

Total vegetation cover soil protection

Region:LGA Ballina_(A) NSW

Date: September 2025

This report describes vegetation protecting the soil surface from erosion during a chosen month compared to previous years. This report has been generated using MODIS fractional vegetation cover information available in Rangelands and Pasture Productivity (RAPP) map tool <https://map.geo-rapp.org/#australia>. The report is based on 500 metre pixel data on monthly time steps.

Land use forest cover:

Results can be shown for the whole region (polygon), and separated by land use and forest cover classes which are likely to show different cover patterns and targets. Land use is divided into four broad classes: Conservation and natural environments, Agriculture, production native forests and plantation forests (no report), and other (no report). Agriculture is divided into grazing, crops and horticulture which are sub-divided into non-irrigated and irrigated. If forest is present land use is further divided into: non-forest, woodland forest and non-woodland forest. The area of each land use and forest class are shown as a map and chart. The report content is repeated for each land use and forest cover class that covers at least 1% of the area of the chosen region.

Total vegetation Cover:

The total vegetation cover indicates where soil is likely to be protected from wind and or water hillslope erosion. Total vegetation cover for this month is shown on a map and chart classified into 4 classes.

- 71-100% High cover - protected from wind and usually water erosion (high rainfall, steep slopes, and erodible soils may need greater than 80, 90, 95 and up to 100% cover)
- 51-70% Moderate cover - protected from wind erosion
- 31-50% Low cover - not protected
- 0-30% Very Low cover - not protected

Erosion protection: Wind erosion 50% total vegetation cover

The vegetation cover threshold required to prevent soil erosion is usually 50% to reduce wind erosion, 70% or 80% to reduce water (hillslope) erosion depending on the steepness and rainfall. Areas protected from erosion for the month:

- Map: water erosion protection (>70% cover) percentage area and hectares.
- Map: wind erosion protection (>50% cover) percentage area and hectares.

Comparison with previous years:

- Map: anomaly comparing this month to the average cover from the same month in previous years.
- Map: deciles rank of month against the same month in previous years.

Anomalies and deciles until September 2019 are calculated comparing to the same months 2001 to 2019. Extra monthly data will be used to calculate anomalies and deciles post September 2019 as they become available.

Time series monthly from January 2001 to current:

Erosion protection

- Wind erosion protection time series: percentage of the area of the region with greater than 50% cover for each month (orange lines). Horizontal lines are 10th (cover target) and 50th percentiles.
- Water erosion protection time series: percentage of the area of the region with greater than 70% cover for each month (blue line). Horizontal lines are 10th (cover target) and 50th percentiles.

Rainfall

- Millimetres rainfall each month (black line).

Each time series is also stacked by year. The black line shows the current year of data.

Water erosion protection for higher rainfall and steeper slopes:

Water erosion protection on higher slopes. As slope increases, more cover is required to control water erosion. The thresholds reported are:

- the percentage area with pixels greater than 80% total cover.
- the percentage area with pixels greater than 90% total cover.
- the percentage area with pixels greater than 95% total cover.

Acknowledgment of data:

1. <http://www.agriculture.gov.au/abares/aclump/land-use/alum-classification>
2. <http://www.agriculture.gov.au/abares/forestsaustralia/sofr/sofr-2018>
3. <https://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/agriculture/pastures-and-rangelands/establishment-mgmt/production-management2/groundcover>
4. MODIS Fractional cover algorithm:
<https://doi.org/10.4225/08/5848a3f19a7b3>



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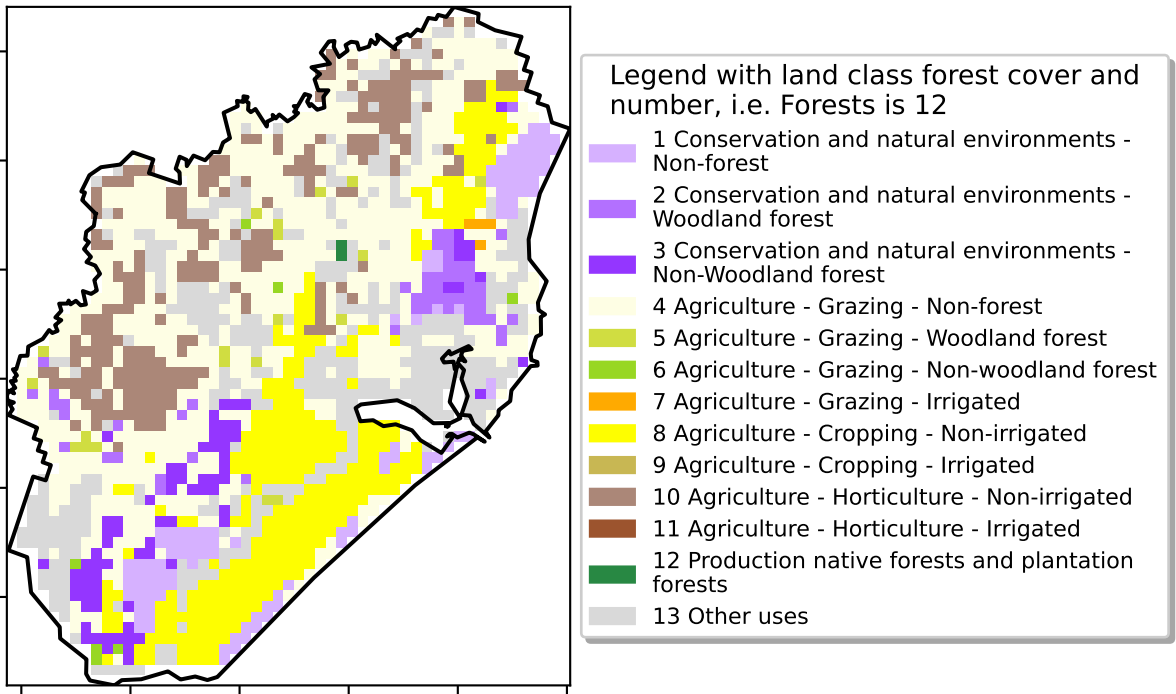
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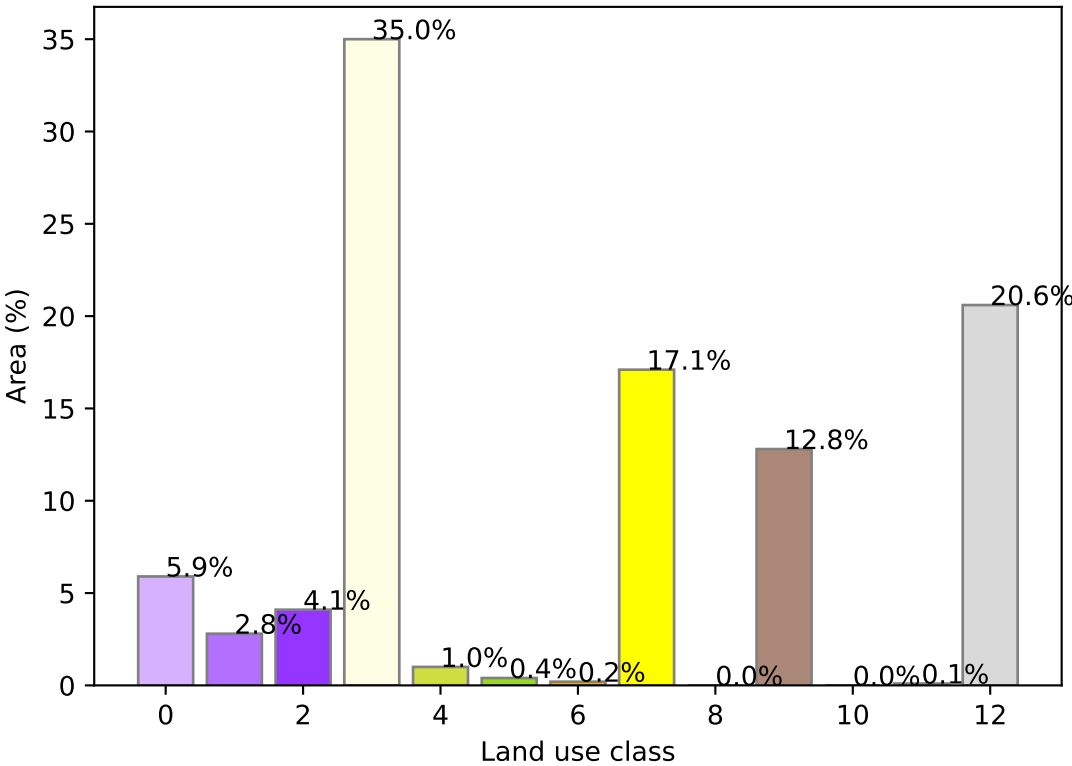
Vegetation Cover Sep 2025

Land use and forest cover

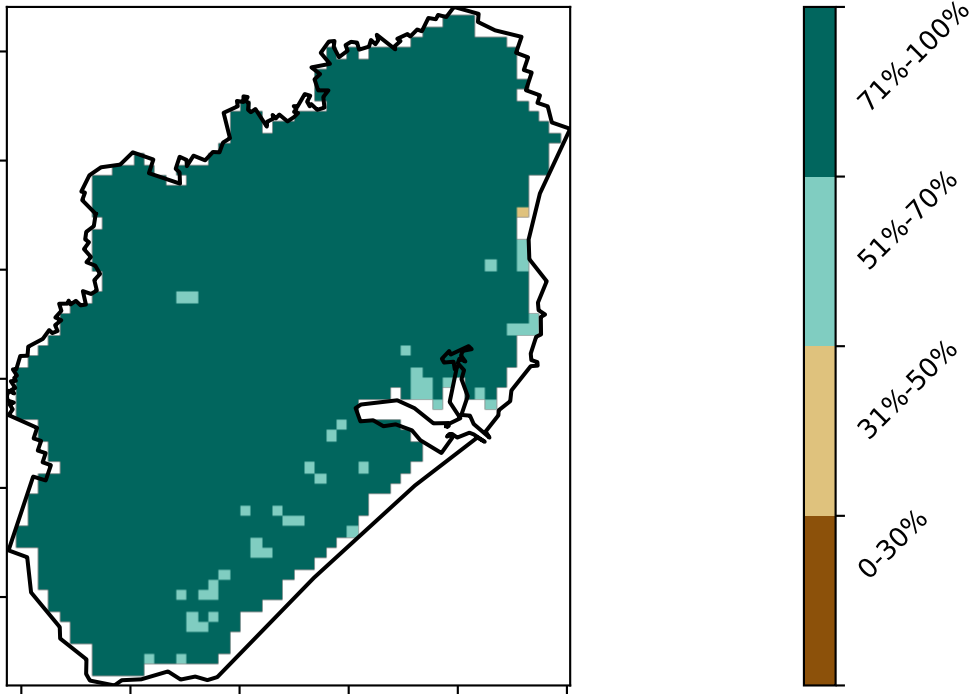
Catchment Scale
Land Use and Forests
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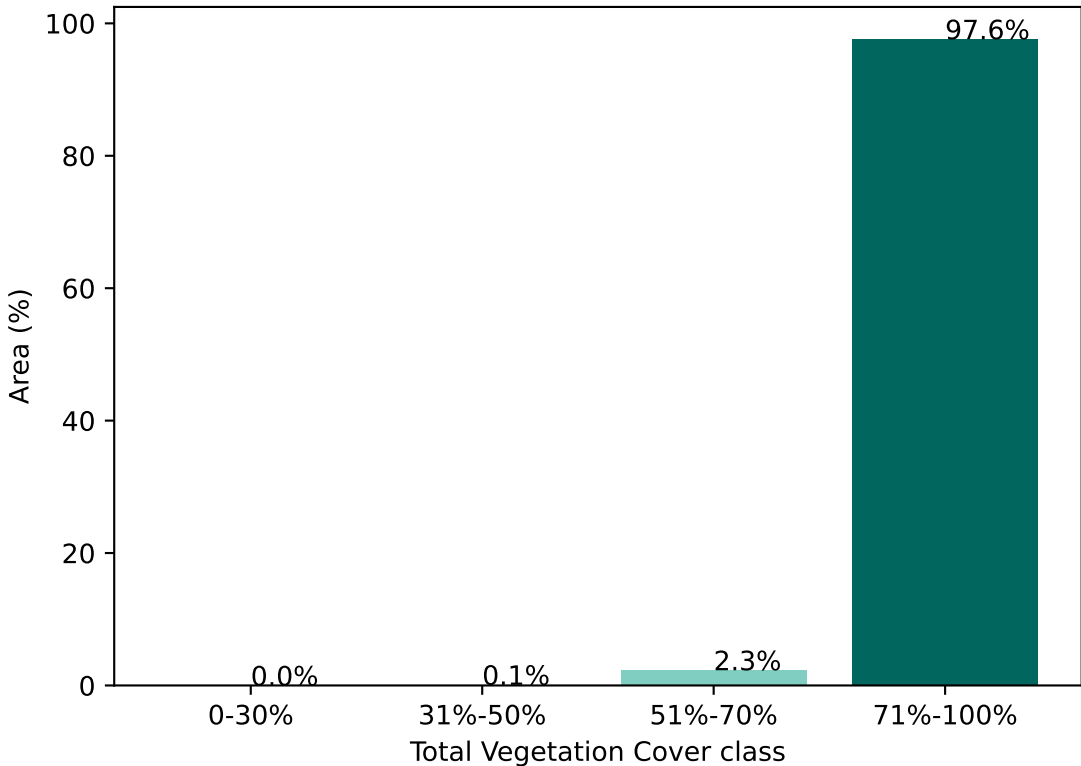
Proportion of each land class in area



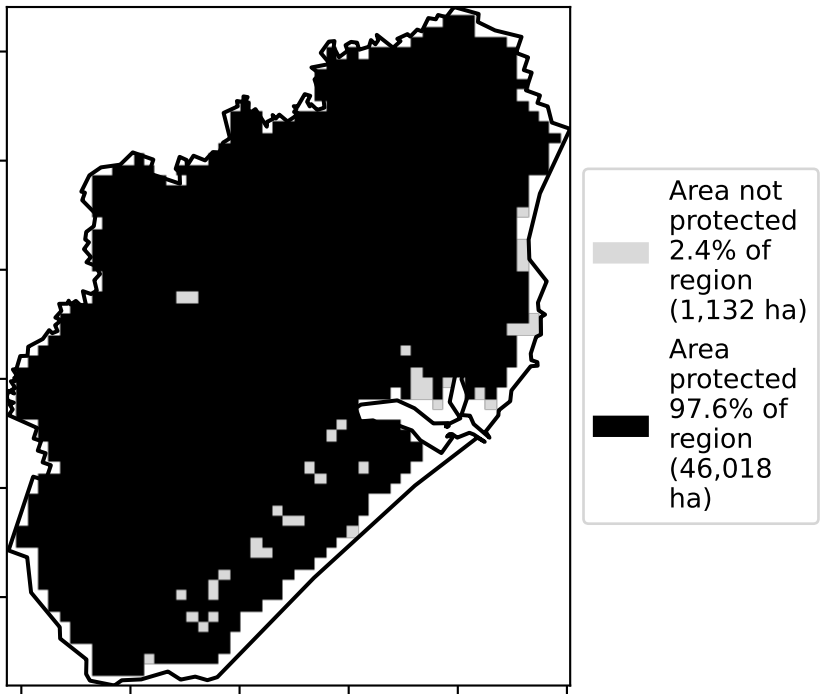
Total Vegetation Cover [%]



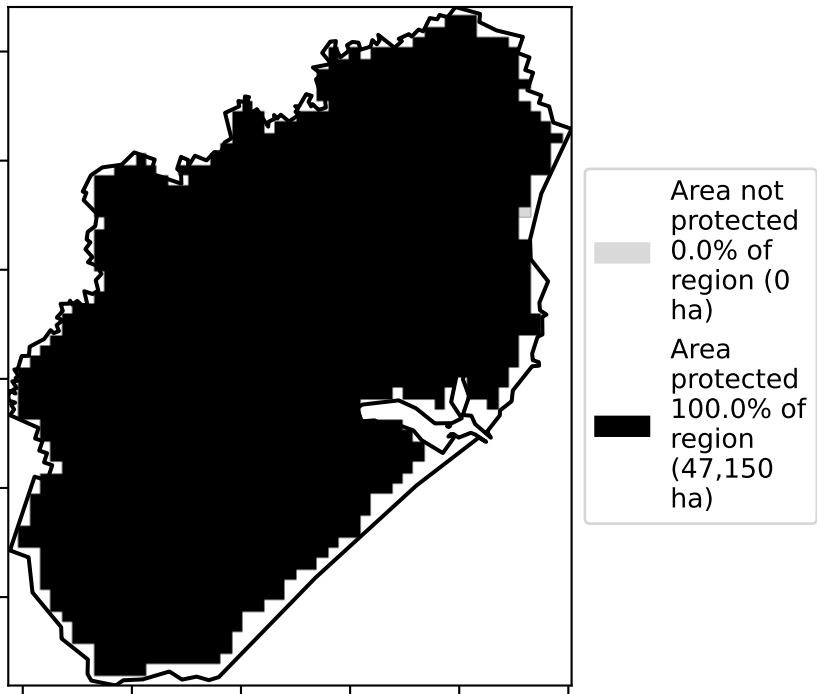
Proportion of vegetation cover class in area



% Area protected from water erosion (>70%)

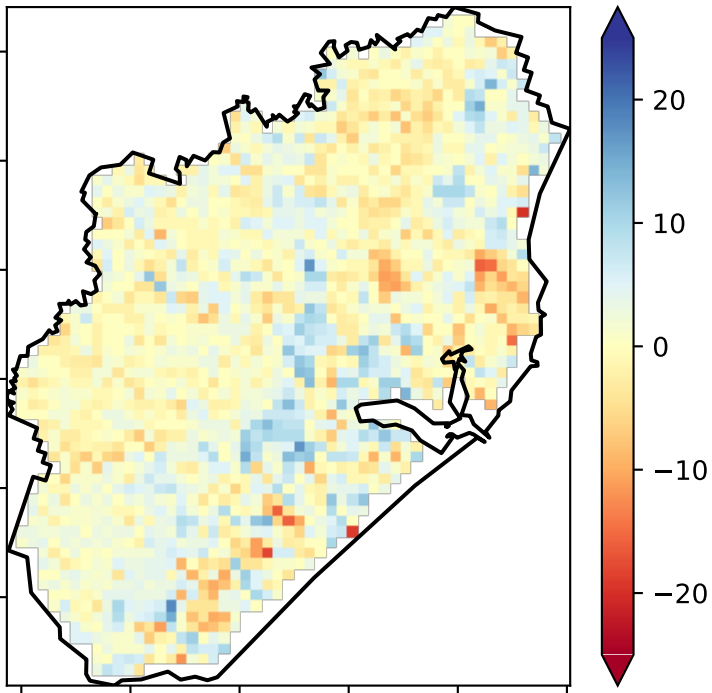


% Area protected from wind erosion (>50%)



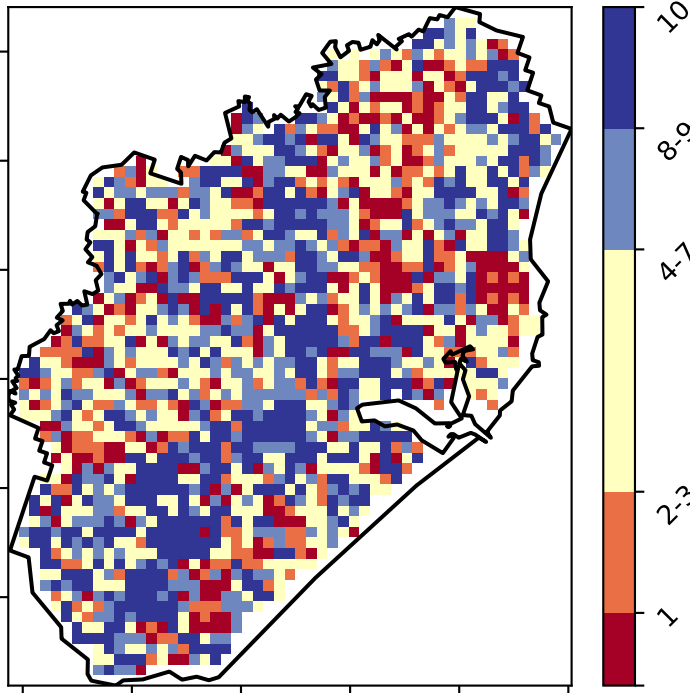
Total Vegetation Cover Anomaly [%]

Anomaly show how many percentage points each pixel is from the mean. That is, red pixels are about 20% lower than the mean of that pixel. The mean is only for the month of the map using baseline from 2001 to 2019.



Deciles show where the pixel value lies in the record, from highest to lowest, for that month. That is, red pixels are in the lowest 10% of records for that month of the map using baseline from 2001 to 2019.

Total Vegetation Cover Decile [%]



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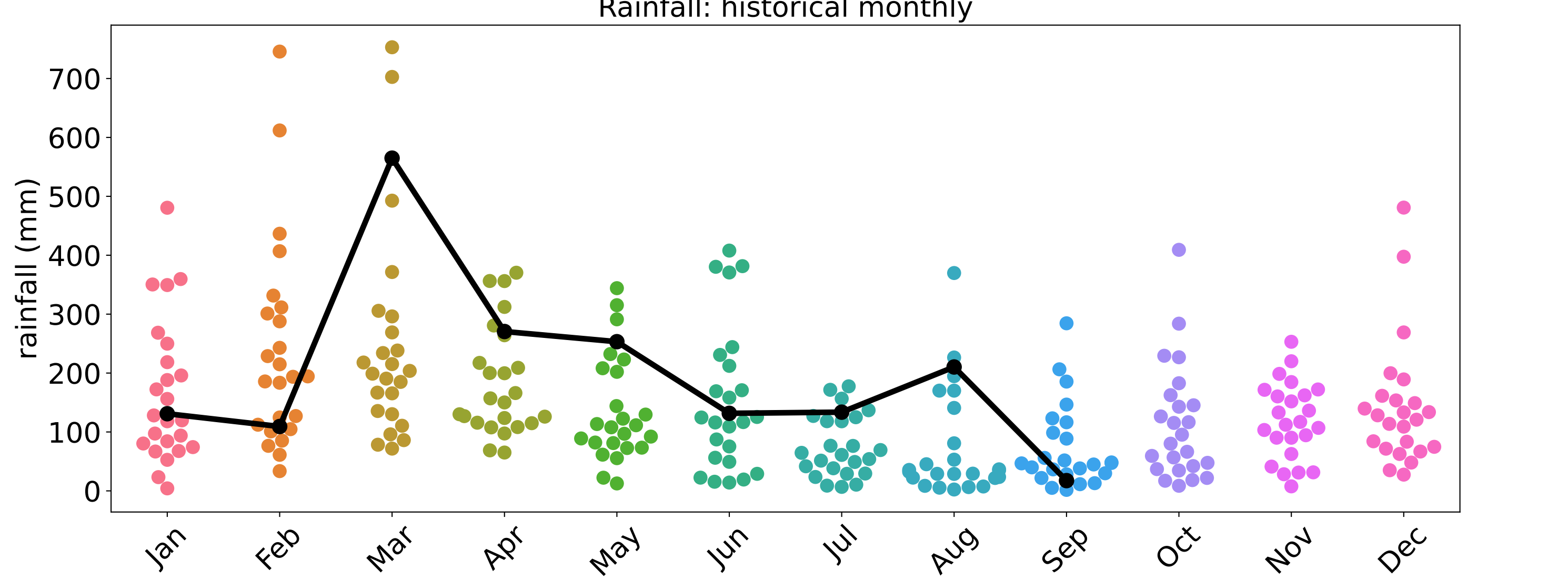
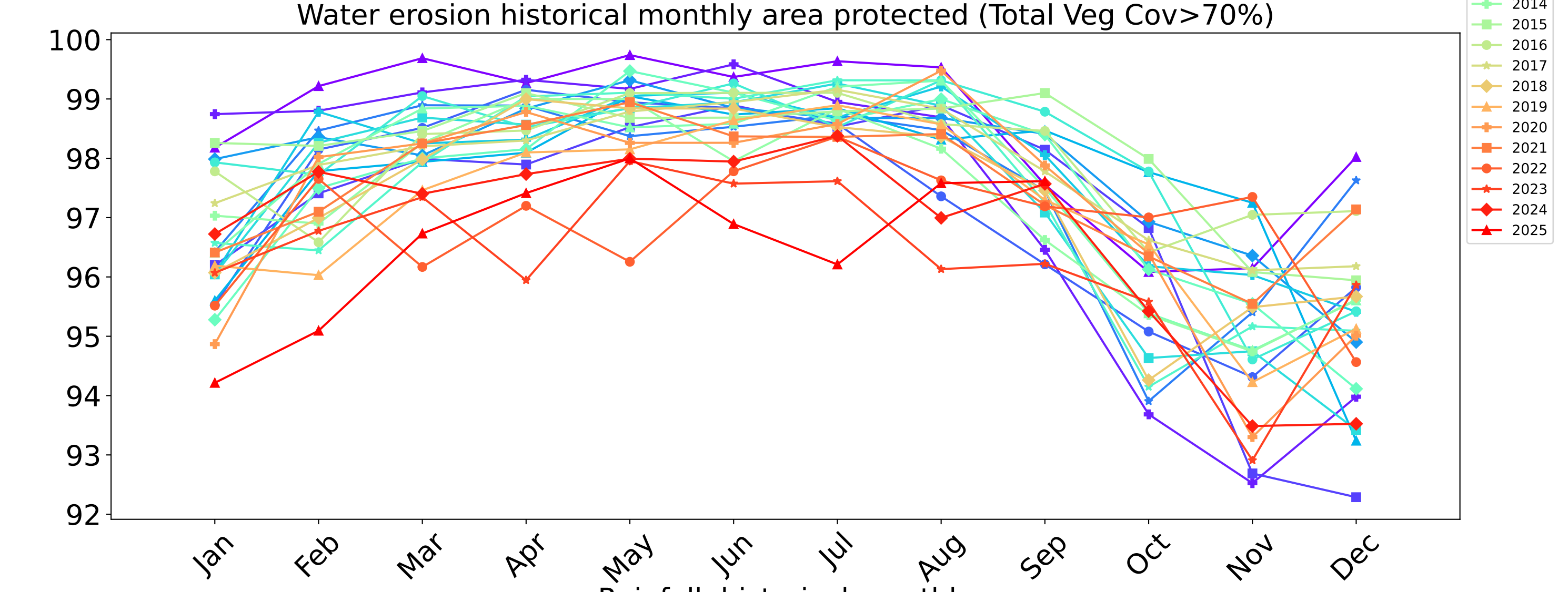
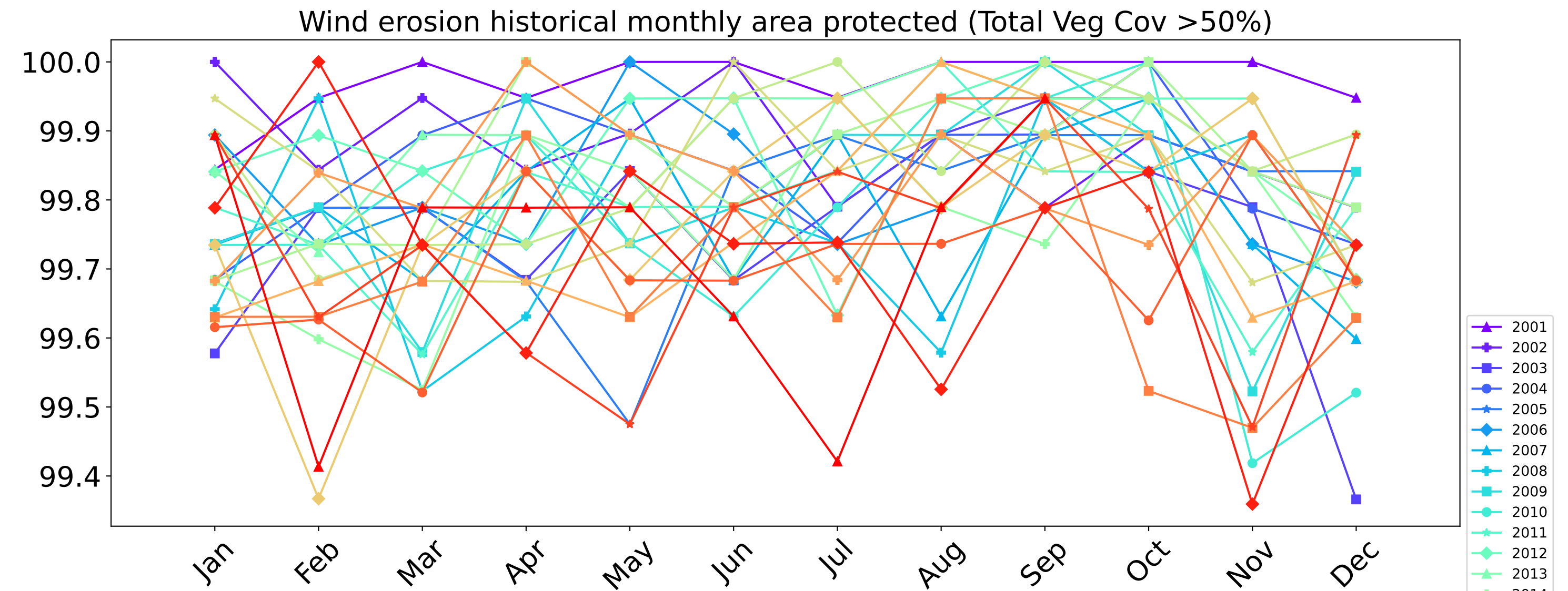
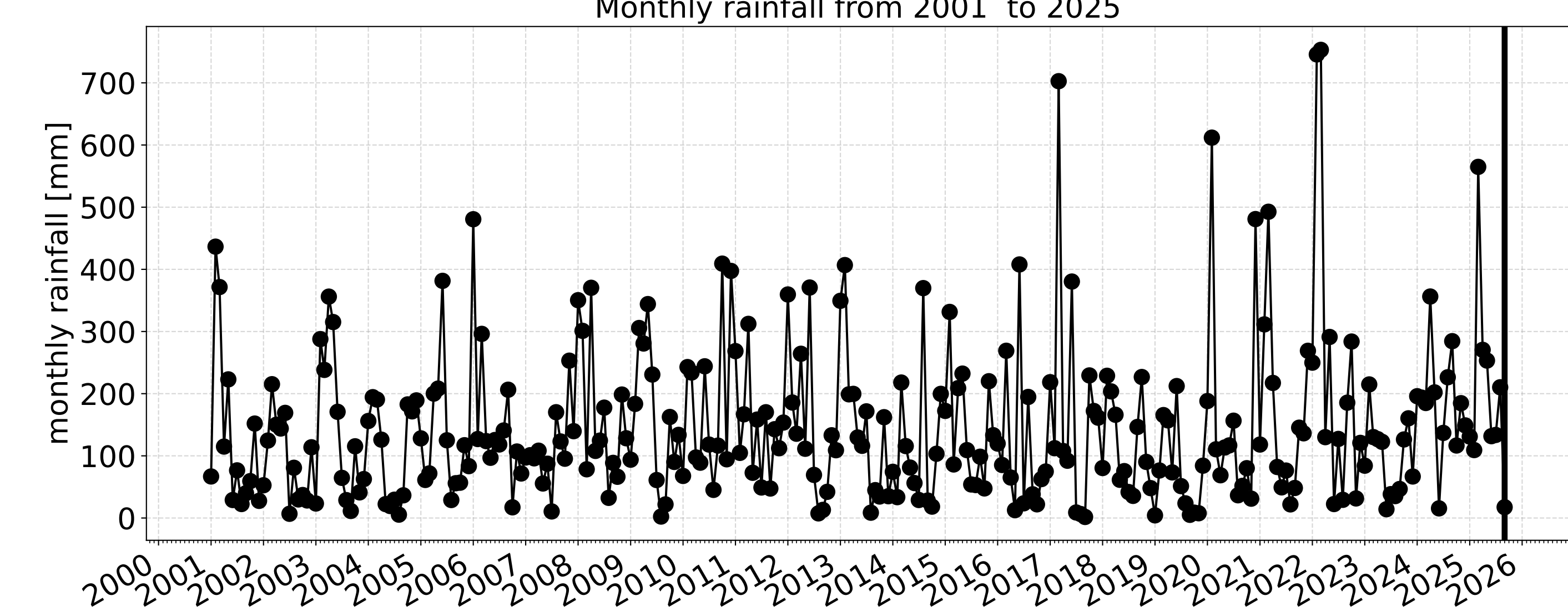
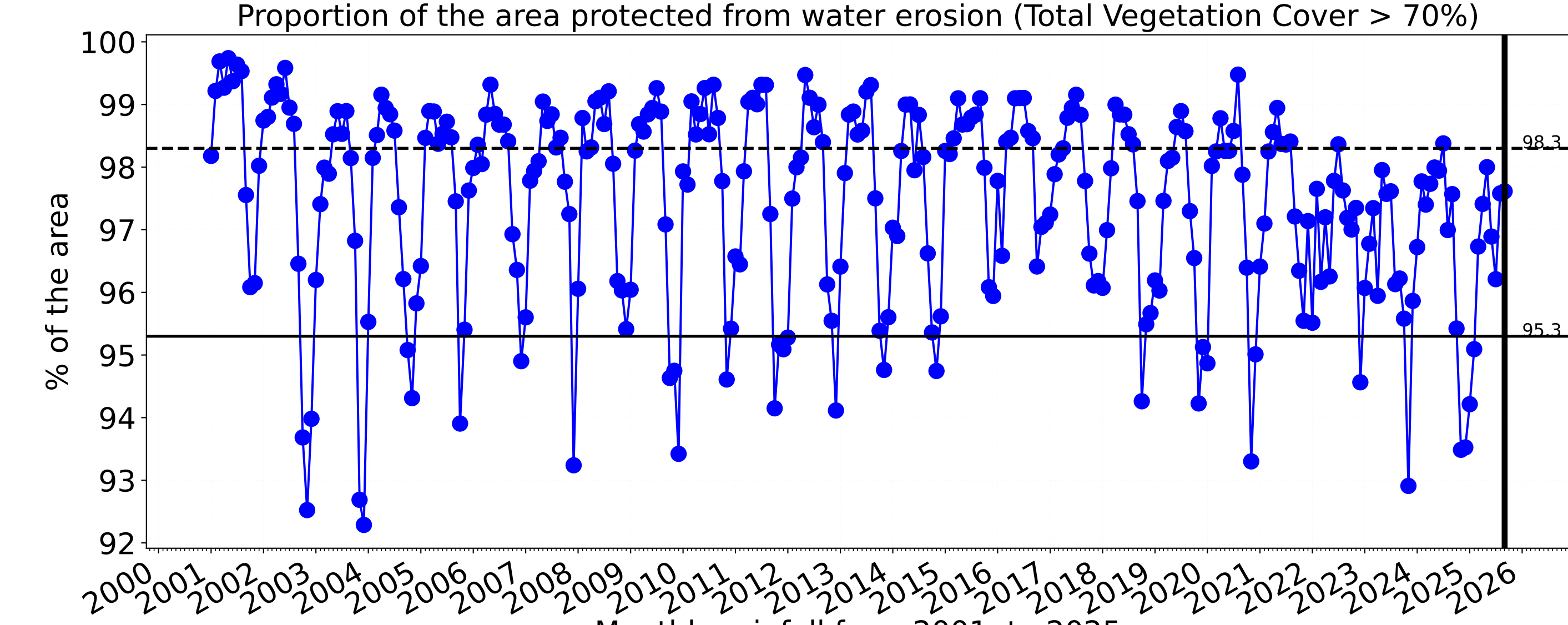
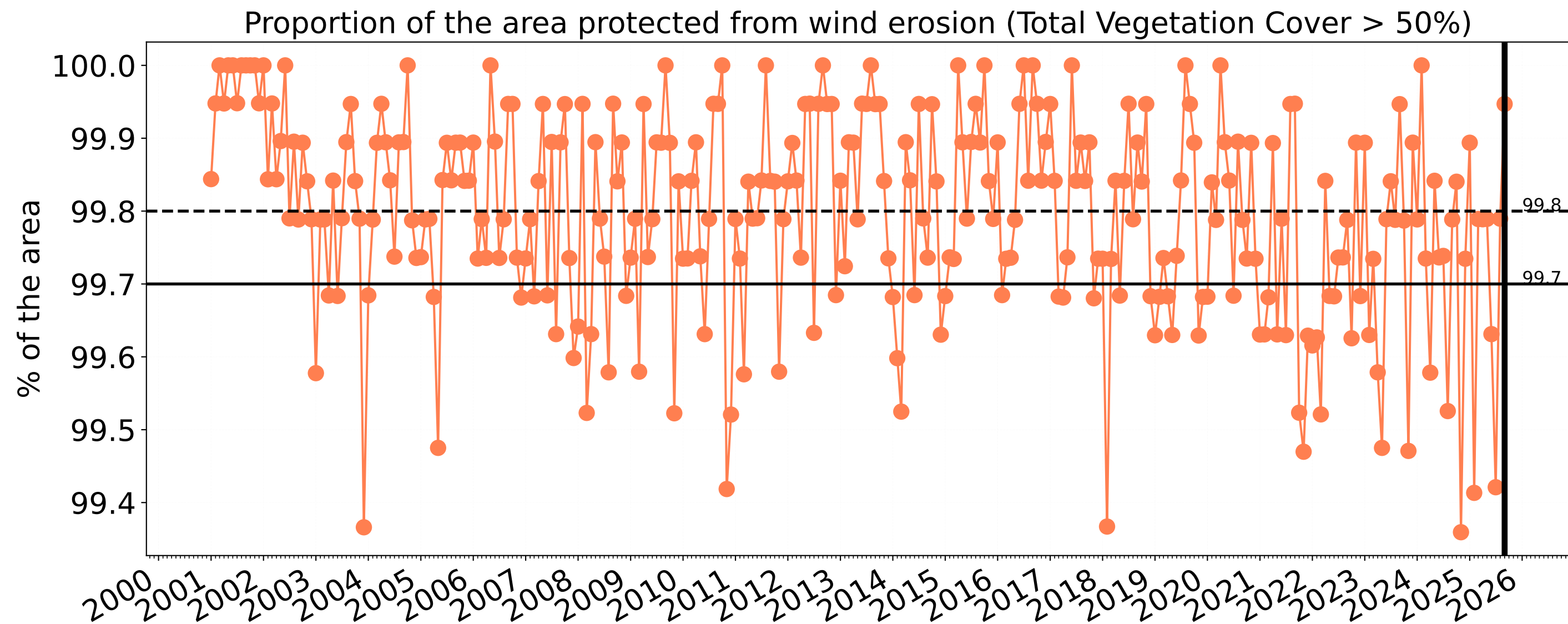
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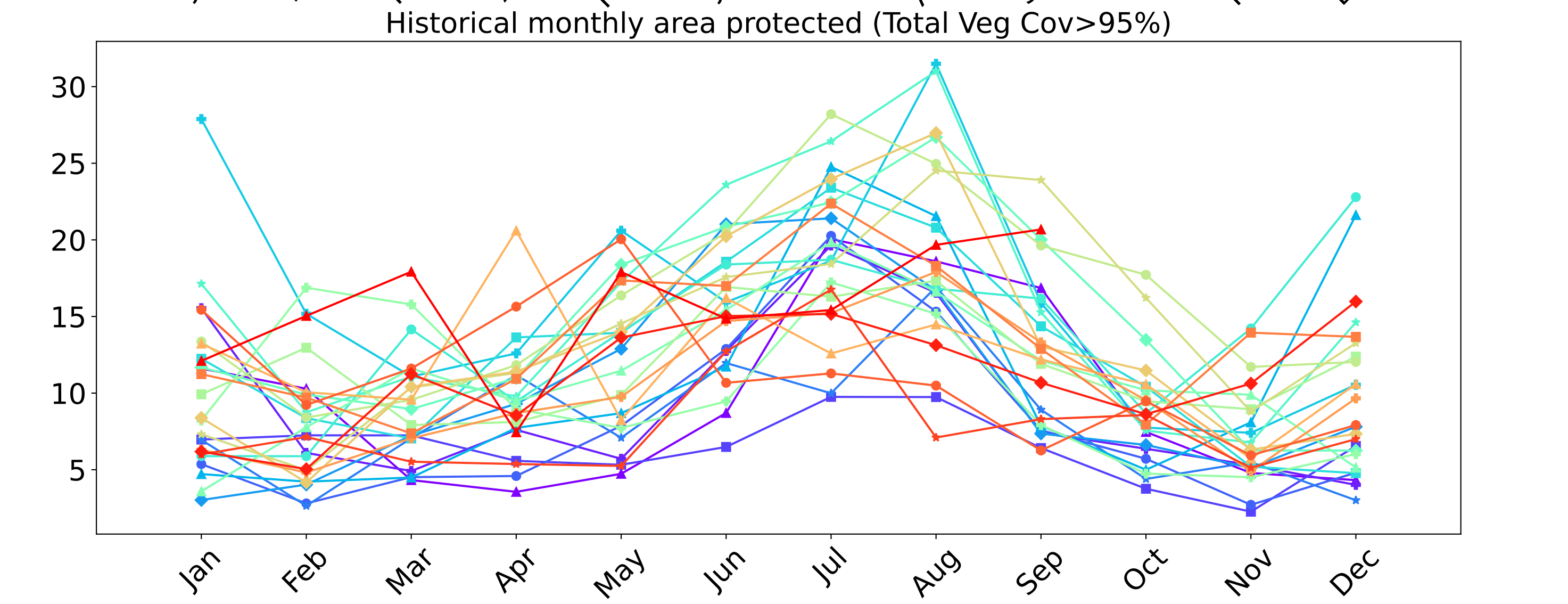
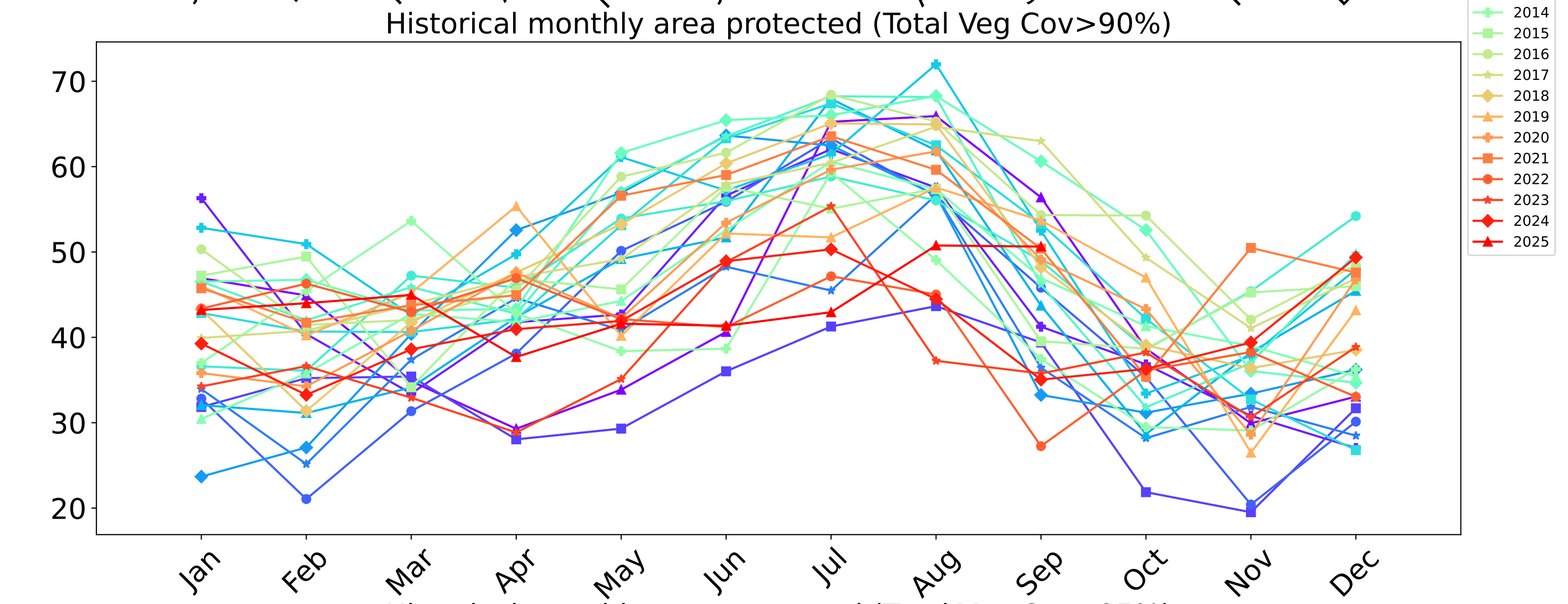
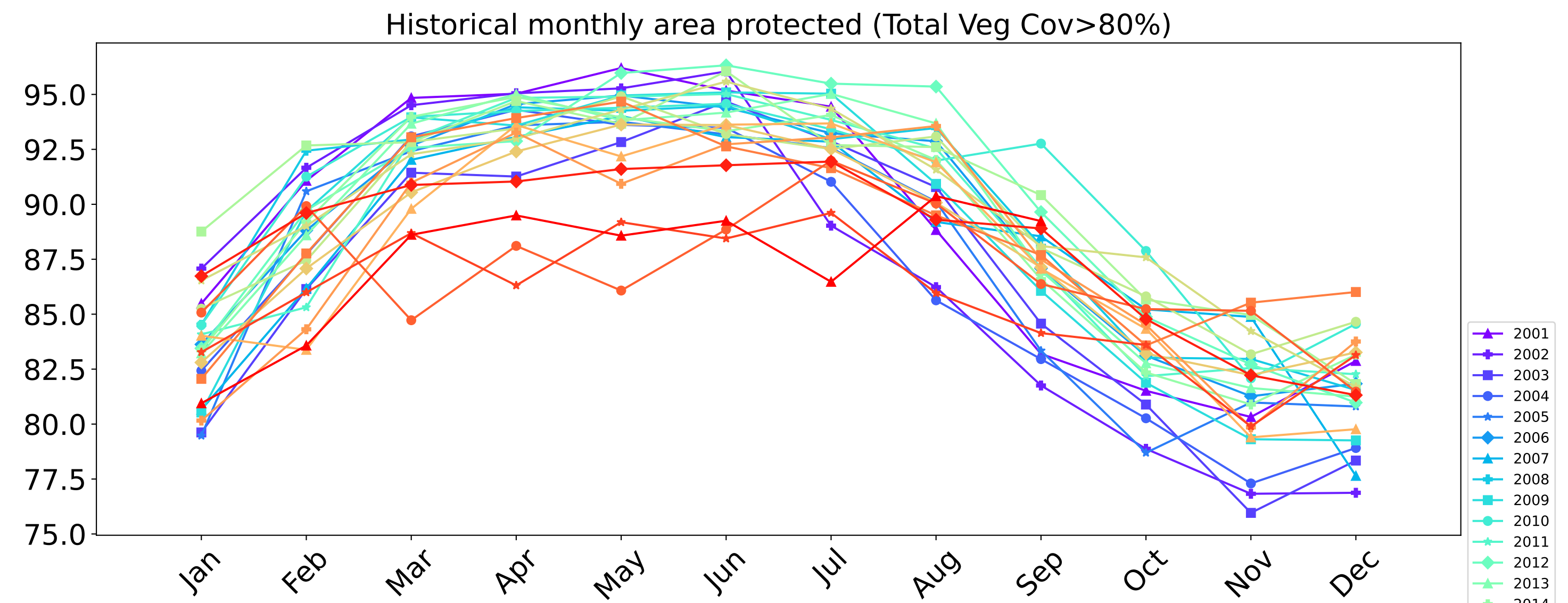
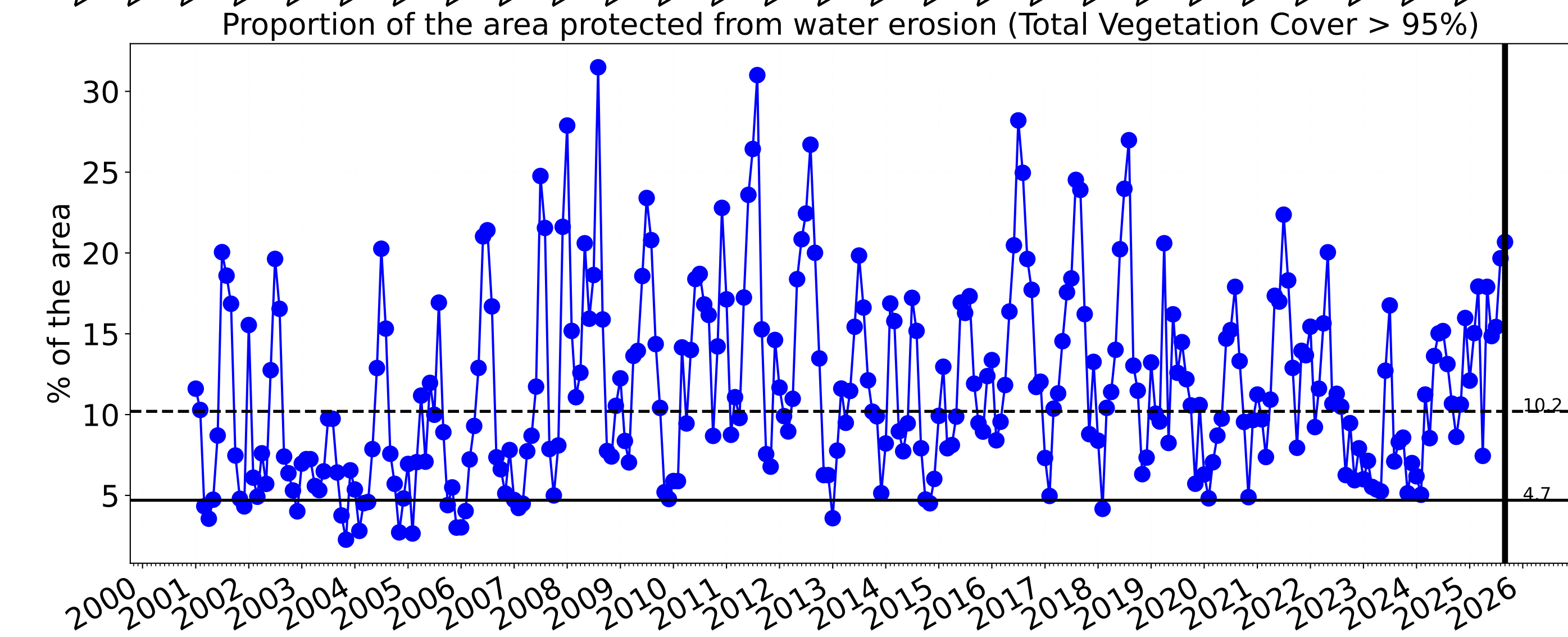
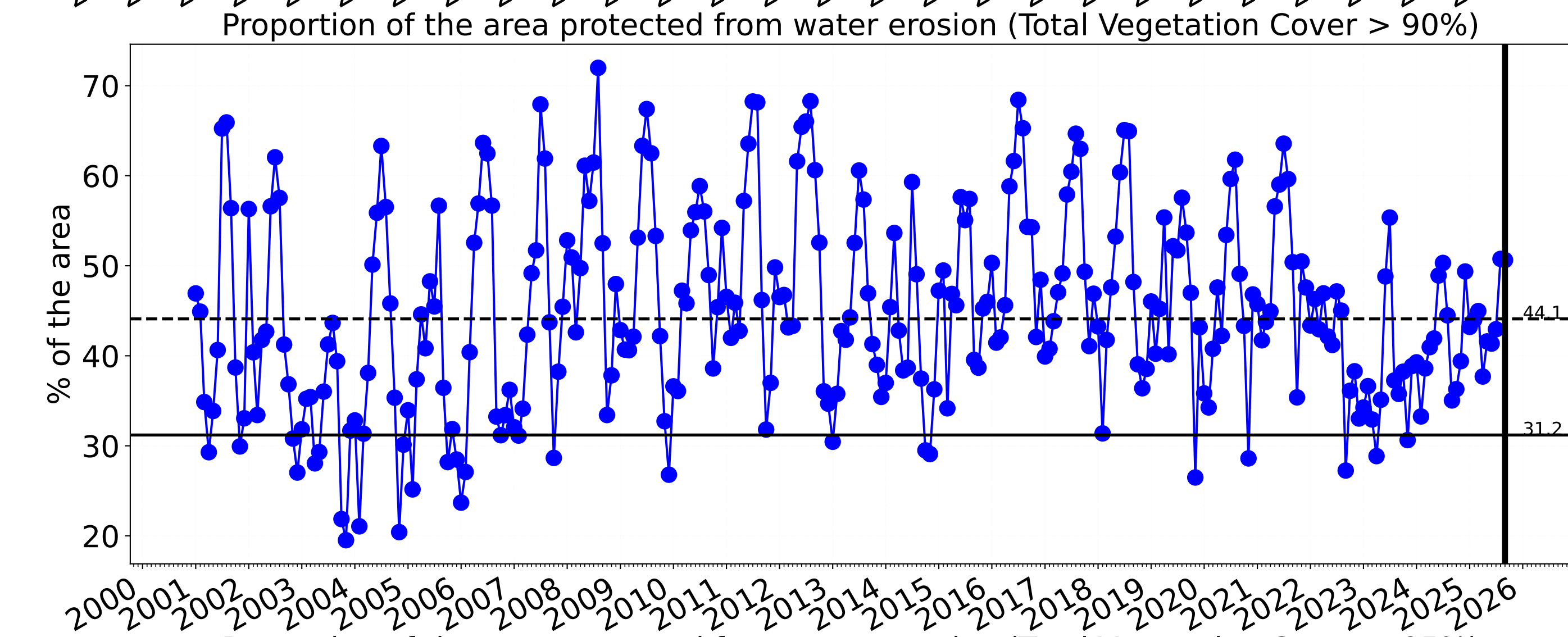
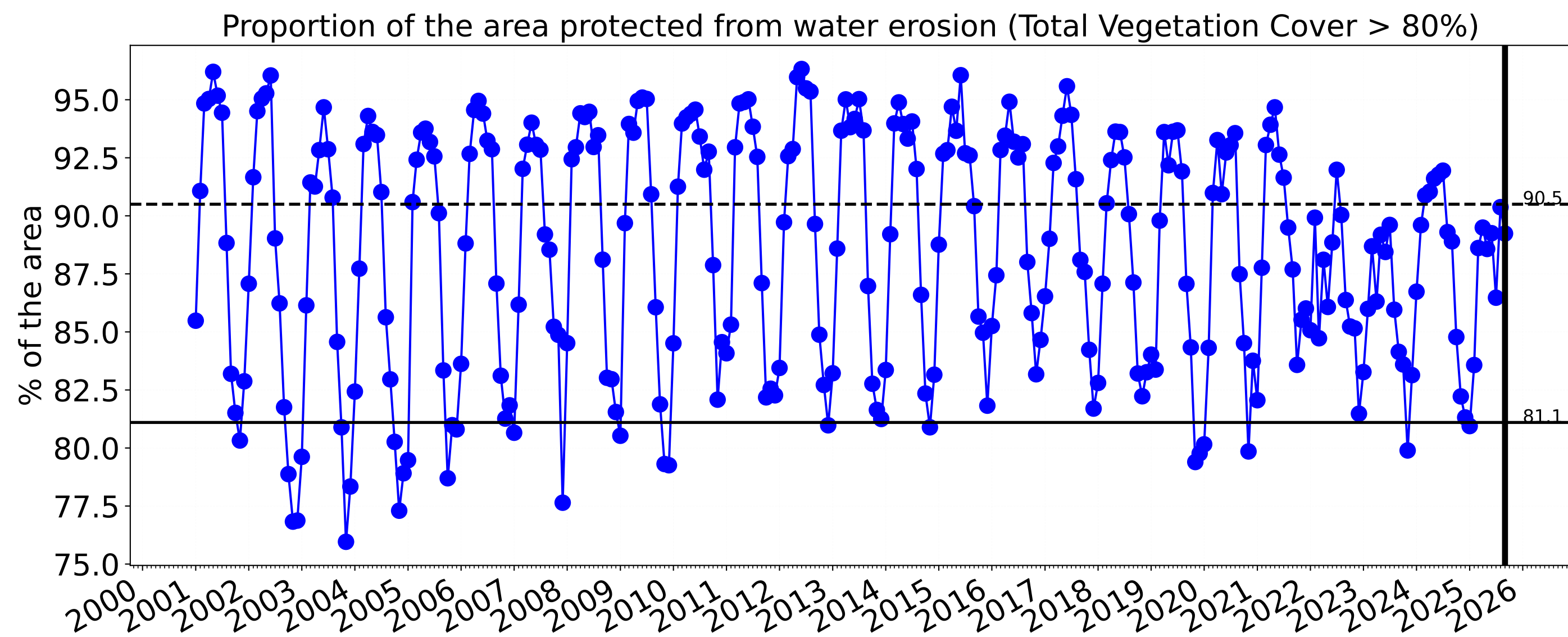


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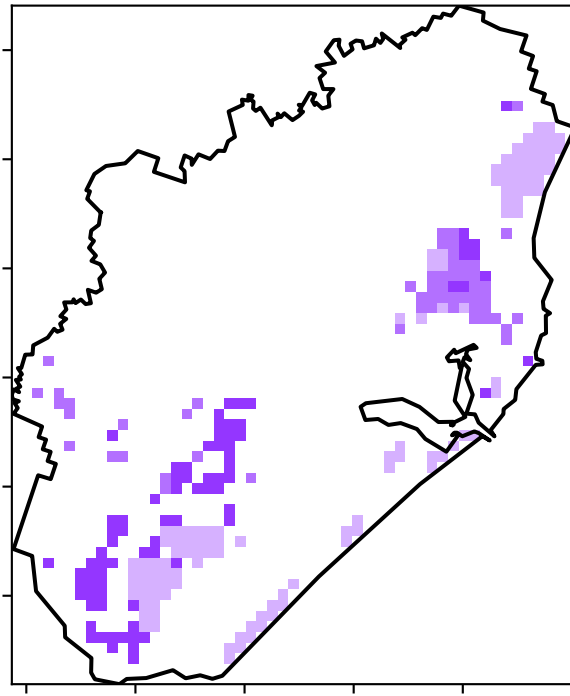


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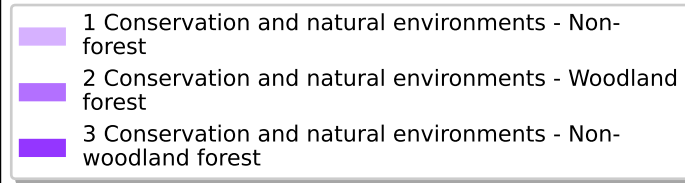


Conservation and natural environments

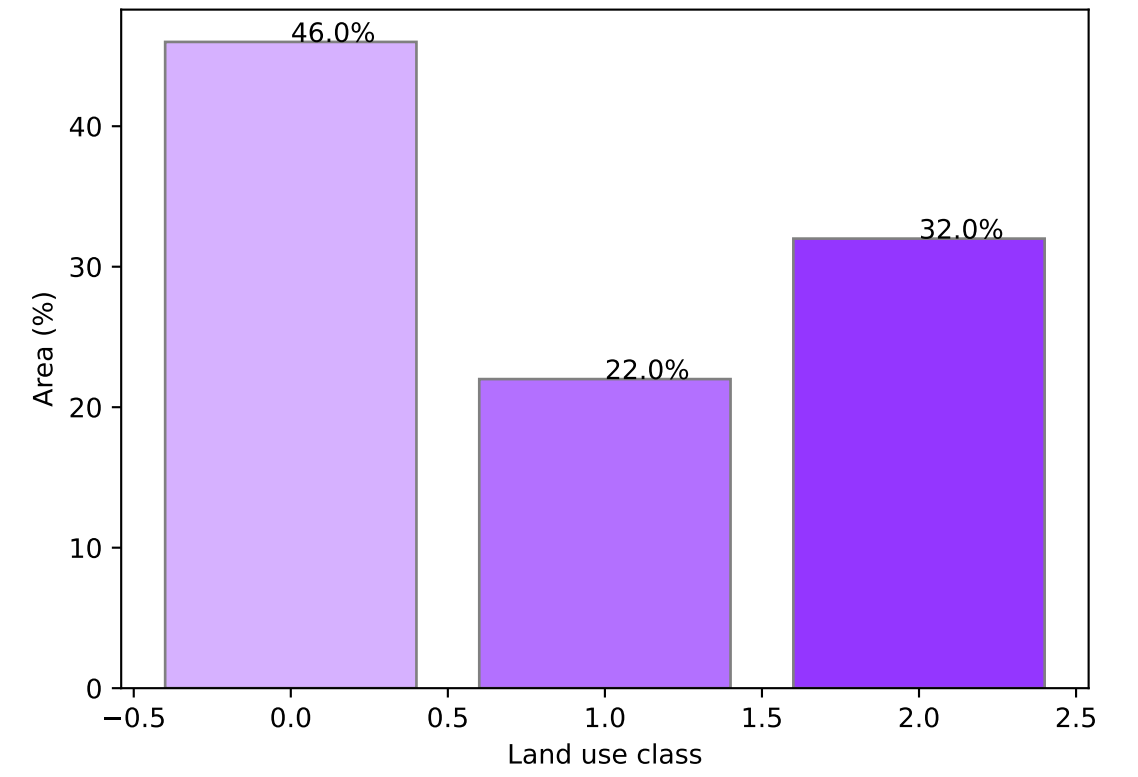
Land use and forest cover



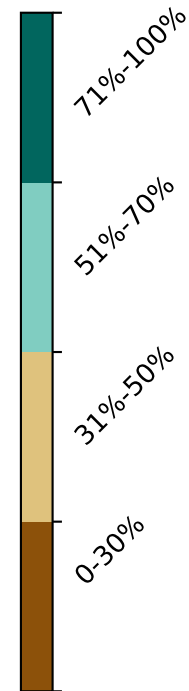
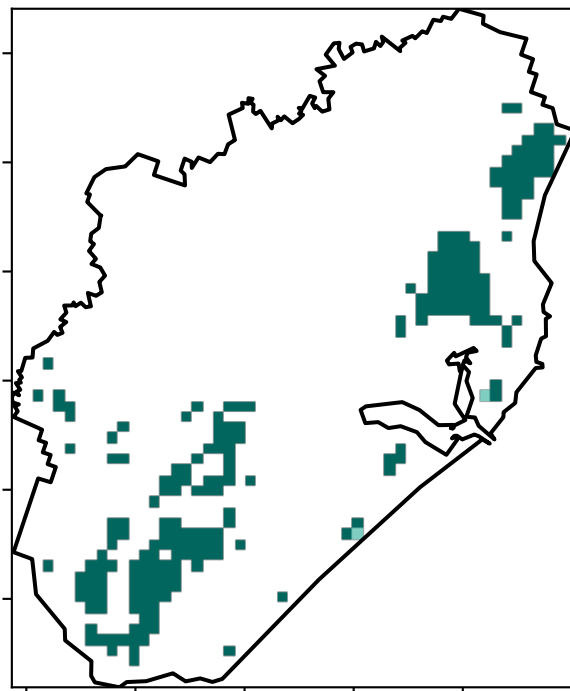
Catchment Scale
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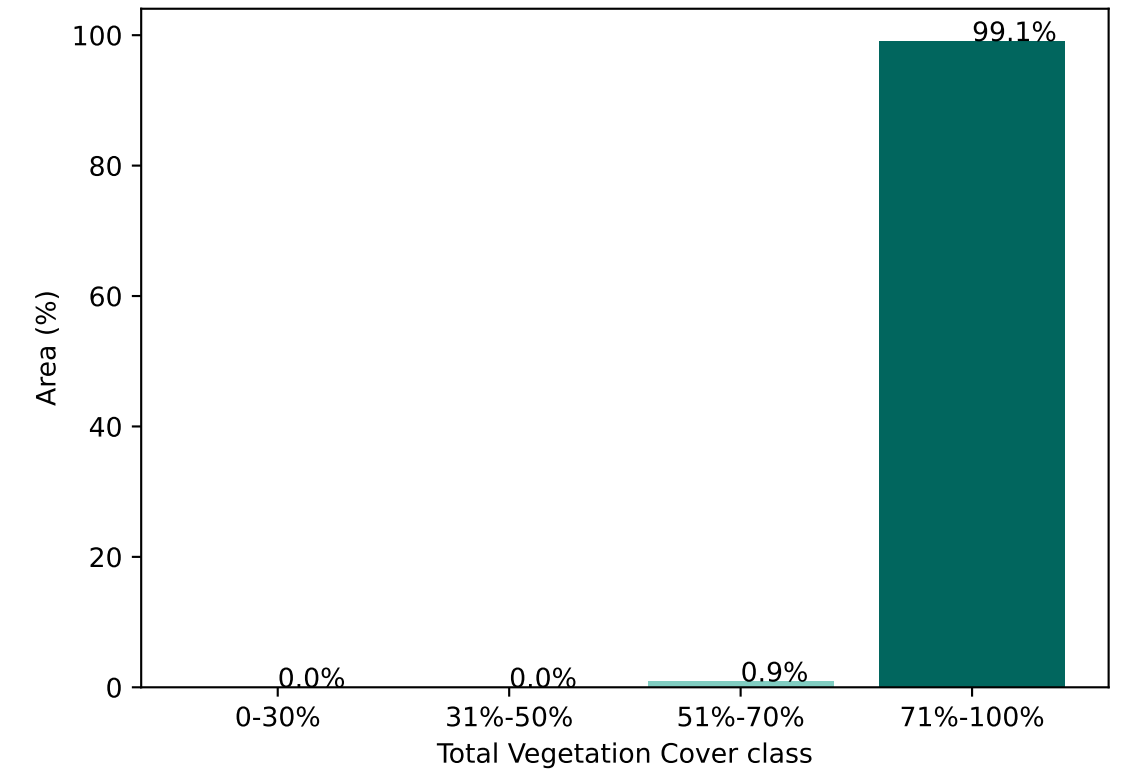
Proportion of each land class in area



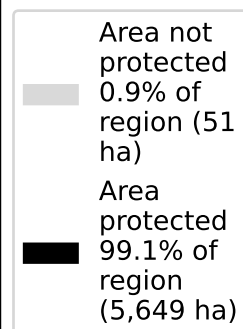
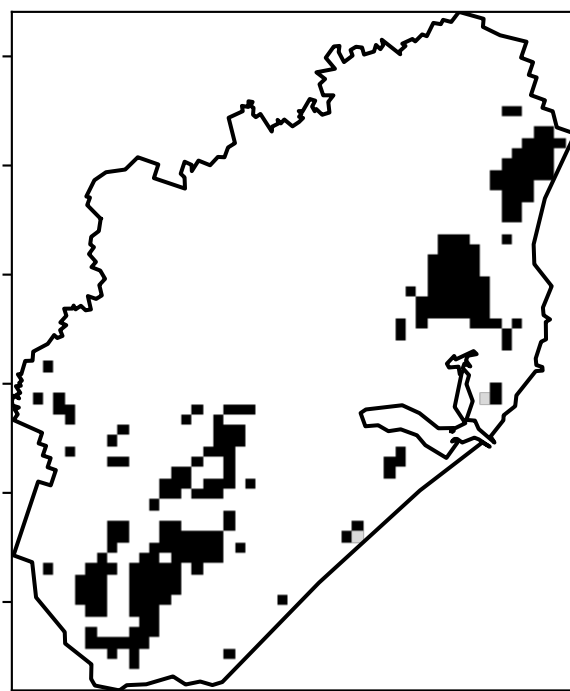
Total Vegetation Cover [%]



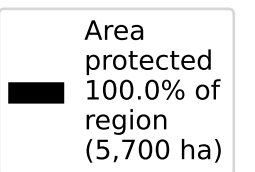
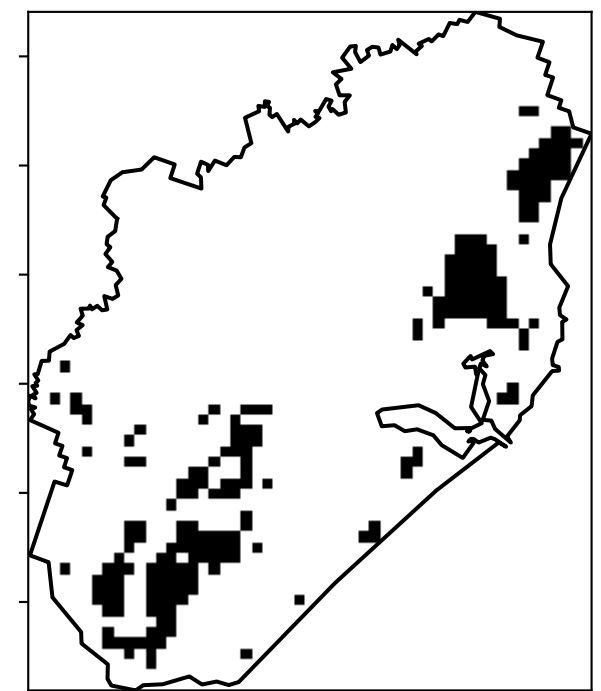
Proportion of vegetation cover class in area



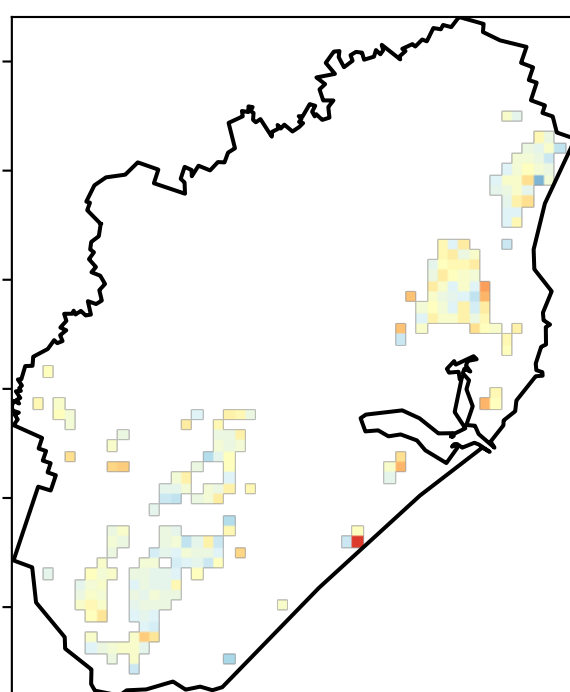
% Area protected from water erosion (>70%)



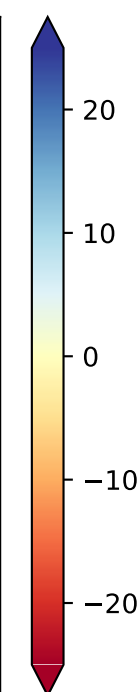
% Area protected from wind erosion (>50%)



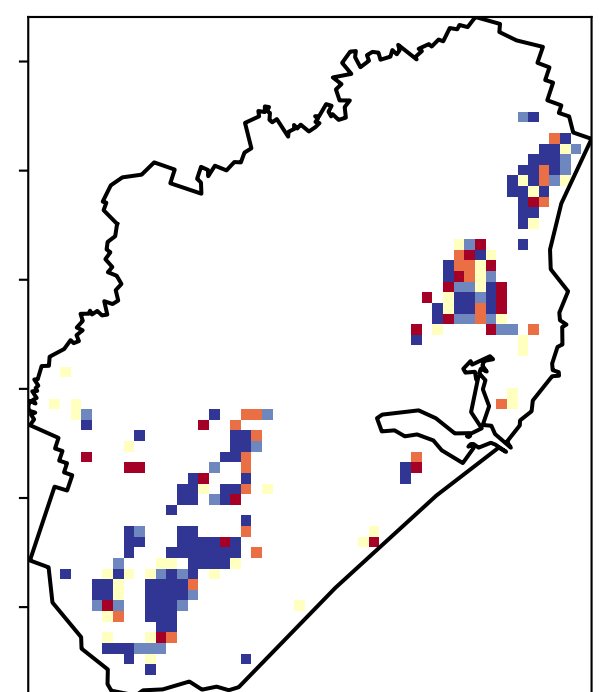
Total Vegetation Cover Anomaly [%]



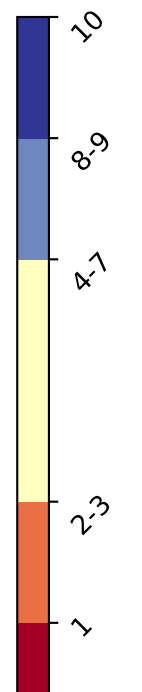
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Total Vegetation Cover Decile [%]



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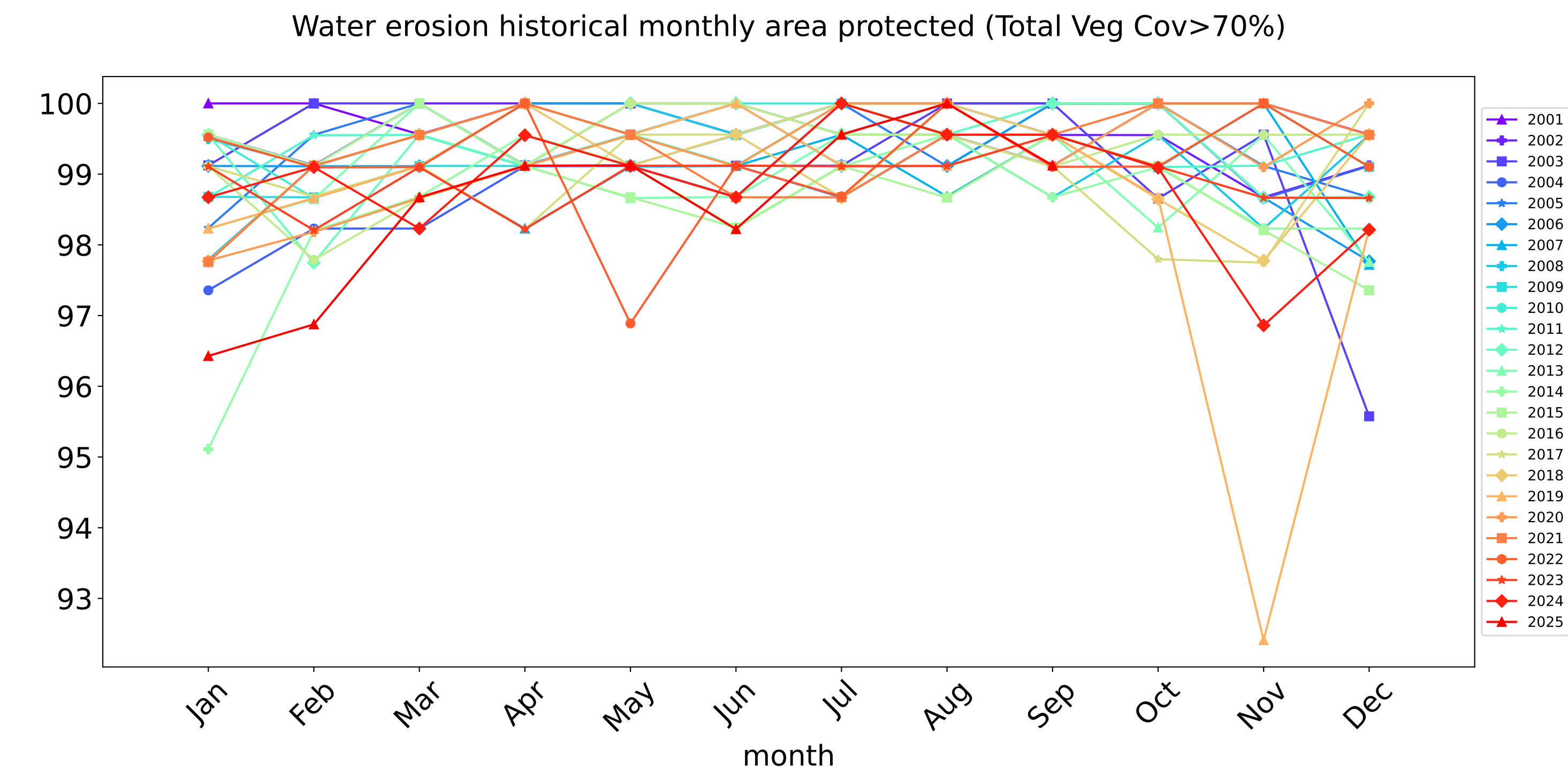
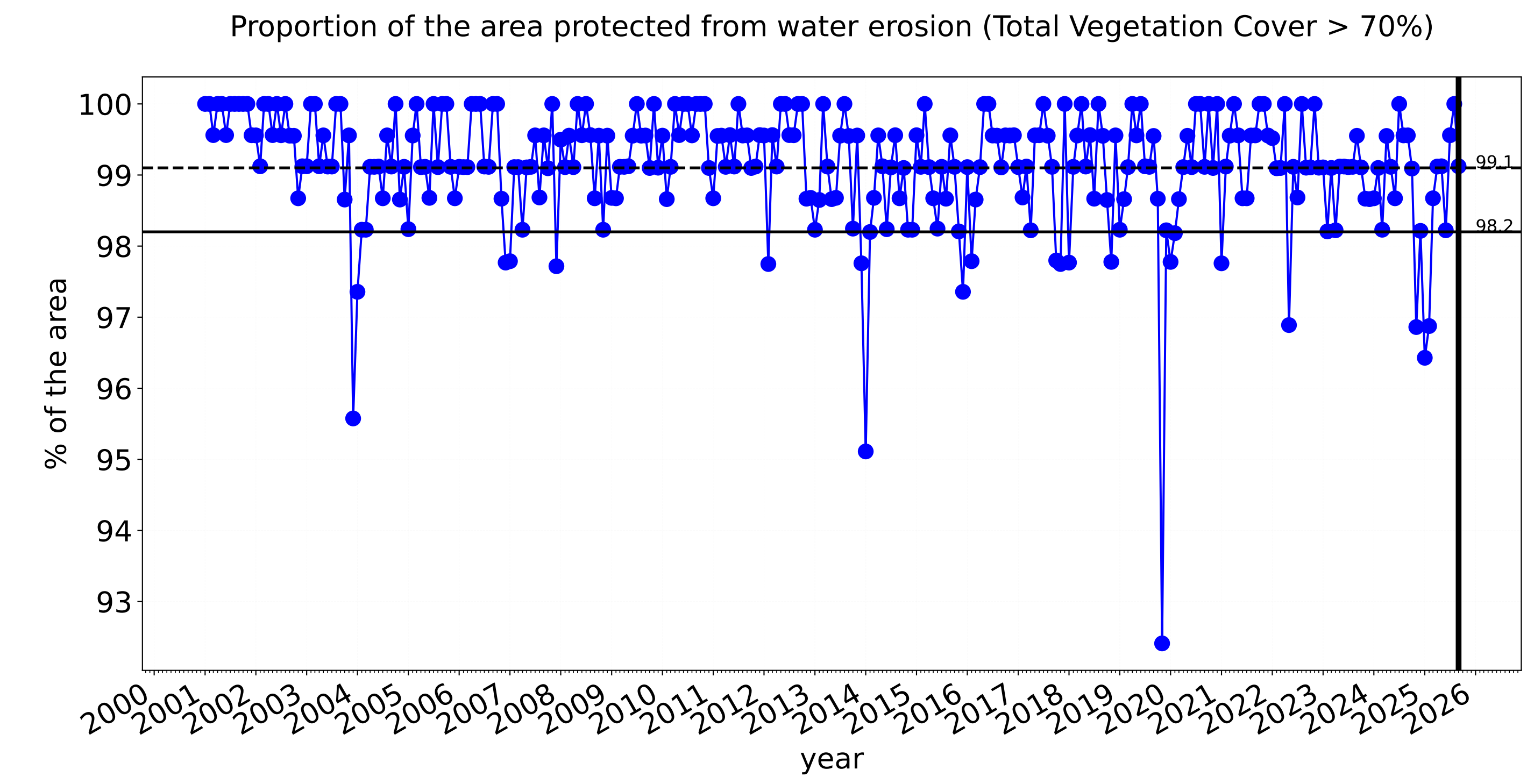
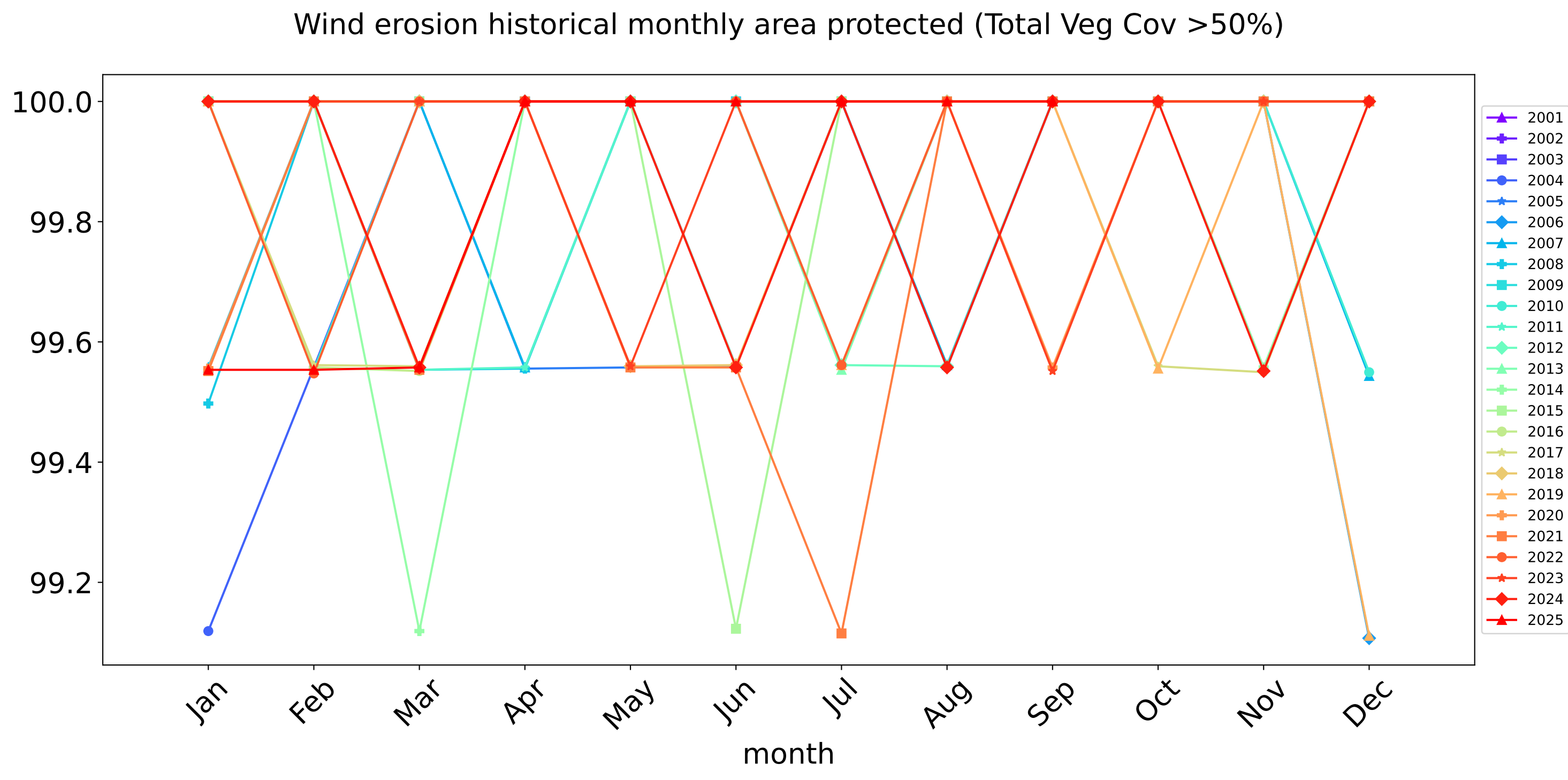
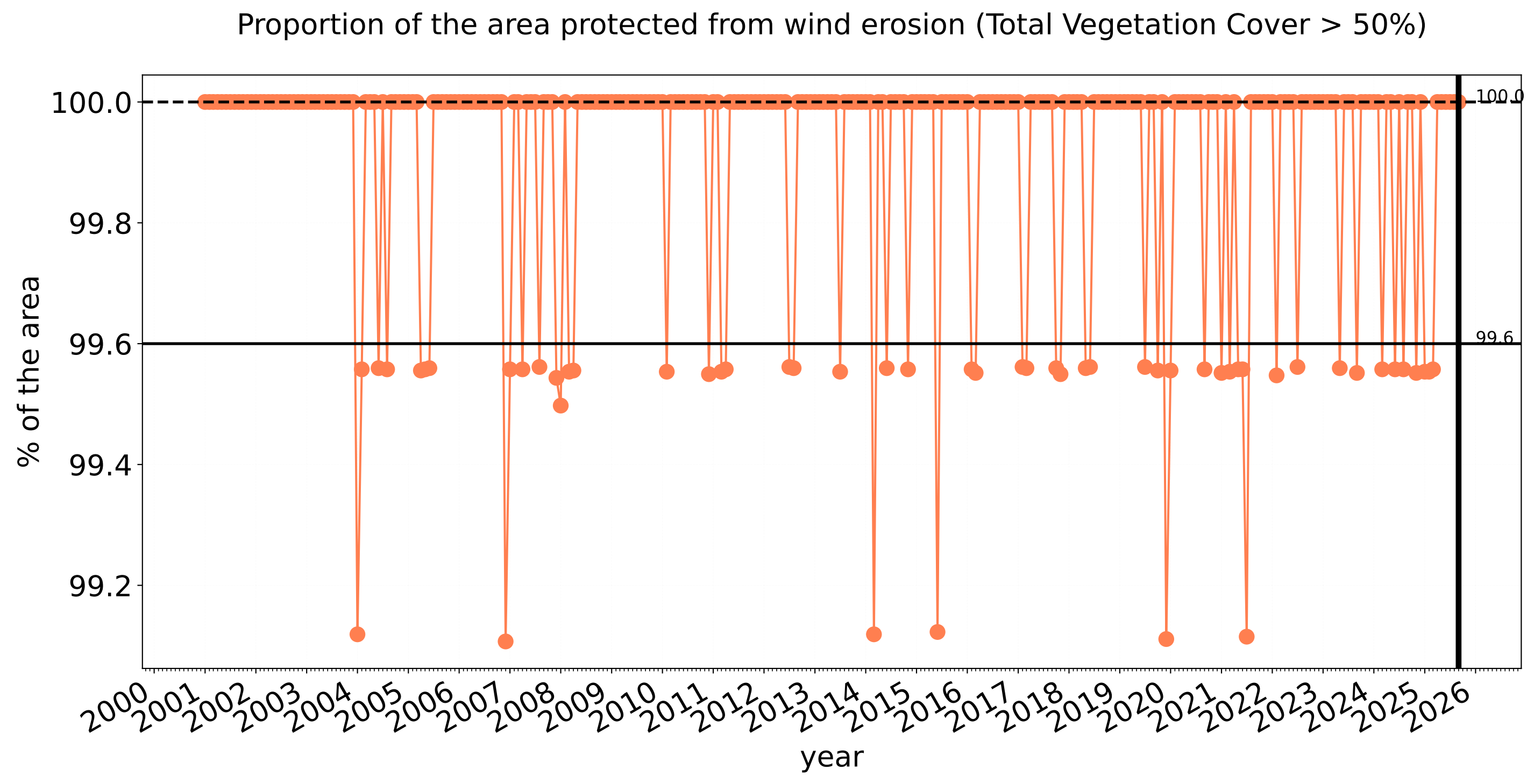


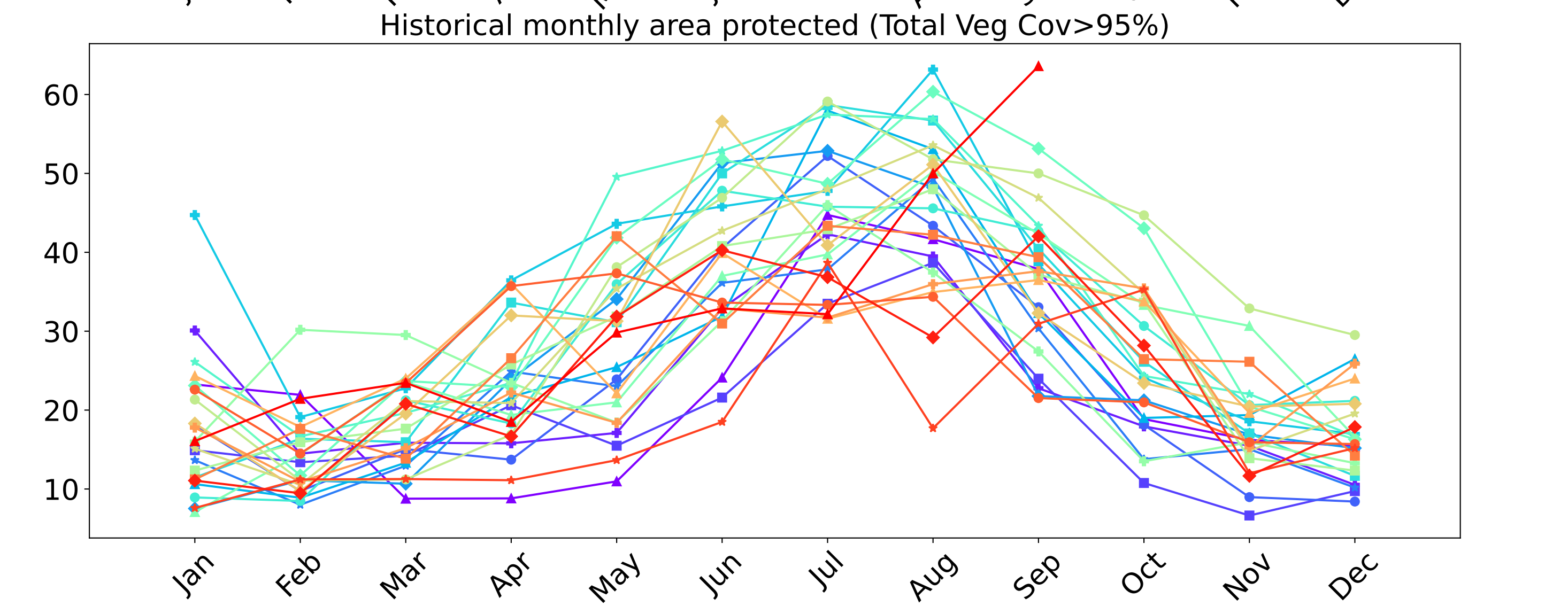
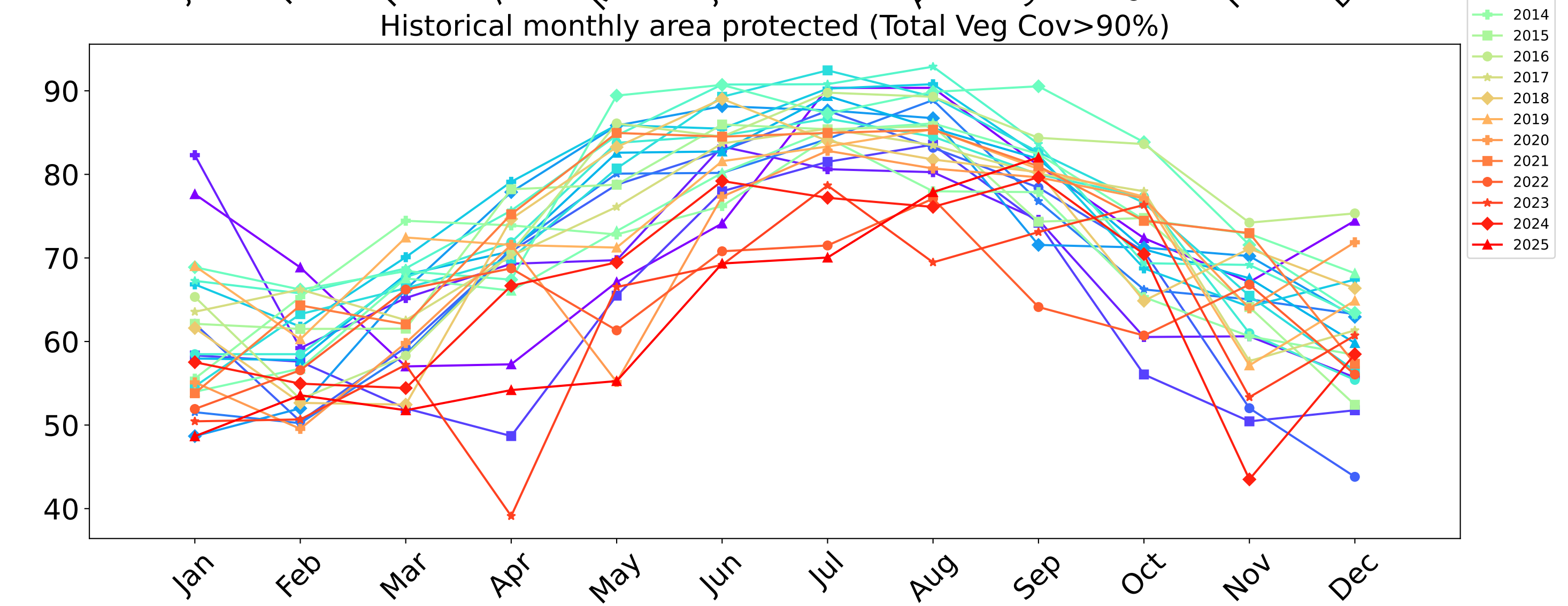
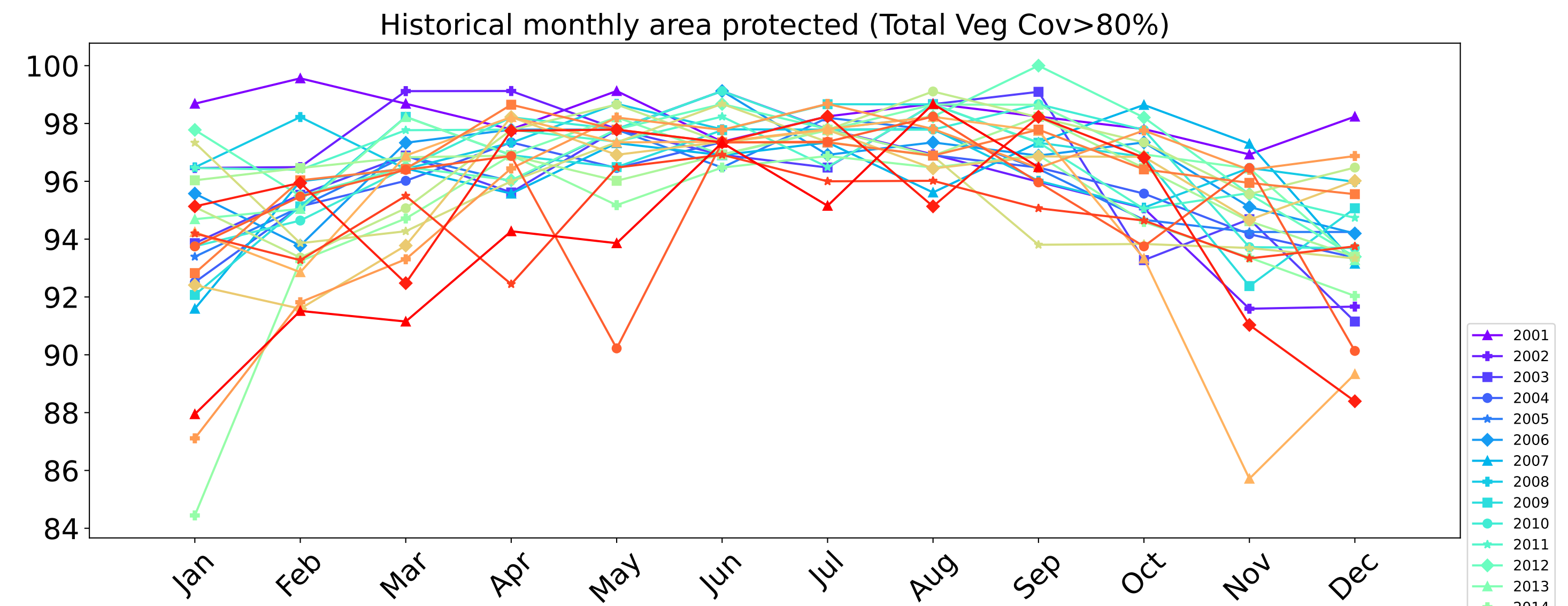
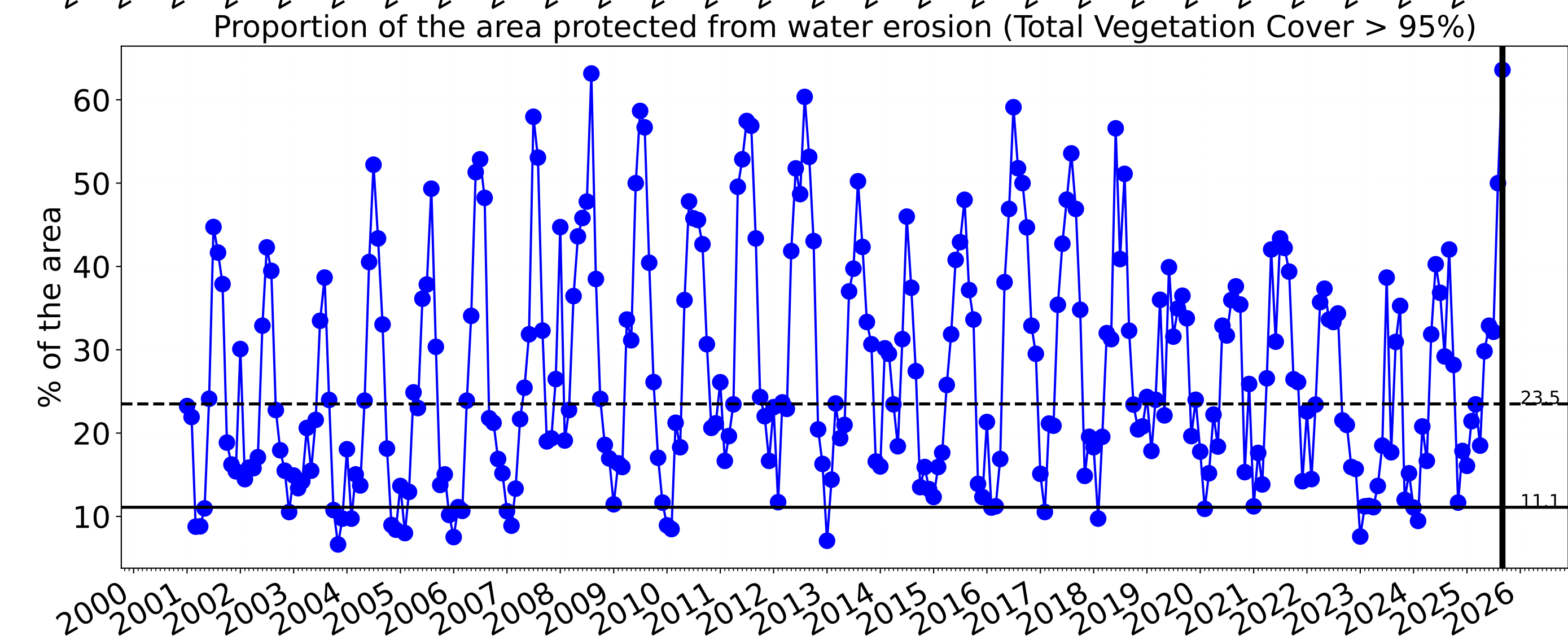
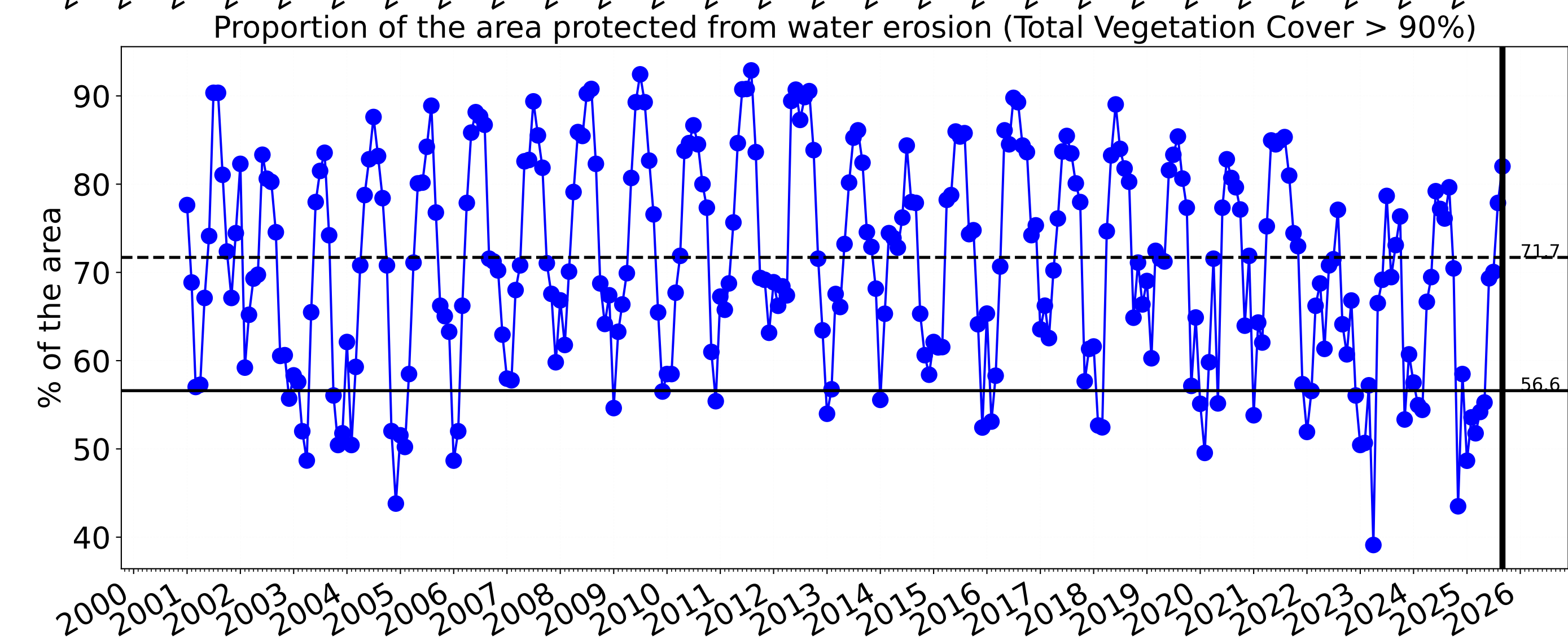
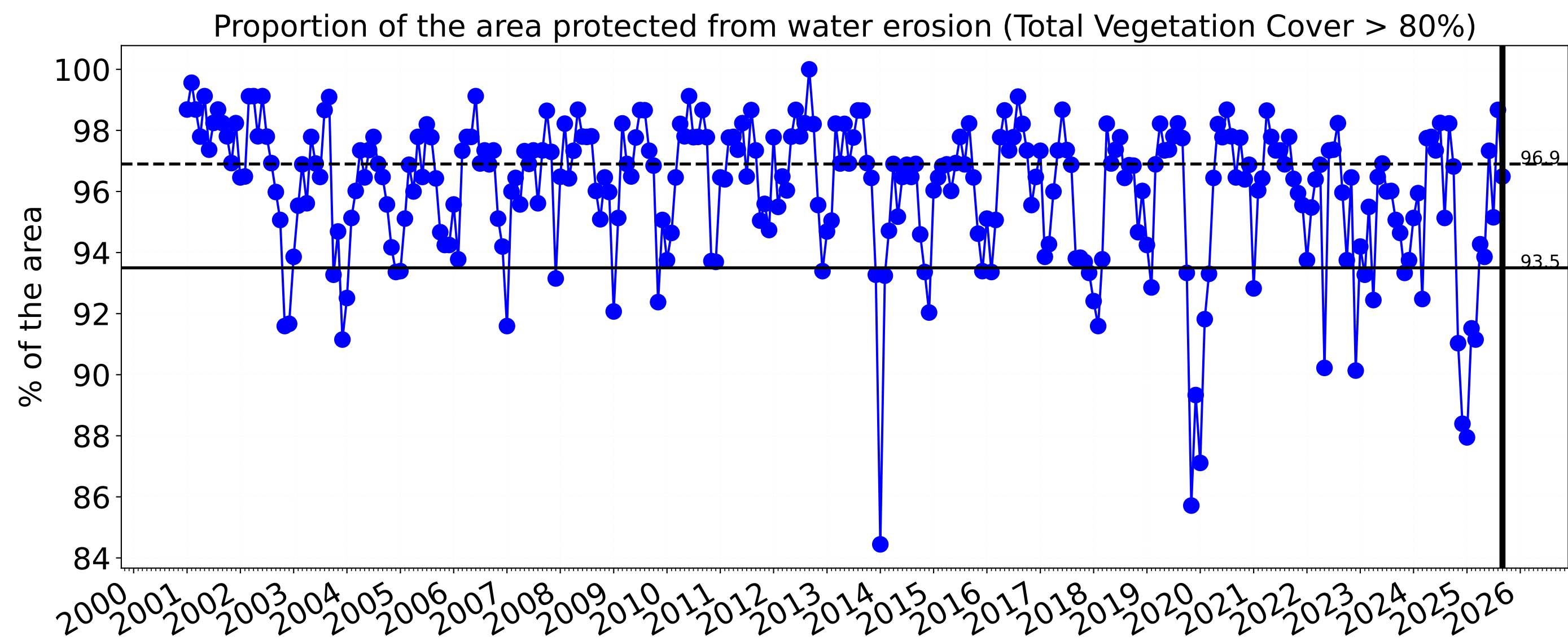
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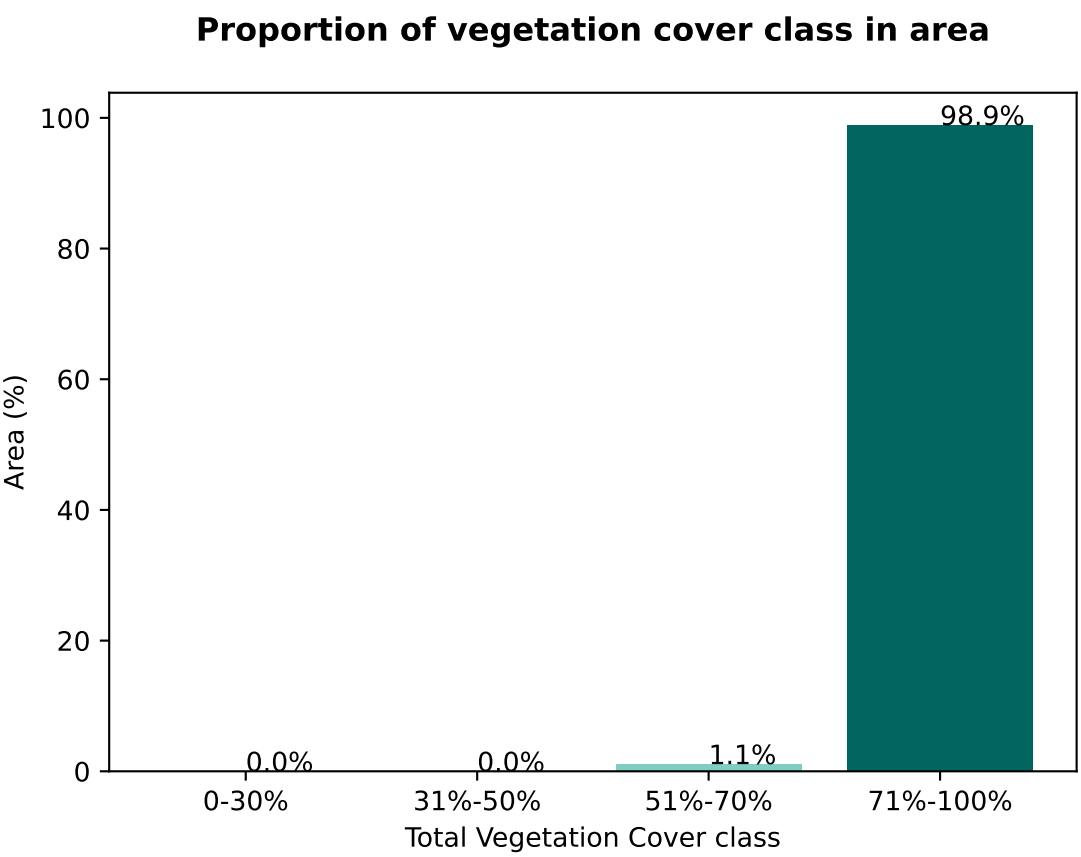
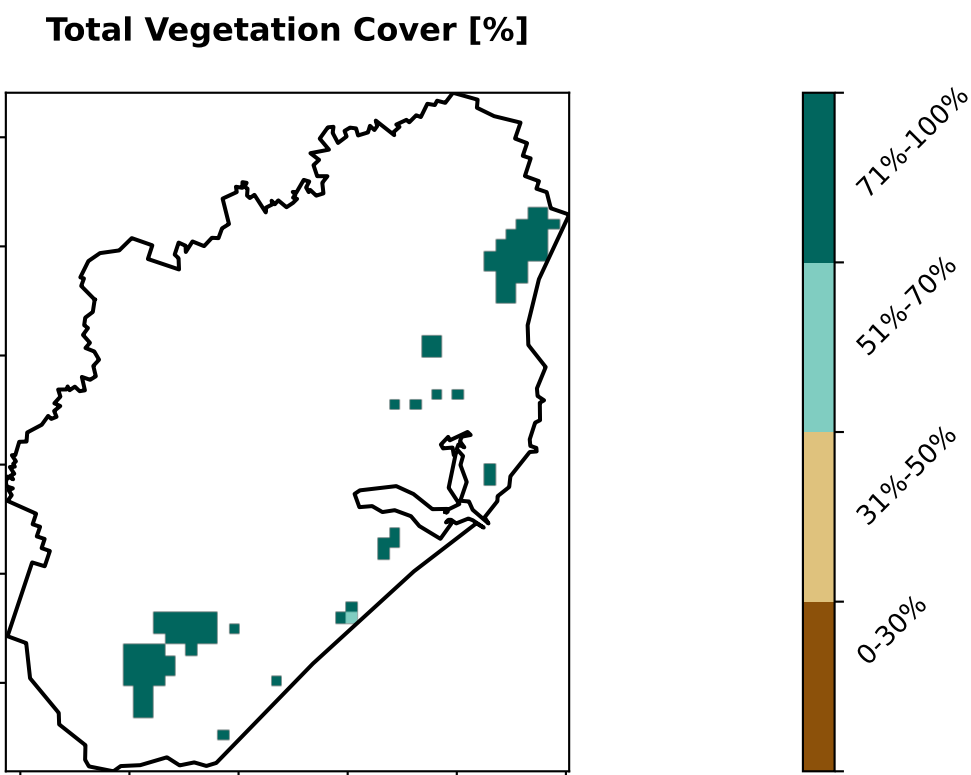
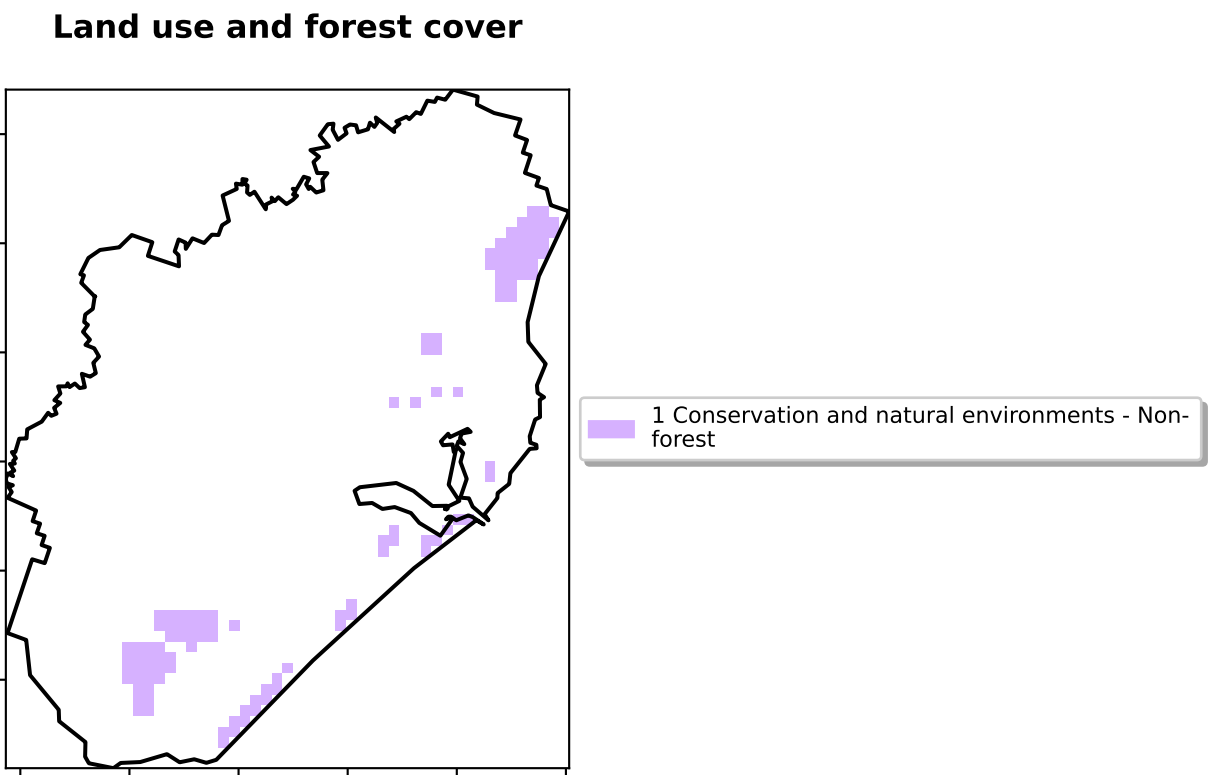
Conservation and natural environments timeseries



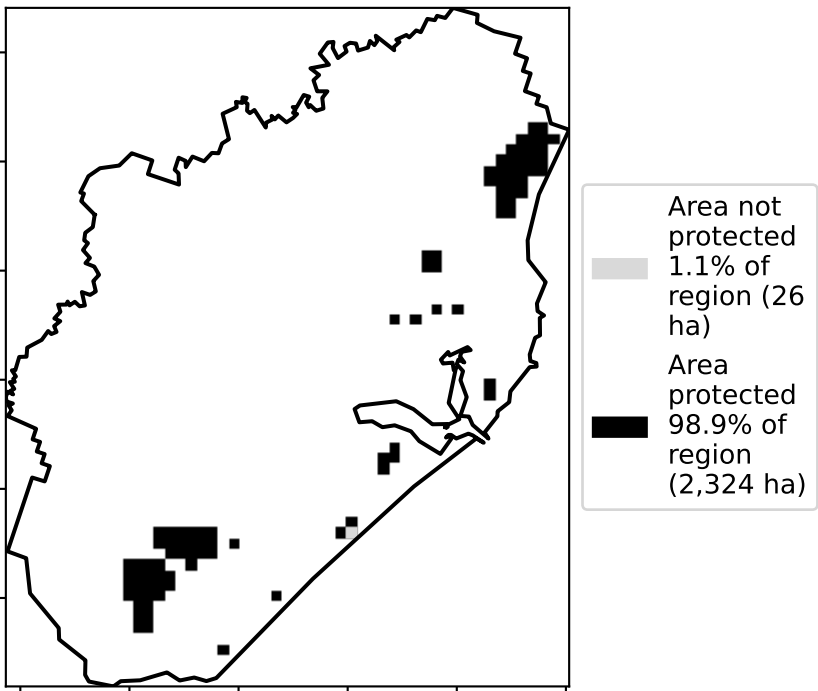


Conservation and natural environments non forest

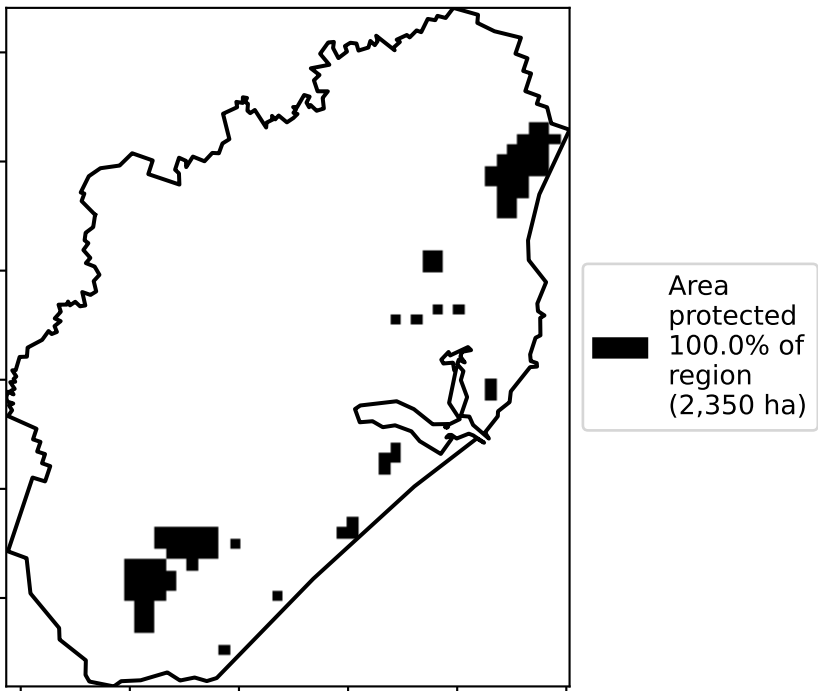
Catchment Scale
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% Area protected from water erosion (>70%)

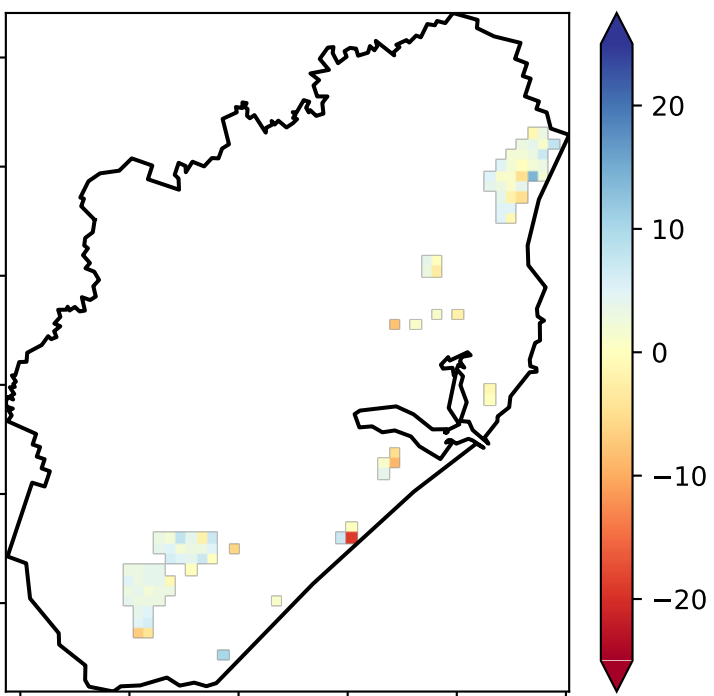


% Area protected from wind erosion (>50%)



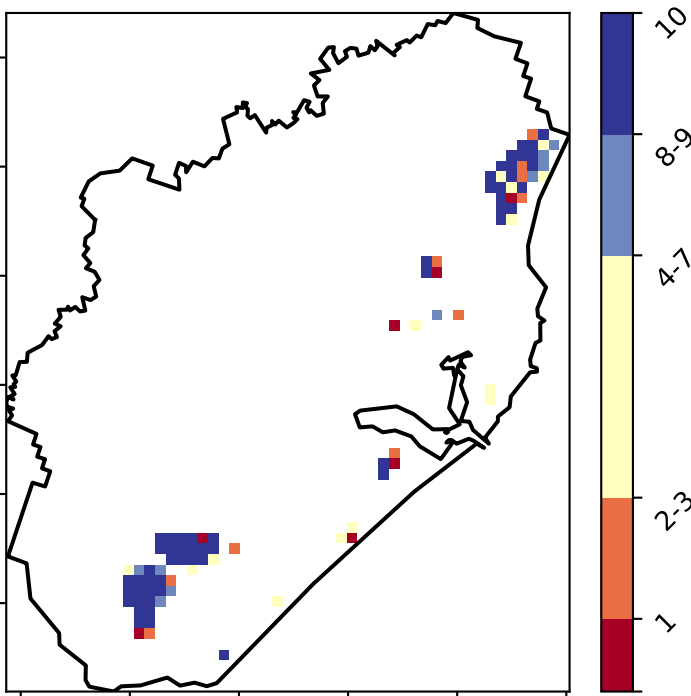
Total Vegetation Cover Anomaly [%]

Anomaly show how many percentage points each pixel is from the mean. That is, red pixels are about 20% lower than the mean of that pixel. The mean is only for the month of the map using baseline from 2001 to 2019.



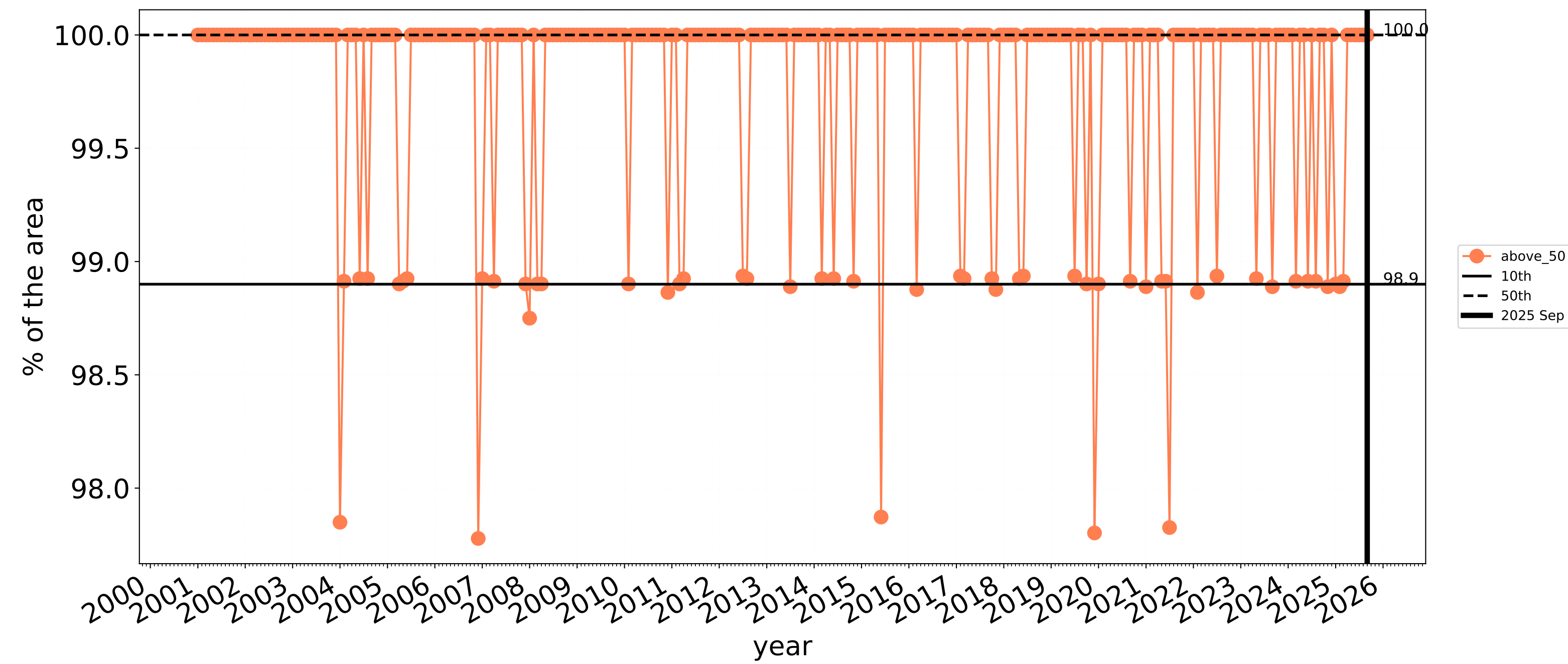
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Total Vegetation Cover Decile [%]

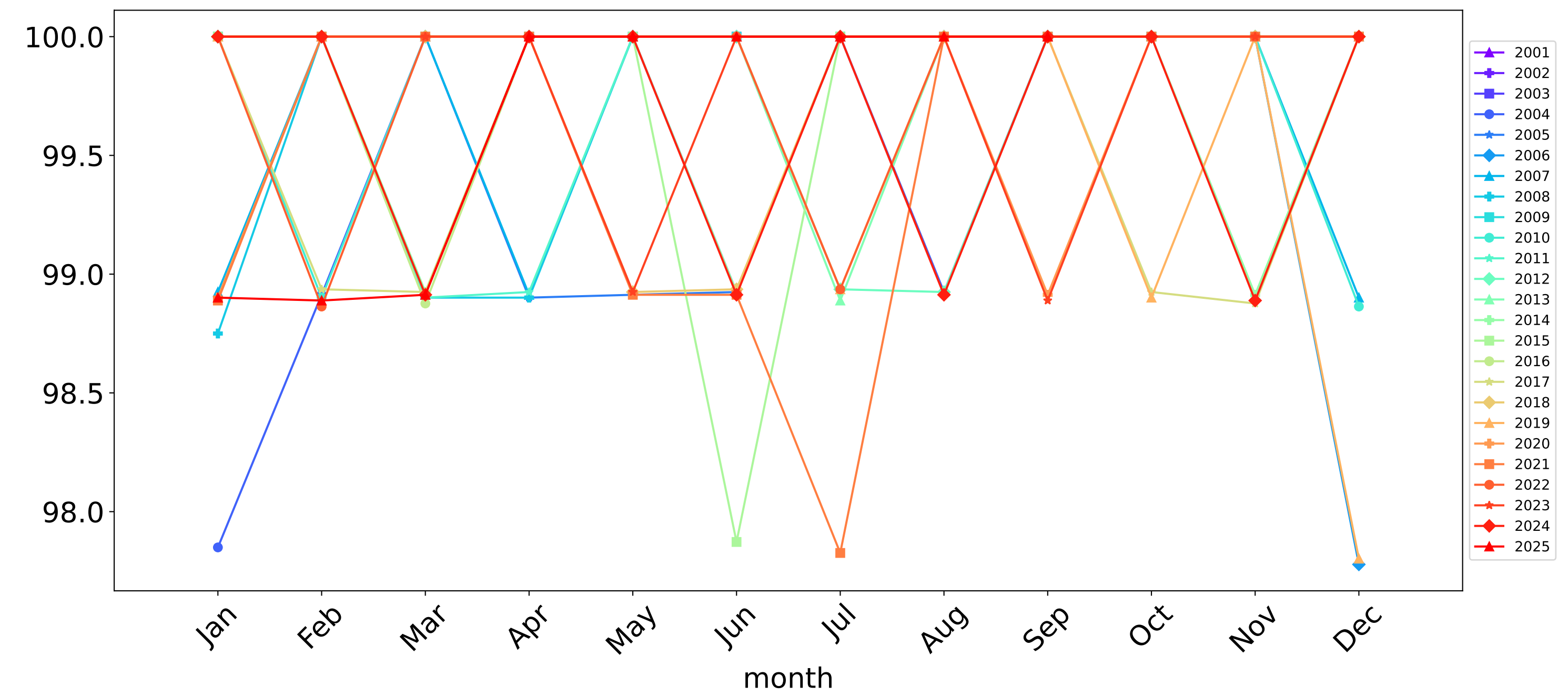


Conservation and natural environments non forest timeseries

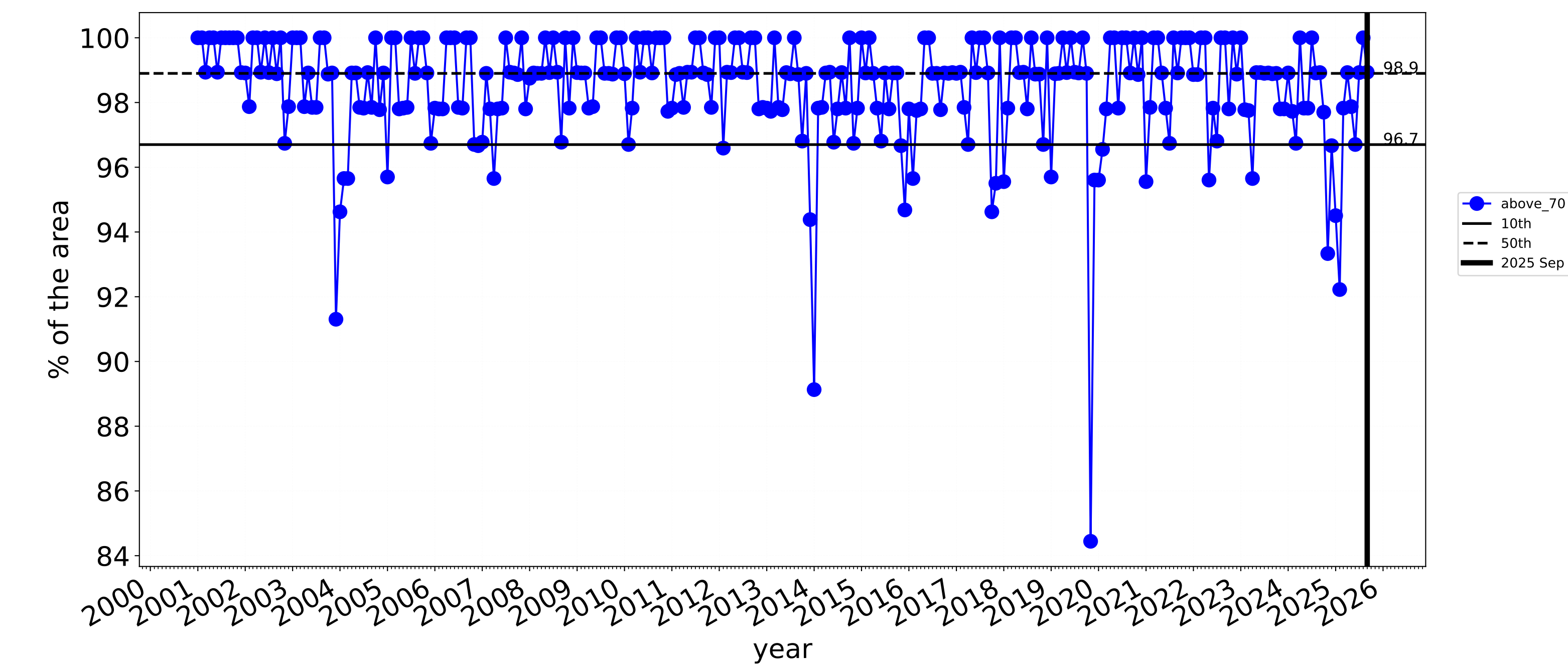
Proportion of the area protected from wind erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 50%)



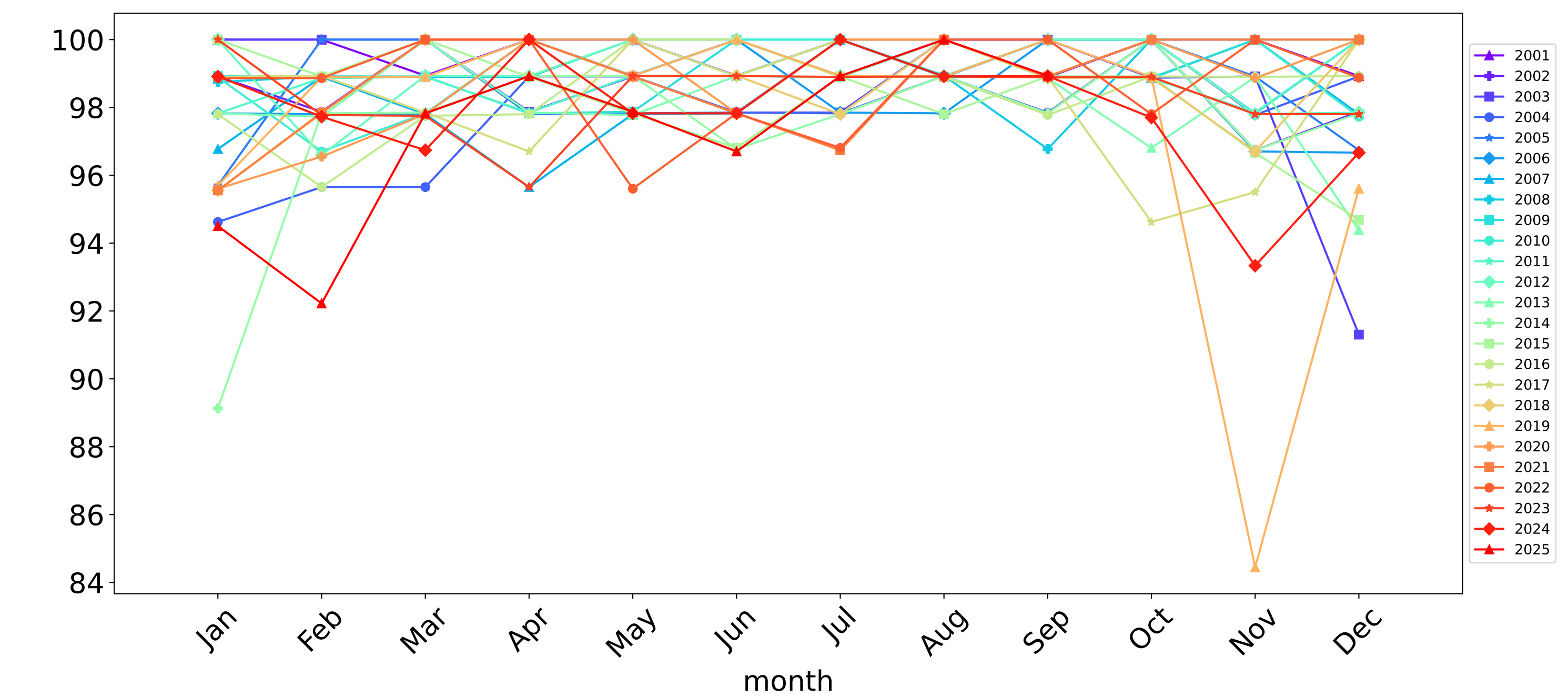
Wind erosion historical monthly area protected (Total Veg Cov >50%)

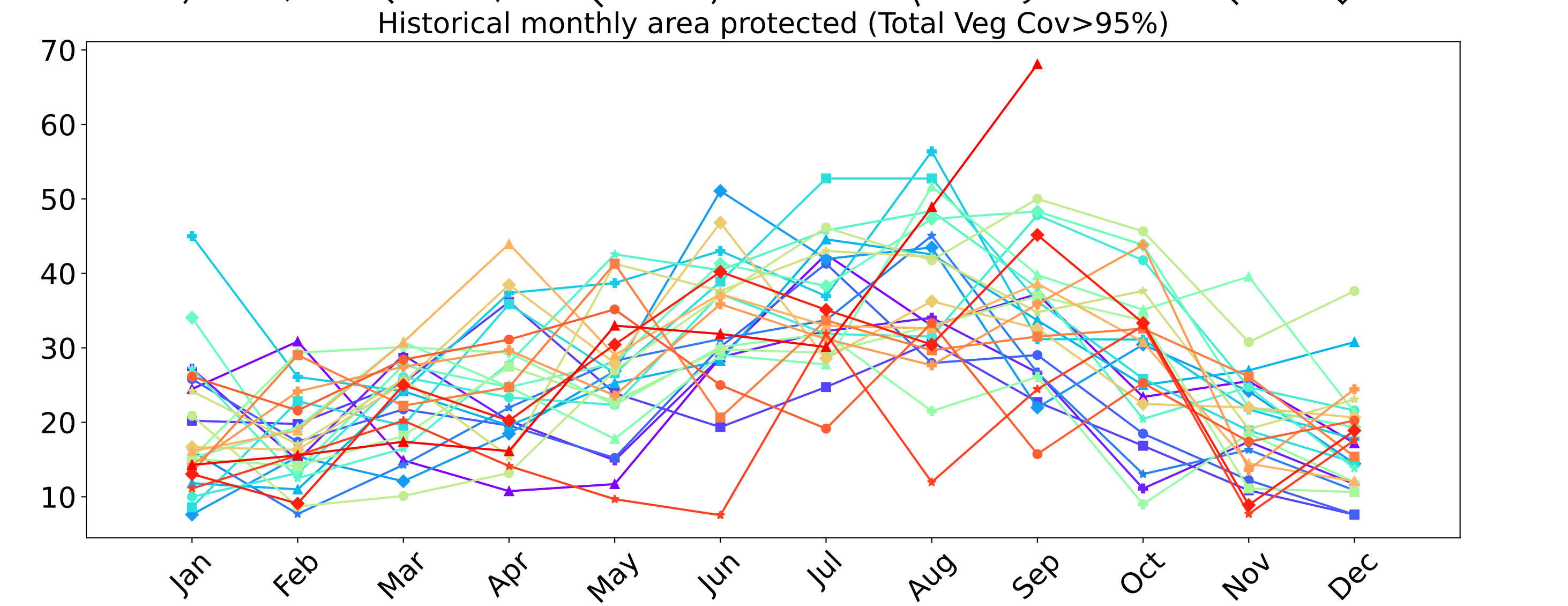
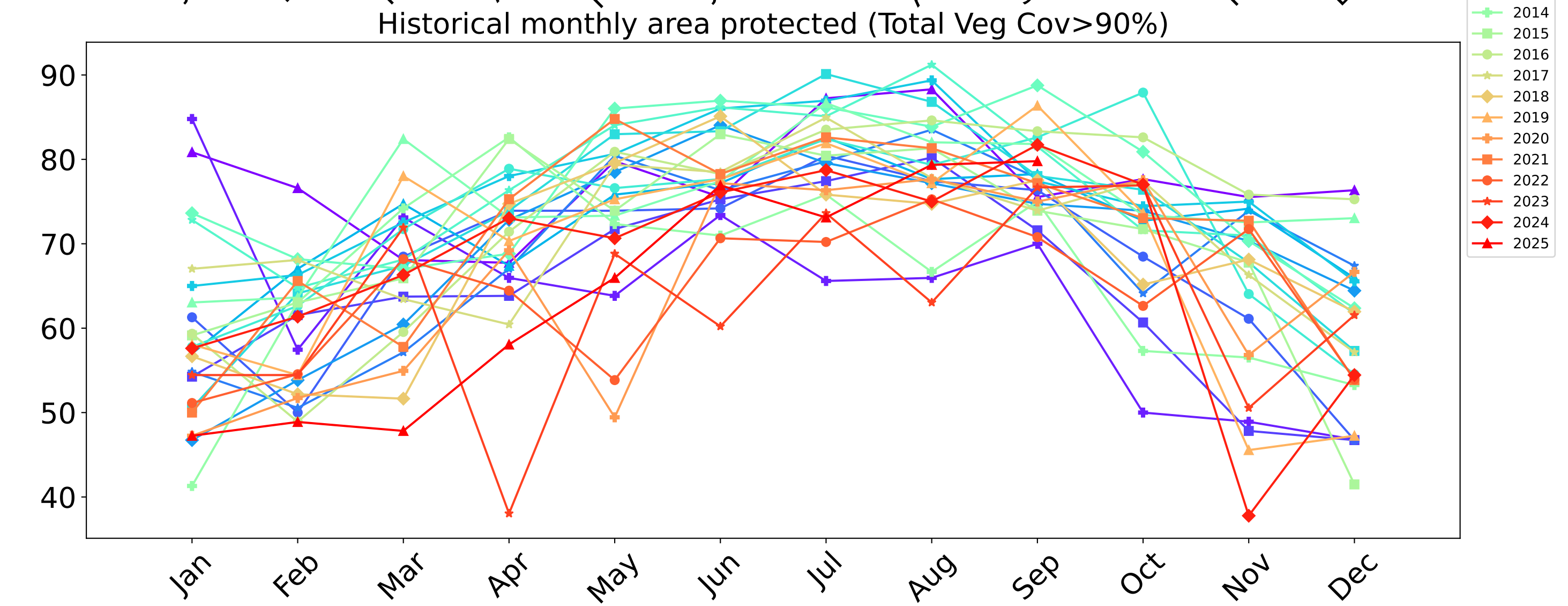
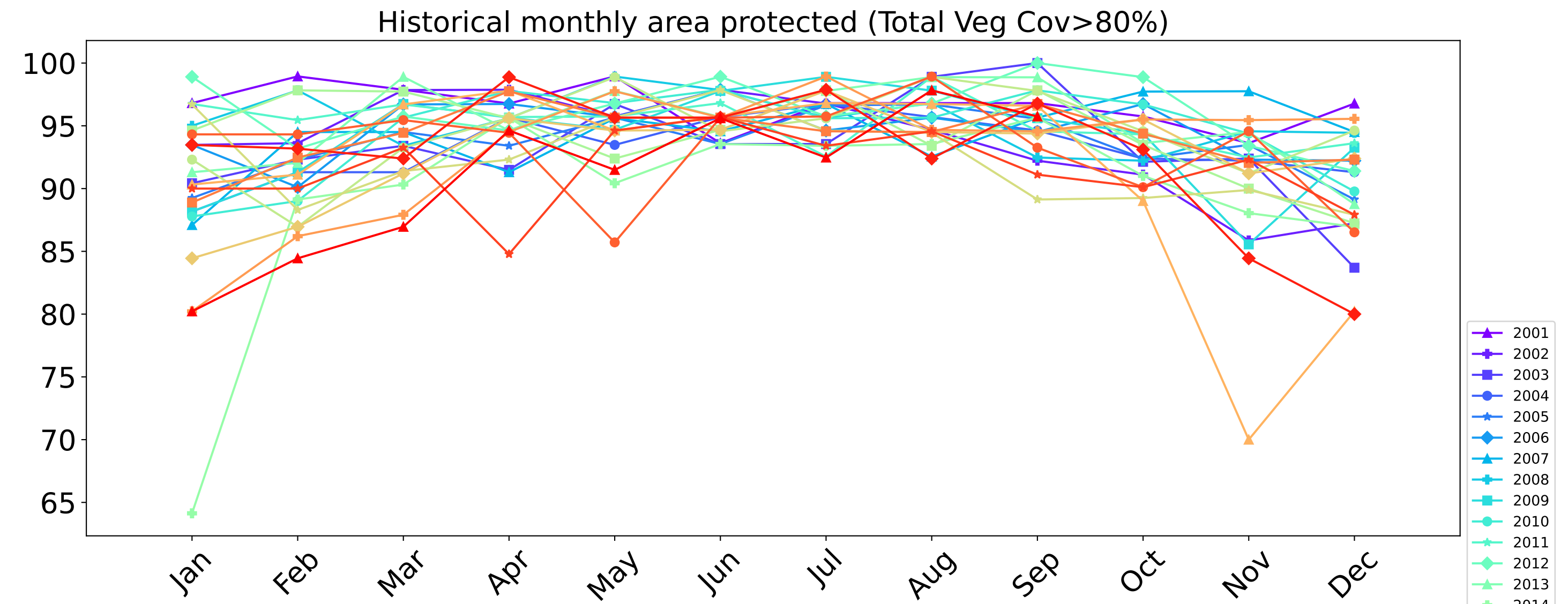
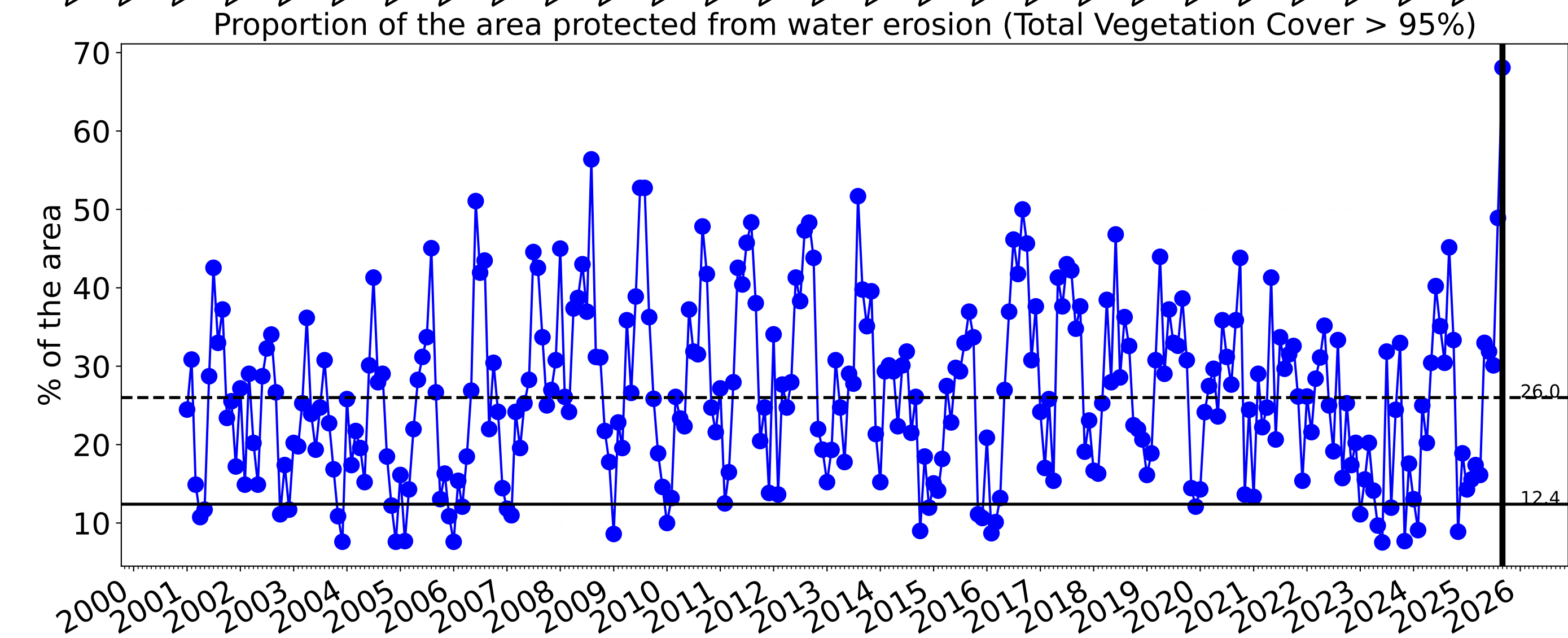
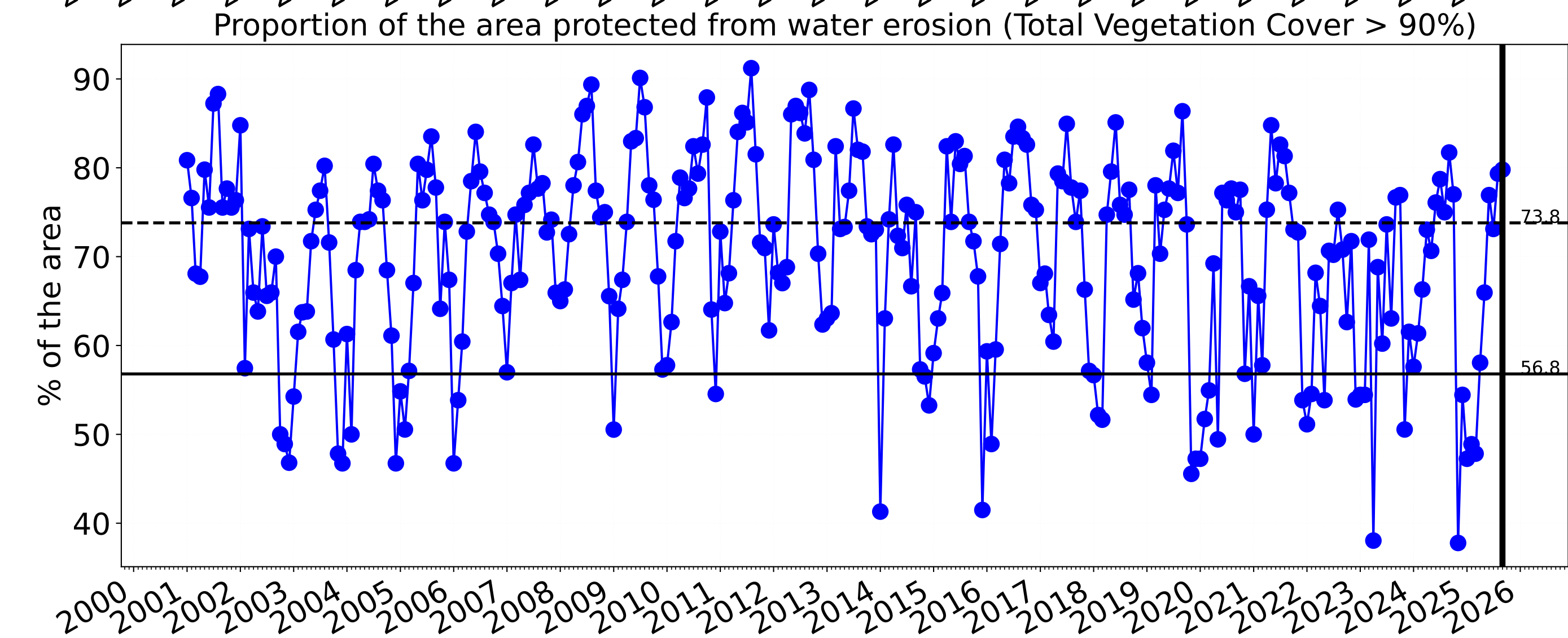
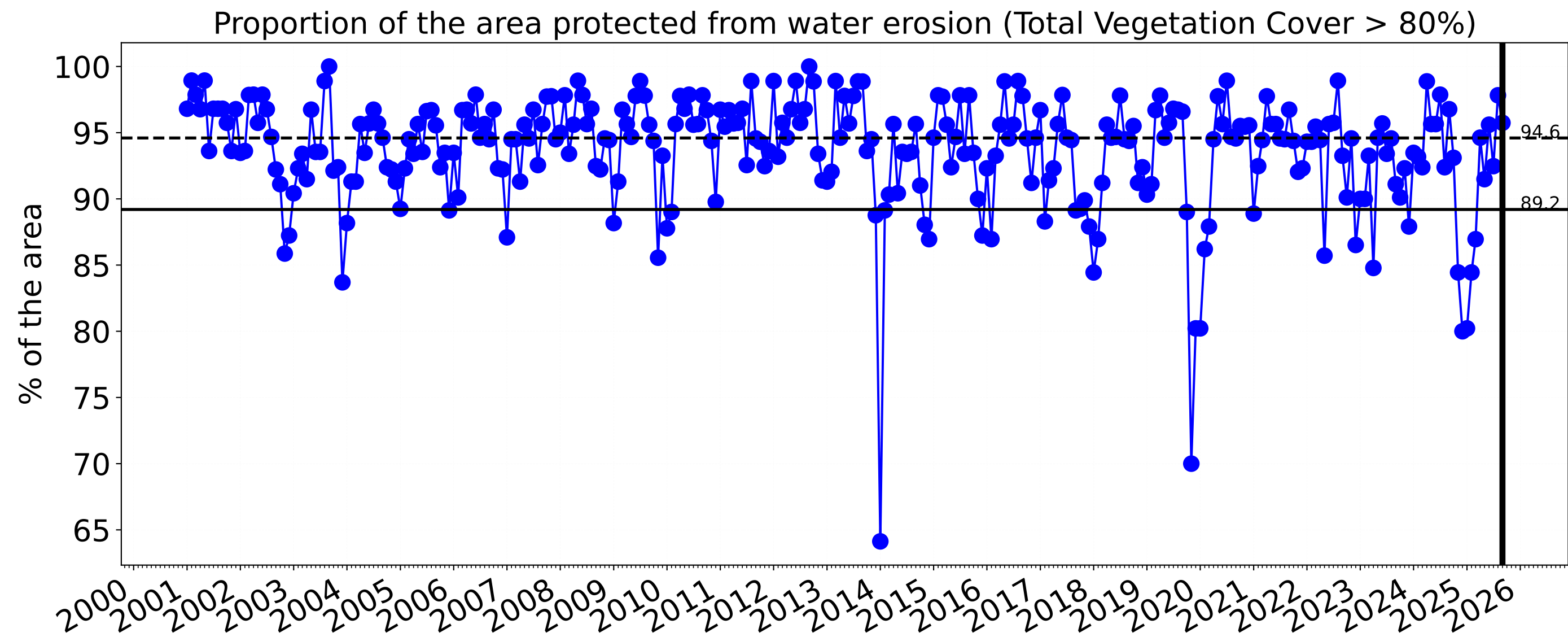


Proportion of the area protected from water erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 70%)



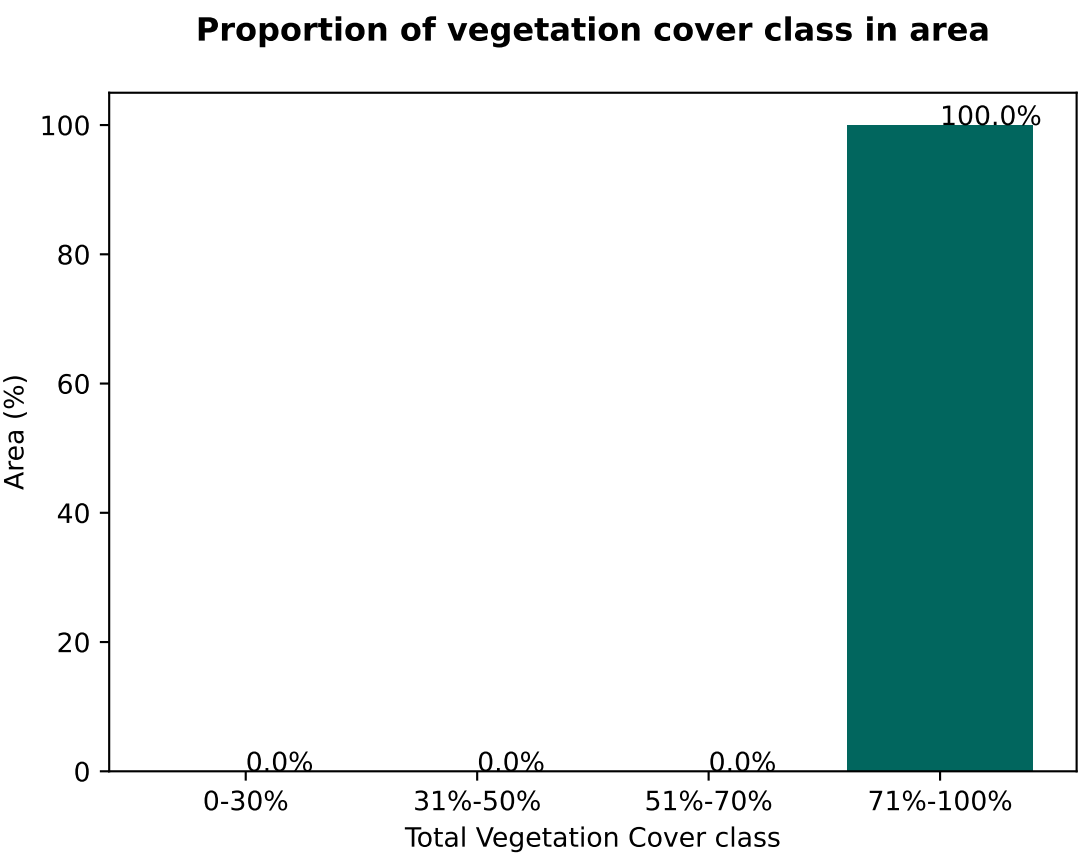
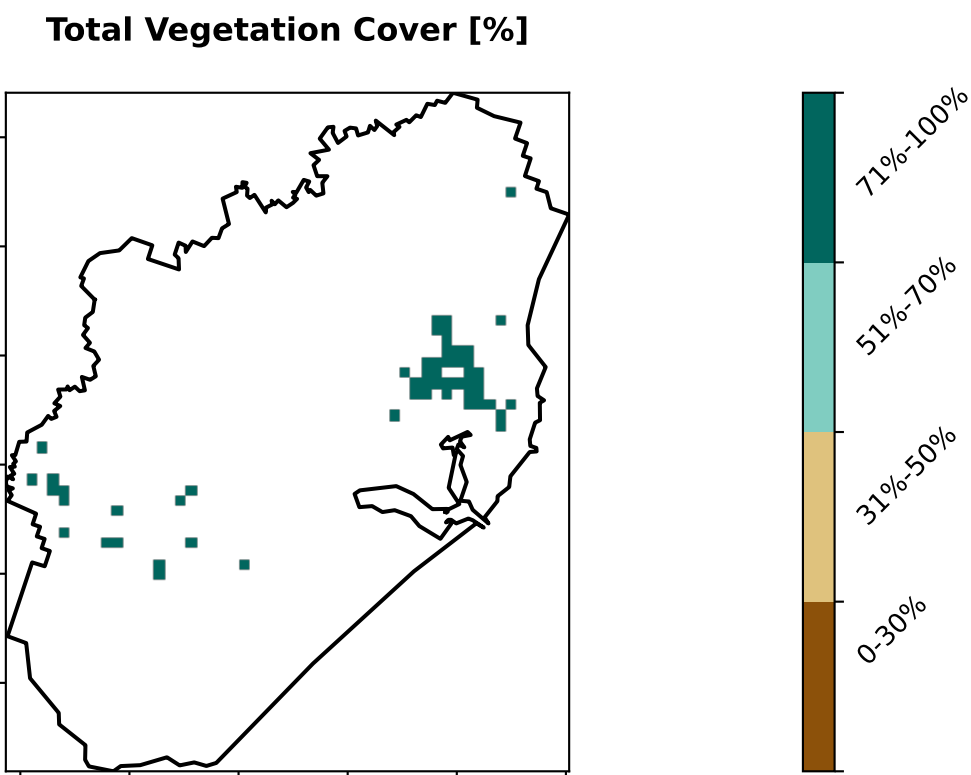
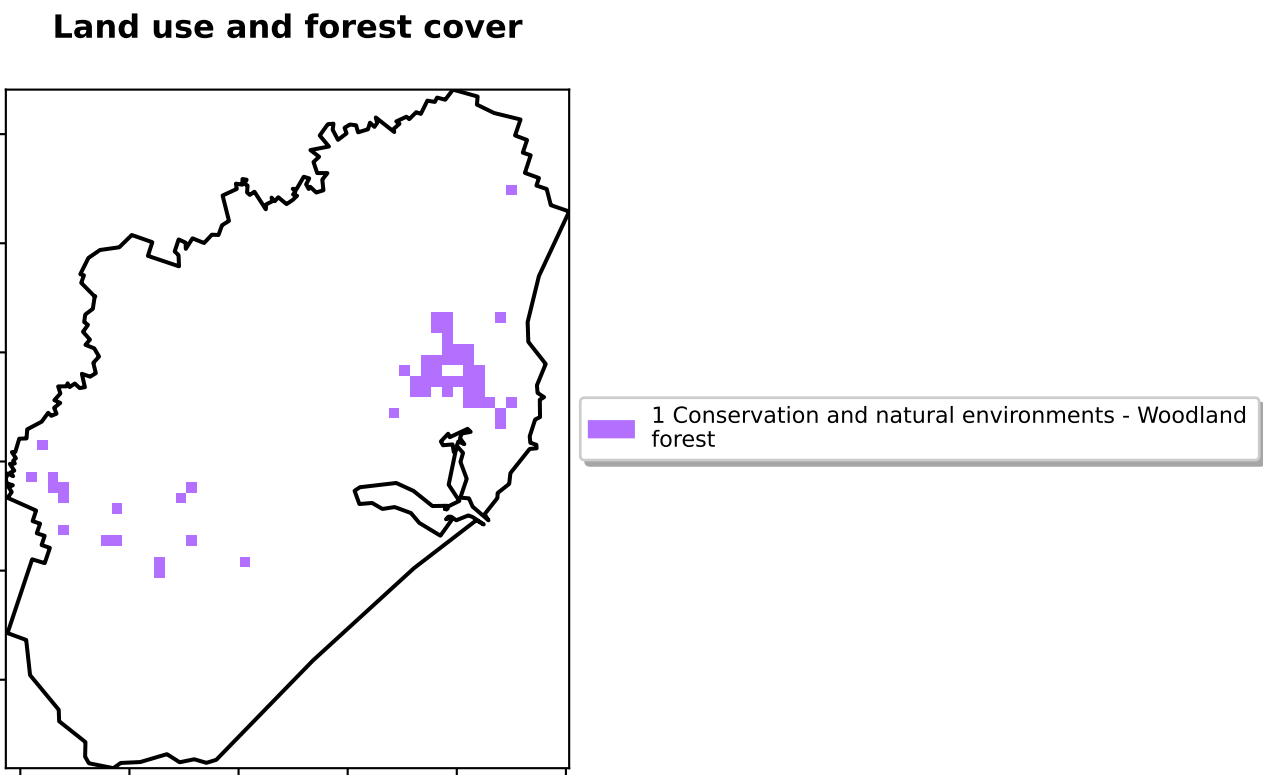
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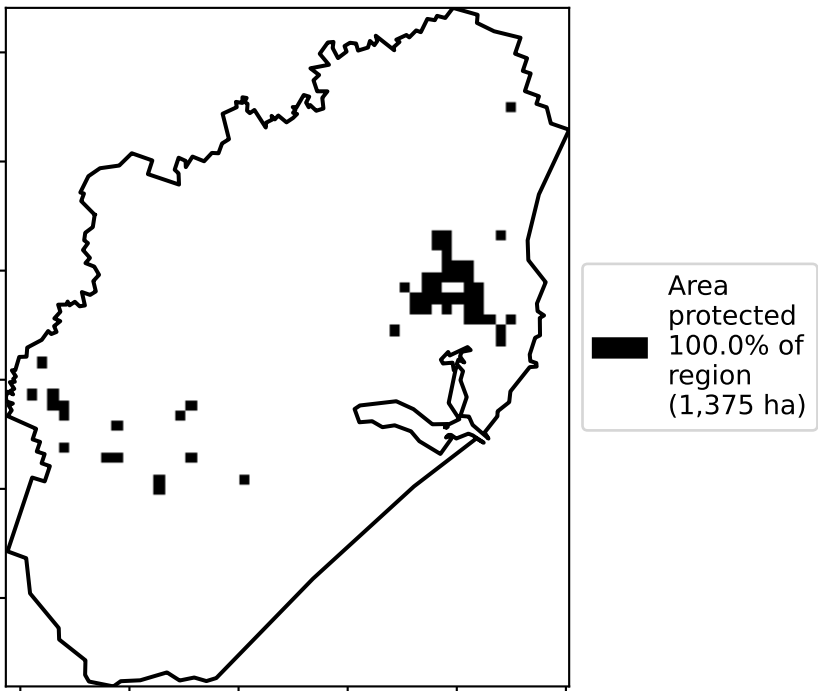


Conservation and natural environments Woodland forest

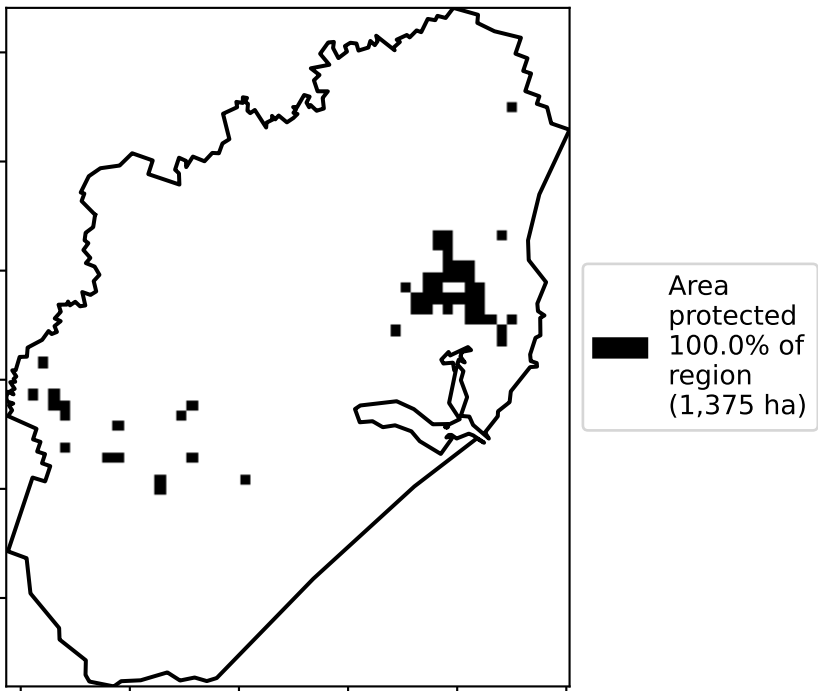
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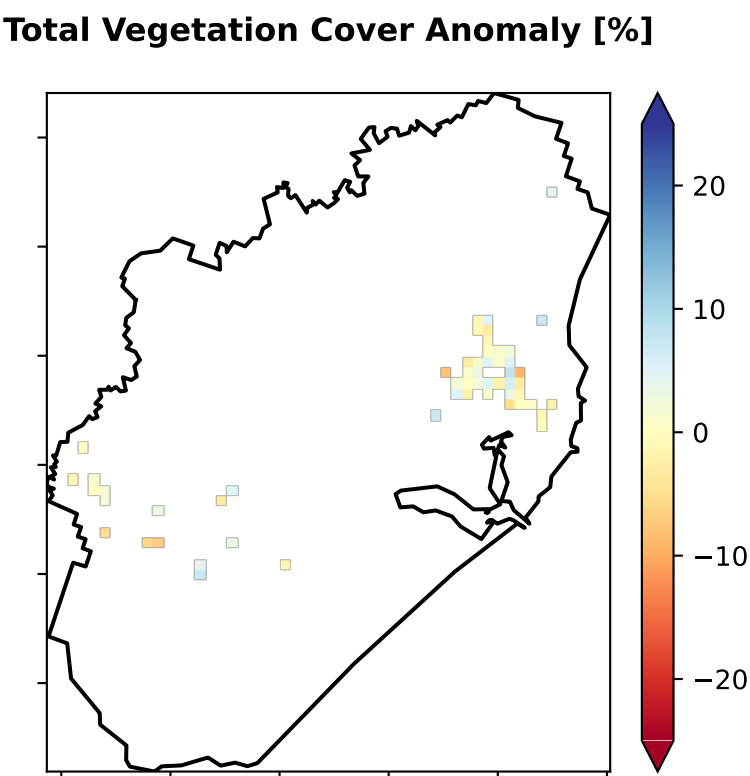
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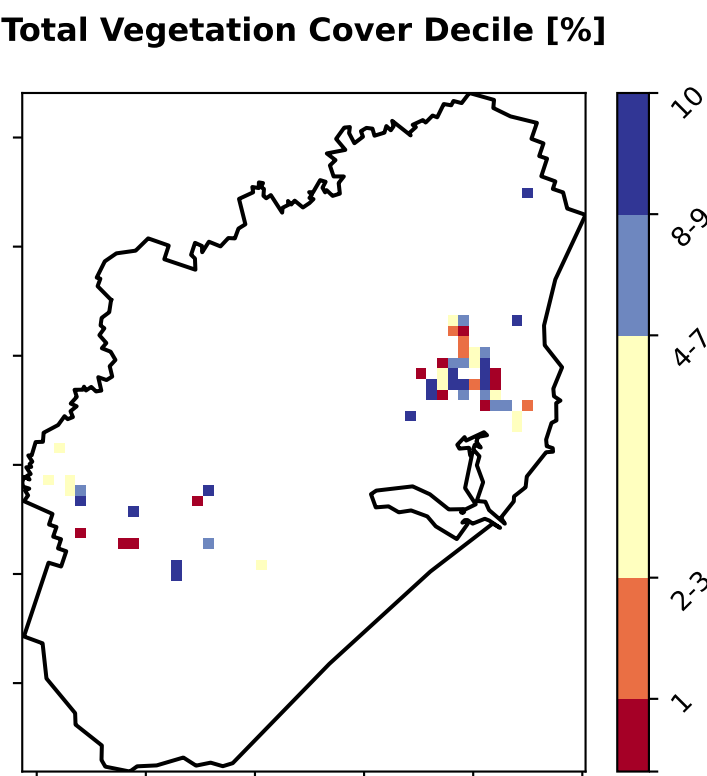
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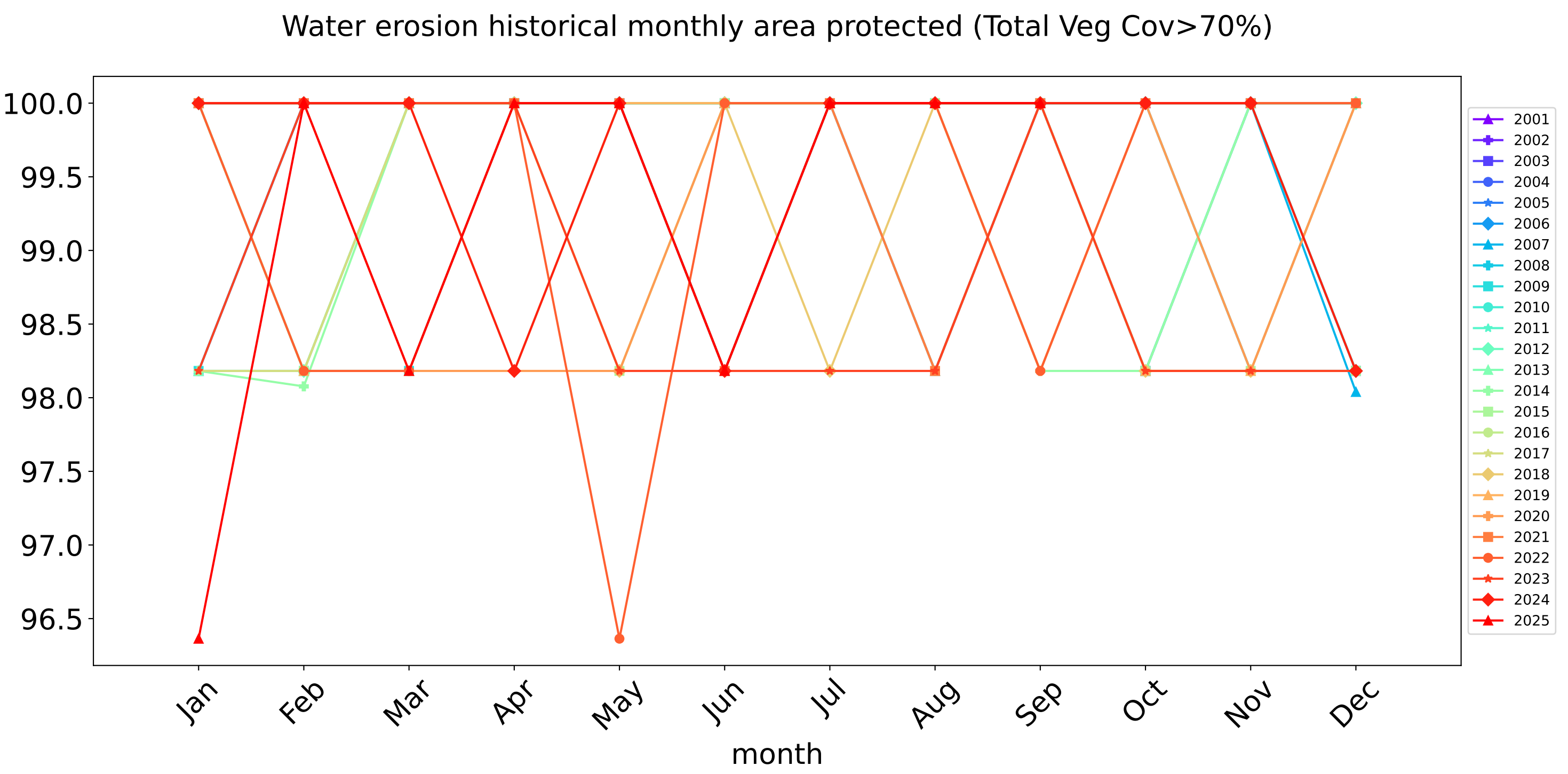
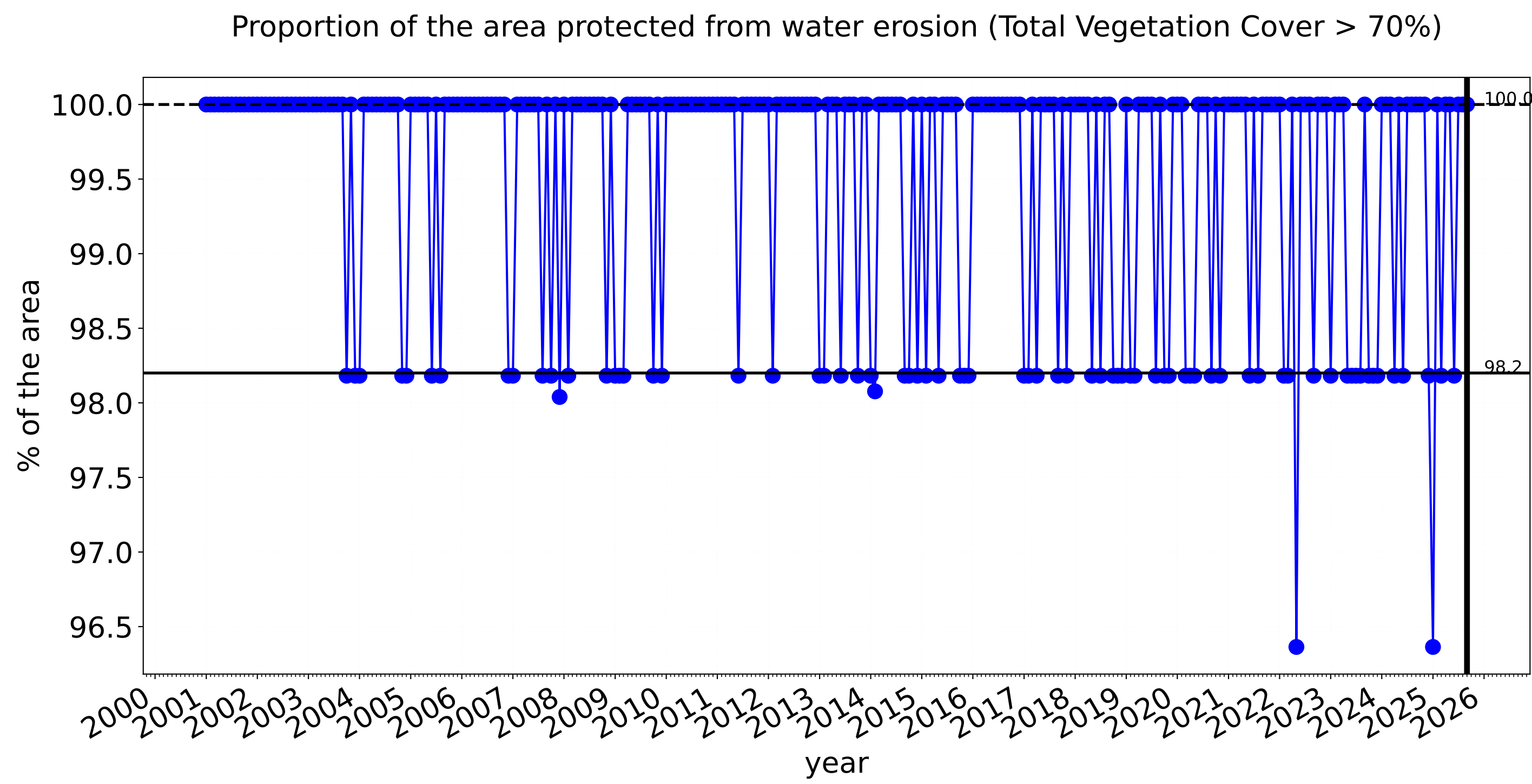
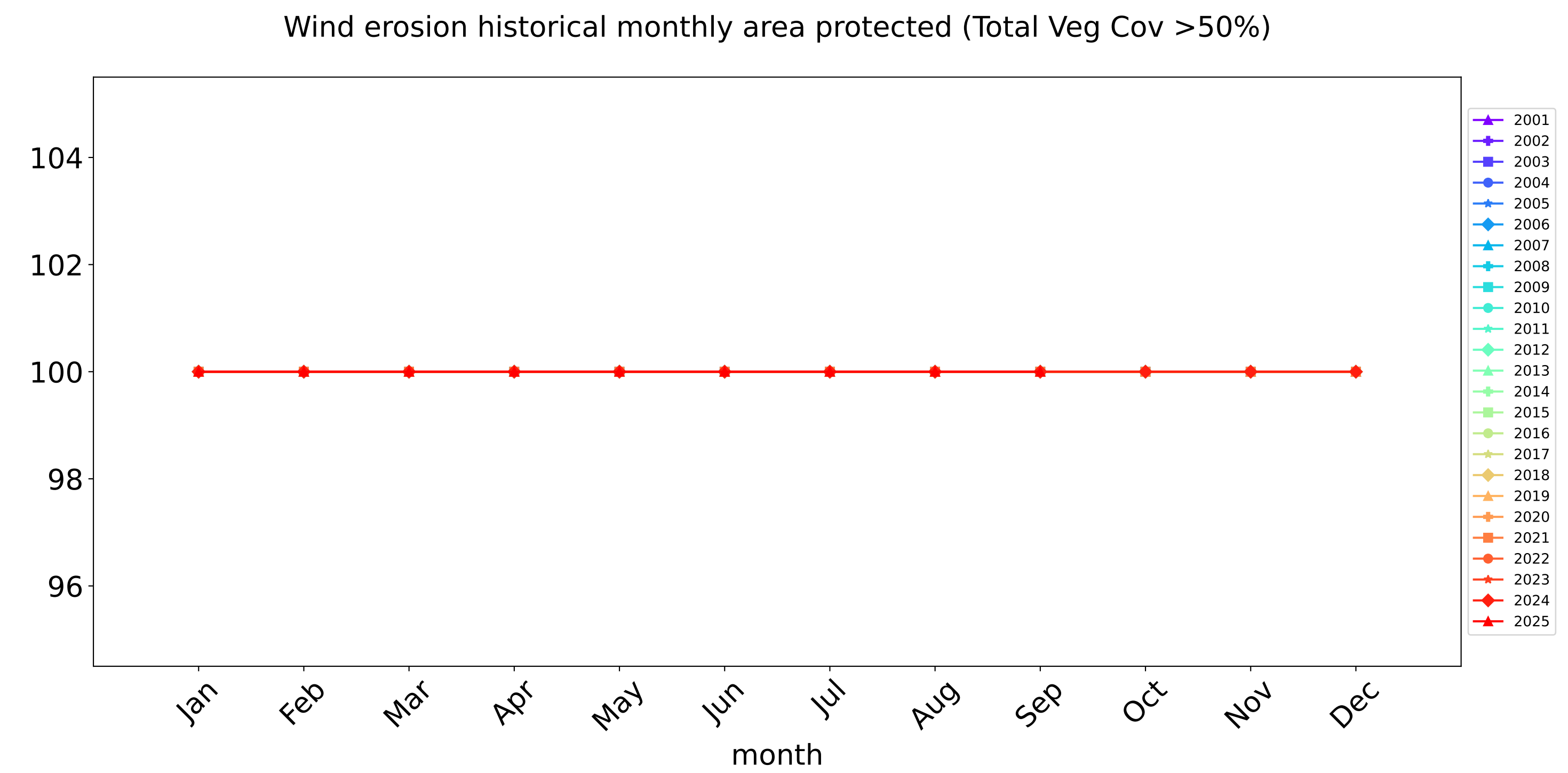
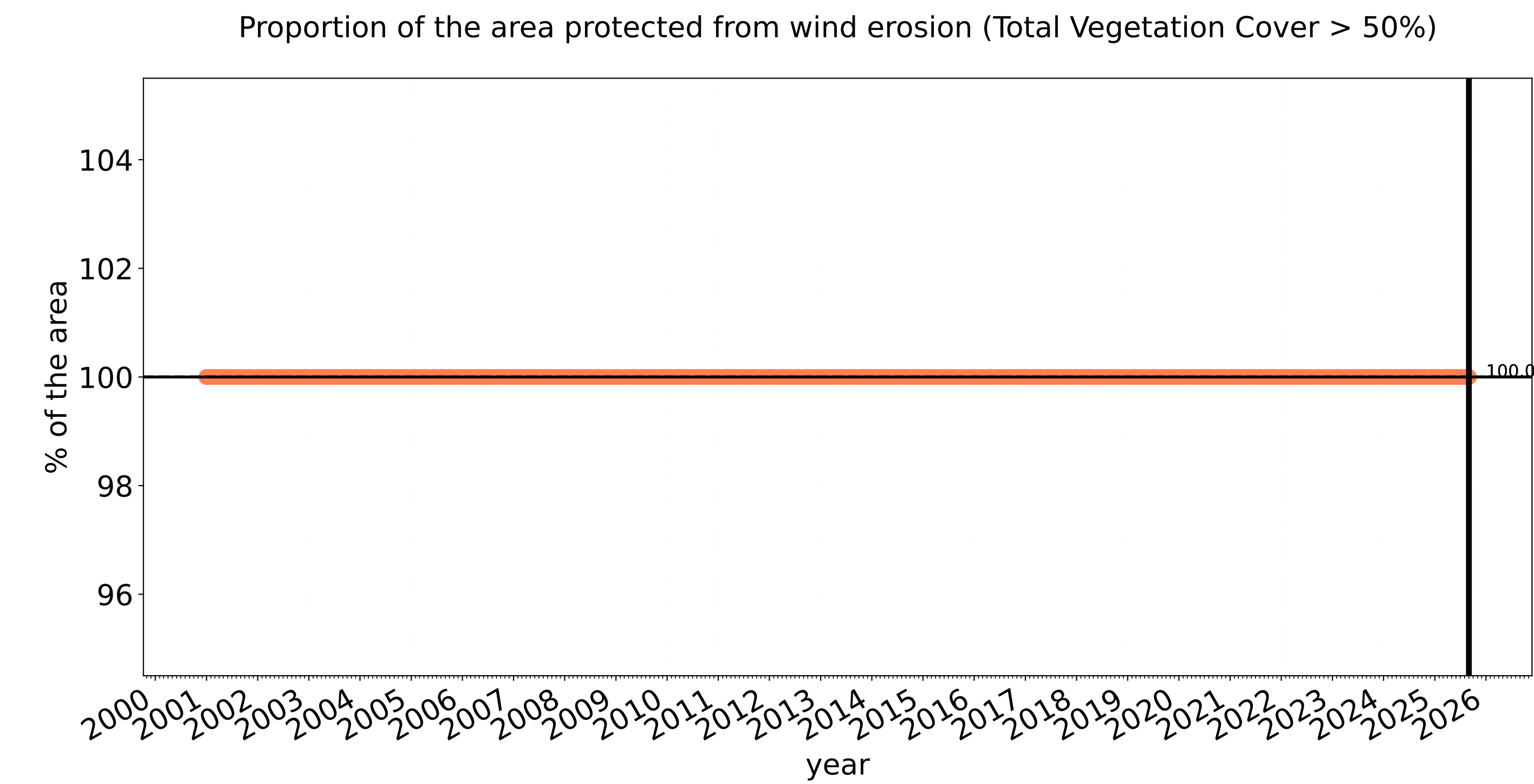


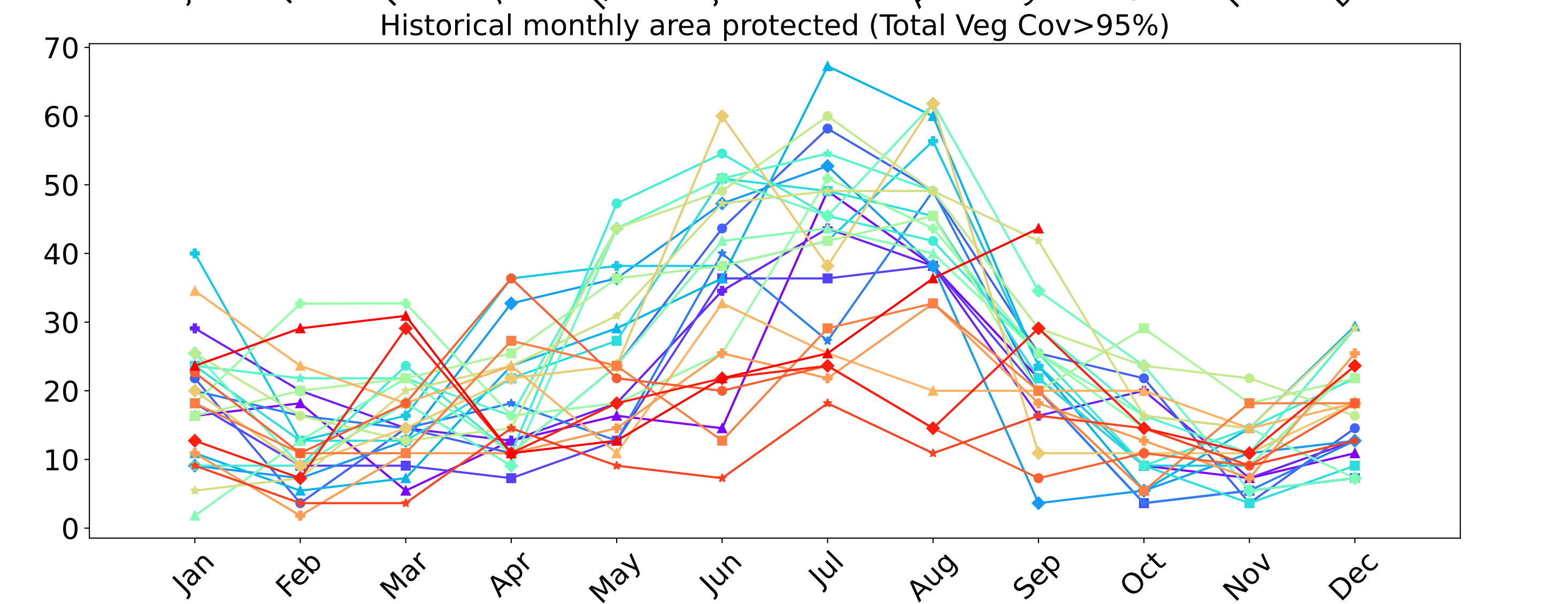
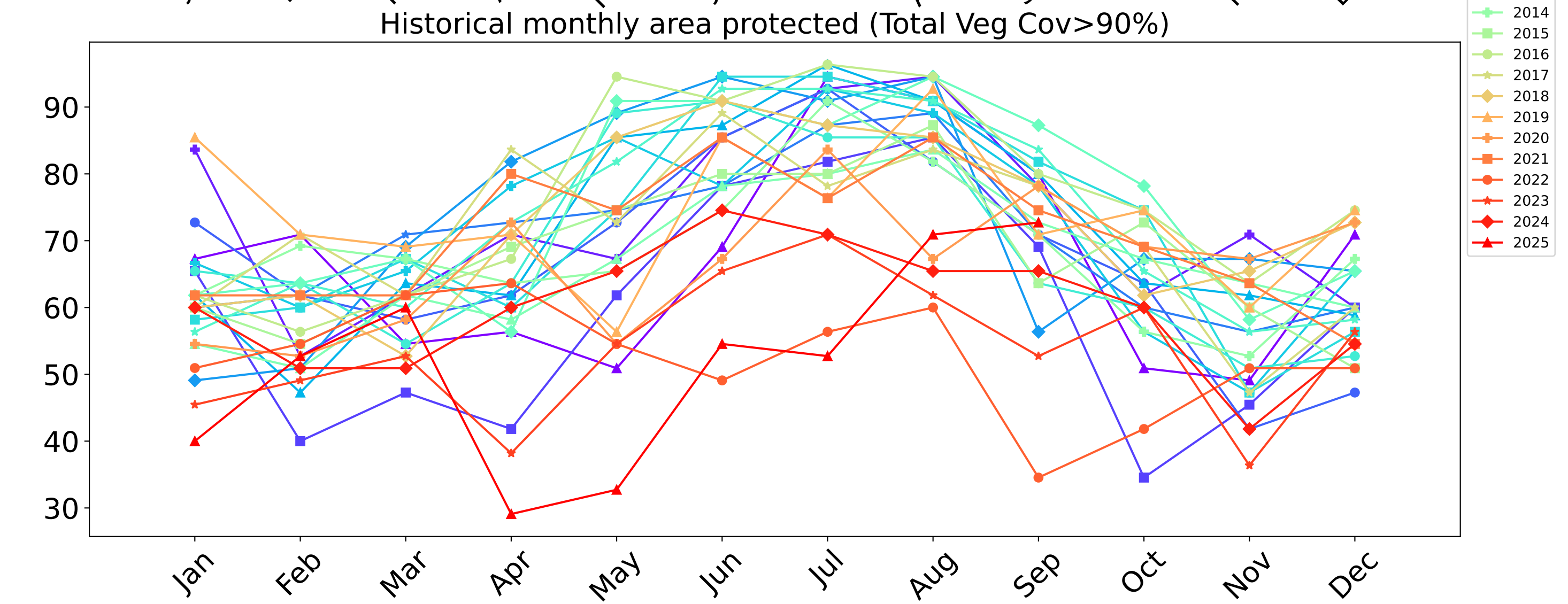
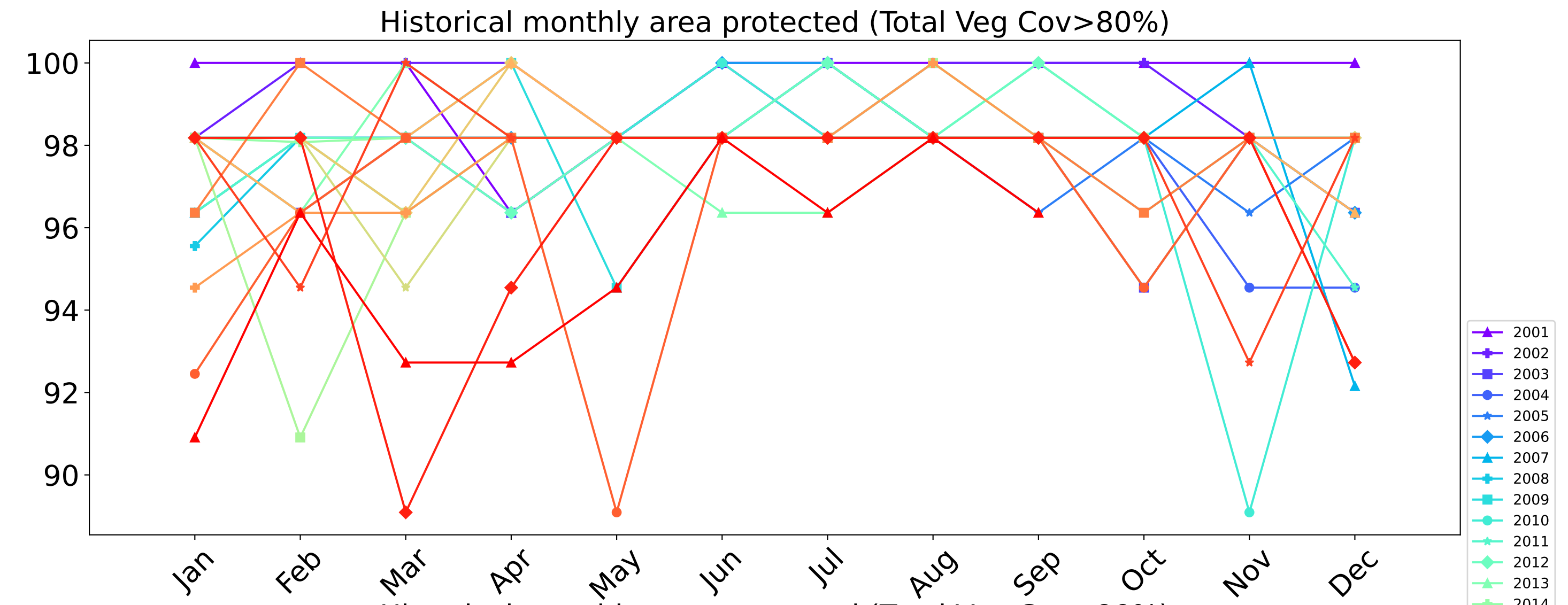
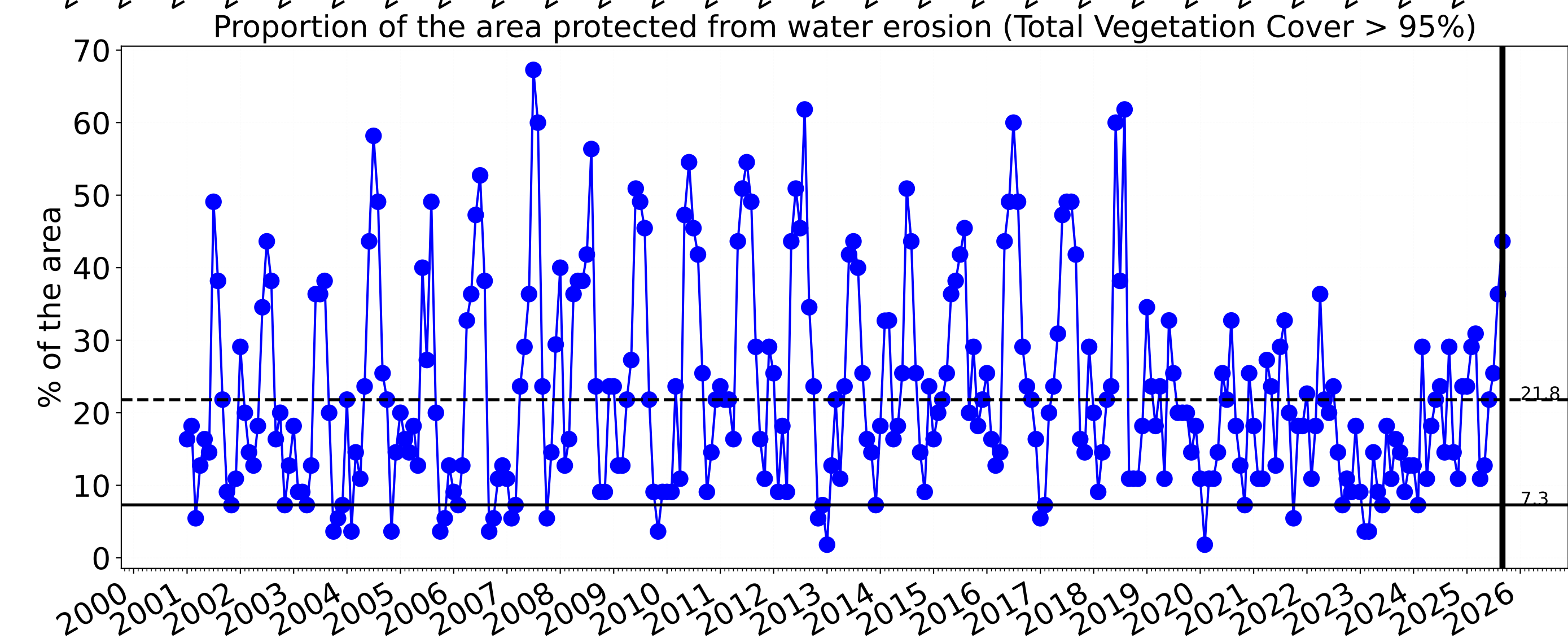
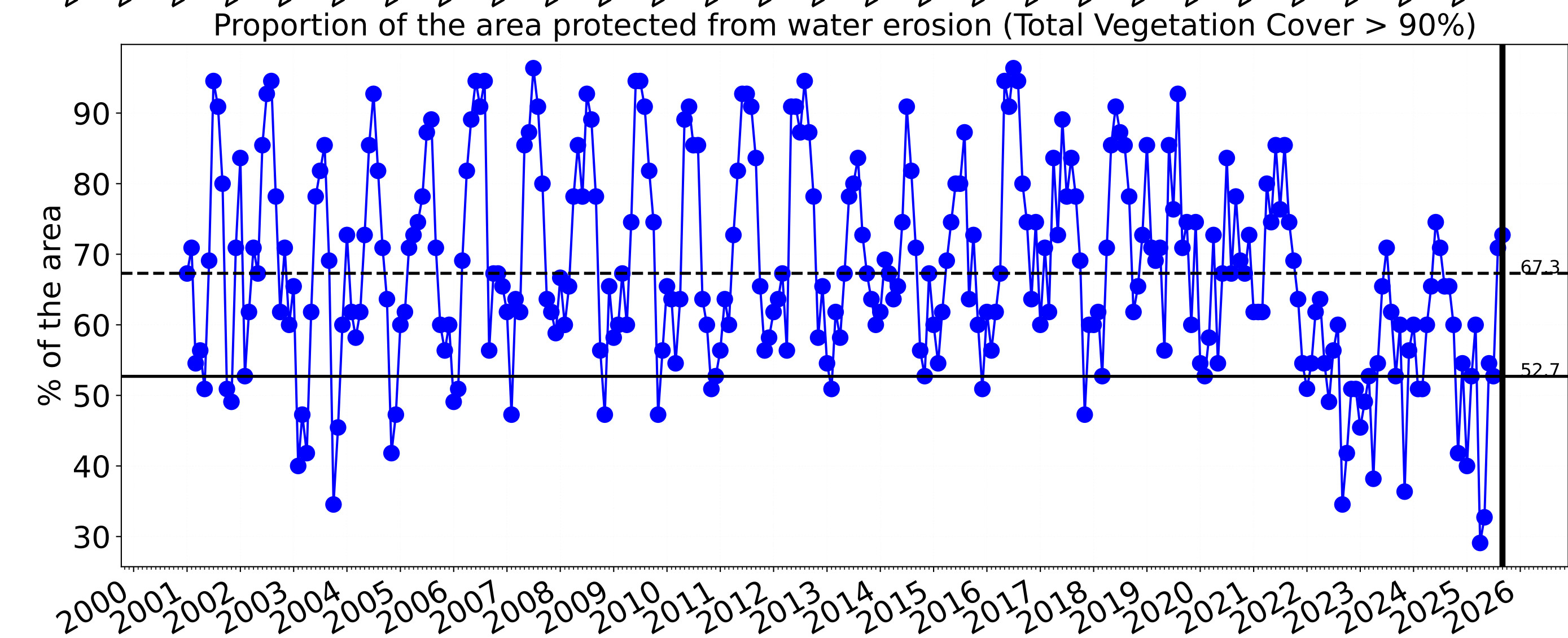
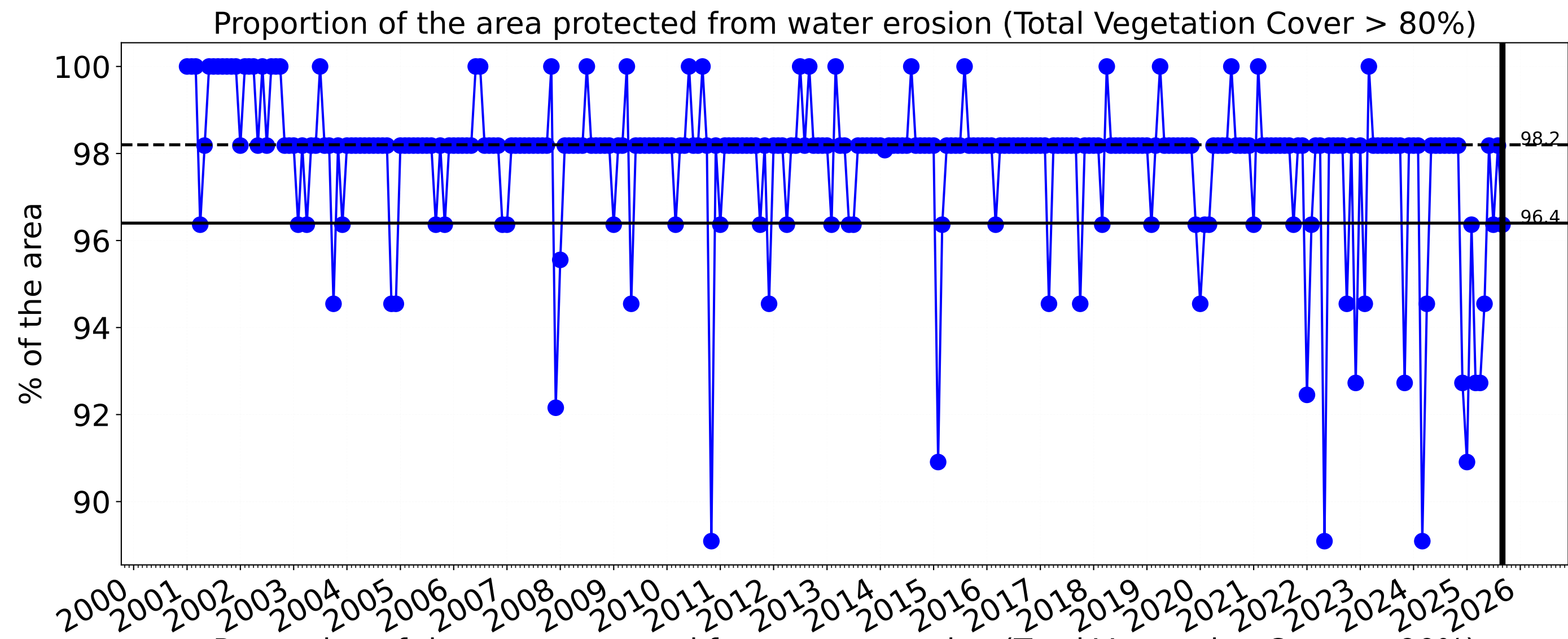
Anomaly show how
many percentage
points each
pixel is from
the mean. That
is, red pixels
are about 20%
lower than the
mean of that
pixel. The mean
is only for the
month of the map
using baseline
from 2001 to
2019.



Deciles show where the
pixel value lies in the
record, from highest to
lowest, for that month.
That is, red pixels are
in the lowest 10% of
records for that month of
the map using baseline
from 2001 to 2019.



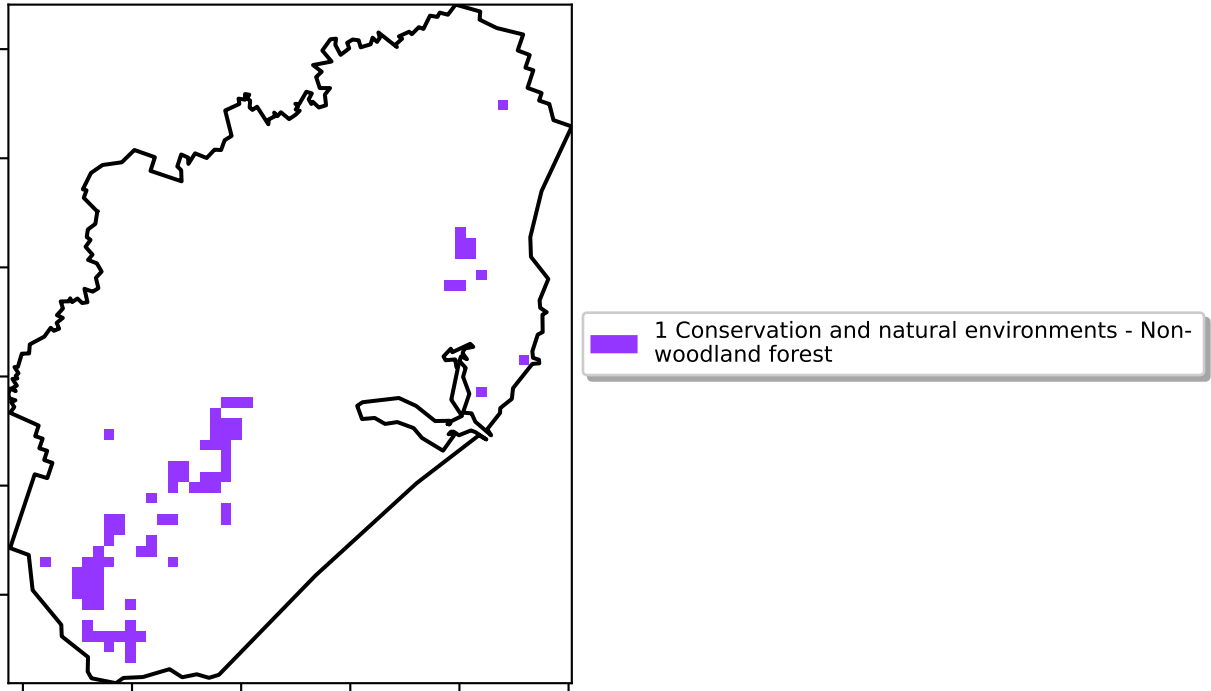




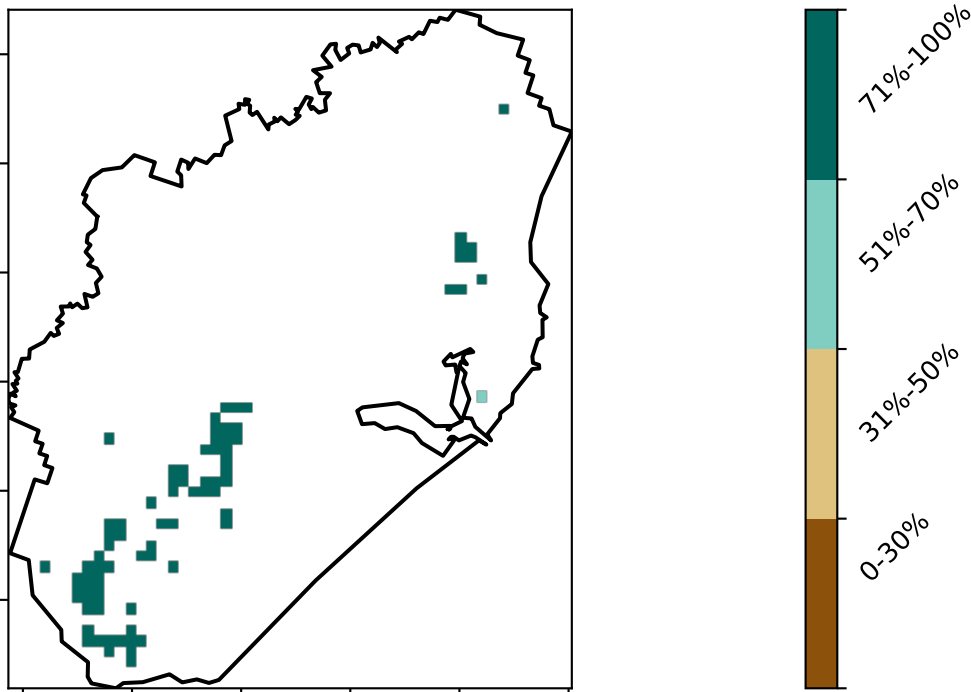
Conservation and natural environments Forest (non woodland)

Land use and forest cover

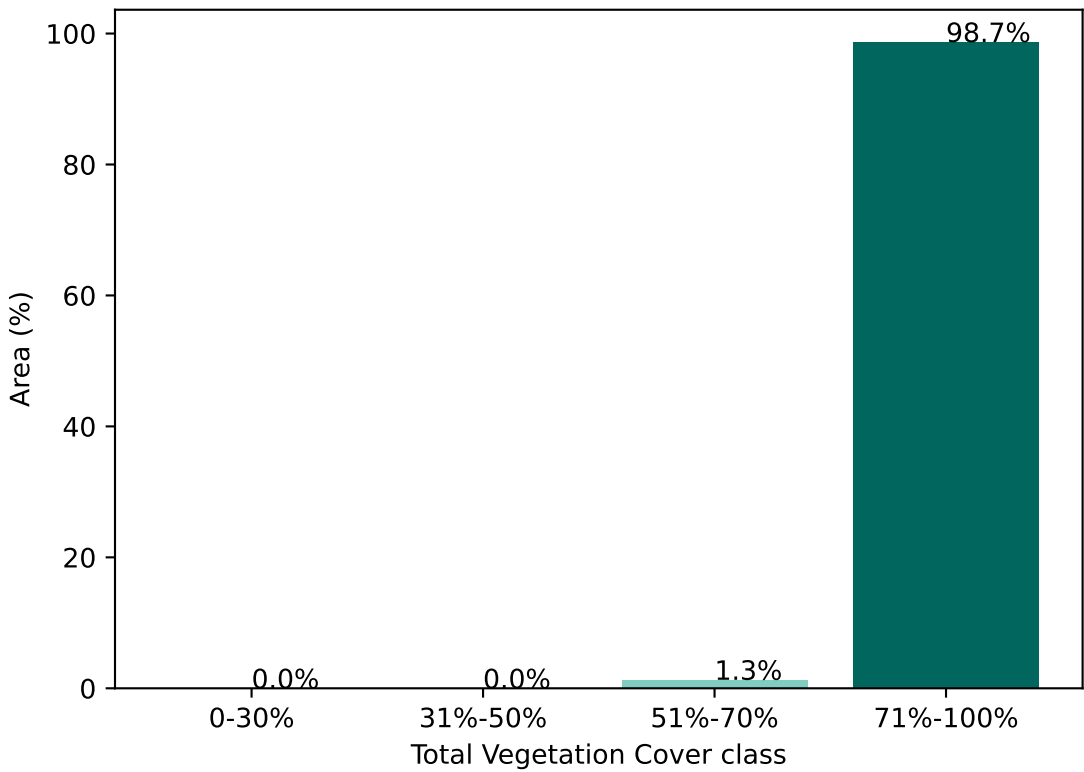
Catchment Scale Land Use and Forests of Australia (2018)
Derived from Catchment Scale Land Use of Australia (2018) and Forests of Australia (2018)



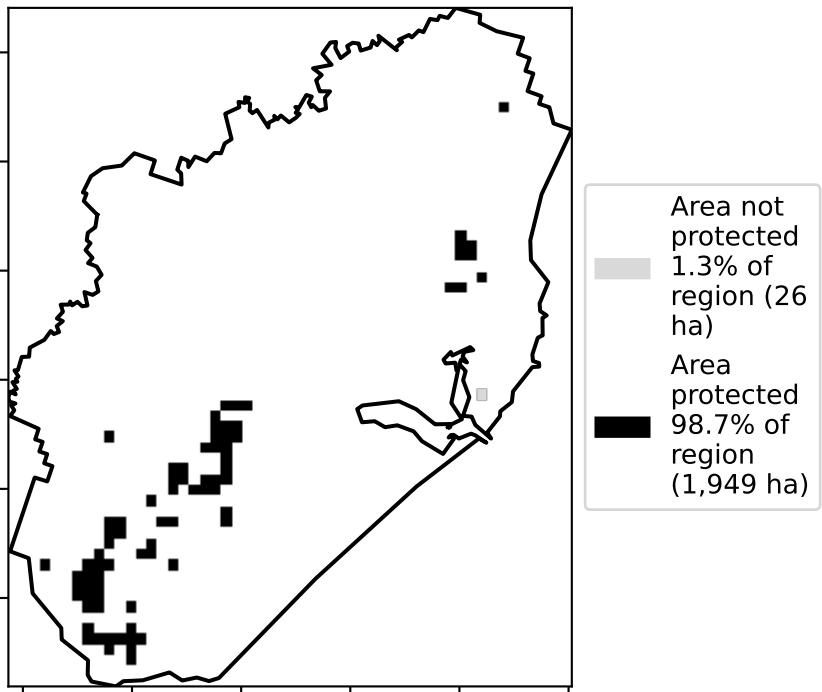
Total Vegetation Cover [%]



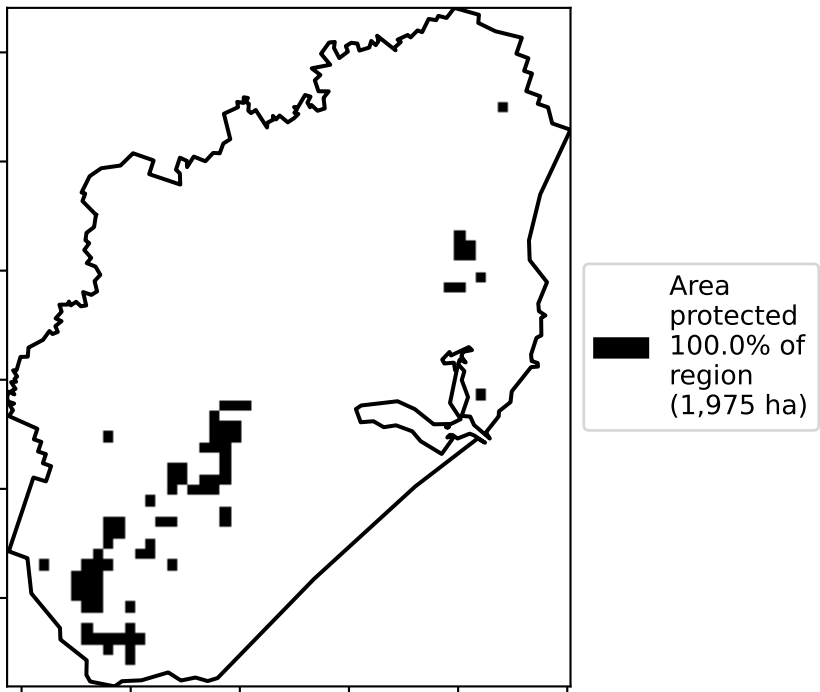
Proportion of vegetation cover class in area



% Area protected from water erosion (>70%)

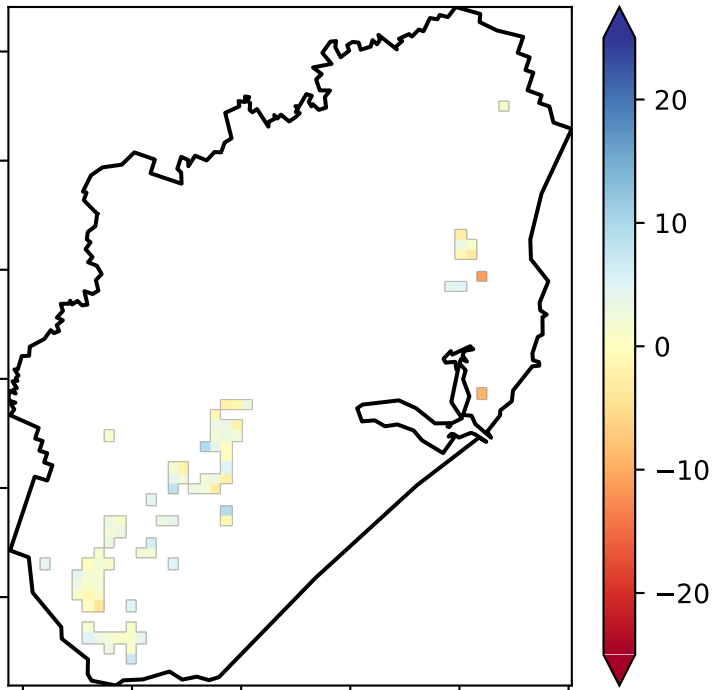


% Area protected from wind erosion (>50%)



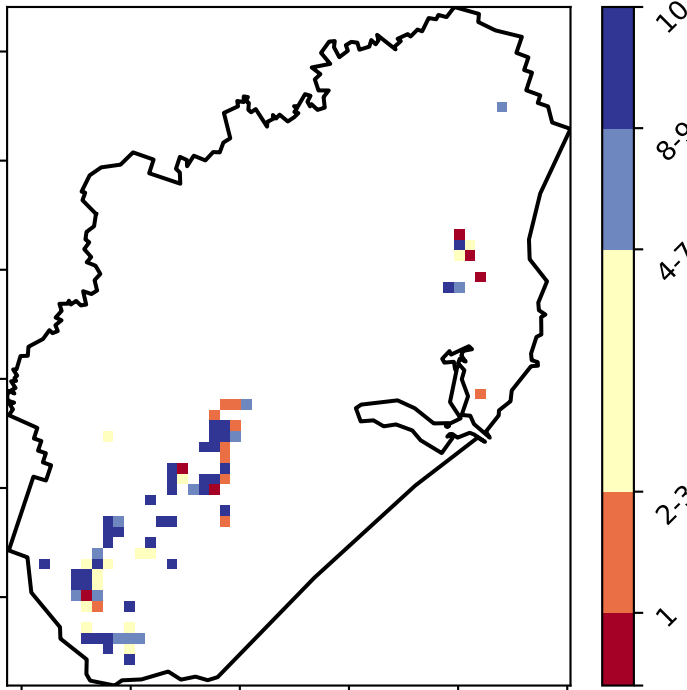
Total Vegetation Cover Anomaly [%]

Anomaly show how many percentage points each pixel is from the mean. That is, red pixels are about 20% lower than the mean of that pixel. The mean is only for the month of the map using baseline from 2001 to 2019.

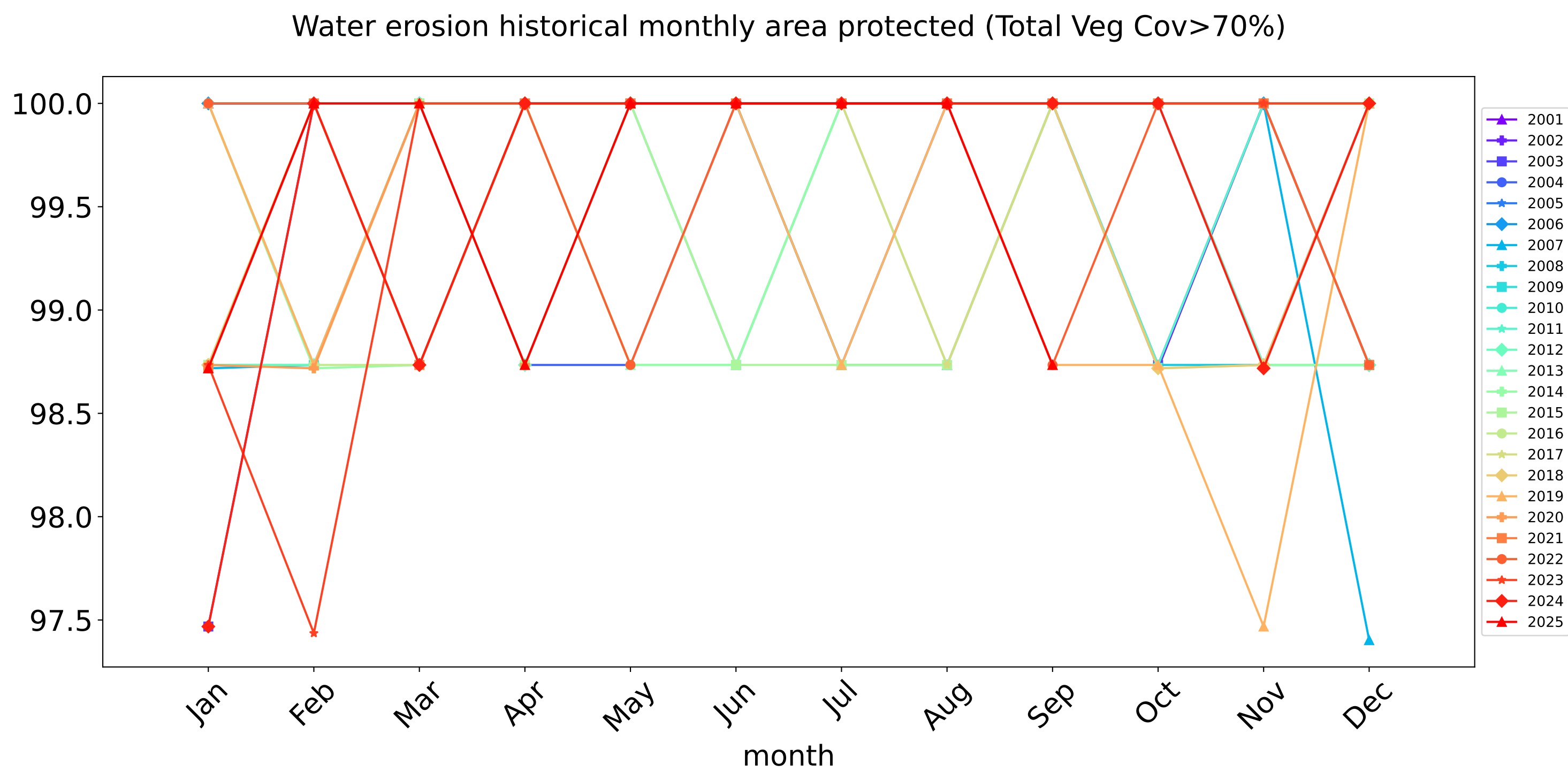
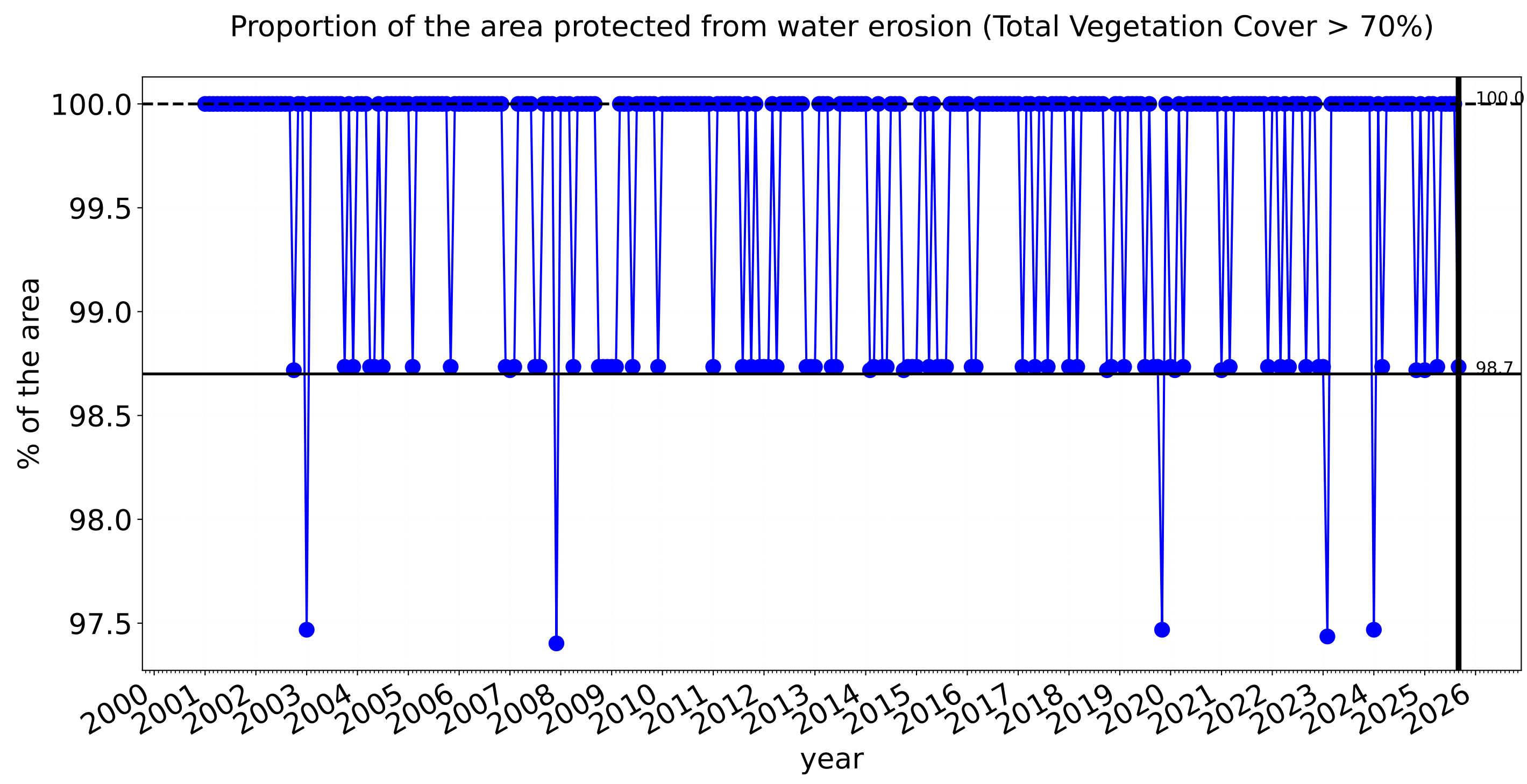
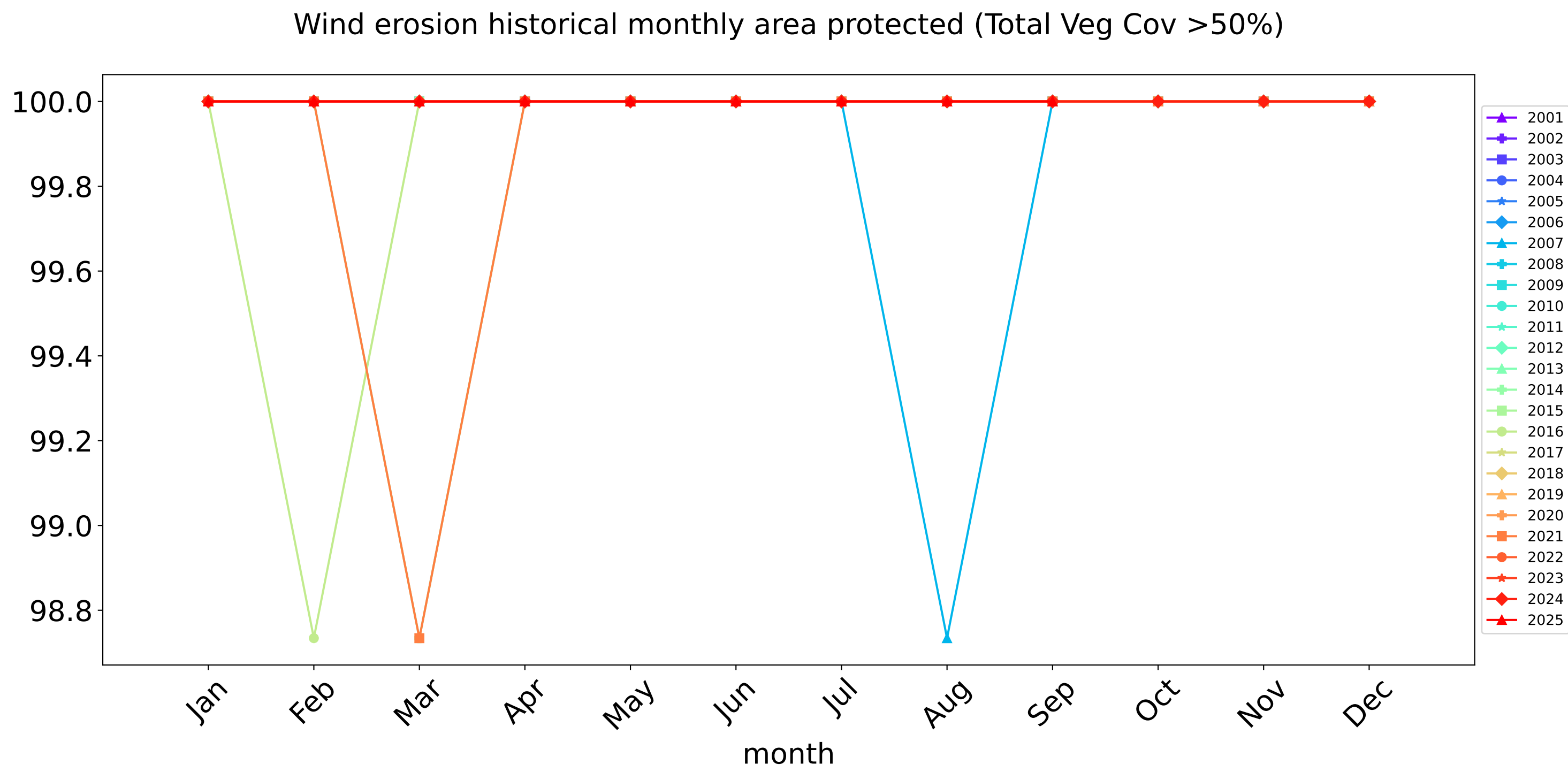
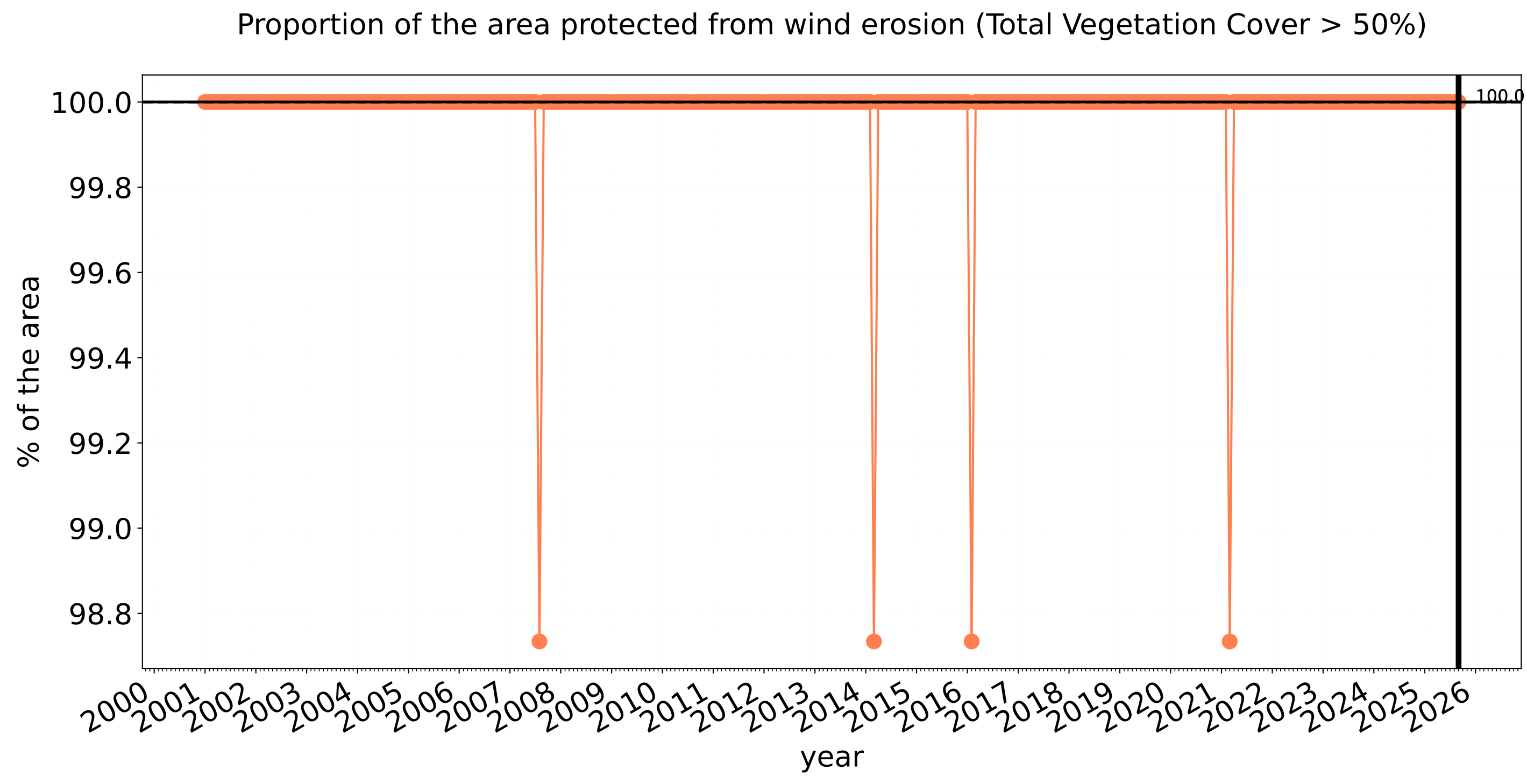


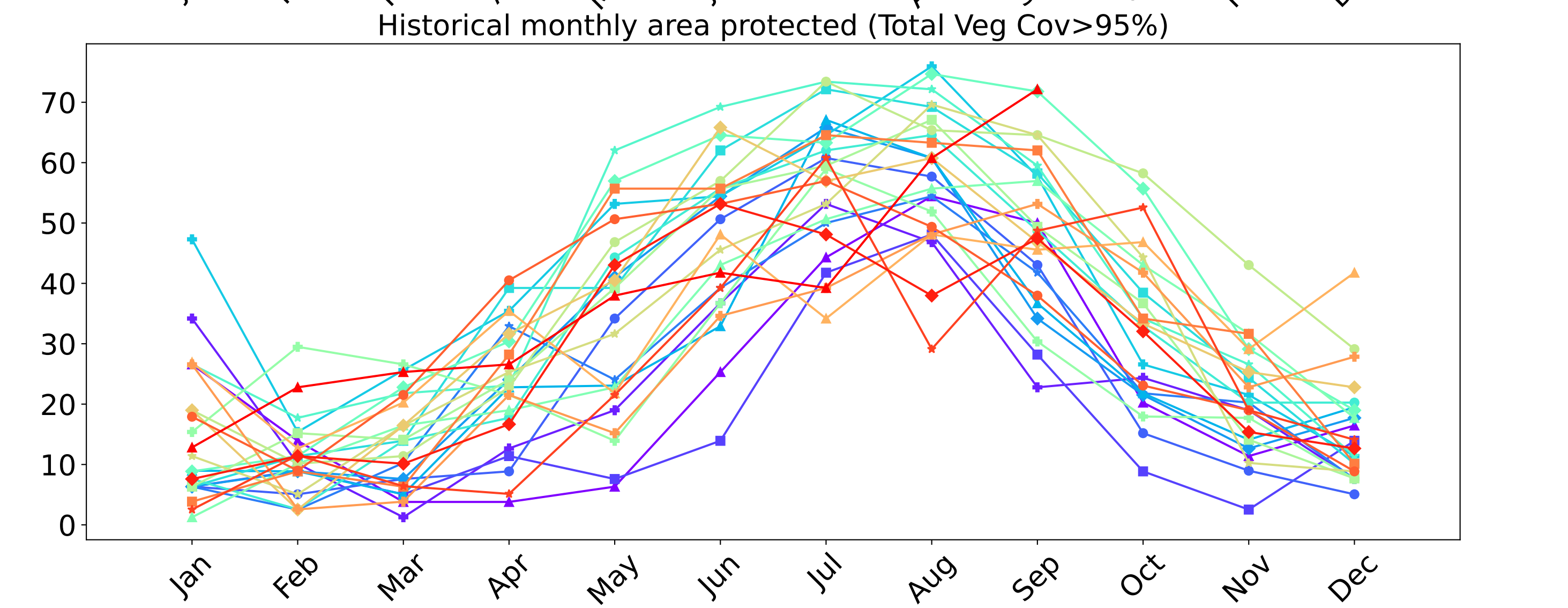
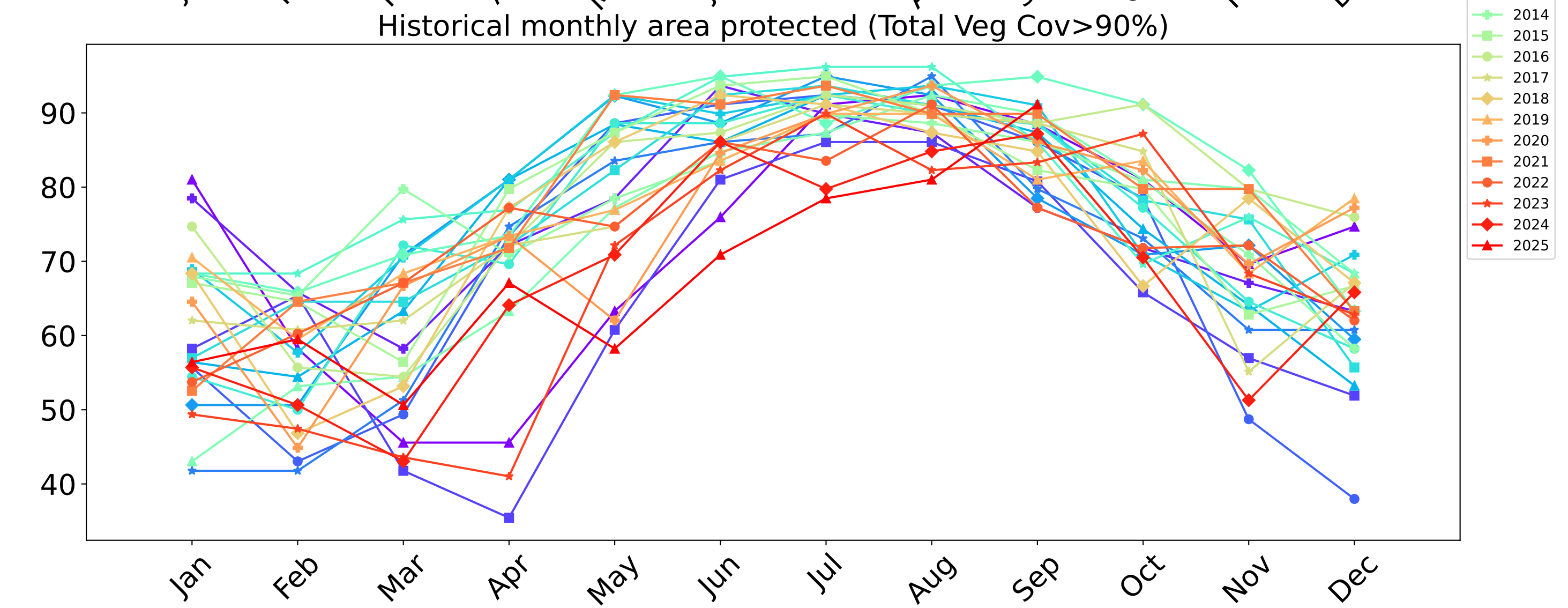
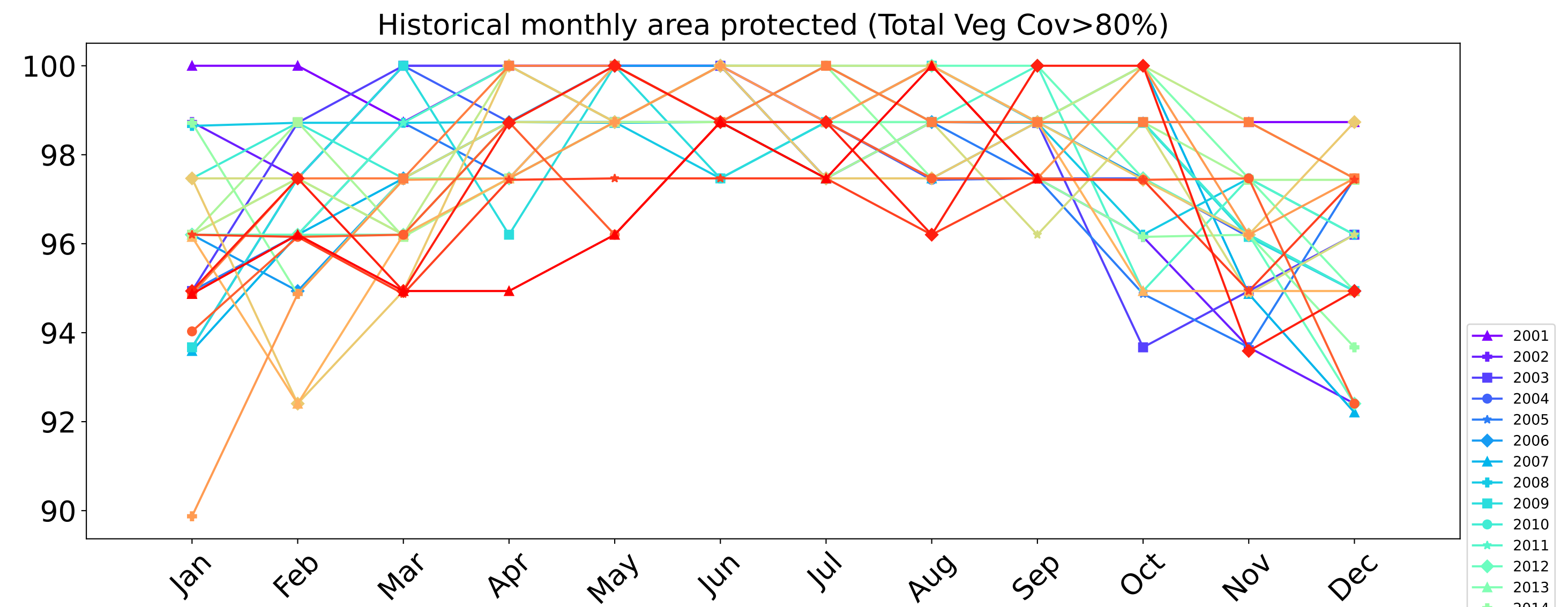
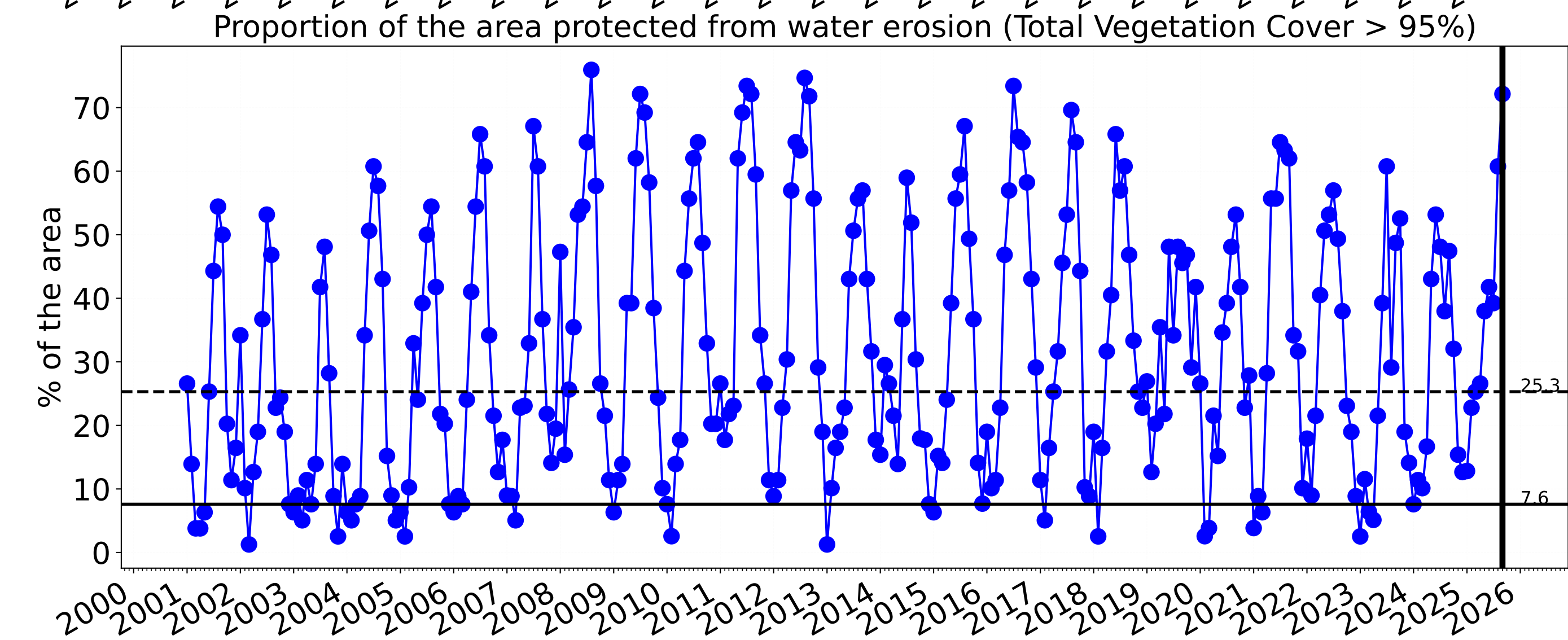
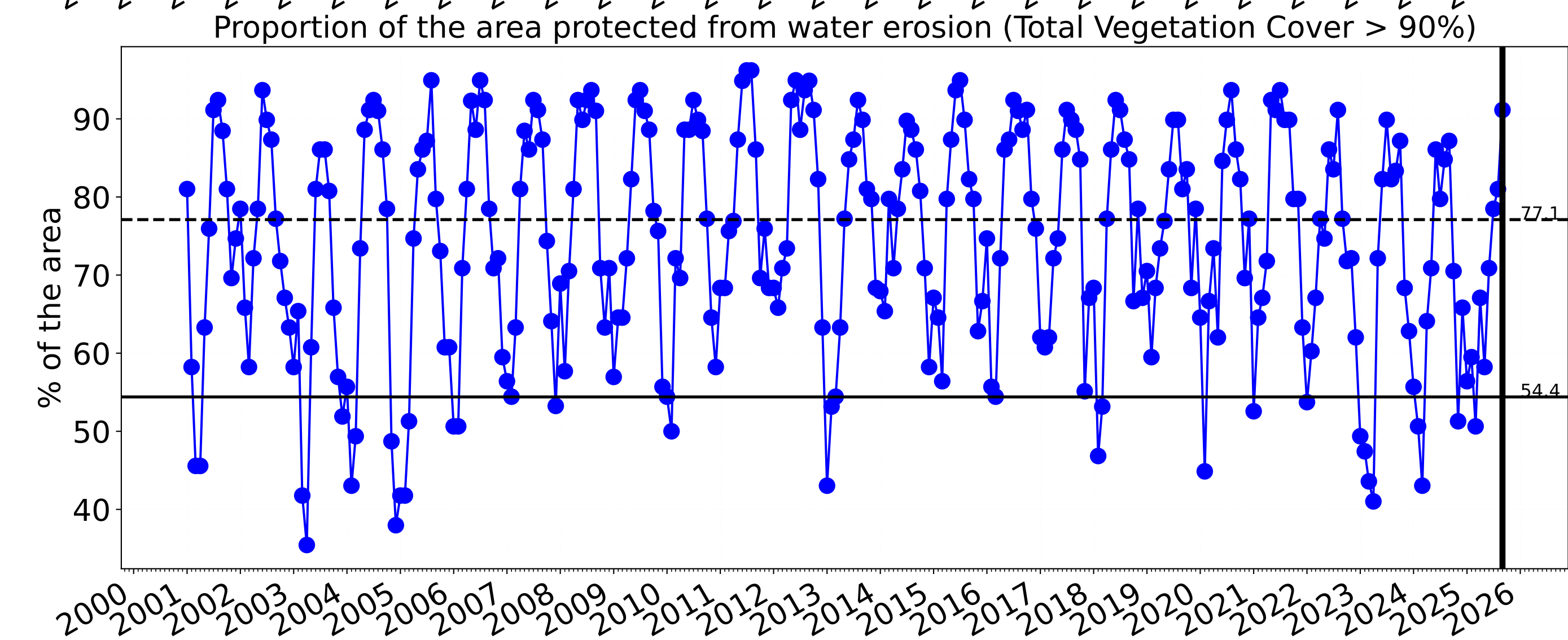
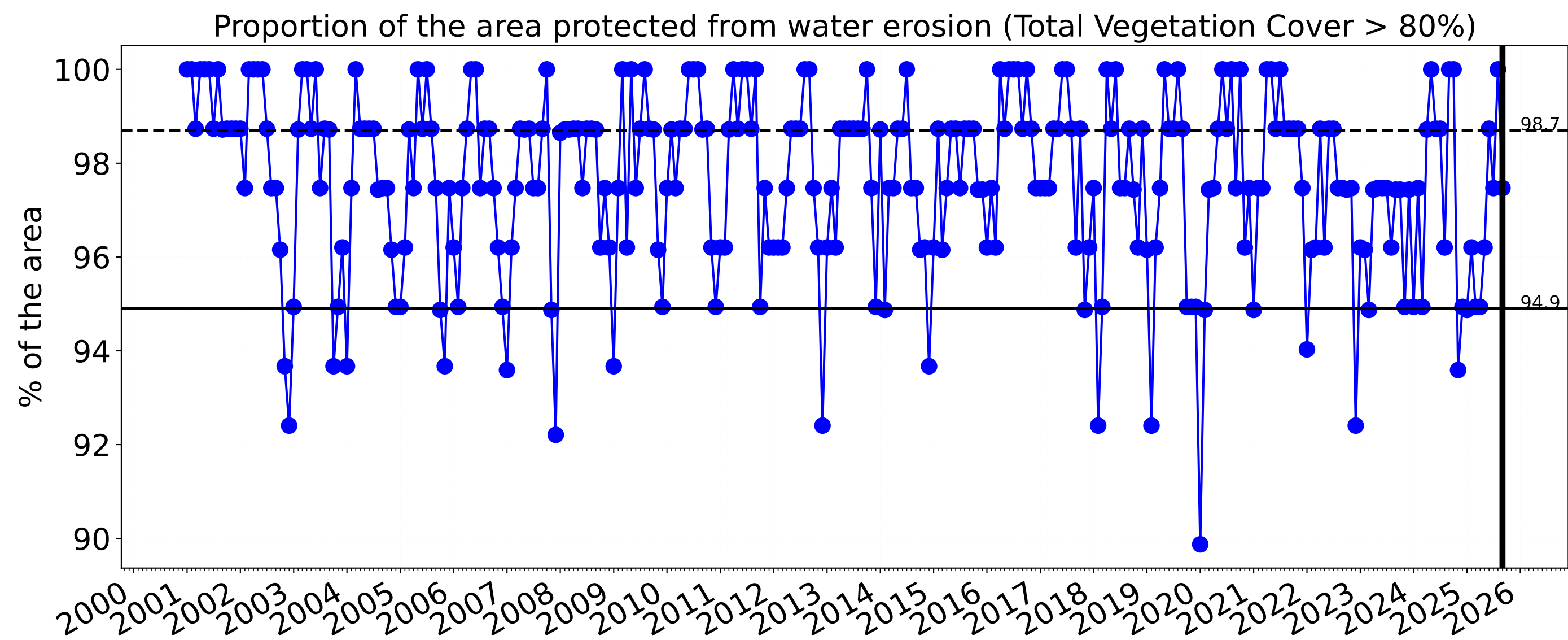
Deciles show where the pixel value lies in the record, from highest to lowest, for that month. That is, red pixels are in the lowest 10% of records for that month of the map using baseline from 2001 to 2019.

Total Vegetation Cover Decile [%]



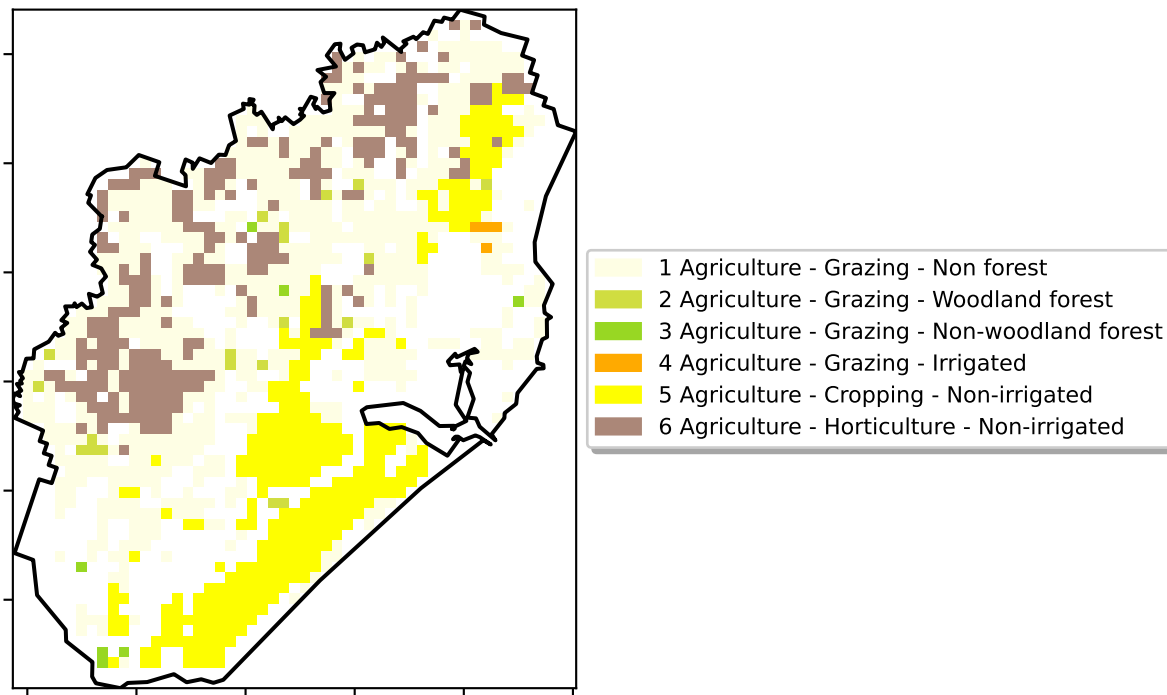
Conservation and natural environments Forest (non woodland) timeseries



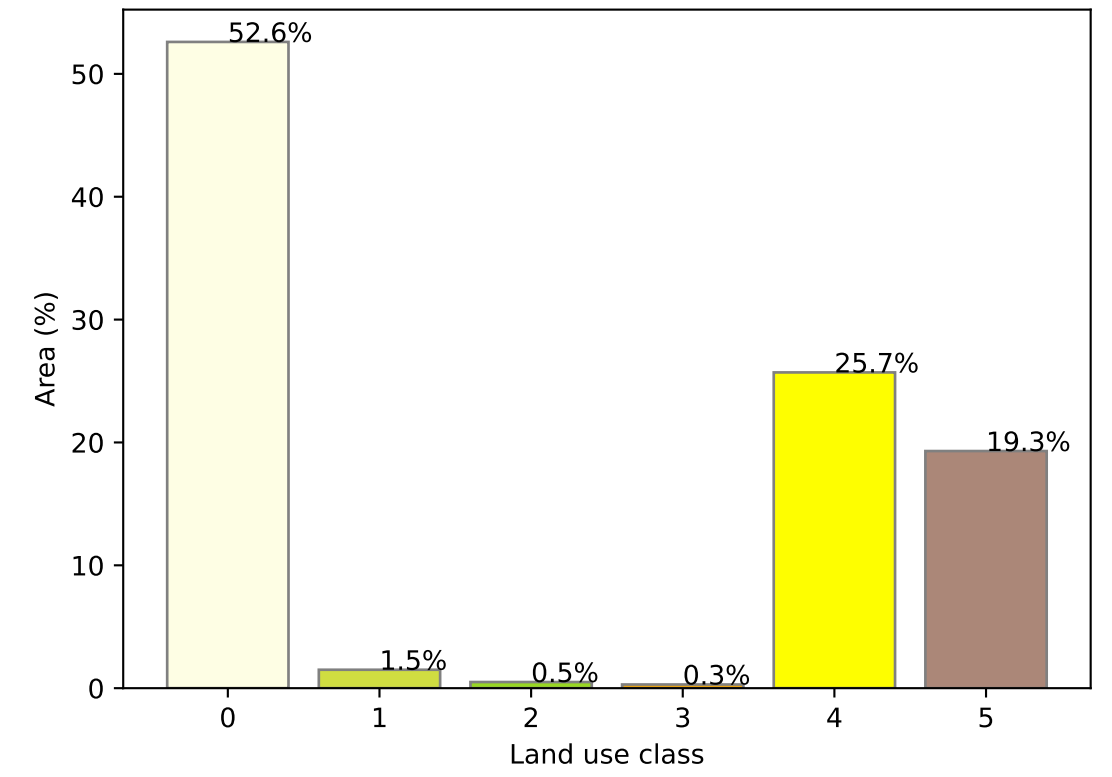


Agriculture

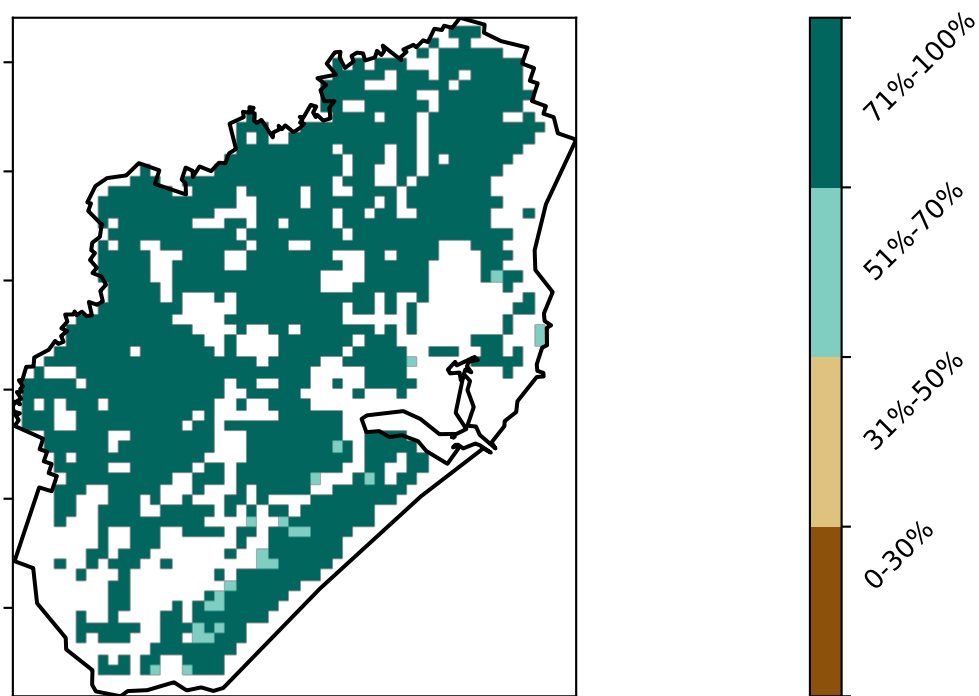
Land use and forest cover



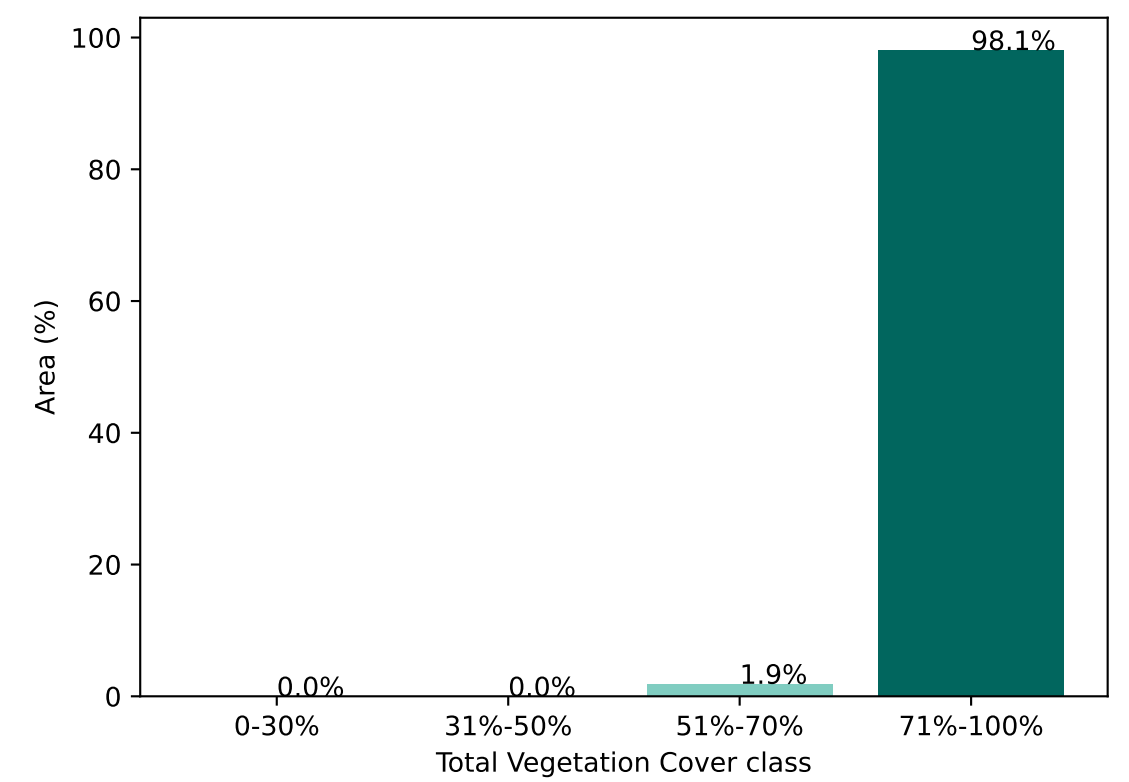
Proportion of each land class in area



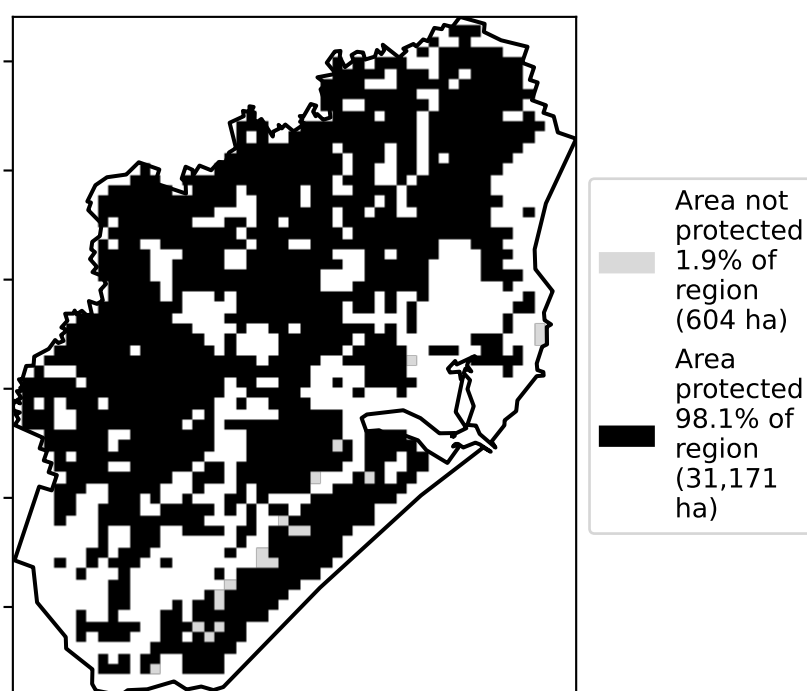
Total Vegetation Cover [%]



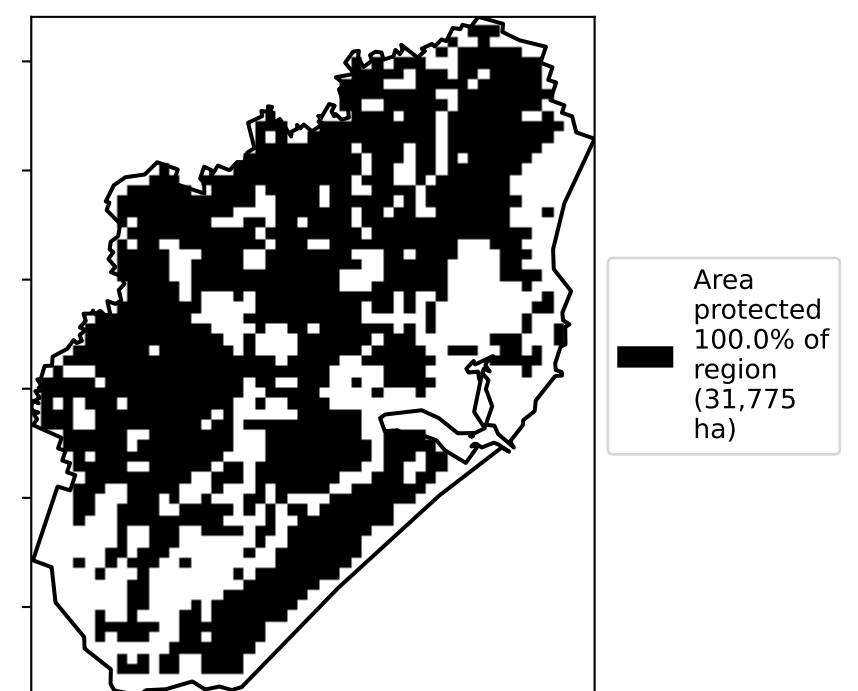
Proportion of vegetation cover class in area



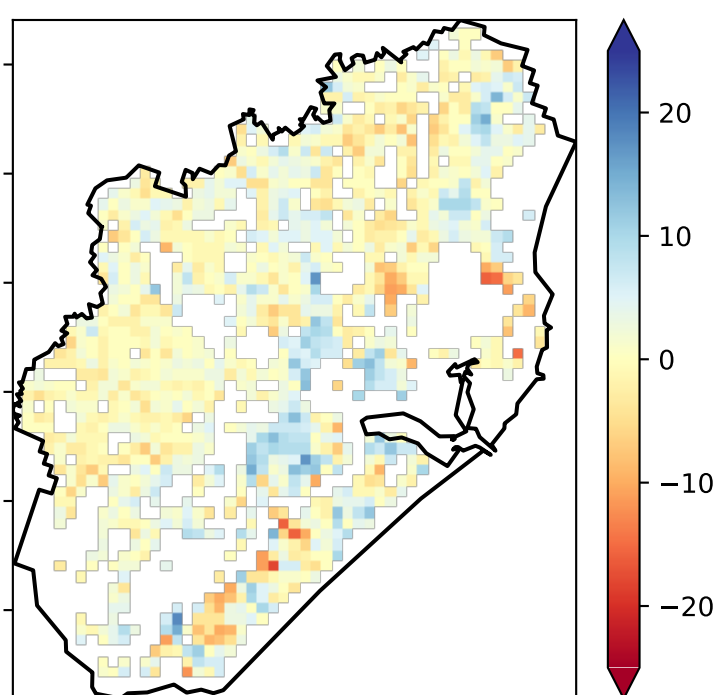
% Area protected from water erosion (>70%)



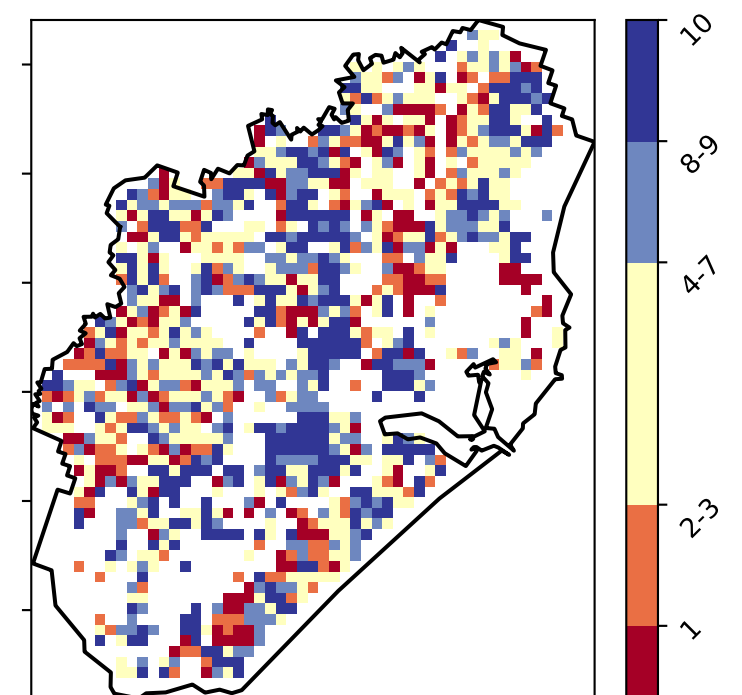
% Area protected from wind erosion (>50%)



Total Vegetation Cover Anomaly [%]



Total Vegetation Cover Decile [%]



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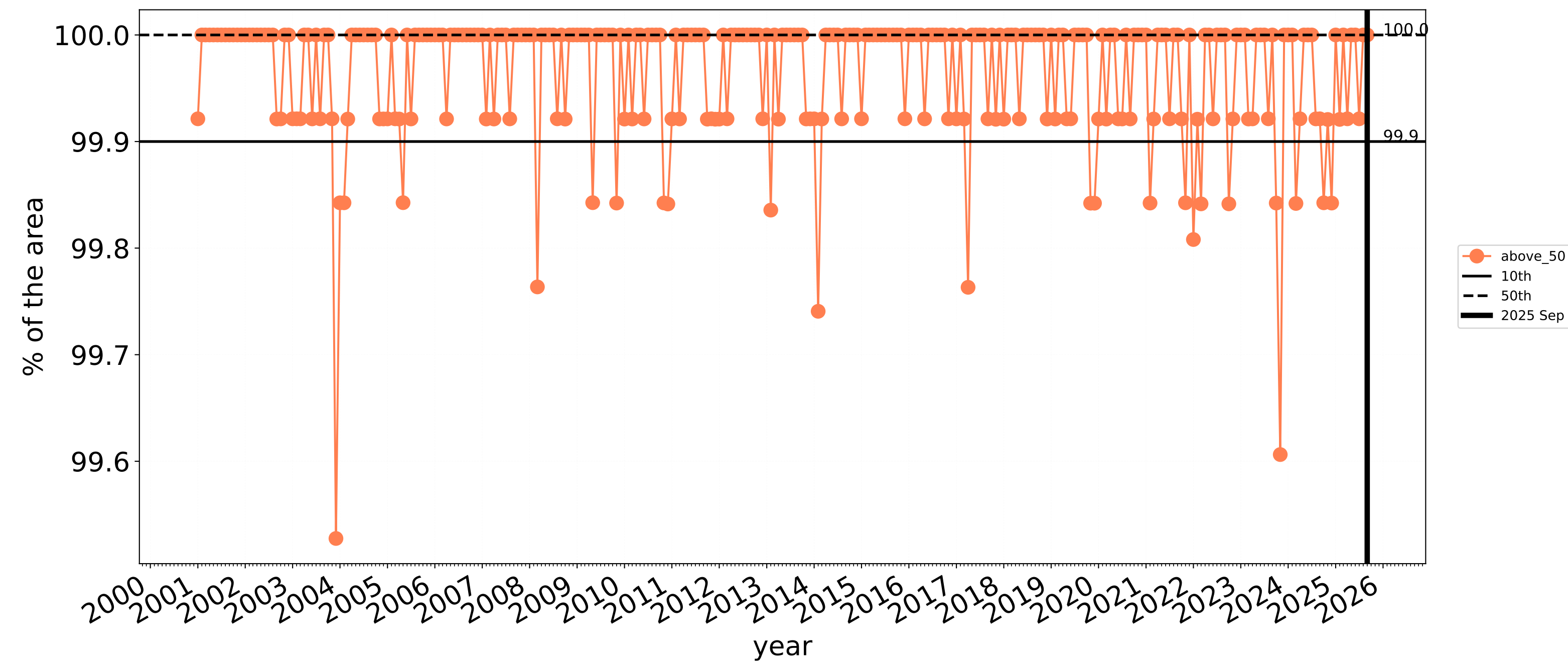
Australian Government

National
Landcare
Programme

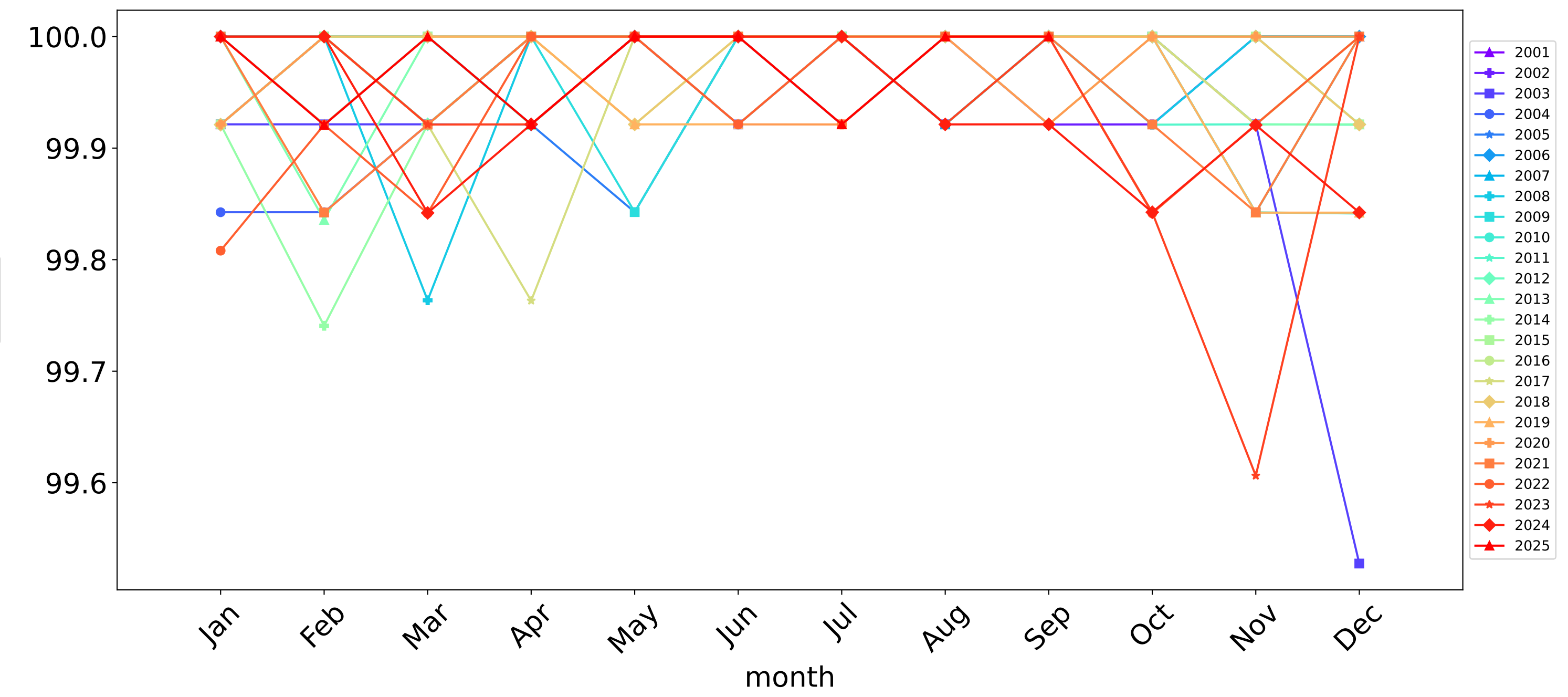


Agriculture timeseries

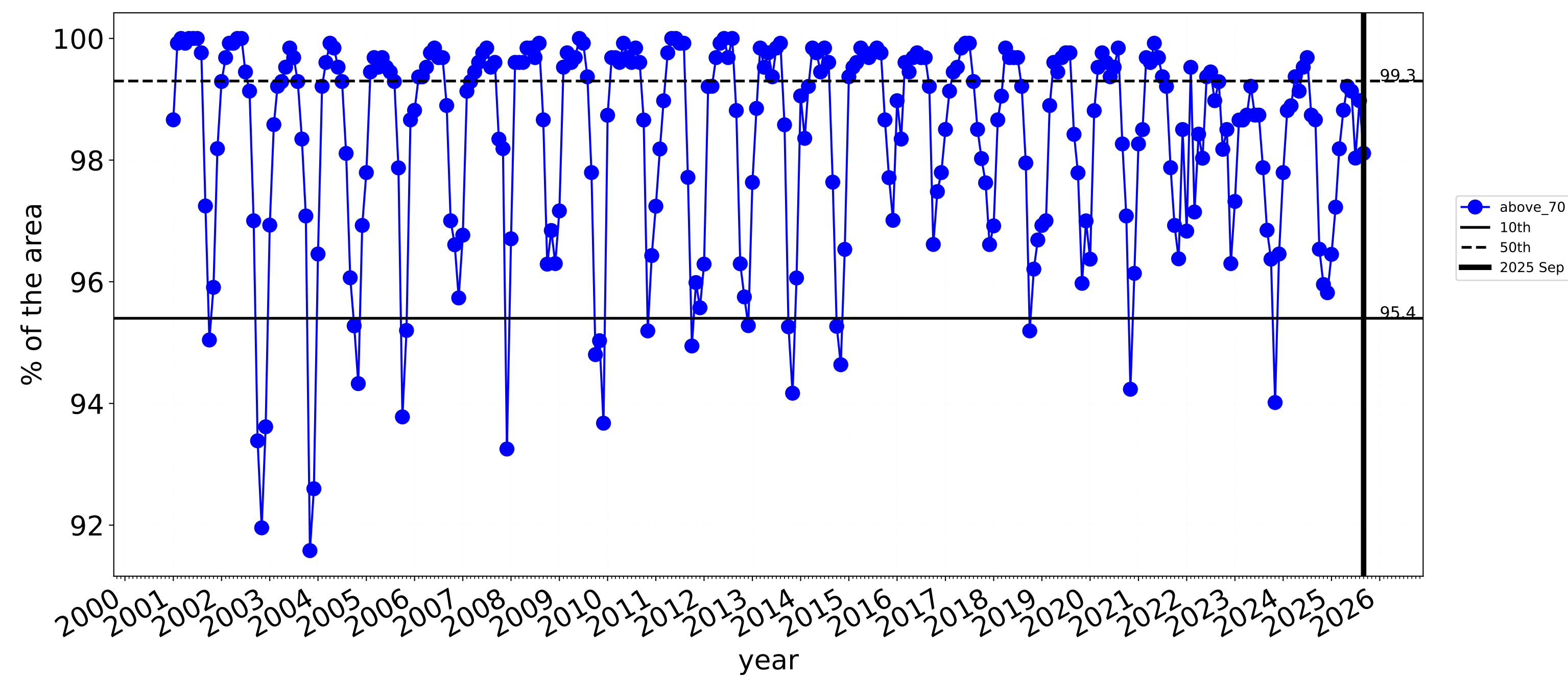
Proportion of the area protected from wind erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 50%)



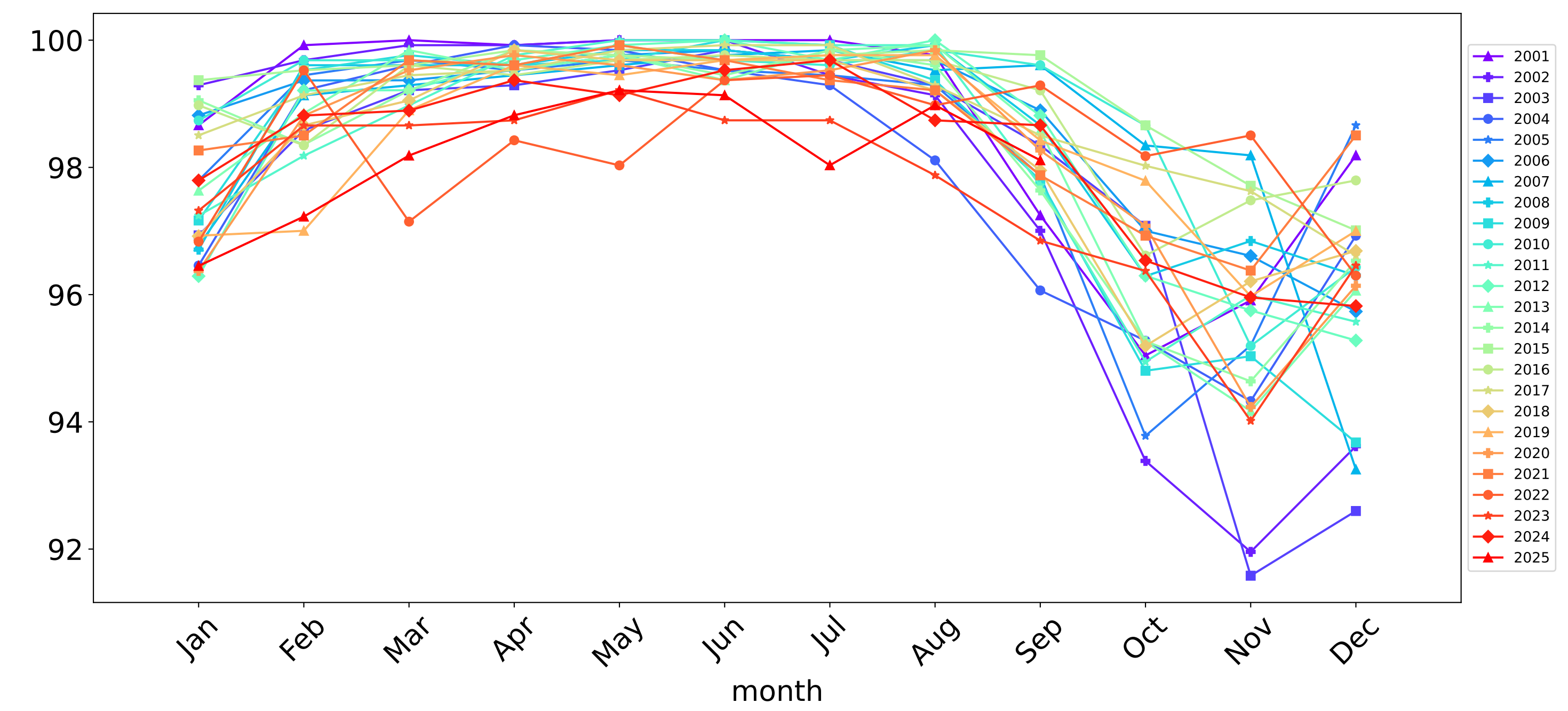
Wind erosion historical monthly area protected (Total Veg Cov >50%)



Proportion of the area protected from water erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 70%)



Water erosion historical monthly area protected (Total Veg Cov>70%)

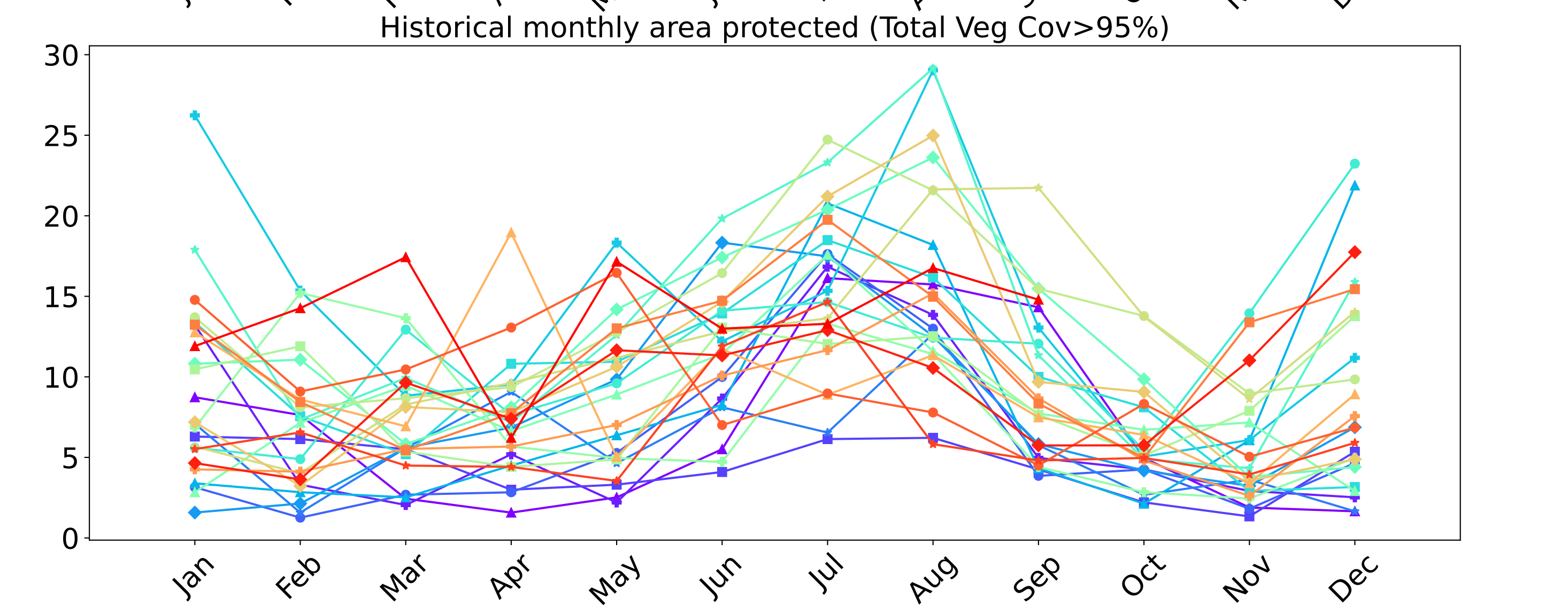
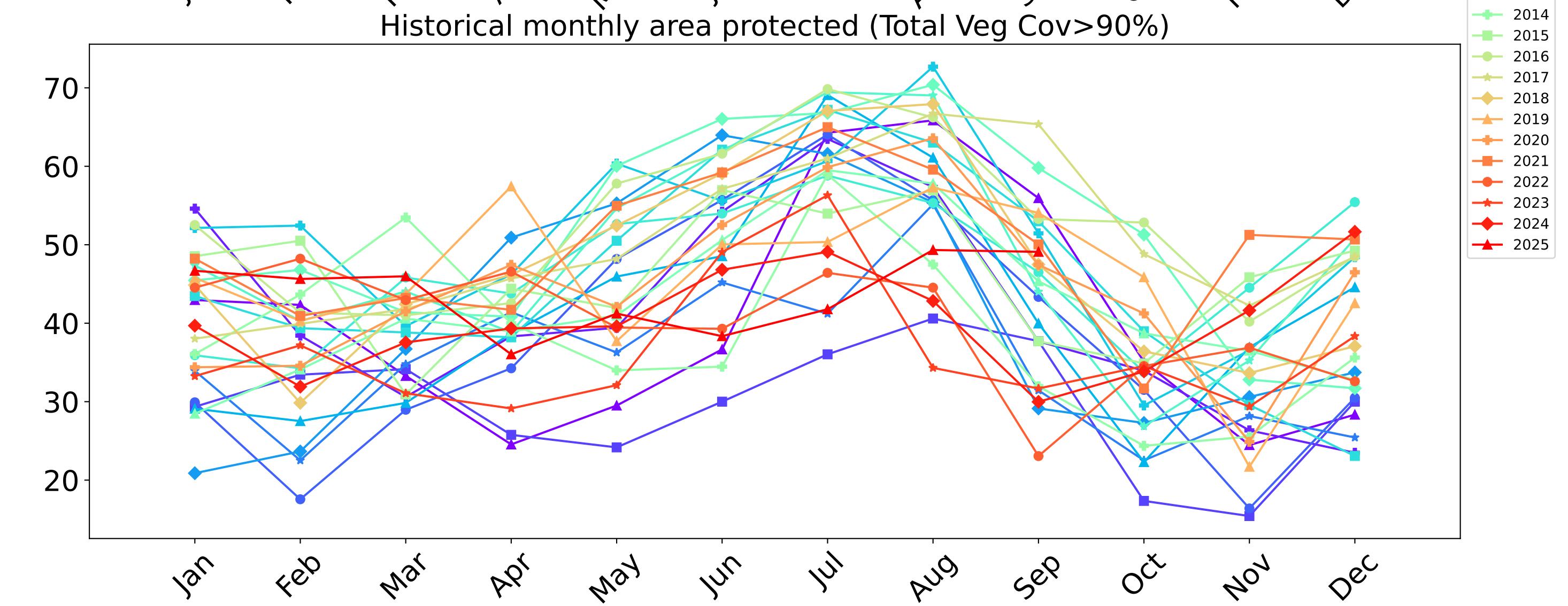
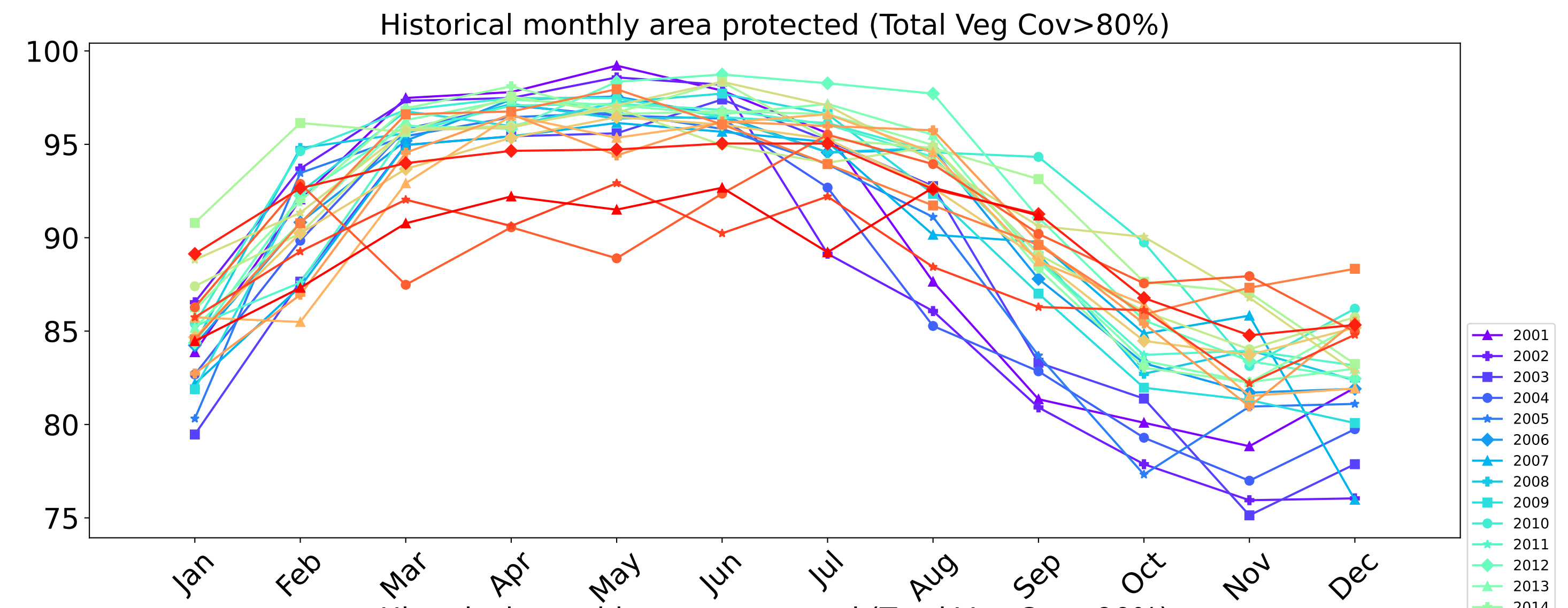
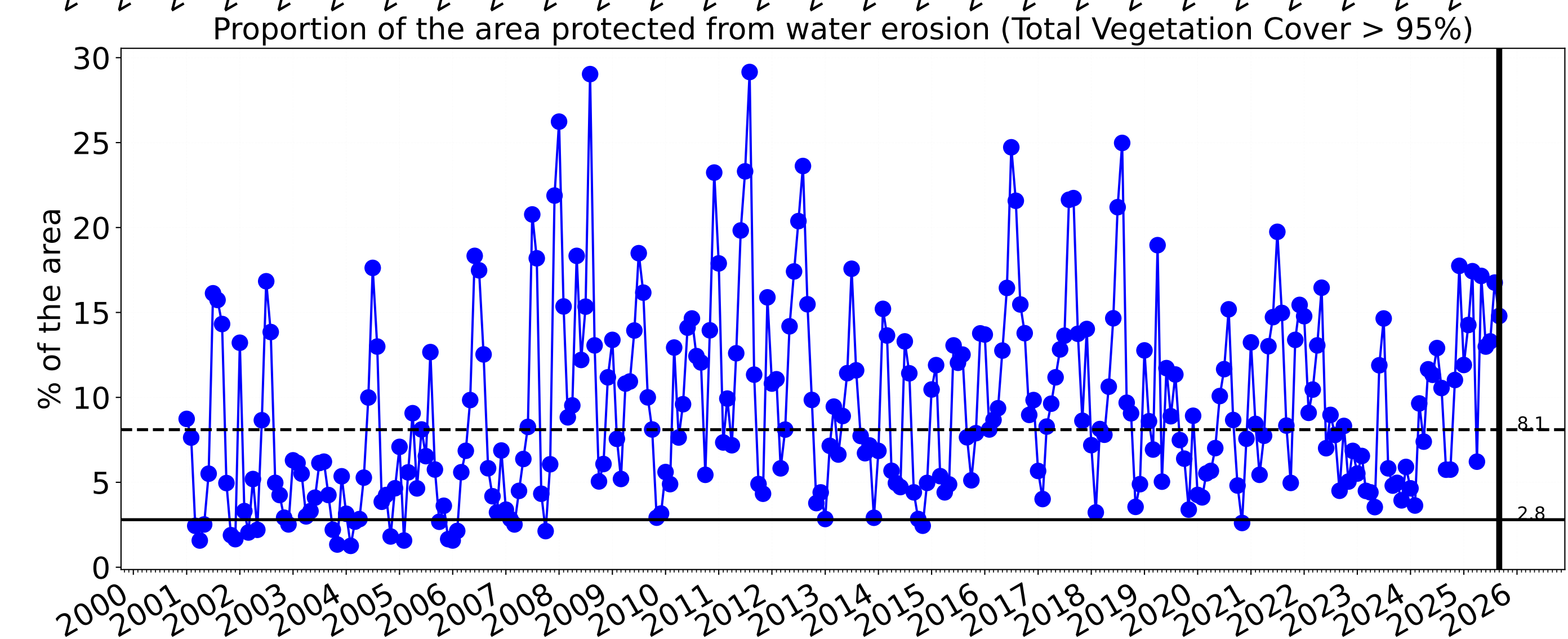
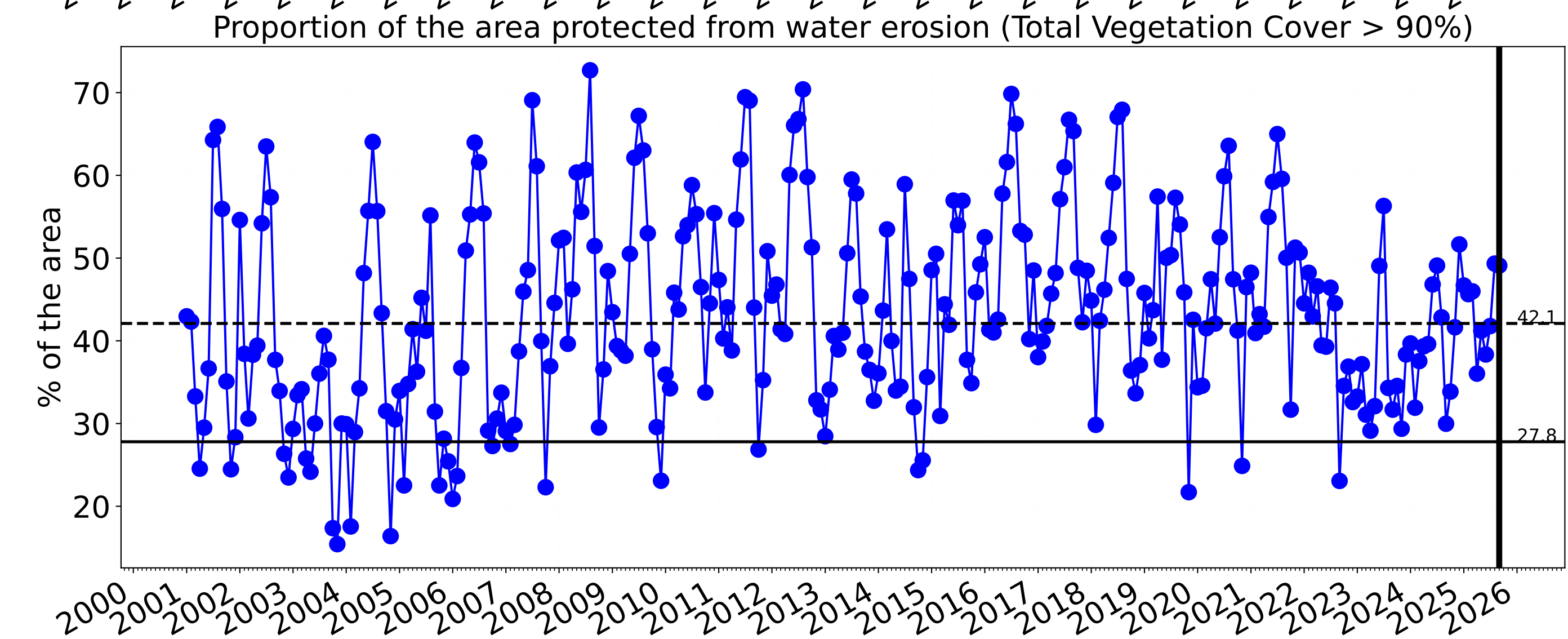
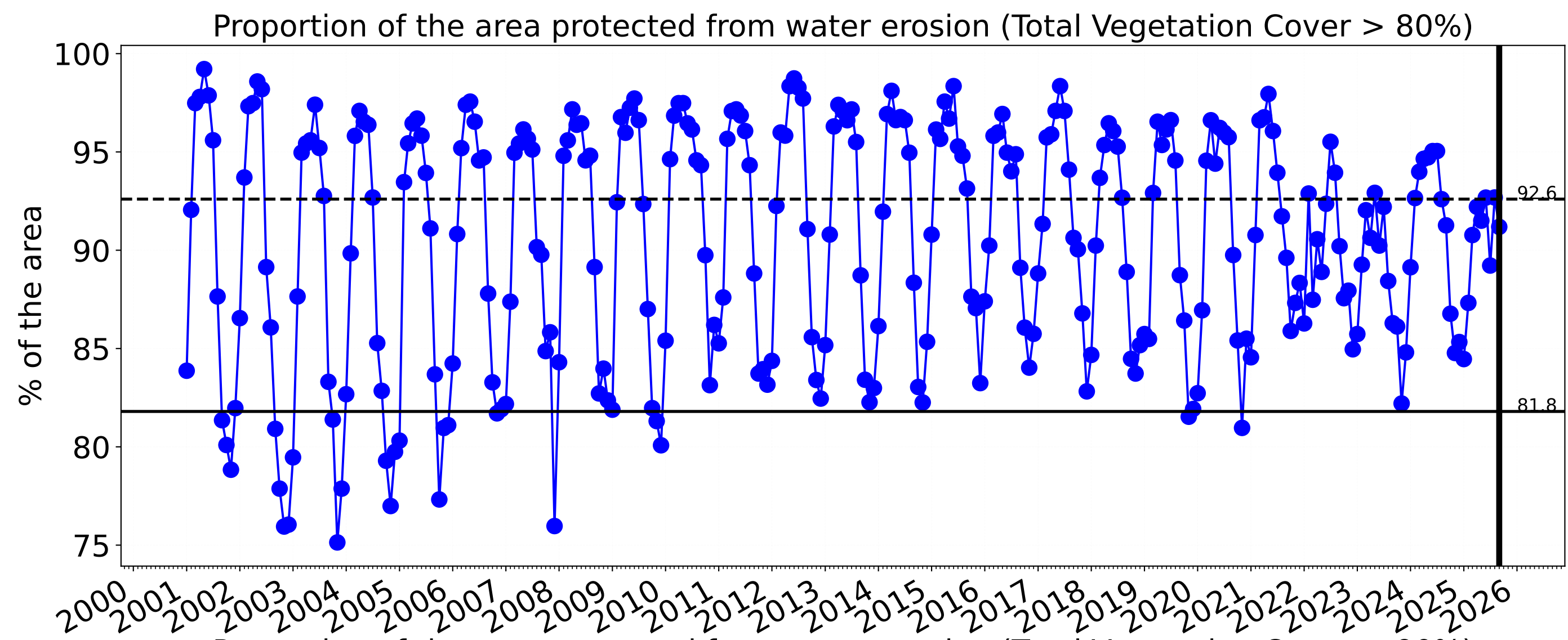


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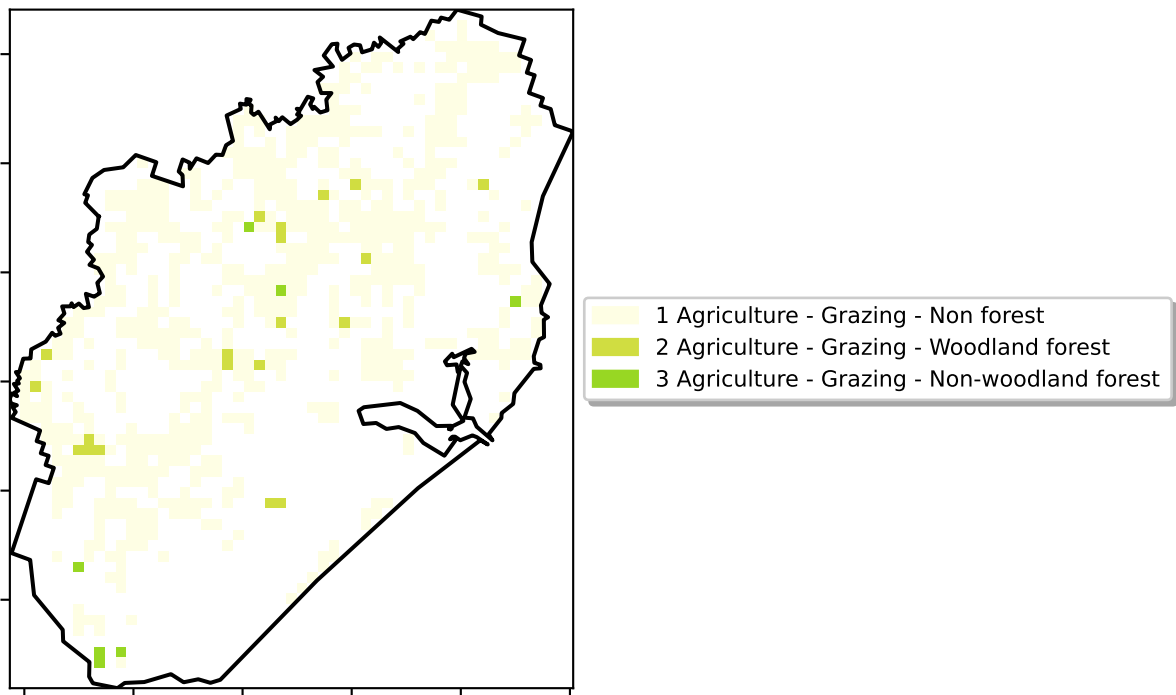
National
Landcare
Programme



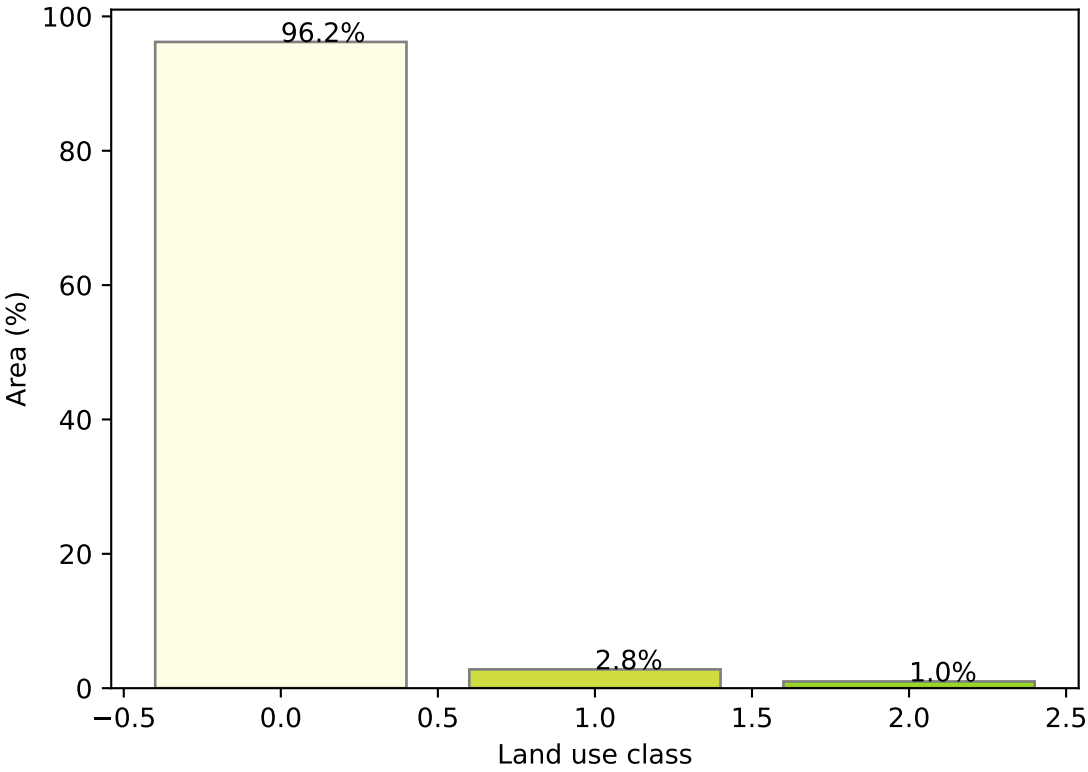


Grazing

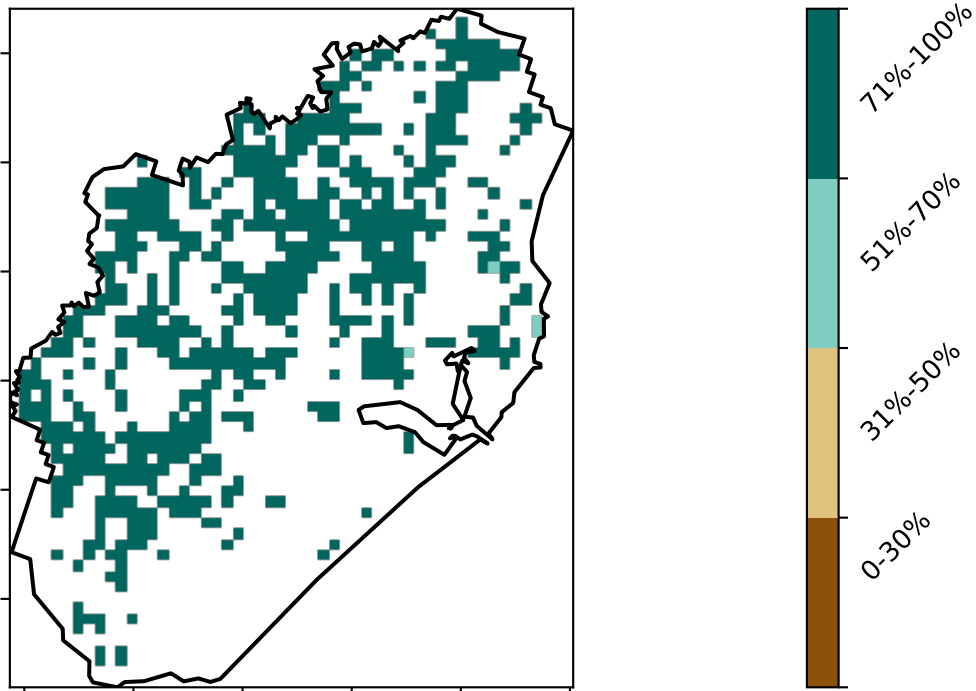
Land use and forest cover



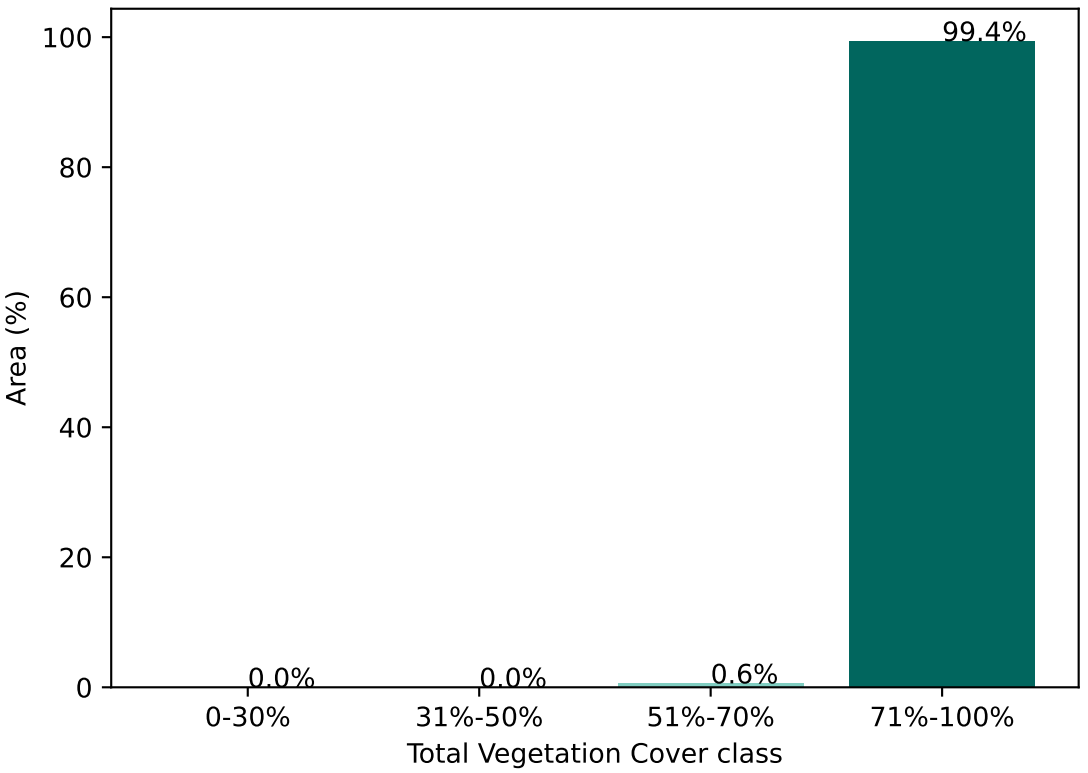
Proportion of each land class in area



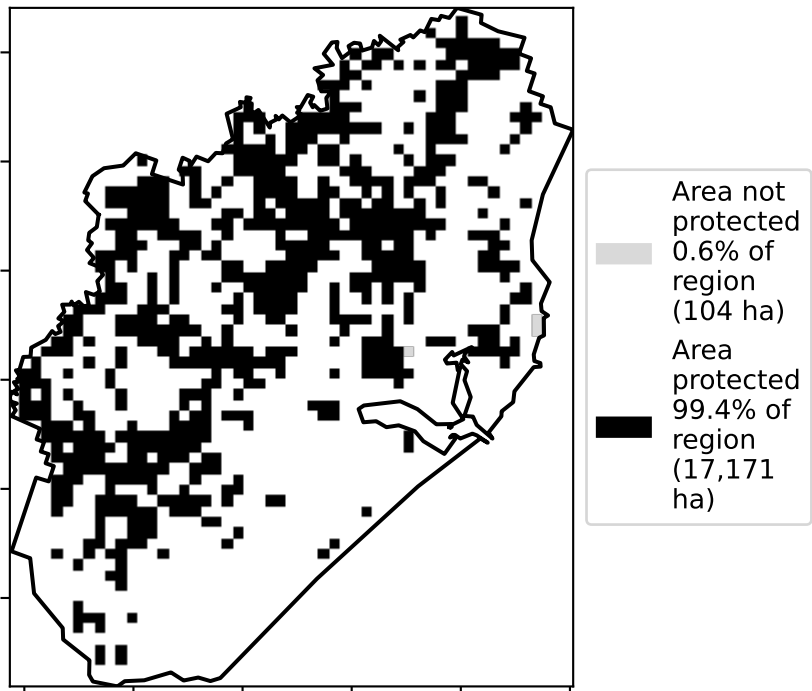
Total Vegetation Cover [%]



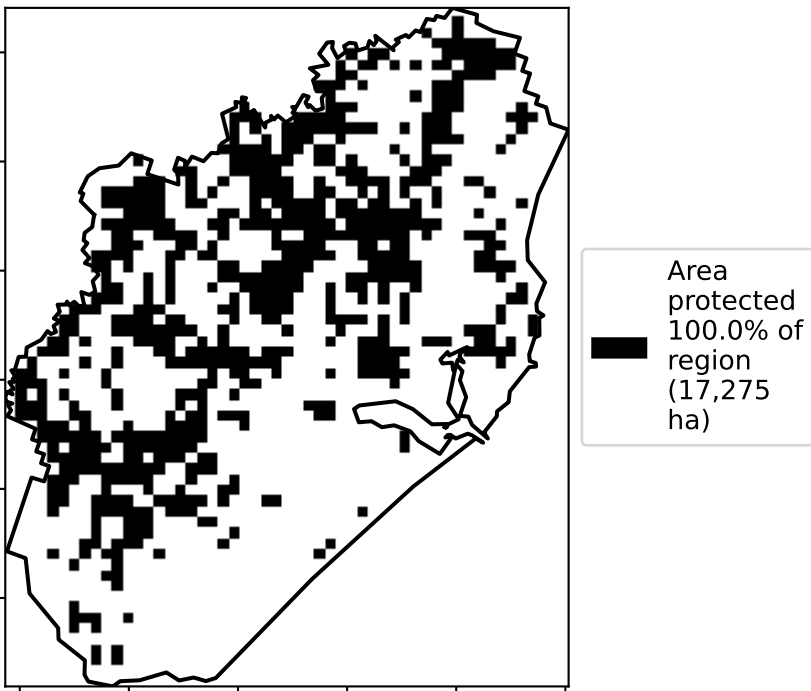
Proportion of vegetation cover class in area



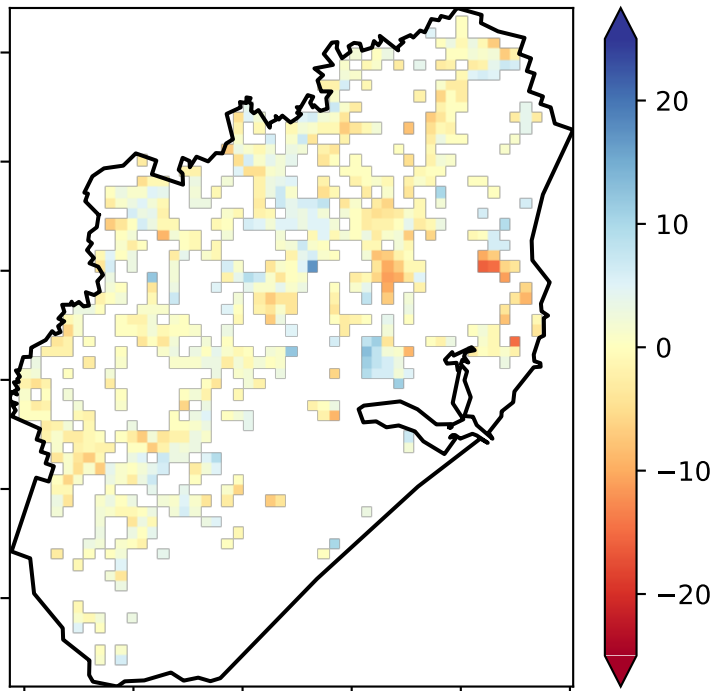
% Area protected from water erosion (>70%)



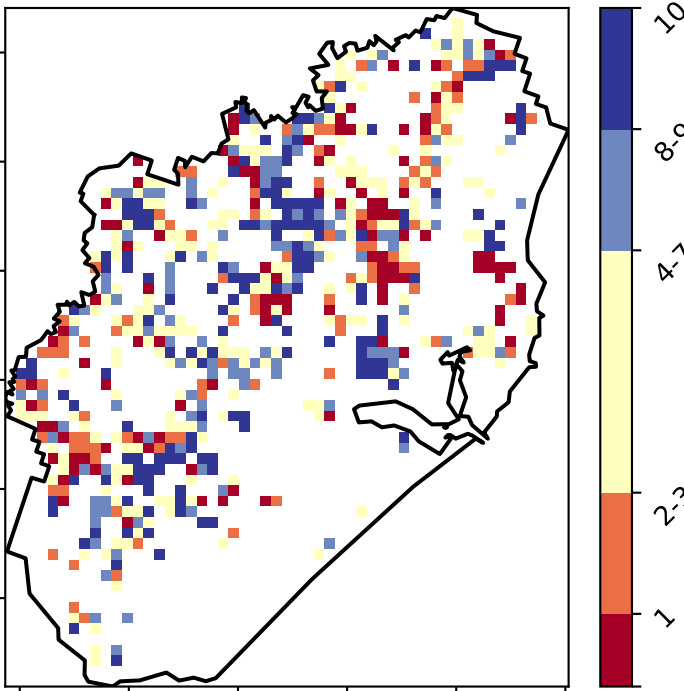
% Area protected from wind erosion (>50%)



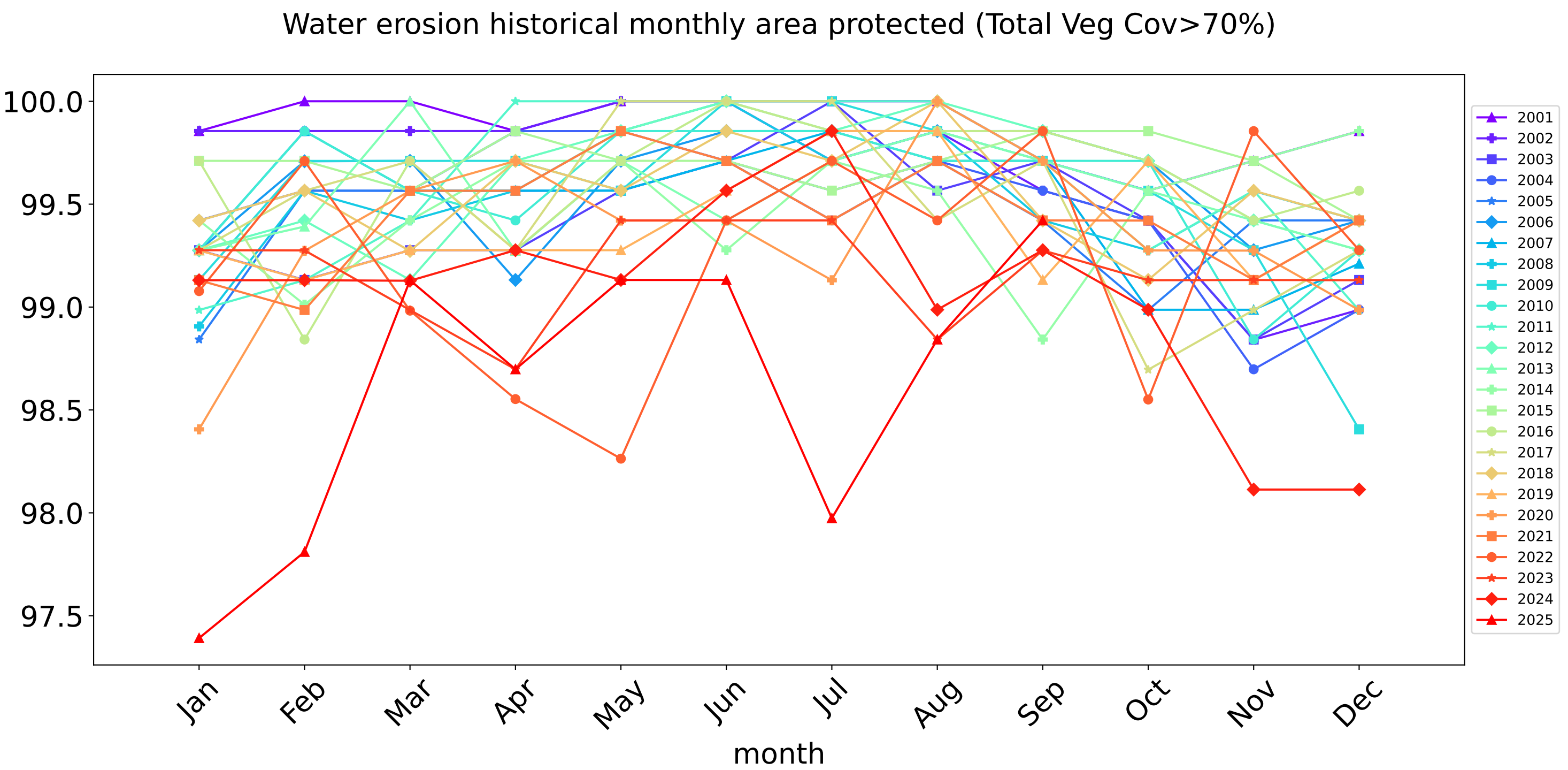
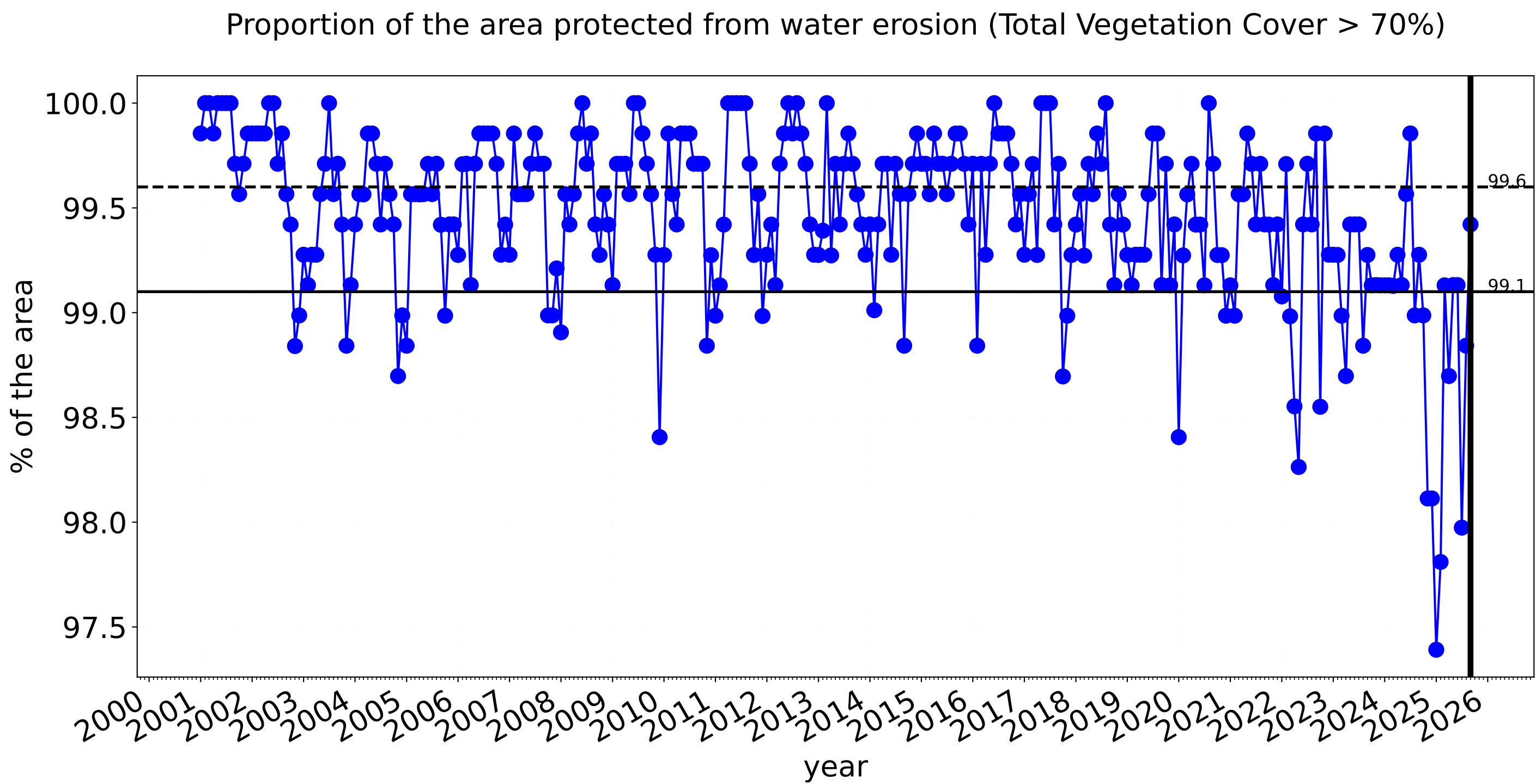
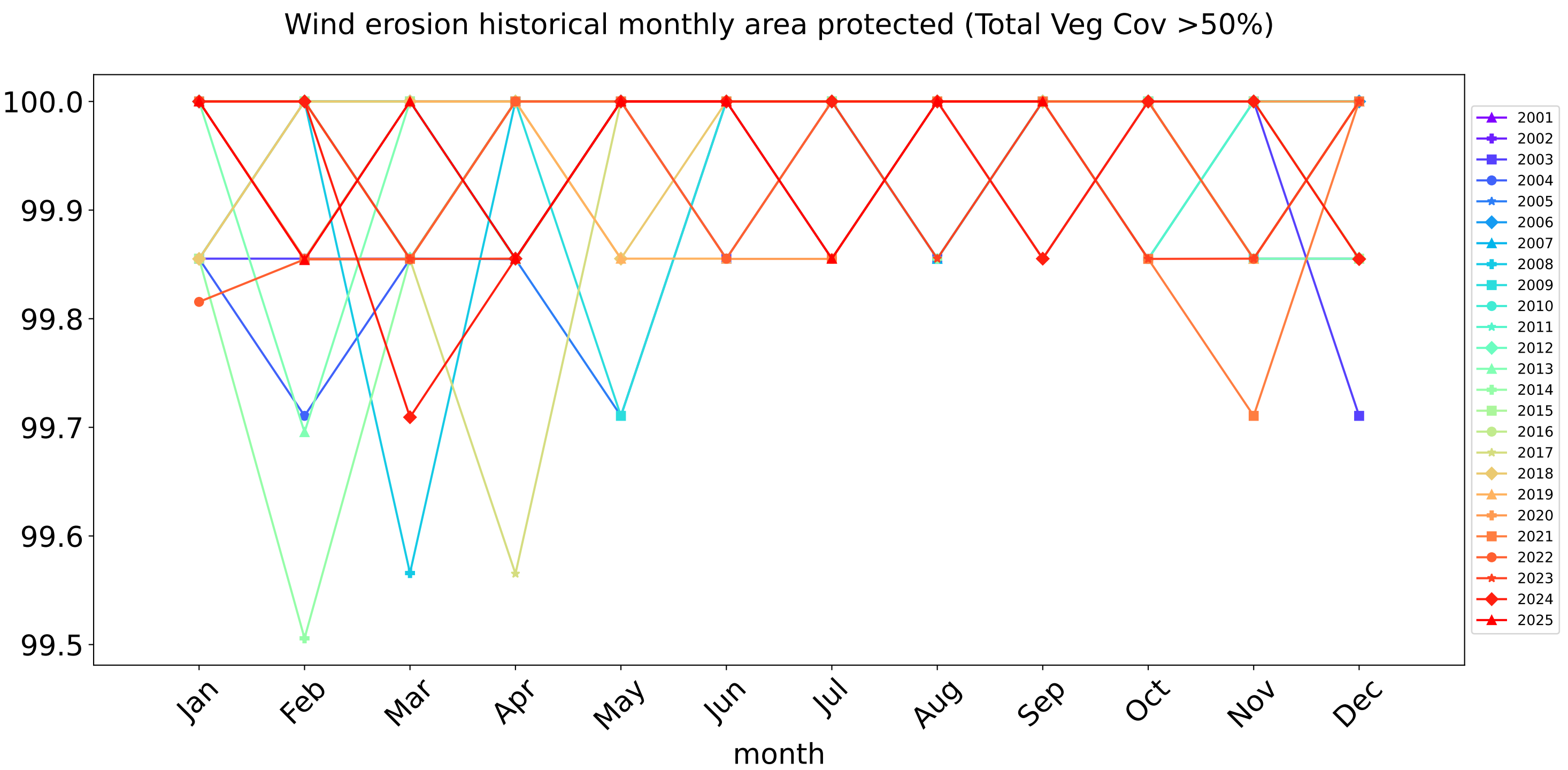
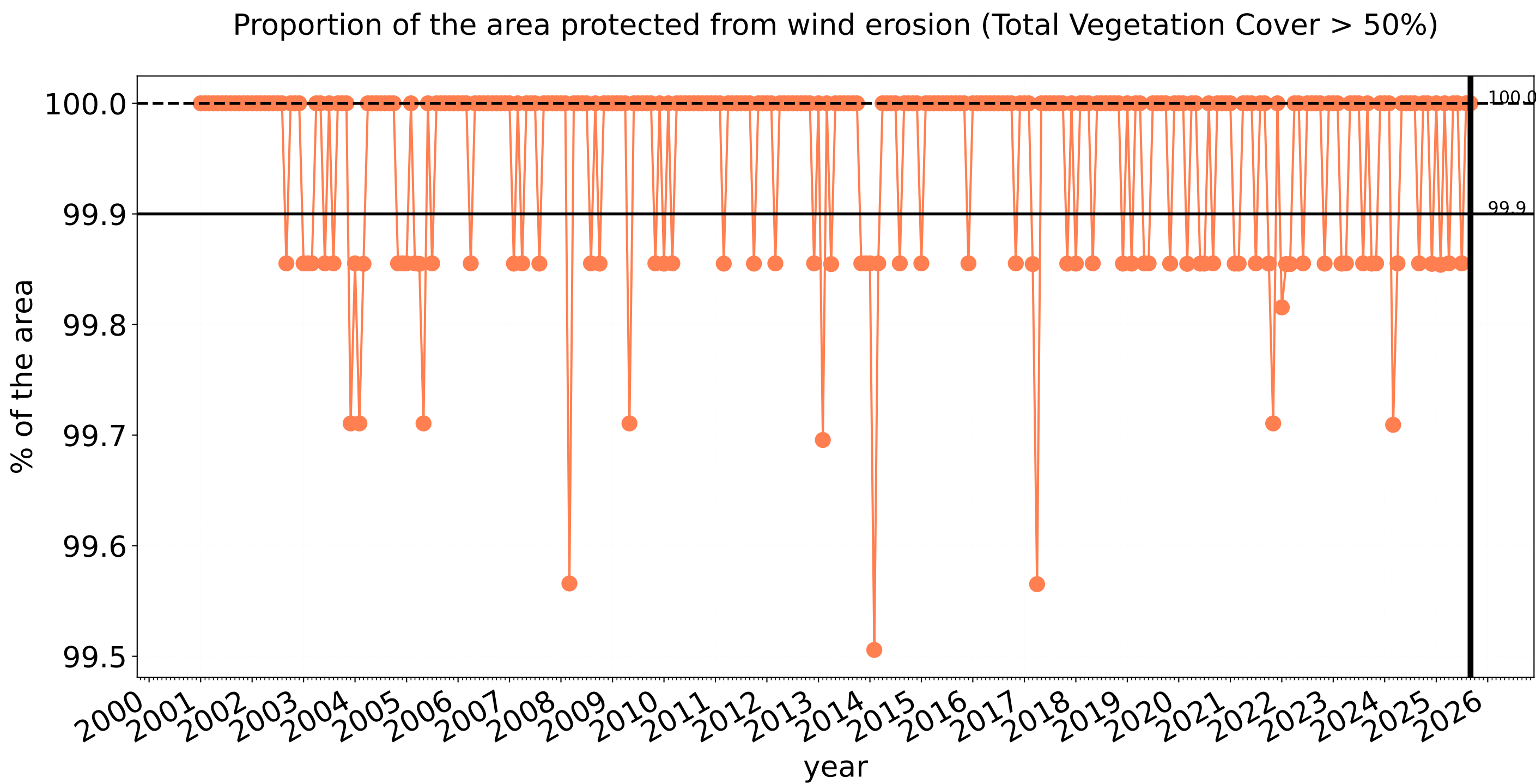
Total Vegetation Cover Anomaly [%]



Total Vegetation Cover Decile [%]



Grazing timeseries

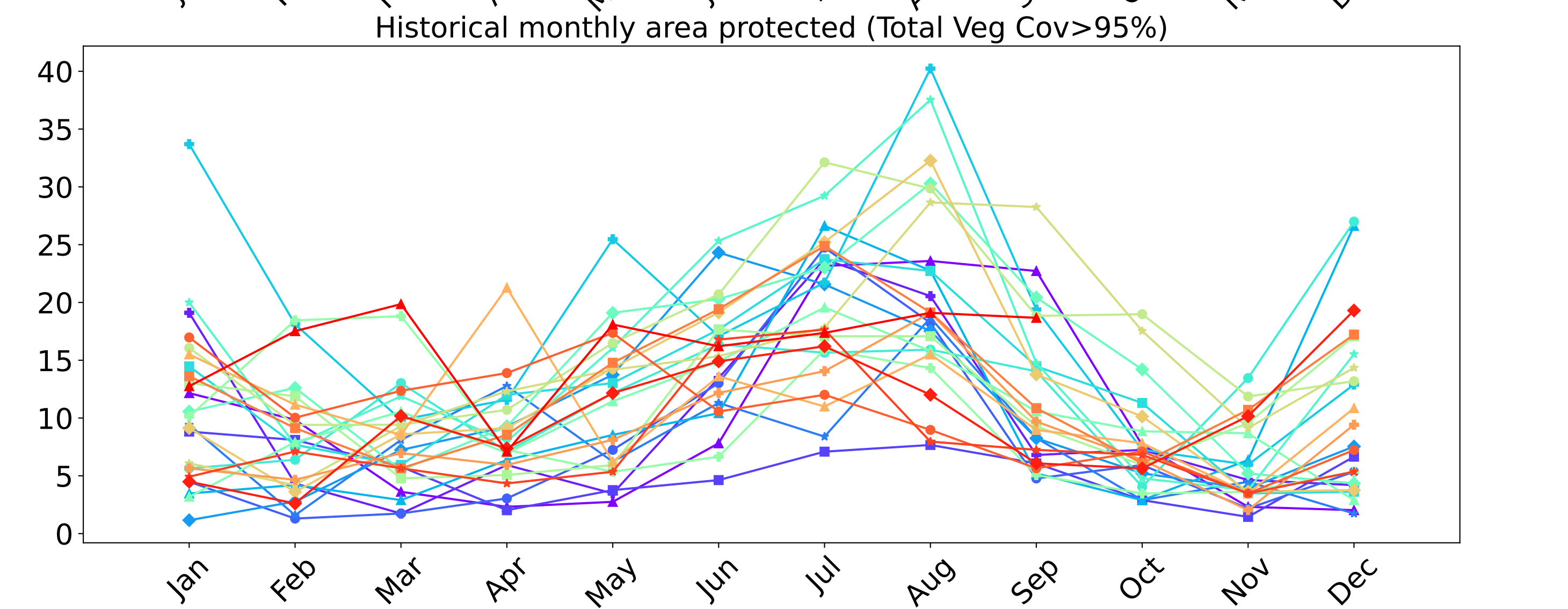
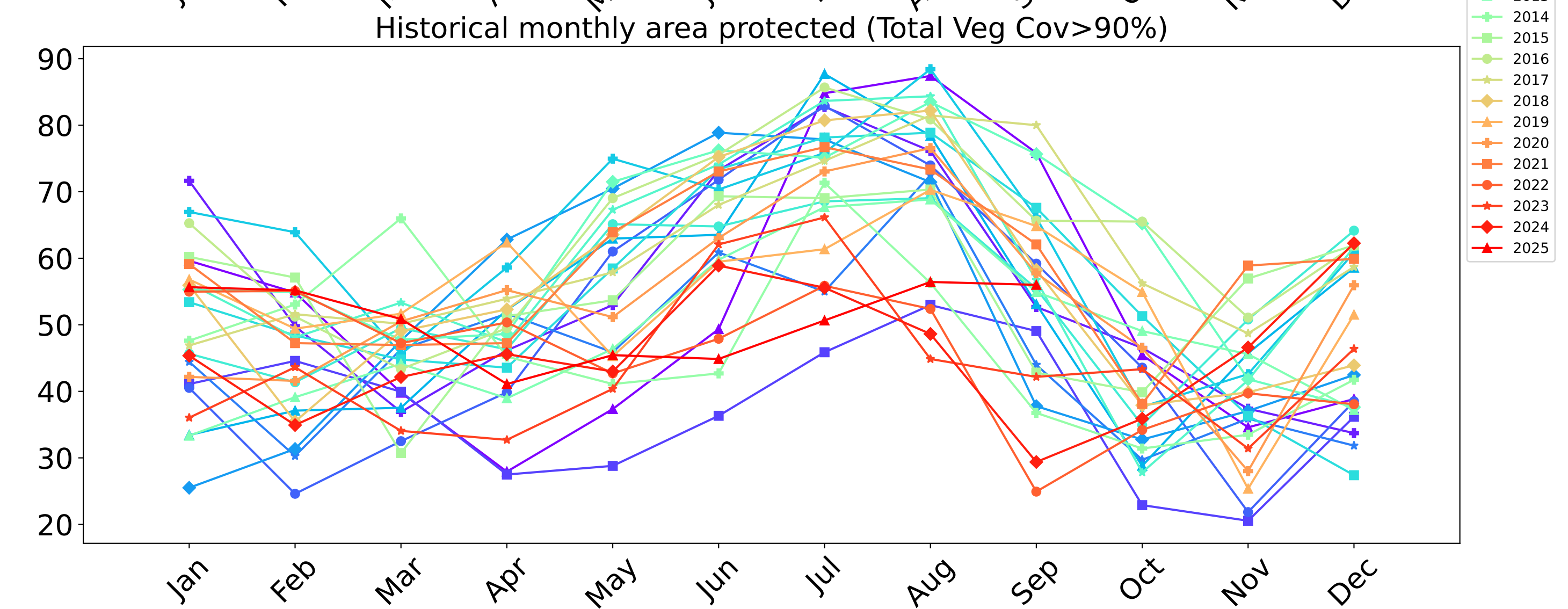
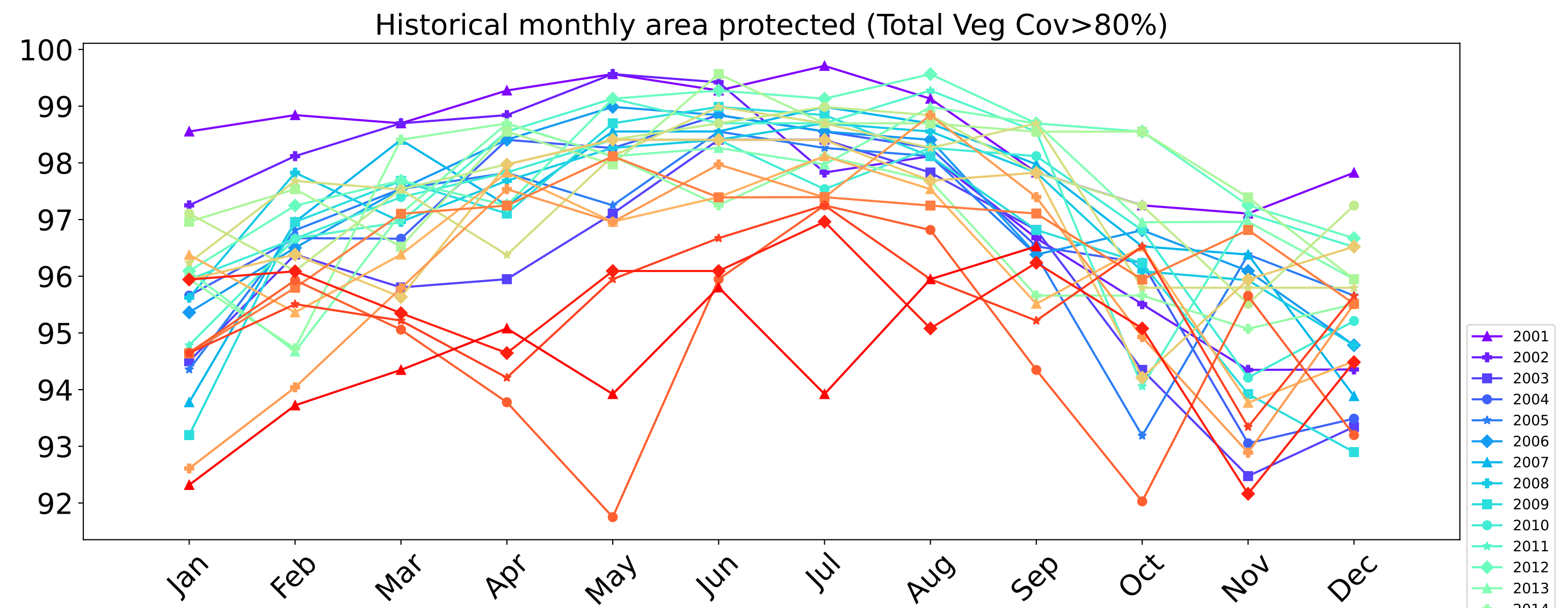
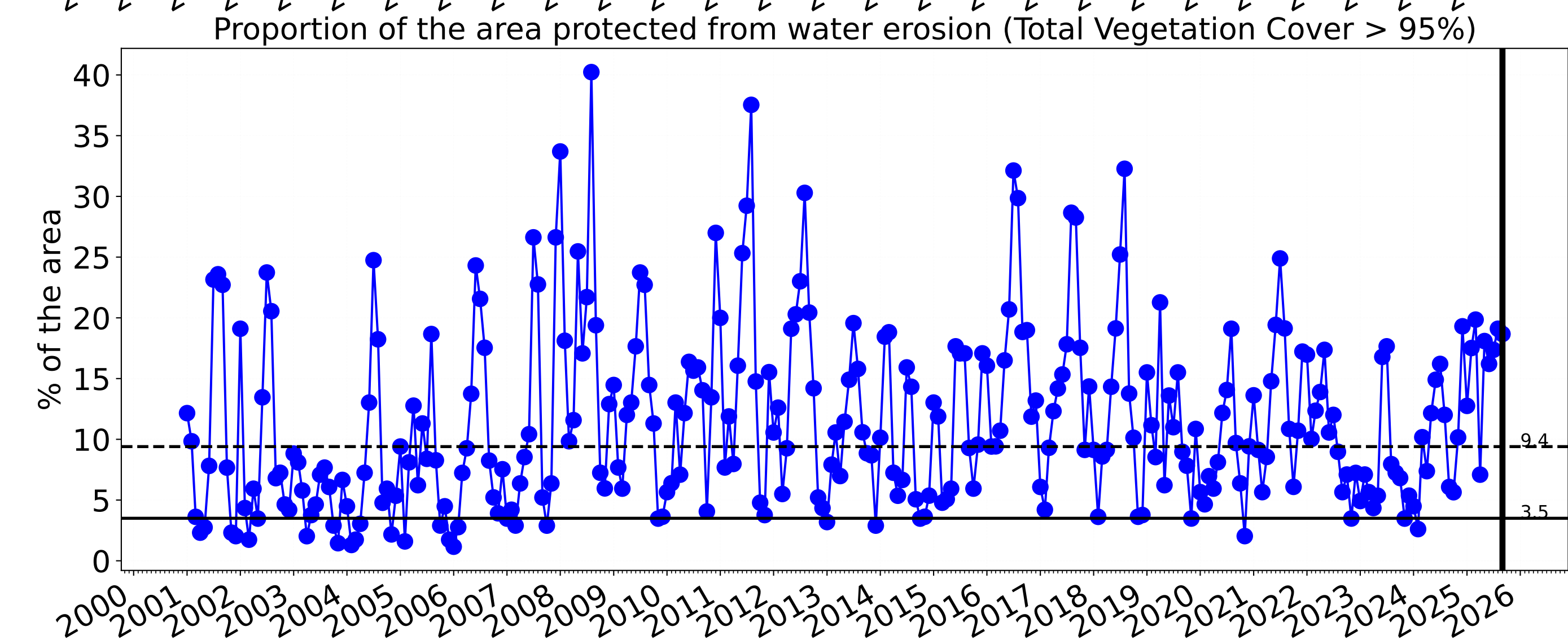
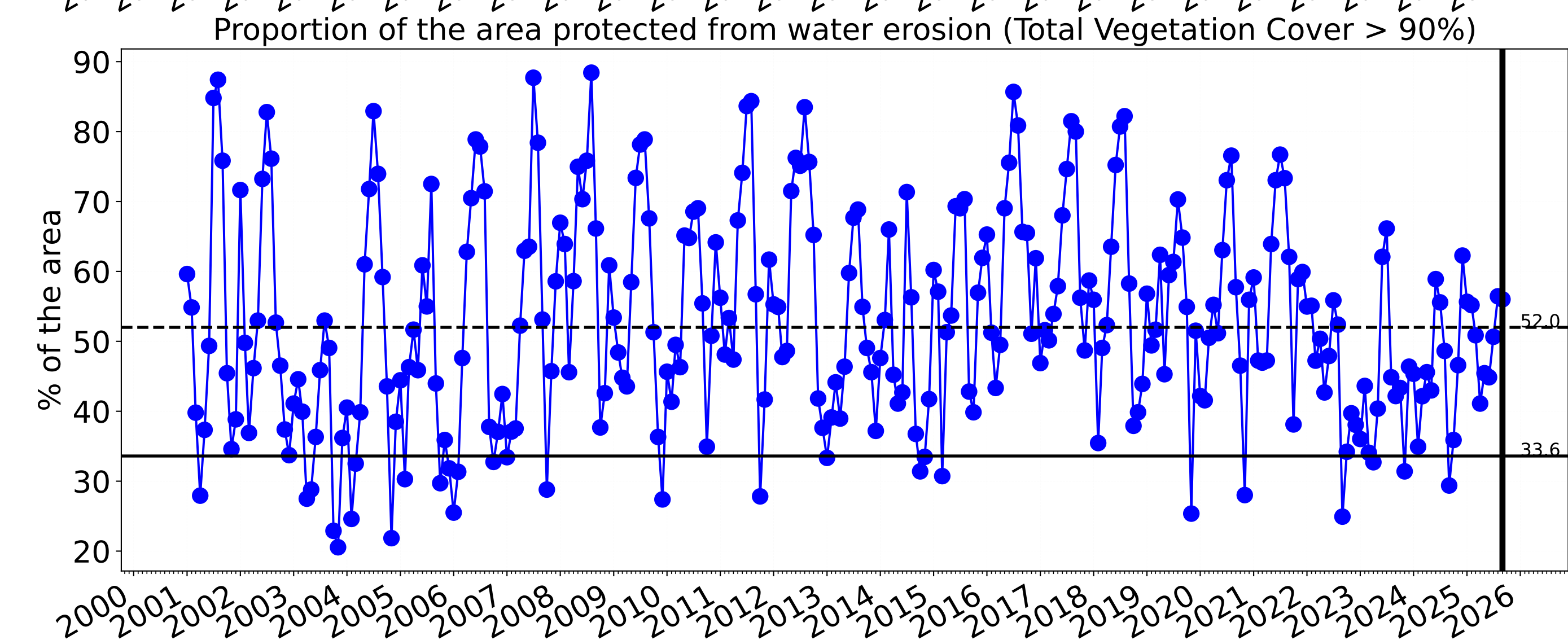
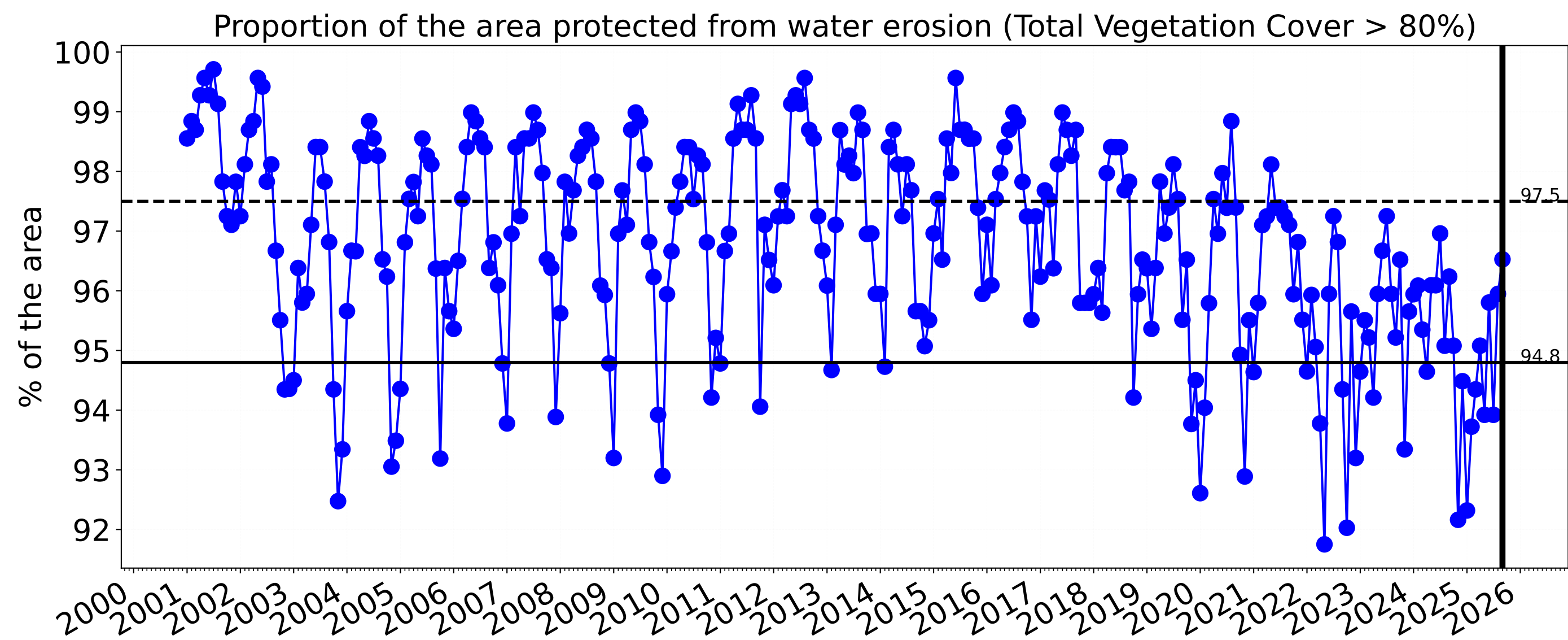


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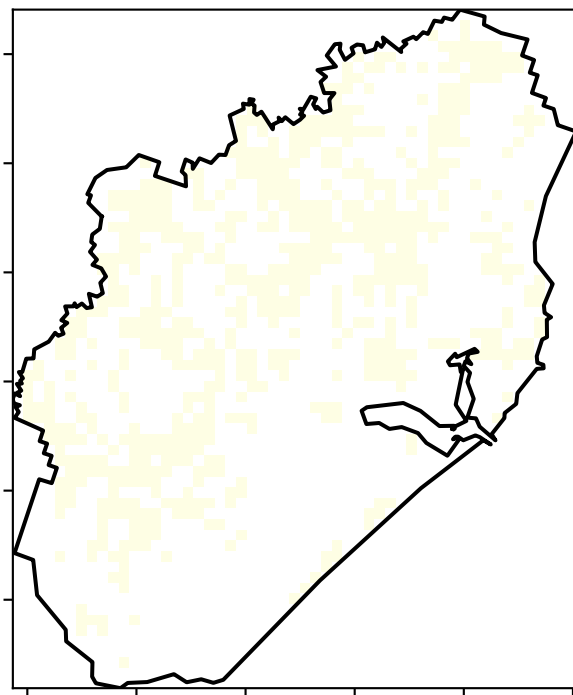
National
Landcare
Programme





Grazing non forest

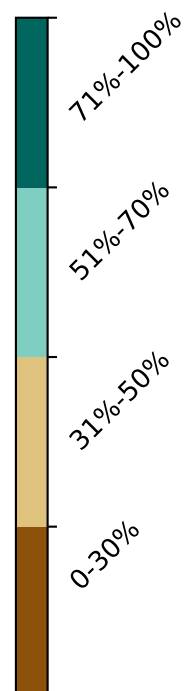
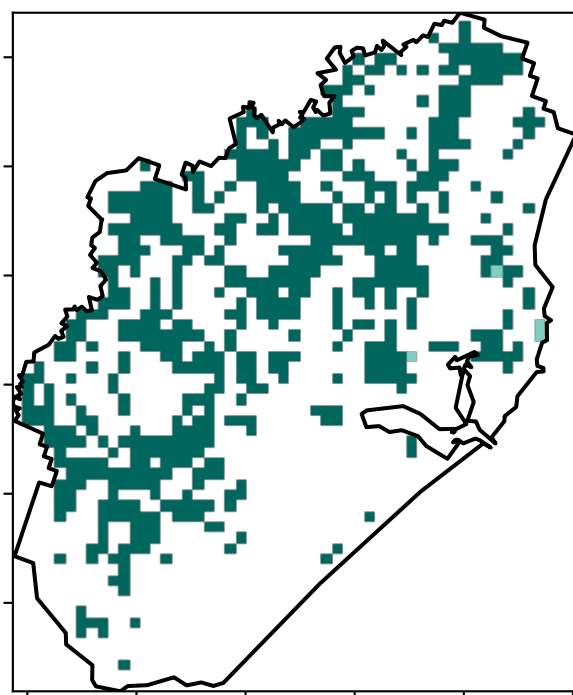
Land use and forest cover



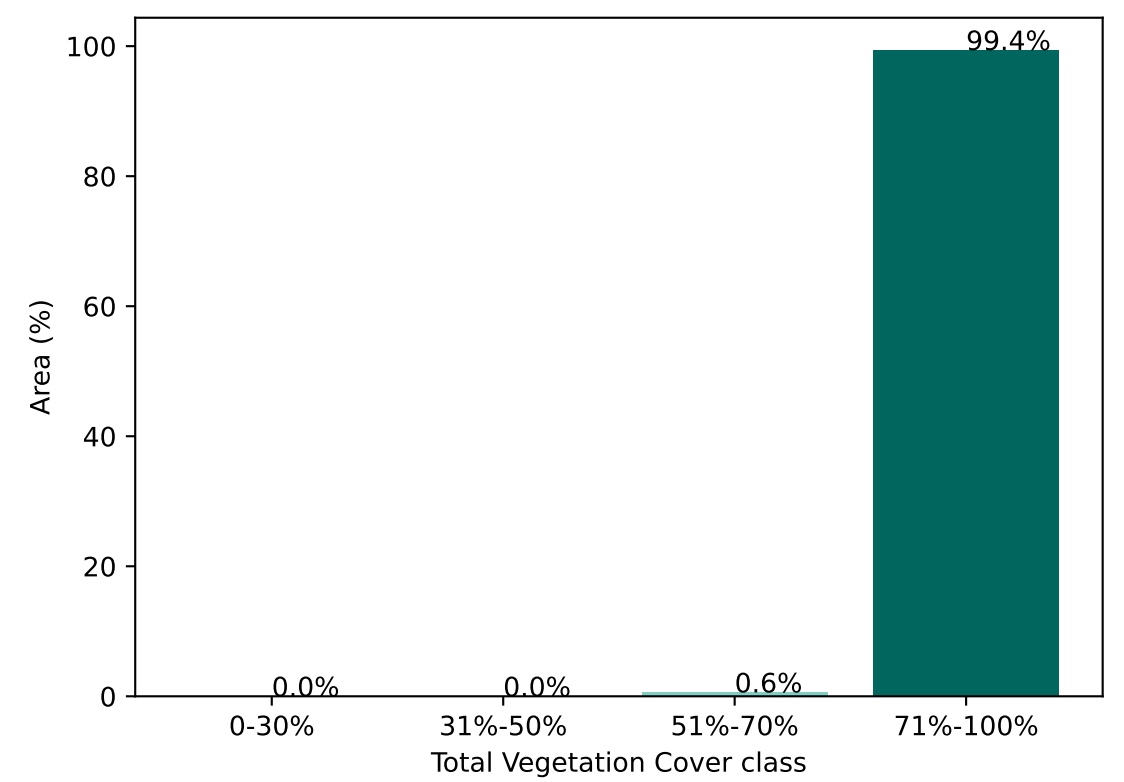
1 Agriculture - Grazing - Non forest

Catchment Scale
Land Use and Forests
of Australia (2018)
Derived from
Catchment Scale Land
Use of Australia
(2018) and Forests
of Australia (2018)

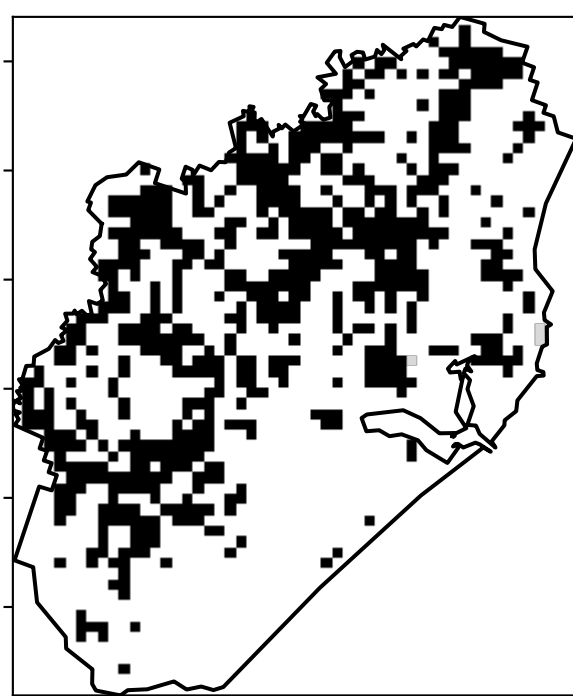
Total Vegetation Cover [%]



Proportion of vegetation cover class in area

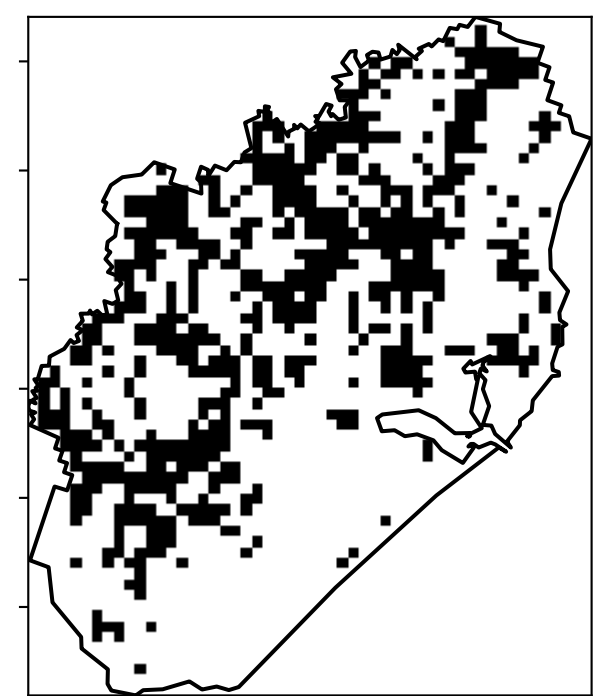


% Area protected from water erosion (>70%)



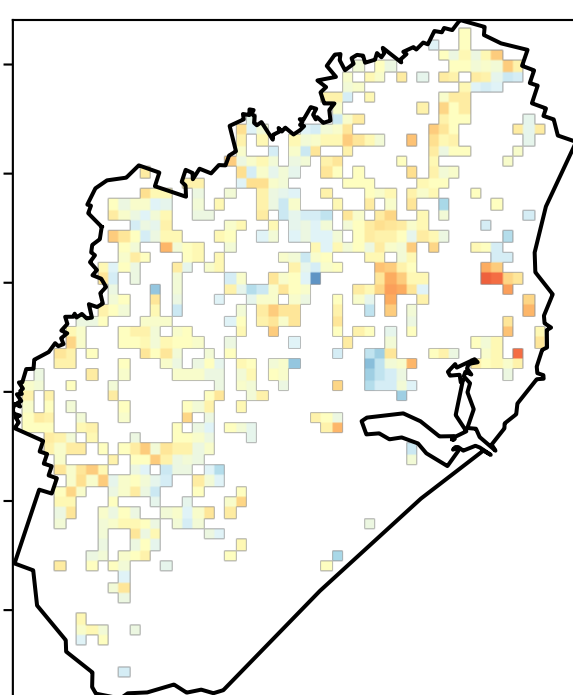
Area not protected
0.6% of
region
(100 ha)
Area protected
99.4% of
region
(16,500
ha)

% Area protected from wind erosion (>50%)



Area
protected
100.0% of
region
(16,600
ha)

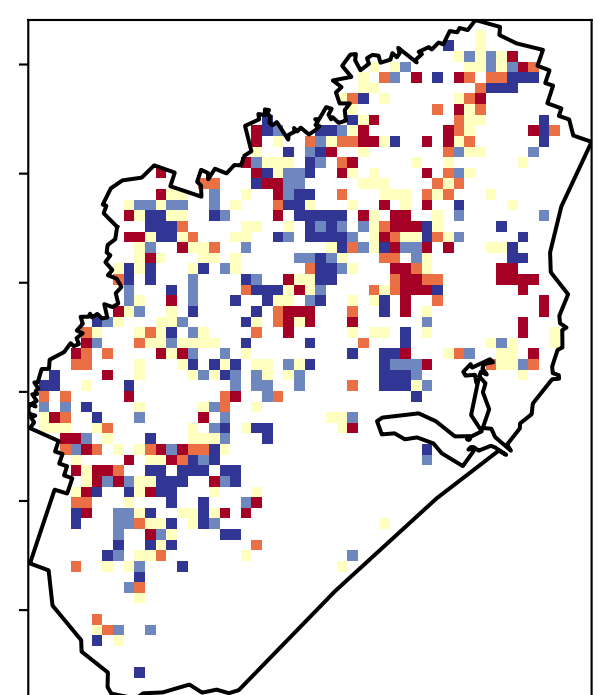
Total Vegetation Cover Anomaly [%]



Anomaly show how
many percentage
points each
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the mean. That
is, red pixels
are about 20%
lower than the
mean of that
pixel. The mean
is only for the
month of the map
using baseline
from 2001 to
2019.

Deciles show where the
pixel value lies in the
record, from highest to
lowest, for that month.
That is, red pixels are
in the lowest 10% of
records for that month of
the map using baseline
from 2001 to 2019.

Total Vegetation Cover Decile [%]



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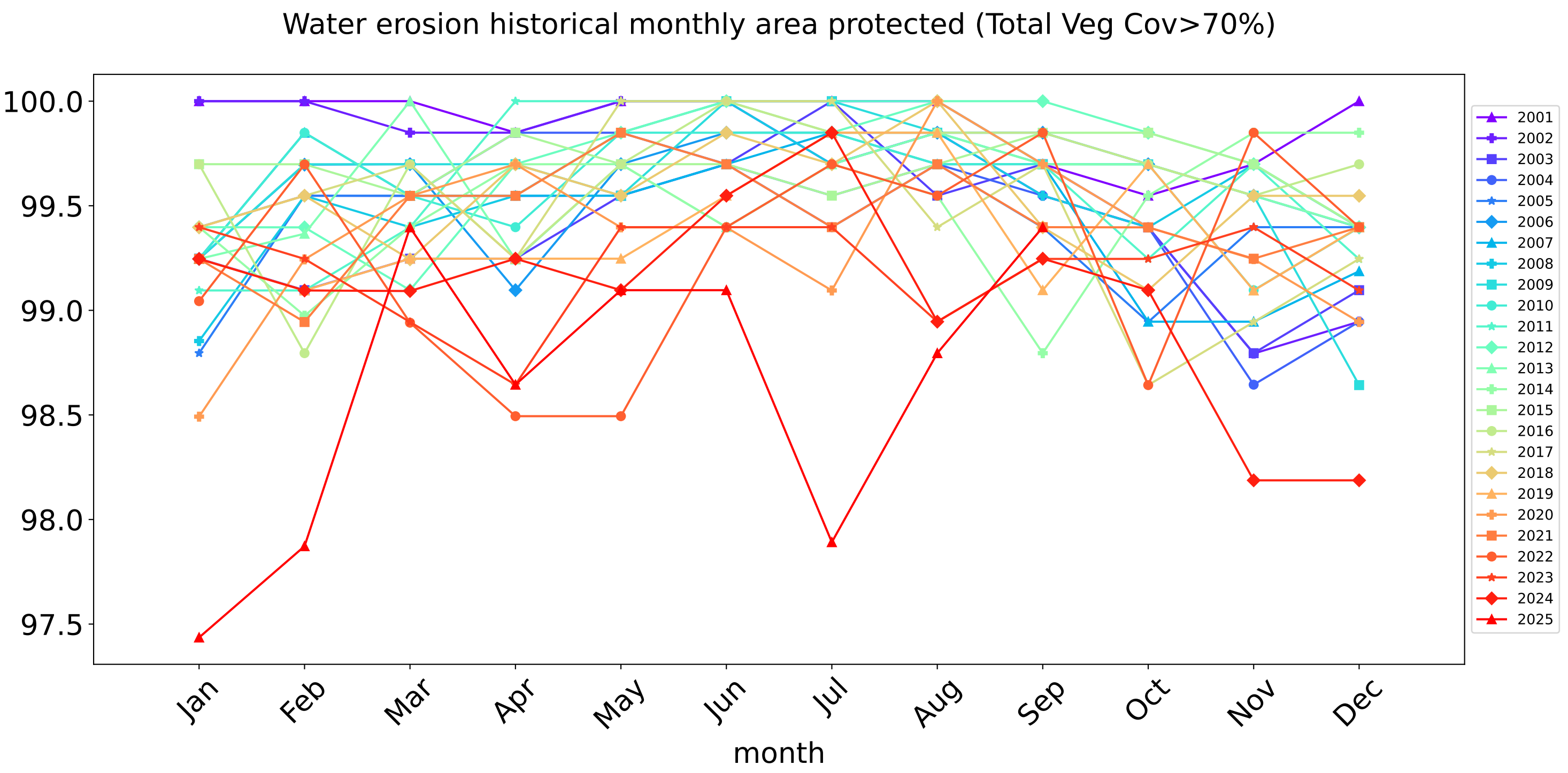
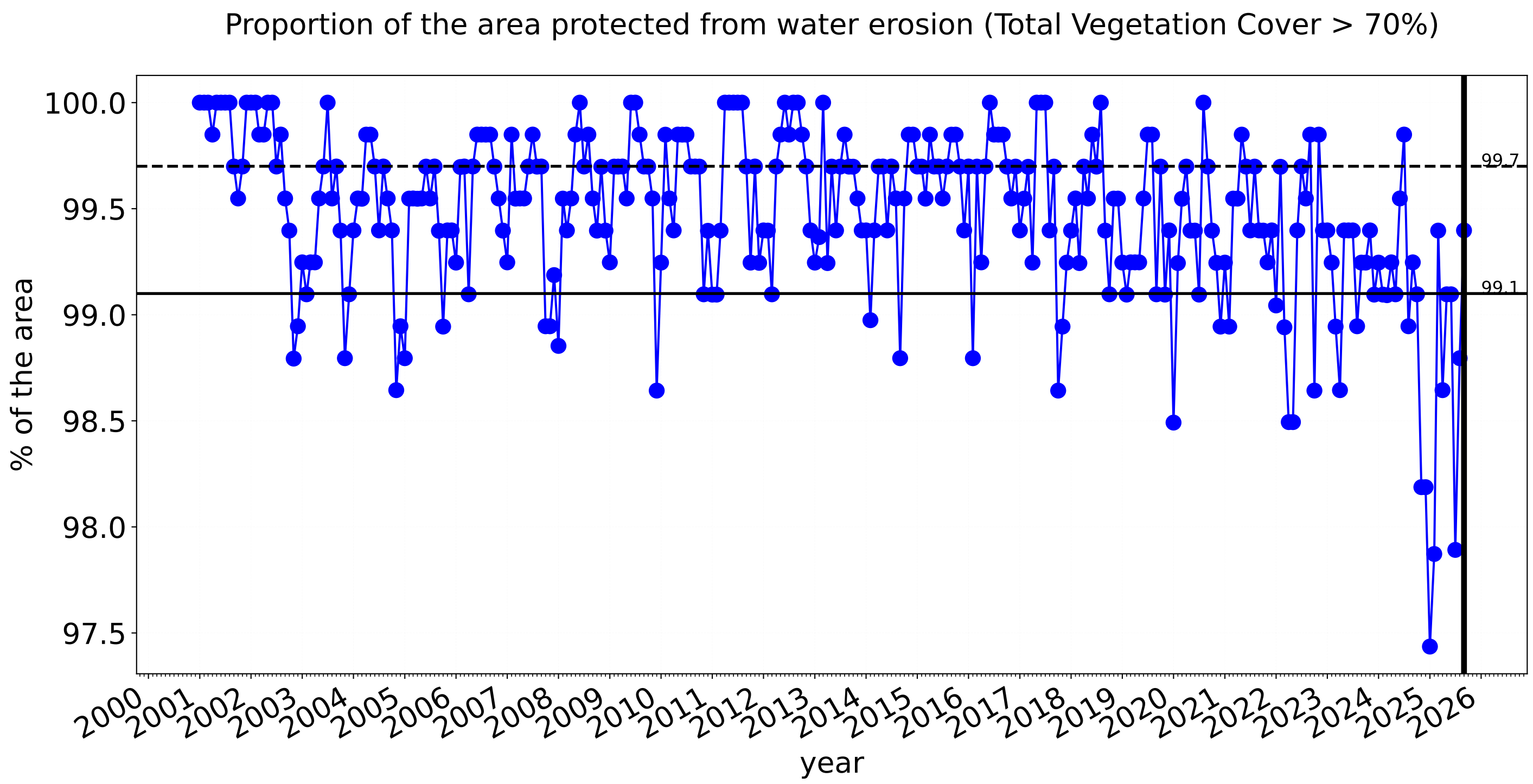
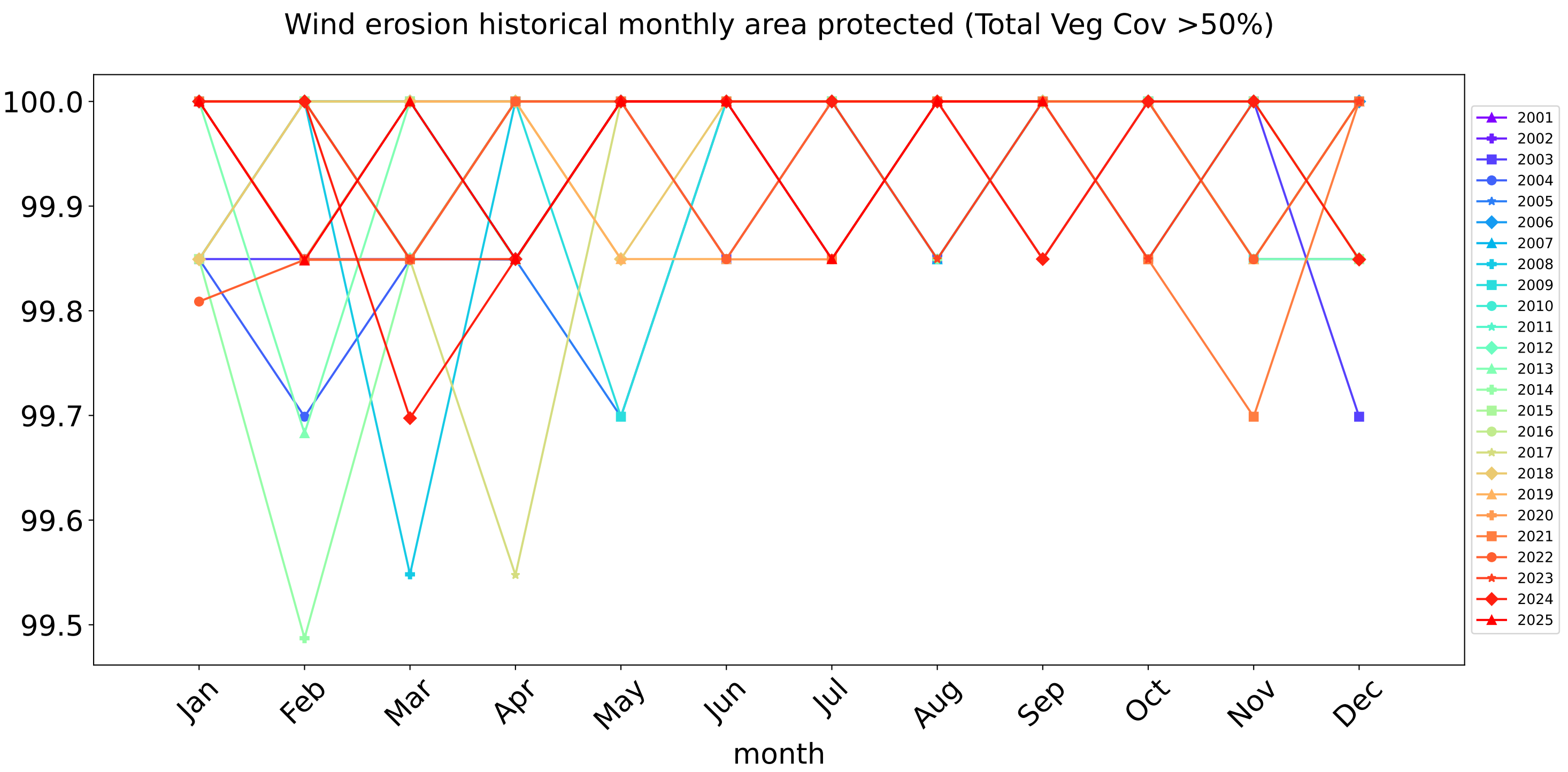
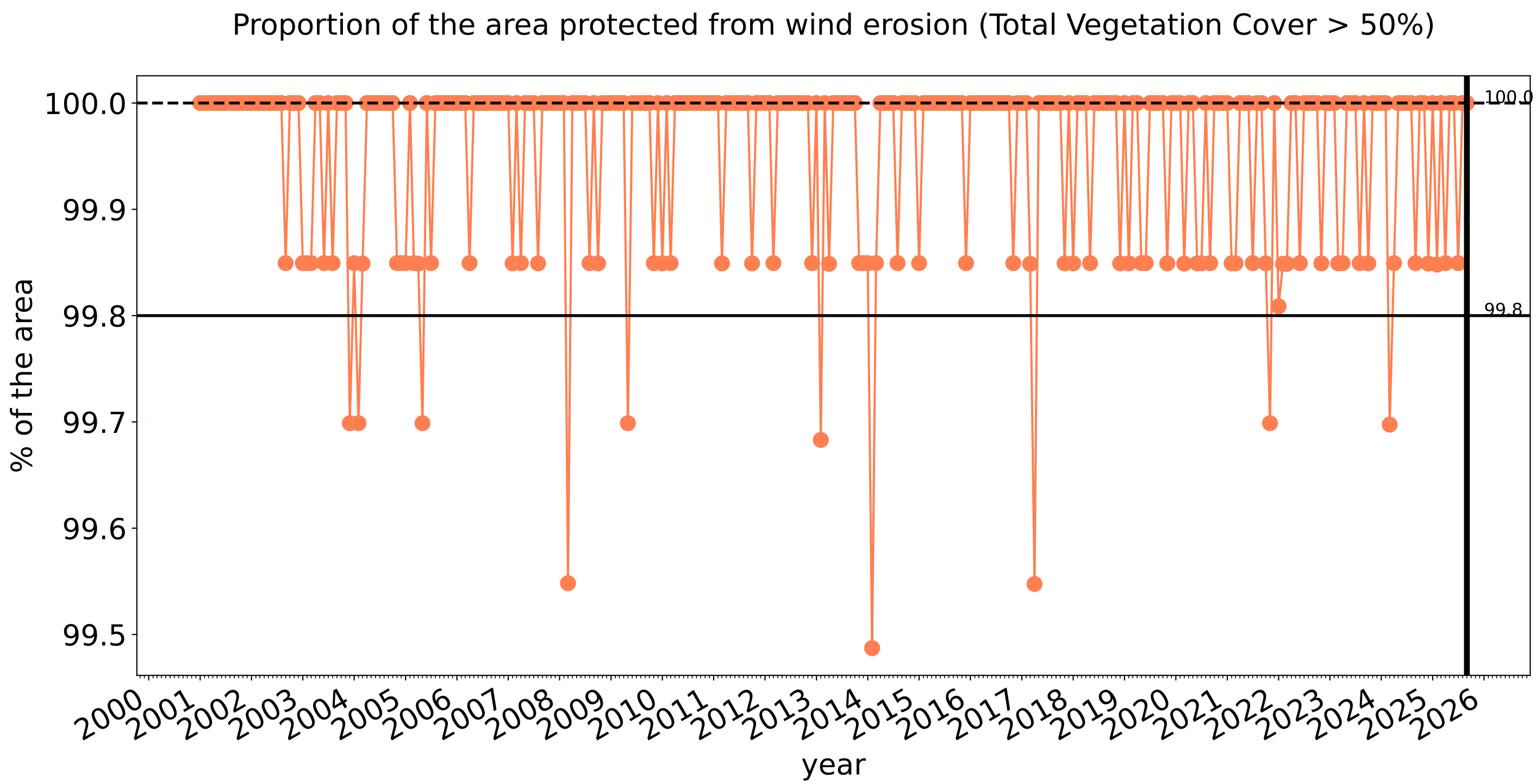


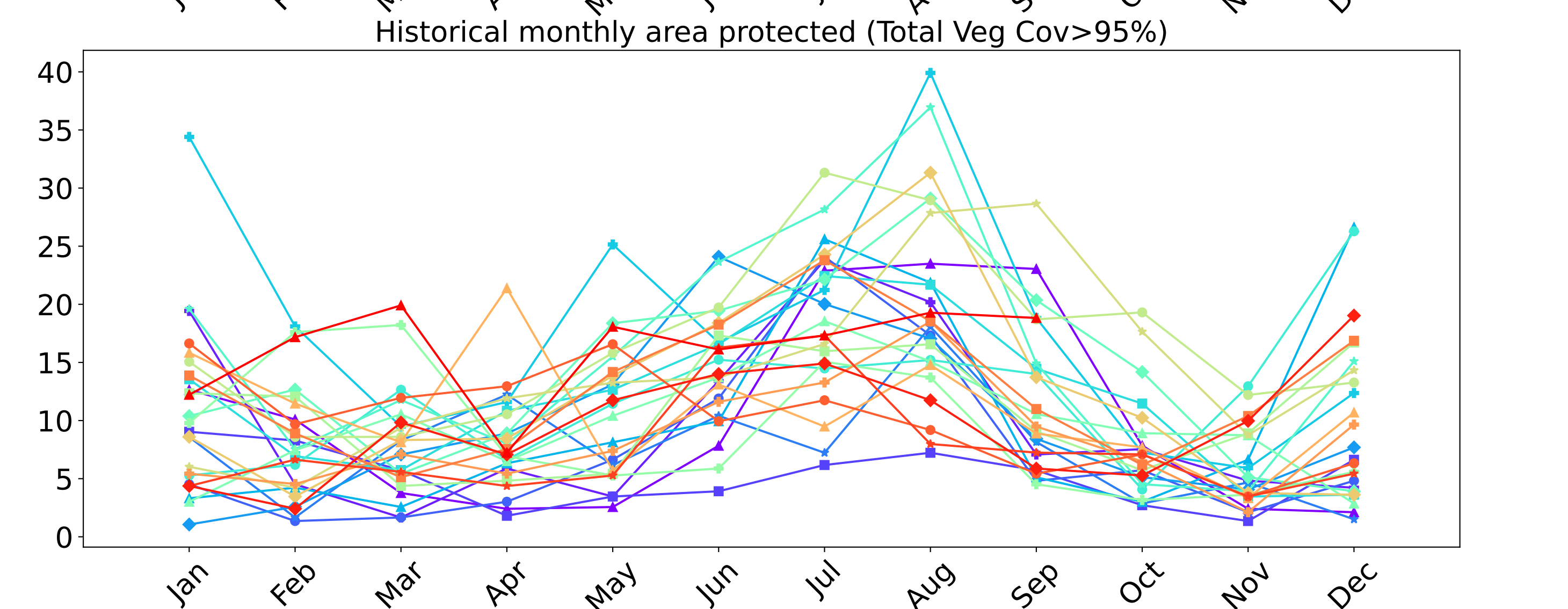
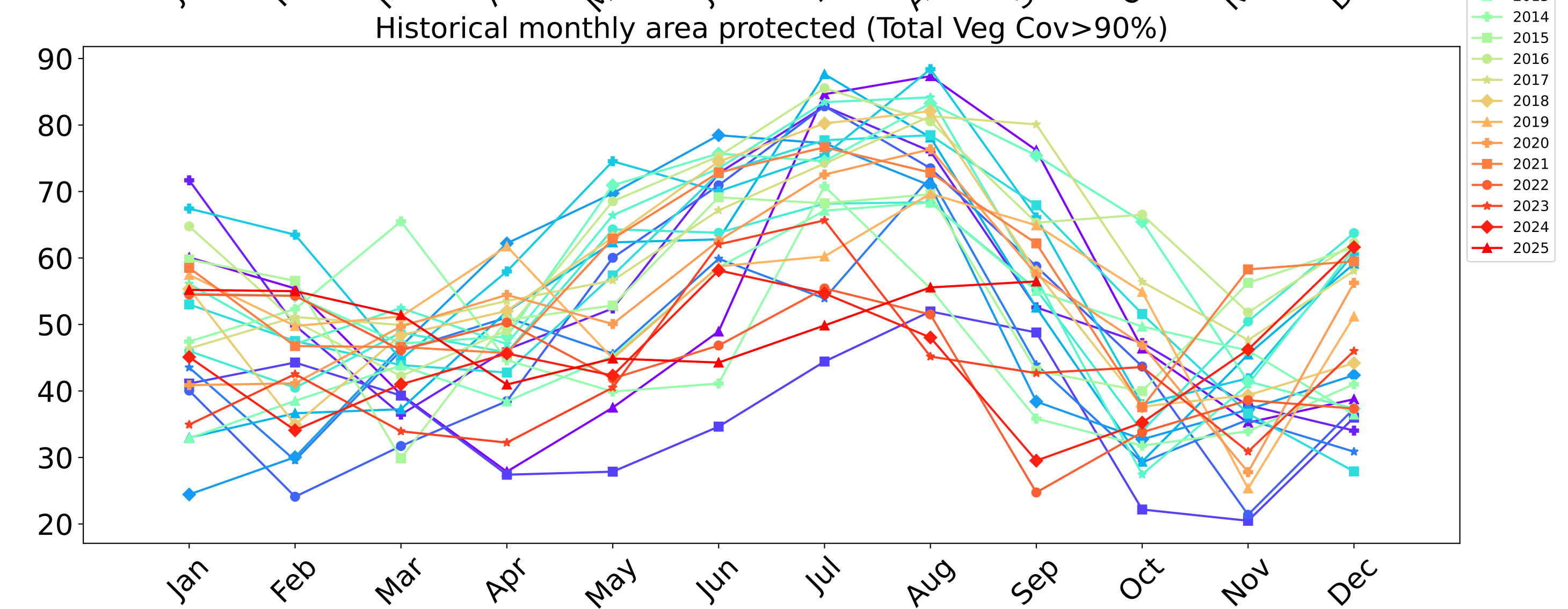
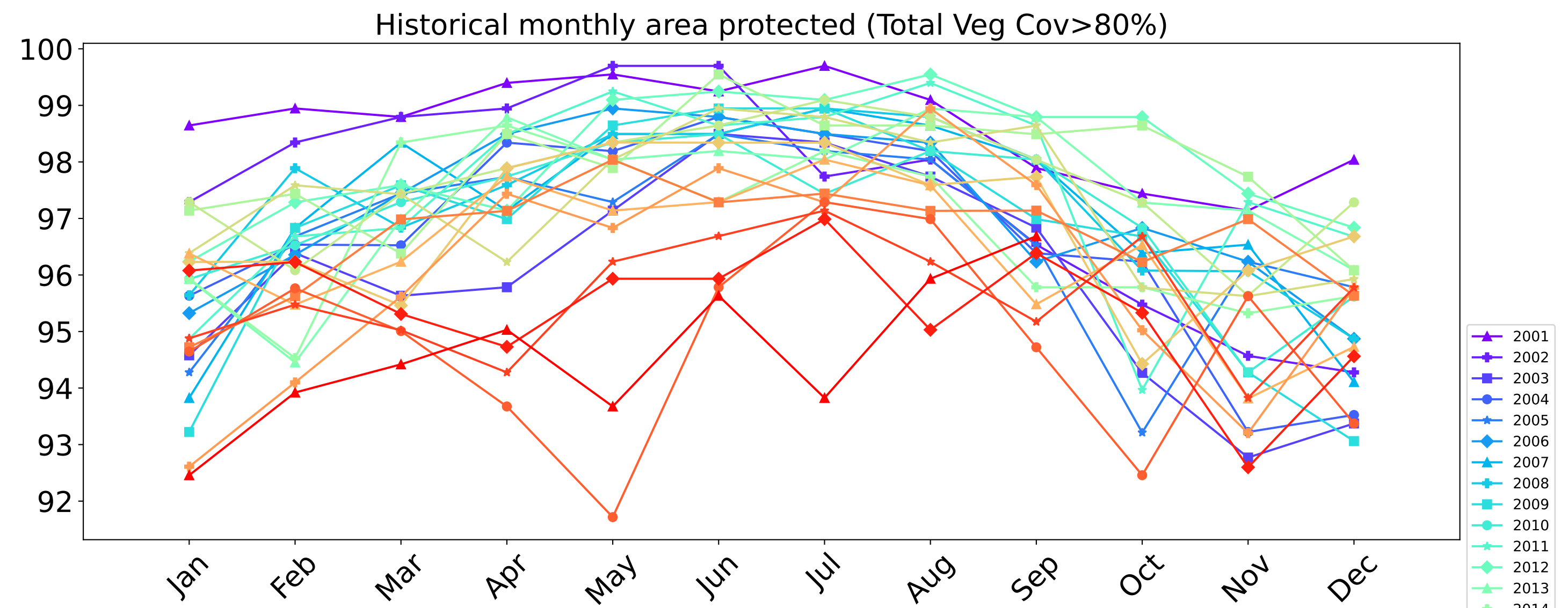
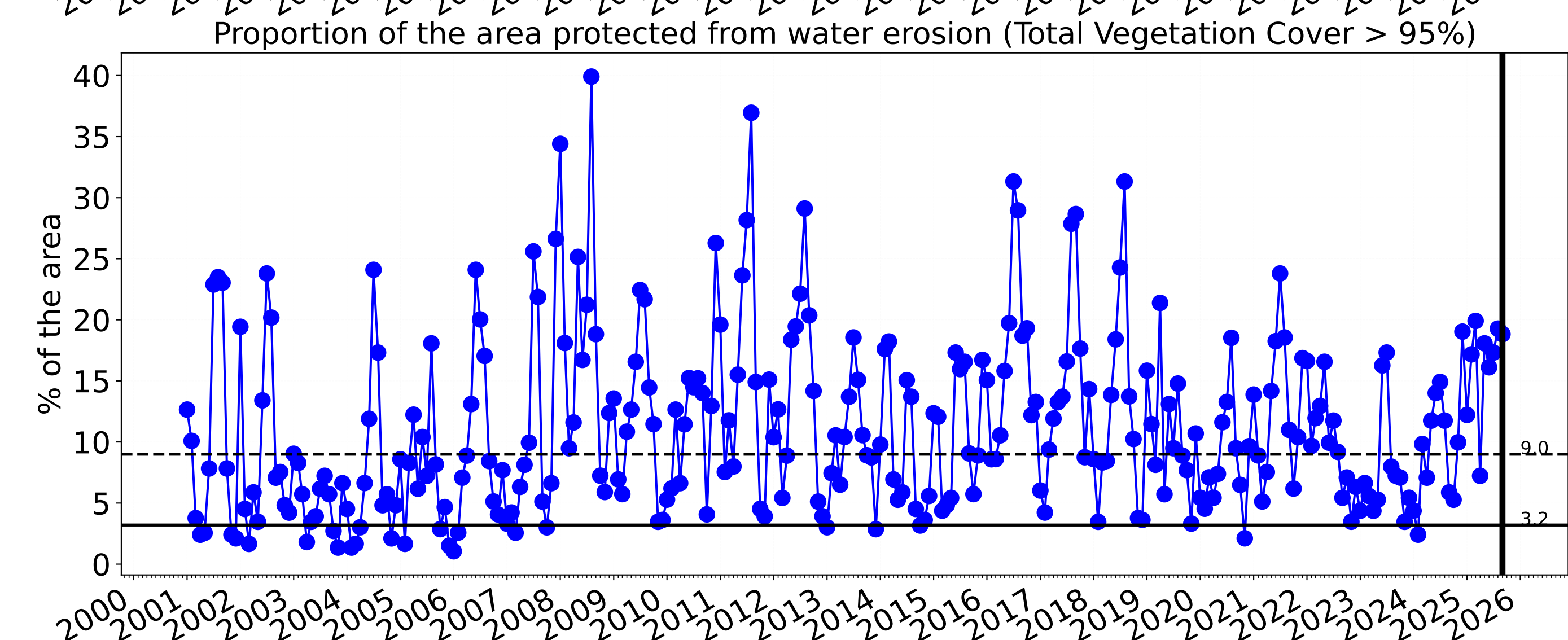
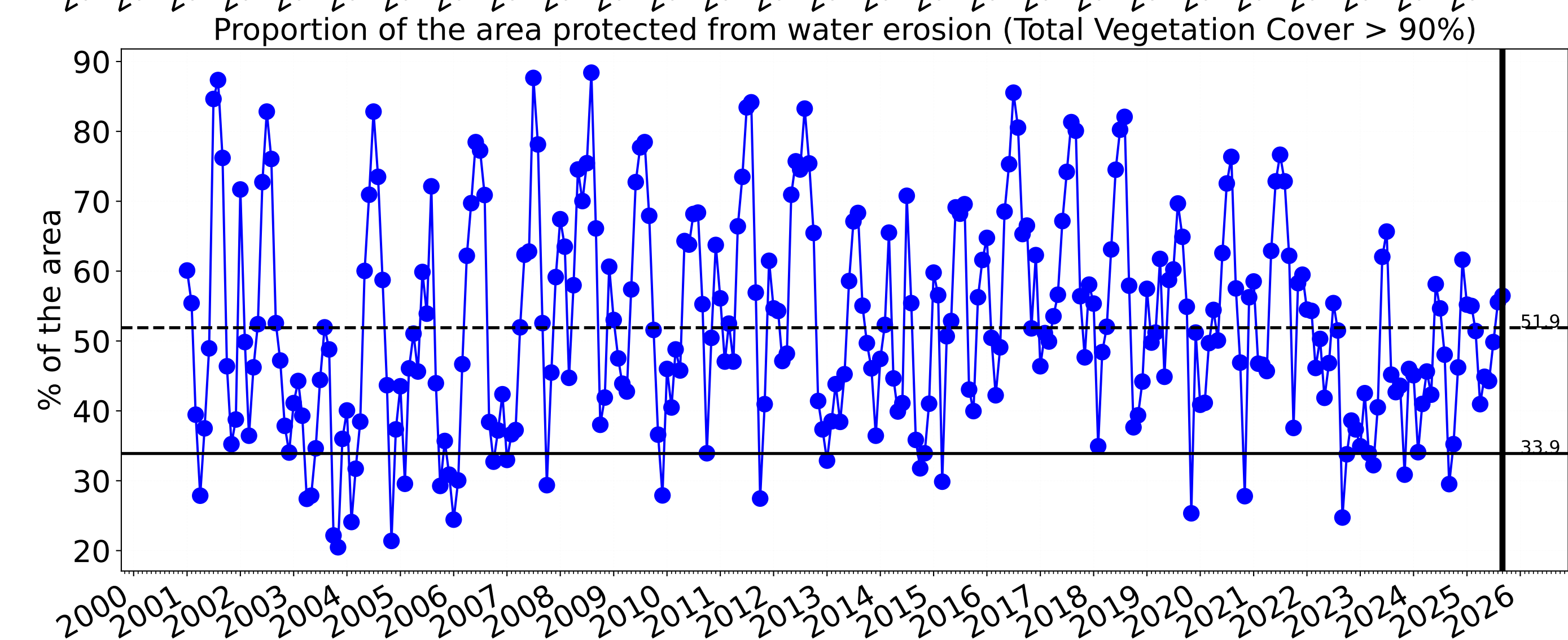
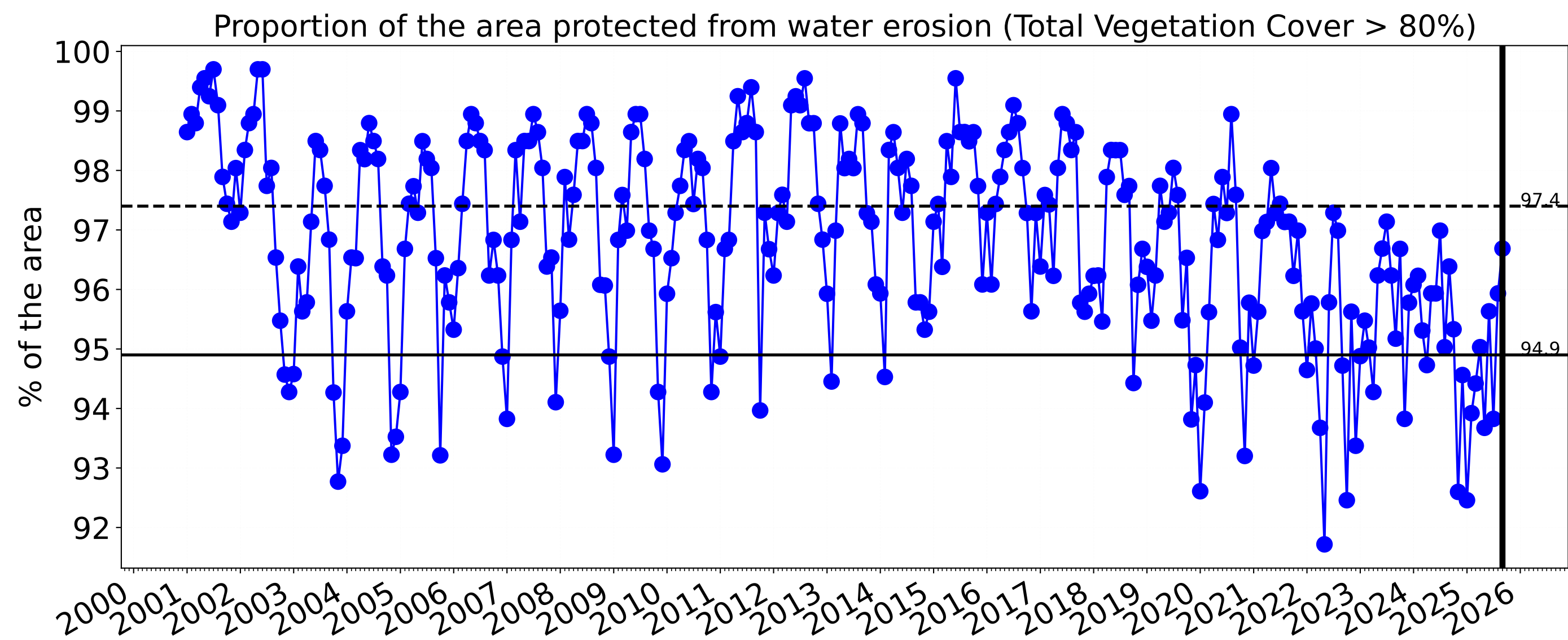
Australian Government

National
Landcare
Programme



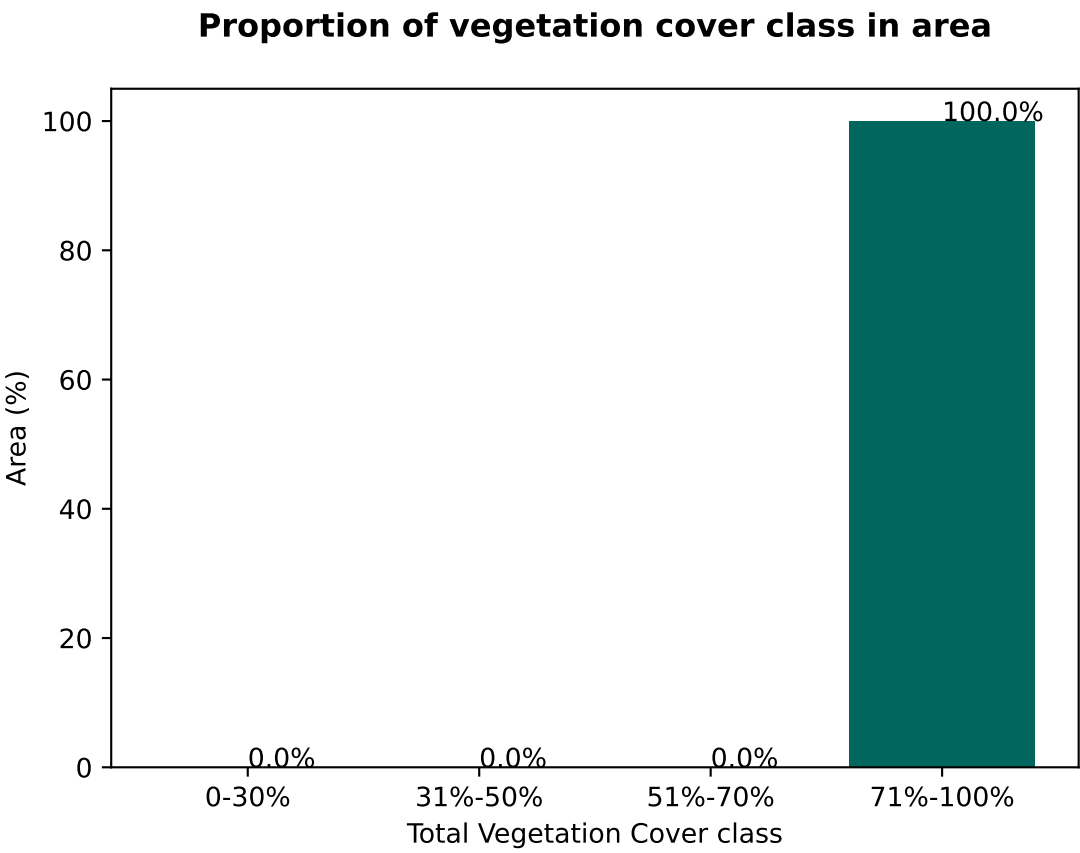
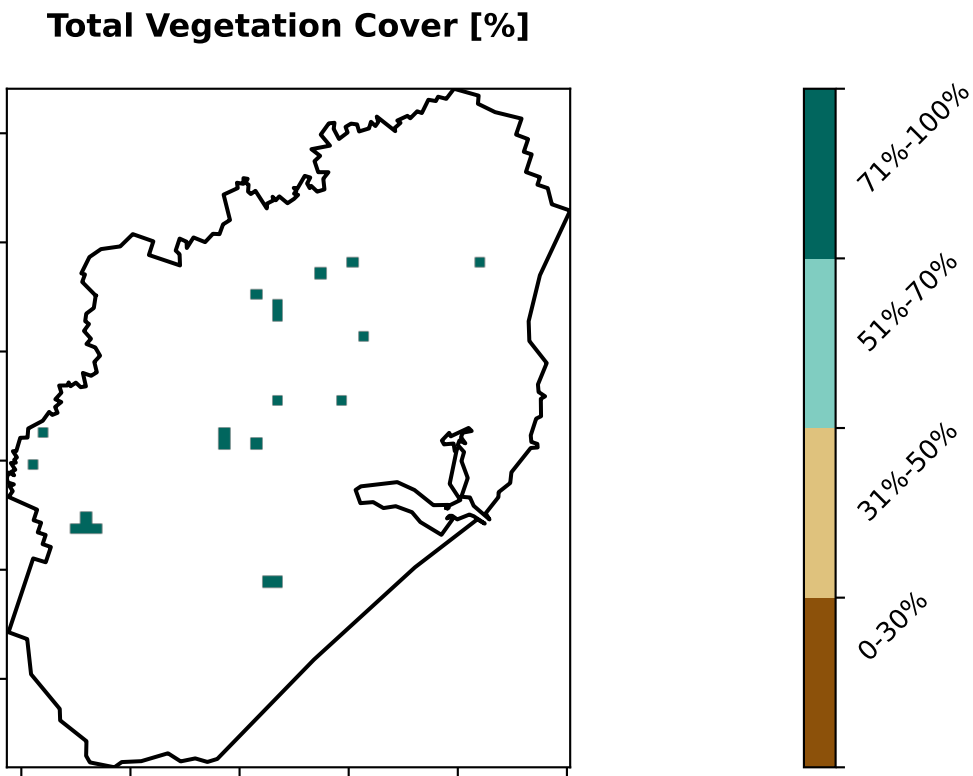
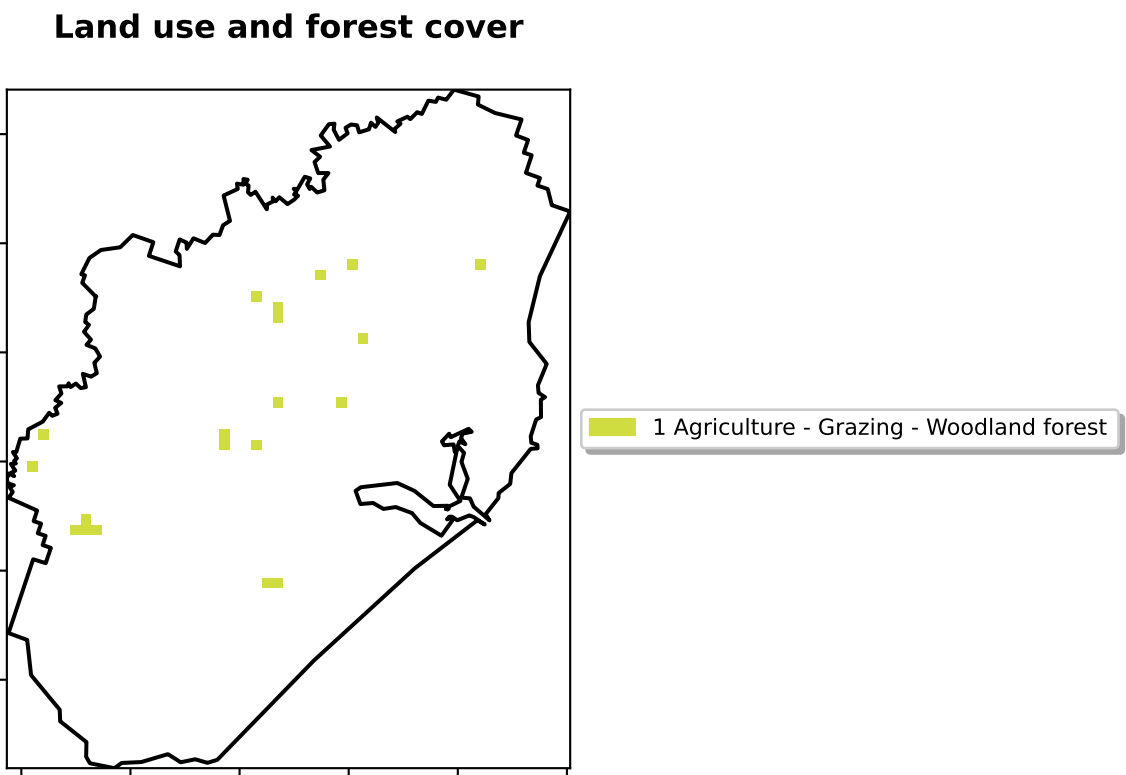
Grazing non forest timeseries



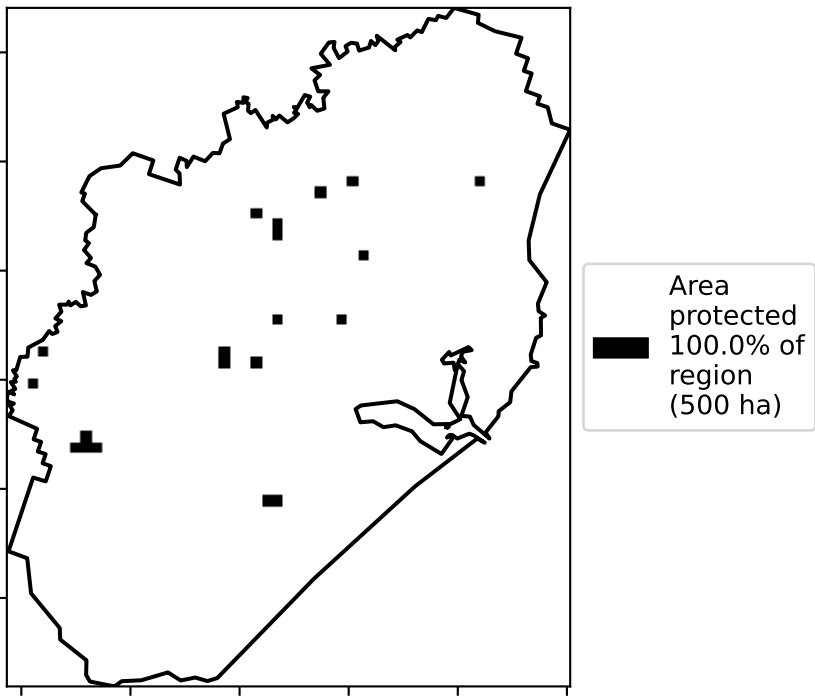


Grazing Woodland forest

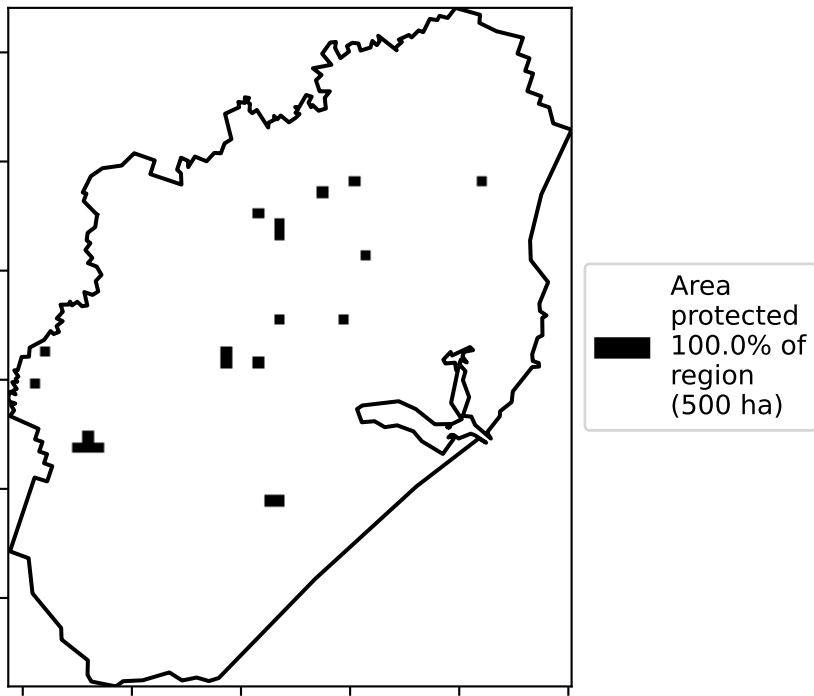
Catchment Scale
Land Use and Forests
of Australia (2018)
Derived from
Catchment Scale Land
Use of Australia
(2018) and Forests
of Australia (2018)



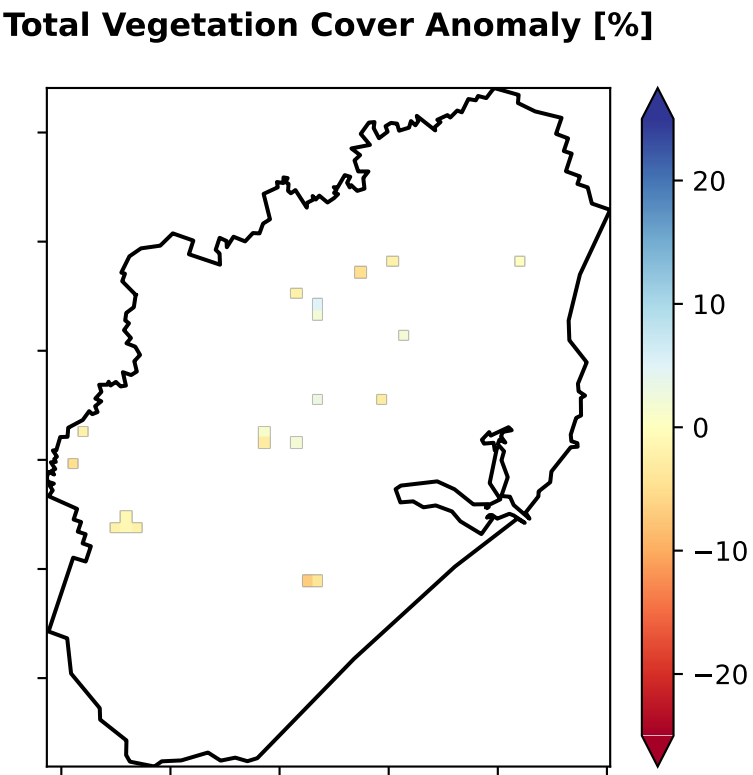
% Area protected from water erosion (>70%)



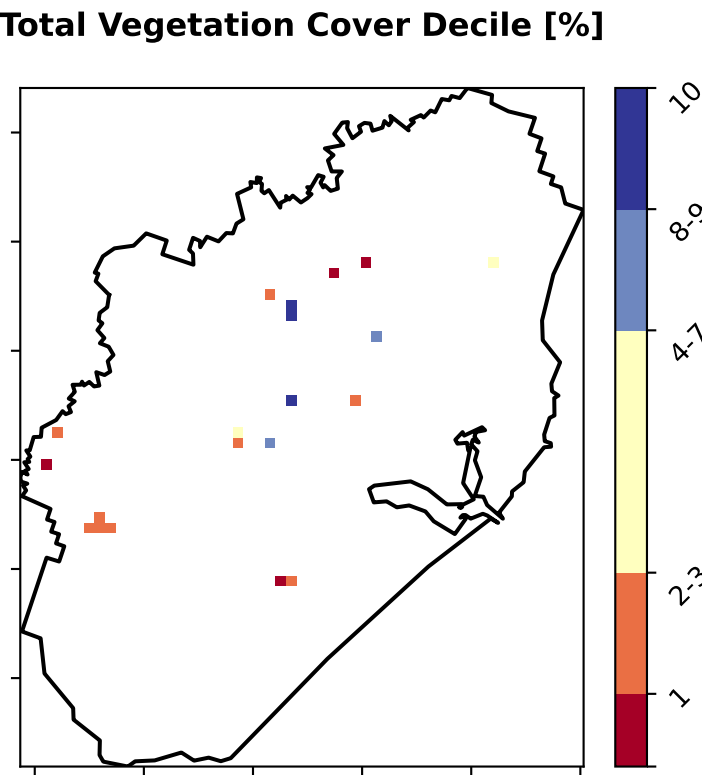
% Area protected from wind erosion (>50%)



Anomaly show how
many percentage
points each
pixel is from
the mean. That
is, red pixels
are about 20%
lower than the
mean of that
pixel. The mean
is only for the
month of the map
using baseline
from 2001 to
2019.



Deciles show where the
pixel value lies in the
record, from highest to
lowest, for that month.
That is, red pixels are
in the lowest 10% of
records for that month of
the map using baseline
from 2001 to 2019.



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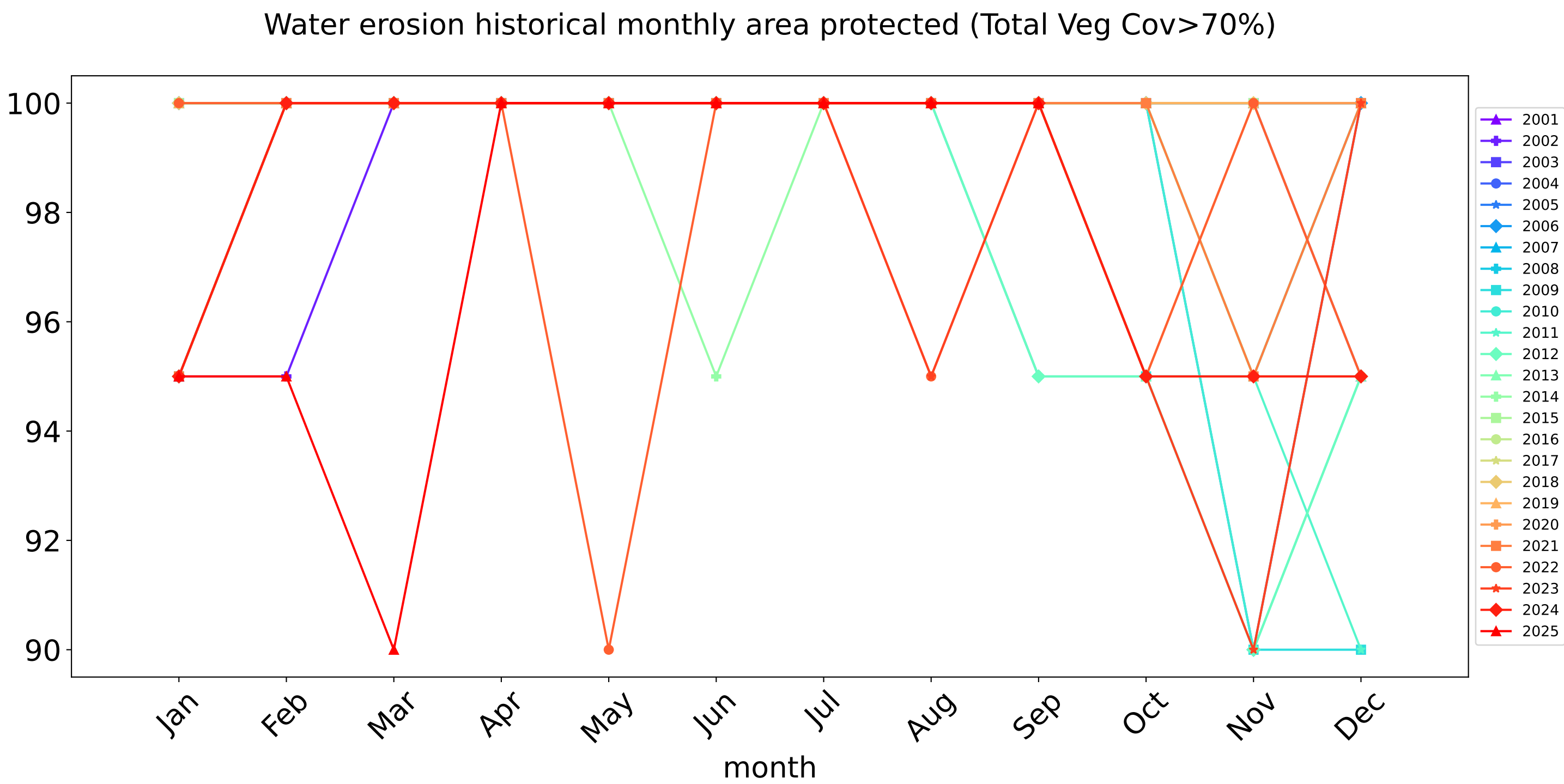
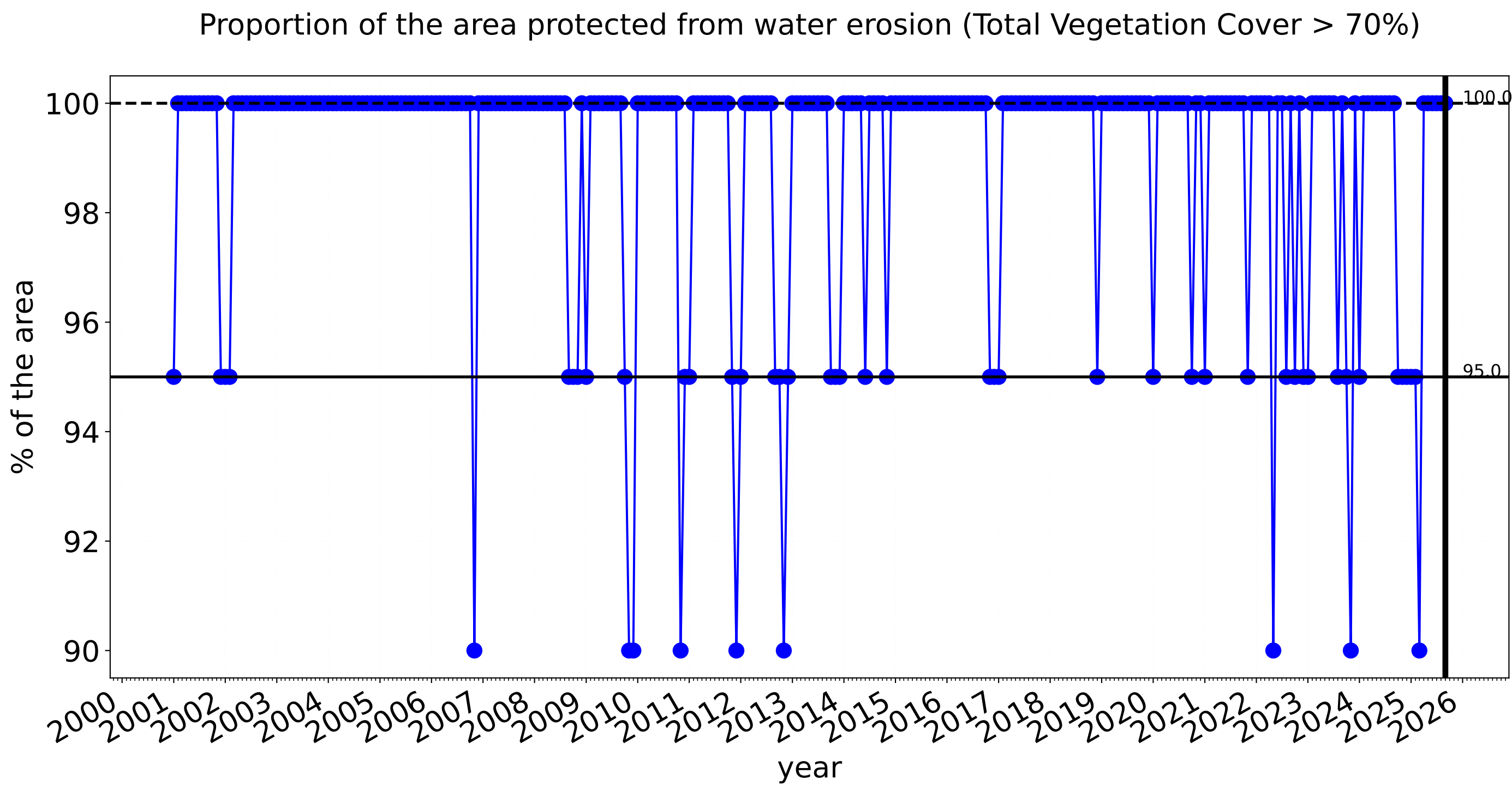
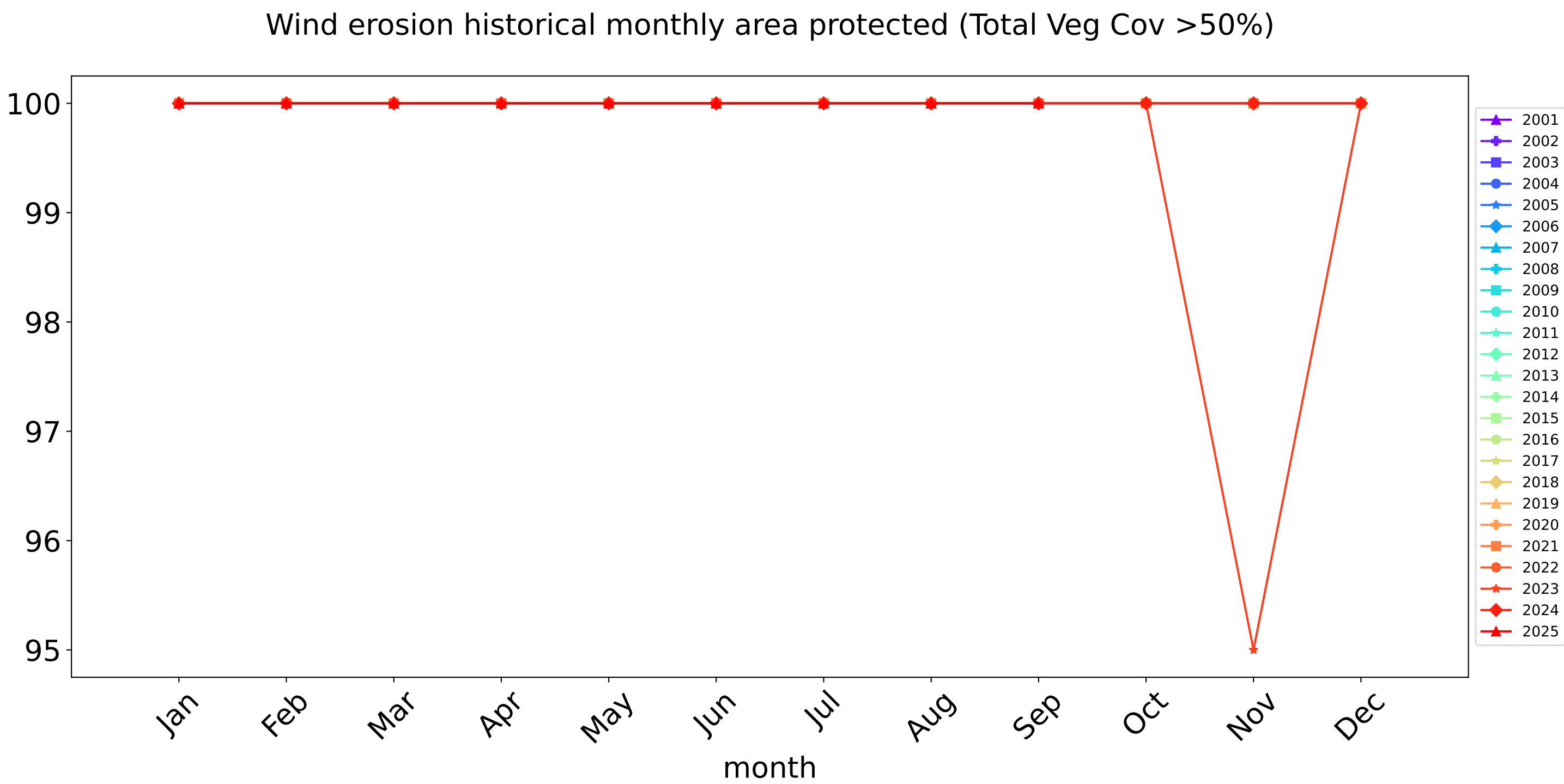
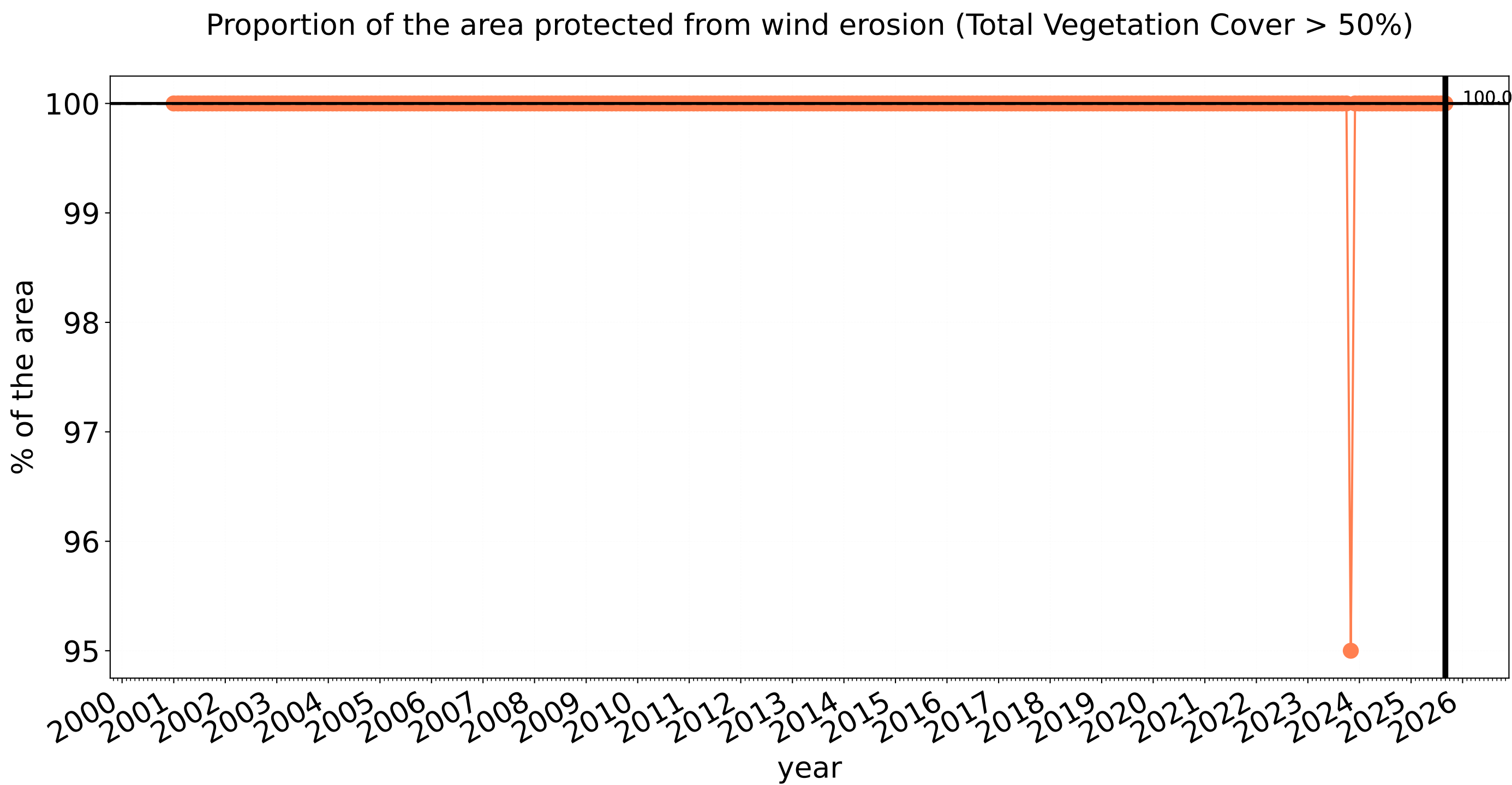


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Grazing Woodland forest timeseries

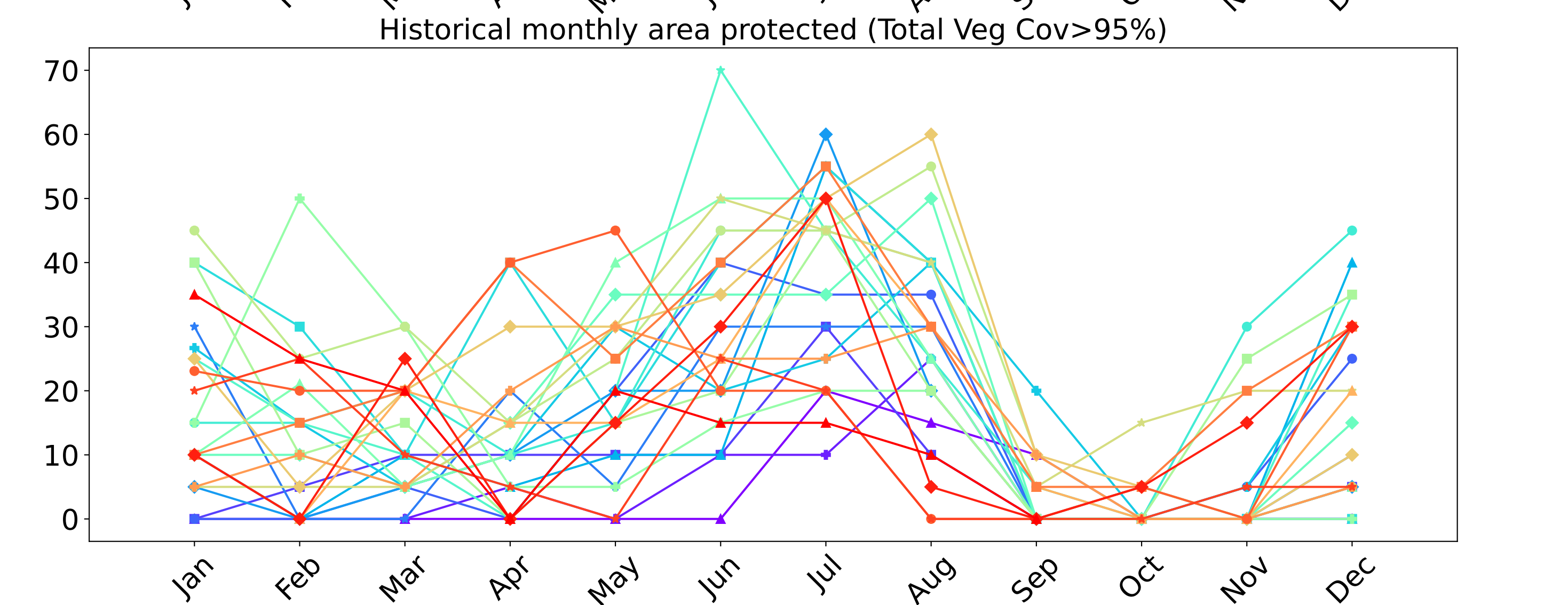
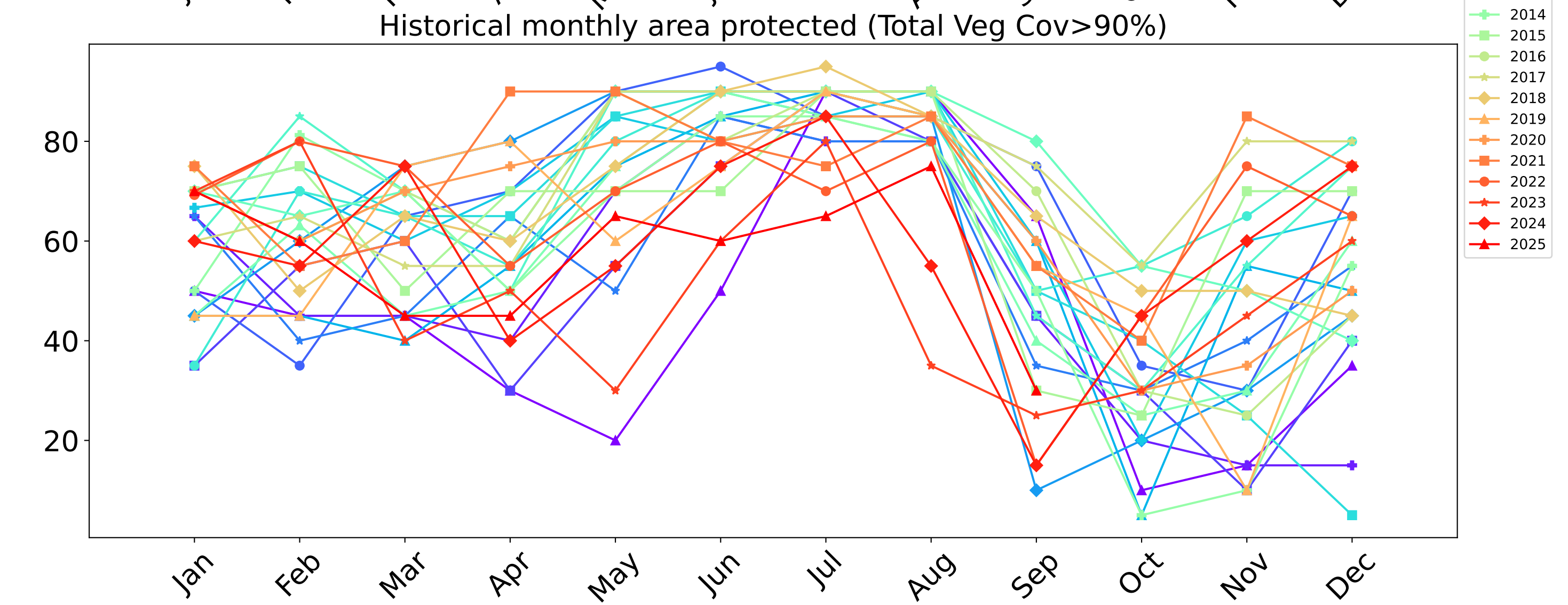
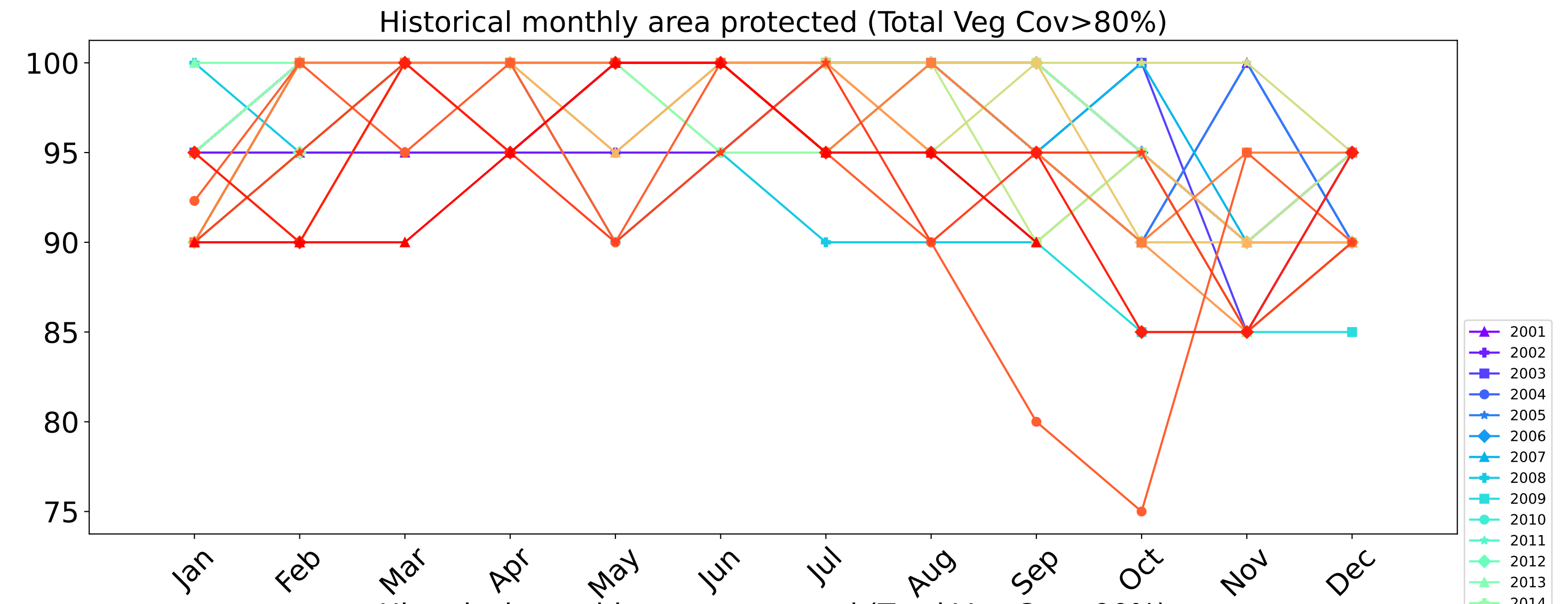
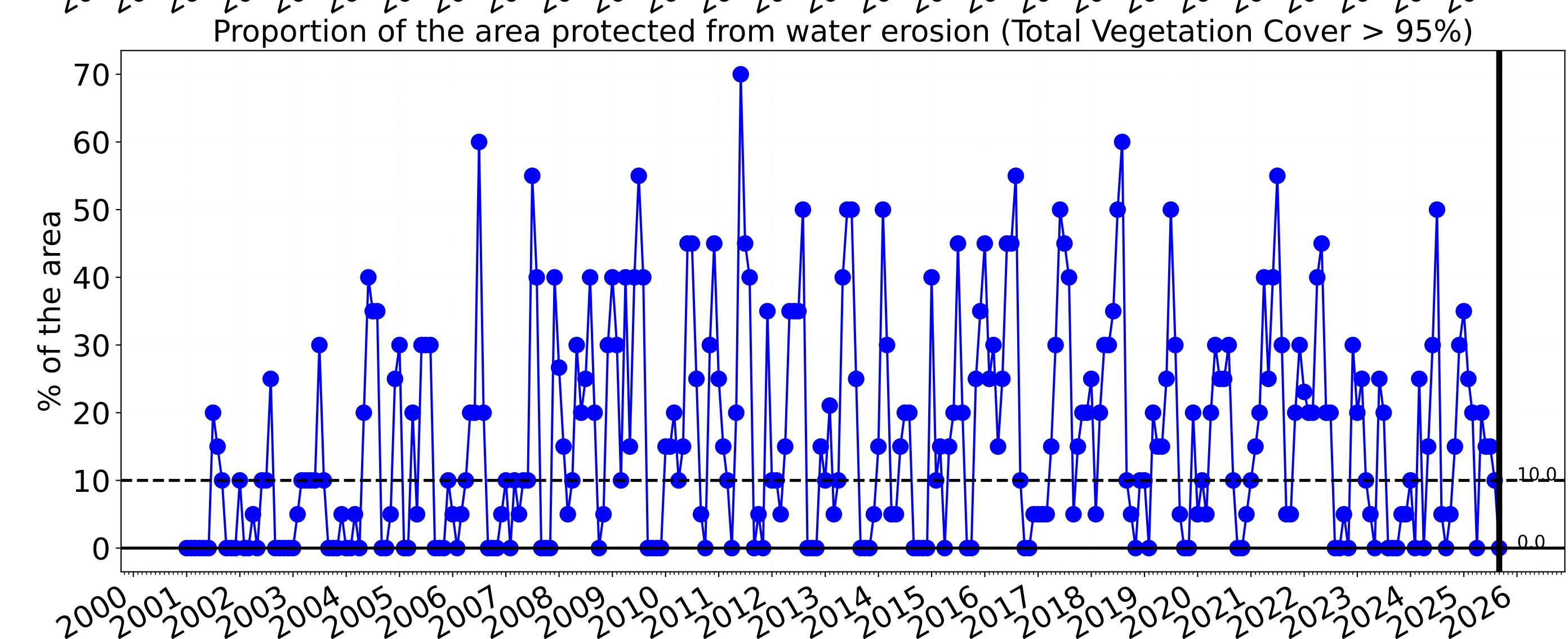
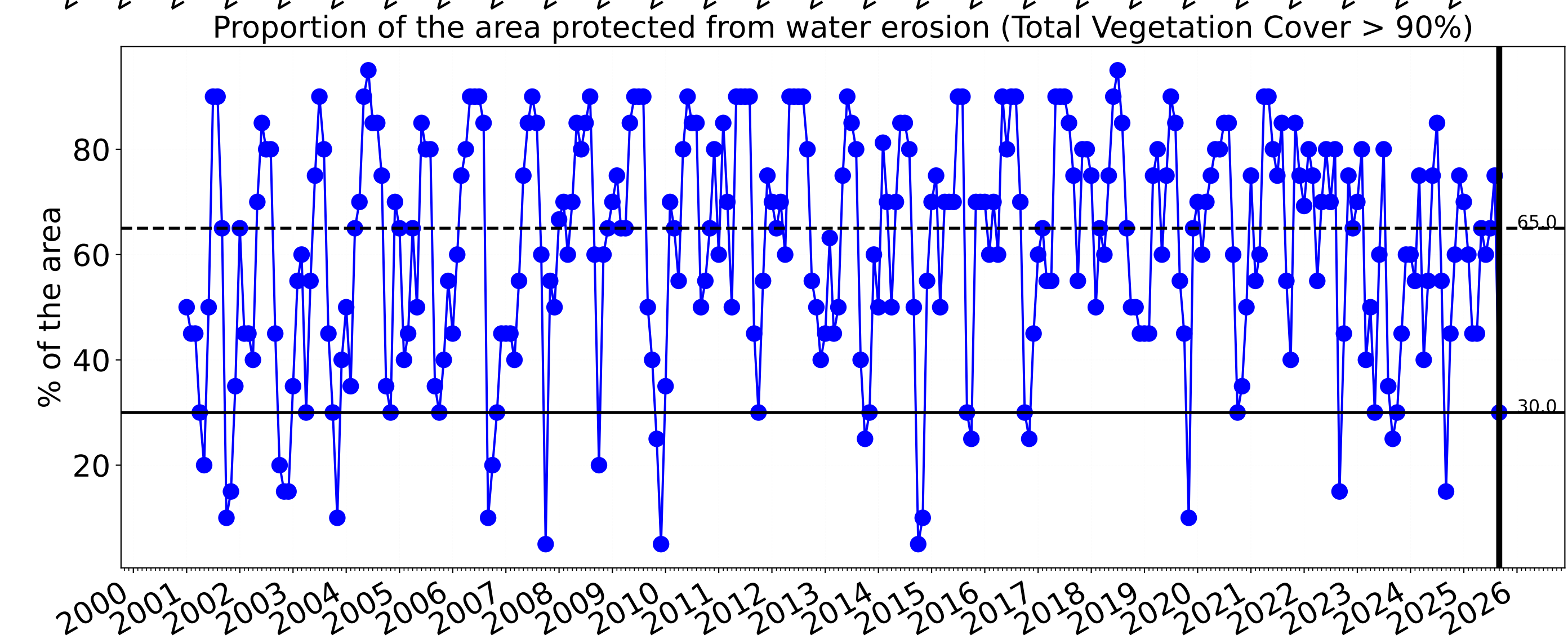
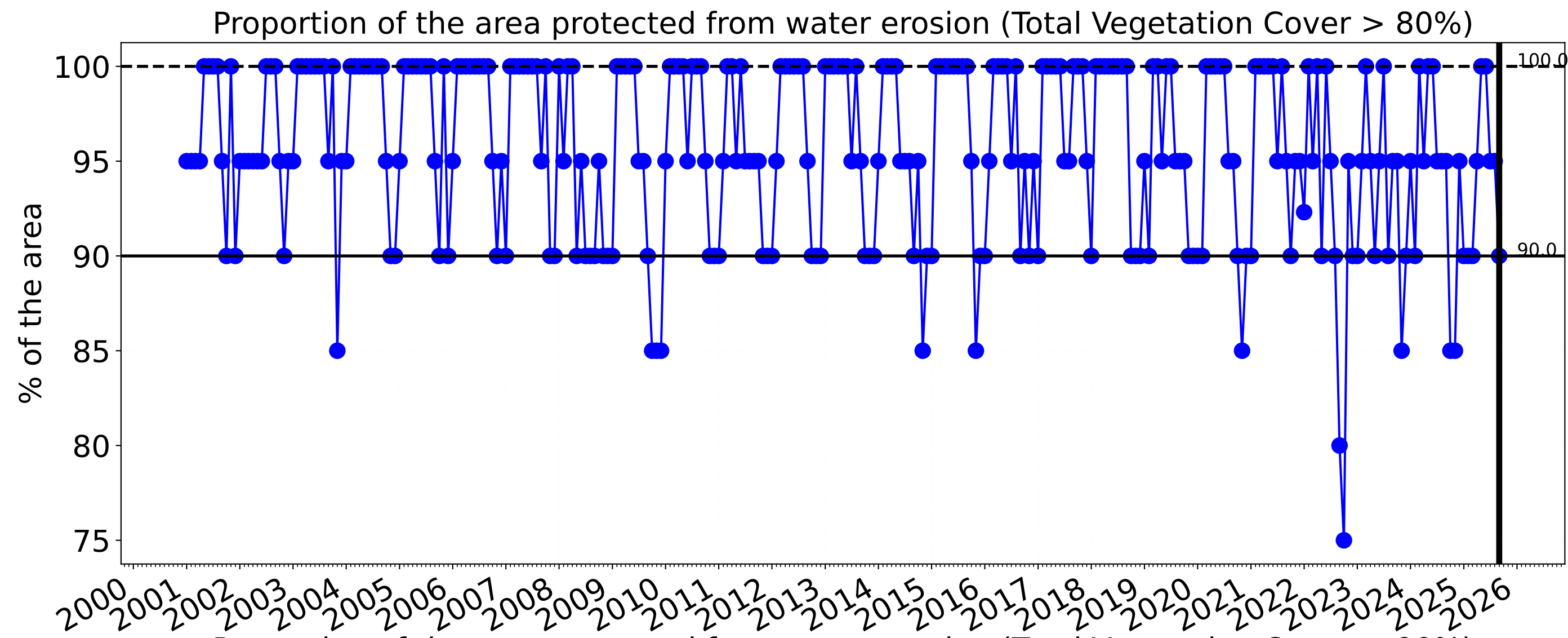


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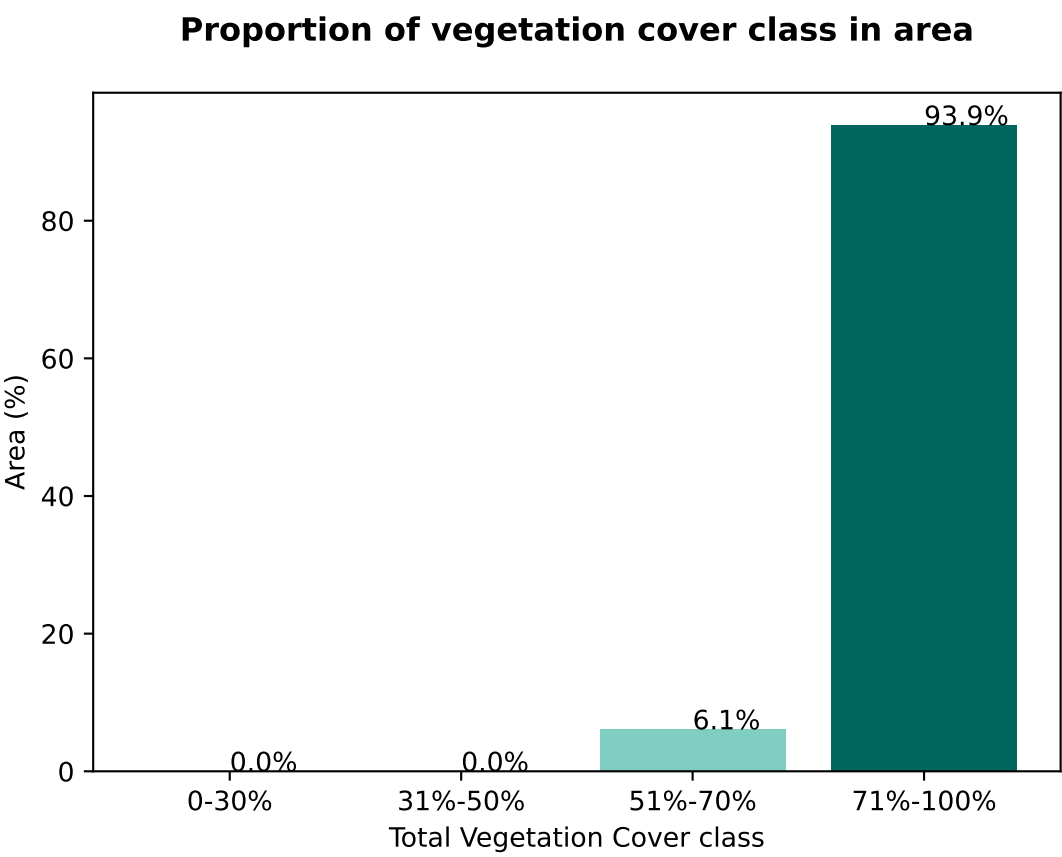
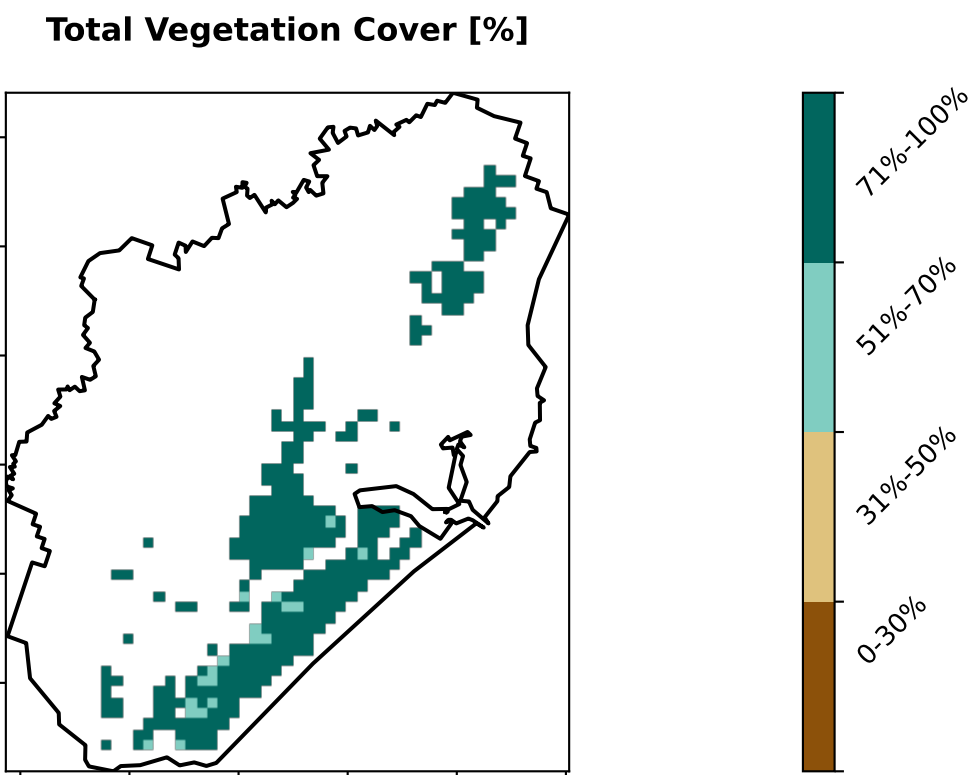
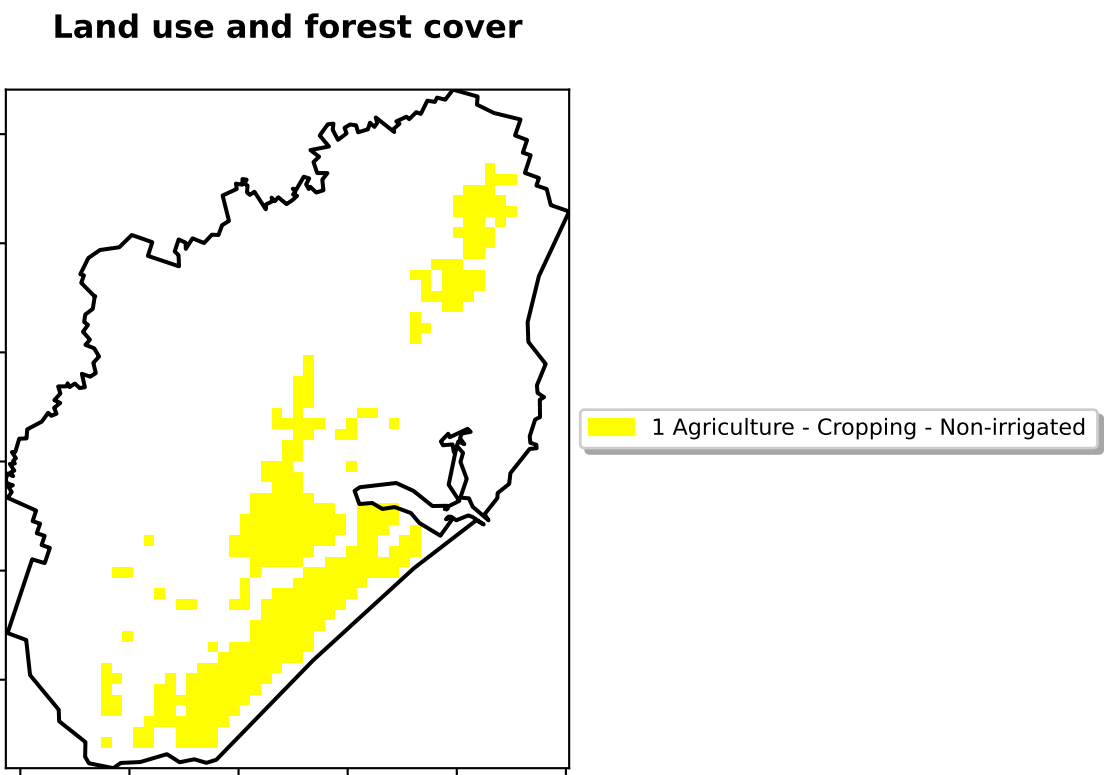
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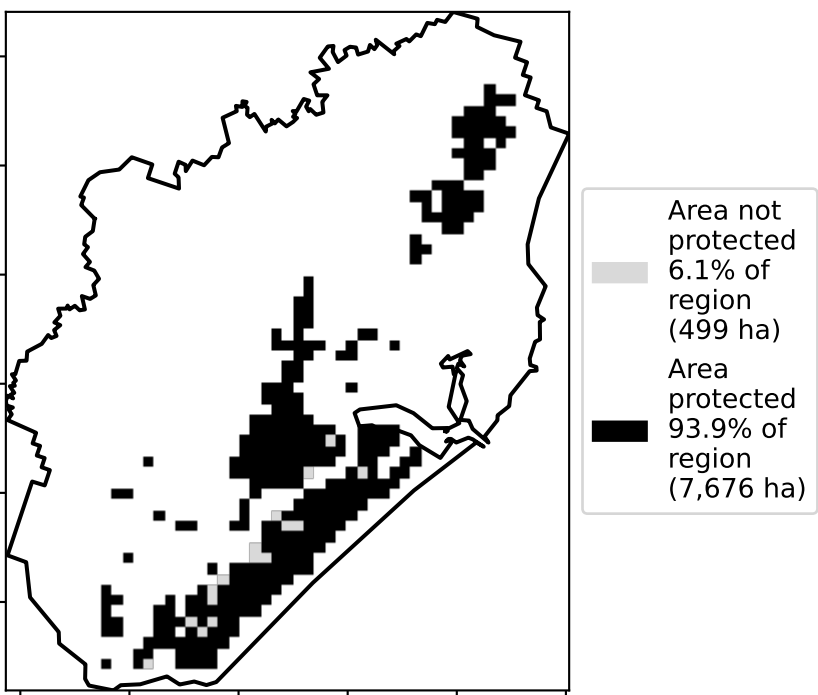


Cropping

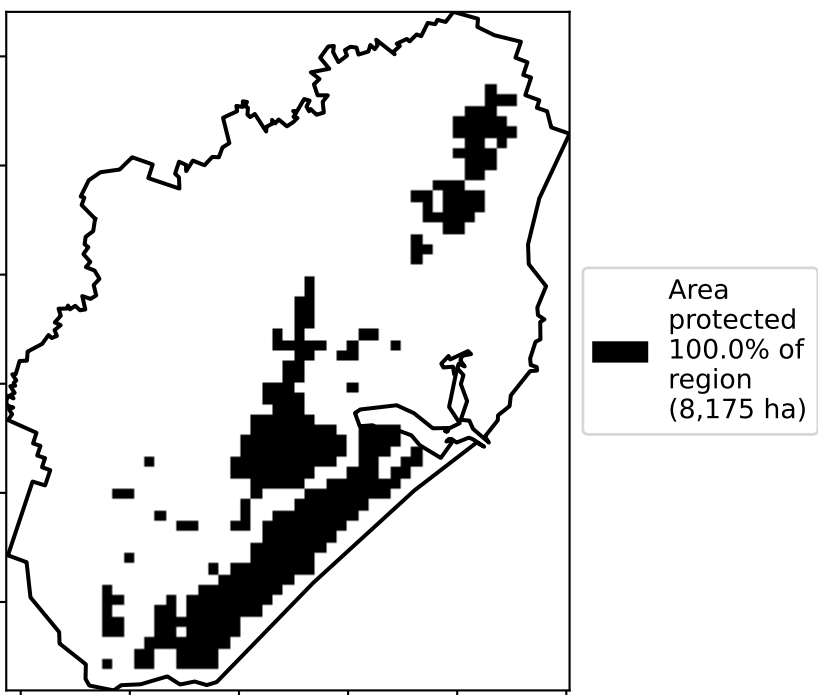
Catchment Scale
Land Use and Forests
of Australia (2018)
Derived from
Catchment Scale Land
Use of Australia
(2018) and Forests
of Australia (2018)



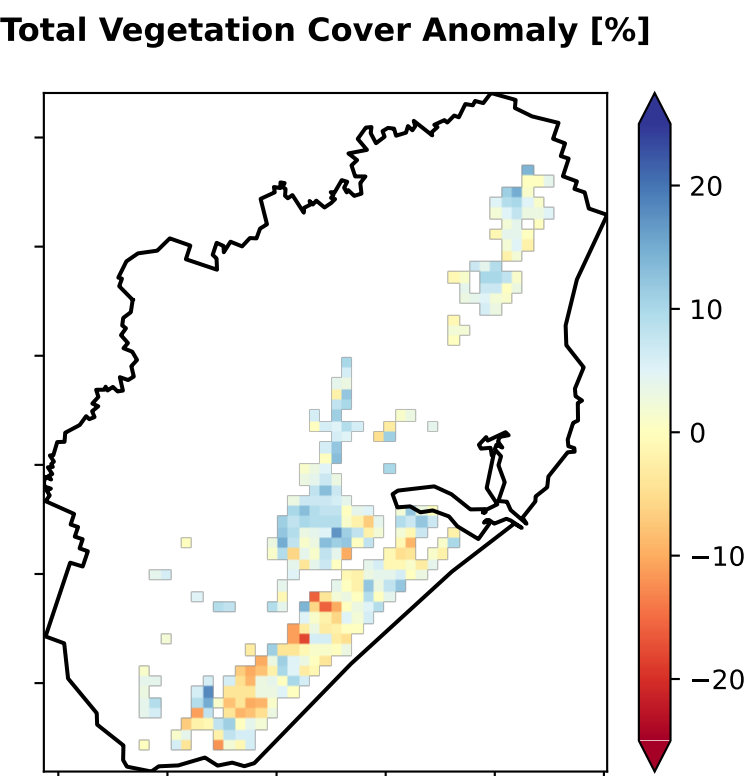
% Area protected from water erosion (>70%)



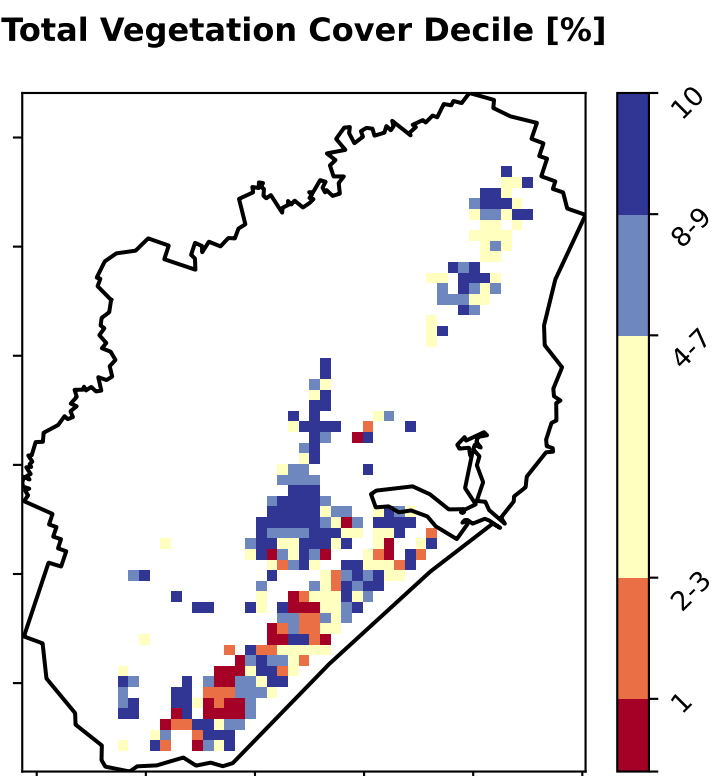
% Area protected from wind erosion (>50%)



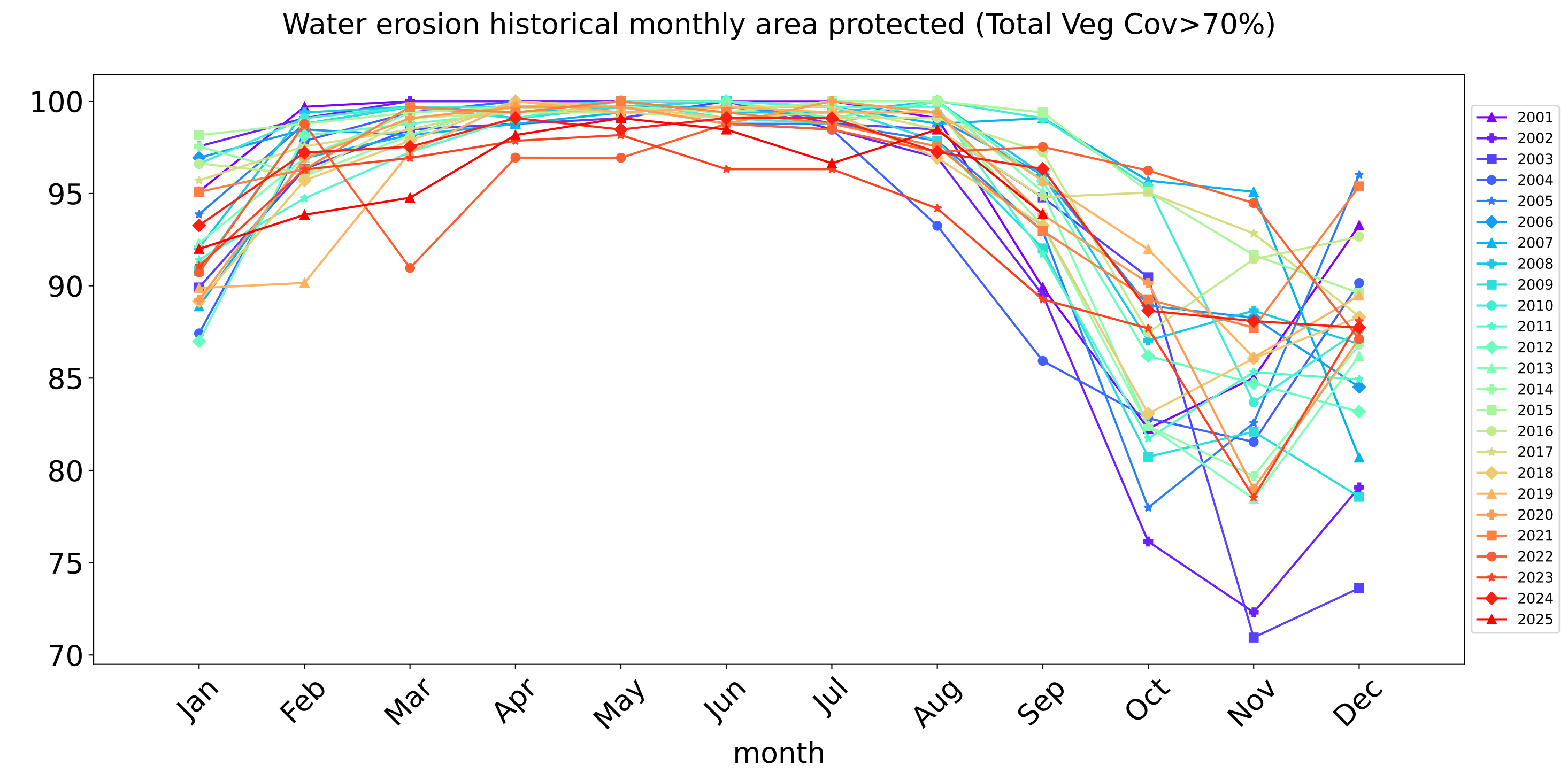
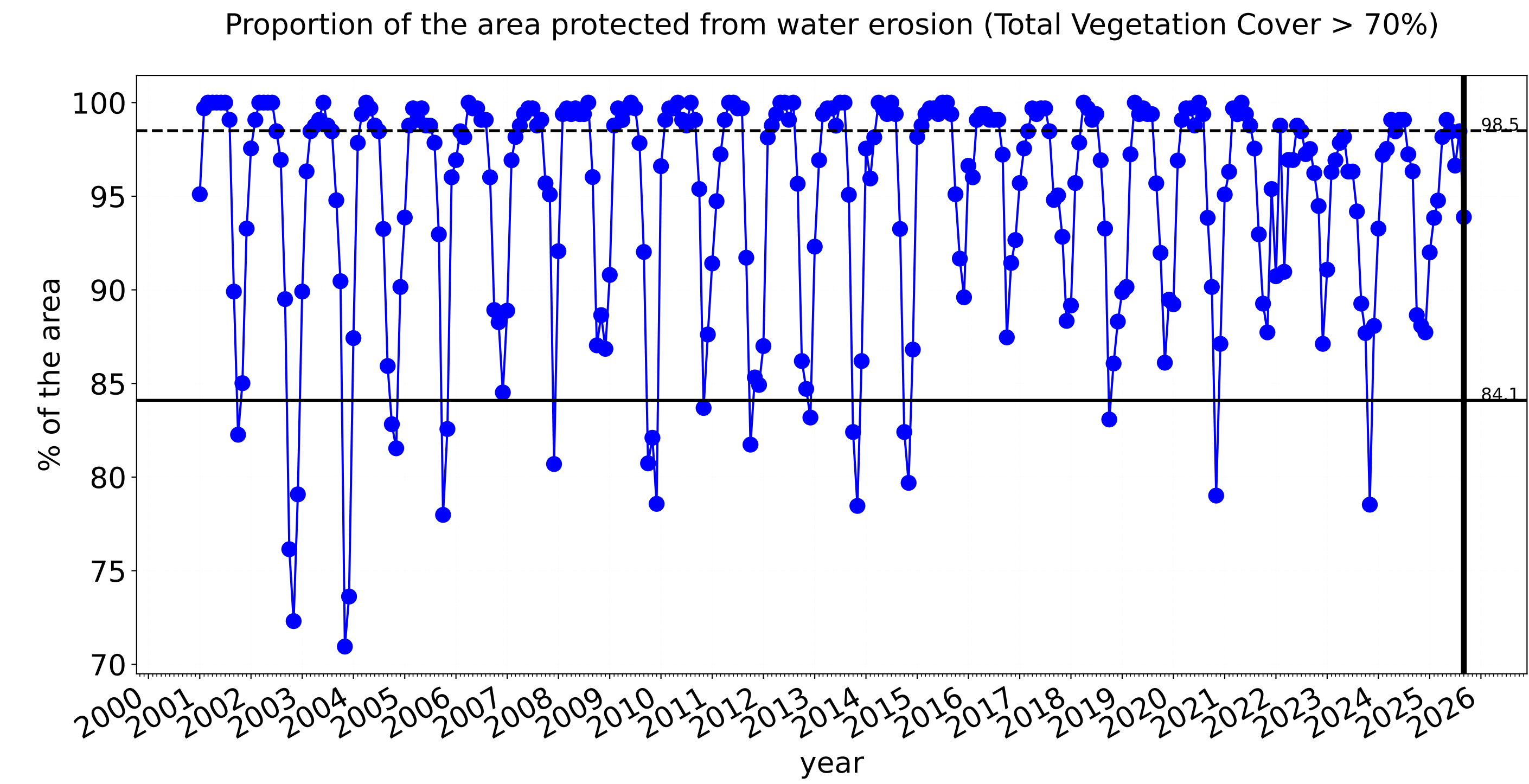
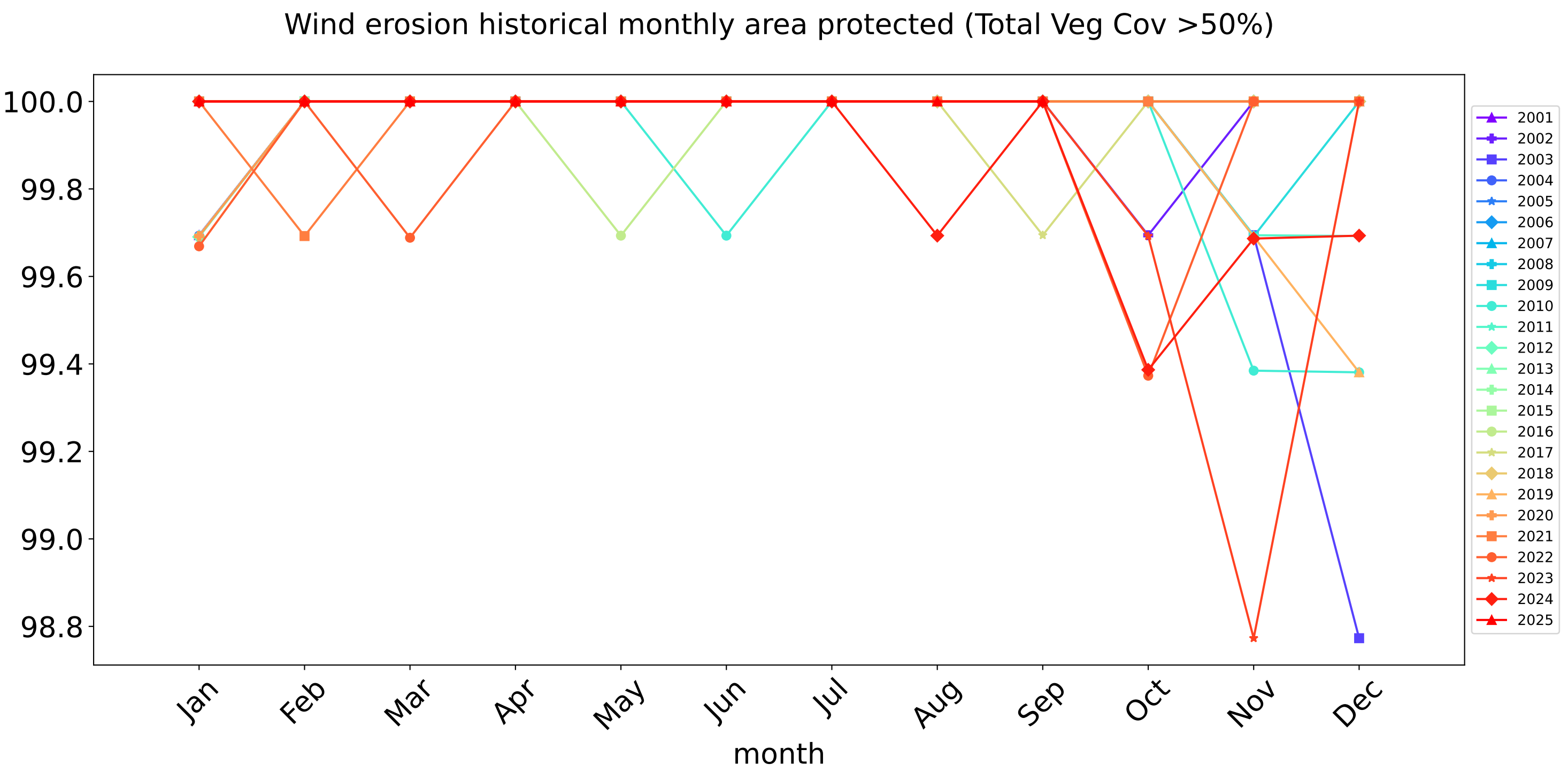
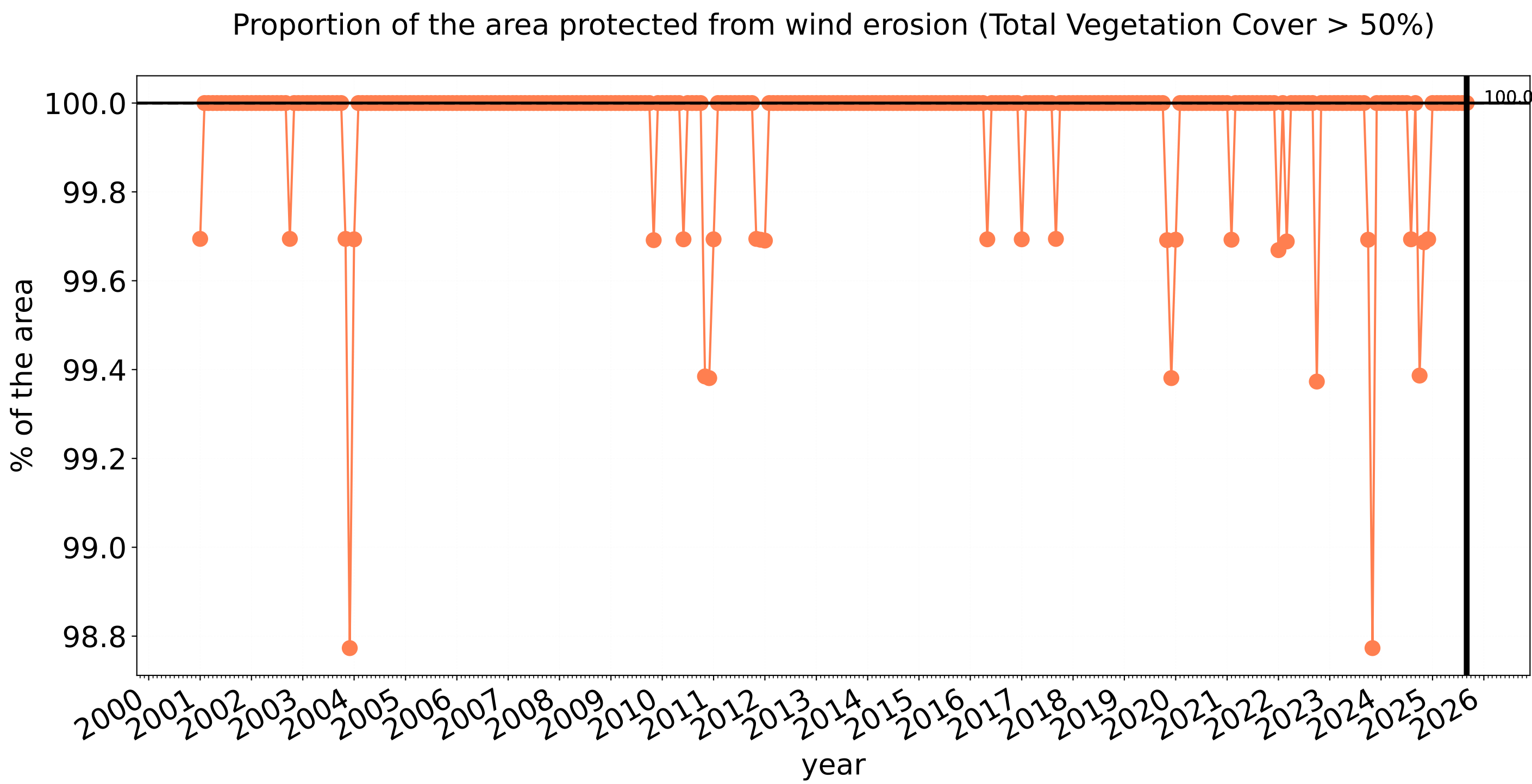
Anomaly show how many percentage points each pixel is from the mean. That is, red pixels are about 20% lower than the mean of that pixel. The mean is only for the month of the map using baseline from 2001 to 2019.

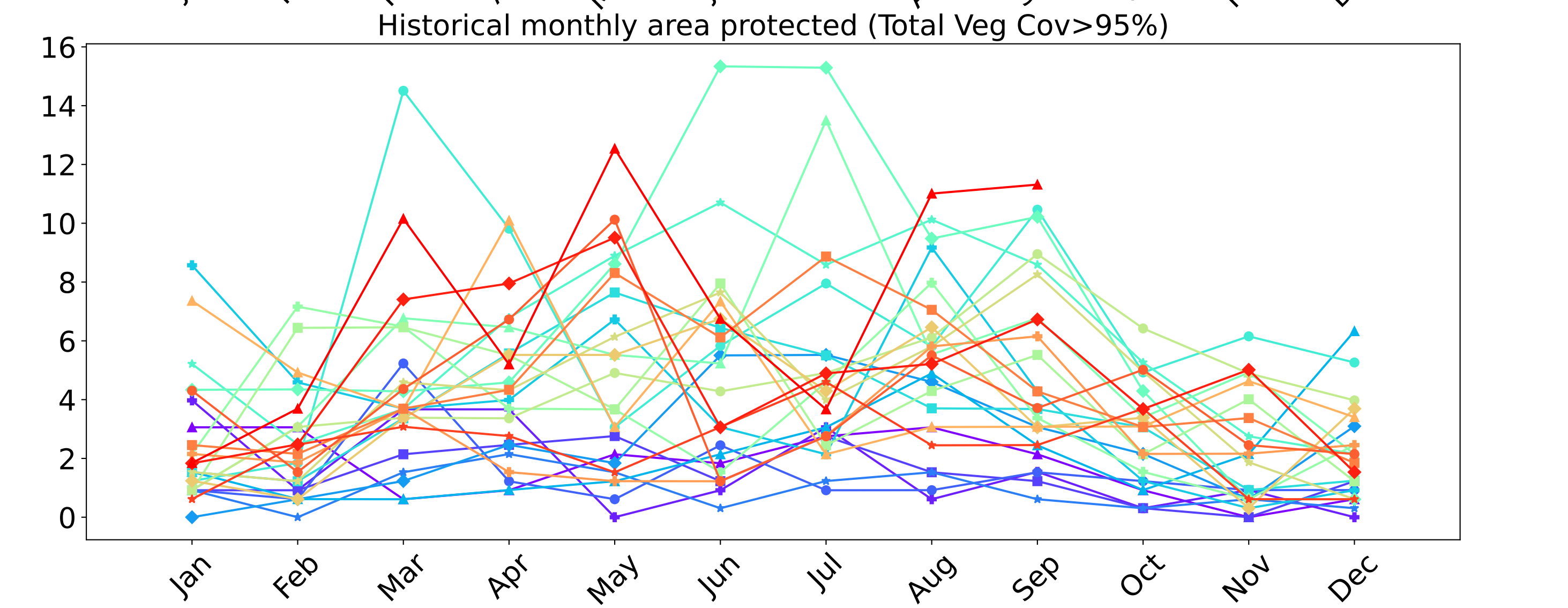
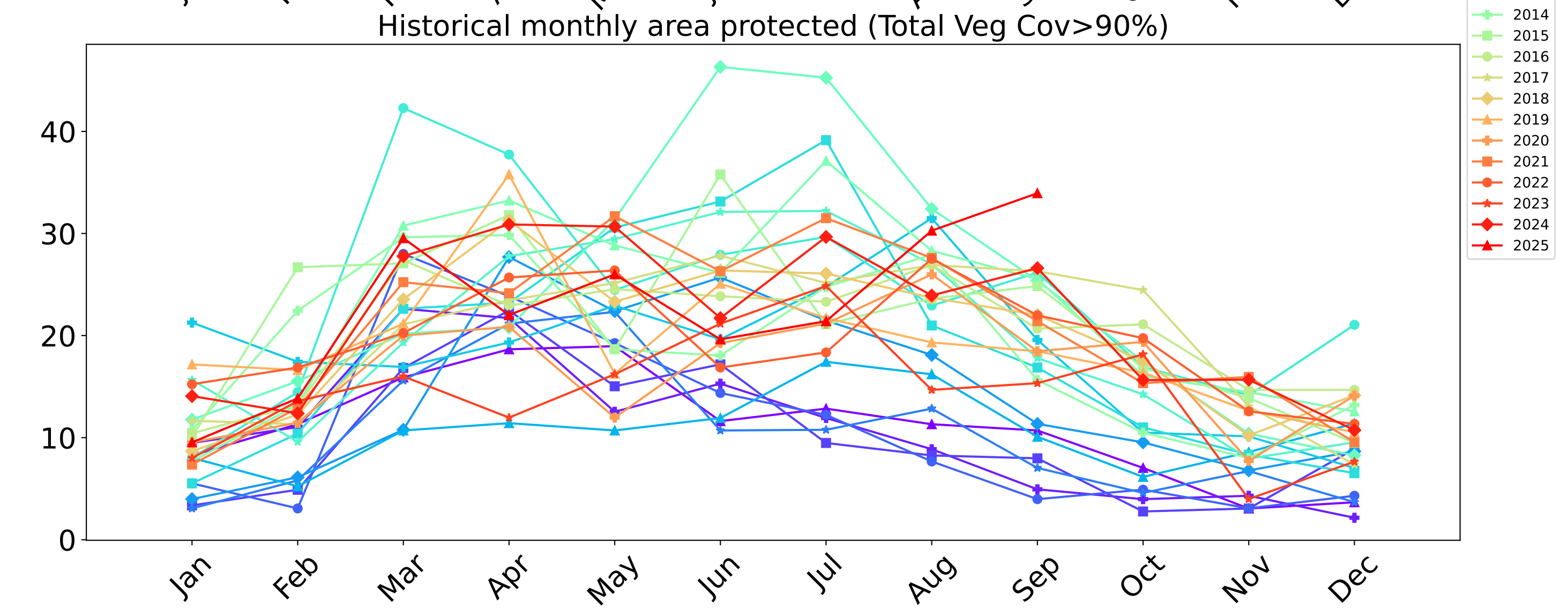
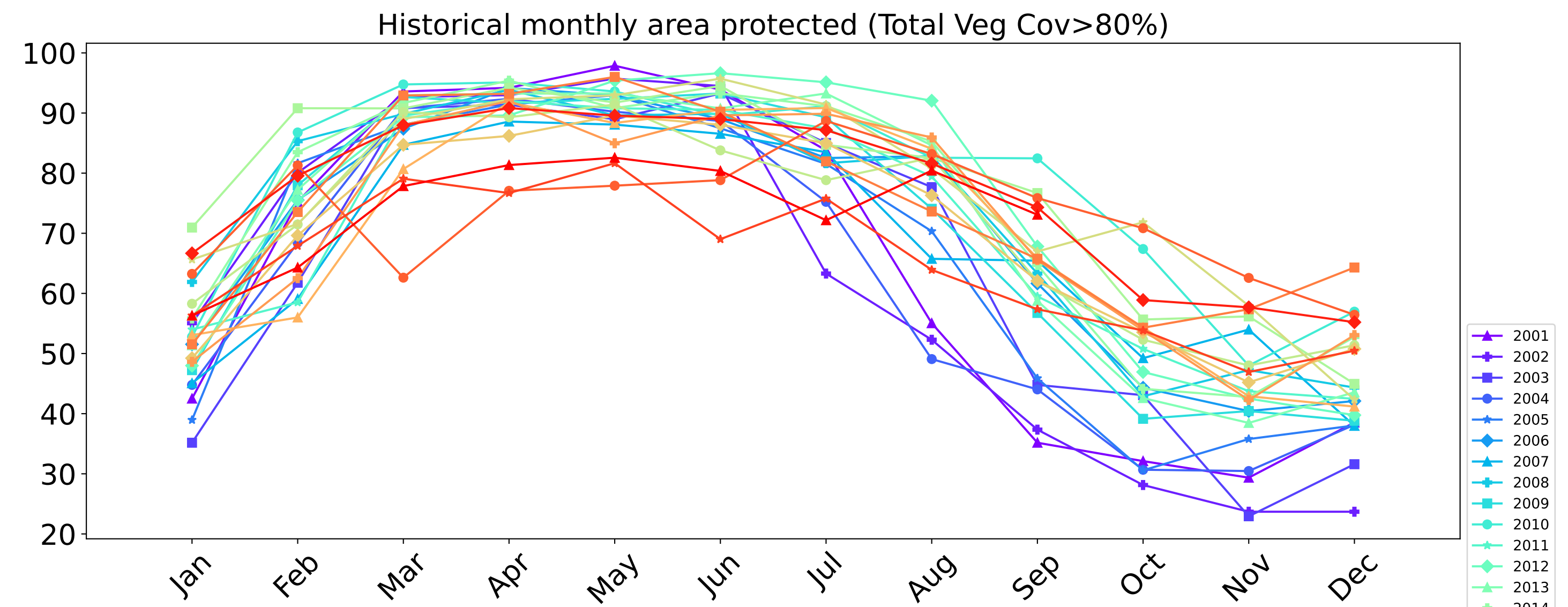
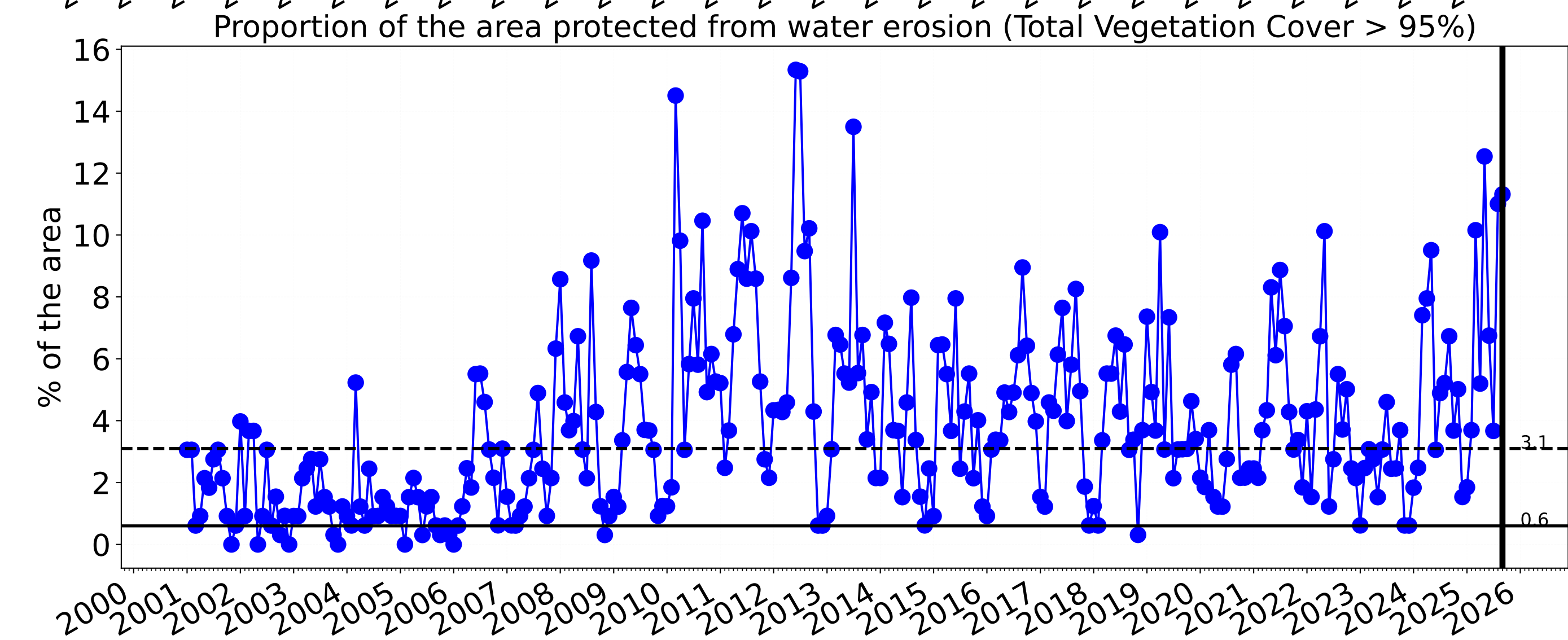
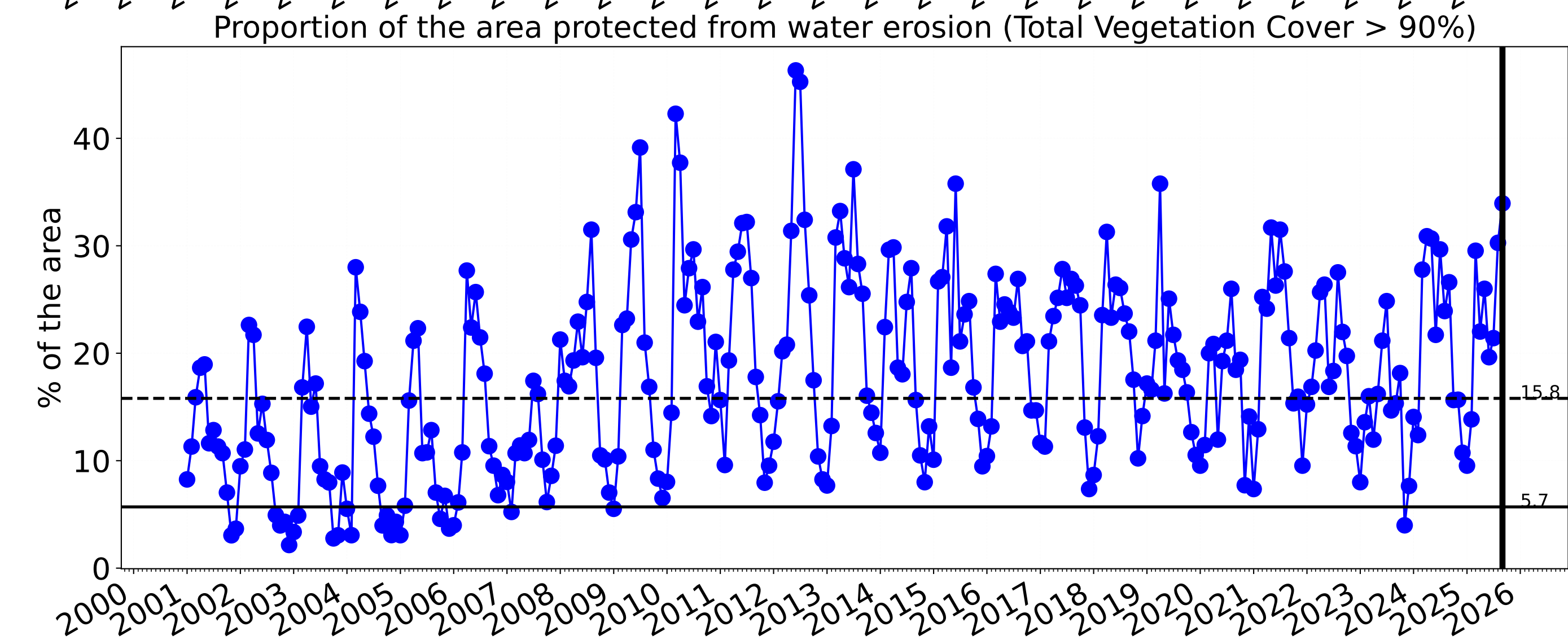
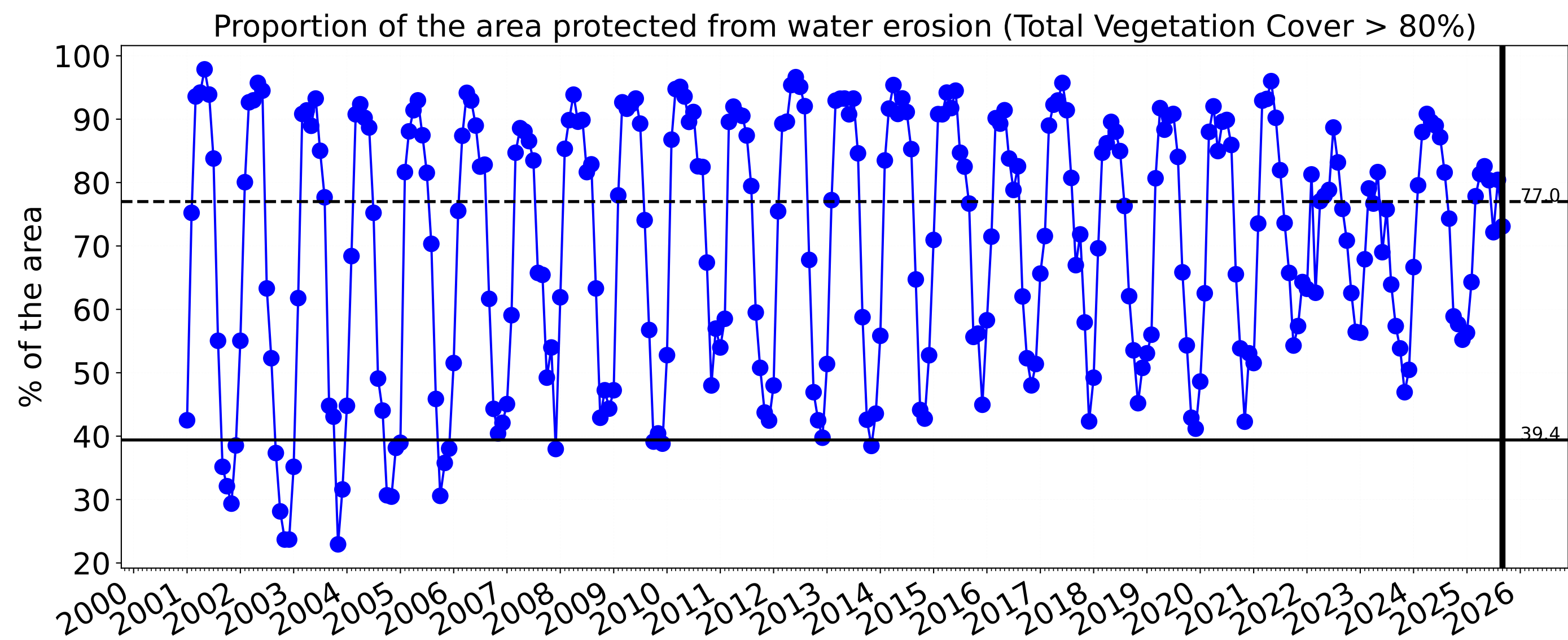


Deciles show where the pixel value lies in the record, from highest to lowest, for that month. That is, red pixels are in the lowest 10% of records for that month of the map using baseline from 2001 to 2019.



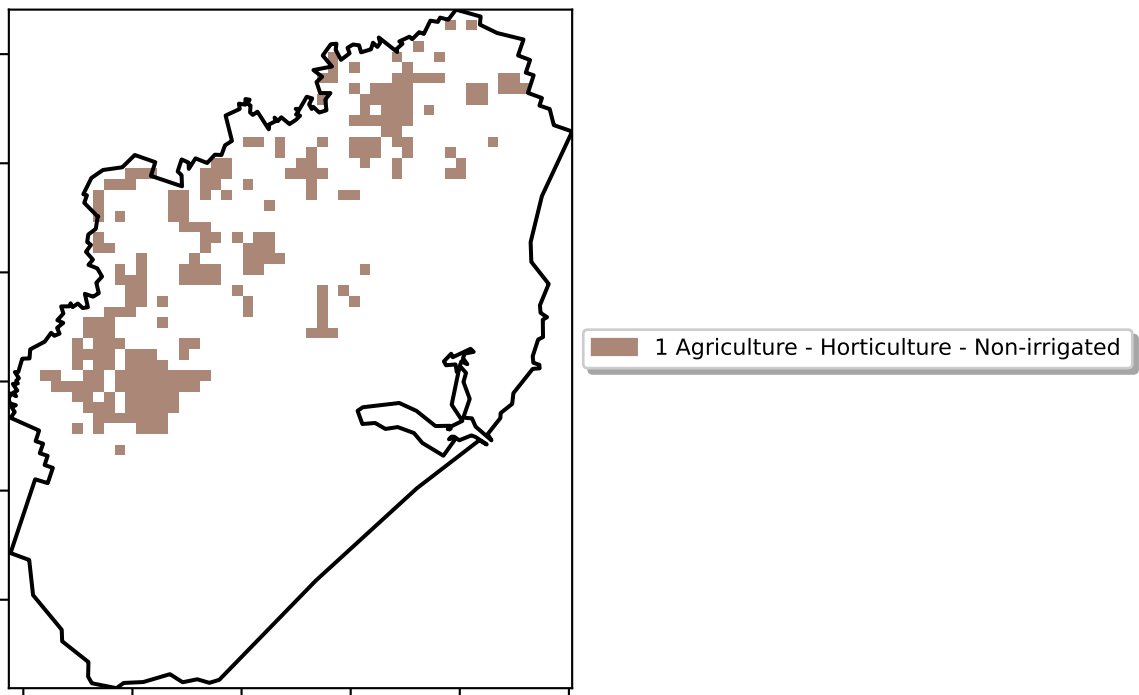
Cropping timeseries



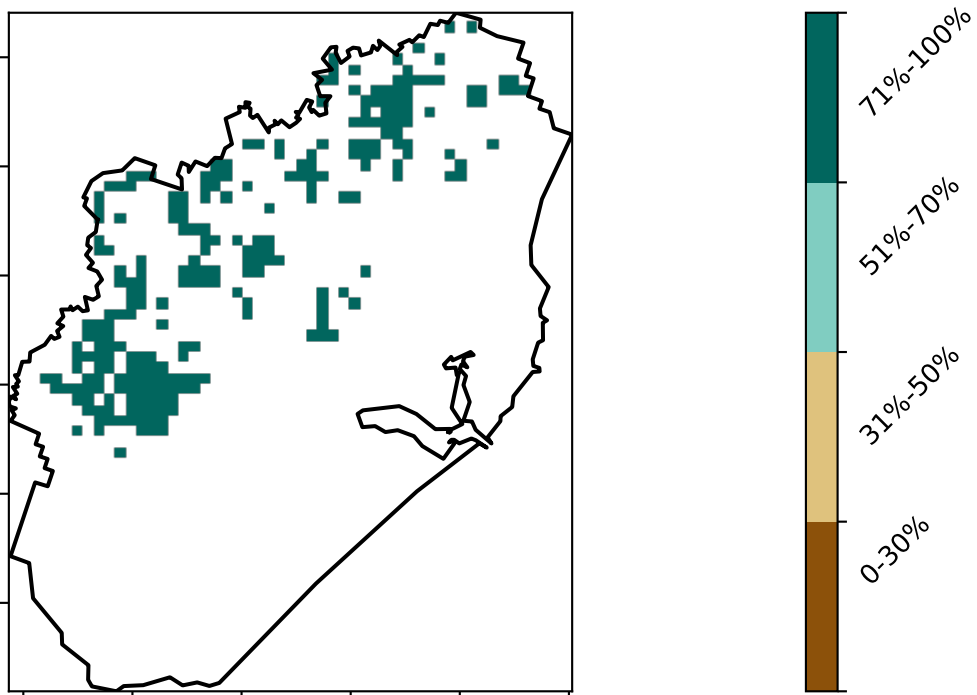


Horticulture

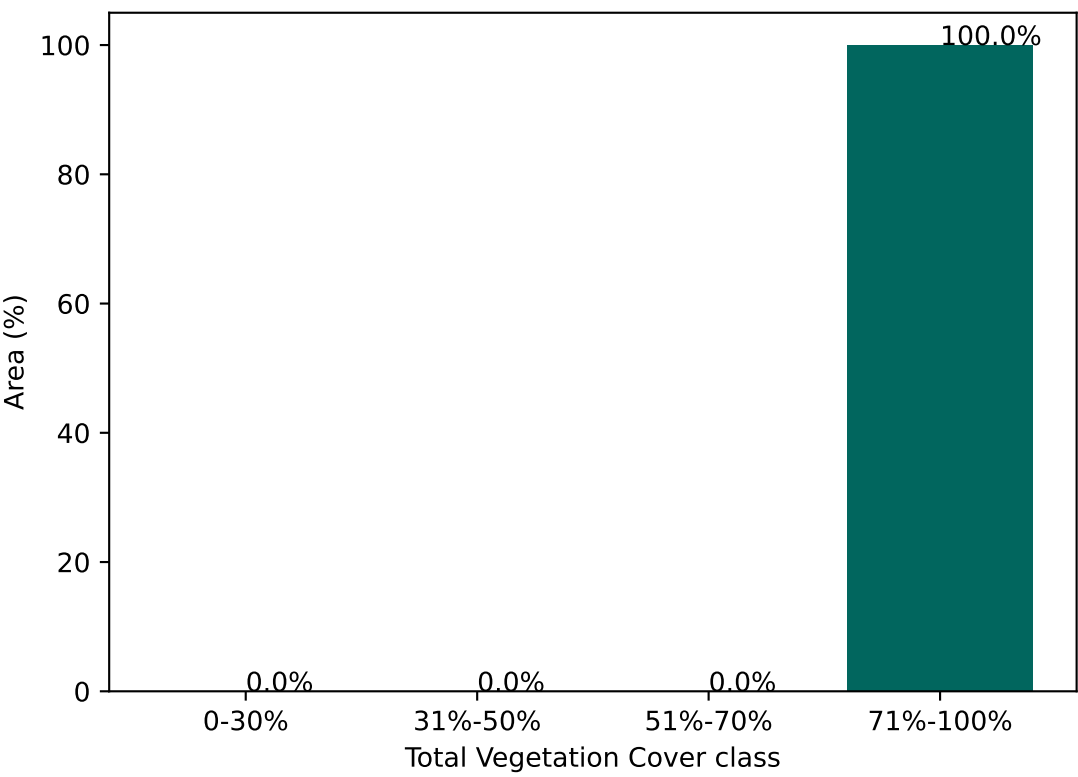
Land use and forest cover



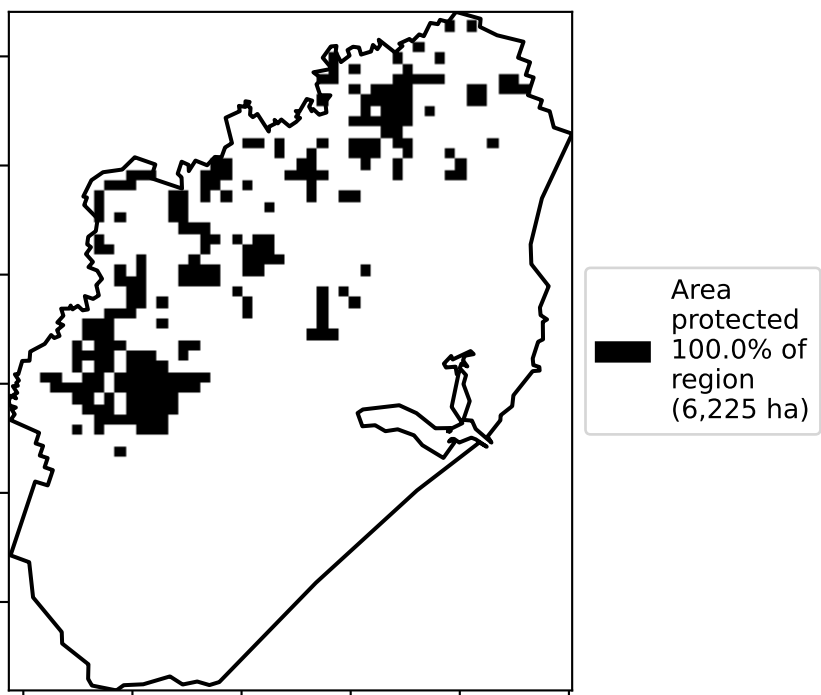
Total Vegetation Cover [%]



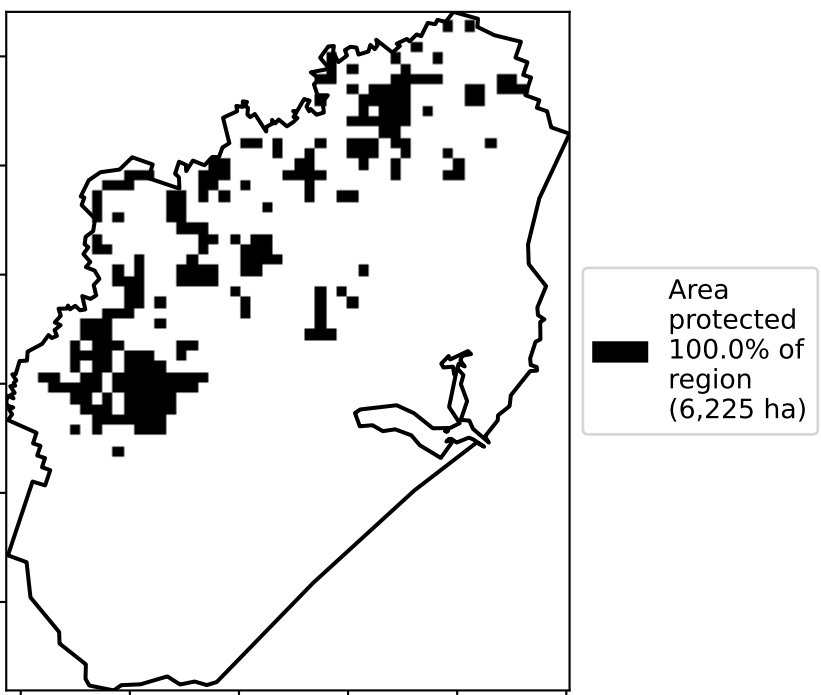
Proportion of vegetation cover class in area



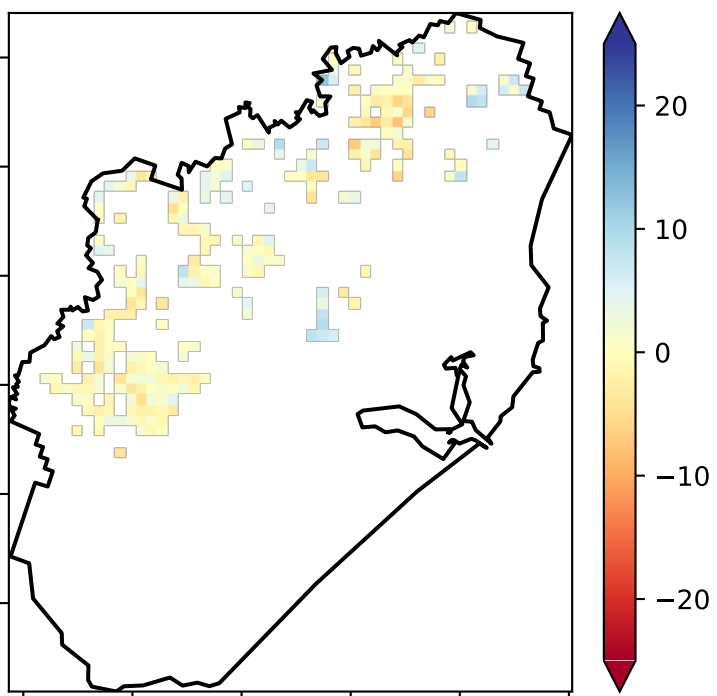
% Area protected from water erosion (>70%)



% Area protected from wind erosion (>50%)

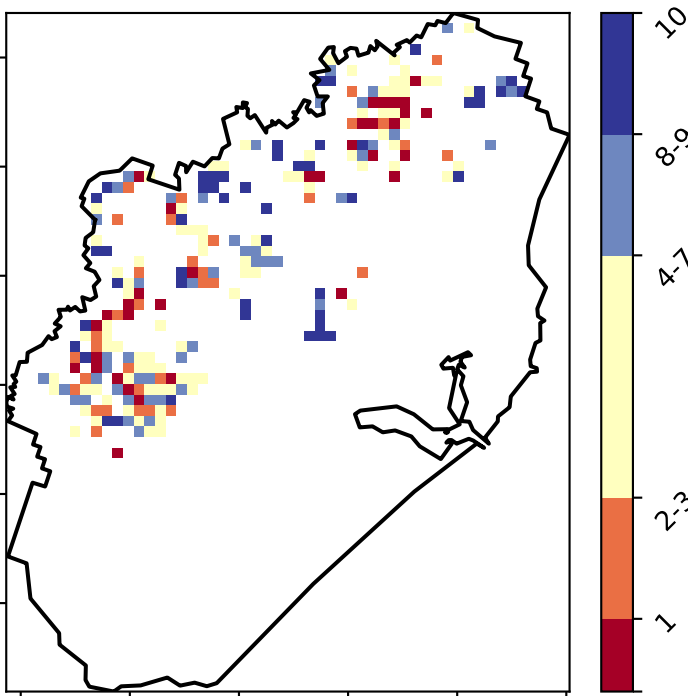


Total Vegetation Cover Anomaly [%]



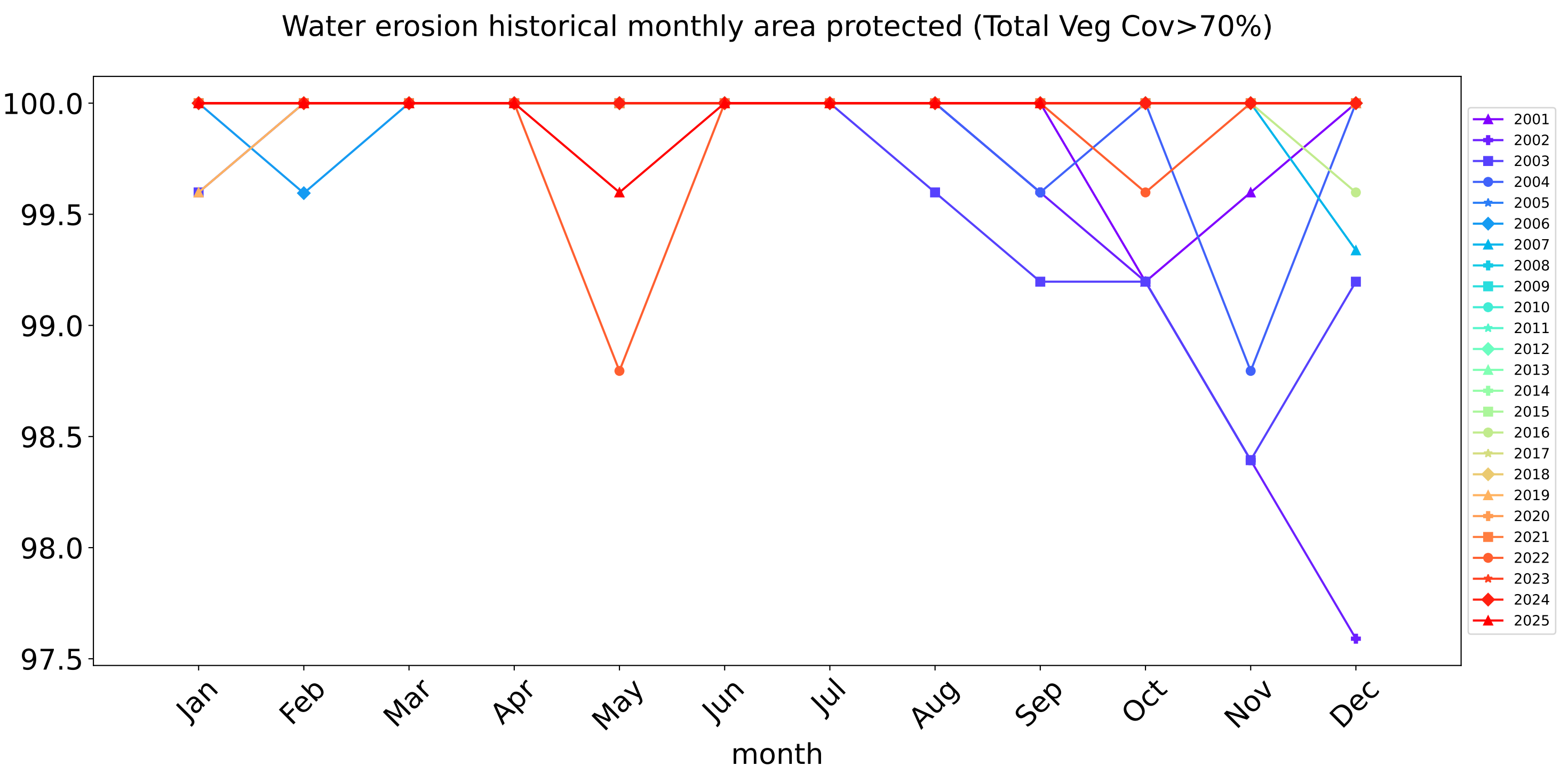
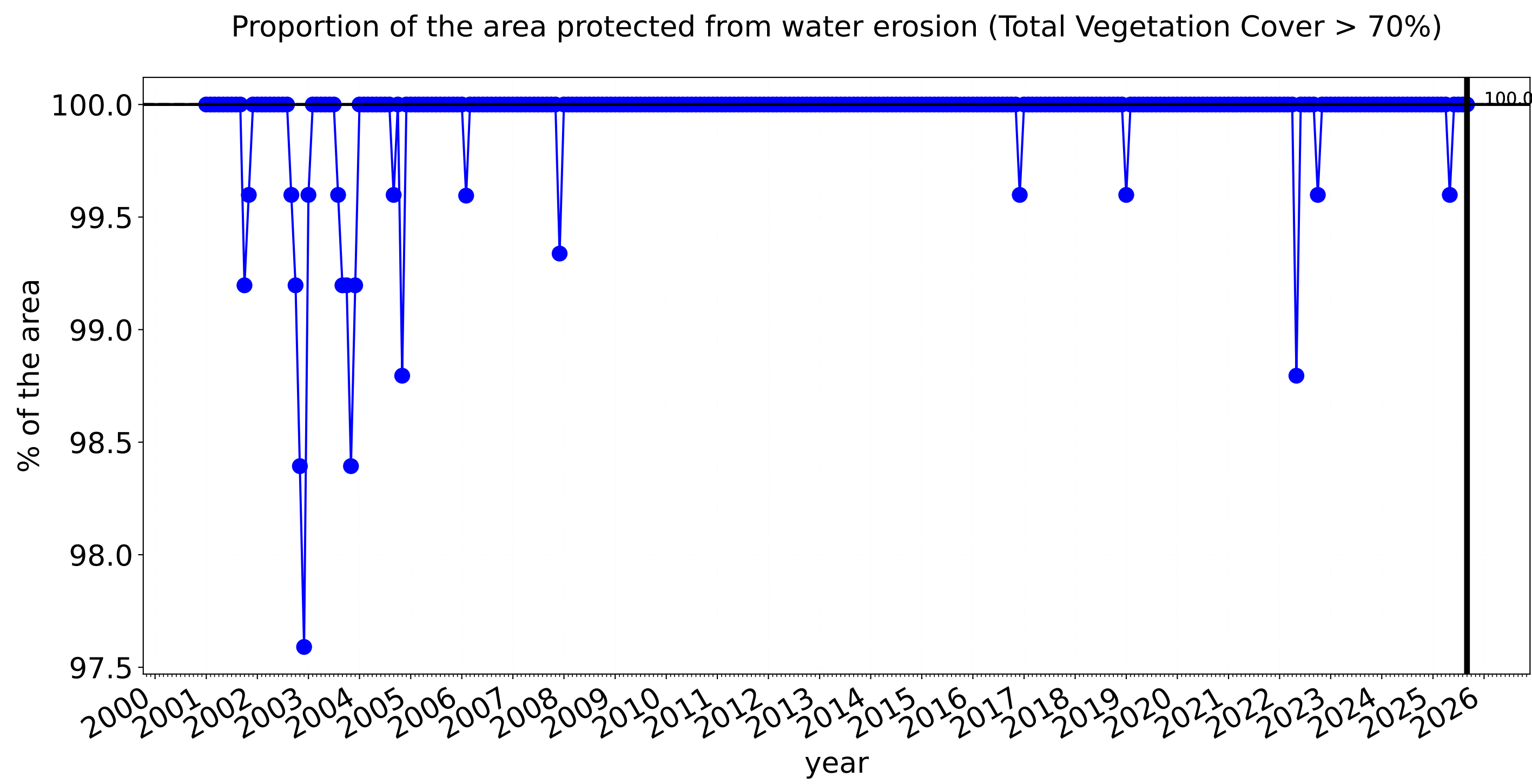
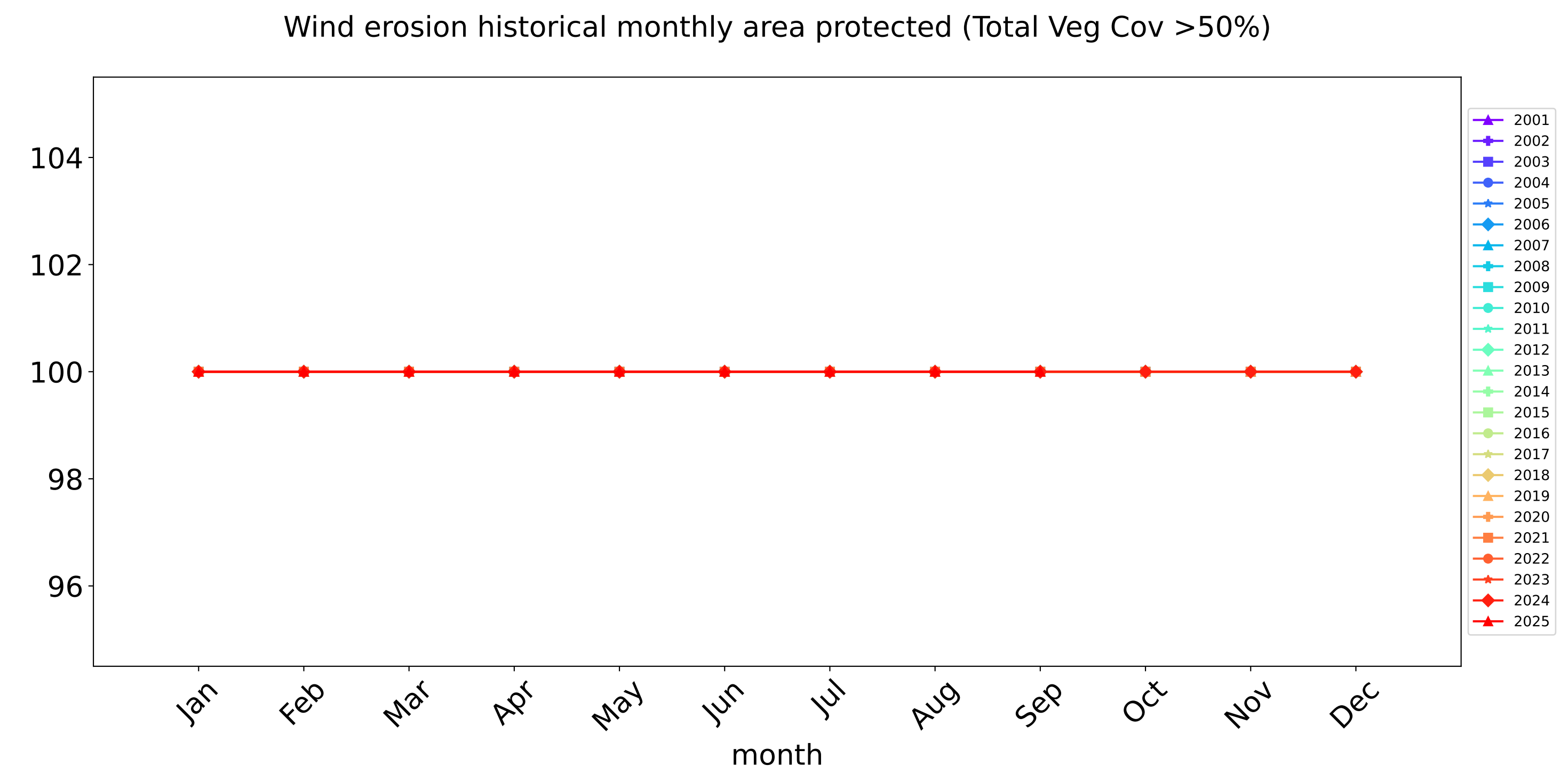
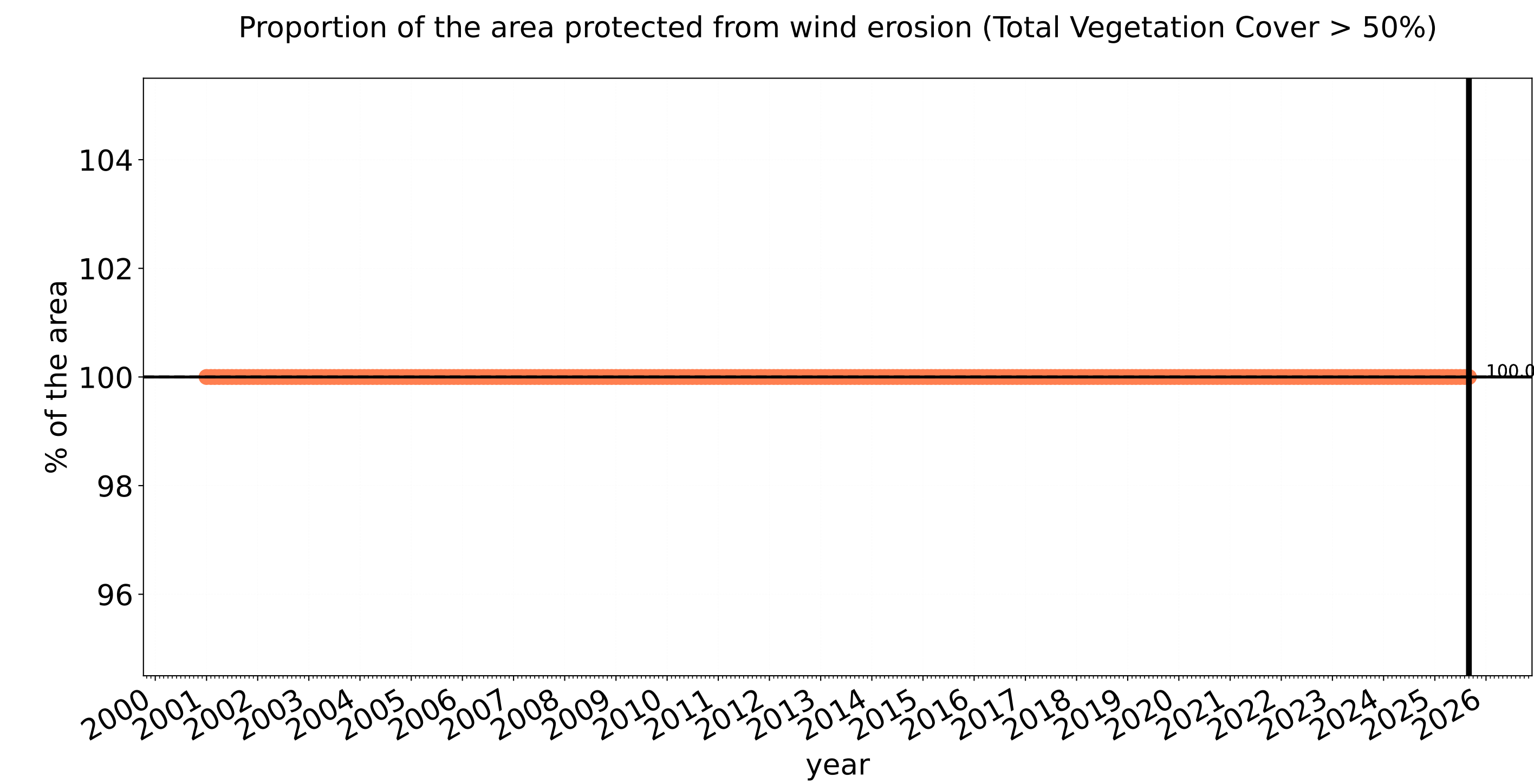
Anomaly show how many percentage points each pixel is from the mean. That is, red pixels are about 20% lower than the mean of that pixel. The mean is only for the month of the map using baseline from 2001 to 2019.

Total Vegetation Cover Decile [%]



Deciles show where the pixel value lies in the record, from highest to lowest, for that month. That is, red pixels are in the lowest 10% of records for that month of the map using baseline from 2001 to 2019.

Horticulture timeseries

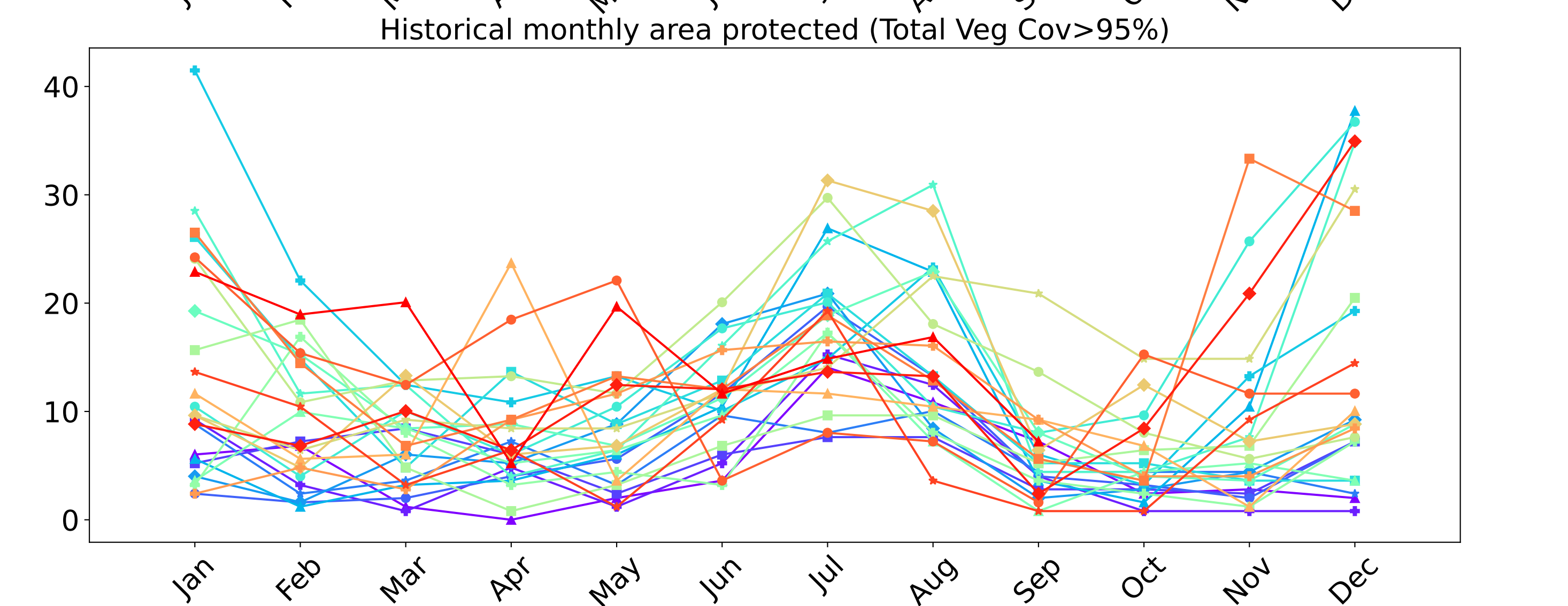
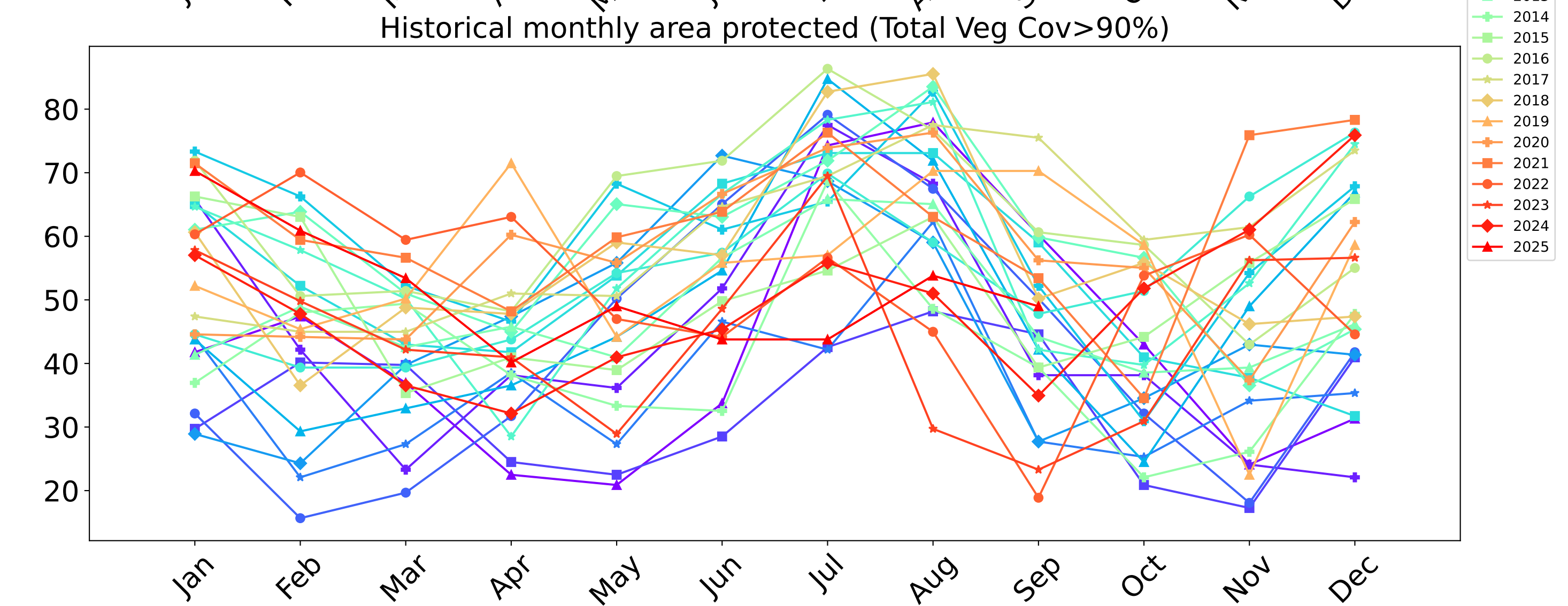
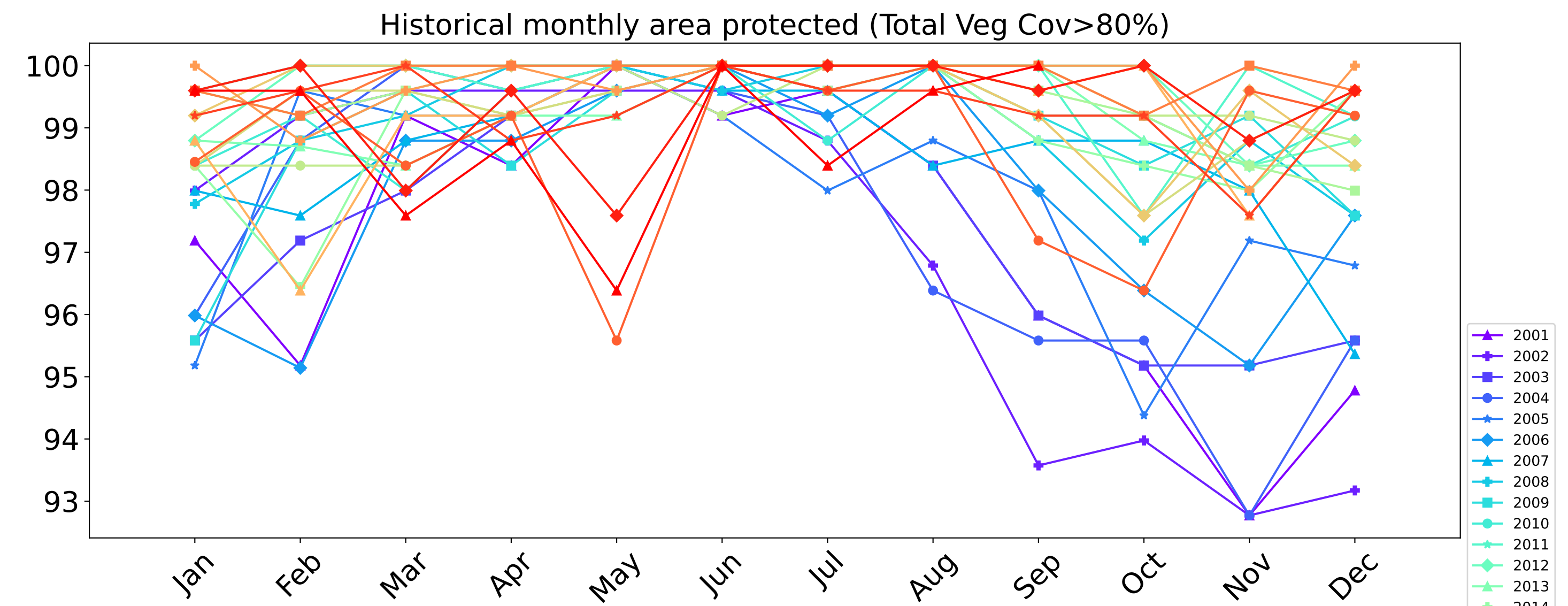
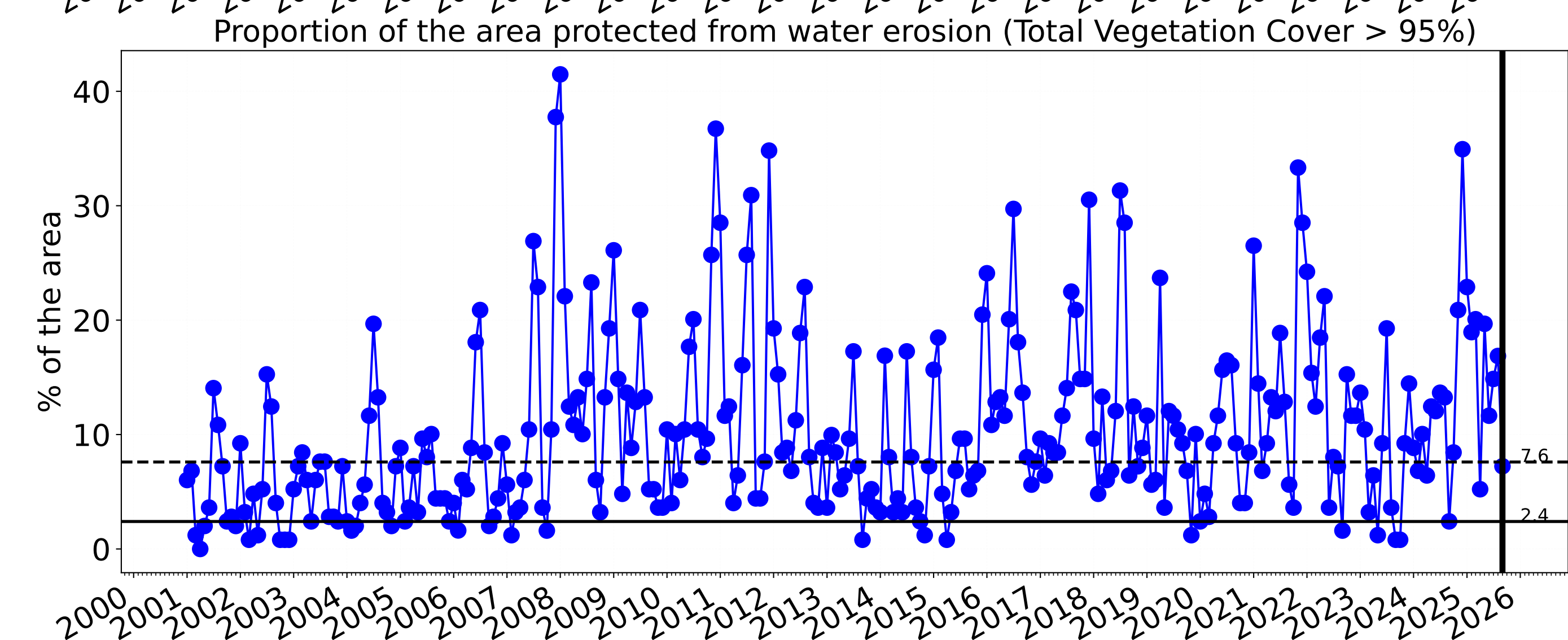
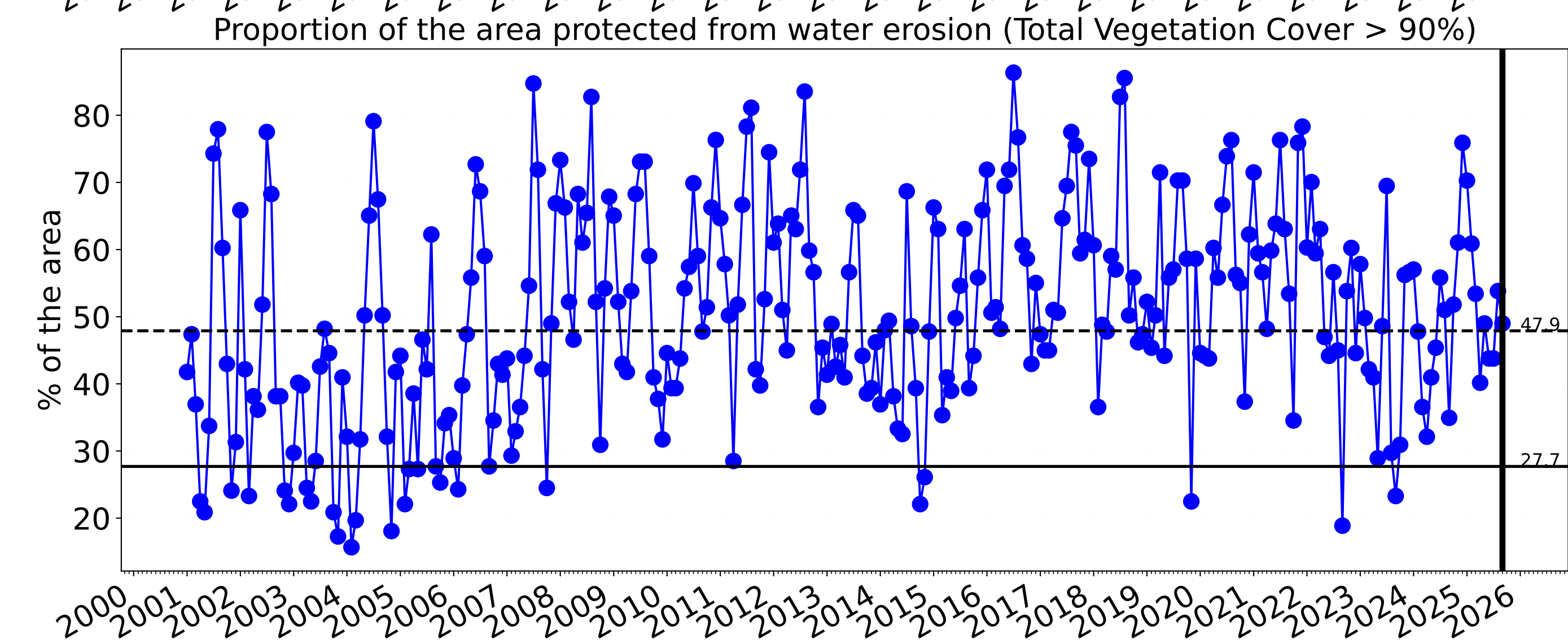
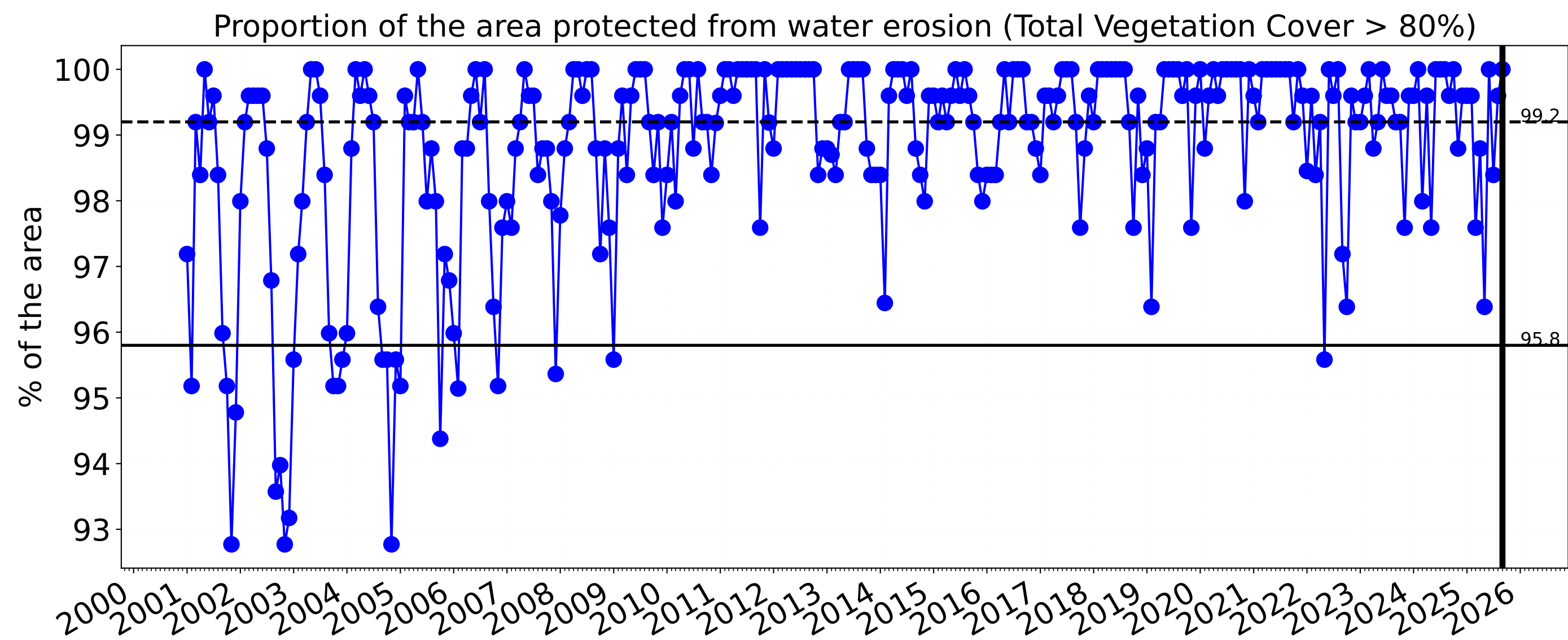


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Ballina_(A) (47,150 ha and no data 1,373 ha) Percentage area and hectares protected with TVC threshold 30,50,70,80,90 and 95%

Land use and forest cover Class	area(ha)	above_30	above_50	above_70	above_80	above_90	above_95
Entire region	47,150	100.0% 47,150	99.9% 47,125	97.6% 46,025	89.2% 42,075	50.6% 23,875	20.7% 9,750
Conservation and natural environments	5,700	100.0% 5,700	100.0% 5,700	99.1% 5,650	96.5% 5,500	82.0% 4,675	63.6% 3,625
Conservation and natural environments non forest	2,350	100.0% 2,350	100.0% 2,350	98.9% 2,325	95.7% 2,250	79.8% 1,875	68.1% 1,600
Conservation and natural environments Woodland forest	1,375	100.0% 1,375	100.0% 1,375	100.0% 1,375	96.4% 1,325	72.7% 1,000	43.6% 600
Conservation and natural environments Forest (non woodland)	1,975	100.0% 1,975	100.0% 1,975	98.7% 1,950	97.5% 1,925	91.1% 1,800	72.2% 1,425
Agriculture	31,775	100.0% 31,775	100.0% 31,775	98.1% 31,175	91.2% 28,975	49.1% 15,600	14.8% 4,700
Grazing	17,275	100.0% 17,275	100.0% 17,275	99.4% 17,175	96.5% 16,675	56.0% 9,675	18.7% 3,225
Grazing non forest	16,600	100.0% 16,600	100.0% 16,600	99.4% 16,500	96.7% 16,050	56.5% 9,375	18.8% 3,125
Grazing Woodland forest	500	100.0% 500	100.0% 500	100.0% 500	90.0% 450	30.0% 150	0.0% 0
Cropping	8,175	100.0% 8,175	100.0% 8,175	93.9% 7,675	73.1% 5,975	33.9% 2,775	11.3% 925
Horticulture	6,225	100.0% 6,225	100.0% 6,225	100.0% 6,225	100.0% 6,225	49.0% 3,050	7.2% 450



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