

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



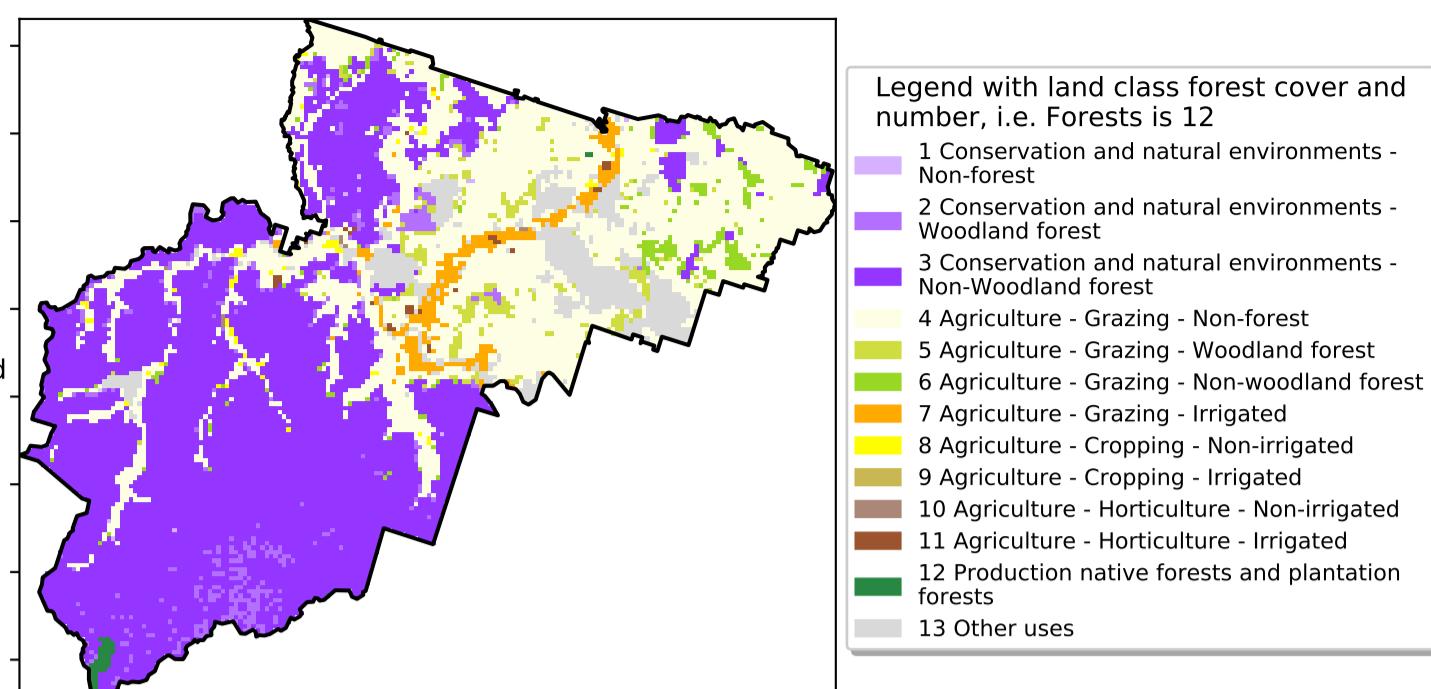
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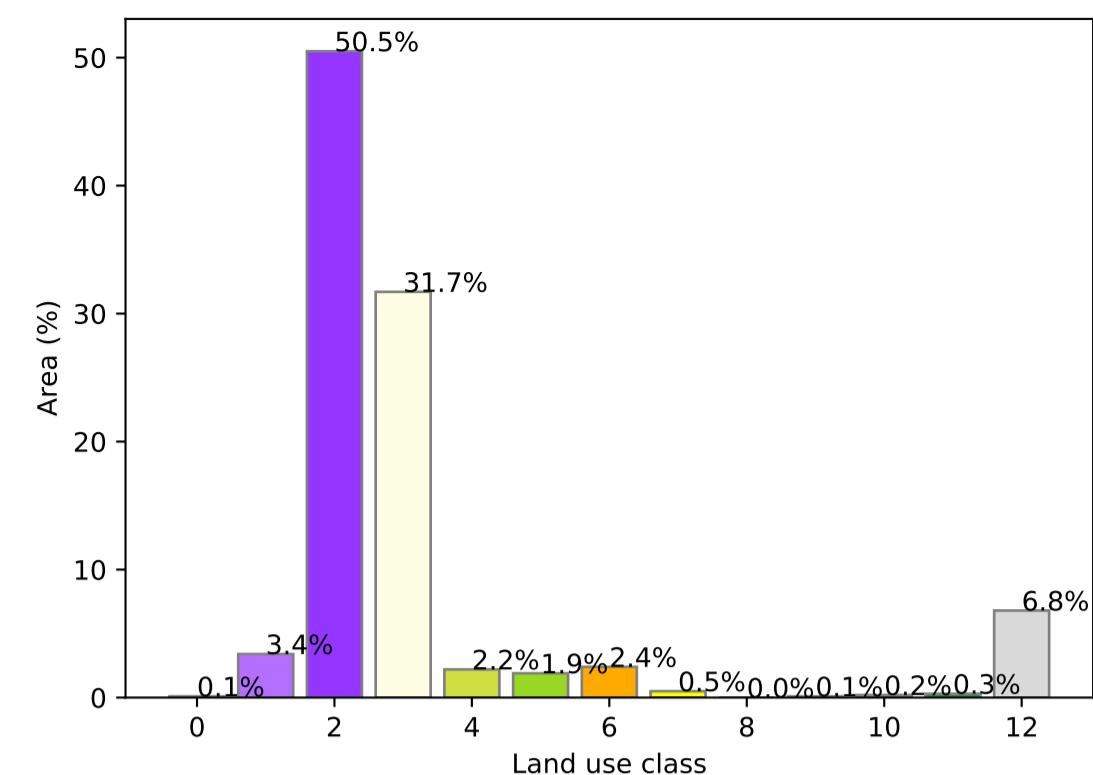
# Vegetation Cover Apr 2024

Land use and forest cover

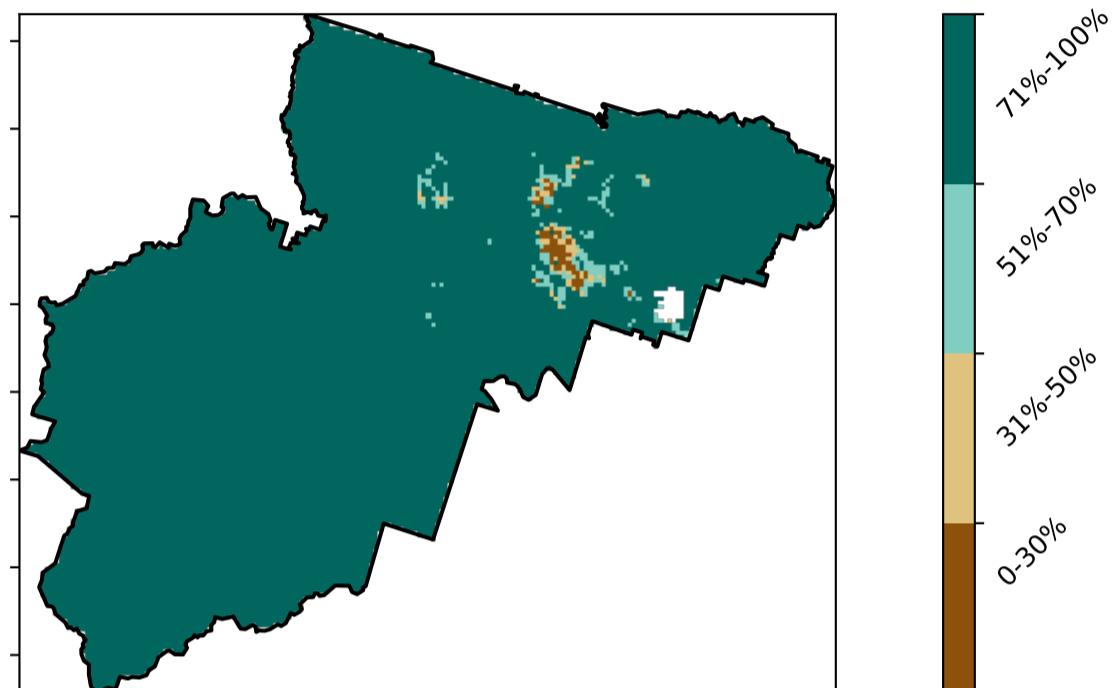
Catchment Scale  
Land Use and Forests  
of Australia (2018)  
Derived from  
Catchment Scale Land  
Use of Australia  
(2018) and Forests  
of Australia (2018)



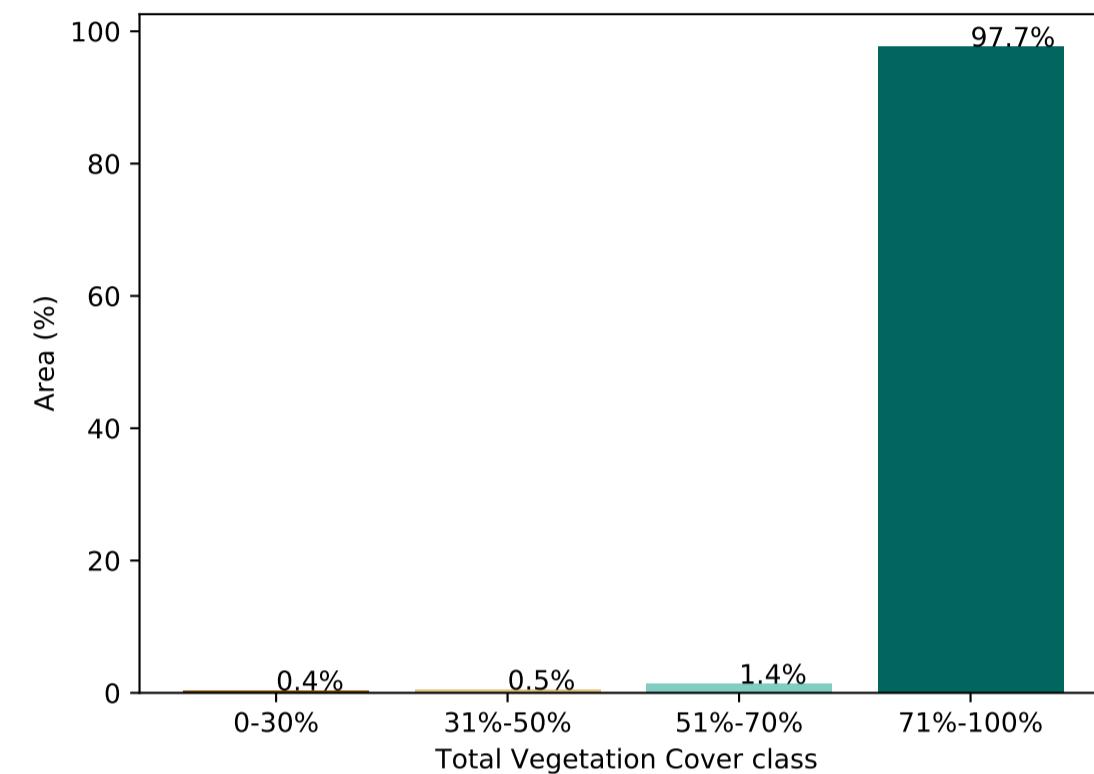
Proportion of each land class in area



Total Vegetation Cover [%]



Proportion of vegetation cover class in area



% Area protected from water erosion (>70%)

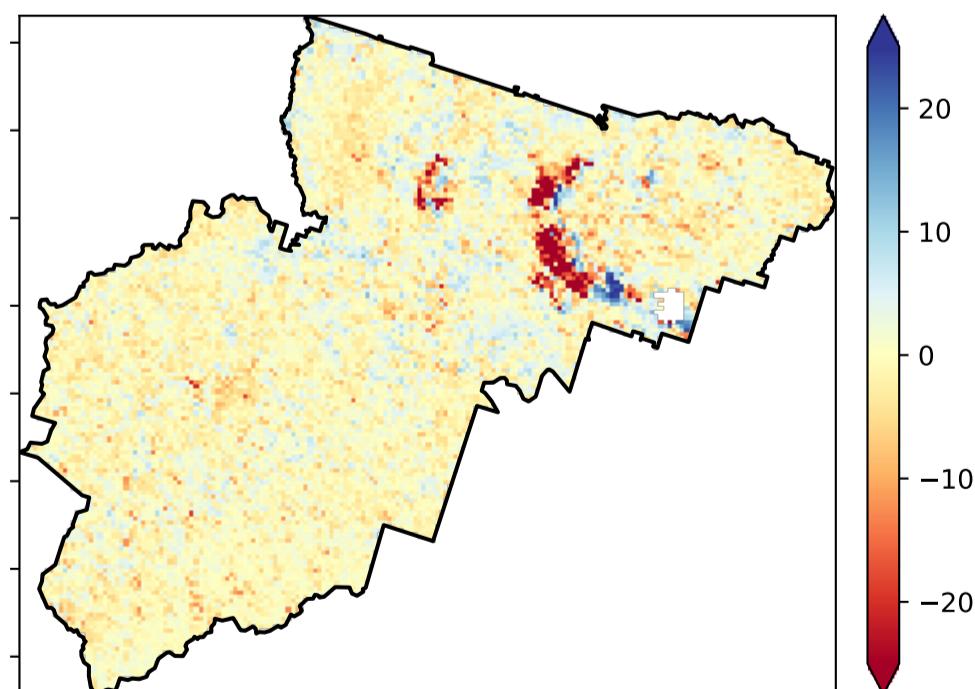


% Area protected from wind erosion (>50%)



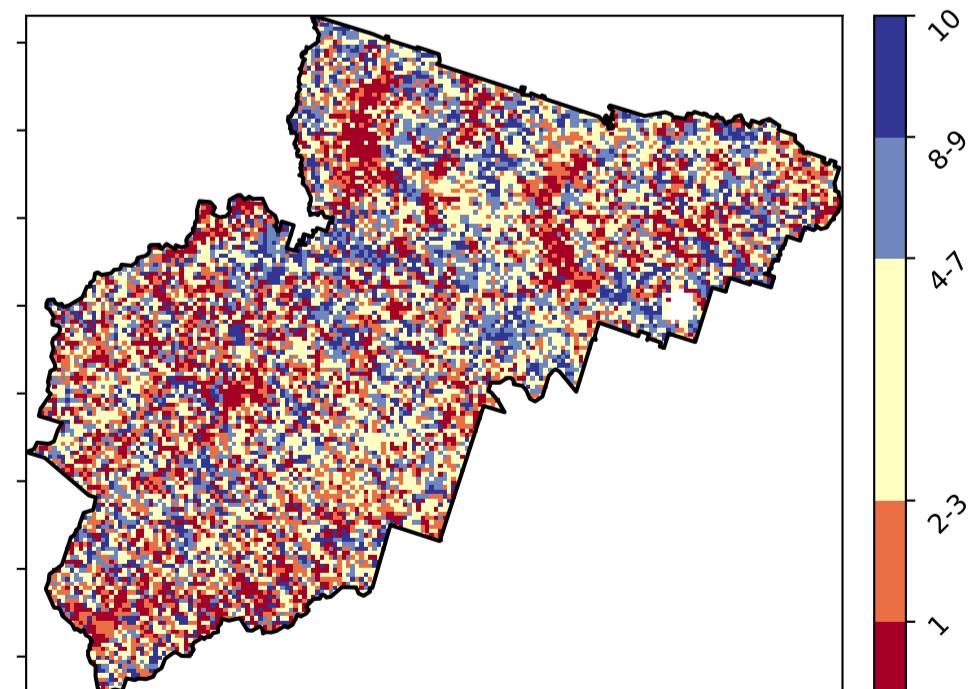
Total Vegetation Cover Anomaly [%]

Anomaly shows 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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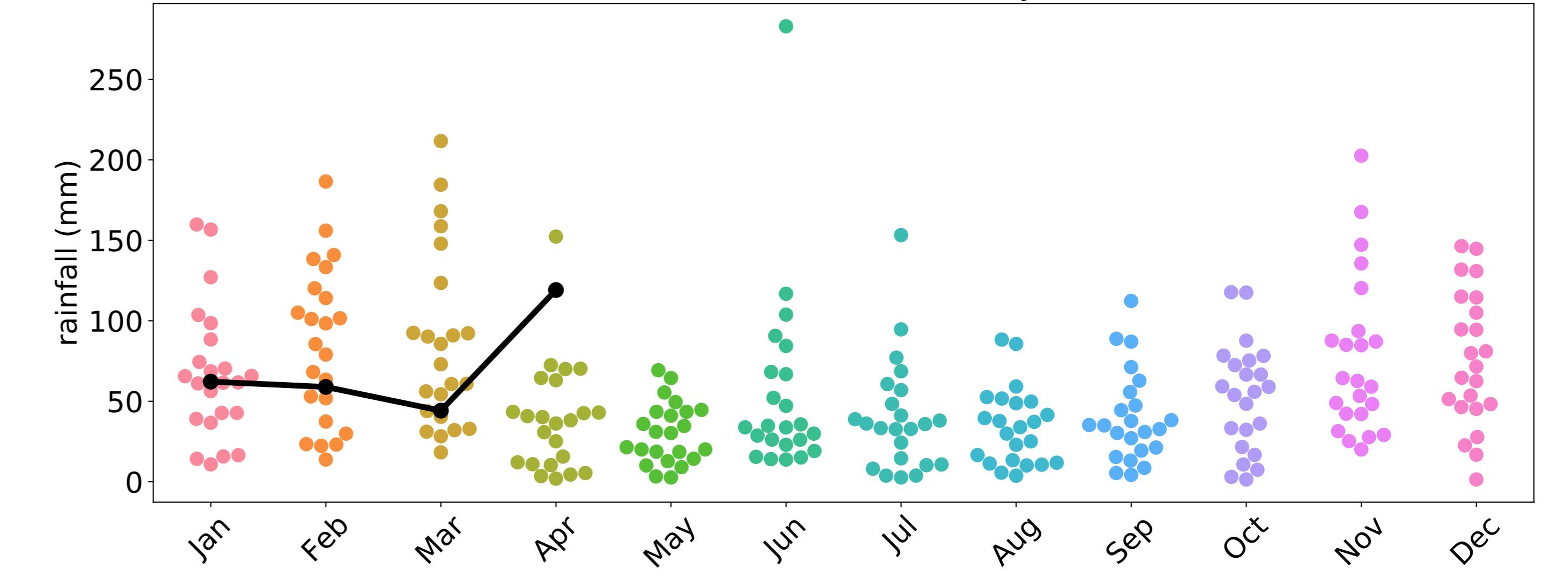
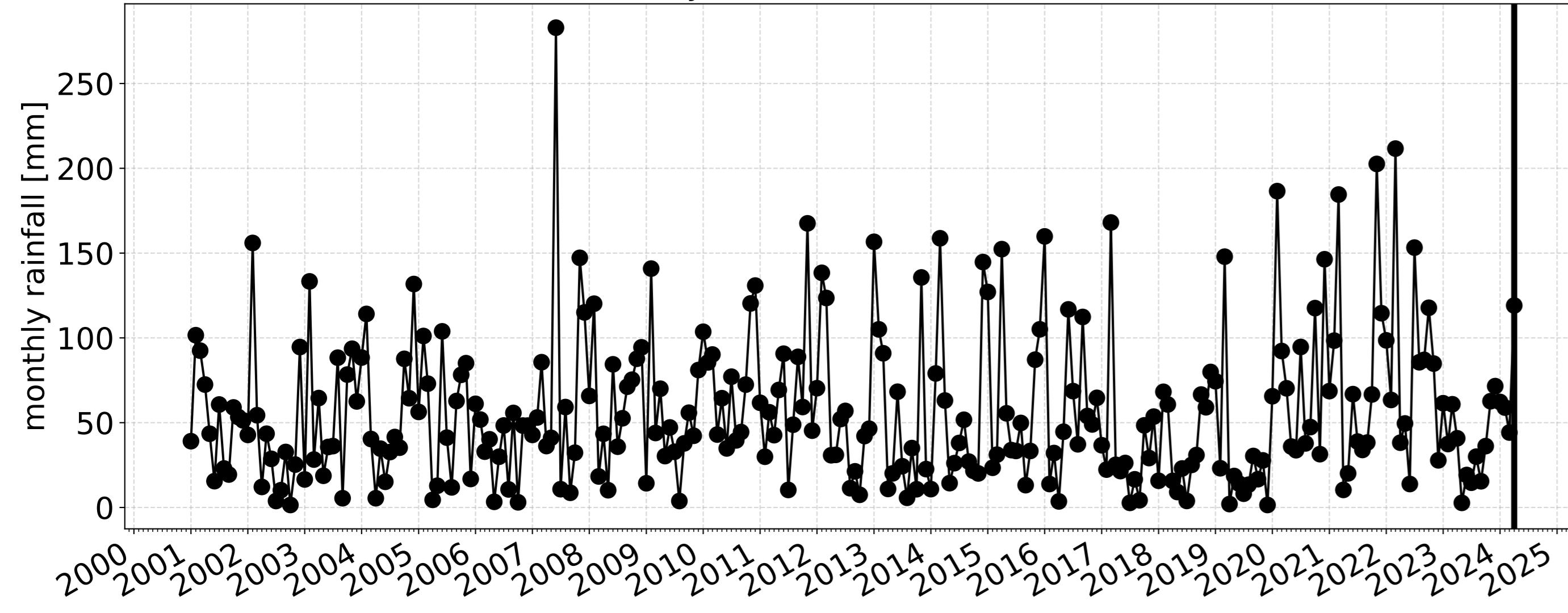
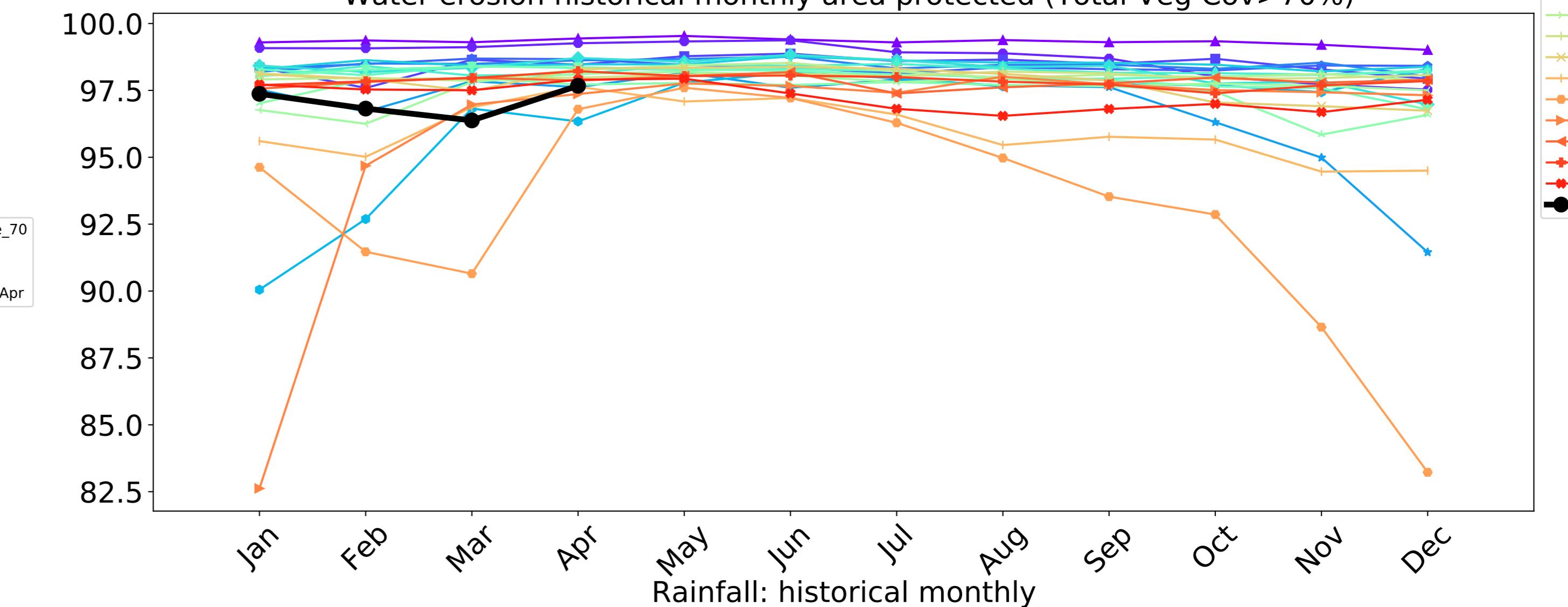
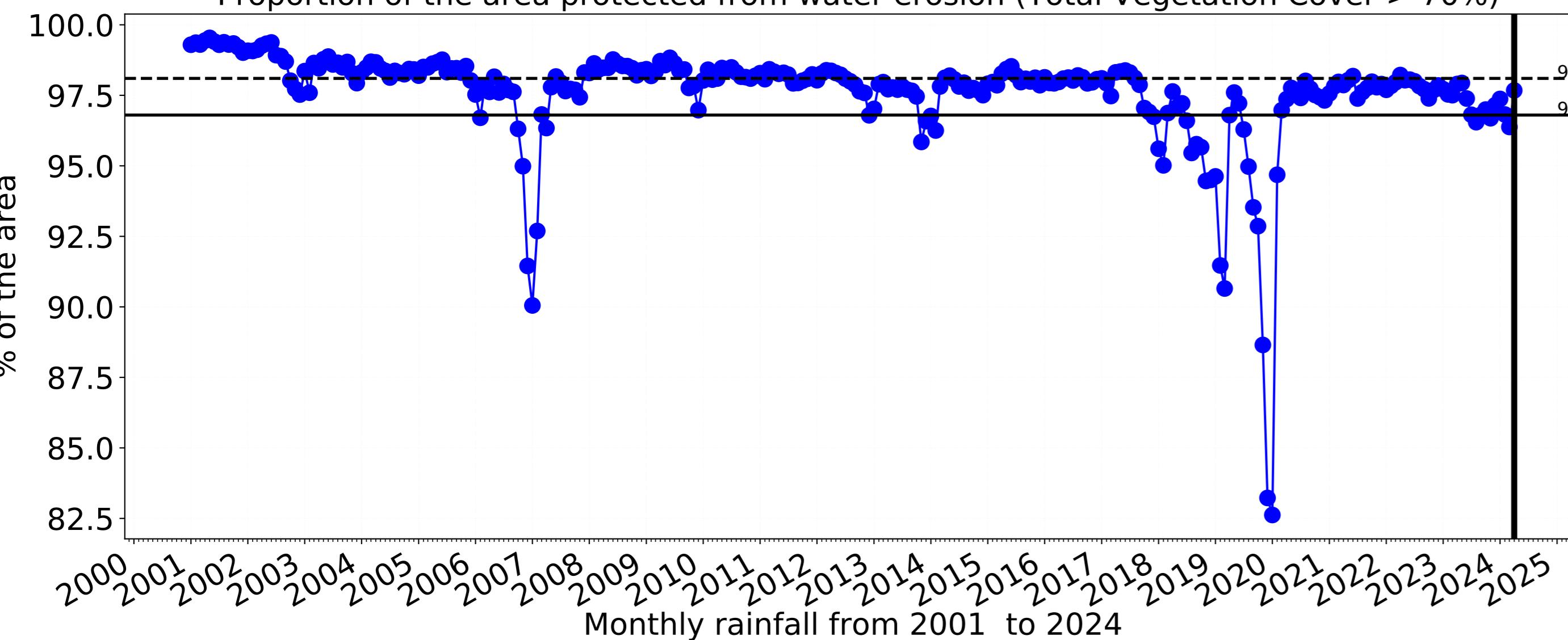
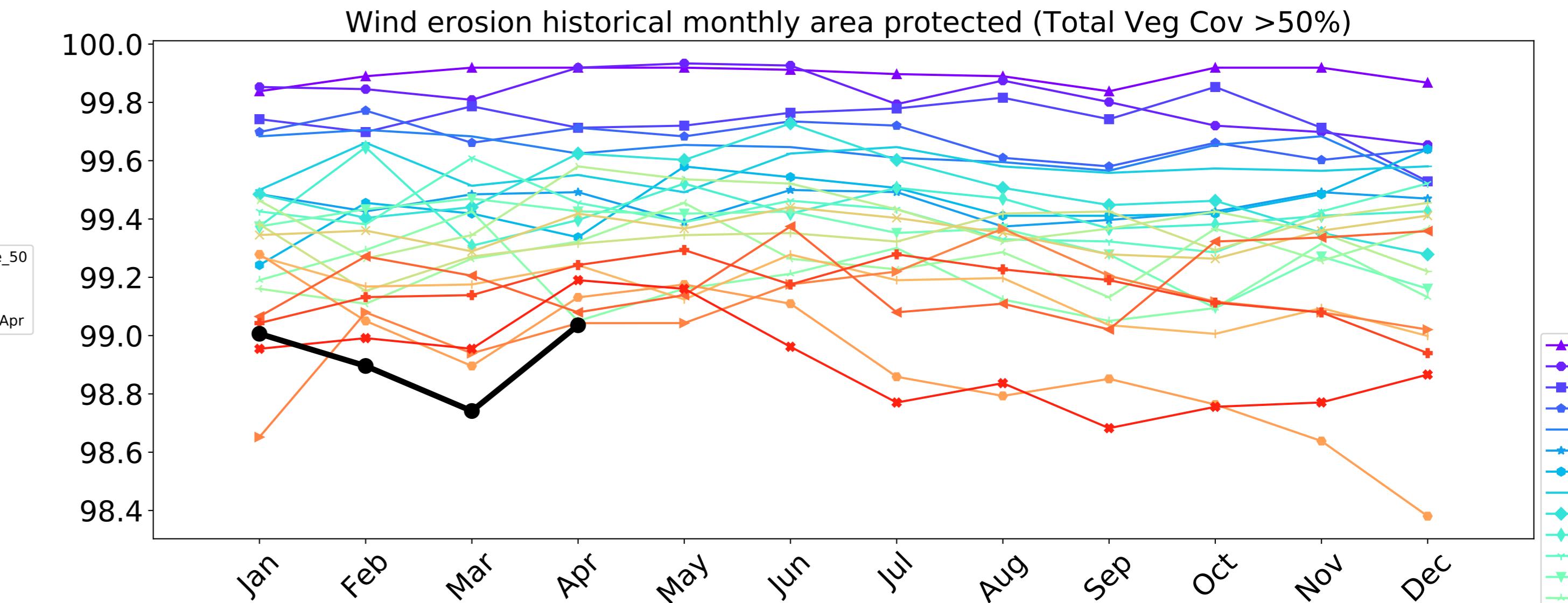
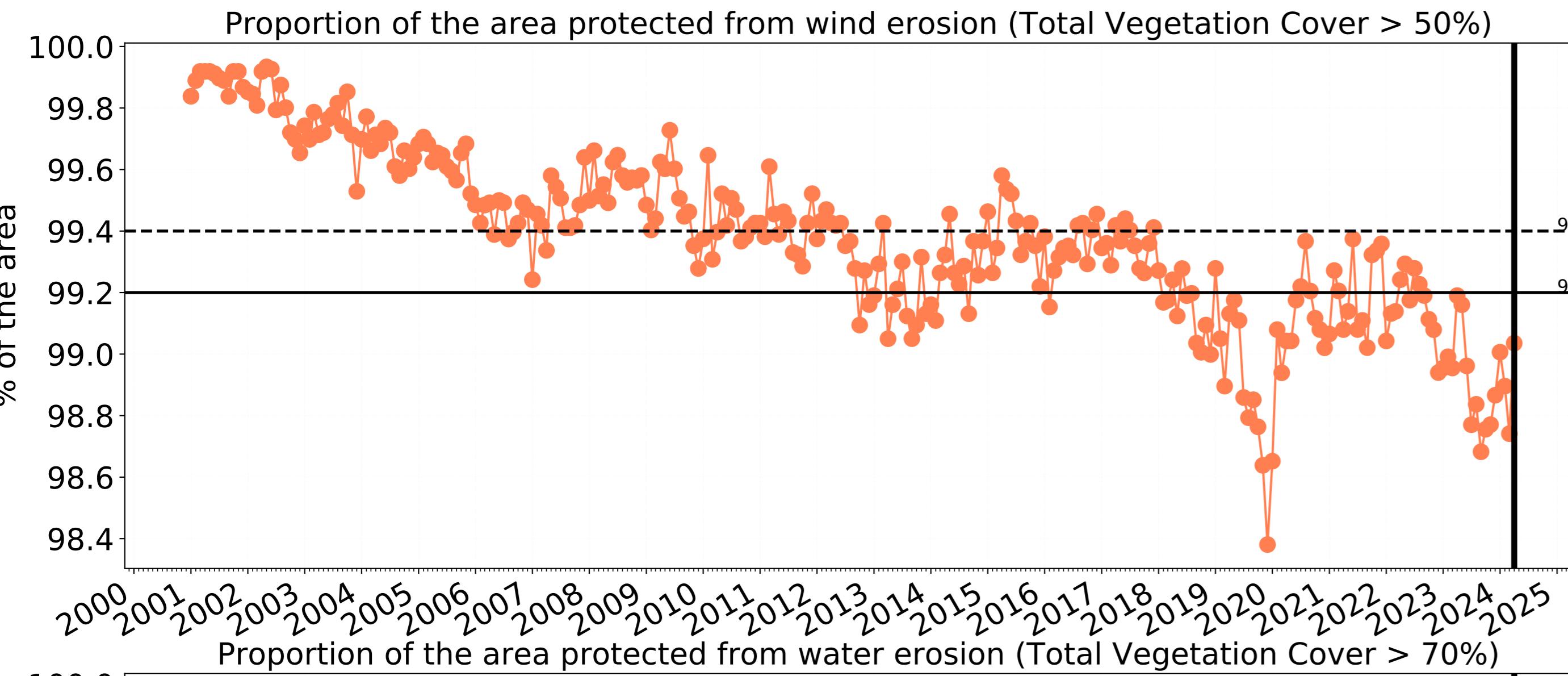
Ecosystem Research Infrastructure

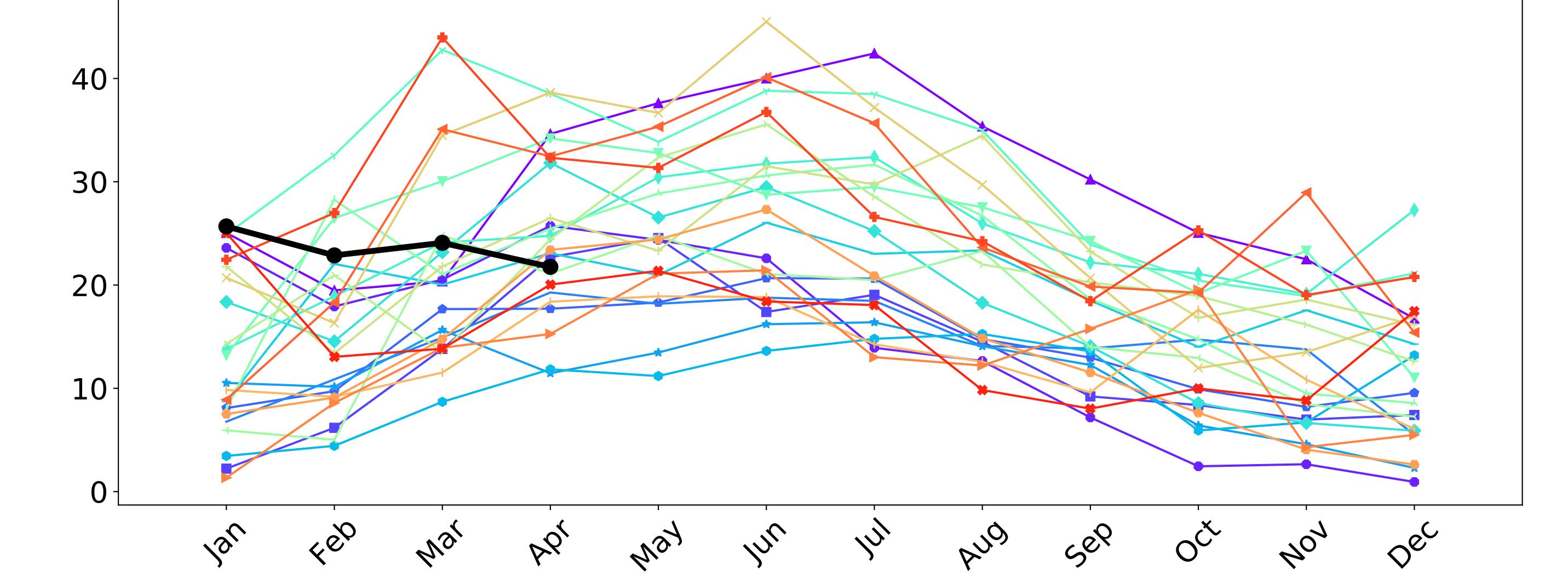
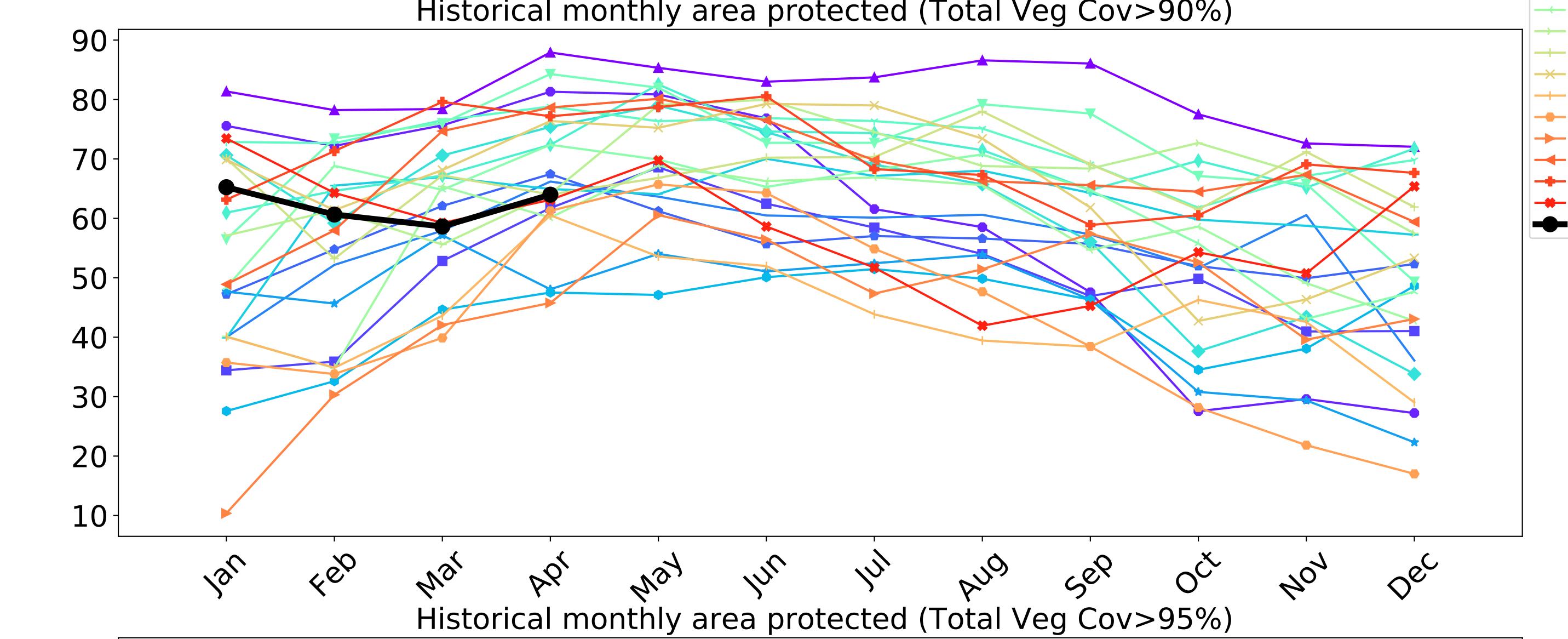
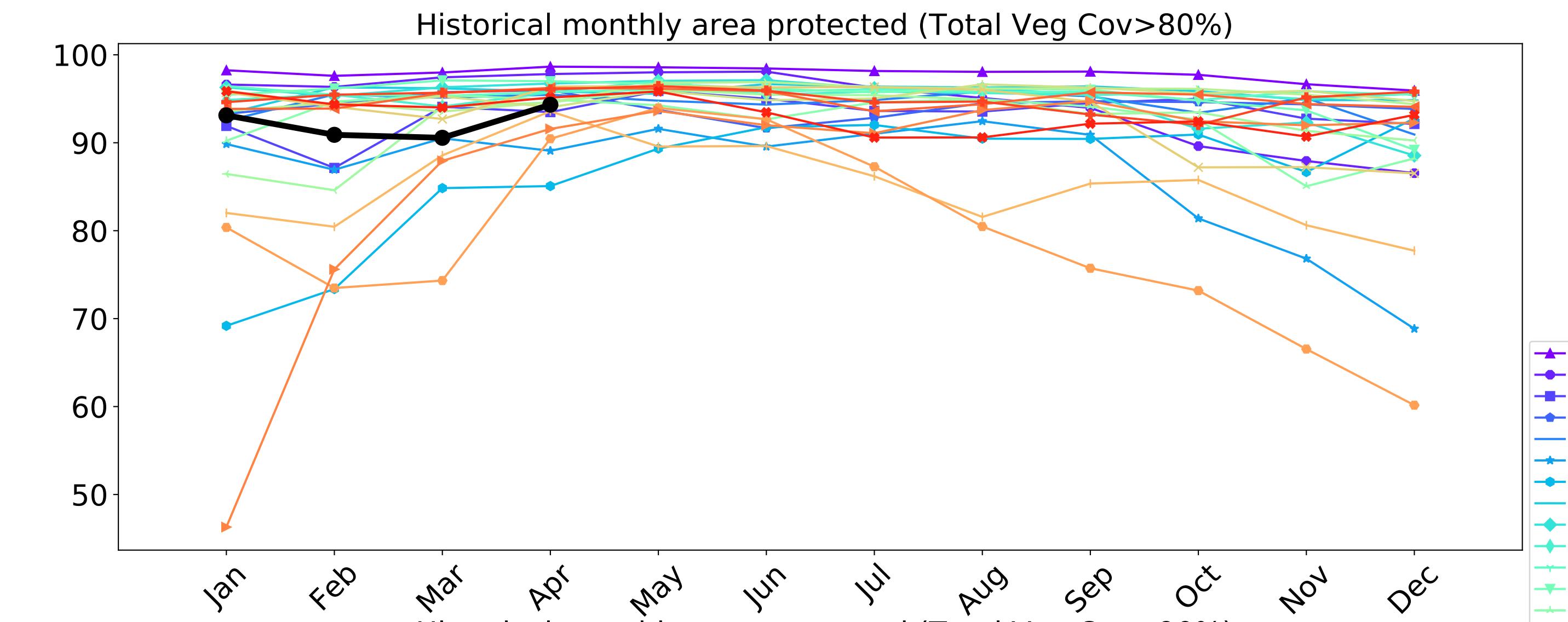
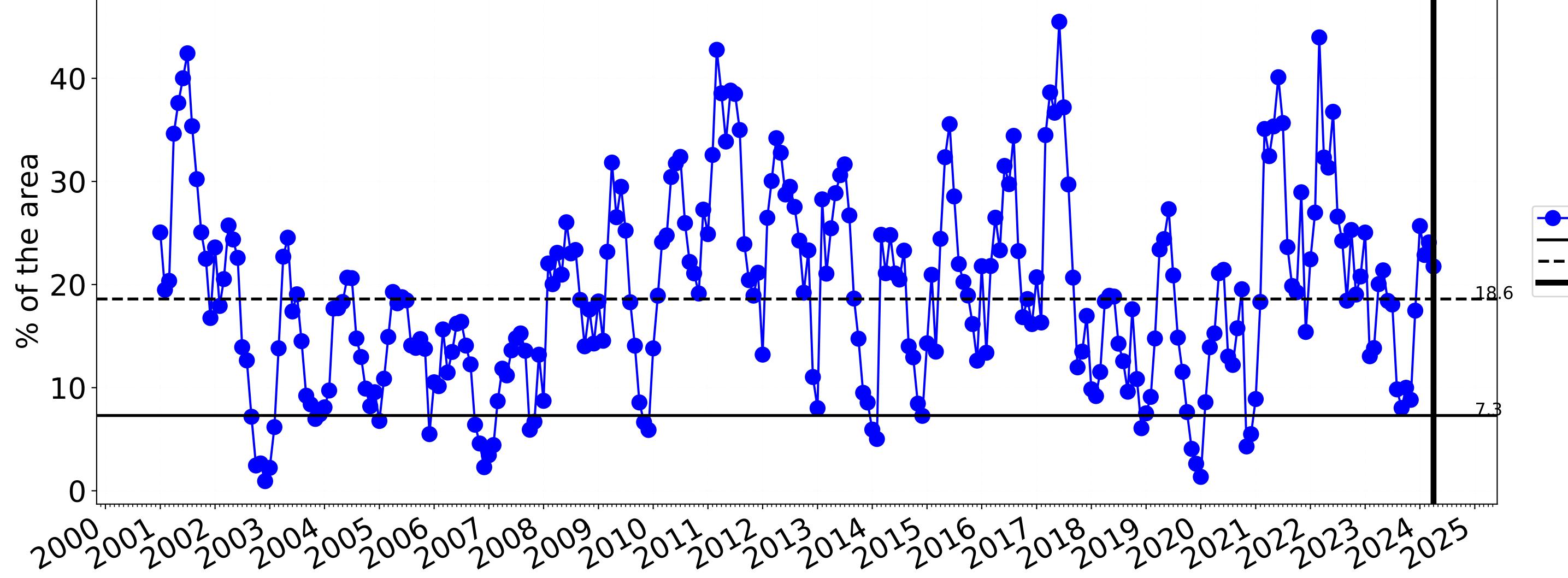
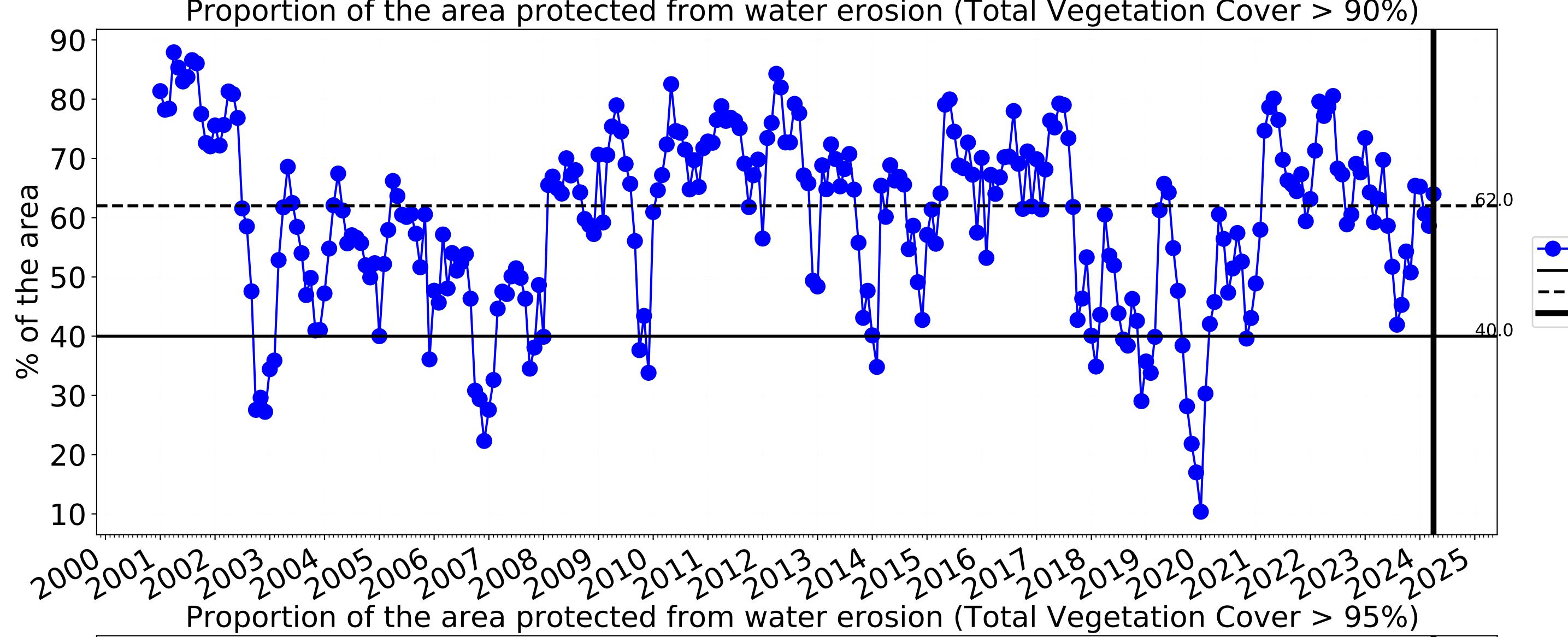
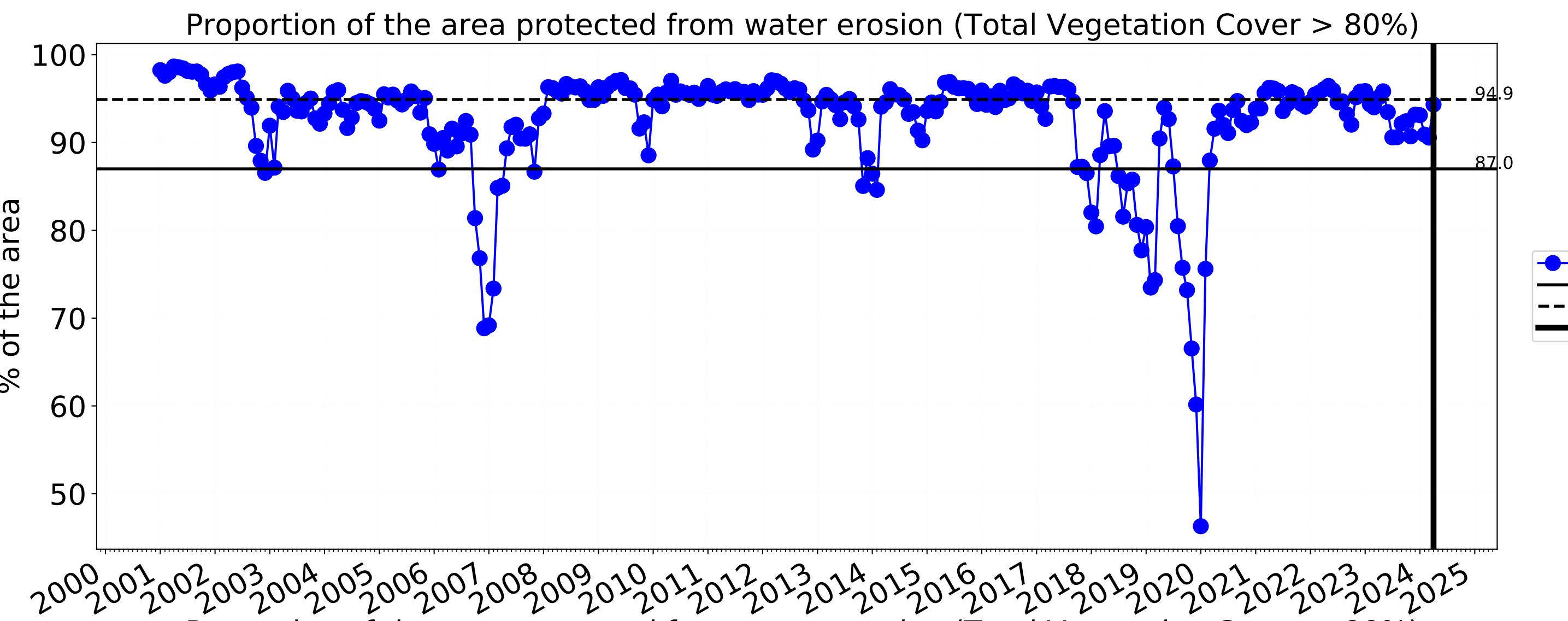


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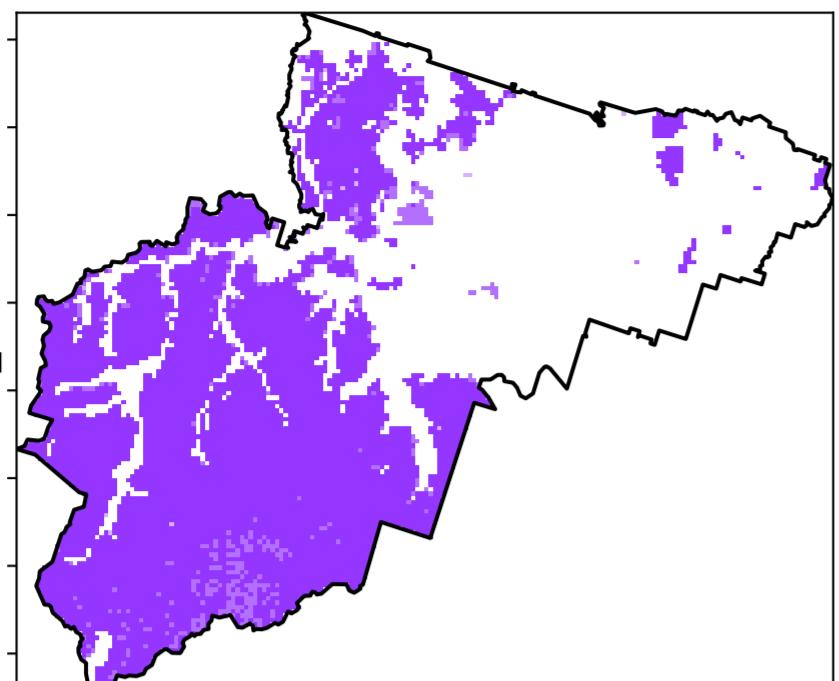




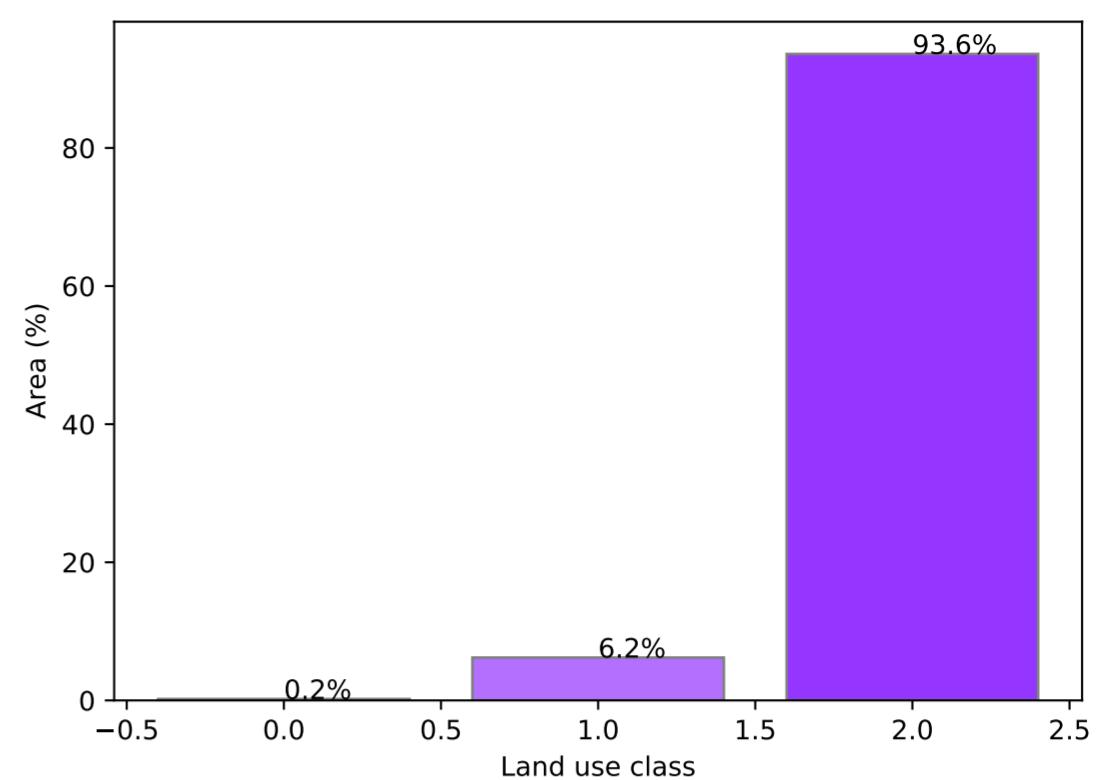
# Conservation and natural environments

**Land use and forest cover**

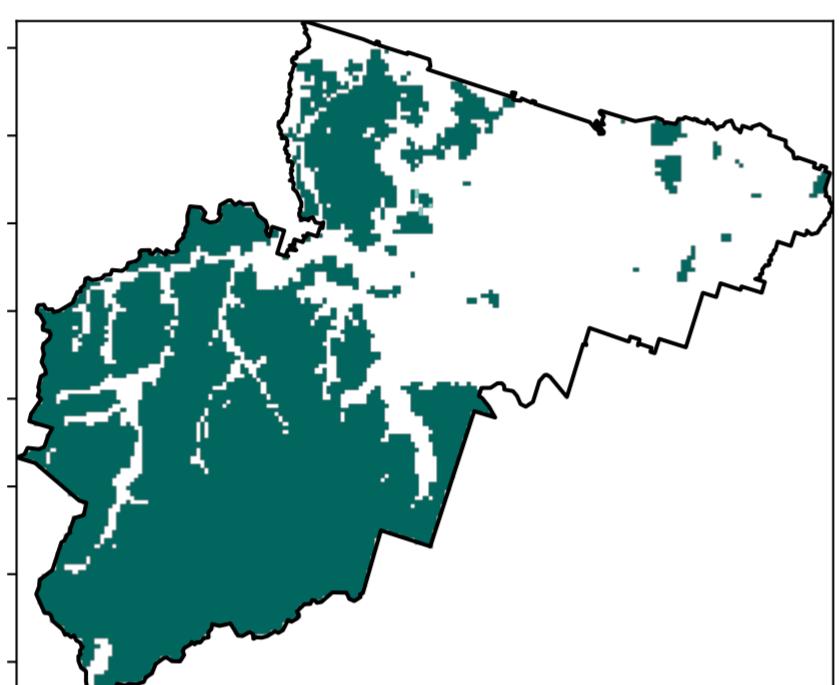
Catchment Scale  
Land Use and Forests  
of Australia (2018)  
Derived from  
Catchment Scale Land  
Use of Australia  
(2018) and Forests  
of Australia (2018)



**Proportion of each land class in area**

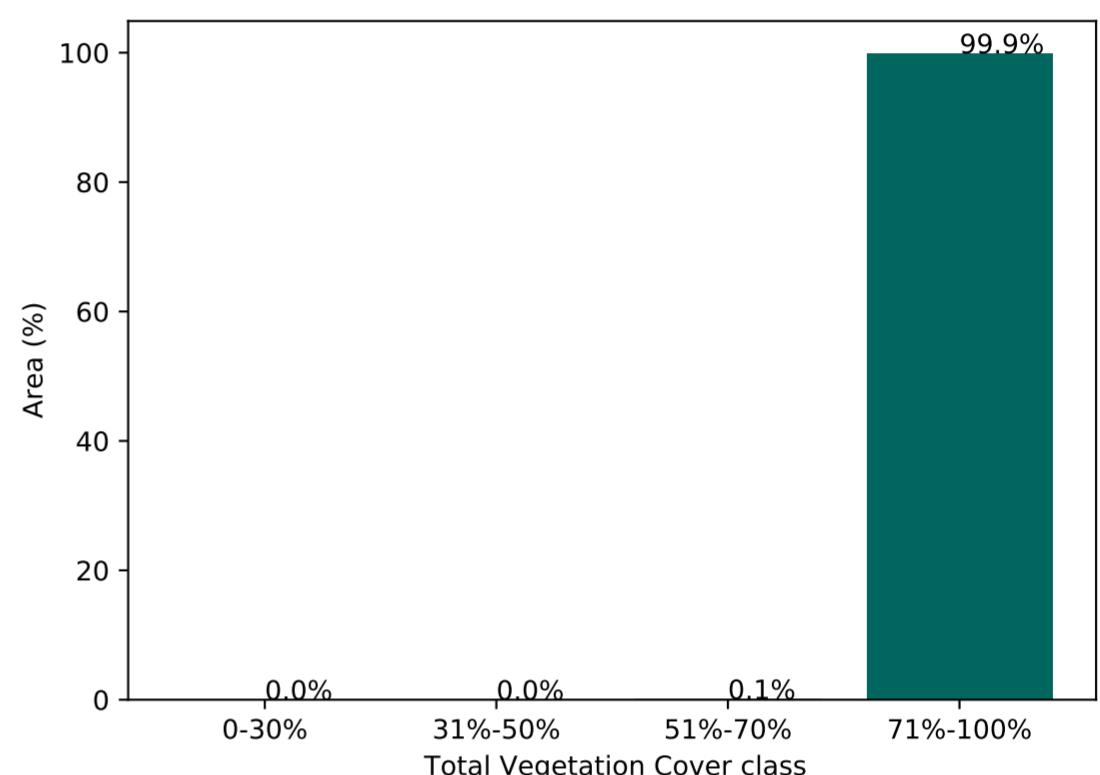


**Total Vegetation Cover [%]**

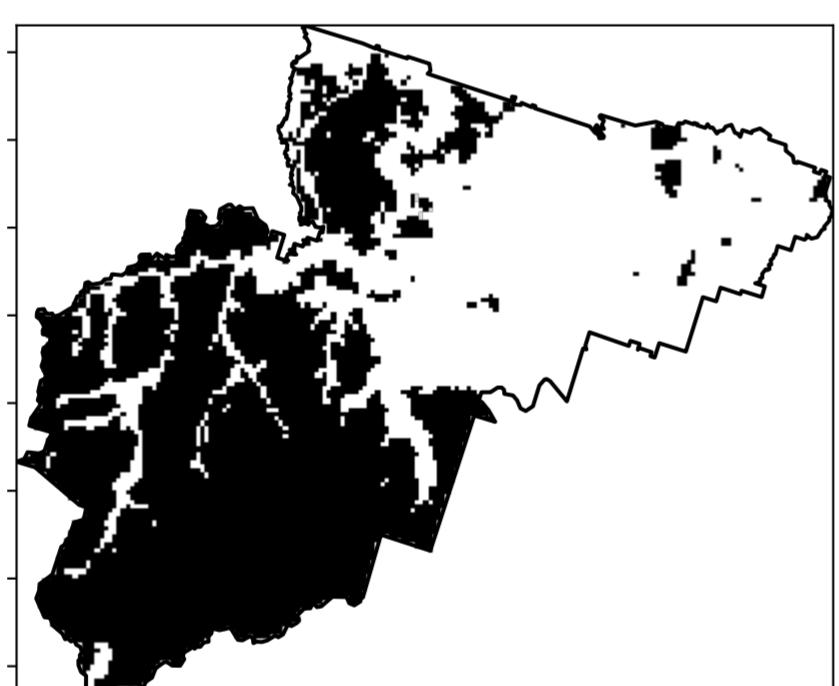


0-30%  
31-50%  
51-70%  
71-100%

**Proportion of vegetation cover class in area**

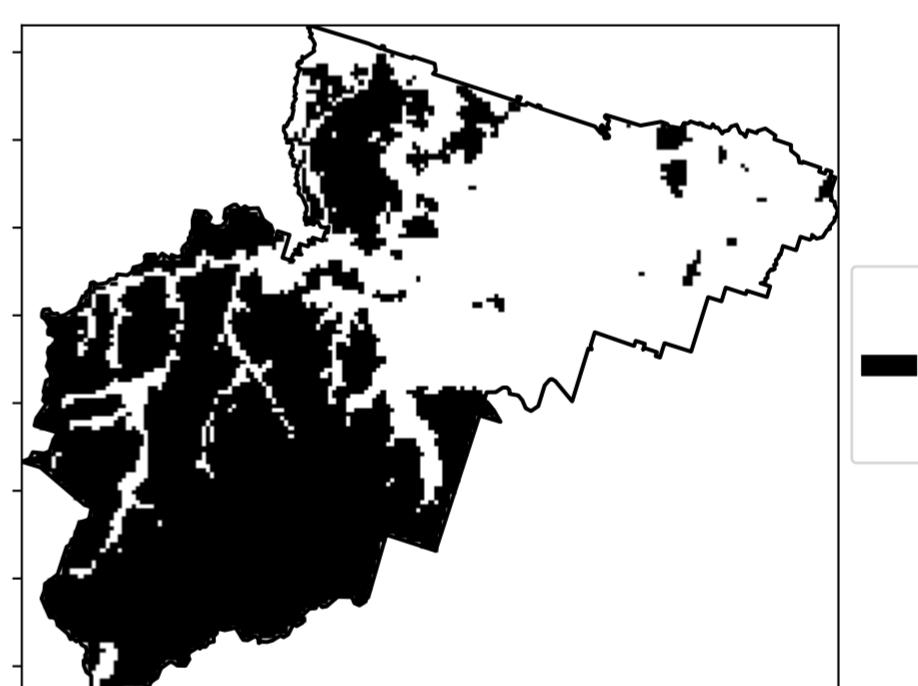


**% Area protected from water erosion (>70%)**



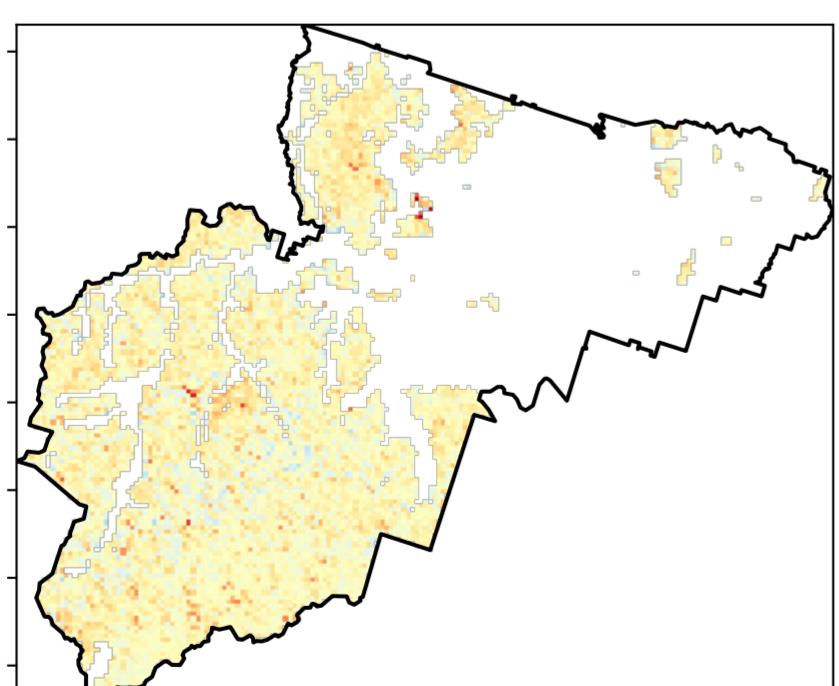
Area not protected  
0.1% of region  
(184 ha)  
Area protected  
99.9% of region  
(183,491 ha)

**% Area protected from wind erosion (>50%)**



Area protected  
100.0% of region  
(183,675 ha)

**Total Vegetation Cover Anomaly [%]**

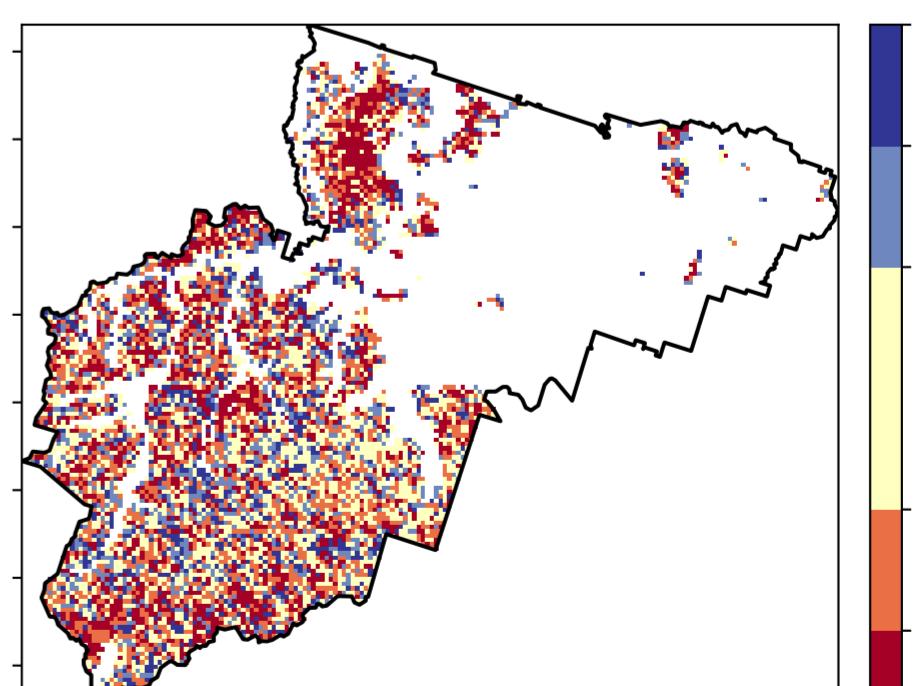


Anomaly show how many percentage points each pixel is from the mean. That is, red pixels are about 20% lower than the mean of that pixel. The mean is only for the month of the map using baseline from 2001 to 2019.

-20  
-10  
0  
10  
20

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 [%]**

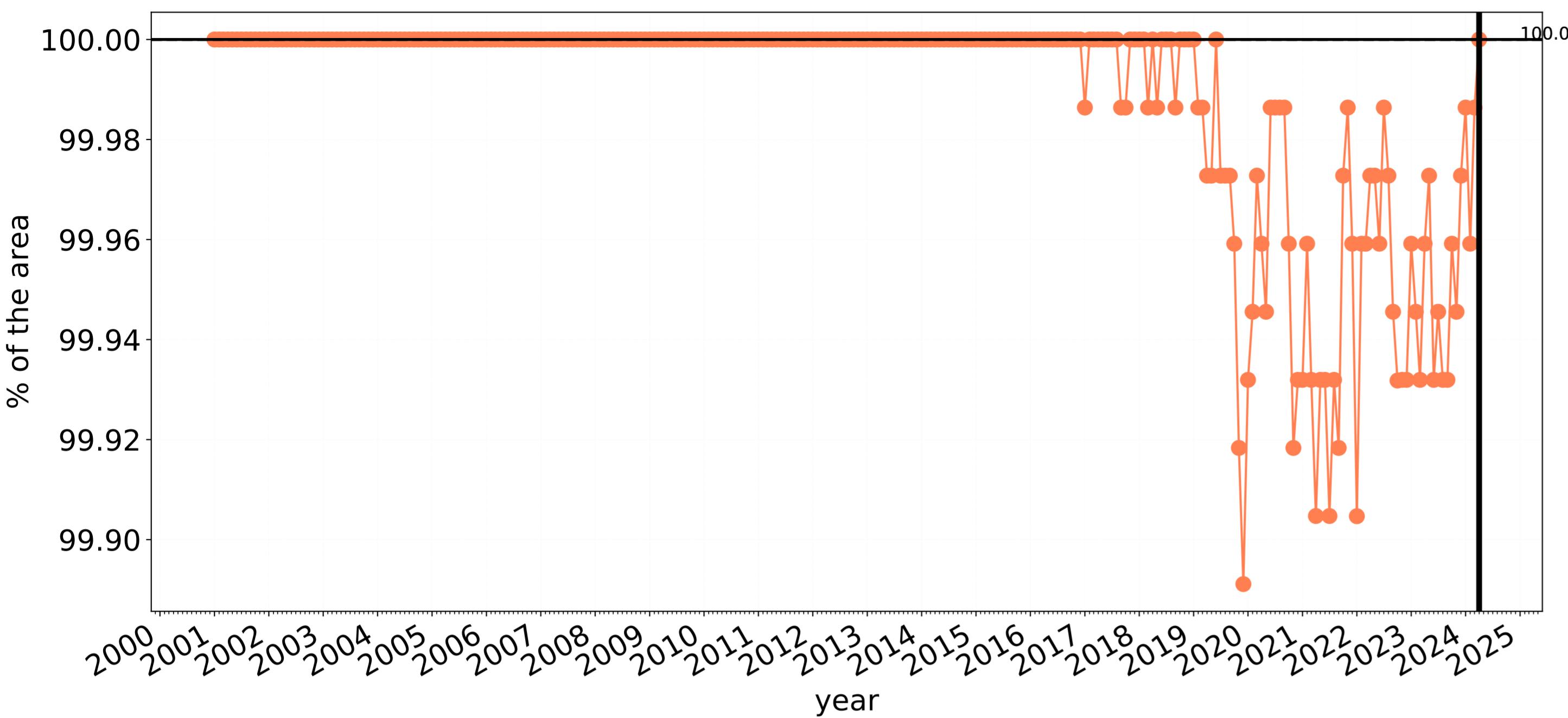


1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10

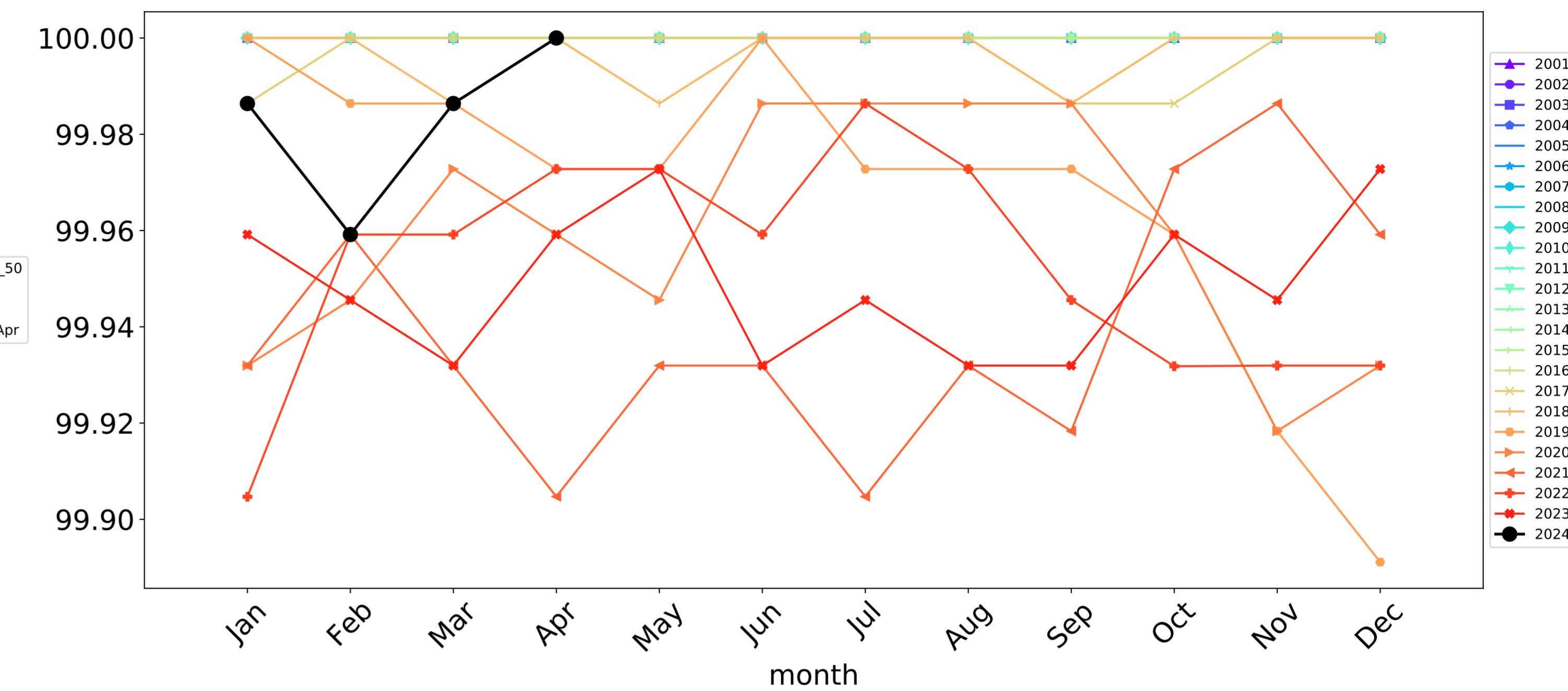


## Conservation and natural environments timeseries

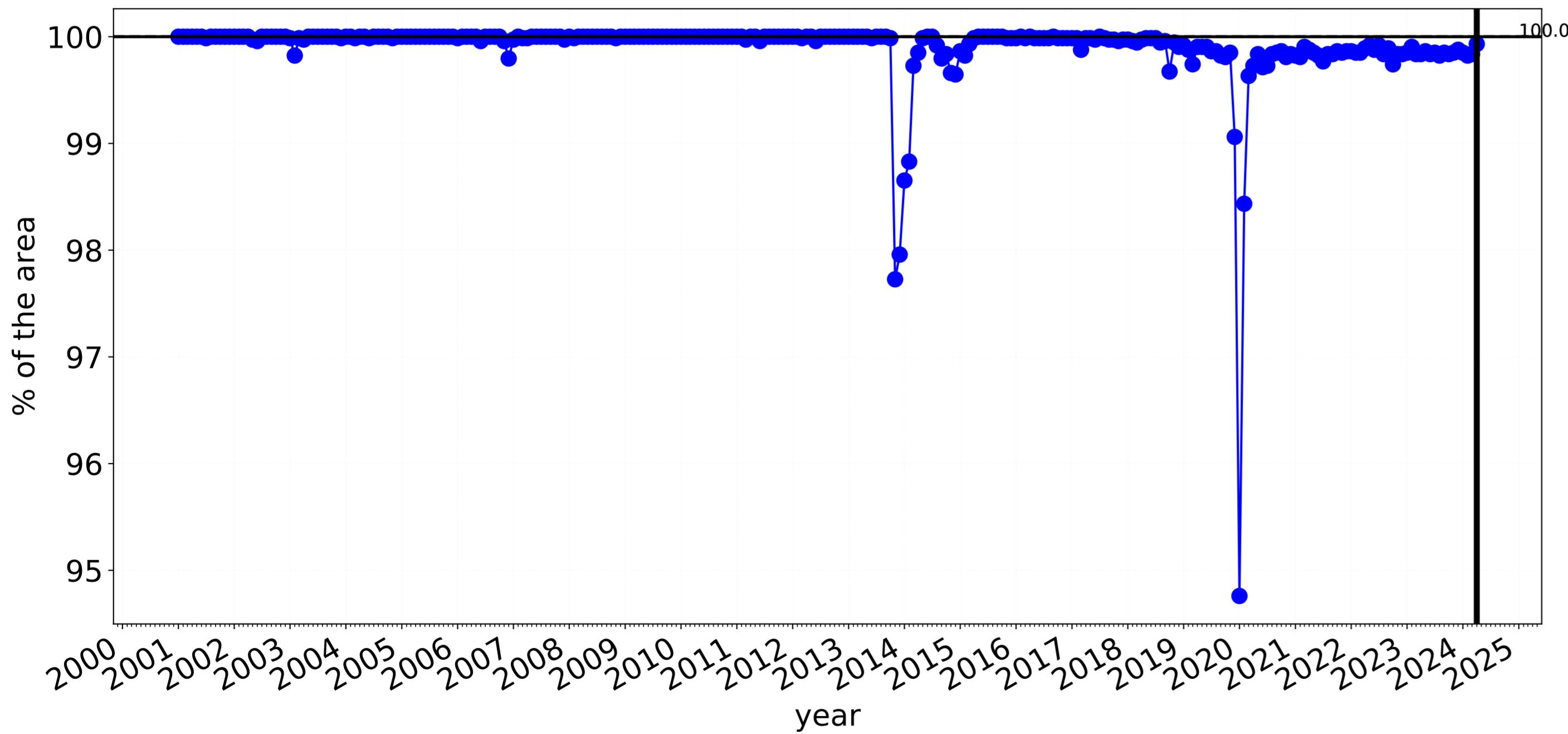
Proportion of the area protected from wind erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 50%)



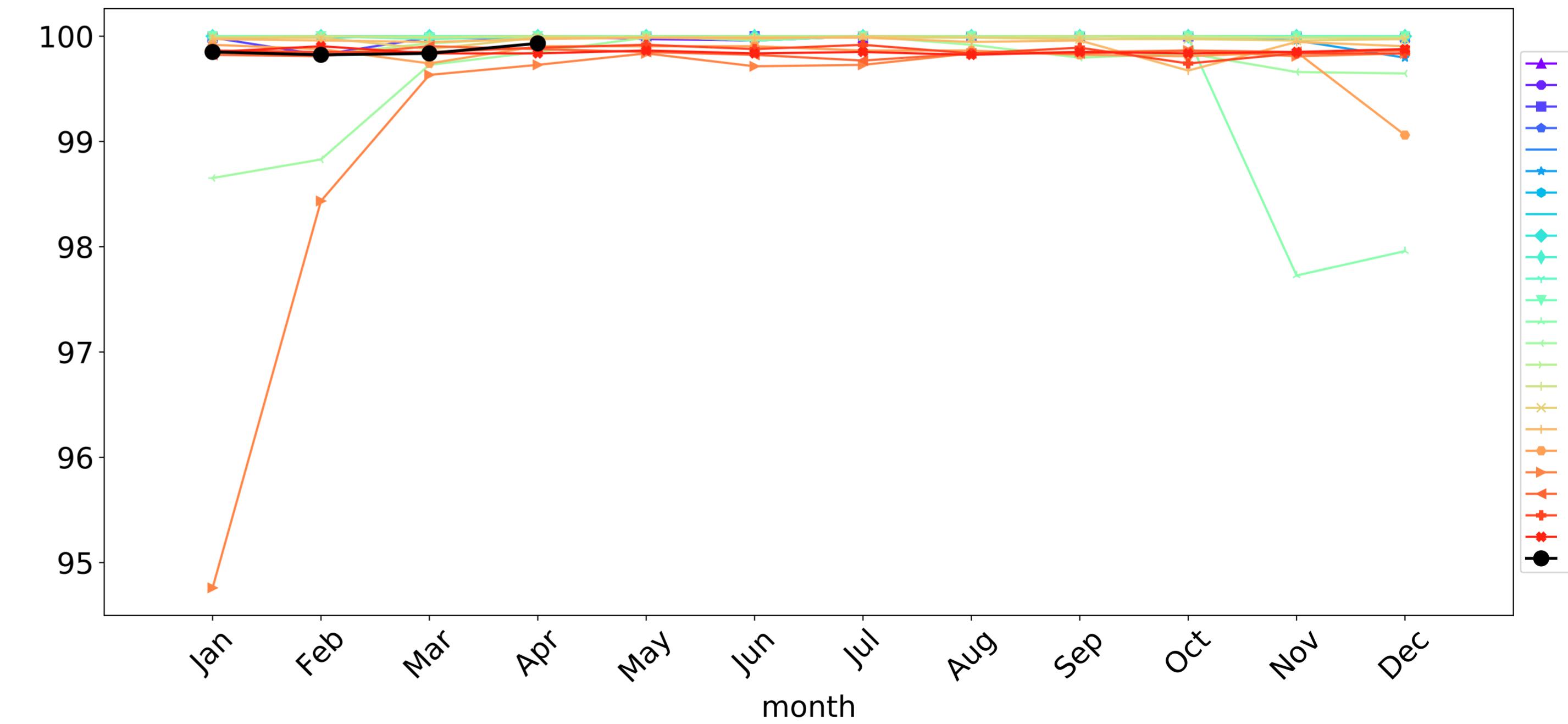
Wind erosion historical monthly area protected (Total Veg Cov >50%)



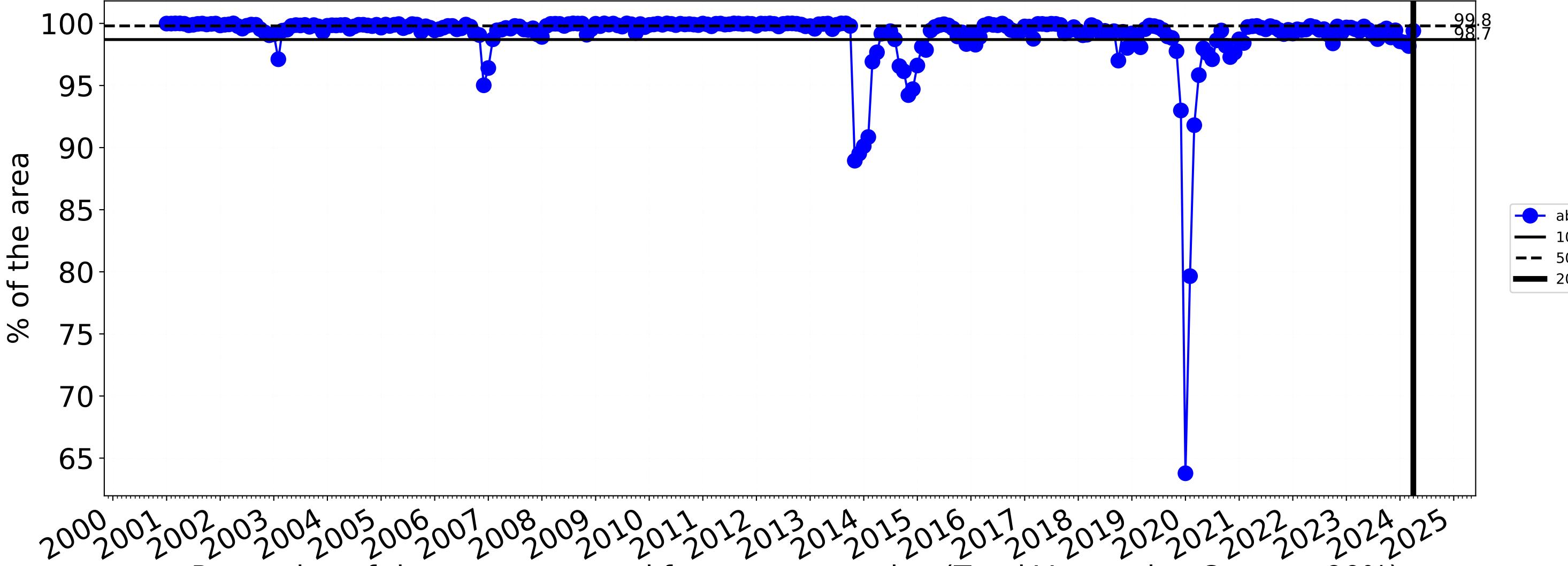
Proportion of the area protected from water erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 70%)



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



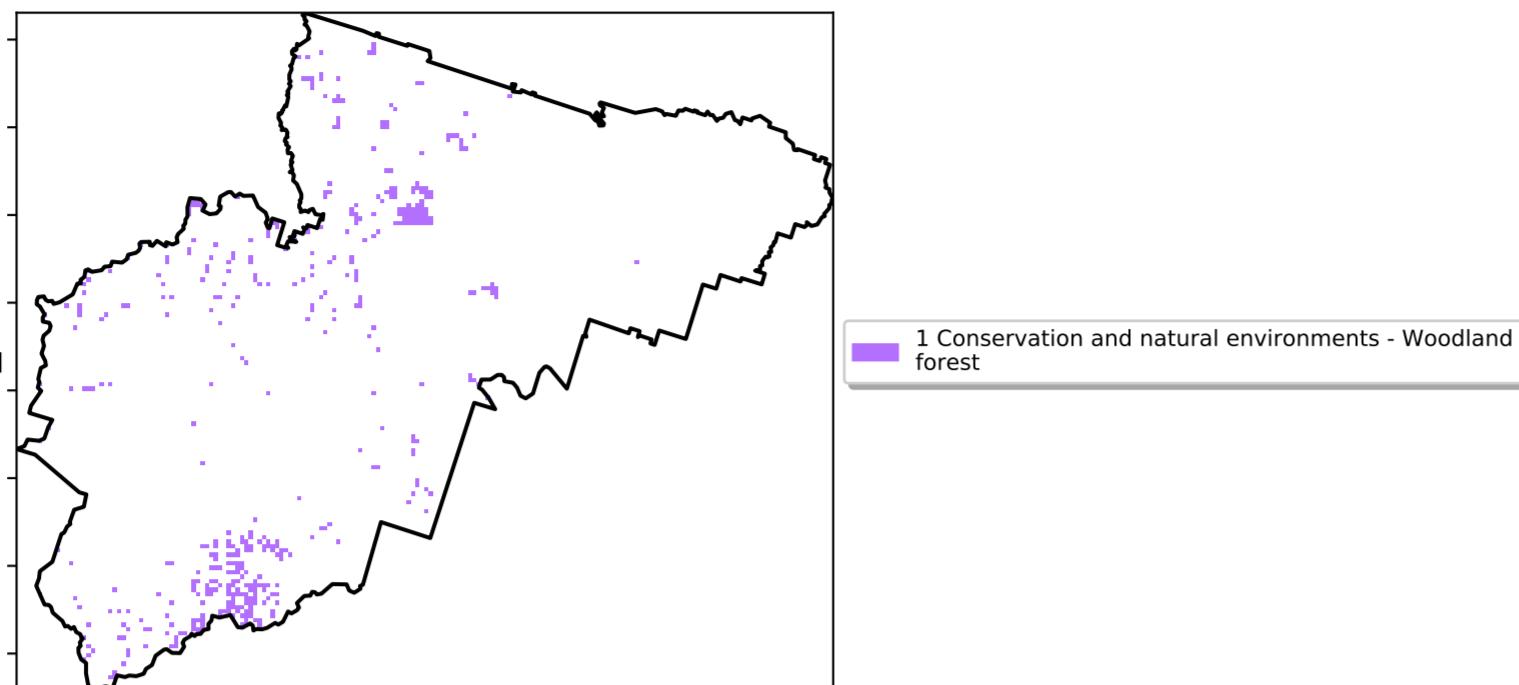
Proportion of the area protected from water erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 80%)



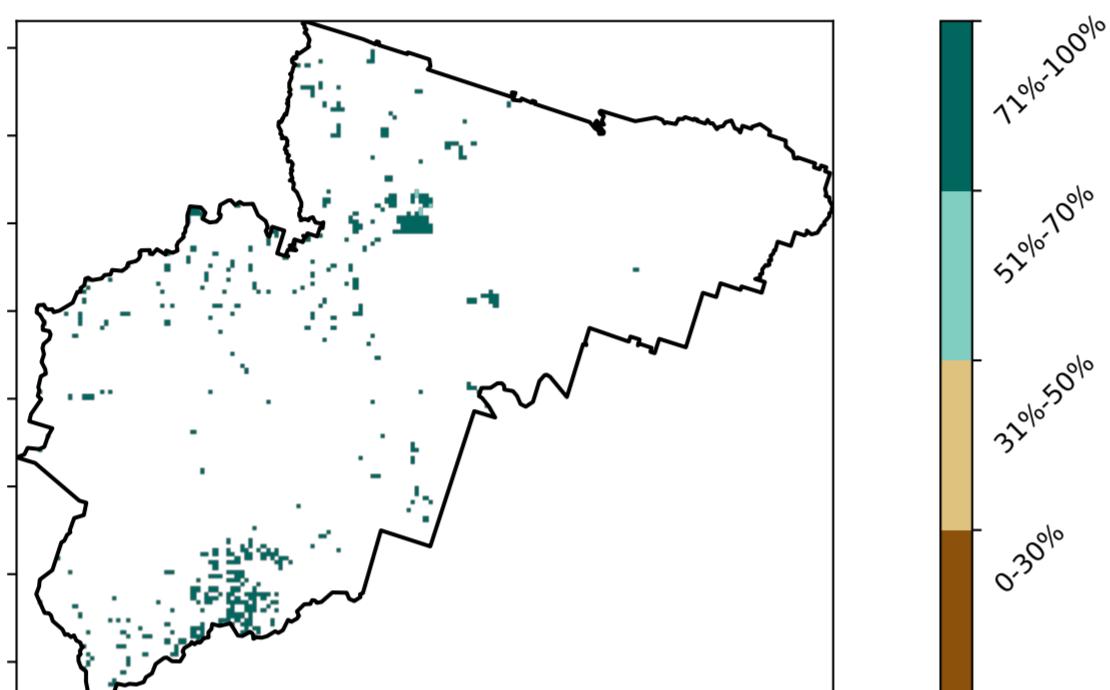
# Conservation and natural environments Woodland forest

**Land use and forest cover**

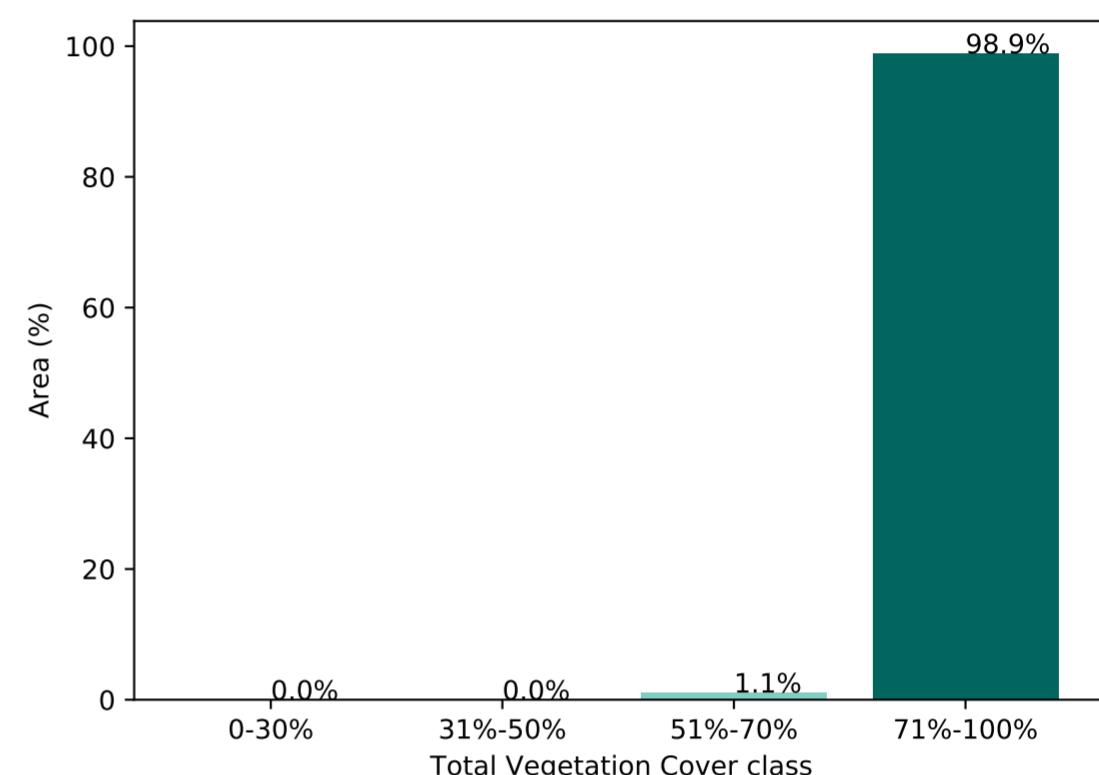
Catchment Scale  
Land Use and Forests  
of Australia (2018)  
Derived from  
Catchment Scale Land  
Use of Australia  
(2018) and Forests  
of Australia (2018)



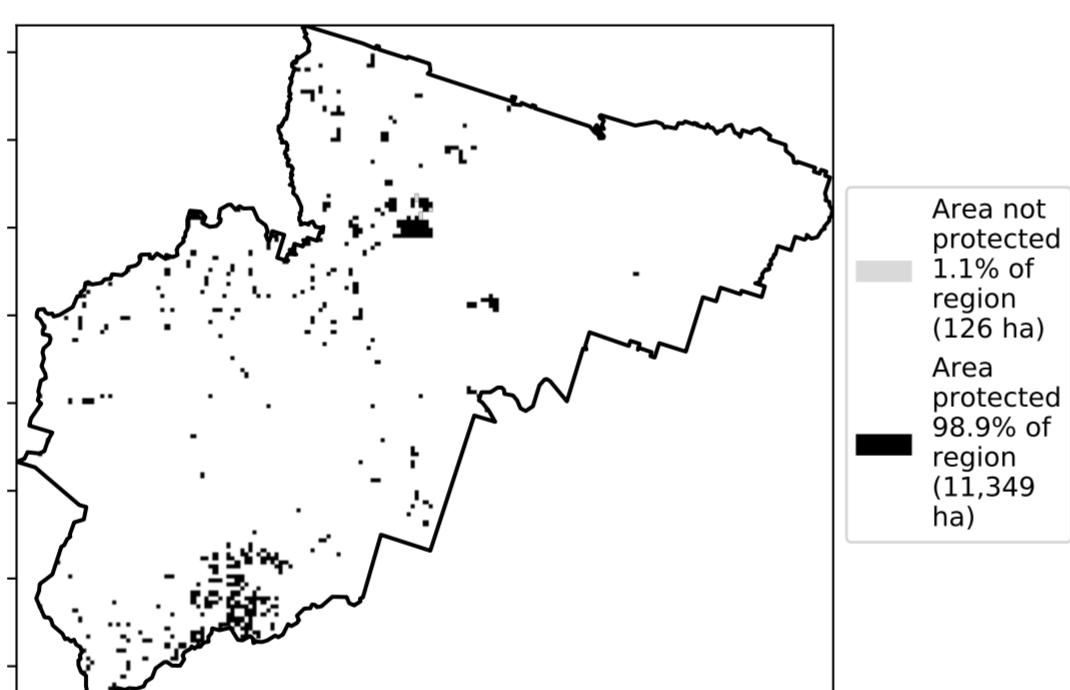
**Total Vegetation Cover [%]**



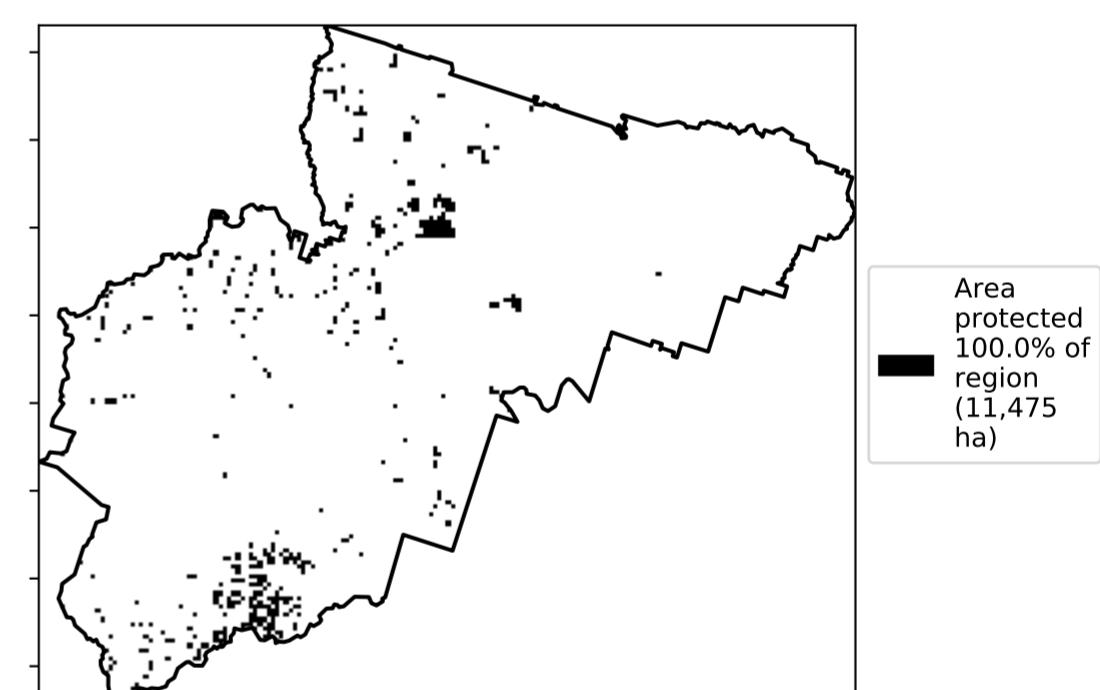
**Proportion of vegetation cover class in area**



**% Area protected from water erosion (>70%)**

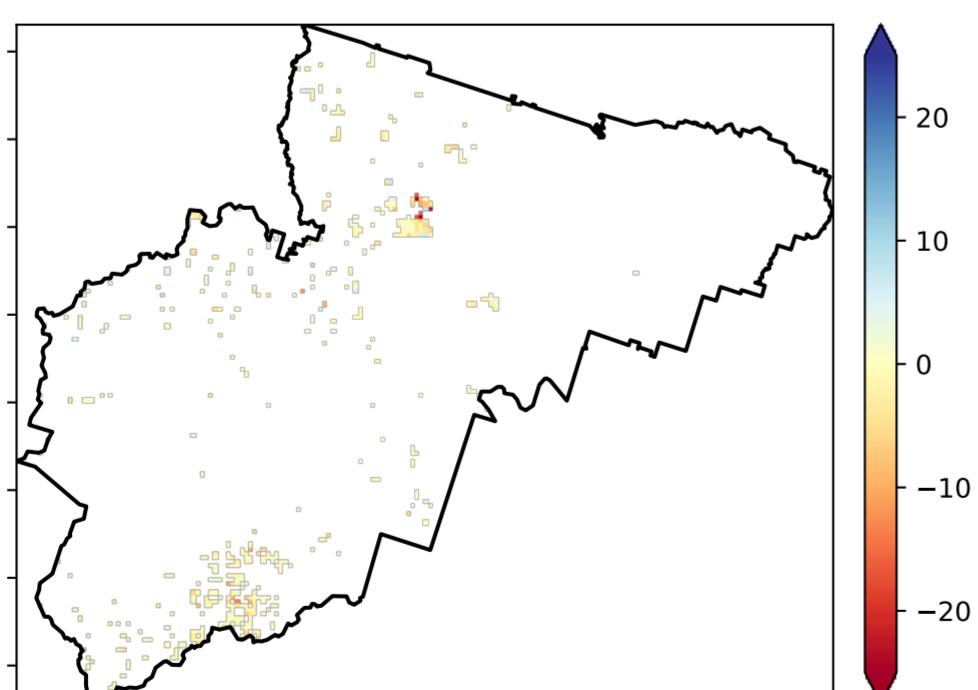


**% Area protected from wind erosion (>50%)**



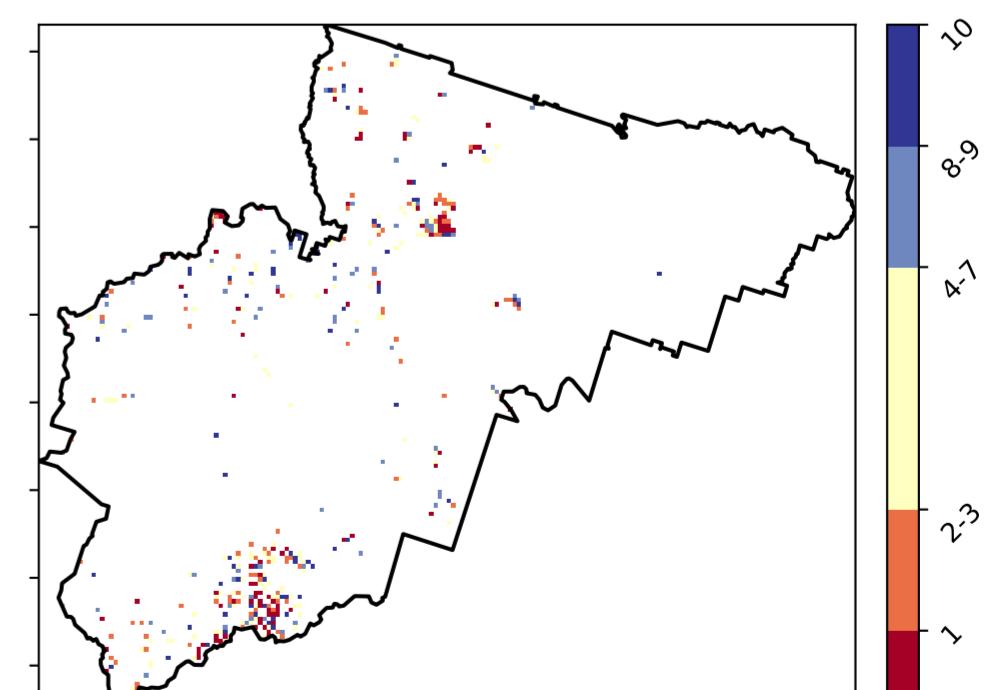
**Total Vegetation Cover Anomaly [%]**

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 [%]**



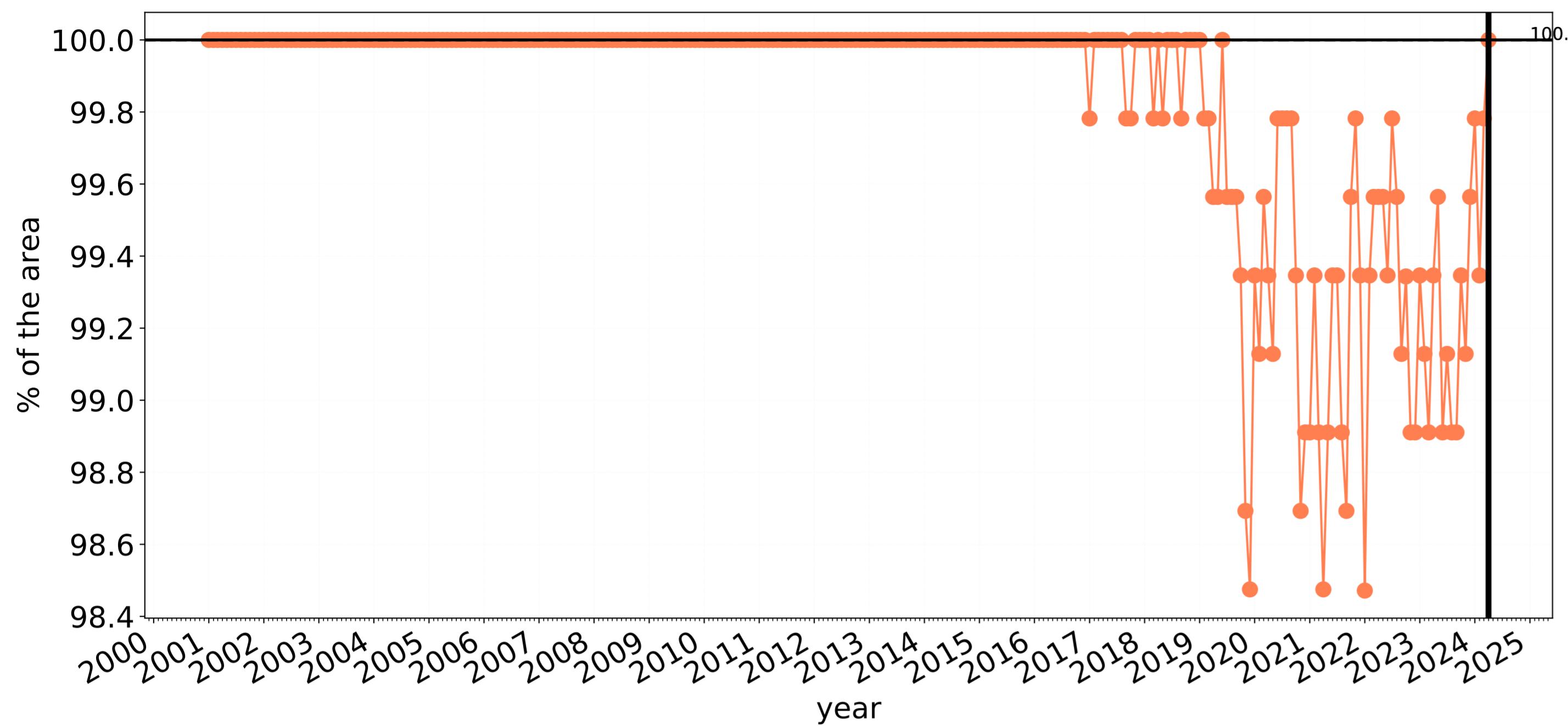
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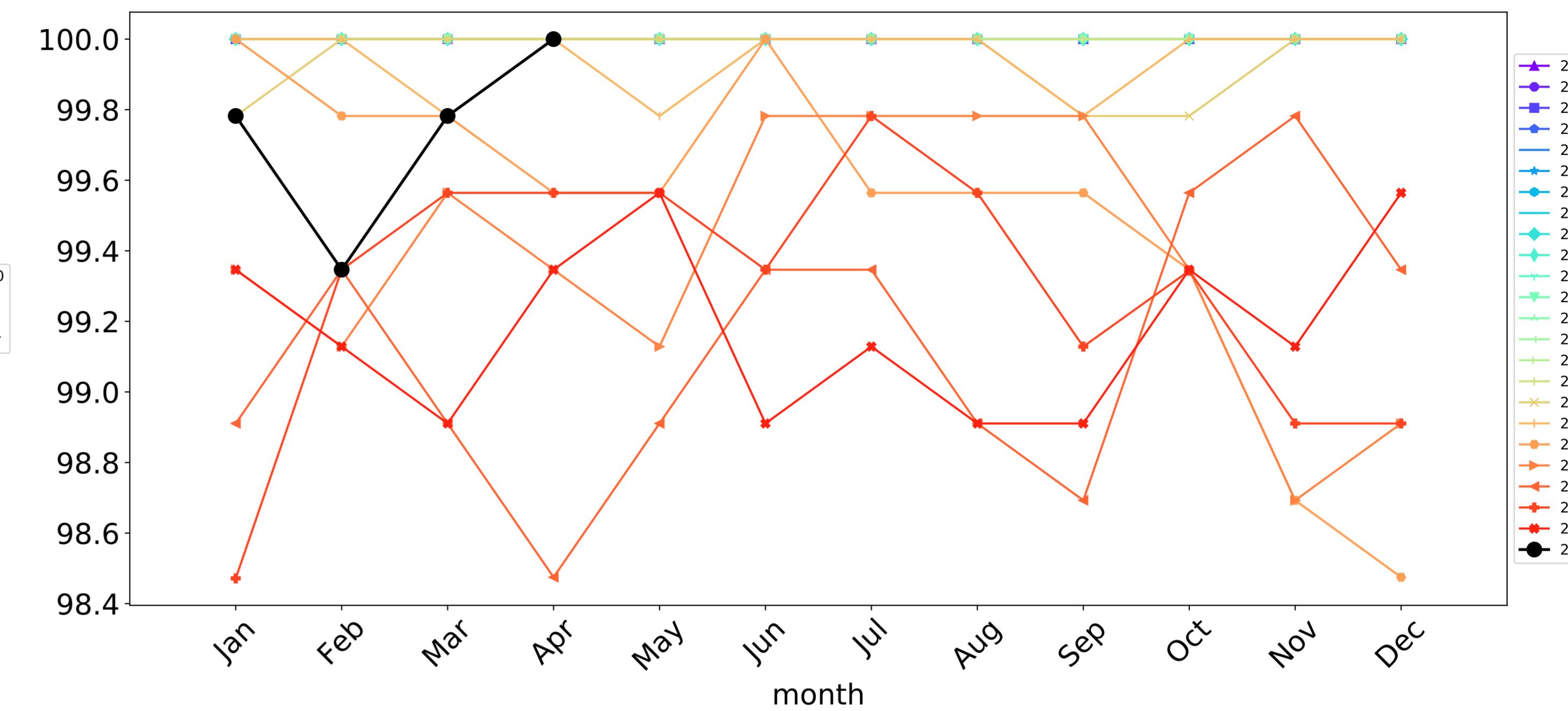


## Conservation and natural environments Woodland forest timeseries

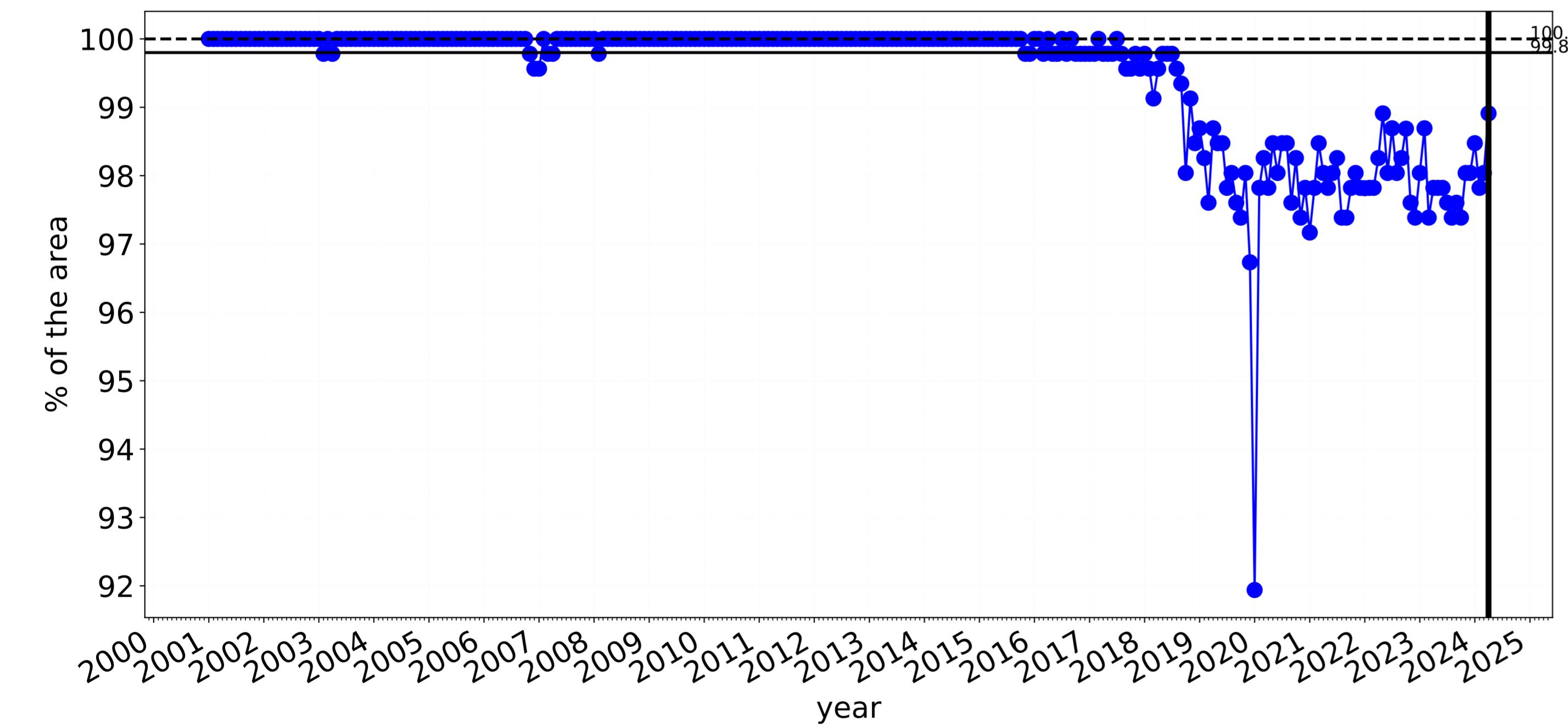
Proportion of the area protected from wind erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 50%)



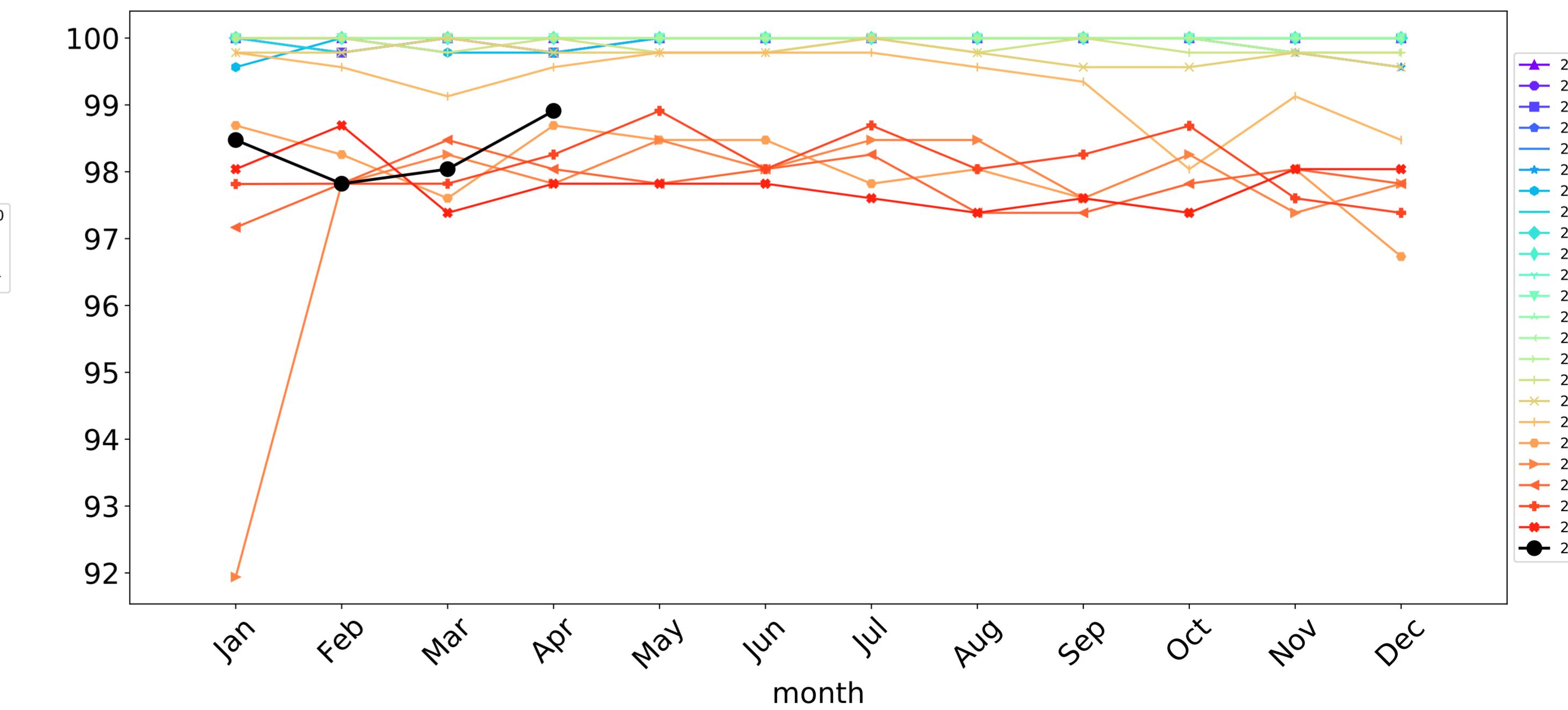
Wind erosion historical monthly area protected (Total Veg Cov >50%)



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



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



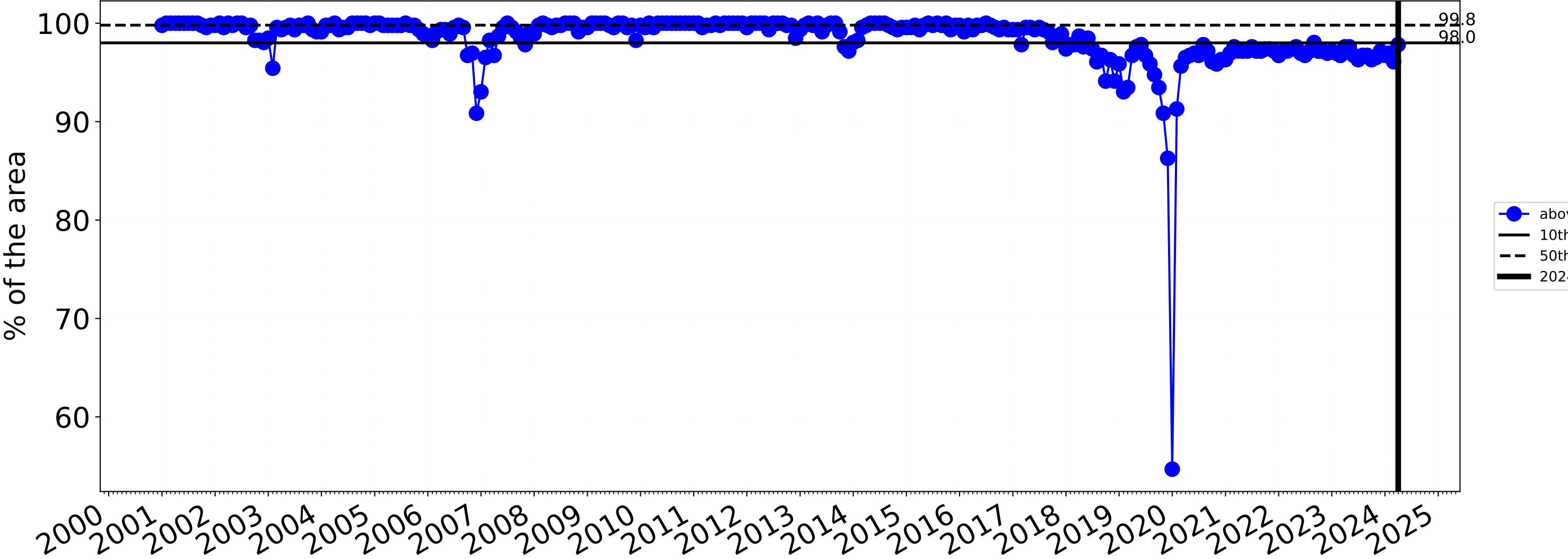
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Ecosystem Research Infrastructure



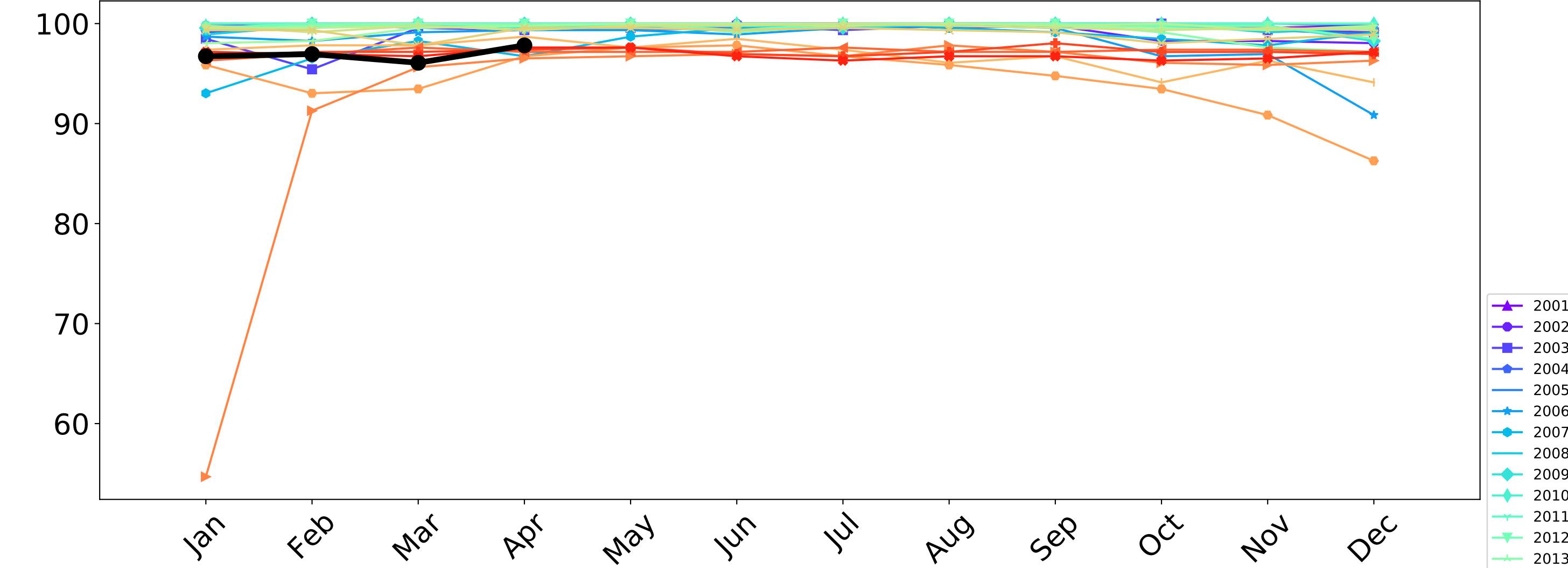
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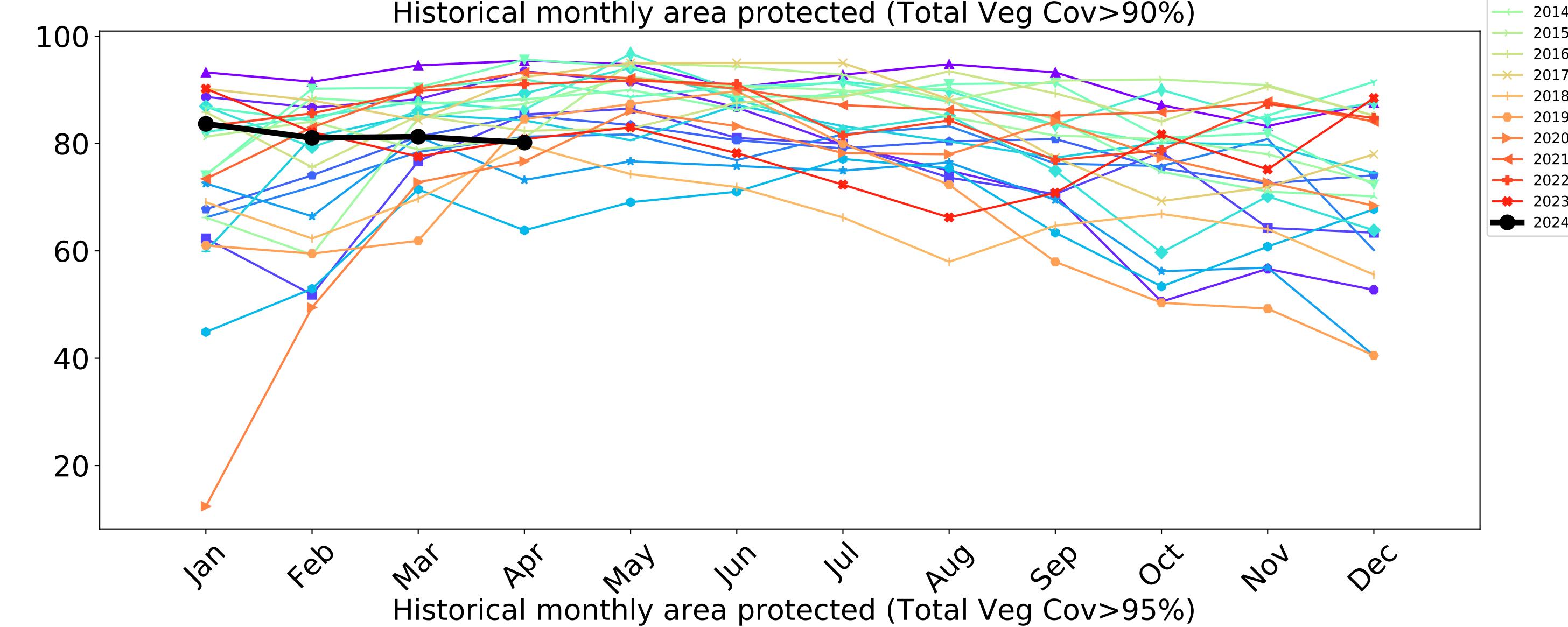
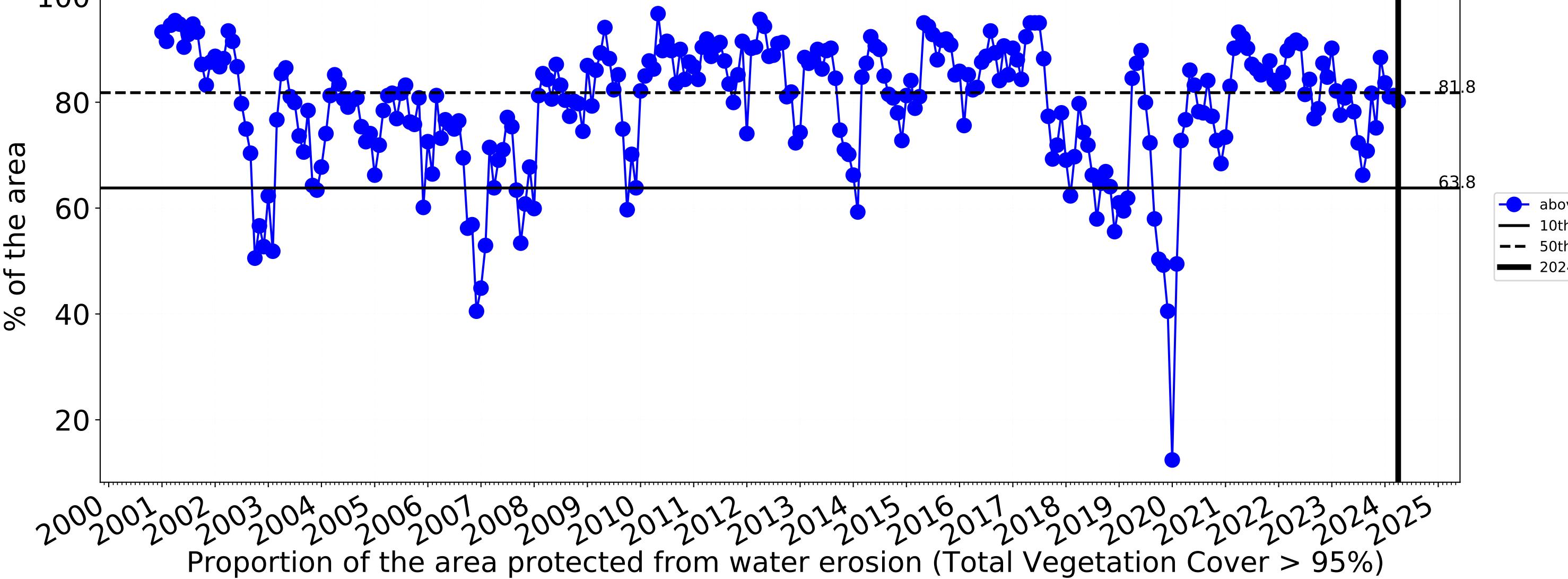
Proportion of the area protected from water erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 80%)



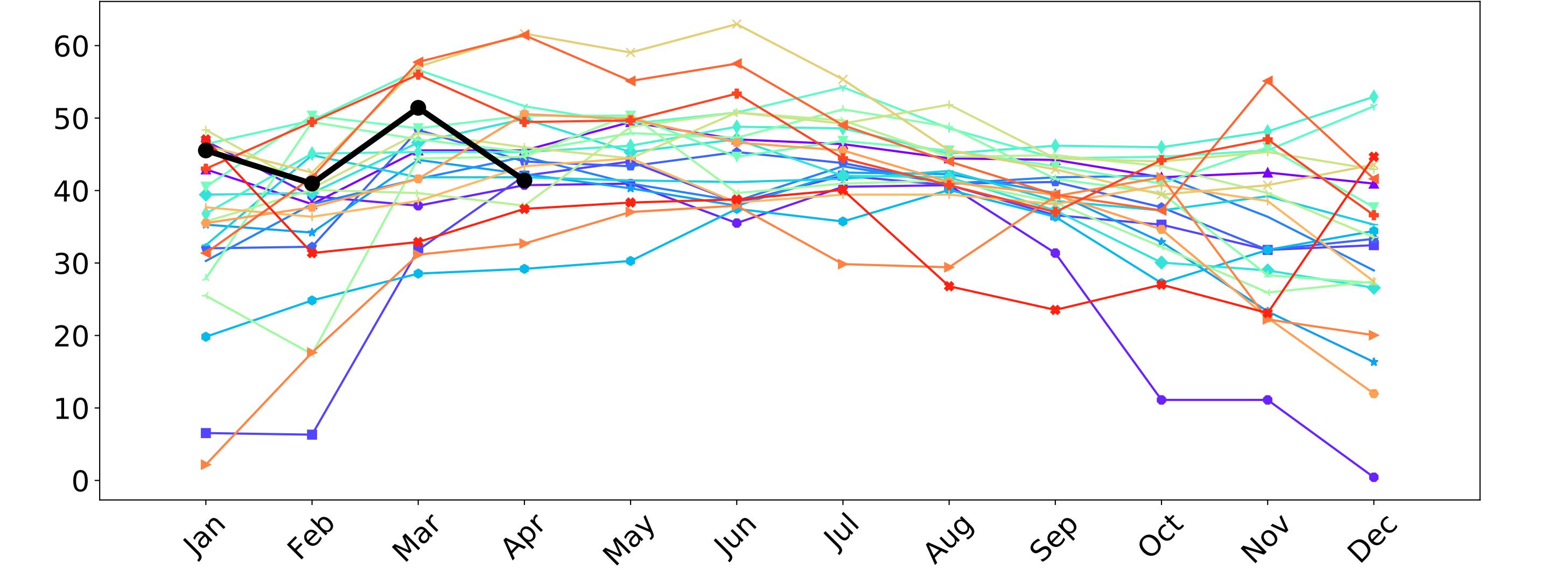
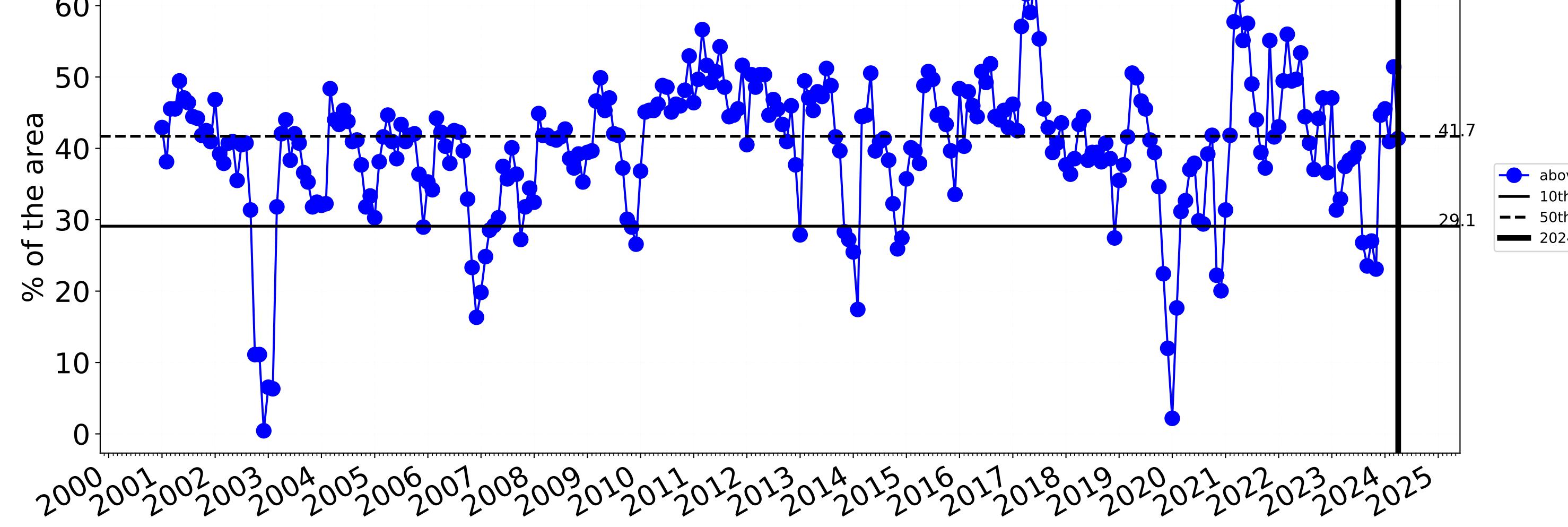
Historical monthly area protected (Total Veg Cov>80%)



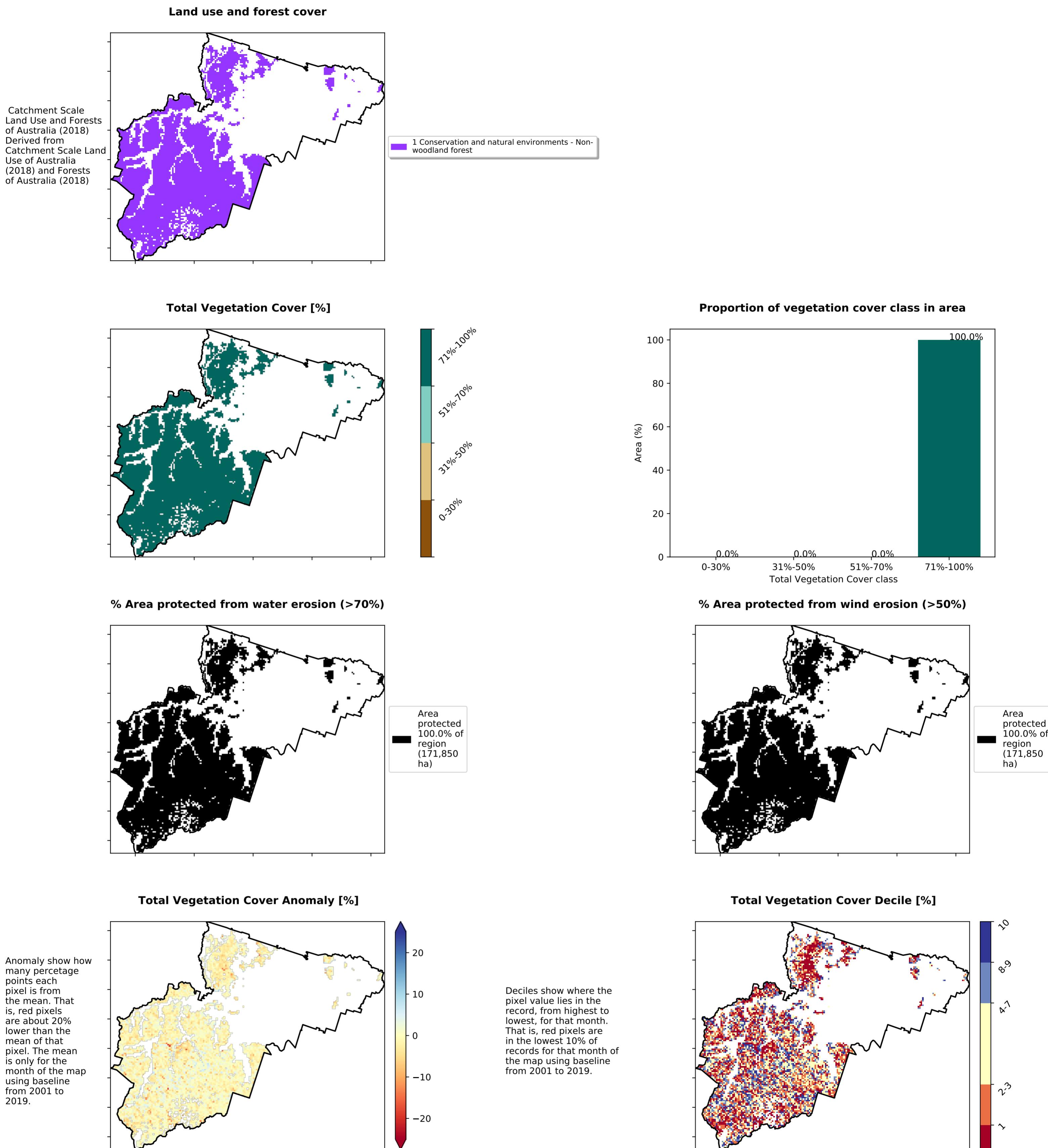
Proportion of the area protected from water erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 90%)



Proportion of the area protected from water erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 95%)

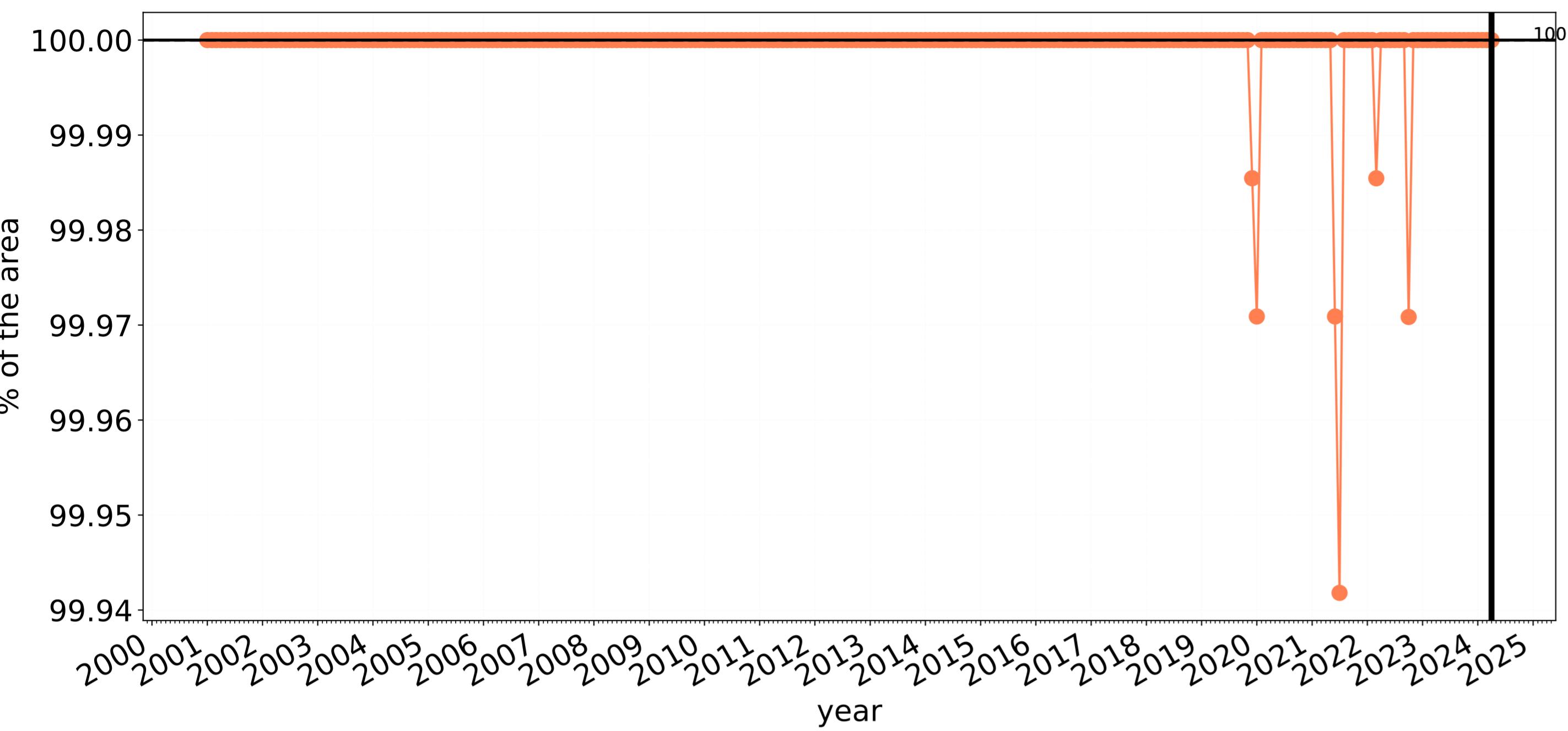


## Conservation and natural environments Forest (non woodland)

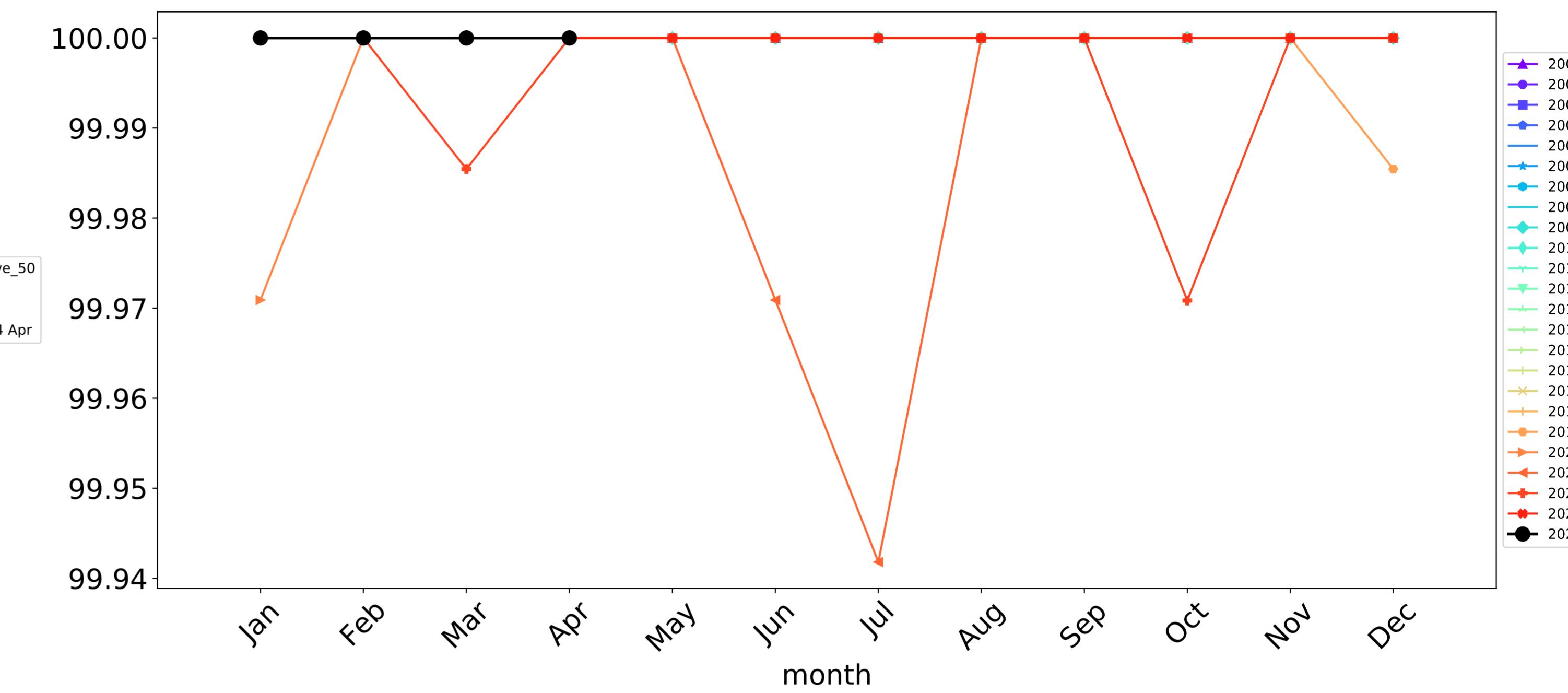


## Conservation and natural environments Forest (non woodland) timeseries

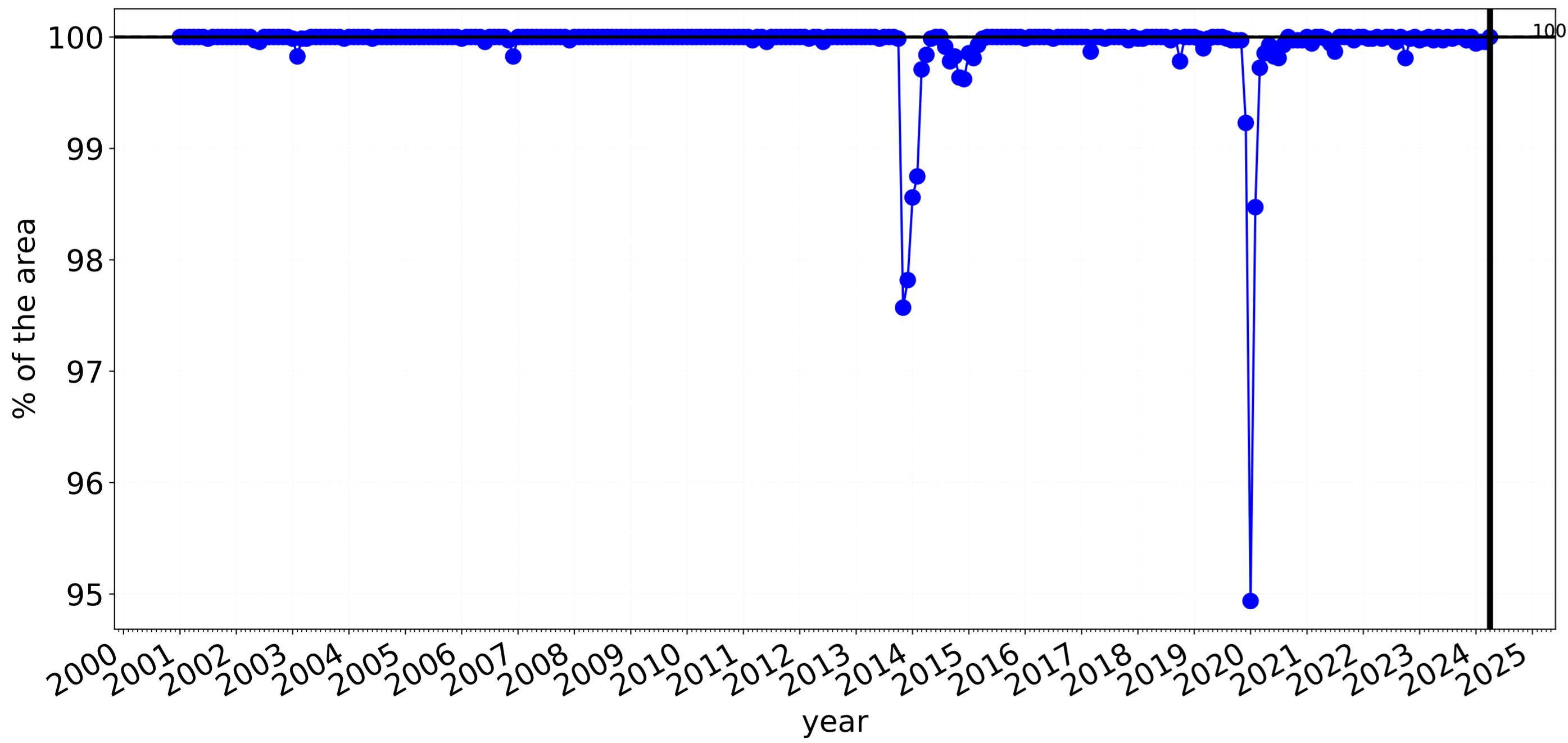
Proportion of the area protected from wind erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 50%)



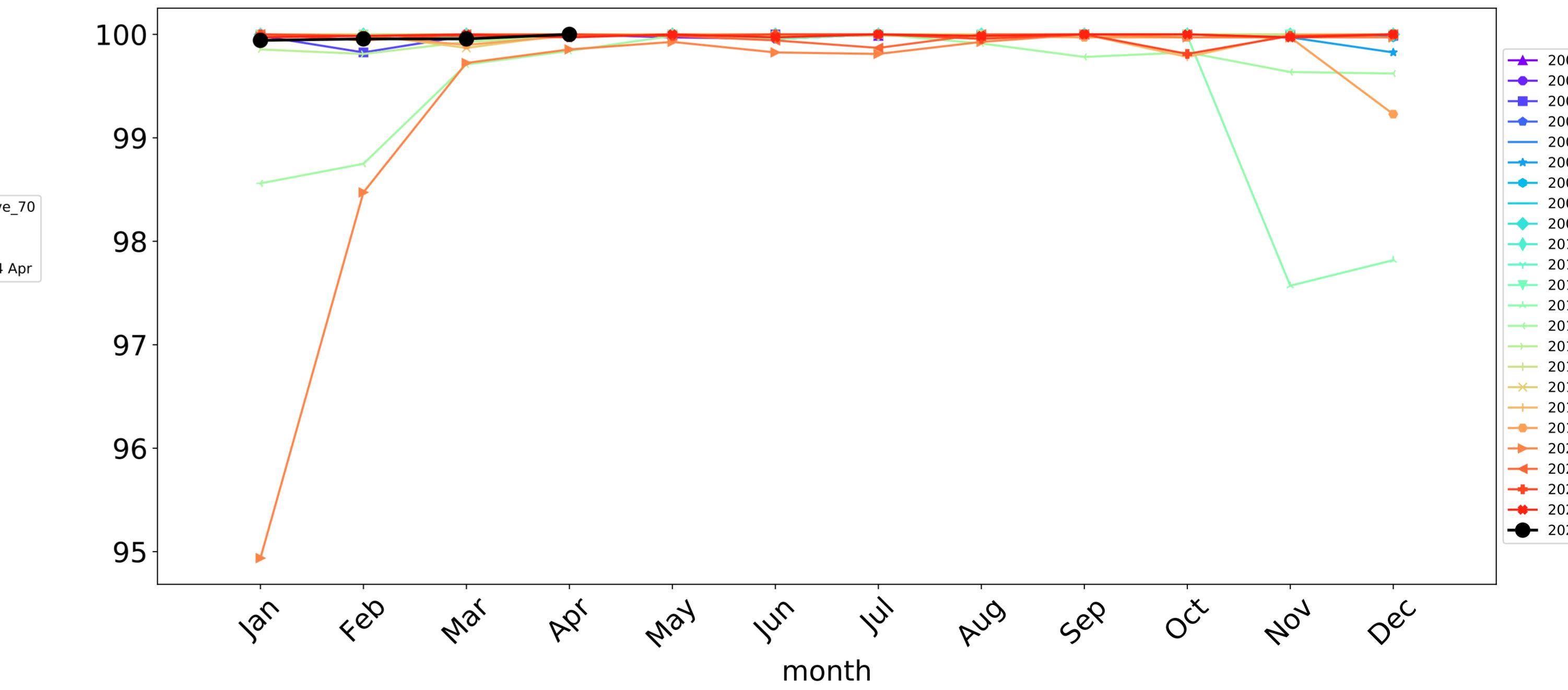
Wind erosion historical monthly area protected (Total Veg Cov >50%)



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



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



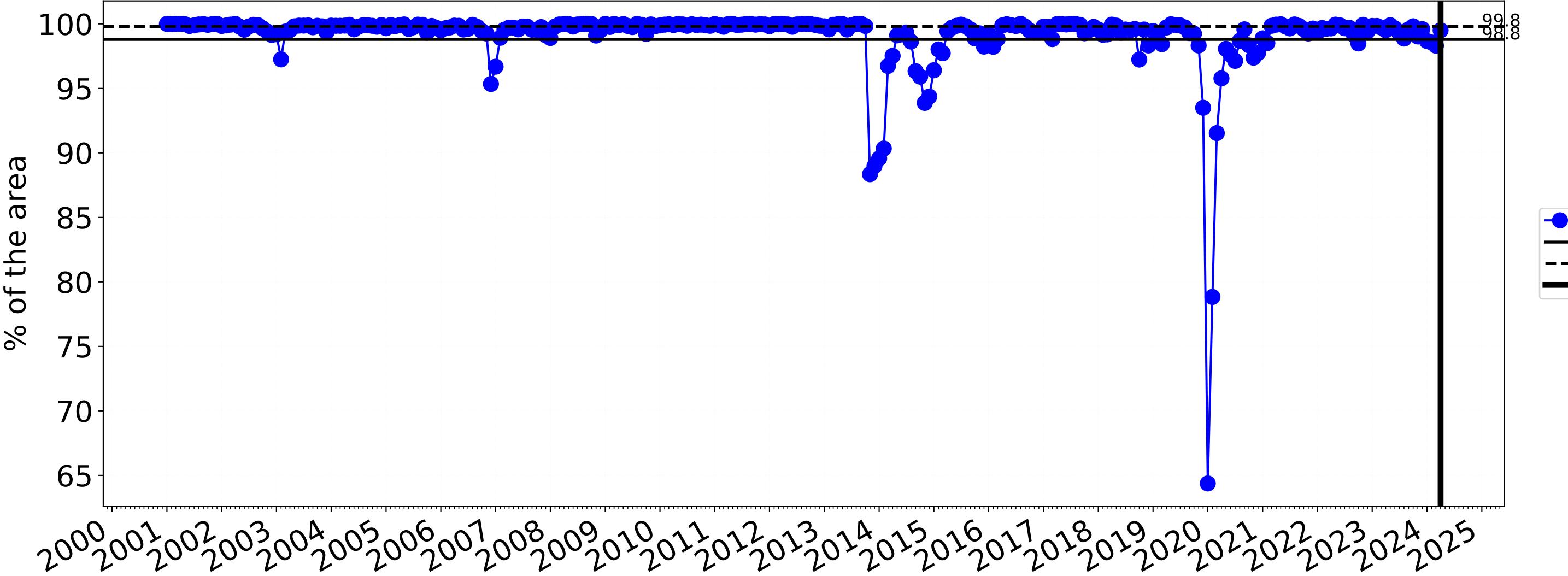
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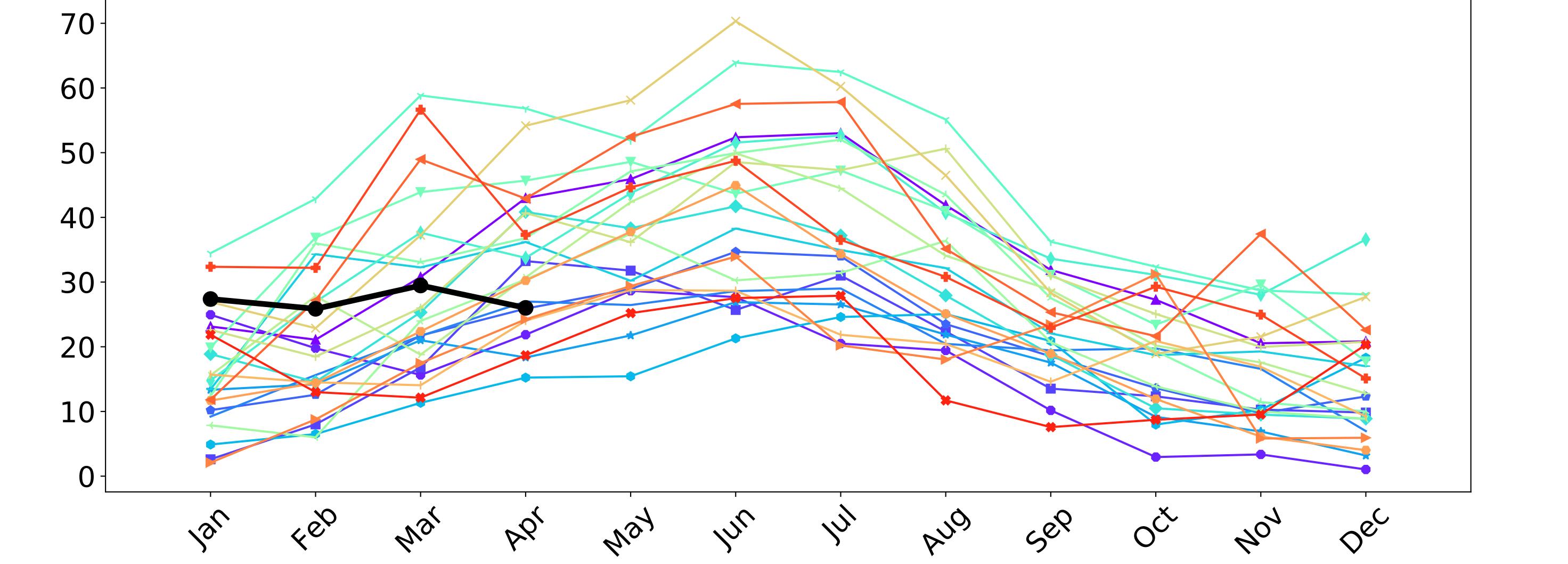
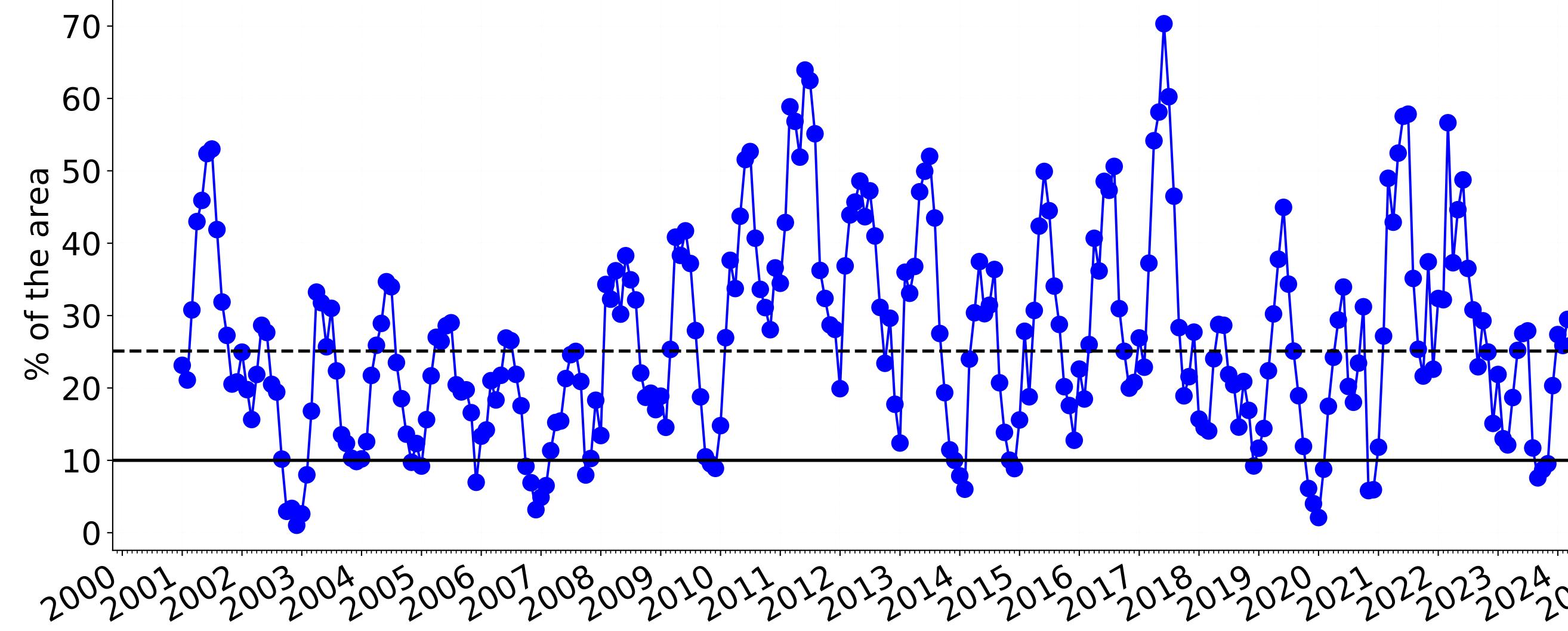
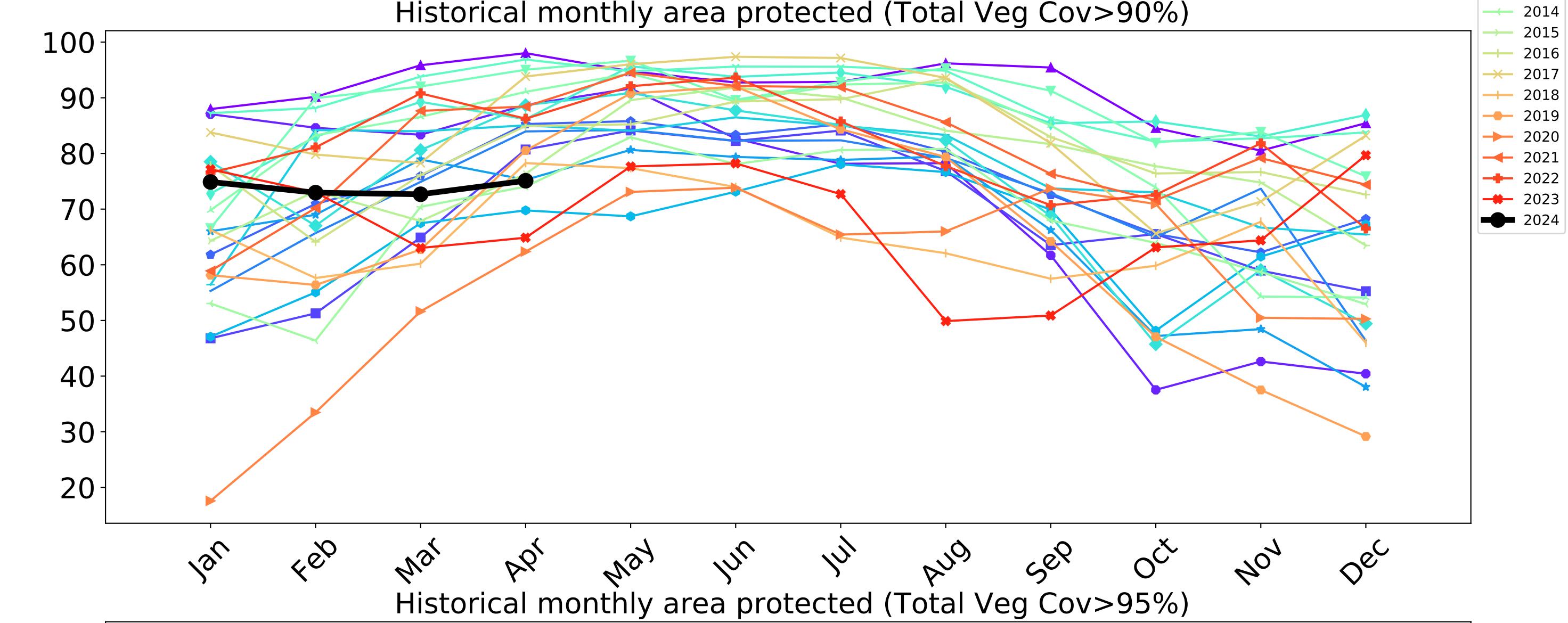
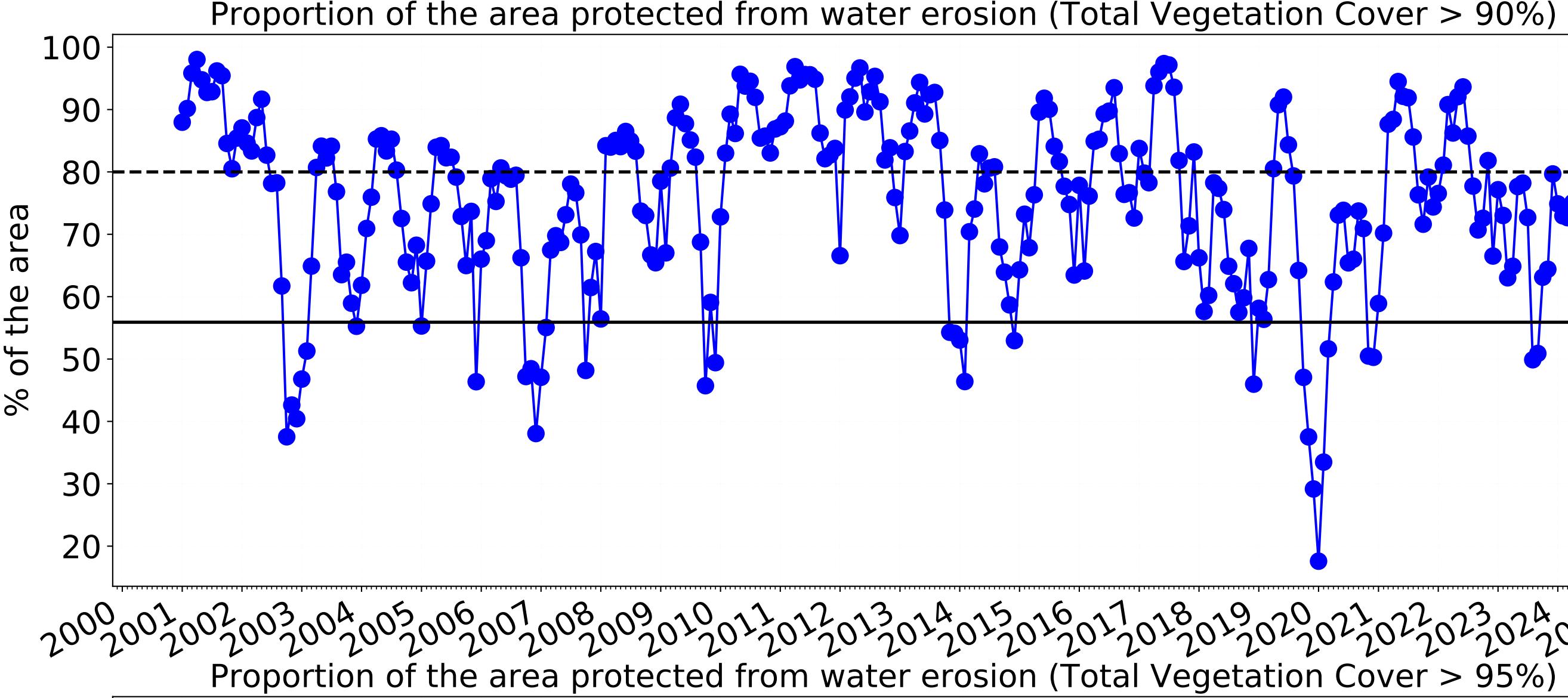
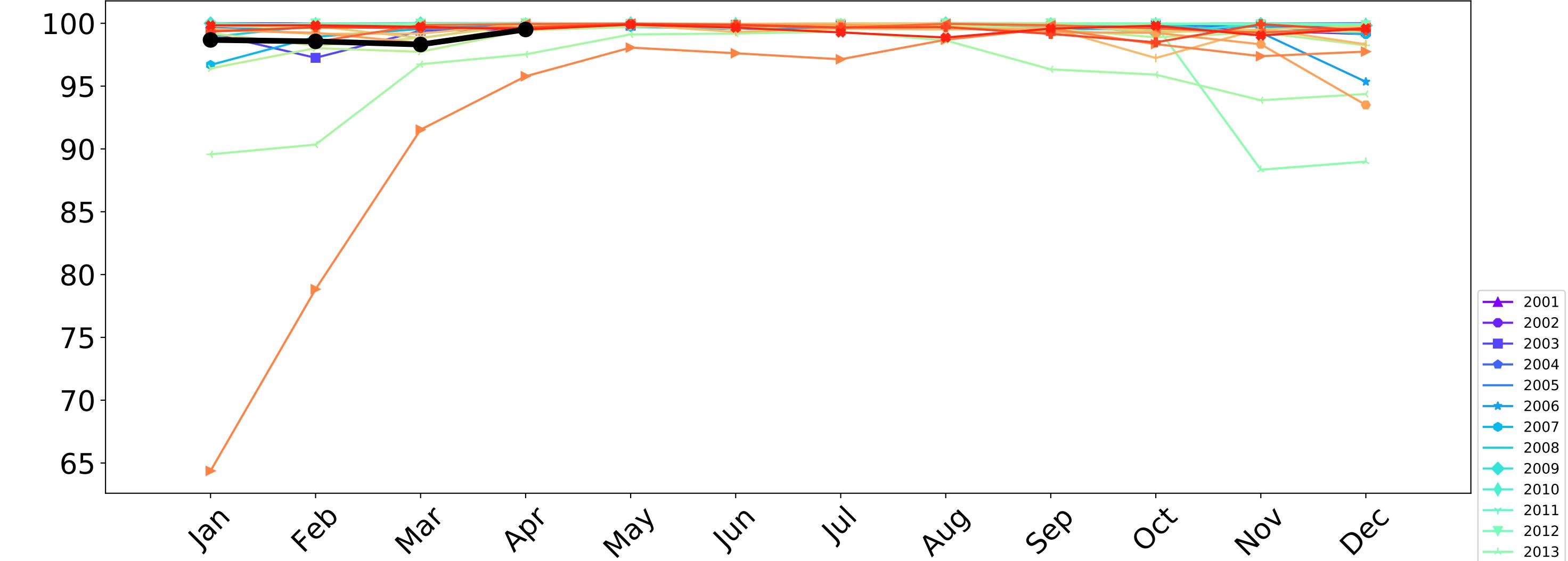
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Proportion of the area protected from water erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 80%)



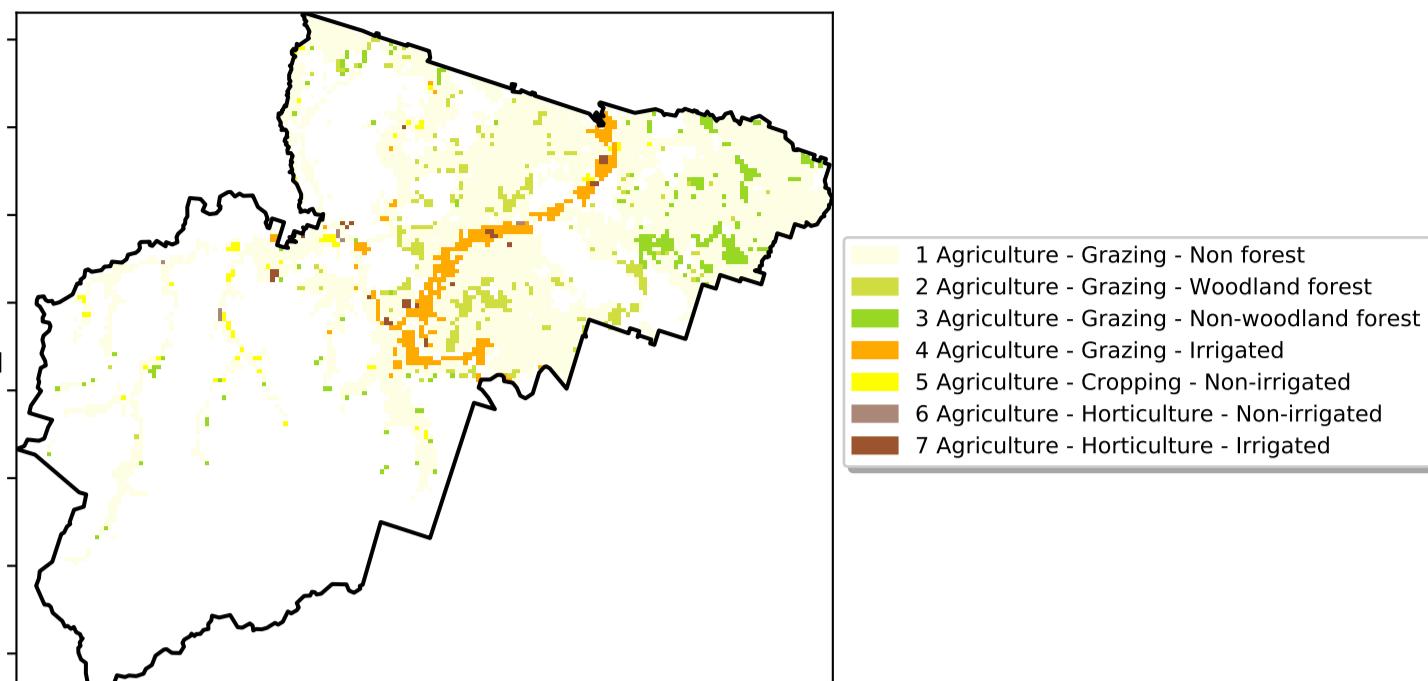
Historical monthly area protected (Total Veg Cov>80%)



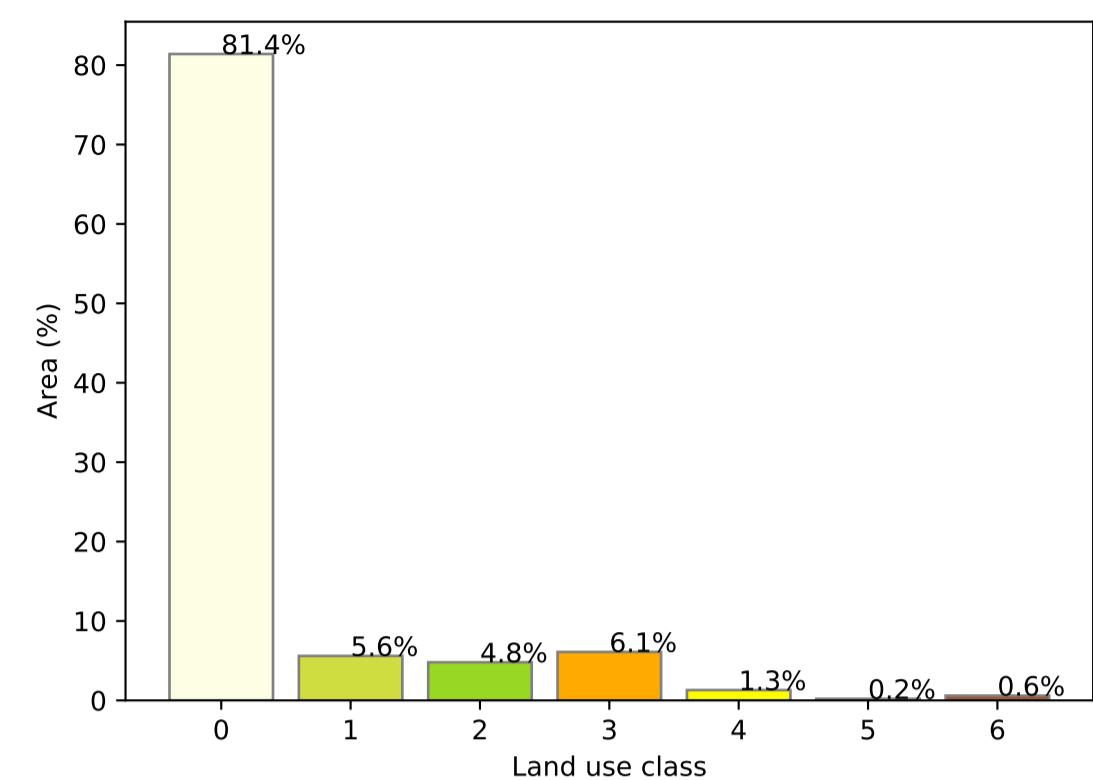
# Agriculture

**Land use and forest cover**

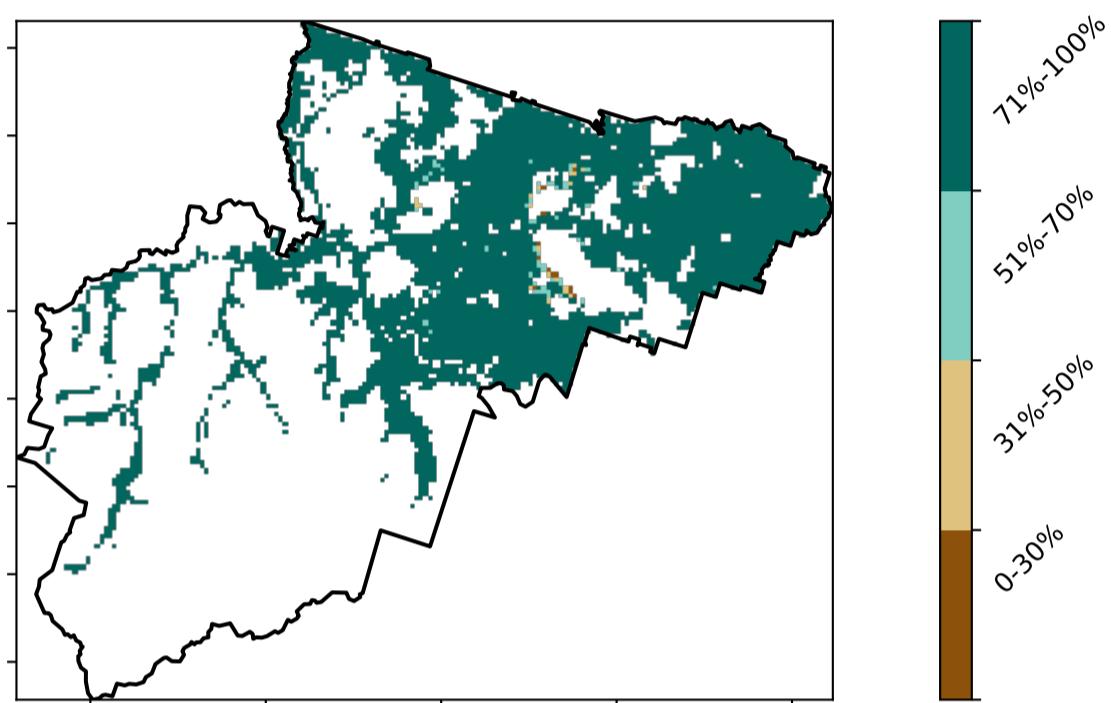
Catchment Scale  
Land Use and Forests  
of Australia (2018)  
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of Australia (2018)



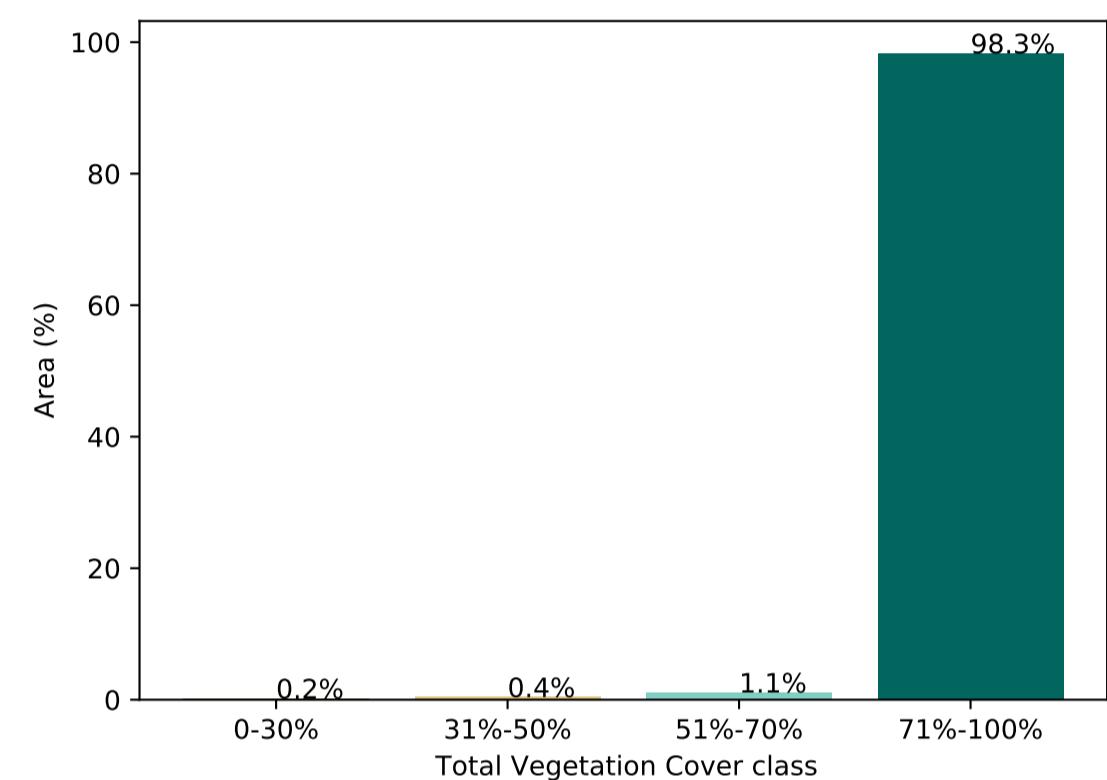
**Proportion of each land class in area**



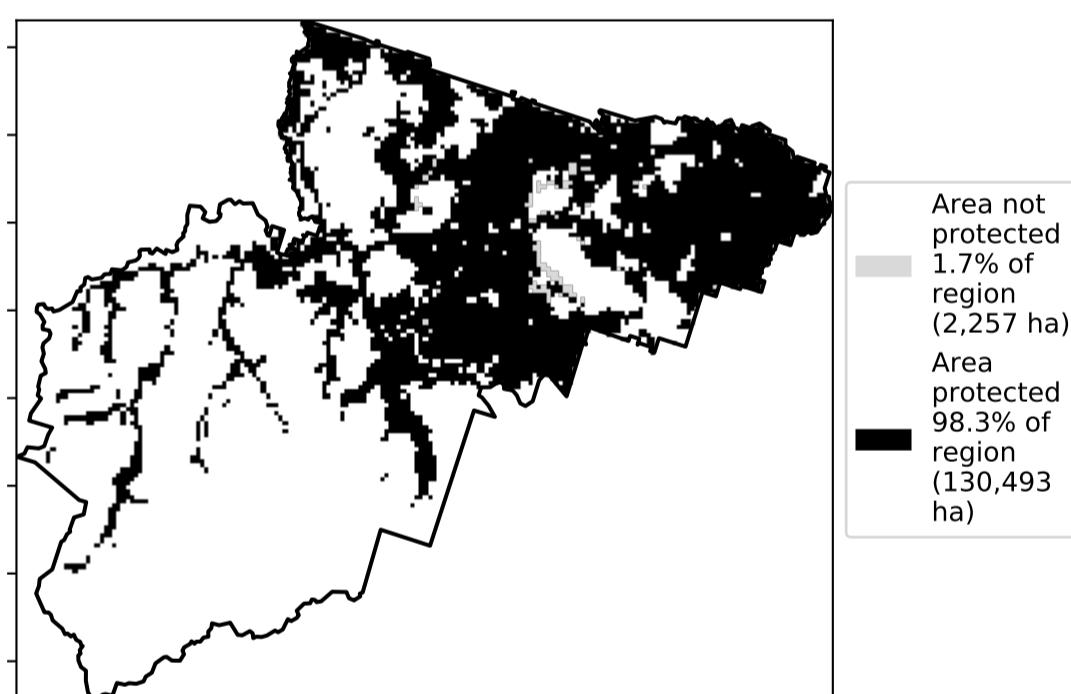
**Total Vegetation Cover [%]**



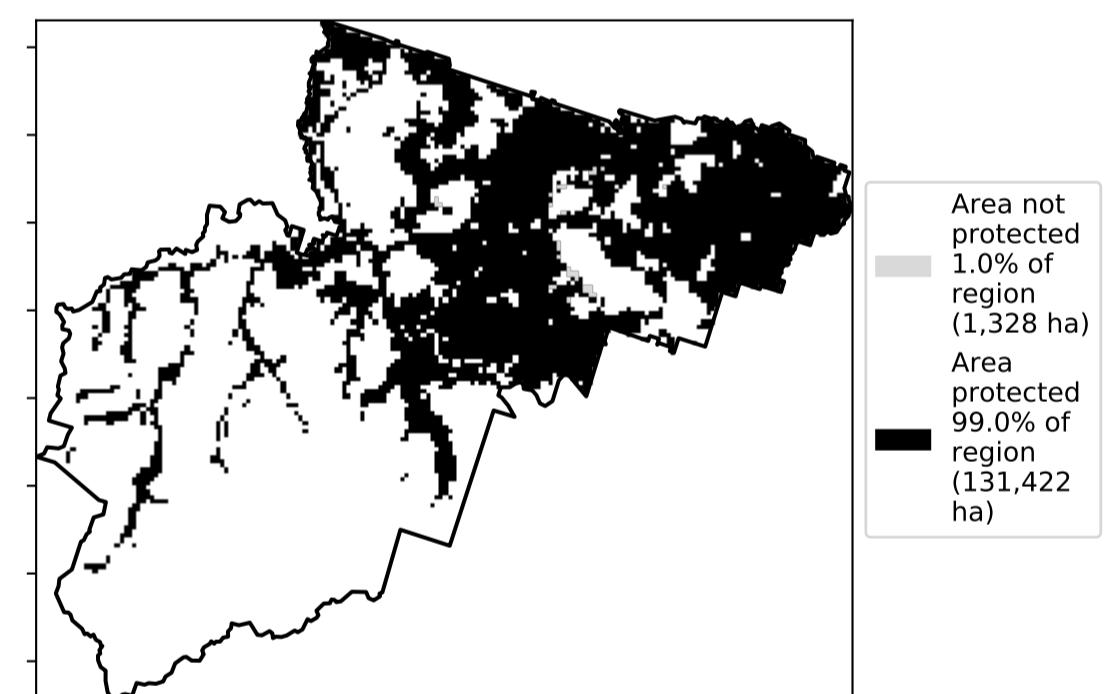
**Proportion of vegetation cover class in area**



**% Area protected from water erosion (>70%)**

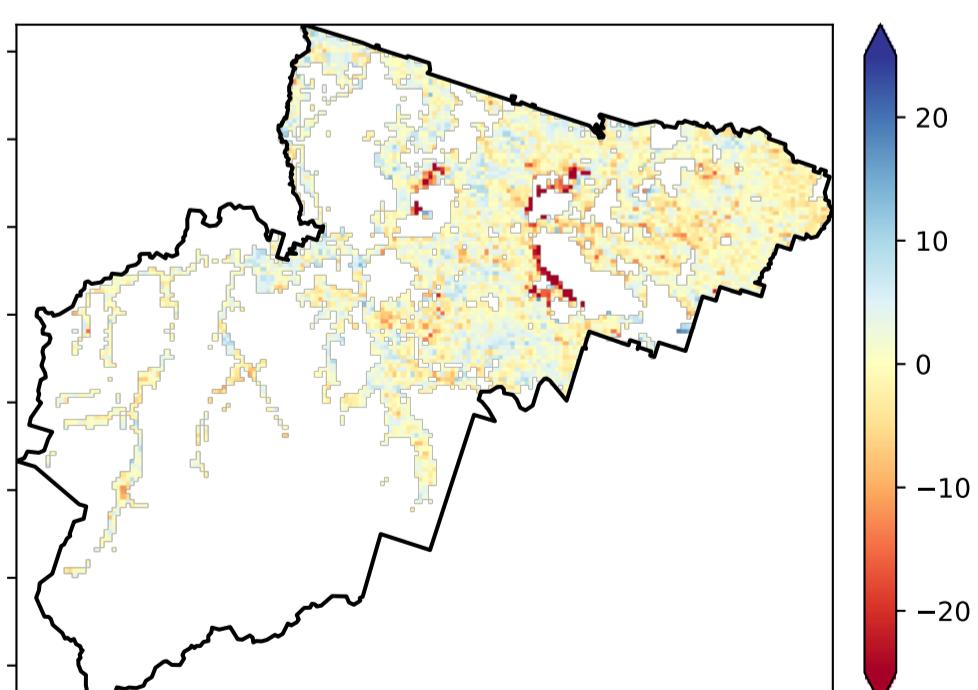


**% Area protected from wind erosion (>50%)**



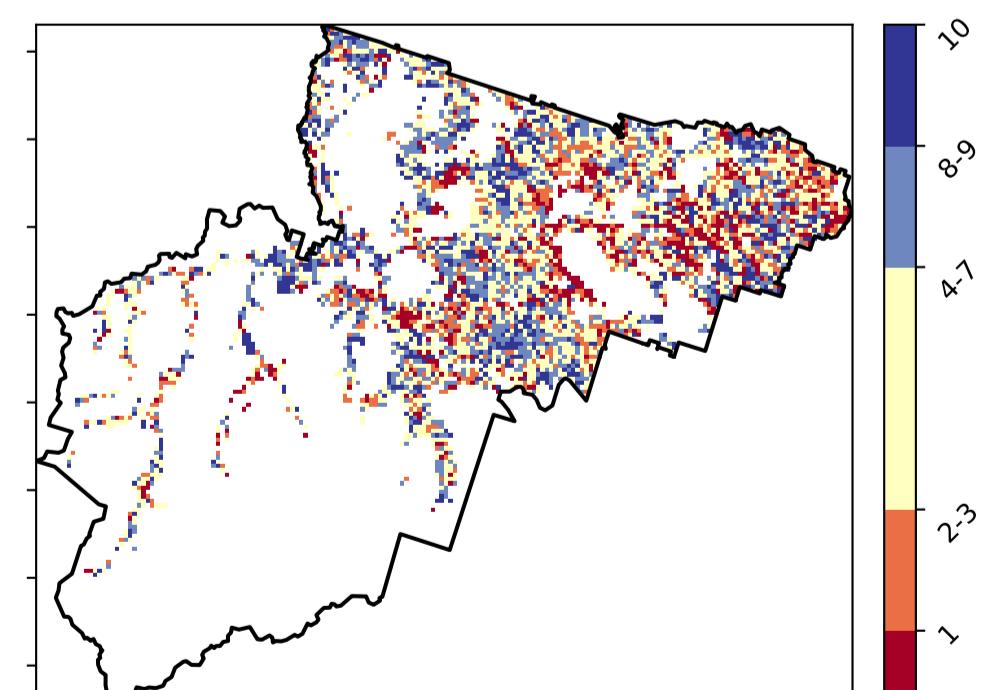
**Total Vegetation Cover Anomaly [%]**

Anomaly shows 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.



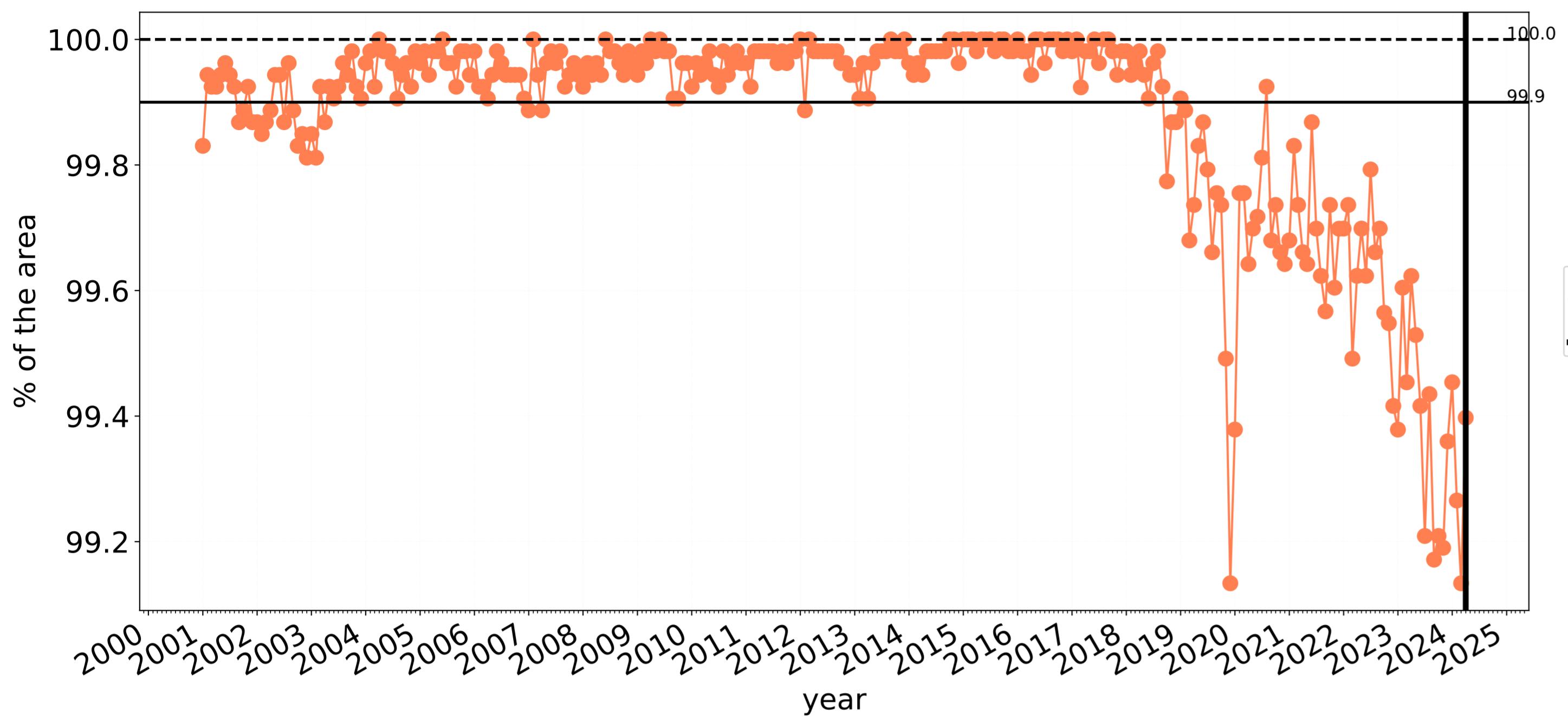
Deciles show where the pixel value lies in the record, from highest to lowest, for that month. That is, red pixels are in the lowest 10% of records for that month of the map using baseline from 2001 to 2019.

**Total Vegetation Cover Decile [%]**

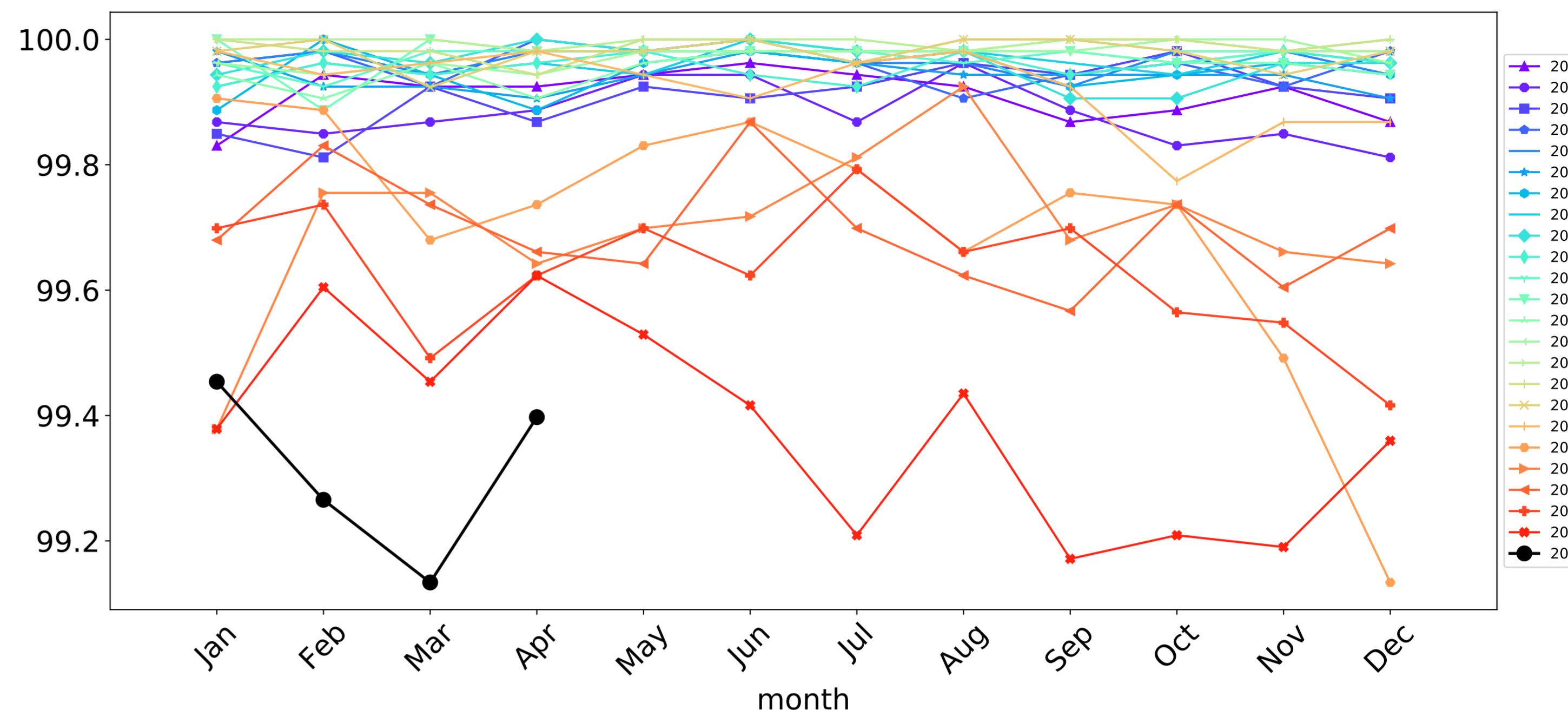


## Agriculture timeseries

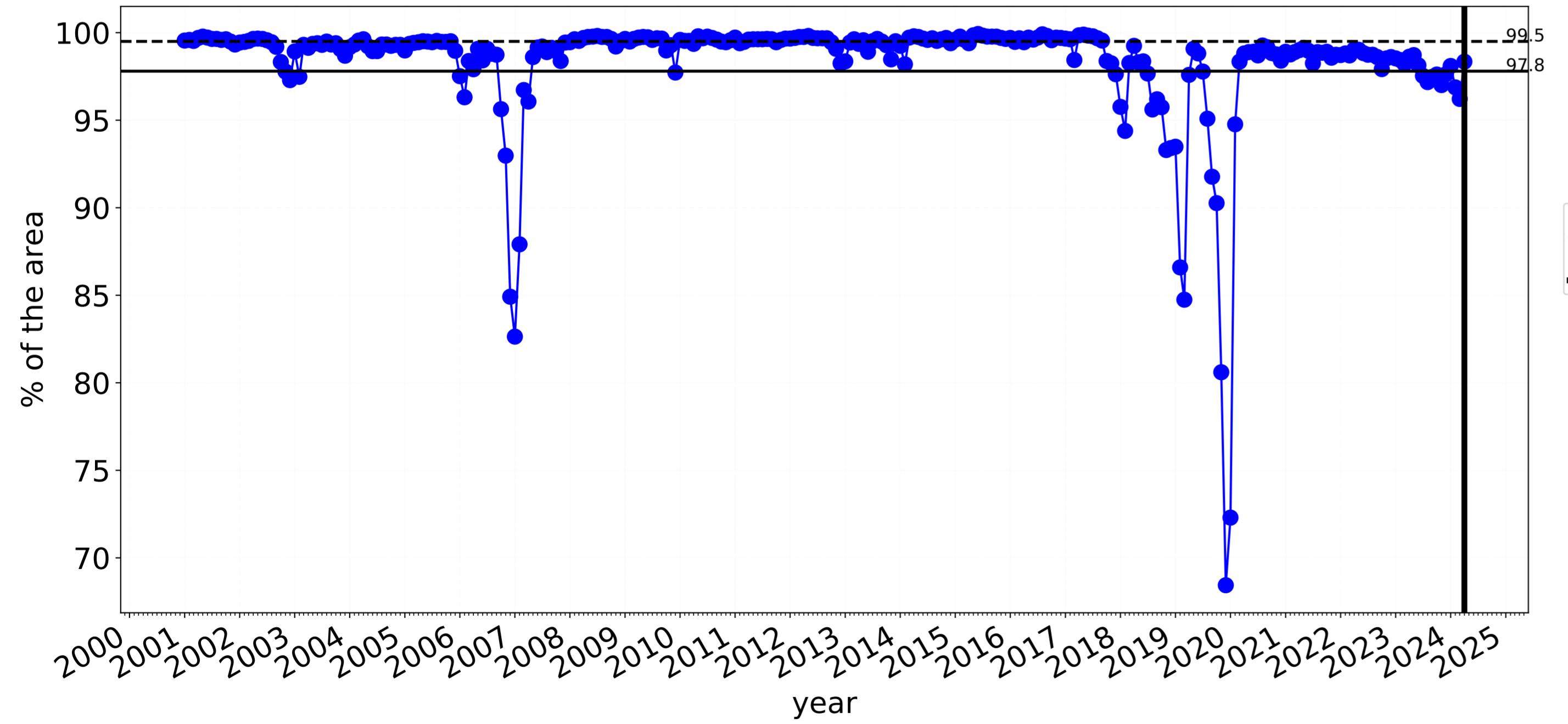
Proportion of the area protected from wind erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 50%)



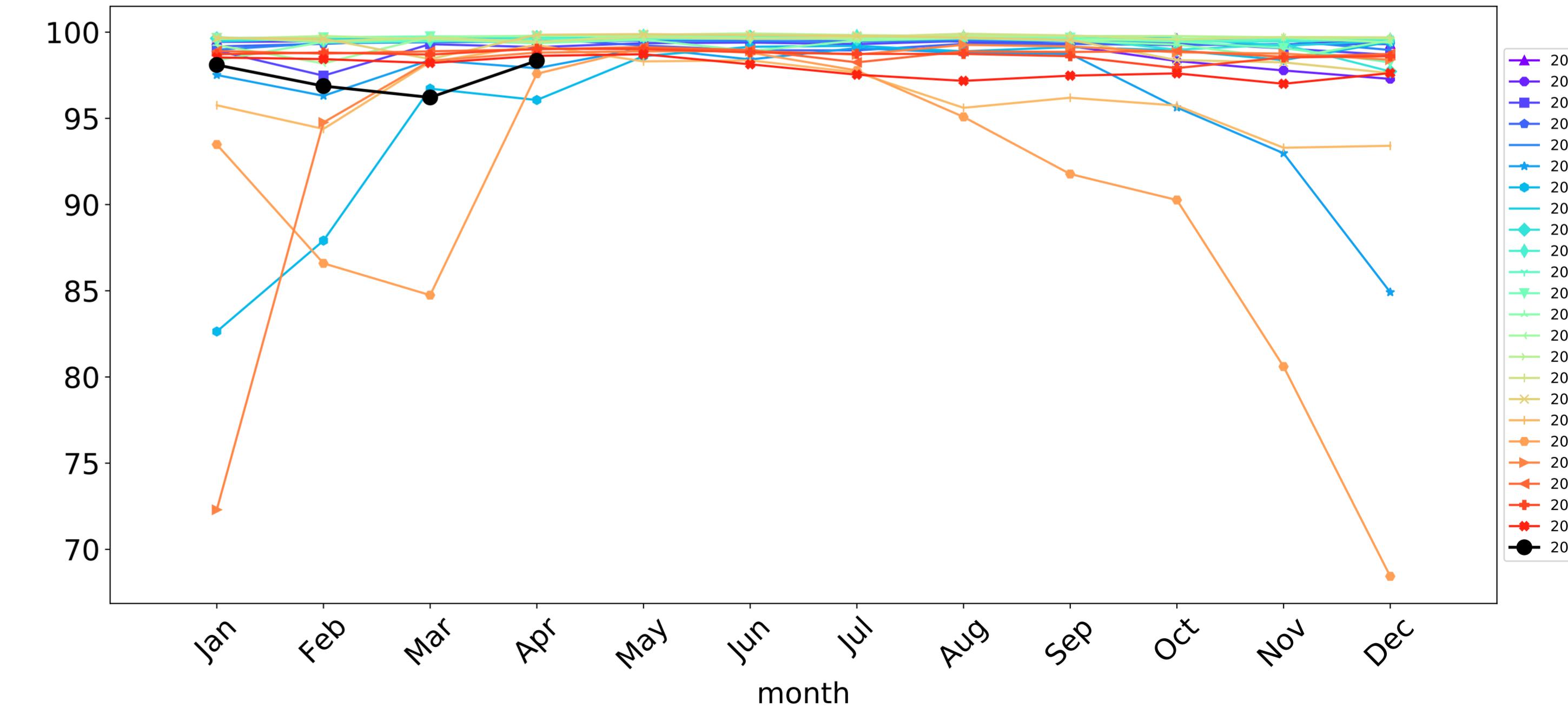
Wind erosion historical monthly area protected (Total Veg Cov >50%)



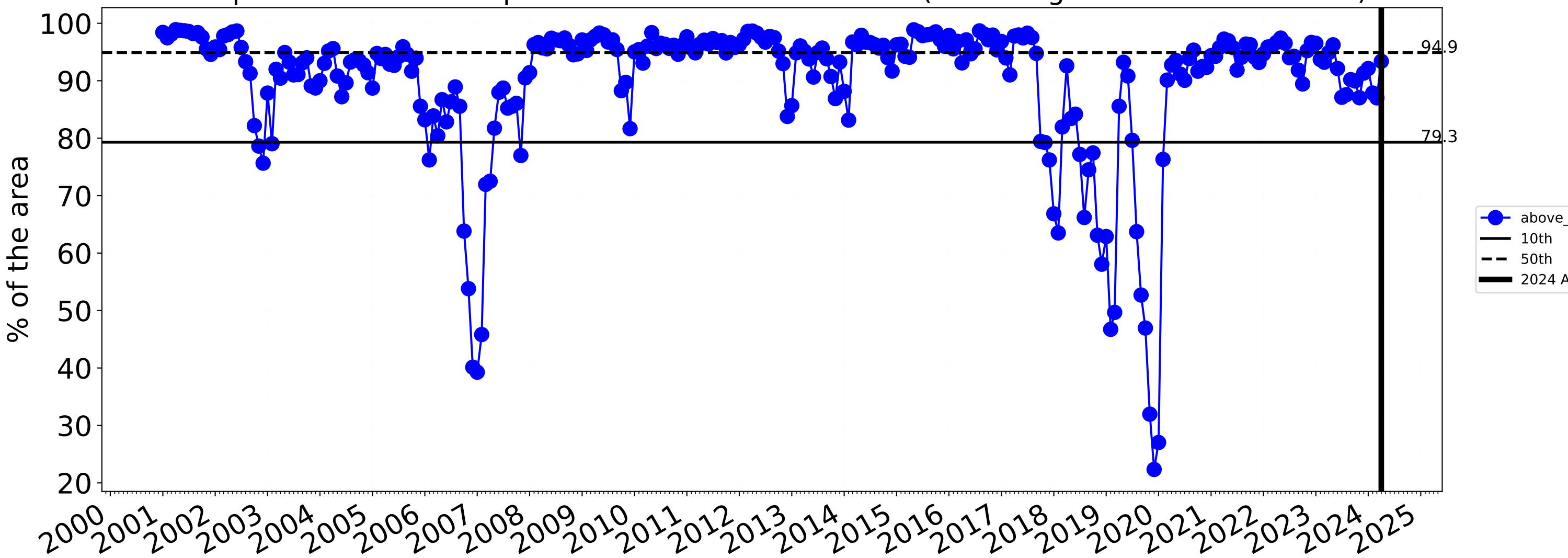
Proportion of the area protected from water erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 70%)



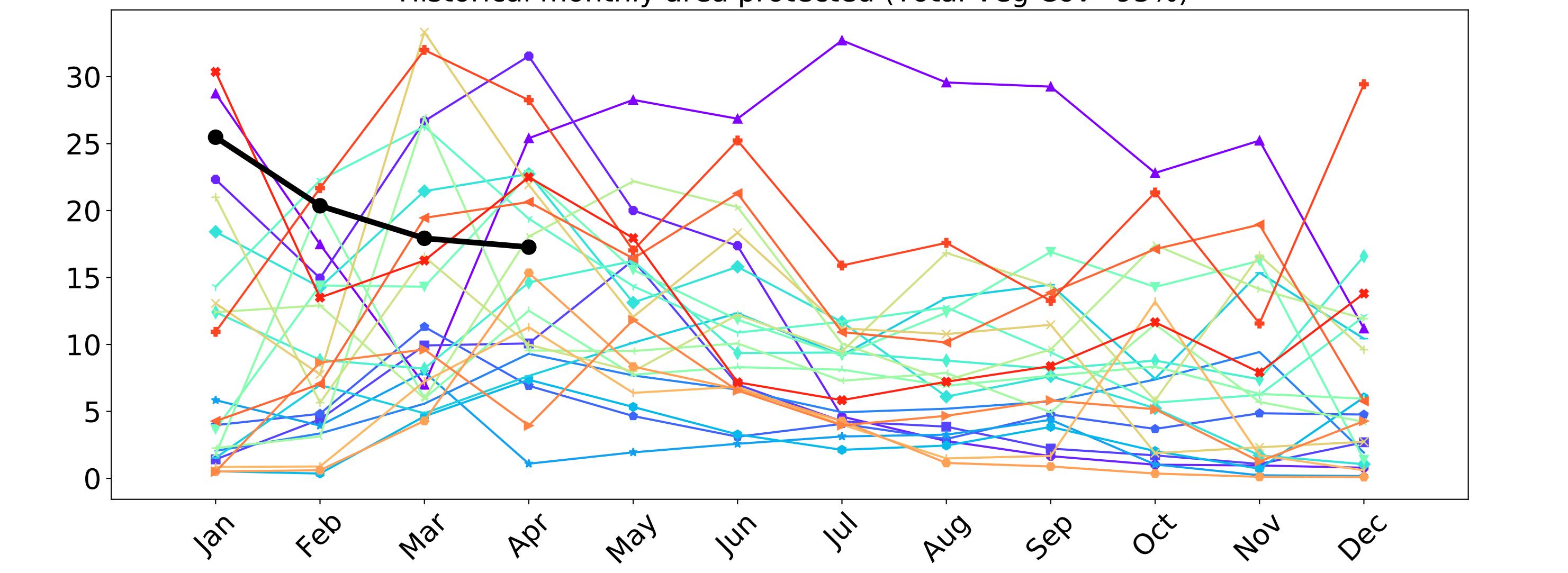
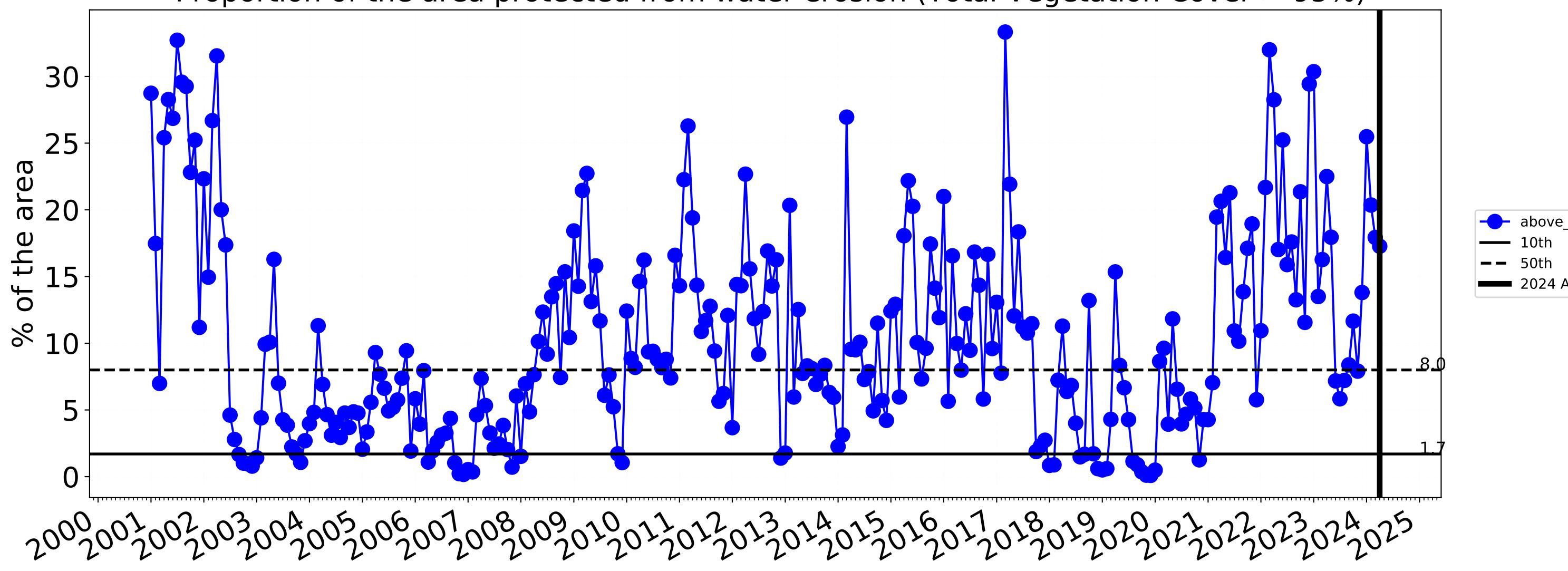
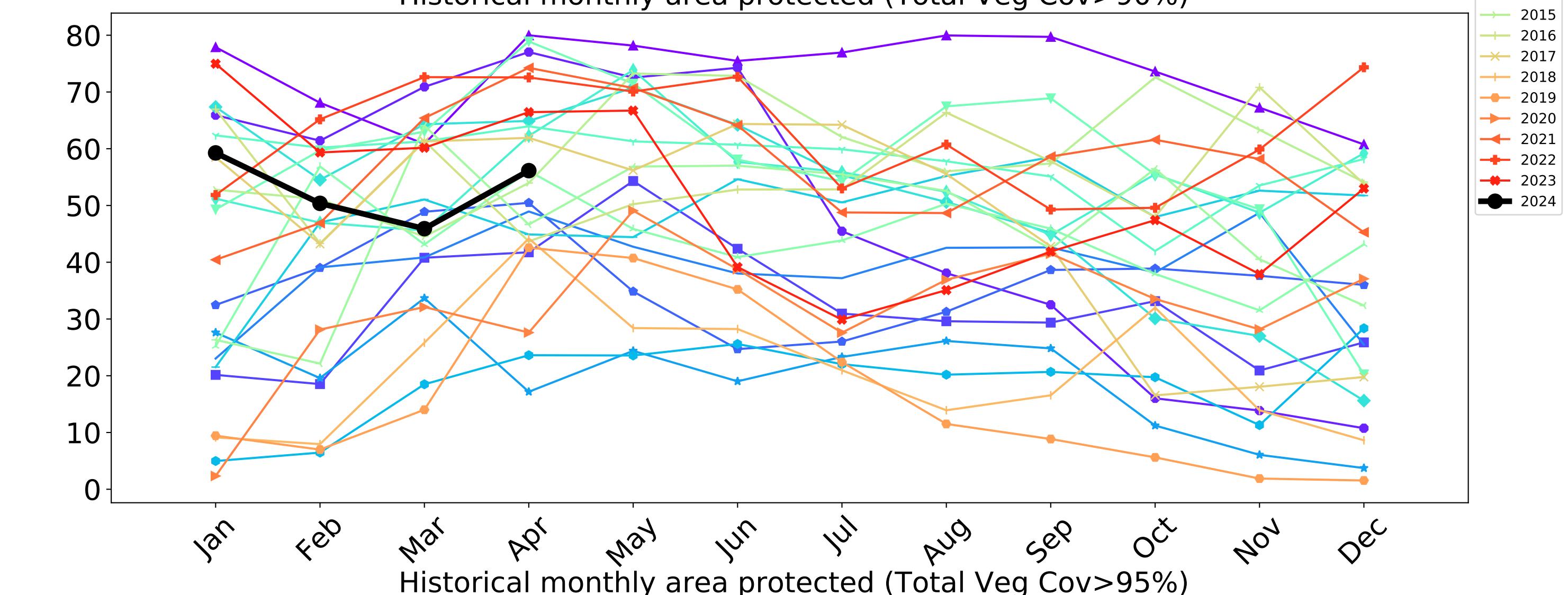
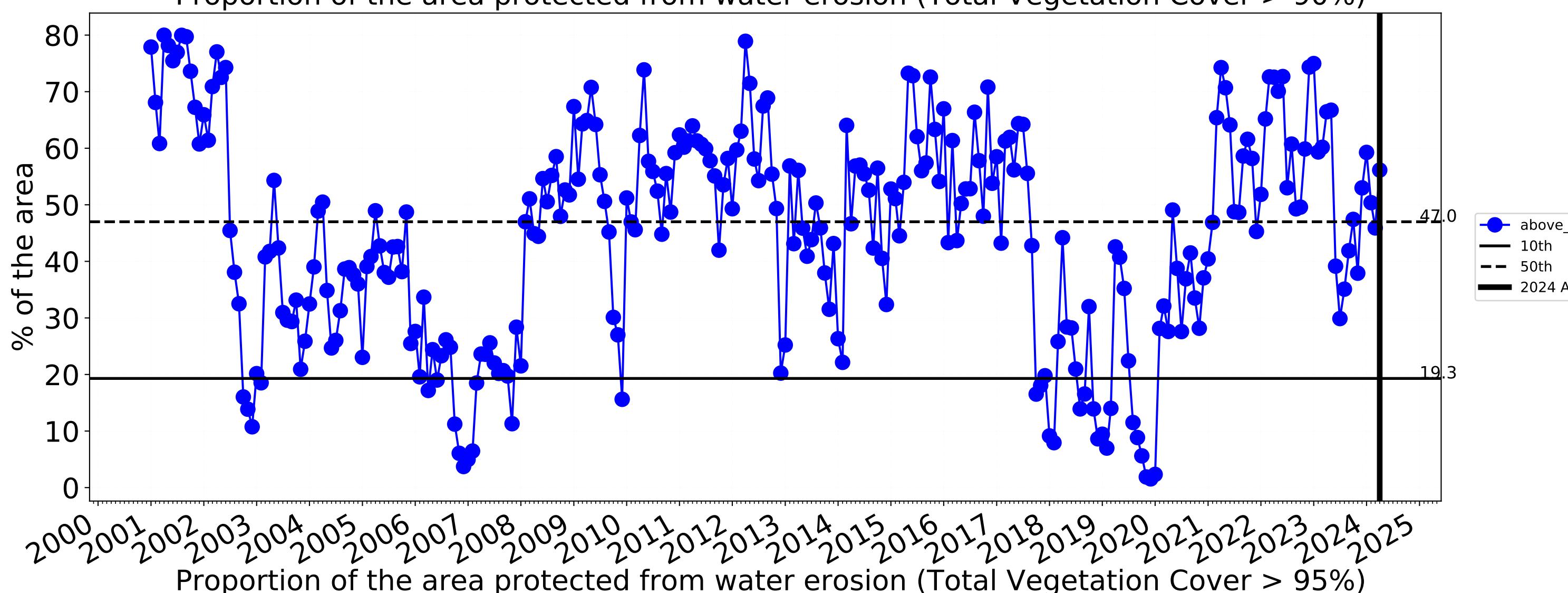
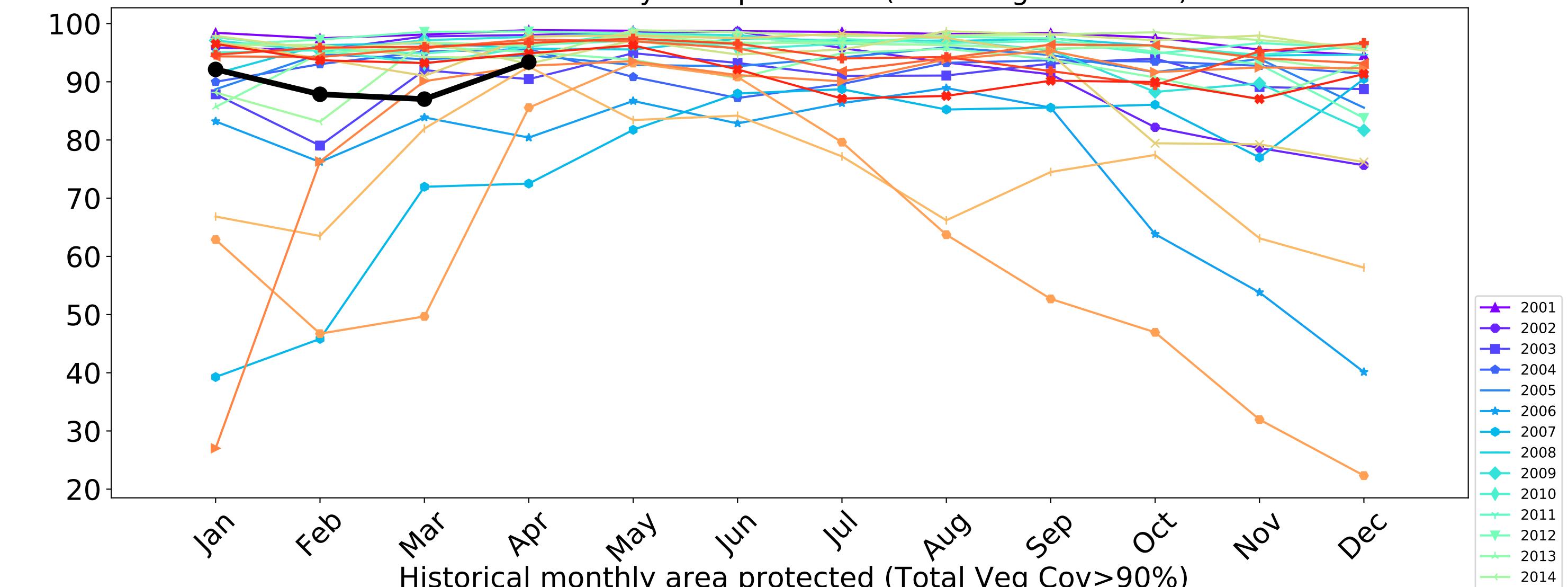
Water erosion historical monthly area protected (Total Veg Cov>70%)



Proportion of the area protected from water erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 80%)



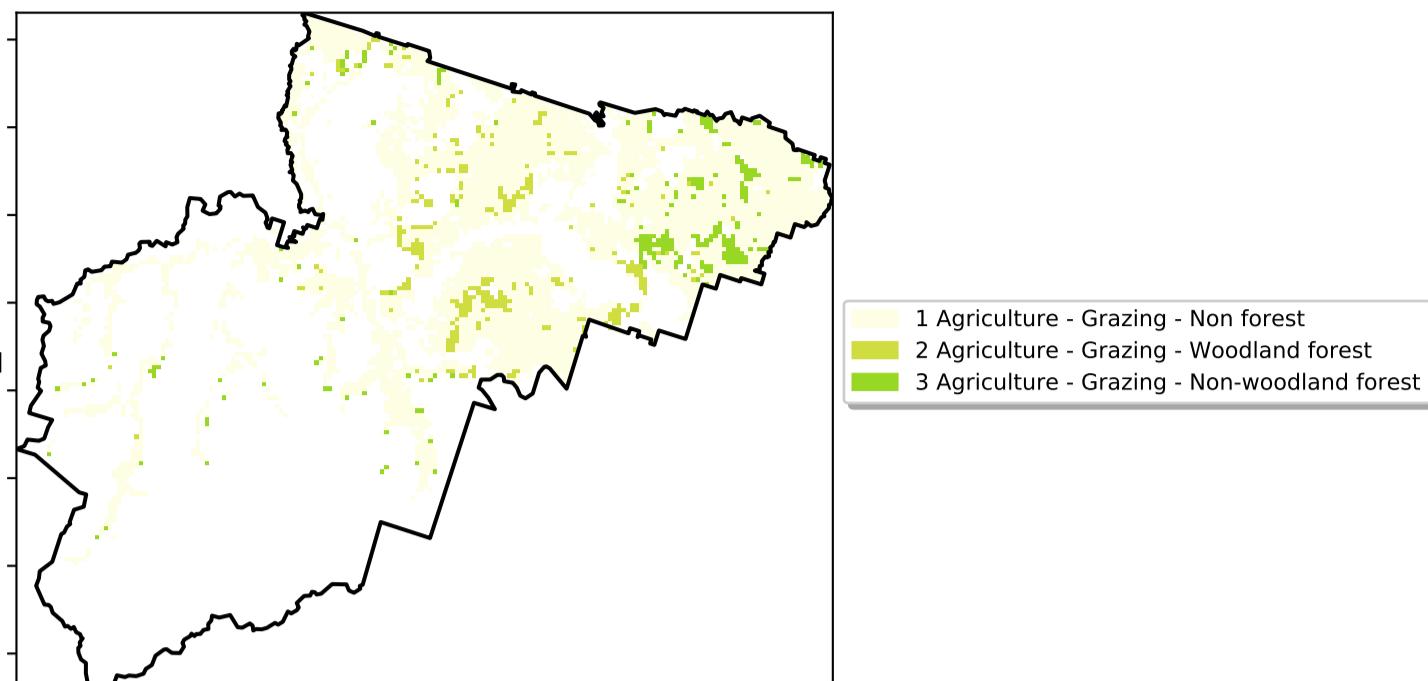
Historical monthly area protected (Total Veg Cov>80%)



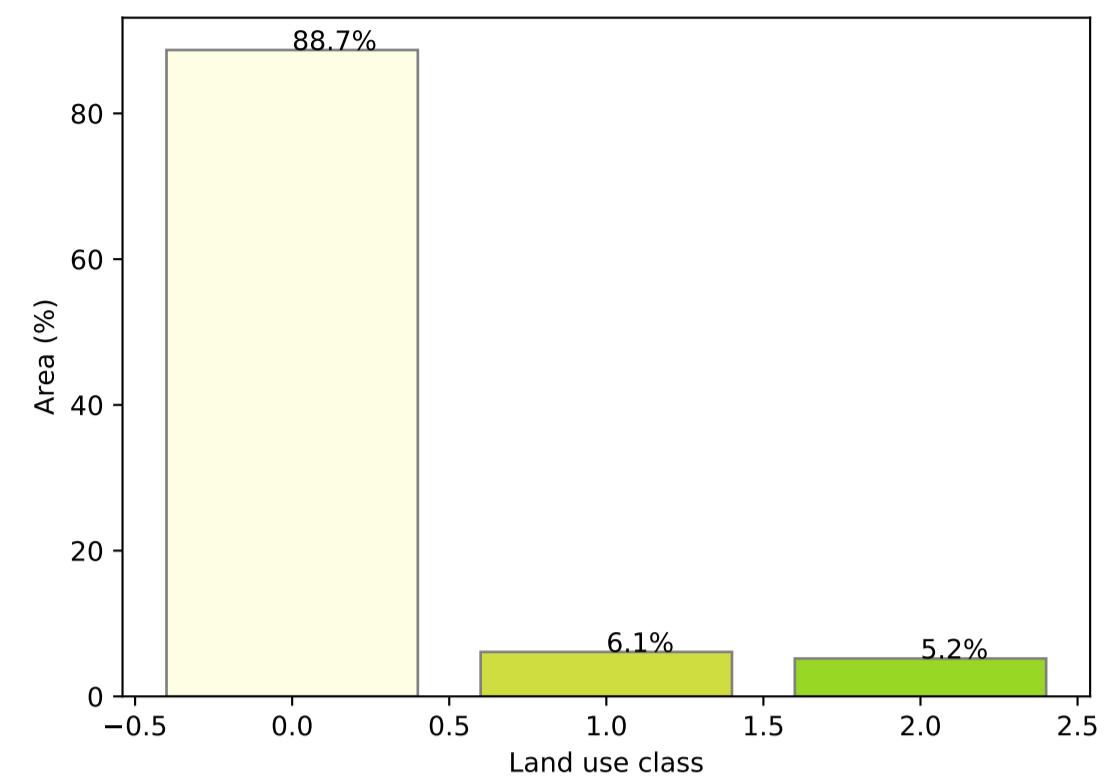
## Grazing

**Land use and forest cover**

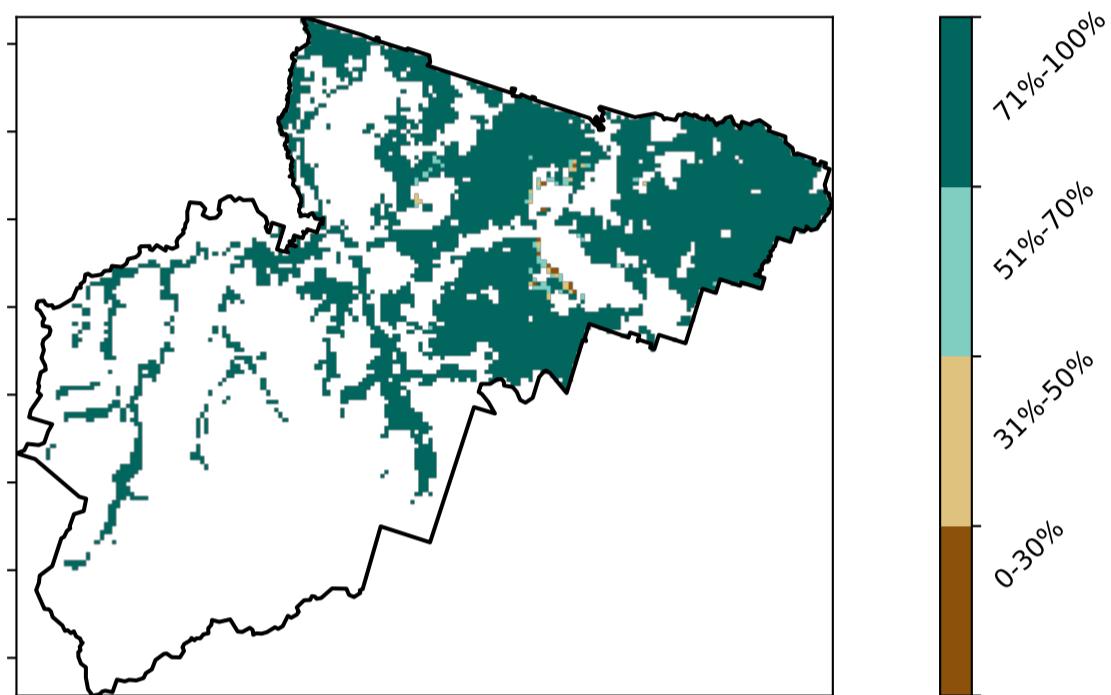
Catchment Scale  
Land Use and Forests  
of Australia (2018)  
Derived from  
Catchment Scale Land  
Use of Australia  
(2018) and Forests  
of Australia (2018)



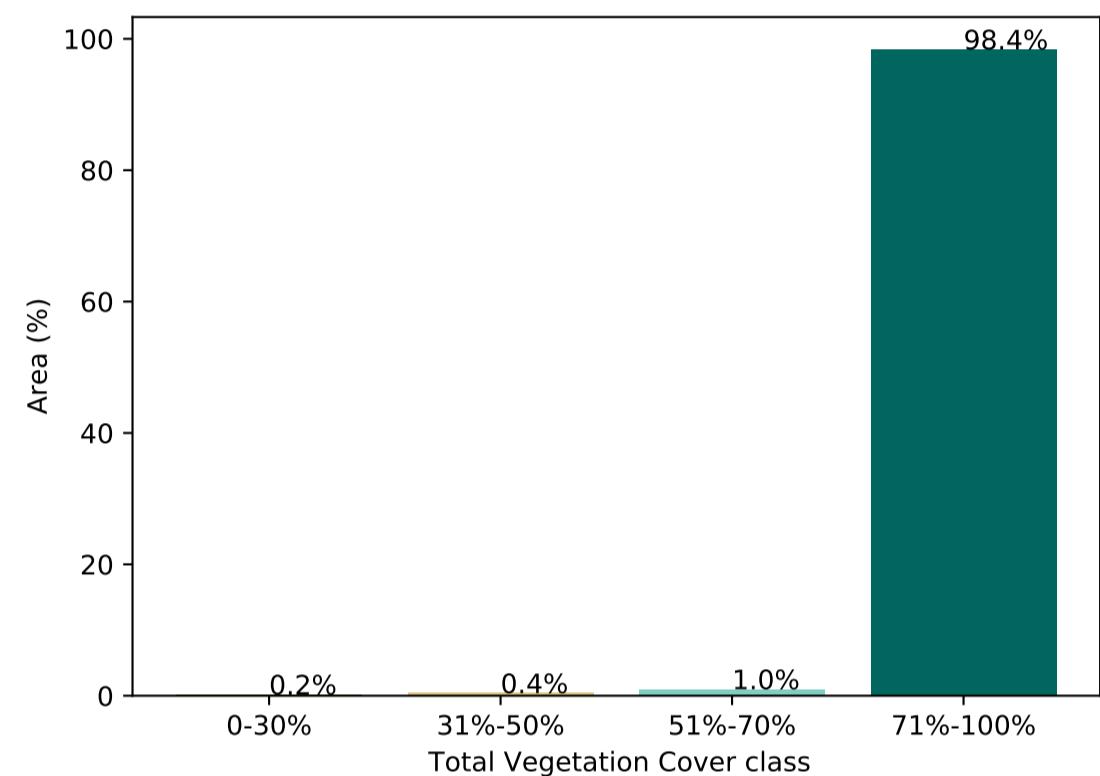
**Proportion of each land class in area**



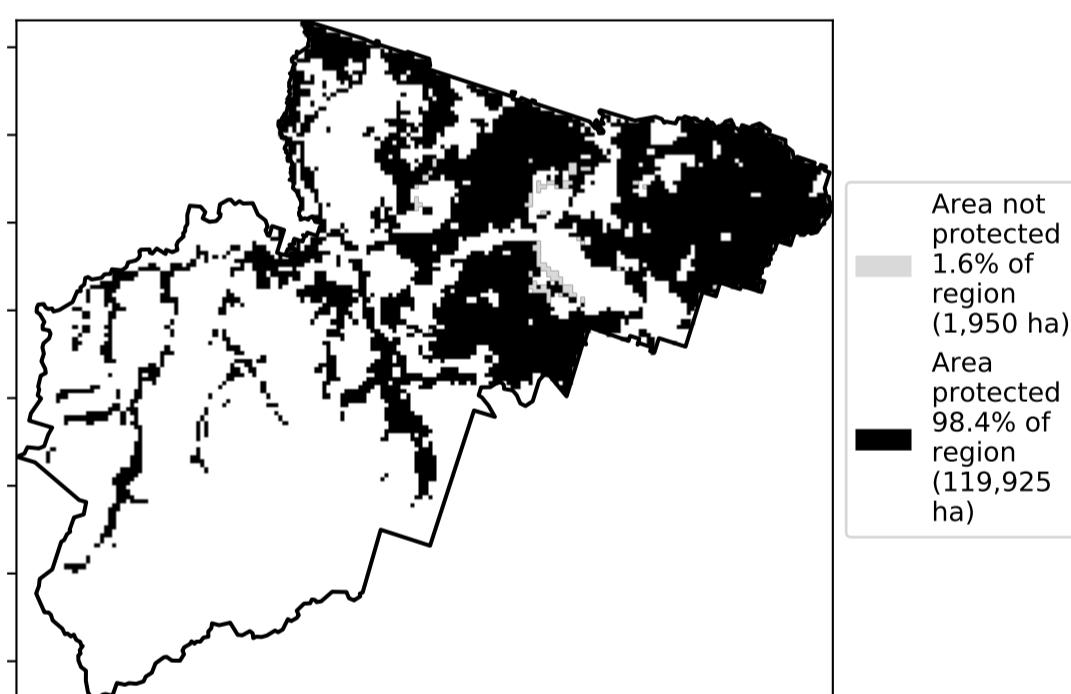
**Total Vegetation Cover [%]**



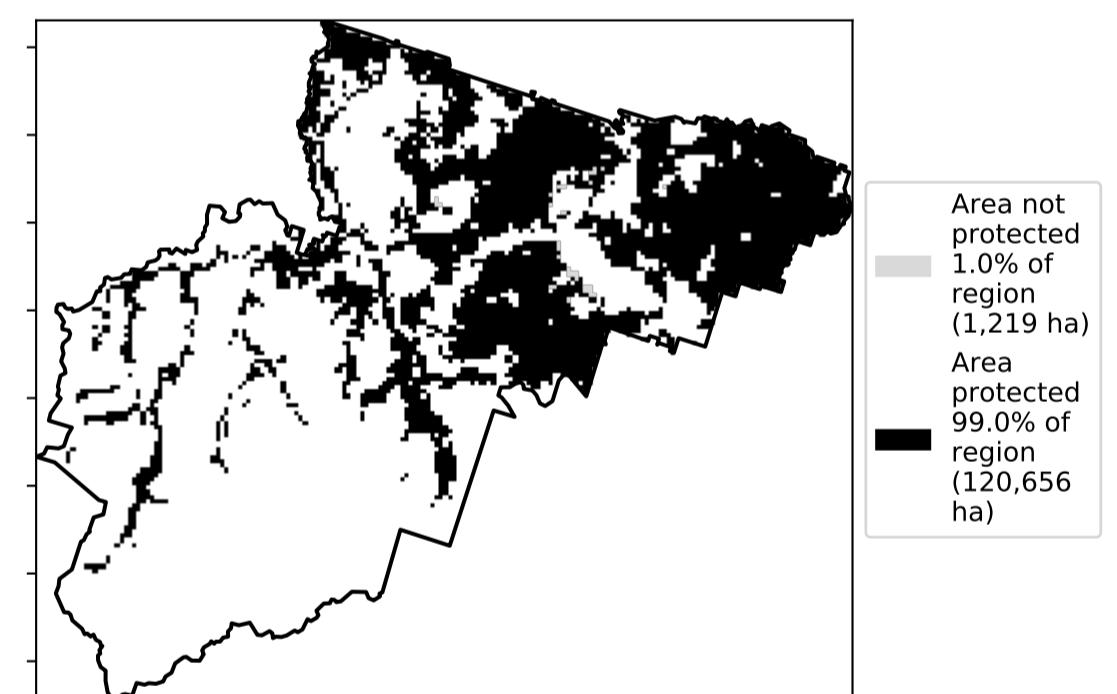
**Proportion of vegetation cover class in area**



**% Area protected from water erosion (>70%)**

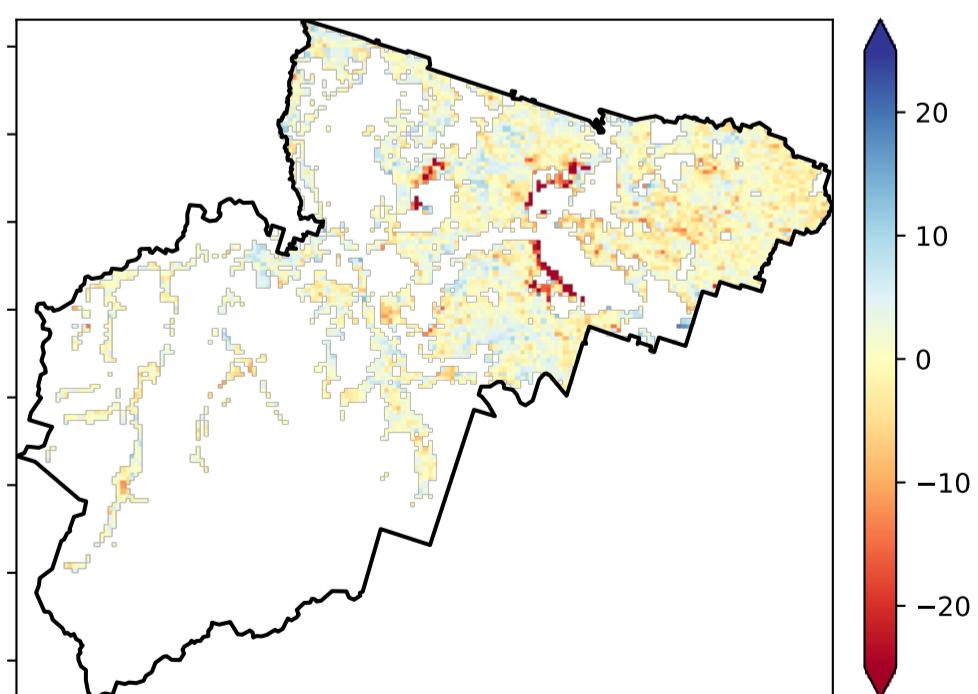


**% Area protected from wind erosion (>50%)**



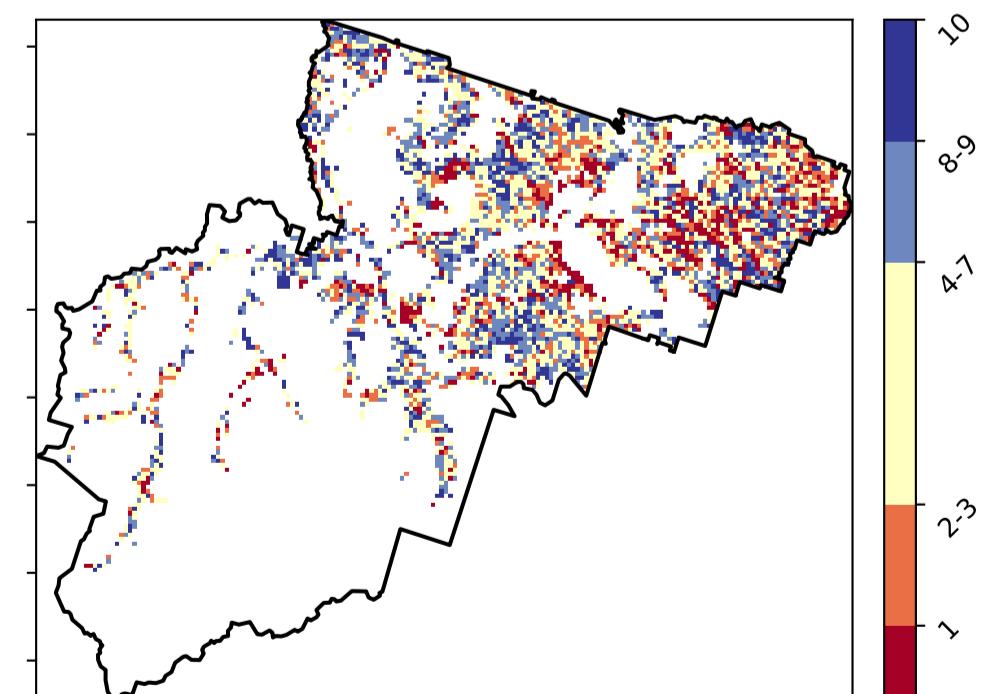
**Total Vegetation Cover Anomaly [%]**

Anomaly shows 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.



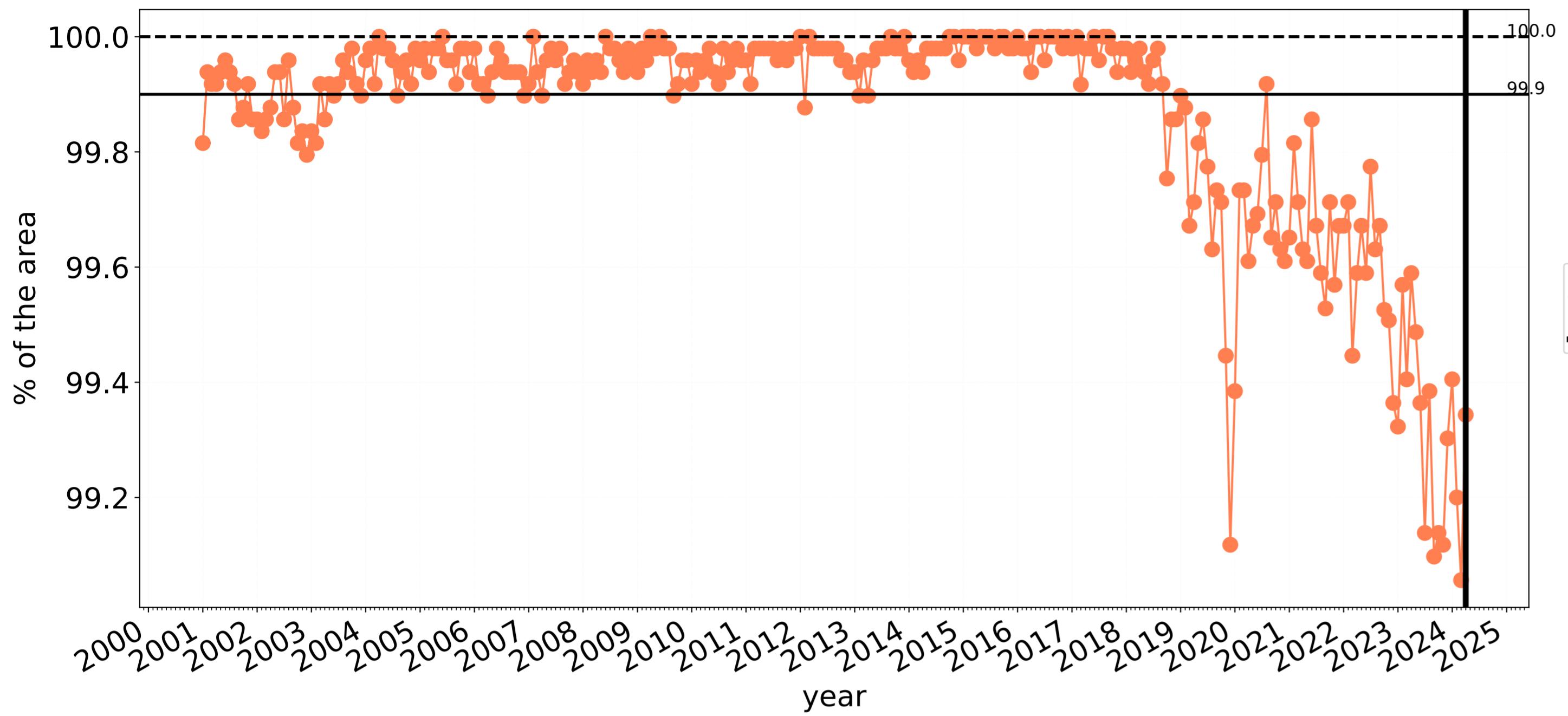
Deciles show where the pixel value lies in the record, from highest to lowest, for that month. That is, red pixels are in the lowest 10% of records for that month of the map using baseline from 2001 to 2019.

**Total Vegetation Cover Decile [%]**

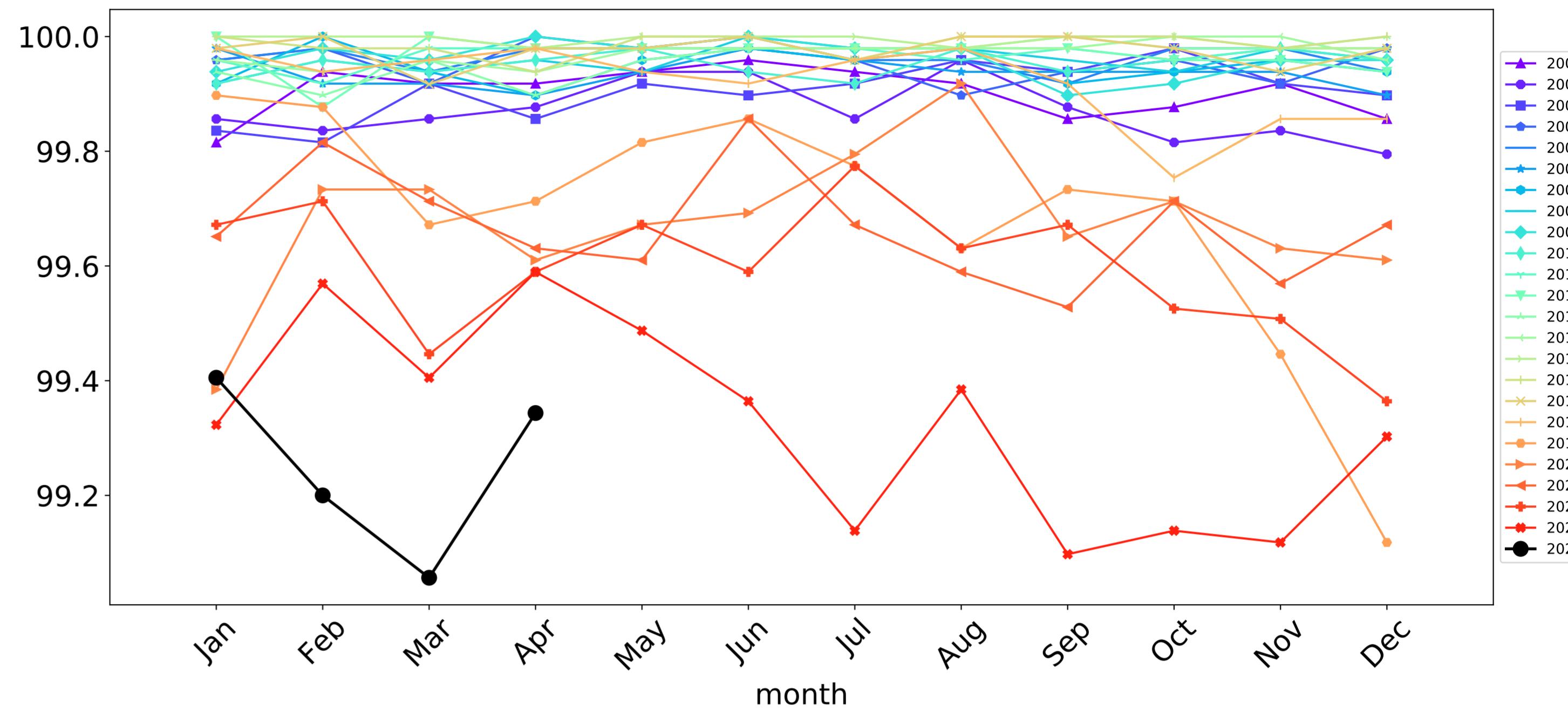


### Grazing timeseries

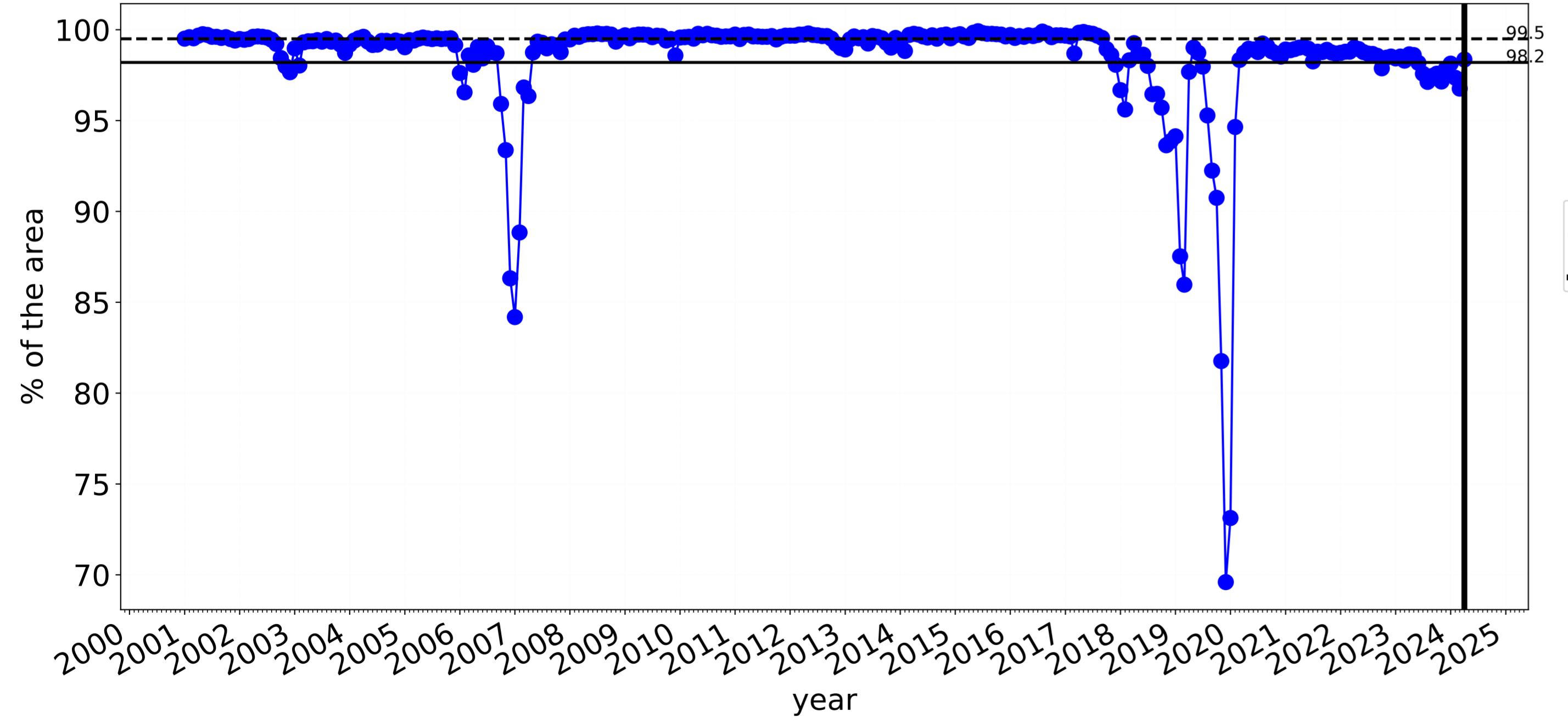
Proportion of the area protected from wind erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 50%)



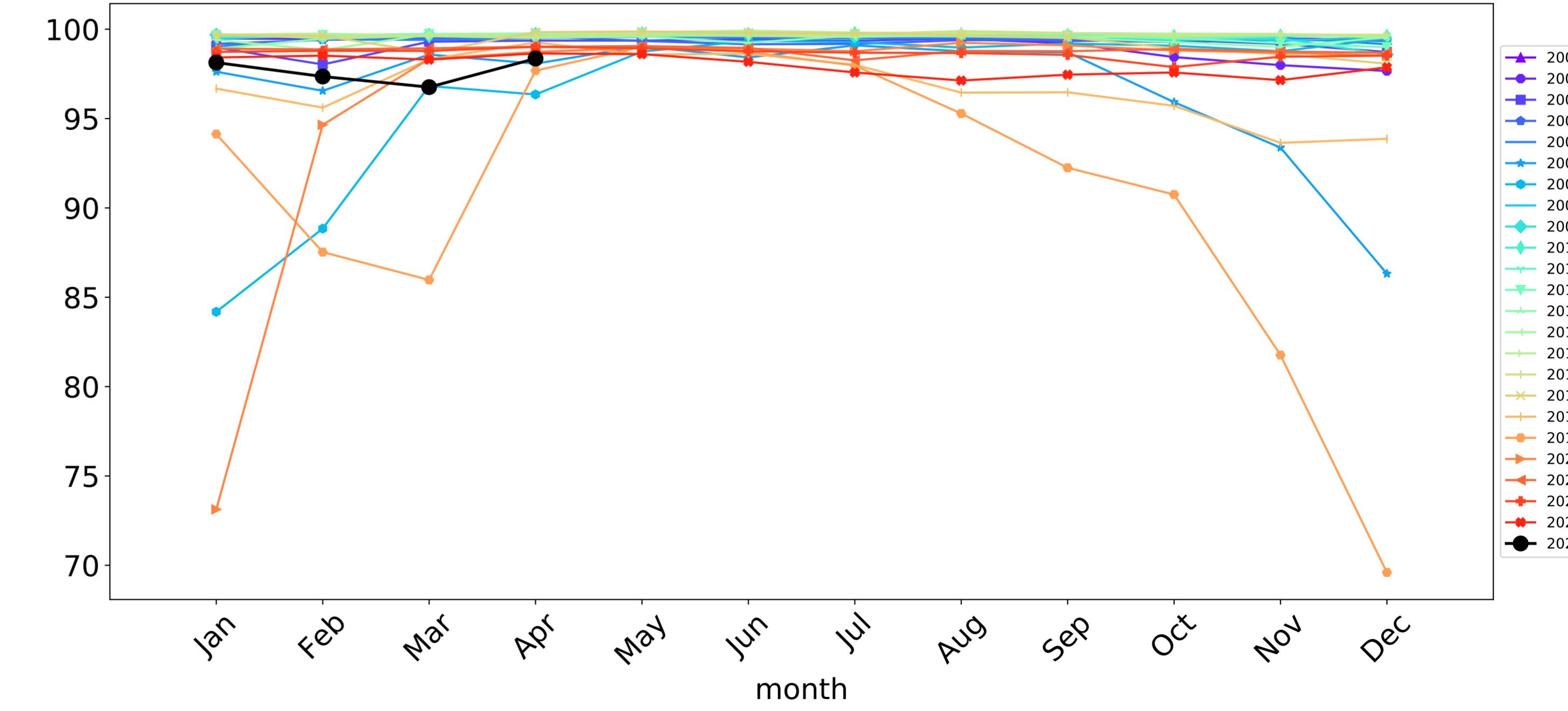
Wind erosion historical monthly area protected (Total Veg Cov >50%)



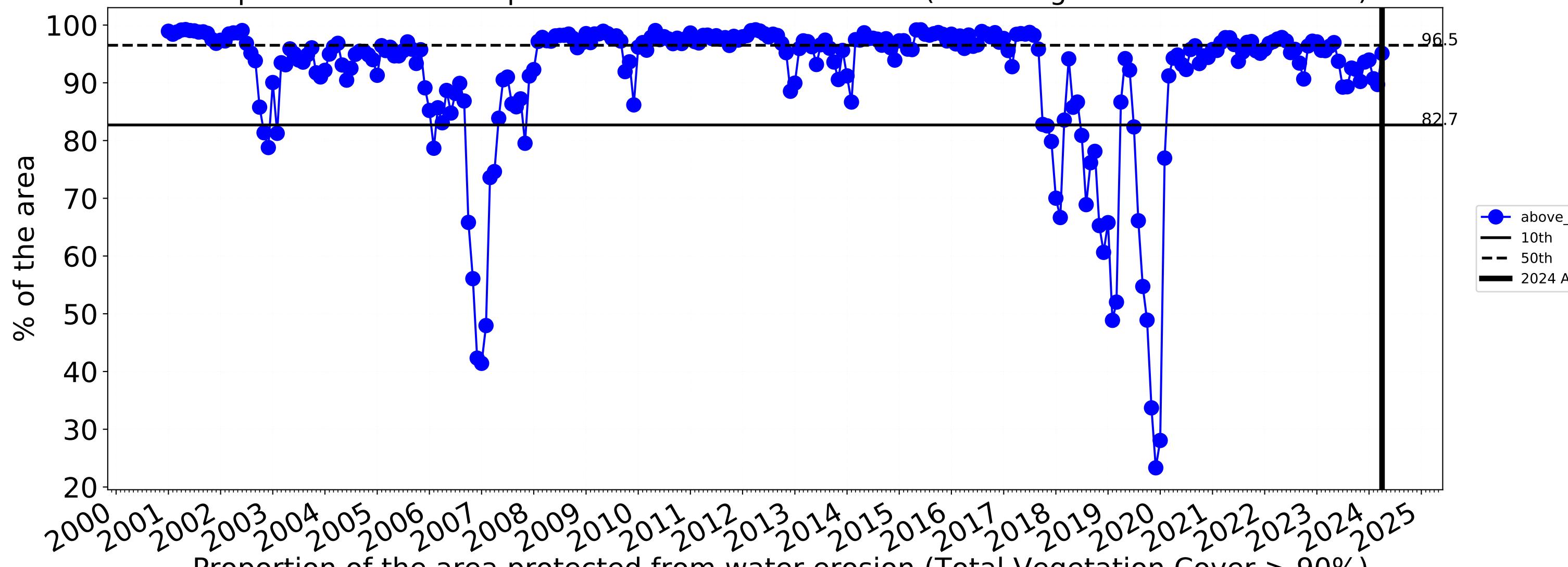
Proportion of the area protected from water erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 70%)



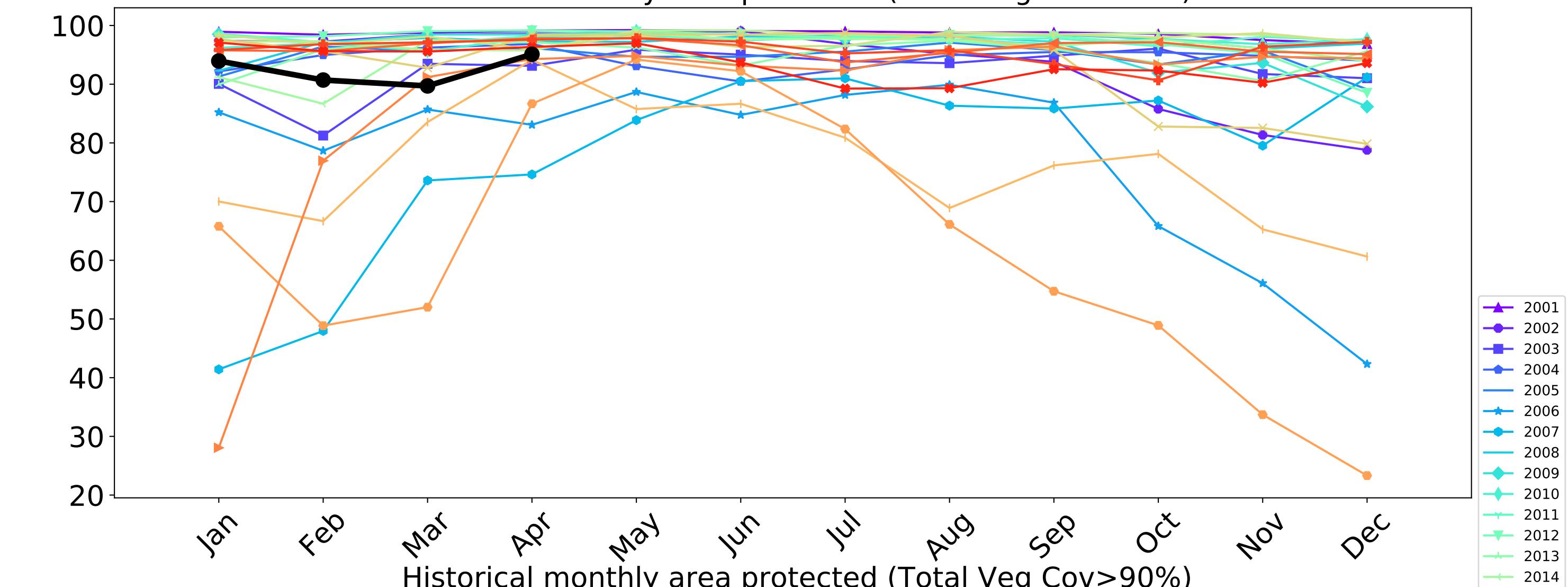
Water erosion historical monthly area protected (Total Veg Cov>70%)



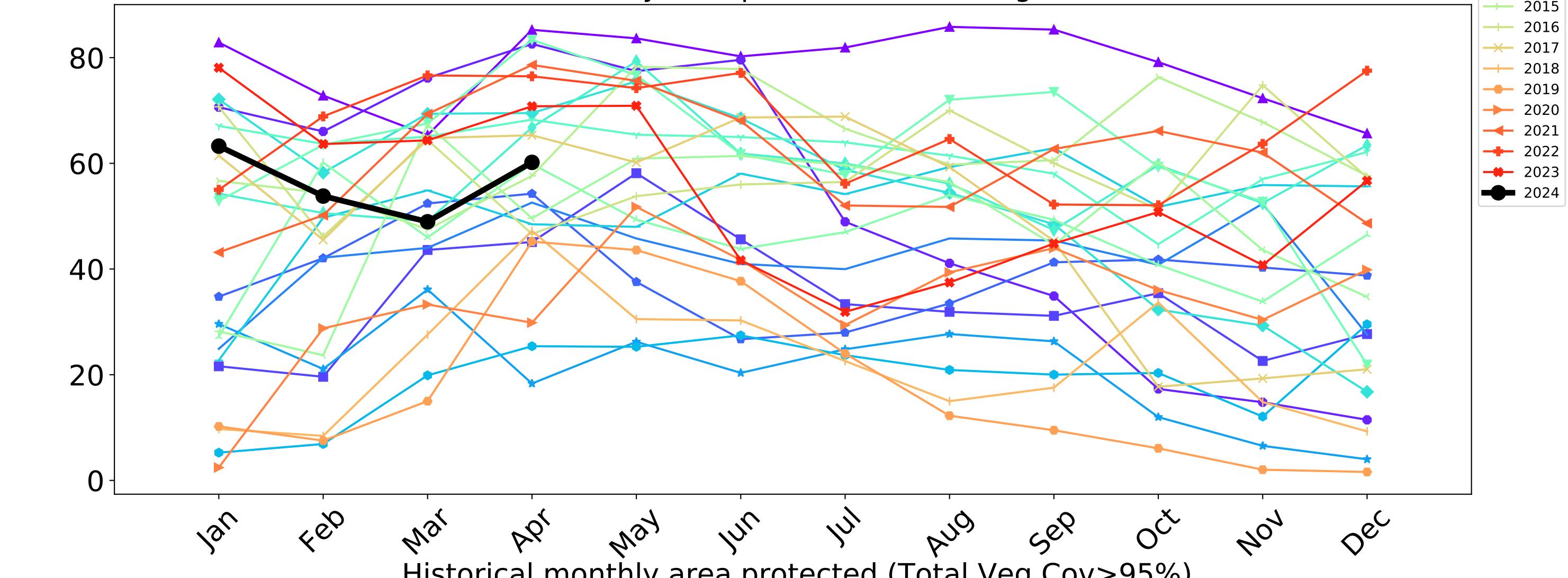
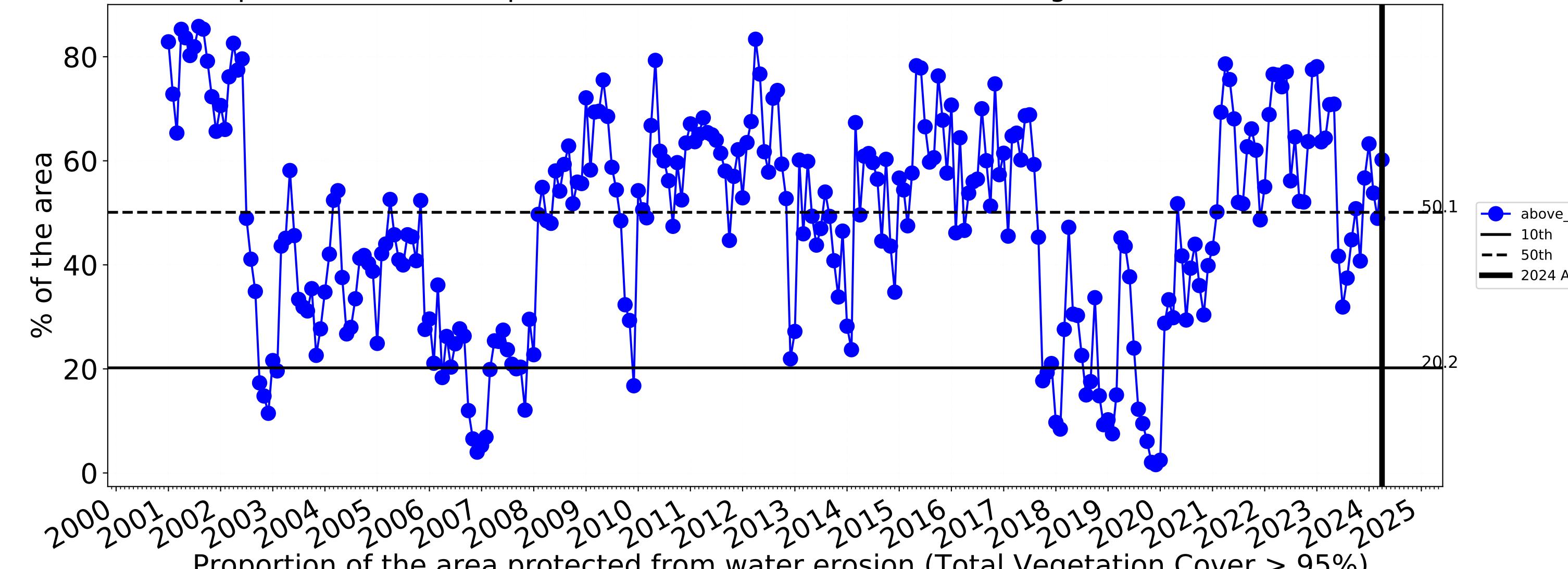
Proportion of the area protected from water erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 80%)



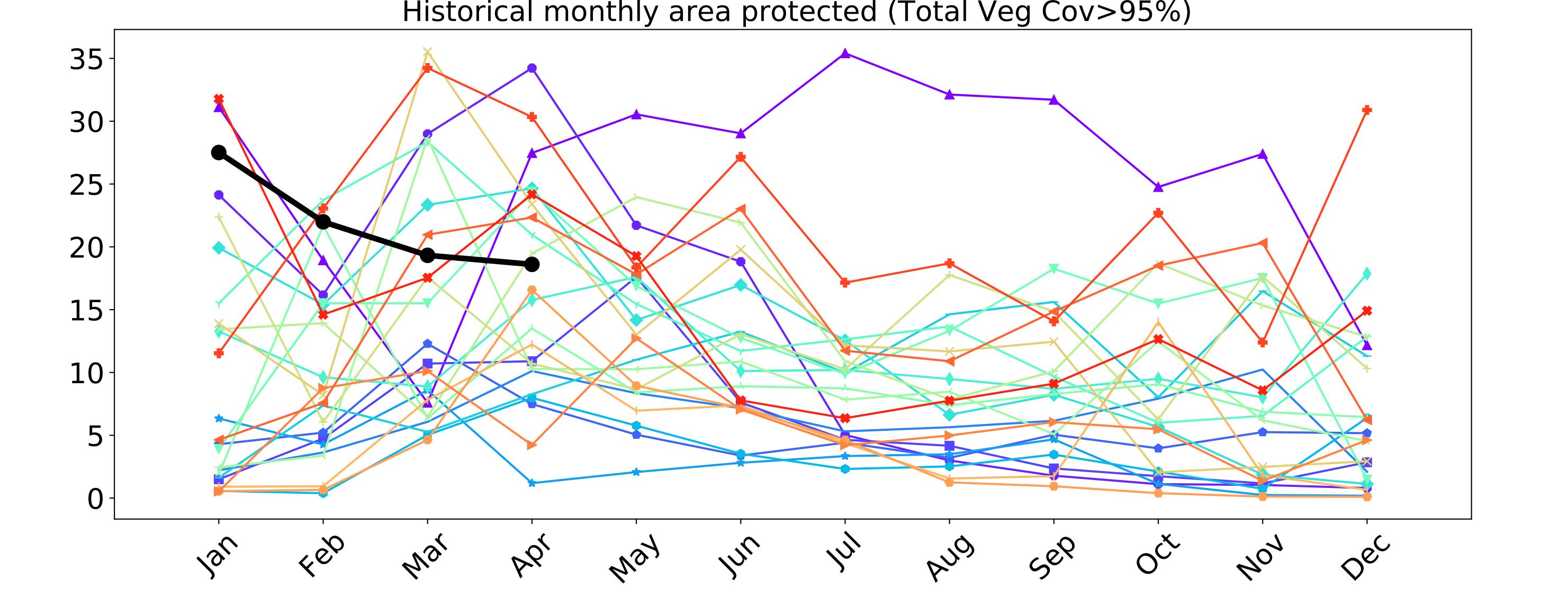
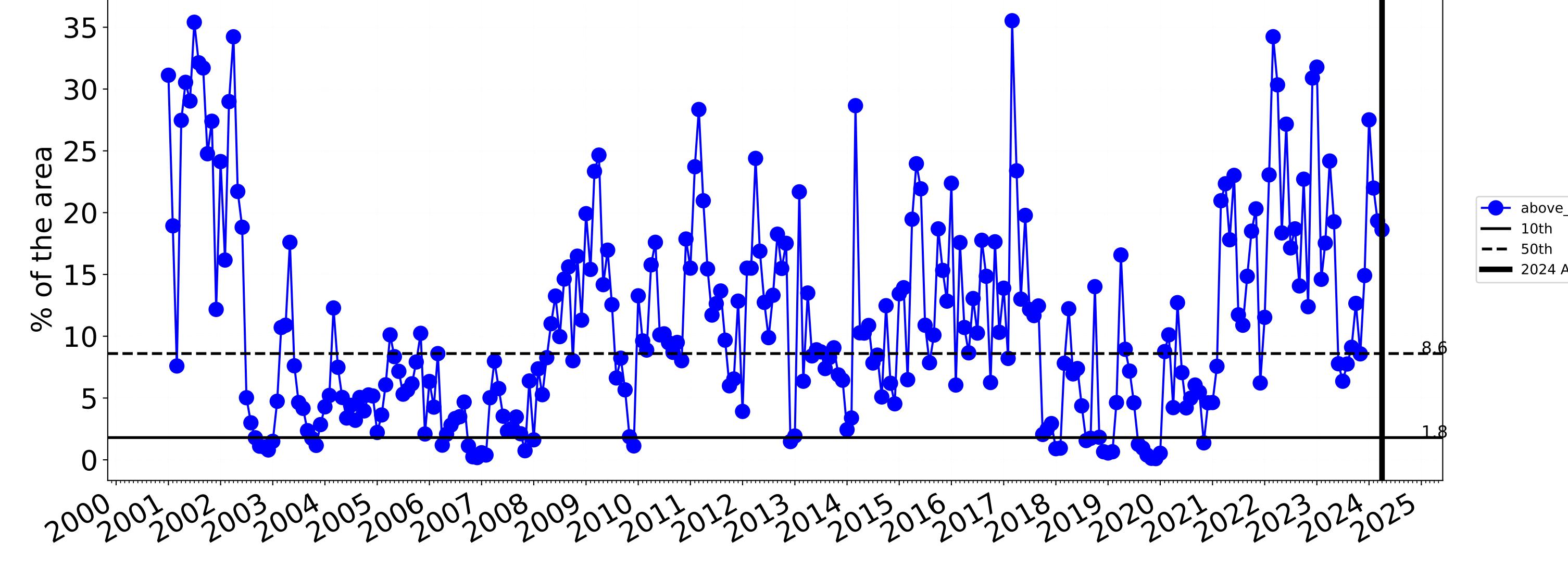
Historical monthly area protected (Total Veg Cov>80%)



Proportion of the area protected from water erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 90%)



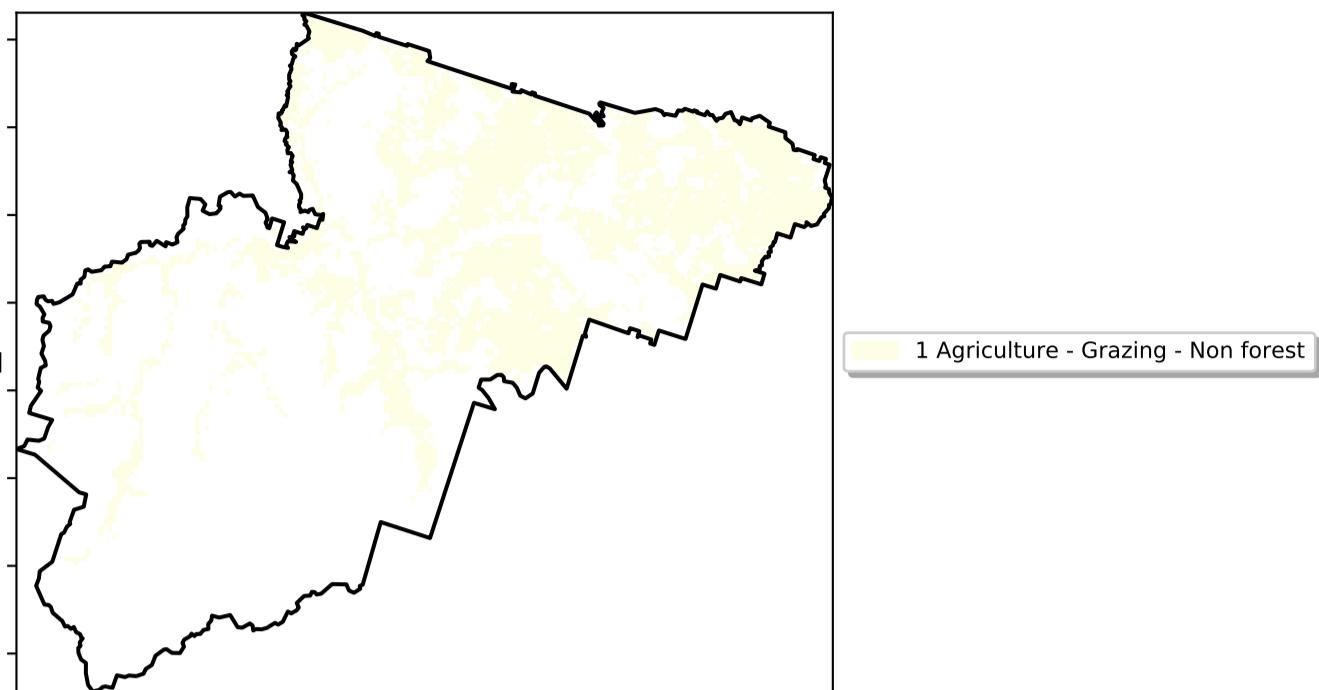
Proportion of the area protected from water erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 95%)



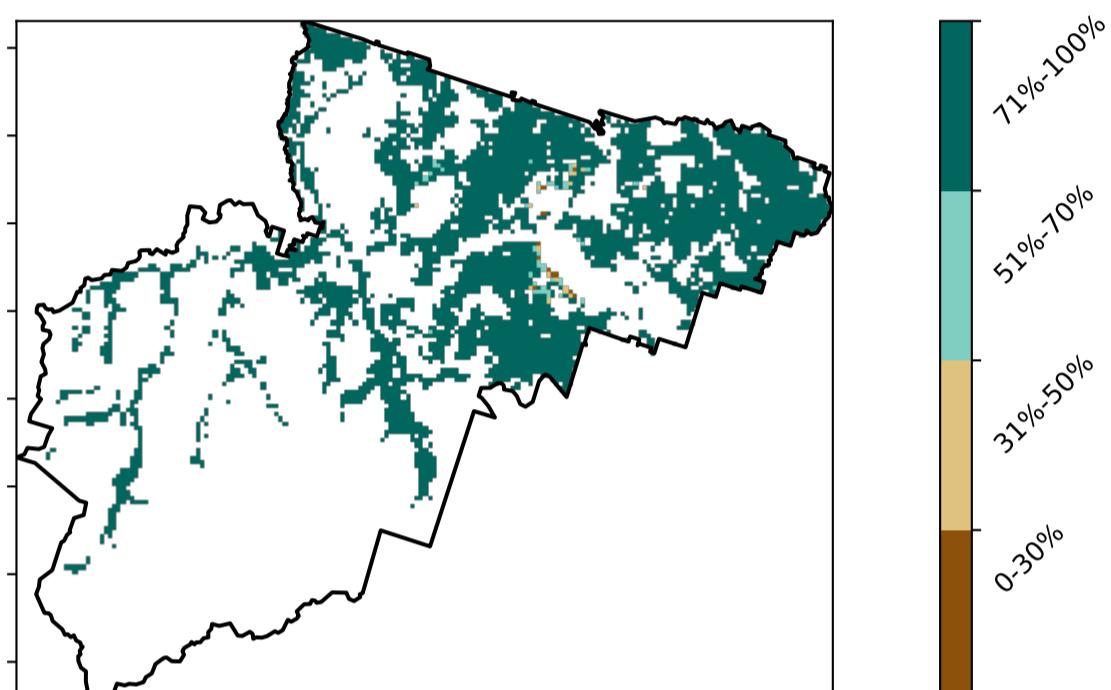
## Grazing non forest

**Land use and forest cover**

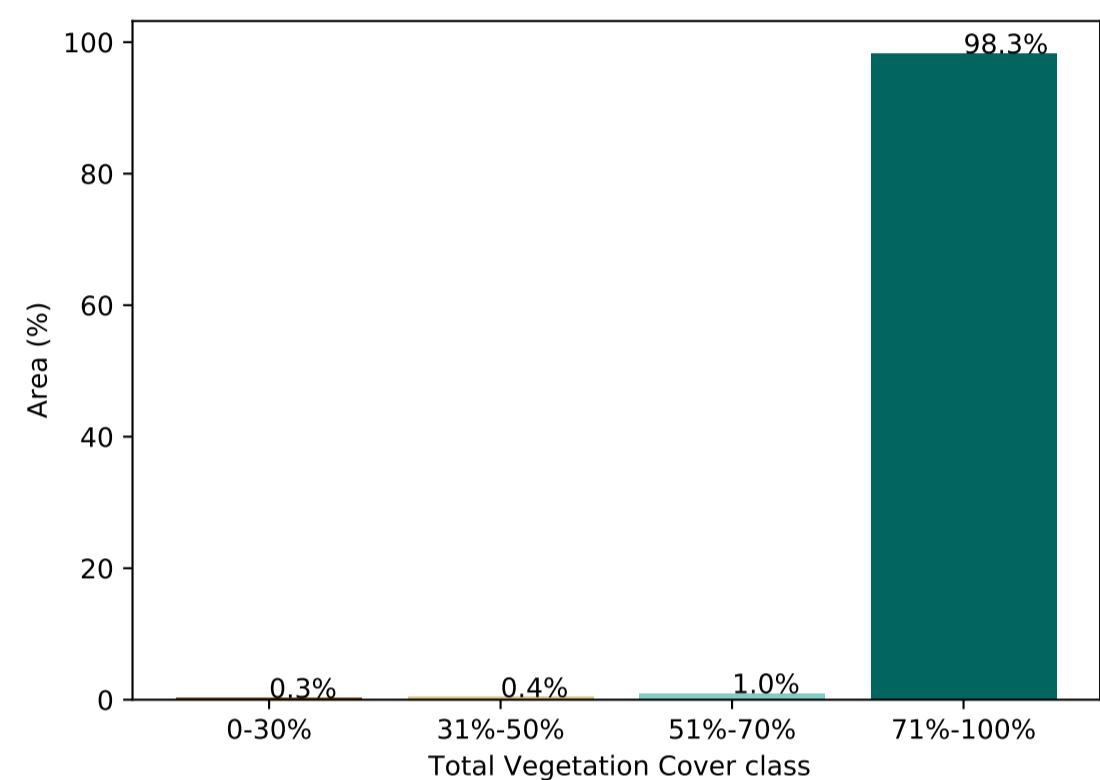
Catchment Scale  
Land Use and Forests  
of Australia (2018)  
Derived from  
Catchment Scale Land  
Use of Australia  
(2018) and Forests  
of Australia (2018)



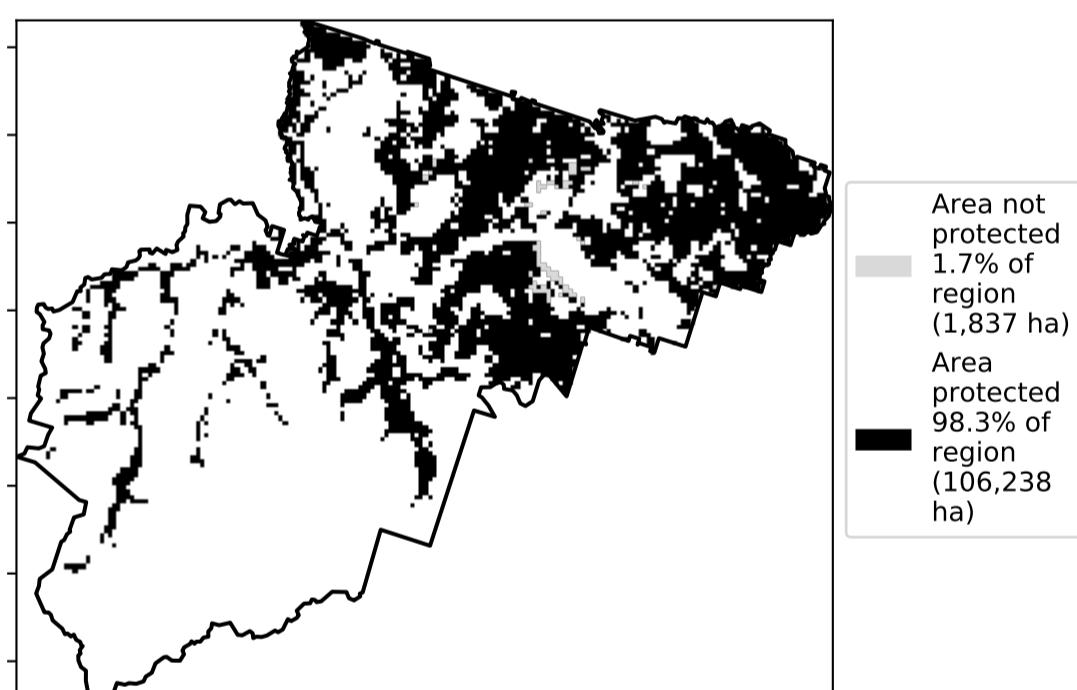
**Total Vegetation Cover [%]**



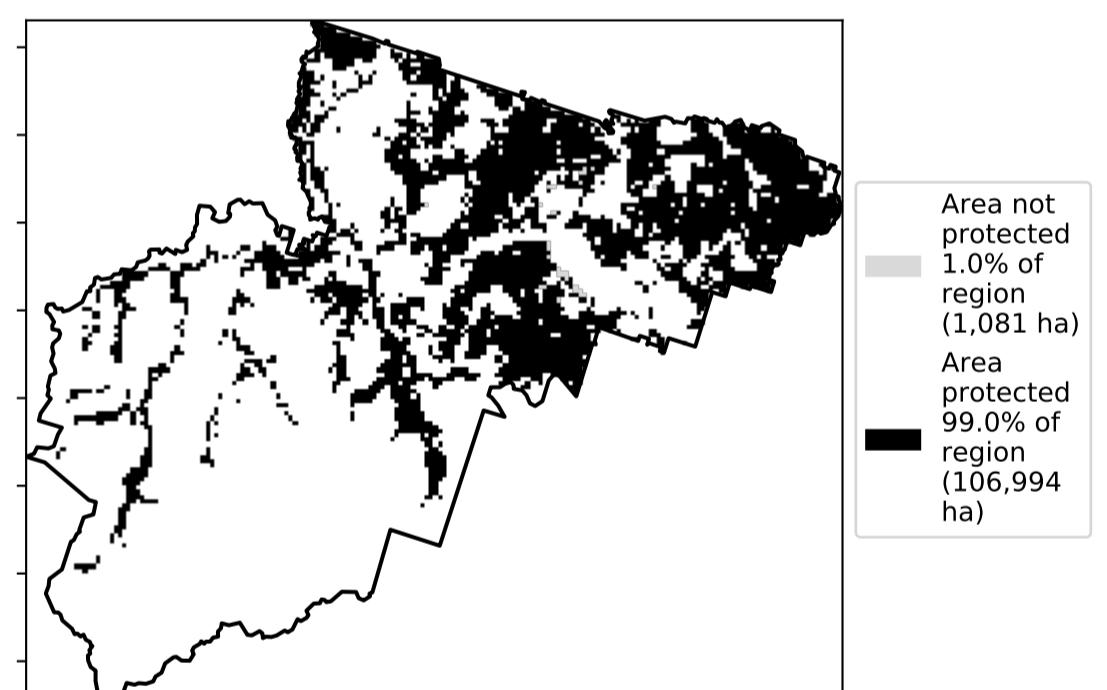
**Proportion of vegetation cover class in area**



**% Area protected from water erosion (>70%)**

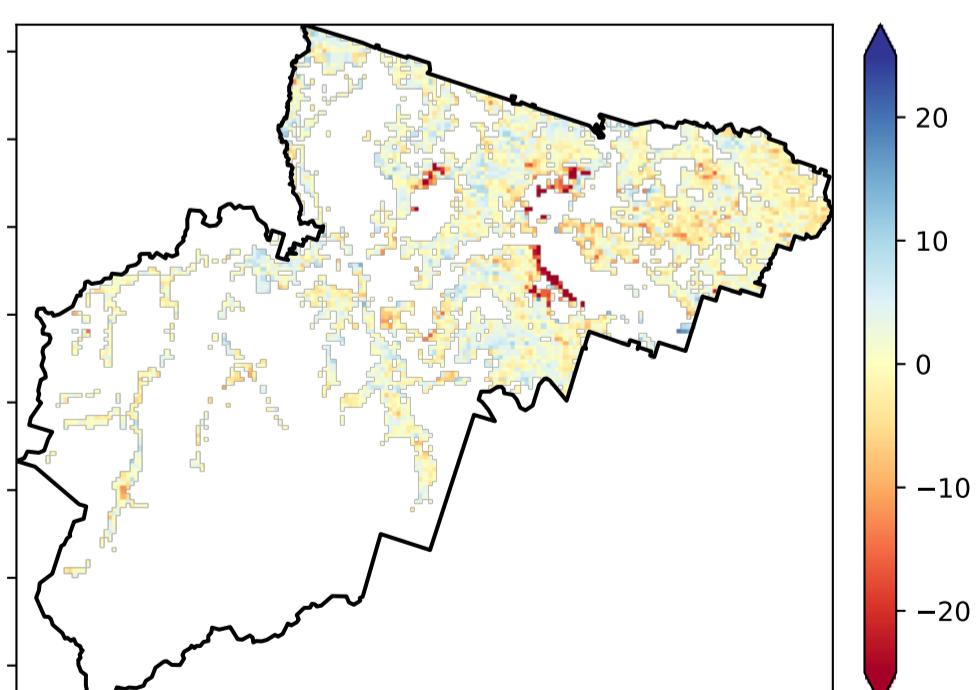


**% Area protected from wind erosion (>50%)**



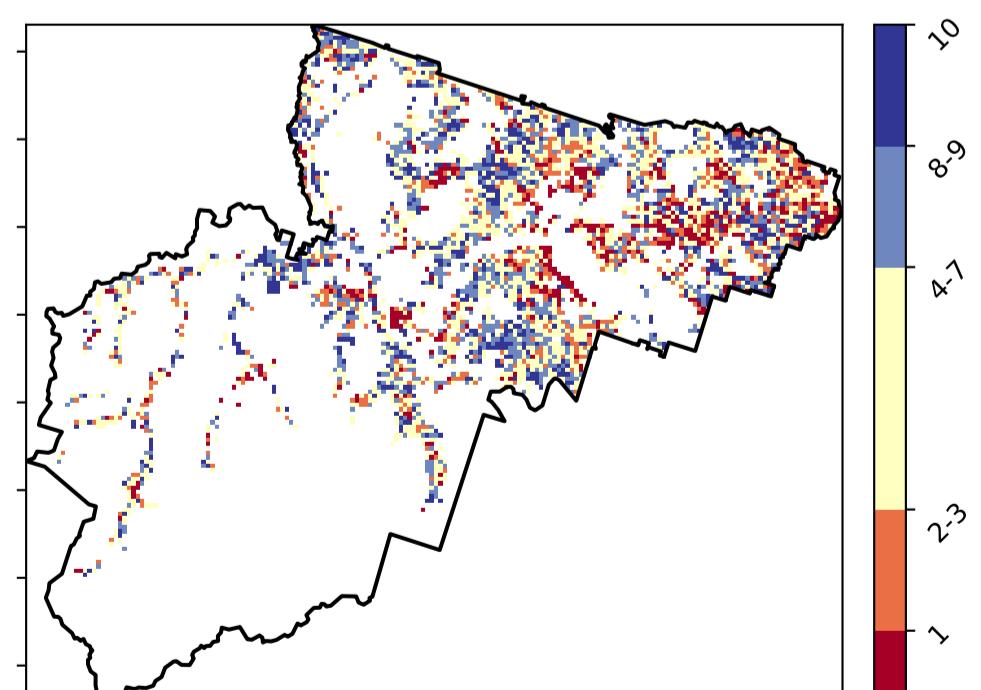
**Total Vegetation Cover Anomaly [%]**

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.



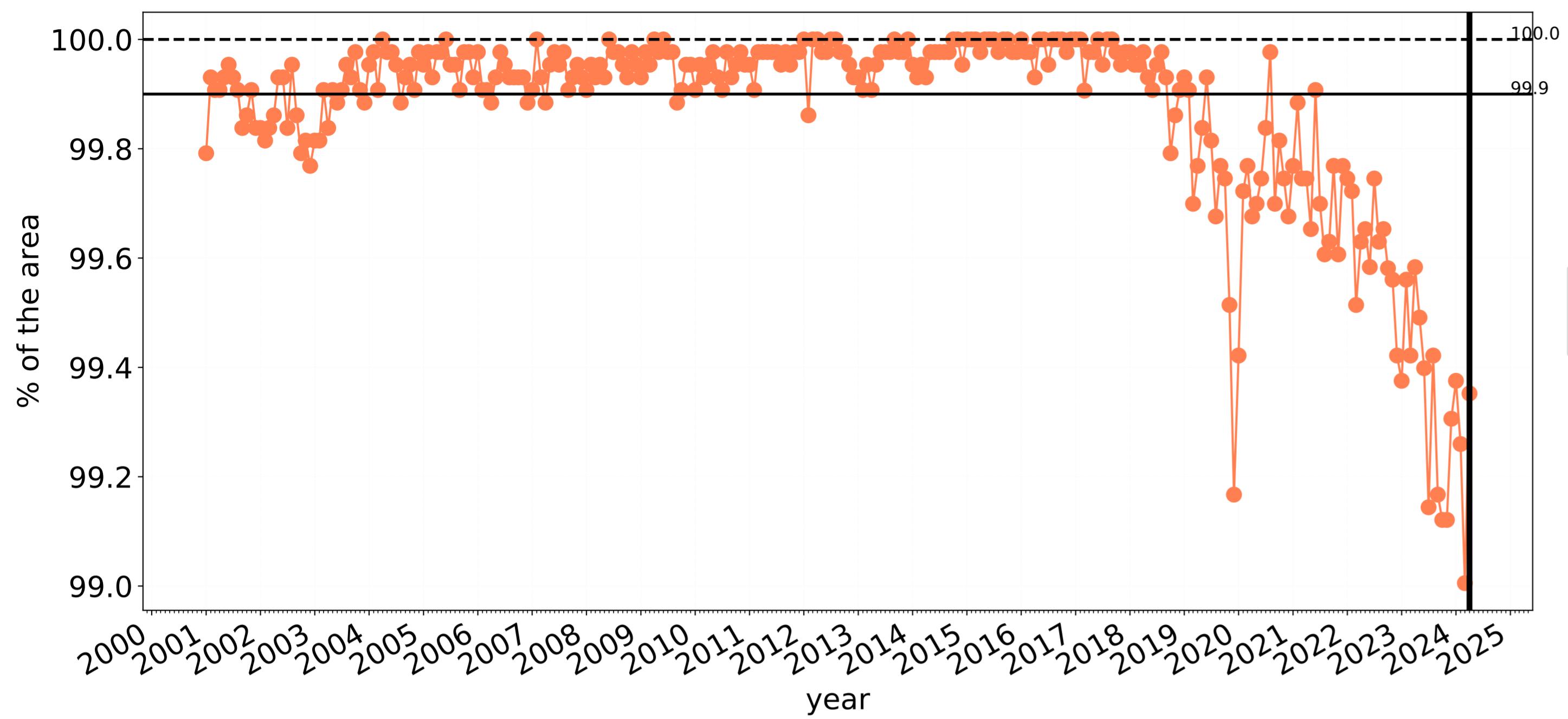
Deciles show where the pixel value lies in the record, from highest to lowest, for that month. That is, red pixels are in the lowest 10% of records for that month of the map using baseline from 2001 to 2019.

**Total Vegetation Cover Decile [%]**

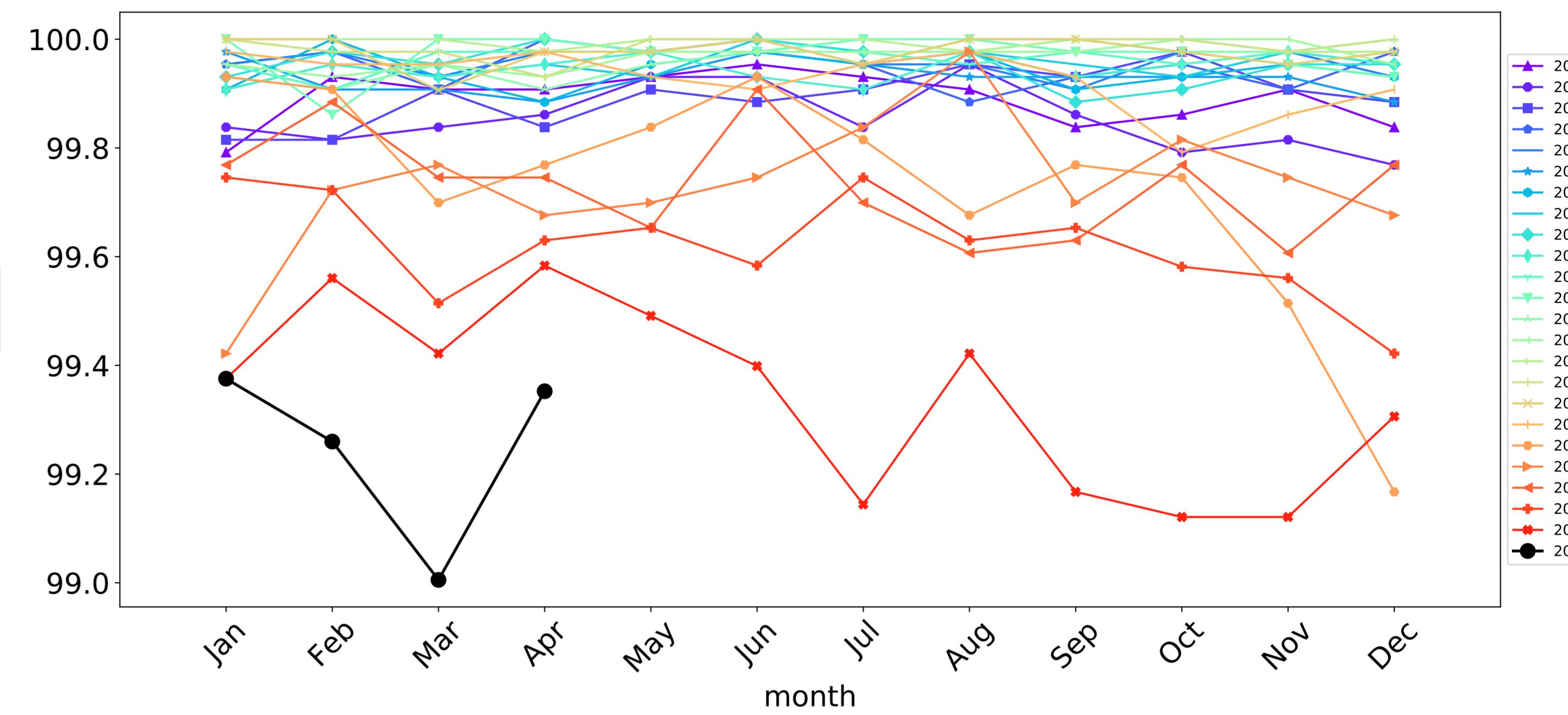


### Grazing non forest timeseries

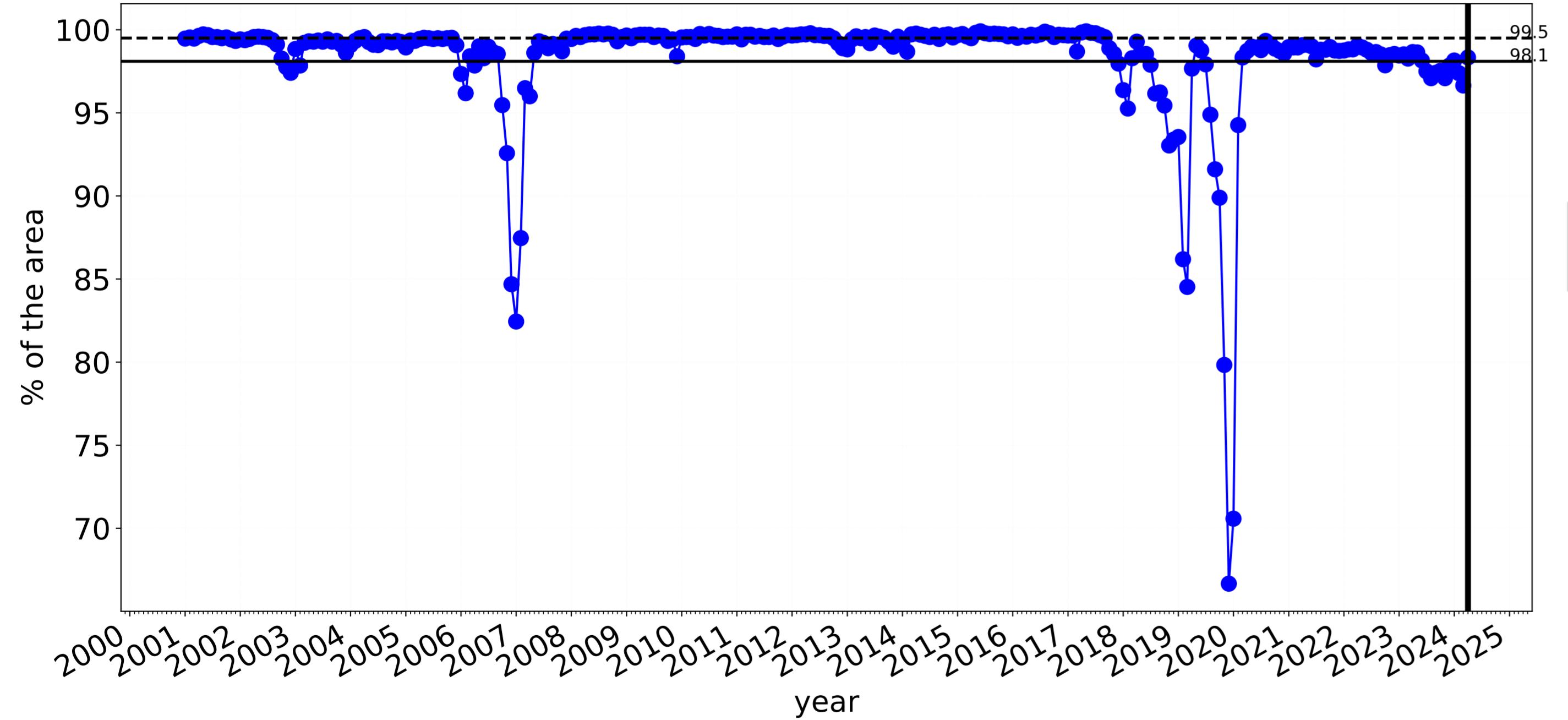
Proportion of the area protected from wind erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 50%)



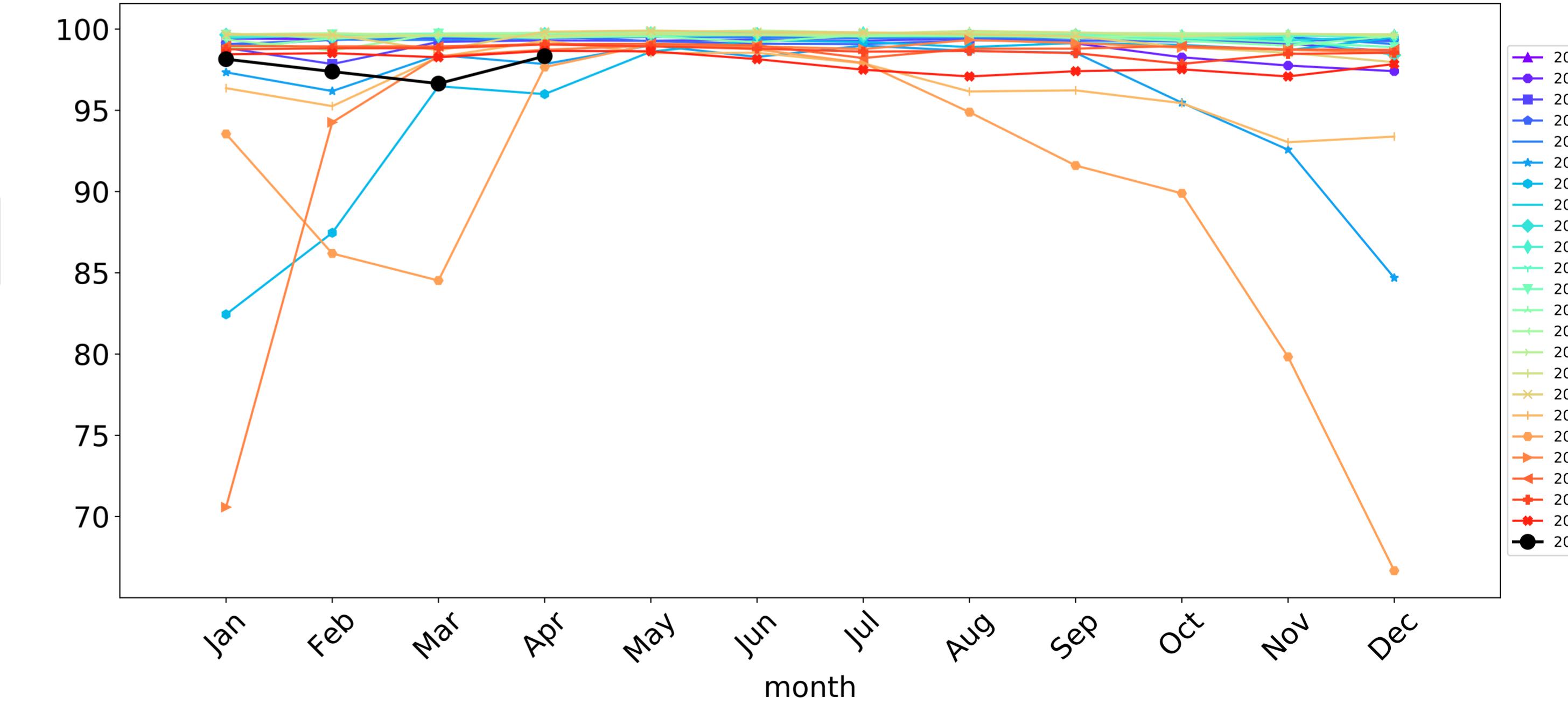
Wind erosion historical monthly area protected (Total Veg Cov >50%)

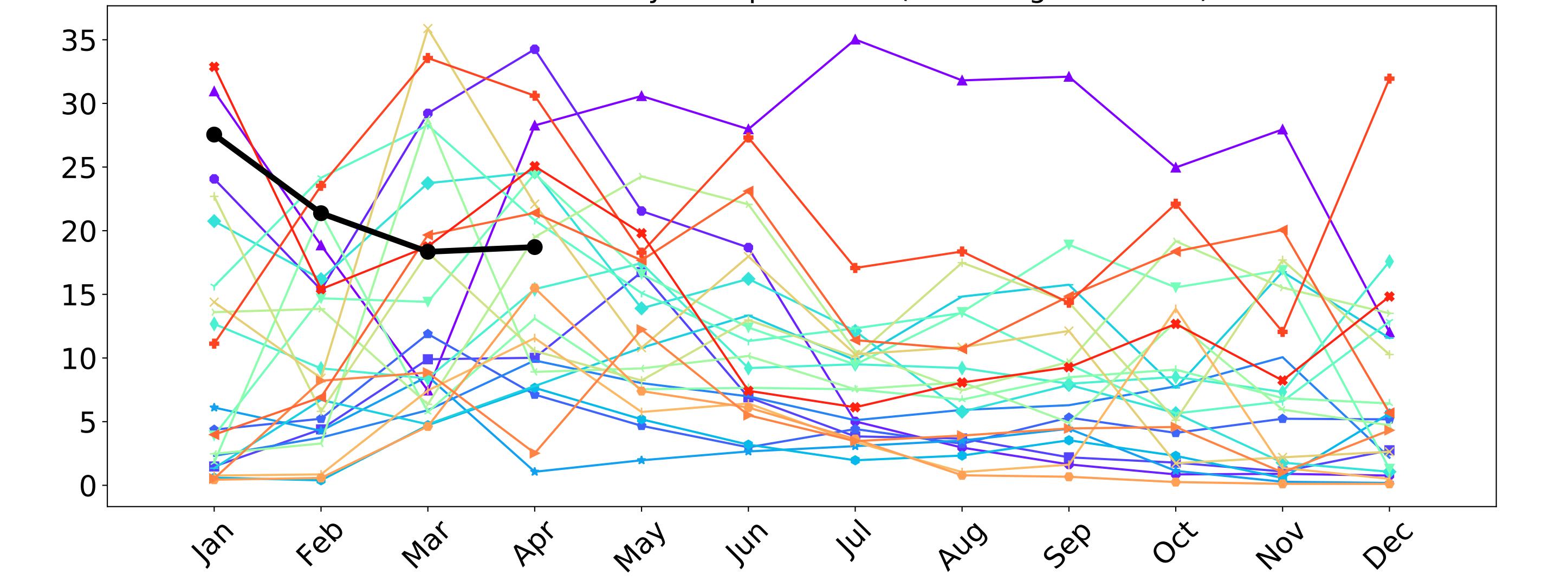
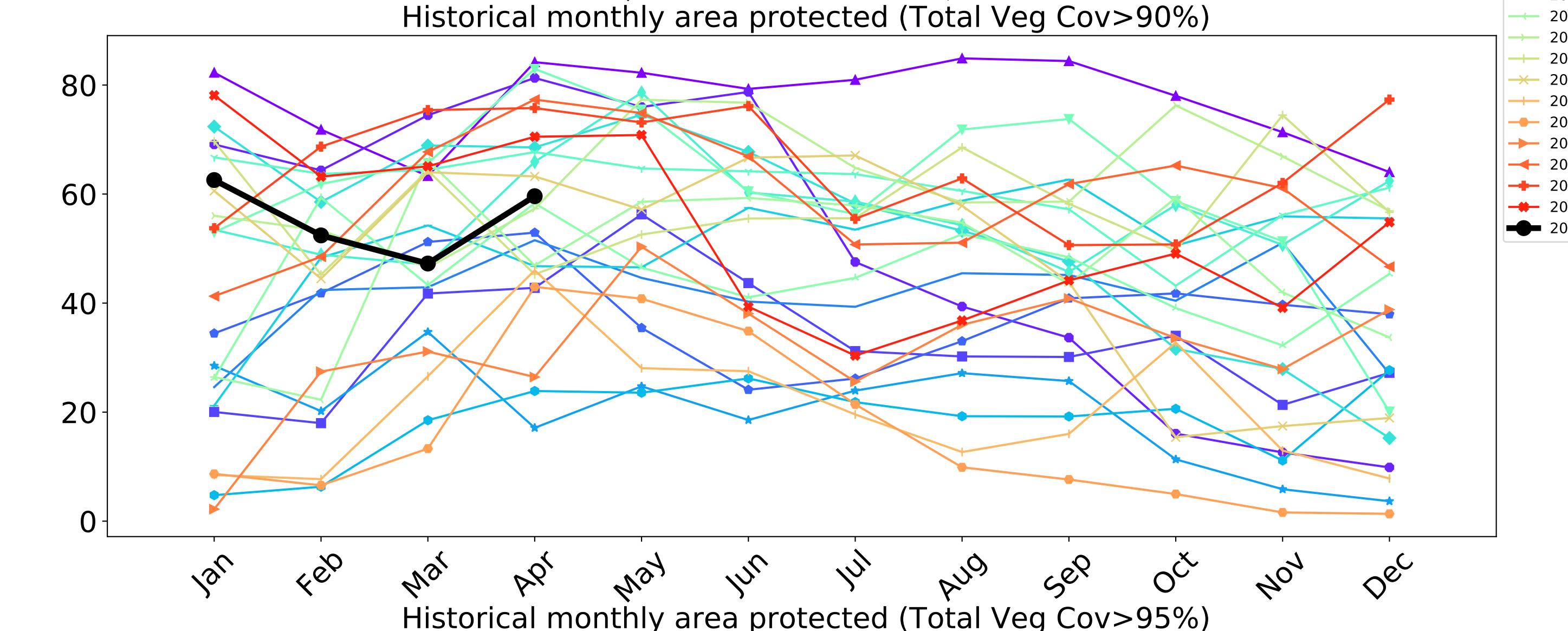
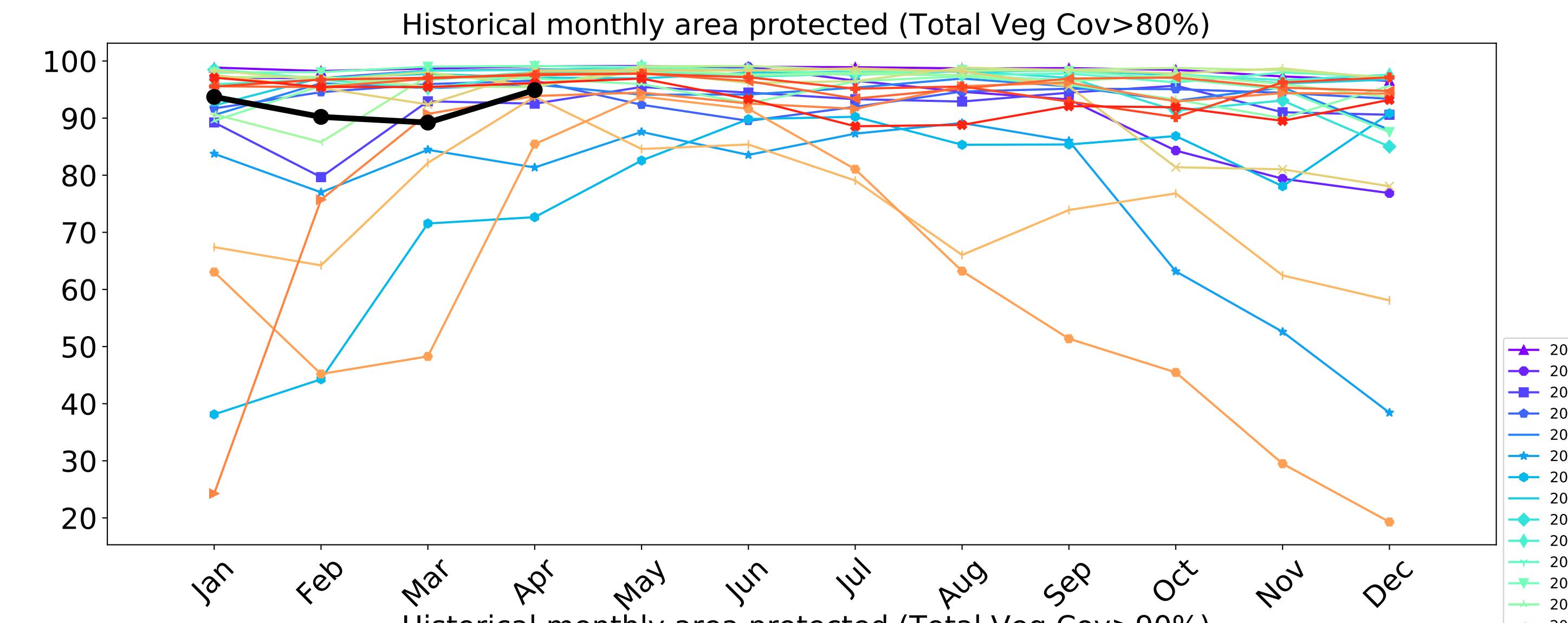
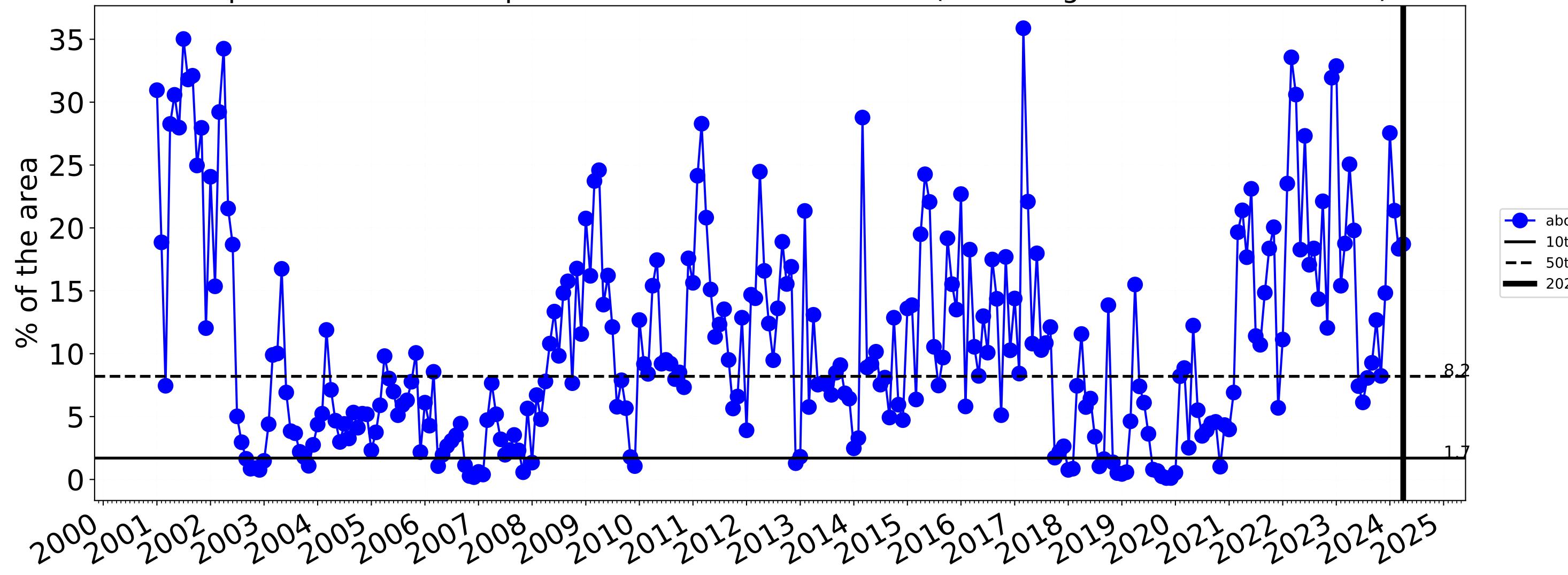
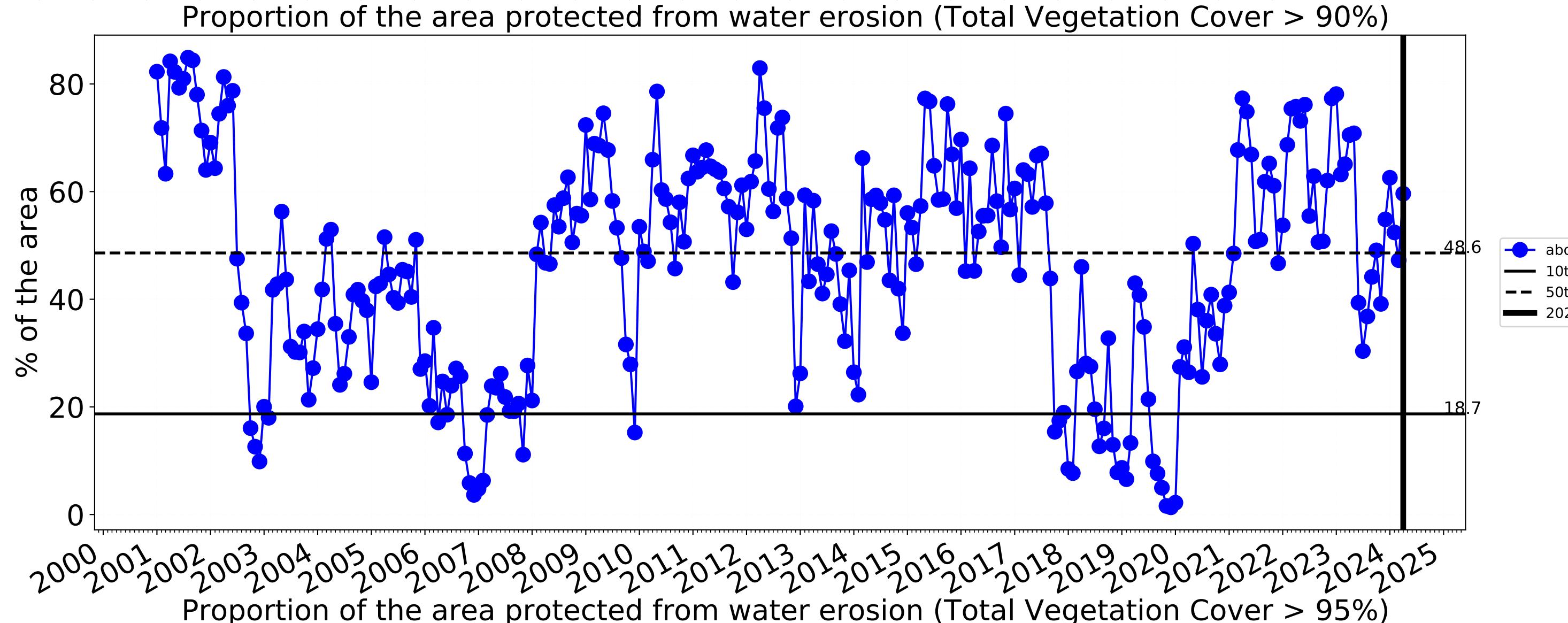
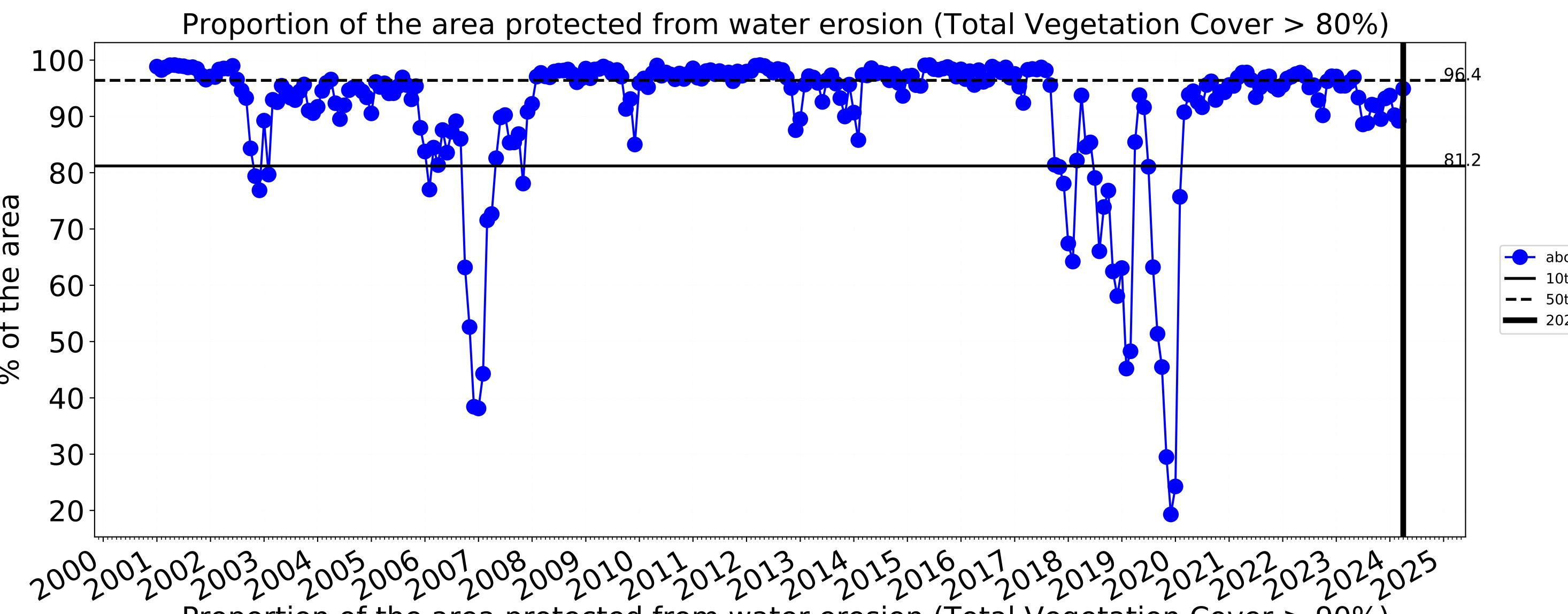


Proportion of the area protected from water erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 70%)



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

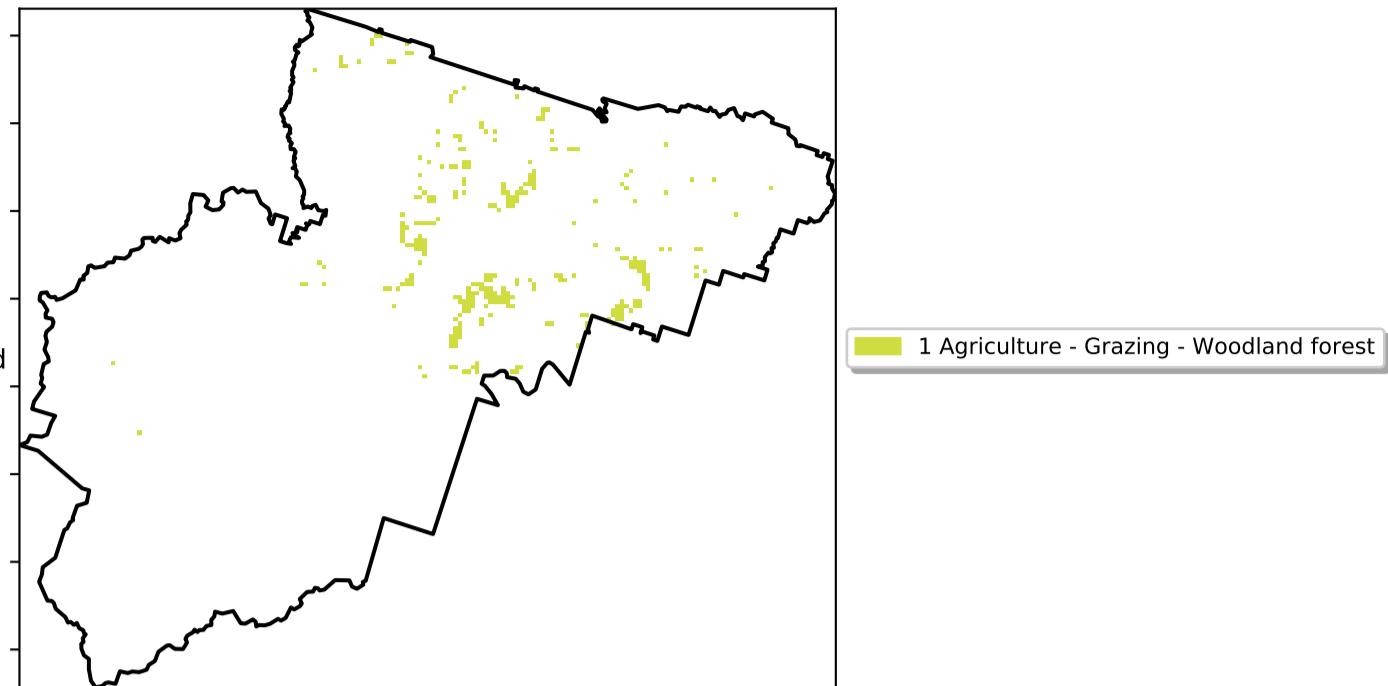




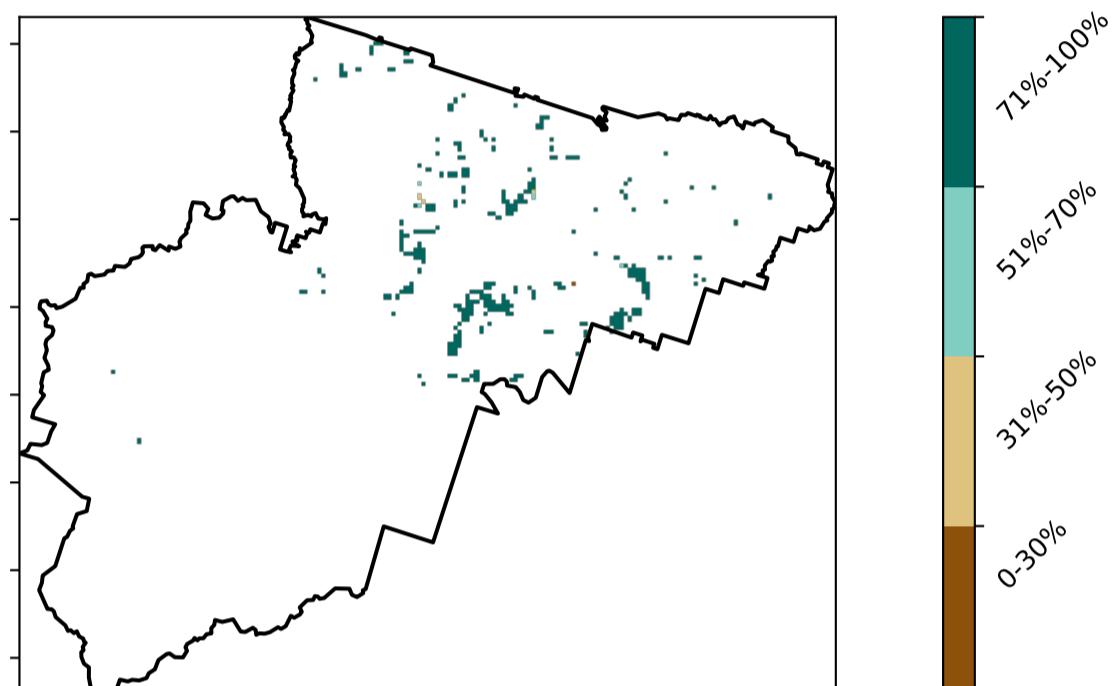
# Grazing Woodland forest

**Land use and forest cover**

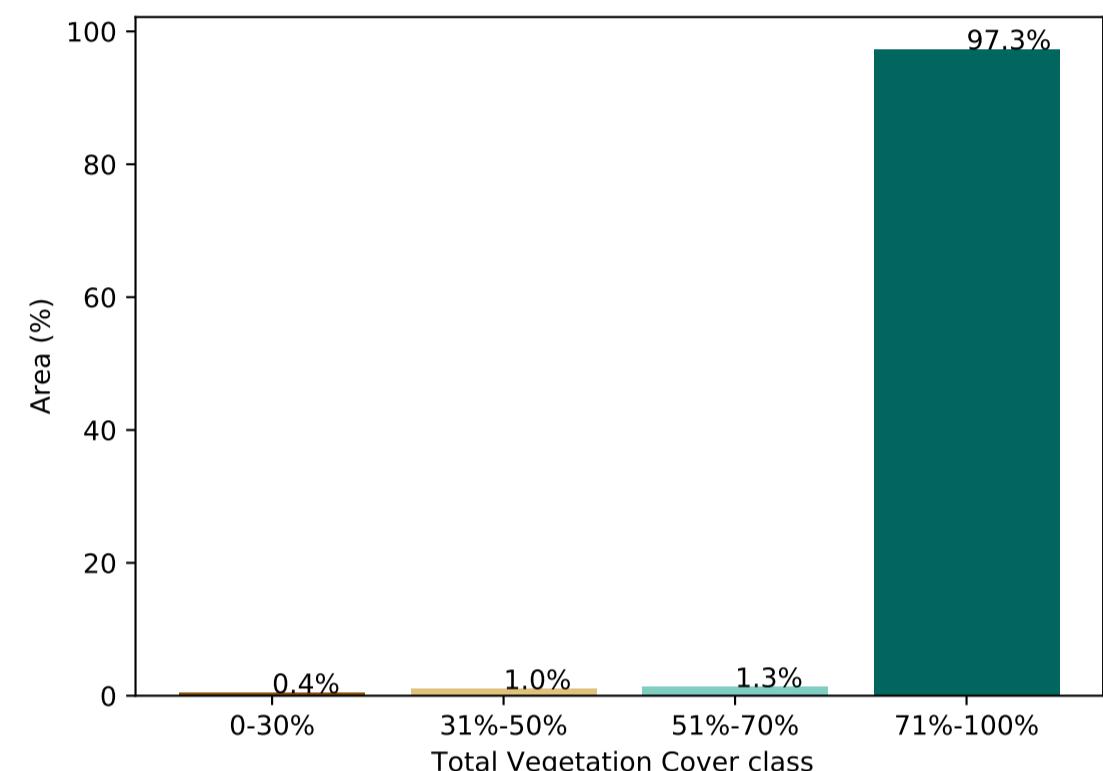
Catchment Scale  
Land Use and Forests  
of Australia (2018)  
Derived from  
Catchment Scale Land  
Use of Australia  
(2018) and Forests  
of Australia (2018)



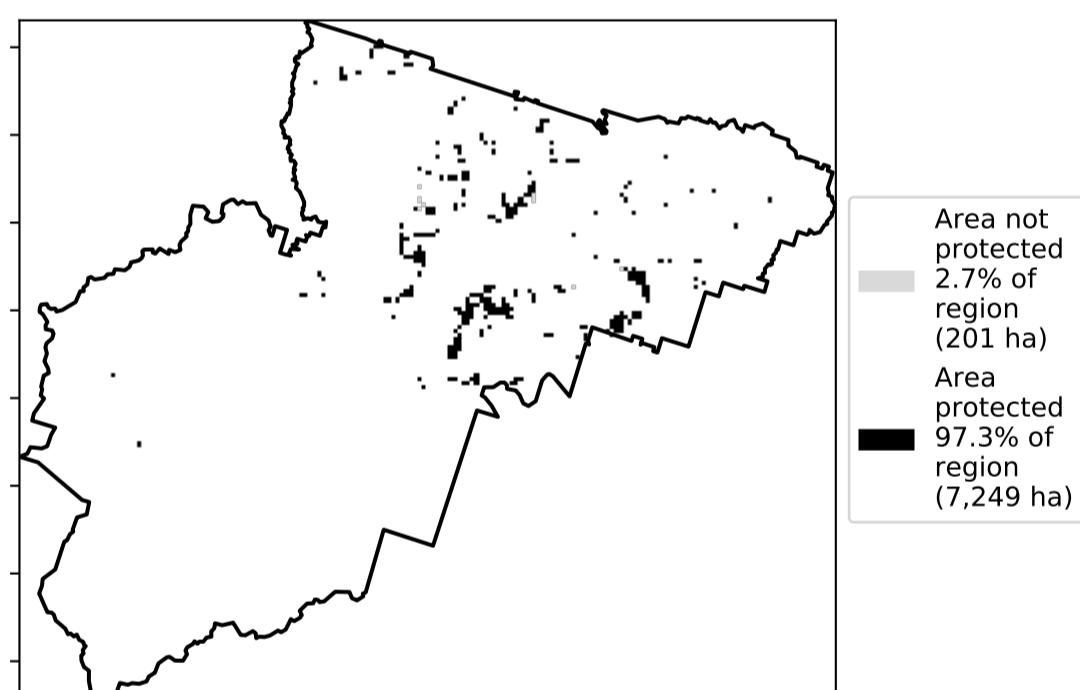
**Total Vegetation Cover [%]**



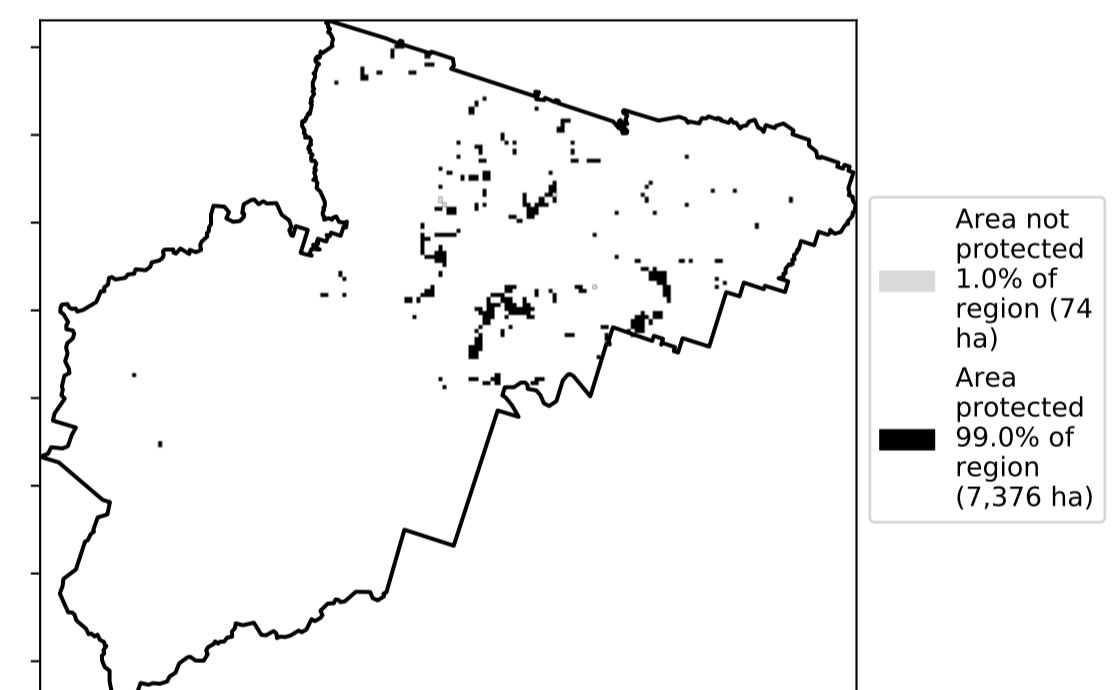
**Proportion of vegetation cover class in area**



**% Area protected from water erosion (>70%)**

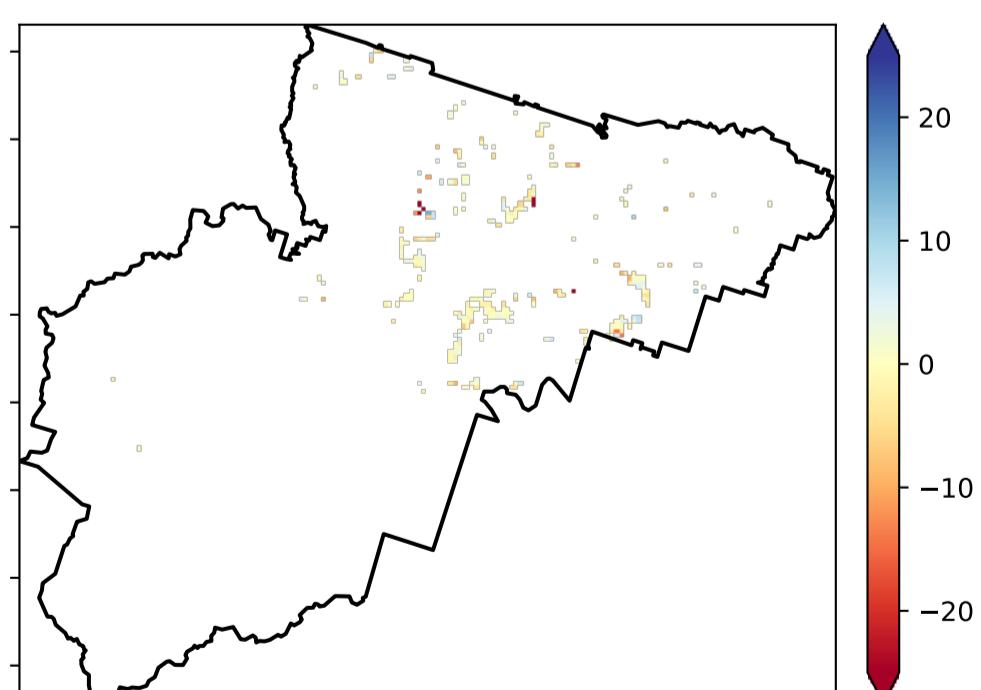


**% Area protected from wind erosion (>50%)**



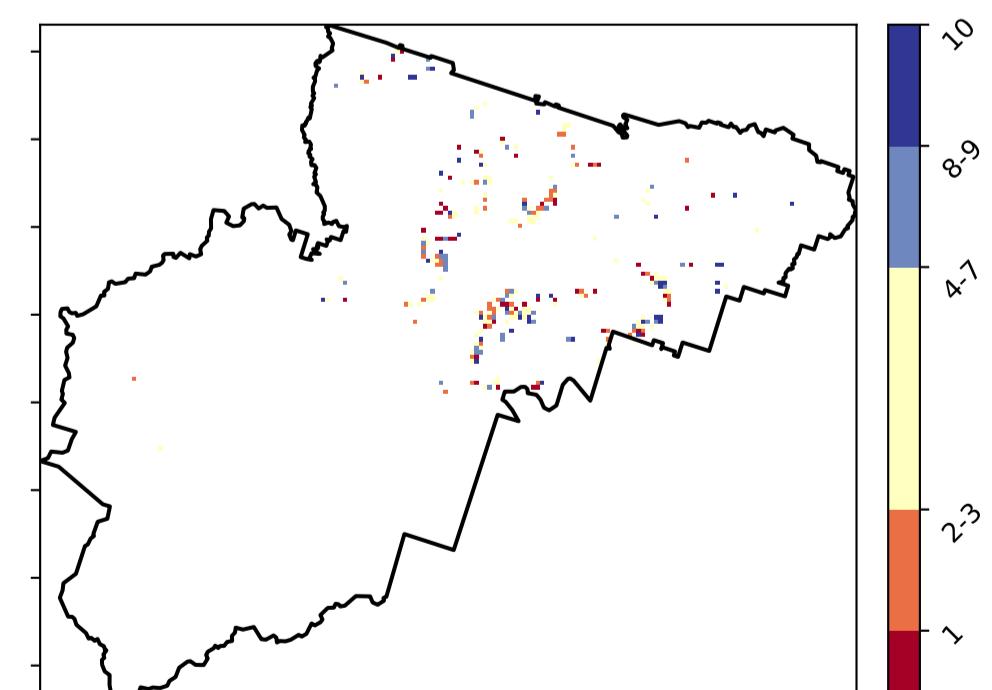
**Total Vegetation Cover Anomaly [%]**

Anomaly shows 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.



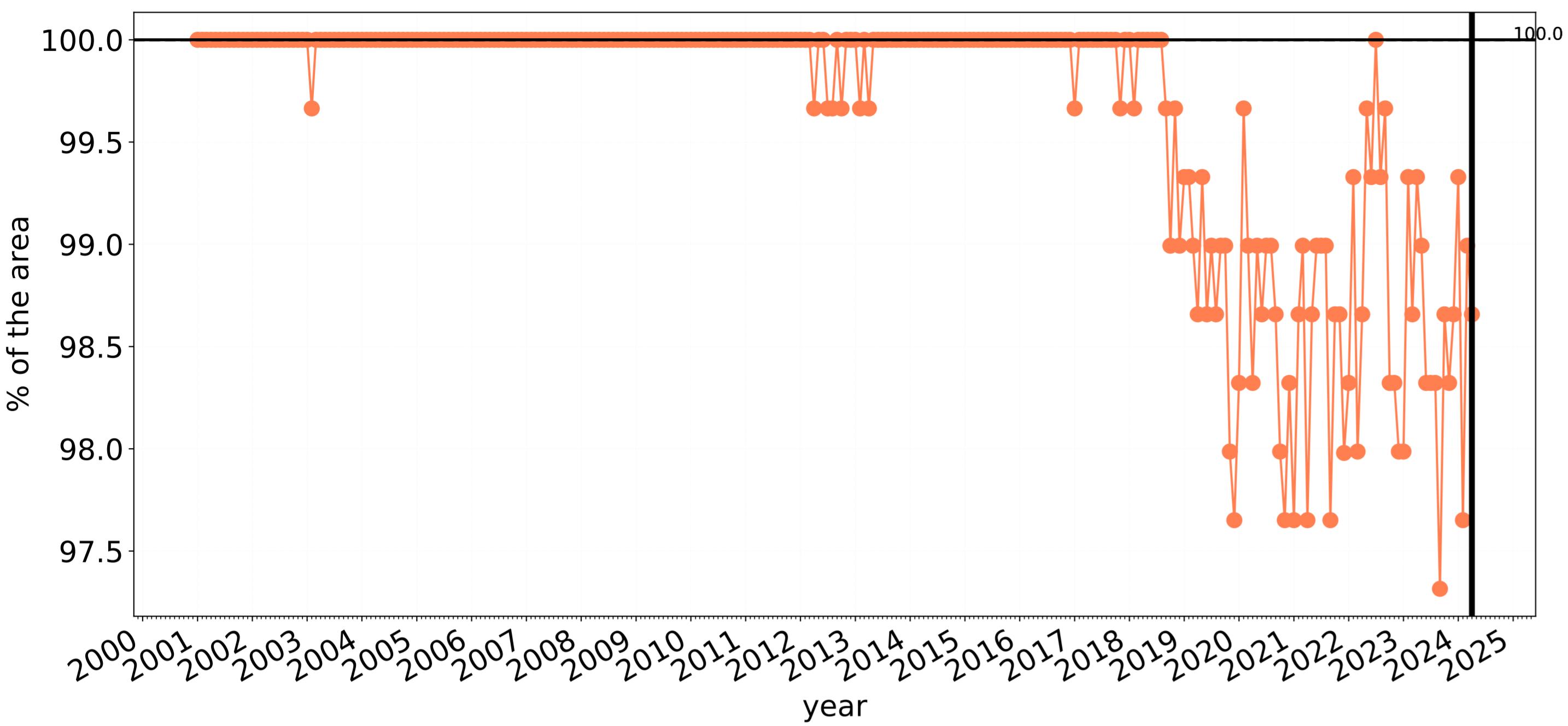
Deciles show where the pixel value lies in the record, from highest to lowest, for that month. That is, red pixels are in the lowest 10% of records for that month of the map using baseline from 2001 to 2019.

**Total Vegetation Cover Decile [%]**

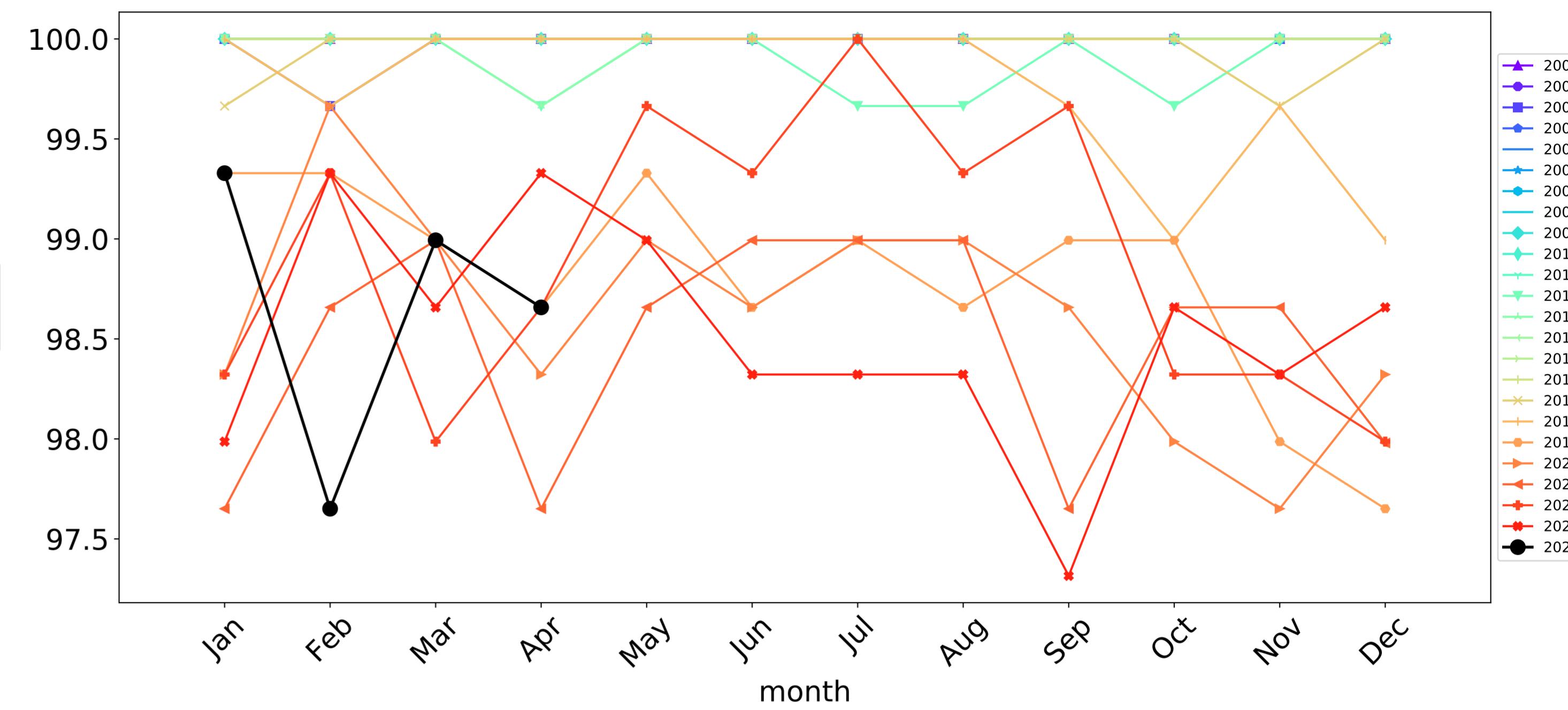


## Grazing Woodland forest timeseries

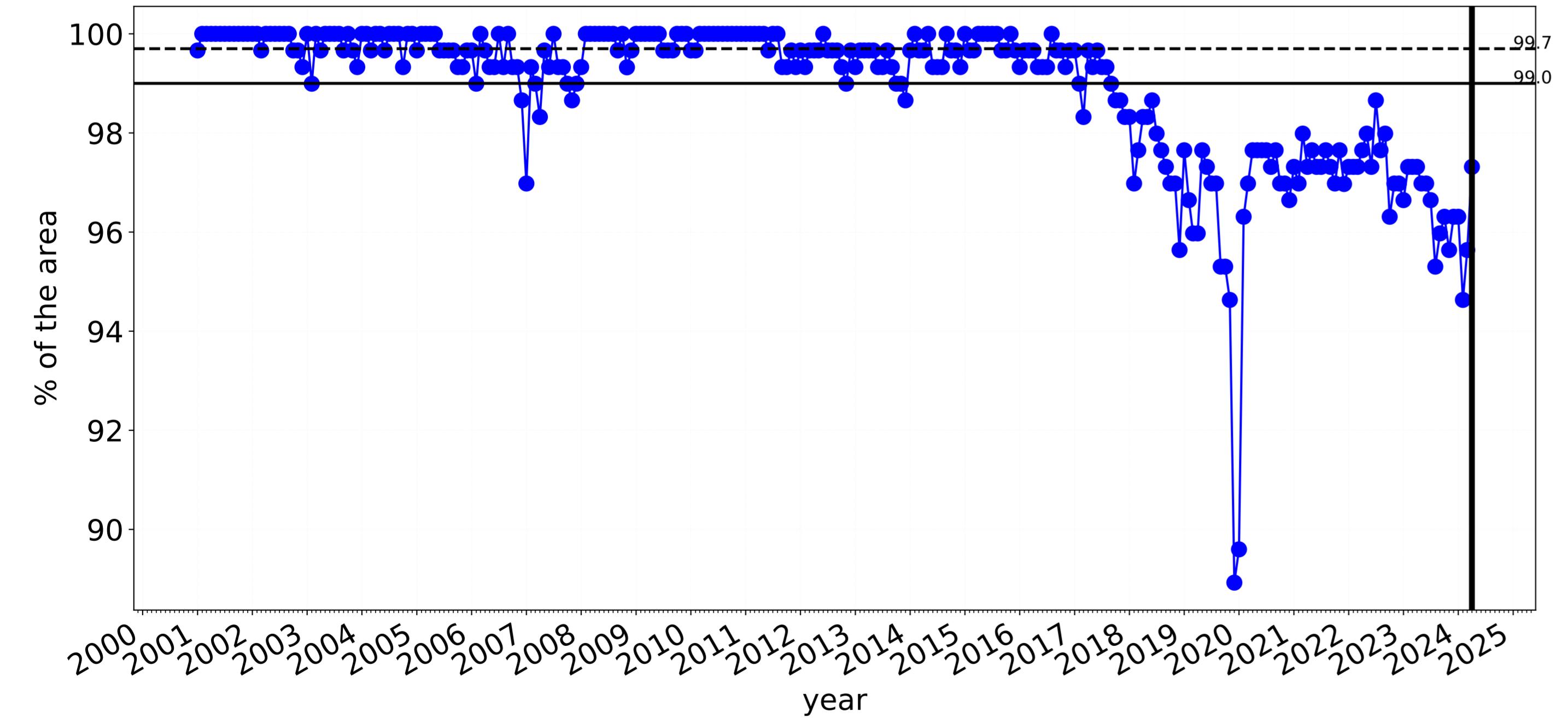
Proportion of the area protected from wind erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 50%)



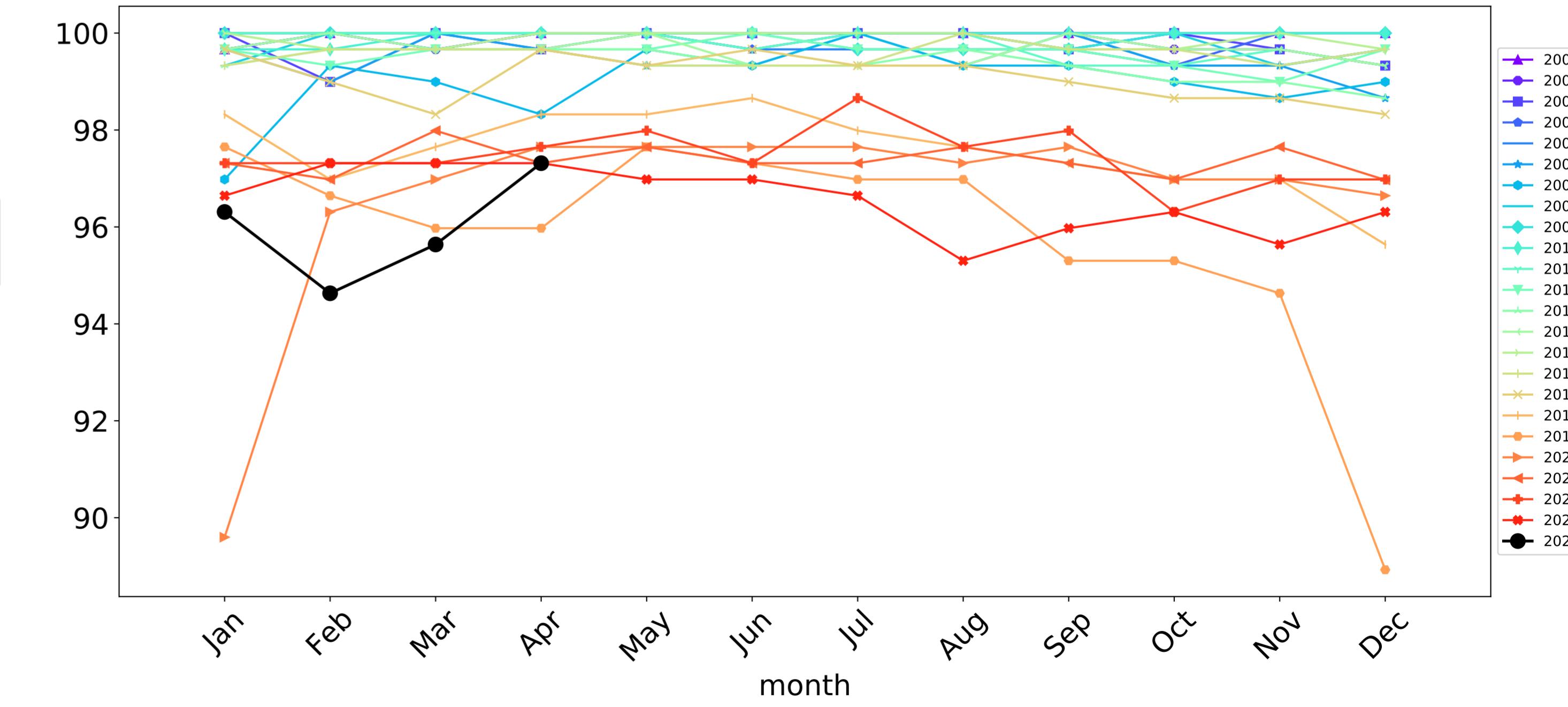
Wind erosion historical monthly area protected (Total Veg Cov >50%)



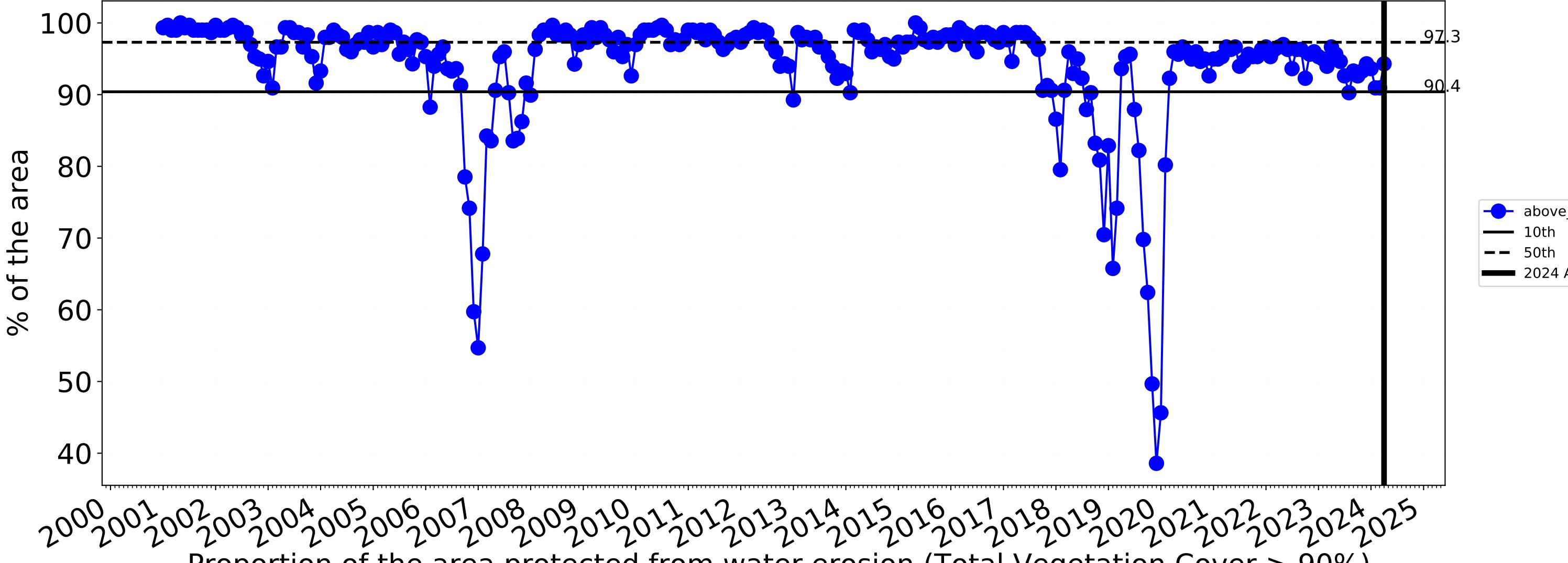
Proportion of the area protected from water erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 70%)



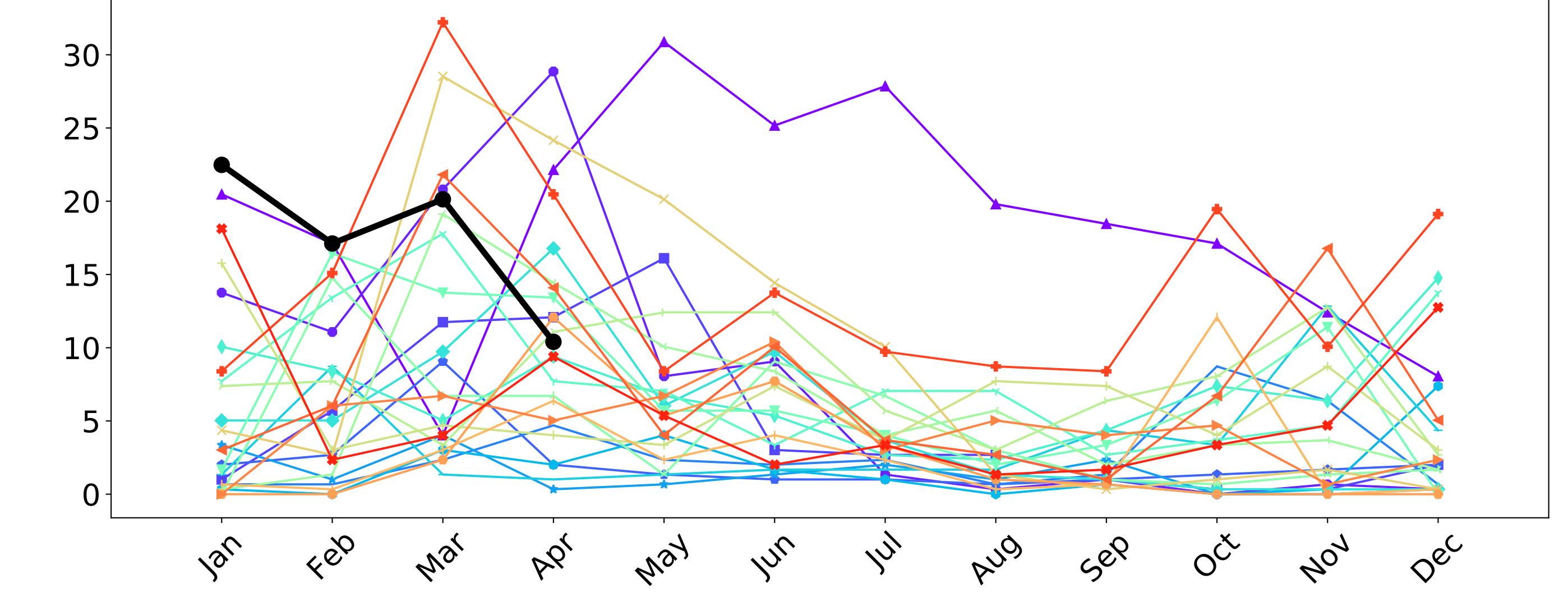
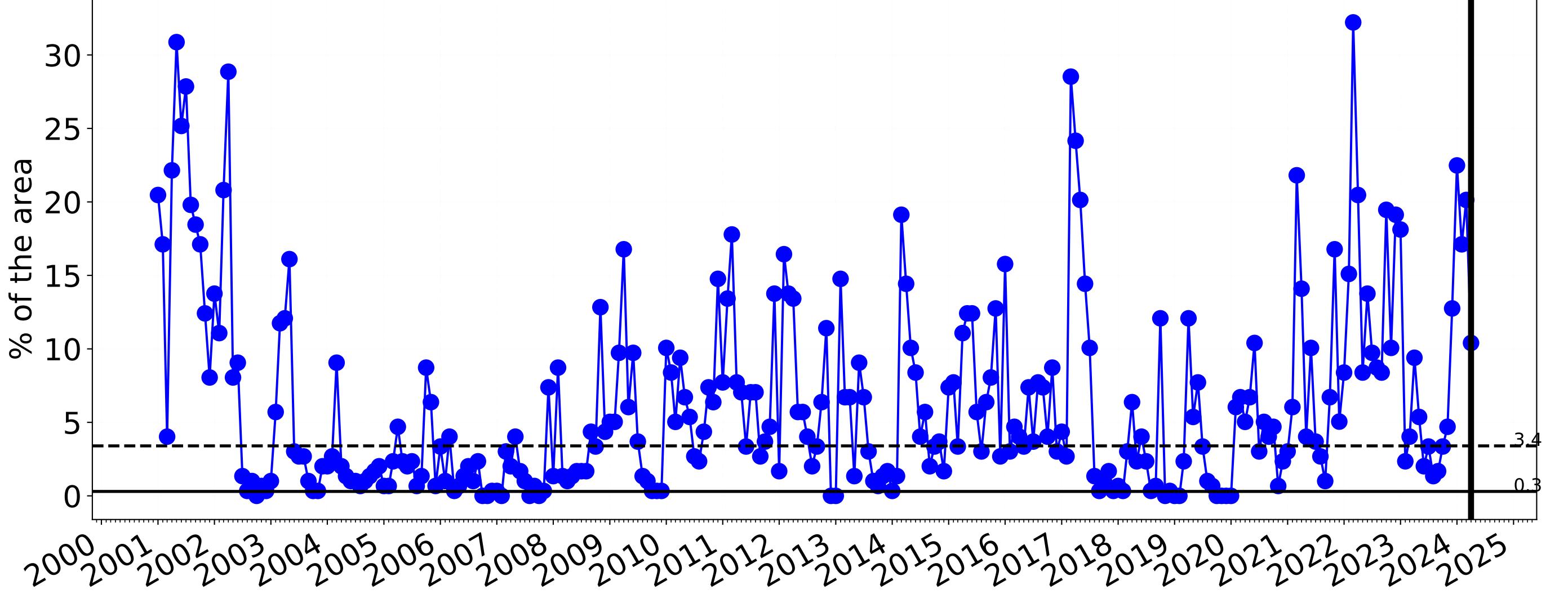
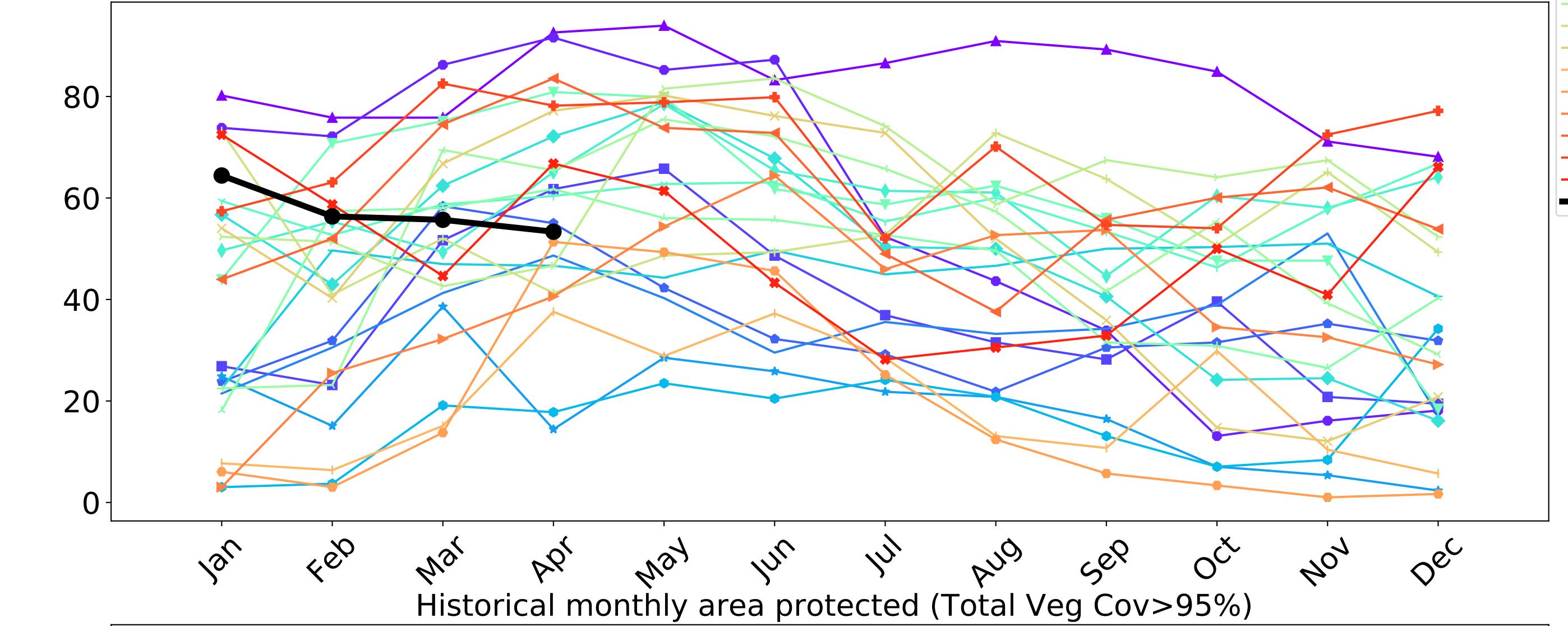
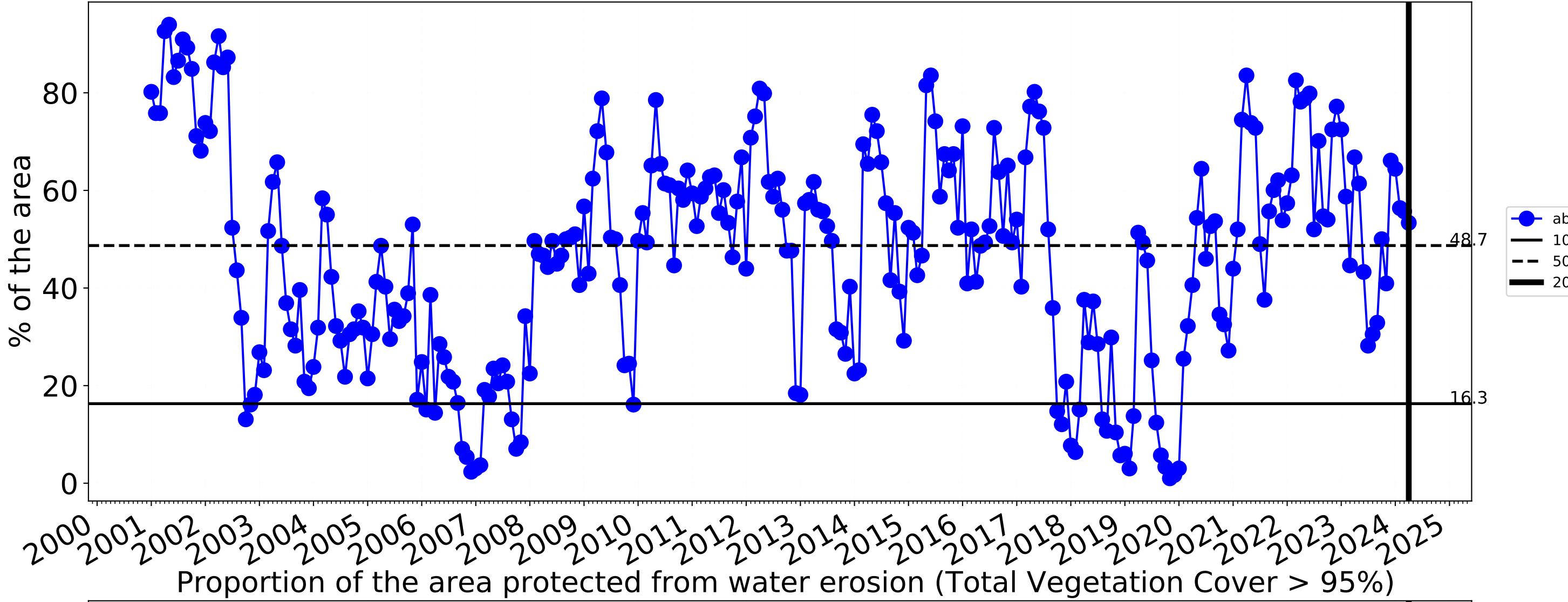
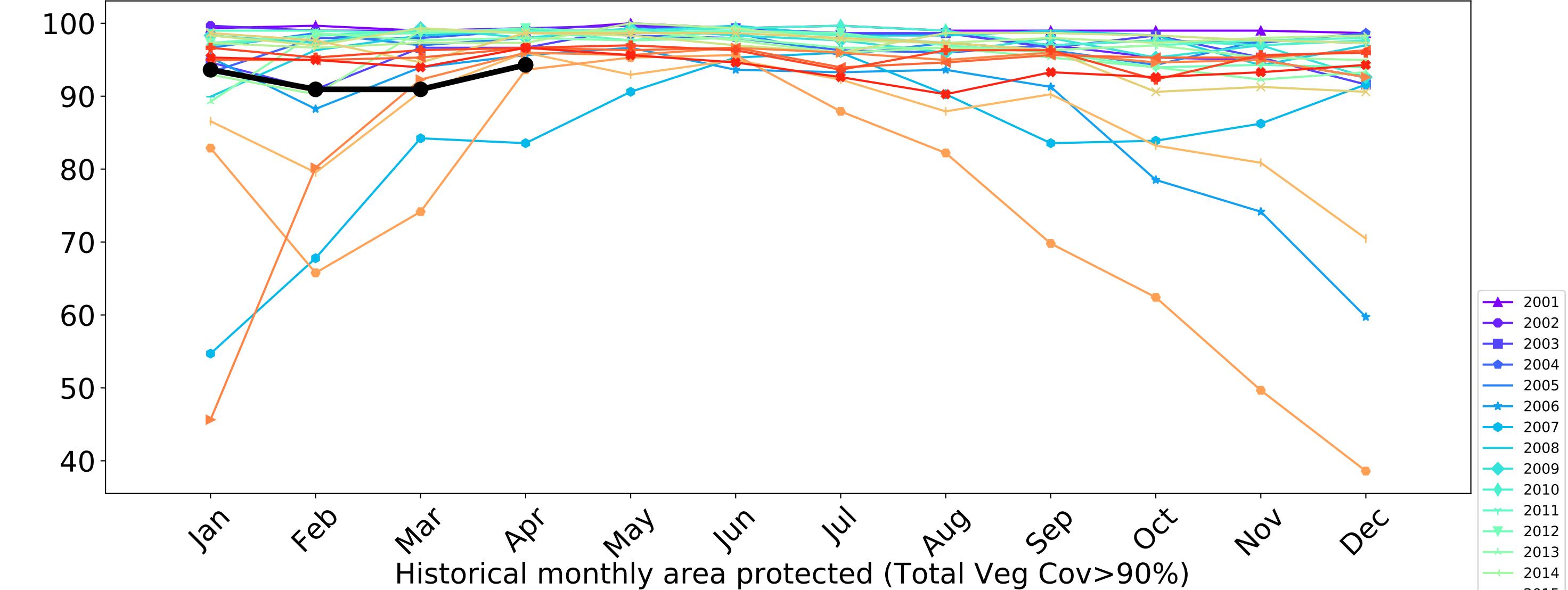
Water erosion historical monthly area protected (Total Veg Cov>70%)



Proportion of the area protected from water erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 80%)



Historical monthly area protected (Total Veg Cov>80%)



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Ecosystem Research Infrastructure



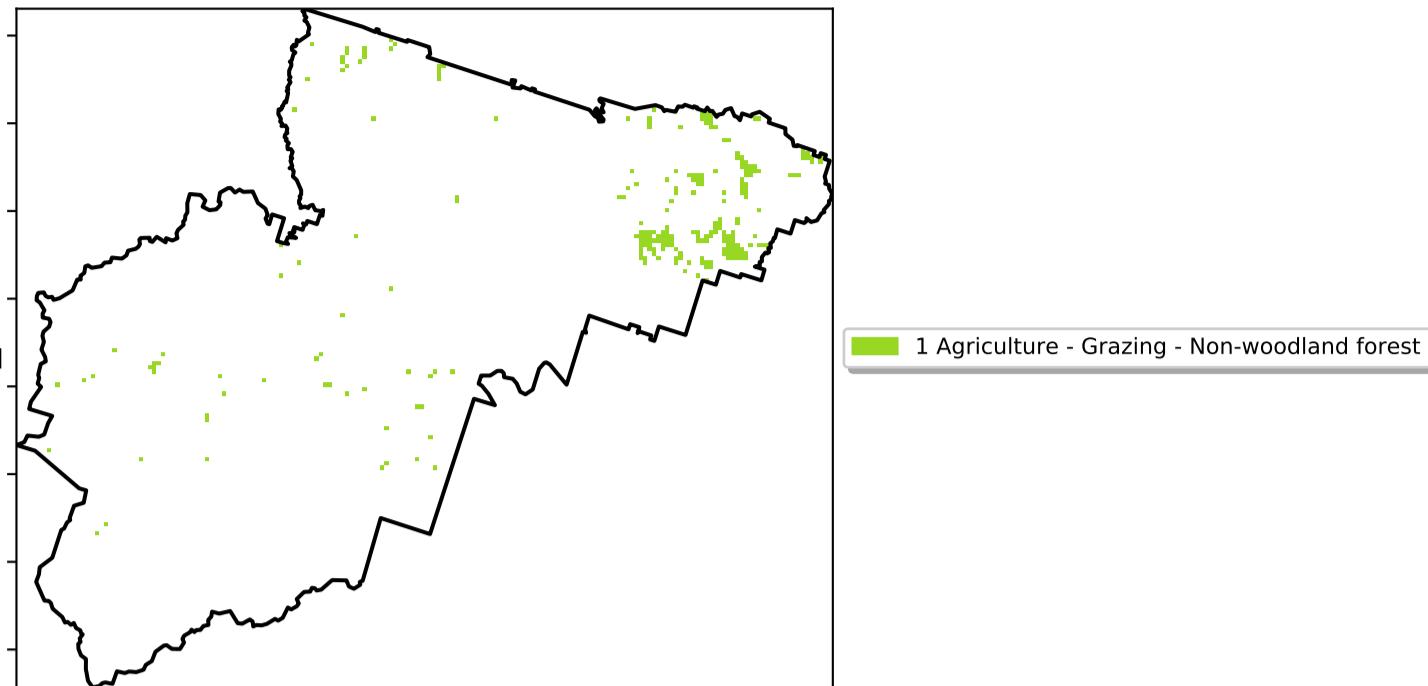
National  
Landcare  
Programme



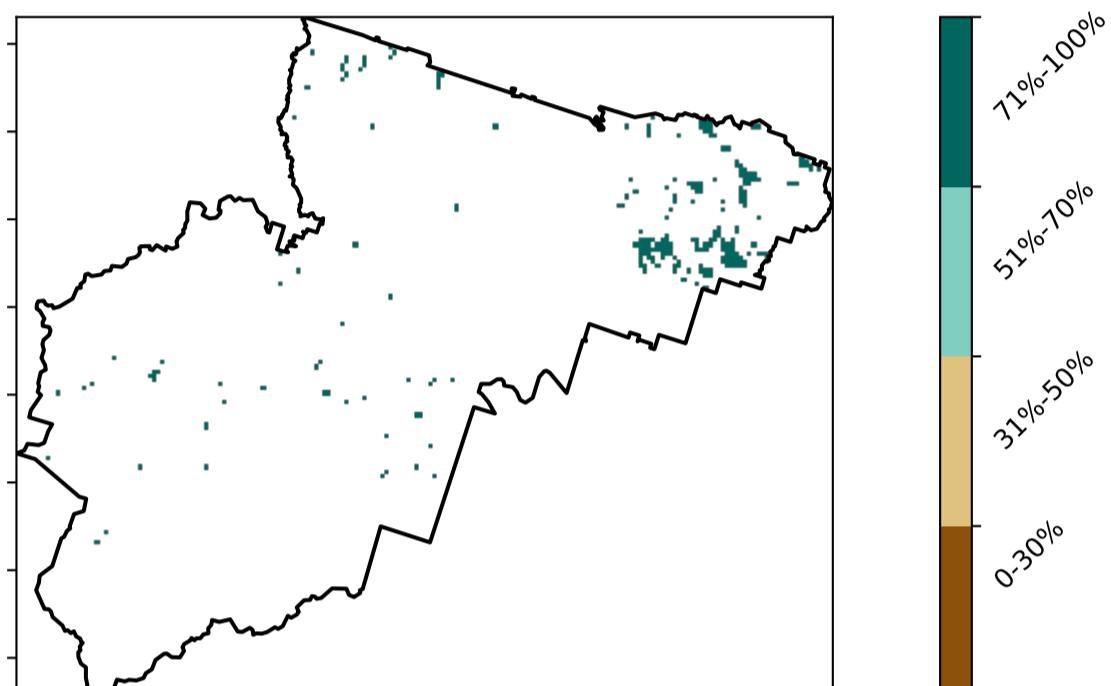
## Grazing - Forest (non woodland)

**Land use and forest cover**

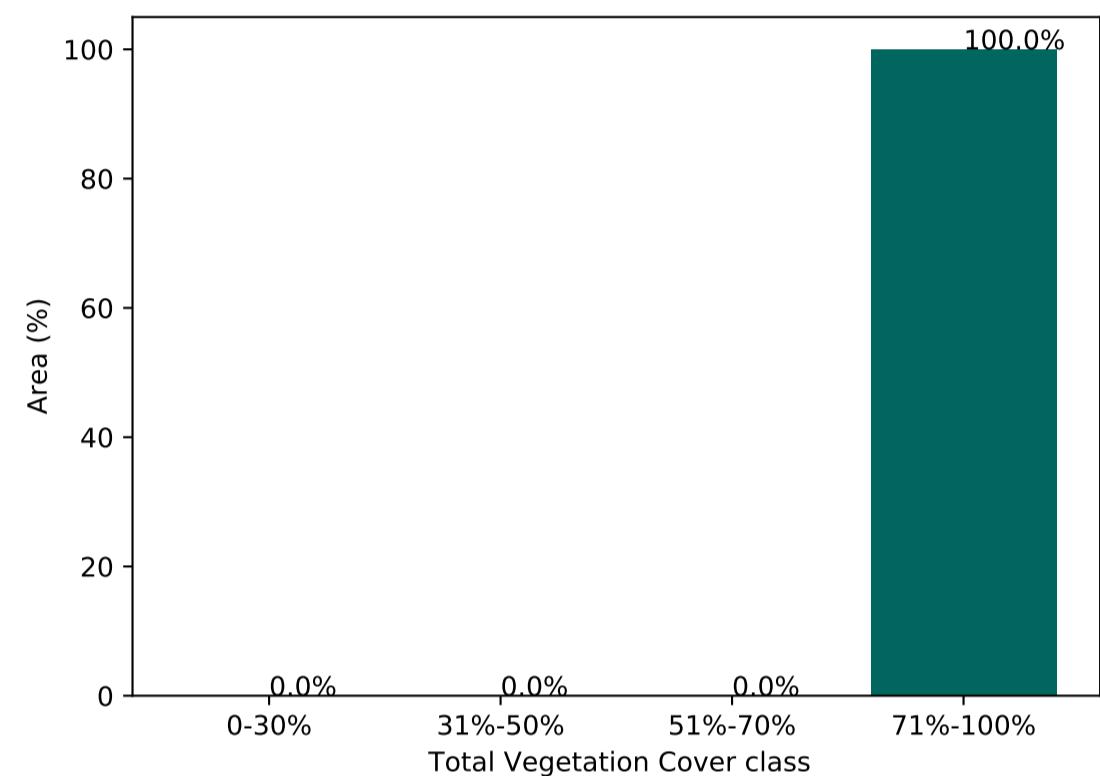
Catchment Scale  
Land Use and Forests  
of Australia (2018)  
Derived from  
Catchment Scale Land  
Use of Australia  
(2018) and Forests  
of Australia (2018)



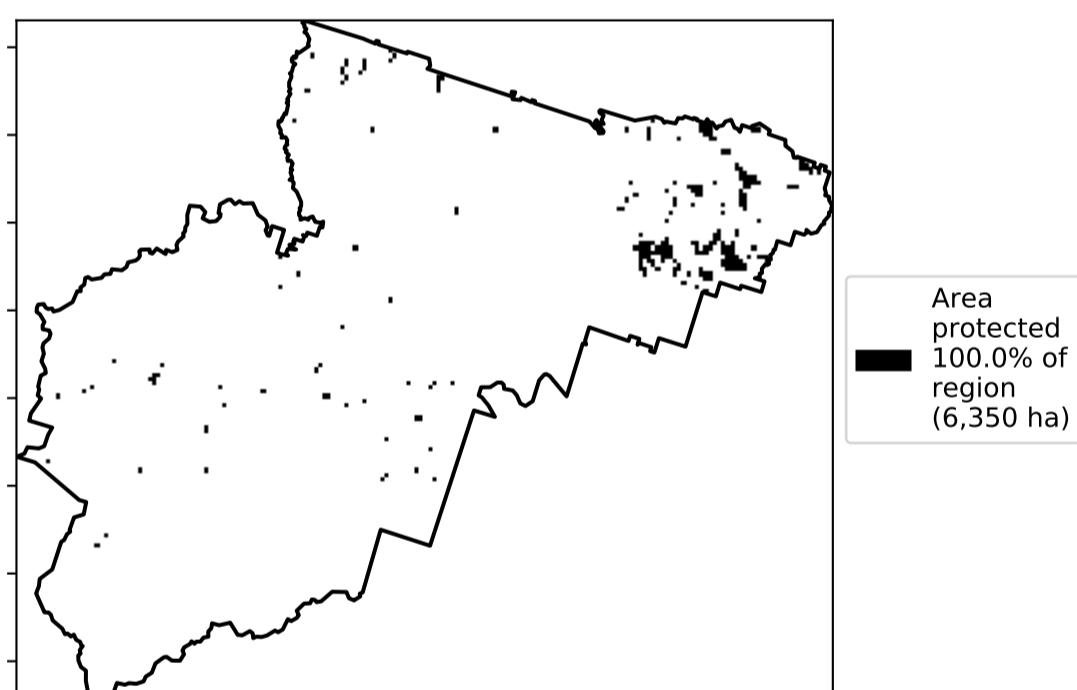
**Total Vegetation Cover [%]**



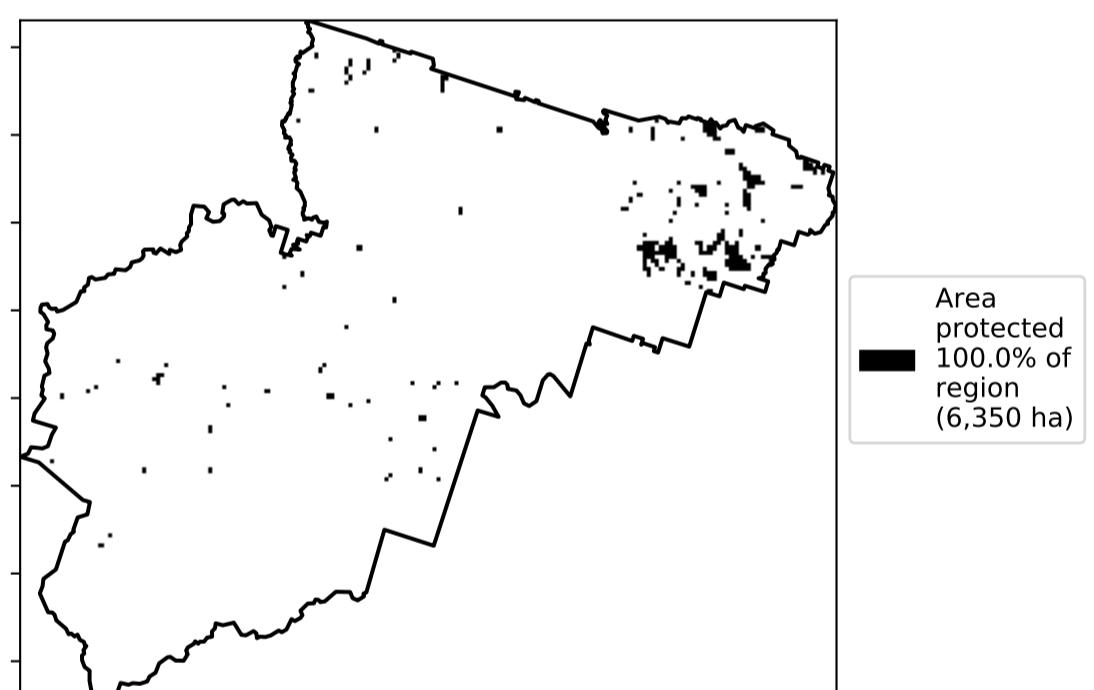
**Proportion of vegetation cover class in area**



**% Area protected from water erosion (>70%)**

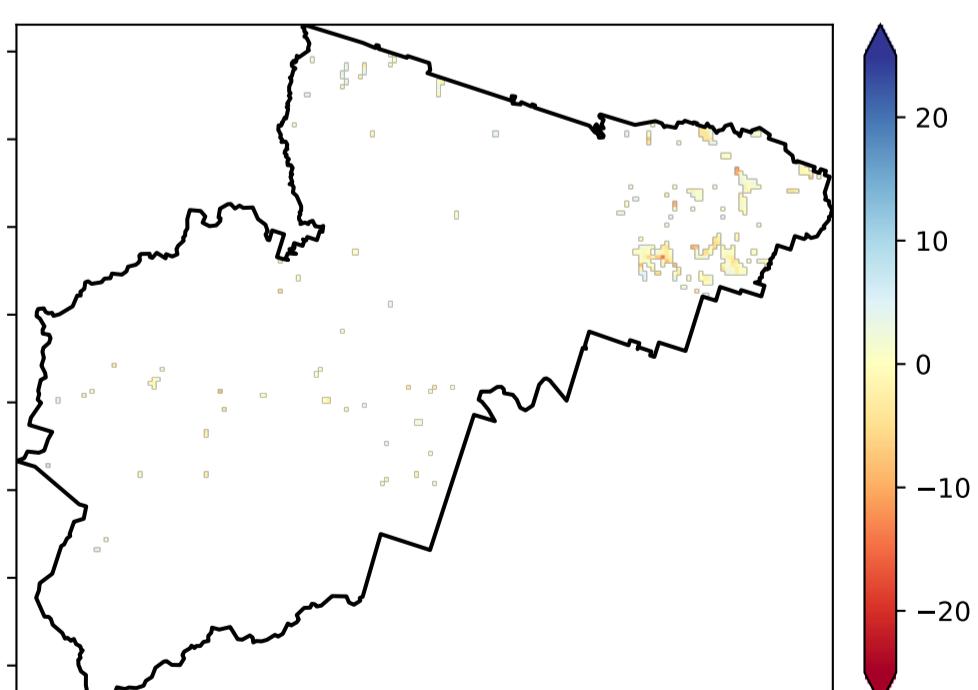


**% Area protected from wind erosion (>50%)**



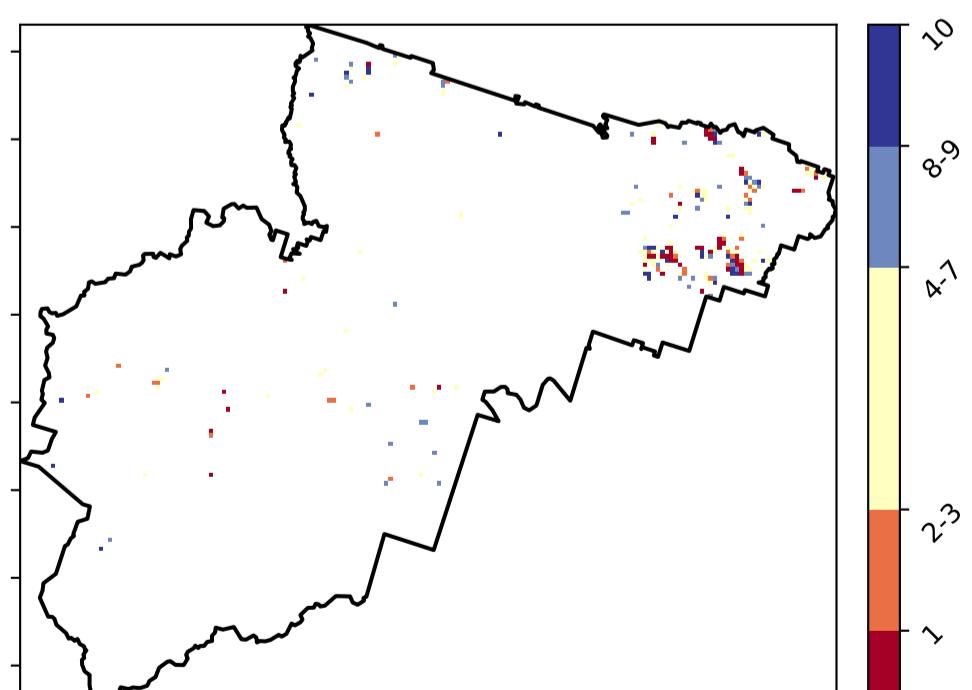
**Total Vegetation Cover Anomaly [%]**

Anomaly shows 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 [%]**



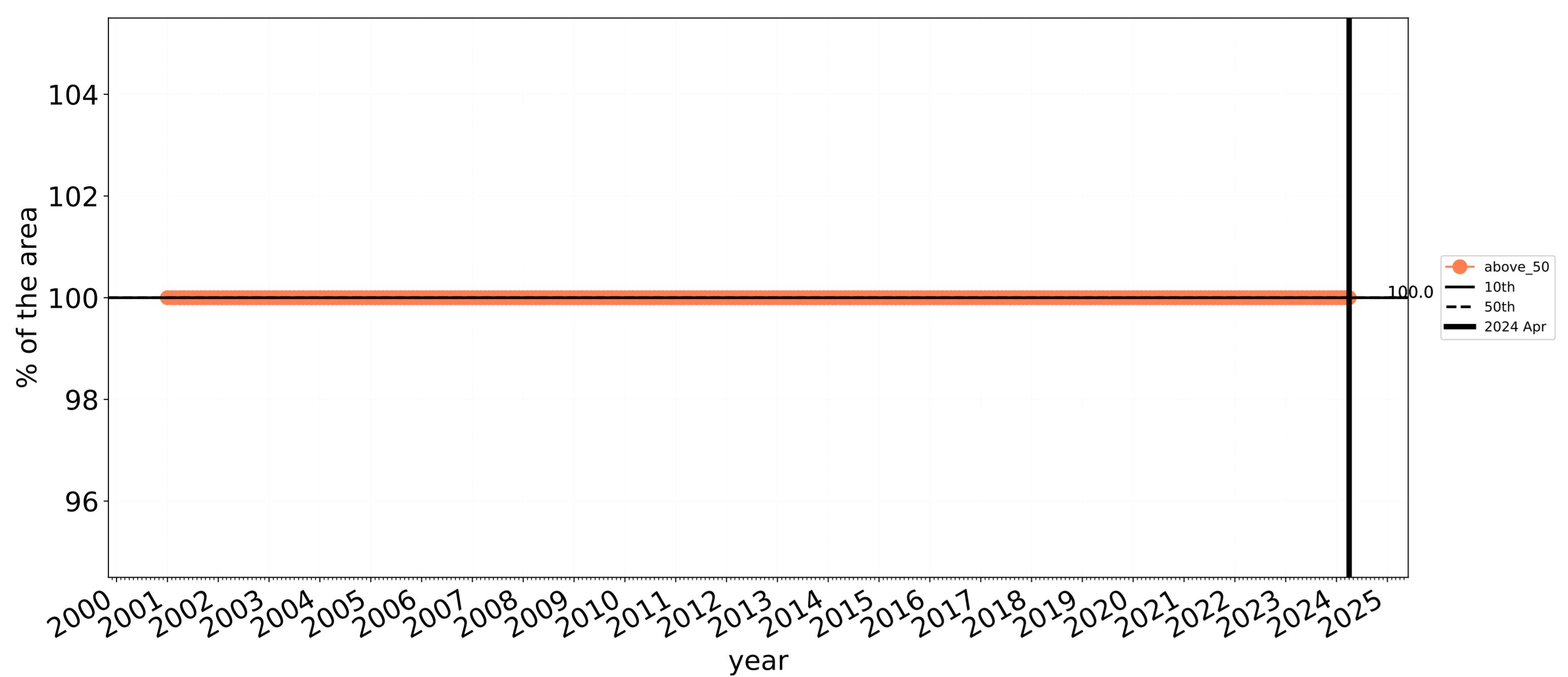
**tern**

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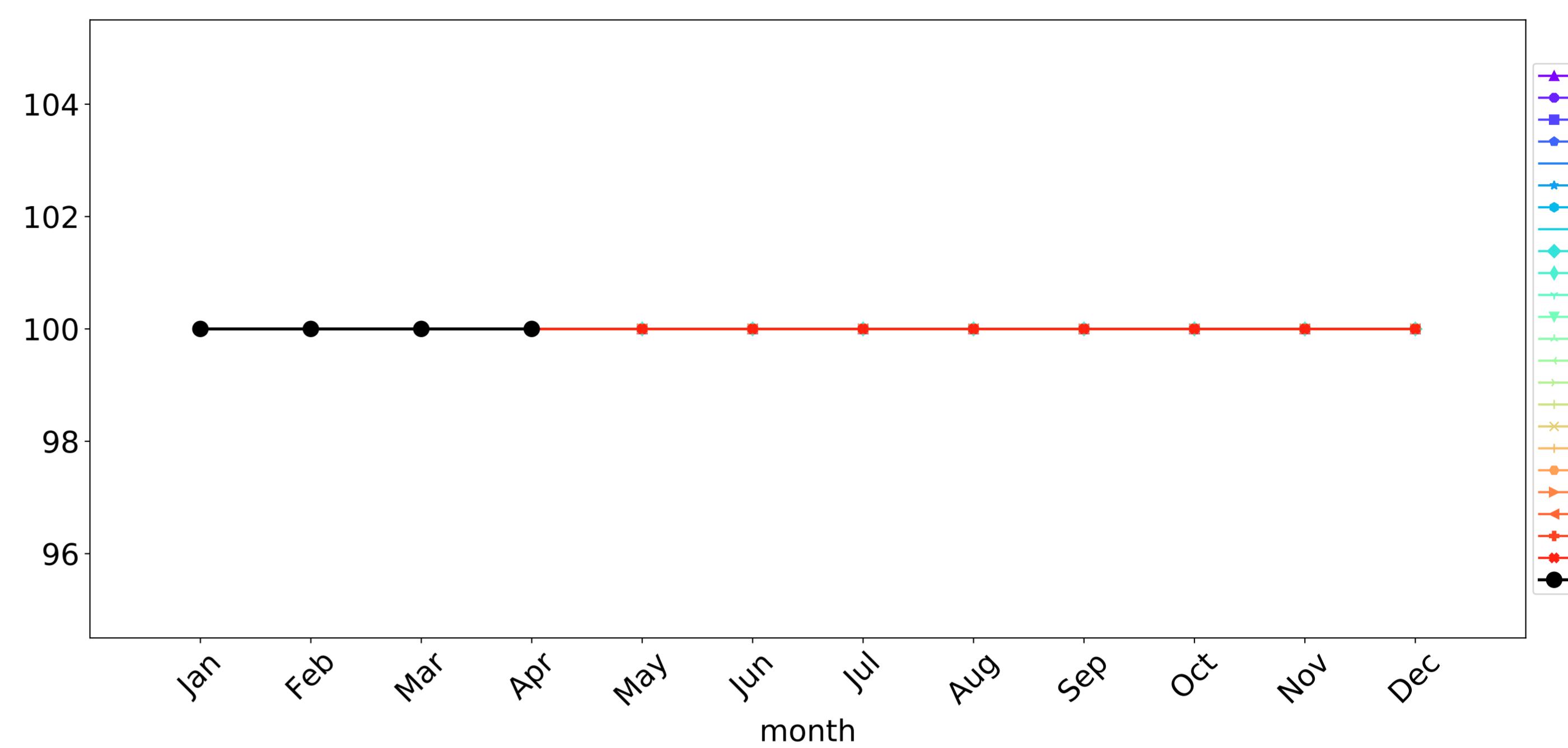


### Grazing - Forest (non woodland) timeseries

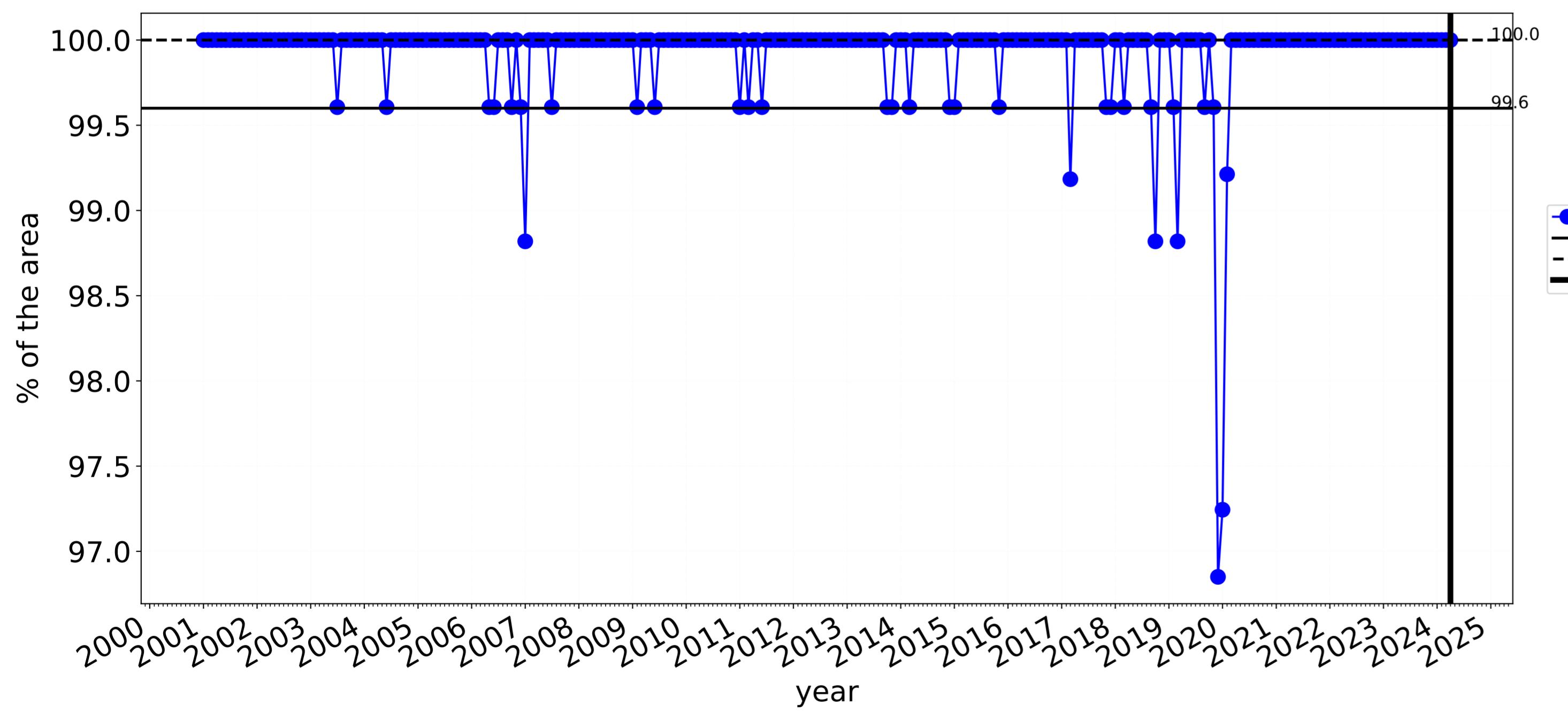
Proportion of the area protected from wind erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 50%)



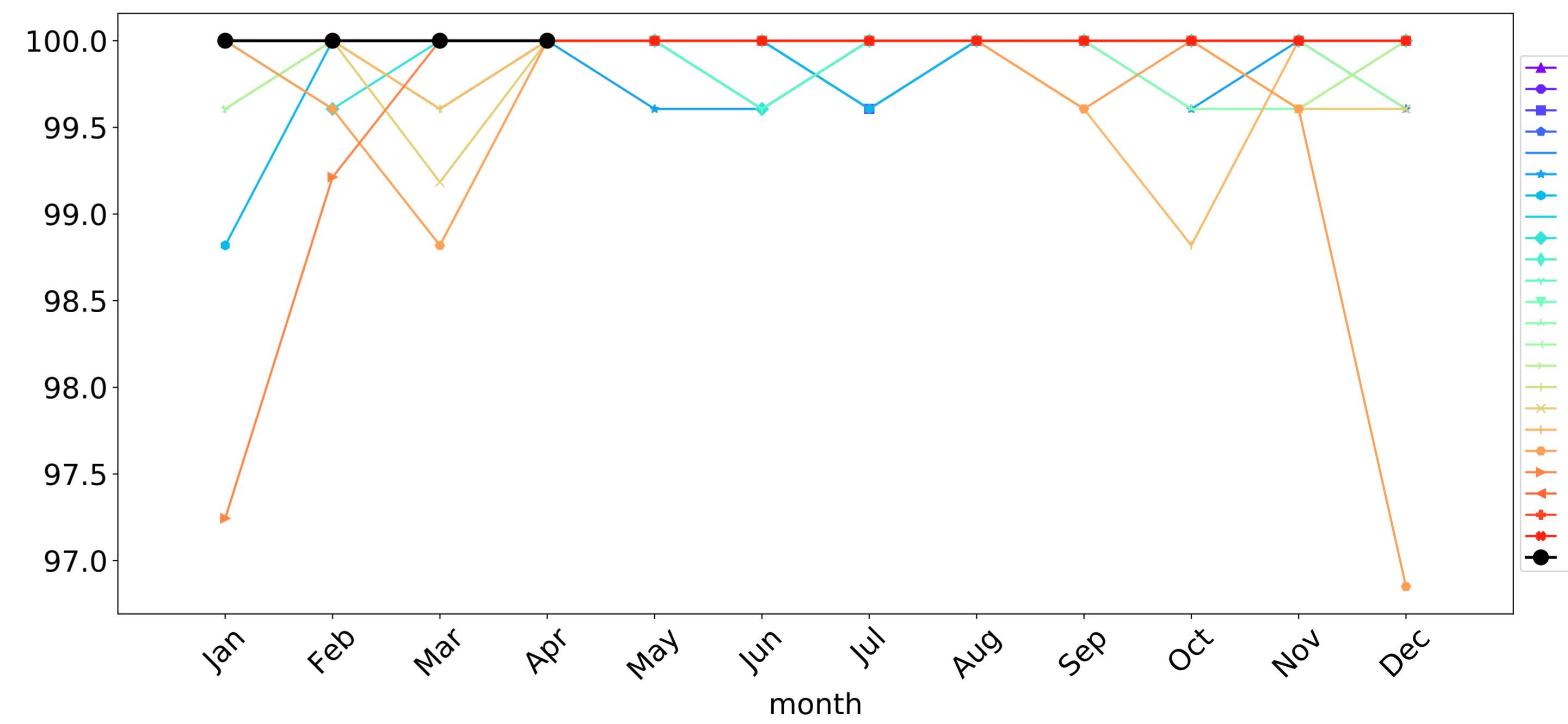
Wind erosion historical monthly area protected (Total Veg Cov >50%)



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



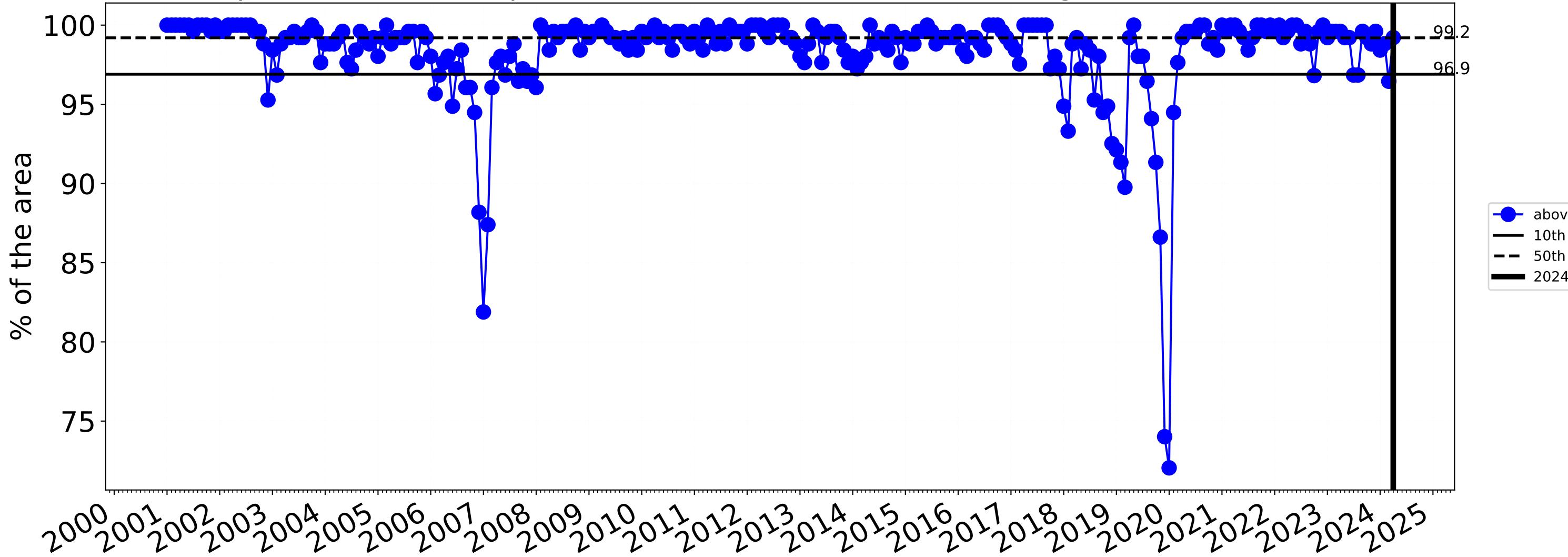
Water erosion historical monthly area protected (Total Veg Cov>70%)



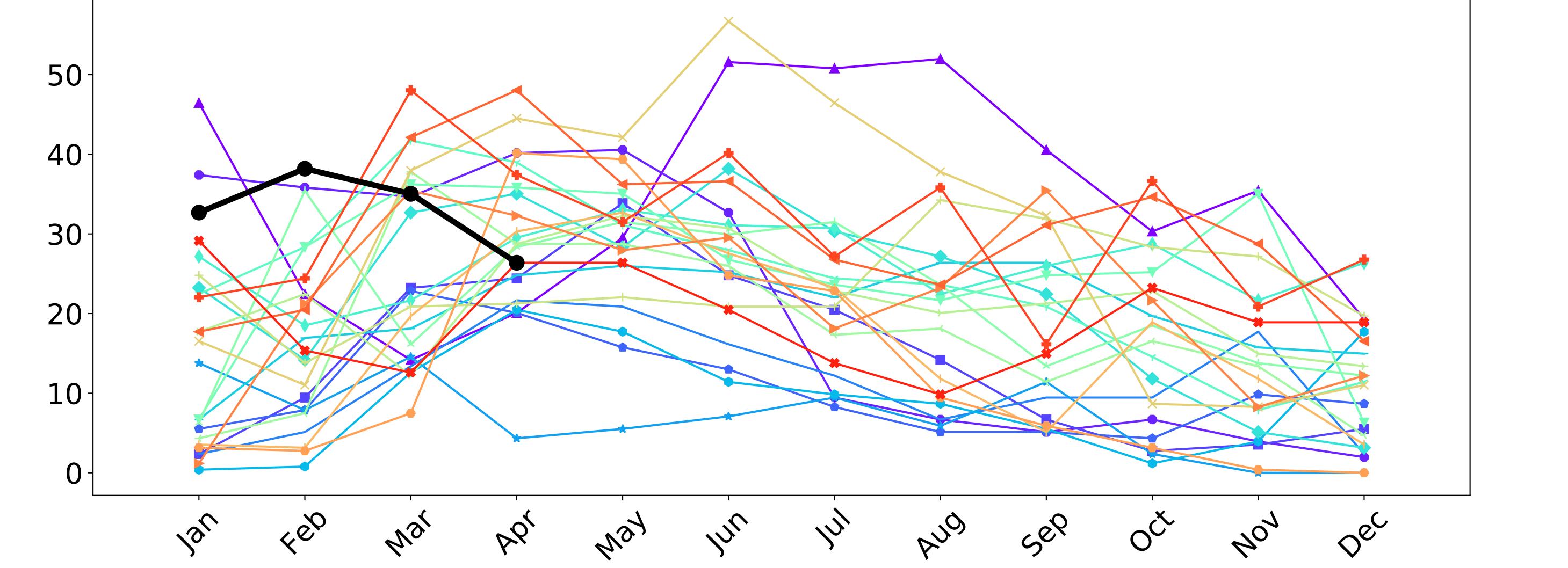
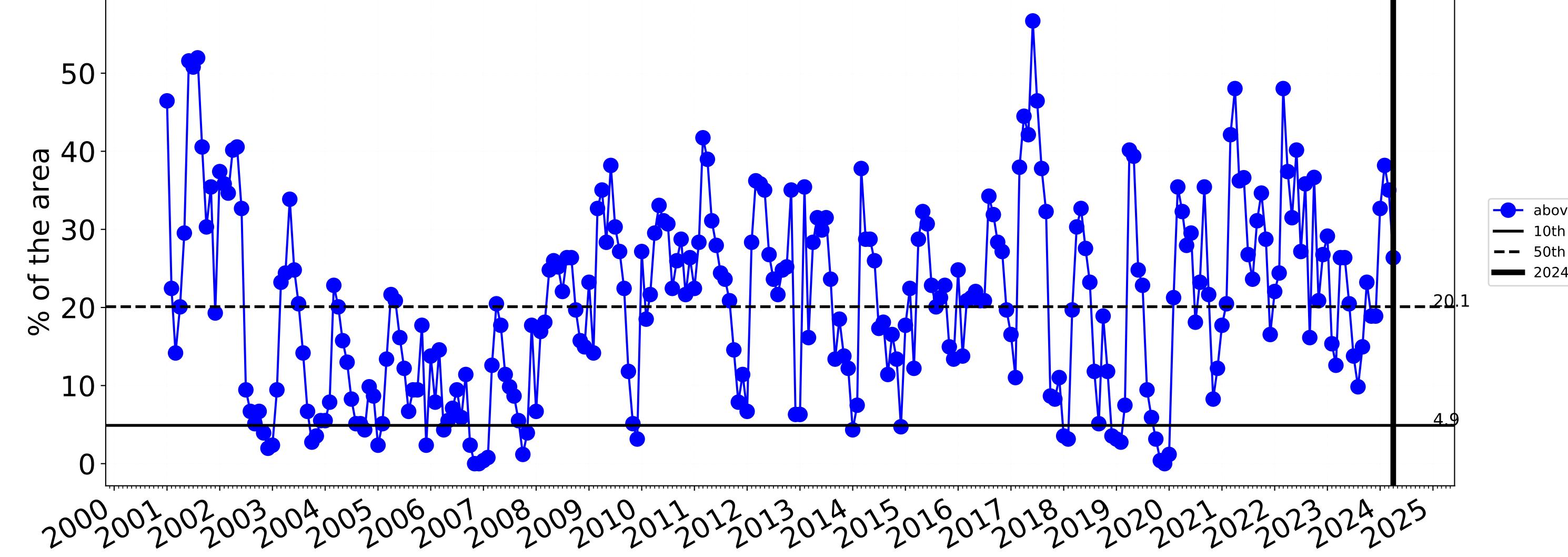
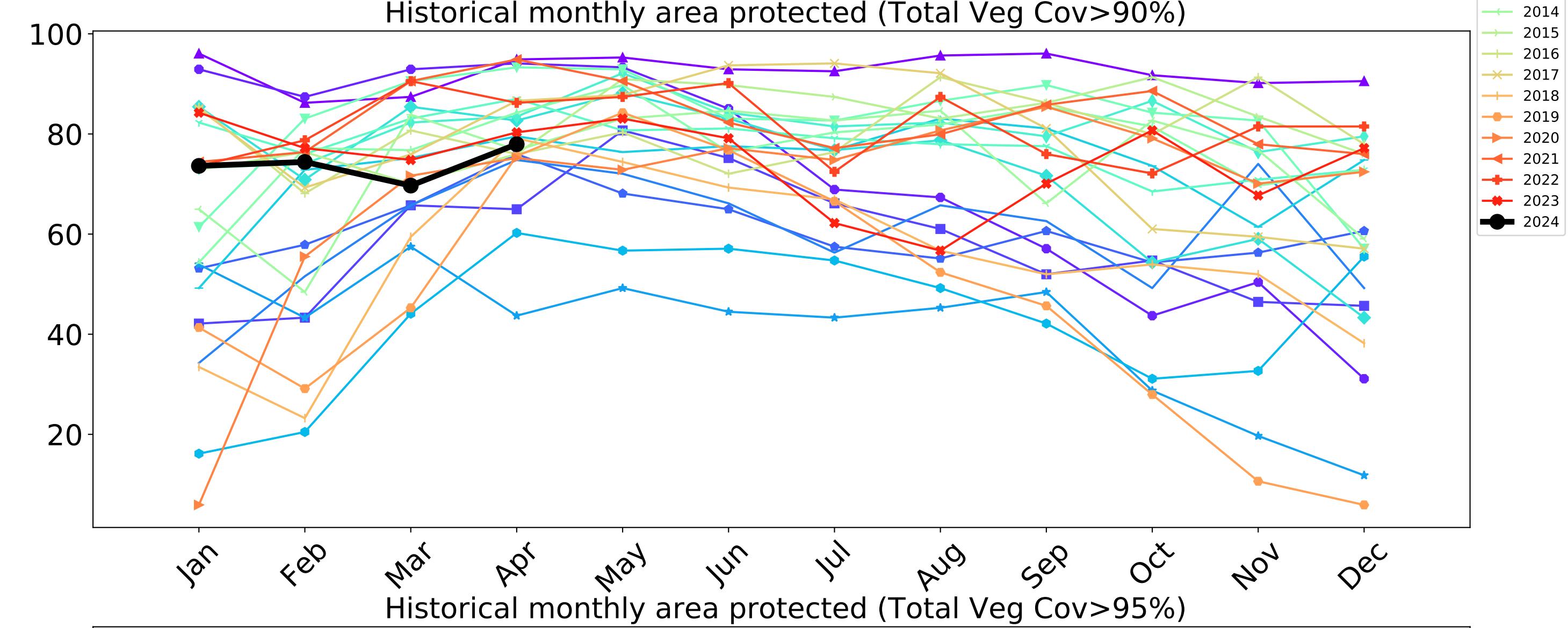
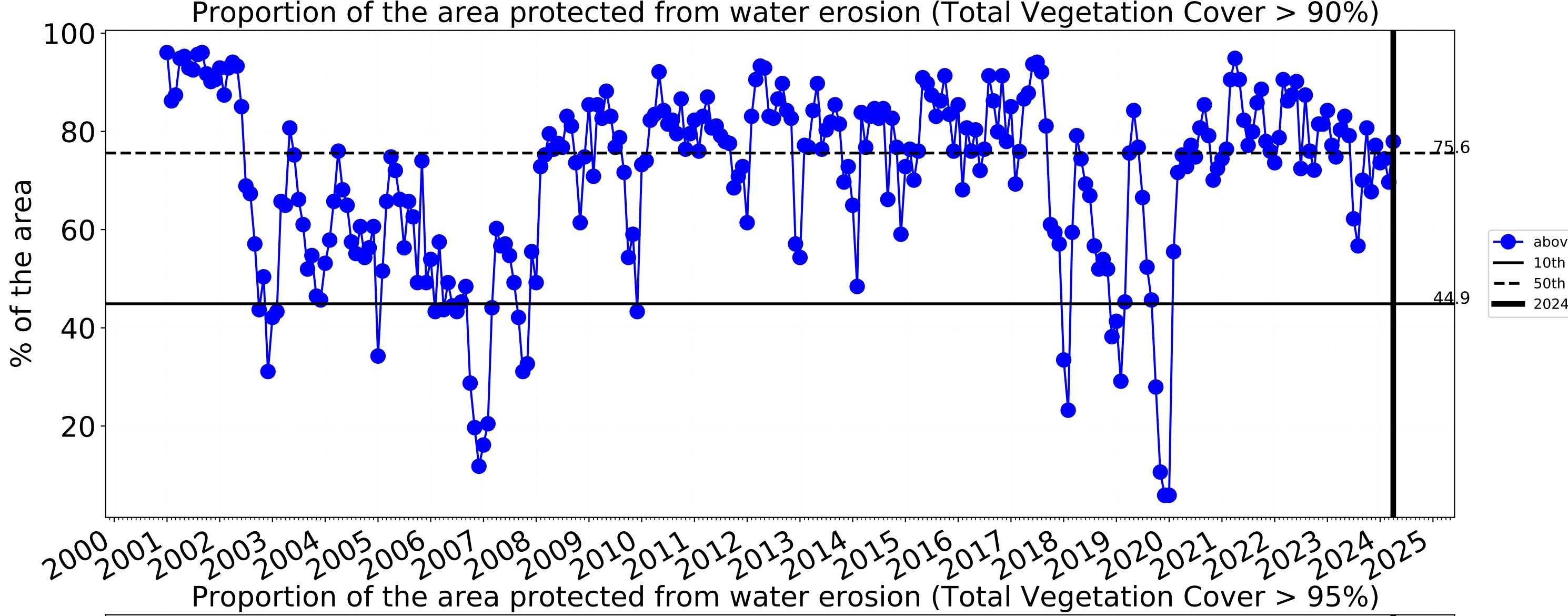
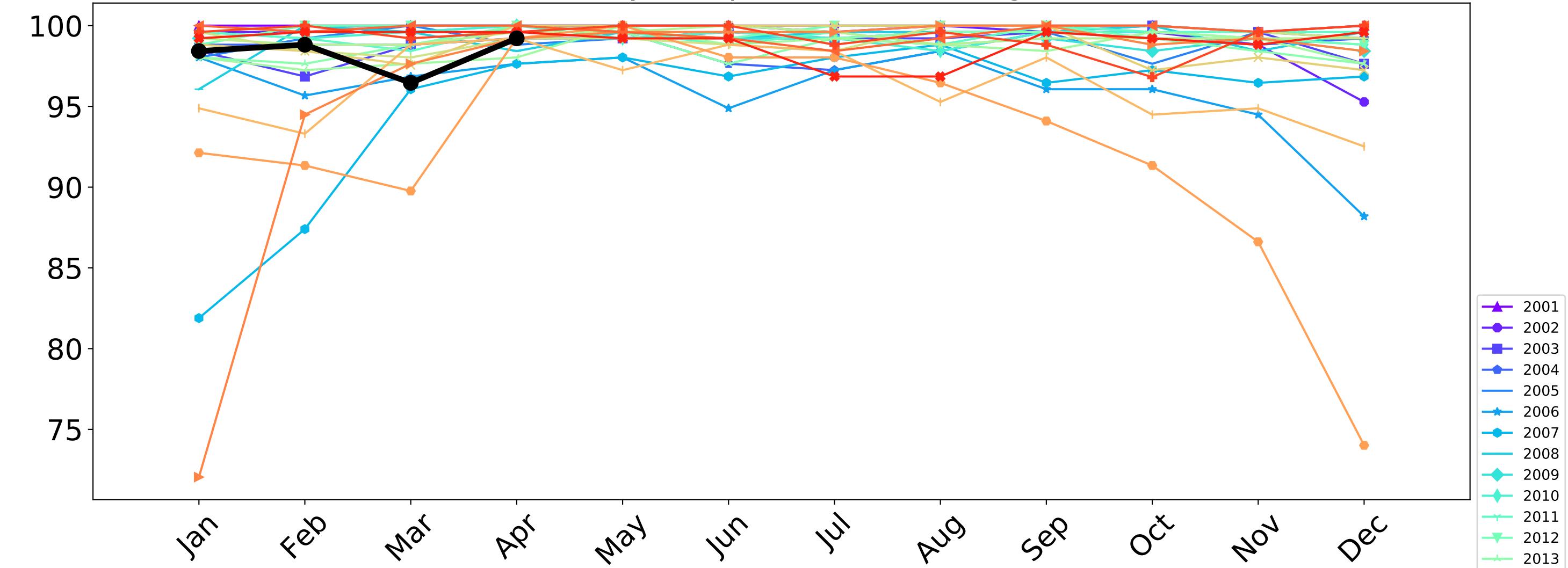
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Proportion of the area protected from water erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 80%)



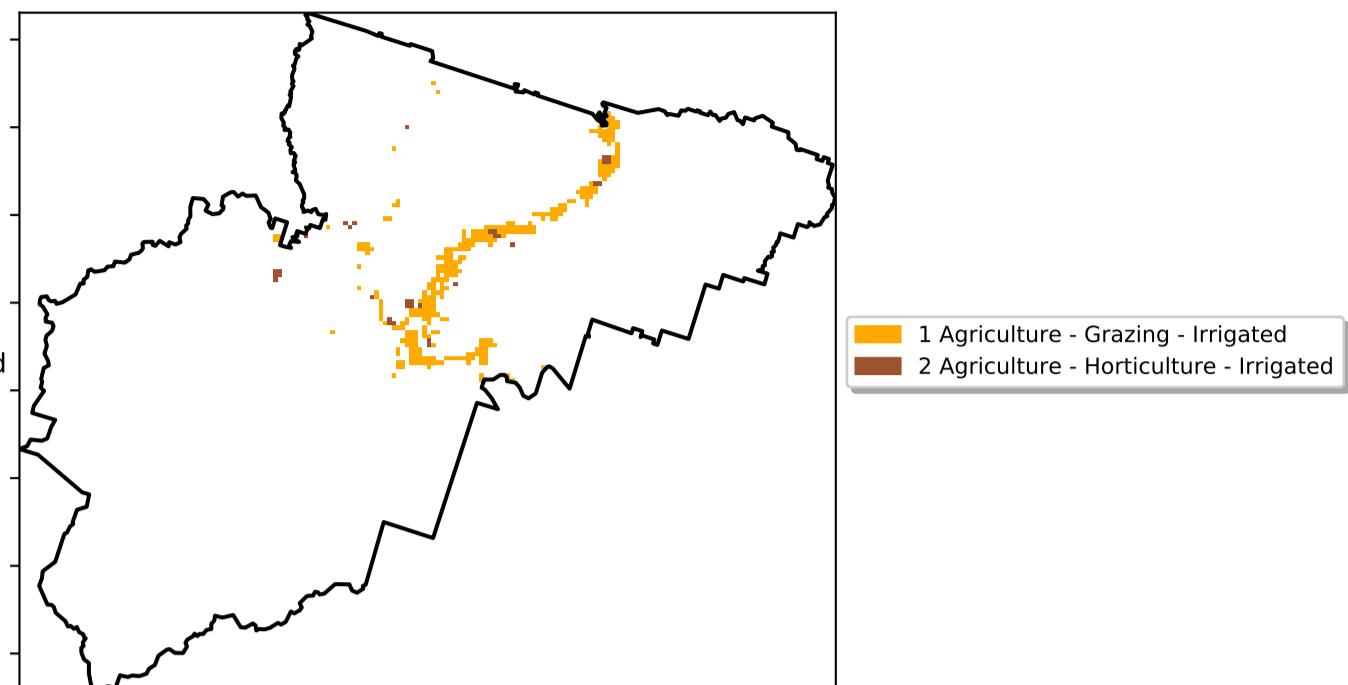
Historical monthly area protected (Total Veg Cov>80%)



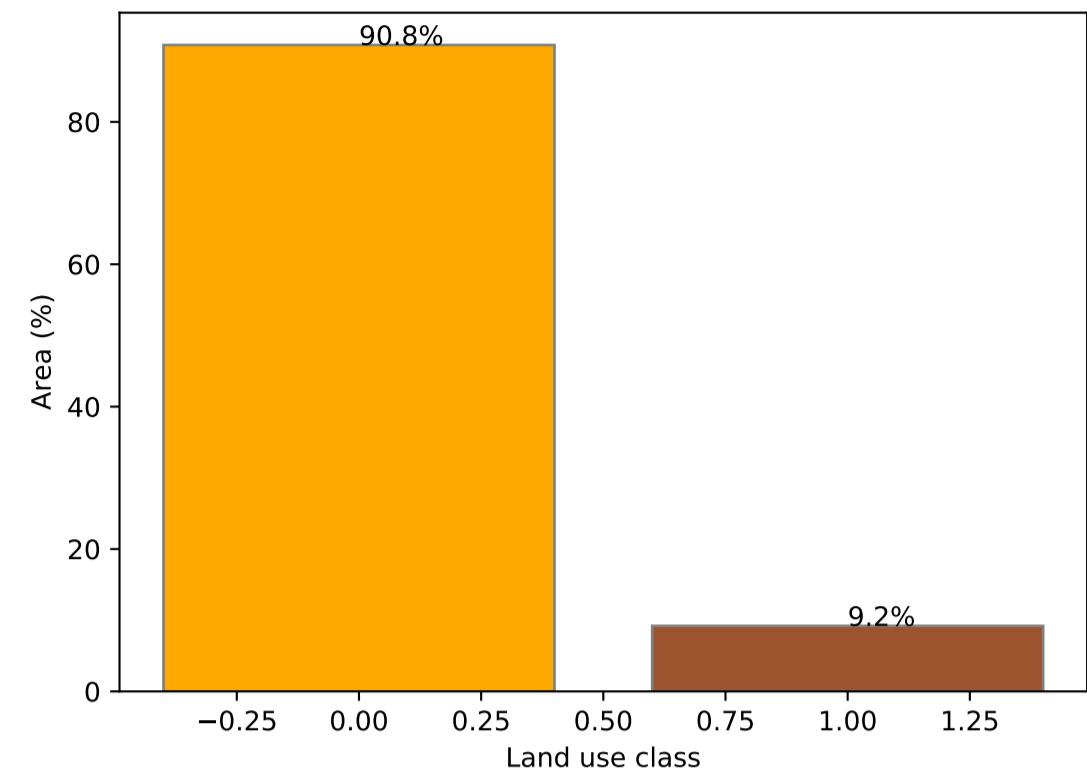
# Irrigation

**Land use and forest cover**

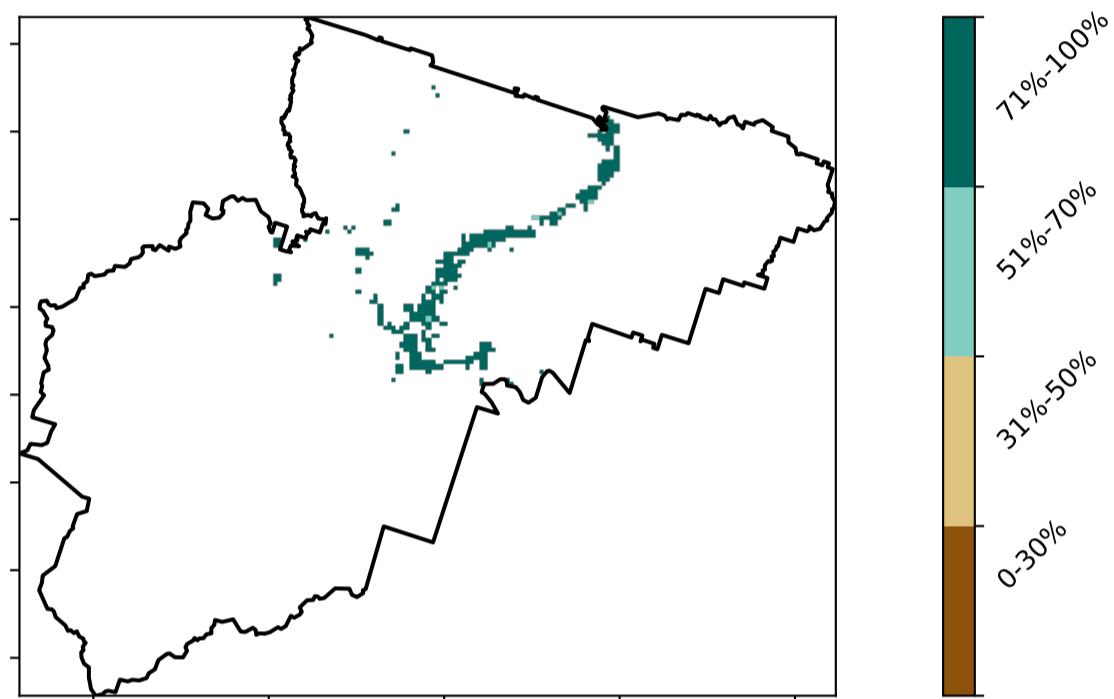
Catchment Scale  
Land Use and Forests  
of Australia (2018)  
Derived from  
Catchment Scale Land  
Use of Australia  
(2018) and Forests  
of Australia



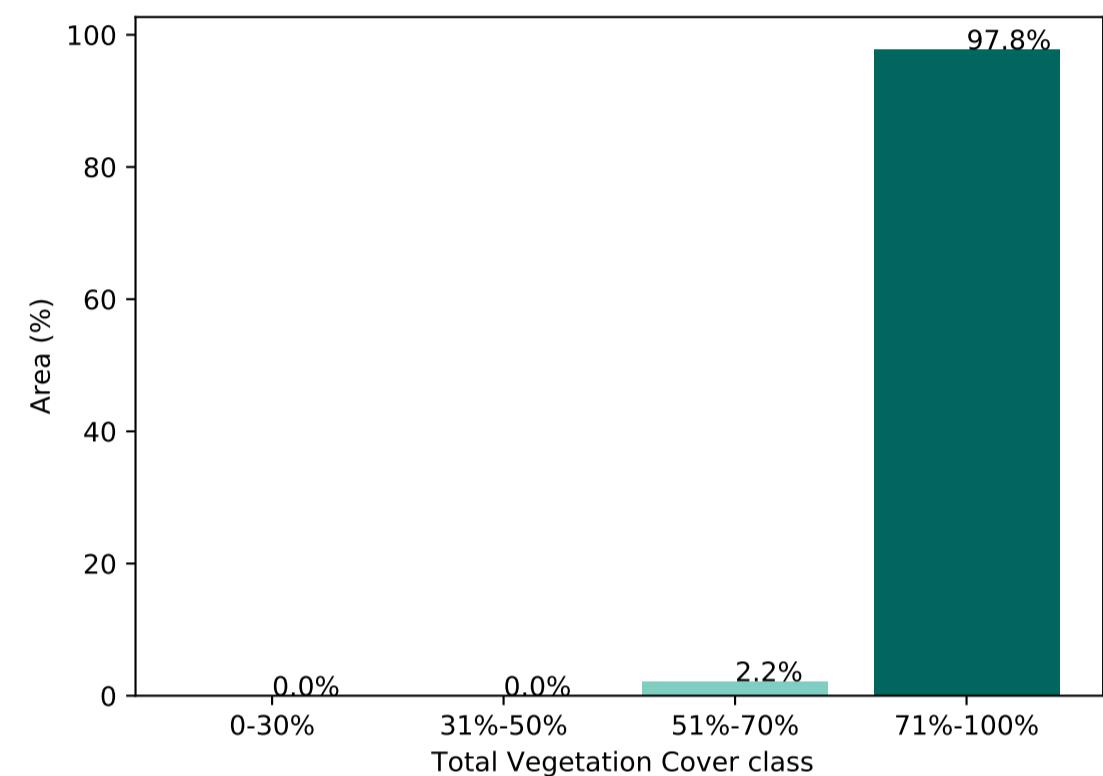
**Proportion of each land class in area**



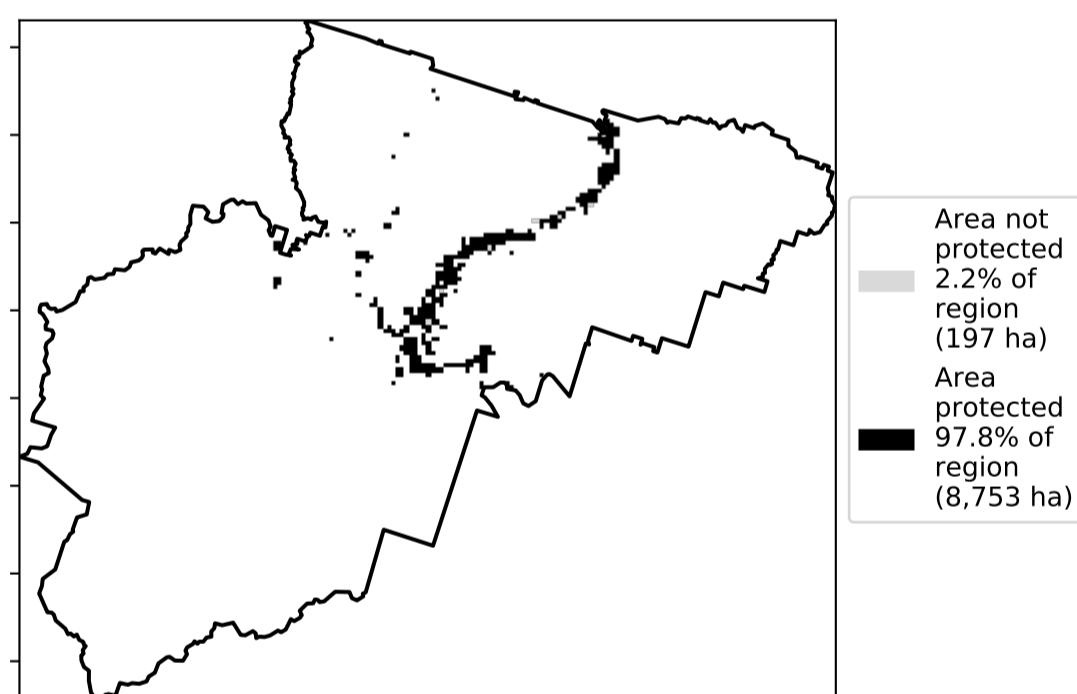
**Total Vegetation Cover [%]**



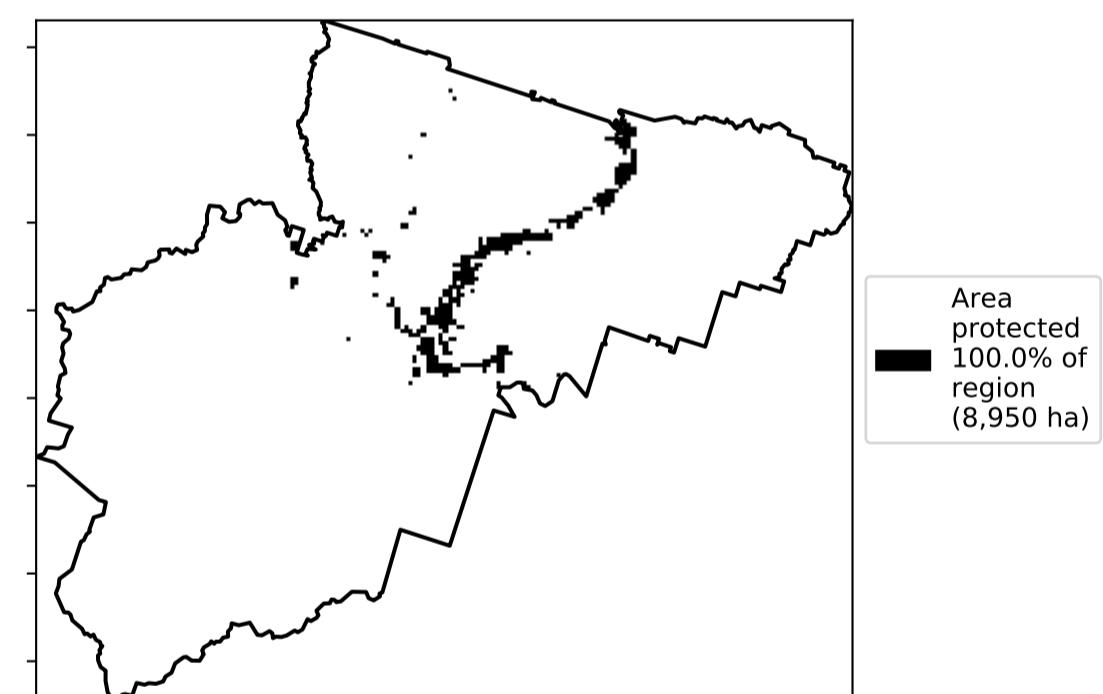
**Proportion of vegetation cover class in area**



**% Area protected from water erosion (>70%)**

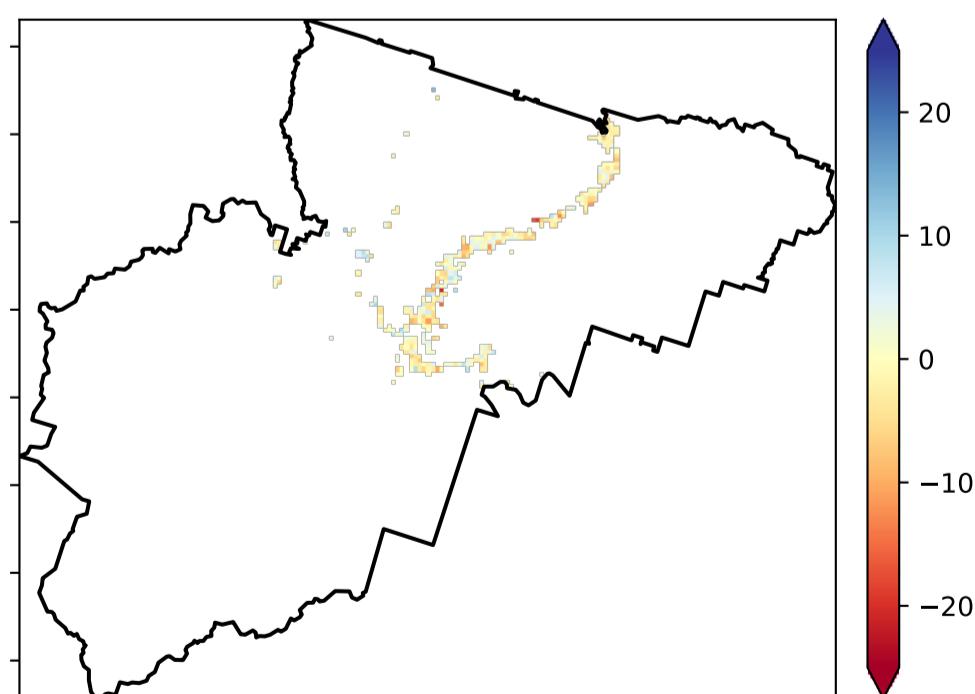


**% Area protected from wind erosion (>50%)**



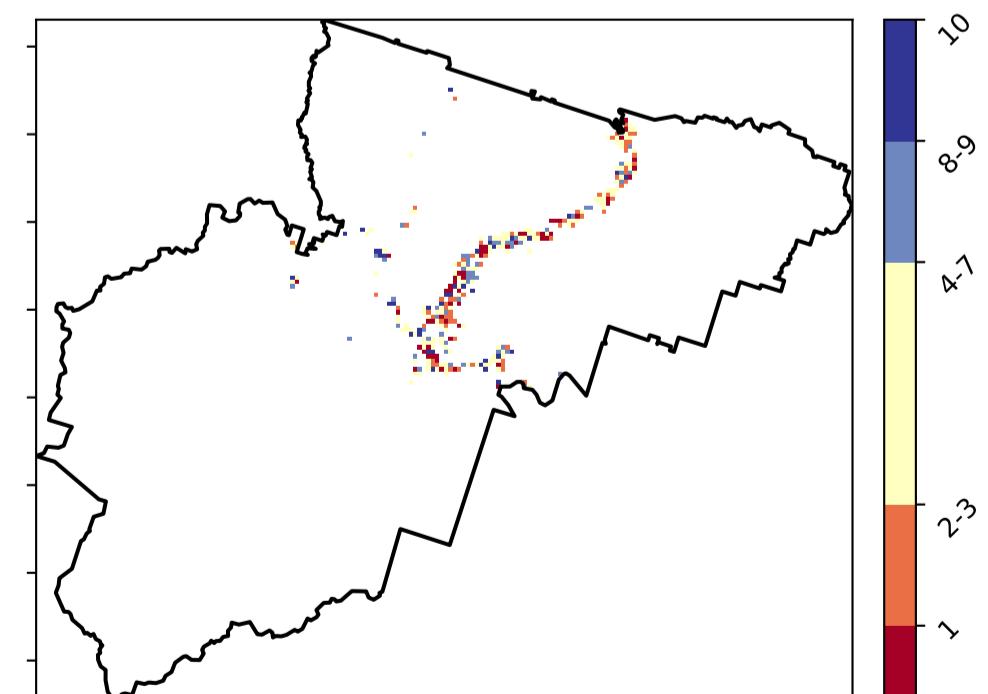
**Total Vegetation Cover Anomaly [%]**

Anomaly shows 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.



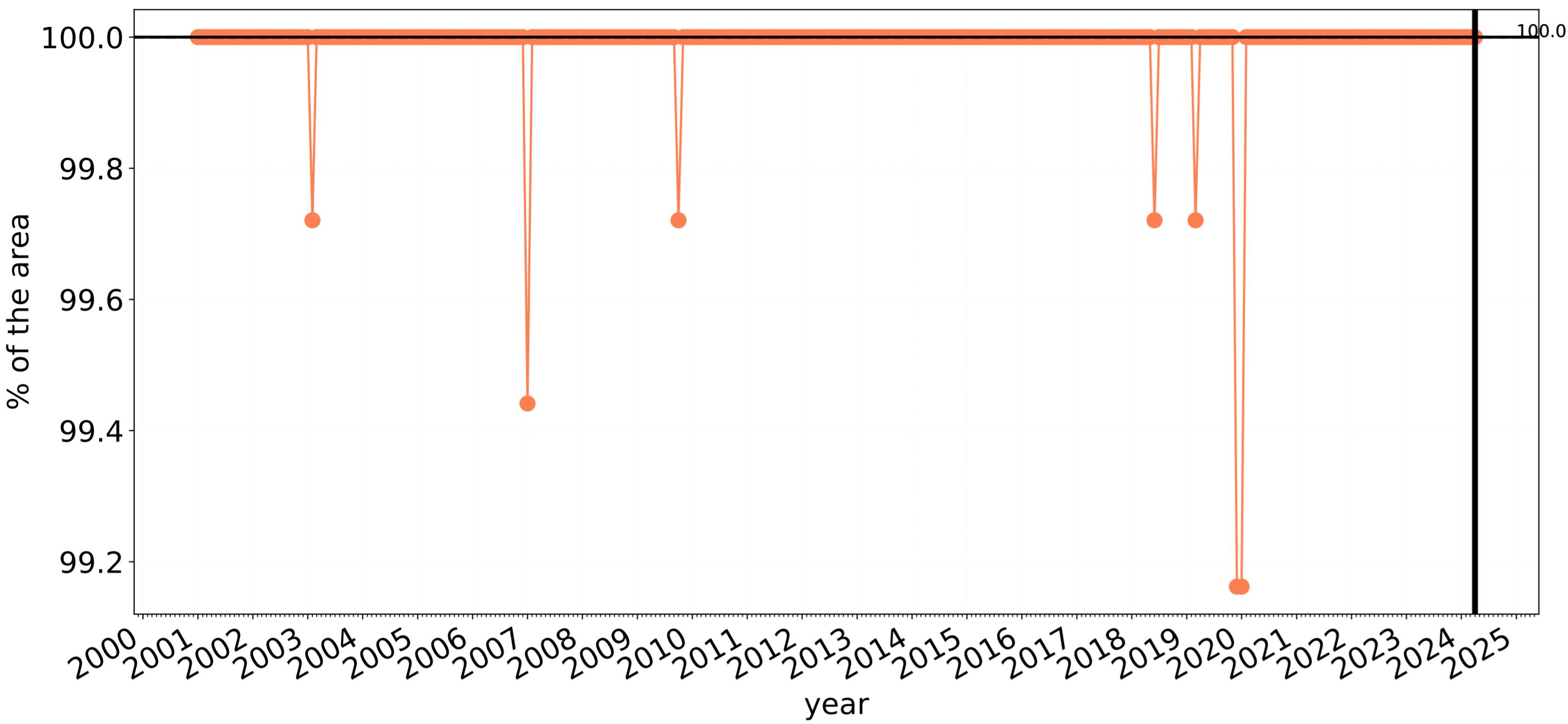
Deciles show where the pixel value lies in the record, from highest to lowest, for that month. That is, red pixels are in the lowest 10% of records for that month of the map using baseline from 2001 to 2019.

**Total Vegetation Cover Decile [%]**

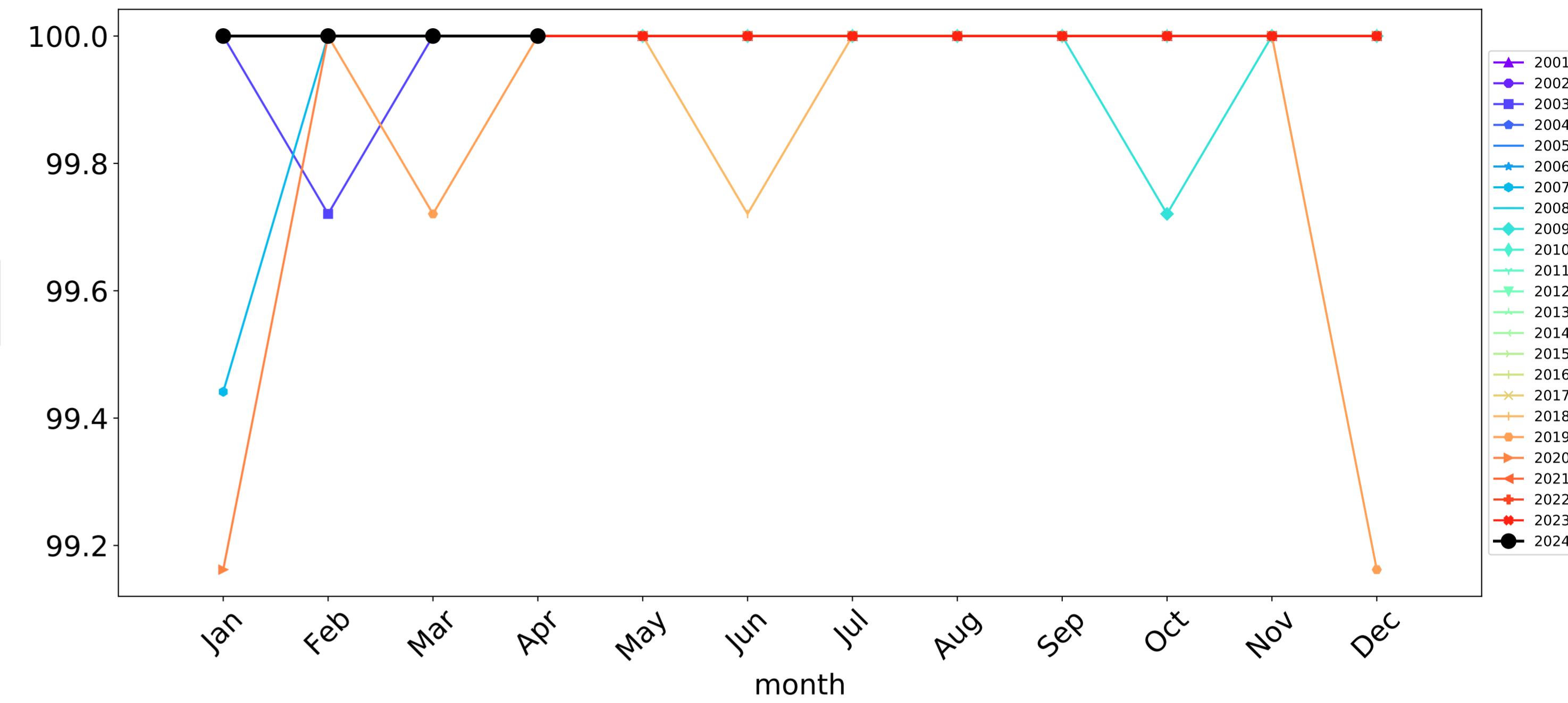


## Irrigation timeseries

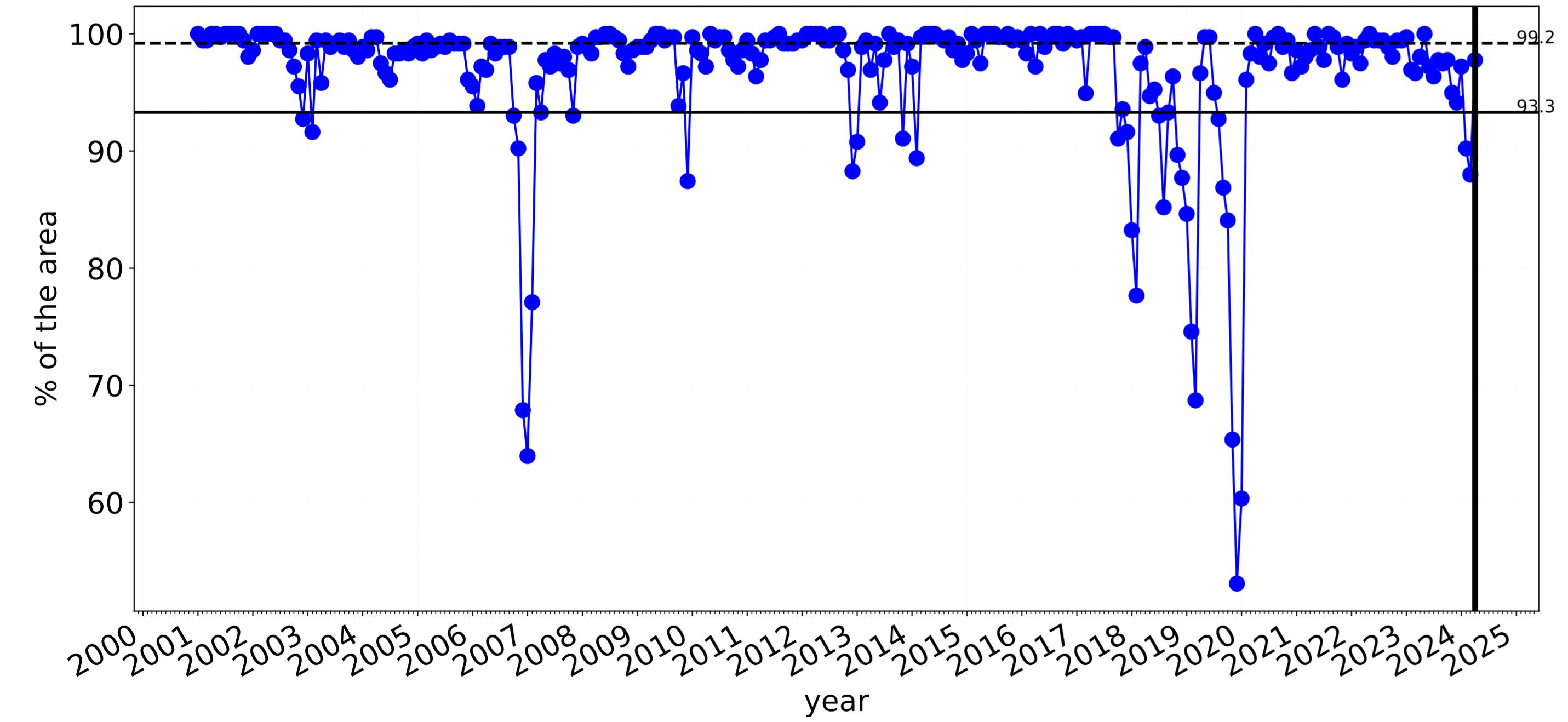
Proportion of the area protected from wind erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 50%)



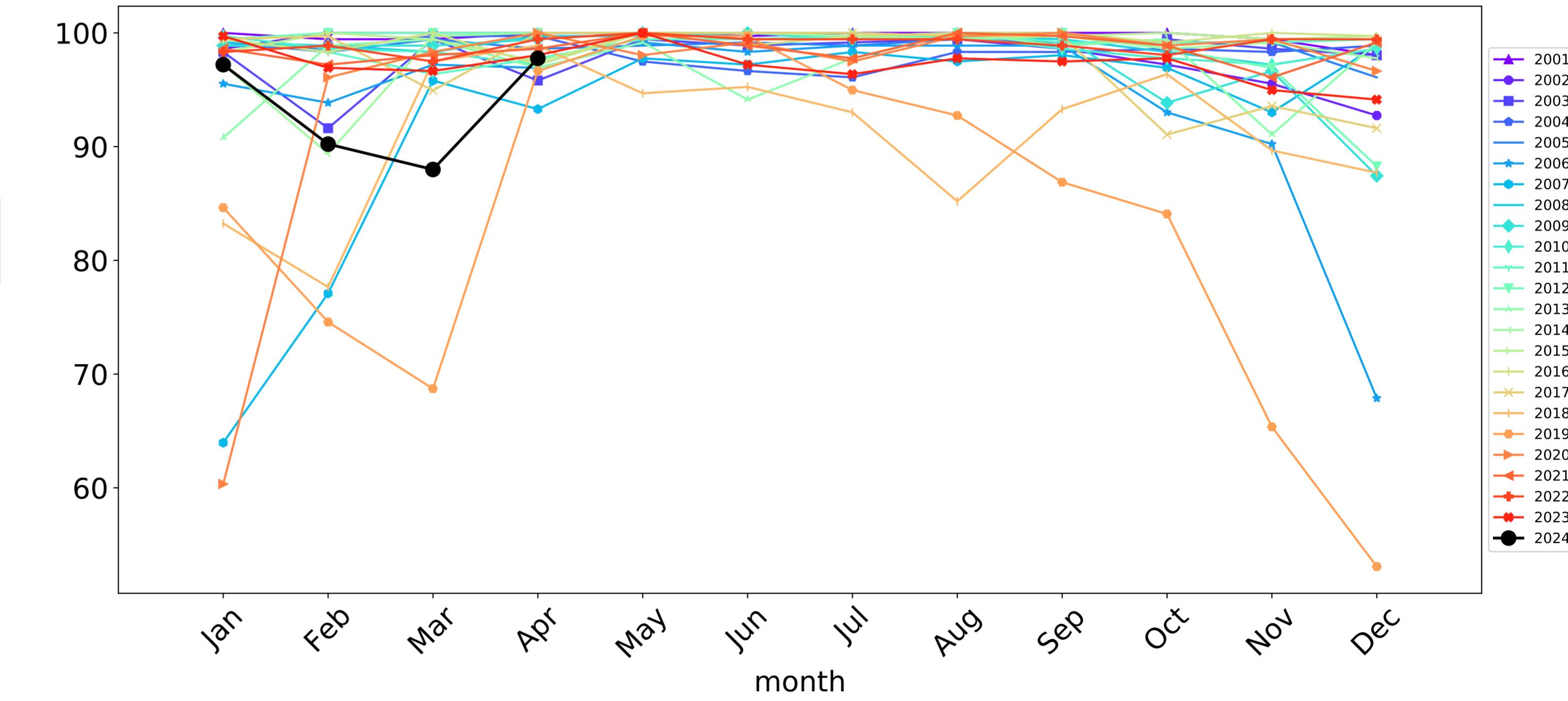
Wind erosion historical monthly area protected (Total Veg Cov >50%)

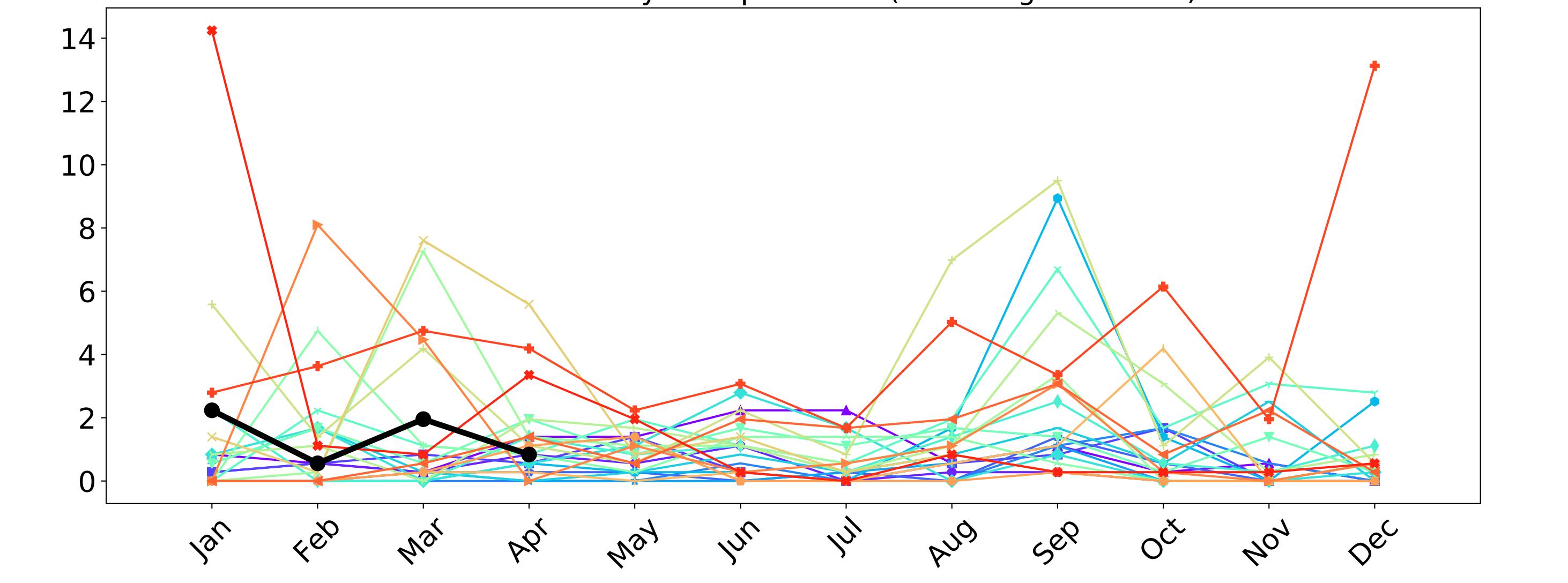
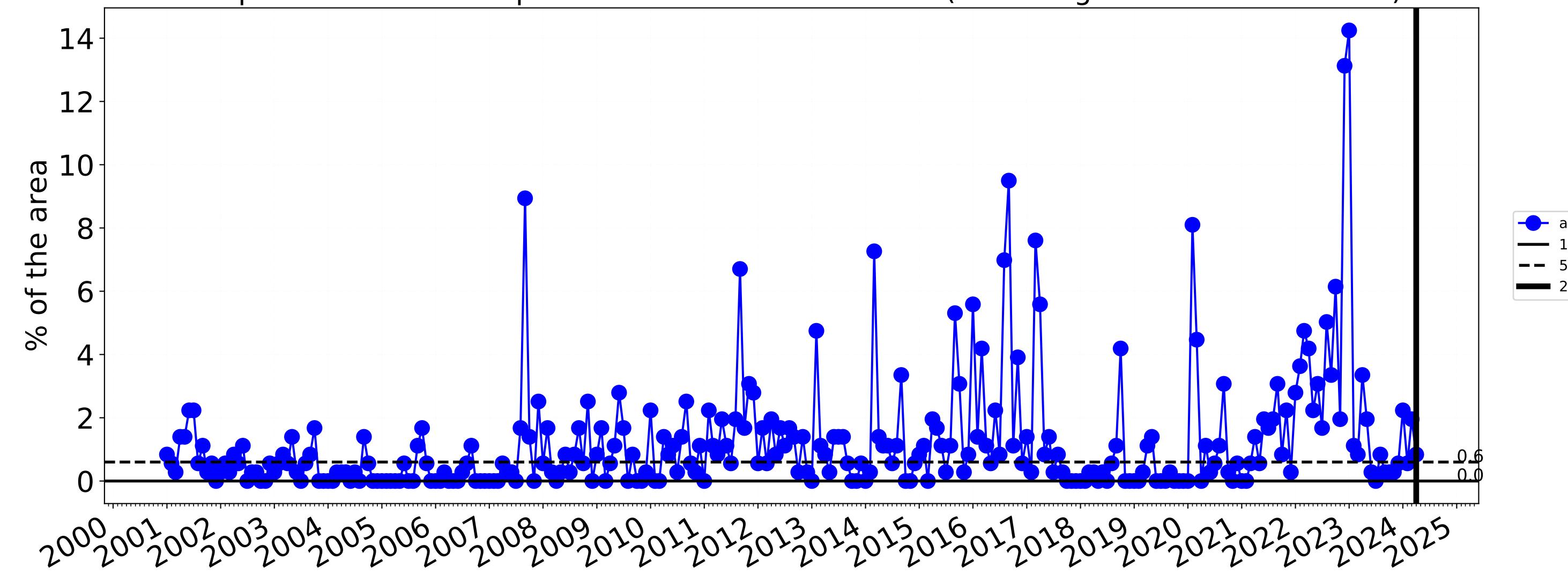
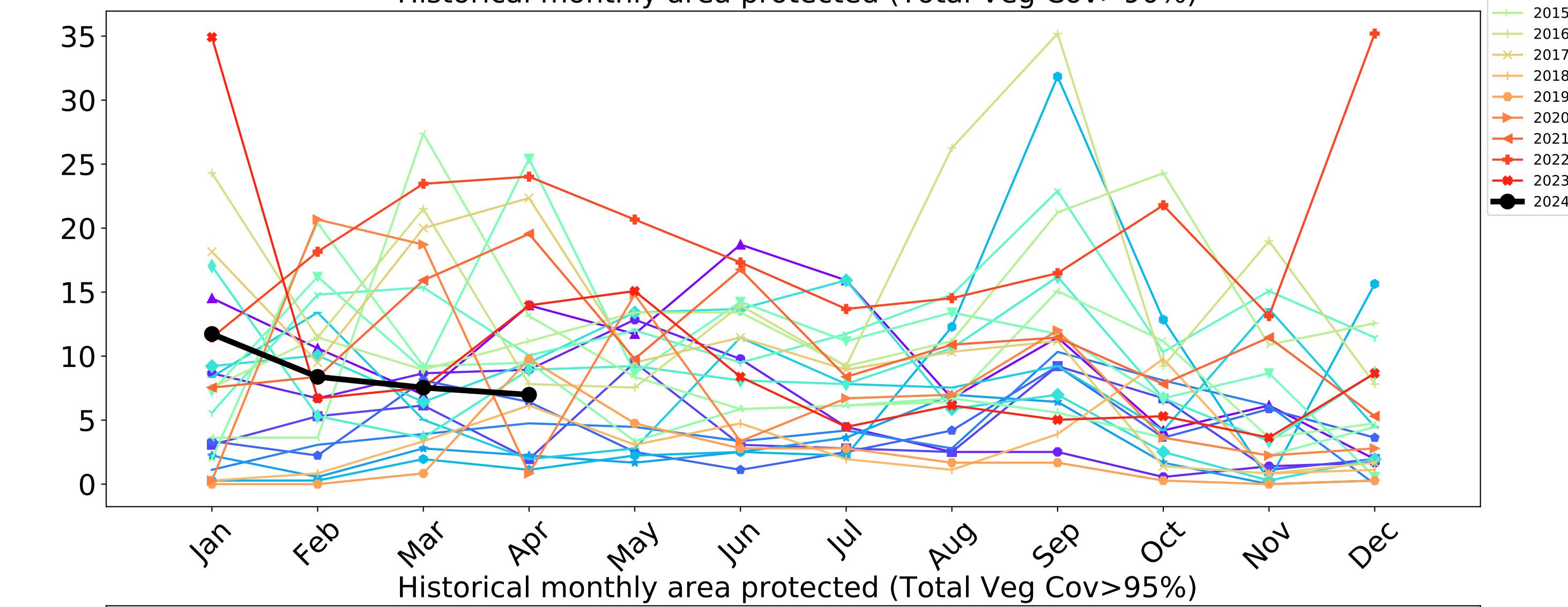
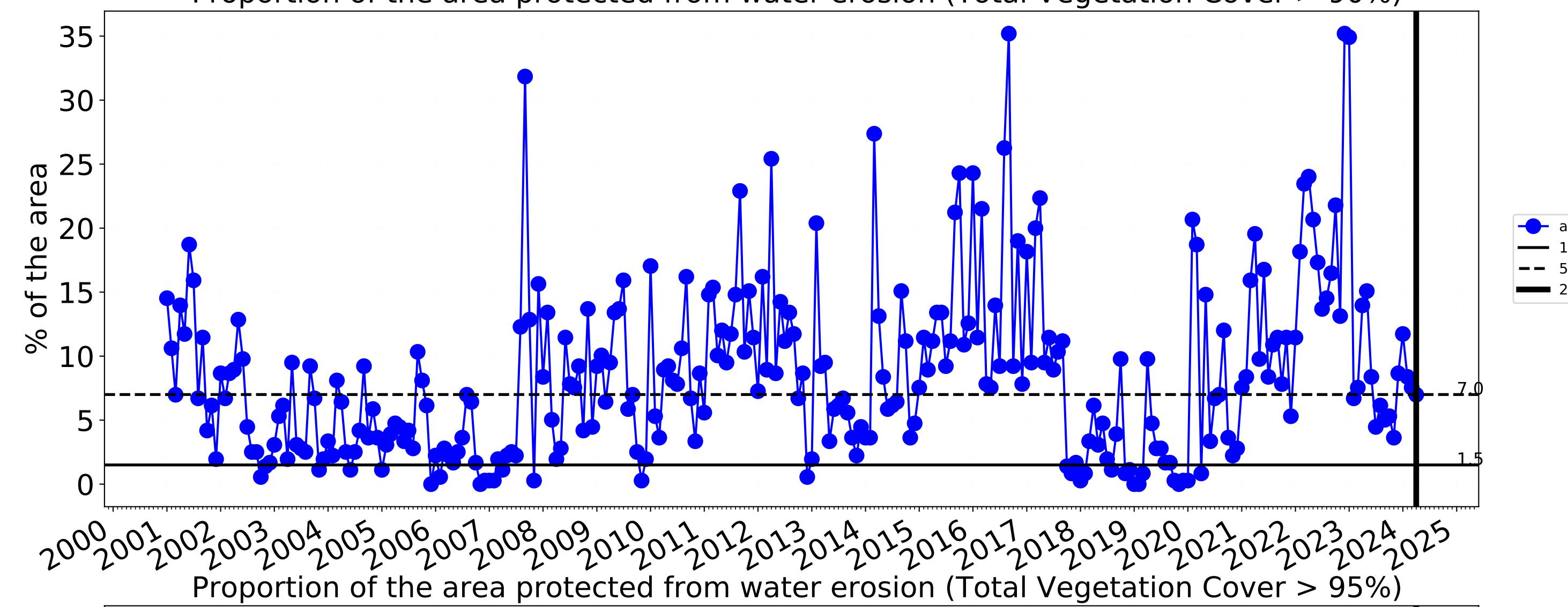
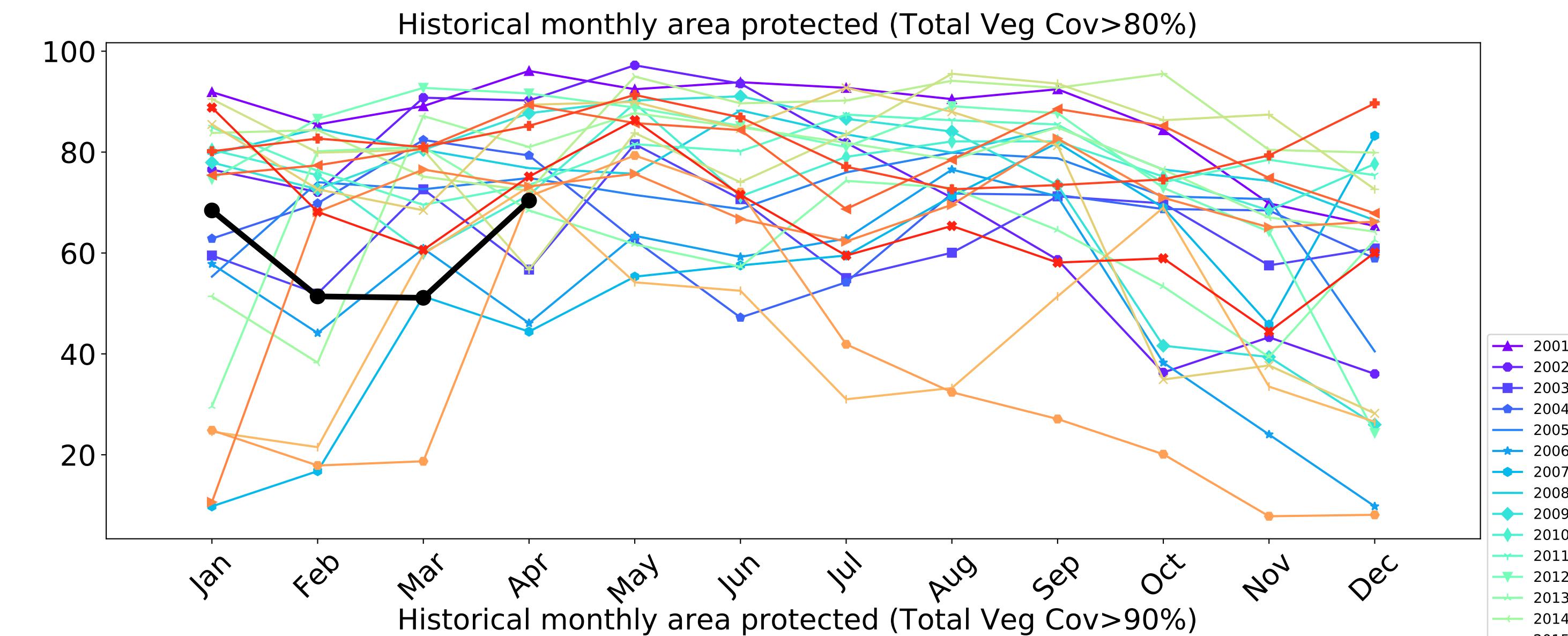
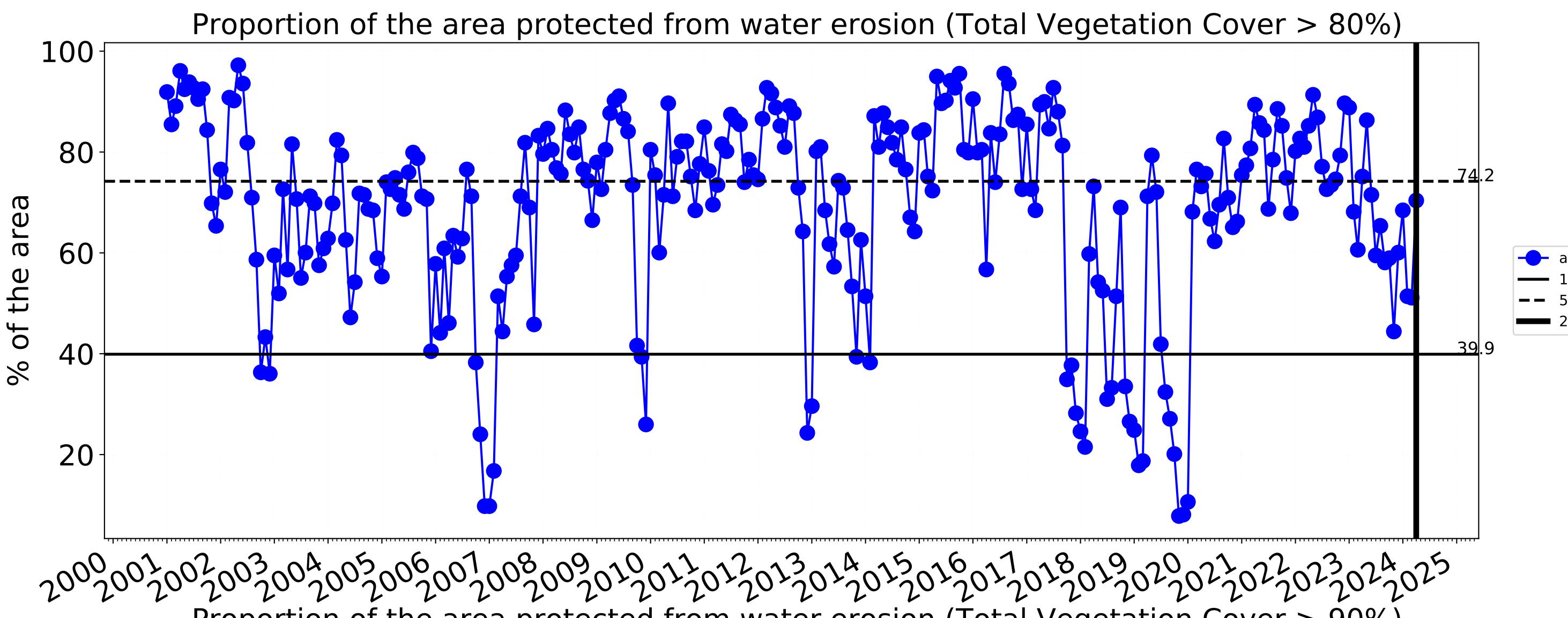


Proportion of the area protected from water erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 70%)



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





**Muswellbrook\_(A) (339,550 ha and no data 914 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	339,550	99.5% 337,925	99.0% 336,275	97.7% 331,650	94.3% 320,275	64.0% 217,275	21.8% 73,875
Conservation and natural environments	183,675	100.0% 183,675	100.0% 183,675	99.9% 183,550	99.4% 182,575	75.4% 138,575	27.0% 49,575
Conservation and natural environments Woodland forest	11,475	100.0% 11,475	100.0% 11,475	98.9% 11,350	97.8% 11,225	80.2% 9,200	41.4% 4,750
Conservation and natural environments Forest (non woodland)	171,850	100.0% 171,850	100.0% 171,850	100.0% 171,850	99.5% 171,000	75.1% 129,050	26.0% 44,700
Agriculture	132,750	99.8% 132,450	99.4% 131,950	98.3% 130,550	93.4% 123,975	56.1% 74,525	17.3% 22,925
Grazing	121,875	99.8% 121,575	99.3% 121,075	98.4% 119,875	95.1% 115,900	60.2% 73,350	18.6% 22,675
Grazing non forest	108,075	99.7% 107,800	99.4% 107,375	98.3% 106,275	94.9% 102,575	59.6% 64,425	18.7% 20,225
Grazing Woodland forest	7,450	99.7% 7,425	98.7% 7,350	97.3% 7,250	94.3% 7,025	53.4% 3,975	10.4% 775
Grazing - Forest (non woodland)	6,350	100.0% 6,350	100.0% 6,350	100.0% 6,350	99.2% 6,300	78.0% 4,950	26.4% 1,675
Irrigation	8,950	100.0% 8,950	100.0% 8,950	97.8% 8,750	70.4% 6,300	7.0% 625	0.8% 75



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