

APPENDIX F-2 SITE-WIDE GROUND THERMAL MONITORING PLAN

Revision 01

Back River Project: Site-wide Ground Thermal Monitoring Plan

Back River Project, Nunavut, Canada
B2Gold Corporation



SRK Consulting (Canada) Inc. ■ CAPR004313 ■ March 2026



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Historic ground temperature monitoring site with data logger housing at surface.

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Date	Revision	Remarks
April 2024	Rev 00	Initial revision submitted as part of 2023 Annual Reporting Package
March 2026	Rev 01	Revision to the status of the ground temperature sites and addition of recently installed sites. Plan submitted as part of 2025 Annual Reporting Package

This document will be a ‘live’ document that will be continually updated as the Back River project advances, and as additional infrastructure on site is constructed. A history of the thermal monitoring plan report revisions is provided in the table above.

1 Introduction

1.1 Background

The Back River project (the project) is an open pit and underground gold mining project in the West Kitikmeot region of Nunavut, approximately 520 km northeast of Yellowknife and 75 km south of Bathurst Inlet. The mine will consist of a Marine Laydown Area (MLA) at Bathurst Inlet and the mine located at the Goose property (Figure 1). The MLA serves as the primary resupply point for the mine. B2Gold Corporation (B2Gold) began and are completing construction at the MLA and Goose site under their site Water License 2AM-BRP1831 – Amendment No. 1, issued by the Nunavut Water Board (NWB) on October 15, 2021.

A ground temperature monitoring plan and annual report is provided to meet the terms and conditions agreed to in the project certificate. In particular, the Project Certificate Terms and Conditions #11 states that “During construction, the Proponent shall, on an annual basis, provide additional permafrost mapping information documented in fulfillment of this Term and Condition in the Proponent’s annual report to the Nunavut Impact Review Board.”

This Plan provides a framework for monitoring ground temperature and changes to permafrost at the project site. Section 2 of this plan provides background information on site conditions and infrastructure. Section 3 reviews historical and current ground temperature sites used for baseline characterisation of the ground thermal regime. Section 4 identifies the long-term background and infrastructure monitoring sites. Section 5 provides guidance on implementation of the plan, data management, and instrument maintenance, followed by reporting requirements, presented in Section 6.

1.2 Monitoring Objectives

The ground temperature monitoring objectives include:

- Identifying natural climate-driven changes to the ground thermal regime and permafrost at background sites located outside of direct influence of mining activities; and
- Identifying changes to the ground thermal regime and permafrost immediately beneath or adjacent to mine infrastructure.

1.3 Key Elements

Key elements of the monitoring plan include:

- Ground temperature data collection from long-term monitoring stations;
- Data management and quality assurance;
- Instrument inspection and maintenance for ground temperature site; and
- Annual reporting requirements.

2 Site Conditions

2.1 Topography

The topography is characterized by low relief terrain at both the Goose property and MLA. At the Goose Property, the land is dominated by undulating or rolling landscapes, presented as a sequence of smooth, non-linear rises and hollows that are largely formed by glacial drumlines at the Goose Property. Frostboils form micro-relief at the ground surface and have developed from repeated freeze thaw cycle at the site. Drainage is variable from well to poorly drained ground depending on local topography, surficial material, and permafrost. The MLA is located near sea level and characterized by gentle slopes and level plains that drain toward Bathurst Inlet.

2.2 Climate

The region around the Back River project is characterized by long dark winters, shorter summers and generally gently rolling topography. Typically, the ground is covered in snow from October (and as early as September) to June (sometimes snow melting earlier in mid to late may). Similar to other Northern Canadian sites, Back River is subject to very cold weather and at times persistent Arctic winds.

In the winter the lakes and sea are covered with ice that can be greater than 2 m in thickness. This can allow for on-ice activities such as diamond drilling, winter ice road, and airstrip construction and use. The mean annual air temperature (MAAT) is around -10°C at the Goose Station. The mean annual precipitation ranges from around 270 to 430 mm (SRK 2021)

Meteorological data has been collected at the Goose Station (Lat. 65.54, Long. -106.41, Elev. 277 masl) since August 2004 and at the MLA Station (Lat. 66.65, Long. -107.69, Elev. 11 masl) since 2012. The stations are equipped with gauges to monitor air temperature, precipitation as rainfall and snowfall, solar radiation, wind speed, and wind direction (SRK 2021, Rescan 2014b). Meteorological data collected at these two stations will be used to support understanding of changes in ground temperature and permafrost (see Section 4).

2.3 Surficial and Bedrock Geology

Surficial geology at the project site is largely a reflection of the last advance of the North American Laurentide ice sheet during the Wisconsin Glaciation. The maximum extent of the continental glacier occurred approximately 21,000 years ago and began withdrawing from the Kitikmeot Region approximately 10,000 years ago.

The landscape is striated with overburden materials characteristic of a post-glacial environment. At the Goose property, the common surficial deposits include glacial till and drumlines. Glacial till consists of sand and variable amounts of silt and gravel. Drumlines also coarse sand, silt, and gravel compositions and are often associated with kettle lakes. Organic veneers (less than 1 m in depth) are also common, resulting from the accumulation of very slowly decomposing vegetation, typically in the wet lowlands.

The majority of the Goose Property is underlain by clastic meta-sedimentary rock types consisting of turbidites (greywacke and mudstone) of the Slave Province (Rescan 2013) Vol 5 EIS). This sequence is cut by felsic dikes and gabbroic dikes. From oldest to youngest, the sequence is composed of central greywacke, lower iron formation, middle mudstone, upper iron formation, and upper sediments. Exposed bedrock can be found throughout the Goose Property or immediately below a thin veneer of glacial sediments.

At the MLA, the surficial deposits include marine and morainal deposits. Marine and moraine deposits consist mainly of coarse sands. Poorly drained areas with accumulated organics may also have fine-grained soils and higher amounts of ground ice.

2.4 Ground Thermal Regime

Back River is located within a zone of Continuous permafrost, with an estimated 90 to 100% of the land area underlain by permafrost. Permafrost temperature has been measured to range from -4.7°C to -7.5°C at the Goose Property, with an average of -6.3°C (SRK 2015a). The seasonally thawed active layer ranges from approximately 1 to 4 m below ground surface (bgs). The greatest active layer depth occurs in areas with thin soil veneers above bedrock. The base of permafrost is estimated to range from 490 to 570 meters below ground surface (mbgs) using the 0°C isotherm, with a reported geothermal gradient of 0.013 to 0.014°C/m (SRK 2015a). The local groundwater chemistry results in a freezing point depression and unfrozen taliks at the base of permafrost, also referred to as basal cryopegs. The basal cryopeg has been estimated to be 100 m thick.

2.5 Infrastructure

Proposed surface infrastructure development to support the mining generally includes the following:

- Marine Laydown Area:
 - Laydown facilities
 - Fuel tank farm
 - Camp and ancillary facilities
 - Workshop and ancillary facilities
 - Airstrip
 - Fuel offloading and general site access roads linking the above elements
- Goose Site:
 - Processing plant and ancillary facilities
 - Mine equipment workshops, warehousing and ancillary facilities
 - Laydown facilities
 - Fuel tank farm

- Camp and ancillary facilities
- In-Pit tailings facilities
- Waste rock and overburden piles
- Ore stockpiles
- Airstrip
- Water management facilities (Primary Pond, Camp Pad, Echo Diversion etc.)
- Culvert crossings.
- All weather roads linking the above infrastructure elements.

The Back River site continues to be in a period of transition, in a pre-operation ramp up stage. This means that many of the pads, roads, ponds, and water conveyance (culvert) structures are currently at an interim state and / or were not yet completed at the end of 2024. Therefore, there are many elements listed in bullets above that are not constructed on site. As later discussed, thermal monitoring is planned to be incorporated as part of geotechnical monitoring of critical infrastructure (e.g. ponds / damstank farms etc.) and will be included in the final designs and construction.

3 Ground Temperature Sites

3.1 Historic Sites

The ground thermal regime has been characterised as part of baseline studies completed at Goose and MLA (Rescan 2014a). Thermistor cables were installed in drillholes (and one test pit) at the Goose property in 1997, 2008, 2011, 2012, and 2013, 2015, and 2017 (Table 1). At the Goose property, a total of thirty-five thermistor cables were installed nearby the planned open pits and infrastructure sites. An additional six drillholes were instrumented with thermistor cables at the MLA.

Figure 2 shows the location of the historic ground temperature sites located at the Goose property by year of installation. Figure 3 shows the location of the historic ground temperature sites install at the MLA by year of installation. The thermistor cables installed at the historic ground temperature sites were manufactured by RST (SRK 2012, SRK 2015b, Rescan 2010, Rescan 2012), or by GKM (KP 2013a; 2013b). The cables were typically designed to characterise either shallow or deep ground temperature (see classification in Table 1). Most of the instruments were connected to data loggers manufactured by Campbell Scientific (Rescan 2010; 2012; KP 2013a; 2013b) or RST (SRK 2012). Manual temperature readings were collected from cables not connected to data loggers.

The status (function) of the GTCs at the Goose Property and MLA is shown in Figures 4 and 5, respectively. The status of each site is defined as:

- Active – GTC is functional at time of reporting
- Inactive – GTC function is unknown at time of reporting
- Compromised (Repair) – GTC is not functional at time of reporting and requires repair
- Compromised – GTC is not functional and damaged beyond repair or not accessible

Phase 1 audit of the instruments was completed by SRK in 2023. The Phase 1 audit included visual inspection the instrumentation (cable leads and data loggers) for damage at the Goose Property. The information was advanced to Campbell Scientific who is the instrument manufacturer for most of the historic instruments. Campbell Scientific concluded that historic measurements and programing would no longer be store on the data loggers due to depletion of the primary and secondary batteries. The historic data that areavailable for each of the sites are provided in the *Back River Project: Site-wide Ground Thermal Monitoring Plan (Revision 01)* (SRK 2026).

Phase 2 of the instrument audit will include reviewing and evaluating the functionality of the existing equipment and assessing recovery options at a select number of accessible sites, if required. If successful, additional efforts to repair the historic instruments will be made. A portion of the historic site would be used for ground thermal monitoring pending final determination of instrument function. These sites will characterize the deep ground thermal regime to establish long-term changes in permafrost. The instruments are not well suited for monitoring the shallow ground thermal regime, active layer depth, and change in shallow permafrost temperature, due to the original purpose of the instruments. New background sites are planned for installation to characterize the shallow ground thermal regime at background locations outside of the influence of mining infrastructure.

A portion of the historic site will be used for long-term ground thermal monitoring pending final determination of instrument function, as discussed in Section 4. A total of nine historic thermistor cables at the Goose Property have been compromised and are no longer functional (Table 1). Of the compromised sites, thermistor cable 13-GSE-277B, 13-GSE-284, 13-GSE-289 are located under Llama Lake and are not accessible. The remaining six sites have been compromised by construction. These sites were originally installed to measure background ground temperature and are not intended for infrastructure monitoring. An additional six historic thermistor cables installed to establish baseline conditions at the MLA have been compromised (Table 1).

Ground temperature measurements collected at Goose and MLA are provided in Appendix B. The historic ground temperature records are often limited to measurements made several months to years following installation. The historic (pre-mining) baseline measurements will be used to evaluate change in permafrost temperature over the period of mining (see Section 4).

3.2 Recent Sites

Ground temperature monitoring sites were recently established at the Goose Camp Pad, Primary Pond Dam, Umwelt Pit Area, and MLA Fuel Tank Farm between 2023 and 2025 (Figures 2 and 3; Table 2). The sites were instrumented with calibrated digital ground temperature cables (GTCs) which provide analog to digital conversion of the measurements at the sensor. The read out of the cables is temperature using the factory established calibration coefficients, which eliminates the need to convert measured resistance to temperature. Figures 6 through 14 show the location of the GTC sensors for recent cables installed at the Primary Pond Dam, Camp Pad, and Tank Pad Areas.

A total of sixteen GTCs were installed at the Primary Pond Dam. The GTCs are installed in vertically in the foundation and horizontally along the excavated and backfilled key trench (Figure 2; Table 2). An additional four temporary GTCs sites were installed in 2024 to characterise the foundation and support construction of the Primary Pond Dam (SRK-24-PP-DH01, SRK-24-PP-DH02, SRK-24-PP-DH03, and SRK-24-PP-DH04 (Appendix B). The temporary sites provide baseline information for the local ground thermal regime but are not intended to be part of long-term monitoring.

At the Goose Camp Pad, GTCs were installed at SRK-23-CPI-DH1 and SRK-23-CPI-DH2 to monitoring ground temperature in the rock pad and foundation (Figure 2; Table 2). Manual measurements have been made at these two sites since installation in 2023 (Appendix B).

Two recent GTCs were installed near Umwelt Pit in 2023 and 2024 (Table 2). Site 22-UMU004B was installed from the underground mine to characterise local ground temperature and permafrost conditions. The GTC has been compromised by underground mining activities. Site 24-GSE-678B was installed from surface and extends adjacent to the planned pit shell and intersects the planned underground mine. The measurement provides baseline characterisation of permafrost and is intended to provide long-term background monitoring adjacent to the pit.

At MLA, two GTCs (MLA-TF-GTC-1 and MLA-TF-GTC-2) were installed at the fuel tank farm to monitor temperature in the rock pad and permafrost foundation. Site MLA-TF-GTC-1 is installed through the tank farm berm and into the foundation on the southwest side of the facility, where the berm is constructed on overburden (Figure 3). The second GTC is installed on the north edge of the pad at

Tank 5 and extends into the foundation (Figure 3). The purpose of these cables will be to monitor the berm and foundation permafrost conditions.

Table 1: Historic Ground Temperature Sites Installed Between 1997 and 2017

Location	Site ID	Year	Northing	Easting	Status	Monitoring Type	GTC Length [m] (Approx.)
Goose Property	13-GSE-261B	2013	7269381	433838	Inactive	Background	560
	13-GSE-286	2013	7269612	434066	Inactive	Background	210
	13-GSE-314	2013	7269764	434278	Inactive	Background	210
	11SRKGL-10	2011	7269557	433734	Inactive	Background	21.5
	08-GSE-009	2008	7269461	433904	Inactive	Background	300
	97-GO-14	1997	7269623	434056	Compromised	Background	7
	13-GSE-288	2013	7270686	430310	Compromised	Background	560
	13-GSE-279	2013	7270260	430189	Compromised	Background	560
	12-GSE-233C	2012	7270546	430544	Compromised	Background	565
	13-GSE-277B	2013	7272125	428852	Compromised	Background	265
	13-GSE-284	2013	7272370	428710	Compromised	Background	390
	13-GSE-289	2013	7272218	428790	Compromised	Background	660
	12-GSE-218	2012	7272301	428508	Inactive	Background	390
	12-GSE-223	2012	7272161	429104	Inactive	Background	285
	14-GSE-468	2014	7268705	432707	Compromised	Background	375
	14-GSE-472	2014	7268724	432957	Compromised	Background	375
	TIA-GT13-03	2013	7272636	430246	Inactive	Background	17
	TIA-GT13-10	2013	7273951	430604	Inactive	Background	17
	TIA-GT13-15	2013	7273180	431079	Inactive	Background	17
	TIA-GT13-16	2013	7272989	431079	Inactive	Background	17
	GAS-GT13-01	2013	7269913	432983	Inactive	Background	17
	GAS-GT13-02	2013	7269571	433495	Inactive	Background	27
	GAS-GT13-04	2013	7268574	434367	Inactive	Background	27

Location	Site ID	Year	Northing	Easting	Status	Monitoring Type	GTC Length [m] (Approx.)
	GAS-TP13-51	2013	7268379	434496	Inactive	Background	3
	GPS-GT13-01	2013	7271857	431171	Inactive	Background	17
	SRK-15-GSE-DH12	2015	7267857	434863	Inactive	Background	15
	SRK-15-GSE-DH13	2015	7267876	434944	Inactive	Background	15
	SRK-15-GSE-DH15	2015	7267916	435125	Inactive	Background	15
	SRK-15-GSE-DH16	2015	7267940	435231	Inactive	Background	15
	SRK-15-GSE-DH17	2015	7267942	435336	Inactive	Background	15
	SRK-15-GSE-DH18	2015	7267919	435427	Inactive	Background	15
	SRK-15-GSE-DH19	2015	7267905	435517	Inactive	Background	15
	SRK-15-GSE-DH20	2015	7267893	435603	Inactive	Background	15
	SRK-15-GSE-DH21	2015	7267877	435685	Inactive	Background	15
	SRK-15-GSE-DH26	2015	7266311	435268	Inactive	Background	15
MLA Property	17-ML_AA005	2017	7394381	381098	Compromised	Background	4.5
	17-ML_AA008	2017	7394715	381331	Compromised	Background	2.9
	17-ML_AA020	2017	7394872	380934	Compromised	Background	2.6
	17-ML_AA021	2017	7394212	381331	Compromised	Background	1.9
	17-ML_AA022	2017	7394185	381145	Compromised	Background	4.3
	17-ML_AA023	2017	7394530	381258	Compromised	Background	3.7

Table 2: Recent Ground Temperature Sites Installed Between 2023 and 2025

Location	Area	Drillhole ID	Year	Northing	Easting	Status	Monitoring Type	GTC Length [m] (Approx.)
Goose Property	Primary Pond Dam	PP-VTC-550-US	2023	7271204	429848	Active	Infrastructure	15.5
		PP-VTC-550-KT	2023	7271180	429830	Active	Infrastructure	15.5
		PP-VTC-550-DS	2023	7271168	429821	Active	Infrastructure	15.5
		PP-HTC-B1-KT	2023	7271196	429841	Active	Infrastructure	130
		PP-HTC-B2-KT	2023	7271139	429963	Compromised	Infrastructure	160
		PP-HTC-640-LN	2024	7271146	429909	Active	Infrastructure	42
		PP-HTC-B3-KT	2024	7271419	429512	Active	Infrastructure	160
		PP-HTC-450-LN	2024	7271259	429761	Active	Infrastructure	48
		PP-HTC-330-LN	2025	7271259	429761	Active	Infrastructure	48
		PP-VTC-300-UT	2025	7271380	429680	Active	Infrastructure	15.5
		PP-VTC-320-US	2025	7271340	429684	Active	Infrastructure	15.5
		PP-VTC-320-KT	2025	7271322	429655	Active	Infrastructure	15.5
		PP-VTC-320-DS	2025	7271305	429648	Active	Infrastructure	15.5
		PP-VTC-220-US	2025	7271419	429601	Active	Infrastructure	15.5
		PP-VTC-220-KT	2025	7271394	429577	Active	Infrastructure	15.5
		PP-VTC-220-DS	2025	7271378	429566	Active	Infrastructure	15.5
	Umwelt Pit Area	SRK-24-PP-DH01	2024	7271328	429660	Inactive	Temporary	8
		SRK-24-PP-DH02	2024	7271366	429613	Inactive	Temporary	9
		SRK-24-PP-DH03	2024	7271323	429658	Inactive	Temporary	8
		SRK-24-PP-DH04	2024	7271319	429664	Inactive	Temporary	5
	Camp Pad	22-UMU004B	2023	7270357	430280	Compromised	Underground	-
		24-GSE-678B	2024	7270839	430150	Active	Background	440
MLA Property	Tank Farm	SRK-23-CPI-DH1	2023	7270012	429952	Active	Infrastructure	13.4
		SRK-23-CPI-DH2	2023	7269927	430029	Active	Infrastructure	8.8
		MLA-TF-GTC-1	2024	7393818	380820	Active	Infrastructure	21
		MLA-TF-GTC-2	2024	7393854	381065	Active	Infrastructure	15.3

4 Long-term Monitoring

4.1 Background Sites

The long-term background sites will be established to monitor climate-driven changes in ground temperature at locations that are not directly impacted by mining. The background sites will be selected to capture representative ground conditions based on surficial geology, surface hydrology, vegetation, and expected ground temperature and active layer depth. Sites will be established at both the Goose property and MLA.

At present, one background monitoring site is active at the Goose Property nearby the planned location of Umwelt Pit (24-GSE-678B). Ground temperature is measured and recorded every four hours using a data logger. The site will be used to monitor the thermal influence of pit and underground mine development on the deep ground thermal regime.

B2Gold plans to complete a feasibility review of bringing some of the historic ground temperature sites back online for background ground temperature monitoring as part of the Phase 2 instrument audit. If deemed probable, additional efforts to repair the historic instruments will be made. A portion of the historic site would be used for ground thermal monitoring pending final determination of instrument function. These sites will characterize the deep ground thermal regime to establish long-term changes in permafrost. The instruments are not well-suited for monitoring the shallow ground thermal regime, active layer depth, and change in shallow permafrost temperature, due to the original purpose of the instruments. New background sites are planned for installation to characterize the shallow ground thermal regime at background locations outside of the influence of mining infrastructure.

4.2 Infrastructure and Disturbance Sites

Long-term ground temperature monitoring will be established at infrastructure and ground disturbance sites to monitor changes in ground temperature at locations directly influenced by mining activity. At infrastructure sites, the change in ground temperature is expected to result from the combined effects of climate and the infrastructure. Disturbance site would include areas adjacent to mine infrastructure that are influenced or directly impacted by mining activity.

At present, infrastructure monitoring sites included in this monitoring plan include one site at the Goose Camp Pad (SRK-23-CPI-DH1) and three of the sites at the Primary Pond Dam (PP-VTC-550-US, PP-VTC-550-KT, PP-VTC-550-DS). The three sites at the Primary Pond Dam consist of vertical GTCs installed in the foundation beneath the upstream (US), key trench (KT), and downstream (DS), respectively.

At MLA, two infrastructure monitoring sites (MLA-TF-GTC-1 and MLA-TF-GTC-2) at the fuel tank pad are included in the monitoring plan. These sites are used to monitor temperature through the rock pad and permafrost foundation. MLA-TF-GTC-1 is installed through the tank farm berm and foundation on the southwest side of the facility, where the berm is constructed on overburden. The second GTC (MLA-TF-GTC-2) is installed on the north edge of the pad at Tank 5 and extends into the foundation. At

the time of reporting, MLA-TF-GTC-1 is inactive and requires repair. Additional GTCs will be installed at the Goose property and MLA as mine infrastructure is built. The GTCs will be installed during construction or shortly thereafter. In most cases, the instruments will be part of a larger network of instruments used to monitor infrastructure performance and therefore the locations are subject to change as design and construction advances.

4.3 Meteorological Stations

Climate data collected at the Goose and MLA stations will allow for changes in weather and longer term climate to be assessed against the measured ground temperature. The monitoring plan data management system includes the historical meteorological data from the Goose and MLA stations (Section 5.2, Appendix C). Appendix C provides the baseline measurements for select parameters collected at the stations. The data management system will be updated with the completed timeseries of historical and recent measurements for each parameter.

5 Implementation and Maintenance

The operation and maintenance of the long-term ground temperature monitoring sites will be conducted by B2Gold or consultants. The following section provides guidelines for data collection, data management and quality assurance, and instrument inspection and maintenance.

5.1 Data Collection

A key consideration for long-term ground temperature monitoring is the method and frequency of data collection. Data collection will be through the use of data loggers or manual measurement at the frequency described below.

- Data Logger Collection
 - Measurement frequency every six hours (internally recorded)
 - Download of data logger once a quarter
- Manual Data Collection
 - Measurement frequency once a quarter

A standard operating procedures (SOPs) will be developed and appended to this monitoring plan once the monitoring sites and instruments have been established. The SOP will ensure consistent and complete data collection.

5.2 Data Management

A ground temperature monitoring database has now been developed in Microsoft PowerBI (data visualization and analytics tools and app) to support data storage, quality assurance and checks, analysis, and reporting. The database includes historic and recent ground temperature sites, along with the long-term ground temperature monitoring sites. The long-term monitoring sites (Background, Infrastructure, and Disturbance sites) for Goose and MLA will be added over time. Meteorological data from the Goose and MLA stations will also be maintained within the database.

Standardised data plots that have been developed to meet and assist with the annual reporting requirements. The data plots include graphical representation of the information as temperature timeseries and temperature versus depth plots. Standardized plots of the climate data for each of the meteorological stations will also be included in the database, such as graphical representation of year-over-year changes and calculated climate indices. The data plots may be expanded as required by data collection, analysis, and reporting.

The database should be updated within one month of manual data collection or data logger download. Climate data should be added to the database on a quarterly basis or at which time the quality checked data is made available.

5.3 Quality Checks

The data will be checked for erroneous (abnormal) readings. An abnormal instrument reading is one that is outside the historic range of measured values or shows a sudden change that is unexplainable. All data should be added to the database and then qualified by a subject matter expert. Abnormal readings will be flagged within the database.

5.4 Instrument Inspection and Maintenance

The instrument inspection and maintenance will be performed to ensure that the instruments are in good working condition to collect complete and accurate data. Prior to data collection (manual or download of the data logger), the instrument enclosure, data logger and components, and all exposed portions of the GTCs will be visually inspected for damage. Damage should be documented along with the need for repair or replacement.

It is inevitable that monitoring equipment will wear out and need to be replaced over time. These installations may require complete replacement in the event of equipment failure. If the equipment fails and requires replacement, B2Gold will make an effort to replace the equipment or the entire GTC cable in a timely fashion to ensure continuity with data collection. In some cases, it may not be practical to replace the instrument at the same location due to impacts on infrastructure or limitations with equipment and site access. If it is determined that the instruments cannot be replaced at the same location, a new installation will be located as close as possible and will be designed to collect the same data as the original installation.

6 Reporting

6.1 Annual Report

An annual ground temperature monitoring report, starting for the 2025 site annual reporting submission, will be issued with the annual reporting package for the site. The report will be developed to:

- Report data collection for the year;
- Describe instrument maintenance or replacement that has occurred;
- Update graphical plots of the historic and recent measurements for the monitoring sites;
- Analysis of the ground temperature to identify changes in permafrost and long-term trends;
- Analysis of relevant climate parameters to support understanding of changes in permafrost; and
- Action plan for instrument repair or replacement for the upcoming year, as needed.

This “Back River Project: Site-wide Ground Thermal Monitoring Plan” will be a ‘live’ document that will be continually updated as the Back River project advances, and as additional infrastructure on site is constructed. This plan will therefore be updated when new information is available and not necessarily on an annual basis; i.e. annual updates are not required to the plan if no new or additional information, or changes in monitoring conditions are apparent.

Closure

This report, Back River Project: Site-wide Ground Thermal Monitoring Plan, was prepared by

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Christopher Stevens, PhD
Associate (Permafrost and Infrastructure)

and reviewed by

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John Kurylo, PEng
Principal Consultant (Geotechnical and Civil)

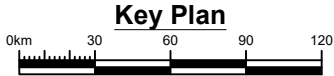
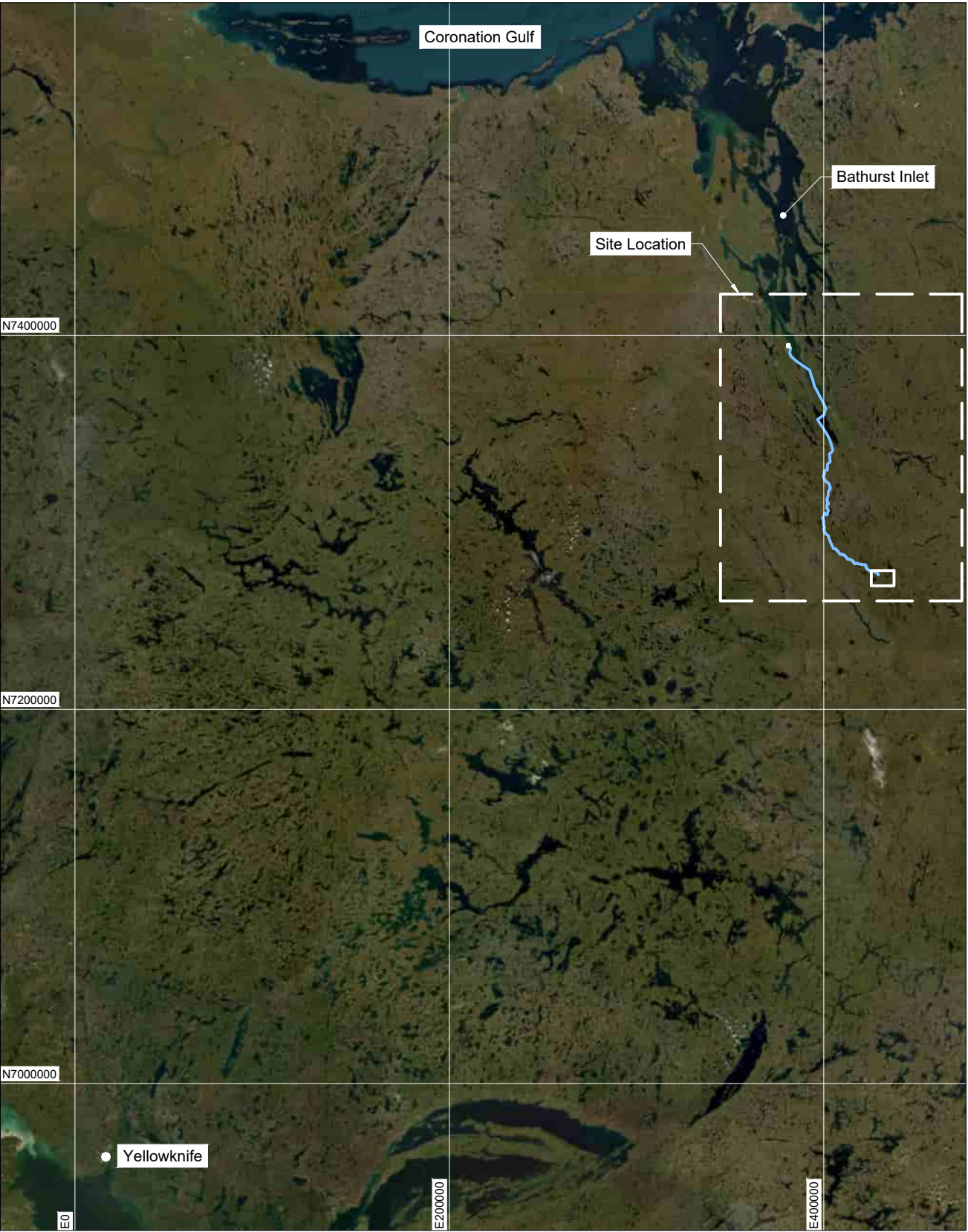
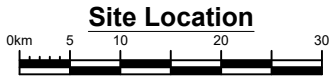
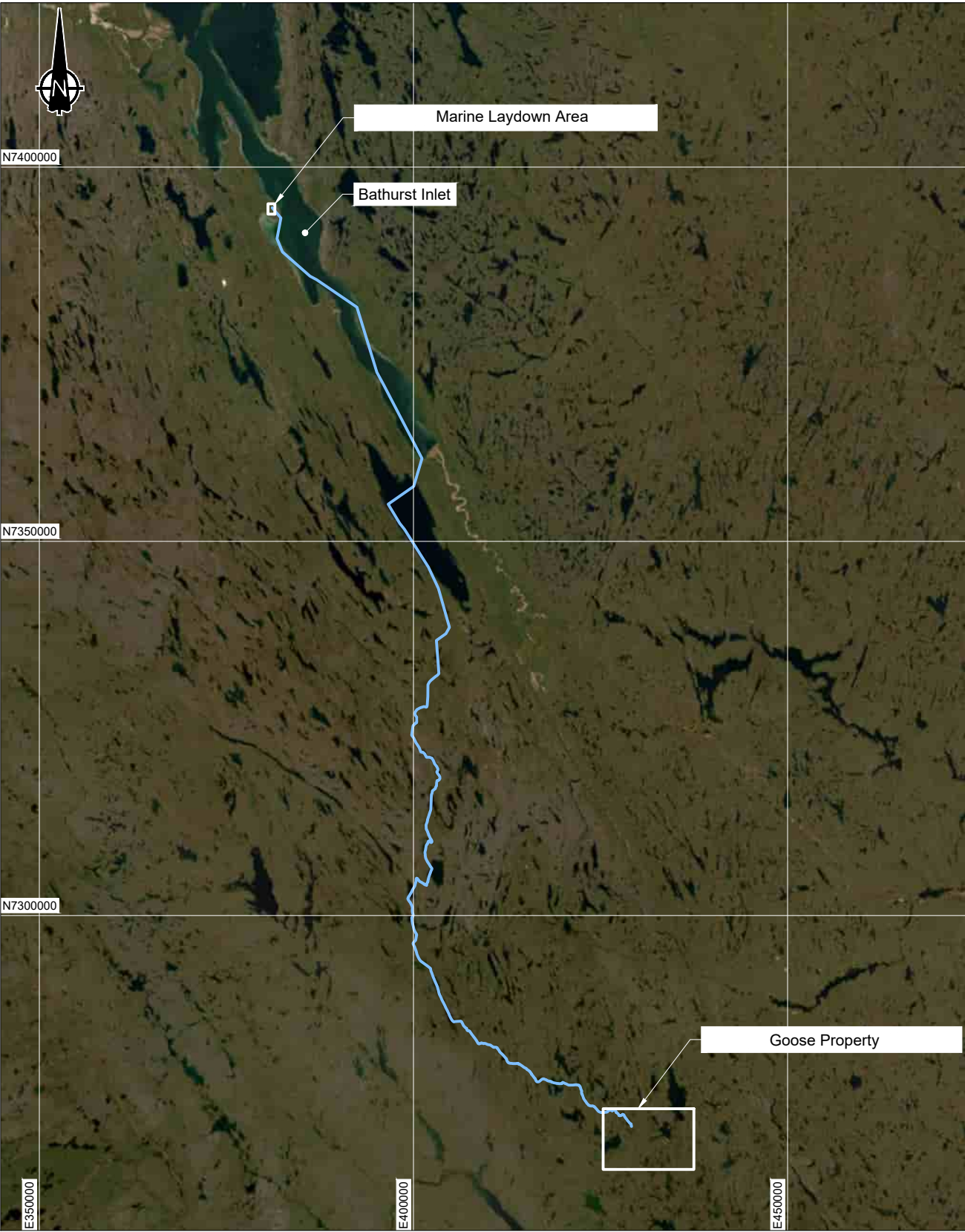
All data used as source material plus the text, tables, figures, and attachments of this document have been reviewed and prepared in accordance with generally accepted professional engineering and environmental practices.

References

- Rescan. 2010. Thermistor Data Summary, Back River Project. Prepared for Sabina Gold and Silver Corporation.
- Rescan. 2012. Thermistor Data Summary, Back River Project. Prepared for Sabina Gold and Silver Corporation.
- Rescan. 2014a. Back River Project Cumulative Permafrost Baseline Data Report (2007 to May 2014). Prepared for Sabina Gold & Silver Corp.
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- SRK Consulting (Canada) Inc. 2012. Back River 2012 Geotechnical and Hydrogeological Drilling Program Factual Data Report. Prepared for Sabina Gold and Silver Corporation.
- Knight Piésold (KP). 2013a. 2013 Geotechnical Site Investigation Summary. Prepared for Sabina Gold & Silver Corp.
- Knight Piésold (KP). 2013b. 2013 Geomechanical and Hydrogeological Site Investigation Summary. Prepared for Sabina Gold and Silver Corporation.
- SRK Consulting (Canada) Inc. 2015a. Thermal Modelling to Support Run-of-Quarry Pad Design. Prepared for Sabina Gold and Silver Corporation.
- SRK Consulting (Canada) Inc. 2015b. Back River Project: Goose Property Talik Thermal Modeling. Technical Memorandum Prepared for Sabina Gold & Silver Corp., October 2015.
- SRK Consulting (Canada) Inc. 2021. Back River: Updated Feasibility Study – Hydrology Update. Prepared for Sabina Gold and Silver Corporation.

Appendix A Figures

C:\Users\lakes\SRK Consulting\F5203 Back River (Goose and MLN) - 1040_AutoCAD\ACAD_C3D\CAPR003 105_WaterMgmt\GICAPR004092_GA.dwg



LEGEND

2025 Winter Road Design

NOTES

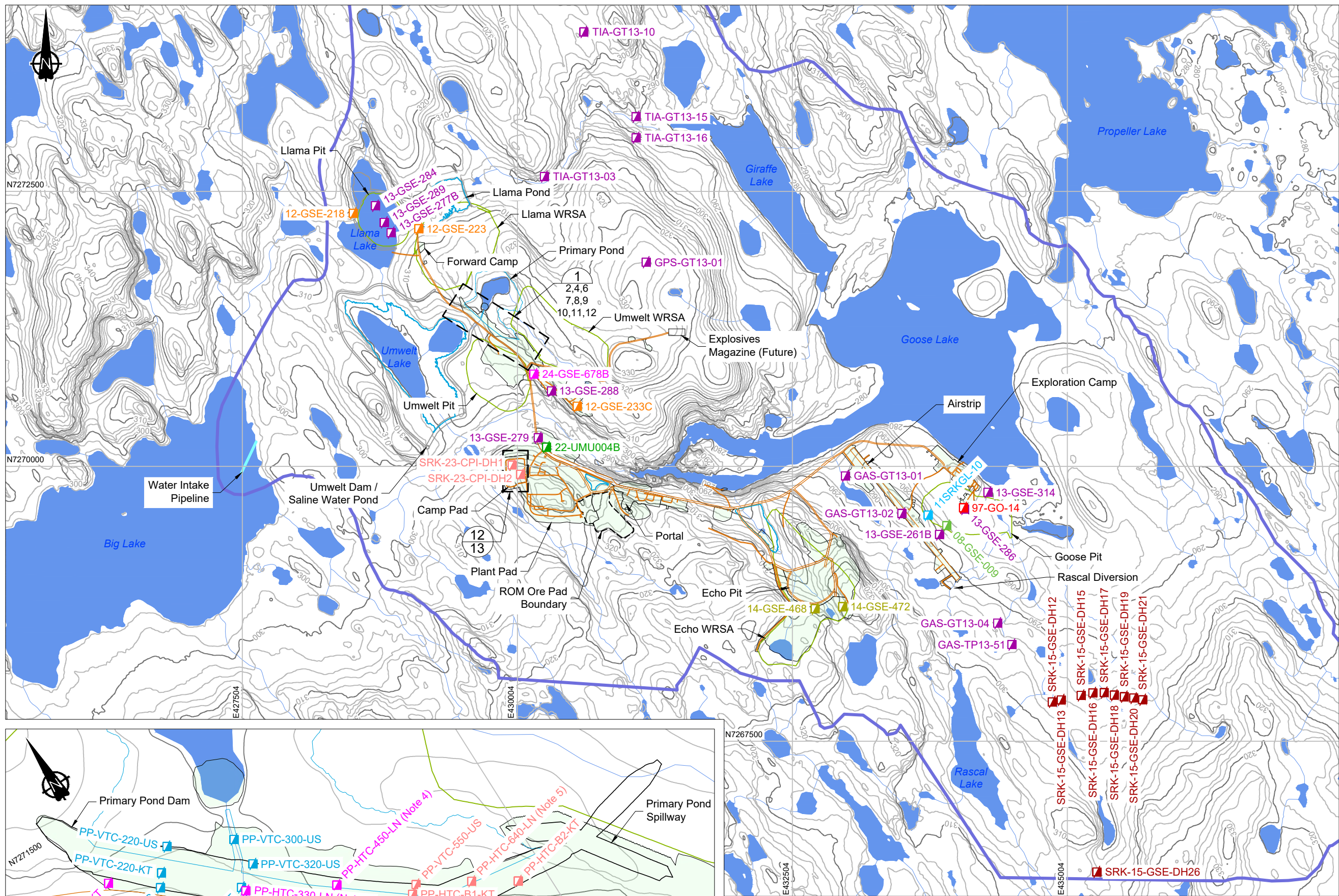
1. All units are in meters unless otherwise specified.

REFERENCES

NAD83 UTM Zone 13.
Imagery acquired from ESRI World Map on 20240203.

 SRK JOB NO.: CAPR004313 FILE NAME: CAPR004313_GA.dwg	 Back River	Site-wide Ground Thermal Monitoring Plan		
		Location Map		
		DATE: 2026-01-06	APPROVED: -	FIGURE: 1

C:\Users\backer\SRK Consulting\F5203 Back River\Goose and MLN\1040_AutocAD\CAD_C3D\CAPR003\102_GroundThermMonMonitoringPlan\CAPR003\102_GTC Locations By Year.dwg



LEGEND

1997 GTC

2008 GTC

2011 GTC

2012 GTC

2013 GTC

2014 GTC

2015 GTC

2022 GTC

2023 GTC

2024 GTC

2025 GTC

Design Pit and Dump Infrastructure

Design Infrastructure

Road

Waterbody

Facility Area

Project Boundary

NOTES

1. All units are in meters unless otherwise specified.

2. Contours are shown at 2.0 m intervals.

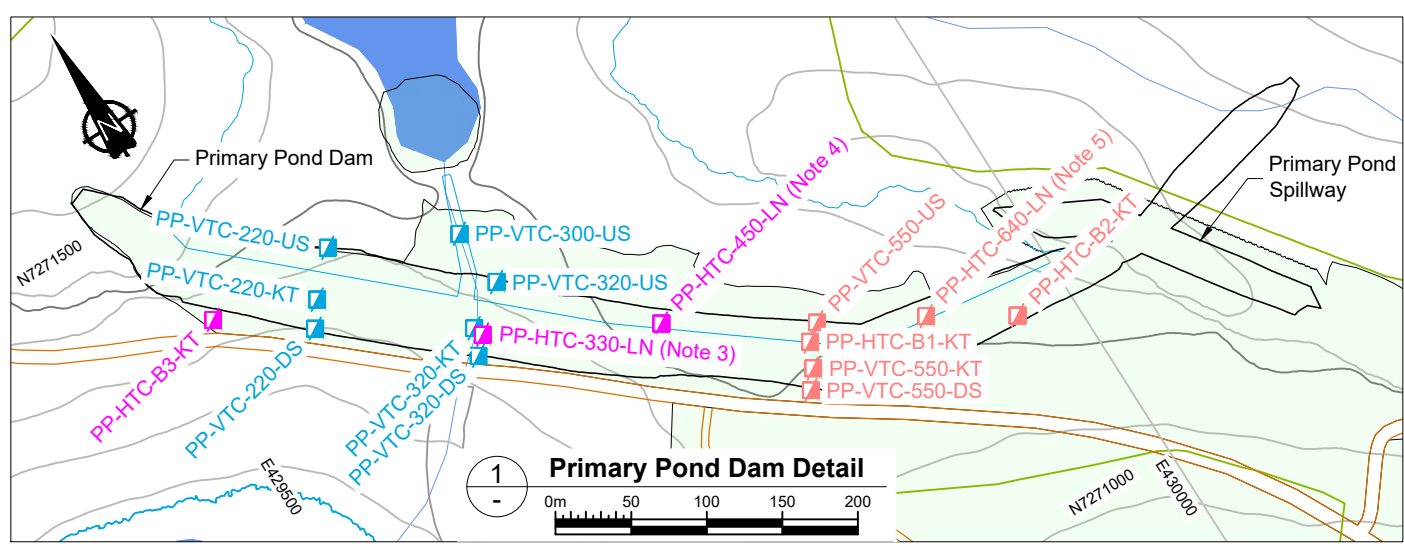
3. For GTC PP-HTC-330-LN, Sensors 4511-12 to 23 were placed in 2024 and Sensors 4511-01 to 11 were placed in 2025.

4. For GTC PP-HTC-450-LN, Sensors 4917-13 to 24 were placed in 2024 and Sensors 4917-01 to 12 were placed in 2025.

5. For GTC PP-HTC-640-LN, Sensors 4506-01 to 11 were placed in 2023 and Sensors 4506-12 to 21 were placed in 2024.

REFERENCES

NAD83 UTM Zone 13.



SRK JOB NO.: CAPR004313

FILE NAME: CAPR004313_GTC Locations By Year.dwg

Back River

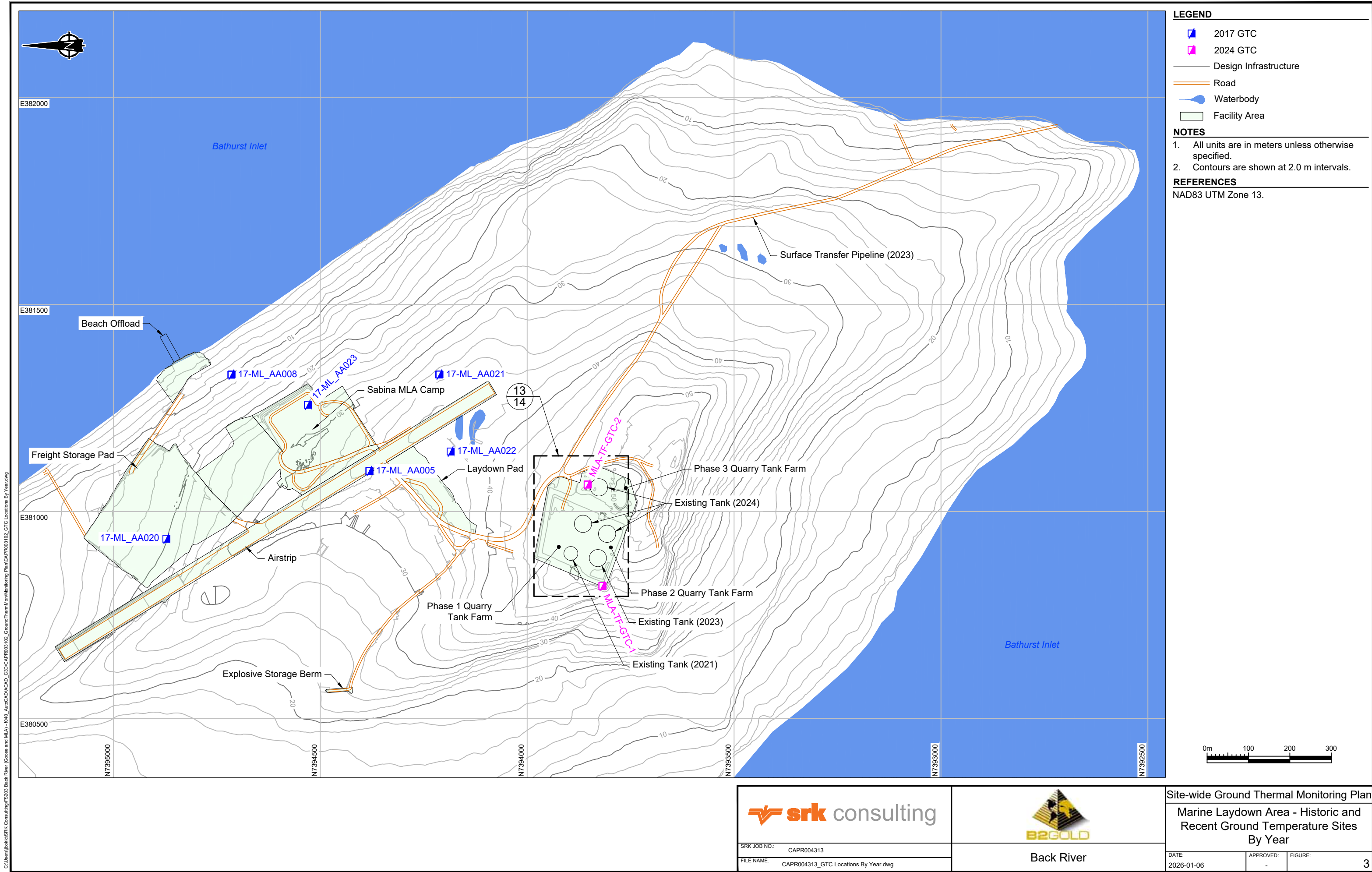
Site-wide Ground Thermal Monitoring Plan

Goose Property - Historic and Recent Ground Temperature Sites By Year

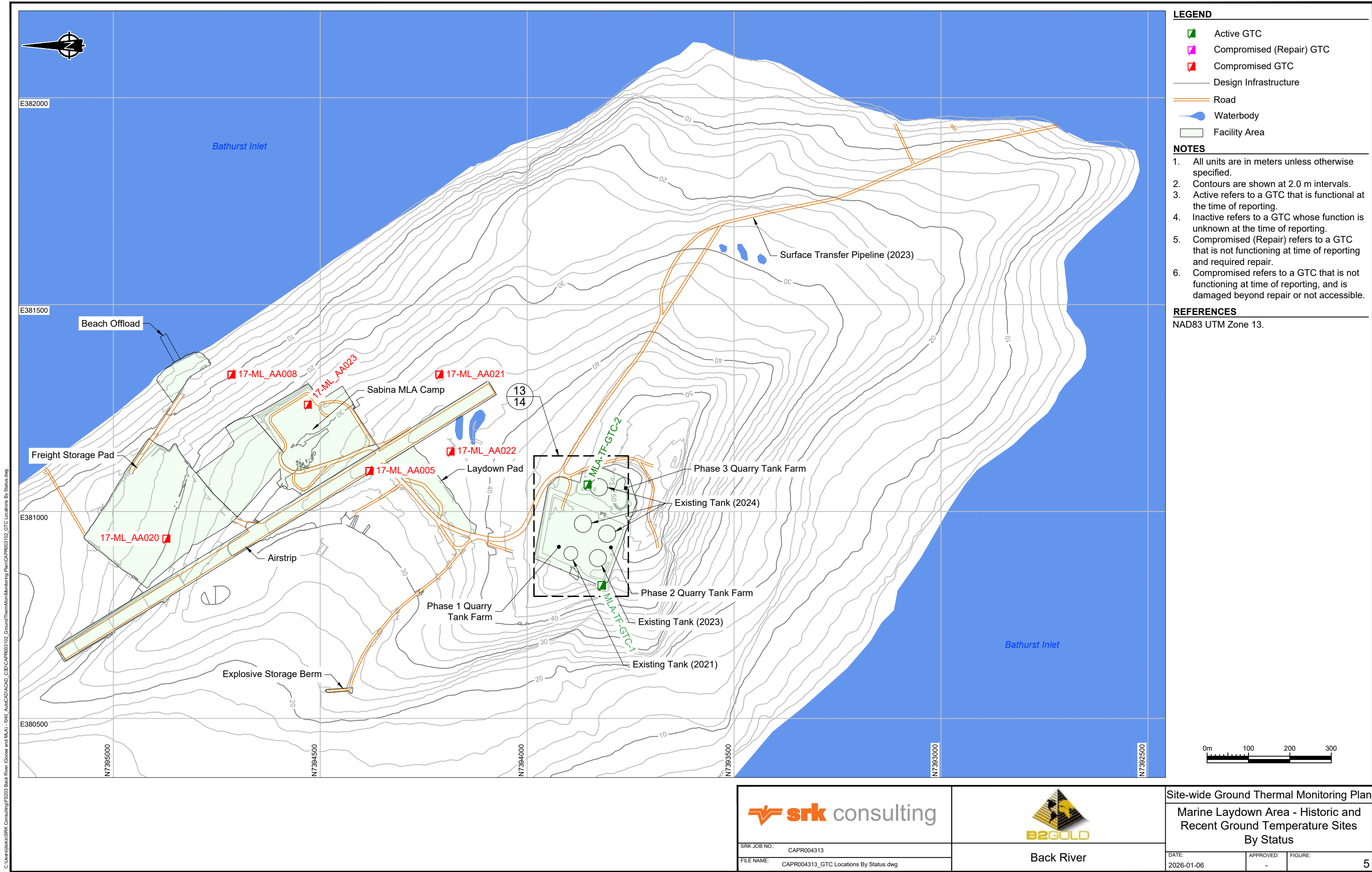
DATE: 2026-01-06

APPROVED: -

FIGURE: 2



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LEGEND

- Active GTC
- Compromised (Repair) GTC
- Compromised GTC
- Design Infrastructure
- Road
- Waterbody
- Facility Area

- NOTES**
- All units are in meters unless otherwise specified.
 - Contours are shown at 2.0 m intervals.
 - Active refers to a GTC that is functional at the time of reporting.
 - Inactive refers to a GTC whose function is unknown at the time of reporting.
 - Compromised (Repair) refers to a GTC that is not functioning at time of reporting and required repair.
 - Compromised refers to a GTC that is not functioning at time of reporting, and is damaged beyond repair or not accessible.

REFERENCES
NAD83 UTM Zone 13.

srk consulting

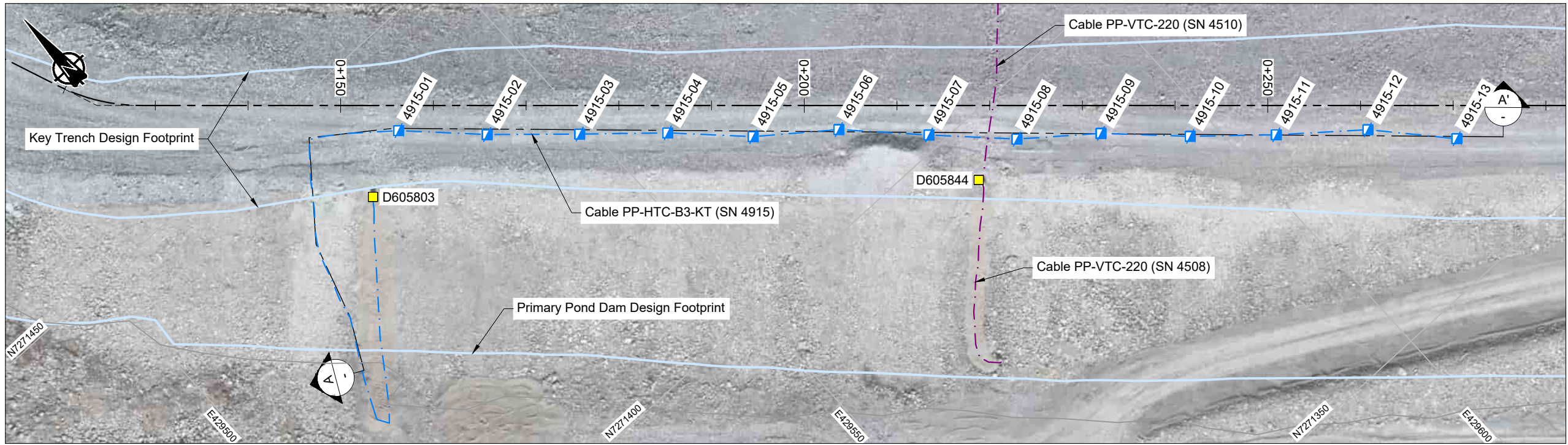
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FILE NAME: CAPR004313_GTC Locations By Status.dwg

B2GOLD

Back River

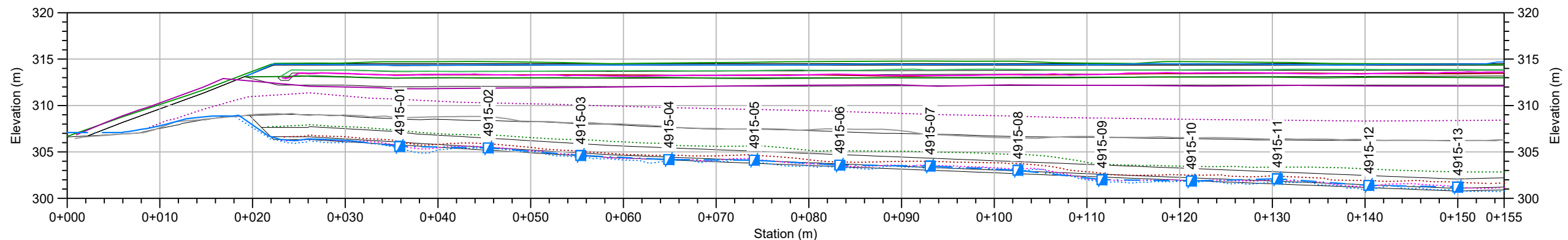
Site-wide Ground Thermal Monitoring Plan
Marine Laydown Area - Historic and Recent Ground Temperature Sites By Status

DATE: 2026-01-06	APPROVED: -	FIGURE: 5
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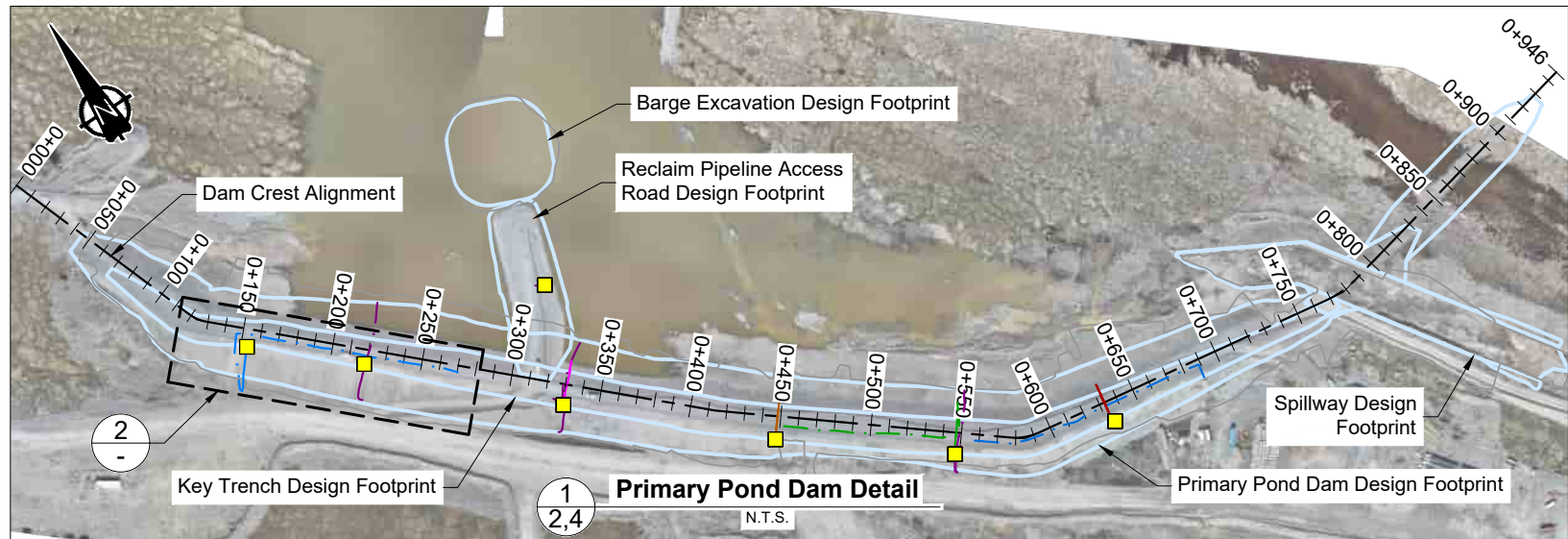
2 Cable PP-HTC-B3-KT (SN 4915)

0m 5 10 15 20



A Cable PP-HTC-B3-KT (SN 4915)

0m 5 10 15 20



LEGEND

- Ground Temperature Cable Sensor
- Datalogger
- 20120831 Lidar Survey and Design
- Surfaces
- Cleared Ground
- Key Trench Excavation
- Key Trench Liner
- Key Trench Bedding
- Key Trench Transition
- Key Trench ROQ
- ROQ SC
- Transition SC
- Bedding Below Liner SC
- Liner SC
- Bedding Above Liner SC
- Transition Above Liner SC
- ROQ Outer Shell
- Cable

NOTES

- All units are in meters unless otherwise specified.
- Lower confidence in bedding material from as-built survey "20230219 Key Trench Bedding", this corresponds to Sta. 0+700 and 0+725 along the Dam alignment reference.
- SC refers to Summer Construction

REFERENCES

- Background Imagery is from 20250615.



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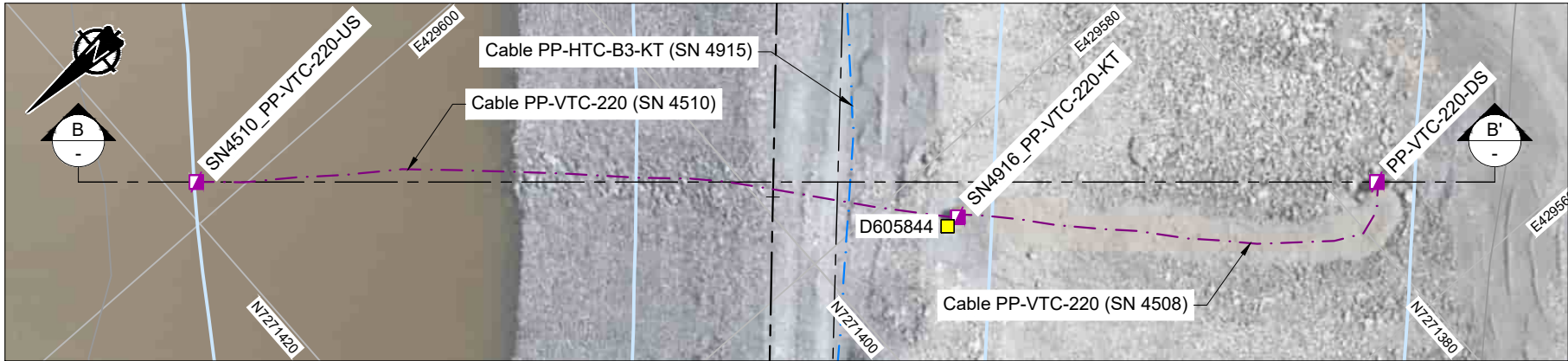


Back River

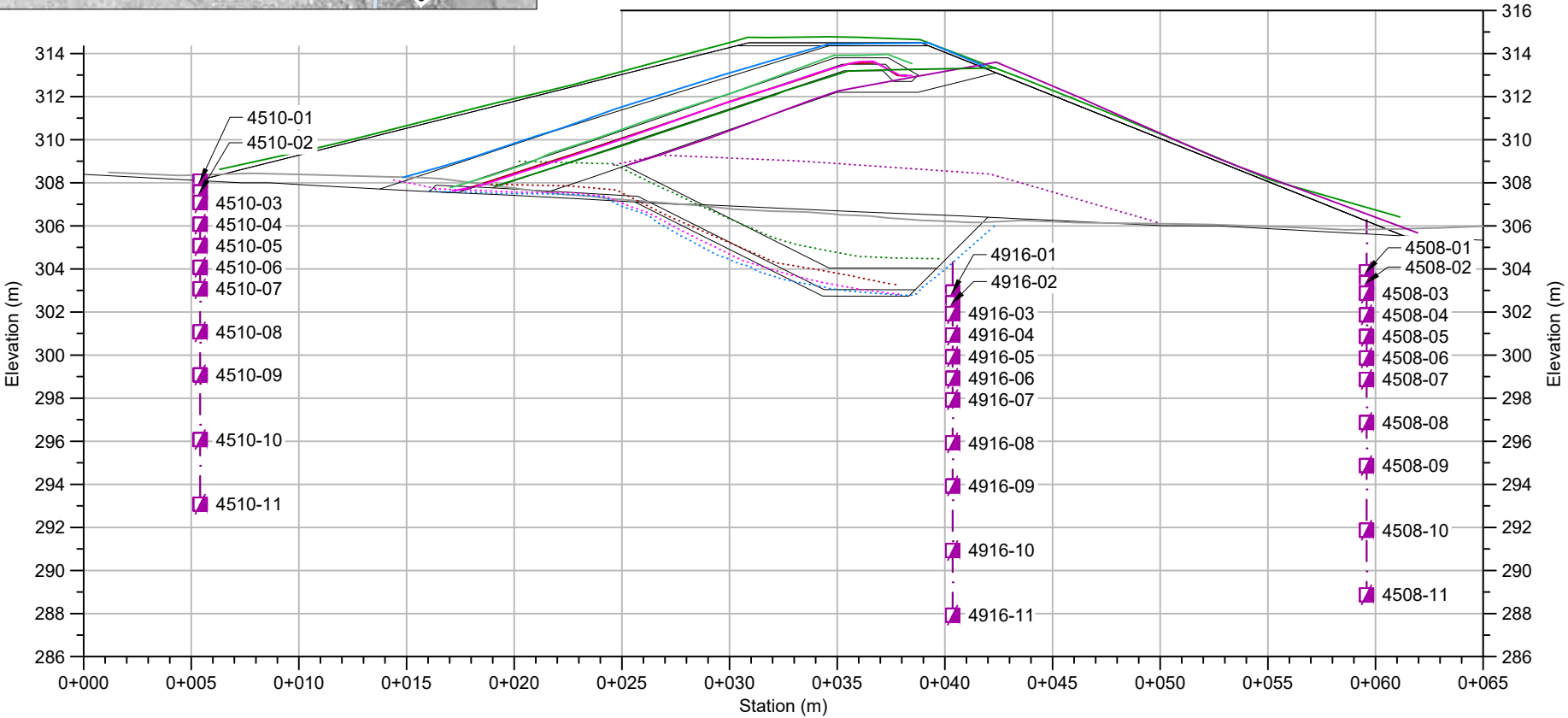
Site-wide Ground Thermal Monitoring Plan

Goose Property - Primary Pond
GTC PP-HTC-B3-KT (SN 4915)

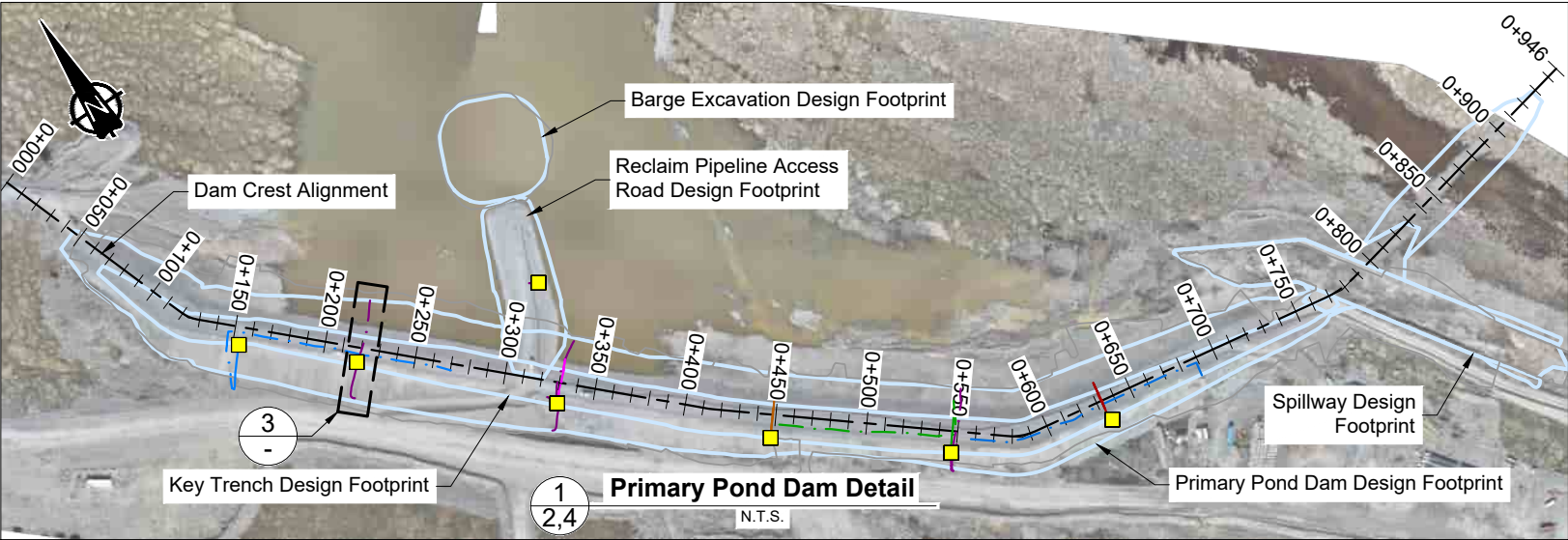
DATE: 2026-01-06
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FIGURE: 6



3
-
0m 3 6 9 12
Cable PP-VTC-220



B
-
0m 3 6 9 12
Cable PP-VTC-220



1
2,4
N.T.S.
Primary Pond Dam Detail

LEGEND

- Ground Temperature Cable Sensor
- Datalogger
- 20120831 Lidar Survey and Design
- Surfaces
- Cleared Ground
- Key Trench Excavation
- Key Trench Liner
- Key Trench Bedding
- Key Trench Transition
- Key Trench ROQ
- ROQ SC
- Transition SC
- Bedding Below Liner SC
- Liner SC
- Bedding Above Liner SC
- Transition Above Liner SC
- ROQ Outer Shell
- Cable

NOTES

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- SC refers to Summer Construction

REFERENCES

- Background Imagery is from 20250615.



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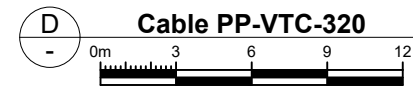
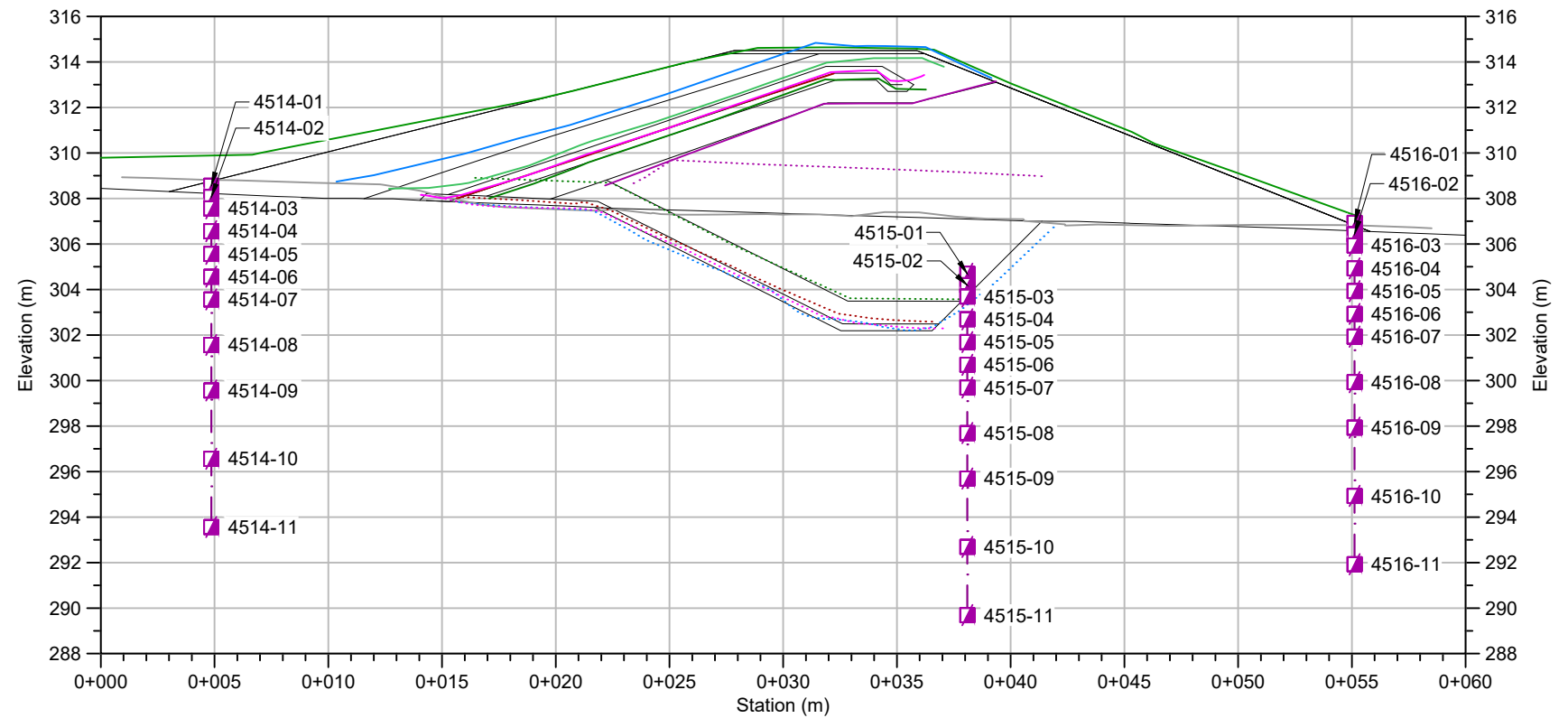
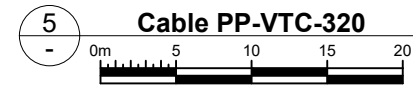
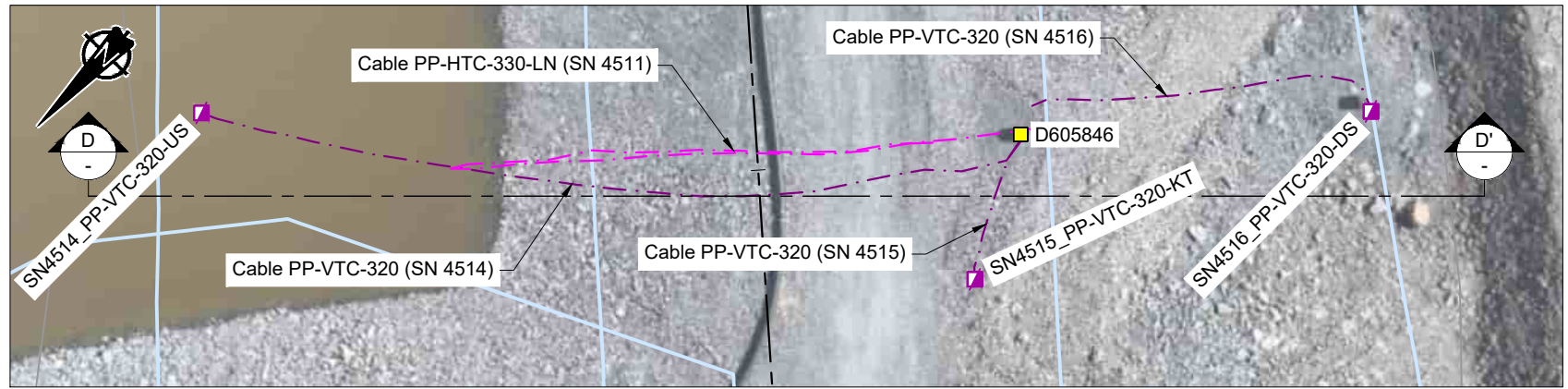
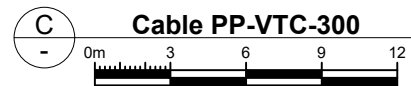
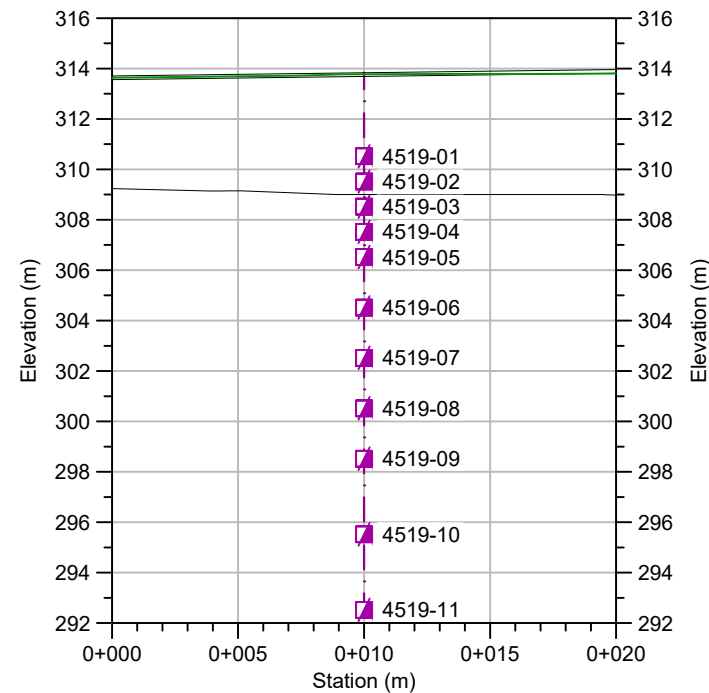
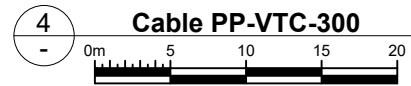
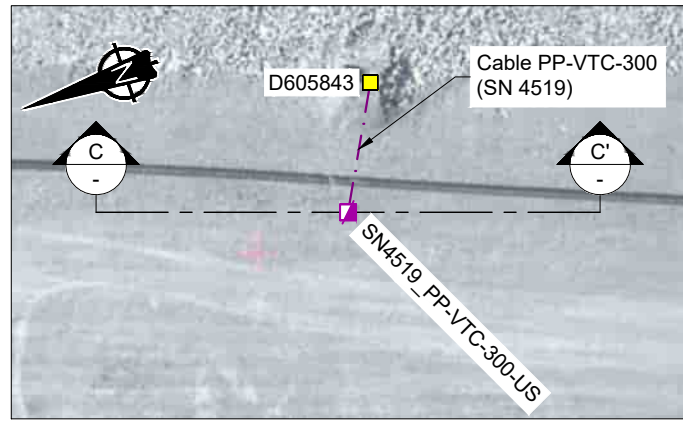


Back River

Site-wide Ground Thermal Monitoring Plan

Goose Property - Primary Pond GTC
PP-VTC-220 (SN 4508/4510/4916)

DATE: 2026-01-06
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FIGURE: 7



LEGEND

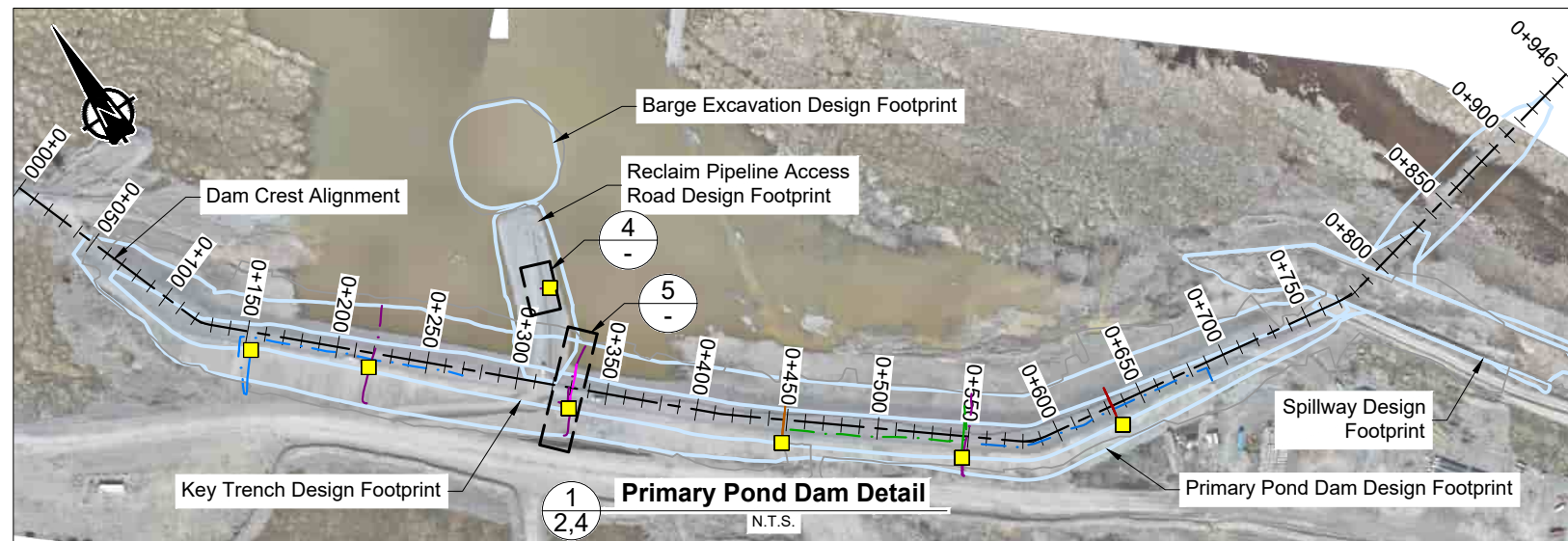
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|--|----------------------------------|--|---------------------------|
| | Ground Temperature Cable Sensor | | ROQ SC |
| | Datalogger | | Transition SC |
| | 20120831 Lidar Survey and Design | | Bedding Below Liner SC |
| | Surfaces | | Liner SC |
| | Cleared Ground | | Bedding Above Liner SC |
| | Key Trench Excavation | | Transition Above Liner SC |
| | Key Trench Liner | | ROQ Outer Shell |
| | Key Trench Bedding | | Cable |
| | Key Trench Transition | | |
| | Key Trench ROQ | | |

NOTES

- All units are in meters unless otherwise specified.
- Lower confidence in bedding material from as-built survey "20230219 Key Trench Bedding", this corresponds to Sta. 0+700 and 0+725 along the Dam alignment reference.
- SC refers to Summer Construction

REFERENCES

- Background Imagery is from 20250615.



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FILE NAME: CAPR004313_GTC Primary Pond Sensors.dwg

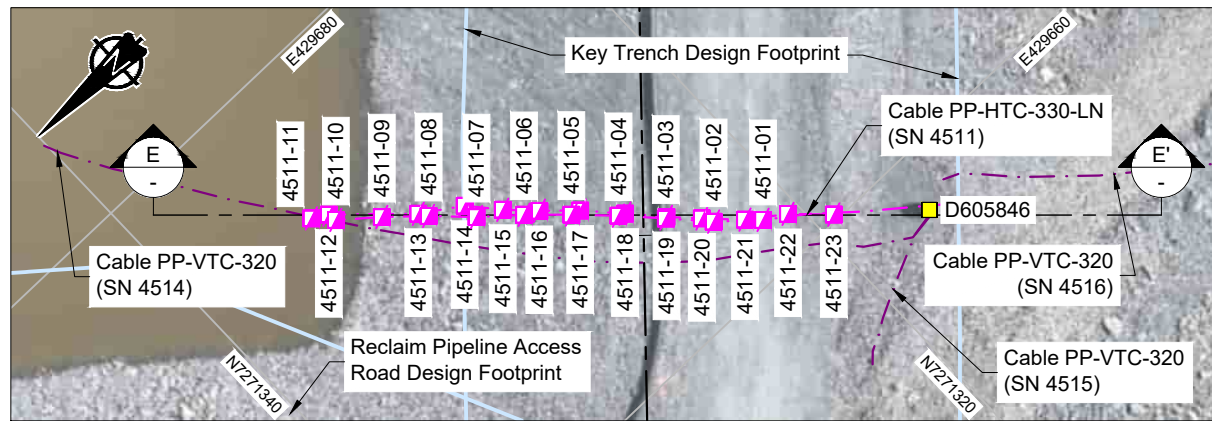


Back River

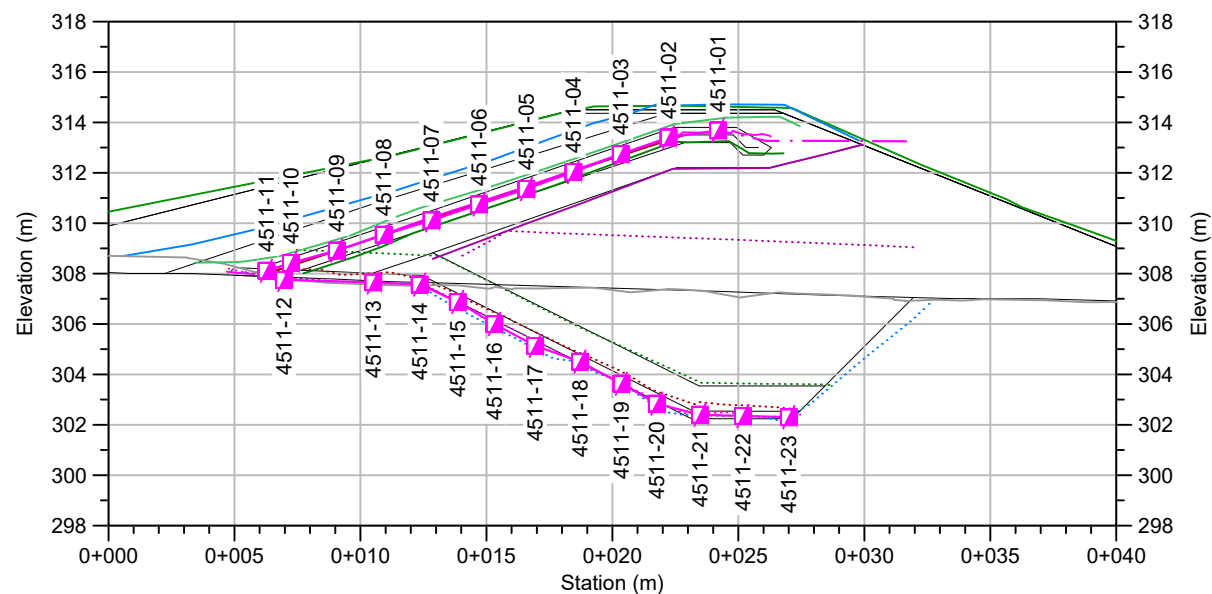
Site-wide Ground Thermal Monitoring Plan
Goose Property - Primary Pond
GTC PP-VTC-300 (SN 4519)
GTC PP-VTC-320 (SN 4514/5/6)

DATE: 2026-01-06
APPROVED: -
FIGURE: 8

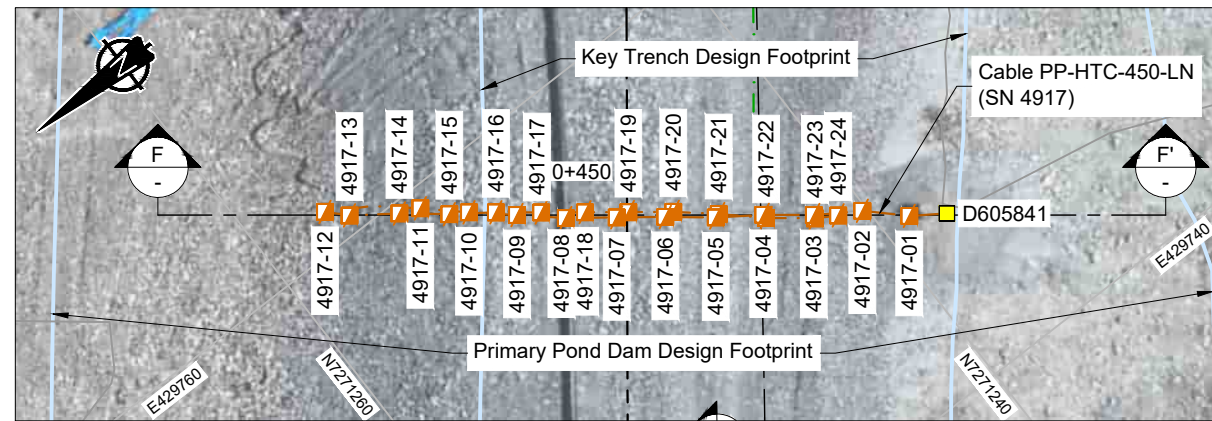
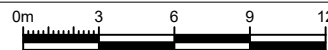
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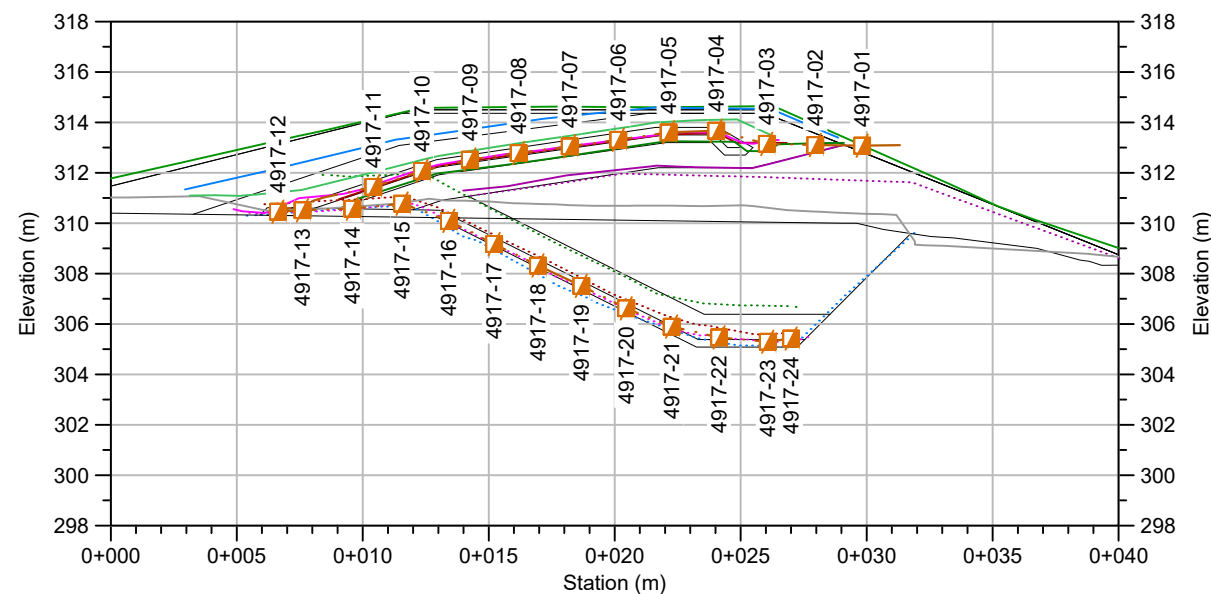
6 Cable PP-HTC-330-LN (SN 4511)



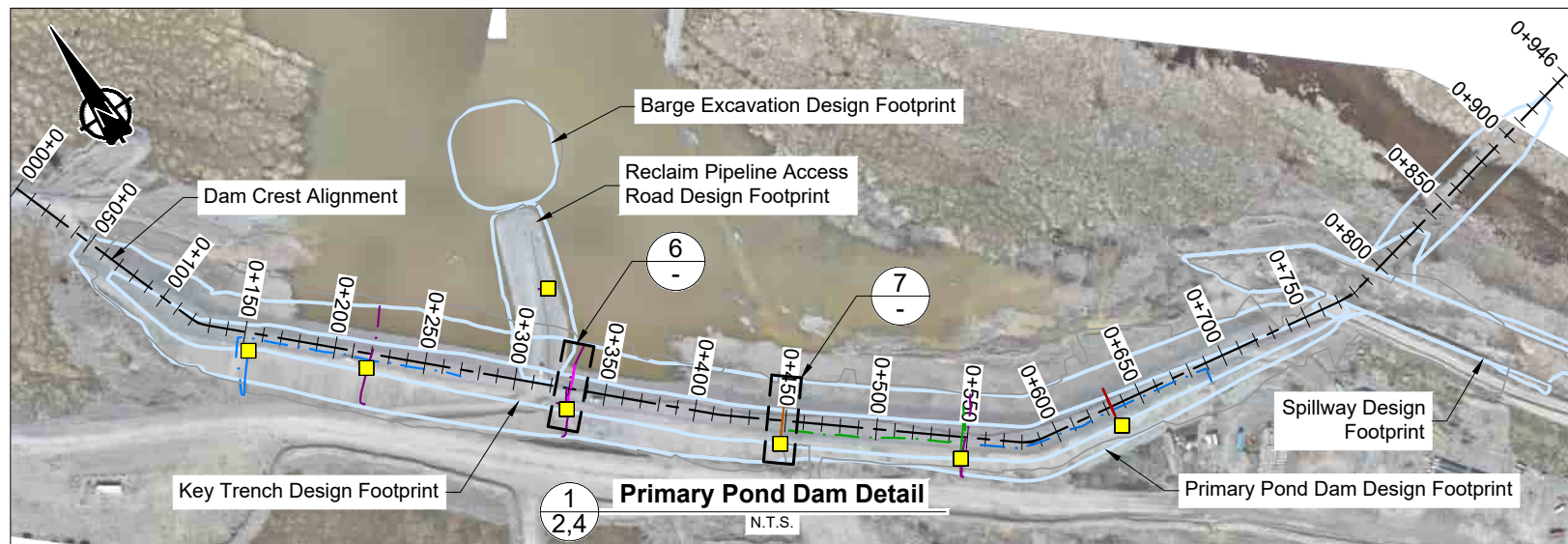
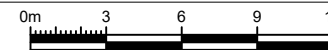
E Cable PP-HTC-330-LN (SN 4511)



7 Cable PP-HTC-450-LN (SN 4917)



F Cable PP-HTC-450-LN (SN 4917)



LEGEND

- | | | | |
|--|---|--|---------------------------|
| | Ground Temperature Cable Sensor | | ROQ SC |
| | Datalogger | | Transition SC |
| | 20120831 Lidar Survey and Design Surfaces | | Bedding Below Liner SC |
| | Cleared Ground | | Liner SC |
| | Key Trench Excavation | | Bedding Above Liner SC |
| | Key Trench Liner | | Transition Above Liner SC |
| | Key Trench Bedding | | ROQ Outer Shell |
| | Key Trench Transition | | Cable |
| | Key Trench ROQ | | |

NOTES

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REFERENCES

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FILE NAME: CAPR004313_GTC Primary Pond Sensors.dwg



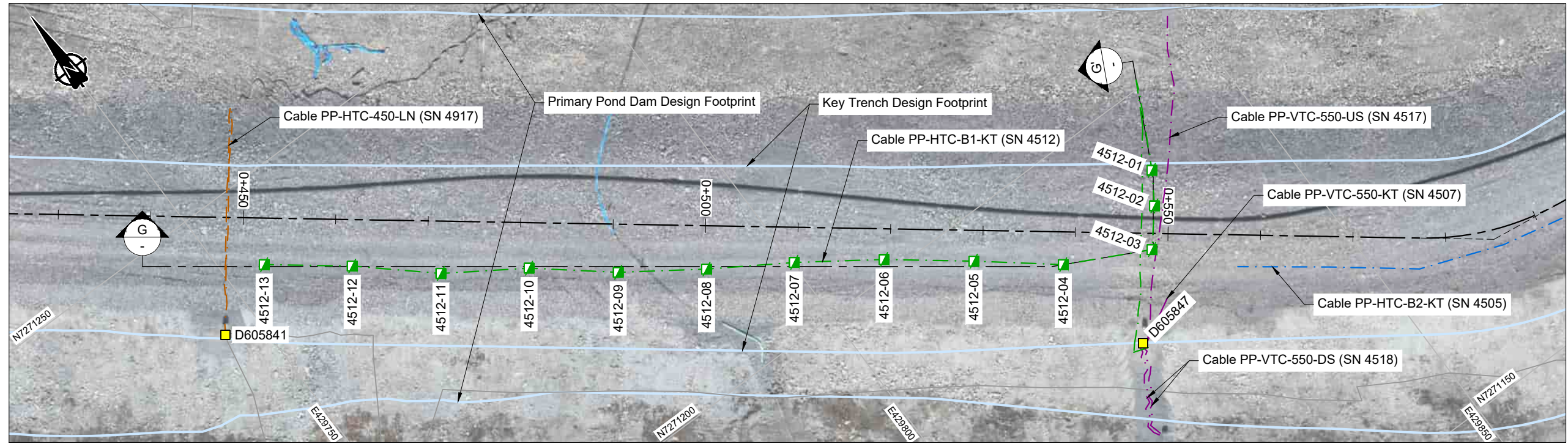
Back River

Site-wide Ground Thermal Monitoring Plan

Goose Property - Primary Pond
GTC PP-HTC-330-LN (SN 4511)
GTC PP-HTC-450-LN (SN 4917)

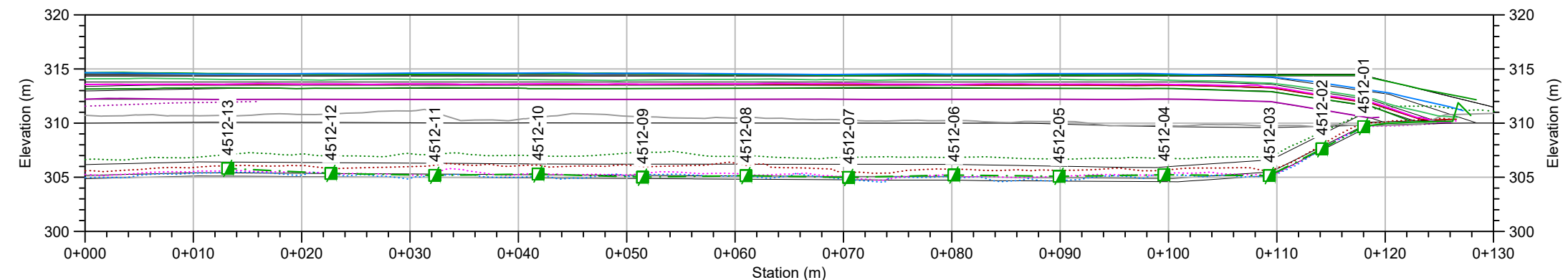
DATE: 2026-01-06
APPROVED: -
FIGURE: -

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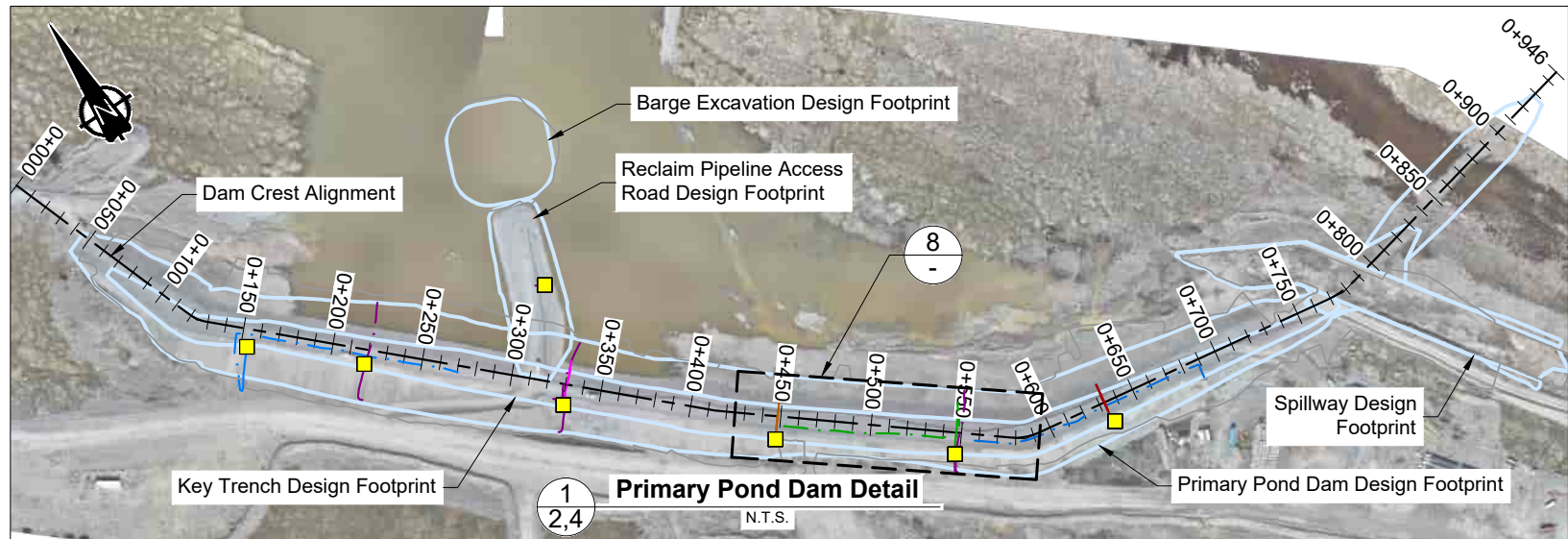
8 Cable PP-HTC-B1-KT (SN 4512)

0m 5 10 15 20



G Cable PP-HTC-B1-KT (SN 4512)

0m 5 10 15 20



1, 2, 4 Primary Pond Dam Detail

N.T.S.

LEGEND

- Ground Temperature Cable Sensor
- Datalogger
- 20120831 Lidar Survey and Design
- Surfaces
- Cleared Ground
- Key Trench Excavation
- Key Trench Liner
- Key Trench Bedding
- Key Trench Transition
- Key Trench ROQ
- ROQ SC
- Transition SC
- Bedding Below Liner SC
- Liner SC
- Bedding Above Liner SC
- Transition Above Liner SC
- ROQ Outer Shell
- Cable

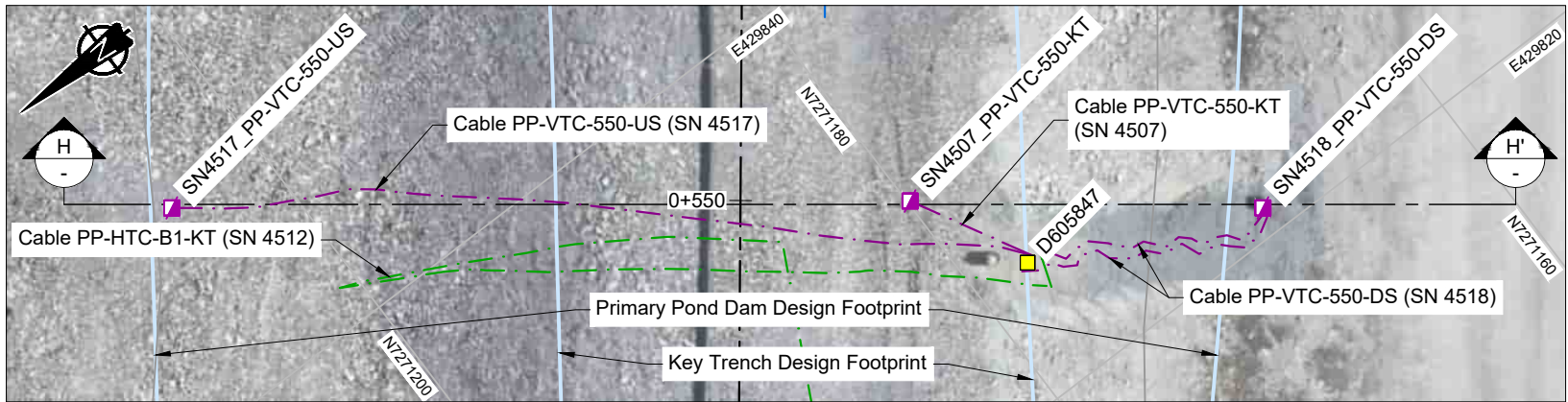
NOTES

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- SC refers to Summer Construction

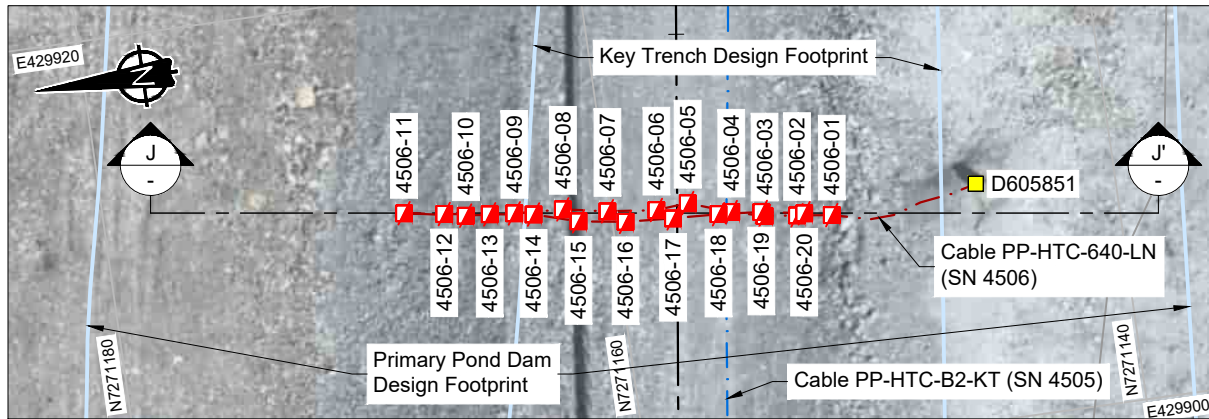
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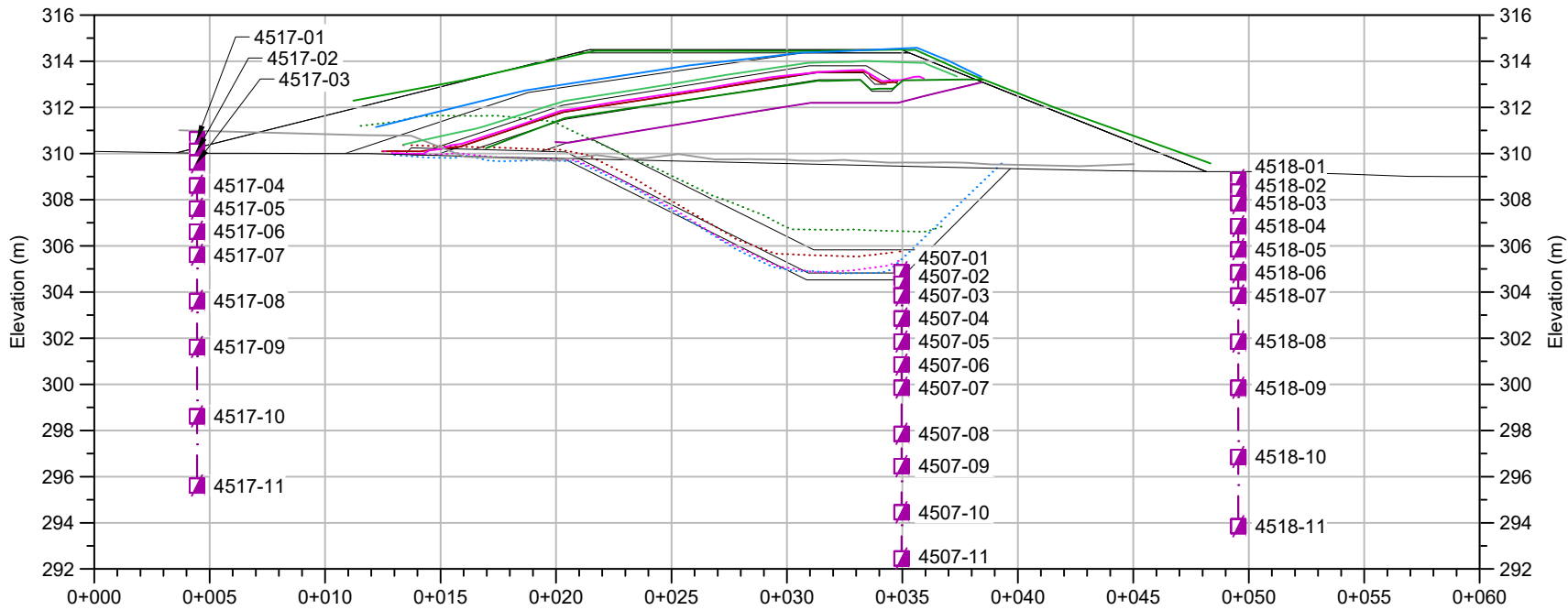
 SRK JOB NO.: CAPR004313 FILE NAME: CAPR004313_GTC Primary Pond Sensors.dwg	 Back River	Site-wide Ground Thermal Monitoring Plan		
		Goose Property - Primary Pond GTC PP-HTC-B1-KT (SN 4512)		
		DATE: 2026-01-06	APPROVED: -	FIGURE: 10



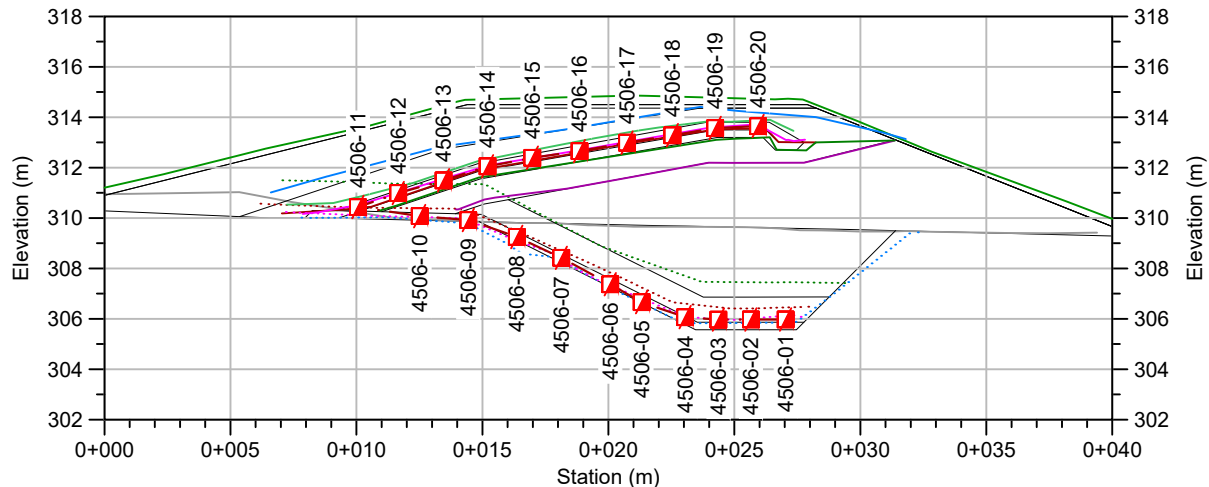
9 Cable PP-VTC-550



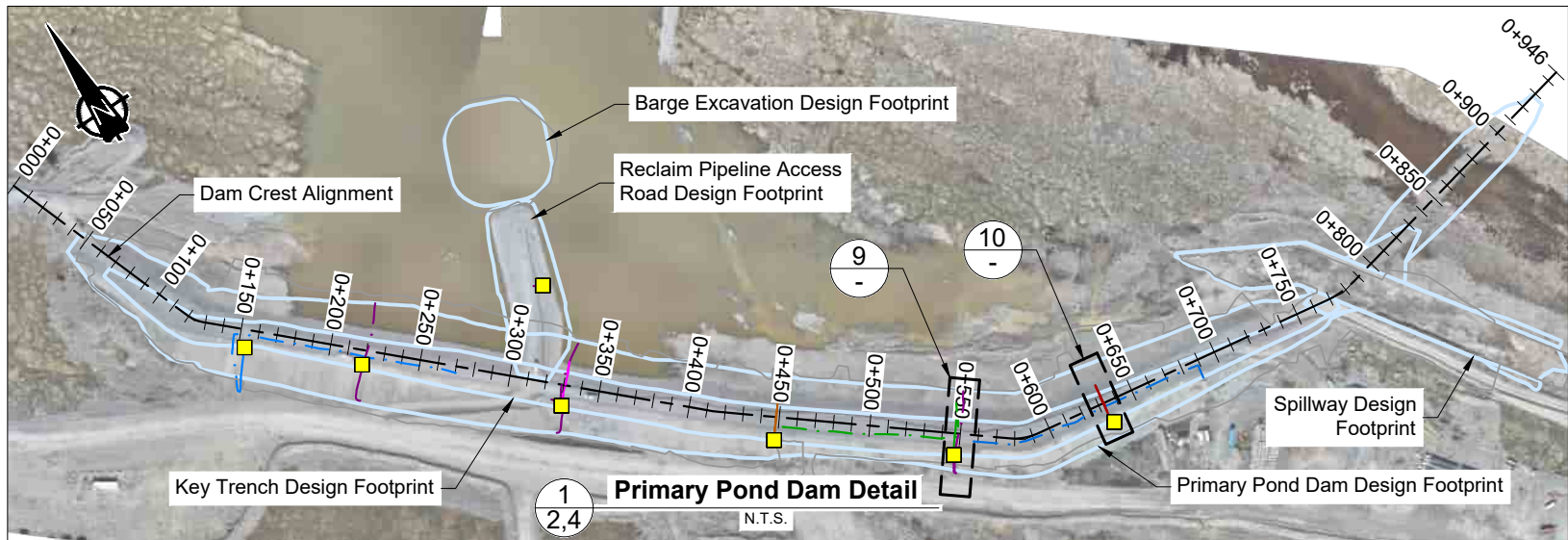
10 Cable PP-HTC-640-LN (SN 4506)



H Cable PP-VTC-550



J Cable PP-HTC-640-LN (SN 4506)



1 Primary Pond Dam Detail

LEGEND

- | | |
|---|---------------------------|
| Ground Temperature Cable Sensor | ROQ SC |
| Datalogger | Transition SC |
| 20120831 Lidar Survey and Design Surfaces | Bedding Below Liner SC |
| Cleared Ground | Liner SC |
| Key Trench Excavation | Bedding Above Liner SC |
| Key Trench Liner | Transition Above Liner SC |
| Key Trench Bedding | ROQ Outer Shell |
| Key Trench Transition | Cable |
| Key Trench ROQ | |

NOTES

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- SC refers to Summer Construction

REFERENCES

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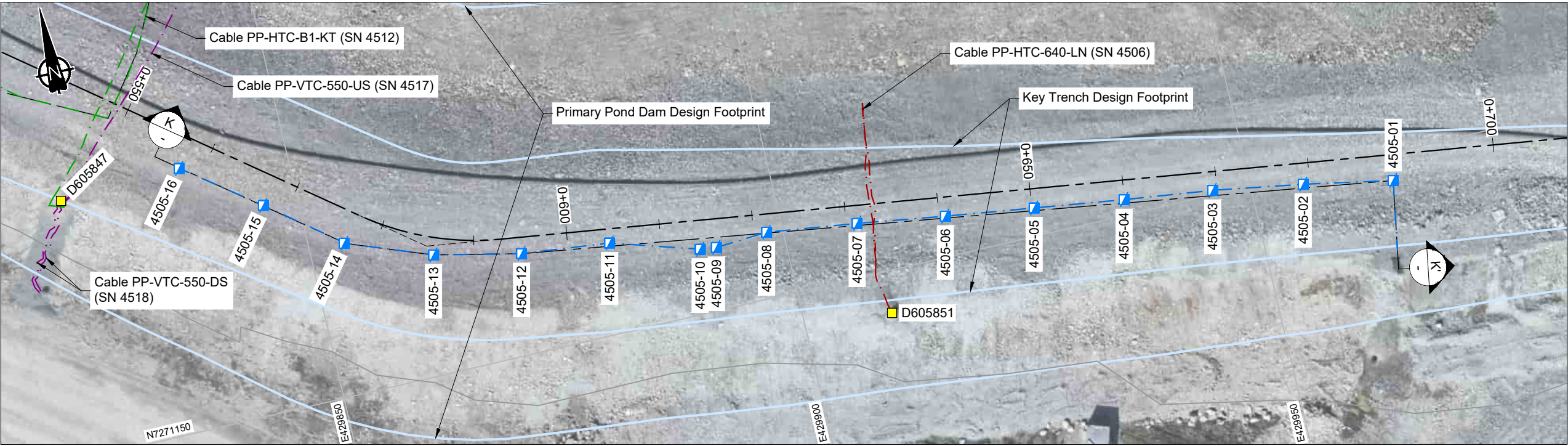
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Back River

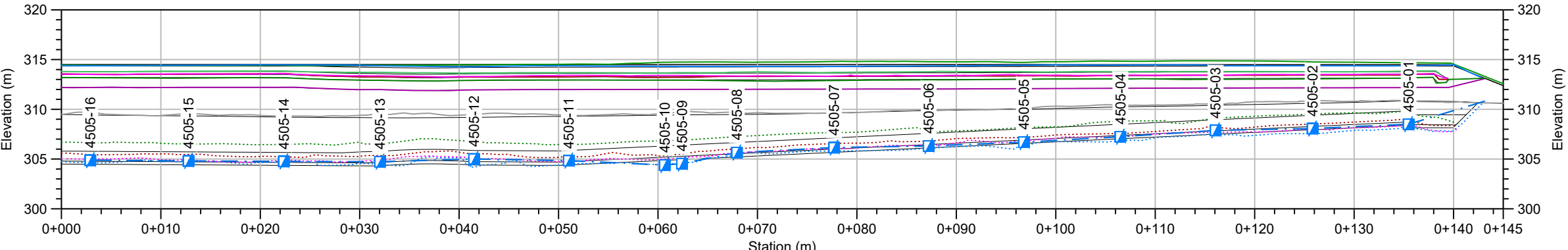
Site-wide Ground Thermal Monitoring Plan
Goose Property - Primary Pond
GTC PP-VTC-550 (4507/4517/4518)
GTC PP-HTC-640-LN (SN 4506)

DATE: 2026-01-06
APPROVED: -
FIGURE: 11



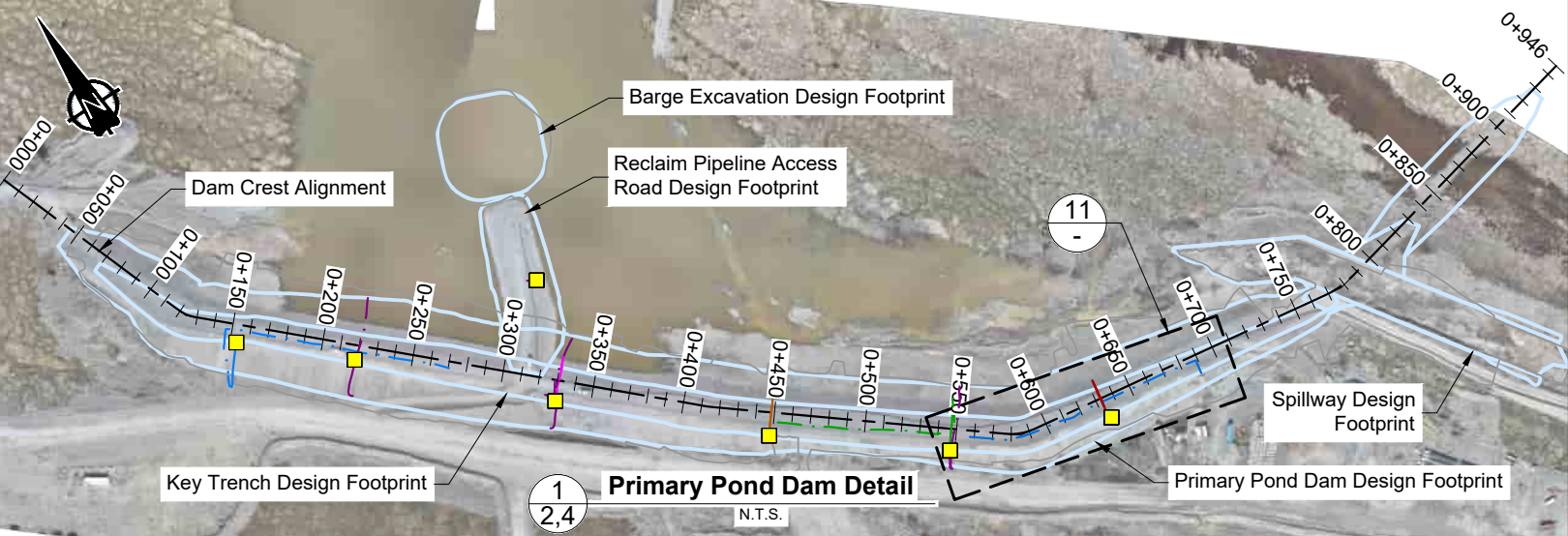
11 Cable PP-HTC-B2-KT (SN 4505)

0m 5 10 15 20



K Cable PP-HTC-B2-KT (SN 4505)

0m 5 10 15 20



1, 2, 4 Primary Pond Dam Detail

N.T.S.

LEGEND

- | | |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Ground Temperature Cable Sensor | ROQ SC |
| Datalogger | Transition SC |
| 20120831 Lidar Survey and Design | Bedding Below Liner SC |
| Surfaces | Liner SC |
| Cleared Ground | Bedding Above Liner SC |
| Key Trench Excavation | Transition Above Liner SC |
| Key Trench Liner | ROQ Outer Shell |
| Key Trench Bedding | Cable |
| Key Trench Transition | |
| Key Trench ROQ | |

NOTES

- All units are in meters unless otherwise specified.
- Lower confidence in bedding material from as-built survey "20230219 Key Trench Bedding", this corresponds to Sta. 0+700 and 0+725 along the Dam alignment reference.
- SC refers to Summer Construction

REFERENCES

- Background Imagery is from 20250615.



SRK JOB NO.: CAPR004313
FILE NAME: CAPR004313_GTC Primary Pond Sensors.dwg



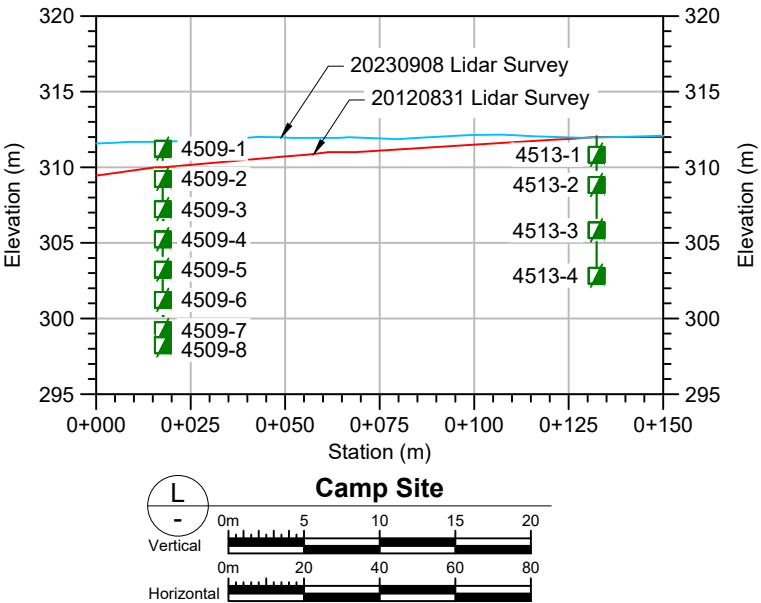
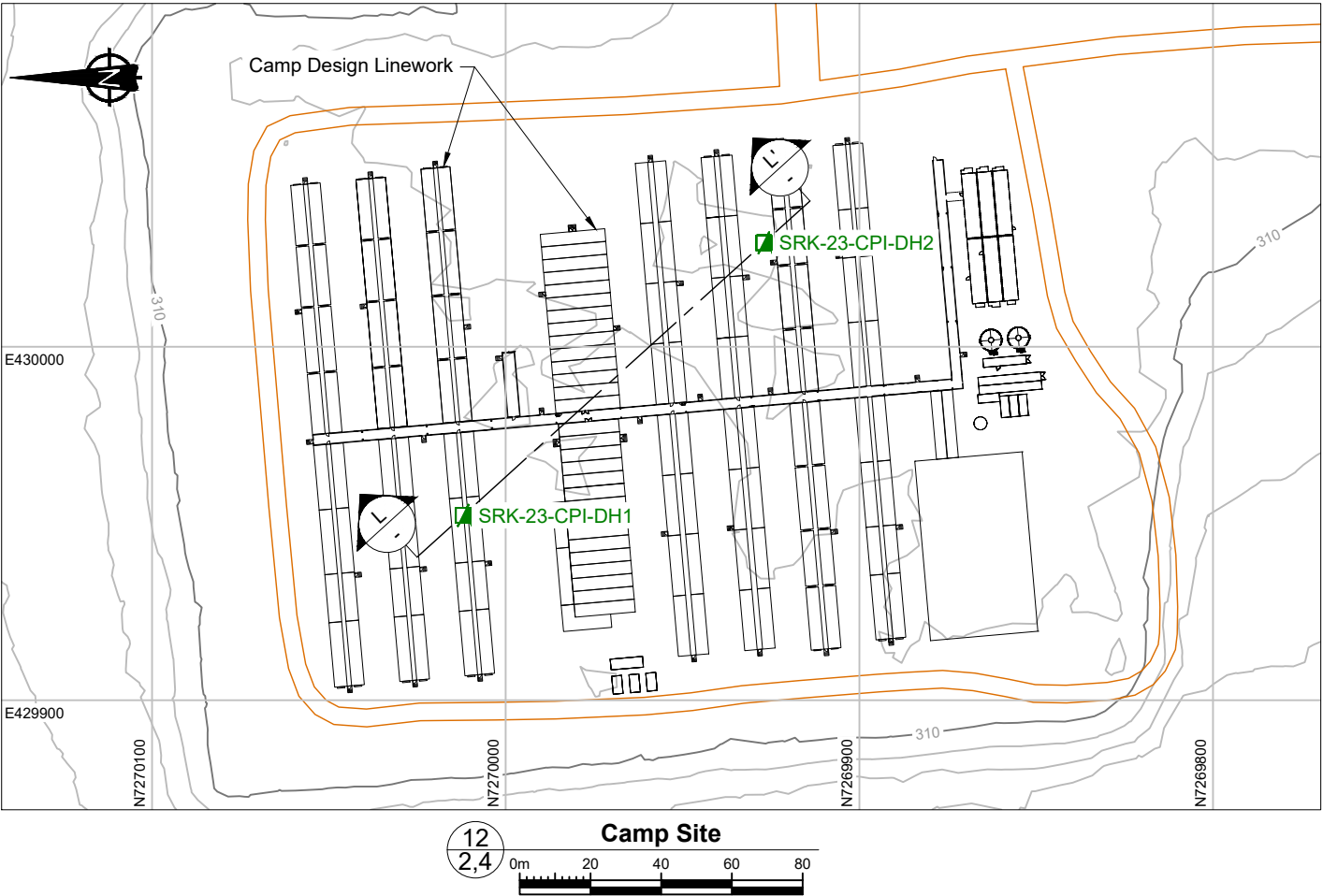
Back River

Site-wide Ground Thermal Monitoring Plan

Goose Property - Primary Pond
GTC PP-HTC-B2-KT (SN 4505)

DATE: 2026-01-06	APPROVED: -	FIGURE: 12
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C:\Users\backe\SRK Consulting\F5203 Back River (Goose and MLA) - 1040_AutoCAD\ACAD_C3D\CAPR003102_GroundThermMonMonitoring Plan\CAPR003102_GTC Camp Site and MLA.dwg



LEGEND

- Ground Temperature Cable Sensor
- Road

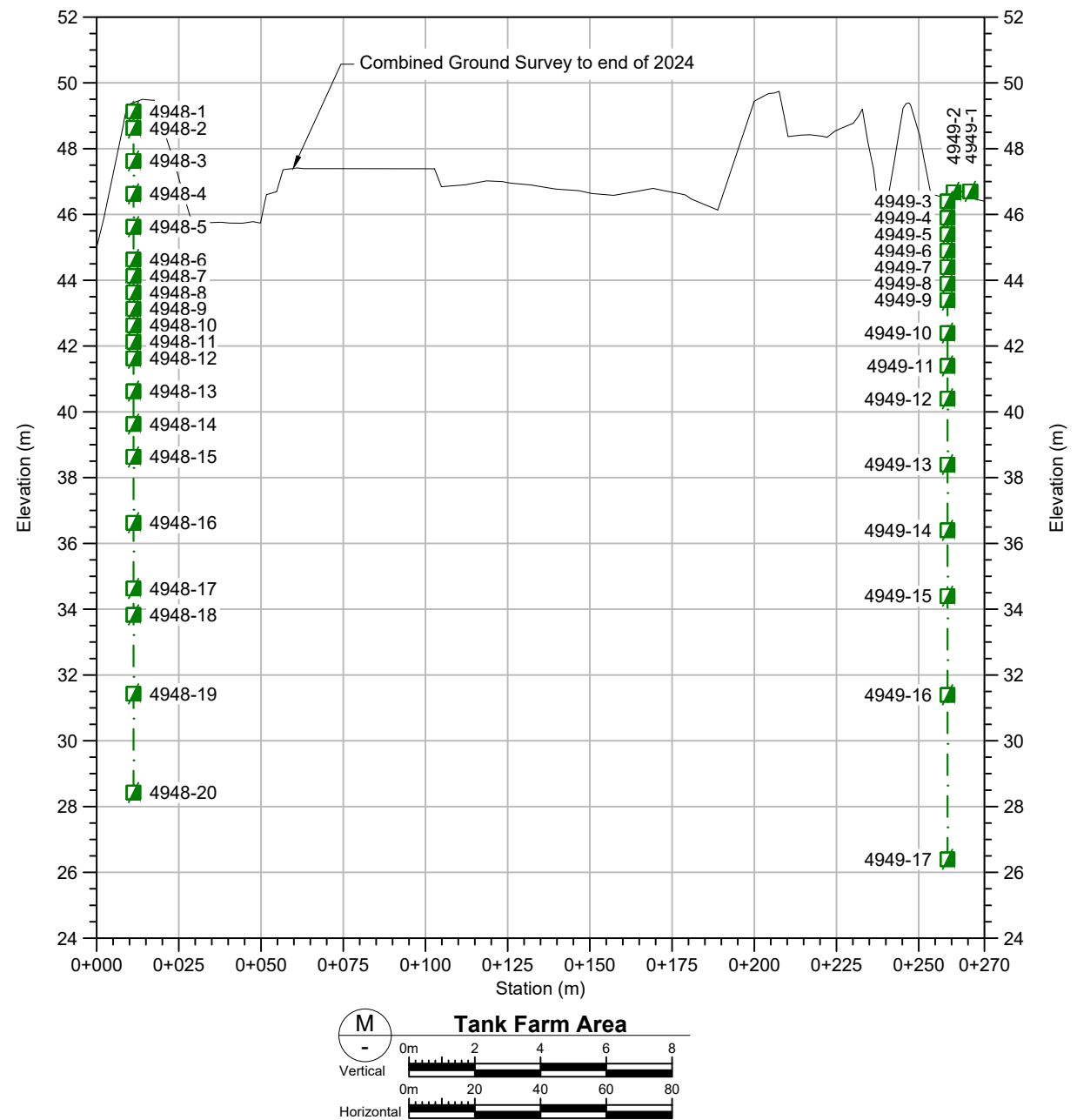
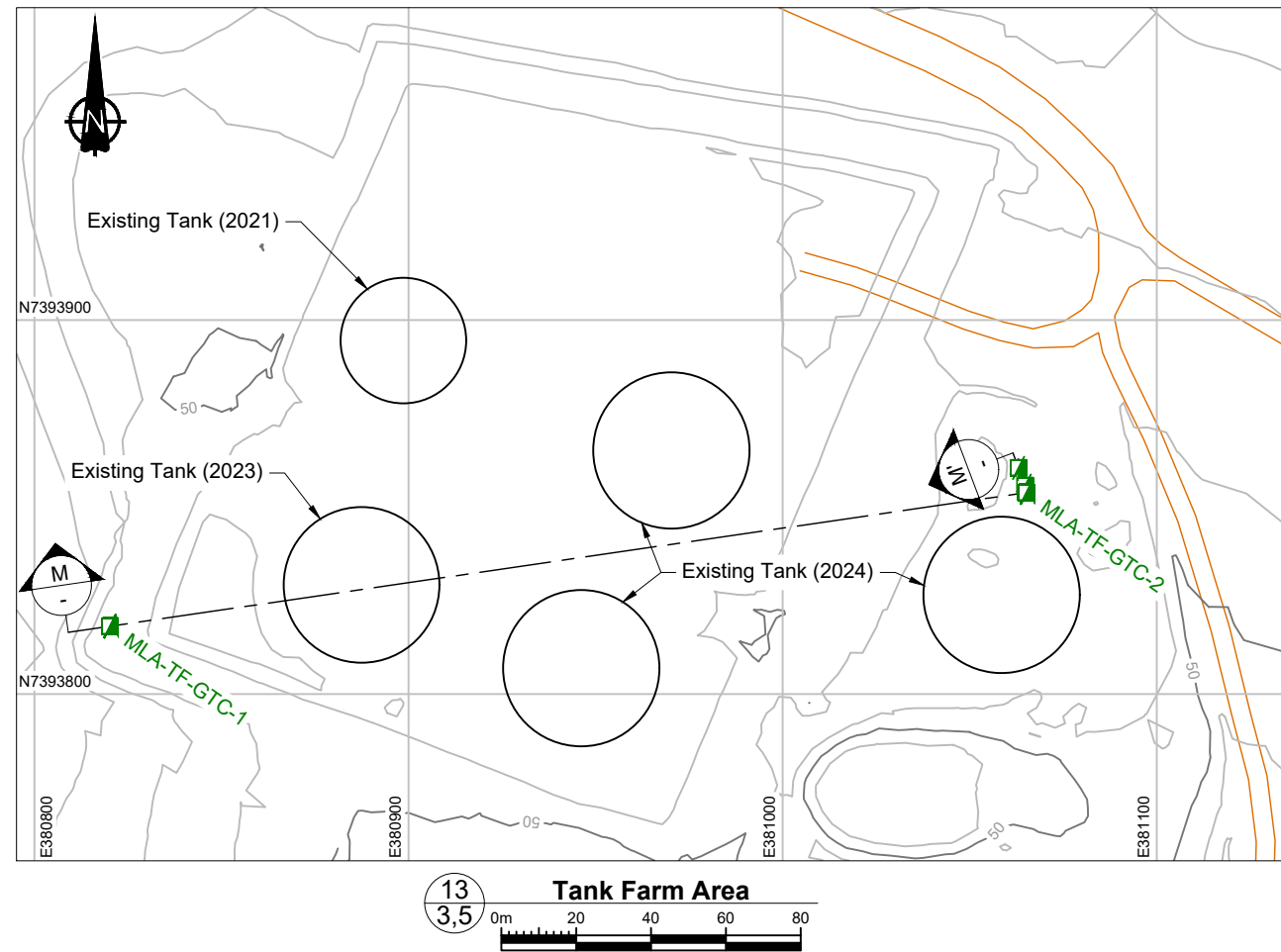
NOTES

- All units are in meters unless otherwise specified.
- Contours are shown at 2.0 m intervals.

REFERENCES

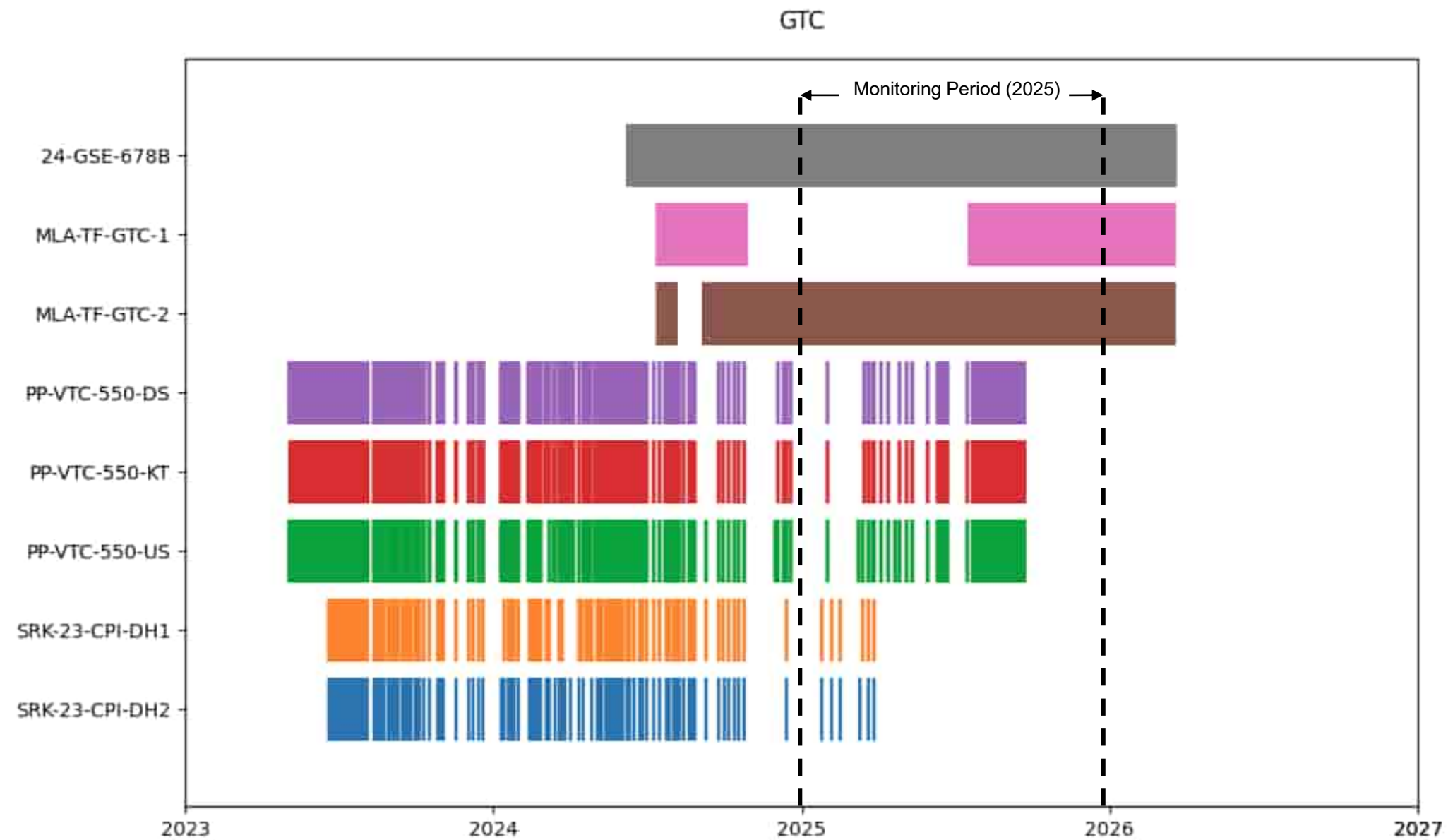
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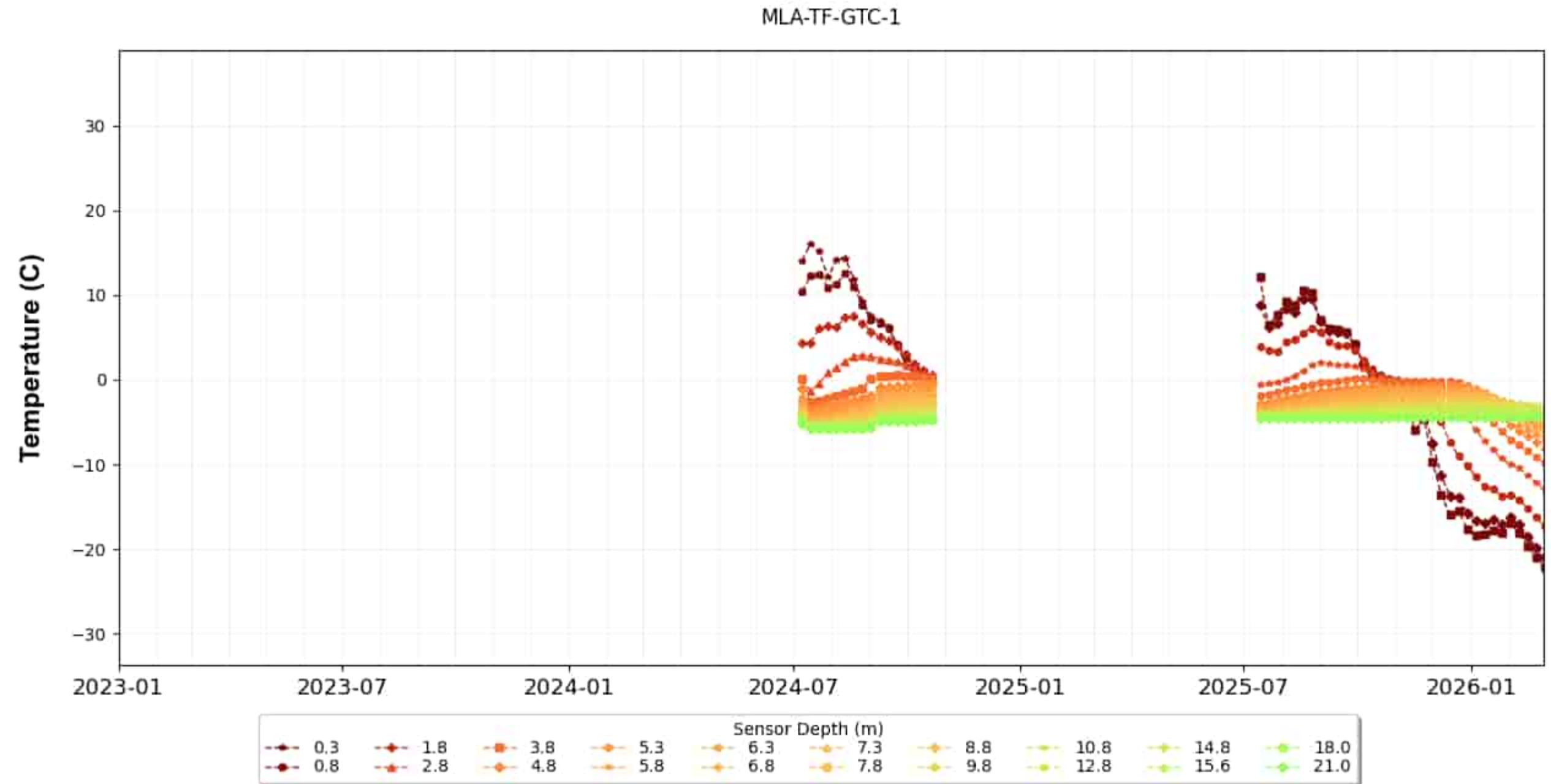
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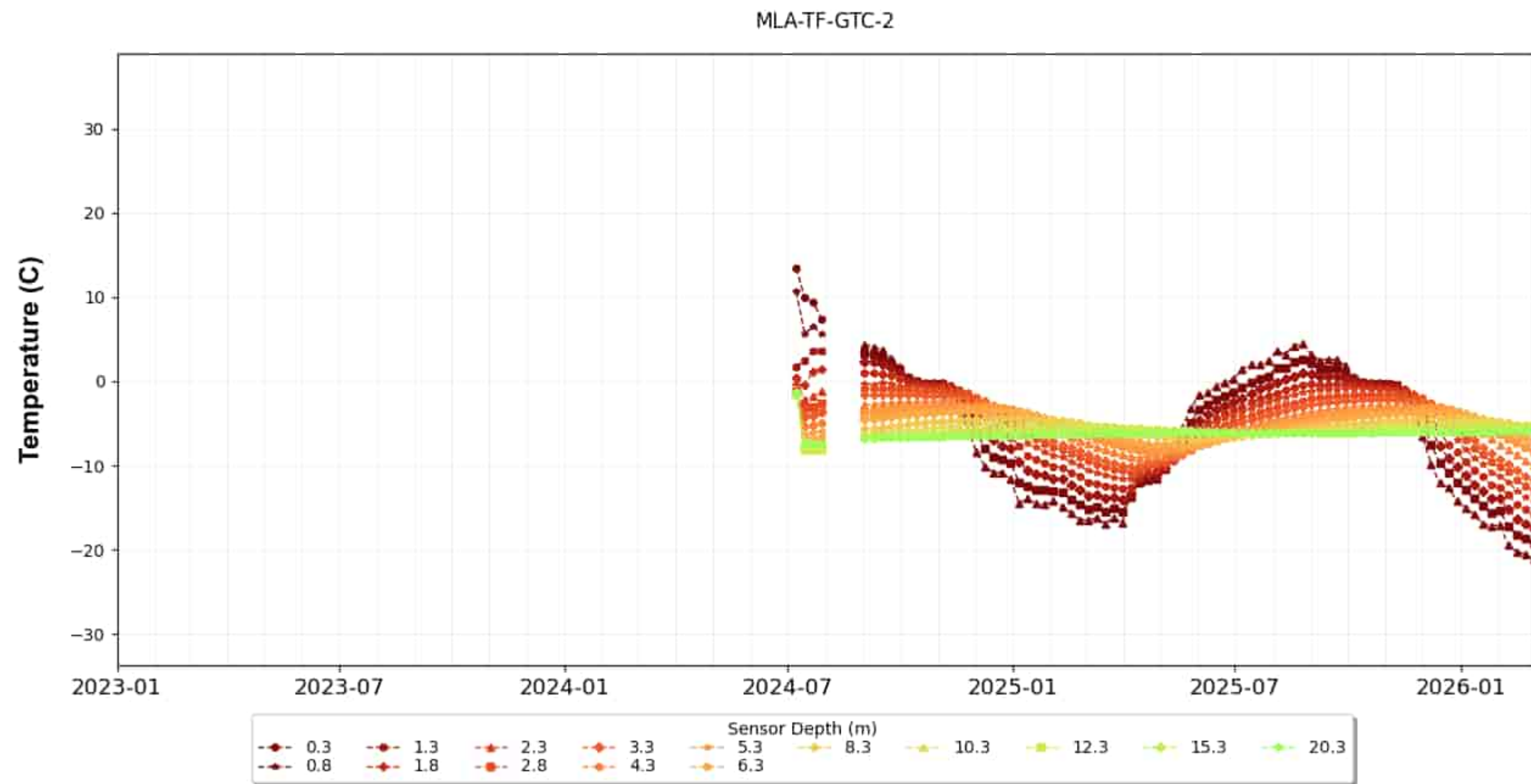


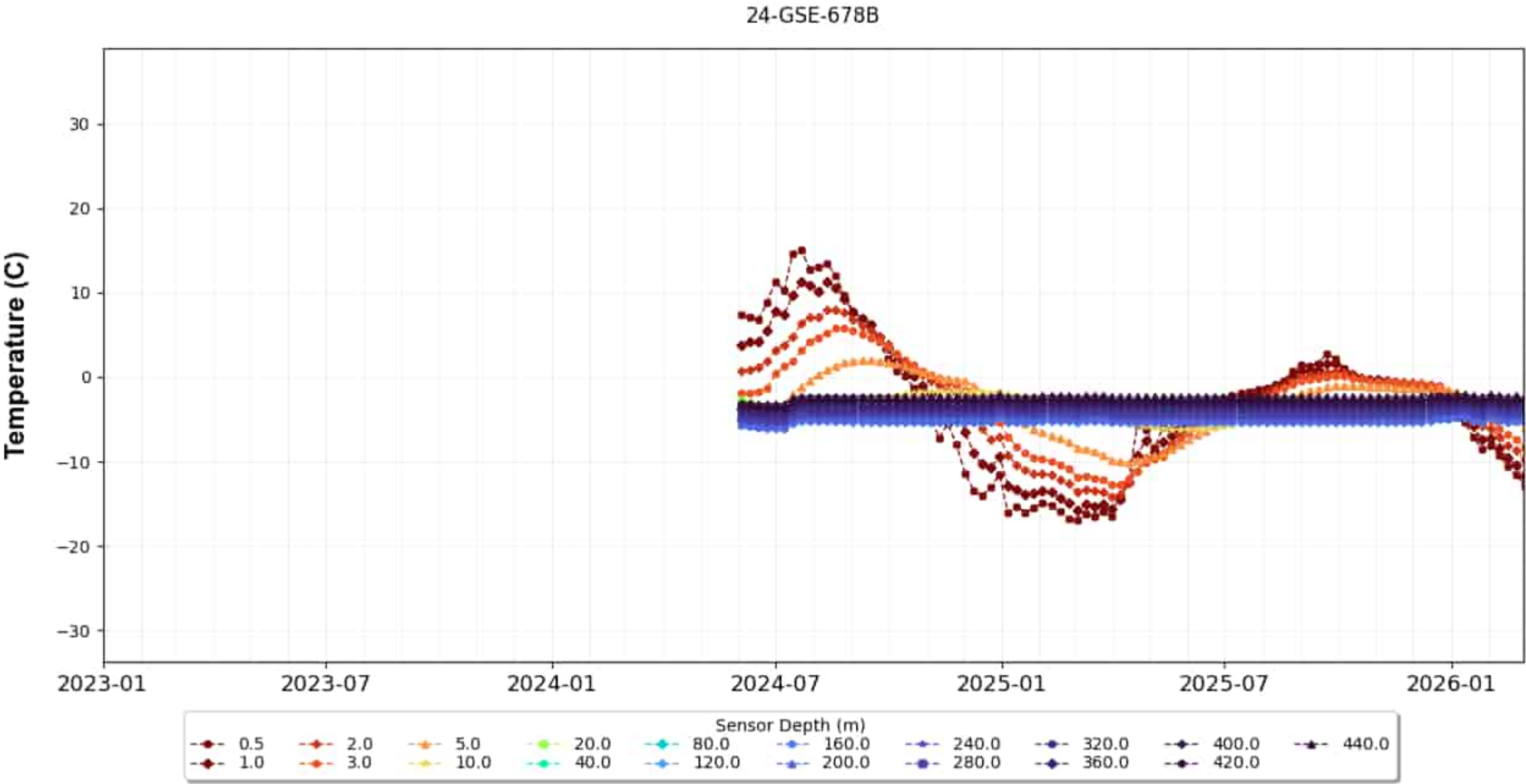
- LEGEND**
- Ground Temperature Cable Sensor
 - Road
- NOTES**
- All units are in meters unless otherwise specified.
 - Contours are shown at 2.0 m intervals.
- REFERENCES**
- NAD83 UTM Zone 13.

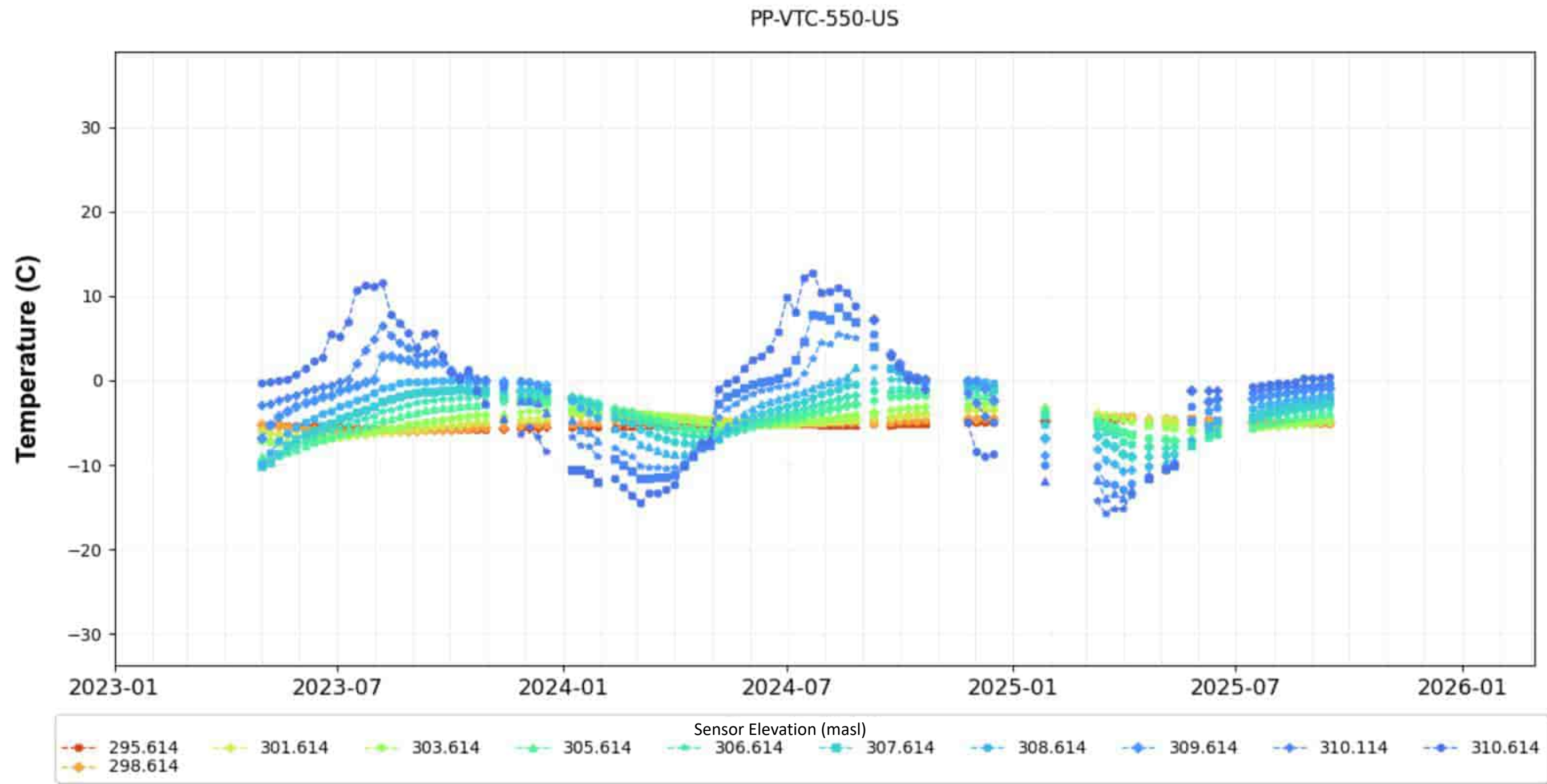
Appendix B Ground Temperature Data



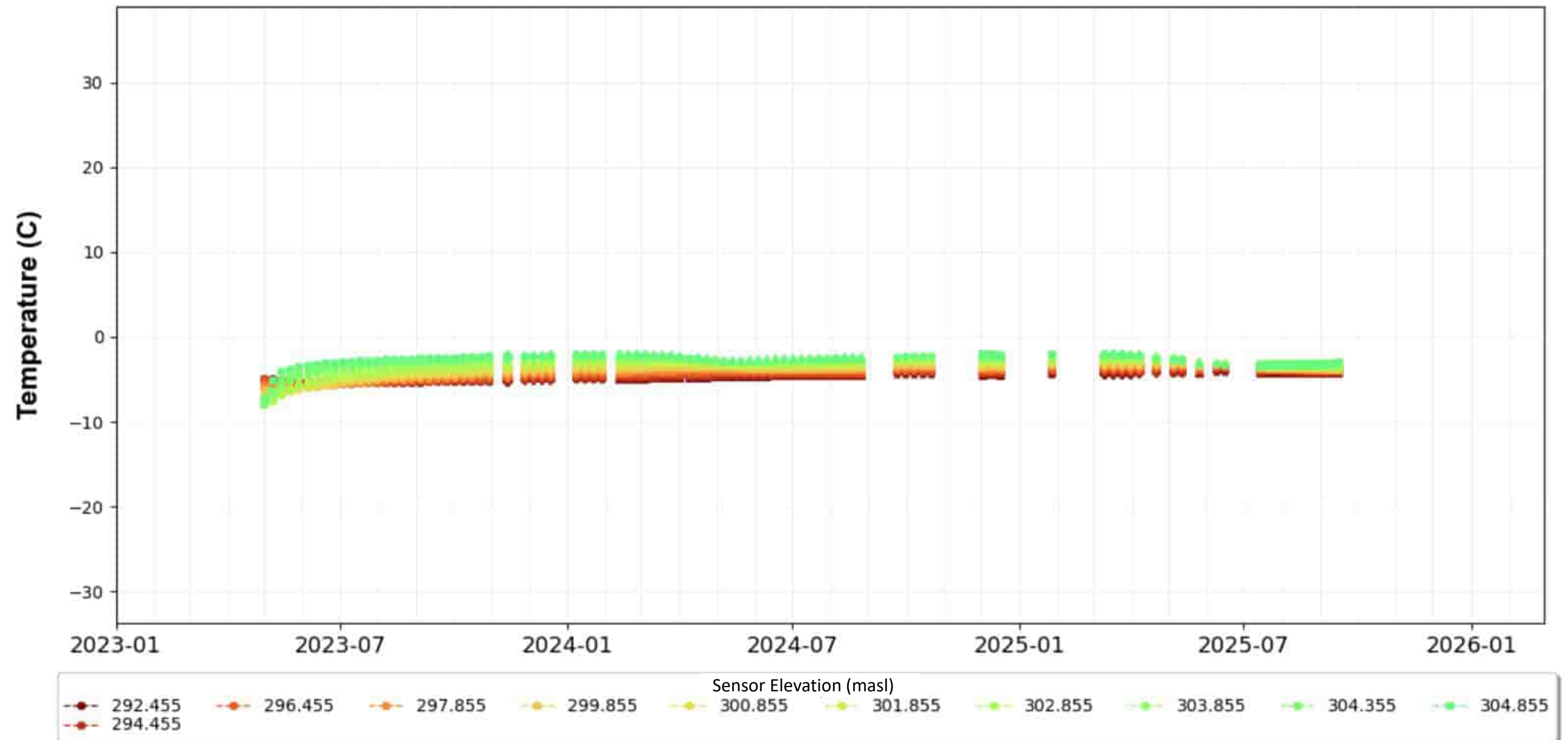


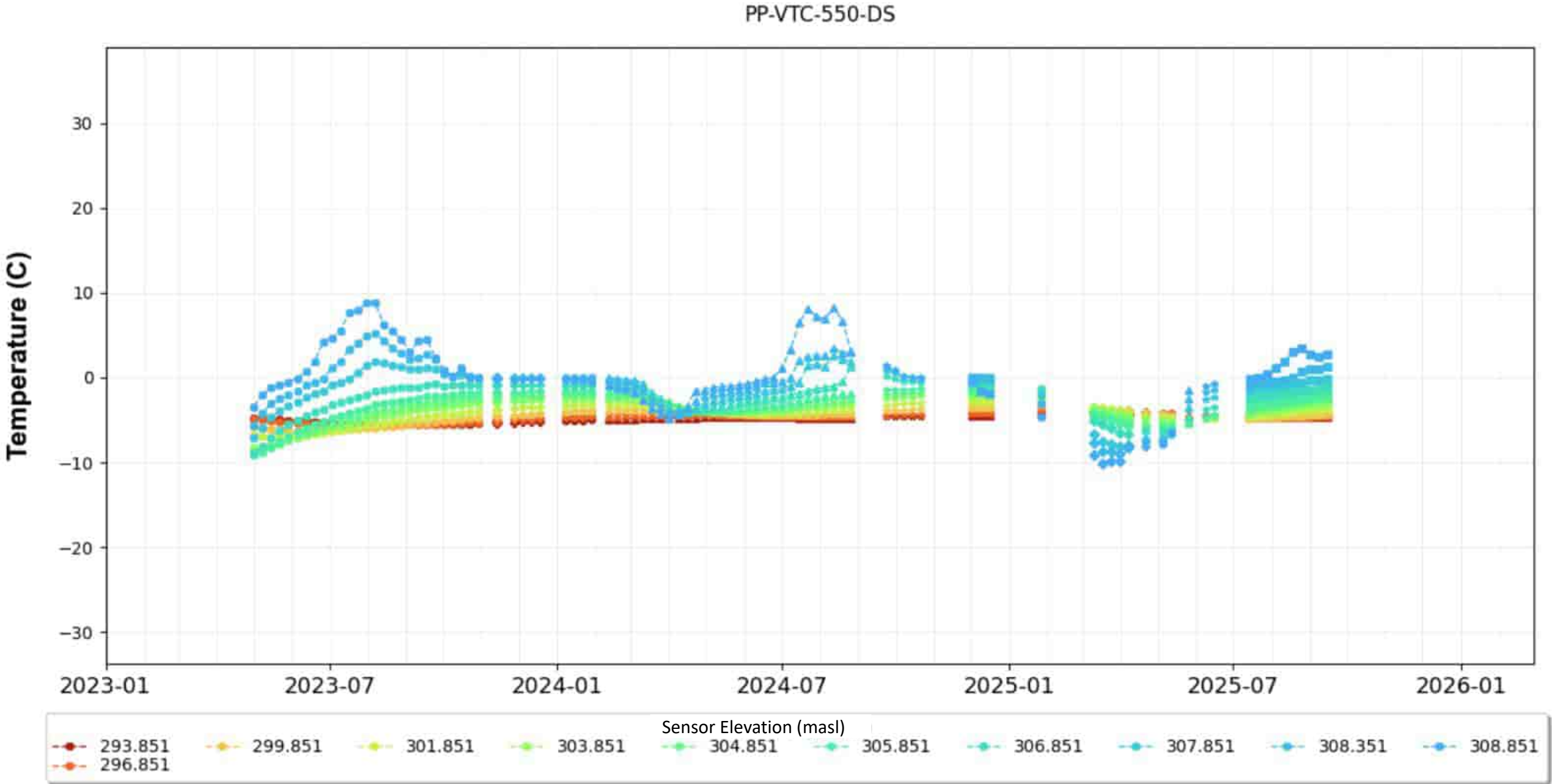


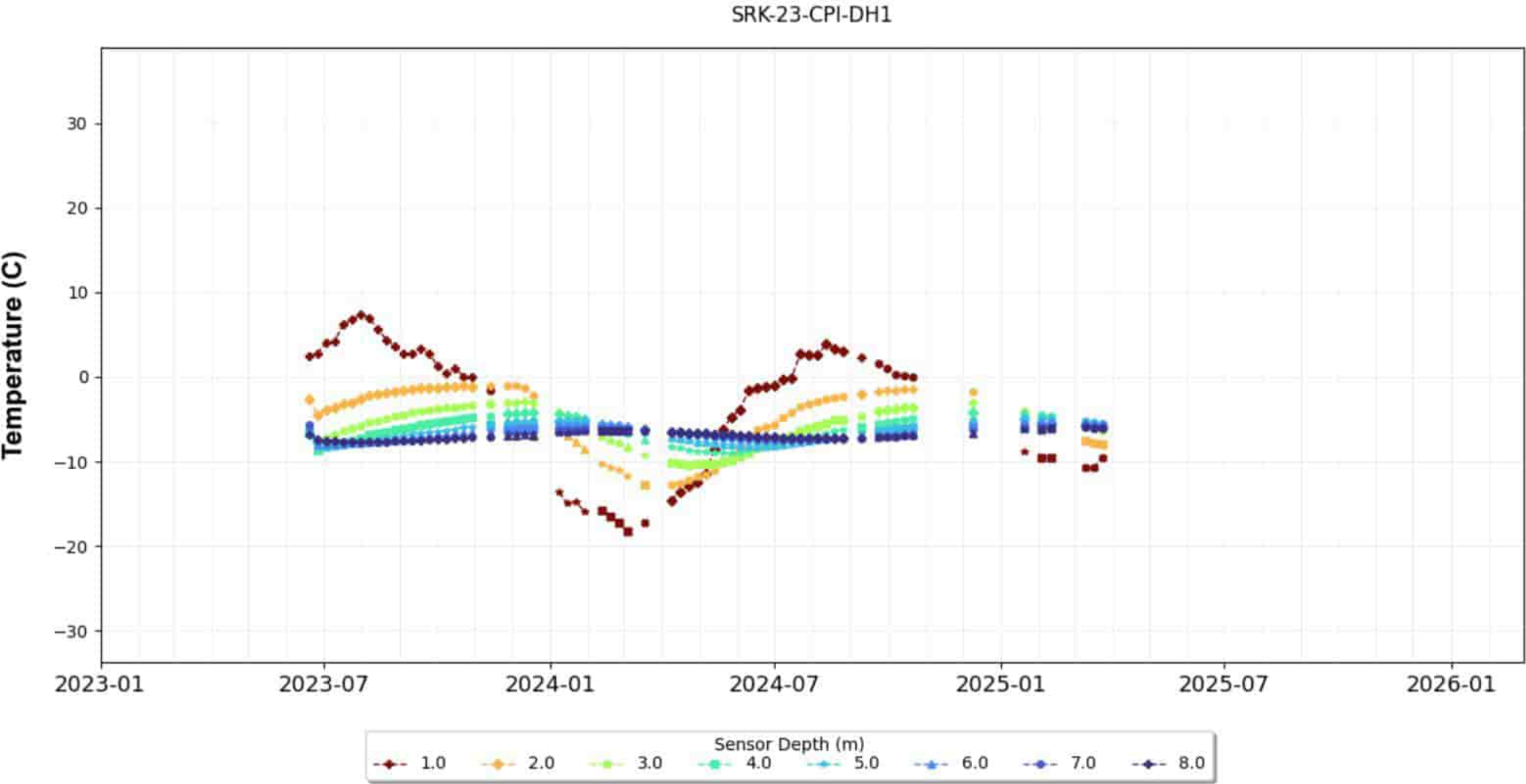


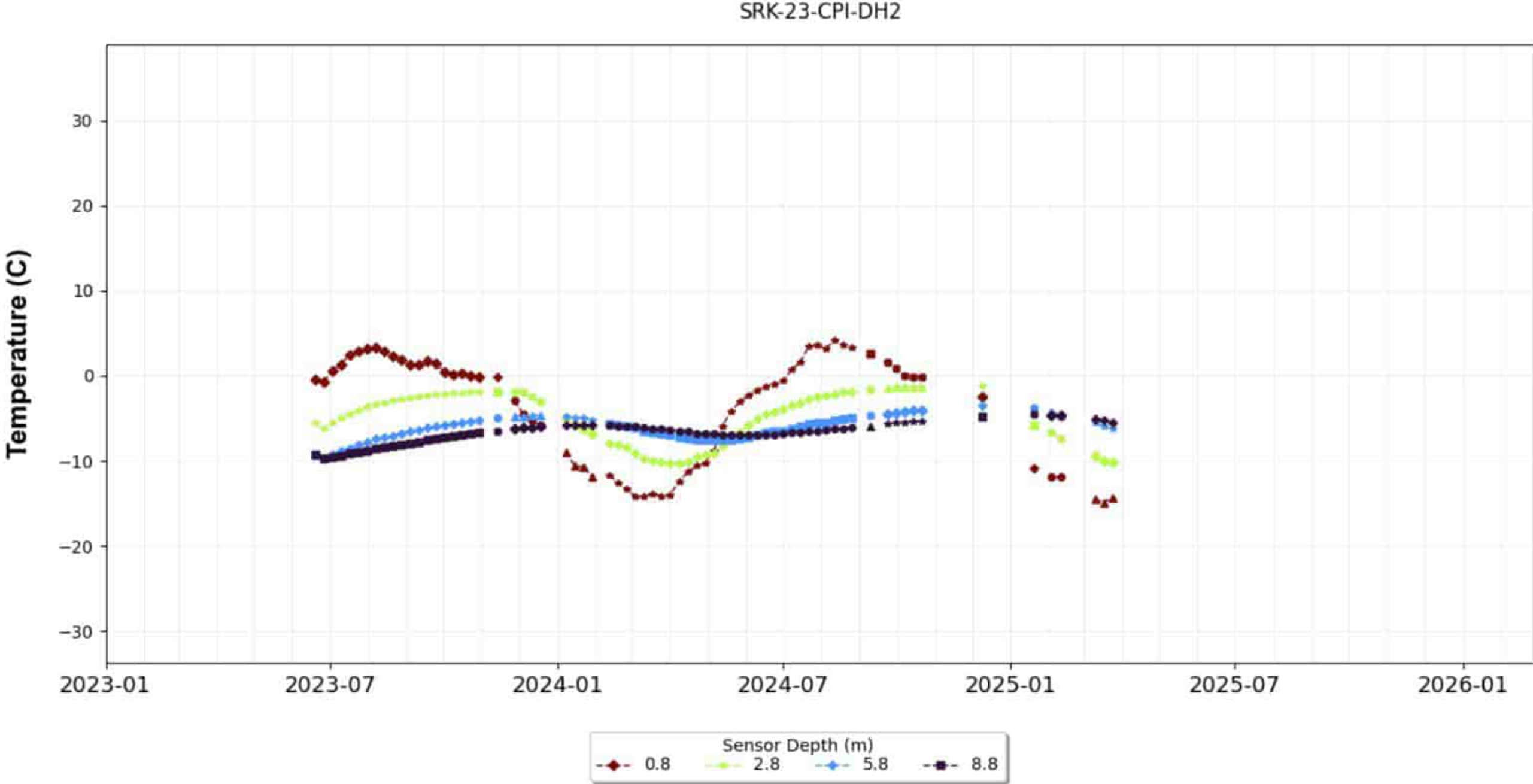


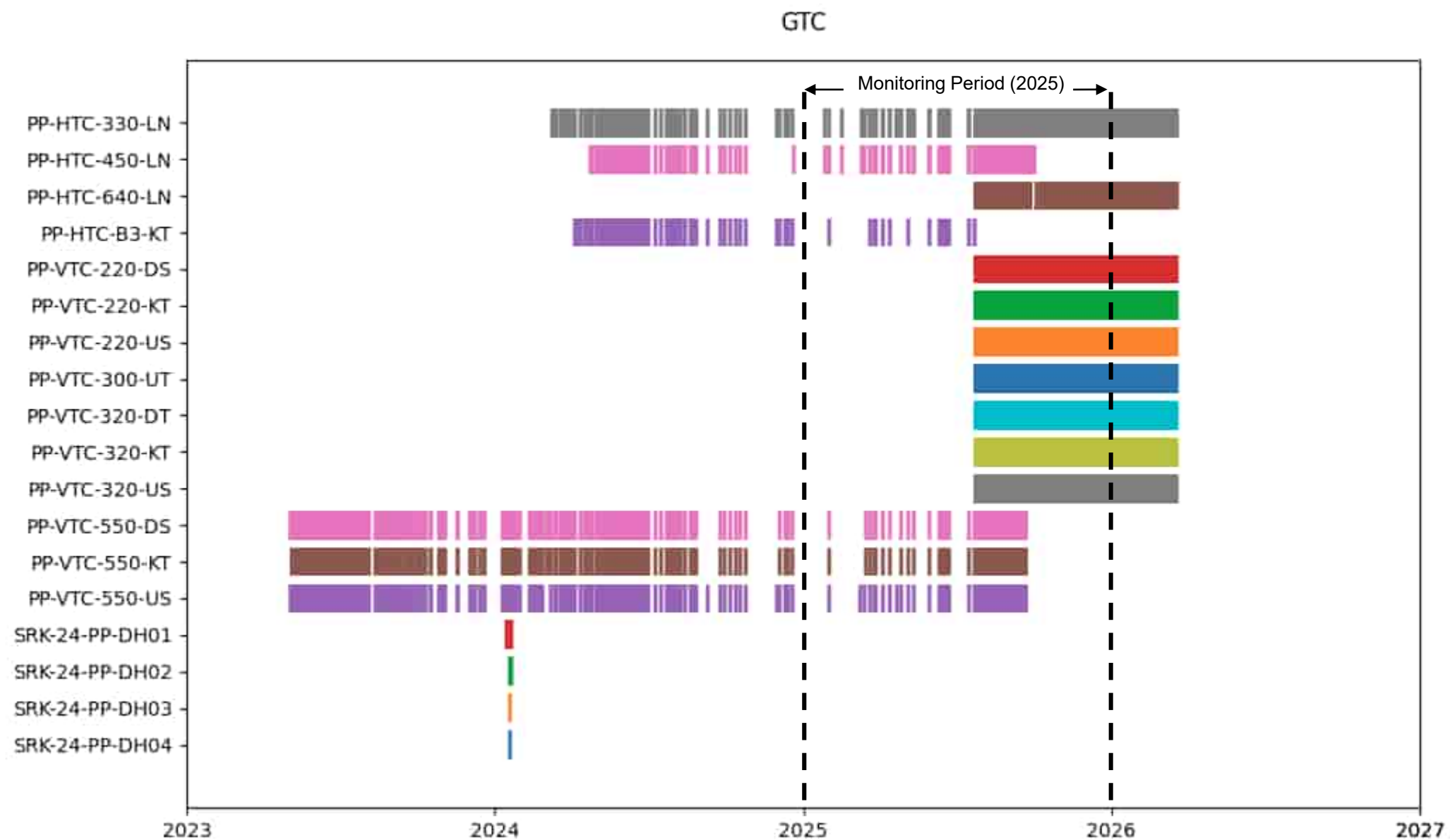
PP-VTC-550-KT

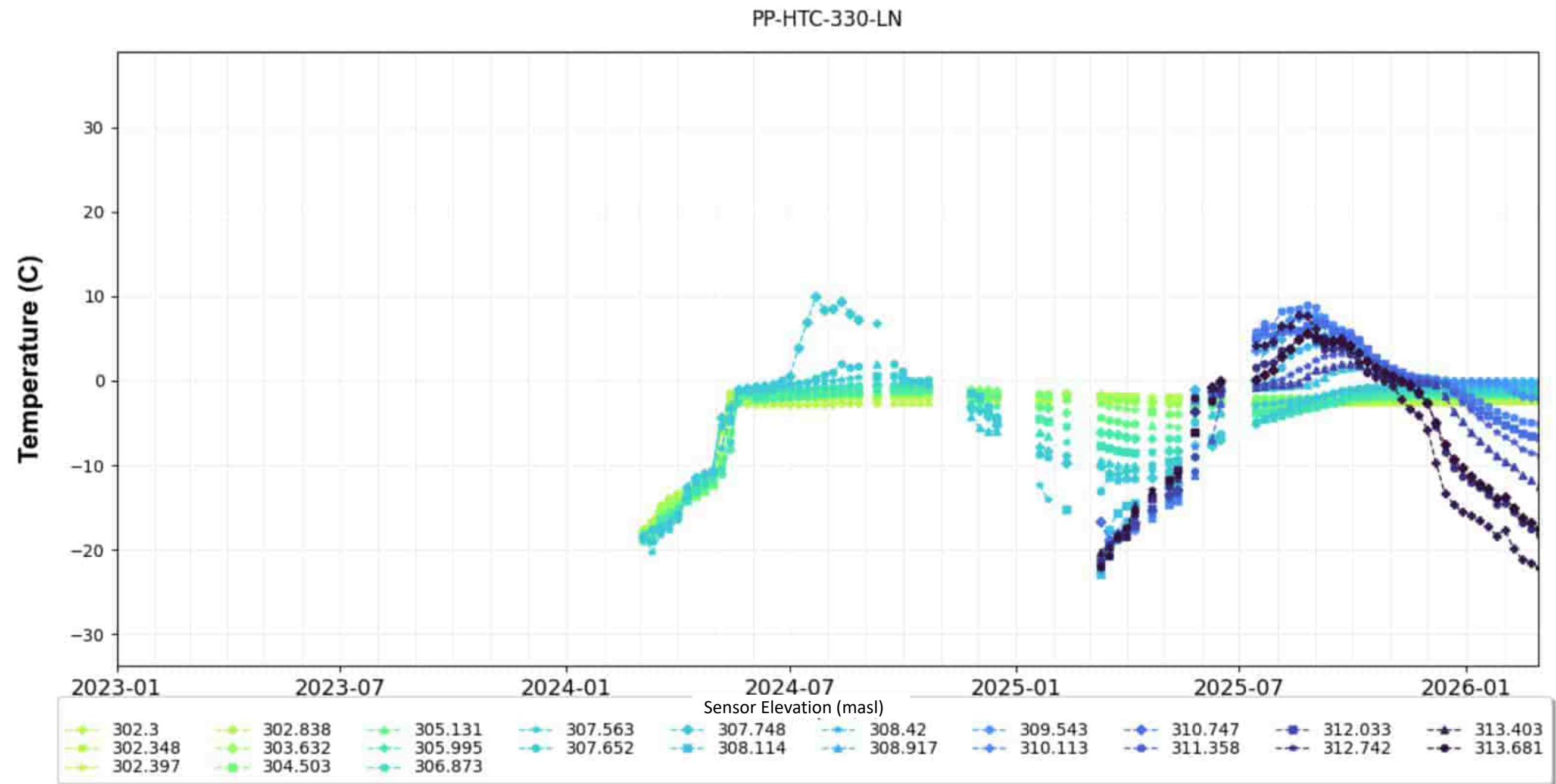


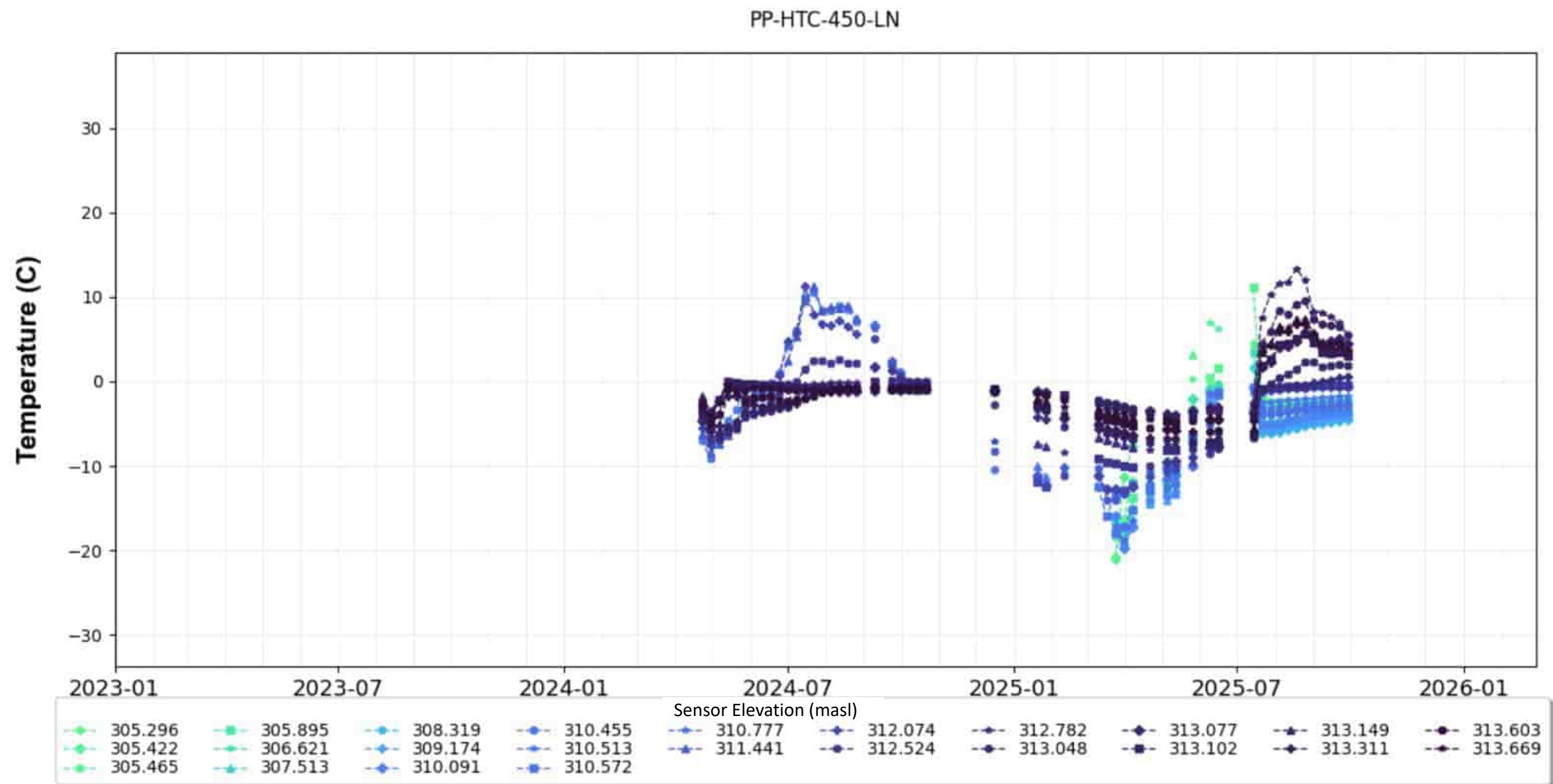


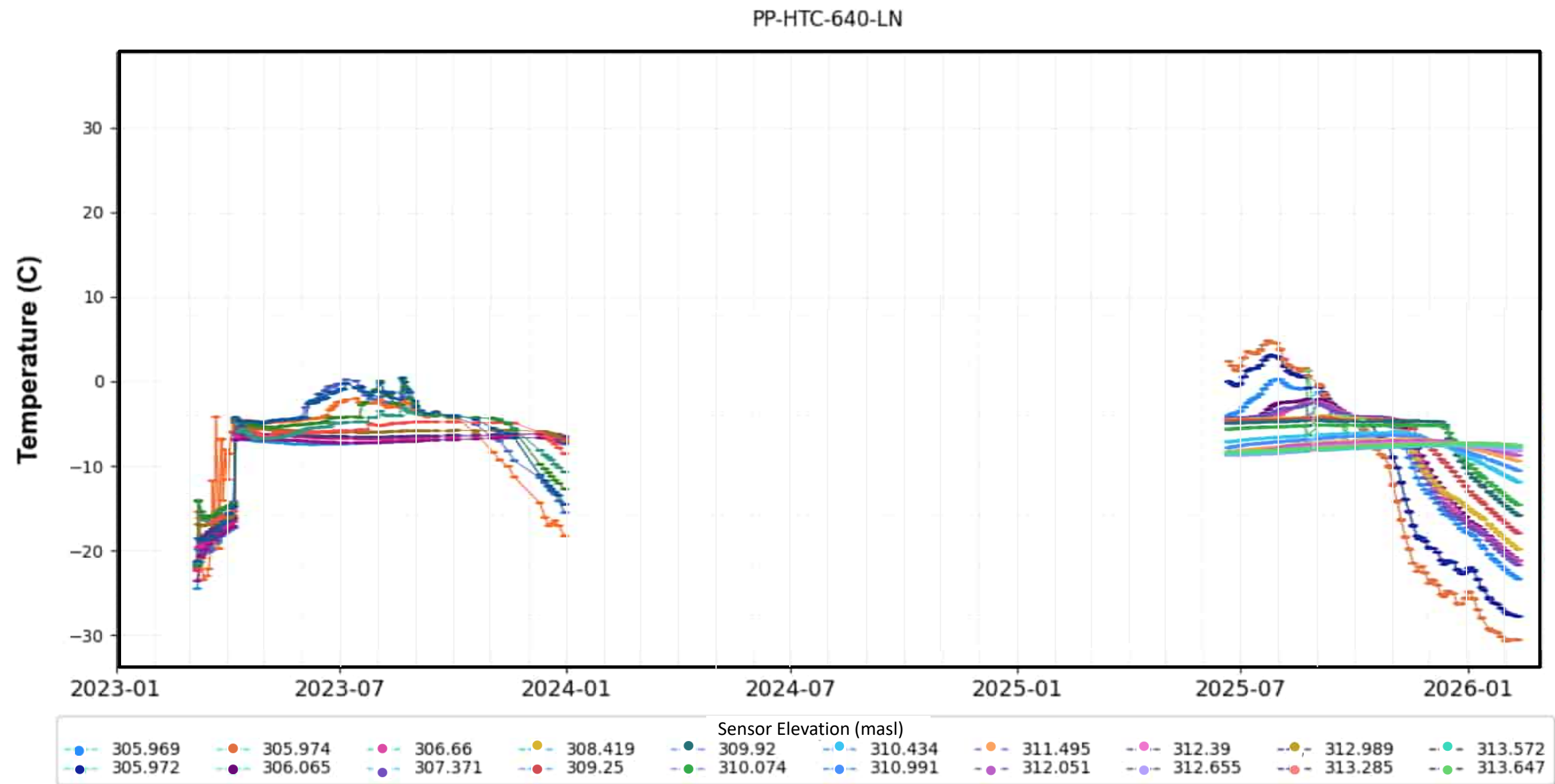


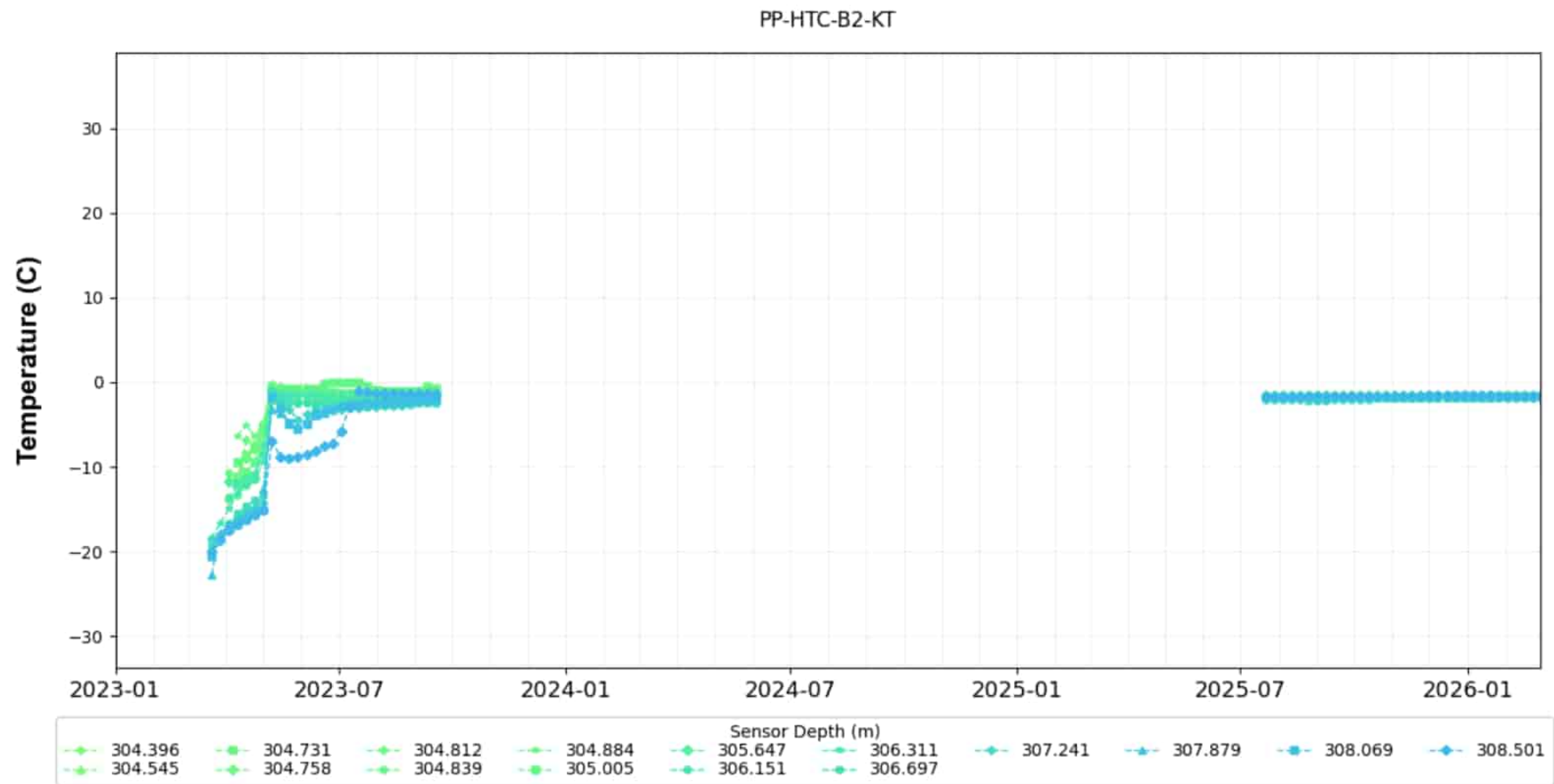


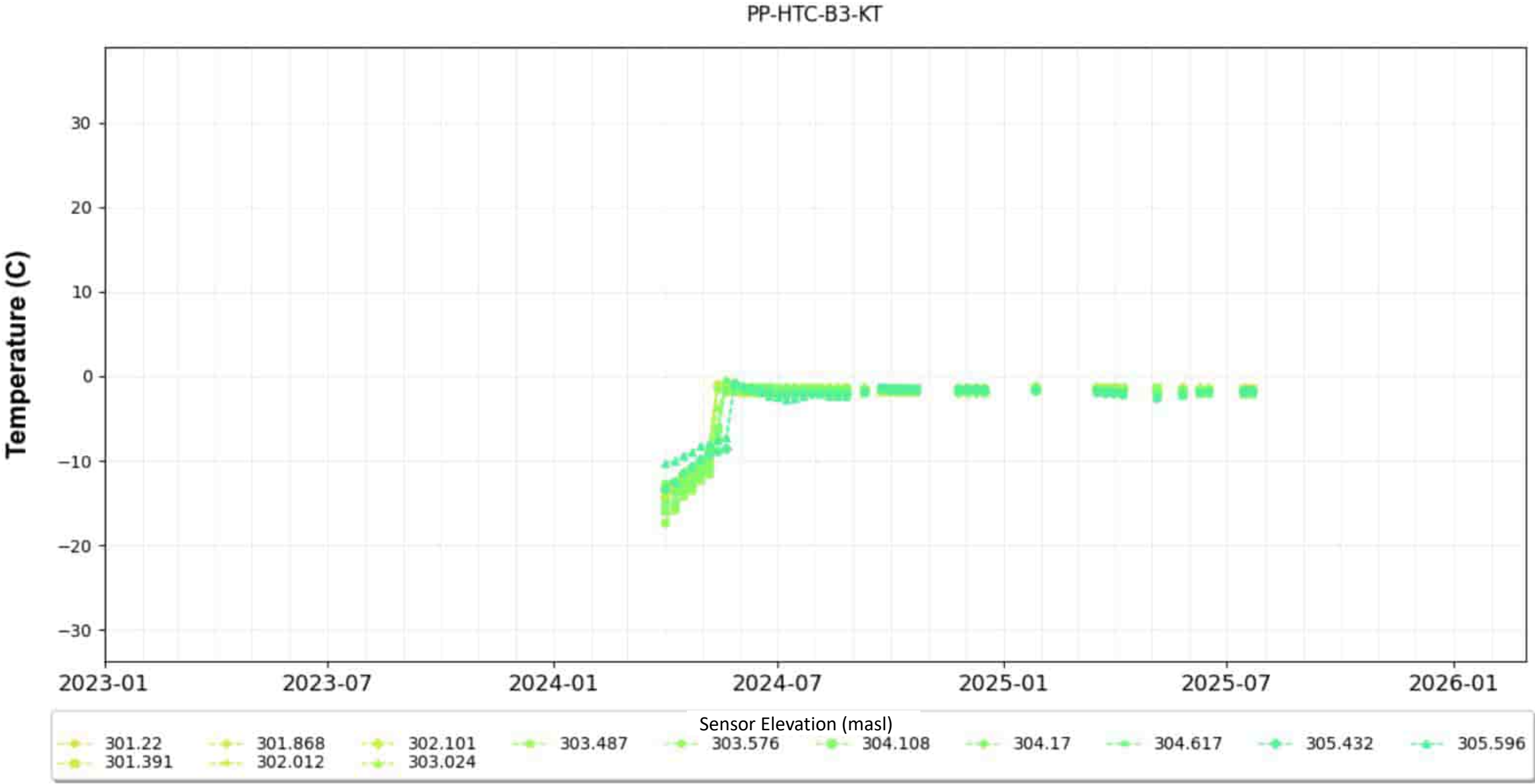


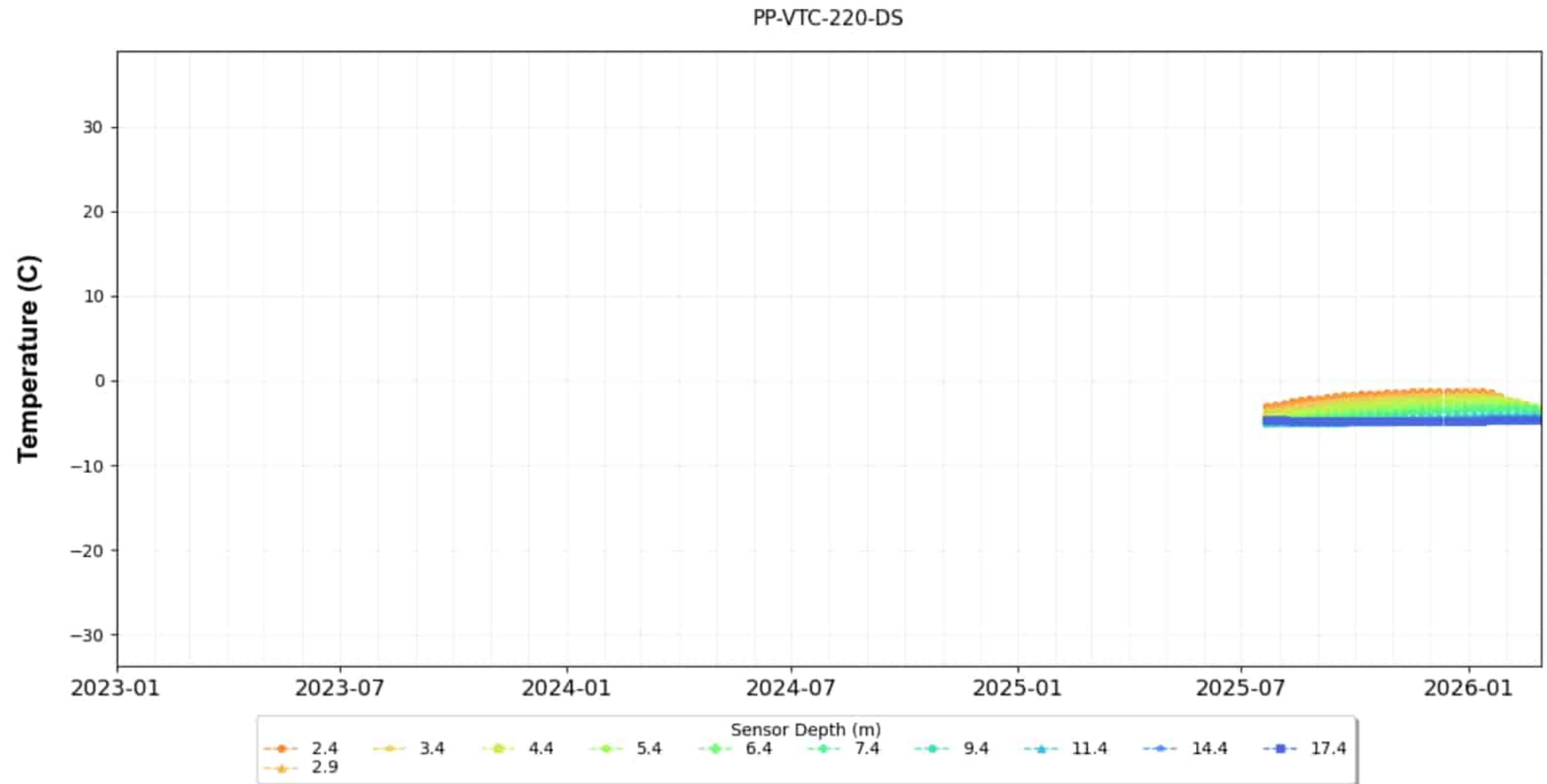


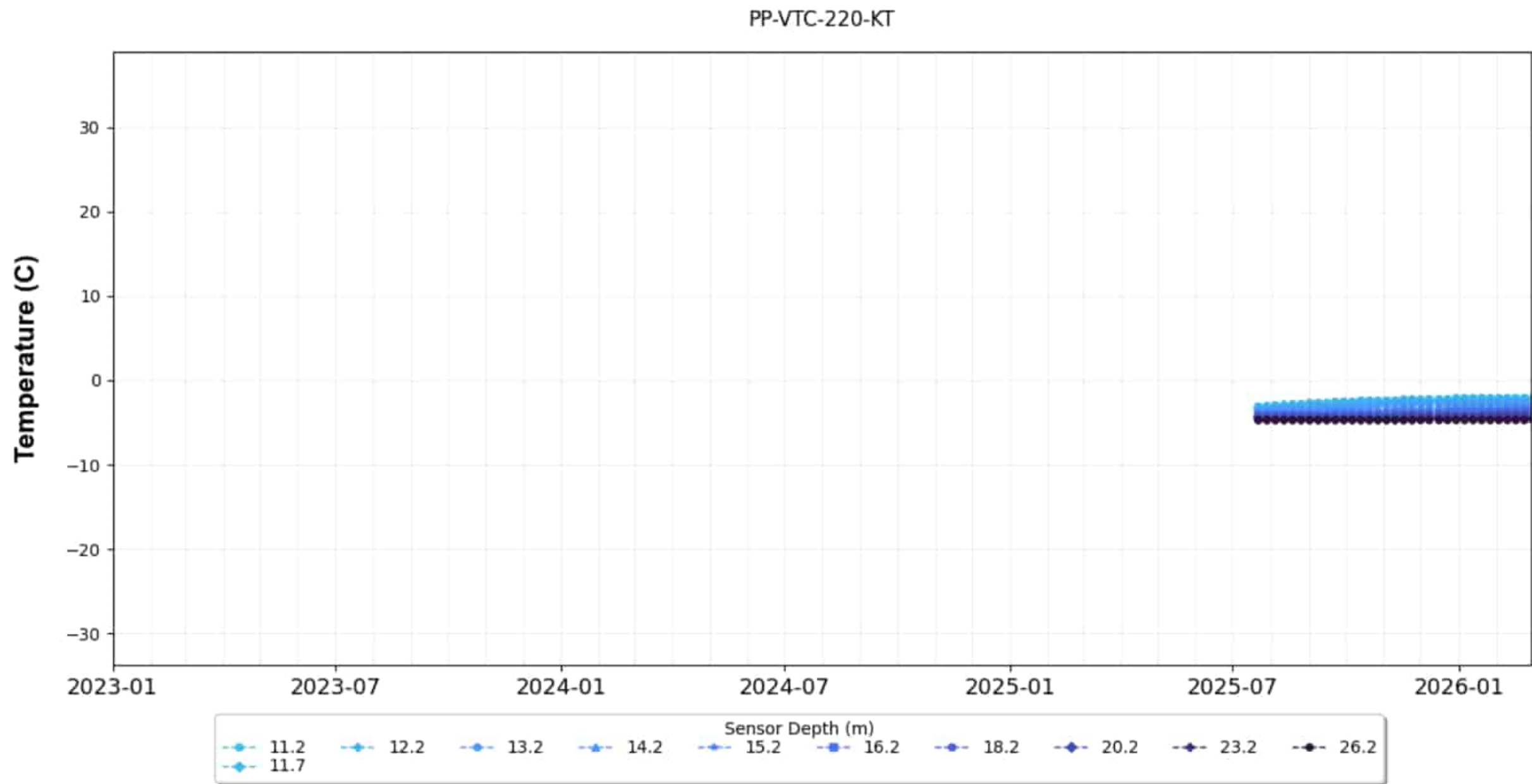


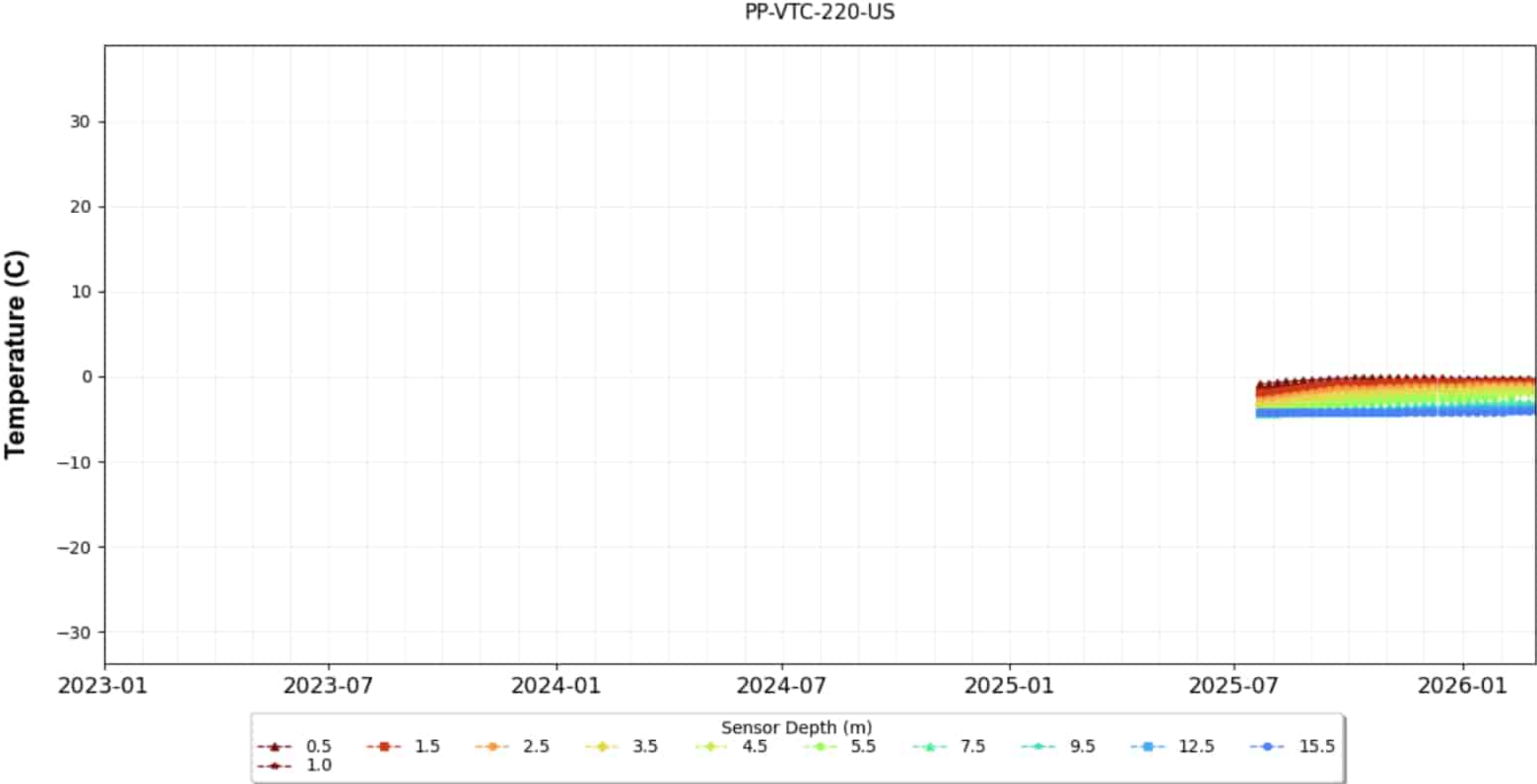


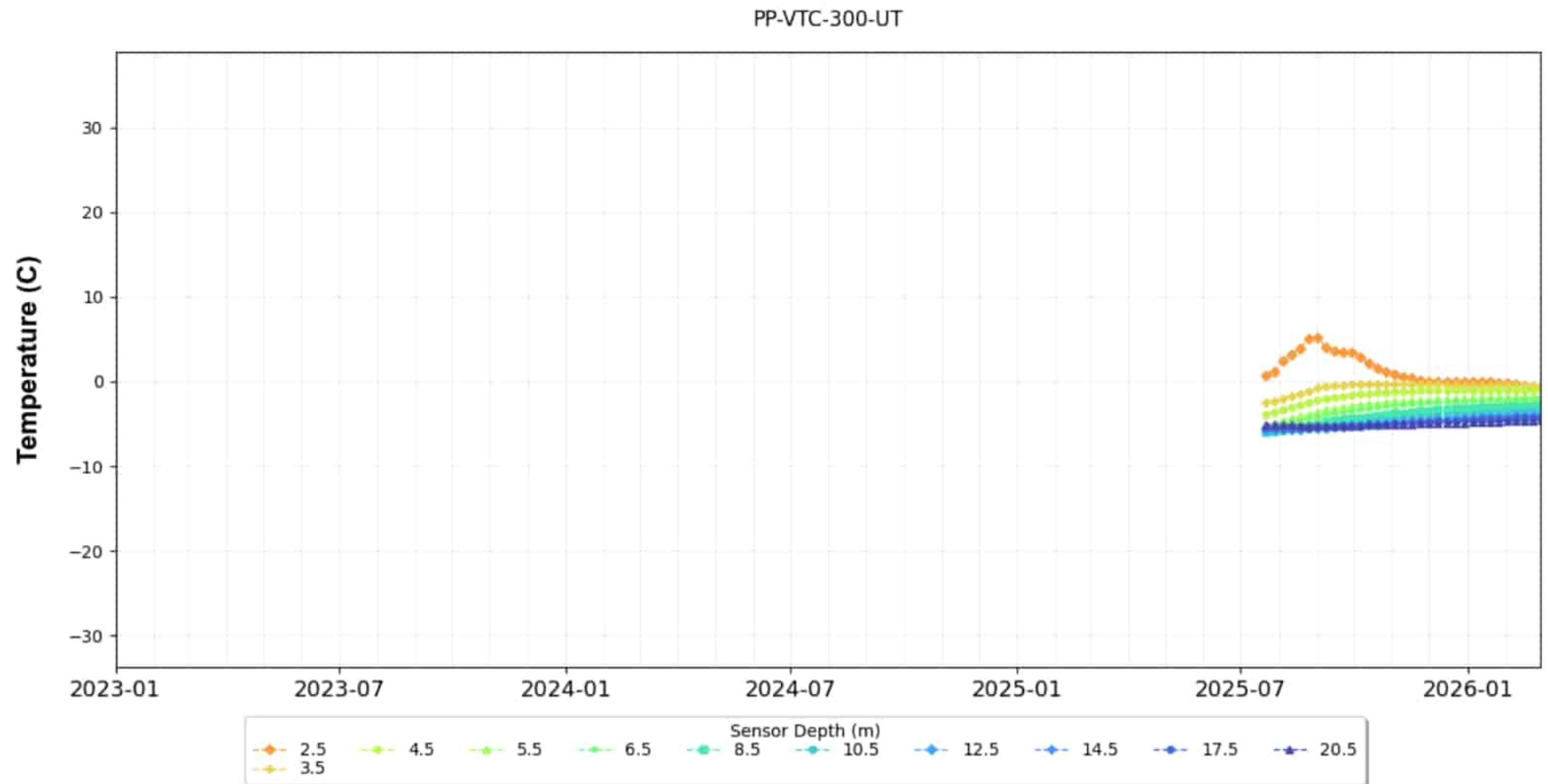


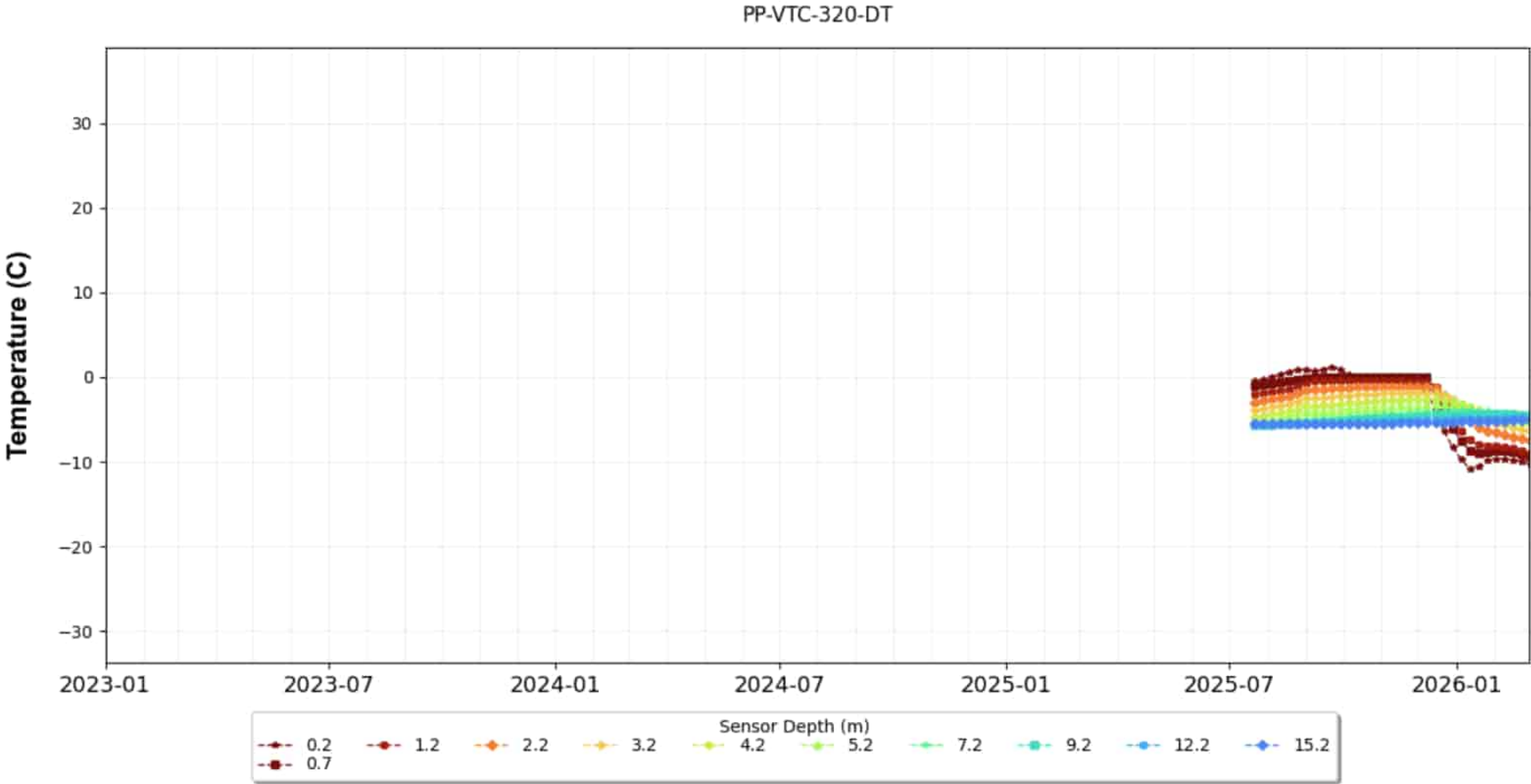


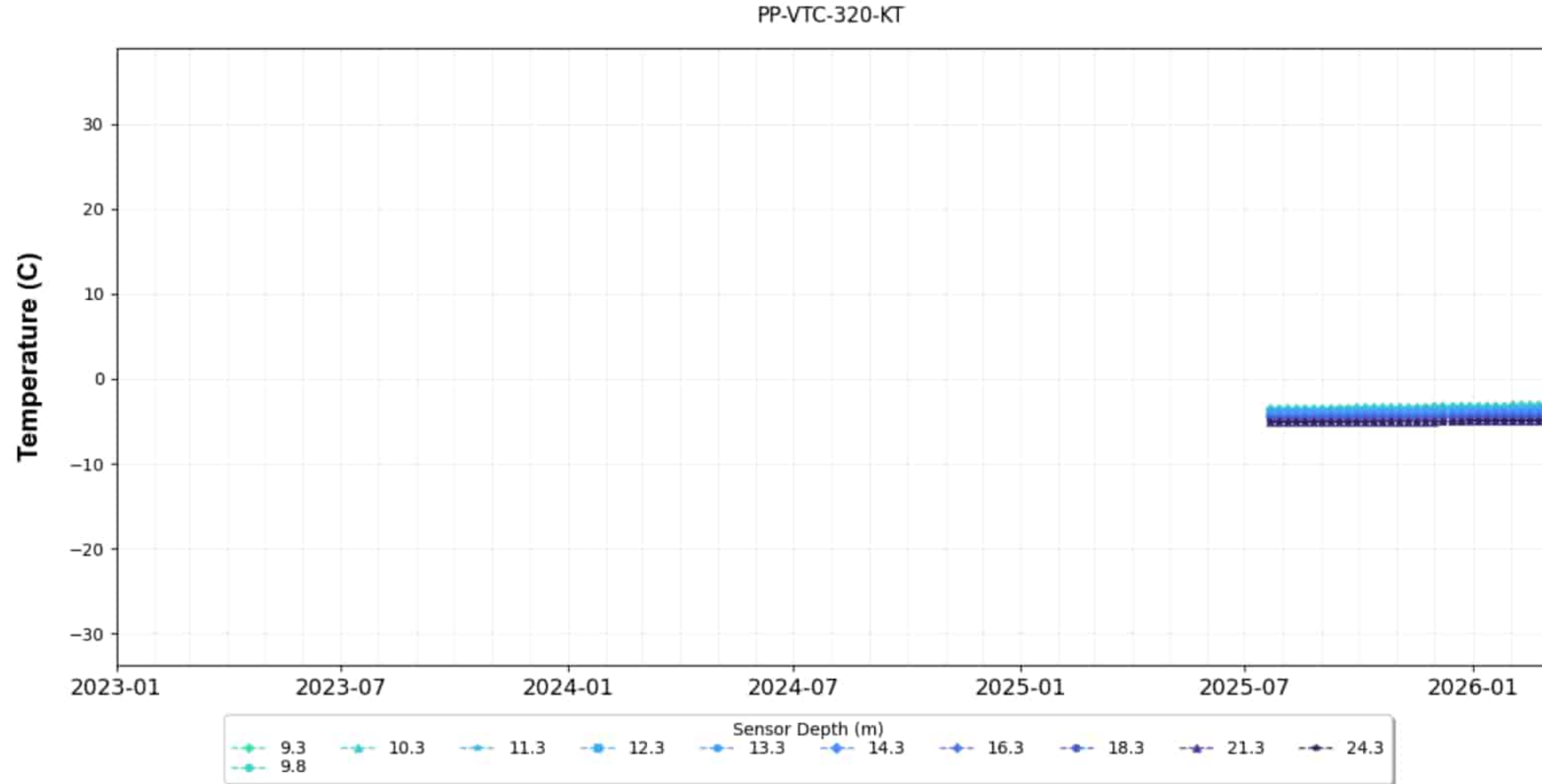


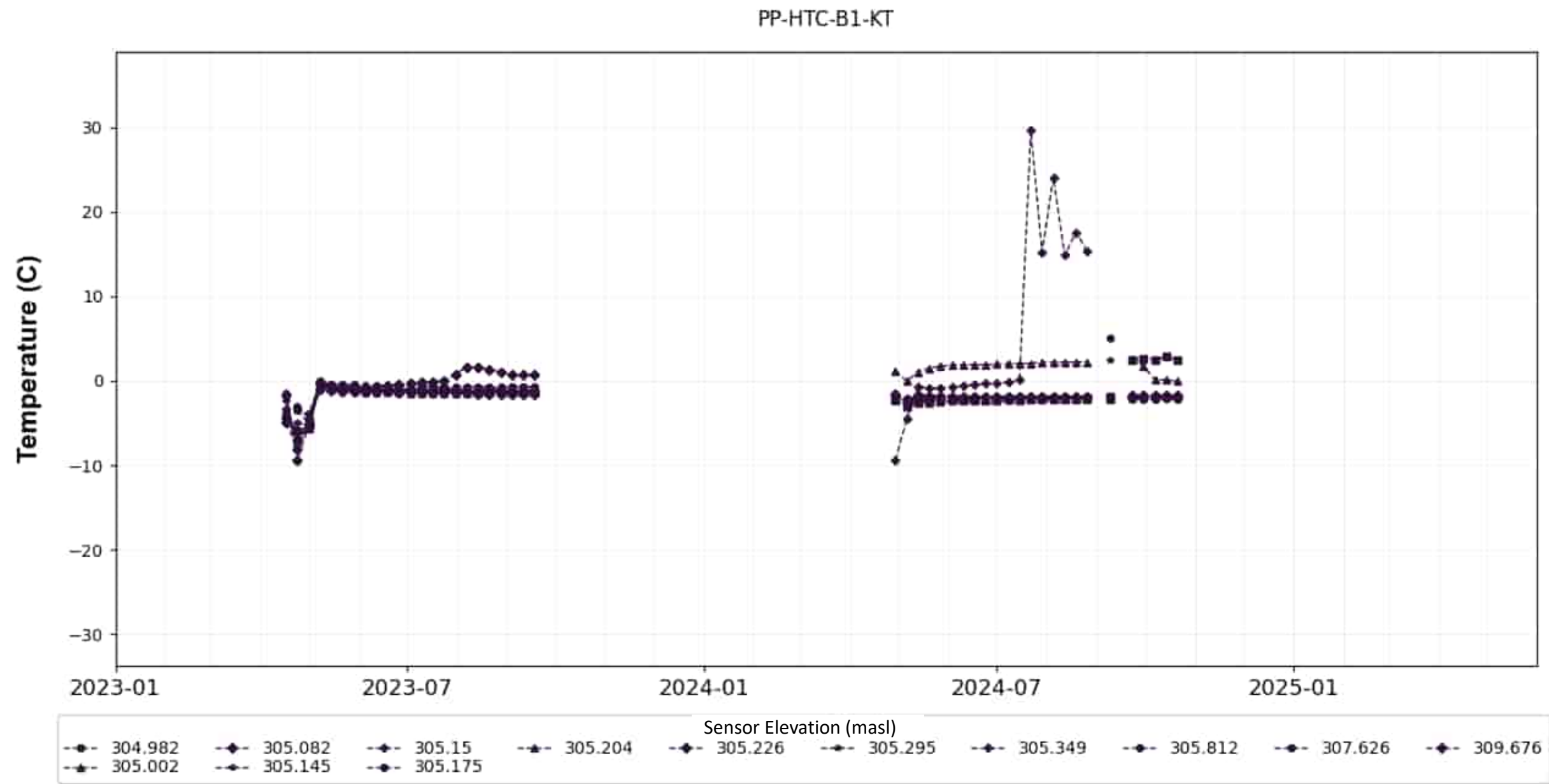


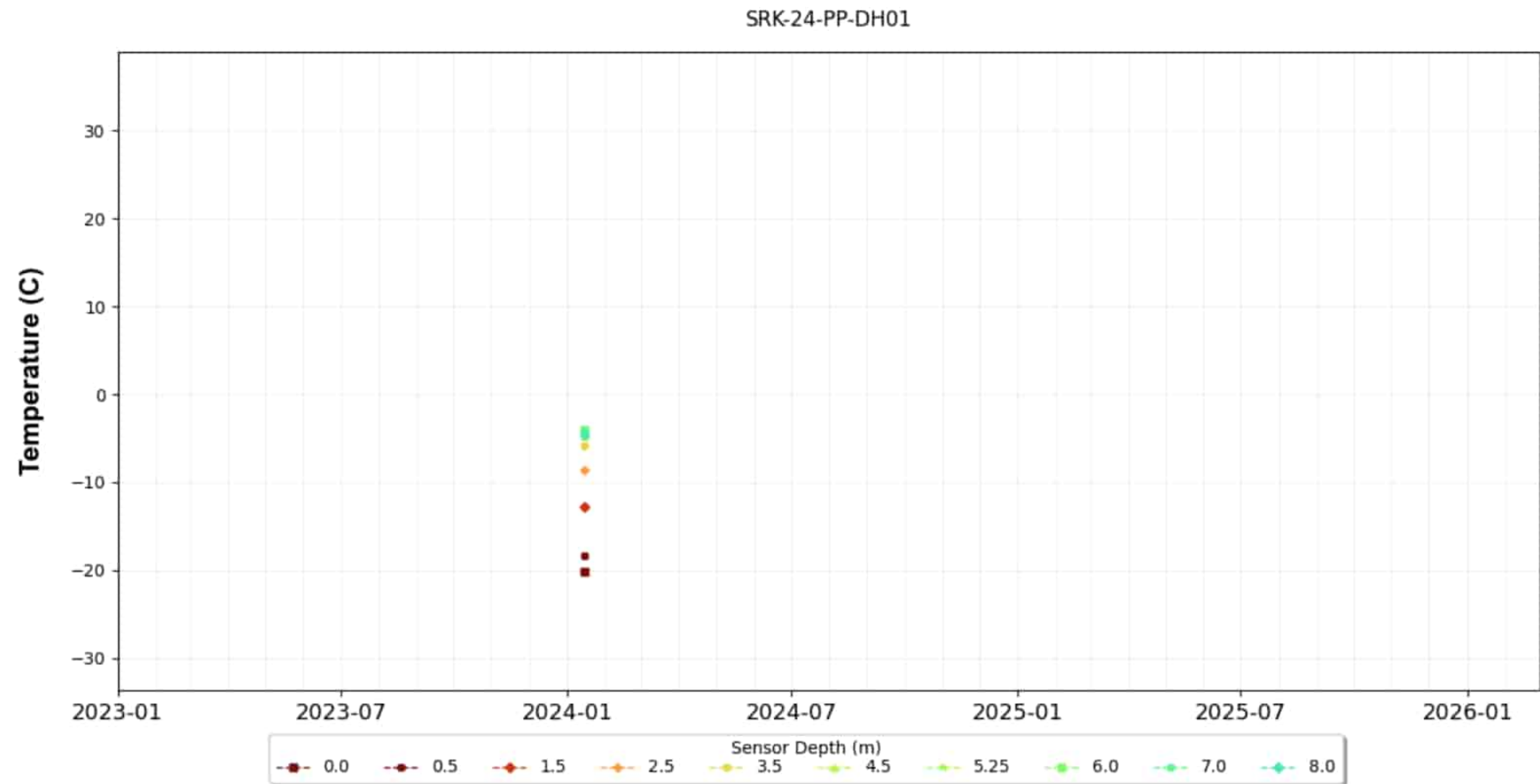


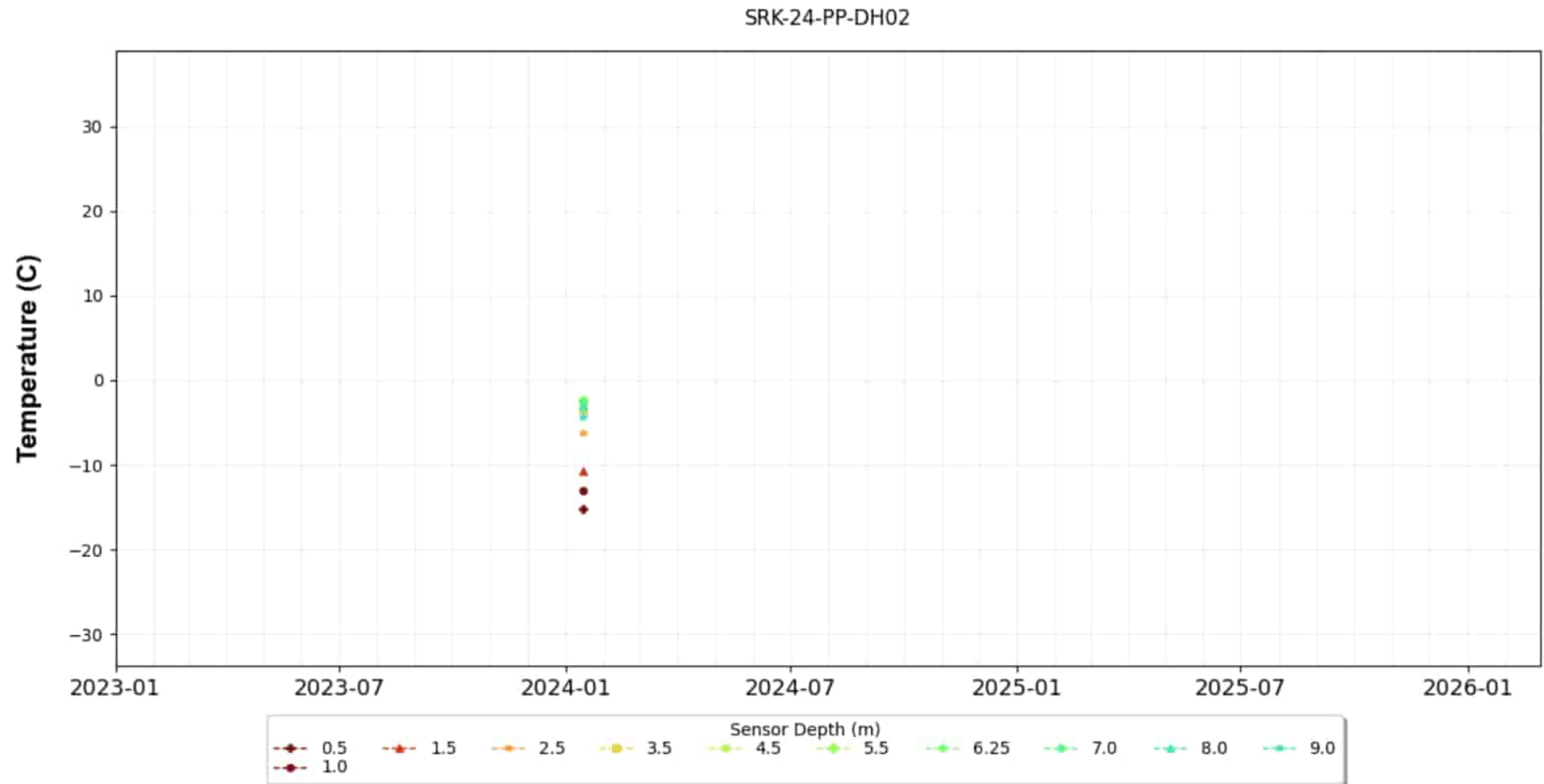


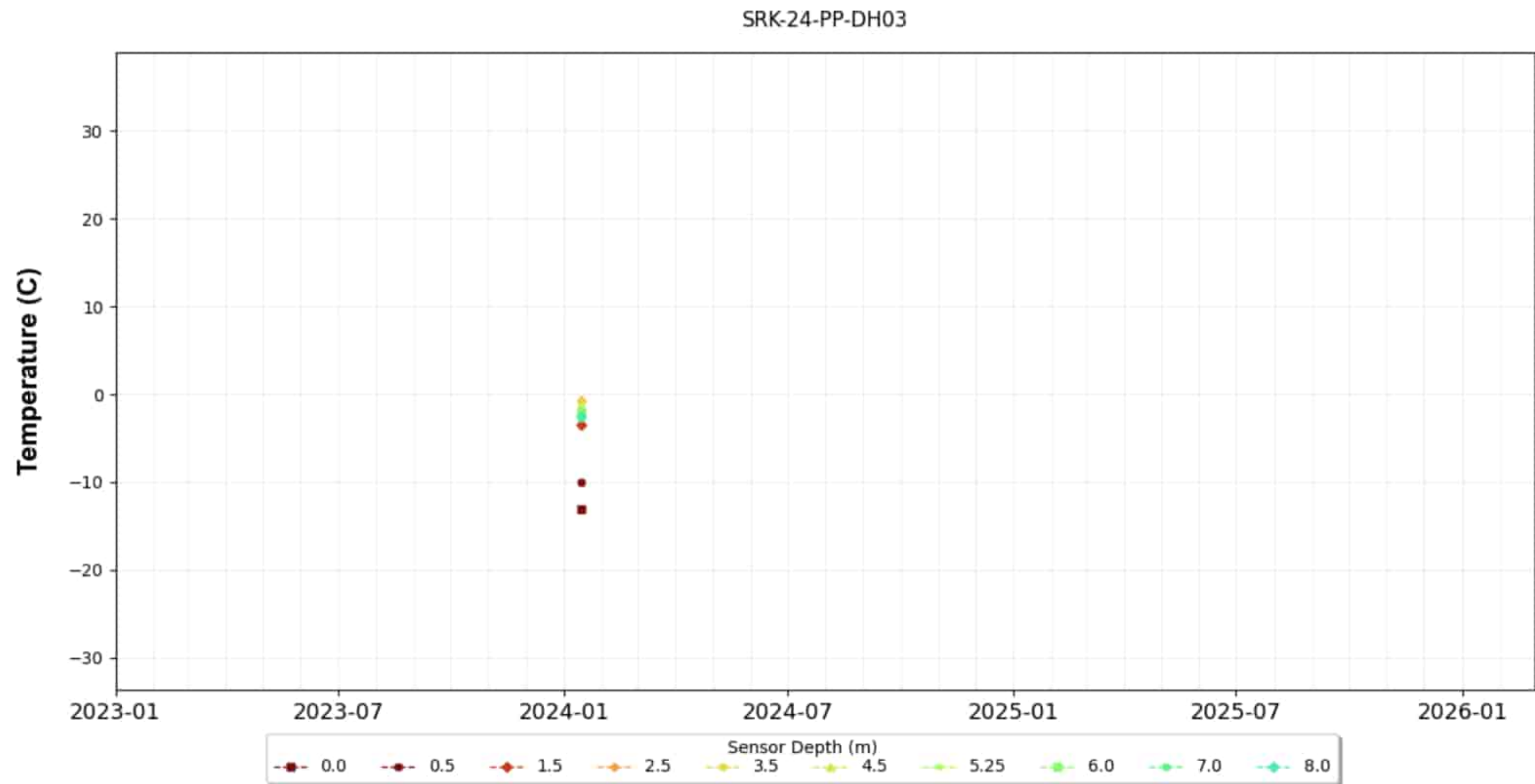


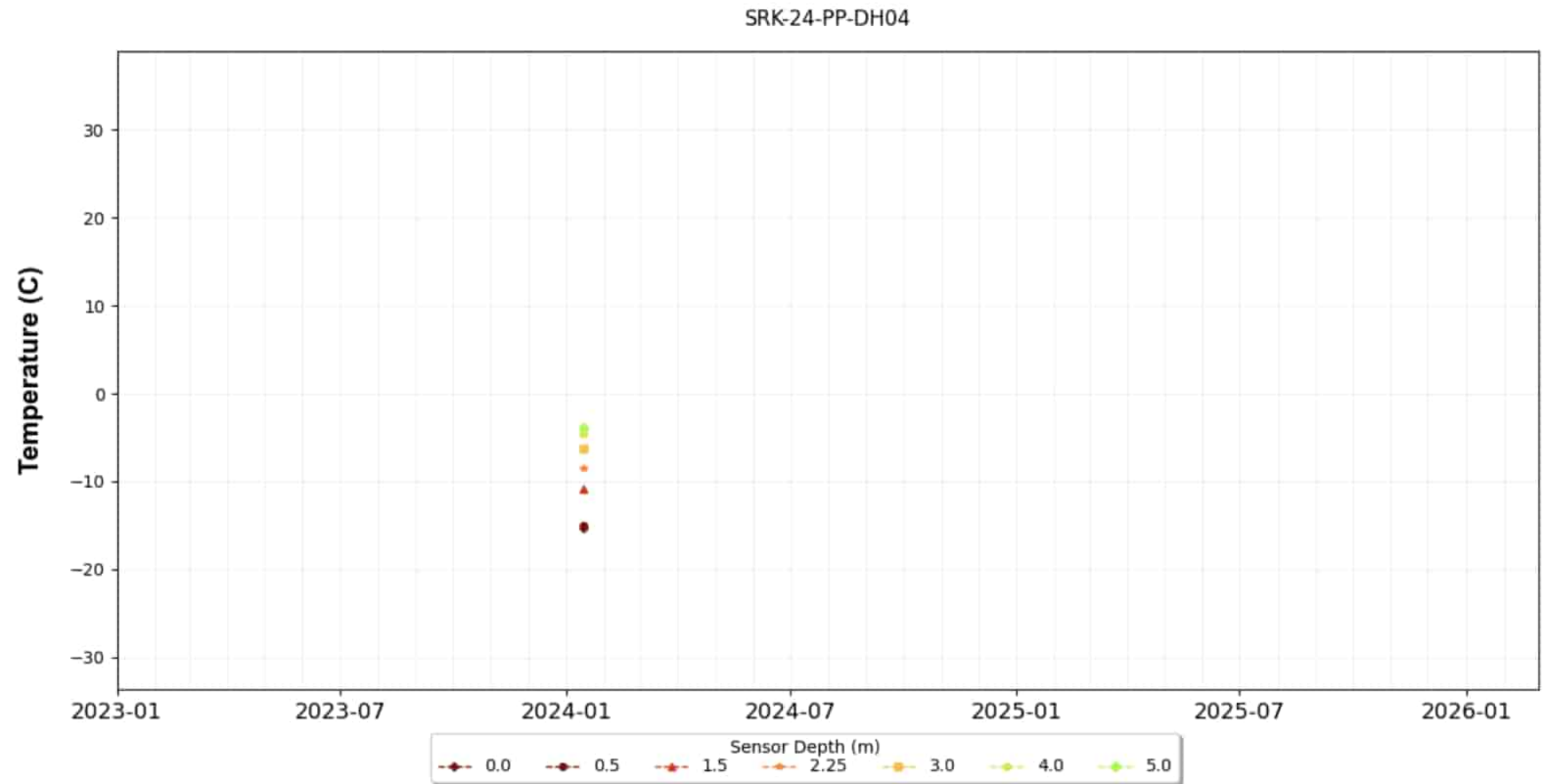


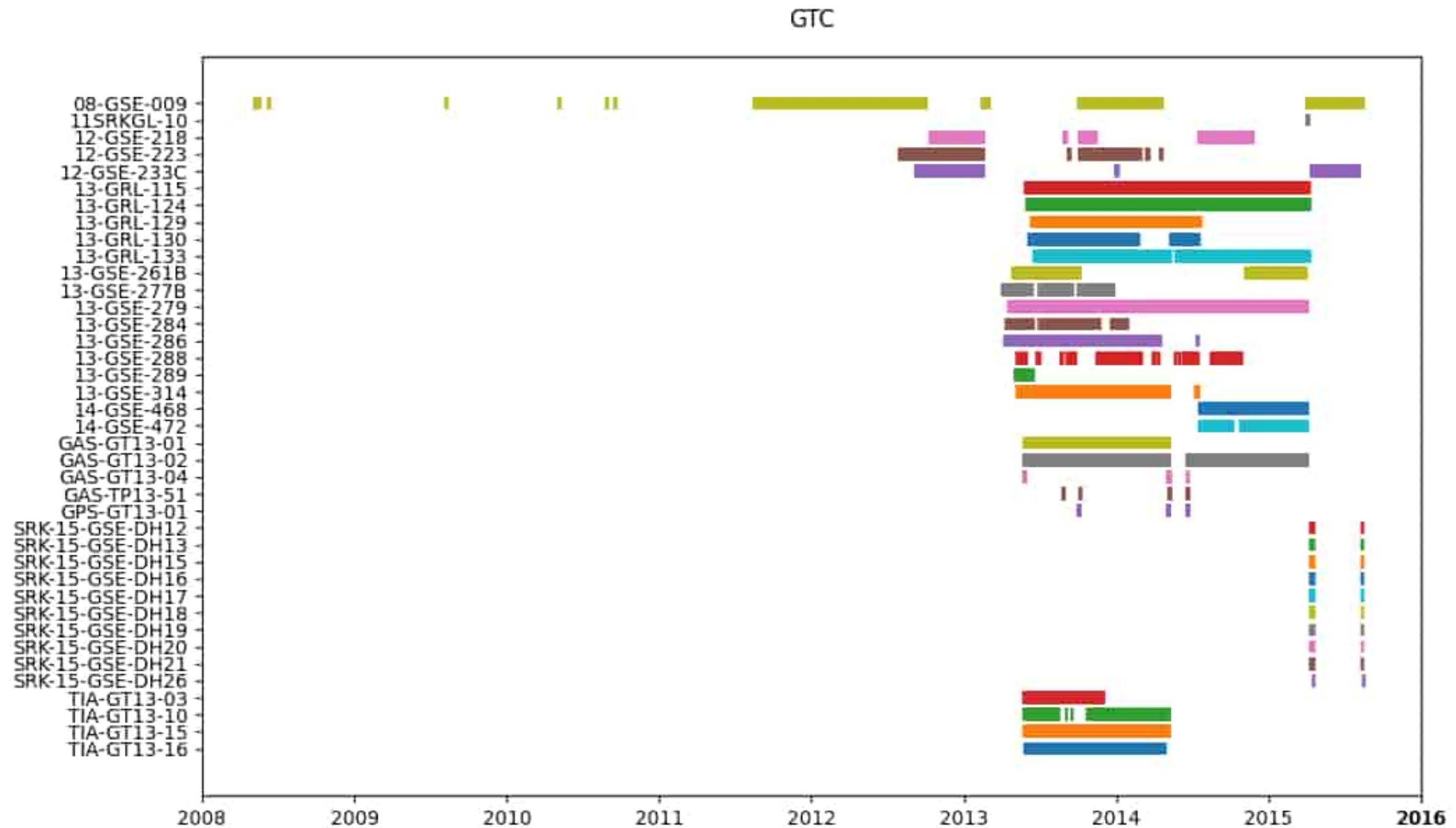


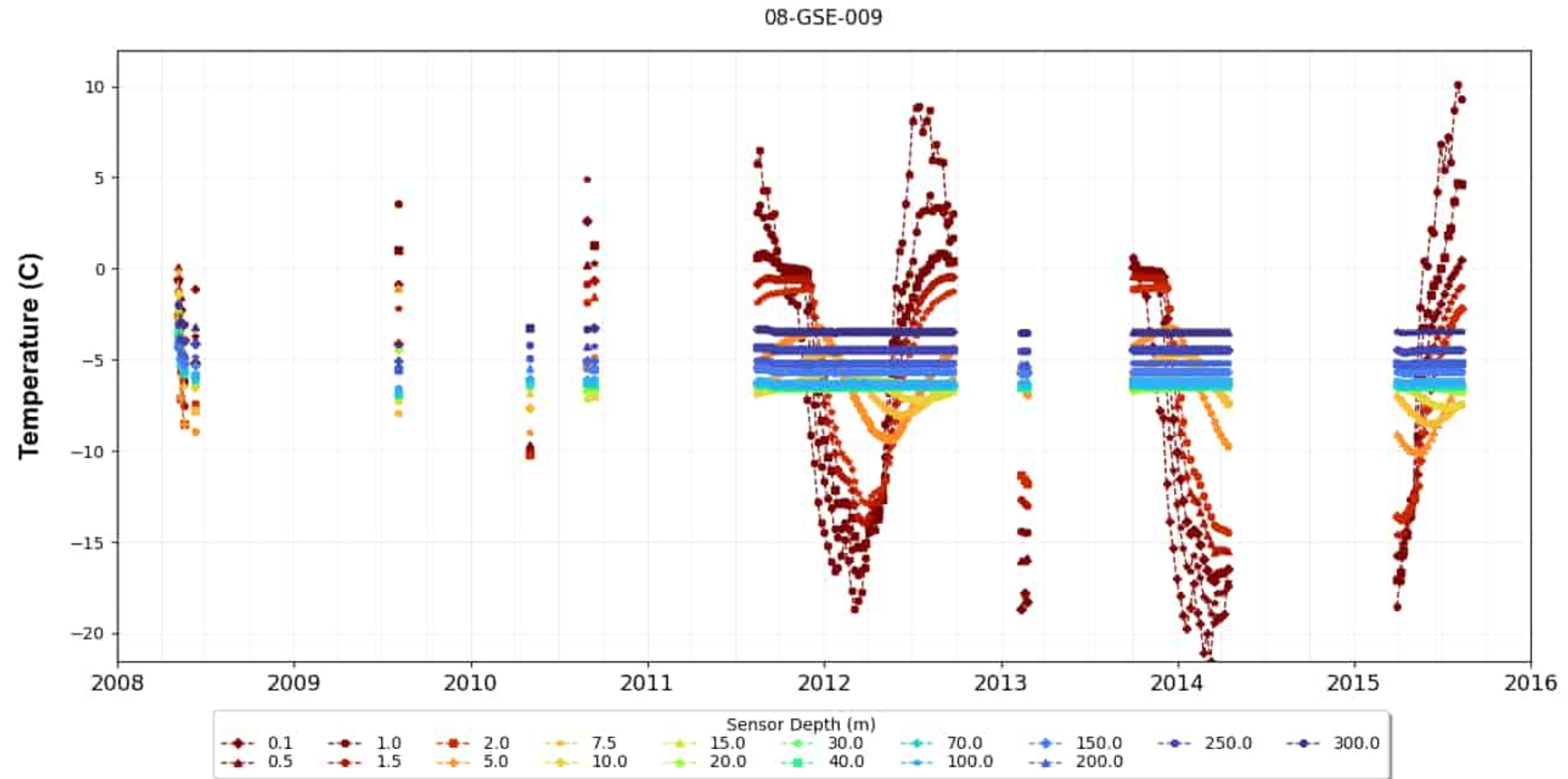


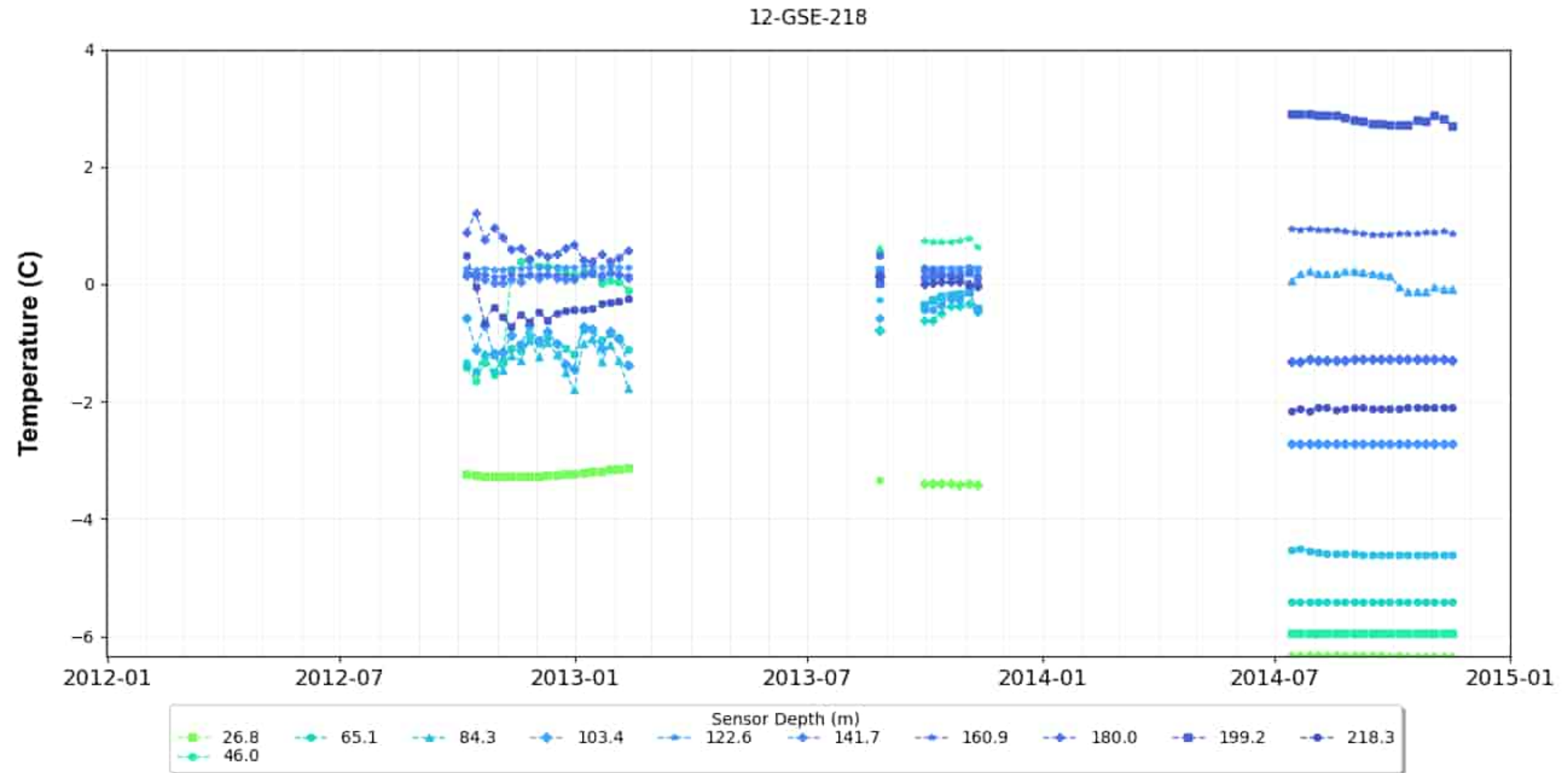


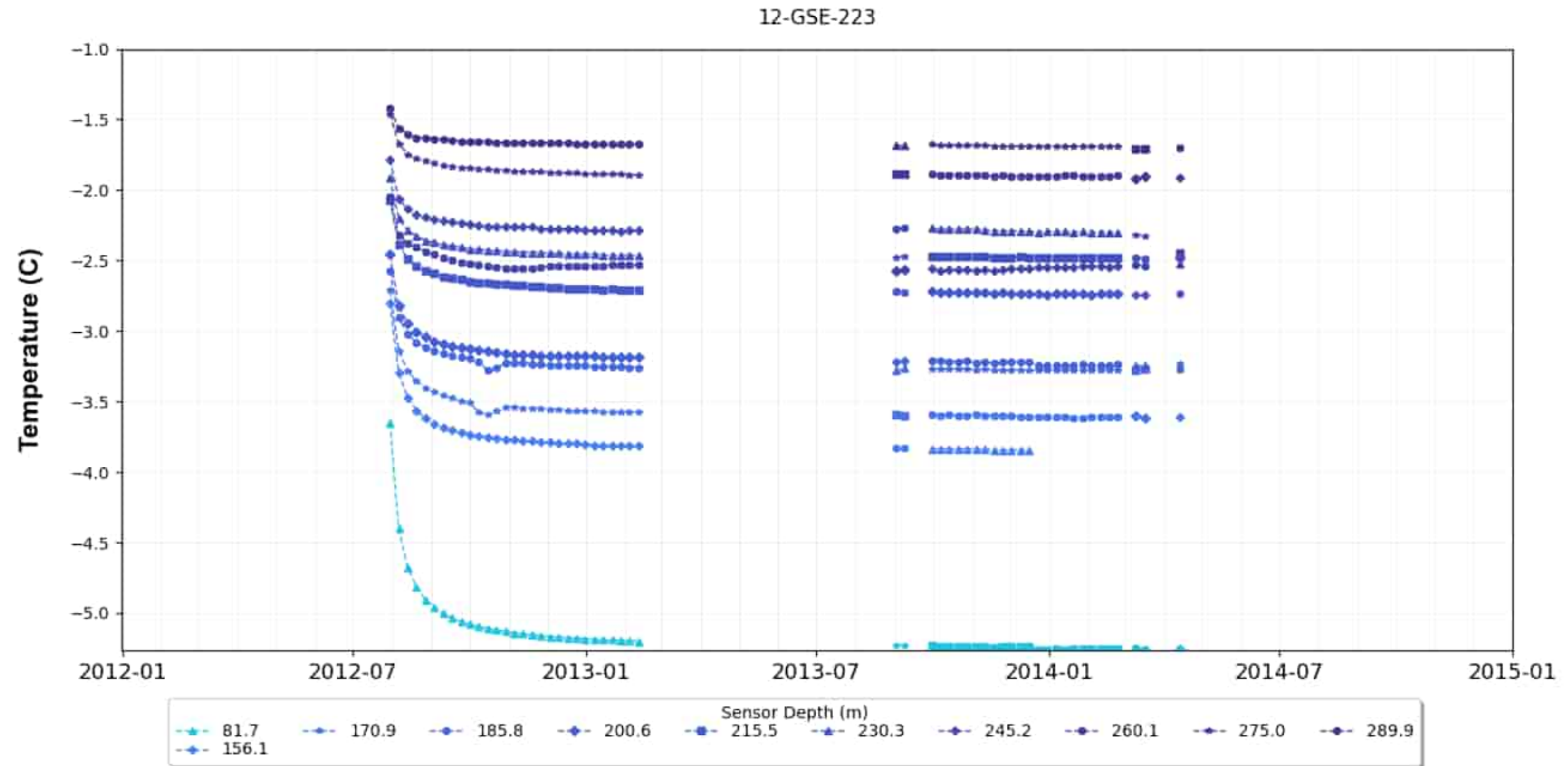


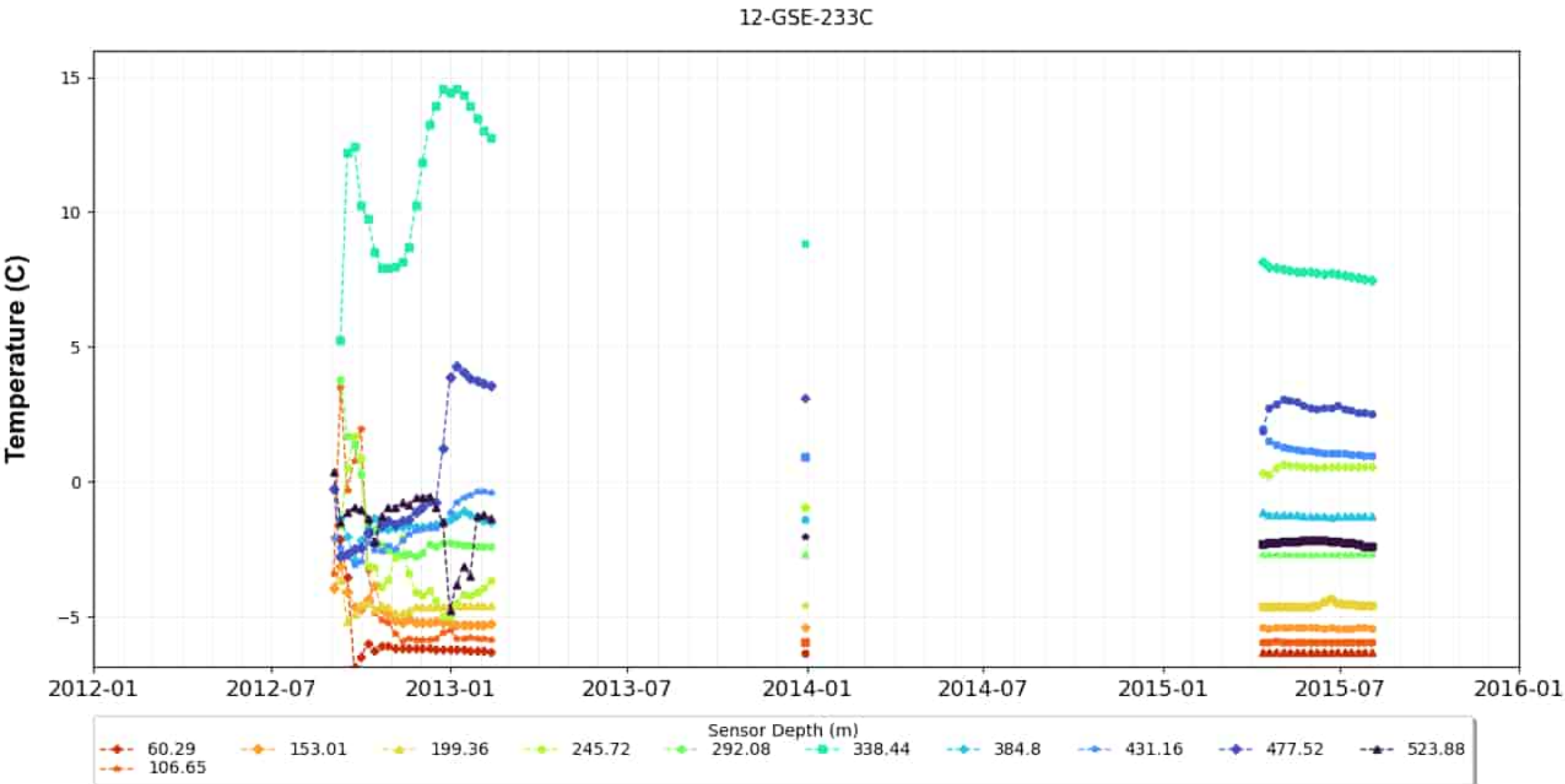


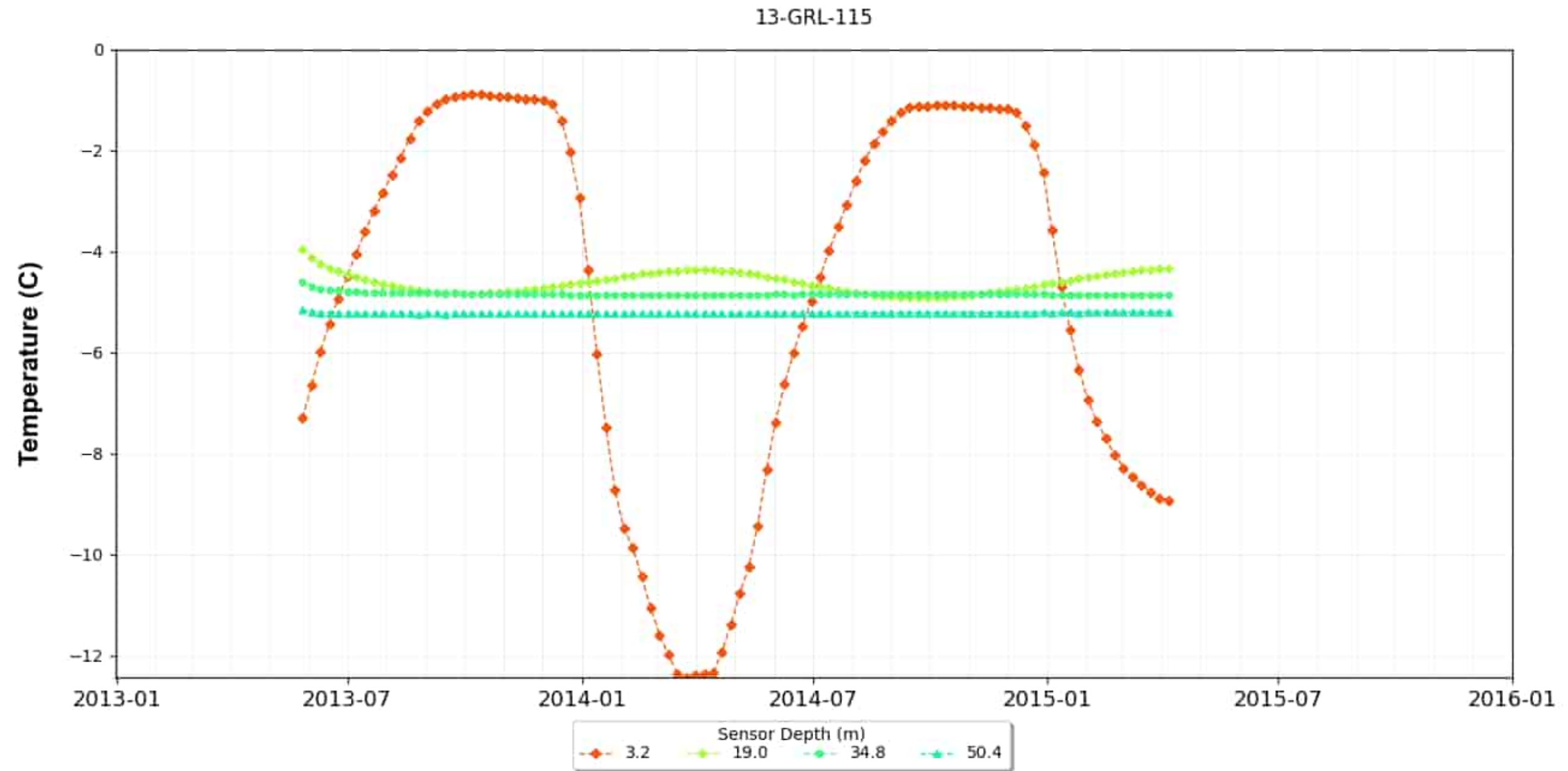


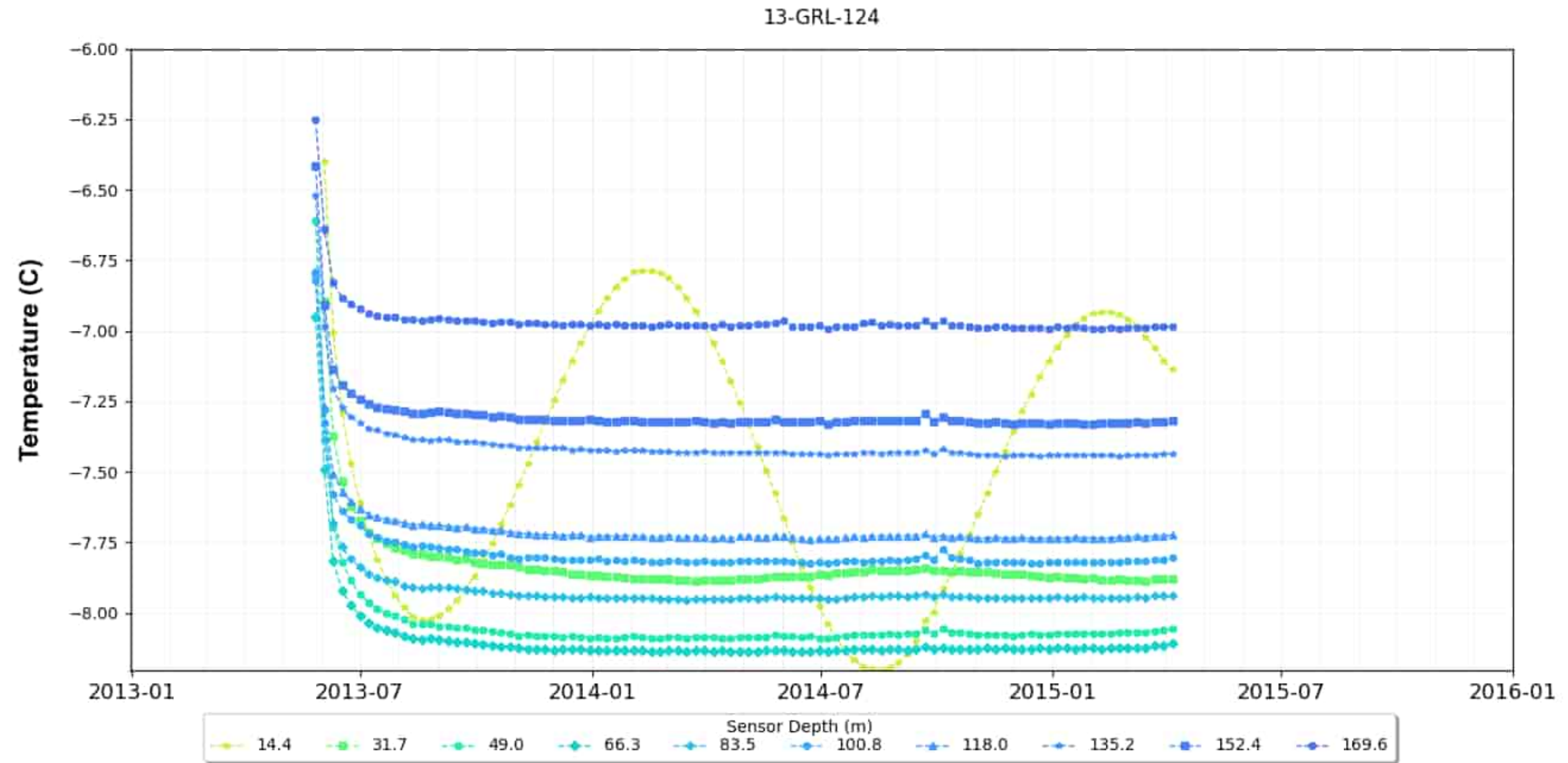


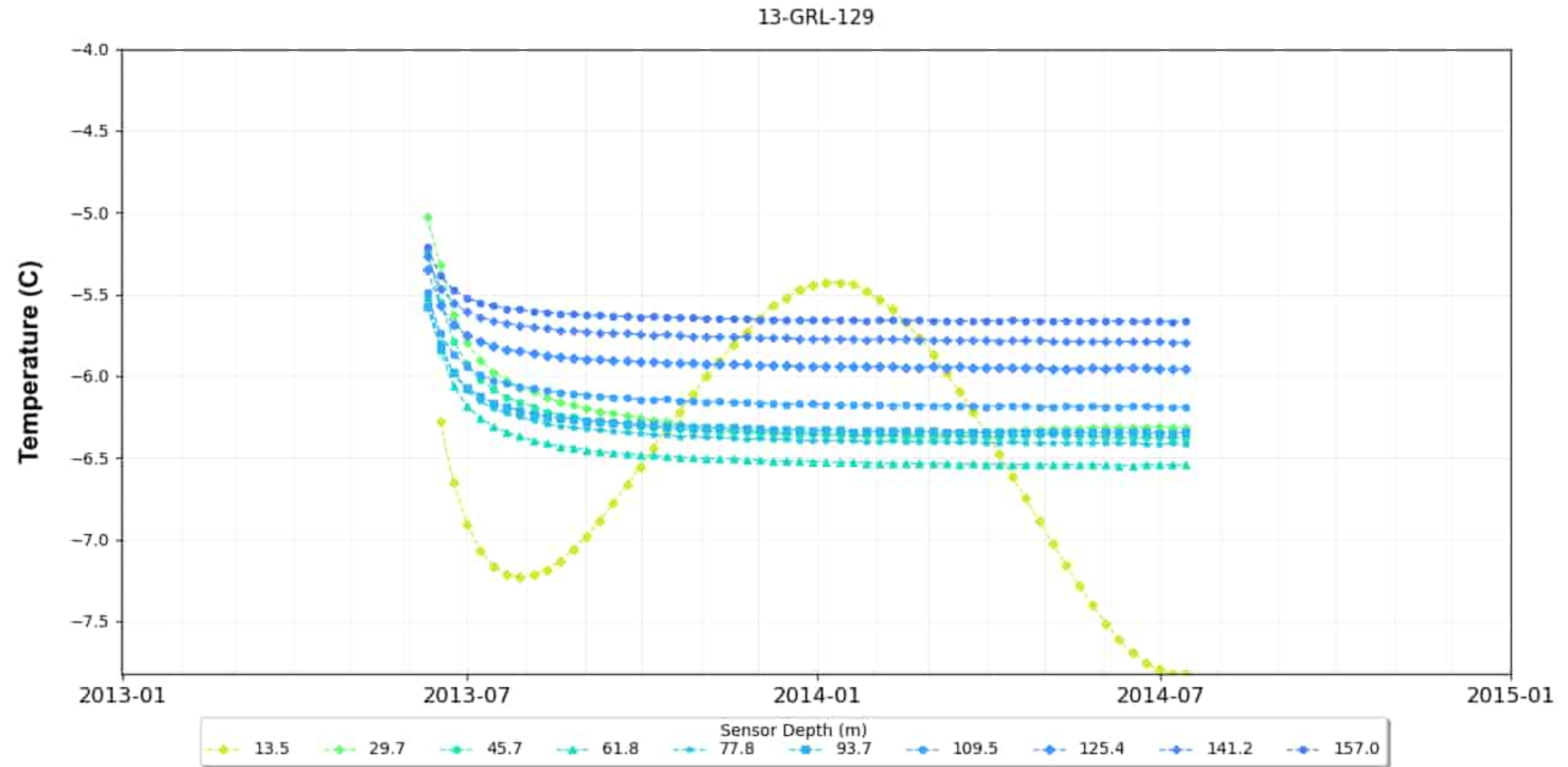


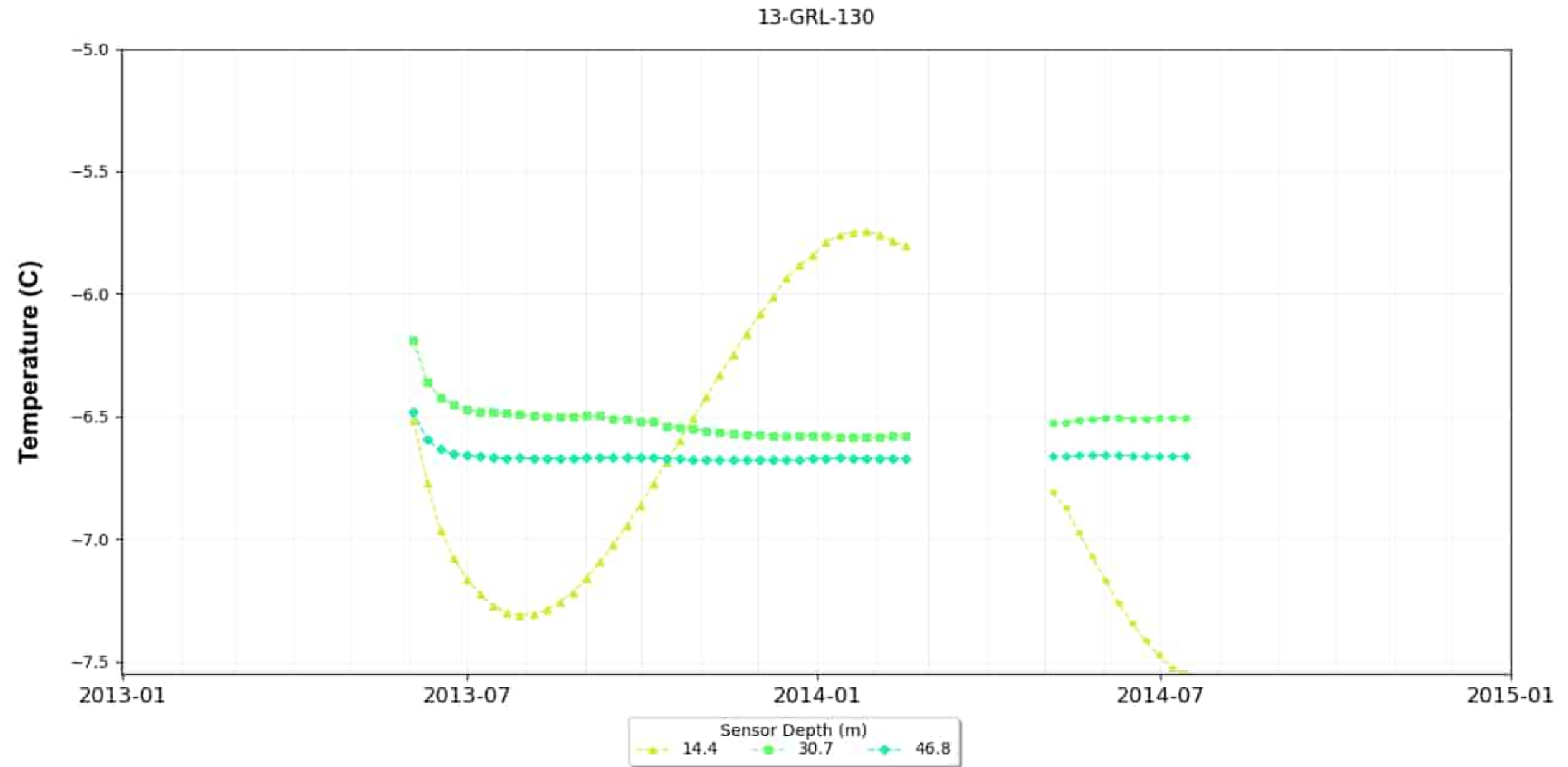


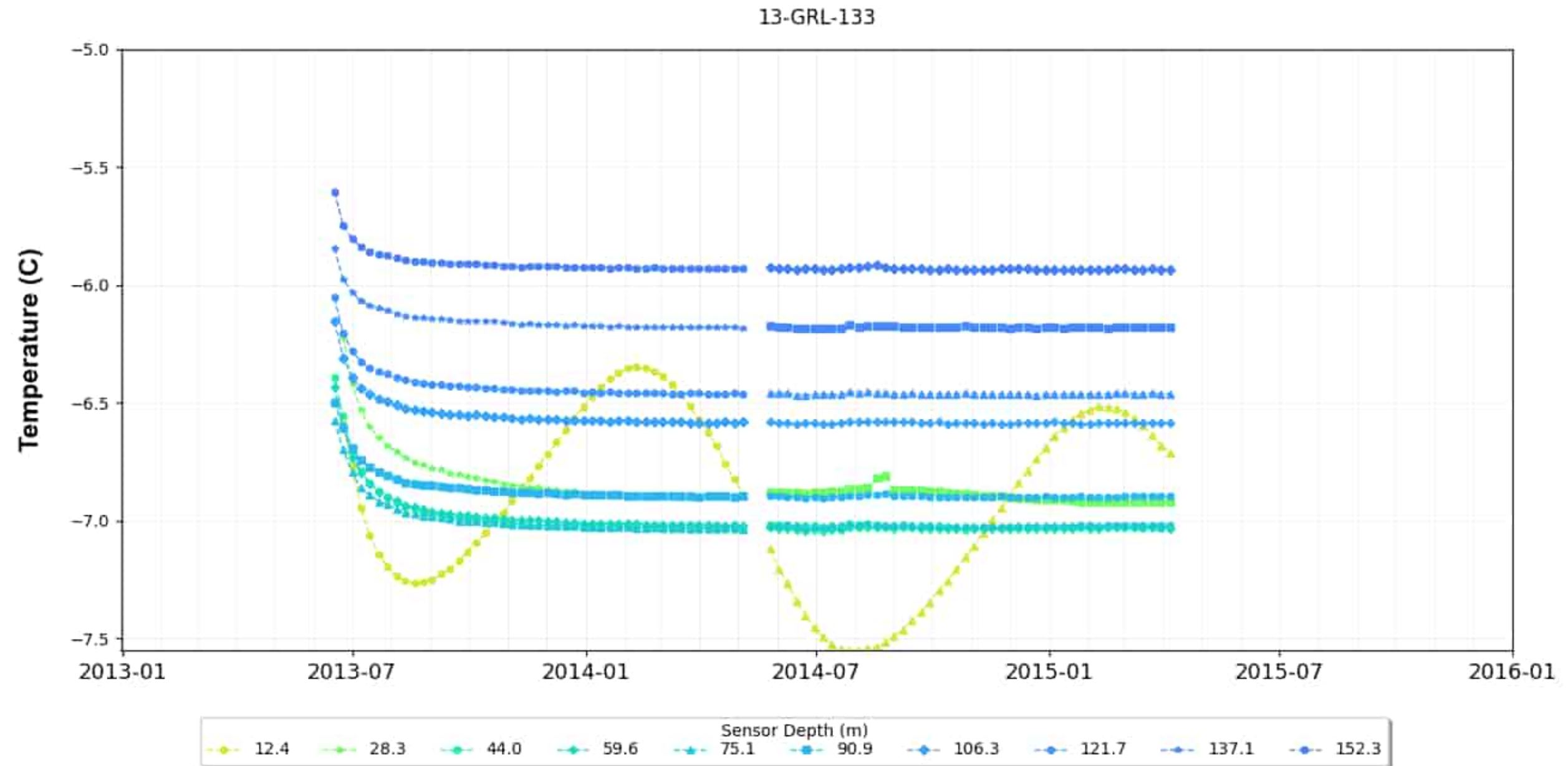


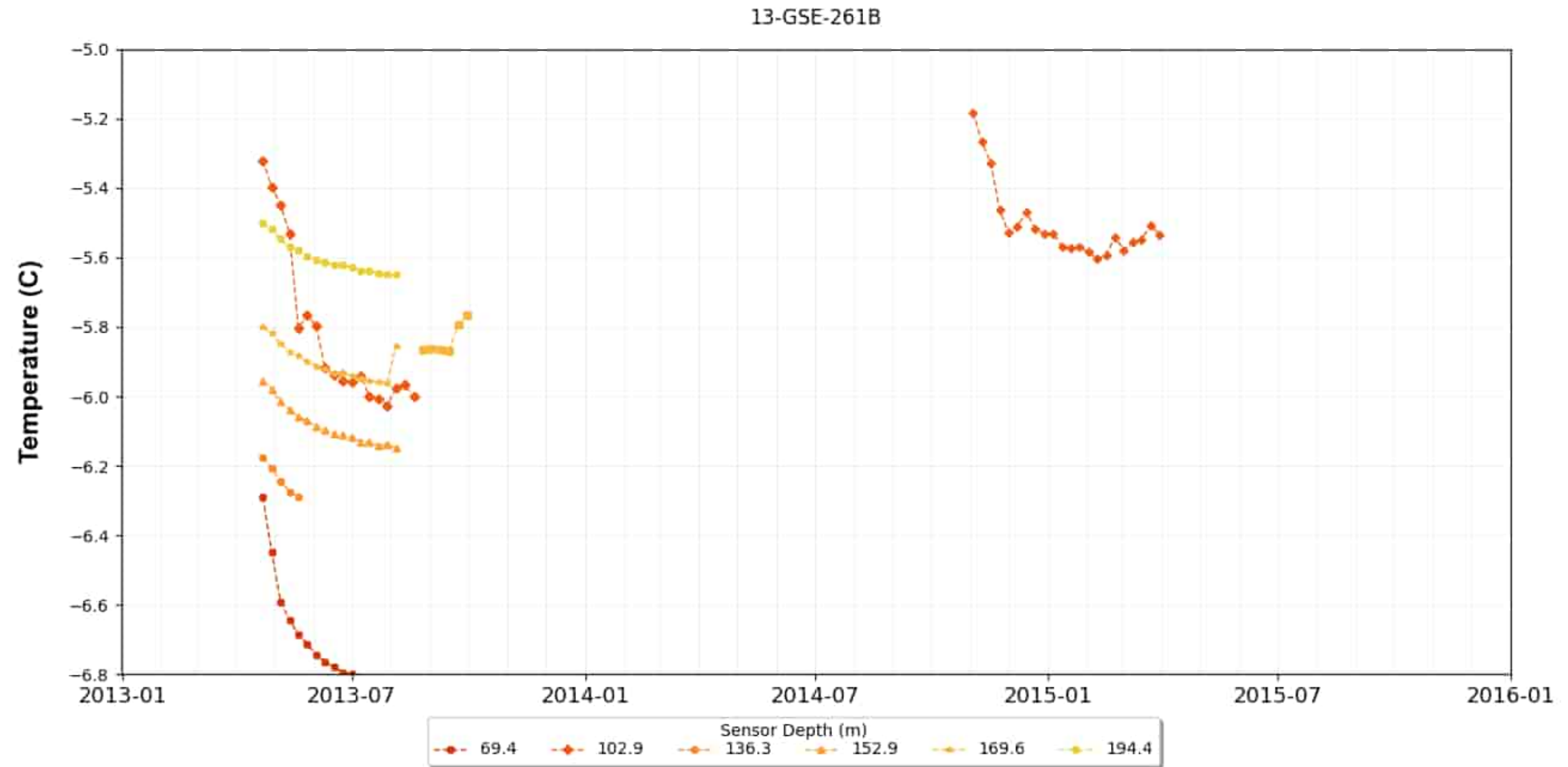


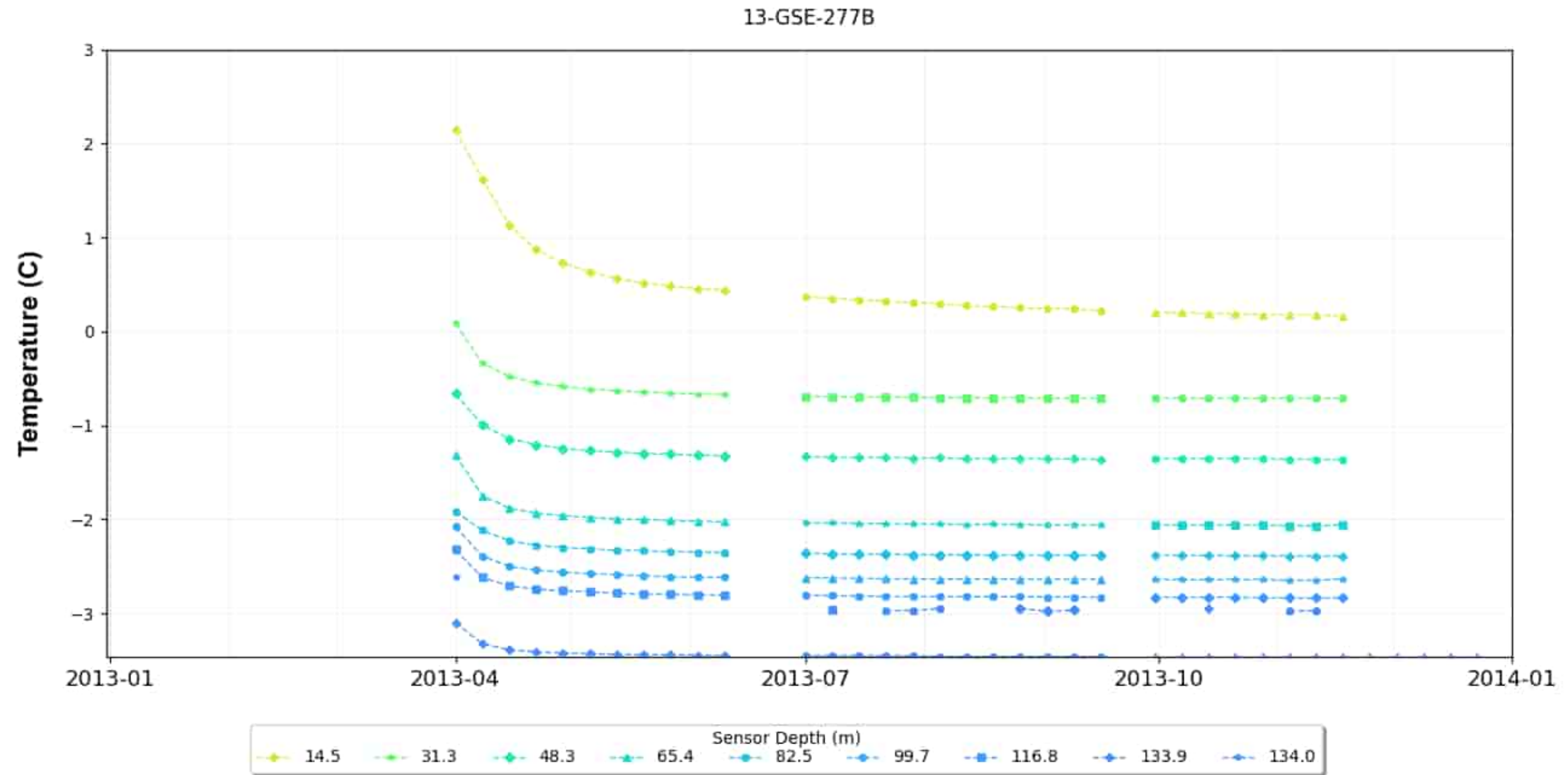


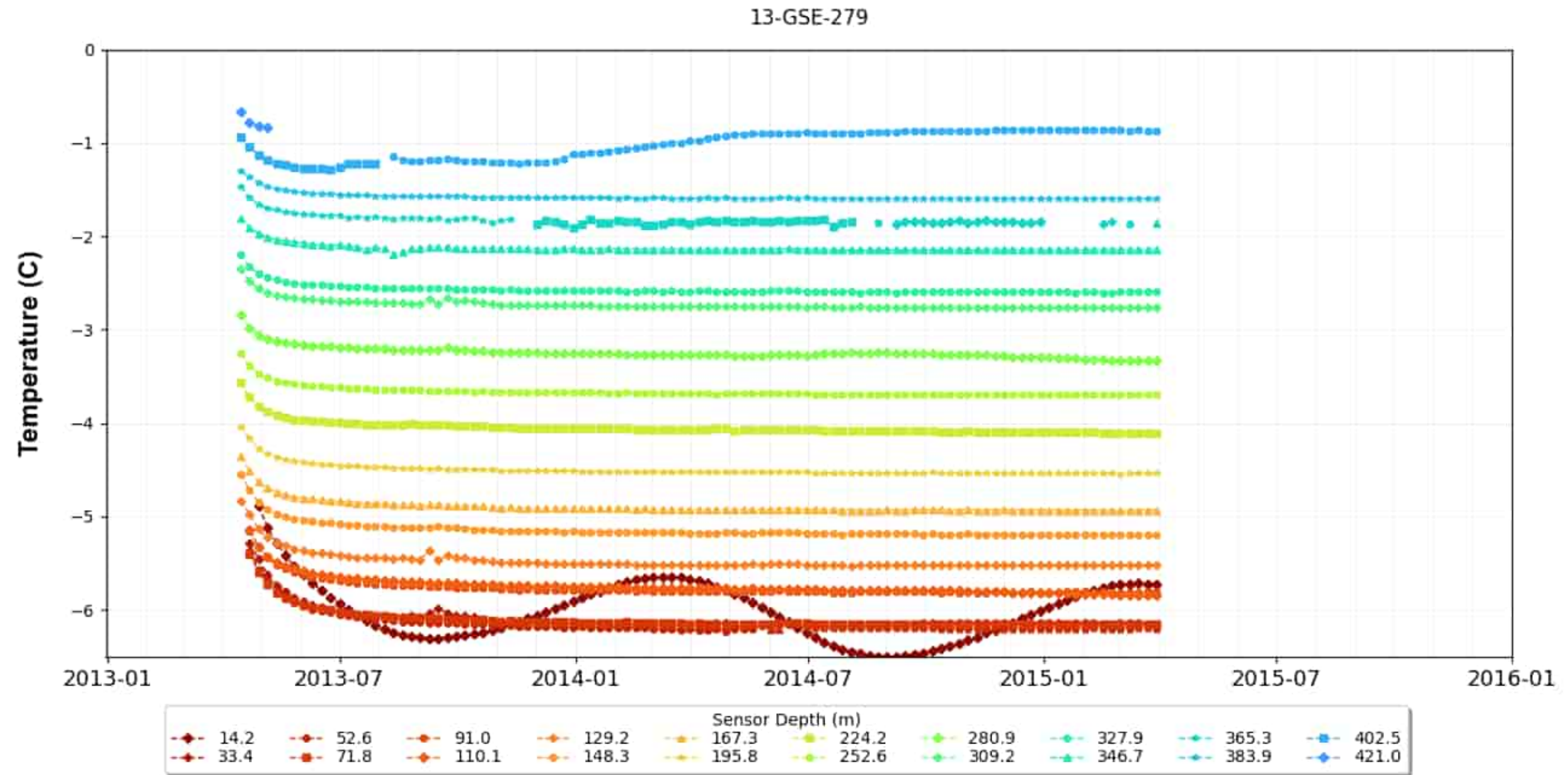


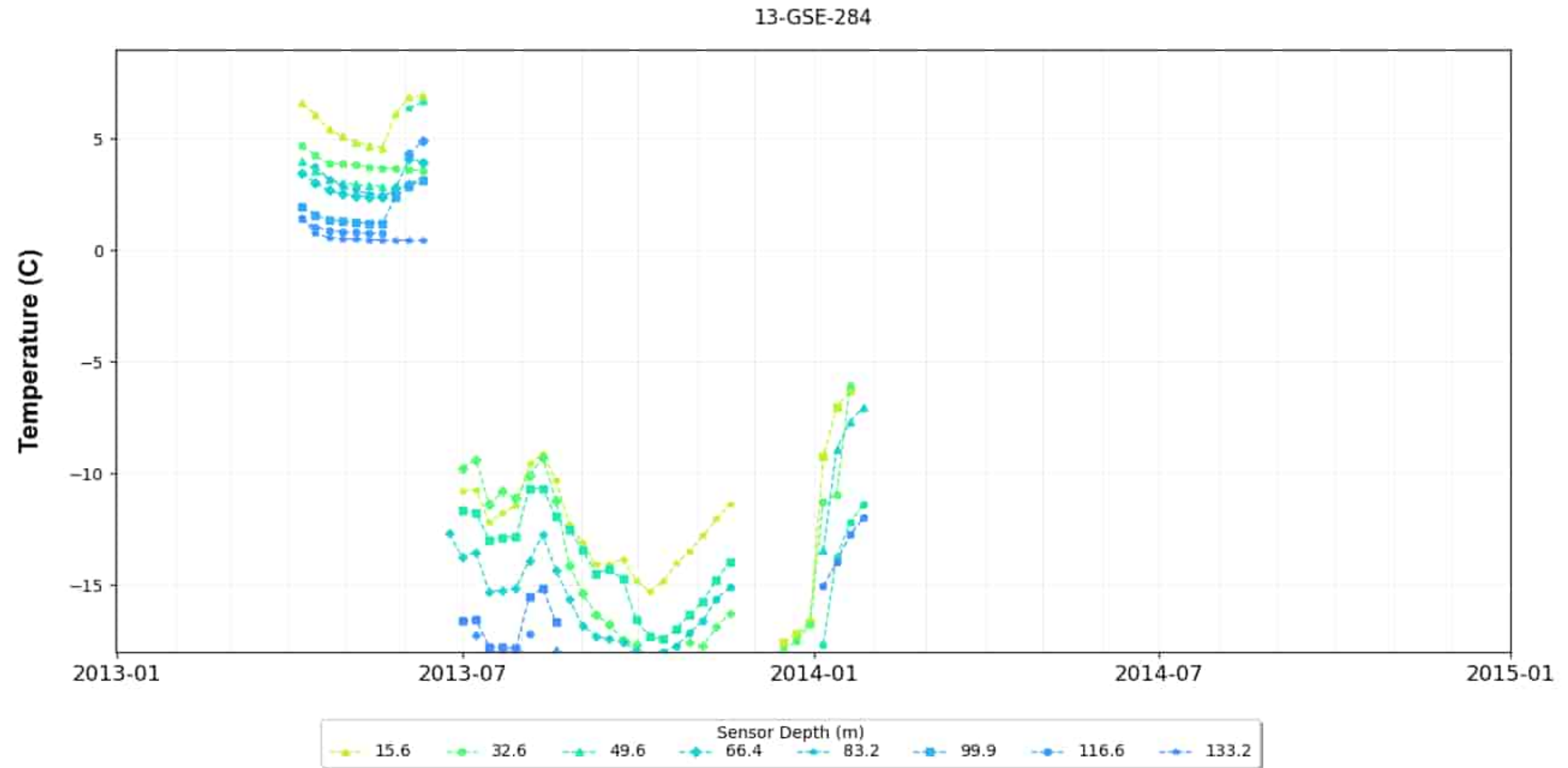


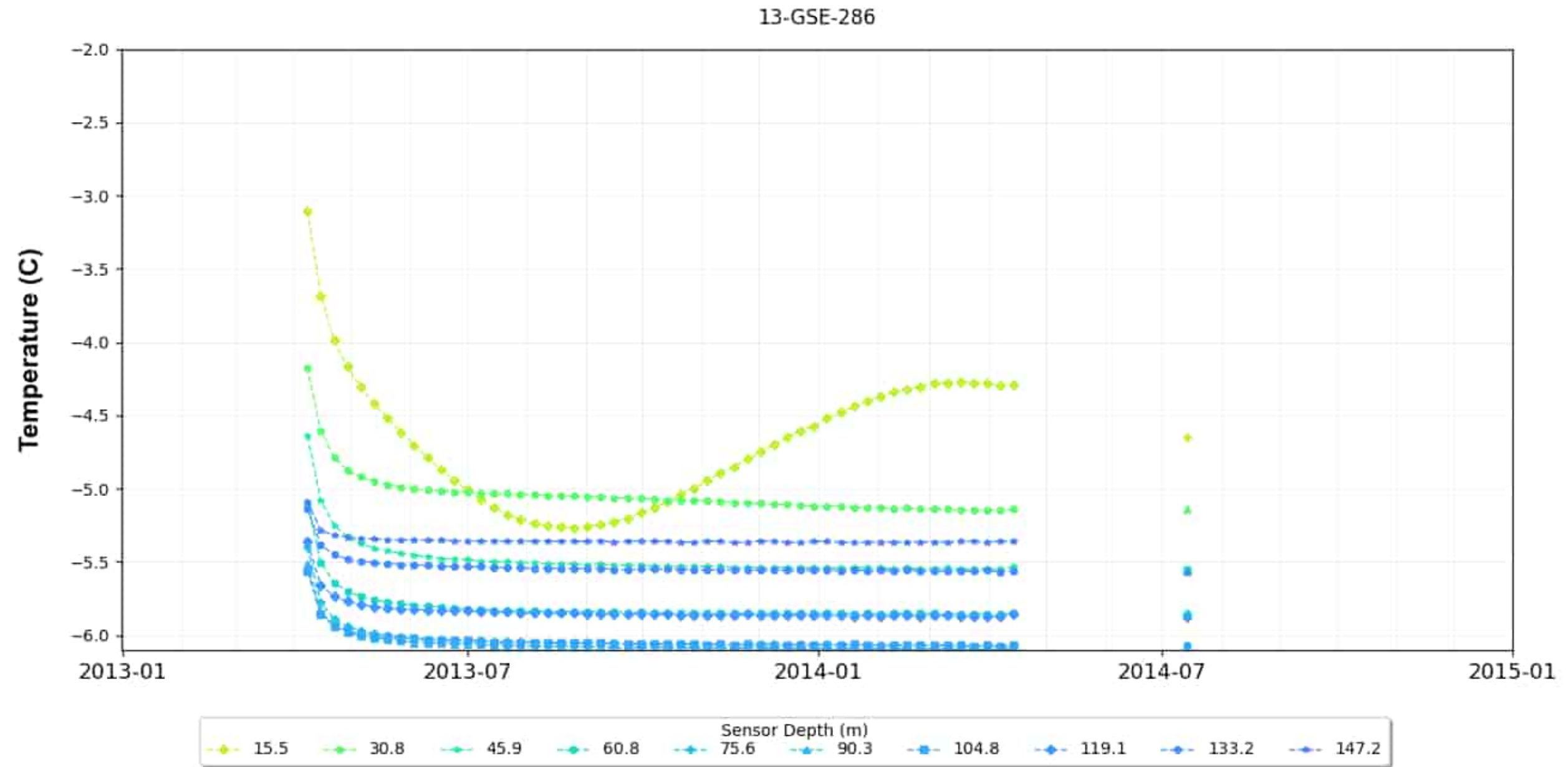


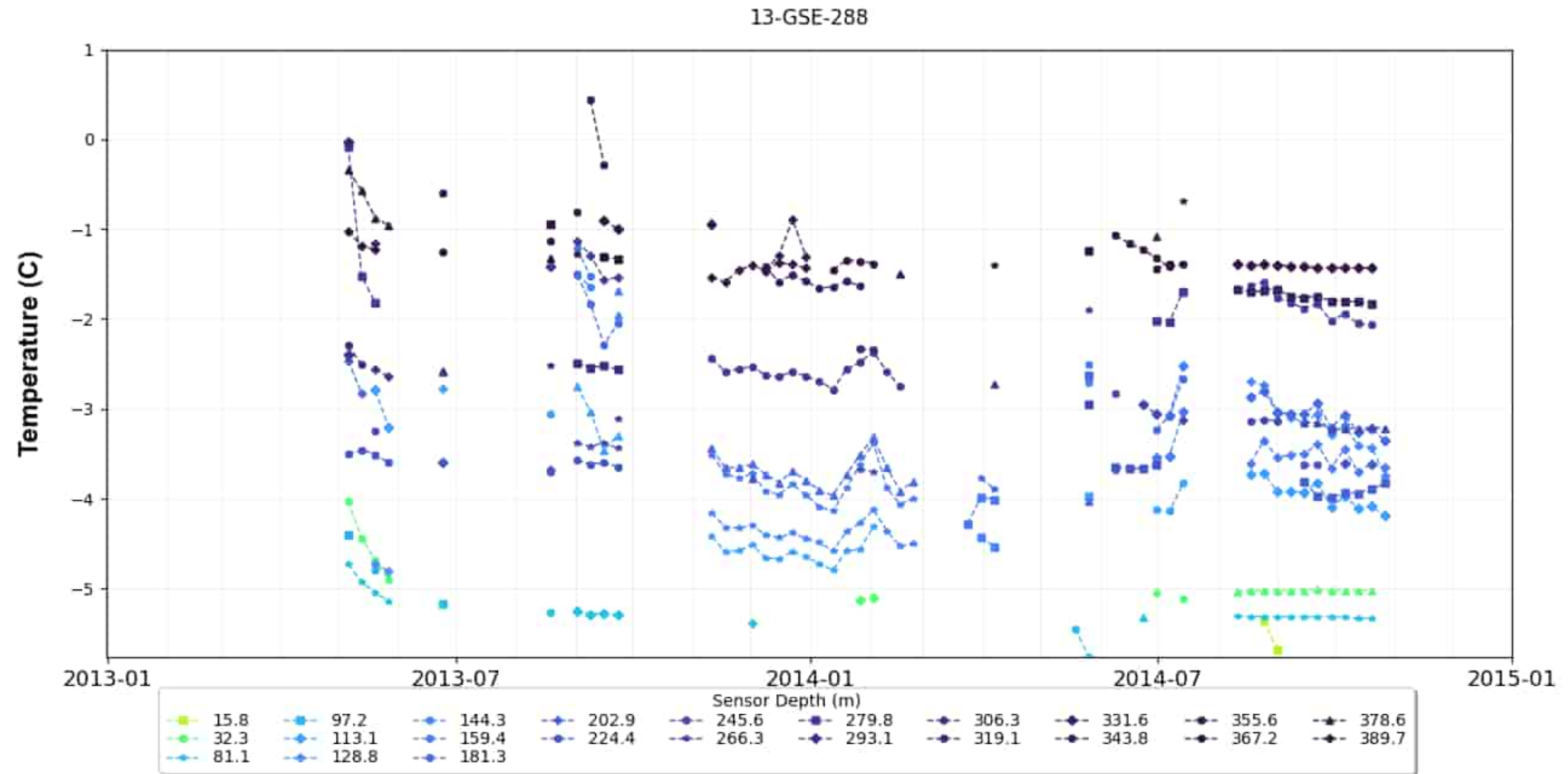


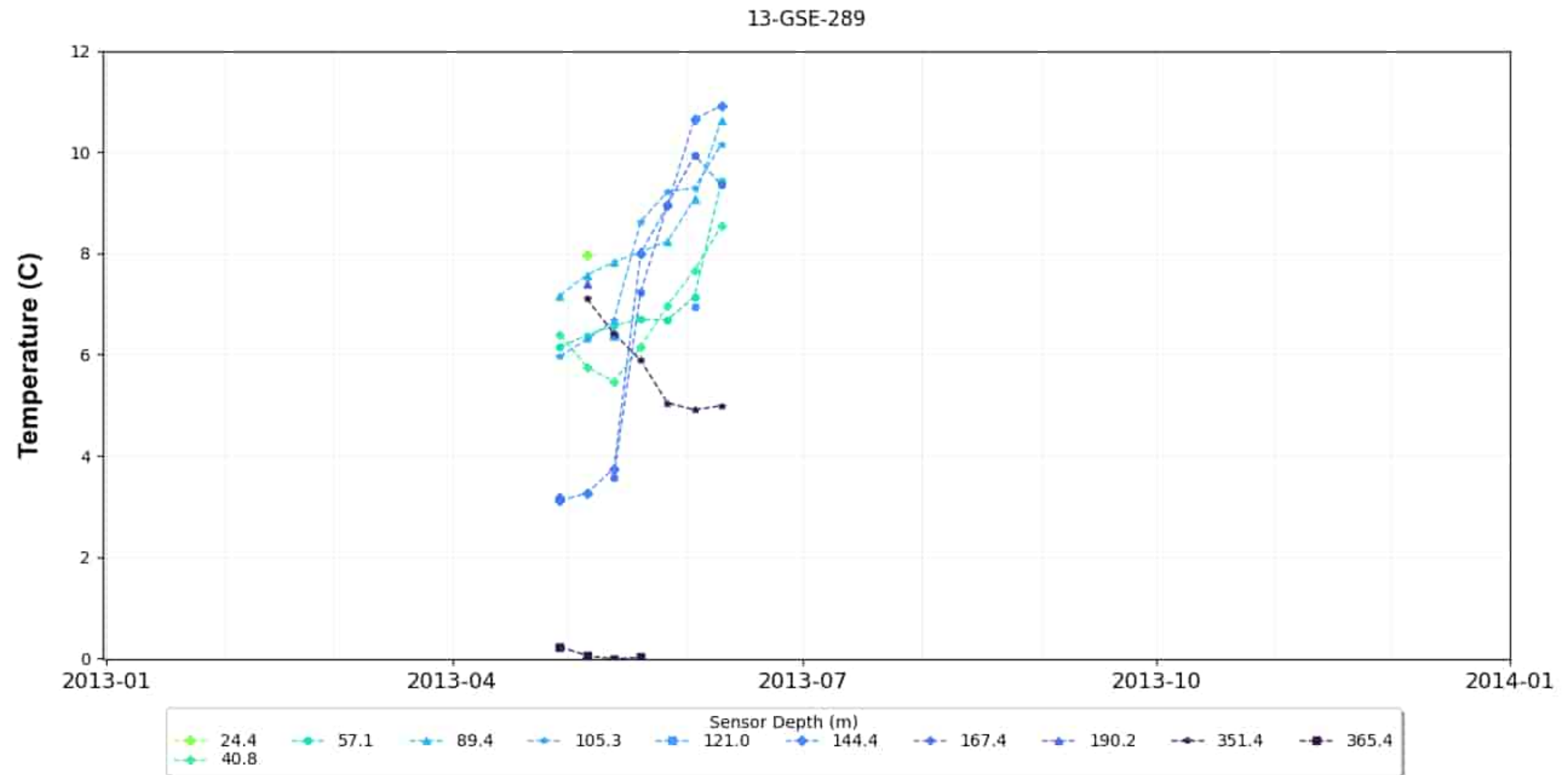


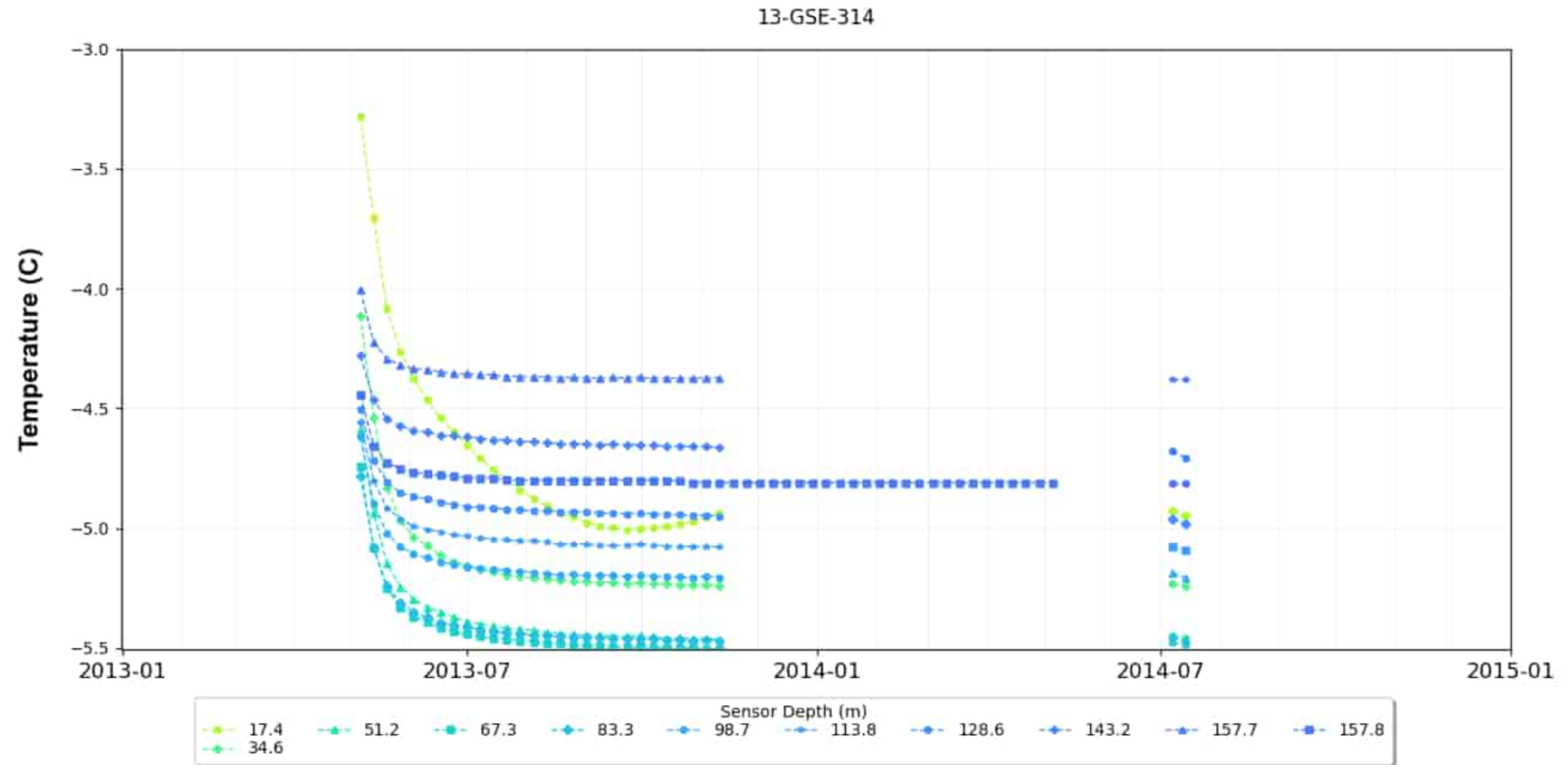












Appendix C Meteorological Station Data

