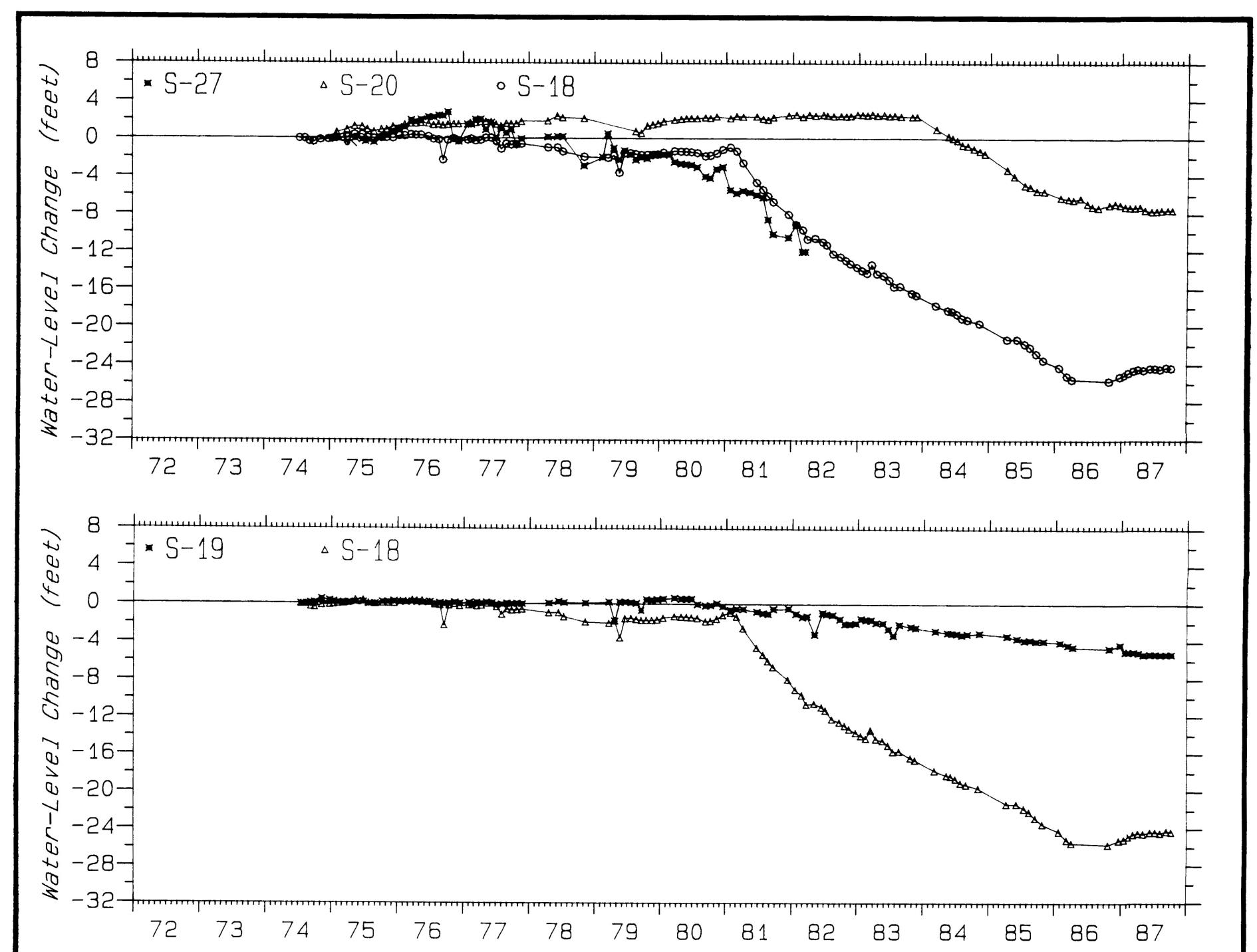
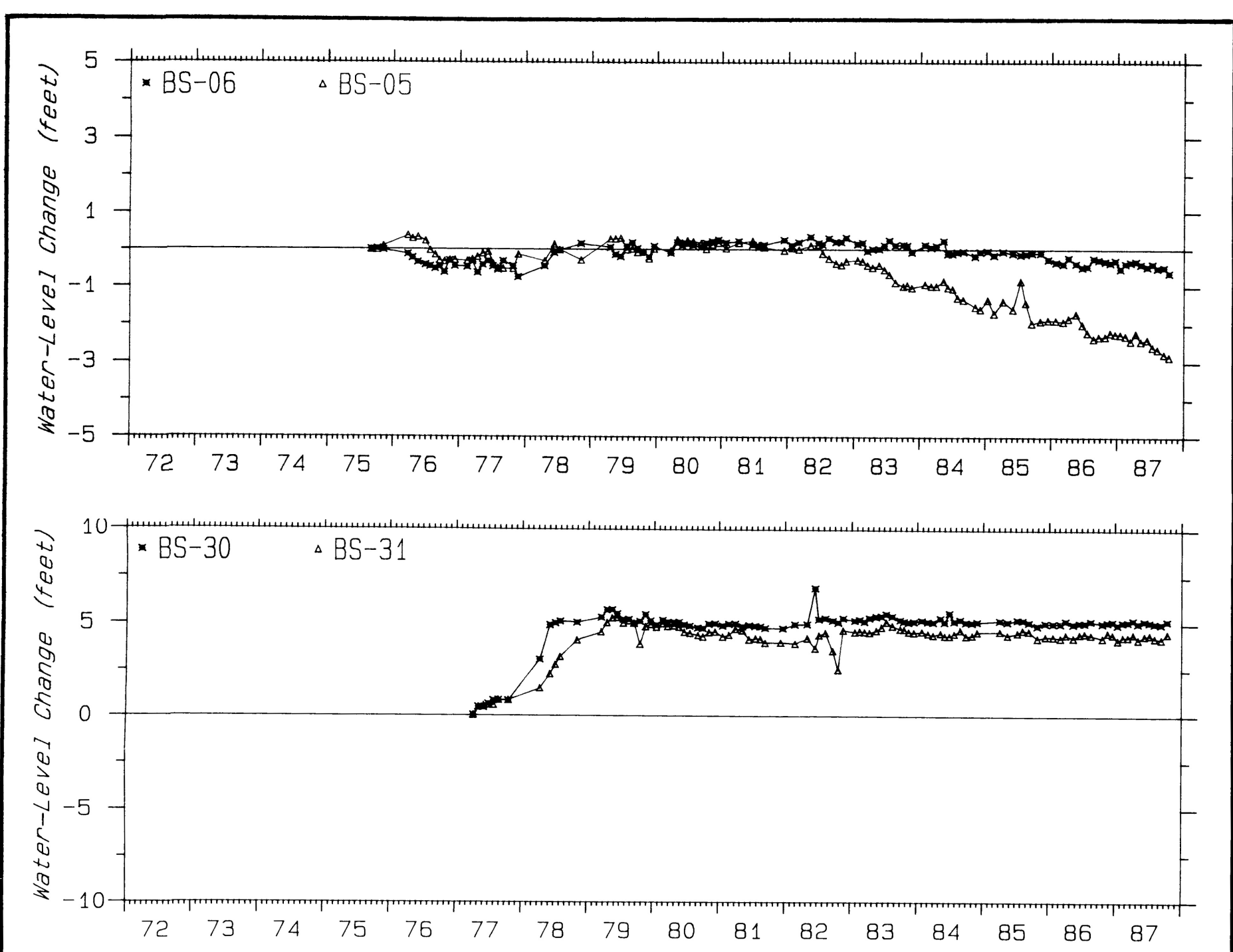


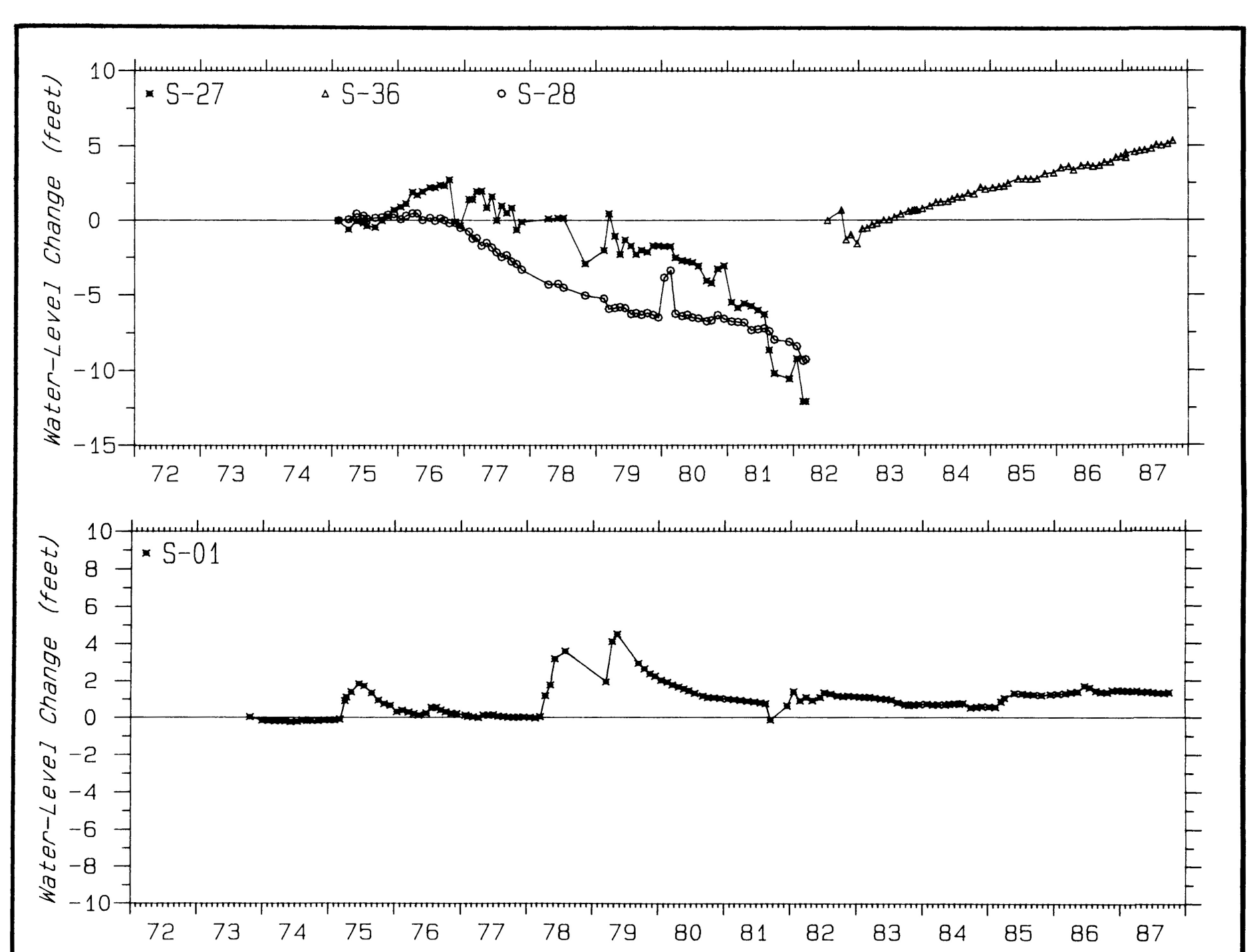
HYDROGRAPH 1 Along East Fork Armells Creek, the water table upstream (P-08) and downstream (P-11) from mining activities has not been affected, near the mines (P-05), the water table has dropped about 3 feet. The water table near the Big Sky mine (BS-14) has not significantly changed.



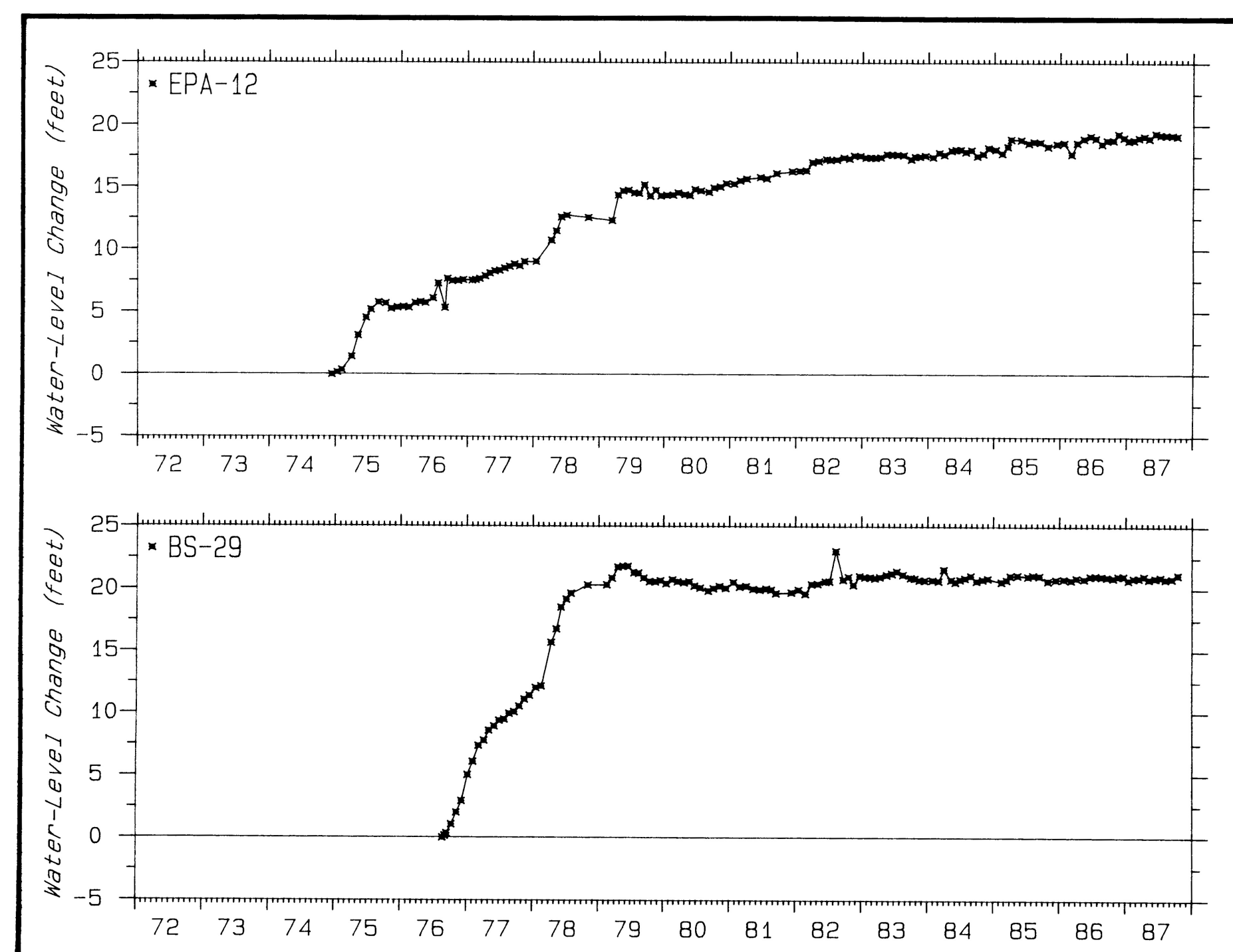
HYDROGRAPH 2 Water levels for the McKay coal bed near the Rosebud mine have declined strongly as a result of mining (S-27, S-20, and S-18), even though the McKay coal bed is not being mined. Water levels for the Rosebud coal bed being mined at the same location (S-19), have declined in lesser amounts.



HYDROGRAPH 3 At the Big Sky mine, the Rosebud and McKay beds are being mined, and water levels for both beds are declining, effects on the McKay coal bed (BS-05) are greater. Where the mine pits have been back-filled, nearby water levels in the Rosebud coal bed (BS-30, BS-31) have recovered, perhaps to pre-mining levels.



HYDROGRAPH 4 Coal-aquifer water levels in wells near the Rosebud mine declined steadily until wells were mined (S-27, S-28). After backfilling at that location, water levels in spoils began a steady recovery (S-36). Water levels in older spoils (S-01) have reached equilibrium, and respond to recharge only during optimum years.



HYDROGRAPH 5 Mine-spoils water levels have risen rapidly after backfilling at the Rosebud mine (EPA-12) and at the Big Sky mine (BS-29).

SELECTED HYDROGRAPHS OF THE COLSTRIP AREA

by
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