



Maxwell Underground Mine
Environmental Monitoring Data
Quarter 3 2023

1 INTRODUCTION

This report has been compiled to present environmental monitoring data for the Maxwell Underground Mine (the project) in accordance with:

- Schedule 2, Condition E17 (a) (vii) of SSD-9526; and
- Condition 5 of EPBC 2018/8287. Specifically this requires the inclusion of hydrographs for all monitoring bores and an explanation of what the data means in relation to the groundwater performance measures specified in the State development consent (SSD 9526).

This report covers the reporting period 1 July to 30 September 2023. Summaries of historic environmental monitoring data (prior to this report) can be found on the Malabar Resources website.

2 MONITORING RESULTS

Deposited dust monitoring results are provided in **Table 1**.

Continuous TEOM PM₁₀ monitoring results are provided in **Figure 1**.

Continuous TEOM PM_{2.5} monitoring results are provided in **Figure 1**.

Mine storage surface water quality monitoring results are provided in **Table 2**.

Downstream surface water quality monitoring results are provided in **Table 3**.

Surface water quality field measurements from Saddlers Creek are compared to trigger levels in **Table 4**.

Surface water quality laboratory results from Saddlers Creek are compared to trigger levels in **Table 5**.

Groundwater quality results for Maxwell Infrastructure bores are provided in **Table 6**.

Groundwater quality monthly field measurements for Maxwell Infrastructure bore DS1 are provided in **Table 7**.

Groundwater quality results for Maxwell Underground bores are provided in **Table 8**.

Groundwater level results are provided in **Table 9**.

Locations of monitoring sites are shown in **Appendix 1** to **Appendix 3**.

The consultant hydrogeologist report providing the requirements of Condition 5 of EPBC 2018/8287, inclusive of hydrographs for all monitoring bores, and an explanation of the data relative to the groundwater performance measures in SSD 9526, is provided in **Appendix 4**.

Noise and blast monitoring results are not presented in this report as they are contained within the monthly reports required by the Environment Protection Licence and can be downloaded from the Malabar Resources website.

Table 1. Deposited dust monitoring results for Quarter 3 2023.

Gauge	Insoluble Solids Result (g/m ² /month)			Annual Mean Limit (g/m ² /month)	Rolling Annual Average to end of March 2023 (g/m ² /month)
	Jul	Aug	Sep		
2175	1.1	1.5	1.4	4	1.8
2230	1.0	2.0	1.5	4	1.7
2235	3.1	1.8	1.6	4	2.0
2247	1.3	1.8	1.7	4	1.6

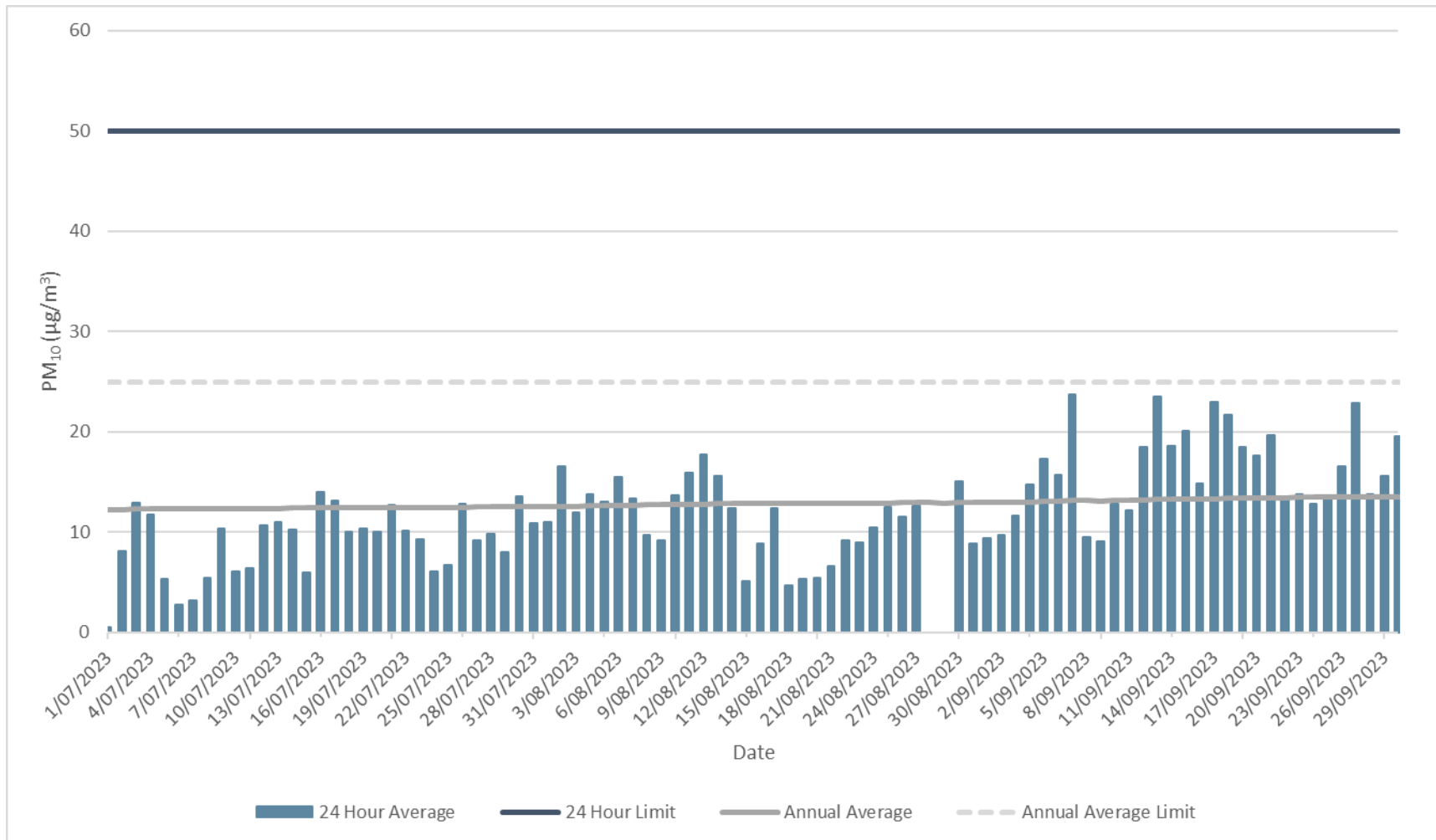


Figure 1. TEOM-1 PM₁₀ monitoring results for Quarter 3 2023.

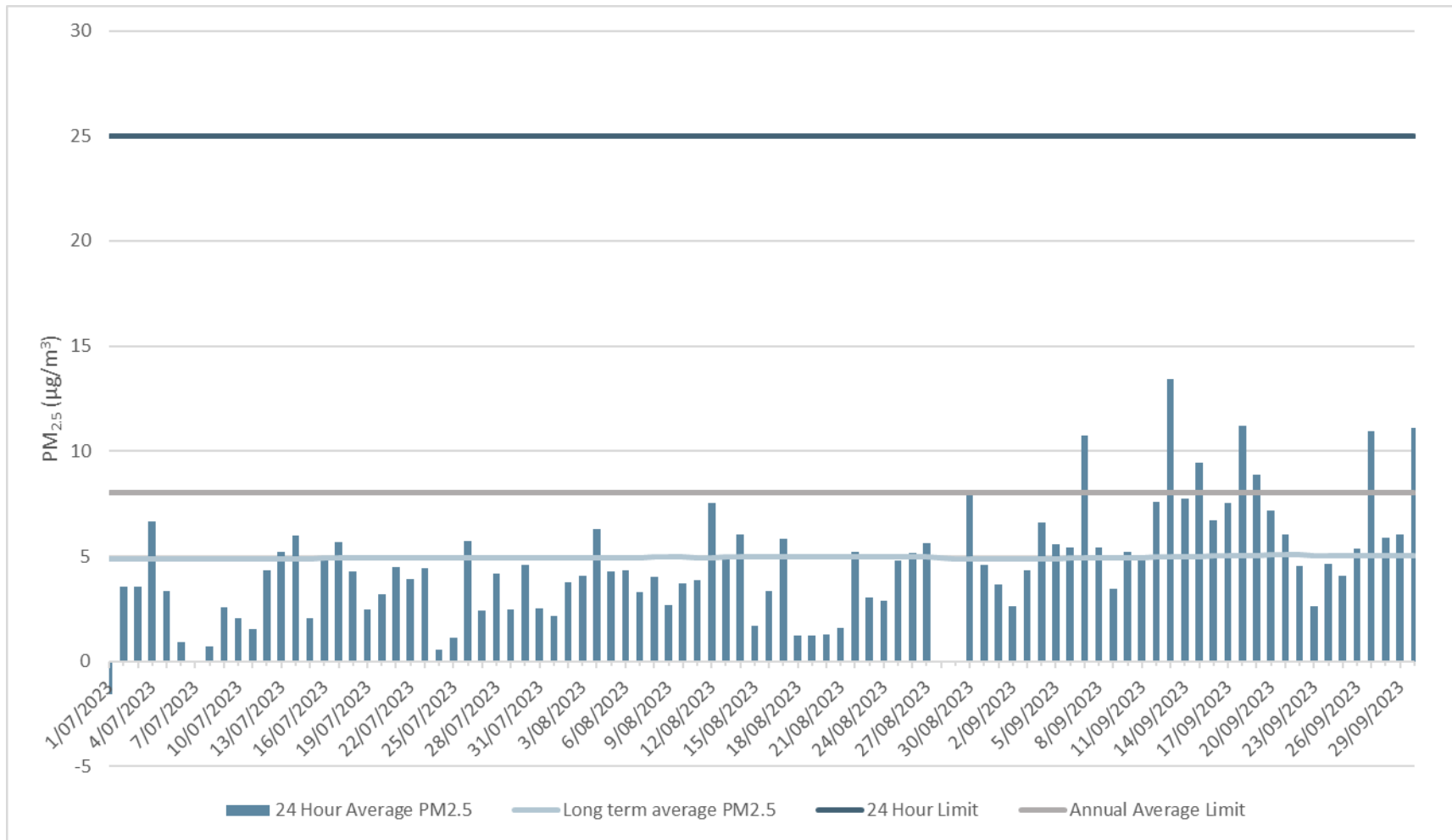


Figure 2. TEOM-1 PM_{2.5} monitoring results for Quarter 3 2023.

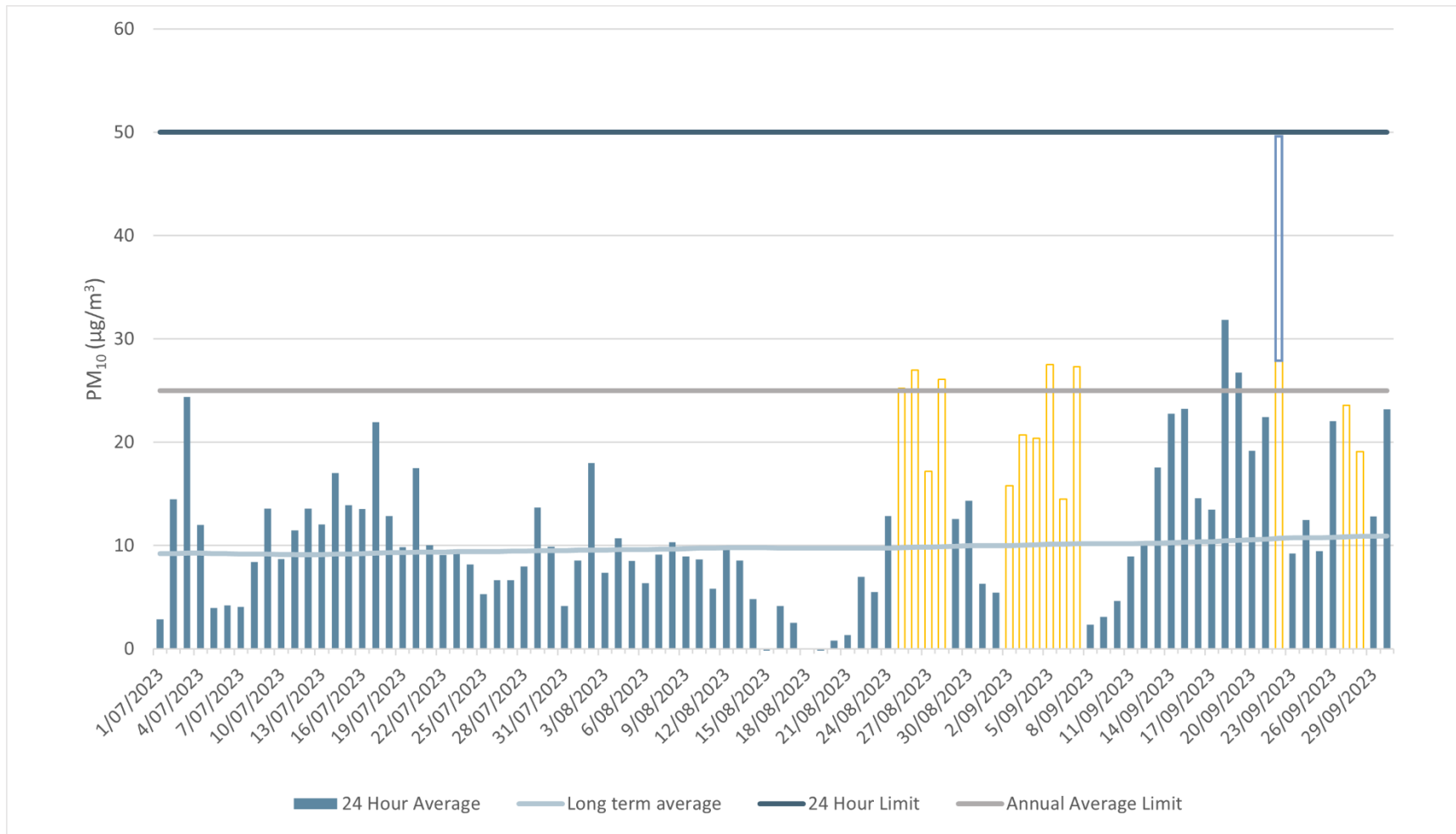


Figure 3. TEOM-2 PM₁₀ monitoring results for Quarter 3 2023. Refer to notes for explanation of data gaps as shown by orange bars.

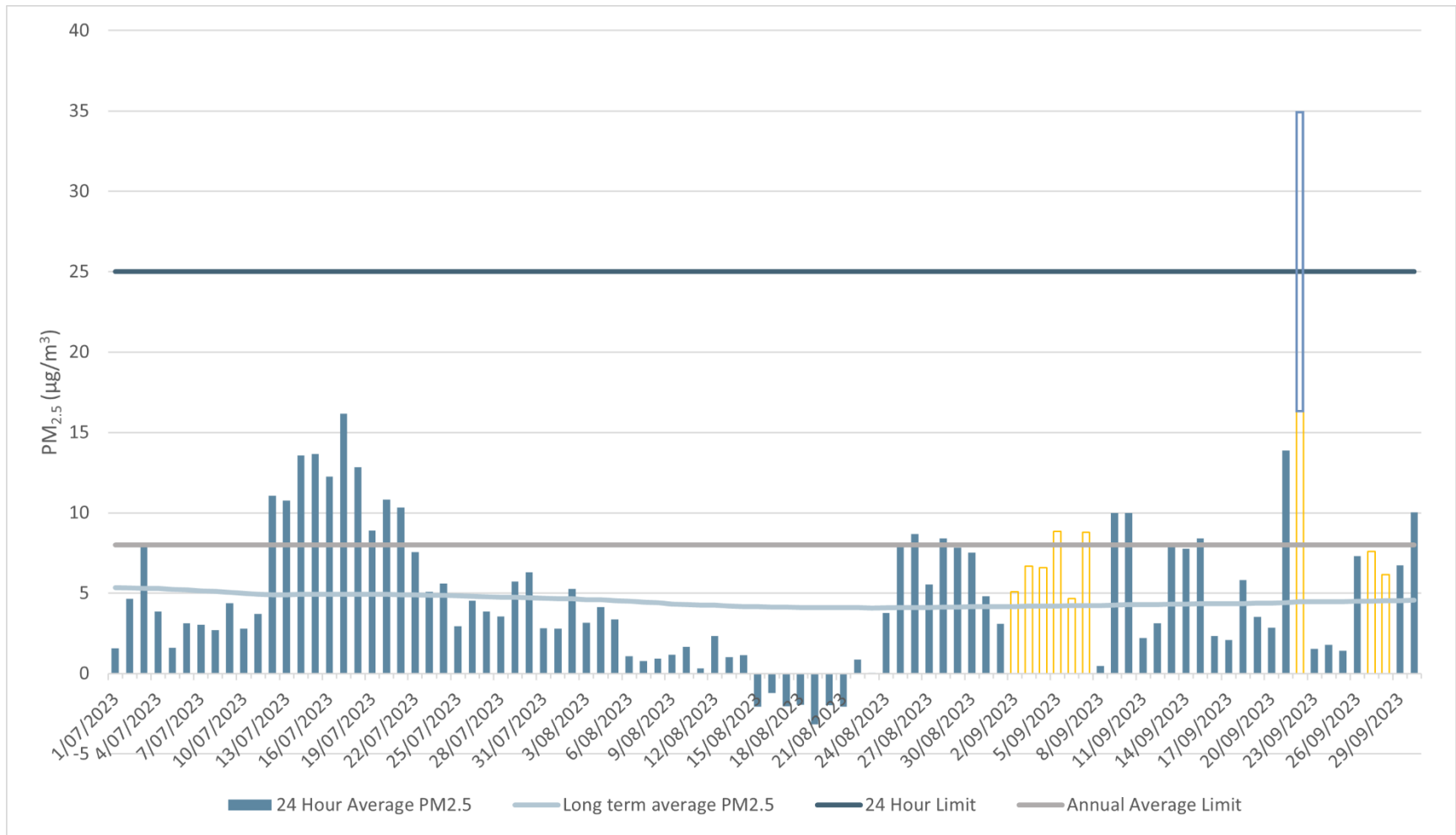


Figure 4. TEOM-2 PM_{2.5} monitoring results for Quarter 3 2023.

Notes:

- Monitoring of PM₁₀ and PM_{2.5} commenced at TEOM-2 on 12 December 2021.
- All 24-hour averages during the reporting period were below the 24-hour criteria for both PM₁₀ and PM_{2.5} at both TEOM-1 and TEOM-2. The results of the investigations into any exceedances of the criteria (if required) are provided in the Annual Review.
- Gaps in data are due to maintenance and scheduled calibration by monitoring contractor, plus occasionally power cuts and equipment failure. Note that values close to zero may appear as gaps in data in the graphs.
- Where there is no TEOM-generated rolling 24-hour average value reported by the TEOM, in accordance with Malabar's data validation process, where such events result in >75% valid 1-hour data during that 24-hour period (midnight to midnight), the 1-hour data is used to calculate the 24-hour average. This process has been applied from Q1 2022. Prior to this the raw data from the TEOM is presented, ie if not valid 24-hour value is generated by the TEOM, no data is presented for that day.
- Specific significant data gaps for the reporting period are noted as follows:
 - TEOM-1: 28&29 August 2023 – there was insufficient data due to the scheduled maintenance/annual calibration resulting in less than 75% of values in the 24-hour period hence there was insufficient data to calculate a valid 24-hour average in accordance with the Validation Procedure. The annual calibration includes placing a zero filter on the TEOM for 24 hours, which is replaced the next day, hence there are two consecutive missing days of data.
 - TEOM-2: As requested in the September CCC meeting, data gaps are filled with results from the Jerrys Plains Upper Hunter Air Quality Monitoring Network site situated across the road (1.7km to the southeast). PM_{2.5} is not recorded at this location, hence PM_{2.5} concentrations are calculated by applying the long term 24-hour average PM₁₀ to PM_{2.5} ratio as measured at TEOM-1 to the 24-hour concentration of PM₁₀ at TEOM-2. These were as follows:
 - 2–7/9: As reported at the previous CCC meeting, the data gaps up to 7 Sept were investigated by an electrician and found to be due to a loose earth cable causing tripping of the TEOM.
 - 22/9: the recorded daily average PM₁₀ concentration was elevated (49 µg/m³), for PM_{2.5} it was 34.9 µg/m³; following an investigation, internal temperatures were found to be outside of operating ranges; the device was restarted, and the unit stabilized. High negatives were removed in accordance with the data validation procedure; this meant that the remaining data was strongly positive; the PM₁₀ result from the Jerrys Plains station for comparison was 28.1 µg/m³ and is also shown in Figure 3; the calculated result for PM_{2.5} based on the methodology described above was 16.6 µg/m³.
 - 27&28/9: There was a power cut originating at the Ausgrid pole, an emergency callout was raised with Ausgrid who diagnosed the issue as being due to a fault on the transformer on the pole.
 - 7–9/10: An electrical fault commenced Saturday AM; an electrician was called first thing Monday who diagnosed the issue as incorrectly installed circuit breakers which were replaced.
 - 17/10: There was insufficient valid data to calculate a 24-hour average due to high negative concentrations.

Table 2. All mine water storage monitoring locations: laboratory water quality monitoring results for Quarter 3 2023 compared to year-to-date averages. See notes for further details.

Site	Month	Bicarbonate (CaCO ₃) (mg/L)	Calcium (mg/L)	Chloride (mg/L)	EC (µS/cm)	Magnesium (mg/L)	pH	Potassium (mg/L)	Sodium (mg/L)	Sulphate (SO ₄) (mg/L)	TSS (mg/L)	TDS (mg/L)
Access Rd Dam (2081)	Sep	169	430	762	6660	484	8.2	60	593	2740	10	5690
	Avg	95	329	657	5683	388	8.8	48	511	2605	7.5	4990
DC2 Dam (2109)	Sep	467	189	1890	11400	499	7.8	14	2030	2930	15	8680
	Avg	426	151	1400	8400	336	7.8	11	1374	2333	9.0	6128
Rail Loop Dam (2114)	Sep	163	361	747	6040	420	7.4	48	588	2390	6.0	5580
	Avg	188	234	530	4285	259	7.7	24	434	1674	9.0	3553
Industrial Dam (1969)	Sep	155	266	462	4280	284	8.4	38	360	1610	9.0	3140
	Avg	130	210	385	3305	220	8.4	28	297	1466	7.3	2845
OPC Dam	Sep	126	217	398	3350	211	8.0	27	278	1110	15	2740
	Avg	134	149	241	2165	137	8.4	15	186	876	12	1771
V Notch	Sep	351	482	1350	9650	472	7.9	28	1440	3860	8.0	7820
	Avg	407	505	1694	11255	521	7.8	19	1795	4705	7.9	9820
ES Void	Sep	269	554	840	7370	579	7.9	71	616	3460	5.0	6450
	Avg	254	545	825	7503	583	7.9	77	622	3695	5.8	6980
MEA Dam	Jul *											
	Avg*											
Mine Water Dam	Jul	266	361	825	6400	412	8.2	48	648	3090	5.0	5520
	Avg	266	361	825	6400	412	8.2	48	648	3090	5.0	5520
Treated Water Dam	Jul *											
	Avg*											

Site	Month	Bicarbonate (CaCO ₃) (mg/L)	Calcium (mg/L)	Chloride (mg/L)	EC (µS/cm)	Magnesium (mg/L)	pH	Potassium (mg/L)	Sodium (mg/L)	Sulphate (SO ₄) (mg/L)	TSS (mg/L)	TDS (mg/L)
MEA Sedimentation Dam	Jul	412	300	966	6580	389	8.1	42	775	2640	24	5290
	Avg	412	300	966	6580	389	8.1	42	775	2640	24	5290

Notes:

The year-to-date value consists of an average of the quarterly sample for the current quarter plus the three previous quarters, as per the Water Management Plan. The exceptions are for the V Notch dam, where samples are taken monthly as is required by the EPL and for the ES Void where monthly samples were additionally taken from October 2021 to December 2022 to inform the design of the water treatment plant for the underground mine and hence are included here for completeness.

The MEA Dam, Mine Water Dam, Treated Water Dam and MEA Sedimentation Dam were progressively constructed and commissioned during 2023. Samples were taken when water was available and safe access permitted. Sample dates coincide with the underground surface water sampling.

*The MEA Dam and the Treated Water Dam had not been commissioned at the time of the scheduled monitoring.

As is explained in the Notes to Table 4, all creek samples taken in 2023 were of stagnant water.

Table 3. All downstream surface water monitoring locations: surface water quality scheduled and sediment dams and; plus mine water dams (overflow events only) laboratory monitoring results for Quarter 3 2023 compared to rolling year-to-date averages. See notes for further details.

Site	Month	Antimony	Arsenic	Bicarbonate (CaCO ₃)	Calcium	Chloride	EC	Magnesium	Molybdenum	Potassium	Selenium	Sodium	Sulphate (SO ₄)	TSS	TDS	Turbidity
Saddlers U/S	Jul	0.0010	0.0010	588	122	2960	9450	489	0.0010	10	0.010	1290	1120	30	6700	13
	Avg	0.0010	0.0010	472	147	2214	8000	360	0.0010	8.2	0.010	1037	1060	12	5602	8.6
W3	Jul	Dry														
	Avg	0.0010	0.0010	50	6	42	248	9.0	0.0010	5.0	0.010	32	9.0	15	195	41
SW1/ Saddlers U/S	Jul	0.0010	0.0010	840	122	5560	15600	489	0.0010	10	0.010	2840	1120	30	11000	13
	Avg	0.0010	0.0010	611	125	2886	9293	292	0.0010	7.9	0.010	1507	805	12	5955	16
Saddlers D/S (W4-Bowfield)	Jul	0.0010	0.0010	908	76	2290	7880	226	0.0010	7.0	0.010	1340	354	5.0	4690	1.2
	Avg	0.0010	0.0010	657	57	1608	5763	150	0.0010	7.3	0.010	959	222	10	3398	24
MEA D/S	Jul	0.0010	0.0010	60	13	59	319	6.0	0.0010	10	0.010	36	18	17	235	65
	Avg	0.0010	0.0014	58	10	35	235	5.0	0.0010	8.8	0.010	25	7.4	27	196	52
Saltwater D/S	Jul	Dry														
	Avg	0.0010	0.0020	70	13	7.0	152	5.0	0.0010	9.0	0.010	7.0	10	174	215	80
SW3	Jul	Dry														
	Avg	0.0010	0.0010	78	19	30	261	8.0	0.0010	8.0	0.010	19	10	23	208	54
Sediment dams and mine water dams	No overflows during the reporting period															
	See notes	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Notes

In addition to quarterly scheduled sampling, the Maxwell Underground Mine Water Management Plan requires sampling and analysis following 25mm or more of rain over a 24-hour period (defined as midnight to midnight and as recorded at the Drayton South meteorological recording station (AWS-2)). The results from any such post-rainfall events have been included in the year-to-date averages.

The quarterly field measurements of pH, EC, redox potential and temperature are recorded to enable subsequent evaluation in case of need and are not included in the quarterly reporting.

The Transport and Services Corridor sediment dams (eg SW2) were progressively constructed and commissioned during 2023. The requirement for the sampling and analysis for these variables is required within 24 hours of commencement of an overflow from a sedimentation dam or mine water dam (taken to be defined as an uncontrolled release from those dams).

All results are in mg/L except Conductivity ($\mu\text{S}/\text{cm}$), pH (in pH units) and turbidity (nephelometric turbidity units).

The following will be reported in the Annual Review:

- Comparison of water quality results from Saddlers Creek against Water Quality Trigger Values
- Results from the automatic weather stations (AWS-1 and AWS-2)
- Results of the stream health monitoring.

As is explained in the Notes to Table 4, all samples taken in 2023 were of stagnant water.

Table 4. Surface water scheduled field measurements at sites along Saddlers Creek for Q3 2022 to Q2 2023 and comparison against trigger levels. If an exceedance of the trigger level occurs (median over three consecutive samples), this is highlighted in red. TLTS = too low to sample.

Site	Units	Field result											
		pH				EC				Turbidity			
		pH				µS/cm				NTU			
		6.5–8.5				7,600				64			
	Q4 2022	Q1 2023	Q2 2023	Q3 2023	Q4 2022	Q1 2023	Q2 2023	Q3 2023	Q4 2022	Q1 2023	Q2 2023	Q3 2023	
W3		TLTS	Dry	Dry	Dry	TLTS	Dry	Dry	Dry	TLTS	Dry	Dry	Dry
Saddlers D/S (W4 – Bowfield)		7.9	8.3	8.2	8.7	1,184	8,160	7,900	7,950	24	2.7	2.0	1.9
MEA D/S		8.5	9.1	8.8	7.9	258	232	295	324	100	29	55	74
Saddlers U/S		7.8	7.8	8.3	8.7	2,950	8,820	9180	9,400	13	5.5	3.5	14
Saltwater D/S		6.9	Dry	Dry	Dry	158	Dry	Dry	Dry	82	Dry	Dry	Dry
SW1/ Saddlers		7.8	8.0	8.0	8.8	1,013	1,080	1,060	1,450	68	2.0	1.2	3.1
SW2	Not yet operational	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
SW3		6.9	Dry	Dry	Dry	355	Dry	Dry	Dry	59	Dry	Dry	Dry

Notes

- Following an investigation into the high EC readings at site Saddlers Upstream (U/S) it was found that due to a change in sampling personnel, the requirement (Section 5.3 of the Water Management Plan) to only sample waterways that are flowing was not occurring (ie samples were of stagnant (ie non-flowing) water). All samples taken in 2023 were of stagnant water; and hence should not be used for comparison against trigger values.
- Any exceedances of trigger values will only be investigated if they occur after construction commences.
- From Q2 2022, a field meter has been used to determine turbidity; this enables direct comparison against the field trigger values for turbidity.
- Trigger for turbidity calculated by WRM Water based on the 80th percentile of the entire laboratory NTU dataset to end of 2021.

Table 5. Surface water laboratory results at sites along Saddlers Creek (scheduled and post-rainfall sampling) from Q4 2022 to Q3 2023 and comparison against trigger levels. If an exceedance of the trigger level occurs (median over three consecutive samples), this is highlighted in red. Refer also to Notes at end of Table 5.

Site	Sample date	Sampling type	Laboratory result													
			Sb	As (V)	As (III)	CaCO ₃	Ca	Cl	Mg	Mb	K	Se	Na	SO ₄	TSS	TDS
Units			mg/L	mg/L mg/L	mg/L	mg/L	mg/L	mg/L	mg/L	mg/L	mg/L	µg/L	µg/L	µg/L	µg/L	µg/L
Trigger			9 ^(c)	13 ^(c)	24 ^(b) ^(c)	(a)	(a)	(a)	(a)	34 ^(c)	(a)	11 ^(c)	(a)	(a)	50	4900
W3	10/10/22	Rainfall	Too low to sample													
	27/10/22	Scheduled	Too low to sample													
	14/11/22	Rainfall	0.0010	0.0010	0.0010	50	6.0	42	9.0	0.0010	5.0	0.010	32	9.0	15	195
	27/1/23	Scheduled	Dry													
	23/2/23	Rainfall	Dry													
	12/4/23	Scheduled	Dry													
	13/7/23	Scheduled	Dry													
	5/4/22	Scheduled	0.0010	0.0010	0.0010	344	42	591	68	0.0010	8.0	0.010	368	138	5.0	1440

Site	Sample date	Sampling type	Laboratory result													
			Sb	As (V)	As (III)	CaCO3	Ca	Cl	Mg	Mb	K	Se	Na	SO4	TSS	TDS
Units			mg/L	mg/L mg/L	mg/L	mg/L	mg/L	mg/L	mg/L	mg/L	mg/L	µg/L	µg/L	µg/L	µg/L	µg/L
Trigger			9 ^(c)	13 ^(c)	24 ^(b) ^(c)	(a)	(a)	(a)	(a)	34 ^(c)	(a)	11 ^(c)	(a)	(a)	50	4900
Saddlers D/S	4/7/22	Rainfall	No access, too wet													
	6/7/22	Rainfall	No access, too wet													
	25/7/22	Scheduled	0.0010	0.0010	0.0010	500	75	1170	146	0.0010	8.0	0.010	755	254	5.0	2590
	10/10/22	Rainfall	0.0010	0.0010	0.0010	72	14	79	15	0.0010	5.0	0.010	60	53	28	474
	28/10/22	Scheduled	0.0010	0.0010	0.0010	189	28	301	38	0.0010	6.0	0.010	181	89	12	806
	14/11/22	Rainfall	No access, too wet													
	27/1/23	Scheduled	0.0010	0.0010	0.0010	899	80	2420	210	0.0010	9.0	0.010	1360	287	5.0	4680
	23/2/23	Rainfall	0.0010	0.0010	0.0010	834	66	2240	213	0.0010	8.0	0.010	1450	272	5.0	4860
	13/4/23	Scheduled	0.0010	0.0010	0.0010	1040	75	2320	197	0.0010	9.0	0.010	1360	275	5.0	4880
	11/7/23	Scheduled														
MEA D/S	4/7/22	Rainfall	No access, too wet													
	6/7/22	Rainfall	No access, too wet													
	27/7/22	Scheduled	0.0010	0.0010	0.0010	34	6.0	10	3.0	0.0010	7.0	0.010	10	10	12	204
	10/10/22	Rainfall	No access, too wet													
	27/10/22	Scheduled	0.0010	0.0010	0.0010	28	5.0	14	3.0	0.0010	5.0	0.010	11	1.0	34	185
	14/11/22	Rainfall	No access, too wet													
	27/1/23	Scheduled	0.0010	0.0010	0.0010	57	10	29	6.0	0.0010	9.0	0.010	24	4.0	17	191

Site	Sample date	Sampling type	Laboratory result													
			Sb	As (V)	As (III)	CaCO3	Ca	Cl	Mg	Mb	K	Se	Na	SO4	TSS	TDS
Units			mg/L	mg/L mg/L	mg/L	mg/L	mg/L	mg/L	mg/L	mg/L	mg/L	µg/L	µg/L	µg/L	µg/L	µg/L
Trigger			g ^(c)	13 ^(c)	24 ^(b) ^(c)	(a)	(a)	(a)	(a)	34 ^(c)	(a)	11 ^(c)	(a)	(a)	50	4900
	23/2/23	Rainfall	0.0010	0.0010	0.0010	67	10	30	4.0	0.0010	8.0	0.010	23	6.0	26	159
	12/4/23	Scheduled	78	11	41	6.0	0.0010	12	0.010	30	8.0	40	212	78	11	41
	13/7/23	Scheduled														
Saddlers U/S	4/7/22	Rainfall	No access, too wet													
	6/7/22	Rainfall	No access, too wet													
	27/7/22	Scheduled	0.0010	0.0010	0.0010	490	289	1090	262	0.0010	9.0	0.010	752	1360	5.0	4160
	10/10/22	Rainfall	No access, too wet													
	27/10/22	Scheduled	0.0010	0.0010	0.0010	355	131	679	126	0.0010	6.0	0.010	396	622	14	2200
	14/11/22	Rainfall	No access, too wet													
	27/1/23	Scheduled	0.0010	0.0010	0.0010	488	218	2440	389	0.0010	9.0	0.010	1190	1320	5.0	6400
	23/2/23	Rainfall	0.0010	0.0010	0.0010	415	132	2250	369	0.0010	6.0	0.010	1080	988	5.0	6000
	12/4/23	Scheduled	0.0010	0.0010	0.0010	516	133	2740	427	0.0010	10	0.010	1230	1250	5.0	6710
	11/7/23	Scheduled														
Saltwater D/S	4/7/22	Rainfall	No access, too wet													
	6/7/22	Rainfall	No access, too wet													
	1/8/22	Scheduled	0.0010	0.0010	0.0010	60	13	25	6.0	0.0010	19	0.010	10	10	58	189
	10/10/22	Rainfall	No access, too wet													

Site	Sample date	Sampling type	Laboratory result													
			Sb	As (V)	As (III)	CaCO3	Ca	Cl	Mg	Mb	K	Se	Na	SO4	TSS	TDS
Units			mg/L	mg/L mg/L	mg/L	mg/L	mg/L	mg/L	mg/L	mg/L	mg/L	µg/L	µg/L	µg/L	µg/L	µg/L
Trigger			g ^(c)	13 ^(c)	24 ^(b) ^(c)	(a)	(a)	(a)	(a)	34 ^(c)	(a)	11 ^(c)	(a)	(a)	50	4900
	27/10/22	Scheduled	0.0010	0.0020	0.0010	70	13	7.0	5.0	0.0010	9.0	0.010	7.0	10	174	215
	14/11/22	Rainfall	No access, too wet													
	27/1/23	Scheduled	Dry													
	23/2/23	Rainfall	Dry													
	12/4/23	Scheduled	Dry													
	13/7/23	Scheduled	Dry													
SW1/ Saddlers D/S	4/7/22	Rainfall	No access, too wet													
	6/7/22	Rainfall	No access, too wet													
	1/8/22	Scheduled	0.0010	0.0010	0.0010	606	98	1600	145	0.0010	7.0	0.010	1030	203	11	3340
	10/10/22	Rainfall	No access, too wet													
	28/10/22	Scheduled	0.0010	0.0010	0.0010	174	23	270	23	0.0010	6.0	0.010	162	22	8.0	708
	14/11/22	Rainfall	No access, too wet													
	27/1/23	Scheduled	0.0010	0.0010	0.0010	798	122	3580	219	0.0010	6.0	0.010	1900	325	5.0	6460
	23/2/23	Rainfall	0.0010	0.0010	0.0010	594	86	3890	292	0.0010	8.0	0.010	2100	384	19	7970
	13/4/23	Scheduled	0.0010	0.0010	0.0010	1040	75	2320	197	0.0010	9.0	0.010	1360	275	5.0	4880
	11/7/23	Scheduled														
SW2	-	-	Location to be established – see notes													

Site	Sample date	Sampling type	Laboratory result													
			Sb	As (V)	As (III)	CaCO3	Ca	Cl	Mg	Mb	K	Se	Na	SO4	TSS	TDS
Units			mg/L	mg/L mg/L	mg/L	mg/L	mg/L	mg/L	mg/L	mg/L	mg/L	µg/L	µg/L	µg/L	µg/L	µg/L
Trigger			9 ^(c)	13 ^(c)	24 ^(b) ^(c)	(a)	(a)	(a)	(a)	34 ^(c)	(a)	11 ^(c)	(a)	(a)	50	4900
SW3	4/7/22	Rainfall	No access, too wet													
	6/7/22	Rainfall	No access, too wet													
	13/7/22	Scheduled	0.0010	0.0010	0.0010	115	32	24	11	0.0010	10	0.0010	11	1.0	9.0	258
	10/10/22	Rainfall	No access, too wet													
	27/10/22	Scheduled	0.0010	0.0010	0.0010	103	26	43	11	0.0010	8.0	0.010	25	10	11	260
	14/11/22	Rainfall	0.0010	0.0010	0.0010	53	12	17	5.0	0.0010	8.0	0.010	12	10	34	155
	27/1/23	Scheduled	Dry													
	23/2/23	Rainfall	Dry													
	12/4/23	Scheduled	Dry													
	13/7/23	Scheduled	Dry													

Notes.

(a) No trigger; for interpretation purposes only. (b) Result is a combination of As (V) and As (III) (c) Trigger set as a preliminary guideline value.

In accordance with the Surface Water Management Plan, results from Saddlers Creek (median over three consecutive samples) will be compared to the relevant trigger levels. Trigger values are values that trigger further investigation or management action.

(d) Saddlers Creek did not flow in 2023; all scheduled samples taken were in stagnant pools hence results are not compared with trigger values. From 2024 samples will only be taken when creeks are flowing.

Table 6. Maxwell Infrastructure Groundwater quality biennial monitoring results for Quarter 3 2023 (rolling year to date average shown Oct 22 – Sep 23). See notes for further details. NS = Not sampled (next scheduled sampling is Q4 2023). EC and pH recording from field measurements.

Site	Aluminium	Arsenic	Bicarbonate Alkalinity as CaCO3	Total Alkalinity	Carbonate Alkalinity as CO3	Boron	Calcium	Chloride	Chromium	Copper	Electrical conductivity	EC trigger value	Iron	Lead
R4241	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	5,520	6,253	NS	NS
Average	0.010	0.0010	591	591	1.0	0.13	176	766	0.0013	0.0010	4,685	-	0.48	0.0010
F1162	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	2,585	-	NS	NS
Average	0.010	0.0010	809	809	1.0	0.11	87	449	0.0030	0.0010	2,258	-	5.0	0.0010
F1164	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	4,360	-	NS	NS
Average	0.010	0.0020	617	617	1.0	0.12	104	755	0.0025	0.0010	4,263	-	16	0.0010
GW01D	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	5,880	5,680	NS	NS
Average	0.010	0.0020	617	617	1.0	0.12	104	755	0.0025	0.0010	5,267	-	16	0.0010
GW01S	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	7,000	9,260	NS	NS
Average	0.023	0.0010	424	424	1.0	0.12	162	1,234	0.0010	0.024	4,666	-	0.070	0.0010
GW02D	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	13,200	10,500	NS	NS
Average	0.010	0.0010	1,897	1,897	1.0	0.24	60	1353	0.0010	0.0043	11,512	-	0.057	0.0010
GW02S	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	7,200	9,480	NS	NS
Average	0.010	0.0010	789	789	1.0	0.10	334	875	0.0010	0.0010	7,735	-	0.88	0.0010

Table 6 continued

Site	Magnesium	Manganese	Molybdenum	Nickel	pH value	pH trigger value	Selenium	Silver	Sodium	Sulfate as SO4 – Turbidimetric	Suspended Solids (SS)	Total Dissolved Solids @180°C	Zinc
R4241	NS	NS	NS	NS	6.9	Min: 6.0, Max: 8.5	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS
Average	268	0.25	0.0023	0.0087	6.9	-	0.010	0.0010	468	1136	65	3250	0.0090
F1162	NS	NS	NS	NS	6.8	-	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS
Average	93	0.40	0.0010	0.0045	6.9	-	0.010	0.0010	318	199	69	1521	0.0090
F1164	NS	NS	NS	NS	6.8	-	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS
Average	148	0.62	0.0025	0.0085	6.9	-	0.010	0.0010	509	432	117	2325	0.0050
GW01D	NS	NS	NS	NS	6.5	Min: 6.0, Max: 8.5	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS
Average	149	0.21	0.0048	0.40	7.0	-	0.010	0.0010	497	603	24	3645	0.046
GW01S	NS	NS	NS	NS	6.6	Min: 6.0, Max: 8.5	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS
Average	158	0.046	0.0013	0.017	6.7	-	0.13	0.0010	646	430	735	3348	0.046
GW02D	NS	NS	NS	NS	7.0	Min: 6.0, Max: 8.5	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS
Average	15	0.60	0.0067	0.014	7.0	*	0.010	0.0010	3023	3477	2071	8577	0.0070
GW02S	NS	NS	NS	NS	6.7	Min: 6.0, Max: 8.5	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS
Average	339	1.99	0.0013	0.018	6.8	-	0.010	0.0010	955	2393	834	6737	0.012

Table 7. DS1 monitoring bore: Laboratory groundwater quality monthly monitoring results for Quarter 3 2023 (rolling year to date average shown Oct 22 – Sep 23). See notes for further details. NS = Not sampled.

Date of sample	pH value	Electrical conductivity	Total Dissolved Solids @180° C	Salinity (g/kg)
17/07/2023	6.3	8,530	7,010	4.7
17/08/2023	6.2	8,110	6,880	4.5
12/09/2023	6.2	8,240	6,900	4.6
Average	6.3	8,211	6,850	4.6

Table 8. Maxwell Underground Groundwater quality biennial monitoring results for Quarter 3 2023 (rolling year to date average shown Oct 22–Sep 23). See notes for further details (under the new Maxwell Underground Mine Water Management Plan, sampling changed from quarterly to biennial). NS = Not sampled (as sampling is twice a year, next is due Q1 2024).

Site	Aluminium	Arsenic	Bicarbonate Alkalinity as CaCO3	Total Alkalinity	Carbonate Alkalinity as CO3	Boron	Calcium	Chloride	Chromium	Copper	Electrical conductivity	EC trigger value	Iron	Lead
DD1005	0.010	0.0010	1,010	1,010	1.0	0.22	94	1,610	0.0010	0.030	6,820	-	0.050	0.0010
Average	0.010	0.0010	1,010	1,010	1.0	0.20	92	1,455	0.0010	0.024	6,330	-	0.050	0.0010
DD1014	0.010	0.0010	1,090	1,090	1.0	0.36	50	2,630	0.0010	0.0010	9,590	-	0.39	0.0010
Average	0.010	0.0010	1,045	1,045	1.0	0.35	53	2,565	0.0010	0.0010	9,335	-	0.46	0.0010
DD1015	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	-	NS	NS
Average	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
DD1016	0.010	0.0010	1,170	1,170	1.0	0.26	156	1,600	0.0010	0.0010	6,640	-	1.8	0.0010
Average	0.010	0.0010	1,125	1,125	1.0	0.24	156	1,525	0.0010	0.0010	6,515	-	1.8	0.0010
DD1025	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	14,200	NS	NS
Average	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
DD1027	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	-	NS	NS
Average	0.030	0.0010	363	363	1.0	0.14	19	141	0.0010	0.0010	1,120	-	0.90	0.0010
DD1032	0.010	0.0010	1,130	1,130	1.0	0.26	12	1,580	0.0010	0.0010	6,880	7,170	0.050	0.0010
Average	0.010	0.0010	1,110	1,110	1.0	0.24	12	1,525	0.0010	0.0010	6,720	-	0.16	0.0010
DD1043	0.010	0.0010	2,430	2,430	1.0	0.50	42	1,420	0.0010	0.0010	8,230	-	0.13	0.0010
Average	0.010	0.0010	2,285	2,285	1.0	0.45	40	1,400	0.0010	0.0010	7,775	-	0.090	0.0010

Site	Aluminium	Arsenic	Bicarbonate Alkalinity as CaCO3	Total Alkalinity	Carbonate Alkalinity as CO3	Boron	Calcium	Chloride	Chromium	Copper	Electrical conductivity	EC trigger value	Iron	Lead
DD1052	0.080	0.0010	980	980	1.0	0.26	5.0	1,860	0.0040	0.0010	7,570	-	0.050	0.0010
Average	0.085	0.0010	908	958	51	0.26	5.0	1,870	0.0030	0.0010	7,460	-	0.050	0.0010
DD1057	0.010	0.0020	4,020	4,020	1.0	0.41	11	1,490	0.0030	0.0010	10,300	-	1.4	0.0010
Average	0.010	0.0015	3,830	3,830	1.0	0.23	11	1,505	0.0025	0.0010	9,855	-	1.1	0.0010
MB03	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	-	NS	NS
Average	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
MB1A	0.010	0.0010	715	715	1.0	0.080	147	918	0.0010	0.0060	3,940	-	0.050	0.0010
Average	0.010	0.0010	647	647	1.0	0.075	115	684	0.0010	0.0040	3,150	-	0.050	0.0010
MB1R	0.010	0.0010	1,300	1,300	1.0	0.18	56	1,360	0.0010	0.0010	6,340	-	0.14	0.0010
Average	0.010	0.0010	1,250	1,250	1.0	0.17	57	1,300	0.0010	0.0010	6,175	-	0.095	0.0010
MB1W	0.010	0.0010	1,300	1,300	1.0	0.18	54	1,280	0.0010	0.0010	6,180	-	0.090	0.0010
Average	0.010	0.0010	1,265	1,265	1.0	0.17	55	1,215	0.0010	0.0010	6,005	-	0.070	0.0010
MB2A	0.010	0.0010	839	839	1.0	0.26	66	1,640	0.0010	0.0010	8.1	-	0.050	0.0010
Average	0.010	0.0010	709	709	1.0	0.23	75	1,760	0.0010	0.0010	7.8	-	0.050	0.0010
MB2R	0.010	0.0010	1,250	1,250	1.0	0.24	38	1,530	0.0010	0.0010	6,680	-	0.050	0.0010
Average	0.010	0.0010	1,195	1,195	1.0	0.23	35	1,465	0.0010	0.0010	6,475	-	0.050	0.0010
MB3A	0.010	0.0010	868	868	1.0	0.26	42	2,240	0.0010	0.0080	8,800	9,009	0.060	0.0010
Average	0.010	0.0010	837	837	1.0	0.25	42	2,200	0.0010	0.0045	8,595	-	0.055	0.0010
MB3R	0.010	0.0010	768	768	1.0	0.19	156	1,520	0.0010	1.3	6,530	6,327	0.050	0.0010

Site	Aluminium	Arsenic	Bicarbonate Alkalinity as CaCO3	Total Alkalinity	Carbonate Alkalinity as CO3	Boron	Calcium	Chloride	Chromium	Copper	Electrical conductivity	EC trigger value	Iron	Lead
Average	0.010	0.0010	748	748	1.0	0.18	155	1,450	0.0015	0.63	6,400	-	0.050	0.0010
MB4A	0.010	0.0010	300	300	1.0	0.050	57	121	0.0010	0.0020	922	-	0.050	0.0010
Average	0.010	0.0010	324	324	1.0	0.050	63	118	0.0010	0.0015	942	-	0.050	0.0010
MB4C	0.010	0.0010	611	611	1.0	0.13	13	543	0.0010	0.0010	2,560	-	0.050	0.0010
Average	0.010	0.0010	597	597	1.0	0.13	14	536	0.0010	0.0010	2,515	-	0.050	0.0010
MW1	0.010	0.0010	662	662	1.0	0.21	84	1,280	0.0020	0.018	5,410	-	0.050	0.0010
Average	0.010	0.0010	620	620	1.0	0.21	64	1,230	0.0030	0.0095	5,175	-	0.050	0.0010
MW2	0.010	0.0010	781	781	1.0	0.23	63	1,460	0.0020	0.0010	5,860	-	0.050	0.0010
Average	0.010	0.0010	692	692	1.0	0.22	53	1,230	0.0020	0.0025	4,820	-	0.050	0.0010
MW3	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	-	NS	NS
Average	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Table 8. continued

Site	Magnesium	Manganese	Molybdenum	Nickel	pH value	pH trigger value	Selenium	Silver	Sodium	Sulfate as SO ₄ - Turbidimetric	Suspended Solids (SS)	Total Dissolved Solids @180°C	Zinc
DD1005	198	0.014	0.010	0.017	7.2	-	0.010	0.0010	1,020	214	38	3,670	0.012
Average	192	0.0075	0.0090	0.015	7.1	-	0.010	0.0010	994	216	29	3,525	0.0085
DD1014	35	0.025	0.0010	0.0030	7.3	-	0.010	0.0010	2,000	206	14	5,440	0.0050
Average	35	0.024	0.0010	0.0020	7.4	-	0.010	0.0010	2,015	211	17	5,430	0.0050
DD1015	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	-	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS
Average	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
DD1016	304	0.16	0.0010	0.0010	7.0	-	0.010	0.0010	820	89	8.0	3,700	0.011
Average	297	0.15	0.0010	0.0010	7.0	-	0.010	0.0010	820	92	10	3,825	0.0080
DD1025	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	Min: 6.0, Max: 8.5	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS
Average	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
DD1027	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	-	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS
Average	38	0.027	0.0010	0.0030	6.7	-	0.010	0.0010	186	47	8.0	704	0.0050
DD1032	5.0	0.019	0.0010	0.0010	7.5	Min: 6.0, Max: 8.5	0.010	0.0010	1,540	51	12	3,990	0.0050
Average	4.5	0.017	0.0010	0.0010	7.5	-	0.010	0.0010	1,510	47	8.5	3,970	0.0050
DD1043	26	0.028	0.0020	0.0080	7.2	-	0.010	0.0010	1,840	140	19	5,160	0.0050
Average	26	0.025	0.0010	0.0045	7.1	-	0.010	0.0010	1,865	136	22	4,985	0.0075

Table 8. continued

Site	Magnesium	Manganese	Molybdenum	Nickel	pH value	pH trigger value	Selenium	Silver	Sodium	Sulfate as SO ₄ - Turbidimetric	Suspended Solids (SS)	Total Dissolved Solids @180°C	Zinc
DD1052	3.0	0.041	0.0040	0.010	8.2	-	0.010	0.0010	1,610	74	12	4,230	0.0050
Average	3.0	0.036	0.0025	0.0080	8.5	-	0.010	0.0010	1,565	61	8.5	4,110	0.0050
DD1057	6.0	0.036	0.0090	0.0030	7.6	-	0.010	0.0010	2,980	1.0	11	7,130	0.0050
Average	5.5	0.032	0.0065	0.0030	7.6	-	0.010	0.0010	2,785	1.0	27	6,940	0.0050
MB03	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	-	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS
Average	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
MB1A	120	0.0030	0.0020	0.0060	7.4	-	0.010	0.0010	493	96	203	2,200	0.014
Average	94	0.0020	0.0020	0.0045	7.5	-	0.010	0.0010	428	78	169	1,840	0.0095
MB1R	57	0.014	0.0010	0.0010	7.2	-	0.010	0.0010	1,260	86	5.0	3,560	0.0050
Average	56	0.014	0.0010	0.0010	7.2	-	0.010	0.0010	1,260	87	10	3,575	0.0050
MB1W	57	0.047	0.0010	0.0020	7.3	-	0.010	0.0010	1,280	78	14	3,540	0.0050
Average	55	0.024	0.0010	0.0015	7.4	-	0.010	0.0010	1,260	73	13	3,525	0.0055
MB2A	165	0.0020	0.0030	0.0010	8.1	-	0.010	0.0010	1,200	391	9.0	4,130	0.0050
Average	182	0.25	0.0025	0.0020	7.8	-	0.010	0.0010	1,215	356	15	4,175	0.0050
MB2R	50	0.0010	0.0010	0.0010	7.6	-	0.010	0.0010	1,360	1.0	9.0	3,930	0.0050
Average	51	0.0015	0.0010	0.0010	7.7	-	0.010	0.0010	1,355	1.0	23	3,875	0.0050

Table 8. continued

Site	Magnesium	Manganese	Molybdenum	Nickel	pH value	pH trigger value	Selenium	Silver	Sodium	Sulfate as SO ₄ - Turbidimetric	Suspended Solids (SS)	Total Dissolved Solids @180°C	Zinc
MB3A	230	0.046	0.0030	0.0030	7.6	Min: 6.0, Max: 8.5	0.010	0.0010	1,550	596	5.0	5,170	0.0050
Average	226	0.024	0.0025	0.0020	7.6	-	0.010	0.0010	1,540	601	5.0	5,090	0.0050
MB3R	329	0.26	0.0020	0.097	7.6	Min: 6.0, Max: 8.5	0.010	0.0010	793	514	8.0	4,130	0.027
Average	319	0.27	0.0015	0.069	7.6	-	0.010	0.0010	780	518	11	4,145	0.026
MB4A	41	0.0010	0.0010	0.0010	7.3	-	0.010	0.0010	71	30	84	490	0.0050
Average	43	0.0010	0.0010	0.0010	7.3	-	0.010	0.0010	73	35	58	536	0.0050
MB4C	27	0.0010	0.0010	0.0010	8.1	-	0.010	0.0010	515	17	5.0	1,370	0.0050
Average	27	0.0015	0.0010	0.0010	8.1	-	0.010	0.0010	502	18	9.0	1,390	0.0050
MW1	283	0.0010	0.0010	0.0010	7.6	-	0.010	0.0010	741	403	1,290	3,380	0.0050
Average	222	0.0010	0.0010	0.0010	7.7	-	0.010	0.0010	684	319	1,010	3,210	0.0050
MW2	137	0.0020	0.0010	0.048	7.6	-	0.010	0.0010	994	102	2,390	3,320	0.024
Average	117	0.0015	0.0015	0.026	7.7	-	0.010	0.0010	904	87	1,755	2,840	0.015
MW3	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	-	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS
Average	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Notes

The Maxwell Underground Mine Water Management Plan (WMP) was implemented for Q3 2021 and supercedes the requirements of the Maxwell Infrastructure WMP. The WMP requires:

- the monthly recording of reduced standing water levels in all bores (standpipes either manually or using loggers and VWPs)
- quarterly recording (field measurement) of all standpipes for pH, EC, redox potential and temperature; and
- biennial sampling and analysis of all standpipes for TDS, TSS, major cations (Ca, Mg, Na), major anions (chloride, sulfate, carbonate, bicarbonate), total alkalinity, and total and dissolved metals (Al, As, B, Cr, Cu, Fe, Mn, Mo, Ni, Pb, Se, Ag & Zn).

Of these, the following are new or amended variables required by the new MUG WMP:

- monthly rather than quarterly recording of reduced standing water levels where there are no loggers (however as of Q3 2023 loggers are now installed in all bores); for those with loggers and for the VWPs the data is downloaded quarterly;
- quarterly recording (field measurement) of redox potential and temperature (previously not required);
- biennial (twice-yearly) sampling and analysis for carbonate and total alkalinity (previously not required); these were added to the table for Q4 2021 given the first sampling under the new plan occurred in Dec 2021;
- removal of the requirement to record barium (Ba), beryllium (Be), cadmium (Cd), cobalt (Co), potassium (K), vanadium (V), nitrite as N, nitrate as N, mercury (Hg), ammonia as N, total Kjeldahl nitrogen as N, total phosphorus (P) and reactive phosphorus as P.
- removal of bores DD1030, DD1034-A and B, DD1041 A and B.

Sampling for the MI bores under the previous Maxwell Infrastructure WMP transitioned to the new Maxwell Underground Mine WMP.

The year-to-date averages includes samples taken on a biennial basis. The exception is for DS1 for which monthly samples are taken as per the EPL for pH, EC, TDS and salinity, and hence the average presented is the average of all samples taken during each of the past 12 months for those variables.

All results are in mg/L except Conductivity ($\mu\text{S}/\text{cm}$), pH (in pH units) and salinity (g/kg). Dissolved metal concentration (mg/L) are presented in **Table 6, Table 7, Table 8**. Plots of total and dissolved metal concentrations are shown in **Appendix 4**. Dissolved concentrations are the most applicable to groundwater quality evaluation and indications to change in trend and are presented here.

Trigger levels

As presented in SLR (2023, 2023a) Q1 – 2023 and Q2 – 2023 quarterly reports, observed groundwater levels, EC and pH at monitoring bores part of the TARP remain within “Normal Condition” during the reporting period.

Table 9. All groundwater bores: Reduced standing groundwater levels (mAHD) during Quarter 3 2023 compared to the rolling year-to-date average.

Site (with seam names for VWPs)	Jul	Aug	Sep	Rolling average	Type of bore	Type of measurement as of Sep 23
DS1	223.94	223.94	223.94	223.94	Standpipe	Manual
R4241	176.94	176.89	176.83 ⁽¹⁾	177.05	Standpipe	Logger
F1162	143.69	143.83	143.92 ⁽¹⁾	143.66	Standpipe	Logger
F1164	142.84	142.99	143.07 ⁽¹⁾	142.71	Standpipe	Logger
GW01D	201.32	200.98	200.77 ⁽¹⁾	203.26	Standpipe	Logger
GW01S	199.17	198.82	198.69 ⁽¹⁾	200.58	Standpipe	Logger
GW02D	135.85	135.90	135.92 ⁽¹⁾	136.45	Standpipe	Logger
GW02S	191.00	190.81	190.69 ⁽¹⁾	191.91	Standpipe	Logger
GW04	149.48	149.56	149.50 ⁽¹⁾	149.28	Standpipe	Logger
BLK6R12 – VW1 (WB)	162.52	162.45	162.35	162.55	VWP	Logger
BLK6R12 – VW2 (RB)	148.34	148.39	148.42	148.10	VWP	Logger
BLK6R12 – VW3 (WN)	122.76	122.68	122.60	122.91	VWP	Logger
BLK6R12 – VW4 (BK)	124.04	123.96	123.91	123.77	VWP	Logger
DD1005	143.53	(3)	(3)	143.95	Standpipe	Manual
DD1014	136.06	136.05	136.05	136.01	Standpipe	Logger
DD1015	(4)	(4)	(4)	(4)	Standpipe	Logger
DD1016	141.96	142.01	142.01	141.92	Standpipe	Logger
DD1025	(5)	(5)	(5)	(5)	Standpipe	Logger
DD1027	136.29	(2)	(2)	135.93	Standpipe	Logger
DD1032	128.30	128.35	128.34	128.34	Standpipe	Logger
DD1043	128.58	128.75	128.66	128.92	Standpipe	Logger
DD1052	118.13	121.05	120.13	119.23	Standpipe	Logger

Site (with seam names for VWPs)	Jul	Aug	Sep	Rolling average	Type of bore	Type of measurement as of Sep 23
DD1057	123.27	123.37	123.38	123.39	Standpipe	Logger
MB03	114.88	114.88	114.86	114.84	Standpipe	Logger
MB04	129.09	129.01	128.93	129.17	Standpipe	Logger
MB05	93.88	(6)	(6)	93.91	Standpipe	Logger
MB06D	121.41	121.40	121.37	121.38	Standpipe	Logger
MB06S	118.99	118.93	119.06	118.96	Standpipe	Logger
MB07	123.73	123.70	123.65	123.70	Standpipe	Logger
MB1-Alluvial	73.26	73.17	73.09	73.65	Standpipe	Logger
MB1-Redbank	75.61	75.58	75.55	75.65	Standpipe	Logger
MB1-Whybrow	74.89	74.82	74.76	74.92	Standpipe	Logger
MB2-Alluvial	113.60	113.62	113.60	113.68	Standpipe	Logger
MB2-Regolith	115.43	115.43	115.43	115.43	Standpipe	Logger
MB3-Alluvial	129.68	129.63	129.56	130.00	Standpipe	Logger
MB3-Regolith	129.26	129.21	129.16	129.41	Standpipe	Logger
MB4-Alluvial	70.71	70.64	70.59	71.25	Standpipe	Logger
MB4-Coal	70.59	70.54	70.49	70.61	Standpipe	Logger
MW1	121.29	121.25	121.20	121.56	Standpipe	Logger
MW2	112.88	112.82	112.75	112.81	Standpipe	Logger
MW3	(7)	(7)	(7)	(7)	Standpipe	Manual
RBD1 – VW1 (WB)	(8)	(8)	149.06	149.26	VWP	Logger
RBD1 – VW2 (RB)	(8)	(8)	145.53	145.79	VWP	Logger
RBD1 – VW3 (WN)	(8)	(8)	128.55	129.03	VWP	Logger
RBD1 – VW4 (BK)	(8)	(8)	89.23	89.13	VWP	Logger
RD1189 – VWP1 (WH)	185.97	(9)	(9)	184.54	VWP	Logger

Site (with seam names for VWPs)	Jul	Aug	Sep	Rolling average	Type of bore	Type of measurement as of Sep 23
RD1189 – VWP2 (AZZBF)	(10)	(10)	(10)	(10)	VWP	Logger
RD1189 – VWP3 (WW12)	147.29	(9)	(9)	146.43	VWP	Logger
RD1189 – VWP4 (Mt Arthur seam)	141.04	(9)	(9)	141.13	VWP	Logger
RD1189 – VWP5 (PF2)	(10)	(10)	(10)	(10)	VWP	Logger
RD1189 – VWP6 (BY)	135.84	(9)	(9)	135.81	VWP	Logger
RD1189 – VWP7 (WY)	(10)	(10)	(10)	(10)	VWP	Logger
RD1192- VWP1 (WB)	152.49	(9)	(9)	152.72	VWP	Logger
RD1192- VWP2 (RB)	135.76	(9)	(9)	135.27	VWP	Logger
RD1192-VWP3 (BK)	152.55	(9)	(9)	151.87	VWP	Logger
MB1VWP (VWP1) (INT)	75.78	75.66	75.56	76.09	VWP	Logger
MB1VWP (VWP2) (INT)	86.87	86.87	86.84	86.92	VWP	Logger
MB1VWP (VWP3) (INT)	95.43	95.35	95.45	95.38	VWP	Logger
MB1VWP (VWP4) (WB)	96.59	96.59	96.56	96.59	VWP	Logger
MB1VWP (VWP5) (WN)	99.95	99.97	99.97	99.44	VWP	Logger
WND16 (VWP1) (WB)	113.27	112.98	112.74	113.15	VWP	Logger
WND16 (VWP2) (WN)	(11)	(11)	(11)	(11)	VWP	Logger

Site (with seam names for VVPs)	Jul	Aug	Sep	Rolling average	Type of bore	Type of measurement as of Sep 23
WND16 (VWP3) (BK)	(11)	(11)	(11)	(11)	VWP	Logger
WND16 (VWP4) (BK)	109.58	109.62	109.56	109.49	VWP	Logger
WND26 (VWP1) (WY)	136.92	136.88	136.83	136.68	VWP	Logger
WND26 (VWP2) (RB)	134.14	134.25	134.31	133.36	VWP	Logger
WND26 (VWP3) (WB)	141.04	141.09	141.21	140.22	VWP	Logger
WND26 (VWP4) (WN)	(11)	(11)	(11)	(11)	VWP	Logger

Notes

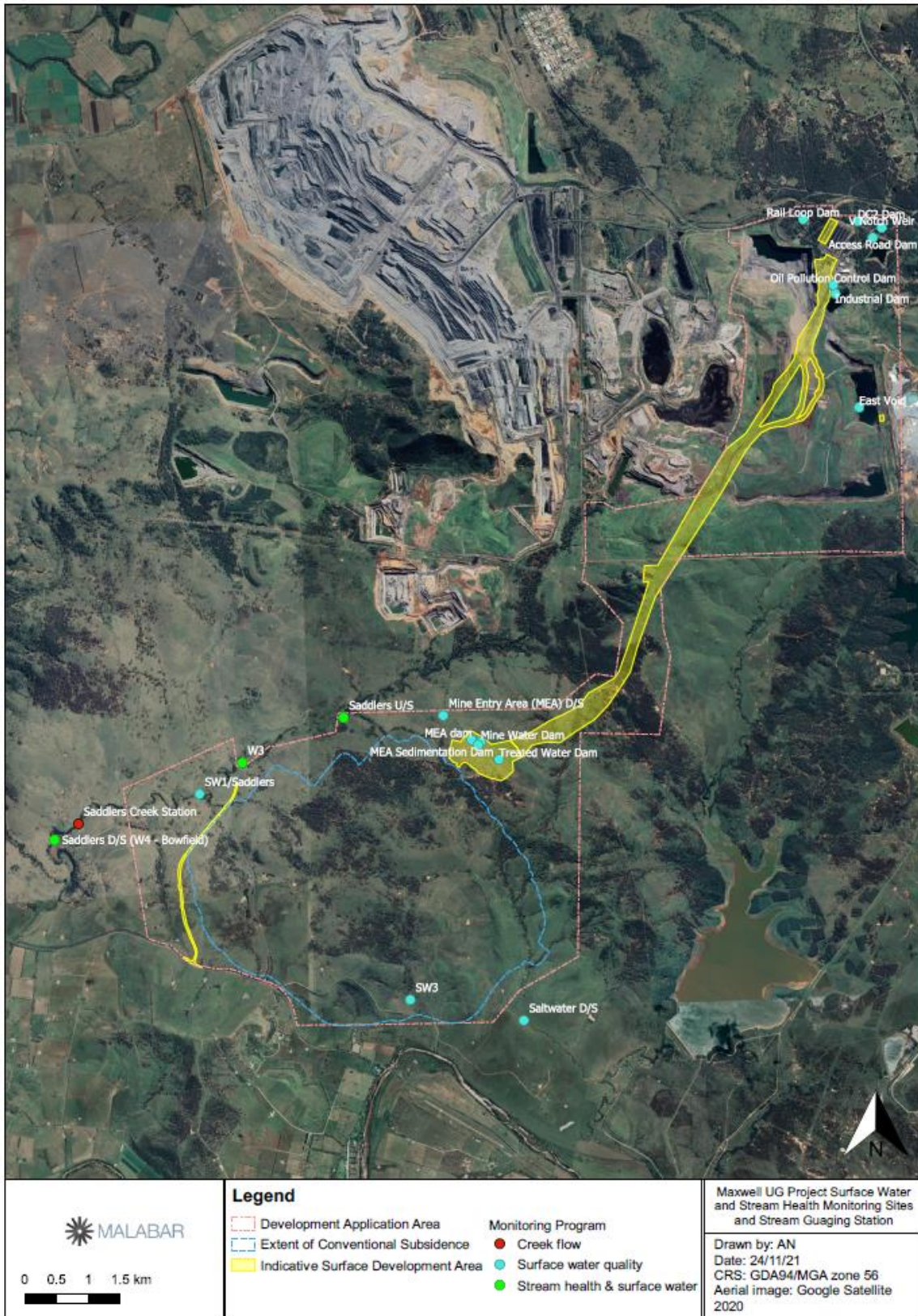
- Measurements up to 12/09/2023. All remaining data to be downloaded as part of Q4-2023.
- As is concluded in the 2022 Annual Review, DD1027 is deemed to bring no significant value to future groundwater assessments as it monitors the Edderton Seam which is not targeted by the Maxwell UG Mine. Hence it is proposed for removal from the monitoring programme, and the presentation of results are discontinued here.
- Communication error during attempted scheduled downloads from DD1005 in July and October 2023; logger replaced November 2023.
- DD1015 is reported blocked during the reporting period; DD1027 is deemed to bring no significant value to future groundwater assessments as it monitors the Edderton Seam which is not targeted by the Maxwell UG Mine. As per the recommendations in the 2022 Annual Review, these monitoring locations will be removed from the reporting, once the next version of the Management Plan is approved.
- DD1025 was decommissioned in December 2022 for safety reasons (to prevent inrush to the upcoming underground mining operations). As per the recommendations in the 2022 Annual Review, it is proposed that this site will be replaced by a replacement bore] for the purposes of the TARP assessment in Appendix A, once a revised GWMP has been approved.
- Logger error – data on logger only recorded between 31/07/2023 – 01/08/2023. Logger to be checked during Q4-2023.
- MW3 is recorded dry during the reporting period. As per the recommendations in the 2022 Annual Review, it is proposed that MW3 be removed from the reporting, via an update to the approved Groundwater Management Plan.
- RBD1 last recorded data 19/05/2023 due to low battery. Battery replacement requested 19/9/23. New data was recorded from 27/09/2023. VVPs working and recording normally after 27/09/2023.
- RD1189 experienced logger fault and data missing between 08/07/2023 and 04/10/2023. Logger recording data as normal from 04/10/2023. RD1192 experienced logger fault and data missing between 09/07/2023 and 03/10/2023. Logger recording data as normal from 03/10/2023.
- Groundwater levels at RD1189 VWP2, VWP7 & VWP8 appear unstable hence are not reported. The 2022 Annual Review recommends these monitoring sites be removed from the reporting. Malabar will investigate further if these sites can be repaired; if not they will be removed via an update to the Groundwater Management Plan.
- The following VVPs wires are considered disabled: WND16-VWP2 and WND16-VWP3 (unstable and disabled respectively), WND26-VWP4 (disabled).

Acronyms: DD = diamond drill hole. mAHD = meters above Australian Height Datum (the elevation of the water level is calculated by subtracting the Depth to Water from the reference elevation). n/a = not available. NS = not sampled. RH = rotary drill hole. VWP = Vibrating wire piezometer and logger. Seam acronyms: BK = Blakefield seam; BY = Bayswater seam; MA = Mt Arthur seam; PF = Piercefield seam; INT = Interburden; WB = Wambo seam; RB = Redbank Creek seam; WA = tbc; WH = Woodlands Hill seam; WN = Whynot seam; WY = Wynn seam. WW = Warkworth seam; ZZ = indicates that the seam is intruded or heat affected.

APPENDIX 1 – AIR QUALITY MONITORING LOCATIONS



APPENDIX 2 – SURFACE WATER MONITORING LOCATIONS



APPENDIX 3 – GROUNDWATER MONITORING LOCATIONS



**APPENDIX 4 – CONSULTANT HYDROGEOLOGIST REPORT PROVIDING
HYDROGRAPHS AND DATA ANALYSIS**



Maxwell Underground Mine

Groundwater Monitoring Report – Quarter 3 – 2023

Malabar Resources Pty Ltd

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16 January 2024

Revision: 2

Revision Record

Revision	Date	Prepared By	Checked By	Authorised By
1	21 December 2023	Raymond Minnaar	Shaun Troon	Shaun Troon
2	16 January 2024	Raymond Minnaar	Shaun Troon	Shaun Troon

Basis of Report

This report has been prepared by SLR Consulting Australia (SLR) with all reasonable skill, care and diligence, and taking account of the timescale and resources allocated to it by agreement with Malabar Resources Pty Ltd (the Client). Information reported herein is based on the interpretation of data collected, which has been accepted in good faith as being accurate and valid.

This report is for the exclusive use of the Client. No warranties or guarantees are expressed or should be inferred by any third parties. This report may not be relied upon by other parties without written consent from SLR.

SLR disclaims any responsibility to the Client and others in respect of any matters outside the agreed scope of the work.



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Appendices

- Appendix A Trigger Action Response Plan & Groundwater Level Triggers**
- Appendix B Groundwater and Trigger Levels**
- Appendix C Groundwater Quality and Trigger Levels (only sites within the TARP)**



Acronyms and Abbreviations

Cbased	Cbased Environmental Pty Ltd
EC	Electrical Conductivity
GWMP	Groundwater Management Plan
mAHD	Metres <i>above</i> Australian Height Datum
Malabar	Malabar Resources Pty Ltd
mbgl	Metres below ground level
mbTOC	Metres below top of casing
MI	Maxwell Infrastructure
MU	Maxwell Underground
SLR	SLR Consulting Australia Pty Ltd
TARP	Trigger Action Response Plan
VWP	Vibrating Wire Piezometer



1.0 Introduction

SLR Consulting Australia Pty Ltd (SLR) was engaged by Malabar Resources Pty Ltd (Malabar) to perform a quarterly groundwater review of data collected by Cbased Environmental Pty Ltd (CBased) for the Maxwell Underground (MUG) and Maxwell Infrastructure (MI) referred to as the Maxwell Project. The quarterly groundwater assessment will support the annual review compliance reporting conducted by Malabar Resources for the site and acts as an early warning procedure for any performance trigger exceedances.

This quarterly report provides an overview of the groundwater data collected at the relevant monitoring bores for the period July – September 2023 and assesses this data against the Trigger Action Response Plan (TARP) threshold level presented in the Groundwater Management Plan (GWMP) contained within the Maxwell Water Management Plan (February 2023) for the Maxwell Underground Project and updated TARP Trigger Criteria from the MUG Annual Review 2022. The Maxwell Project and groundwater monitoring network is illustrated in **Figure 1**.

1.1 Groundwater Data Gaps

The following outlines any data gaps in groundwater levels or quality identified for the review period:

- Groundwater levels and quality results for private bores are reviewed annually, no groundwater data were available for private bores and therefore not presented for this review period.

1.2 Groundwater Monitoring Parameters and Frequency

The groundwater monitoring parameters and the frequency of monitoring as per the GWMP is presented below:

- Standpipes
 - Reduced standing water level (for bores with no data logger) – monthly manual measurements.
 - Automatic dataloggers have been installed in the monitoring bores and no monthly manual groundwater level measurements are taken from August 2023 onwards.
 - pH, electrical conductivity, redox potential, temperature – quarterly.
 - Total dissolved solids, total suspended solids, major cations/anions, total alkalinity, dissolved and total metals – biennial (twice yearly).
- DS1 (in accordance with EPL 1323 Condition U1.1)
 - Reduced standing water level, pH, electrical conductivity, total dissolved solids, salinity – monthly.
- Data loggers and VWP's
 - Reduced standing water level – downloaded quarterly.

1.3 Additional Groundwater Monitoring Bores

Five additional monitoring bores were drilled between December 2022 and February 2023. Bores MB04, MB05, MB06-S, MB06-D, and MB07 have been included in the monitoring



activities for 2023. Changes to the monitoring network to include the inclusion of these new monitoring bores and removal of damaged/ dry bores will be discussed in the sites 2023 Annual Review.



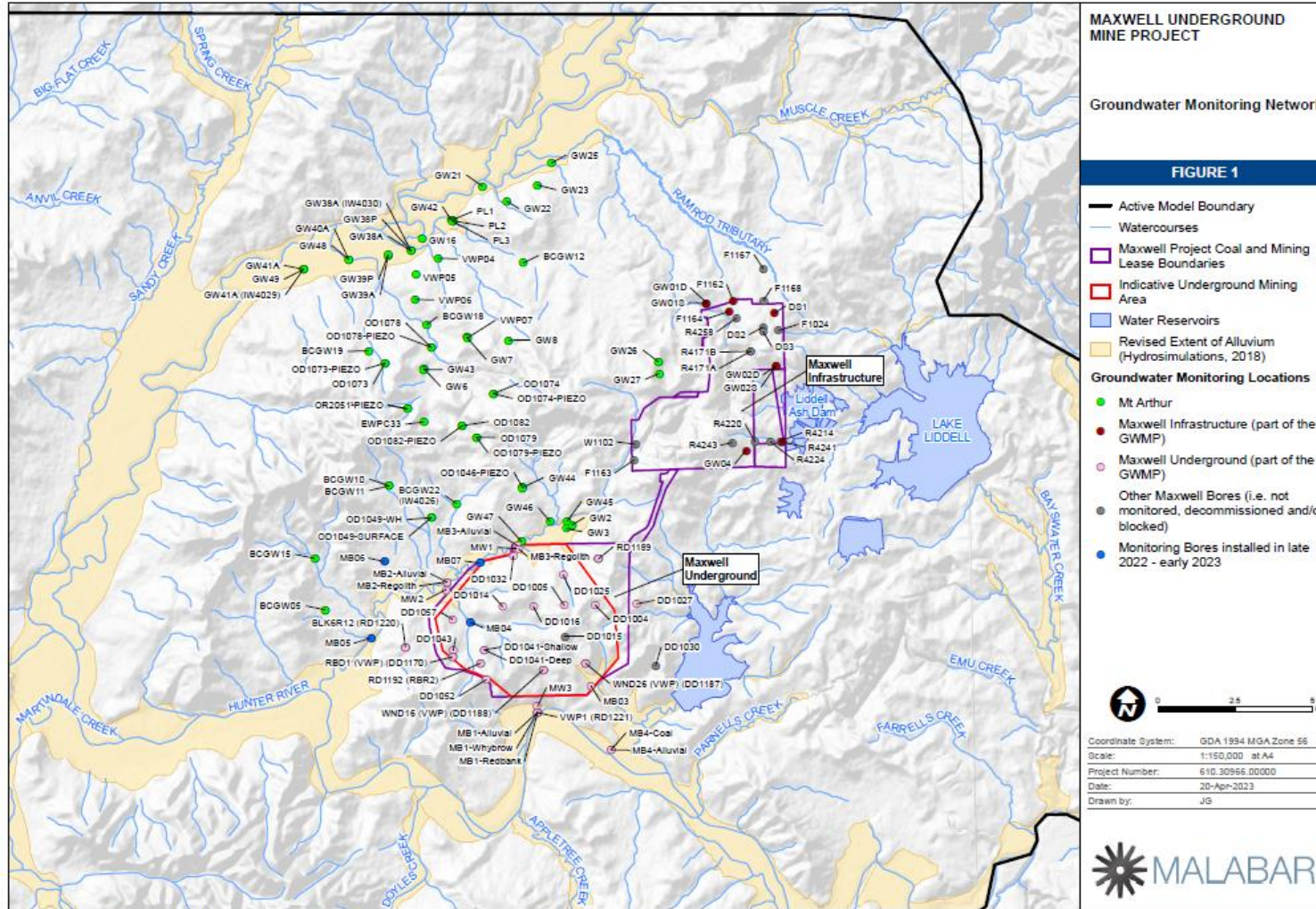


Figure 1: Malabar Project and groundwater monitoring network



2.0 Groundwater Level Trigger Review

This section addresses the compliance of groundwater levels at MUG and MI during the reporting period in relation to a trigger analysis.

All groundwater level monitoring bores and VWPs in the vicinity of the Maxwell Project, and their available completion details, are listed in **Table 1** below.

Table 2 outlines groundwater level trigger exceedances during the review period at each of the monitored bore locations as per the approved trigger criteria presented in **Appendix A**. Hydrographs for all groundwater monitoring locations including those with approved groundwater level trigger levels are presented in **Appendix B**.

Section 2.0 discusses briefly any groundwater level exceedances observed during the reporting period only, as identified in **Table 2**.

Table 1: Groundwater Monitoring Bore Network – Maxwell Project

Monitoring bore or VWP ID	Easting ¹ (GDA94)	Northing ¹ (GDA94)	Geology	Bore screen or VWP sensor depth (mBGL)	Status
Maxwell Infrastructure - MI (standpipe)					
DS1	305592	6420380	Shallow bedrock aquifer	15	Open
F1162	301045	6420755	Greta Coal Measures	274	Open
F1164	304223	6420406	Greta Coal Measures	190.5	Open
R4241	305793	6416224	Jurassic Volcanics	150	Open
GW01S	303386	6420691	Base Regolith	12–15	Open
GW01D	303391	6420683	Greta Coal Measures	29–32	Open
GW02S	305592	6420380	Base Regolith	8–14	Open
GW02D	301045	6420755	Greta Coal Measures	69–72	Open
GW04	304223	6420406	Permian Sequence	101–104	Open
Maxwell Underground (MUG) – standpipes					
MB1 - Redbank	297930	6407453	Redbank Seam	51–57	Open
MB1 - Whybrow	297928	6407448	Whybrow Seam	25–28	Open
MB1A	297933	6407459	Hunter River Alluvium	8–11	Open
MB2R	295004	6411675	Regolith	20–29	Open
MB2A	294998	6411669	Saddlers Creek Alluvium	5–7	Open
MB3R	297328	6412729	Regolith	27–30	Open
MB3A	297269	6412850	Saddlers Creek Alluvium (upslope)	8.5–14.5	Open
MB4 - Coal	300302	6406234	JPS-Coal	42–47	Open



Monitoring bore or VWP ID	Easting ¹ (GDA94)	Northing ¹ (GDA94)	Geology	Bore screen or VWP sensor depth (mBGL)	Status
MB4A	300307	6406231	Hunter River Alluvium	10–18	Open
MB03	299649	6408297	Saltwater Creek Alluvium	5–8	Open
MW1	297254	6412760	Saddlers Creek Alluvium (upslope)	6–9	Open
MW2	294977	6411419	Saddlers Creek Alluvium	4–9.5	Open
MW3	297904	6407652	Hunter River Alluvium	2.9–6.9	Problem ²
MB04	295755	6410371	Unnamed Creek Regolith	10-13	Open
MB05	292546.7	6409857	Saddlers Creek alluvium	1.8-3.8	Open
MB06_S	292980.2	6412335	Woodland Hill Overburden	29-32	Open
MB06_D	292980.2	6412335	Bowfield Seam	95-101	Open
MB07	296070.3	6412297	Saddlers Creek Alluvium	3-5.5	Open
DD1005	298799	6410901	Blakefield Overburden	138.6	Open
DD1014	296799	6410864	Blakefield Overburden	90.5	Open
DD1015	298815	6409900	Blakefield Overburden	162.5	Problem ³
DD1016	297801	6410882	Blakefield Overburden	126.4	Open
DD1025	298764	6411901	Blakefield Overburden	44.6	Decommissioned ⁴
DD1027	301133	6410960	Edderton Seam	252.8	Open
DD1032	297143	6412495	Piercefield Overburden	276.5	Open
DD1043	295200	6409458	Woodlands Hill Overburden	182–203	Open
DD1052	296274	6408513	Whynot Seam Overburden	105–127	Open
DD1057	295181	6410458	Arrowfield Overburden	164–188	Open
Maxwell Underground (MUG) – Vibrating Wire Piezometers (VWPs)					
RD1189 (SD1_DD001)	299896	6412419	Woodlands Hill Seam	78.9	Open
			AZZBF	145.5	Problem ⁵
			WW12	186.2	Open
			MAL	230	Open
			PF2	255.5	Problem ⁵
			BY2	315	Open



Monitoring bore or VWP ID	Easting ¹ (GDA94)	Northing ¹ (GDA94)	Geology	Bore screen or VWP sensor depth (mBGL)	Status
			WY2	322	Problem ⁵
RD1192 (RBR2)	296092	6409038	Wambo Seam	61.2	Open
			Redbank Seam	80	Open
			Blakefield Seam	148.5	Open
BLK6R12 (RD1220)	293653	6409558	WB2 Seam	25	Open
			Redbank Seam	40.5	Open
			Whynot Seam	86.5	Open
			Blakefield Seam	148.5	Open
VWP1 (RD1221) (RDW006A)	297926	6407444	Interburden	21	Open
			Interburden	40	Open
			Interburden	73	Open
			Whybrow Seam	87	Open
			Whynot Seam	109.2	Open
			Blakefield Seam	138	Problem ⁶
RBD1 (DD1170)	295178	6409246	Whybrow Seam	24.65	Open
			Redbank Seam	33.55	Open
			Whynot Seam	79.5	Open
			Blakefield Seam	103.3	Open
WND16 (DD1188)	298122	6408842	Wambo Seam	33.75	Open
			Whynot Seam	59.25	Problem ⁷
			Blakefield Seam	90.15	Problem ⁷
			Blakefield Seam	110.5	Open
WND26 (DD1187)	299487	6409044	Whybrow Seam	77.3	Open
			Redbank Seam	84.6	Open
			Wambo Seam	123.45	Open
			Whynot Seam	144.25	Problem ⁷

¹ Coordinates in metres (GDA 1994 MGA Zone 56).

² MW3 are recorded dry during the reporting period. As per the recommendations in the 2022 Annual Review, it is proposed that MW3 will be removed from the reporting, once the next version of the Management Plan is approved.

³ DD1015 is reported blocked during the reporting period; DD1027 is deemed to bring no significant value to future groundwater assessments as it monitors the Edderton Seam which is not targeted by the Maxwell UG Mine. As per the recommendations in the 2022 Annual Review, these monitoring locations will be removed from the reporting, once the next version of the Management Plan is approved.

⁴ DD1025 was decommissioned in December 2022 for safety reasons (to prevent inrush to the upcoming underground mining operations). As per the recommendations in the 2022 Annual Review, it is proposed that this



site will be replaced by a replacement bore] for the purposes of the TARP assessment in Appendix A, once a revised GWMP has been approved.

5 Groundwater levels at RD1189 VWP2, VWP7 & VWP9 appear unstable hence are not reported. As per the recommendations in the 2022 Annual Review, these monitoring datasets will be removed from the reporting, once the next version of the Management Plan is approved.

6 VWP1 sensor 6 indicates no data and not reported.

7 The following VWPs wires are considered disabled: WND16-VWP2 and WND16-VWP3 (unstable and disabled respectively), WND26-VWP4 (disabled).

VWP – vibrating wire piezometer mBGL – metres below ground level EX – Existing

A – Alluvium R – Regolith JPS – Jerry’s Plain Subgroup

Open – Functional for pressure/water level measurements and/or quality sampling

Closed –Decommissioned/ To be removed

Problem – Blocked/Dry/Issue detected during monitoring period

Table 2: Groundwater Level Trigger Exceedances – shallow and deep open standpipe bores

Bore	TARP Level [mAHD]	Previous Monitoring Period Q2-2023			Current Monitoring Period Q3-2023		
		Apr 23	May 23	Jun 23	Jul 23	Aug 23	Sep 23
Maxwell Infrastructure		Water Management Plan (Feb 2023)					
R4241	173.6	N	N	N	N	N	N
GWD01D	198.2	N	N	N	N	N	N
GWD01S	197.0	N	N	N	N	N	N
GWD02D	135.7	N	N	N	N	N	N
GWD02S	187.7	N	N	N	N	N	N
Maxwell Underground		Water Management Plan (Feb 2023) & Annual Review 2022					
DD1025	157.3	Decommissioned			Decommissioned		
DD1032	130.6	N	N	N	Y	Y	Y
MB3-Alluvial	127.7	N	N	N	N	N	N
MB3-Regolith	127.3	N	N	N	N	N	N

LX: maximum trigger level exceedances recorded

#: not applicable

mAHD – metres above Australian Height Datum

N:Normal Level TARP Level 1 TARP Level 2

Y: “Yes”, short-term exceedance, less than 3 consecutive exceedances.

“*” no groundwater level data available for this period

2.1 Normal Level

Groundwater levels at the Maxwell Infrastructure groundwater monitoring sites R4241, GW01D, GW01S, GW02D, GW02S (**Appendix B**) and at the Maxwell Underground sites DD1032, MB3-Alluvial and MB3-Regolith (**Appendix B**) are observed above the



groundwater trigger level over the reporting period hence are within the Normal Level of the TARP criteria (**Appendix A**).

2.2 TARP Level 1

There was one TARP Level 1 groundwater level trigger exceedance over the reporting period – this was for DD1032. Historic data indicates a steady decline in groundwater levels at this site due to below average rainfall conditions. Past quarterly groundwater monitoring reports noted that the groundwater levels were consistently close to the TARP trigger level. As the exceedance is not expected to be related to site activities (given that as of end of the monitoring period the drift for the Woodlands Hill mine has only progressed 165m deep), no additional actions are judged to be required other than continued continuous monitoring.

Following a Level 1 exceedance, if the trigger exceedances are not caused by site activities and have not resulted in an exceedance of a Water Performance Measure in Table 4 of Development Consent for SSD 9526, then the GMMP requires a review of the monitoring frequency. DD1032 has been installed with a datalogger and records readings daily and this is considered appropriate to evaluate groundwater levels. It is recommended that the and TARP trigger level be reviewed in the upcoming Annual Review 2023. The Annual Review 2022 recommended a change to 128.3 mAHD and is subject to approval of an updated GWMP. The groundwater levels have historically been close to the TARP trigger level and it is recommended this level be updated as it was based on the 5th percentile of monitoring data at the previous level determination.

2.3 TARP Level 2

A TARP Level 2 exceedance is defined as where a Level 1 trigger review indicates trigger exceedances are caused by site activities and this has resulted in an exceedance of a Water Management Performance Measure in Table 4 of Development Consent SSD 9526. There were no TARP Level 2 groundwater level trigger exceedances over the reporting period.

2.4 General Observations

- Mud noticed on GW02D logger in January 2023 and water level is very close to bottom of the borehole (~ 2 m).
- MB03 and MW3 were reported as dry during January 2023.
- DD1025 was decommissioned in December 2022 for safety reasons (i.e., to prevent inrush to the upcoming underground mining operations) and no measurements were made from Q1-2023.

3.0 Groundwater Quality Trigger Review

Trigger Action Response Plan (TARP) levels are defined for five sites for the Maxwell Infrastructure area and four sites for the Maxwell Underground area (Malabar Resources, Nov 2021) and presented in **Appendix A**. In accordance with the approved GWMP, the TARP levels were reviewed as part of the 2022 Annual Review. Where appropriate, proposed revisions to the TARP levels were provided in the 2022 Annual Review and have been used here. It should be noted that any proposed amendments to the TARP approved levels are subject to approval via an amended GWMP.



An assessment of groundwater quality (EC and pH) at each of the monitored bore locations against the TARP threshold levels has been completed. EC and pH plots for groundwater monitoring locations with approved groundwater quality trigger levels are presented in **Appendix C**. During the reporting period, EC and pH recorded at the groundwater monitoring sites were within the TARP Normal Level threshold.

A summary of the groundwater quality (electrical conductivity and pH) trigger levels during the reporting period at the monitored bores are presented in **Table 3**.

No groundwater quality results were available for the private bores for the reporting period. Results for the private bores are reviewed annually.

Table 3: Trigger Exceedances for pH and EC for the period July-September 2023

Bore	Period [month sampled]	Q2 2023			Q3 2023		
		EC (µS/cm)	pH lower	pH upper	EC (µS/cm)	pH lower	pH upper
R4241	Q3-2023 [Sep 23 – Field]	N	N	N	N	N	N
GW01S	Q3-2023 [Sep 23 – Field]	N	N	N	N	N	N
GW01D	Q3-2023 [Sep 23 – Field]	N	N	N	Y	N	N
GW02S	Q3-2023 [Sep 23 – Field]	N	N	N	N	N	N
GW02D	Q3-2023 [Sep 23 – Field]	Y	N	N	Y	N	N
DD1025	<i>Decommissioned</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-
DD1032	Q3-2023 [Jul 23 – Laboratory]	N	N	N	N	N	N
MB3-Alluvial	Q3-2023 [Jul 23 – Laboratory]	N	N	N	N	N	N
MB3-Regolith	Q3-2023 [Jul 23 – Laboratory]	N	N	N	Y	N	N

N: Normal Level TARP Level 1 TARP Level 2

Y: "Yes", short-term exceedance, less than 3 consecutive exceedances.

"*" no groundwater quality data available for this period

3.1 Normal Level

Groundwater quality at the Maxwell Infrastructure groundwater monitoring sites R4241, GW01D, GW01S, GW02S, GW02D (**Appendix C**) and at the Maxwell Underground sites DD1032, MB3-Alluvial and MB3-Regolith (**Appendix C**) are observed below the trigger level over the reporting period hence are within the Normal Level of the TARP criteria (**Appendix A - Table A1**).

3.2 TARP Level 1

There were no TARP Level 1 groundwater quality trigger exceedances over the reporting period.

3.3 TARP Level 2

There were no TARP Level 2 groundwater quality trigger exceedances over the reporting period.



3.4 General Observations

- MB3-Regolith had an EC value of 6,530 $\mu\text{S}/\text{cm}$ (Laboratory measured) in July 2023 and exceeded the groundwater quality trigger level for EC (6,327 $\mu\text{S}/\text{cm}$). This is only a single short-term exceedance for 1 month. Continual monitoring is recommended as per the GWMP and additional action is only required after three consecutive exceedances.
- GW01D had an EC value of 5,880 $\mu\text{S}/\text{cm}$ (Field measured) in September 2023 and exceeded the groundwater quality trigger level for EC (5,680 $\mu\text{S}/\text{cm}$). This is only a single short-term exceedance for 1 month. Continual monitoring is recommended as per the GWMP and additional action is only required after three consecutive exceedances.
- GW02D had an EC value of 13,200 $\mu\text{S}/\text{cm}$ (Field measured) in September 2023 and exceeded the groundwater quality trigger level for EC (10,500 $\mu\text{S}/\text{cm}$). This is only a single short-term exceedance for 1 month. Continual monitoring is recommended as per the GWMP and additional action is only required after three consecutive exceedances.

4.0 Recommendations

Based on the trigger exceedances assessed in **Section 2.0** and **Section 3.0** and the TARP criteria presented in **Appendix A**, the following actions are recommended:

4.1 Actions – Trigger Assessment

- Continue the monitoring programme, reporting groundwater level and quality data in the next groundwater quarterly review report in December 2023.
- For all sites with a Normal Level in place for groundwater levels, continue monitoring groundwater trends against TARP trigger levels.
- For all sites with a Normal Level in place for groundwater quality, continue monitoring pH and EC against TARP trigger levels.
- For all sites with a single exceedance of the TARP trigger levels continual monitoring is recommended per the GWMP. Once a Level 1 TARP trigger level is confirmed the GMWP requires additional action.
- There were one TARP Level 1 groundwater level trigger exceedances over the reporting period for DD1032. Historic data indicates a steady decline in groundwater levels due to below average rainfall conditions. Past quarterly groundwater monitoring reports noted that the groundwater levels were consistently close to the TARP trigger level. Additional monitoring is required according to the GWMP. As the exceedance is not expected to be related to site activities, no additional actions are required other than continual monitoring. The GMWP required changes to the monitoring frequency where required. DD1032 has been installed with a datalogger and records readings daily and this is considered appropriate to evaluate groundwater levels. It is recommended that the TARP trigger level be reviewed in the upcoming Annual Review 2023. The Annual Review 2022 recommended a change to 128.3 mAHD and is subject to approval of an updated GWMP. The groundwater levels have historically been close to the TARP trigger level and it is recommended



this level be updated as it was based on the 5th percentile of monitoring data at the previous level determination.

4.2 Actions – Reporting

- Reference levels for future reviews to calculate groundwater drawdown at all monitoring bores should be established.
- Following the decommission of DD1025 in December 2022, it is planned to incorporate an existing groundwater monitoring bore in the TARP assessment as a replacement to DD1025.

4.3 Actions – Monitoring and Sampling

- Incorporate any mine dewatering volume into the quarterly groundwater monitoring database and reporting as this data will be useful when interpreting groundwater level responses due to mining activities.



5.0 Closing

SLR was engaged by Malabar to perform a quarterly groundwater review of data collected by Cbased for the Maxwell Project. This quarterly report provides an overview of the groundwater data collected at the relevant monitoring bores for the period July 2023 - September 2023 and assesses this data against the TARP Trigger Criteria presented in the GWMP contained within the Water Management Plan for the Maxwell Underground Project and proposed updated TARP Trigger Criteria from the MUG Annual Review 2022.

There were one TARP Level 1 groundwater level trigger exceedances over the reporting period for DD1032. Historic data indicates a steady decline in groundwater levels due to below average rainfall conditions. Past quarterly groundwater monitoring reports noted that the groundwater levels were consistently close to the TARP trigger level. Additional monitoring is required according to the GWMP. As the exceedance is not expected to be related to site activities, no additional actions are required other than continual monitoring. The GMMP required changes to the monitoring frequency where required. DD1032 has been installed with a datalogger and records readings daily and this is considered appropriate to evaluate groundwater levels. It is recommended that the TARP trigger level be reviewed in the upcoming Annual Review 2023. The Annual Review 2022 recommended a change to 128.3 mAHD and is subject to approval of an updated GWMP. The groundwater levels have historically been close to the TARP trigger level and it is recommended this level be updated as it was based on the 5th percentile of monitoring data at the previous level determination.

Sincerely,

SLR Consulting Australia

Raymond Minnaar

Associate Consultant - Hydrology & Hydrogeology

Shaun Troon

Principal Hydrogeologist - South East Australia
Lead



6.0 References

Malabar Resources, 2023. Water Management Plan. MXC_MP_EC_08 (6 February 2023), Version 4, Review 0.

Malabar Resources, 2021b. Maxwell Underground Project Environmental Monitoring Data Quarter 4 2021. December 2021.

Malabar Resources, 2022. Maxwell Underground Coal Mine Project. Annual Review 2022. March 2022.

SLR, 2022. Maxwell Project – Quarterly Groundwater Monitoring Report April – June 2022. Prepared for Malabar Resources, Report No: 610.30966.00000-M01-v2.0

SLR, 2022a. Maxwell Project – Quarterly Groundwater Monitoring Report July – September 2022. Prepared for Malabar Resources, Report No: 610.30966.00000-M02-v1.0

SLR, 2022b. Maxwell Project – Quarterly Groundwater Monitoring Report October - December 2022. Prepared for Malabar Resources, Report No: 610.30966.00000-M02-v1.0

7.0 Feedback

At SLR, we are committed to delivering professional quality service to our clients. We are constantly looking for ways to improve the quality of our deliverables and our service to our clients. Client feedback is a valuable tool in helping us prioritise services and resources according to our client needs.

To achieve this, your feedback on the team's performance, deliverables and service are valuable and SLR welcome all feedback via <https://www.slrconsulting.com/en/feedback>. We recognise the value of your time and we will make a \$10 donation to our 2023 Charity Partner - Lifeline, for every completed form.





Appendix A Trigger Action Response Plan & Groundwater Level Triggers

Maxwell Underground Mine

Groundwater Monitoring Report – Quarter 3 – 2023

Malabar Resources Pty Ltd

SLR Project No.: 630.030945.00001

16 January 2024

Table A-1: Trigger Action Response Plan for the Maxwell Project monitoring bores – Groundwater Levels and Quality

Status	Trigger	Action	Response
Maxwell Infrastructure			
Normal	Groundwater level and quality below Maxwell Infrastructure Stage 1 groundwater triggers (<i>Table A3</i>).	Continue to minimise the long-term catchment areas of the mine voids and transfer water to and from voids. Continue water balance monitoring, groundwater monitoring, and assessment.	None
Level 1	Three consecutive groundwater level, pH or EC results exceed Maxwell Infrastructure Stage 1 groundwater triggers (<i>Table A3</i>).	A suitably qualified hydrogeologist reviews groundwater level or quality data to determine if trigger exceedances are caused by site activities and whether this has resulted in an exceedance of a Water Management Performance Measure in Table 4 of Development Consent SSD 9526.	If trigger exceedances are not caused by site activities and have not resulted in an exceedance of a Water Management Performance Measure in Table 4 of Development Consent SSD 9526, then review monitoring frequency. If trigger exceedances are caused by site activities and resulted in an exceedance of a Water Management Performance Measure in Table 4 of Development Consent SSD 9526, then undertake Level 2 Actions.
Level 2	Investigation following Level 1 trigger review indicates trigger exceedances are caused by site activities and this has resulted in an exceedance of a Water Management Performance Measure in Table 4 of Development Consent SSD 9526.	Undertake actions recommended by suitably qualified hydrogeologist which may include update to the groundwater model and/or review of monitoring program.	Report non-compliance. Undertake adaptive management strategies.
Maxwell Underground			
Normal	Groundwater level and quality below Maxwell Underground Stage 1 groundwater level triggers (<i>Table A3</i>).	Continue groundwater monitoring, and assessment.	None
Level 1	Three consecutive groundwater level, pH or EC results exceed Maxwell Underground Stage 1 groundwater level triggers (<i>Table A3</i>).	A suitably qualified hydrogeologist reviews groundwater level or quality data to determine if trigger exceedances are as a result of activities at the site and whether this has resulted in an exceedance of a Water Management Performance Measure in Table 4 of Development Consent SSD 9526.	If trigger exceedances are not caused by site activities and have not resulted in an exceedance of a Water Management Performance Measure in Table 4 of Development Consent SSD 9526, then review monitoring frequency.



Status	Trigger	Action	Response
			If trigger exceedances are caused by site activities and resulted in an exceedance of a Water Management Performance Measure in Table 4 of Development Consent SSD 9526, then undertake Level 2 Actions.
Level 2	Investigation following Level 1 trigger review indicates trigger exceedances are caused by activities at the Project and this has resulted in an exceedance of a Water Management Performance Measure in Table 4 of Development Consent SSD 9526.	Undertake actions recommended by suitably qualified hydrogeologist which may include update to the groundwater model and/or review of monitoring program.	Report non-compliance. Undertake adaptive management strategies. In consultation with suitably qualified hydrogeologist and other relevant specialists, undertake repair, mitigate and/or offset any adverse groundwater impacts of the development.



Table A-2: Trigger Action Response Plan for Privately-owned bores - Groundwater Levels and Quality

Status	Trigger	Action	Response
Groundwater levels			
Normal	Drawdown at privately-owned bores less than 2 m. No complaints about potential impacts of the site on privately- owned bores.	Continue regular monitoring and review of potentially impacted private bores (<i>refer to Section 5.2.2 of the GWMP</i>).	None
Level 1	Drawdown at privately-owned bores more than 2 m and/or complaint about potential impacts of the site on private bores.	A suitably qualified hydrogeologist reviews groundwater data to determine if 2 m drawdown is as a result of activities at the site (and/or MAC). Collect relevant data on privately-owned bores that are the subject of the complaint. Suitably qualified hydrogeologist to determine if privately-owned bore the subject of the complaint has been adversely and directly impacted as a result of the development (other than an impact that is minor or negligible).	If drawdown is not as a result of activities at the Project (and/or MAC) then review monitoring frequency. If privately-owned bore the subject of the complaint has not been adversely and directly impacted as a result of the development (other than an impact that is minor or negligible) then review monitoring frequency. If drawdown, or impacts the subject of the complaint, are due to site activities then undertake Level 2 actions.
Level 2	Investigation following Level 1 trigger review indicates drawdown is as a result of activities at the site.	Notify relevant bore owner and implement compensatory water supply actions. Undertake any other actions recommended by suitably qualified hydrogeologist which may include update to the groundwater model and/or review of monitoring program.	Review groundwater monitoring program.
Groundwater quality			
Normal	No change in beneficial use category	Continue regular monitoring and review of potentially impacted private bores (<i>refer to Section 5.2.2 of the GWMP</i>).	None
Level 1	Two consecutive monitoring results indicate a change in beneficial use category.	A suitably qualified hydrogeologist reviews groundwater data to determine if change in water quality is caused by activities at the site.	If a privately-owned bore has not been adversely and directly impacted as a result of the activities at the site, then review monitoring frequency. If change in water quality is changed by activities at the site, then undertake Level 2 actions.



Status	Trigger	Action	Response
Level 2	Investigation following Level 1 trigger review indicates change in water quality is caused by activities at the site.	Implement compensatory water supply actions. Undertake any other actions recommended by suitably qualified hydrogeologist which may include update to the groundwater model and/or review of monitoring program.	Review groundwater monitoring program.



Table A-3: Summary of groundwater level and quality triggers for alluvium and hard rock aquifers (Maxwell Project) – (GWMP – Malabar Resources, Feb 2023) and Annual Review 2022

Bore	Groundwater level, trigger level (mAHD)	pH trigger level - minimum	pH trigger level - maximum	EC trigger level (µS/cm)
Maxwell Infrastructure				
R4241	173.6	6.0	8.5	6,253
GW01D	198.2	6.0	8.5	5,680
GW01S	197.0	6.0	8.5	9,260
GW02D	135.7	6.0	8.5	10,500
GW02S	187.7	6.0	8.5	9,480
Maxwell Underground				
DD1025	157.3 (155.1 #)	6.0	8.5	14,200
DD1032	130.6 (128.3 #)	6.0	8.5	7,170
MB3-A	127.7	6.0	8.5	9,009
MB3-R	127.3	6.0	8.5	6,327

Proposed levels in 2022 Annual Review and subject to approval of the GWMP

Table A-4: Groundwater Quality Categories: Electrical Conductivity - (GWMP – Malabar Resources, Nov 2021)

Beneficial use	Quality Range	Description
Marginal Potable	800 – 2,350 µS/cm (500 - 1,500 mg/L TDS)*	At the upper level this water is at the limit of potable water, but is suitable for watering of livestock, irrigation and other general uses
Irrigation	2,350 – 7,800 µS/cm (1,500 - 5,000 mg/L TDS)*	At the upper level, this water requires shandyng for use as irrigation water or to be suitable for selective irrigation and watering of livestock
Saline	7,800 – 22,000 µS/cm (5,000 - 14,000 mg/L TDS)*	Generally unsuitable for most uses. It may be suitable for a diminishing range of salt-tolerant livestock up to about 6,500mg/L [~10,150 µS/cm] and some industrial uses
Highly Saline	>22,000 µS/cm (14,000 mg/L TDS)*	Suitable for coarse industrial processes up to about 20,000 mg/L [~31,000 µS/cm].

* Approximate EC ranges derived from TDS ranges, with conversion factor of 1.5625 applied. Source: National Land and Water Resources Audit (Murray Darling Basin Commission, 2005).





Appendix B Groundwater and Trigger Levels

Maxwell Underground Mine

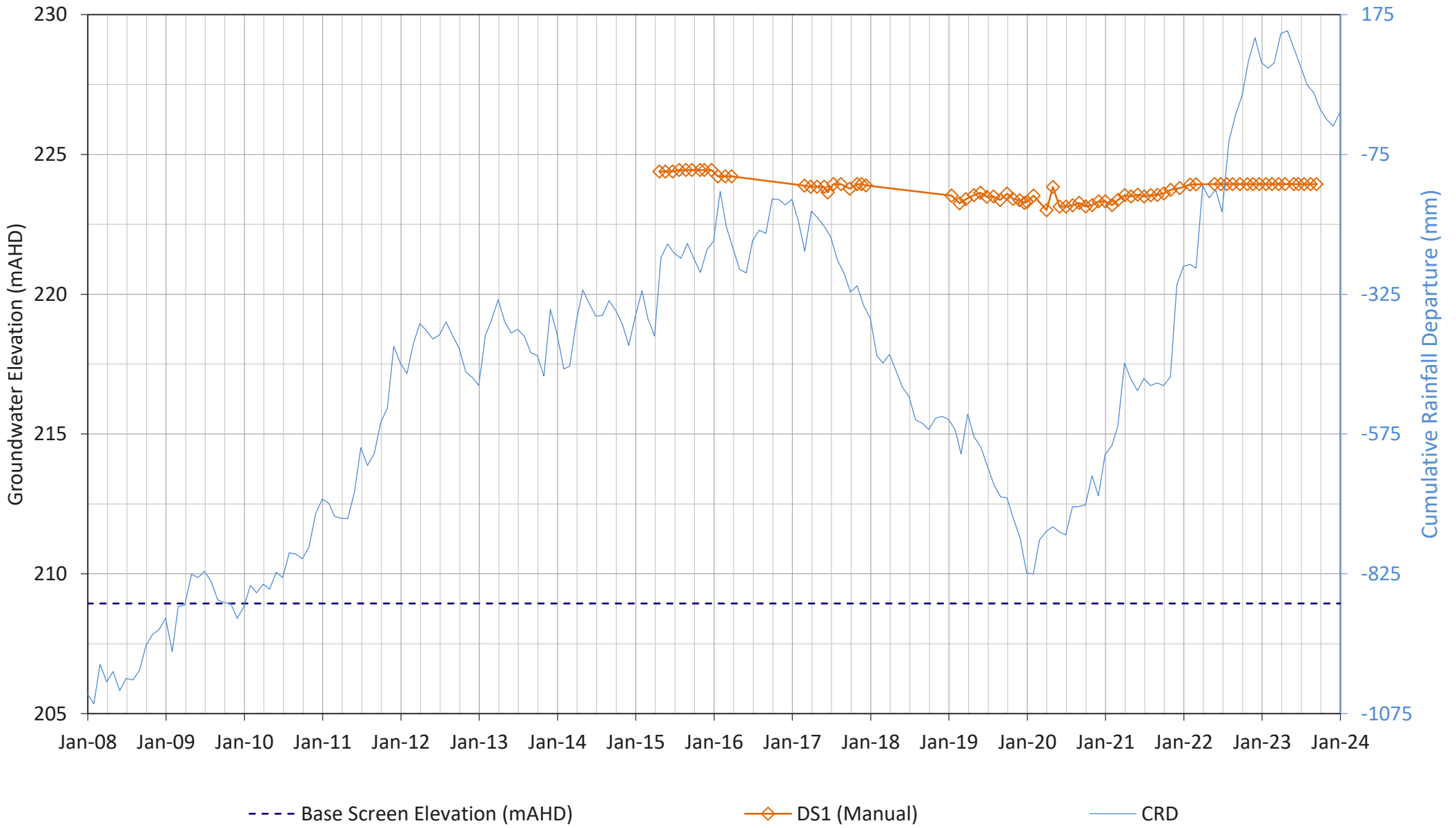
Groundwater Monitoring Report – Quarter 3 – 2023

Malabar Resources Pty Ltd

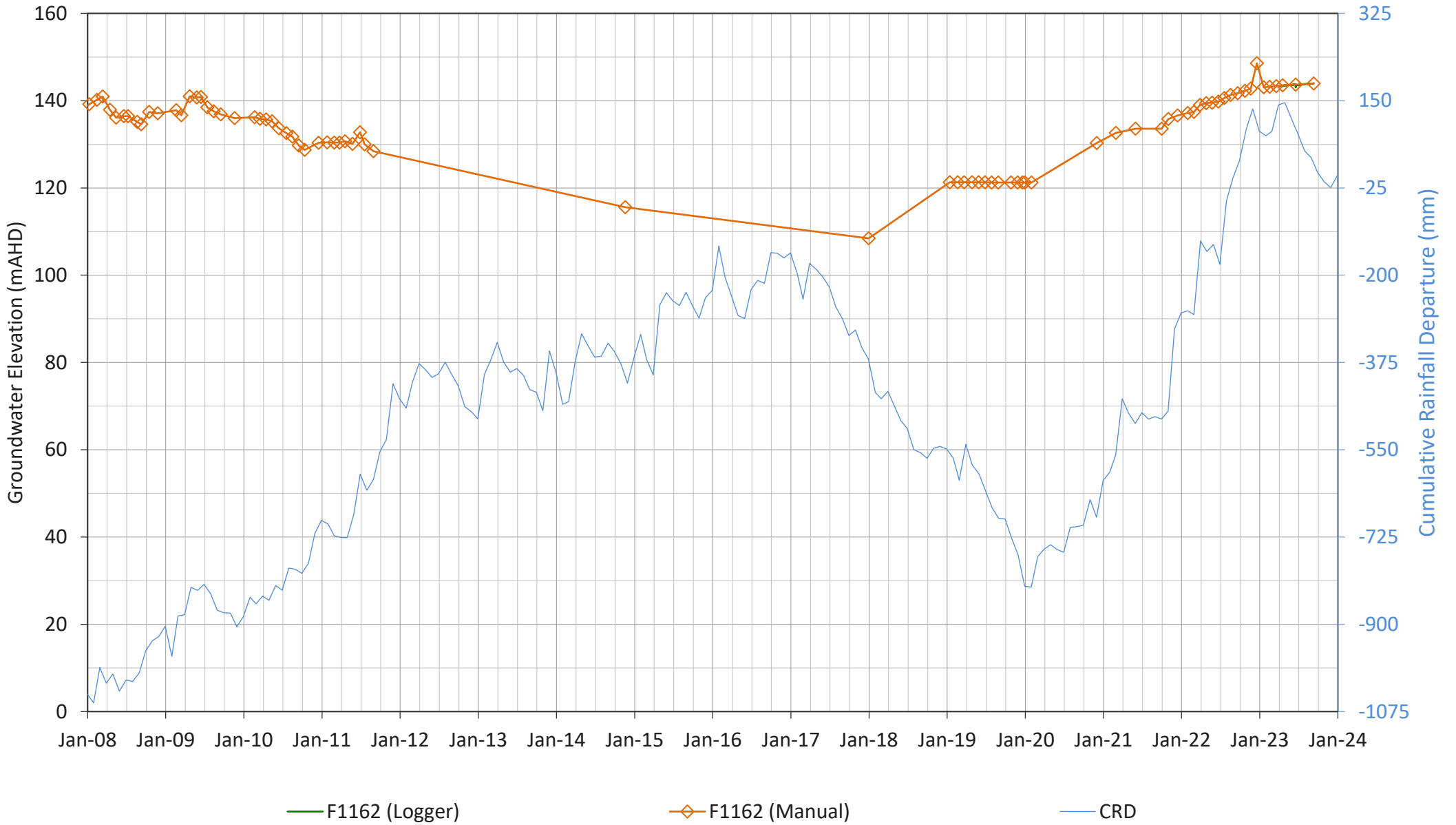
SLR Project No.: 630.030945.00001

16 January 2024

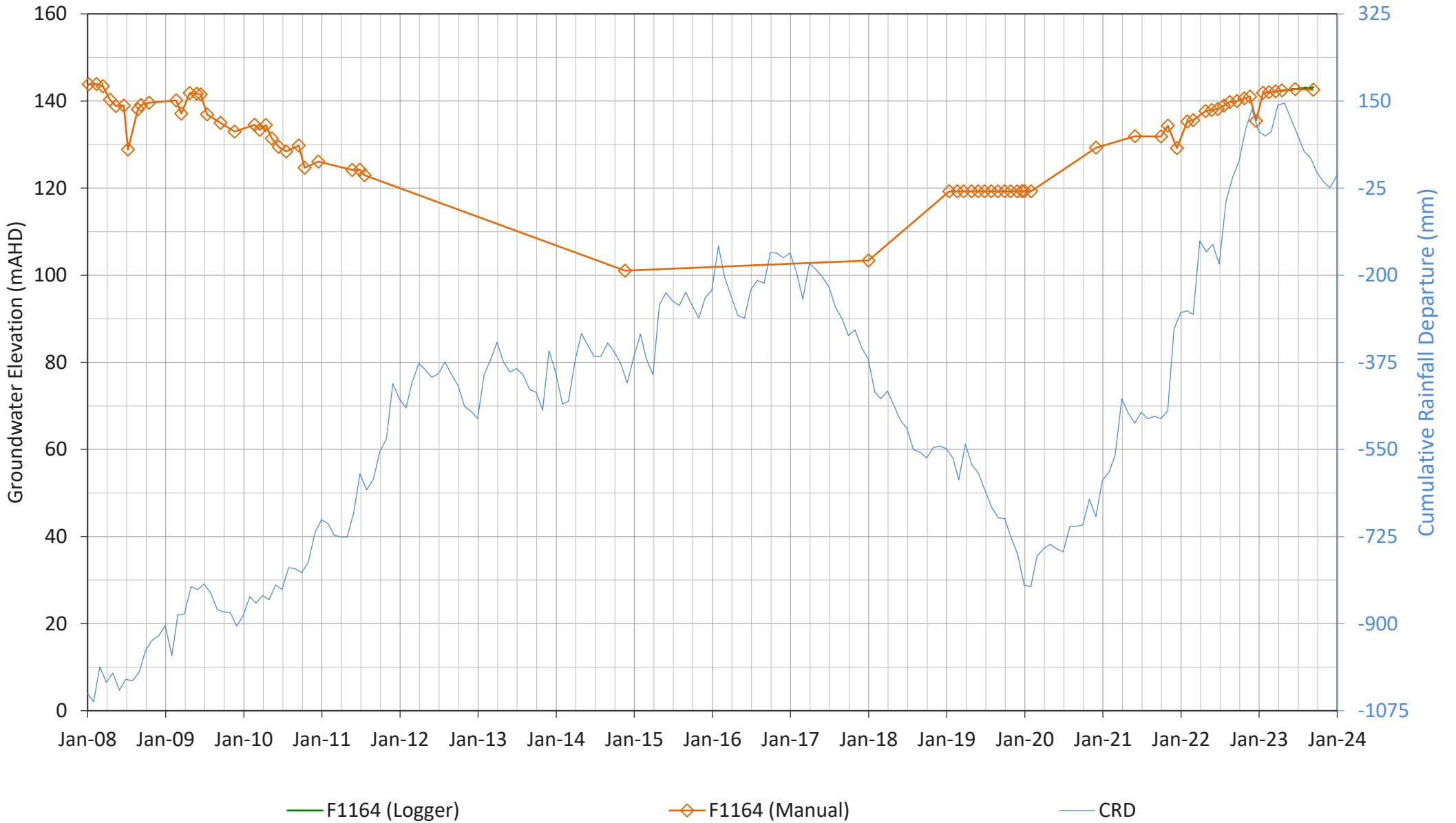
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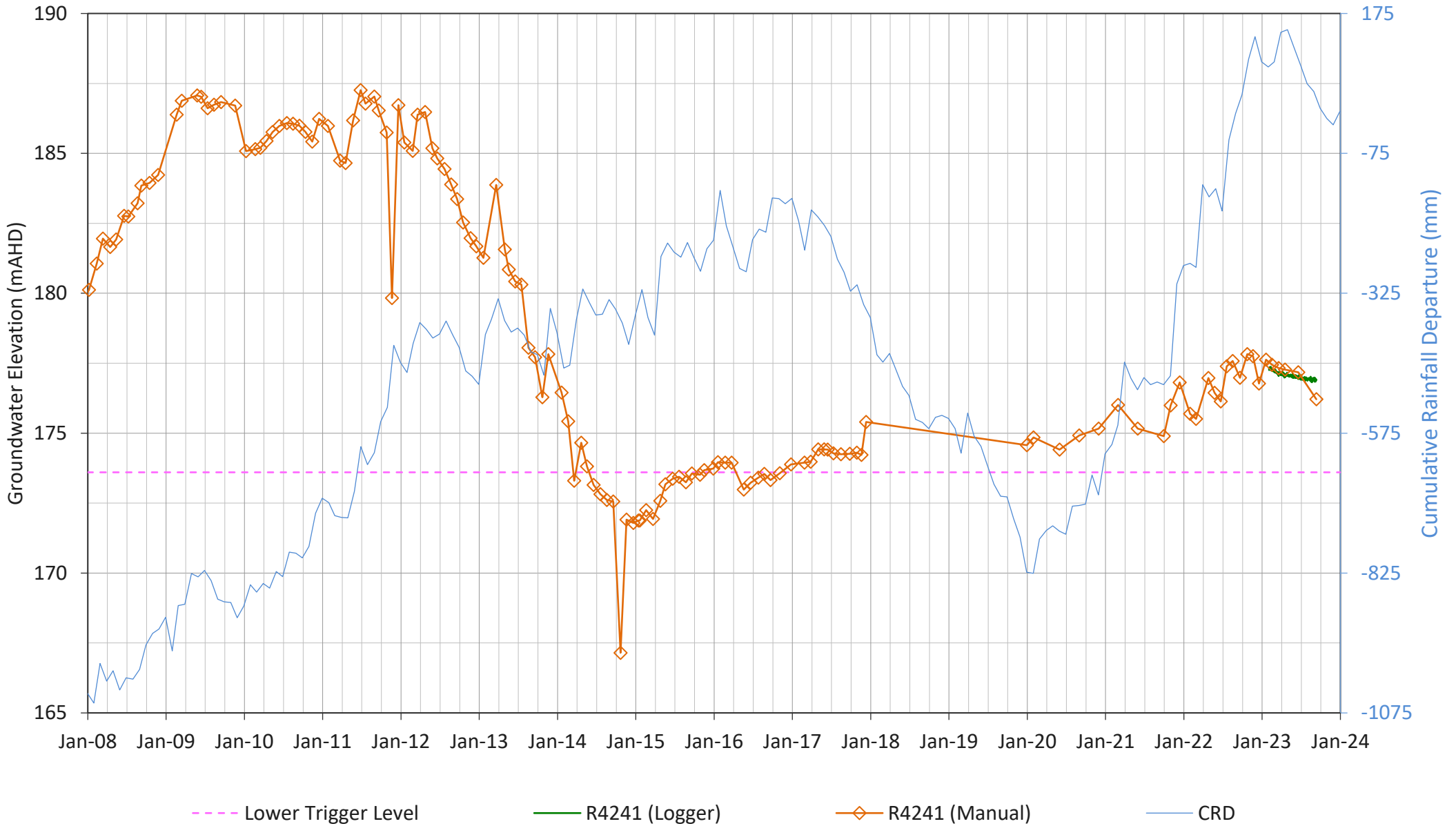
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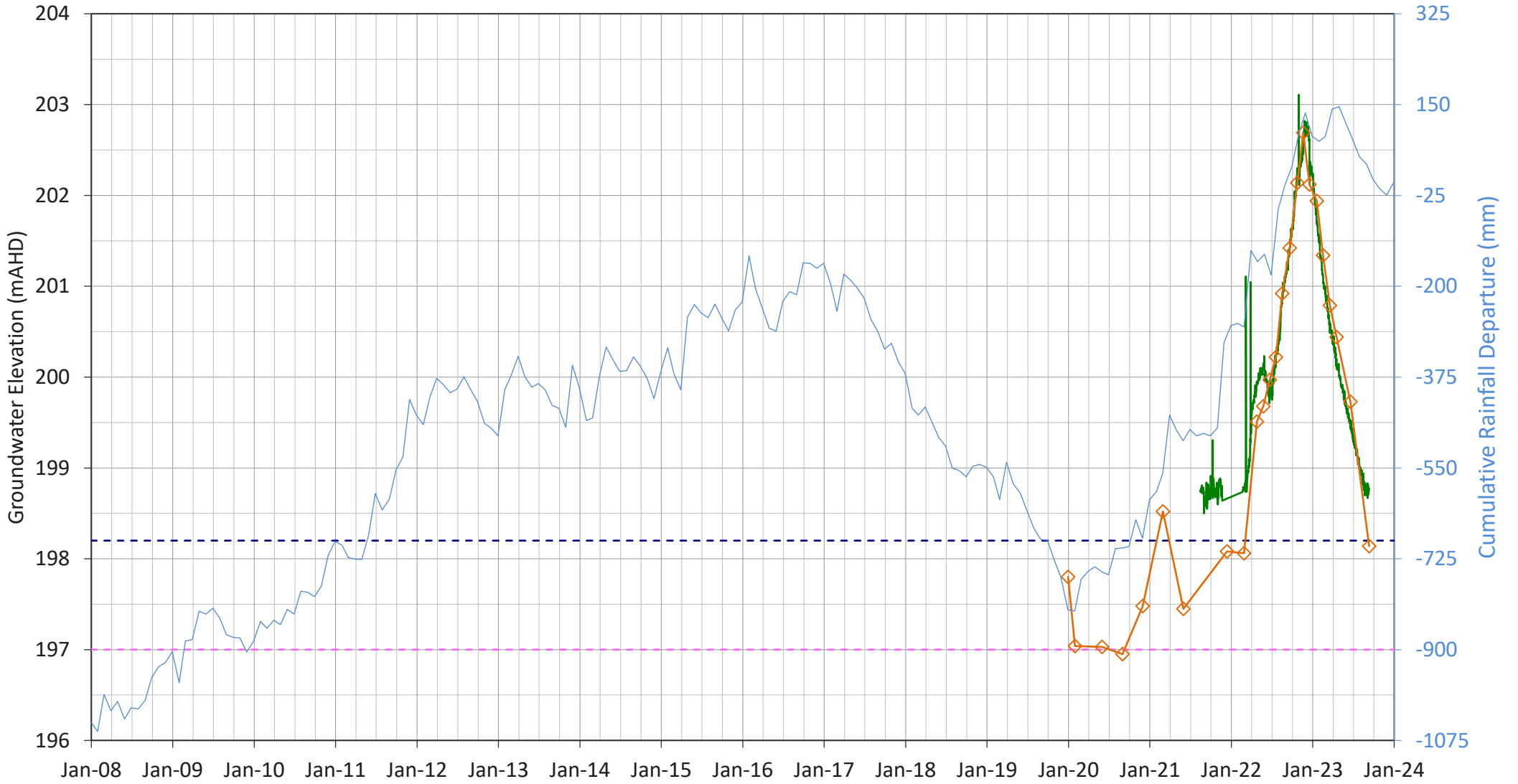
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R4241

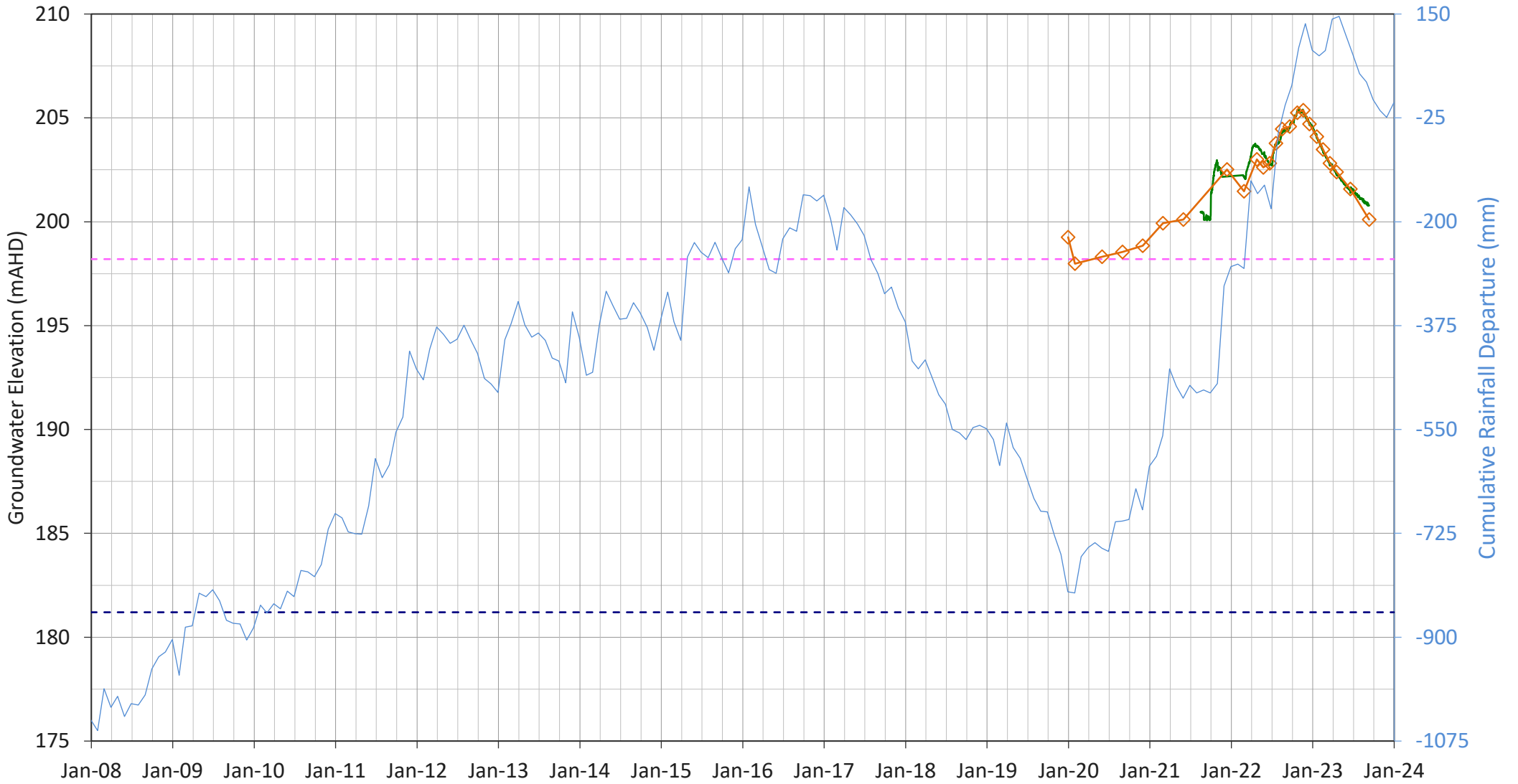


GW01S



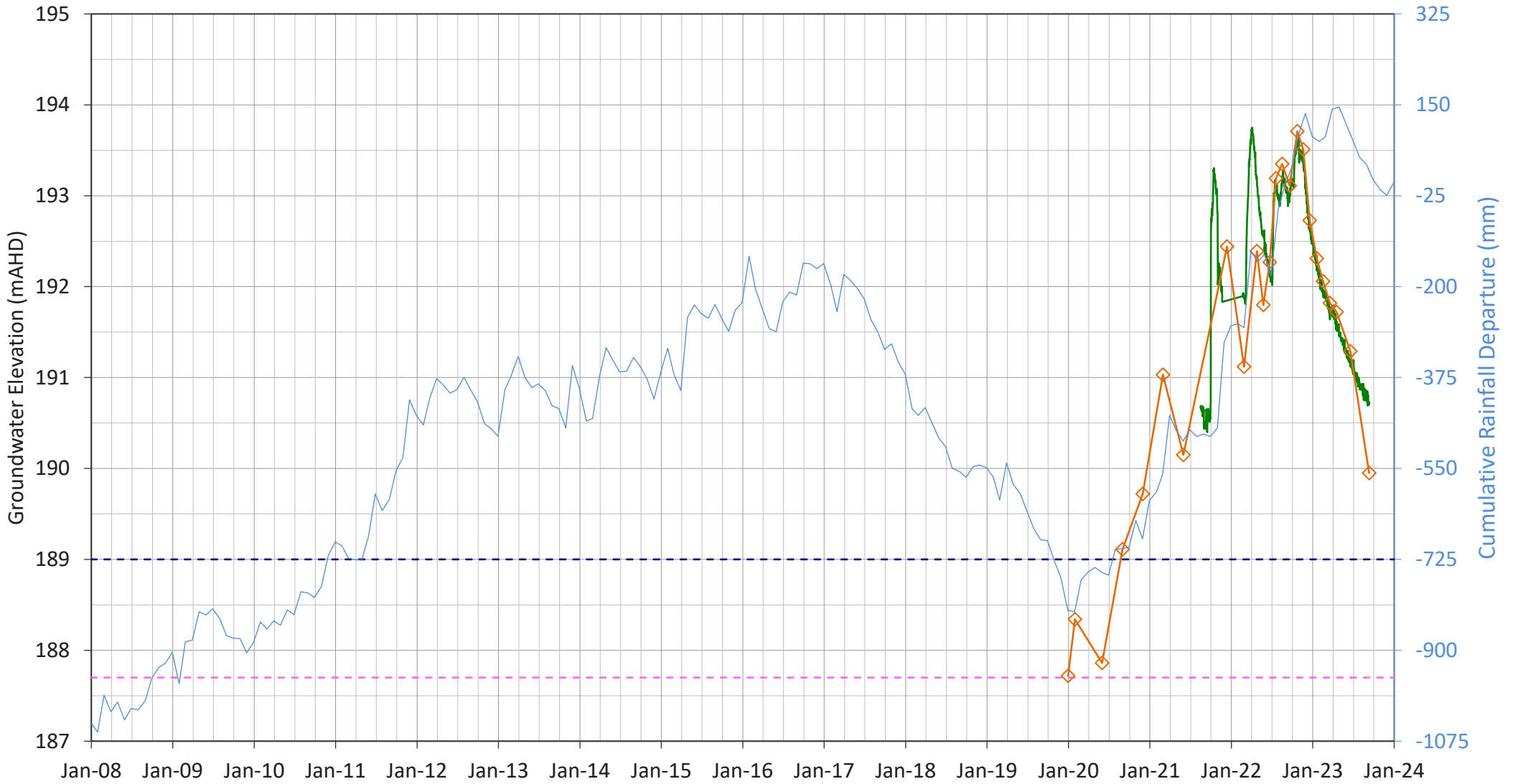
-- Lower Trigger Level - - - Base Screen Elevation (mAHD) — GW01S (Logger) —◇— GW01S (Manual) — CRD

GW01D



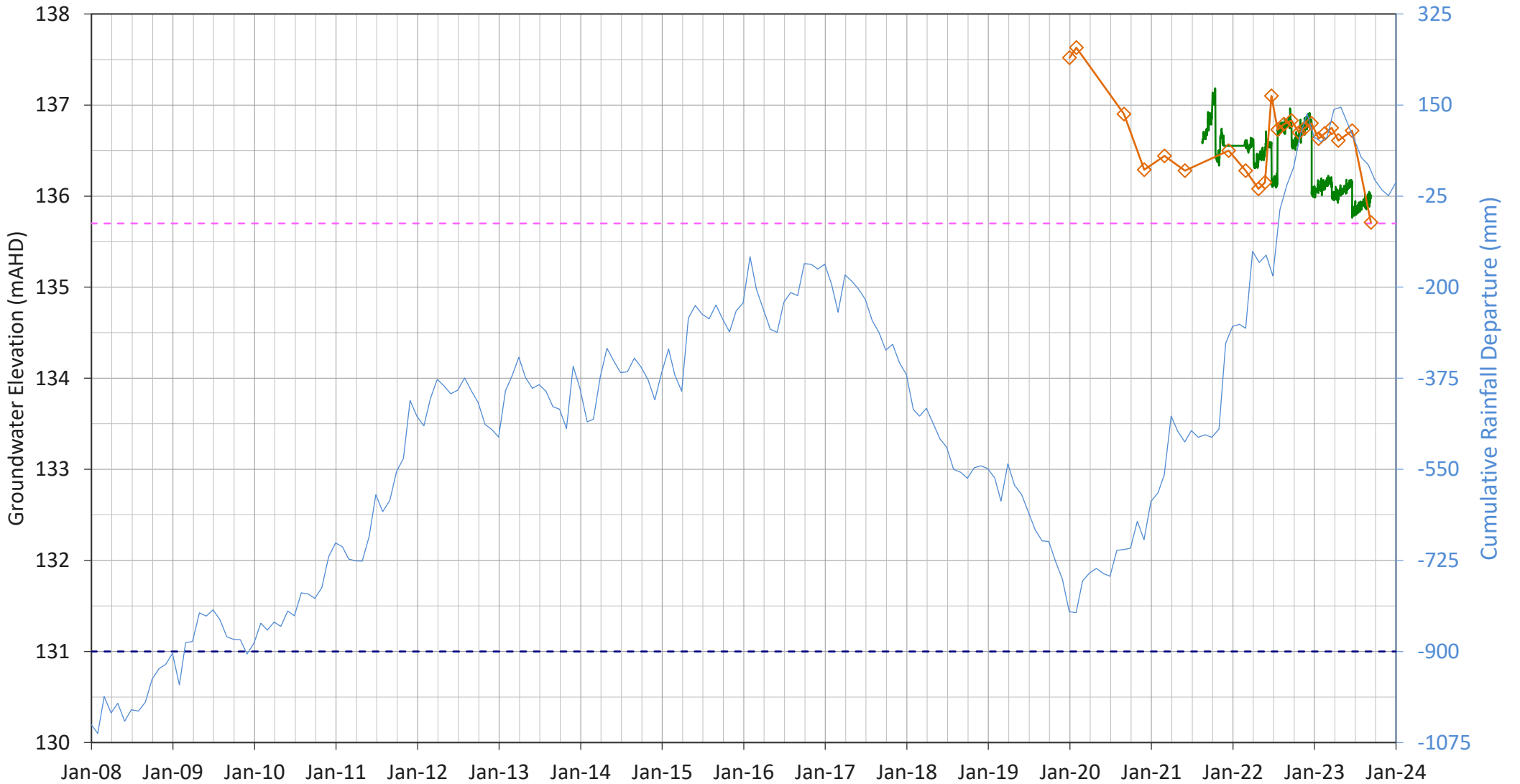
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GW02S



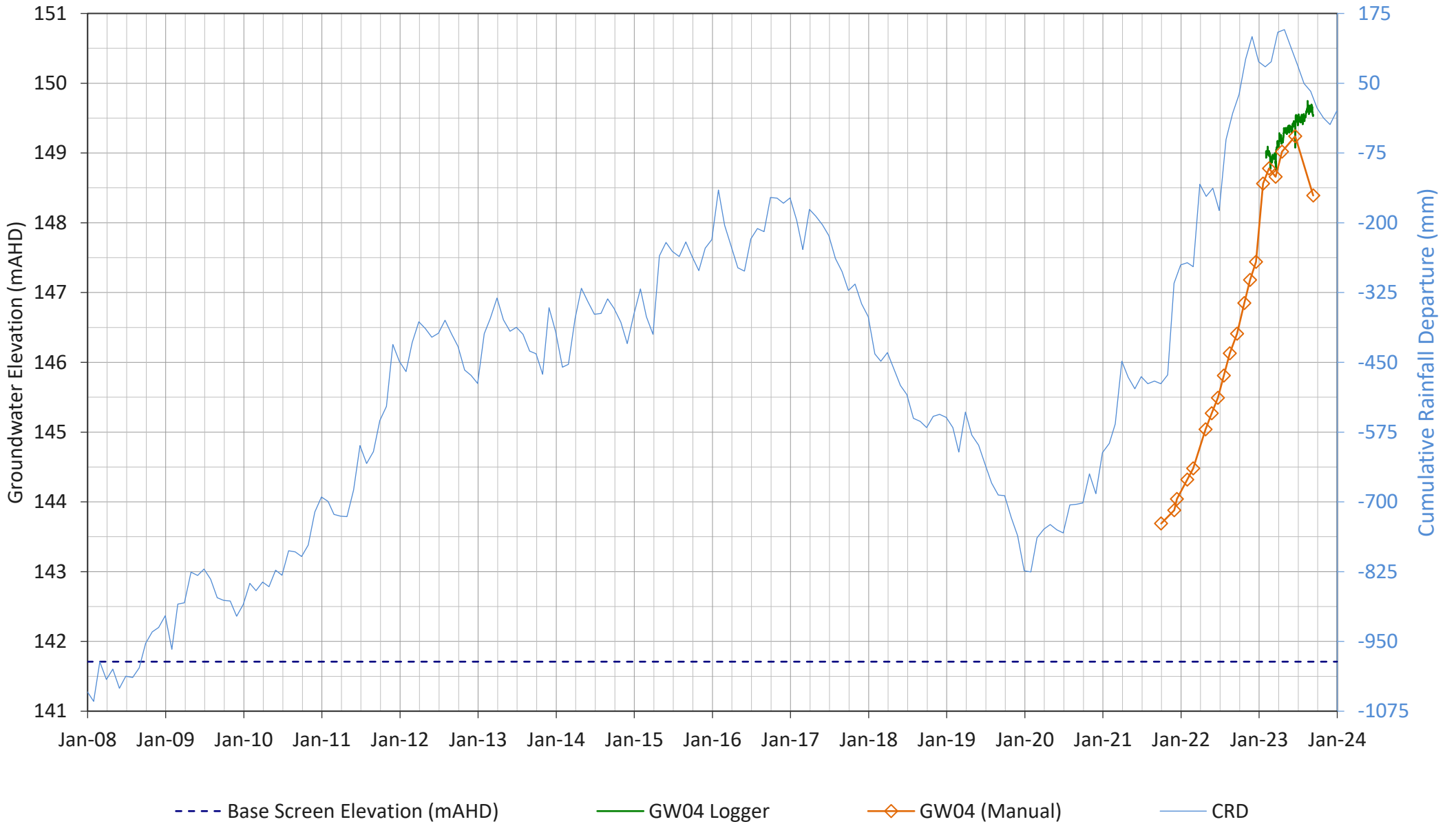
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GW02D

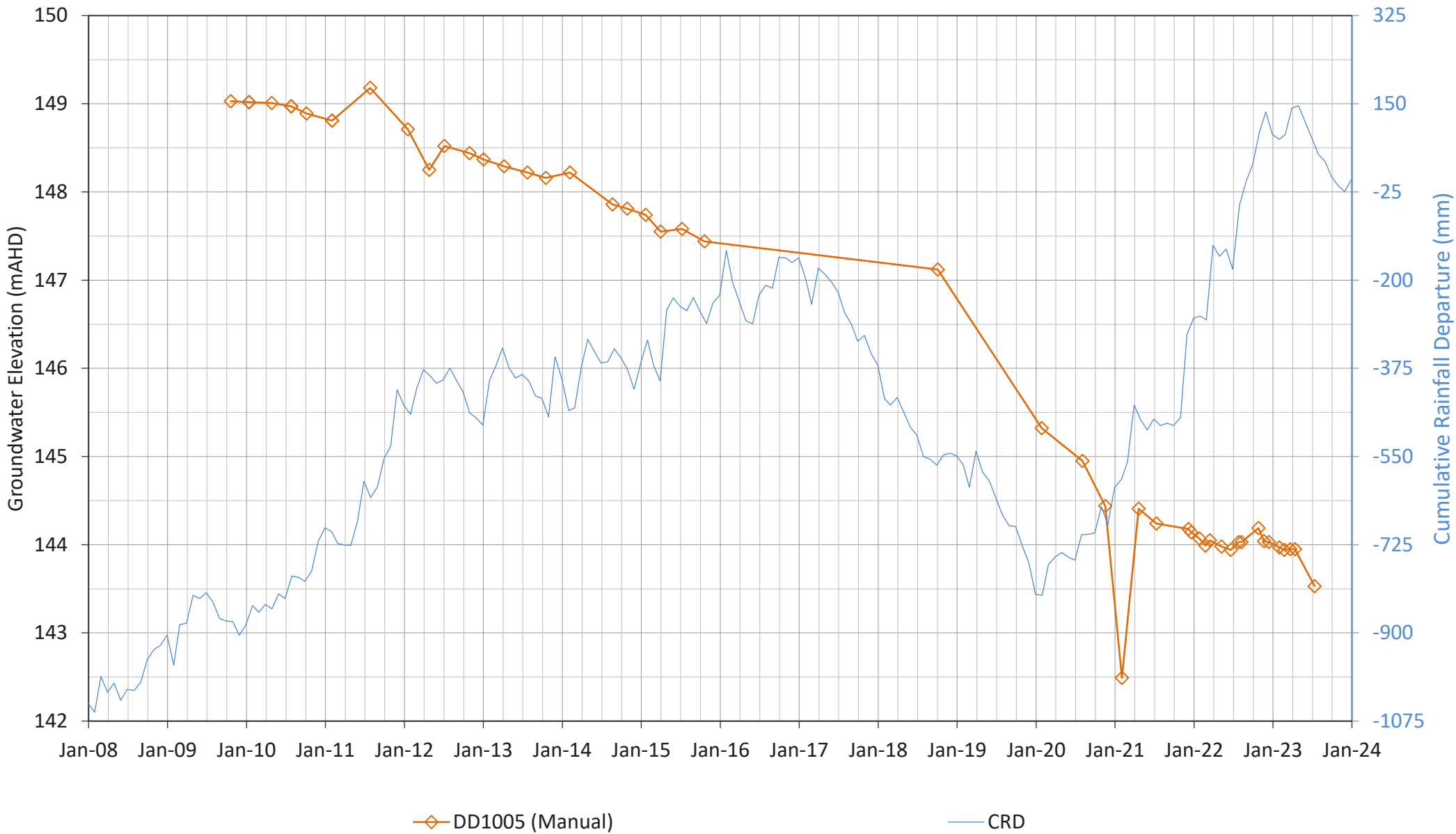


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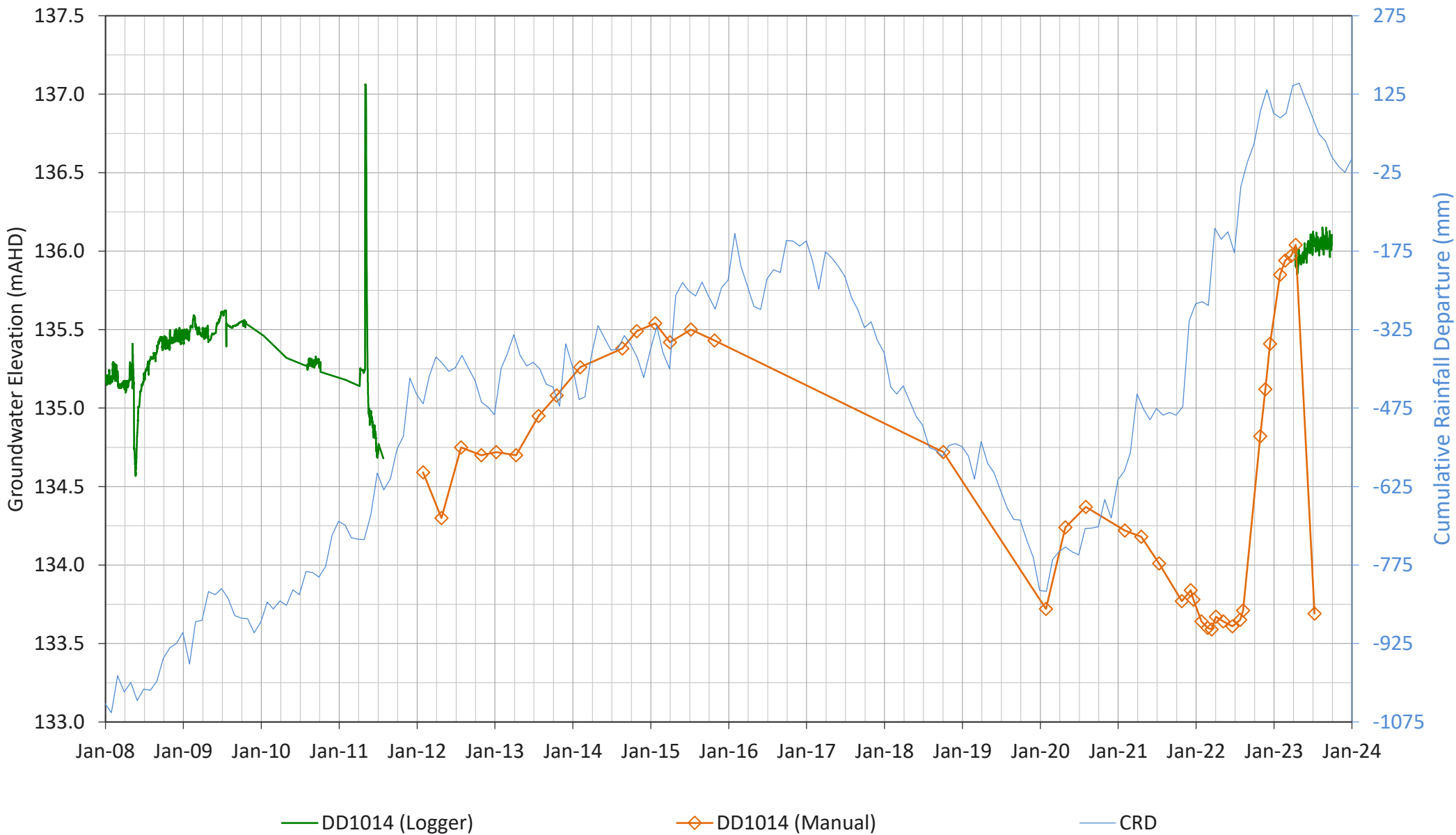
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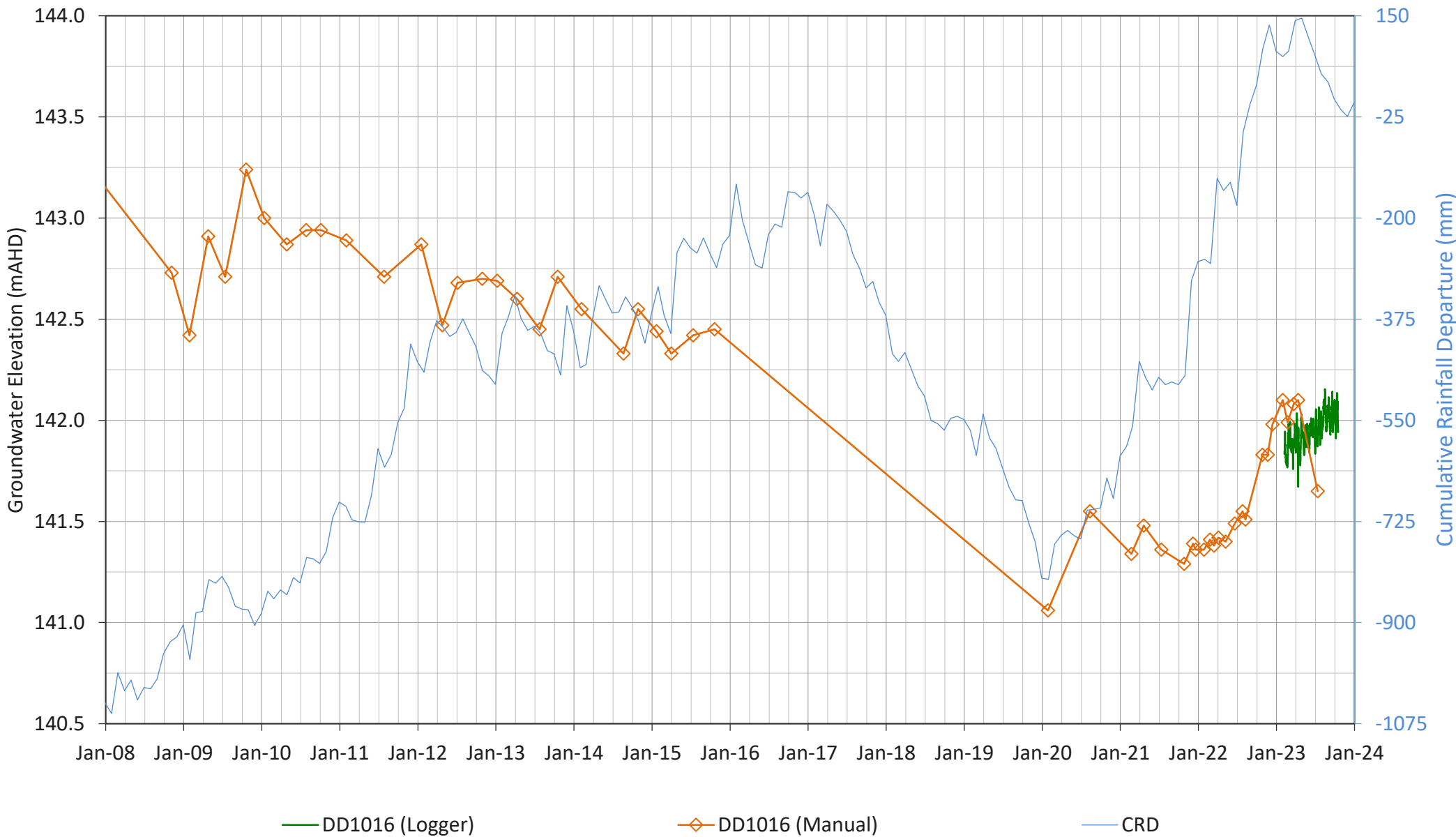
DD1005



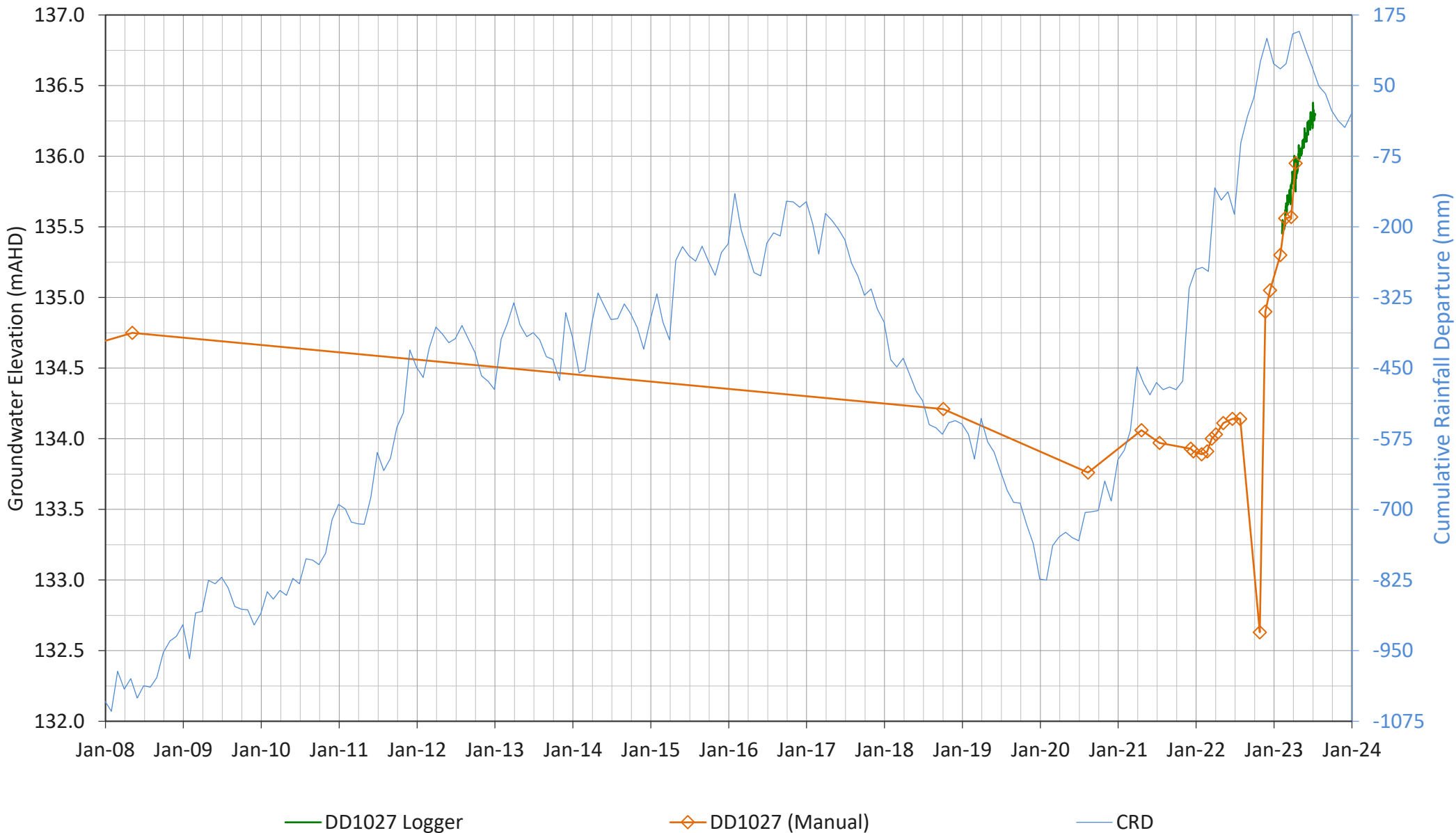
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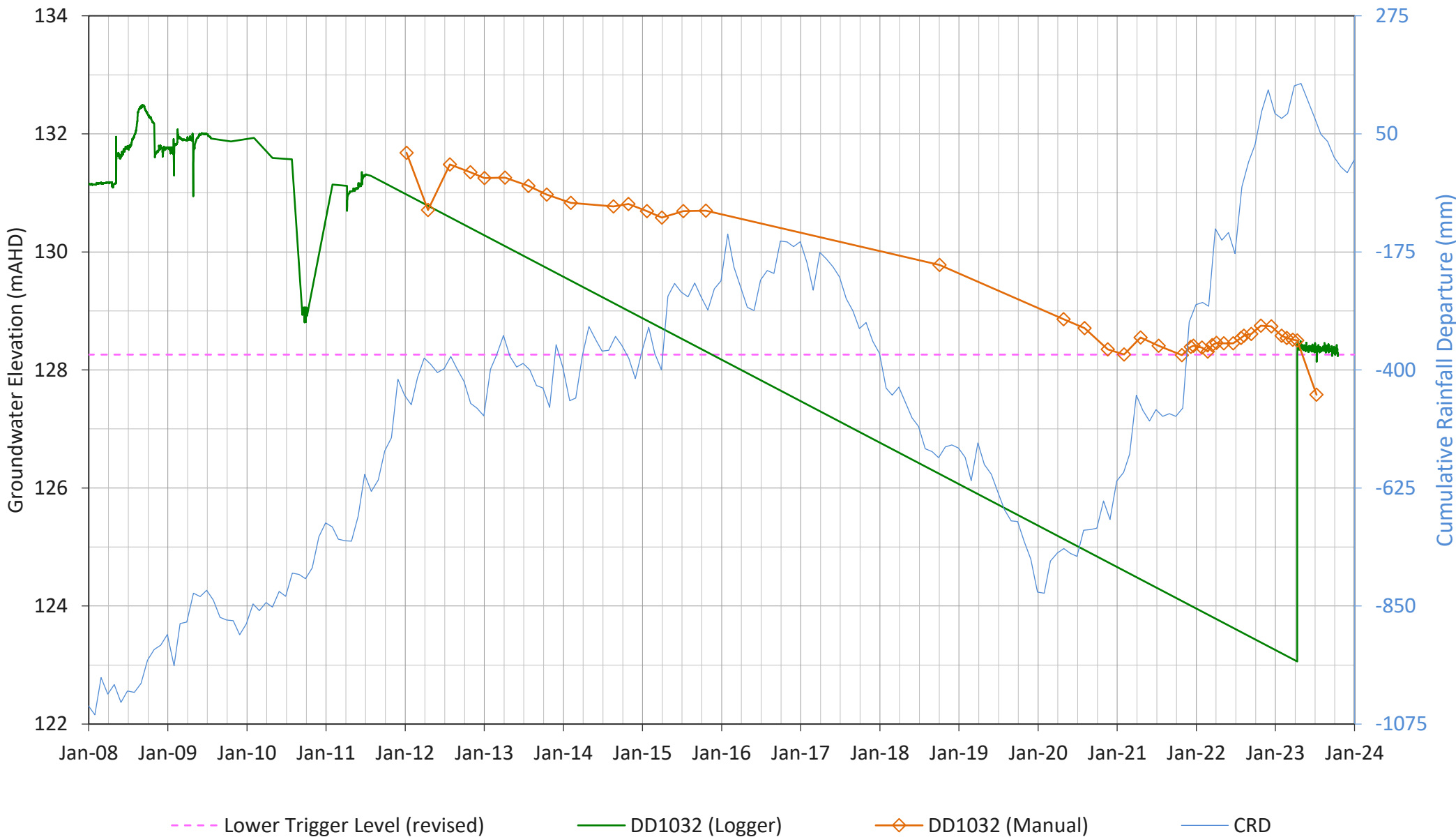
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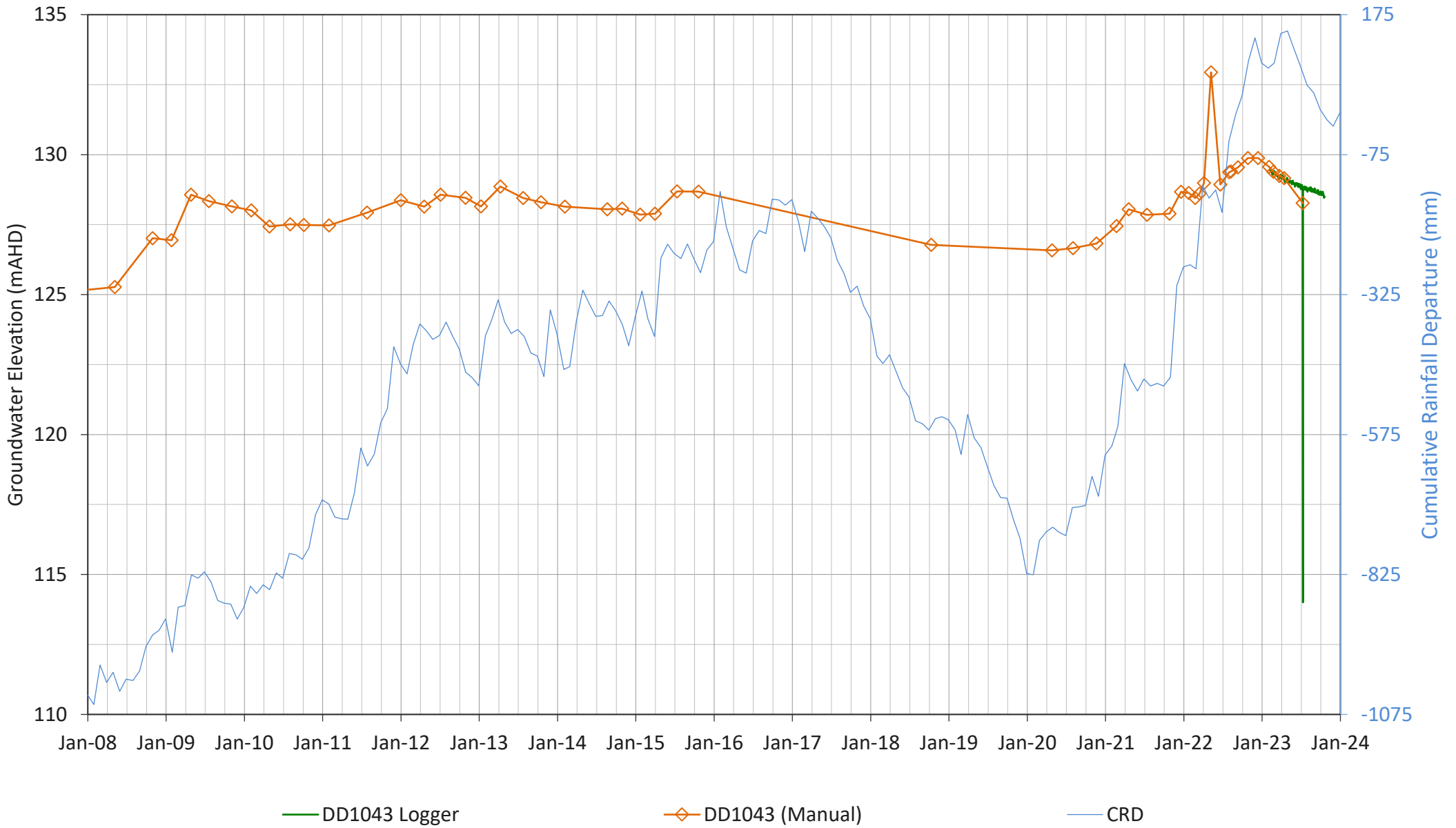
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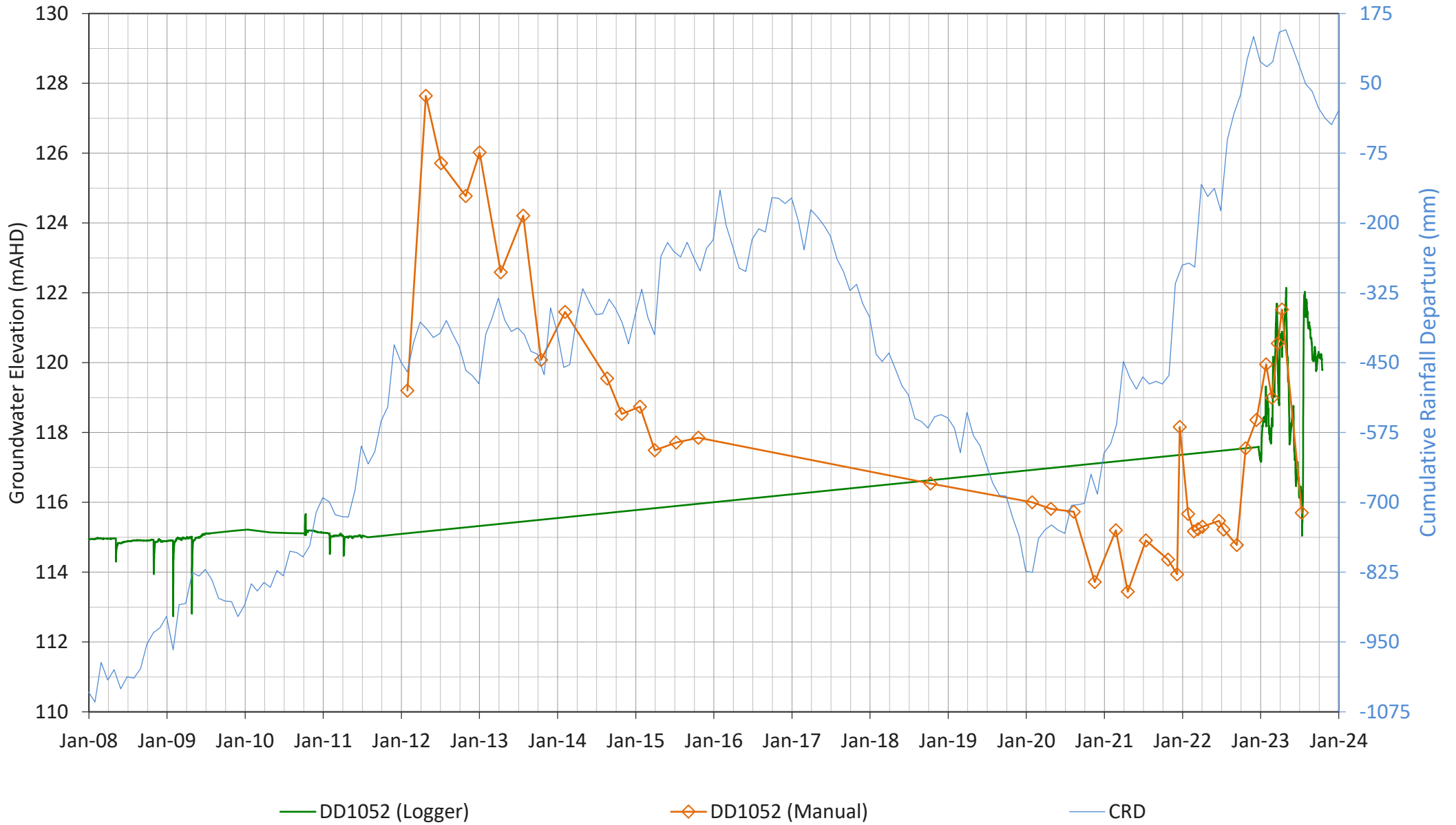
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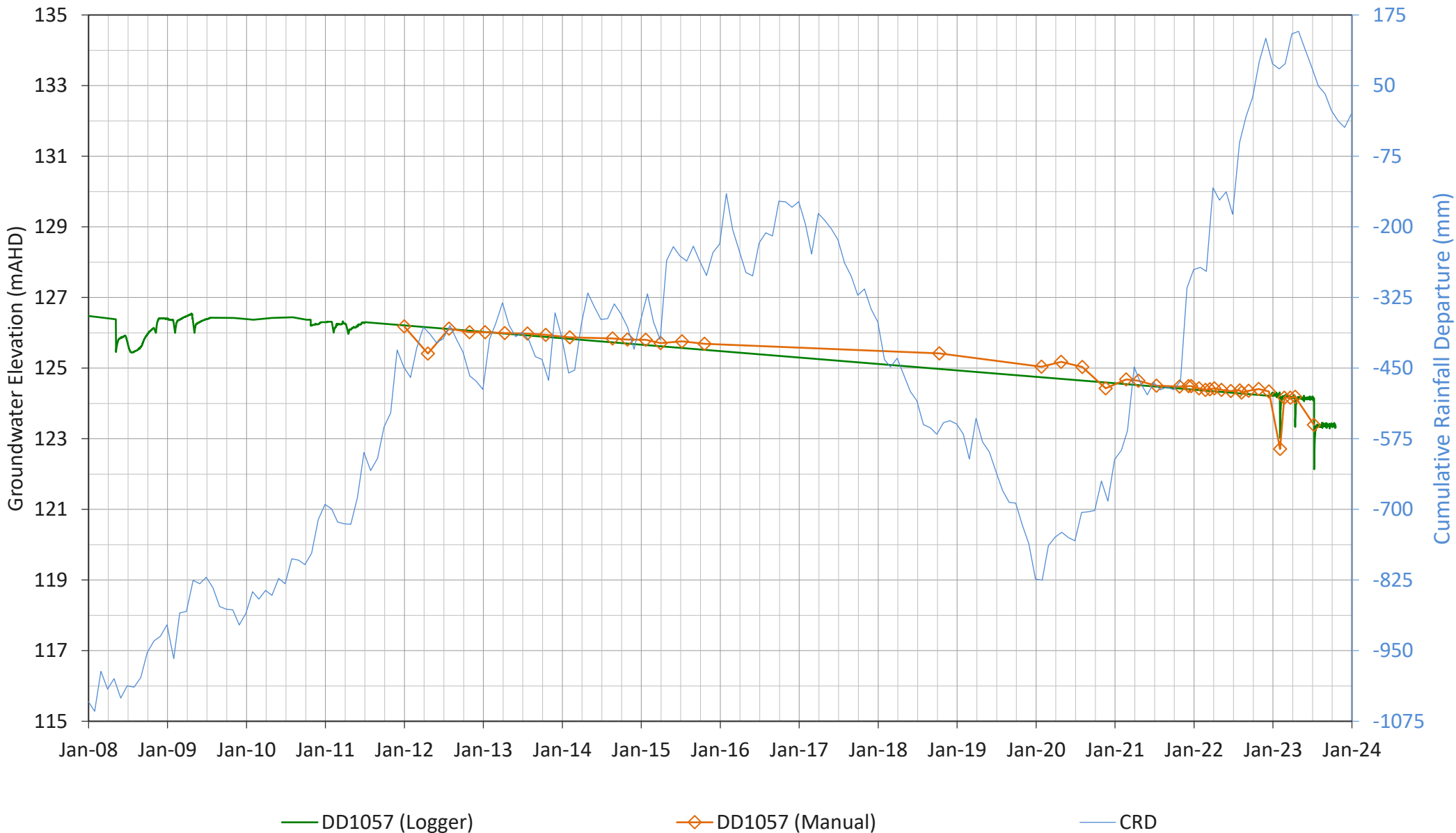
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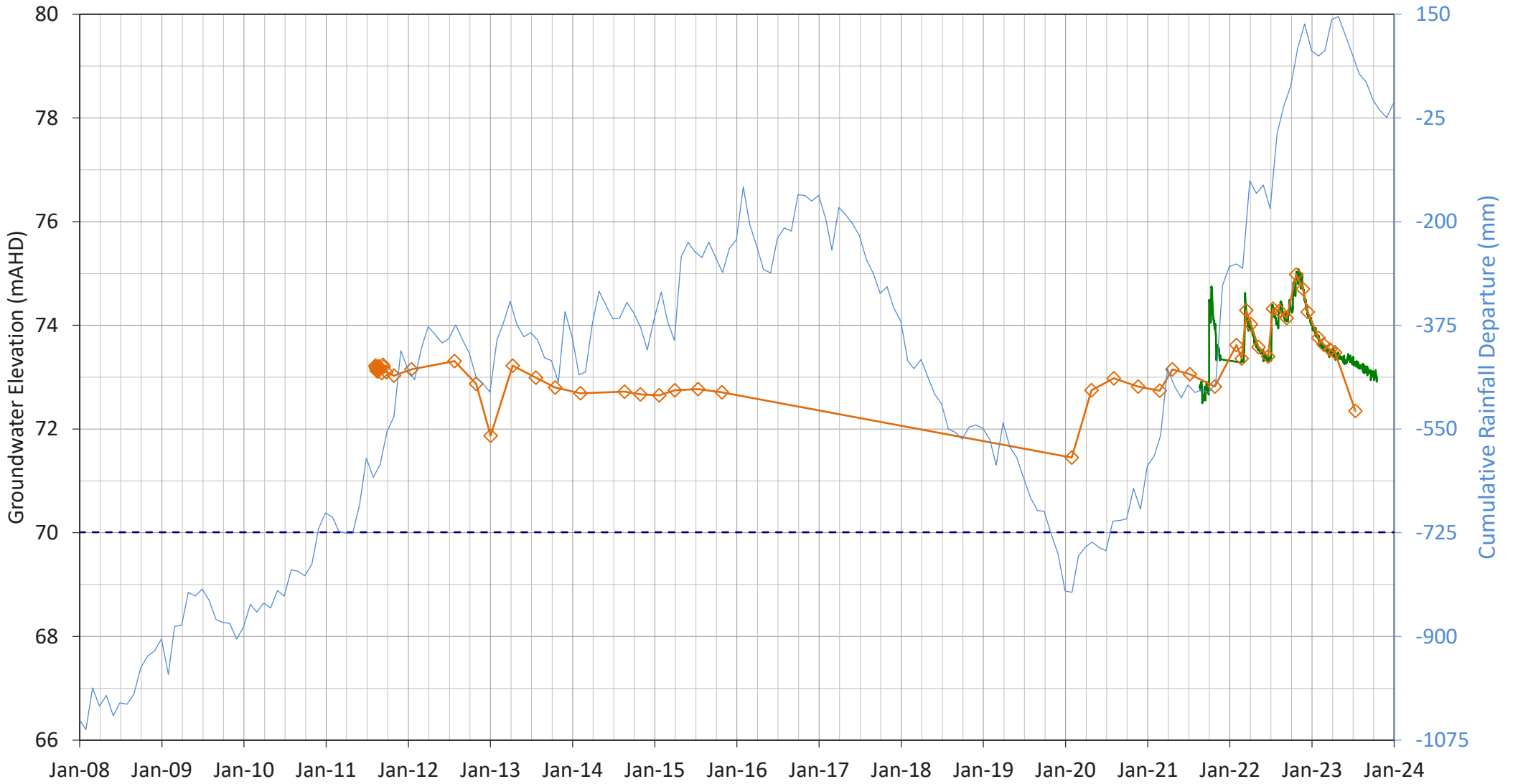
DD1052



DD1057



MB1-Alluvial



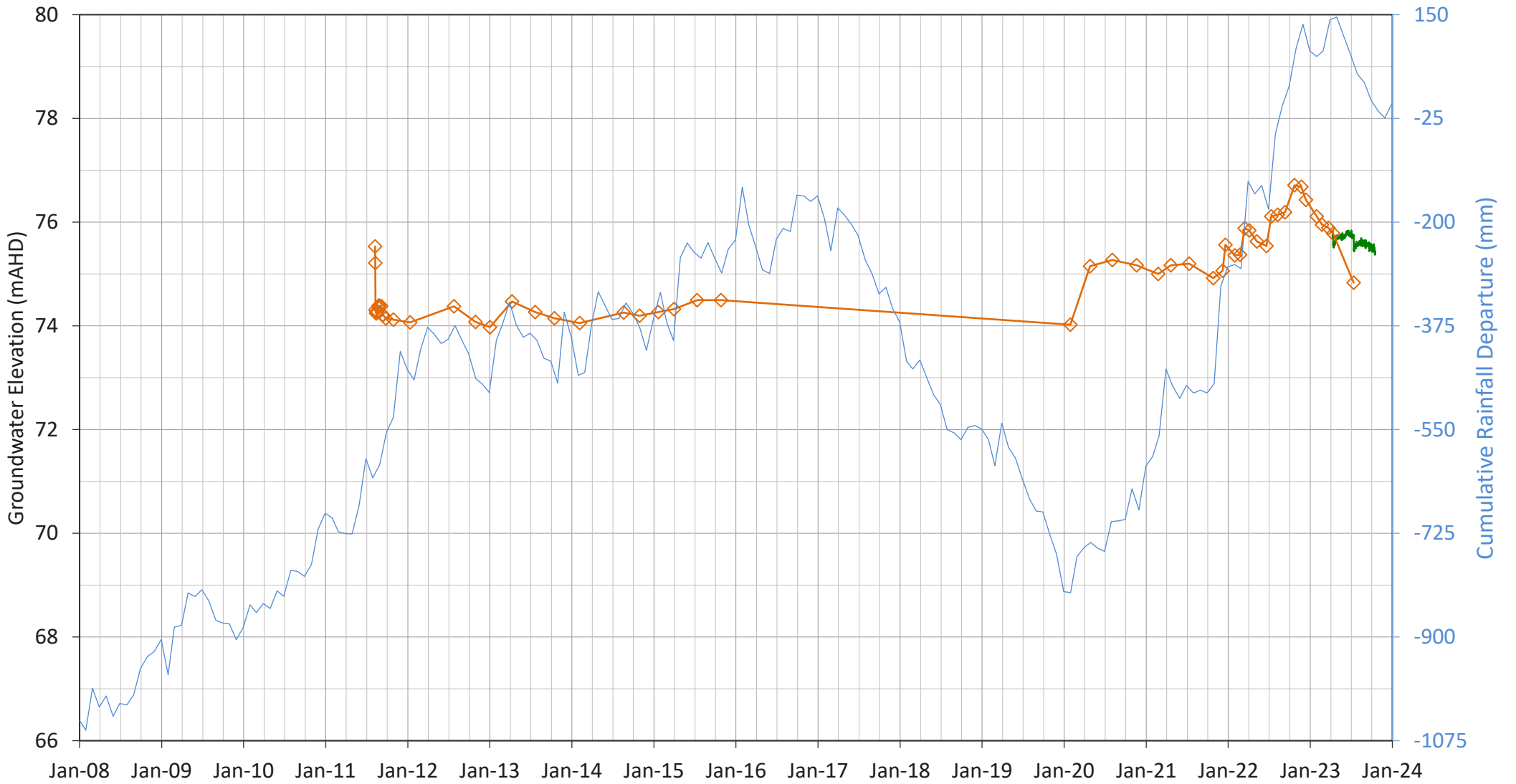
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— MB1-Alluvial (Logger)

—◇— MB1-Alluvial (Manual)

— CRD

MB1-Redbank

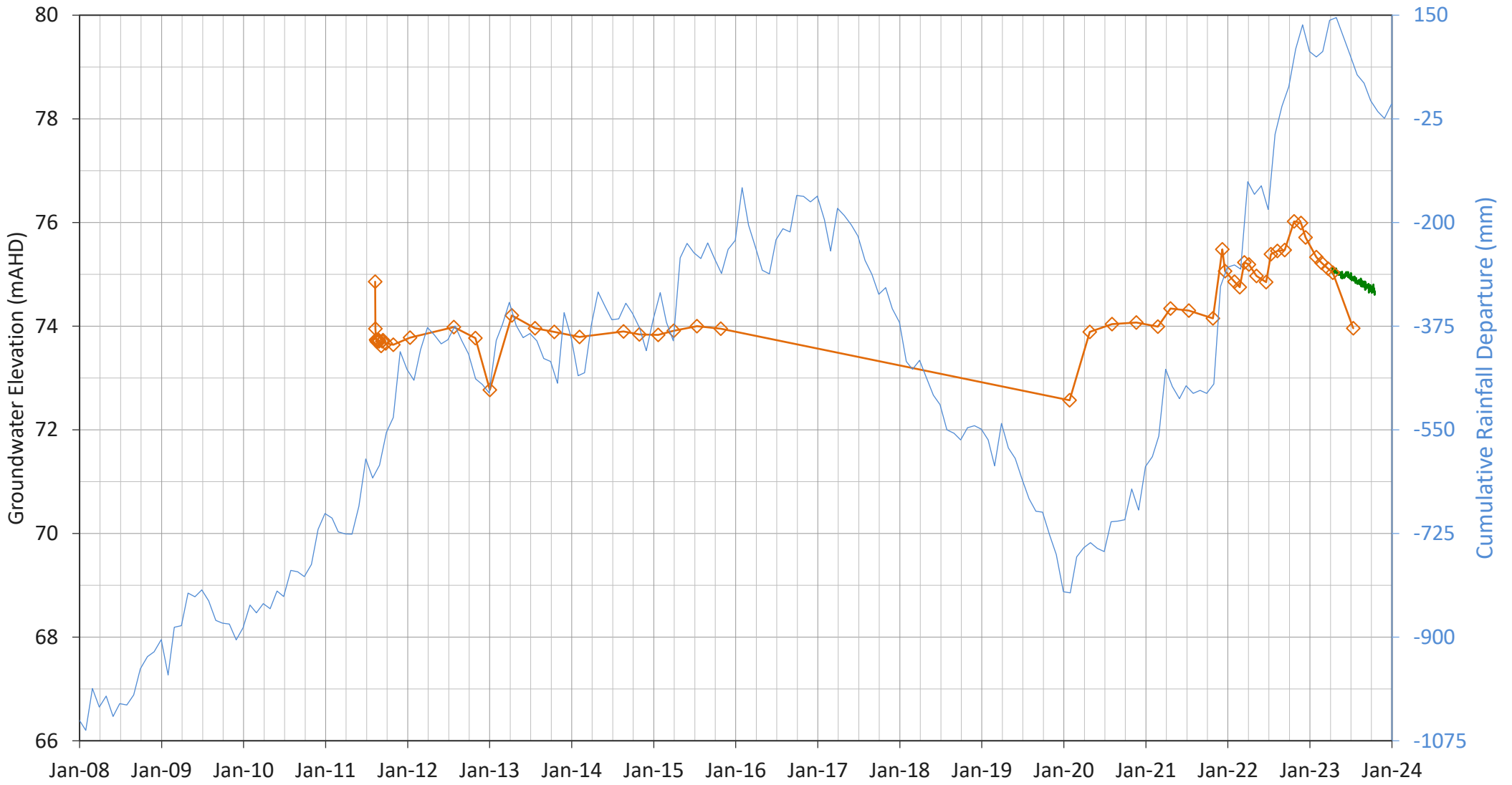


— MB1-Redbank (Logger)

—◇— MB1-Redbank (Manual)

— CRD

MB1-Whybrow

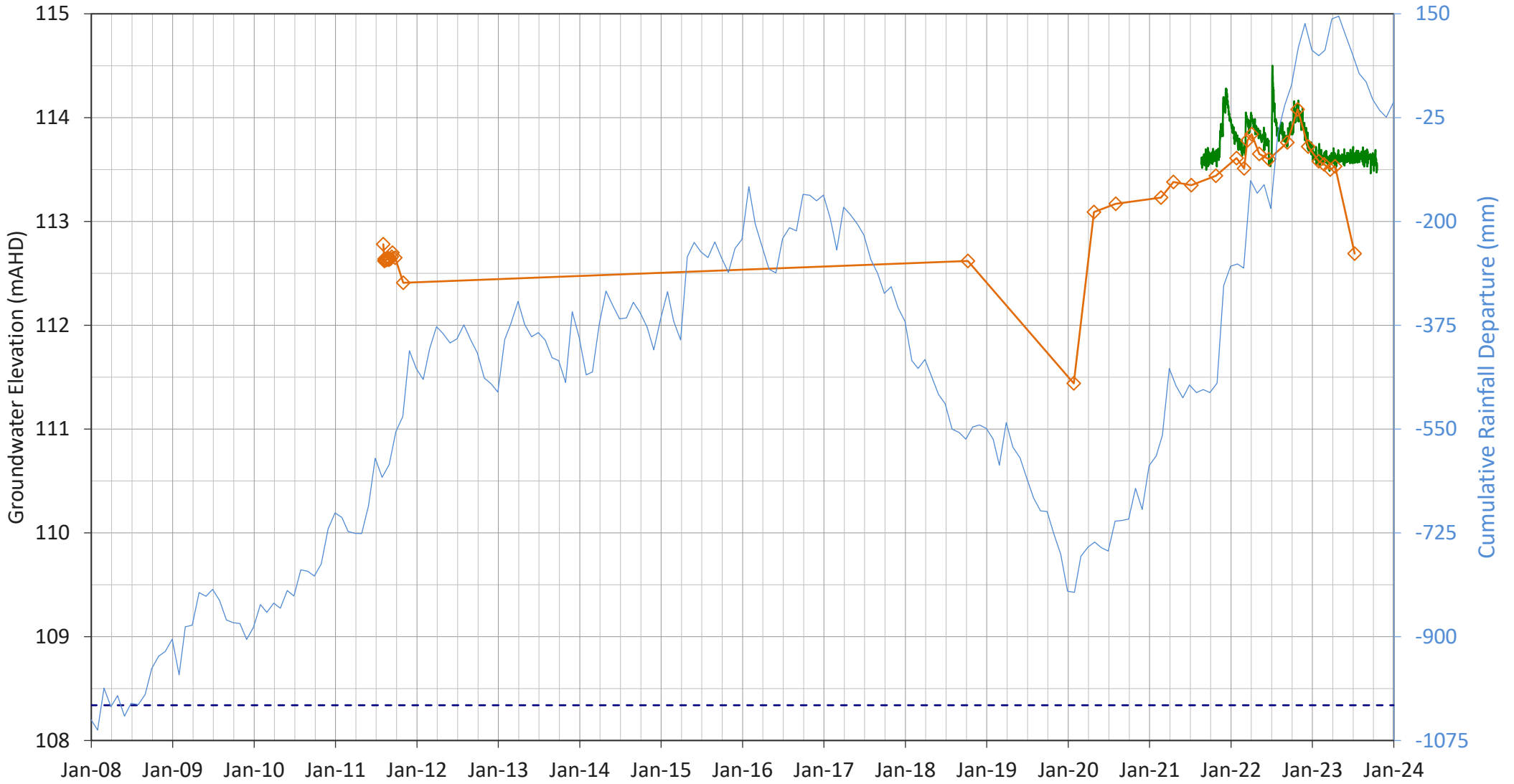


— MB1-Whybrow (Logger)

—◇— MB1-Whybrow (Manual)

— CRD

MB2-Alluvial



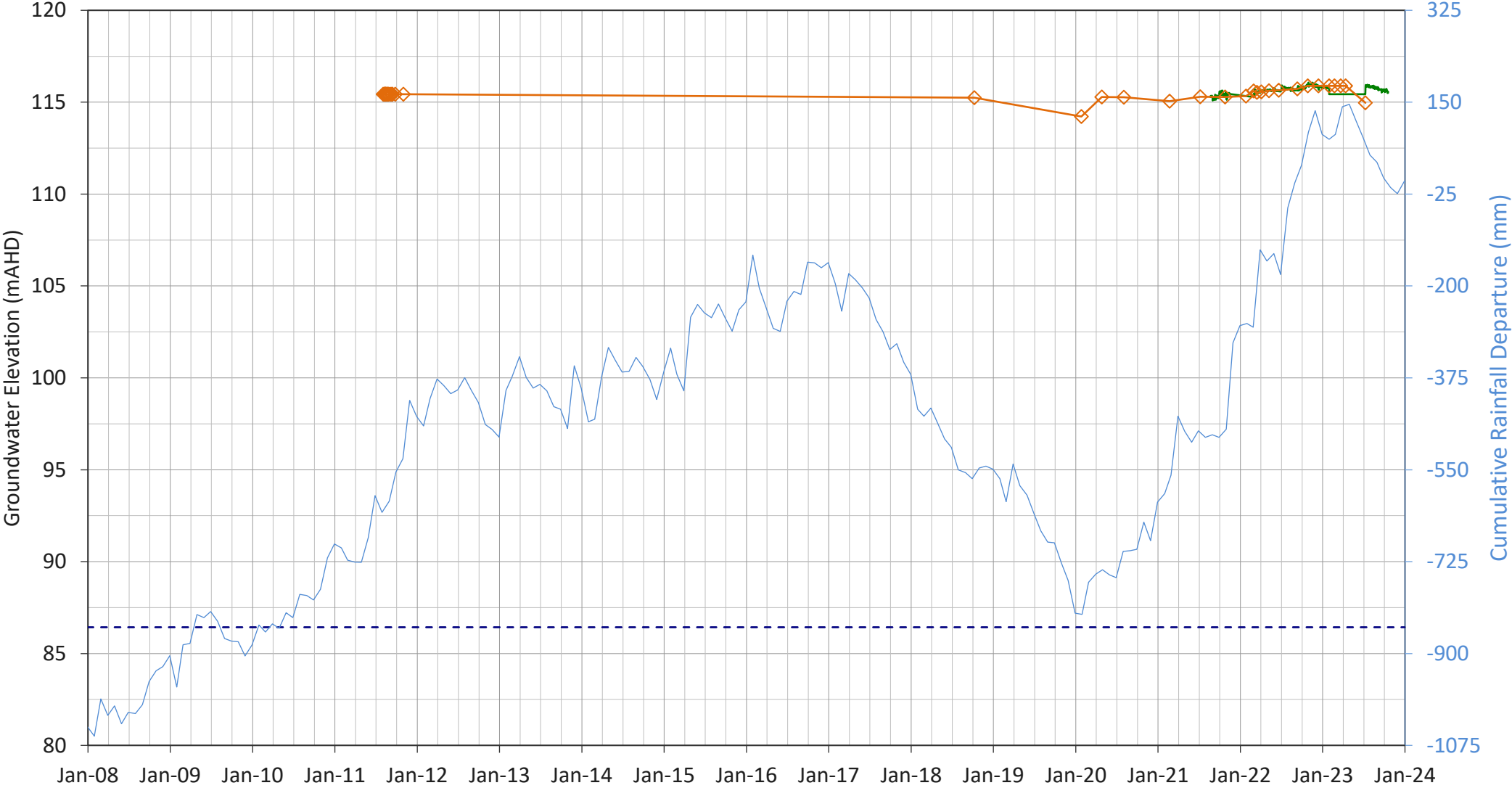
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— MB2-Alluvial (Logger)

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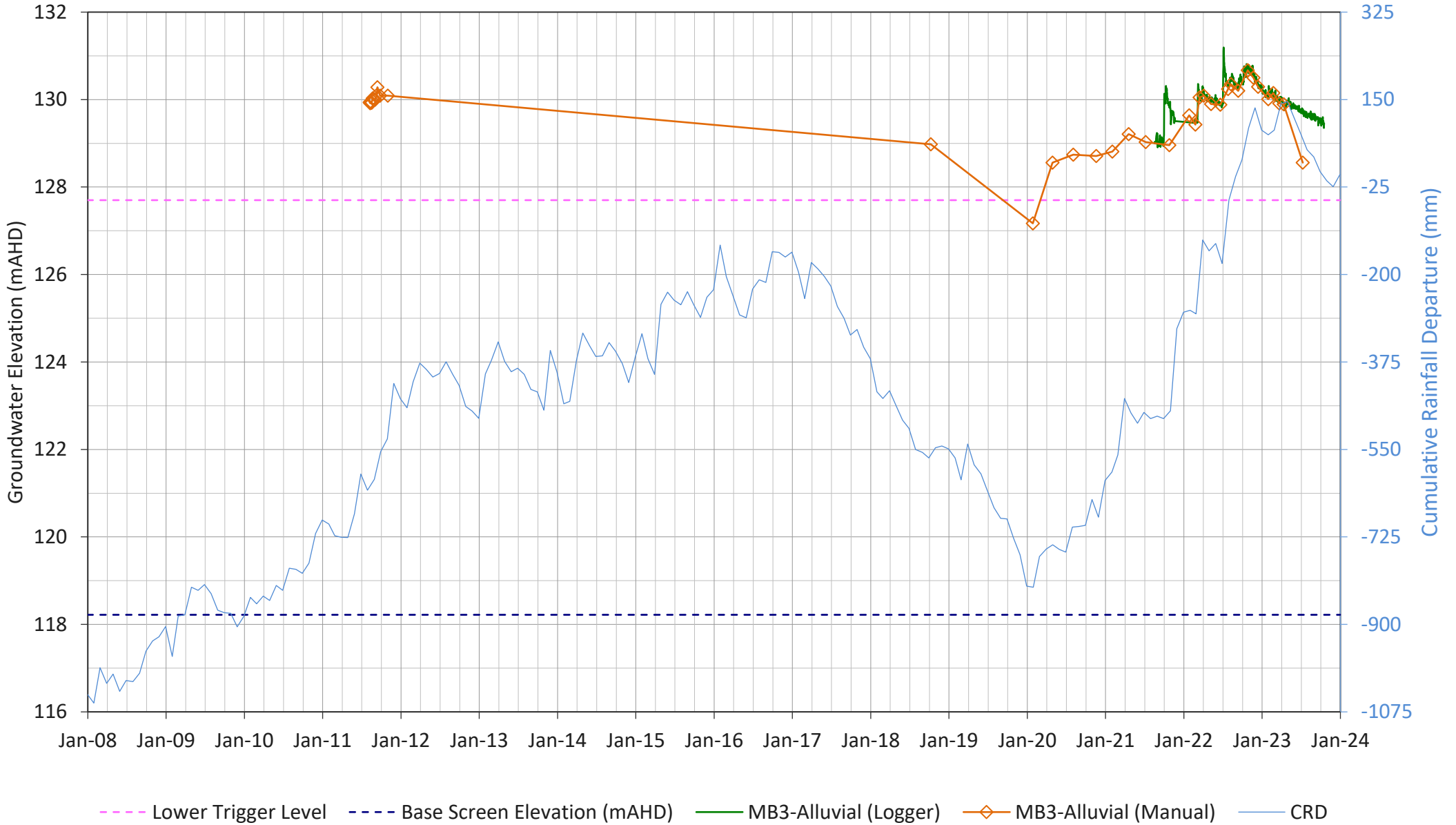
— CRD

MB2-Regolith

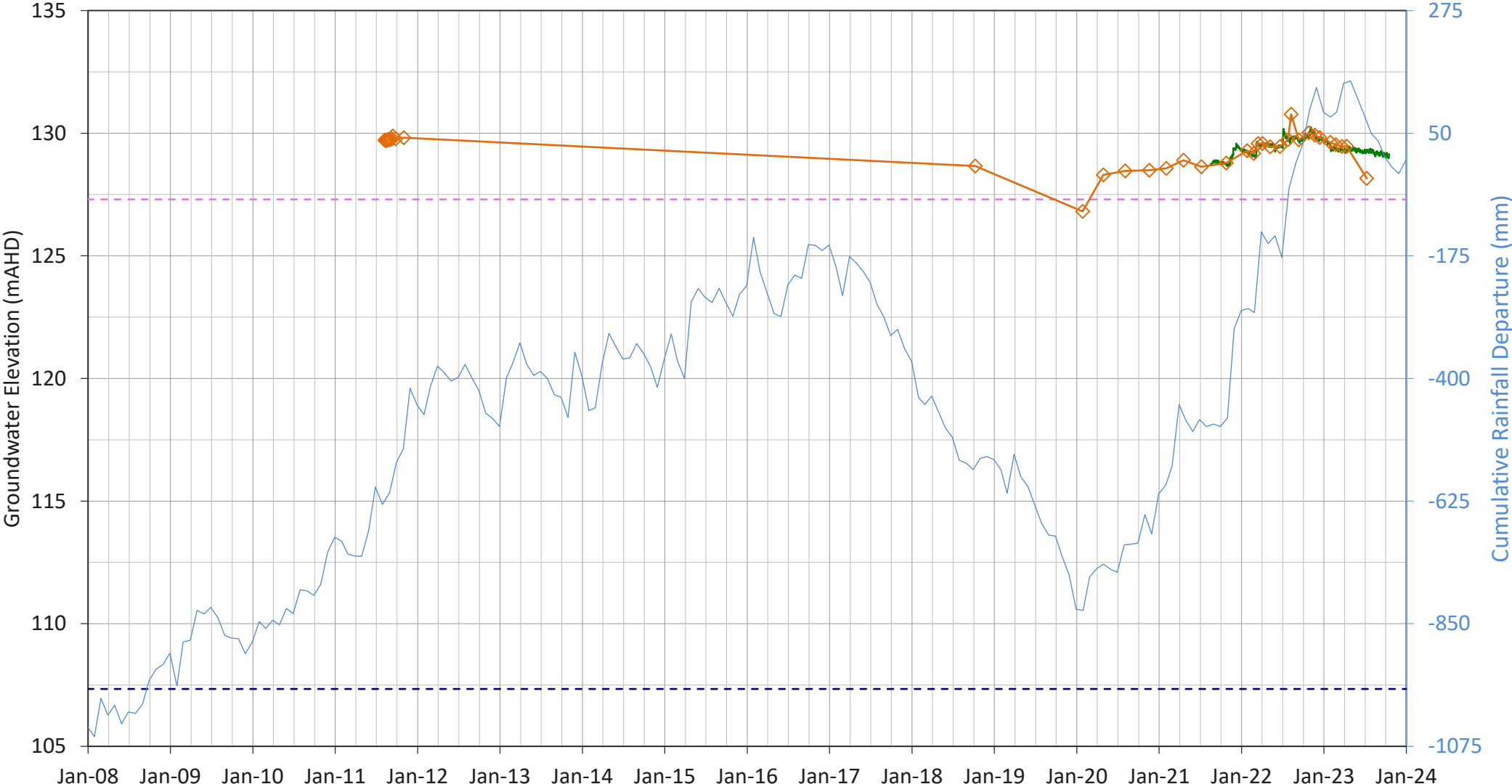


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MB3-Alluvial

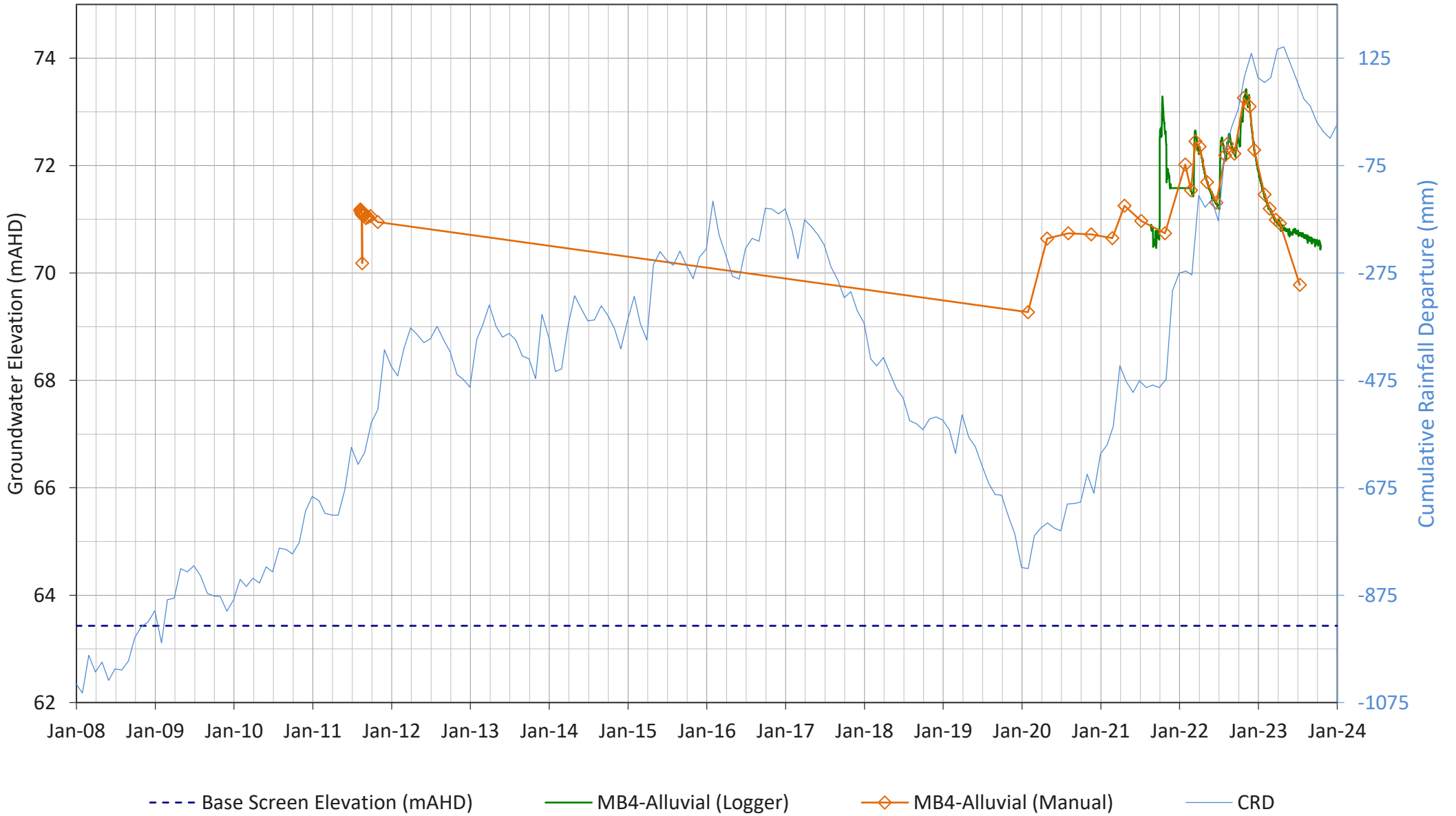


MB3-Regolith

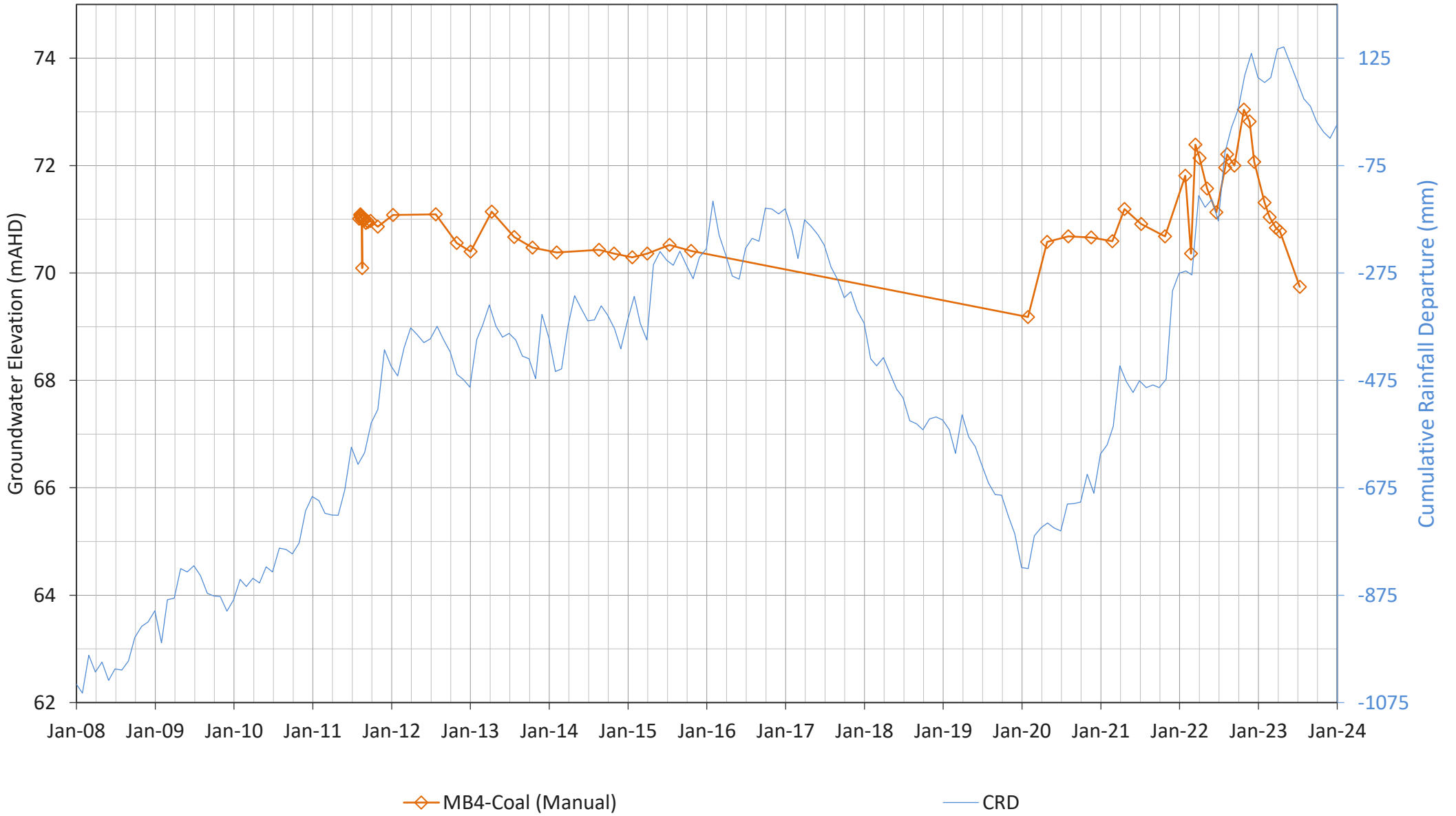


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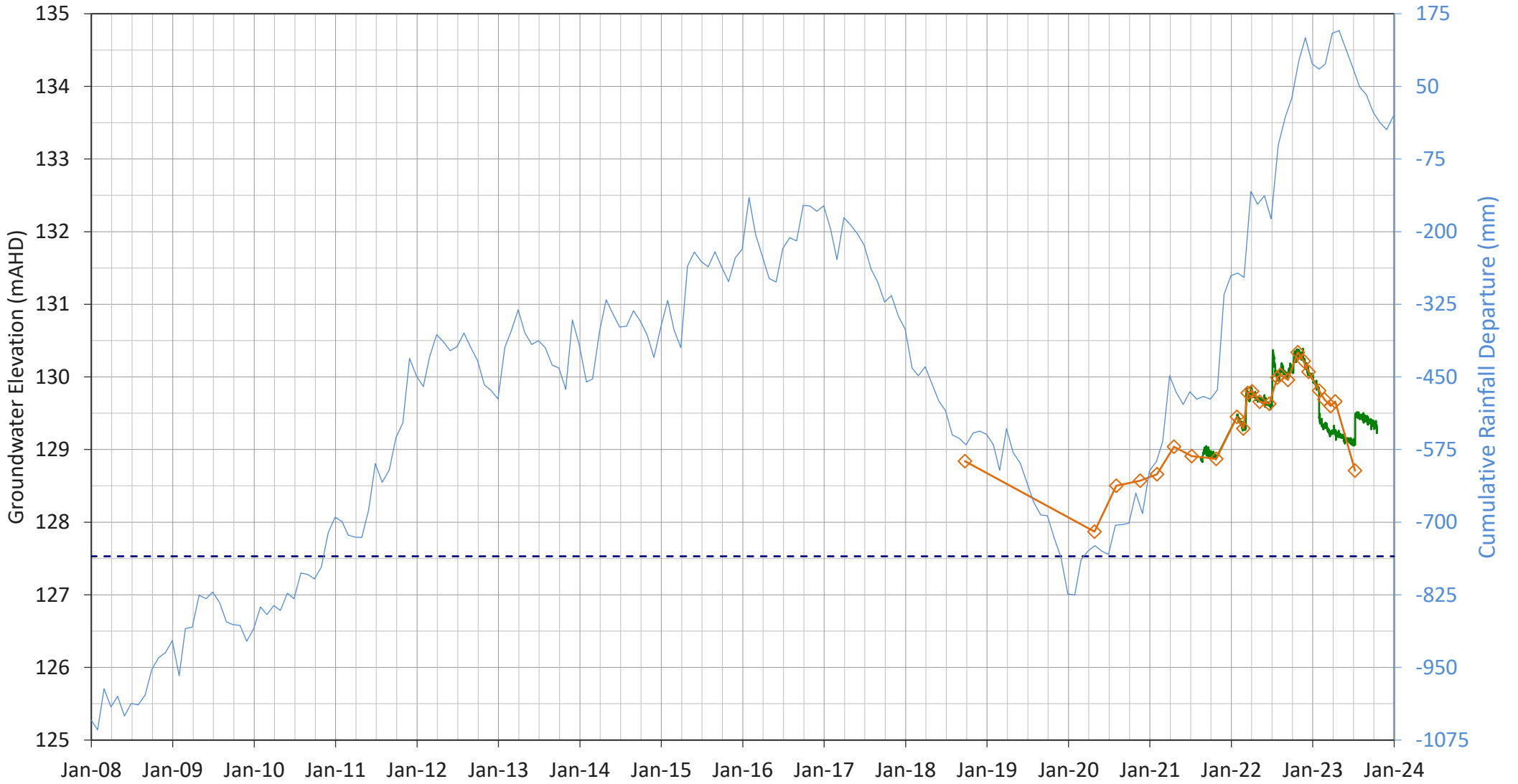
MB4-Alluvial



MB4-Coal



MW1



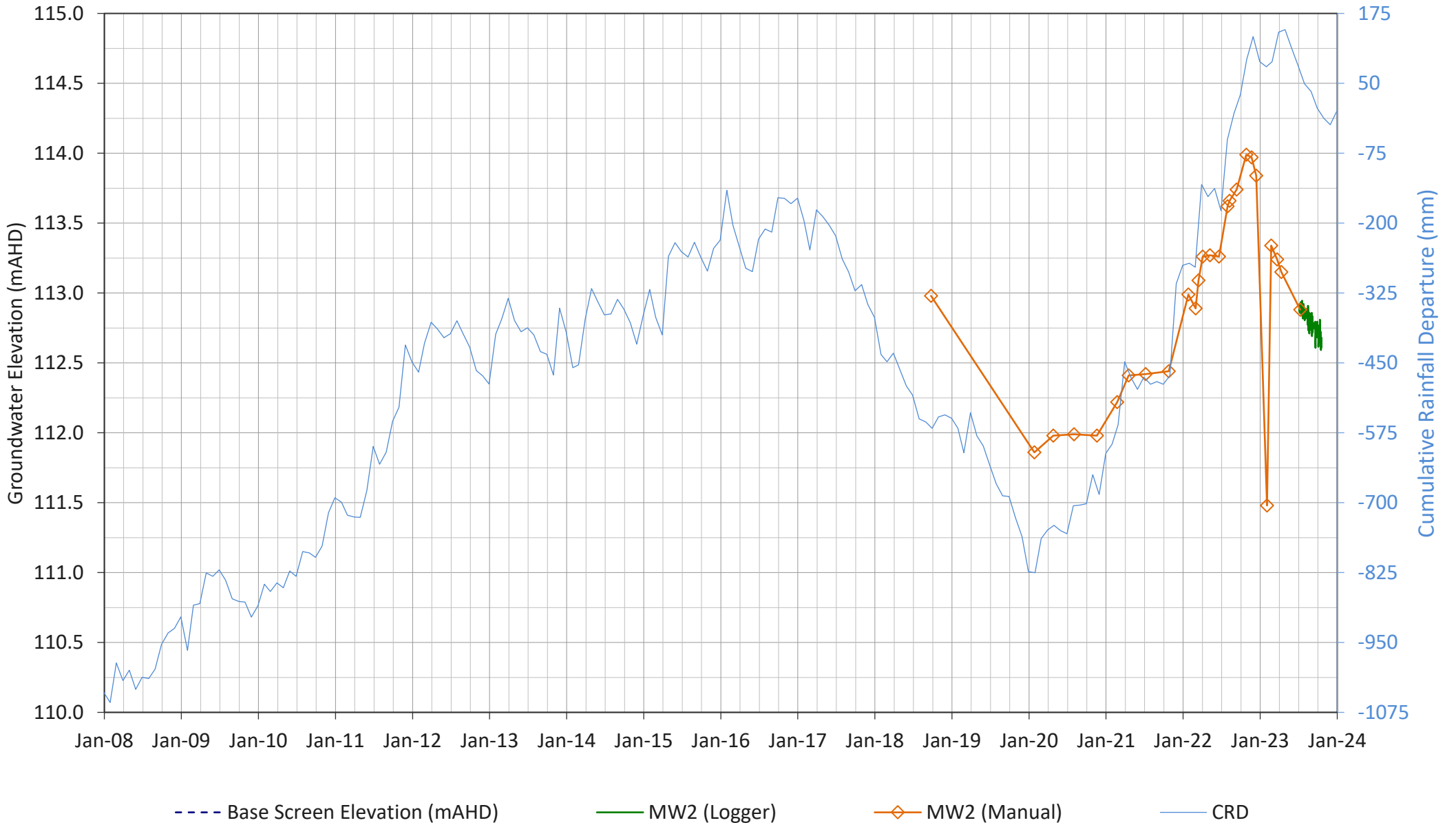
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— MW1 (Logger)

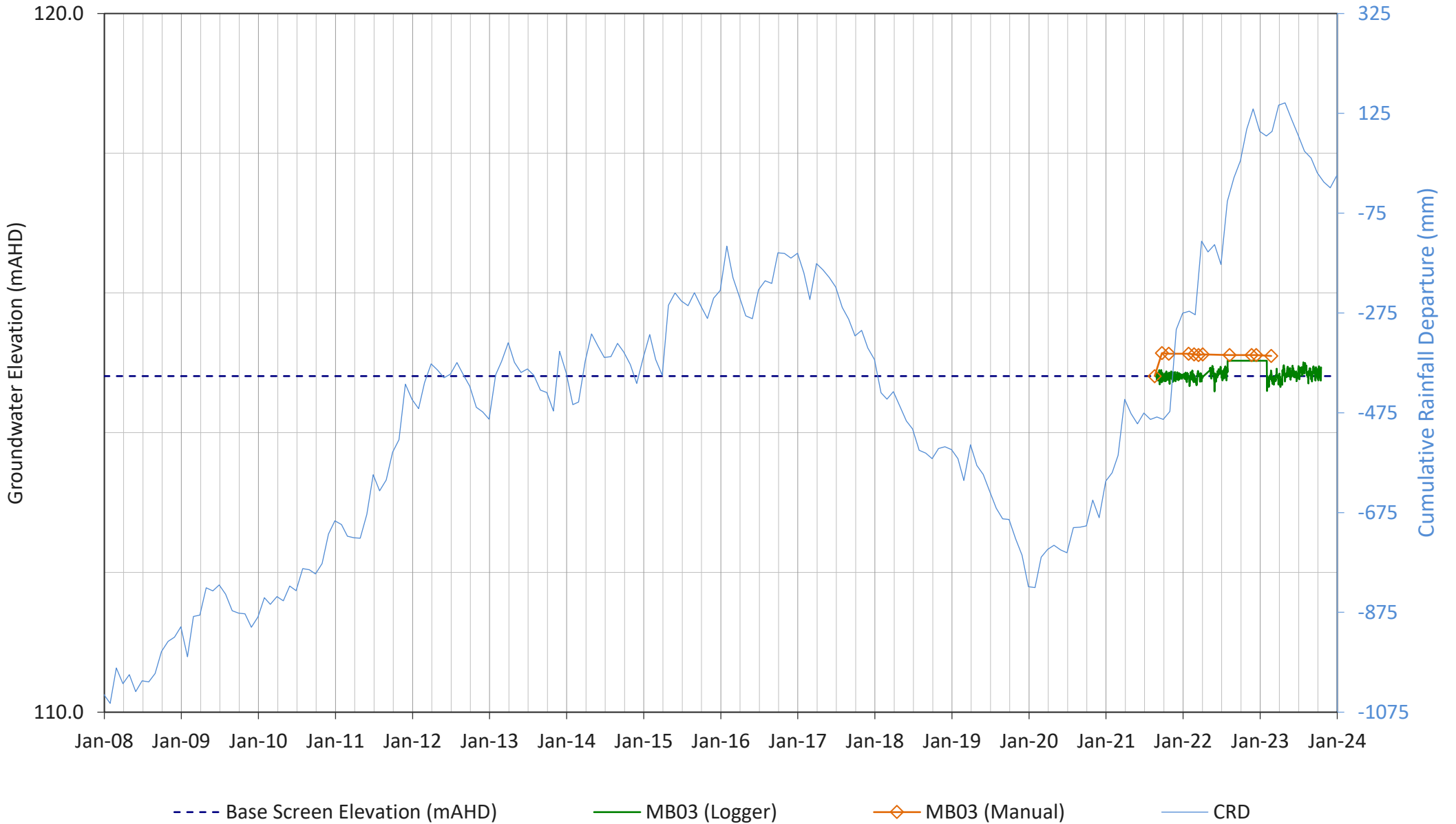
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— CRD

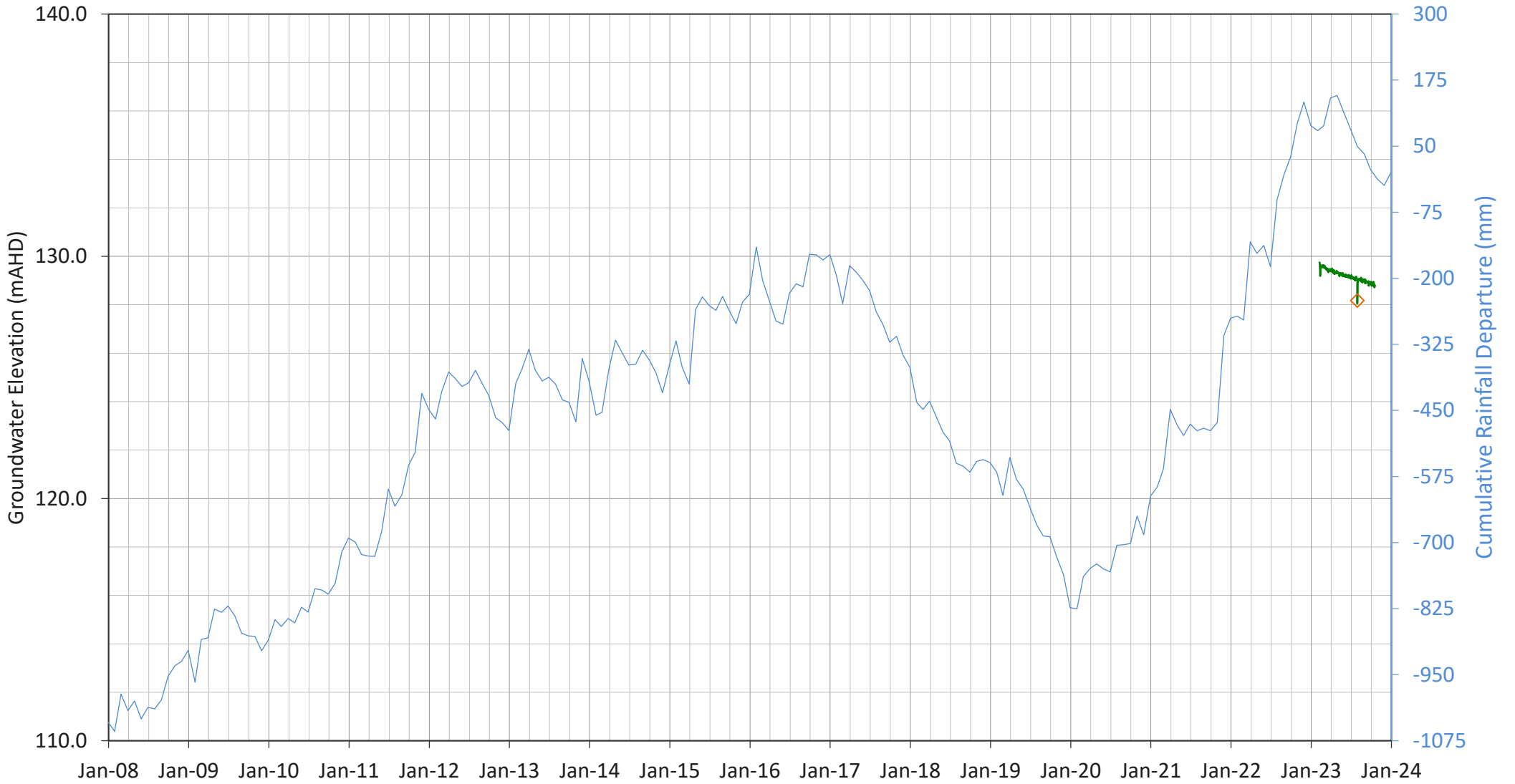
MW2



MB03



MB04

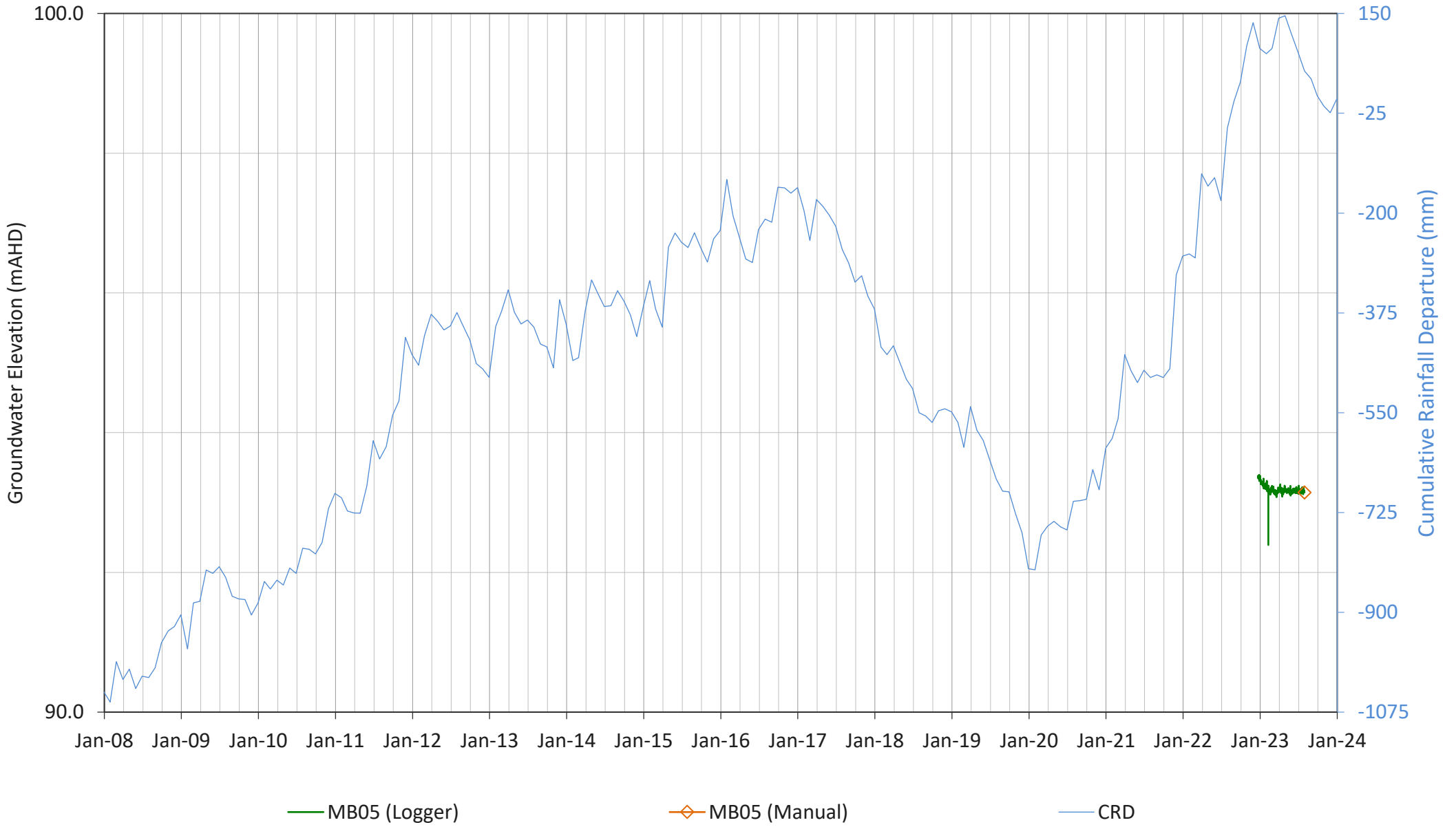


— MB04 (Logger)

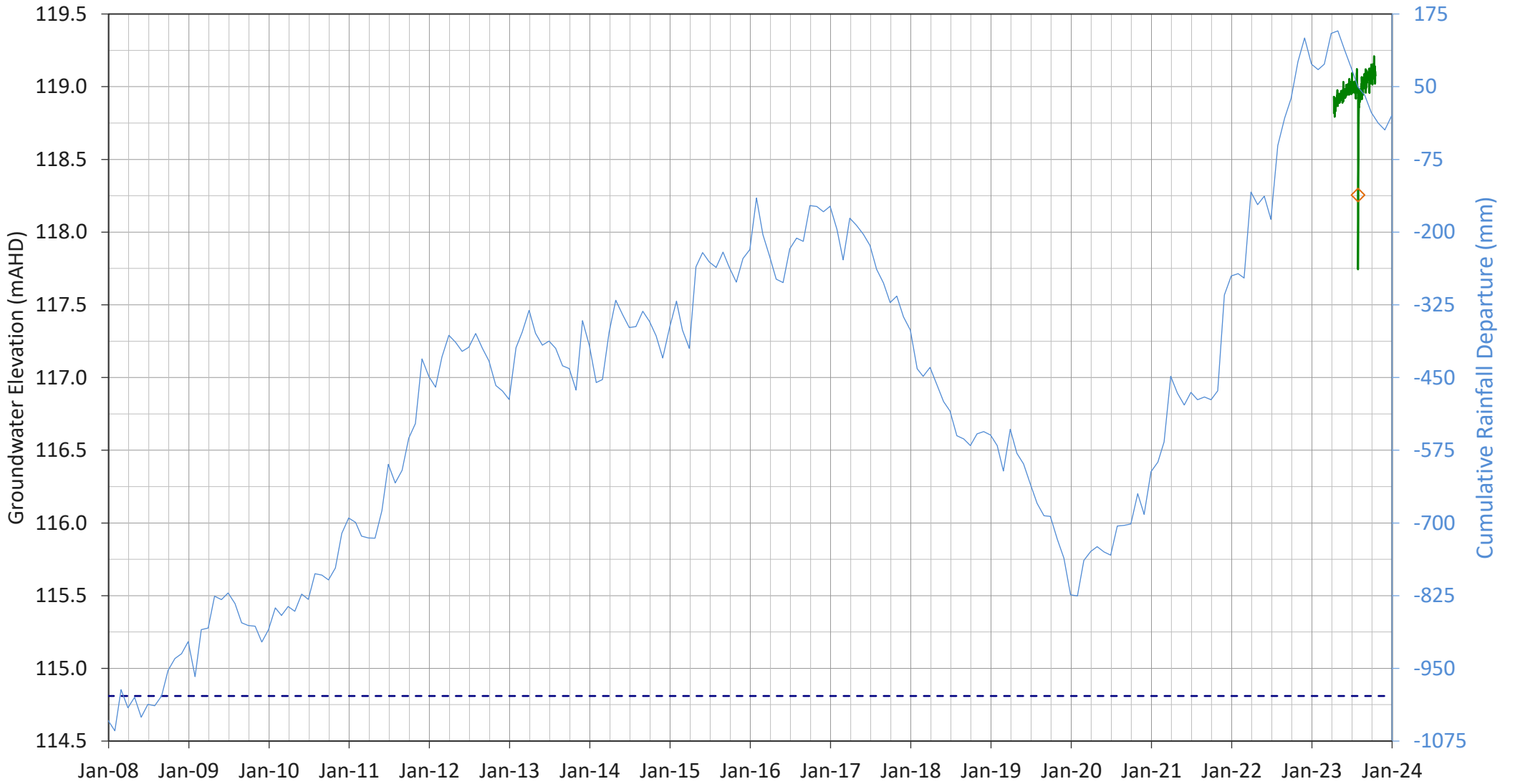
◇ MB04 (Manual)

— CRD

MB05



MB06S



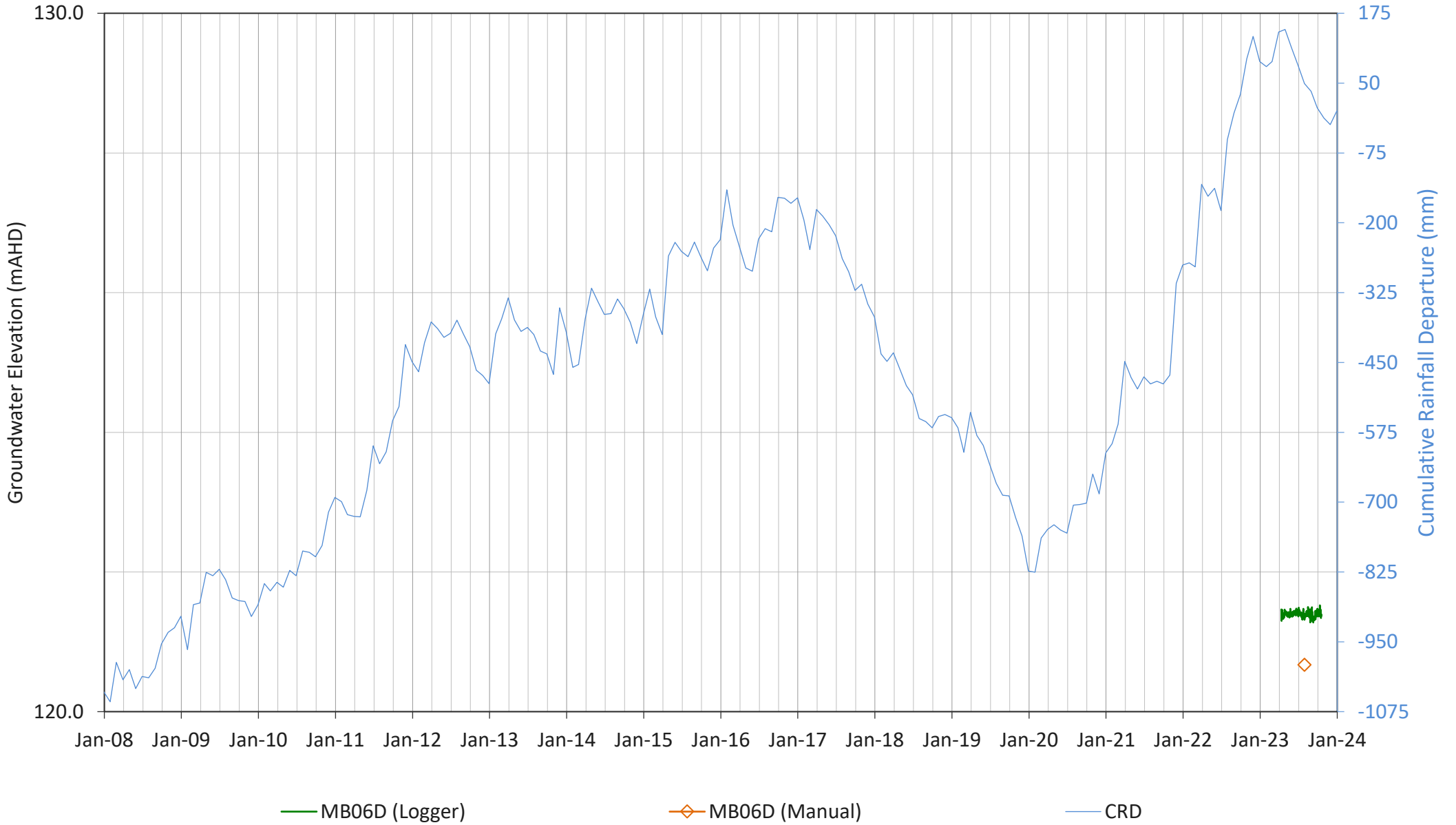
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— MB06S (Logger)

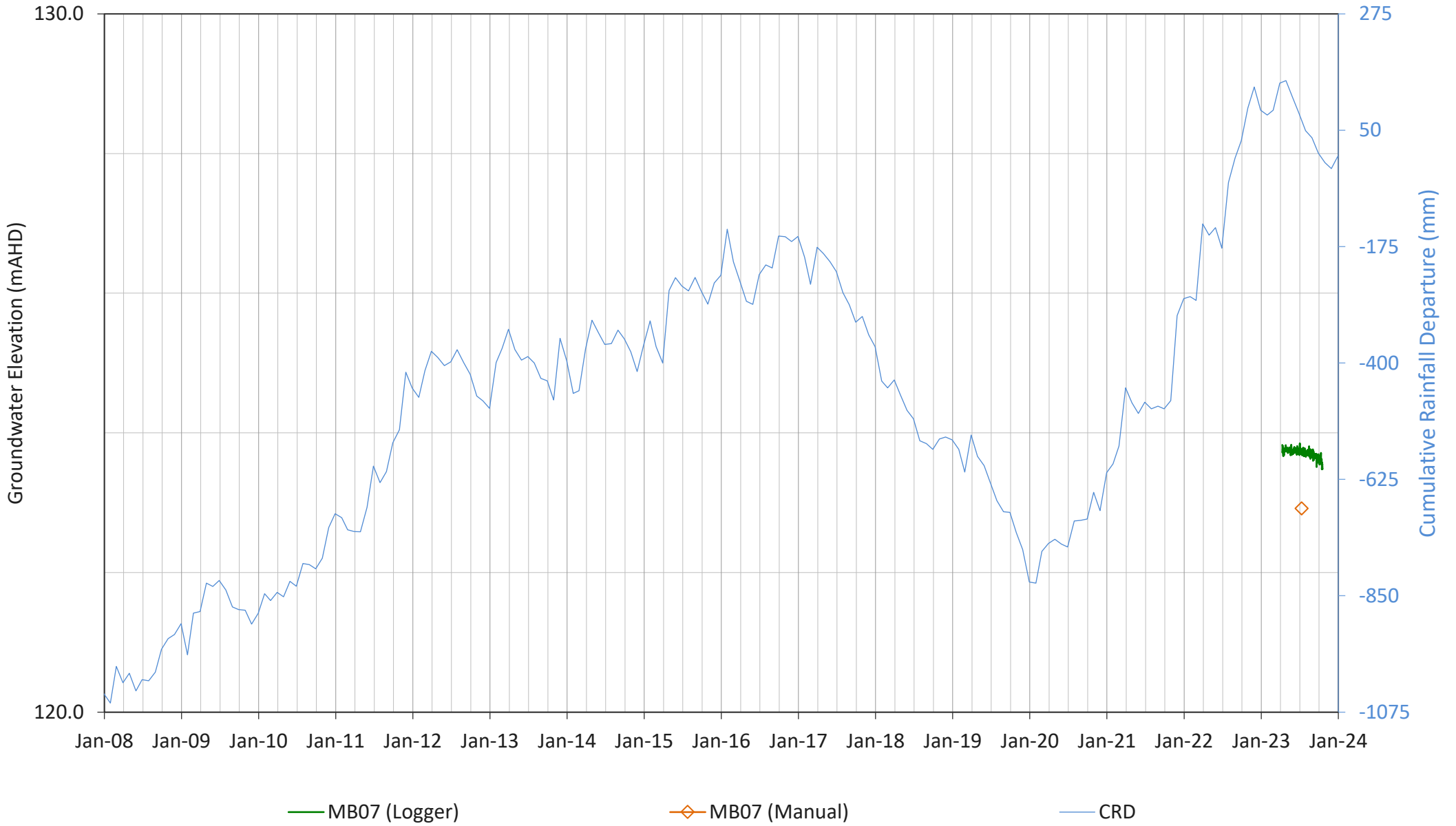
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— CRD

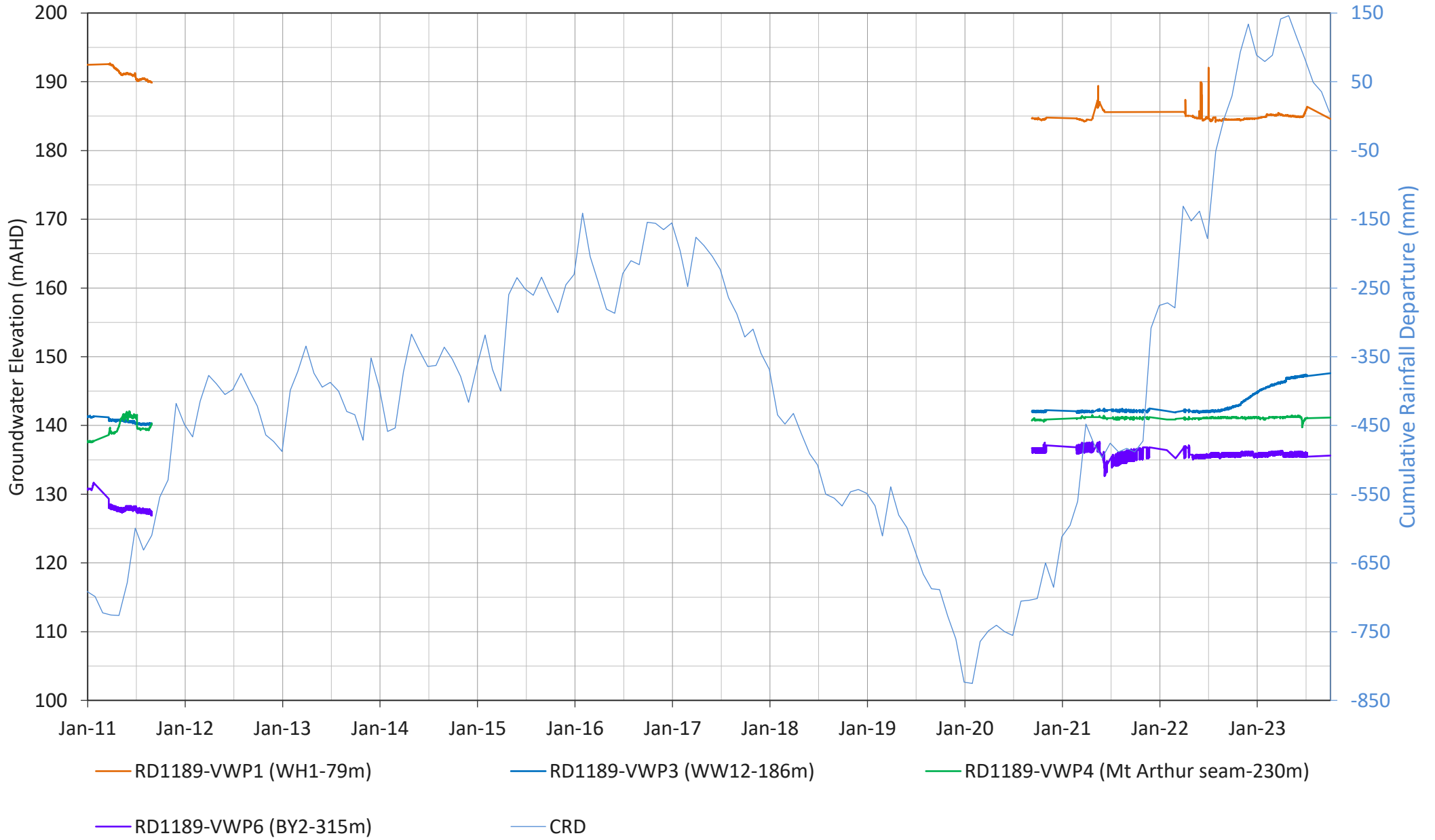
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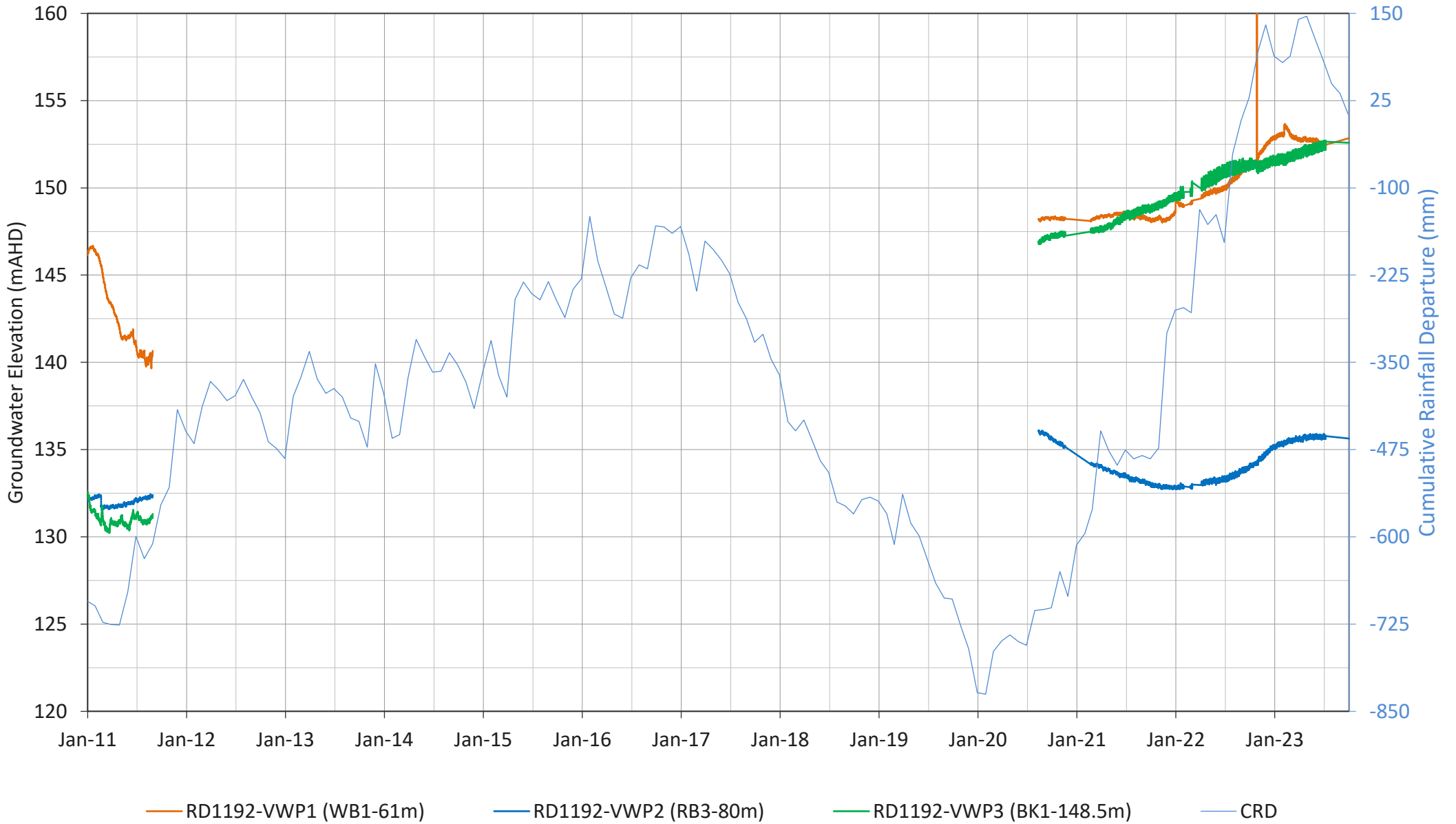
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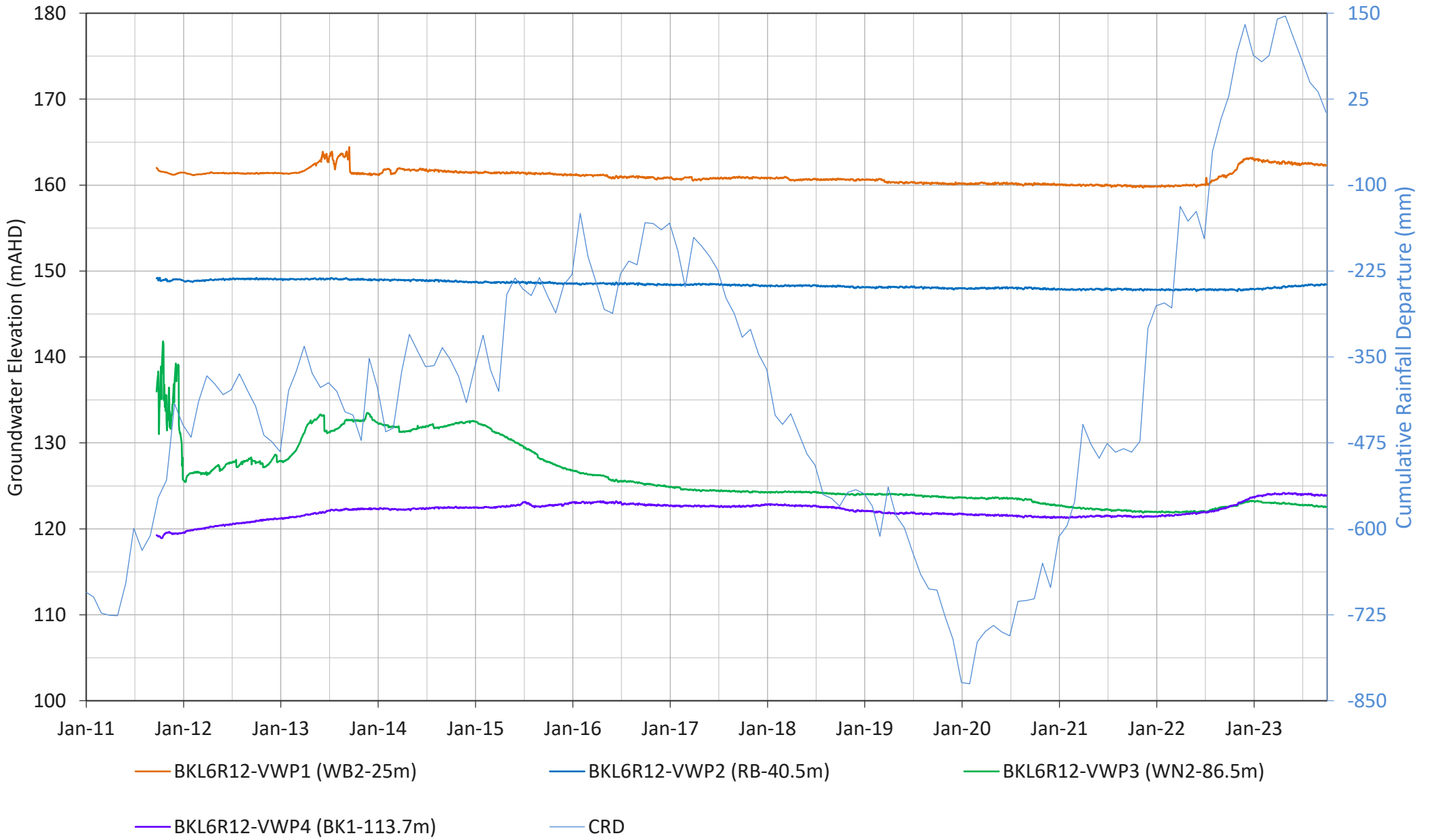
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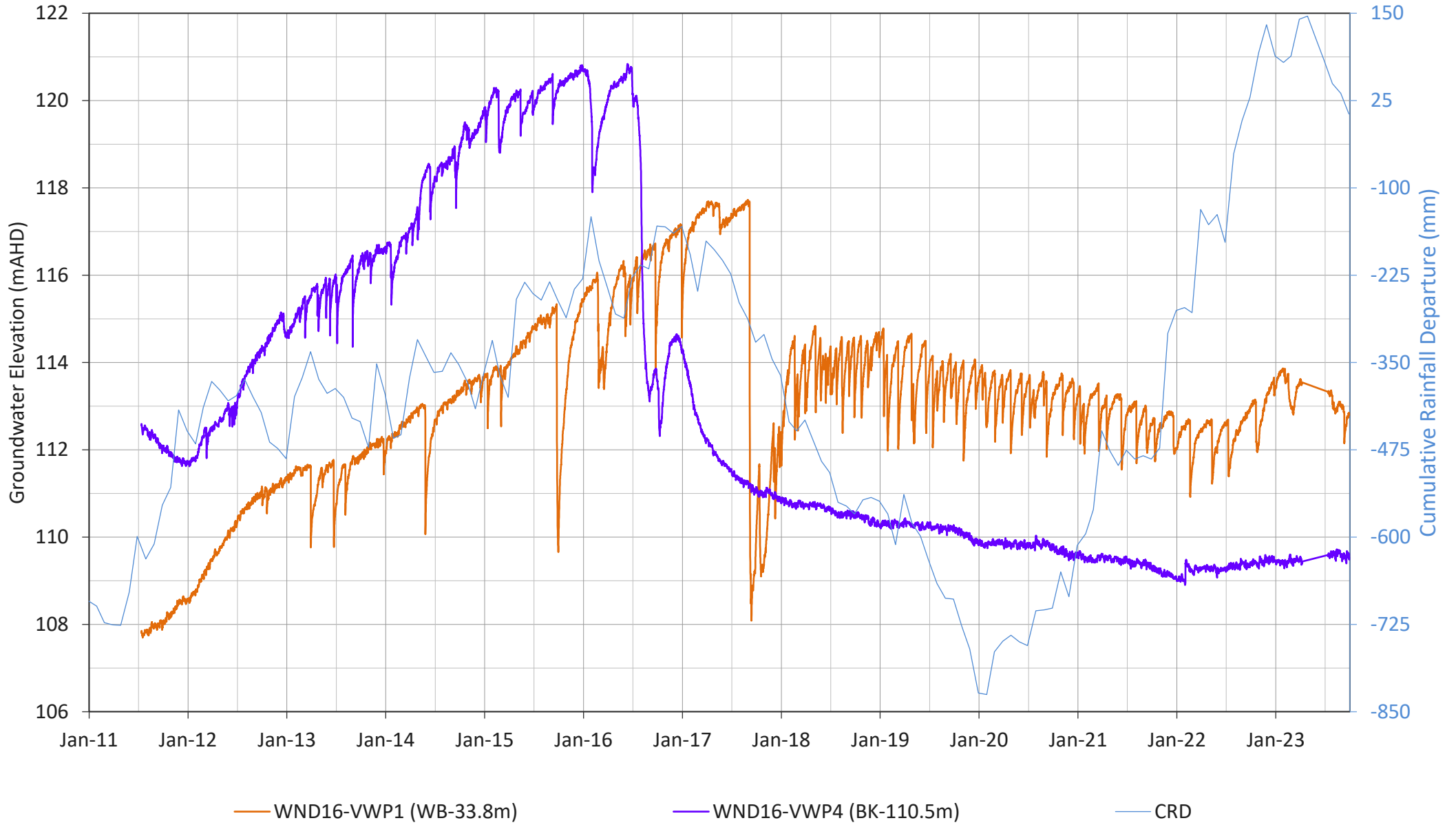
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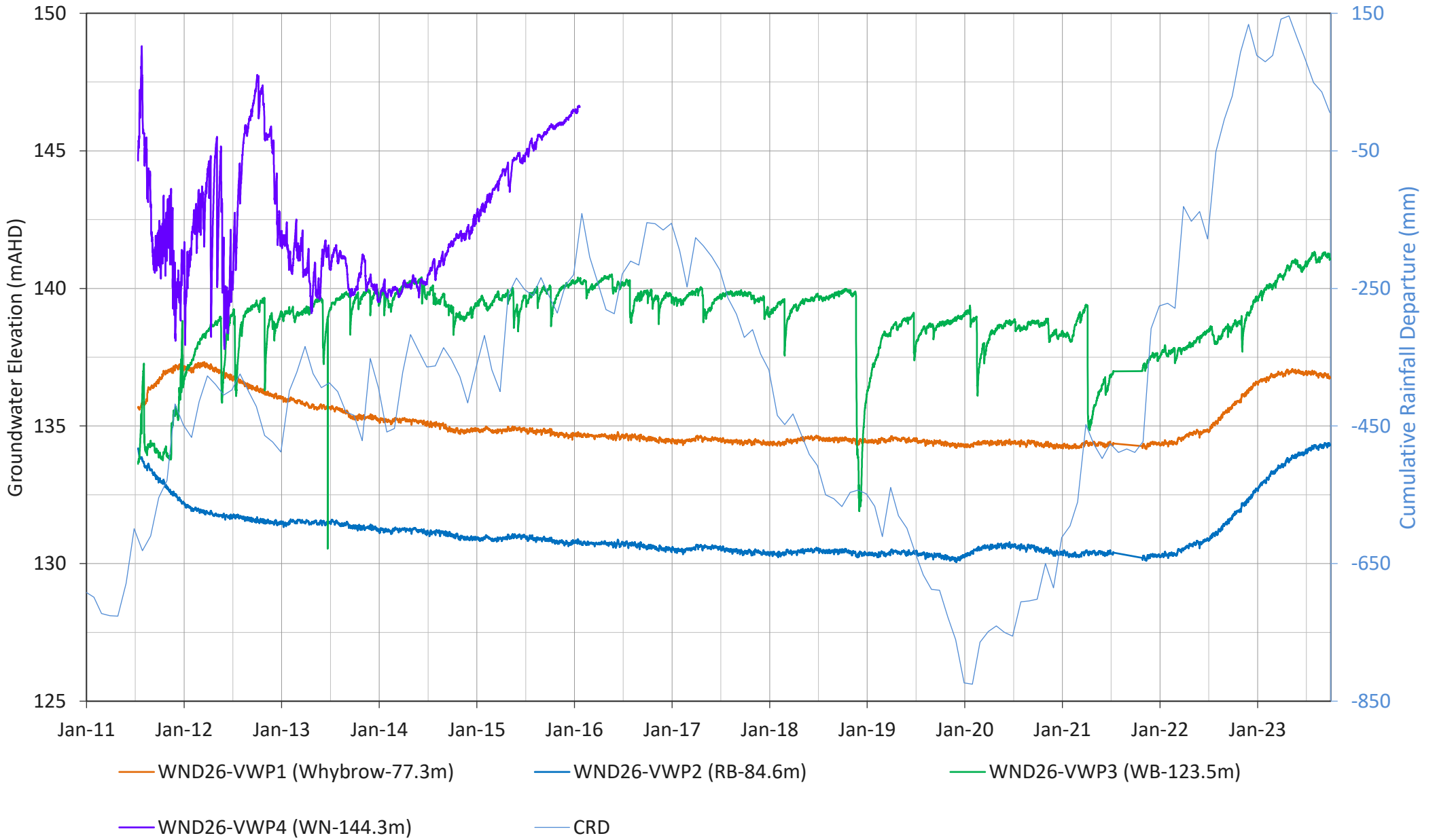
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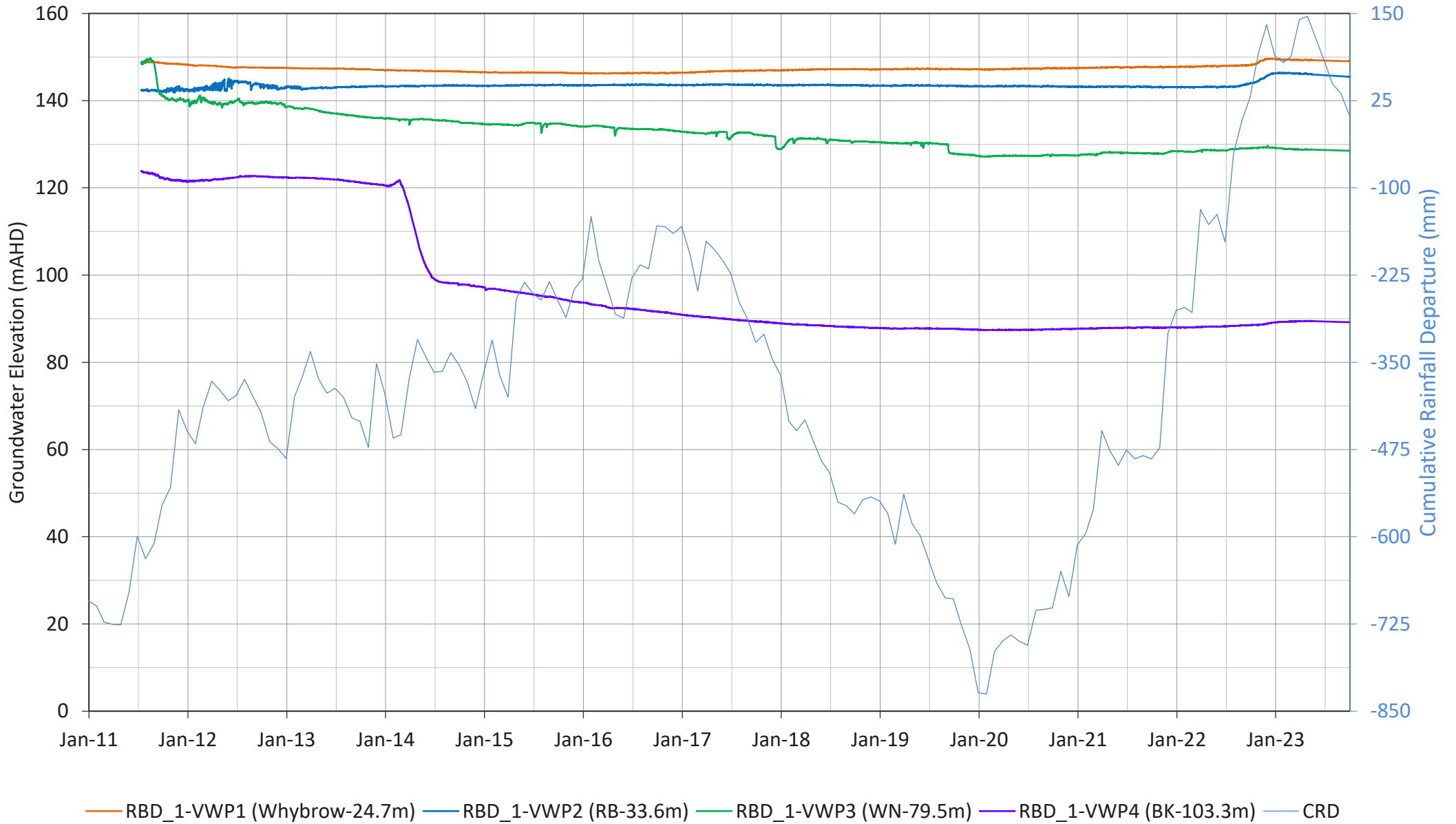
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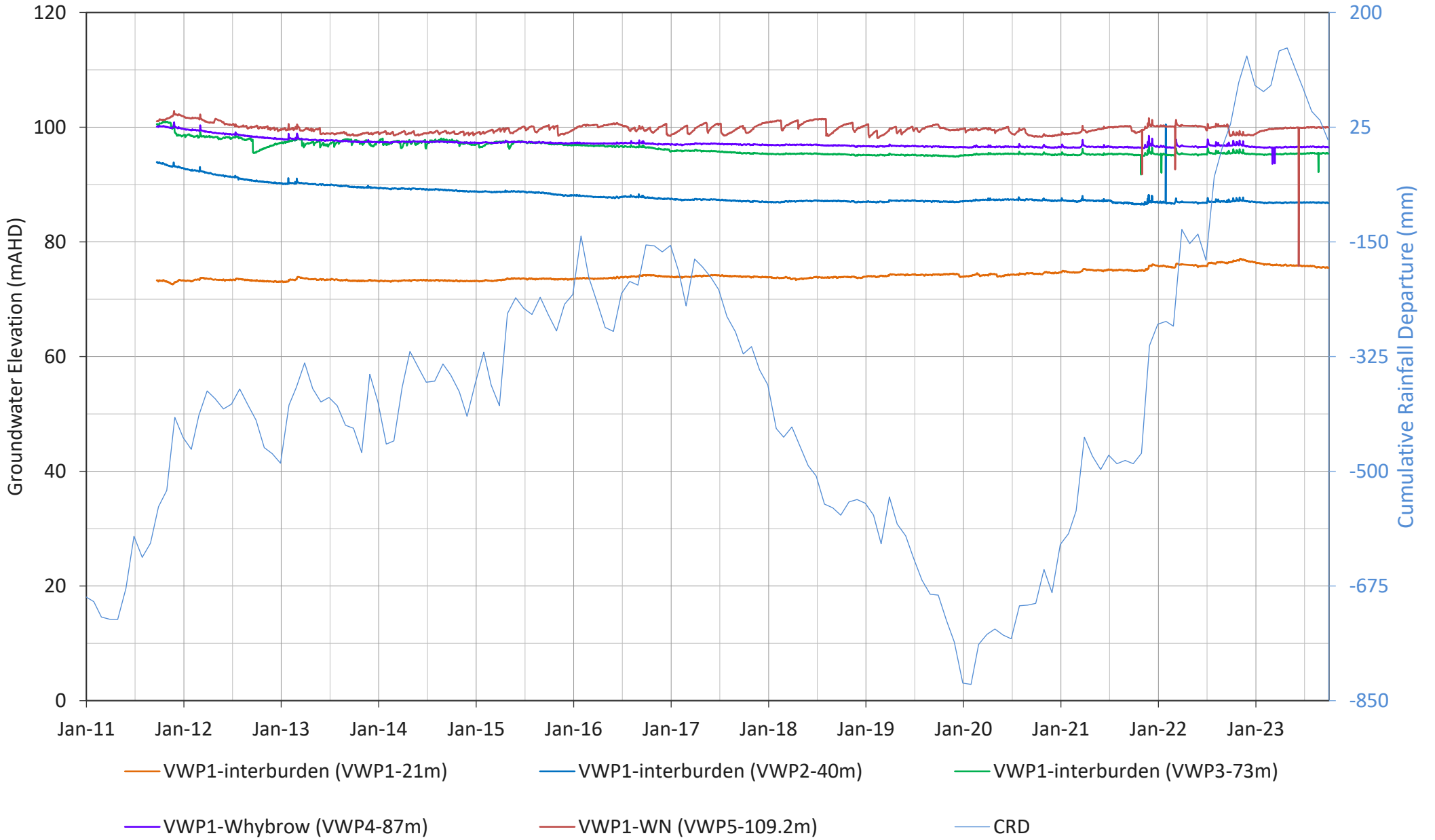
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RBD_1



VWP1





Appendix C Groundwater Quality and Trigger Levels (only sites within the TARP)

Maxwell Underground Mine

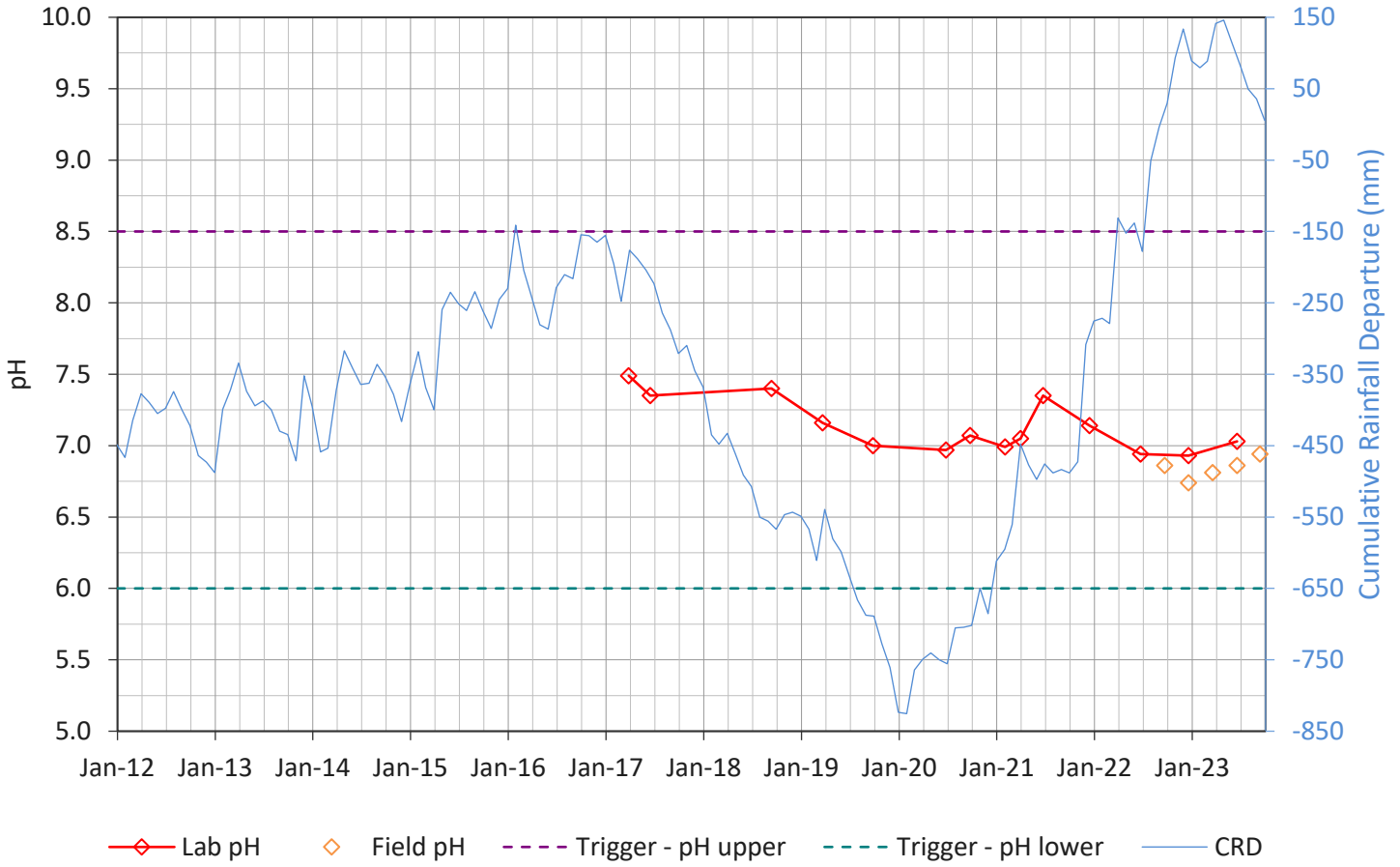
Groundwater Monitoring Report – Quarter 3 – 2023

Malabar Resources Pty Ltd

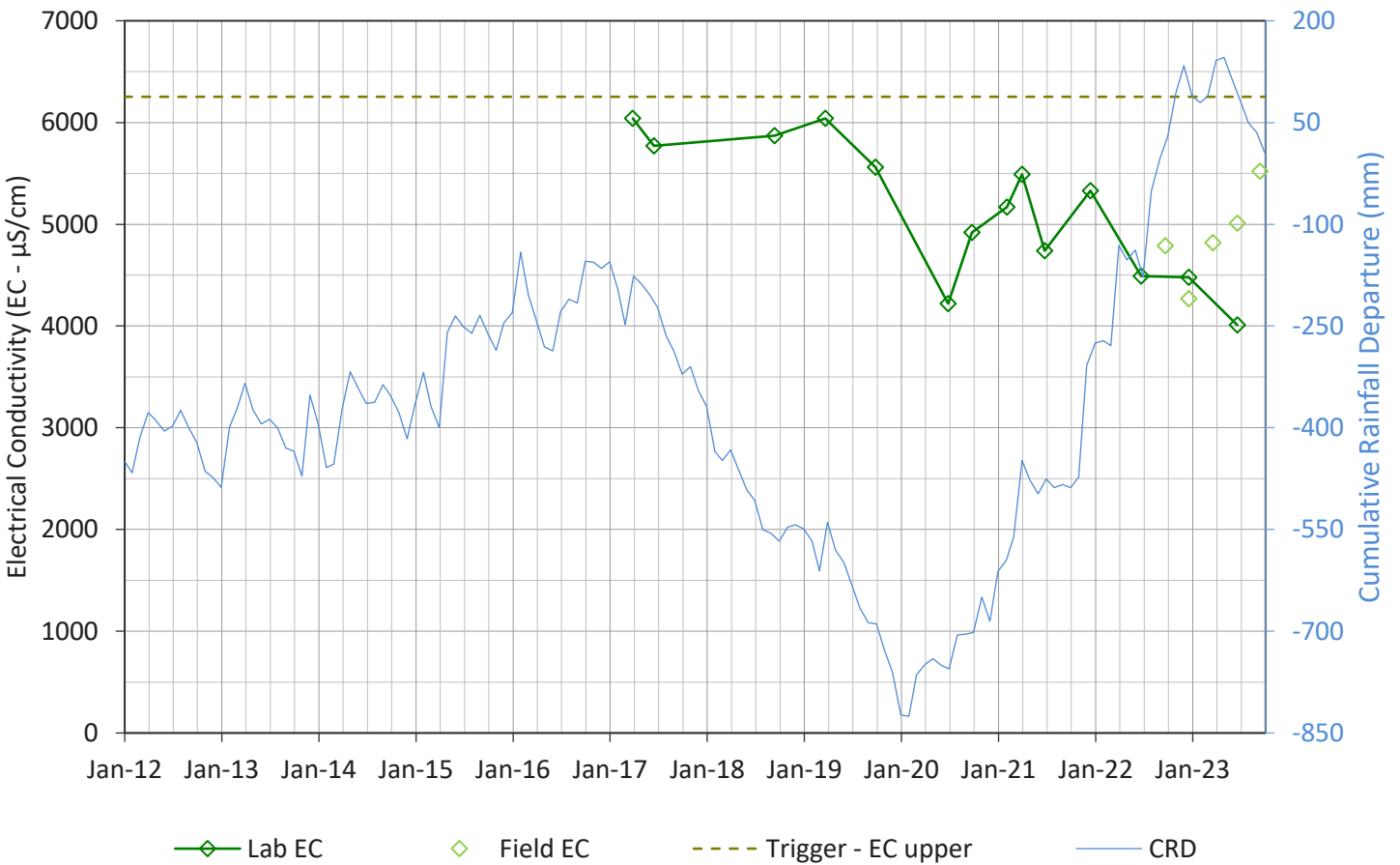
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16 January 2024

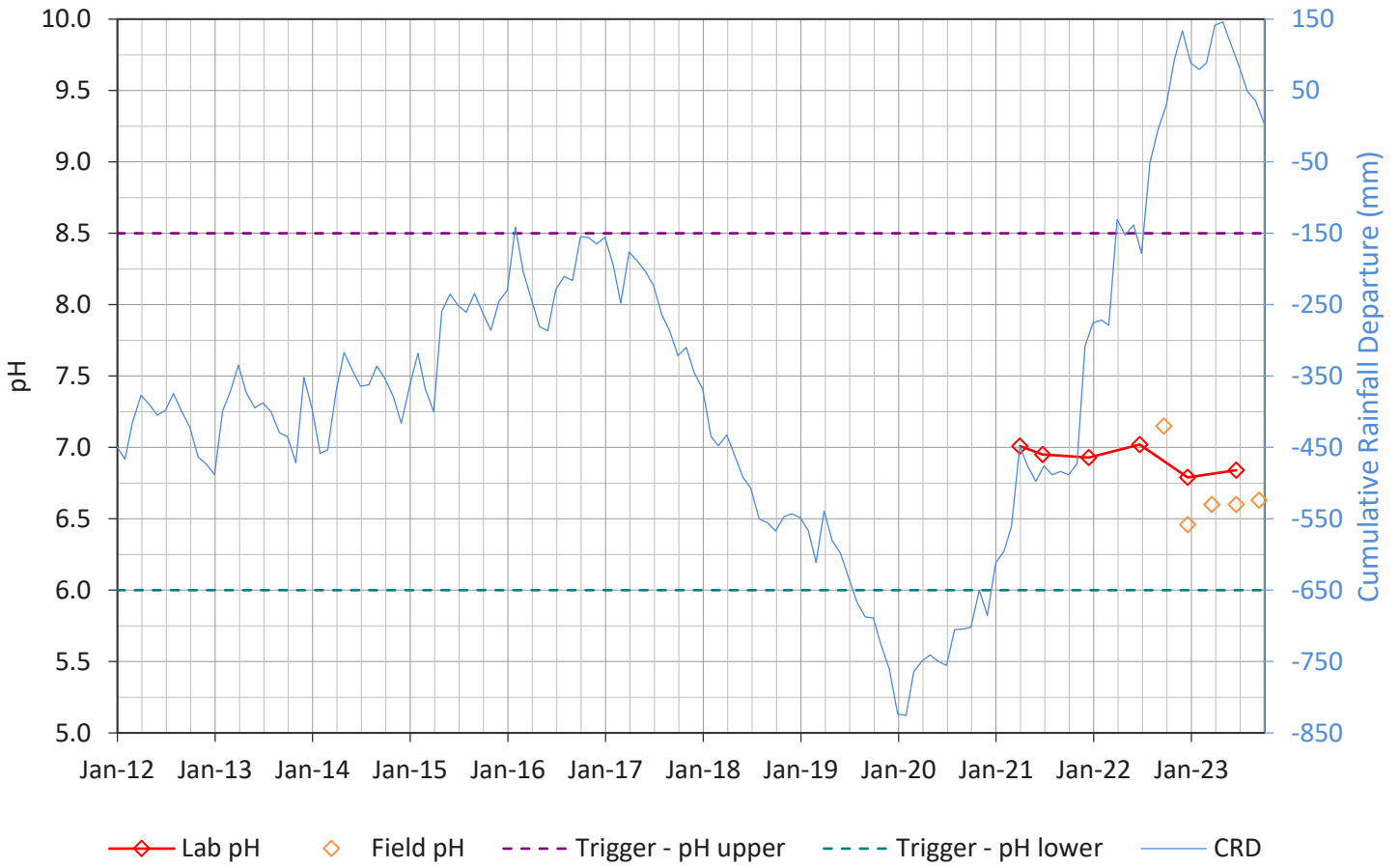
R4241 - pH



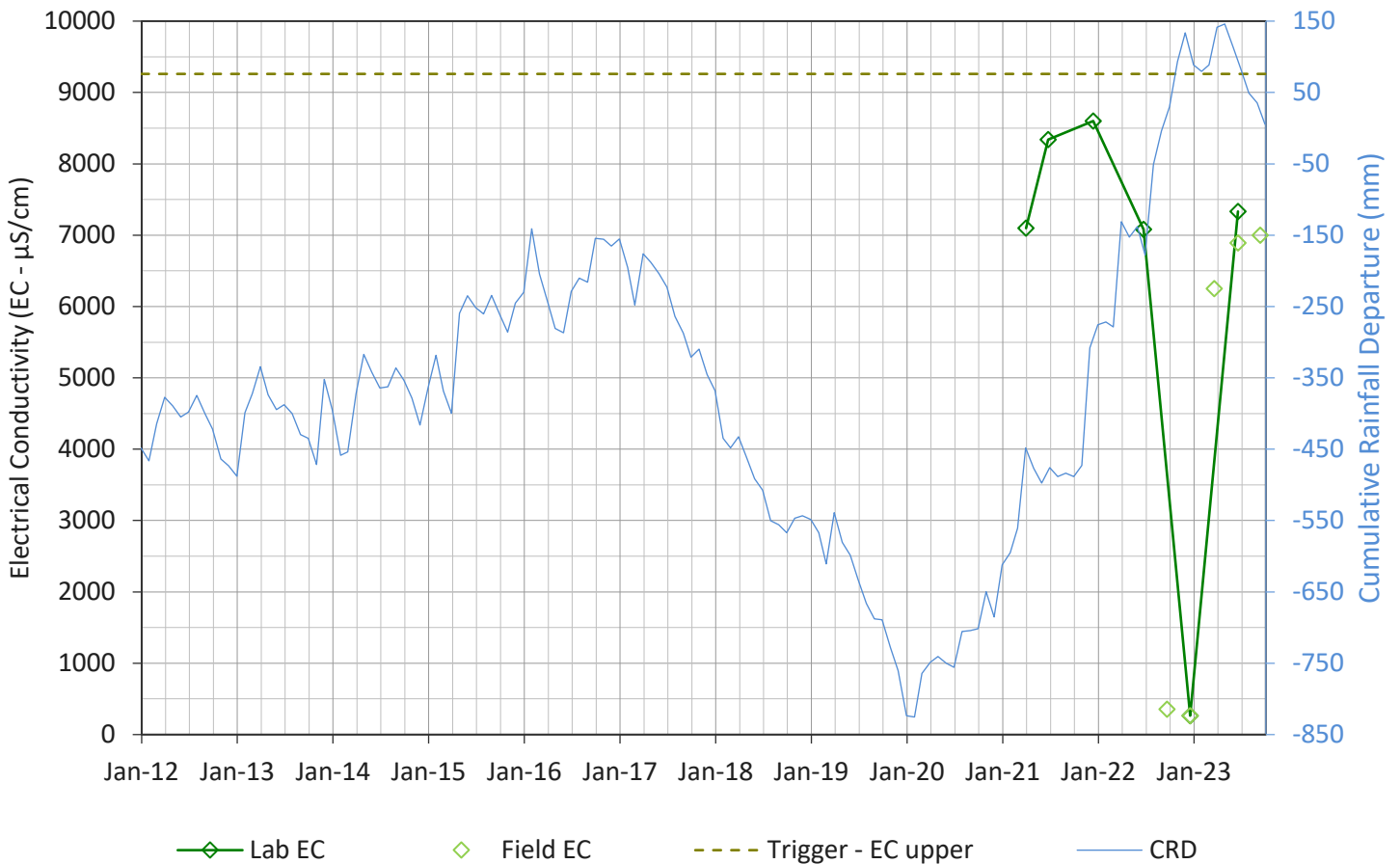
R4241 - EC



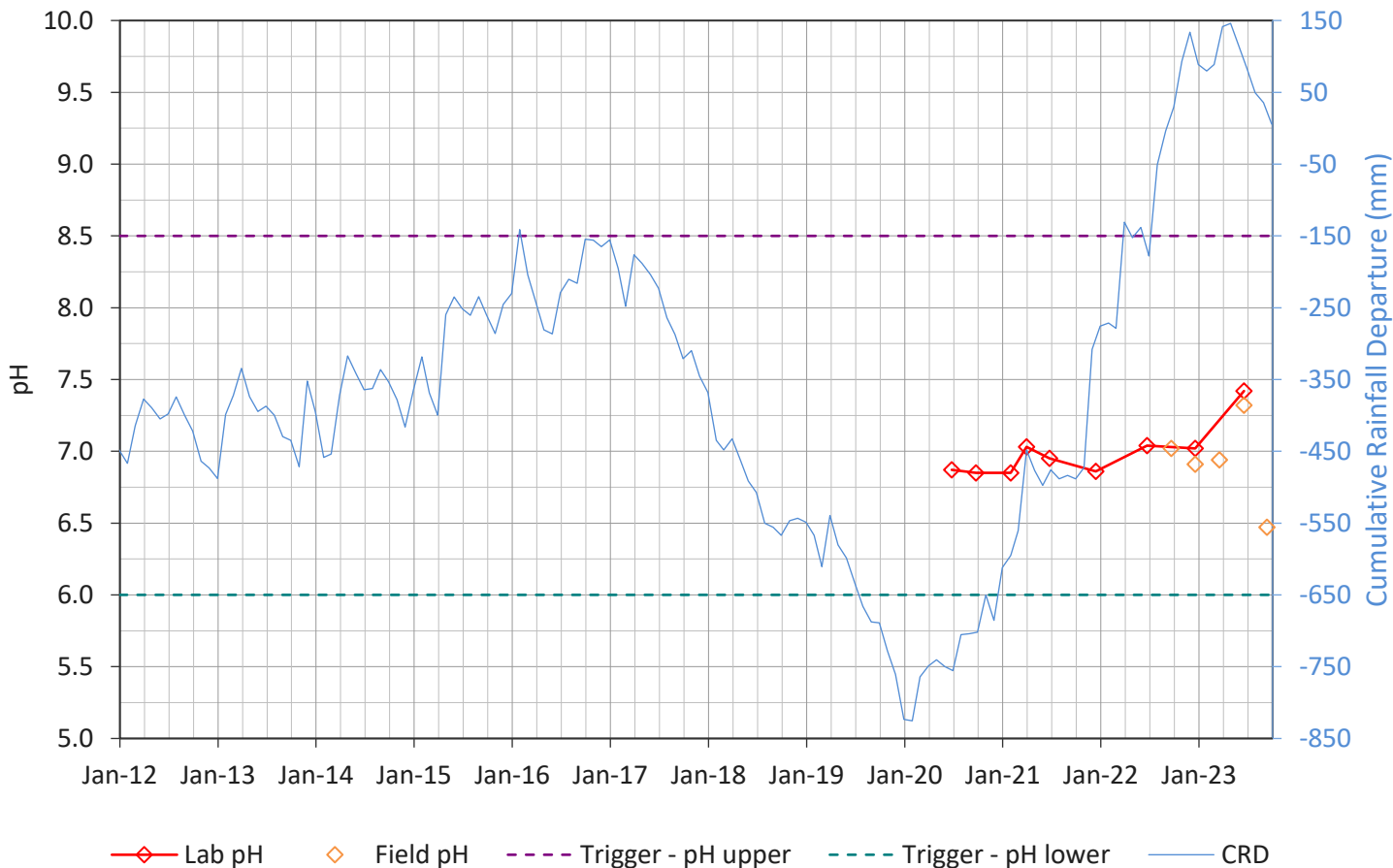
GW01S - pH



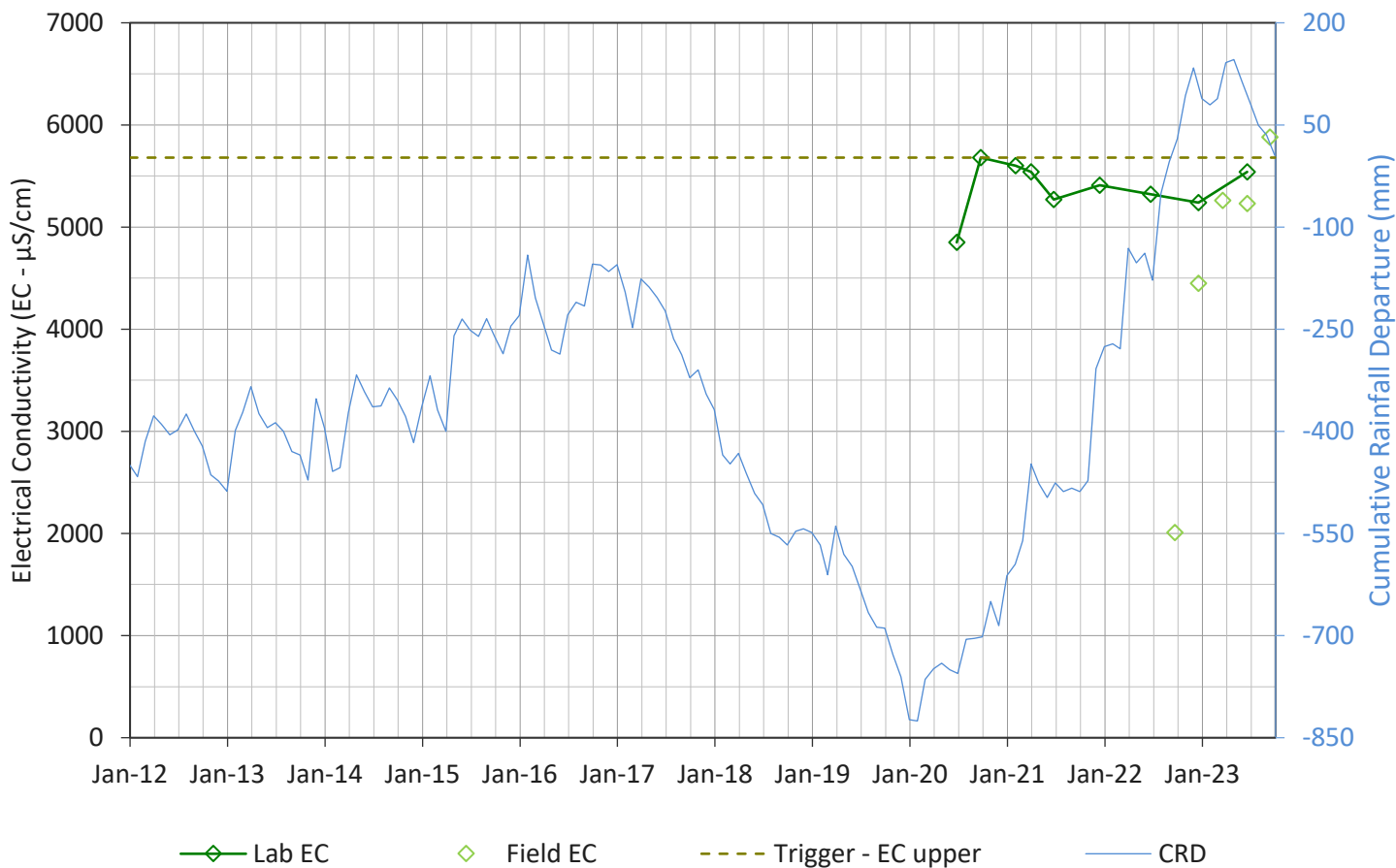
GW01S - EC



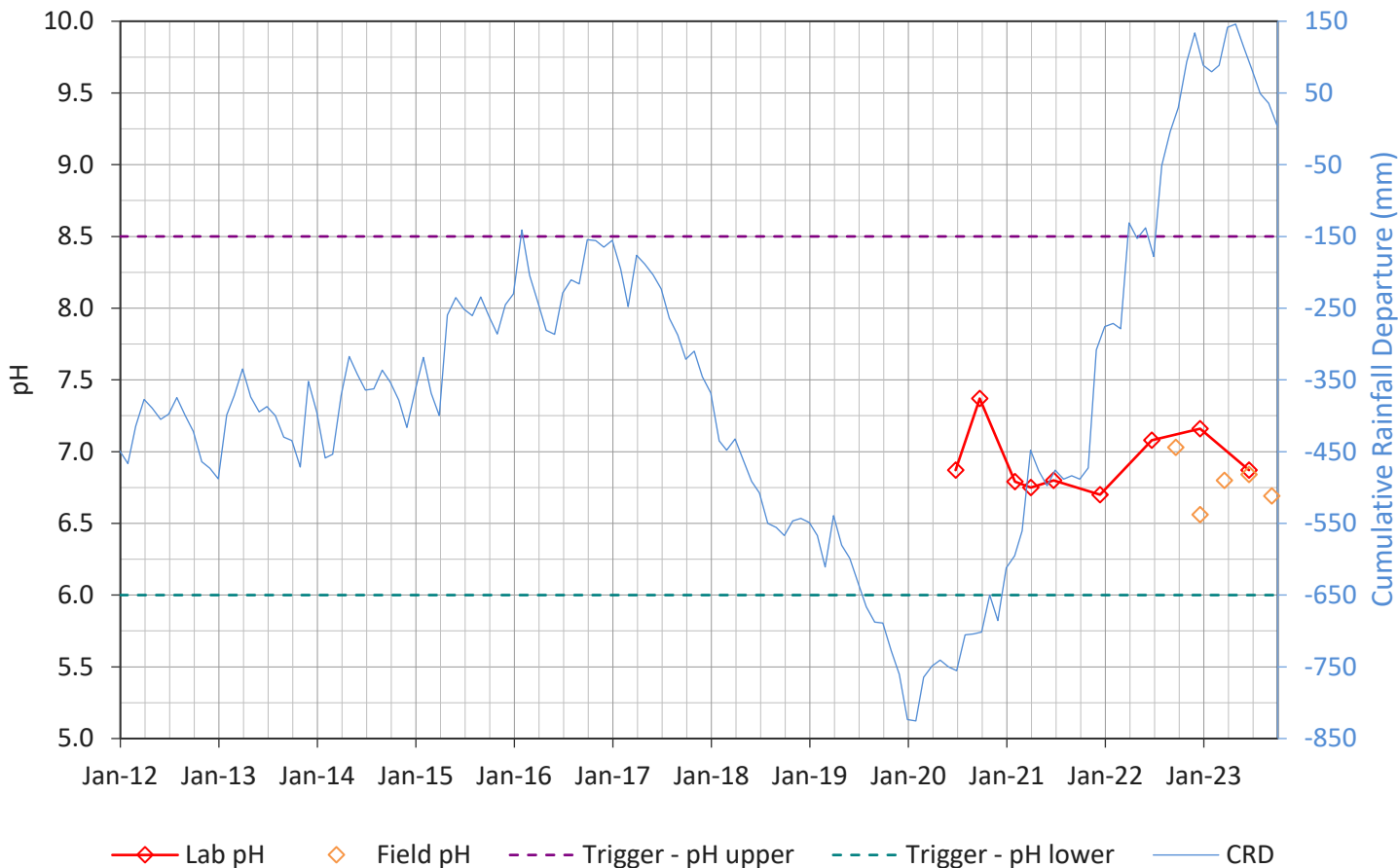
GW01D - pH



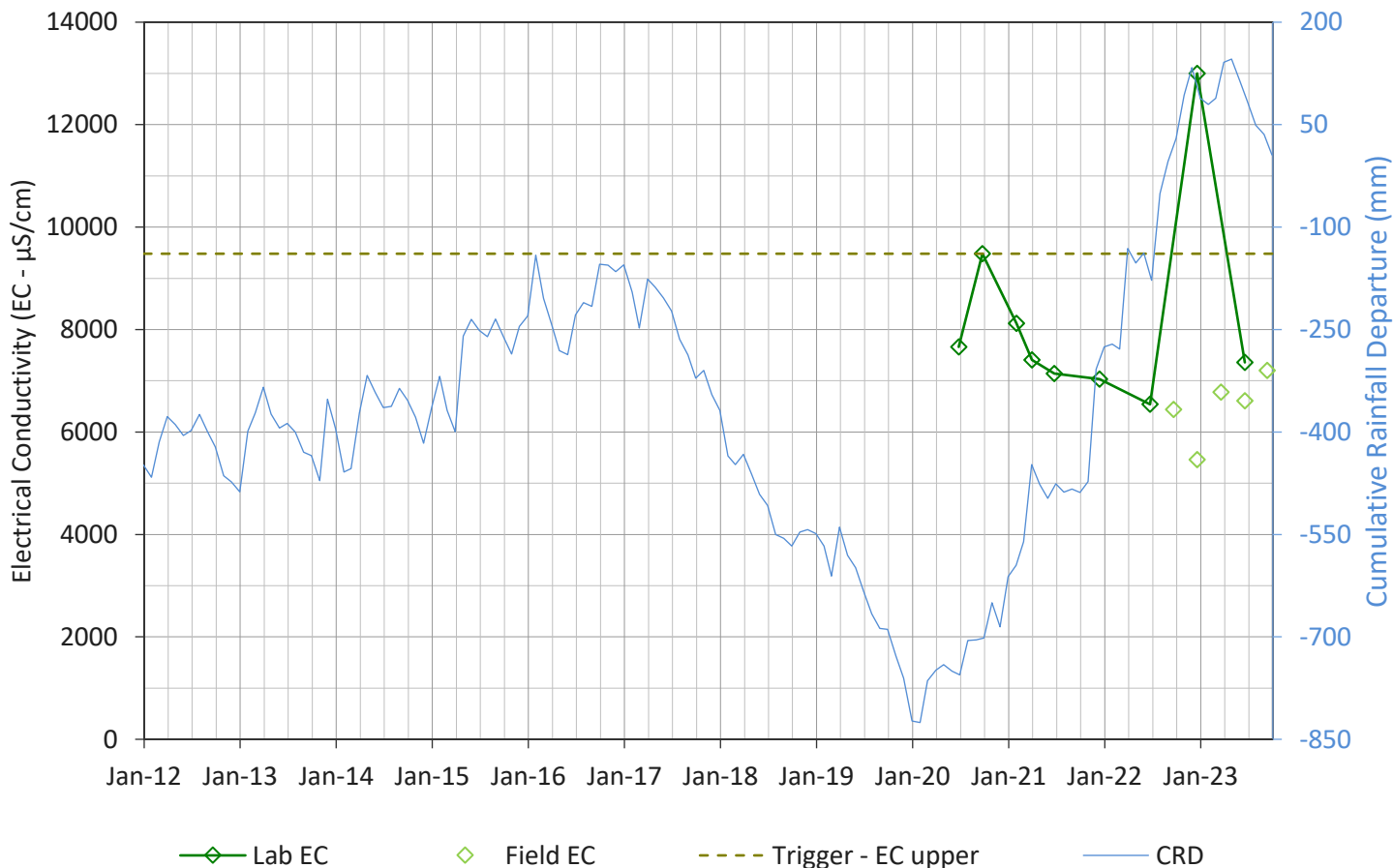
GW01D - EC



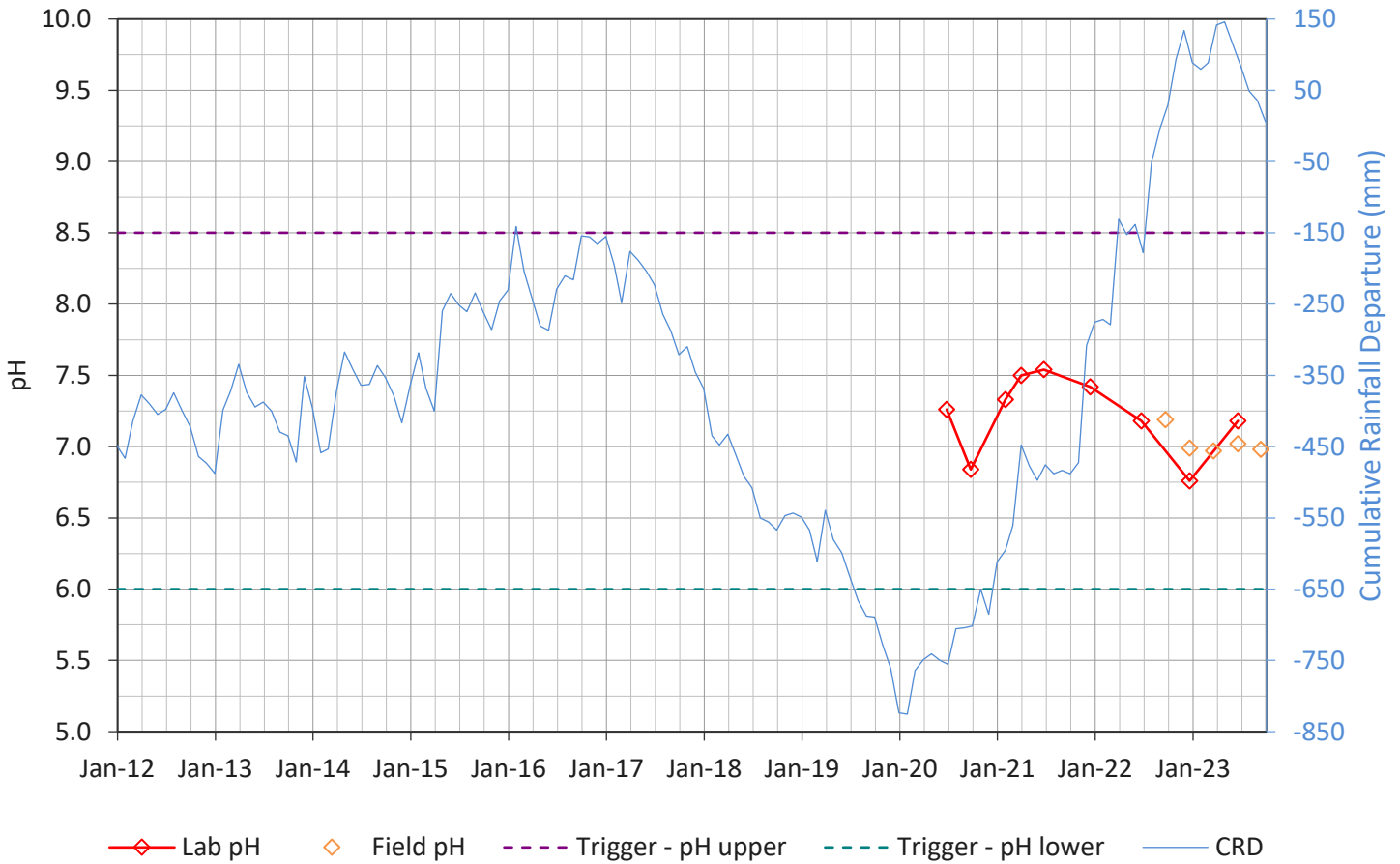
GW02S - pH



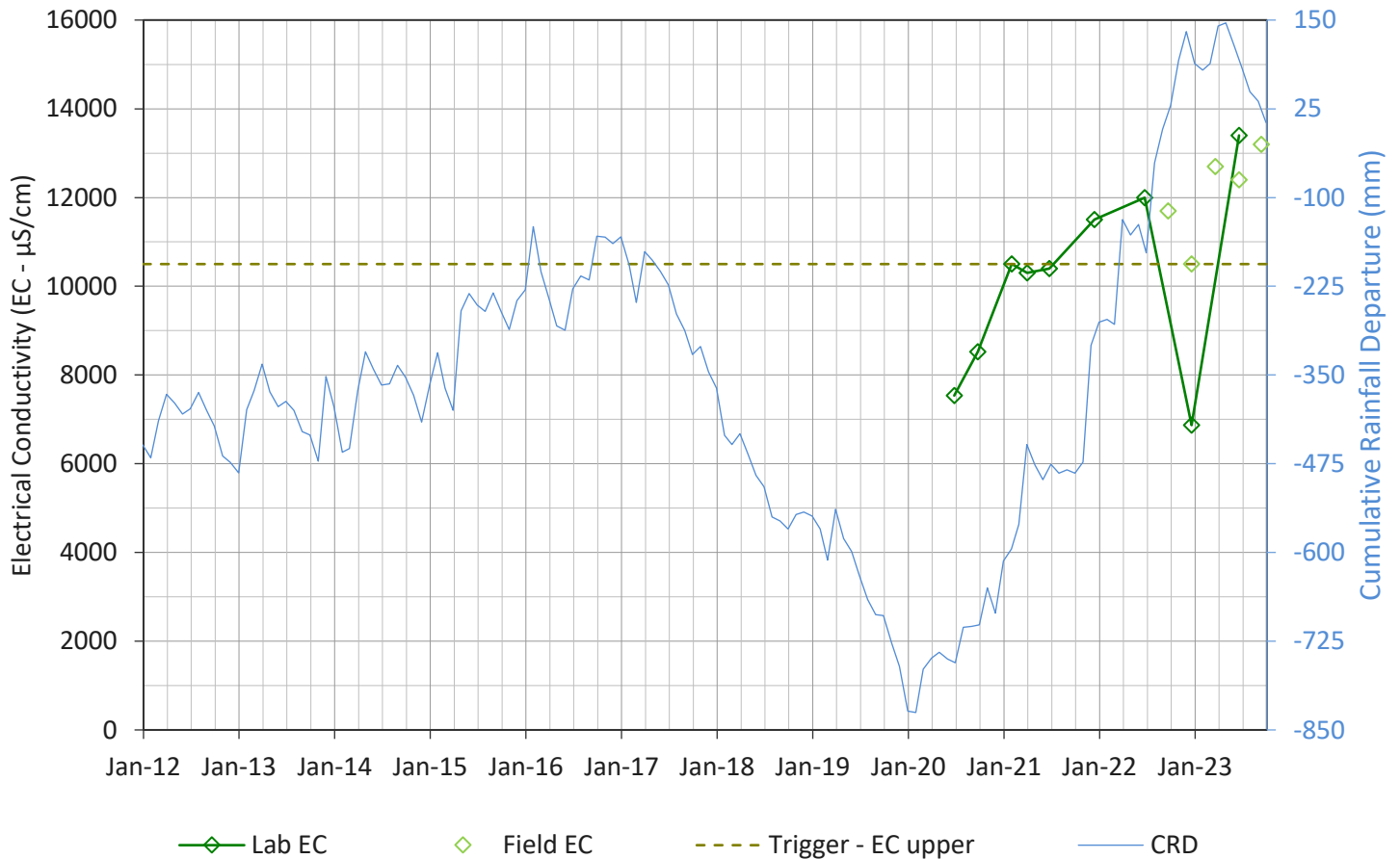
GW02S - EC



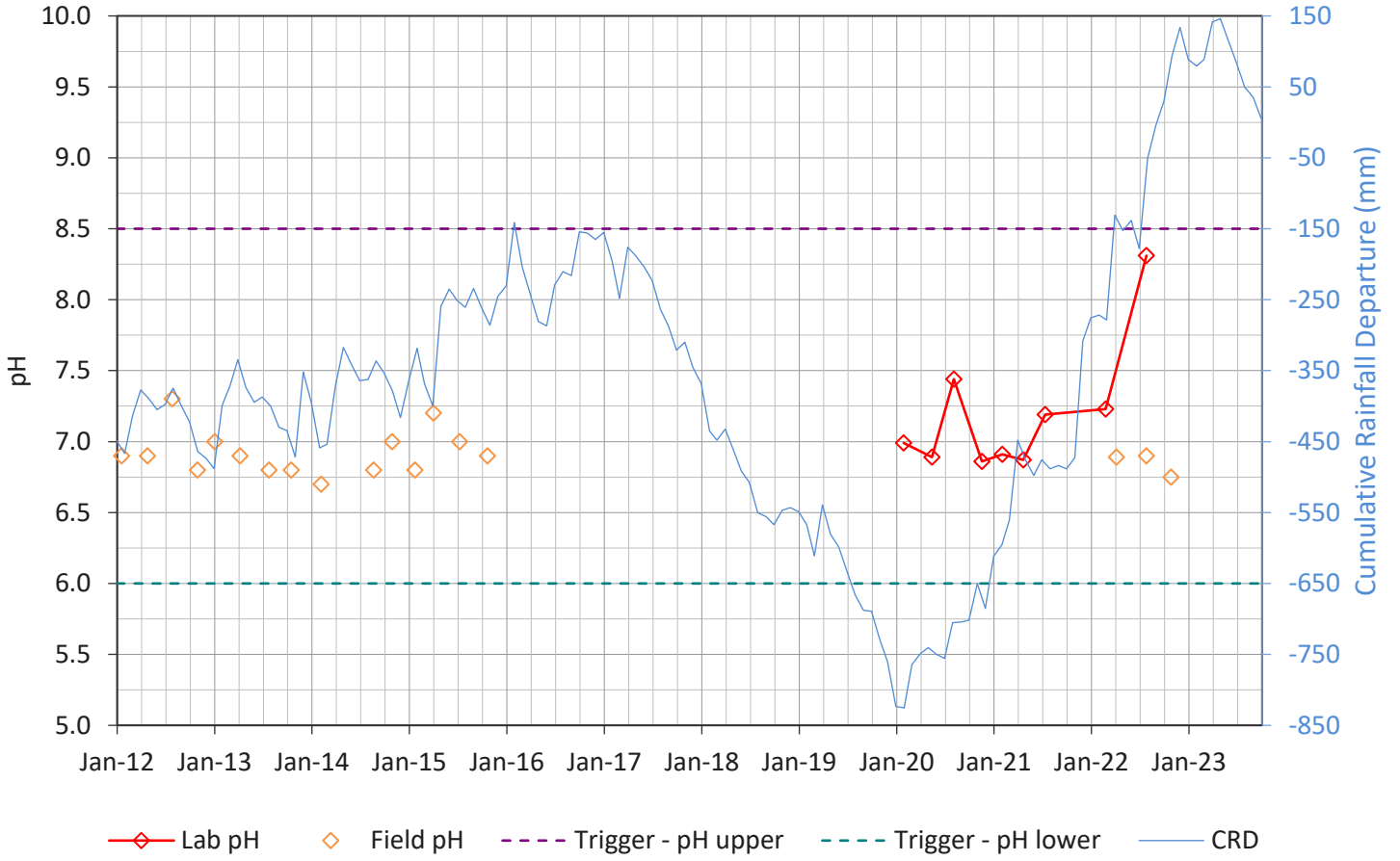
GW02D - pH



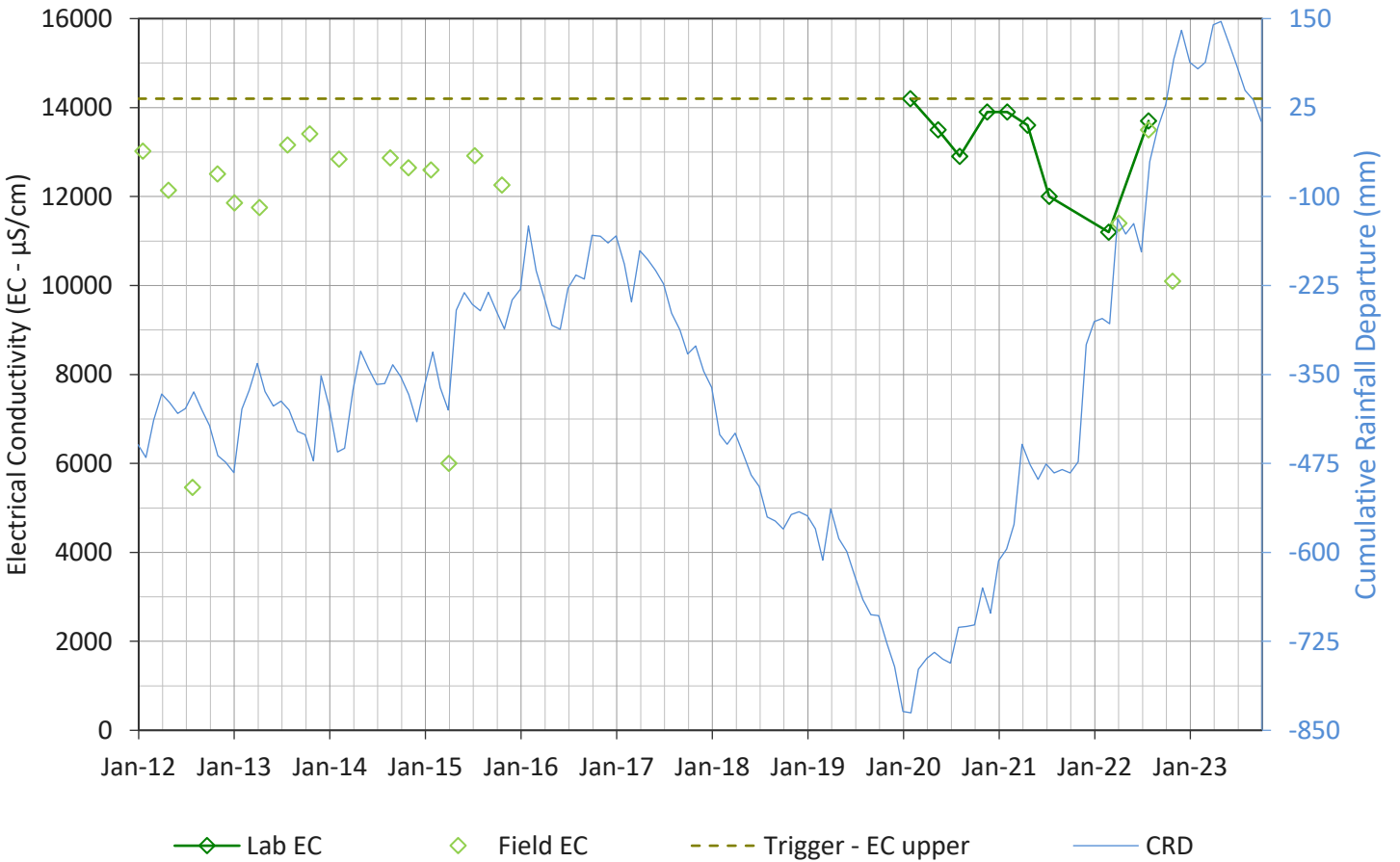
GW02D - EC



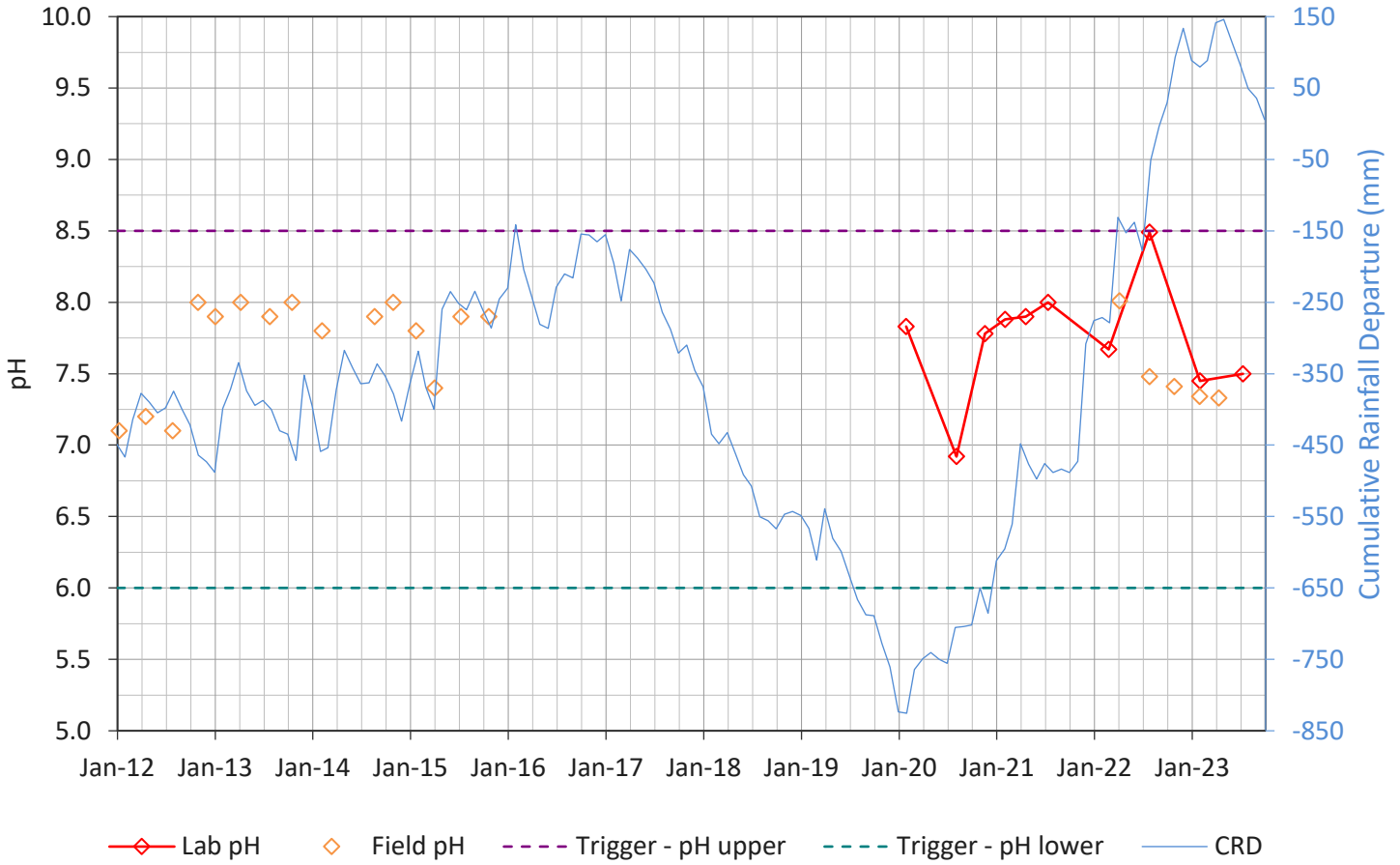
DD1025 - pH



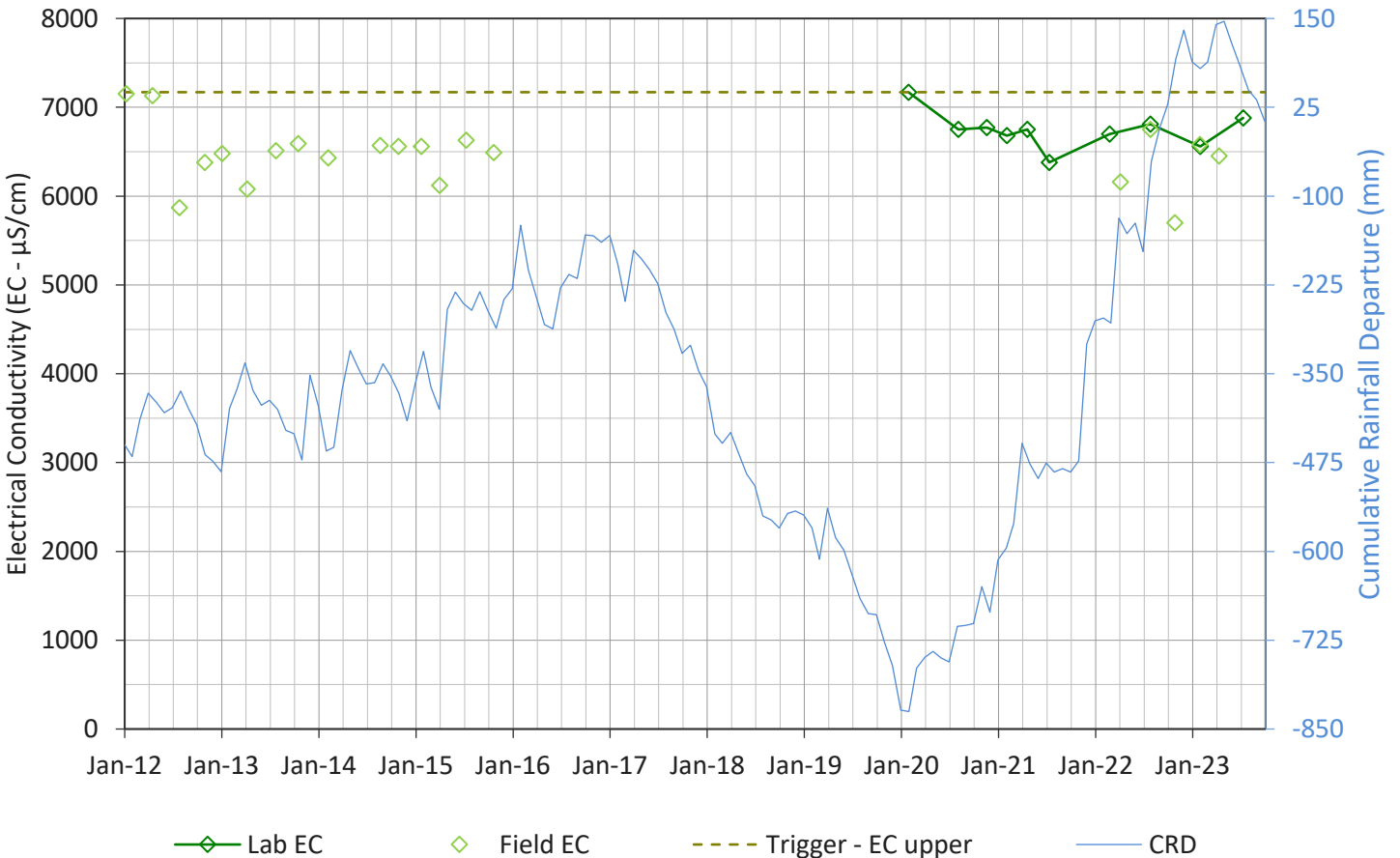
DD1025 - EC



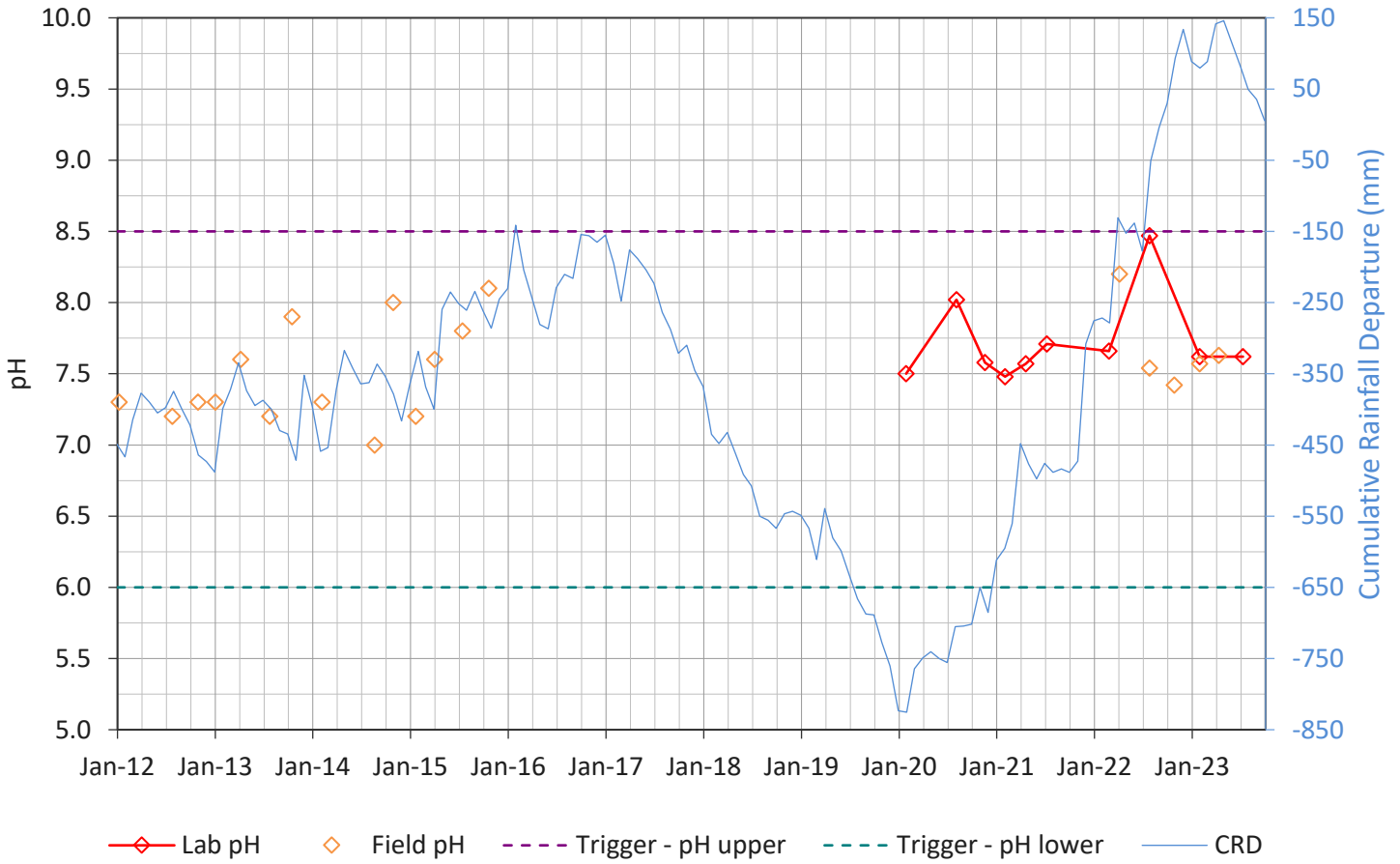
DD1032 - pH



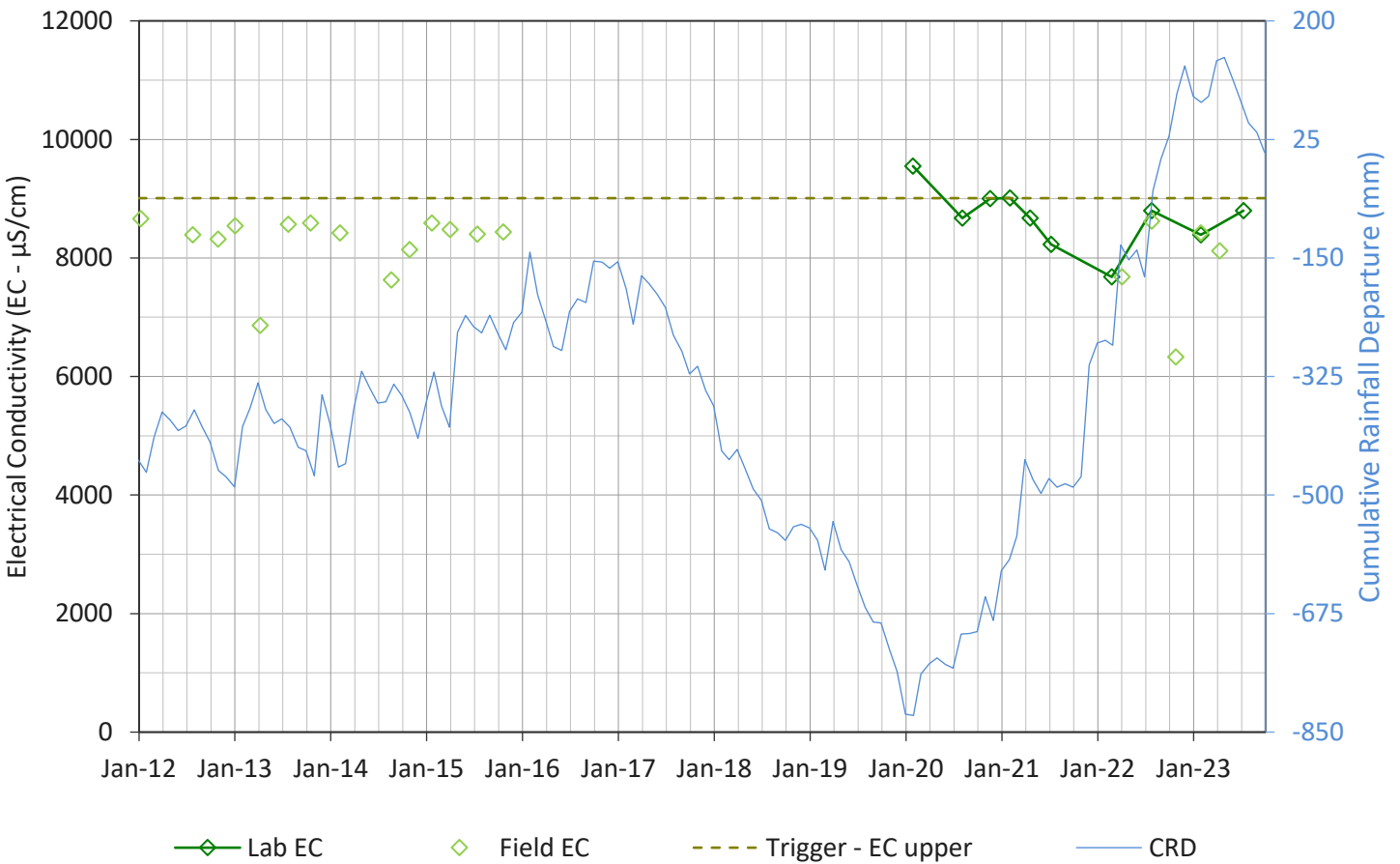
DD1032 - EC



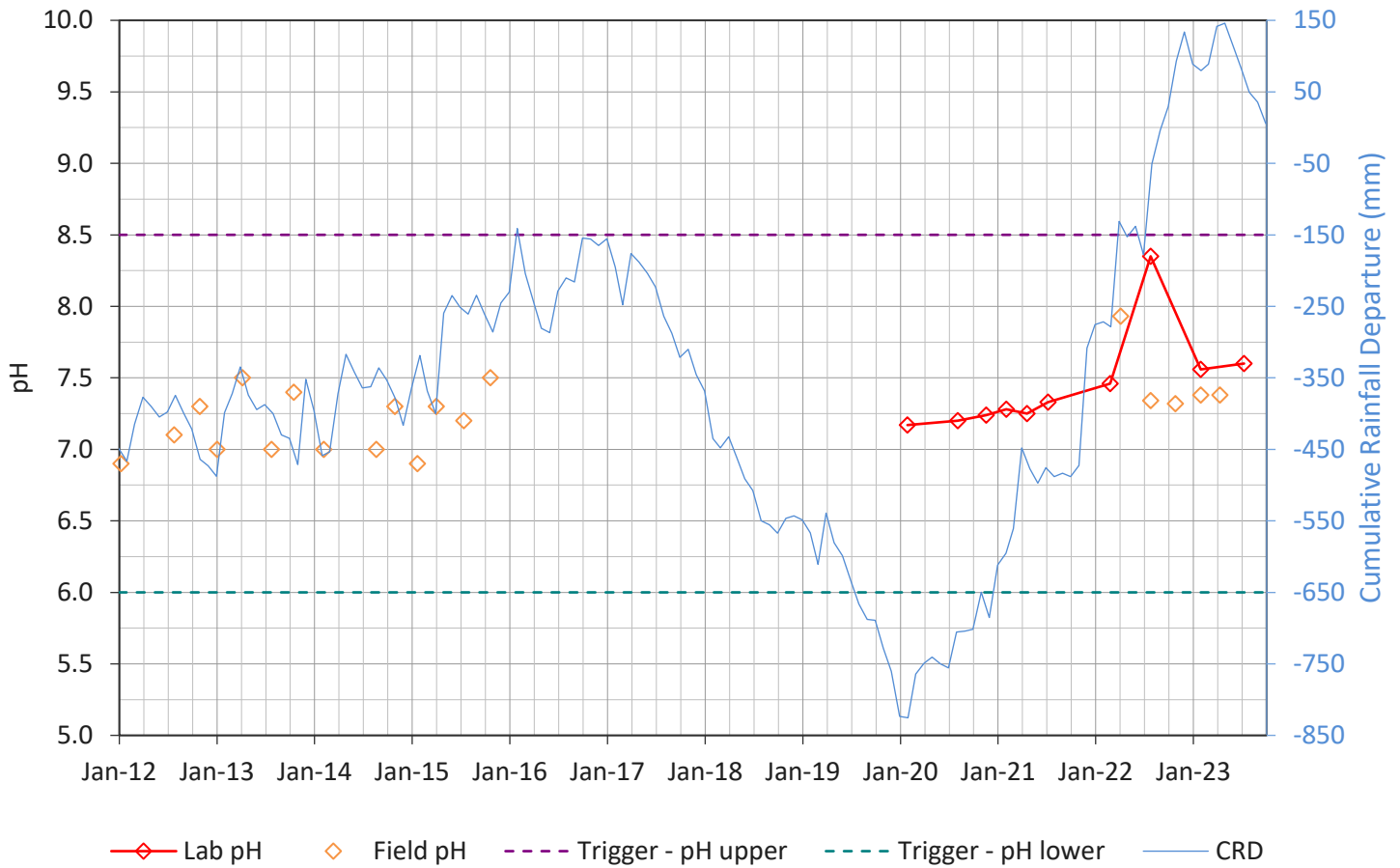
MB3-Alluvial - pH



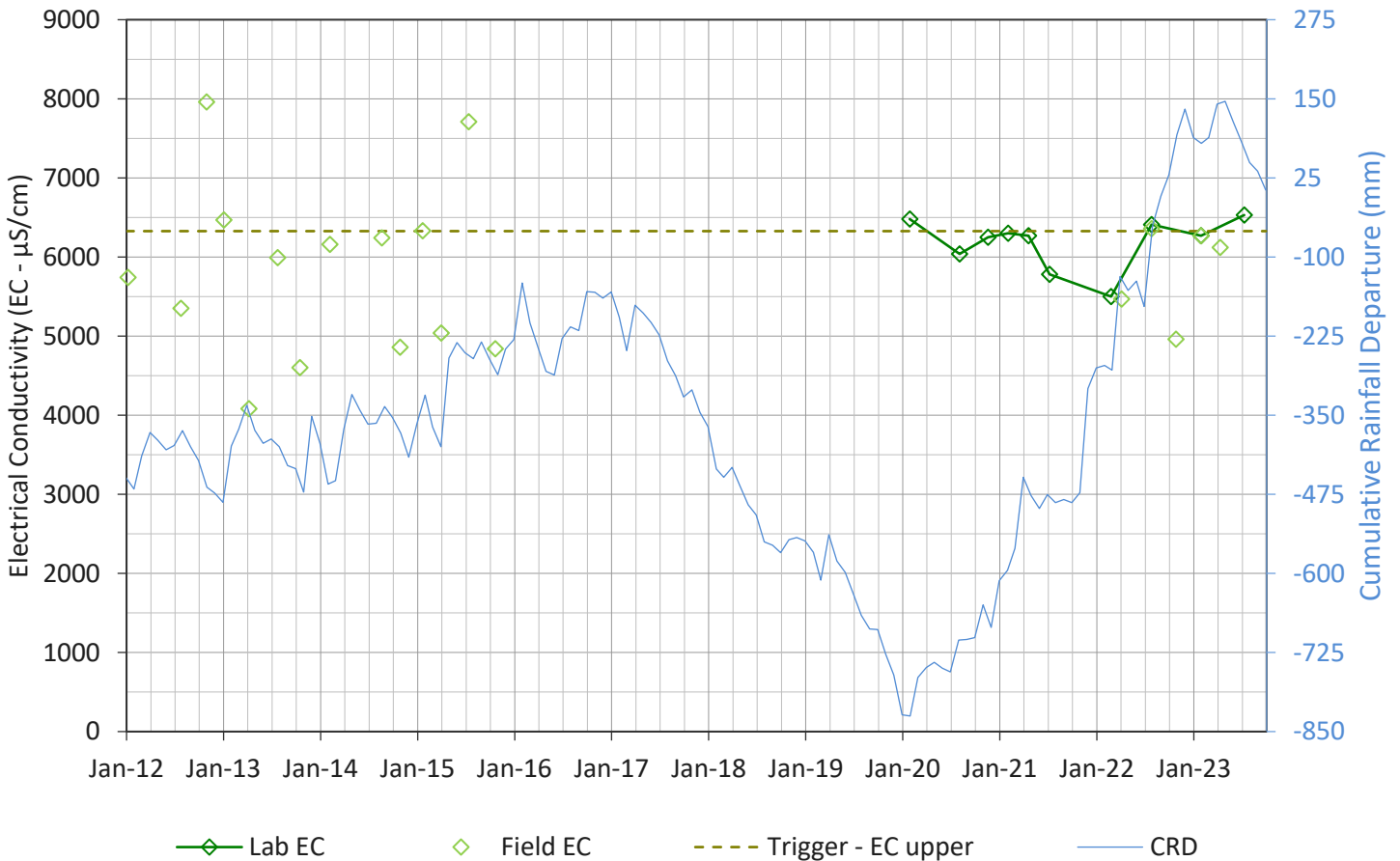
MB3-Alluvial - EC

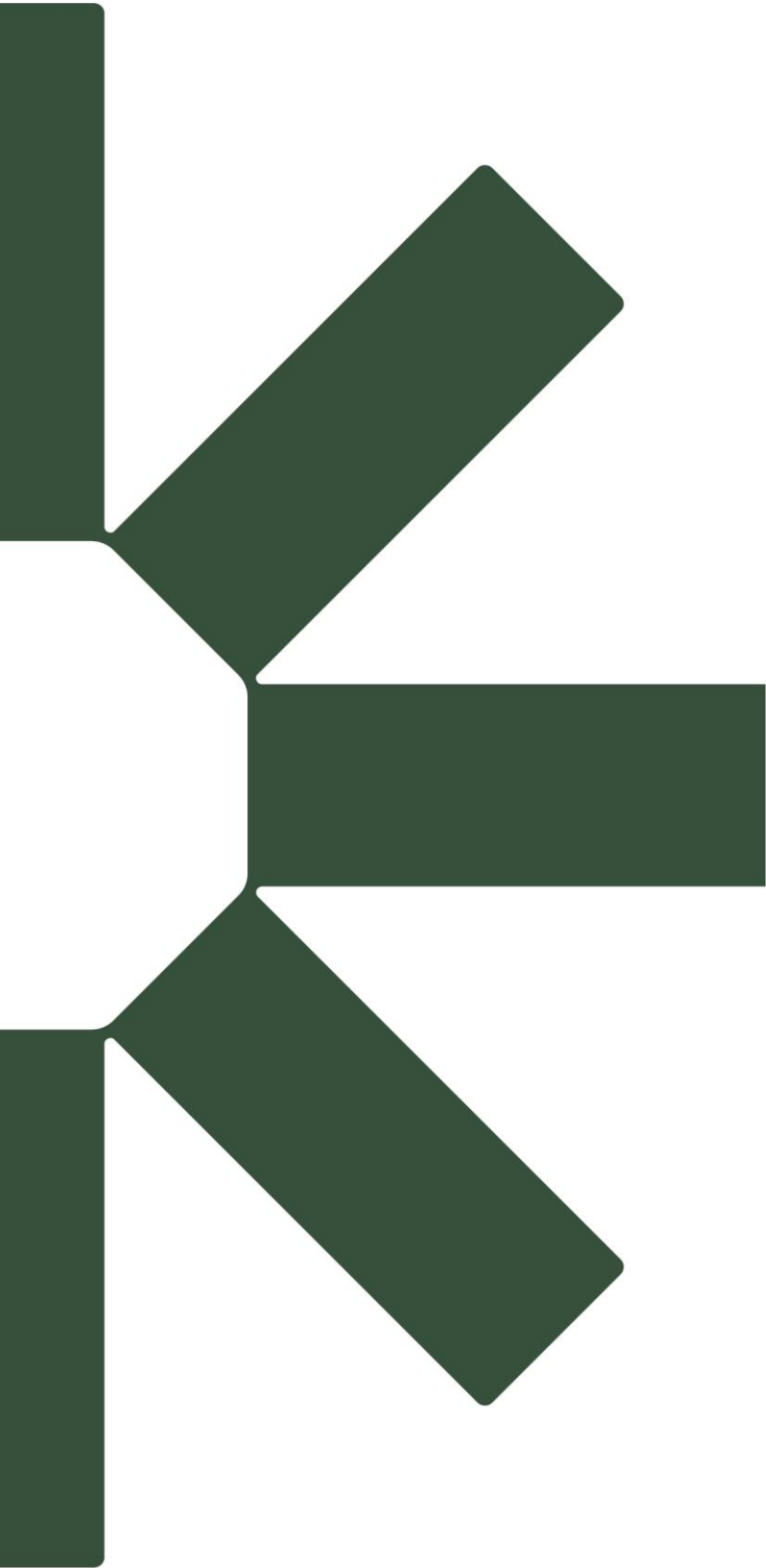


MB3-Regolith - pH



MB3-Regolith - EC





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