

Forsmark site investigation

A co-ordinated interpretation of ground penetrating radar data from the Forsmark site

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September 2004

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Keywords: Ground penetration radar, GPS, overburden investigations, Forsmark, AP PF-400-03-88, Field note: Forsmark 112.

This report concerns a study which was conducted for SKB. The conclusions and viewpoints presented in the report are those of the author and do not necessarily coincide with those of the client.

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Abstract

The present report presents a second-generation interpretation of ground penetrating radar (GPR) data collected within the Forsmark site during late winter 2003.

The interpretation is a coordinated analysis of GPR data, results from different types of drillings, and mapping of bedrock outcrops. The interpretation yields basically the depth to the bedrock along the survey lines. By combining these results with the terrain model, a model of the bedrock surface within the area can be established.

The result shows that the area is generally characterized by a relatively shallow bedrock surface, which locally shows significant topography. The soil cover consists mostly of moraine and clay. The main difference between the results from the present interpretation as compared to the previous (preliminary) interpretation is that the interpreted depths to the bedrock along lines measured on lakes have decreased.

The data delivery comprises point data for SICADA containing the interpreted depth to the bedrock at well defined points along the profiles. Maps and sections presented in this report are also delivered as jpeg-files.

Sammanfattning

Föreliggande rapport presenterar en andra generations tolkning av markradardata insamlad inom platsundersökningsområdet Forsmark under vårvintern 2003.

Denna andra generationens tolkning är en samordnad analys av markradardata, resultat från olika typer av borrhållningar, samt hällkartering. Tolkningen ger huvudsakligen djupet till berggrunden längs mätprofilerna. Genom att kombinera dessa resultat med terrängmodellen kan en modell av berggrundens övertyta upprättas.

Resultatet visar att området i stort karakteriseras av en relativt grunt liggande berggrundsyta, som dock lokalt uppvisar kraftig topografi. Jordtäcket i området domineras av morän och lera. Den största skillnaden mellan den nu presenterade tolkningen och den tidigare (preliminära) tolkningen är att det tolkade djupet till berggrunden längs profiler mätta över sjöar är mindre.

Dataleveransen omfattar punktdata för SICADA innehållande djup till berggrunden i väldefinierade punkter längs mätprofilerna. Kartor och tvärprofiler som presenteras i denna rapport har också levererats i jpeg-format.

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1 Background and objectives

A ground penetrating radar survey was conducted in the Forsmark site investigation area during late winter/early spring 2003 and a method specific interpretation has presented /1/. Data from a total of 64,354 metres of surveying was collected in 103 individual files. Figure 1-1 shows the profiles measured.

This document reports a co-ordinated interpretation of data in the light of results obtained by drilling and mapping in the area. The work has been performed according to activity plan AP PF-400-03-88 (SKB internal controlling document).

The data has been reinterpreted mainly in order to:

- Obtain better assignments of depth to the bedrock.
- Produce geological sections
- Correlate results from drilling with observed surface geology.

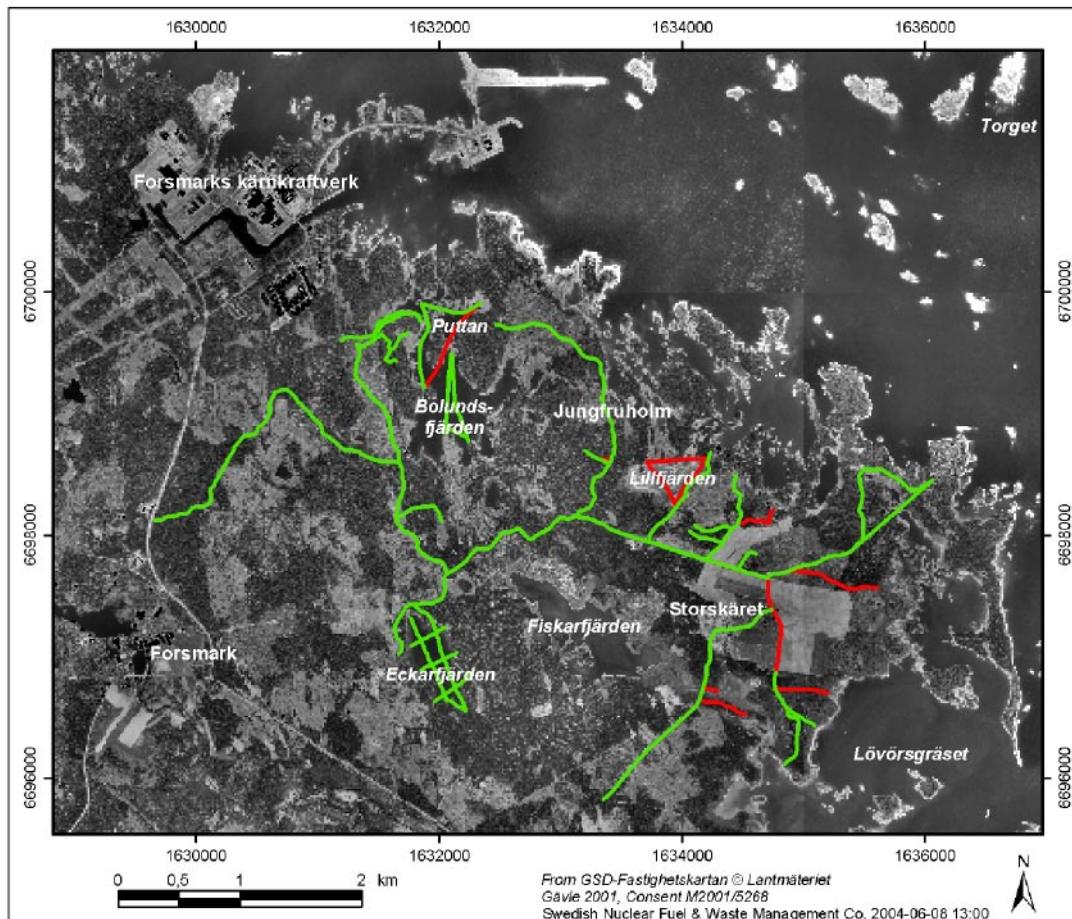


Figure 1-1. GPR survey profiles. Green lines show profiles, which have yielded interpretable results along at least parts of each profile. Red lines show profiles of poor data. From /1/.

2 Interpretation

Data from different sources have been combined into correlated interpretation sections. The supporting data (in Excel, ESRI or MapInfo format) provided by SKB could be divided into “drilling results” and “mapping results”.

- Drilling results are of several types: KFM (core drilling), HFM (percussion drilling), SFM (soil drilling), PFM (digging).
- Mapping results are restricted to bedrock mapping, and are divided into observed outcrops and outcrops inferred from aerial photography.

The GPR data have been reinterpreted from raw data (rd2) within the REFLEX-W software. The data are thoroughly described in /1/.

The following priority has been given to the different data types:

Depth to bedrock

- 1) Observed outcrops
- 2) Drilling
- 3) GPR data
- 4) Outcrops inferred from aerial photos

Surface geology

- 1) Observed quaternary geology (which includes field observations of the GPR crew)
- 2) Drilling

Horizons within the overburden and superficial bedrock

- 1) GPR data
- 2) Drilling

3 Results and data delivery

The entire data set upon which the interpretation presented in this report is based is rather large and covers a wide area. The sources of data are differing in type, quantity and relevance to e.g. determination of soil depth. The knowledge about the area is also steadily growing, as more and more investigations are conducted.

To make the result of the work accessible, and to provide the possibility to continuously assess the reliability of the interpretation in any given point, the results are presented in two different manners.

- Maps showing location and approximate depth to bedrock. These maps also show the location and results of drillings along with observed and inferred bedrock outcrops.
- Profile drawings showing the interpreted geological sections.

The profile drawings have been transferred to digital data to be inserted into the SICADA data base, giving the interpreted depth to the bedrock at a series of points along each profile.

During the field campaign /1/, the survey was divided into “survey areas” A-U. Appendix 1 shows these survey areas and lists the interpreted profiles of each area. The individual maps and geological sections (profiles) are presented in Appendix 2. Figure 3-1 summarises the inferred depth to the bedrock.

By using the maps and profiles, it is possible to consult the data in several aspects, from regional overview to a rather detailed geological interpretation of a specific profile.

The maps are built around a geographical data set provided by SKB, and show shorelines, lakes, roads, borehole positions, observed and inferred outcrops. The drilling results are presented in a simplified way. The GPR profiles are shown as a series of dots (the points inserted in the SICADA data base). The dots are colour coded to show the interpreted depth to the bedrock.

The interpretation sections are built around drawings giving the geological interpretation of the combined data set along each GPR profile. The results are presented in relation to surface topography, in order to give a “true” image of the distribution of different geological materials. The assignment of depth to different horizons in the overburden and superficial bedrock is based on correlating GPR data to drilling results, where such are available. Along parts of the profiles where GPR data is poor, indicated by colour coded point numbers, the interpretation is less reliable and based on any type of information available. When the supporting information is more distant and the GPR data is poor, the interpretation gradually becomes hypothetical.

The SICADA files give the interpreted depth to the bedrock at well-defined points along each profile. If the bedrock topography is undulating and the point is located on a slope, the assigned depth might be either smaller than the maximum depth close by or greater than the average depth in the surroundings. This effect has to some extend been removed by a light smoothing of the interpreted depths during the interpretation process.

The data delivery comprises point data for SICADA as described above. All maps and sections are, apart from being part of the present report (Appendix 2), also delivered as jpeg-files.

The SICADA reference to the data is field note Forsmark 112.

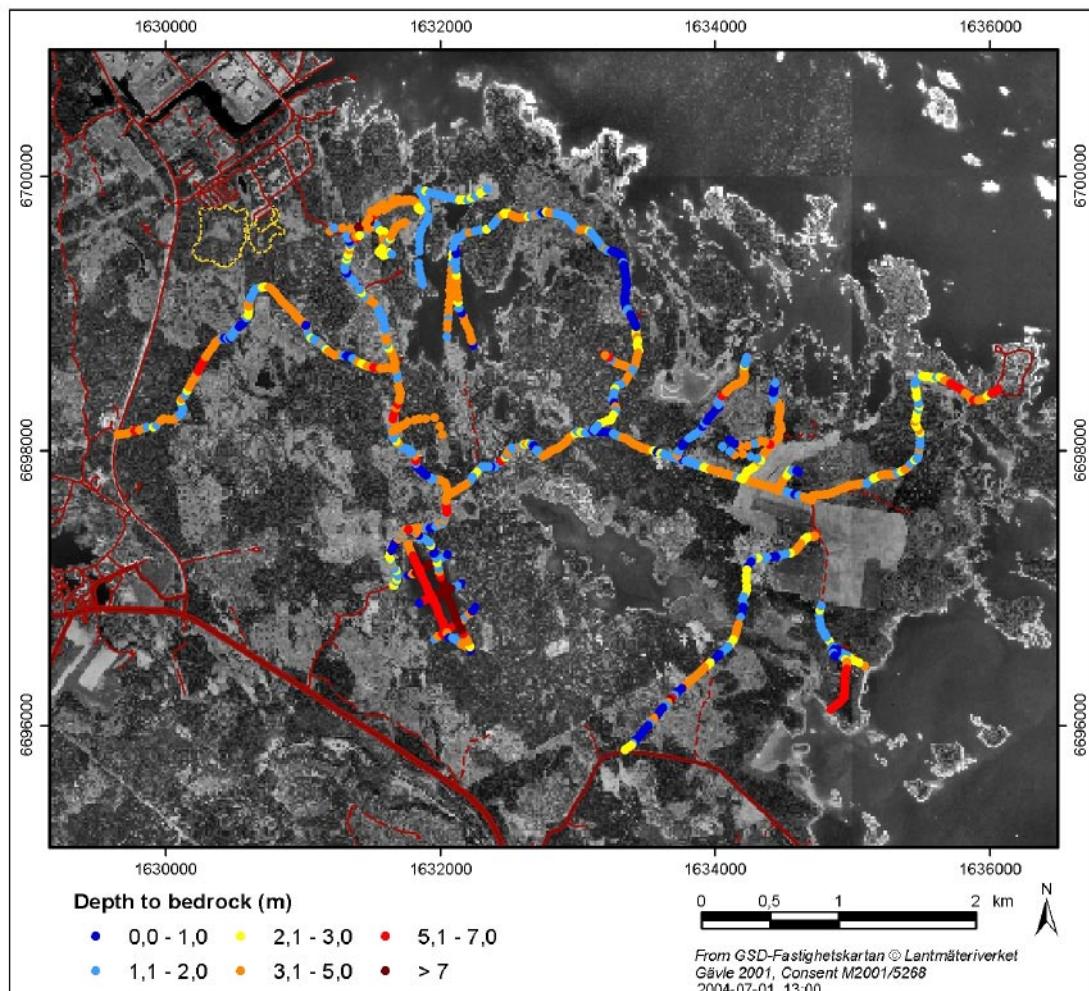


Figure 2-1. Depth to the bedrock inferred from radar data (GPR) supported by information on soil depth provided from other sources, e.g. mapping and drilling.

4 Discussion

Previously method specific interpreted GPR data /1/ have been re-interpreted with the support of information from various drilling and mapping campaigns. A major advantage of this re-interpretation is that depth assignments become more reliable, since effects from differing signal velocities otherwise might lead to erroneous interpretation results. For example, measurements made on lake ice have previously been processed using a standard velocity more accurate for moraine than sea water. Also, it is now possible to make educated guesses of the geology at depth in areas with extensive layers of clay and other types of material that have strong attenuation effects. The result of the re-interpretation can therefore be considered as more reliable and better constrained than the previous version presented in /1/.

The most obvious difference between the two generations of interpretation is found in areas where GPR data have been collected on lake ice. Generally, depth assignments in these areas have decreased dramatically. In some cases, drilling results have revealed faulty interpretations of geological horizons, for example moraine instead of bedrock, internal reflectors within the overburden that have been misinterpreted for important geological horizons etc. It has been found that the previous depth assignments made in areas with predominantly moraine overburden have been very good, while areas with abundant clay have been exaggerated,

It has also been found that the interpretation in areas with undulating bedrock topography or blocky moraine is made more reliable by incorporating information on outcropping bedrock. In addition, this data have been found to be very useful for the interpretation in areas with no information from boreholes and poor GPR data.

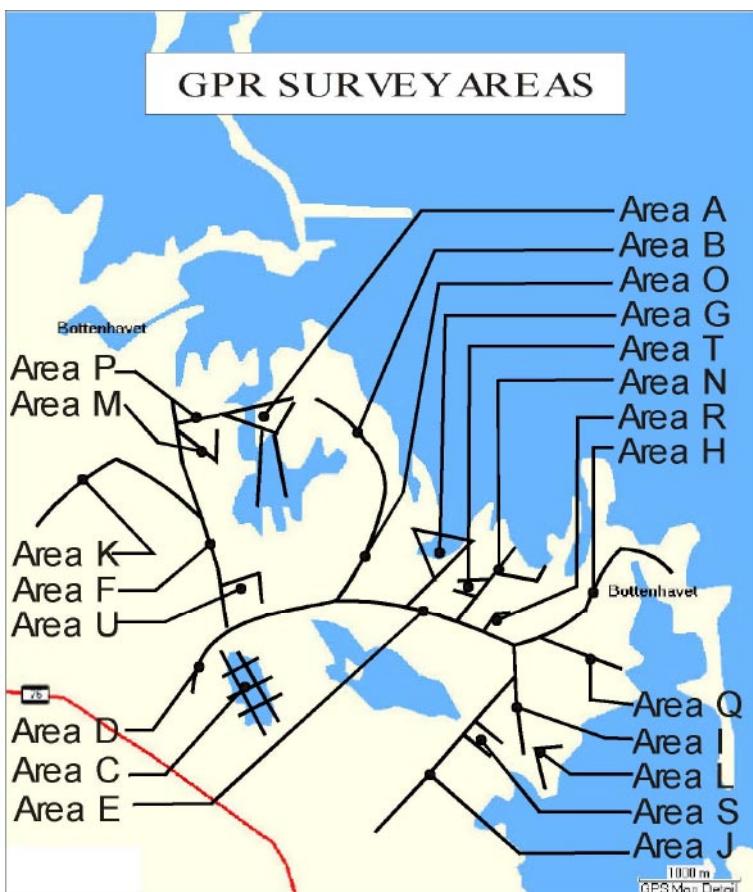
Inevitably, discrepancies between the results presented in this report and new data will emerge. By incorporating new data in future re-interpretations of the GPR data, the new data can be used to improve the interpretation rather than dismantling it.

5 References

- /1/. **Marek R, 2004.** Ground penetrating radar survey 2003. SKB P-04-78.
Svensk Kärnbränslehantering AB:

Appendix 1

GPR survey areas



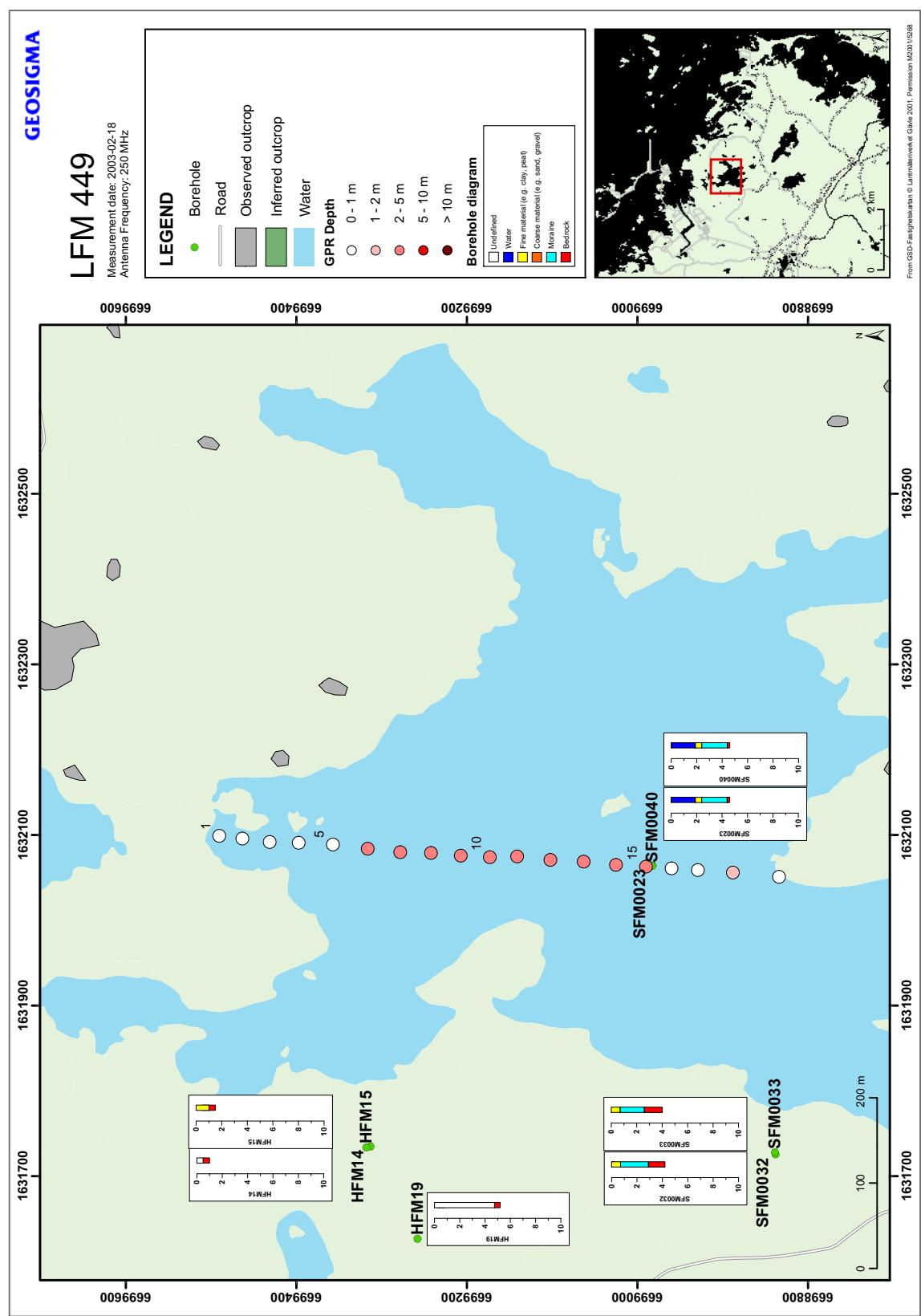
Interpreted profiles (LFM – ID:s) within the survey areas:

| | |
|--------|------------------------------|
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| Area B | LFM000461-463 |
| Area C | LFM000464-473 |
| Area D | LFM000474-479, LFM000481-482 |
| Area E | LFM000483, LFM000486-487 |
| Area F | LFM000489, LFM000491-492 |
| Area G | LFM000494 |
| Area H | LFM000502-505 |
| Area I | LFM000508 |
| Area J | LFM000510-511 |
| Area K | LFM000514, LFM000517-519 |
| Area L | LFM000521 |
| Area M | LFM000523-524 |
| Area N | LFM000525-526 |
| Area O | LFM000529-530 |
| Area P | LFM000533-534 |
| Area Q | - |
| Area R | LFM000537 |
| Area S | - |
| Area T | LFM000543, LFM000545-547 |
| Area U | LFM000548-549 |

Appendix 2

Interpretation maps and sections

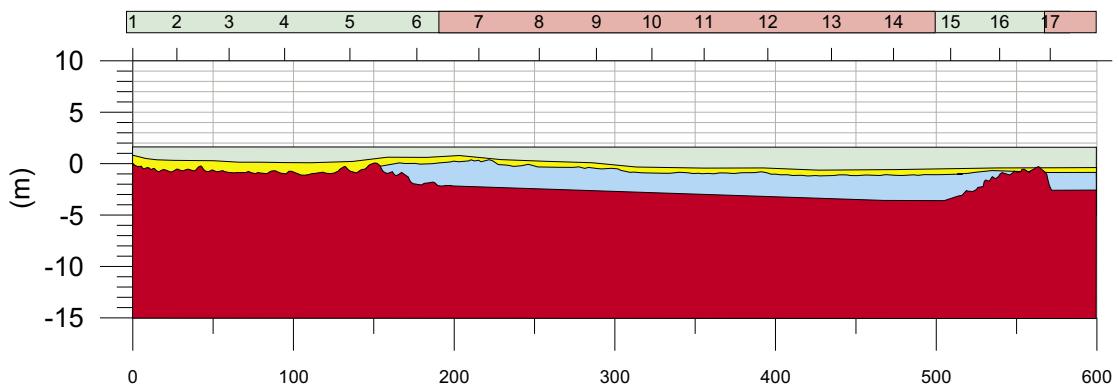
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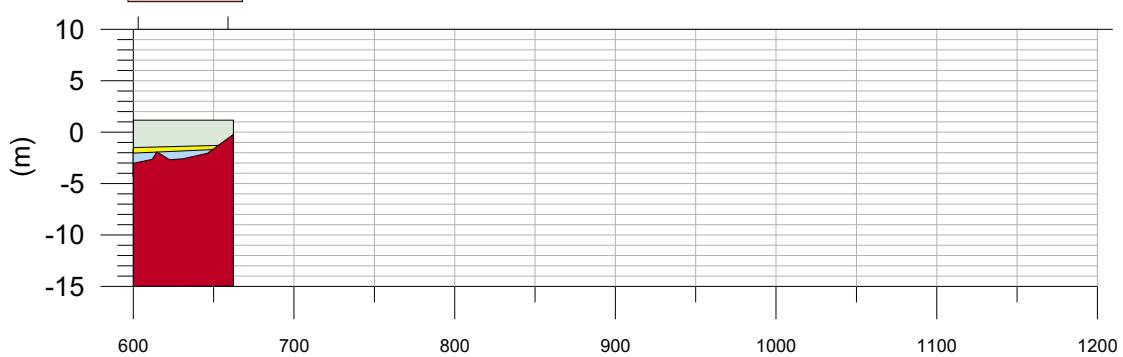
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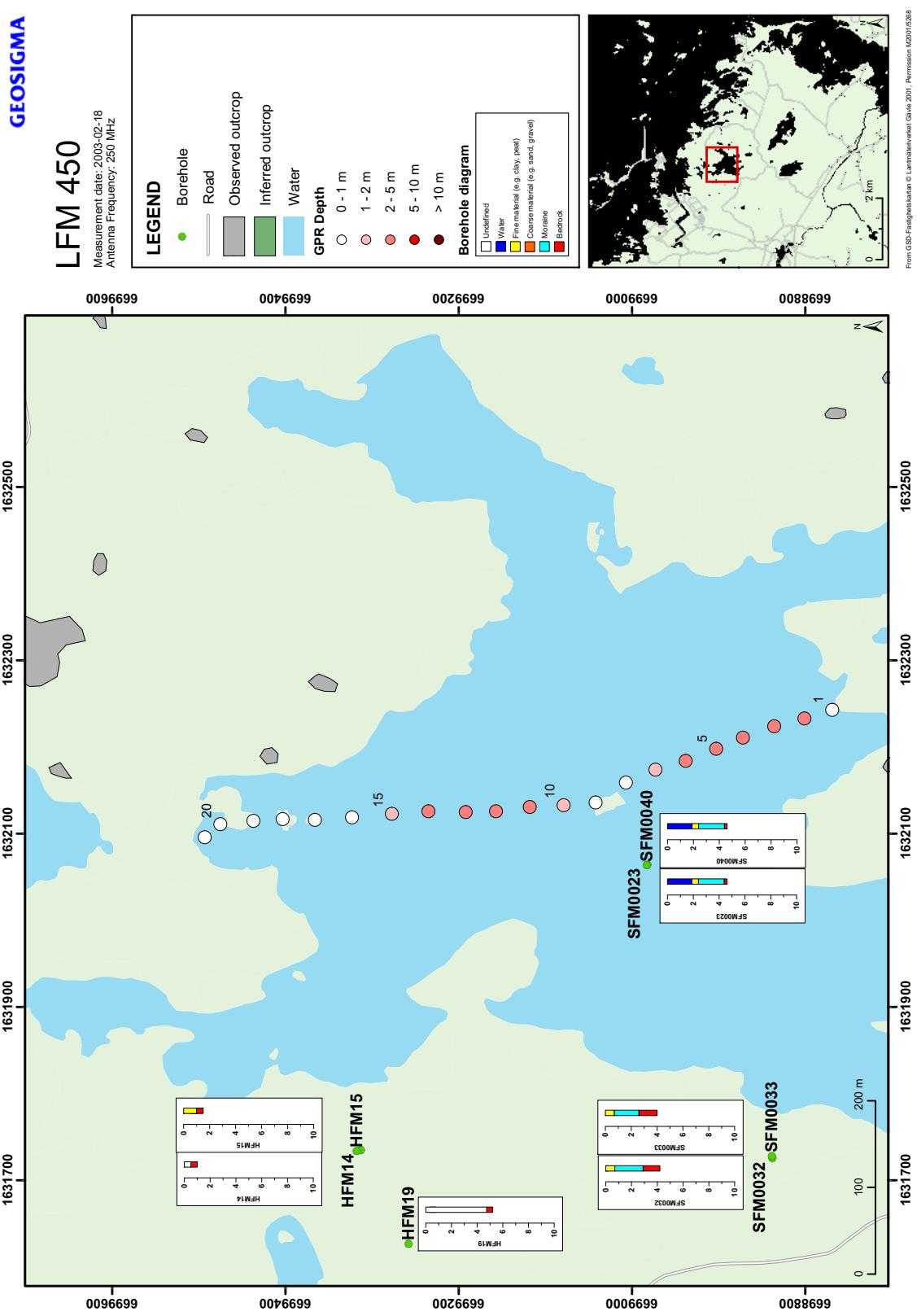


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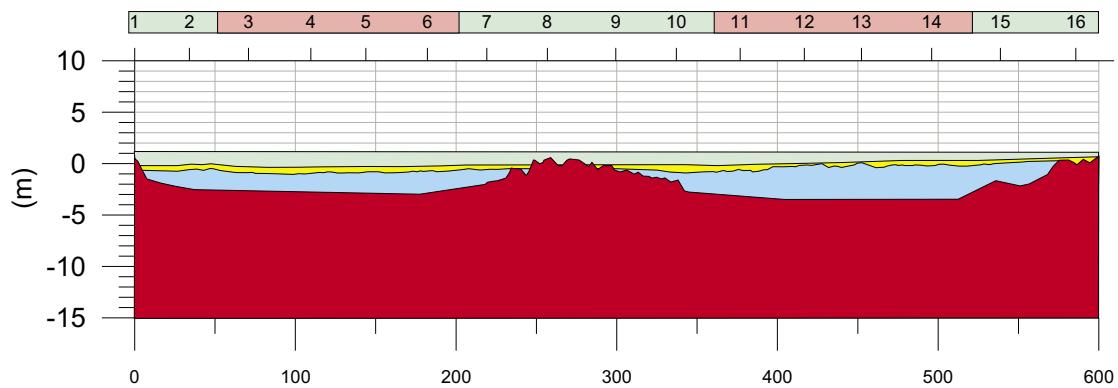
| | |
|-------------------|-----------------|
| [Light Green Box] | WATER |
| [Light Blue Box] | MORAINE |
| [Yellow Box] | FINE MATERIAL |
| [Orange Box] | COARSE MATERIAL |
| [Dark Red Box] | BEDROCK |
| [Light Green Box] | GOOD DATA |
| [Pink Box] | POOR DATA |



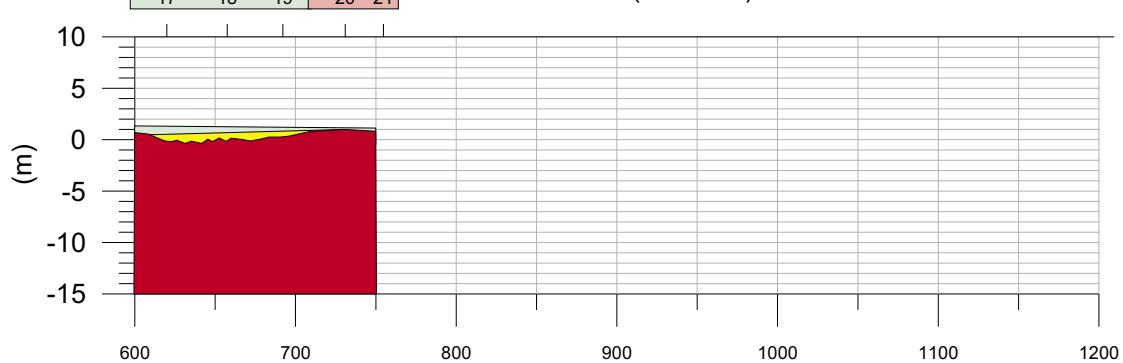
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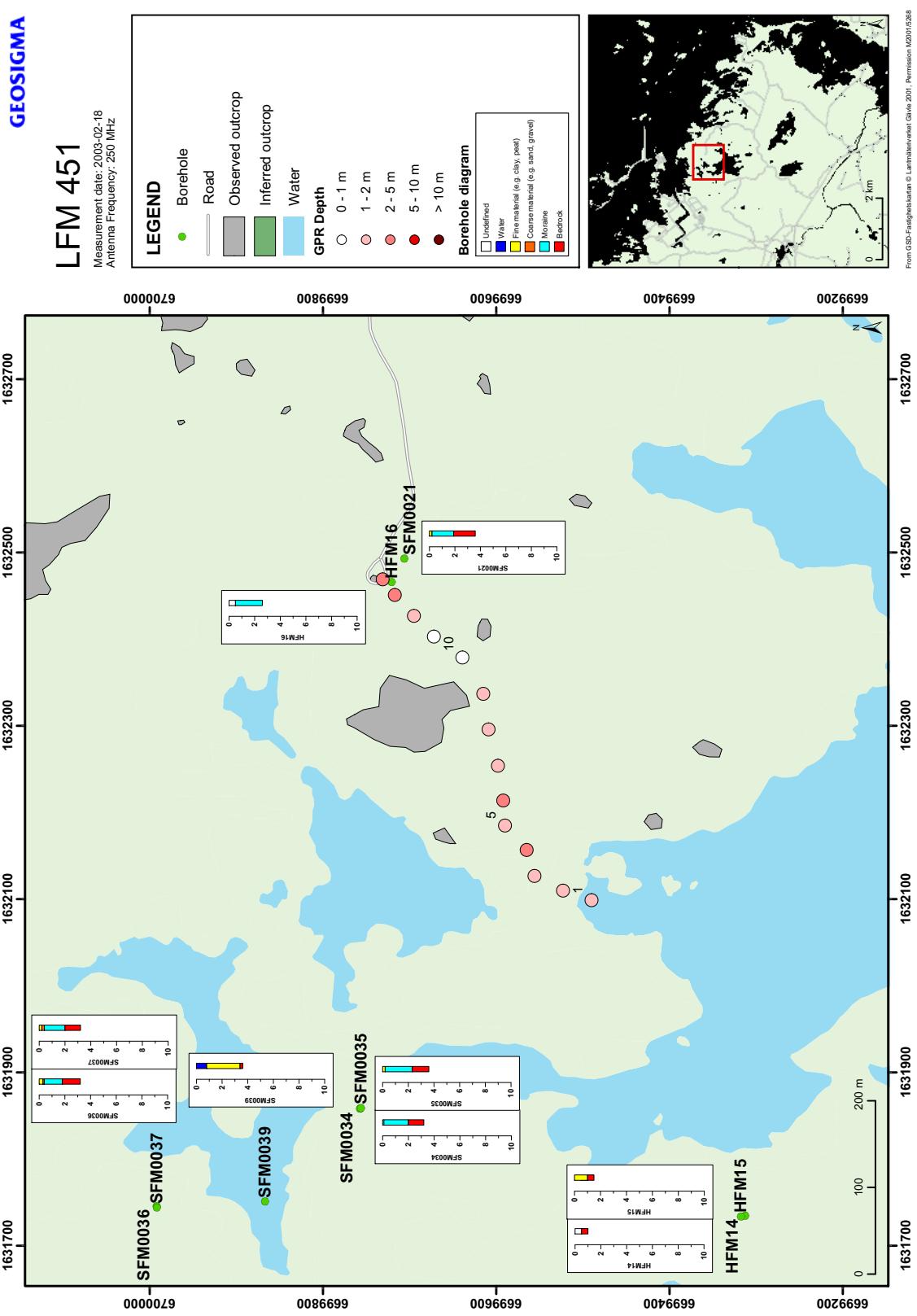


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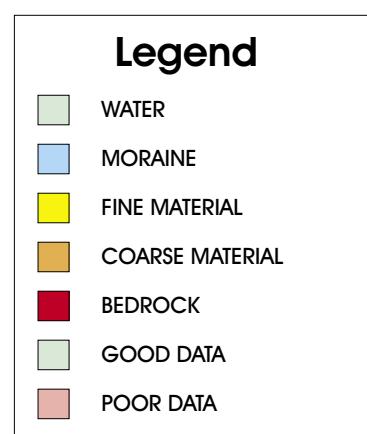
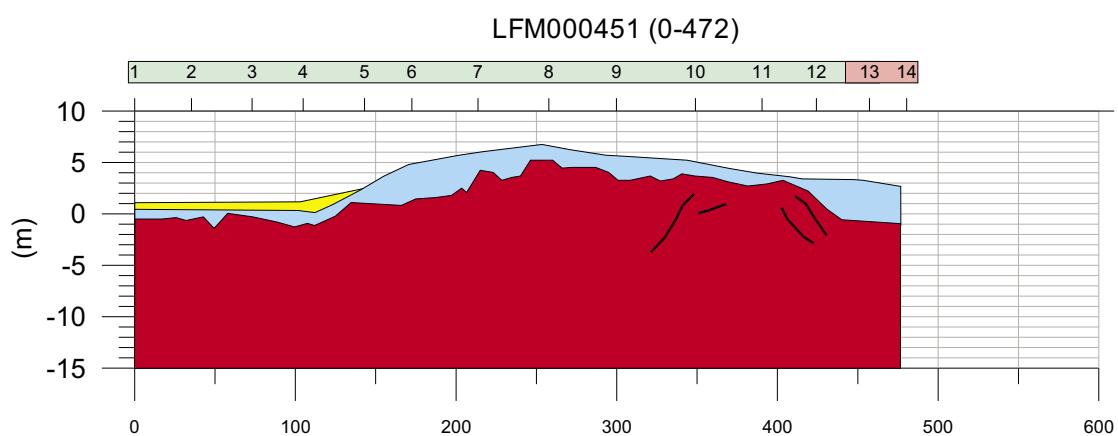
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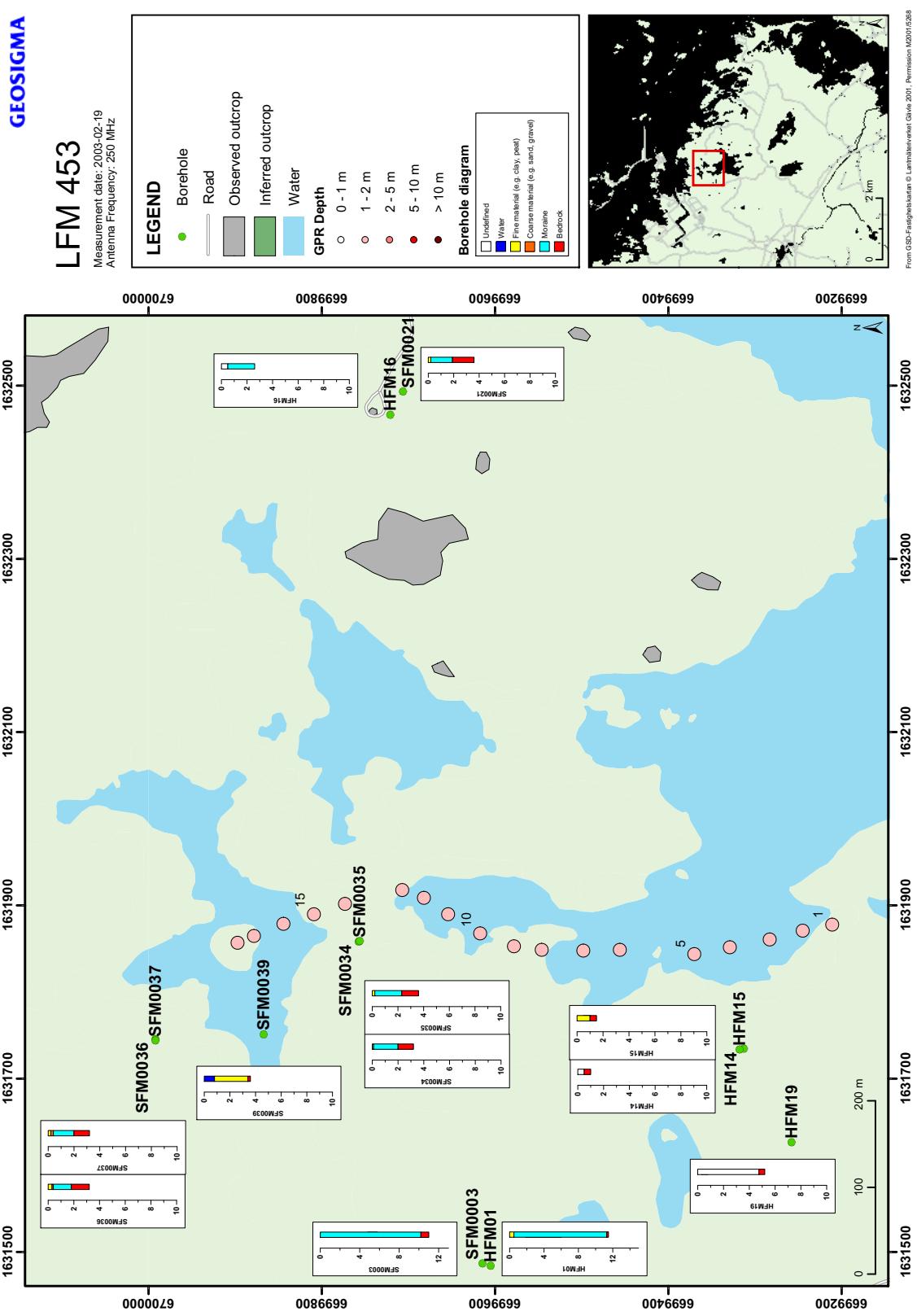
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- MORAINE
- FINE MATERIAL
- COARSE MATERIAL
- BEDROCK
- GOOD DATA
- POOR DATA



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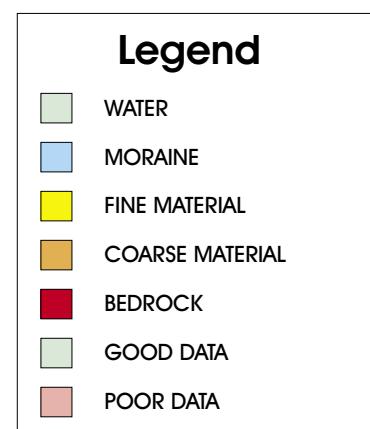
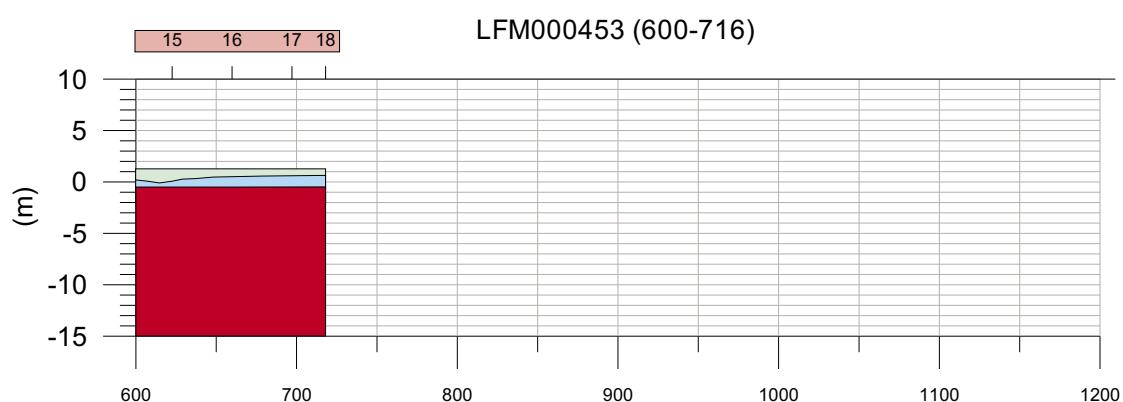
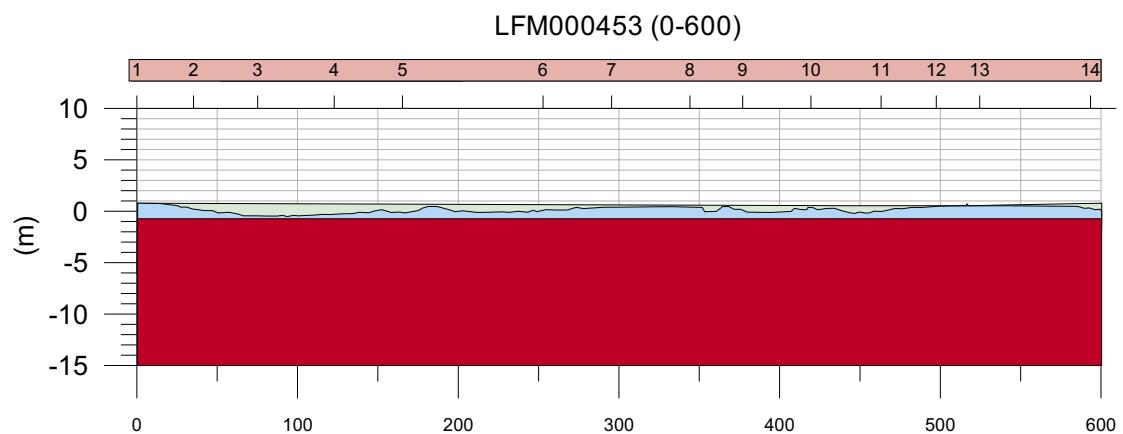
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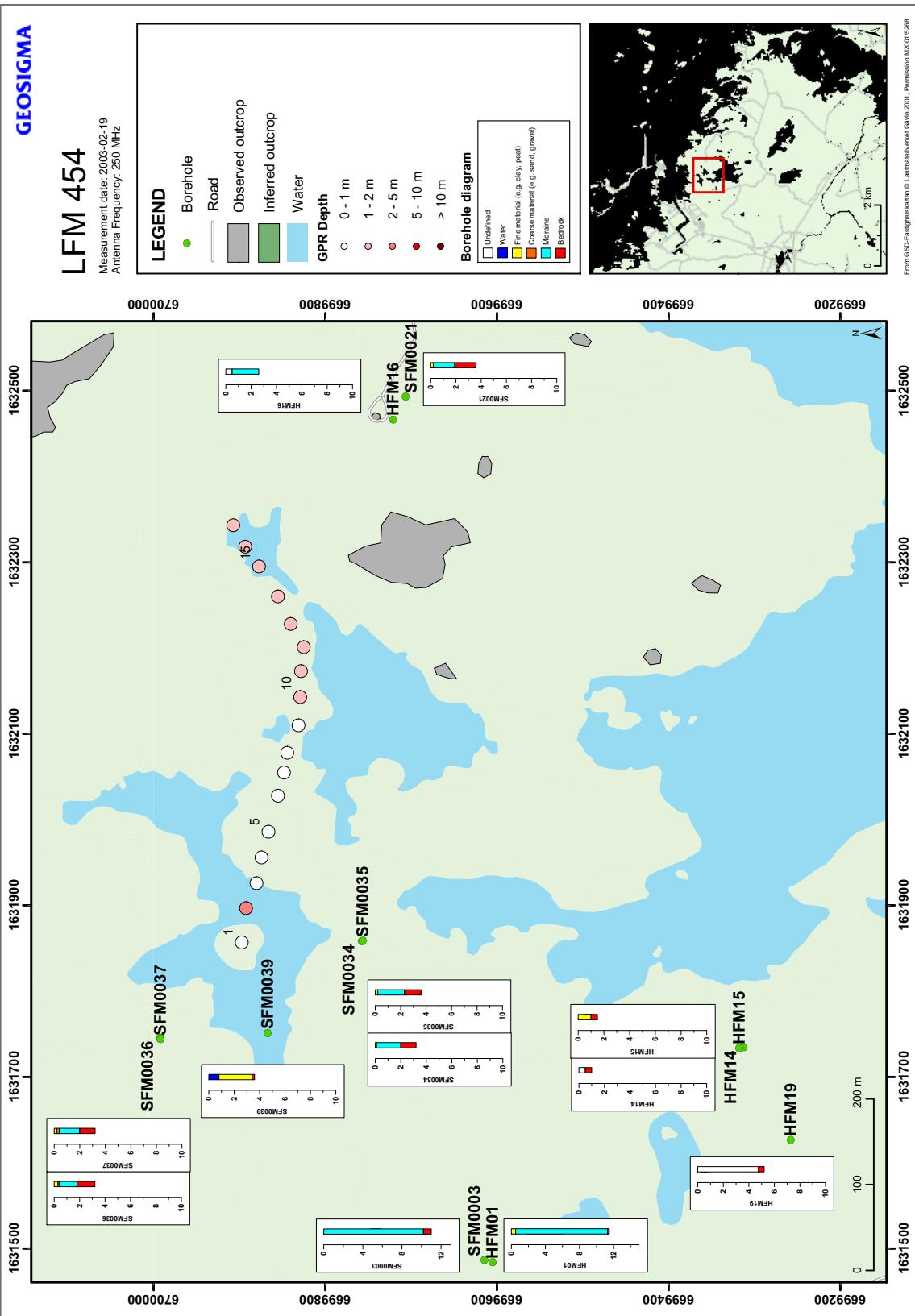




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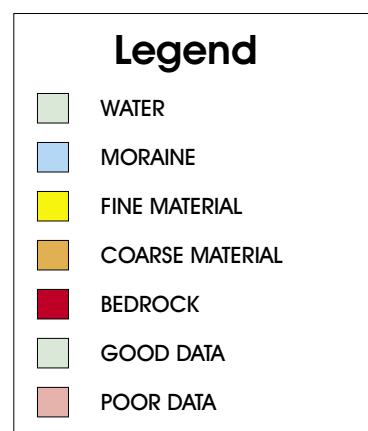
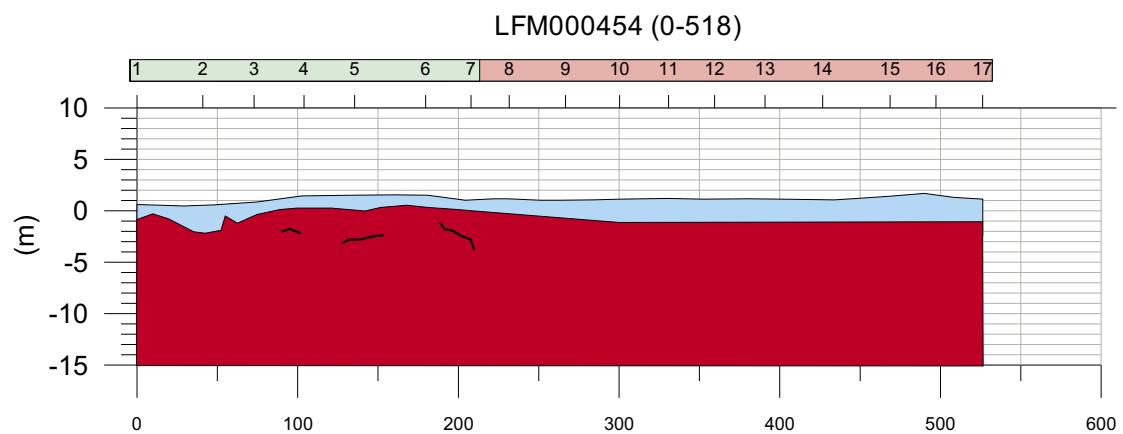
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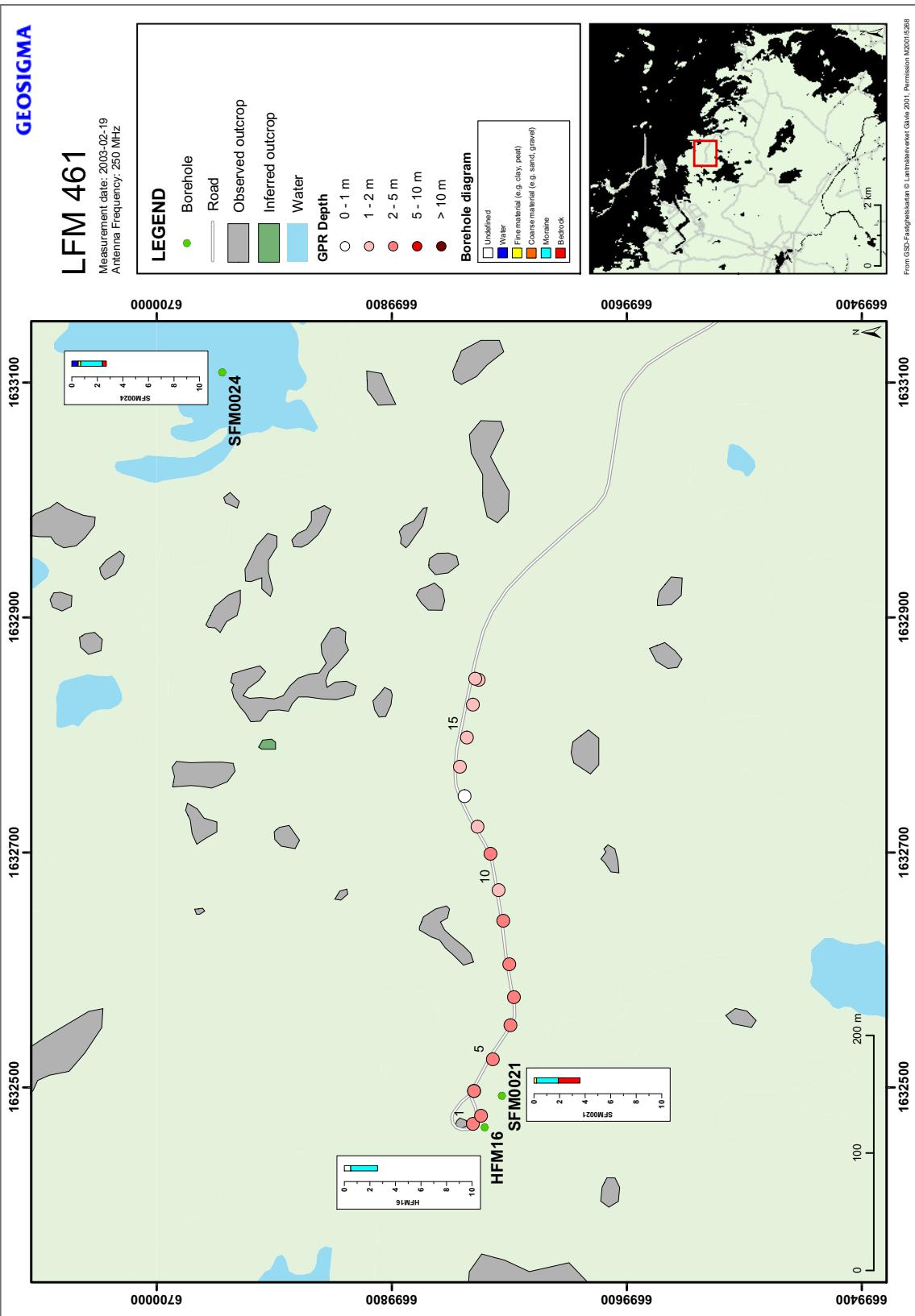




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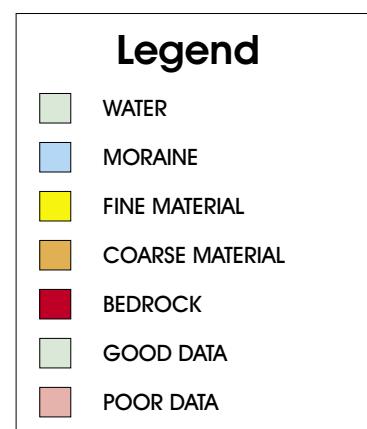
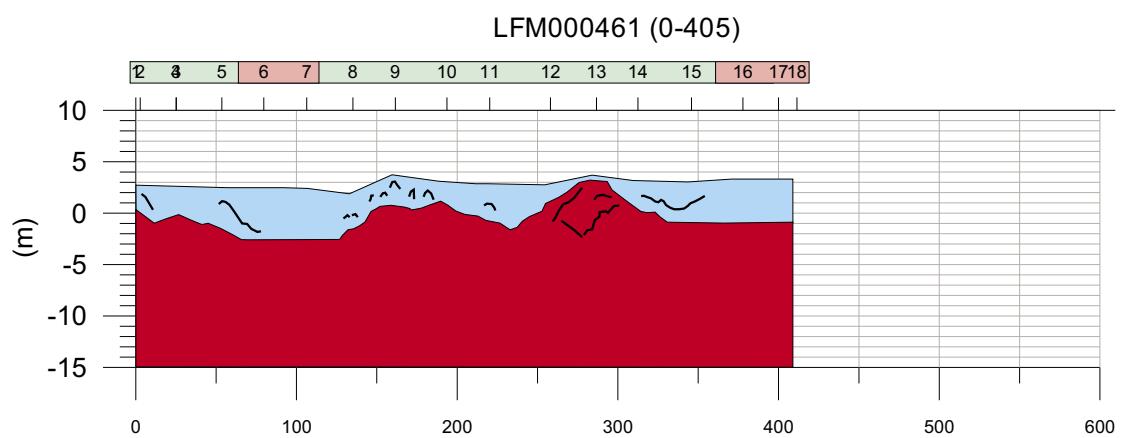
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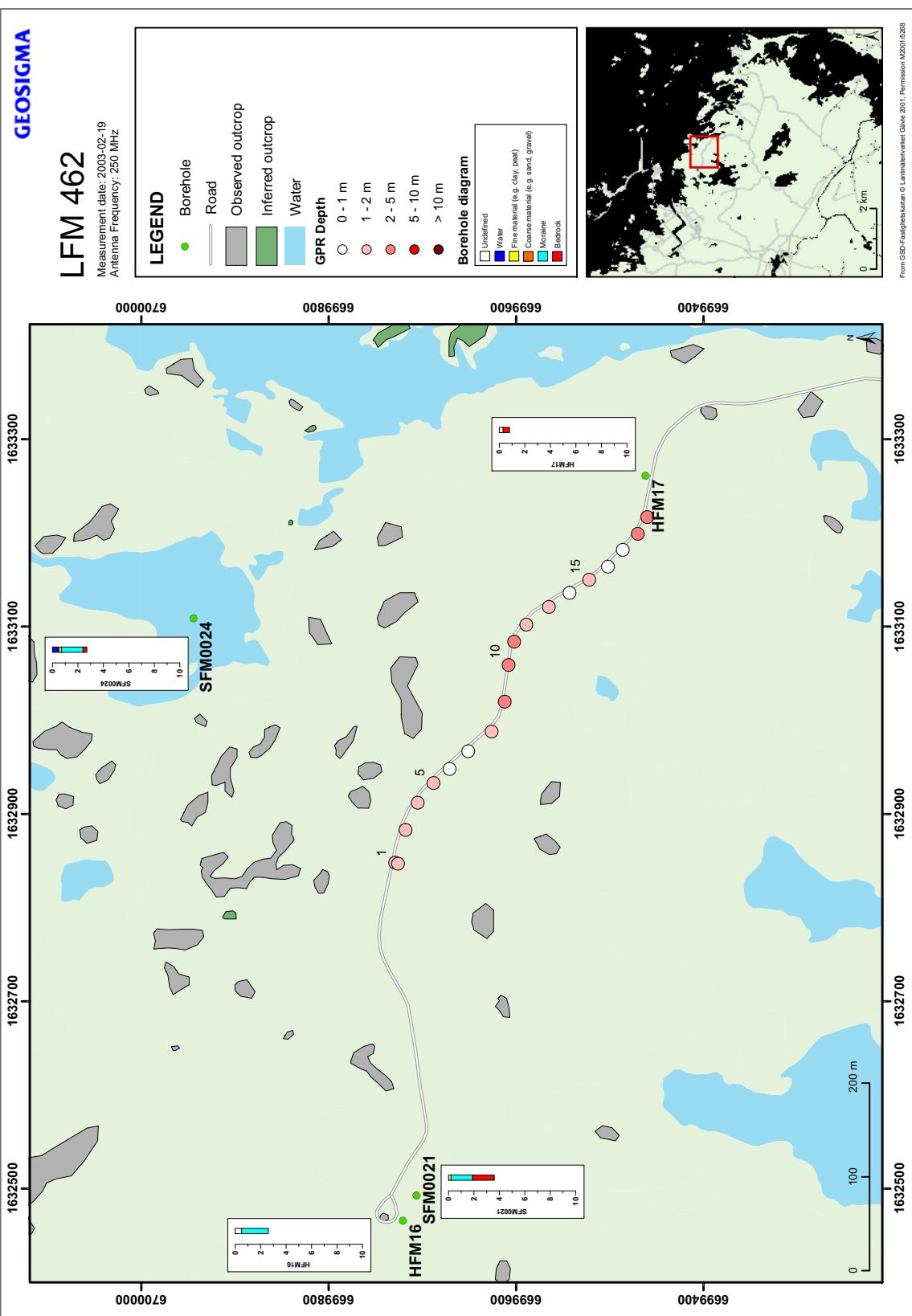




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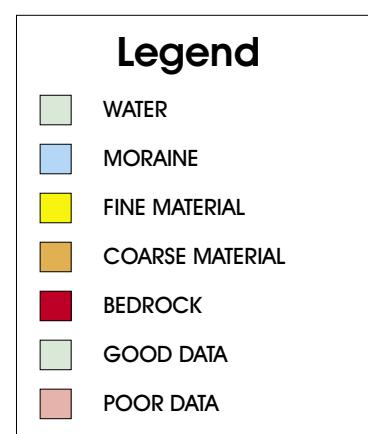
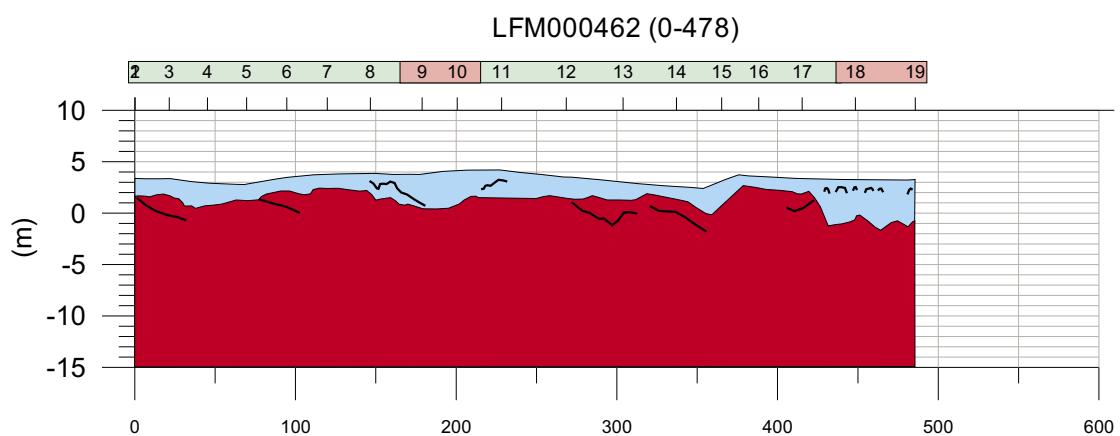
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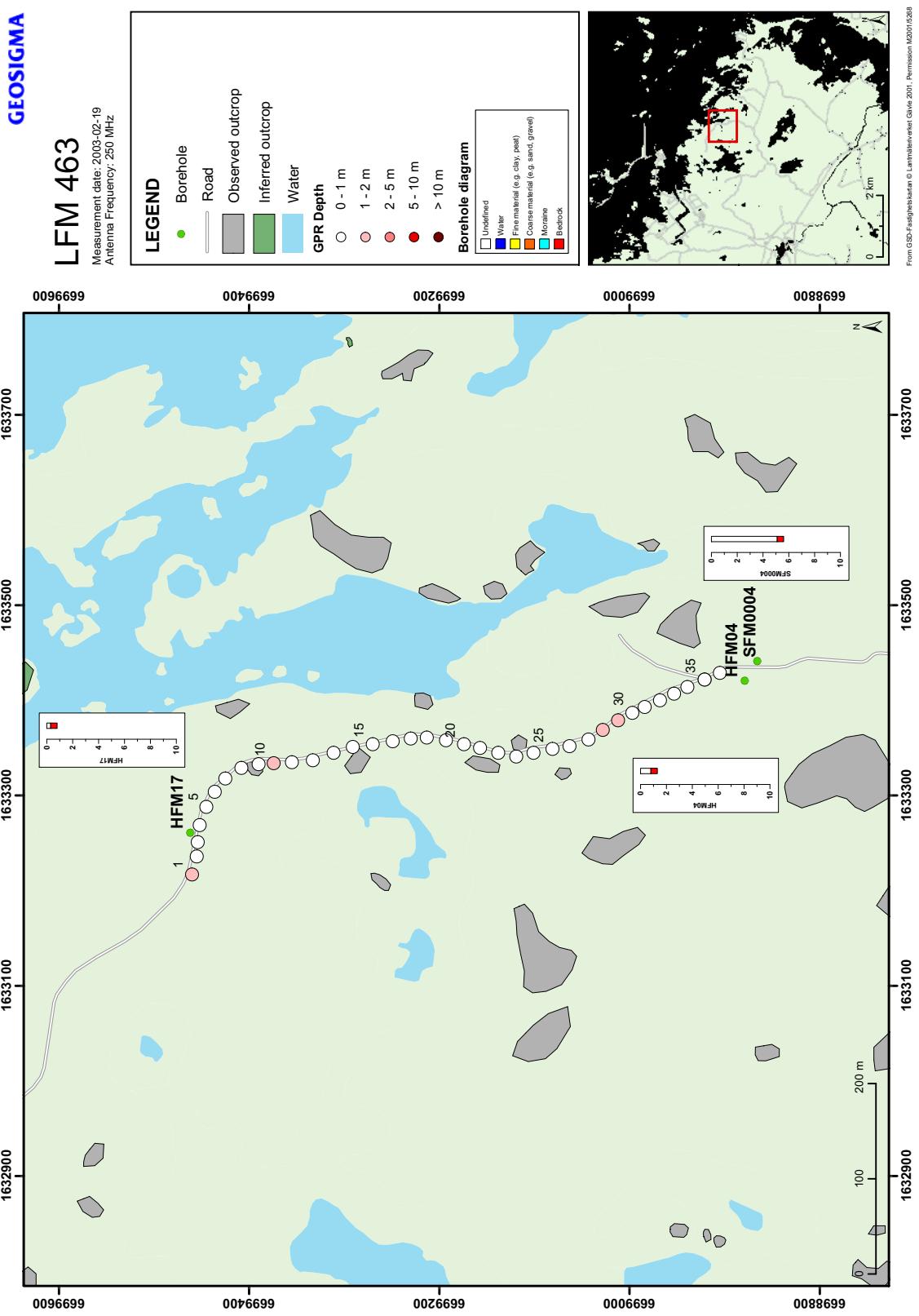




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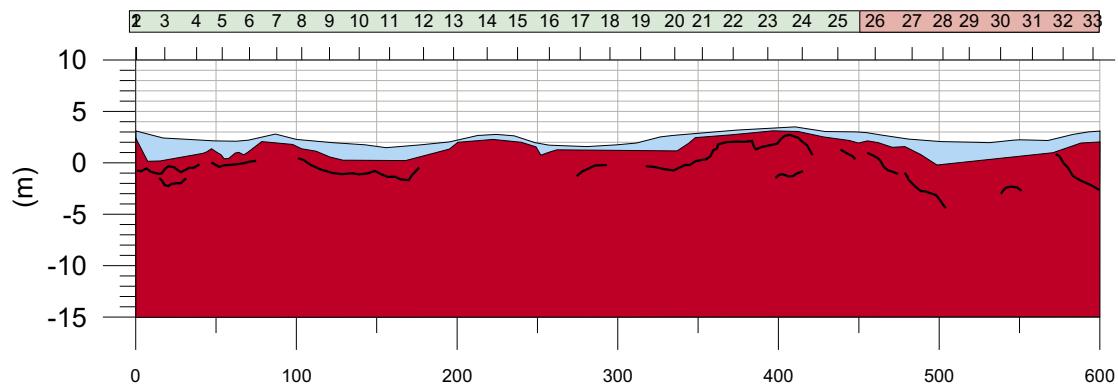




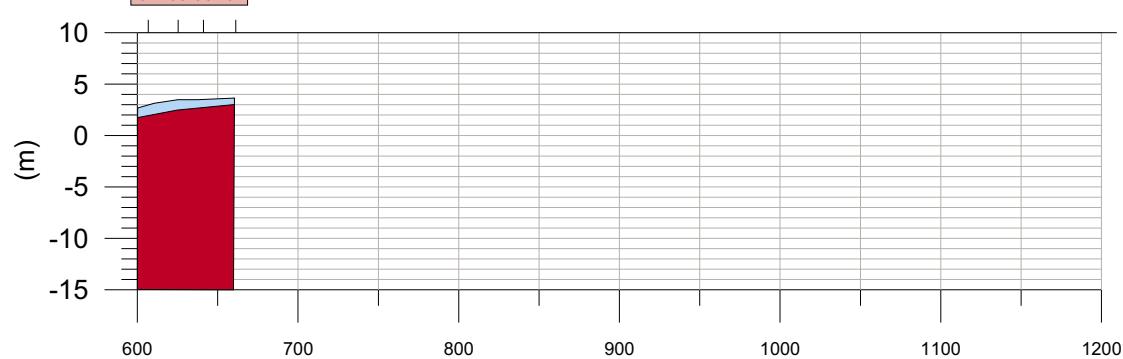
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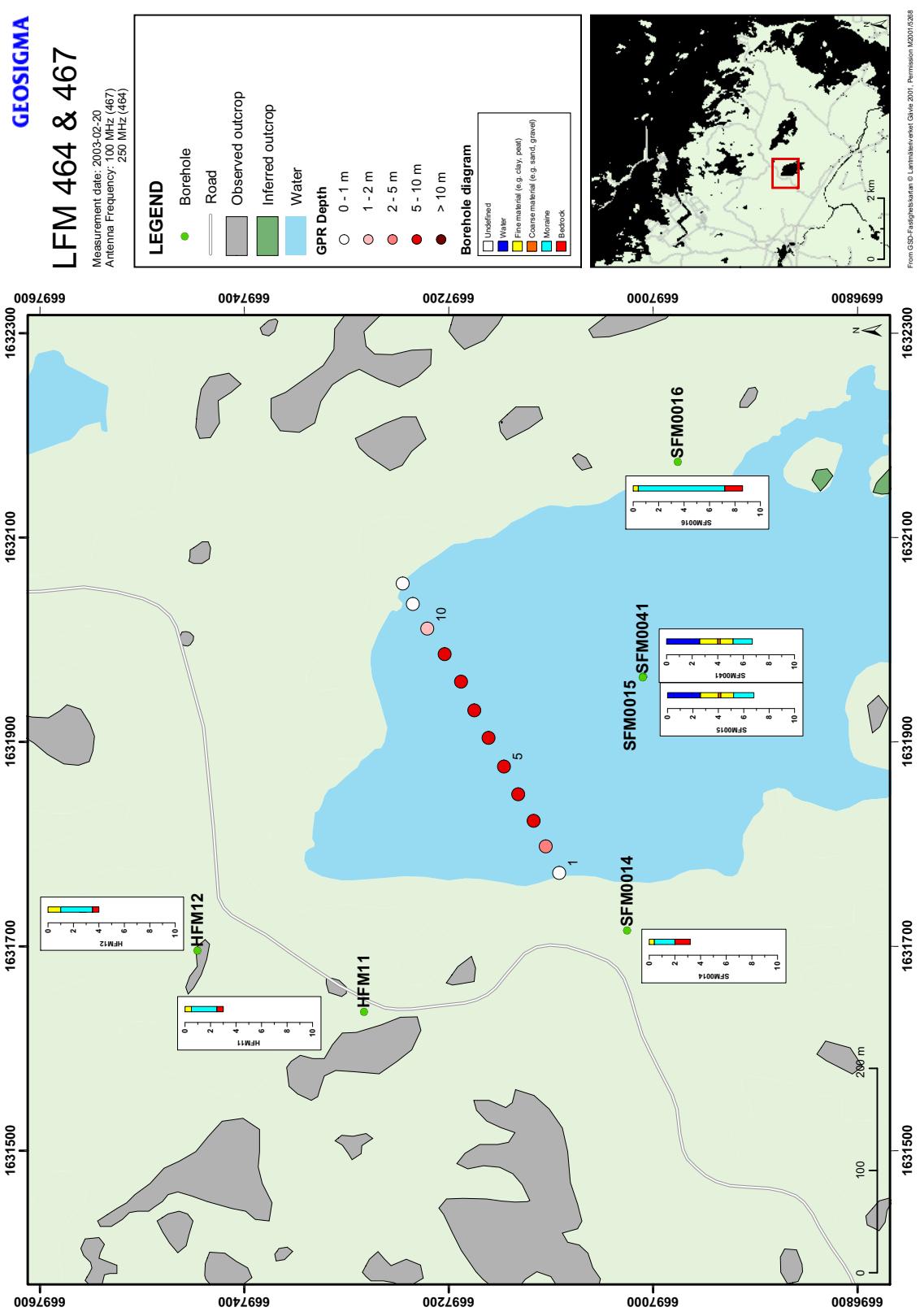


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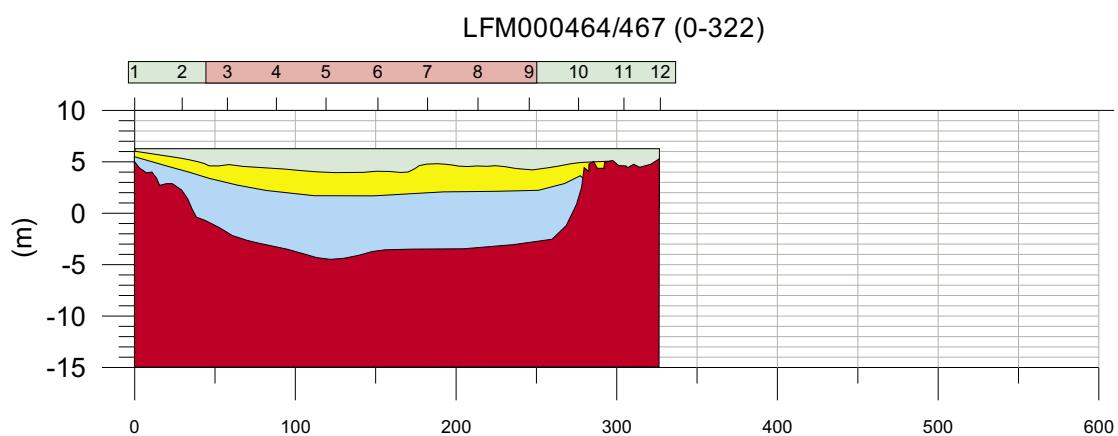
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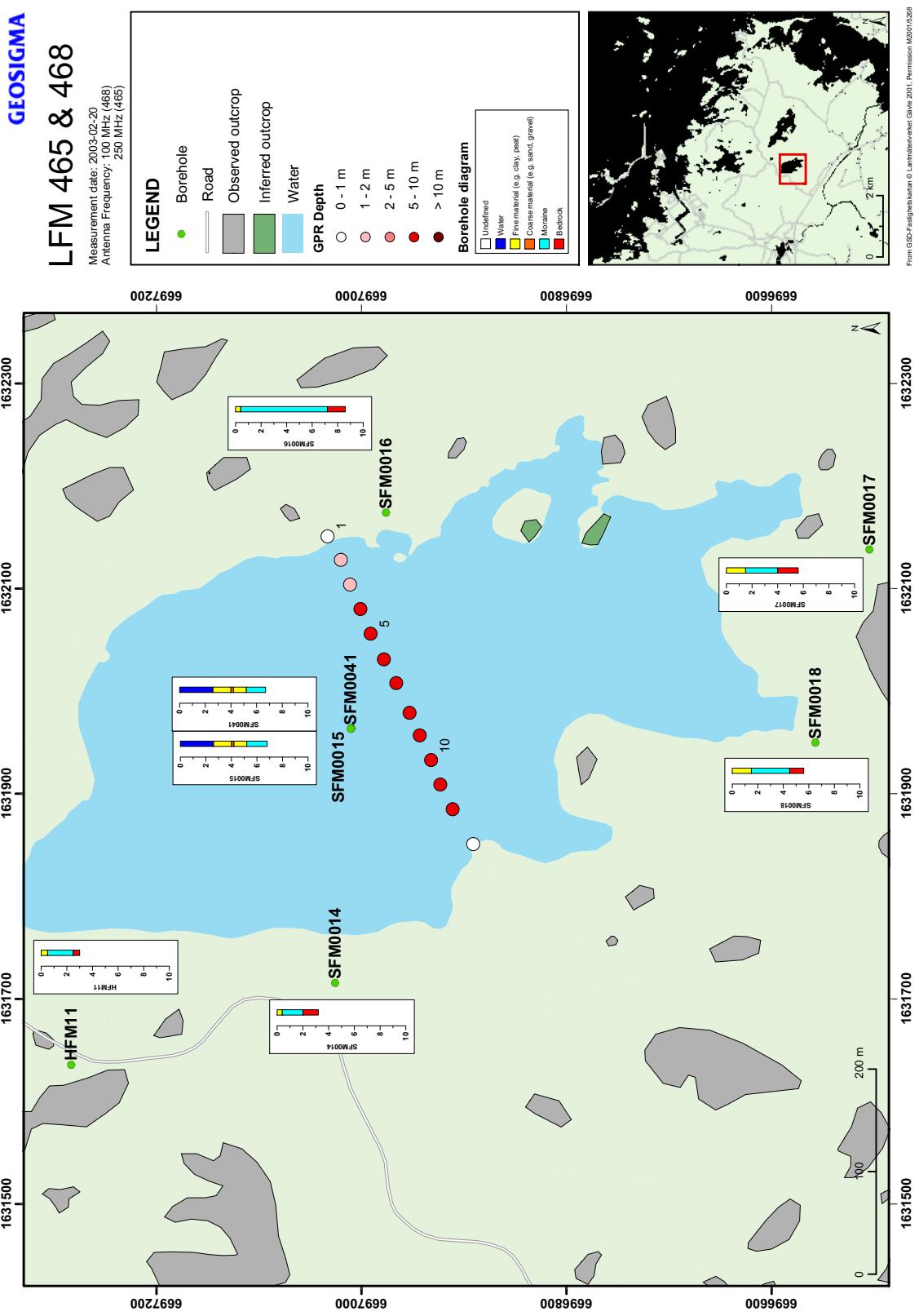
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- COARSE MATERIAL
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- GOOD DATA
- POOR DATA



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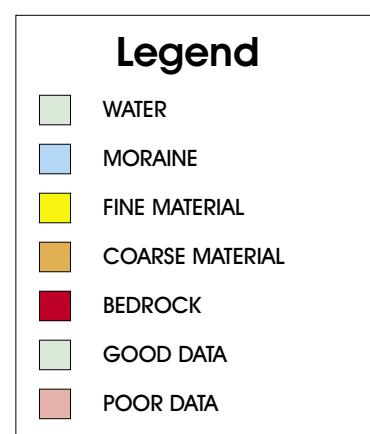
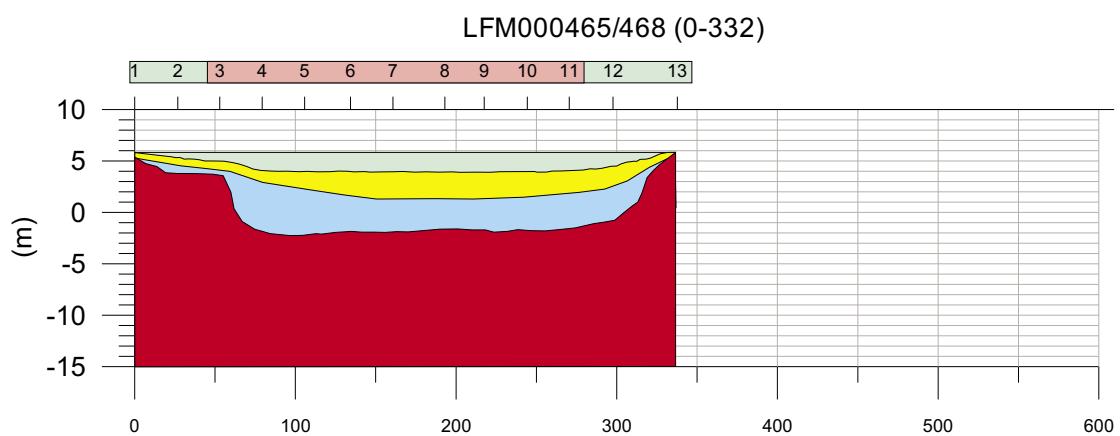
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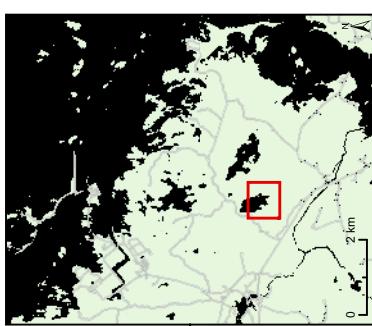
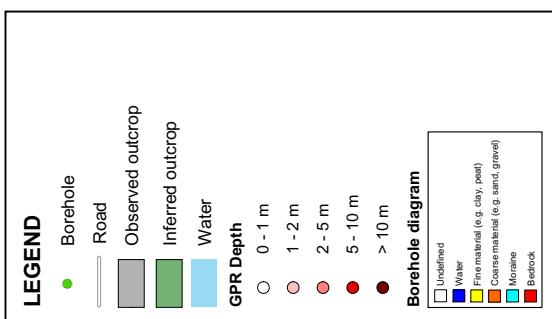
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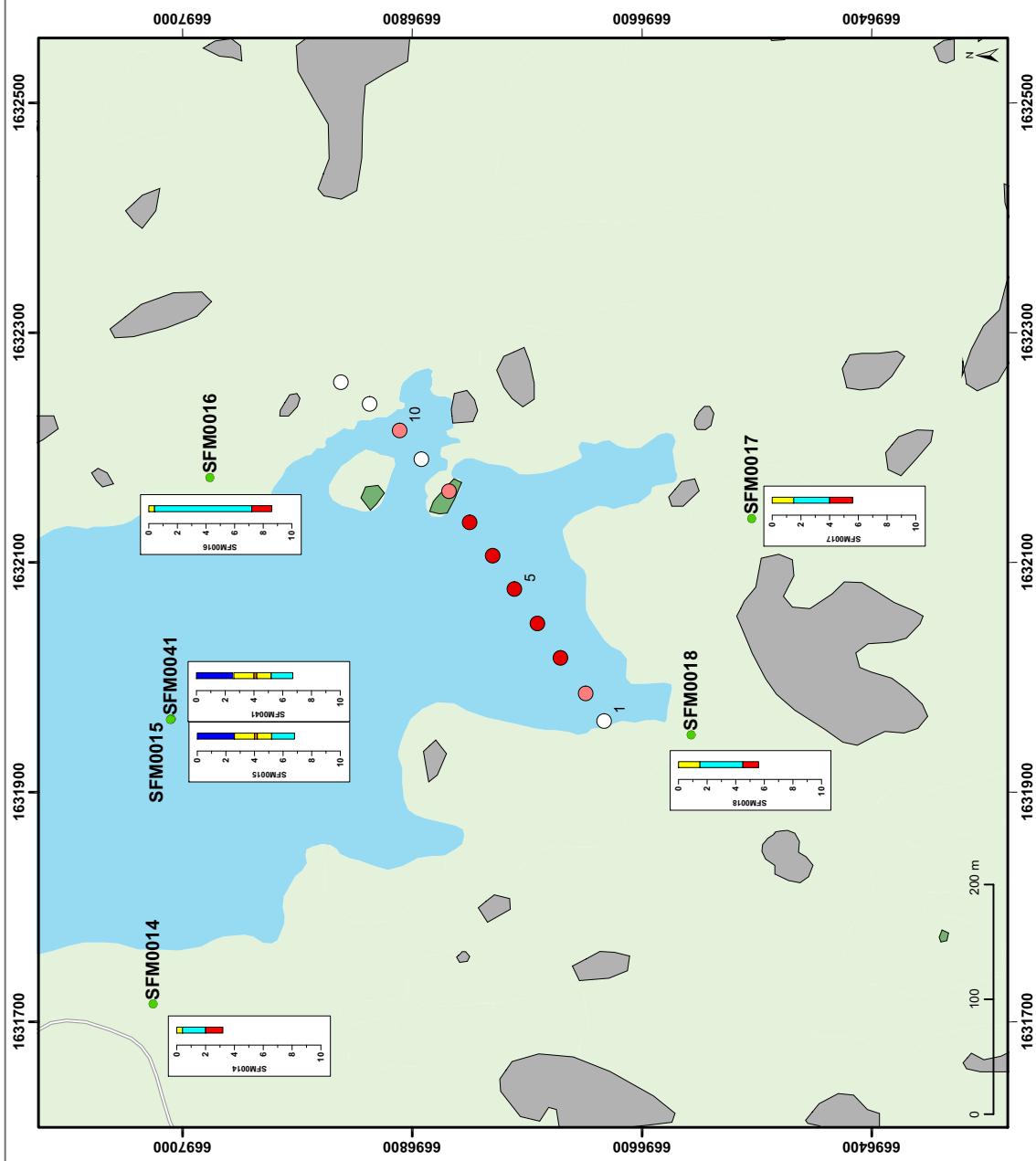
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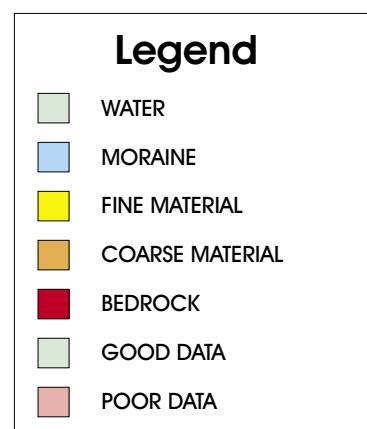
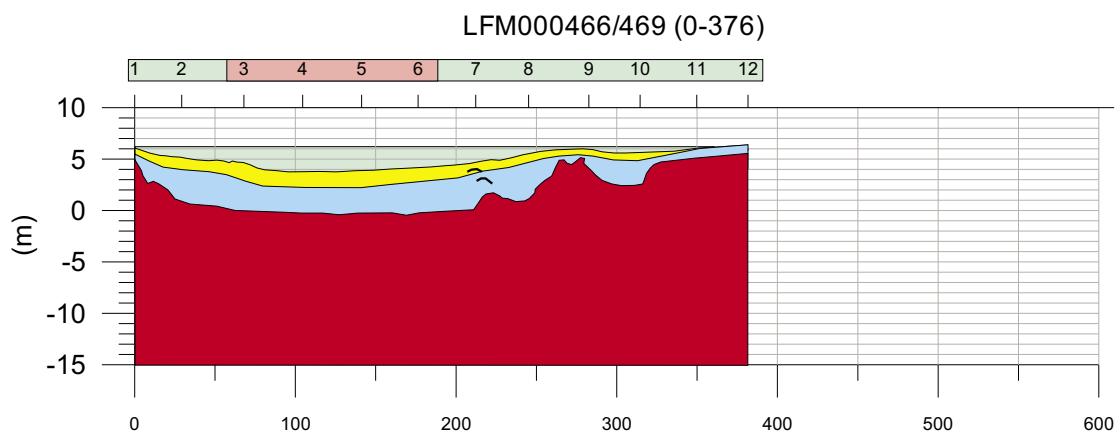


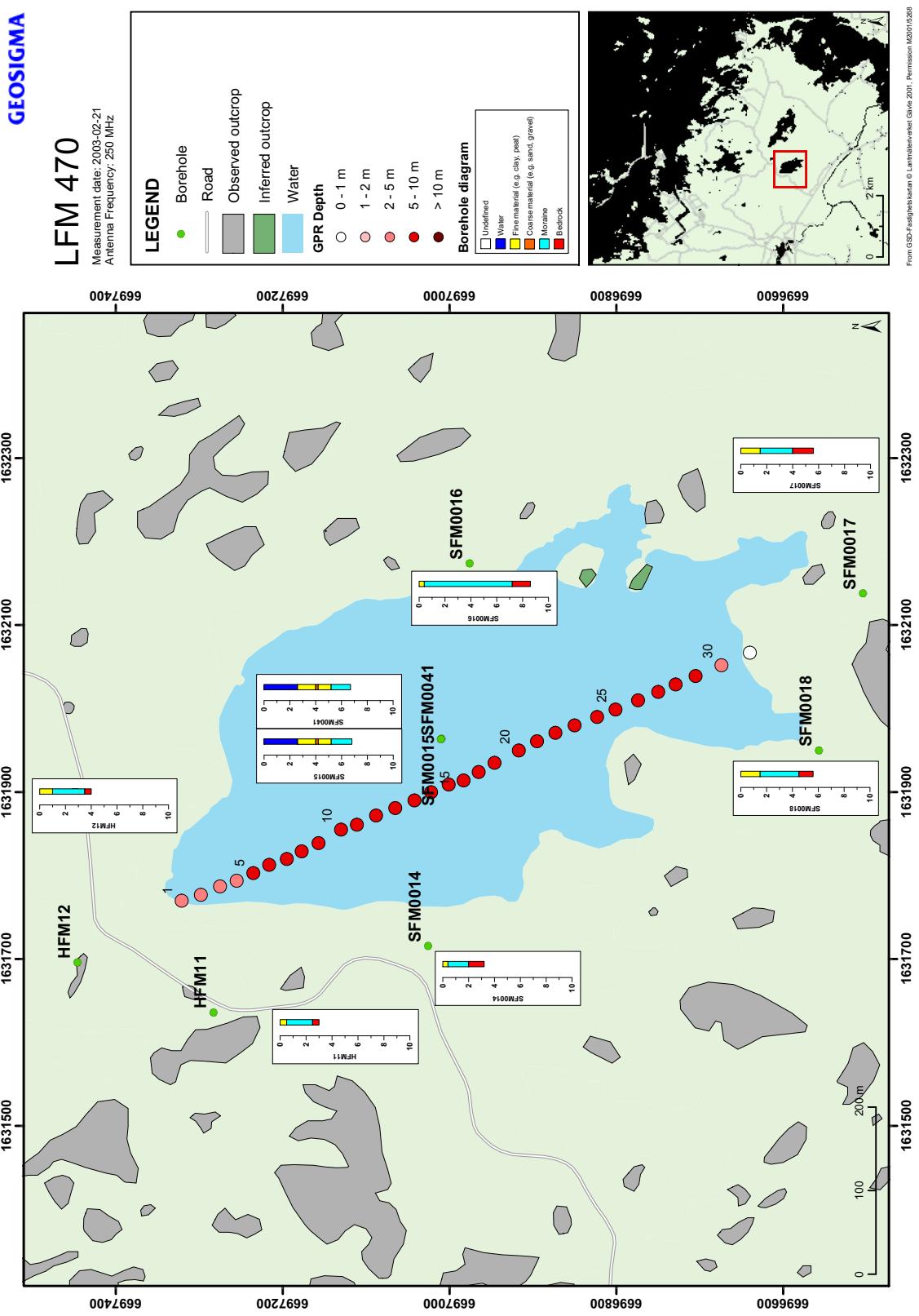
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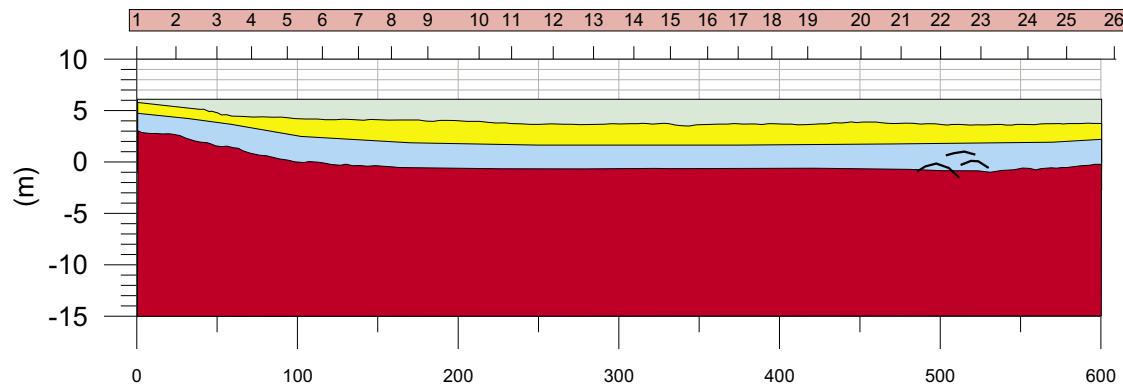




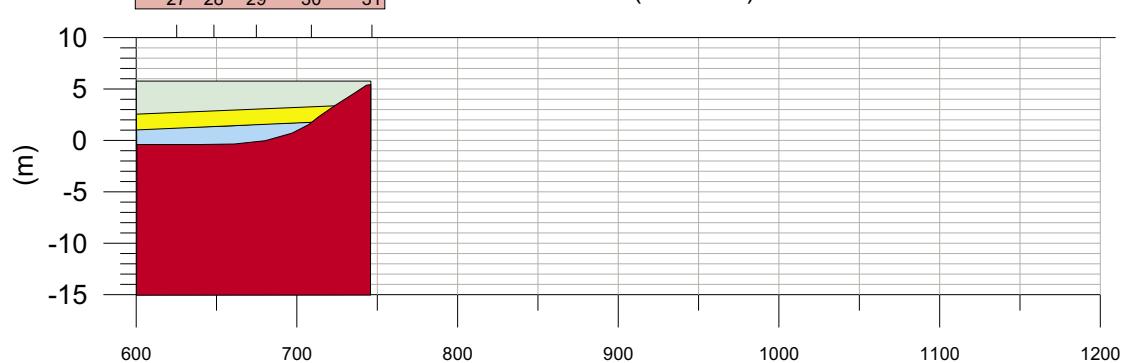
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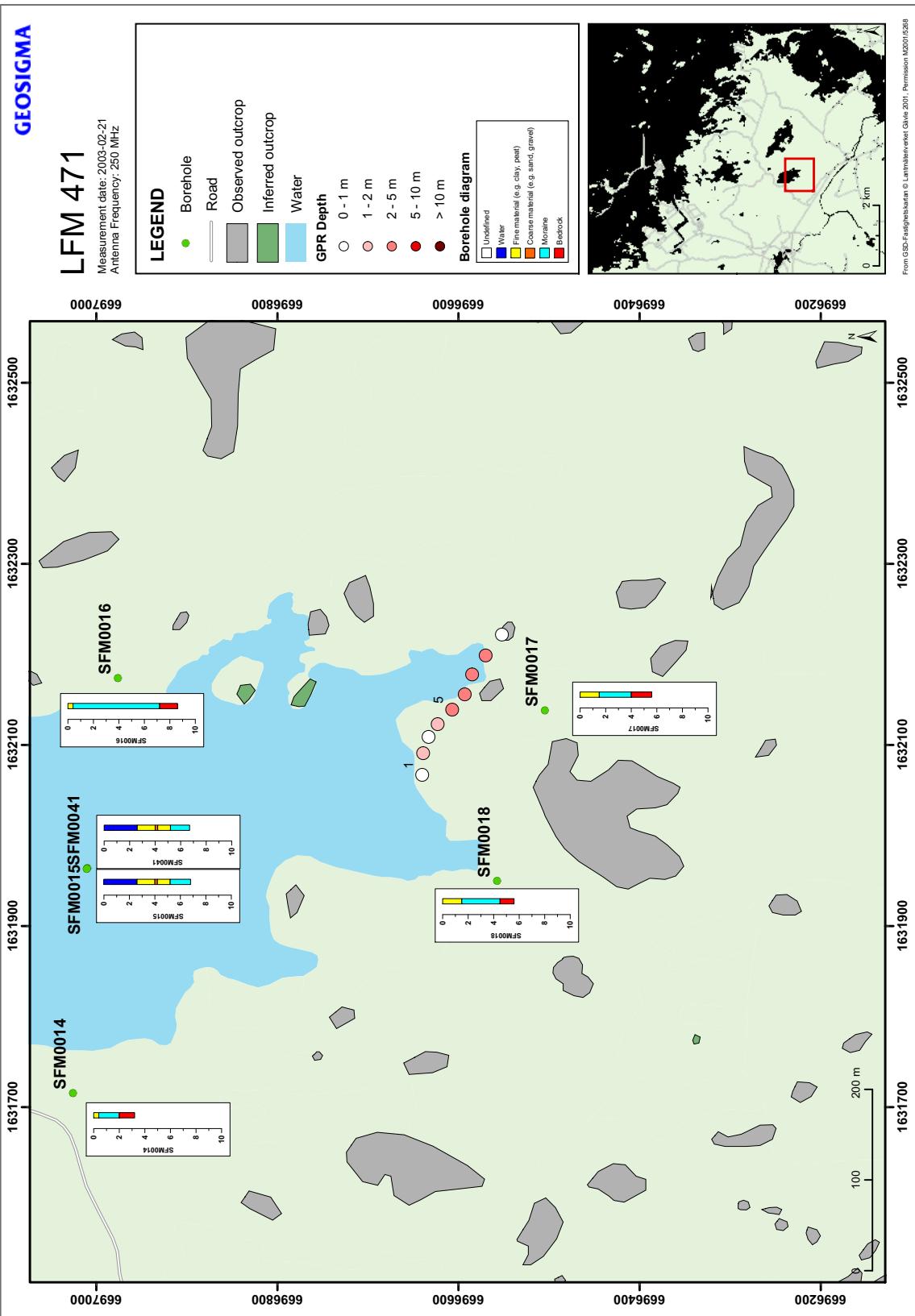


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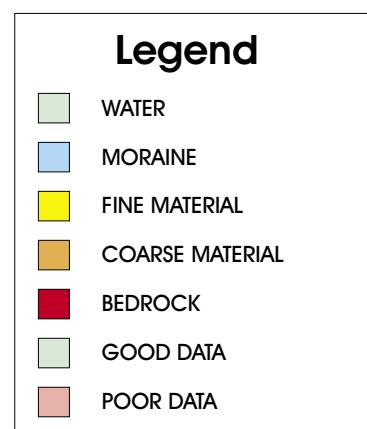
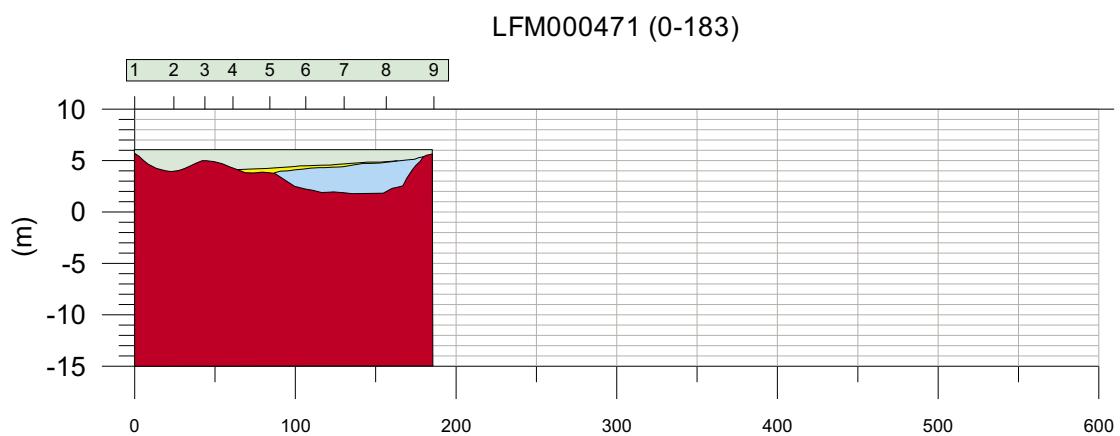
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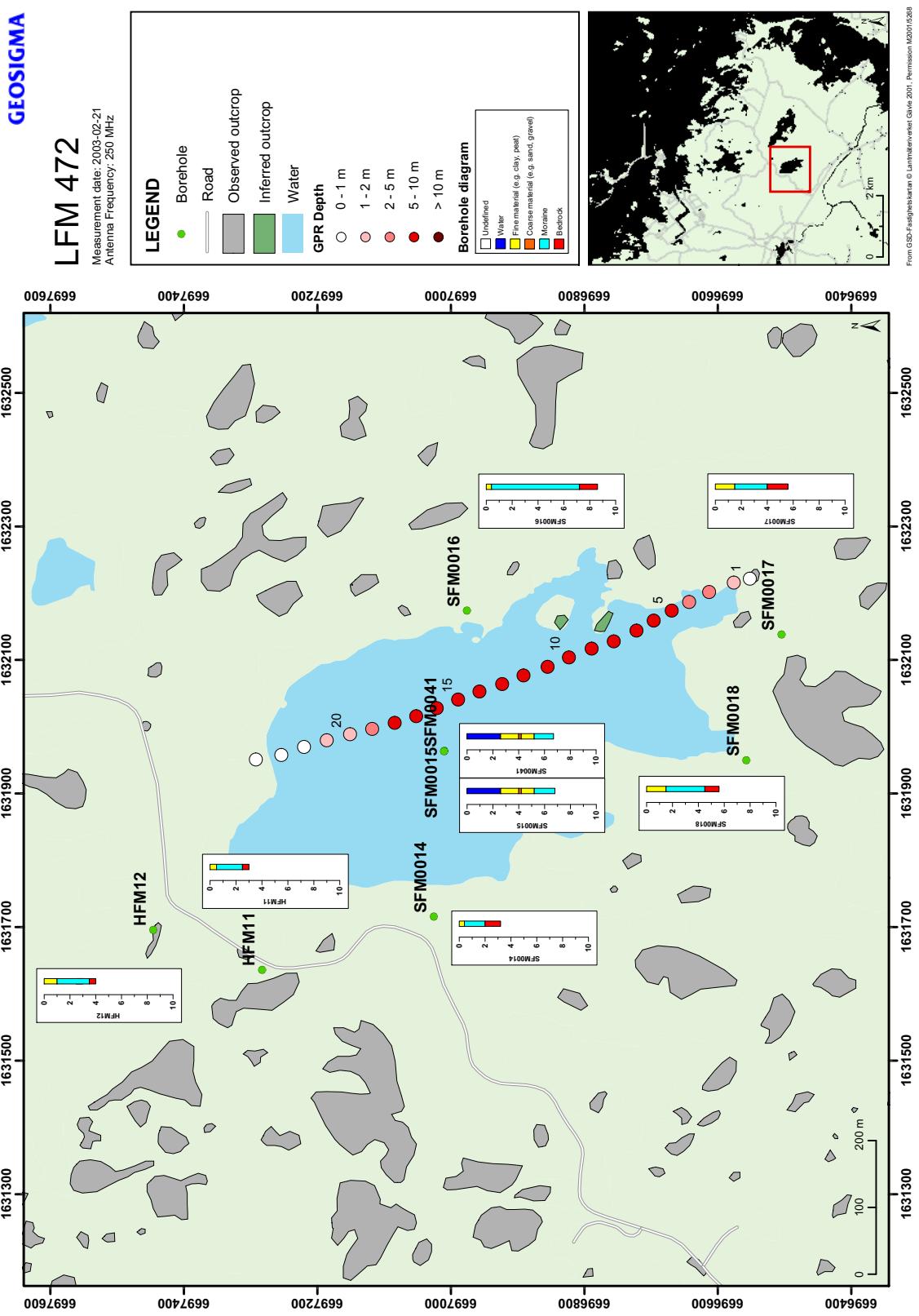
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- GOOD DATA
- POOR DATA



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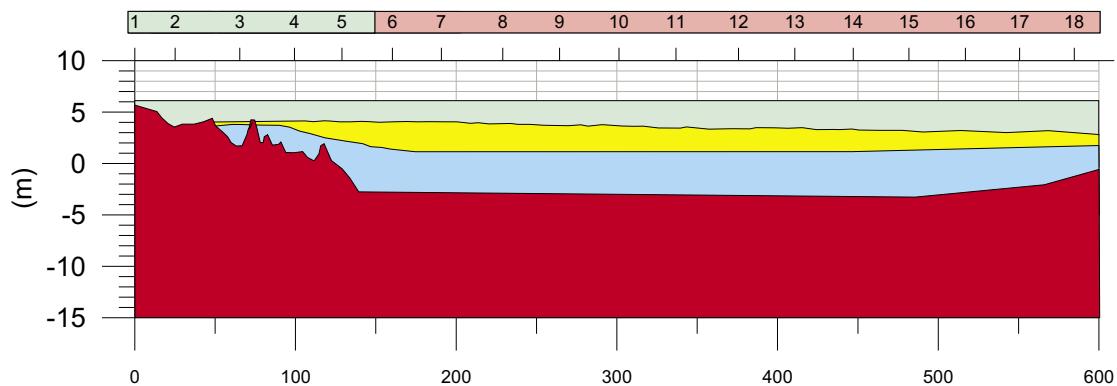




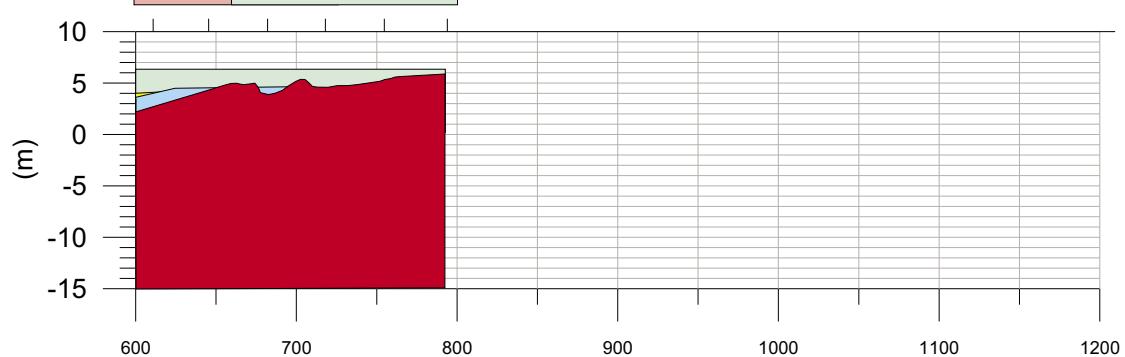
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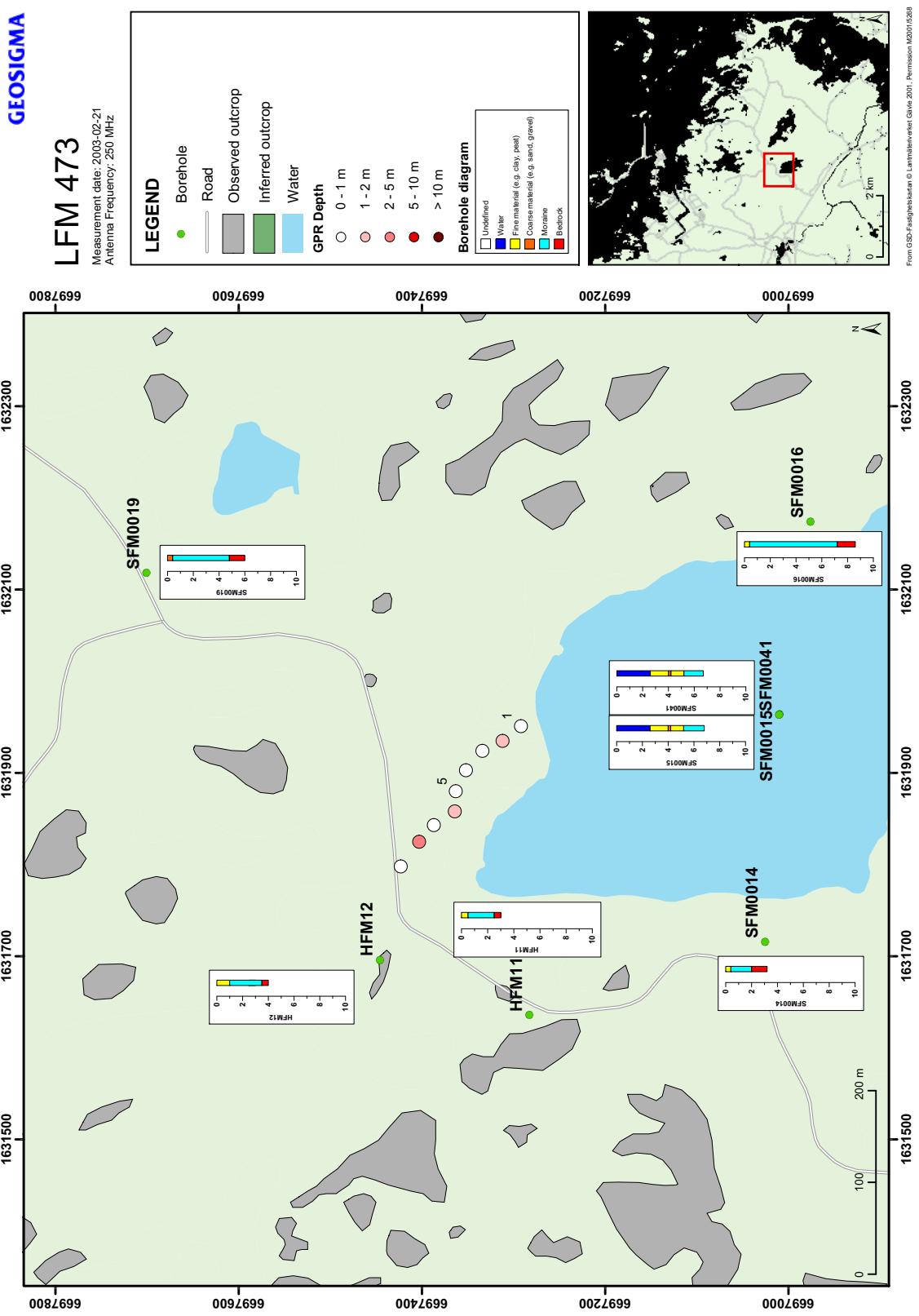


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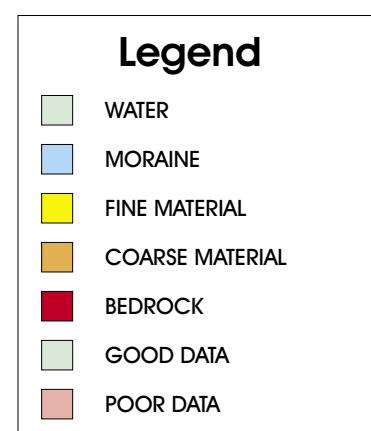
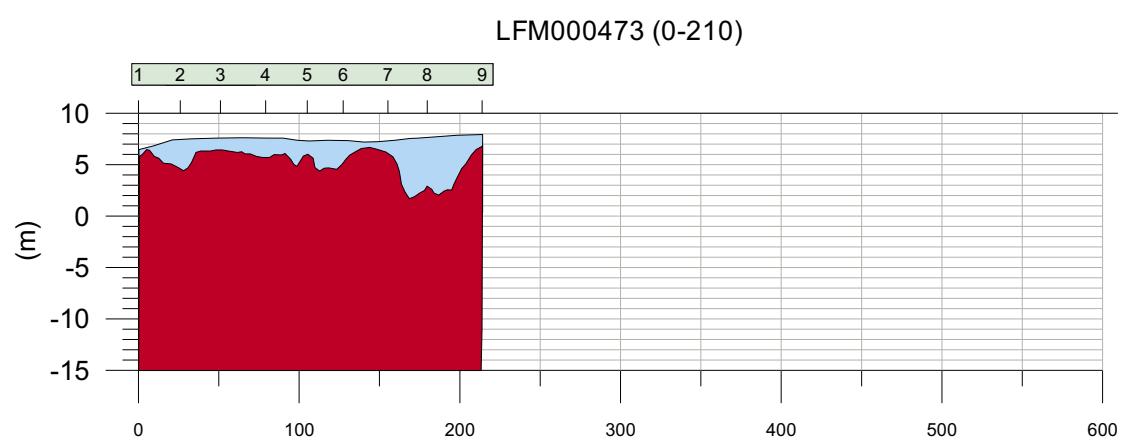
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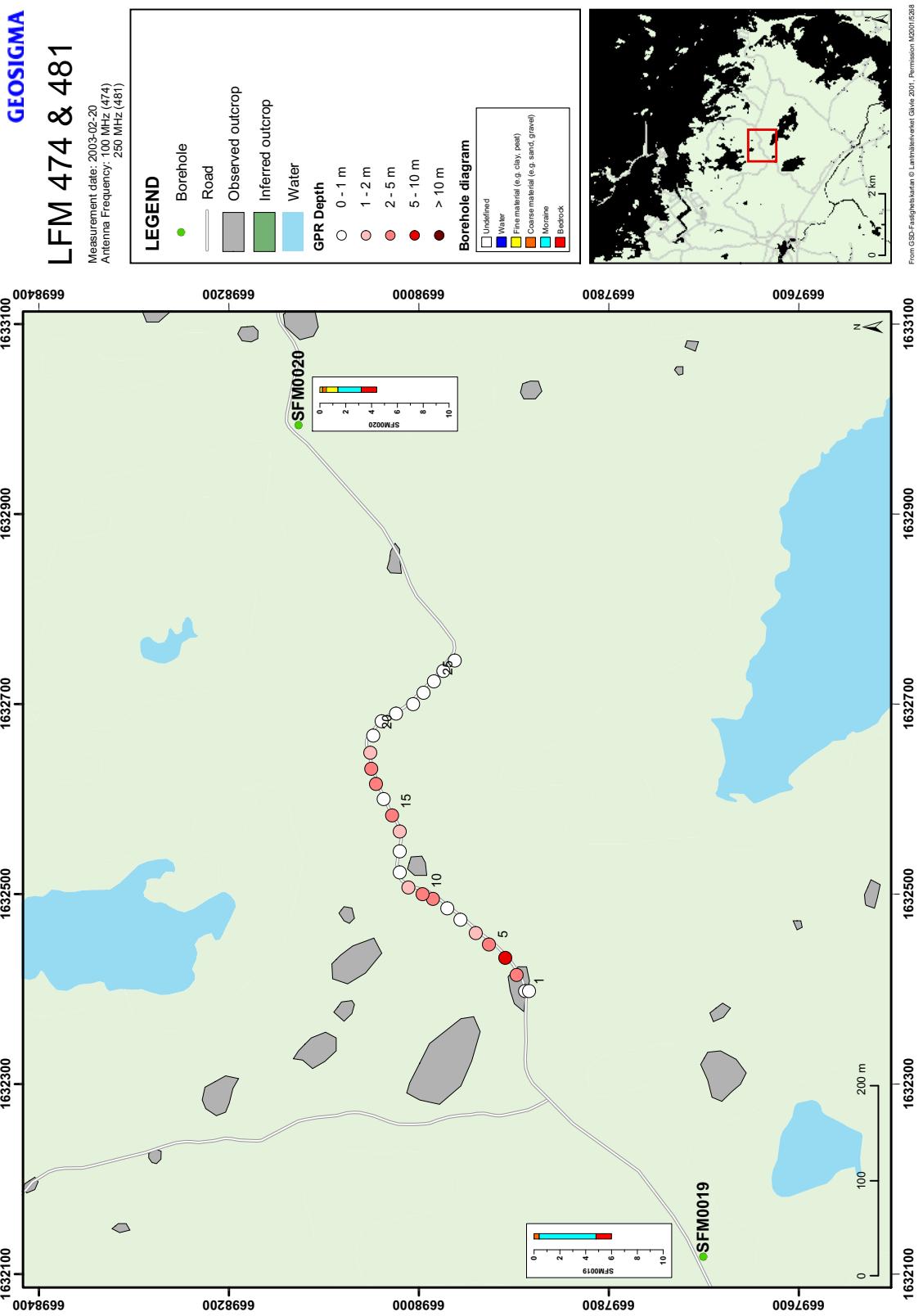
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- BEDROCK
- GOOD DATA
- POOR DATA



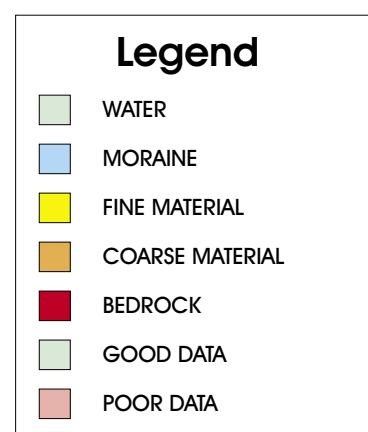
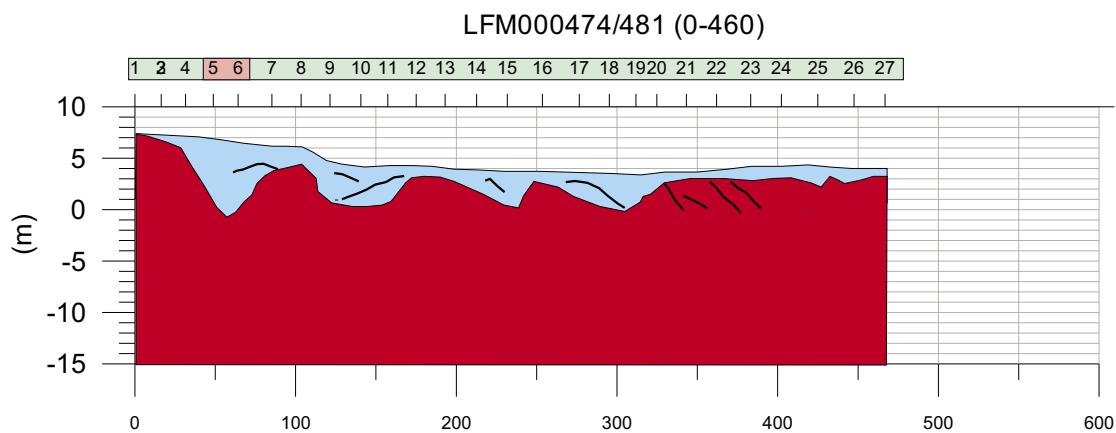
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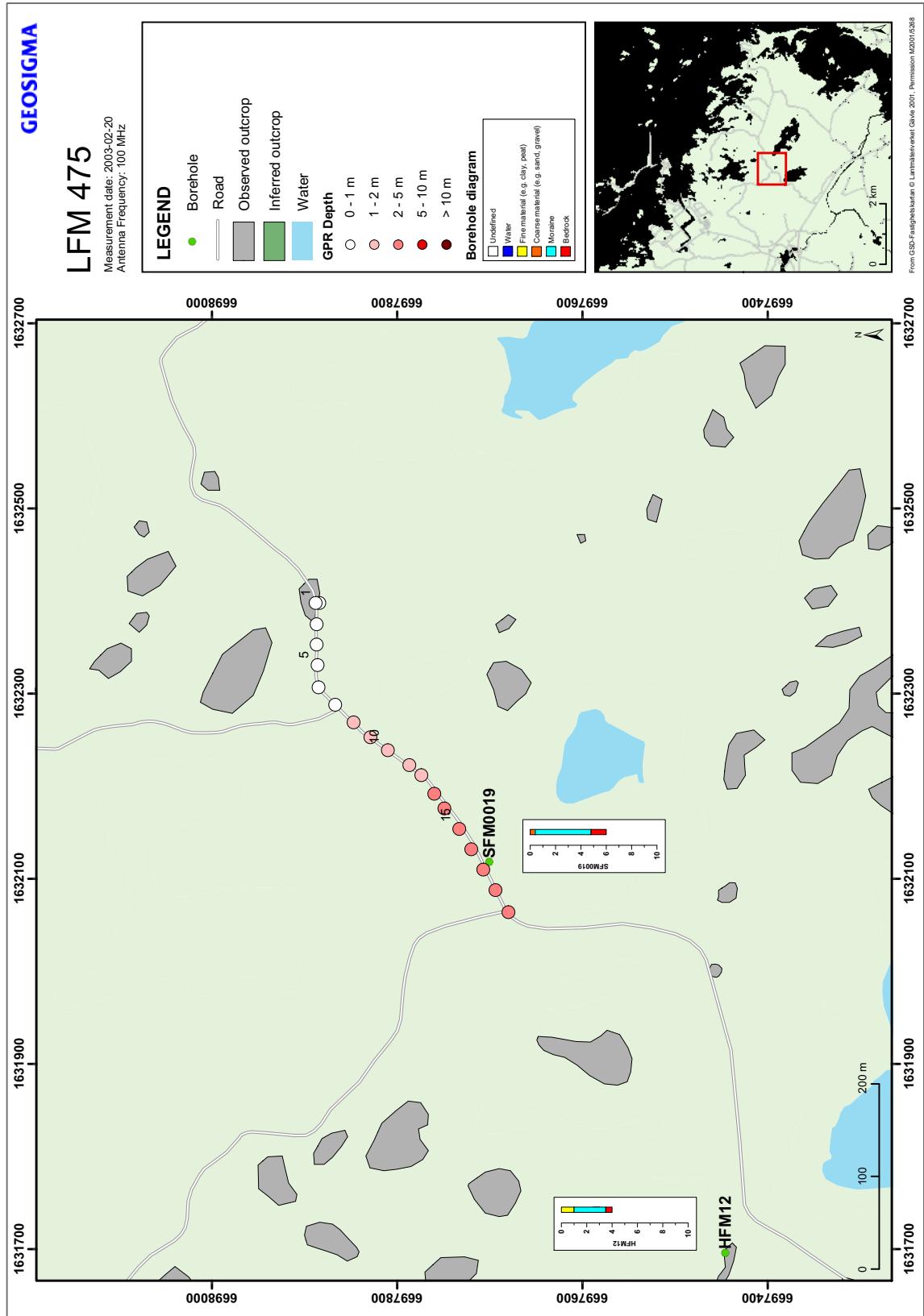
GEOSIGMA



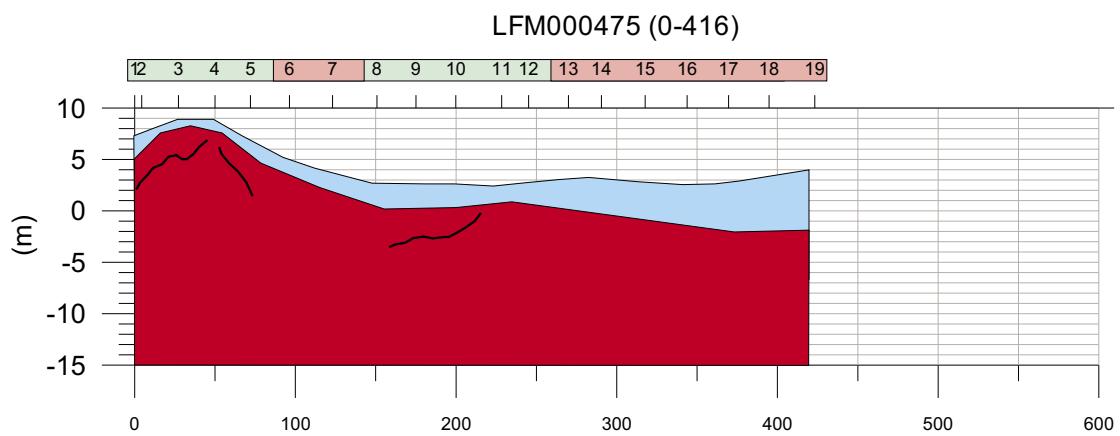


LFM000474/481 GEOSIGMA



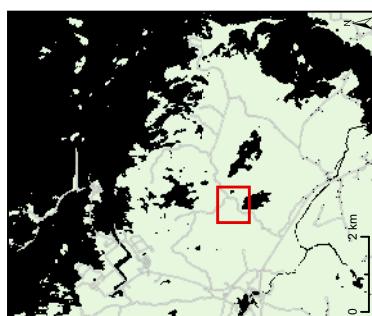
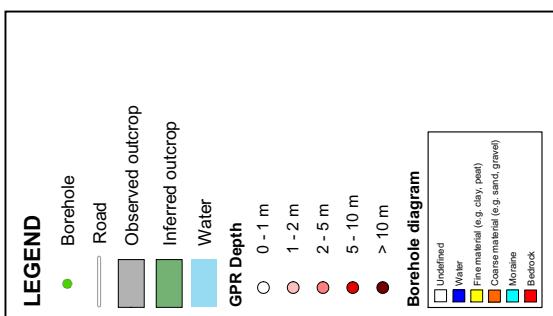


LFM000475 GEOSIGMA

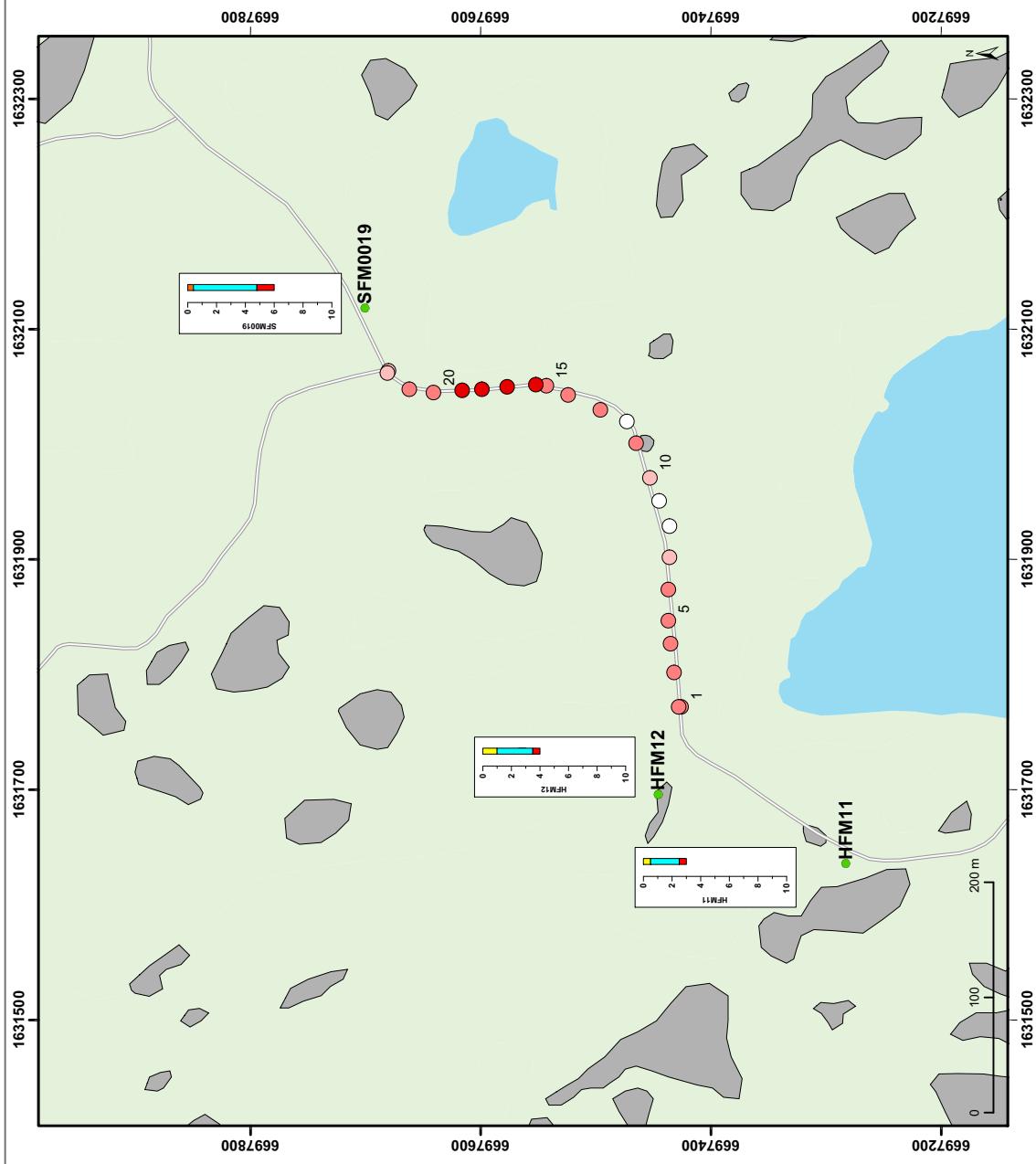


LFM 476 & 479

Measurement date: 2003-02-20
 Antenna Frequency: 100 MHz (476)
 250 MHz (479)

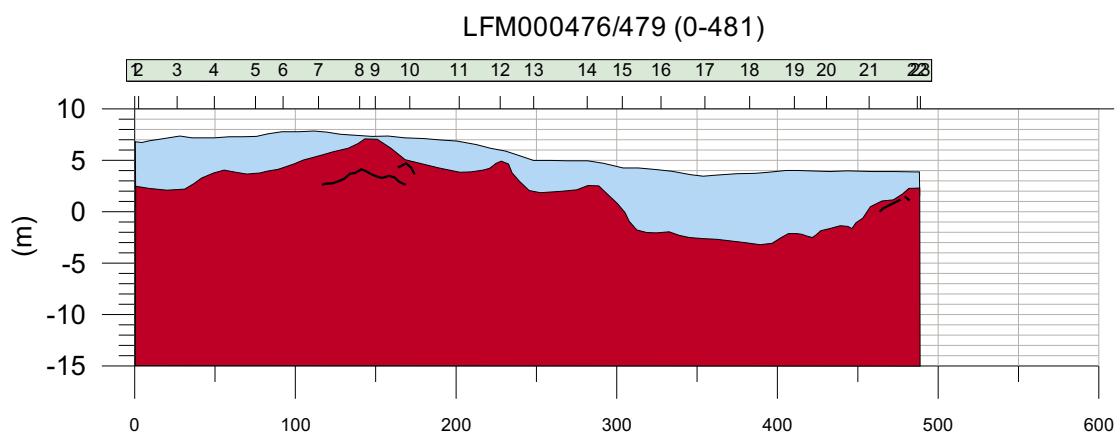


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LFM000476/479

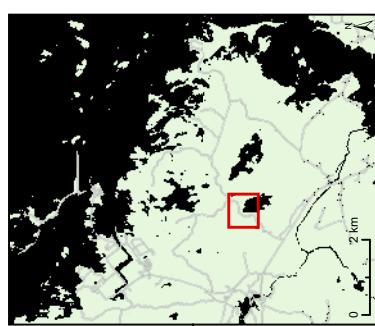
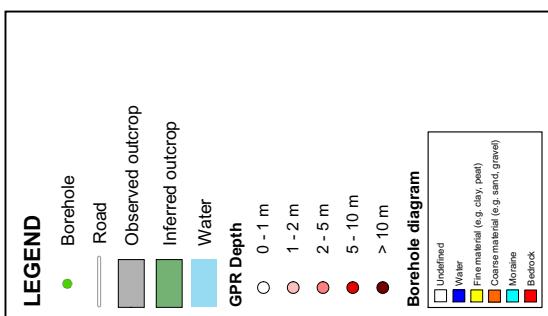
GEOSIGMA



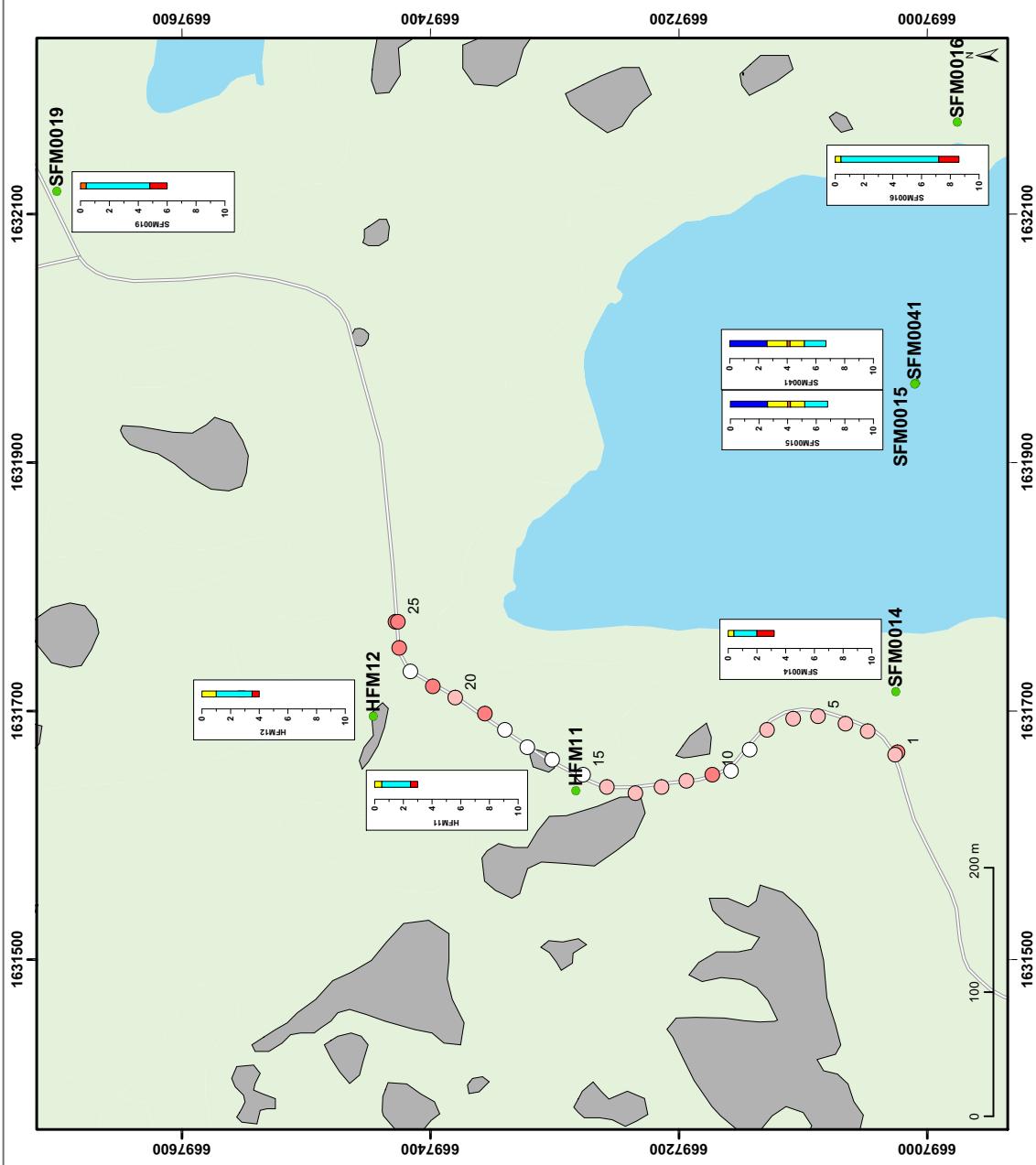
GEO SIGMA

LFM 477 & 478

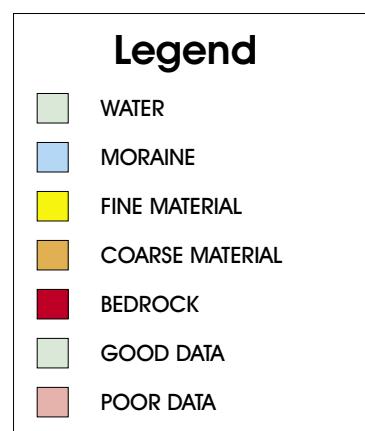
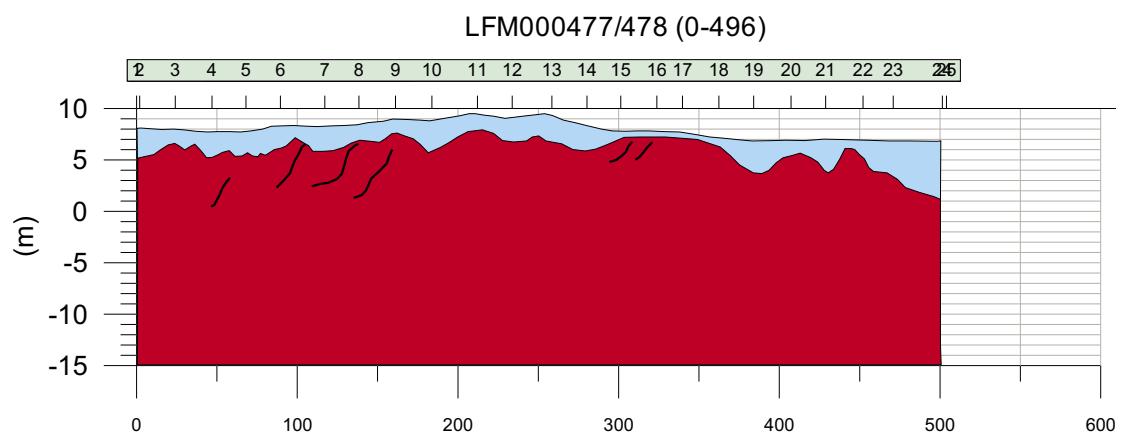
Measurement date: 2003-02-20
Antenna Frequency: 100 MHz (477)
250 MHz (478)

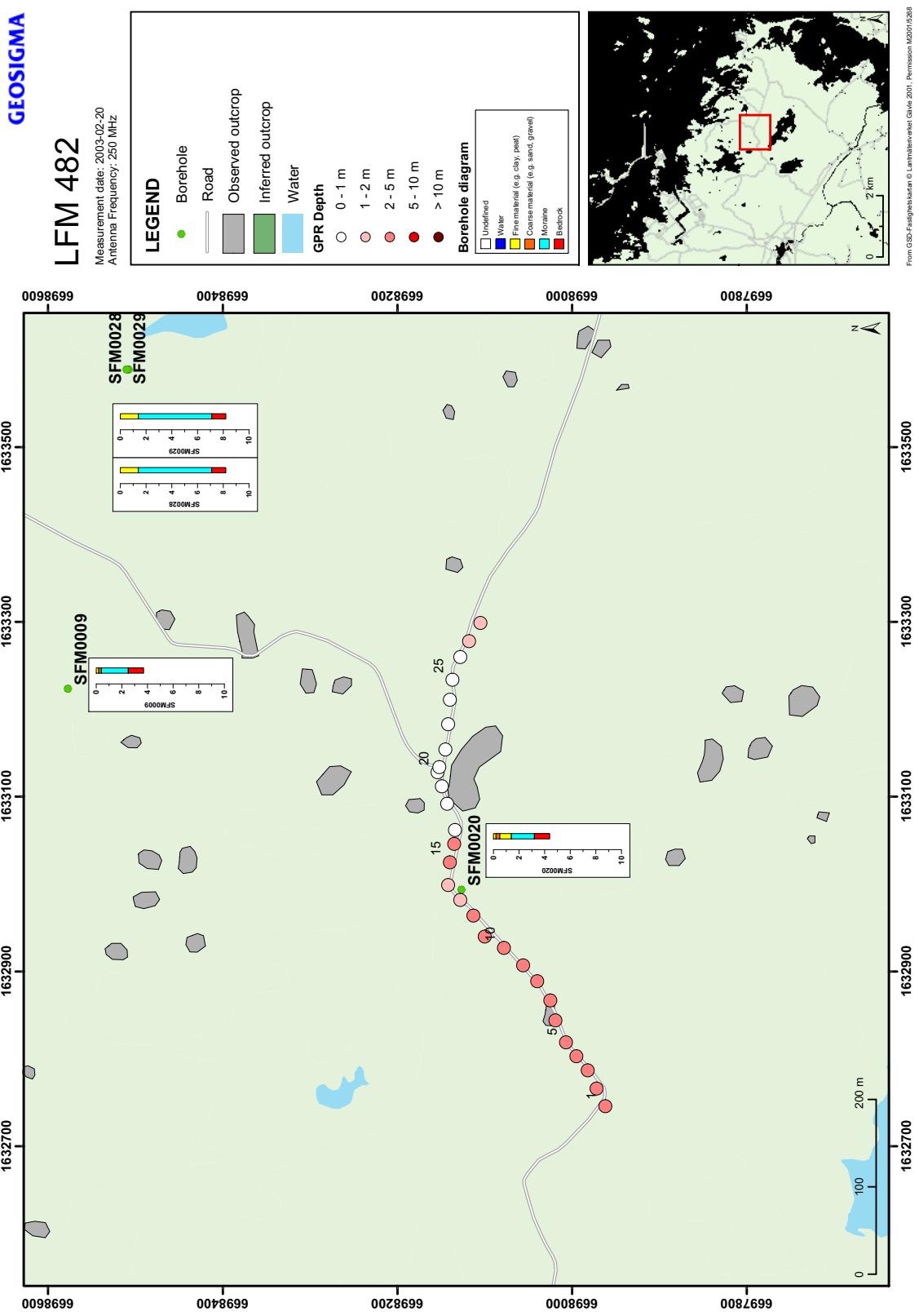


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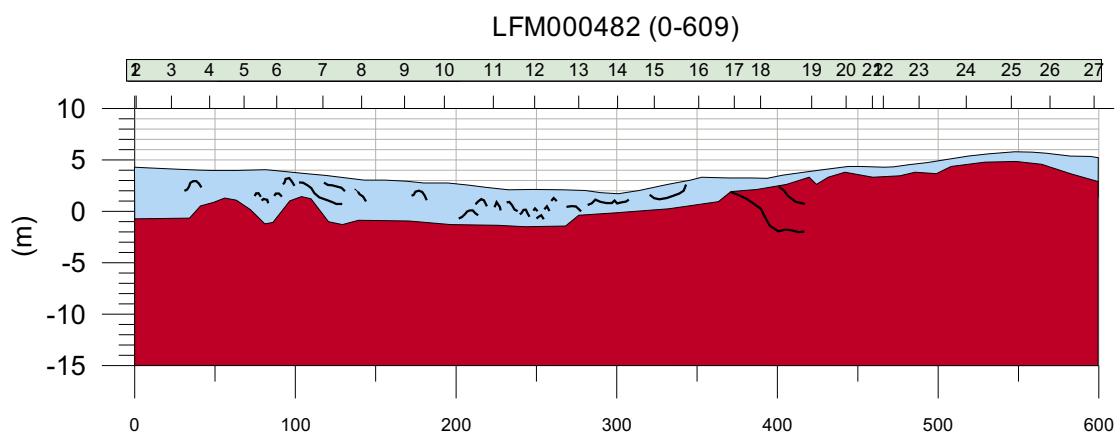
LFM000477/478 GEOSIGMA

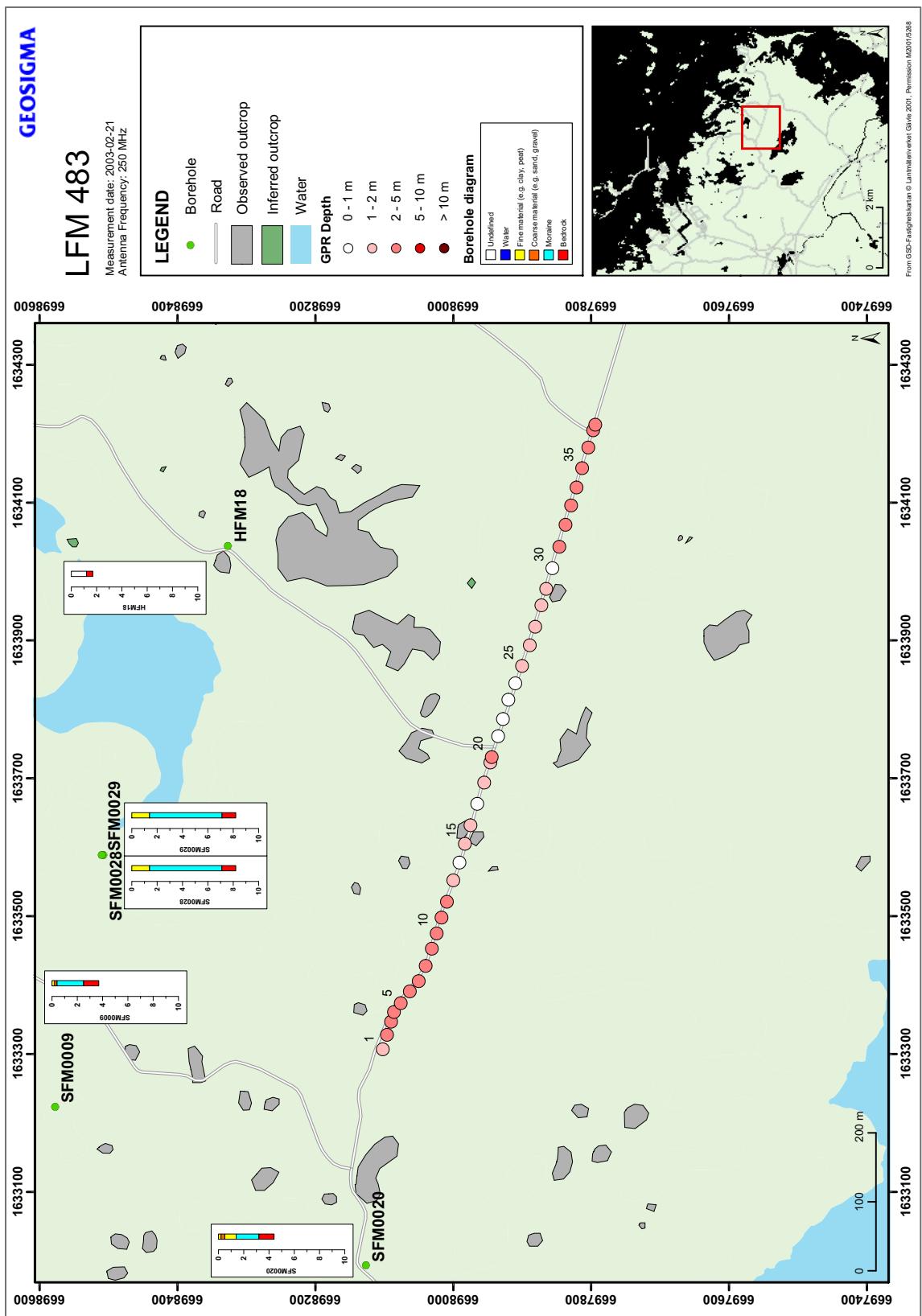




LFM000482

GEOSIGMA

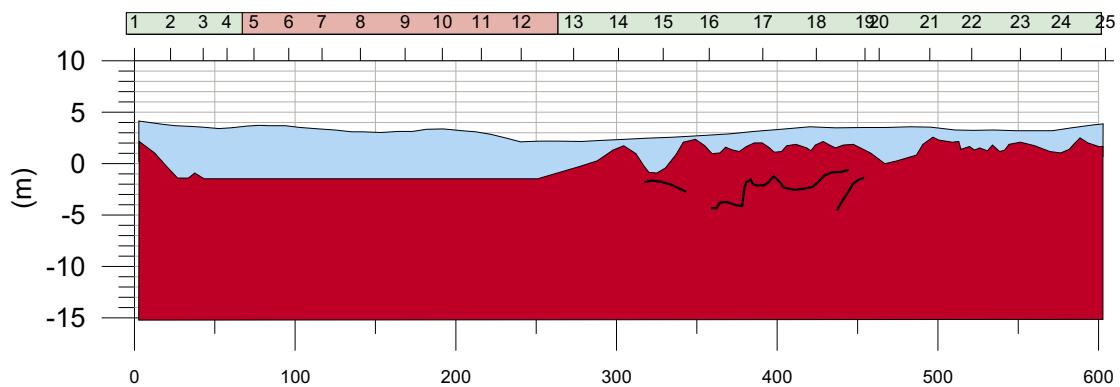




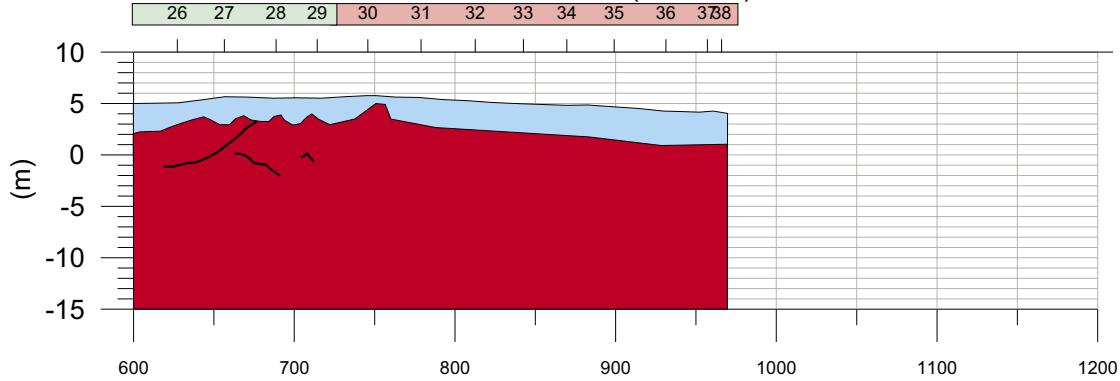
LFM000483

GEOSIGMA

LFM000483 (0-600)

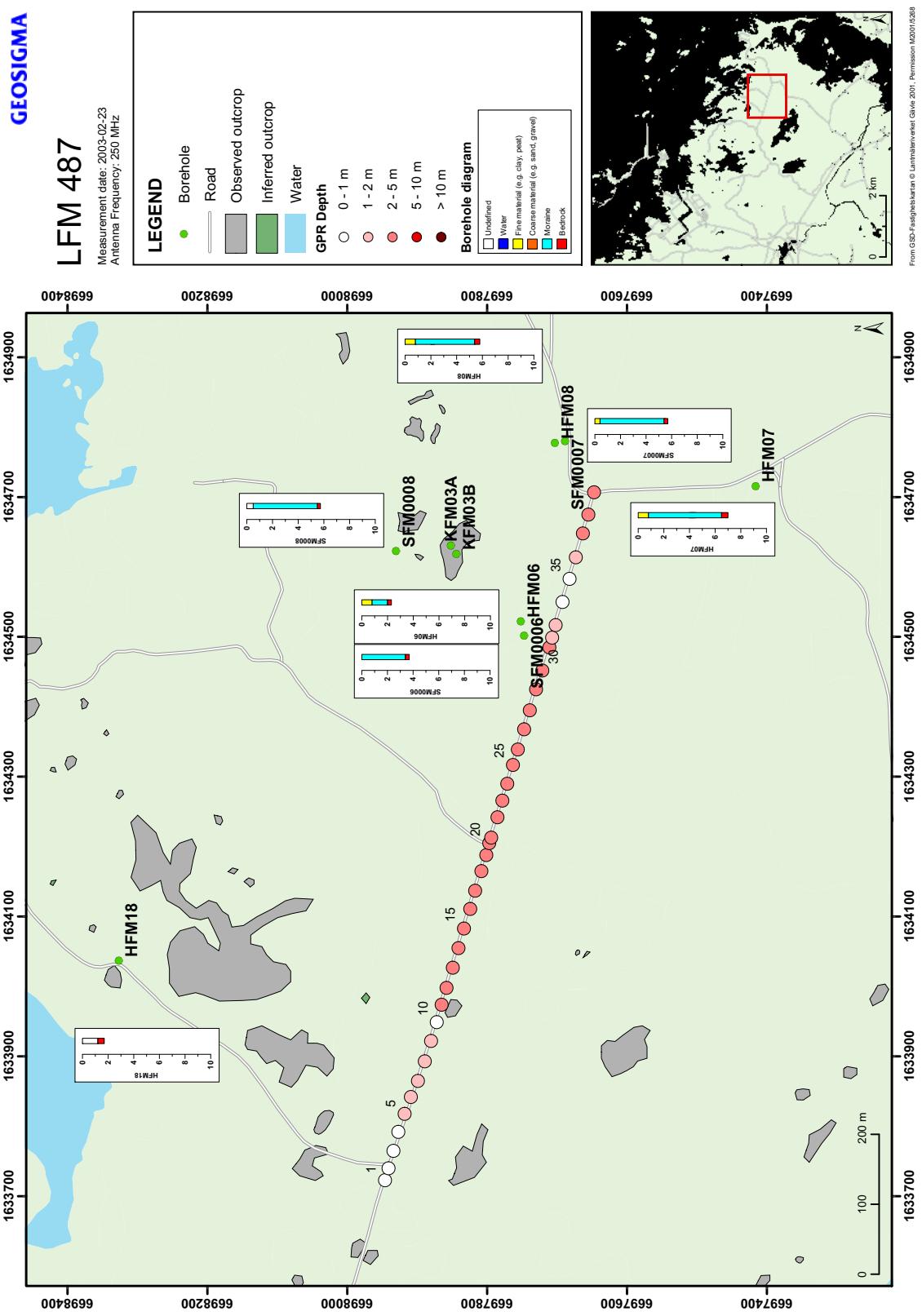


LFM000483 (600-960)



Legend

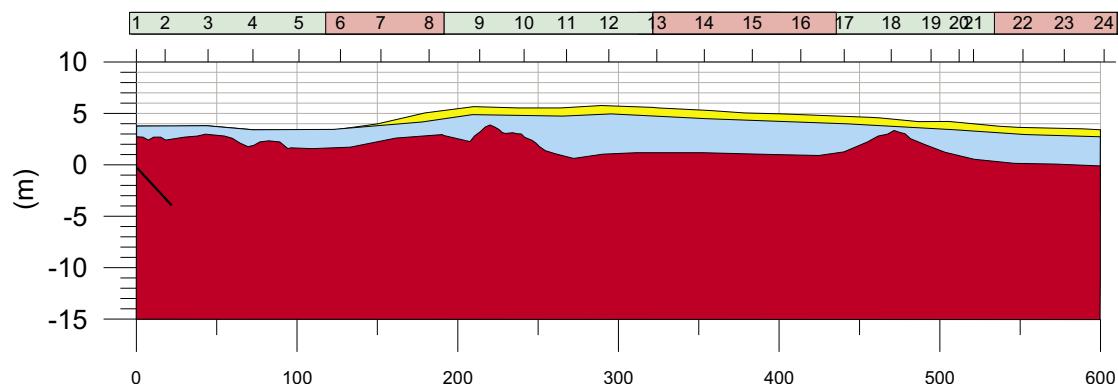
- WATER
- MORAINE
- FINE MATERIAL
- COARSE MATERIAL
- BEDROCK
- GOOD DATA
- POOR DATA



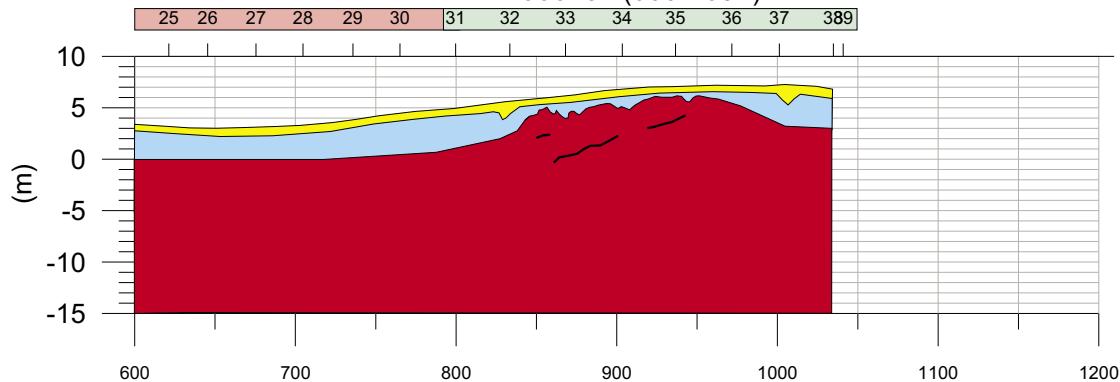
LFM000487

GEOSIGMA

LFM000487 (0-600)

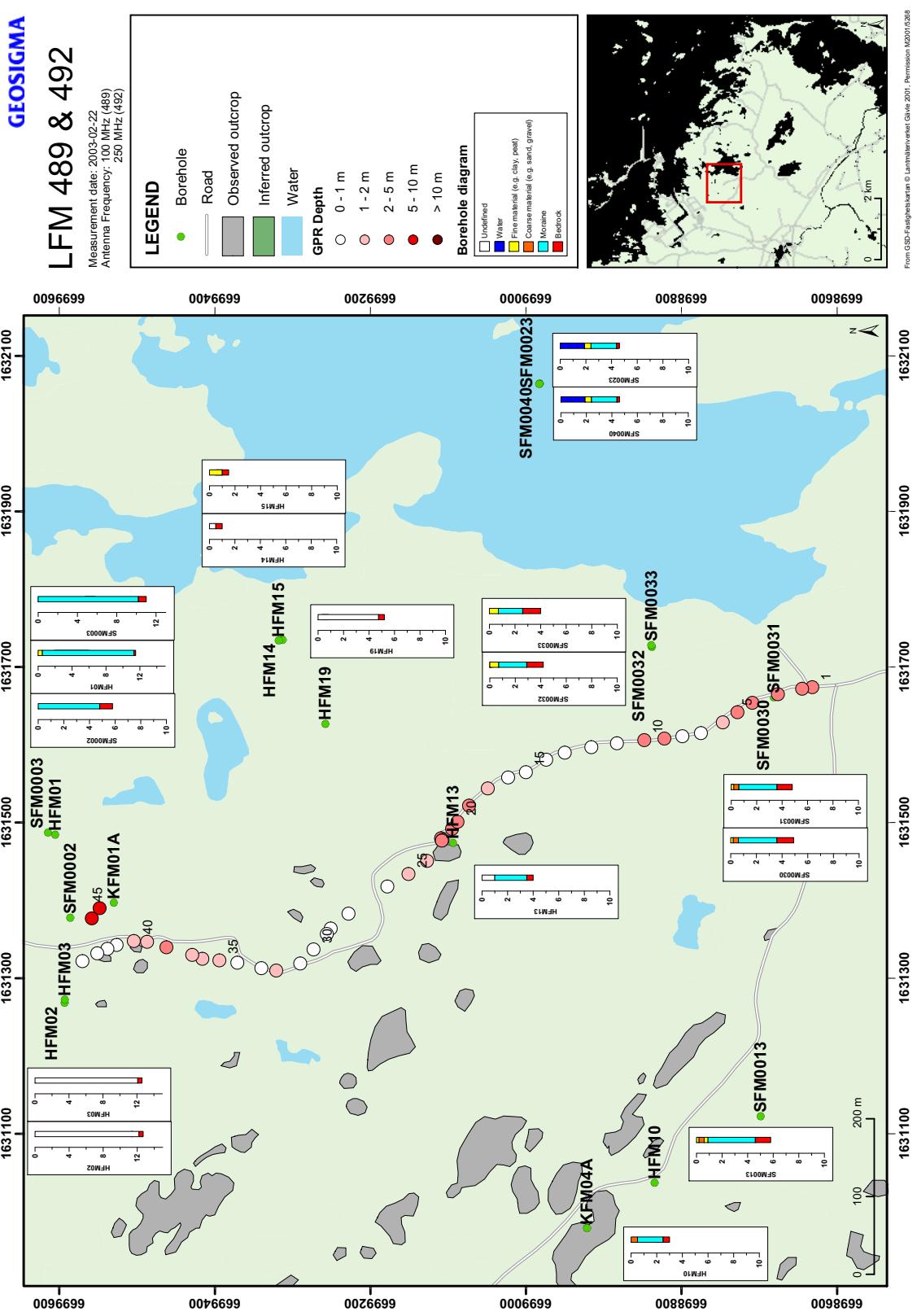


LFM000487 (600-1034)

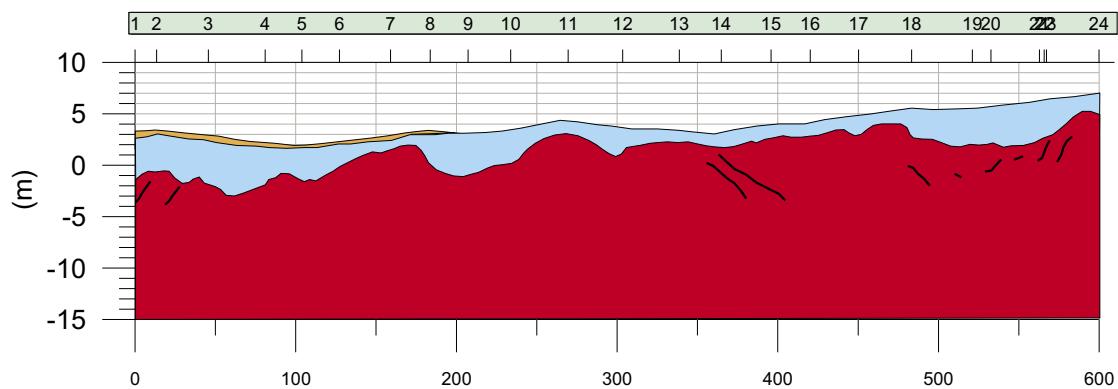


Legend

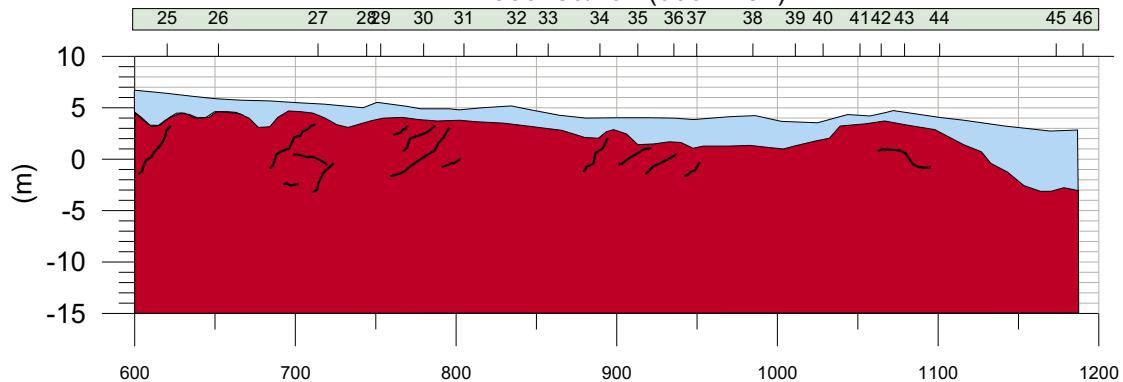
- WATER
- MORAINE
- FINE MATERIAL
- COARSE MATERIAL
- BEDROCK
- GOOD DATA
- POOR DATA



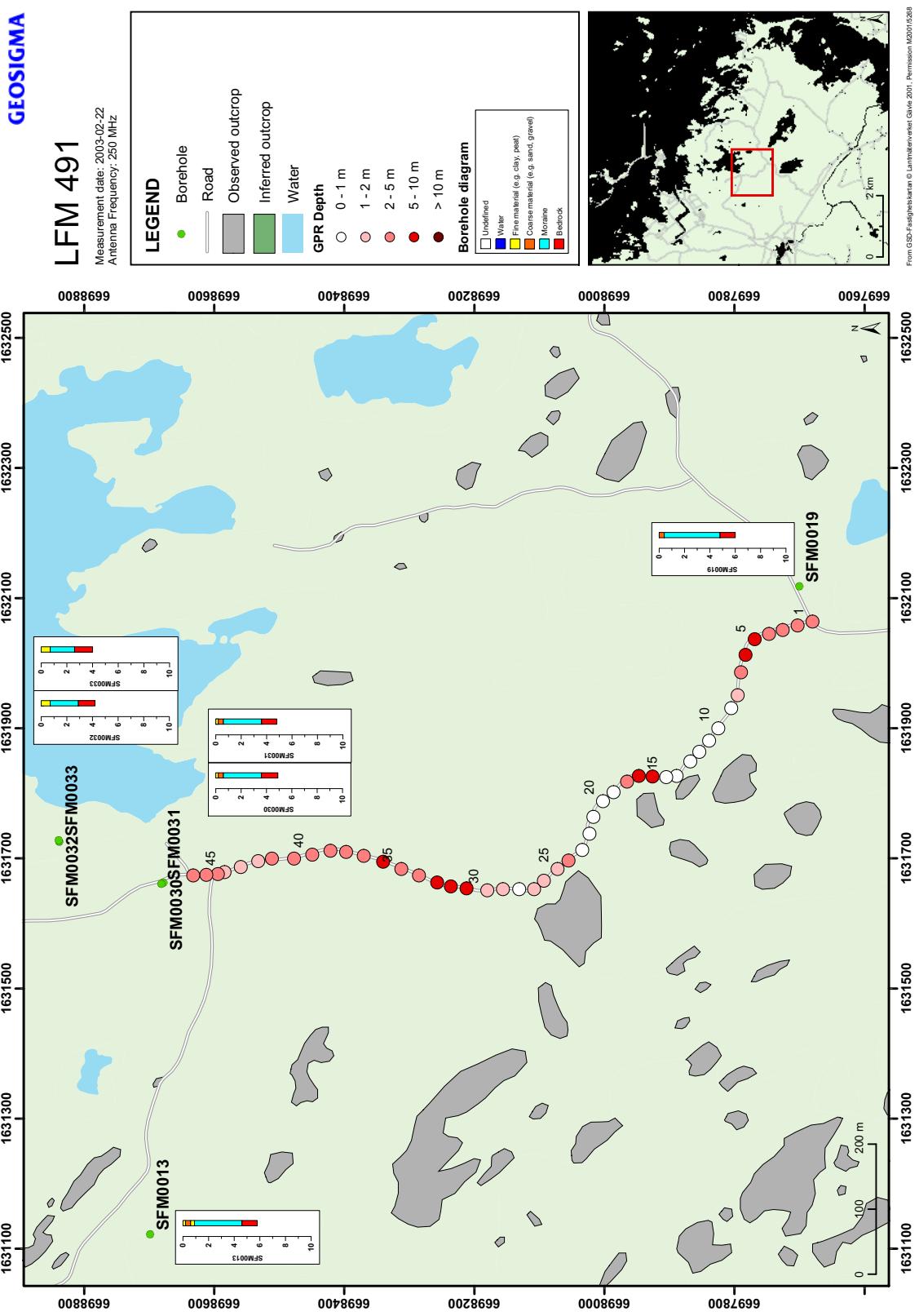
LFM000489/492 (0-600)



LFM000489/492 (600-1181)

**Legend**

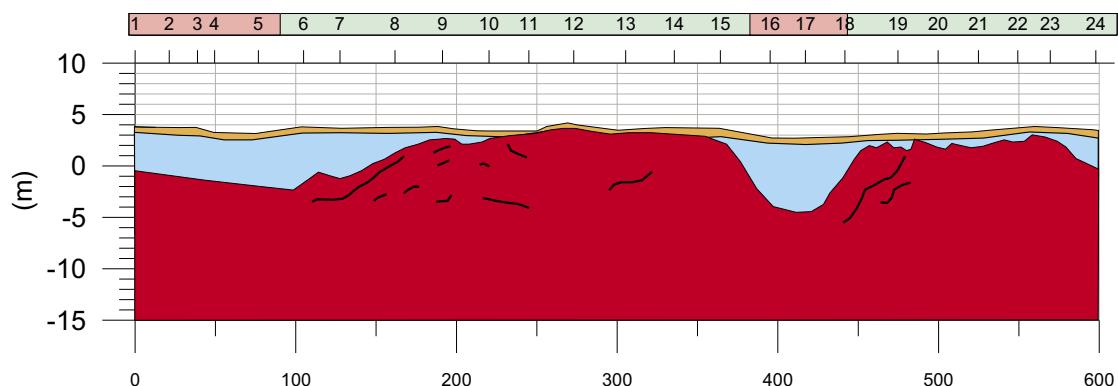
| | |
|--|-----------------|
| | WATER |
| | MORAINE |
| | FINE MATERIAL |
| | COARSE MATERIAL |
| | BEDROCK |
| | GOOD DATA |
| | POOR DATA |



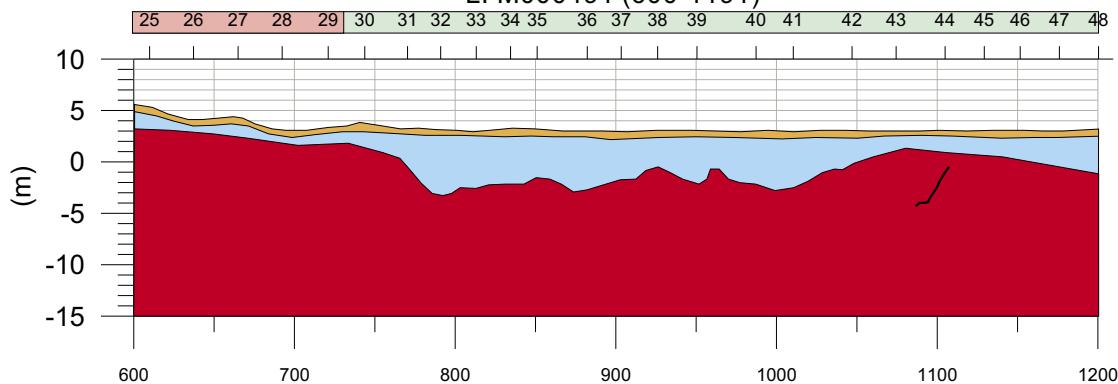
LFM000491

GEOSIGMA

LFM000491 (0-600)

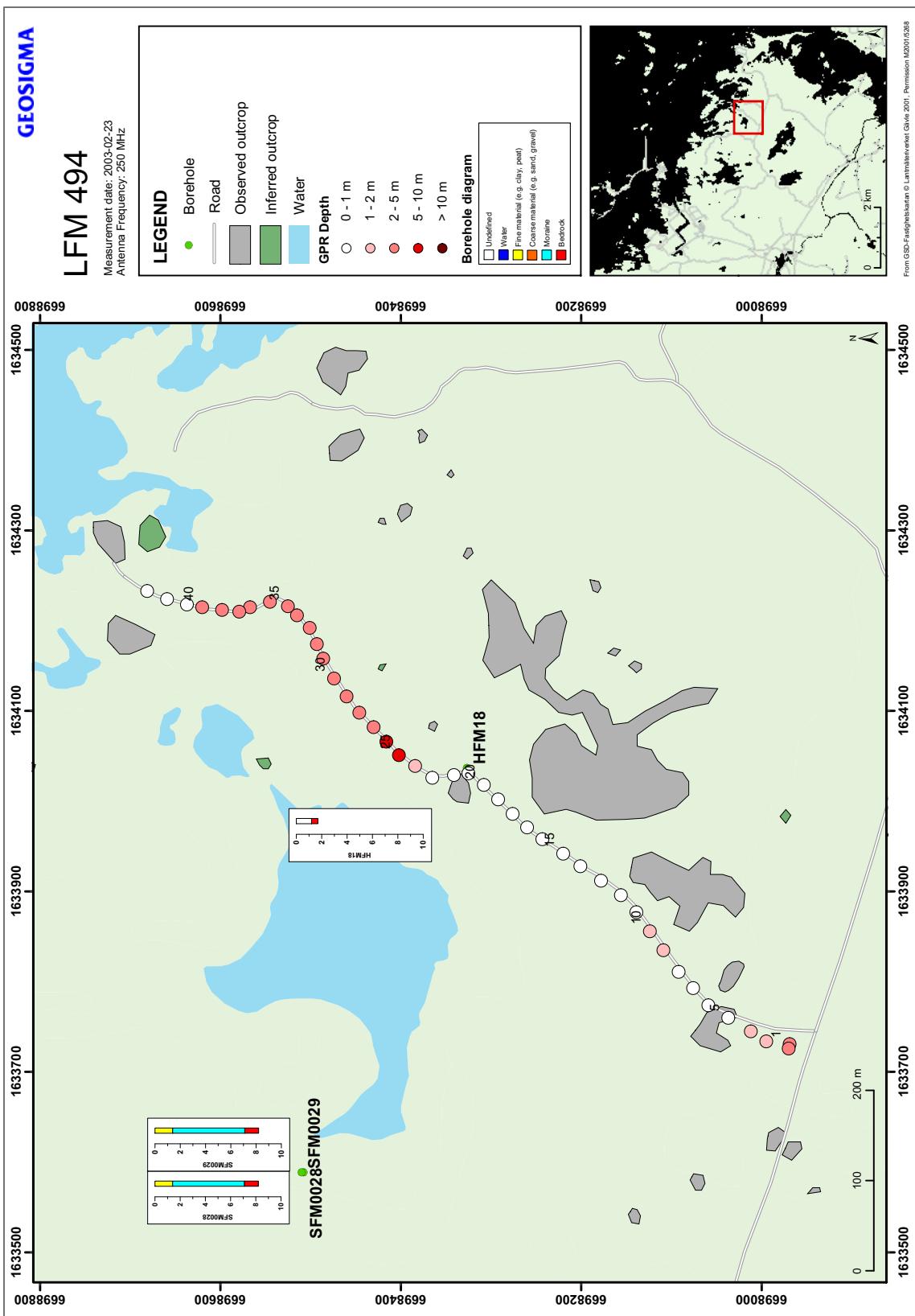


LFM000491 (600-1191)



Legend

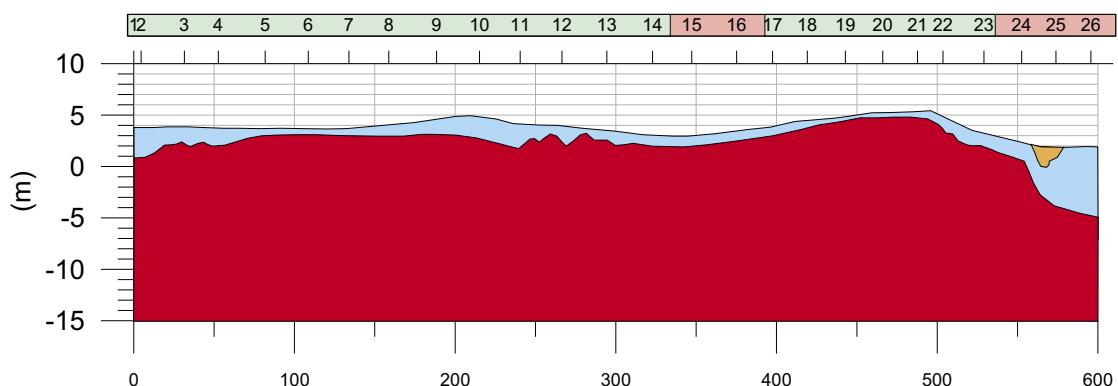
- [Light Green Box] WATER
- [Light Blue Box] MORAINE
- [Yellow Box] FINE MATERIAL
- [Orange Box] COARSE MATERIAL
- [Dark Red Box] BEDROCK
- [Light Green Box] GOOD DATA
- [Red Box] POOR DATA



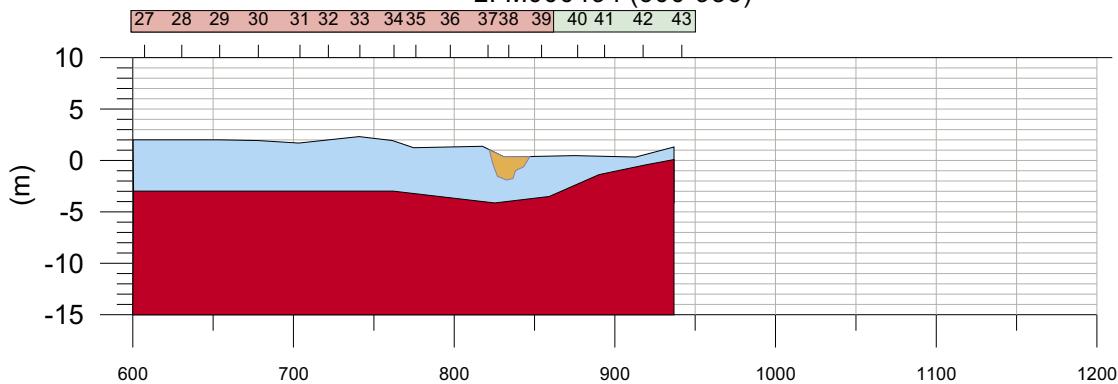
LFM000494

GEOSIGMA

LFM000494 (0-600)

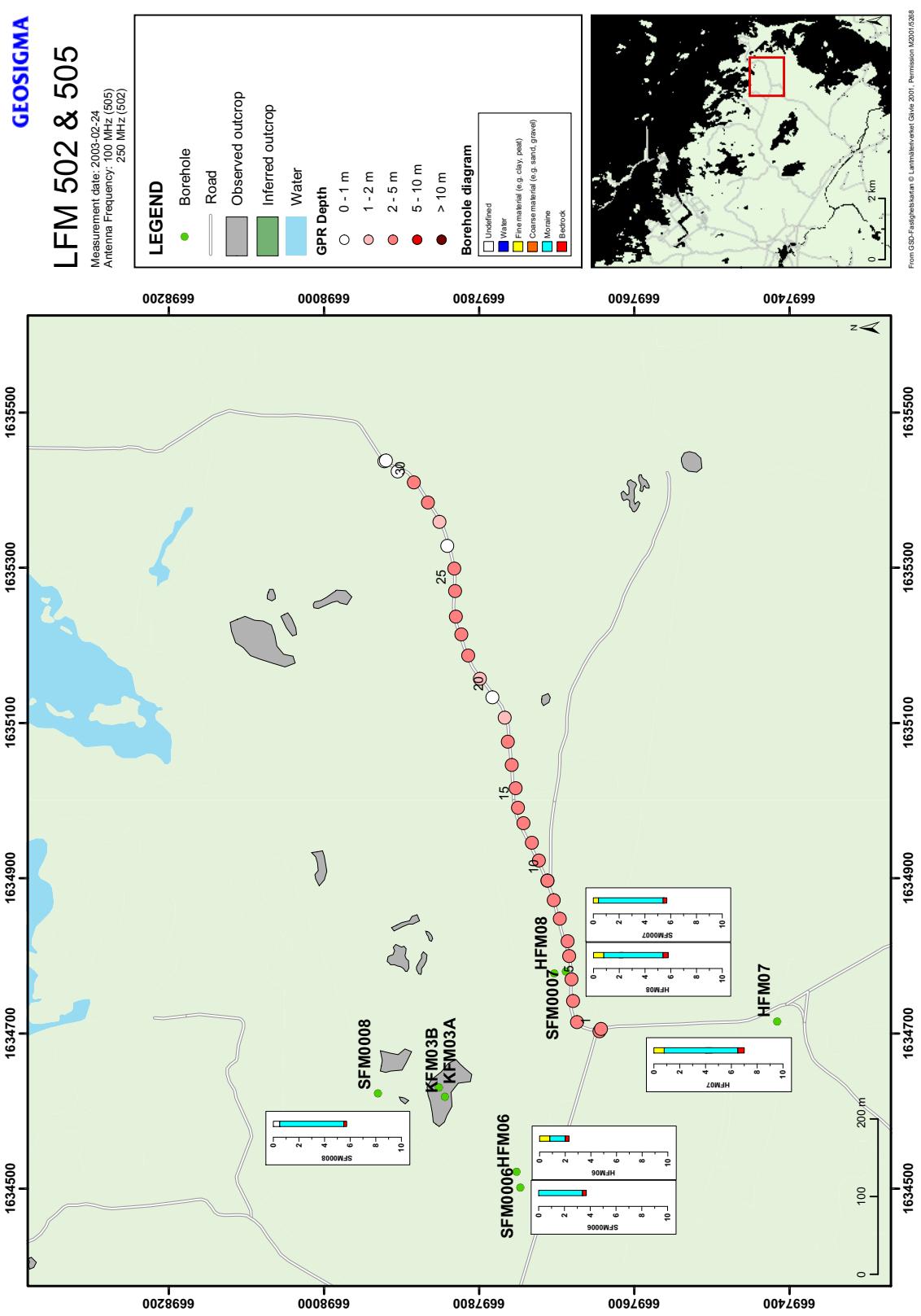


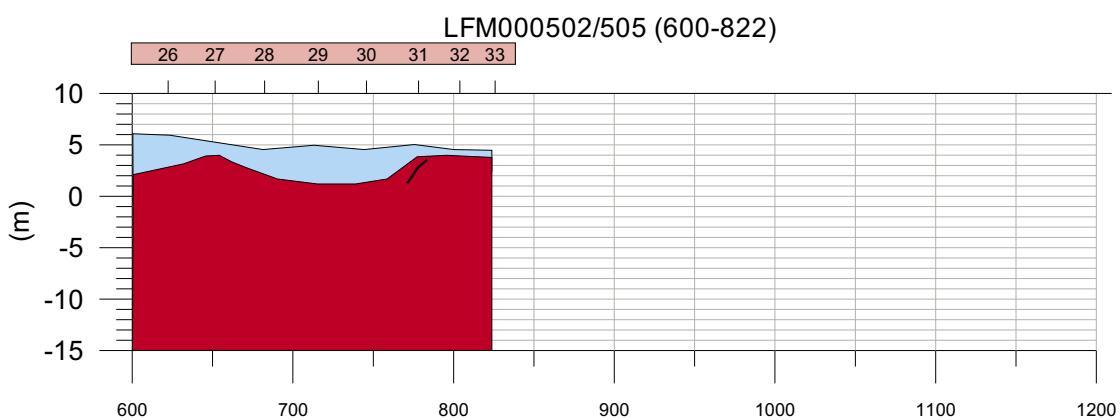
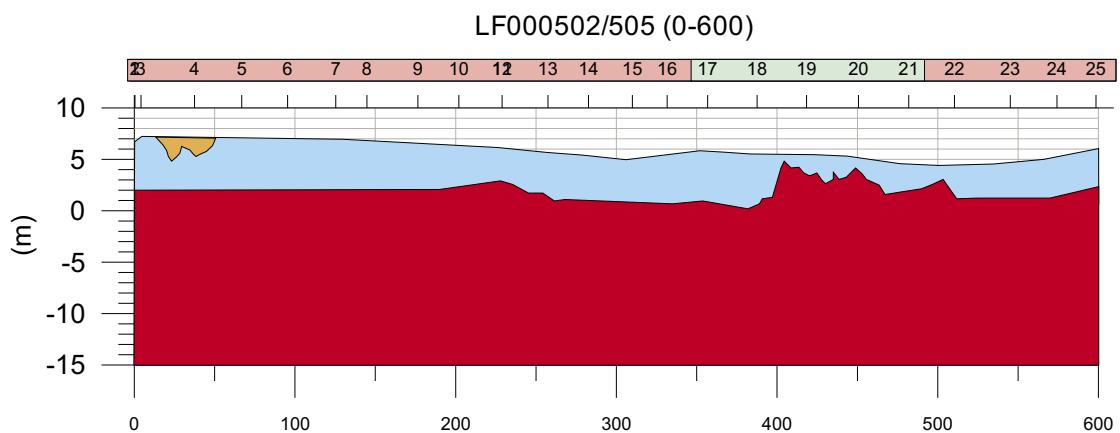
LFM000494 (600-936)

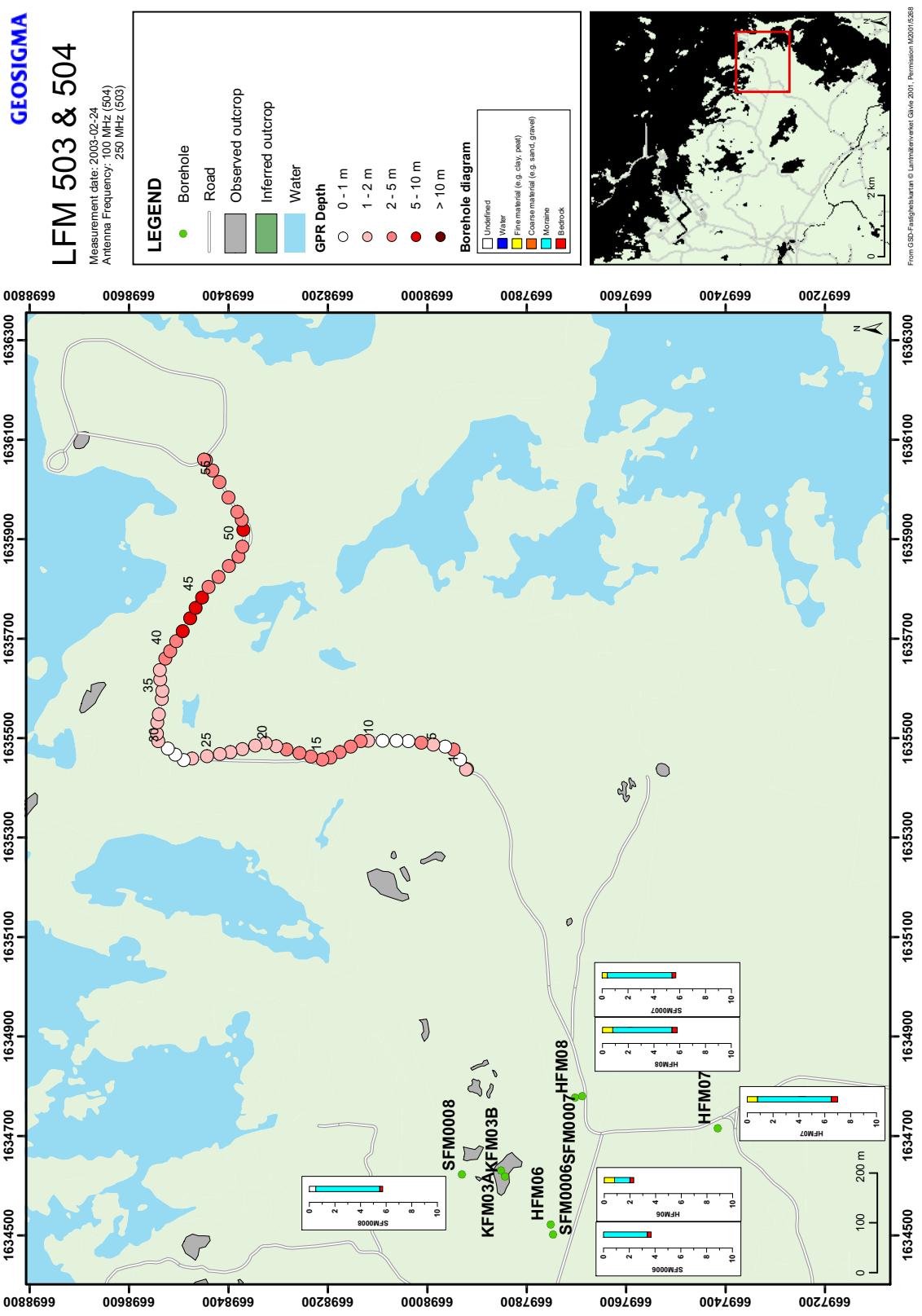


Legend

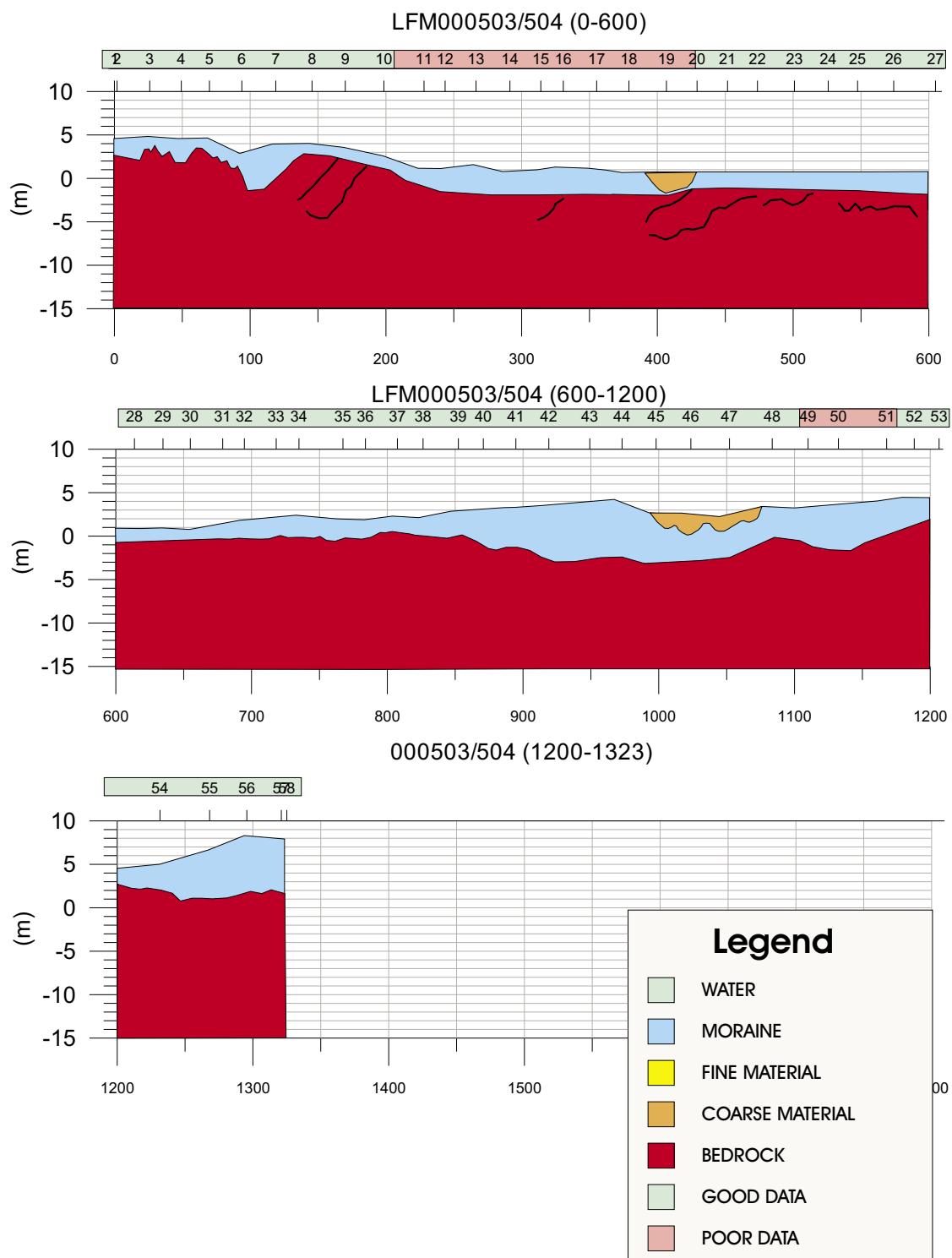
- [Light Green Box] WATER
- [Light Blue Box] MORAINE
- [Yellow Box] FINE MATERIAL
- [Orange Box] COARSE MATERIAL
- [Dark Red Box] BEDROCK
- [Light Green Box] GOOD DATA
- [Light Red Box] POOR DATA

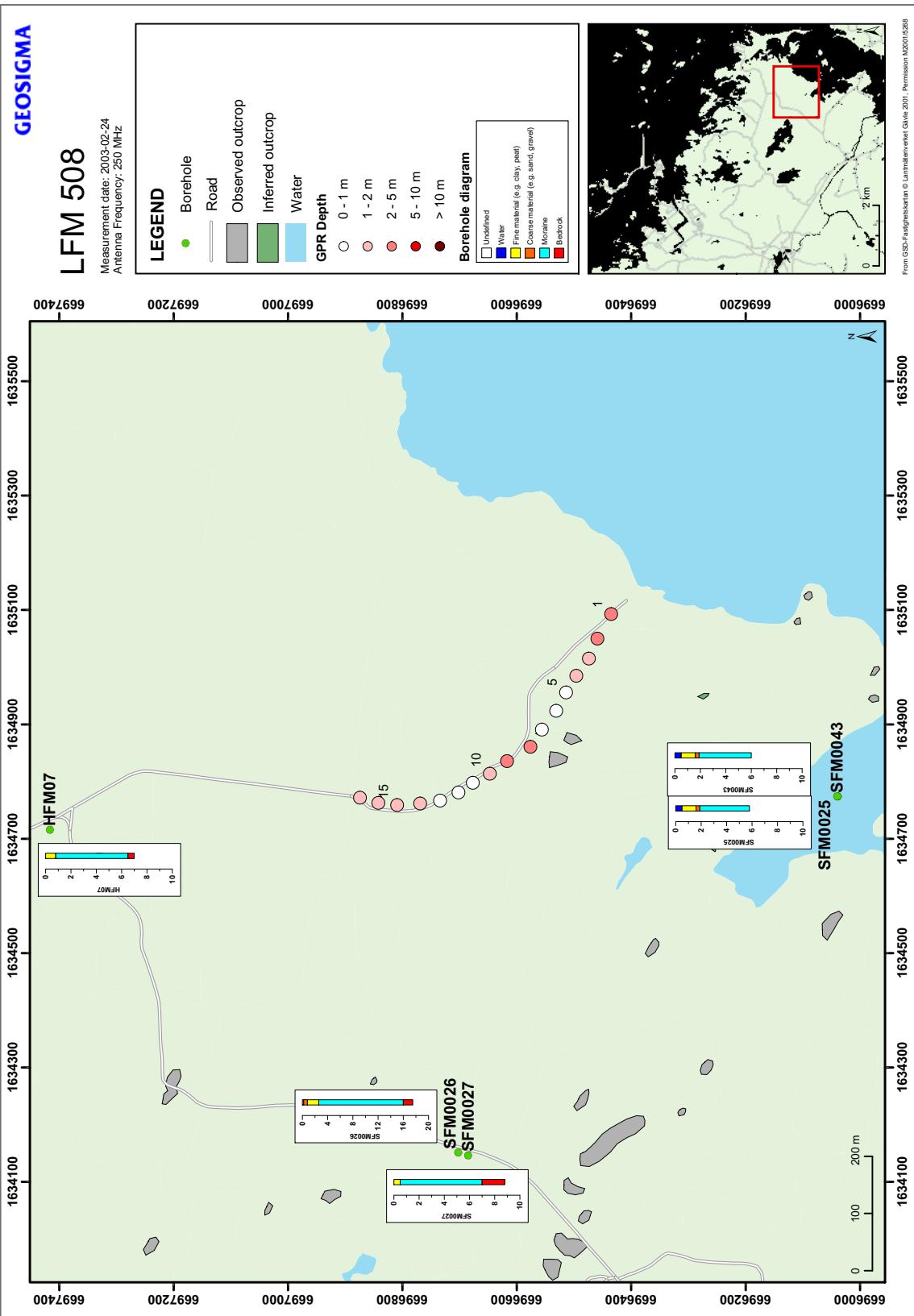






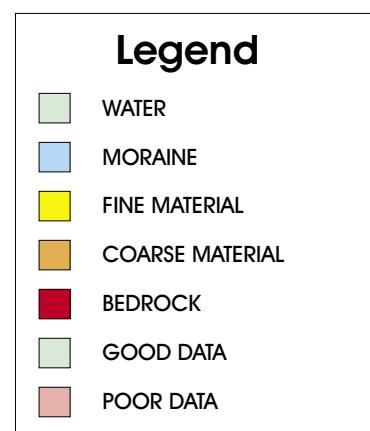
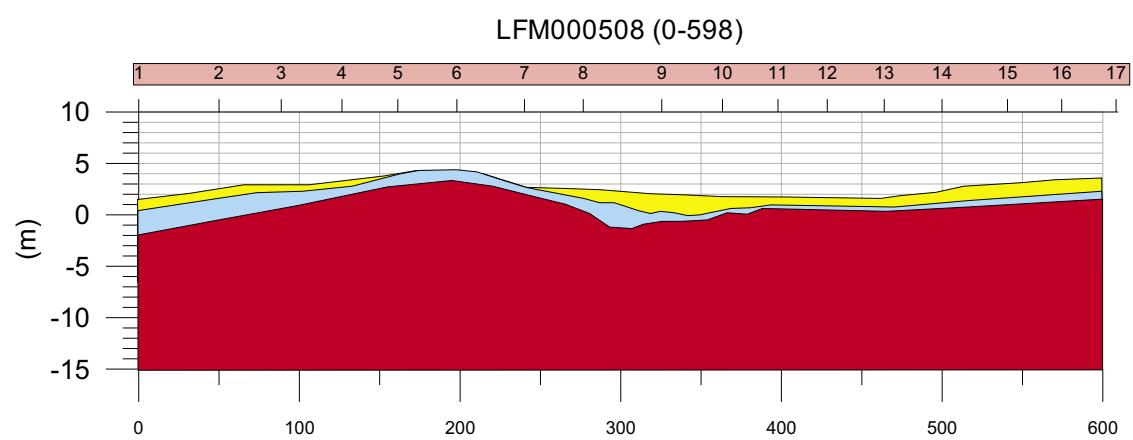
LFM000503/504 GEOSIGMA

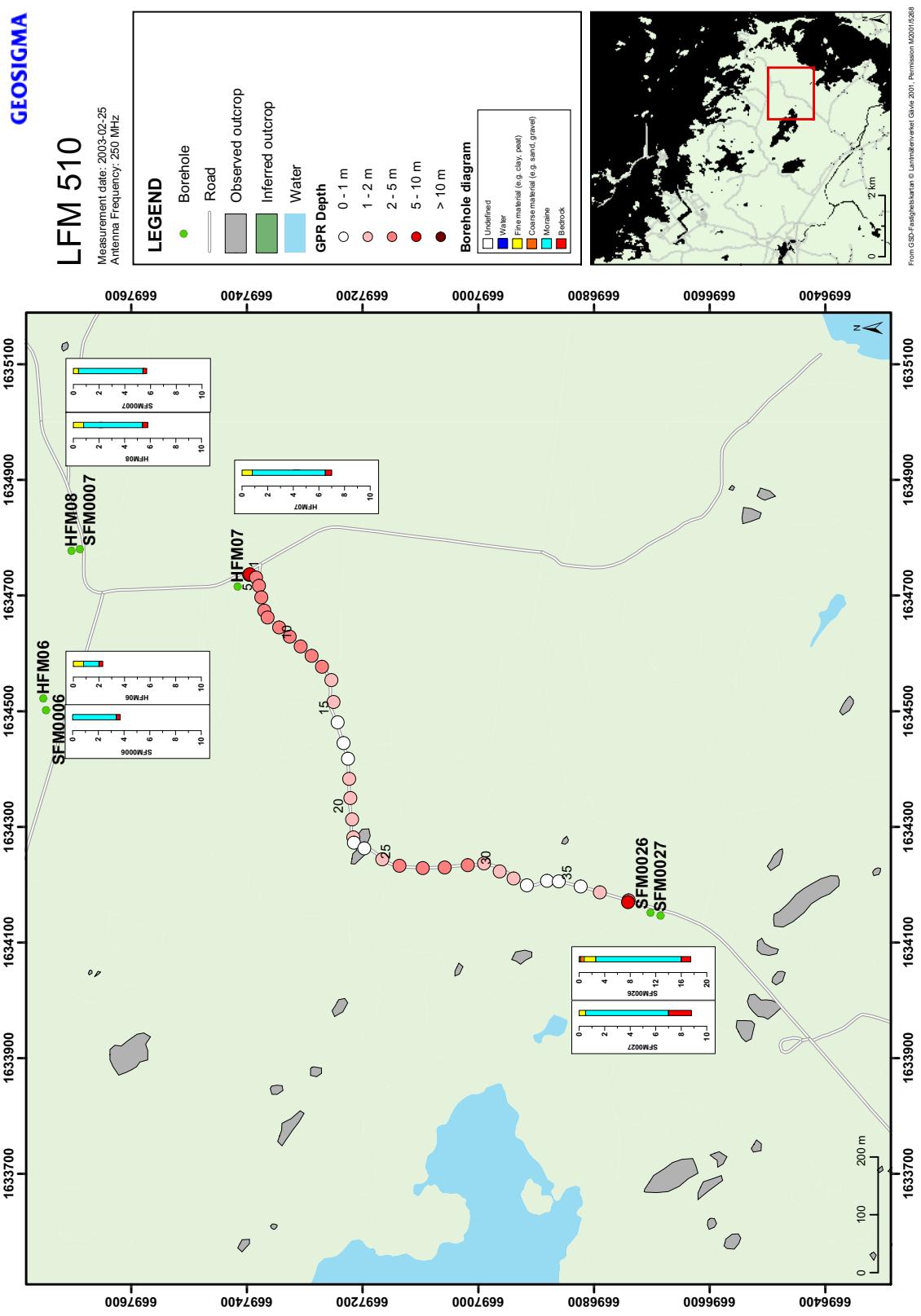




LFM000508

GEOSIGMA



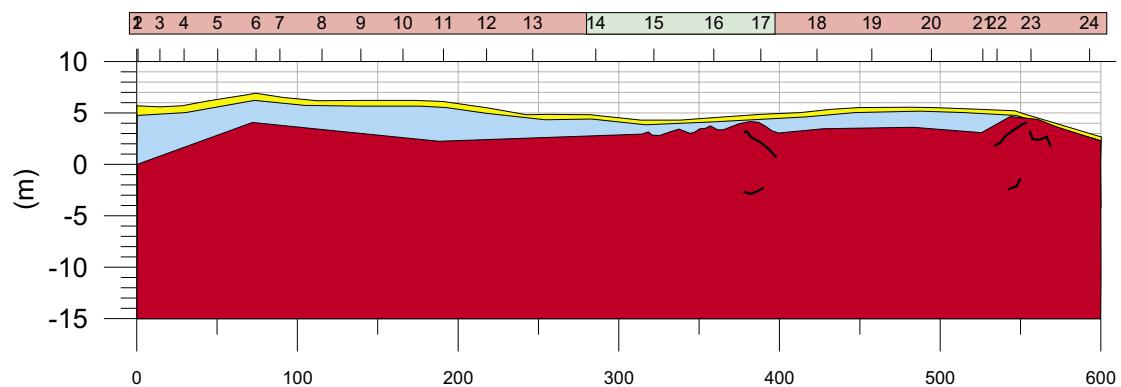


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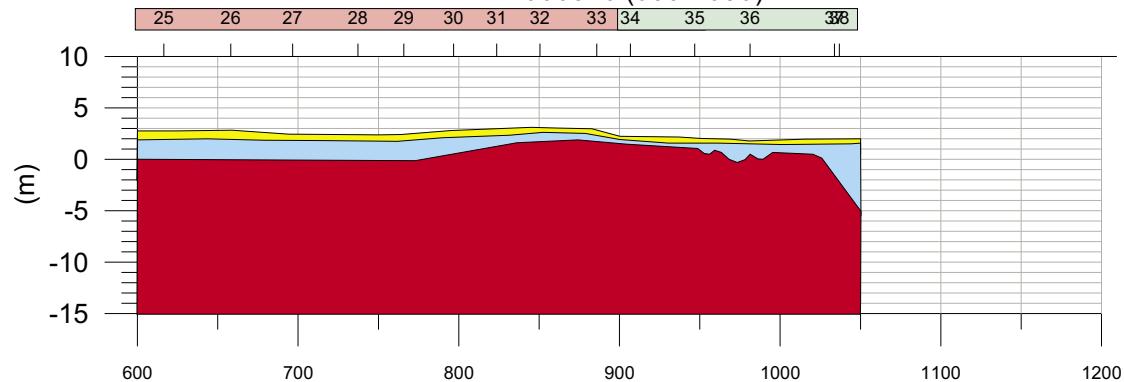
LFM000510

GEOSIGMA

LFM000510 (0-600)

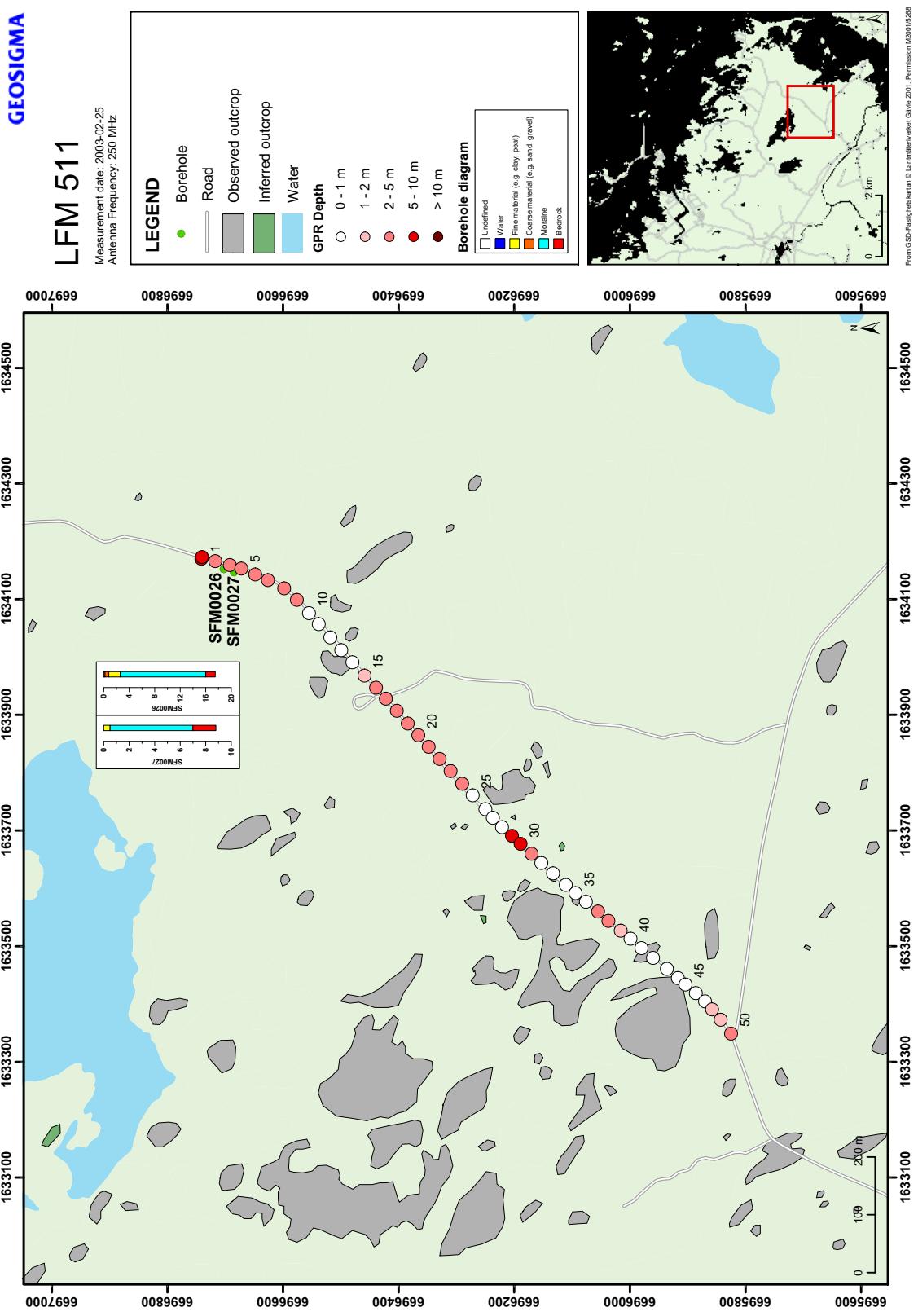


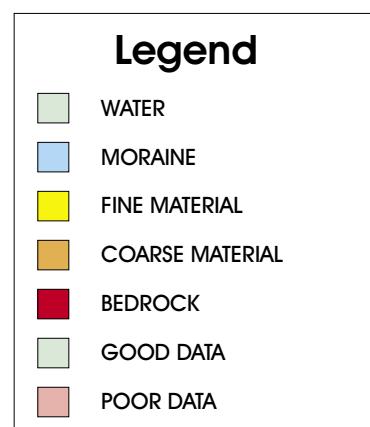
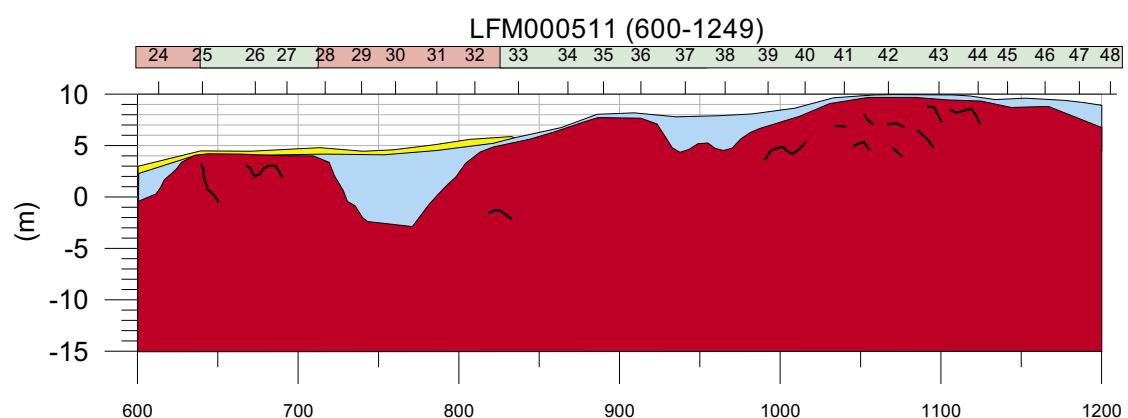
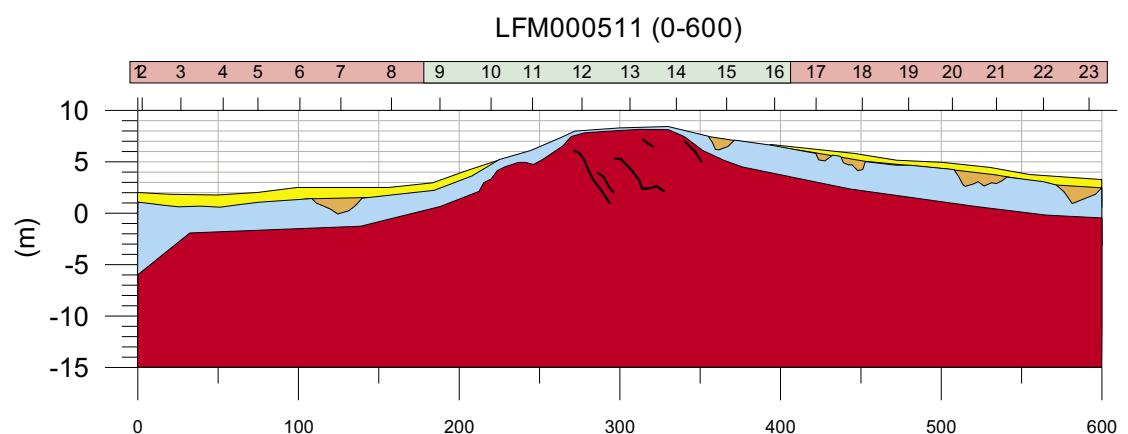
LFM000510 (600-1030)



Legend

- WATER
- MORAINE
- FINE MATERIAL
- COARSE MATERIAL
- BEDROCK
- GOOD DATA
- POOR DATA





GEO SIGMA

LFM 514 & 519

Measurement date: 2003-03-11
Antenna Frequency: 100 MHz (514)
250 MHz (519)

LEGEND

Borehole
Road

Observed outcrop
Inferred outcrop

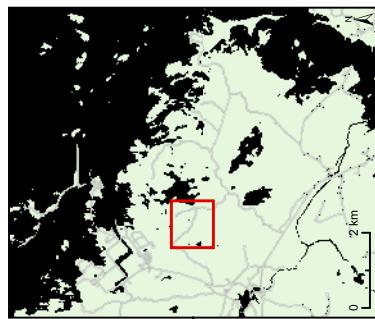
Water

GPR Depth

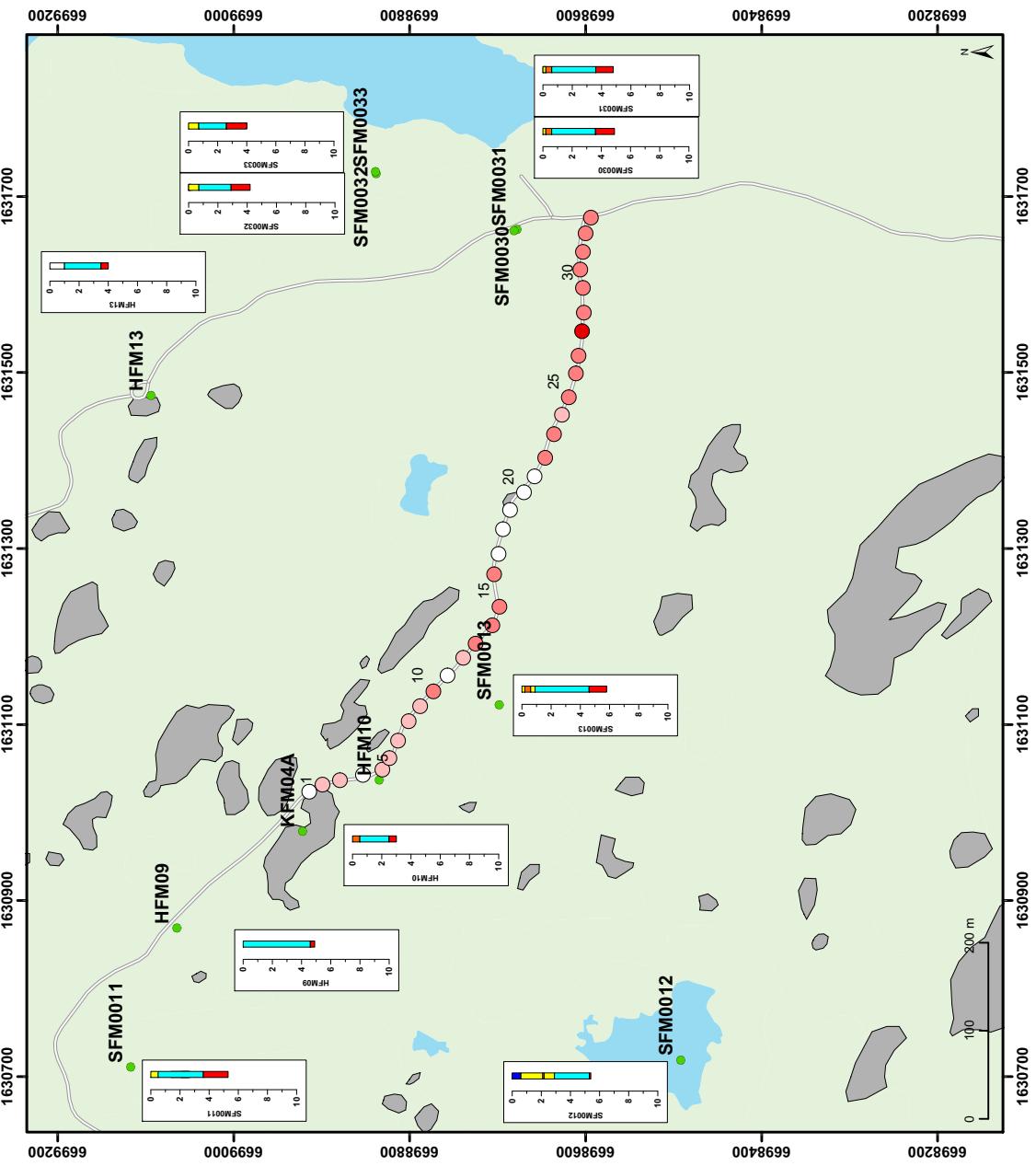
0 - 1 m
1 - 2 m
2 - 5 m
5 - 10 m
> 10 m

Borehole diagram

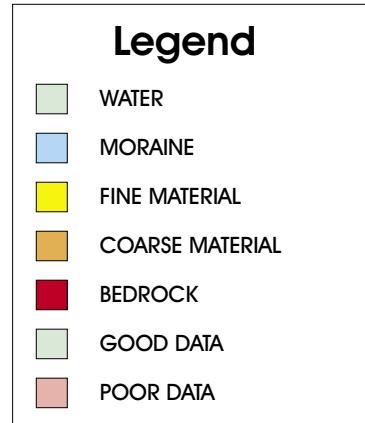
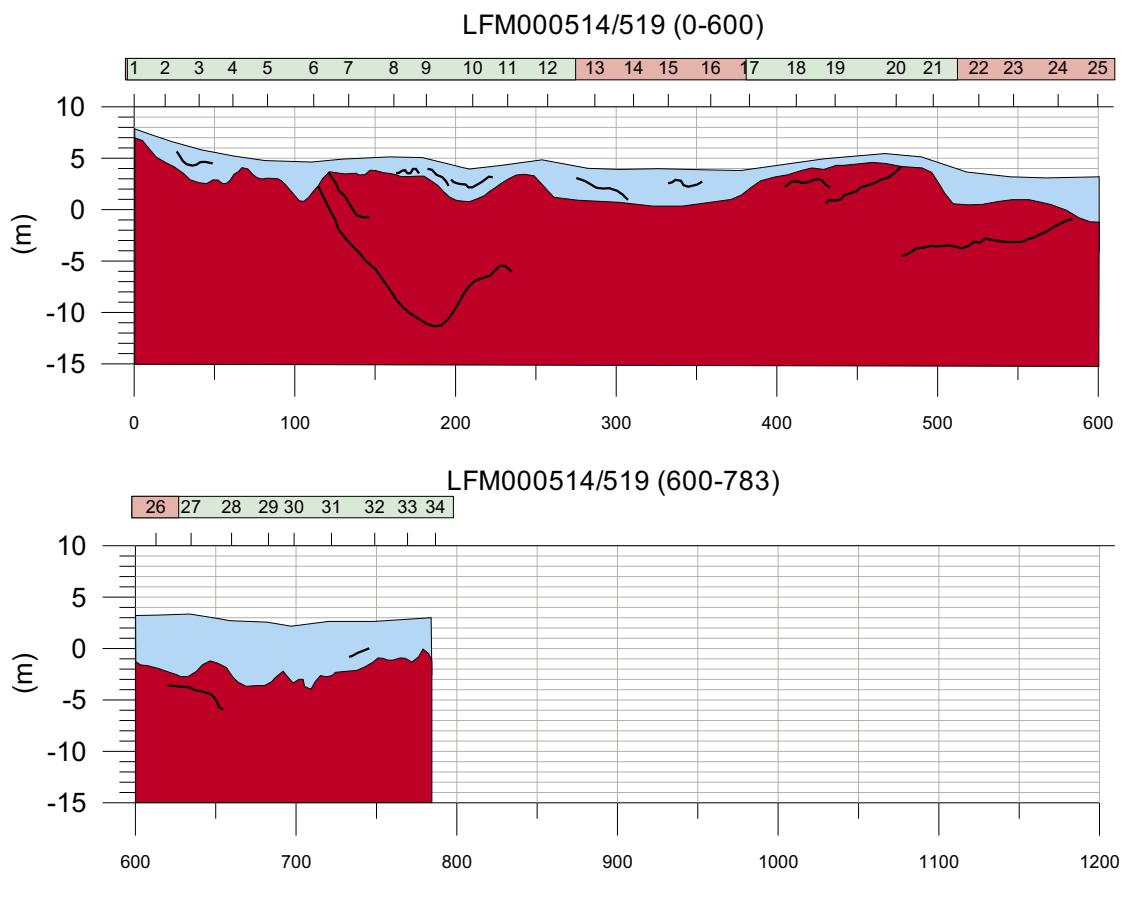
Undefined
Water
Fine material (e.g. clay, peat)
Coarse material (e.g. sand, gravel)
Moraine
Bedrock

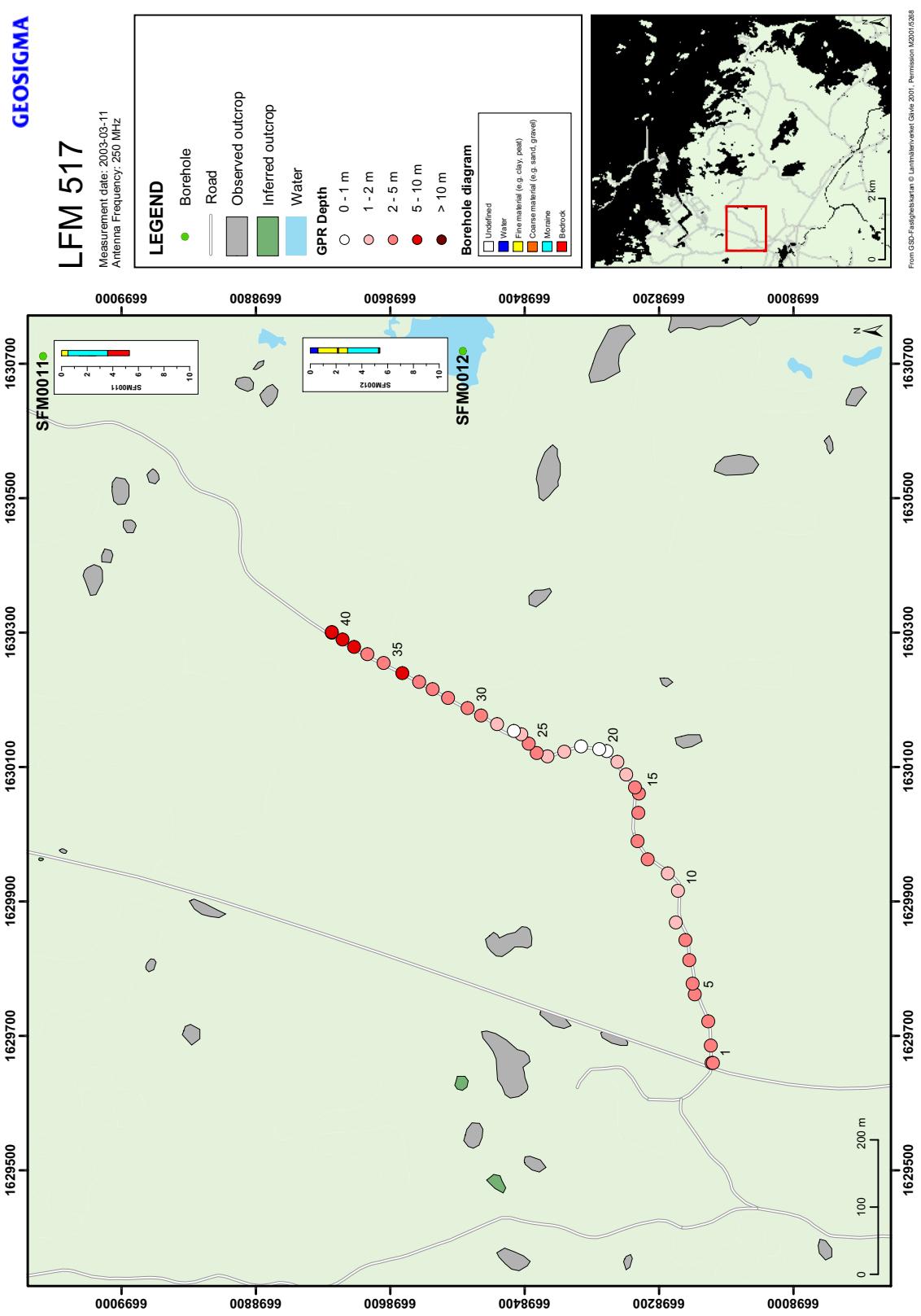


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LFM000514/519 GEOSIGMA

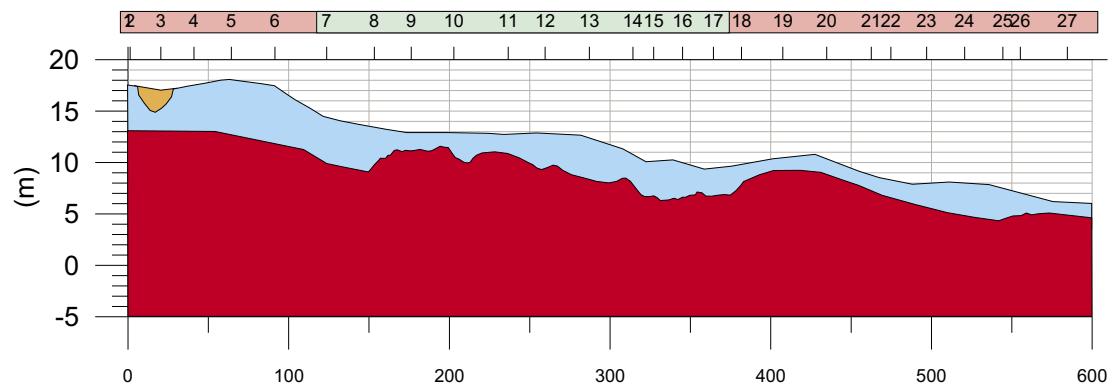




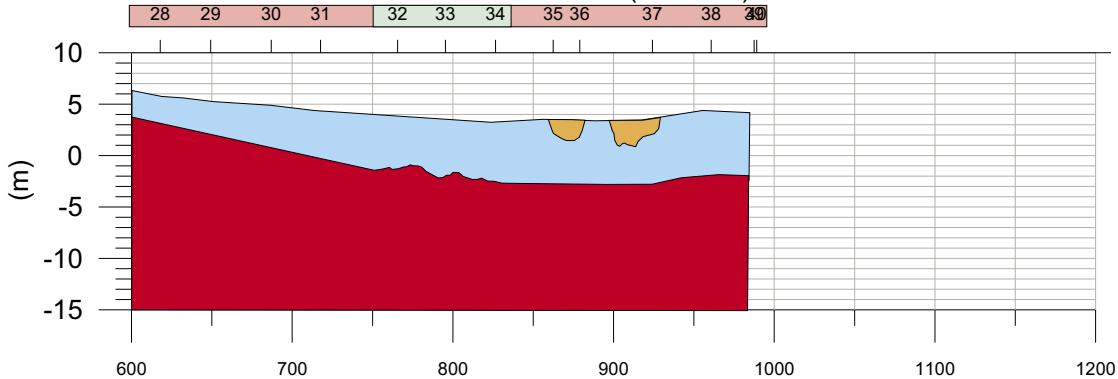
LFM000517

GEOSIGMA

LFM000517 (0-600)

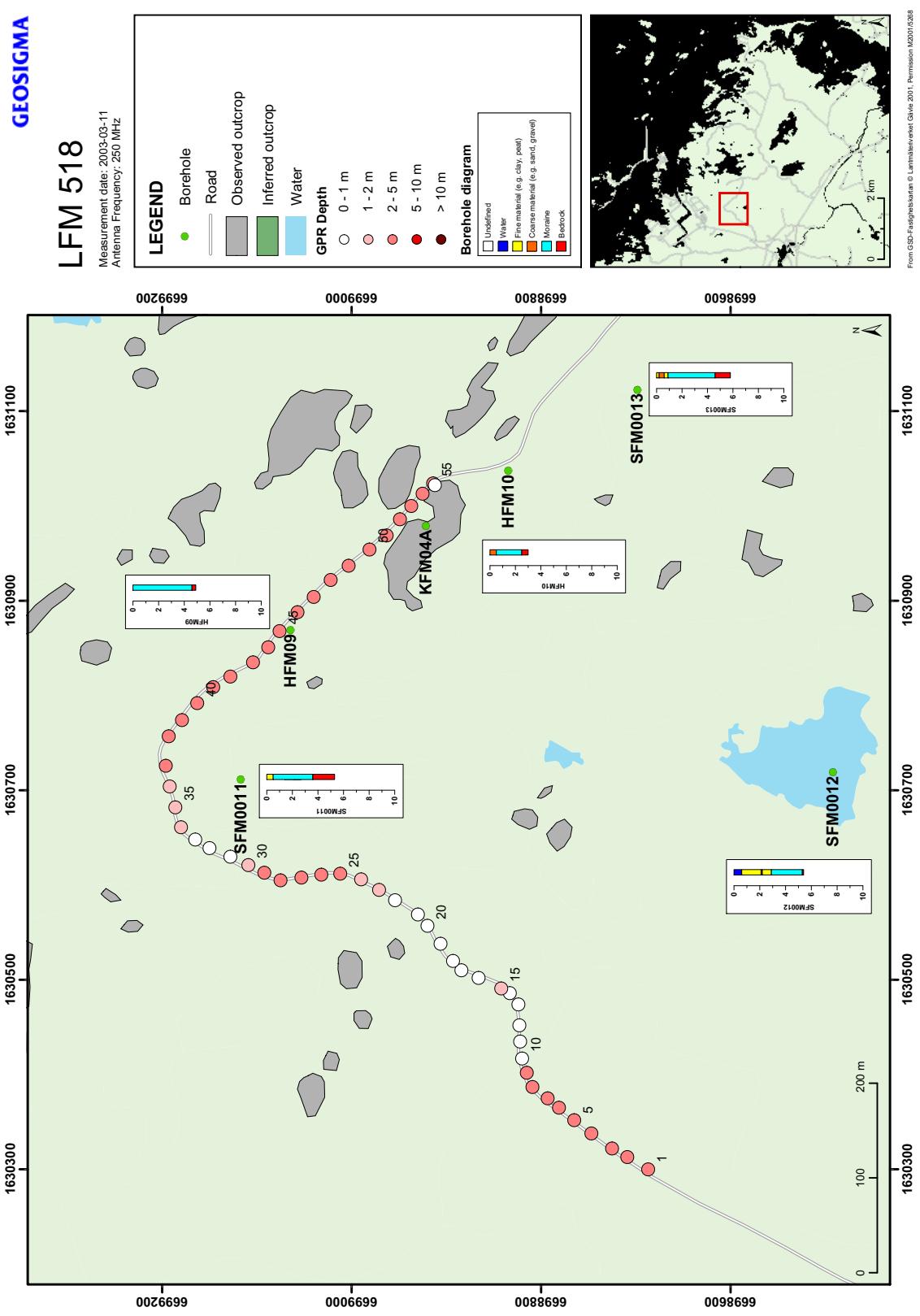


LFM000517 (600-973)



Legend

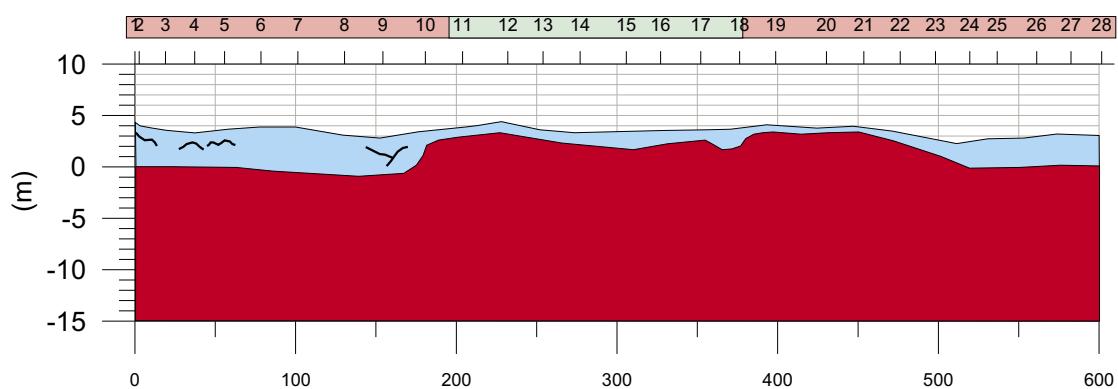
- WATER
- MORAINE
- FINE MATERIAL
- COARSE MATERIAL
- BEDROCK
- GOOD DATA
- POOR DATA



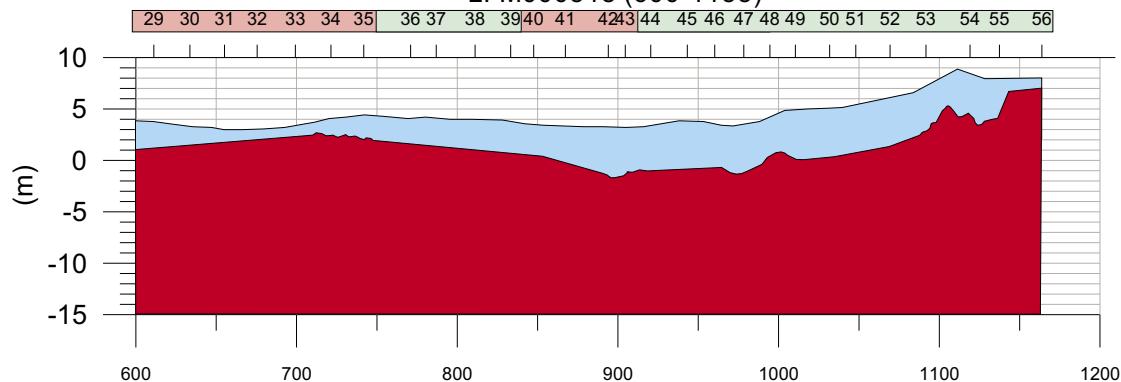
LFM000518

GEOSIGMA

LFM000518 (0-600)

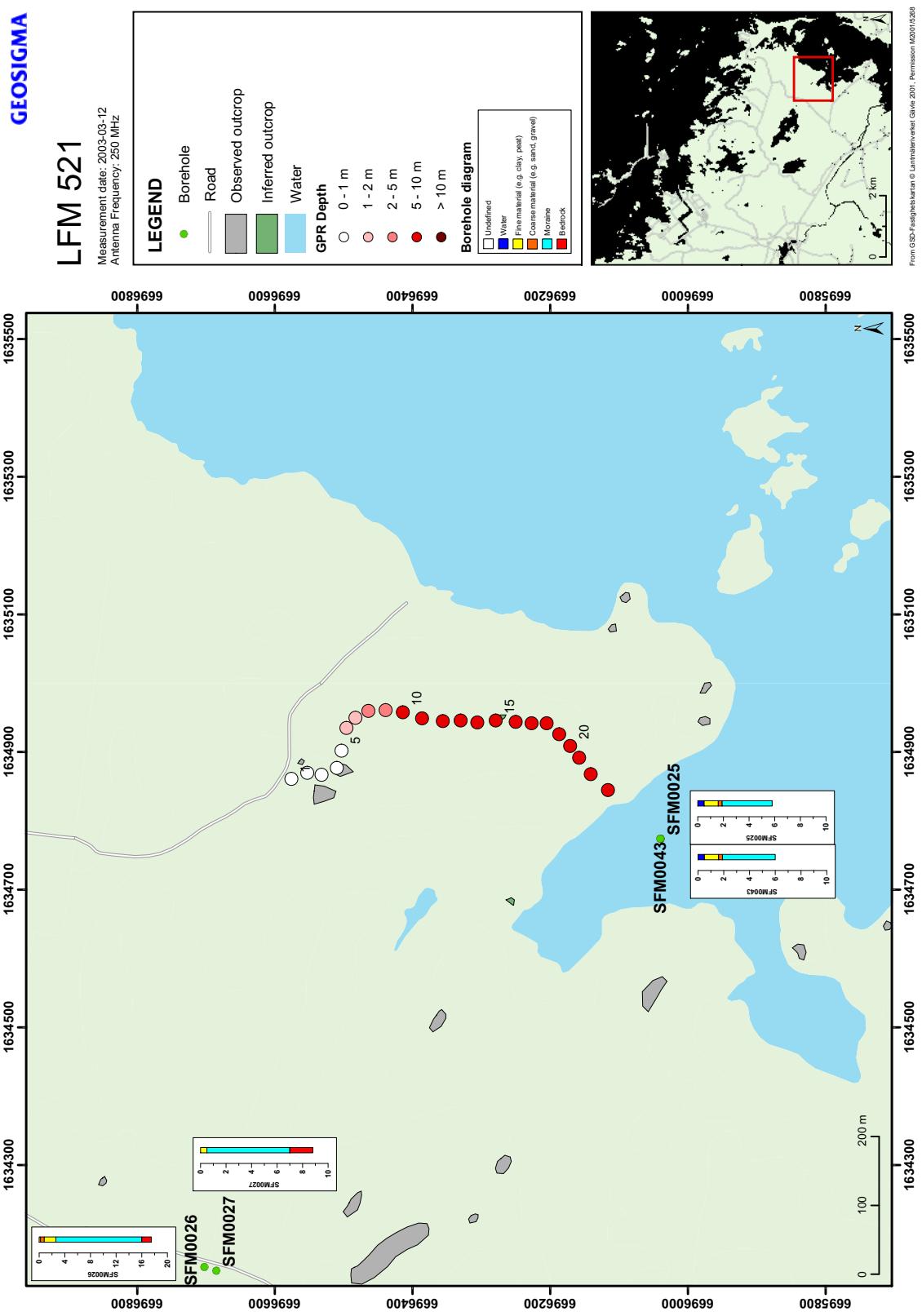


LFM000518 (600-1155)



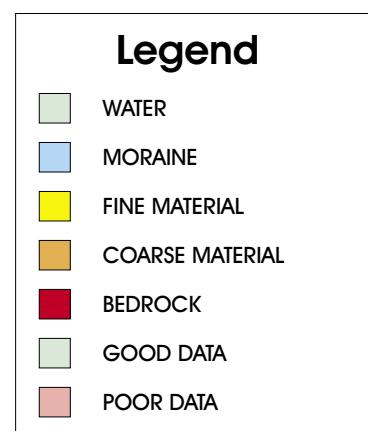
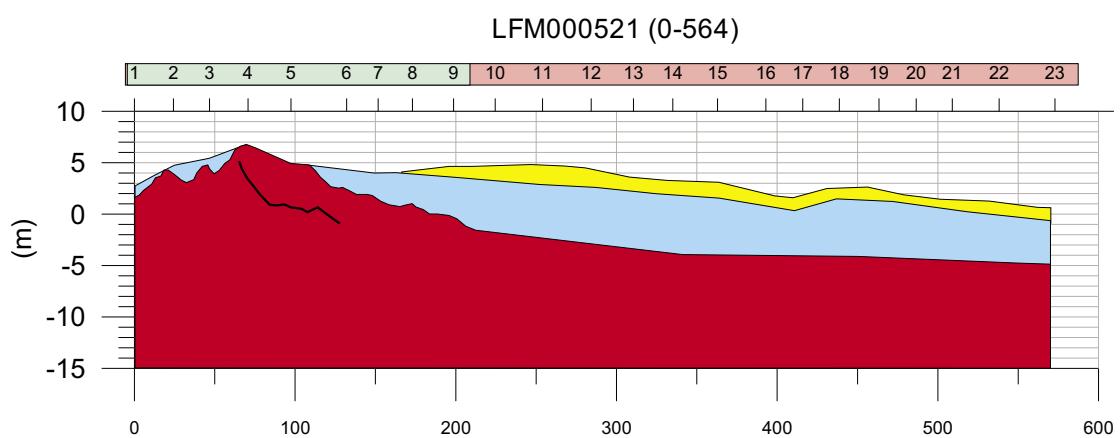
Legend

- WATER
- MORAINE
- FINE MATERIAL
- COARSE MATERIAL
- BEDROCK
- GOOD DATA
- POOR DATA



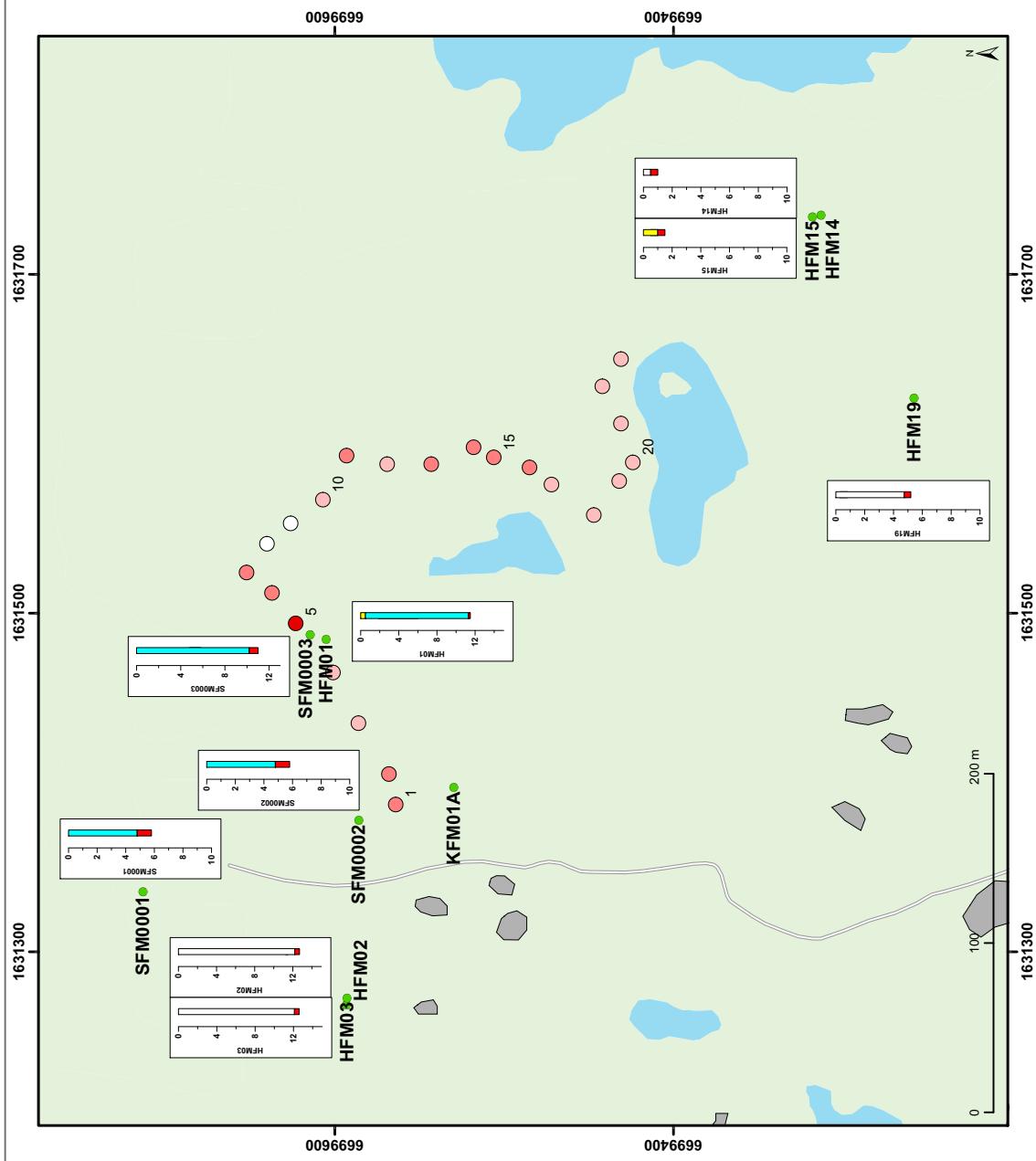
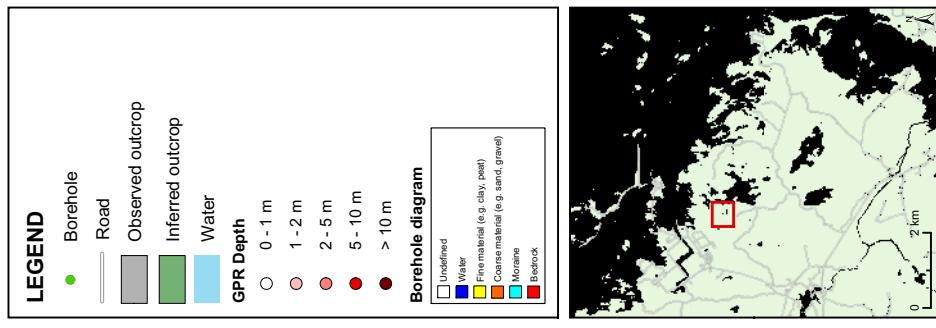
LFM000521

GEOSIGMA



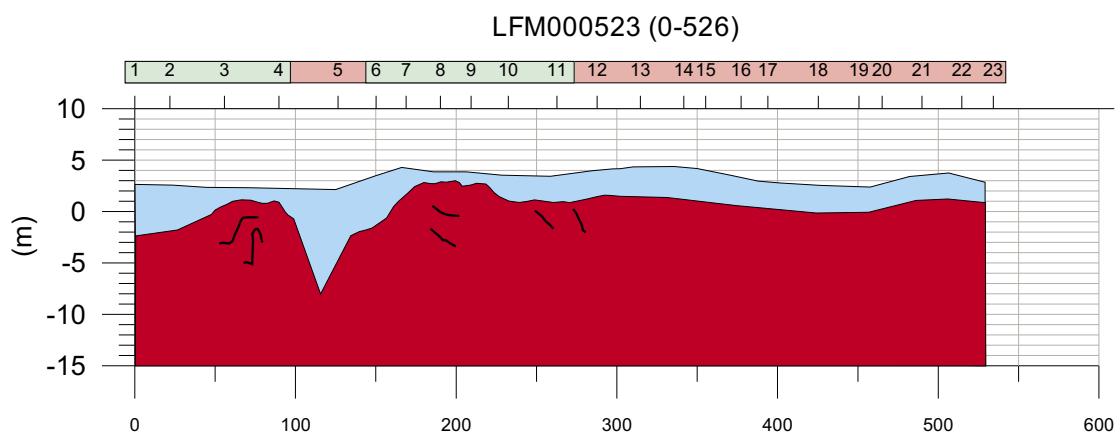
LFM 523

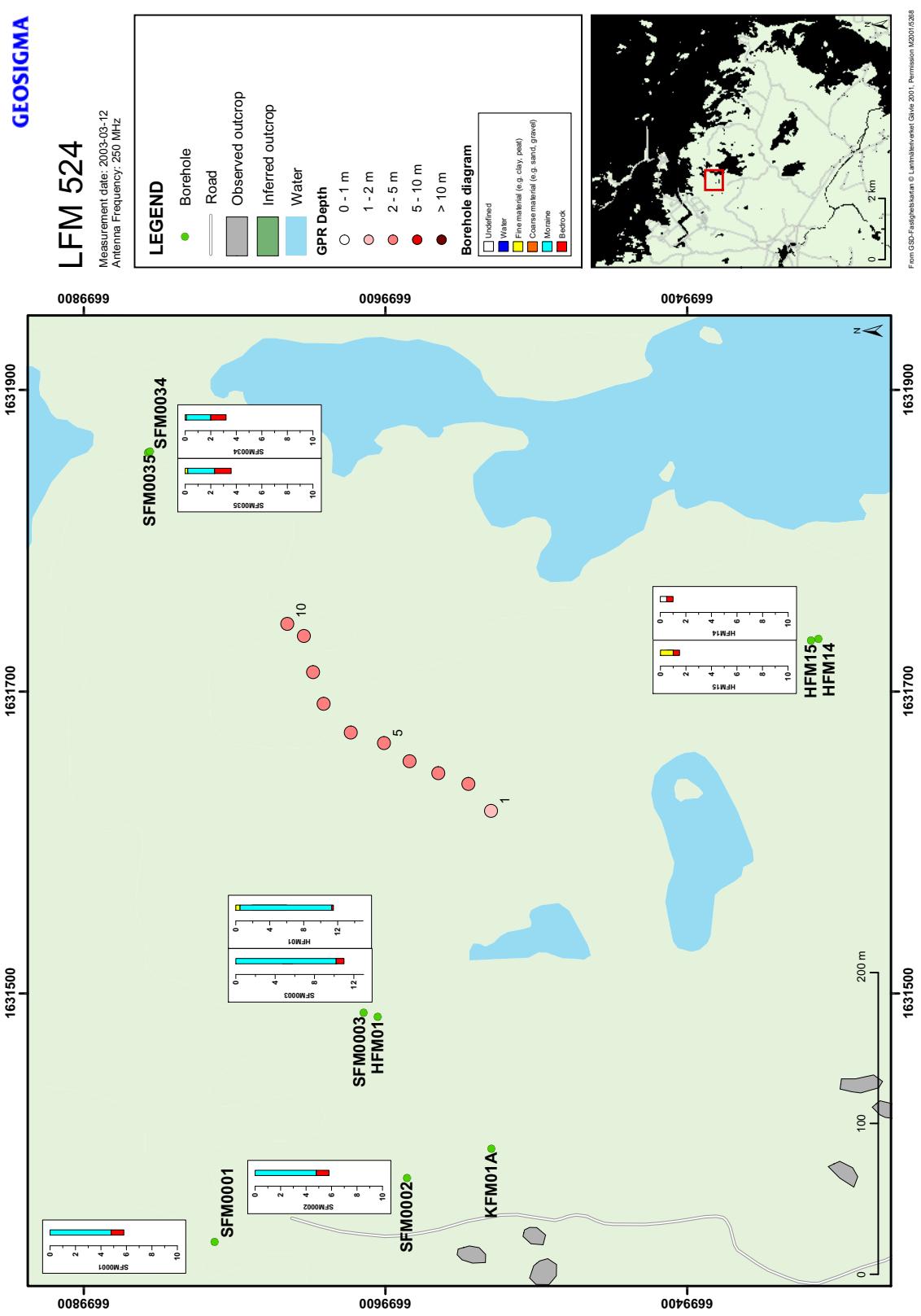
Measurement date: 2003-03-12
Antenna Frequency: 250 MHz



LFM000523

GEOSIGMA

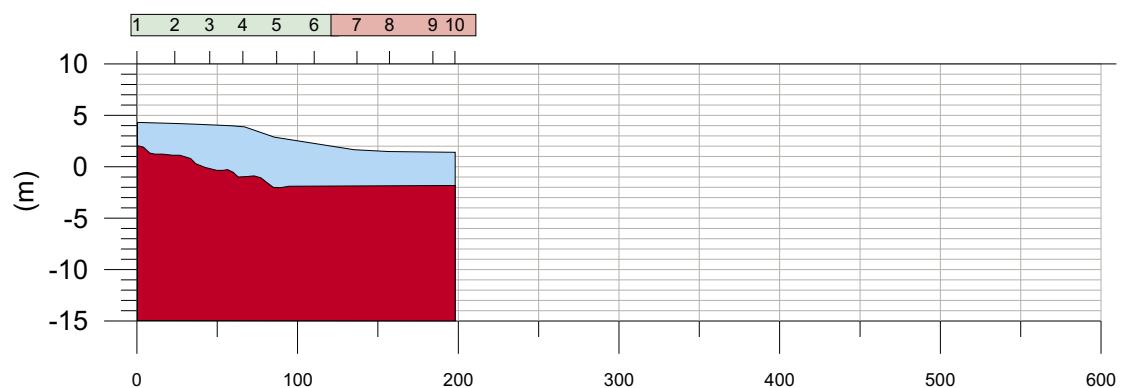




LFM000524

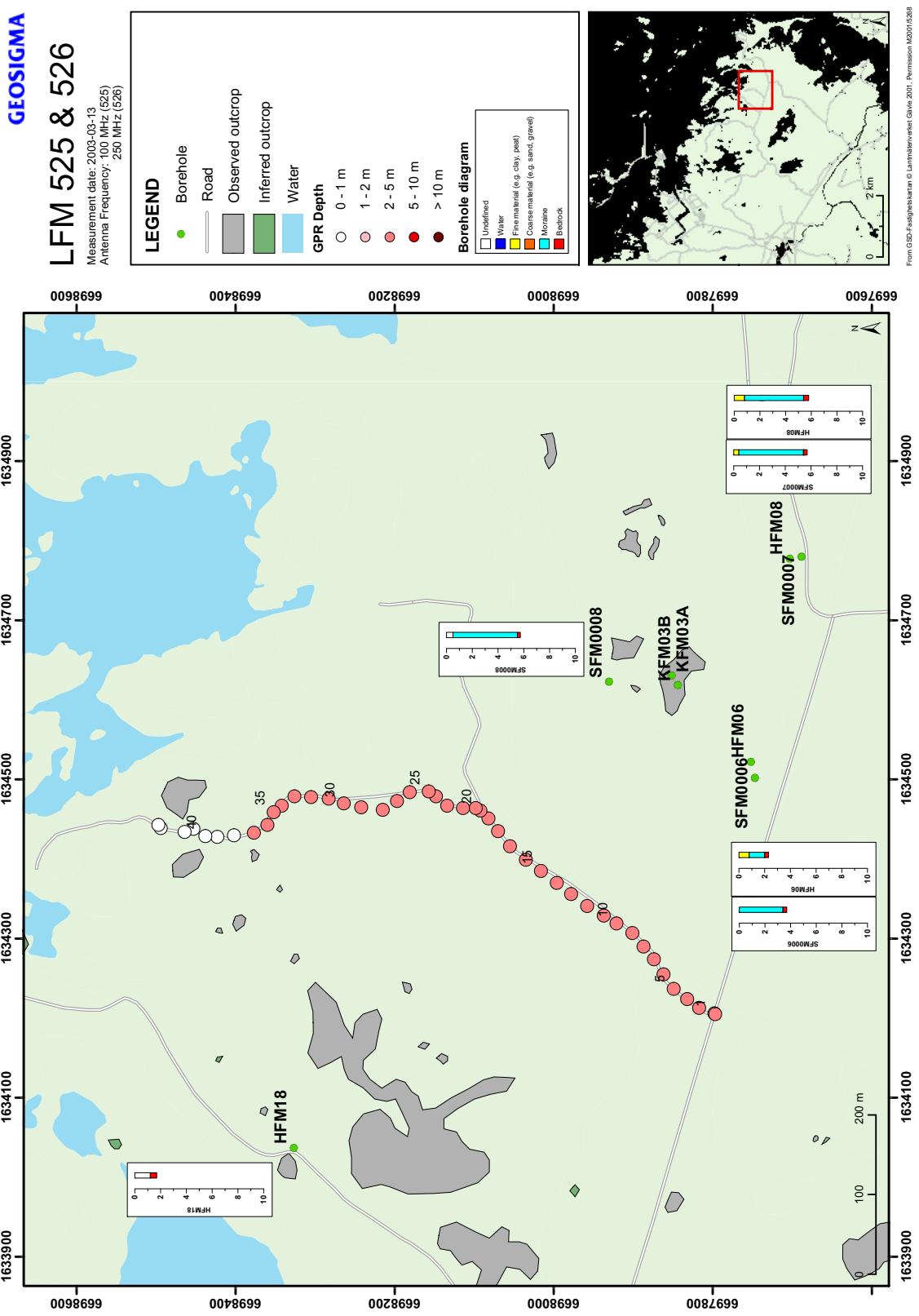
GEOSIGMA

LFM000524 (0-195)

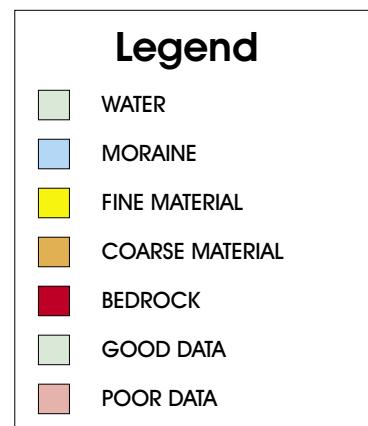
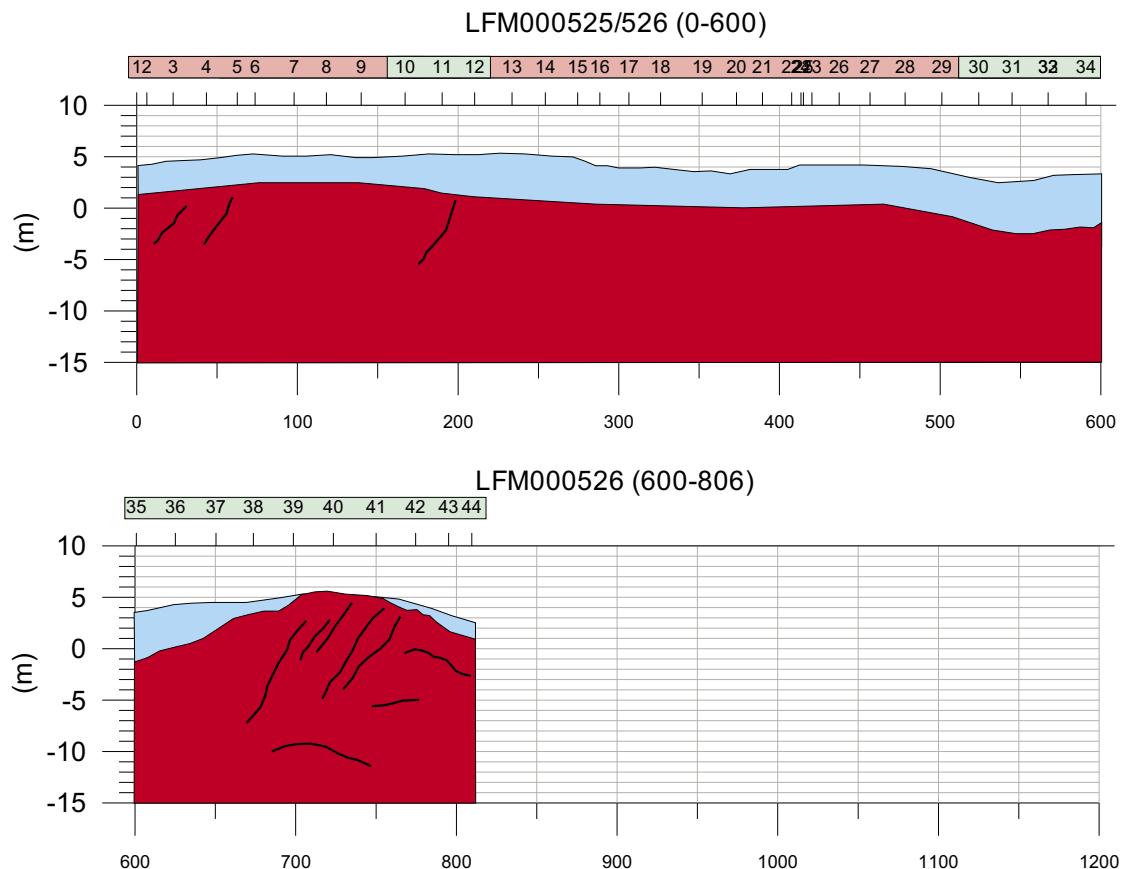


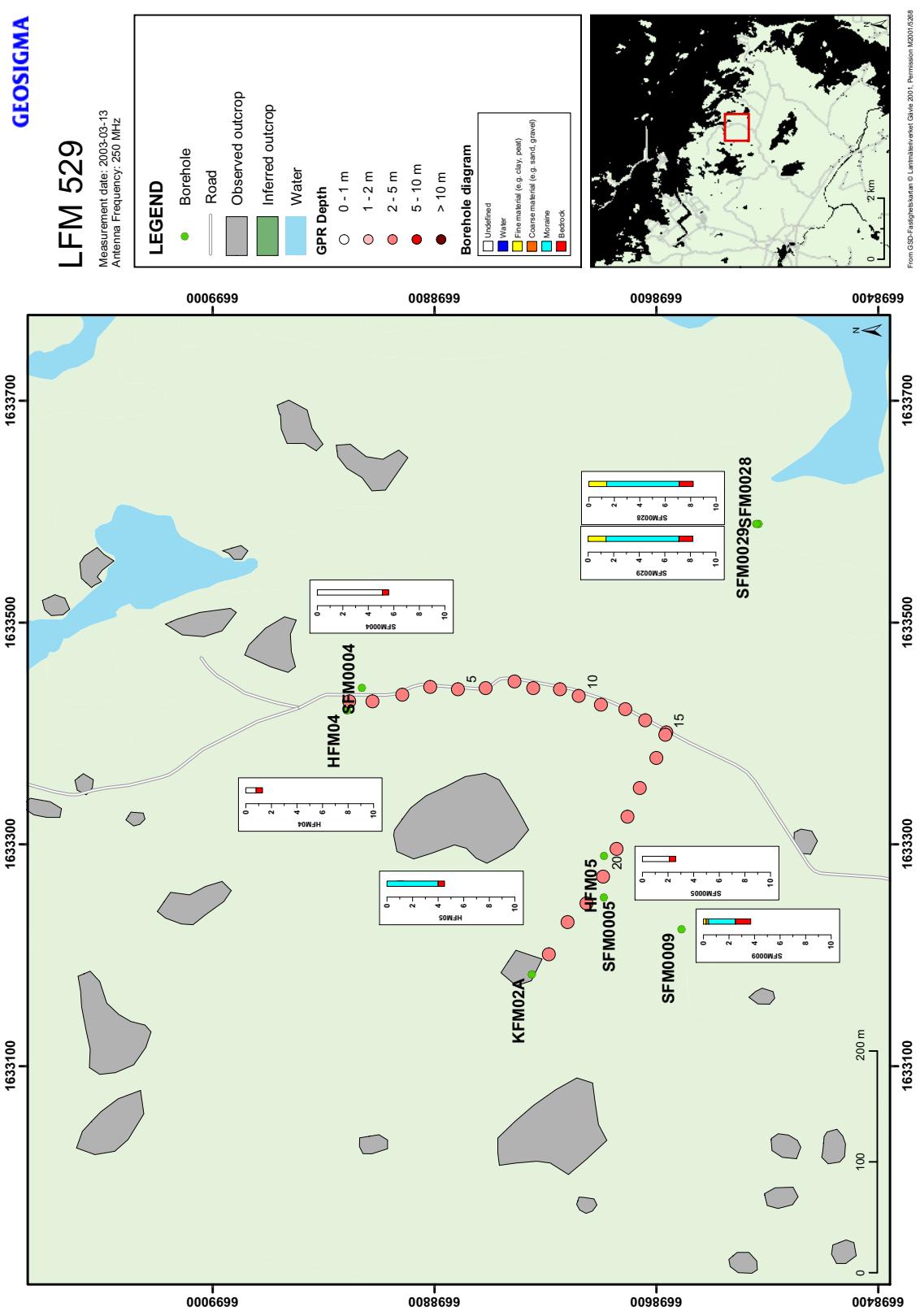
Legend

- [Light Green Box] WATER
- [Light Blue Box] MORAINE
- [Yellow Box] FINE MATERIAL
- [Orange Box] COARSE MATERIAL
- [Dark Red Box] BEDROCK
- [Light Green Box] GOOD DATA
- [Light Red Box] POOR DATA



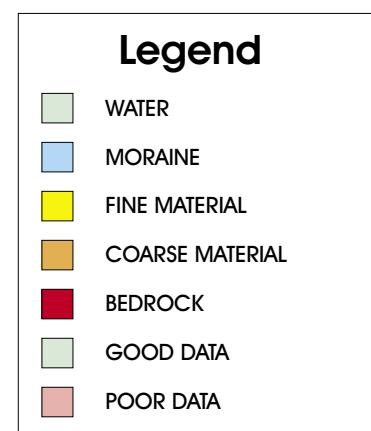
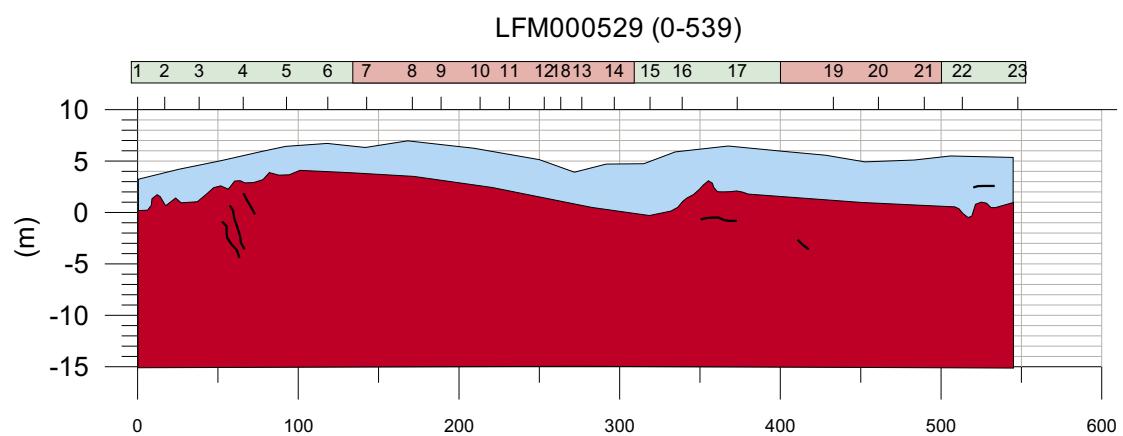
LFM000525/526 GEOSIGMA

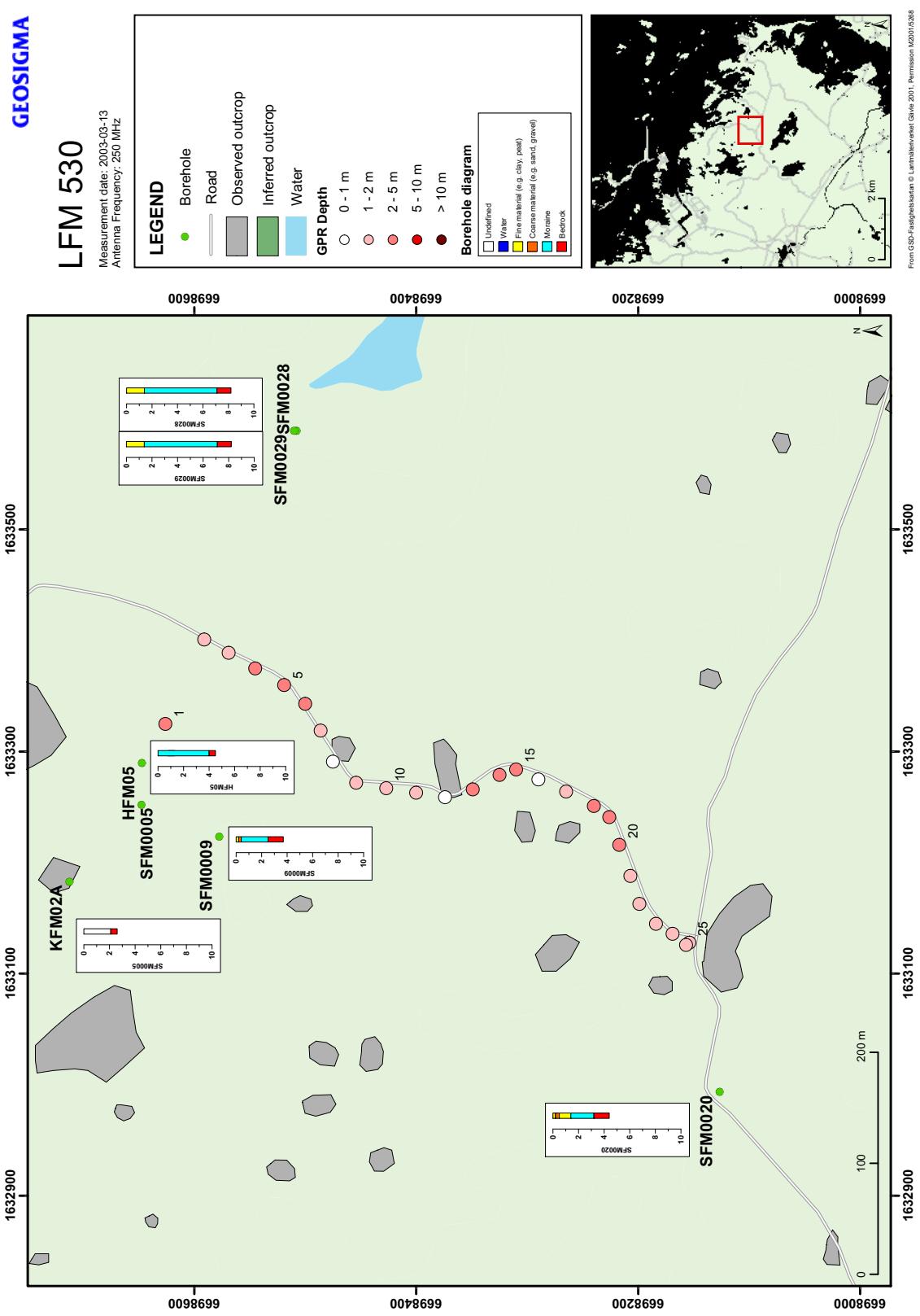




LFM000529

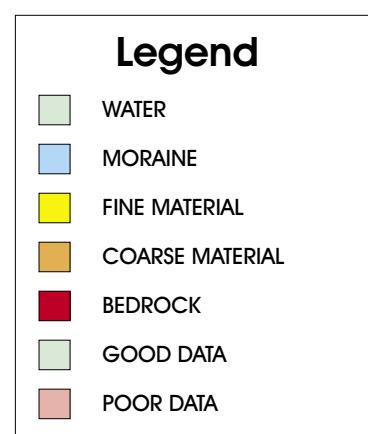
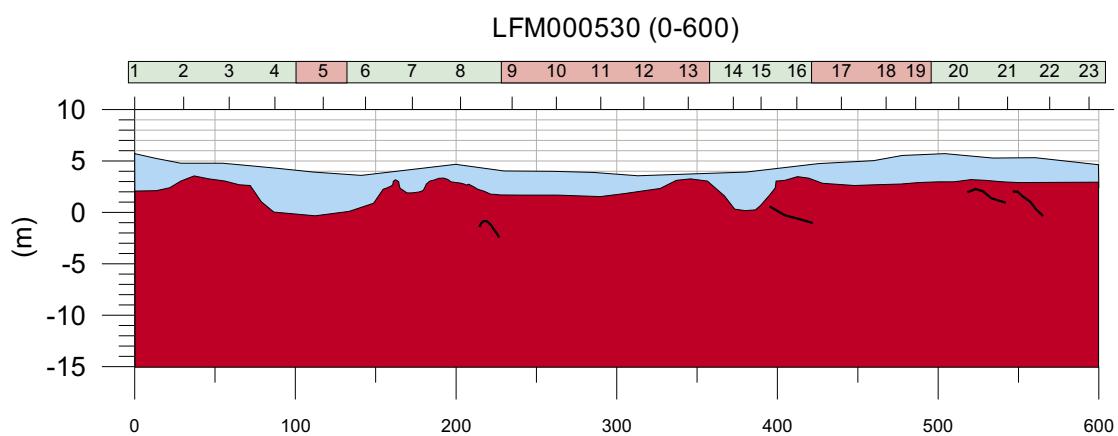
GEO SIGMA

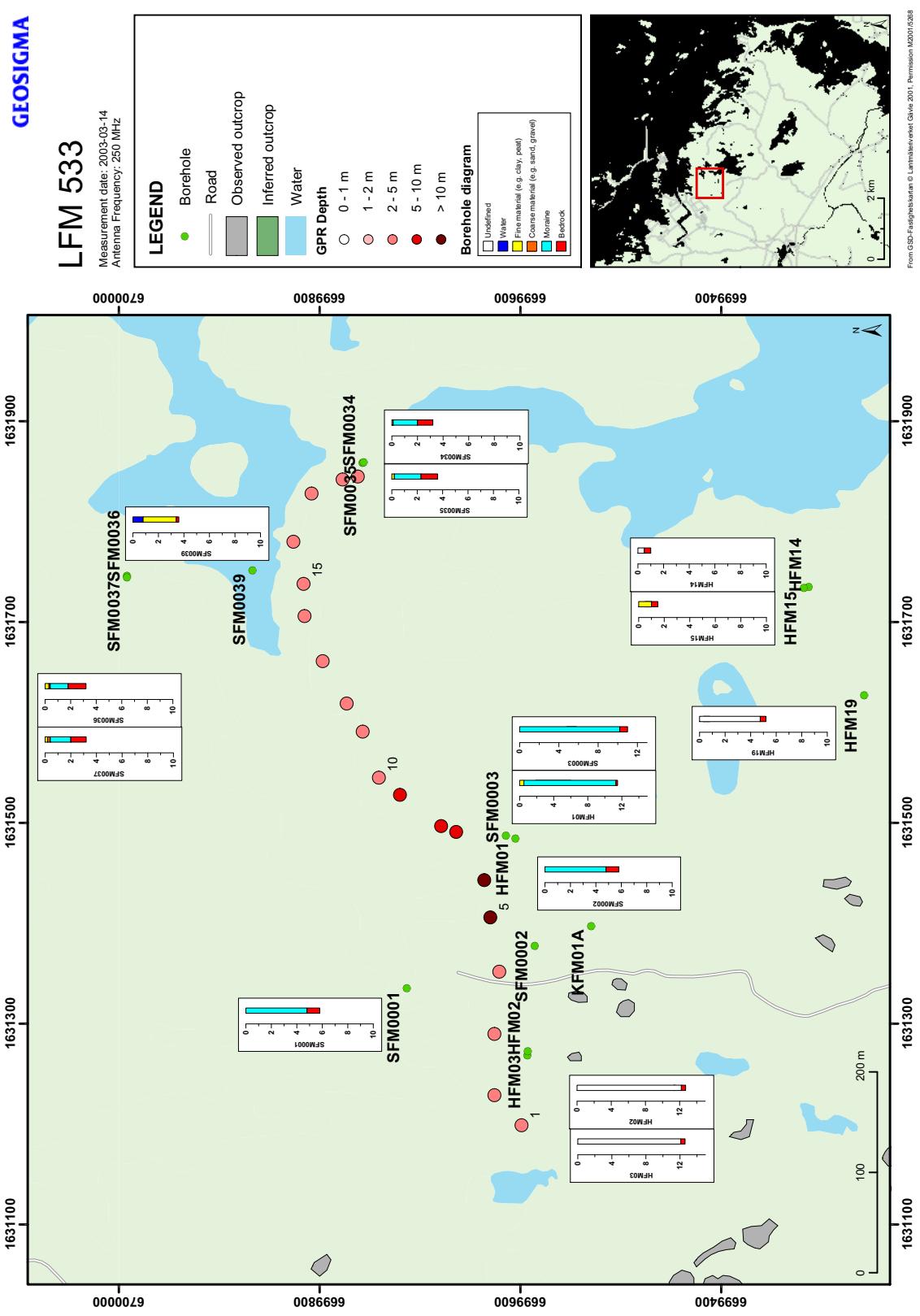




LFM000530

GEOSIGMA

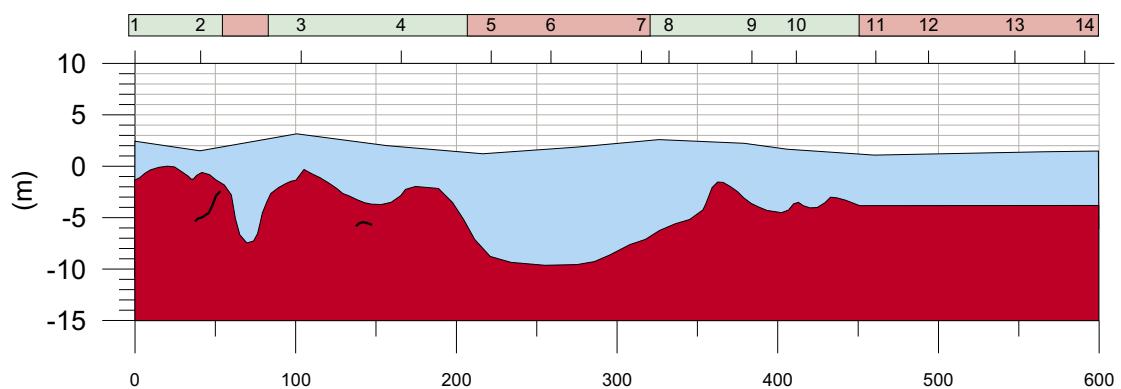




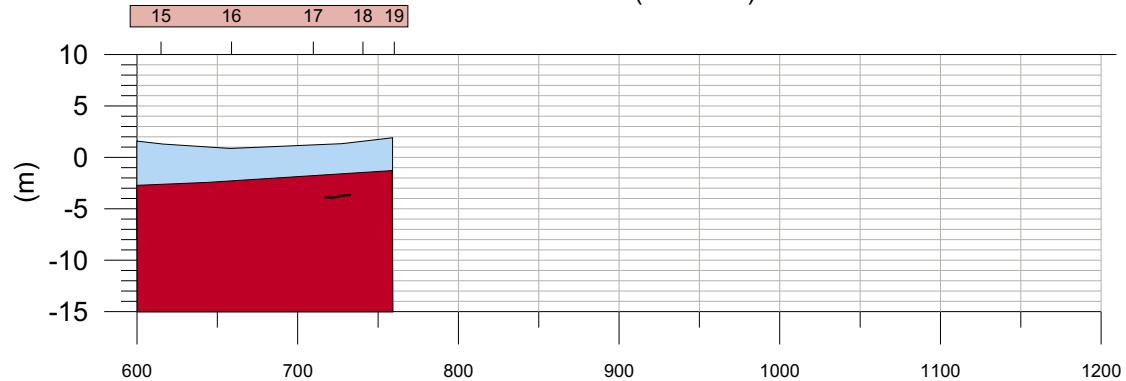
LFM000533

GEOSIGMA

LFM000533 (0-600)

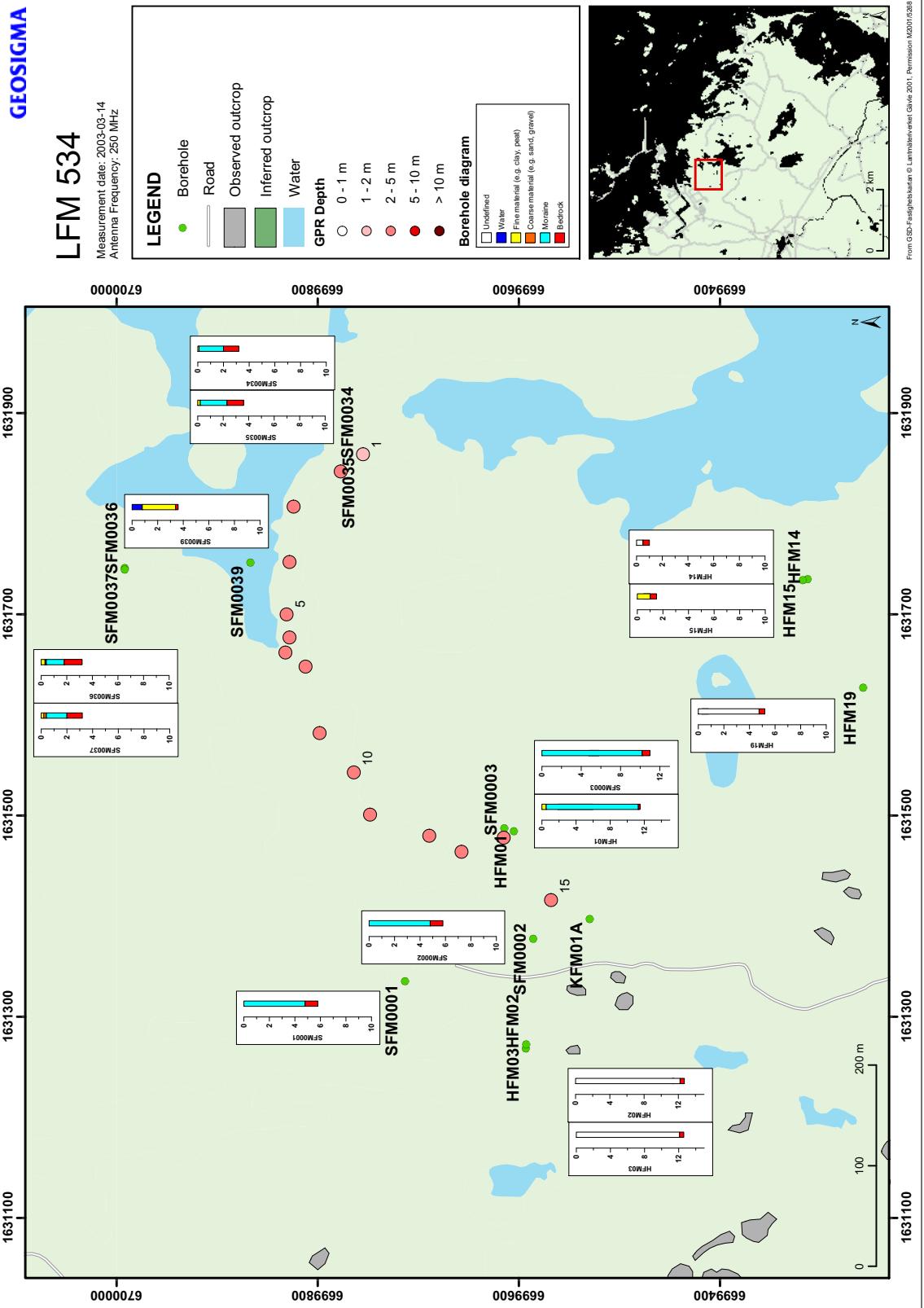


LFM000533 (600-758)



Legend

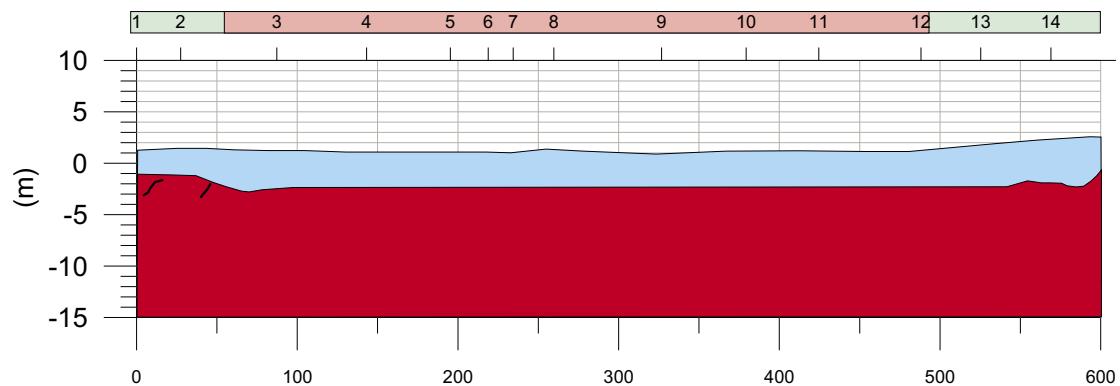
- [Light Green Box] WATER
- [Light Blue Box] MORAINE
- [Yellow Box] FINE MATERIAL
- [Orange Box] COARSE MATERIAL
- [Dark Red Box] BEDROCK
- [Light Green Box] GOOD DATA
- [Red Box] POOR DATA



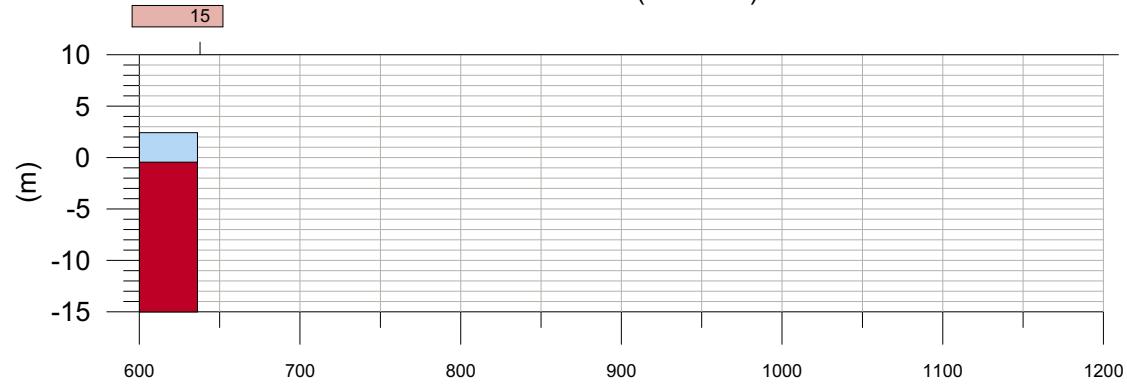
LFM000534

GEOSIGMA

LFM000534 (0-600)

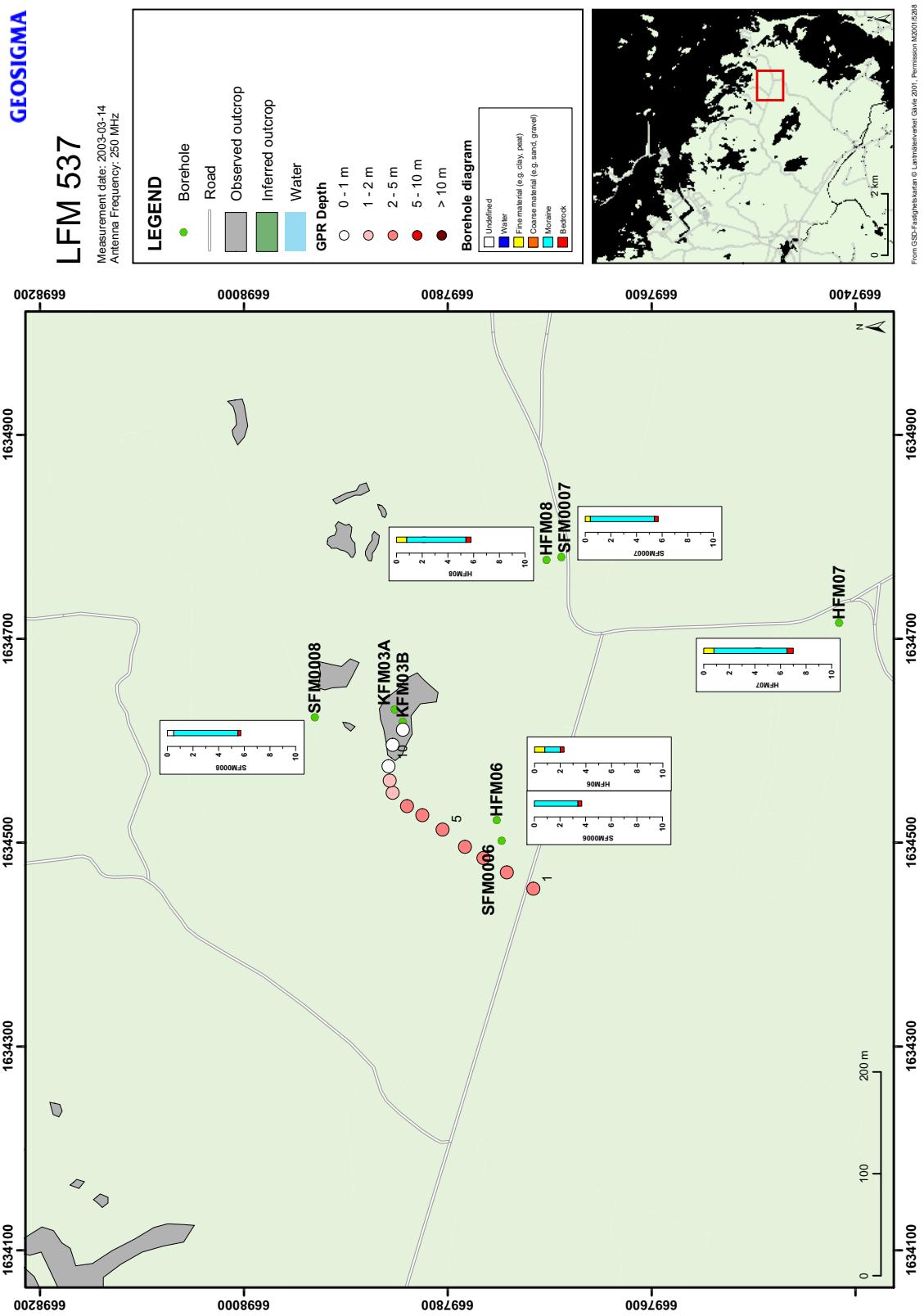


LFM000534 (600-637)



Legend

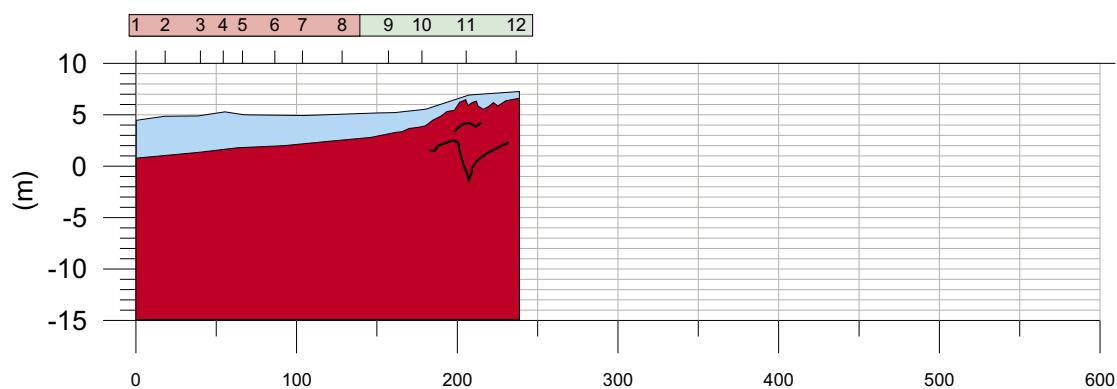
- [Light Green Box] WATER
- [Light Blue Box] MORAINE
- [Yellow Box] FINE MATERIAL
- [Orange Box] COARSE MATERIAL
- [Dark Red Box] BEDROCK
- [Light Green Box] GOOD DATA
- [Red Box] POOR DATA



LFM000537

GEOSIGMA

LFM000537 (0-233)



Legend

- WATER
- MORAINE
- FINE MATERIAL
- COARSE MATERIAL
- BEDROCK
- GOOD DATA
- POOR DATA

GEO SIGMA

LFM 543 & 545

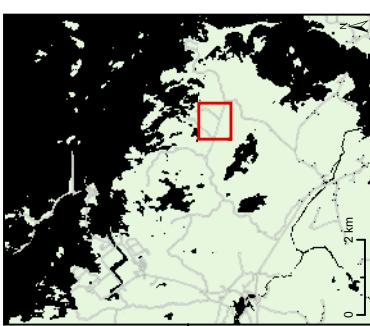
Measurement date: 2003-03-16
Antenna Frequency: 100 MHz (543)
250 MHz (545)

LEGEND

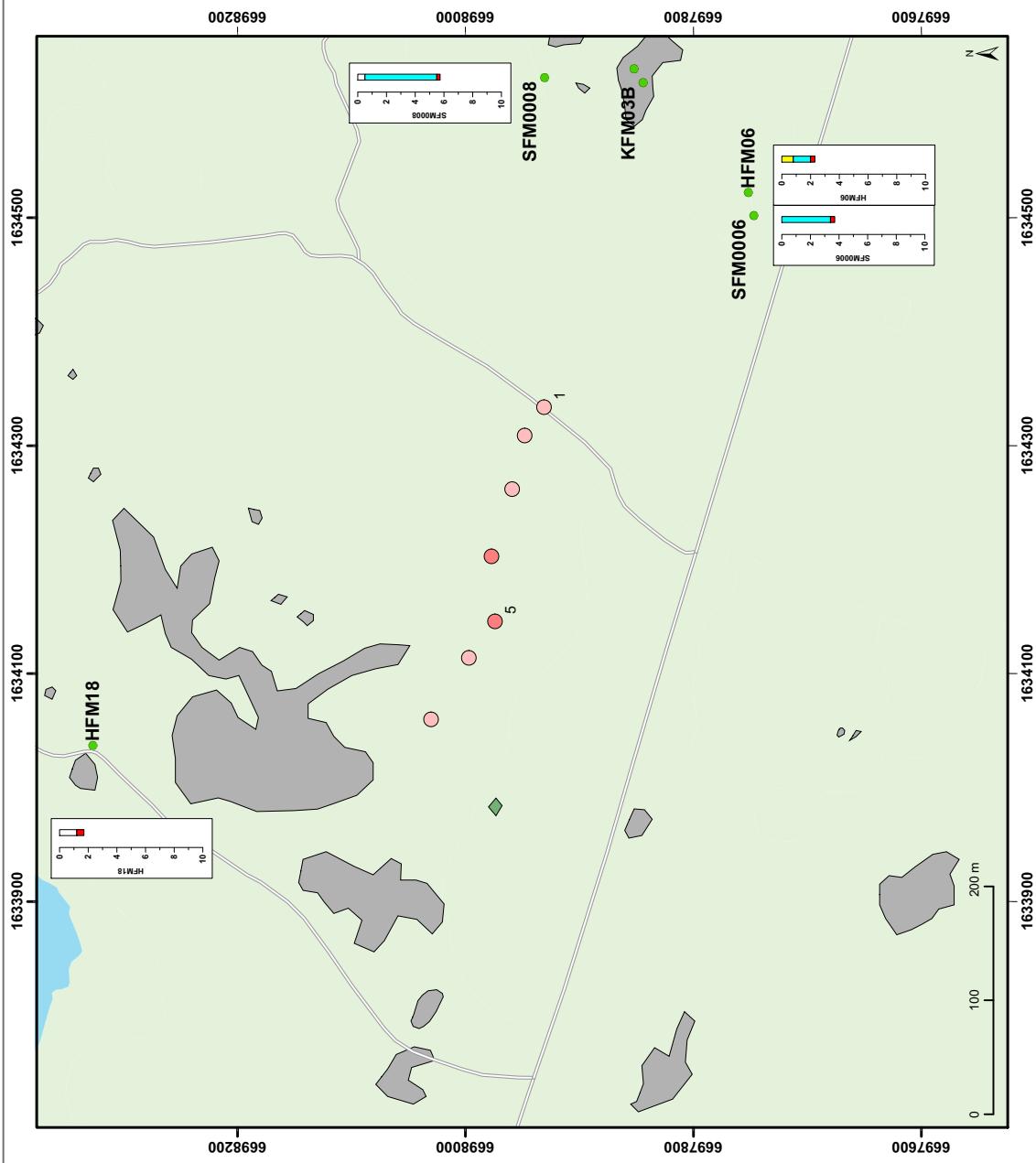
| | |
|------------------|---|
| Borehole | ● |
| Road | — |
| Observed outcrop | ■ |
| Inferred outcrop | ■ |
| Water | ■ |
| GPR Depth | |
| 0 - 1 m | ○ |
| 1 - 2 m | ● |
| 2 - 5 m | ● |
| 5 - 10 m | ● |
| > 10 m | ● |

Borehole diagram

| | |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| Undefined | □ |
| Water | ■ |
| Fine material (e.g. clay, peat) | ■ |
| Coarse material (e.g. sand, gravel) | ■ |
| Moraine | ■ |
| Bedrock | ■ |

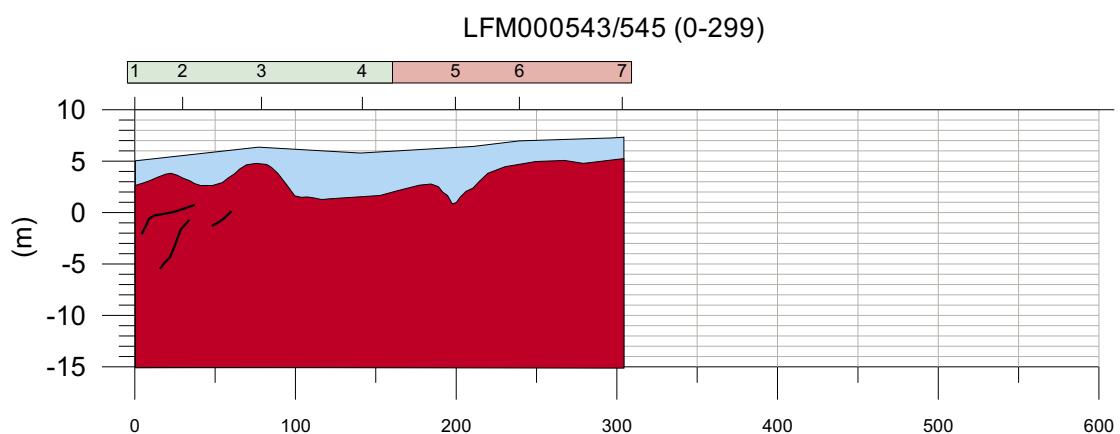


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LFM000543/545

GEOSIGMA



GEO SIGMA

LFM 546 & 547

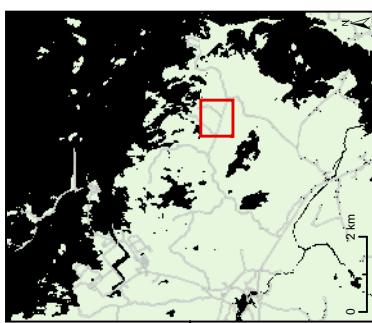
Measurement date: 2003-03-16
Antenna Frequency: 100 MHz (547)
250 MHz (546)

LEGEND

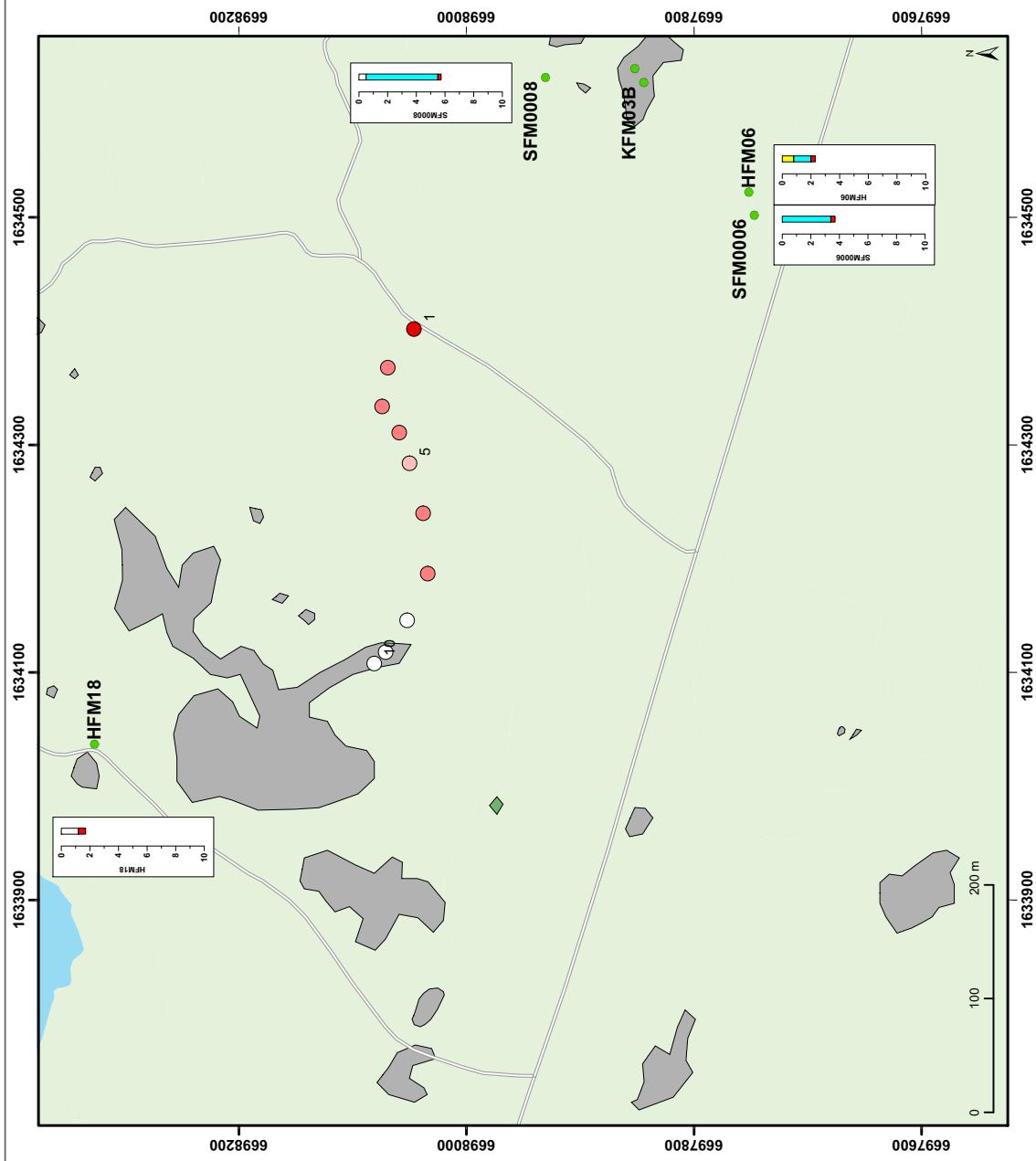
| | | | |
|------------|------|------------------|------------------|
| Borehole | Road | Observed outcrop | Inferred outcrop |
| ● | — | ■ | ■ |
| Water | | | |
| GPR Depth | | | |
| ○ 0 - 1 m | | | |
| ● 1 - 2 m | | | |
| ● 2 - 5 m | | | |
| ● 5 - 10 m | | | |
| ● > 10 m | | | |

Borehole diagram

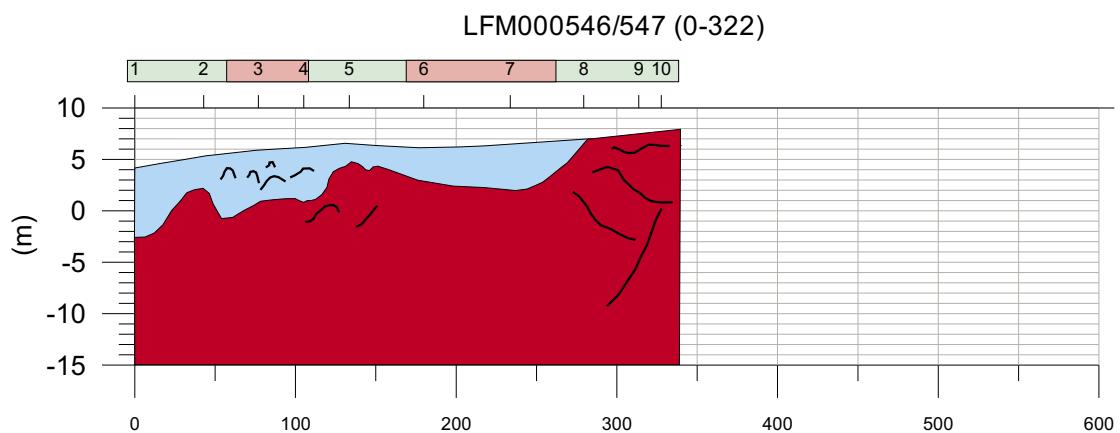
| | |
|-------------------------------------|-------|
| Ungrounded | Water |
| ■ | ■ |
| Fine material (e.g. clay, peat) | ■ |
| Coarse material (e.g. sand, gravel) | ■ |
| Moraine | ■ |
| Bedrock | ■ |

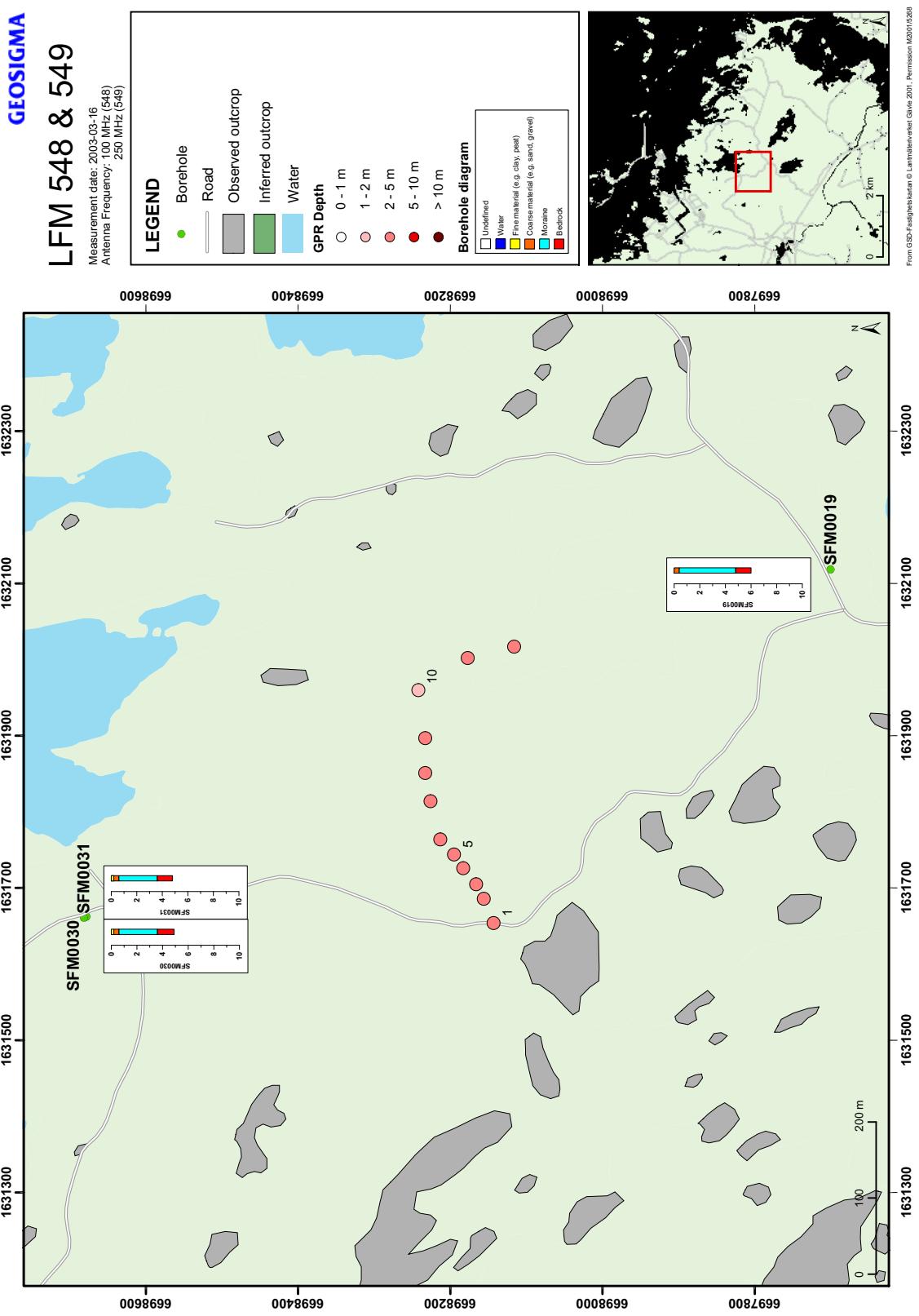


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LFM000546/547 GEOSIGMA





LFM000548/549

GEOSIGMA

