

**Year 4 Monitoring Report**

**FINAL**

**BAREFOOT SITE**

NCDMS Project # 100044 (Contract # 7418)  
USACE Action ID: SAW-2018-00433  
DWR Project # 2018-0235

Sampson County, North Carolina  
Neuse River Basin  
HUC 03020201



**Provided by:**



Resource Environmental Solutions, LLC  
For Environmental Banc & Exchange, LLC  
3600 Glenwood Avenue, Suite 100  
Raleigh, NC 27612

**January 2024**



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January 12, 2024

Danielle Mir  
NC DEQ Division of Mitigation Services  
217 West Jones Street  
Raleigh, NC 27604

RE: Barefoot, Project ID #100044, DMS Contract #7418

Listed below are comments provided by DMS on January, 10<sup>th</sup> 2024 regarding the Barefoot Site: Year 4 Monitoring Report and RES' responses.

**Comments:**

1. Encroachment of approximately 300-400 sq. ft observed during site visit at the northeast corner of project (35.255497, -78.391228). Please indicate what corrective action will be taken. Encroachment area has been added to CCPV and was mentioned in Section 1.7. In 2024 t-posts with easement signs will be added and horse tape will be strung up between t-posts.
2. Please continue to watch for the spread of cattails. During the site visit we observed that the cattails did not appear to be inhibiting planted stem growth in the wetland. Cattail area will continue to be monitored.
3. While in the field we saw an old tent near the forested section (35.252489, -78.394008) which will need to be removed before IRT closeout. Location of debris was added to CCPV and was mentioned in Section 1.7. The debris will be removed in 2024.

**Electronic Comments:**

1. The submission appears to be complete.  
Noted.

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## **1.0 Project Summary**

### ***1.1 Project Location and Description***

The Barefoot Project (“Project”) is located within a rural watershed in Sampson County, North Carolina approximately two miles west of Newton Grove and six miles southeast of Peacocks Crossroads. The Project lies within the Neuse River Basin, North Carolina Division of Water Resources (NCDWR) sub-basin 03-04-04 and United States Geological Survey (USGS) 8-digit hydrologic unit code (HUC) 03020201. The Project proposes to re-establish 23.23 acres of non-riparian wetlands within a 123-acre drainage area. The Project is located in the Rolling Coastal Plain level IV ecoregion within the Southeastern Plains level III ecoregion.

The Project area is comprised of a 33.29-acre easement involving a drained mineral flat wetland area, which eventually drains into Mill Creek and later the Neuse River. The wetland mitigation components are summarized in **Table 1**. The Project is located west of Warren Mill Road (SR 1647) and north of Harnett Dunn Highway (Hwy 55) and is accessible from Warren Mill Road. Coordinates for the Project areas are as follows: 35.253742, -78.392667.

The Project area is comprised of one contiguous non-riparian wetland area, that drains to Mill Creek and ultimately to the Neuse River. The total drainage area for the Project is 123 acres (0.19 mi<sup>2</sup>). Primary land use within the drainage area consists of approximately 73 percent forest and 27 percent agricultural land. Impervious area is not present in the drainage area of the Project. Within agricultural land use, row crops make up 100 percent of the area. Although the project watershed is primarily forested, the majority of the agricultural areas within the watershed are in close proximity to the Project and are drained via ditches and drain tiles, which plays a significant role in the past degradation of the Project wetlands. Historic land use within the immediate project area was primarily crop production and silviculture. These activities negatively impacted both water quality and habitat within the project area.

The primary wetland re-establishment activities included:

- The plugging and backfilling of ditches in and around the cultivated field,
- Removing/plugging all of the drain tiles within the agricultural field,
- Plugging and backfilling the ditches on two sides of the cut-over,
- Removal of spoil berms to reconnect the Project to its historical watershed,
- Creation of shallow depressional features typical of the community type, and
- Regraded areas of cut and fill along interior ditches to create a continuous wetland flat system.

The Site is to be monitored on a regular basis throughout the seven-year post-construction monitoring period, or until performance standards are met. Upon approval for closeout by the Interagency Review Team (IRT), the Site will be transferred to the NCDEQ Stewardship Program. The NCDEQ Stewardship Program will be responsible for periodic inspection of the Site to ensure that restrictions required in the Conservation Easement, or the deed restriction document(s) are upheld.

### ***1.2 Project Goals and Objectives***

The Barefoot Wetland Restoration Project was identified as a wetland restoration opportunity to improve water quality, habitat, and hydrology within the Neuse 01 River Basin. Specific, attainable goals and objectives were realized by the Project. These goals clearly address the degraded water quality and nutrient input from farming that were identified as major watershed stressors in the 2010 Neuse River RBRP (amended in 2018). The Project addresses outlined RBRP Goal 2.

The project goals are:

- Reduce sediment and nutrient input into downslope receiving streams by limited runoff and sediment into connecting ditches,
- Improve filtration of runoff in project drainage area,
- Re-establish a historical aquatic resource into a functioning non-riparian wetland, and
- Improve aquatic and terrestrial habitat.

The project goals were addressed through the following project objectives:

- Convert active row crop land to a nonriverine hardwood forest,
- Plug, fill, and stabilize existing ditches and drainage tiles,
- Treat exotic invasive species,
- Provide habitat and hydrologic connectivity to a larger wetland community, and
- Establish a permanent conservation easement on the Project.

The Project brings functional uplift, benefits, and improvements to the project area and adjacent forests. Restoration of wetland hydrology and reconnection with the supplying watershed has re-established wetlands lost to past agricultural practices, and conversion of agricultural lands has reduced sediment and nutrients contributed to downstream systems. Planting of native species and control of invasives has restored terrestrial habitat, and reconnection of the project area with the adjacent forested wetlands has provided a source of native flora and fauna for the project area.

### ***1.3 Project Success Criteria***

The success criteria for the Project follows the 2016 USACE Wilmington District Stream and Wetland Compensatory Mitigation Update and subsequent agency guidance. Vegetation plot data will be reported in Monitoring Years 0, 1, 2, 3, 5, and 7. Wetland hydrology and visual monitoring will be reported annually. Specific success criteria components are presented below.

#### ***Wetland Restoration Success Criteria***

##### Wetland Hydrology

The NRCS provides a current WETS table for Sampson County upon which to base a normal rainfall amount and average growing season. The closest comparable data station was determined to be WETS station Clinton 2 NE in Clinton NC (NRCS, n.d.). This station is located off Faison Highway near the Timberlake Golf Club approximately 17 miles south-southeast of the proposed mitigation project. The growing season for Sampson County is 254 days long, extending from March 13 to November 22, and is based on a daily minimum temperature greater than 28 degrees Fahrenheit occurring in five of ten years.

Because of the surface roughing and shallow depressions, a range of hydroperiods with areas of seasonal inundation is expected. The target hydroperiod is ten percent (approximately 26 days) for the duration of the monitoring period.

##### Digital Image Stations

The visual assessments include vegetation density, vigor, invasive species, and easement encroachments. Visual assessments of wetland success include an area walkthrough and structure and gauge inspection.

Digital images will be taken at fixed representative locations to record each monitoring event, as well as any noted problem areas or areas of concern. Results of visual monitoring will be presented in a plan view exhibit with a brief description of problem areas and digital images. A series of images over time should indicate successional maturation of wetland vegetation.

### ***Vegetation Success Criteria***

Specific and measurable success criteria for plant density within the wetland areas on the Project will follow IRT Guidance. The interim measures of vegetative success for the Project will be the survival of at least 320 planted three-year old trees per acre at the end of Year 3, five-year old trees at seven feet in height at the end of Year 5, and the final vegetative success criteria will be 210 trees per acre with an average height of ten feet at the end of Year 7. Volunteer trees will be counted, identified to species, and included in the yearly monitoring reports, and may be counted towards the success criteria of total planted stems if appropriate for the community type. Moreover, any single species can only account for up to 50 percent of the required number of stems within any vegetation plot. Any stems in excess of 50 percent will be shown in the monitoring table but will not be used to demonstrate success.

### ***1.4 Project Components***

The Project presents 23.238 acres of proposed non-riparian wetland re-establishment, generating 19.942 Wetland Mitigation Units (WMU) (**Table 1**). This is derived from the mitigation plan, which was consistent with the February 22, 2018, Post Contract IRT Meeting Minutes and IRT response emails. RES is contracted for 15.000 WMU with DMS.

<b>Wetland ID</b>	<b>Mitigation Approach</b>	<b>Acres</b>	<b>Ratio</b>	<b>Non-Riparian Wetland Mitigation Units</b>
Wetland 1	Re-establishment	16.645	1:1	16.645
Wetland 2	Re-establishment	6.593	2:1	3.297
<b>Total</b>		<b>23.238</b>		<b>19.942</b>

### ***1.5 Wetland Design/Approach***

The Barefoot Mitigation Project provides 19.94 wetland mitigation units through wetland re-establishment. The existing agricultural fields and clear-cut on the Project were re-established by restoring the hydrology, restoring vegetation in the agricultural field, and providing long-term protection. Wetland restoration design activities included: plugging the interior ditches and all ditches surrounding the agricultural fields, removing/plugging the drain tiles, removing spoil along the ditches, and limited grading of the area to reconstruct historical contours that include shallow depressions in the nearly level topography. Additionally, the ditch to the north of W1 was designed to be relocated approximately 95 feet north of the present location to allow continued use of the agricultural fields north of the Project, but to also limit drainage effect on the restored area. The field was planted with trees and a permanent seed mix. No additional plantings within the clear-cut were anticipated to be necessary. A ratio of 1:1 is used within re-established area of W1, which totals 16.64 acres. Within W2, wetland re-establishment at a ratio of 2:1 is used as hydrology is being re-established through the plugging of ditches, but existing vegetation is being left undisturbed. An additional buffer of 50 feet around the area of wetland re-establishment may achieve wetland hydrology at a lower hydroperiod. The remaining area between that and the easement edge is not expected to achieve

wetland hydrology but will act as additional buffer between the wetland area and agricultural practices outside the easement. Plan views are provided in **Figure 2** and in **Appendix D**.

### **1.6 Construction and As-Built Conditions**

Wetland construction and planting was completed in January 2020. Overall, the Barefoot Site was built to design plans and guidelines. A few minor adjustments, however, were made to the plans during construction. The ditch directly north of the easement was constructed about 45 feet closer to the easement than proposed, to ensure appropriate farm access. This makes the new ditch about 100 feet from the wetland area. A berm was added in the upland area inside the northwest corner of the easement to limit surface draining from the wetland into the new ditch. Also, the ditch directly to the east (outside of the easement) was not filled as proposed due to the discovery of drain tiles draining from the east into it and due to landowner negotiations. If there are any hydrologic effects to the wetland area it will be evident in the hydroperiods of the groundwater wells on the northern and eastern edges. Lastly, a path of forest was cleared in the southwestern portion of the easement. This was done to allow access for plugging the ditch on the southern edge of W2. This area was planted the same as W1. RES does not anticipate any changes to wetland crediting despite these minor field adjustments. As for the planting plan, a few minor adjustments were made due to tree availability. Laurel oak, sweet bay, and Atlantic white cedar were not planted, and water oak, green ash, silky dogwood, buttonbush, yellow poplar, southern crabapple, and sugarberry were planted instead. The rest of the planting plan was carried out as proposed. A redline version of the as-built survey and as-built condition drone photos included in the As-Built Report.

### **1.7 Year 4 Monitoring Performance (MY4)**

The Barefoot Year 4 Monitoring activities were performed in April, August, and November 2023. All Baseline Monitoring data is present below and in the appendices. The Site is on track to meeting vegetation and wetland interim success criteria.

#### Vegetation

Vegetation data was not required for MY4, however, MY3 data is included in this report for your reference. During MY3 monitoring of the 10 fixed vegetation plots and six random vegetation plots was completed in early August 2022. Vegetation data are in **Appendix C**, individual tree heights are in **Appendix C**, associated photos are in **Appendix B**, and plot locations are in **Appendix B**.

Visual assessment of vegetation outside of the monitoring plots indicates that the herbaceous vegetation is becoming well established throughout the project where standing water is not present. RES documented cattails onsite and continued to observe a noticeable amount of cattail mortality. The area of cattails has decreased approximately by 1.41 acres since MY3 and is now 6.02 acres (**Figure 2**). As the vegetation data shows, the cattails are not negatively affecting the planted trees and eventually the planted stems will shade out the cattails and lead to cattail mortality. Additionally, RES concludes that the cattails on the site are the native species, broadleaf cattails (*Typha latifolia*), due to the site location being in Sampson County. The invasive species of cattail, narrowleaf cattail (*Typha angustifolia*) has not been recorded in Sampson County or any other inland county in North Carolina (Vascular Plants of North Carolina, 2019 and USDA Plants, 2014). RES will continue to monitor the cattail patches in the future.

The previous encroachment area in W2 of hunting equipment and hog fencing has been removed. A pile of debris near the forested section and an encroachment area of approximately 300 feet in the northeast

corner of the project was observed during the site visit on January 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2024. The debris will be removed, and the encroachment area will have extra easement signs and horse tape installed in 2024.

### Wetland Hydrology

There are 17 groundwater wells at the Barefoot Site to monitor wetland hydrology. Eleven of the wells are in W1 and four are in W2. Two of the wells (16 & 17) do not have success criteria because they are outside of the wetland crediting area. In MY4, 10 of the 11 wells in W1 and one of the four wells in W2 met success criteria. Well hydroperiods ranged from one to 36 percent. Groundwater wells 2, 13, and 15, had a hydroperiod of between 5-9% and groundwater well 12 had a hydroperiod of <5%. Groundwater well 4, had to have the cap replaced in April of 2023 due to an animal destroying the string and caps. Therefore, the data from November of 2022 until April 2023 was compromised.

The lower hydroperiods in MY4 in wells 2, 12, 13, and 15 was due to a very low rainfall year, with five months of the growing season having below average rainfall. Johnston County has experienced abnormally dry and moderate drought conditions in 2022 and 2023 (U.S. Drought Monitor, **Appendix D**). Due to this non-riparian wetland being a mineral flat, with a ditched similar elevation landscape surrounding it, almost all of its hydrology is driven by precipitation and is more vulnerable to drought. RES expects the gauges on the periphery of the wetlands, closer to open ditches, to have lower hydroperiods as the data shows. Additionally, the well with the lowest hydroperiod, GW12, is the only well located above 194 feet elevation. Exact well locations can be found on **Figure 2** and associated data is in **Appendix D**.

### **2.0 Methods**

Vegetation success is being monitored at 10 permanent monitoring plots and six random monitoring plots. Vegetation plot monitoring follows the CVS-EEP Level 2 Protocol for Recording Vegetation, version 4.2 (Lee et al. 2008) and includes analysis of species composition and density of planted species. Data are processed using the CVS data entry tool. In the field, the four corners of each plot were permanently marked with PVC at the origin and metal conduit at the other corners. Photos of each plot are to be taken from the origin during vegetation monitoring. Additionally, the six random monitoring plots are to be surveyed, in different locations, during each vegetation monitoring event. One of the six random plots is to be in the wooded section of W2 to document the change in community after the hydrologic uplift. The random plots will be 100 square meters with varying dimensions. The species and height of the trees as well as the location of the plot will be recorded during each monitoring event.

Wetland hydrology is monitored to document groundwater levels in the wetland restoration areas (Groundwater Wells 16 and 17 are located outside of the crediting areas). This is accomplished with 17 automatic pressure transducer gauges (located in groundwater wells) that record daily groundwater levels. One automatic pressure transducer is installed above ground for use as a barometric reference. Gauges are downloaded quarterly and wetland hydroperiods are calculated during the growing season. Gauge installation followed current regulatory guidance. Visual observations of primary and secondary wetland hydrology indicators are also recorded during quarterly site visits.

### **3.0 References**

Griffith, G.E., J.M.Omernik, J.A. Comstock, M.P. Schafale, W.H.McNab, D.R.Lenat, T.F.MacPherson, J.B. Glover, and V.B. Shelburne. (2002). Ecoregions of North Carolina and South Carolina, (color Poster



with map, descriptive text, summary tables, and photographs): Reston, Virginia, U.S. Geological Survey (map scale 1:1,500,000).

Lee Michael T., Peet Robert K., Roberts Steven D., and Wentworth Thomas R., 2008. *CVS-EEP Protocol for Recording Vegetation Level*. Version 4.2

National Drought Mitigation Center at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, the United States Department of Agriculture, and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. (2023). *Percent Area in U.S. Drought Monitor*. Data Tables | U.S. Drought Monitor.

Peet, R.K., Wentworth, T.S., and White, P.S. (1998), *A flexible, multipurpose method for recording vegetation composition and structure*. *Castanea* 63:262-274

Resource Environmental Solutions (2019). Barefoot Site Final Mitigation Plan.

Schafale, M.P. 2012. Classification of the Natural Communities of North Carolina, Third Approximation. North Carolina Natural Heritage Program, Division of Parks and Recreation, NCDENR, Raleigh, NC.

USACE. (2016). Wilmington District Stream and Wetland Compensatory Mitigation Update. NC: Interagency Review Team (IRT).

Vascular Plants of North Carolina. (2019). Narrowleaf Cattail - *Typha angustifolia* L.

# **Appendix A**

## Background Tables

**Table 1. Barefoot (ID-100044) - Mitigation Assets and Components**

Project Segment	Existing Footage or Acreage	Mitigation Plan Footage or Acreage	Mitigation Category	Restoration Level	Priority Level	Mitigation Ratio (X:1)	Mitigation Plan Credits		As-Built Footage or Acreage	Comments
No Stream Mitigation										
Wetland W1	0	16.645	NR	Re-establishment		1.000	16.645		16.645	Hydrologic restoration via plugging ditches and drainage tiles, planting
Wetland W2	0	6.593	NR	Re-establishment		2.000	3.297		6.593	Hydrologic restoration via plugging ditches

**Project Credits**

Restoration Level	Stream			Riparian Wetland		Non-Rip Wetland	Coastal Marsh
	Warm	Cool	Cold	Riverine	Non-Riv		
Restoration							
Re-establishment						19.942	
Rehabilitation							
Enhancement							
Enhancement I							
Enhancement II							
Creation							
Preservation							
<b>TOTAL</b>						<b>19.942</b>	

**Table 2. Project Activity and Reporting History  
Barefoot Site (ID-100044)**

**Elapsed Time Since grading complete: 3 year 10 months**  
**Elapsed Time Since planting complete: 3 year 10 months**  
**Number of reporting Years<sup>1</sup>: 4**

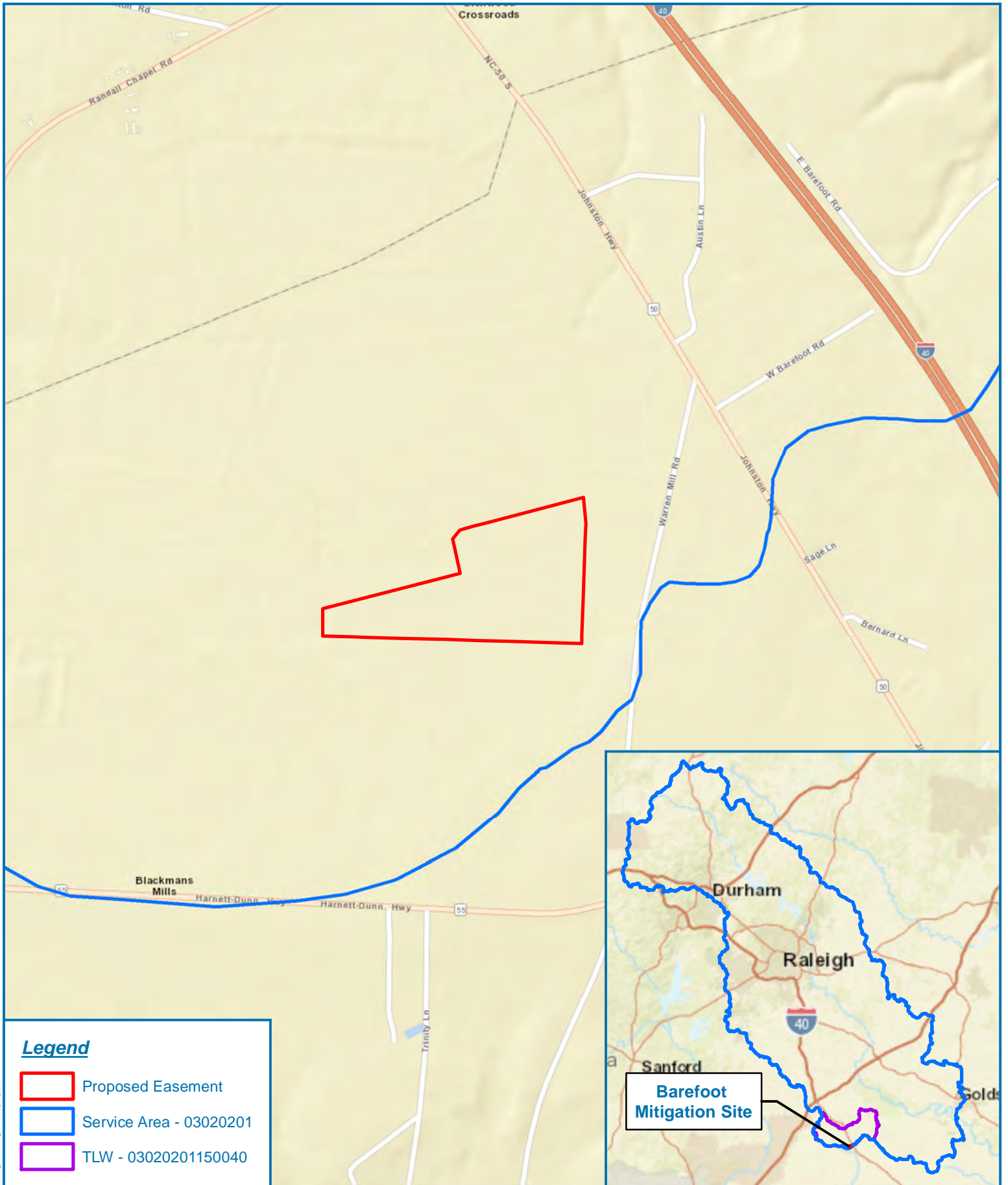
<b>Activity or Deliverable</b>	<b>Data Collection Complete</b>	<b>Completion or Delivery</b>
Restoration Plan	NA	Jul-19
Final Design – Construction Plans	NA	Nov-19
Wetland Construction	NA	Jan-20
Site Planting	NA	Jan-20
As-built (Year 0 Monitoring – baseline)	Jan-20	Apr-20
Cattail Seed Head Removal	NA	Oct-20
Year 1 Monitoring	Nov-20	Dec-20
Supplemental Planting	NA	Feb-21
Cattail Seed Head Removal	NA	Jul-21
Year 2 Monitoring	Aug-21	Nov-21
Year 3 Monitoring	Nov-22	Nov-22
Year 4 Monitoring	Nov-23	Dec-23
Year 5 Monitoring		
Year 6 Monitoring		
Year 7 Monitoring		

<sup>1</sup> = The number of reports or data points produced excluding the baseline

**Table 3. Project Contacts Table  
Barefoot (ID-100044)**

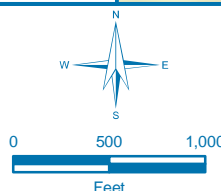
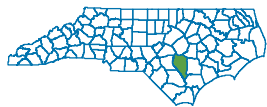
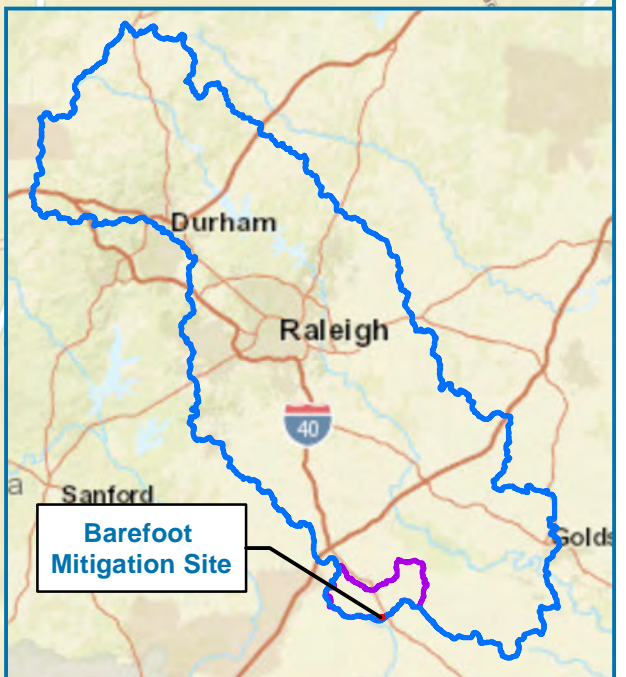
<b>Designer</b>	RES / 3600 Glenwood Ave., Suite 100, Raleigh, NC 27612
Primary project design POC	Sam Fasking
<b>Construction Contractor</b>	RES / 3600 Glenwood Ave., Suite 100, Raleigh, NC 27612
Construction contractor POC	Paul Dunn
<b>Survey Contractor</b>	Matrix East, PLLC / 906 N. Queen St., Suite A, Kinston, NC 28501
Survey contractor POC	Chris Paderick, PLS
<b>Planting Contractor</b>	H&J Forestry
Planting contractor POC	Matt Hitch
<b>Seeding Contractor</b>	RES / 3600 Glenwood Ave., Suite 100, Raleigh, NC 27612
Contractor point of contact	Paul Dunn
<b>Seed Mix Sources</b>	Green Resource
<b>Nursery Stock Suppliers</b>	Arborgen
<b>Monitoring Performers</b>	RES / 3600 Glenwood Ave., Suite 100, Raleigh, NC 27612
Wetland Monitoring POC	Ryan Medic (919) 741-6268 & Hannah Gadai (704) 516-5170
Vegetation Monitoring POC	

Table 4. Project Background Information				
Project Name		Barefoot		
County		Sampson		
Project Area (acres)		32.29		
Project Coordinates (latitude and longitude)		Latitude: 35.4754 N Longitude: -78.3117 W		
Planted Acreage (Acres of Woody Stems Planted)		22.94		
Project Watershed Summary Information				
Physiographic Province		Coastal Plain		
River Basin		Neuse		
USGS Hydrologic Unit 8-digit	03020201	USGS Hydrologic Unit 14-digit	03020201150040	
DWR Sub-basin		03-04-04		
Project Drainage Area (Acres and Square Miles)		123 ac (0.19 sqmi)		
Project Drainage Area Percentage of Impervious Area		0%		
CGIA Land Use Classification		Forest (73%) Agriculture (27%)		
Wetland Summary Information				
Parameters		Wetland 1	Wetland 2	
Size of Wetland (acres)		16.64	6.59	
Wetland Type (non-riparian, riparian riverine or riparian non-riverine)		non-riparian	non-riparian	
Mapped Soil Series		Rains/Foreston	Rains	
Drainage class		Poor	Poor	
Soil Hydric Status		Hydric/Nonhydric	Hydric	
Source of Hydrology		Groundwater	Groundwater	
Restoration or enhancement method (hydrologic, vegetative etc.)		Hydrologic & vegetative restoration	Hydrologic restoration	
Regulatory Considerations				
Parameters		Applicable?	Resolved?	Supporting Docs?
Water of the United States - Section 404		Yes	Yes	SAW-2018-00433
Water of the United States - Section 401		No	N/A	N/A
Endangered Species Act		Yes	Yes	USFWS (Corr. Letter)
Historic Preservation Act		Yes	Yes	SHPO (Corr. Letter)
Coastal Zone Management Act (CZMA or CAMA)		No	N/A	N/A
FEMA Floodplain Compliance		No	N/A	N/A
Essential Fisheries Habitat		No	N/A	N/A



**Legend**

- Proposed Easement
- Service Area - 03020201
- TLW - 03020201150040



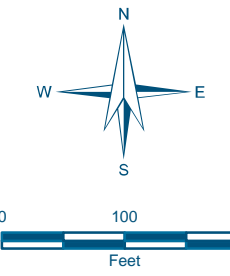
**Figure 1 - Vicinity Map**  
**Barefoot Mitigation Site**  
 Sampson County, North Carolina

Date: 2/27/2019
Drawn by: SCF
Checked by: JRM
1 inch = 1,000 feet



**Appendix B**  
Visual Assessment  
Data





**Figure 2**  
Current Conditions Plan View

MY4 2023

Barefoot  
Mitigation Site

Sampson County, NC

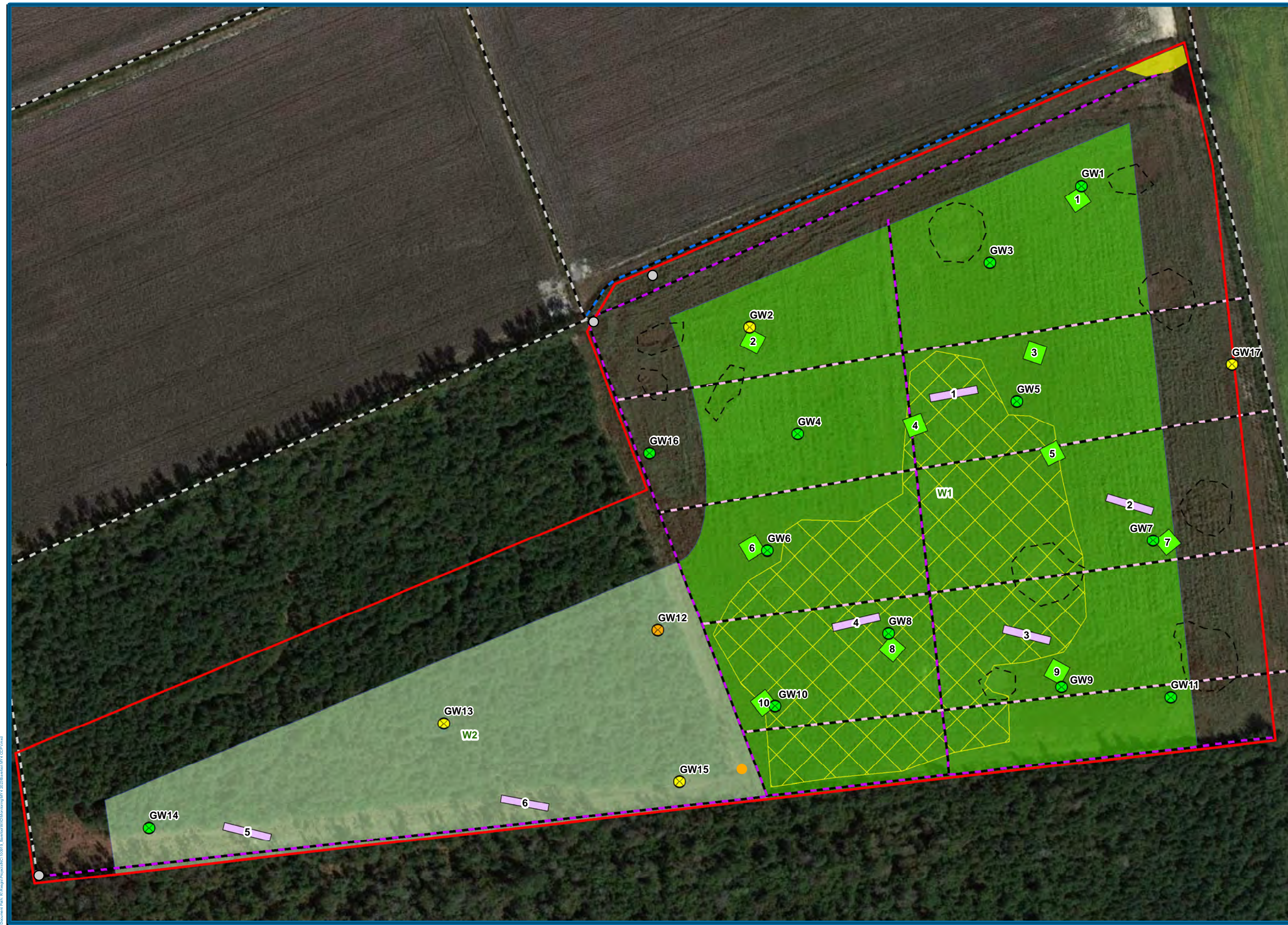
Date: 1/12/2024	Drawn by: HRG
Lat: 35.255825	Long: -78.390648

**LEGEND**

- Conservation Easement
- Encroachment Area
- MY3 Random Veg Plot >320 stems/ac
- MY3 Fixed Veg Plot >320 Stems/ac
- Cattail Area 2023 (6.02 Acres)
- Shallow Depression
- Wetland Treatment
- Re-establishment (1:1)
- Re-establishment (2:1)
- Constructed Ditch
- Filled Ditch
- Plugged Drain Tile
- No Treatment
- Debris
- Flow Attenuation Structure
- MY4 Hydroperiod
  - <5%
  - 5-9%
  - >10%

**Vegetation Condition Assessment**

Invasive Species	Target Community		
	Present	Marginal	Absent
Absent	No Fill		
Present			



Document Path: R:\Barefoot\Mitigation\MY4\_2023\Barefoot\_Mitigation\_MY4\_2023\Barefoot\_Mitigation\_MY4\_2023.dwg

**Table 5**

**Vegetation Condition Assessment**

**Date Assessed:** Nov 2022

**Planted Acreage<sup>1</sup>**

**22.94**

Vegetation Category	Definitions	Mapping Threshold	CCPV Depiction	Number of Polygons	Combined Acreage	% of Planted Acreage
1. Bare Areas		0.1 acres	Red Simple Hatch	0	0.00	0.0%
2. Low Stem Density Areas	Woody stem densities clearly below target levels based on MY3, 4, or 5 stem count criteria.	0.1 acres	Orange Simple Hatch	0	0.00	0.0%
<b>Total</b>						0.0%
3. Areas of Poor Growth Rates or Vigor	Areas with woody stems of a size class that are obviously small given the monitoring year.	0.25 acres	Orange Simple Hatch	0	0.00	0.0%
<b>Cumulative Total</b>						0.0%

**Easement Acreage<sup>2</sup>**

**14**

Vegetation Category	Definitions	Mapping Threshold	CCPV Depiction	Number of Polygons	Combined Acreage	% of Easement Acreage
4. Invasive Areas of Concern <sup>4</sup>	Areas or points (if too small to render as polygons at map scale).	1000 SF	Yellow Crosshatch	0	0.00	0.0%
5. Easement Encroachment Areas <sup>3</sup>	Areas or points (if too small to render as polygons at map scale).	none	Red Simple Hatch	0	0.00	0.0%

**1** = Enter the planted acreage within the easement. This number is calculated as the easement acreage minus any existing mature tree stands that were not subject to supplemental planting of the understory, the channel acreage, crossings or any other elements not directly planted as part of the project effort.

**2** = The acreage within the easement boundaries.

**3** = Encroachment may occur within or outside of planted areas and will therefore be calculated against the overall easement acreage. In the event a polygon is cataloged into items 1, 2 or 3 in the table and is the result of encroachment, the associated acreage should be tallied in the relevant item (i.e., item 1,2 or 3) as well as a parallel tally in item 5.

**4** = Invasives may occur in or out of planted areas, but still within the easement and will therefore be calculated against the overall easement acreage. Invasives of concern/interest are listed below. The list of high concern species are those with the potential to directly outcompete native, young, woody stems in the short-term (e.g. monitoring period or shortly thereafter) or affect the community structure for existing, more established tree/shrub stands over timeframes that are slightly longer (e.g. 1-2 decades). The low/moderate concern group are those species that generally do not have this capacity over the timeframes discussed and therefore are not expected to be mapped with regularity, but can be mapped, if in the judgement of the observer their coverage, density or distribution is suppressing the viability, density, or growth of planted woody stems. Decisions as to whether remediation will be needed are based on the integration of risk factors by EEP such as species present, their coverage, distribution relative to native biomass, and the practicality of treatment. For example, even modest amounts of Kudzu or Japanese Knotweed early in the projects history will warrant control, but potentially large coverages of Microstegium in the herb layer will not likely trigger control because of the limited capacities to impact tree/shrub layers within the timeframes discussed and the potential impacts of treating extensive amounts of ground cover. Those species with the "watch list" designator in gray shade are of interest as well, but have yet to be observed across the state with any frequency. Those in *red italics* are of particular interest given their extreme risk/threat level for mapping as points where isolated specimens are found, particularly early in a projects monitoring history. However, areas of discreet, dense patches will of course be mapped as polygons. The symbology scheme below was one that was found to be helpful for symbolizing invasives polygons, particularly for situations where the condition for an area is somewhere between isolated specimens and dense, discreet patches. In any case, the point or polygon/area feature can be symbolized to describe things like high or low concern and species can be listed as a map inset, in legend items if the number of species are limited or in the narrative section of the executive summary.

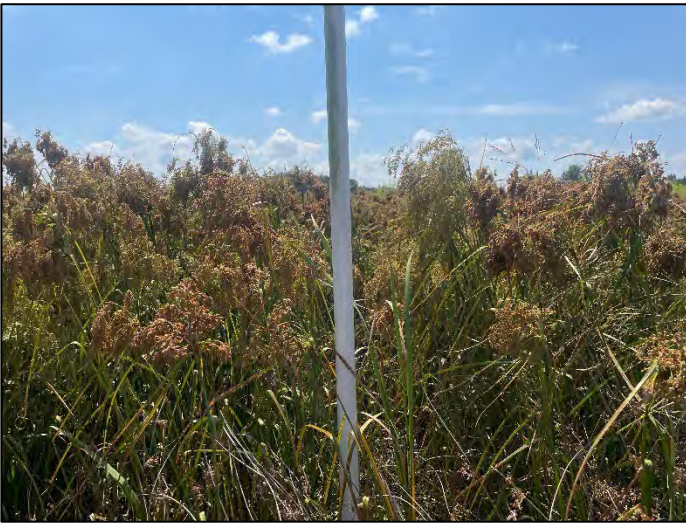
**Barefoot MY3 Fixed Vegetation Monitoring Plot Photos**



Vegetation Plot 1 (08/04/22)



Vegetation Plot 2 (08/04/22)



Vegetation Plot 3 (08/04/22)



Vegetation Plot 4 (08/04/22)



Vegetation Plot 5 (08/04/22)



Vegetation Plot 6 (08/04/22)



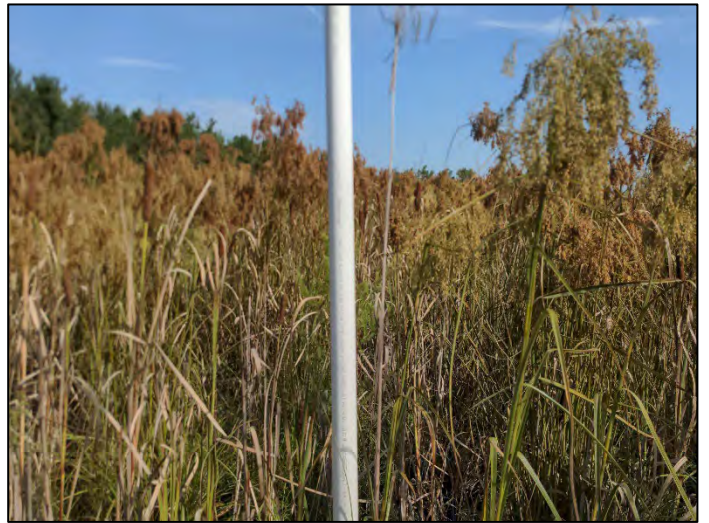
Vegetation Plot 7 (08/04/22)



Vegetation Plot 8 (08/04/22)



Vegetation Plot 9 (08/04/22)



Vegetation Plot 10 (08/04/22)

## Barefoot MY2 Random Vegetation Monitoring Plot Photos



Random Vegetation Plot 1 (08/04/22)



Random Vegetation Plot 2 (08/04/22)



Random Vegetation Plot 3 (08/04/22)



Random Vegetation Plot 4 (08/04/22)



Random Vegetation Plot 5 (08/04/22)



Random Vegetation Plot 6 (08/04/22)

## Barefoot MY4 General Site Photos



Shallow Depression (08/15/23)



Site Overview (08/15/23)



Healthy Trees (08/15/23)



Vegetation (11/16/23)

**Barefoot MY4 Groundwater Well Photos**



**Groundwater Well 1 (08/15/23)**



**Groundwater Well 2 (08/15/23)**



**Groundwater Well 3 (08/15/23)**



**Groundwater Well 4 (08/15/23)**



**Groundwater Well 5 (08/15/23)**



**Groundwater Well 6 (08/15/23)**



Groundwater Well 7 (08/15/23)



Groundwater Well 8 (08/15/23)



Groundwater Well 9 (08/15/23)



Groundwater Well 10 (08/15/23)



Groundwater Well 11 (08/15/23)



Groundwater Well 12 (08/15/23)





Groundwater Well 13 (08/15/23)



Groundwater Well 14 (08/15/23)



Groundwater Well 15 (08/15/23)



Groundwater Well 16 (08/15/23)



Groundwater Well 17 (08/15/23)

**Appendix C**  
Vegetation Plot  
Data

**Table 6. Planted Species Summary**

Common Name	Scientific Name	Total Stems Planted
Swamp Chestnut Oak	<i>Quercus michauxii</i>	6,000
Baldcypress	<i>Taxodium distichum</i>	5,000
Wax Myrtle	<i>Morella cerifera</i>	4,320
Willow Oak	<i>Quercus phellos</i>	4,000
Cherrybark Oak	<i>Quercus pagoda</i>	3,000
Water Oak	<i>Quercus nigra</i>	2,500
Green Ash	<i>Fraxinus pennsylvanica</i>	2,400
Silky Dogwood	<i>Cornus amomum</i>	2,000
Buttonbush	<i>Cephalanthus occidentalis</i>	2,000
Yellow Poplar	<i>Liriodendron tulipifera</i>	1,000
Southern Crab Apple	<i>Malus angustifolia</i>	800
Sugarberry	<i>Celtis laevigata</i>	350
Blackgum	<i>Nyssa sylvatica</i>	40
<b>Total</b>		33,410
Planted Area		22.94
As-built Planted Stems/Acre		1,456

**Table 7. Vegetation Plot Mitigation Success Summary**

Plot #	Planted Stems/Acre	Volunteer Stems/Acre	Total Stems/Acre	Success Criteria Met?	Avg Stem Height (ft)
1	1093	0	1093	Yes	3.3
2	769	526	1295	Yes	5.2
3	931	162	1093	Yes	5.1
4	850	81	931	Yes	3.3
5	567	162	728	Yes	4.1
6	1052	243	1295	Yes	2.2
7	850	121	971	Yes	3.0
8	607	0	607	Yes	4.4
9	728	121	850	Yes	4.2
10	769	0	769	Yes	4.3
R1	971	0	971	Yes	5.0
R2	607	0	607	Yes	3.8
R3	1133	0	1133	Yes	3.8
R4	647	0	647	Yes	5.0
R5	607	0	607	Yes	2.2
R6*	3197	0	3197	Yes	24.4
<b>Project Avg</b>	<b>812</b>	<b>142</b>	<b>906</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>3.9</b>

\*Random Plot 6 is forested and is not included in the Project Average

Table 8. Stem Count Total and Planted by Plot Species

Scientific Name	Common Name	Species Type	Current Plot Data (MY3 2022)																															
			100044-01-0001			100044-01-0002			100044-01-0003			100044-01-0004			100044-01-0005			100044-01-0006			100044-01-0007			100044-01-0008			100044-01-0009			100044-01-0010				
			PnoLS	P-all	T	PnoLS	P-all	T	PnoLS	P-all	T	PnoLS	P-all	T	PnoLS	P-all	T	PnoLS	P-all	T	PnoLS	P-all	T	PnoLS	P-all	T	PnoLS	P-all	T	PnoLS	P-all	T		
Acer rubrum	red maple	Tree												1															1					
Celtis laevigata	sugarberry	Tree	4	4	4																													
Cephalanthus occidentalis	common buttonbush	Shrub							5	5	5				1	1	1	2	2	2											1	1	1	
Cornus amomum	silky dogwood	Shrub				4	4	4										3	3	3												3	3	3
Fraxinus pennsylvanica	green ash	Tree				2	2	2	5	5	6	12	12	12	6	6	6																	
Liquidambar styraciflua	sweetgum	Tree																															1	
Liriodendron tulipifera	tuliptree	Tree																																
Malus angustifolia	southern crabapple	Tree	2	2	2																													
Morella cerifera	wax myrtle	shrub	1	1	1										1	4	4	4	2	2	2													
Quercus	oak	Tree																																
Quercus michauxii	swamp chestnut oak	Tree	9	9	9	1	1	1										14	14	14	3	3	5											
Quercus nigra	water oak	Tree				1	1	1				1	1	1				1	1	1														
Quercus pagoda	cherrybark oak	Tree	1	1	1																													
Quercus phellos	willow oak	Tree	10	10	10																													
Salix nigra	black willow	Tree																																
Taxodium distichum	bald cypress	Tree				11	11	11	13	13	13	8	8	8	3	3	3																	
<b>Stem count</b>			27	27	27	19	19	32	23	23	27	21	21	23	14	14	18	26	26	32	21	21	24	15	15	15	18	18	21	19	19	19		
<b>size (ares)</b>			1			1			1			1			1			1			1			1			1			1				
<b>size (ACRES)</b>			0.02			0.02			0.02			0.02			0.02			0.02			0.02			0.02			0.02			0.02				
<b>Species count</b>			6	6	6	5	5	6	3	3	4	3	3	5	4	4	5	7	7	7	4	4	4	2	2	2	2	2	4	2	2	2		
<b>Stems per ACRE</b>			1093	1093	1093	769	769	1295	931	931	1093	850	850	931	567	567	728	1052	1052	1295	850	850	971	607	607	607	728	728	850	769	769	769		

Scientific Name	Common Name	Species Type	Current Plot Data (MY3 2022)															Annual Means																
			R1			R2			R3			R4			R5			MY3 (2022)			MY2 (2021)			MY1 (2020)			MY0 (2020)							
			PnoLS	P-all	T	PnoLS	P-all	T	PnoLS	P-all	T	PnoLS	P-all	T	PnoLS	P-all	T	PnoLS	P-all	T	PnoLS	P-all	T	PnoLS	P-all	T	PnoLS	P-all	T	PnoLS	P-all	T		
Acer rubrum	red maple	Tree																																
Celtis laevigata	sugarberry	Tree																																
Cephalanthus occidentalis	common buttonbush	Shrub	5	5	5				3	3	3	6	6	6	4	4	4	32	14	14	14	14	14	14	14	14	14	8	8	8				
Cornus amomum	silky dogwood	Shrub							2	2	2	1	1	1				13	10	10	11	11	11	15	15	15	24	24	24					
Fraxinus pennsylvanica	green ash	Tree	4	4	4				11	11	11							40	25	26	26	26	26	27	27	27	33	33	33					
Liquidambar styraciflua	sweetgum	Tree																																
Liriodendron tulipifera	tuliptree	Tree																																
Malus angustifolia	southern crabapple	Tree																																
Morella cerifera	wax myrtle	shrub							2	2	2																							
Quercus	oak	Tree																																
Quercus michauxii	swamp chestnut oak	Tree							2	2	2																							
Quercus nigra	water oak	Tree																																
Quercus pagoda	cherrybark oak	Tree							2	2	2																							
Quercus phellos	willow oak	Tree	4	4	4				9	9	9	1	1	1																				
Salix nigra	black willow	Tree																																
Taxodium distichum	bald cypress	Tree																																
<b>Stem count</b>			24	24	24	15	15	15	28	28	28	16	16	16	15	15	15	301	203	238	215	215	251	253	253	253	299	299	299					
<b>size (ares)</b>			1			1			1			1			1			15			10			10			10			10				
<b>size (ACRES)</b>			0.02			0.02			0.02			0.02			0.02			0.37			0.25			0.25			0.25			0.25				
<b>Species count</b>			4	4	4	4	4	4	5	5	5	4	4	4	2	2	2	13	13	15	12	12	14	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	
<b>Stems per ACRE</b>			971	971	971	607	607	607	1133	1133	1133	647	647	647	607	607	607	812	548	642	870	870	1016	1024	1024	1024	1210	1210	1210					

Table 9. Random Vegetation Plot 6 Data

Random Plot 6		
#	Species	Height (cm)
1	<i>Cyrilla racemiflora</i>	600
2	<i>Quercus michauxii</i>	140
3	<i>Cyrilla racemiflora</i>	650
4	<i>Liquidambar styraciflua</i>	800
5	<i>Pinus taeda</i>	500
6	<i>Pinus taeda</i>	600
7	<i>Pinus taeda</i>	400
8	<i>Pinus taeda</i>	550
9	<i>Pinus taeda</i>	750
10	<i>Pinus taeda</i>	700
11	<i>Pinus taeda</i>	700
12	<i>Pinus taeda</i>	600
13	<i>Pinus taeda</i>	400
14	<i>Pinus taeda</i>	400
15	<i>Pinus taeda</i>	450
16	<i>Quercus michauxii</i>	300
17	<i>Cyrilla racemiflora</i>	300
18	<i>Quercus michauxii</i>	150
19	<i>Acer rubrum</i>	200
20	<i>Liquidambar styraciflua</i>	700
21	<i>Pinus taeda</i>	900
22	<i>Pinus taeda</i>	800
23	<i>Pinus taeda</i>	850
24	<i>Pinus taeda</i>	850
25	<i>Pinus taeda</i>	900
26	<i>Pinus taeda</i>	900
27	<i>Pinus taeda</i>	700
28	<i>Pinus taeda</i>	750
29	<i>Pinus taeda</i>	750
30	<i>Pinus taeda</i>	700
31	<i>Ilex opaca</i>	50
32	<i>Ilex opaca</i>	50
33	<i>Ilex opaca</i>	100
34	<i>Acer rubrum</i>	1000
35	<i>Acer rubrum</i>	1200
36	<i>Cyrilla racemiflora</i>	150
37	<i>Ilex opaca</i>	50
38	<i>Acer rubrum</i>	1000
39	<i>Acer rubrum</i>	700

Random Plot 6		
#	Species	Height (cm)
40	<i>Cyrilla racemiflora</i>	300
41	<i>Liquidambar styraciflua</i>	300
42	<i>Nyssa sylvatica</i>	1000
43	<i>Acer rubrum</i>	400
44	<i>Pinus taeda</i>	500
45	<i>Liquidambar styraciflua</i>	800
46	<i>Ilex opaca</i>	100
47	<i>Acer rubrum</i>	1500
48	<i>Acer rubrum</i>	1000
49	<i>Clethra alnifolia</i>	300
50	<i>Clethra alnifolia</i>	40
51	<i>Clethra alnifolia</i>	50
52	<i>Pinus taeda</i>	1000
53	<i>Pinus taeda</i>	12000
54	<i>Pinus taeda</i>	2000
55	<i>Pinus taeda</i>	800
56	<i>Pinus taeda</i>	700
57	<i>Pinus taeda</i>	800
58	<i>Pinus taeda</i>	800
59	<i>Pinus taeda</i>	900
60	<i>Pinus taeda</i>	150
61	<i>Pinus taeda</i>	900
62	<i>Magnolia virginiana</i>	600
63	<i>Pinus taeda</i>	1500
64	<i>Liquidambar styraciflua</i>	200
65	<i>Acer rubrum</i>	100
66	<i>Quercus michauxii</i>	50
67	<i>Pinus taeda</i>	1000
68	<i>Pinus taeda</i>	700
69	<i>Pinus taeda</i>	900
70	<i>Pinus taeda</i>	800
71	<i>Pinus taeda</i>	950
72	<i>Pinus taeda</i>	600
73	<i>Pinus taeda</i>	500
74	<i>Pinus taeda</i>	500
75	<i>Pinus taeda</i>	600
76	<i>Pinus taeda</i>	400
77	<i>Pinus taeda</i>	400
78	<i>Cyrilla racemiflora</i>	300
79	<i>Acer rubrum</i>	120
<b>Stems/Acre</b>		3197
<b>Average Height (cm)</b>		745
<b>Average Height (ft)</b>		24.4
<b>Plot Size (m)</b>		25 x 4

# **Appendix D**

## Hydrology Data

**Table 10A. Rainfall Summary.**

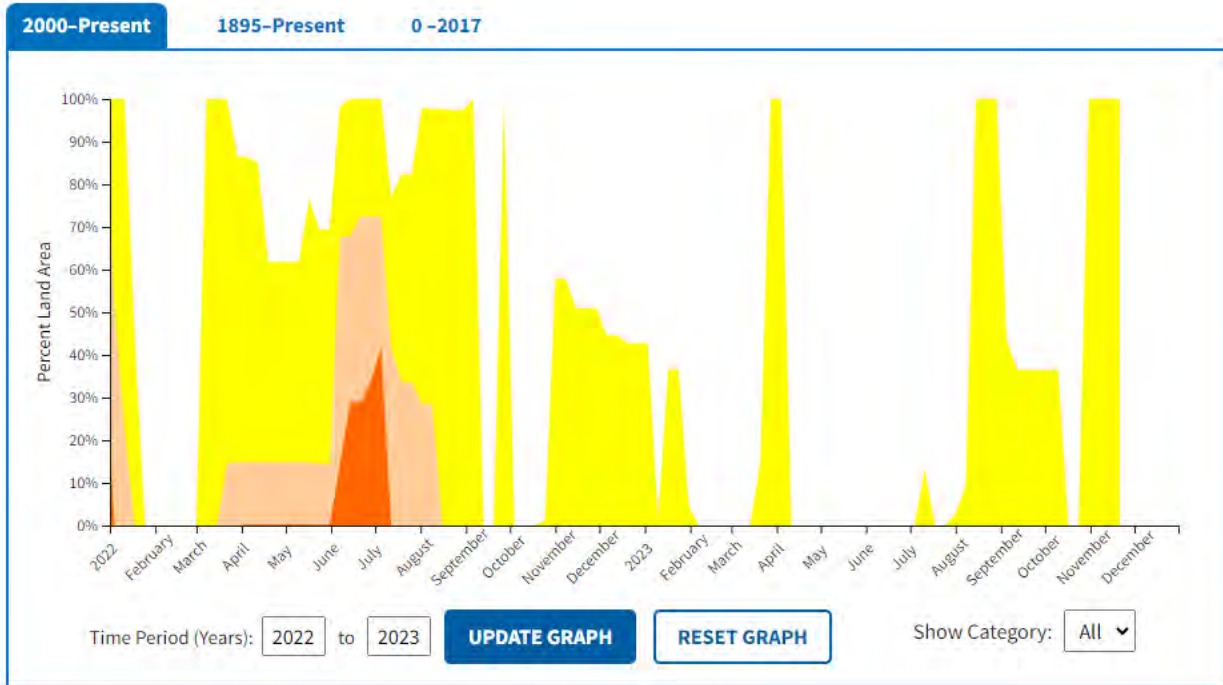
Month	Average	Normal Limits		Project Location Precipitation*
		30 Percent	70 Percent	
Nov	3.37	1.9	4.1	3.70
December	3.39	2.3	4.05	4.70
January	3.63	2.48	4.34	3.96
February	3.21	2.11	3.85	3.20
March	3.56	2.52	4.23	2.91
April	3.29	2.12	3.96	4.83
May	4.06	2.73	4.86	2.67
June	4.84	3.37	5.76	5.74
July	5.57	4.19	6.51	4.14
August	5.79	4.00	6.90	10.74
September	6.42	3.48	7.83	3.32
October	3.42	1.96	4.16	0.74
November	3.35	1.88	4.08	0.05
December	3.37	2.27	4.03	-
Total Annual **	50.52	46.10	55.06	42.31
Above Normal Limits	Below Normal Limits			

WETS Station: Clinton, NC. Approximately 16 miles from the site.

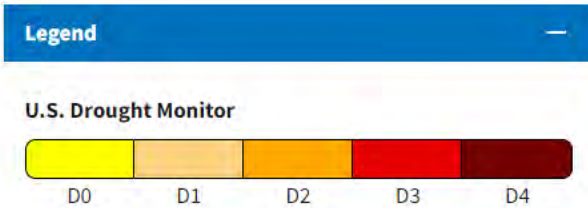
\*Project Location Precipitation is a location-weighted average of surrounding gauged data retrieved by the USACE Antecedent Precipitation Tool. Gauges used include Clayton 5.7 SSE, Clayton 6.8 ESE, Clayton WTP, Goldsboro AG 1 N, Selma 2.3 N, Smithfield 2.8 SE, and Smithfield.

\*\*Total Annual represents the average total precipitation, annually, as calculated by the 30-year period.

**Table 10B. Drought Summary.**



The U.S. Drought Monitor (2000-present) depicts the location and intensity of drought across the country. Every Thursday, authors from NOAA, USDA, and the National Drought Mitigation Center produce a new map based on their assessments of the best available data and input from local observers. The map uses five categories: Abnormally Dry (D0), showing areas that may be going into or are coming out of drought, and four levels of drought (D1–D4). [Learn more.](#)





**Table 11. 2023 Max Hydroperiod.**

2023 Max Hydroperiod (Growing Season 15-Mar through 22-Nov, 254 days)					
Well ID	Consecutive		Cumulative		Occurrences
	Days	Hydroperiod (%)	Days	Hydroperiod (%)	
<b>GW1</b>	35	14	72	28	5
<b>GW2</b>	21	8	68	27	8
<b>GW3</b>	62	24	117	46	5
<b>GW4</b>	23	10	44	17	5
<b>GW5</b>	61	24	121	48	6
<b>GW6</b>	59	23	102	40	5
<b>GW7</b>	58	23	111	44	6
<b>GW8</b>	92	36	154	60	2
<b>GW9</b>	63	25	125	49	6
<b>GW10</b>	87	34	167	66	4
<b>GW11</b>	59	23	114	45	5
<b>GW12</b>	3	1	9	4	5
<b>GW13</b>	15	6	22	9	3
<b>GW14</b>	32	13	52	20	2
<b>GW15</b>	16	6	39	15	6
<b>GW16</b>	33	13	77	30	7
<b>GW17</b>	22	9	55	22	6

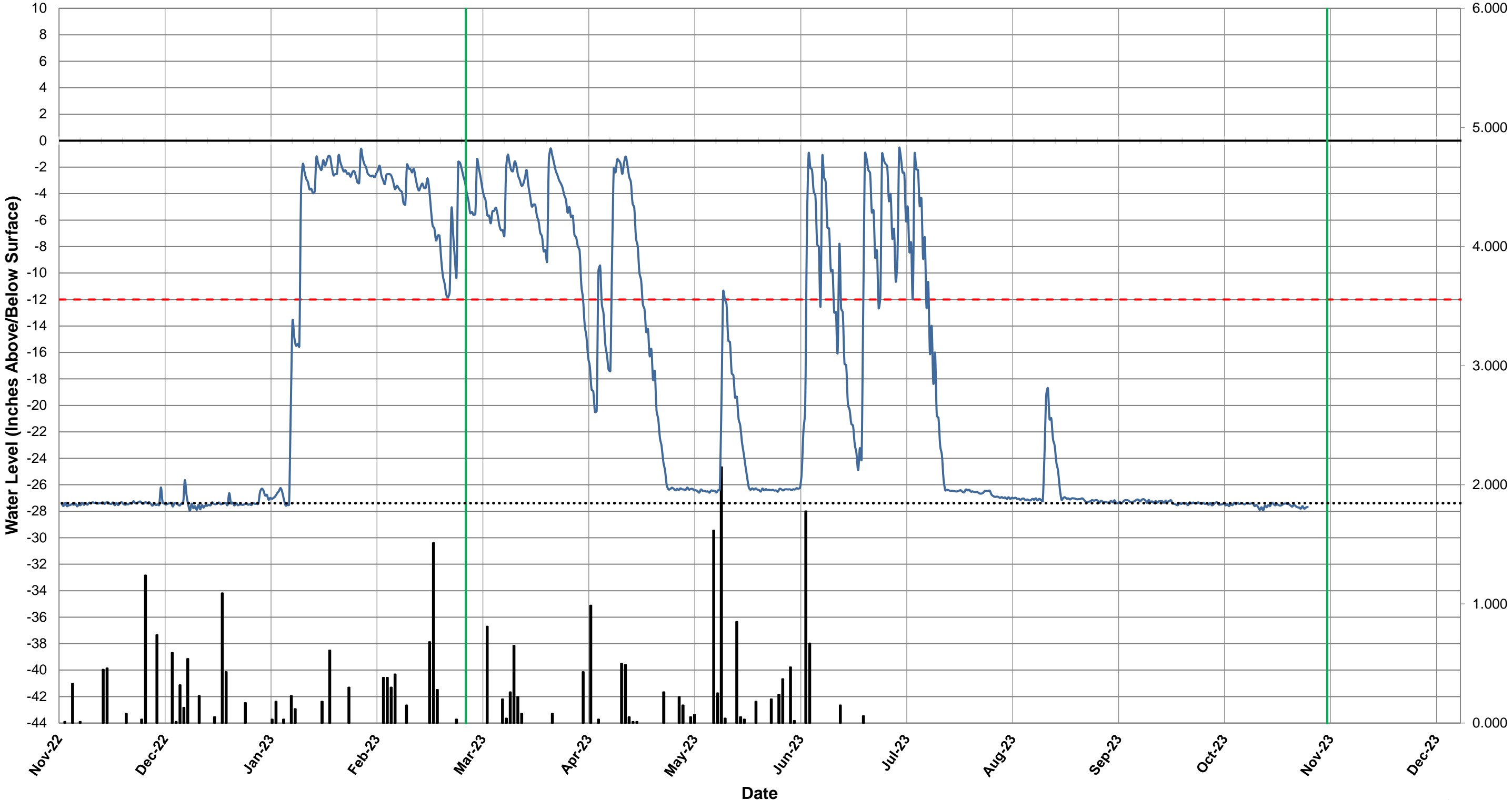
<5%	5-9%	≥10%
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**Table 12. Summary of Groundwater Monitoring Results.**

Summary of Groundwater Monitoring Results Barefoot									
Well ID	Wetland ID	Elevation (ft)	Hydroperiod (%)						
			Year 1 (2020)	Year 2 (2021)	Year 3 (2022)	Year 4 (2023)	Year 5 (2024)	Year 6 (2025)	Year 7 (2026)
GW1	W1	193.62	9	9	6	14			
GW2	W1	193.36	24	16	0	8			
GW3	W1	193.50	41	34	8	24			
GW4	W1	193.35	26	25	0	10			
GW5	W1	193.25	41	32	8	24			
GW6	W1	193.25	41	34	7	23			
GW7	W1	193.40	26	24	6	23			
GW8	W1	192.80	54	40	5	36			
GW9	W1	193.16	41	34	8	25			
GW10	W1	192.85	54	40	23	34			
GW11	W1	193.42	41	32	6	23			
GW12	W2	194.22	10	9	0	1			
GW13	W2	193.82	39	18	0	6			
GW14	W2	193.32	50	32	0	13			
GW15	W2	193.61	26	16	2	6			
GW16	UPL	193.73	26	16	4	13			
GW17	UPL	193.82	3	3	2	9			

<5%	5-9%	≥10%
-----	------	------

# 2023 Barefoot GW1

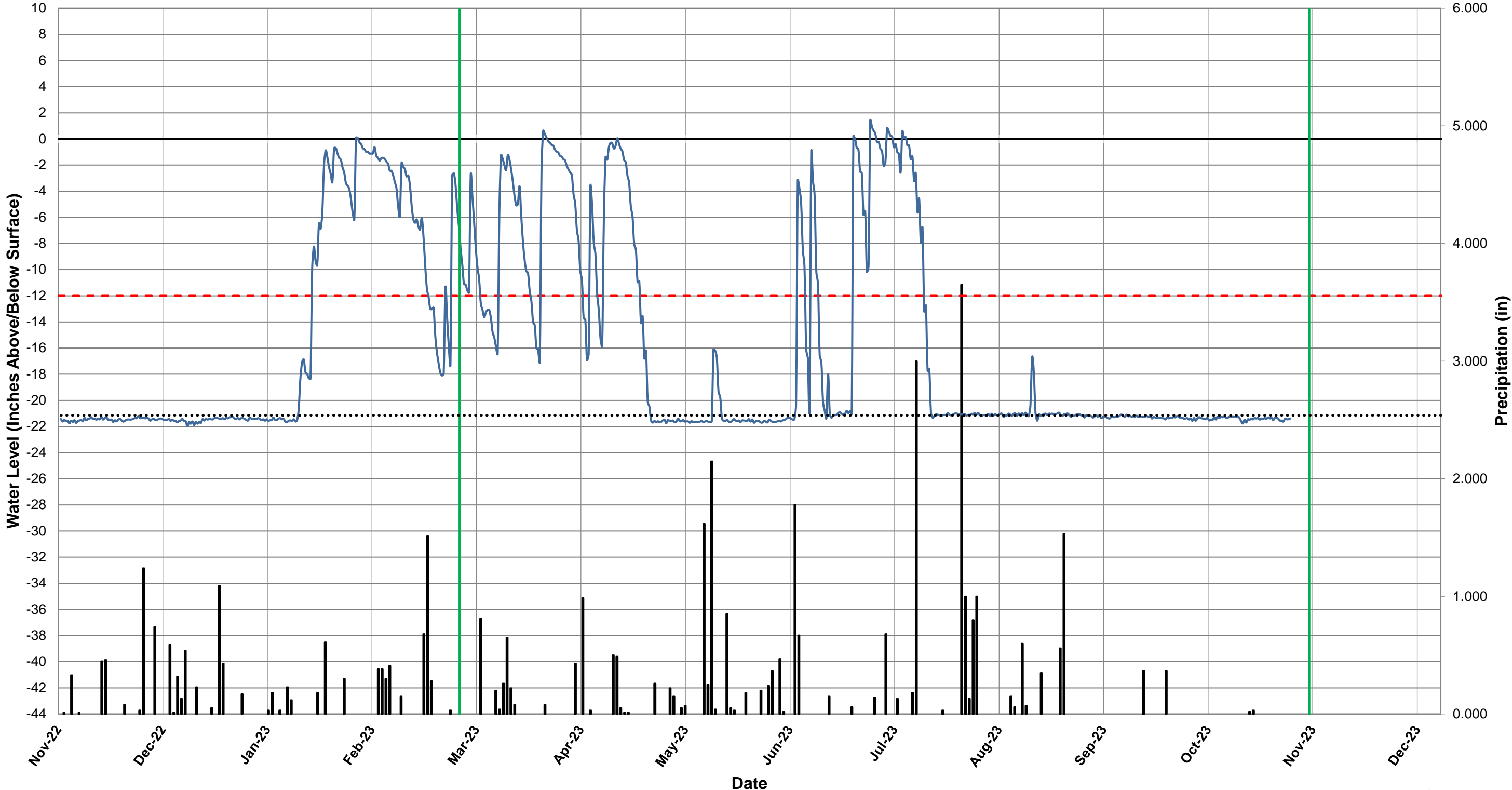


34.5 Consecutive Days of Hydrology  
03/15/2023 - 04/18/2023

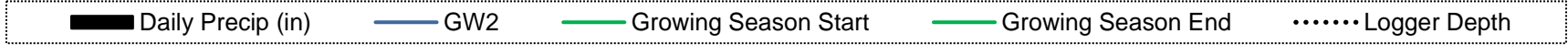
Daily Precip (in)    
  GW1    
  Growing Season Start    
  Growing Season End    
  Logger Depth



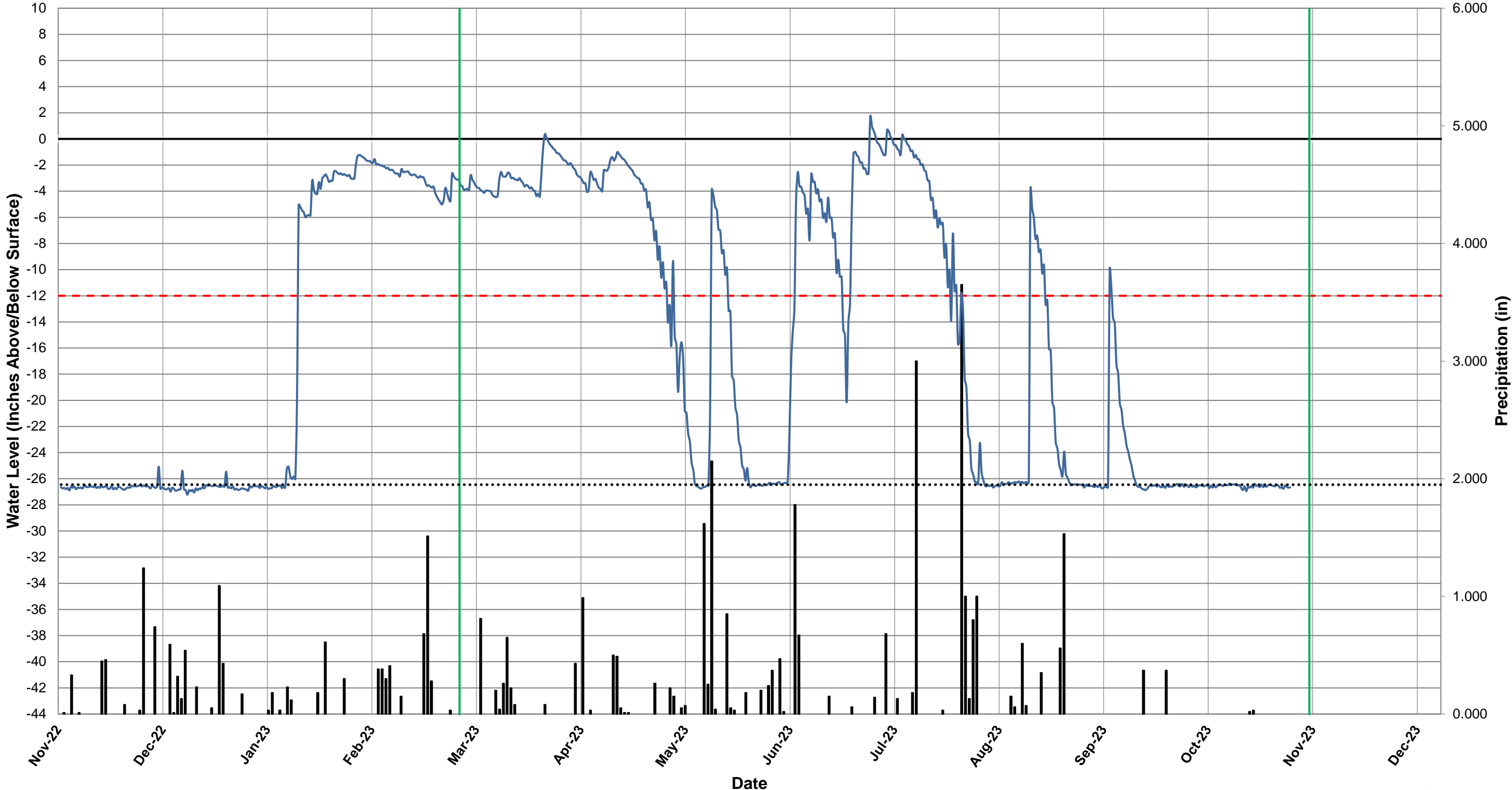
# 2023 Barefoot GW2



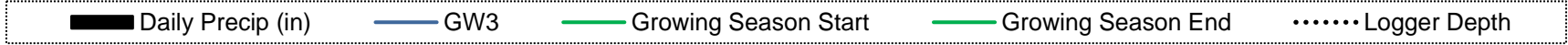
21 Consecutive Days of Hydrology  
07/09/2023 - 07/30/2023



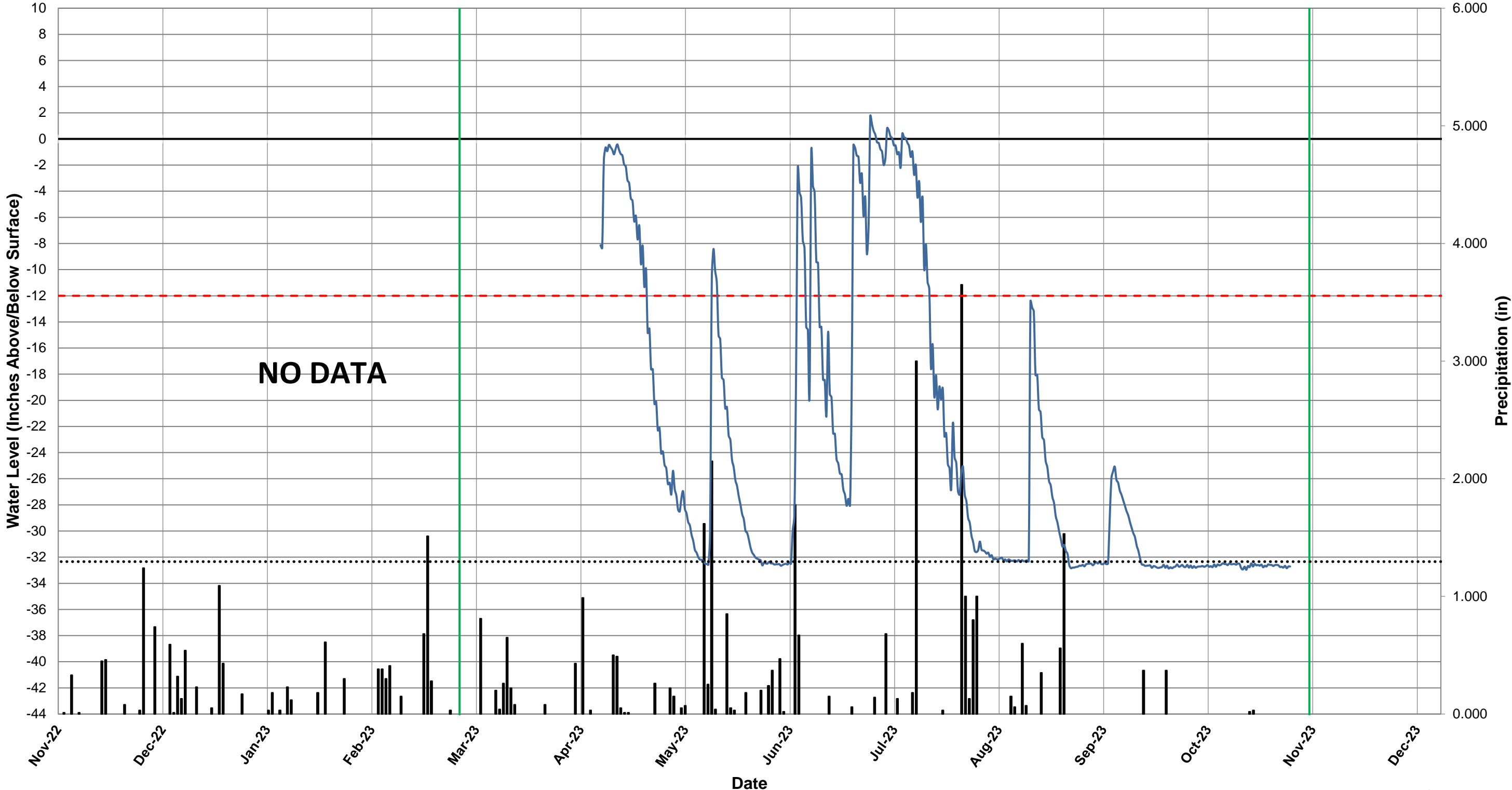
# 2023 Barefoot GW3



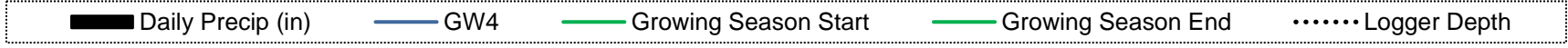
62 Consecutive Days of Hydrology  
03/15/2022 - 05/15/2023



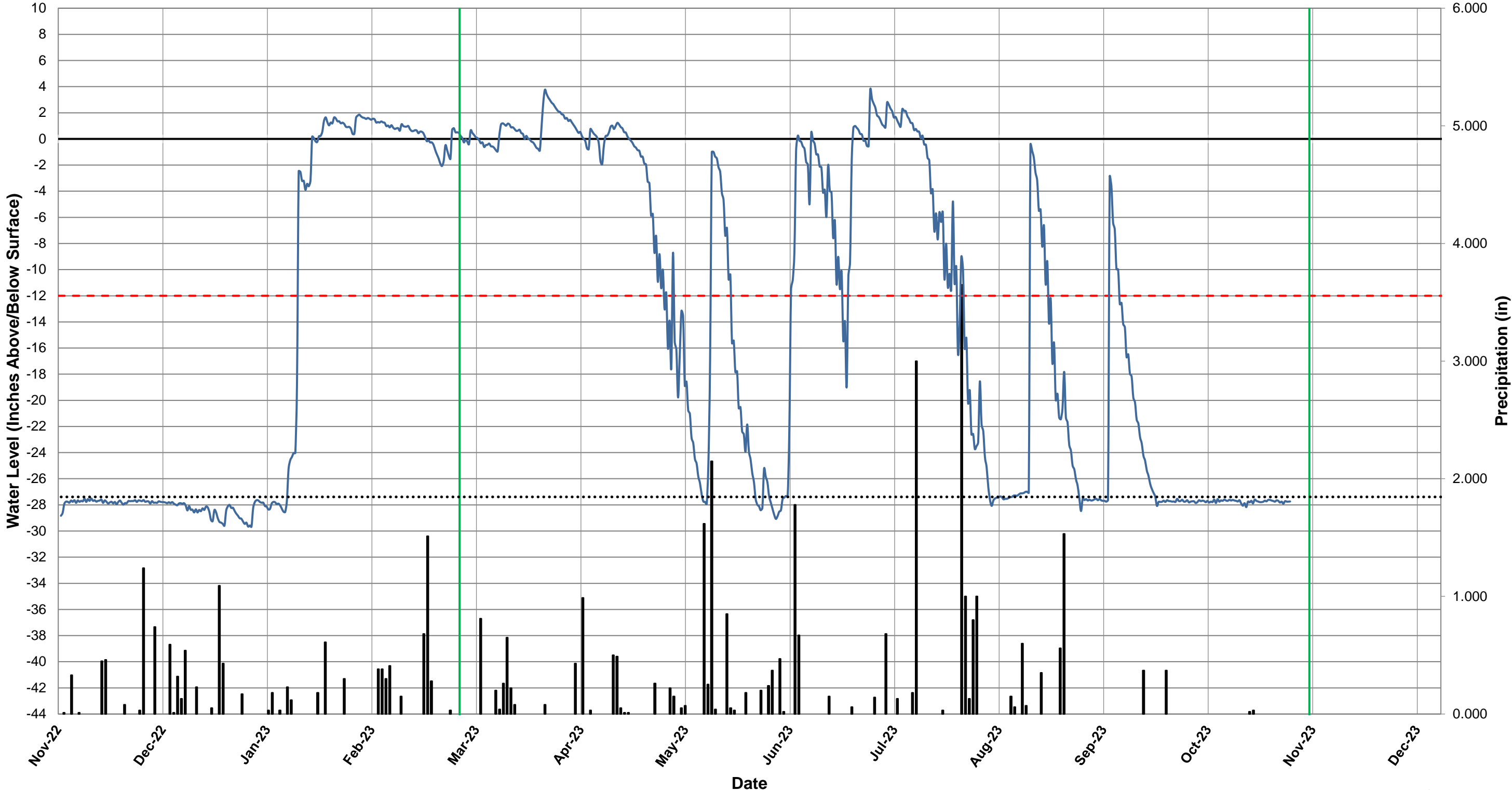
# 2023 Barefoot GW4



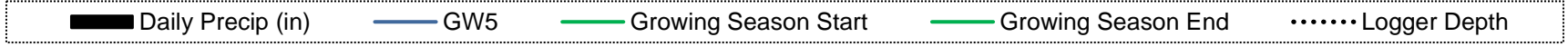
23 Consecutive Days of Hydrology  
07/09/2023 - 08/01/2023



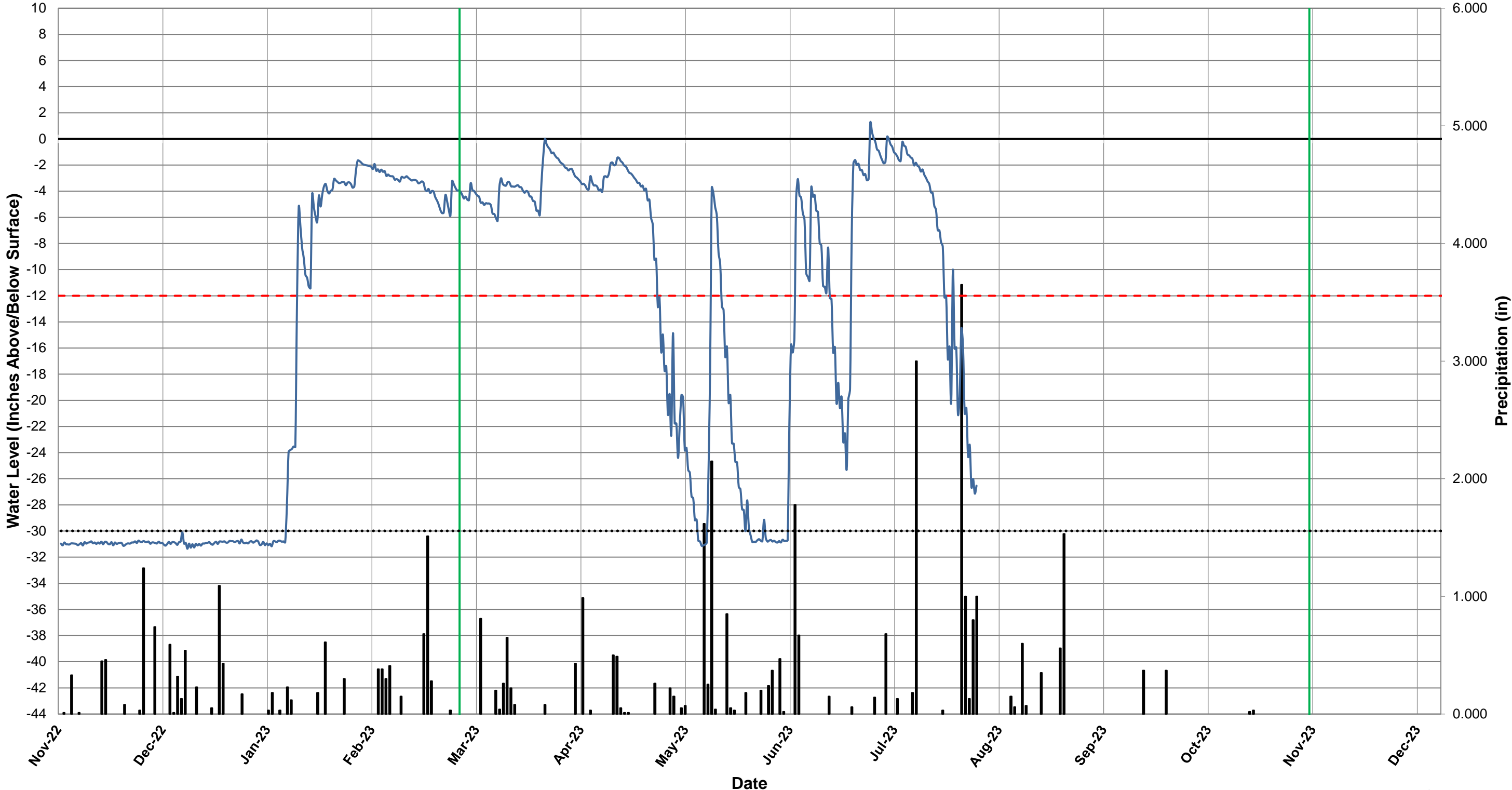
# 2023 Barefoot GW5



60.5 Consecutive Days of Hydrology  
03/15/2023 - 05/14/2023



# 2023 Barefoot GW6



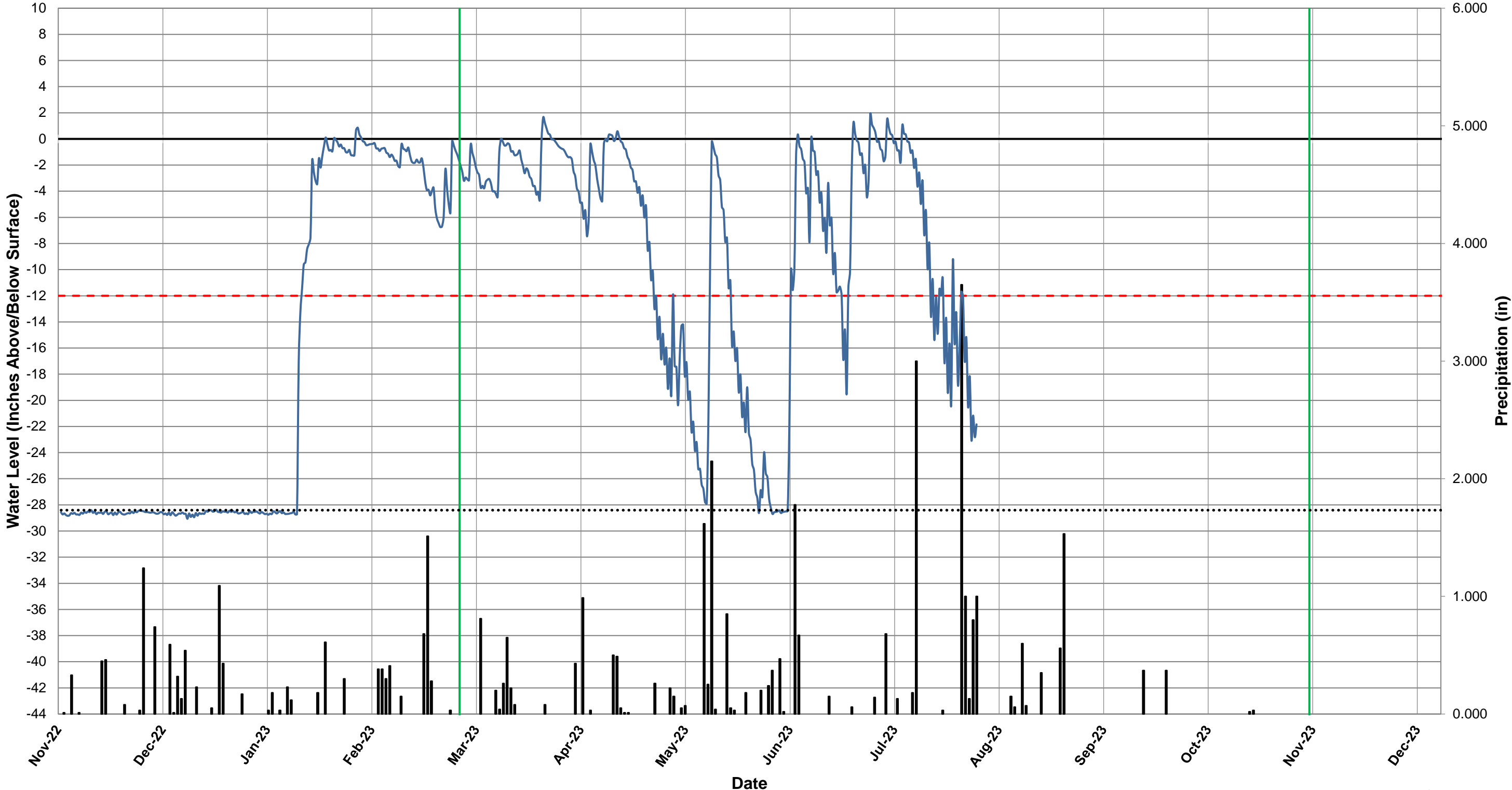
58.5 Consecutive Days of Hydrology  
03/15/2023 - 05/11/2023

Daily Precip (in)
  GW6
  Growing Season Start
  Growing Season End
  Logger Depth

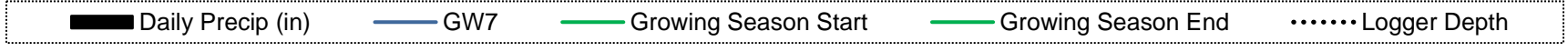




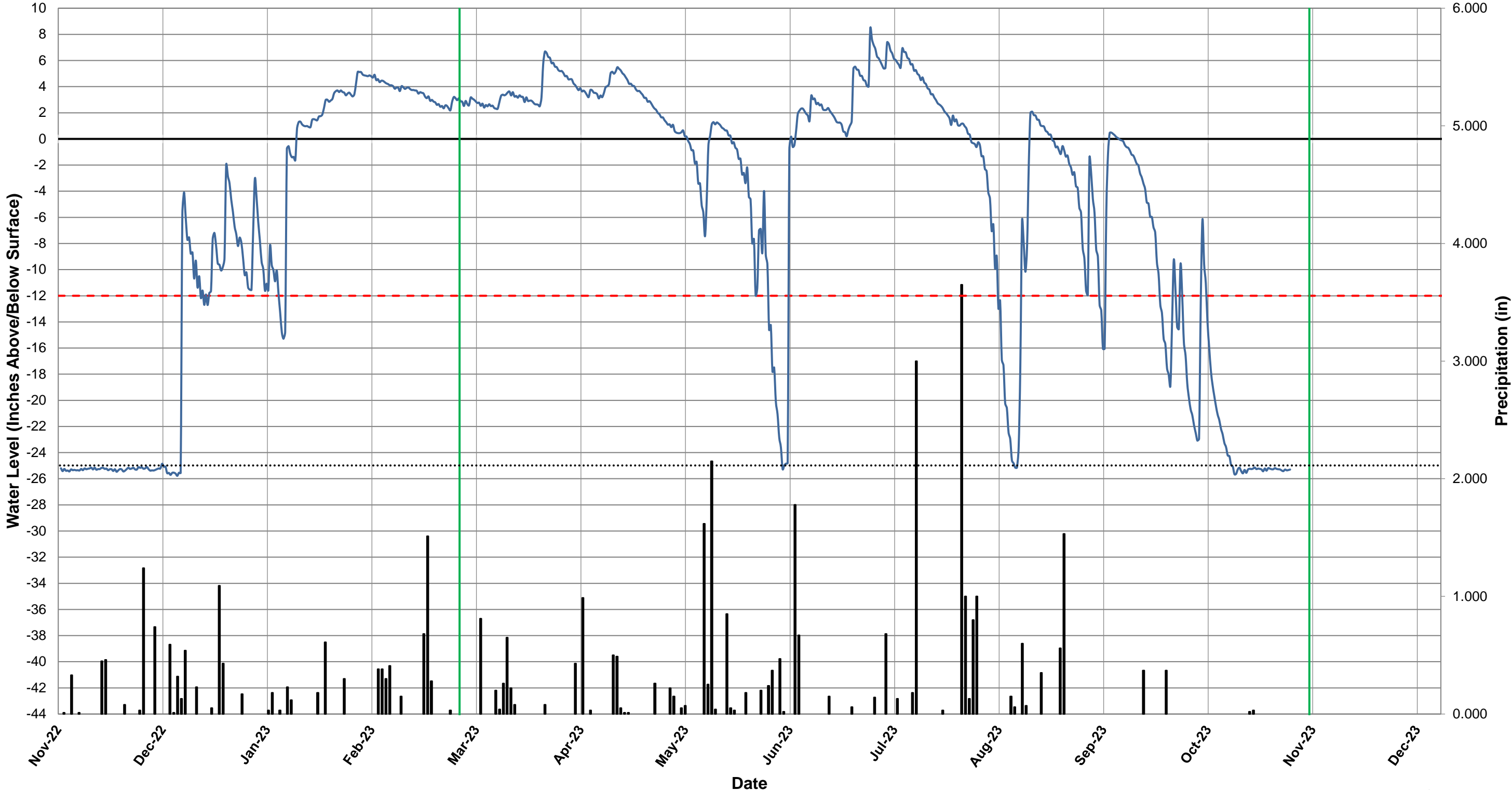
# 2023 Barefoot GW7



57.5 Consecutive Days of Hydrology  
03/15/2023 - 04/13/2023



# 2023 Barefoot GW8

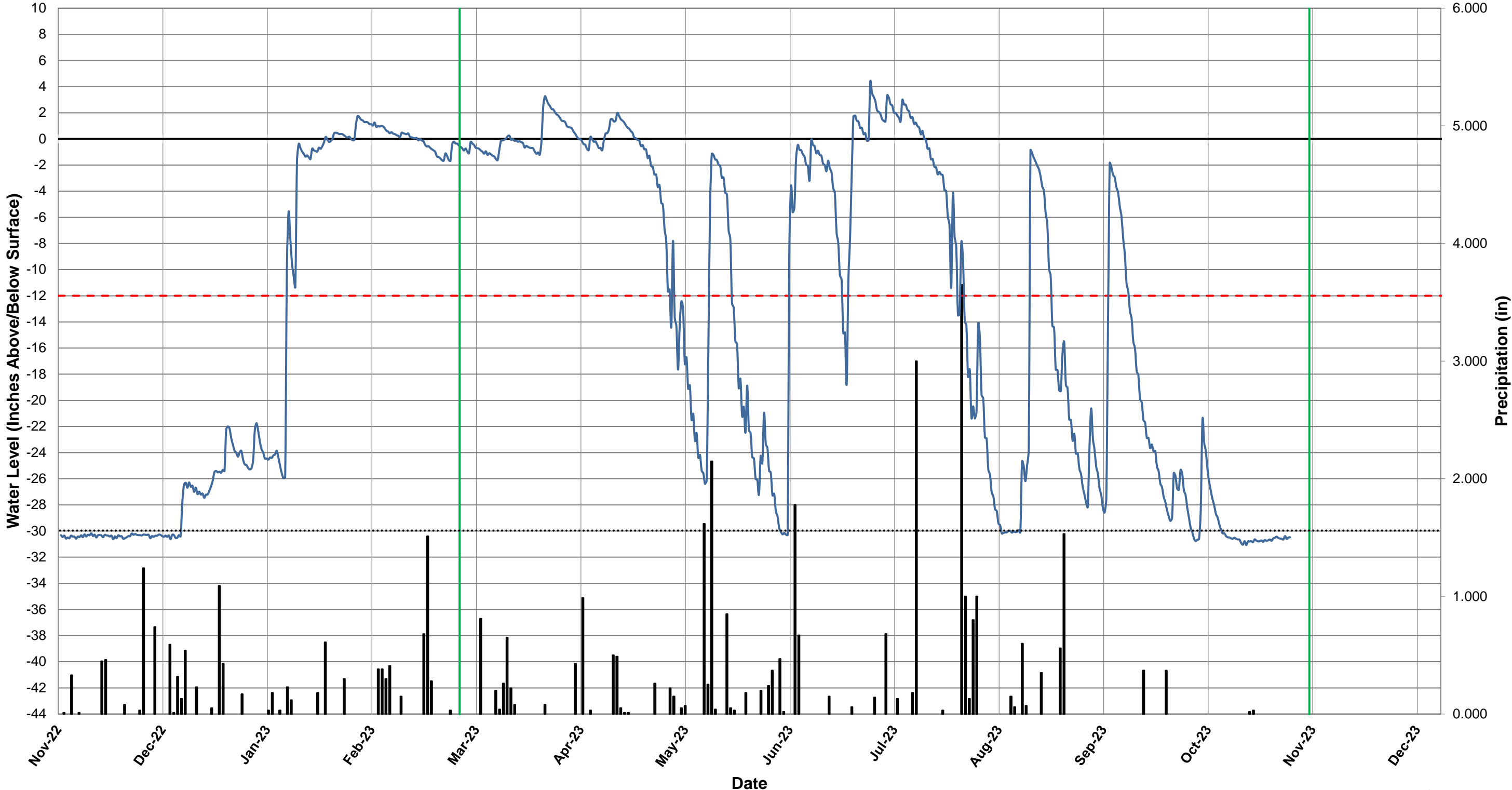


91.5 Consecutive Days of Hydrology  
03/15/2023 - 06/14/2023

Legend:   
■ Daily Precip (in)    — GW8    — Growing Season Start    — Growing Season End    ..... Logger Depth



# 2023 Barefoot GW9

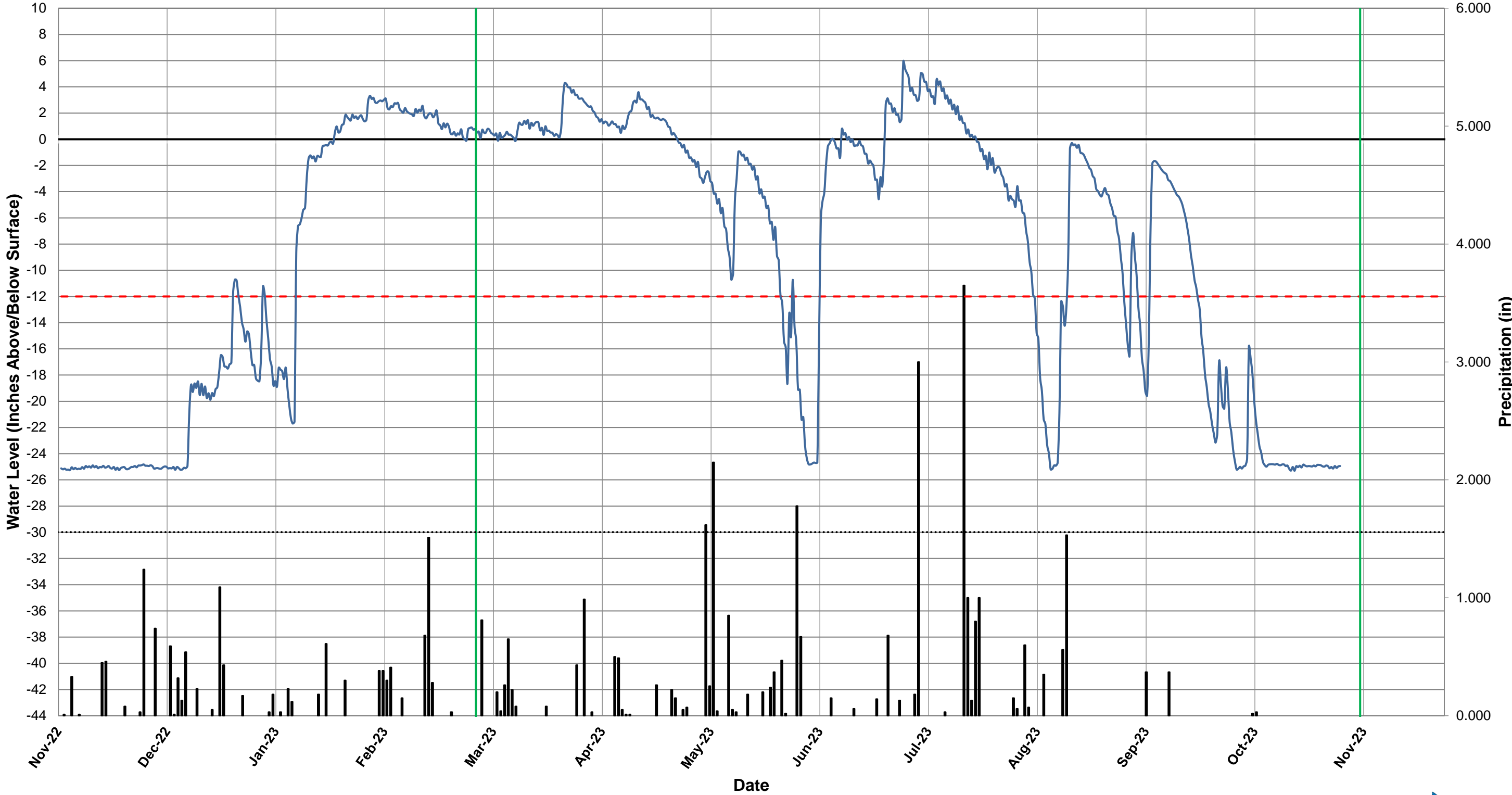


62.5 Consecutive Days of Hydrology  
03/15/2023 - 05/16/2023

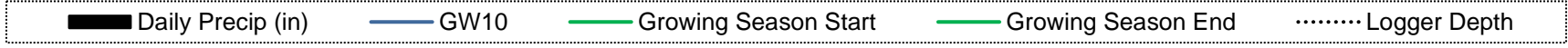
Daily Precip (in)
  GW9
  Growing Season Start
  Growing Season End
  Logger Depth



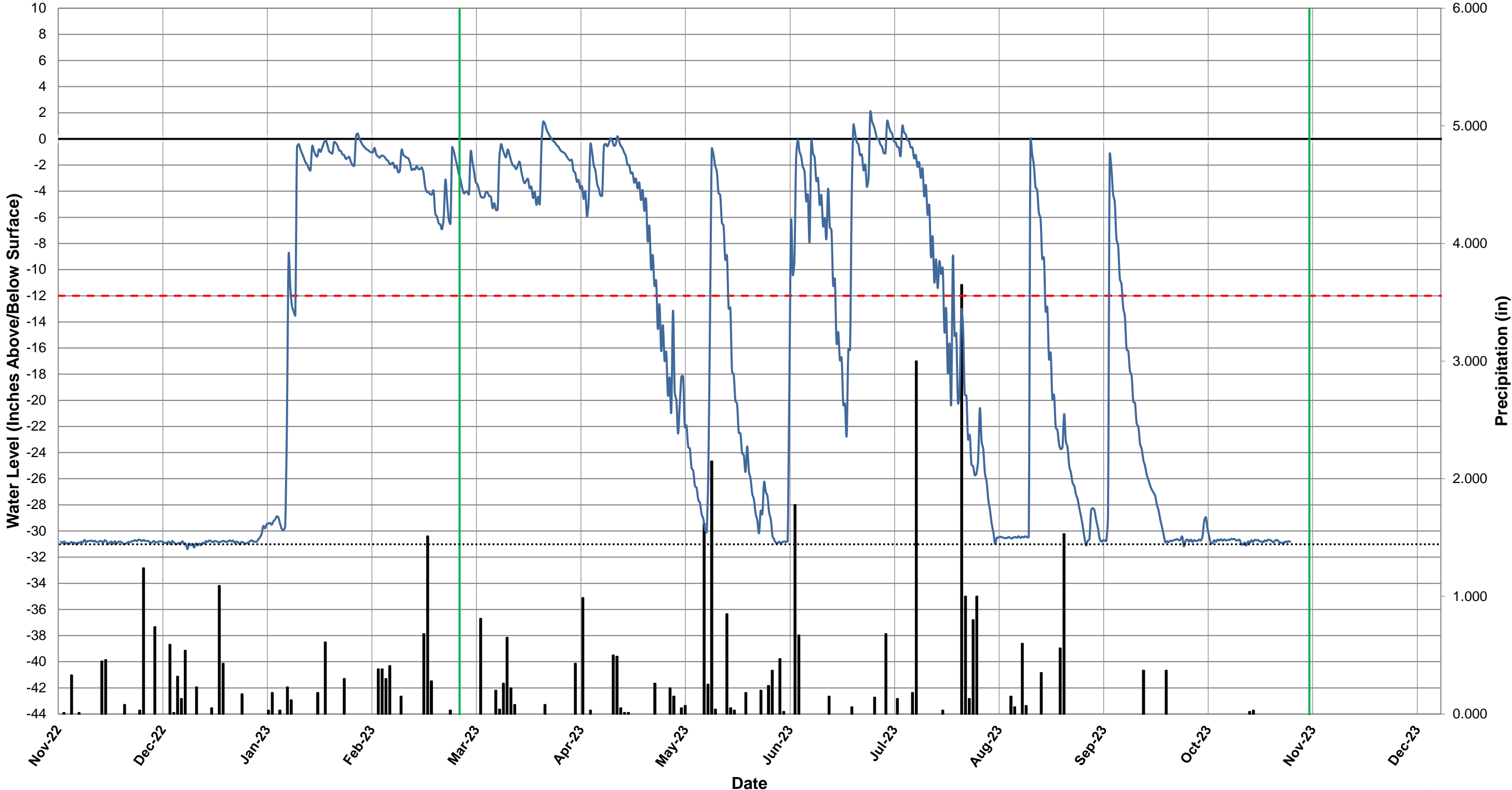
# 2023 Barefoot GW10



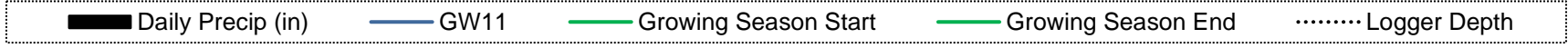
87 Consecutive Days of Hydrology  
03/15/2023 - 06/09/2023



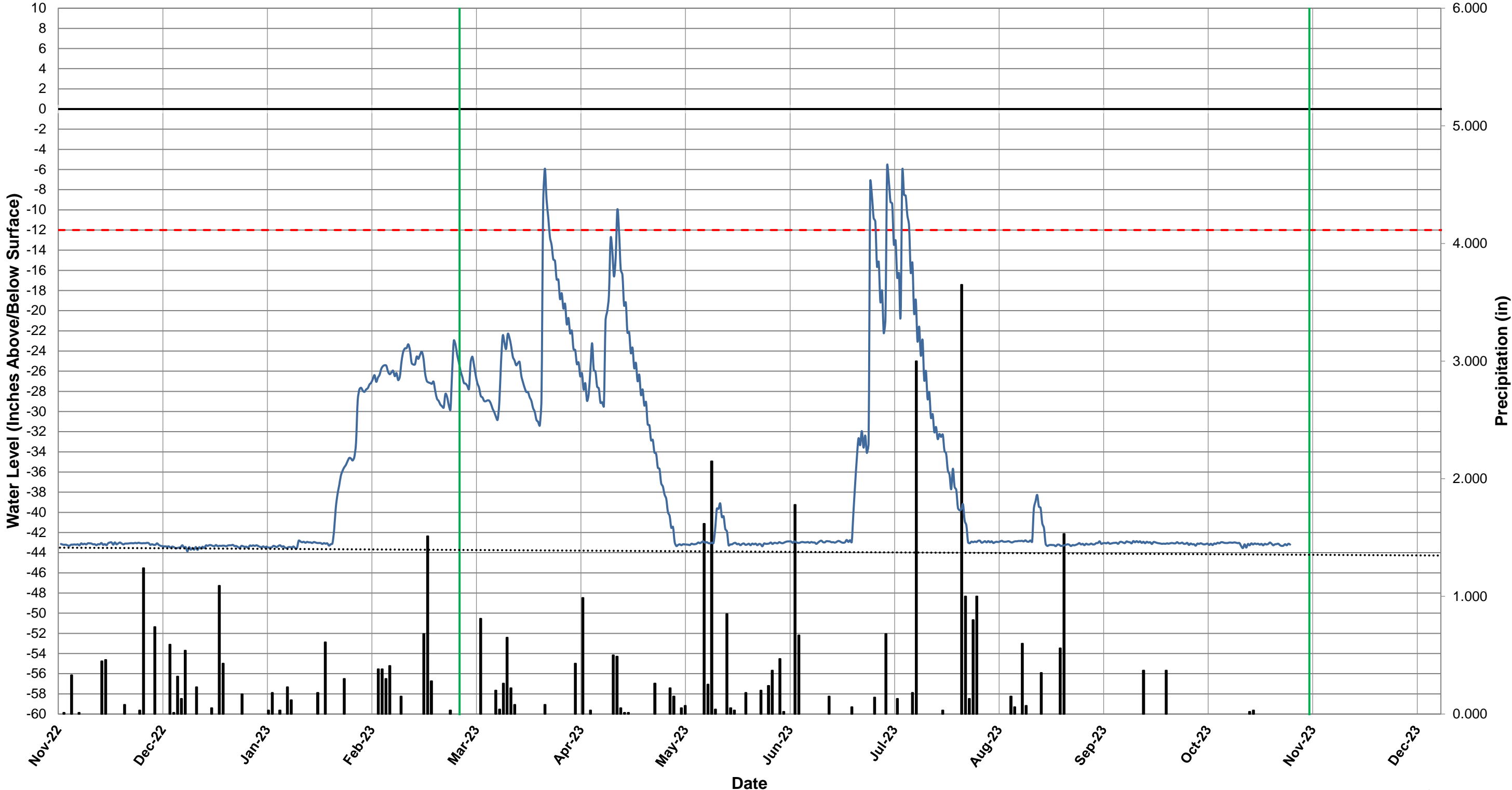
# 2023 Barefoot GW11



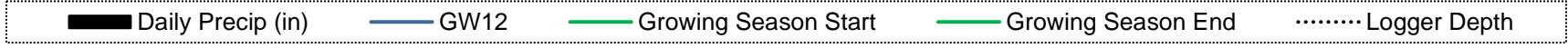
58.5 Consecutive Days of Hydrology  
03/15/2023 - 05/12/2023



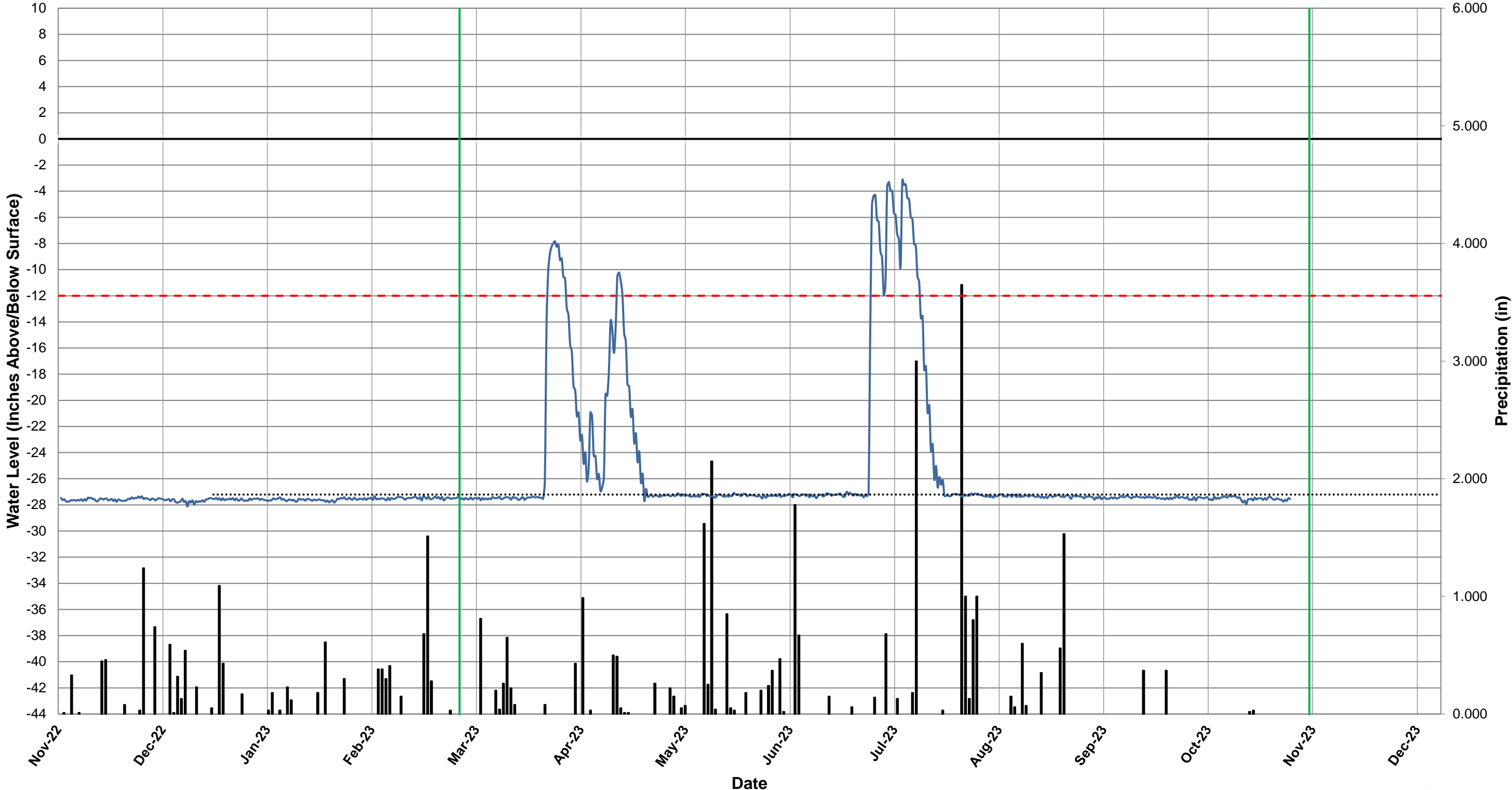
# 2023 Barefoot GW12



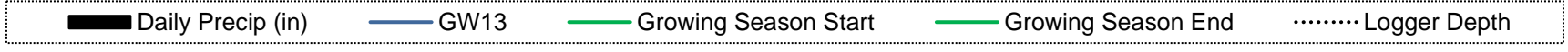
2.5 Consecutive Days of Hydrology  
07/24/2023 - 07/26/2023



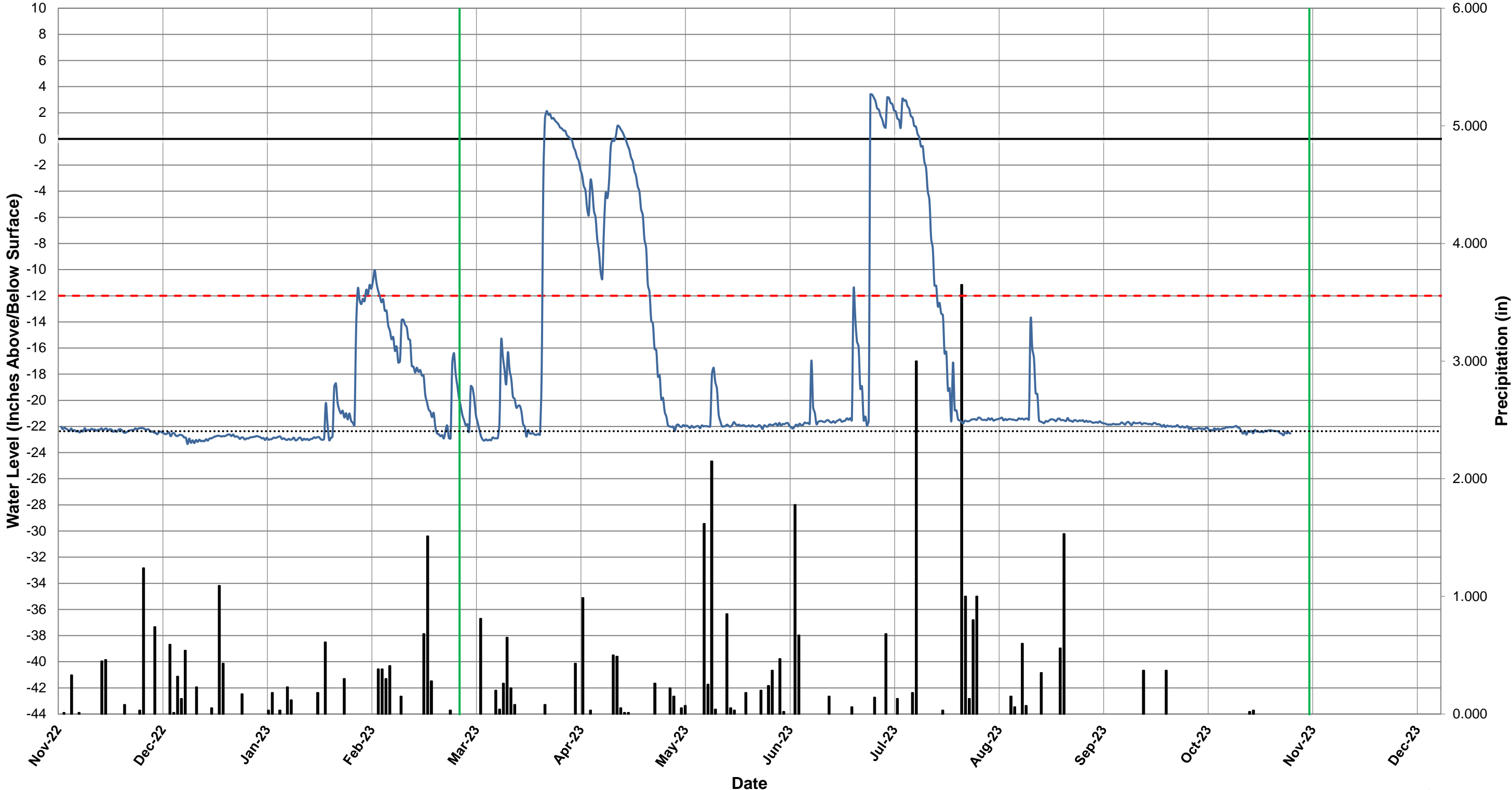
# 2023 Barefoot GW13



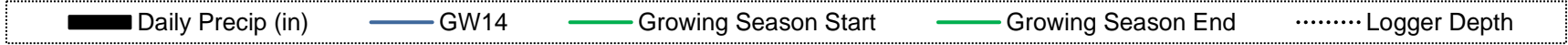
14.5 Consecutive Days of Hydrology  
07/15/2023 - 07/29/2023



# 2023 Barefoot GW14

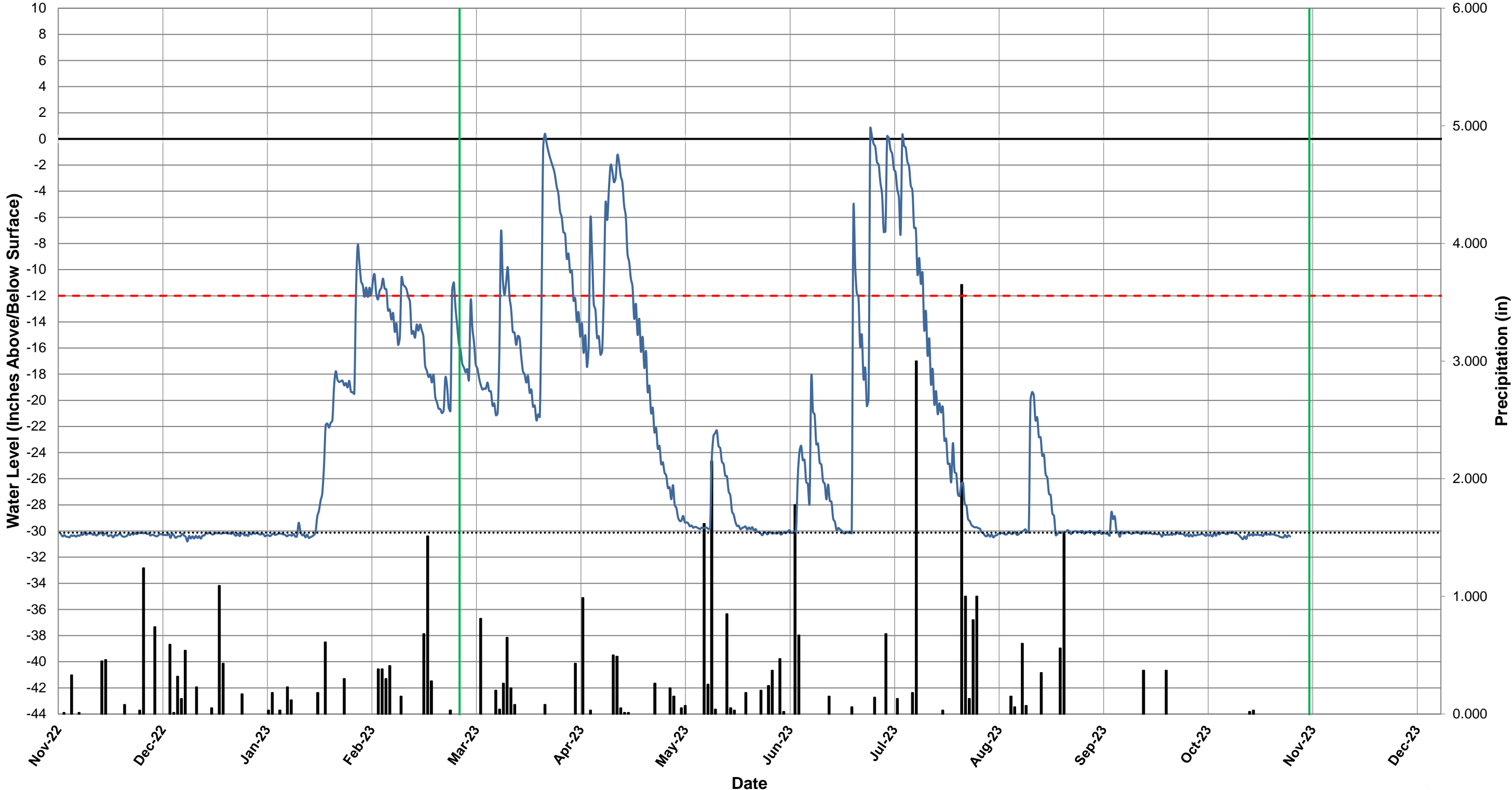


32 Consecutive Days of Hydrology  
04/08/2022 - 05/10/2022





# 2023 Barefoot GW15

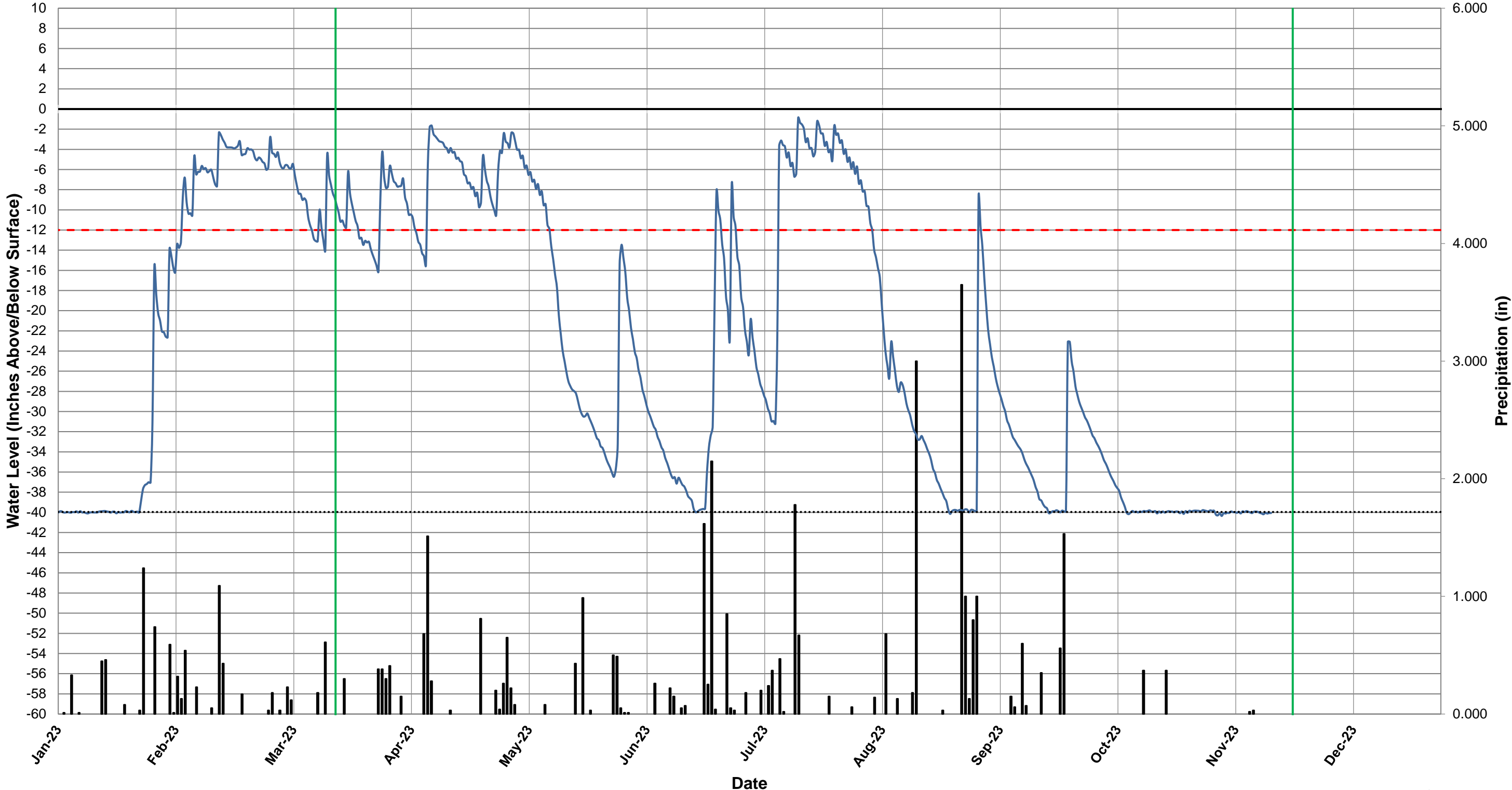


16 Consecutive Days of Hydrology  
07/14/2023 - 07/30/2023

Daily Precip (in)
  GW15
  Growing Season Start
  Growing Season End
  Logger Depth



# 2023 Barefoot GW16

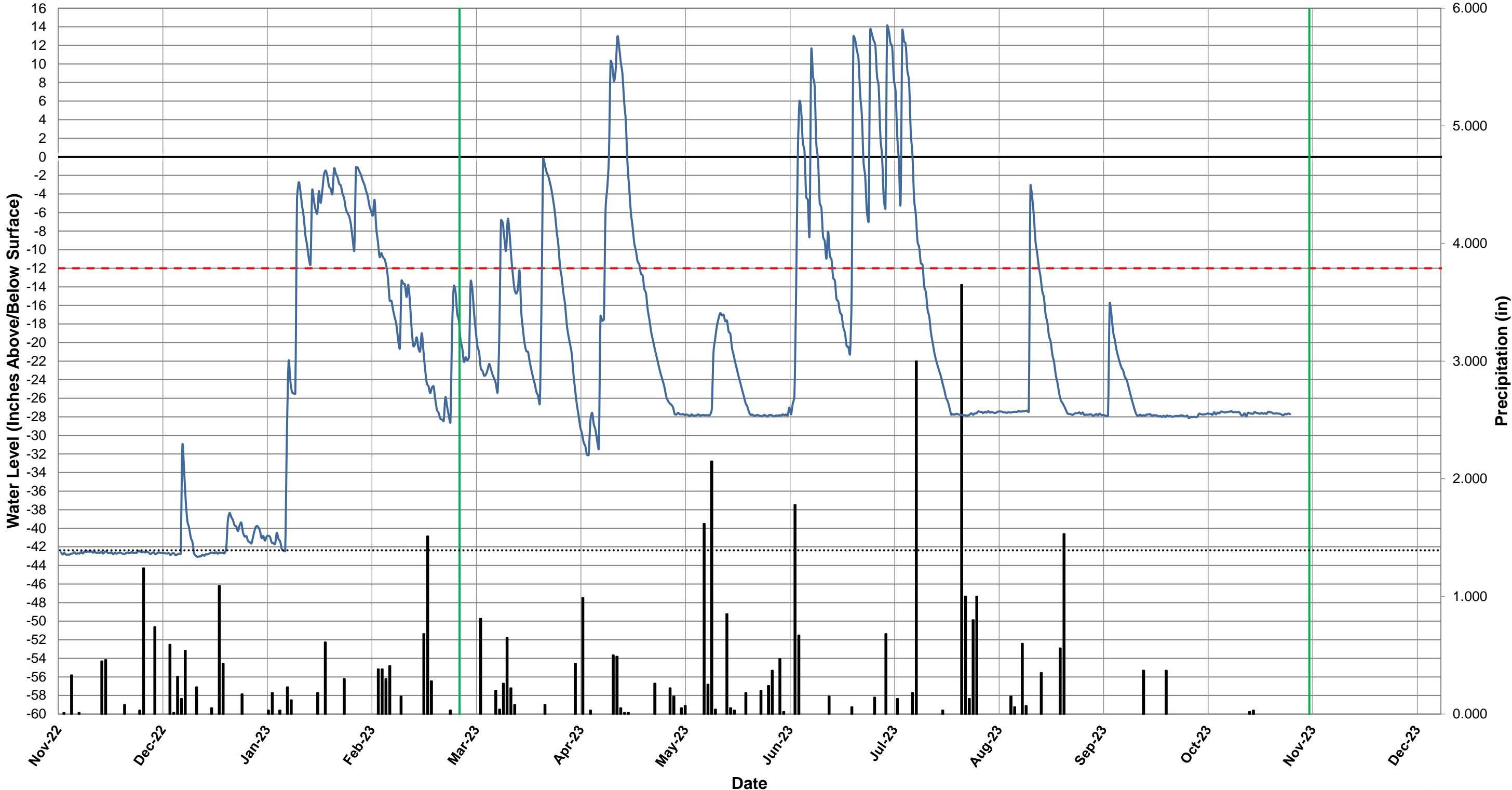


32.5 Consecutive Days of Hydrology  
04/08/2023 - 05/10/2023

Daily Precip (in)
  GW16
  Growing Season Start
  Growing Season End
  Logger Depth



# 2023 Barefoot GW17



22 Consecutive Days of Hydrology  
07/09/2023 - 07/30/2023

