

Total vegetation cover soil protection

Region:LGA Lithgow_(C) 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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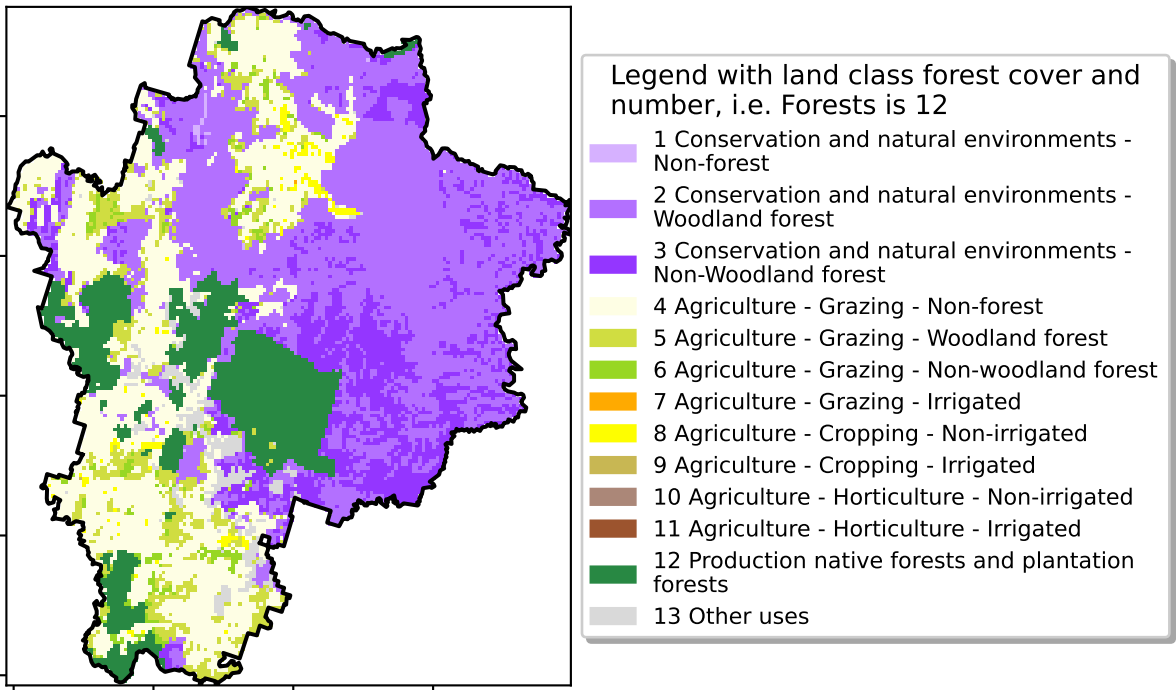
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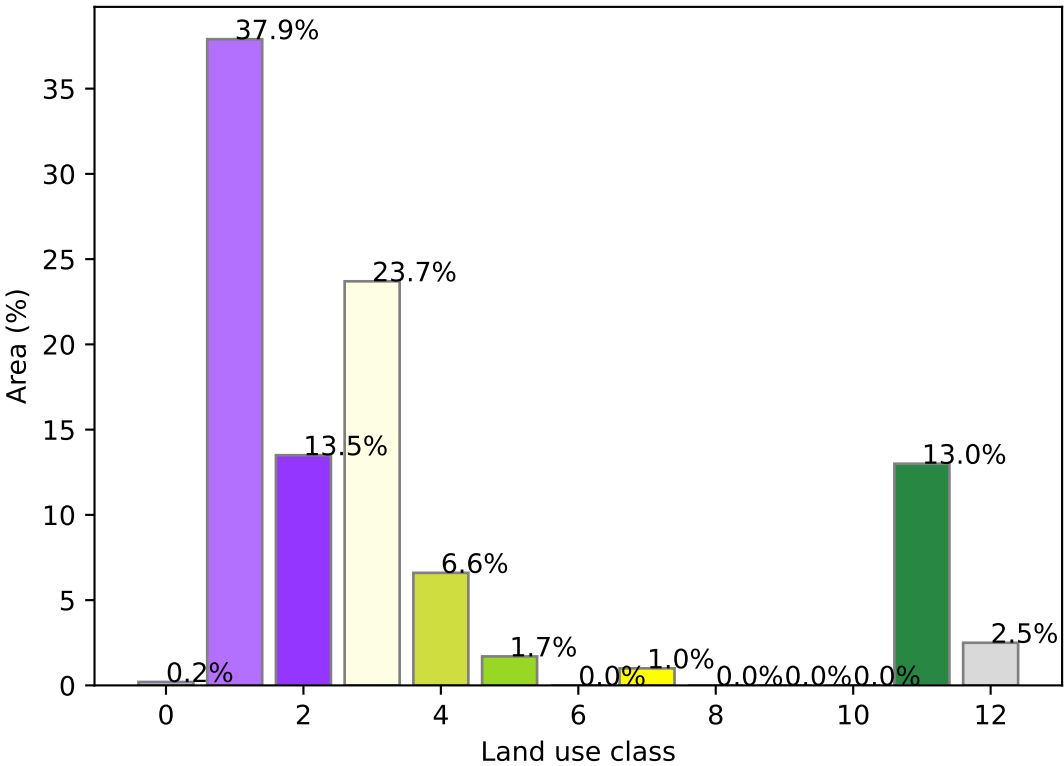
Vegetation Cover Oct 2025

Land use and forest cover

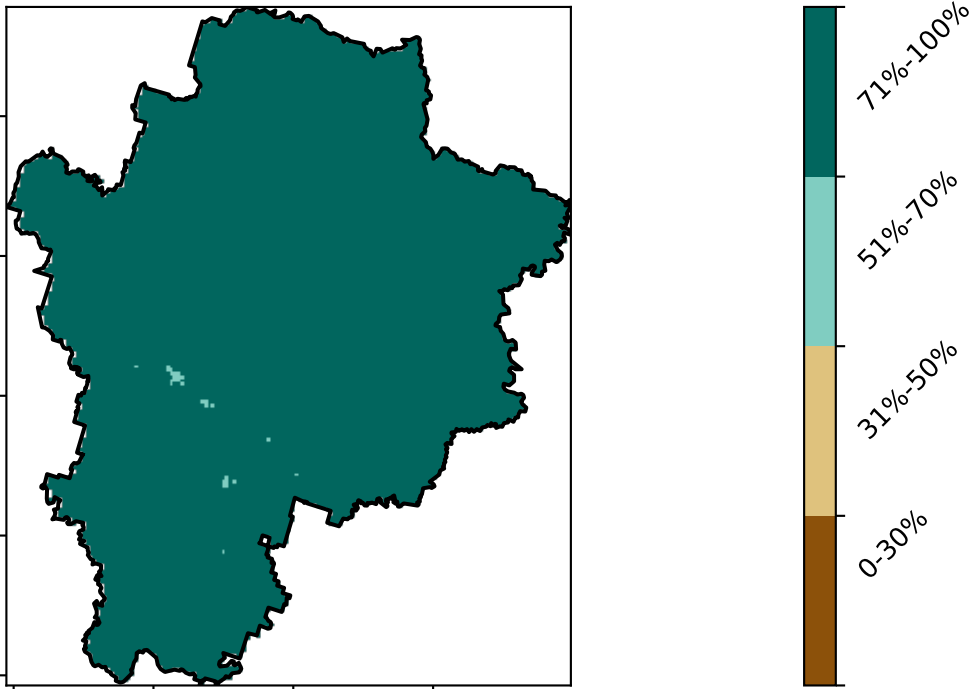
Catchment Scale
Land Use and Forests
of Australia (2018)
Derived from
Catchment Scale Land
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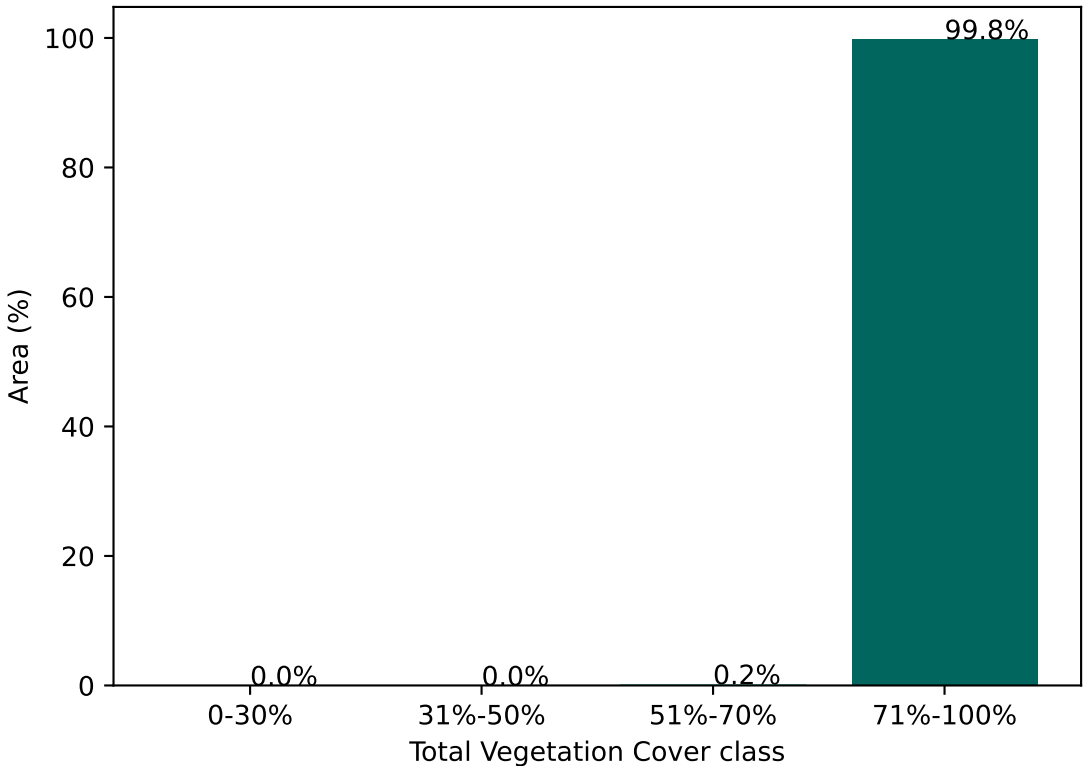
Proportion of each land class in area



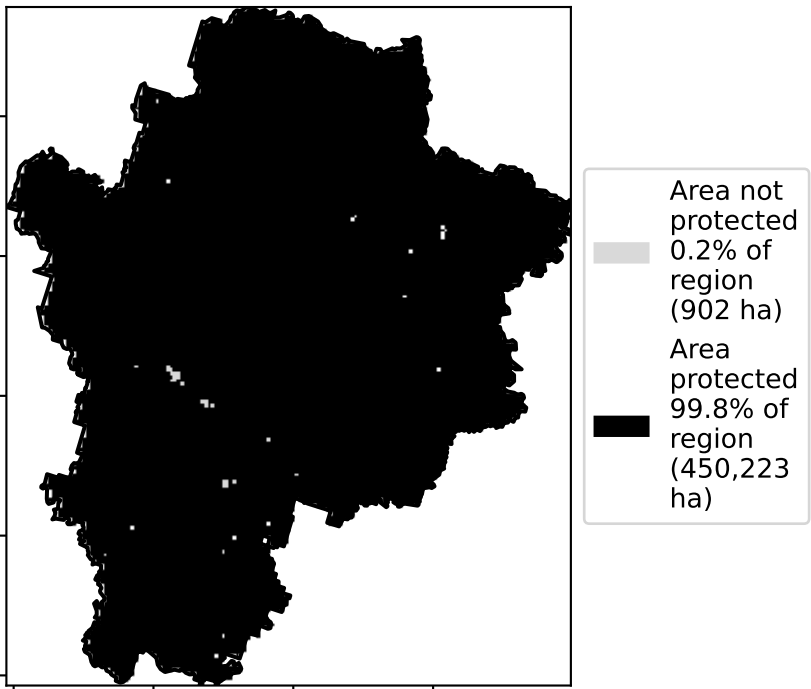
Total Vegetation Cover [%]



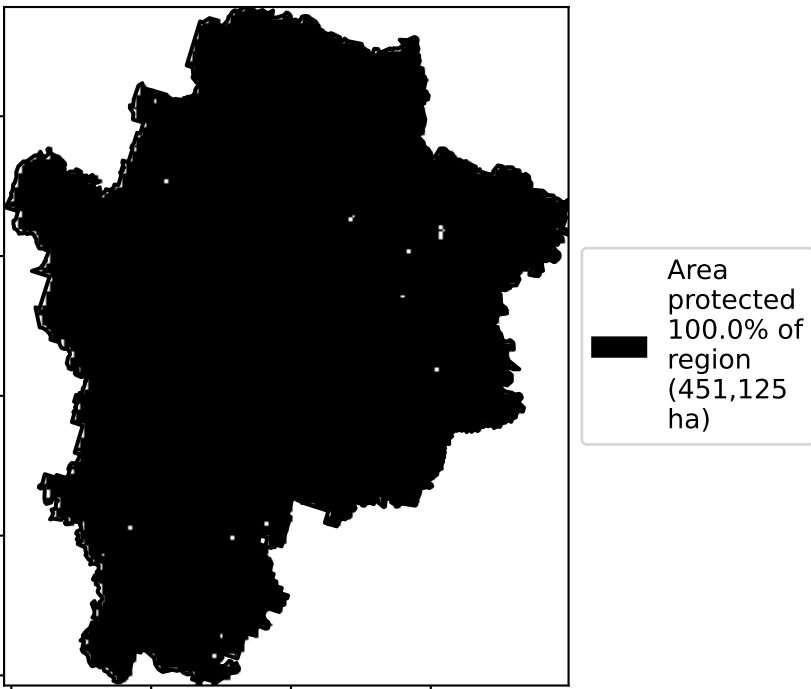
Proportion of vegetation cover class in area



% Area protected from water erosion (>70%)

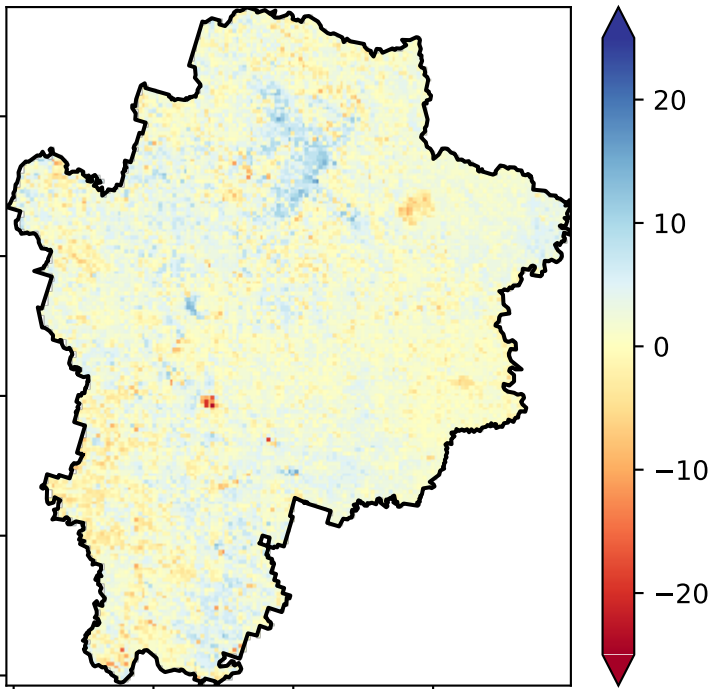


% Area protected from wind erosion (>50%)



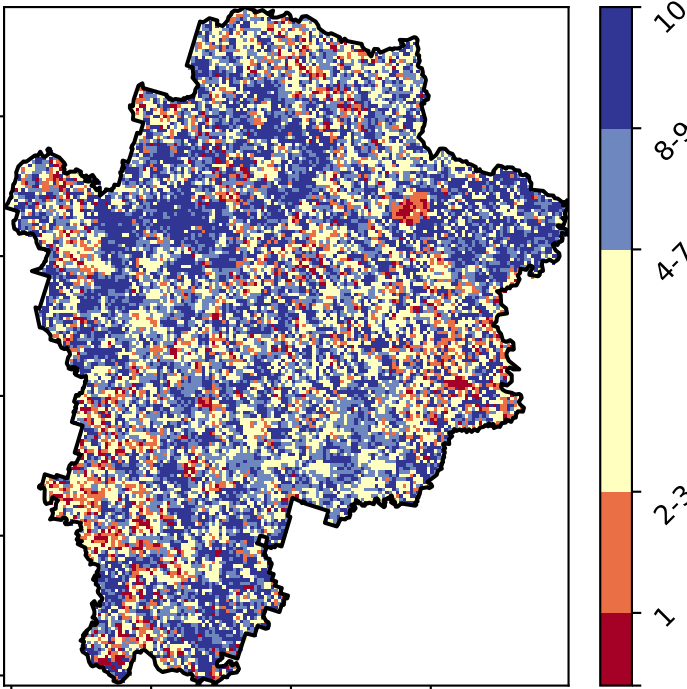
Total Vegetation Cover Anomaly [%]

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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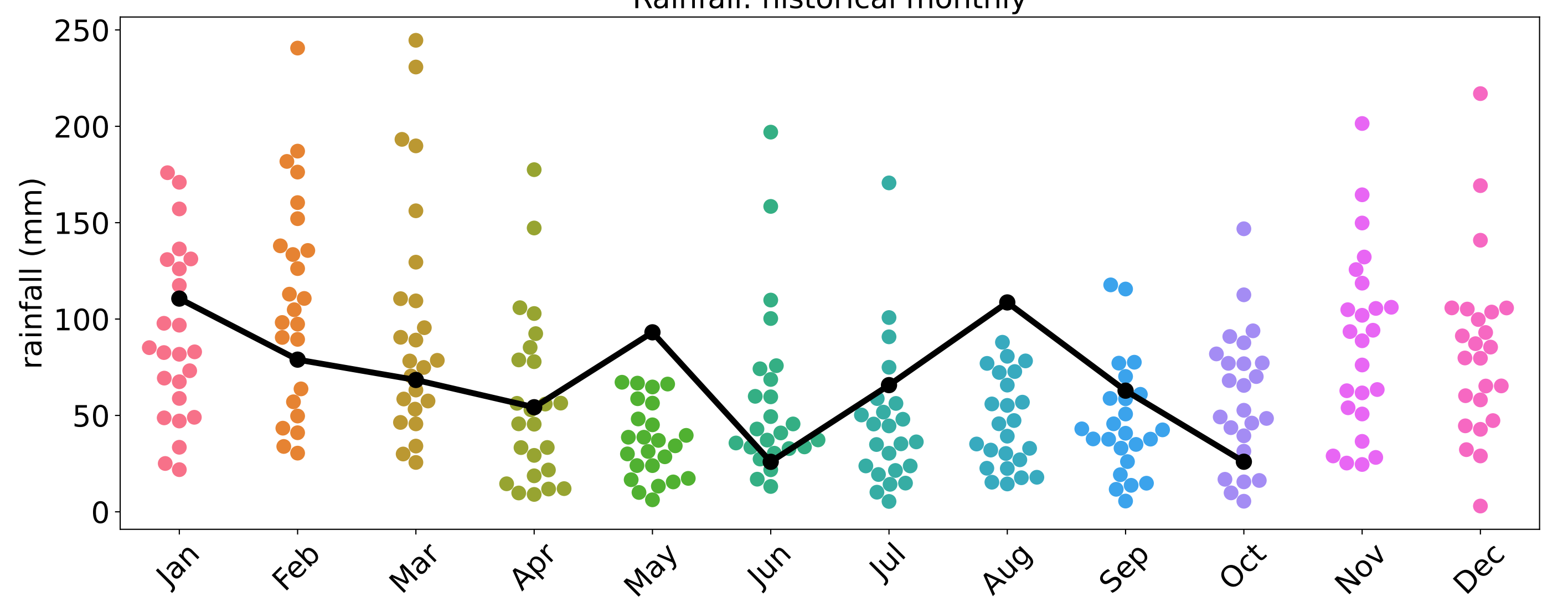
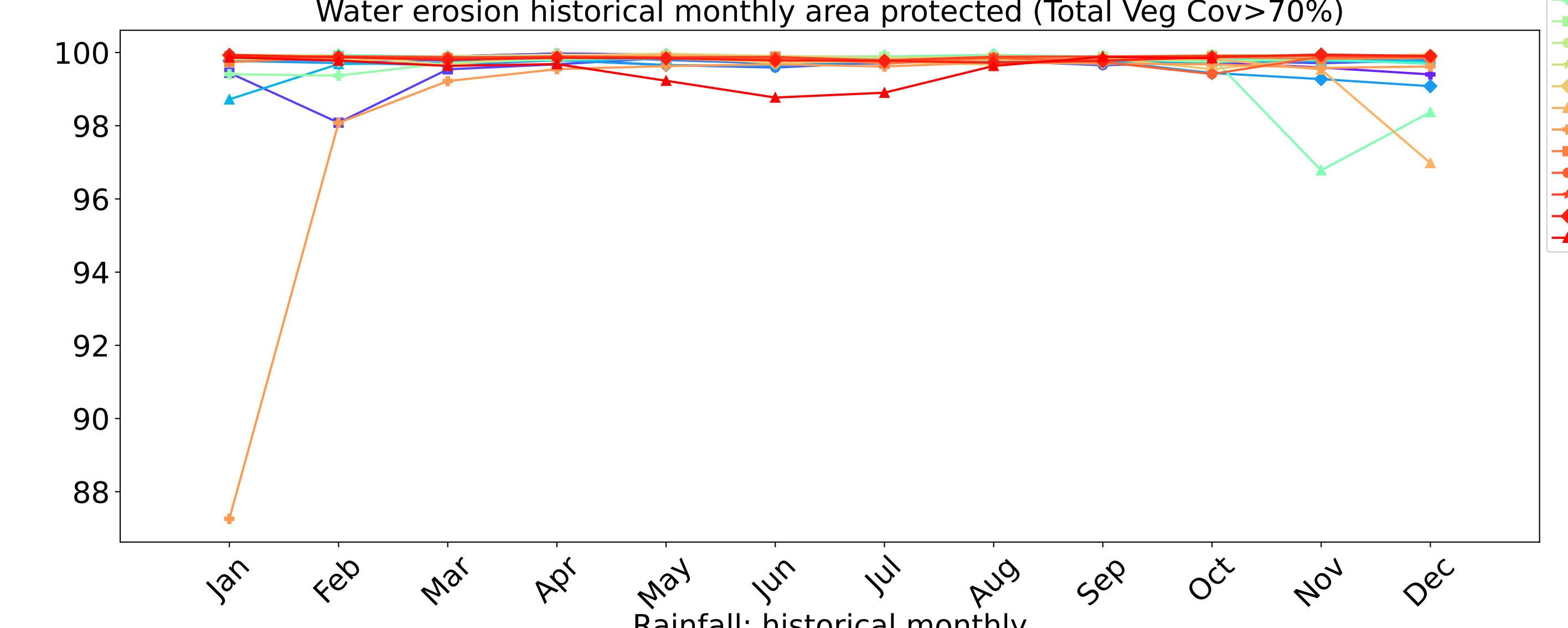
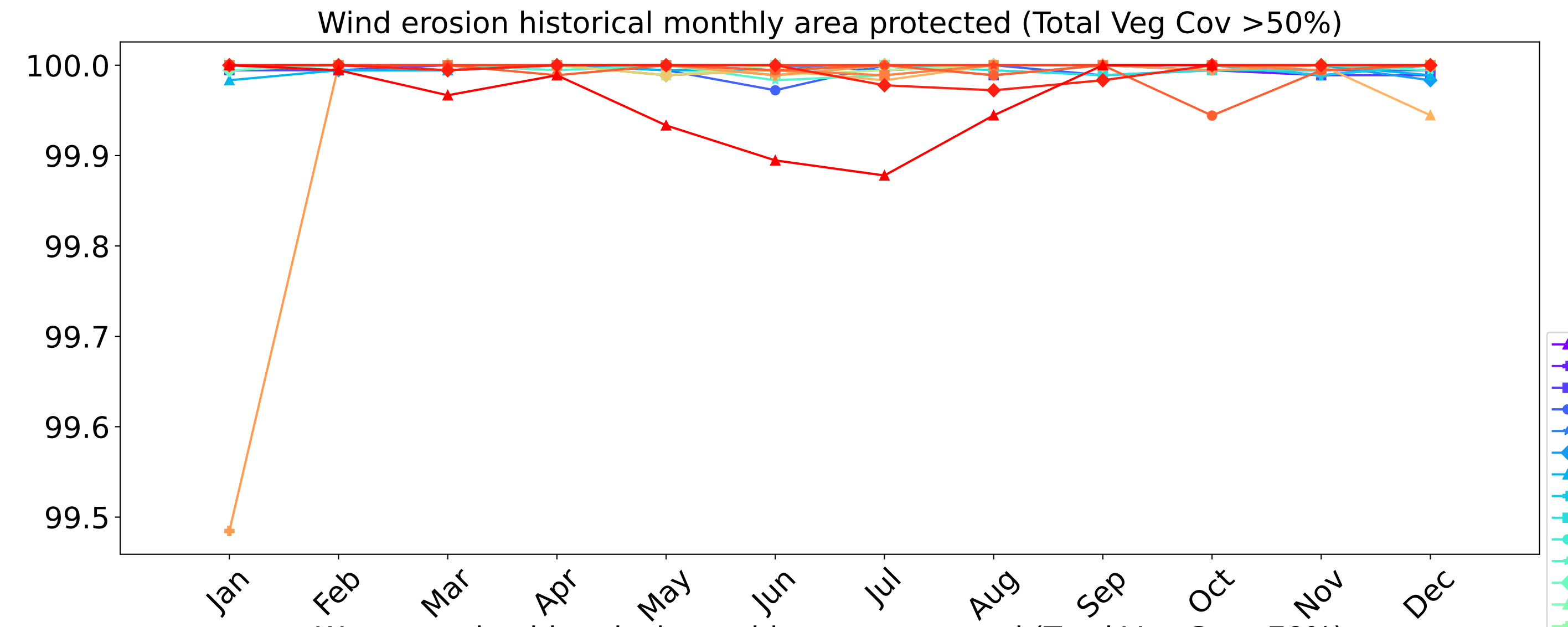
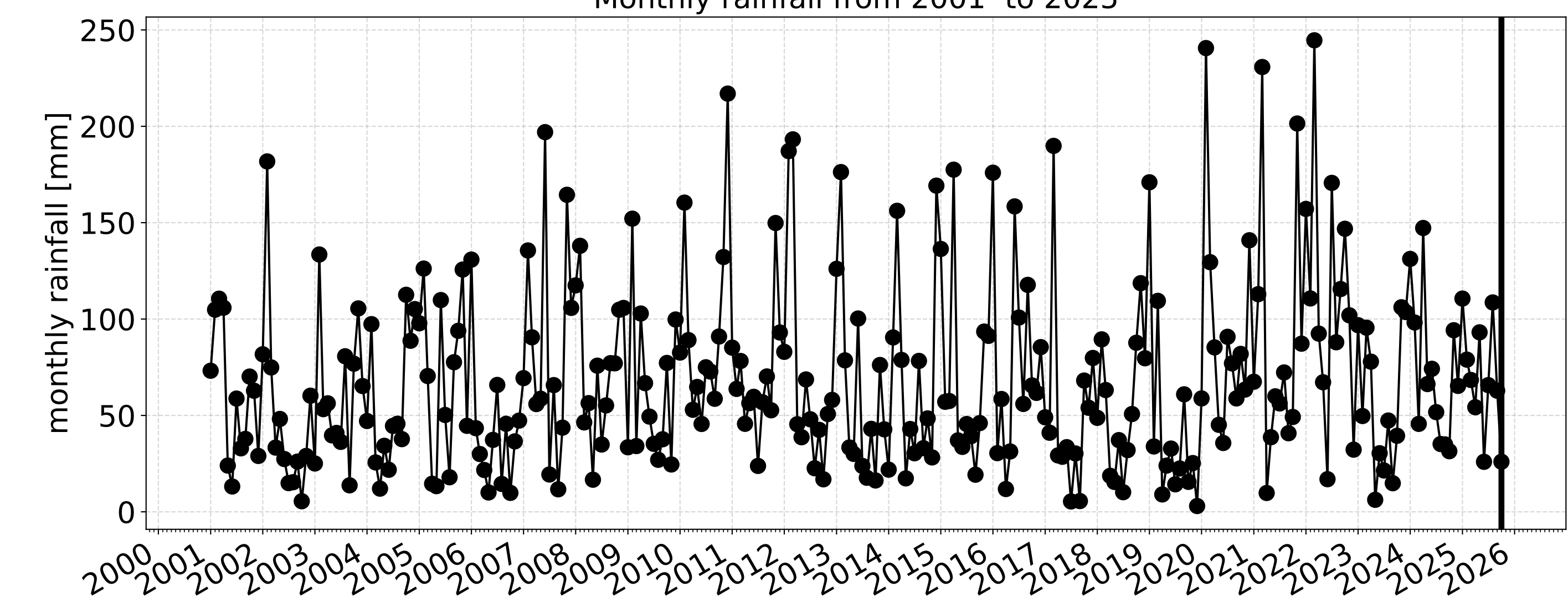
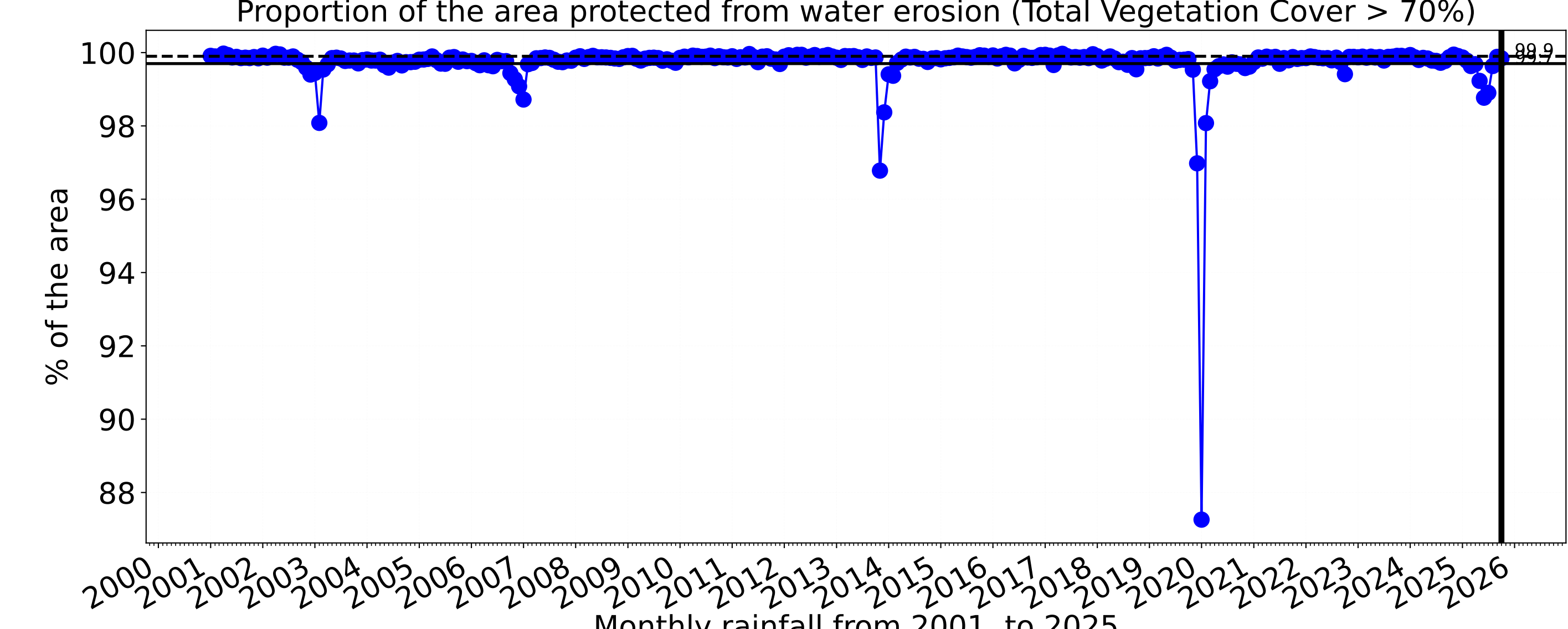
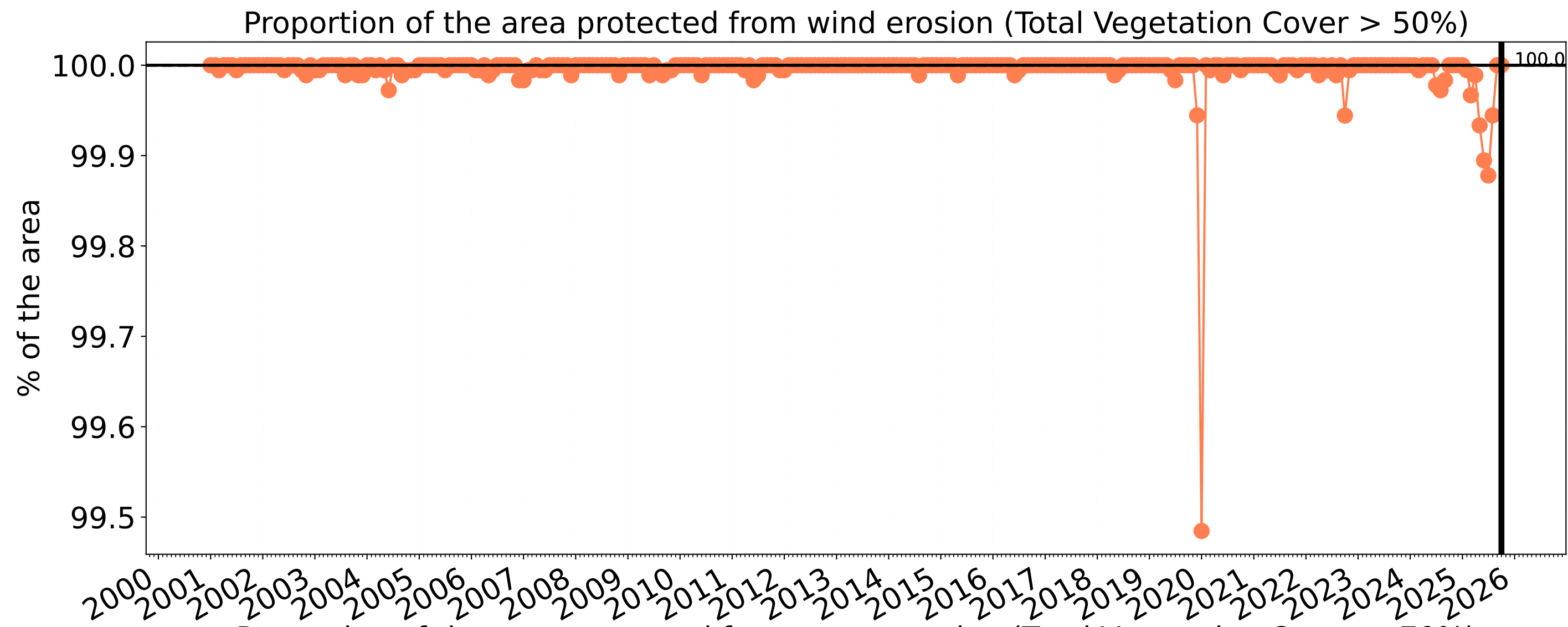
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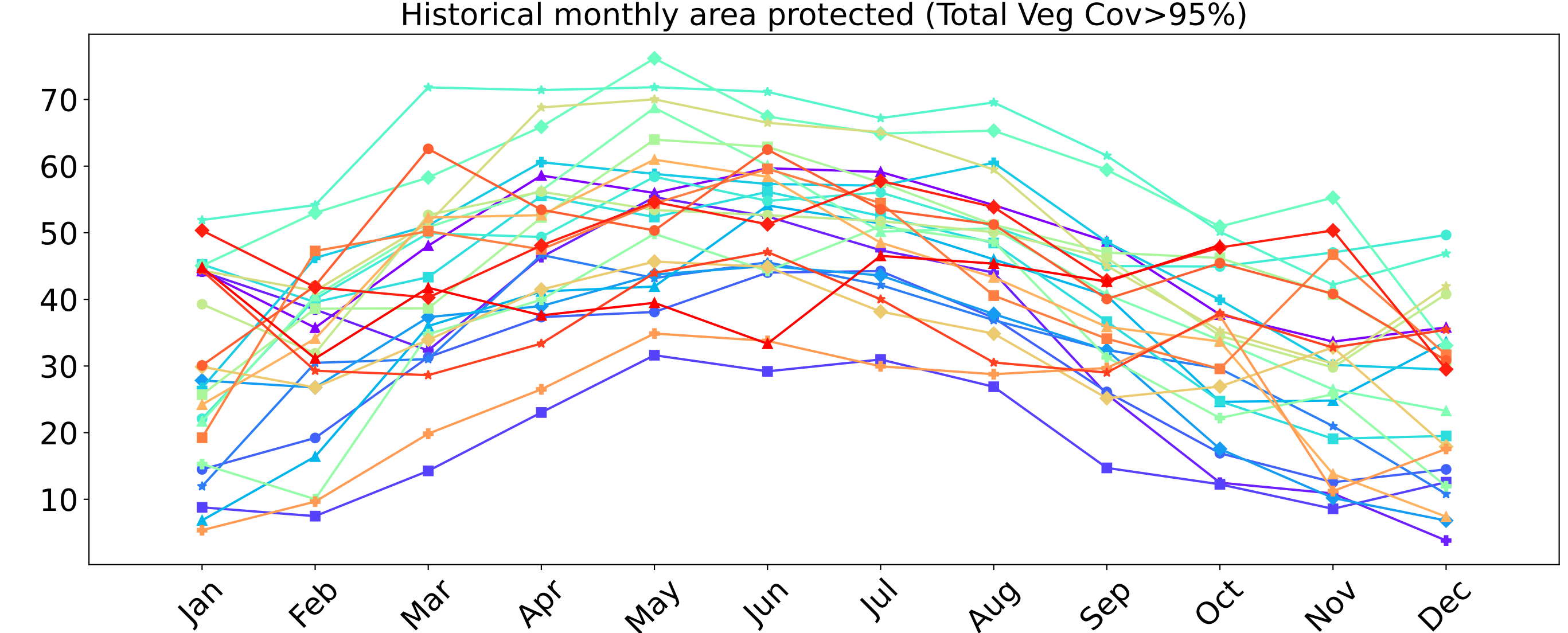
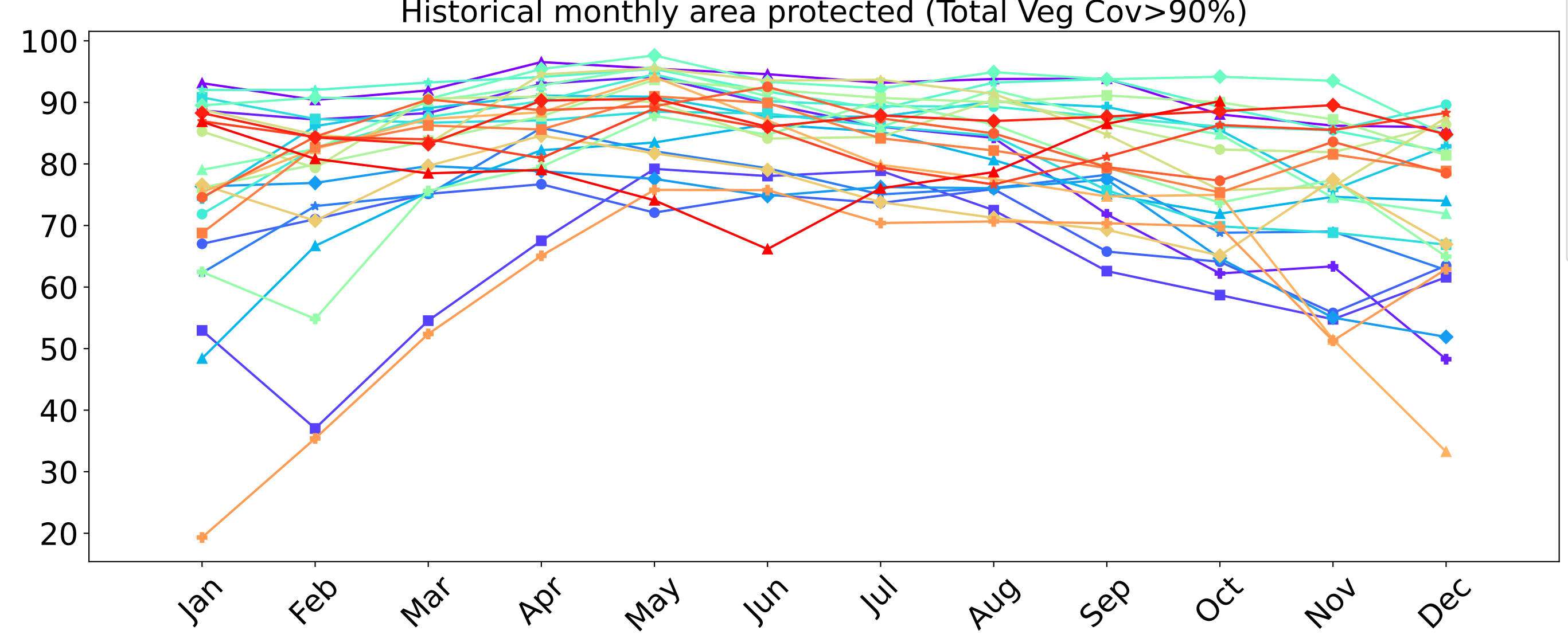
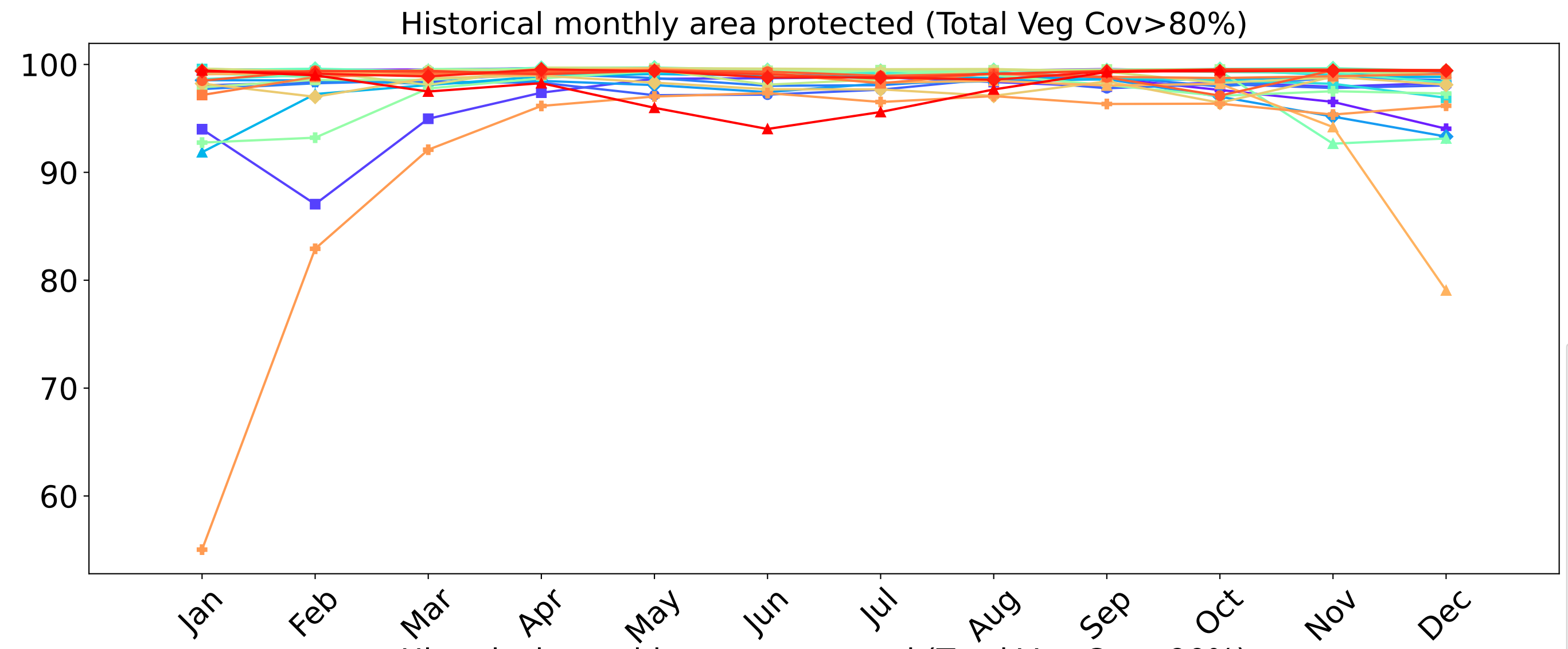
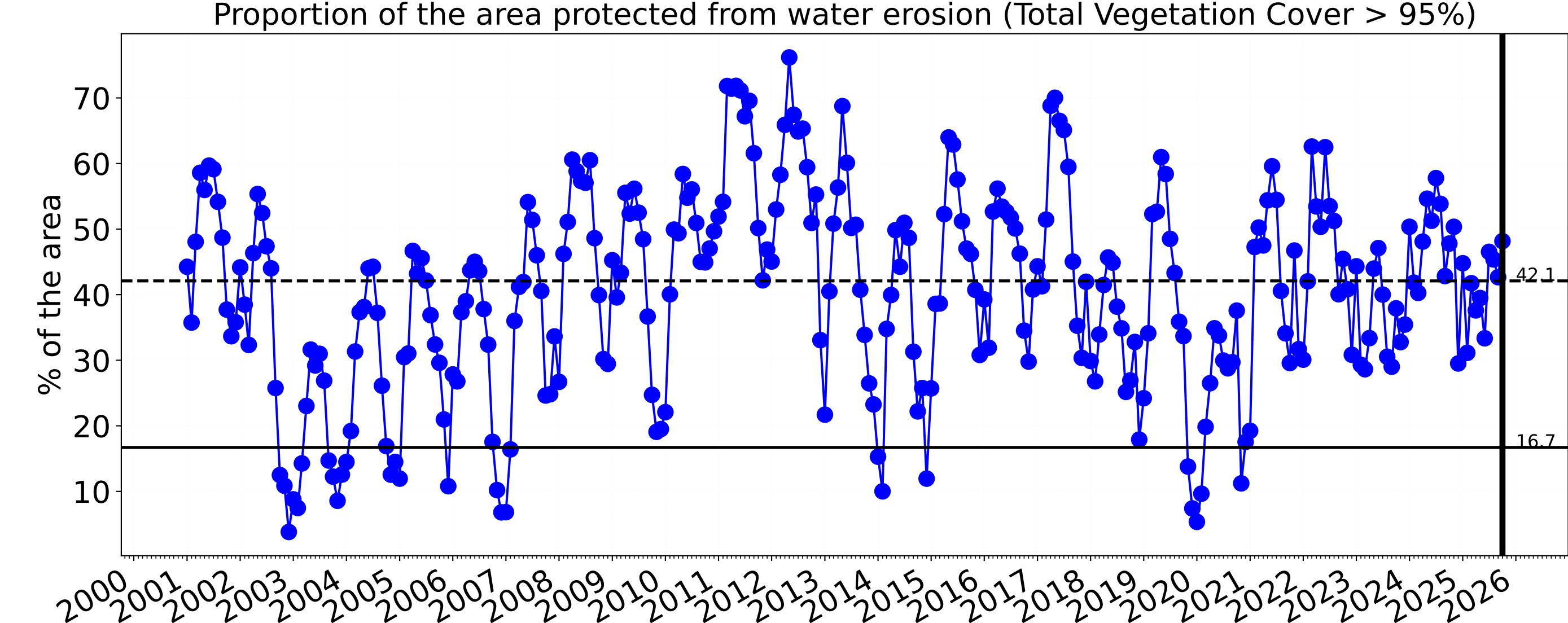
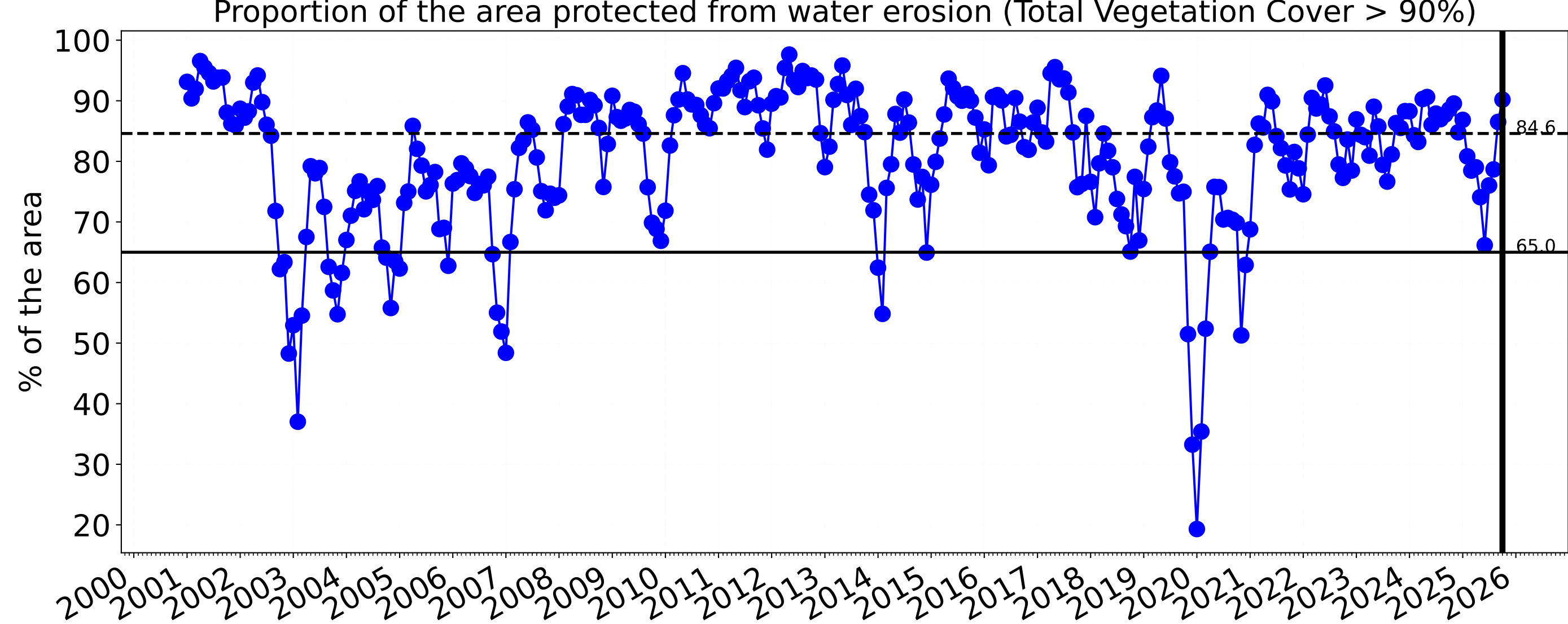
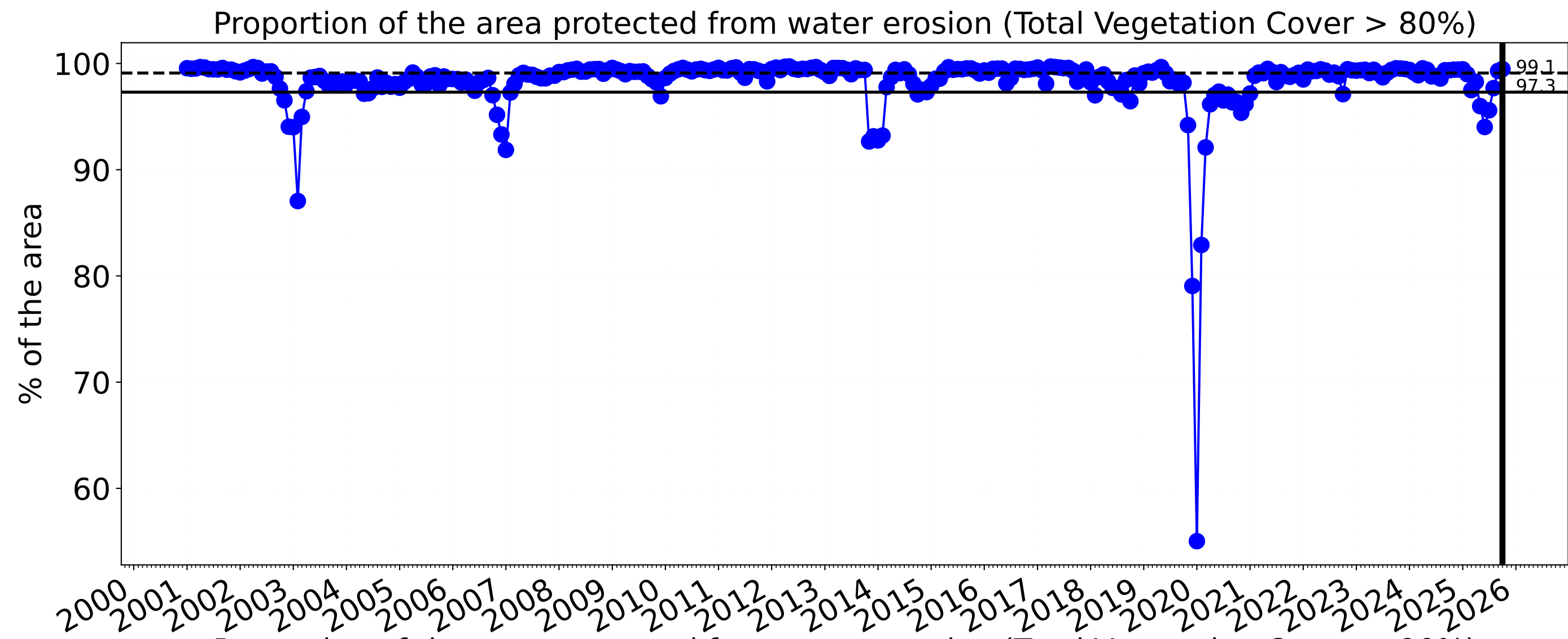


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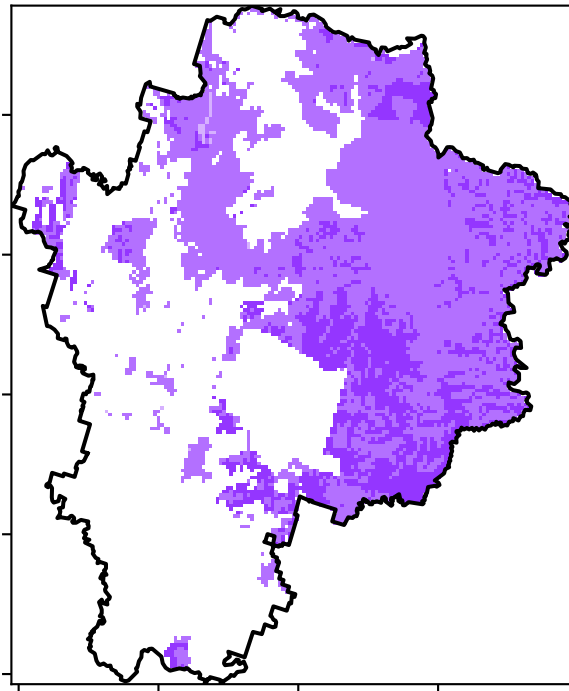






Conservation and natural environments

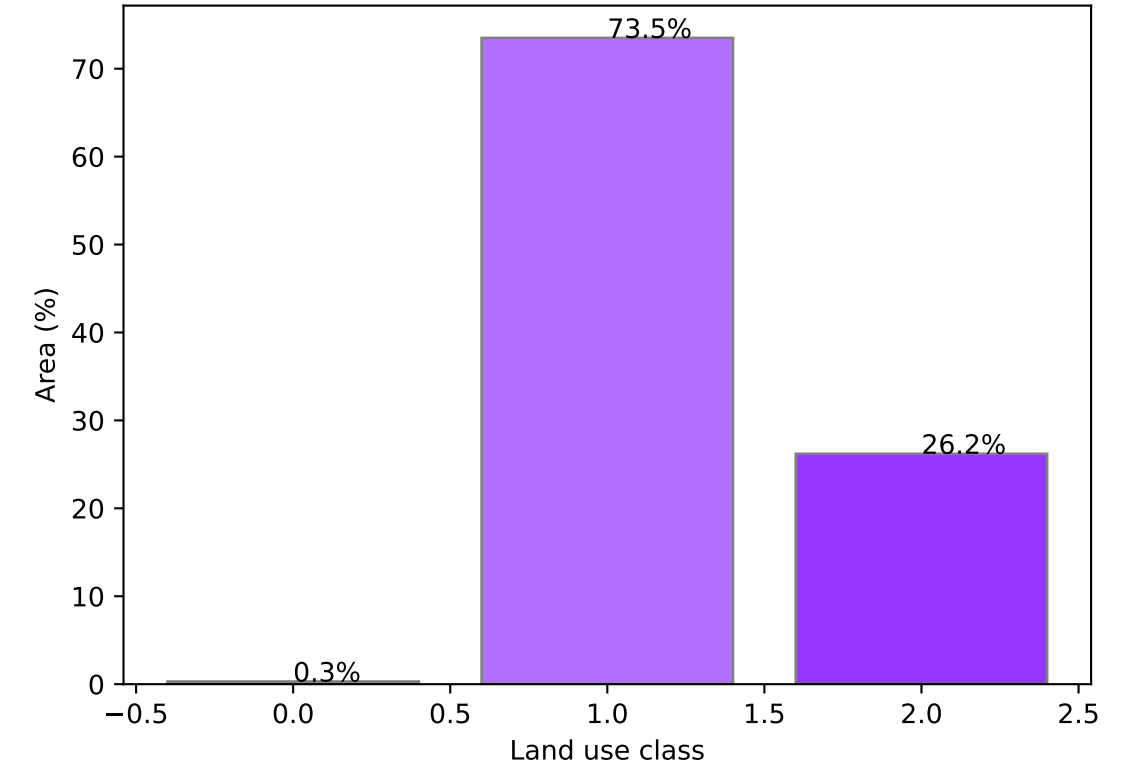
Land use and forest cover



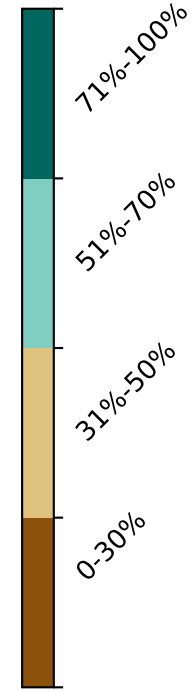
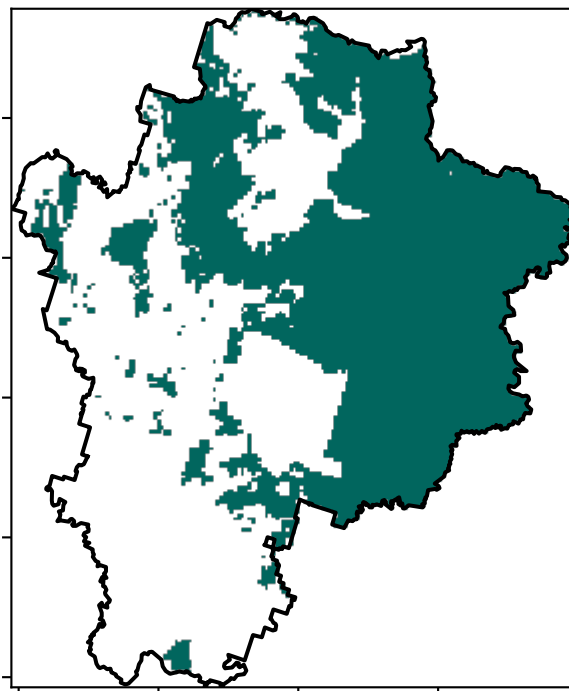
Catchment Scale Land Use and Forests of Australia (2018)
Derived from Catchment Scale Land Use of Australia (2018) and Forests of Australia (2018)

- 1 Conservation and natural environments - Non-forest
- 2 Conservation and natural environments - Woodland forest
- 3 Conservation and natural environments - Non-woodland forest

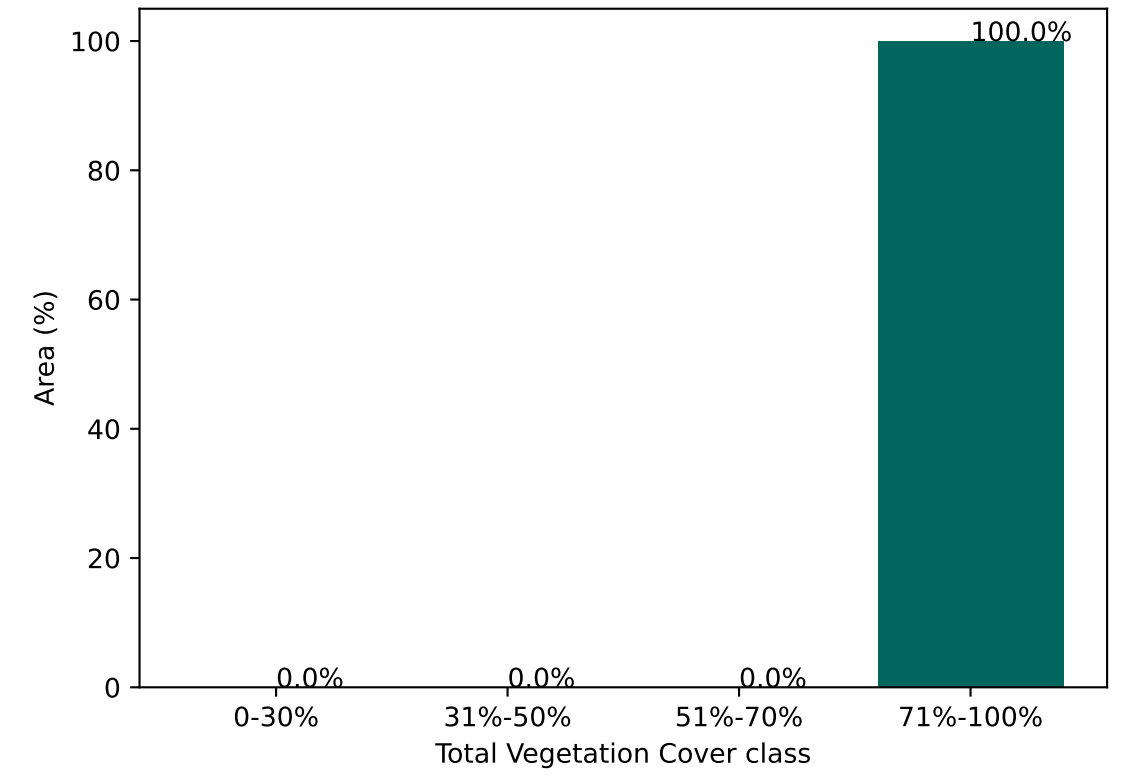
Proportion of each land class in area



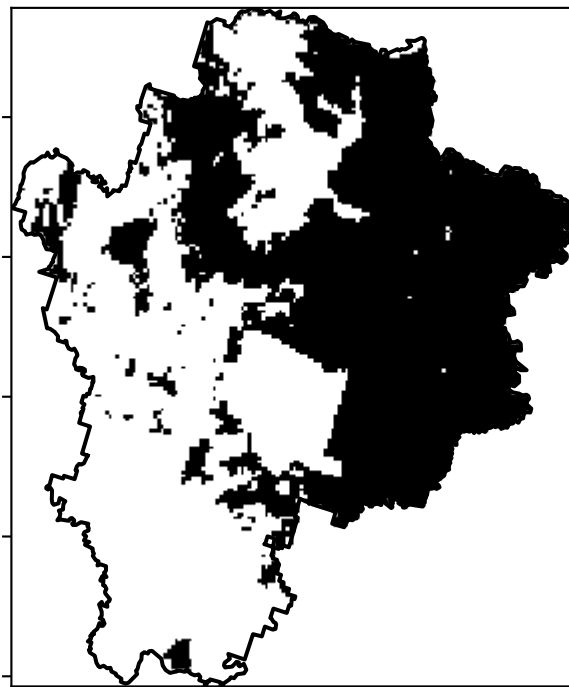
Total Vegetation Cover [%]



Proportion of vegetation cover class in area

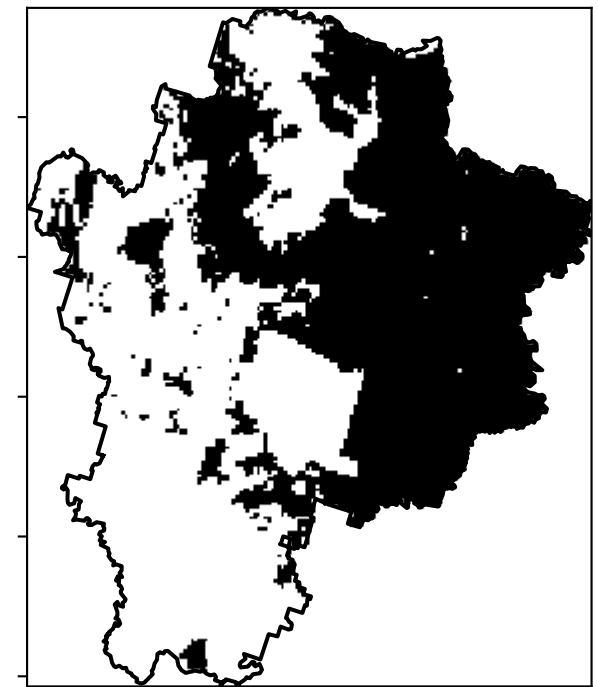


% Area protected from water erosion (>70%)



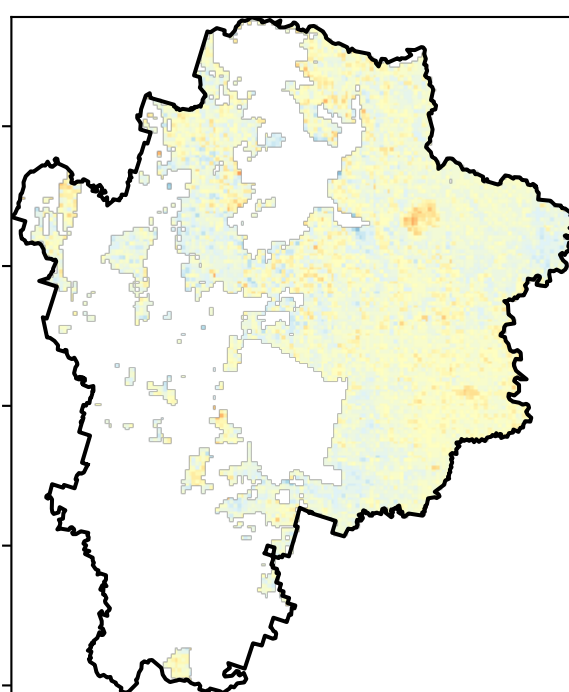
Area protected 100.0% of region (232,475 ha)

% Area protected from wind erosion (>50%)

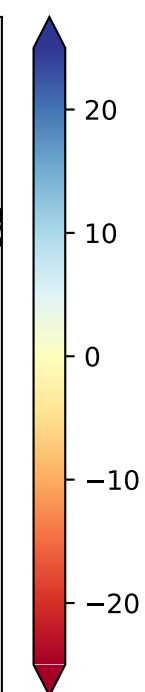


Area protected 100.0% of region (232,475 ha)

Total Vegetation Cover Anomaly [%]

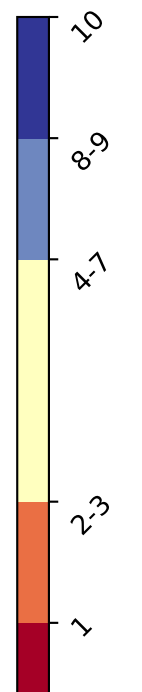
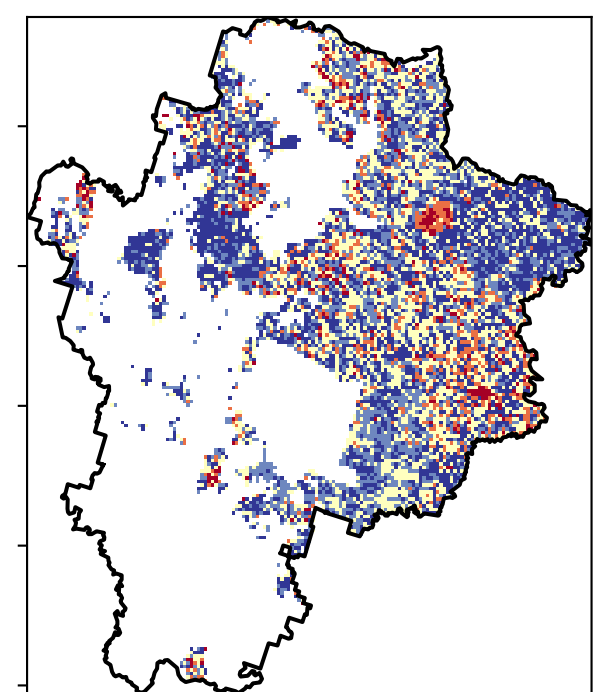


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Total Vegetation Cover Decile [%]



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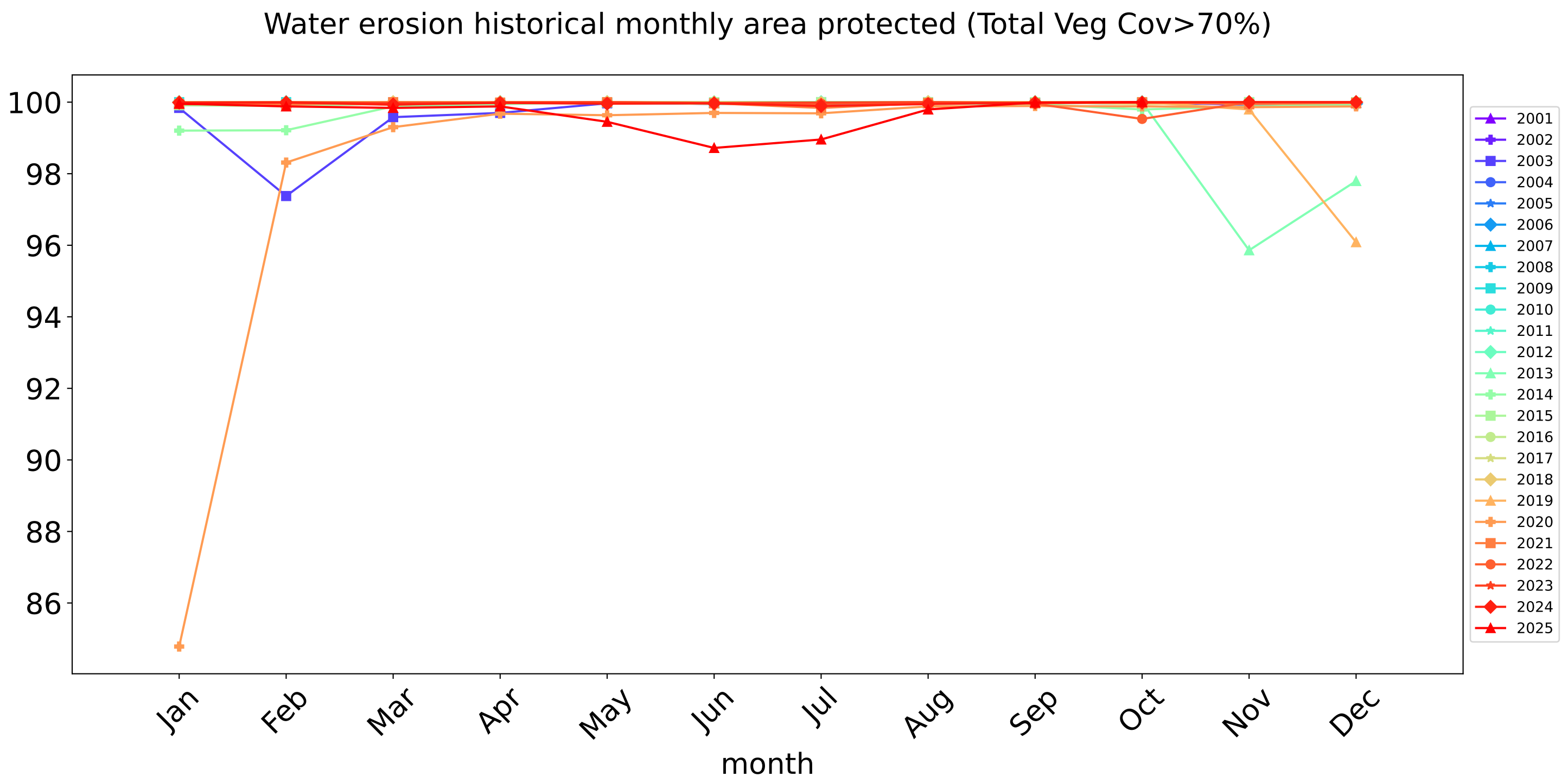
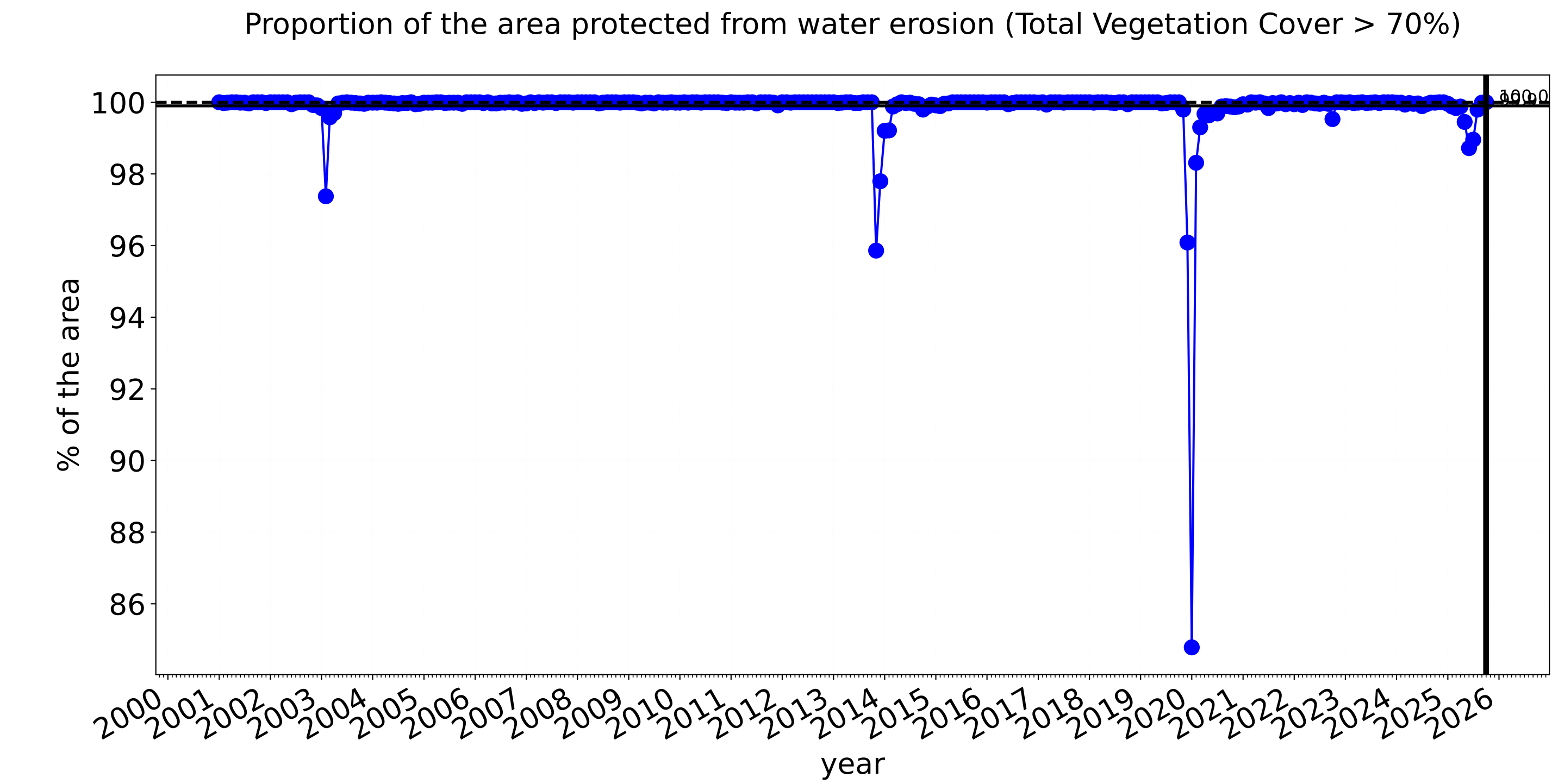
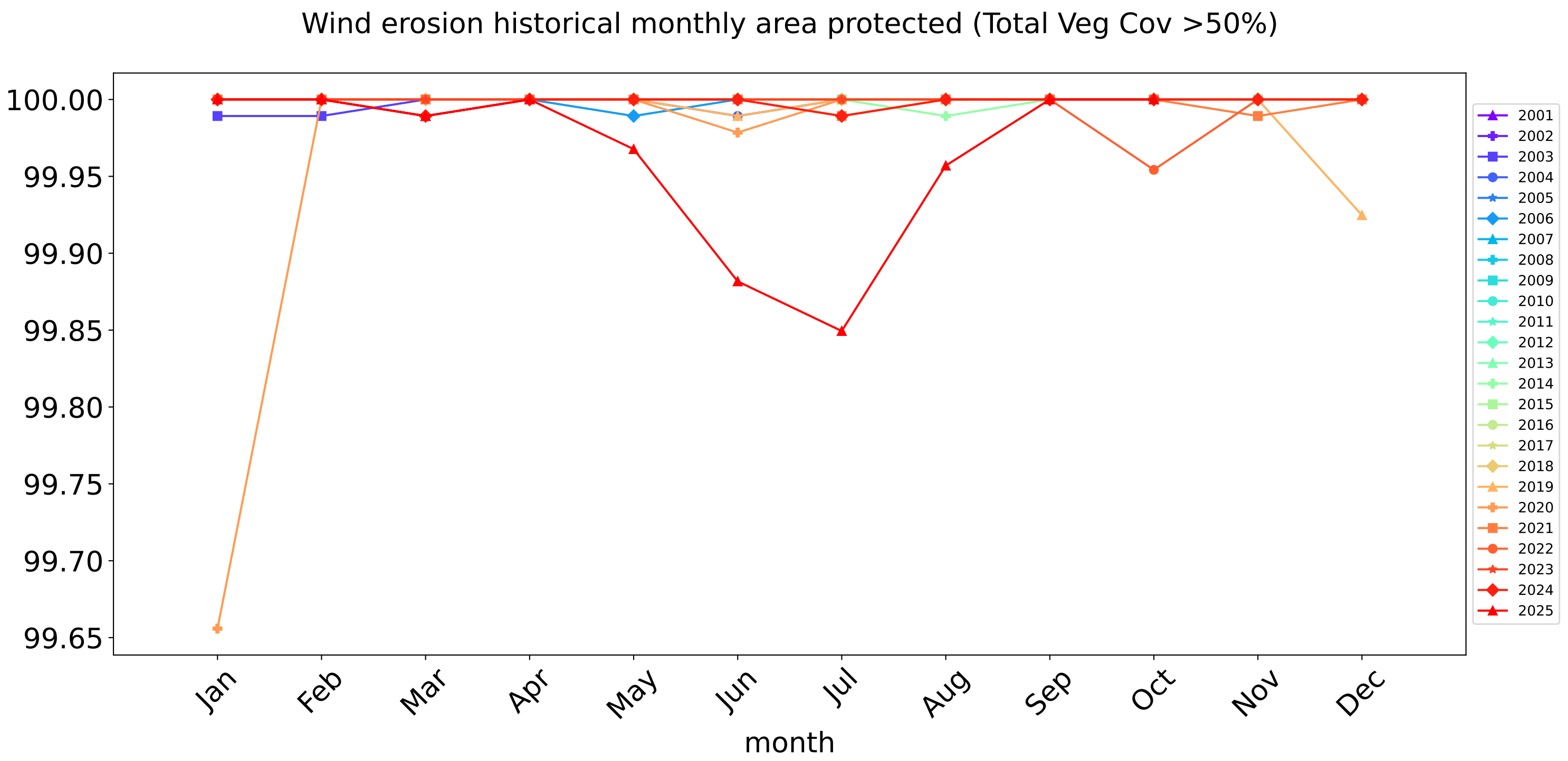
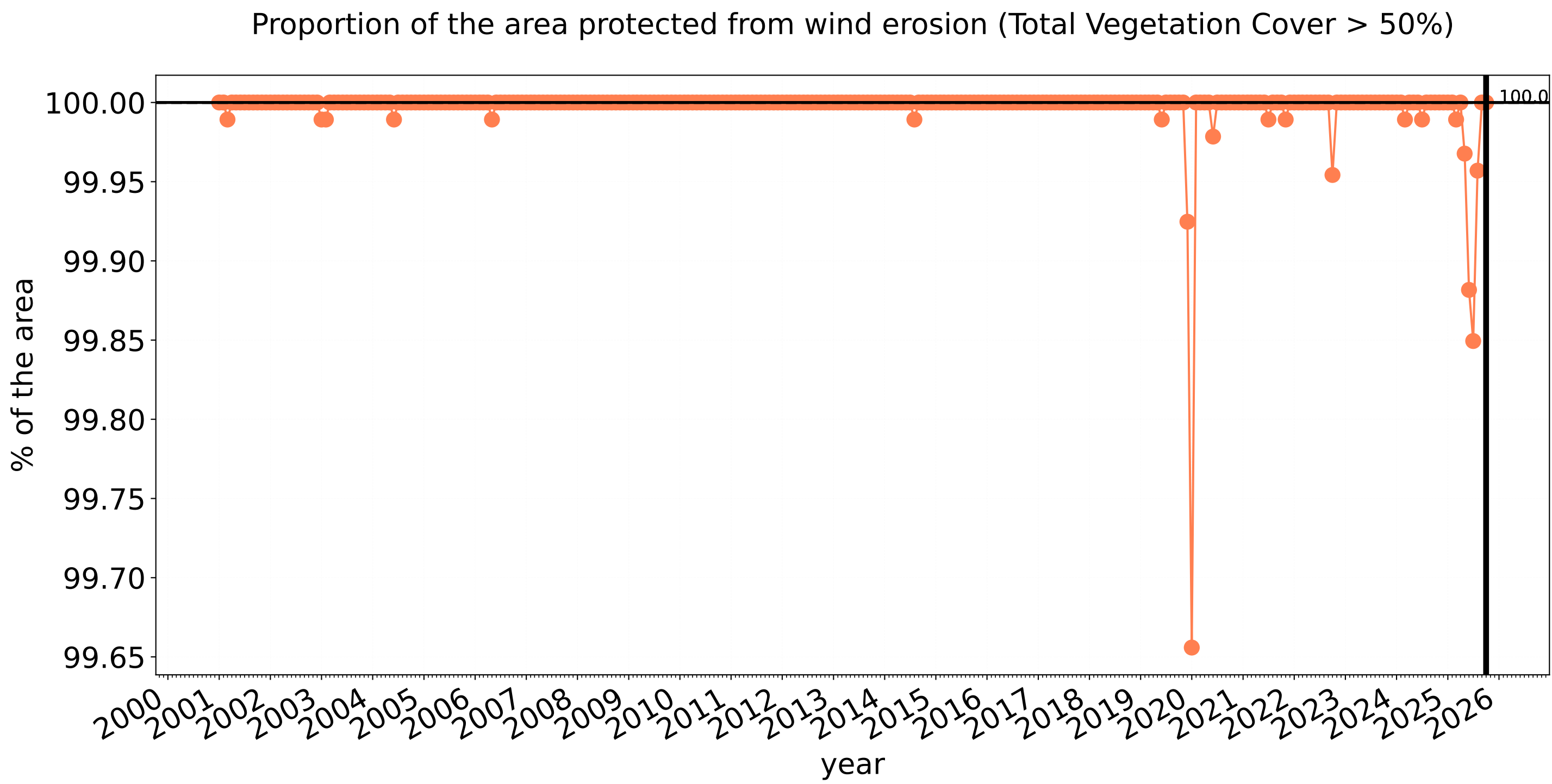


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Conservation and natural environments timeseries

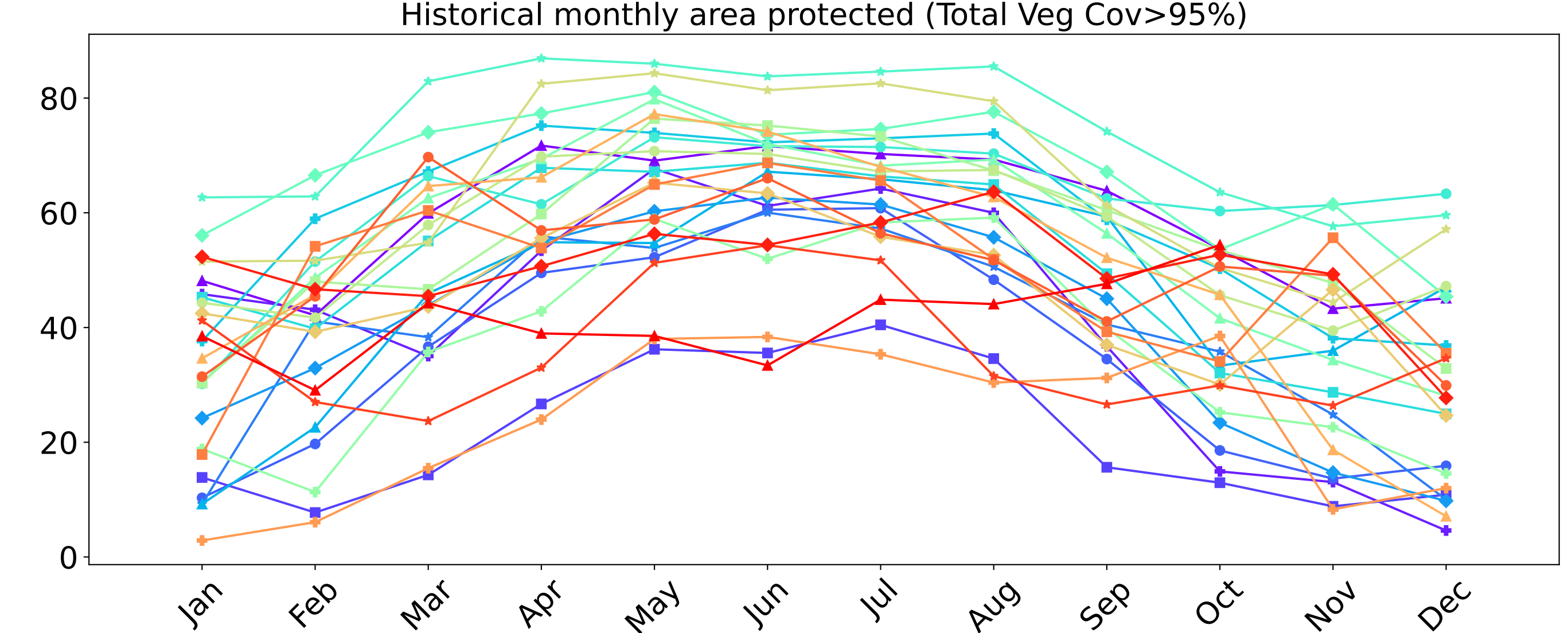
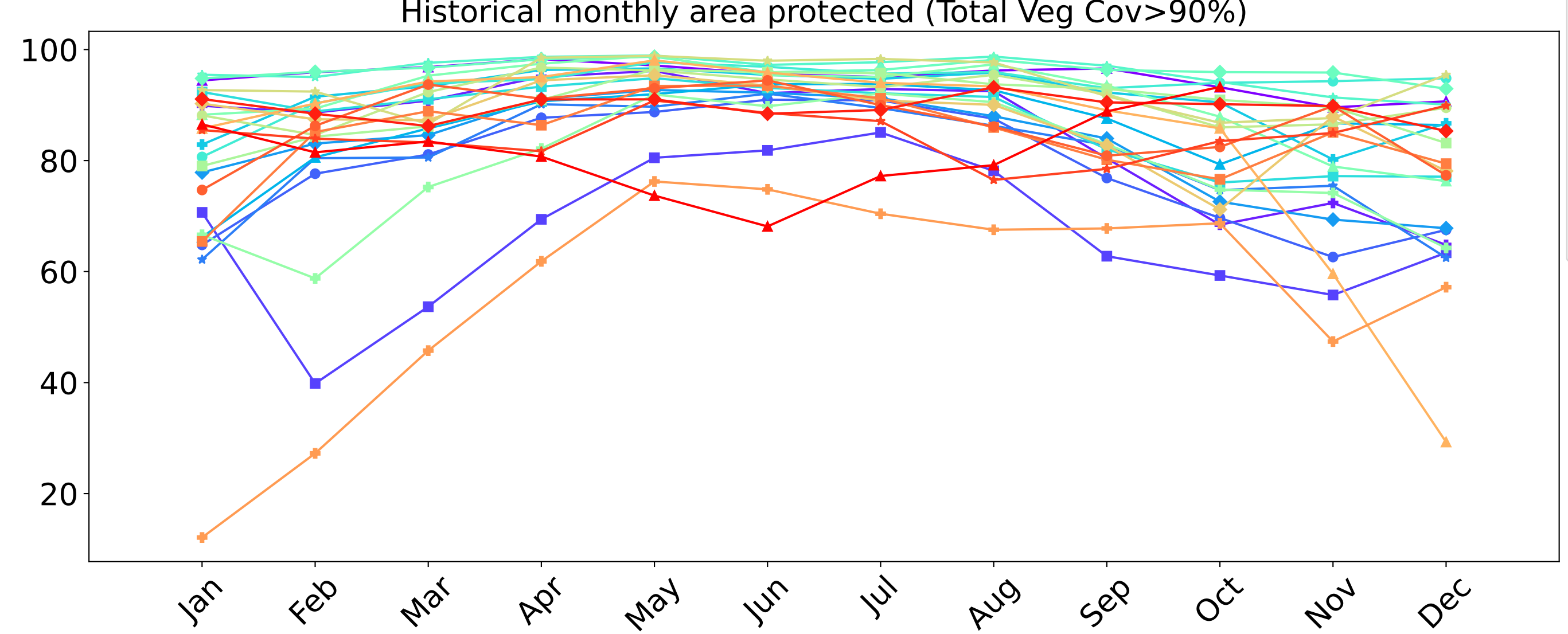
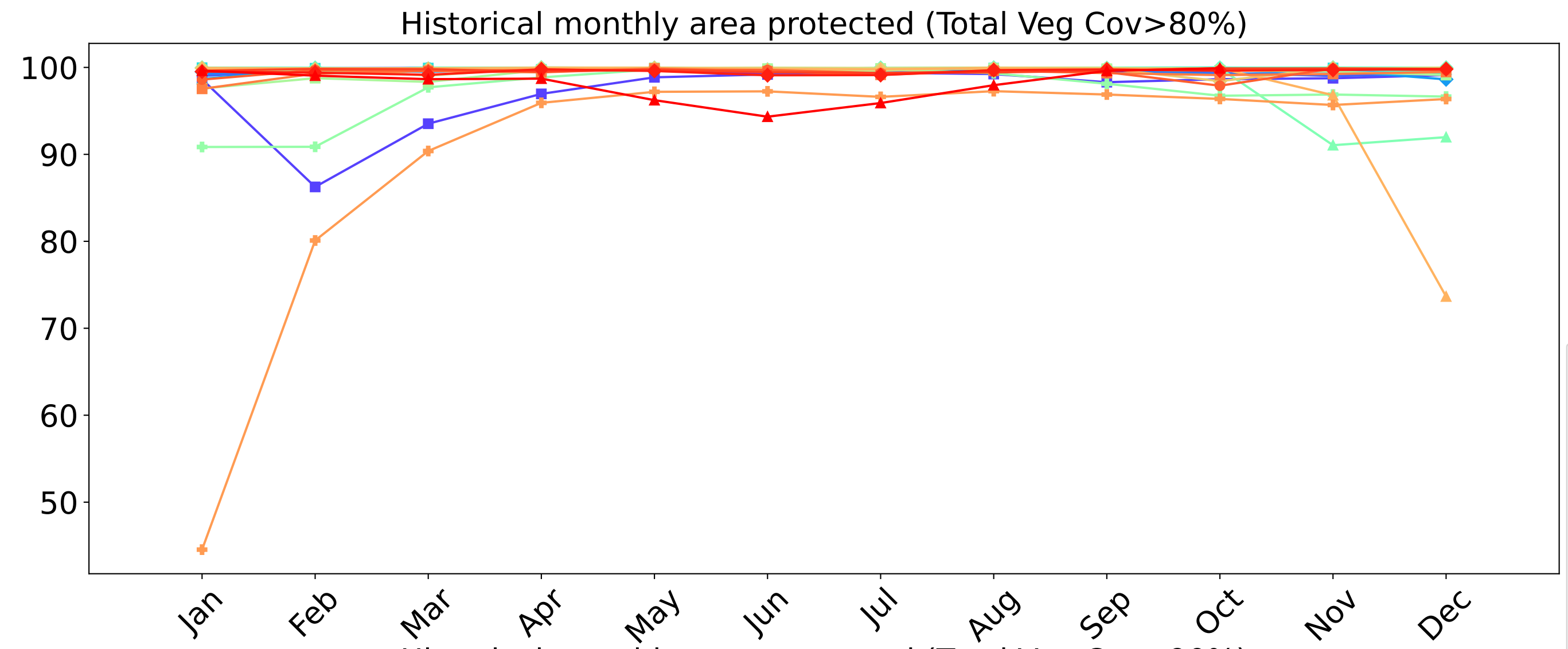
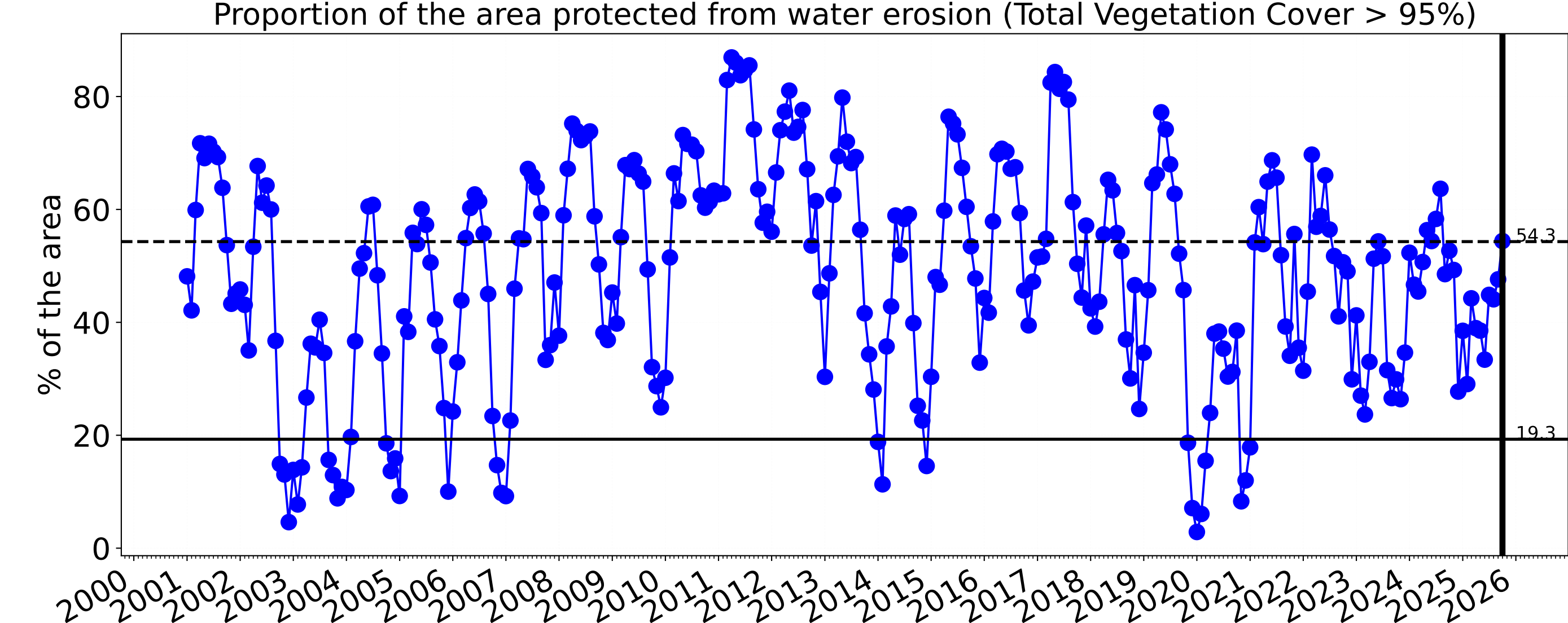
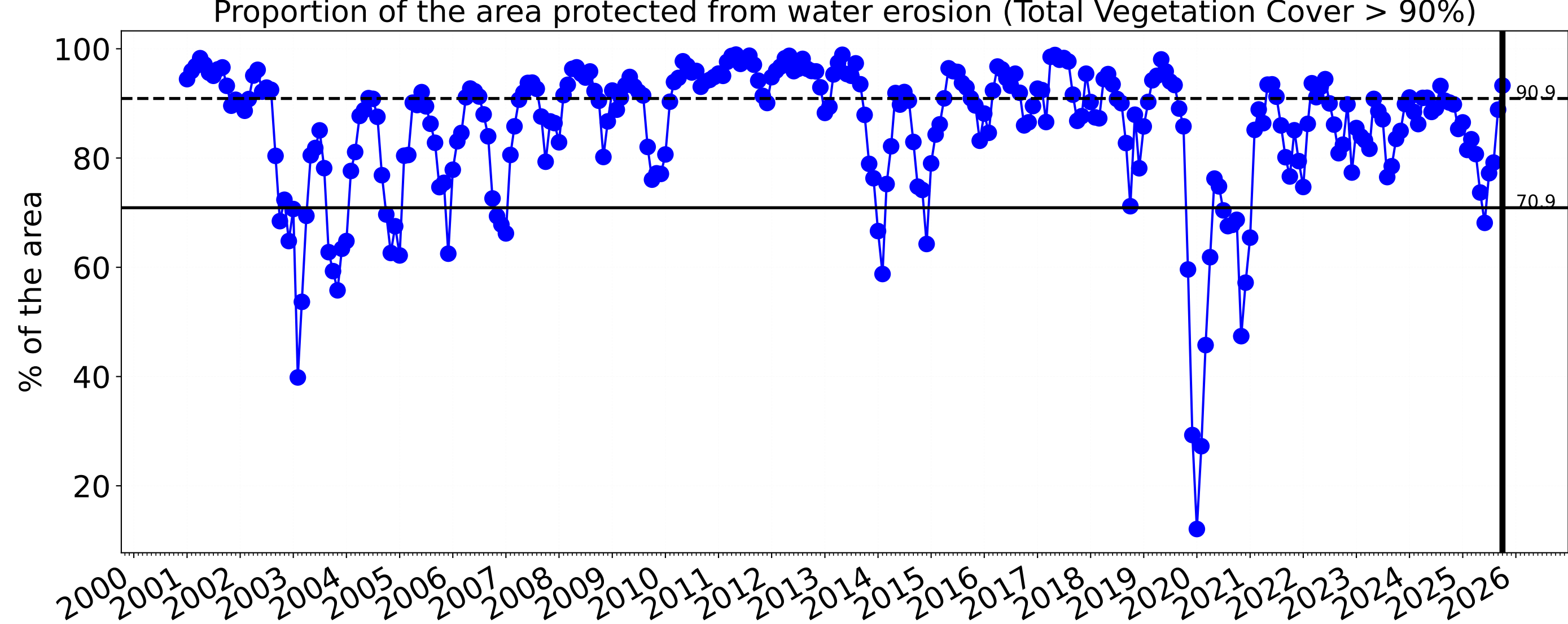
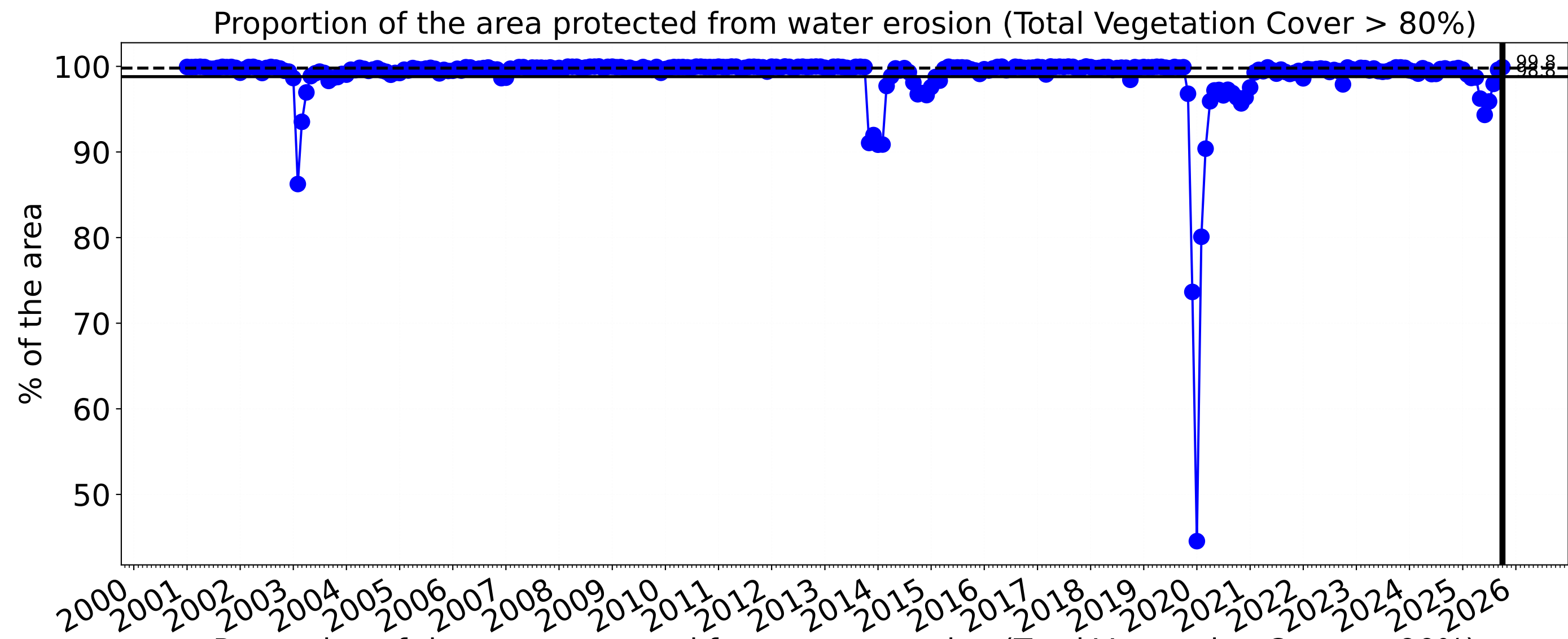


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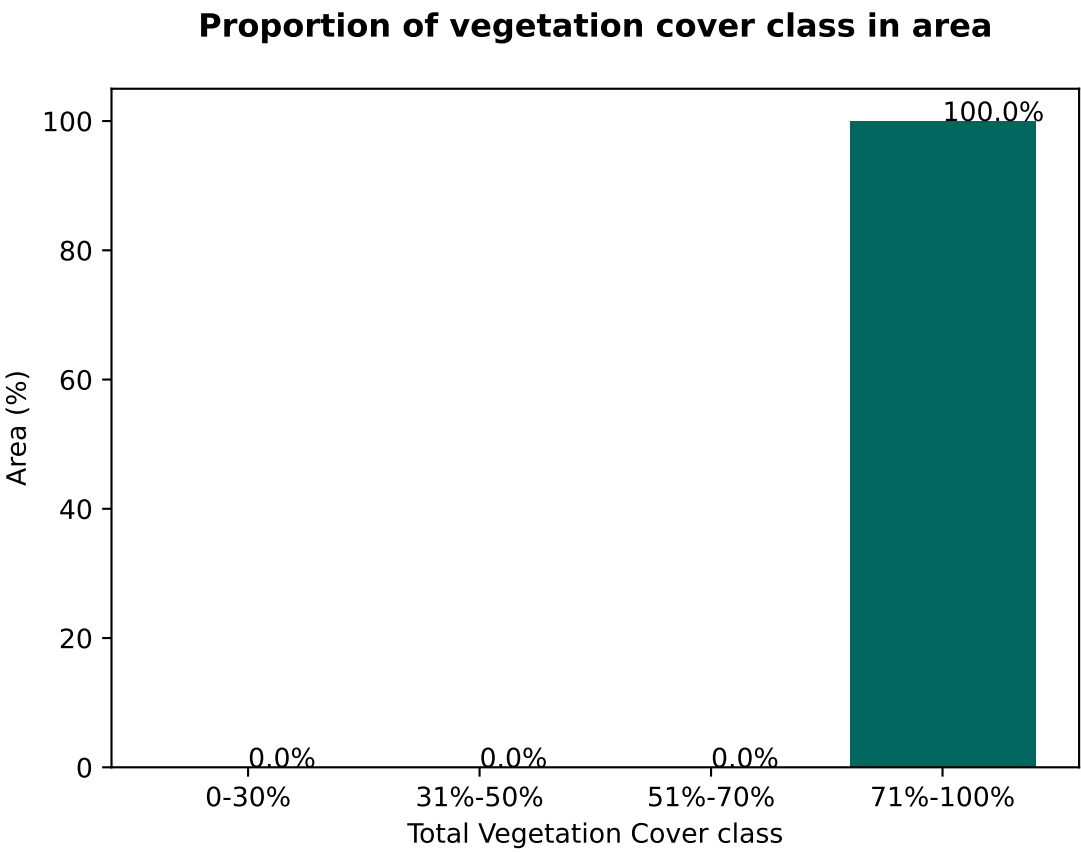
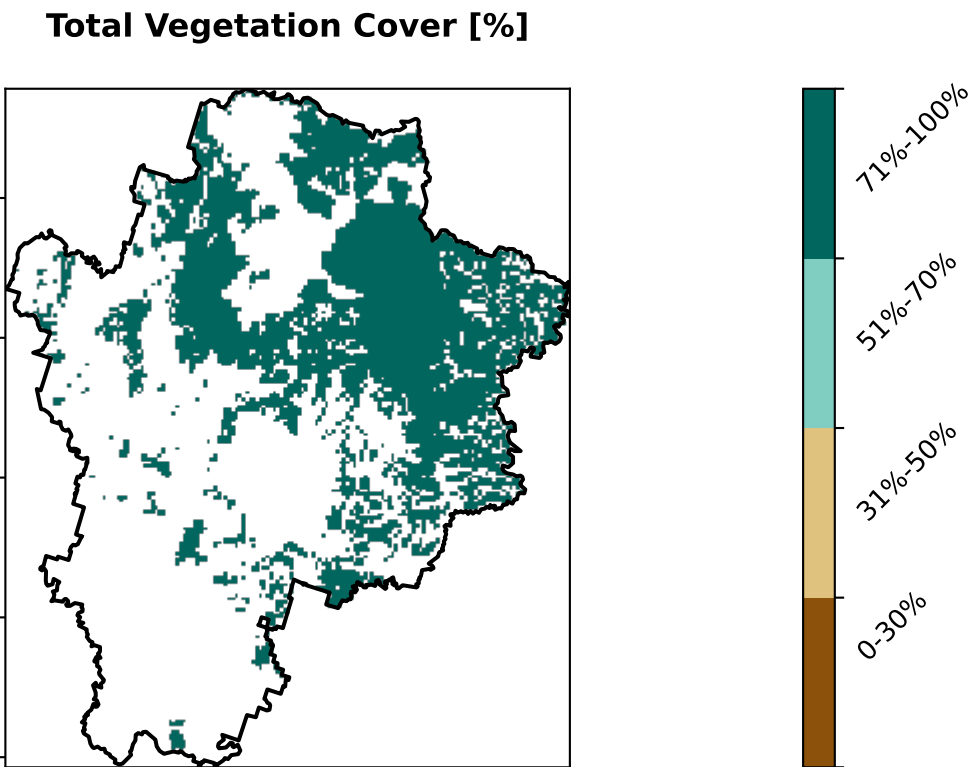
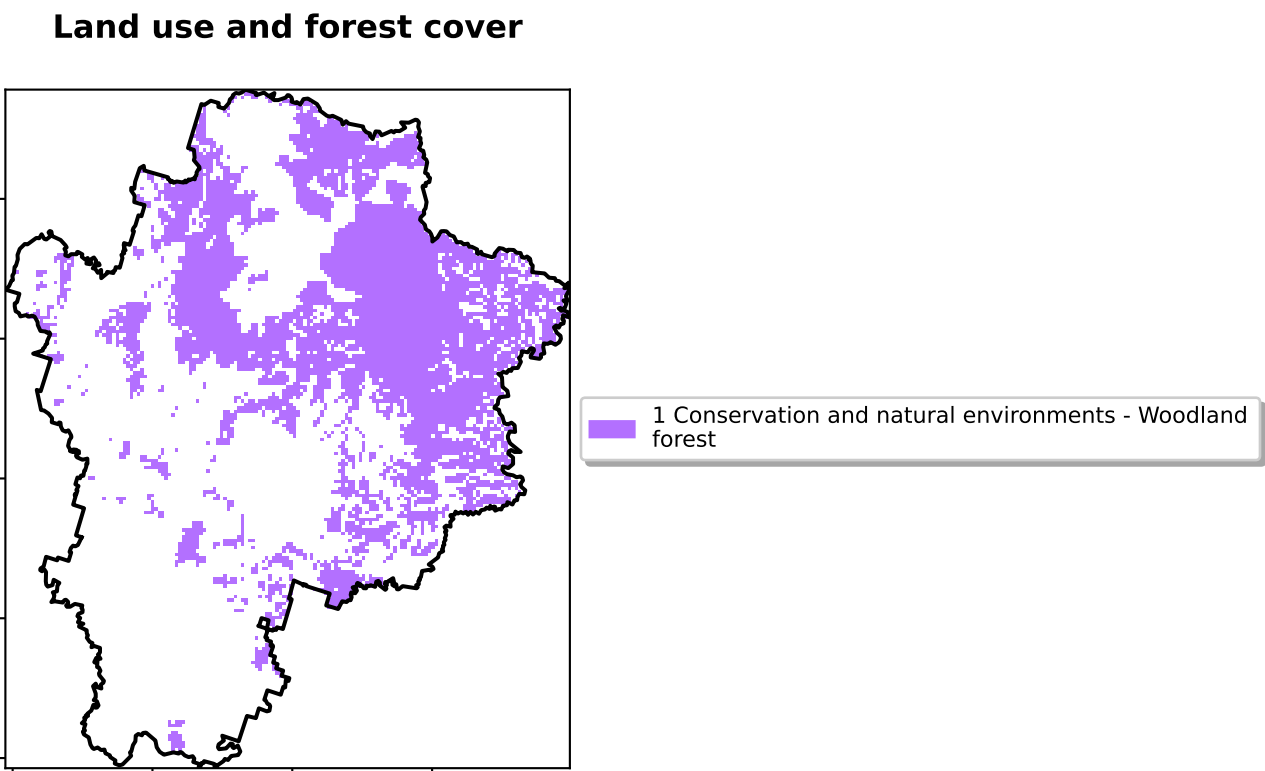
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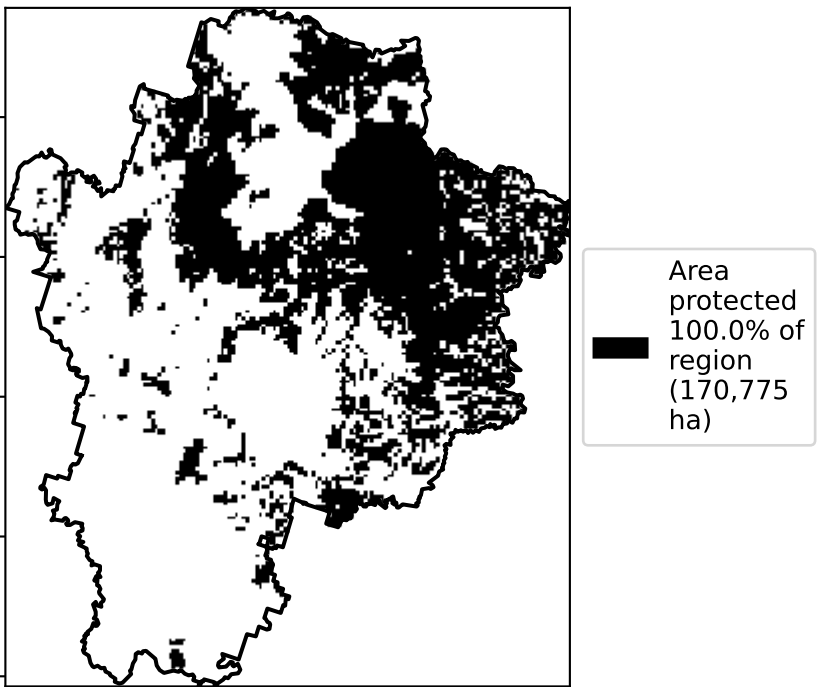


Conservation and natural environments Woodland forest

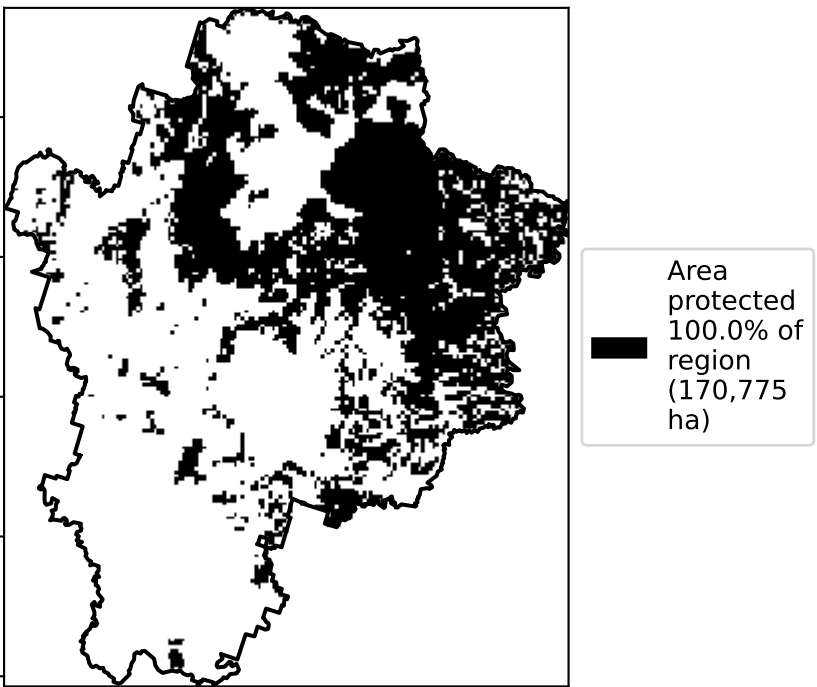
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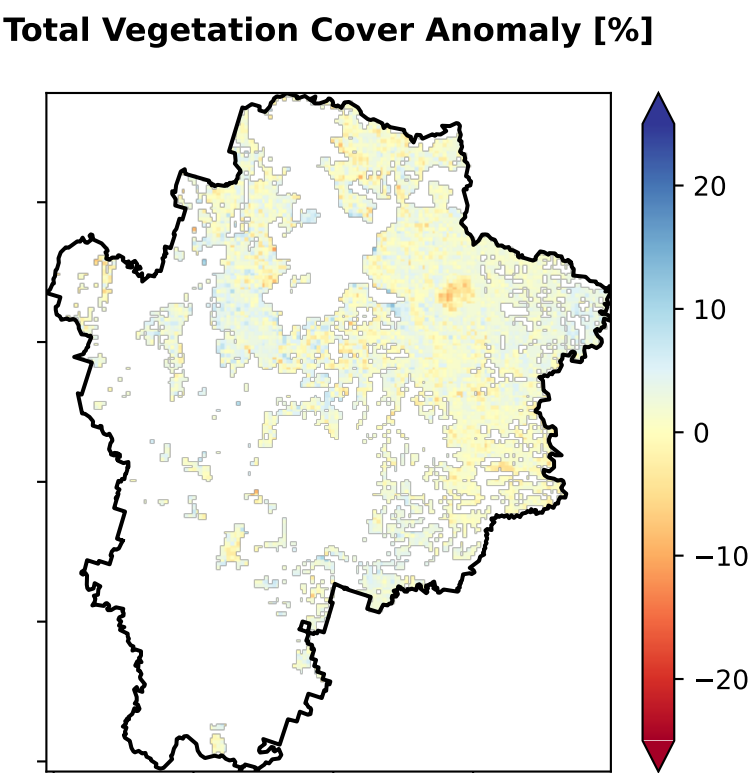
% Area protected from water erosion (>70%)



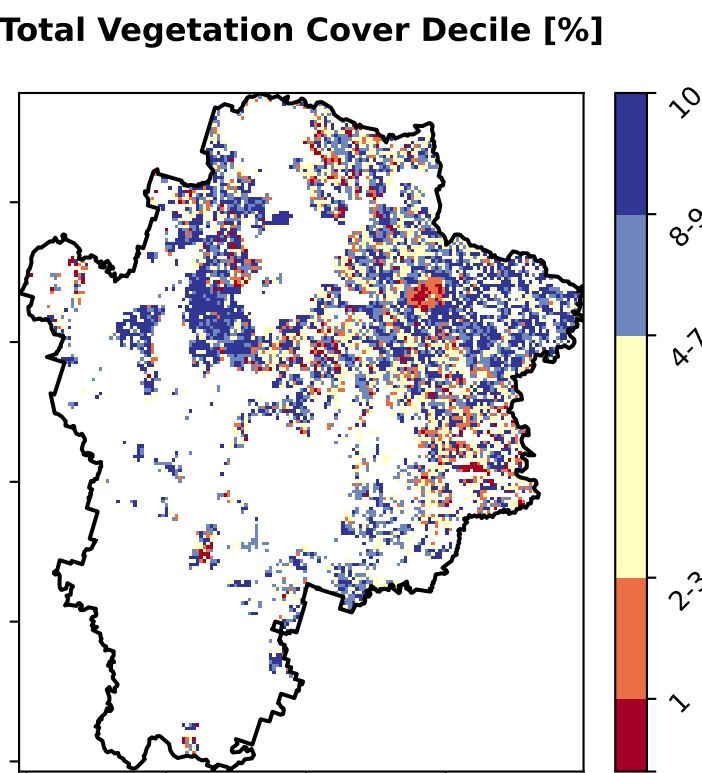
% Area protected from wind erosion (>50%)



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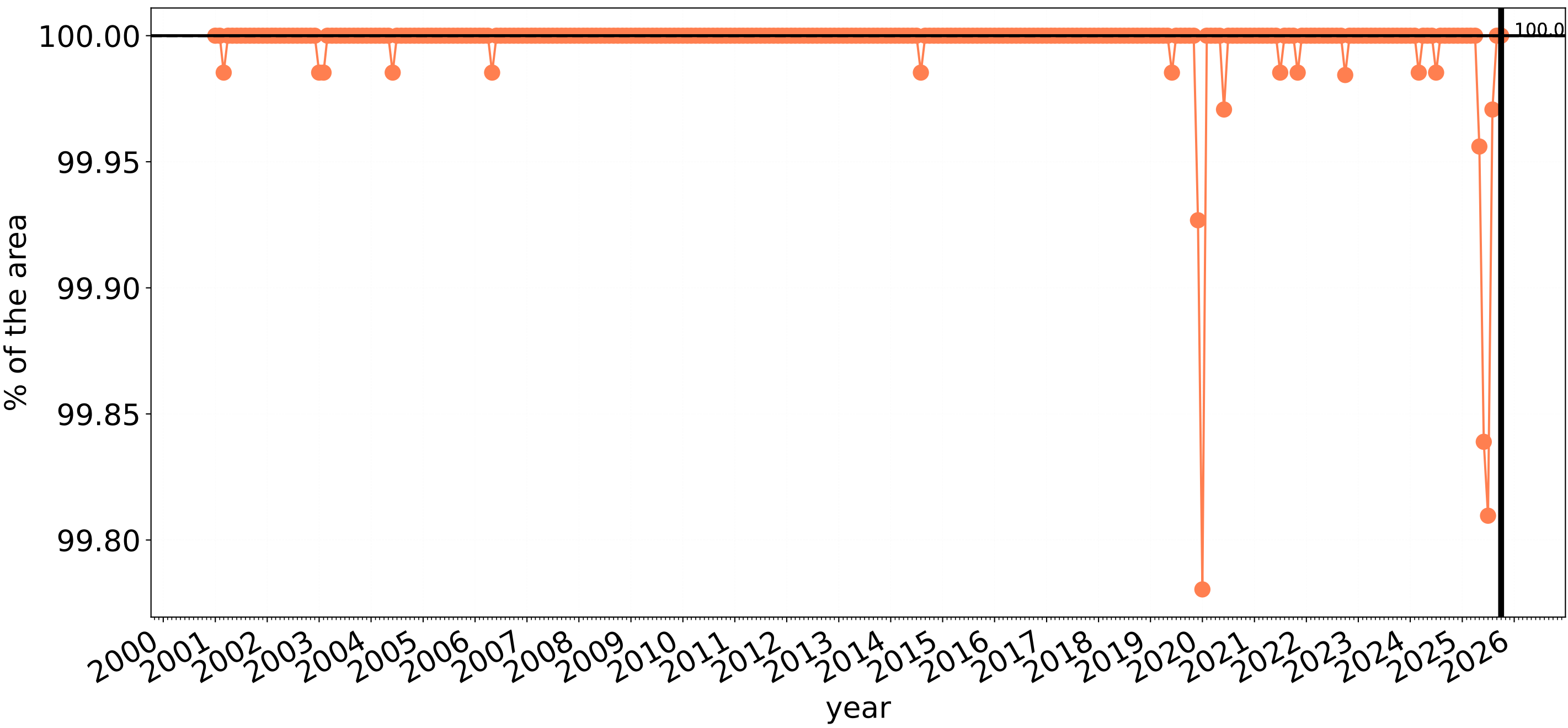
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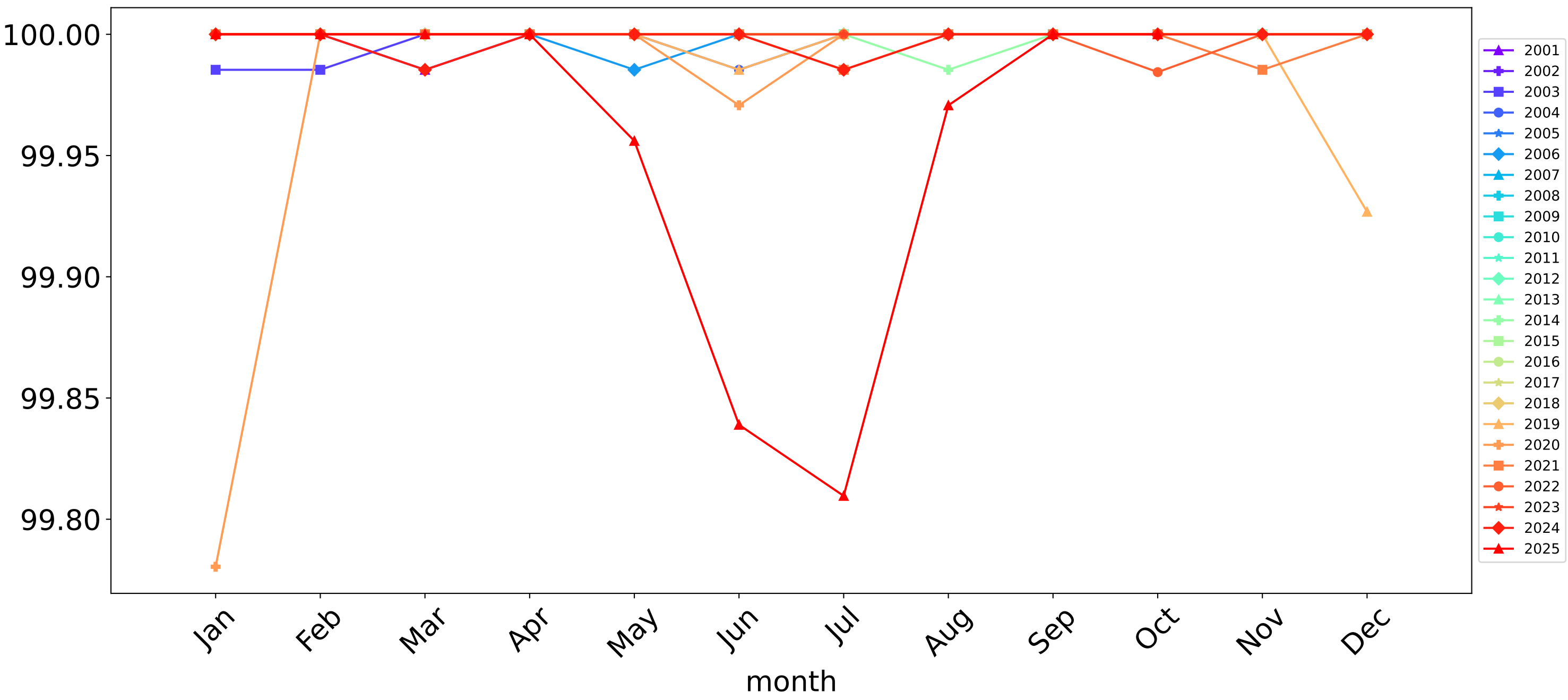


Conservation and natural environments Woodland forest timeseries

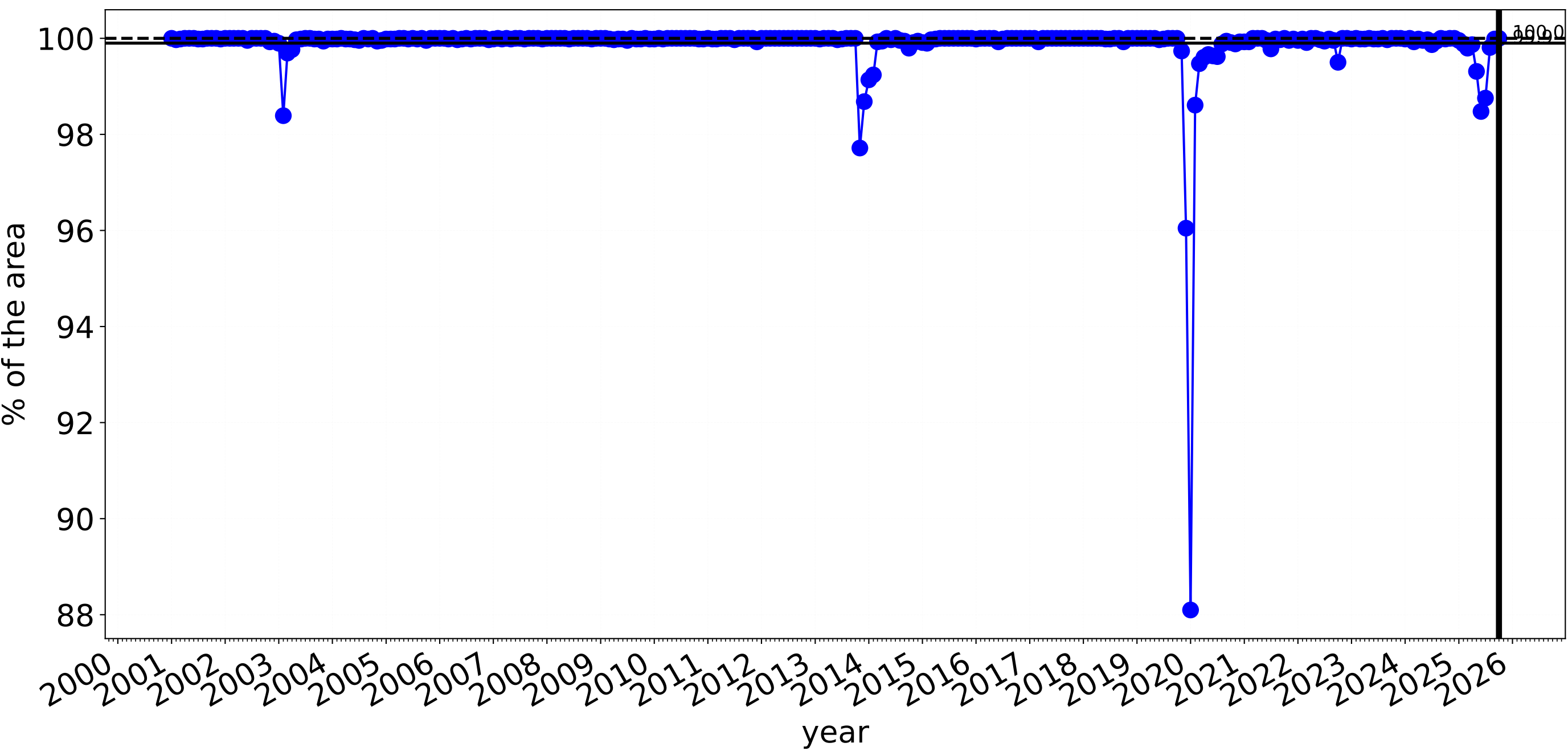
Proportion of the area protected from wind erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 50%)



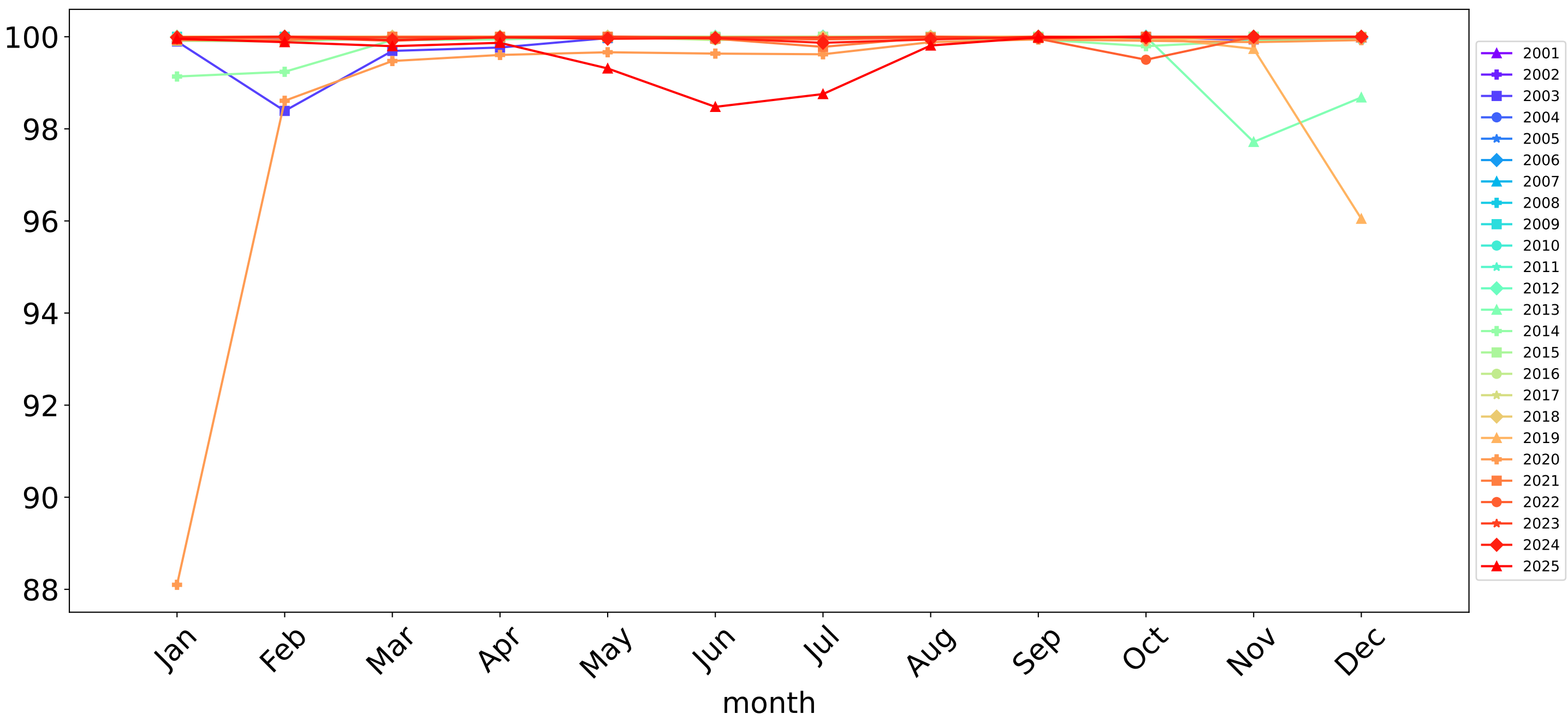
Wind erosion historical monthly area protected (Total Veg Cov > 50%)



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



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

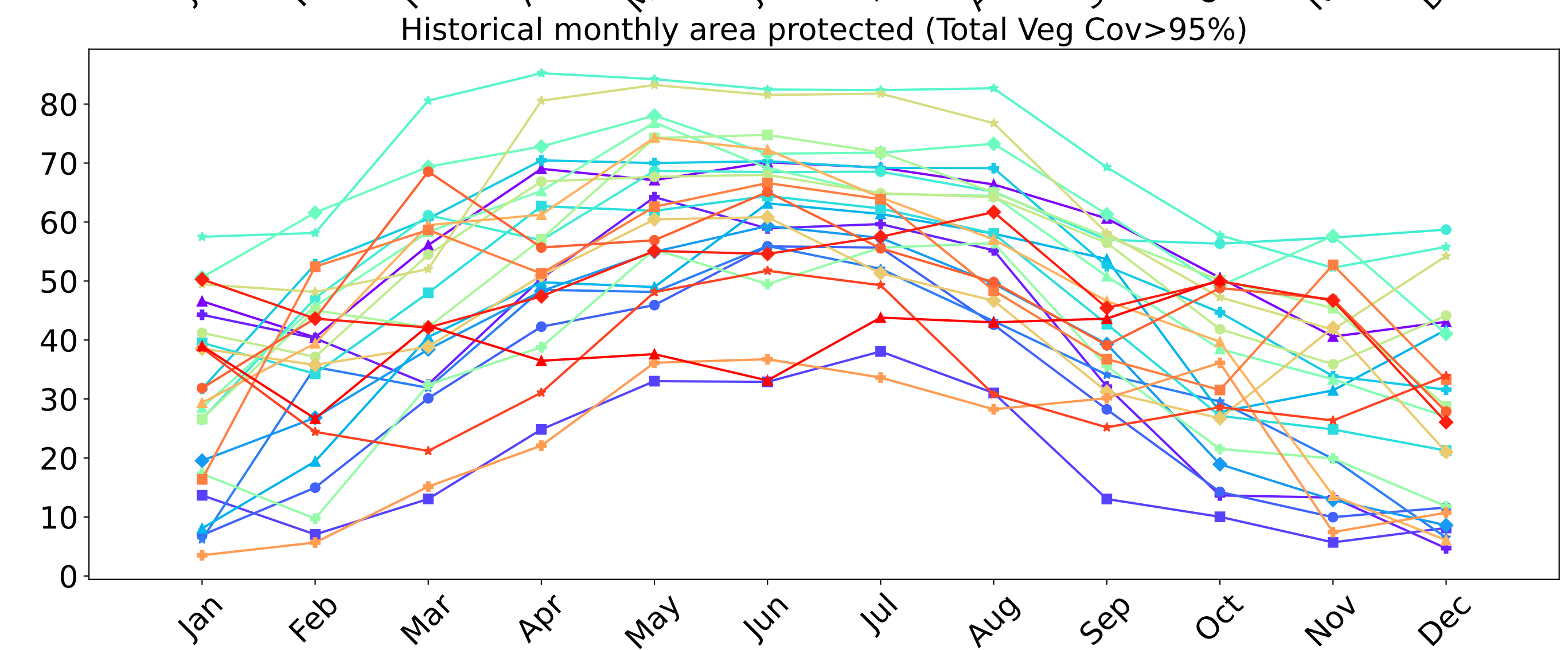
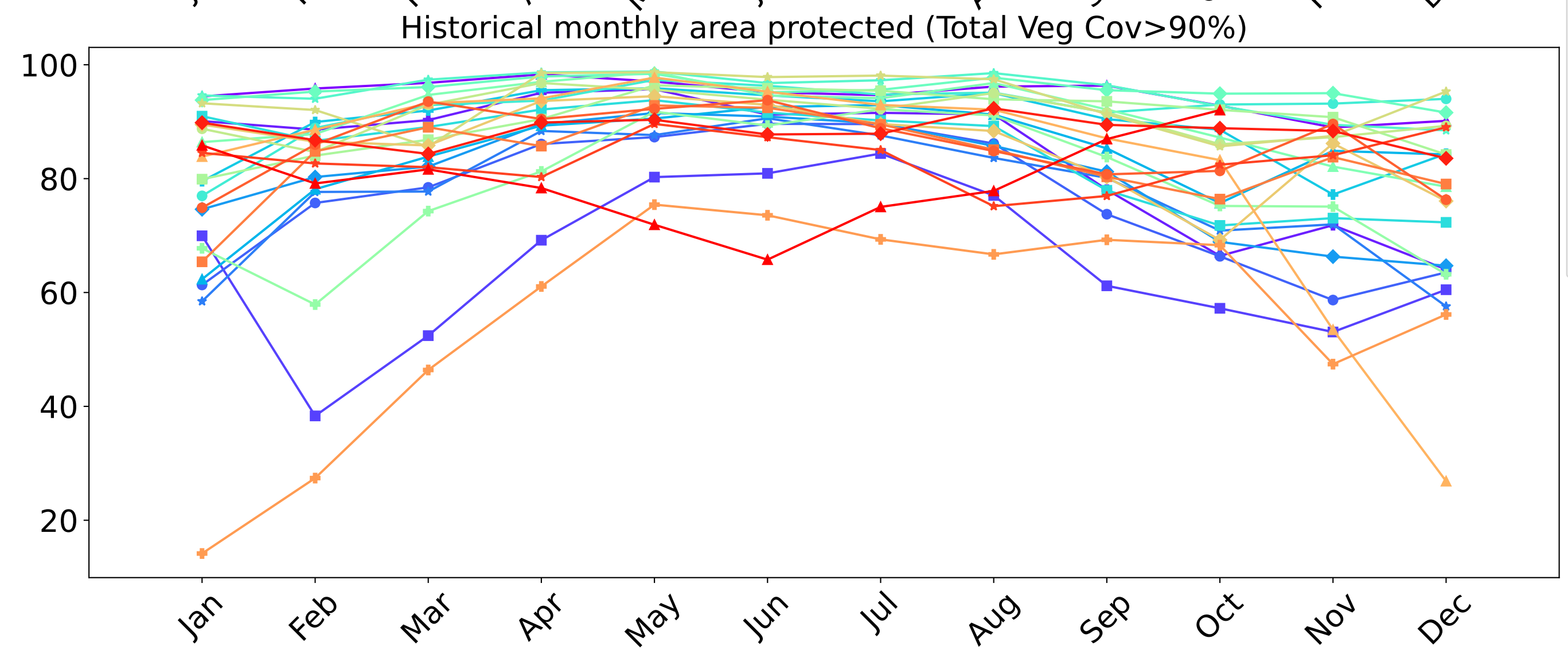
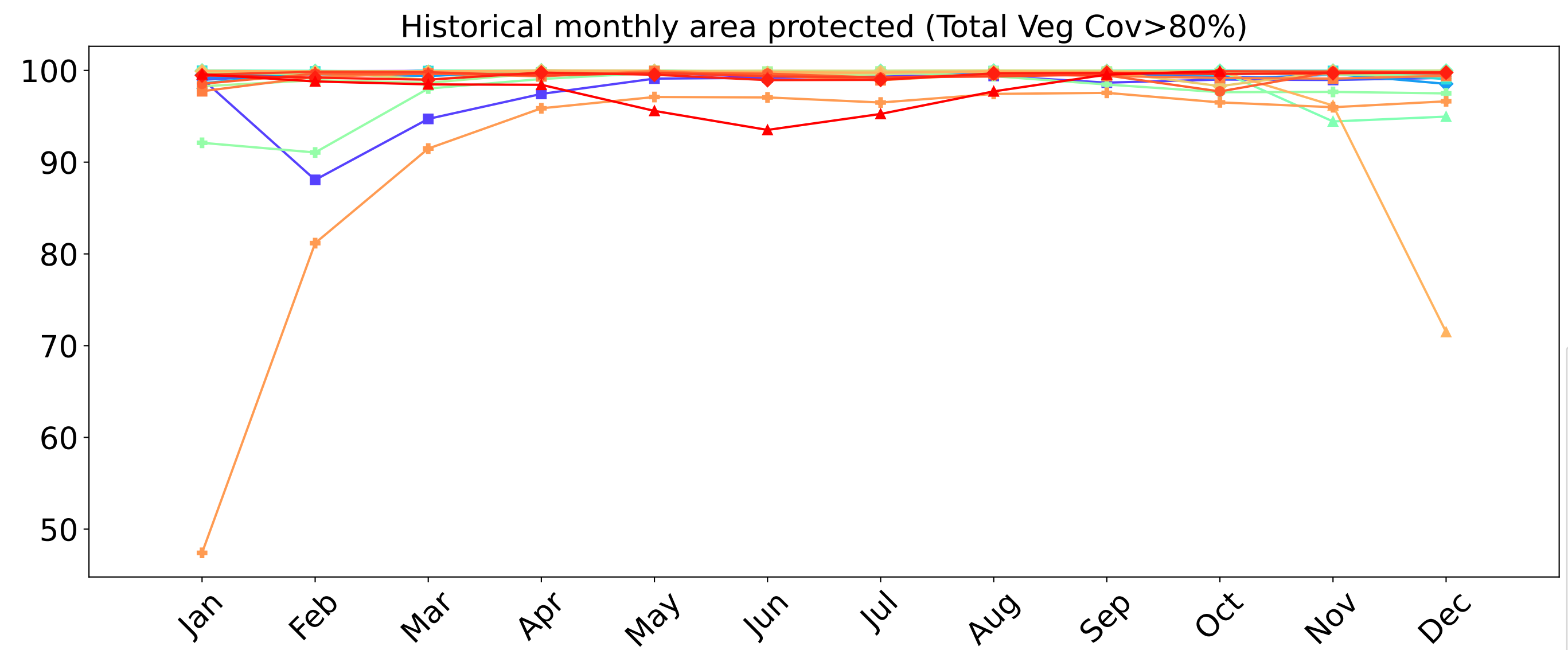
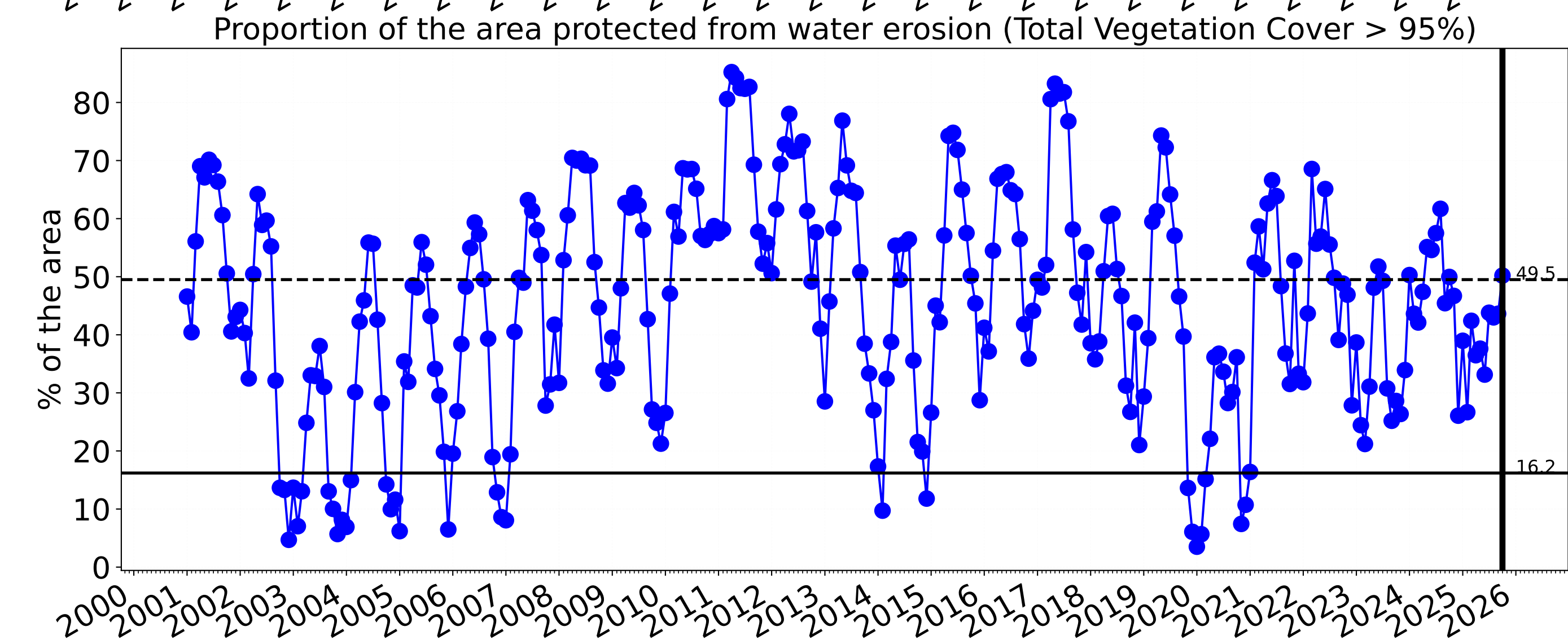
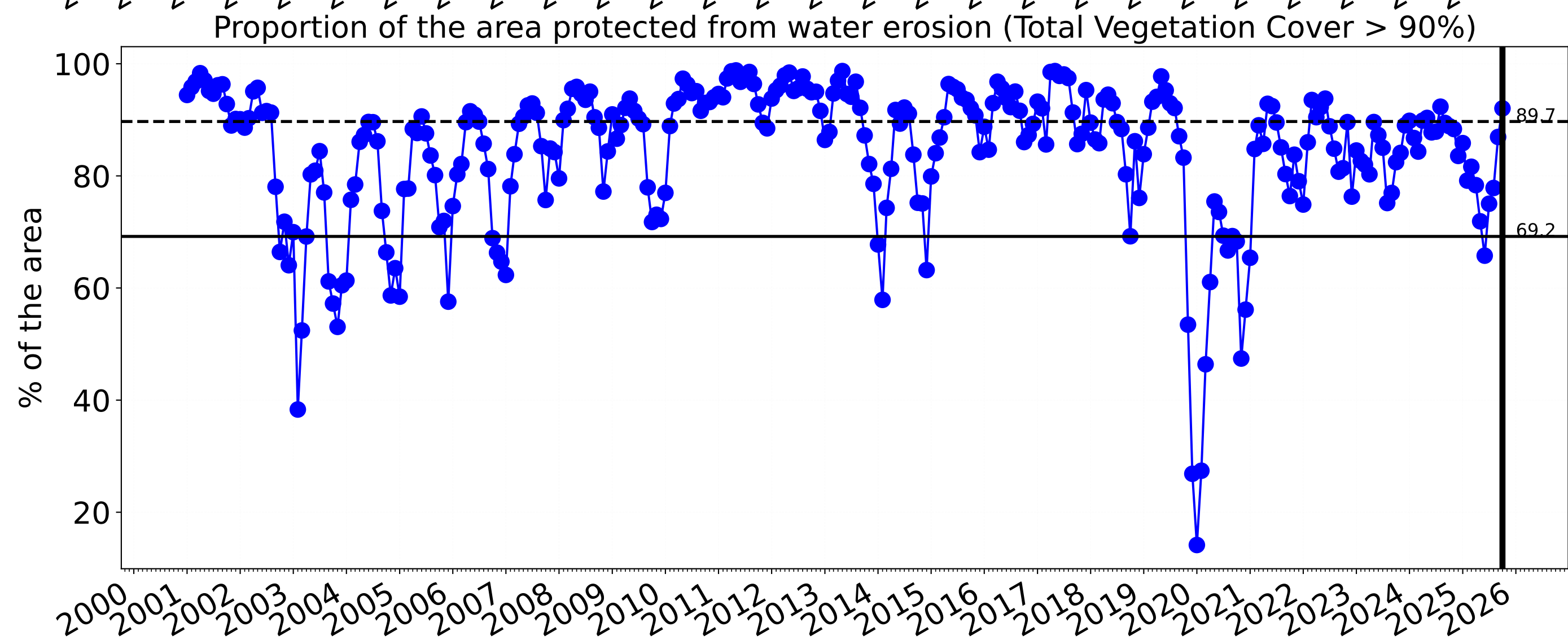
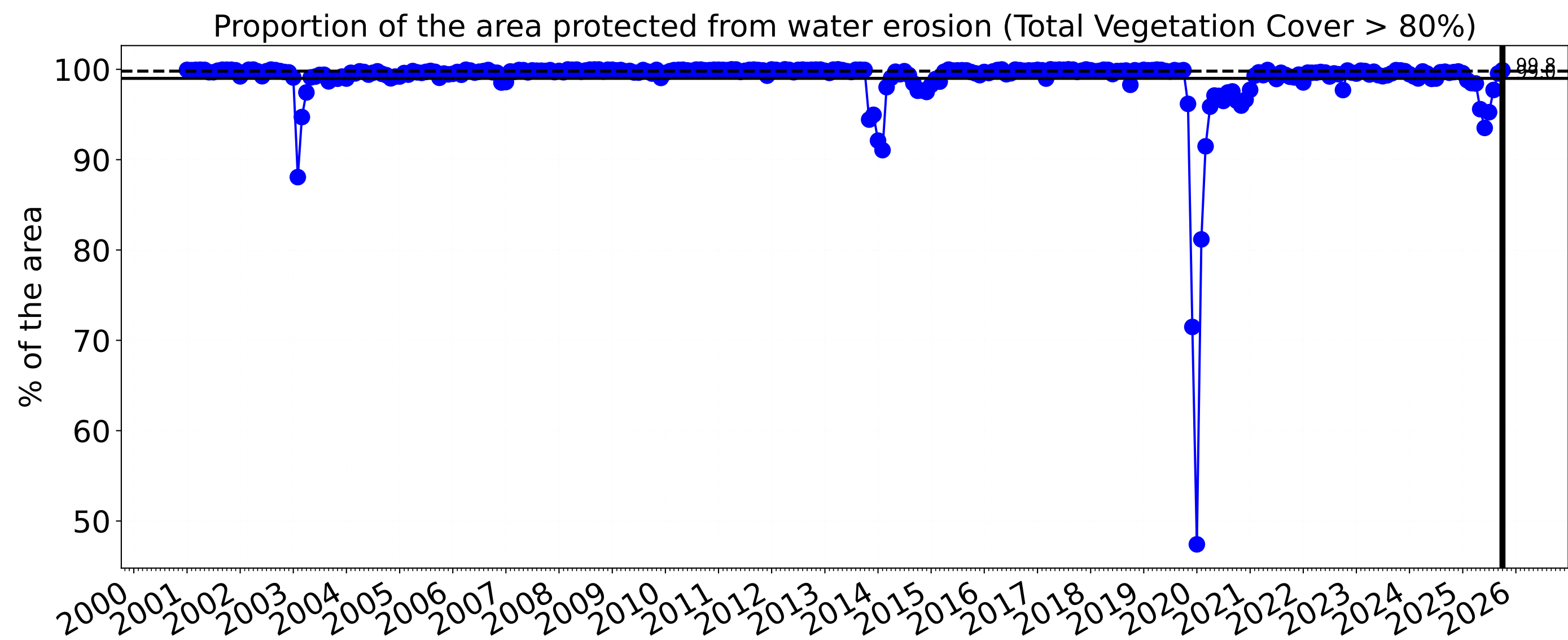


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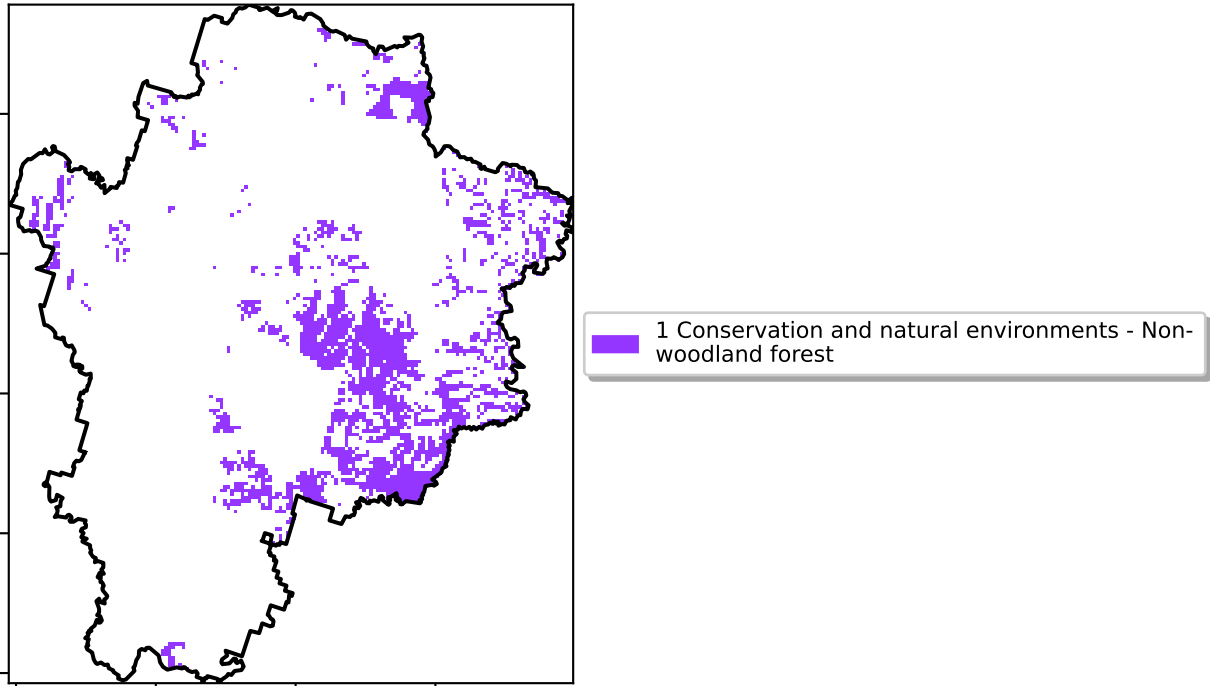




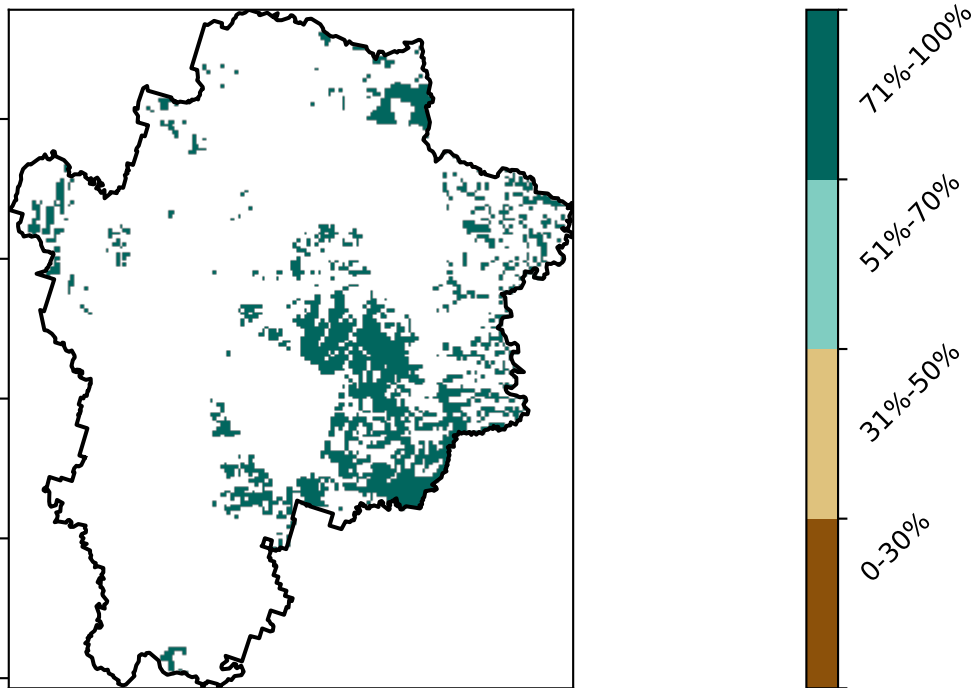
Conservation and natural environments Forest (non woodland)

Land use and forest cover

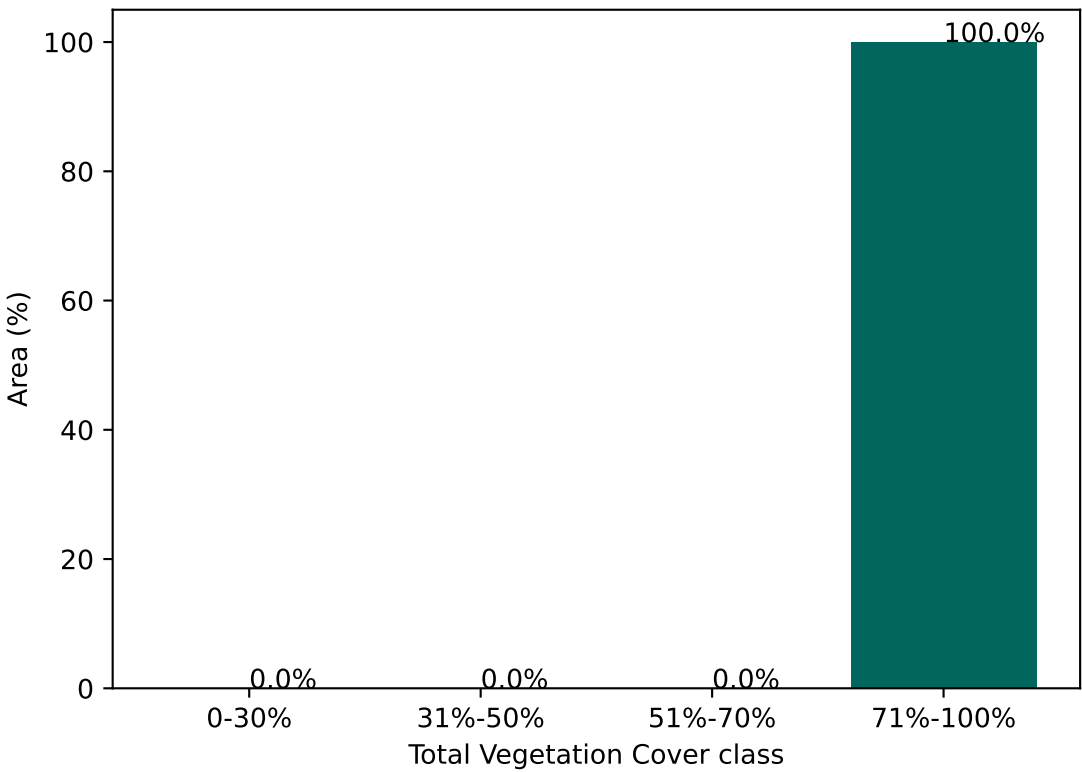
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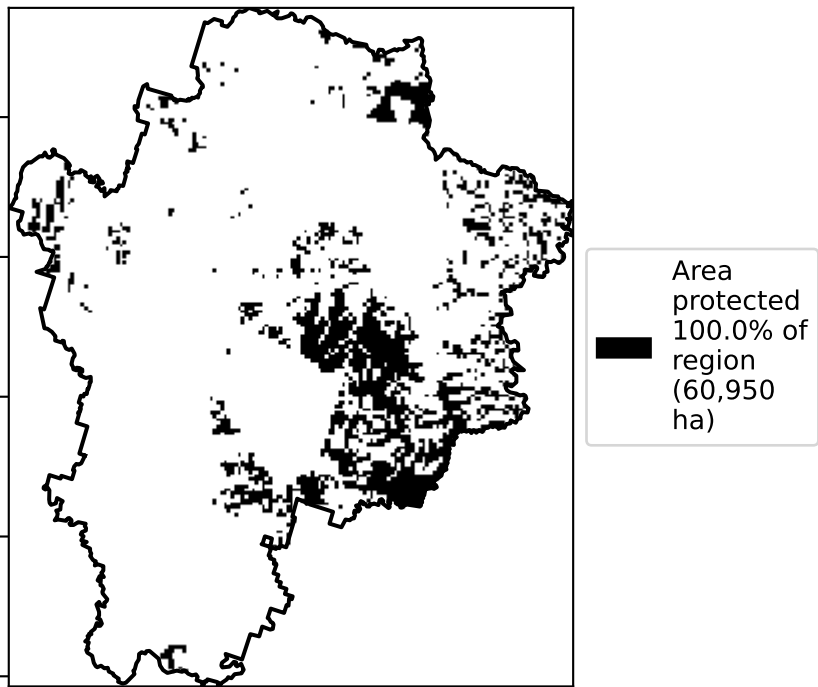
Total Vegetation Cover [%]



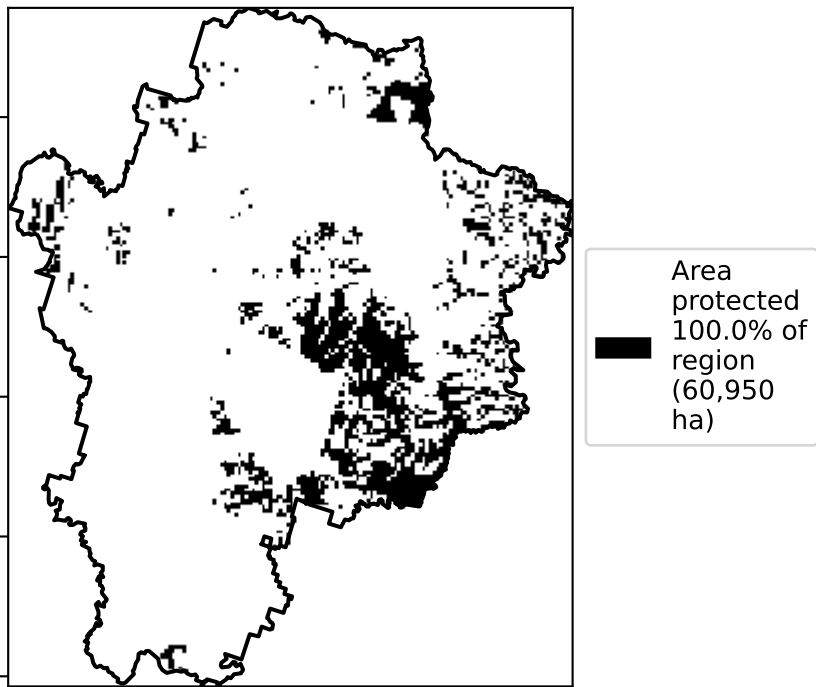
Proportion of vegetation cover class in area



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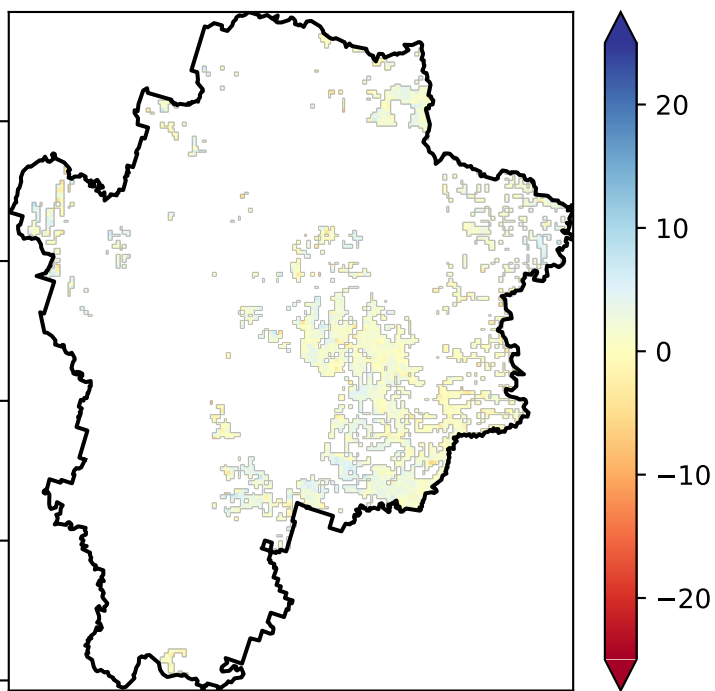


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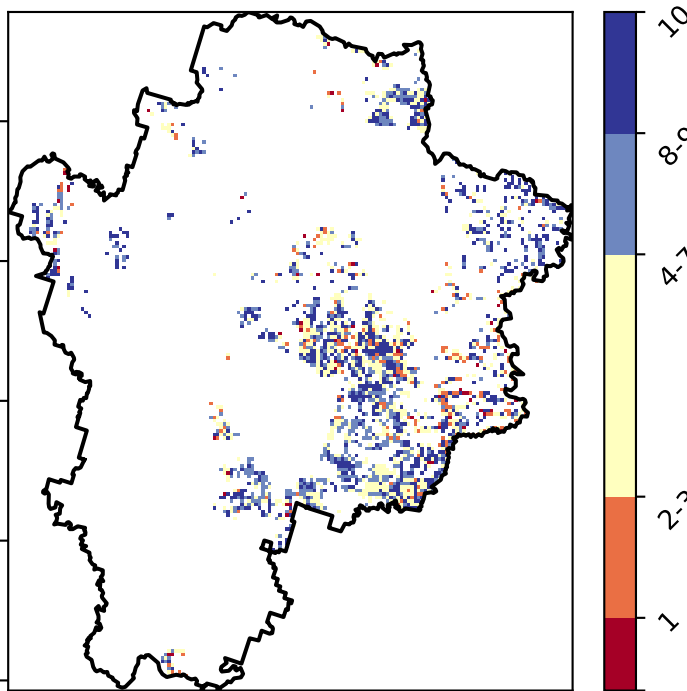
Total Vegetation Cover Anomaly [%]

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Total Vegetation Cover Decile [%]



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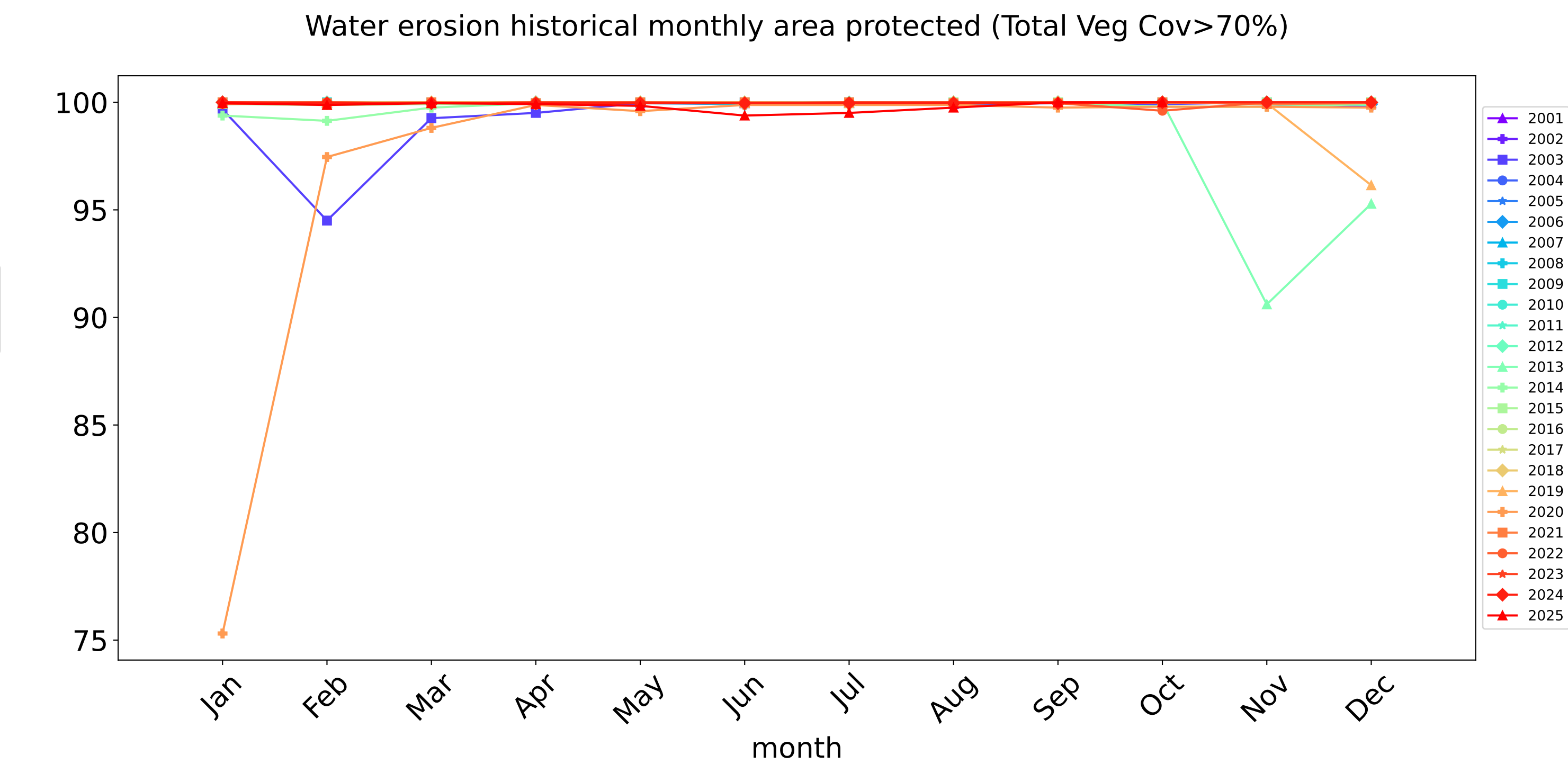
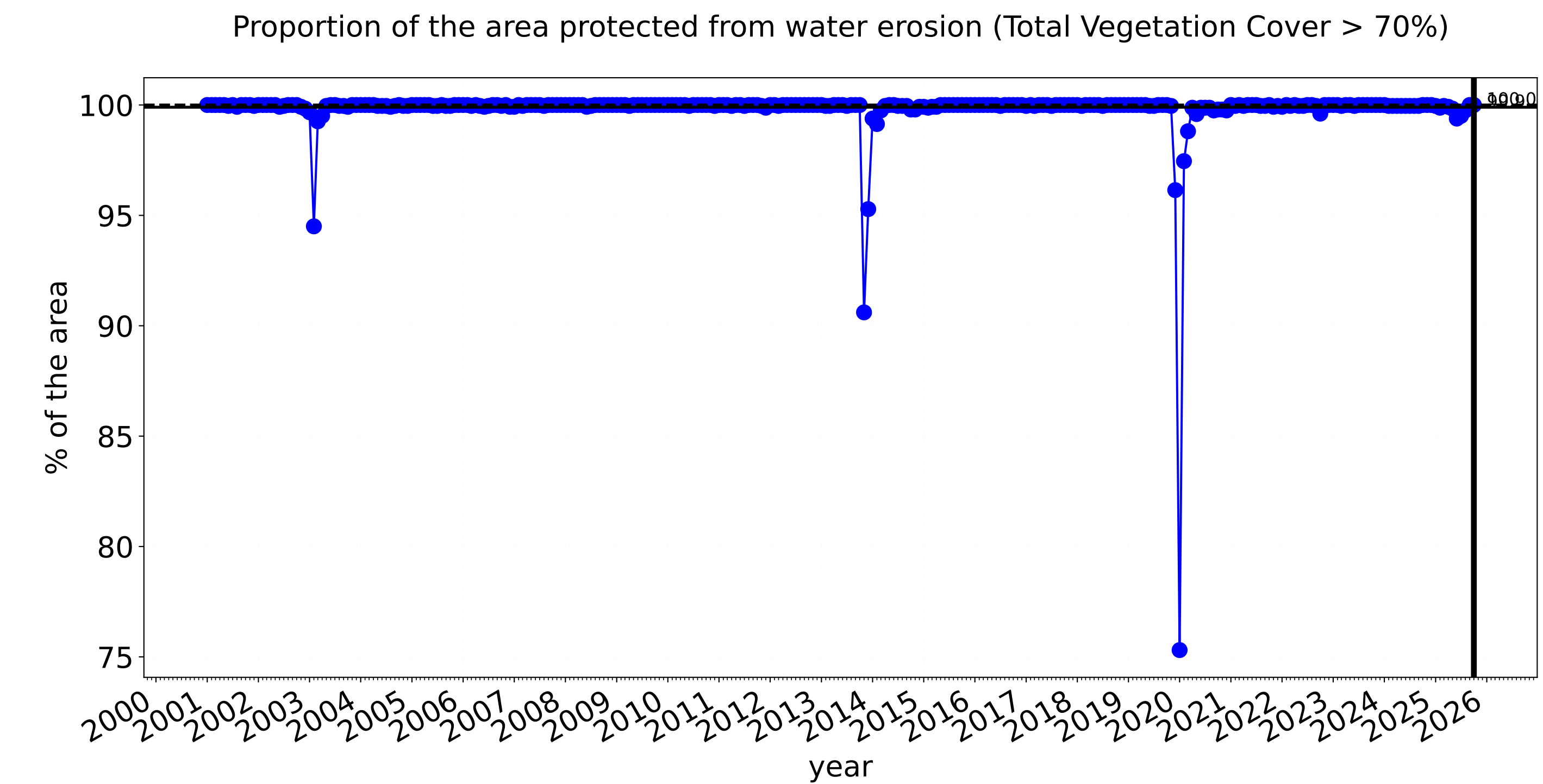
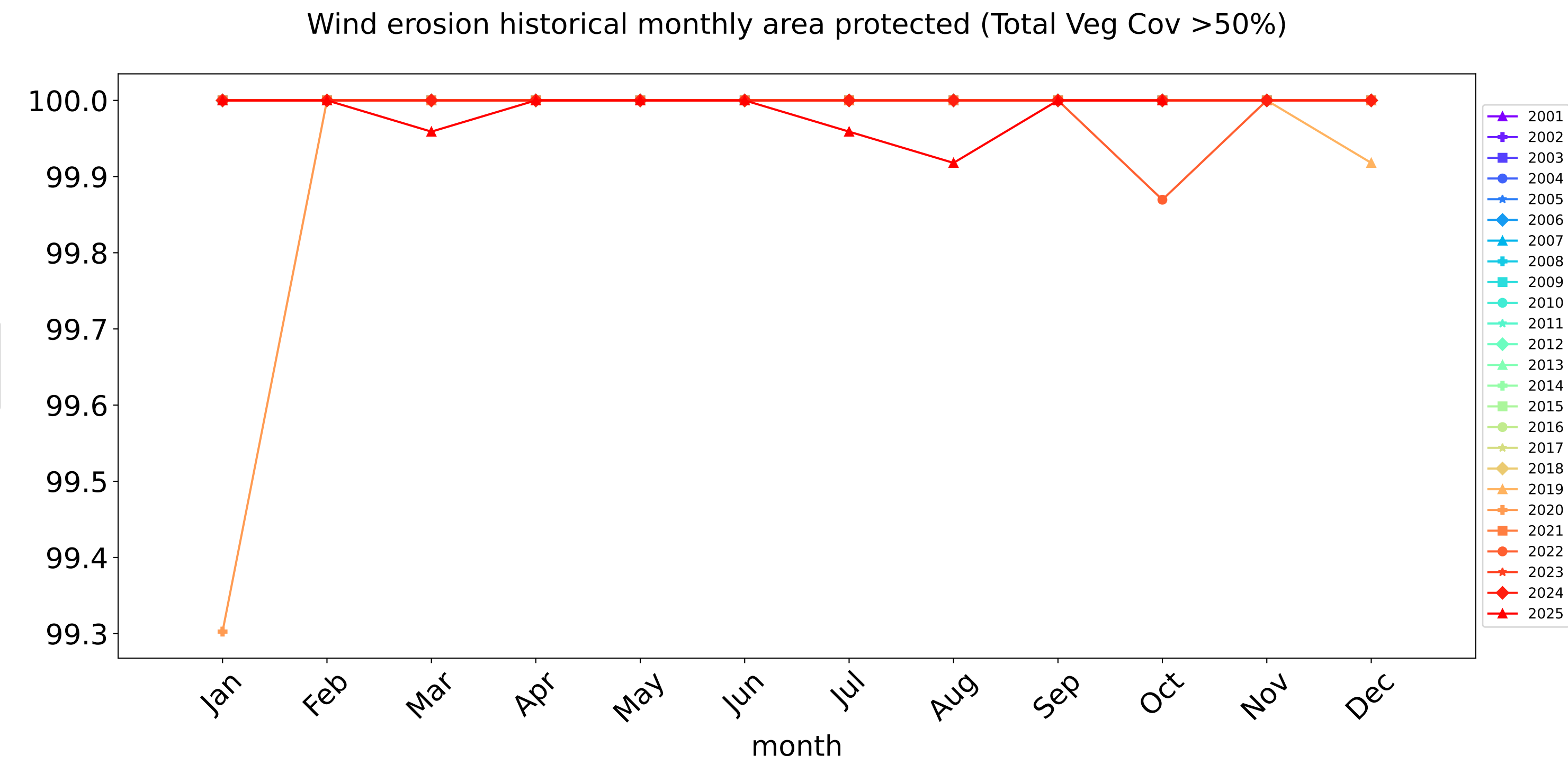
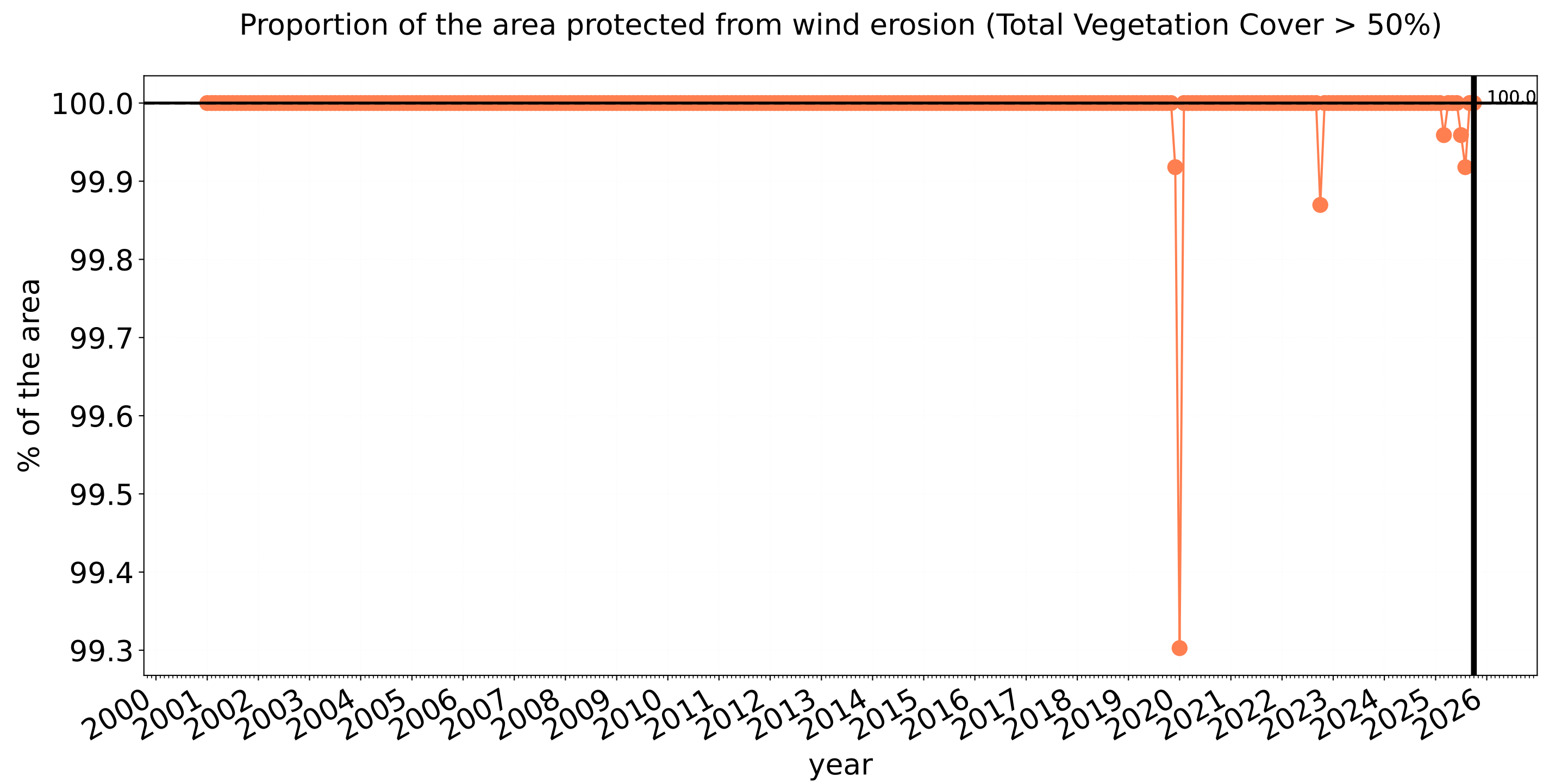


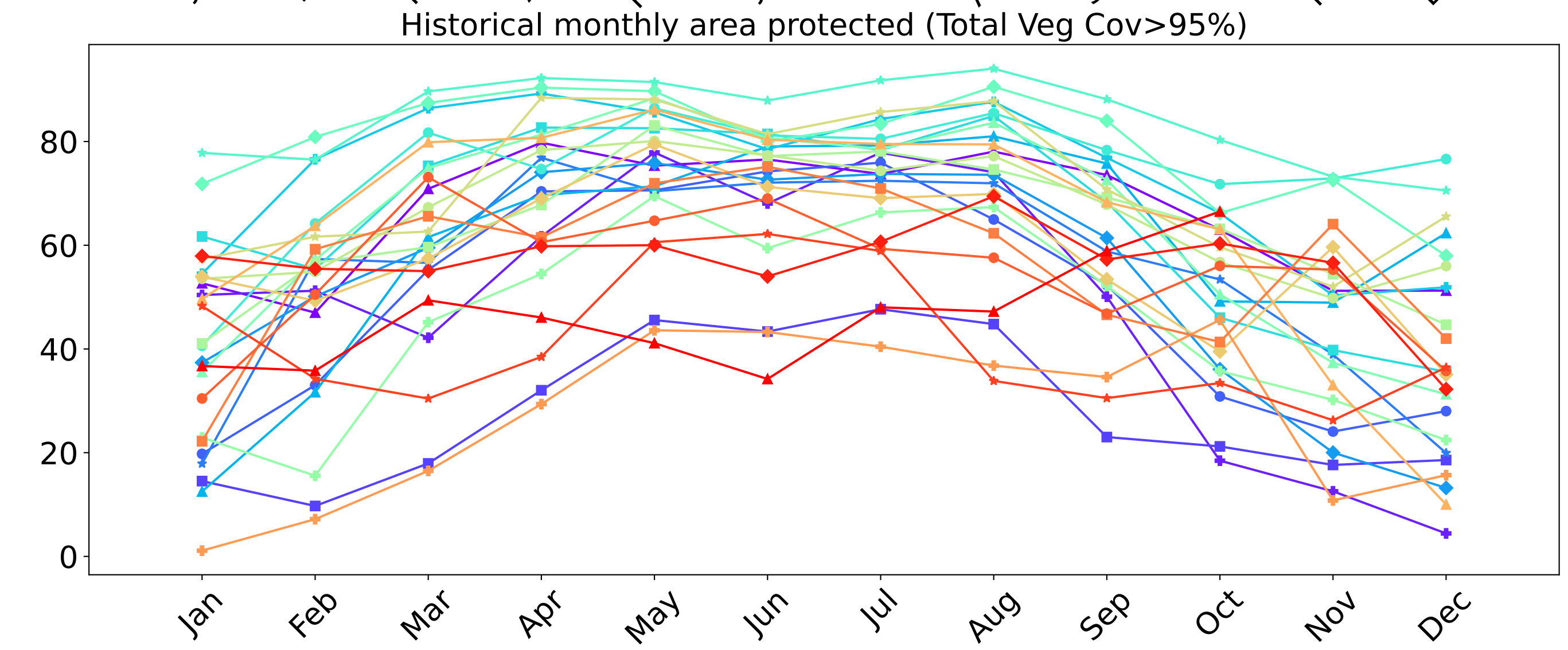
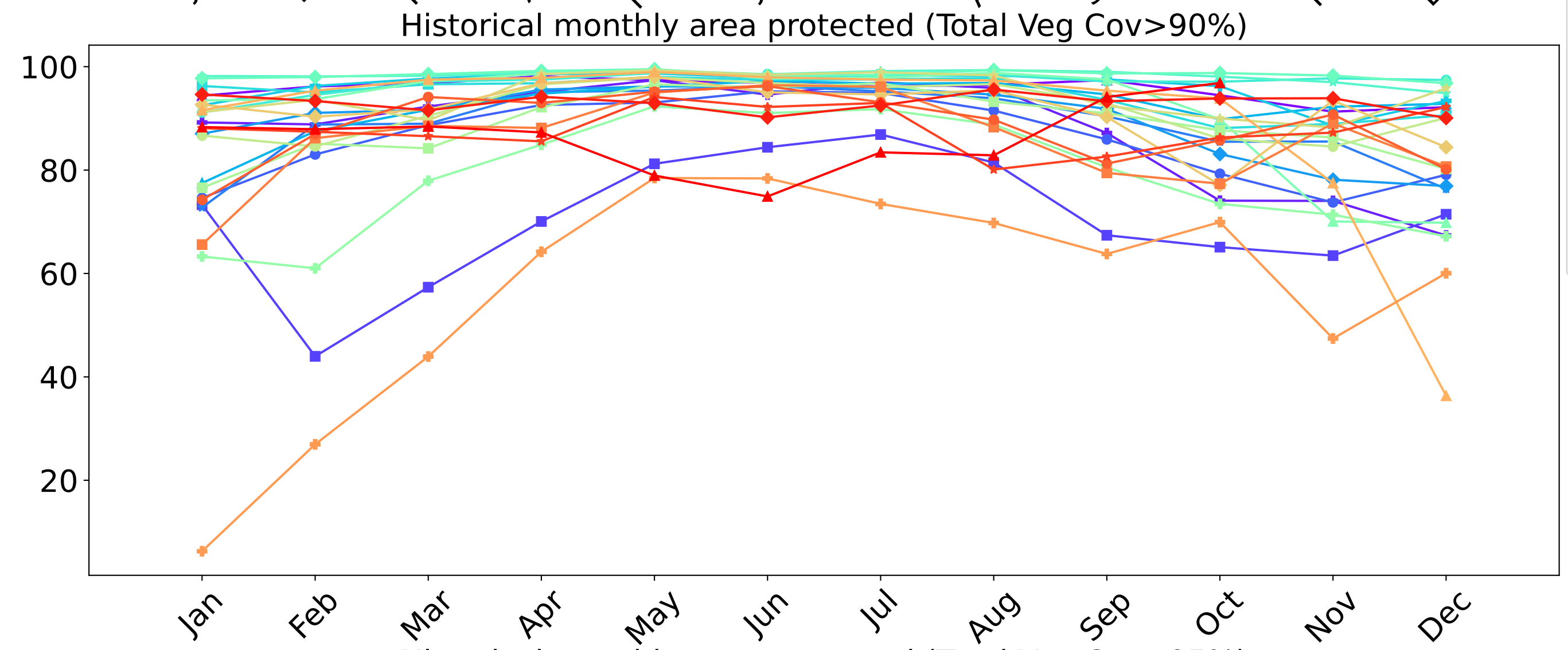
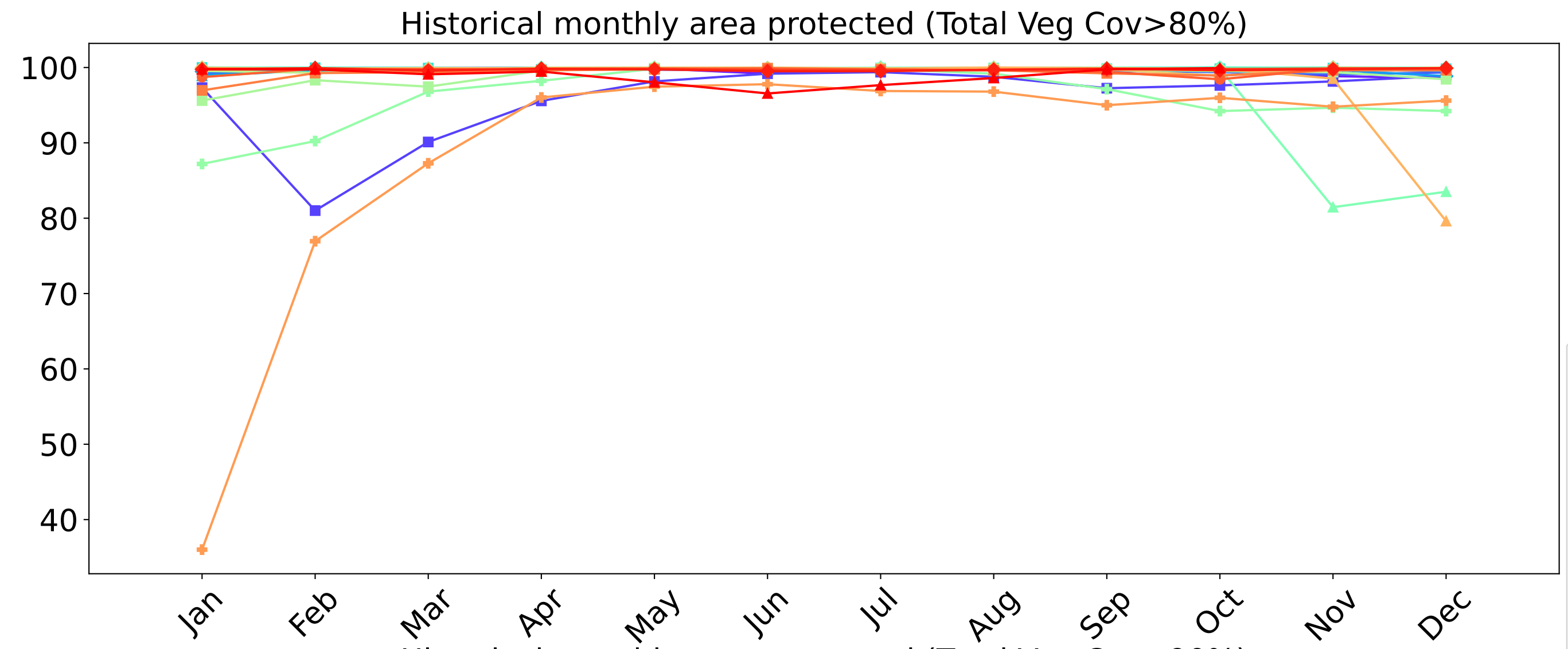
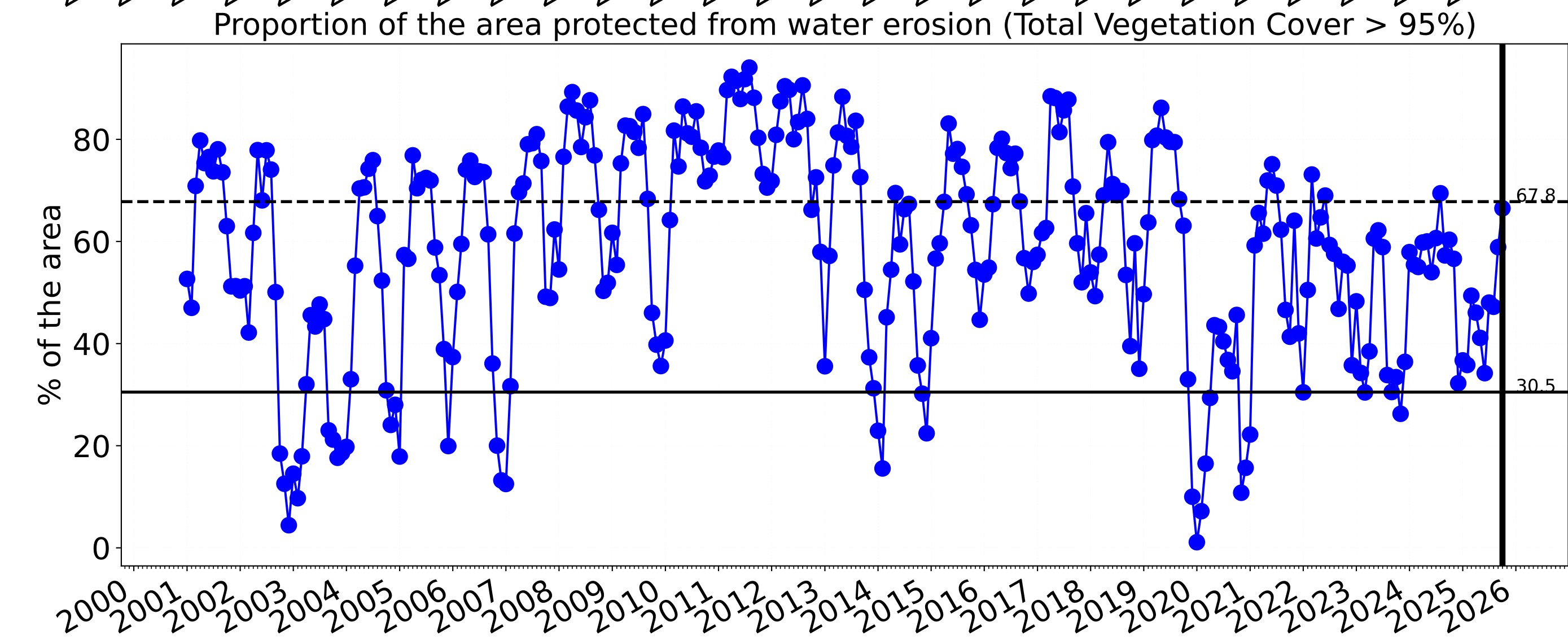
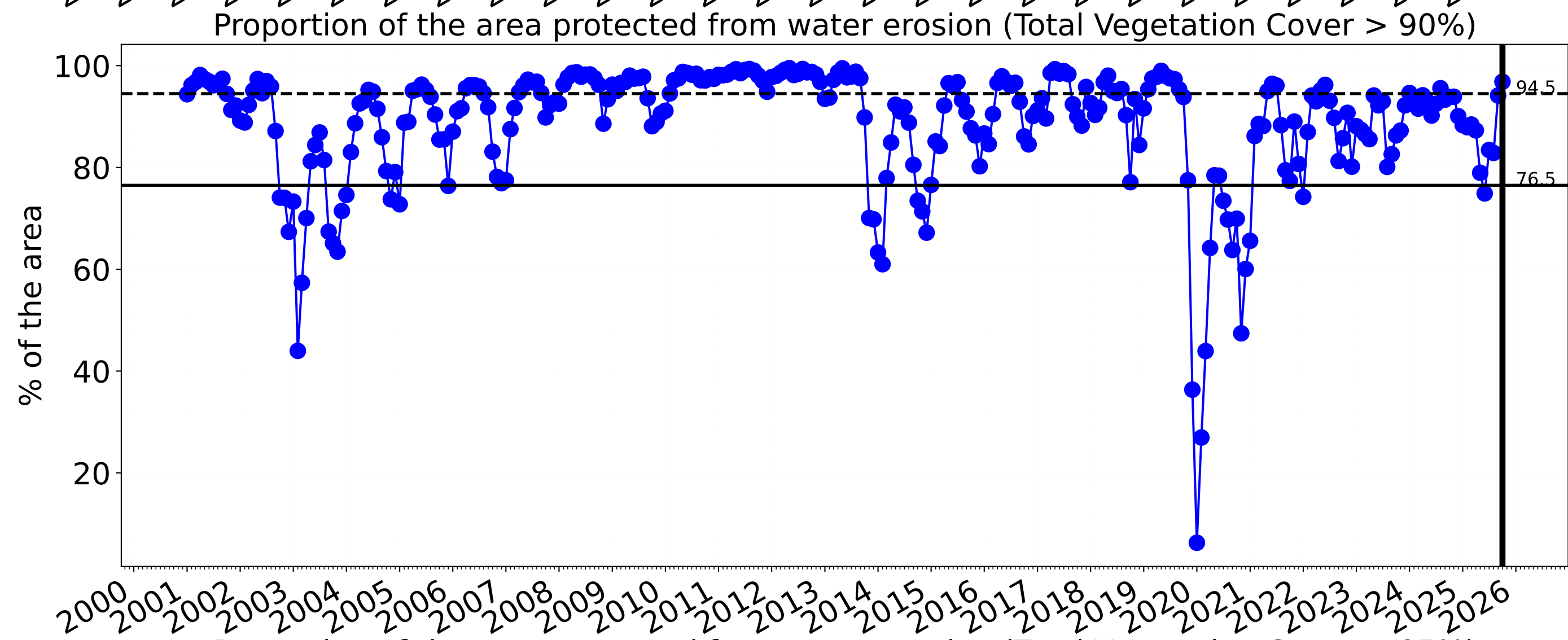
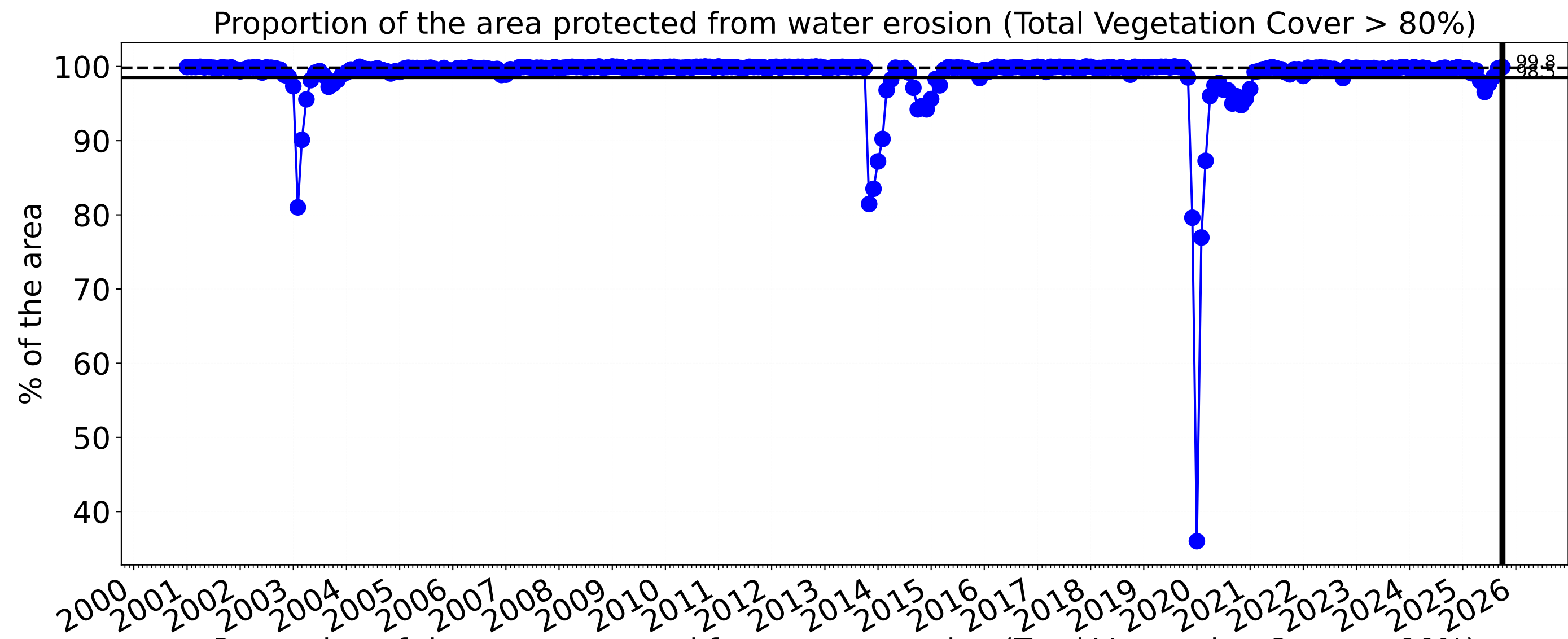
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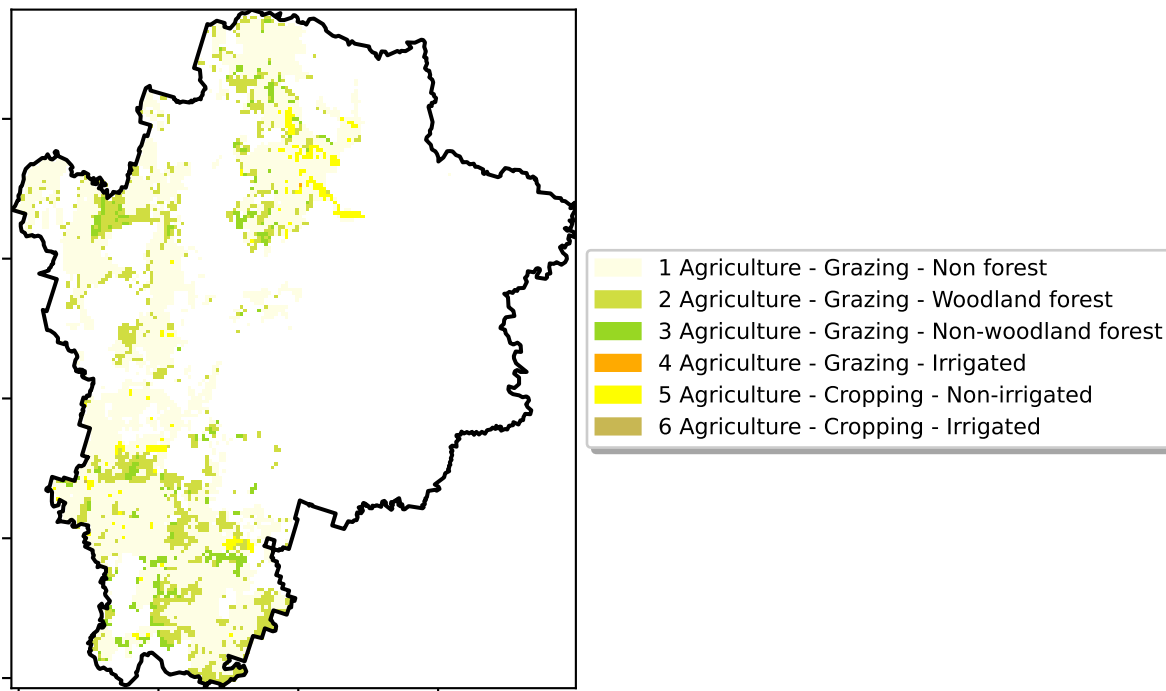
Conservation and natural environments Forest (non woodland) timeseries



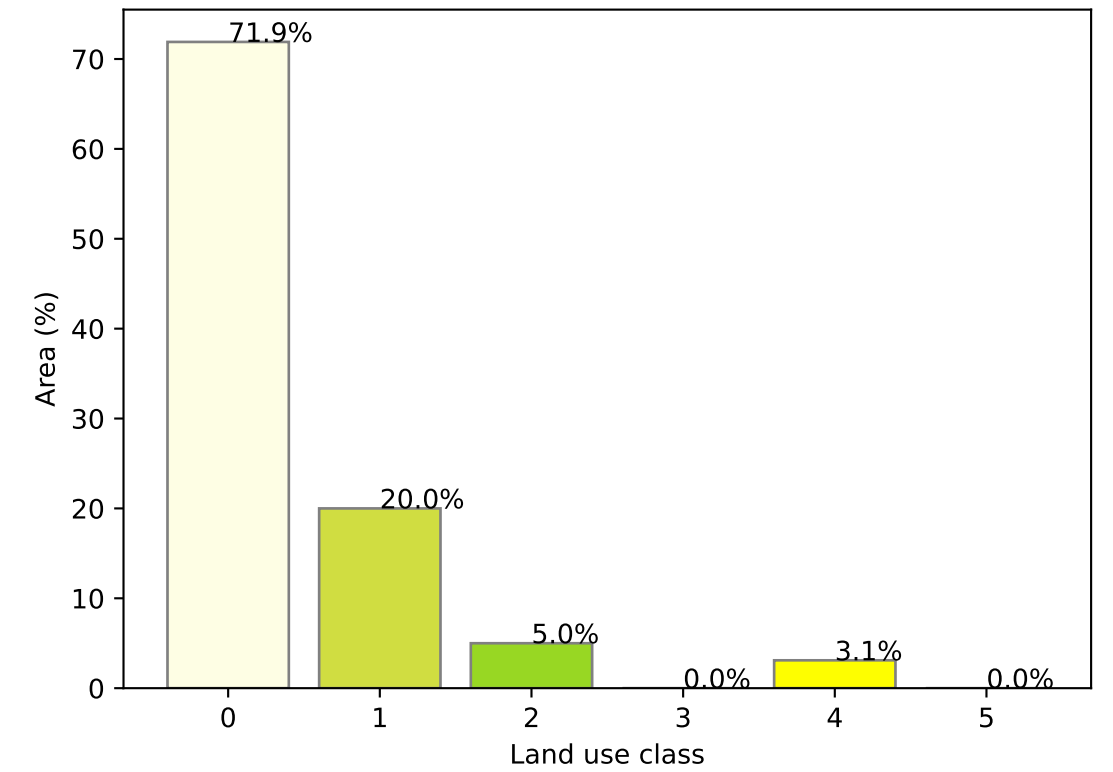


Agriculture

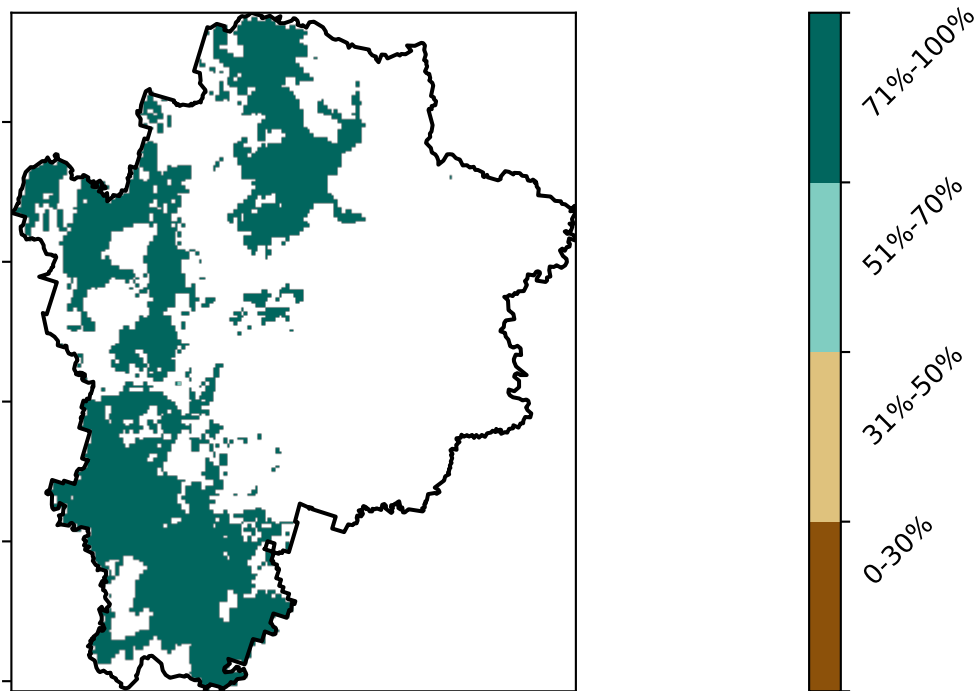
Land use and forest cover



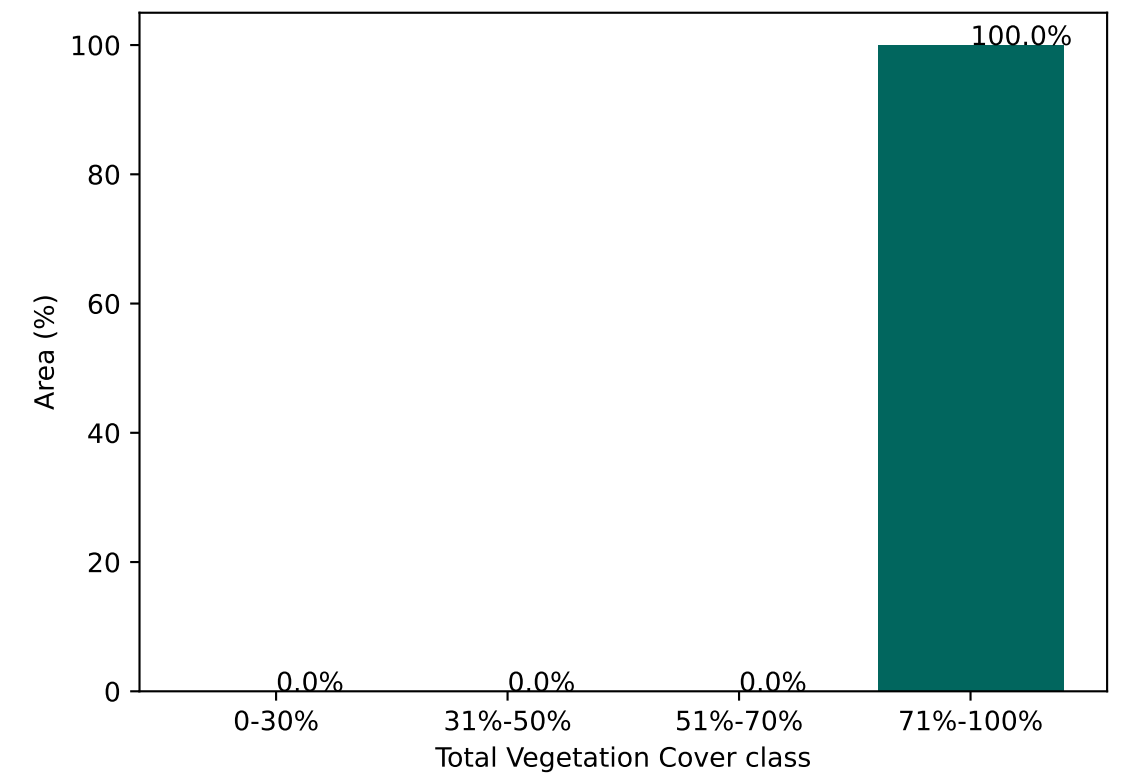
Proportion of each land class in area



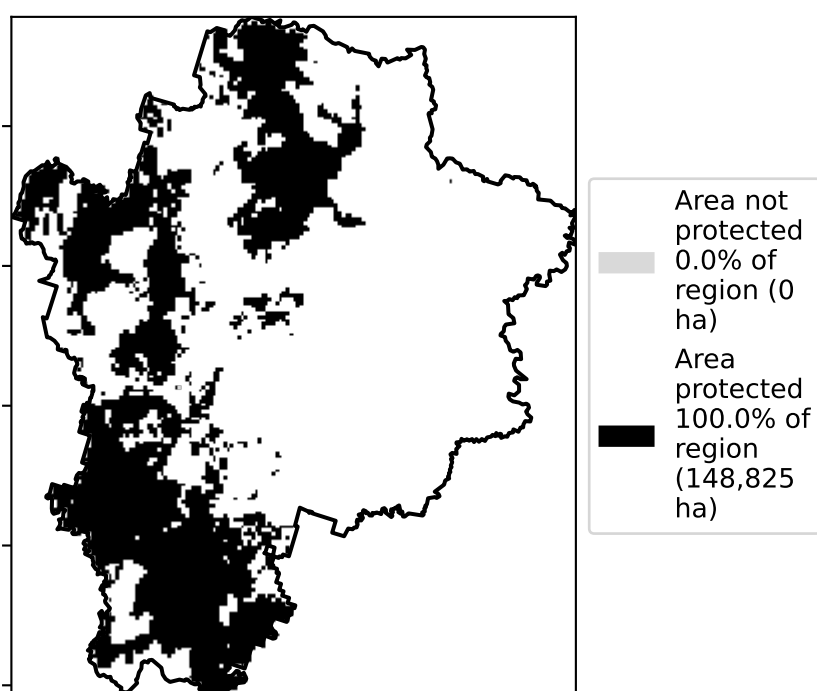
Total Vegetation Cover [%]



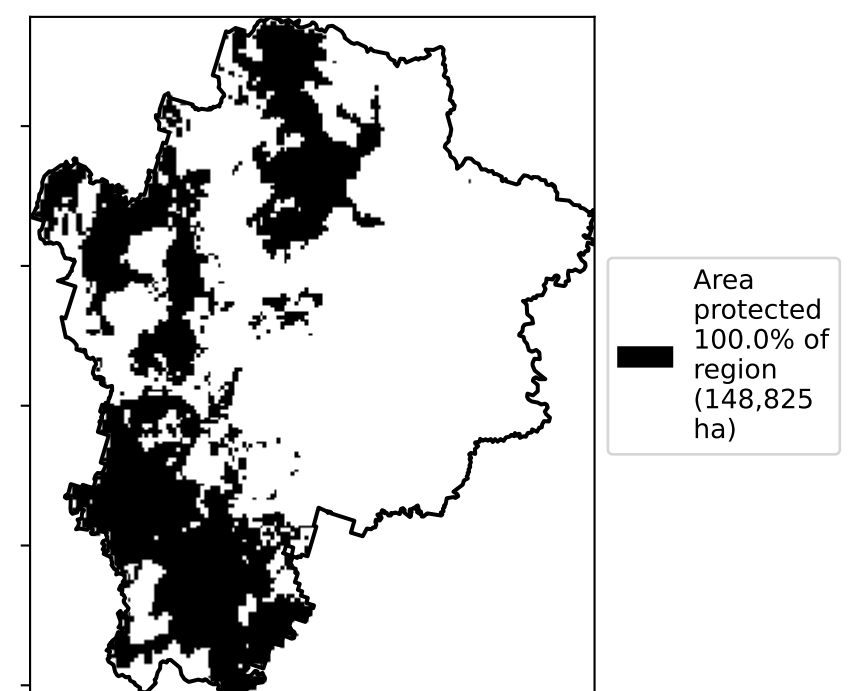
Proportion of vegetation cover class in area



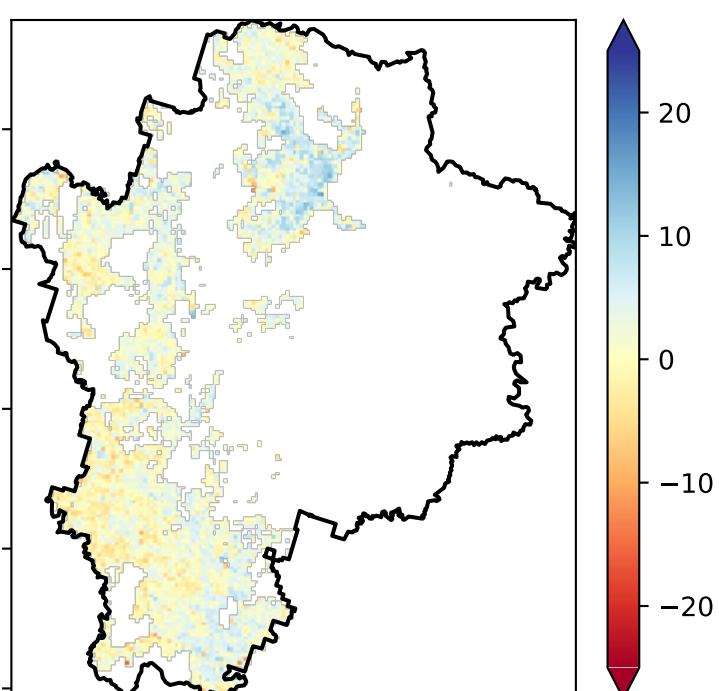
% Area protected from water erosion (>70%)



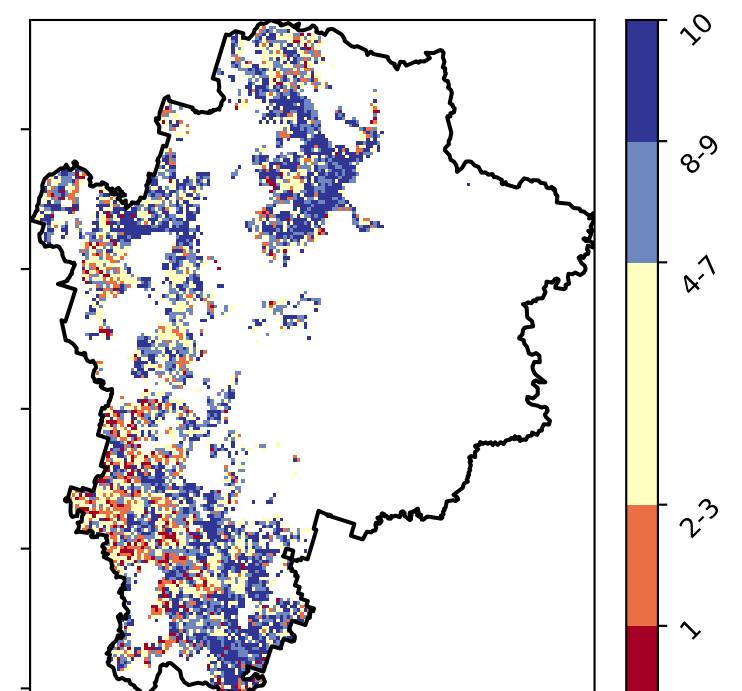
% Area protected from wind erosion (>50%)



Total Vegetation Cover Anomaly [%]



Total Vegetation Cover Decile [%]



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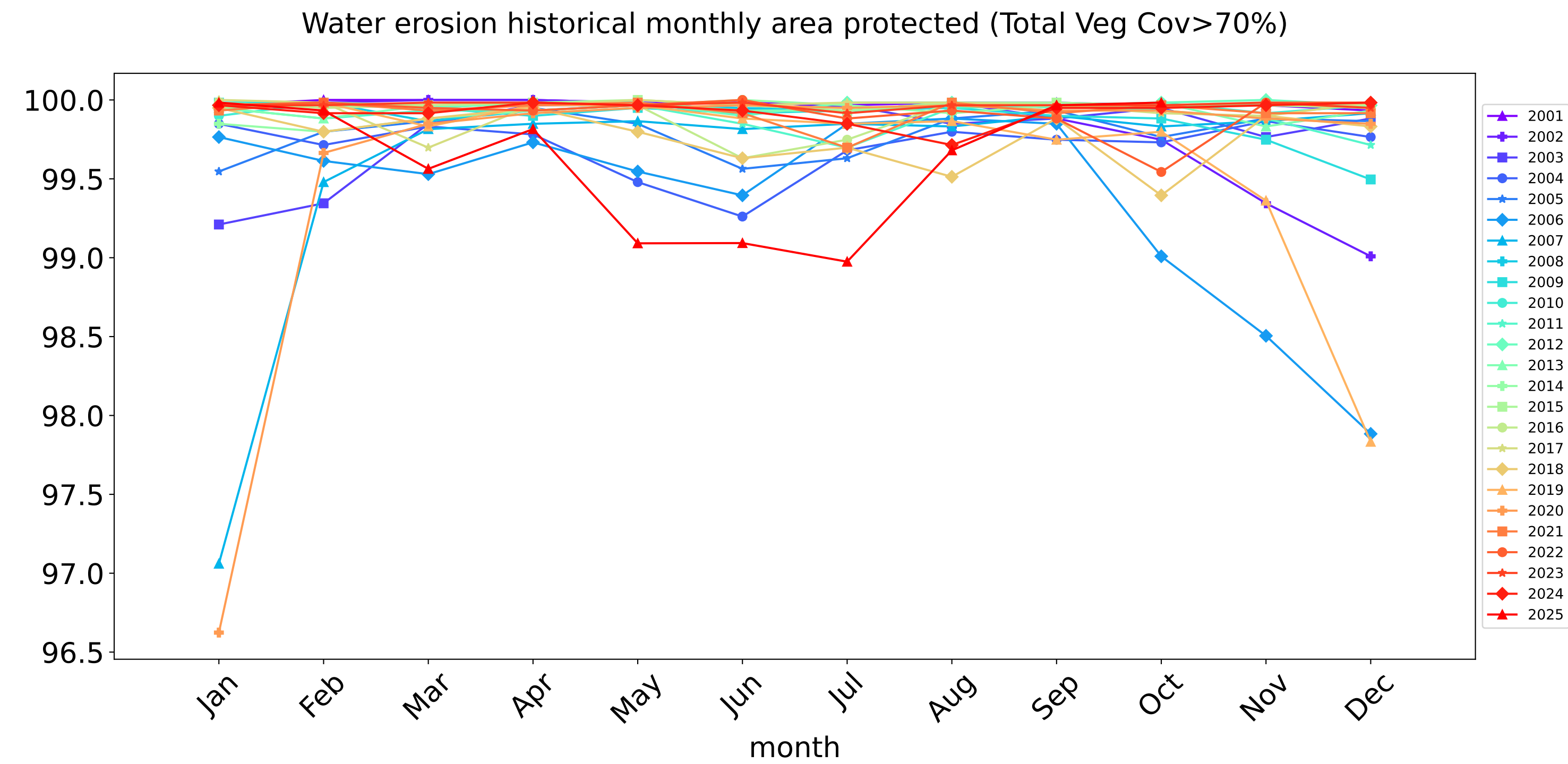
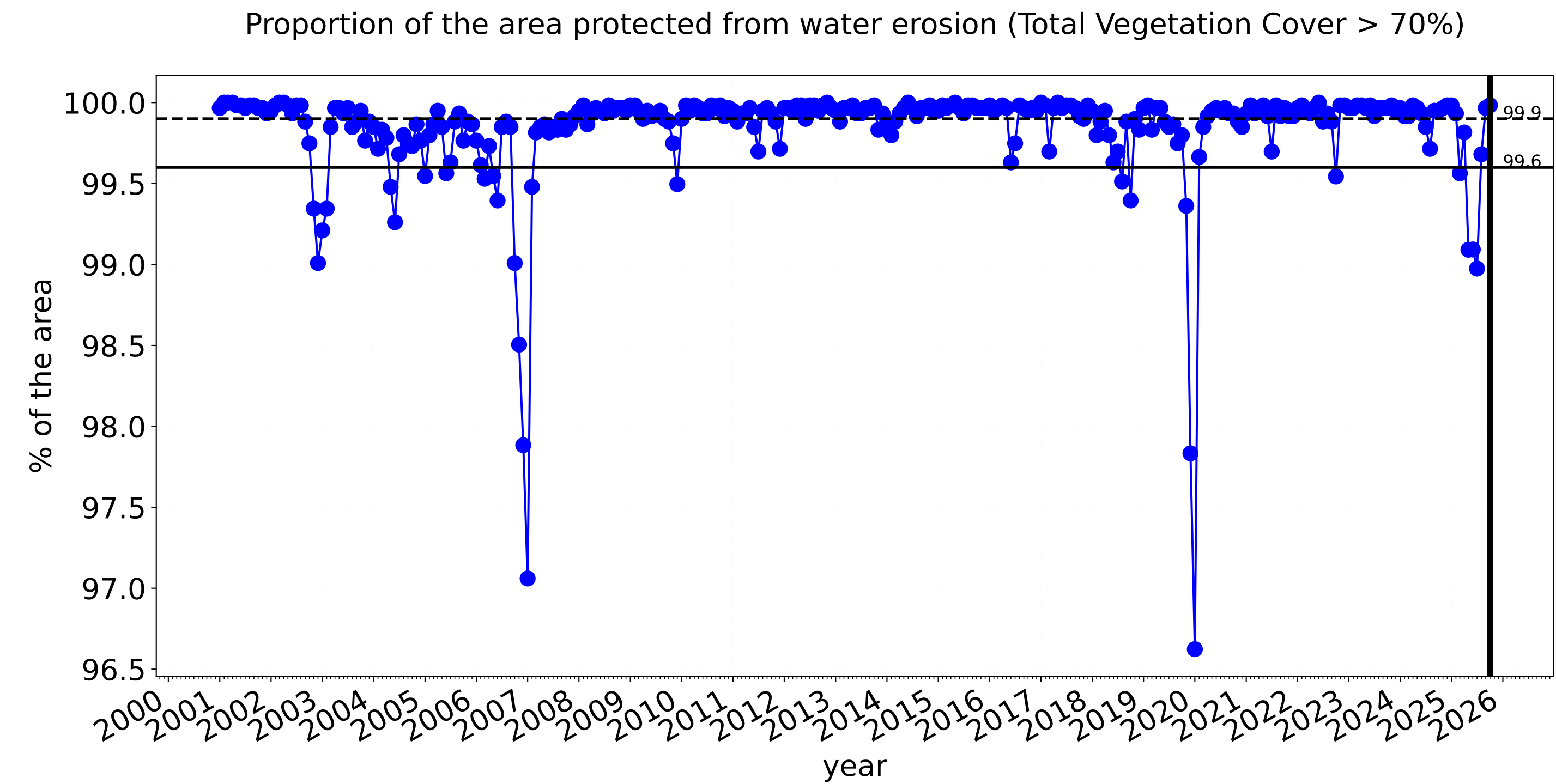
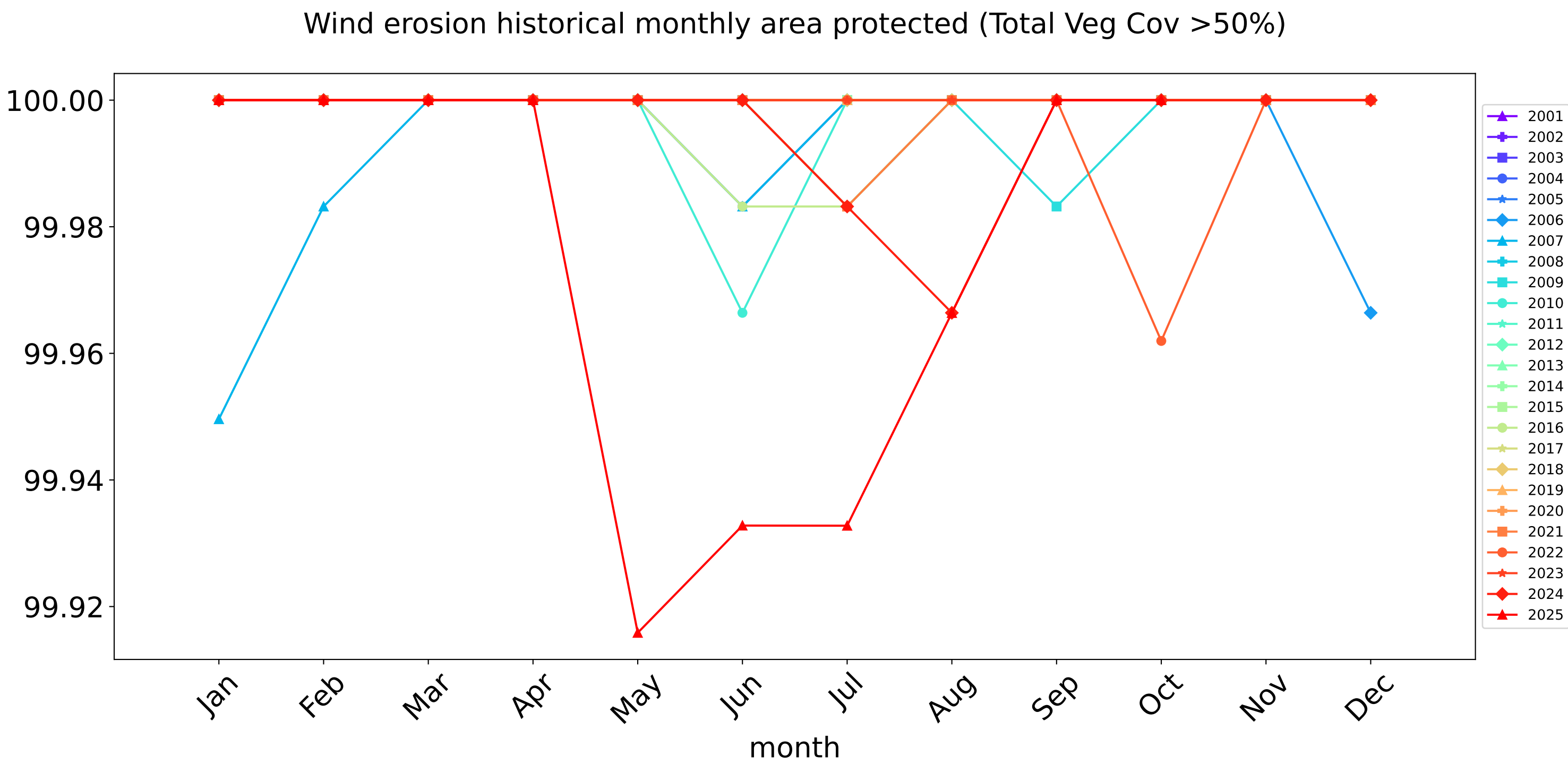
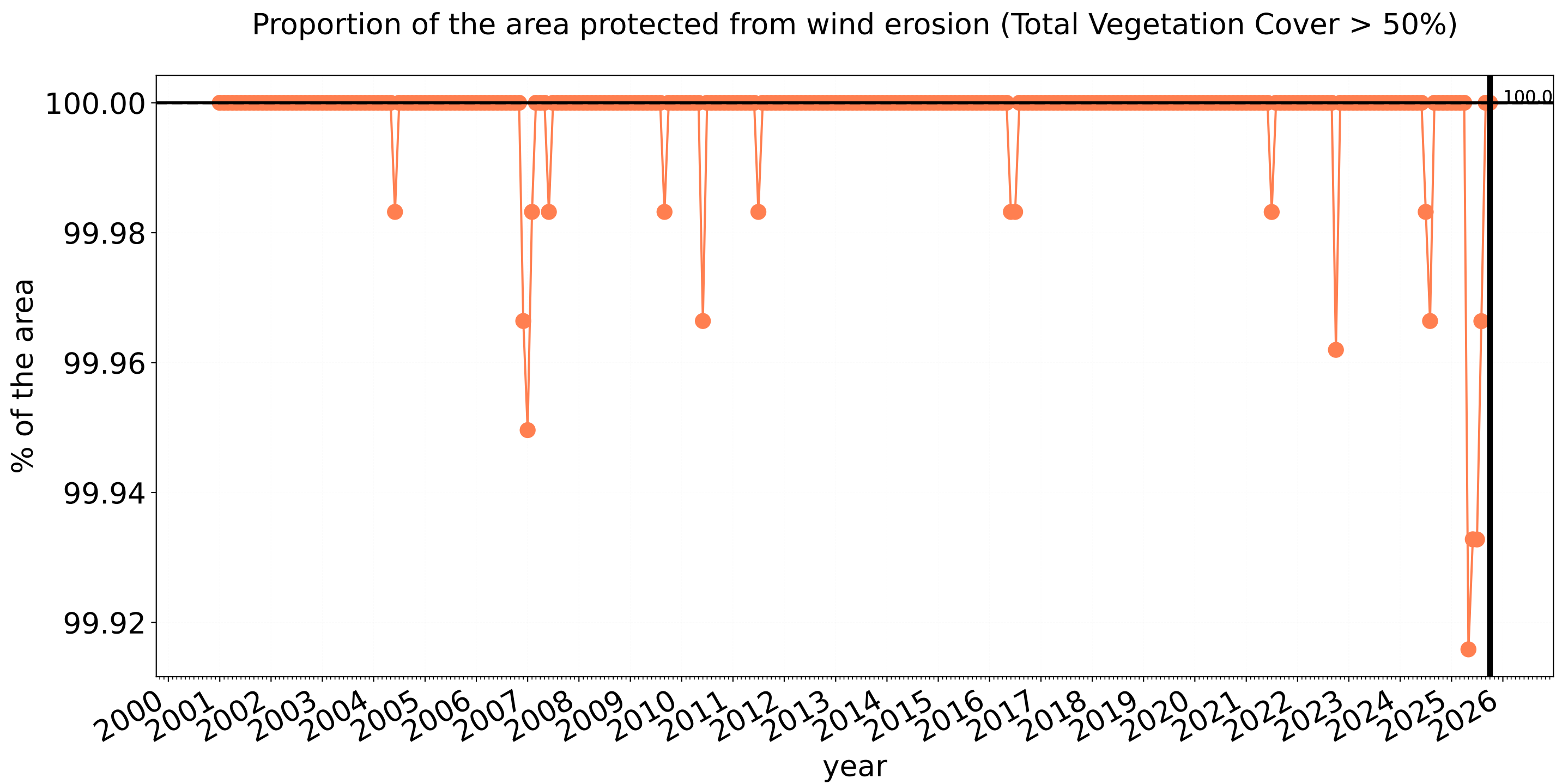


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Agriculture timeseries

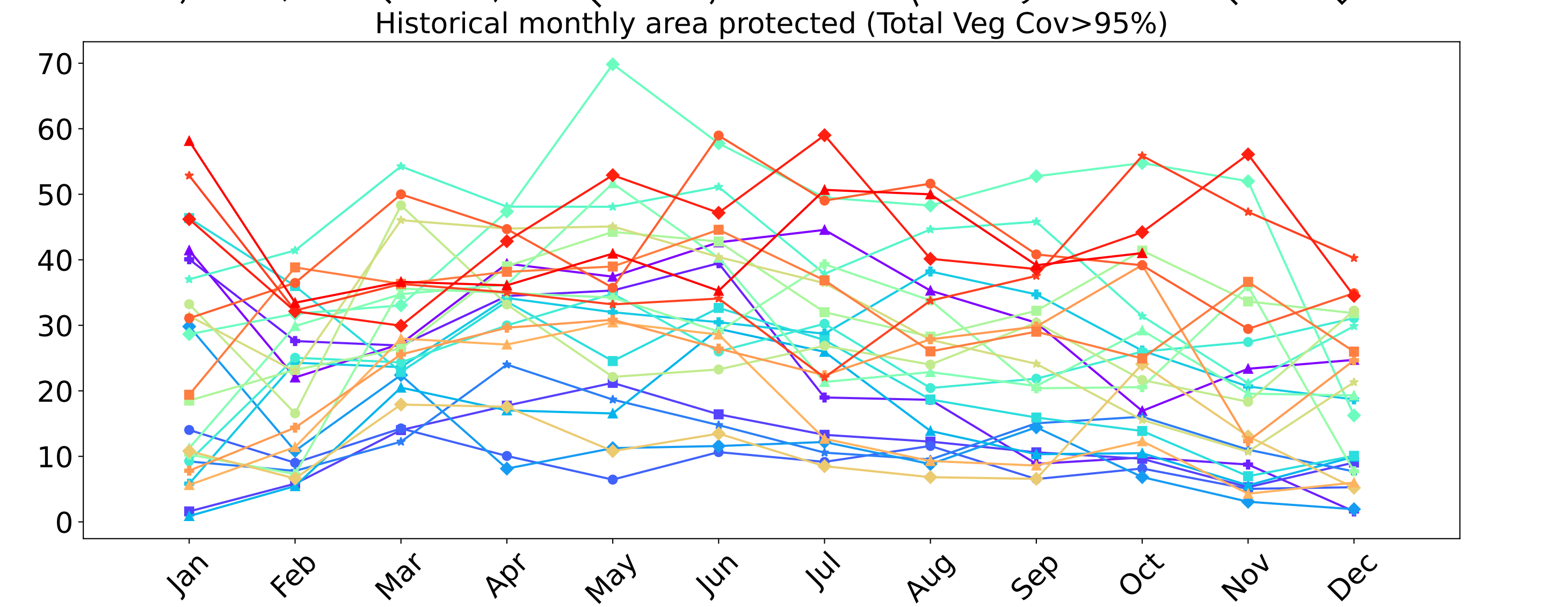
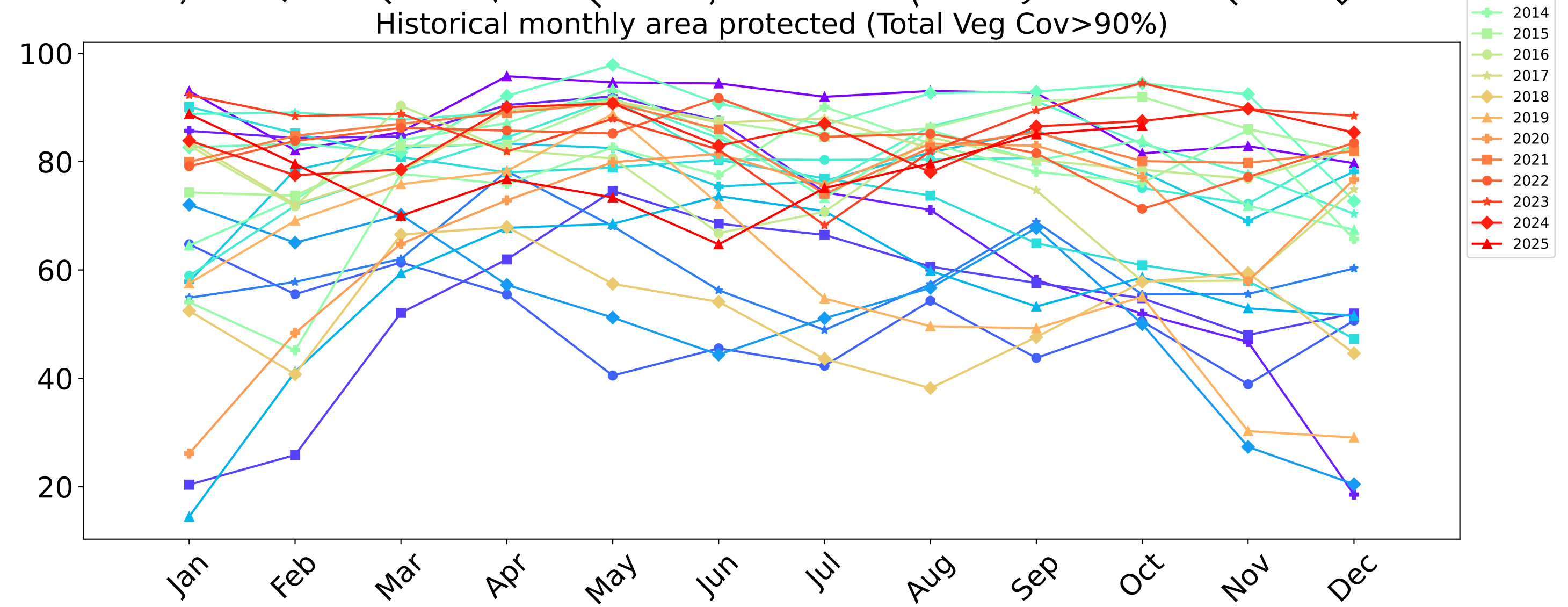
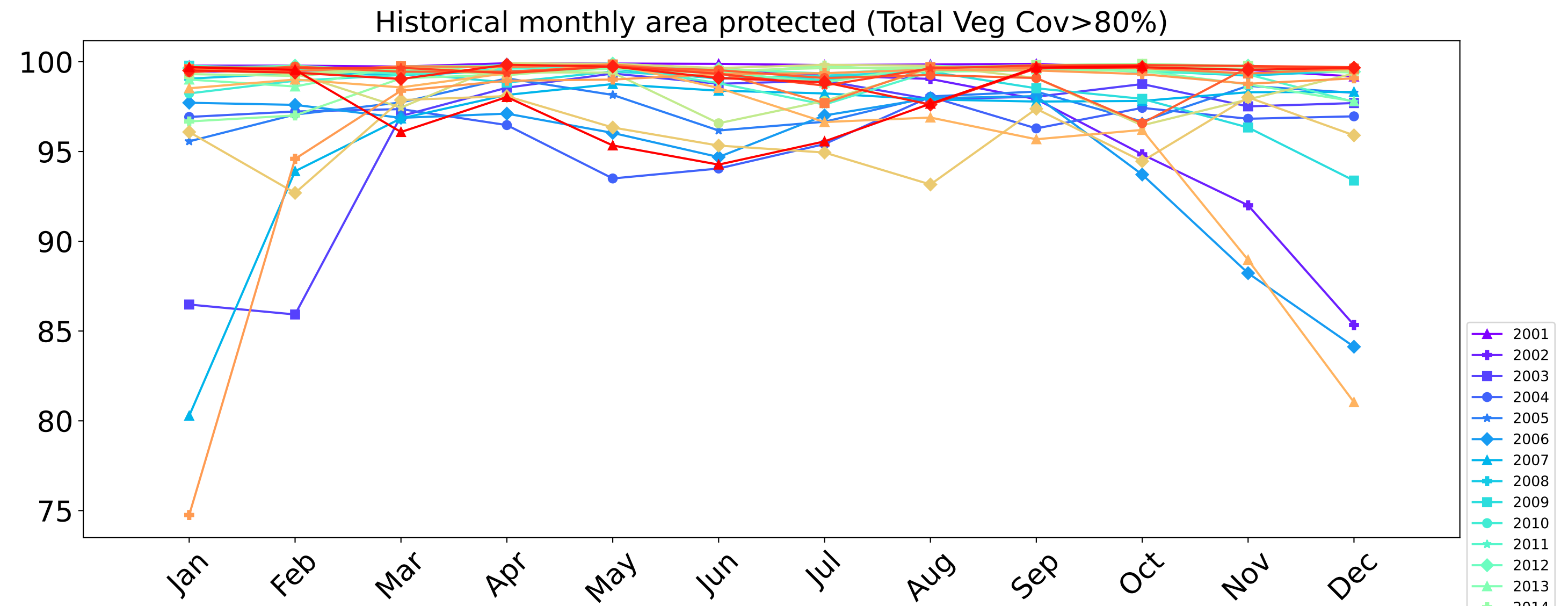
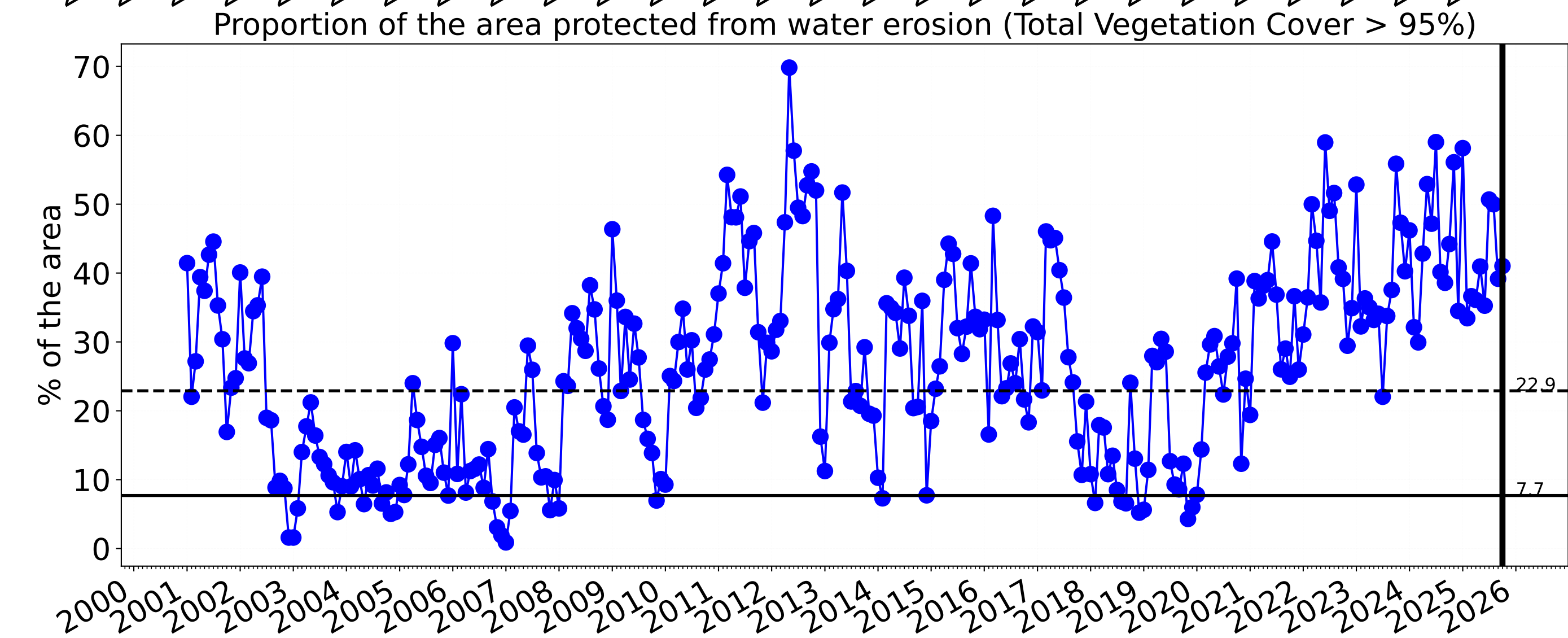
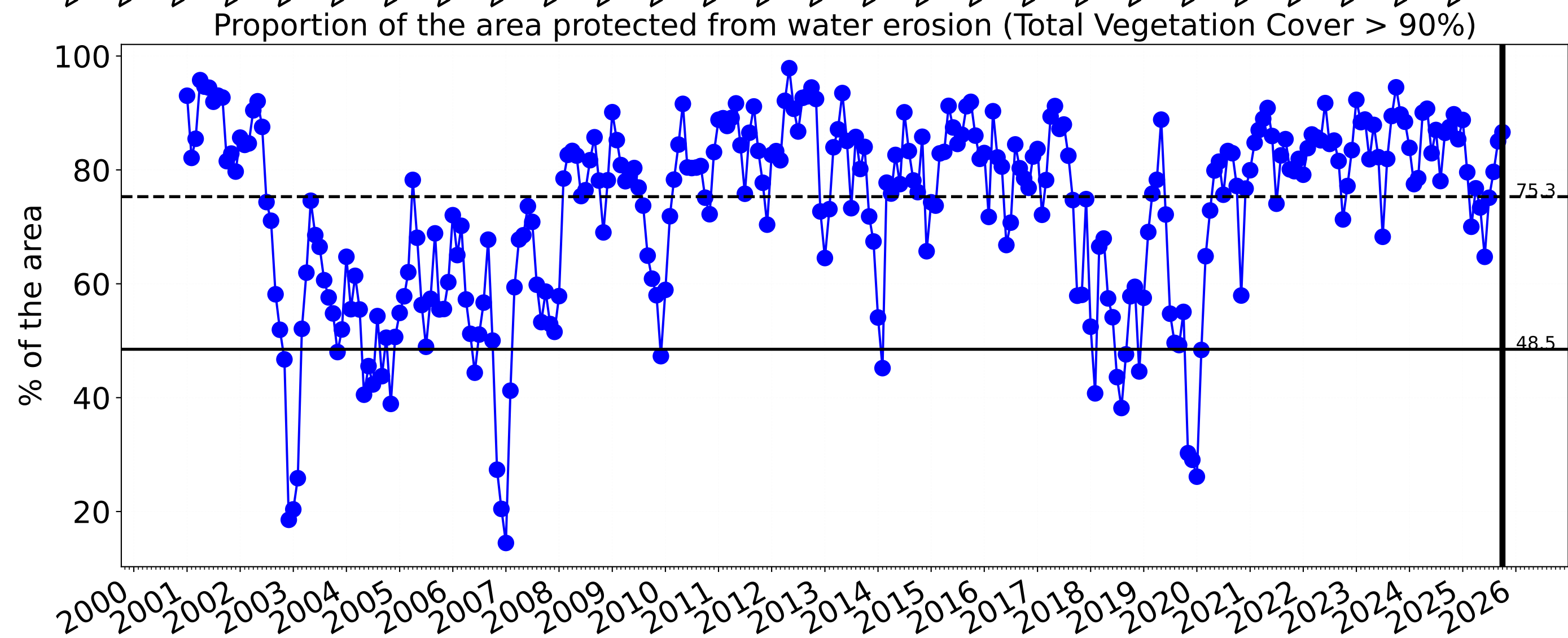
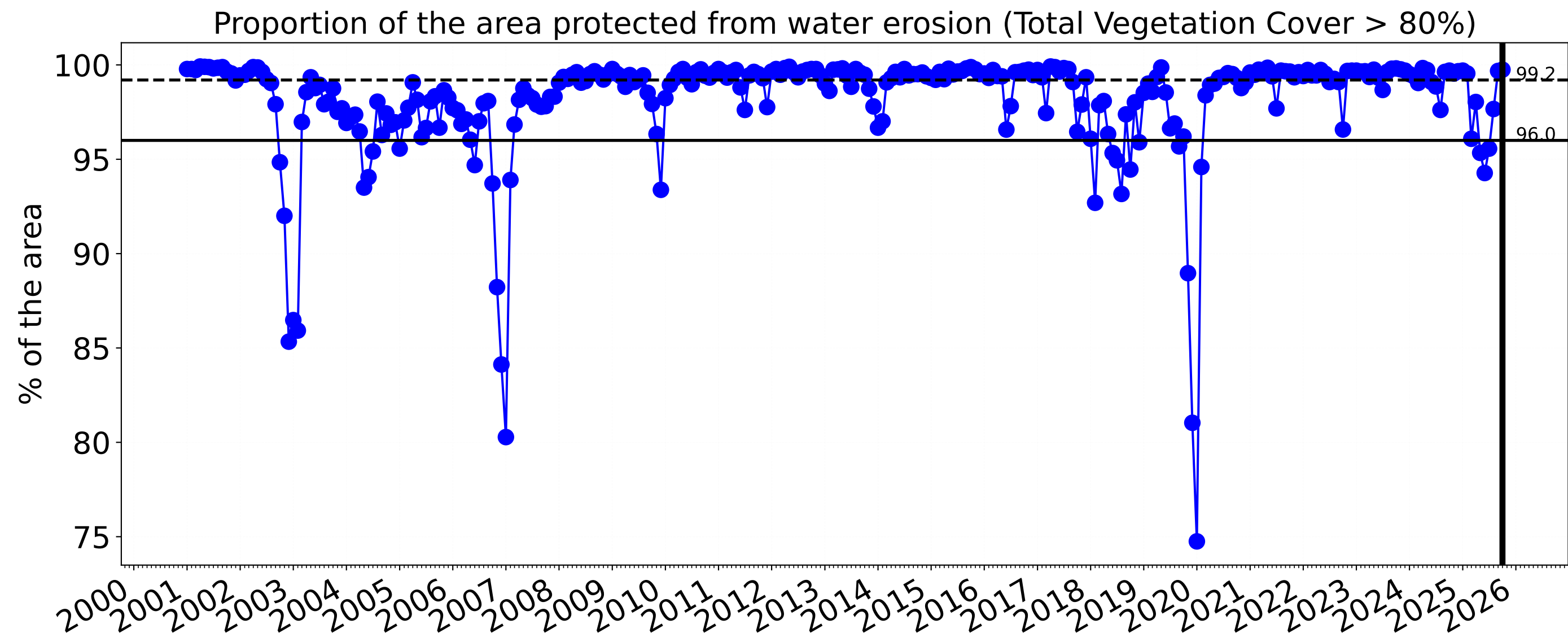


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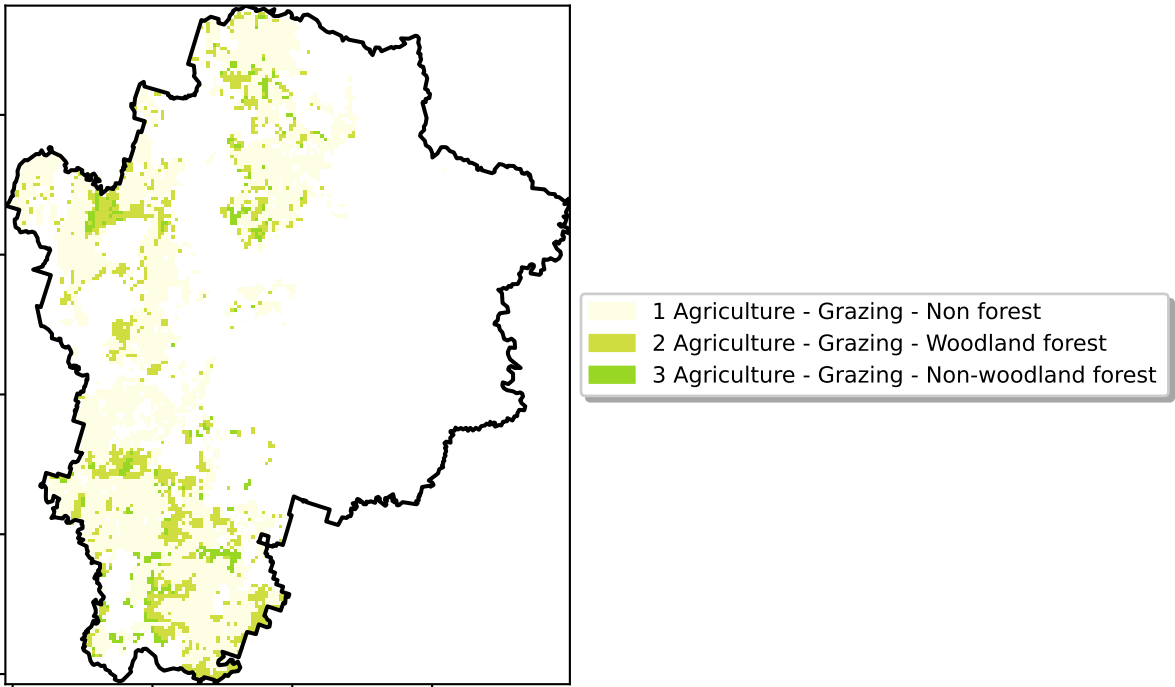




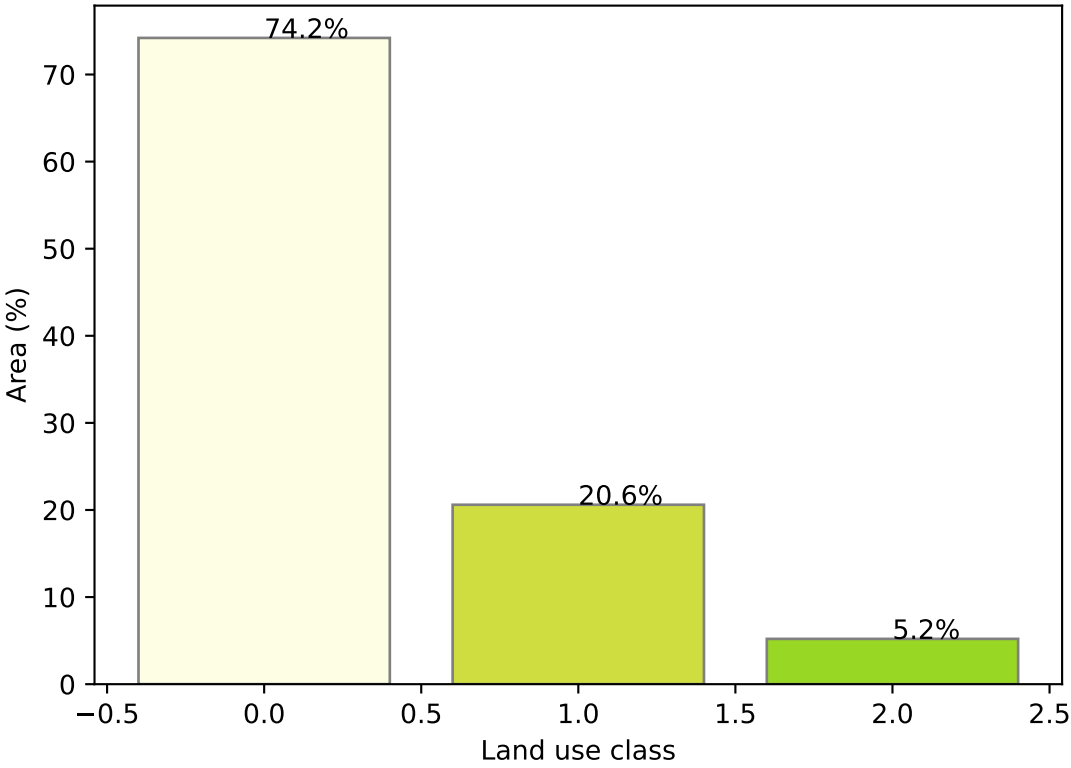
Grazing

Land use and forest cover

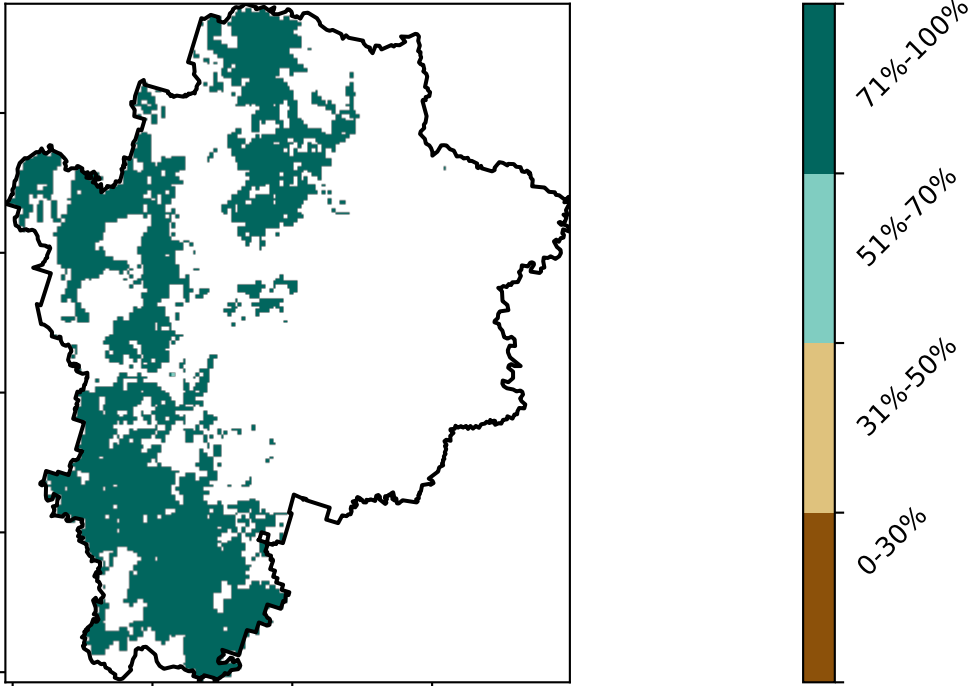
Catchment Scale Land Use and Forests of Australia (2018)
Derived from Catchment Scale Land Use of Australia (2018) and Forests of Australia (2018)



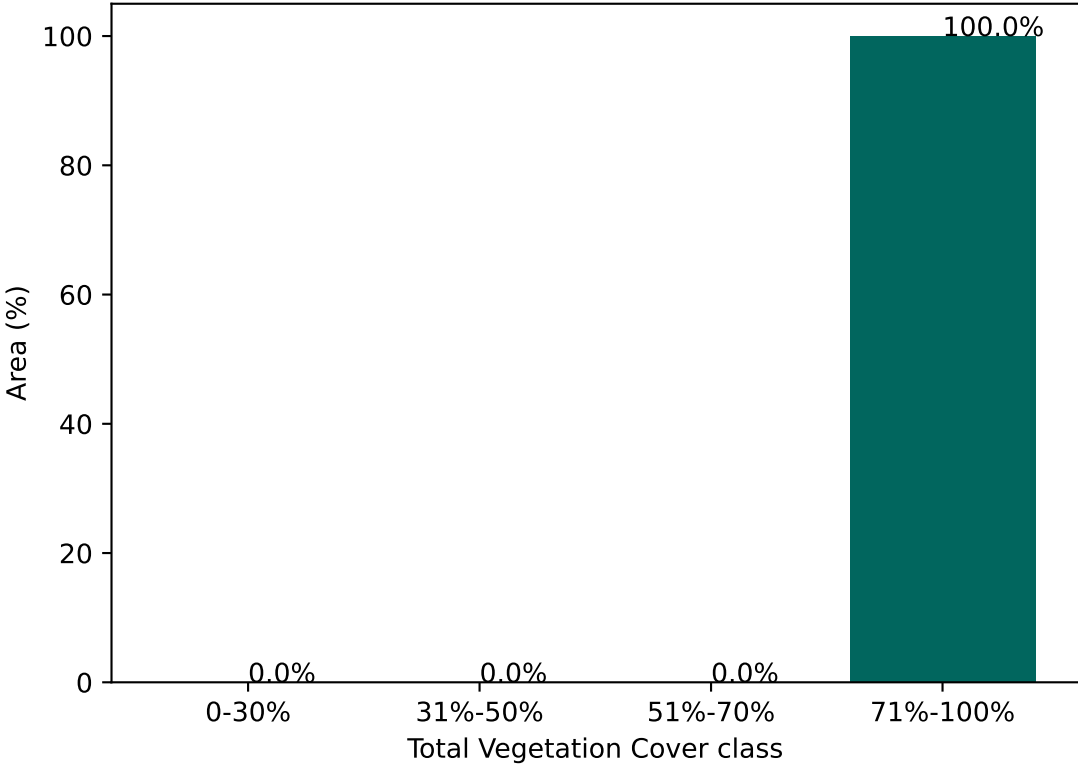
Proportion of each land class in area



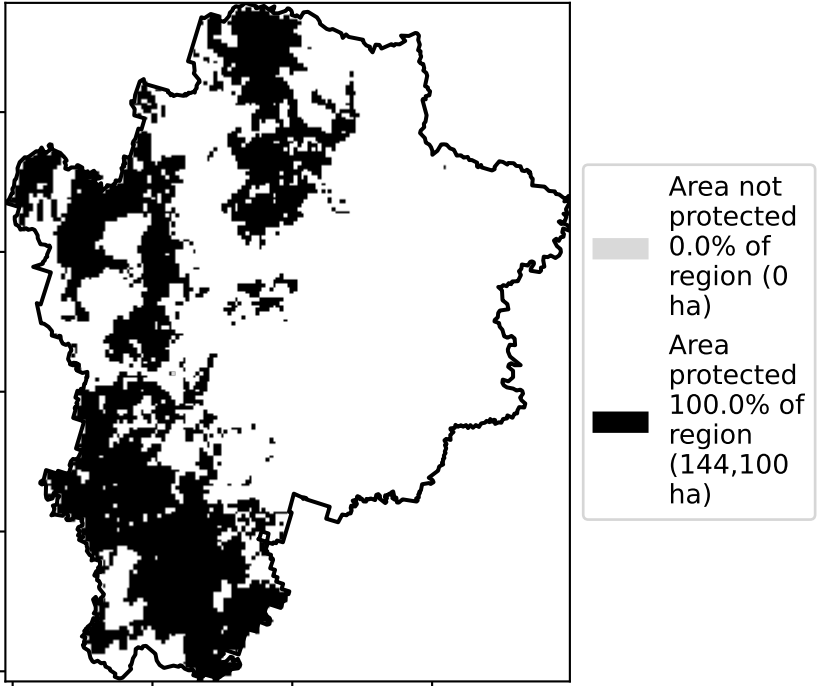
Total Vegetation Cover [%]



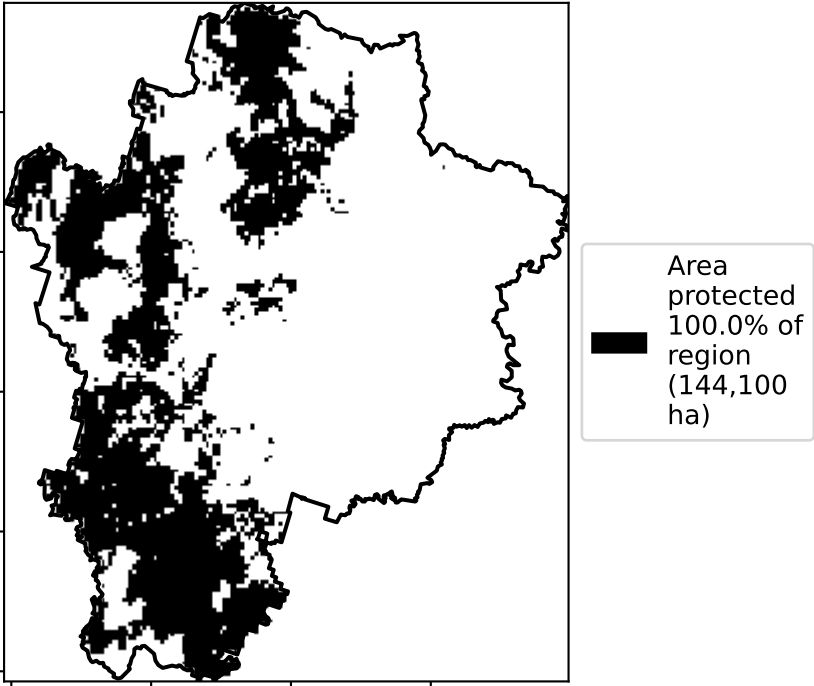
Proportion of vegetation cover class in area



% Area protected from water erosion (>70%)

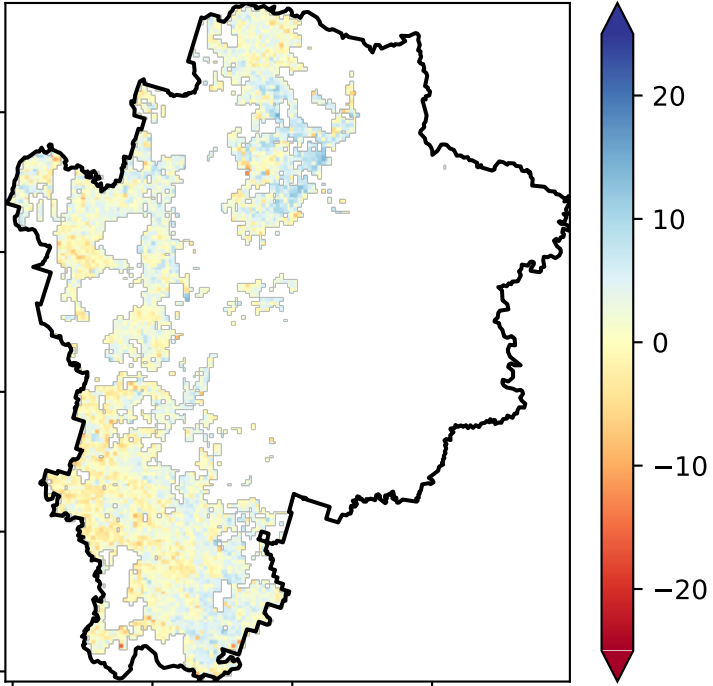


% Area protected from wind erosion (>50%)



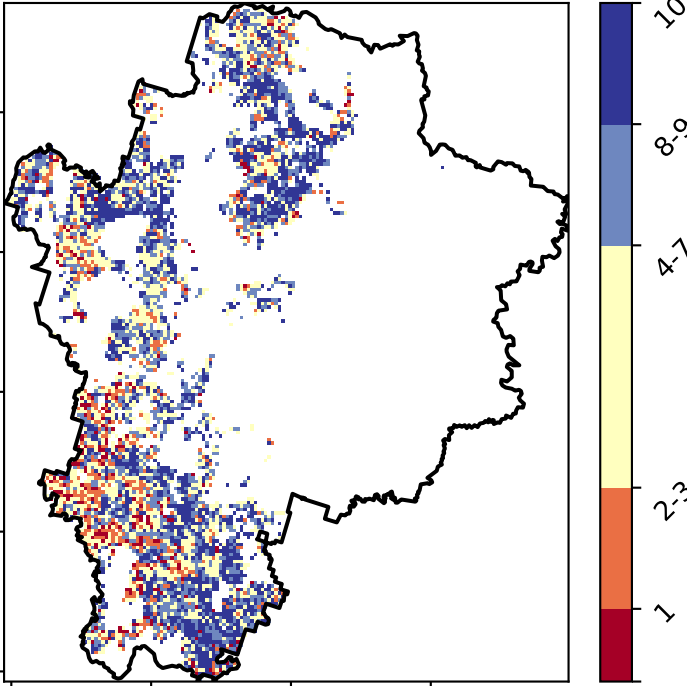
Total Vegetation Cover Anomaly [%]

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.



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.



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Ecosystem Research Infrastructure

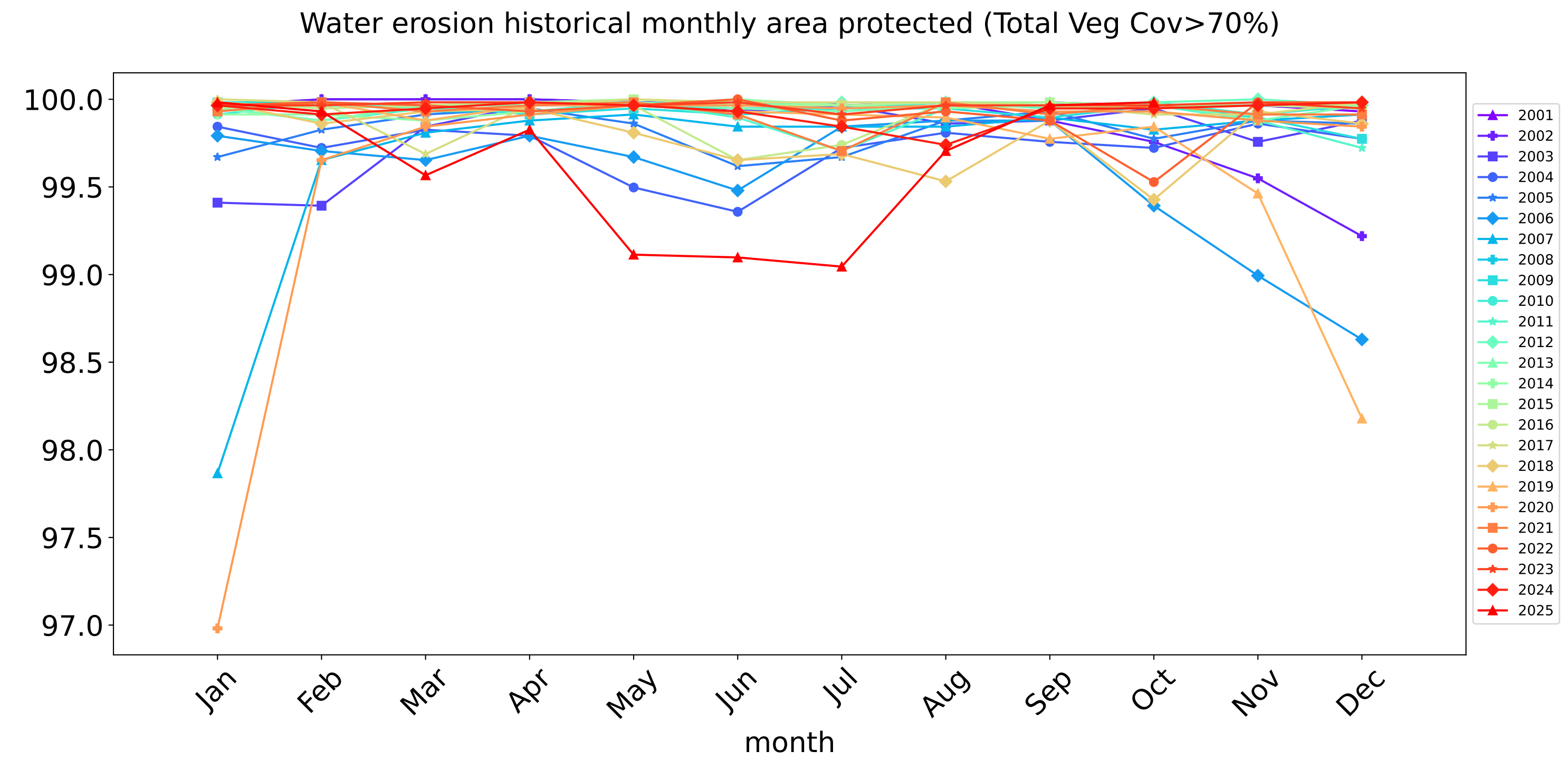
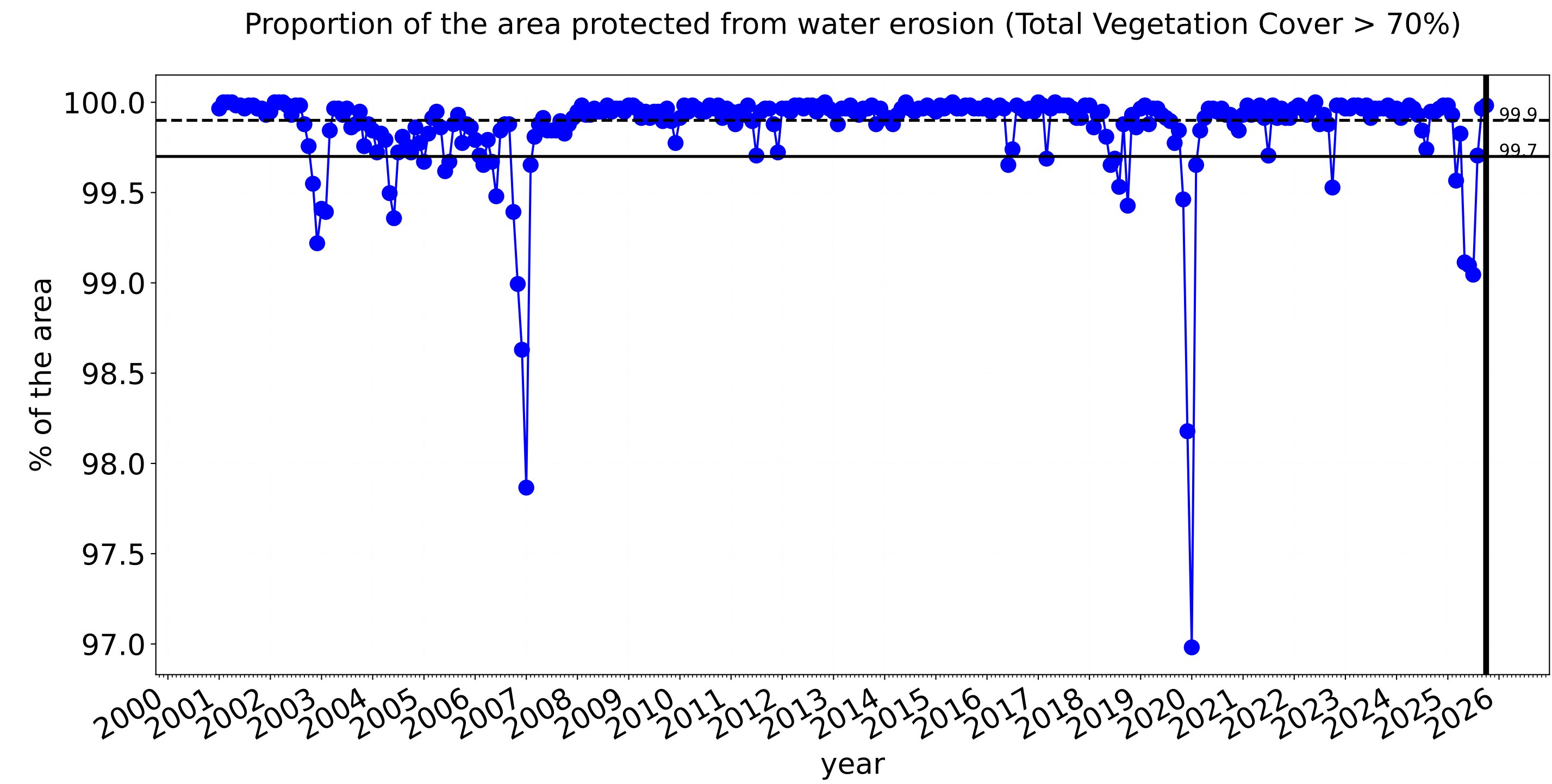
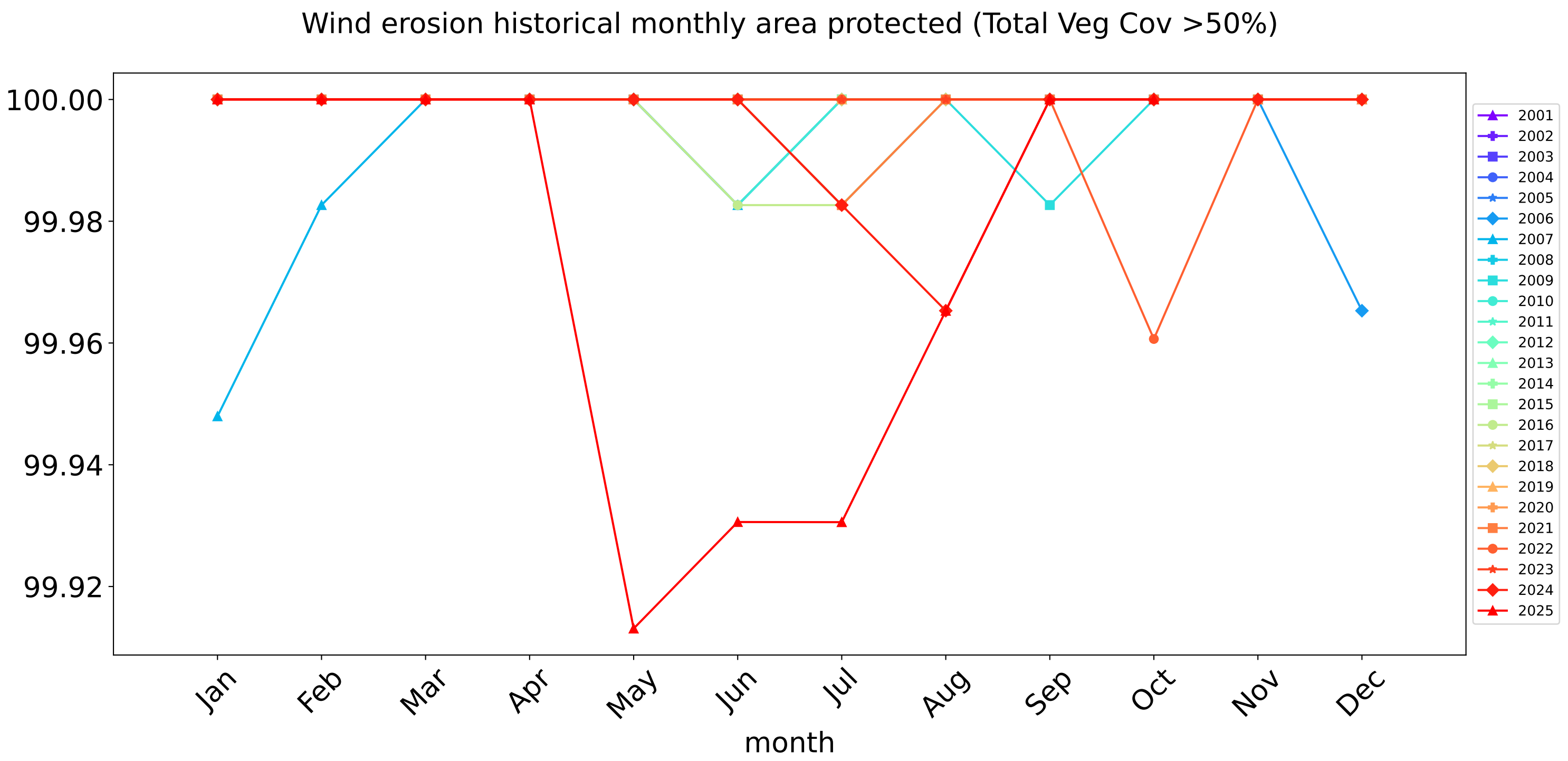
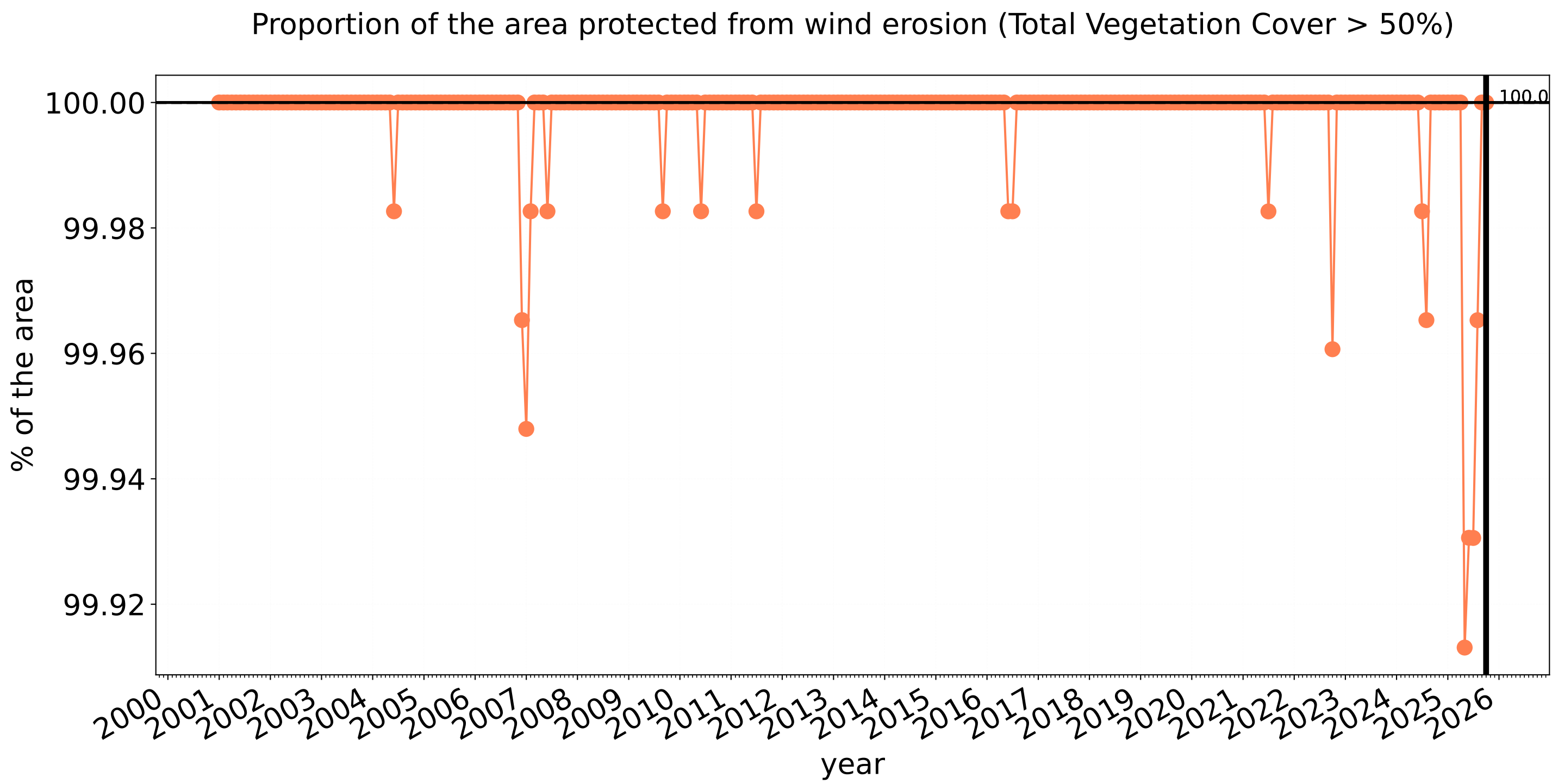


Australian Government

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Grazing timeseries

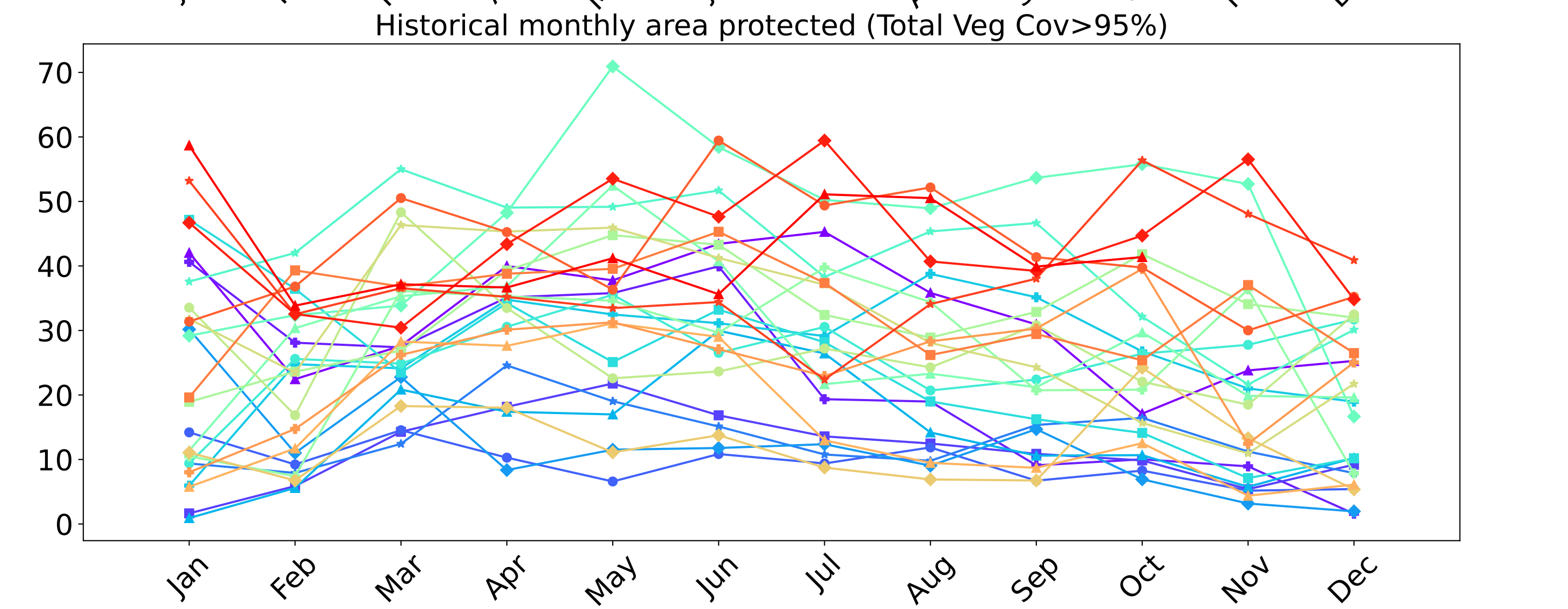
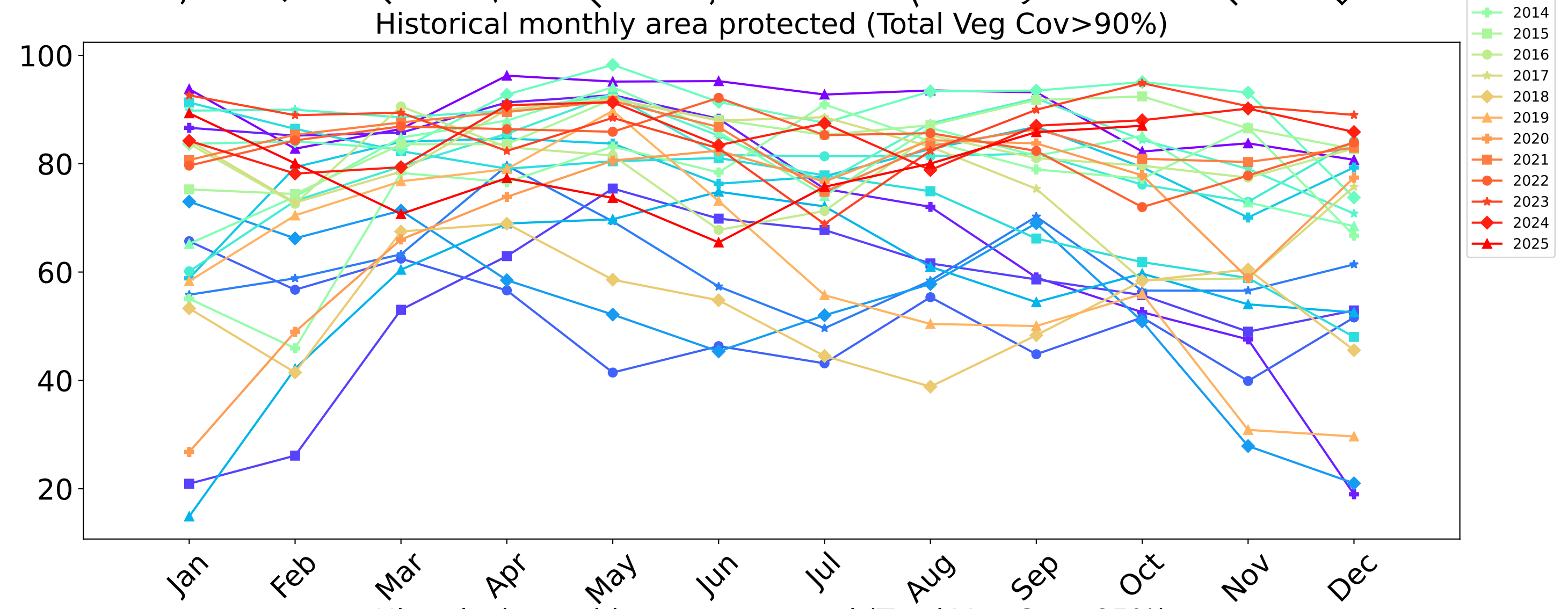
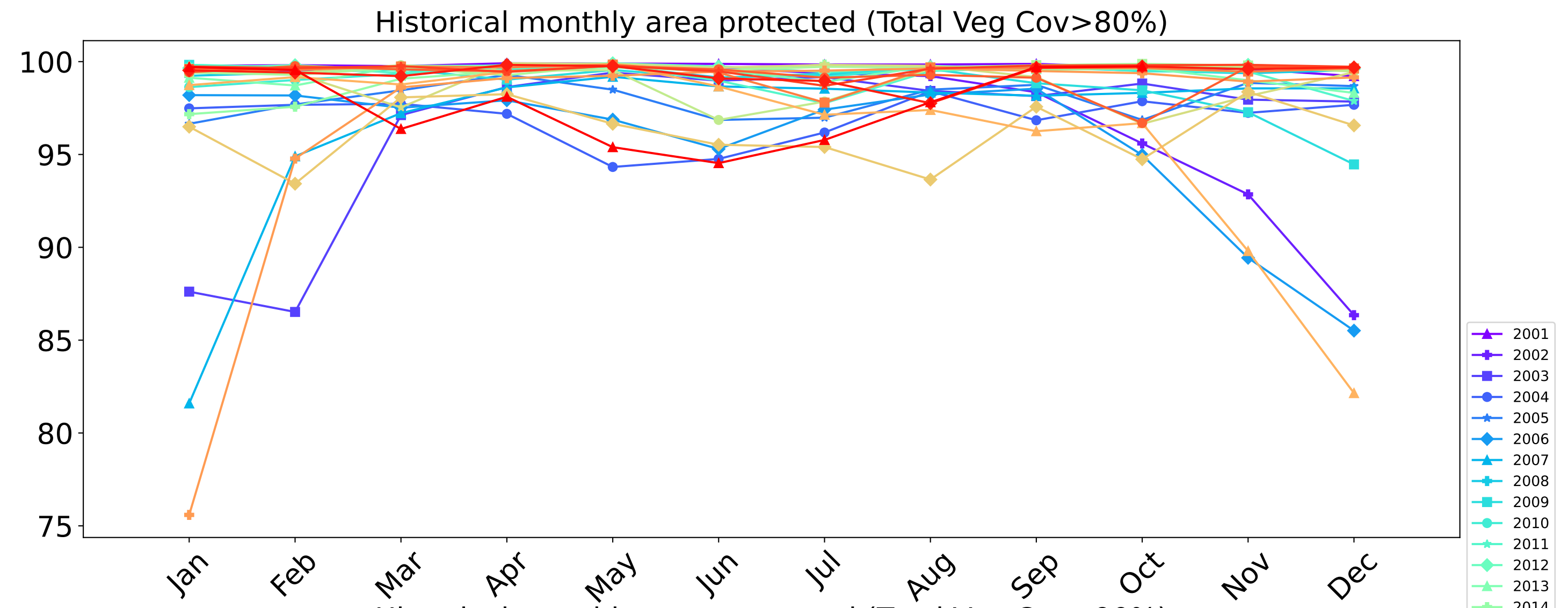
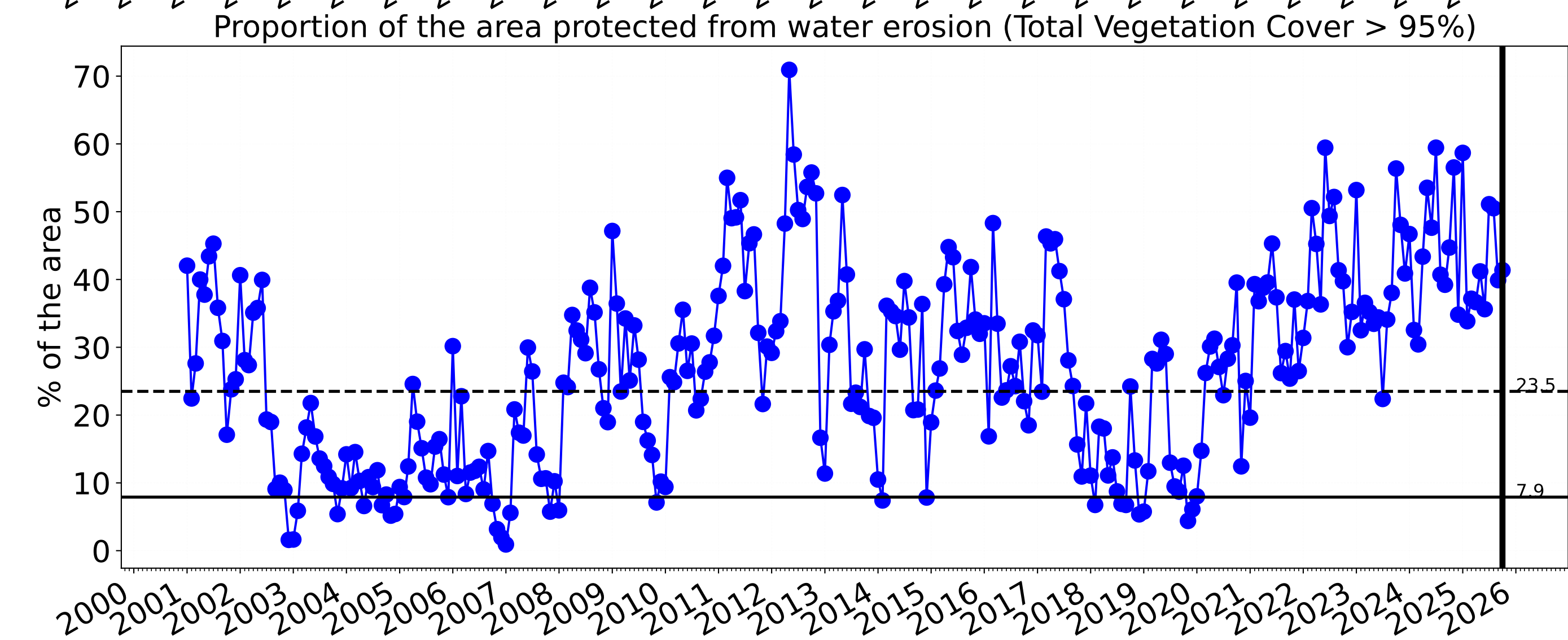
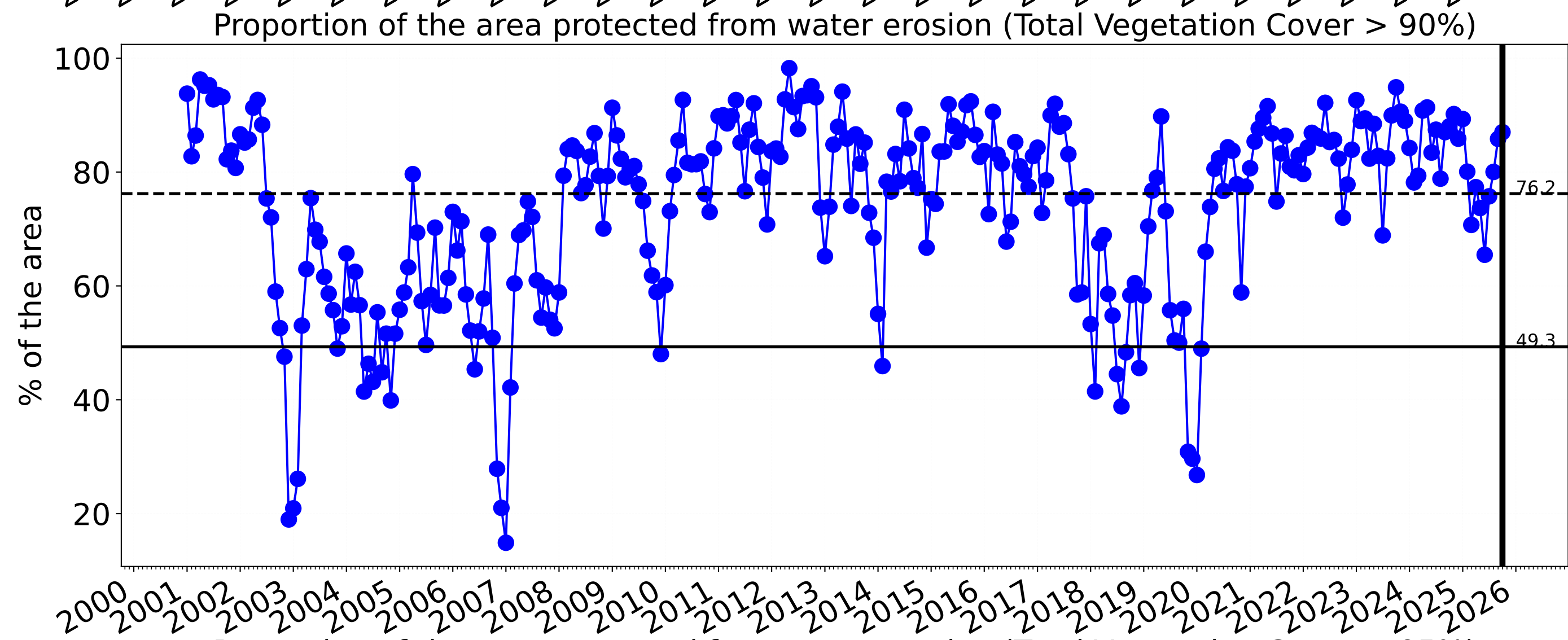
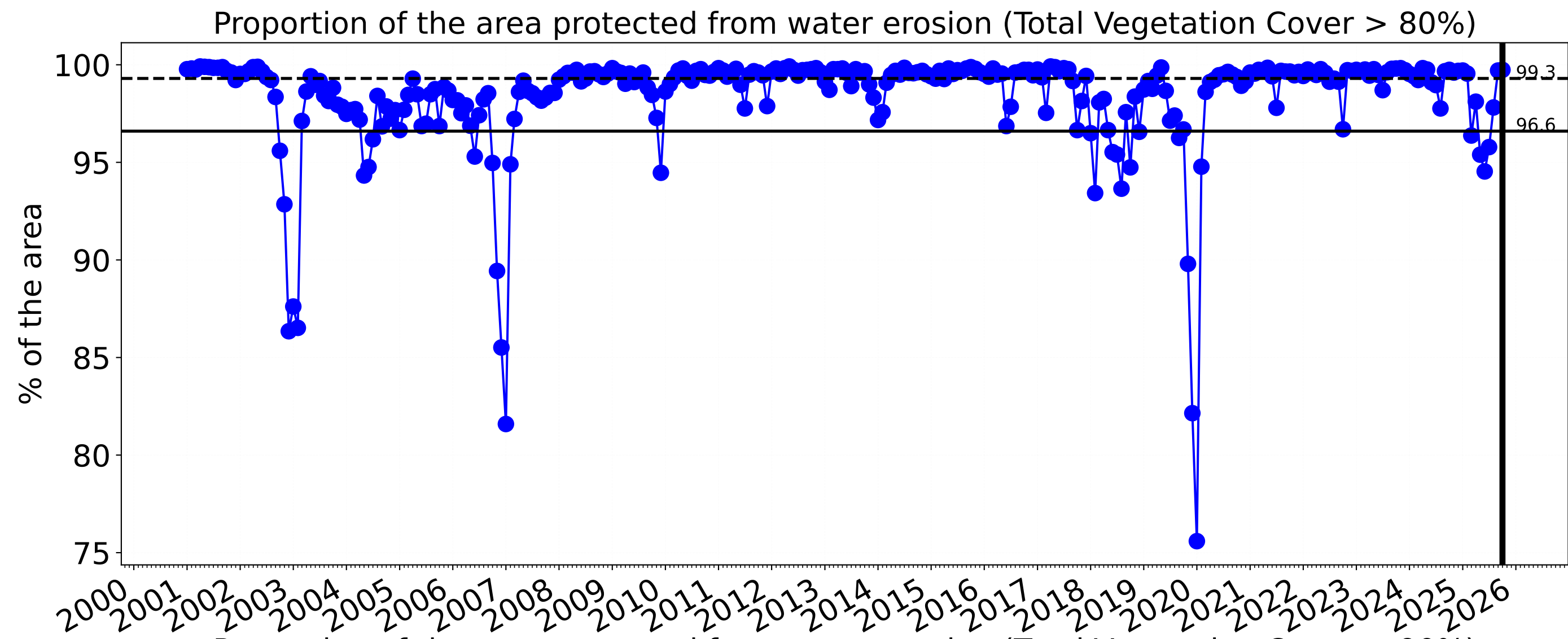


Ecosystem Research Infrastructure



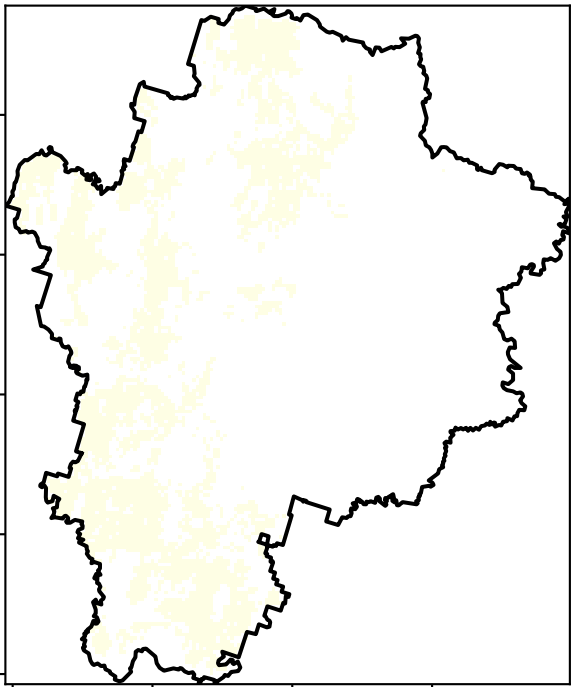
National Landcare Programme





Grazing non forest

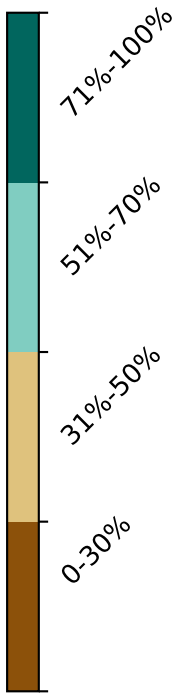
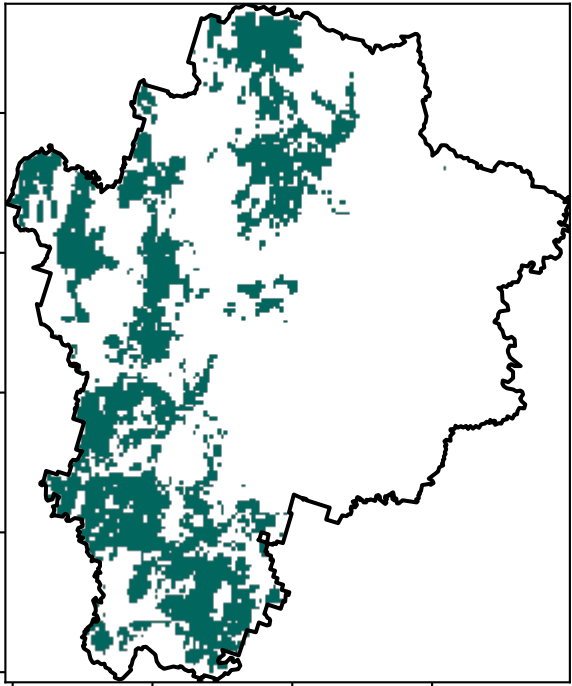
Land use and forest cover



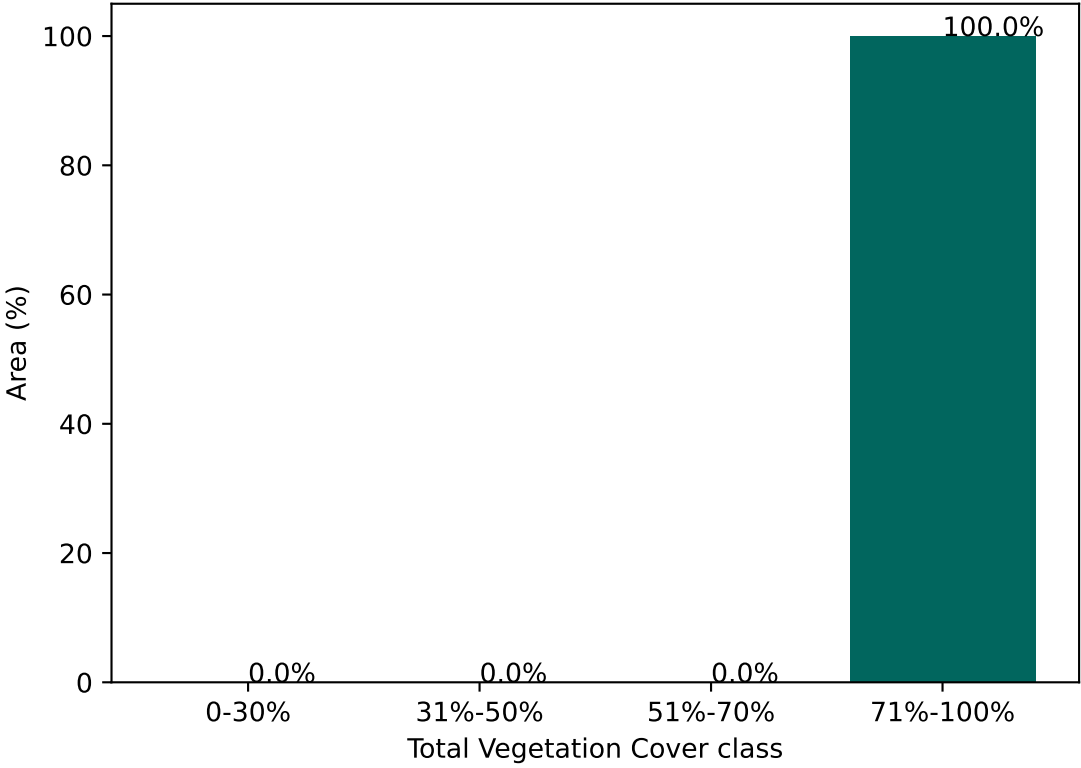
1 Agriculture - Grazing - Non forest

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

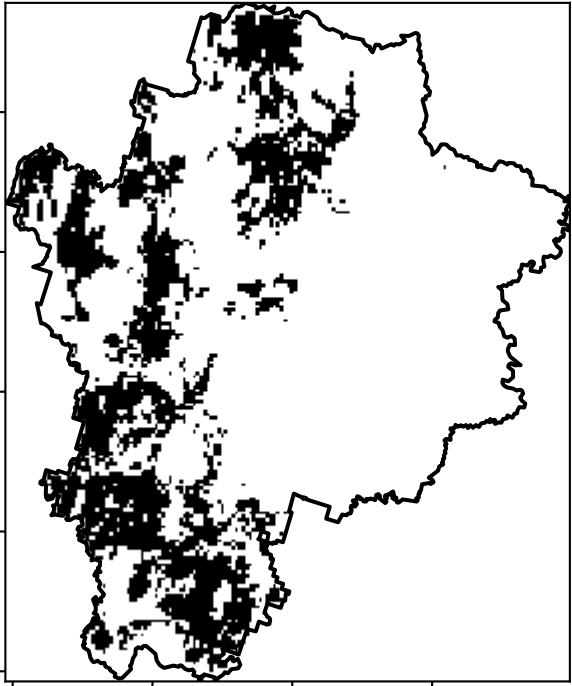
Total Vegetation Cover [%]



Proportion of vegetation cover class in area

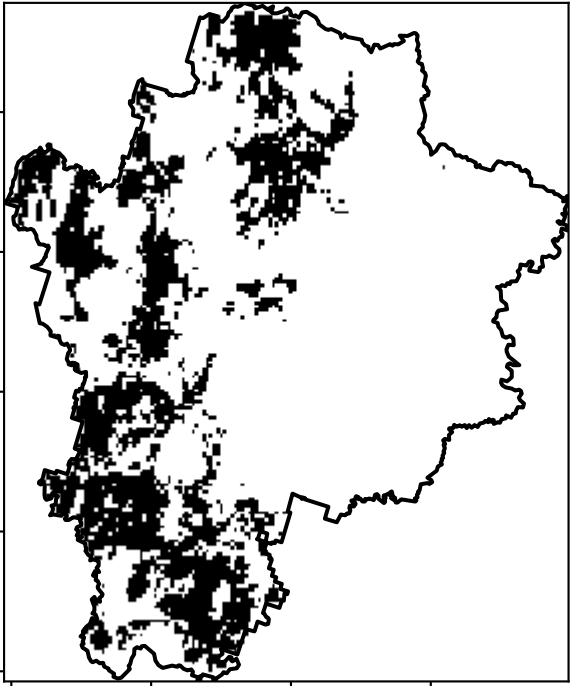


% Area protected from water erosion (>70%)



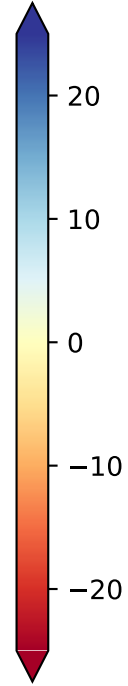
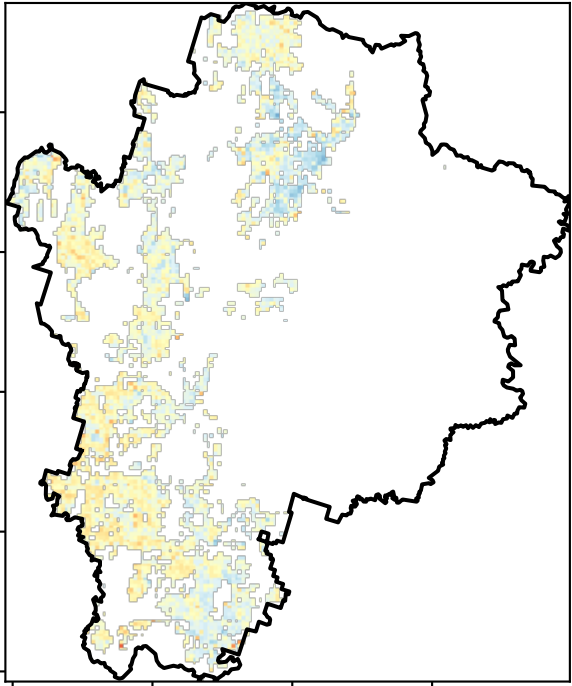
Area
protected
100.0% of
region
(106,950
ha)

% Area protected from wind erosion (>50%)



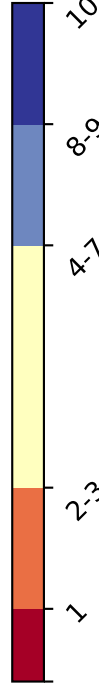
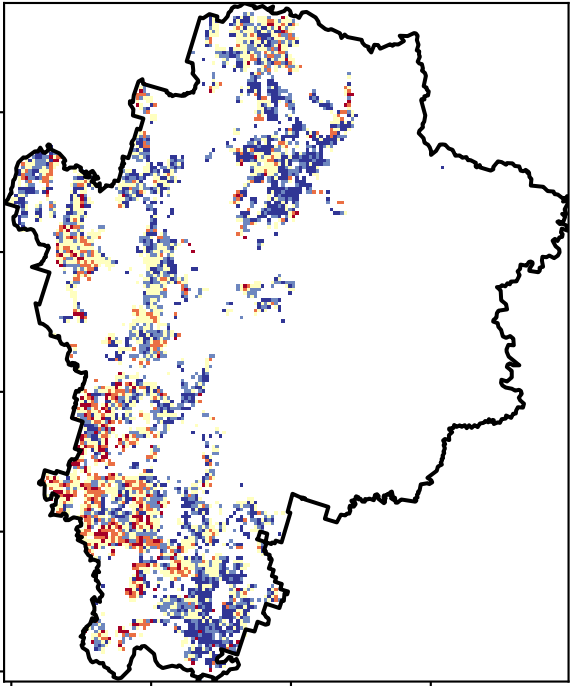
Area
protected
100.0% of
region
(106,950
ha)

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.

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.



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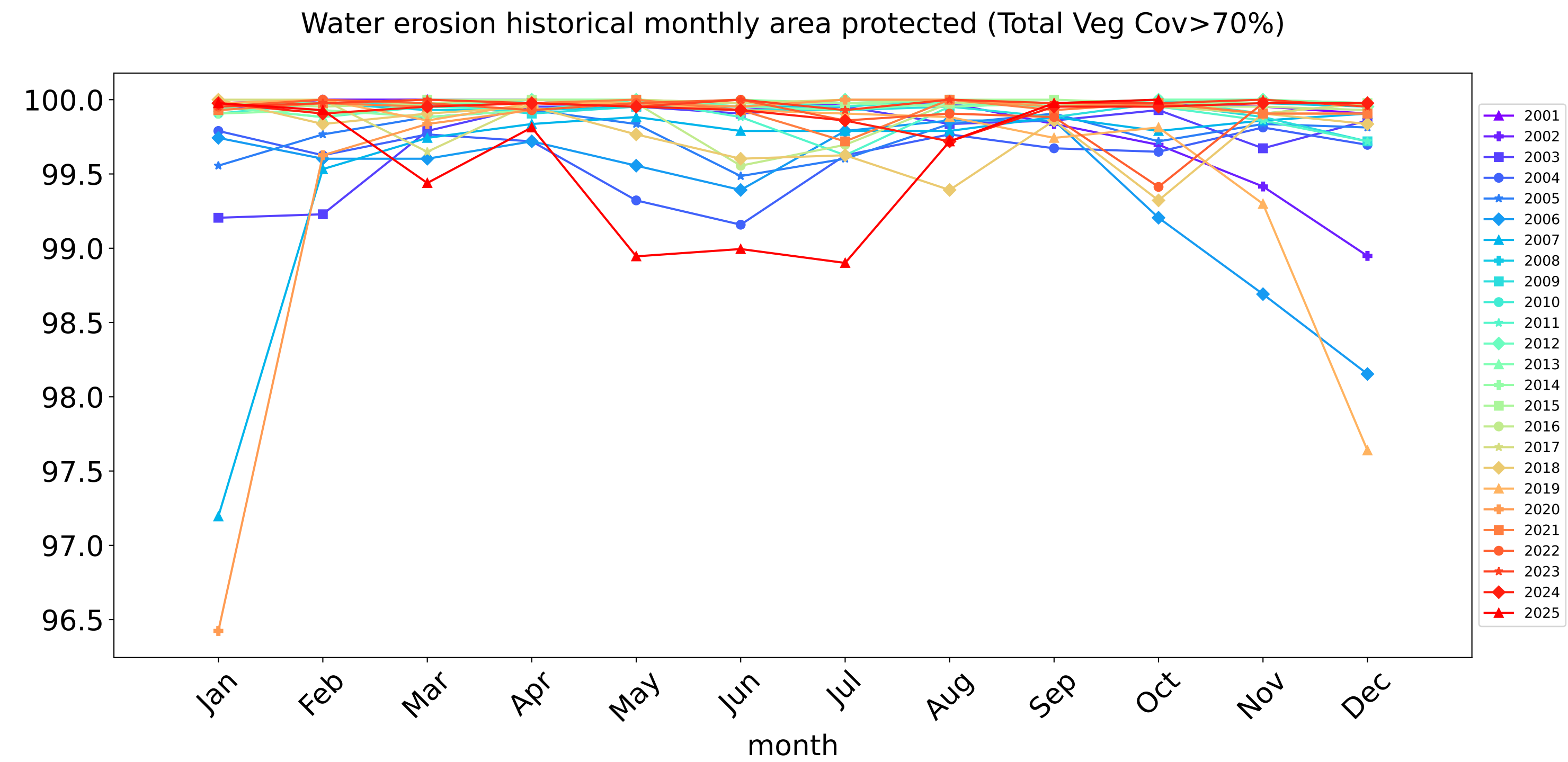
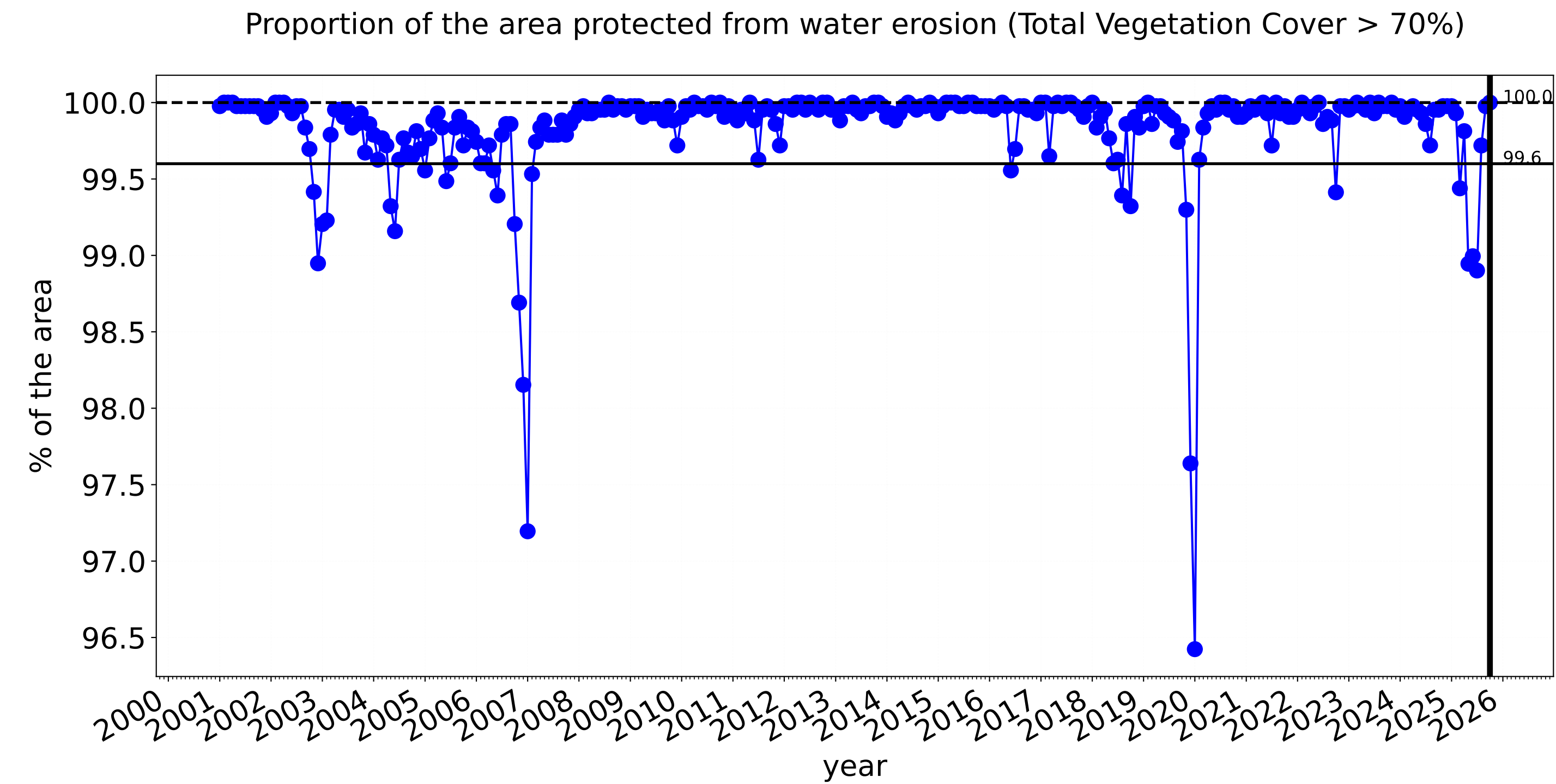
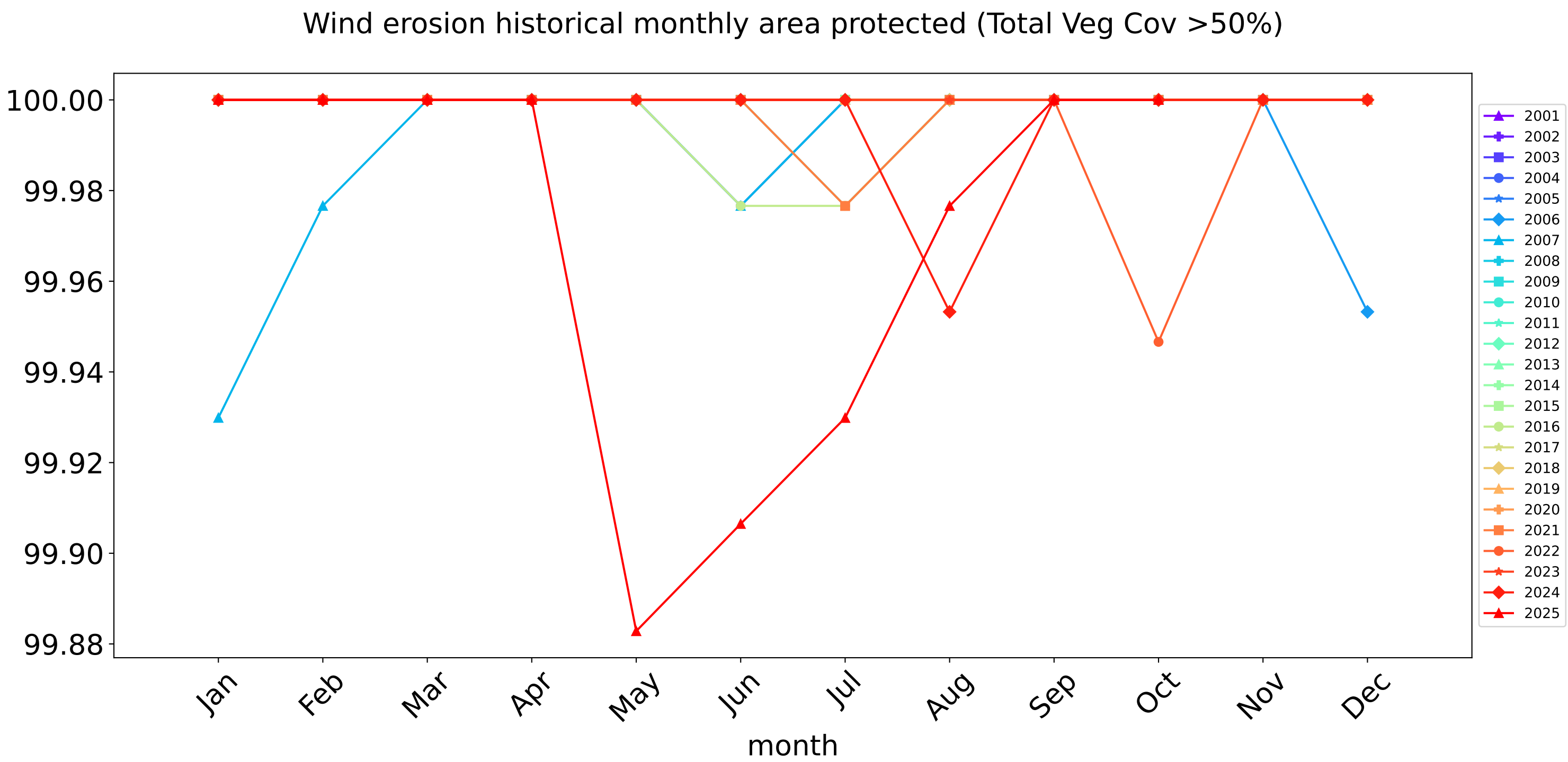
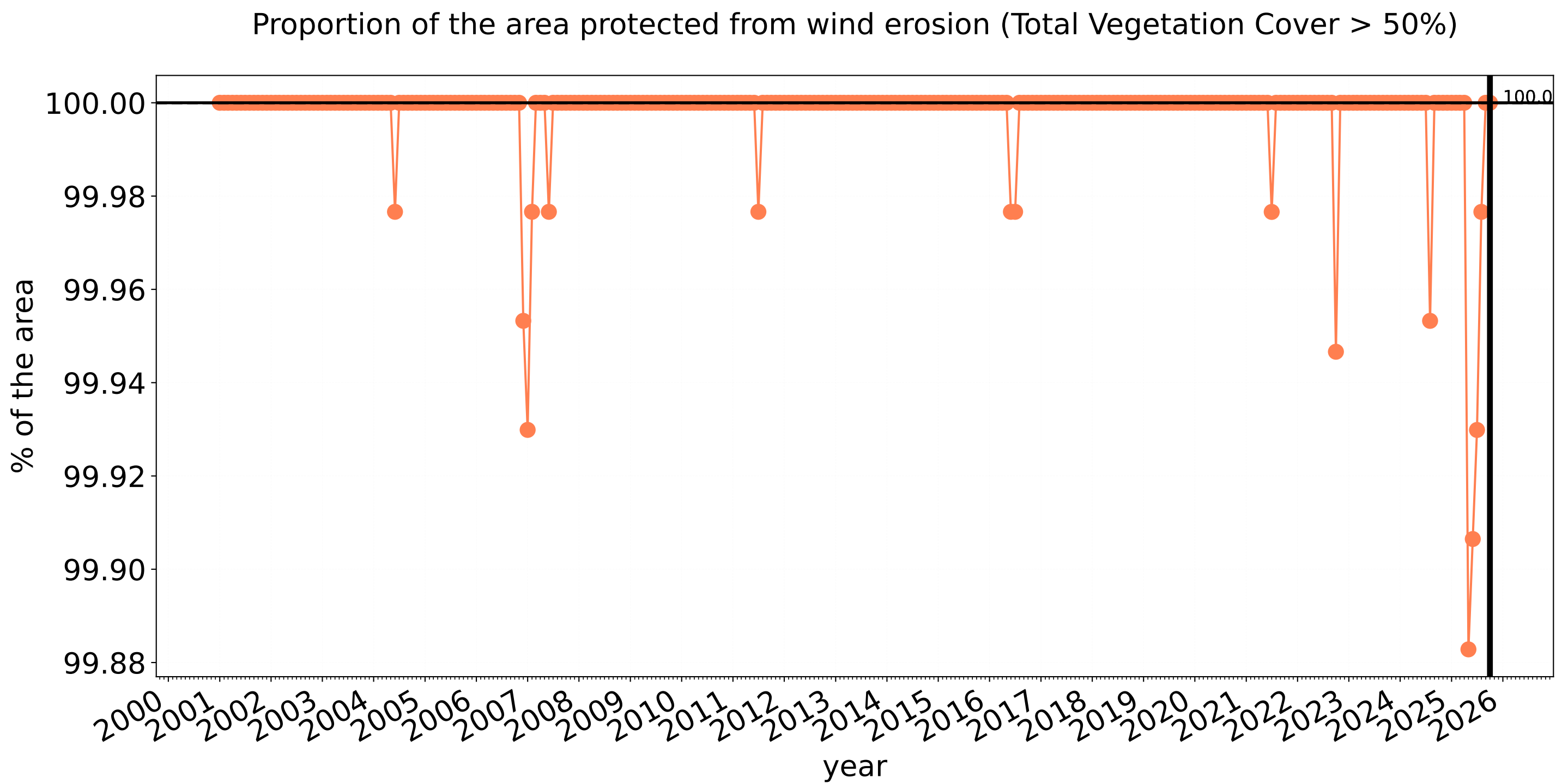


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Grazing non forest timeseries

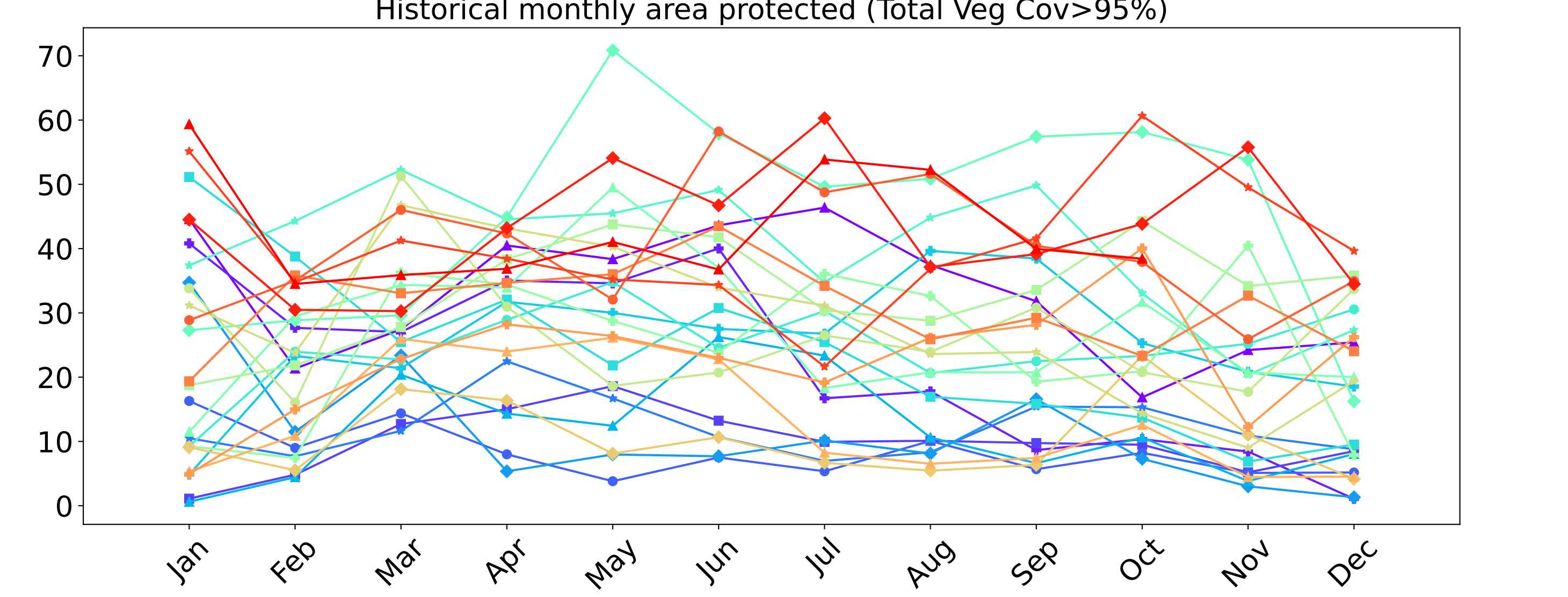
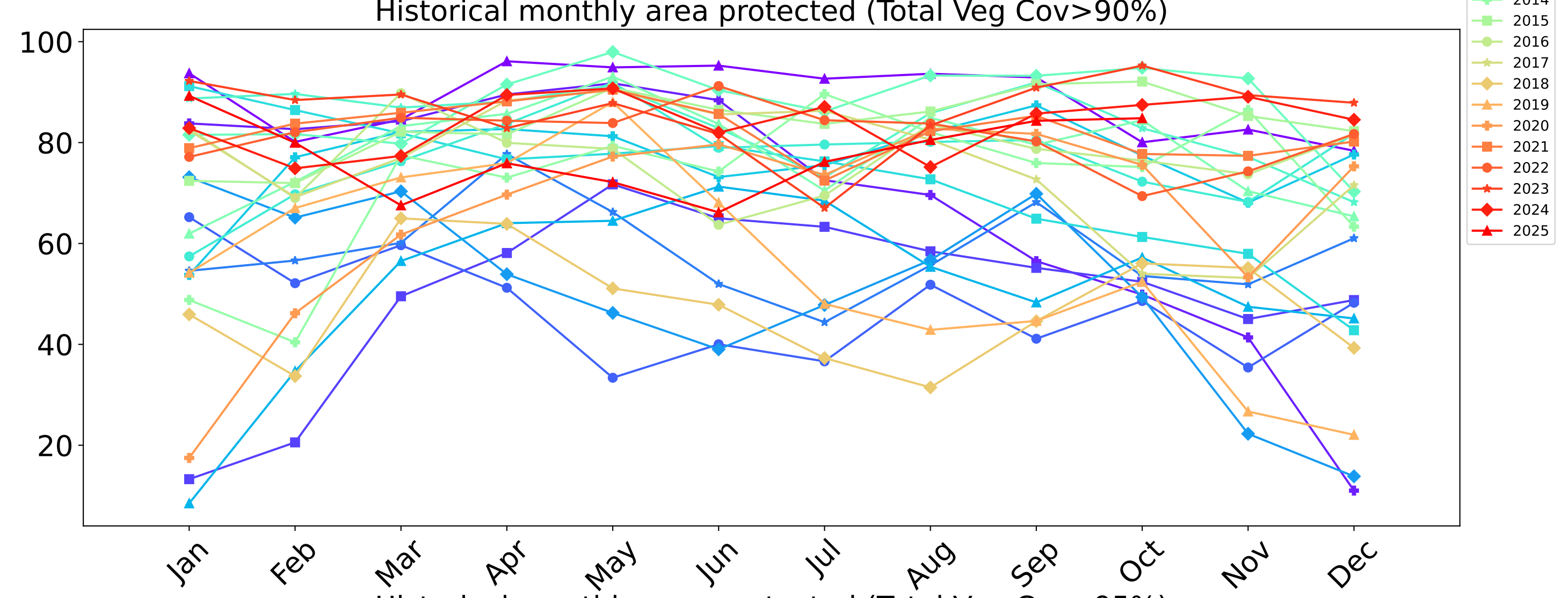
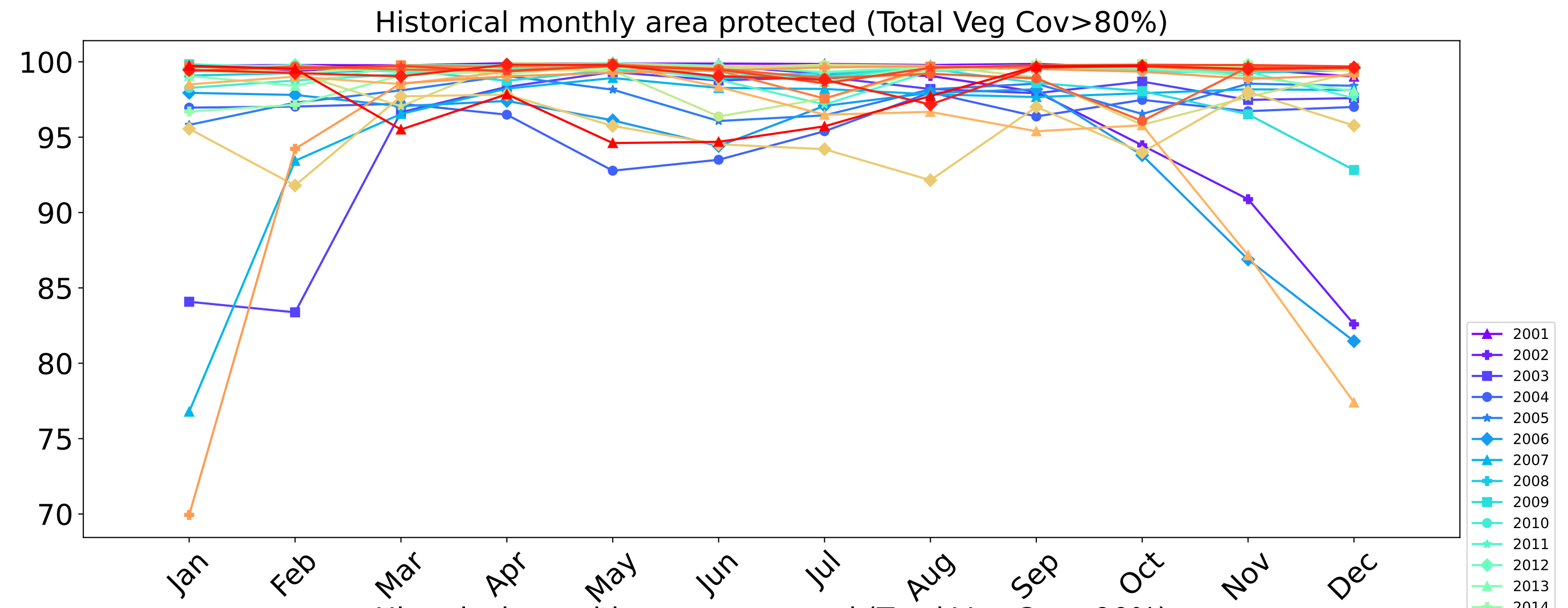
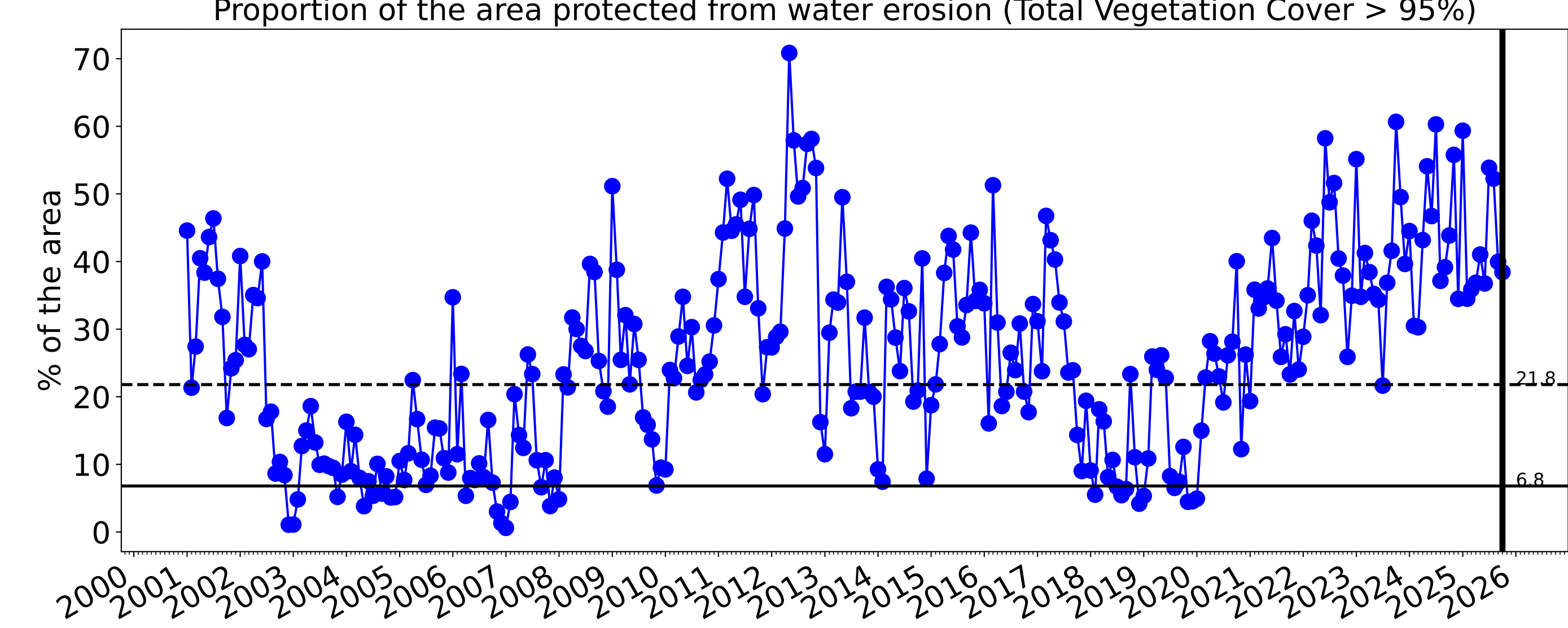
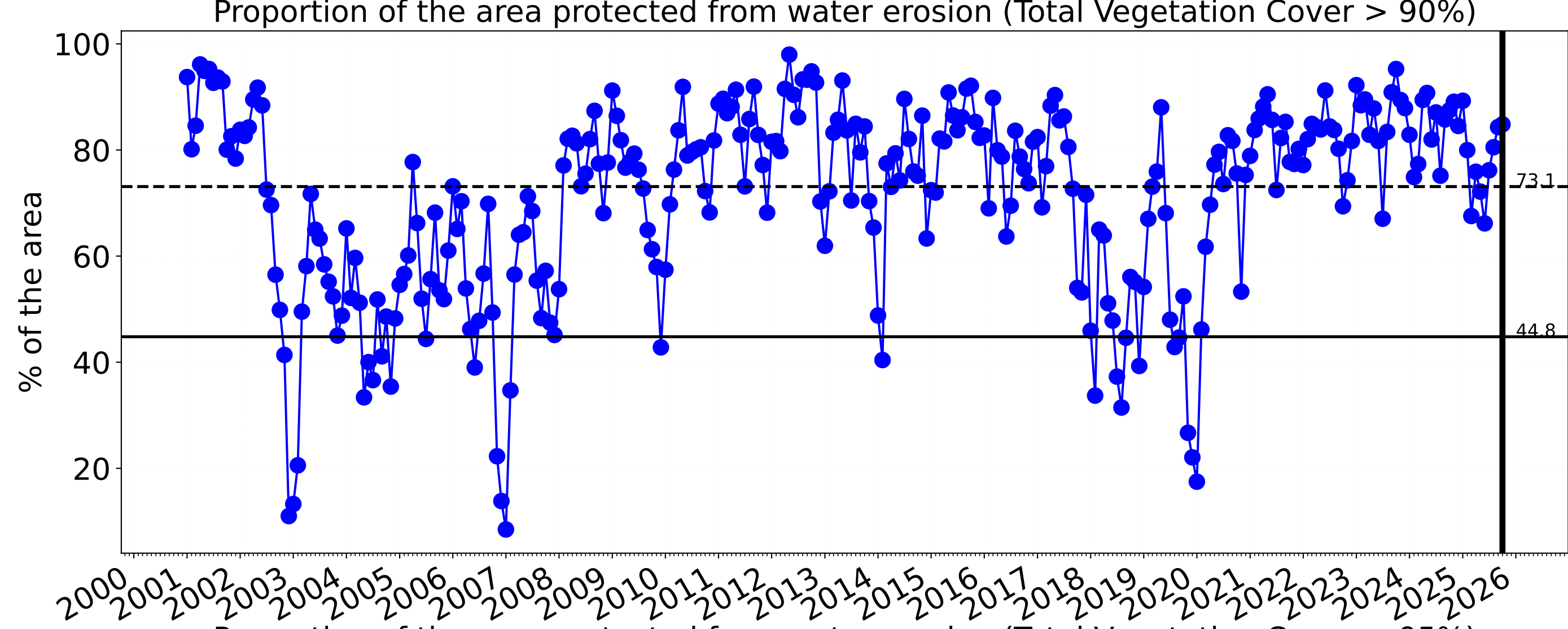
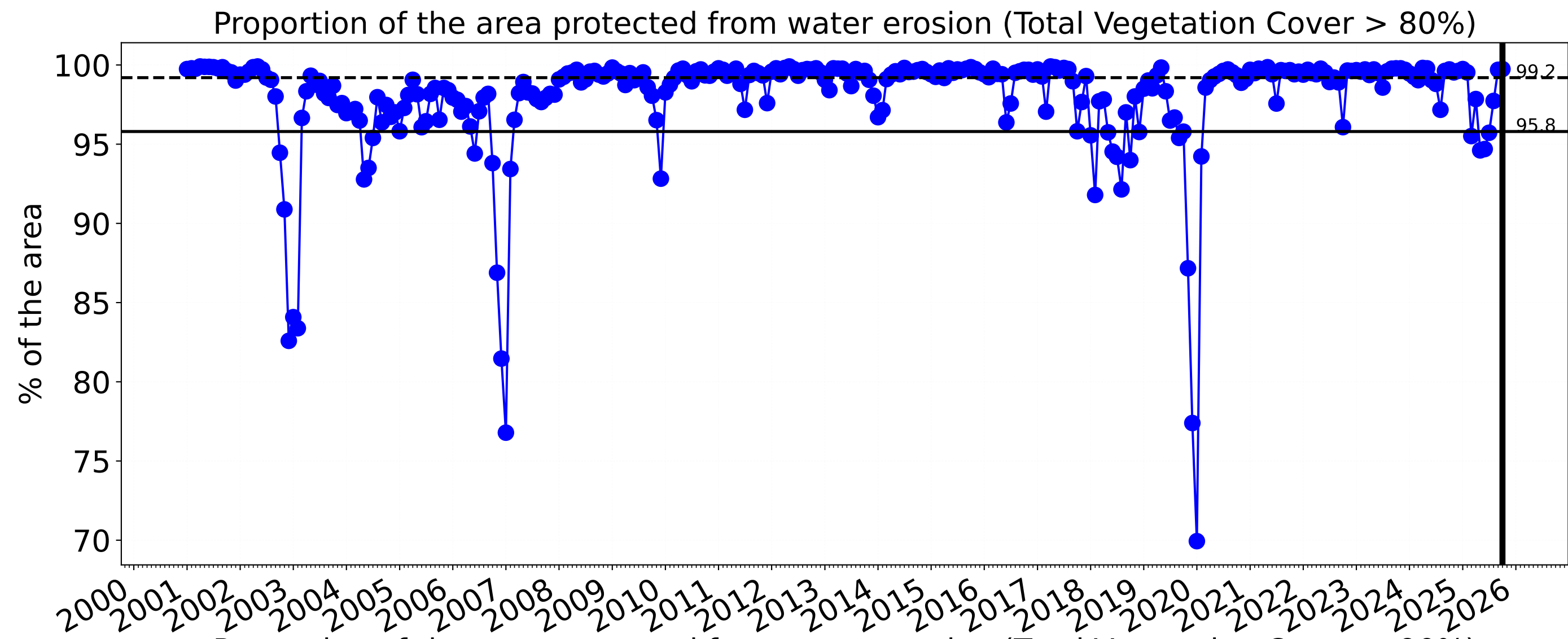


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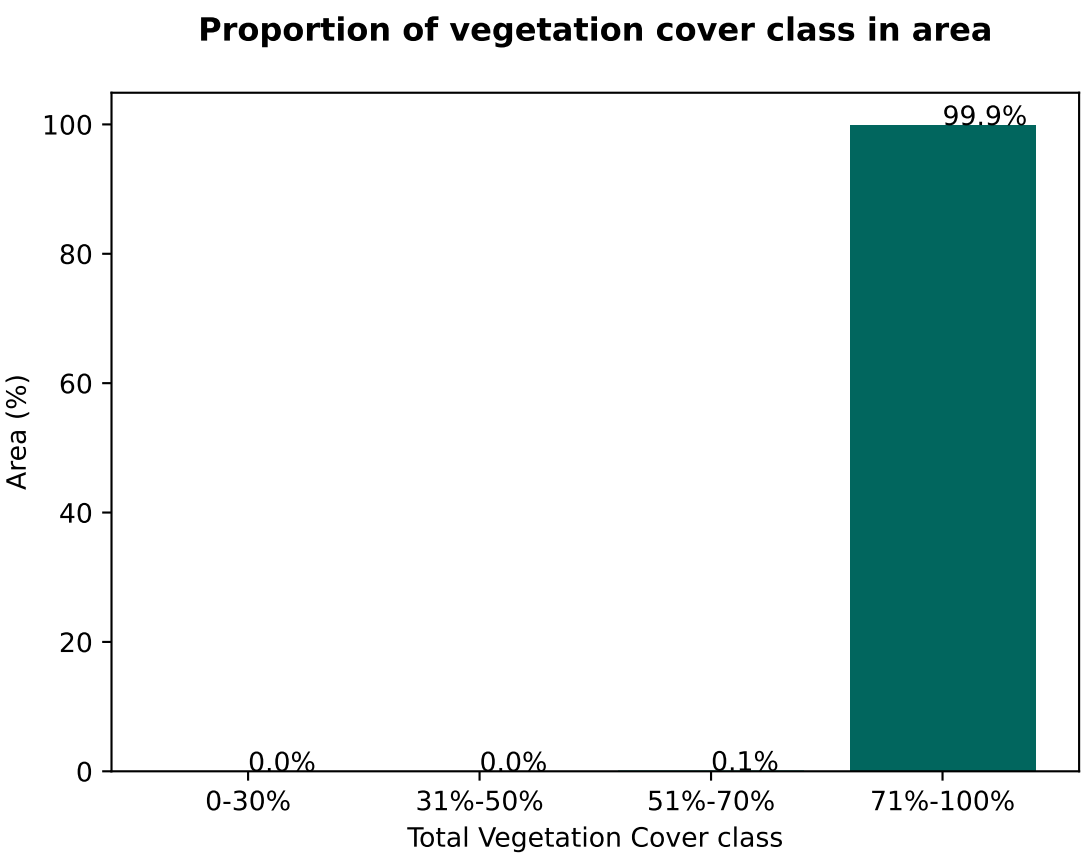
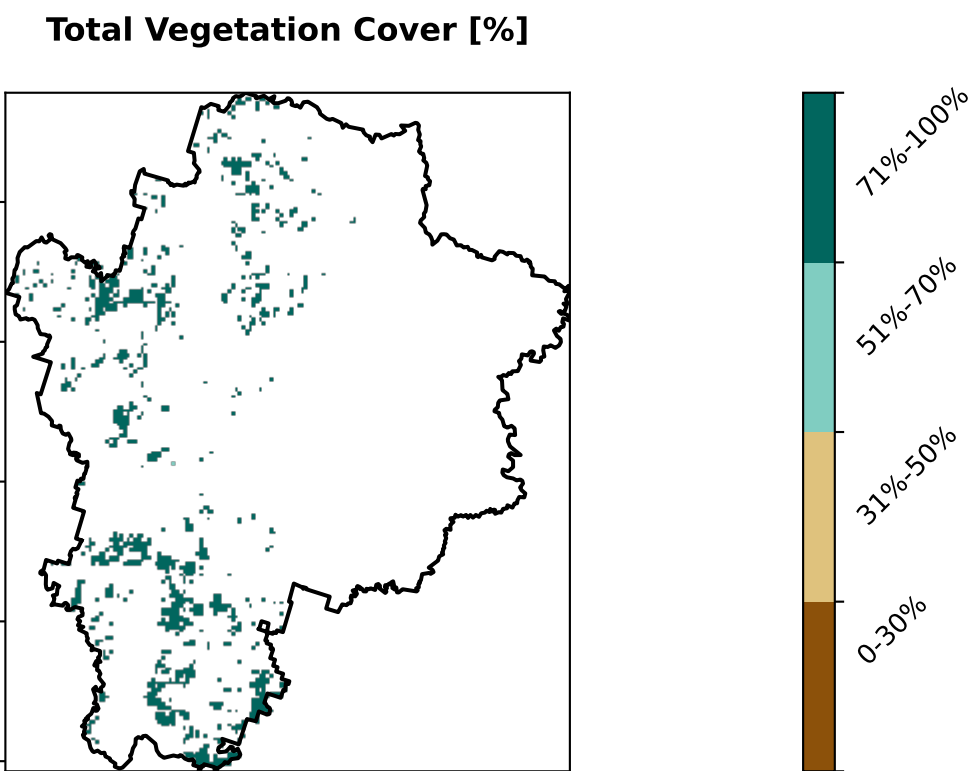
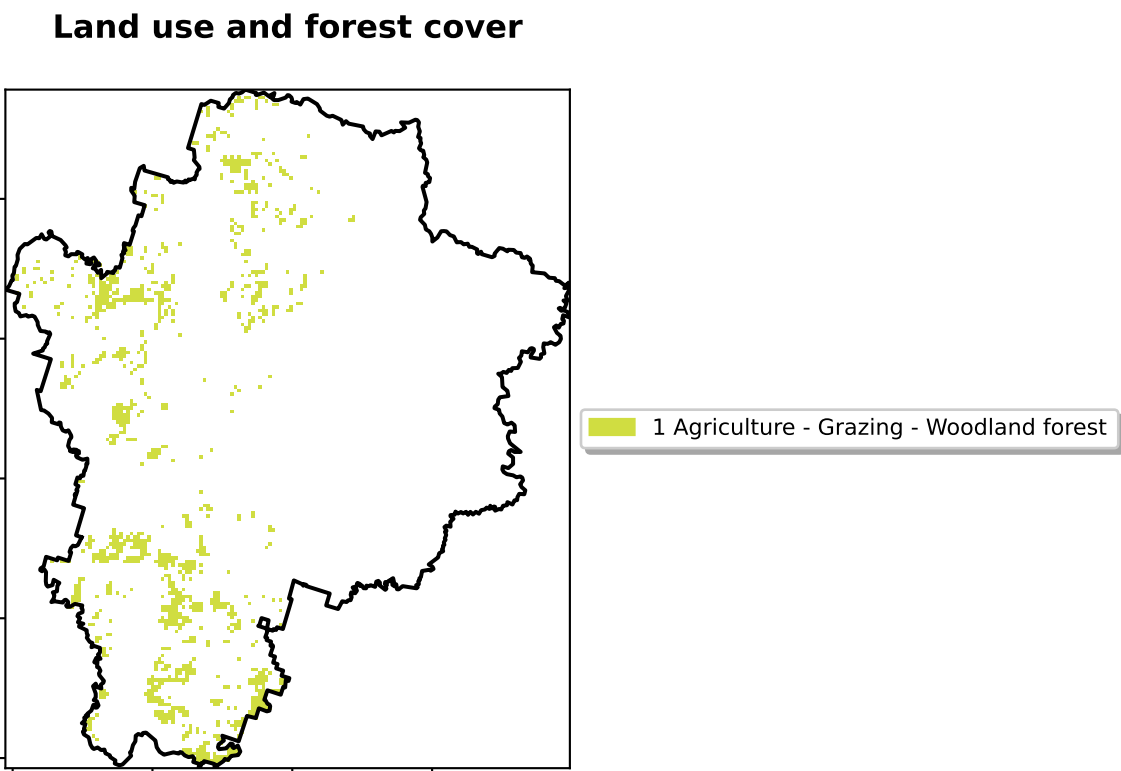
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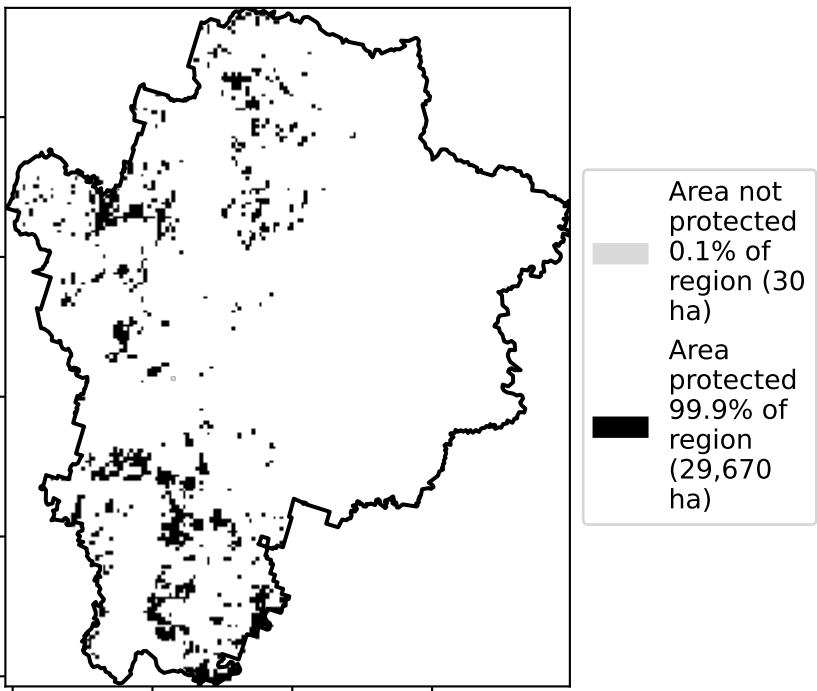


Grazing Woodland forest

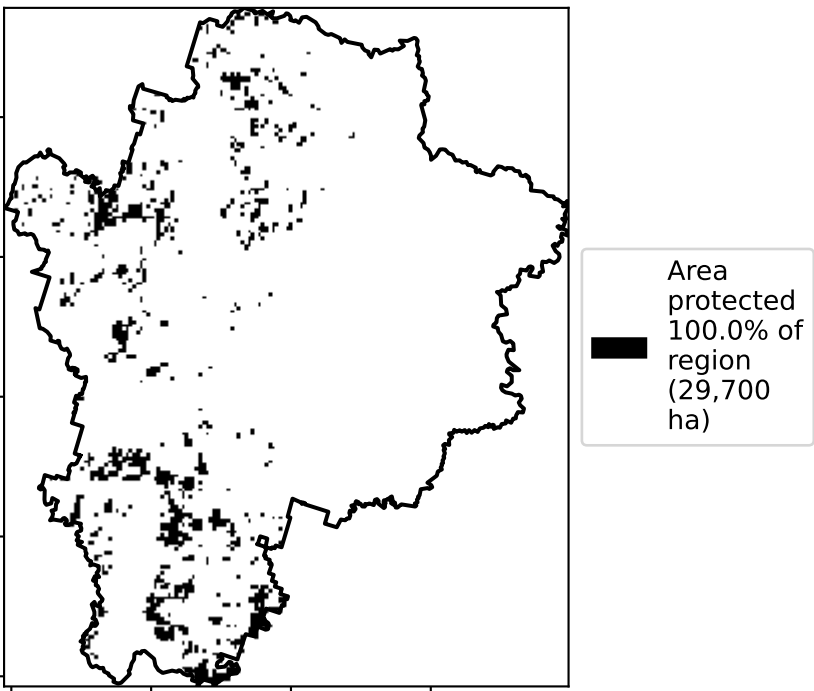
Catchment Scale
Land Use and Forests
of Australia (2018)
Derived from
Catchment Scale Land
Use of Australia
(2018) and Forests
of Australia (2018)



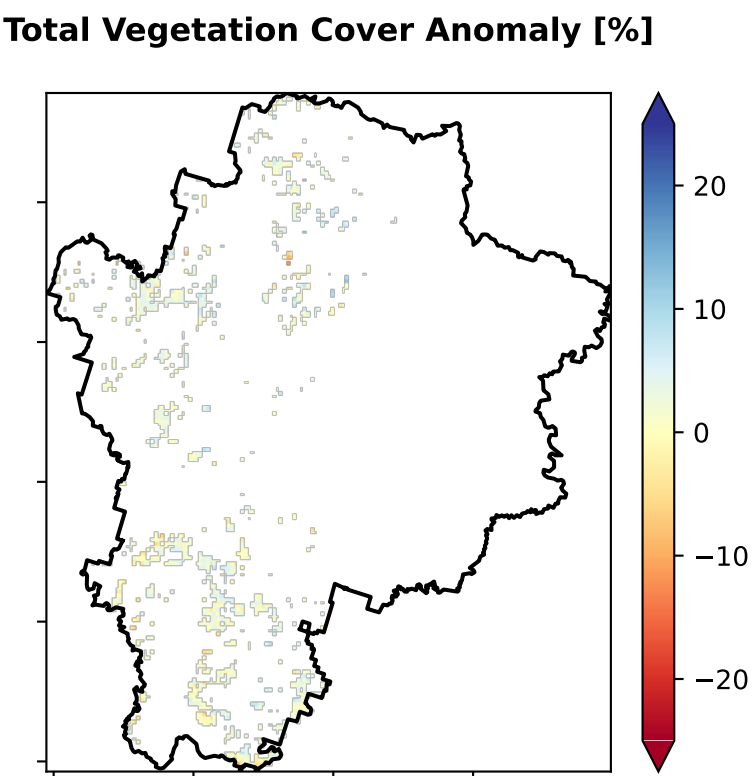
% Area protected from water erosion (>70%)



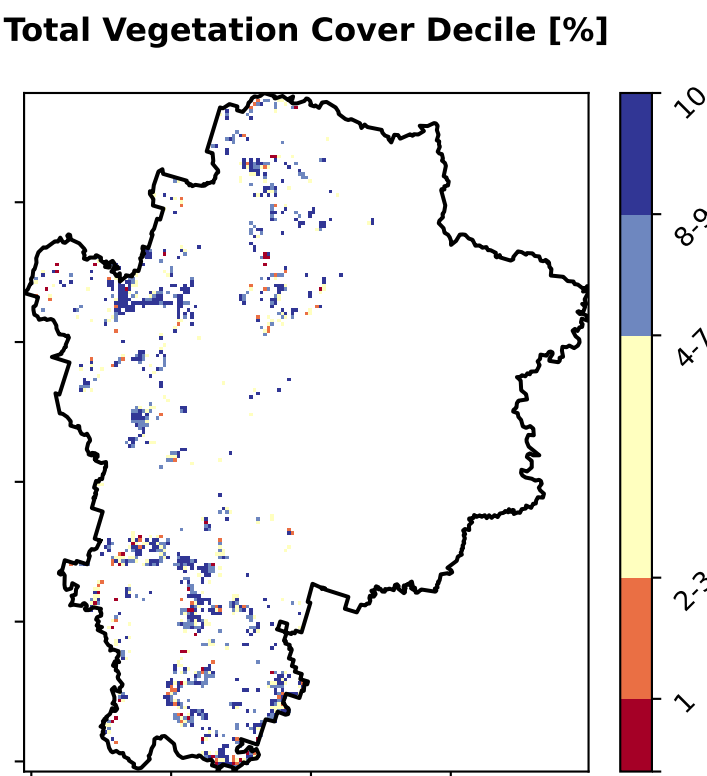
% Area protected from wind erosion (>50%)



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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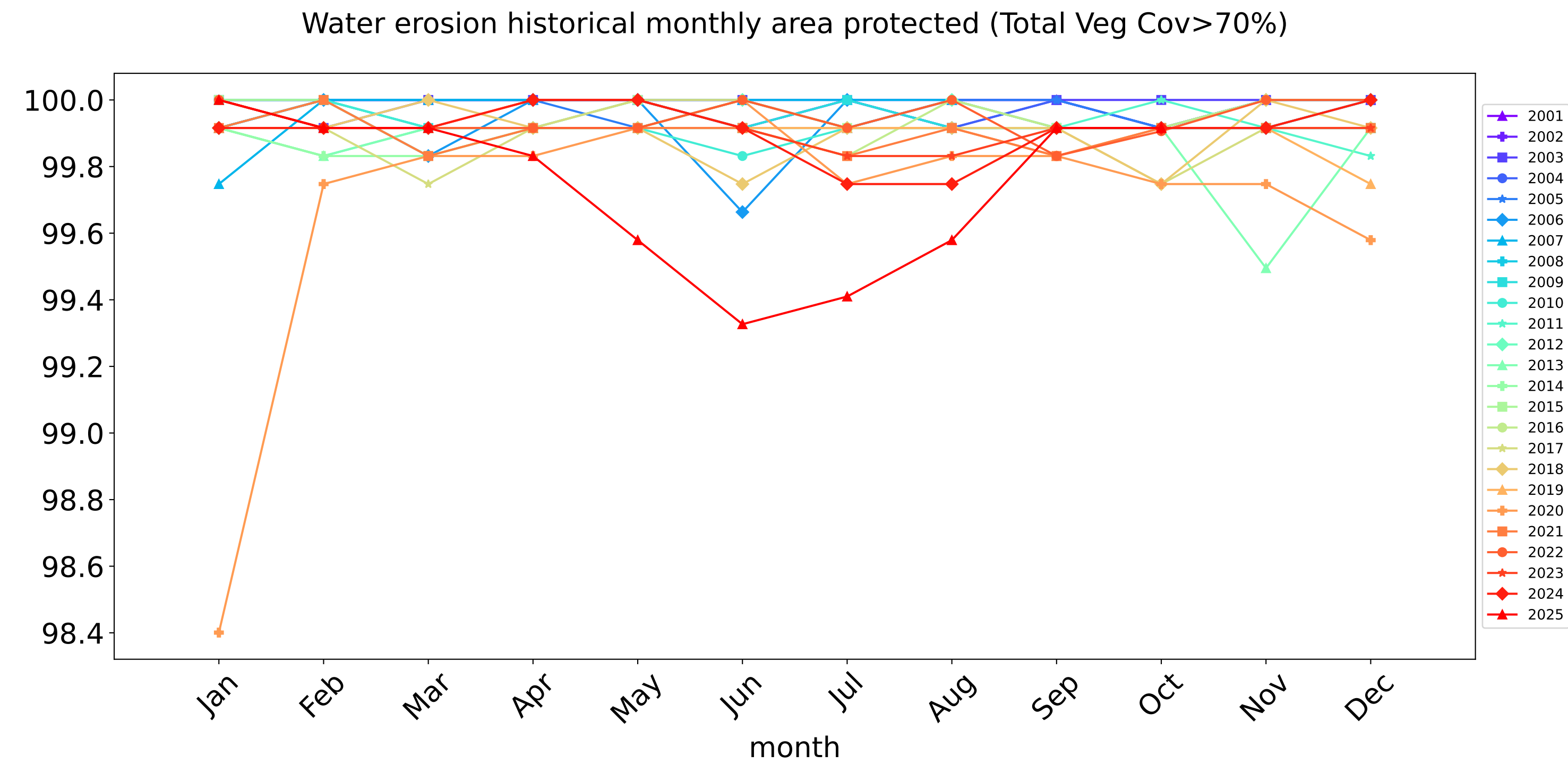
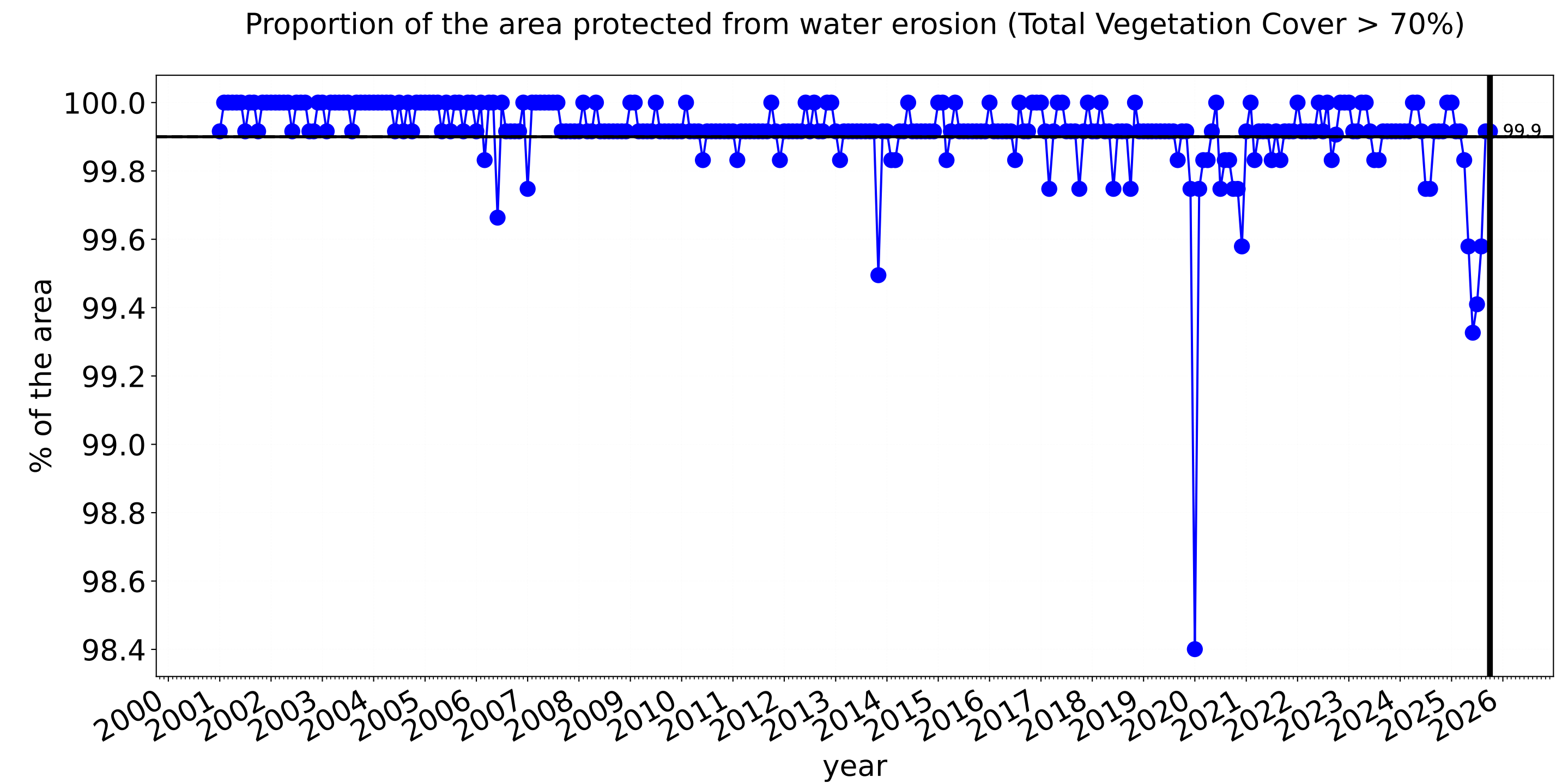
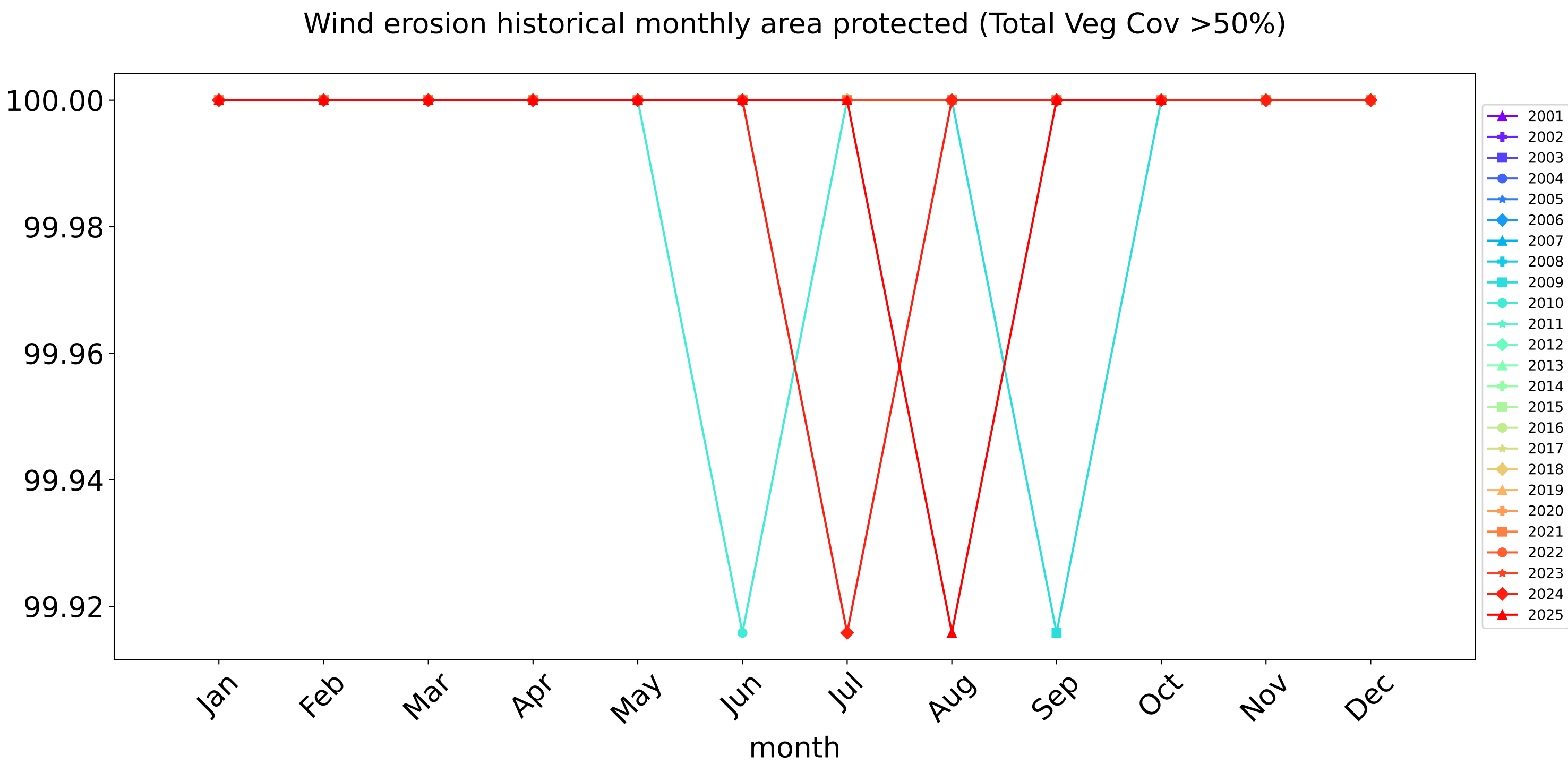
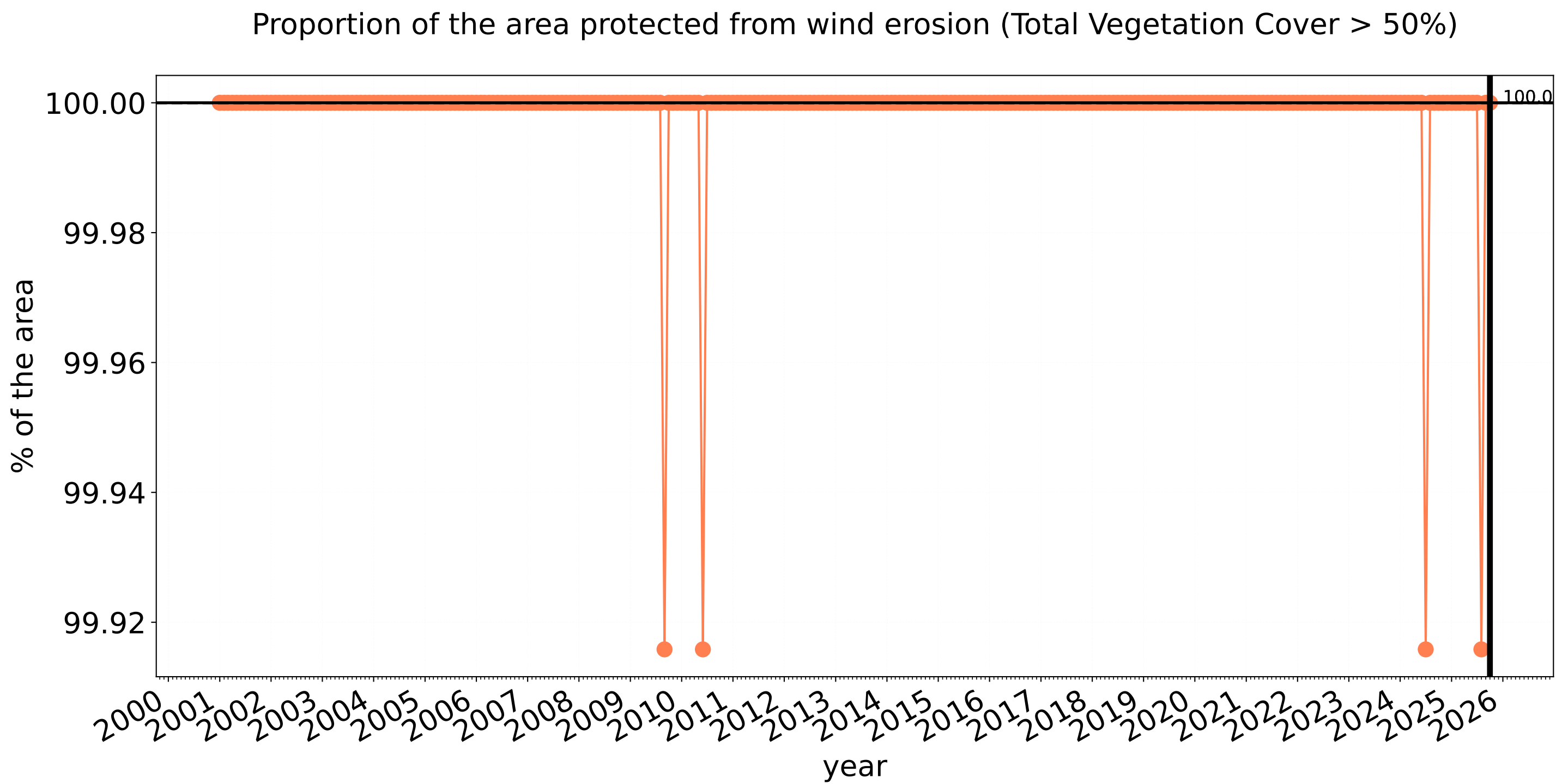


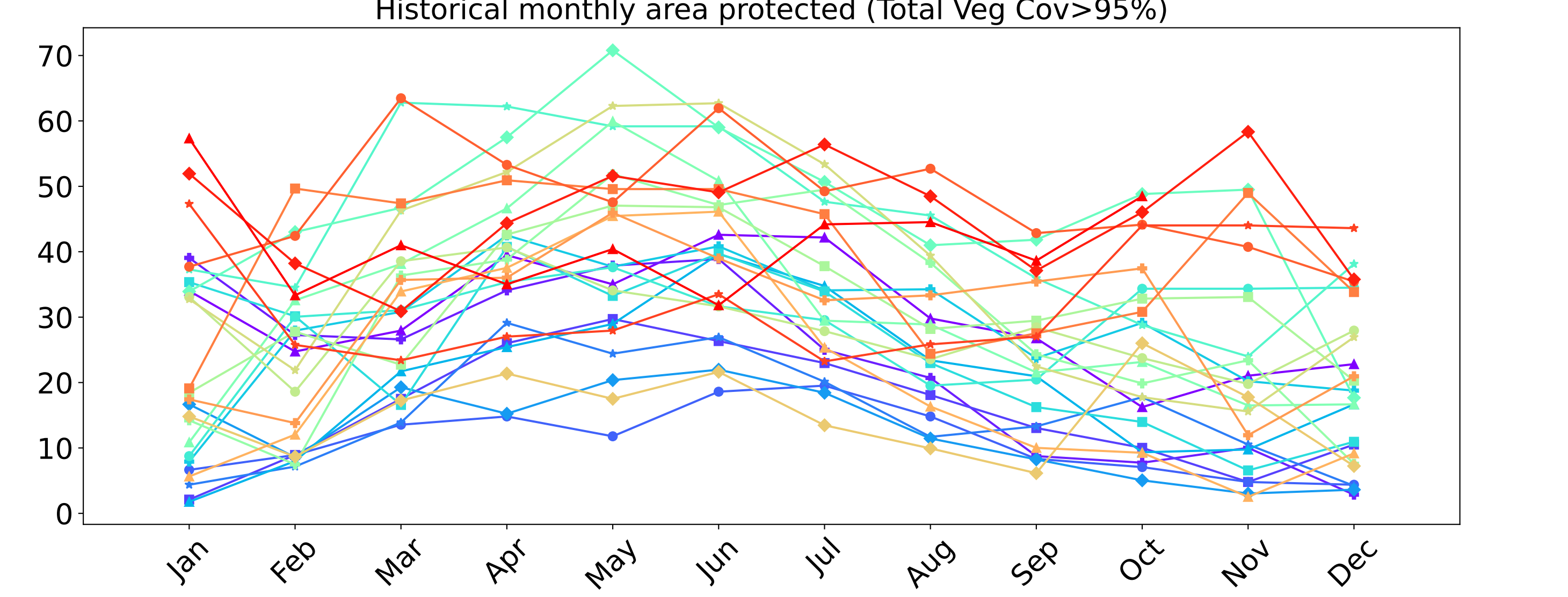
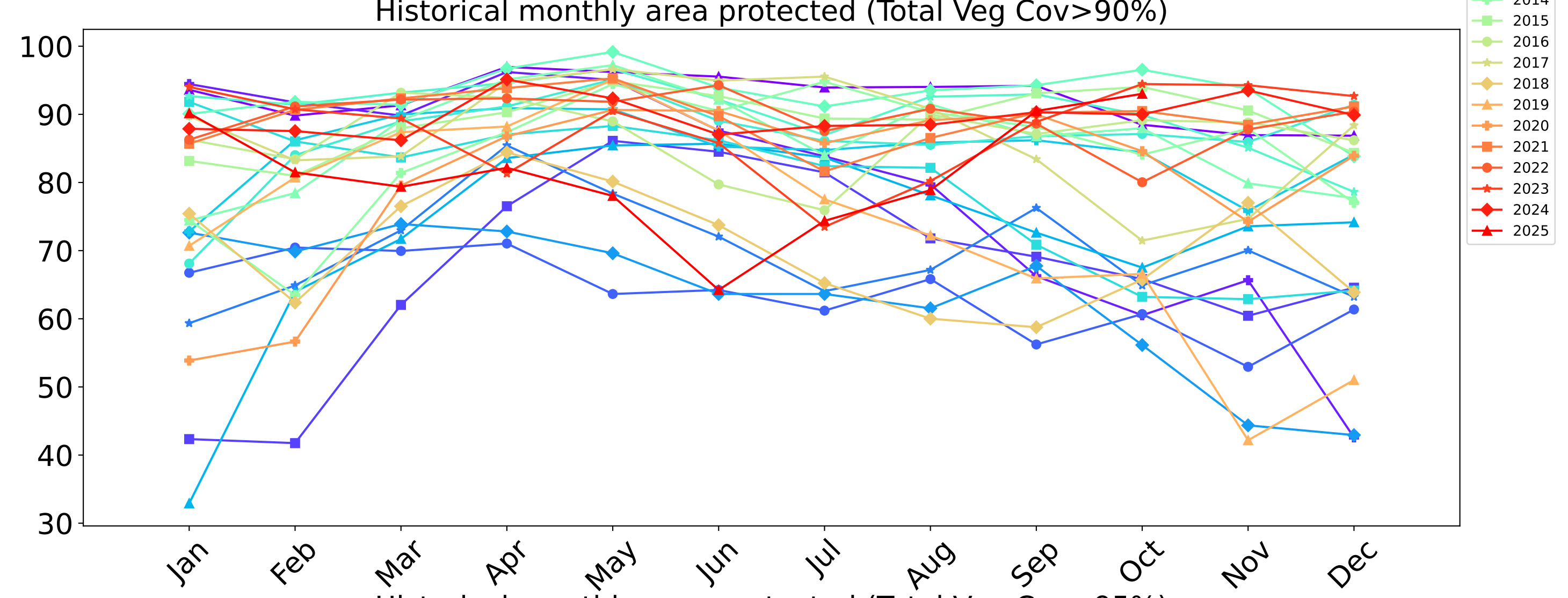
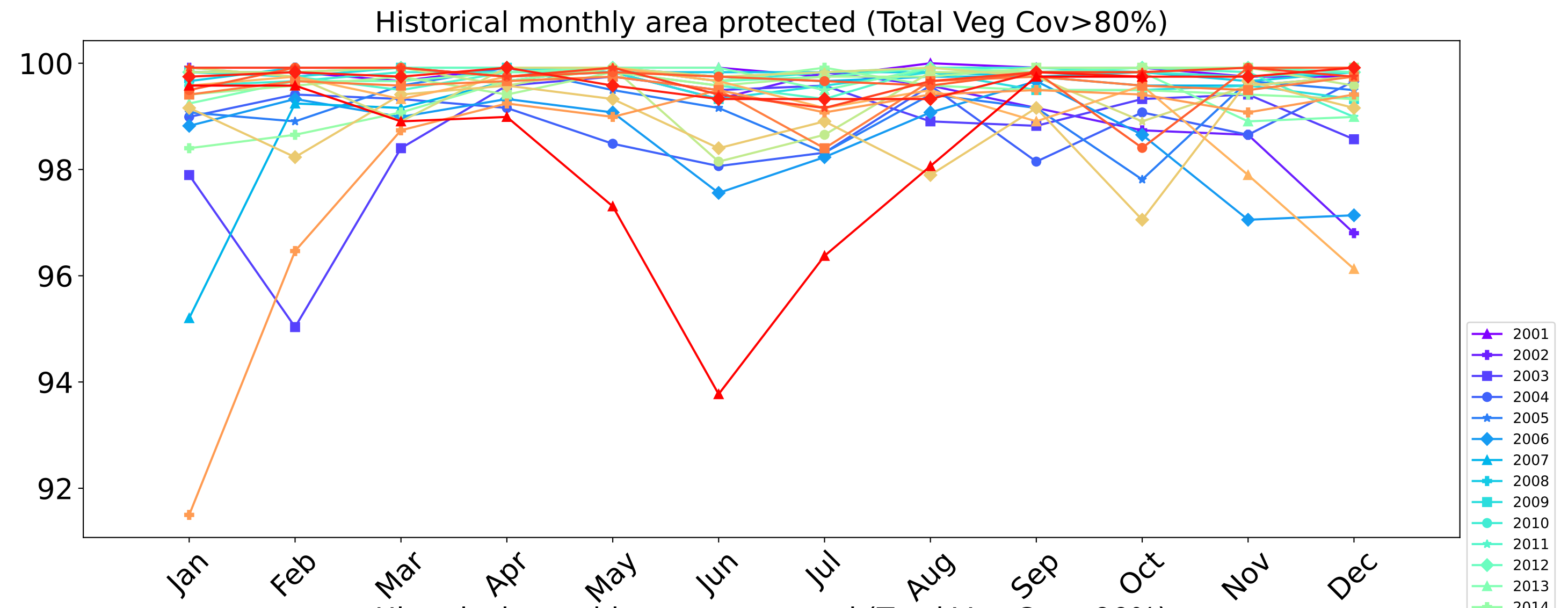
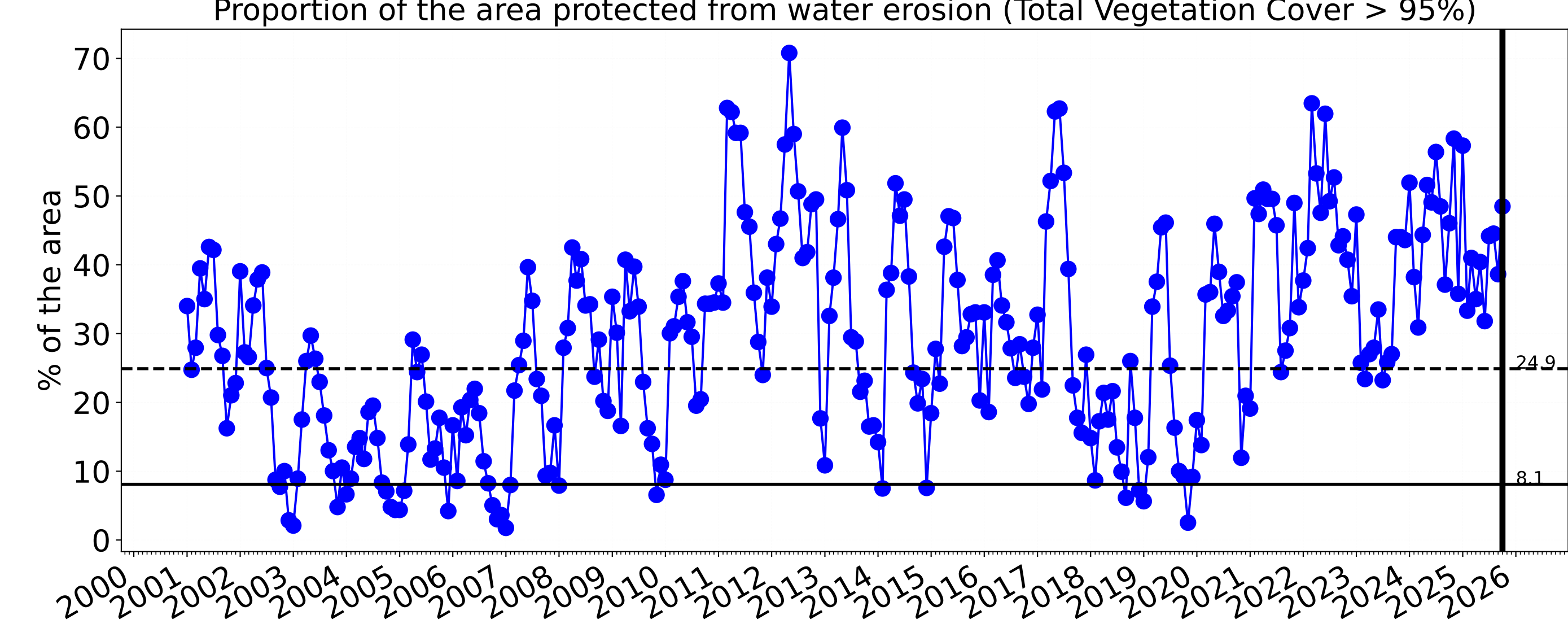
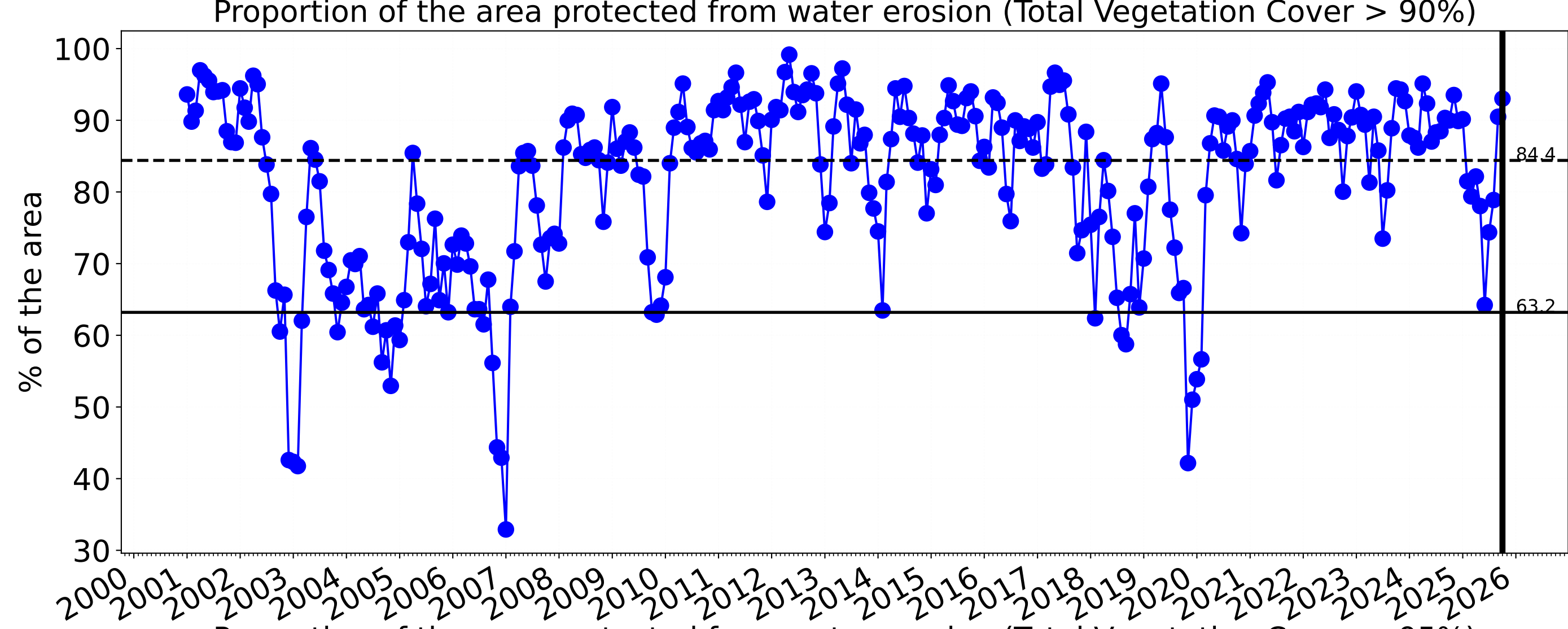
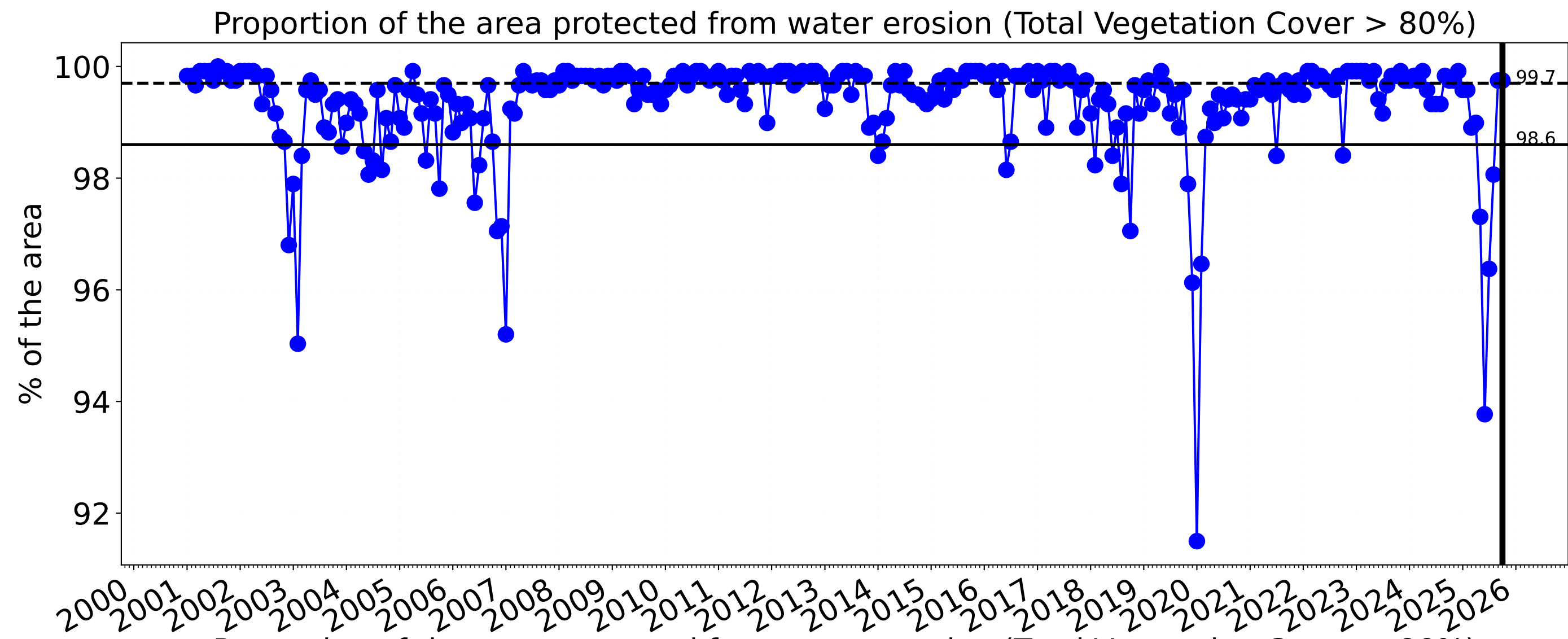
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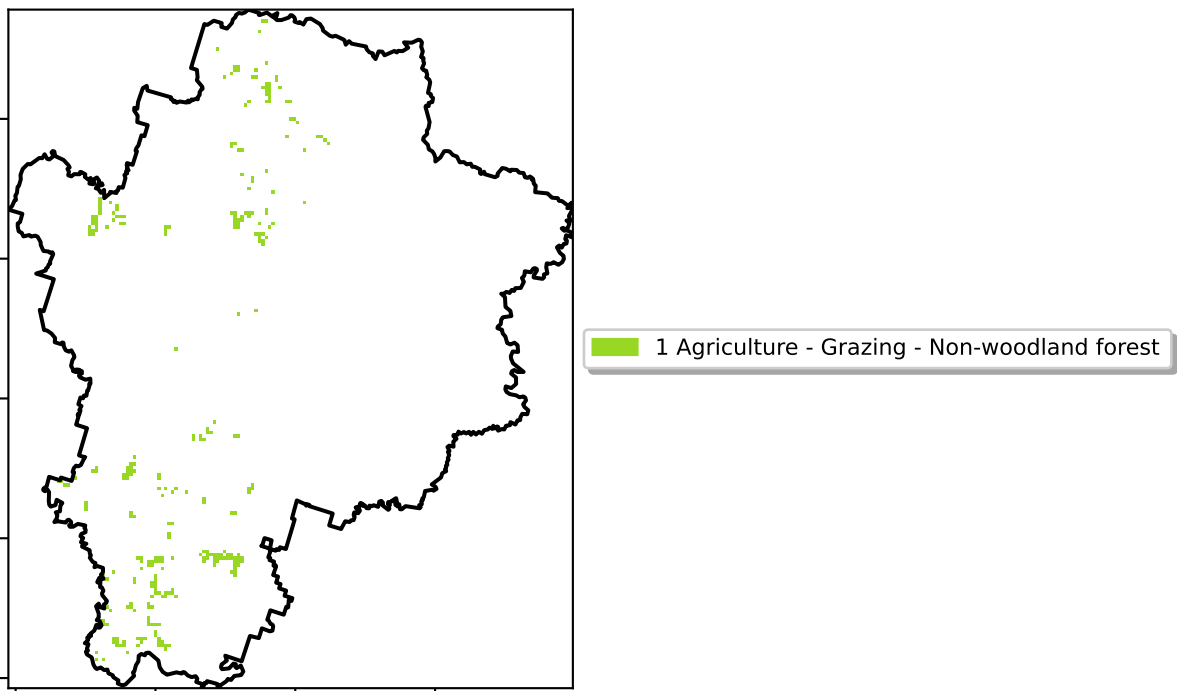
Grazing Woodland forest timeseries



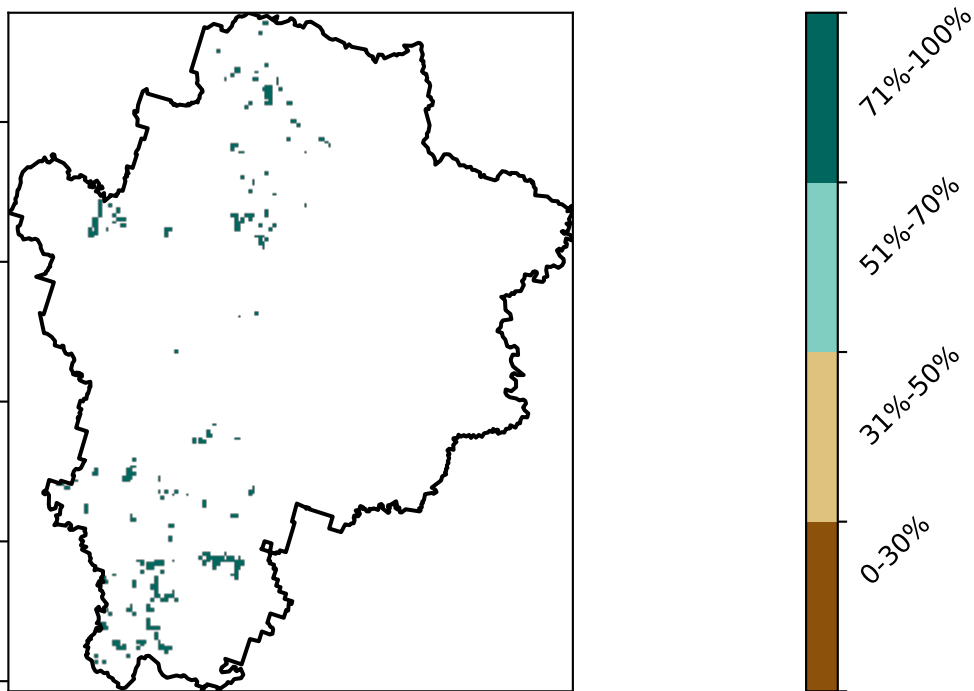


Grazing - Forest (non woodland)

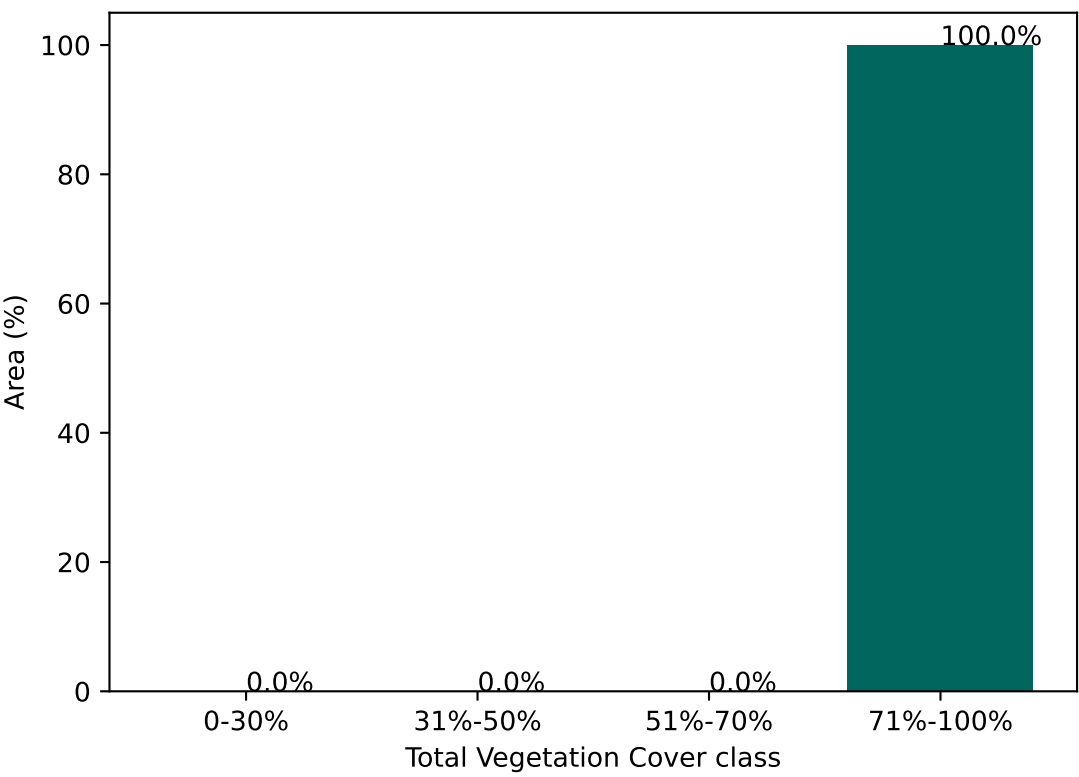
Land use and forest cover



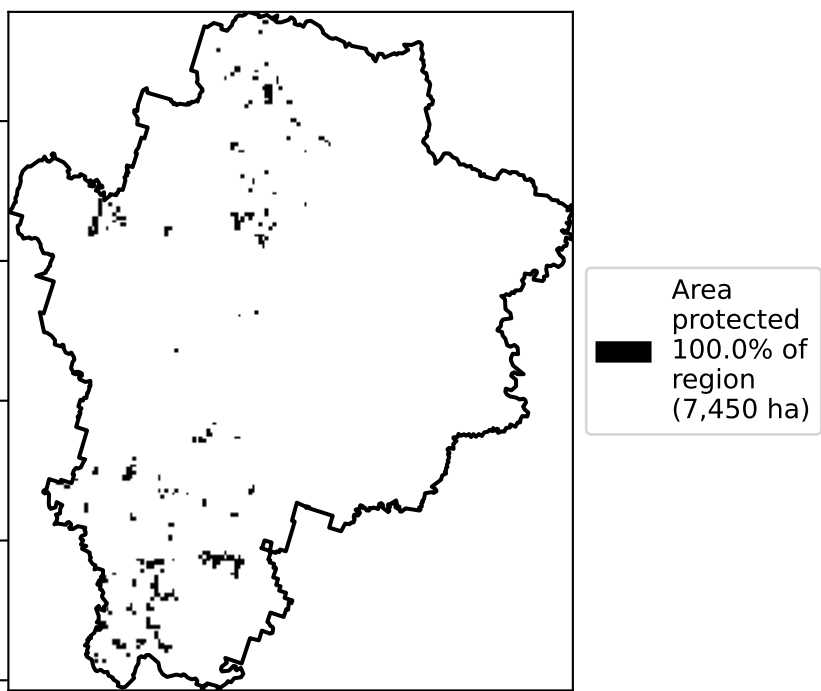
Total Vegetation Cover [%]



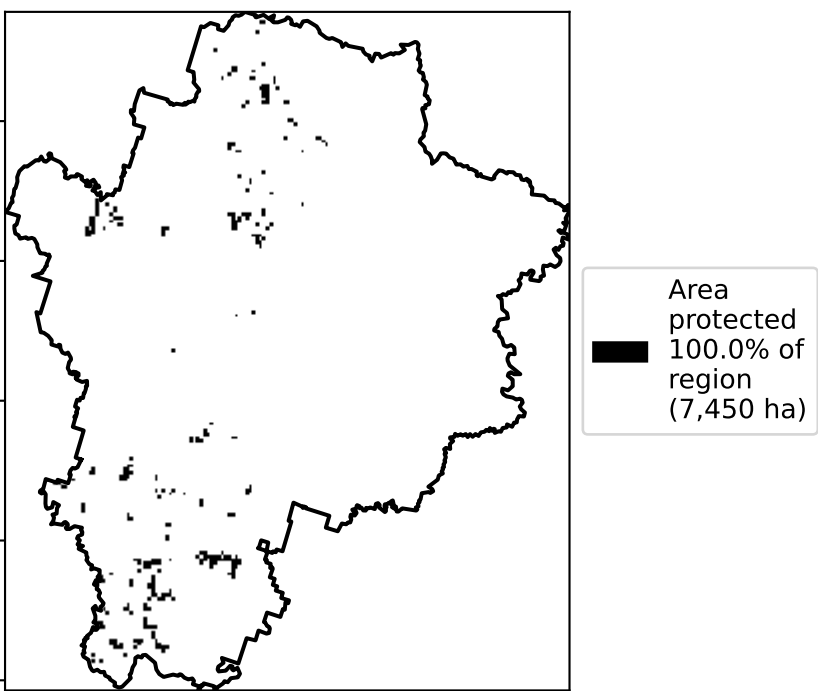
Proportion of vegetation cover class in area



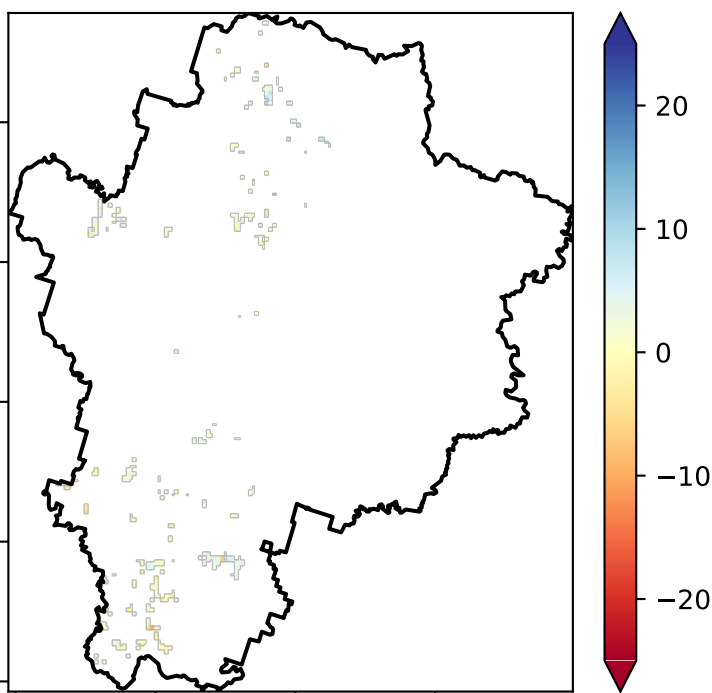
% Area protected from water erosion (>70%)



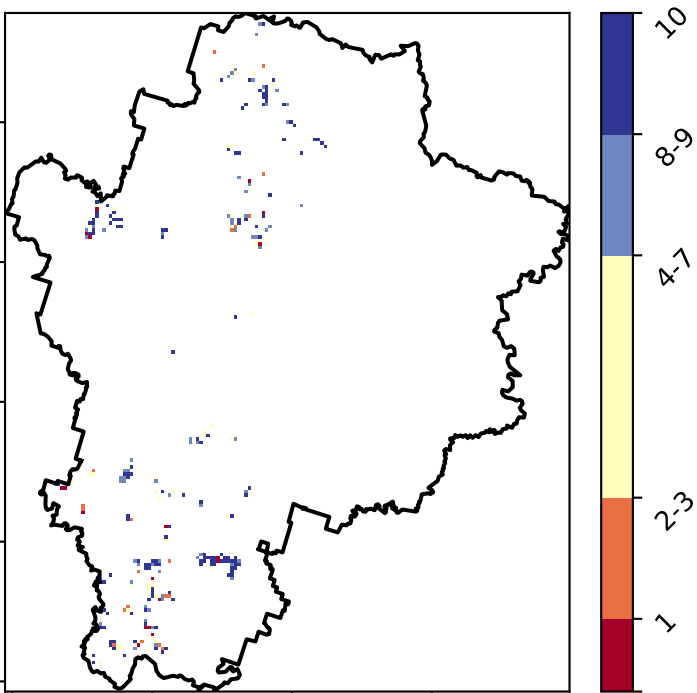
% Area protected from wind erosion (>50%)



Total Vegetation Cover Anomaly [%]



Total Vegetation Cover Decile [%]



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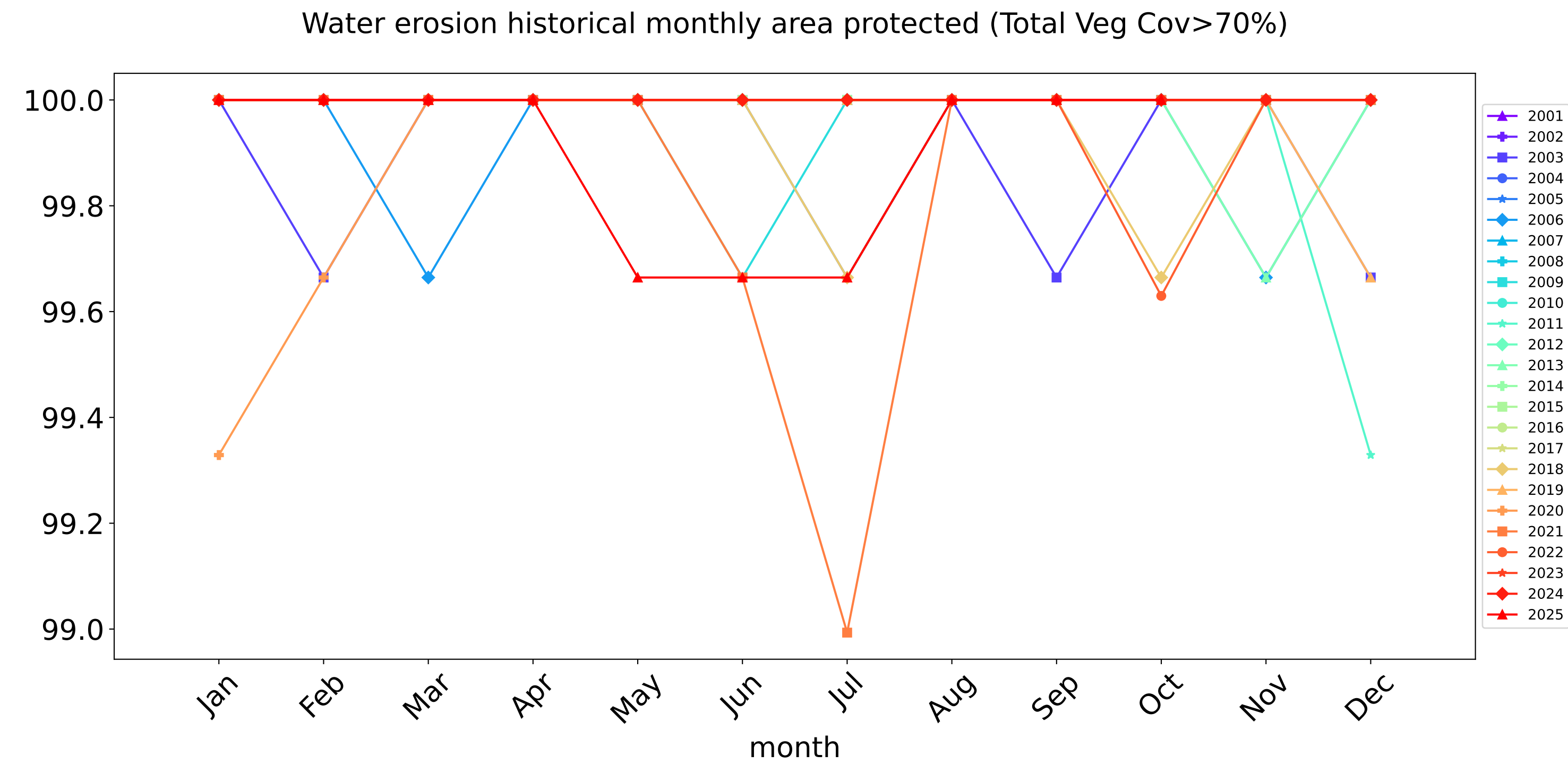
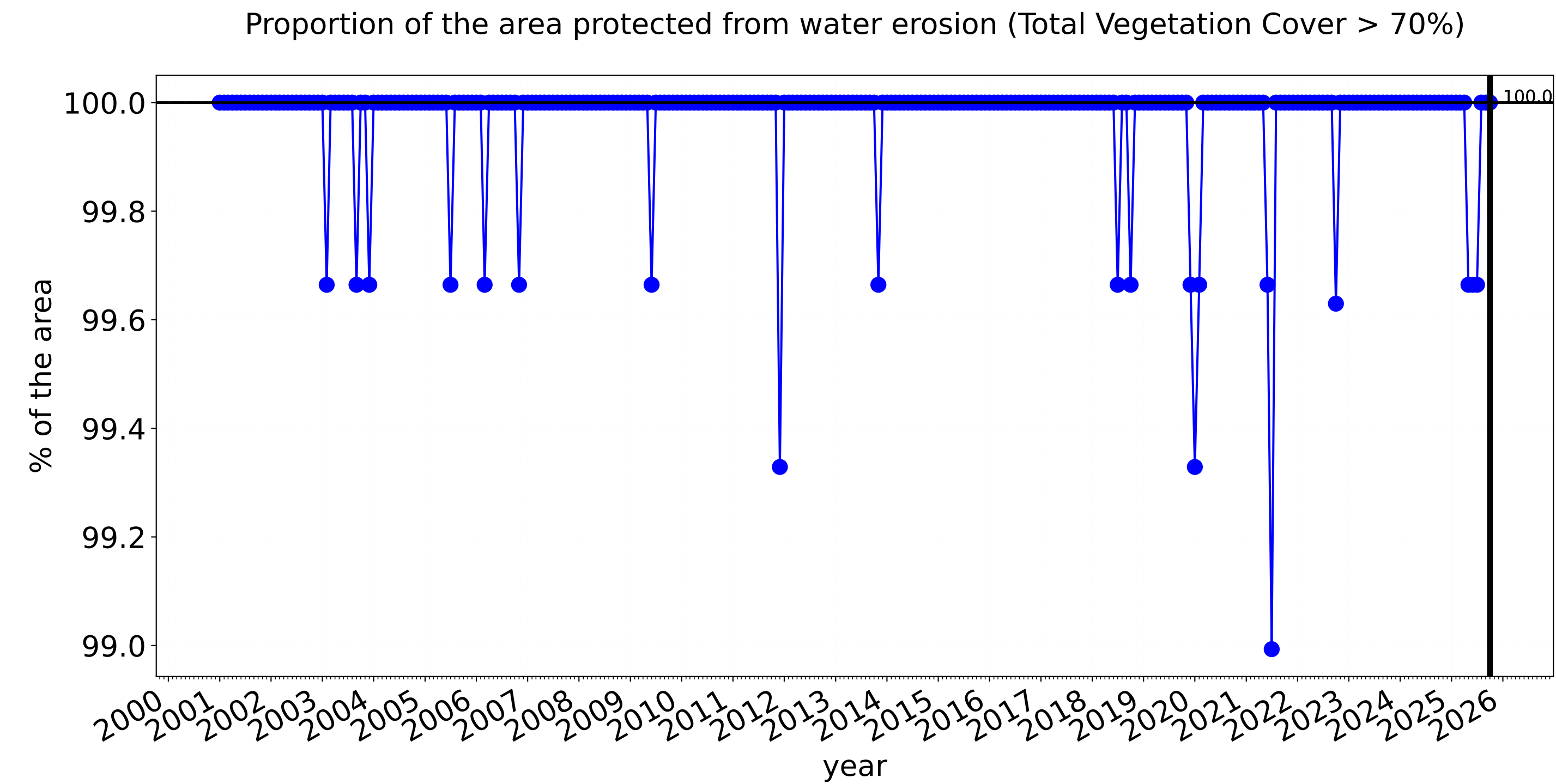
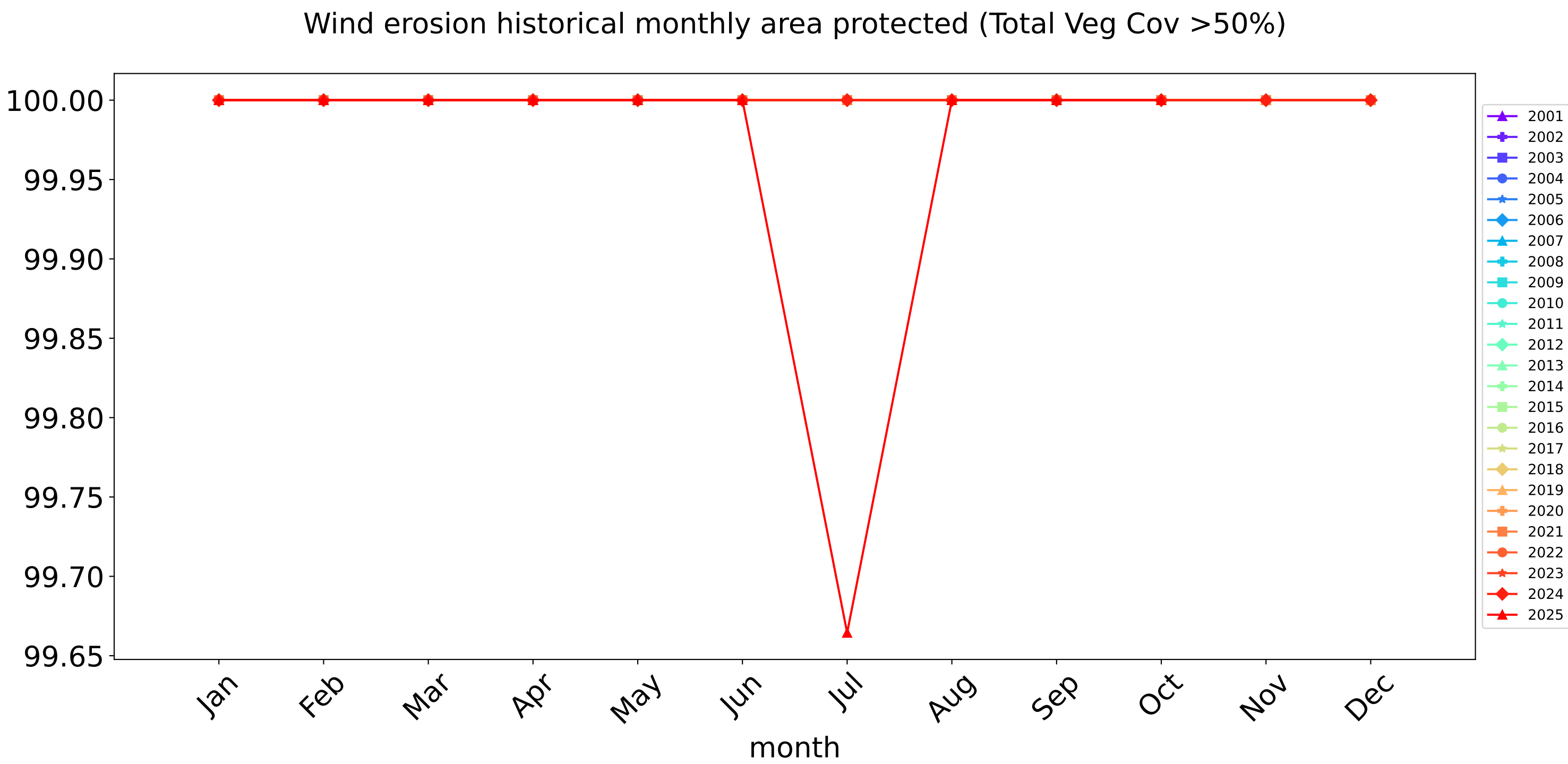
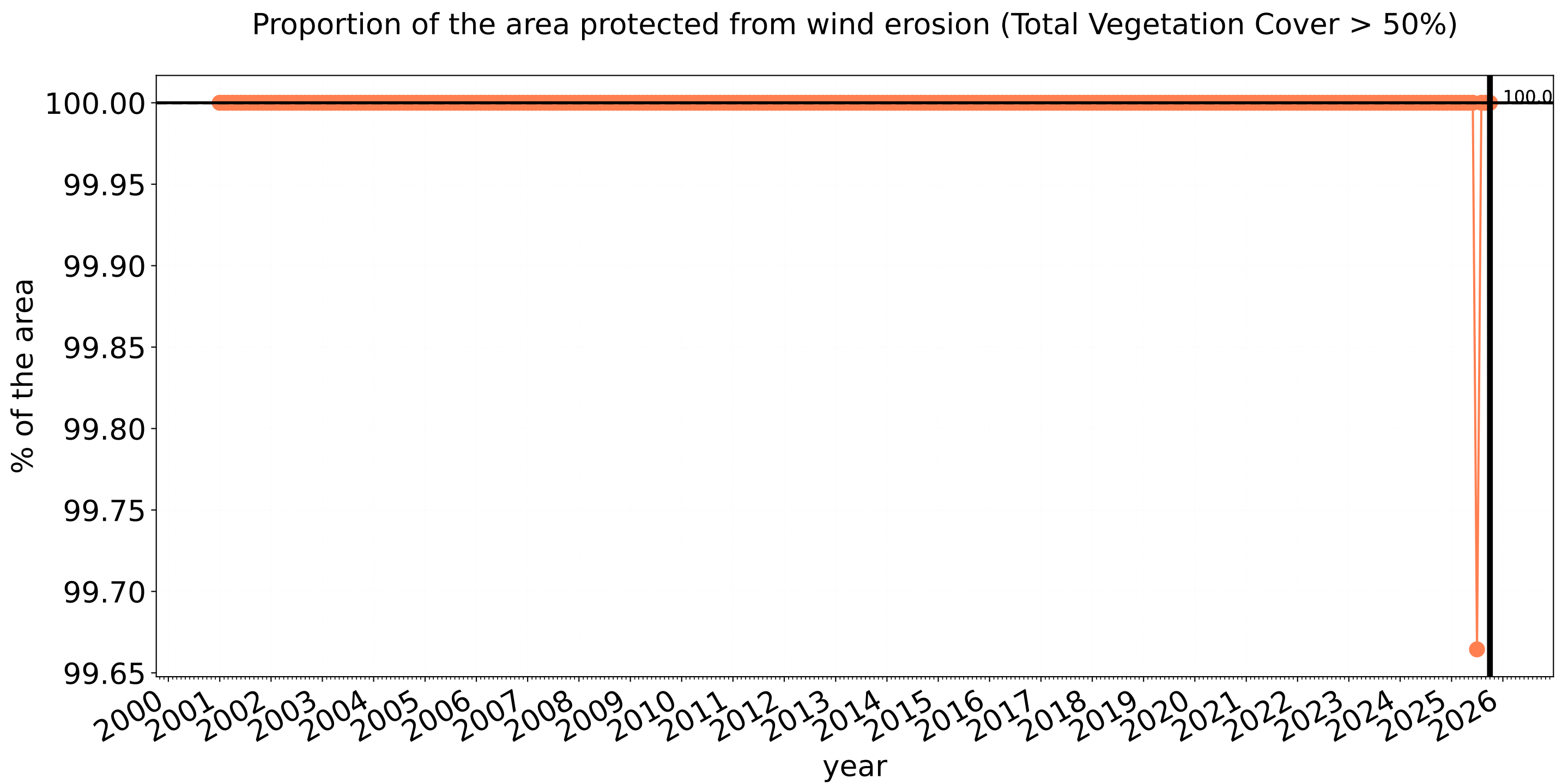


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Grazing - Forest (non woodland) timeseries

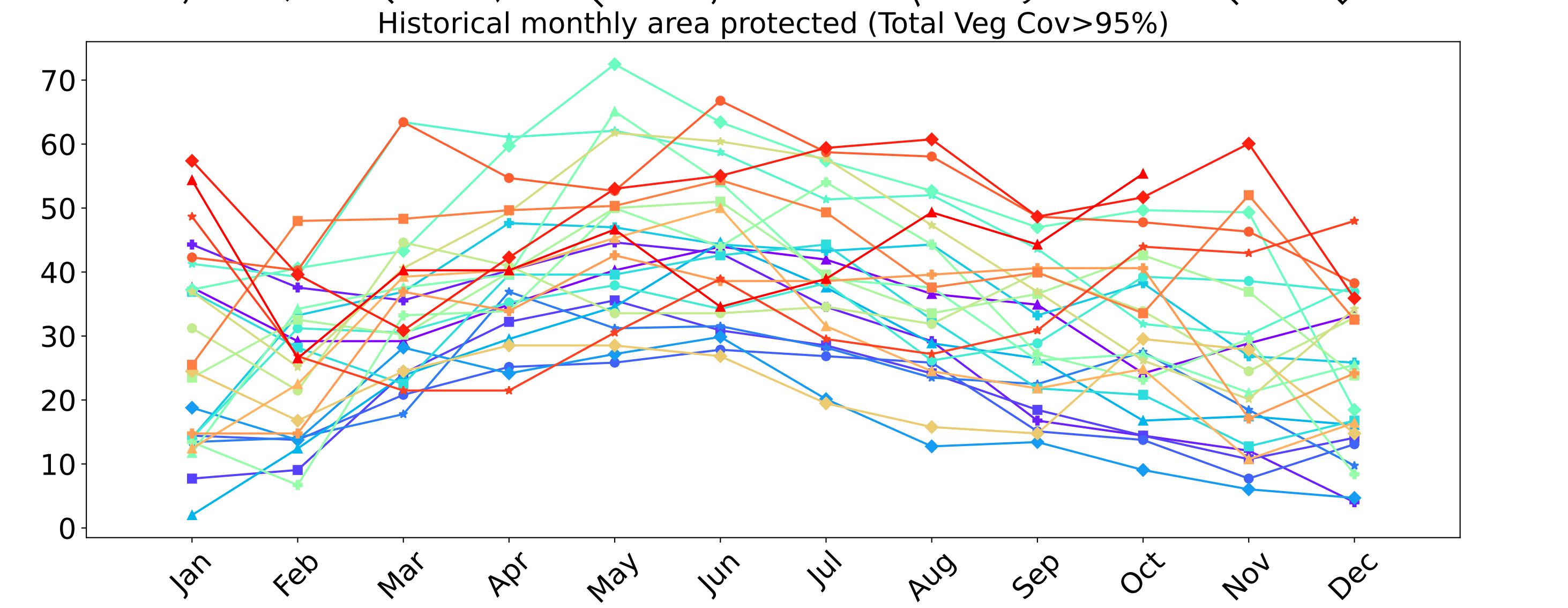
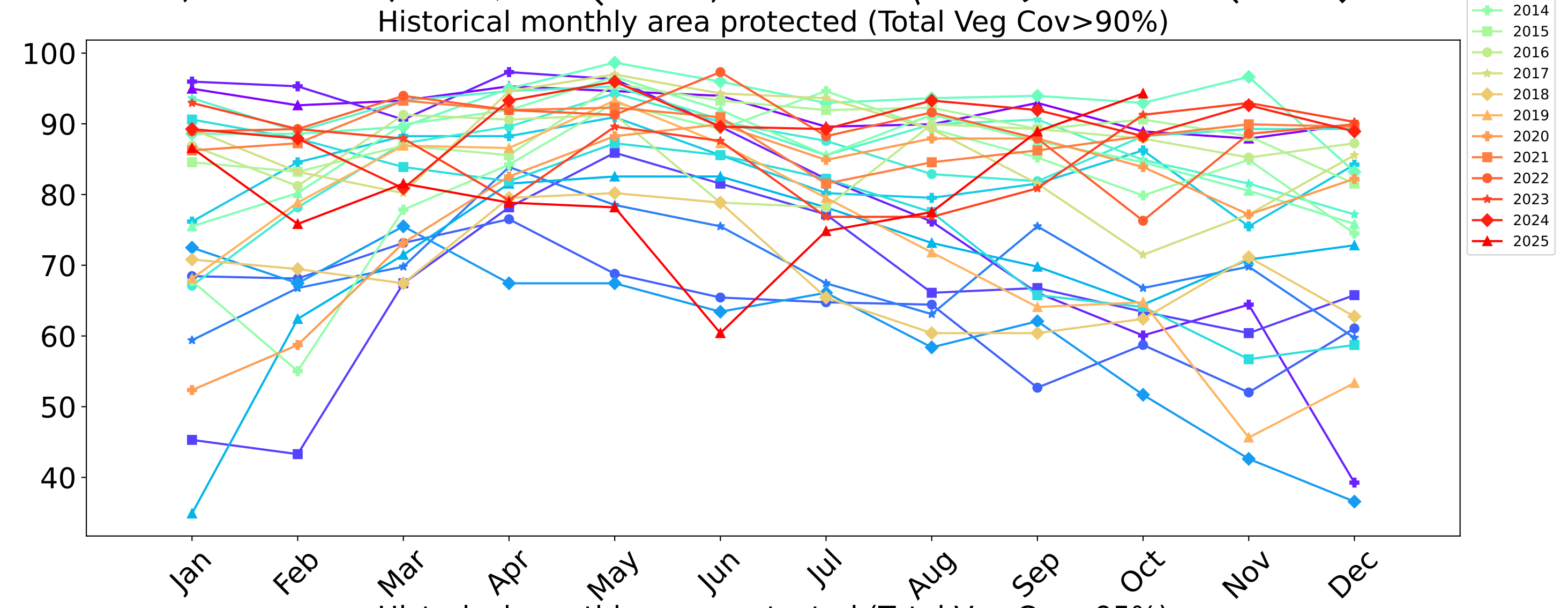
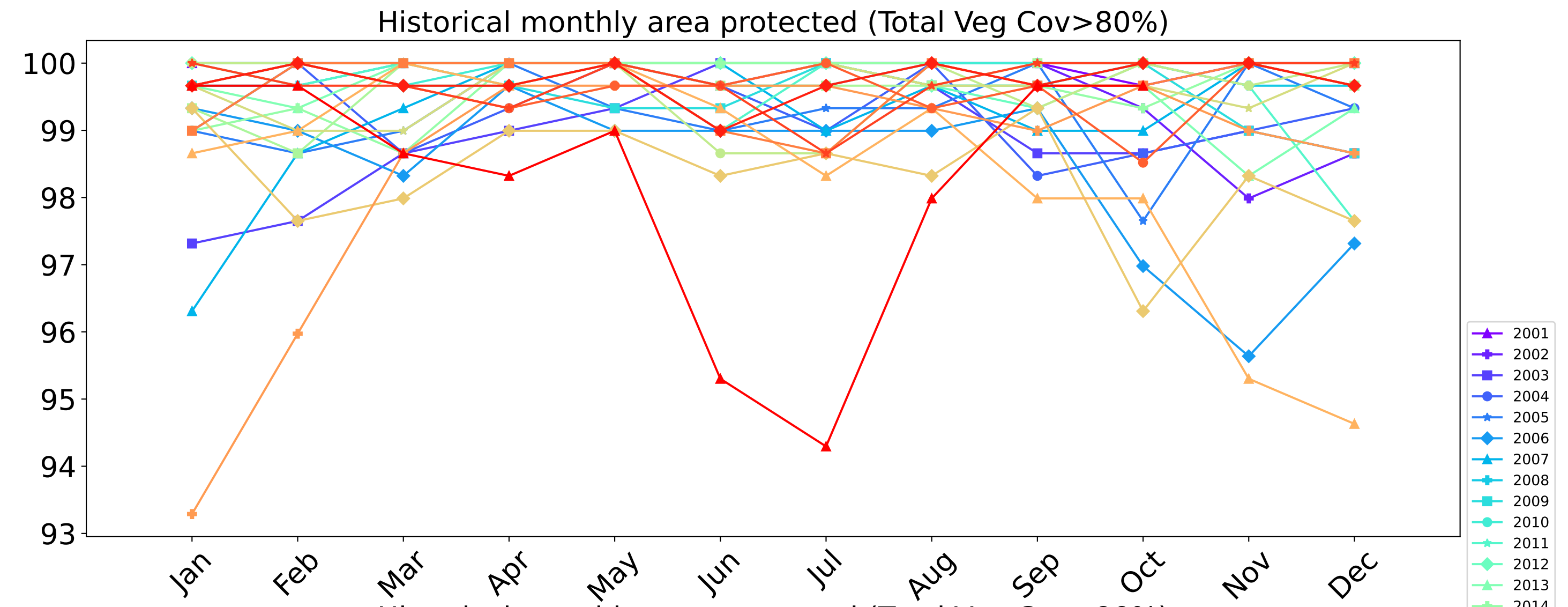
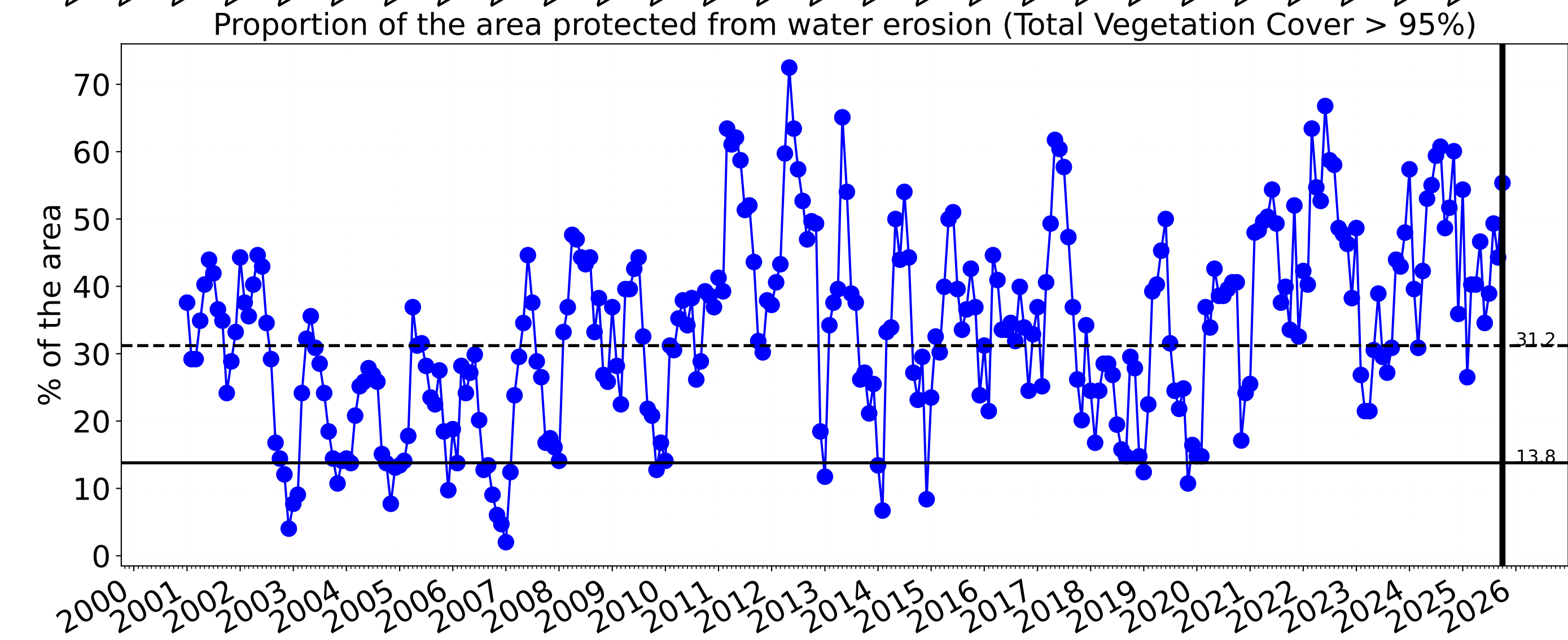
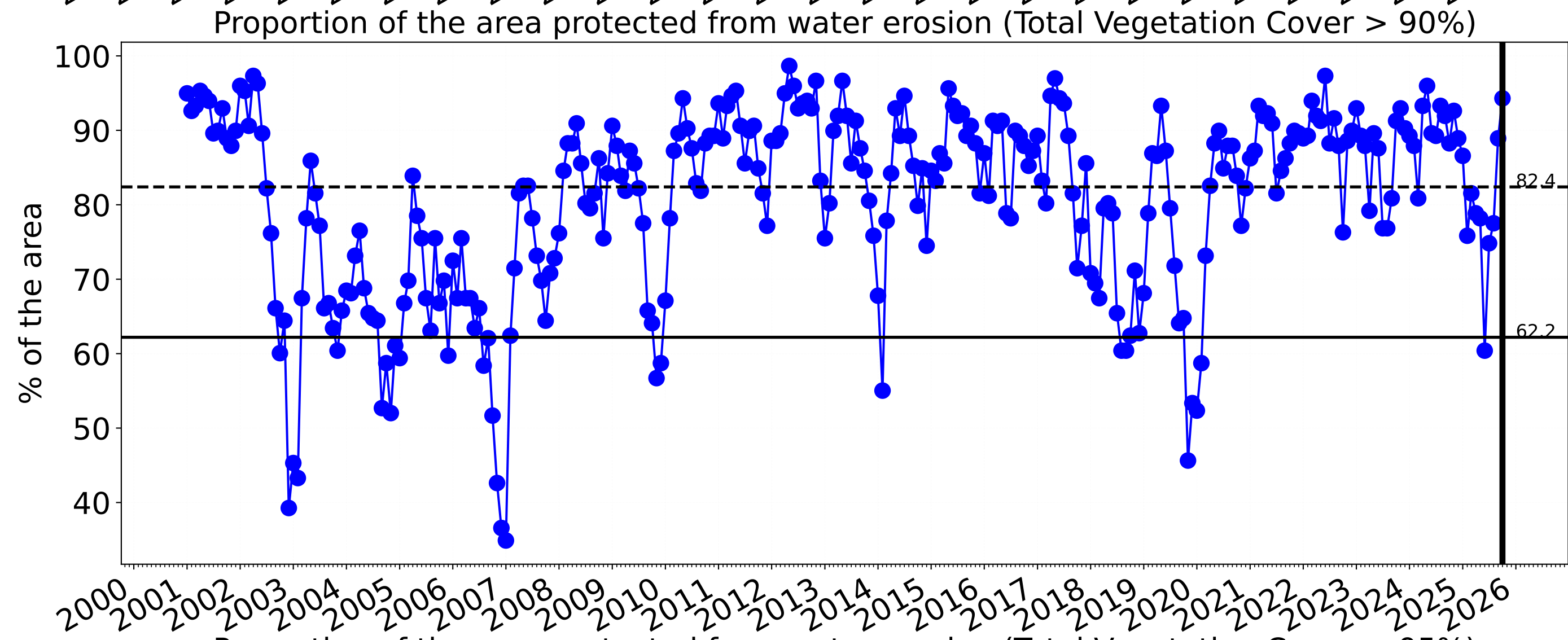
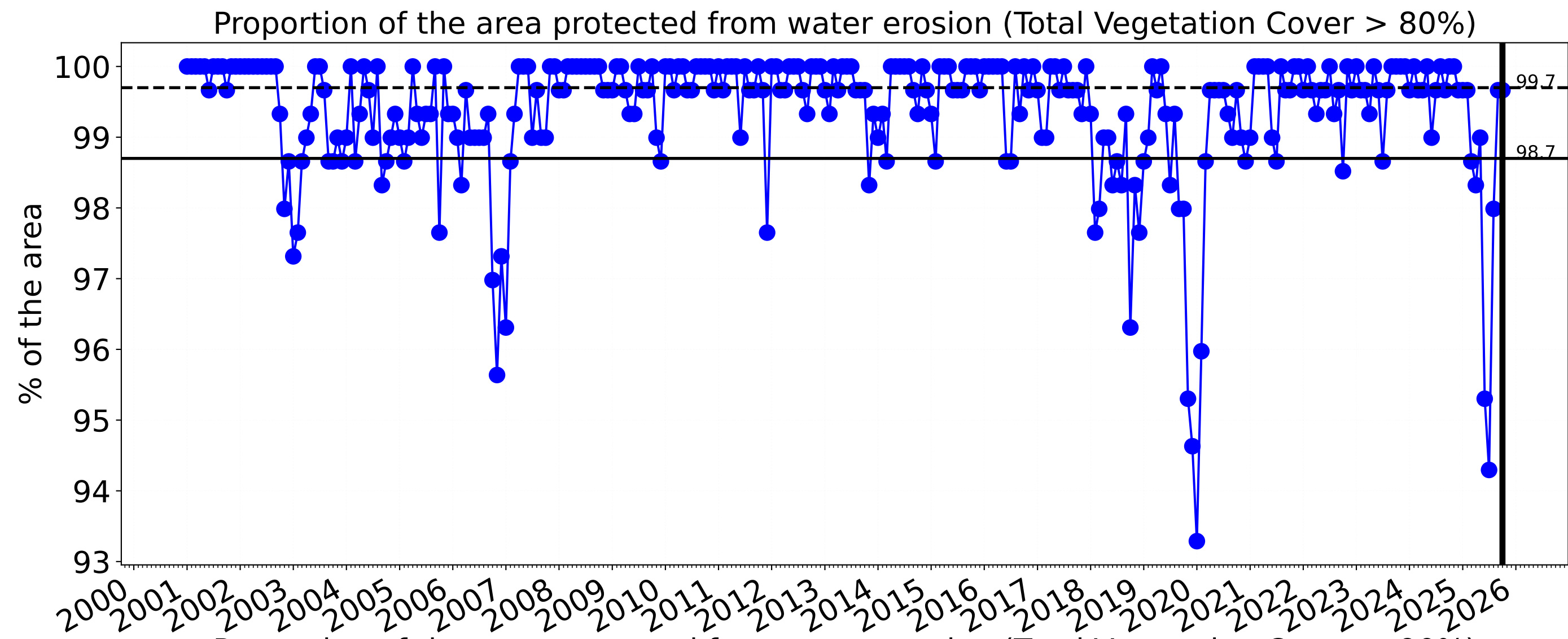


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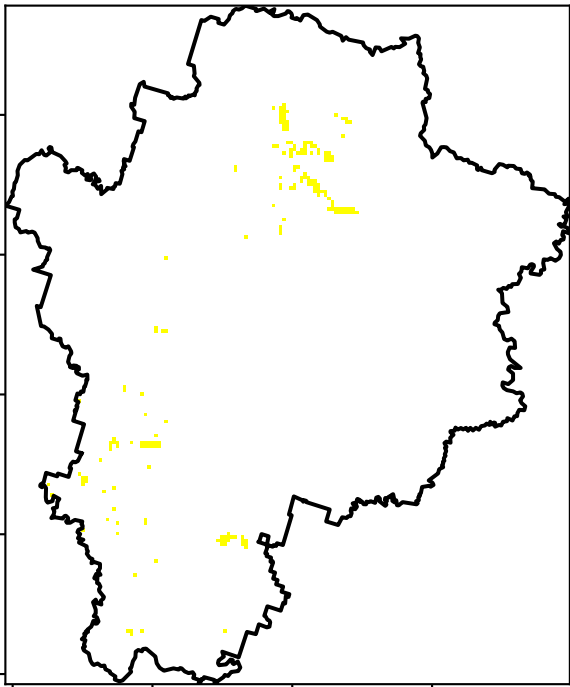




Cropping

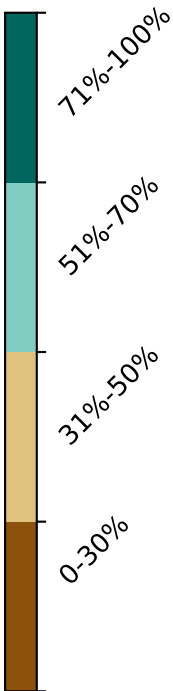
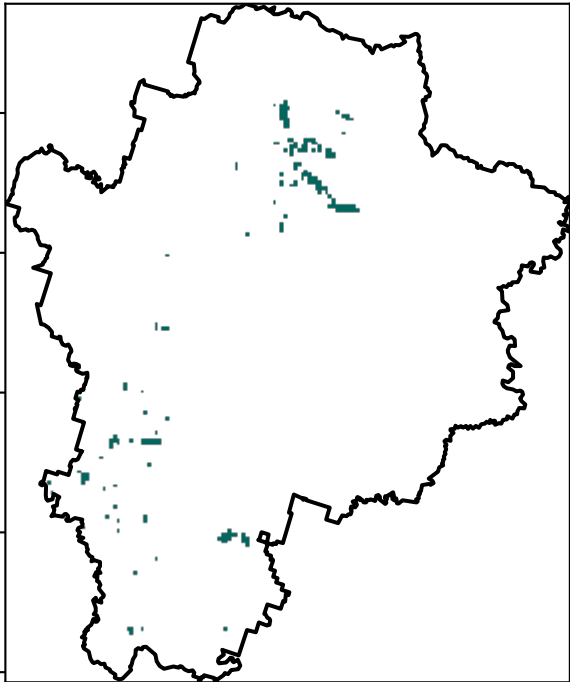
Land use and forest cover

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

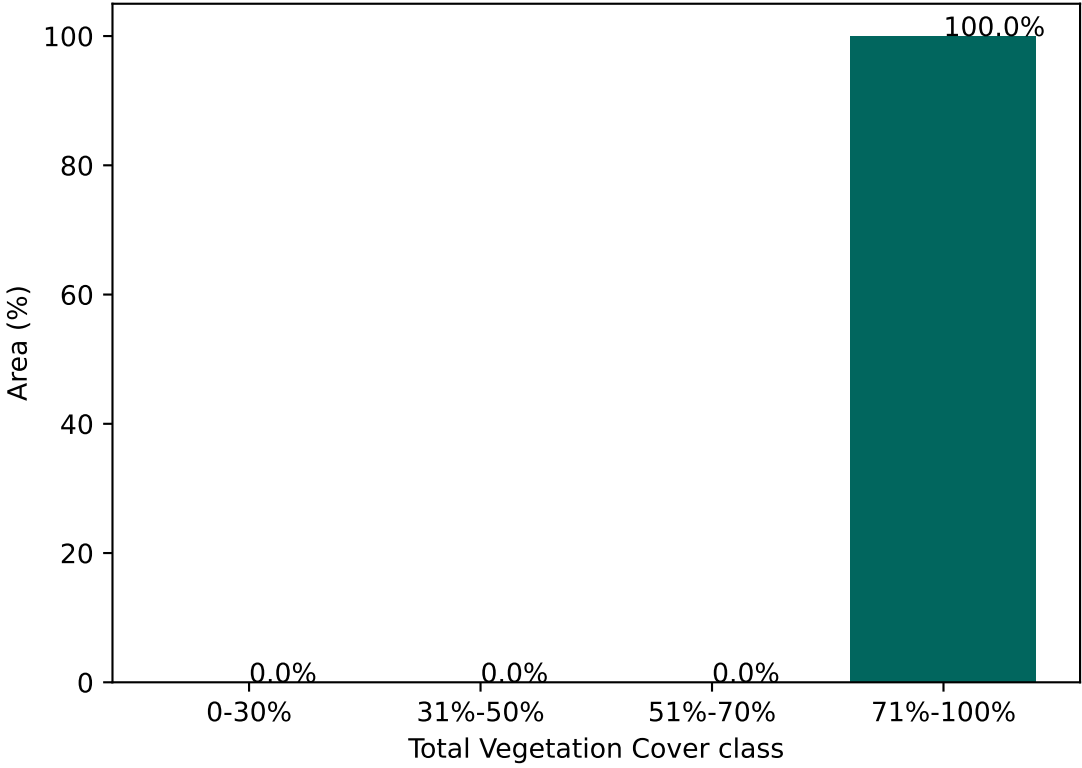


1 Agriculture - Cropping - Non-irrigated

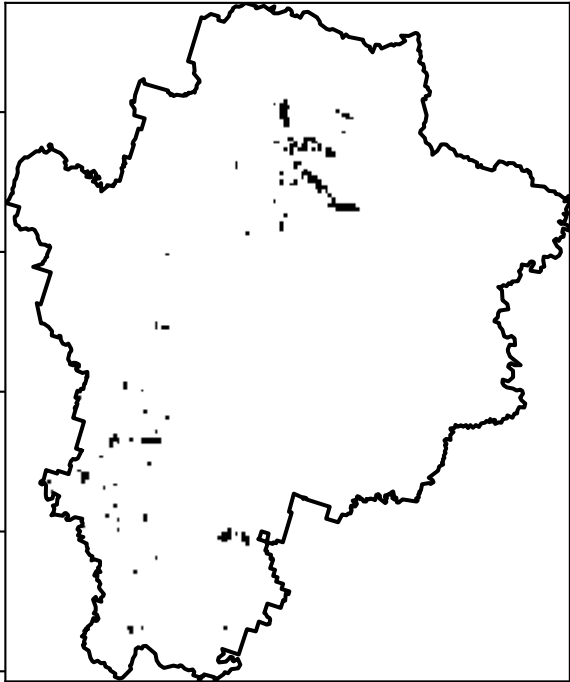
Total Vegetation Cover [%]



Proportion of vegetation cover class in area

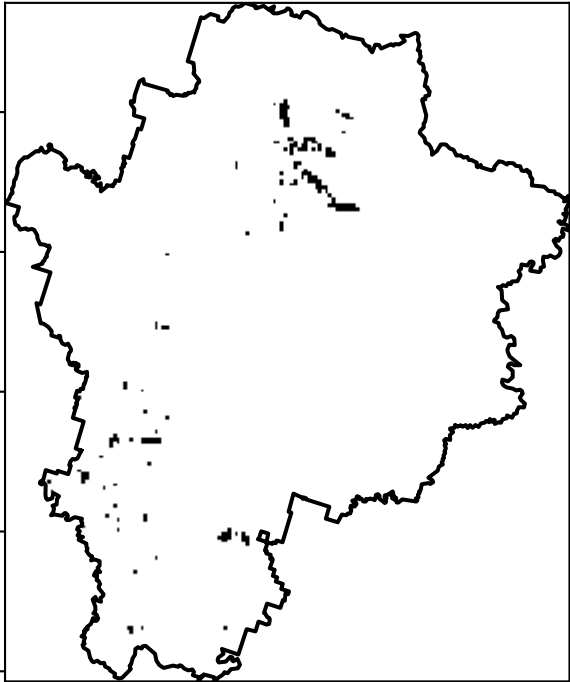


% Area protected from water erosion (>70%)



Area
protected
100.0% of
region
(4,675 ha)

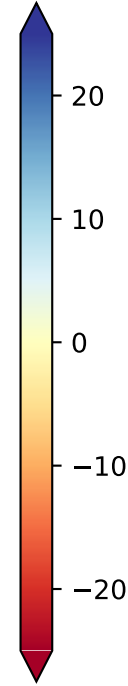
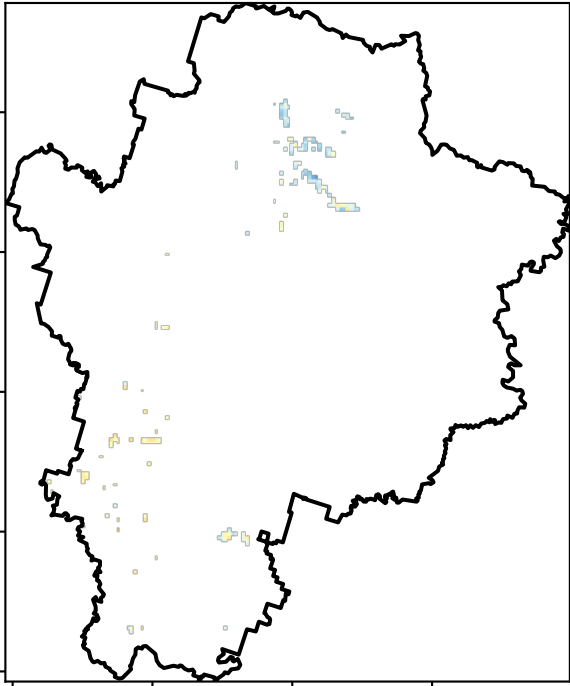
% Area protected from wind erosion (>50%)



Area
protected
100.0% of
region
(4,675 ha)

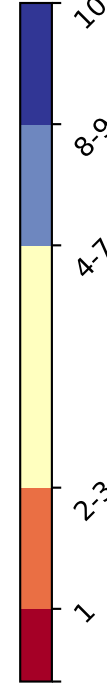
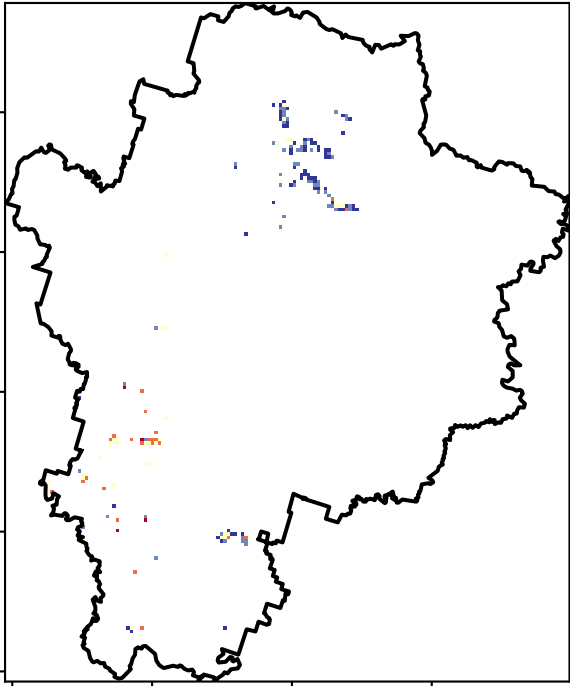
Total Vegetation Cover Anomaly [%]

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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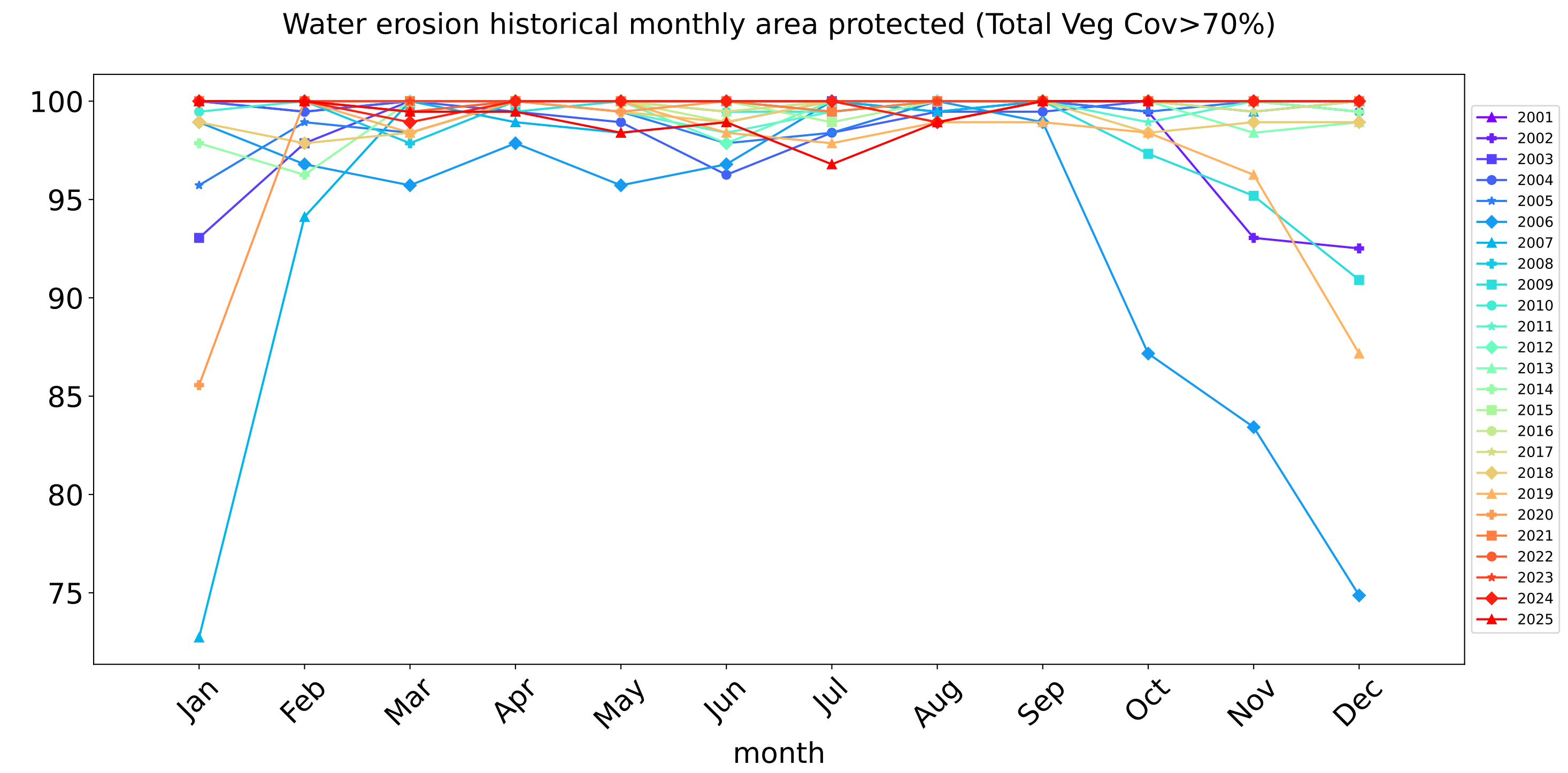
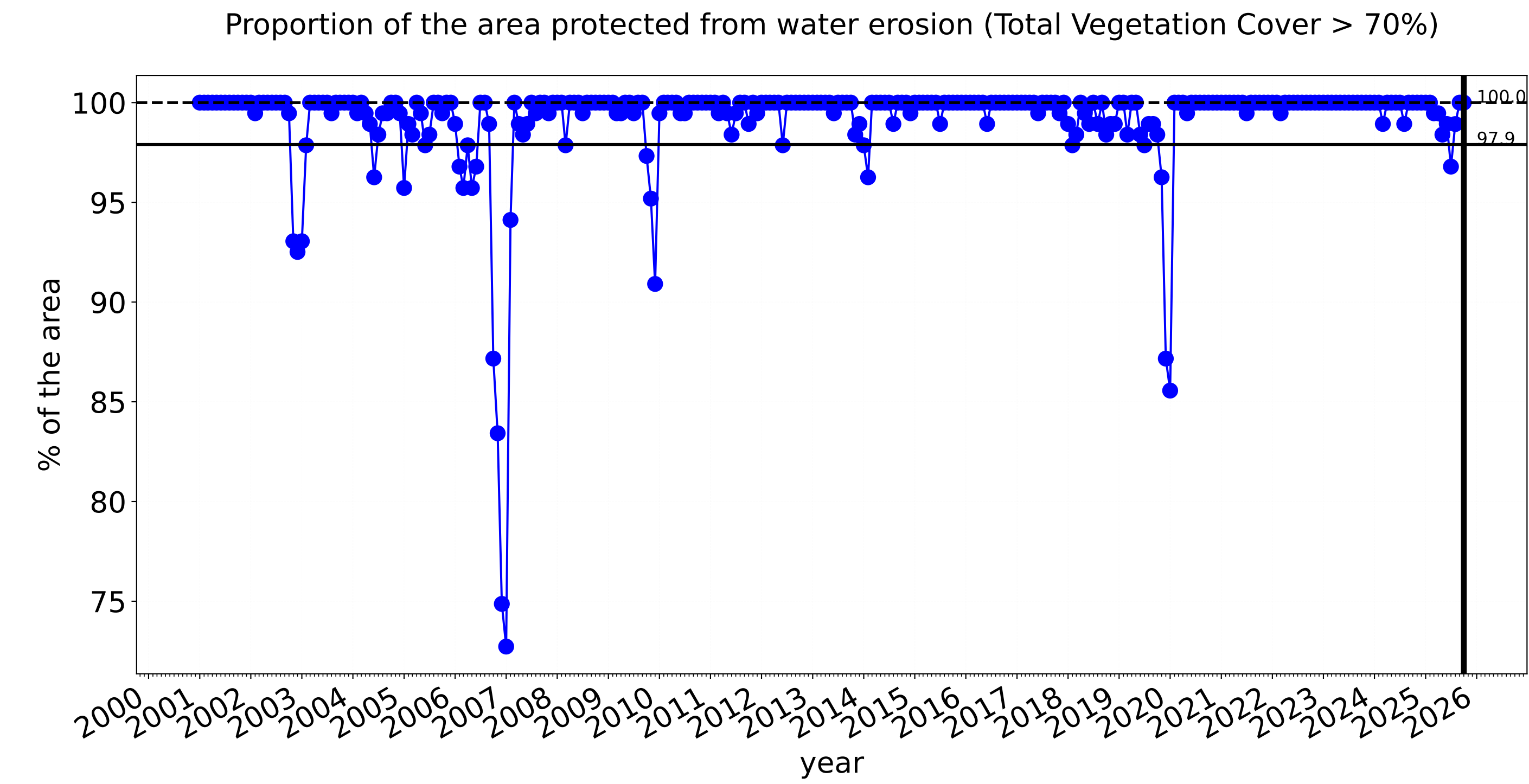
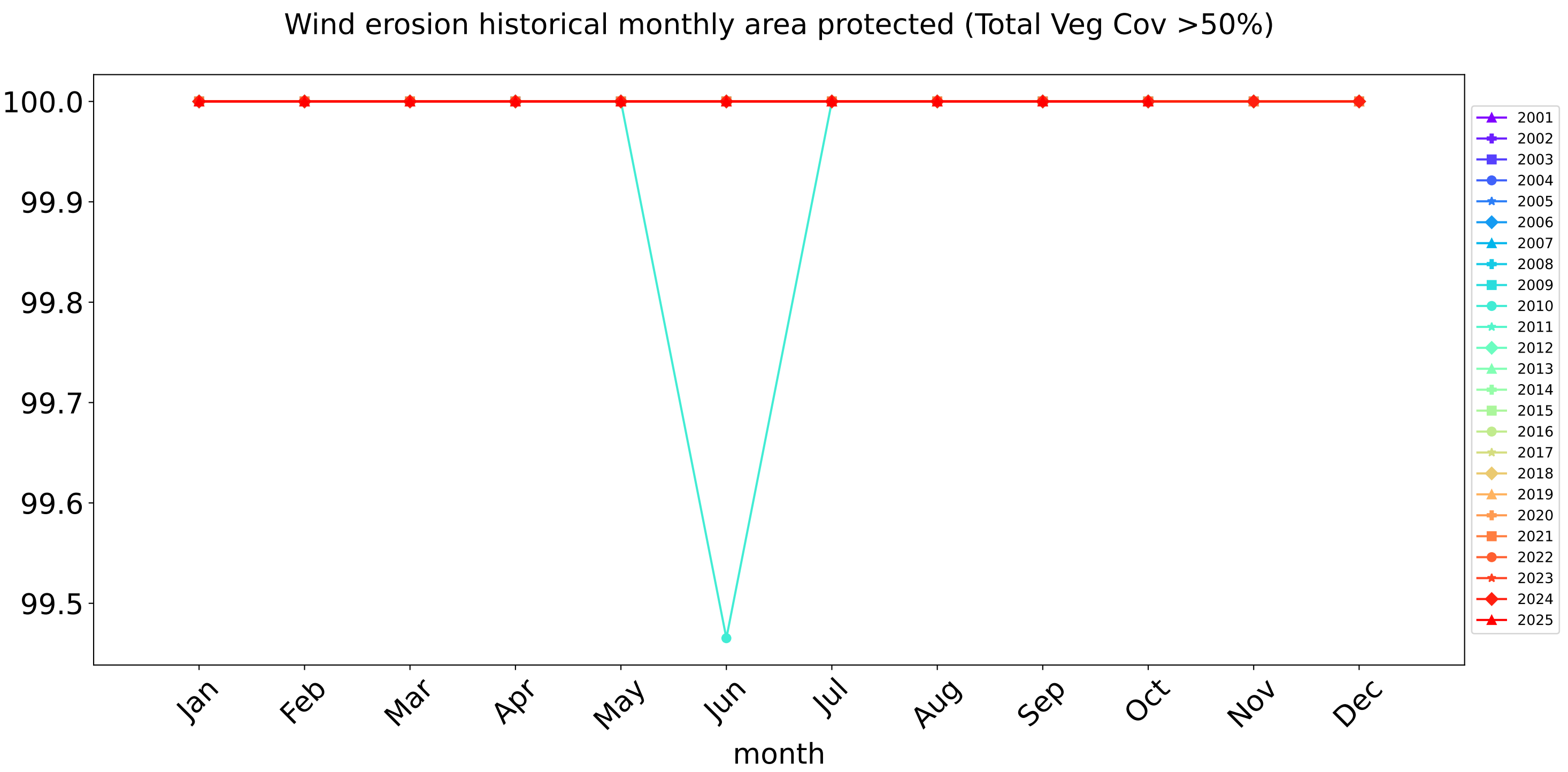
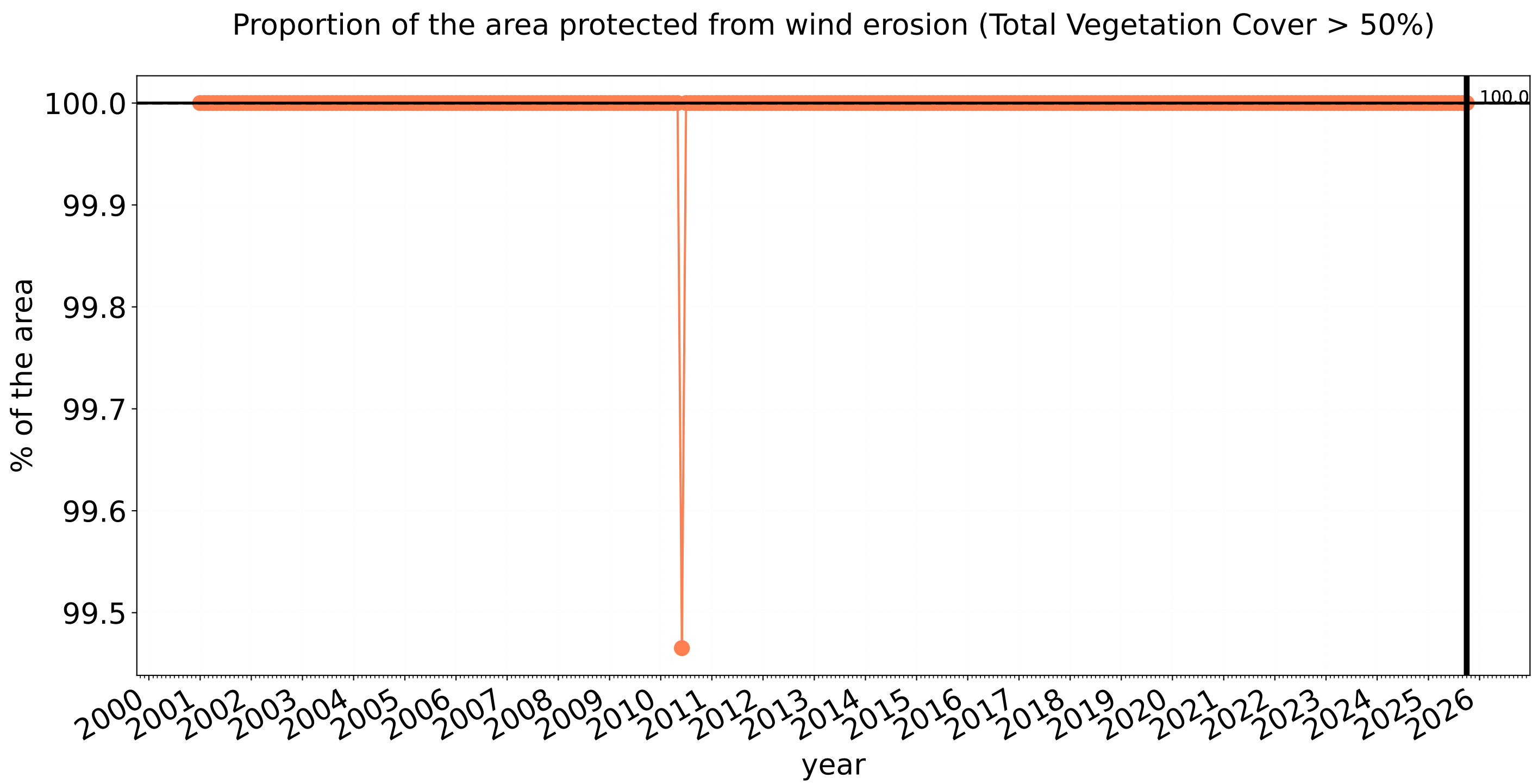


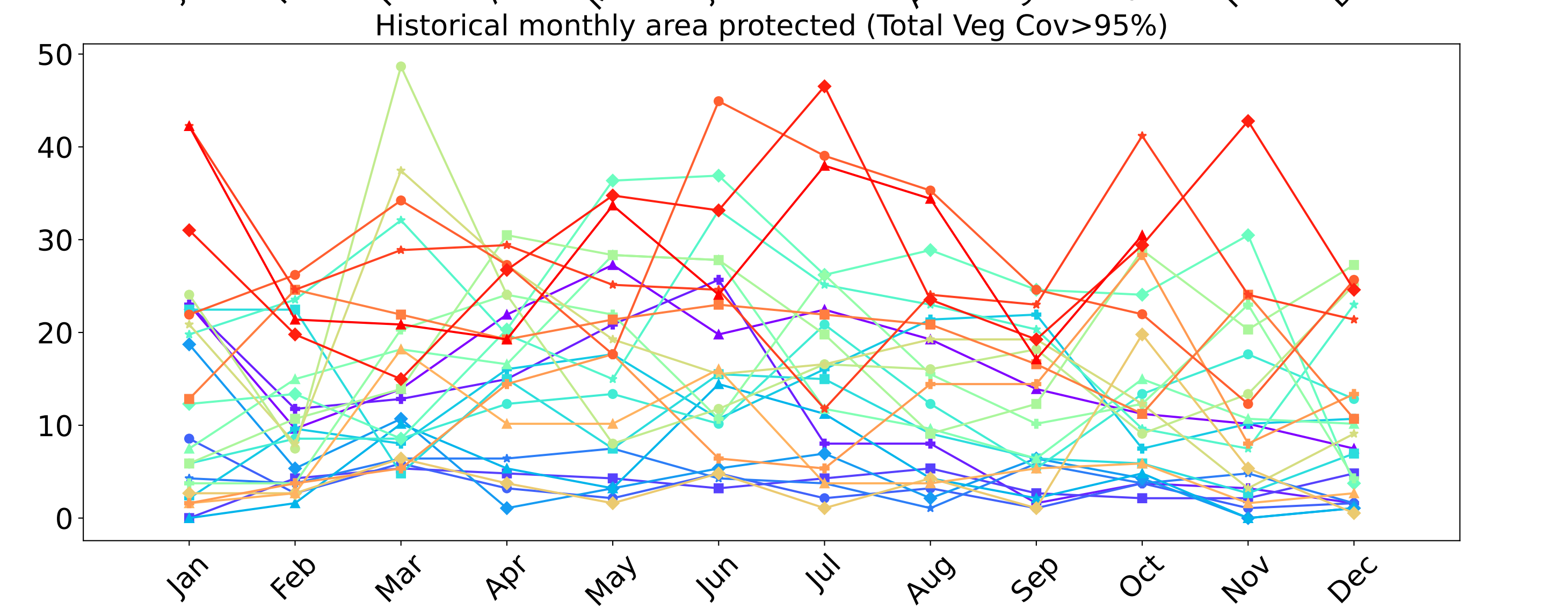
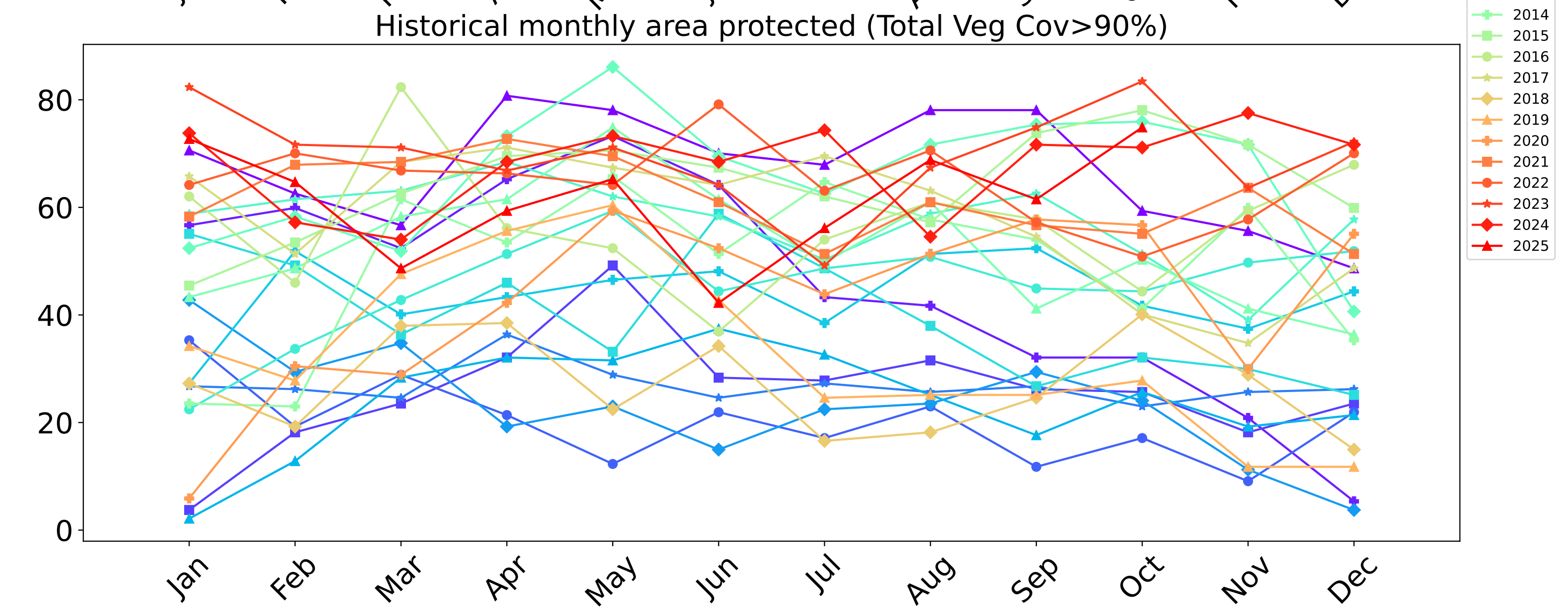
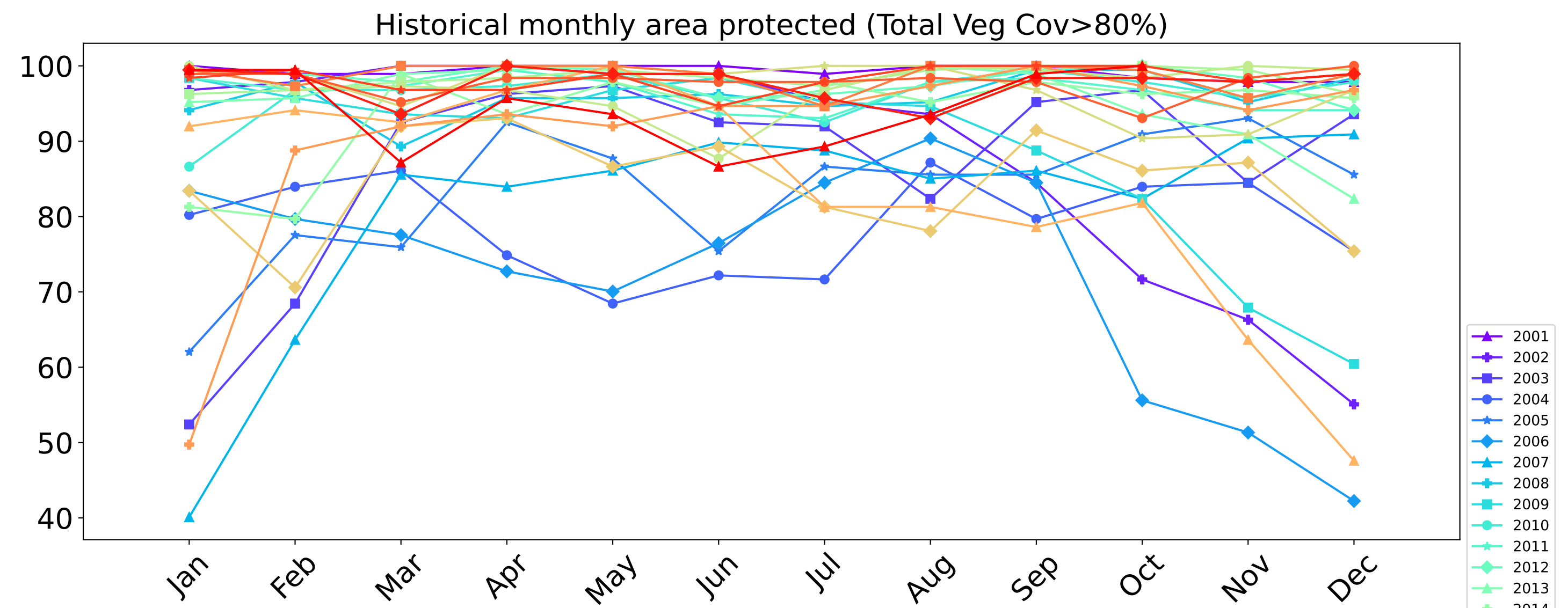
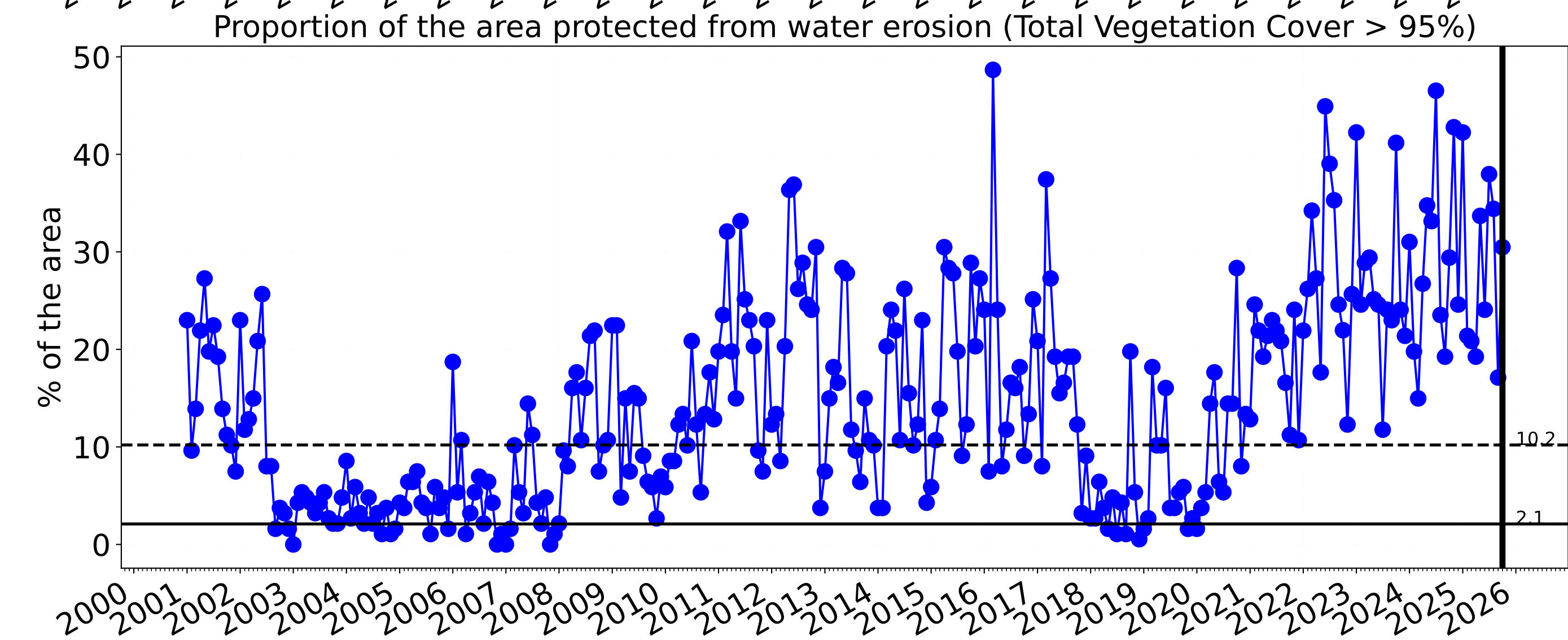
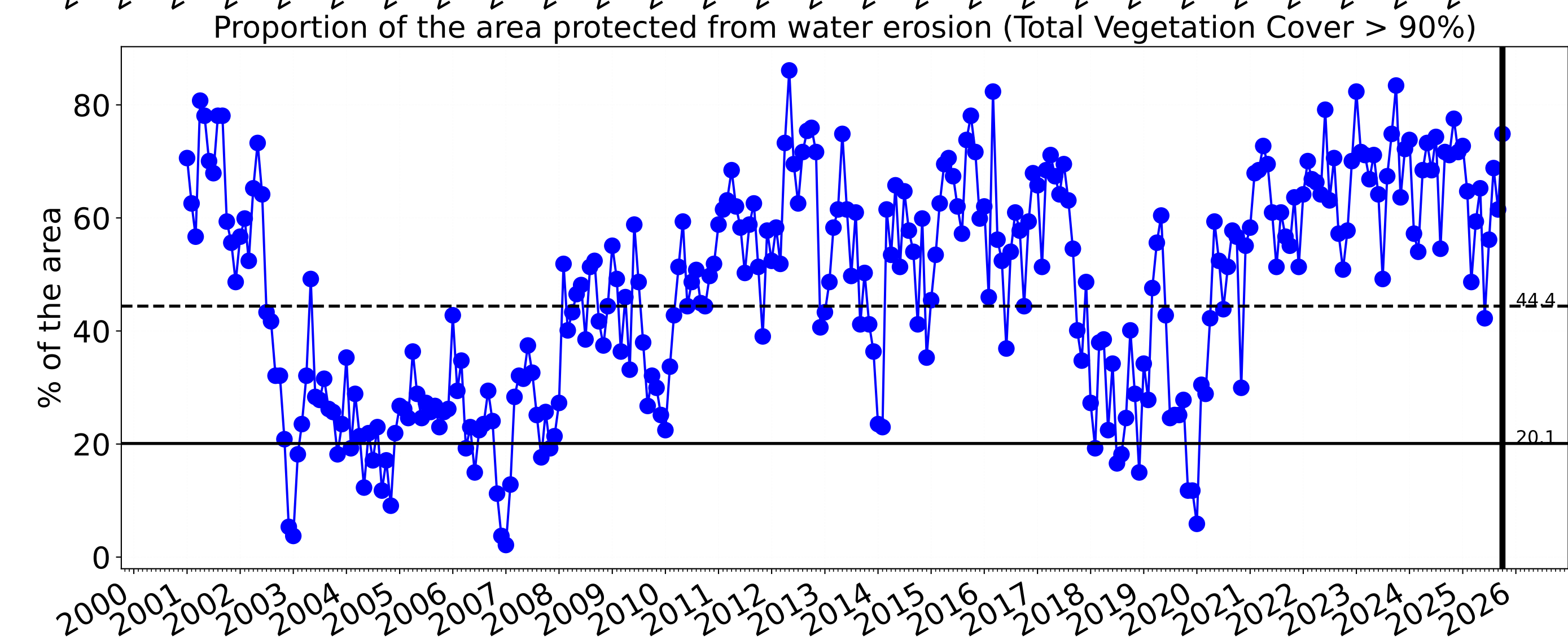
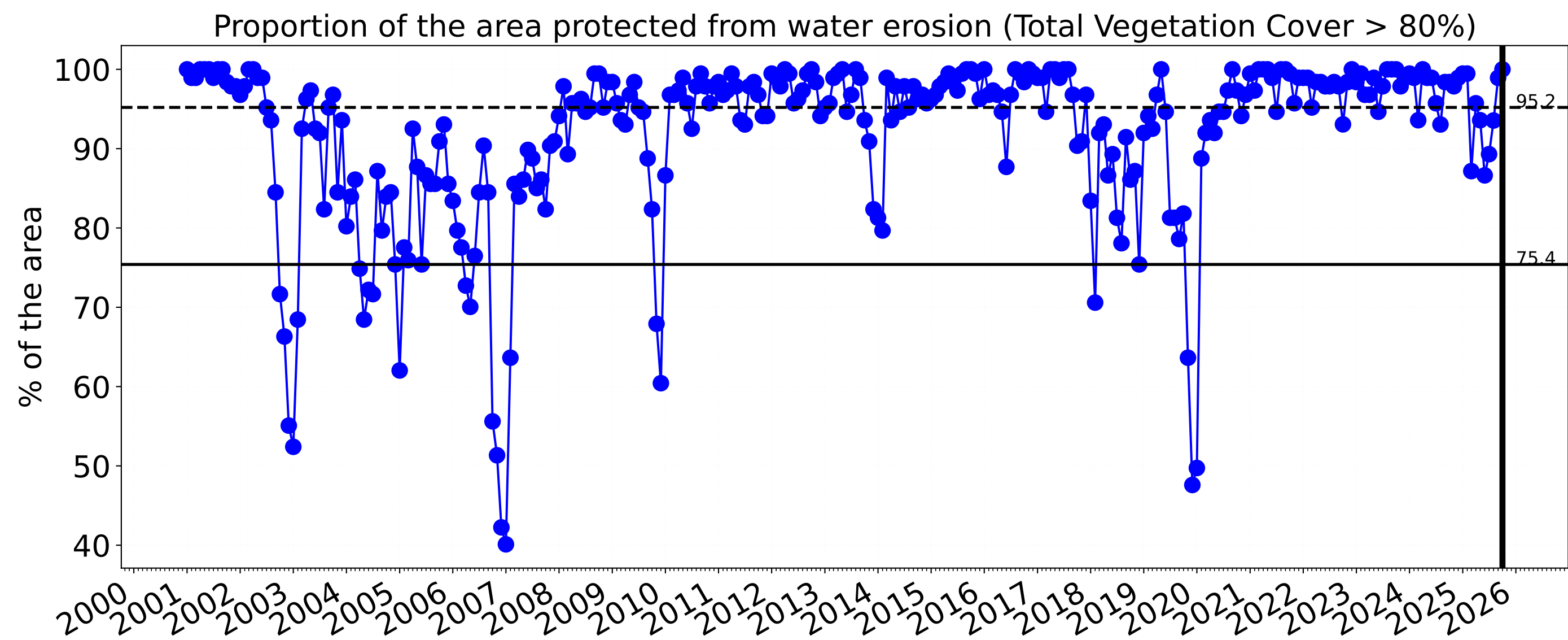
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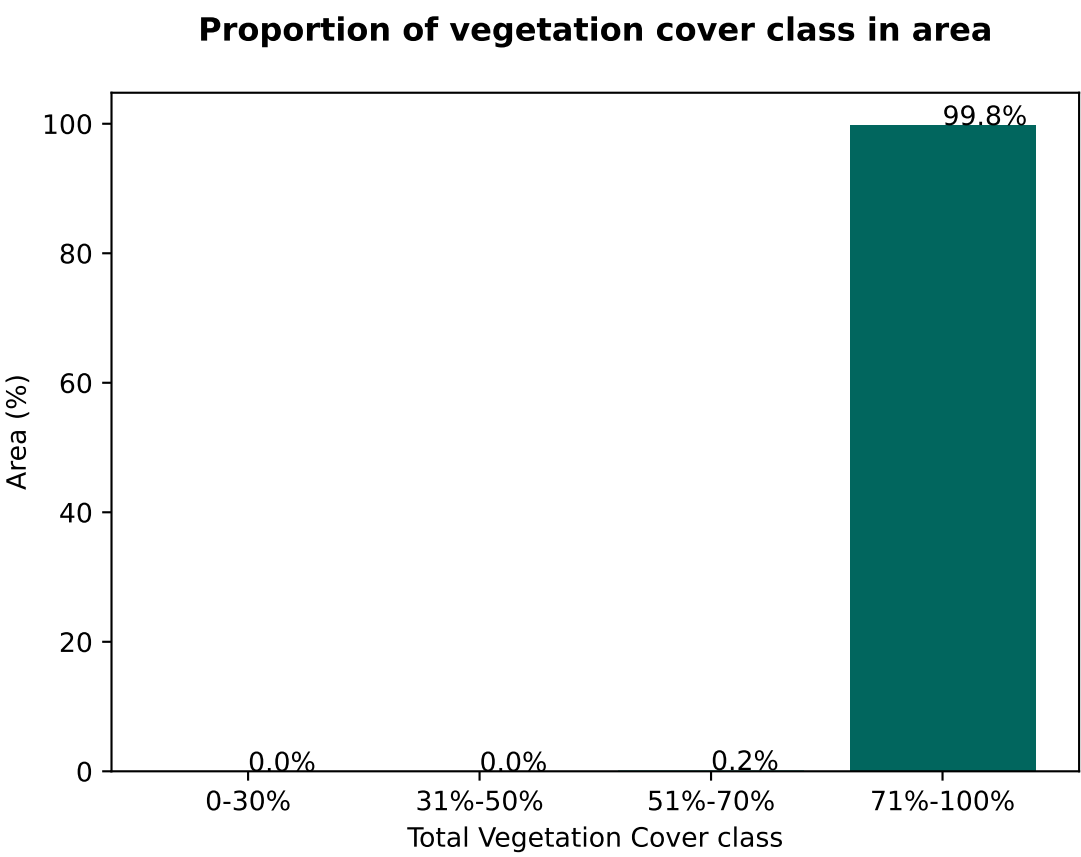
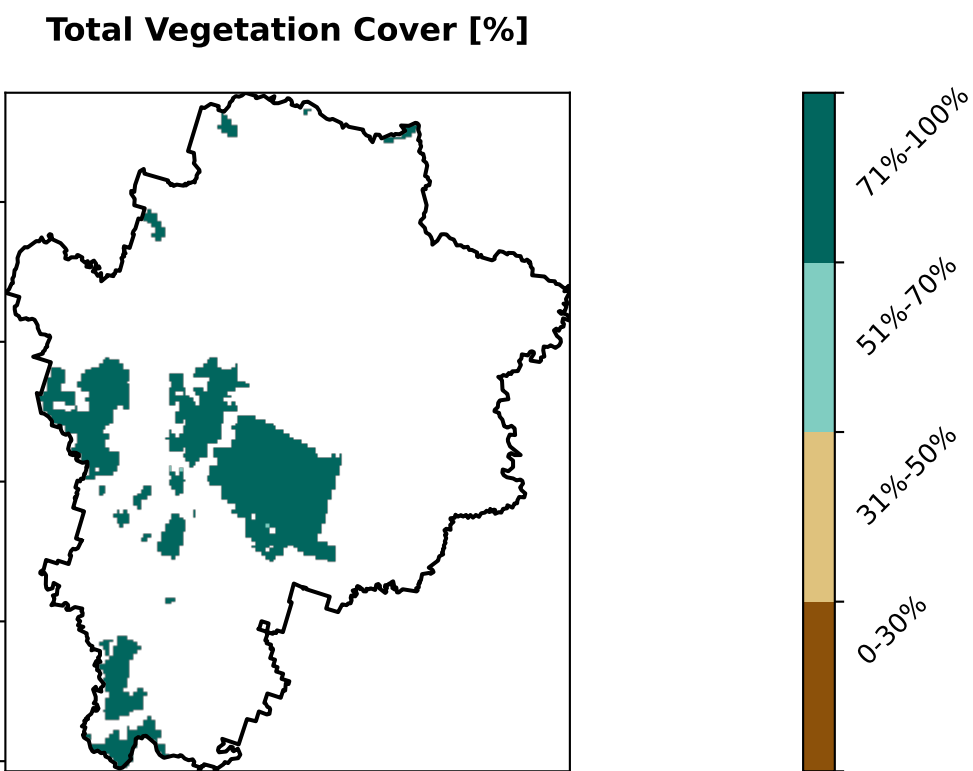
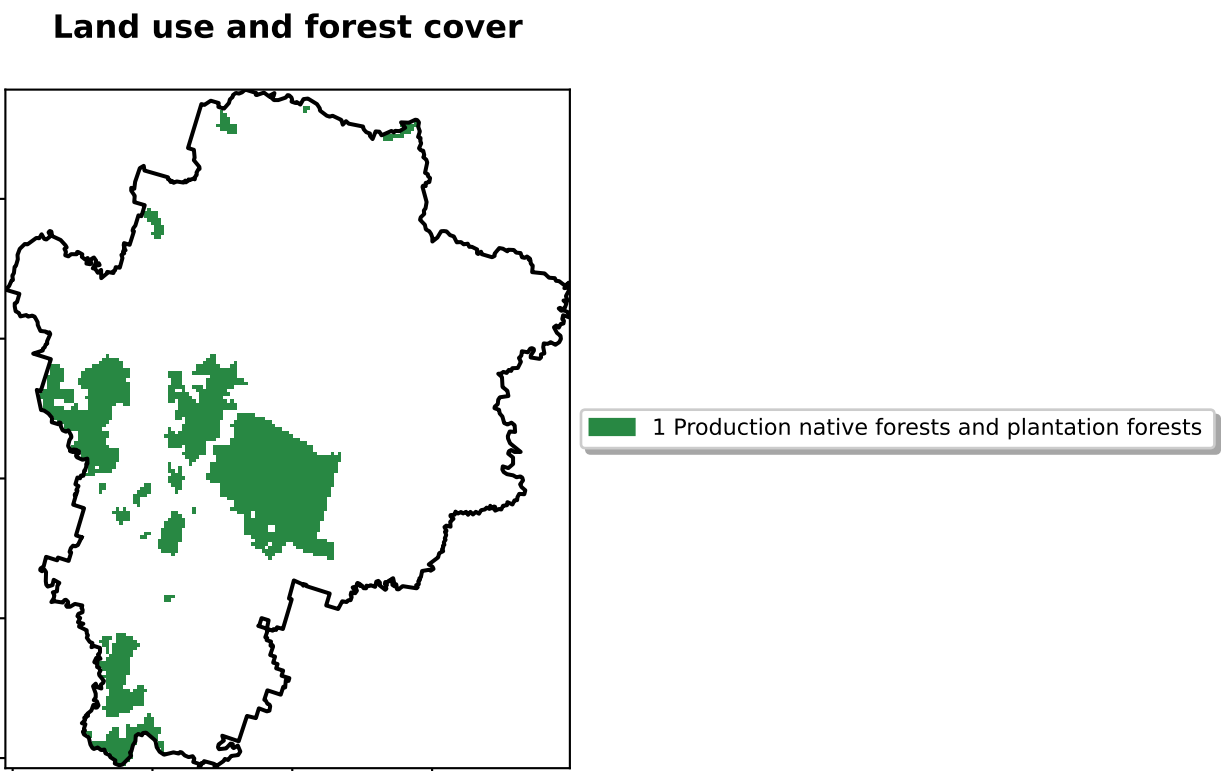
Cropping timeseries



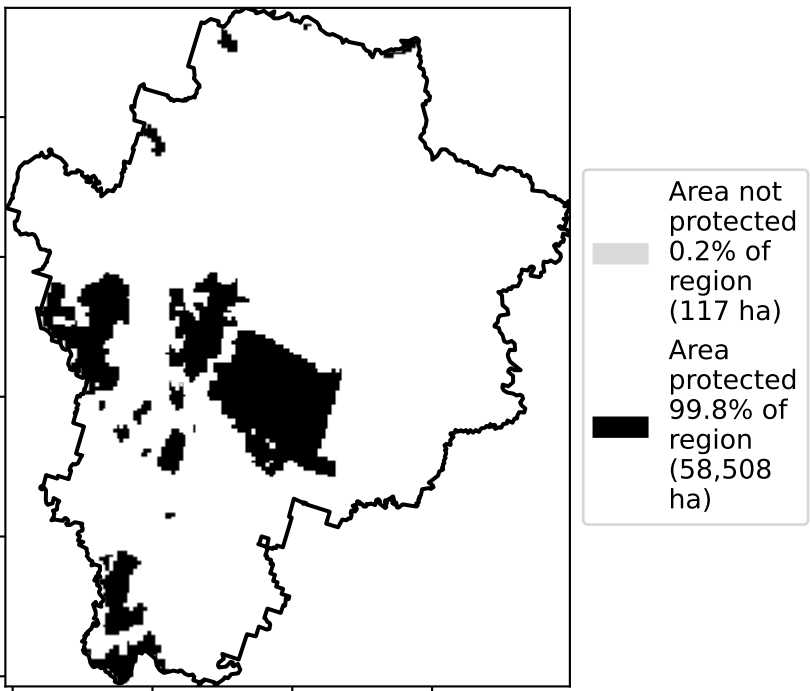


Production native forests and plantation forests

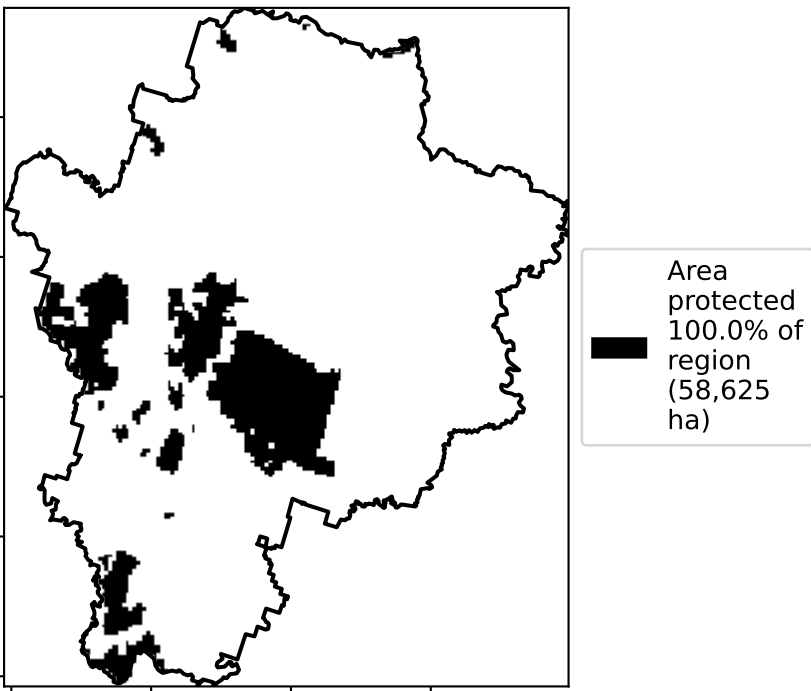
Catchment Scale
Land Use and Forests
of Australia (2018)
Derived from
Catchment Scale Land
Use of Australia
(2018) and Forests
of Australia (2018)



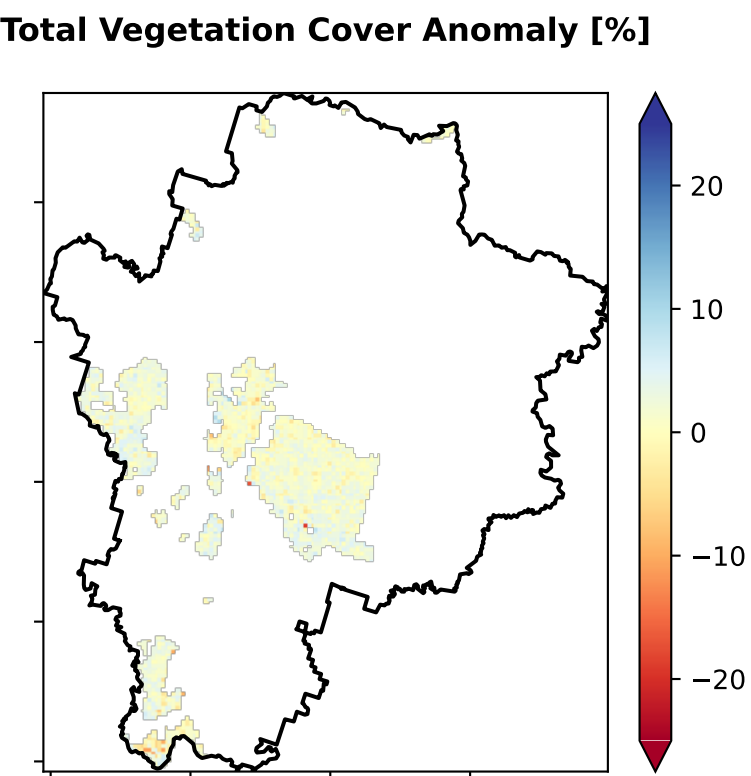
% Area protected from water erosion (>70%)



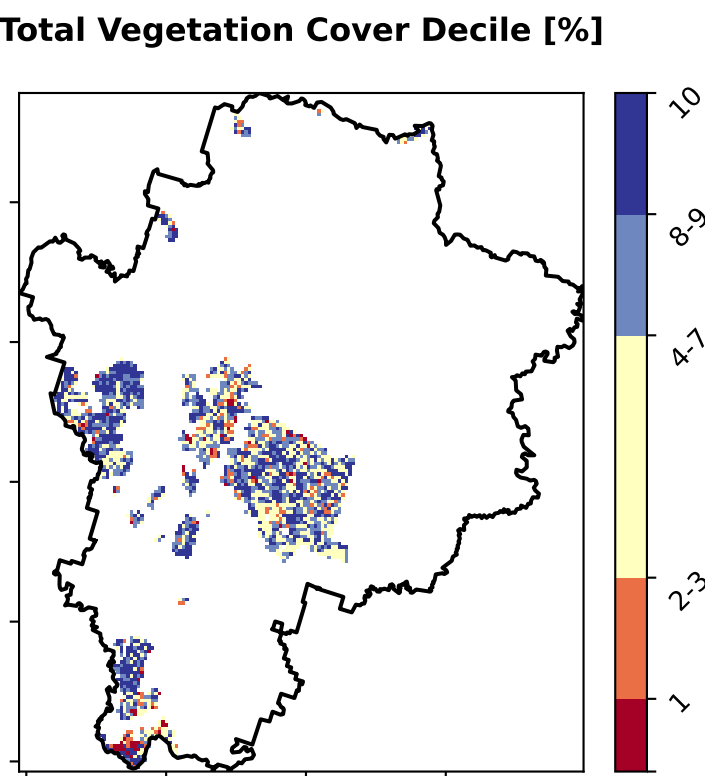
% Area protected from wind erosion (>50%)



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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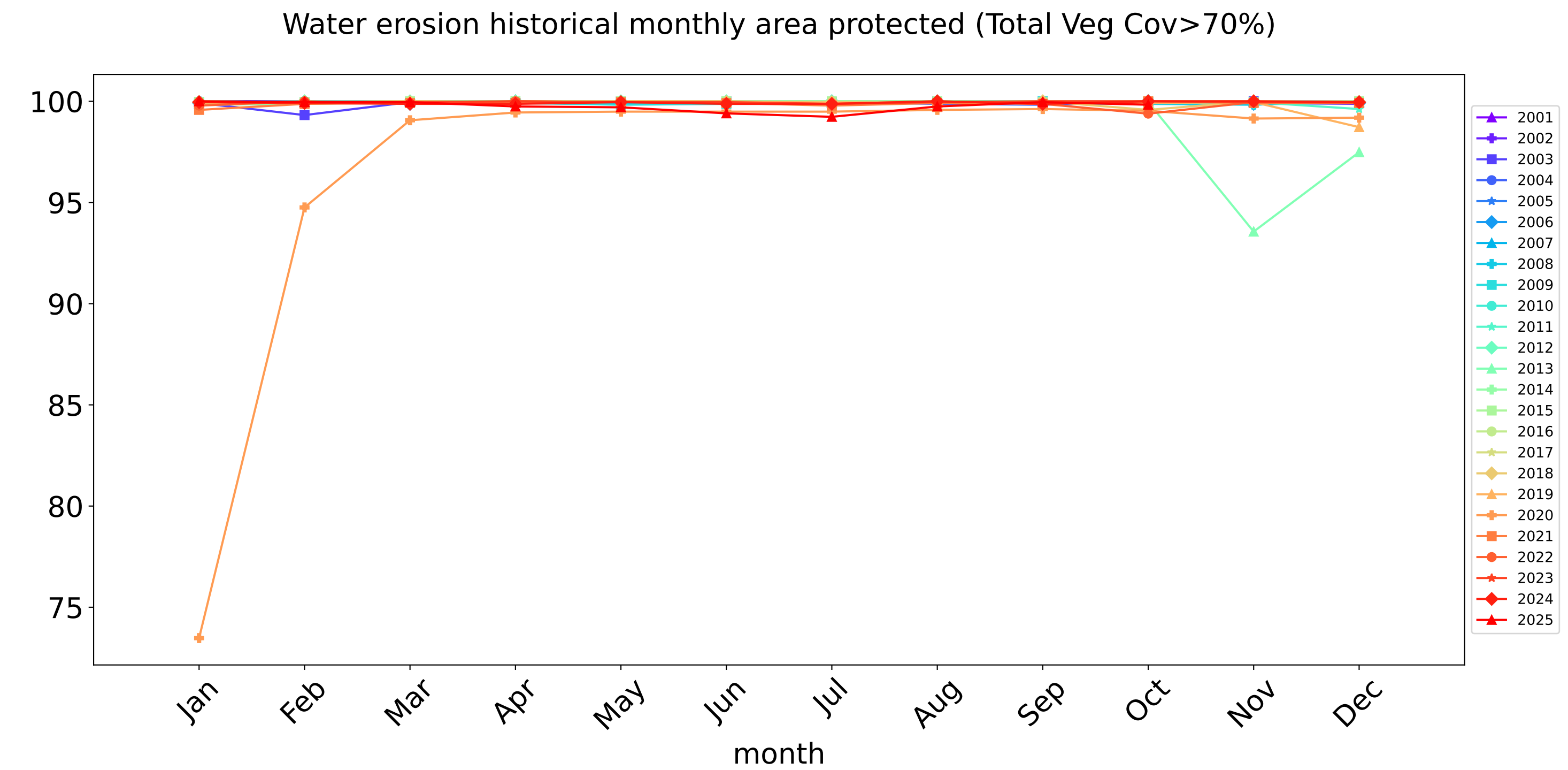
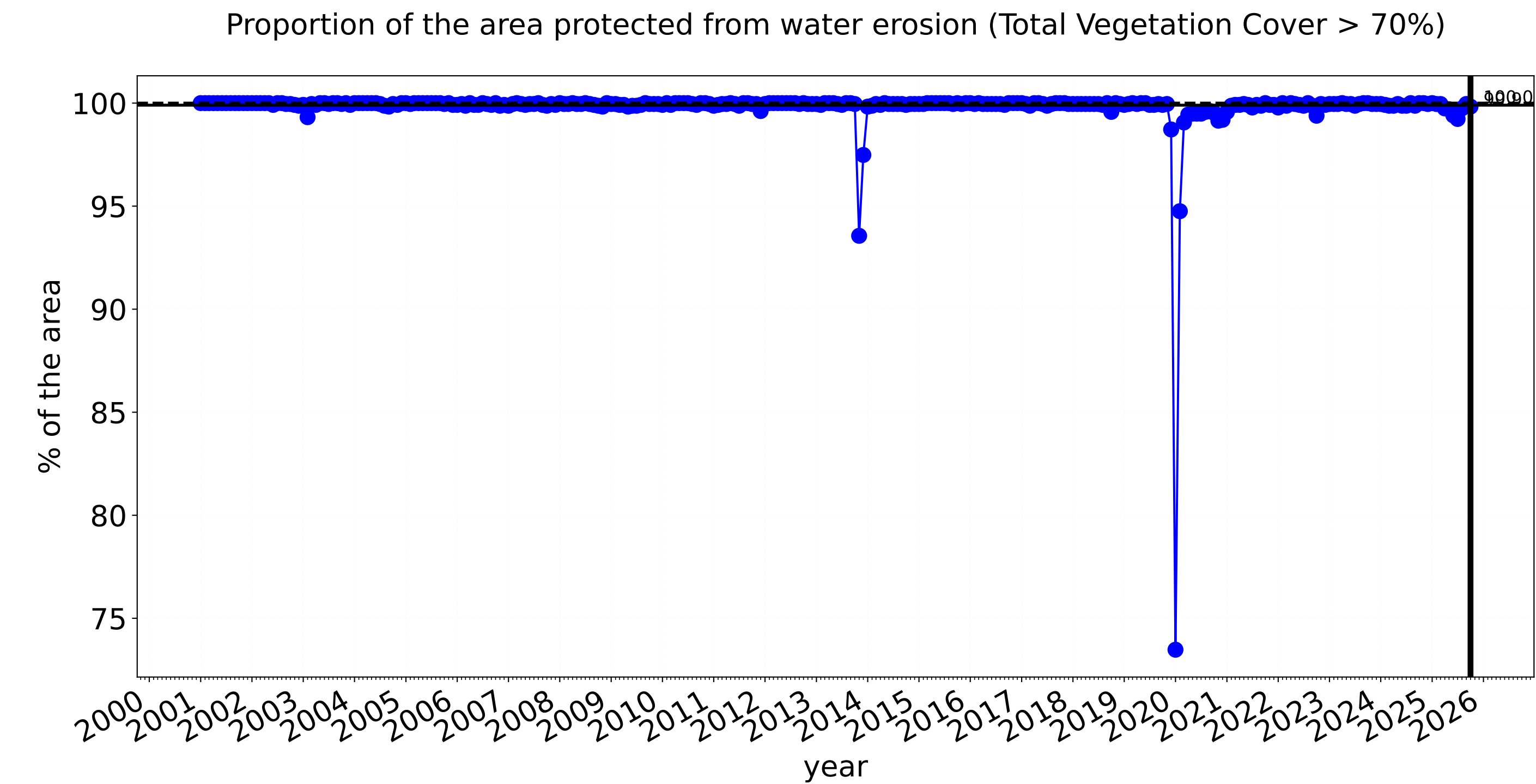
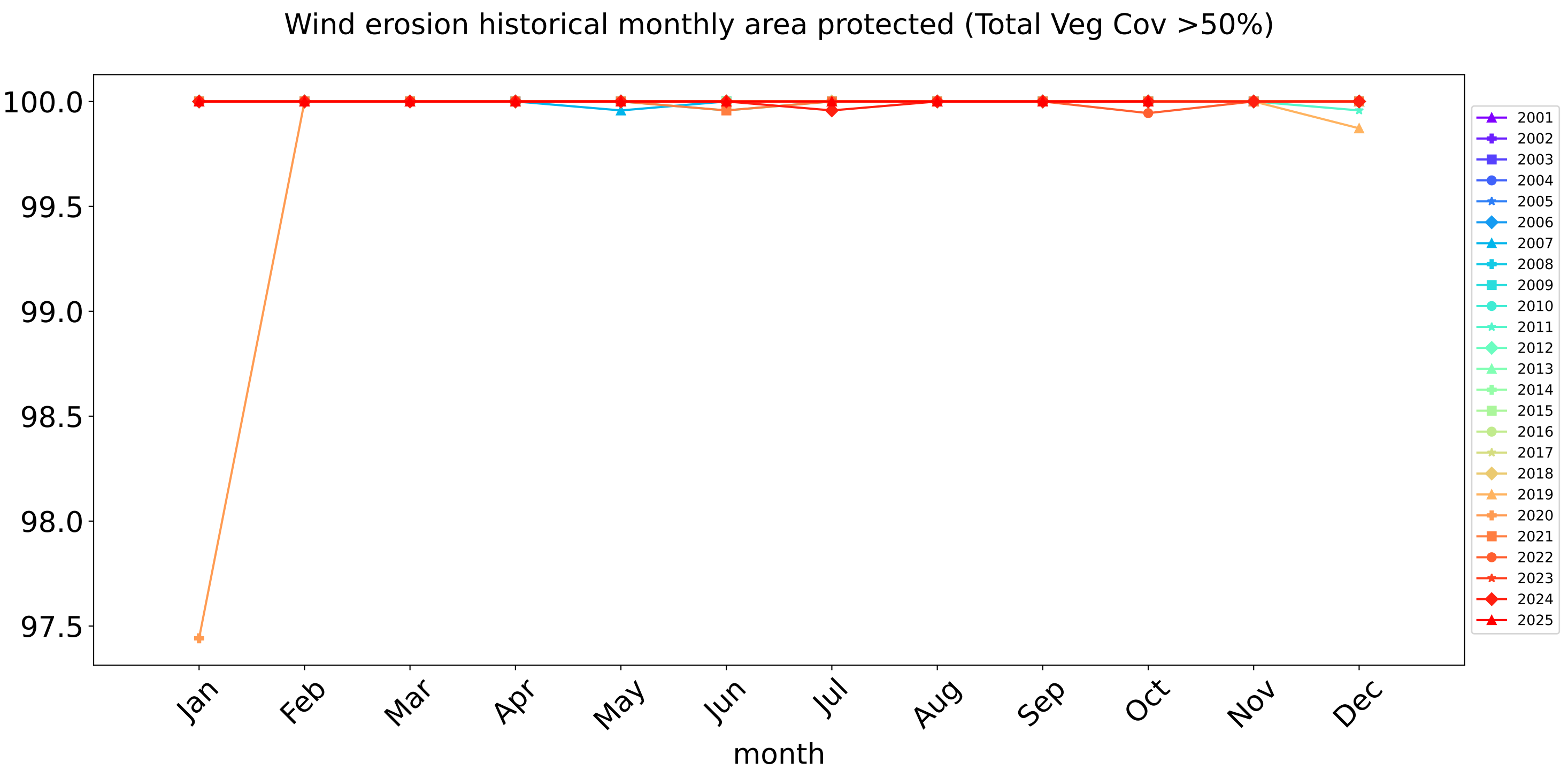
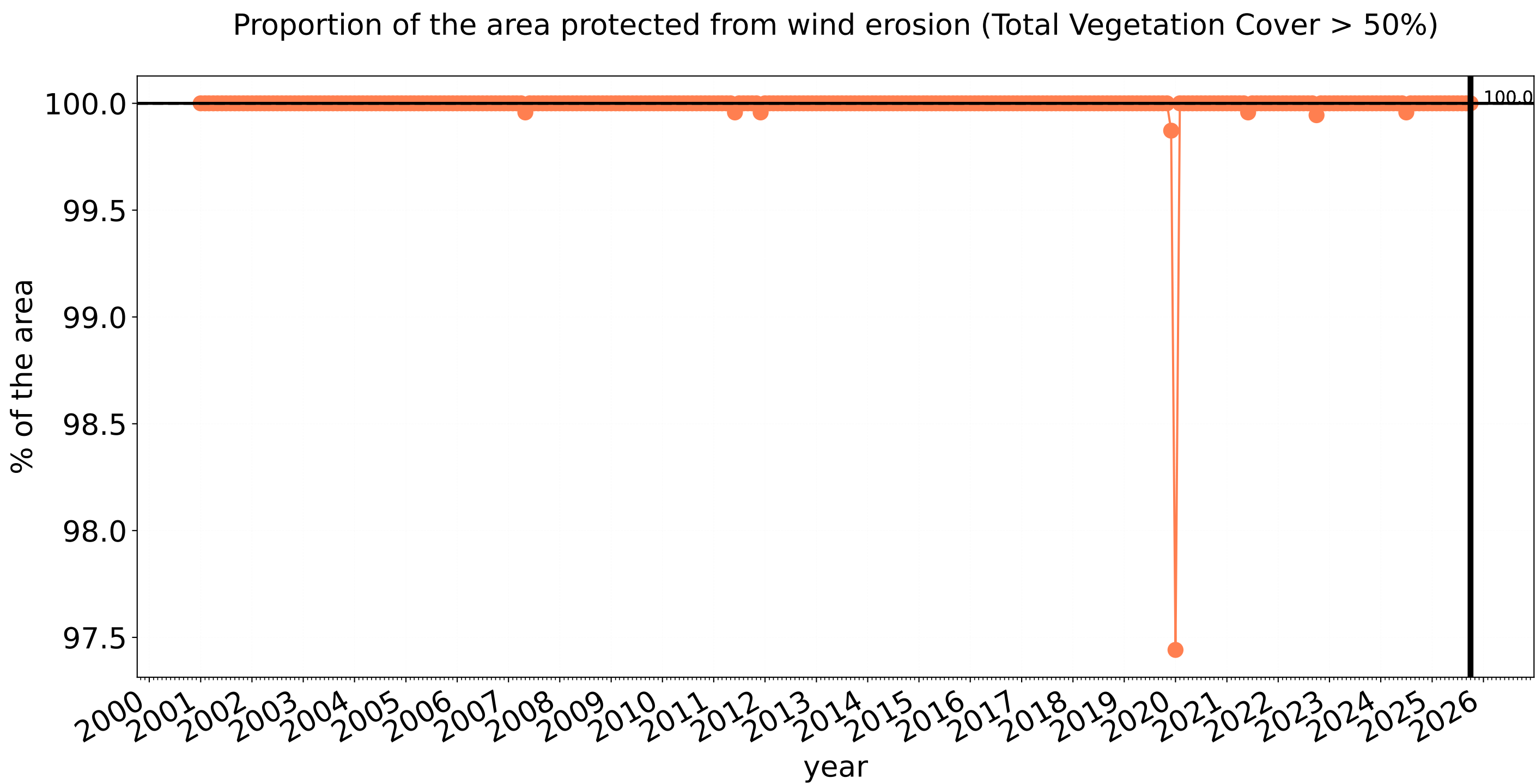


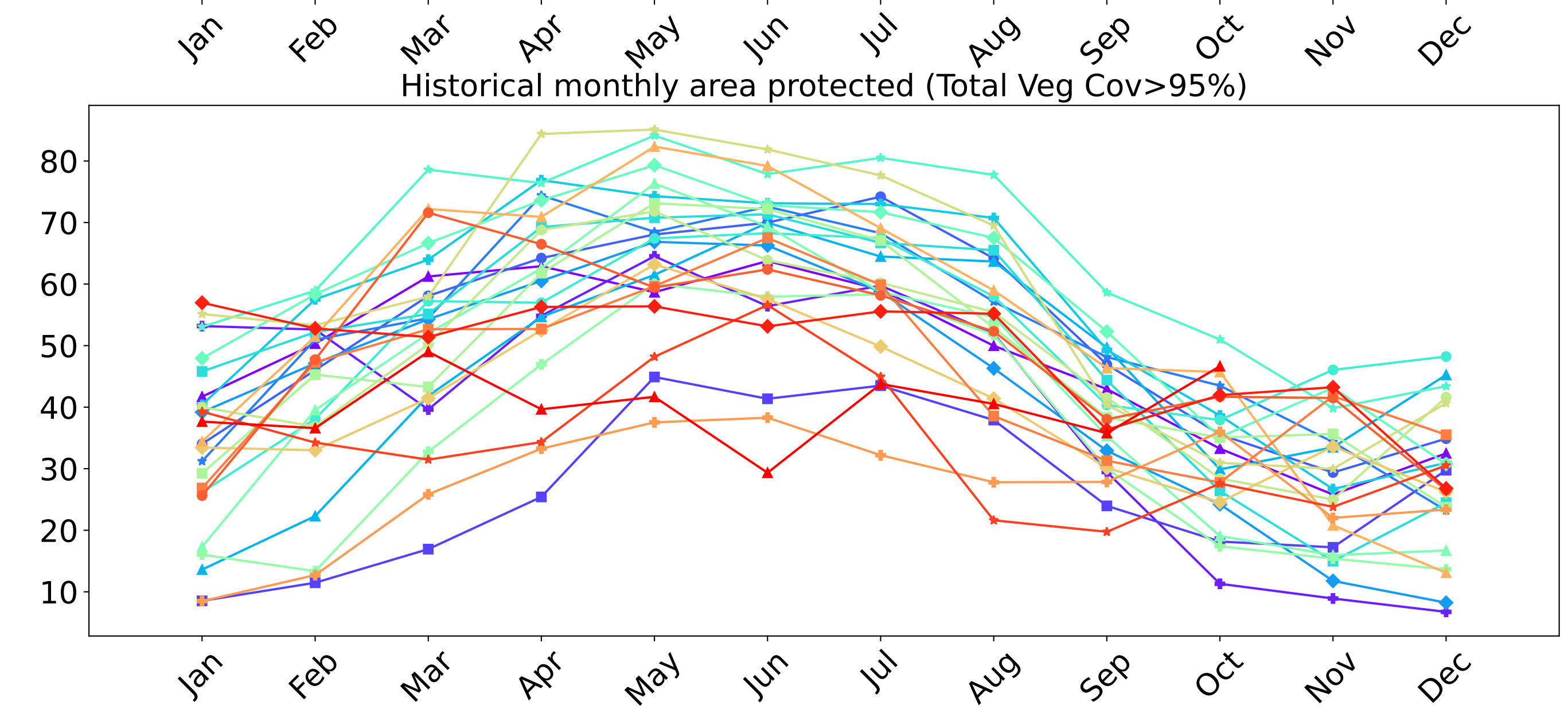
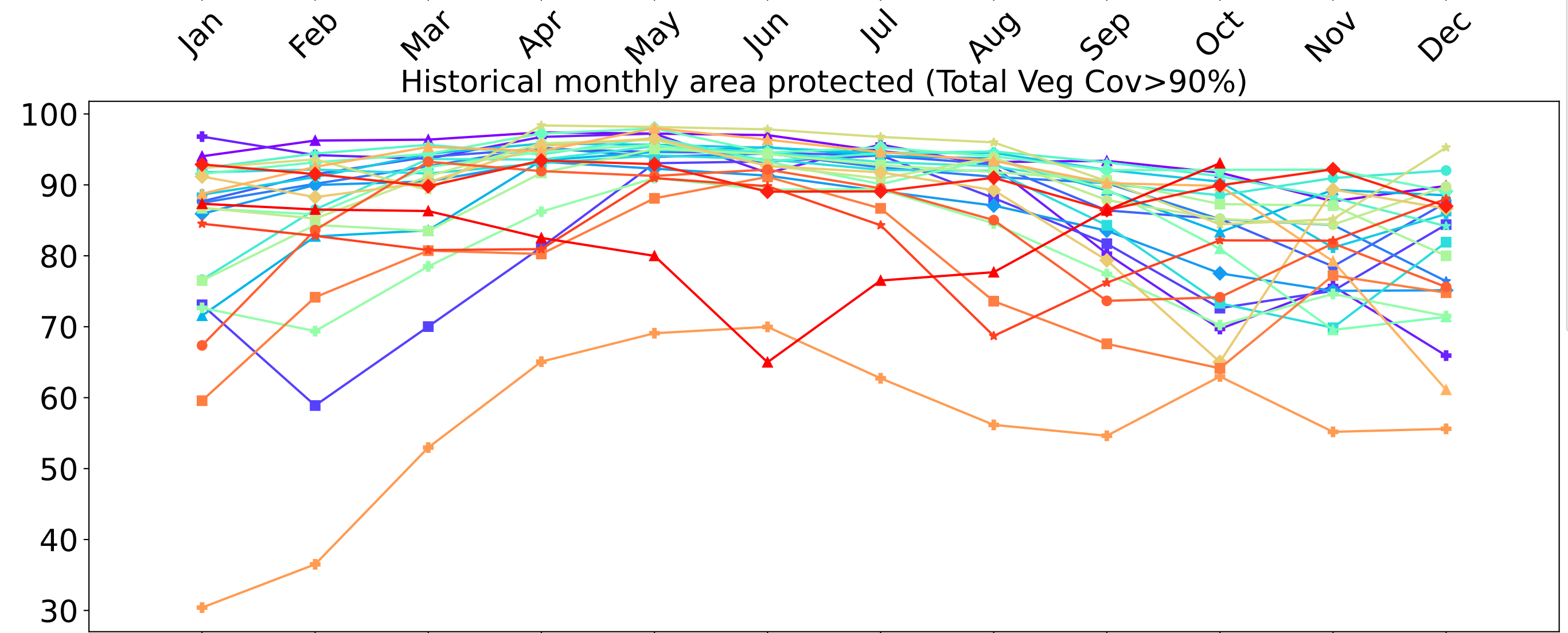
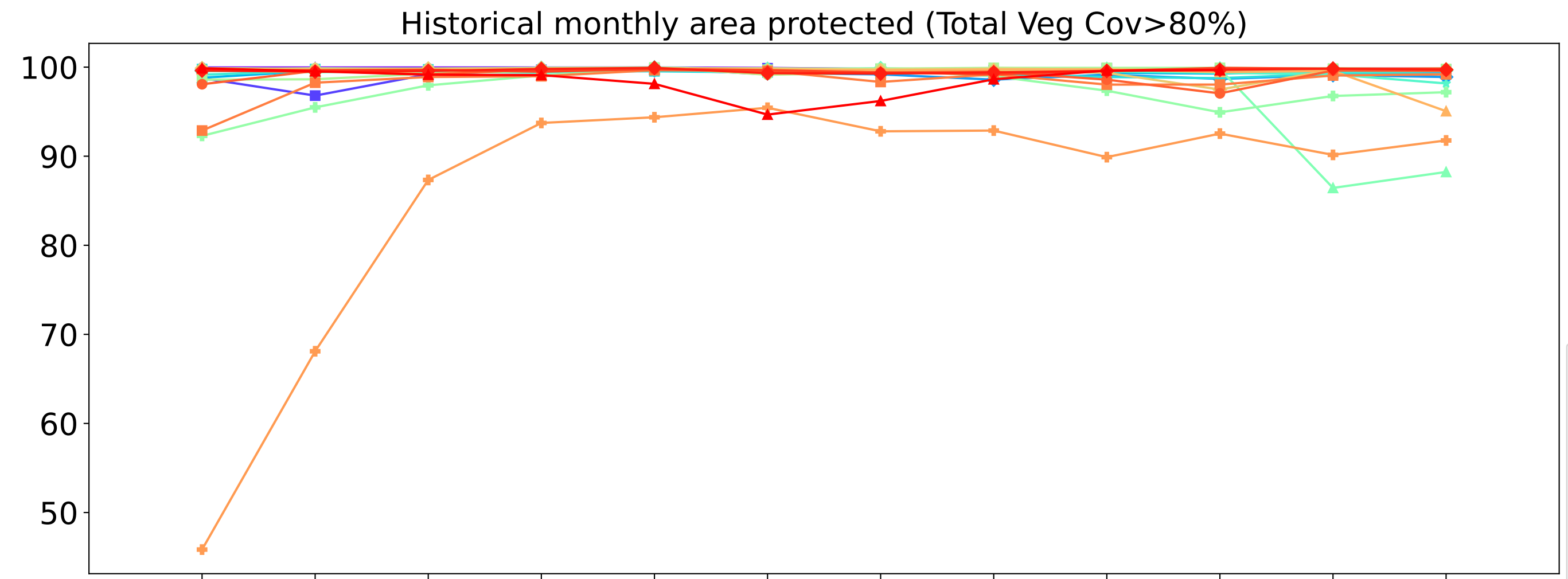
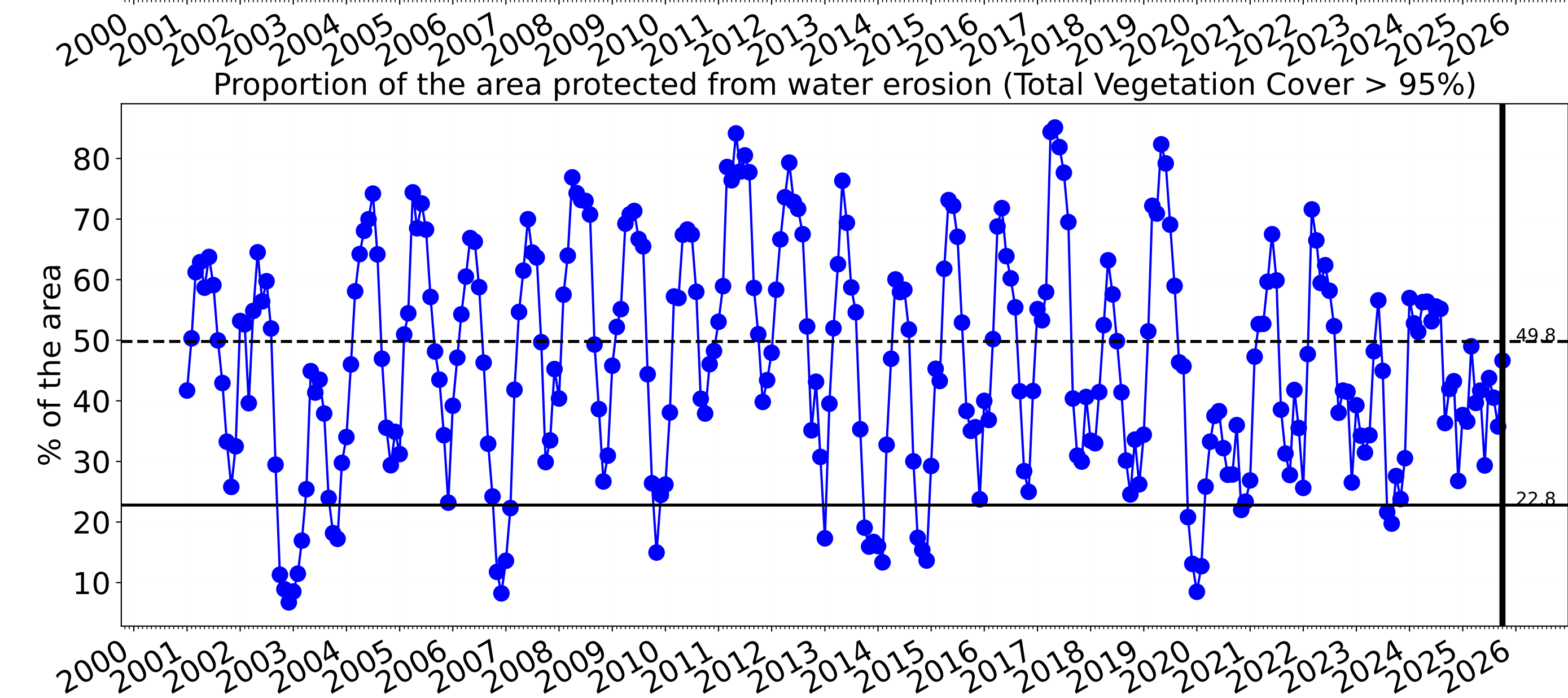
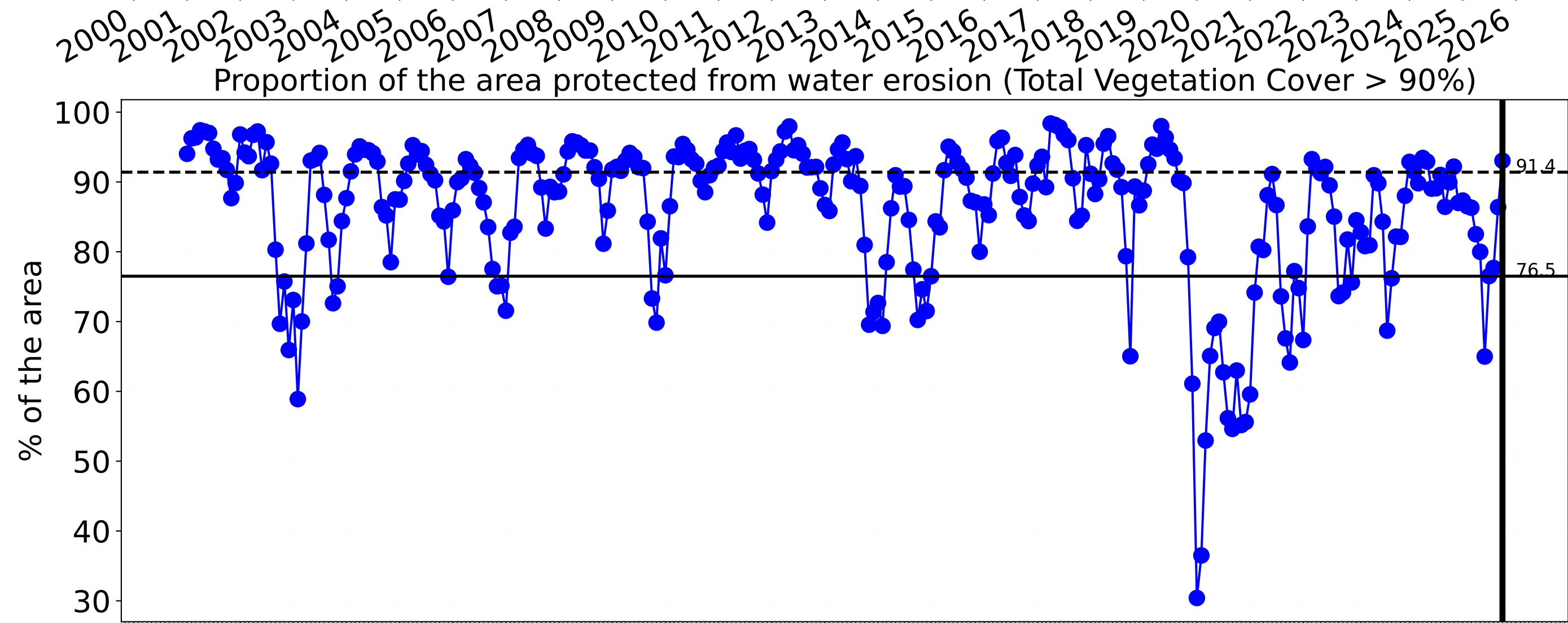
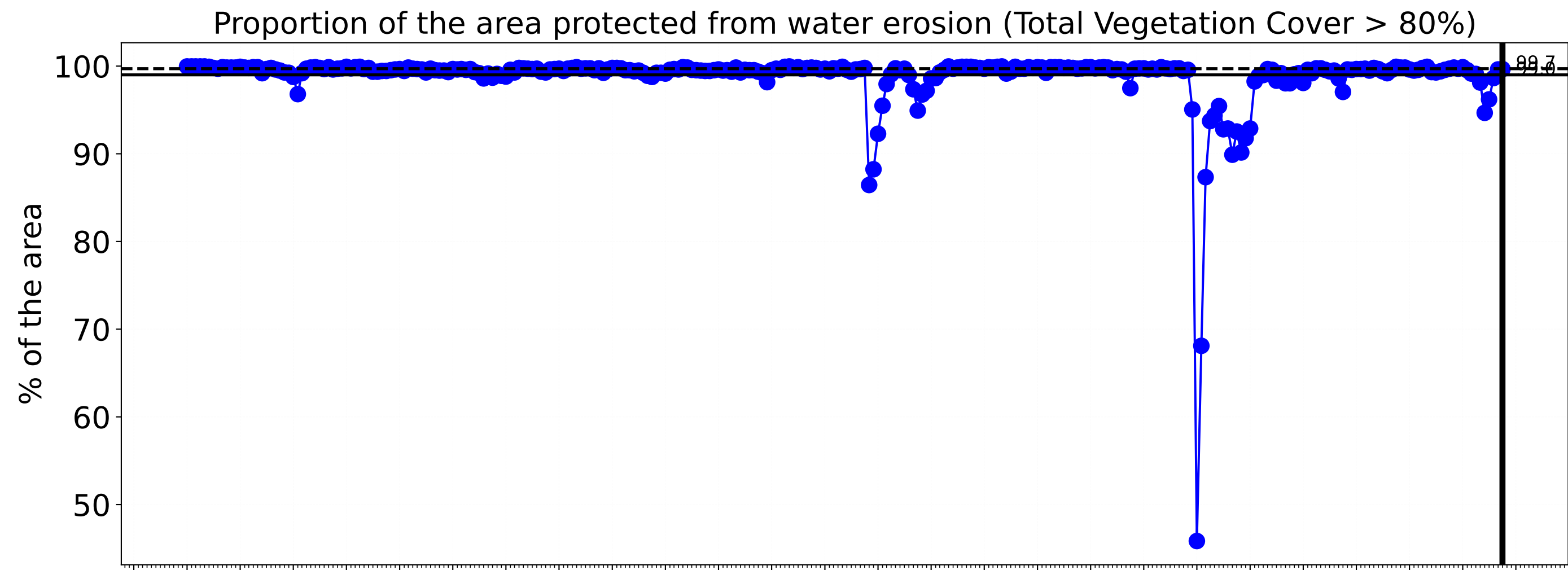
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Production native forests and plantation forests timeseries





Lithgow_(C) (451,125 ha and no data 155 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	451,125	100.0% 451,125	100.0% 451,125	99.8% 450,425	99.5% 448,750	90.2% 406,875	48.2% 217,275
Conservation and natural environments	232,475	100.0% 232,475	100.0% 232,475	100.0% 232,475	99.9% 232,250	93.3% 216,825	54.4% 126,475
Conservation and natural environments Woodland forest	170,775	100.0% 170,775	100.0% 170,775	100.0% 170,775	99.9% 170,600	92.0% 157,175	50.2% 85,725
Conservation and natural environments Forest (non woodland)	60,950	100.0% 60,950	100.0% 60,950	100.0% 60,950	99.9% 60,900	96.8% 59,025	66.5% 40,525
Agriculture	148,825	100.0% 148,825	100.0% 148,825	100.0% 148,800	99.7% 148,450	86.6% 128,925	41.0% 61,050
Grazing	144,100	100.0% 144,100	100.0% 144,100	100.0% 144,075	99.7% 143,725	87.0% 125,375	41.4% 59,625
Grazing non forest	106,950	100.0% 106,950	100.0% 106,950	100.0% 106,950	99.7% 106,675	84.8% 90,725	38.4% 41,100
Grazing Woodland forest	29,700	100.0% 29,700	100.0% 29,700	99.9% 29,675	99.7% 29,625	93.0% 27,625	48.5% 14,400
Grazing - Forest (non woodland)	7,450	100.0% 7,450	100.0% 7,450	100.0% 7,450	99.7% 7,425	94.3% 7,025	55.4% 4,125
Cropping	4,675	100.0% 4,675	100.0% 4,675	100.0% 4,675	100.0% 4,675	74.9% 3,500	30.5% 1,425
Production native forests and plantation forests	58,625	100.0% 58,625	100.0% 58,625	99.8% 58,525	99.7% 58,425	93.0% 54,550	46.7% 27,350



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