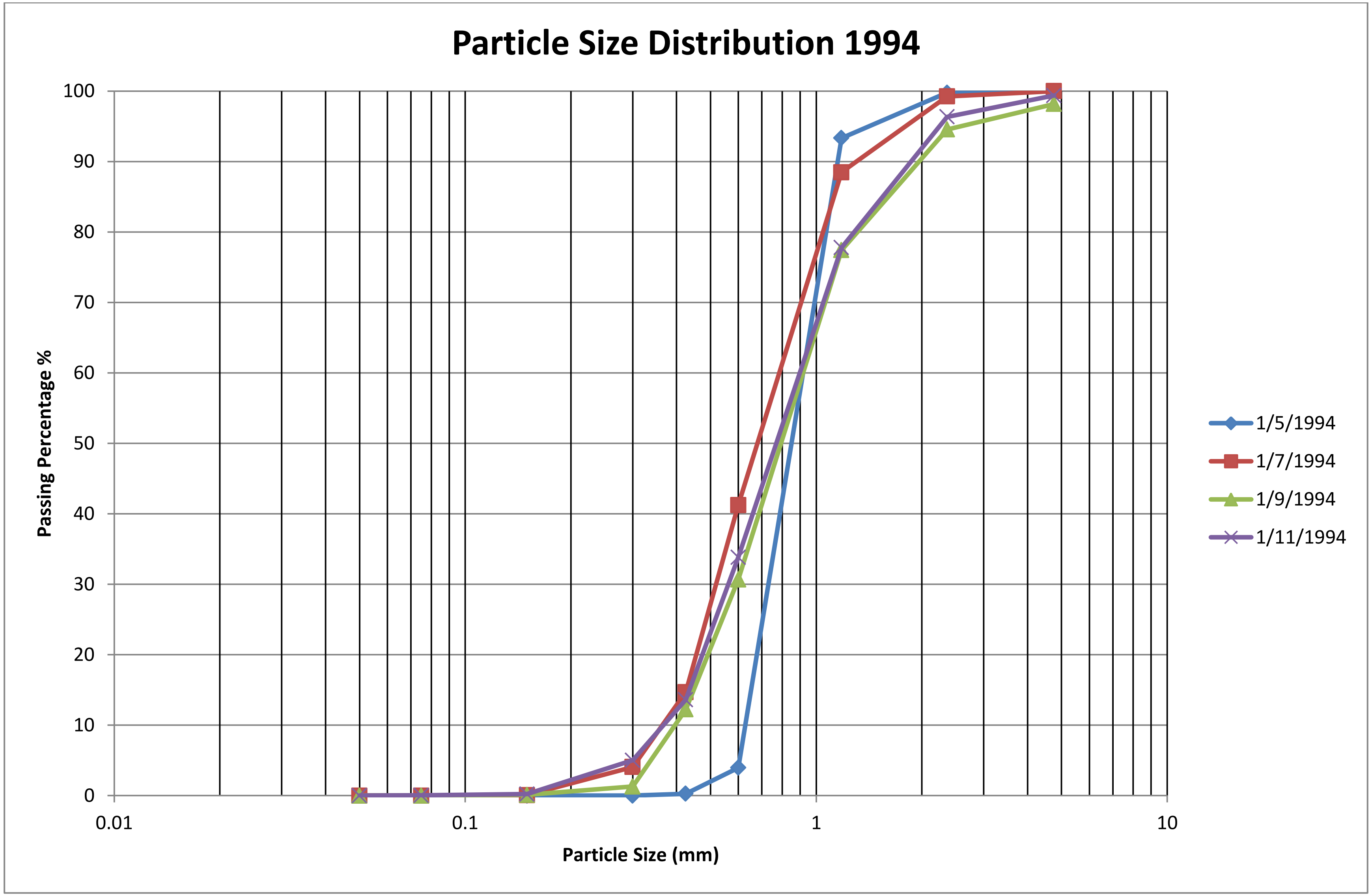


Figure 61 **Particle size distribution 1994**

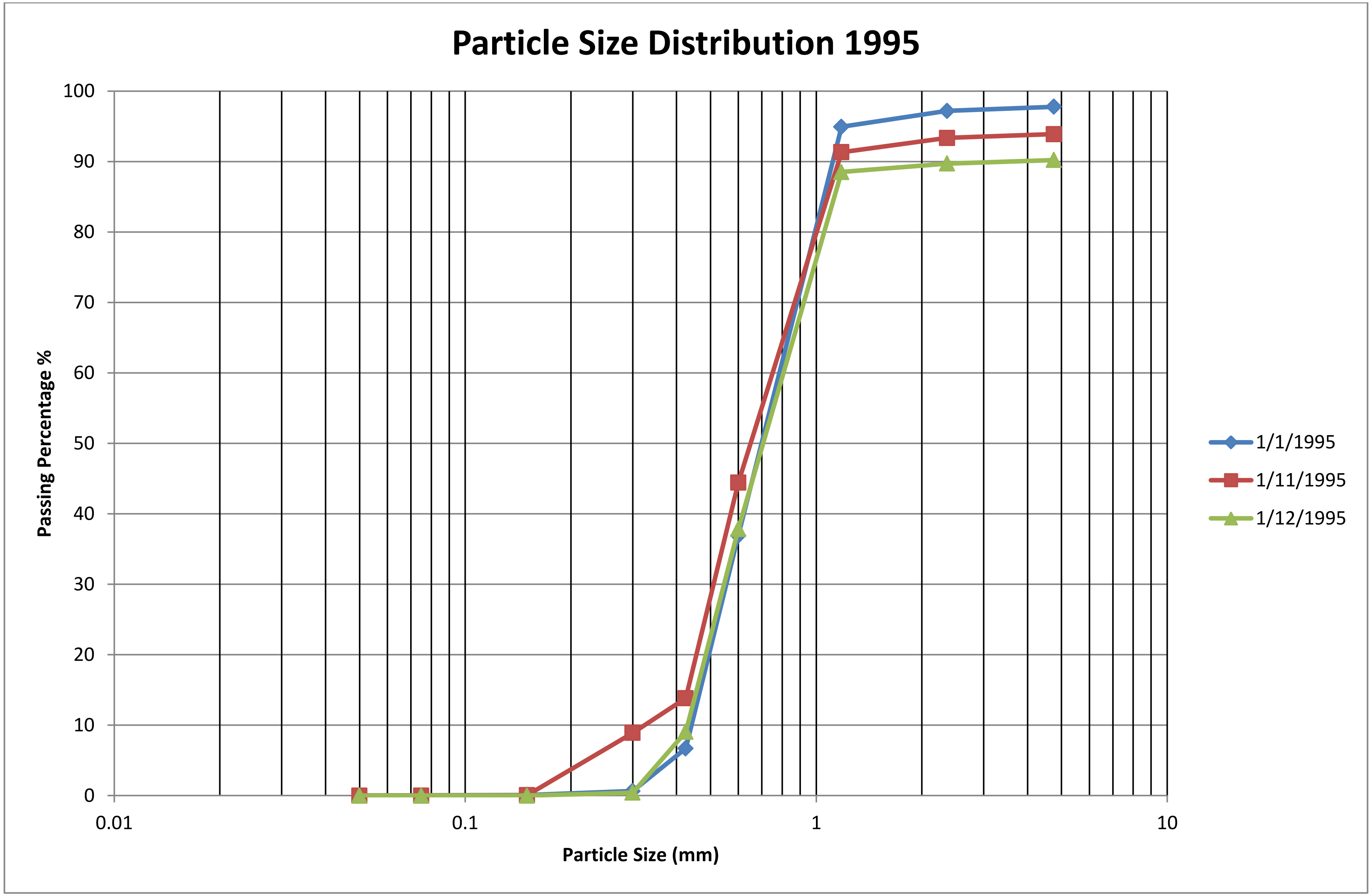


Figure 62 Particle size distribution 1995

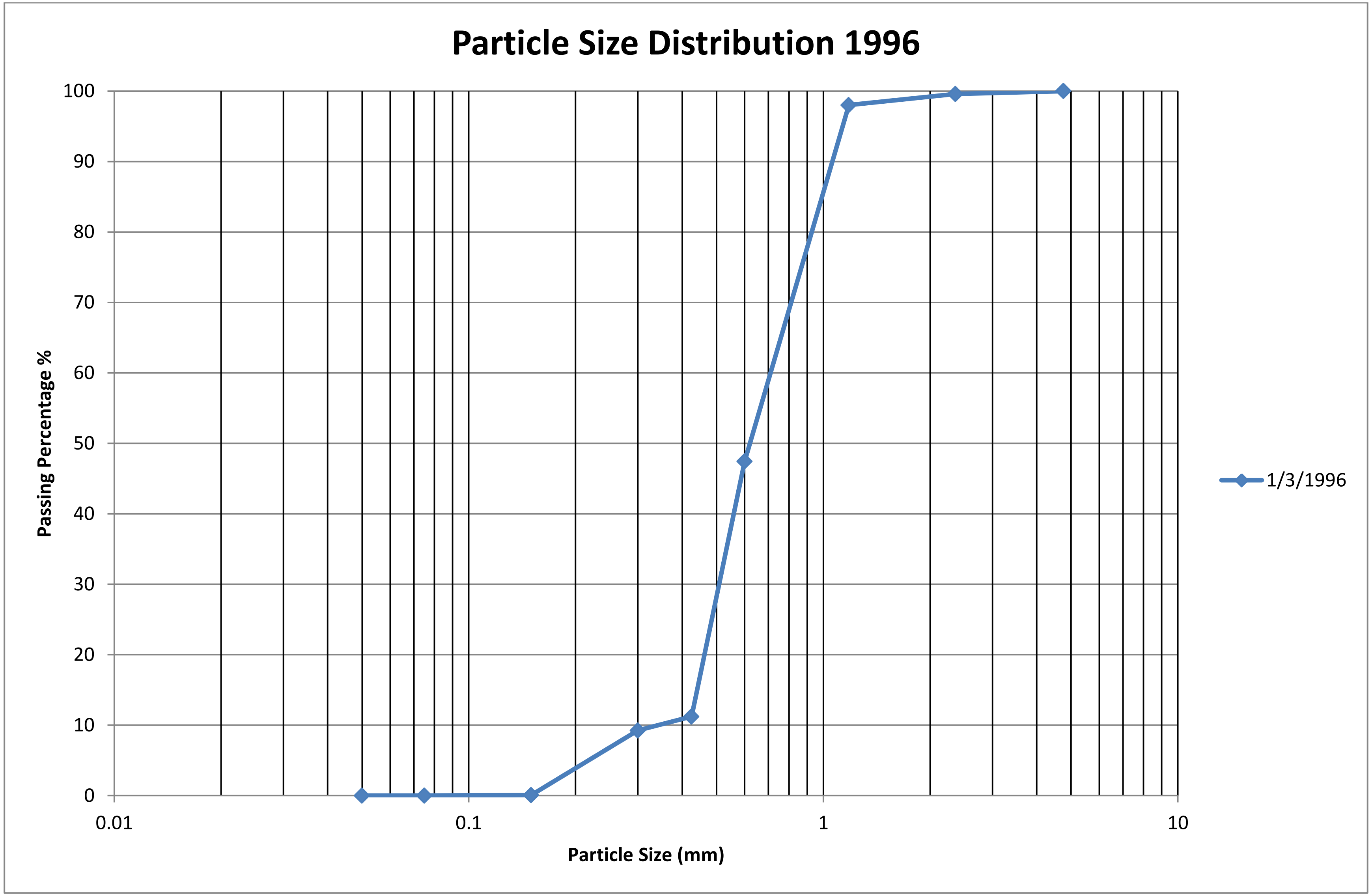


Figure 63 Particle size distribution 1996

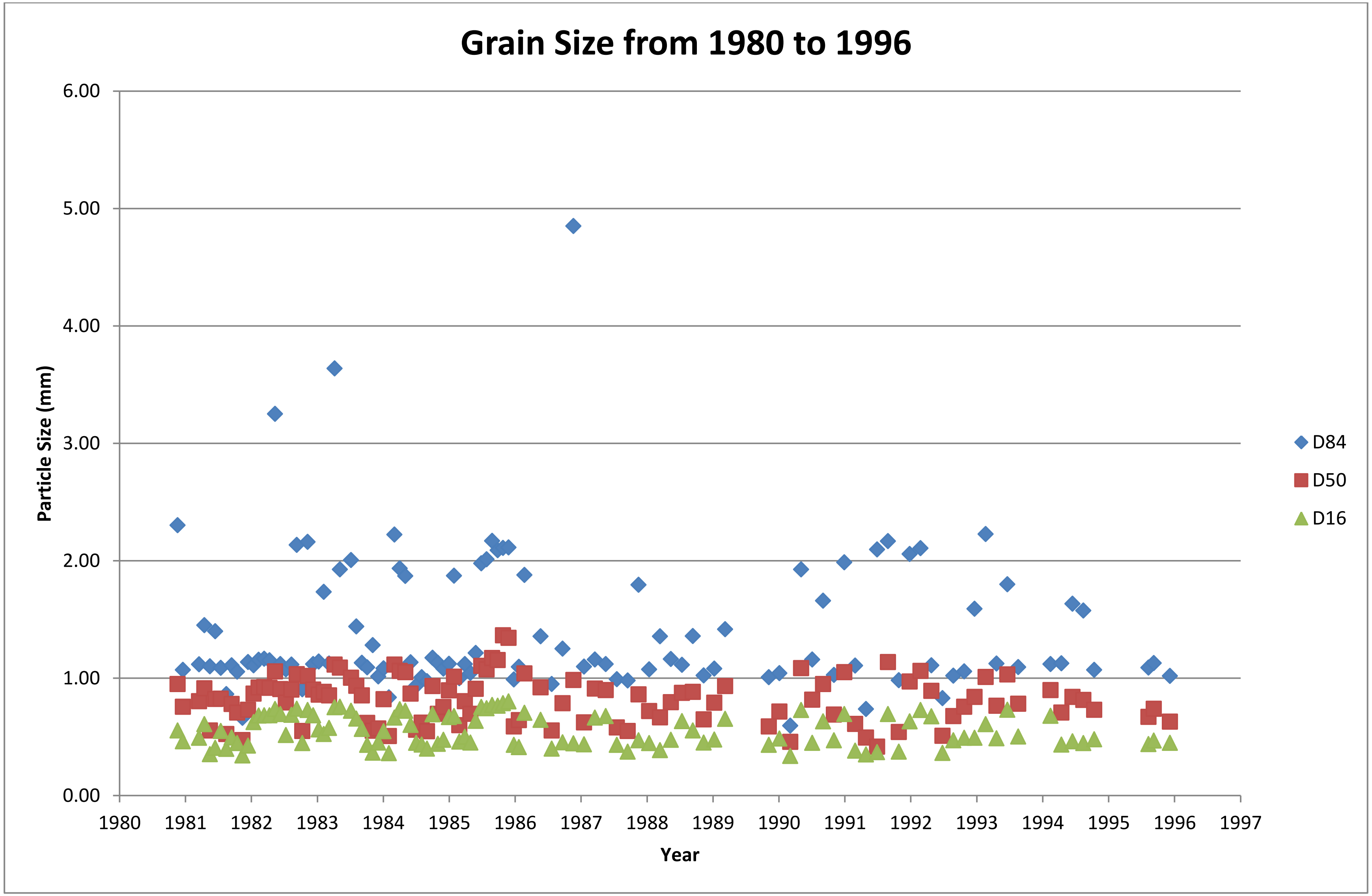


Figure 64 Grain size distribution 1980 - 1996

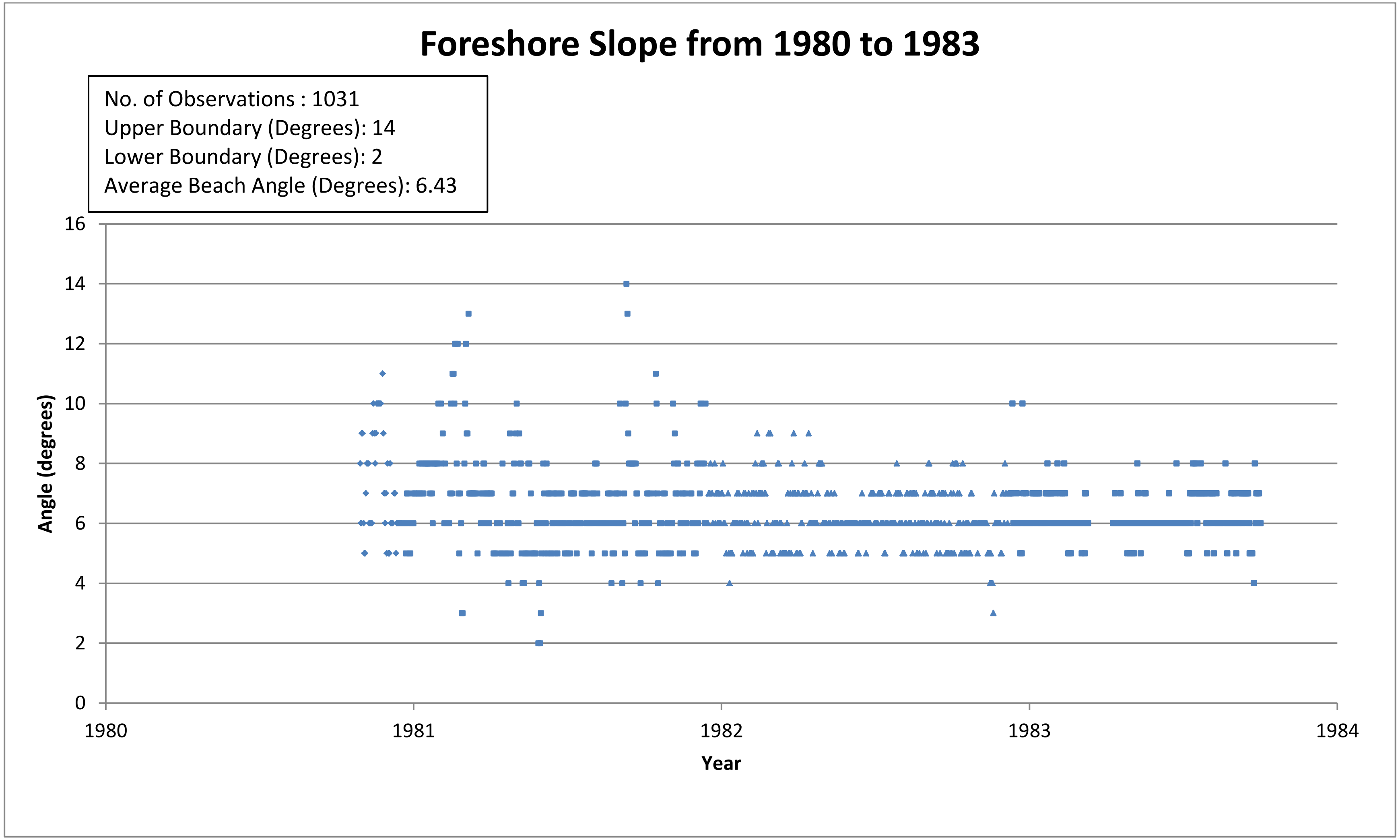


Figure 65 Foreshore slope summary

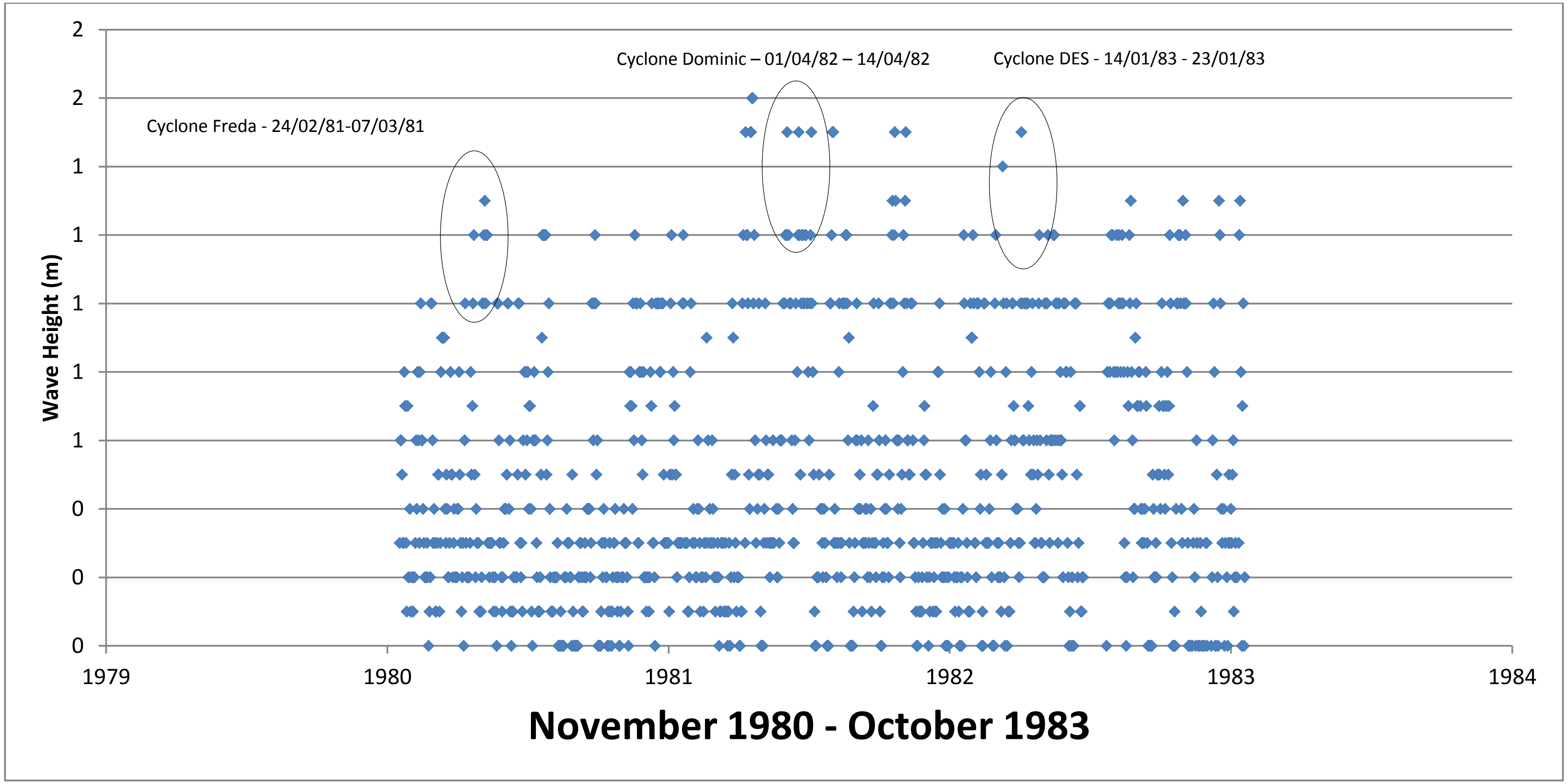


Figure 66 Wave height and cyclone influence

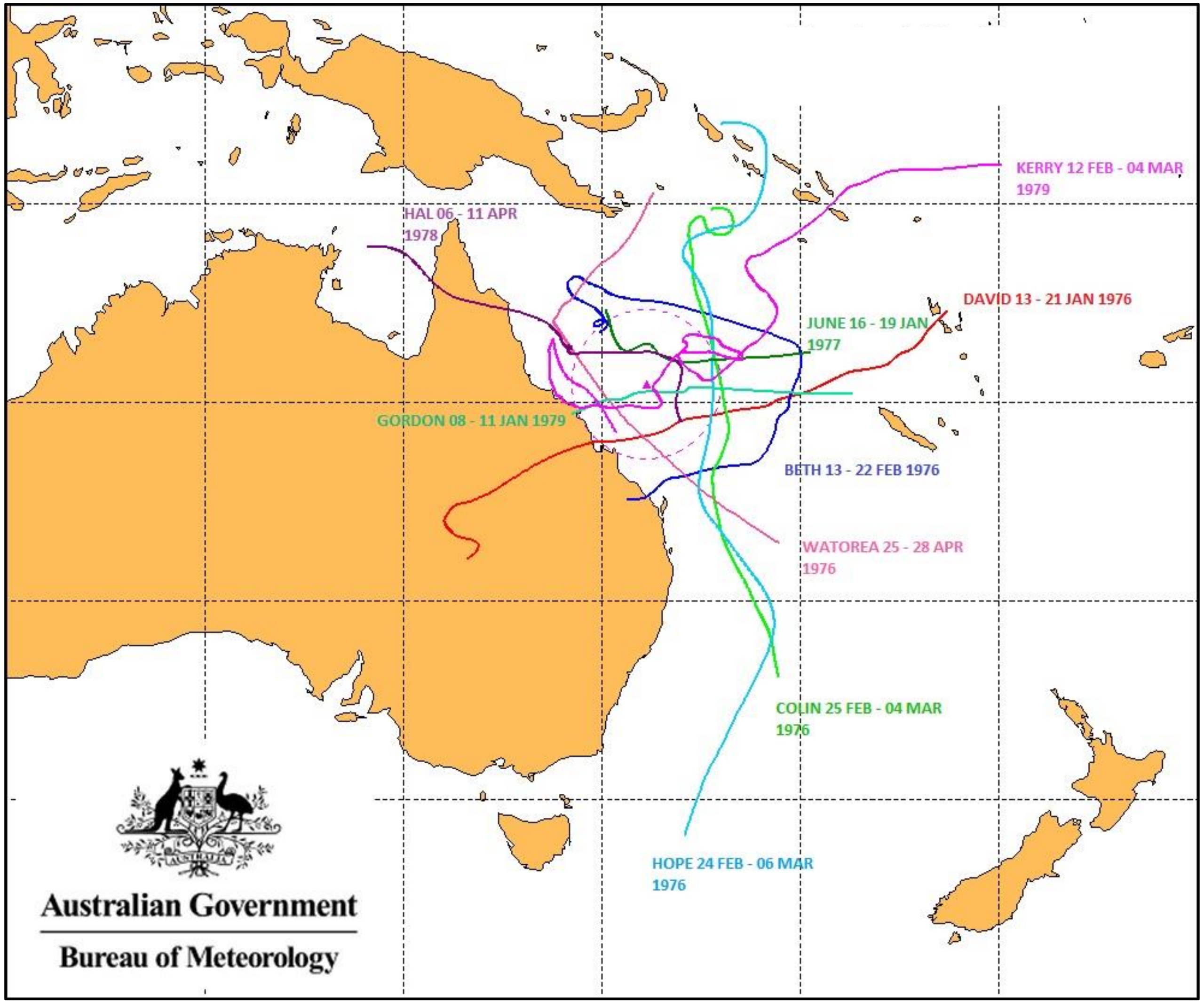


Figure 67 Cyclone tracks 1976 to 1979

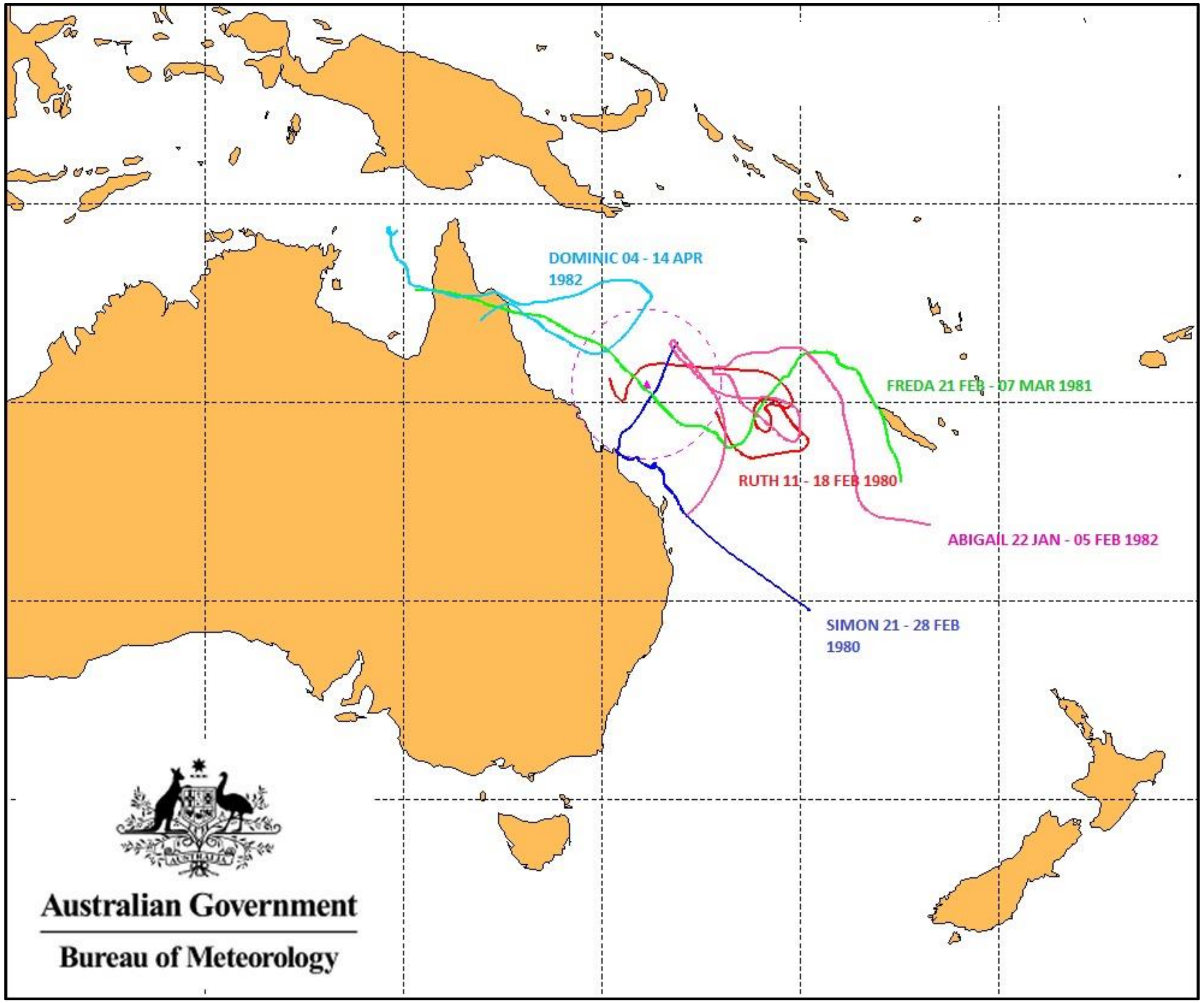


Figure 68 Cyclone tracks 1980 to 1982

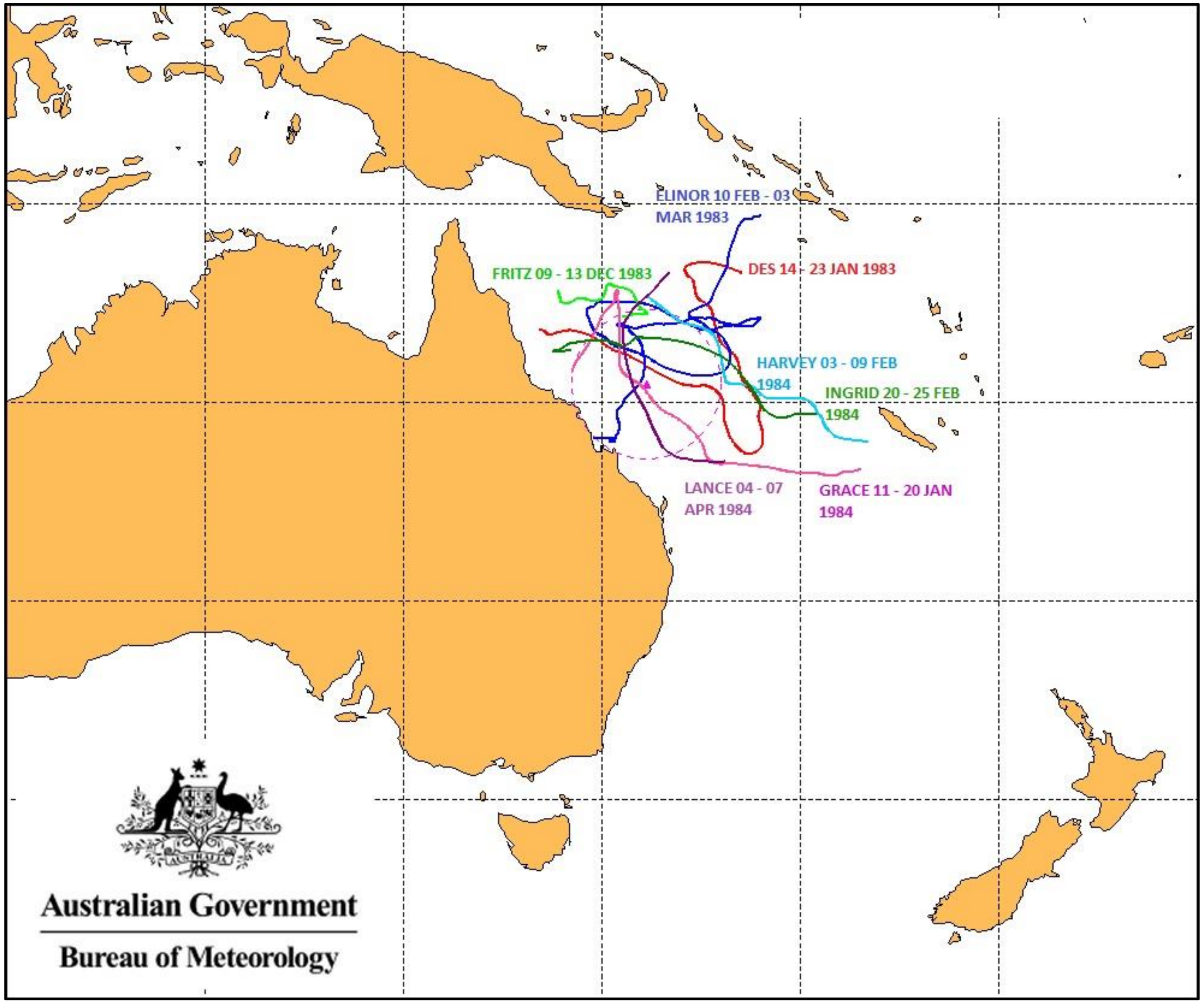


Figure 69 Cyclone tracks 1983 to 1984

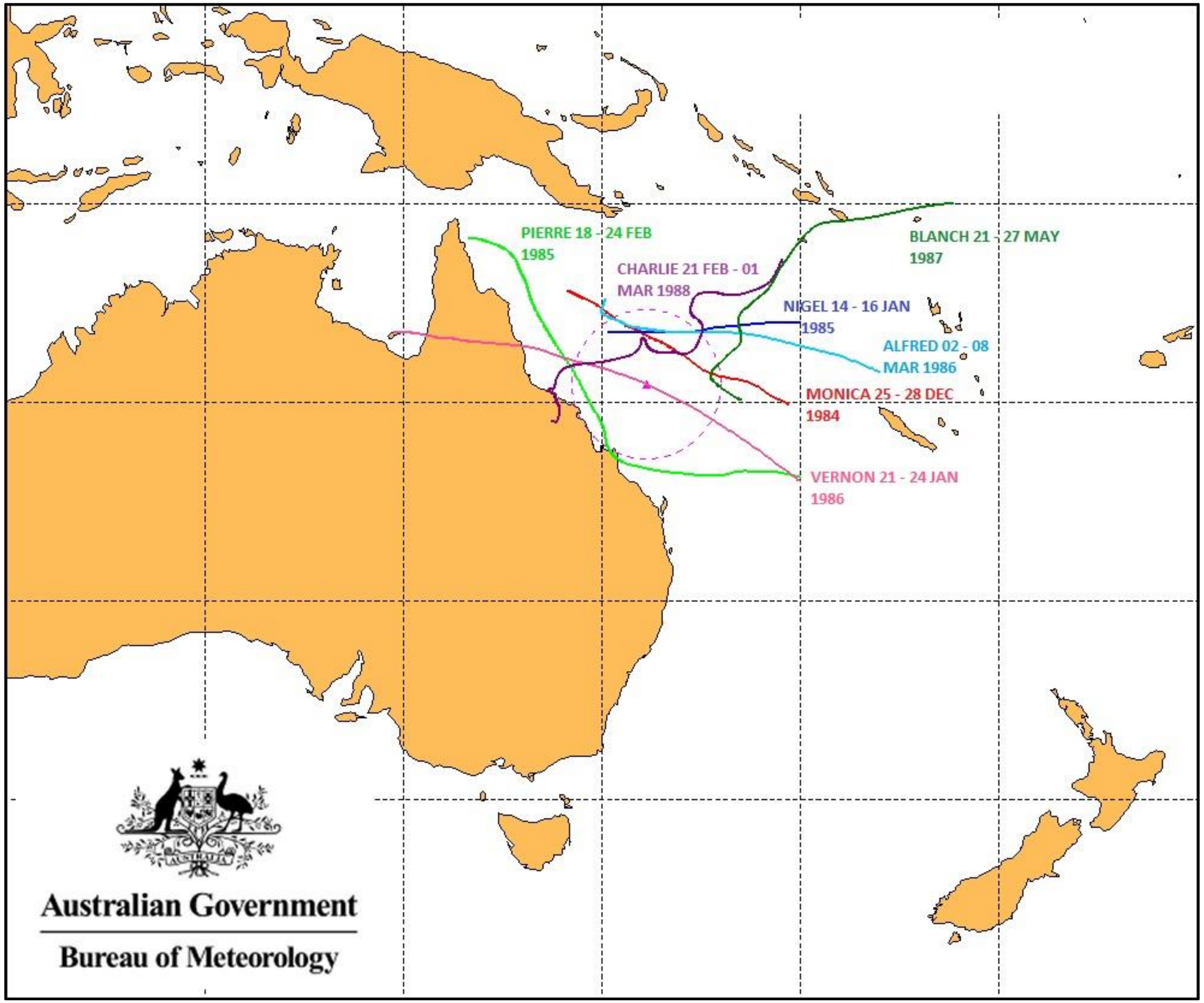


Figure 70 Cyclone tracks 1985 to 1988

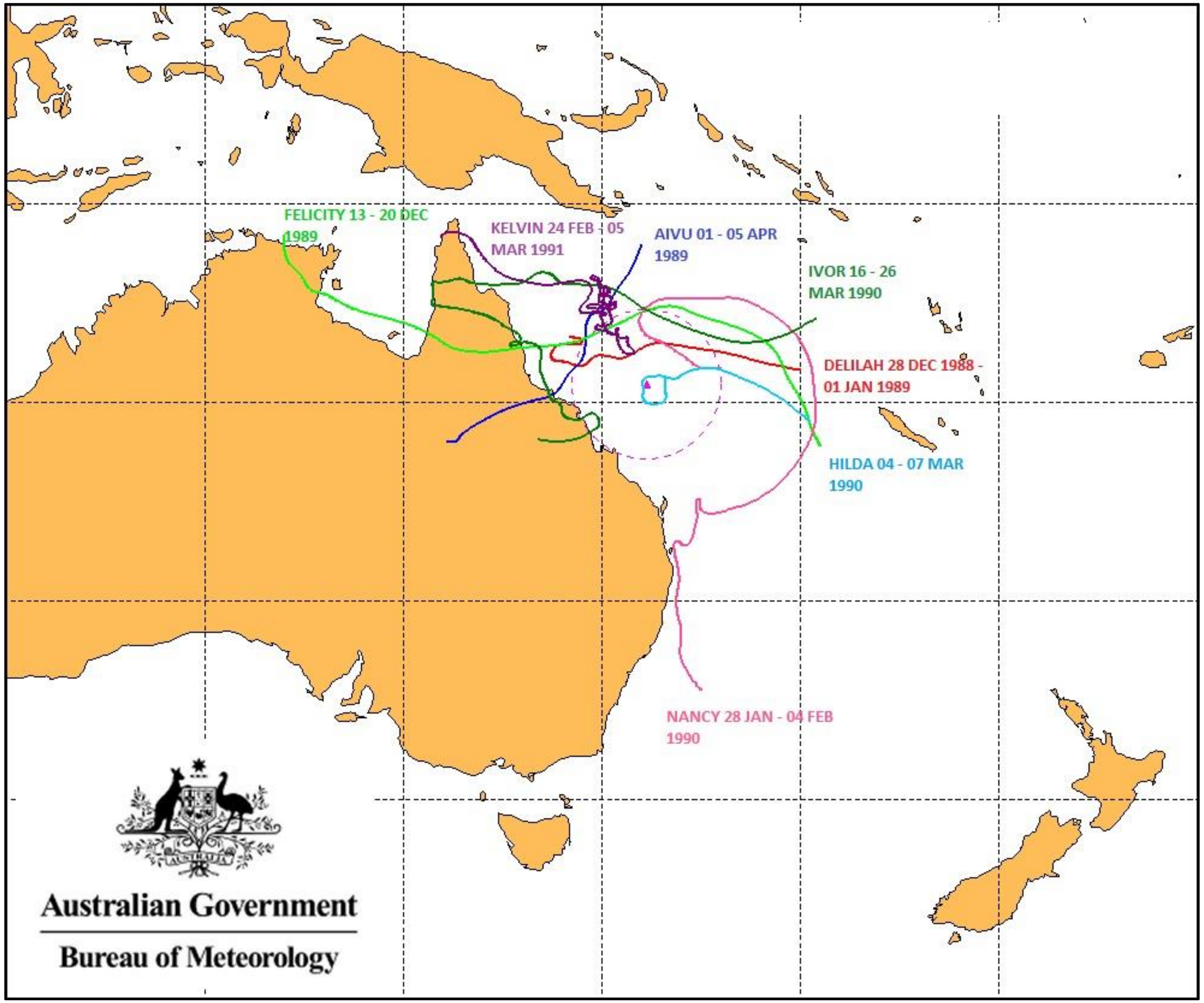


Figure 71 Cyclone tracks 1989 to 1991

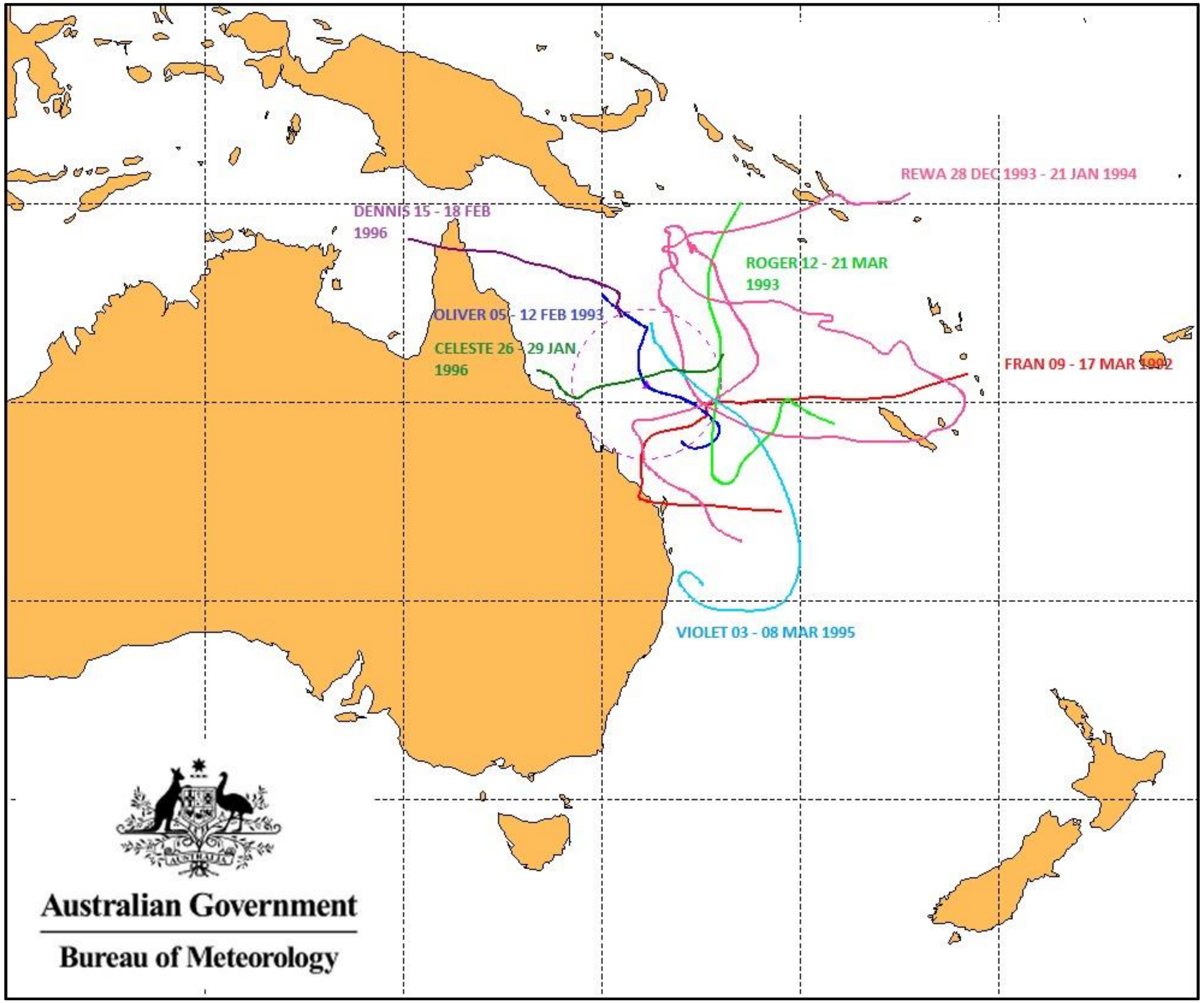


Figure 72 Cyclone tracks 1992 to 1996

Table 8 Amendments to Data

Date	Parameter	Changed From	Changed To	Justification
22/03/81	Wave period	13.9	6.1	Change period from 13.9 to 6.1 for consistency by using the average of adjacent values with H<0.3 m and T>10 s
05/04/81	Wave period	12	6	Change period from 12 to 6 for consistency by using the average of adjacent values with H<0.3 m and T>10 s
23/05/81	Wave period	12.5	11	Change period from 12.5 to 11 for consistency by using the average of adjacent values with H<0.3 m and T>10 s
24/05/81	Wave period	11	10	Change period from 11 to 10 for consistency by using the average of adjacent values with H<0.3 m and T>10 s
25/05/81	Wave period	11.1	9.1	Change period from 11.1 to 9.1 for consistency by using the average of adjacent values with H<0.3 m and T>10 s
26/05/81	Wave period	13.4	11	Change period from 13.4 to 11 for consistency by using the average of adjacent values with H<0.3 m and T>10 s
27/05/81	Wave period	11.9	9.9	Change period from 11.9 to 9.9 for consistency by using the average of adjacent values with H<0.3 m and T>10 s
29/06/81	Wave period	10.2	5.4	Change period from 10.2 to 5.4 for consistency by using the average of adjacent values with H<0.3 m and T>10 s
16/07/81	Current speed	63	13	1 misinterpreted as a 6, more consistent with surrounding data.
30/03/82	Sand level at pole	4.5	4	Surrounding data is consistent with 4, assume transcription error
17/04/82	Current speed	70	20	Based on 2 being misinterpreted as 7
22/04/82	Current speed	46	16	Surrounding data is consistent with 16, assume transcription error or misreading

19/05/82	Distance to berm	0	12	Change to 12 for consistency
20/05/82	Distance to berm	0	12	Change to 12 for consistency
16/06/82	Wave period	14.5	7.8	Change period from 14.5 to 7.8 for consistency by using the average of adjacent values with H<0.3 m and T>10 s
22/09/82	Wind speed	9.18	4.08	Surrounding data is consistent with 4.08, assume transcription error or misreading of original data of 1 in 18
24/09/82	Wave period	10.3	4.2	Change period from 10.3 to 4.2 for consistency by using the average of adjacent values with H<0.3 m and T>10 s
09/10/82	Wave period	12	3.5	Change period from 12 to 3.5 for consistency by using the average of adjacent values with H<0.3 m and T>10 s
08/06/83	Wave period	12	7.1	Change period from 12 to 7.1 for consistency by using the average of adjacent values with H<0.3 m and T>10
04/10/83	Distance to vegetation	12	-12	Changed from positive to negative for consistency

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:

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

where:

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

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

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

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.).

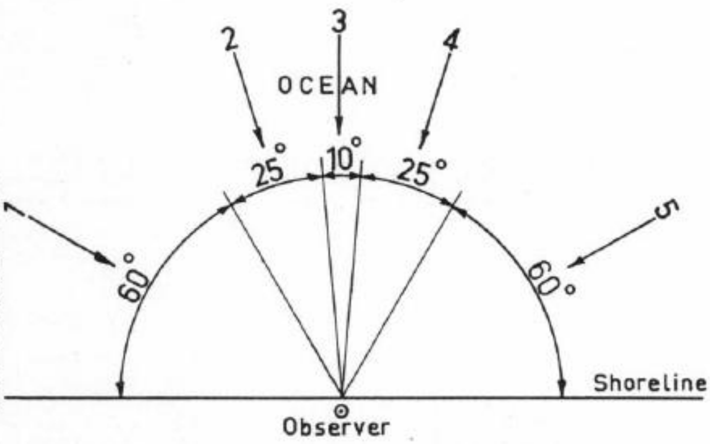
Daily observations should be made as close as possible to 0900 hours, and twice-daily observations should be made once in the morning and once in the afternoon and as close as possible to 0900 and 1500 hours. Observations should be made at the **same** time every day.

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.

Fig. 1 WAVE DIRECTION CODE



(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".

(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

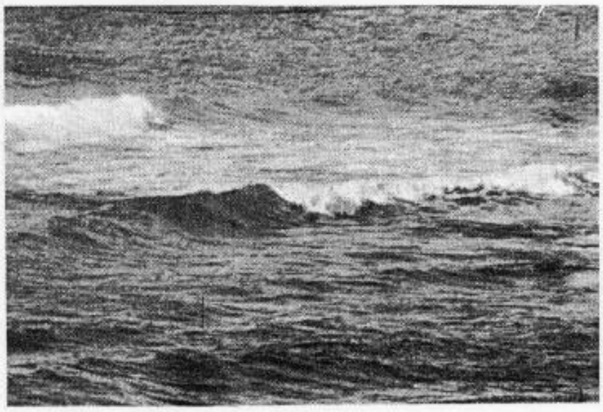


Fig. 3

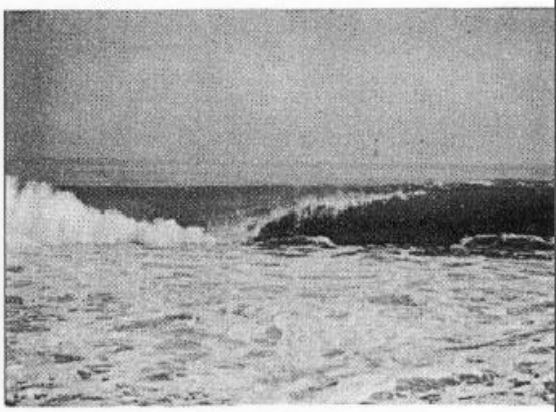


Fig. 4

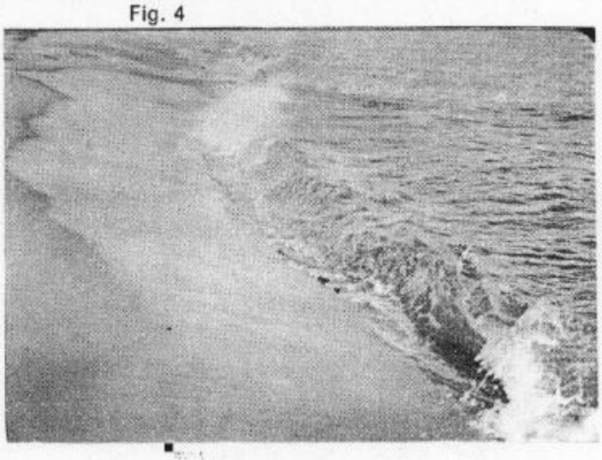
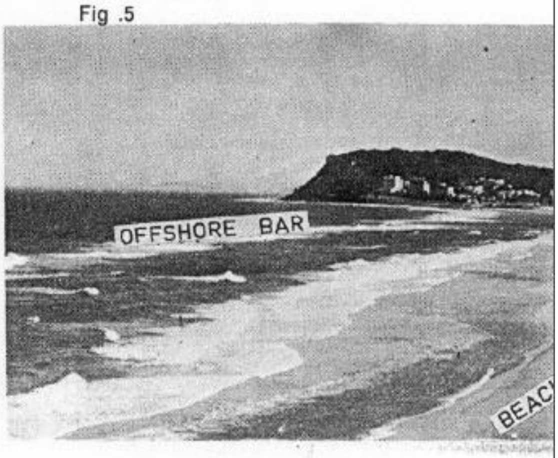


Fig .5



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 "O/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 lever 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 "O". 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.

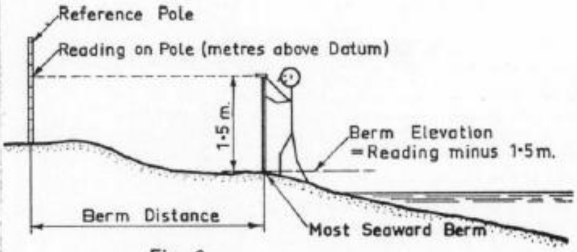


Fig. 6

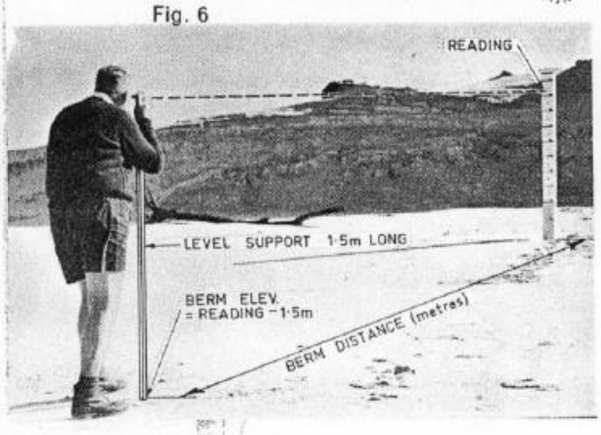


Fig. 7

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.

Issued by

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 73 Slade Point December 1985 looking South

Figure 74 Slade Point December 1985 looking North

Figure 75 **Slade Point July 1995 looking North**

Figure 76 **Slade Point July 1995 looking South**