

Total vegetation cover soil protection

Region:LGA Cobar_(A) NSW

Date: October 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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Ecosystem Research Infrastructure

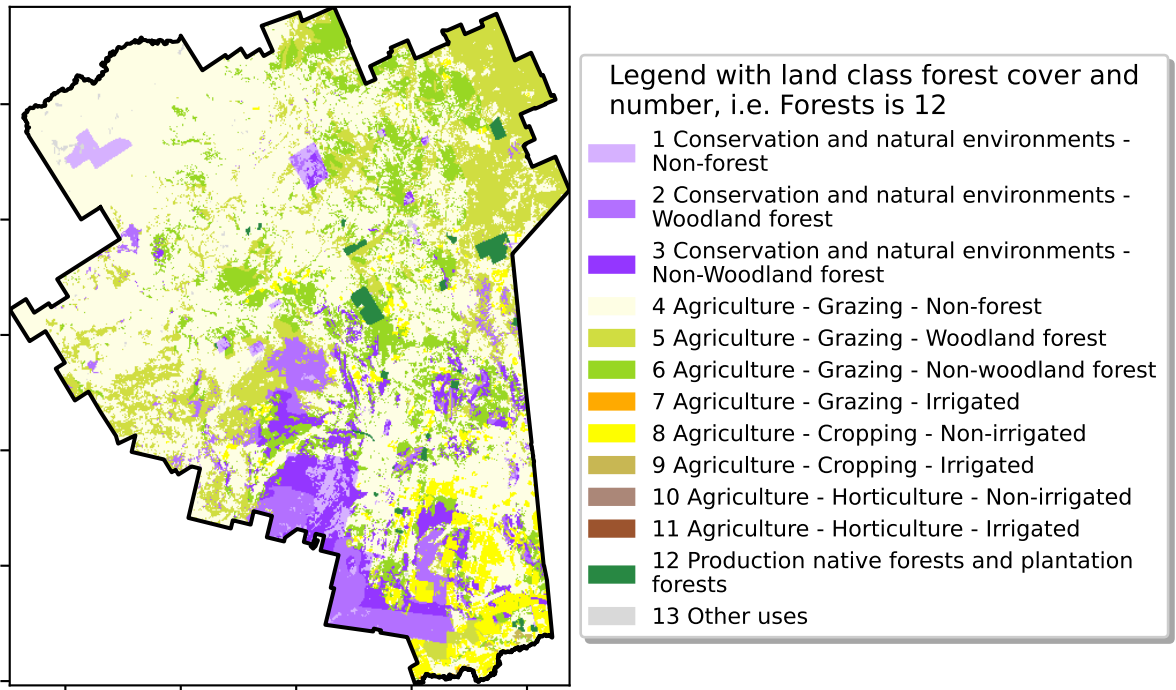


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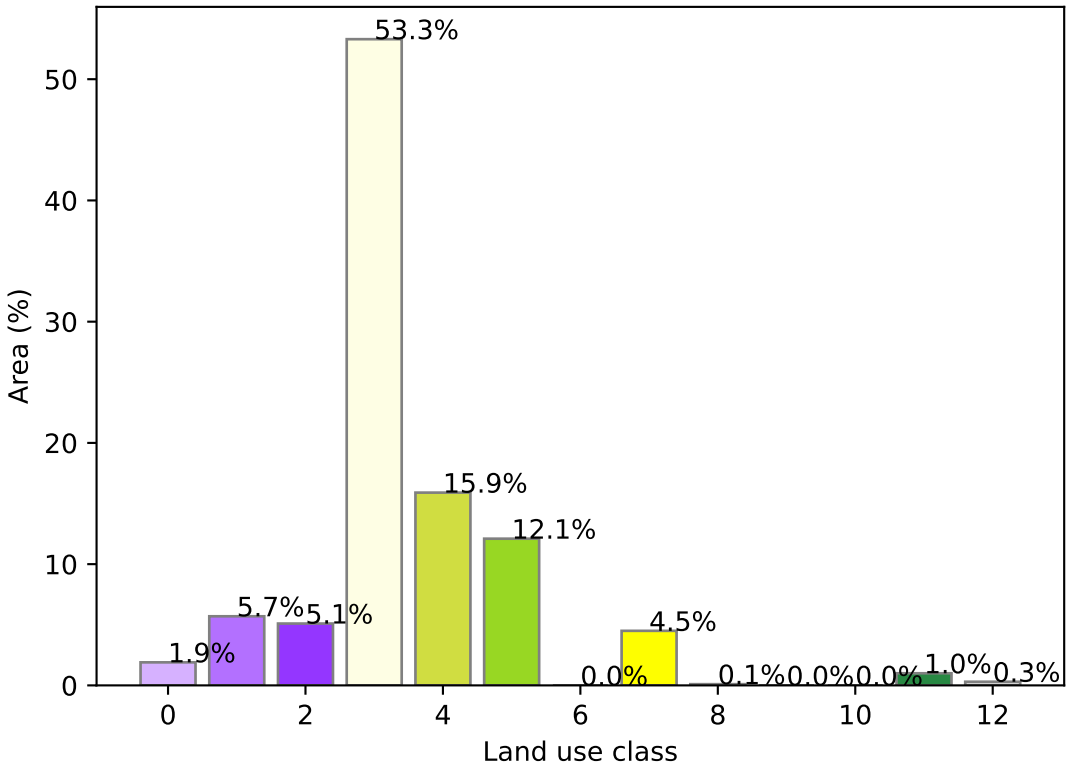


Vegetation Cover Oct 2025

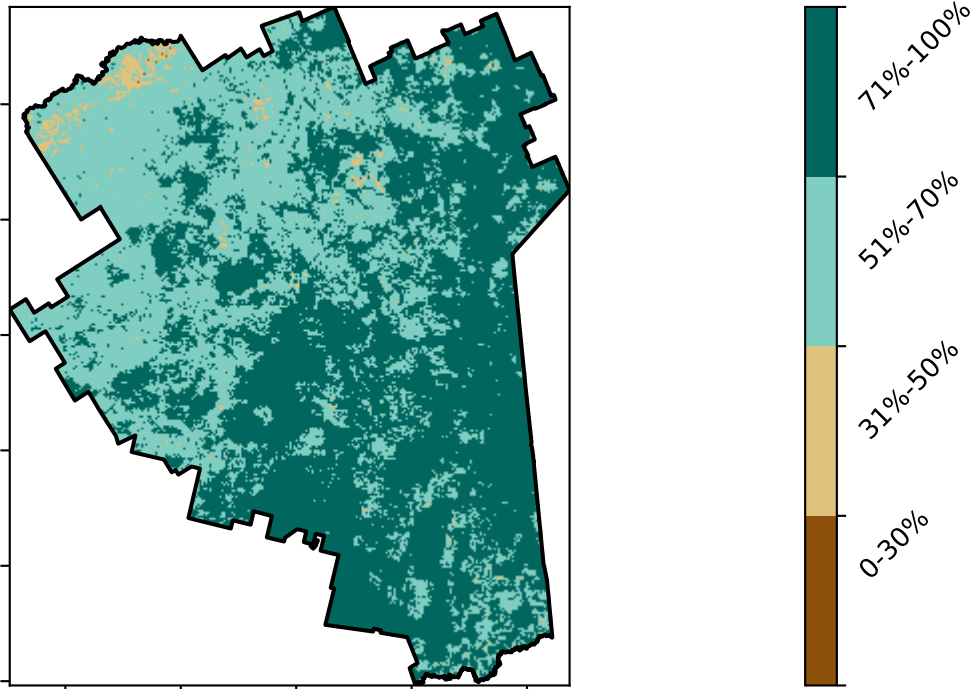
Land use and forest cover



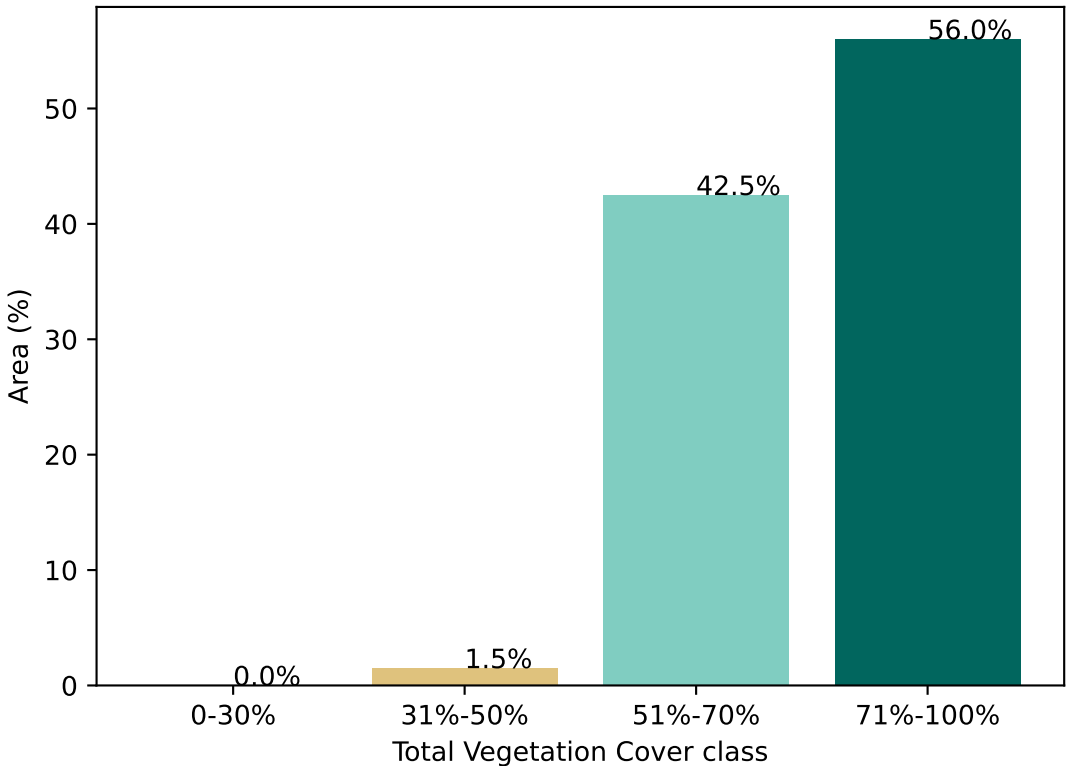
Proportion of each land class in area



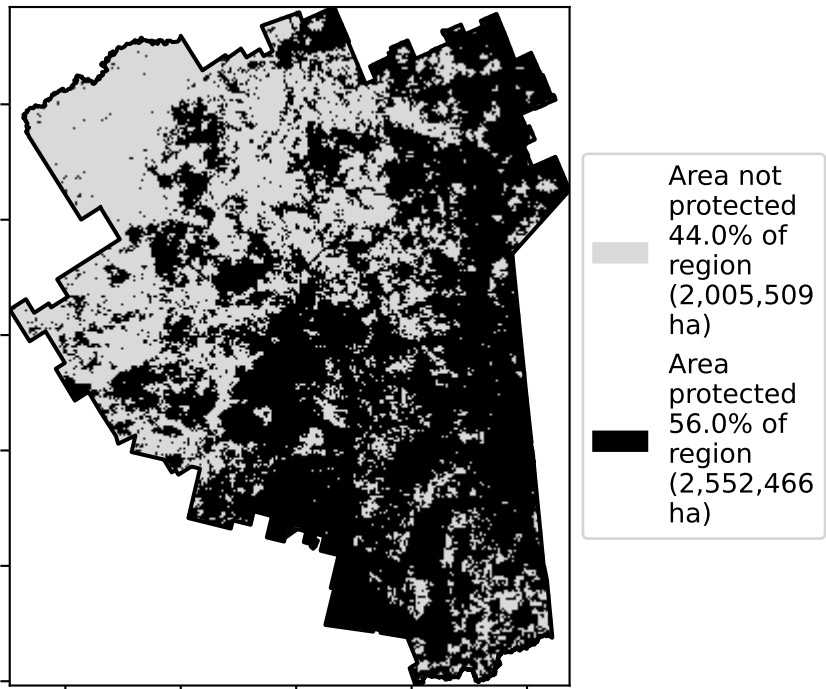
Total Vegetation Cover [%]



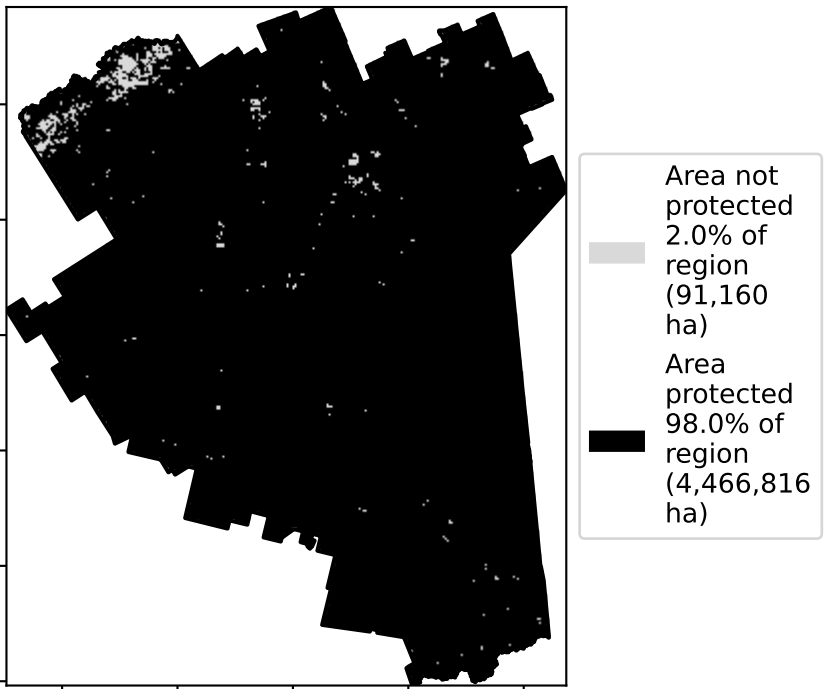
Proportion of vegetation cover class in area



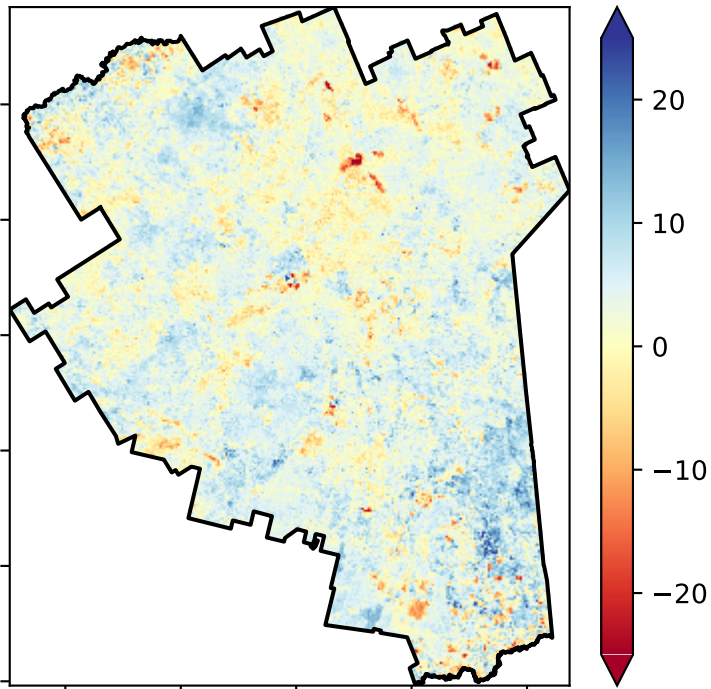
% Area protected from water erosion (>70%)



% Area protected from wind erosion (>50%)



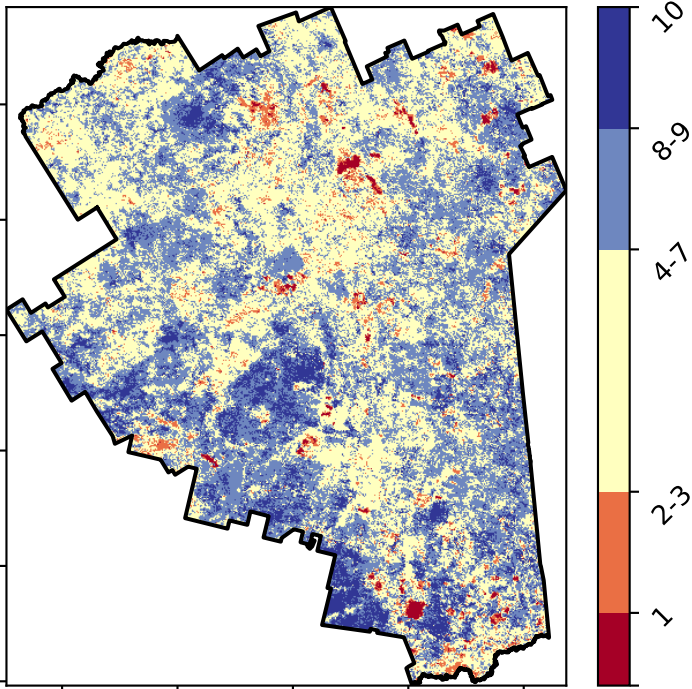
Total Vegetation Cover Anomaly [%]



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 [%]



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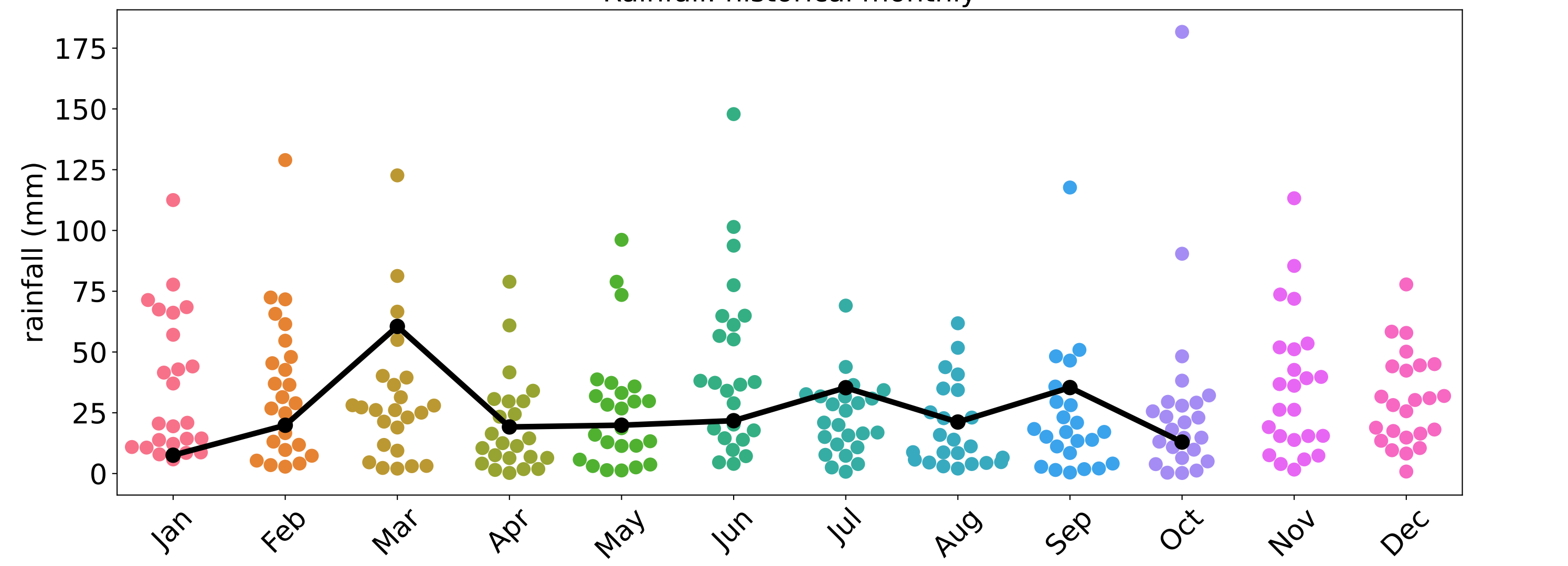
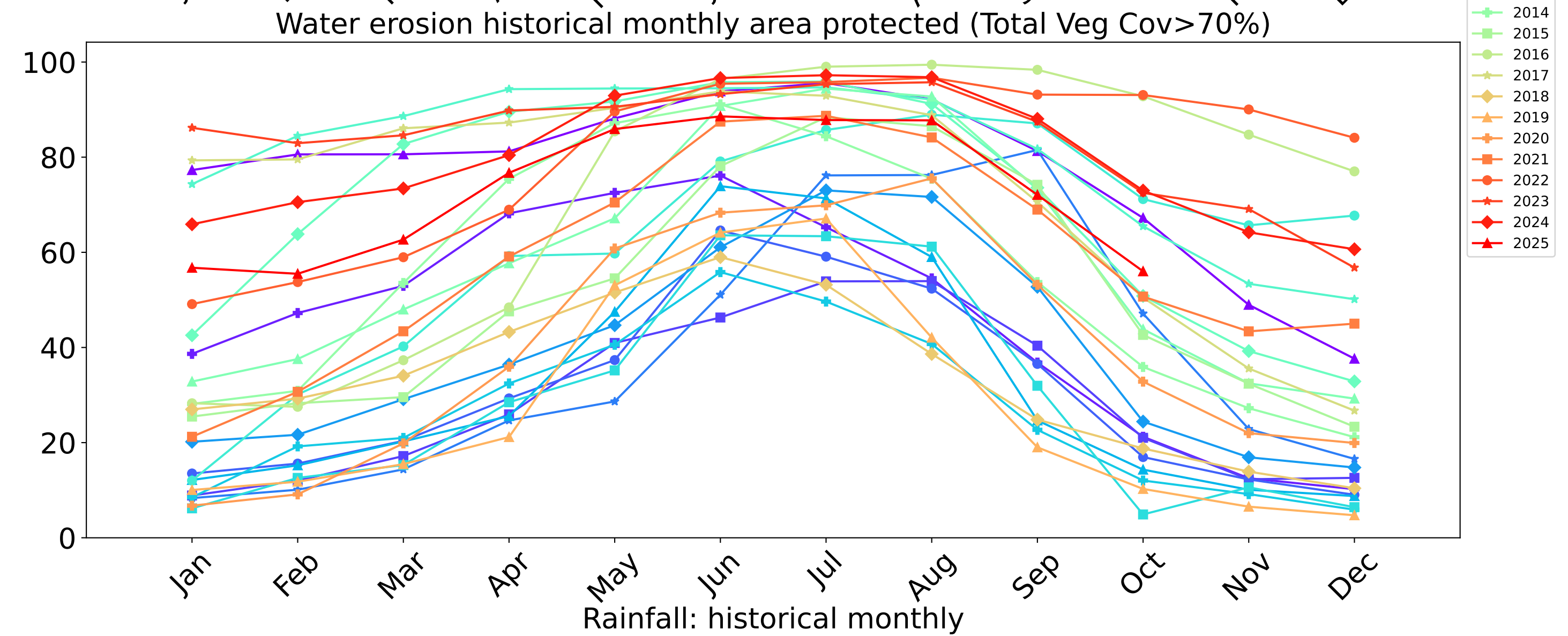
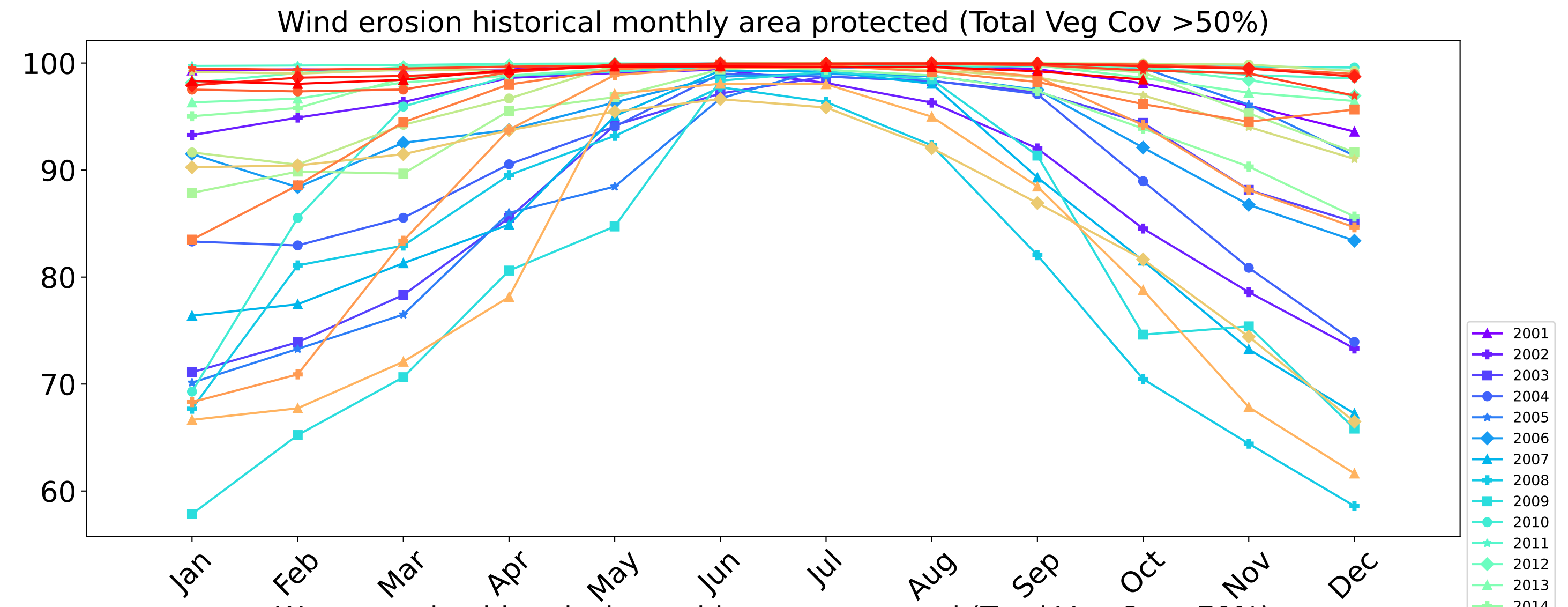
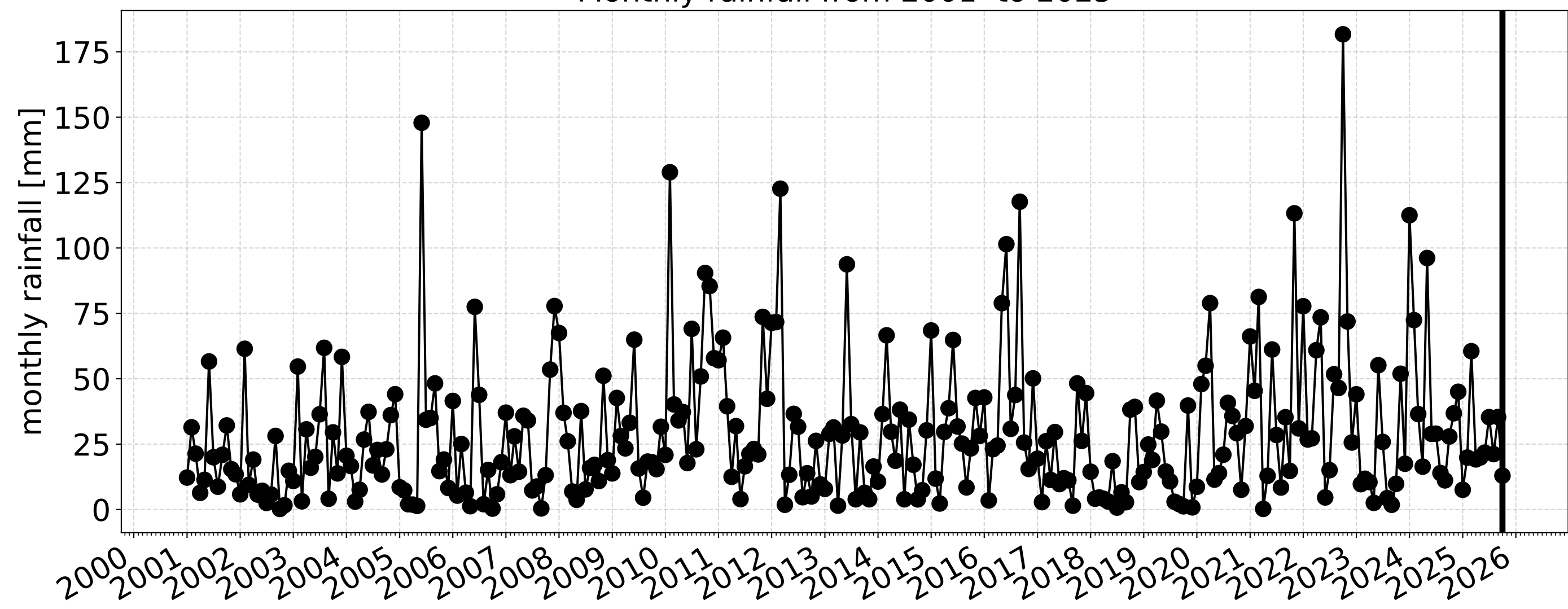
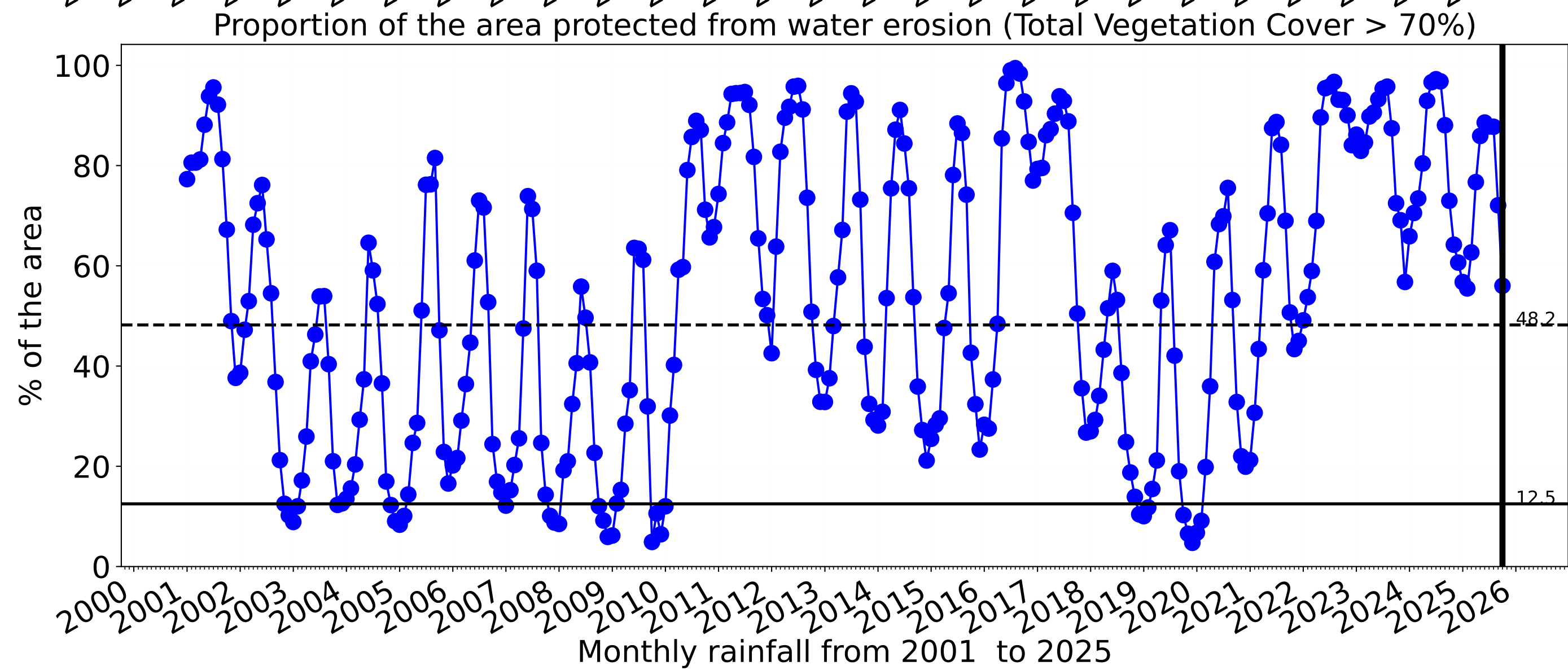
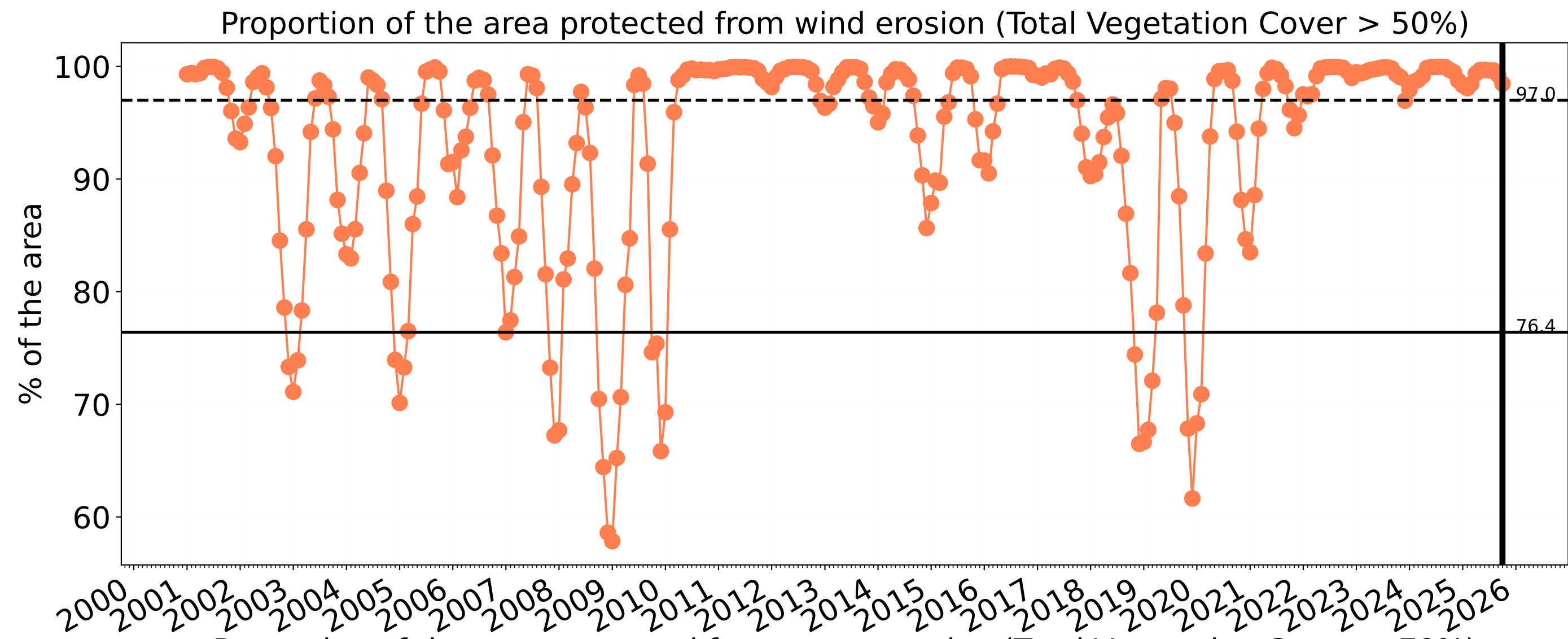
Ecosystem Research Infrastructure



Australian Government

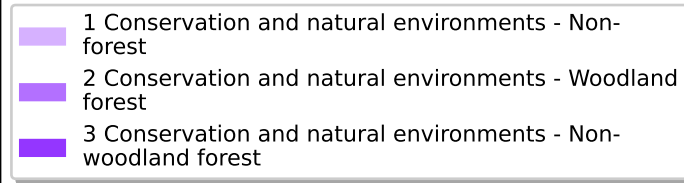
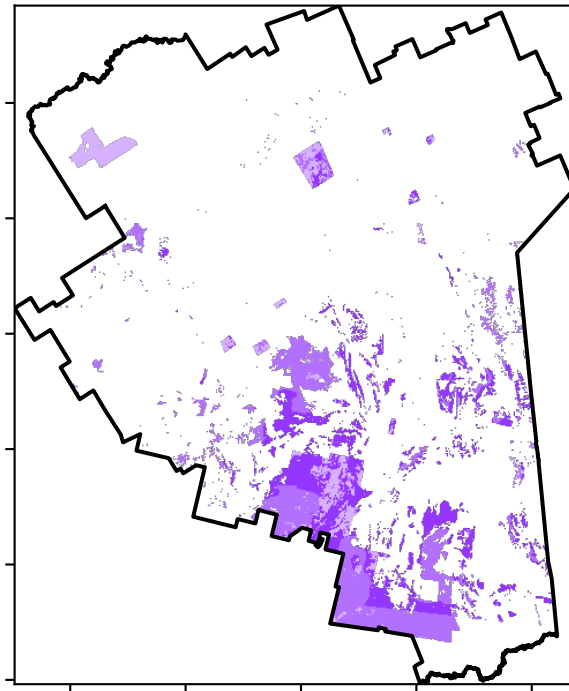
National Landcare Programme



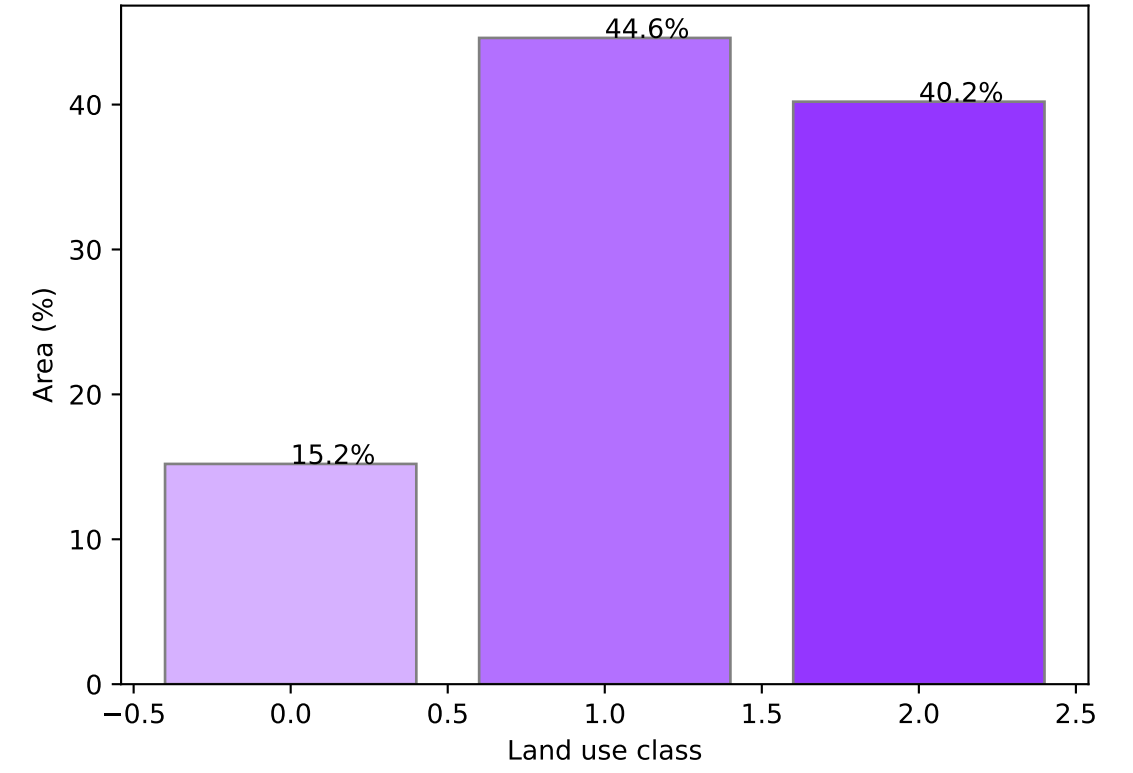


Conservation and natural environments

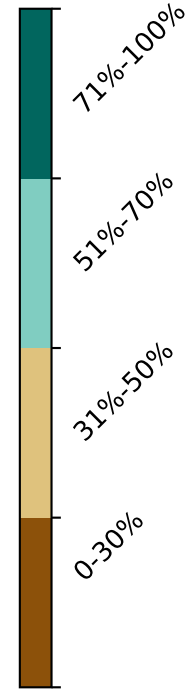
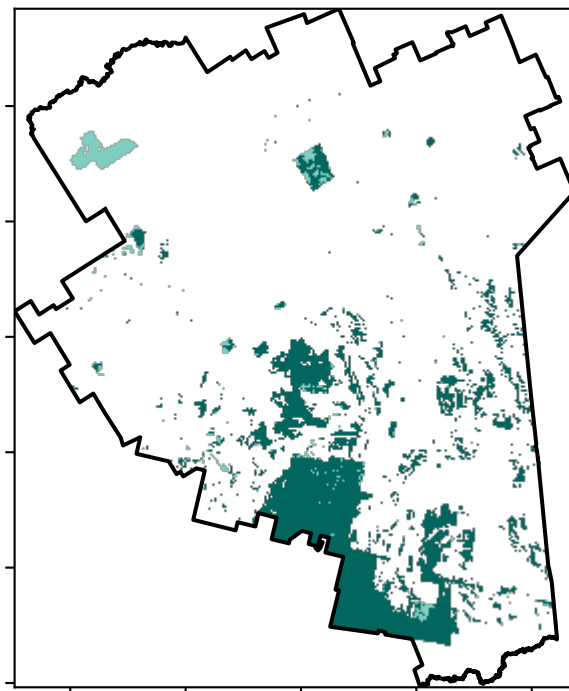
Land use and forest cover



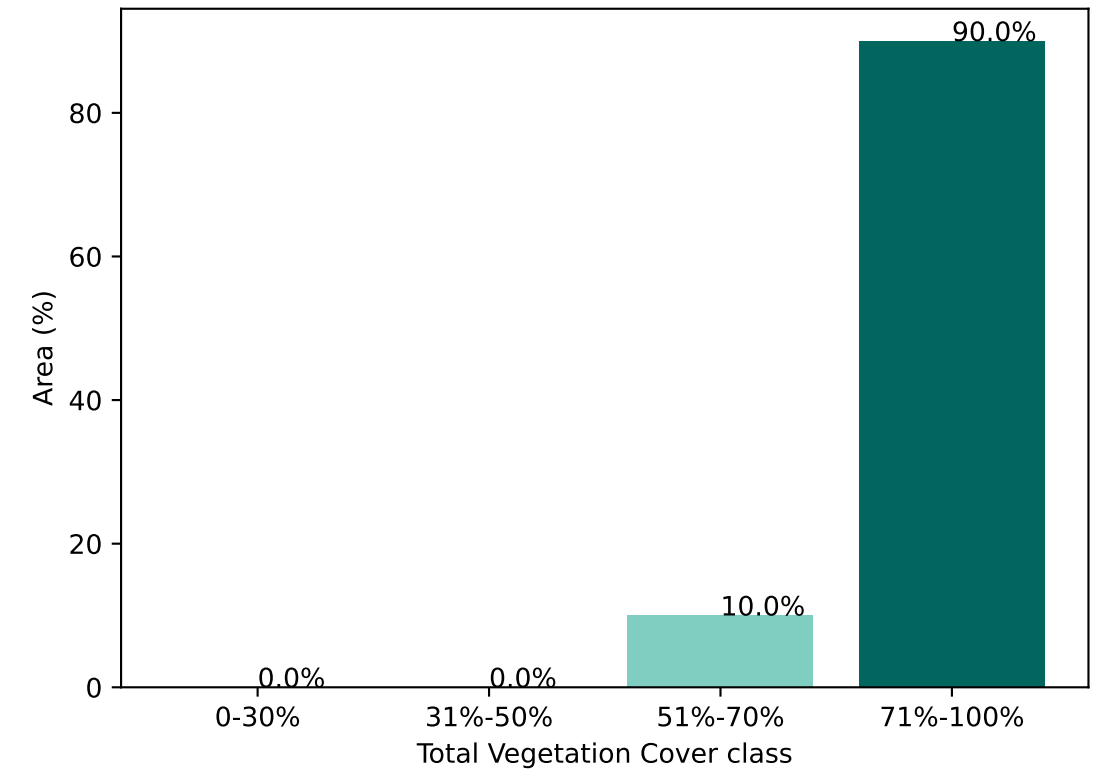
Proportion of each land class in area



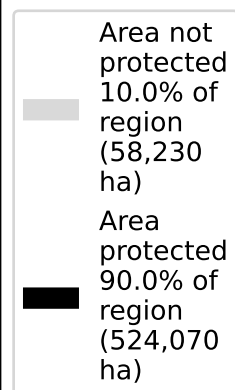
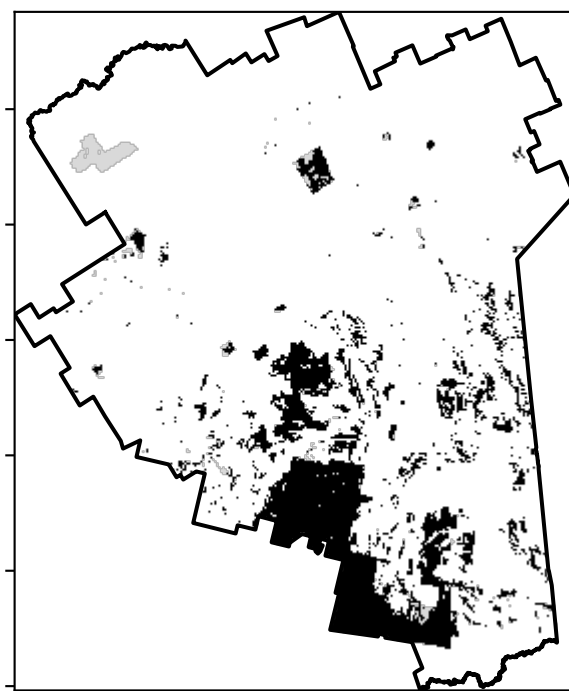
Total Vegetation Cover [%]



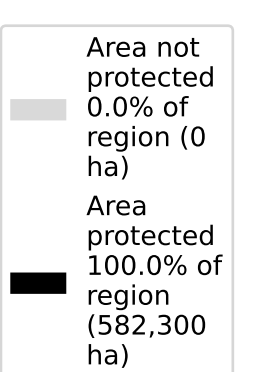
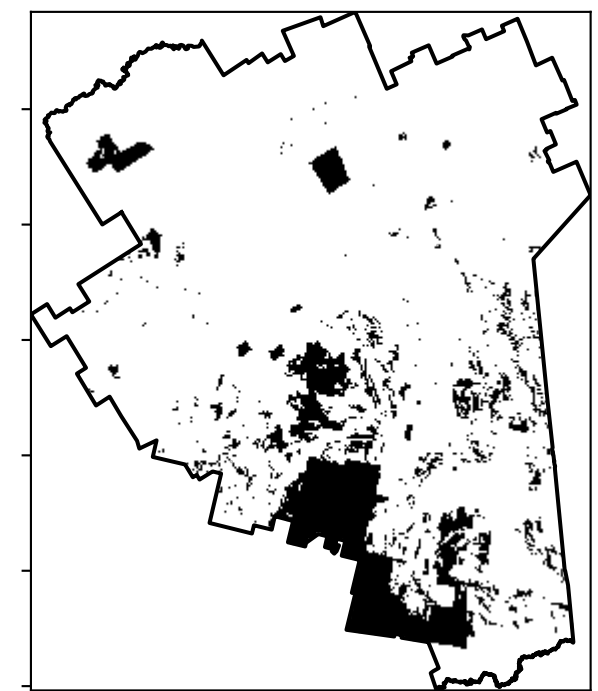
Proportion of vegetation cover class in area



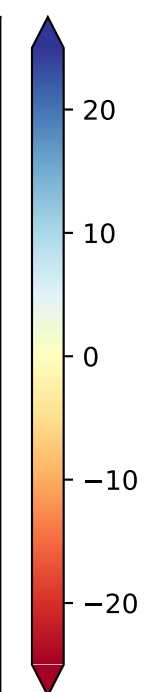
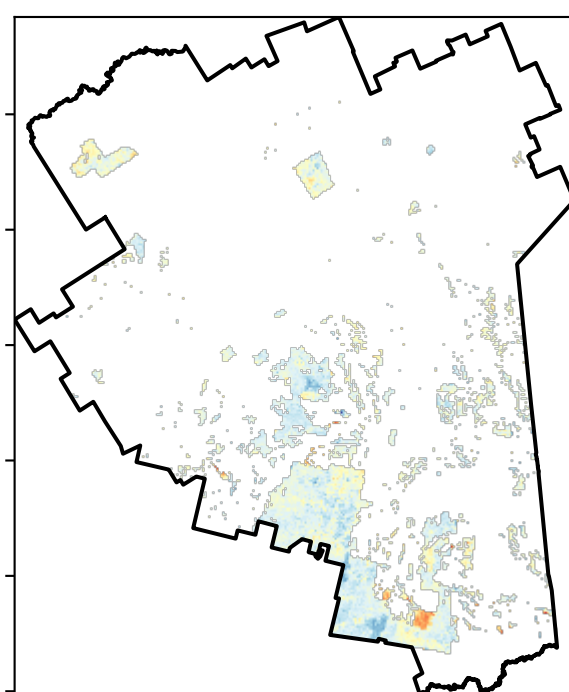
% Area protected from water erosion (>70%)



% Area protected from wind erosion (>50%)



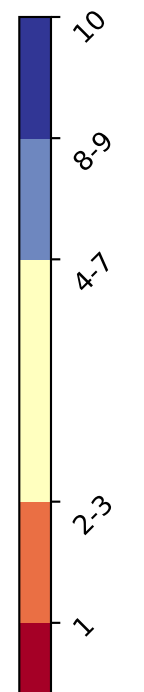
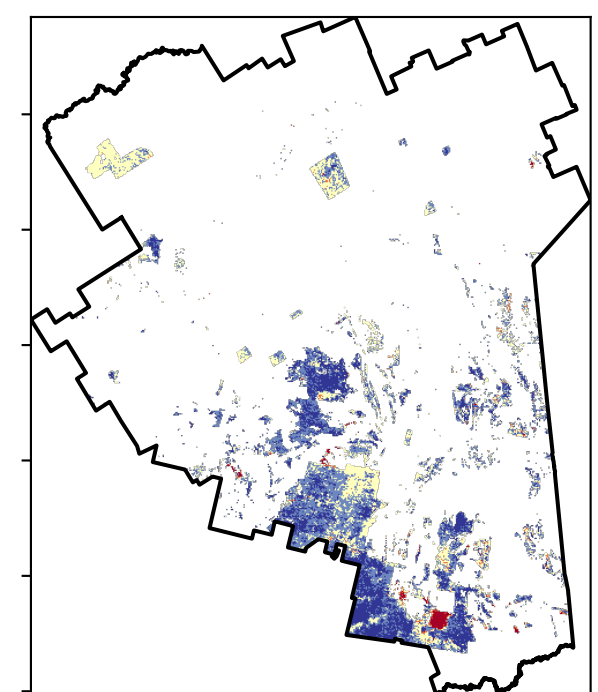
Total Vegetation Cover Anomaly [%]



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Total Vegetation Cover Decile [%]



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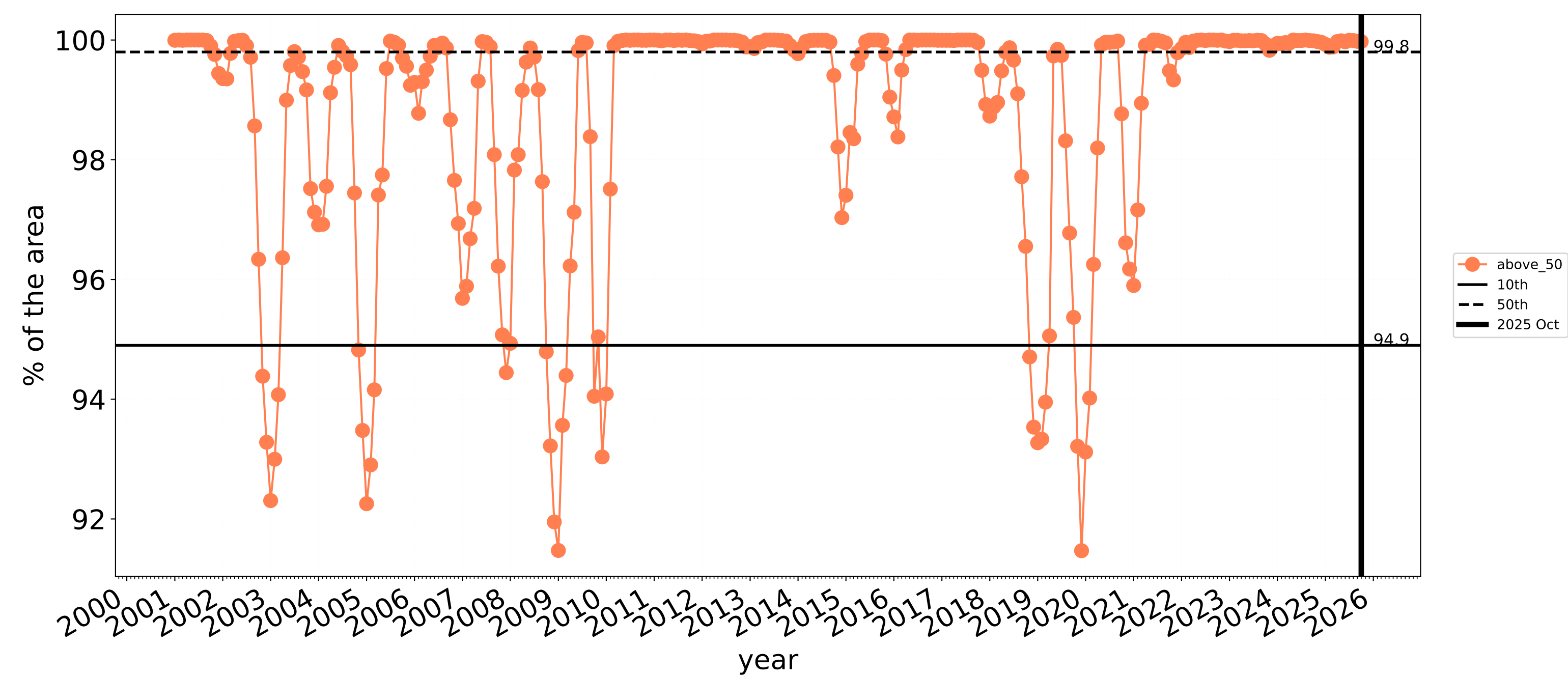
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National Landcare Programme

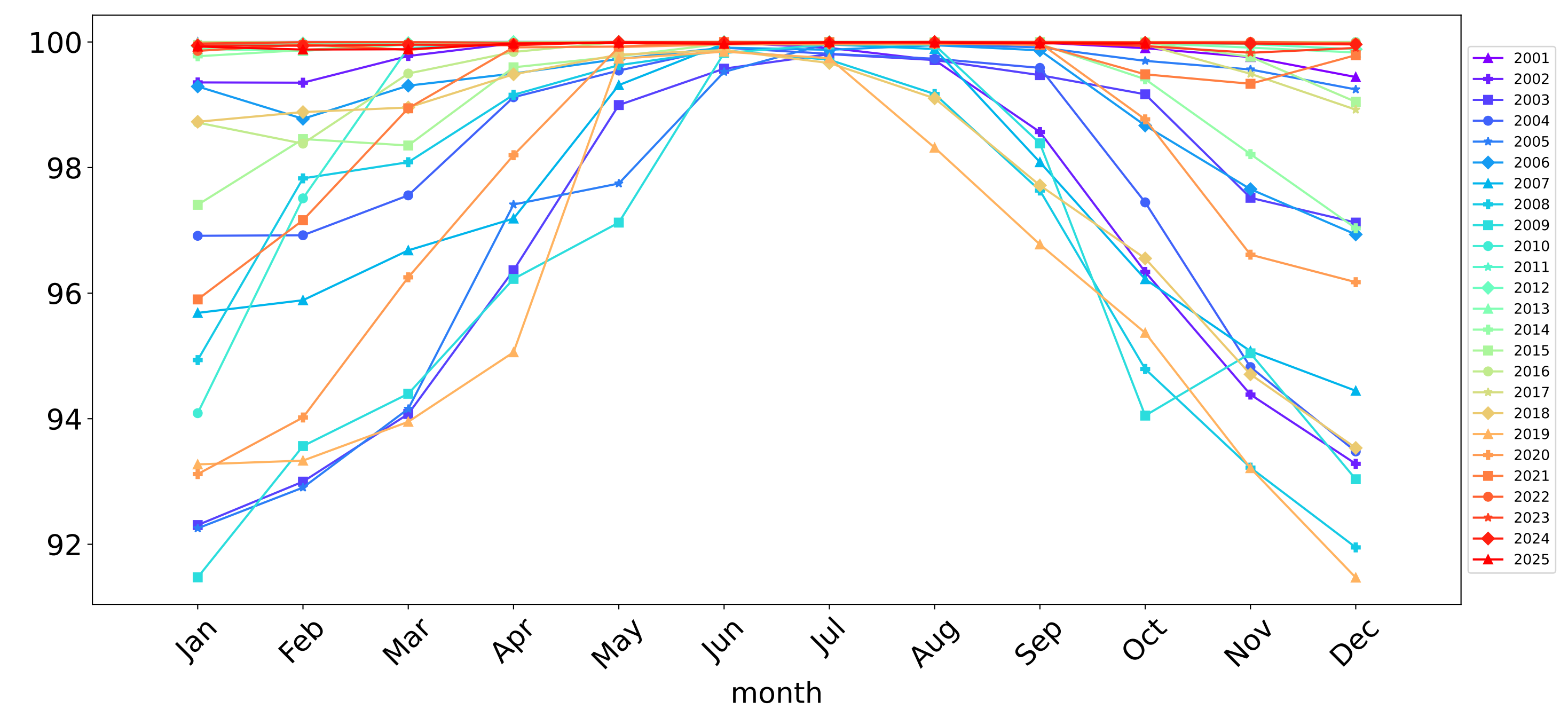


Conservation and natural environments timeseries

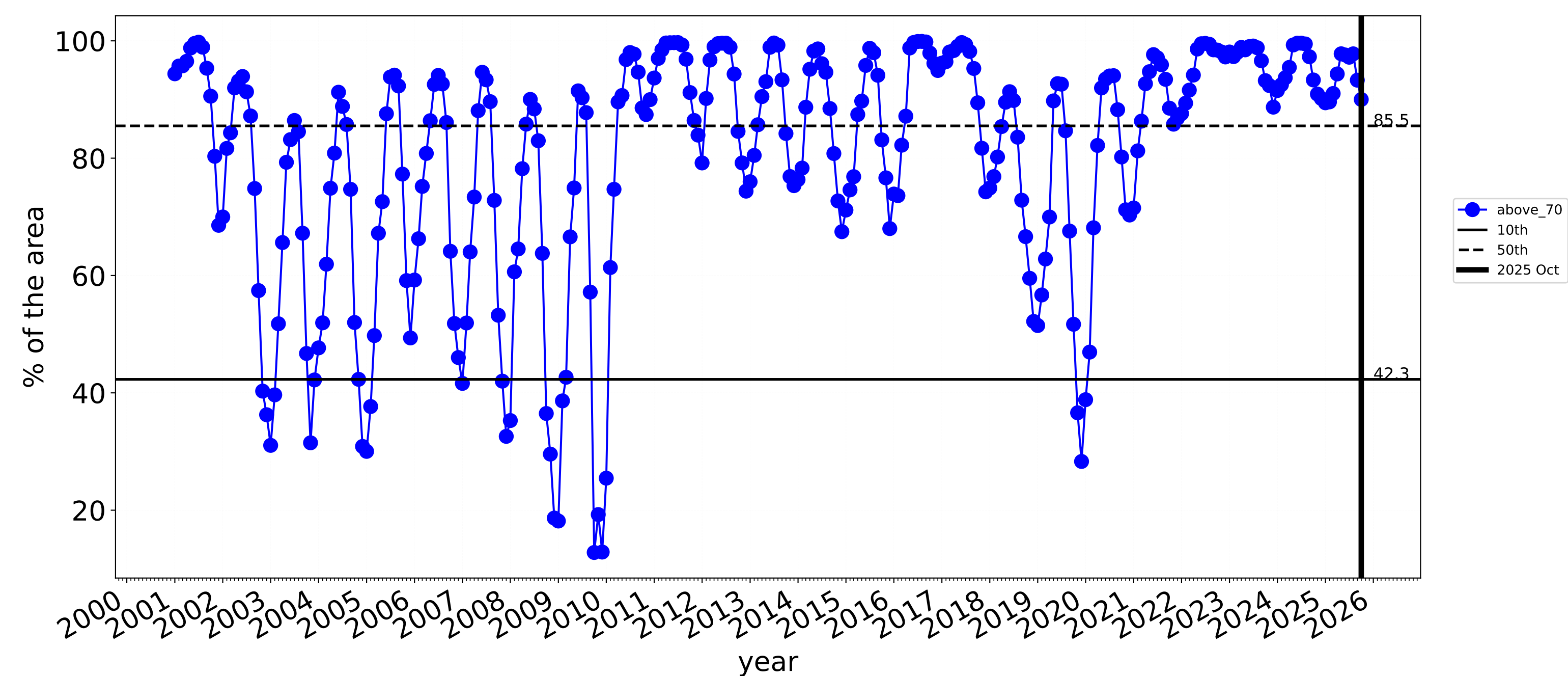
Proportion of the area protected from wind erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 50%)



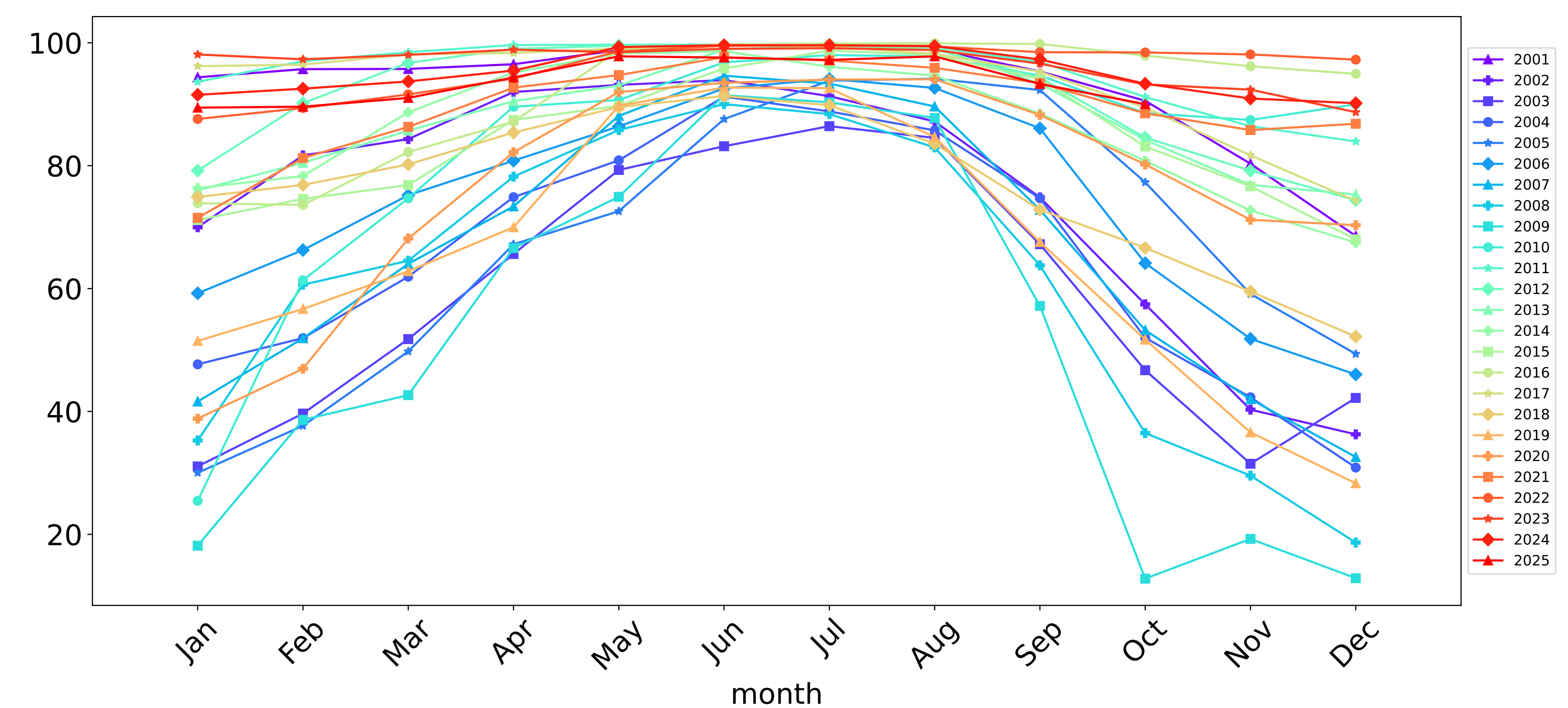
Wind erosion historical monthly area protected (Total Veg Cov >50%)



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

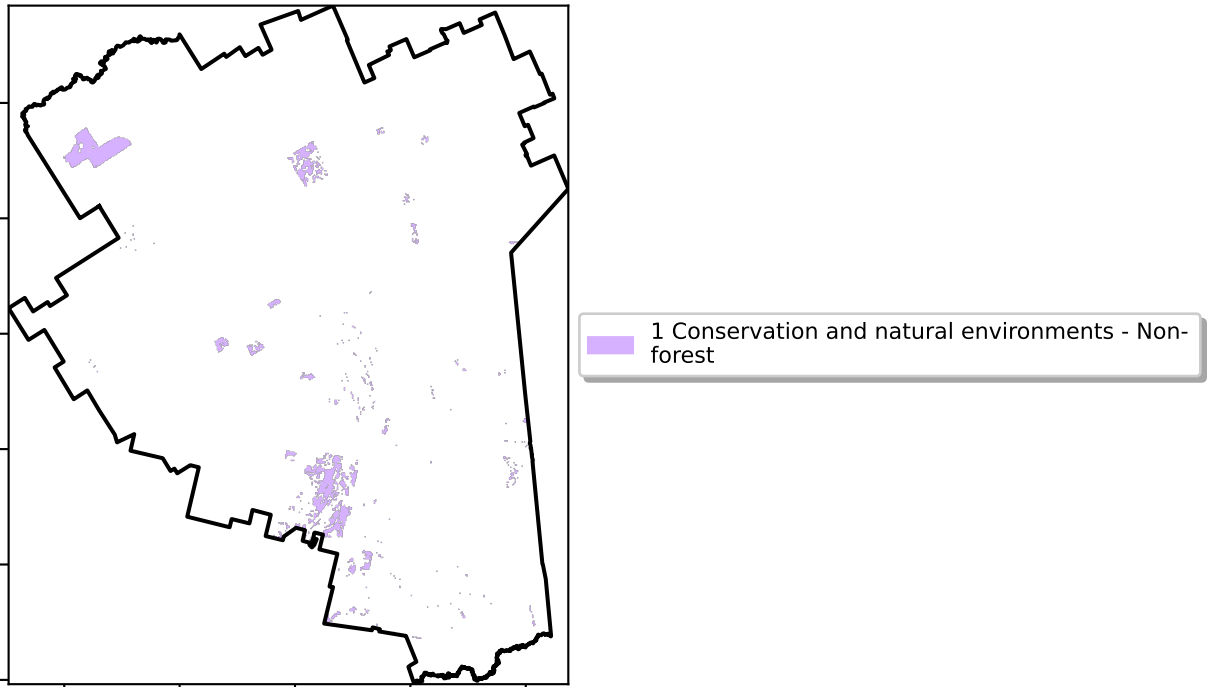


Water erosion historical monthly area protected (Total Veg Cov>70%)



Conservation and natural environments non forest

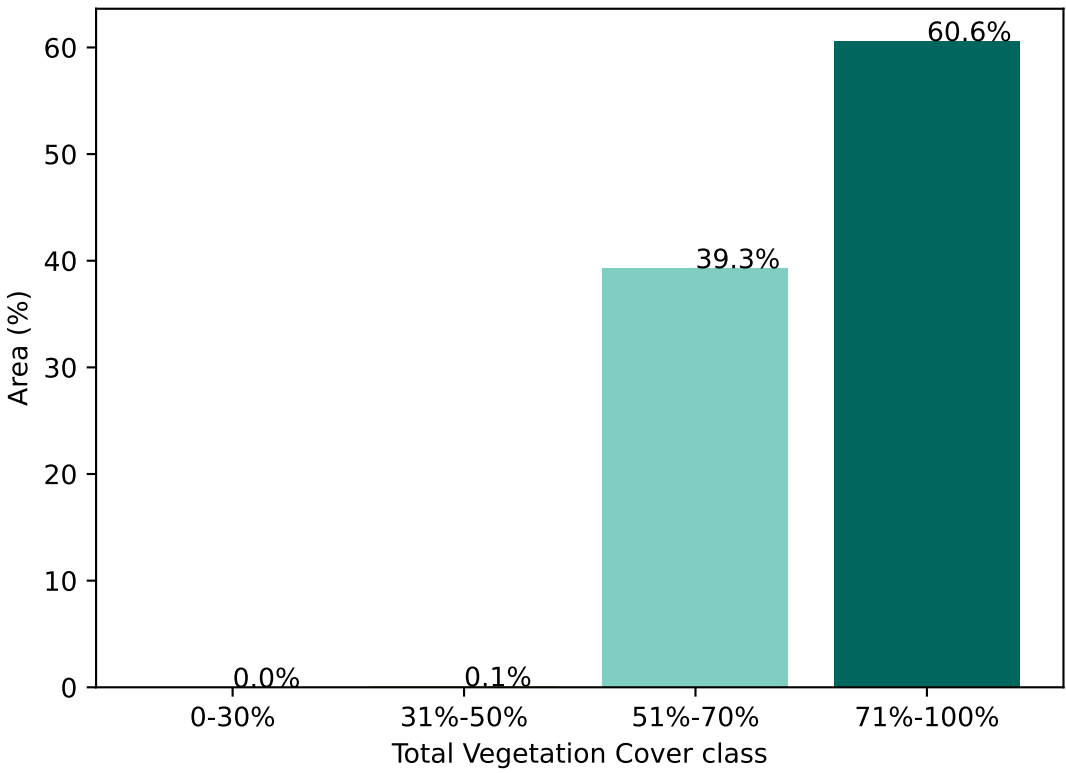
Land use and forest cover



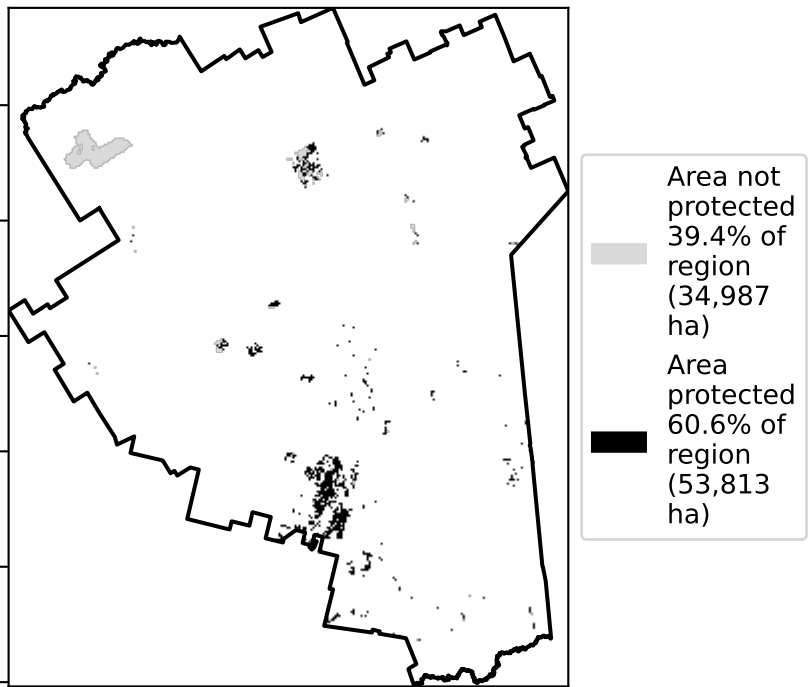
Total Vegetation Cover [%]



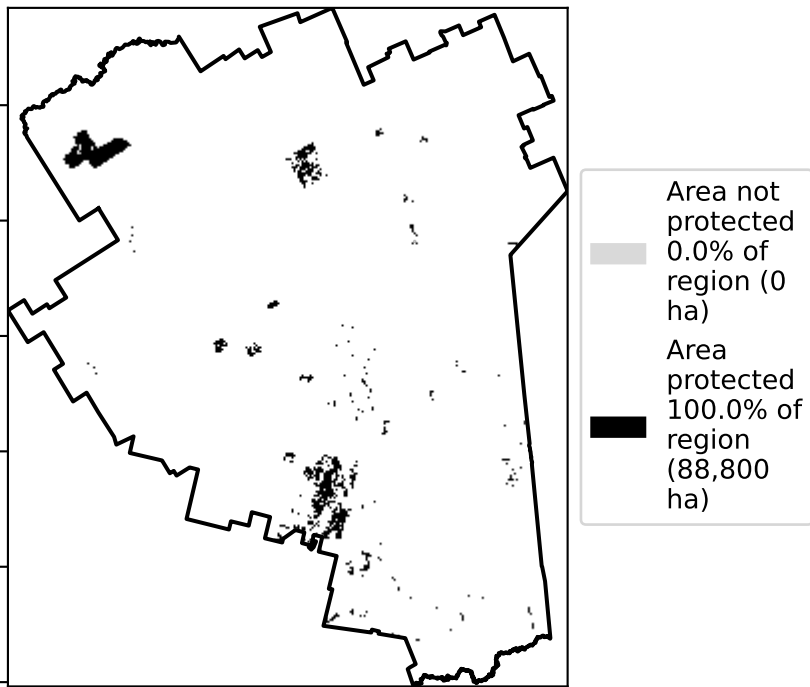
Proportion of vegetation cover class in area



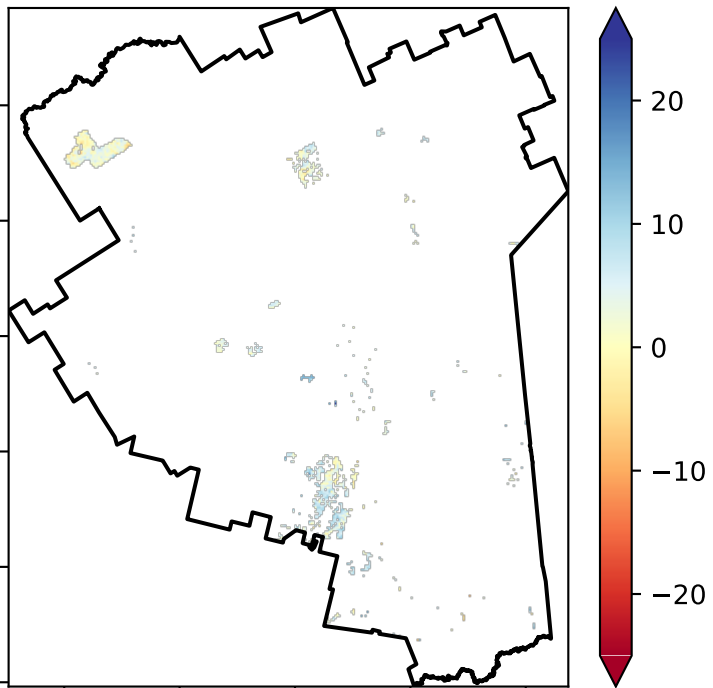
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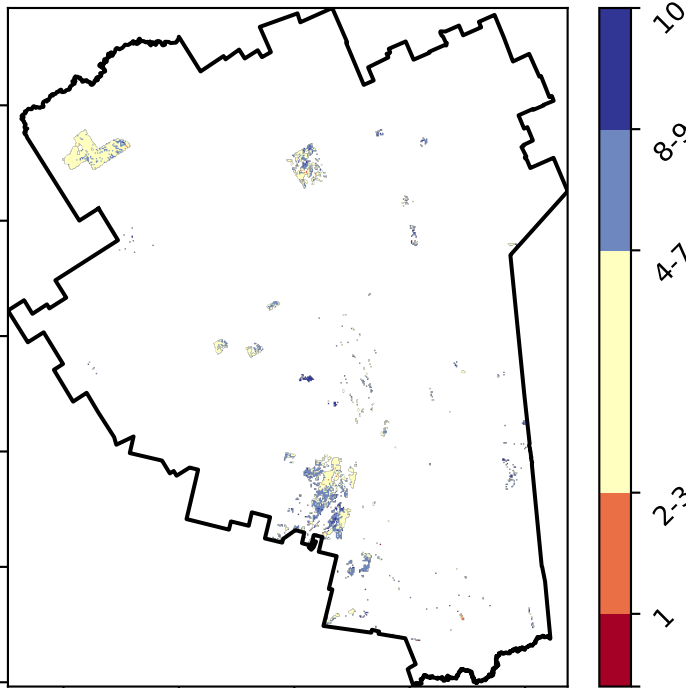


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Total Vegetation Cover Decile [%]



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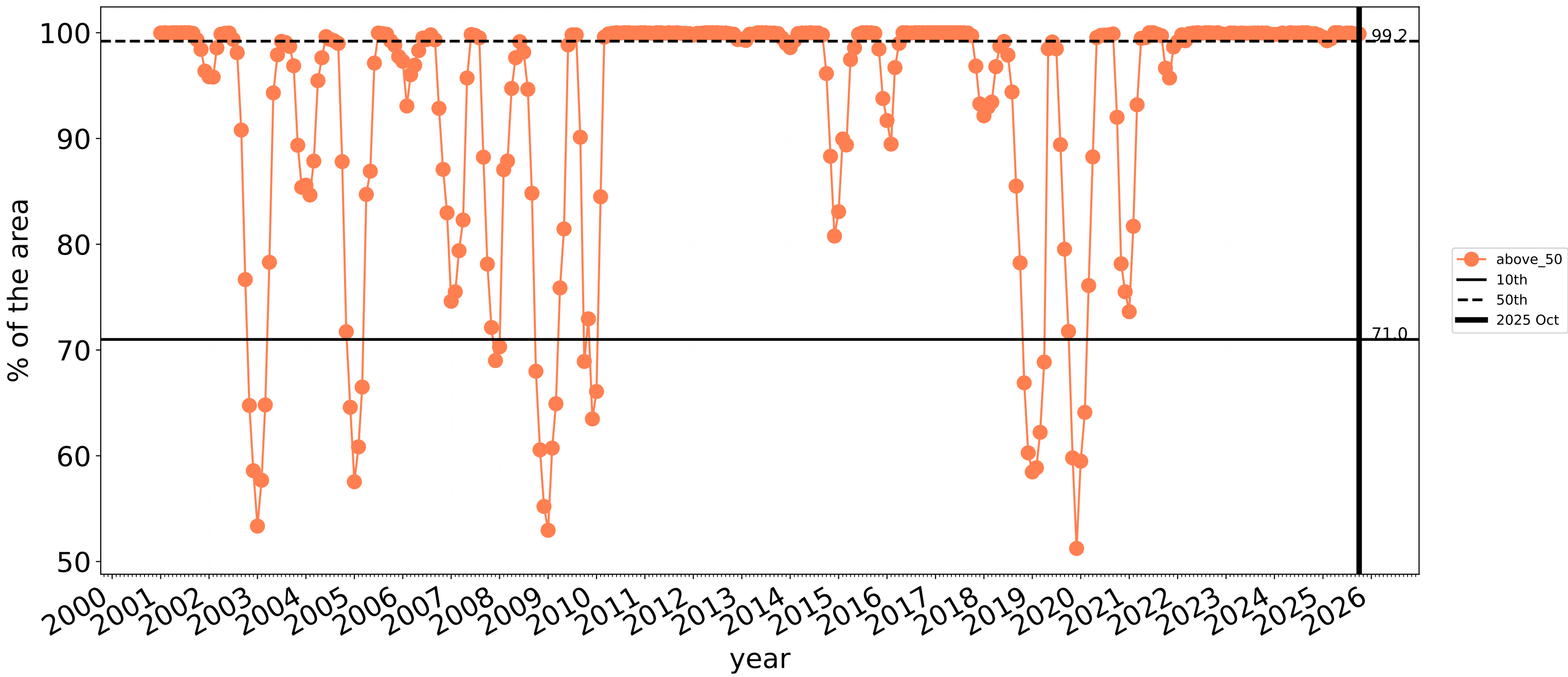
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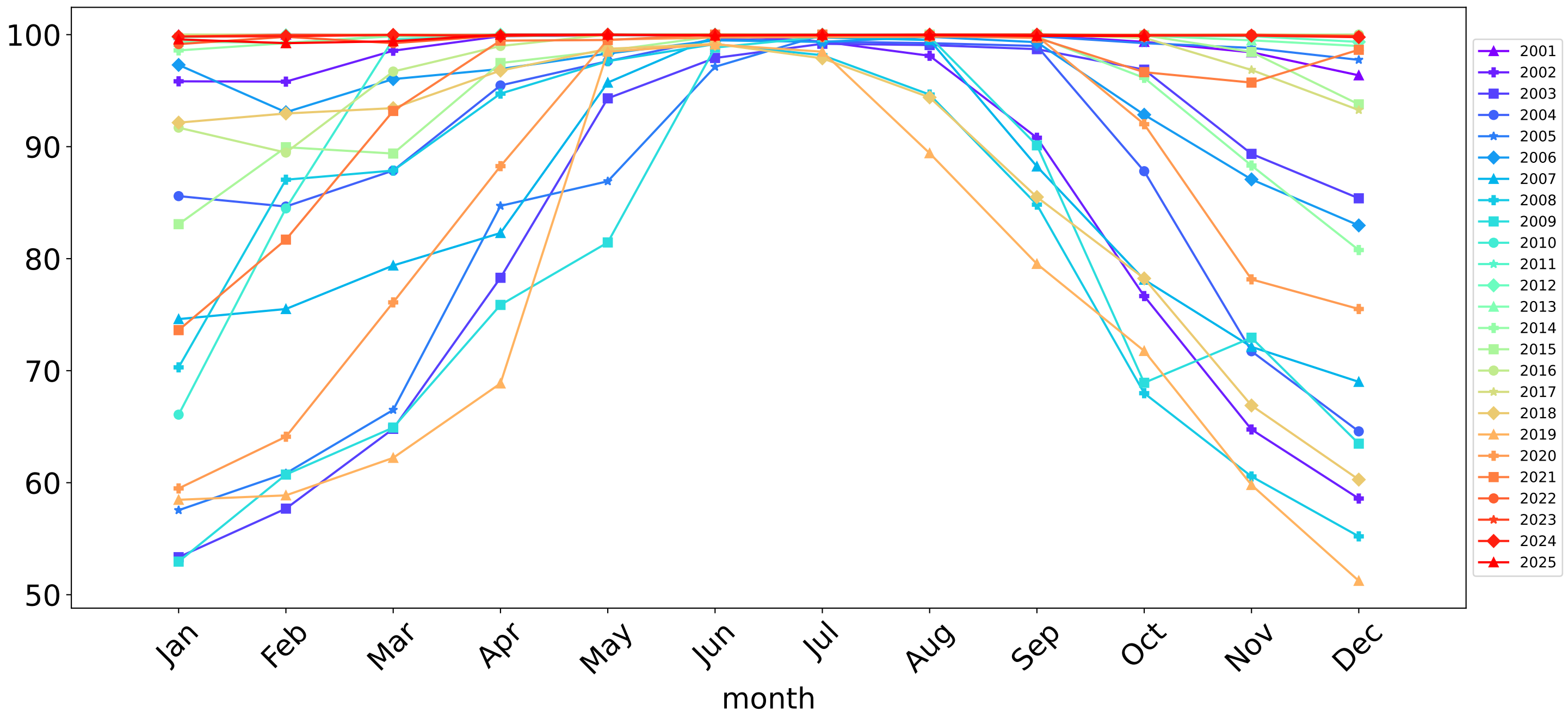


Conservation and natural environments non forest timeseries

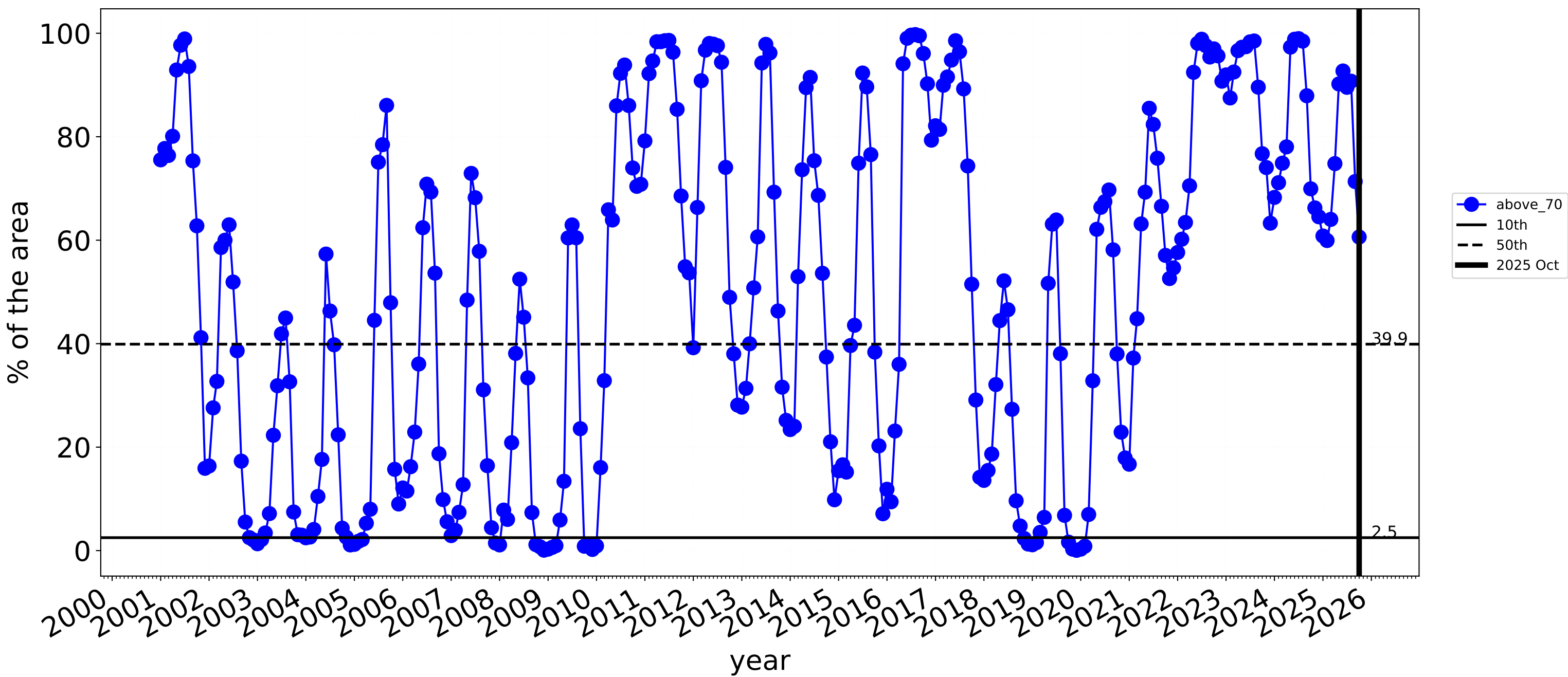
Proportion of the area protected from wind erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 50%)



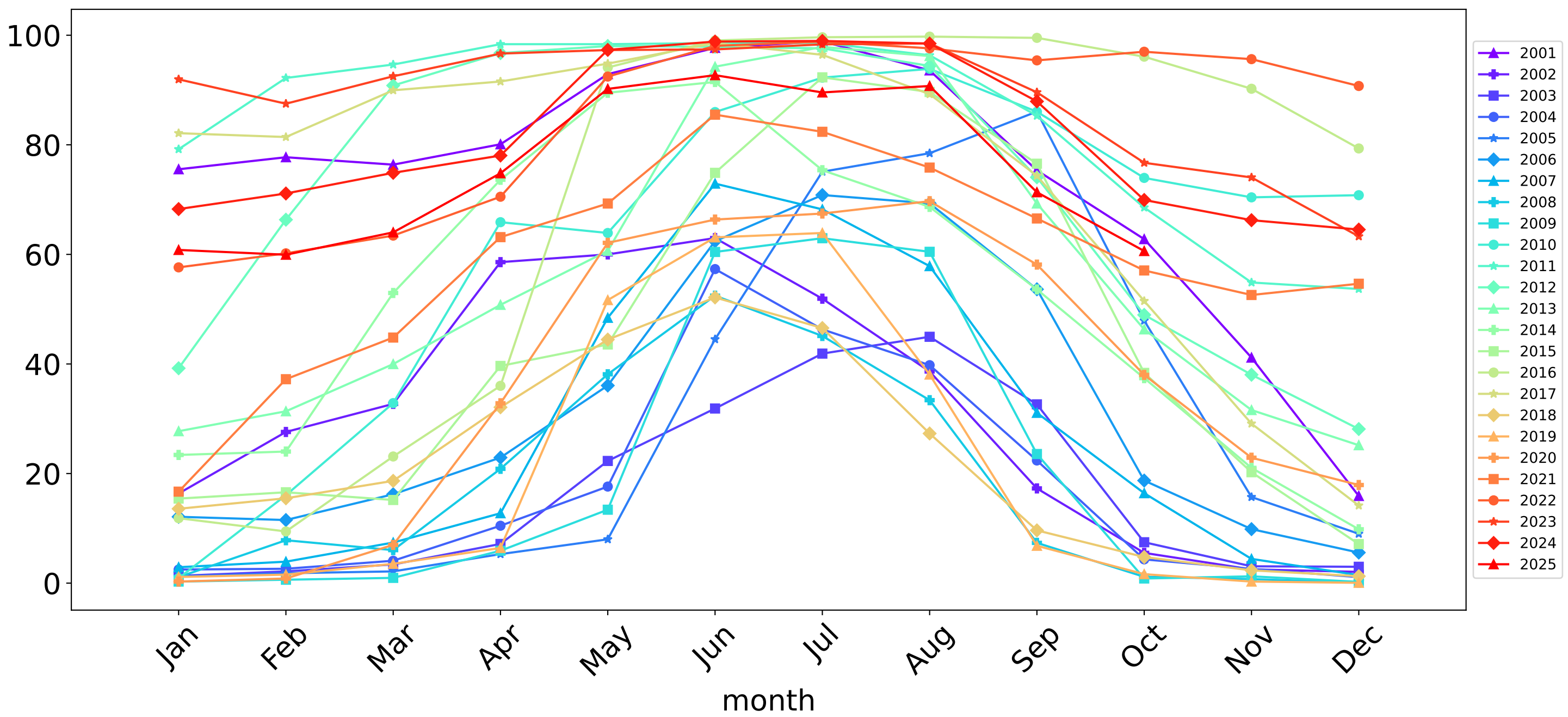
Wind erosion historical monthly area protected (Total Veg Cov >50%)



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

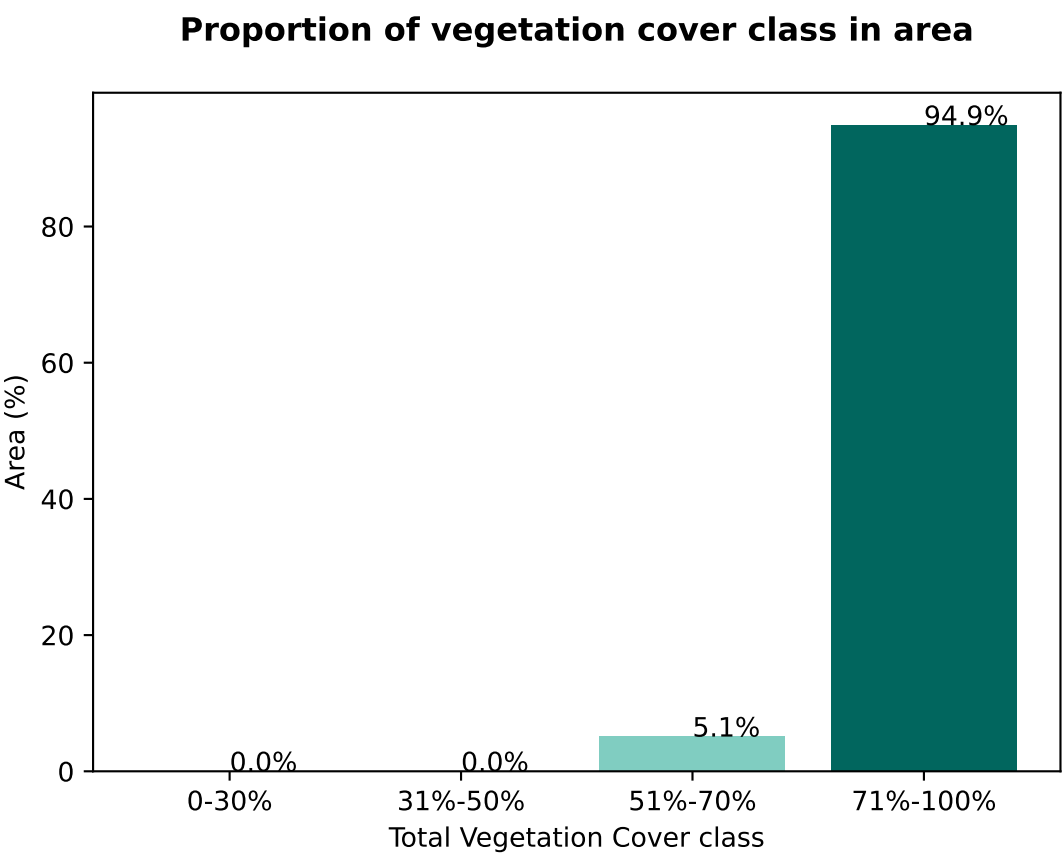
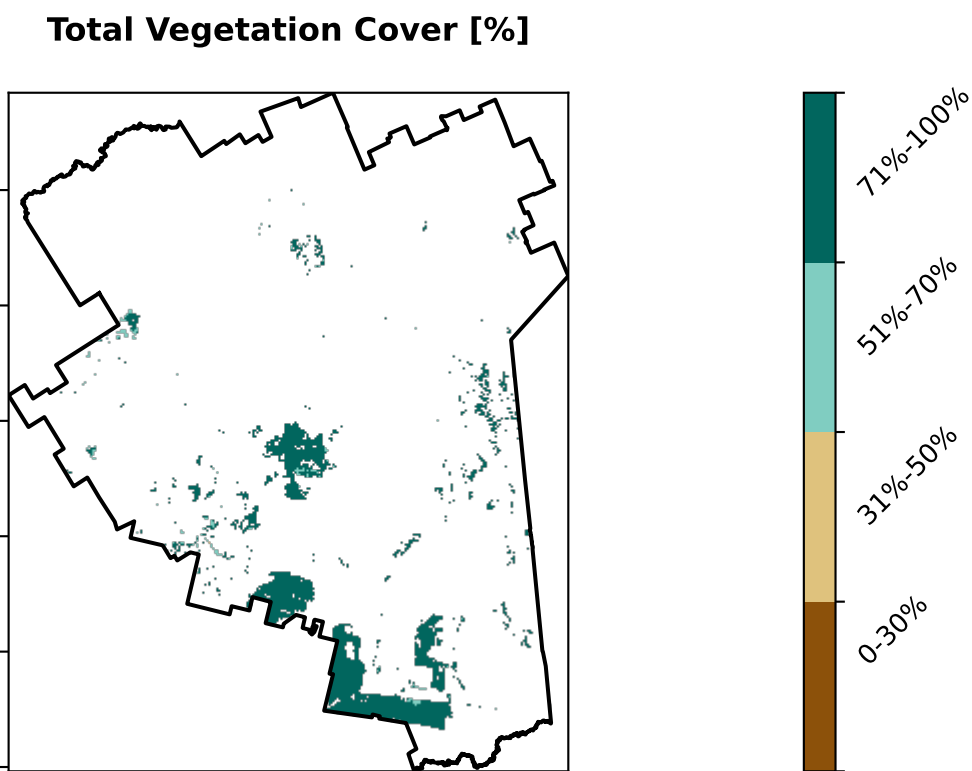
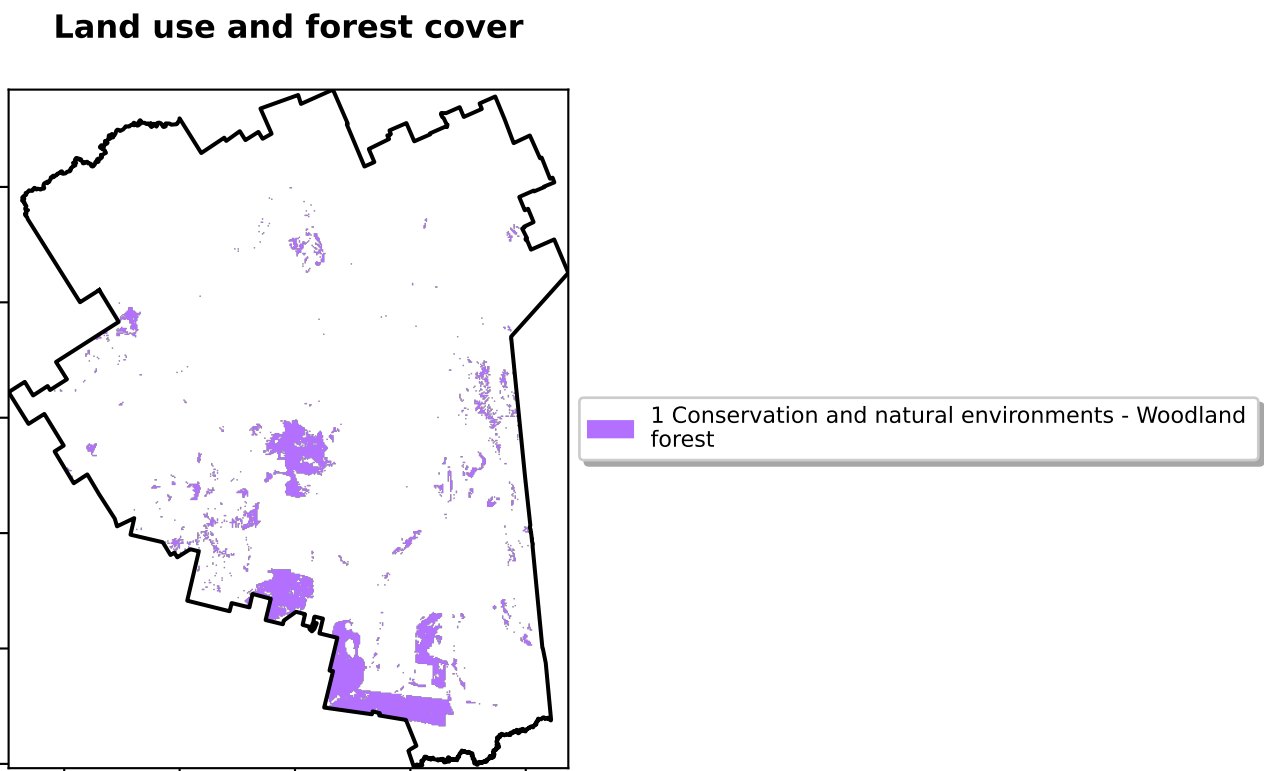


Water erosion historical monthly area protected (Total Veg Cov>70%)

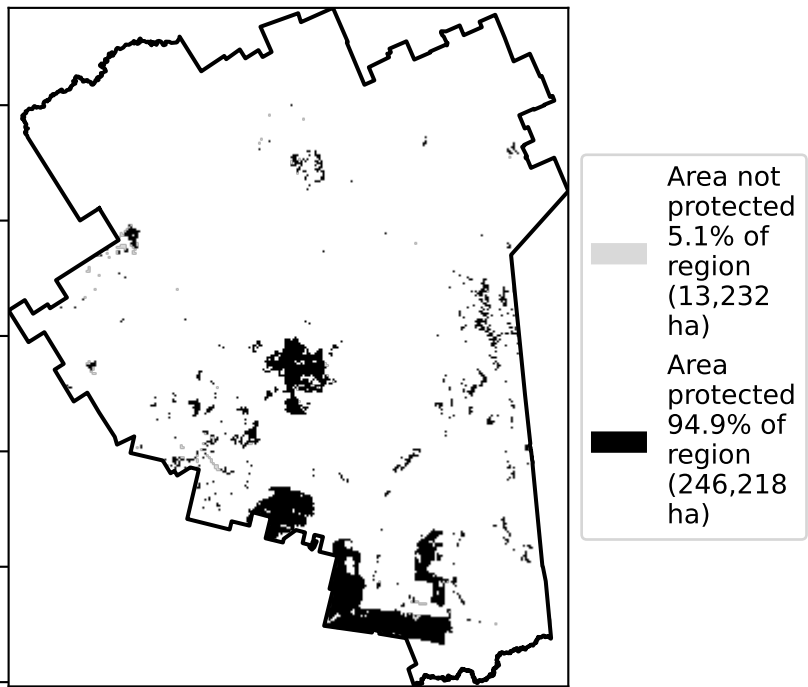


Conservation and natural environments Woodland forest

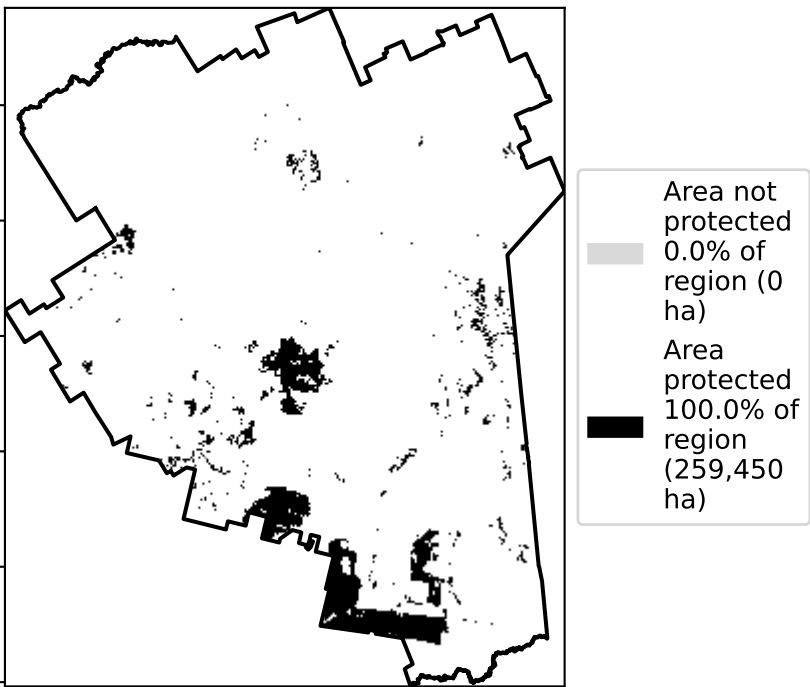
Catchment Scale
Land Use and Forests
of Australia (2018)
Derived from
Catchment Scale Land
Use of Australia
(2018) and Forests
of Australia (2018)



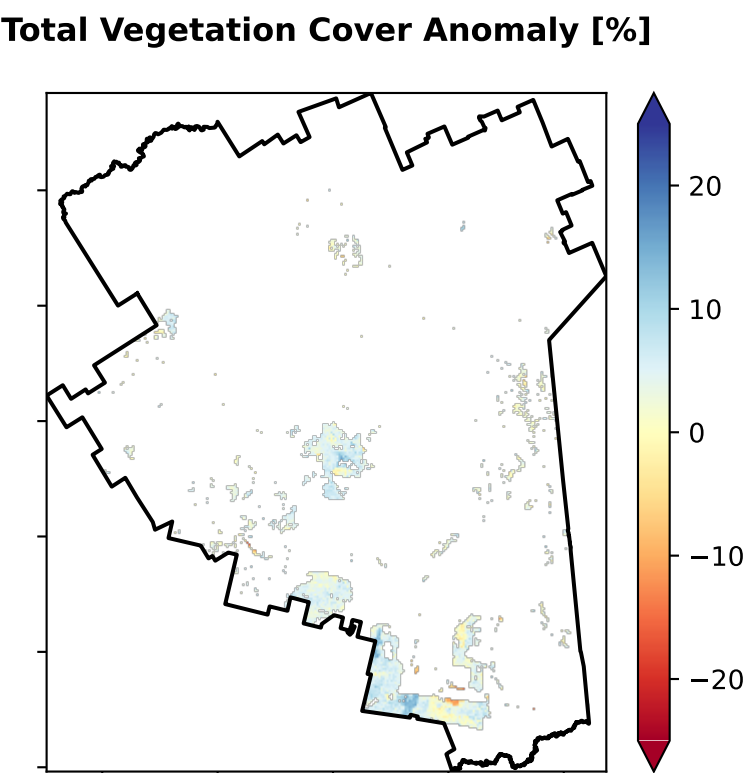
% Area protected from water erosion (>70%)



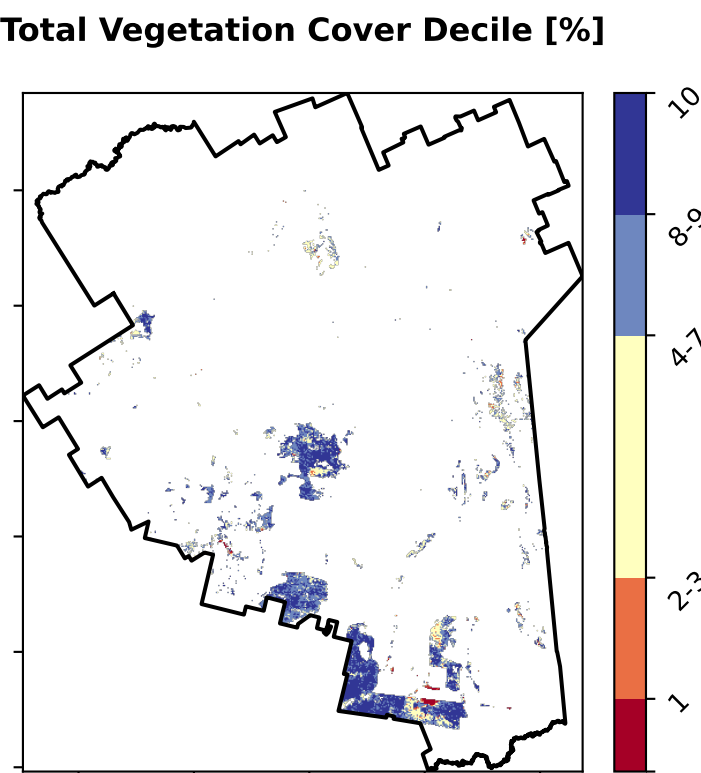
% Area protected from wind erosion (>50%)



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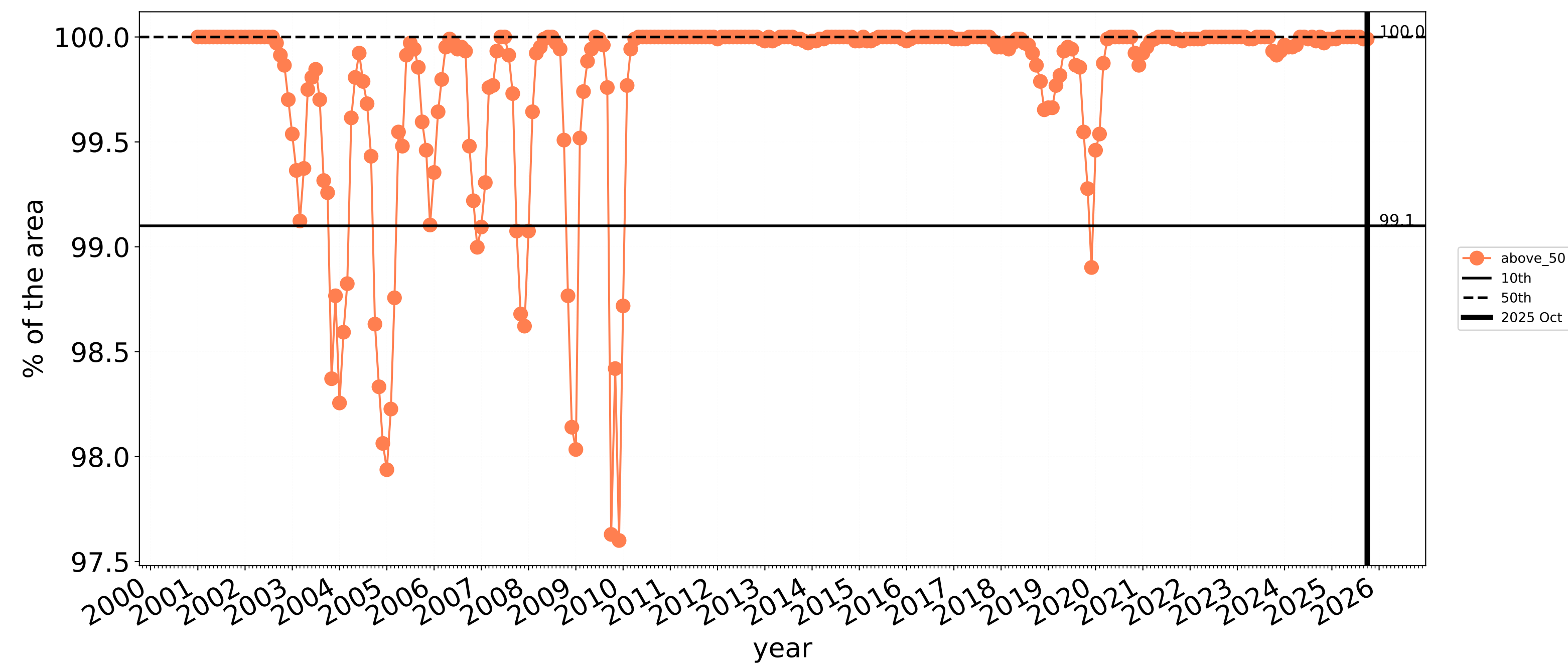
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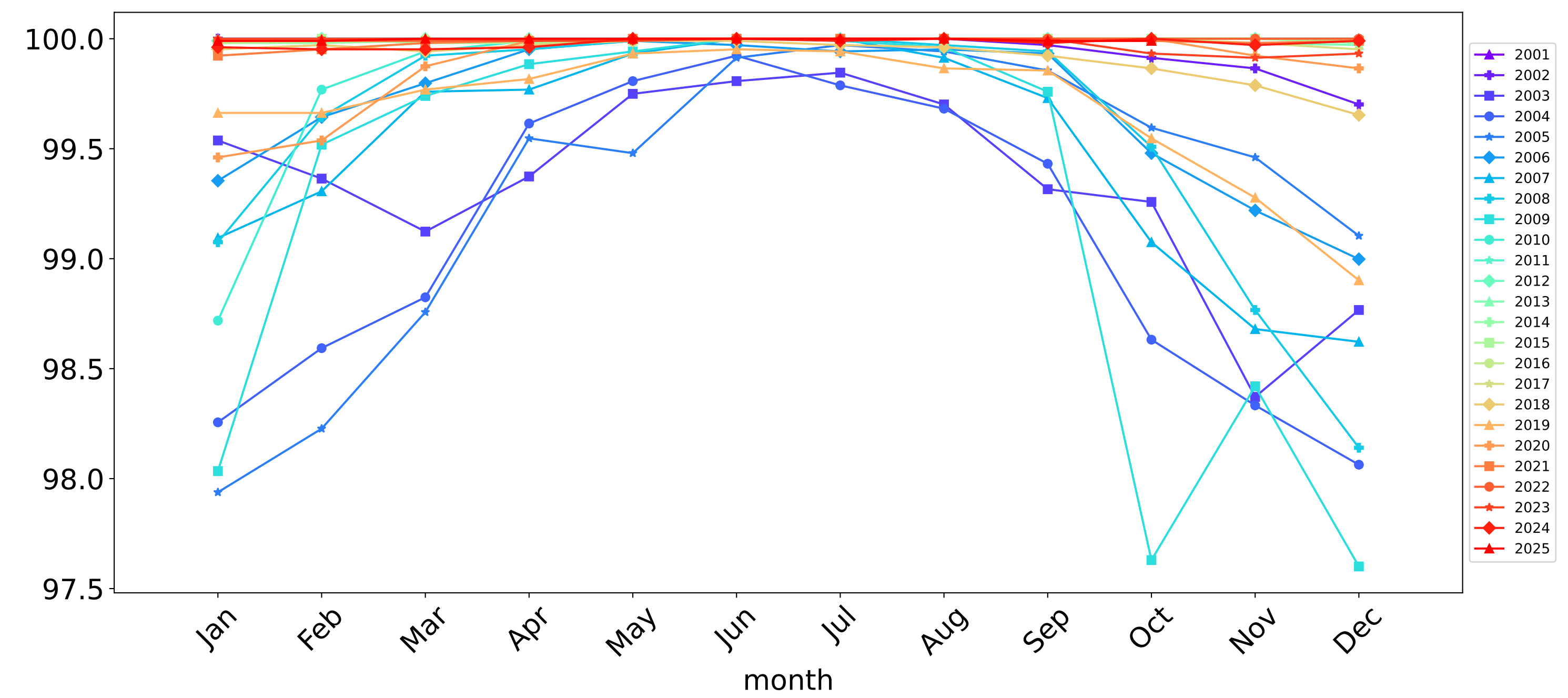


Conservation and natural environments Woodland forest timeseries

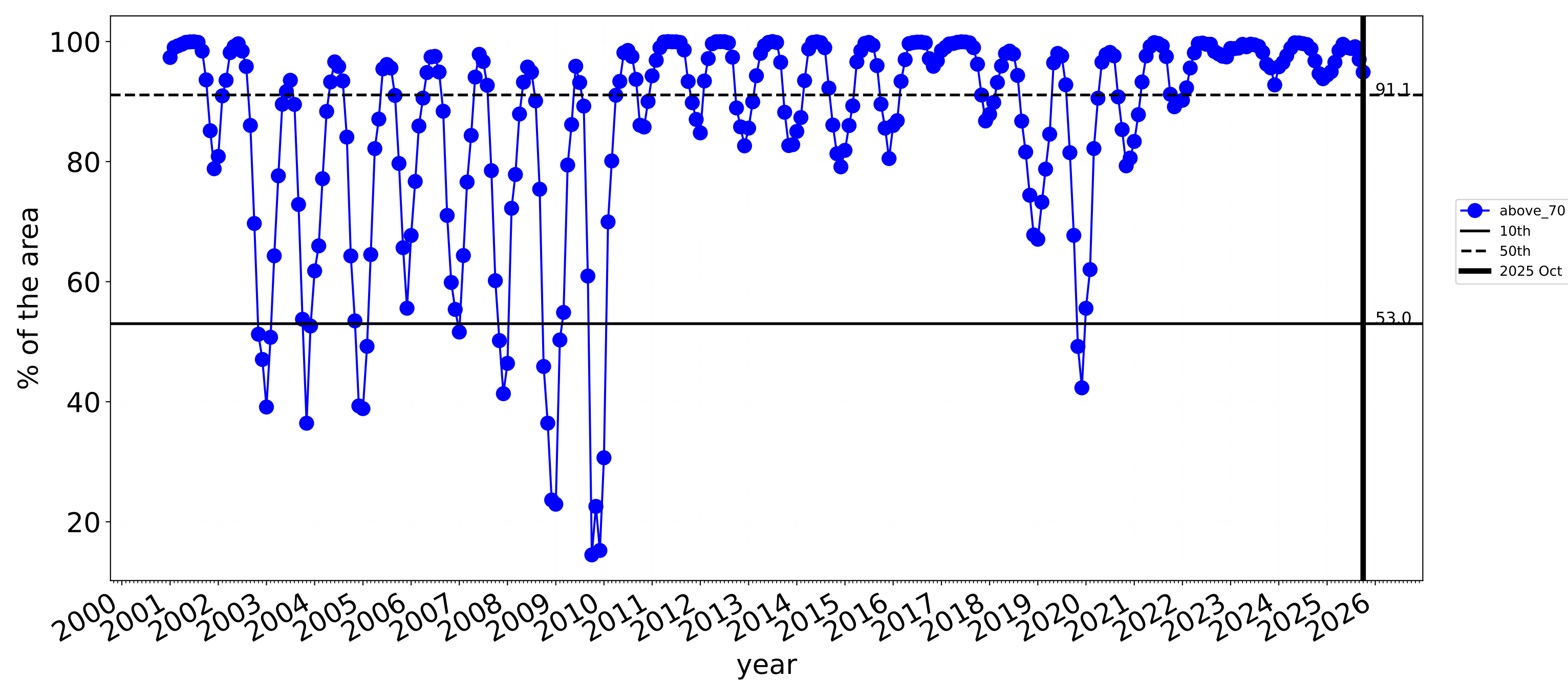
Proportion of the area protected from wind erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 50%)



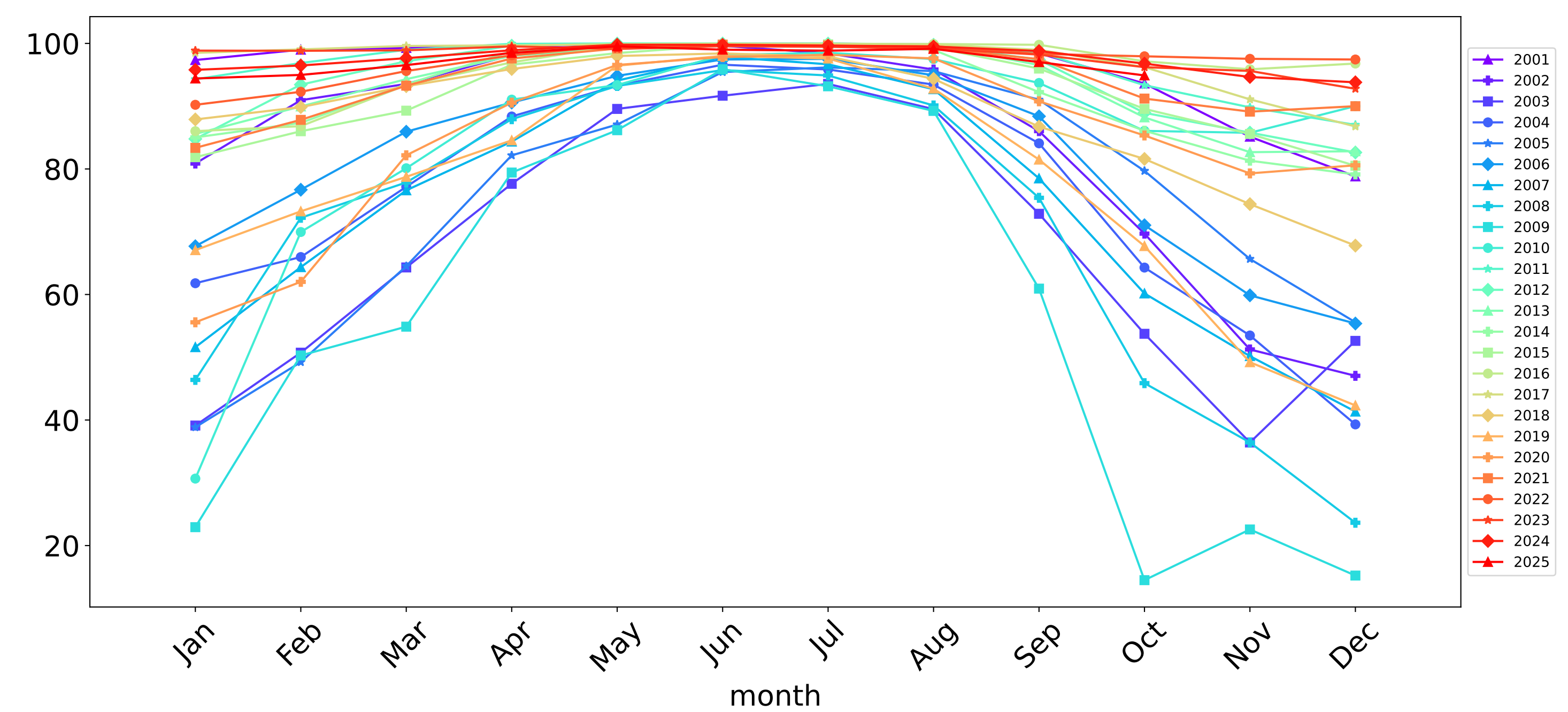
Wind erosion historical monthly area protected (Total Veg Cov >50%)



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



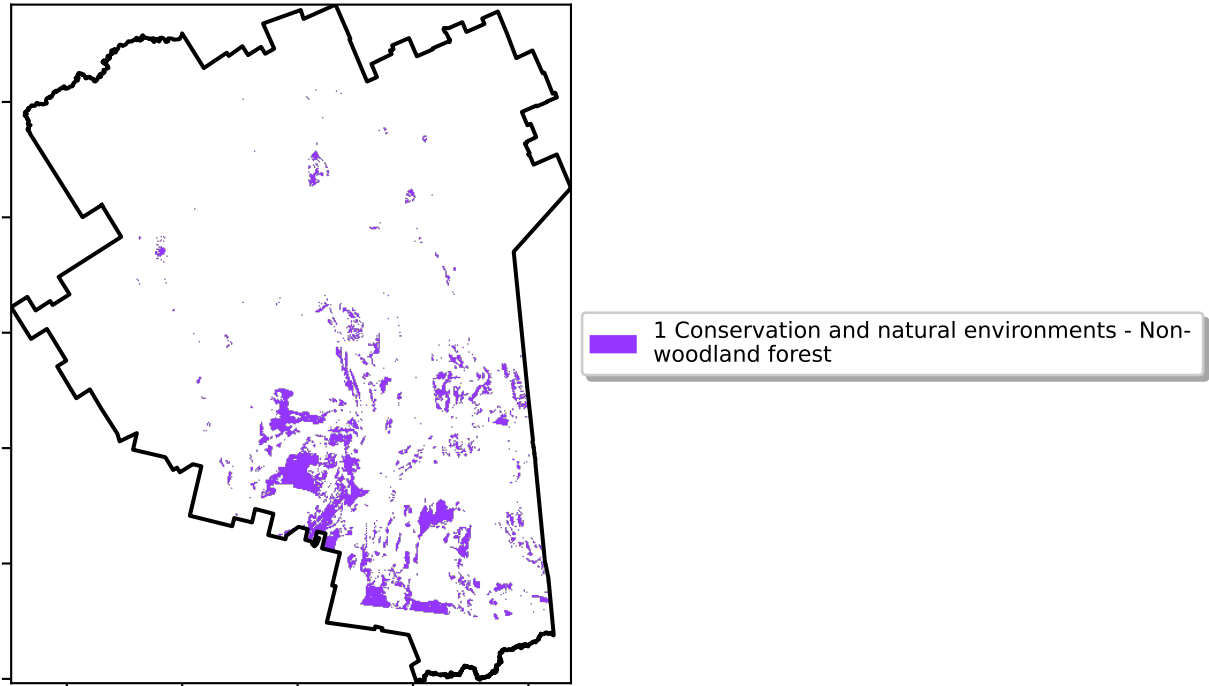
Water erosion historical monthly area protected (Total Veg Cov>70%)



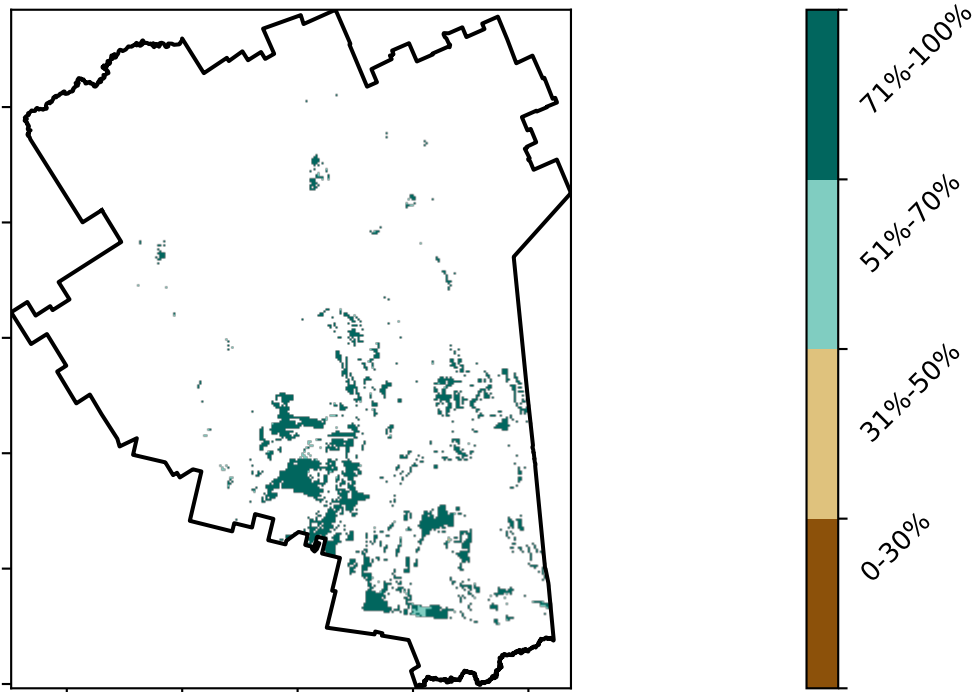
Conservation and natural environments Forest (non woodland)

Land use and forest cover

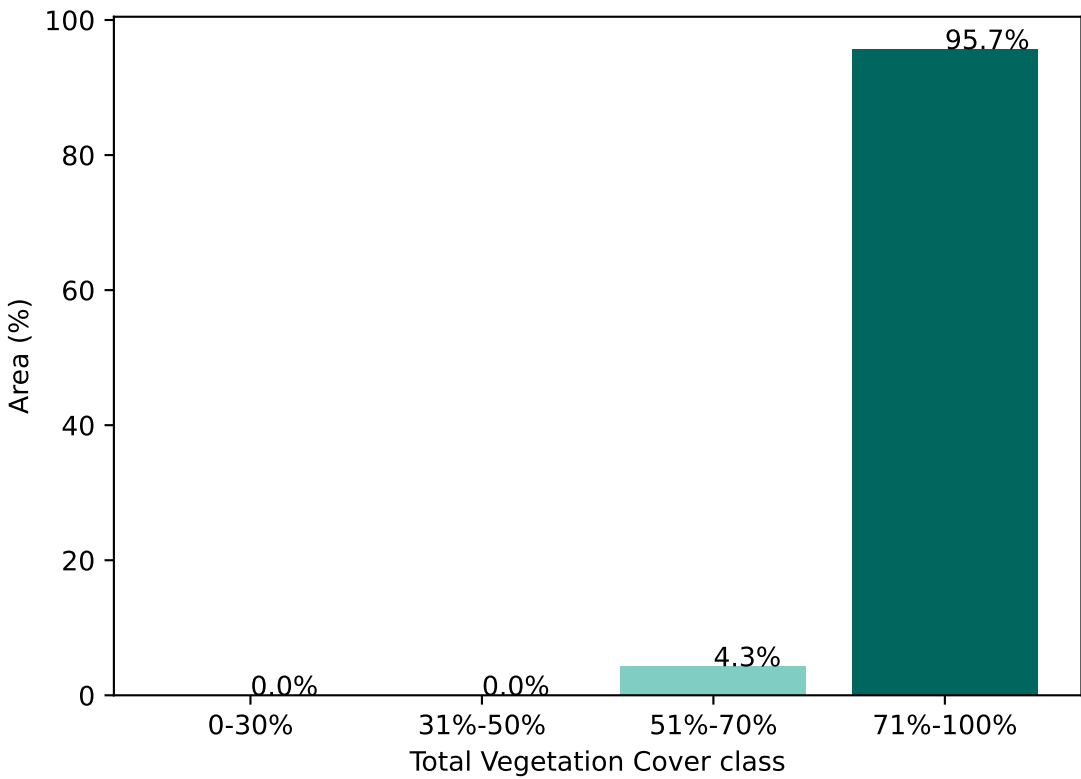
Catchment Scale Land Use and Forests of Australia (2018)
Derived from Catchment Scale Land Use of Australia (2018) and Forests of Australia (2018)



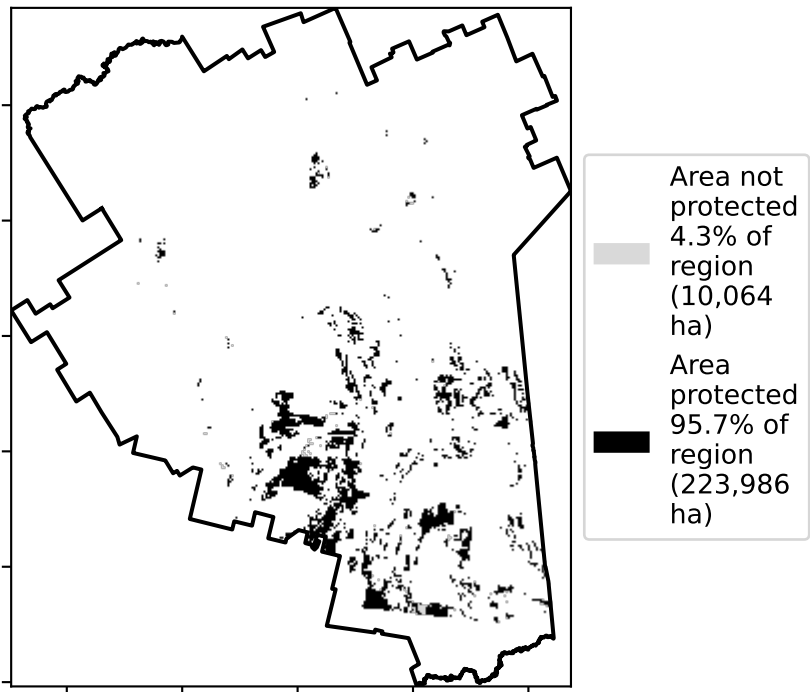
Total Vegetation Cover [%]



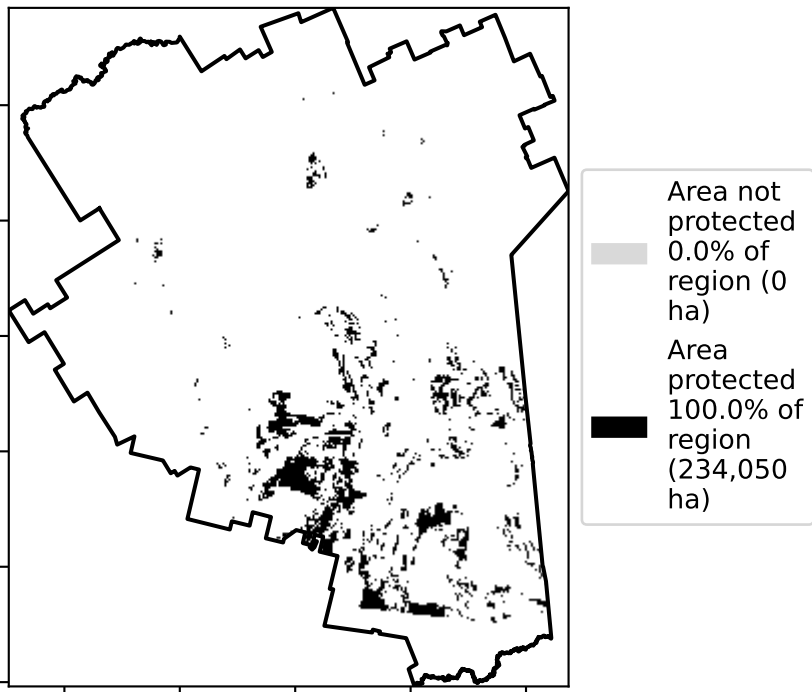
Proportion of vegetation cover class in area



% Area protected from water erosion (>70%)

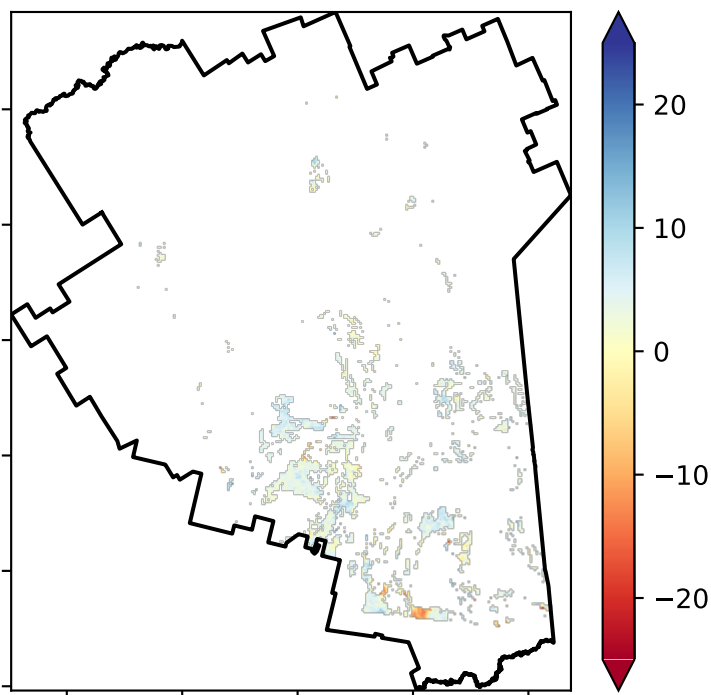


% Area protected from wind erosion (>50%)



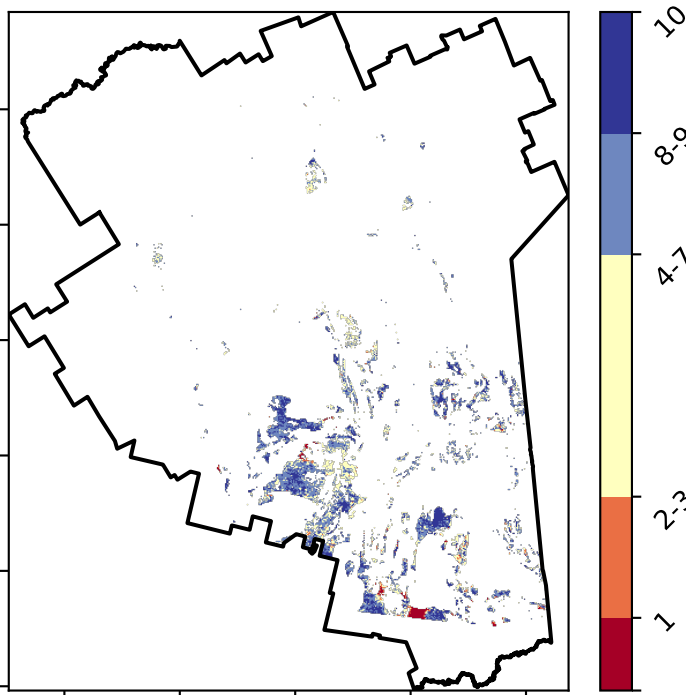
Total Vegetation Cover Anomaly [%]

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Total Vegetation Cover Decile [%]



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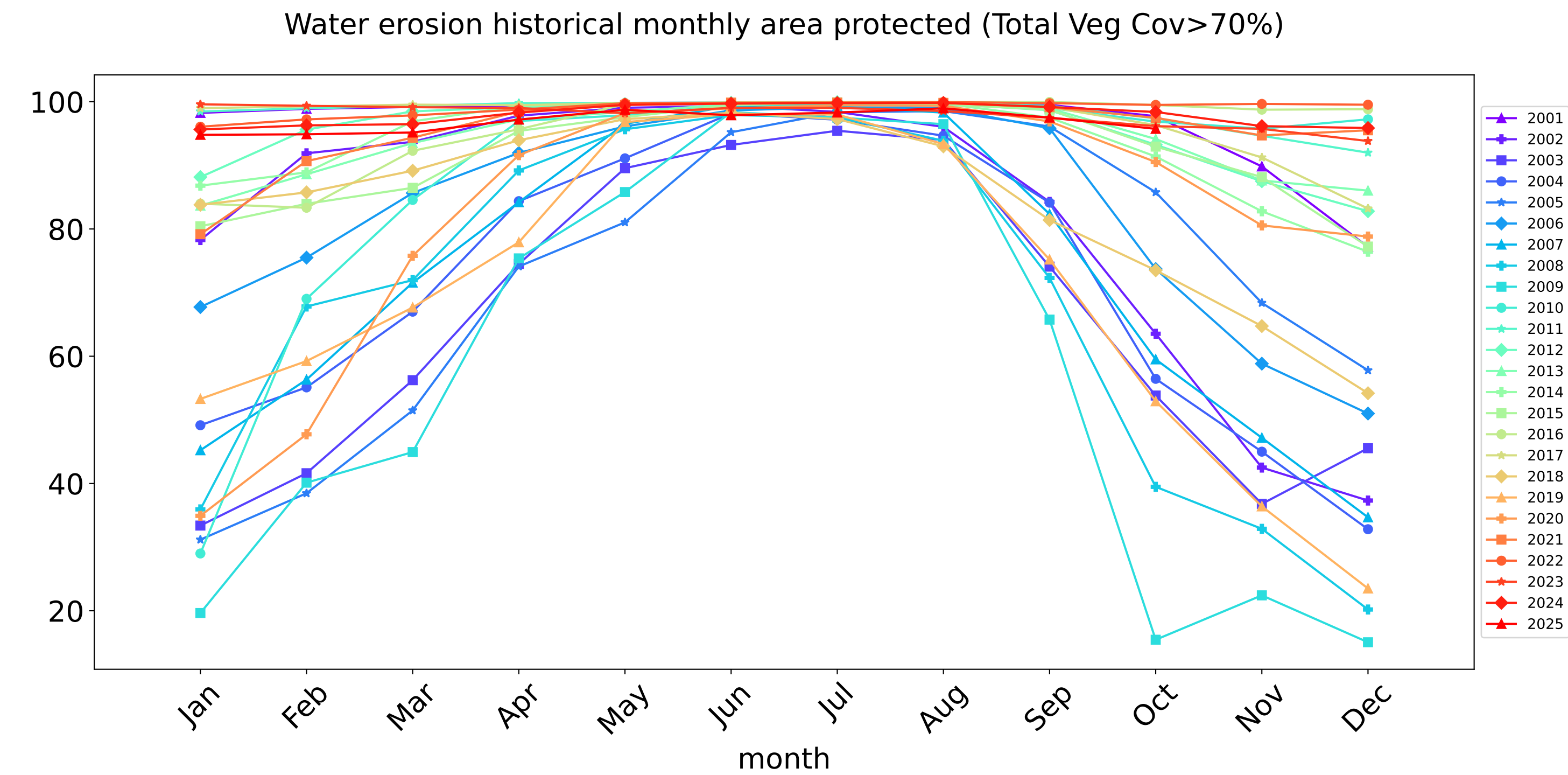
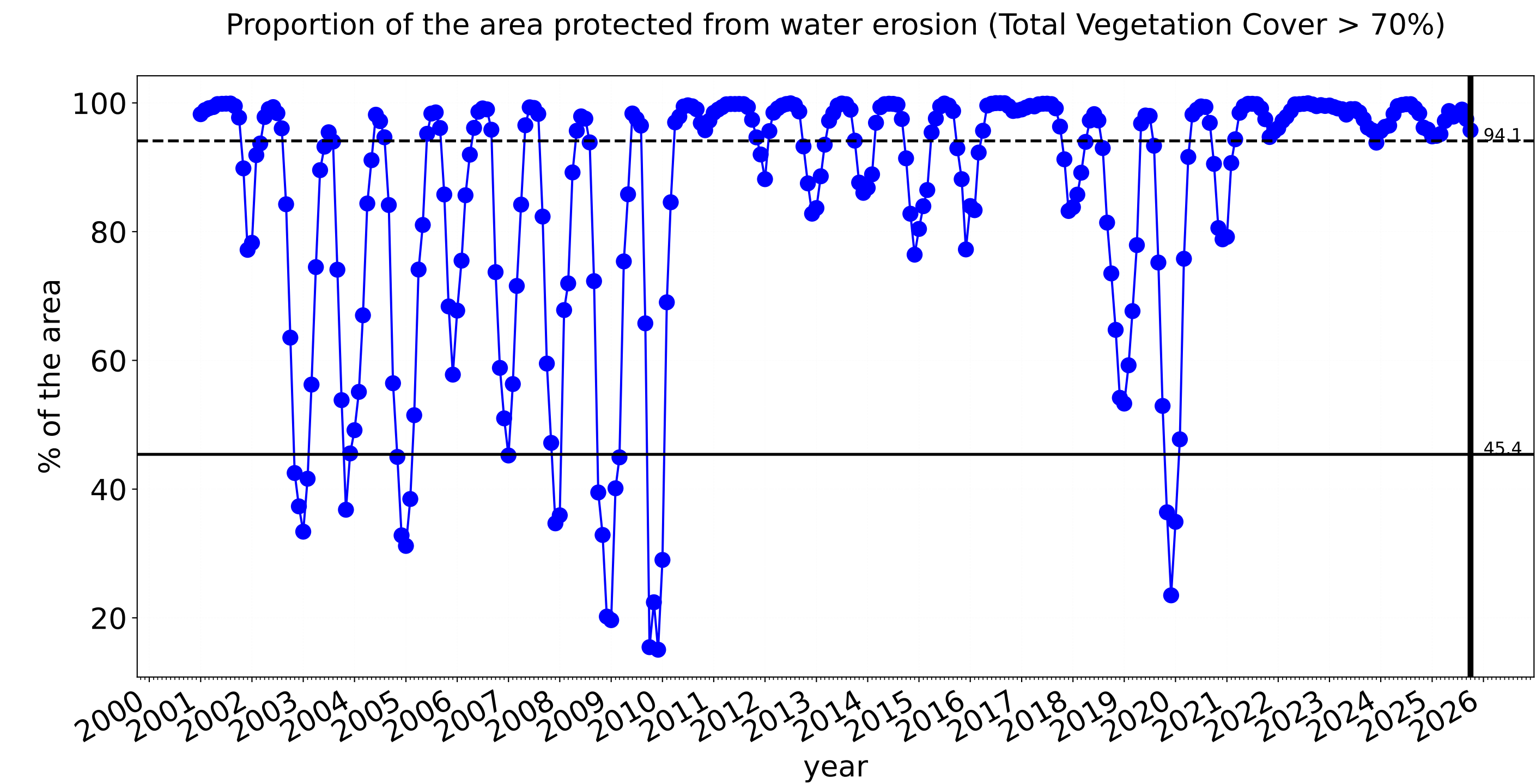
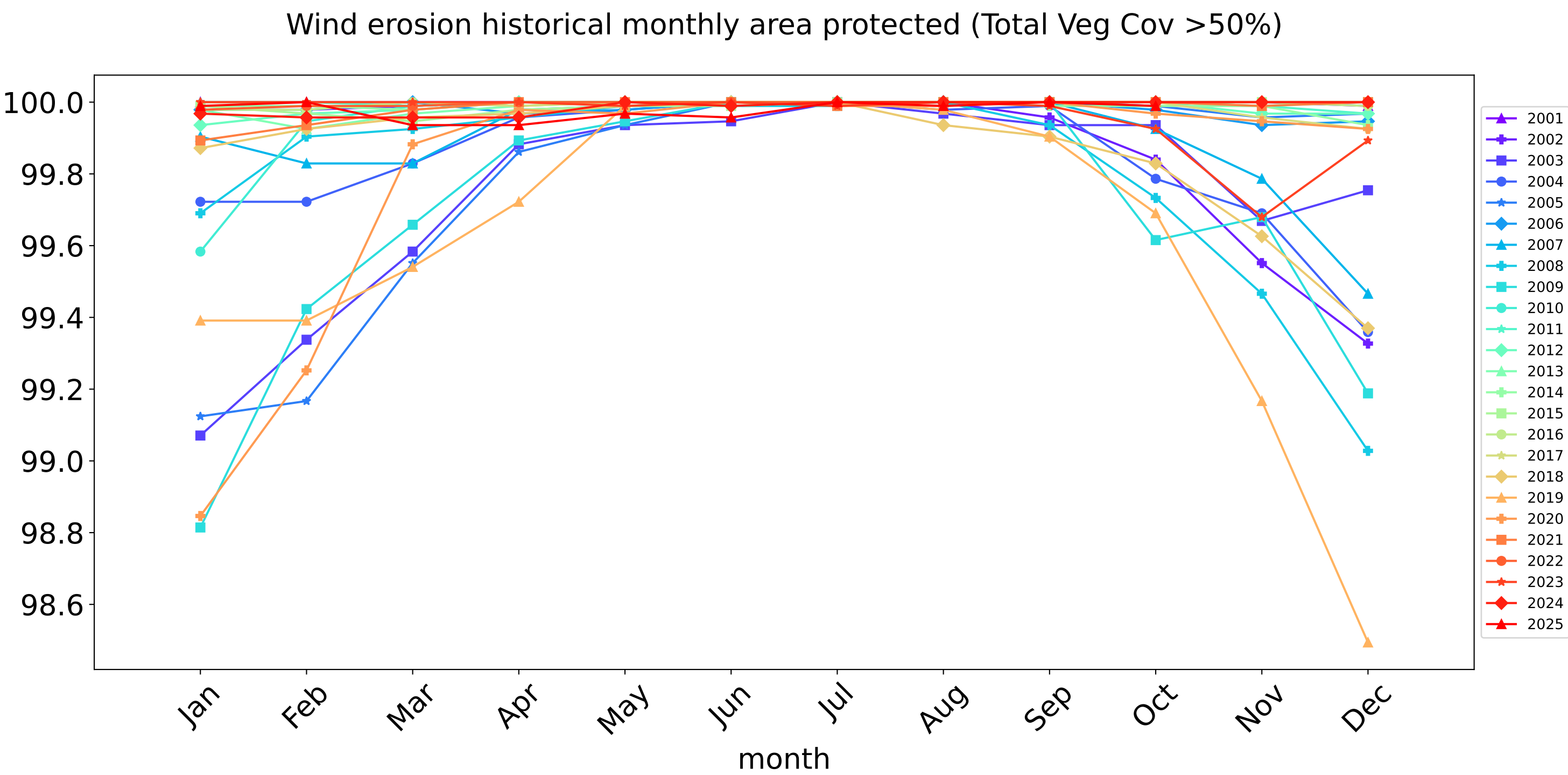
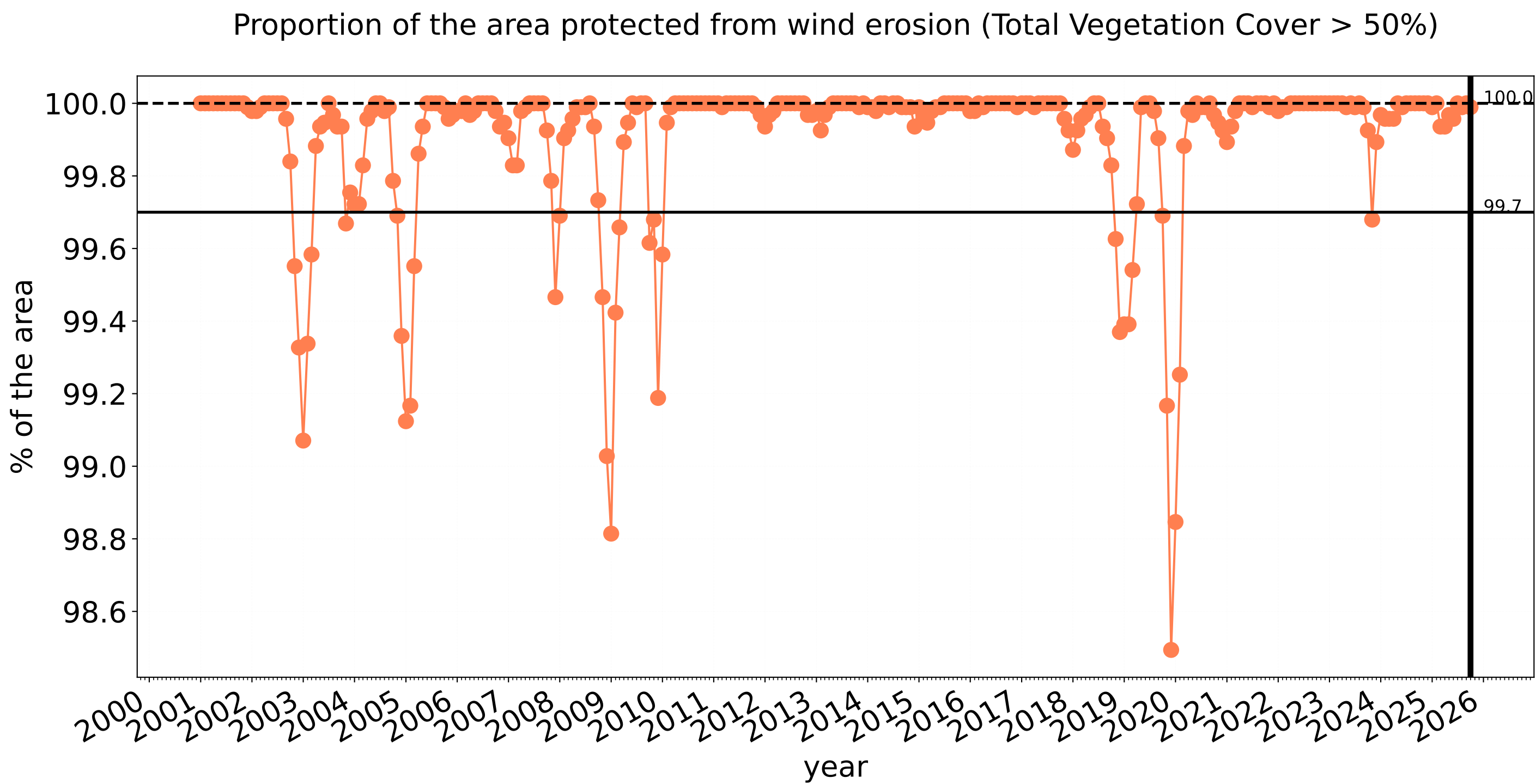


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Conservation and natural environments Forest (non woodland) timeseries



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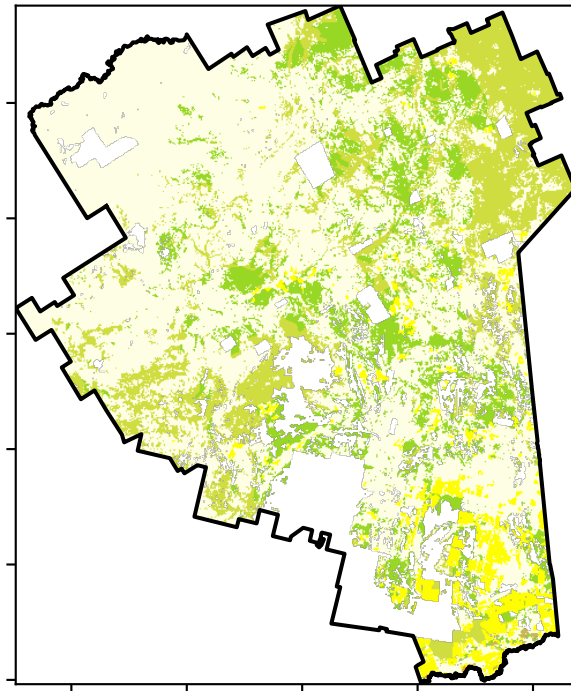
Australian Government

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Agriculture

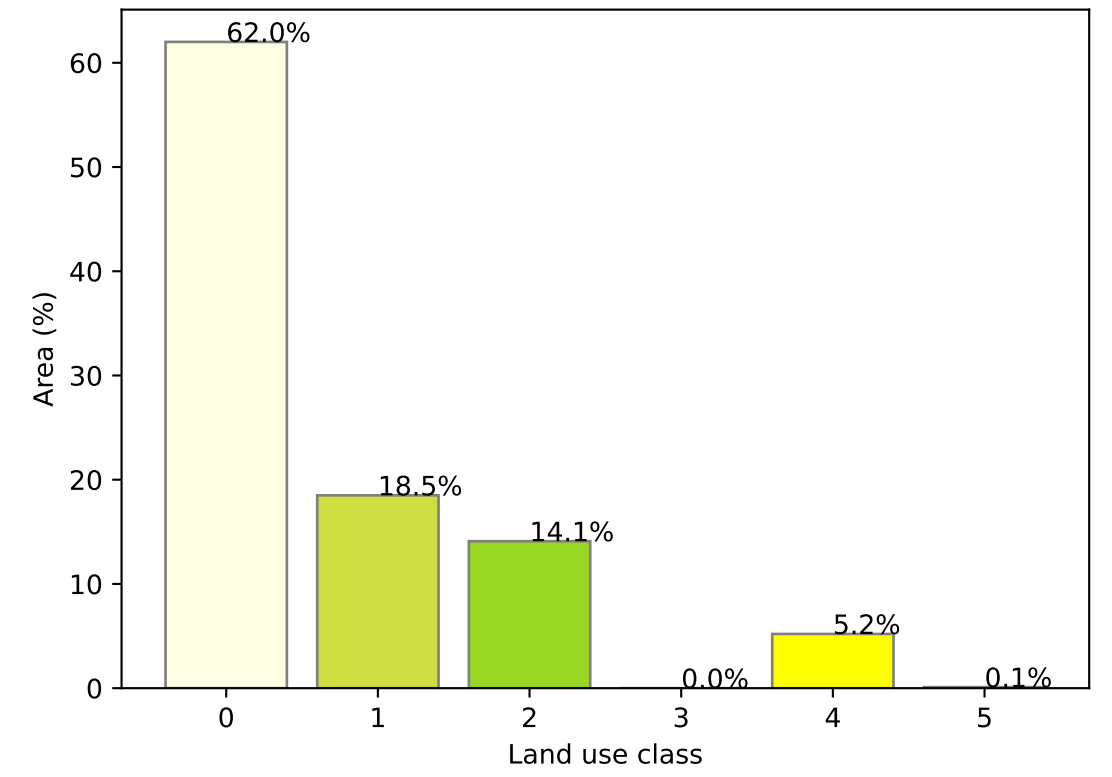
Land use and forest cover



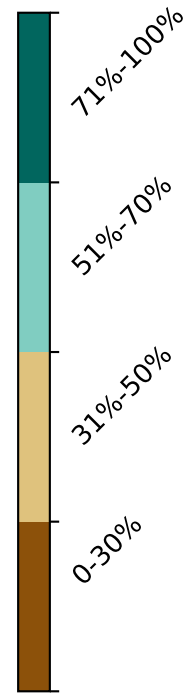
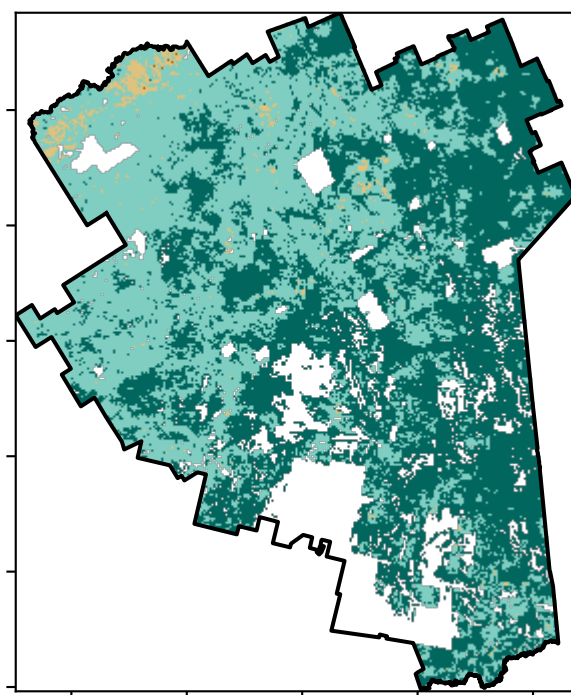
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Land Use and Forests
of Australia (2018)
Derived from
Catchment Scale Land
Use of Australia
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- 1 Agriculture - Grazing - Non forest
- 2 Agriculture - Grazing - Woodland forest
- 3 Agriculture - Grazing - Non-woodland forest
- 4 Agriculture - Grazing - Irrigated
- 5 Agriculture - Cropping - Non-irrigated
- 6 Agriculture - Cropping - Irrigated

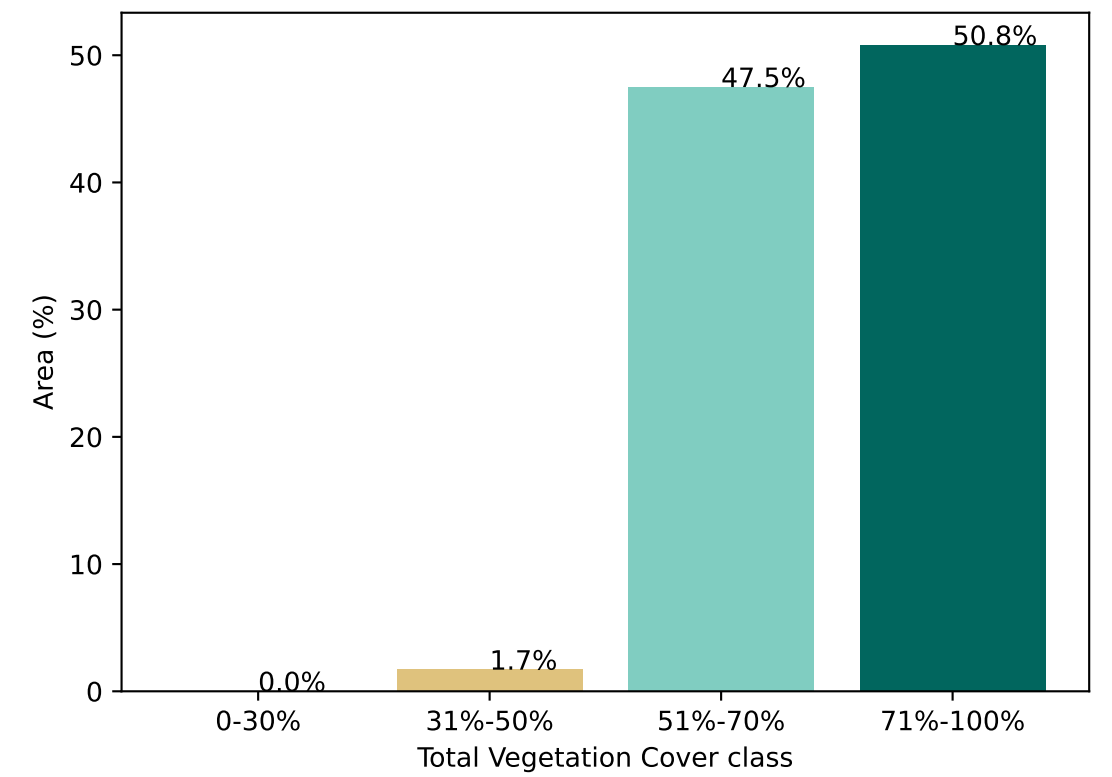
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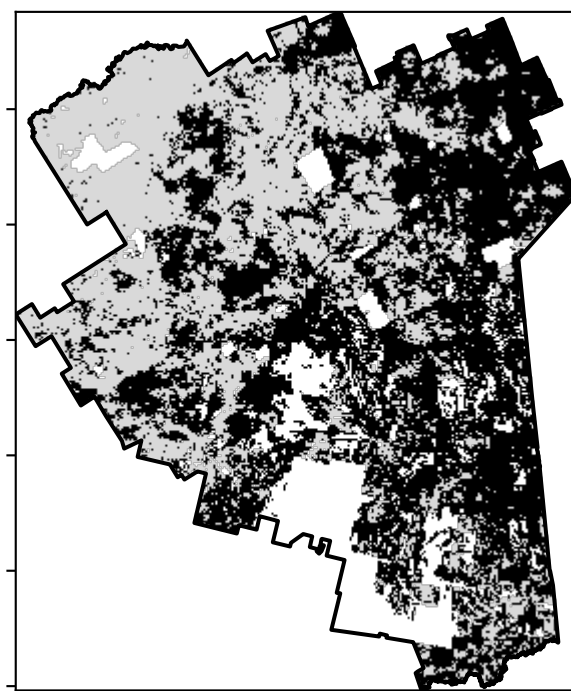
Total Vegetation Cover [%]



Proportion of vegetation cover class in area

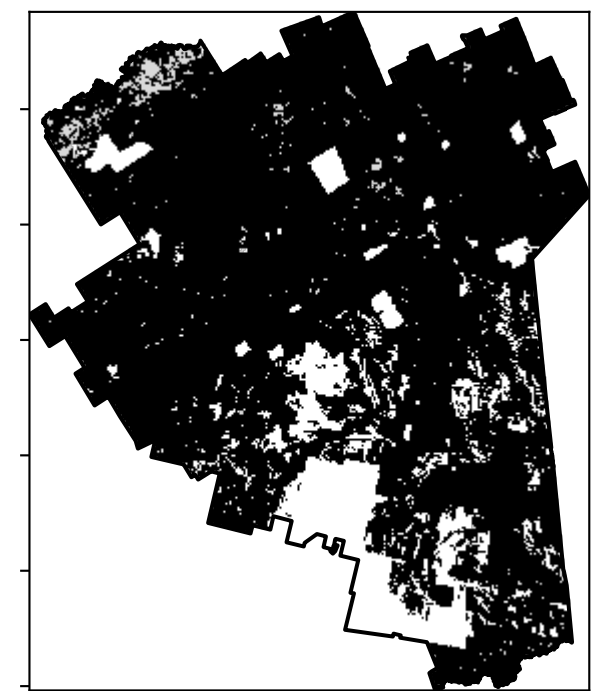


% Area protected from water erosion (>70%)



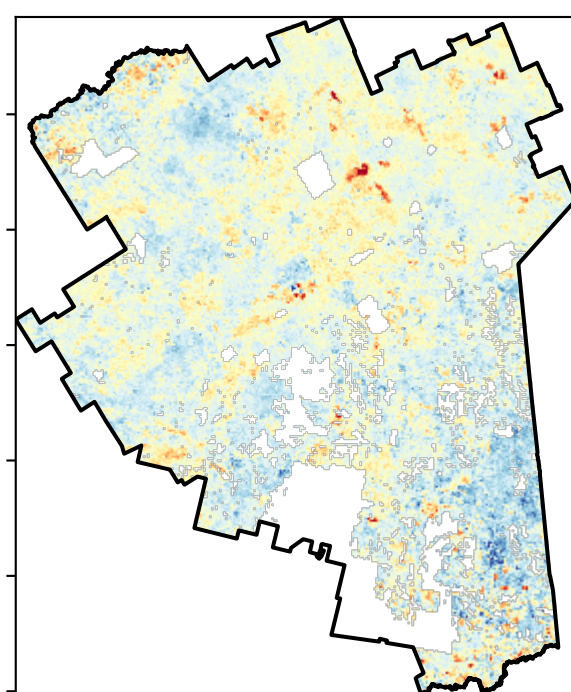
- Area not protected
49.2% of region
(1,927,127 ha)
- Area protected
50.8% of region
(1,989,798 ha)

% Area protected from wind erosion (>50%)

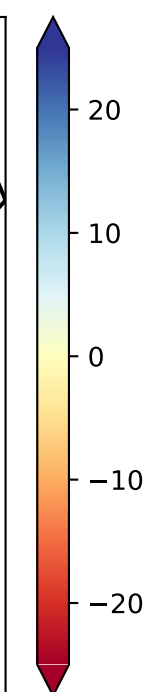


- Area not protected
2.0% of region
(78,338 ha)
- Area protected
98.0% of region
(3,838,586 ha)

Total Vegetation Cover Anomaly [%]

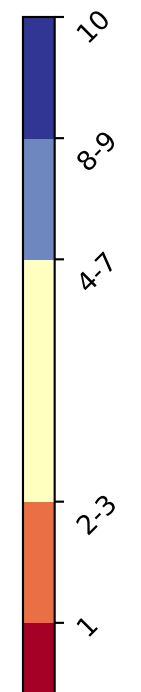
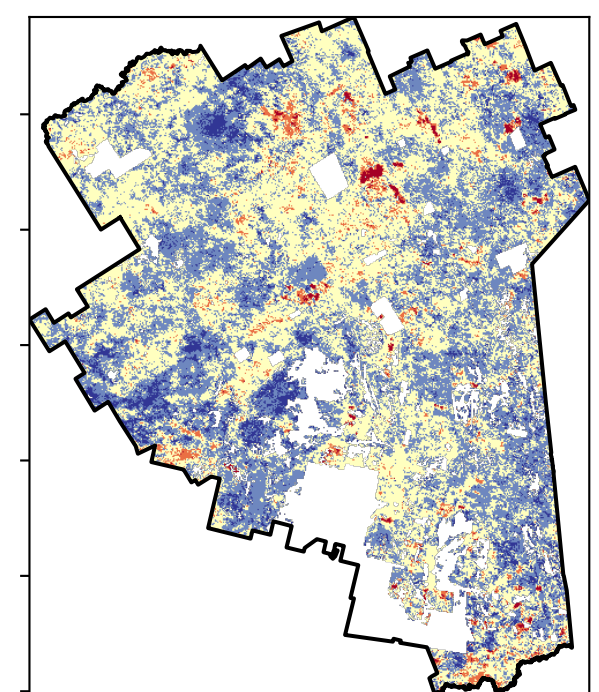


Anomaly show how many percentage points each pixel is from the mean. That is, red pixels are about 20% lower than the mean of that pixel. The mean is only for the month of the map using baseline from 2001 to 2019.



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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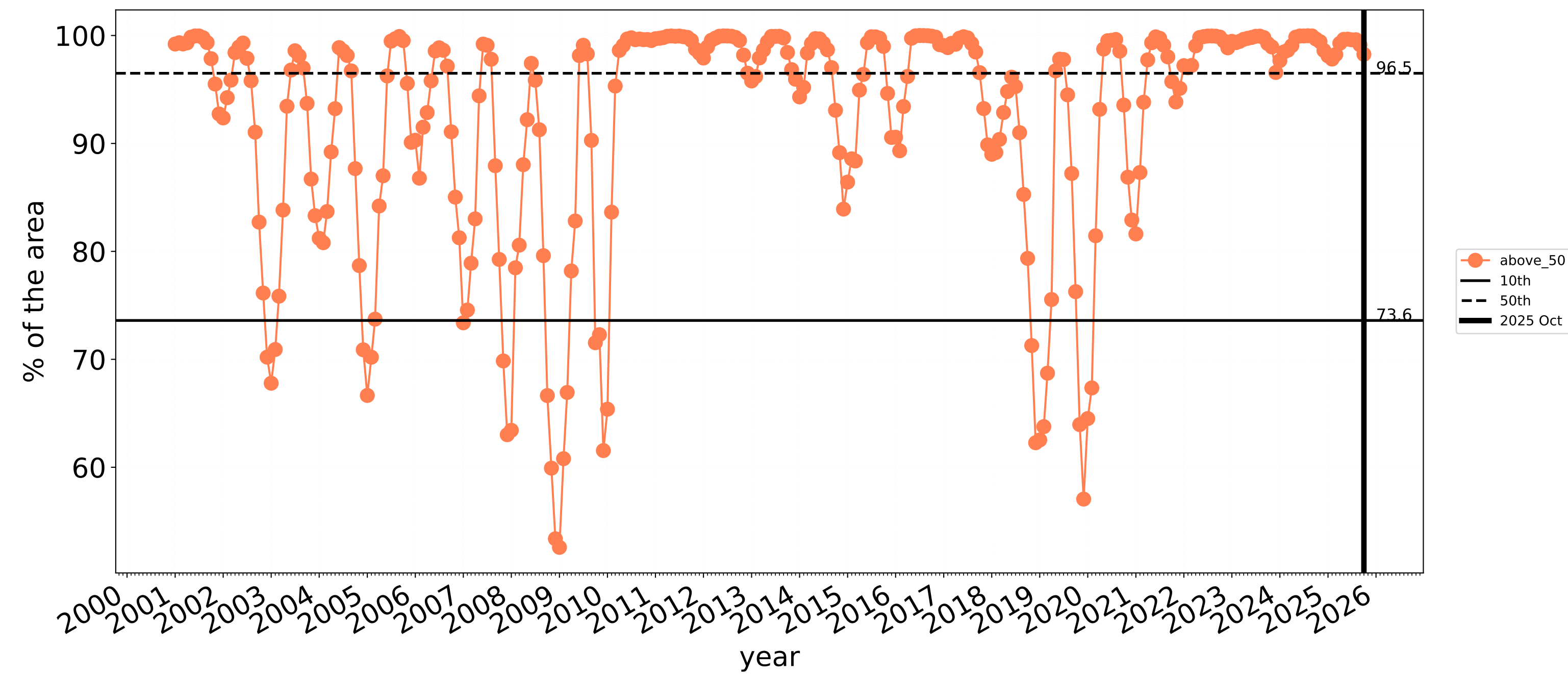
Australian Government

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Landcare
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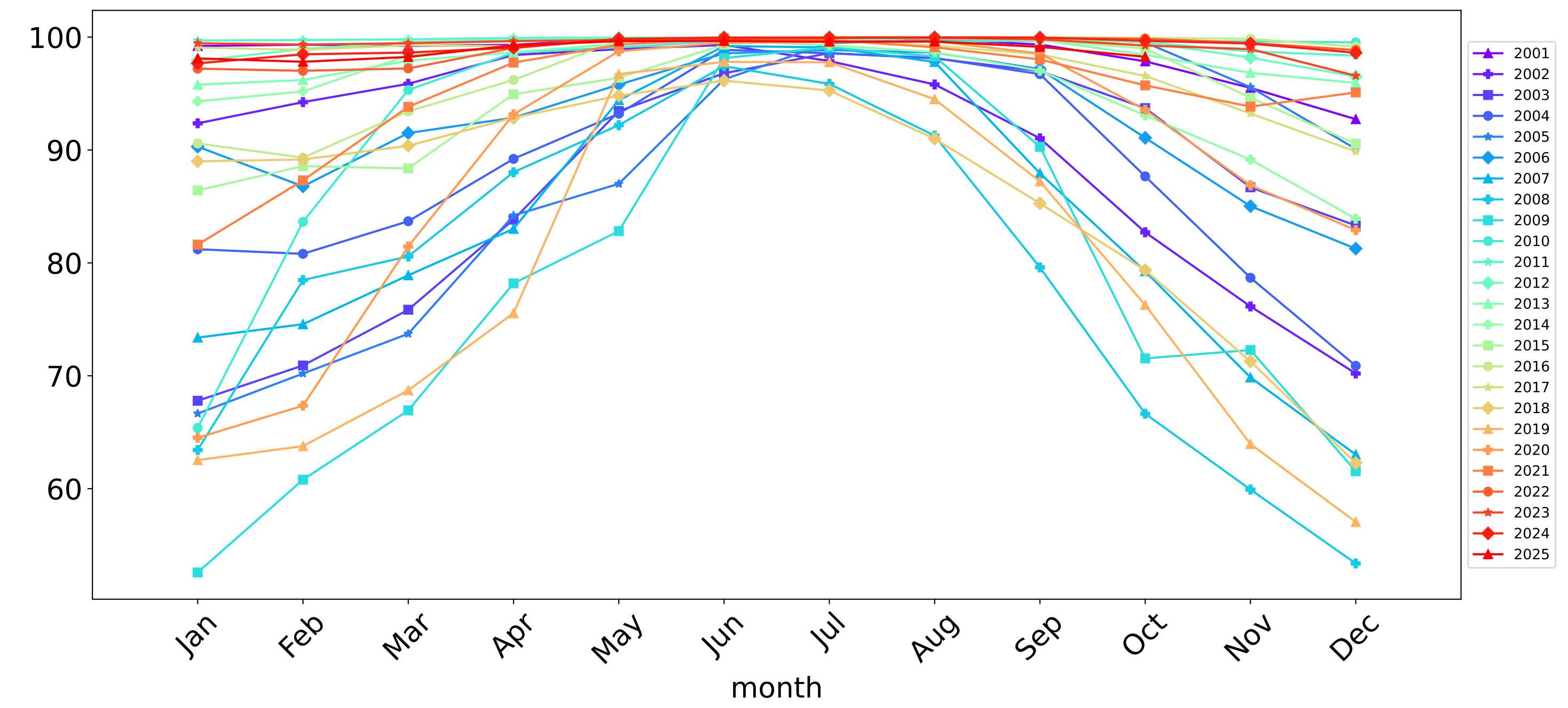


Agriculture timeseries

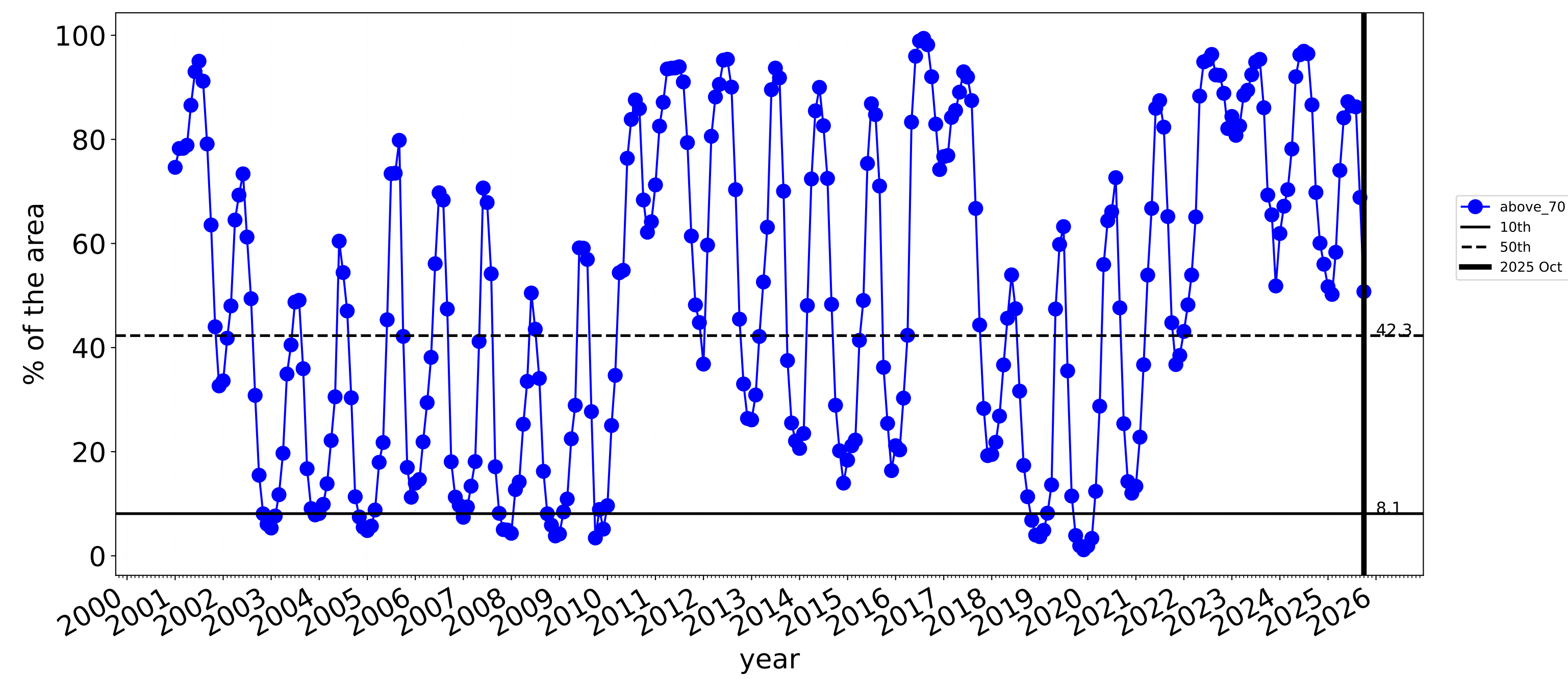
Proportion of the area protected from wind erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 50%)



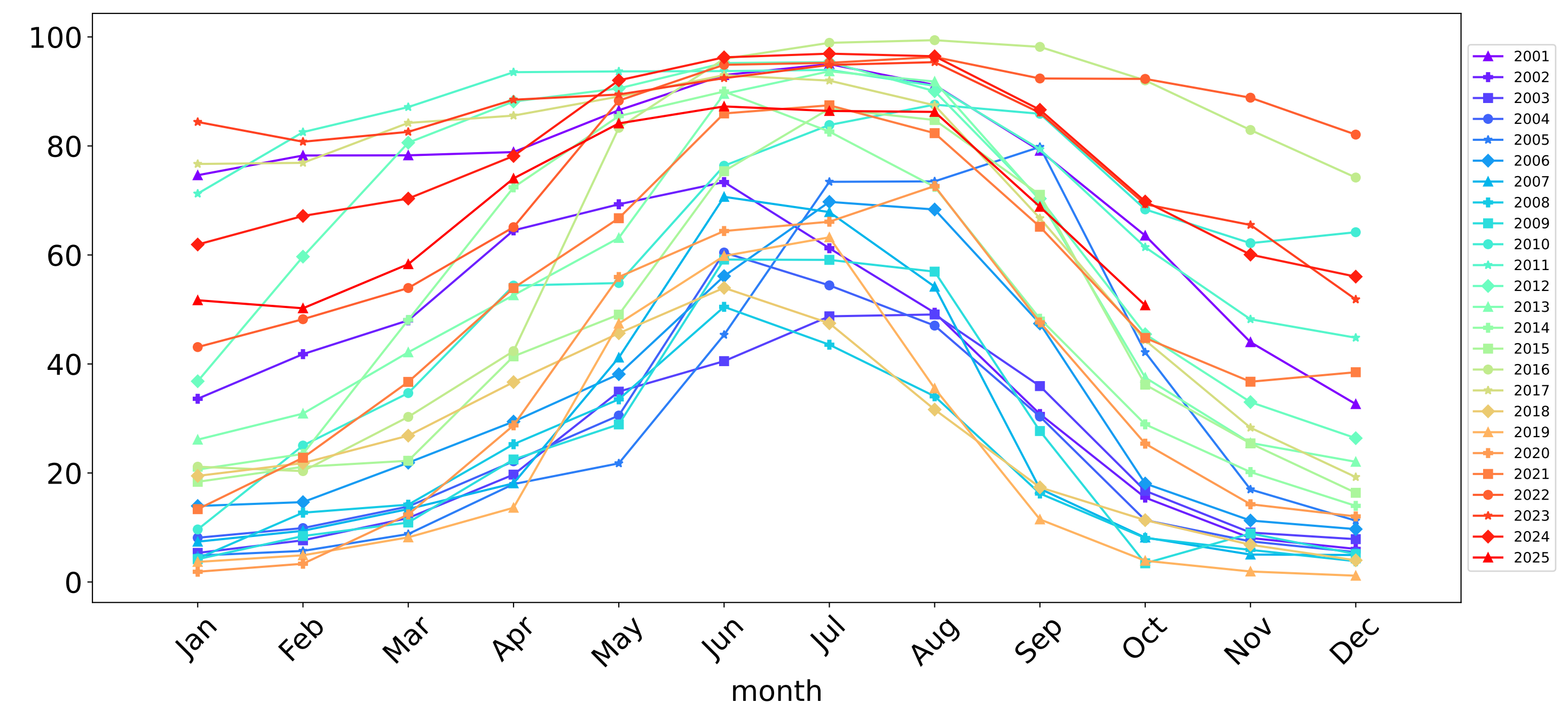
Wind erosion historical monthly area protected (Total Veg Cov > 50%)



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

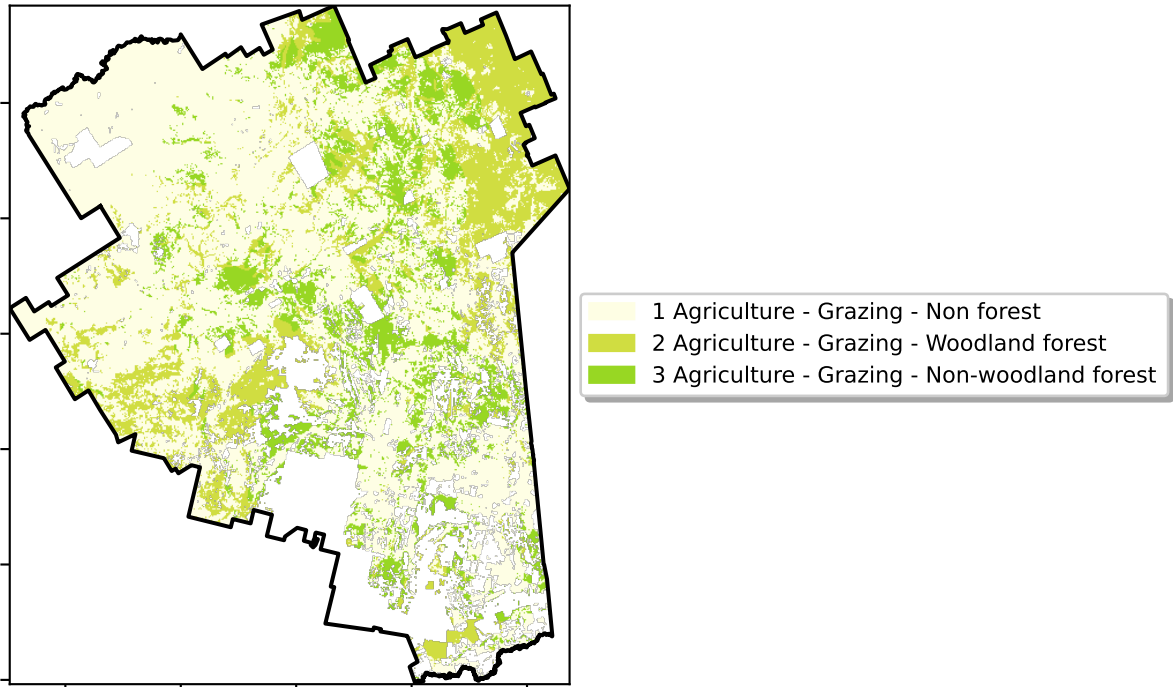


Water erosion historical monthly area protected (Total Veg Cov > 70%)

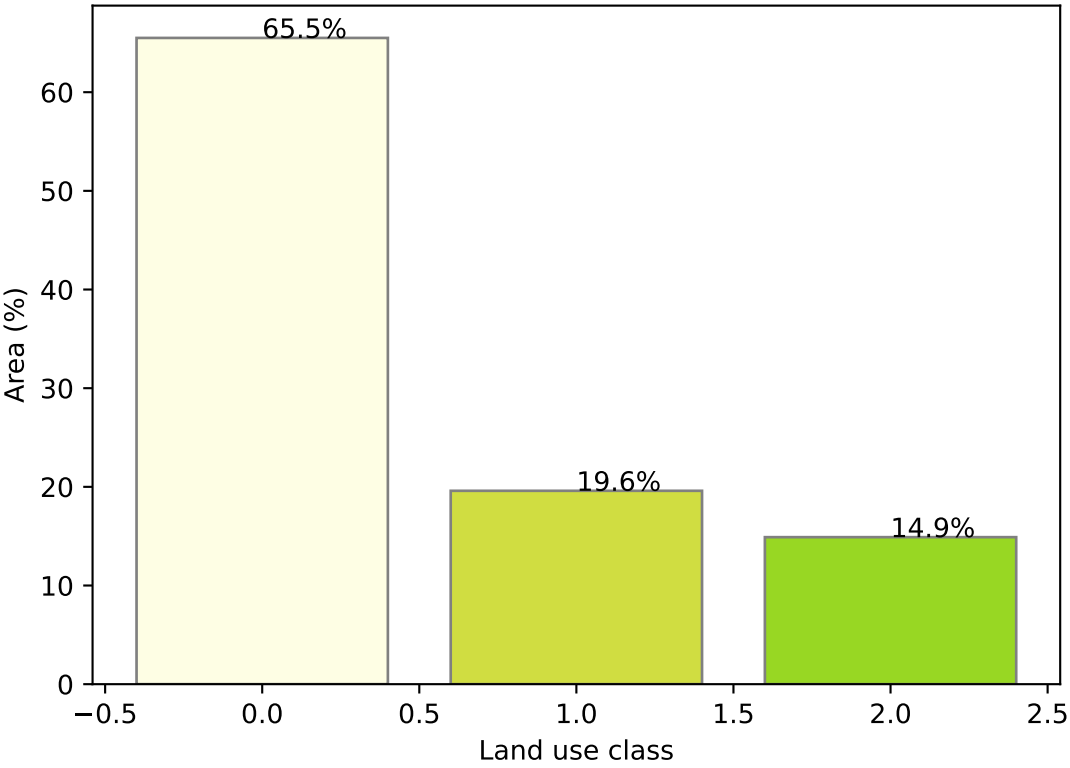


Grazing

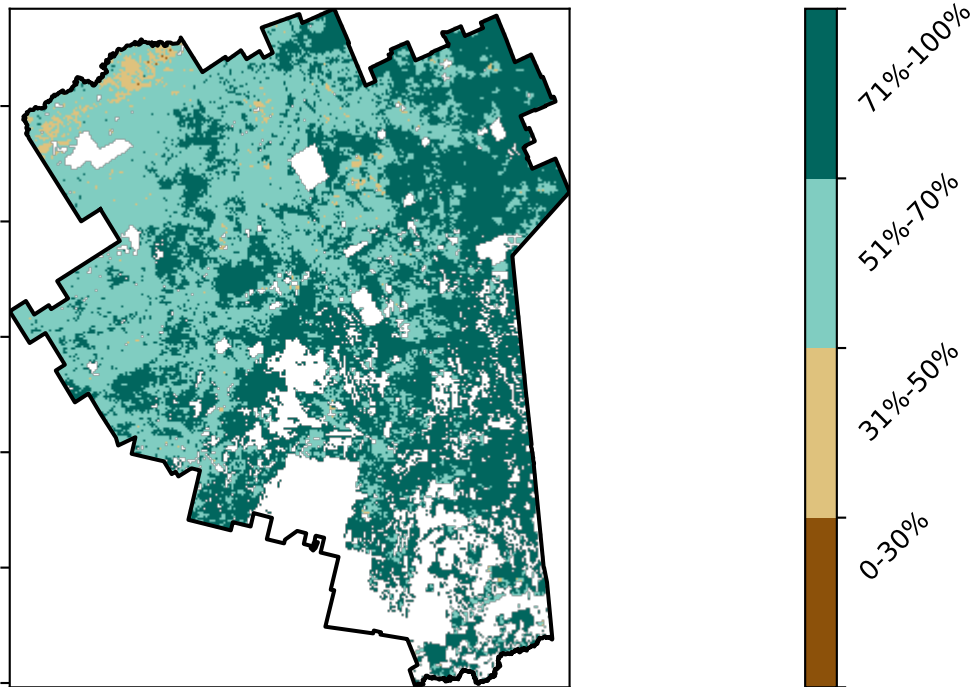
Land use and forest cover



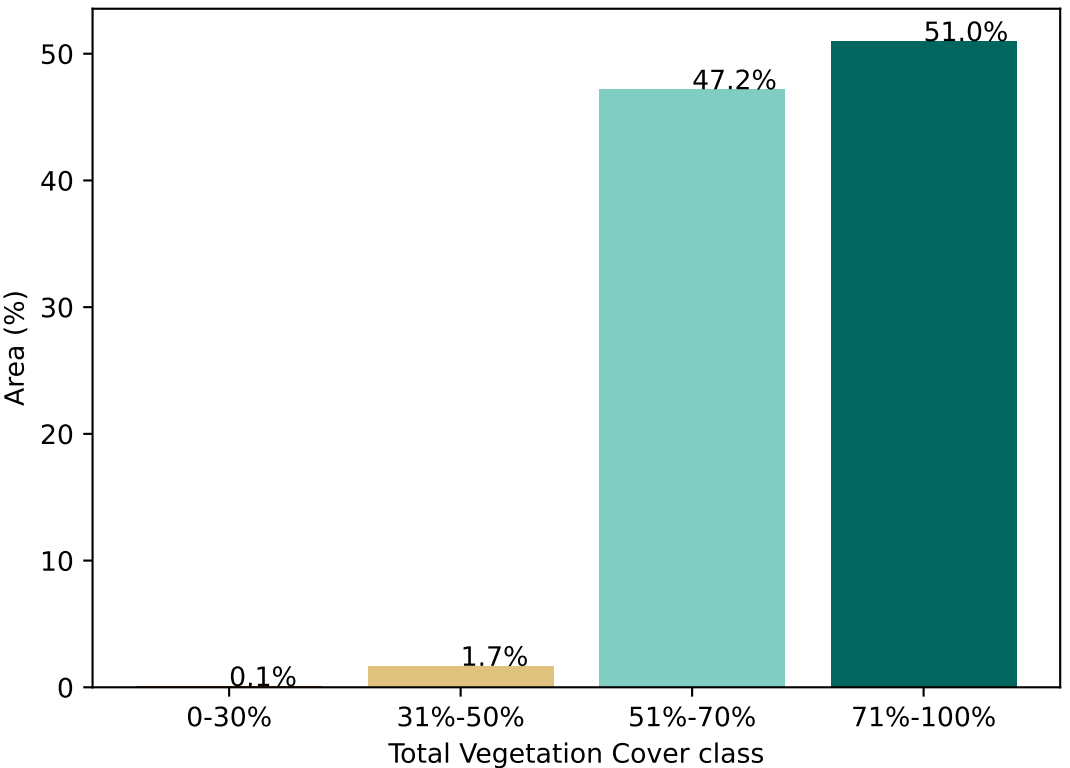
Proportion of each land class in area



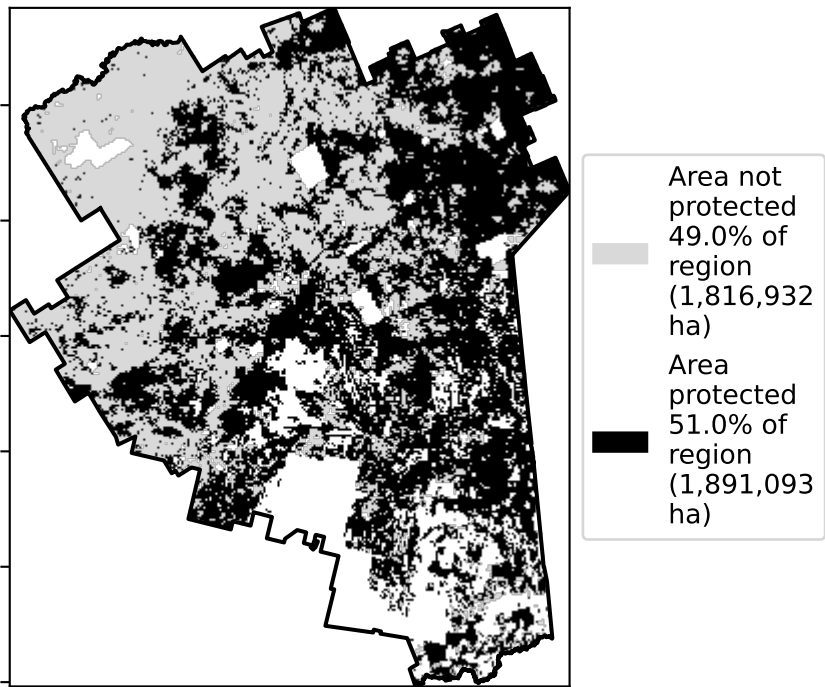
Total Vegetation Cover [%]



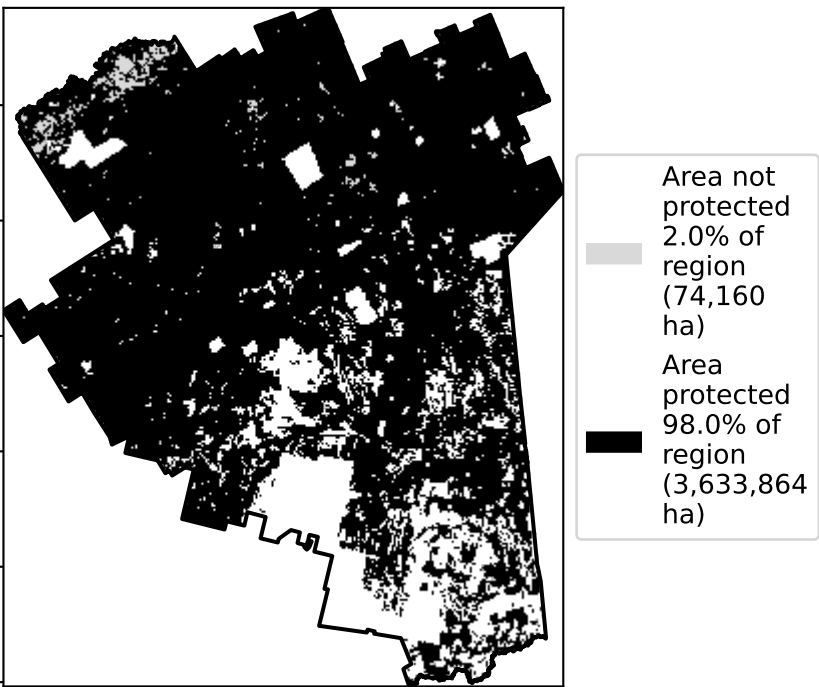
Proportion of vegetation cover class in area



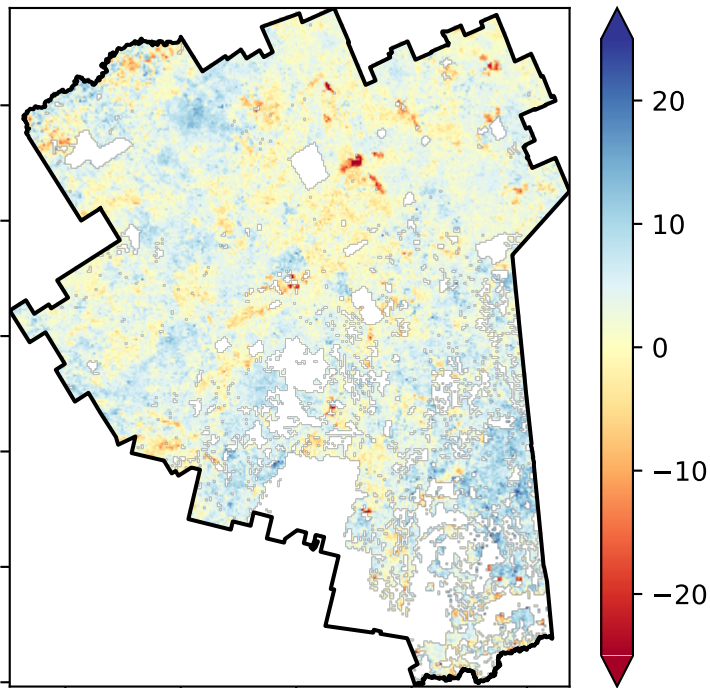
% Area protected from water erosion (>70%)



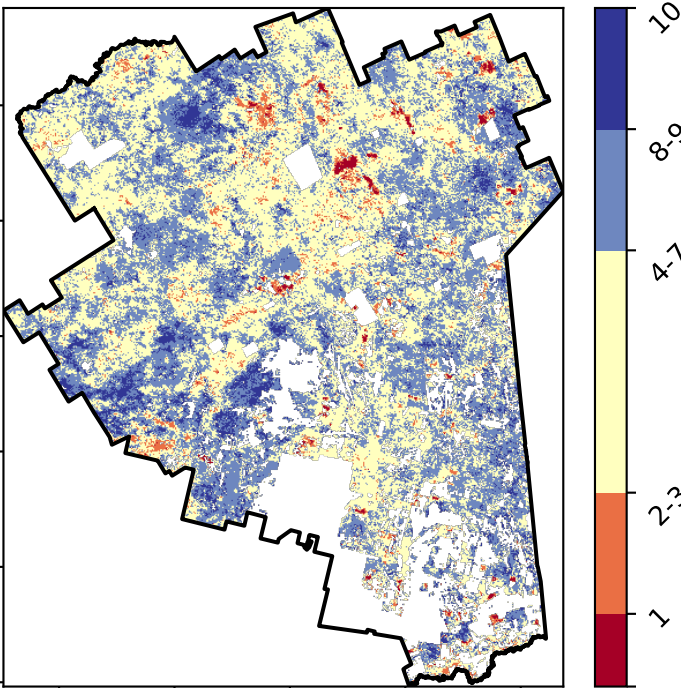
% Area protected from wind erosion (>50%)



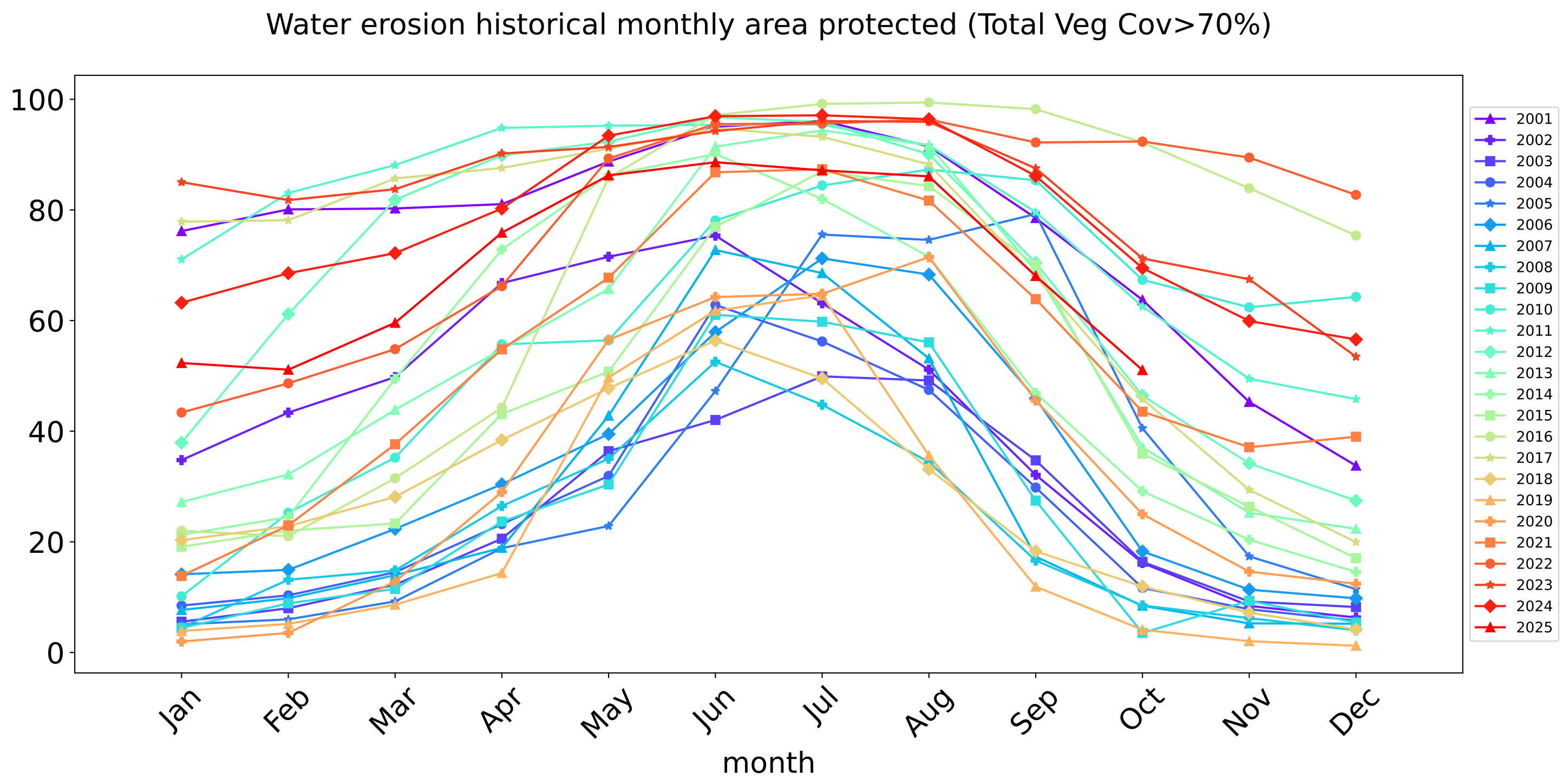
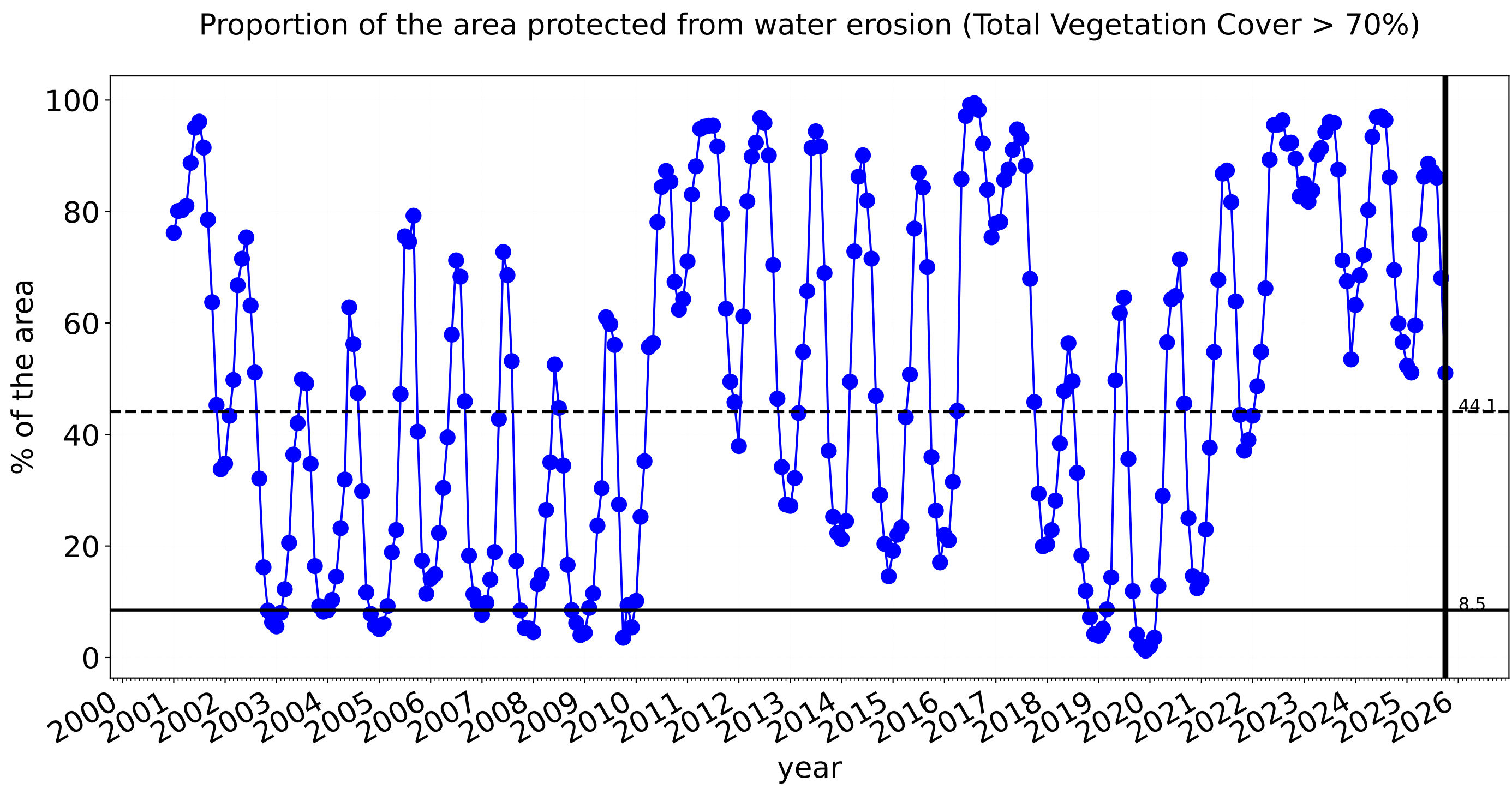
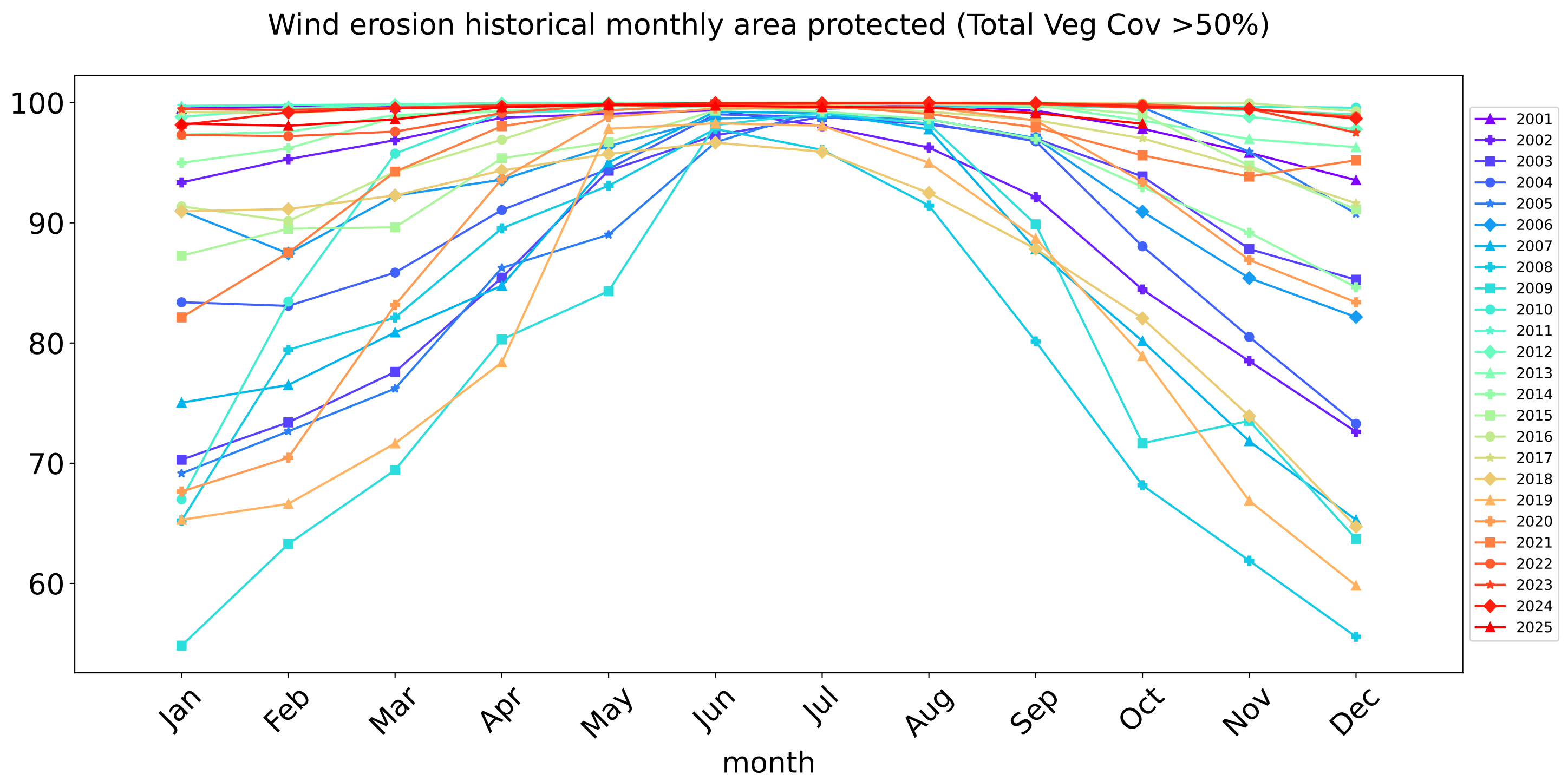
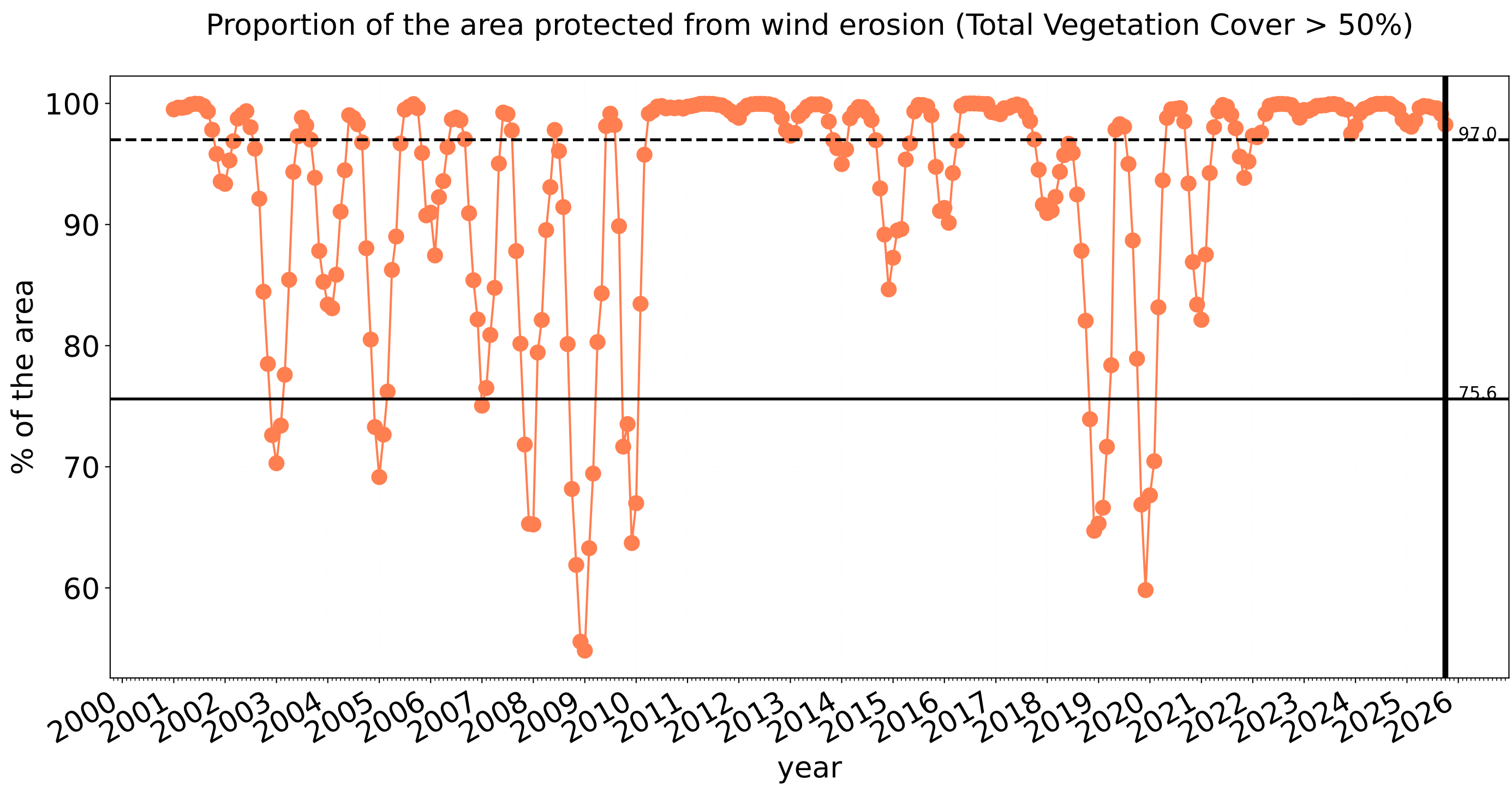
Total Vegetation Cover Anomaly [%]



Total Vegetation Cover Decile [%]



Grazing timeseries



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Ecosystem Research Infrastructure

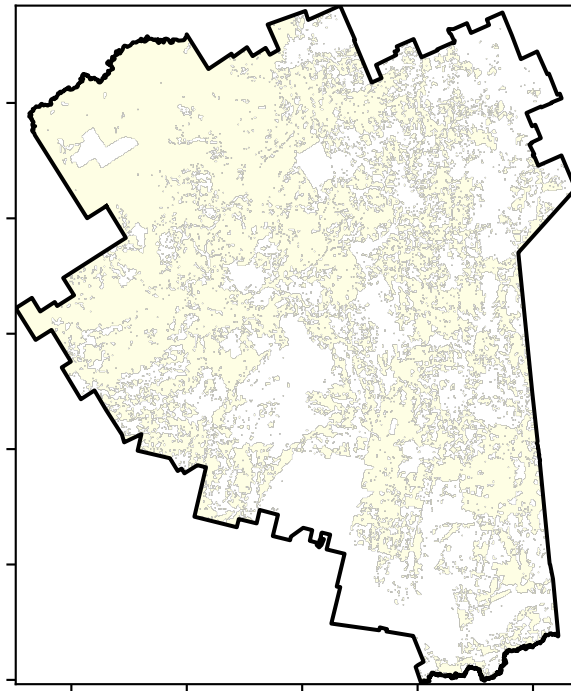


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Grazing non forest

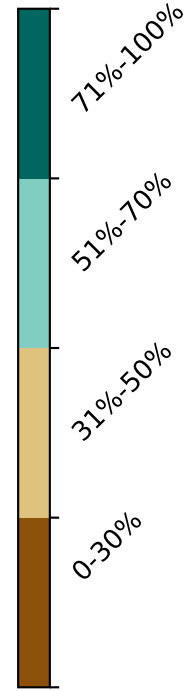
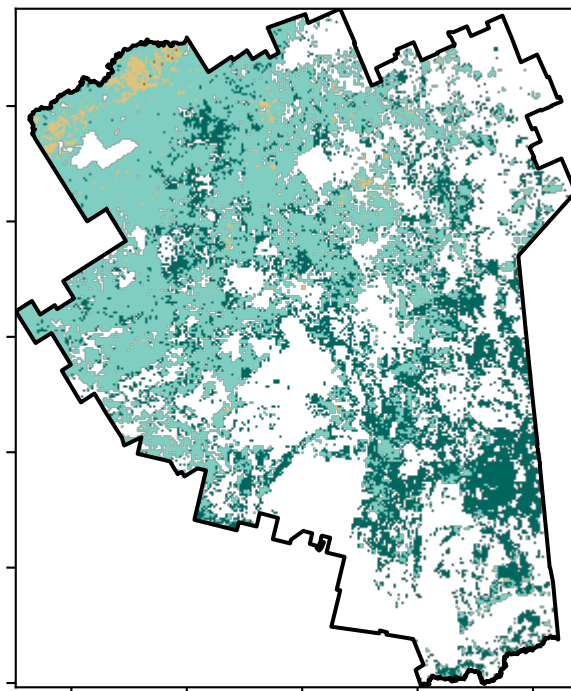
Land use and forest cover



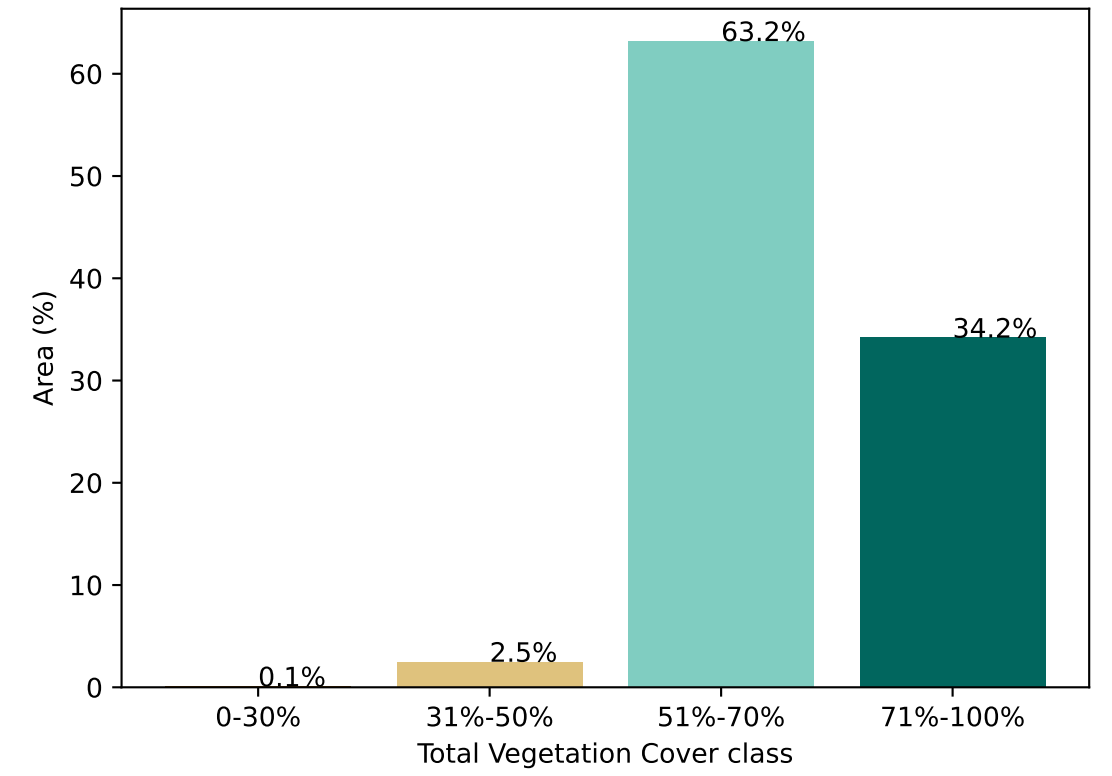
1 Agriculture - Grazing - Non forest

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

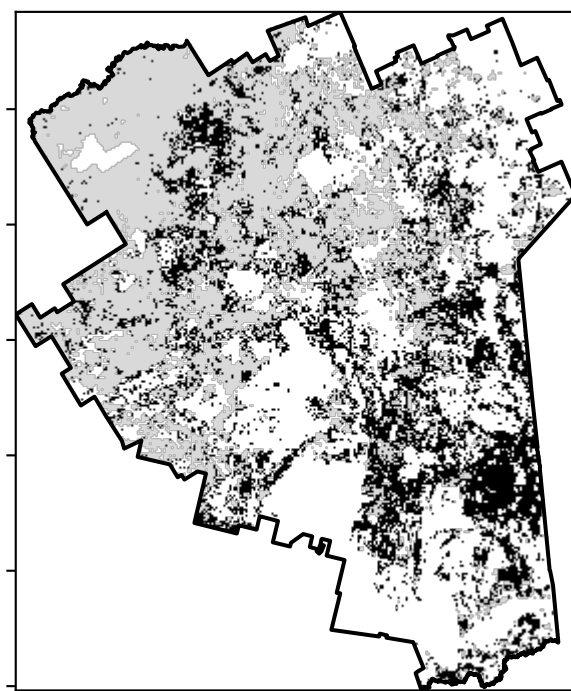
Total Vegetation Cover [%]



Proportion of vegetation cover class in area

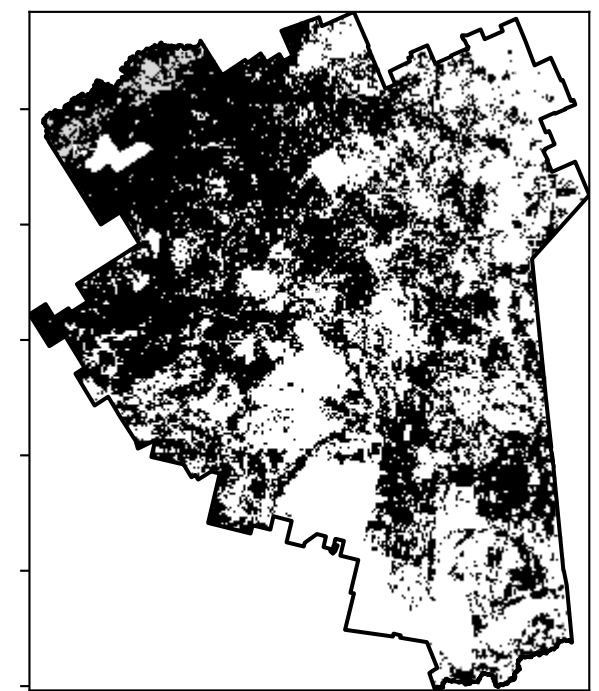


% Area protected from water erosion (>70%)



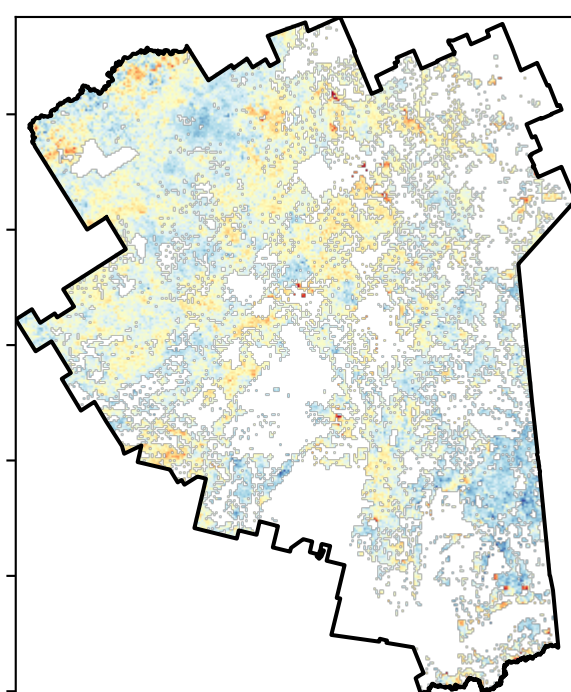
Area not
protected
65.8% of
region
(1,598,150
ha)
Area
protected
34.2% of
region
(830,650
ha)

% Area protected from wind erosion (>50%)



Area not
protected
3.0% of
region
(72,864
ha)
Area
protected
97.0% of
region
(2,355,936
ha)

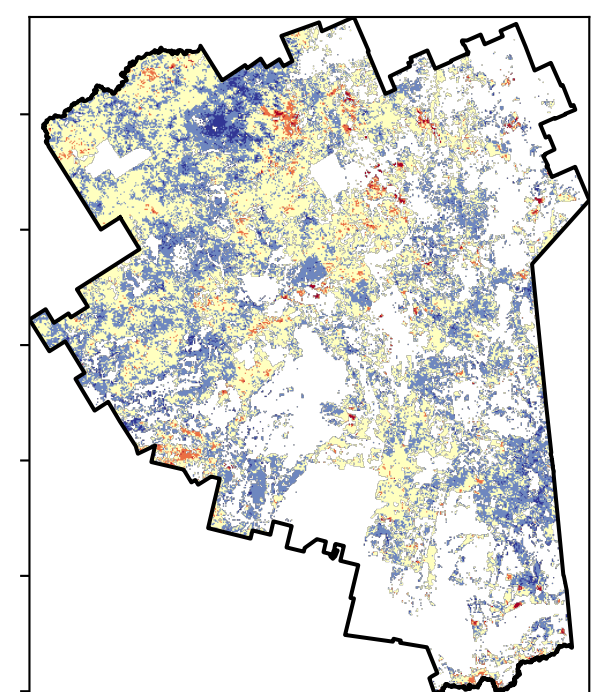
Total Vegetation Cover Anomaly [%]



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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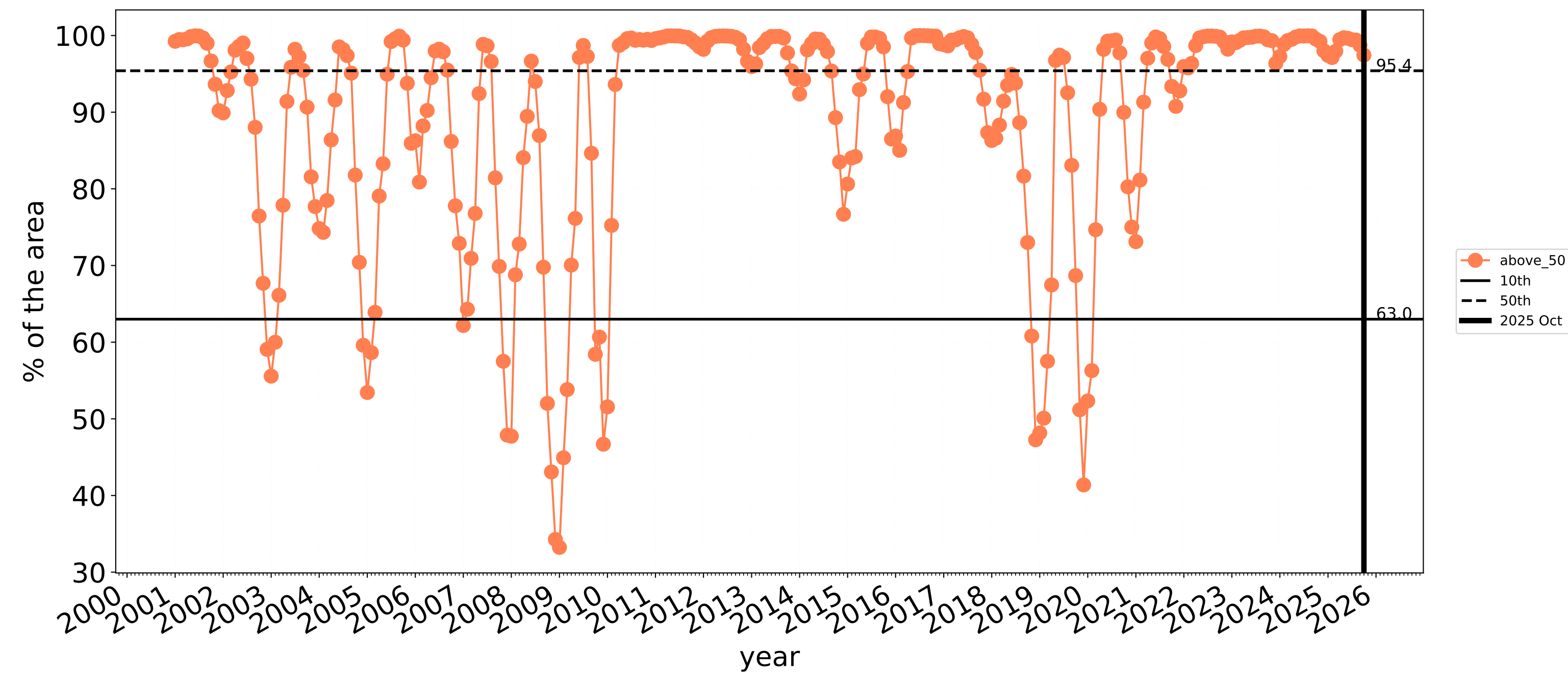
Australian Government

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Landcare
Programme

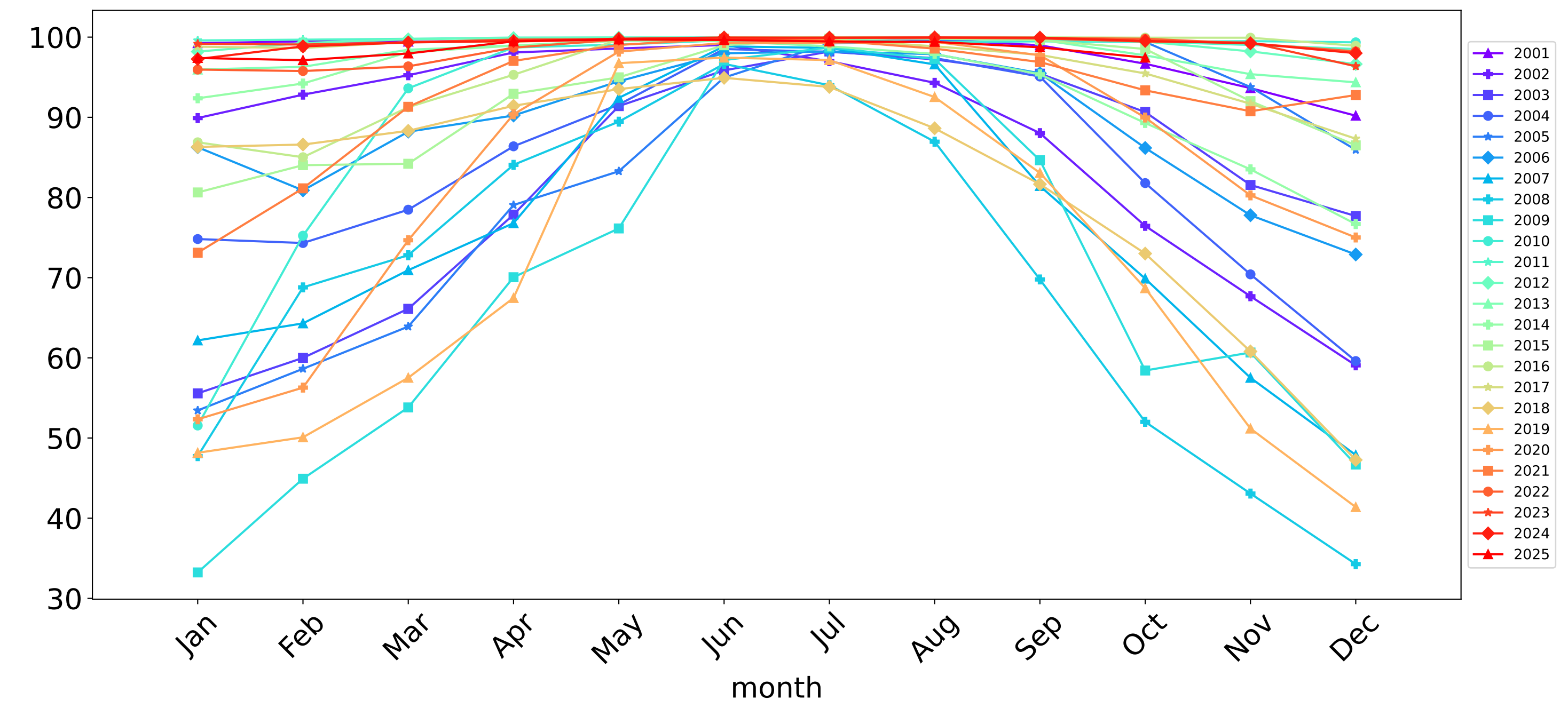


Grazing non forest timeseries

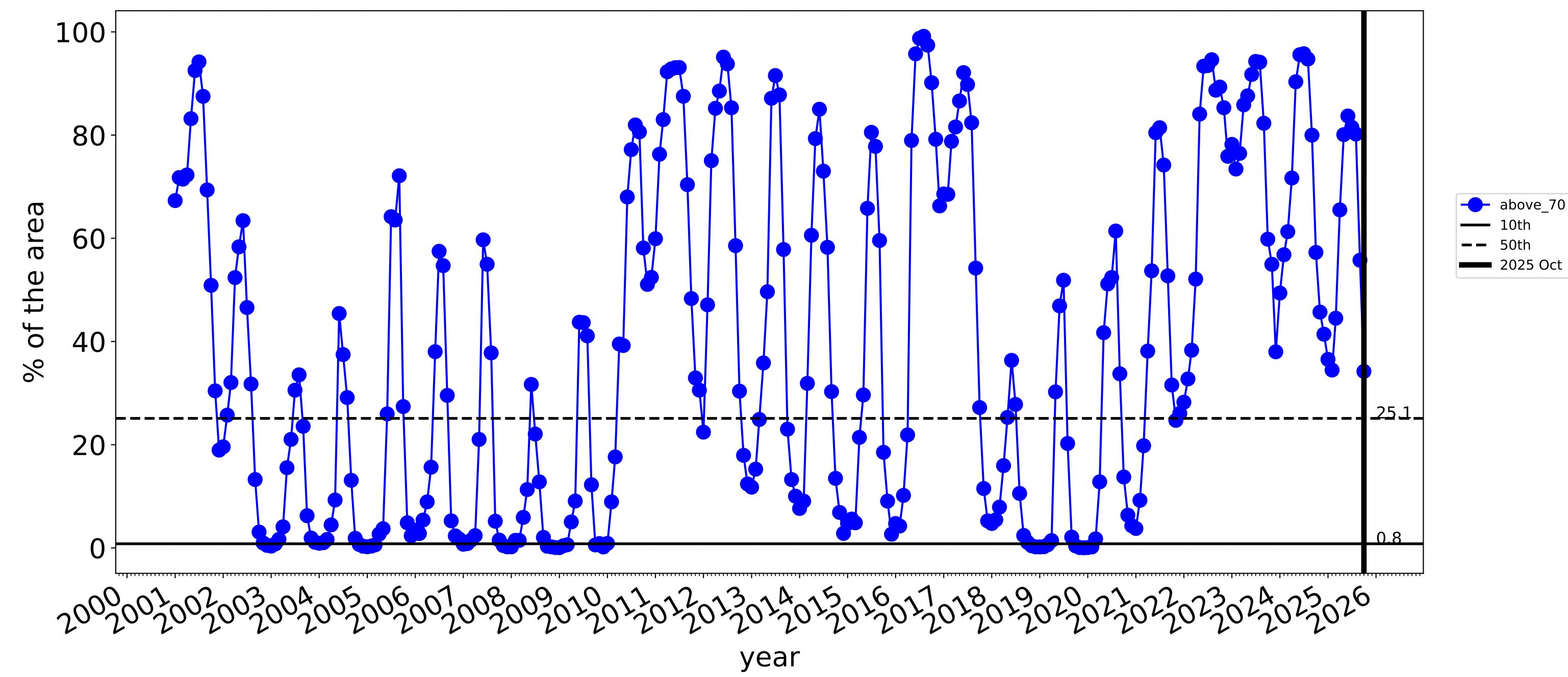
Proportion of the area protected from wind erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 50%)



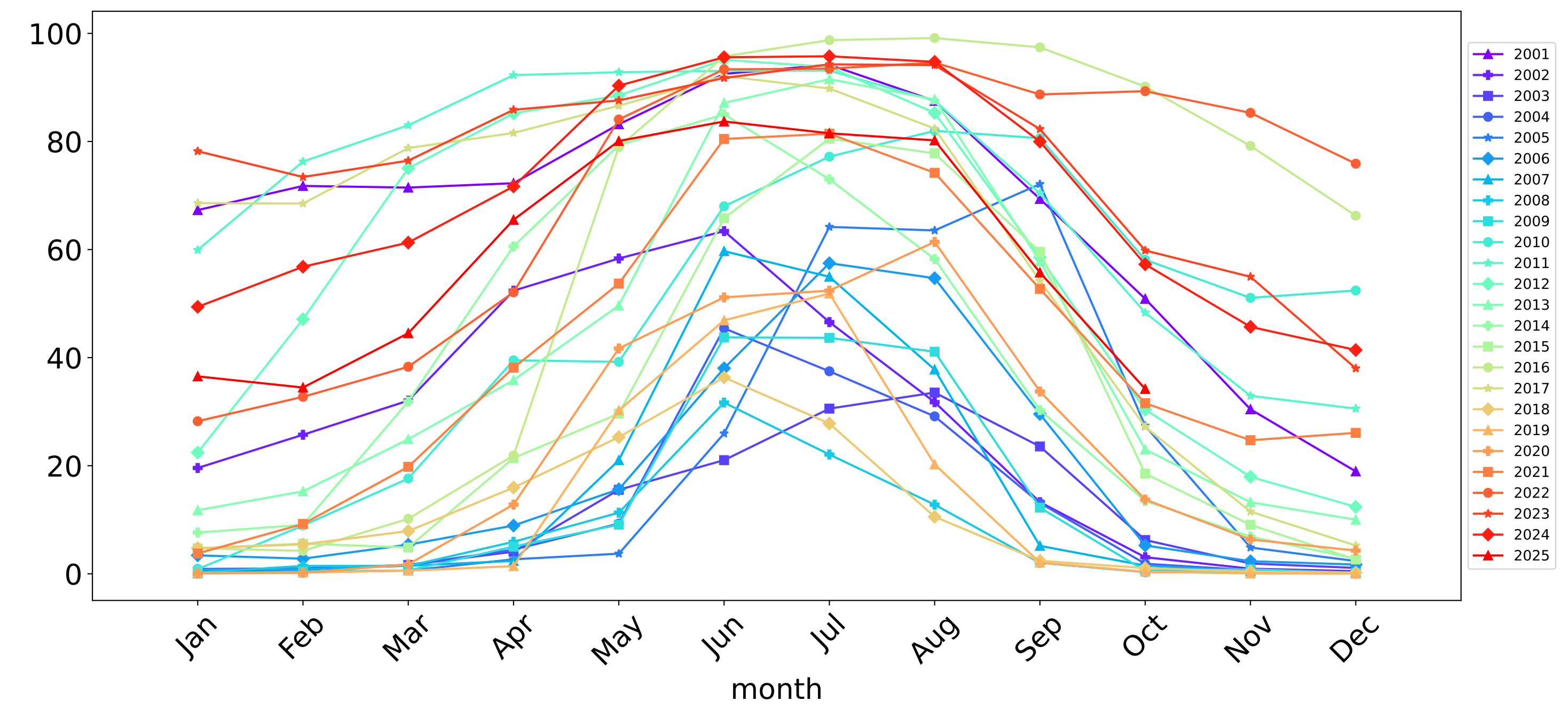
Wind erosion historical monthly area protected (Total Veg Cov >50%)



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

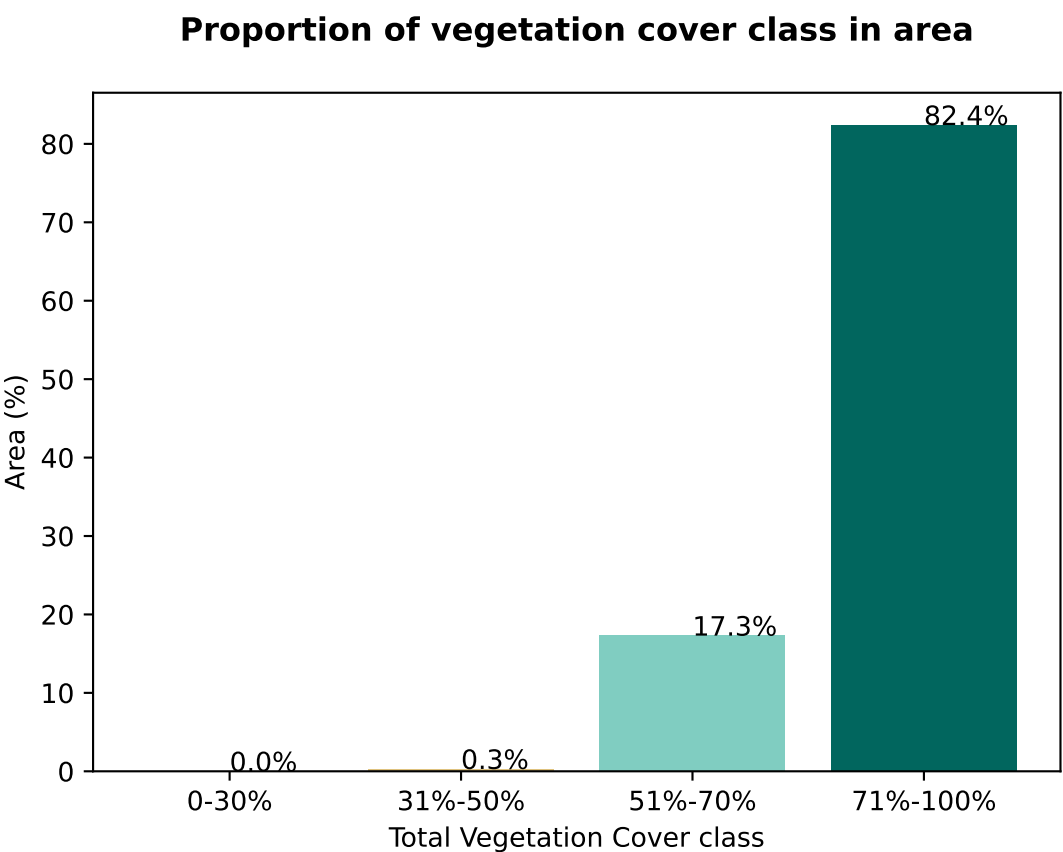
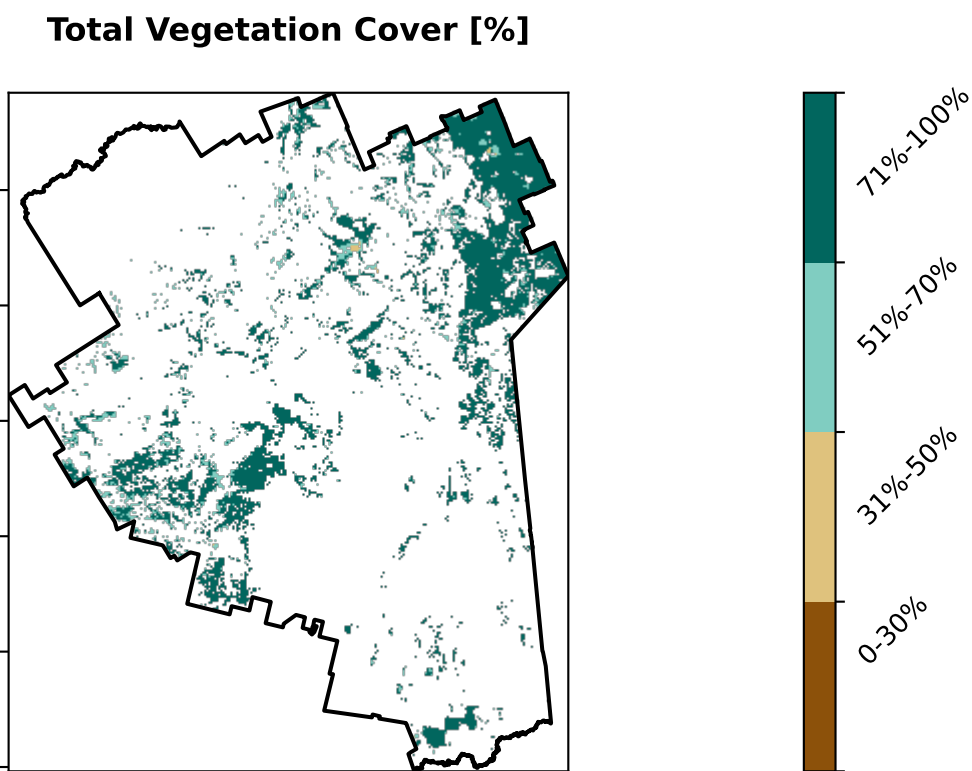
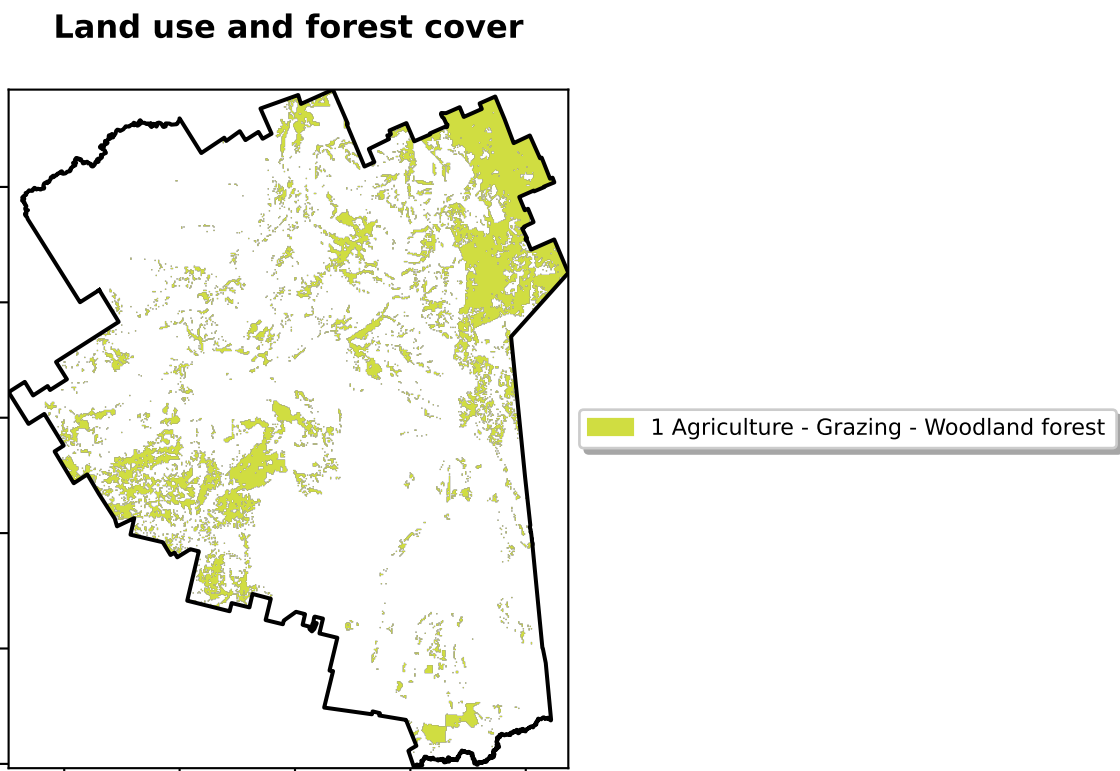


Water erosion historical monthly area protected (Total Veg Cov>70%)

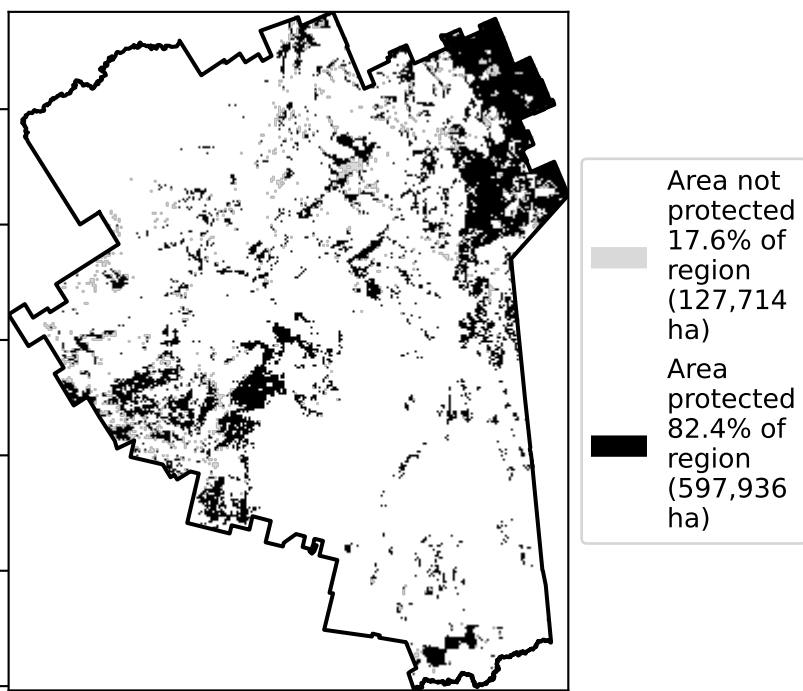


Grazing Woodland forest

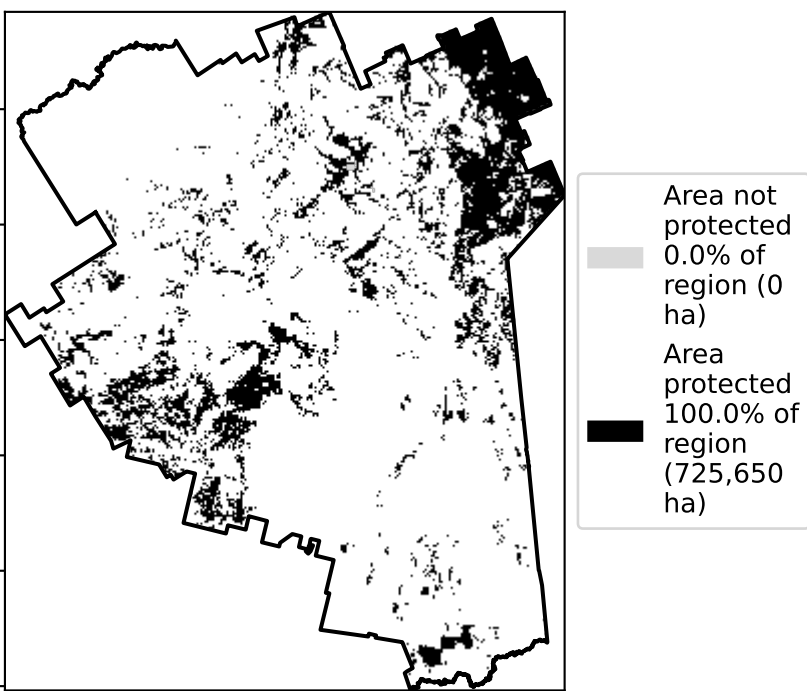
Catchment Scale
Land Use and Forests
of Australia (2018)
Derived from
Catchment Scale Land
Use of Australia
(2018) and Forests
of Australia (2018)



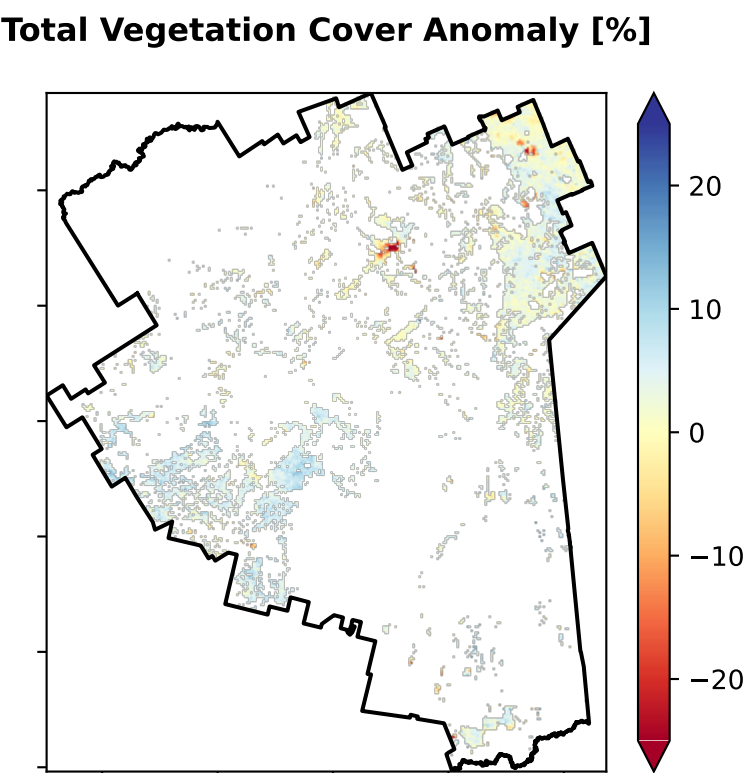
% Area protected from water erosion (>70%)



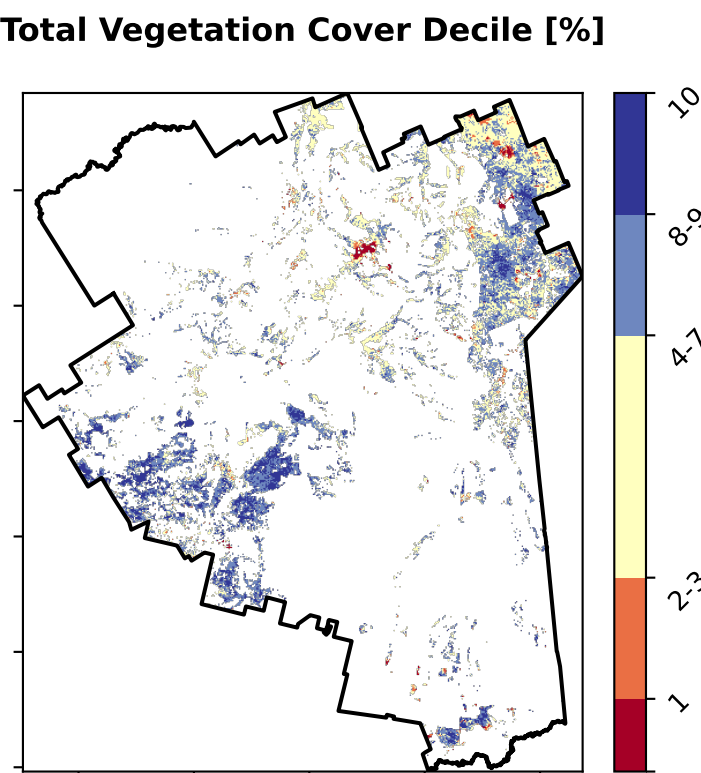
% Area protected from wind erosion (>50%)



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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Ecosystem Research Infrastructure



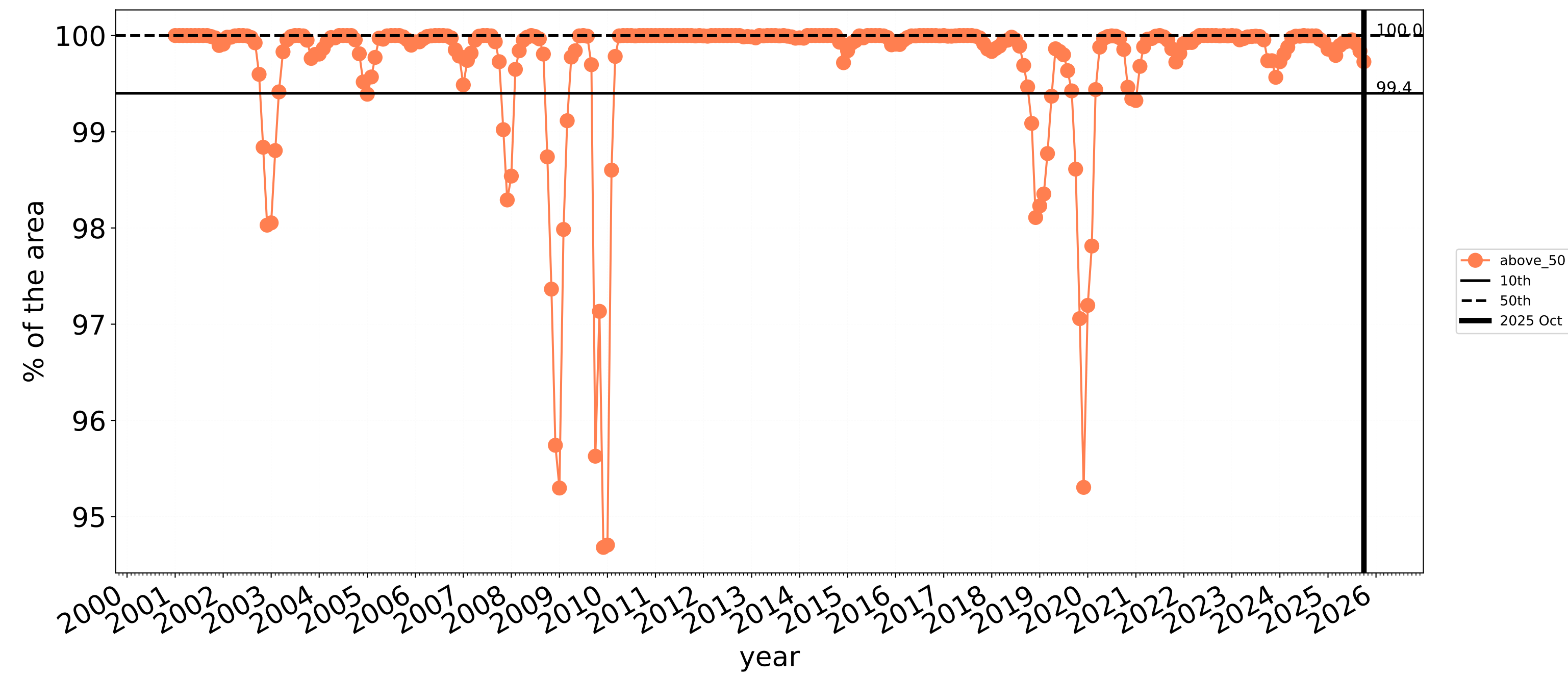
Australian Government

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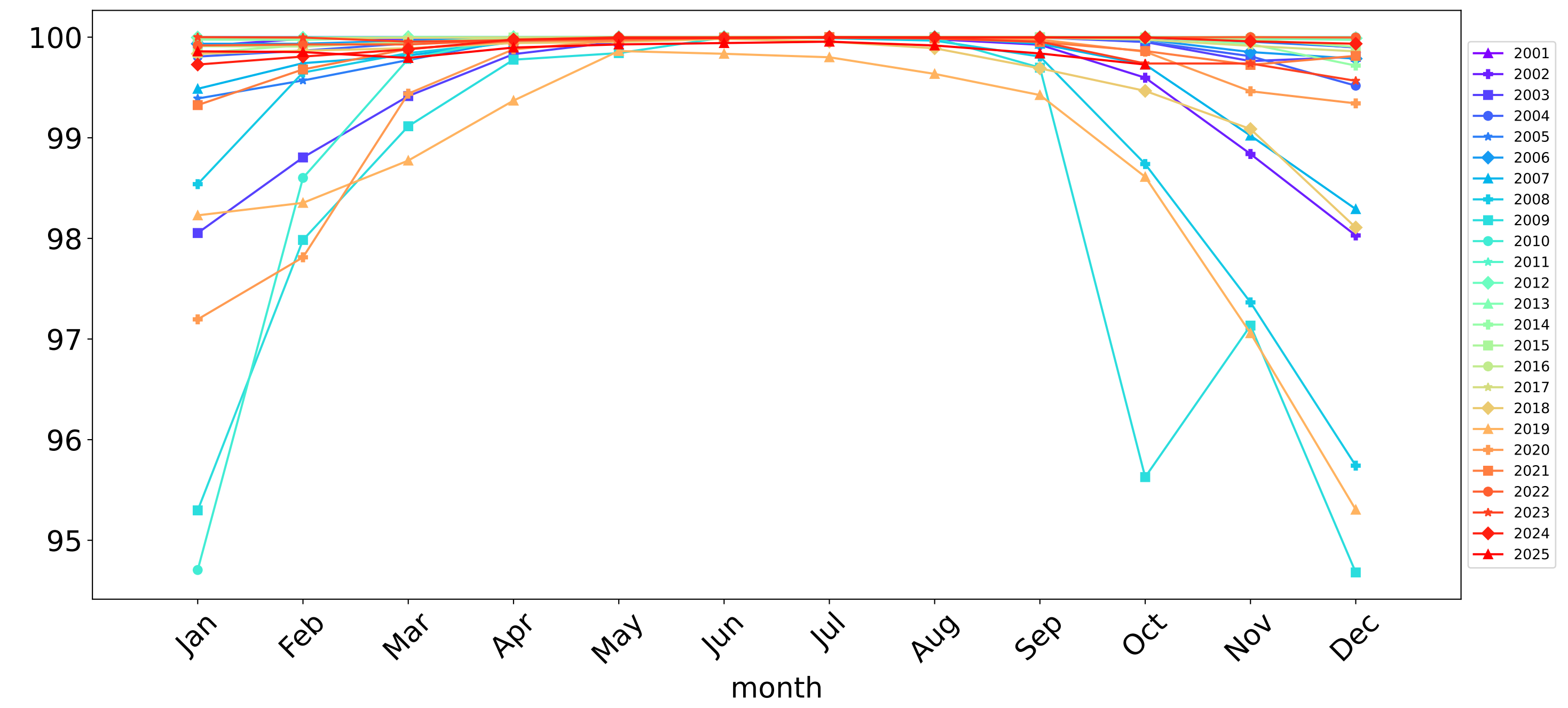


Grazing Woodland forest timeseries

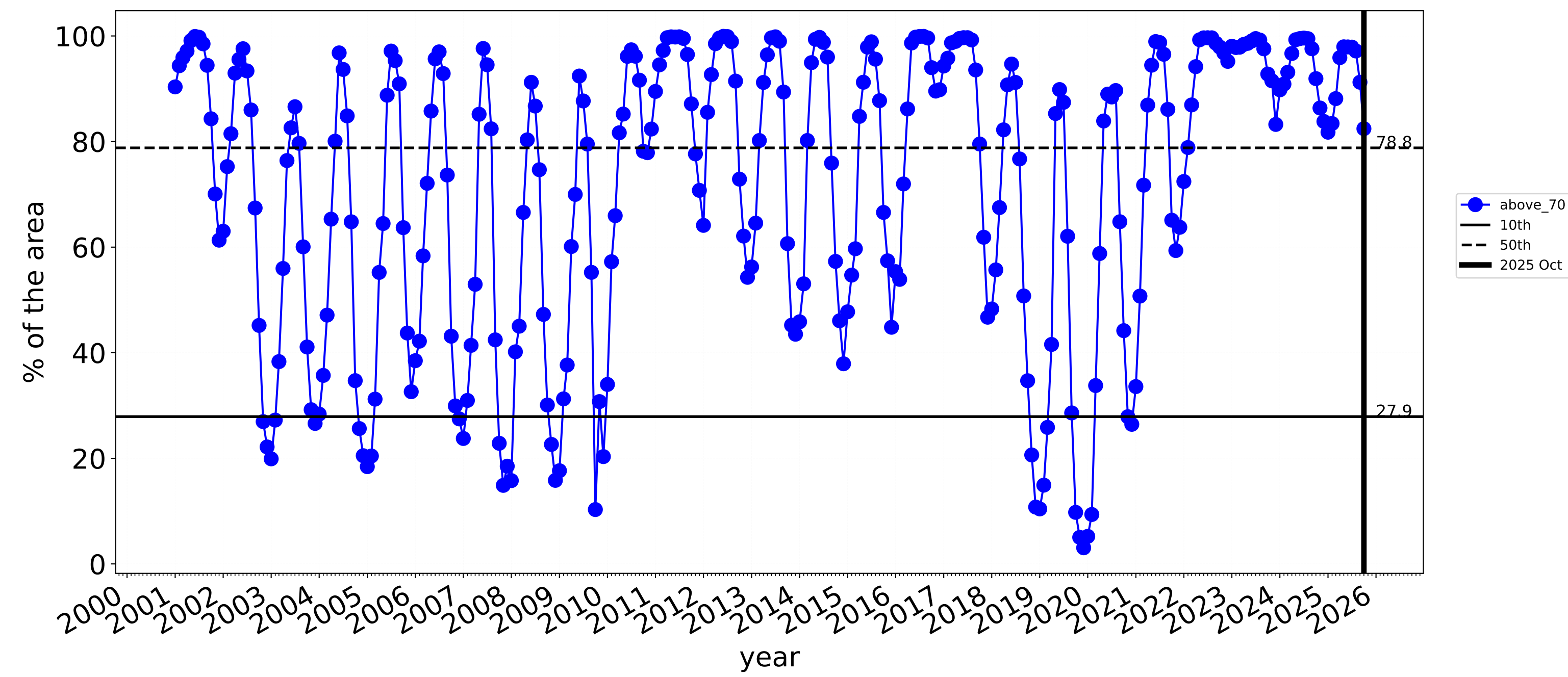
Proportion of the area protected from wind erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 50%)



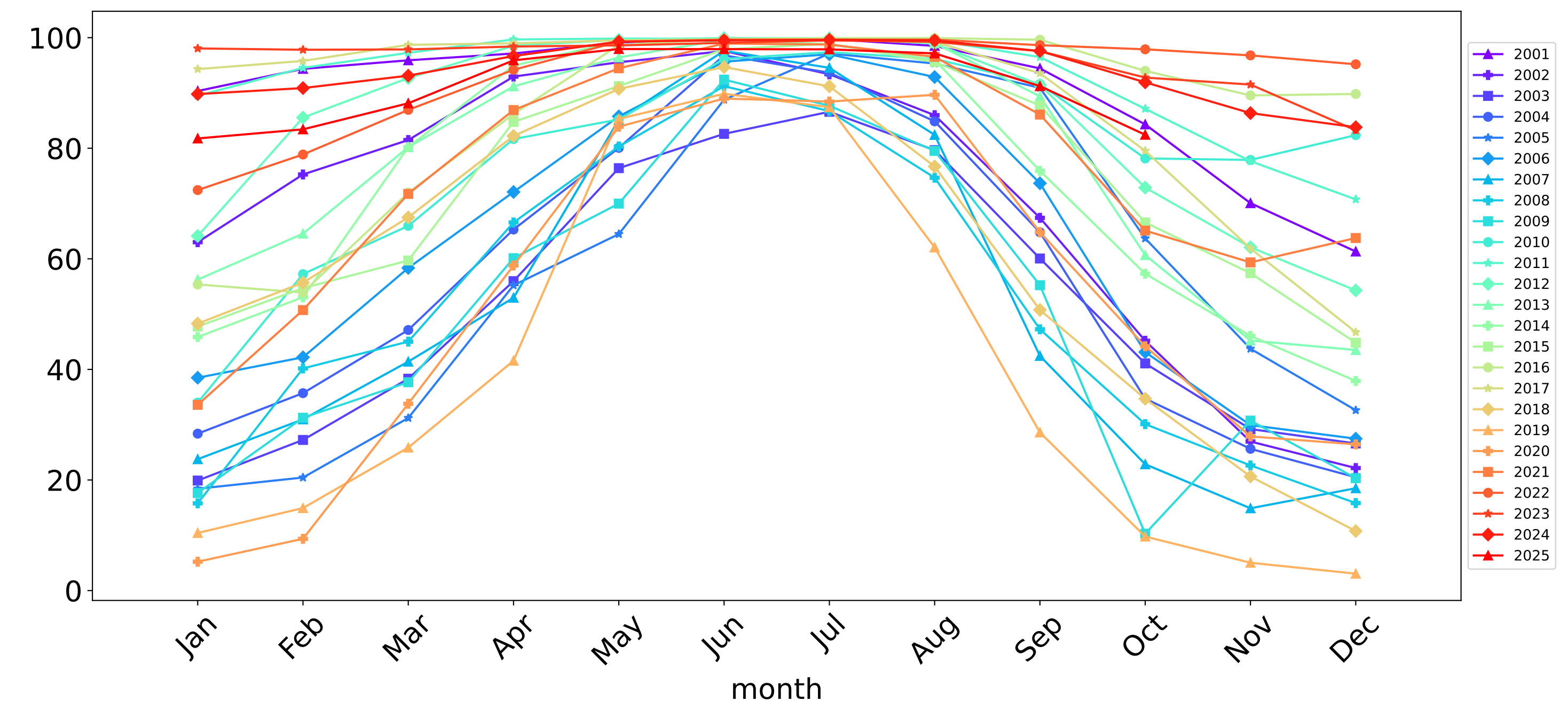
Wind erosion historical monthly area protected (Total Veg Cov >50%)



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

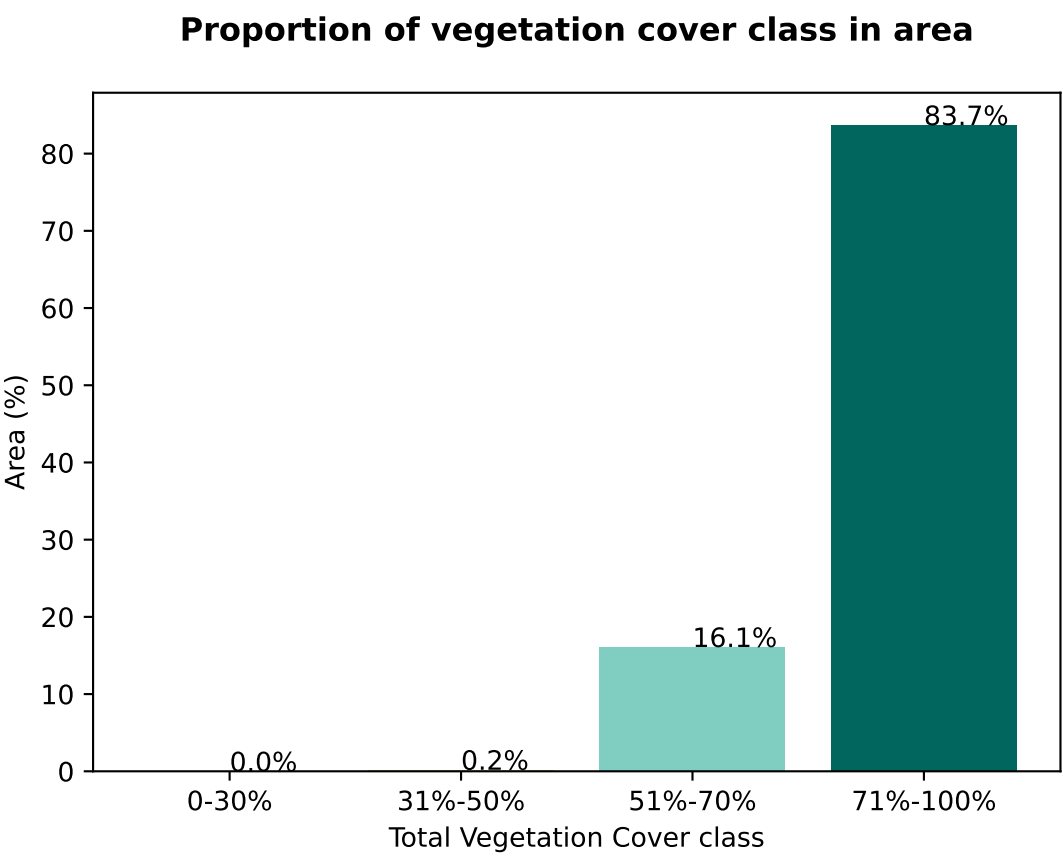
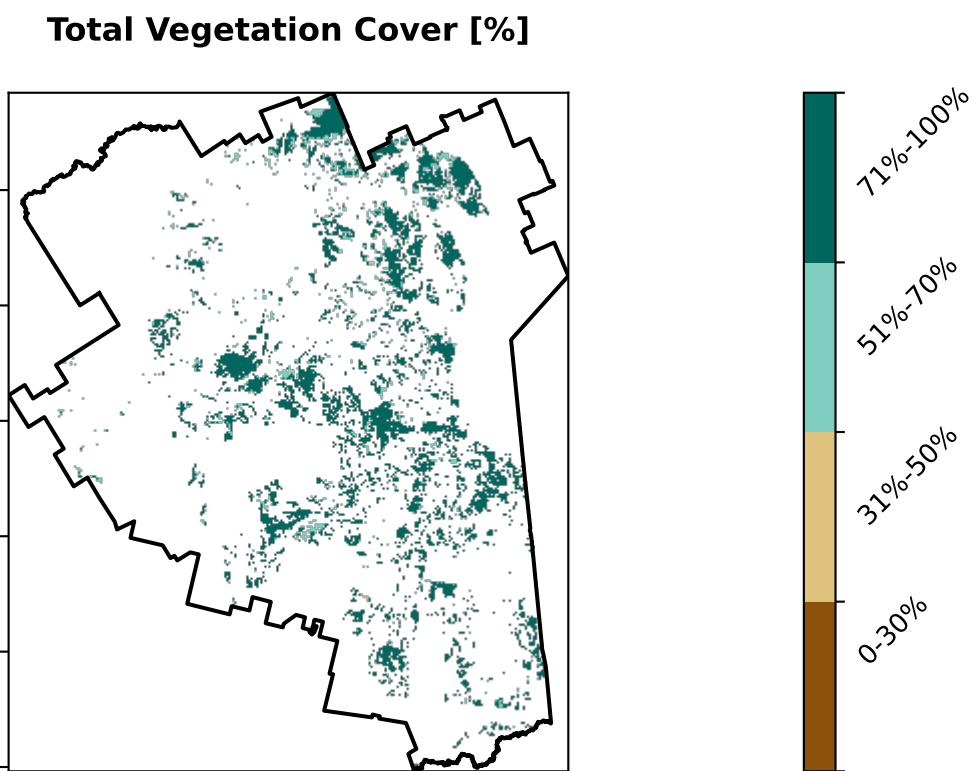
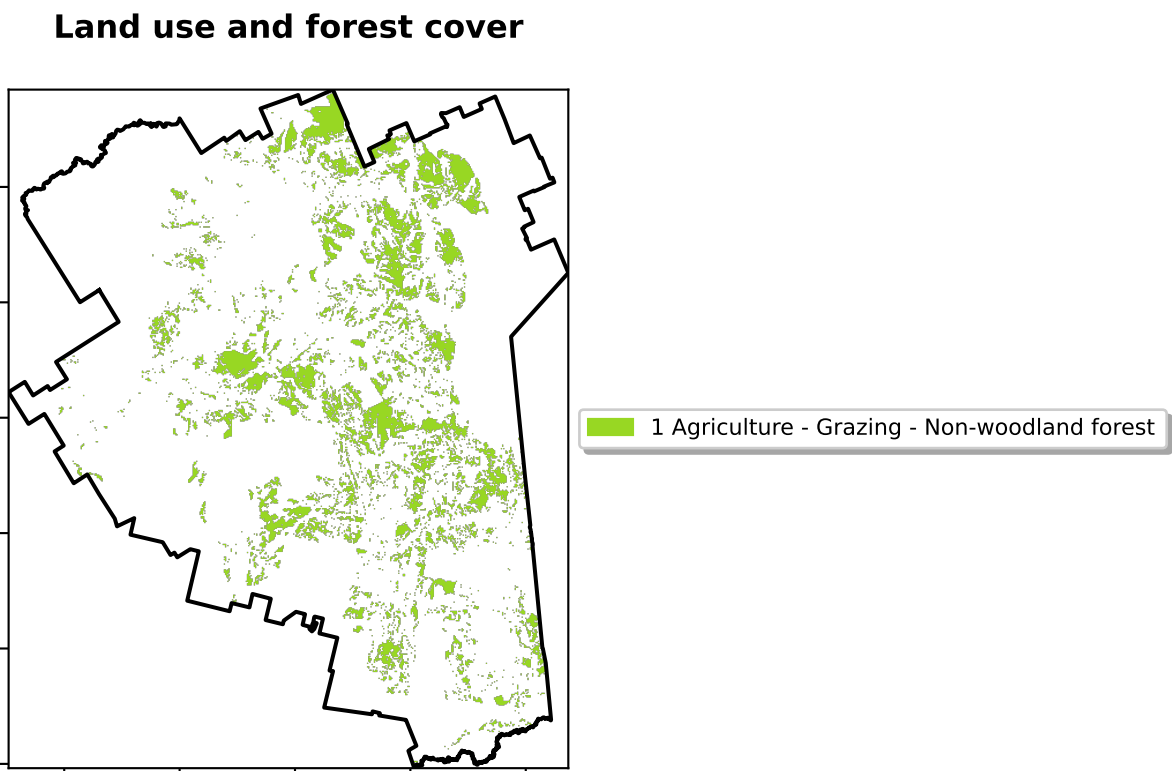


Water erosion historical monthly area protected (Total Veg Cov>70%)

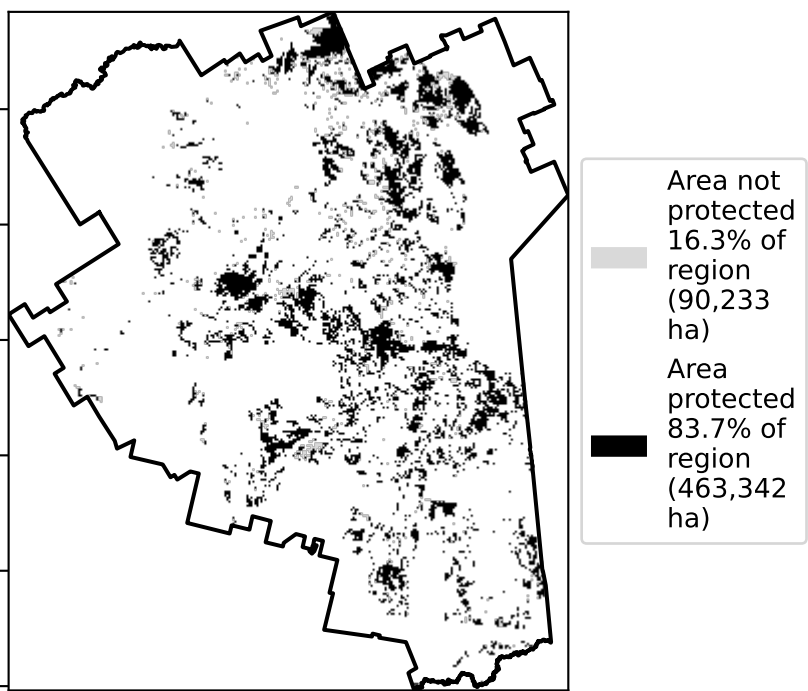


Grazing - Forest (non woodland)

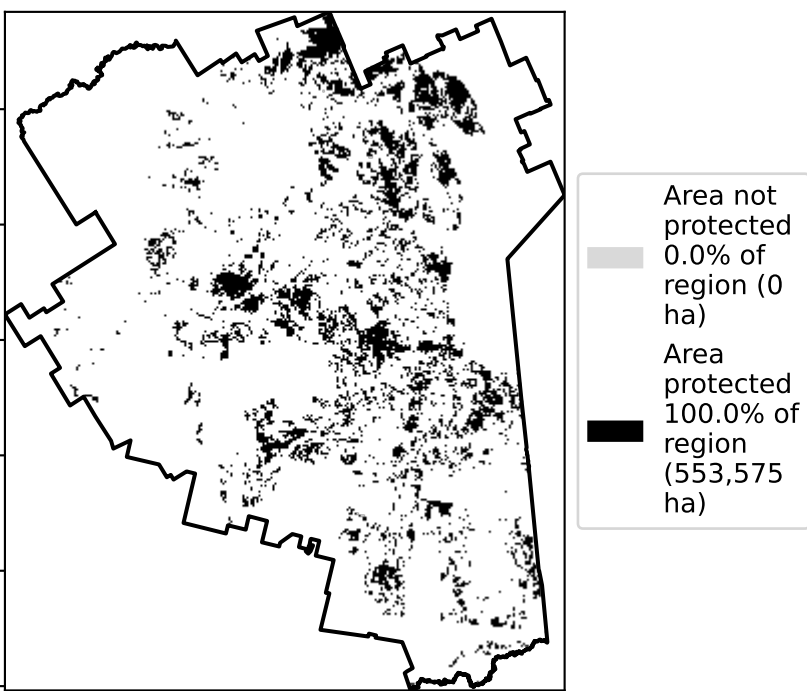
Catchment Scale
Land Use and Forests
of Australia (2018)
Derived from
Catchment Scale Land
Use of Australia
(2018) and Forests
of Australia (2018)



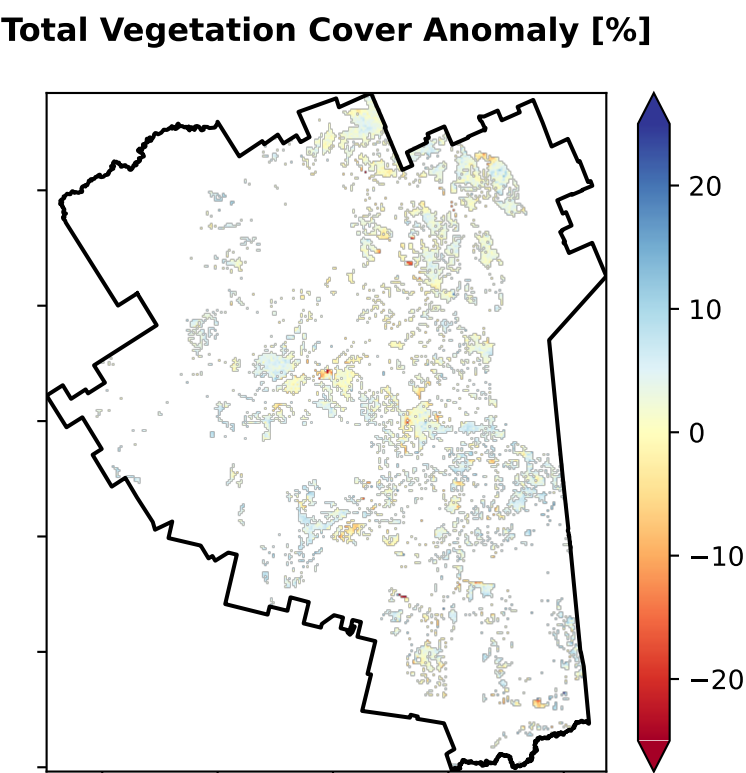
% Area protected from water erosion (>70%)



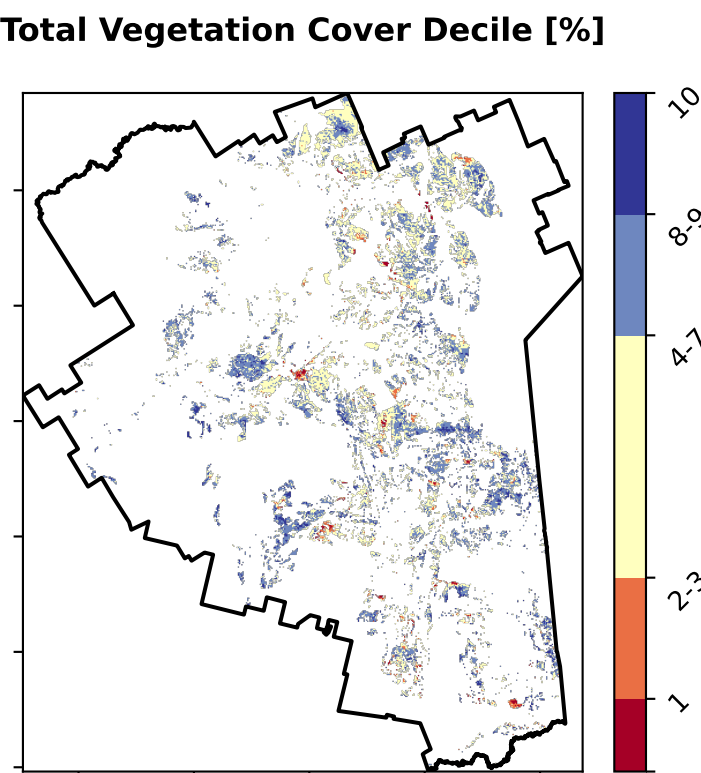
% Area protected from wind erosion (>50%)



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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Ecosystem Research Infrastructure

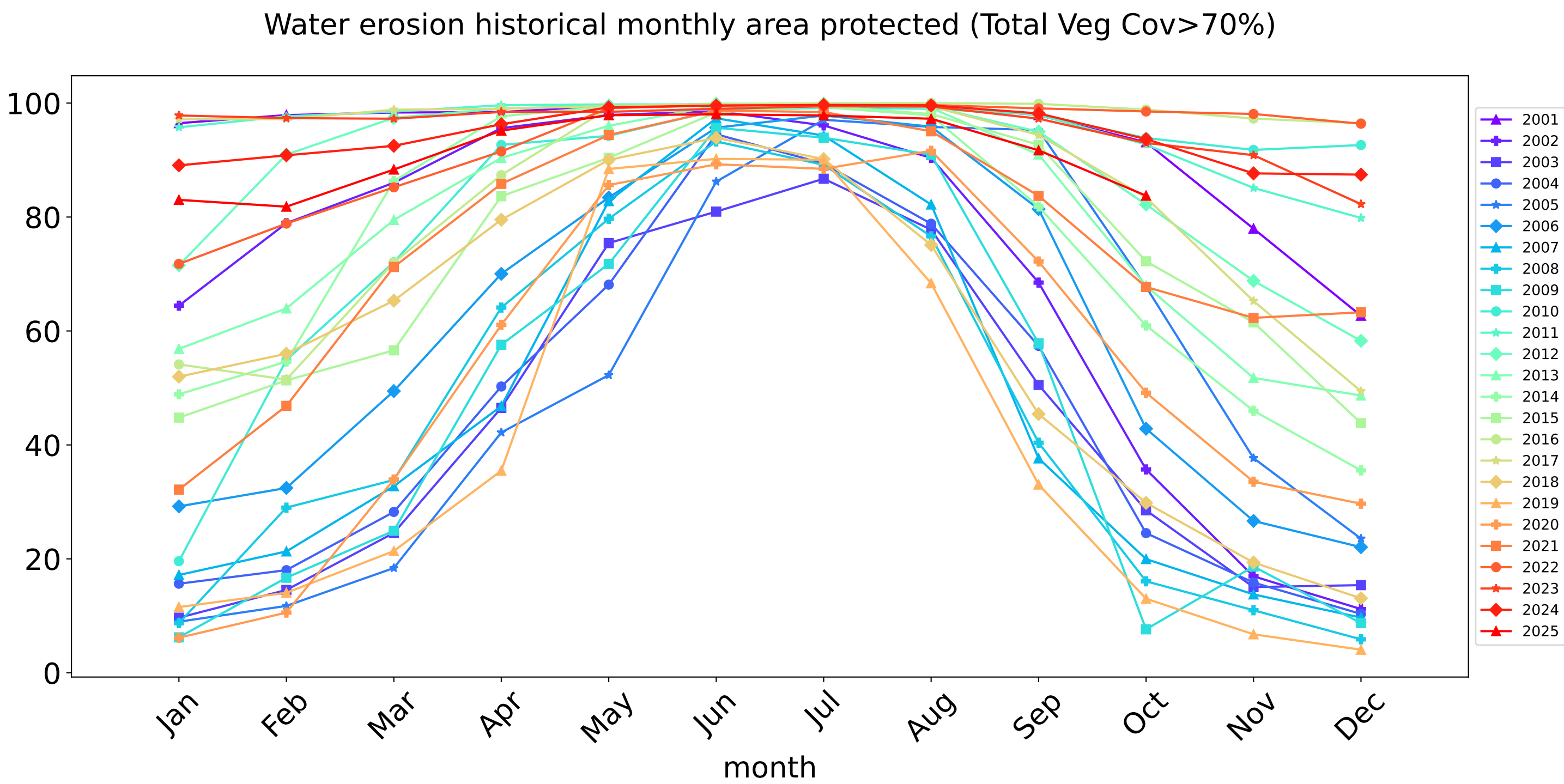
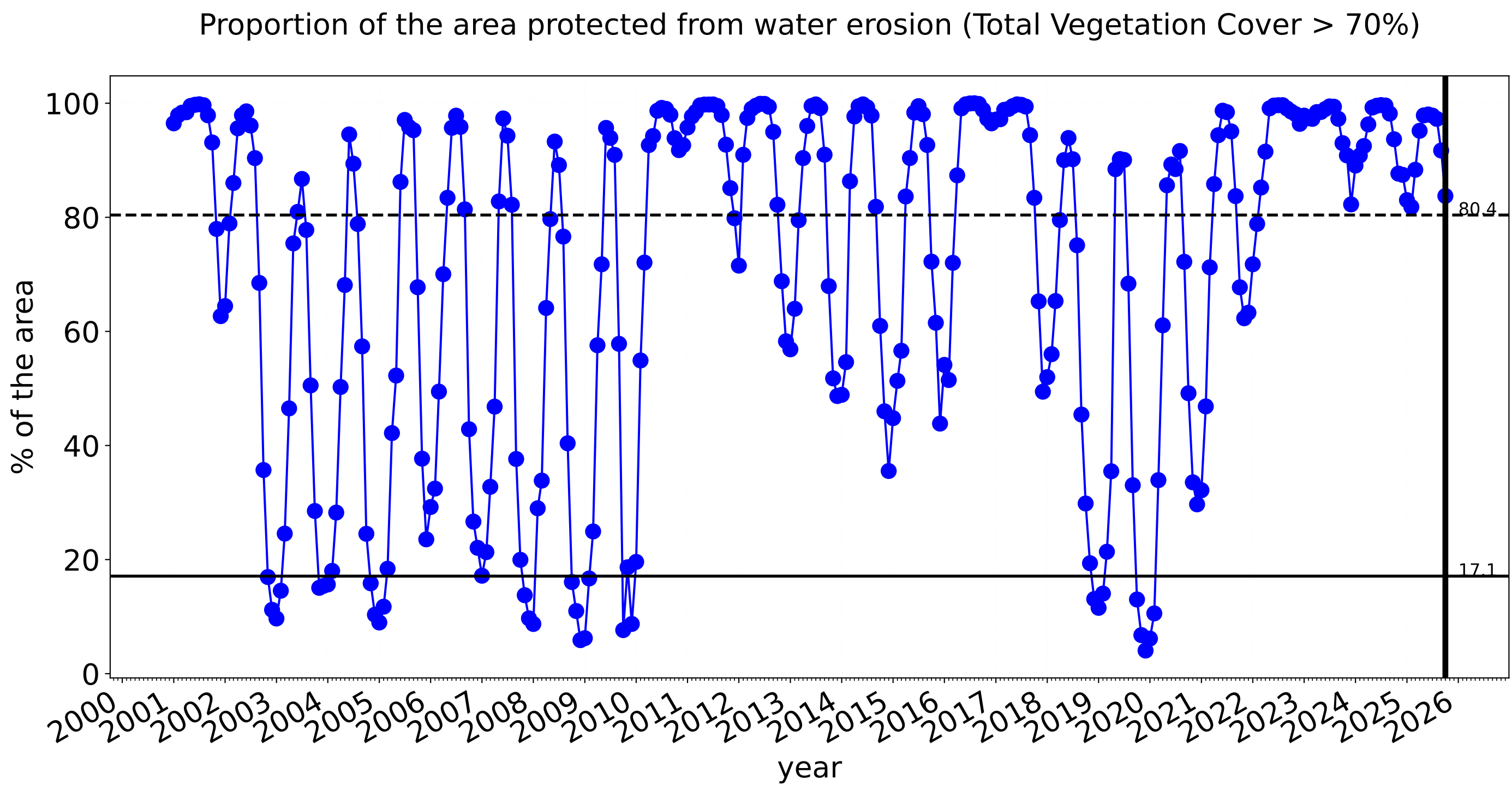
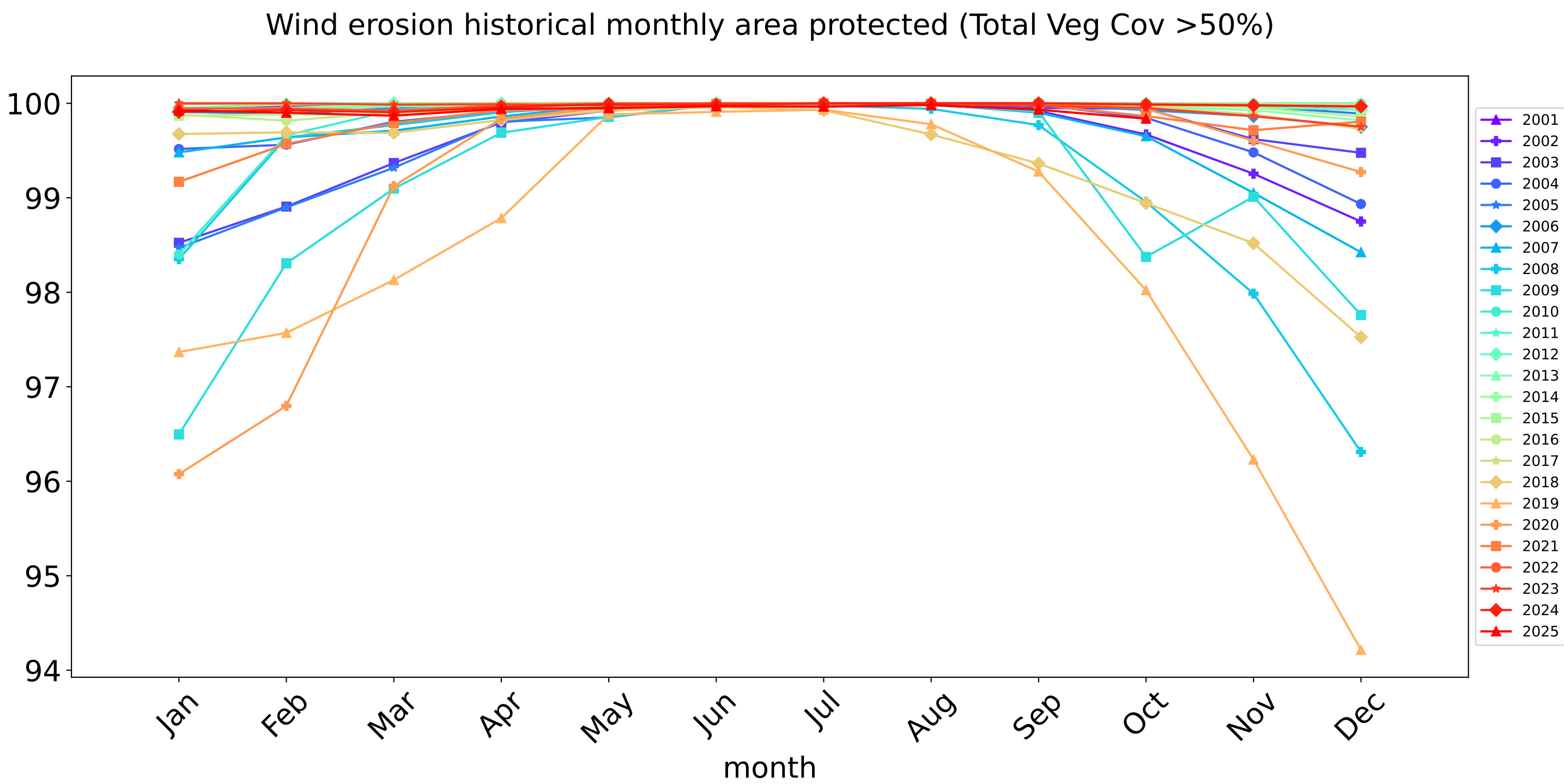
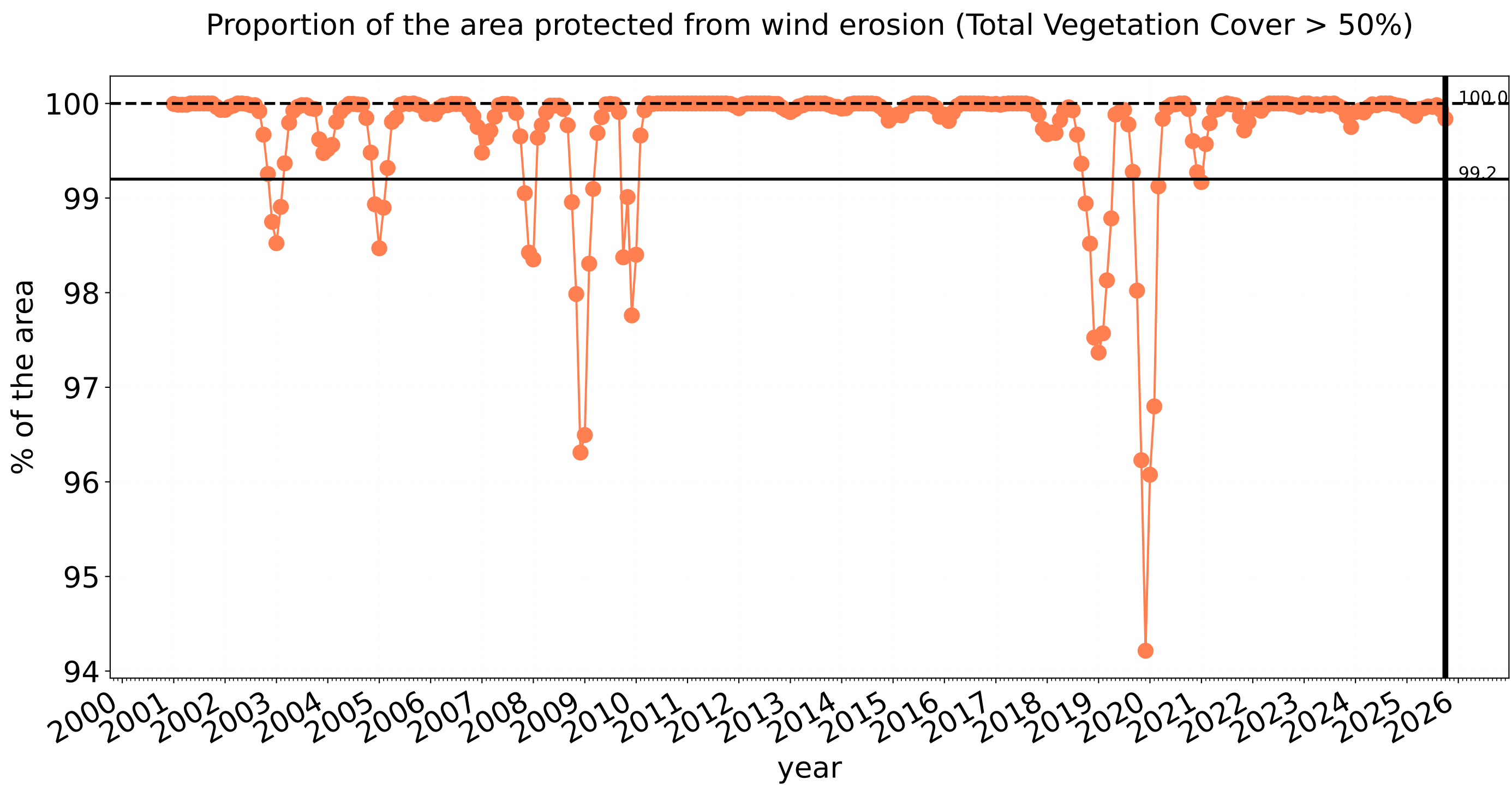


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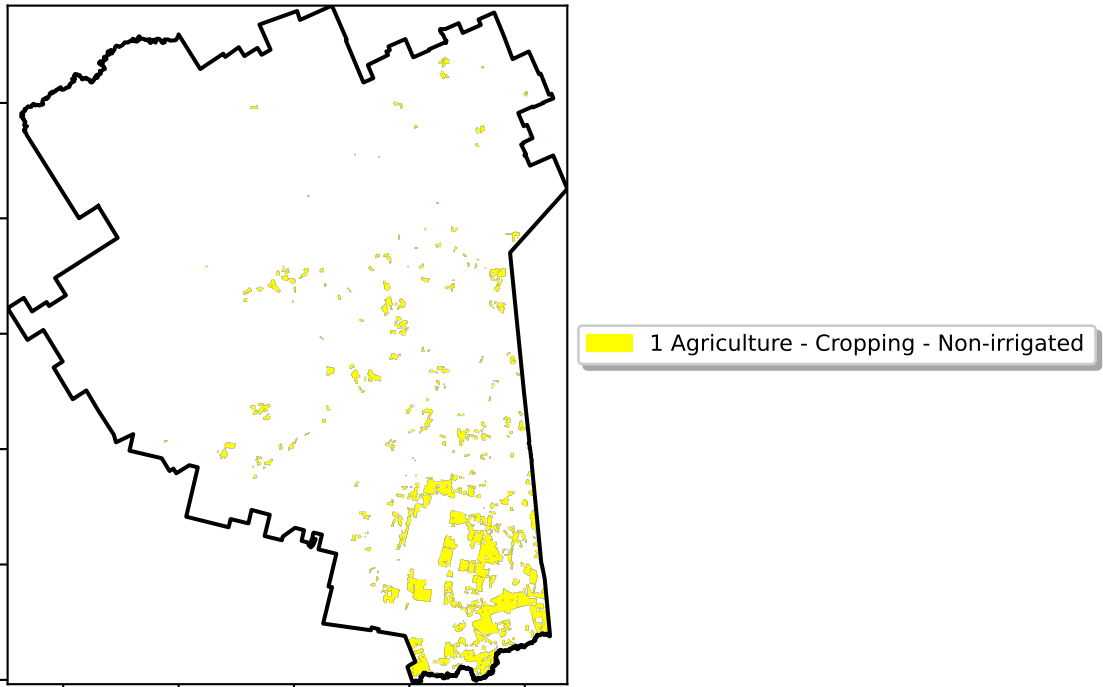
Grazing - Forest (non woodland) timeseries



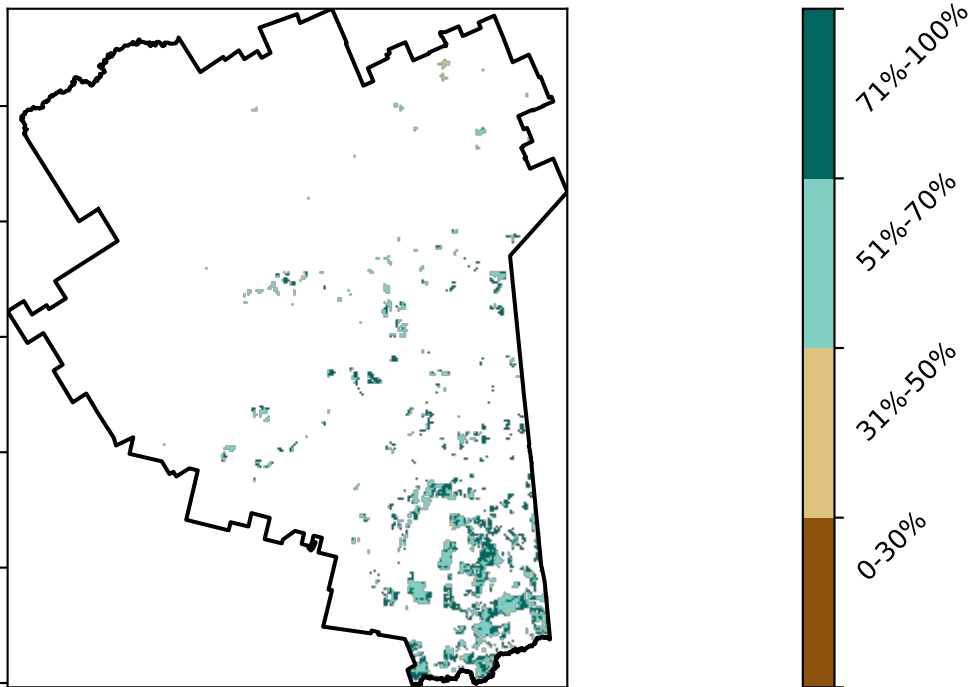
Cropping

Land use and forest cover

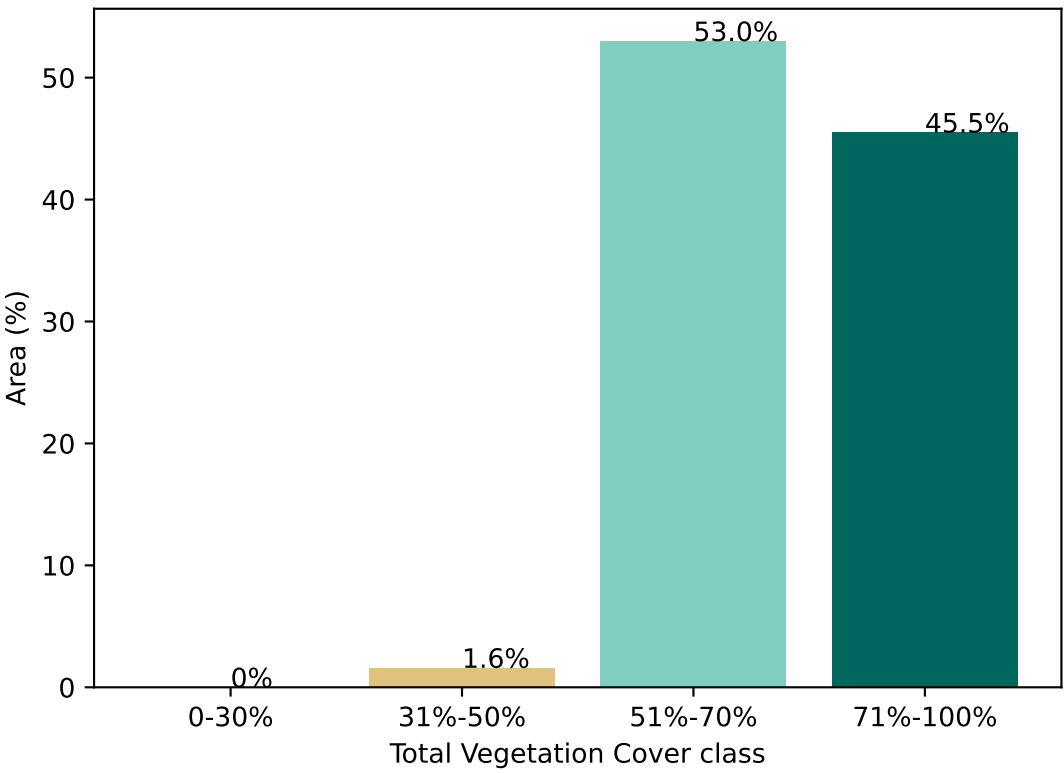
Catchment Scale
Land Use and Forests
of Australia (2018)
Derived from
Catchment Scale Land
Use of Australia
(2018) and Forests
of Australia (2018)



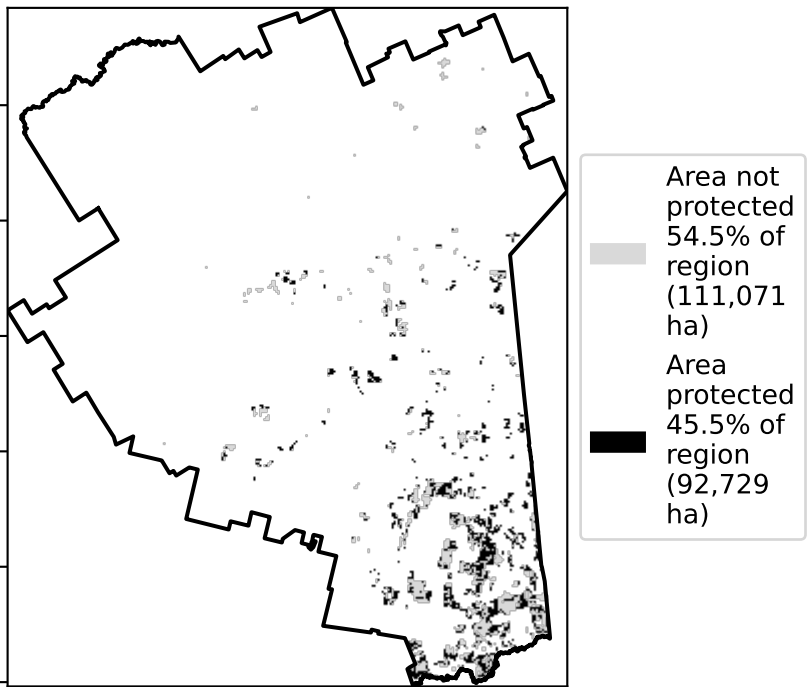
Total Vegetation Cover [%]



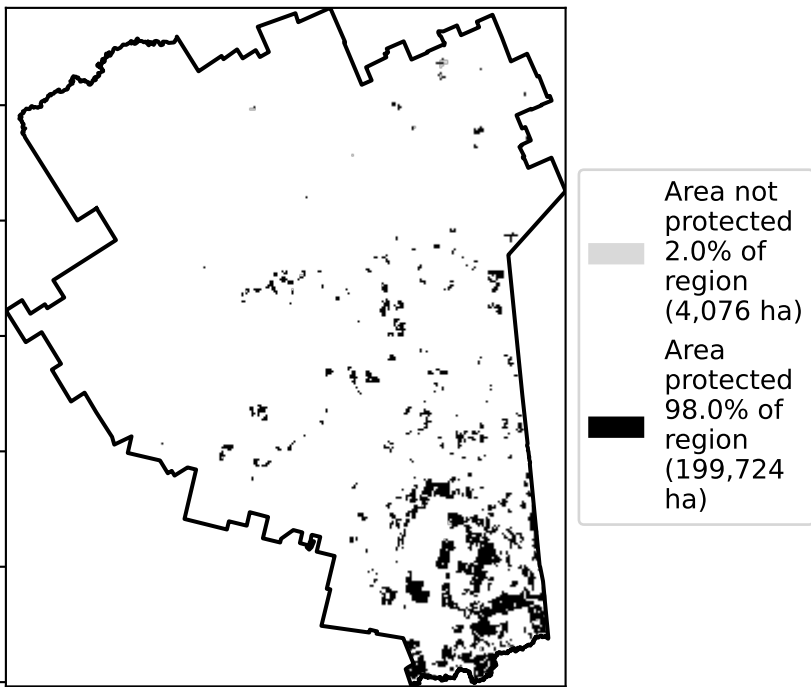
Proportion of vegetation cover class in area



% Area protected from water erosion (>70%)

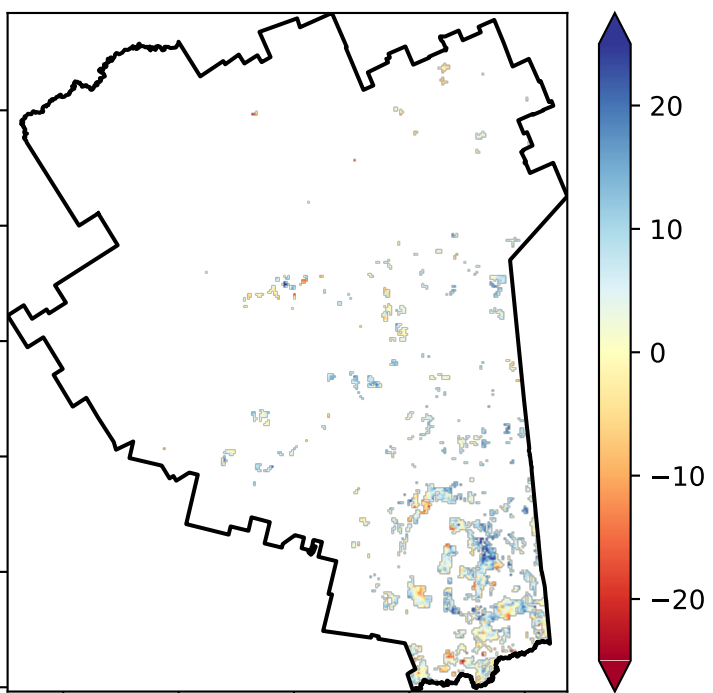


% Area protected from wind erosion (>50%)



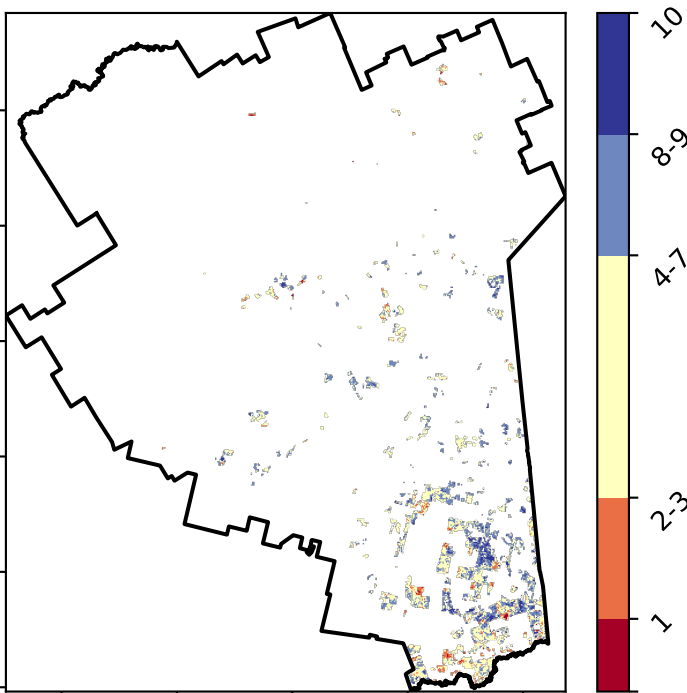
Total Vegetation Cover Anomaly [%]

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 [%]



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Ecosystem Research Infrastructure

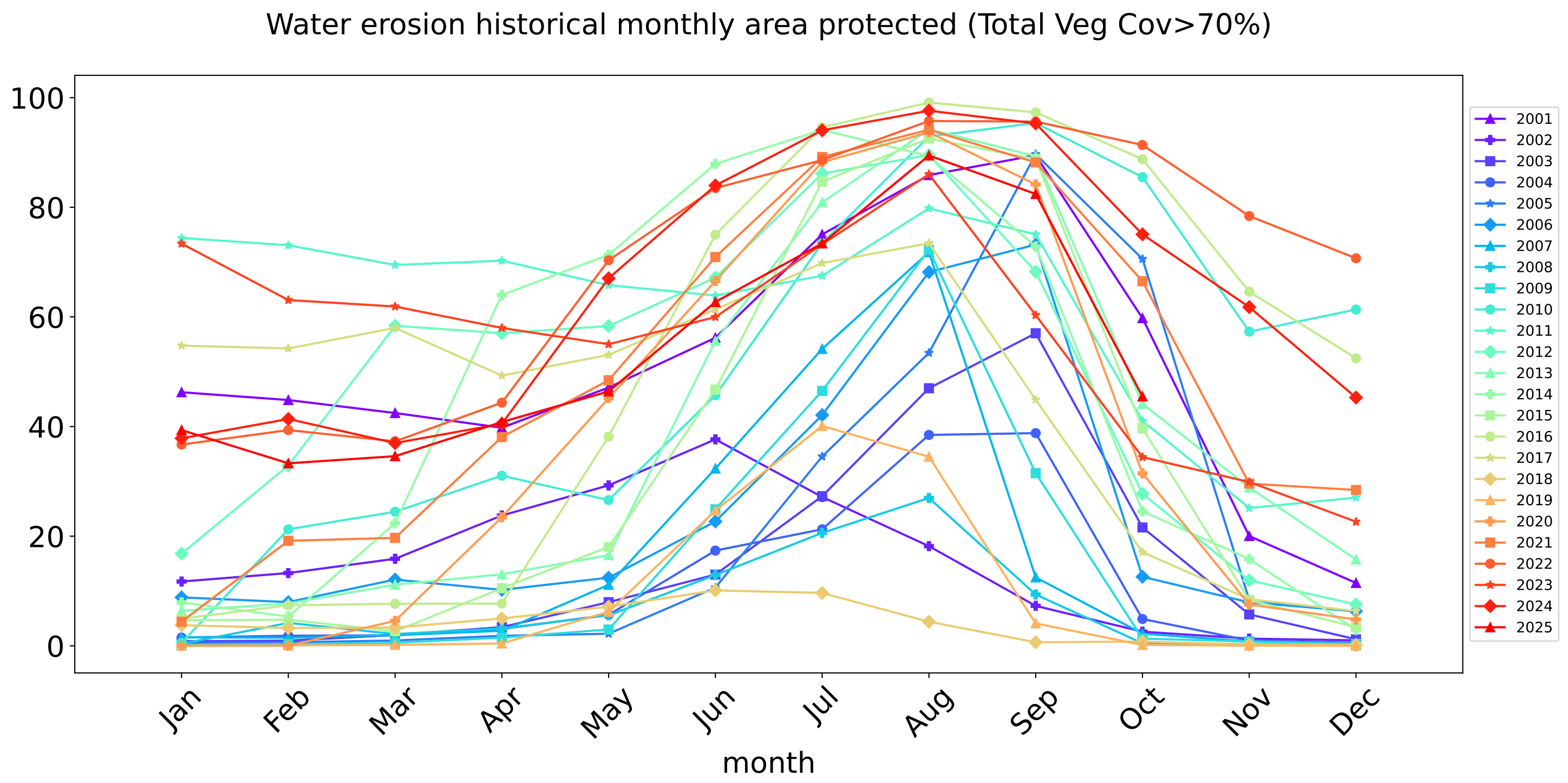
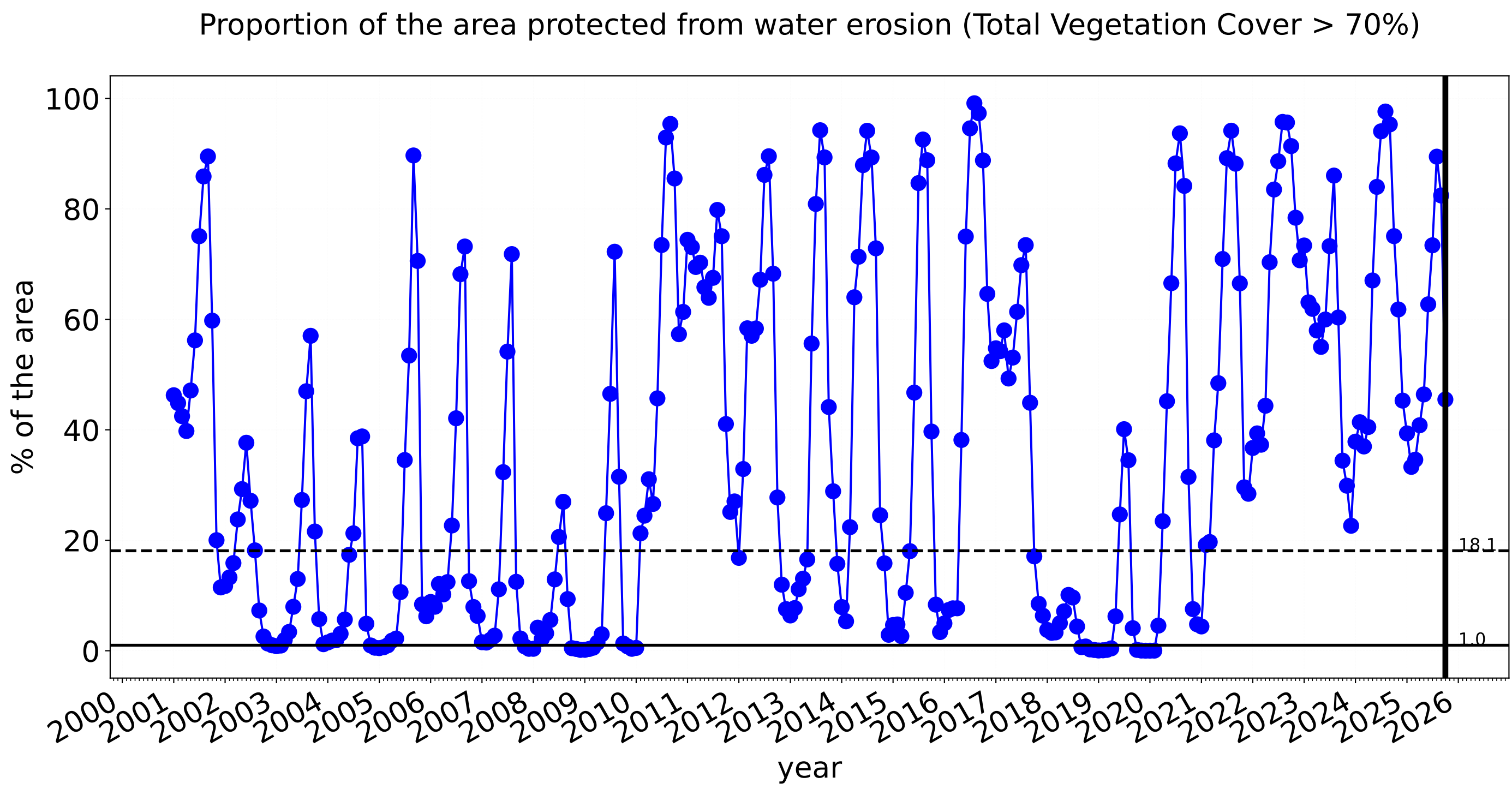
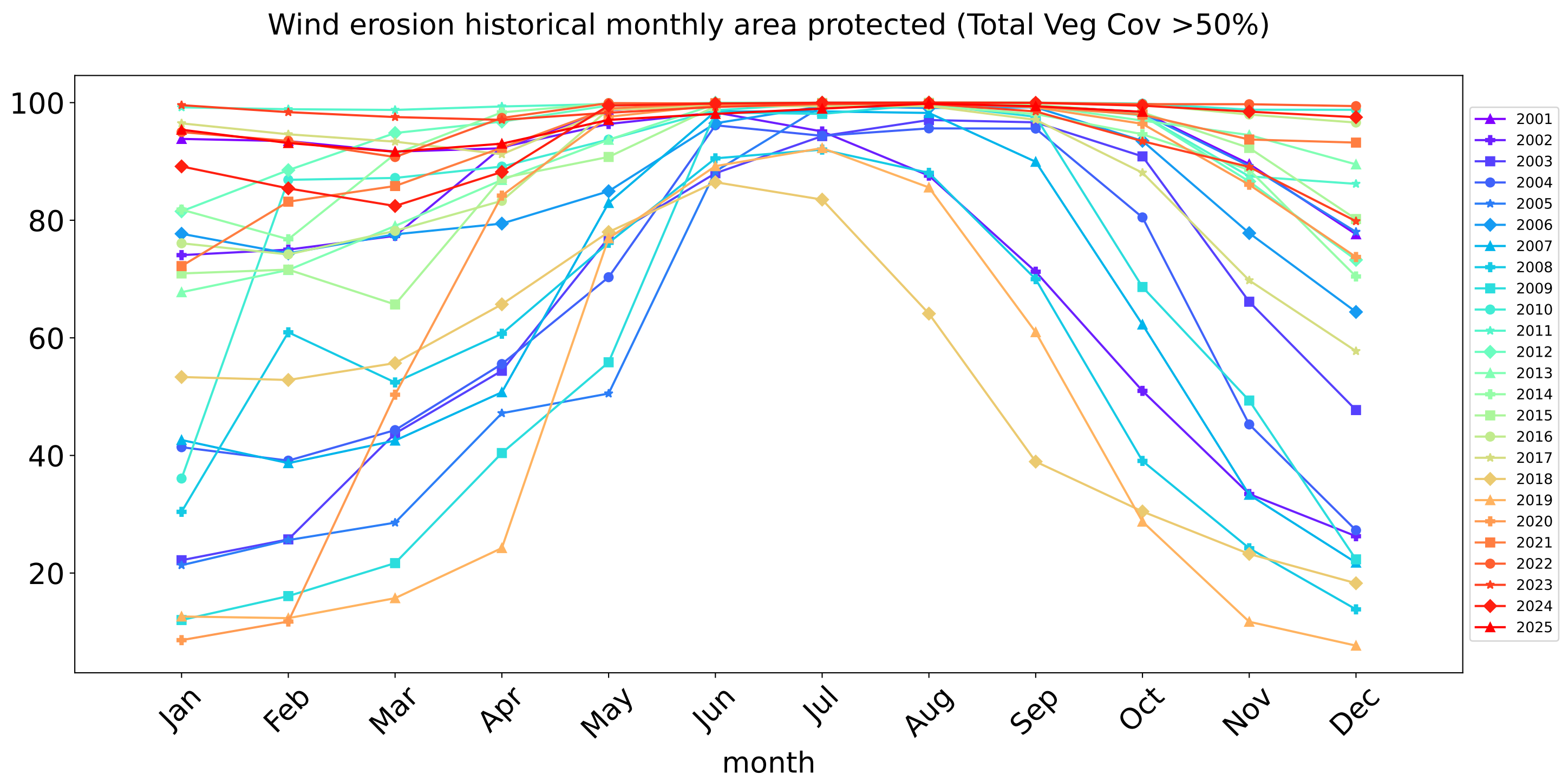
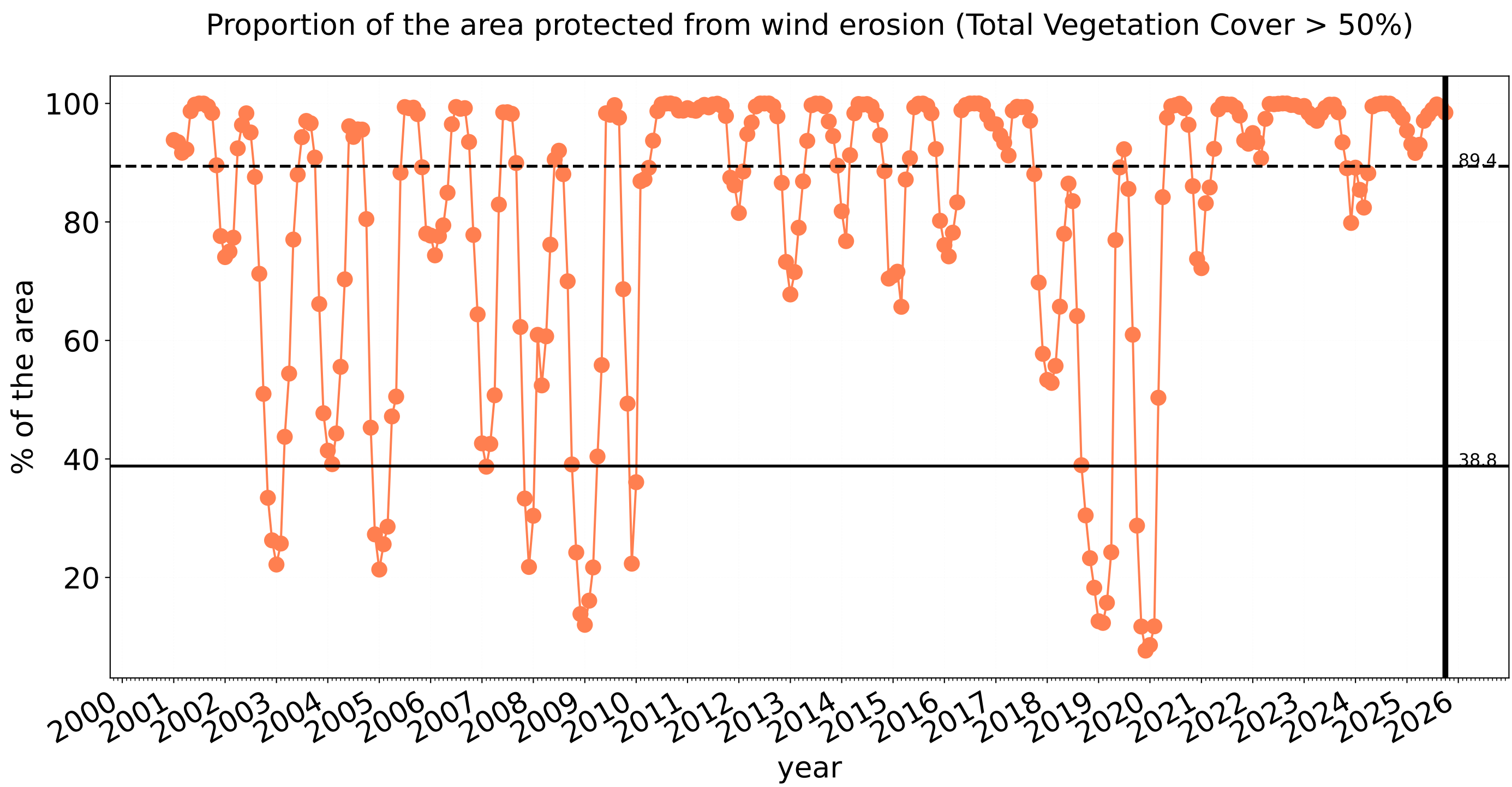


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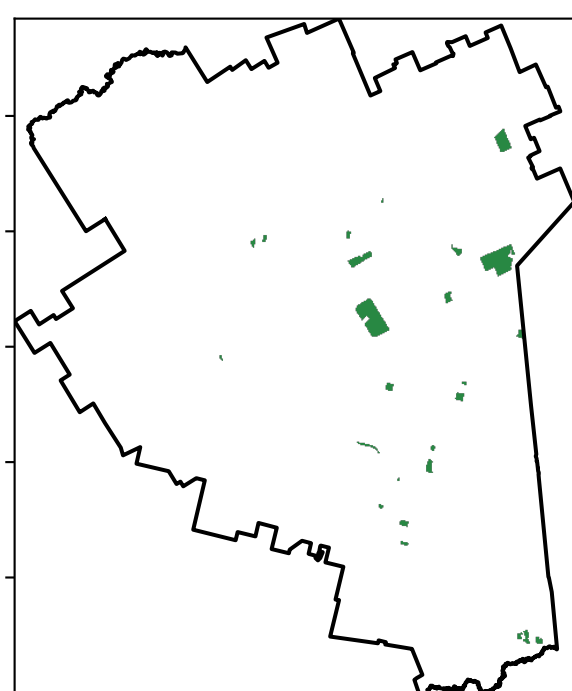
Cropping timeseries



Production native forests and plantation forests

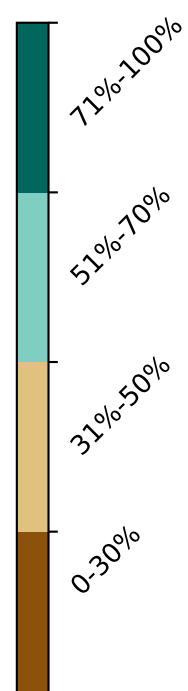
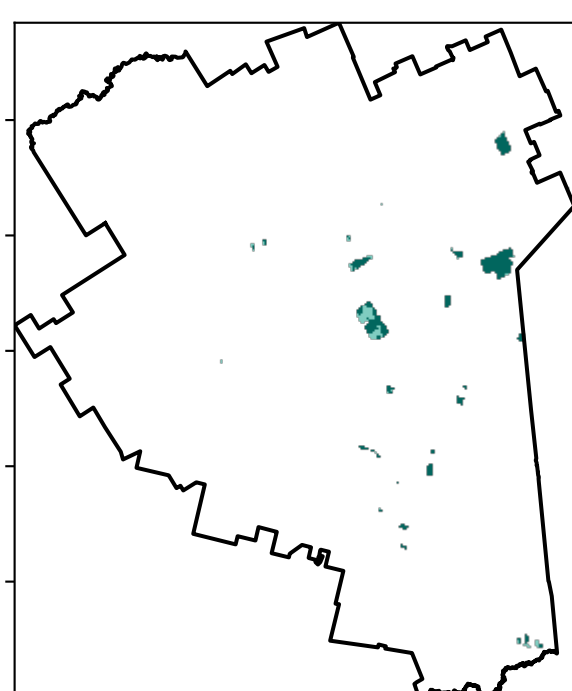
Catchment Scale
Land Use and Forests
of Australia (2018)
Derived from
Catchment Scale Land
Use of Australia
(2018) and Forests
of Australia (2018)

Land use and forest cover

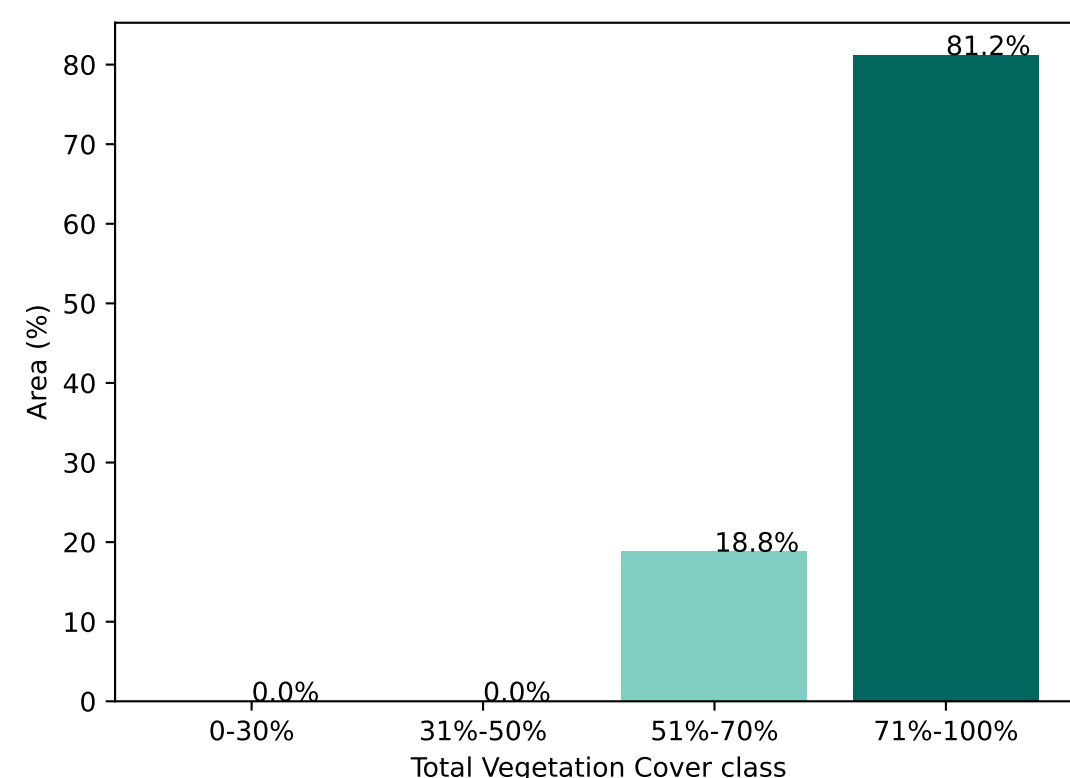


1 Production native forests and plantation forests

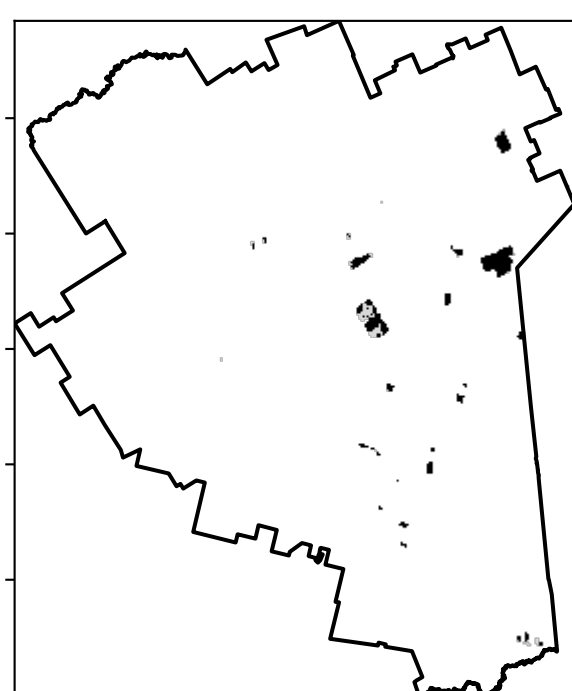
Total Vegetation Cover [%]



Proportion of vegetation cover class in area

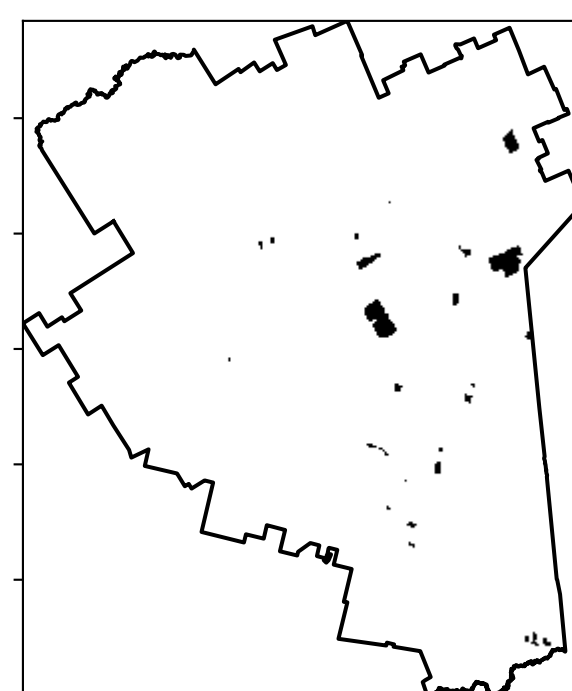


% Area protected from water erosion (>70%)



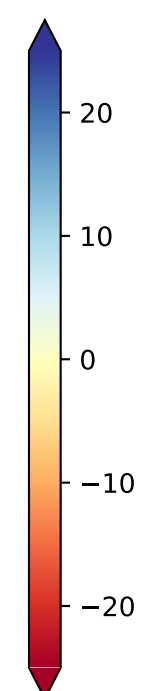
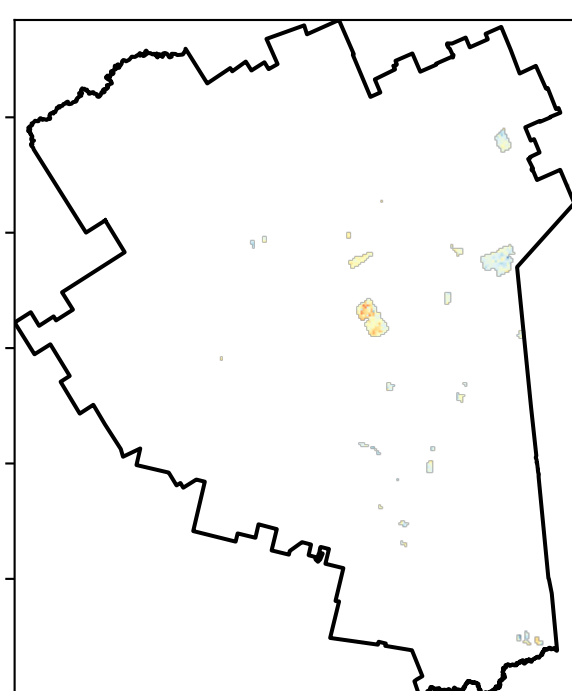
Area not protected
18.8% of
region
(8,615 ha)
Area protected
81.2% of
region
(37,210
ha)

% Area protected from wind erosion (>50%)



Area
protected
100.0% of
region
(45,825
ha)

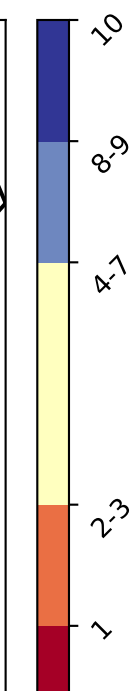
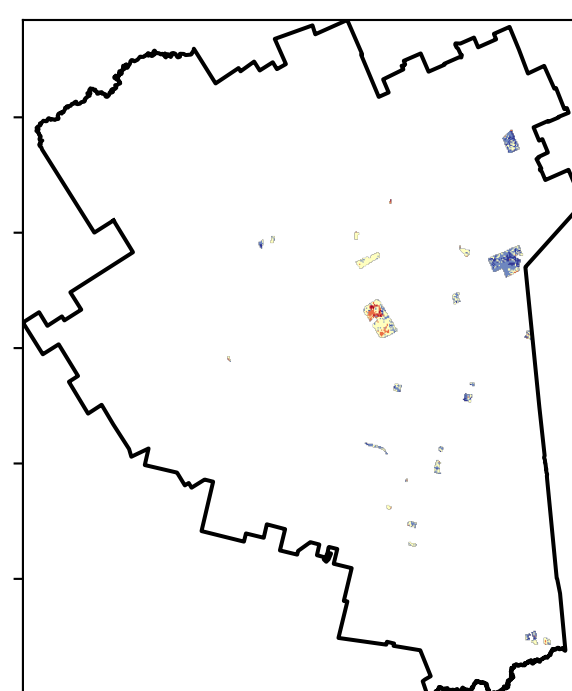
Total Vegetation Cover Anomaly [%]



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
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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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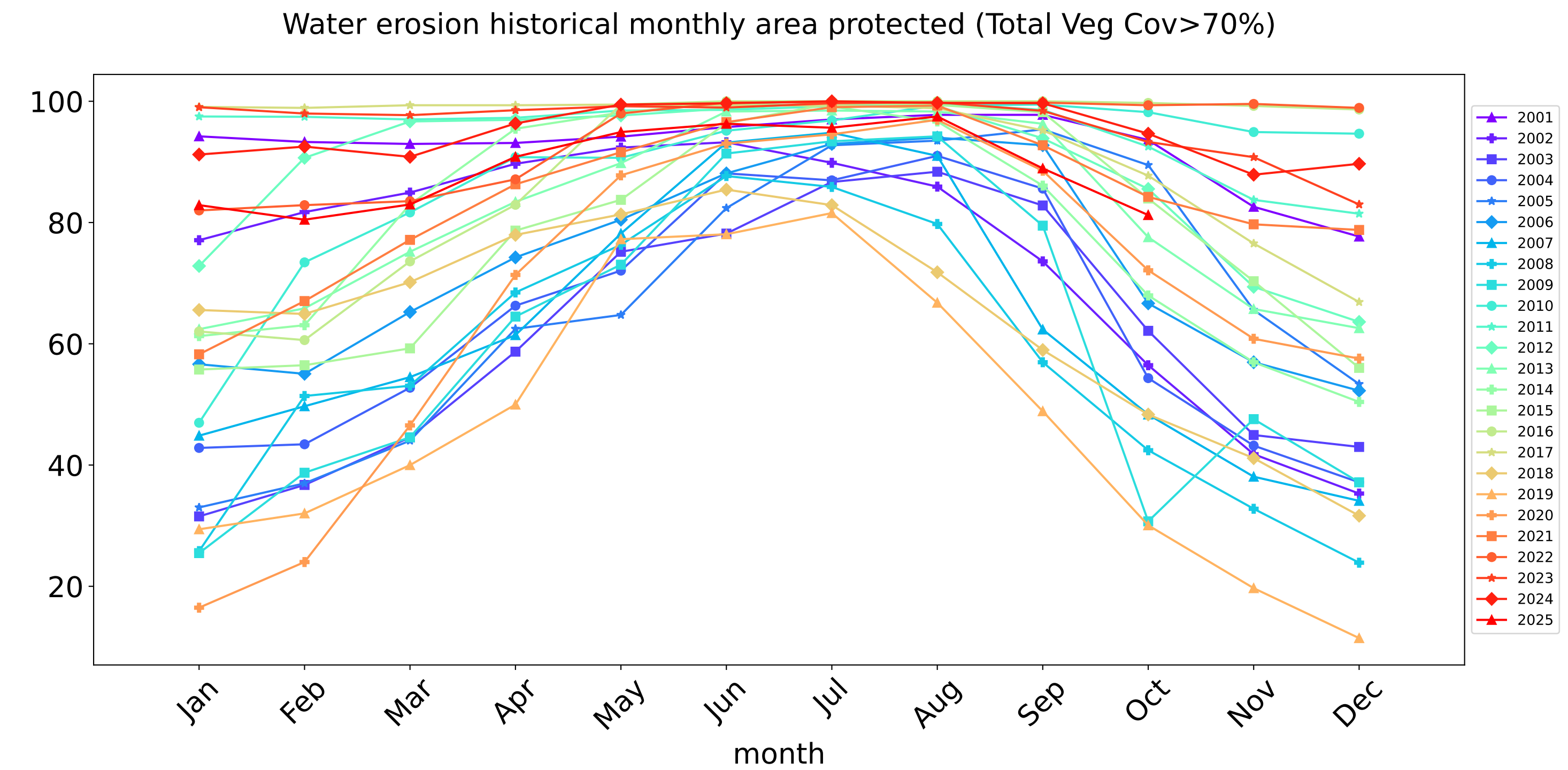
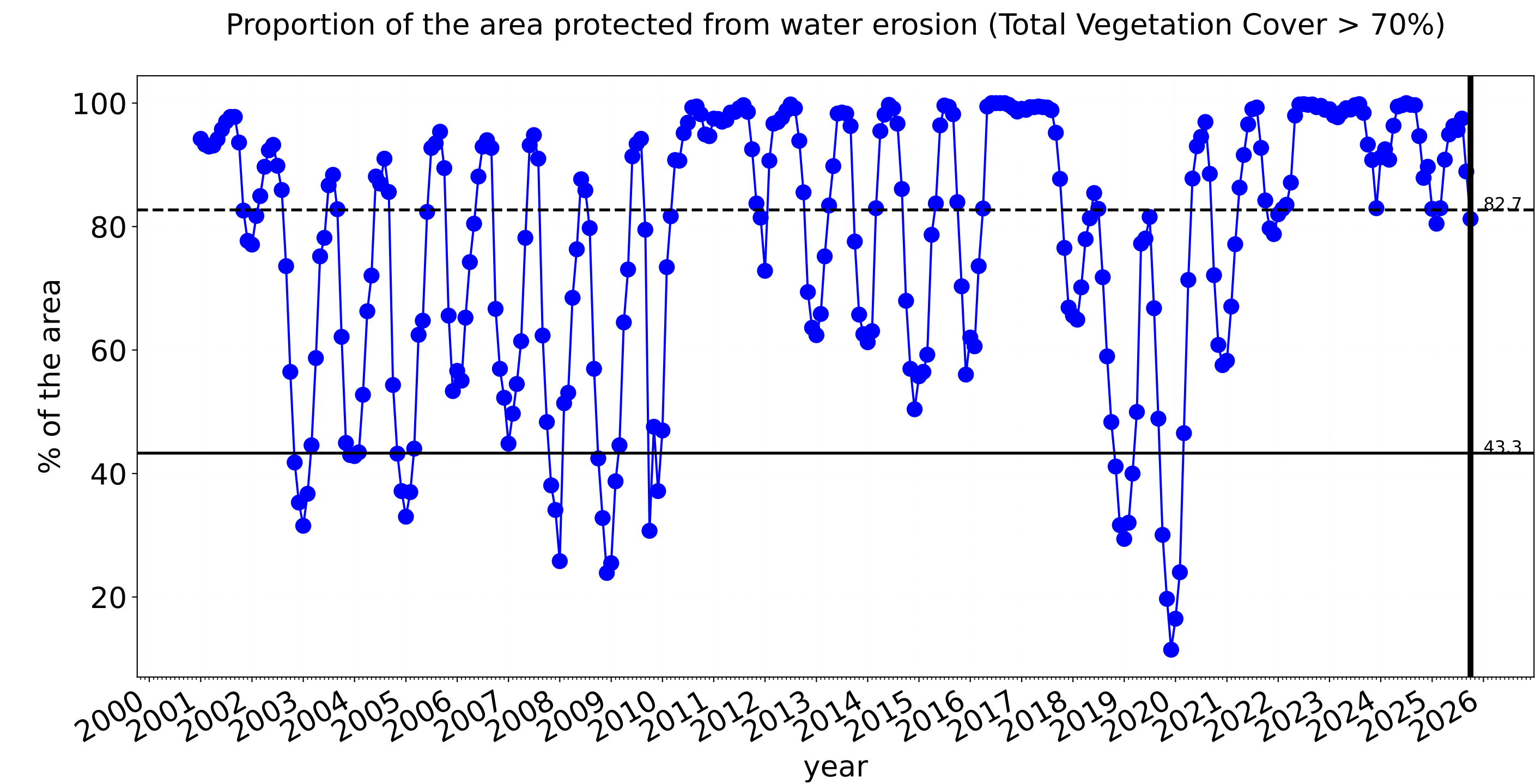
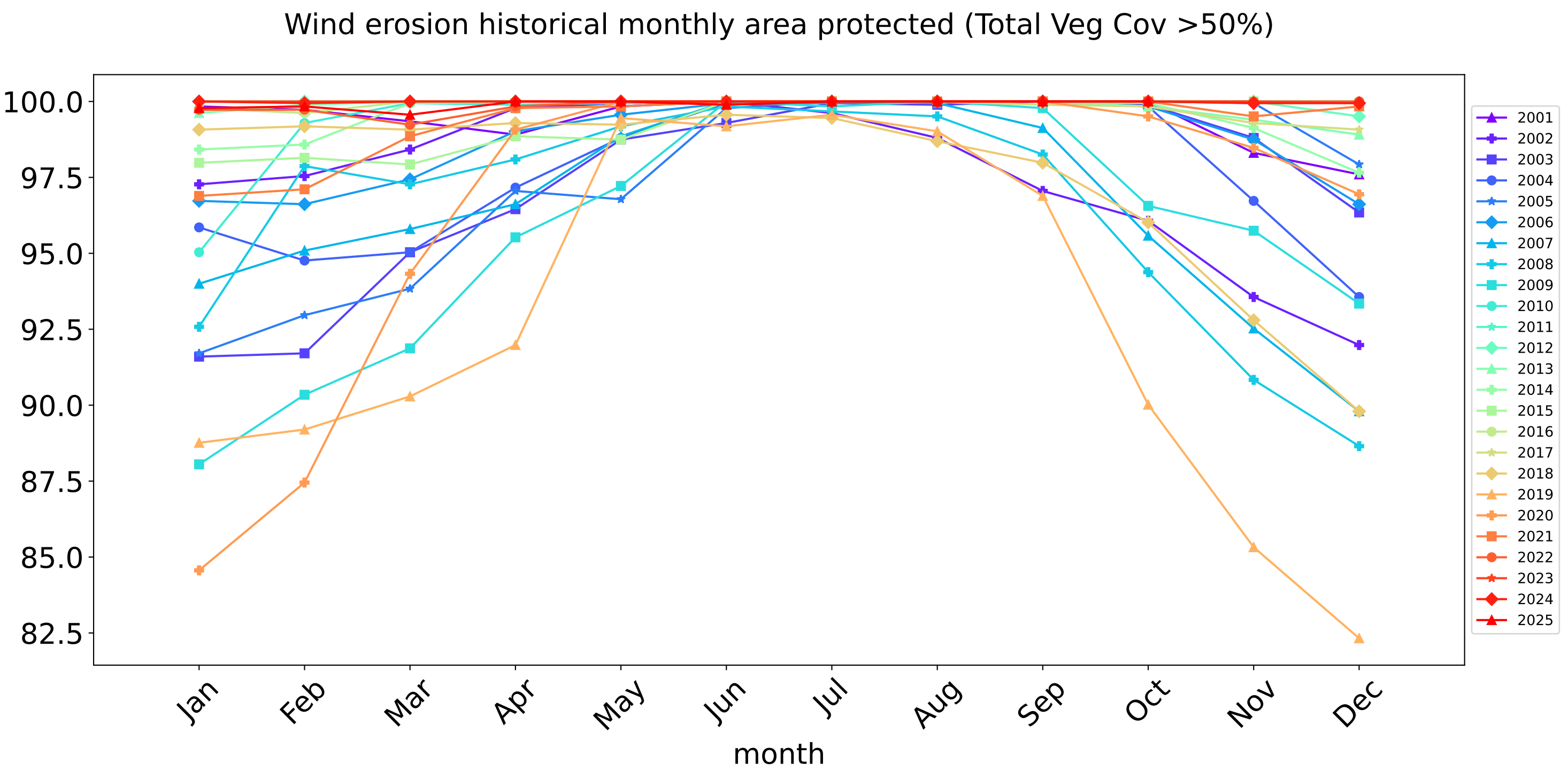
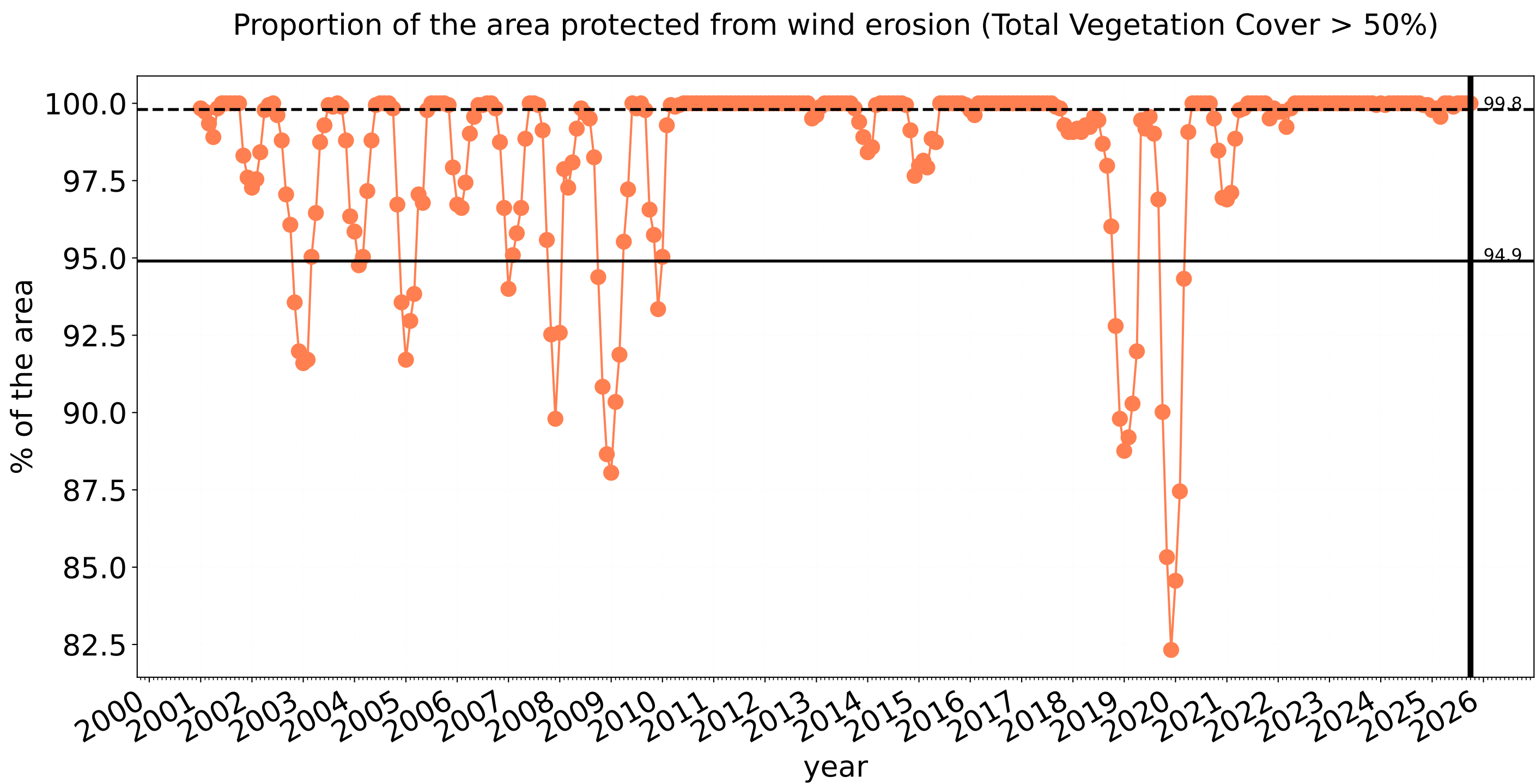


Australian Government

National
Landcare
Programme



Production native forests and plantation forests timeseries



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Cobar_(A) (total 4,557,975 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	4,557,975	100.0% 4,557,650	98.5% 4,487,950	56.0% 2,553,025	12.9% 586,225	0.1% 6,325	0.0% 450
Conservation and natural environments	582,300	100.0% 582,300	100.0% 582,150	90.0% 524,125	39.4% 229,300	0.4% 2,250	0.0% 50
Conservation and natural environments non forest	88,800	100.0% 88,800	99.9% 88,700	60.6% 53,825	10.0% 8,875	0.1% 75	0.0% 0
Conservation and natural environments Woodland forest	259,450	100.0% 259,450	100.0% 259,425	94.9% 246,225	47.5% 123,150	0.2% 450	0.0% 0
Conservation and natural environments Forest (non woodland)	234,050	100.0% 234,050	100.0% 234,025	95.7% 224,075	41.6% 97,275	0.7% 1,725	0.0% 50
Agriculture	3,916,925	100.0% 3,916,650	98.3% 3,848,650	50.8% 1,988,275	8.6% 337,550	0.1% 3,900	0.0% 350
Grazing	3,708,025	100.0% 3,707,750	98.2% 3,643,000	51.0% 1,892,700	8.7% 322,875	0.1% 3,250	0.0% 300
Grazing non forest	2,428,800	100.0% 2,428,525	97.4% 2,366,650	34.2% 830,875	4.2% 102,350	0.1% 1,225	0.0% 175
Grazing Woodland forest	725,650	100.0% 725,650	99.7% 723,675	82.4% 598,225	16.2% 117,650	0.1% 500	0.0% 25
Grazing - Forest (non woodland)	553,575	100.0% 553,575	99.8% 552,675	83.7% 463,600	18.6% 102,875	0.3% 1,525	0.0% 100
Cropping	203,800	100.0% 203,800	98.4% 200,625	45.5% 92,700	6.9% 13,975	0.3% 650	0.0% 50
Production native forests and plantation forests	45,825	100.0% 45,825	100.0% 45,825	81.2% 37,225	40.5% 18,550	0.3% 125	0.1% 25