



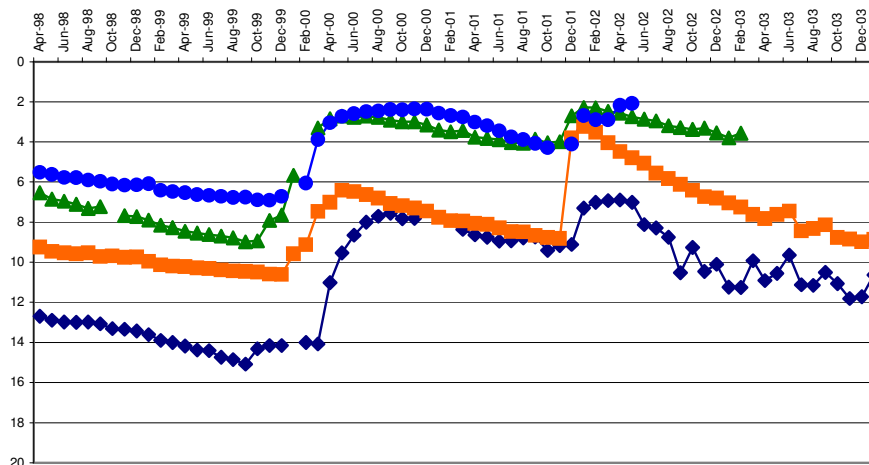
water affairs

Department:
Water Affairs
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

LIMPOPO REGION

DIRECTORATE WATER REGULATION AND USE

STATUS REPORT ON MONITORING & GROUNDWATER LEVEL TRENDS NOVEMBER 2009 – NOVEMBER 2010



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DECEMBER 2010**

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1) EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Groundwater levels

Water levels at the corresponding period last year, November 2009, midway through the dry season, August 2010 and end of the dry season, November 2010, are discussed. Data collection was done in November 2010 including the 34 stations in the Kruger National Park. The 30 Special purpose monitoring stations (Projects) will be visited in December (**MAPS 1 & 2**)

Comparison of water levels with the corresponding time last year: (NOVEMBER 2009 TO NOVEMBER 2010)

Stations with data available for the whole period = 153/174 (87.9% of stations)

	No of stations	% of stations
Station with lower water levels	64	41.8%
No difference in water level	1	0.7%
Stations with higher water levels	88	57.5%
Total	153	100%

Groundwater levels at the majority of stations, 57.5% is currently higher than the same time last year.

Some areas have a concentration of higher levels while lower water levels are concentrated in other areas. Delineation of the concentration of stations with similar water level trends is depicted on (**Map 4**). The blue area indicates the areas with higher water levels with orange for lower water levels.

GRAPHS 45 to 47 were included to gain better perspective of the current situation in relation to past trends

The graphs illustrate the current water level situation in relation to the past 20 years. The stations used are widely spread over the 3 drainages and is regarded as representative of the general conditions. Linear trend lines were added and clearly indicate the healthy state of groundwater levels in general.

The trend at station A6Klipput as seen on graph 45 represent a declining trend, opposed to the rising trend elsewhere. This reverse in trend started around 2000 when irrigation abstraction was hugely increased in the area. This indicates that local anomalies may occur and highlight the effect of non management of the resource.

2) STATUS OF MONITORING NETWORK

Limpopo Province's Groundwater Level Monitoring Network currently consists of 238 active monitoring stations, including 34 in the KNP. 1 Caved in borehole still have to be re-drilled, 5 new boreholes are currently planned to be drilled additionally to fill gaps in the existing network.. (**Maps 1 & 2**)

Upgrading of existing stations and delivering of concrete outer rings to stations continues and construction of the concrete structures were completed at 38 stations.

Regional and Head Office jointly service a total of 55 stations for the National Groundwater Quality Program in the Limpopo Province which is sampled bi-annually. Sampling to verify the suitability

of selected sites for extension of the National Groundwater Quality Monitoring was done at 138 boreholes. 95% of analysis results were received from the laboratory (**Map 3**)

3) DATA COLLECTION, EVALUATION AND REPORTING

Data was collected and processed during November 2010 with data for 1 November 2010 being the last data used for this report.

4) LIMPOPO WATER MANAGEMENT AREA.

The area consists of secondary drainage areas A4, A5, A6, A7 and A8.

4.1 A4 Drainage Area. (Matlabas, Mokolo Rivers)

Hardly any fluctuations water levels over the past year (**GRAPH 1**)

Comparison with previous levels:

Last quarter; AUGUST 2010 TO NOVEMBER 2010 (Midway to the end of the past dry season)

9 Stations indicate lower water levels and 3 higher. **GRAPH 2**

Past year; NOVEMBER 2009 TO NOVEMBER 2010

An equal number of stations indicate lower or higher levels over the past year (**GRAPHS 3 &4**)

4.2 A5 Drainage Area. (Lephalale River)

Hardly any fluctuations water levels over the past year but some late recharge evident (**GRAPH 5**)

Comparison with previous levels:

Last quarter; AUGUST 2010 TO NOVEMBER 2010 (Midway to the end of the past dry season)

5 of 6 stations, indicate lower water levels. (**GRAPH 6**)

Past year; NOVEMBER 2009 TO NOVEMBER 2010

4 of 6 stations indicate lower levels (**GRAPHS 7 & 8**)

4.3 A6 Drainage Area. (Nile, Sterk, Mogalakwena & Dorps Rivers)

Clear seasonal fluctuation in this drainage (**GRAPH 9**)

Comparison with previous levels:

Last quarter; AUGUST 2010 TO NOVEMBER 2010 (Midway to the end of the past dry season)

31 of 33 Stations indicate lower water levels (**GRAPHS 10 & 12**)

Past year; NOVEMBER 2009 TO NOVEMBER 2010

57.1% of stations indicate higher water levels than last year and 42.91% rise in water levels. An overall rise of 0,59m was recorded over the past year (**GRAPH 11 & 12**)

4.4 A7 Drainage Area. (Sand, Blood, Diep, Hout, Dwars & Brak Rivers)

Mostly no large fluctuations in water levels (**GRAPH 13**)

Comparison with previous levels:

Last quarter; AUGUST 2010 TO NOVEMBER 2010 (Midway to the end of the past dry season)

33 of 38 stations indicate lower, water levels (**GRAPHS 14&16**).

Past year; NOVEMBER 2009 TO NOVEMBER 2010

26 stations (68.4%) Indicate higher water levels and 12 stations (31.6%) indicate lower water levels.. Overall a rise of 0,77m was recorded for the period (**GRAPHS 15&16**)

4.5 A8 Drainage Area ((Nwanedzi, Nzhelele Rivers)

Water levels are generally very stable with little fluctuation (**GRAPH 17**)

Comparison with previous levels:

Last quarter; AUGUST 2010 TO NOVEMBER 2010 (Midway to the end of the past dry season)

All stations indicate lower water levels, average -0,23m (**GRAPHS 18 & 20**).

Past year; NOVEMBER 2009 TO NOVEMBER 2010

7 Stations indicate higher and 2 lower water levels (**GRAPHS 19 & 20**).

5) LEVHUVHU-LETABA WATER MANAGEMENT AREA.

The area consists of secondary drainage areas A9, B8 & B9.

5.1 A9 Drainage Area. (Mutale, Levhuvhu Rivers)

Some late recharge at most stations (**GRAPH 21**)

Comparison with previous levels:

Last quarter; AUGUST 2010 TO NOVEMBER 2010 (Midway to the end of the past dry season)

All stations indicate lower water levels (**GRAPHS 22 & 24**).

Past year; NOVEMBER 2009 TO NOVEMBER 2010

13 of 18 stations indicate declining water levels for the past year (**GRAPHS 25&26**).

5.2 B8 Drainage Area. (Groot, Middel & Klein Letaba Rivers)

Little fluctuation in groundwater levels is evident the past year (**GRAPH 24**).

Comparison with previous levels:

Last quarter; AUGUST 2010 TO NOVEMBER 2010 (Midway to the end of the past dry season)

12 of 14 stations indicate lower water levels (GRAPHS 25 & 27)

Past year; NOVEMBER 2009 TO NOVEMBER 2010

10 of 14 stations indicate higher water levels, average 0.6m. (GRAPHS 26& 27)

5.3 B9 Drainage Area. (Shingwidzi, Mphongolo Rivers)

Very stable water levels is indicated (GRAPH 28)

Comparison with previous levels:

Last quarter; AUGUST 2010 TO NOVEMBER 2010 (Midway to the end of the past dry season)

All 3 stations indicate lower water levels (GRAPHS 29 & 31)

Past year; NOVEMBER 2009 TO NOVEMBER 2010

2 stations indicate a decline in water level and 1 rising (GRAPHS 303 & 31)

6) OLIFANTS WATER MANAGEMENT AREA.

The part of this Water Management Area within the Limpopo Province mostly consists of the B3, B5 & B7 secondary drainage areas.

6.1 B3 Drainage Area. (Elands, Gotwane Rivers (Springbok flats area)

The water levels at Tuinplaas & Settlers rose considerably over the past year but Settlers has since started to decline again (GRAPH 32)

Comparison with previous levels:

Last quarter; AUGUST 2010 TO NOVEMBER 2010 (Midway to the end of the past dry season)

2 of the 3 stations indicate higher levels, (GRAPH 33)

Past year; NOVEMBER 2009 TO NOVEMBER 2010

Also 2 of the 3 with rising levels (GRAPH 34)

The water levels at Settlers and Tuinplaas are well above the worst recorded (GRAPH 35)

6.2 B5 Drainage Area. (Olifants, Nkumpi Rivers)

Late season recharge very clear at Modderfontein on the dolomite aquifer (GRAPH 36)

Comparison with previous levels:

Last quarter; AUGUST 2010 TO NOVEMBER 2010 (Midway to the end of the past dry season)

Water levels lower at 5 of 7 stations (GRAPHS 37 & 39)

Past year; NOVEMBER 2009 TO NOVEMBER 2010

6 of 7 stations indicate higher water levels than the same time last year **GRAPHS 38 & 39**

Current average water levels compare very favorable with long-term average and the lowest average recorded at stations with long-term data (**GRAPH 39**)

6.3 B7 Drainage Area (Olifants, Selati, Klaserie, Makhutswi Rivers)

Relative stable water levels (**GRAPH 40**)

Comparison with previous levels:

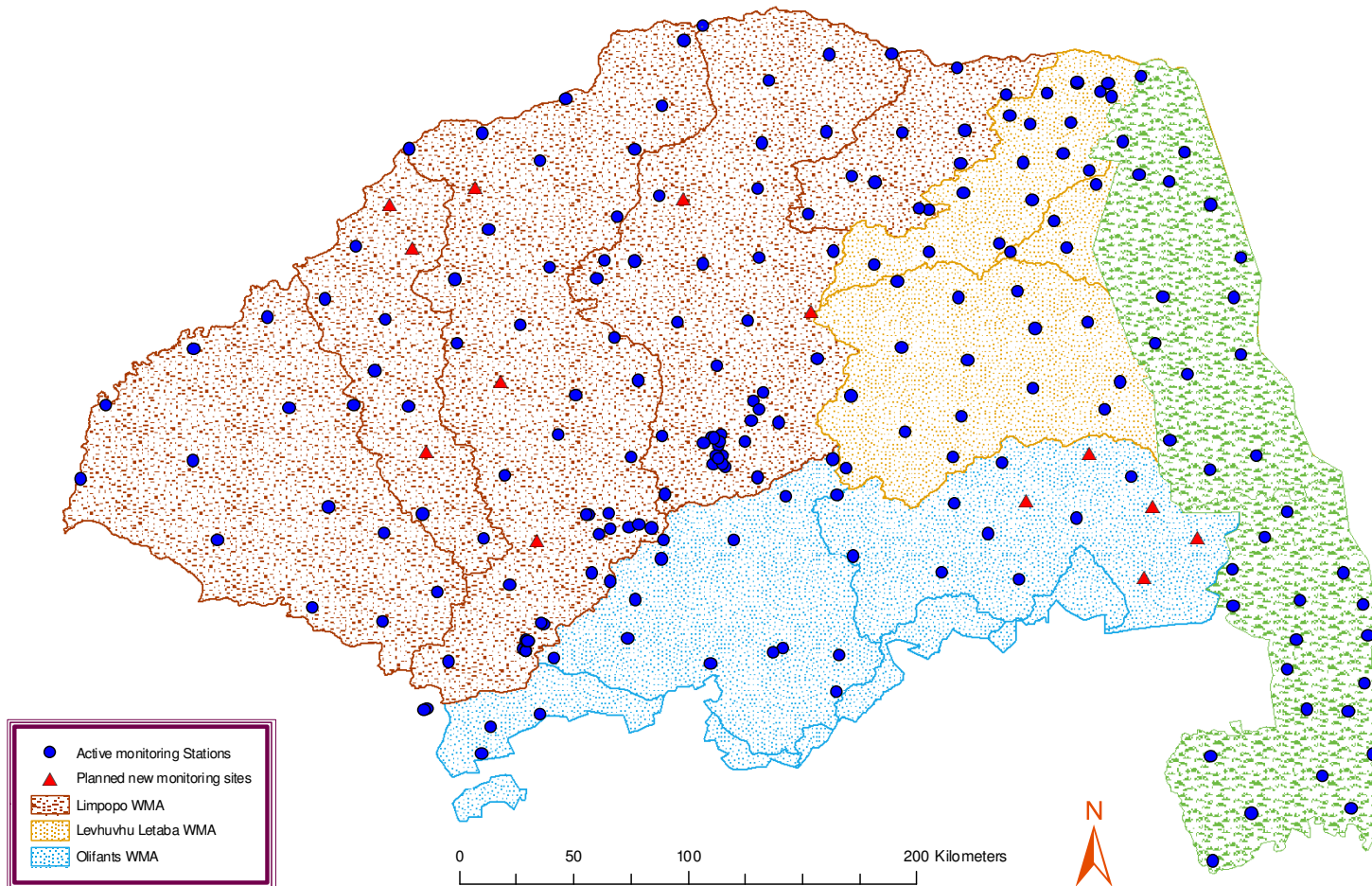
Last quarter; AUGUST 2010 TO NOVEMBER 2010 (Midway to the end of the past dry season)

7 of the 8 stations with data indicate lower water levels (**GRAPHS 41 & 43**)

Past year; NOVEMBER 2009 TO NOVEMBER 2010

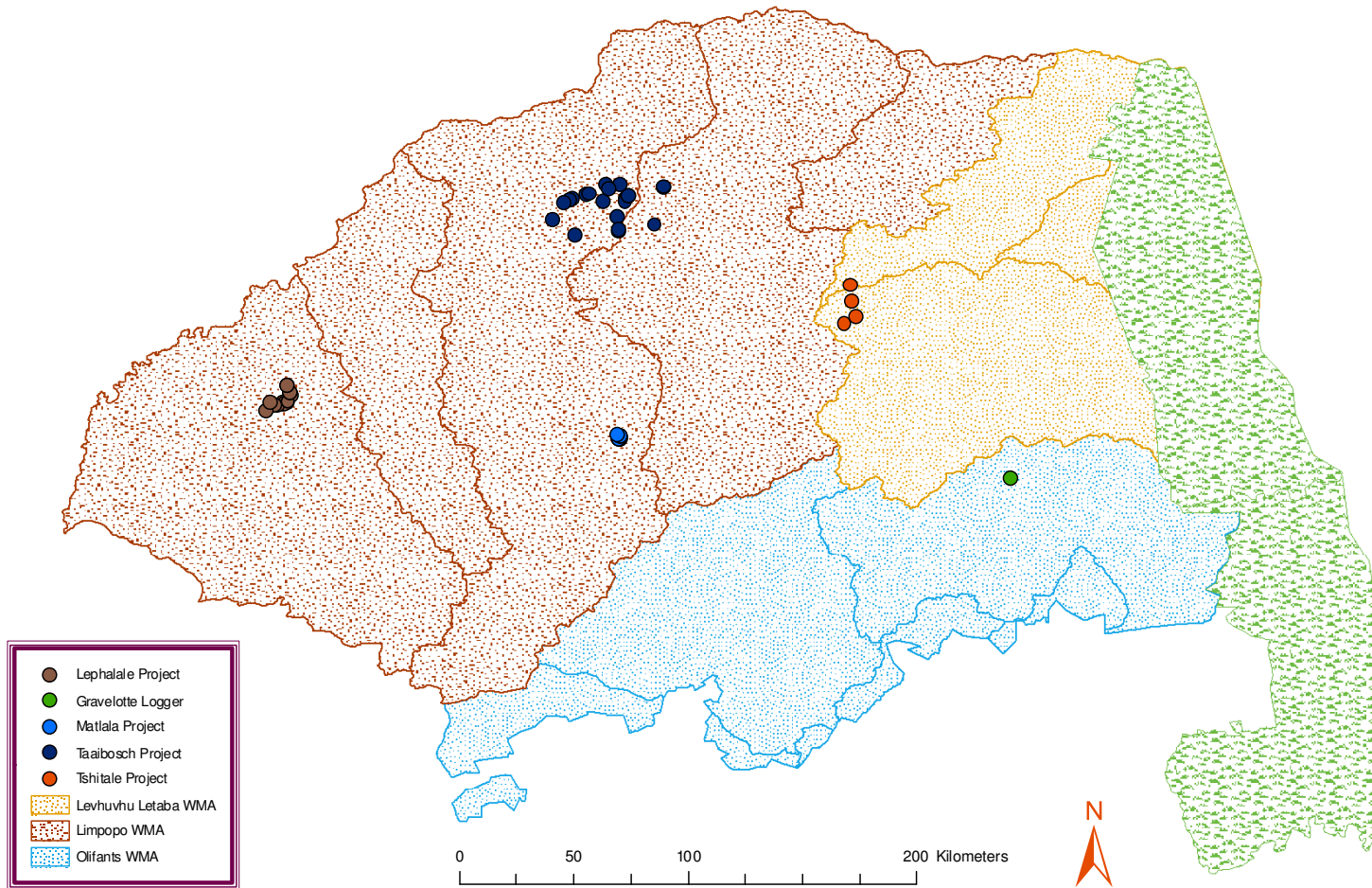
3 Stations indicate higher water levels and 5 lower (**GRAPHS 44 & 45**).

LIMPOPO REGION
POSITIONS OF ACTIVE AND PLANNED GROUNDWATER LEVEL MONITORING STATIONS



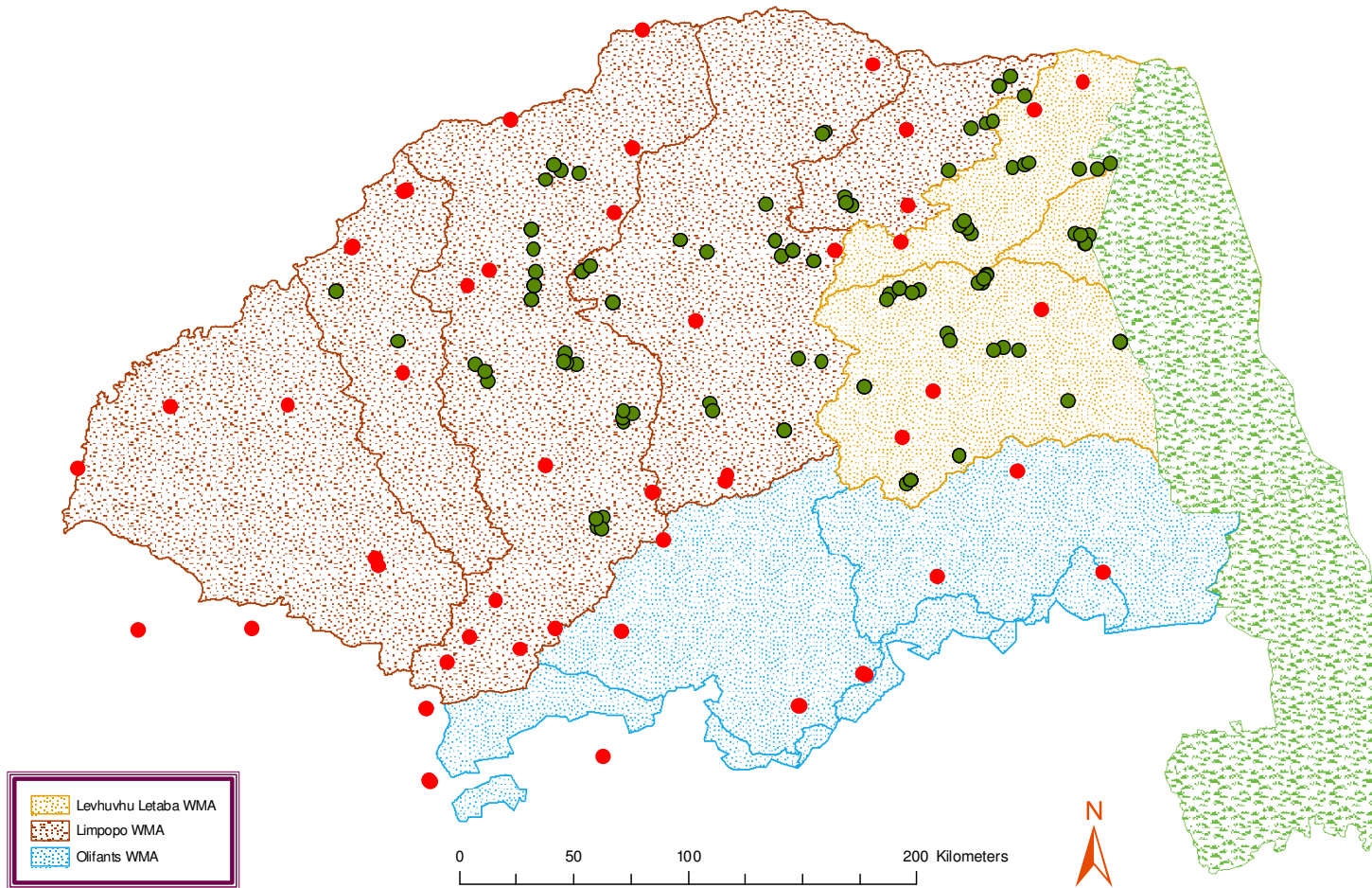
MAP 1

LIMPOPO REGION
POSITIONS OF PROJECT GROUNDWATER LEVEL MONITORING STATIONS



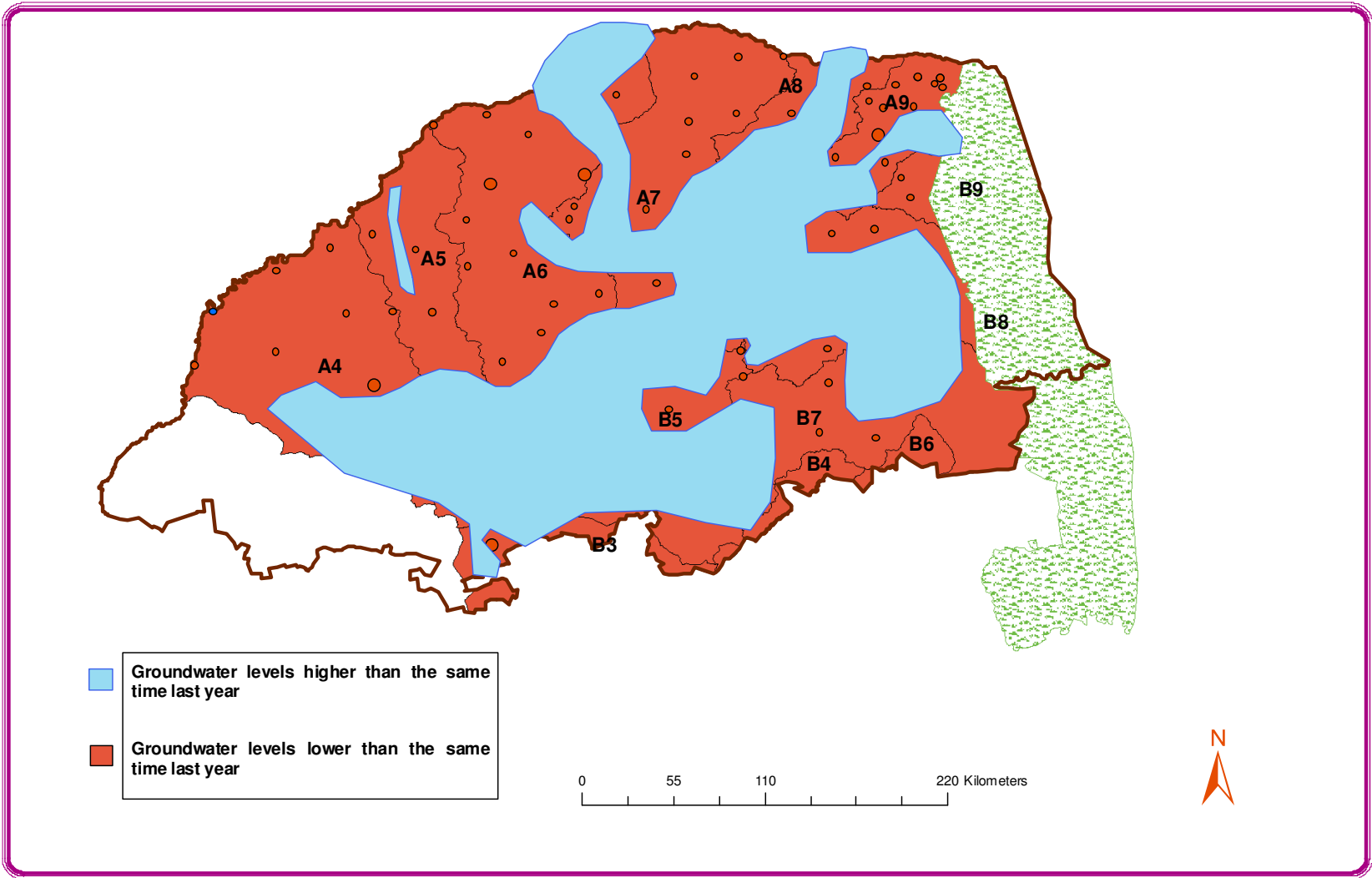
MAP 2

**LIMPOPO REGION
POSITIONS OF GROUNDWATER QUALITY MONITORING STATIONS AND SITES SAMPLED
TO IDENTIFY SUITABLE BOREHOLES TO EXTEND THE NETWORK**



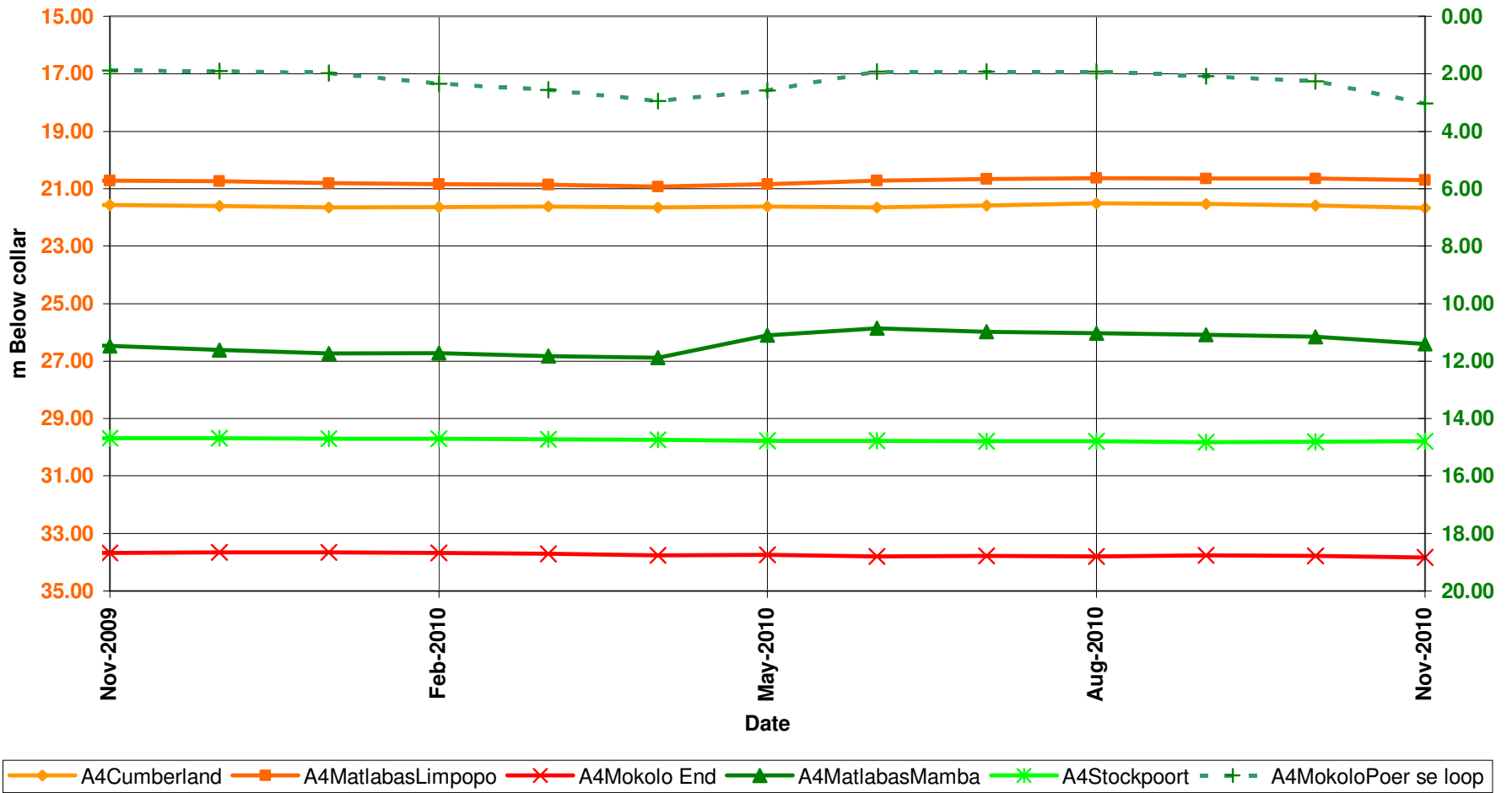
MAP 3

LIMPOPO REGION
PATTERN OF GROUNDWATER LEVEL BEHAVIOUR OVER THE PAST YEAR



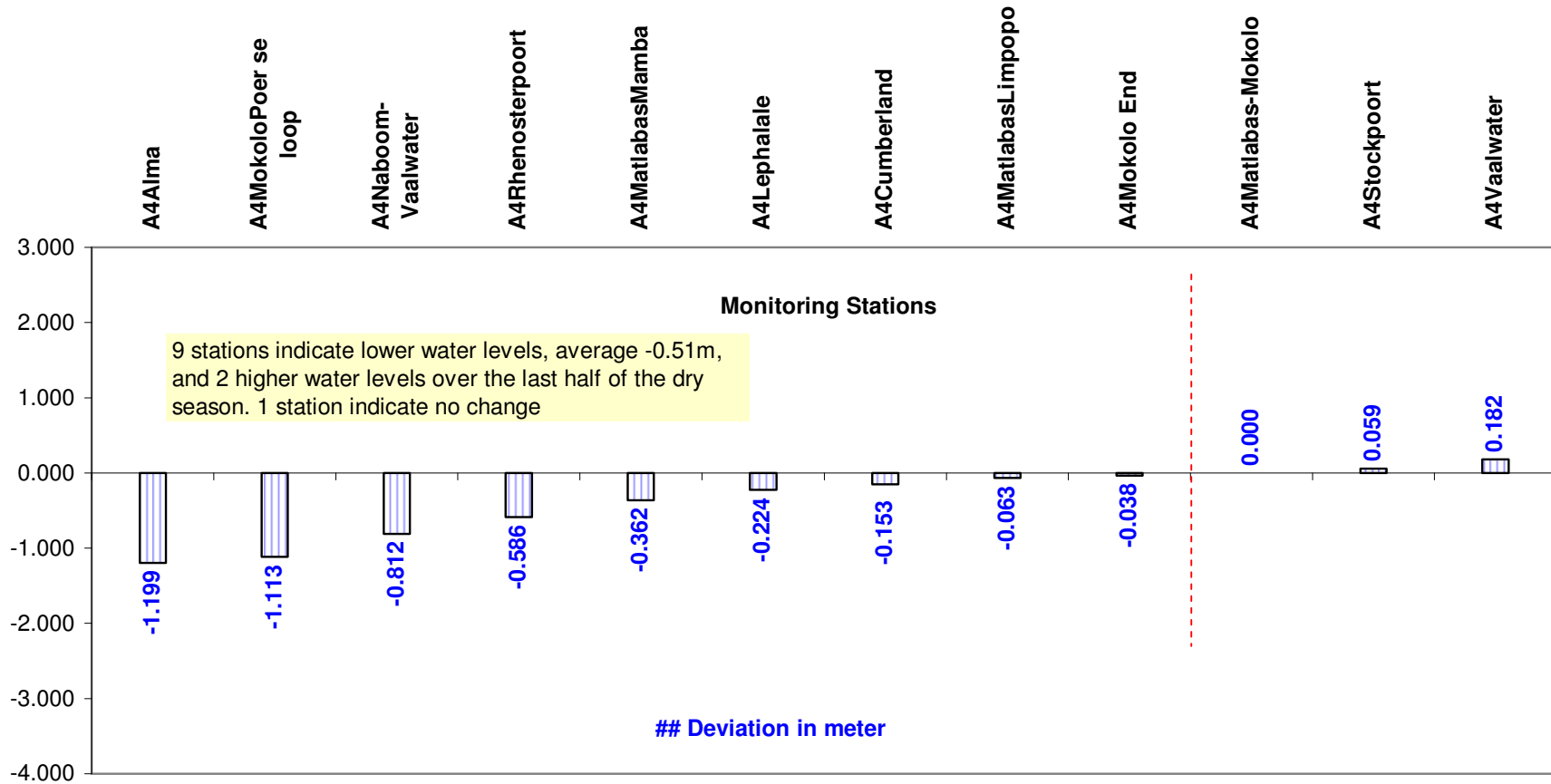
MAP 4

**Water level trend of some stations in A4 drainage:
1 November 2009 to 1 November 2010**



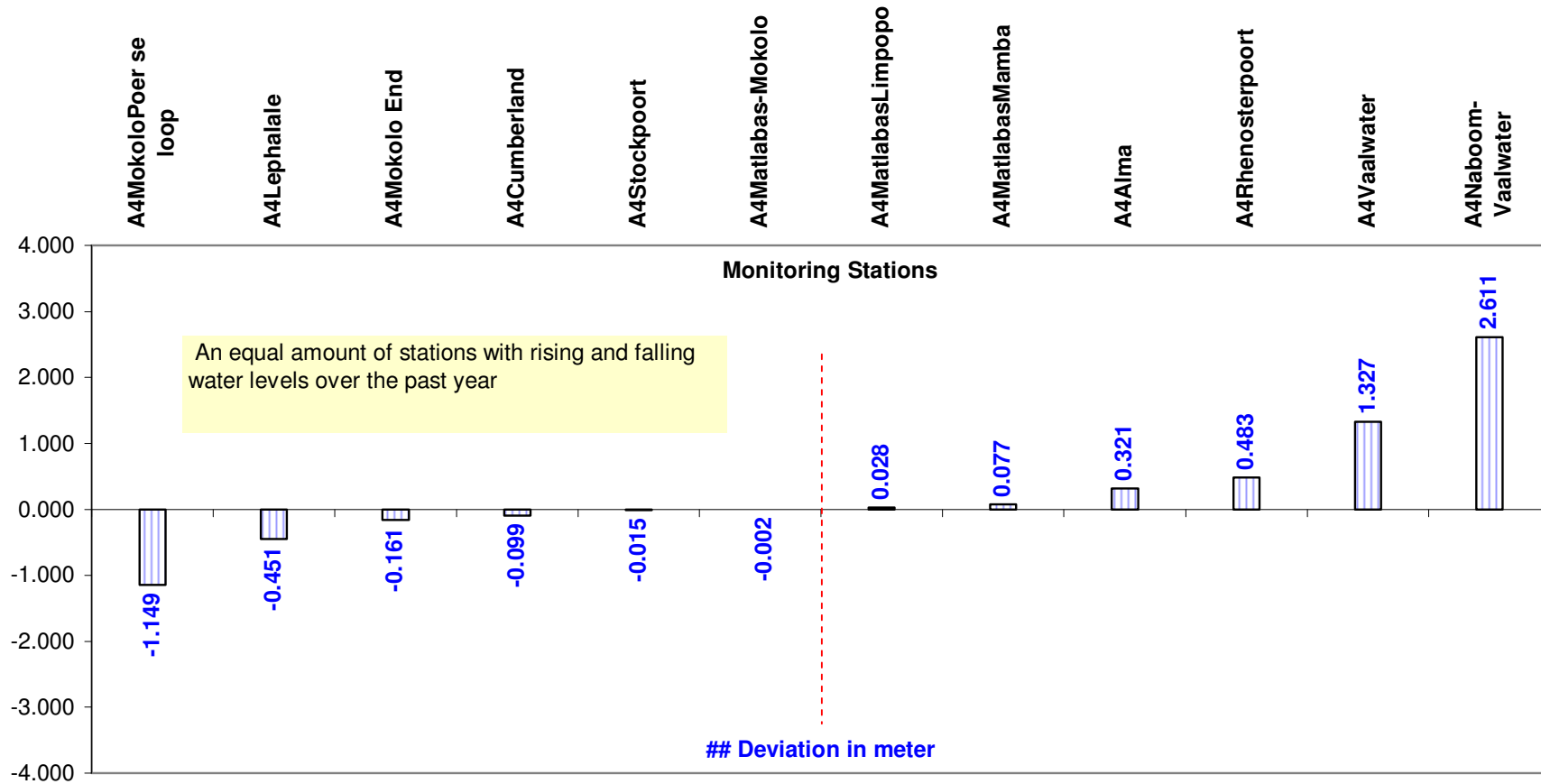
GRAPH 1

A4 DRAINAGE AREA
Deviation of water levels: 1 August 2010 to 1 November 2010



GRAPH 2

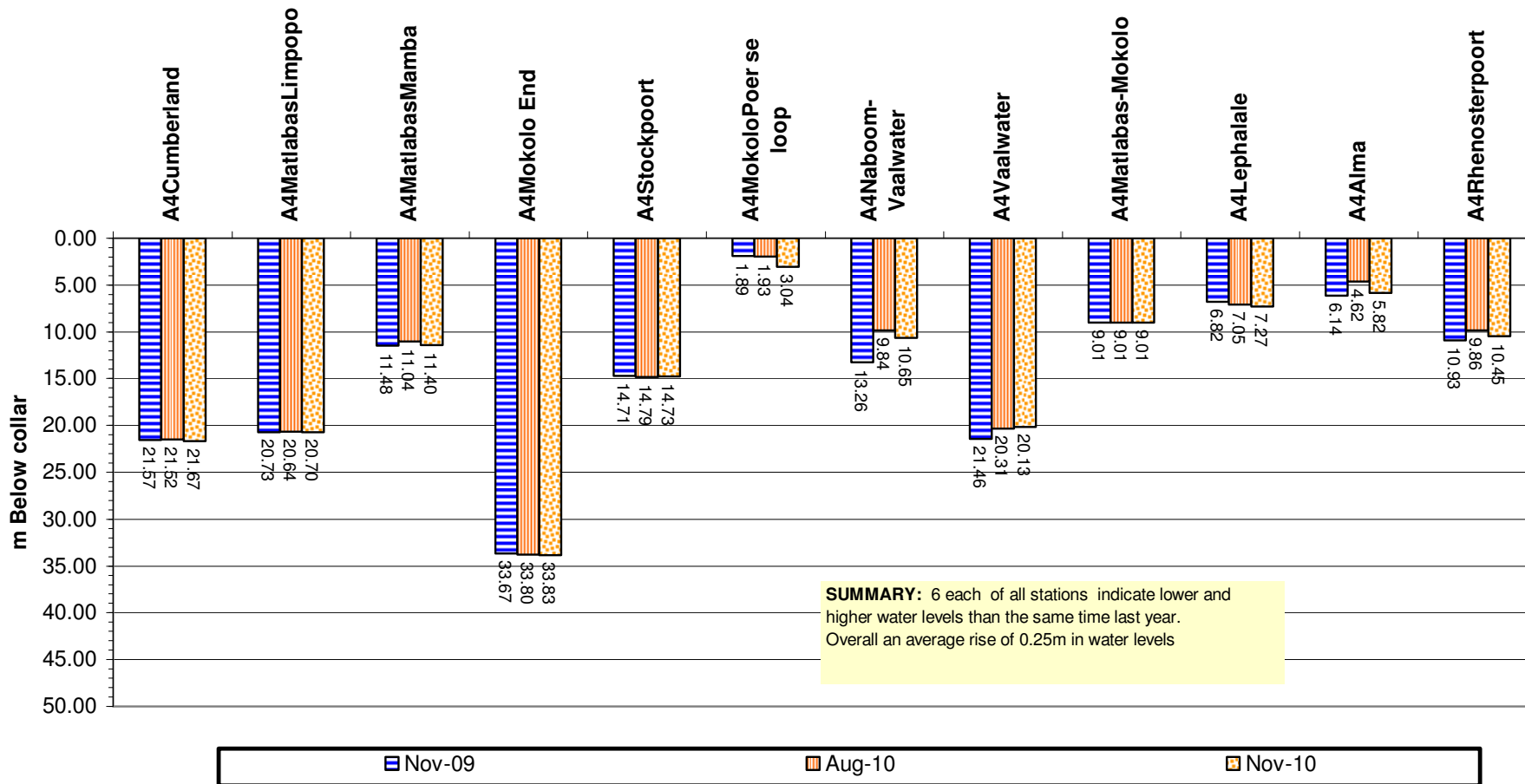
A4 DRAINAGE AREA
Deviation of water levels: 1 November 2009 to 1 November 2010



GRAPH 3

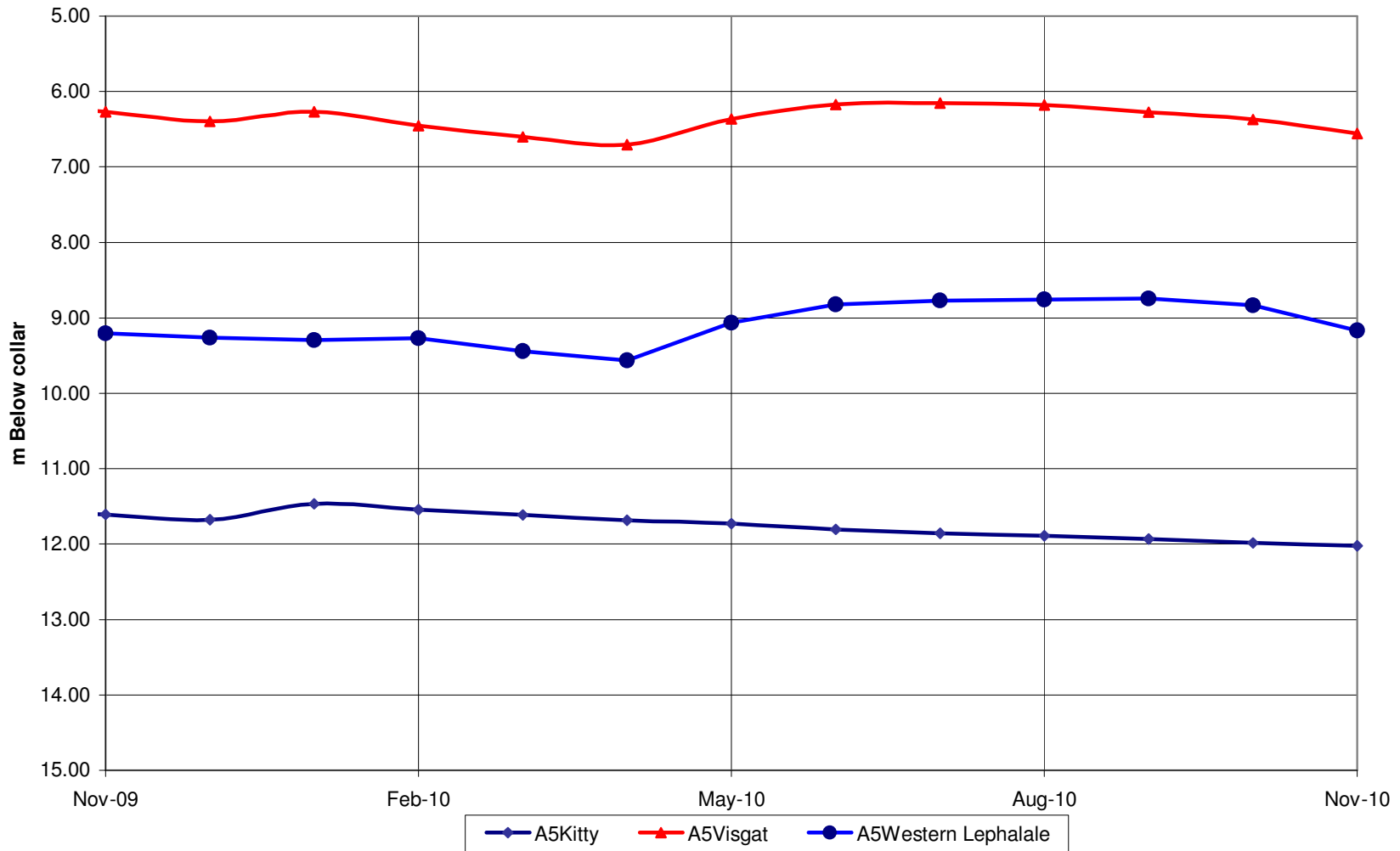
A4 DRAINAGE AREA
Comparison between water levels: 1 November 2009,
1 August 2010 and 1 November 2010

Monitoring Stations



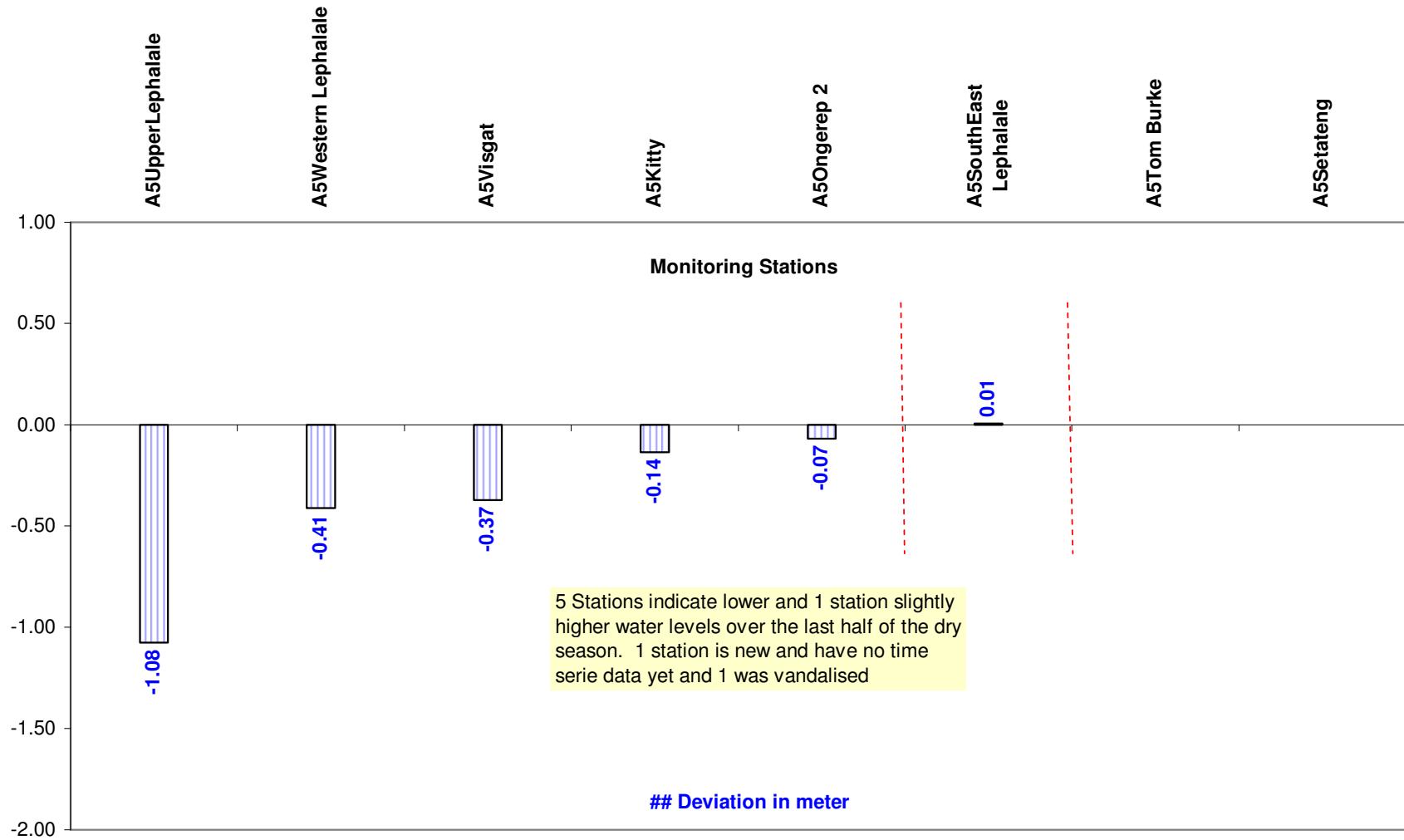
GRAPH 4

Comparison of water level trends at some stations in A5 drainage: 1 November 2009 to 1 November 2010



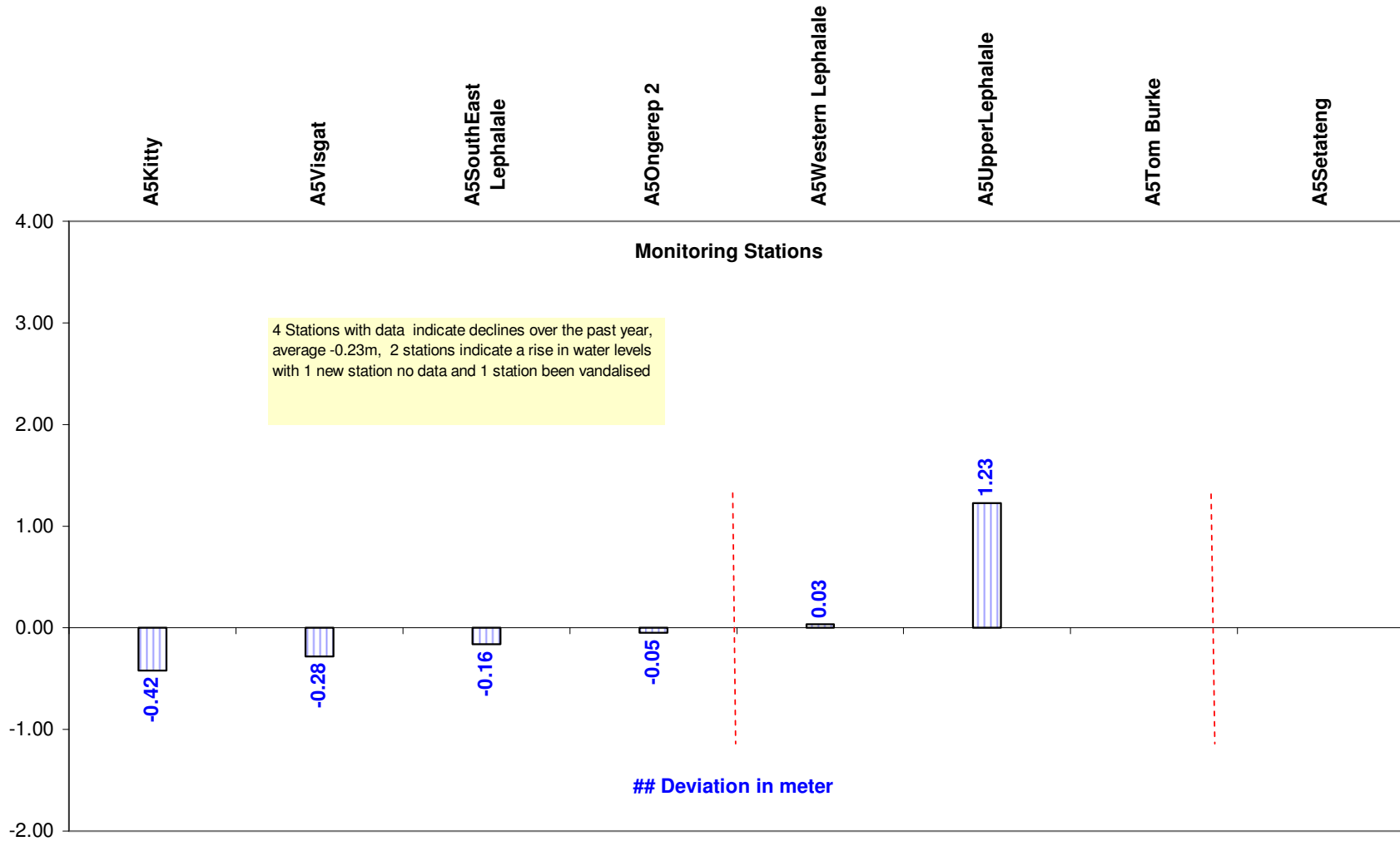
GRAPH 5

A5 DRAINAGE AREA
Deviation of water levels: 1 August 2010 to 1 November 2010



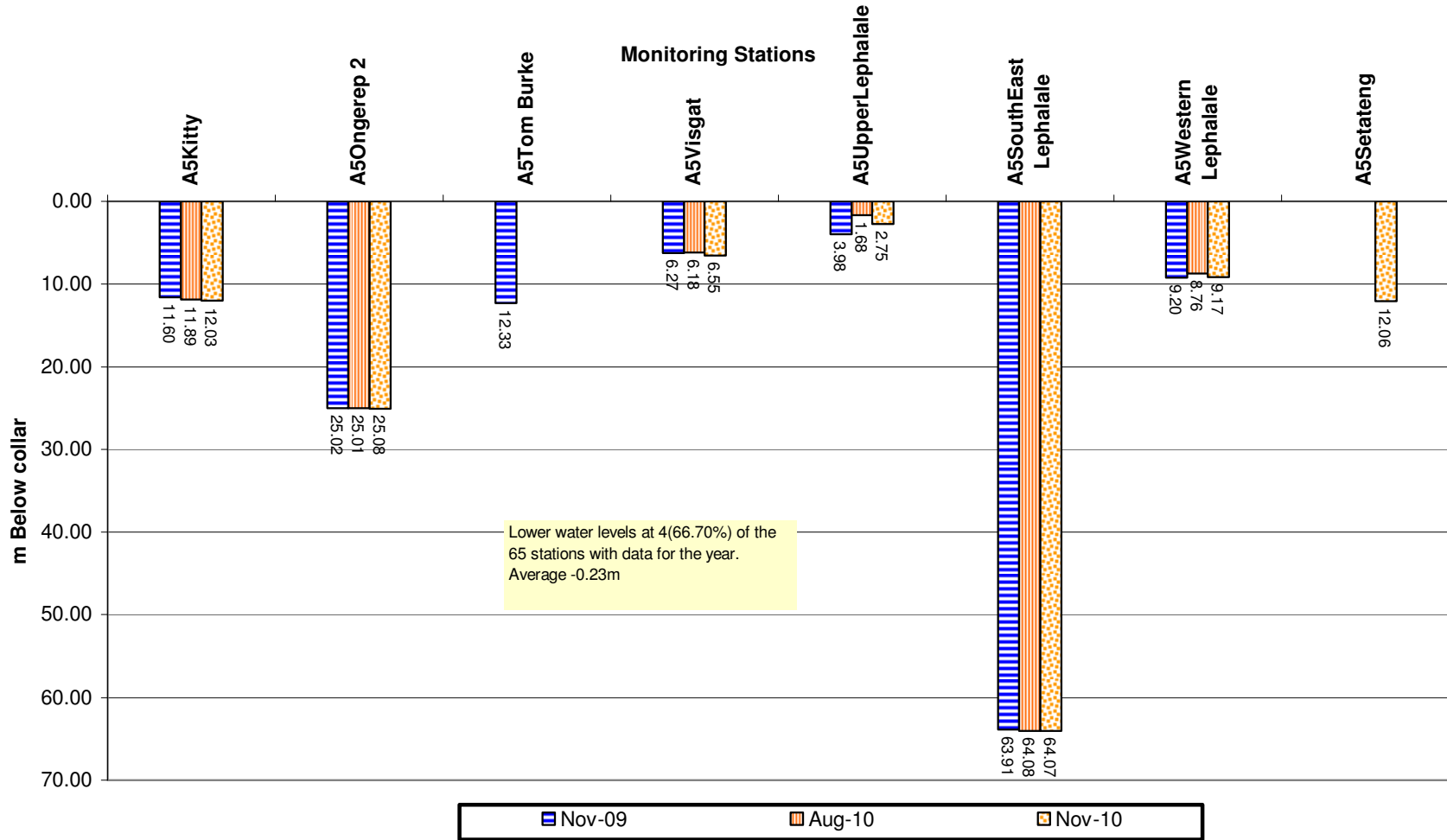
GRAPH 6

A5 DRAINAGE AREA
Deviation of water levels: 1 November 2009 to 1 November 2010



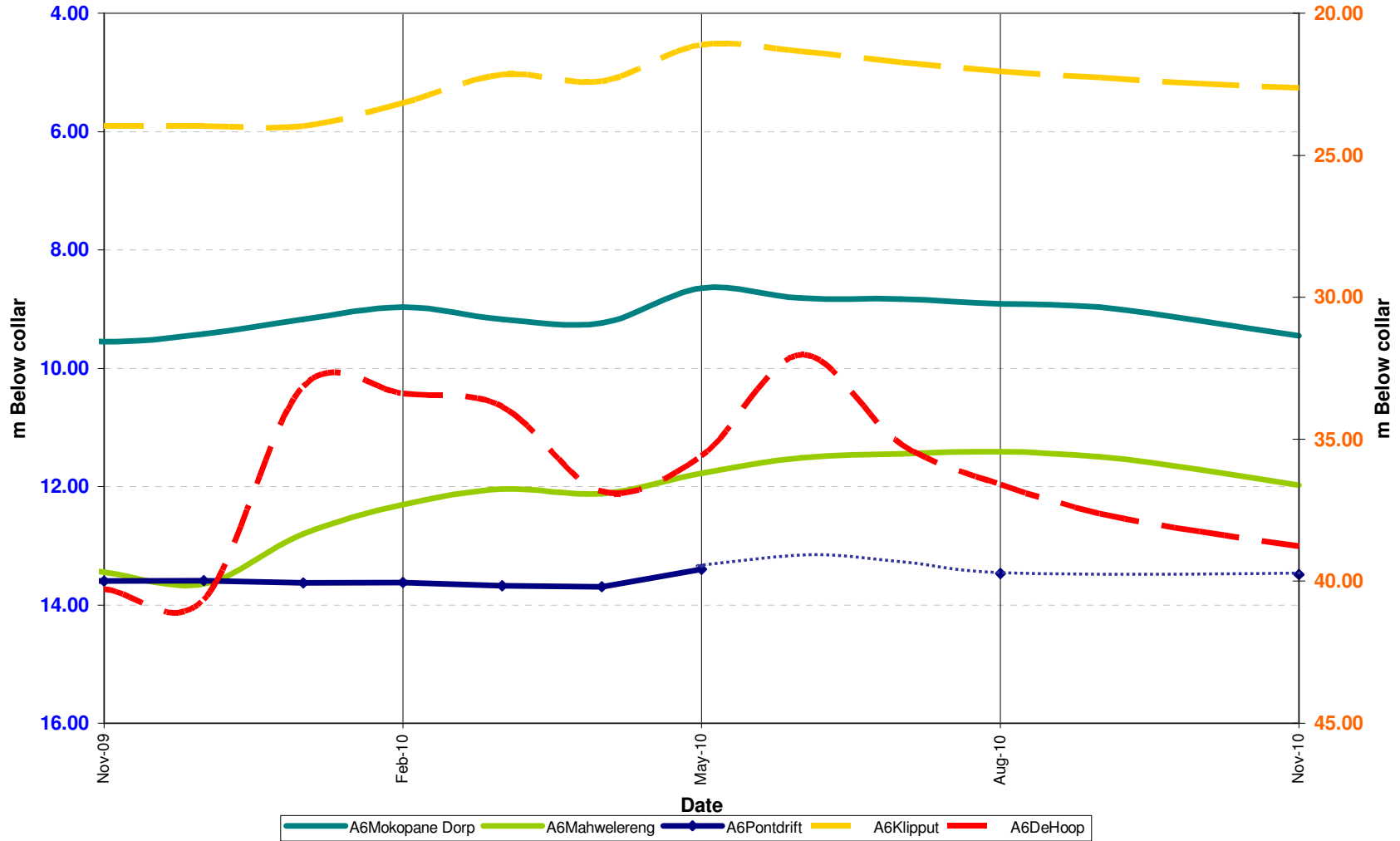
GRAPH 7

A5 DRAINAGE AREA
Comparison between water level depths : 1 November 2009,
1 August 2010 and 1 November 2010



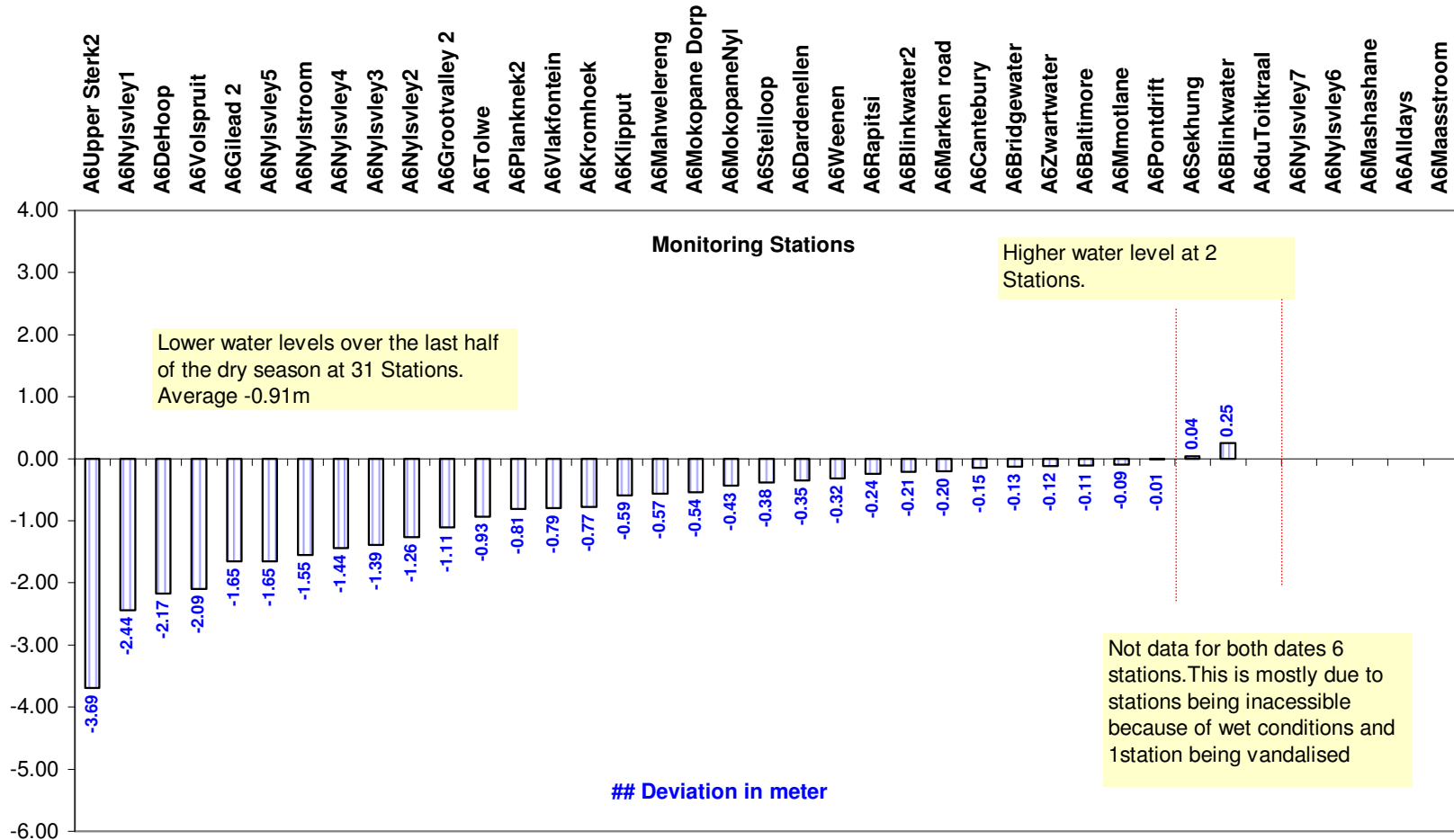
GRAPH 8

Comparison of water level trends at some stations in A6 drainage: 1 November 2009 to 1 November 2010



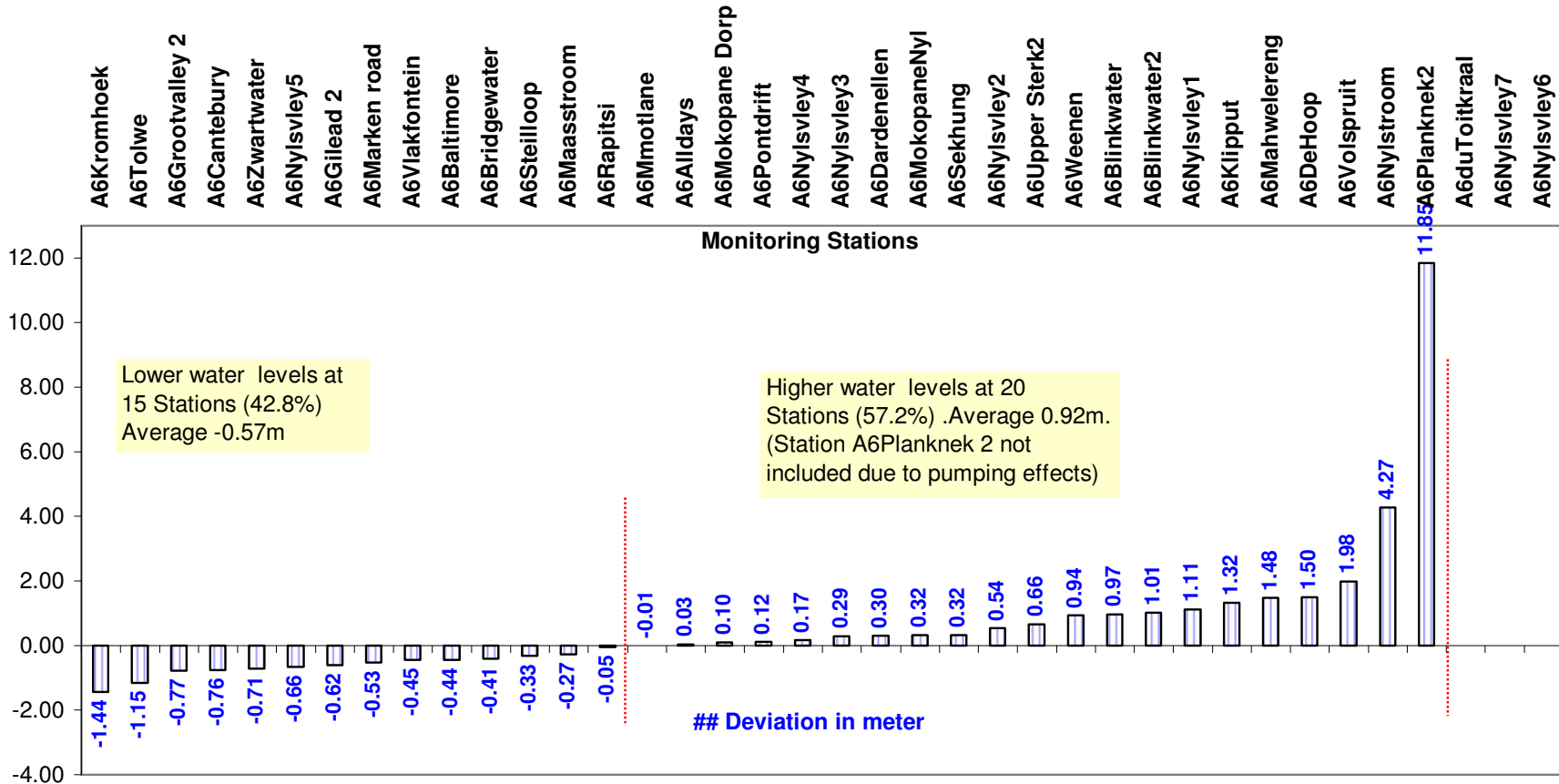
GRAPH 9

A6 DRAINAGE AREA
Deviation of water levels: 1 August 2010 to 1 November 2010



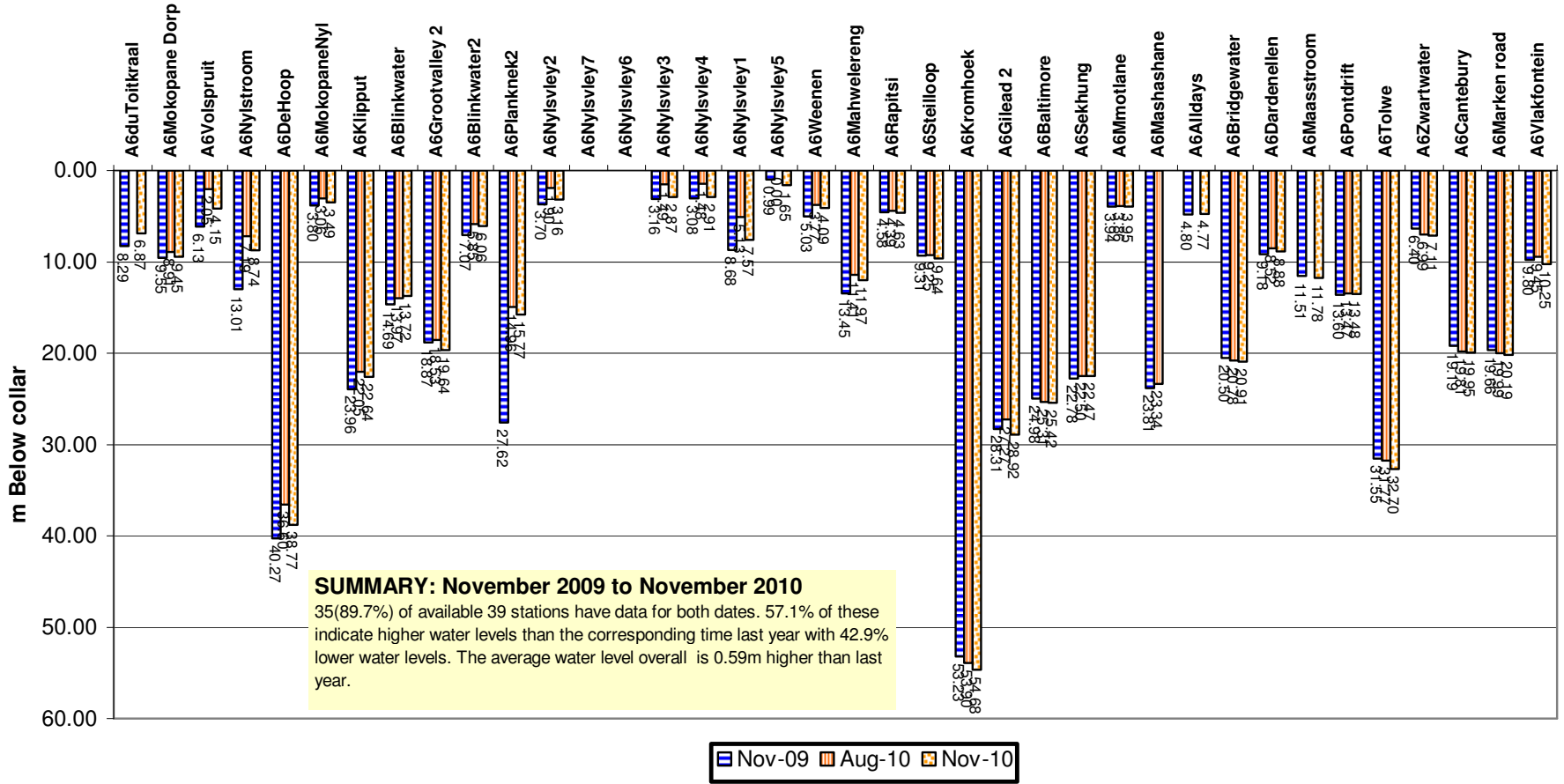
GRAPH 10

A6 DRAINAGE AREA
Deviation of water levels: 1 November 2009 to 1 November 2010



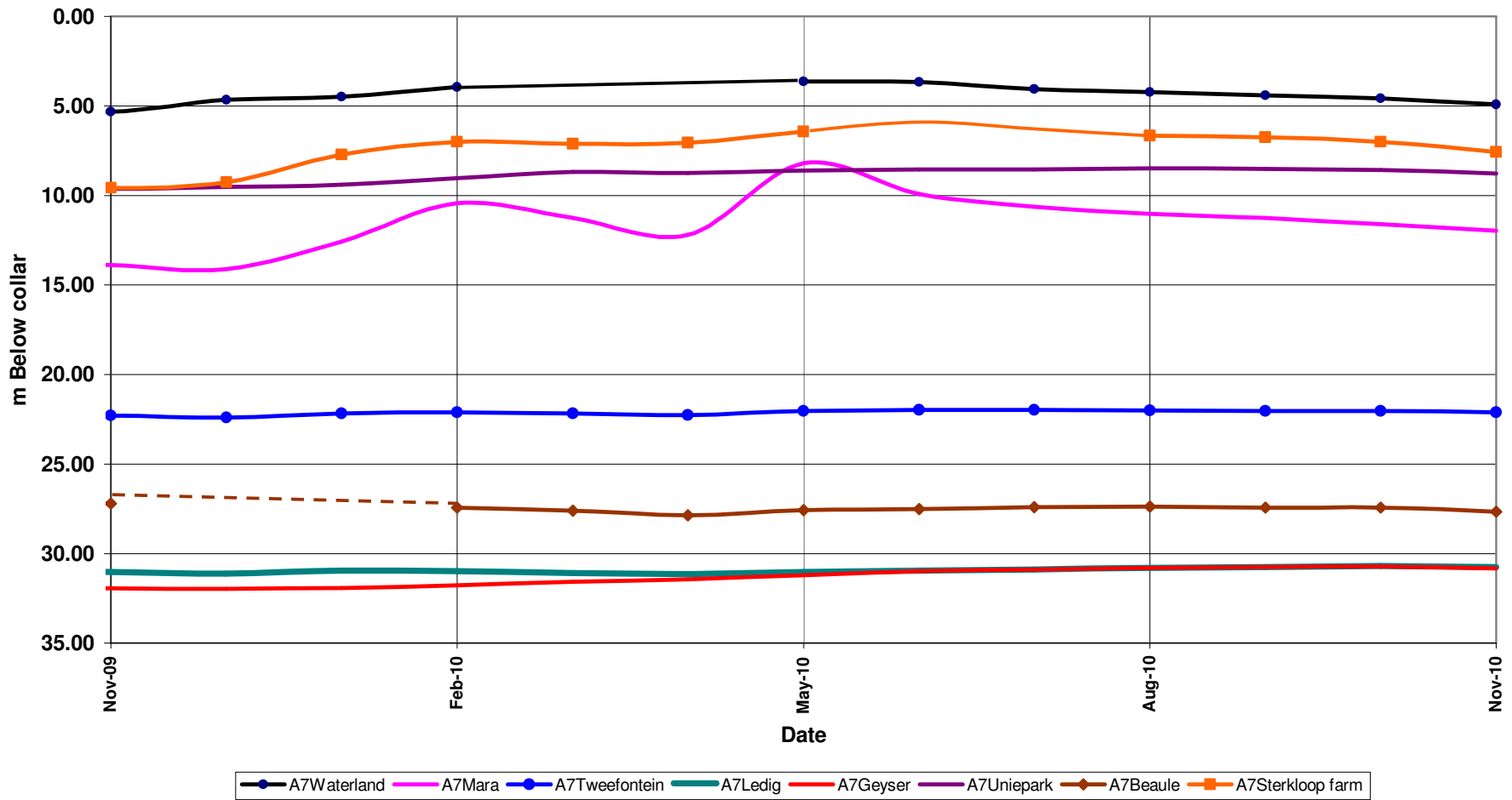
GRAPH 11

A6 DRAINAGE AREA
Comparison between water level depths: 1 November 2009,
1 August 2010, and 1 November 2010
Monitoring Stations



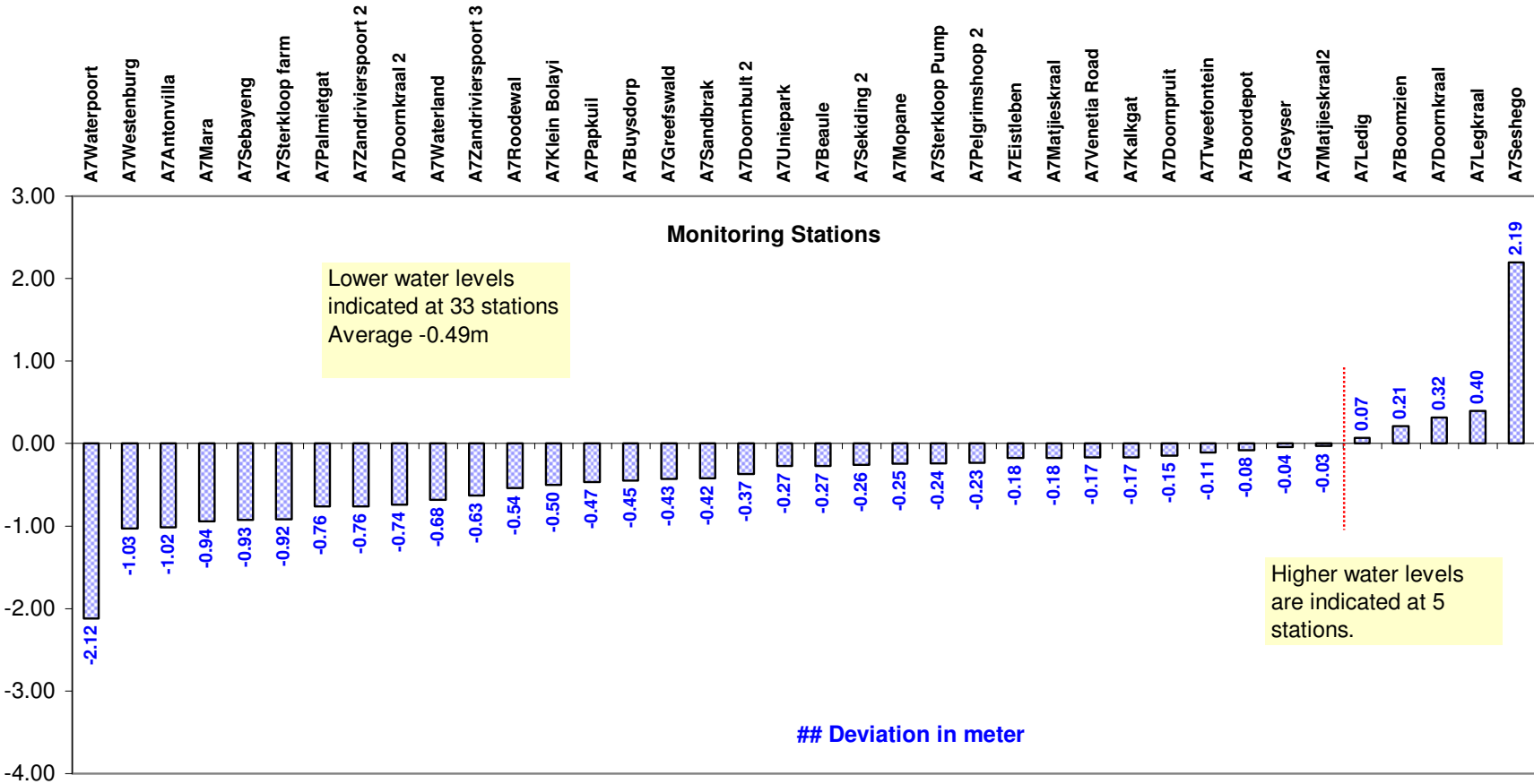
GRAPH 12

Comparison of water level trends at some stations in A7 drainage:
1 November 2009 to 1 November 2010



GRAPH 13

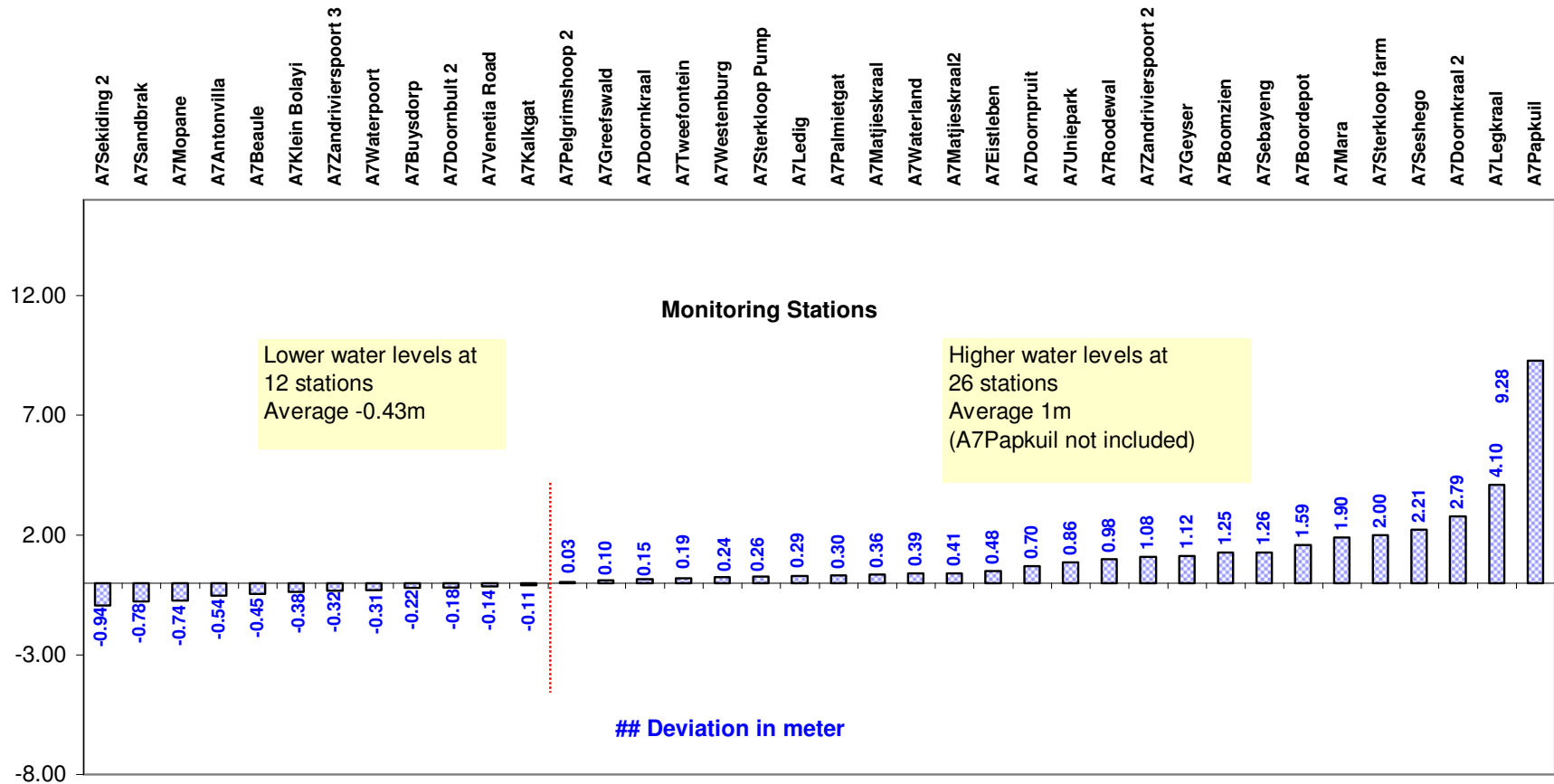
A7 DRAINAGE AREA
Deviation of water level depths: 1 August 2010
to 1 November 2010



GRAPH 14

A7 DRAINAGE AREA

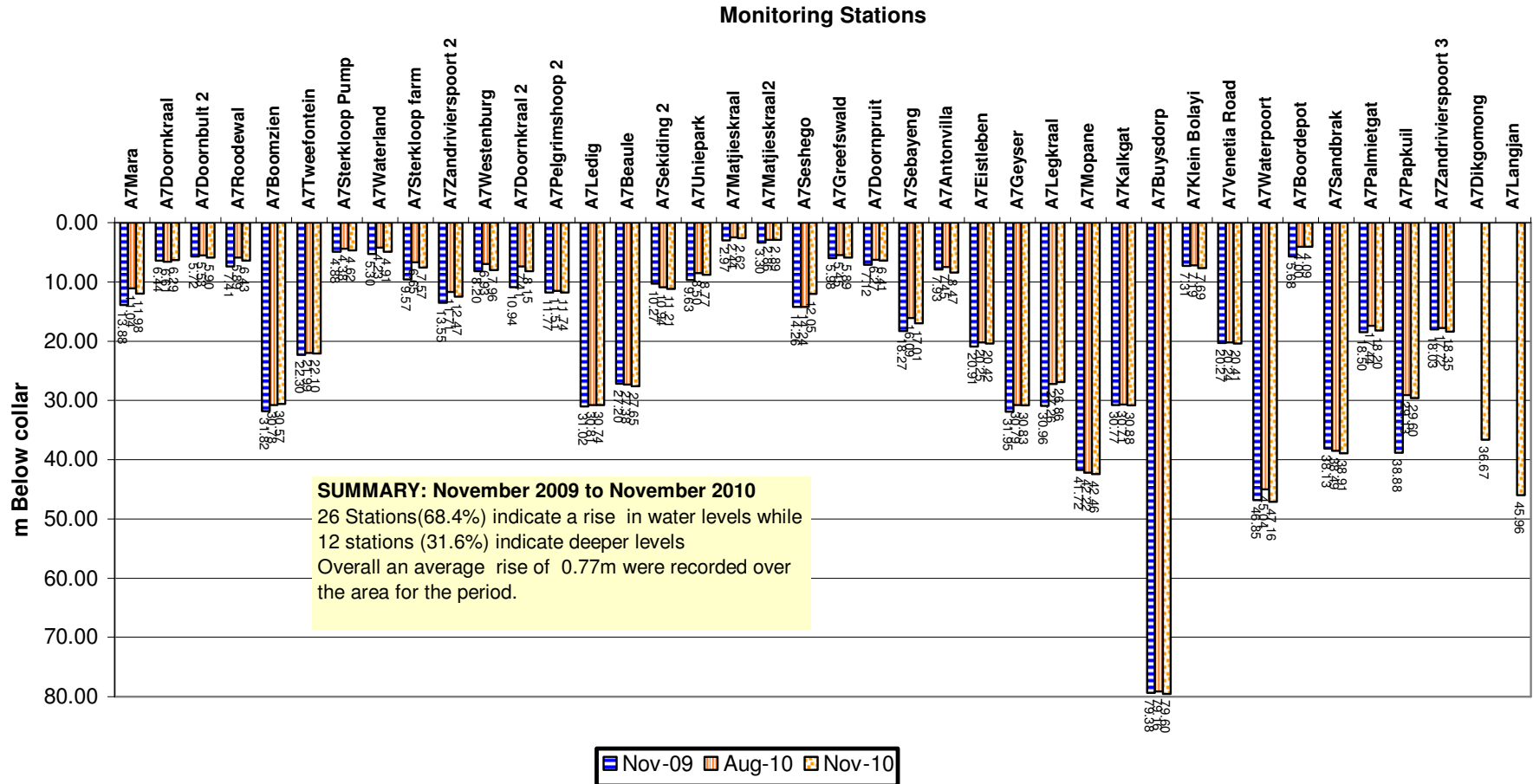
Deviation of water level depths: 1 November 2009 to 1 November 2010



GRAPH 15

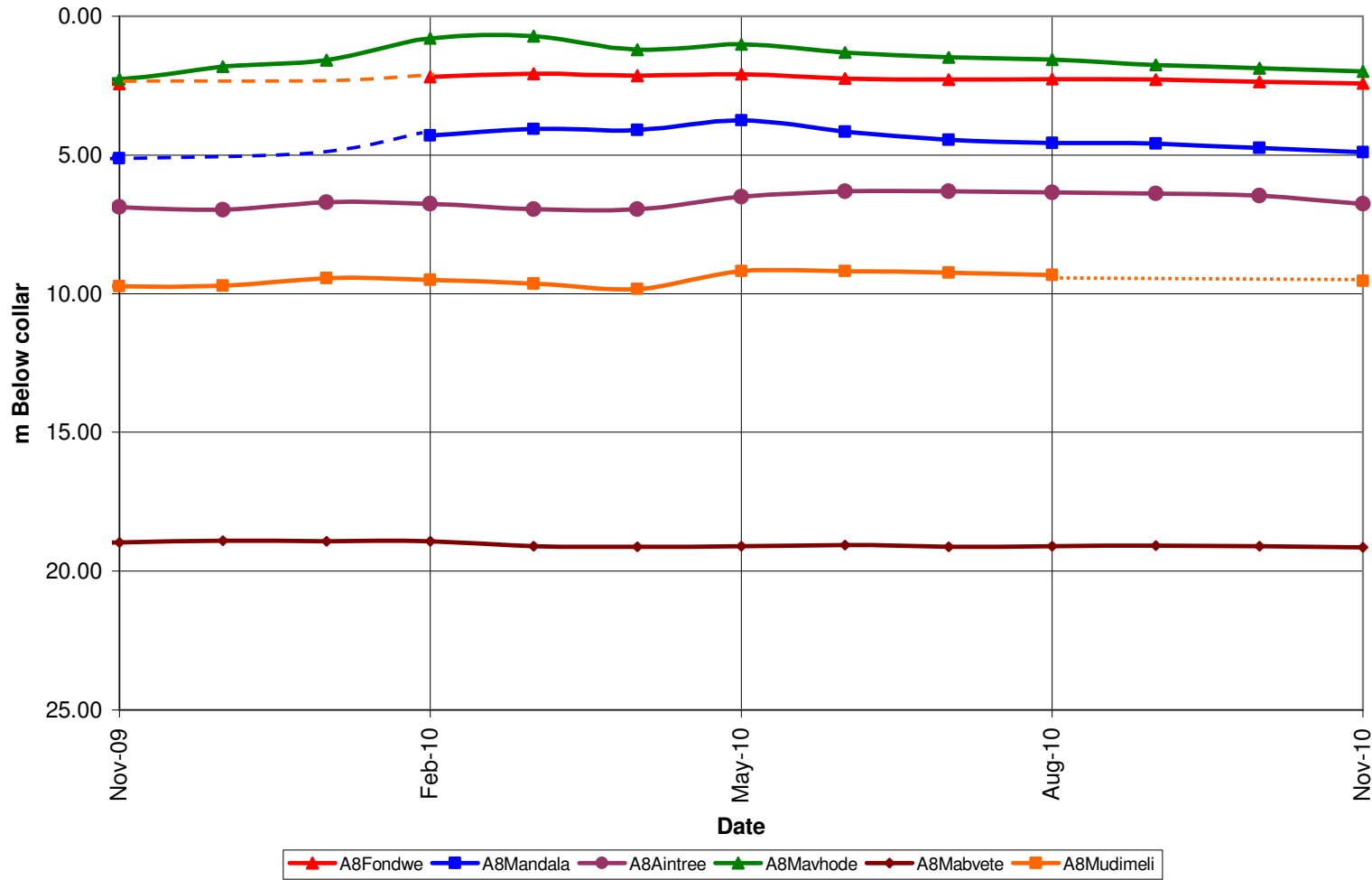
A7 DRAINAGE AREA

Comparison between water level depths: 1 November 2009, 1 August 2010 and 1 November 2010



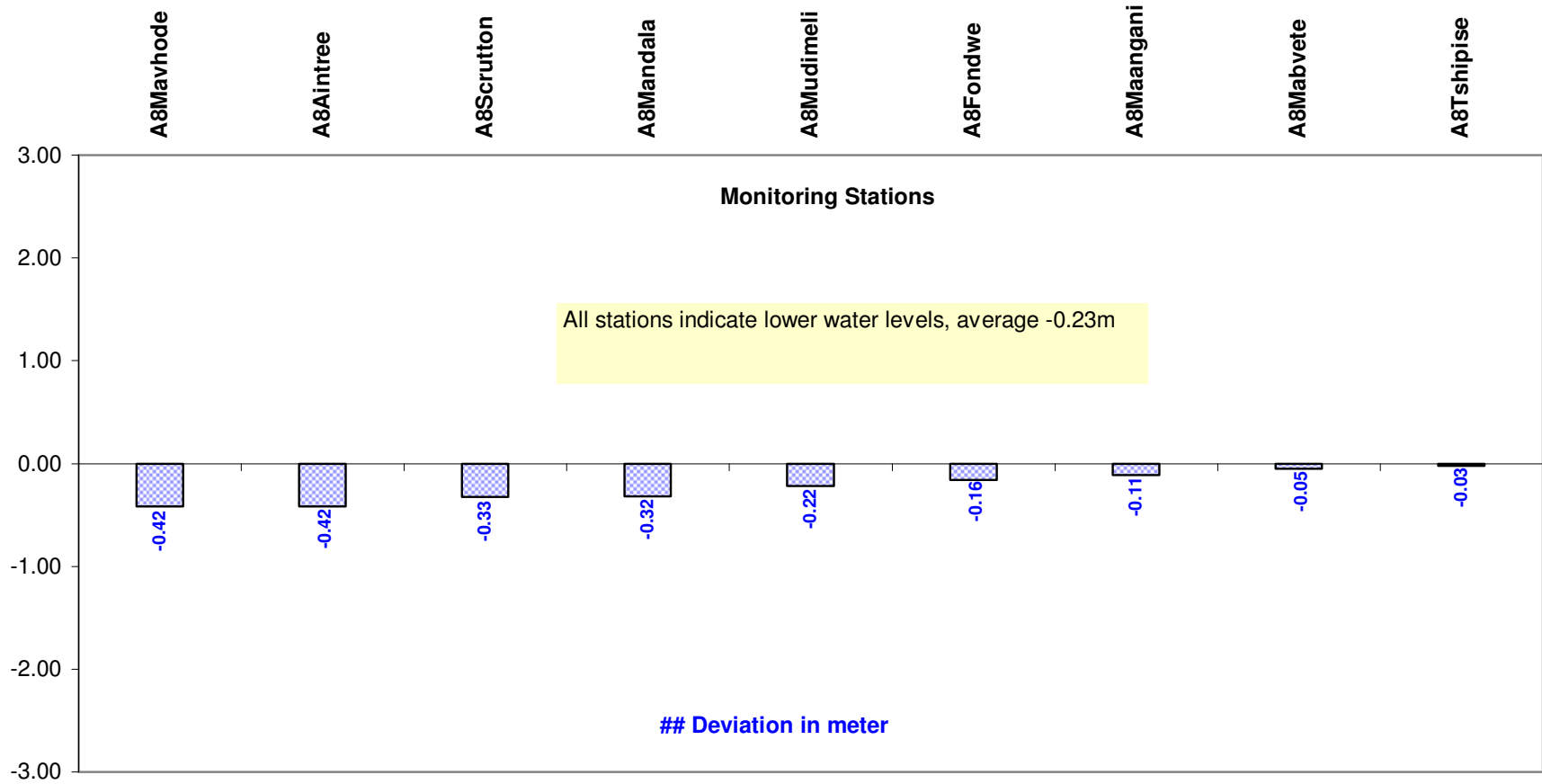
GRAPH 16

Comparison of water level trends at some stations in A8 drainage:
1 November 2009 to 1 November 2010



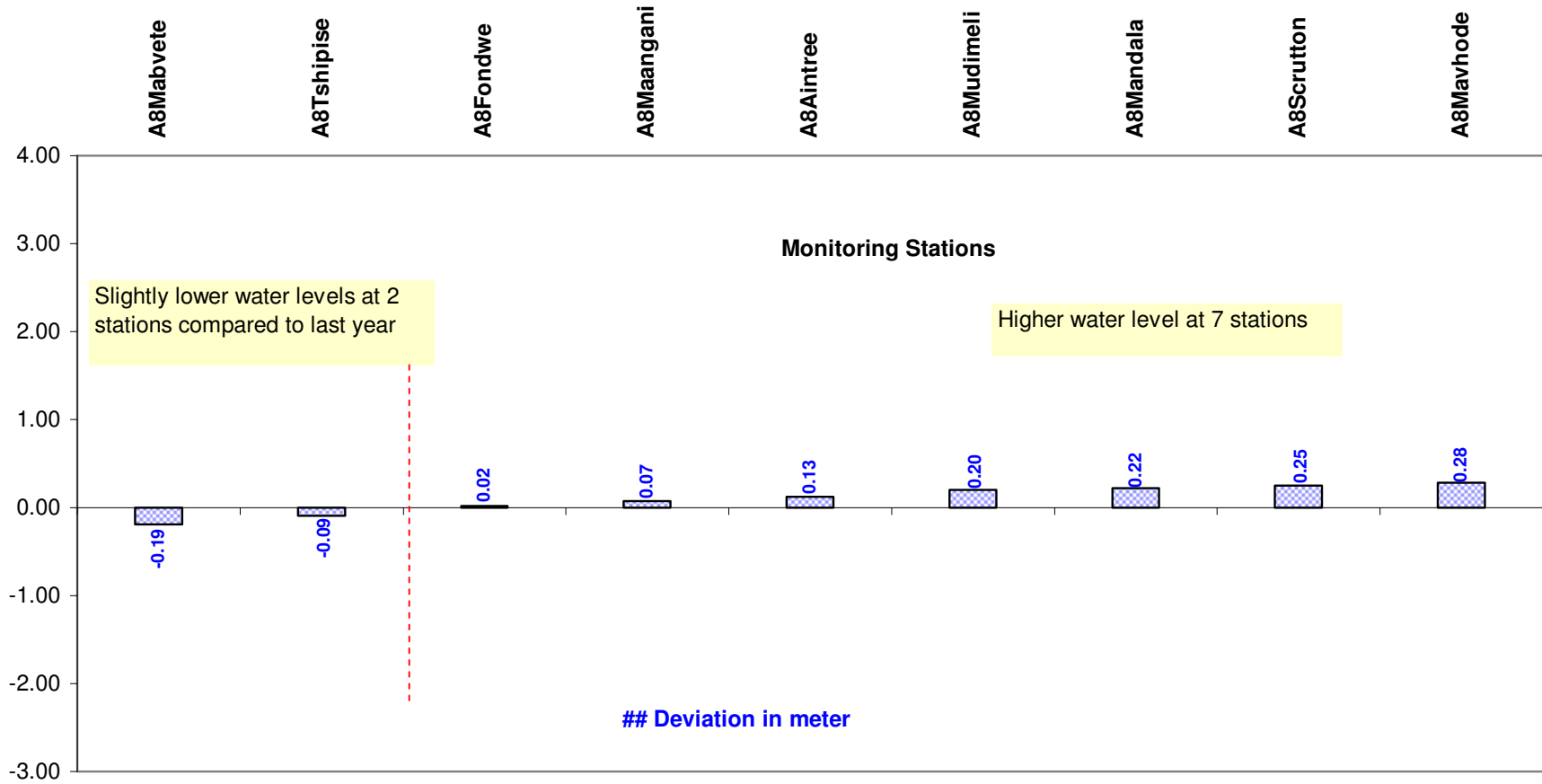
GRAPH 17

A8 DRAINAGE AREA
Deviation of water level depths: 1 August 2010 to 1 November 2010



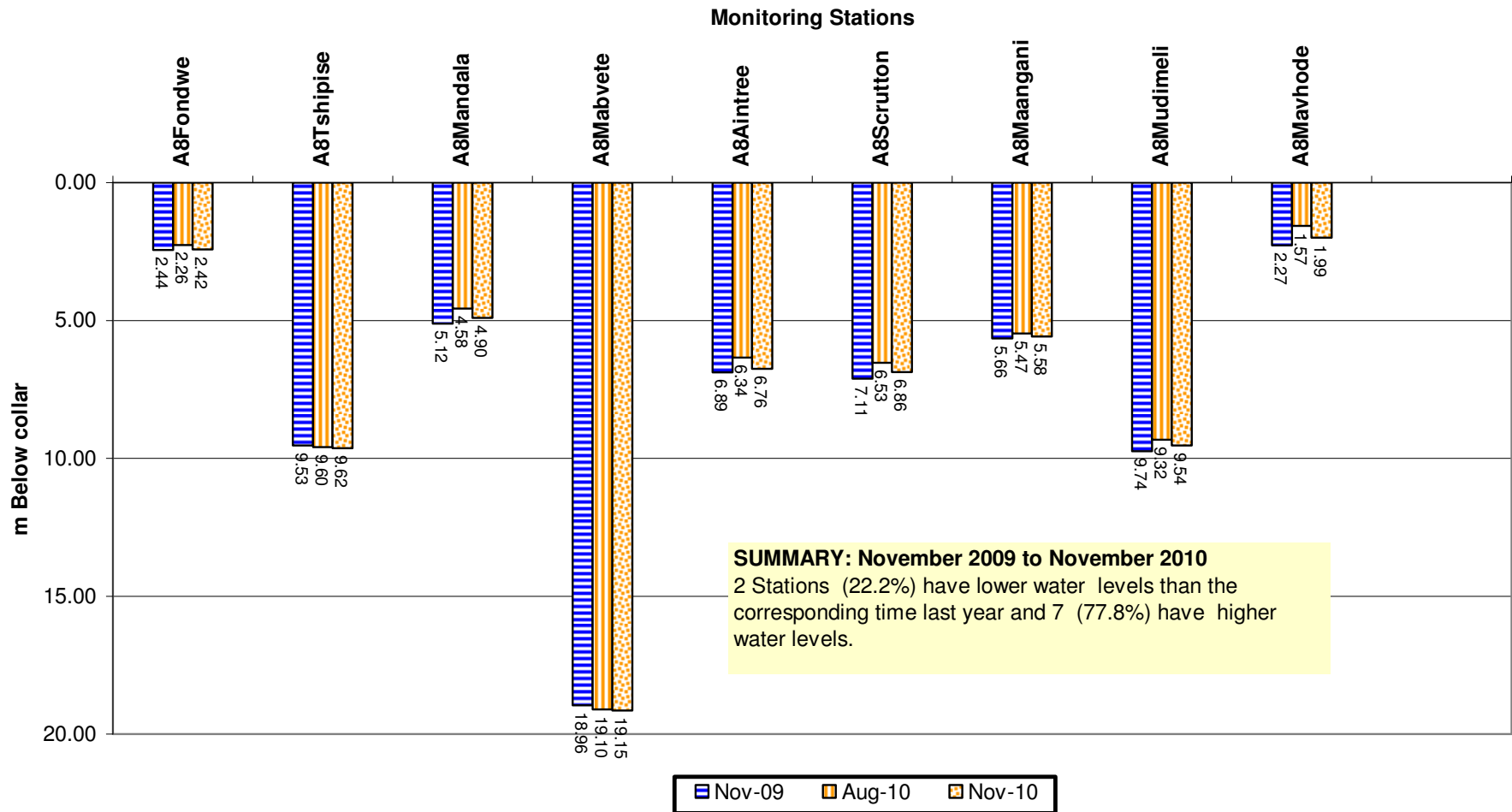
GRAPH 18

A8 DRAINAGE AREA
Deviation of water levels: 1 November 2009 to 1 November 2010



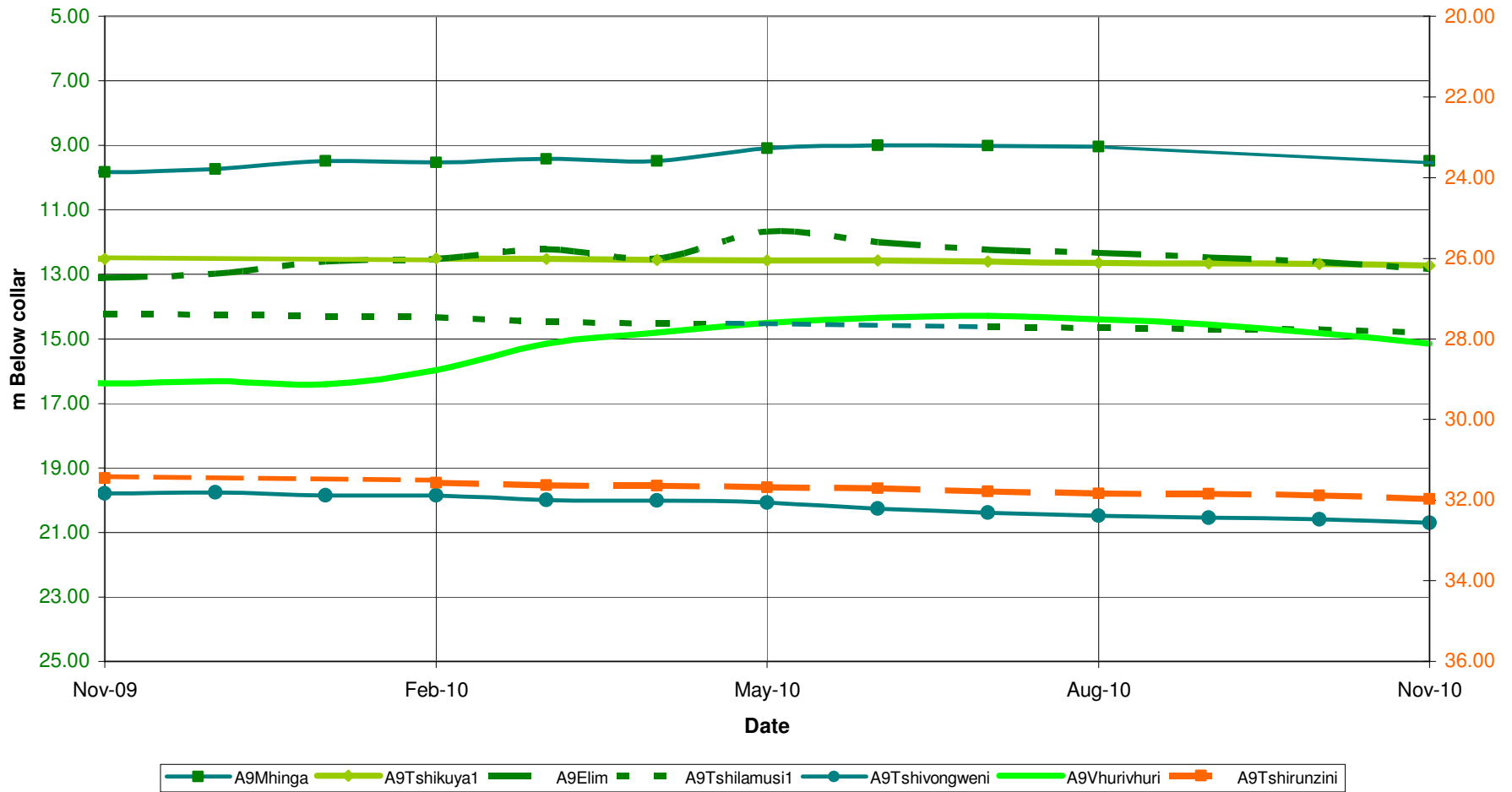
GRAPH 19

A8 DRAINAGE AREA
Comparison between water level depths: 1 November 2009,
1 August 2010 and 1 November 2010



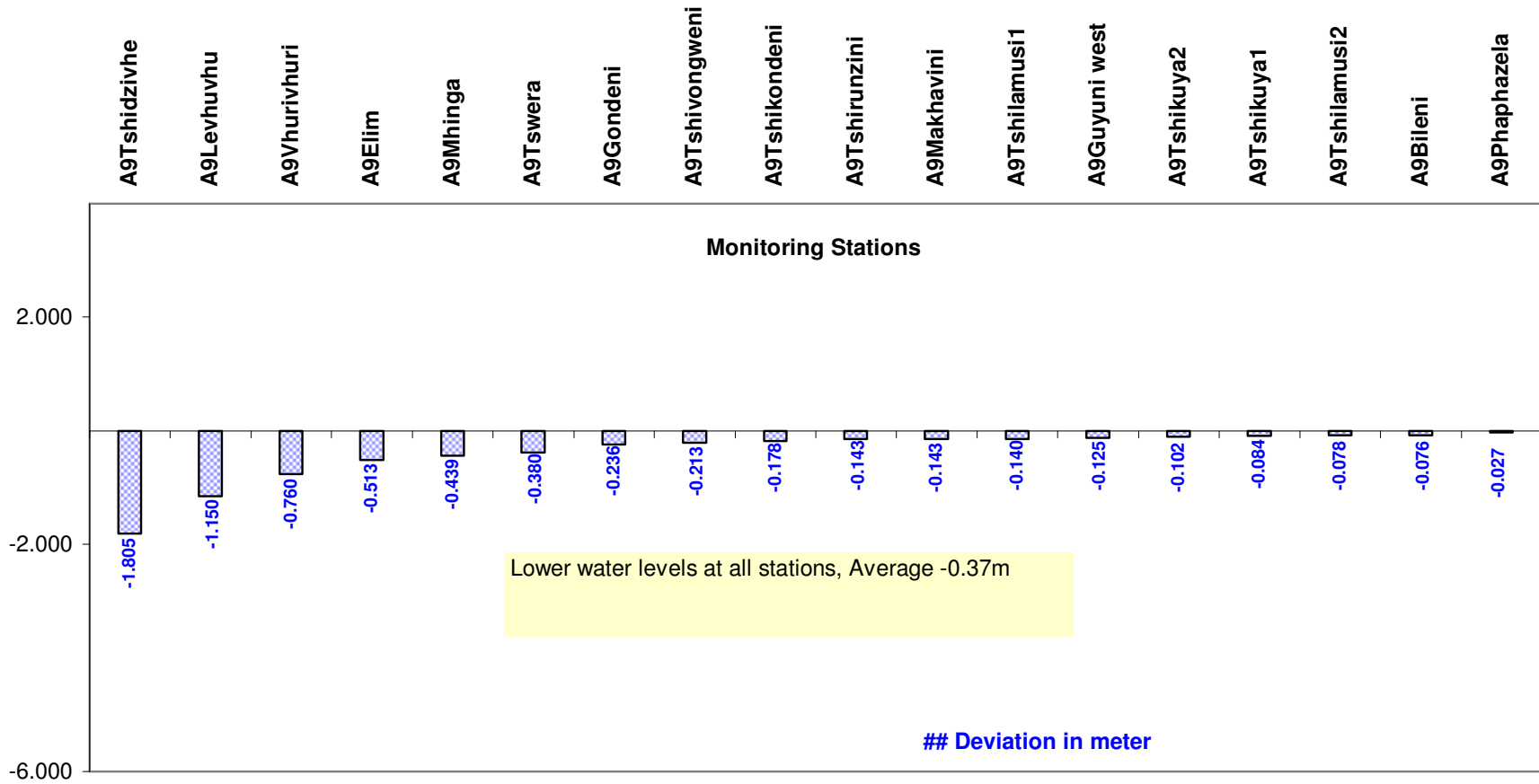
GRAPH 20

**Comparison of water level trends at some stations in A9 drainage :
1 November 2009 to 1 November 2010**



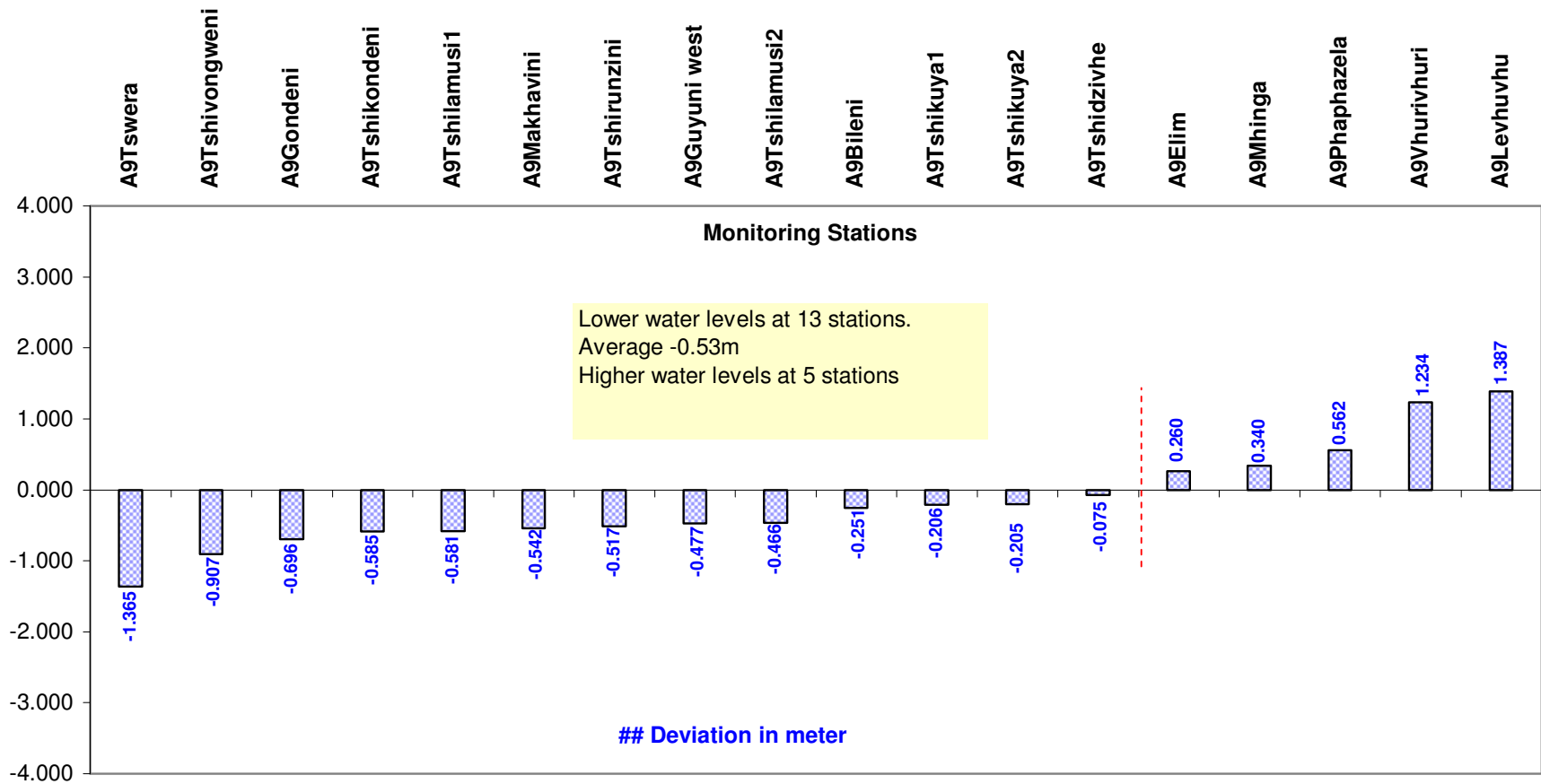
GRAPH 21

A9 DRAINAGE AREA
Deviation of water levels: 1 August 2010 to 1 November 2010



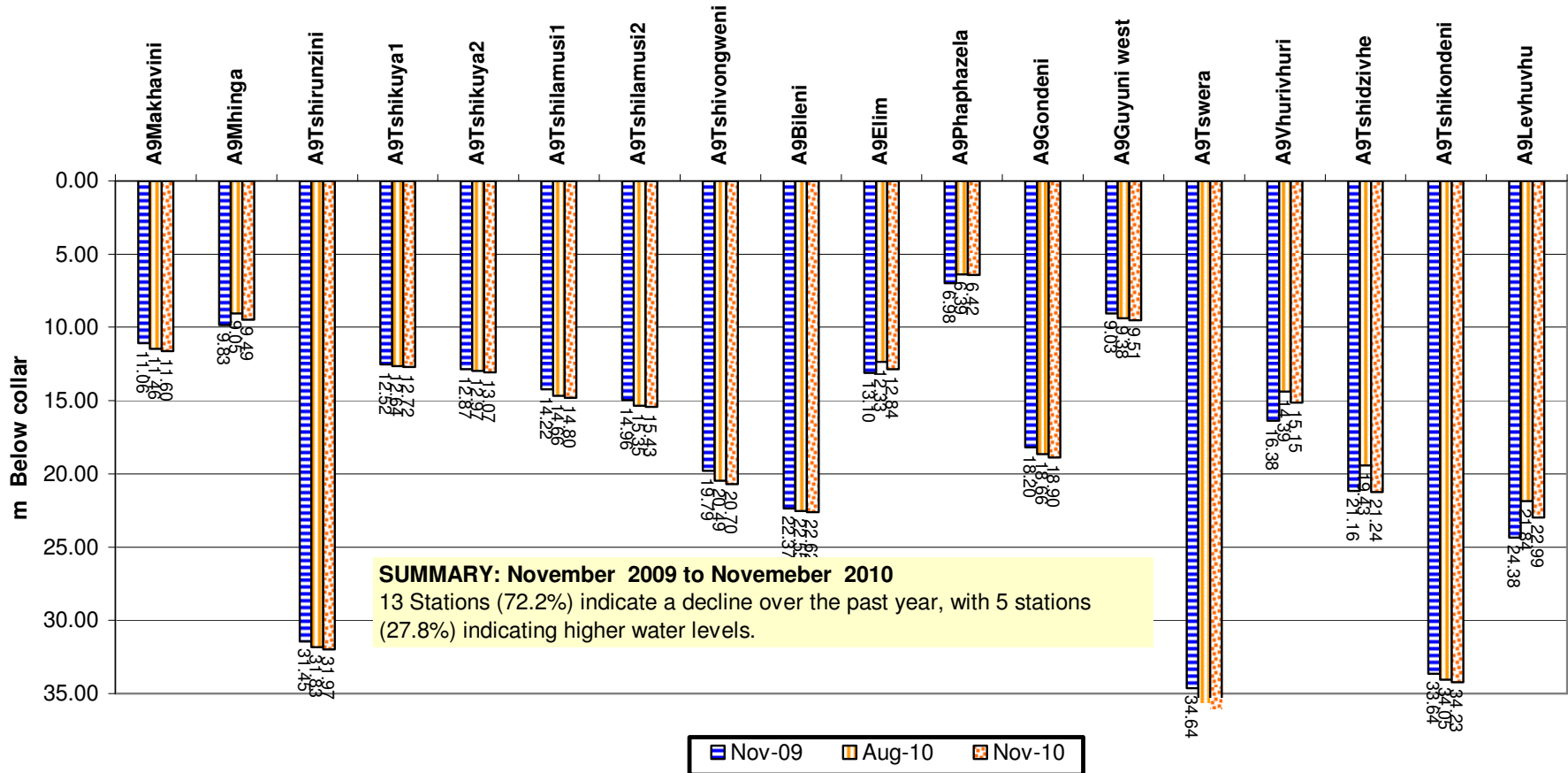
GRAPH 22

A9 DRAINAGE AREA
Deviation of water levels: 1 November 2009 to 1 November 2010



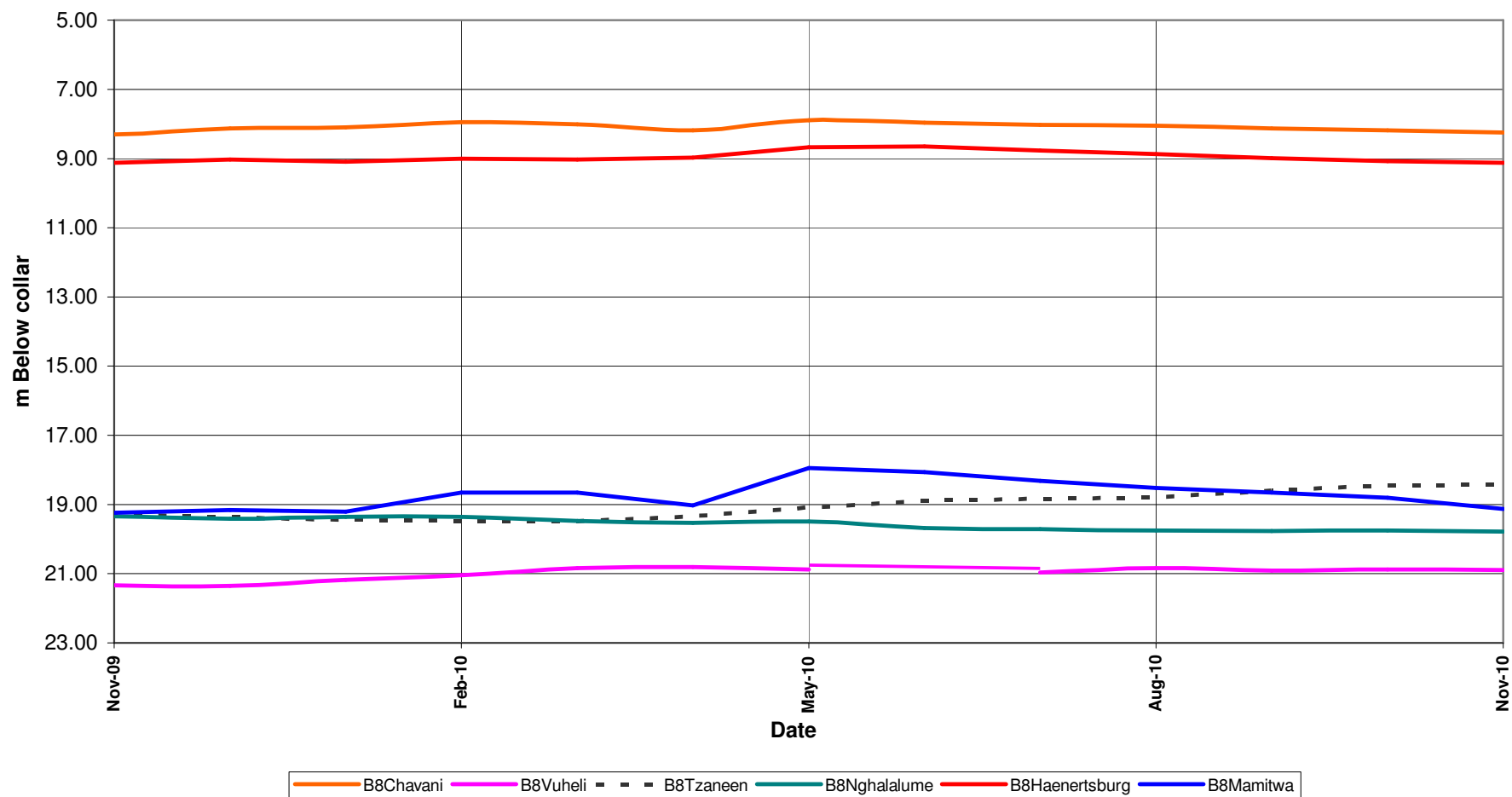
GRAPH 23

A9 DRAINAGE AREA
Comparison between water level depths: 1 November 2009,
1 August 2010 and 1 November 2010
Monitoring Stations



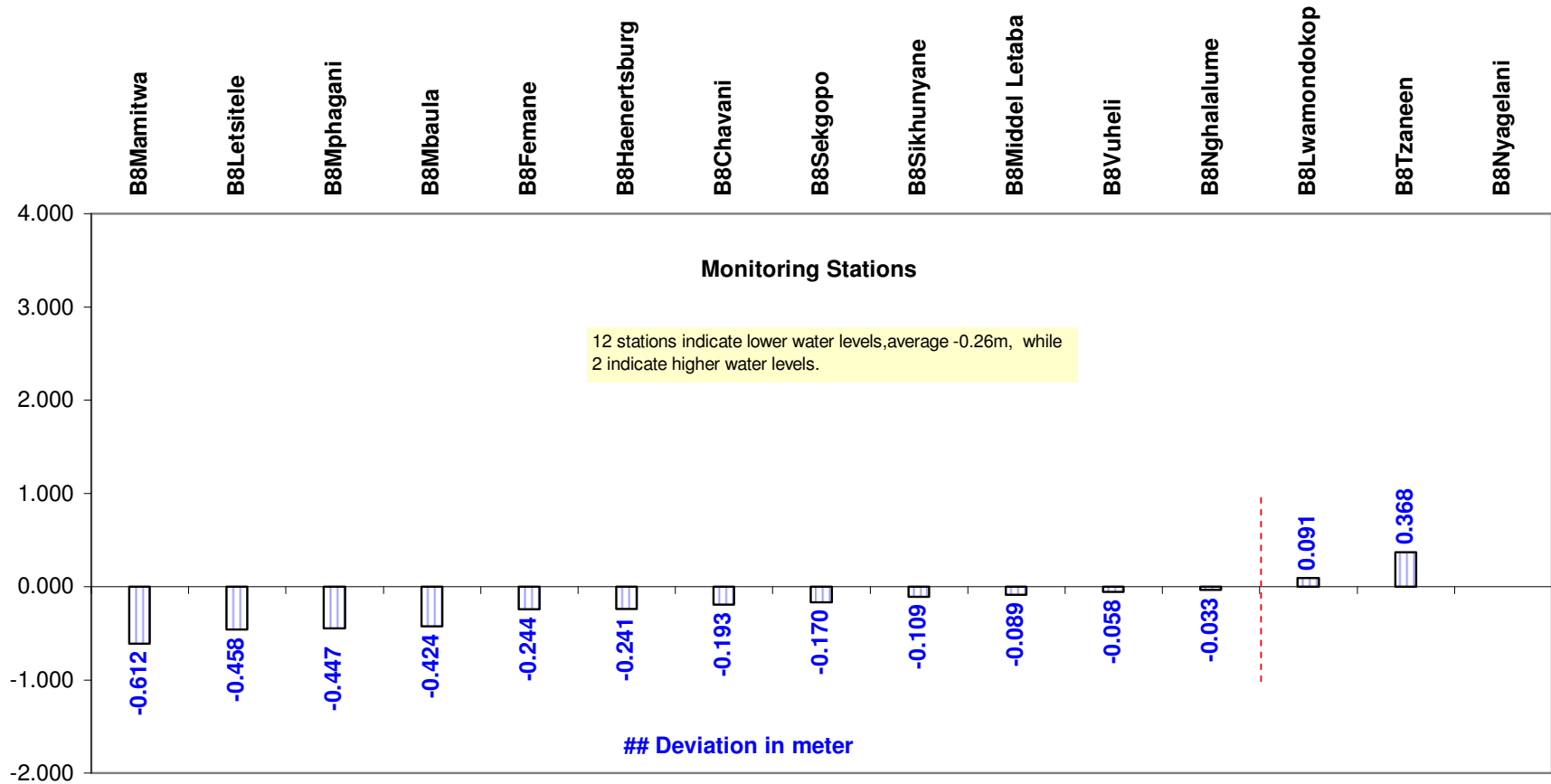
GRAPH 24

**Comparison of water level trends at some stations in B8 drainage:
1 November 2009 to 1 November 2010**



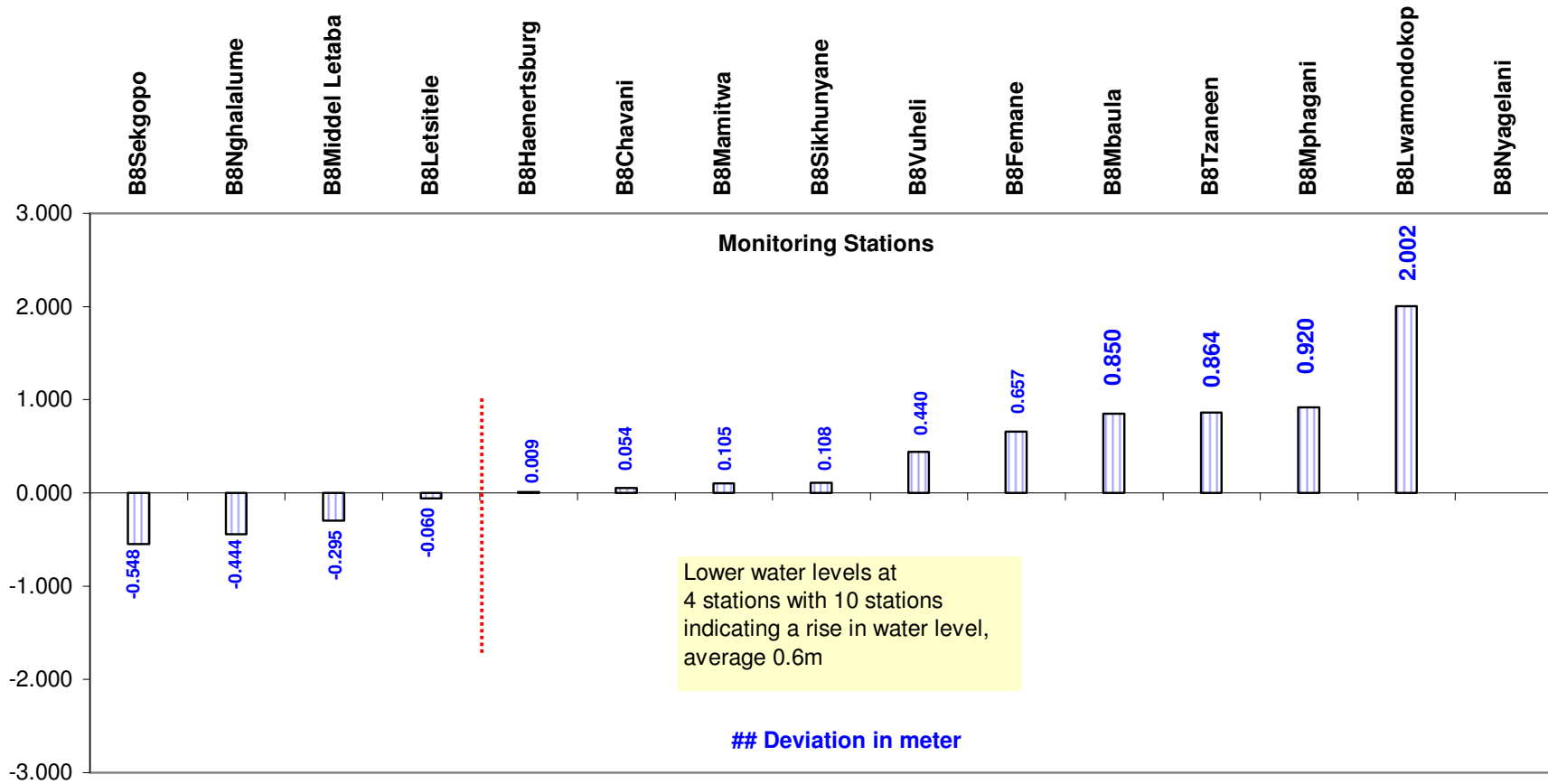
GRAPH 25

B8 DRAINAGE AREA
Deviation of water levels: 1 August 2010 to 1 November 2010



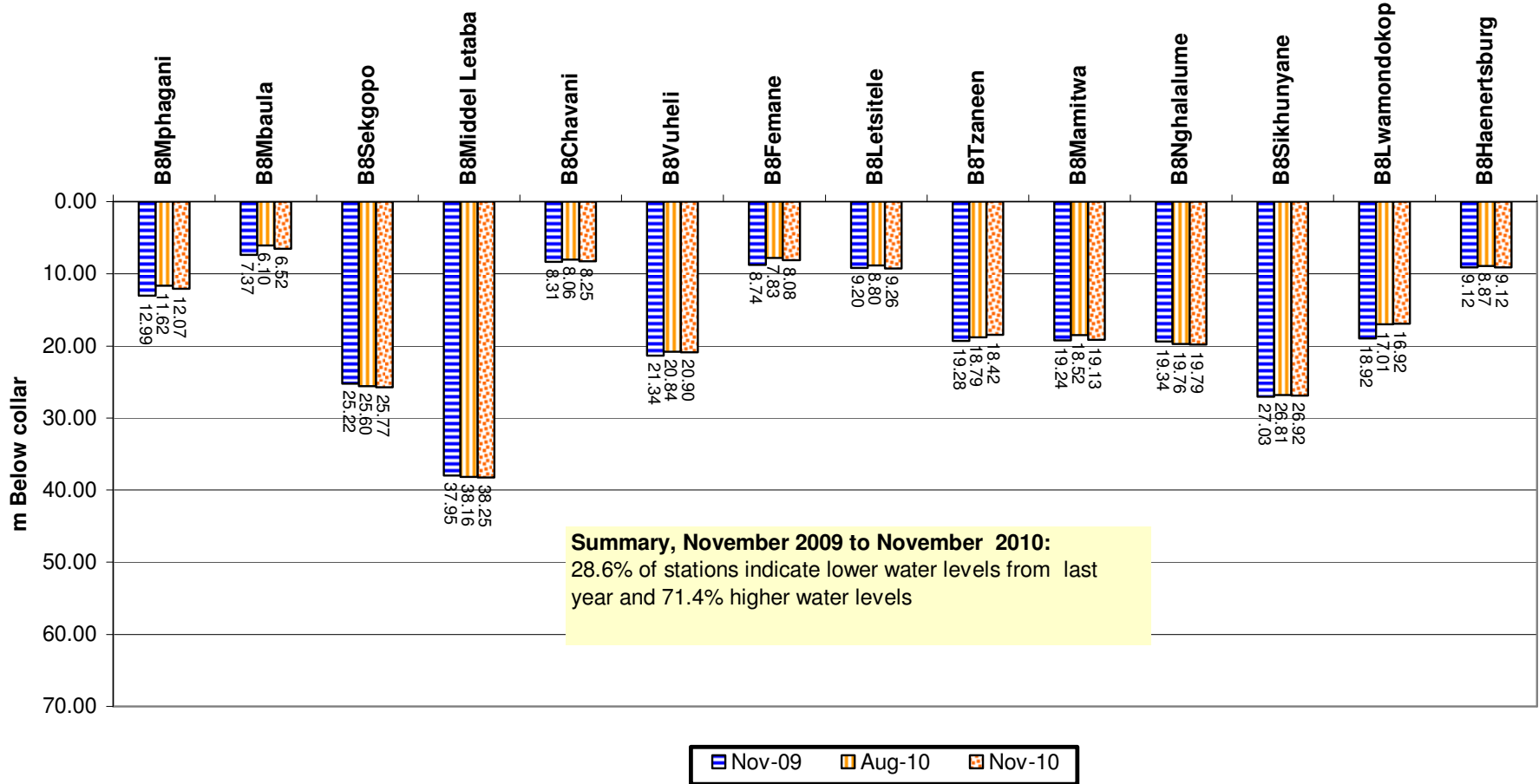
GRAPH 26

B8 DRAINAGE AREA
Deviation of water levels: 1 November 2009 to 1 November 2010



GRAPH 27

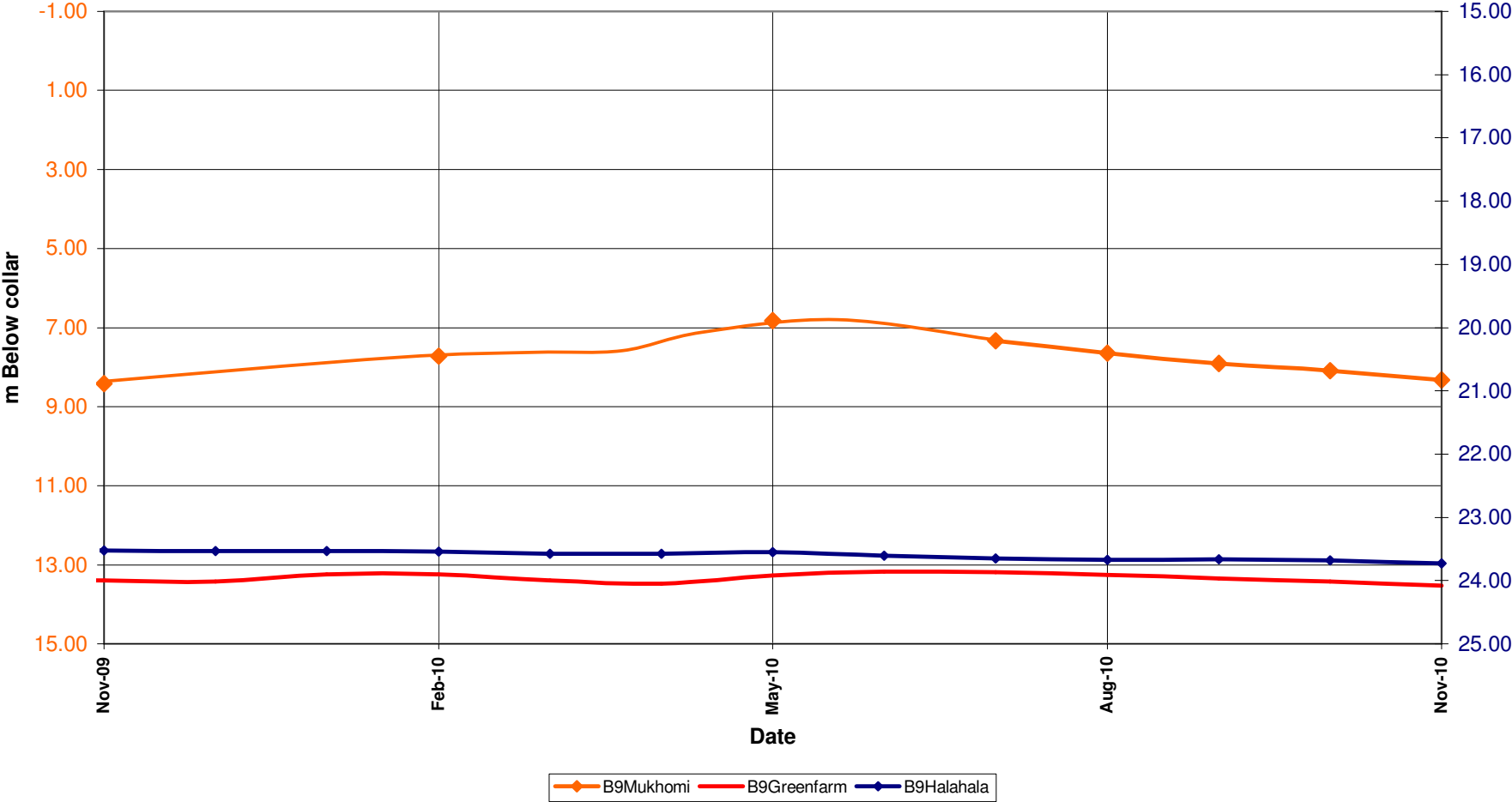
B8 DRAINAGE AREA
Comparison between water level depths: 1 November 2009,
1 August 2010 and 1 November 2010
Monitoring Stations



Nov-09 Aug-10 Nov-10

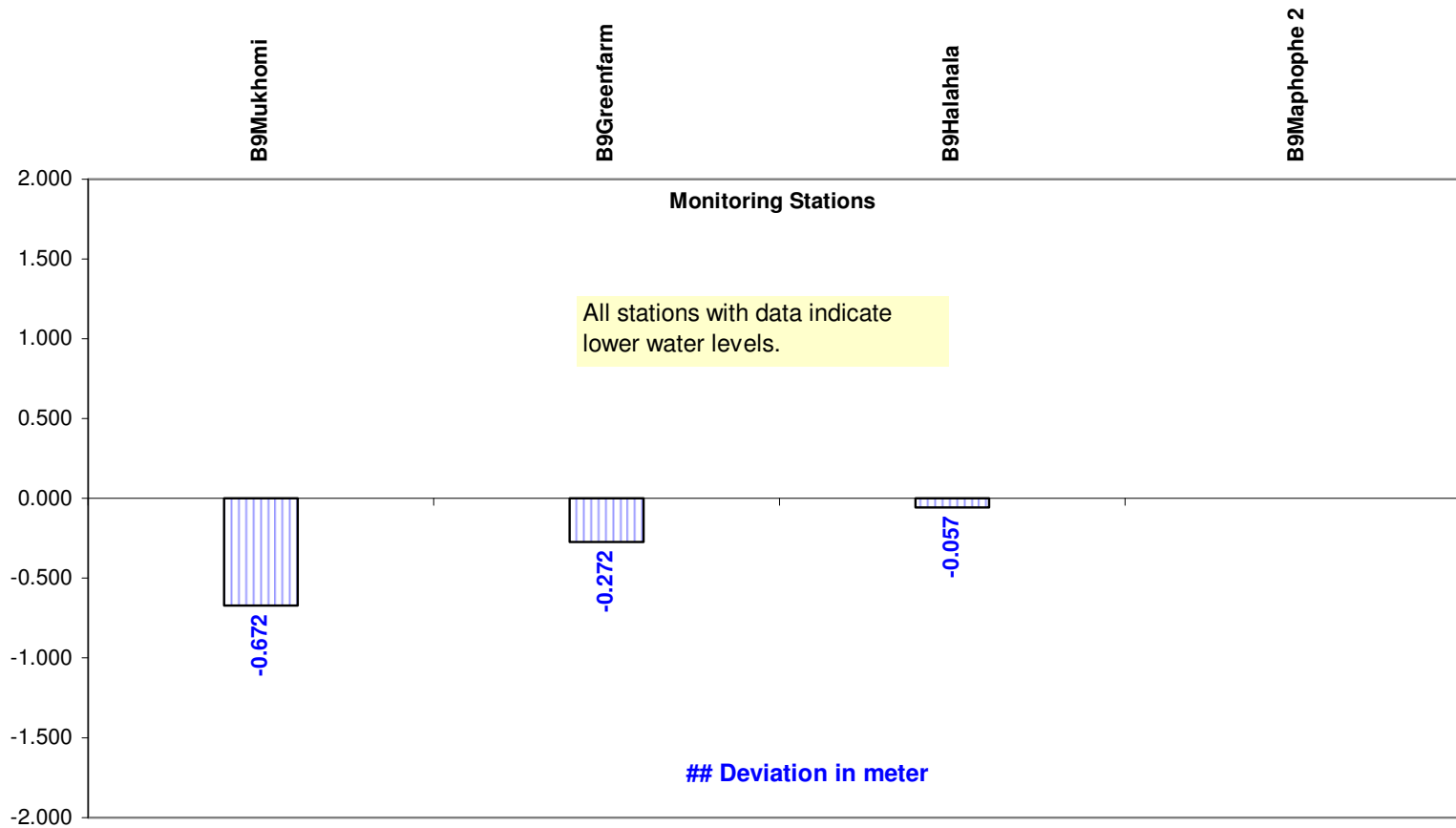
GRAPH 28

**Comparison of water level trends of stations in B9 drainage:
1 November 2009 to 1 November 2010**



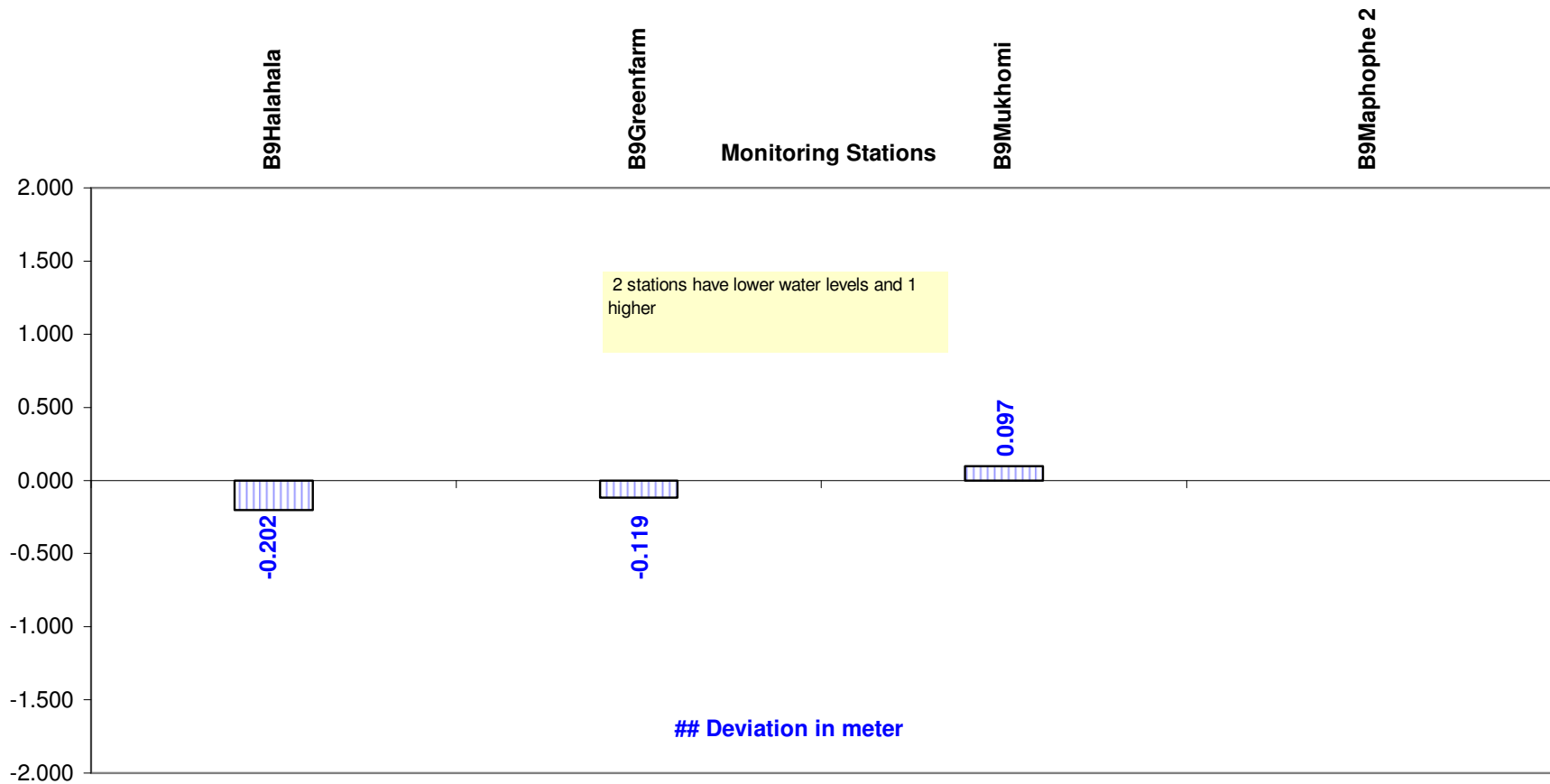
GRAPH 29

B9 DRAINAGE AREA
Deviation of water levels: 1 August 2010 to 1 November 2010



GRAPH 30

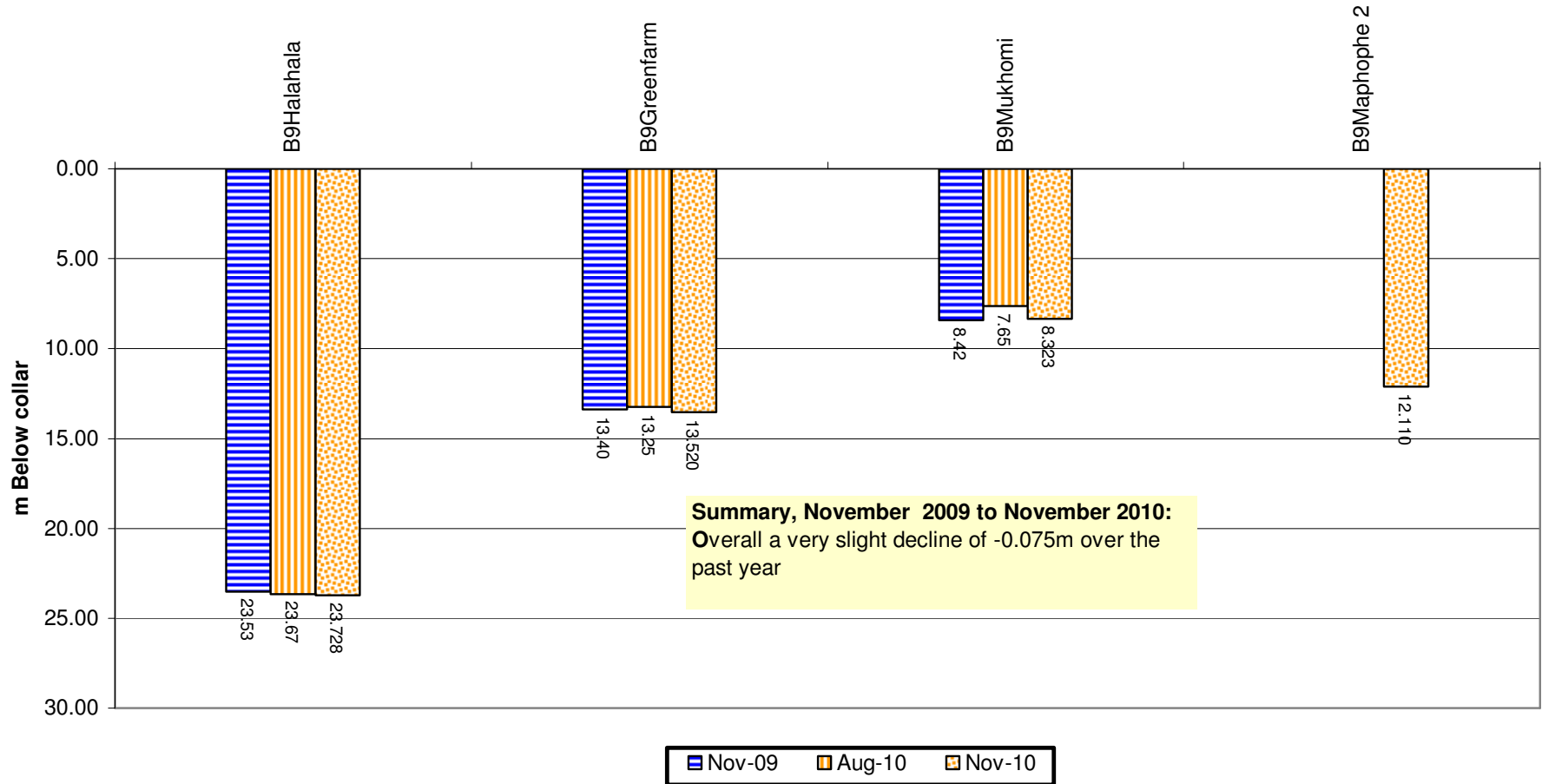
B9 DRAINAGE AREA
Deviation of water levels: 1 November 2009 to 1 November 2010



GRAPH 31

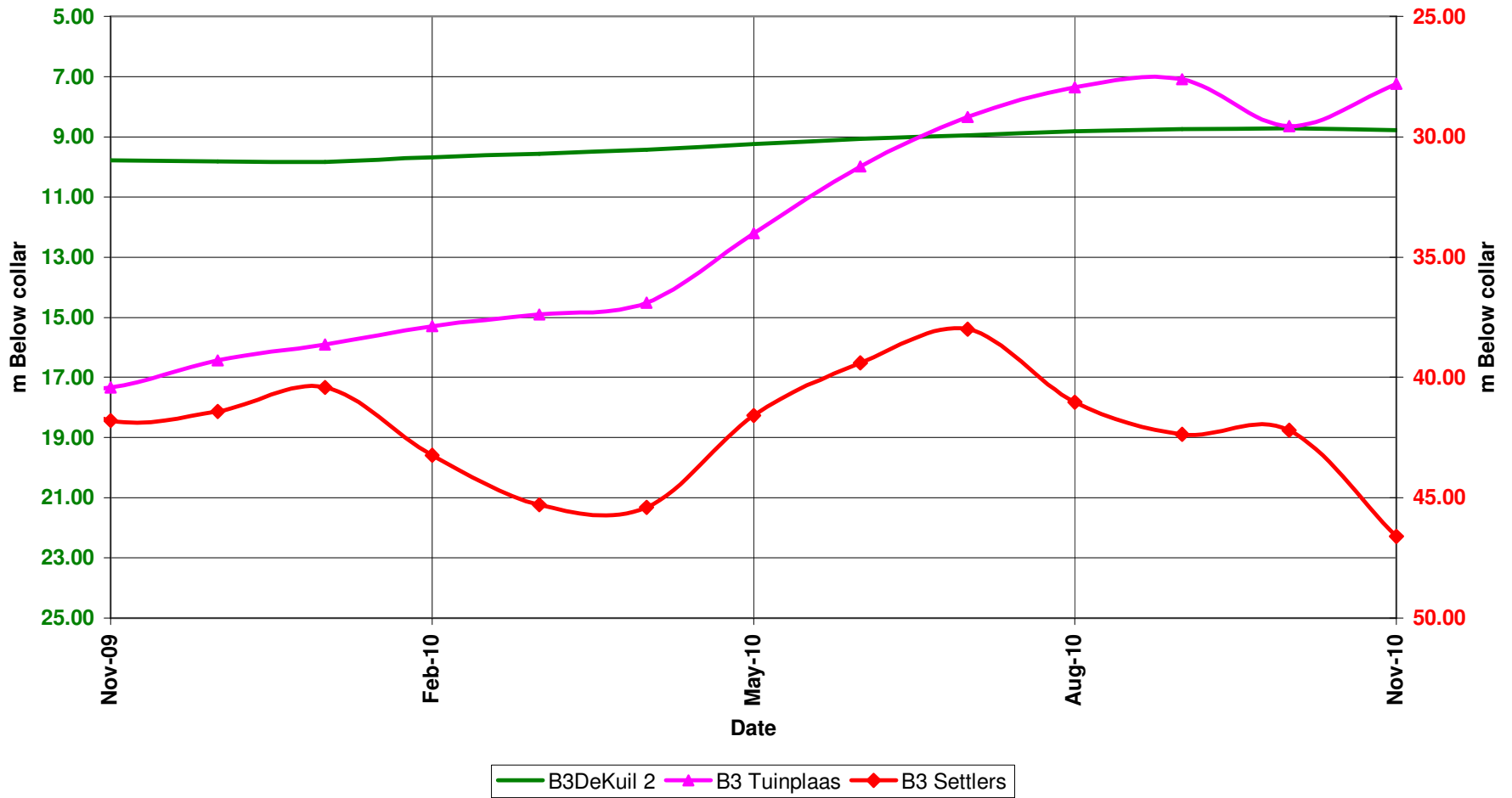
B9 DRAINAGE AREA
Comparison between water level depths: 1 November 2009,
1 August 2010 and 1 November 2010

Monitoring Stations



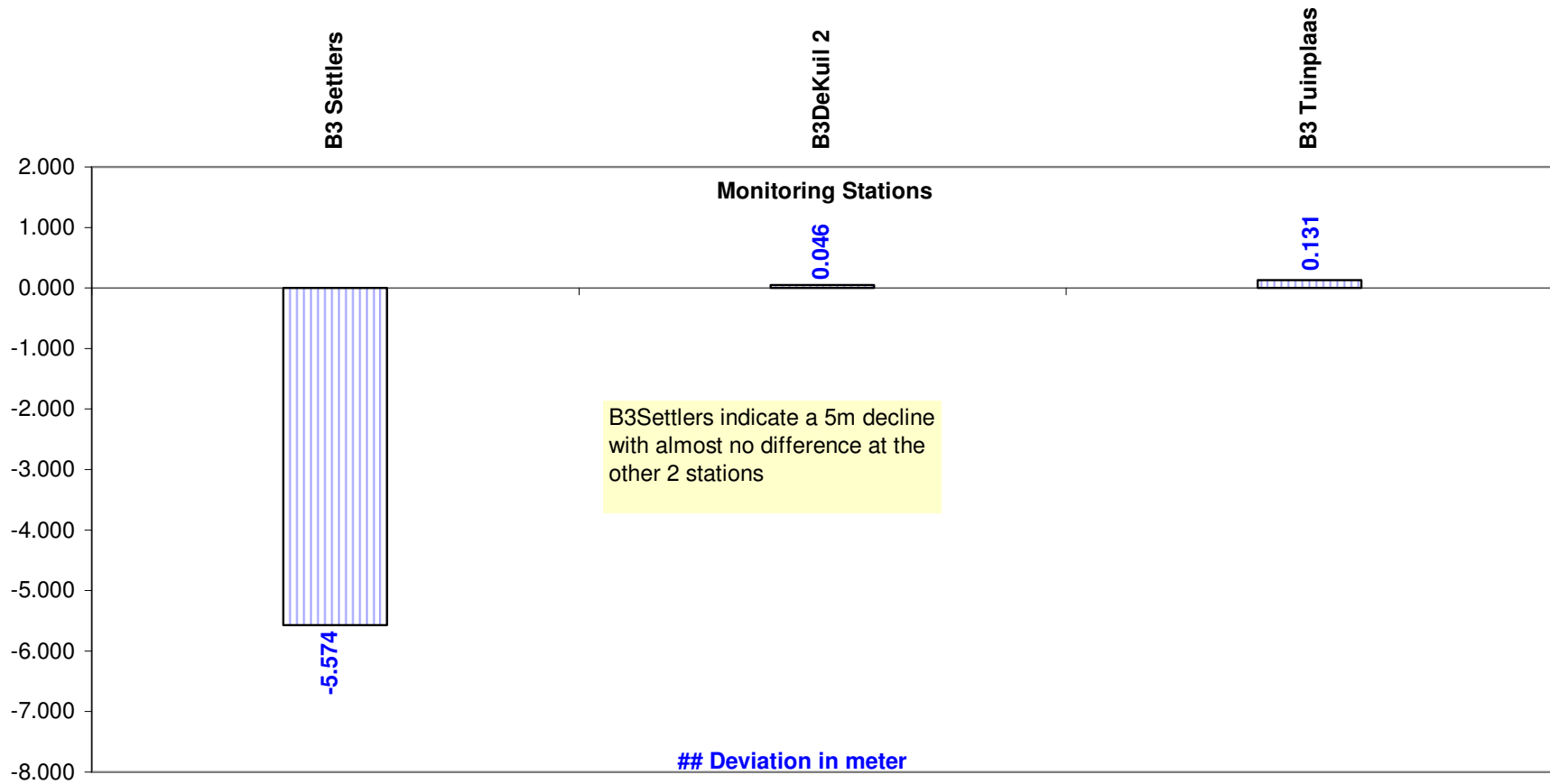
GRAPH 32

Comparison of water level trends at stations in B3 drainage:
1 November 2009 to 1 November 2010



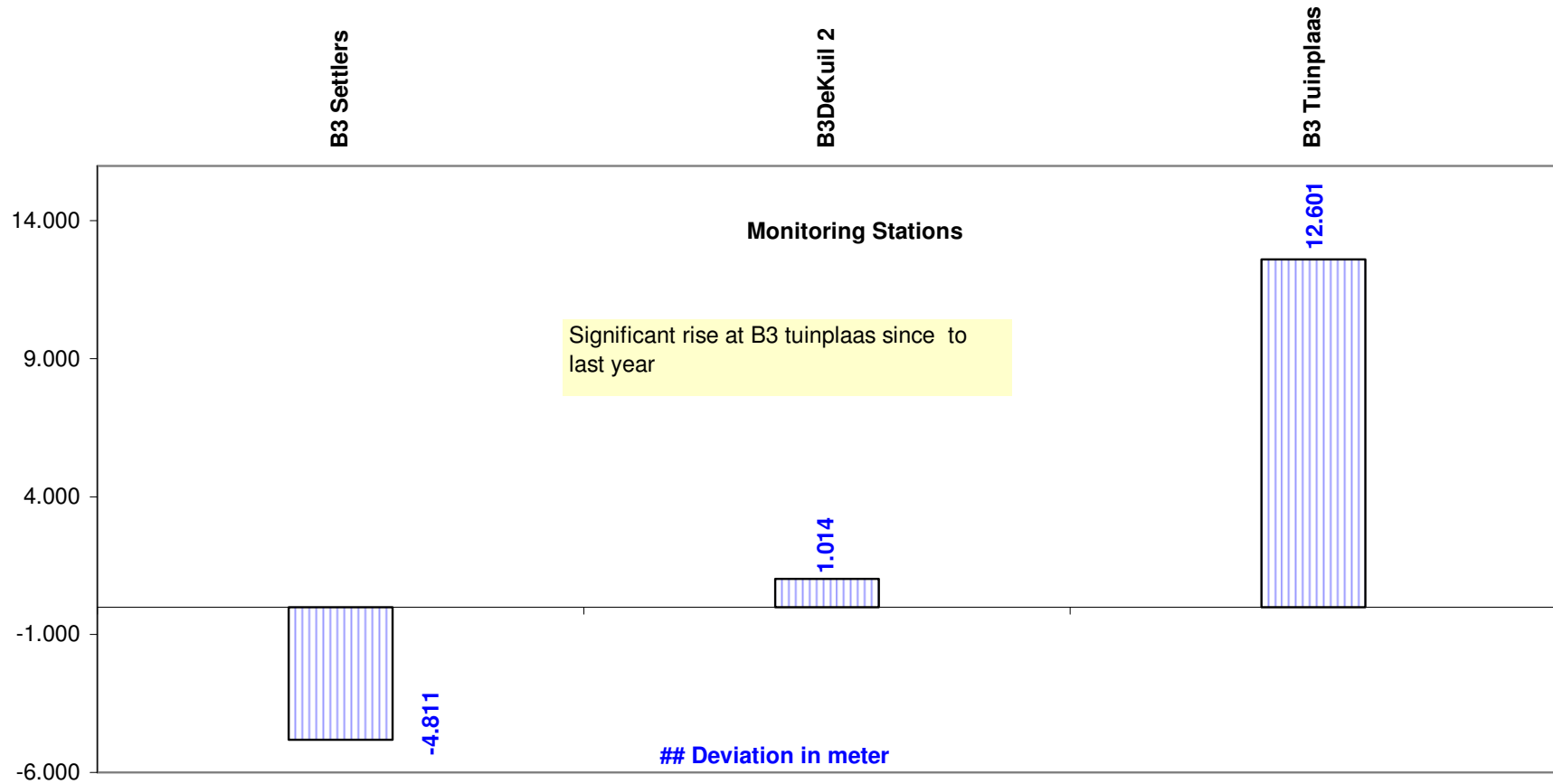
GRAPH 33

B3 DRAINAGE AREA
Deviation of water levels: 1 August 2010 to 1 November 2010



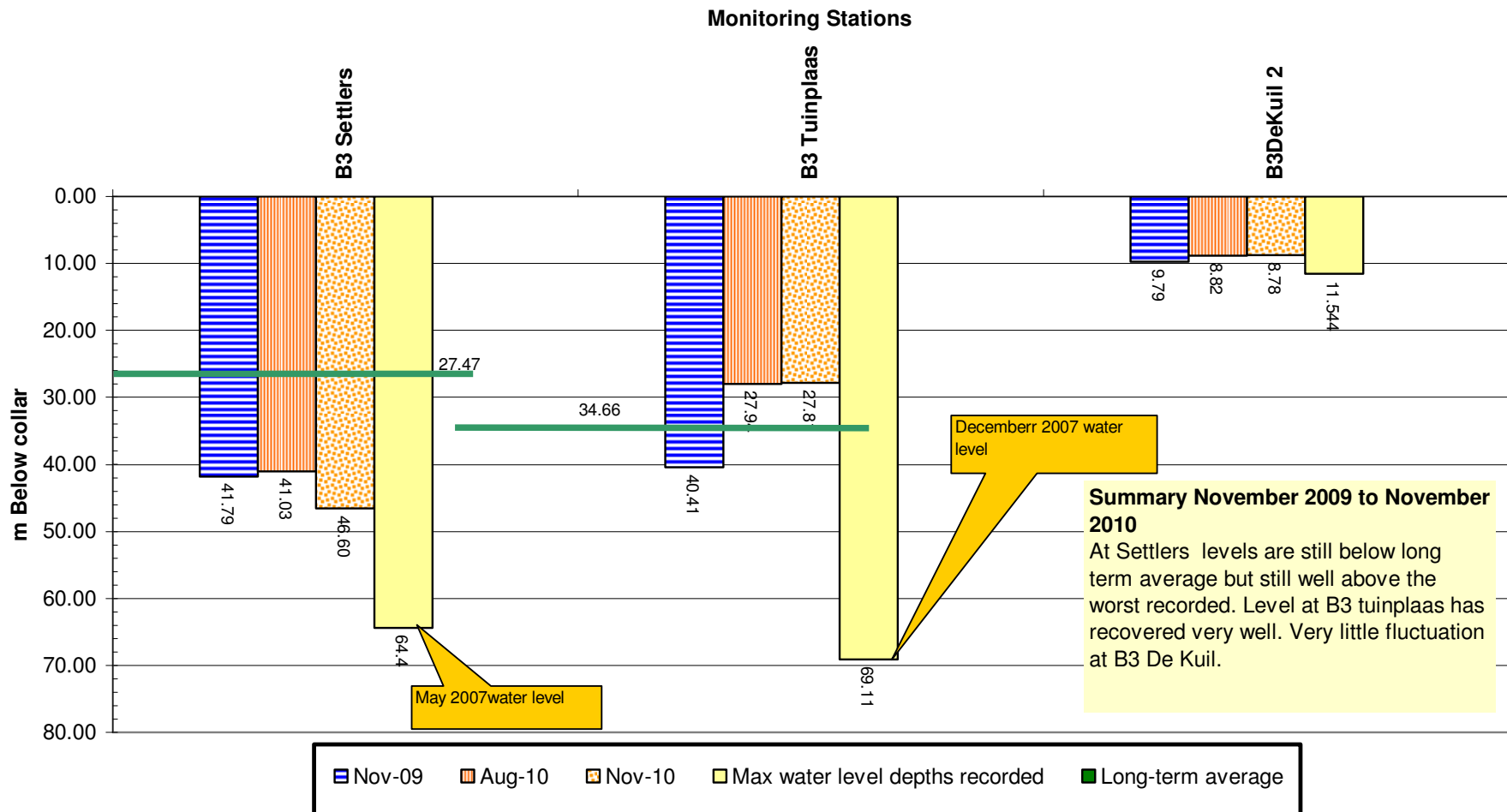
GRAPH 34

B3 DRAINAGE AREA
Deviation of water levels: 1 November 2009 to 1 November 2010



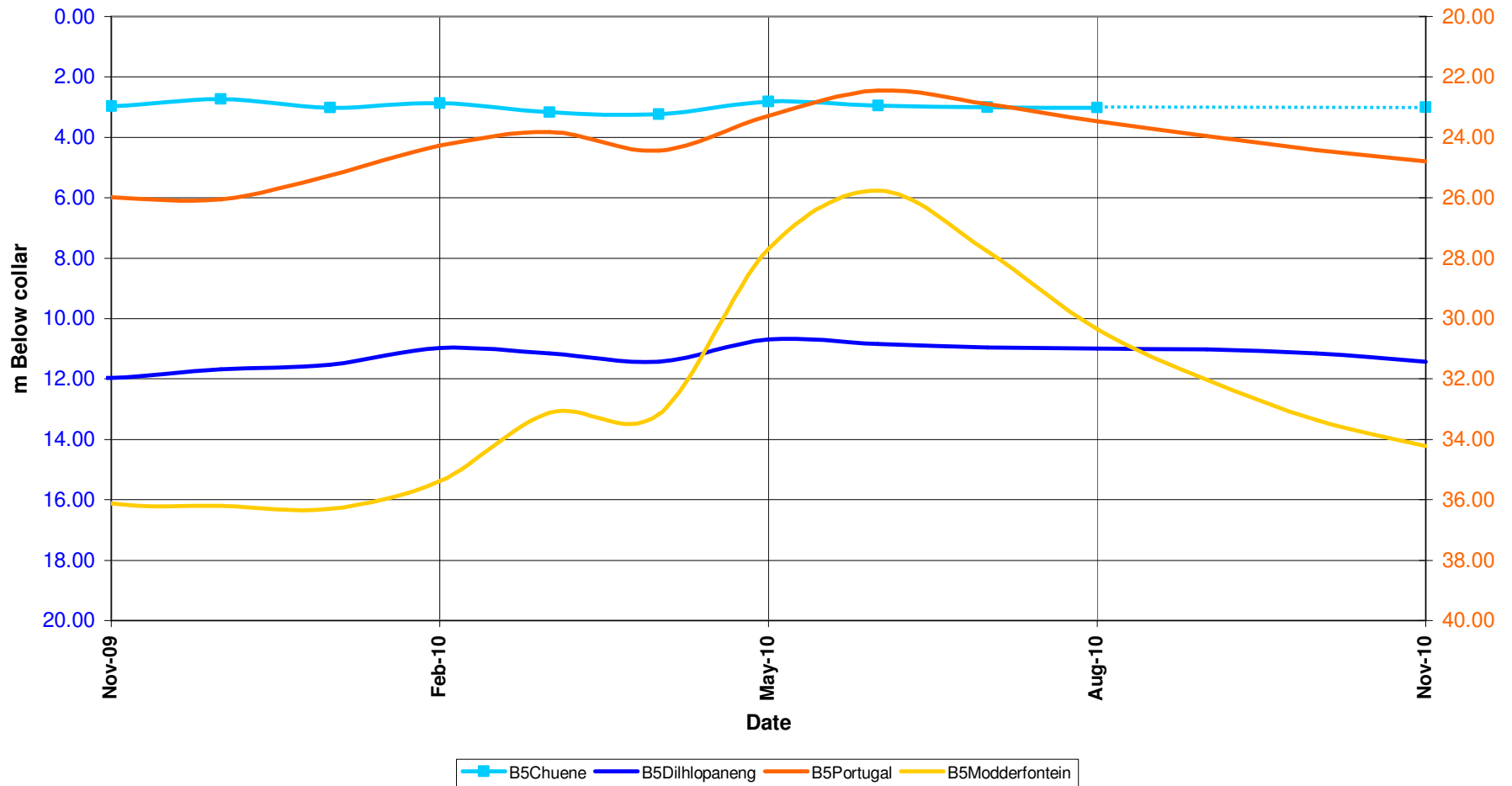
GRAPH 35

B3 DRAINAGE AREA
Comparison between water level depths: 1 November 2009
1 August 2010, 1 November 2010 and maximum depths recorded



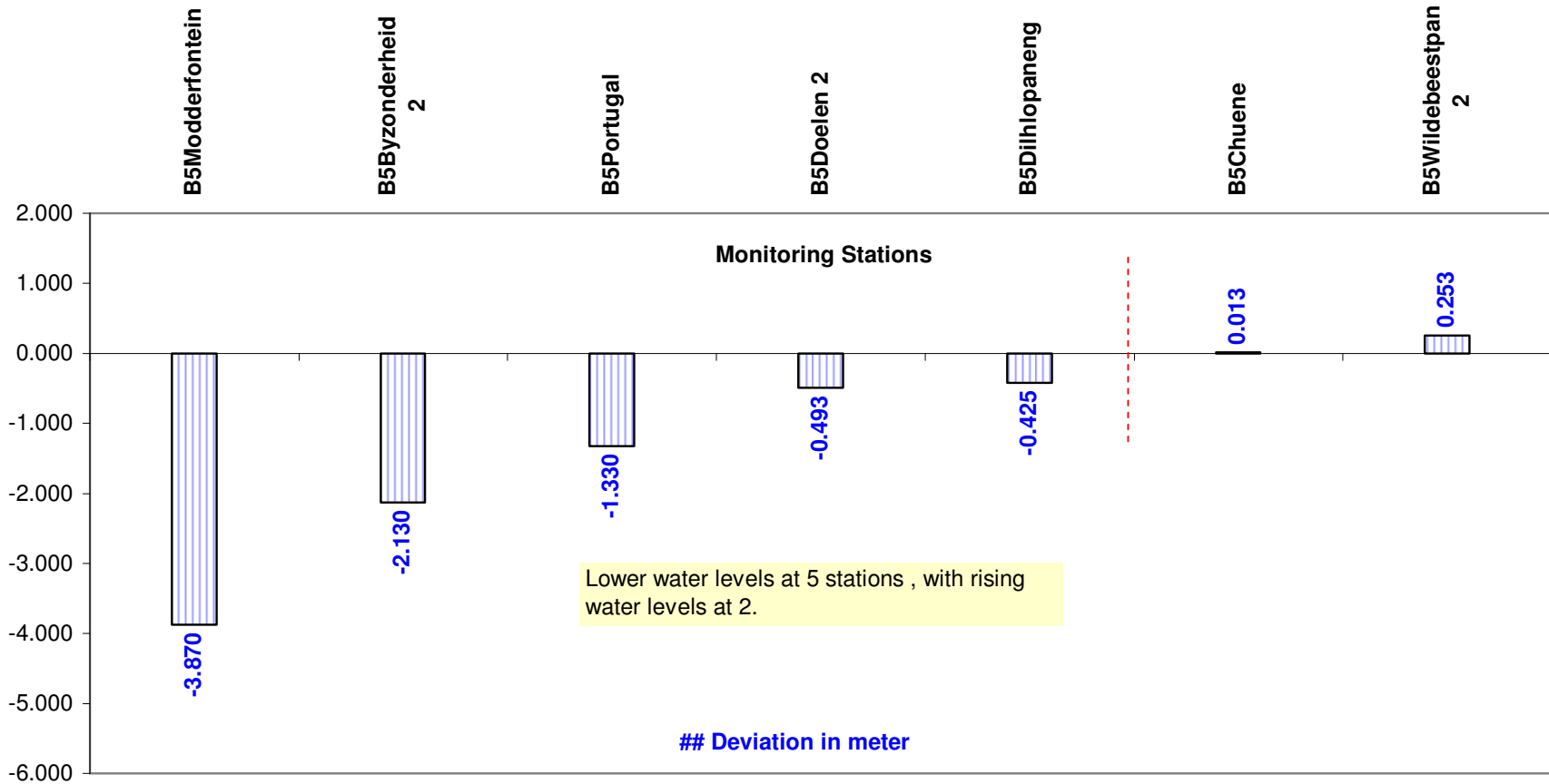
GRAPH 36

**Comparison of water level trends at stations in B5 drainage:
1 November 2009 to 1 November 2010**



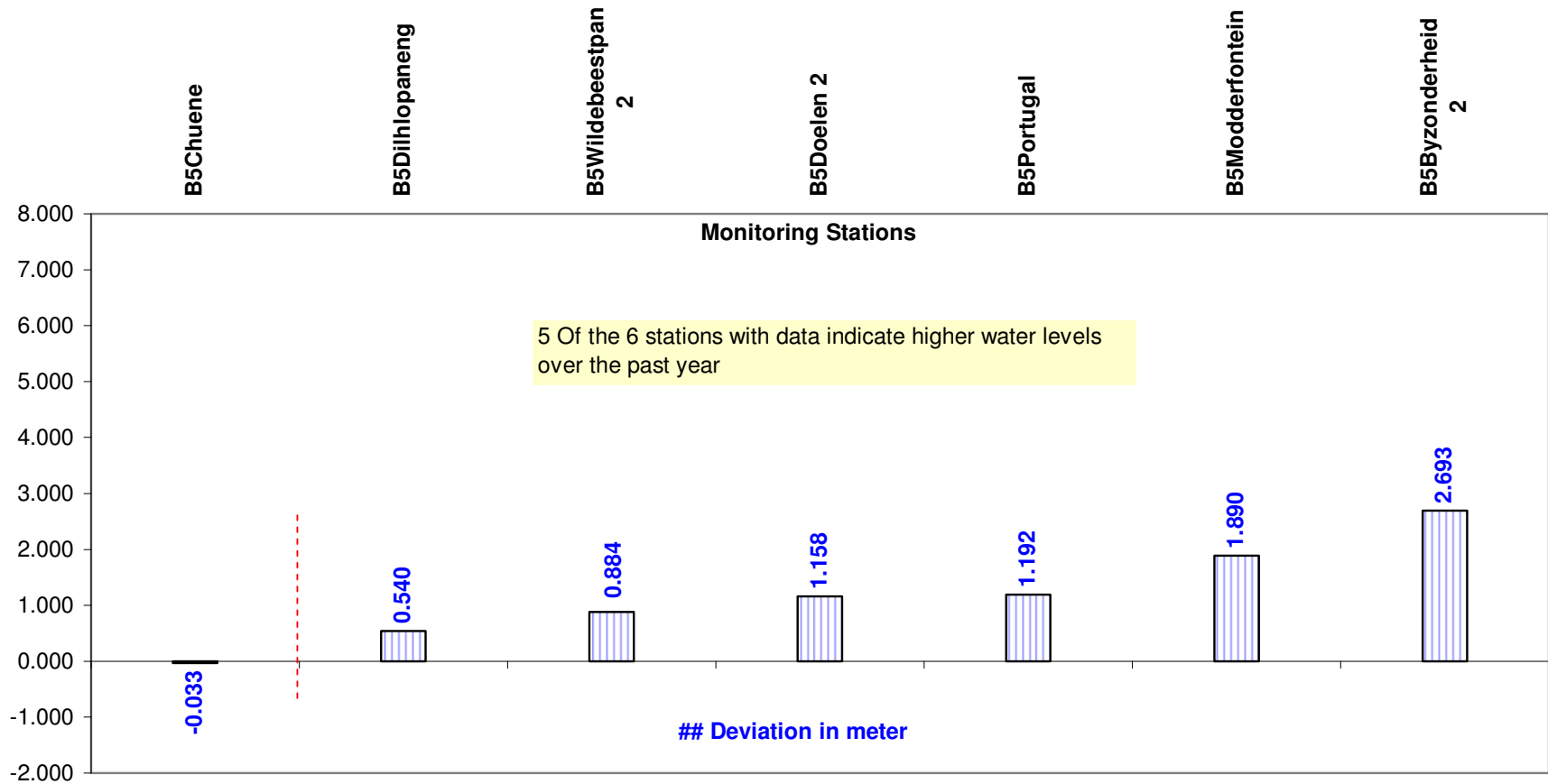
GRAPH 37

B5 DRAINAGE AREA
Deviation of water levels: 1 August 2010 to 1 November 2010



GRAPH 38

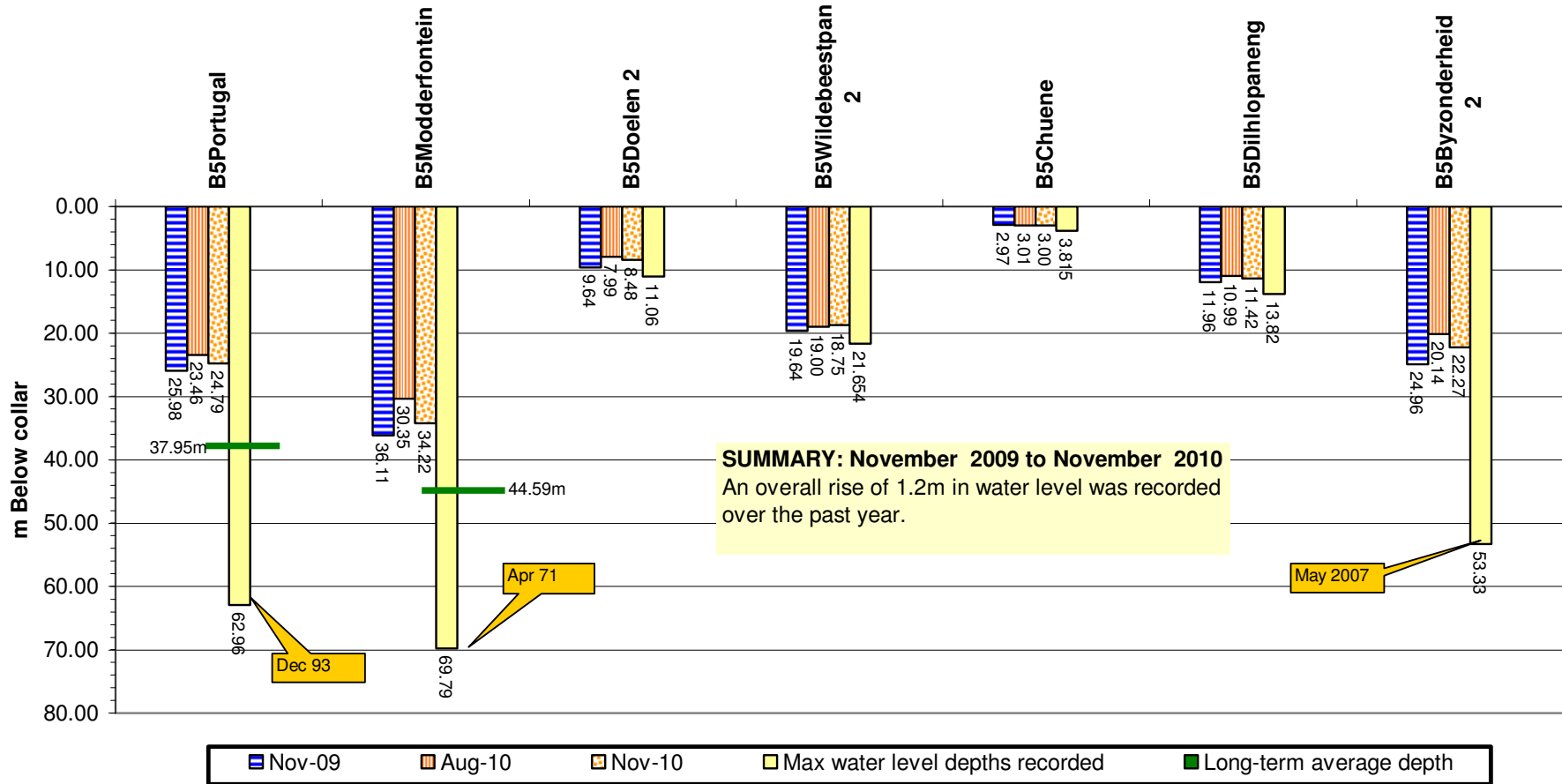
B5 DRAINAGE AREA
Deviation of water levels: 1 November 2009 to 1 November 2010



GRAPH 39

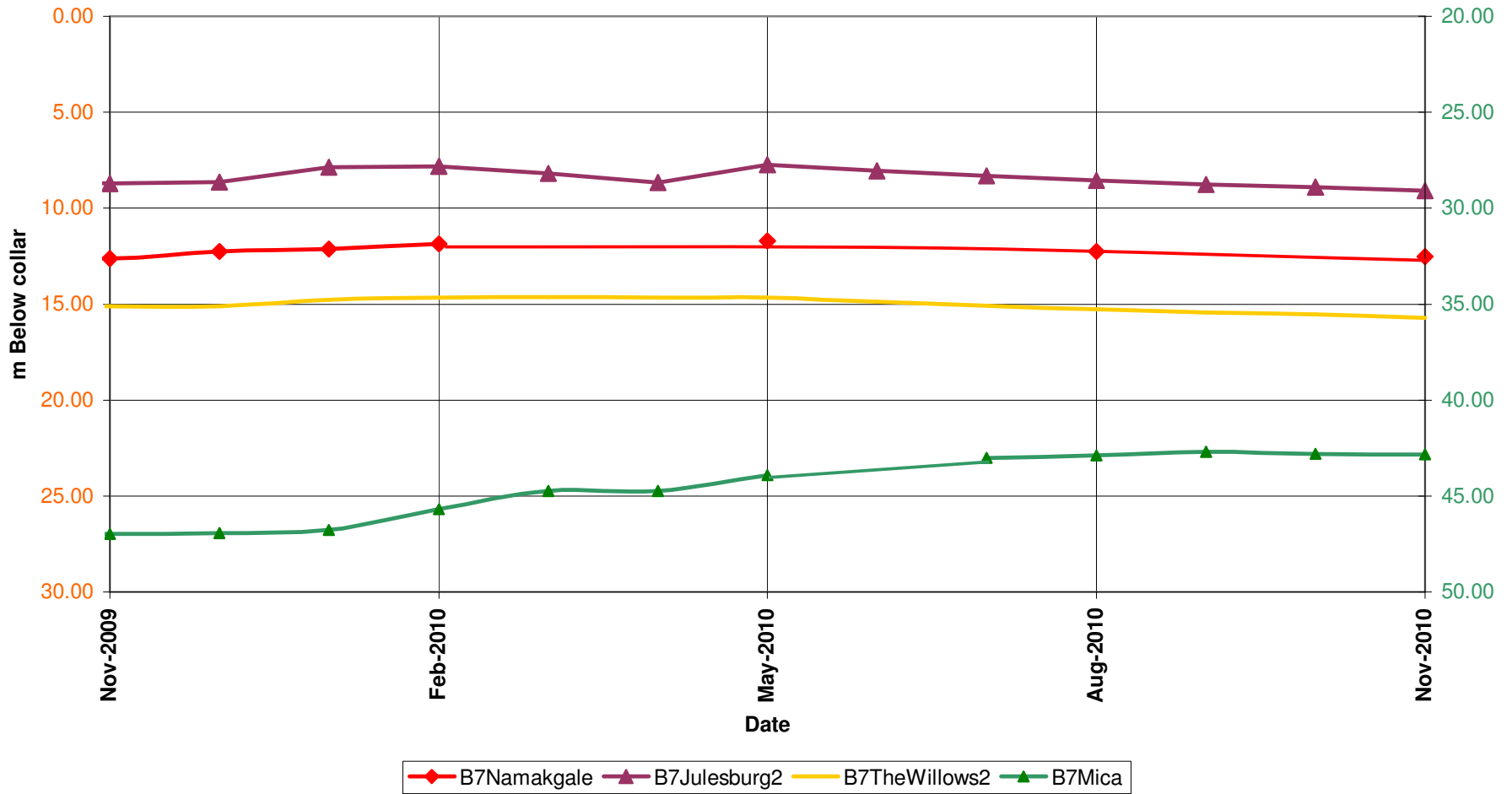
B5 DRAINAGE AREA
Comparison between water level depths: 1 November 2009,
1 August 2010, 1 November 2010 and maximum depths recorded

Monitoring Stations



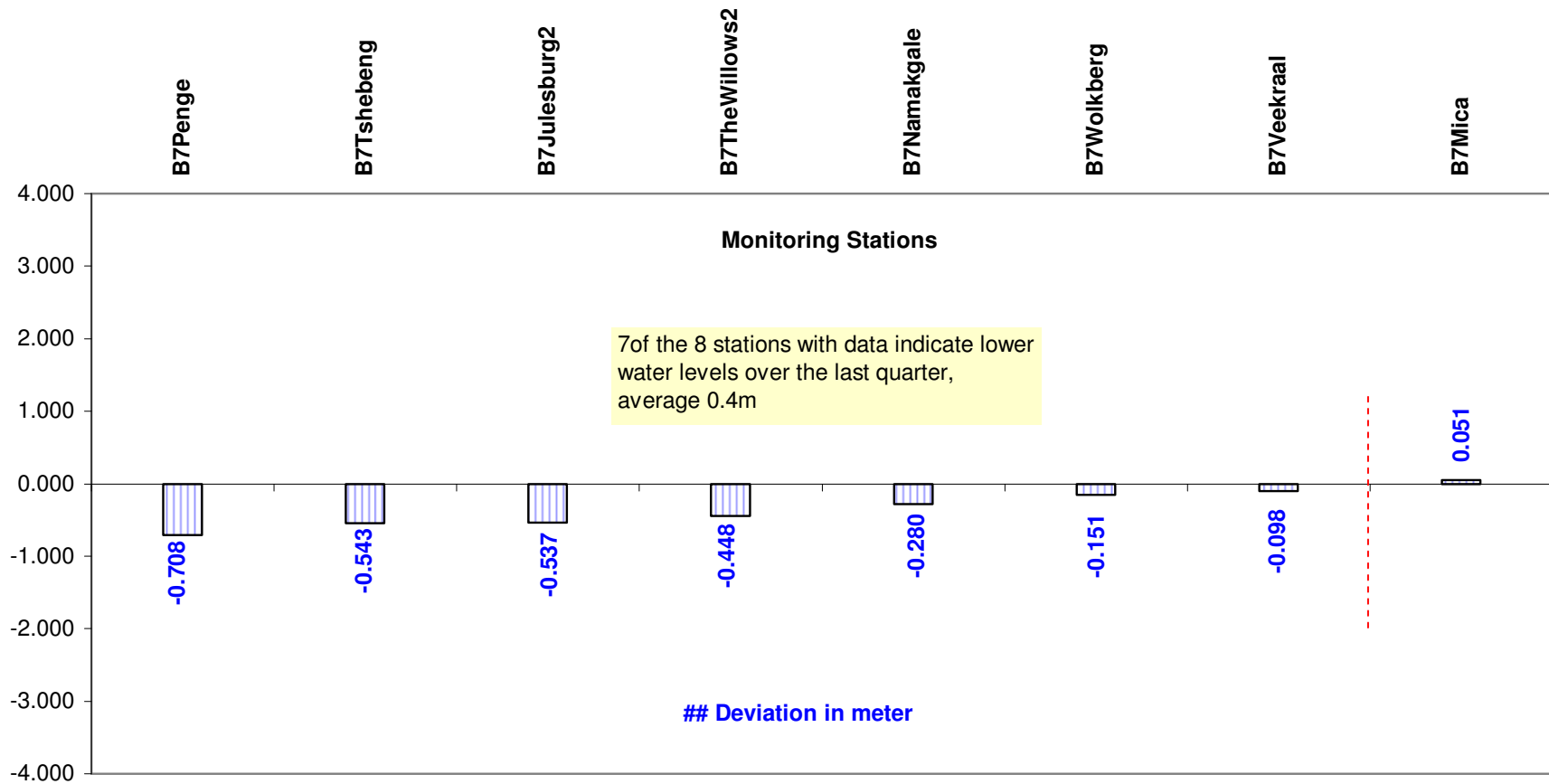
GRAPH 40

Water level trend of some stations in B7 drainage:
1 November 2009 to 1 November 2010



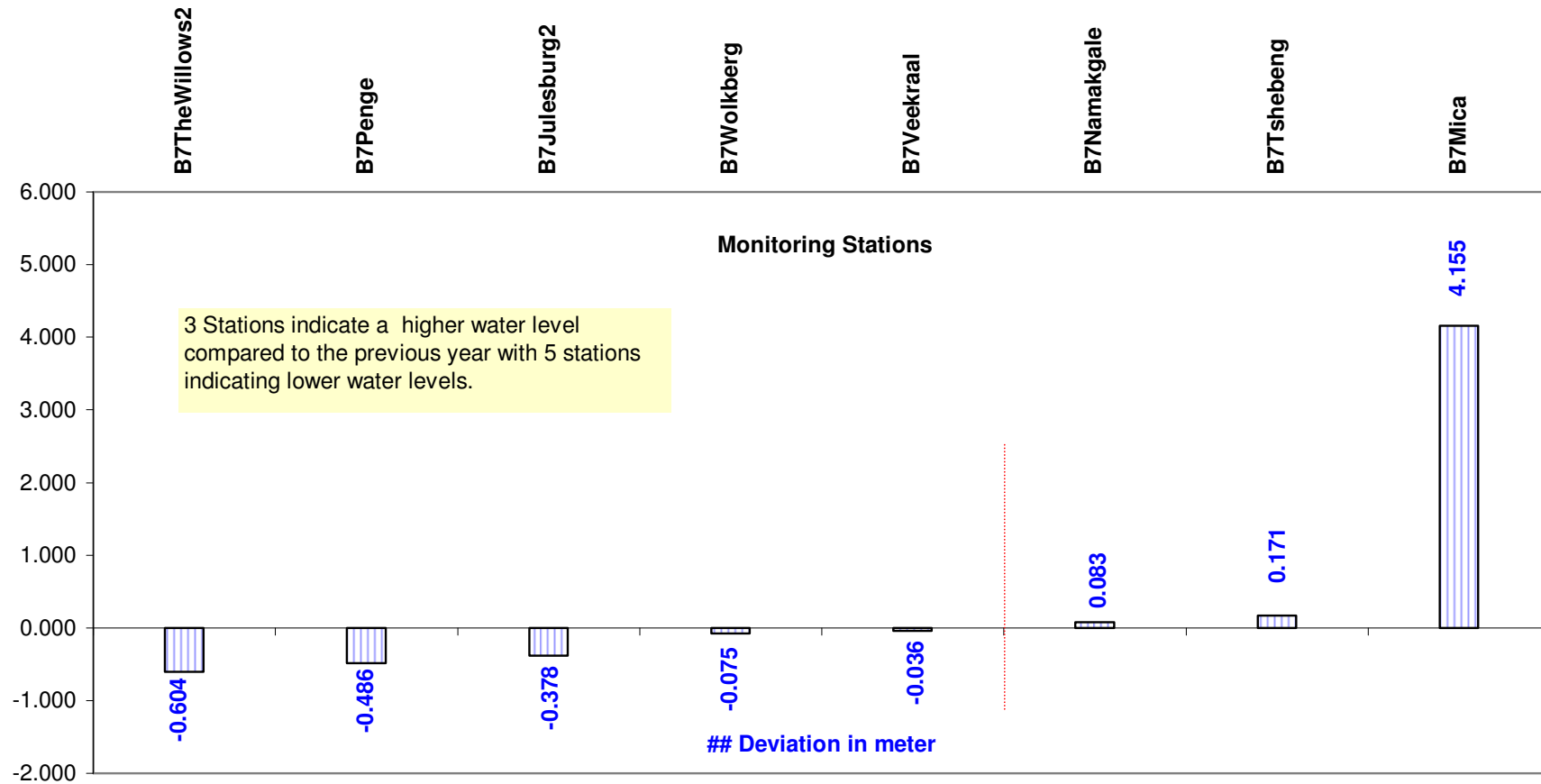
GRAPH 41

B7 DRAINAGE AREA
Deviation of water levels: 1 August 2010 to 1 November 2010



GRAPH 42

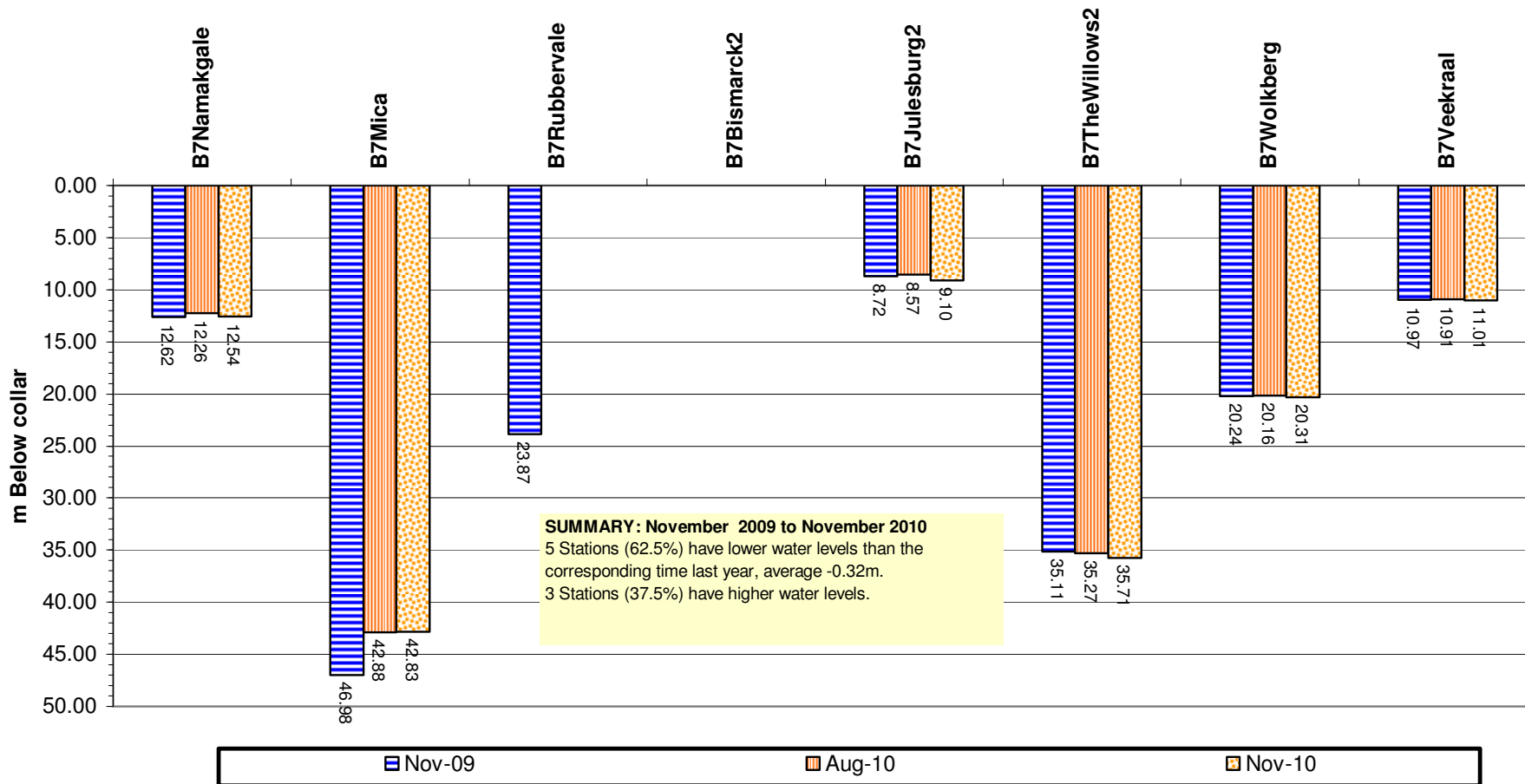
B7 DRAINAGE AREA
Deviation of water levels: 1 November 2009 to 1 November 2010



GRAPH 43

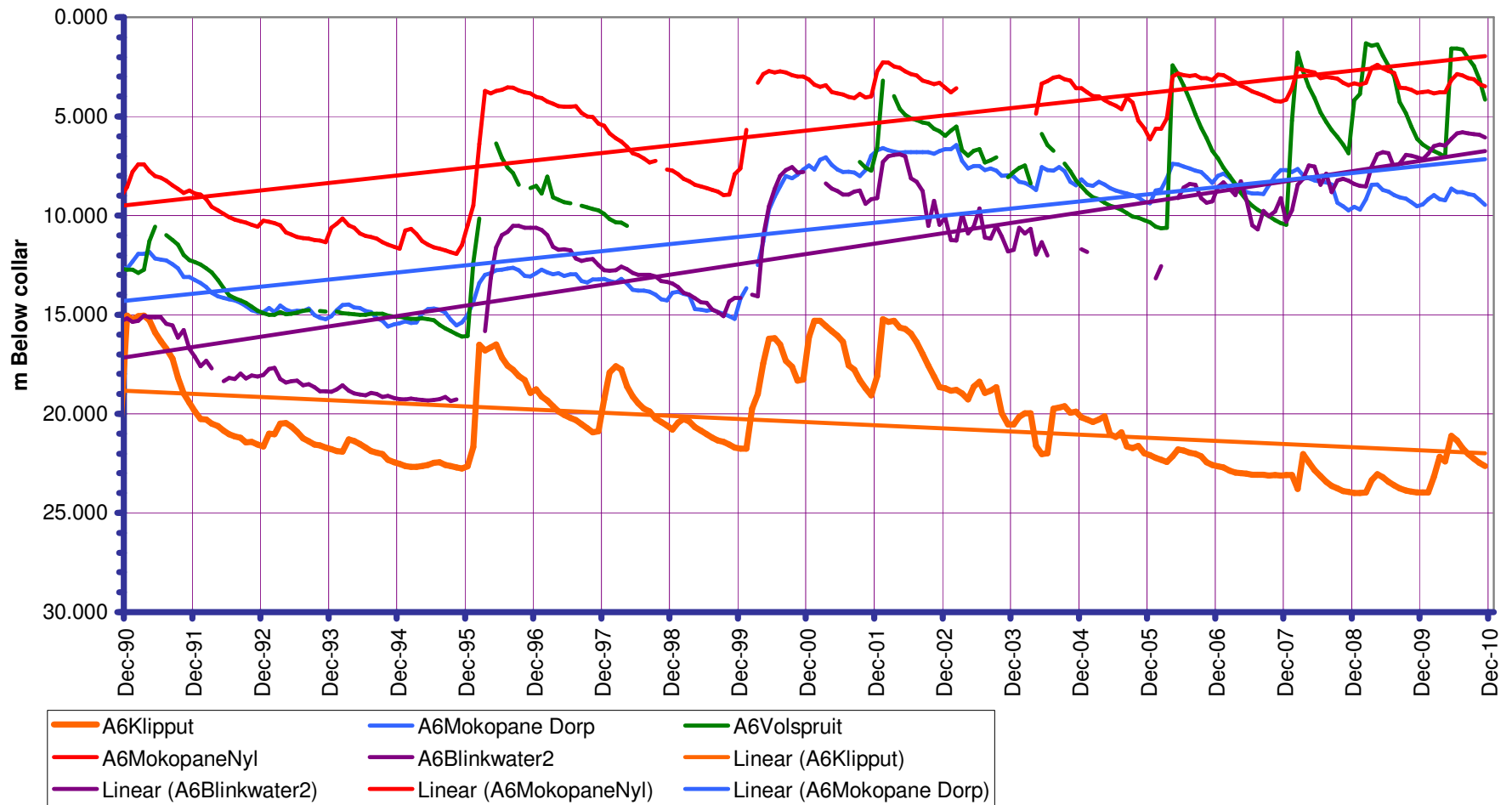
B7 DRAINAGE AREA
Comparison between water levels: 1 November 2009,
1 August 2010 and 1 November 2010

Monitoring Stations



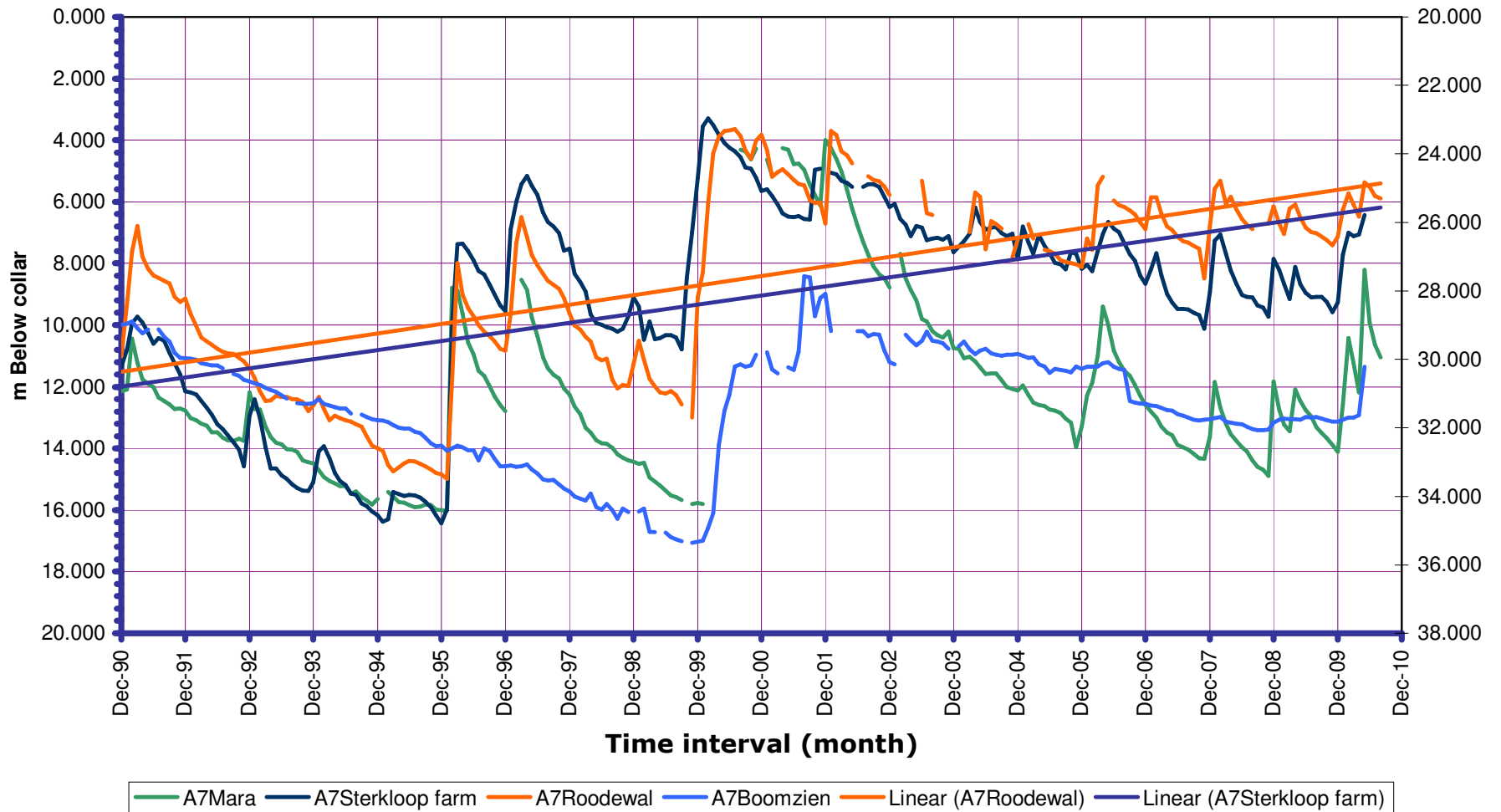
GRAPH 44

20 Year groundwater level trends at some stations in the A6 drainage



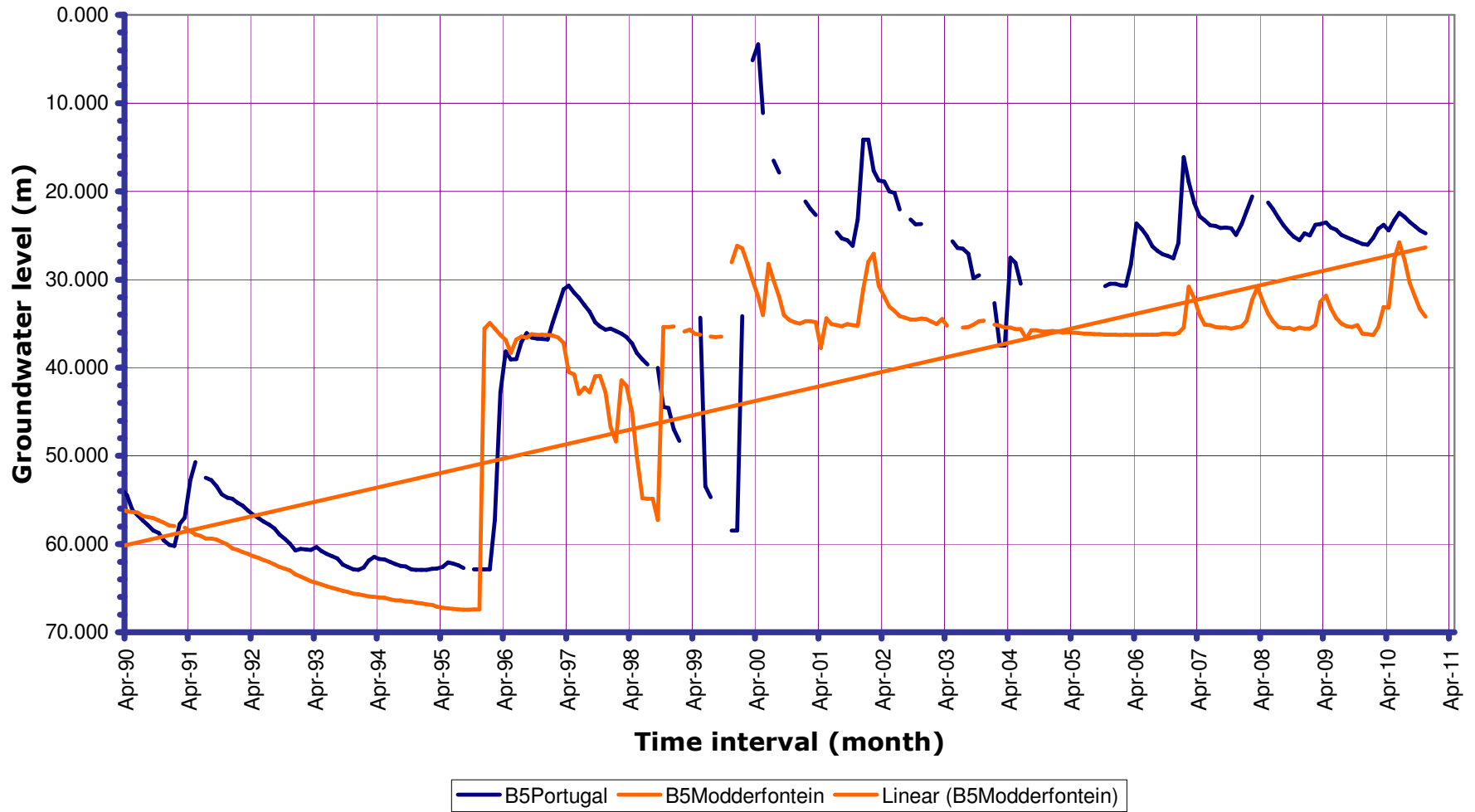
GRAPH 45

20 Year groundwater level trends at some stations in the A7 drainage



GRAPH 46

20 Year groundwater level trends at some stations in the B5 drainage



GRAPH 47