

Total vegetation cover soil protection

Region:LGA Wollondilly_(A) NSW

Date: August 2026

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>



tern

Ecosystem Research Infrastructure



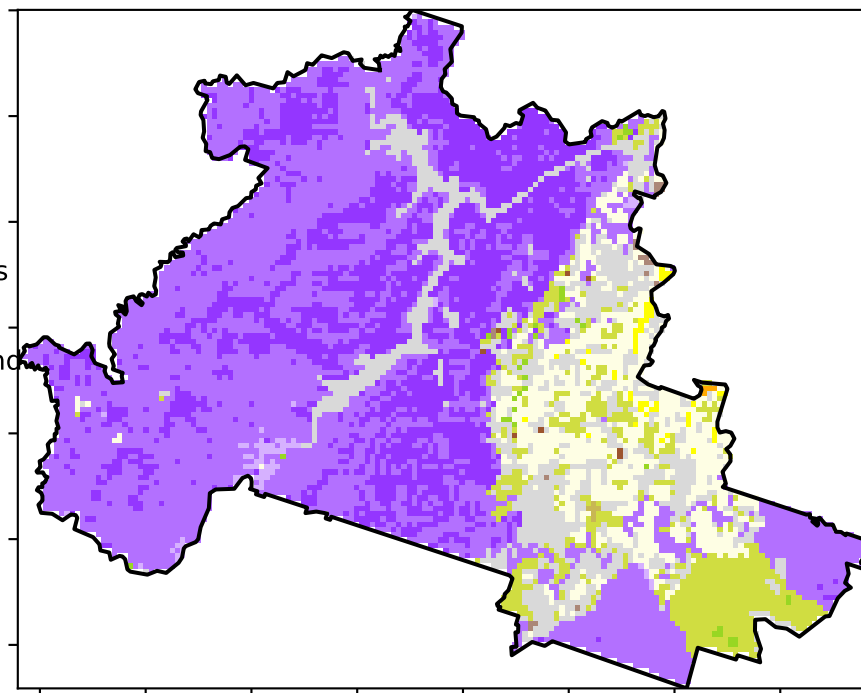
National
Landcare
Programme



Vegetation Cover Aug 2026

Land use and forest cover

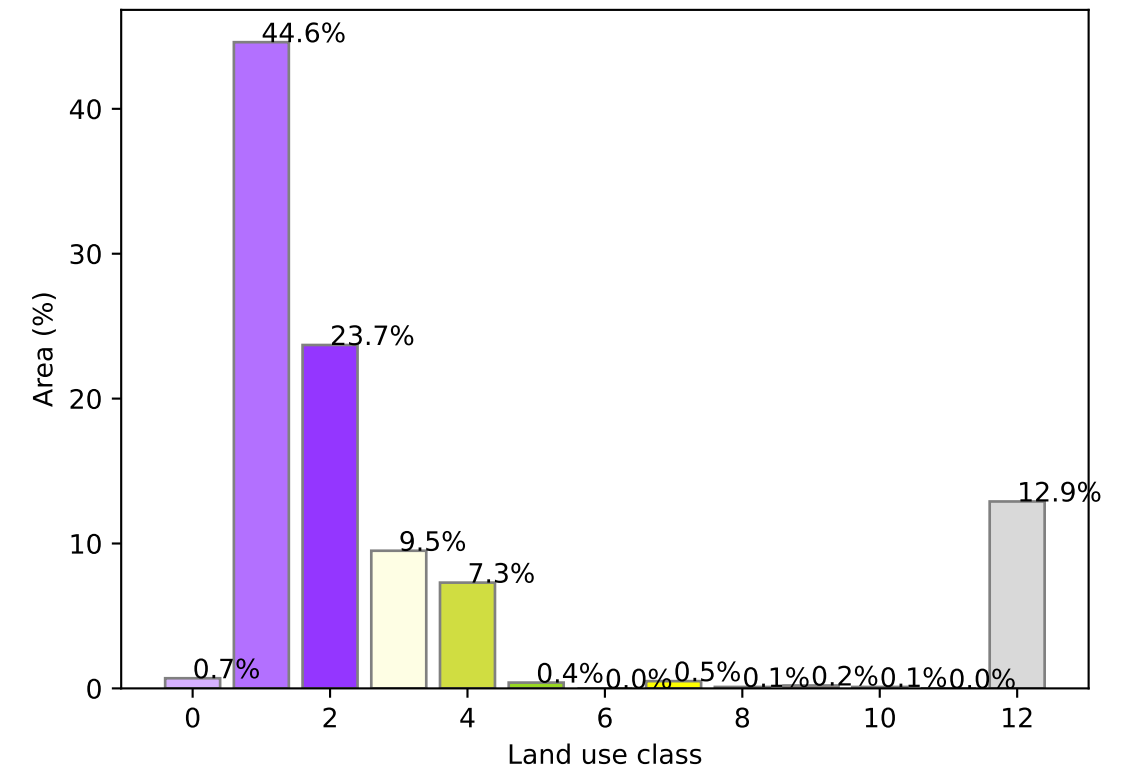
Catchment Scale
Land Use and Forests
of Australia (2018)
Derived from
Catchment Scale Land
Use of Australia
(2018) and Forests
of Australia (2018)



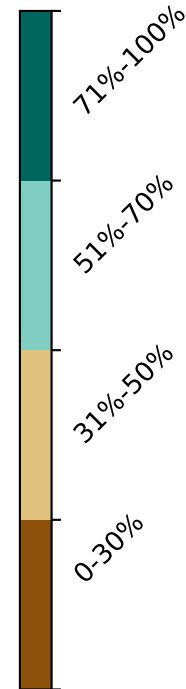
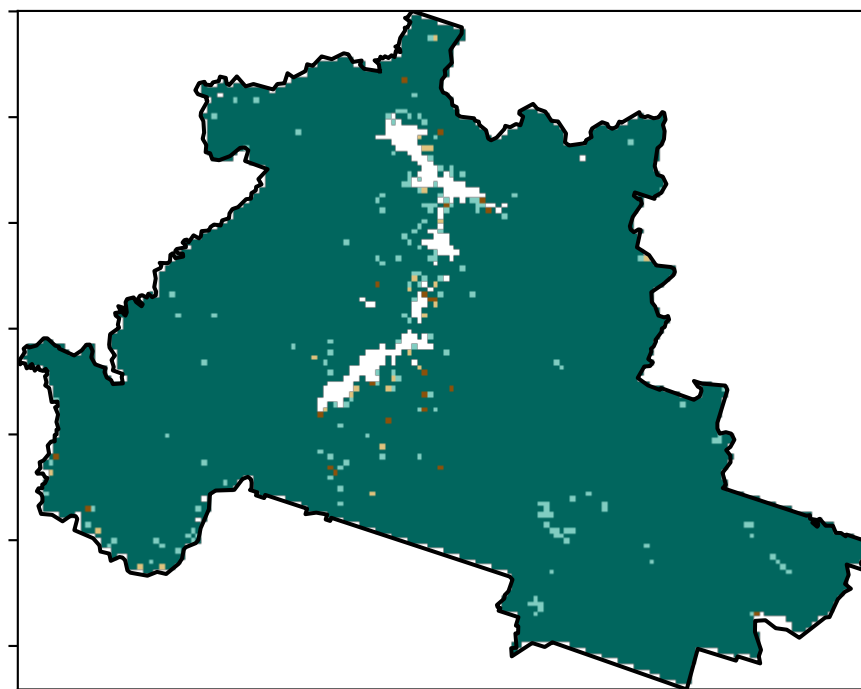
Legend with land class forest cover and number, i.e. Forests is 12

- 1 Conservation and natural environments - Non-forest
- 2 Conservation and natural environments - Woodland forest
- 3 Conservation and natural environments - Non-Woodland forest
- 4 Agriculture - Grazing - Non-forest
- 5 Agriculture - Grazing - Woodland forest
- 6 Agriculture - Grazing - Non-woodland forest
- 7 Agriculture - Grazing - Irrigated
- 8 Agriculture - Cropping - Non-irrigated
- 9 Agriculture - Cropping - Irrigated
- 10 Agriculture - Horticulture - Non-irrigated
- 11 Agriculture - Horticulture - Irrigated
- 12 Production native forests and plantation forests
- 13 Other uses

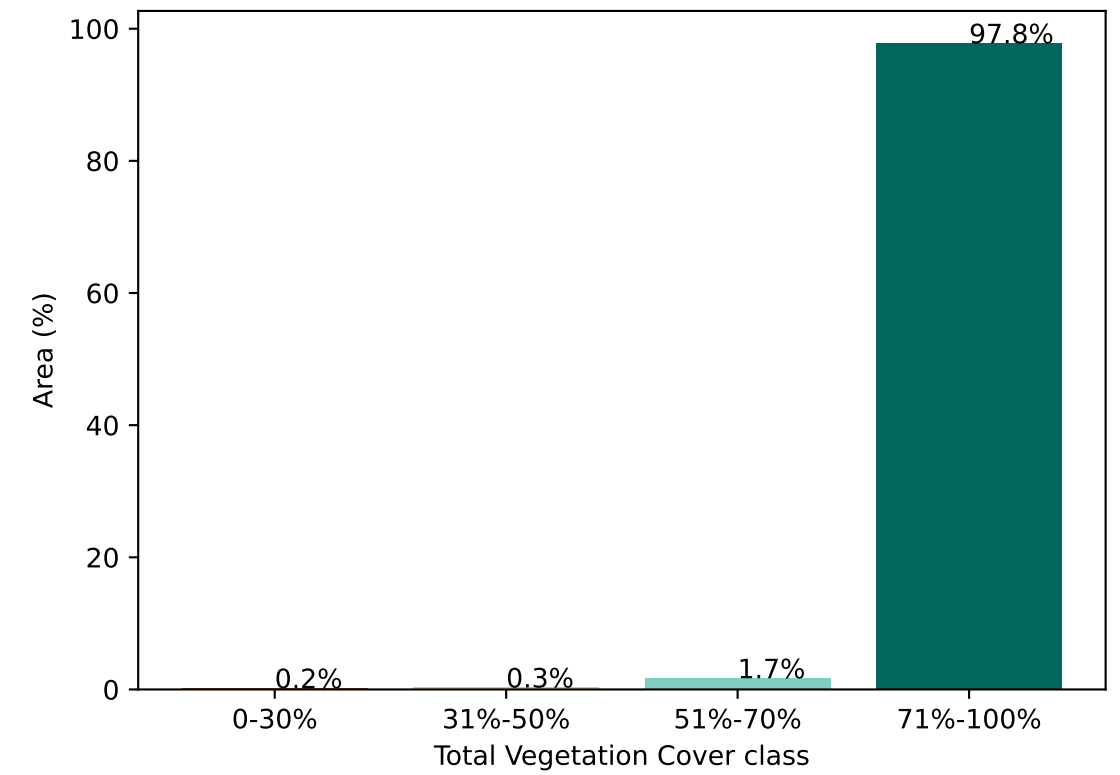
Proportion of each land class in area



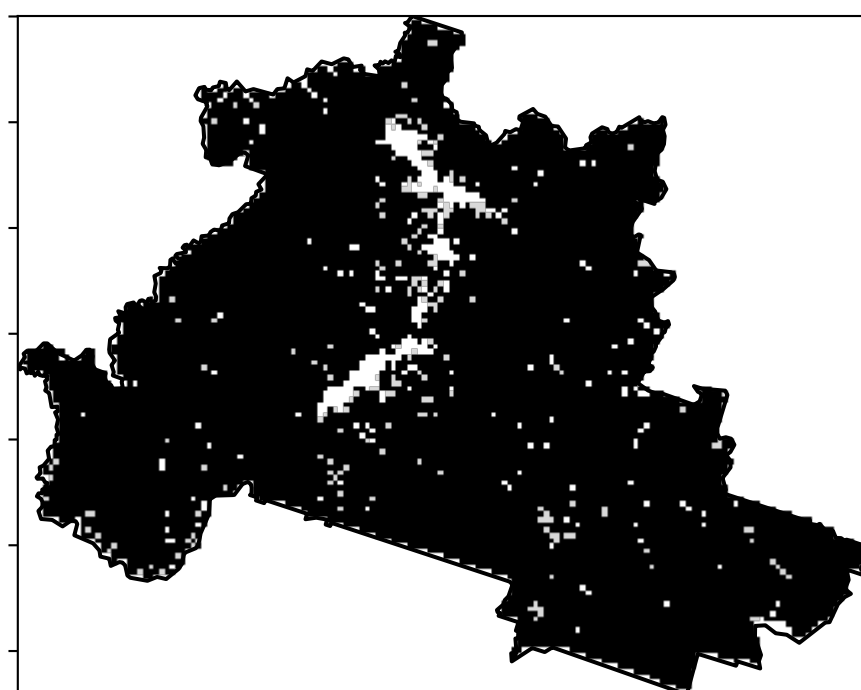
Total Vegetation Cover [%]



Proportion of vegetation cover class in area

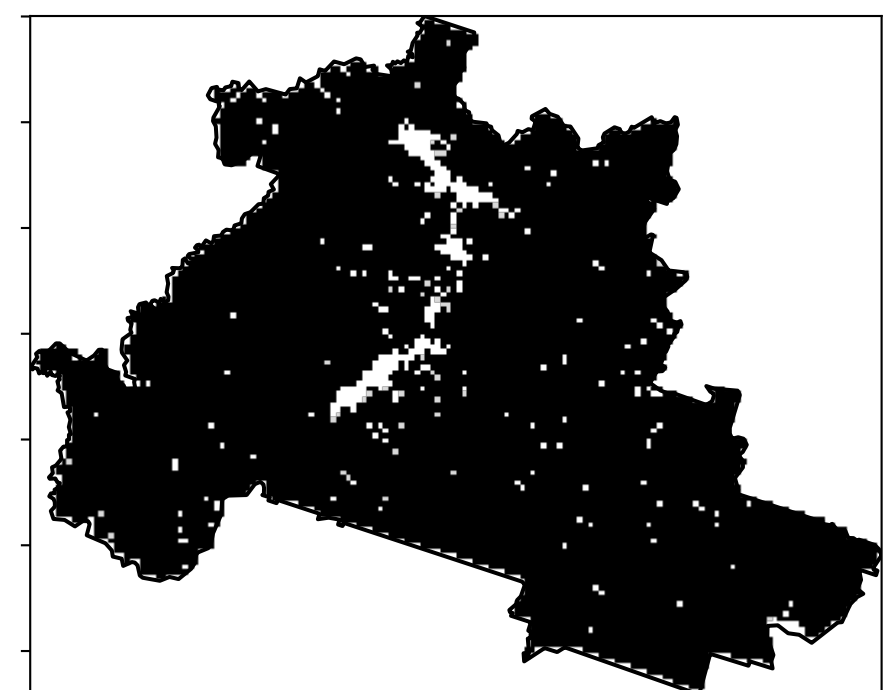


% Area protected from water erosion (>70%)



Area not protected
2.2% of region
(5,508 ha)
Area protected
97.8% of region
(244,842 ha)

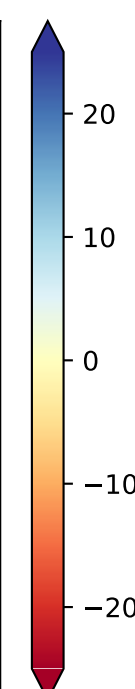
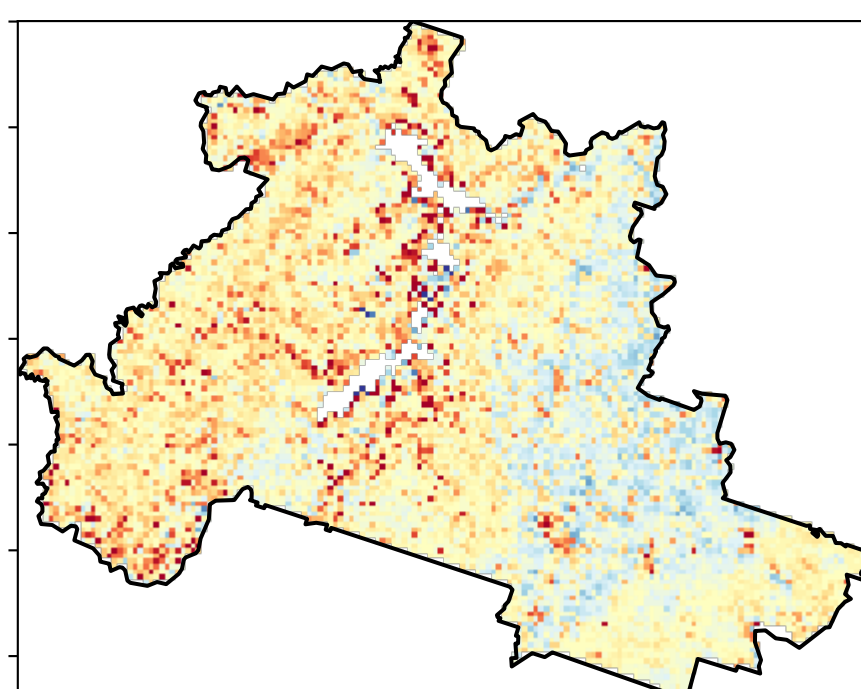
% Area protected from wind erosion (>50%)



Area not protected
0.0% of region (0 ha)
Area protected
100.0% of region
(250,350 ha)

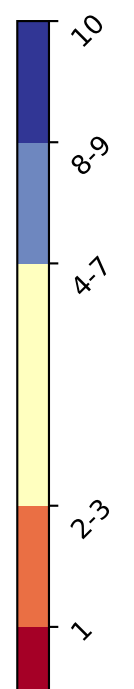
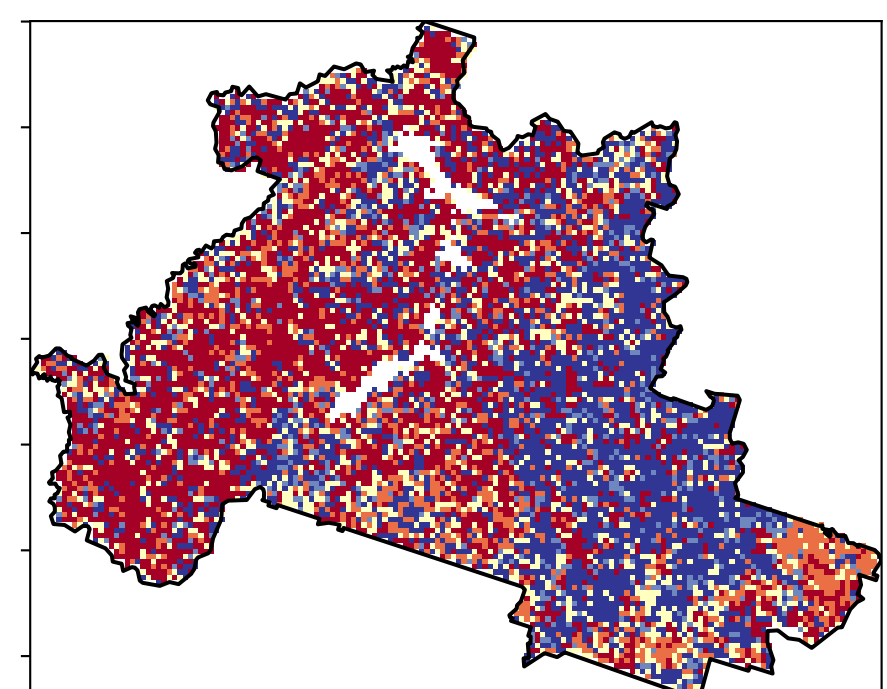
Total Vegetation Cover Anomaly [%]

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 [%]



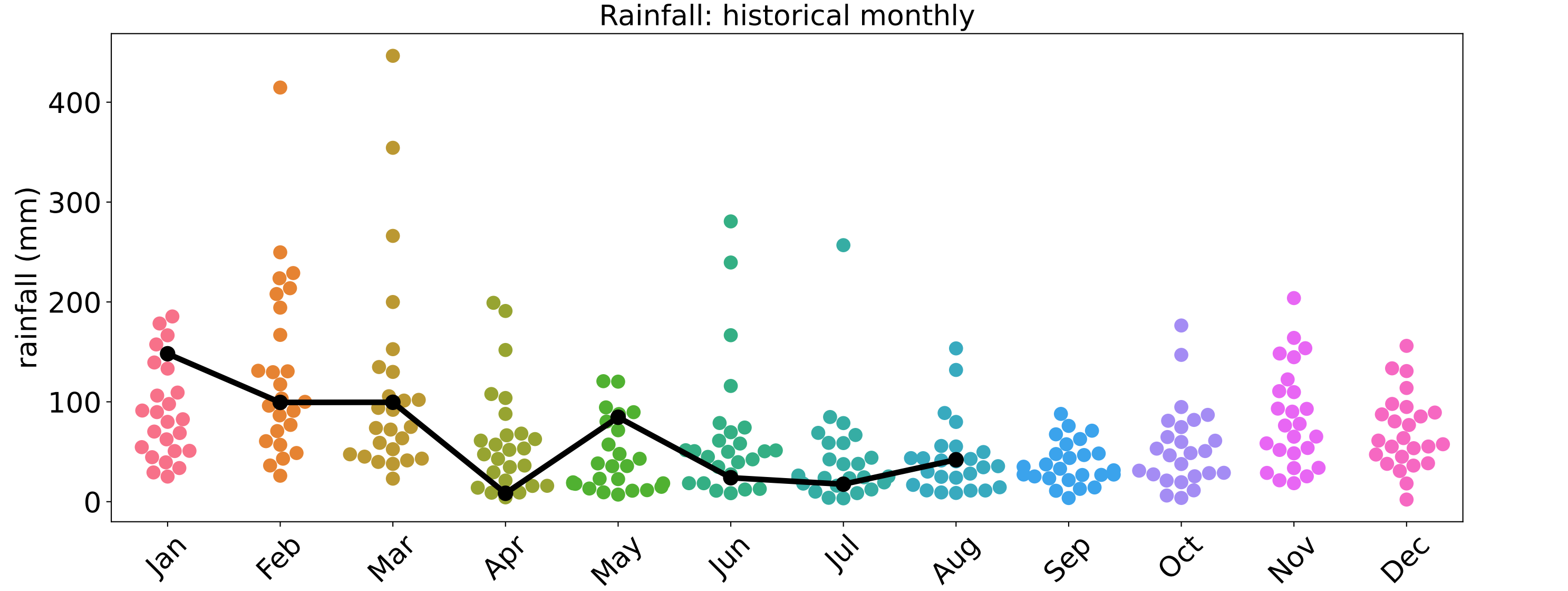
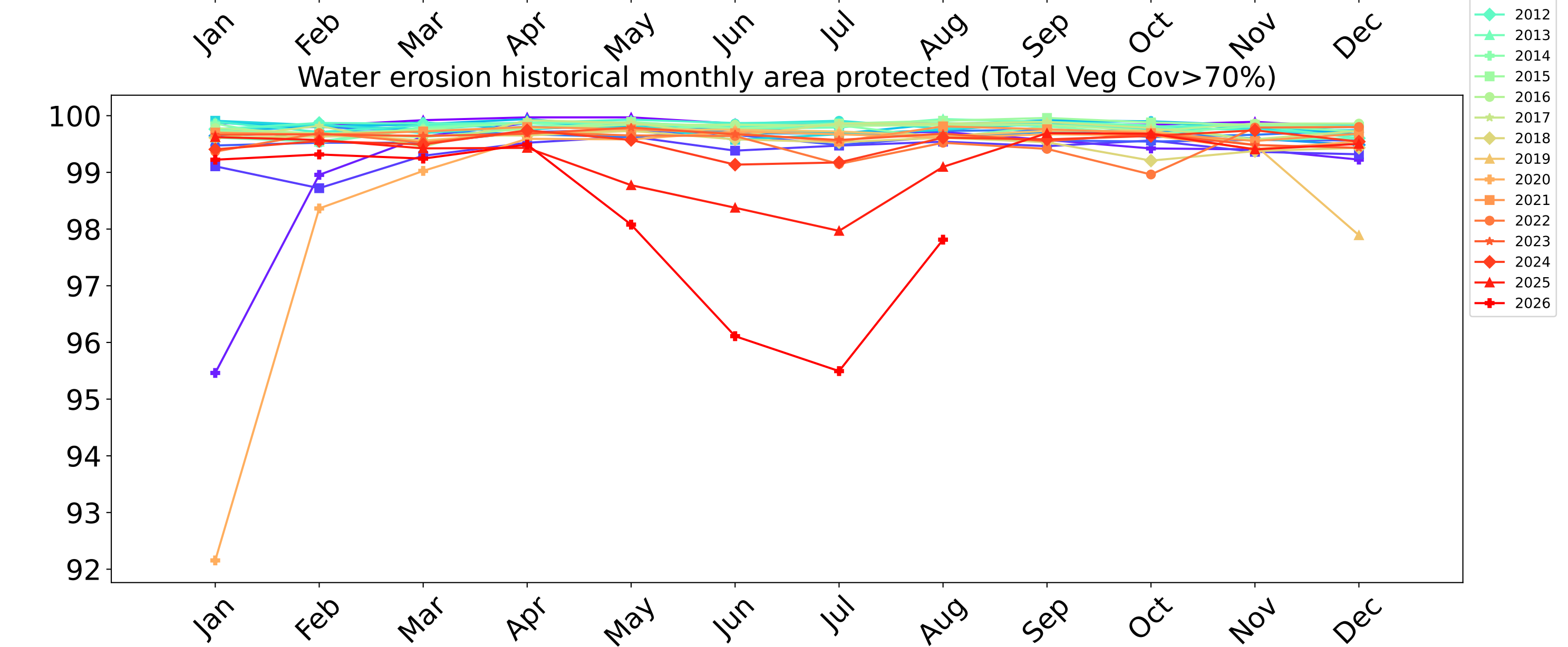
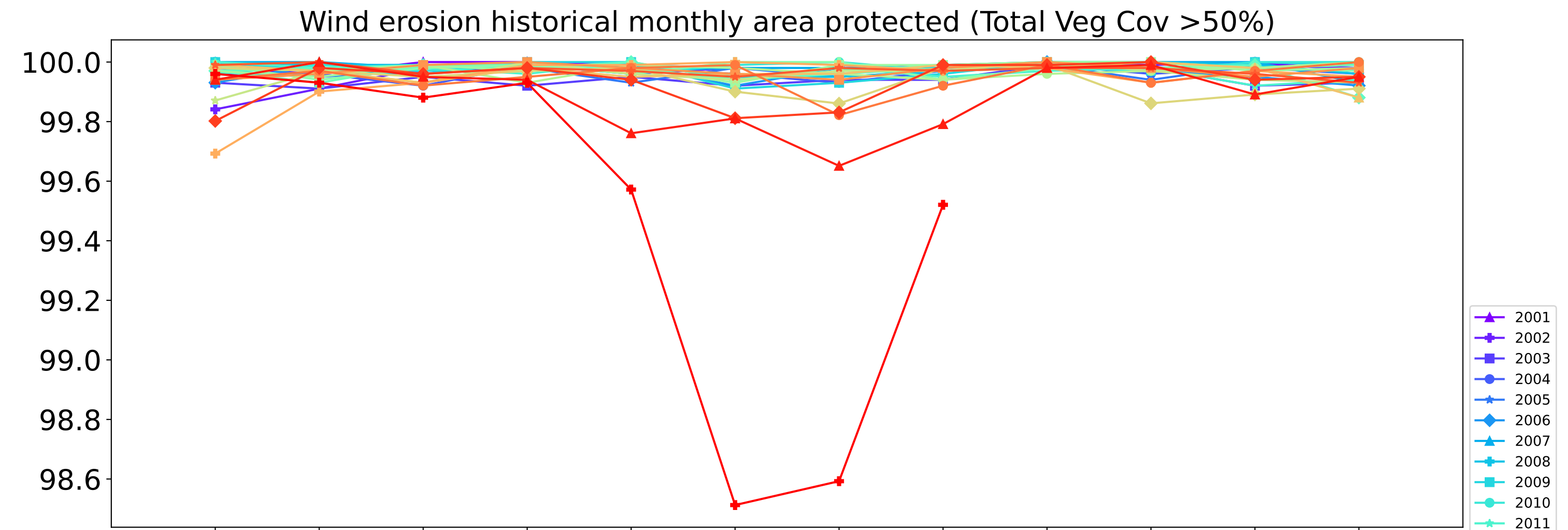
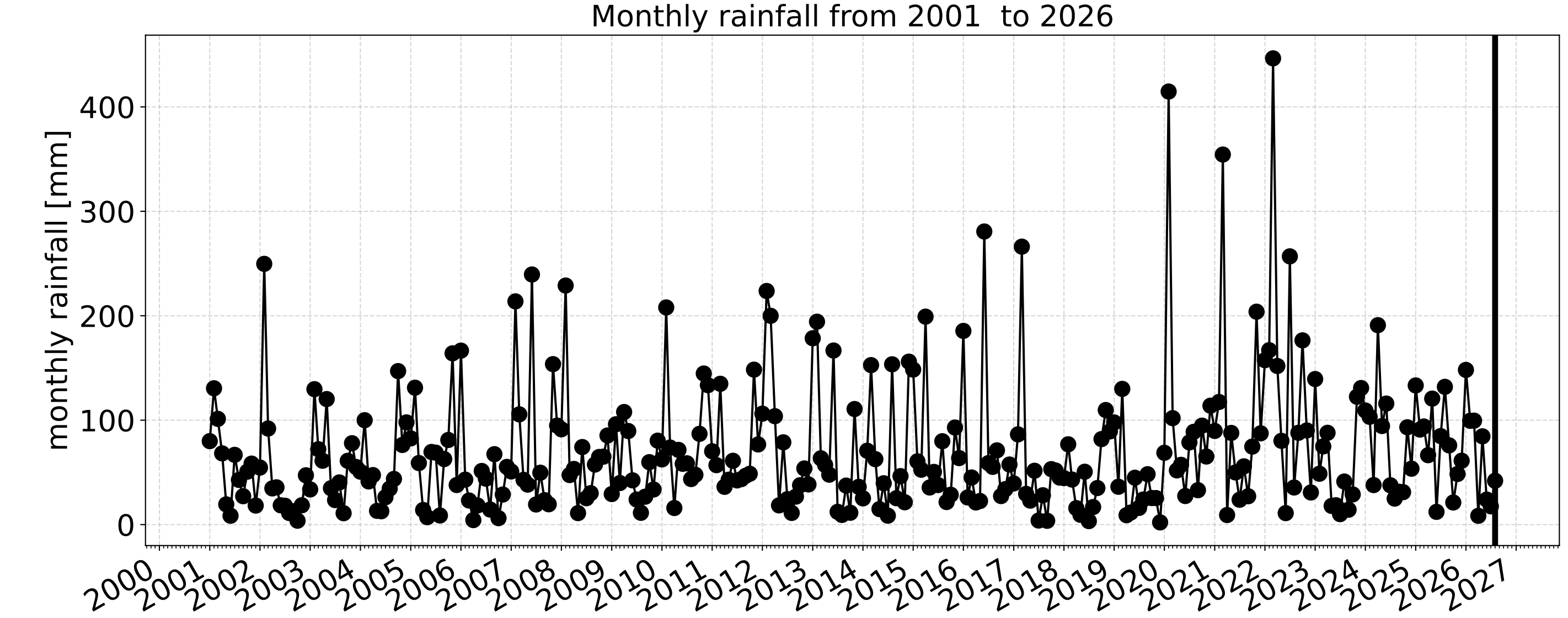
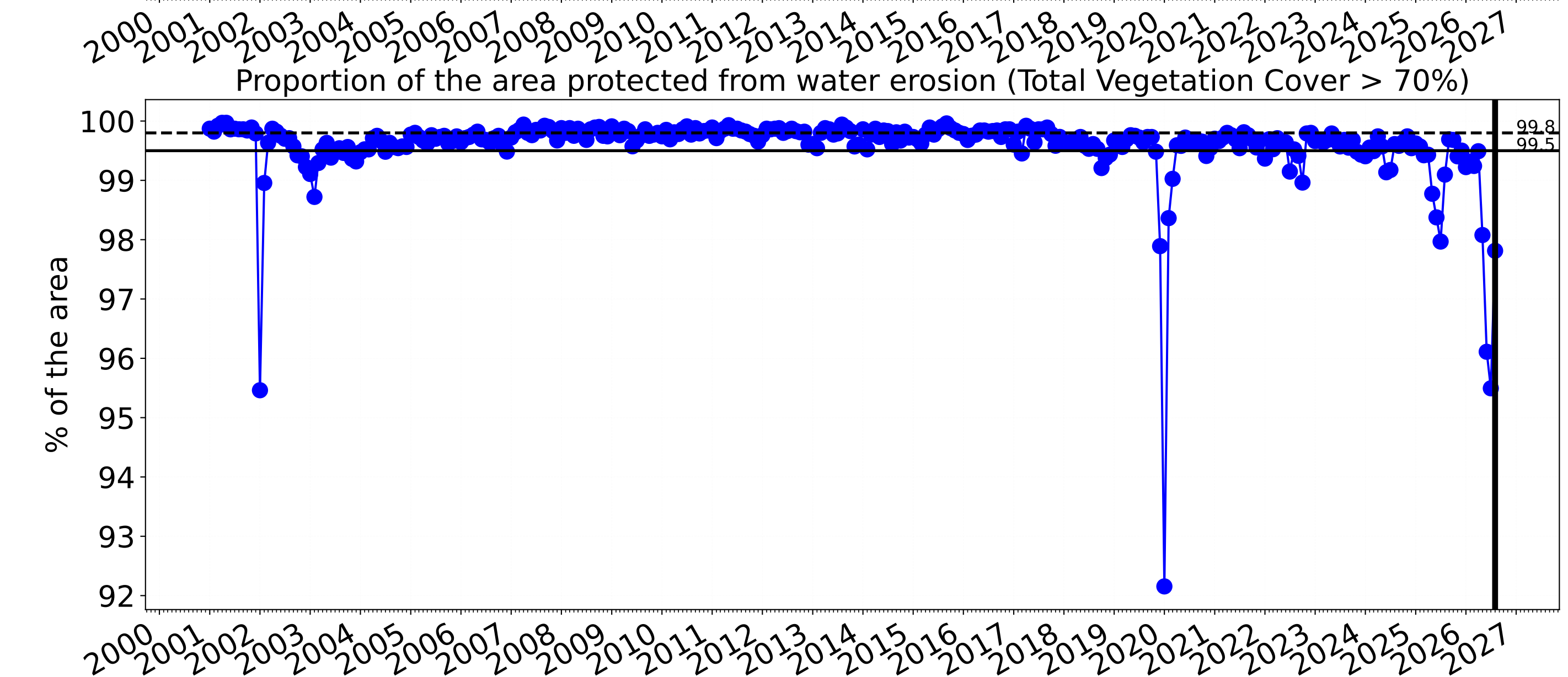
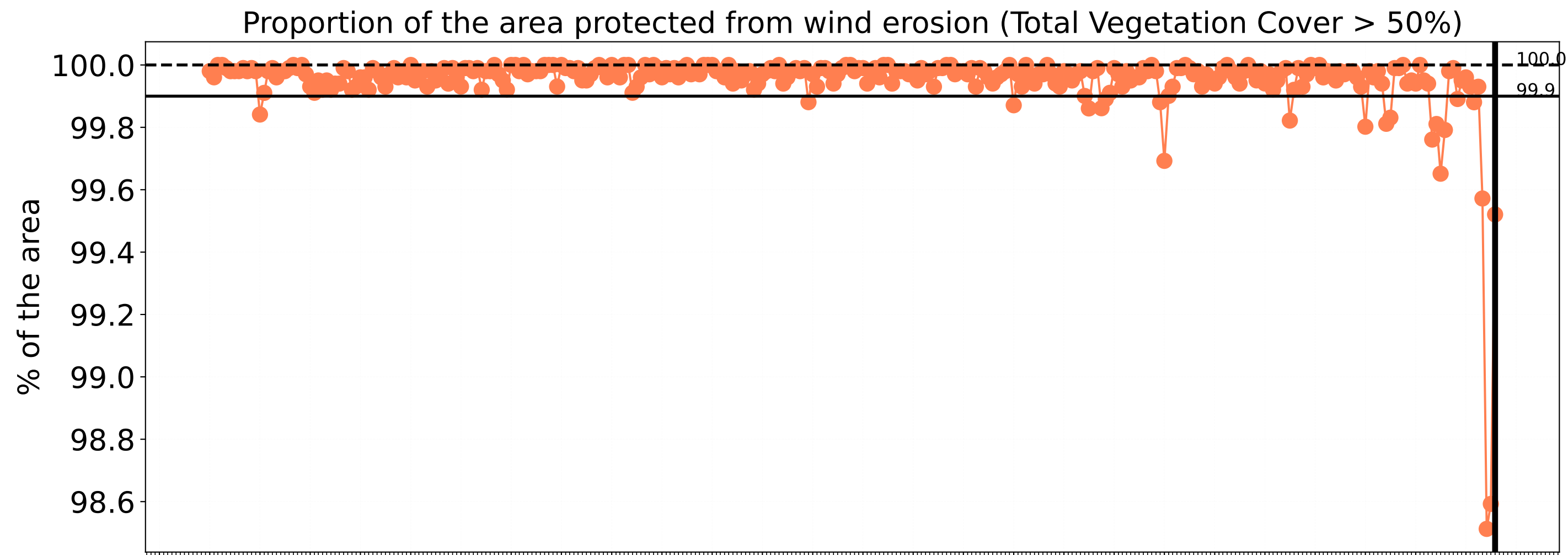
tern

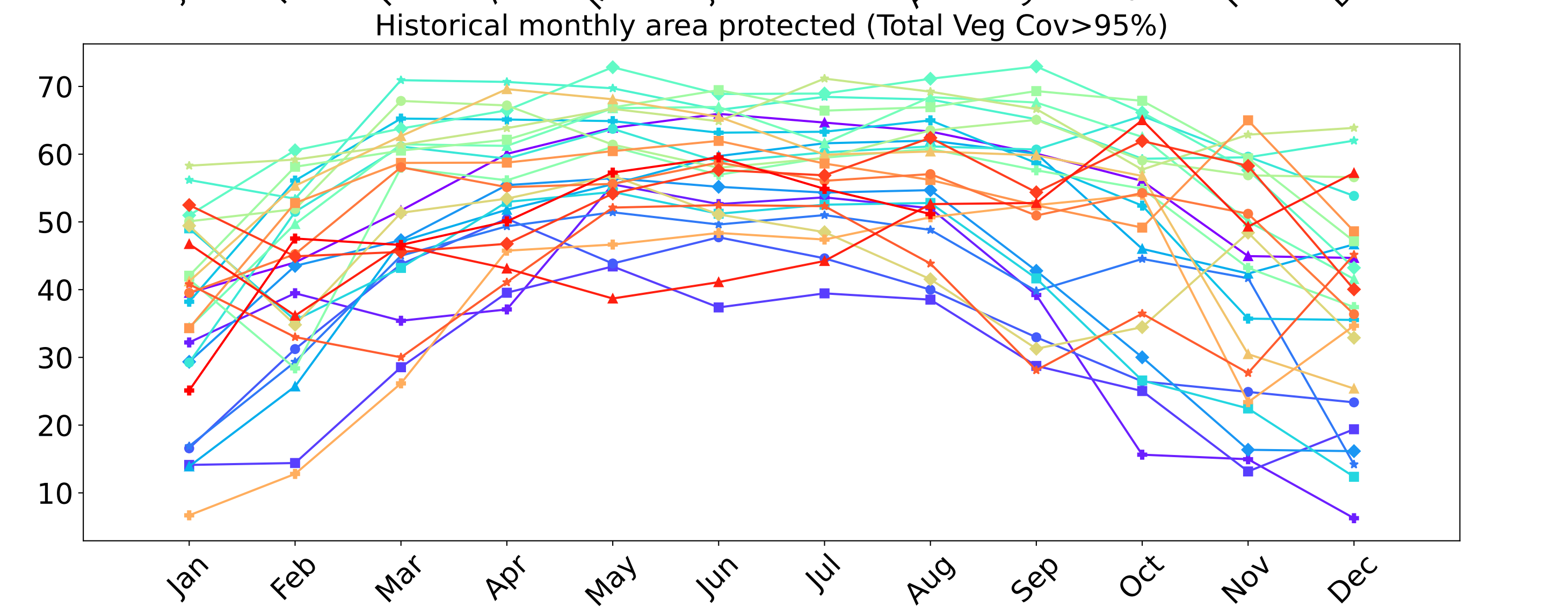
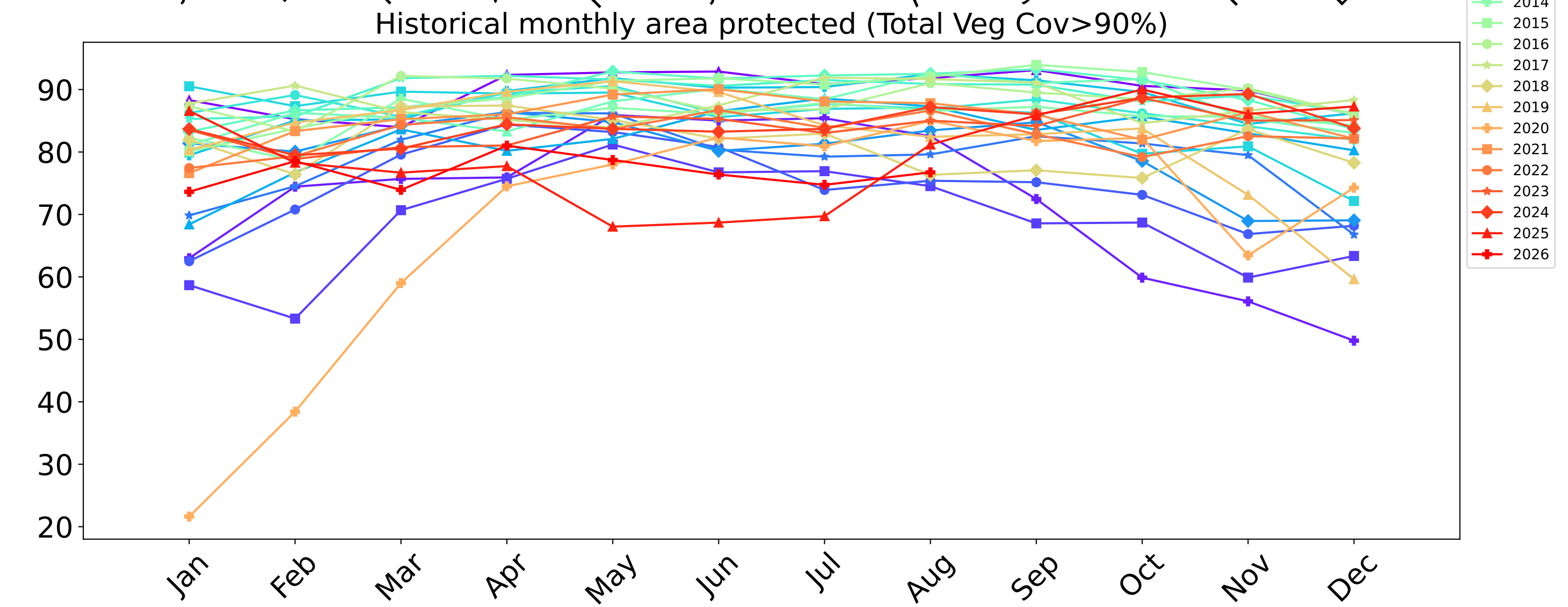
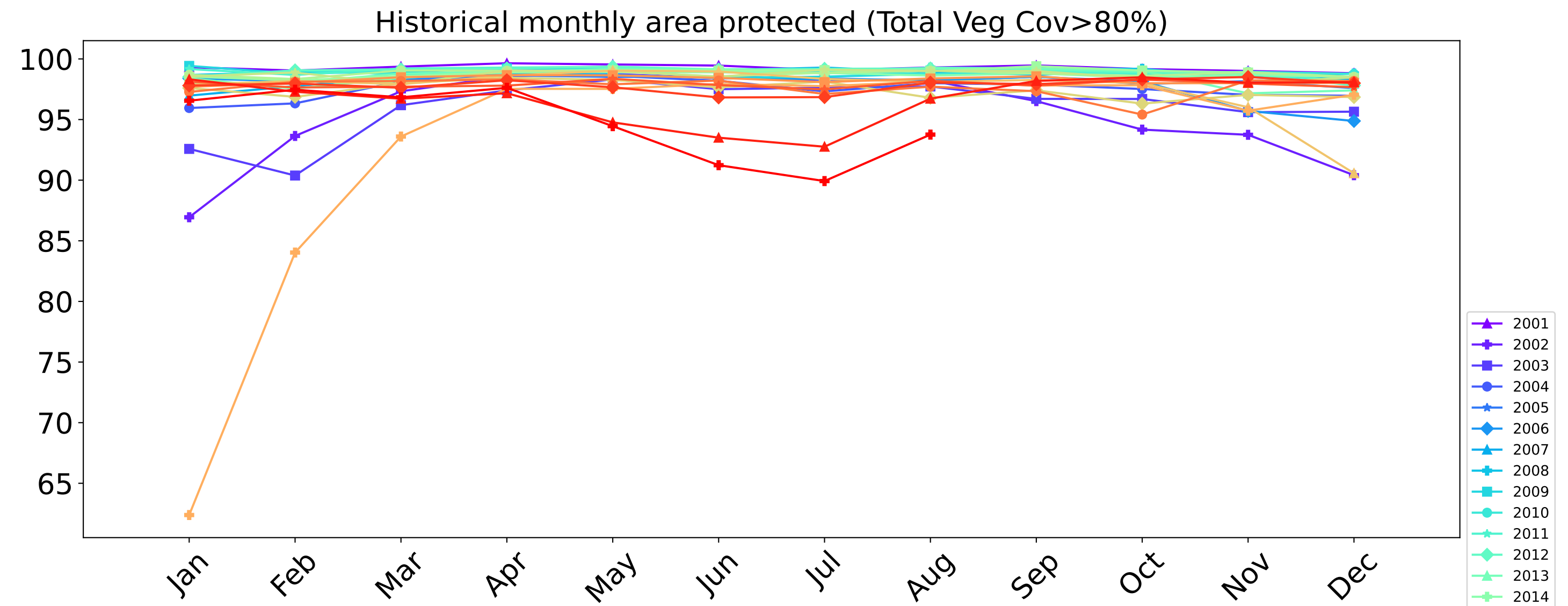
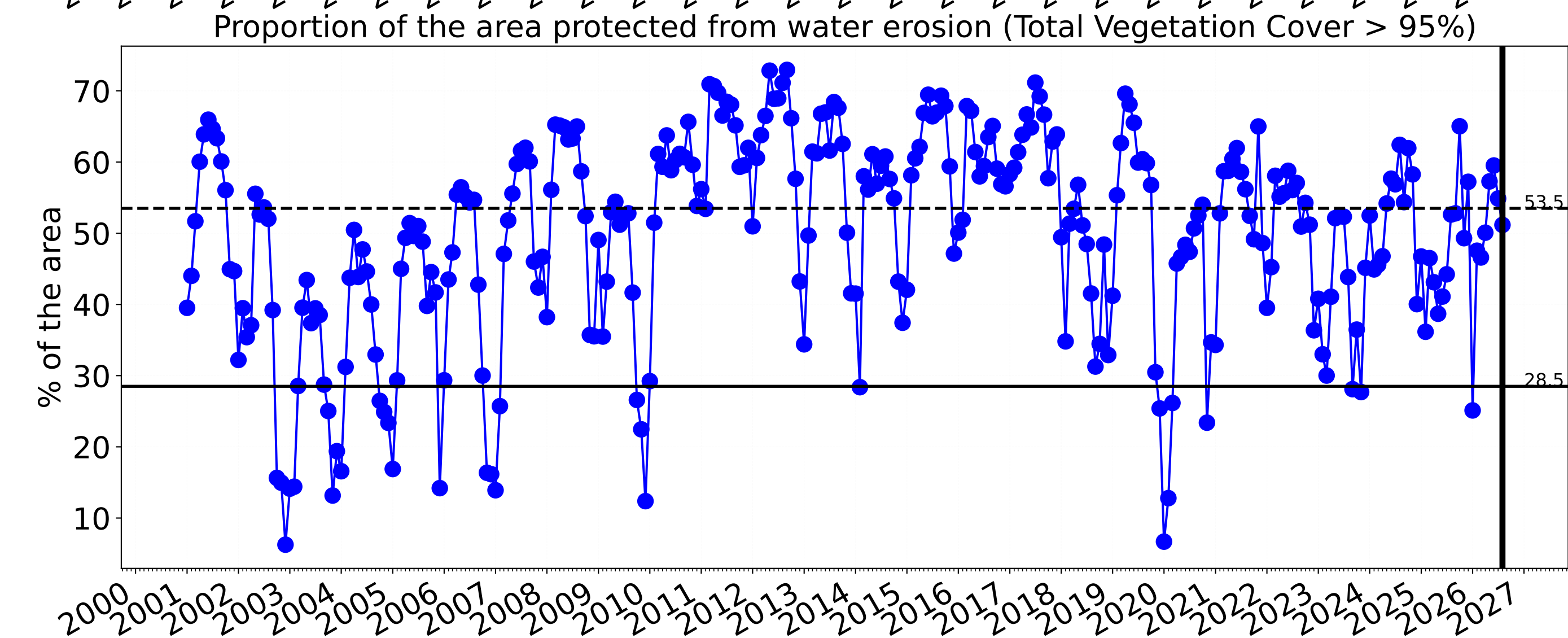
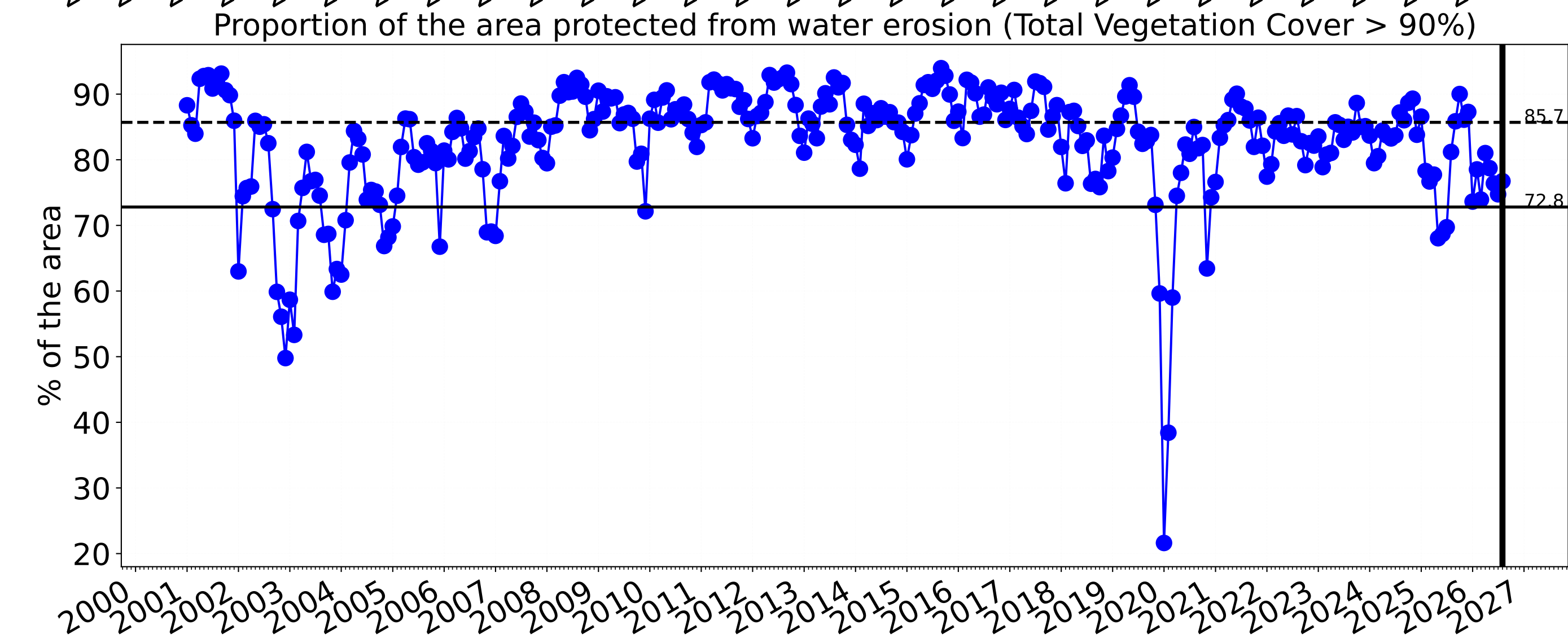
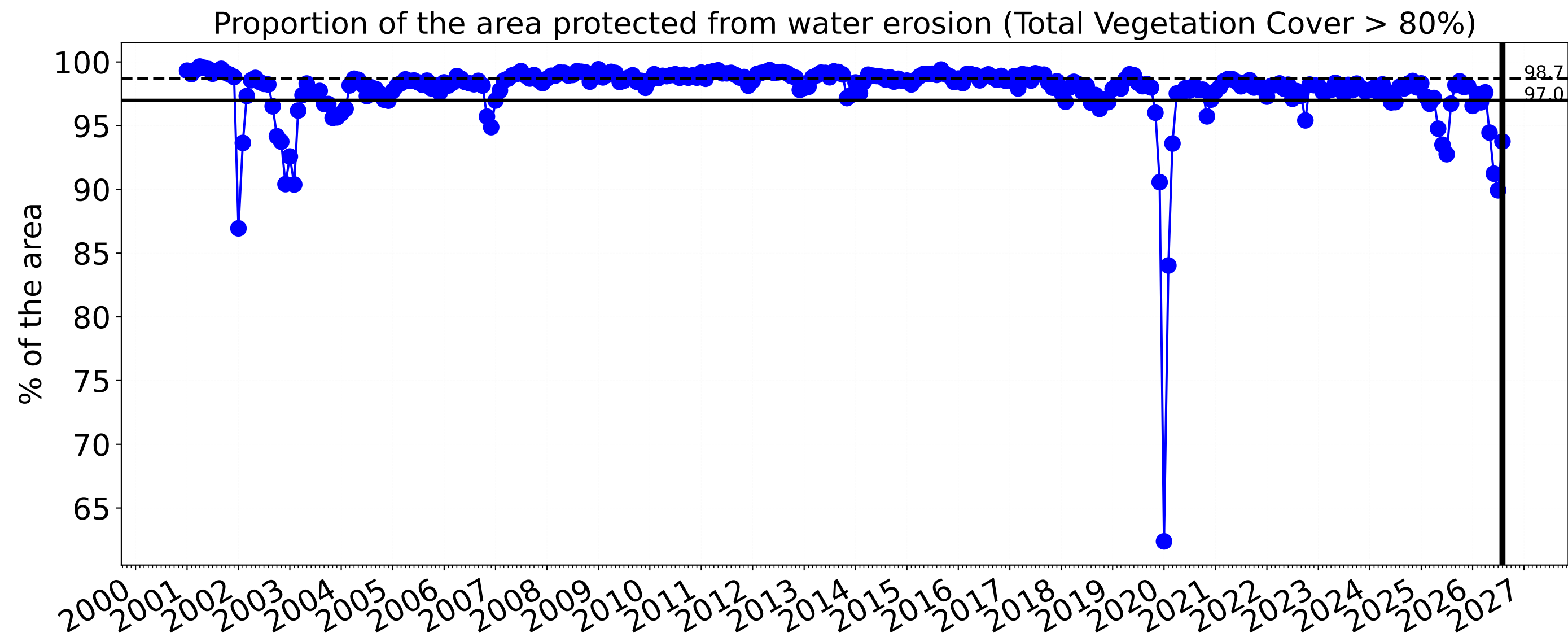
Ecosystem Research Infrastructure



National
Landcare
Programme



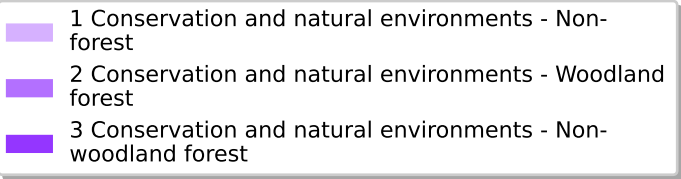
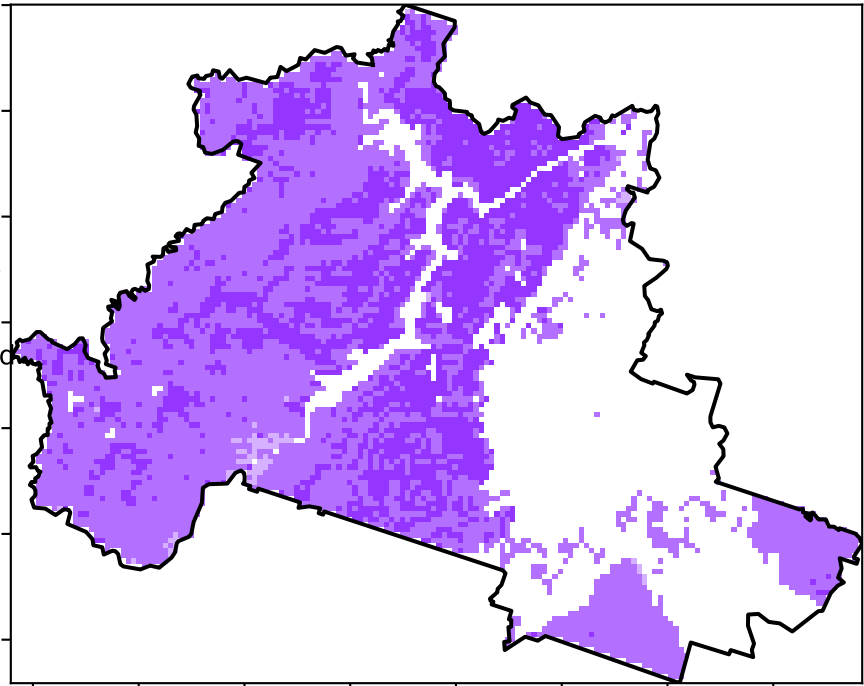




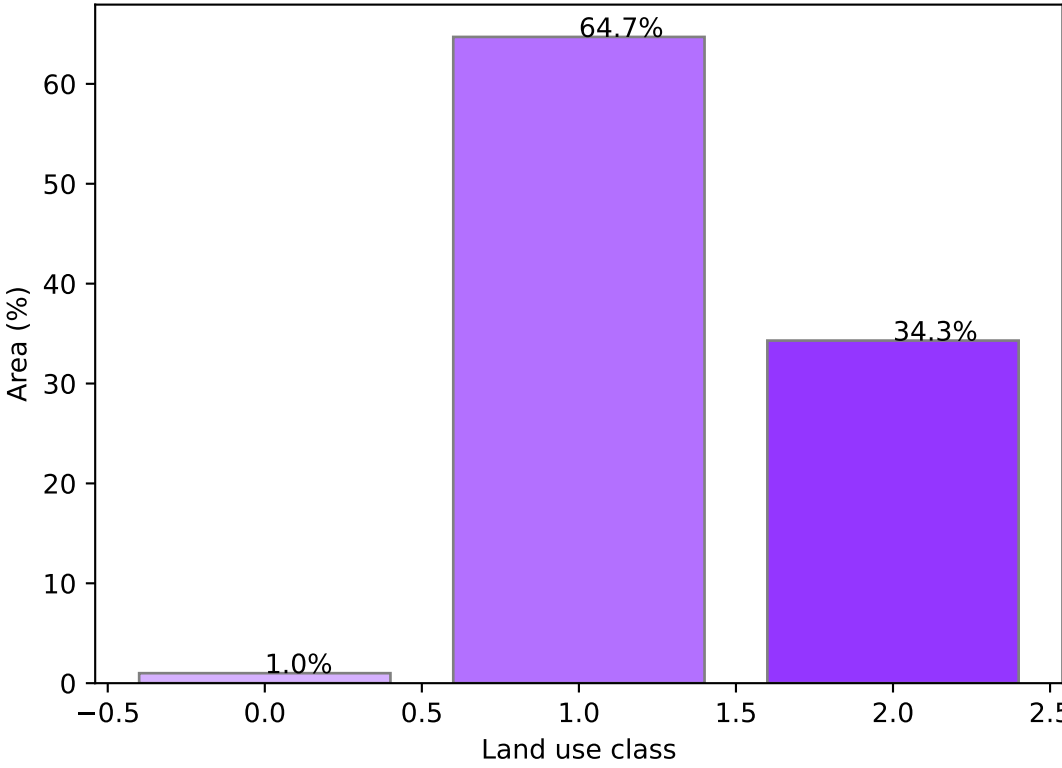
Conservation and natural environments

Land use and forest cover

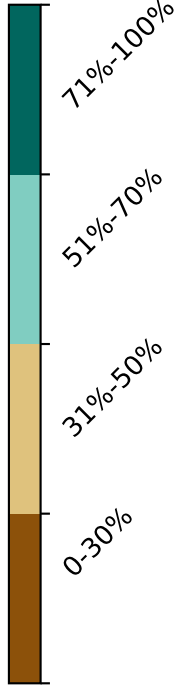
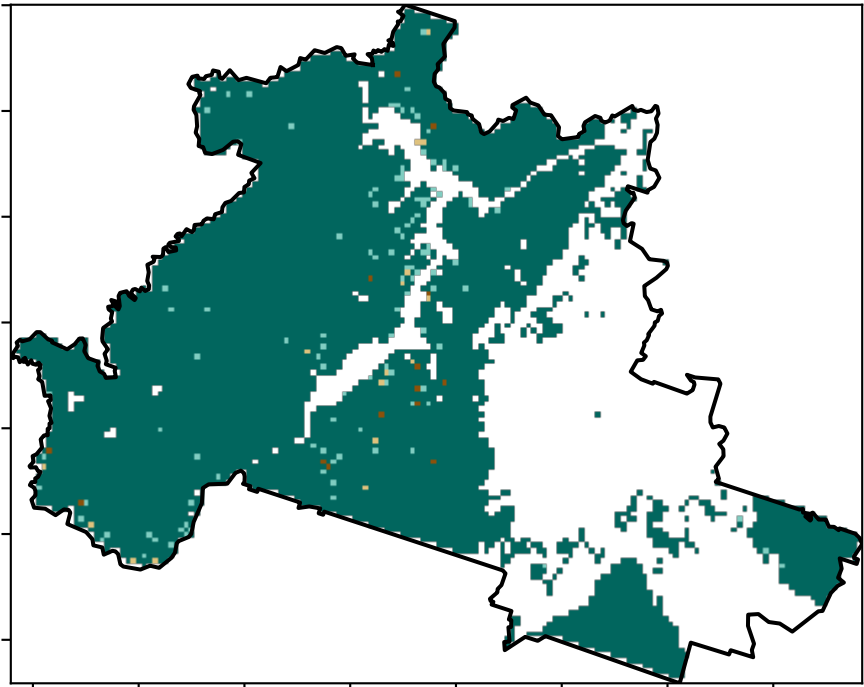
Catchment Scale Land Use and Forests of Australia (2018) Derived from Catchment Scale Land Use of Australia (2018) and Forests of Australia (2018)



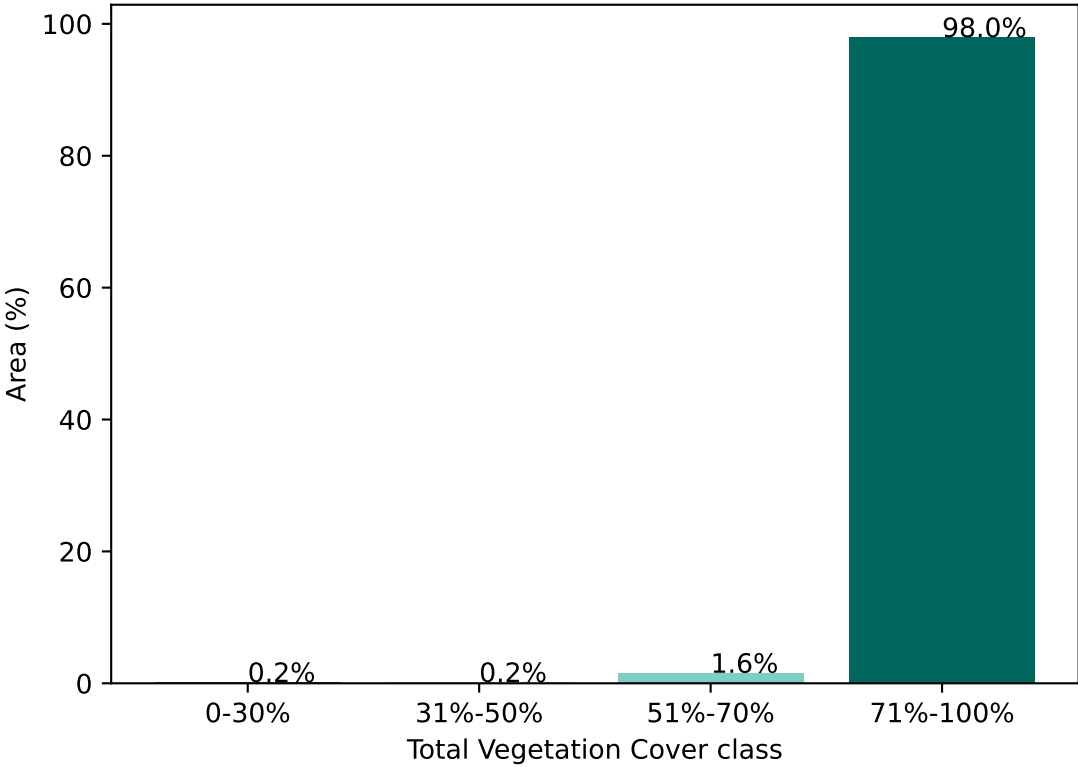
Proportion of each land class in area



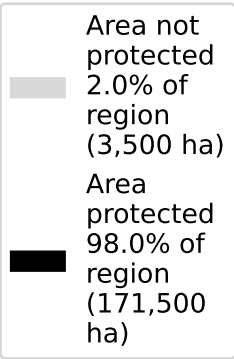
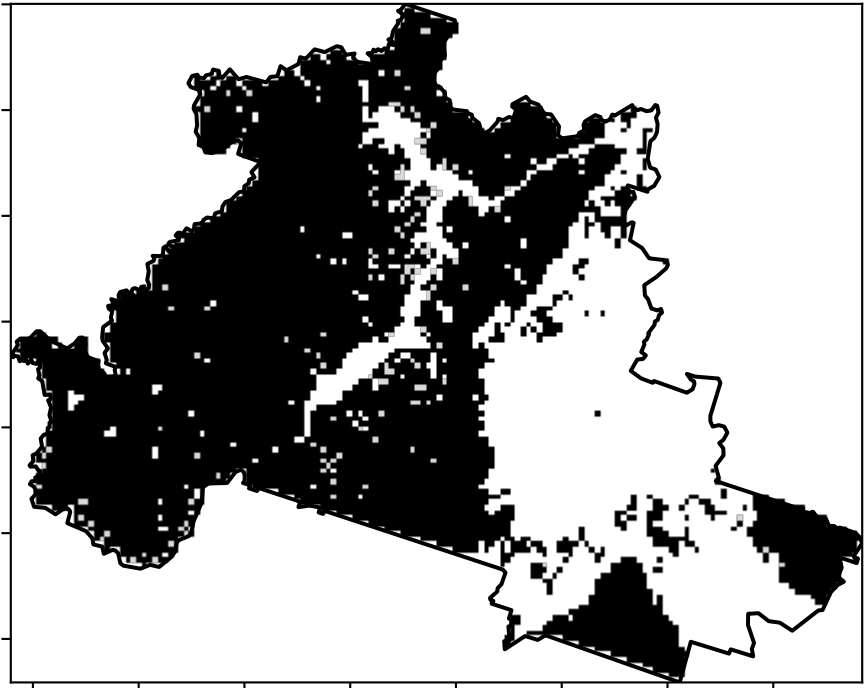
Total Vegetation Cover [%]



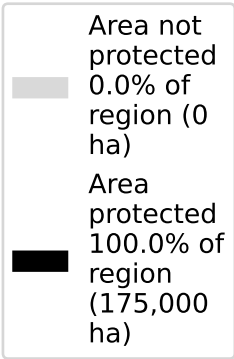
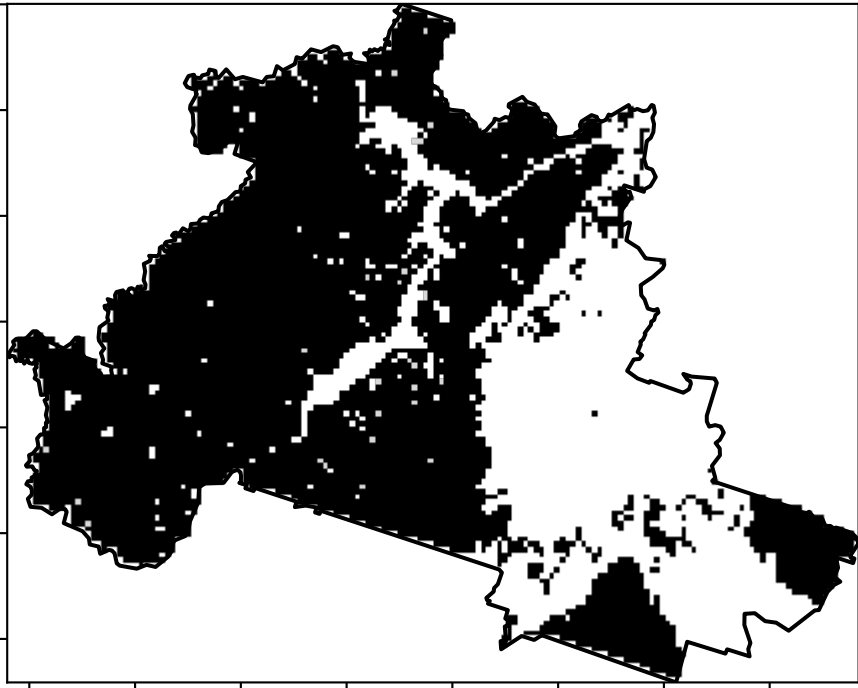
Proportion of vegetation cover class in area



% Area protected from water erosion (>70%)

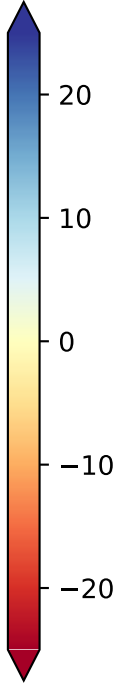
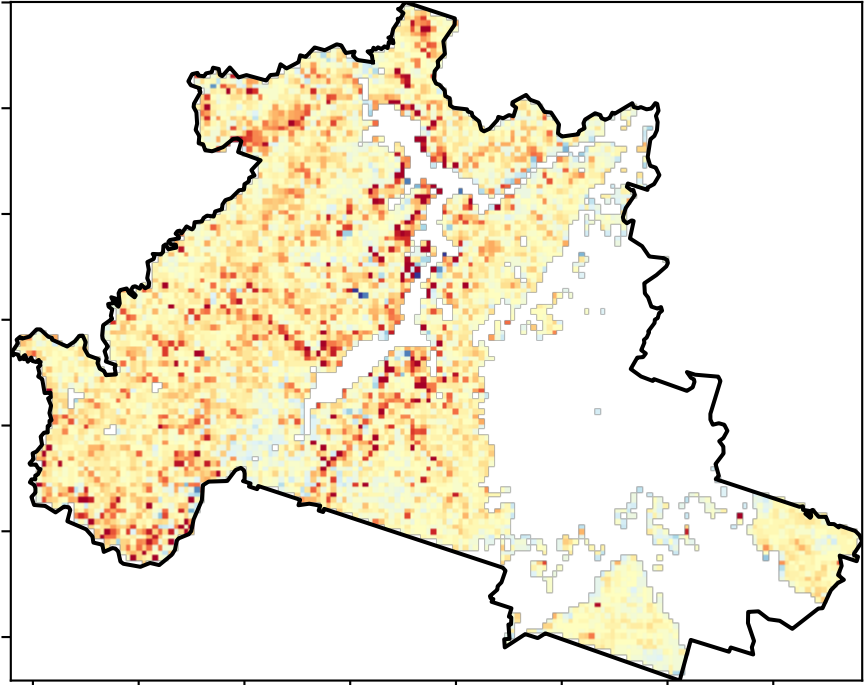


% Area protected from wind erosion (>50%)



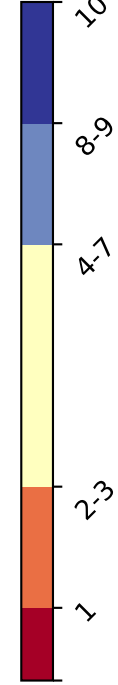
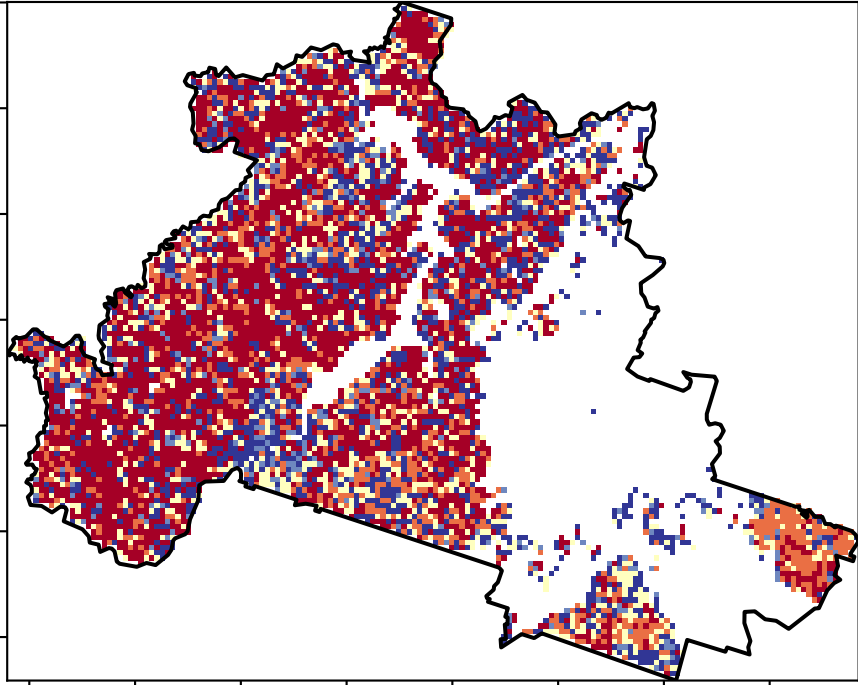
Total Vegetation Cover Anomaly [%]

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 [%]



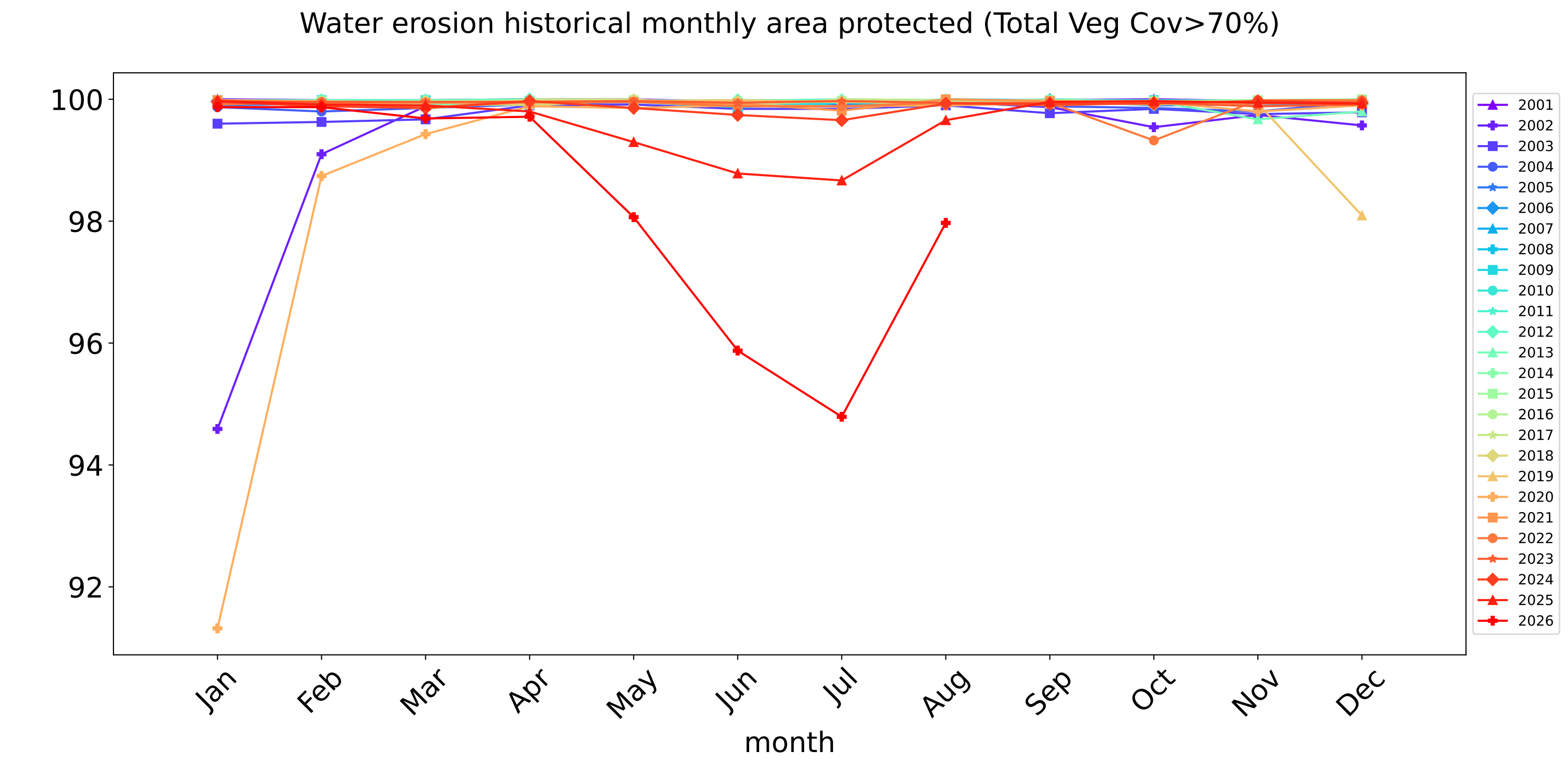
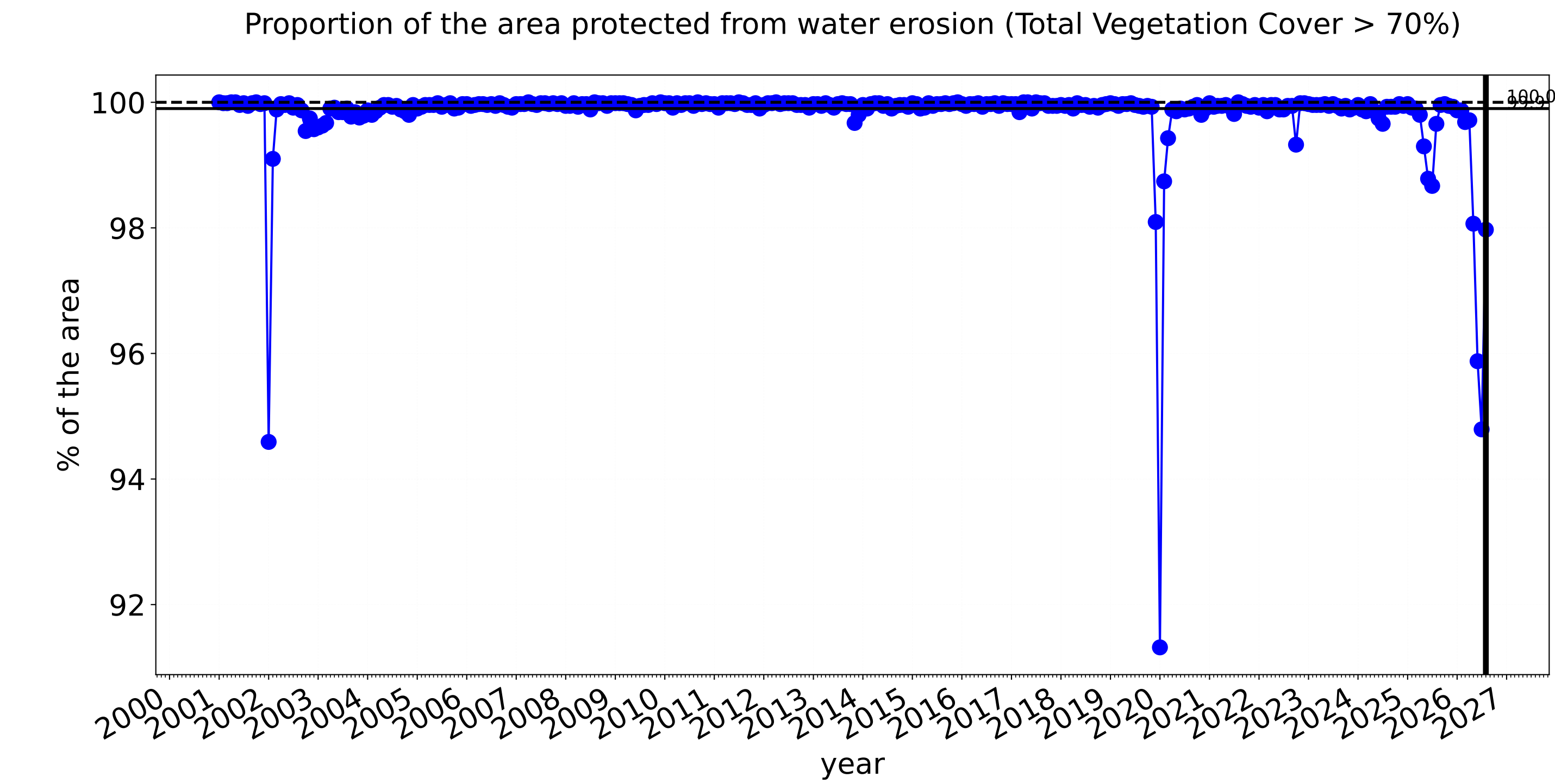
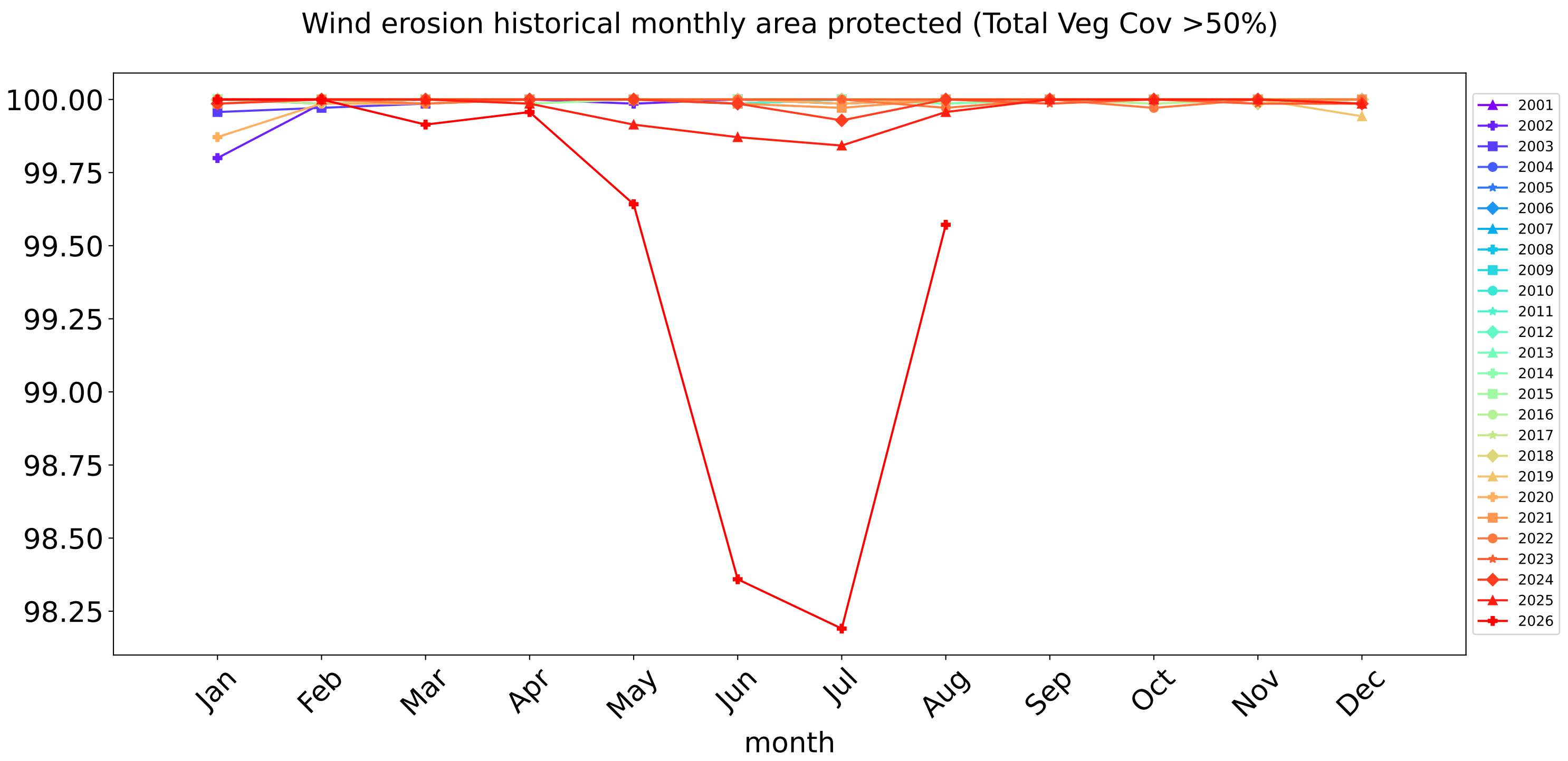
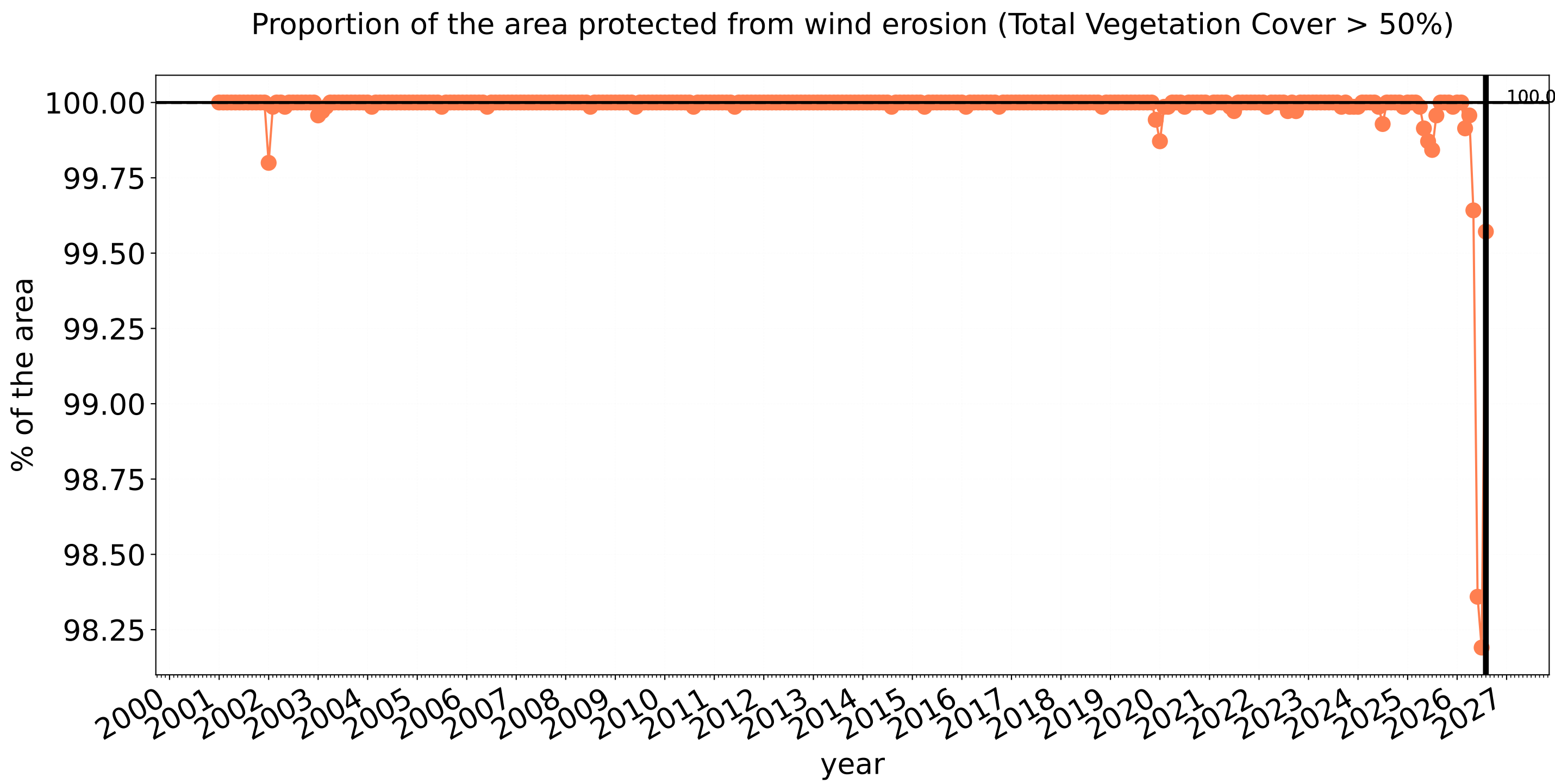
tern
Ecosystem Research Infrastructure



National
Landcare
Programme



Conservation and natural environments timeseries

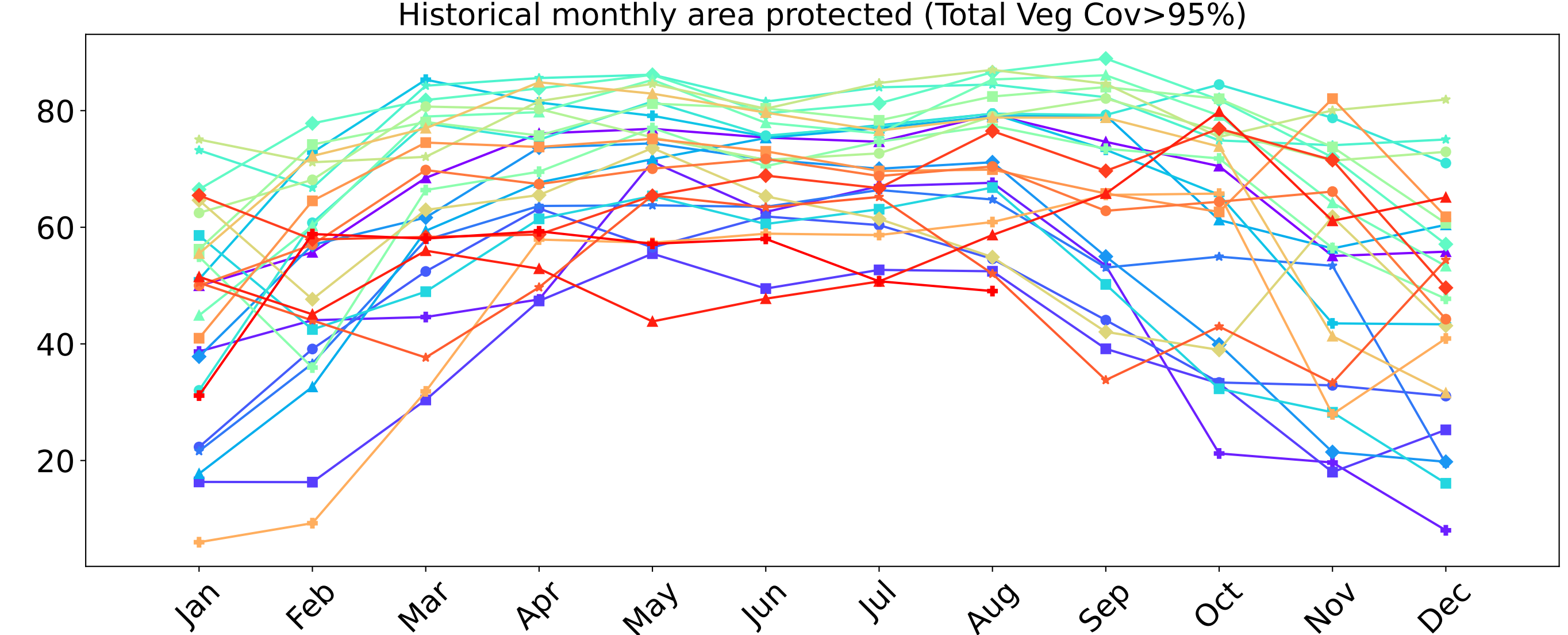
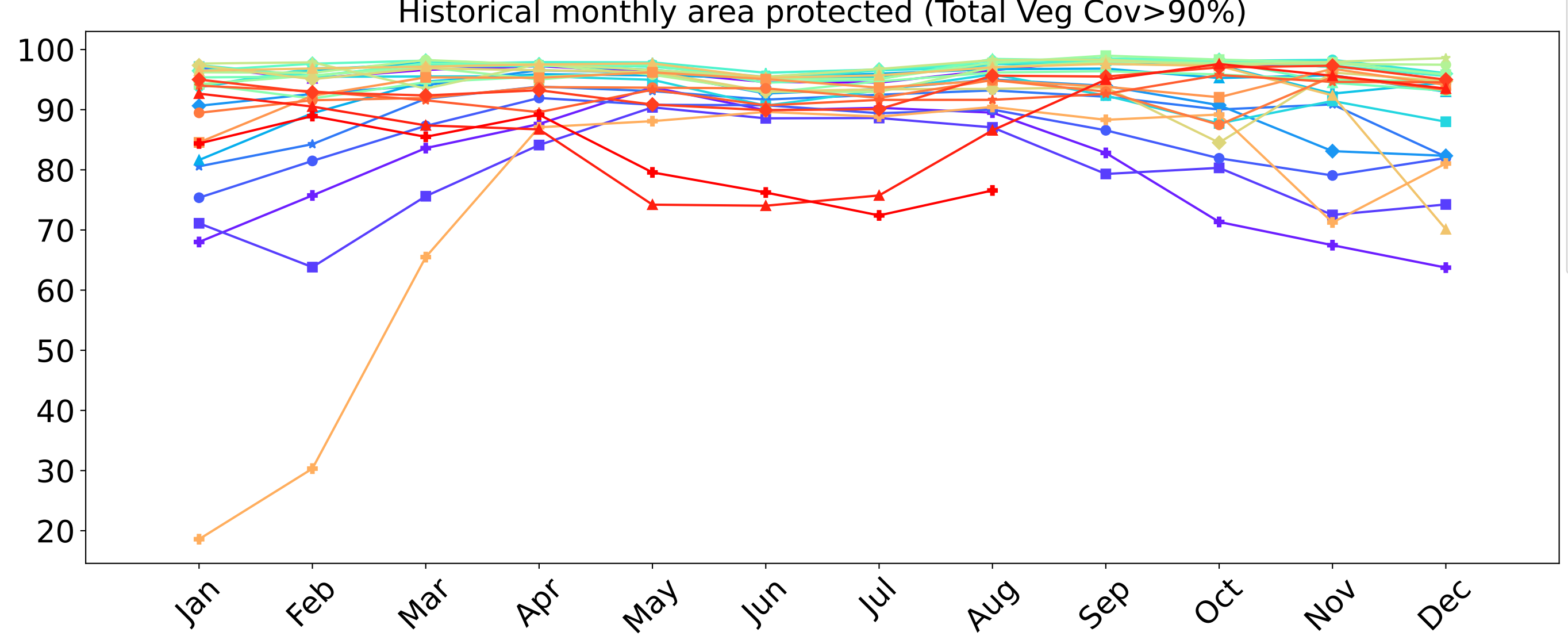
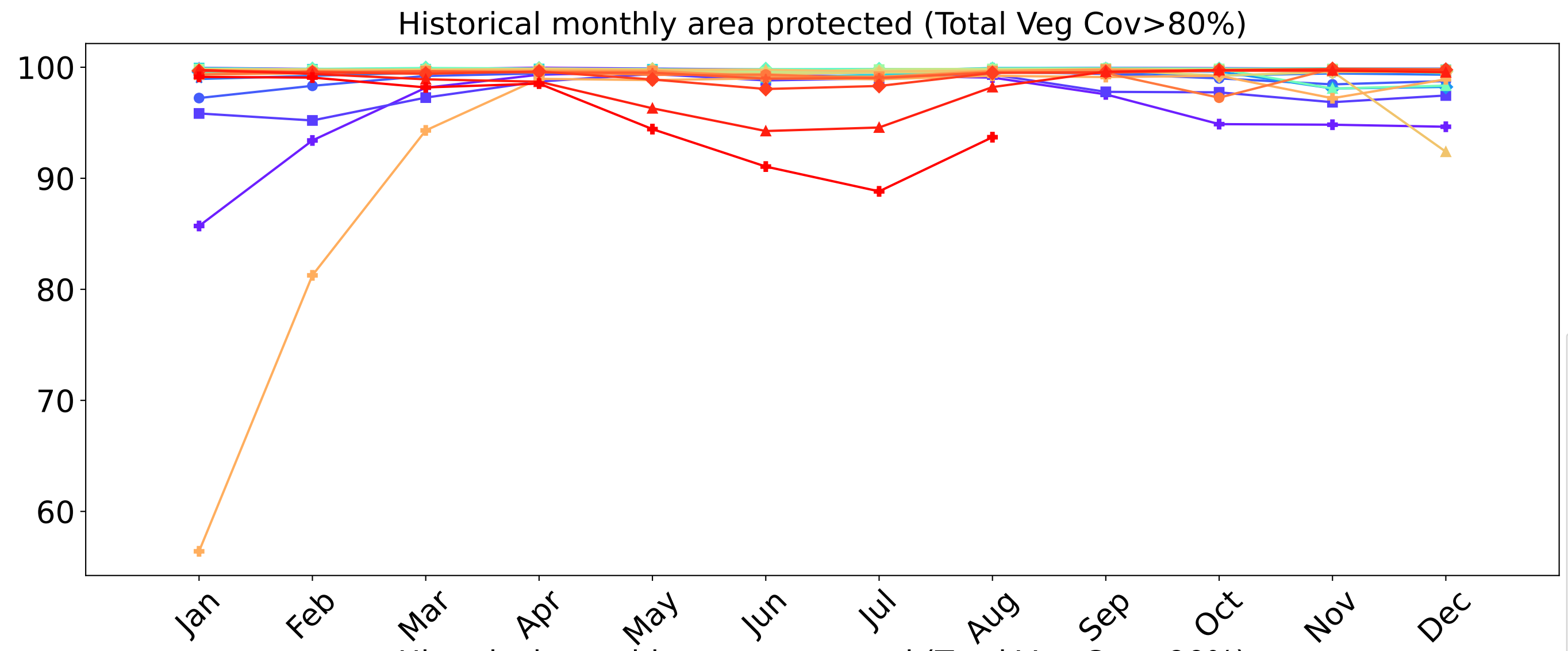
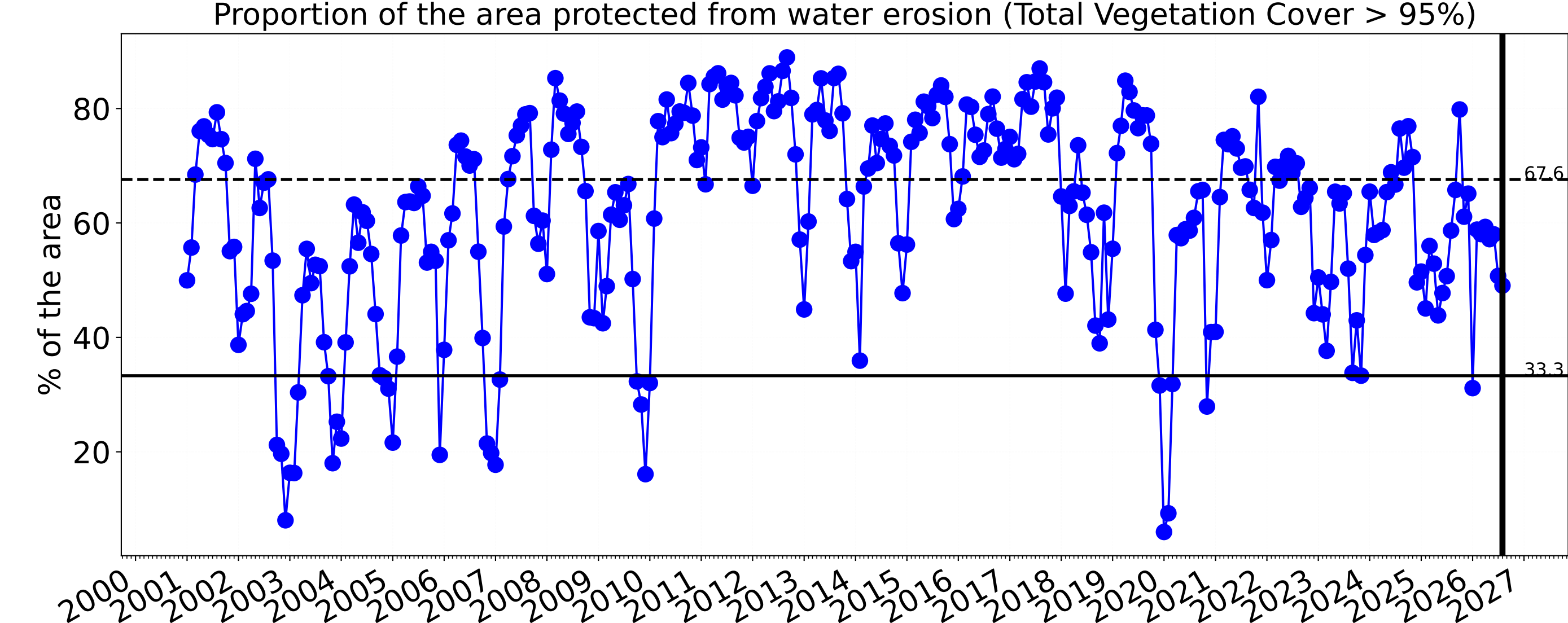
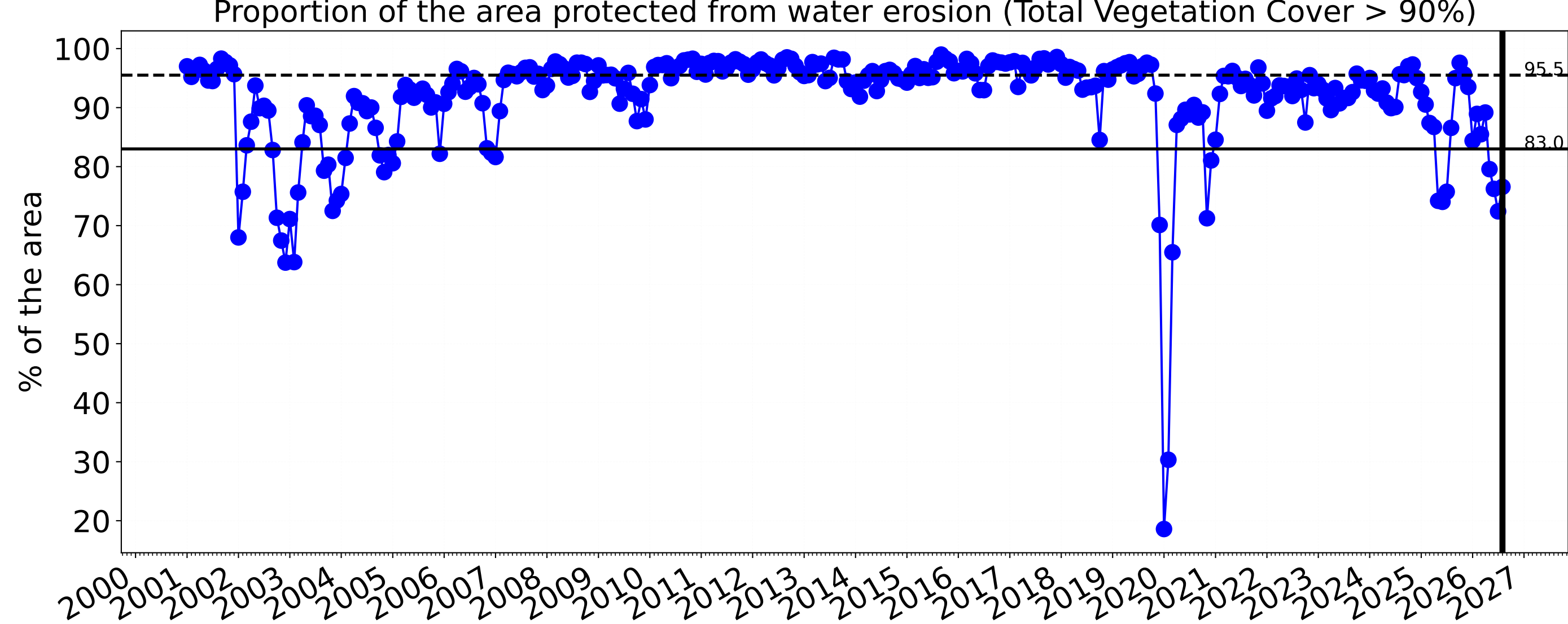
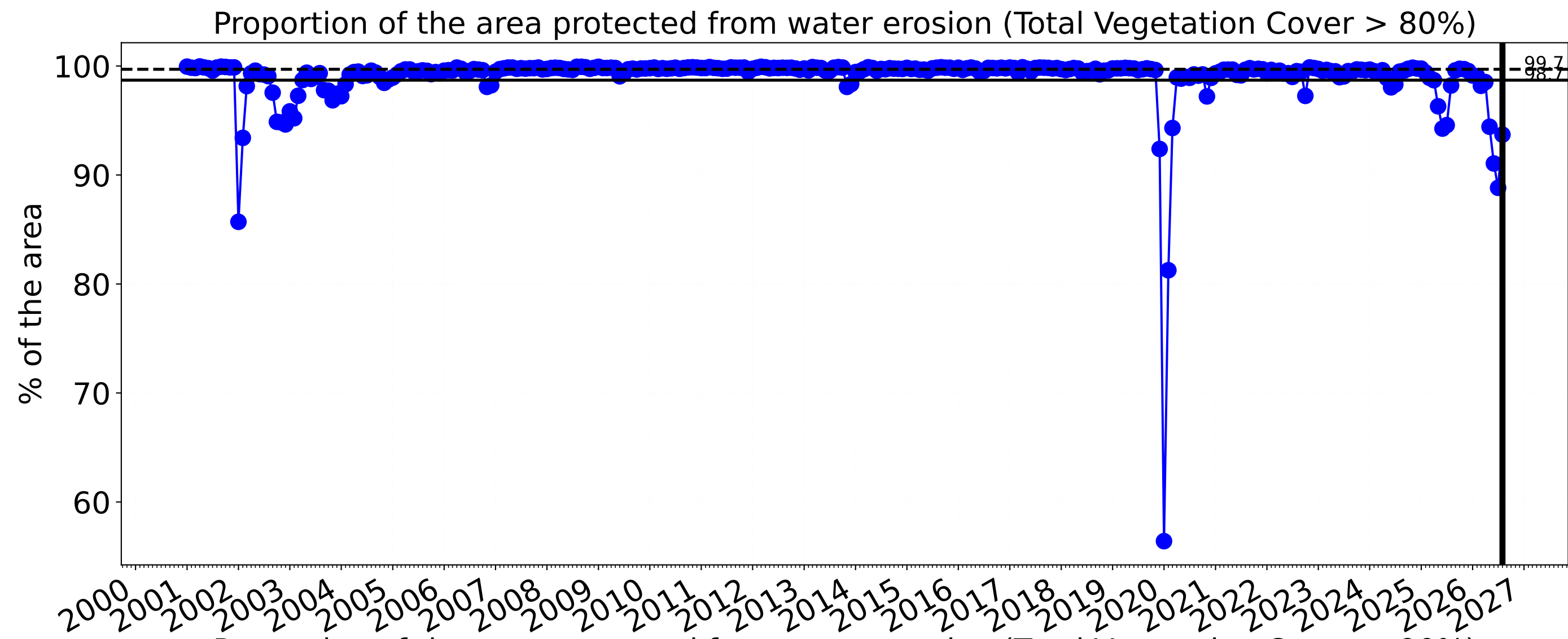


TERN
Ecosystem Research Infrastructure



National
Landcare
Programme

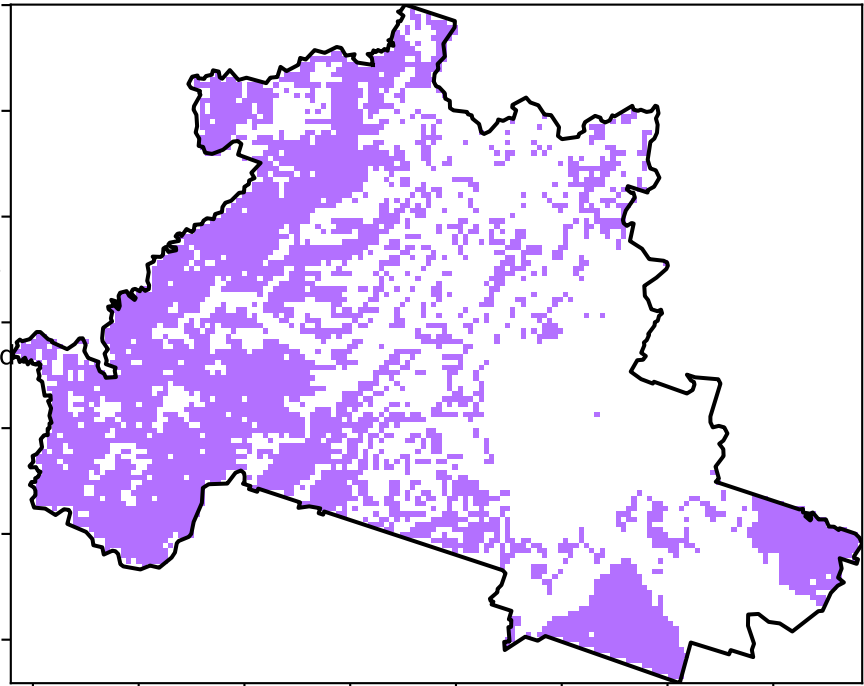




Conservation and natural environments Woodland forest

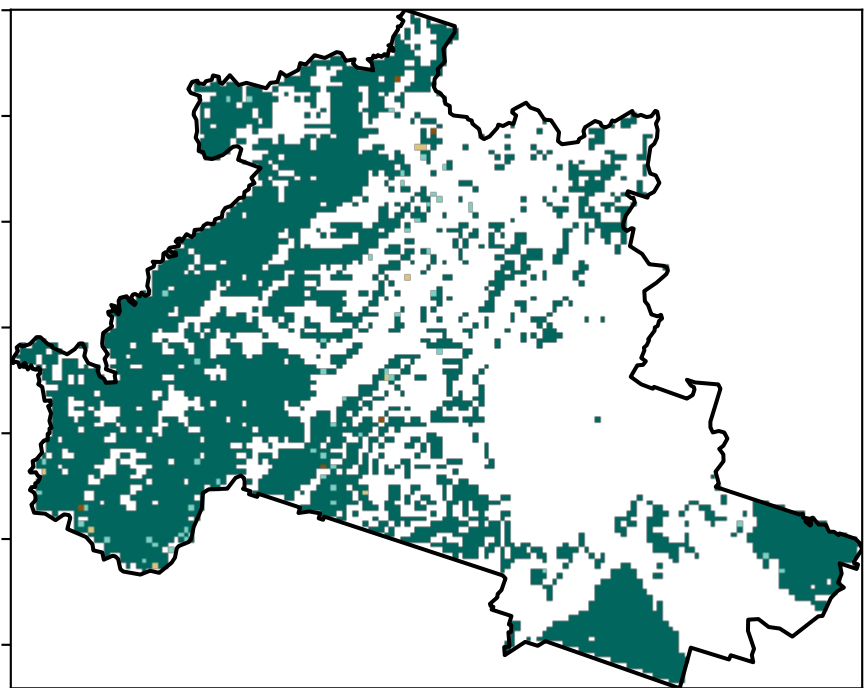
Land use and forest cover

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

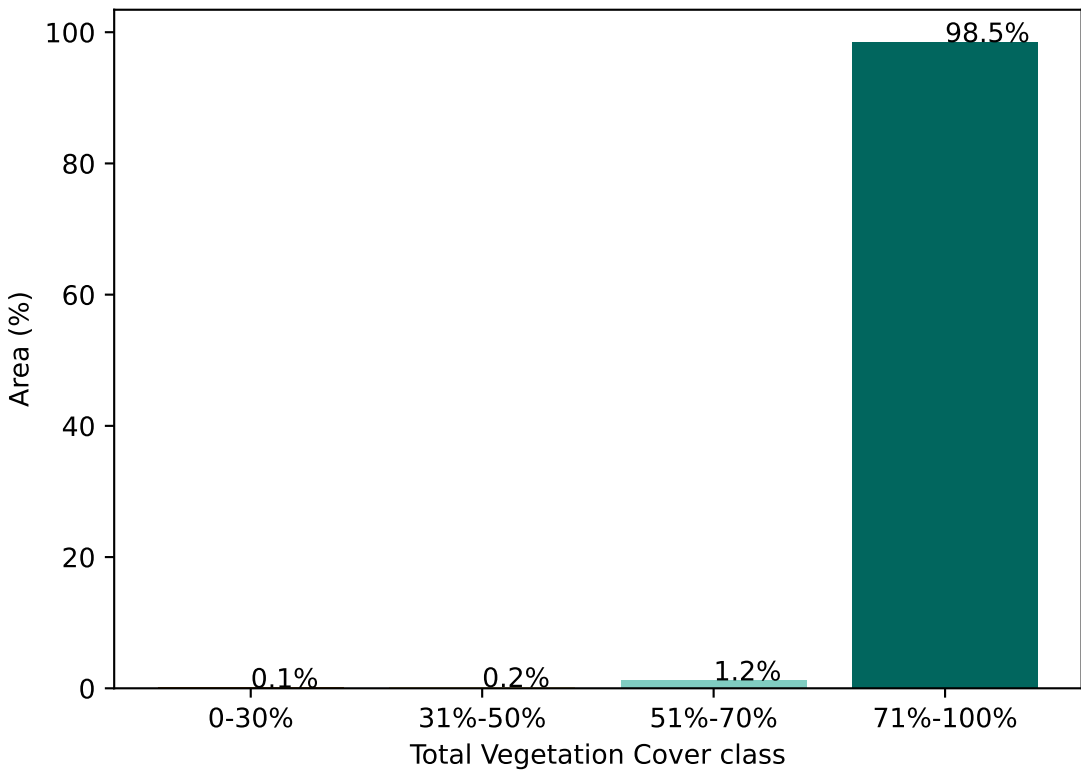


1 Conservation and natural environments - Woodland forest

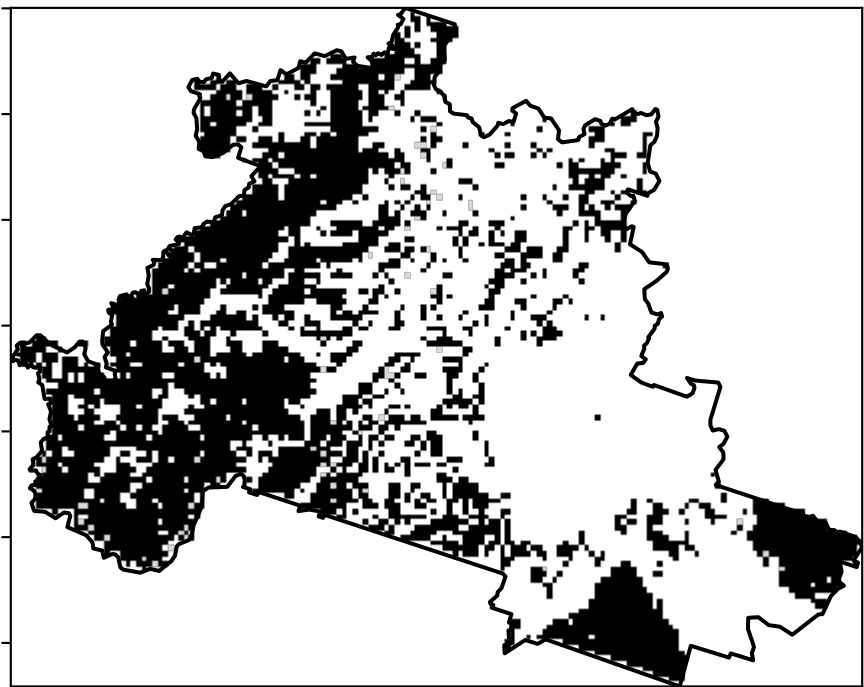
Total Vegetation Cover [%]



Proportion of vegetation cover class in area

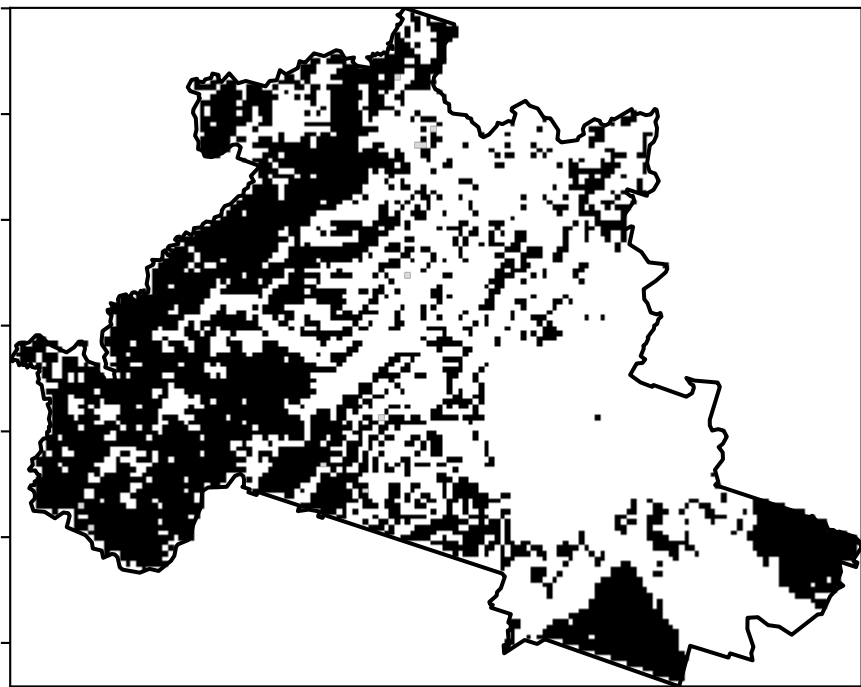


% Area protected from water erosion (>70%)



Area not protected
1.5% of region
(1,701 ha)
Area protected
98.5% of region
(111,674 ha)

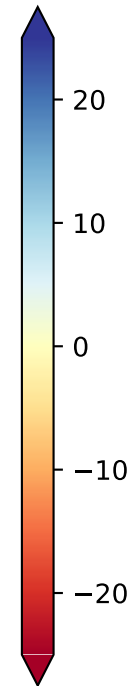
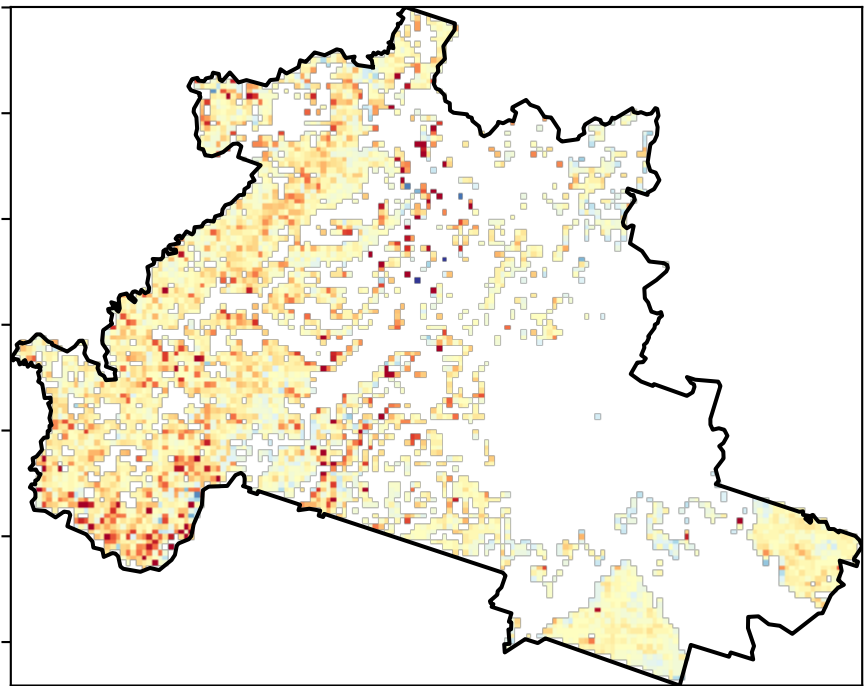
% Area protected from wind erosion (>50%)



Area not protected
0.0% of region (0 ha)
Area protected
100.0% of region
(113,375 ha)

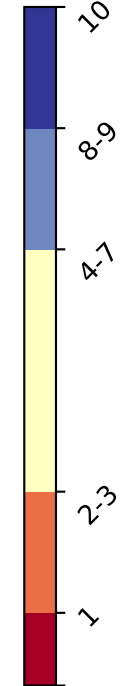
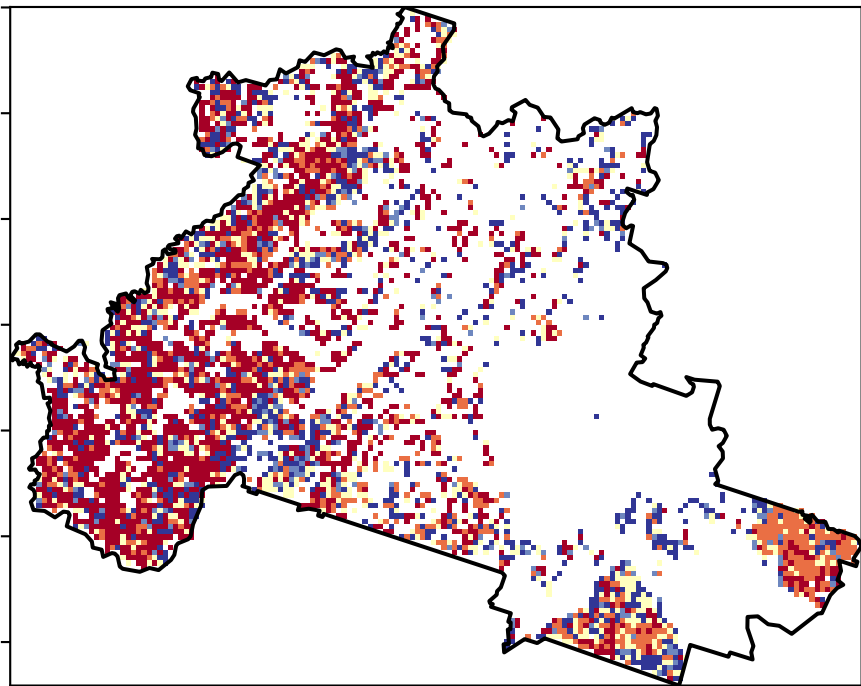
Total Vegetation Cover Anomaly [%]

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.

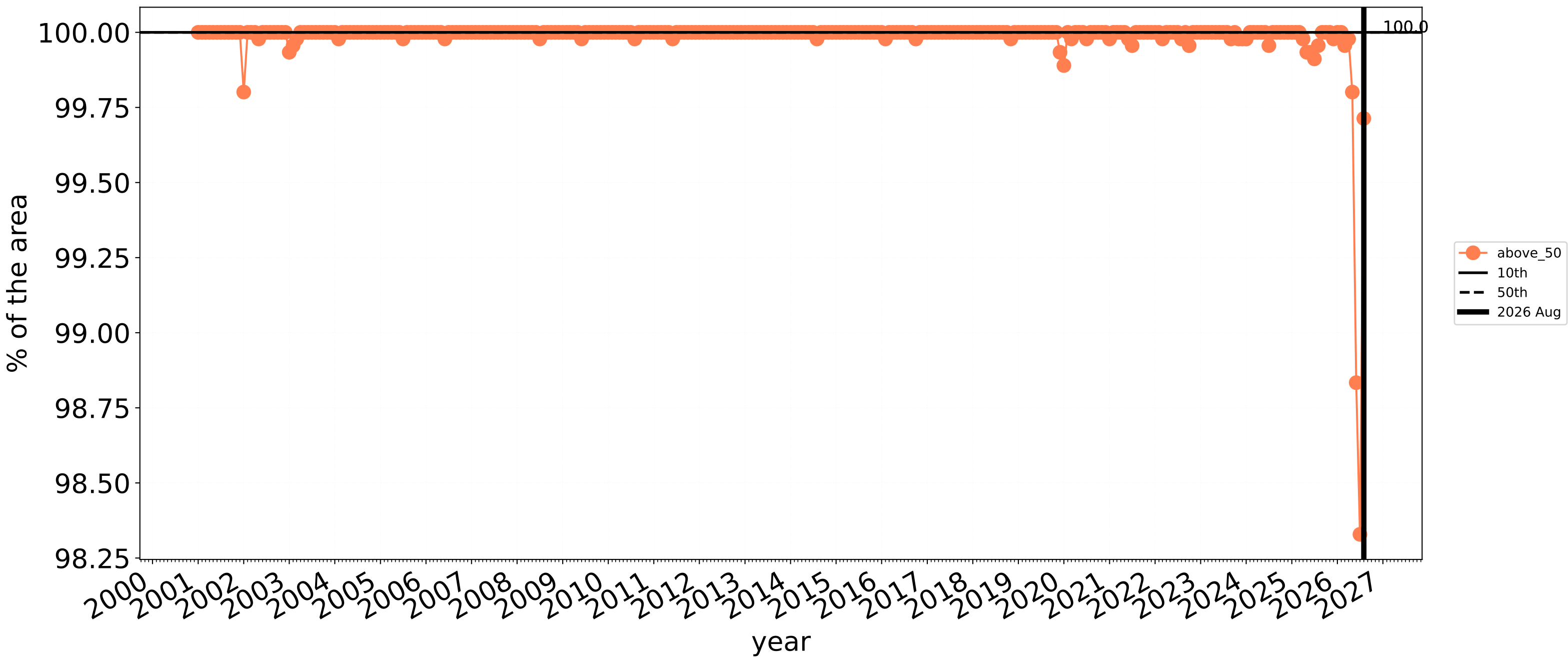


Deciles show where the pixel value lies in the record, from highest to lowest, for that month. That is, red pixels are in the lowest 10% of records for that month of the map using baseline from 2001 to 2019.

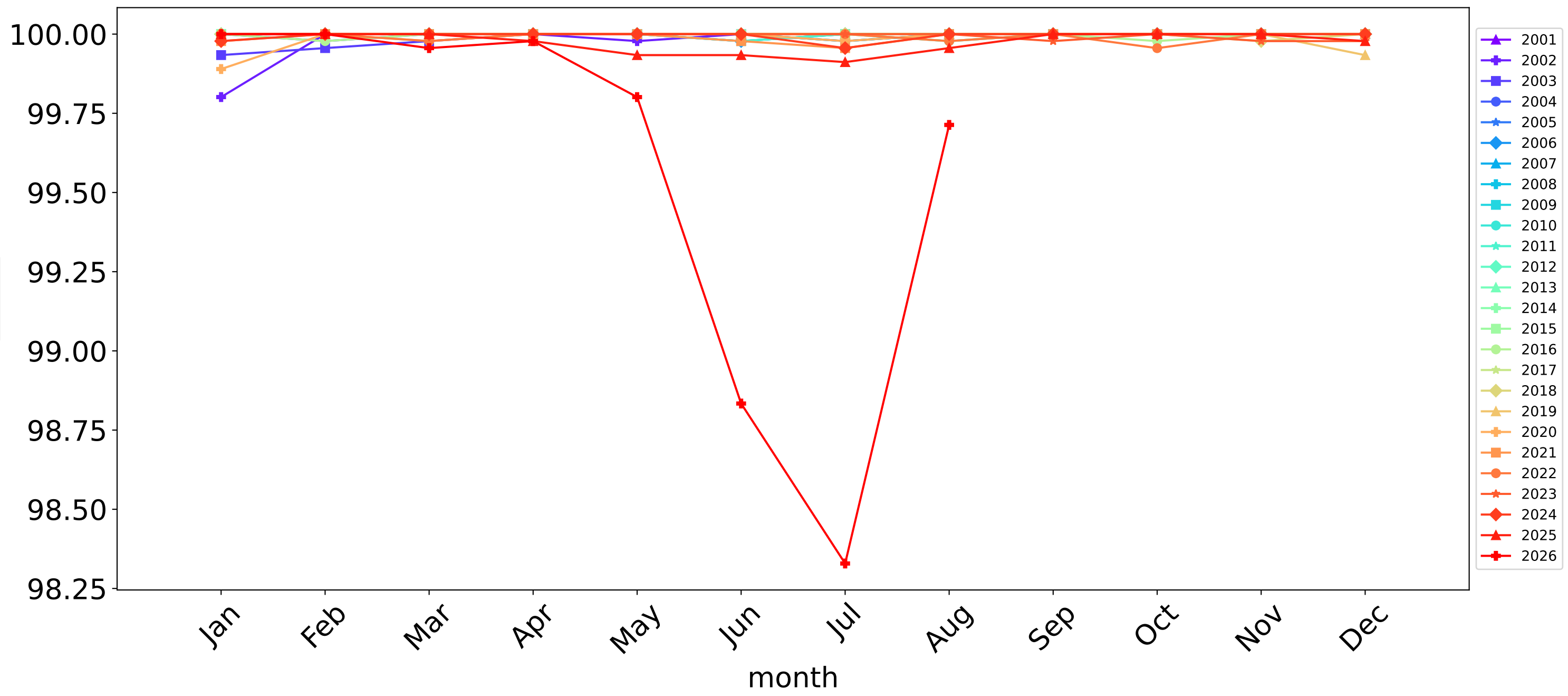
Total Vegetation Cover Decile [%]



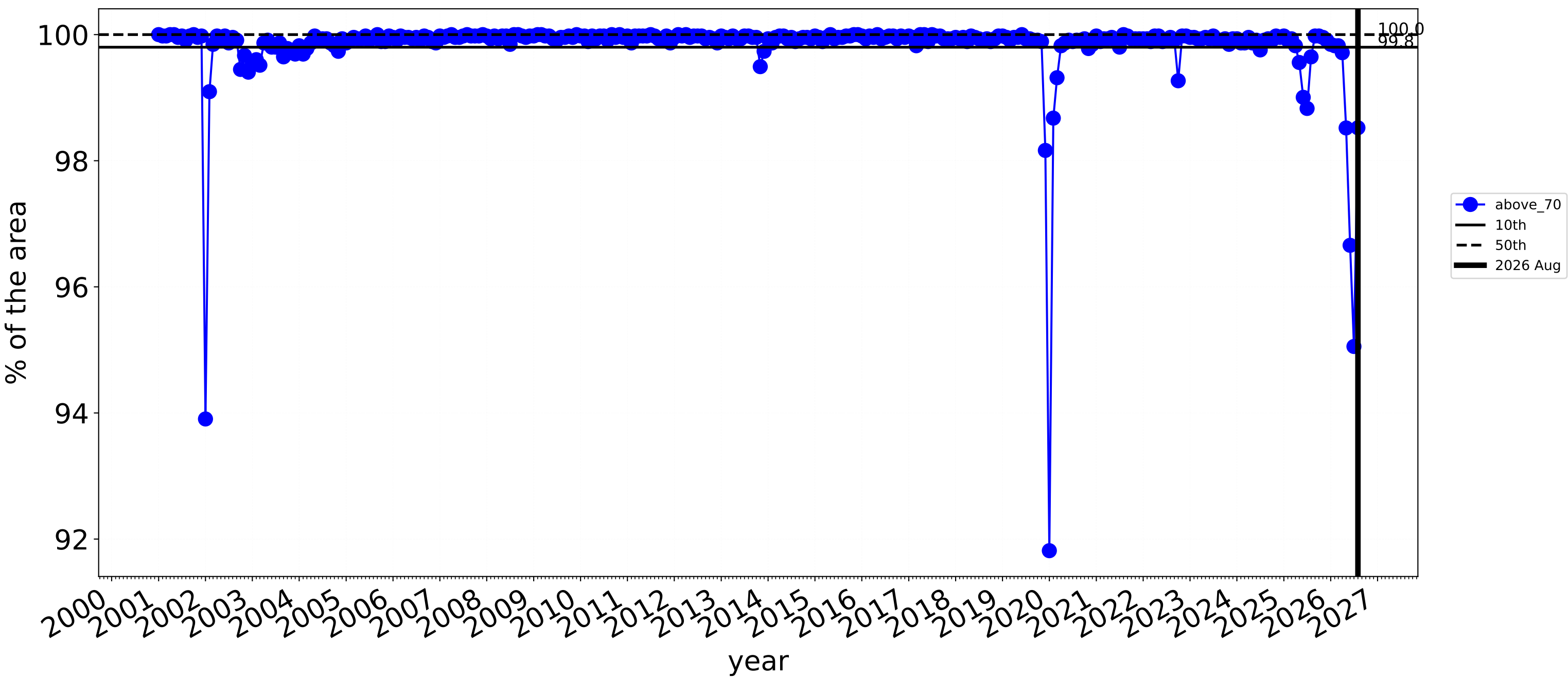
Proportion of the area protected from wind erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 50%)



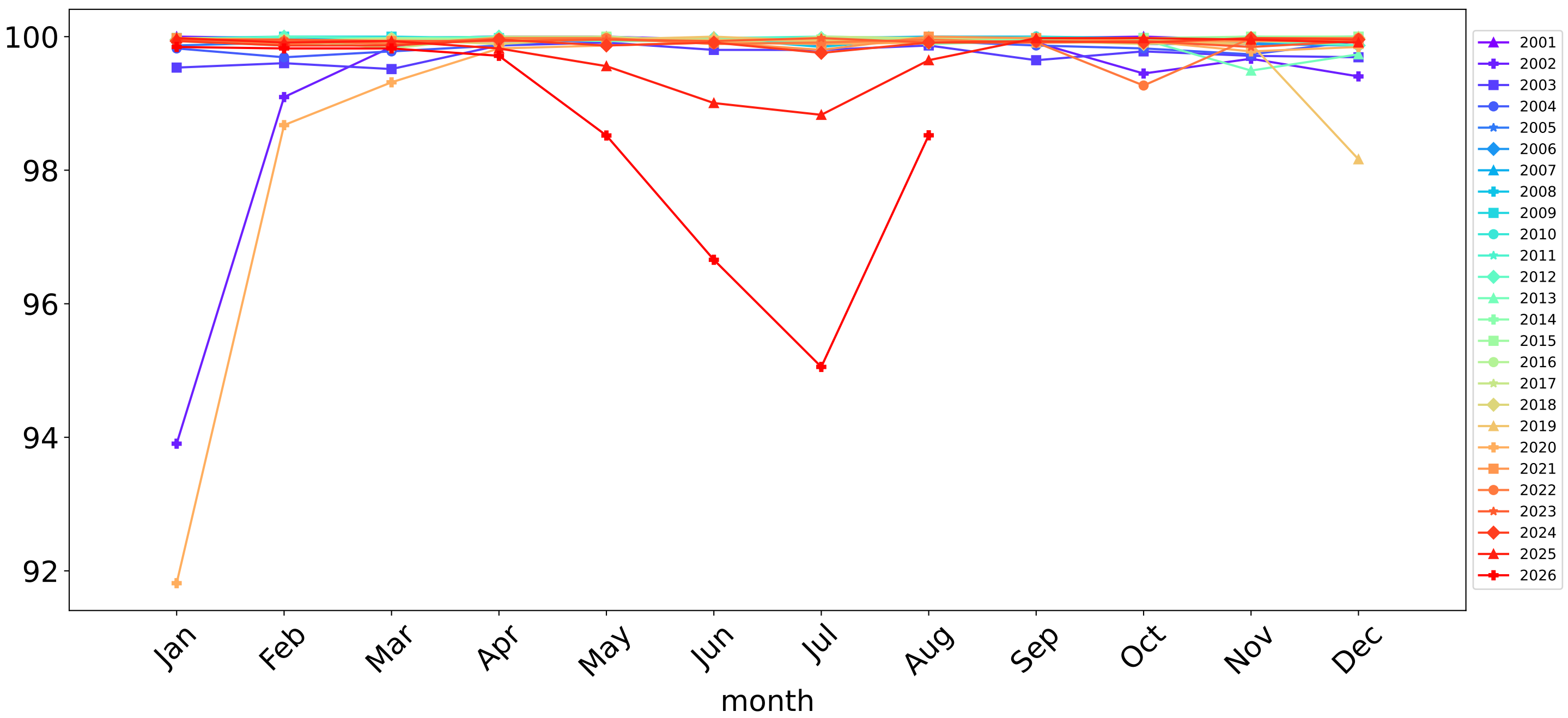
Wind erosion historical monthly area protected (Total Veg Cov >50%)

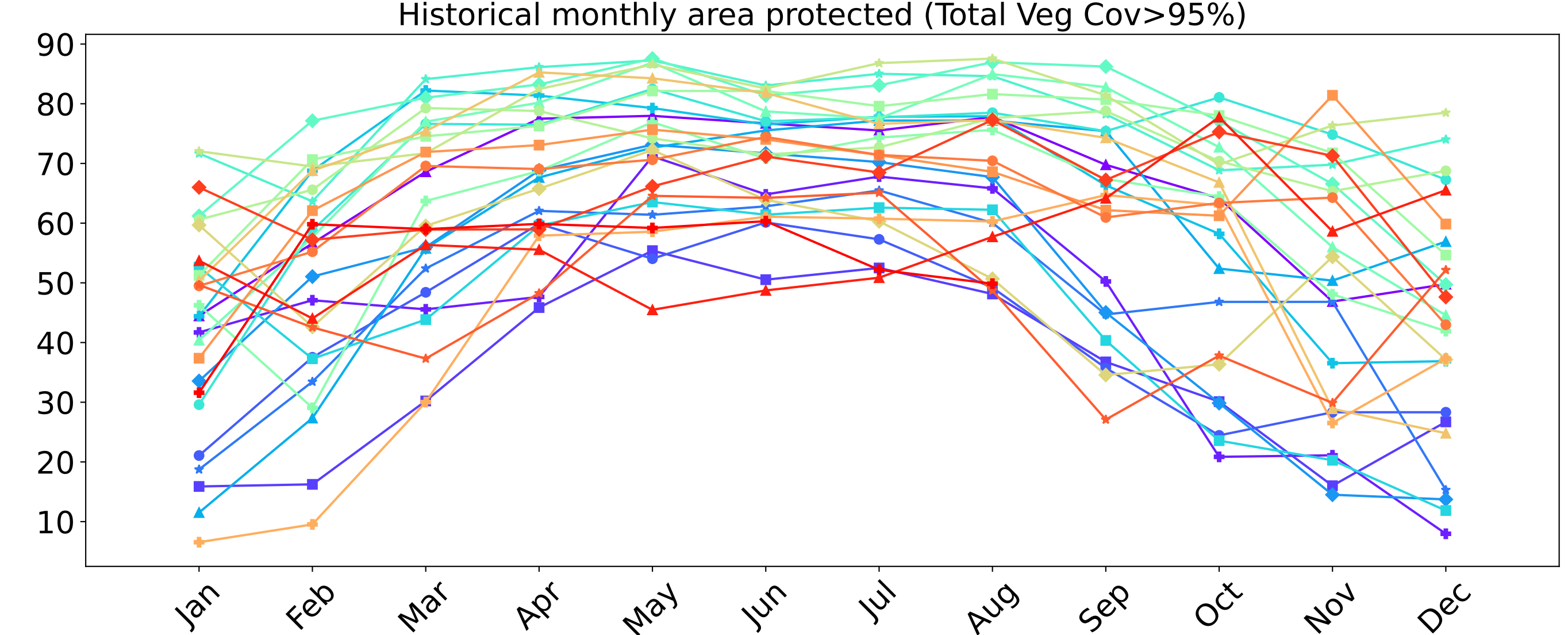
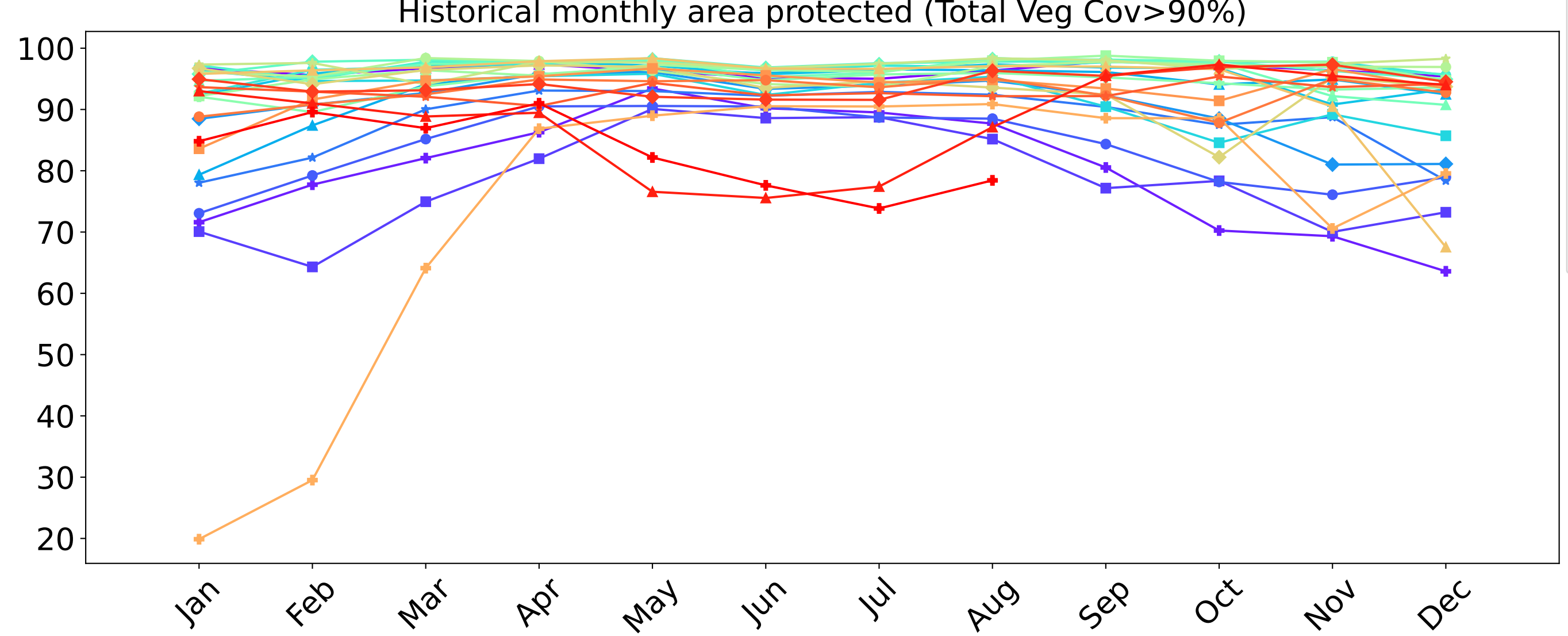
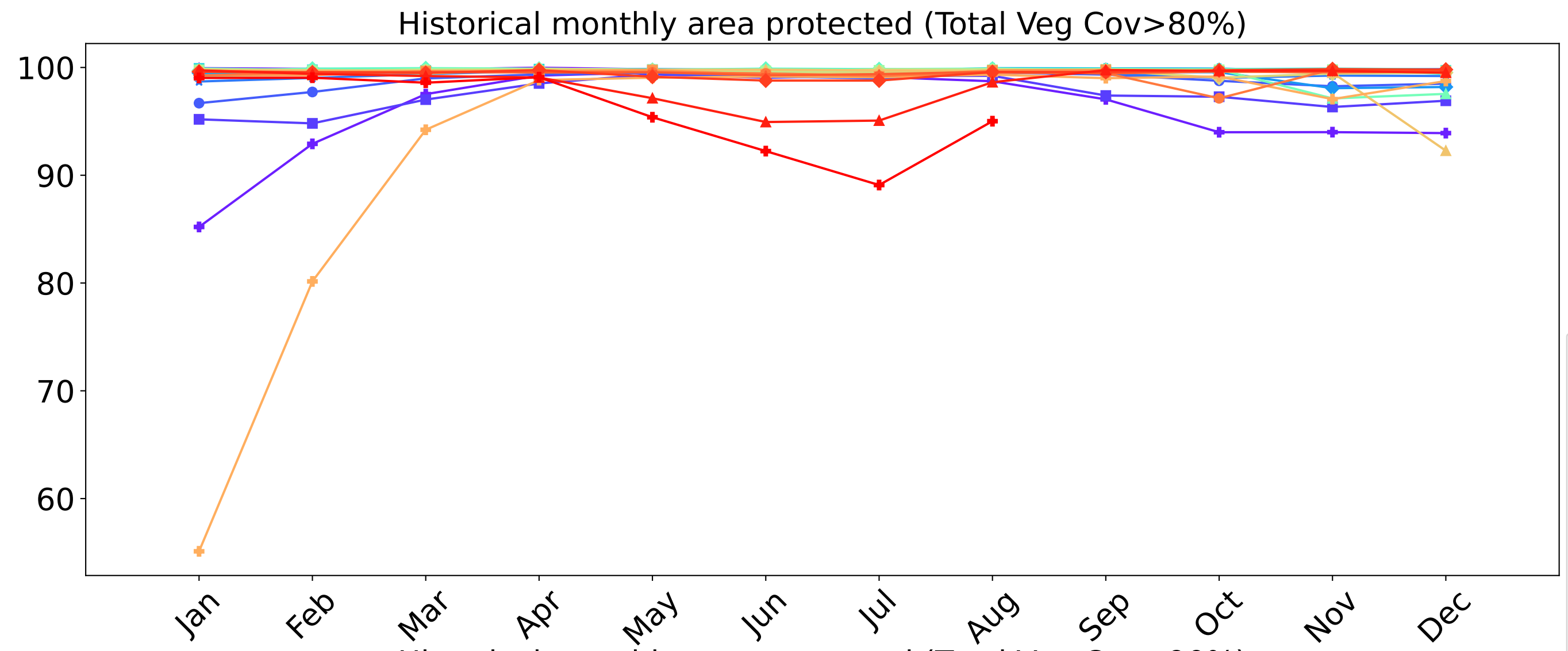
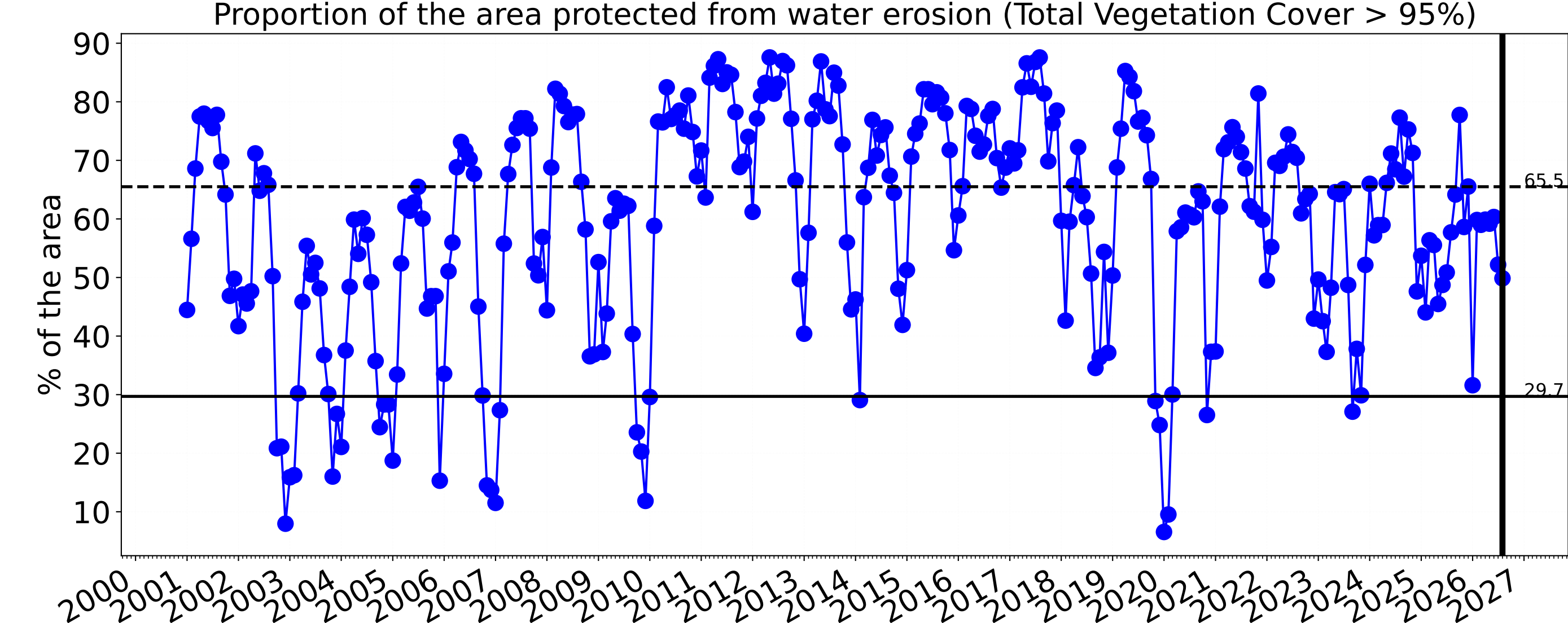
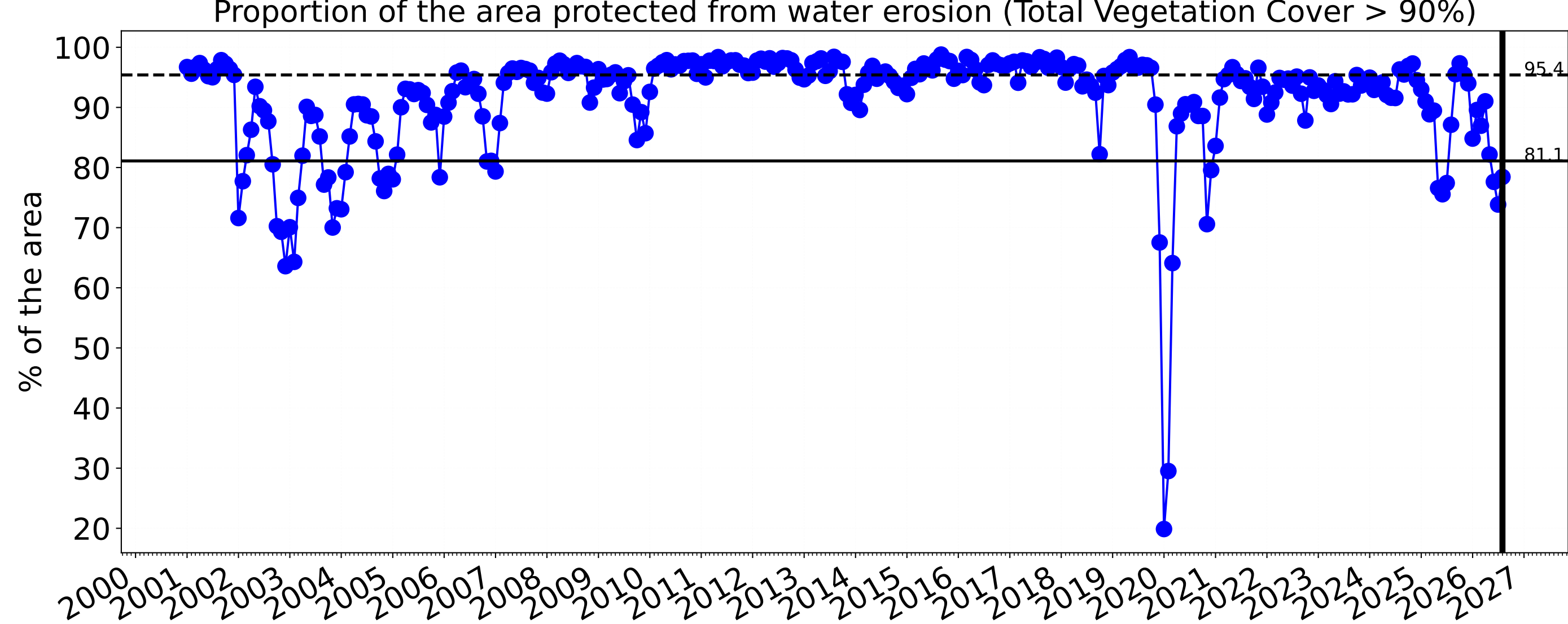
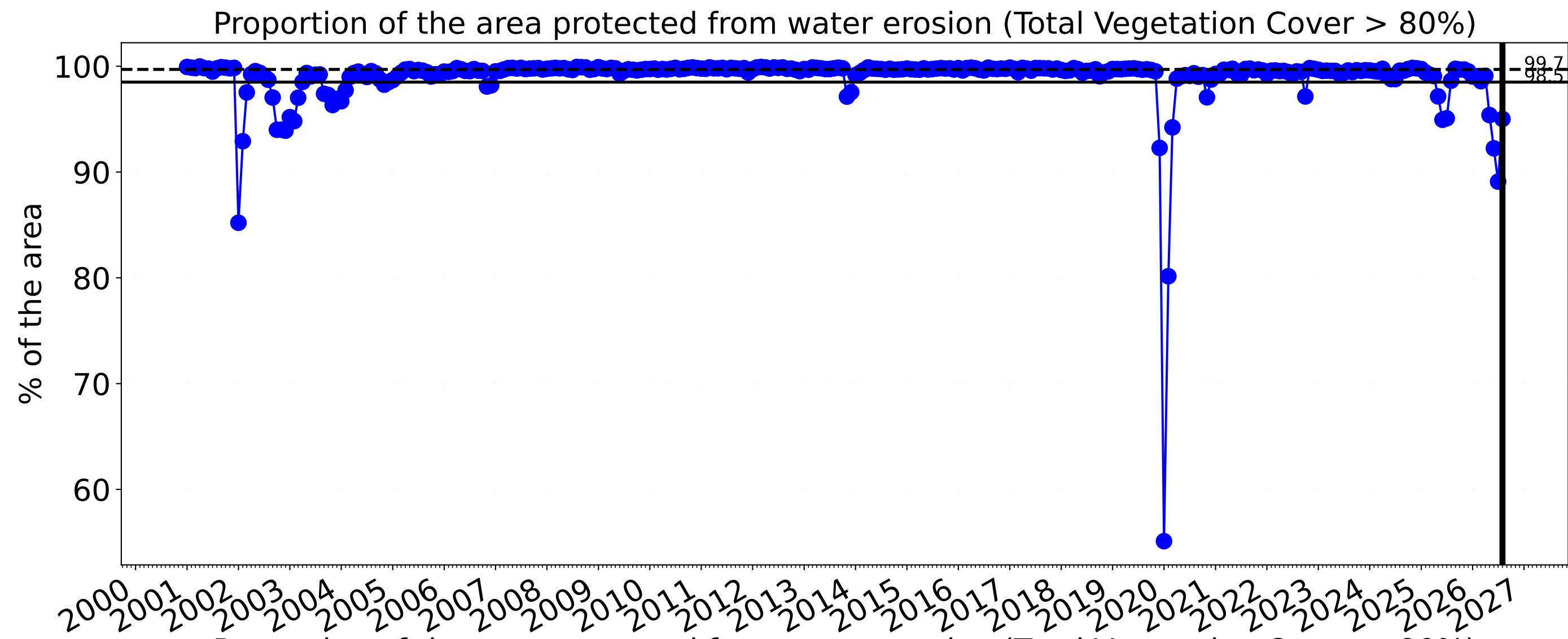


Proportion of the area protected from water erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 70%)



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

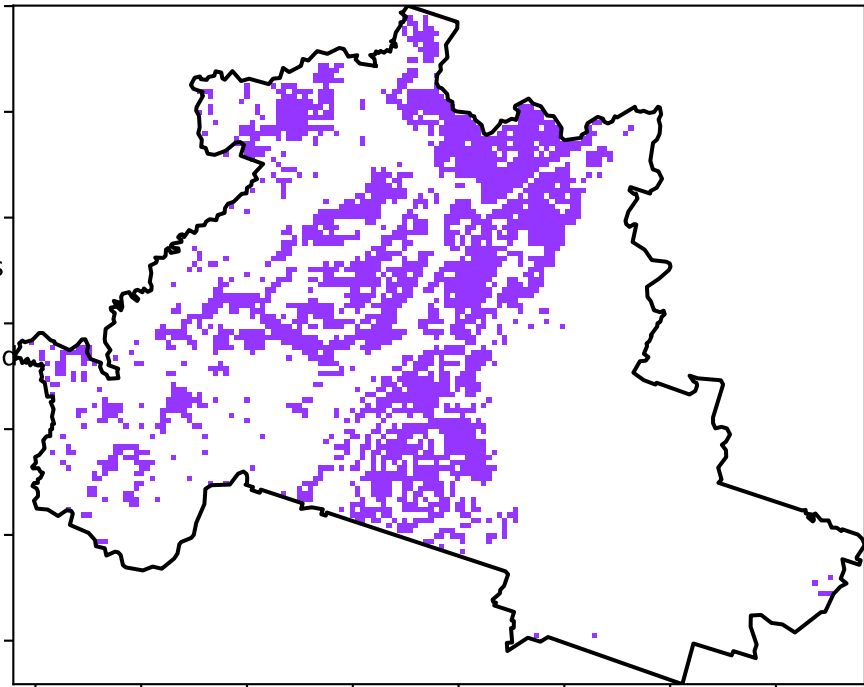




Conservation and natural environments Forest (non woodland)

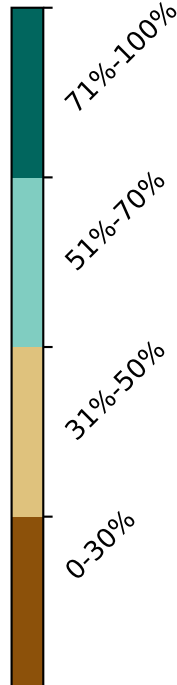
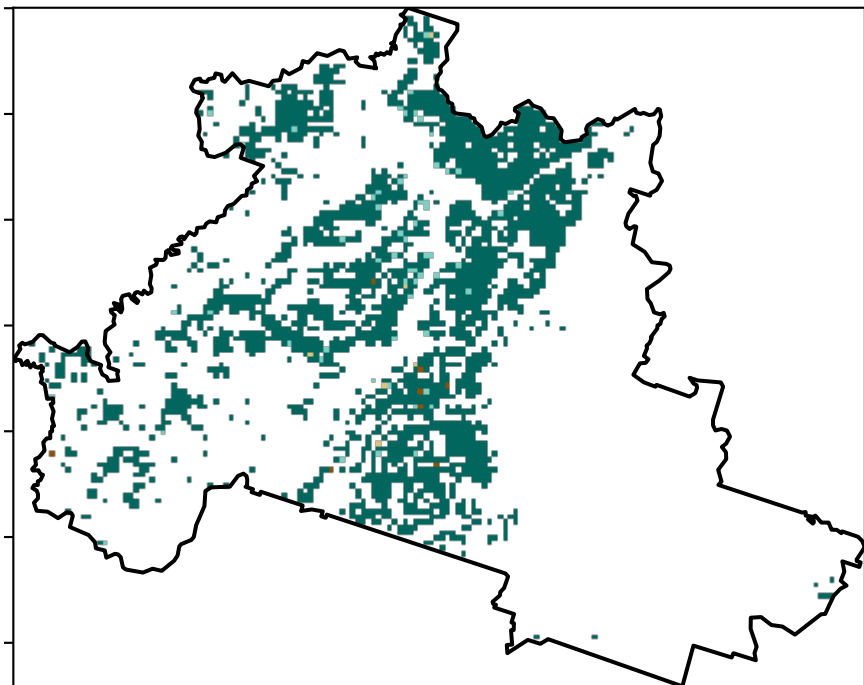
Land use and forest cover

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

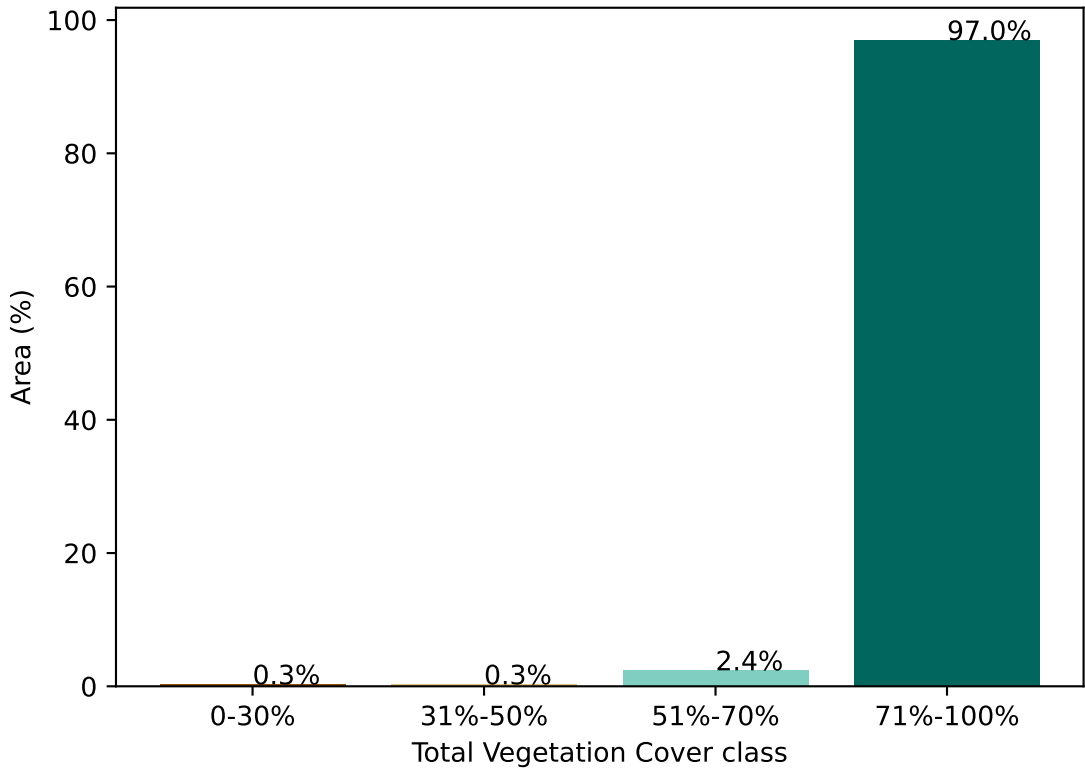


1 Conservation and natural environments - Non-woodland forest

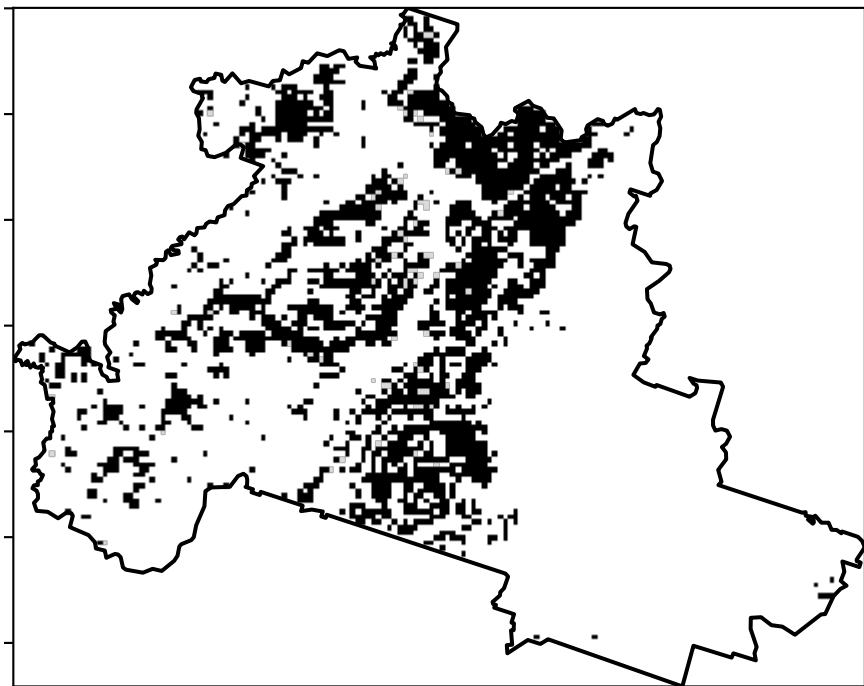
Total Vegetation Cover [%]



Proportion of vegetation cover class in area

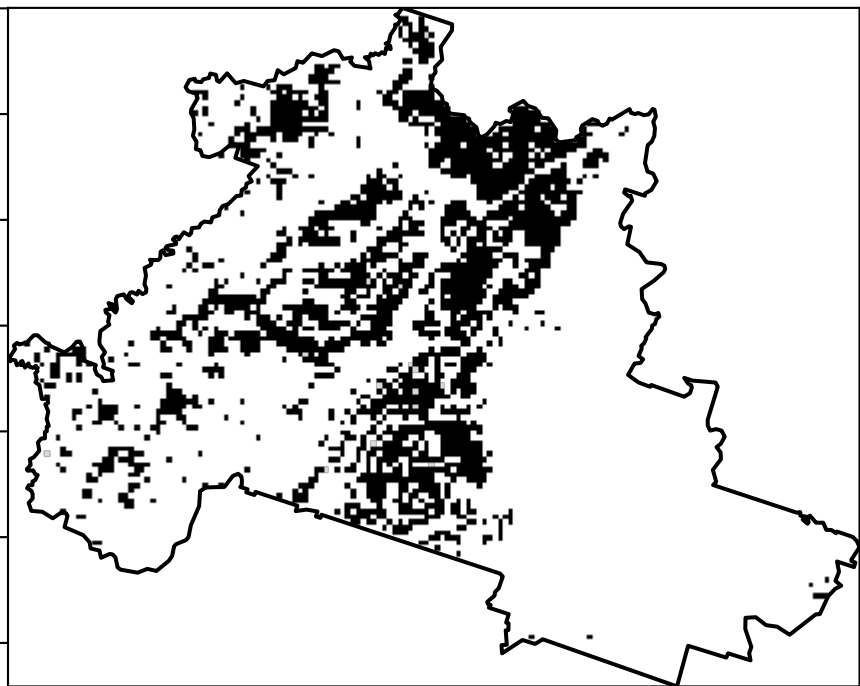


% Area protected from water erosion (>70%)



Area not protected
3.0% of region
(1,796 ha)
Area protected
97.0% of region
(58,079 ha)

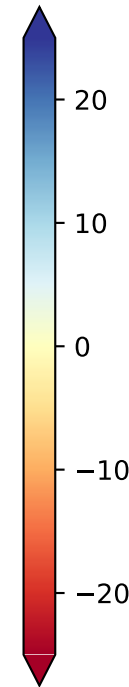
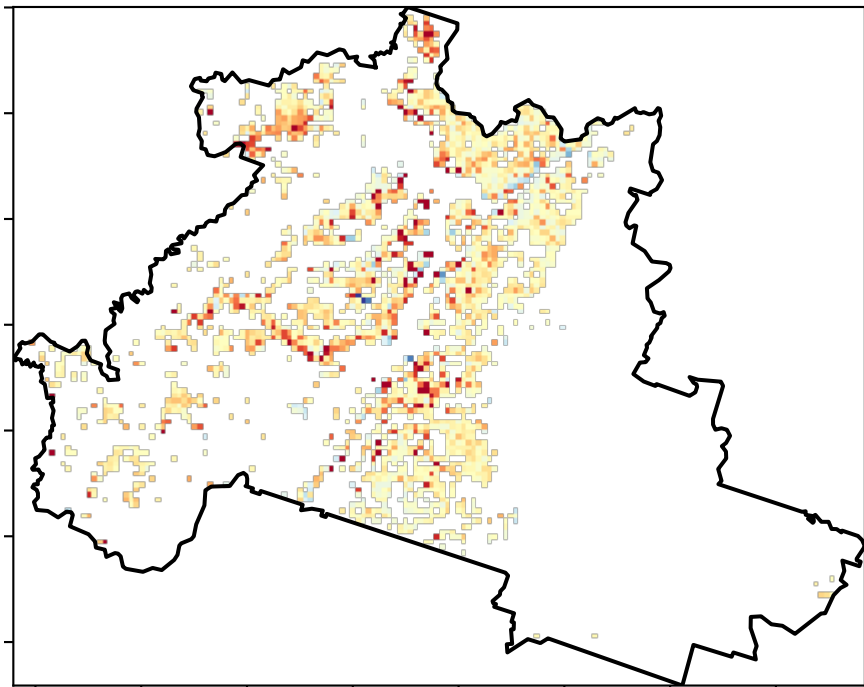
% Area protected from wind erosion (>50%)



Area not protected
1.0% of region
(599 ha)
Area protected
99.0% of region
(59,276 ha)

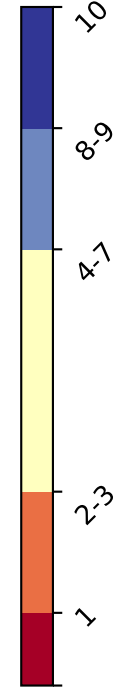
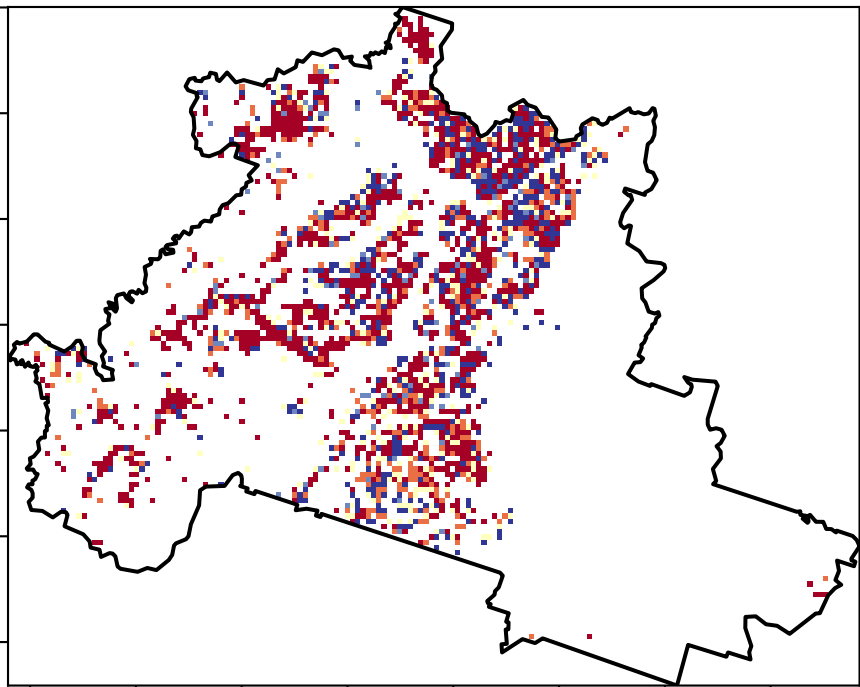
Total Vegetation Cover Anomaly [%]

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.

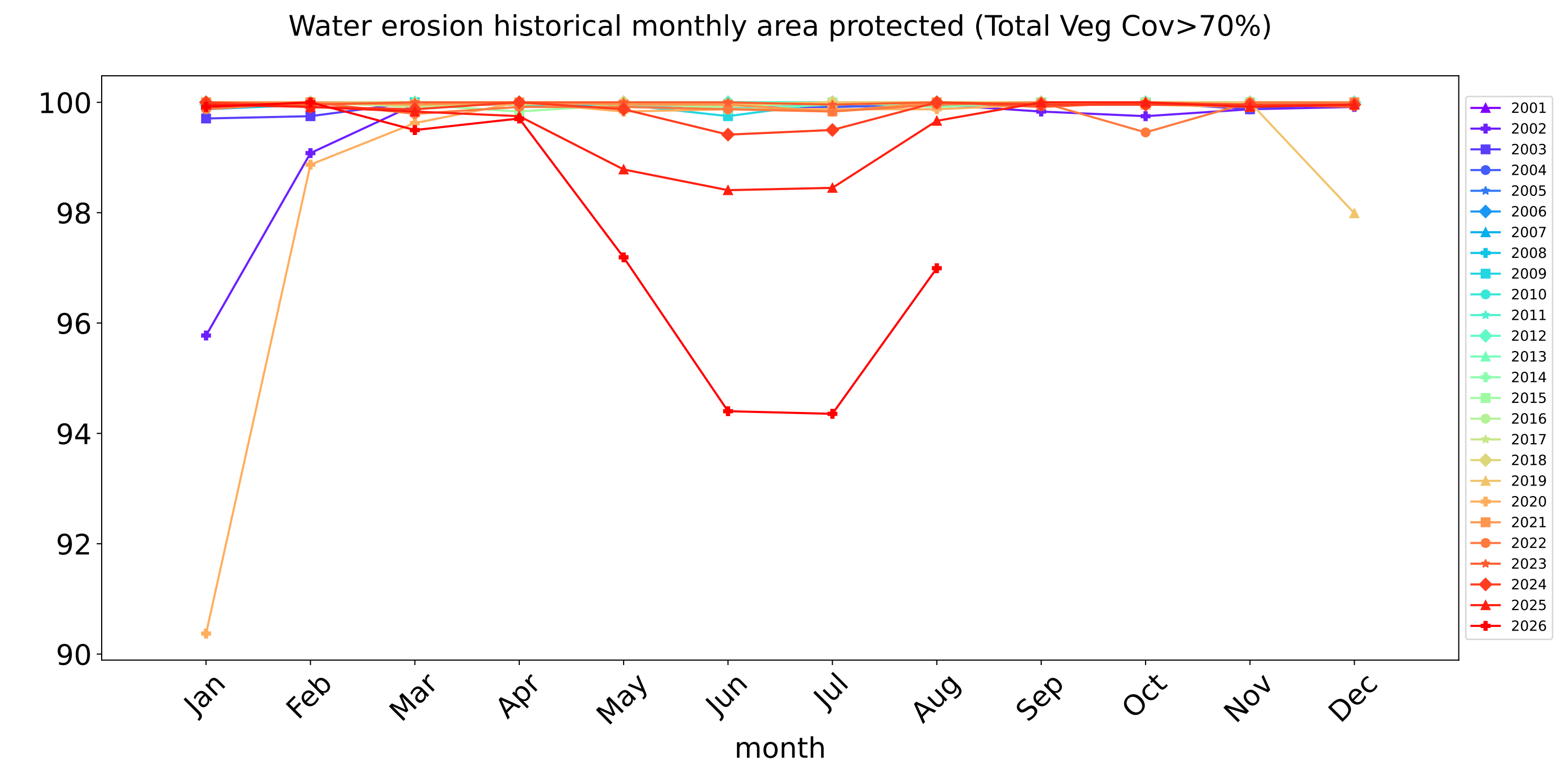
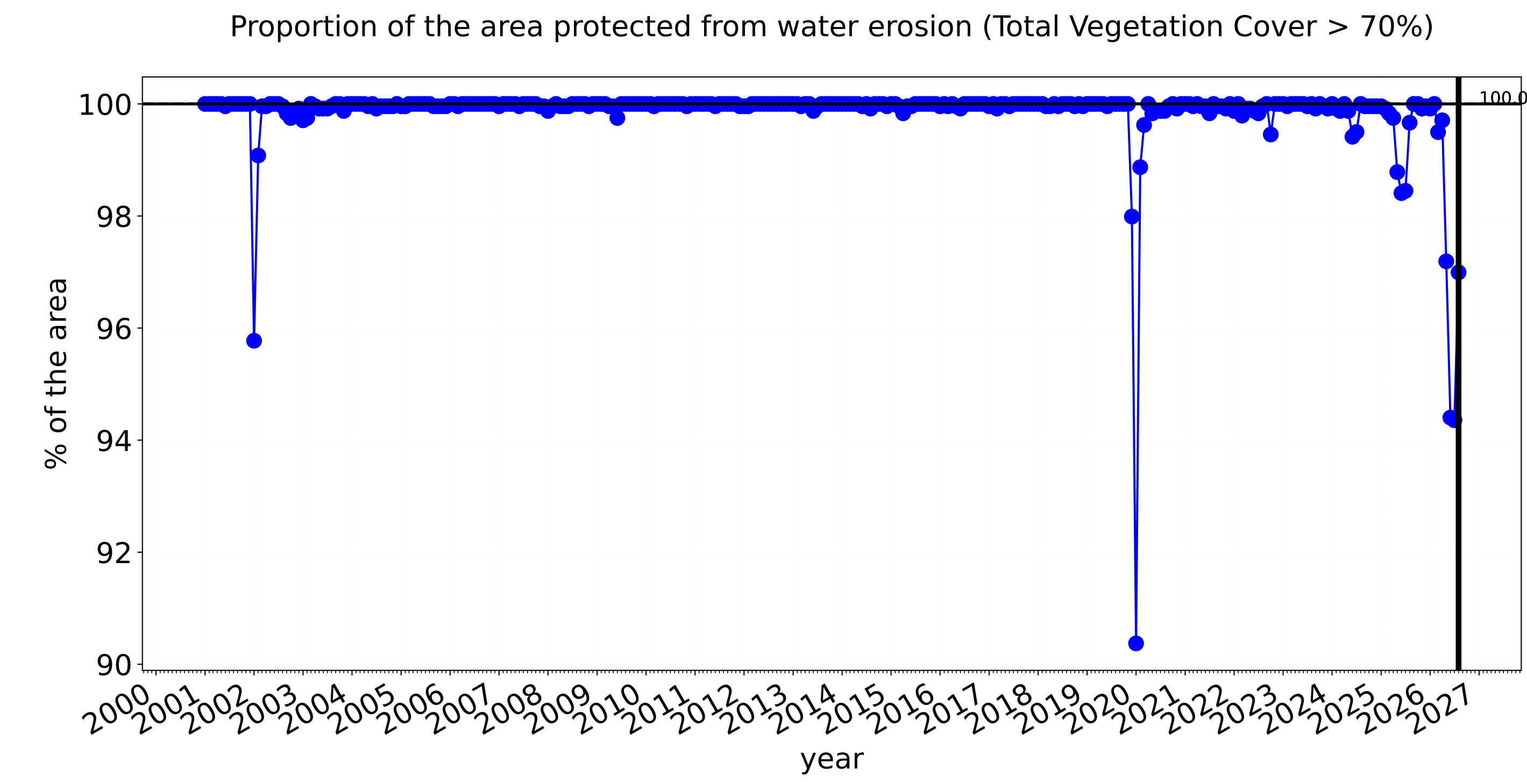
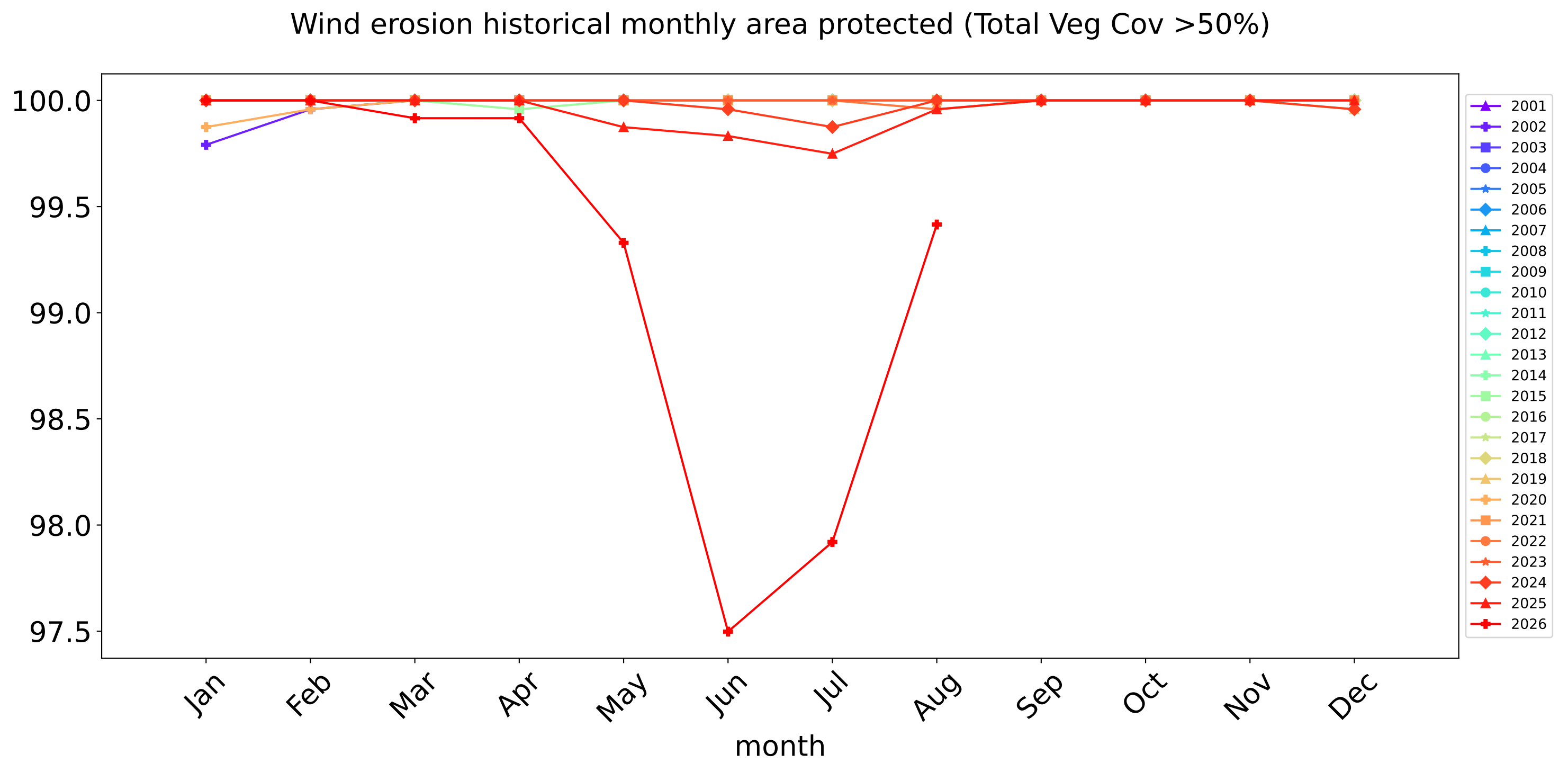
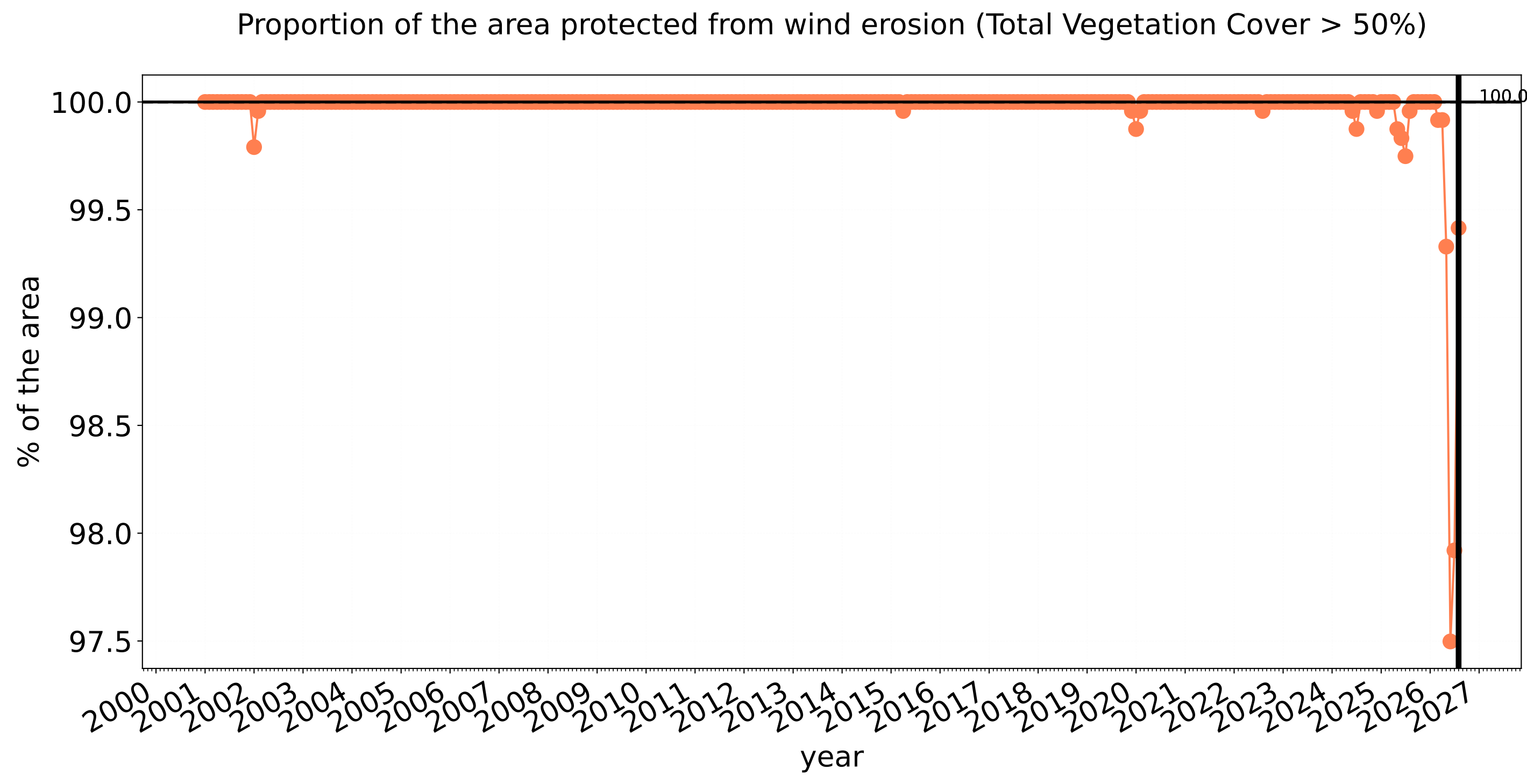


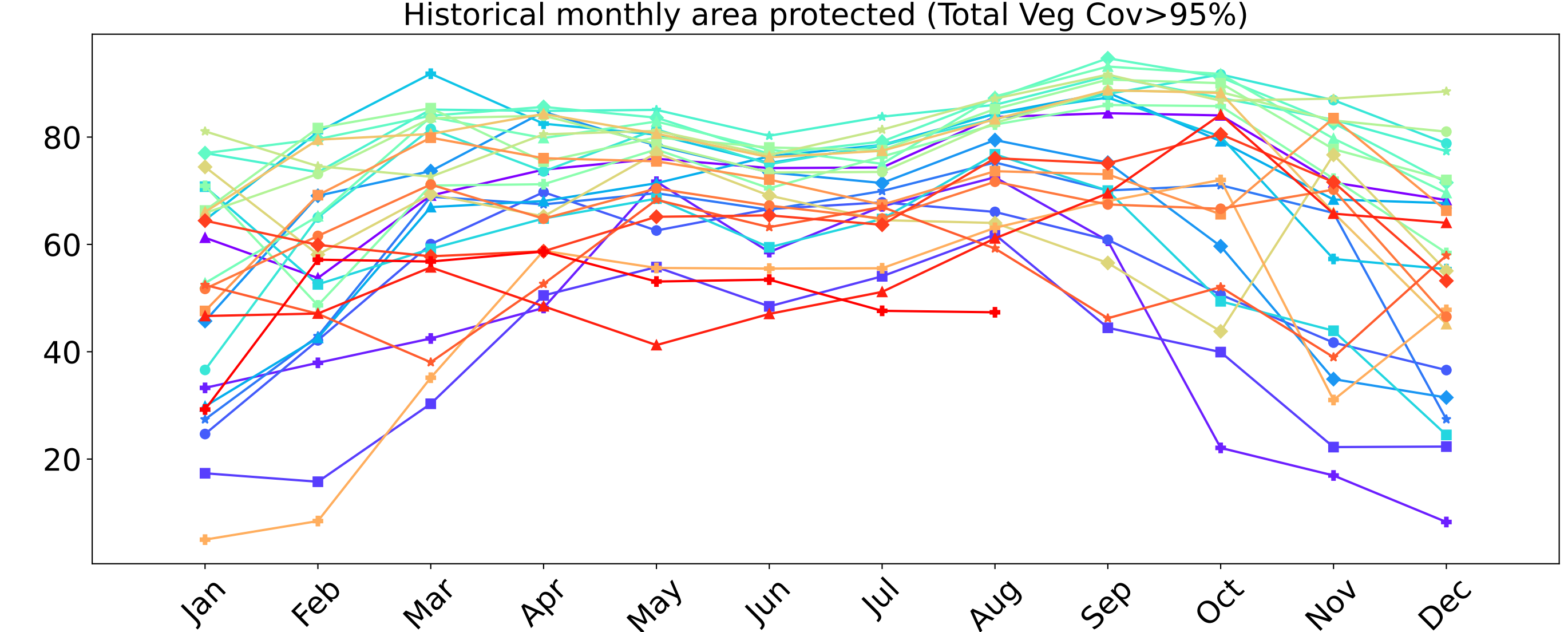
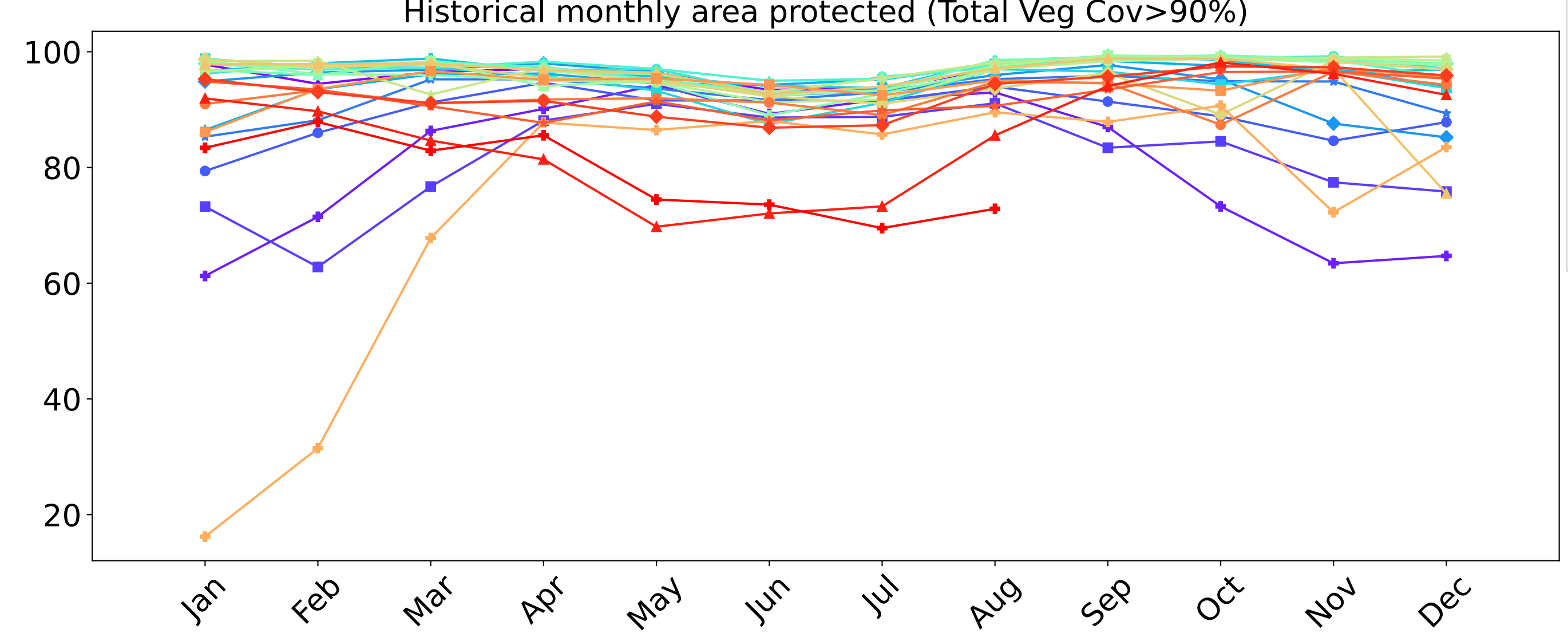
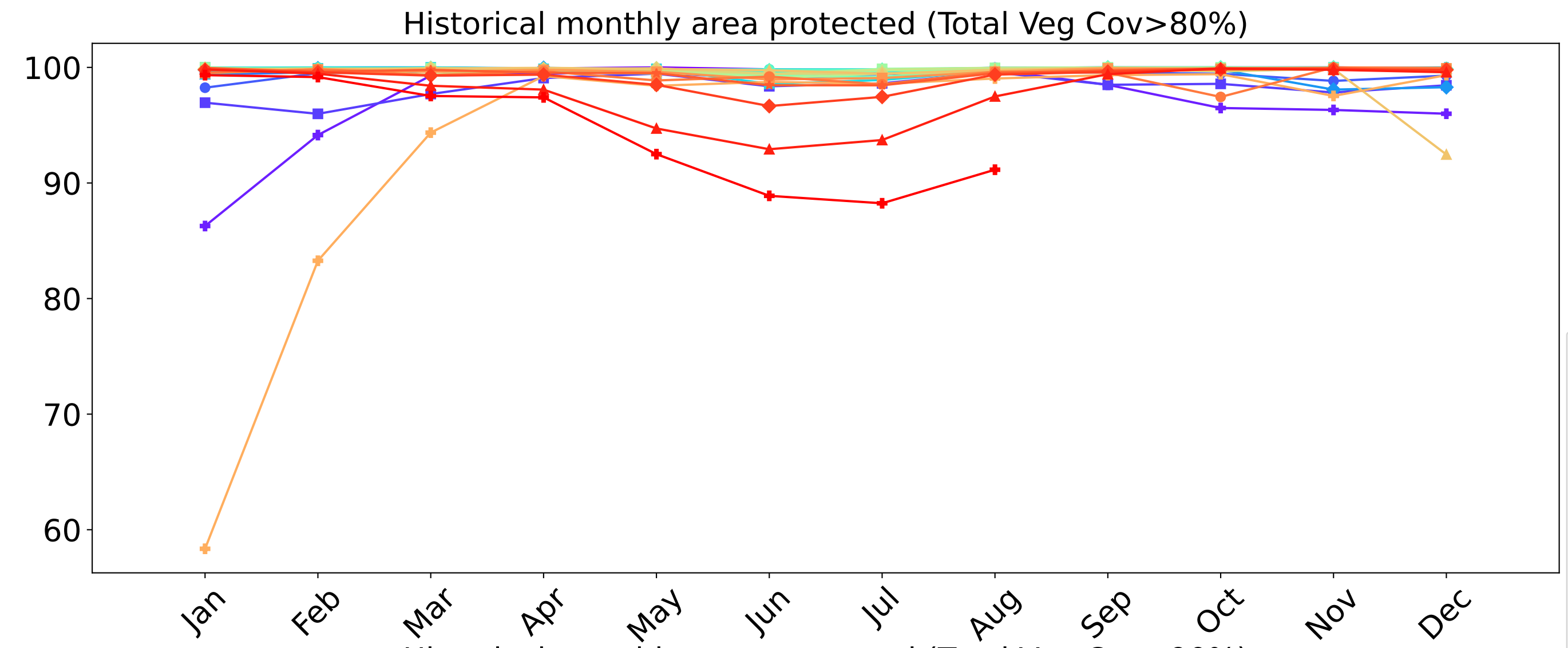
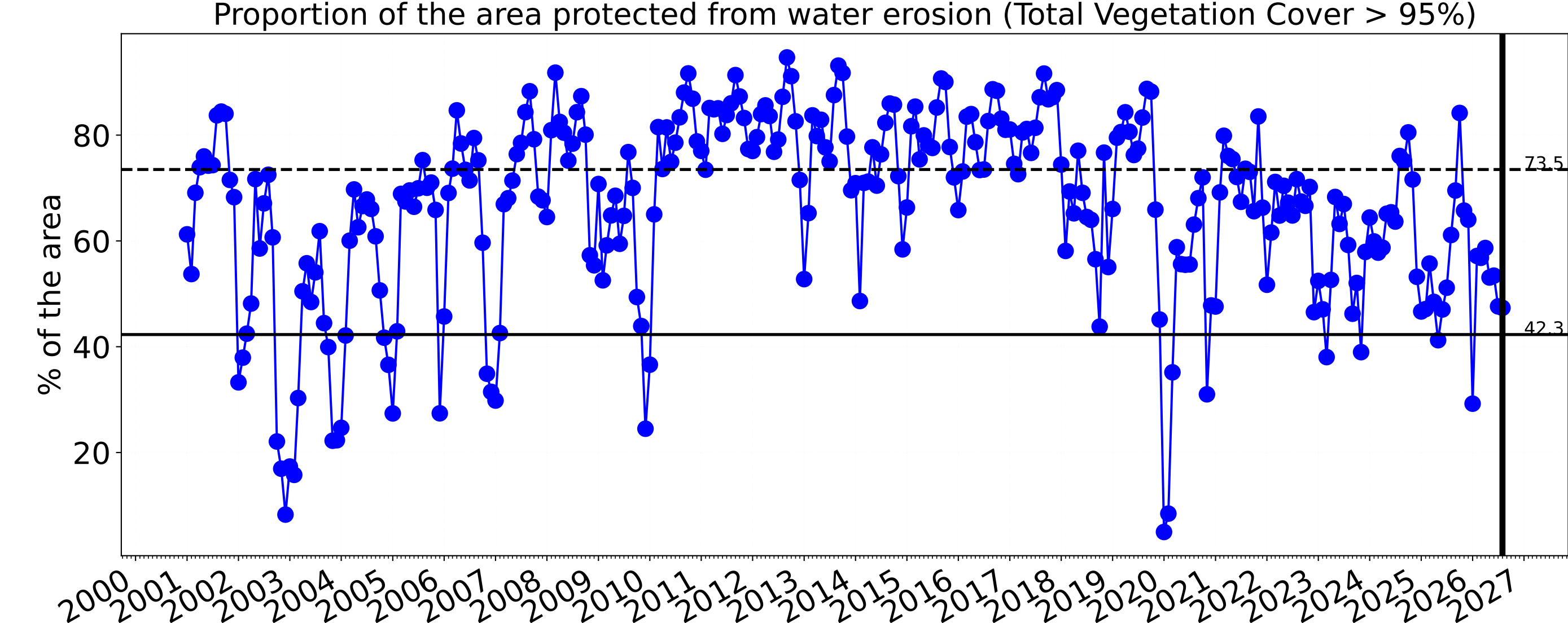
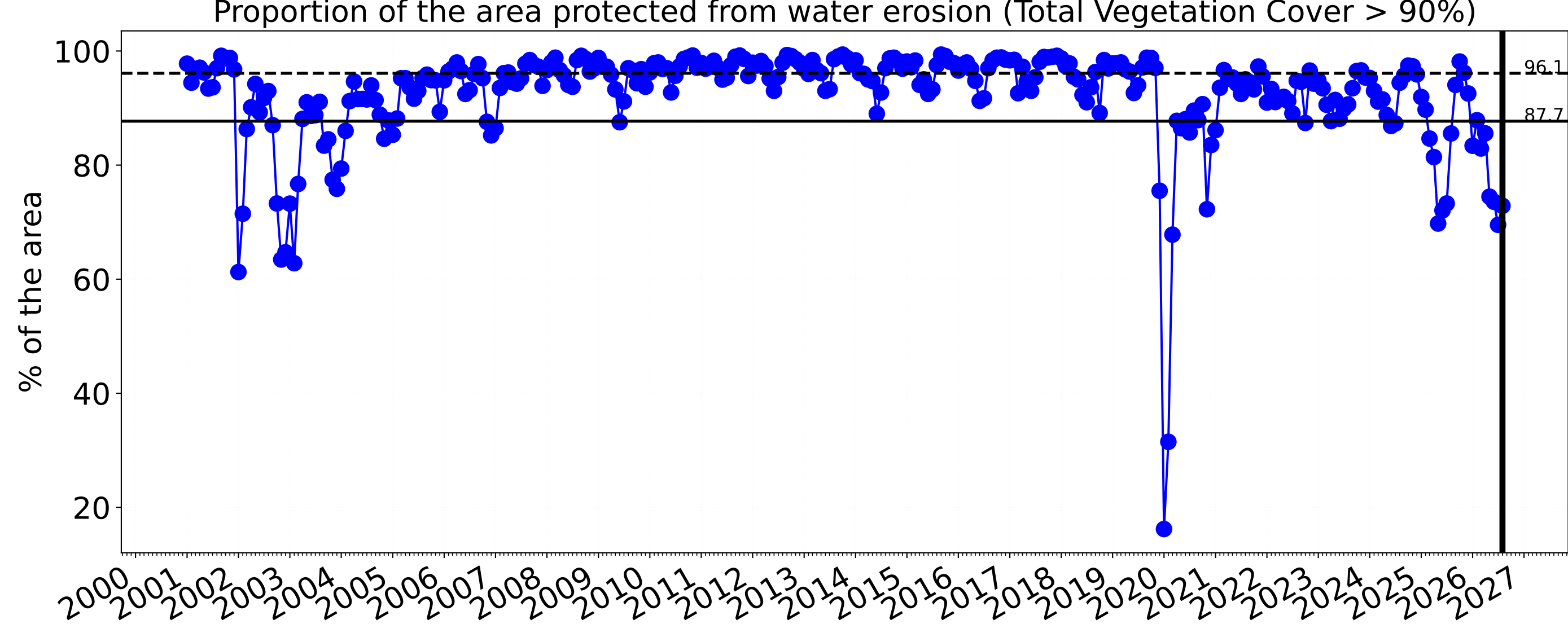
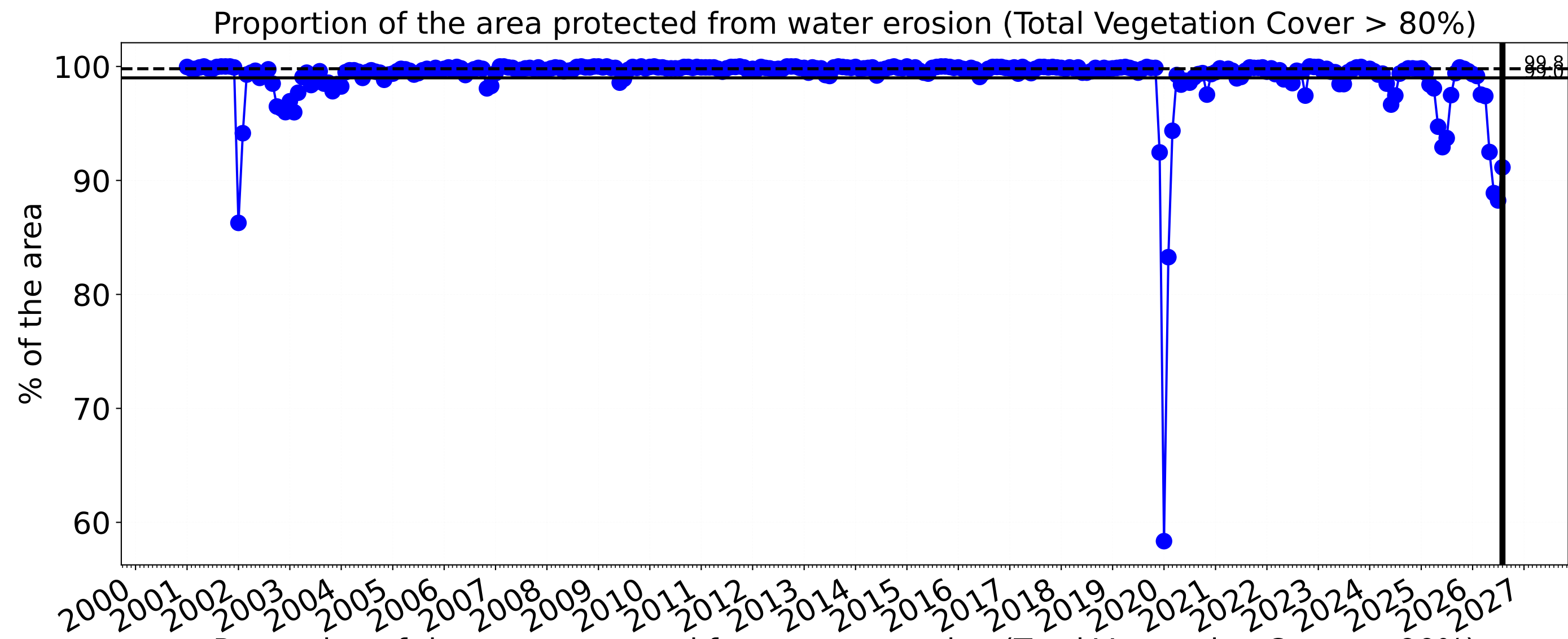
Total Vegetation Cover Decile [%]

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.



Conservation and natural environments Forest (non woodland) timeseries

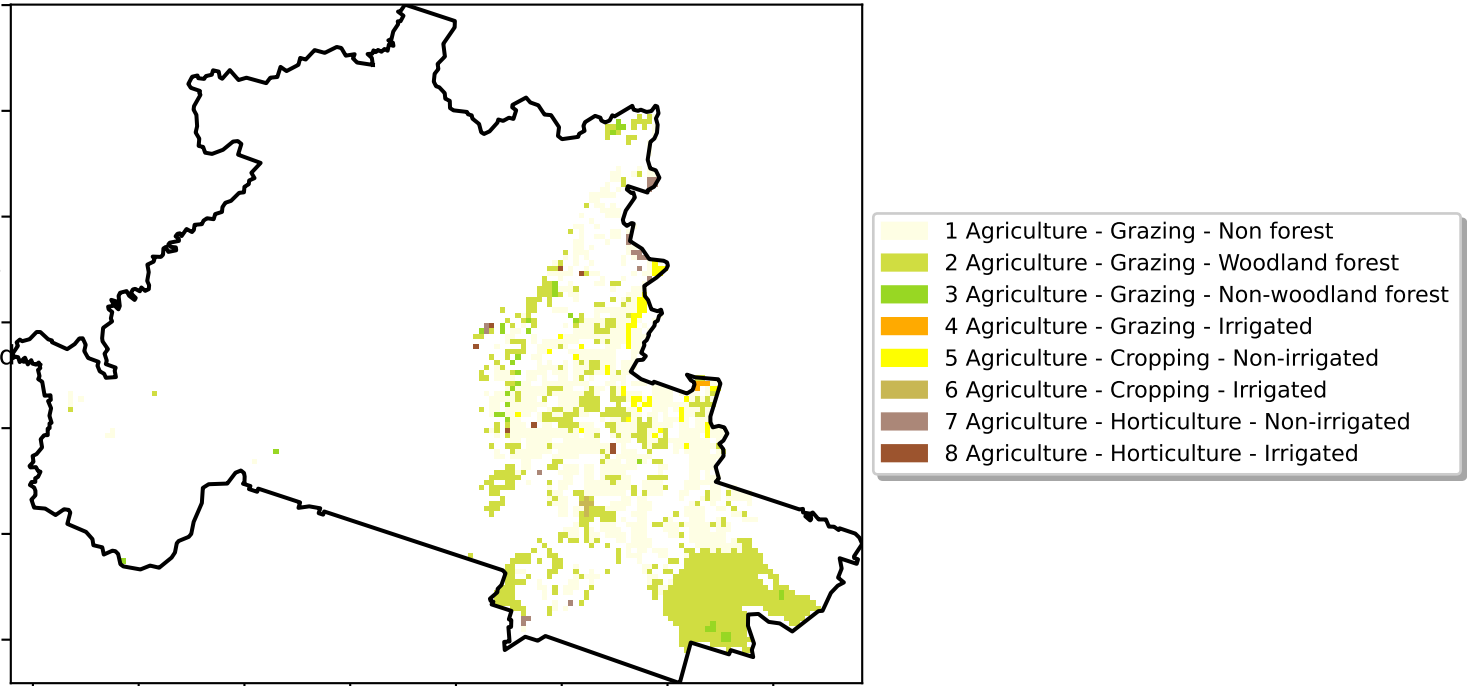




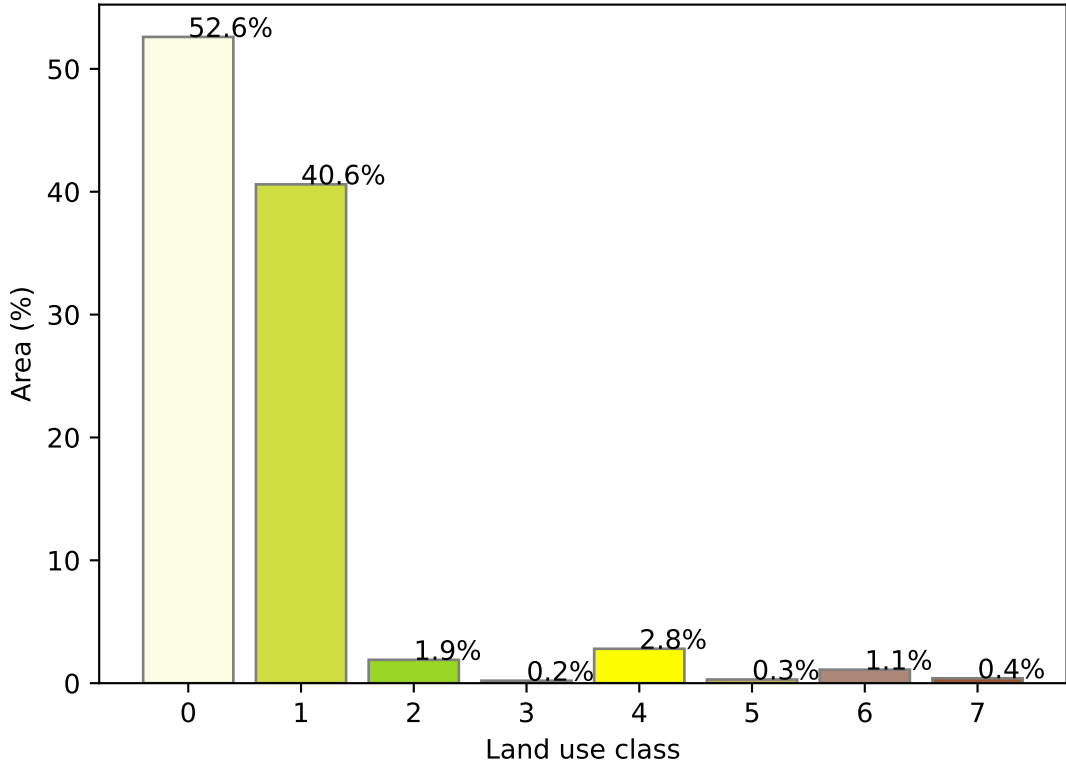
Agriculture

Land use and forest cover

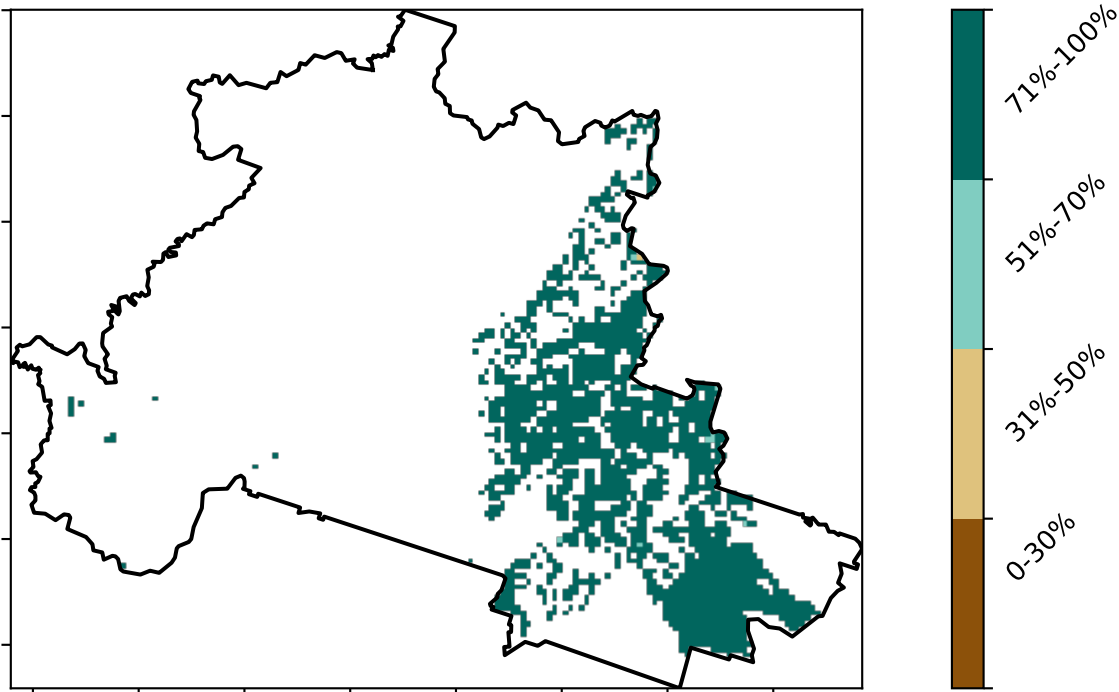
Catchment Scale Land Use and Forests of Australia (2018)
Derived from Catchment Scale Land Use of Australia (2018) and Forests of Australia (2018)



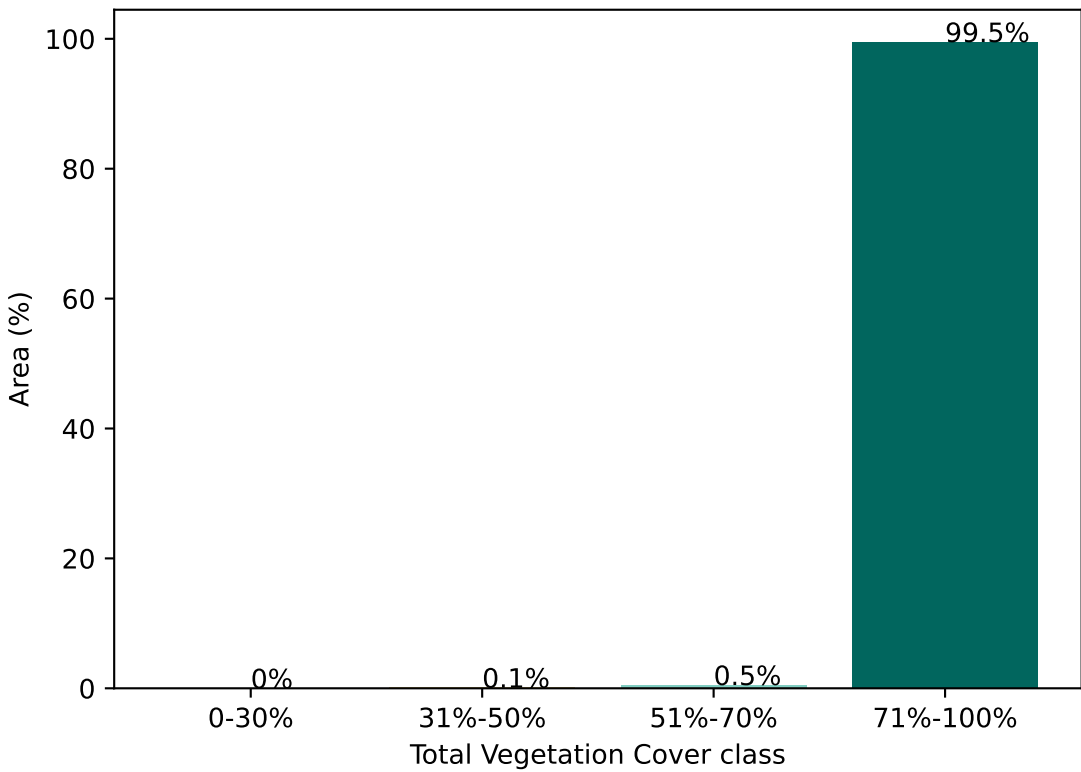
Proportion of each land class in area



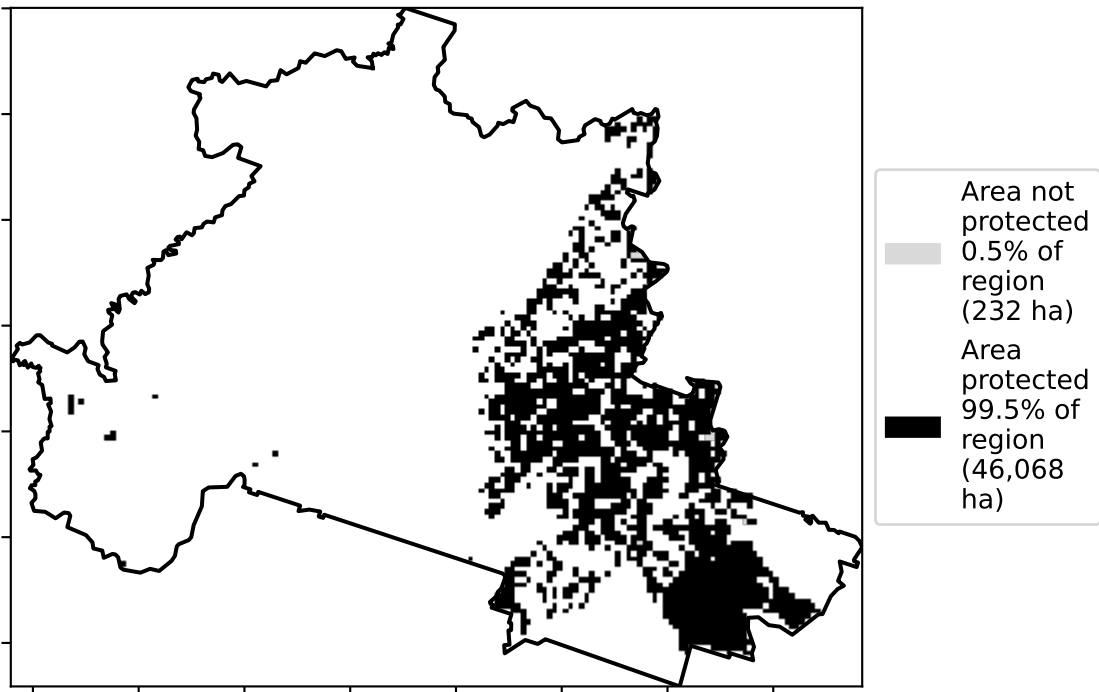
Total Vegetation Cover [%]



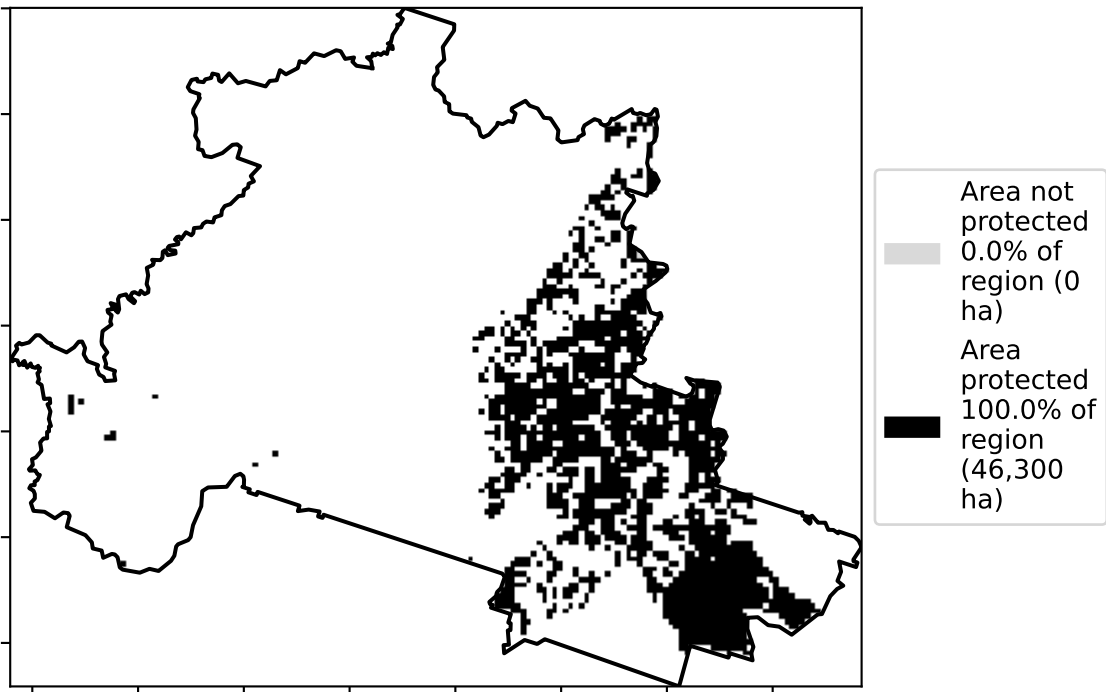
Proportion of vegetation cover class in area



% Area protected from water erosion (>70%)

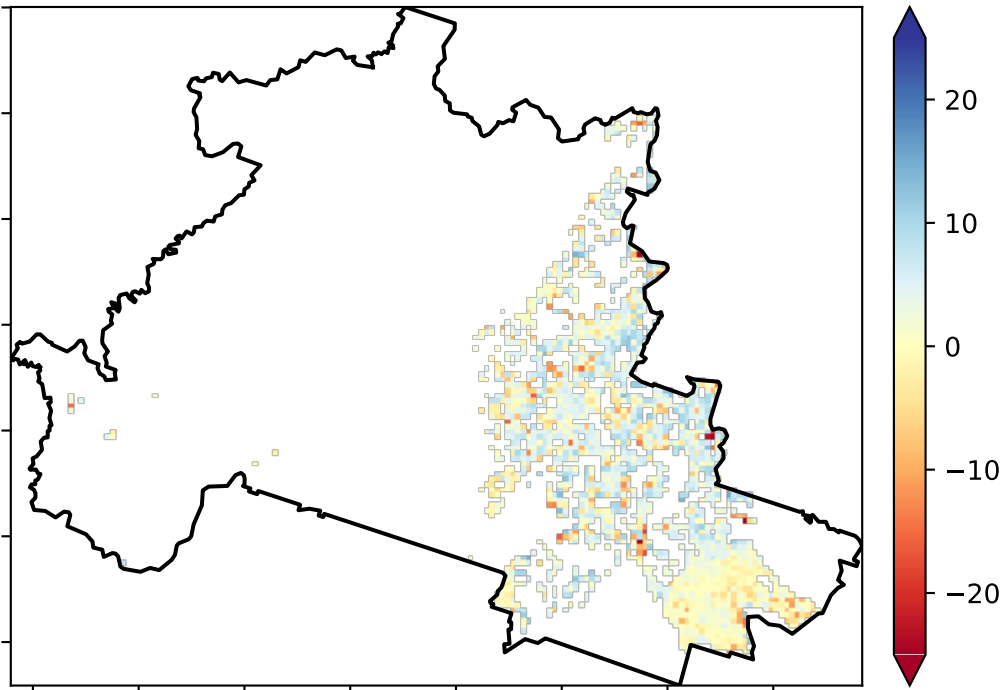


% Area protected from wind erosion (>50%)



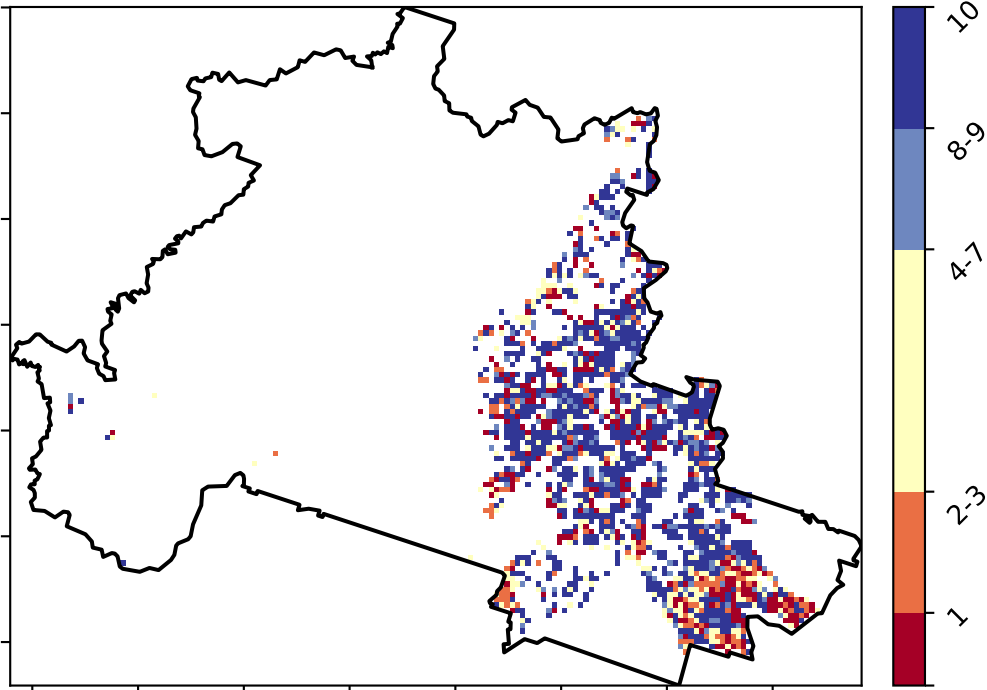
Total Vegetation Cover Anomaly [%]

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.



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 [%]



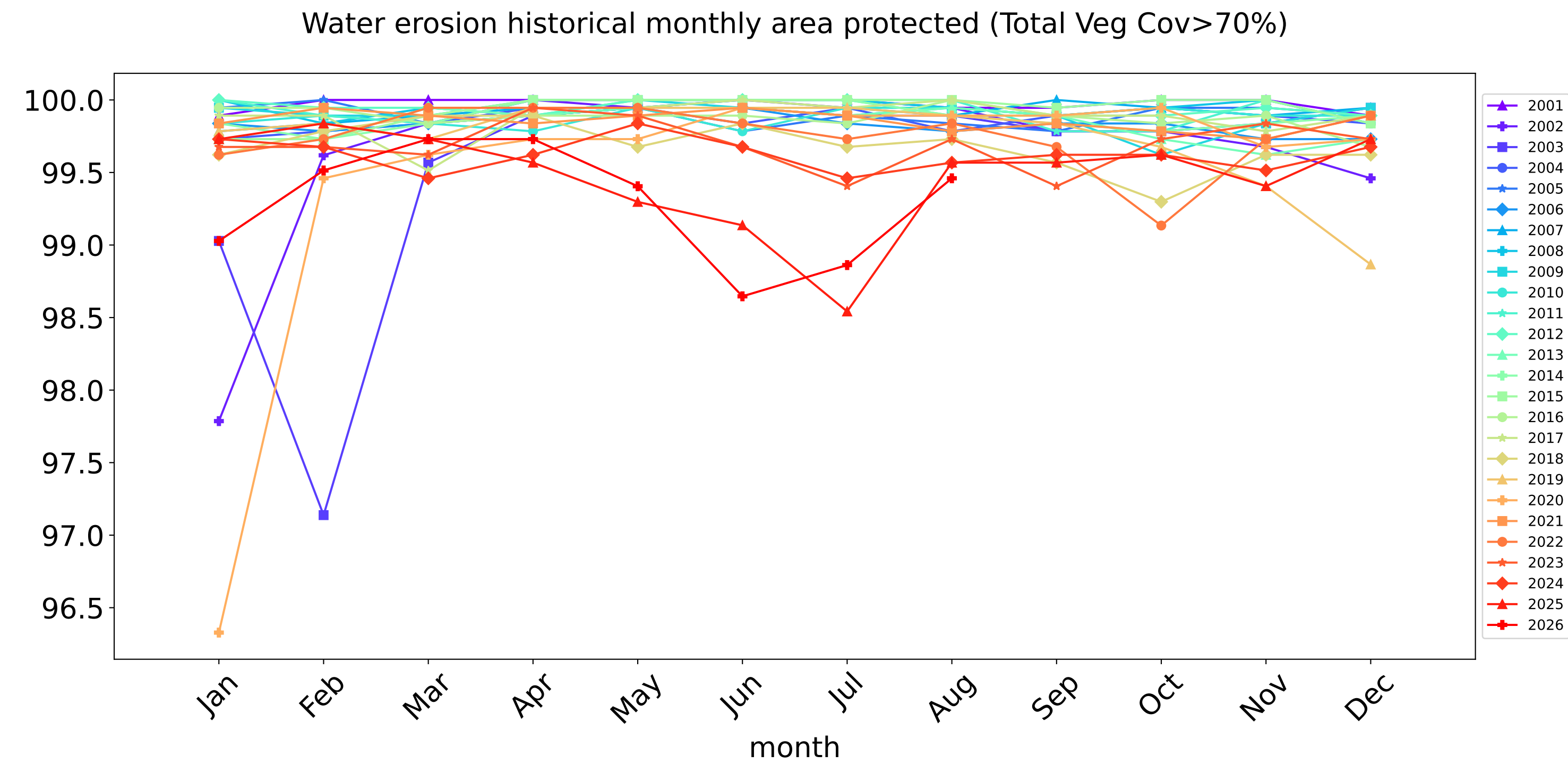
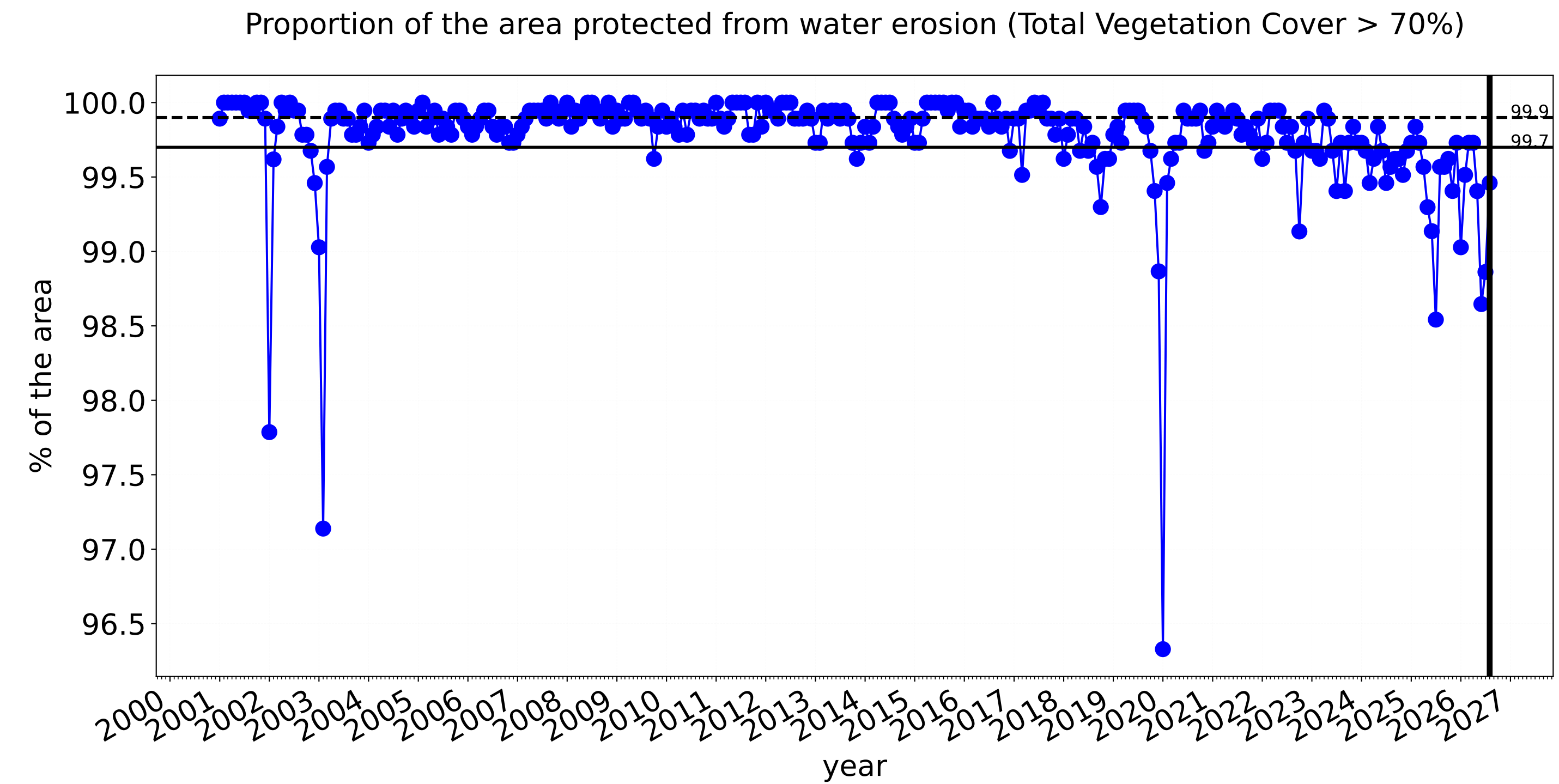
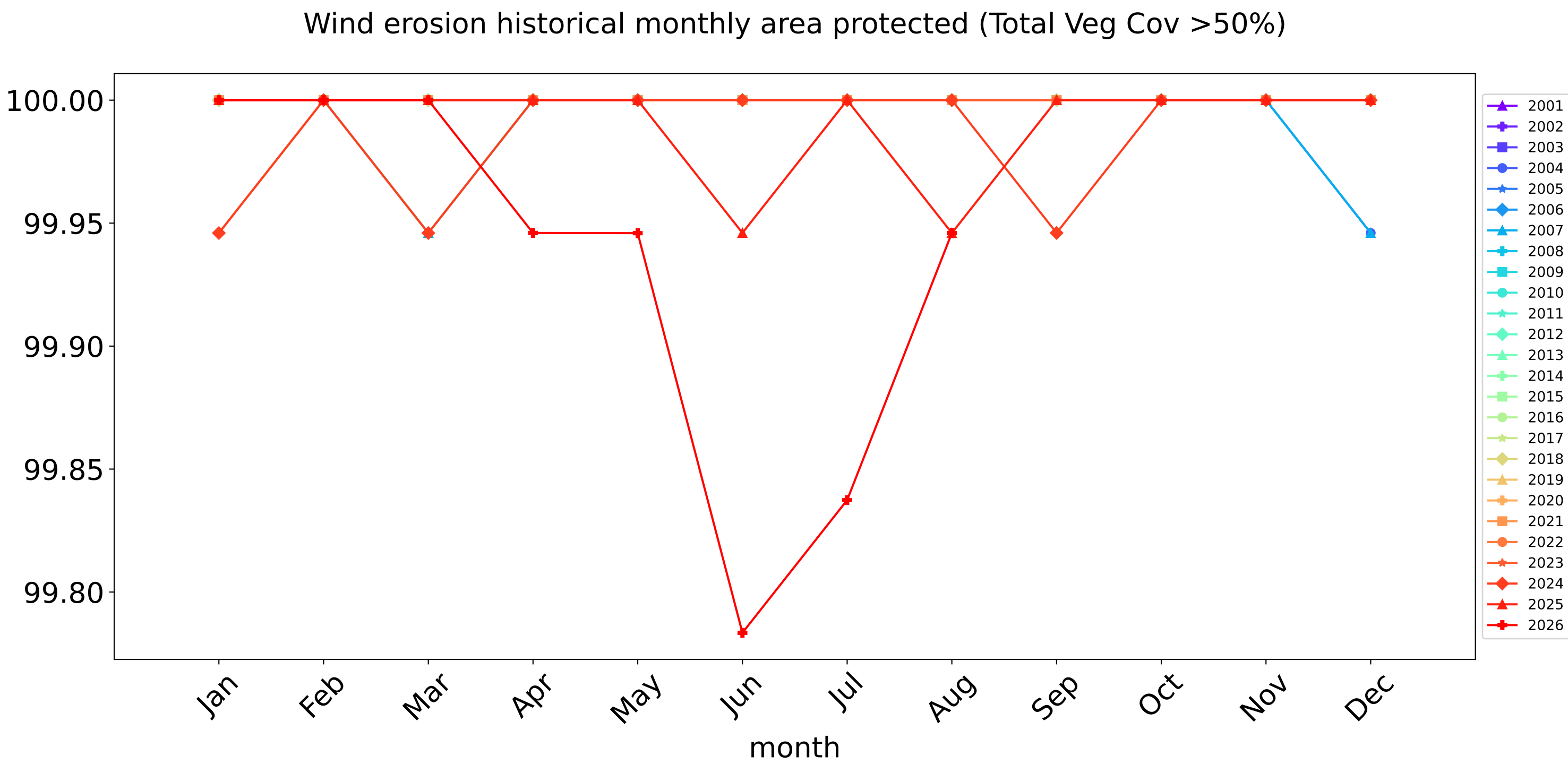
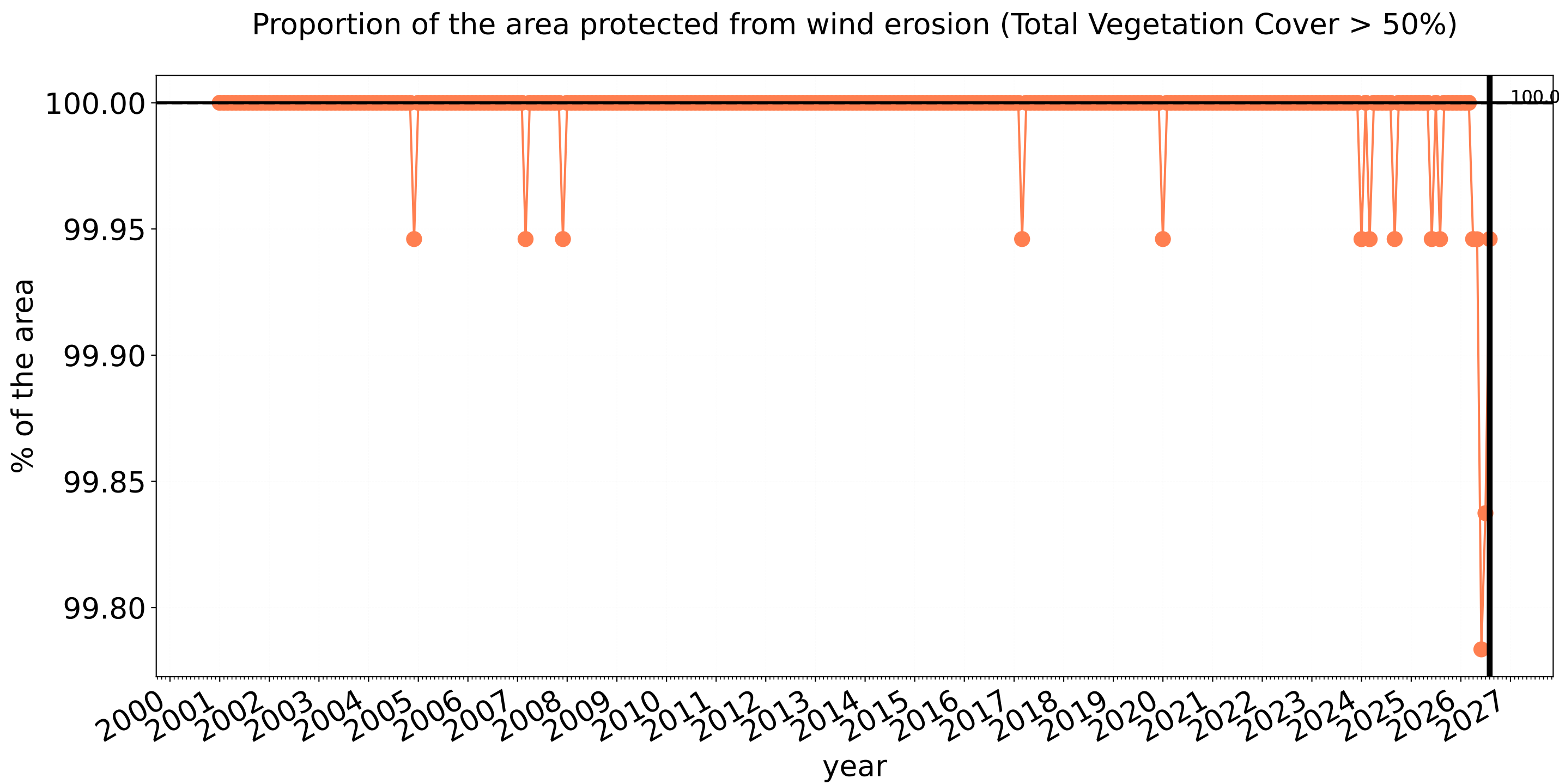
tern
Ecosystem Research Infrastructure



National
Landcare
Programme



Agriculture timeseries

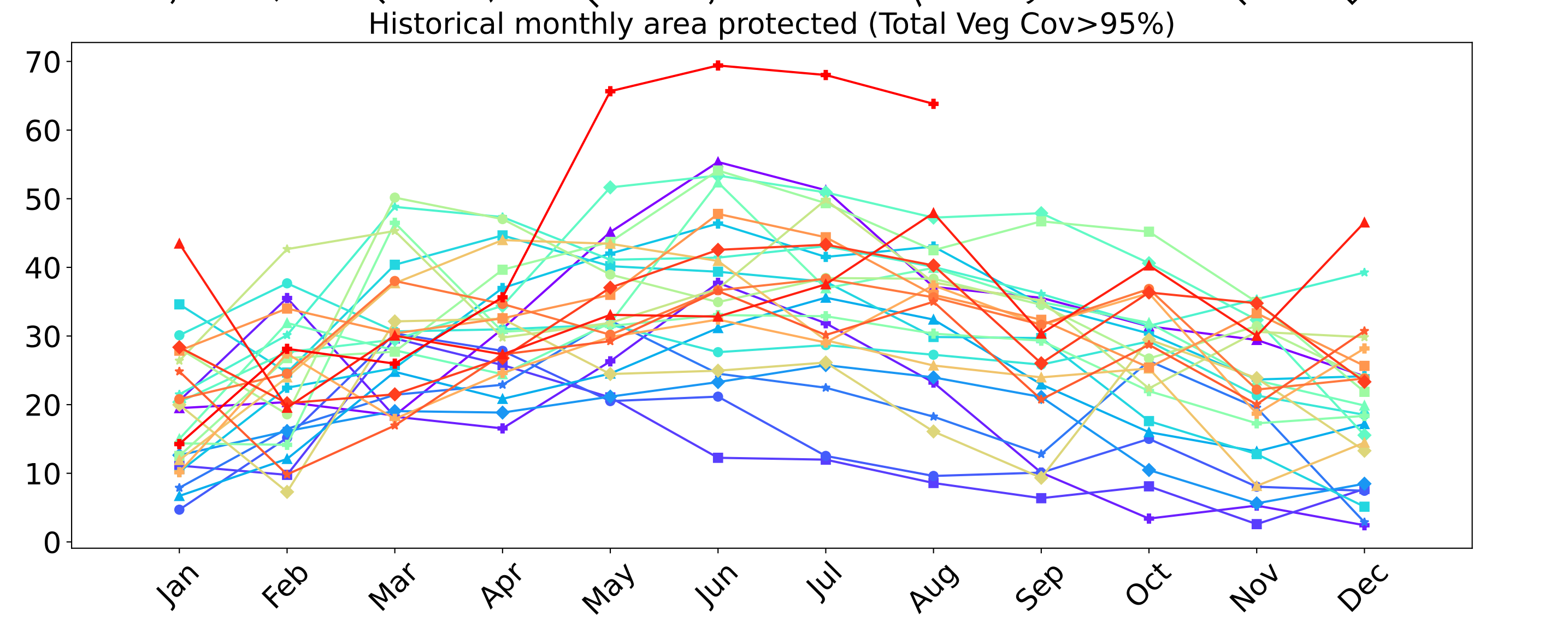
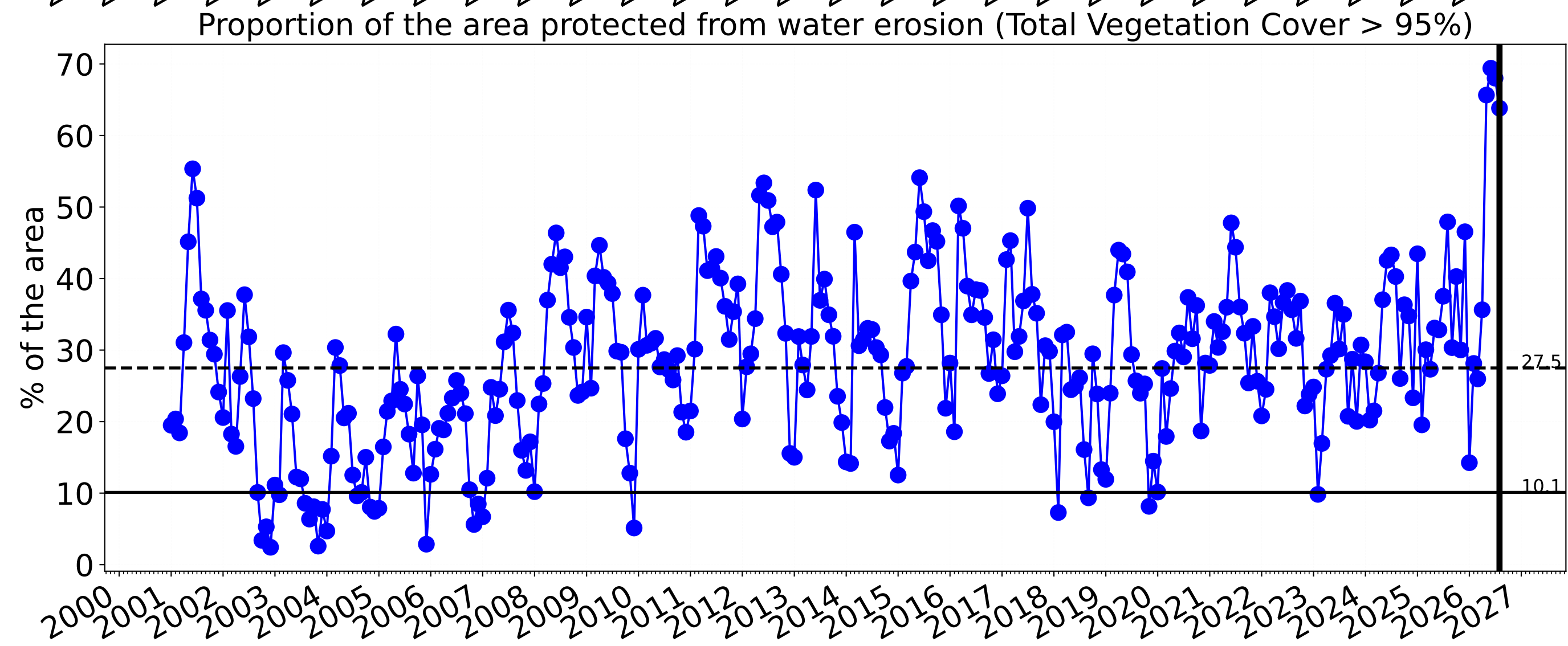
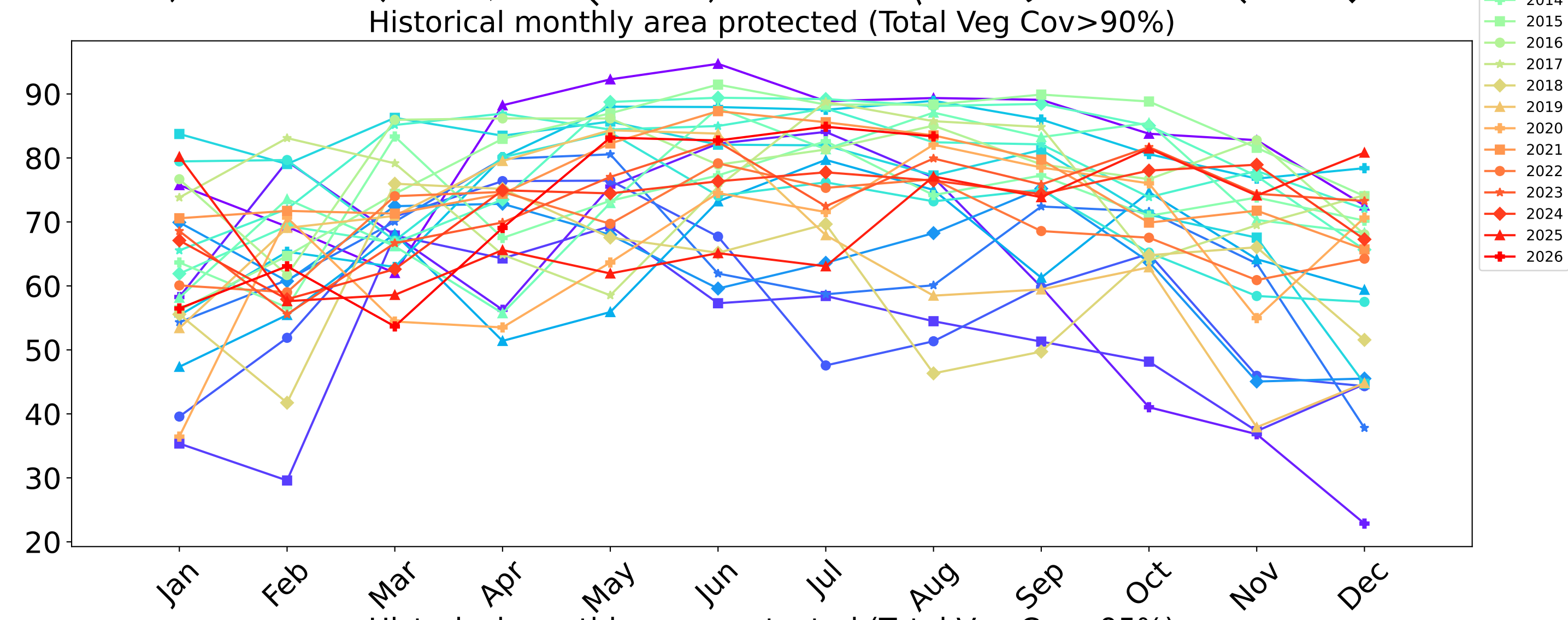
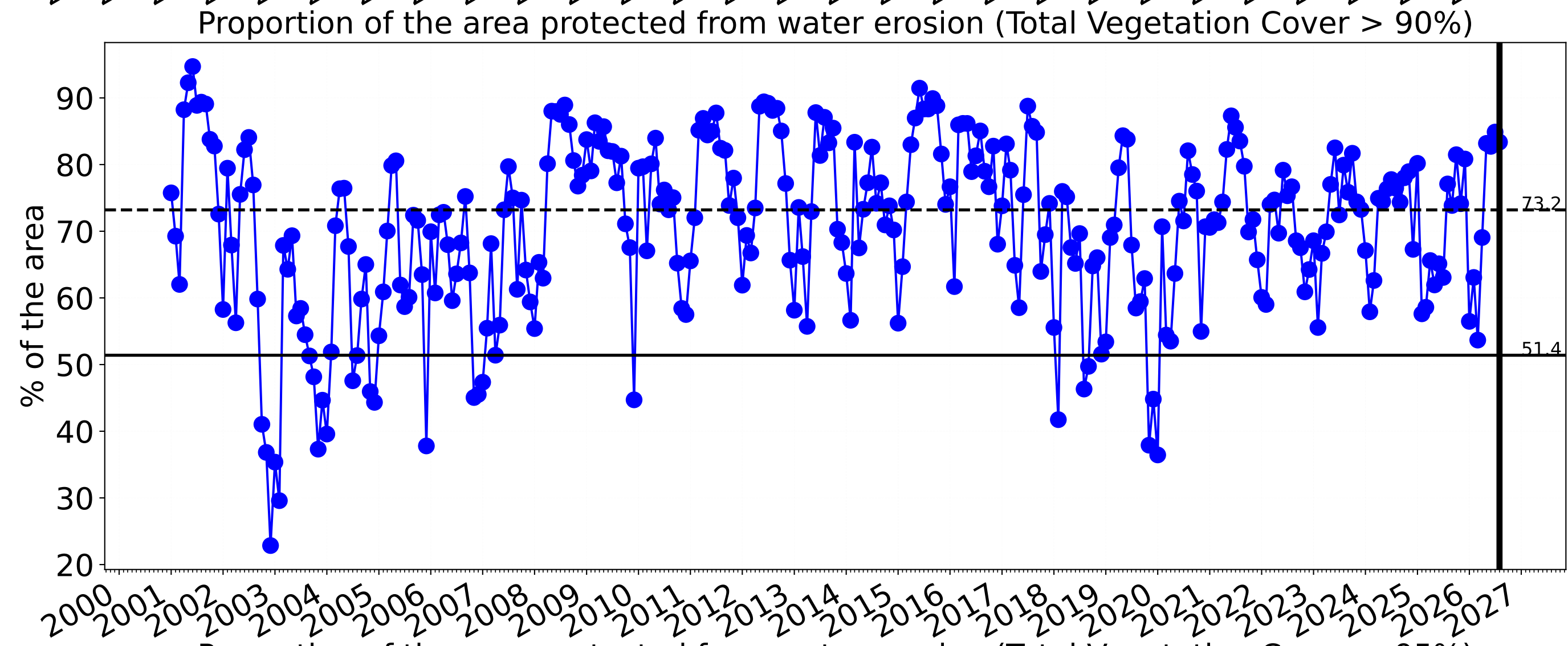
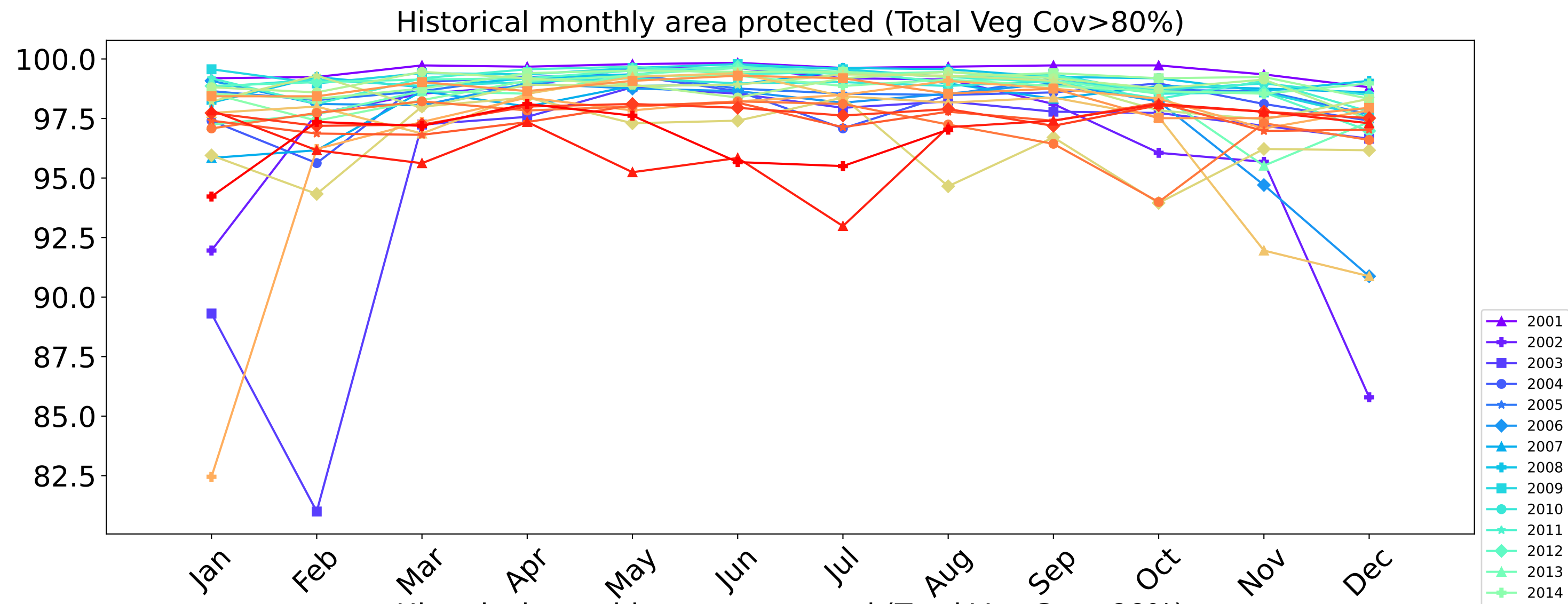
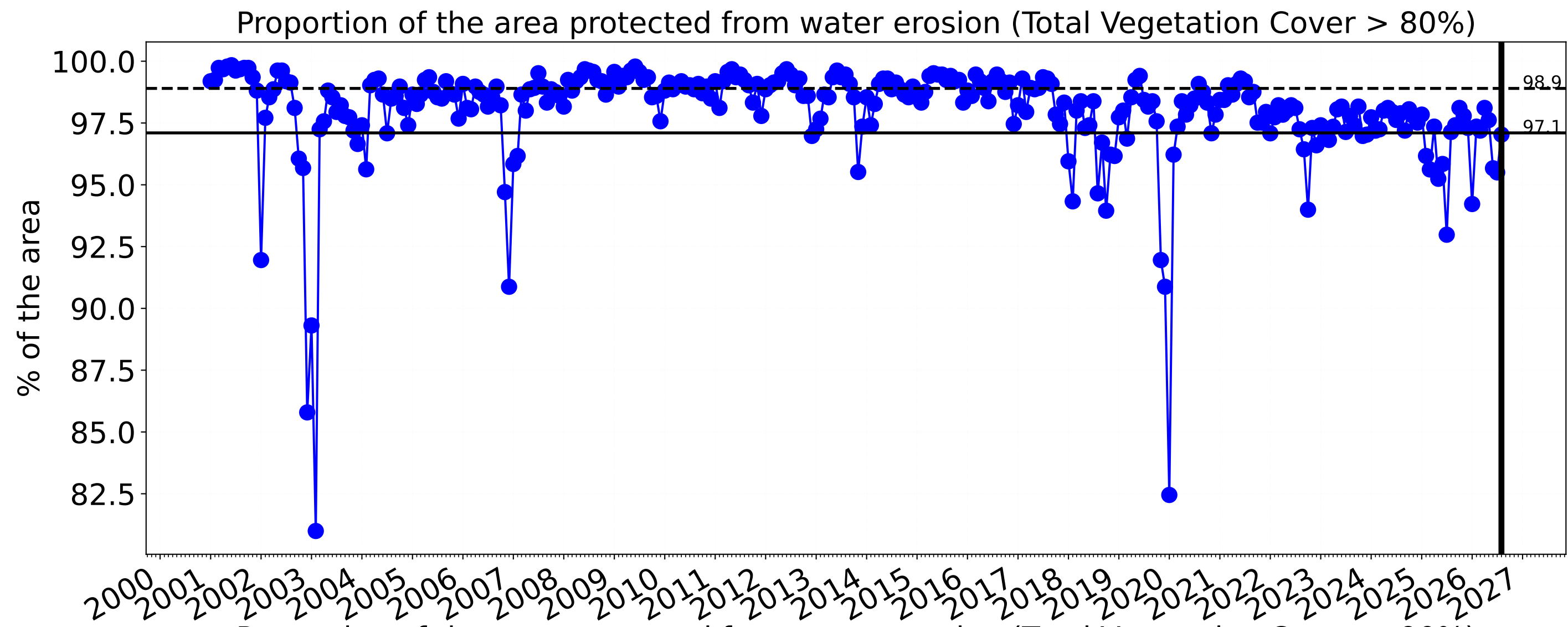


tern
Ecosystem Research Infrastructure



National
Landcare
Programme





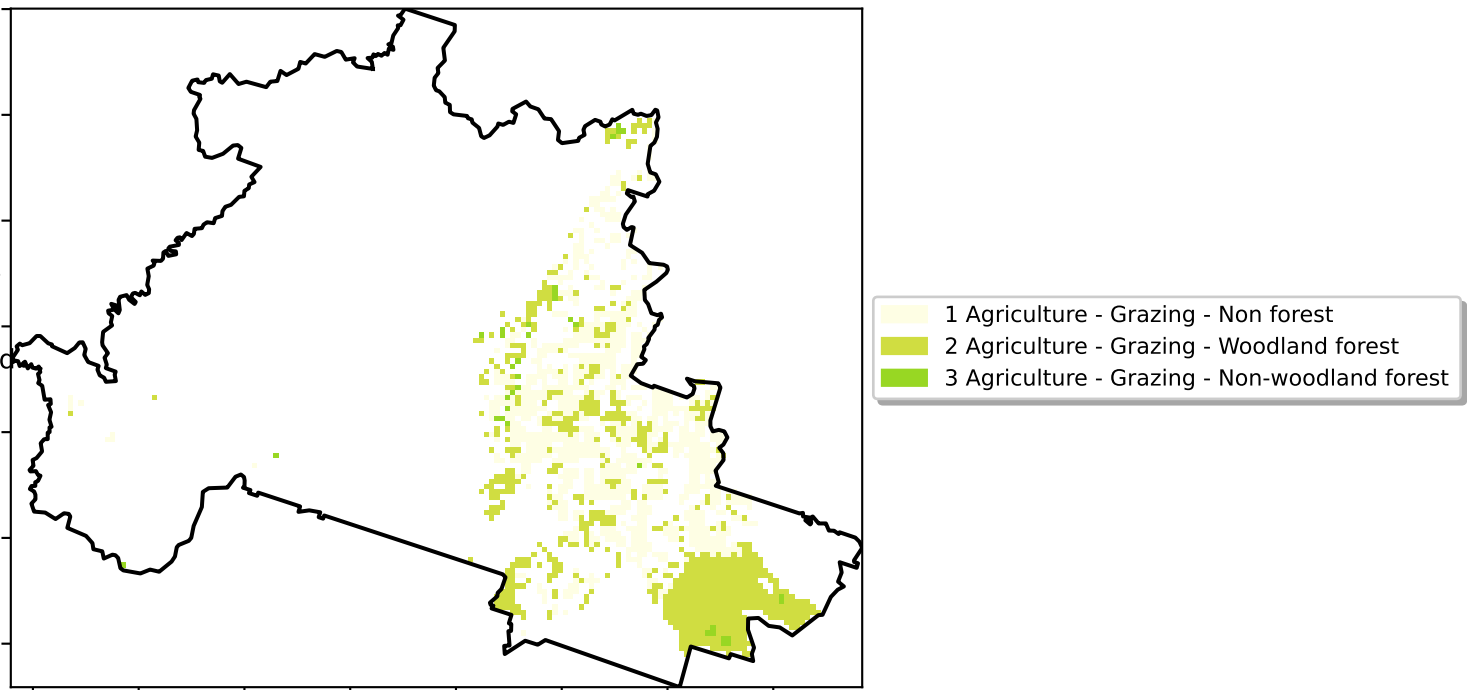
tern
Ecosystem Research Infrastructure



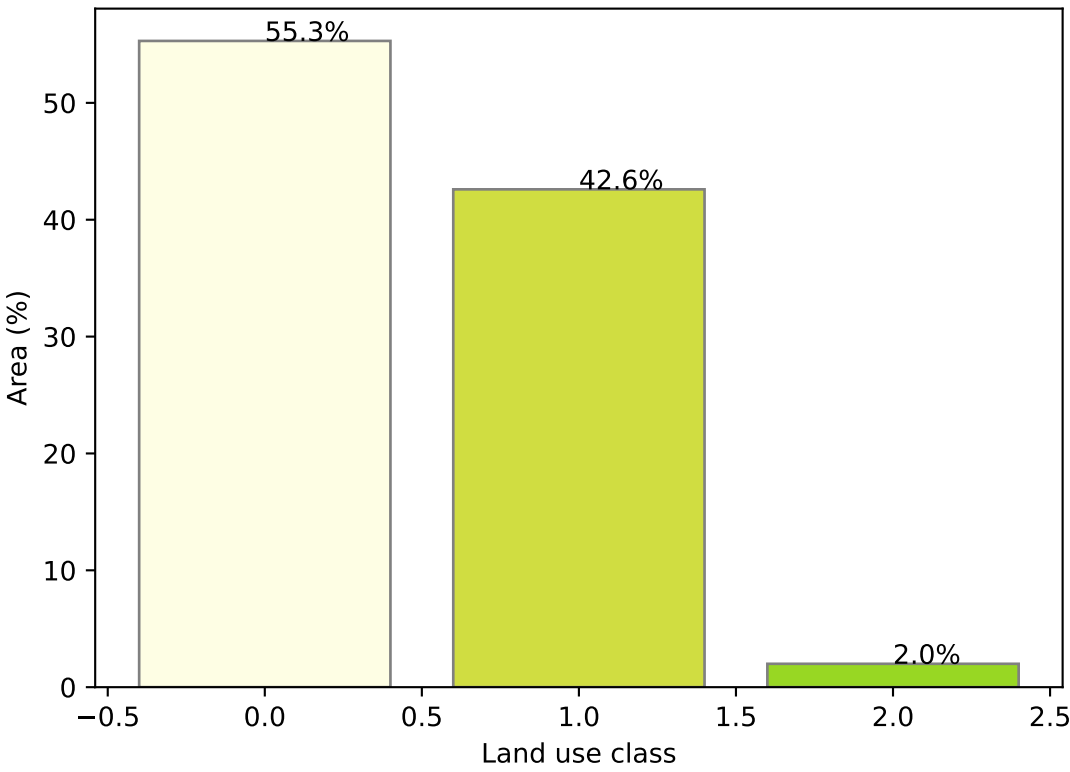
Grazing

Land use and forest cover

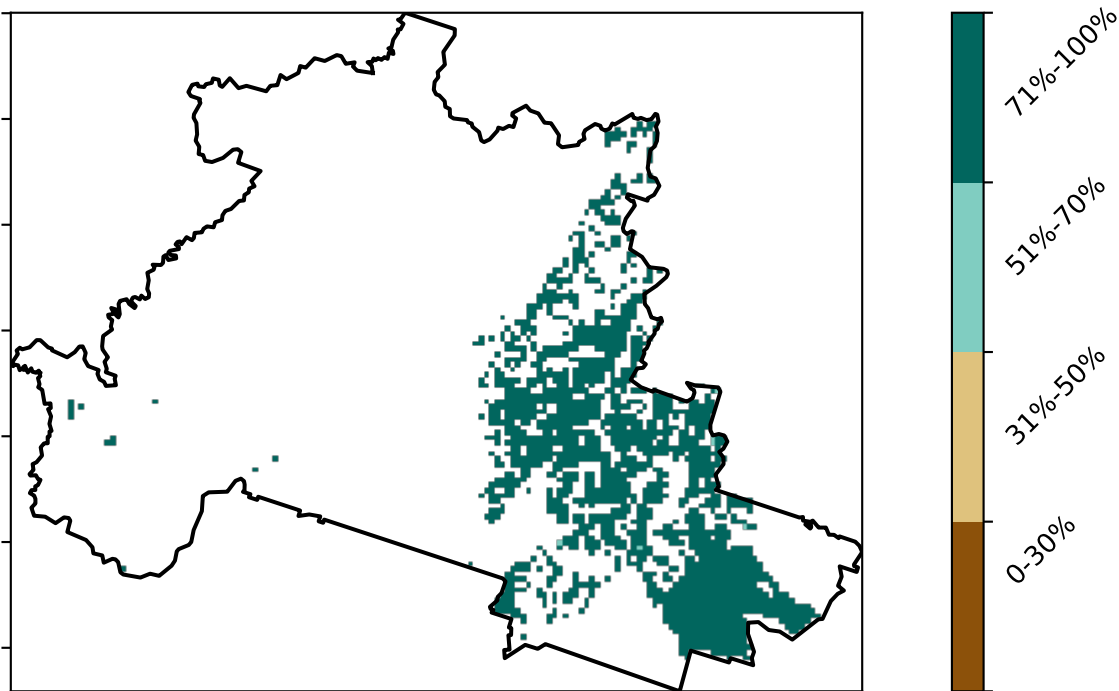
Catchment Scale Land Use and Forests of Australia (2018)
Derived from Catchment Scale Land Use of Australia (2018) and Forests of Australia (2018)



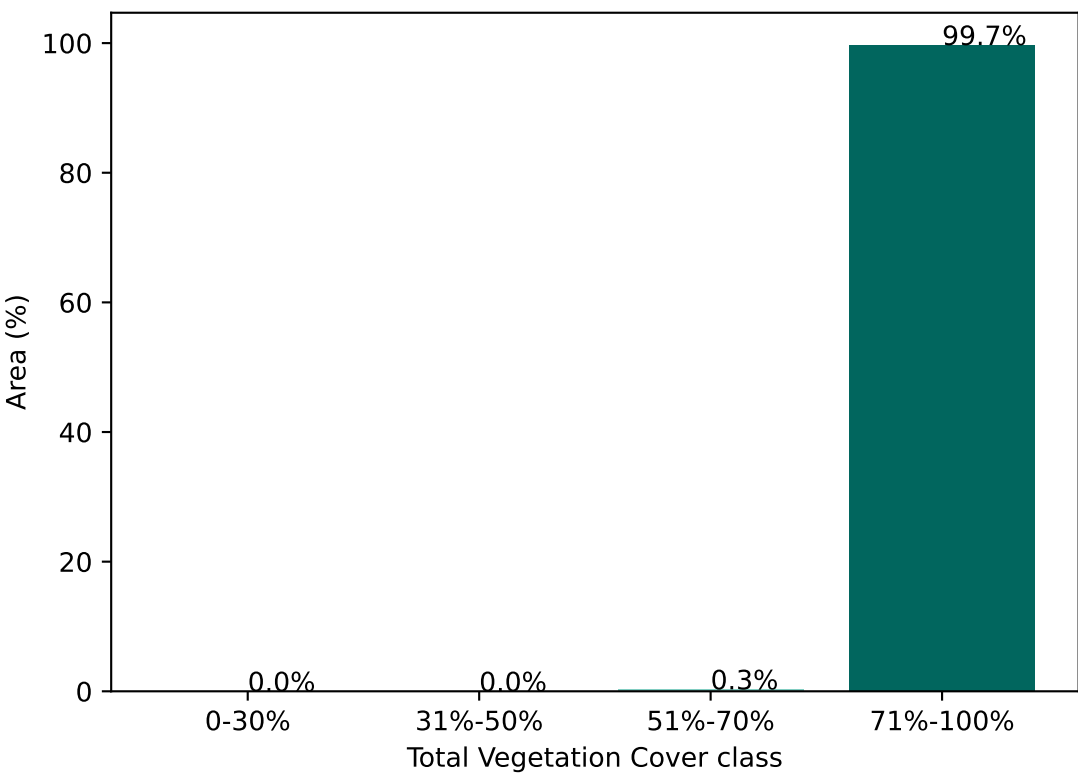
Proportion of each land class in area



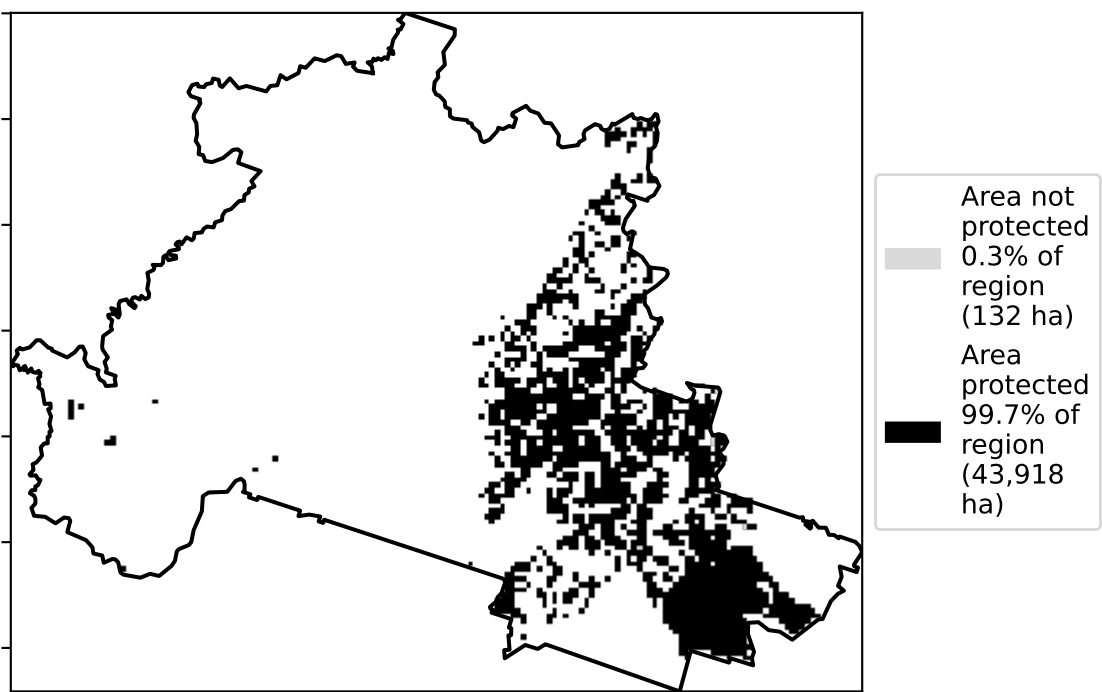
Total Vegetation Cover [%]



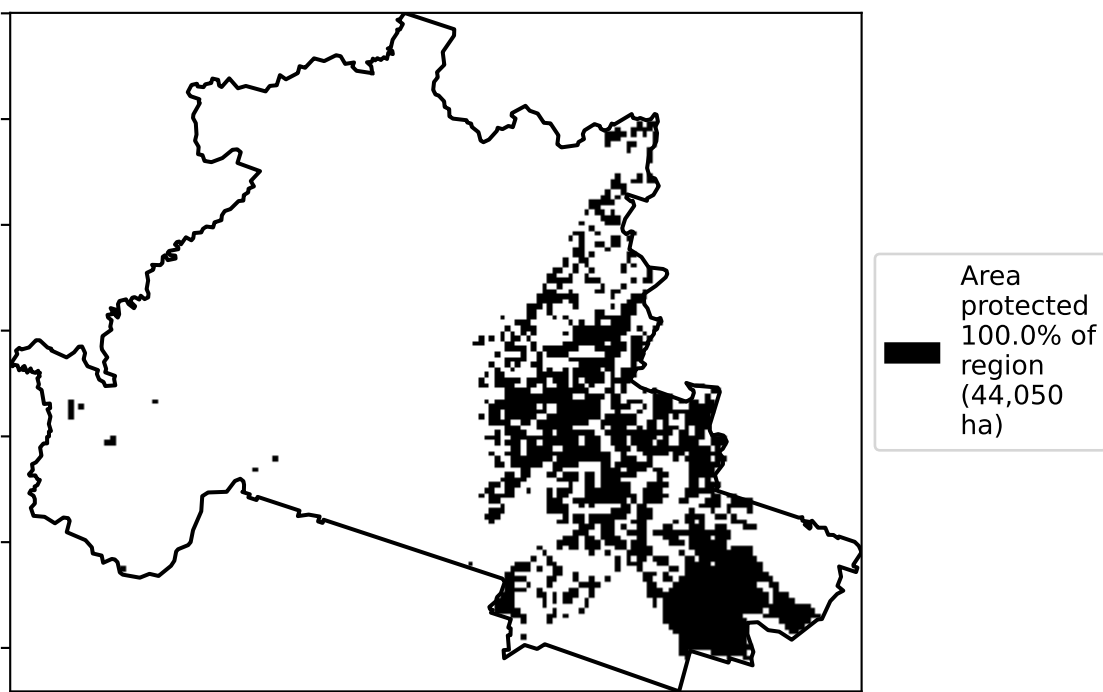
Proportion of vegetation cover class in area



% Area protected from water erosion (>70%)

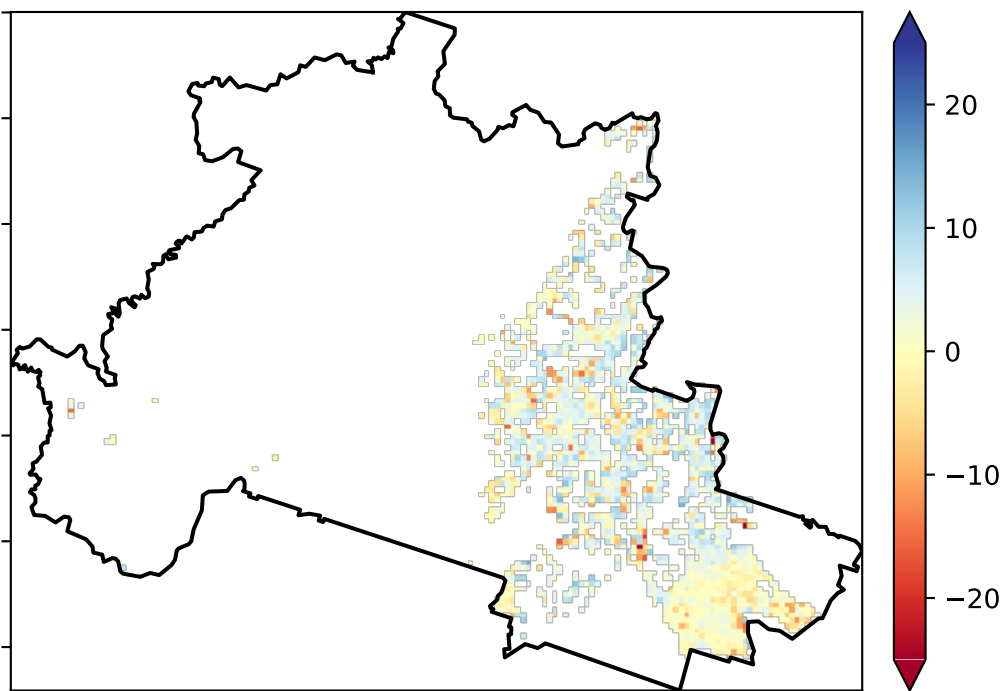


% Area protected from wind erosion (>50%)



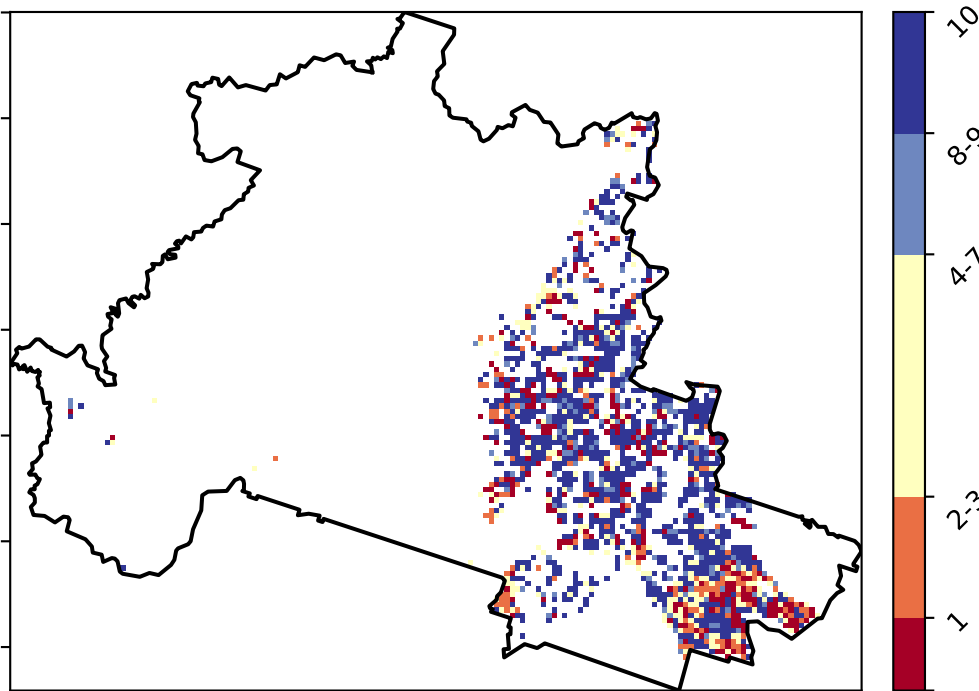
Total Vegetation Cover Anomaly [%]

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.



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 [%]



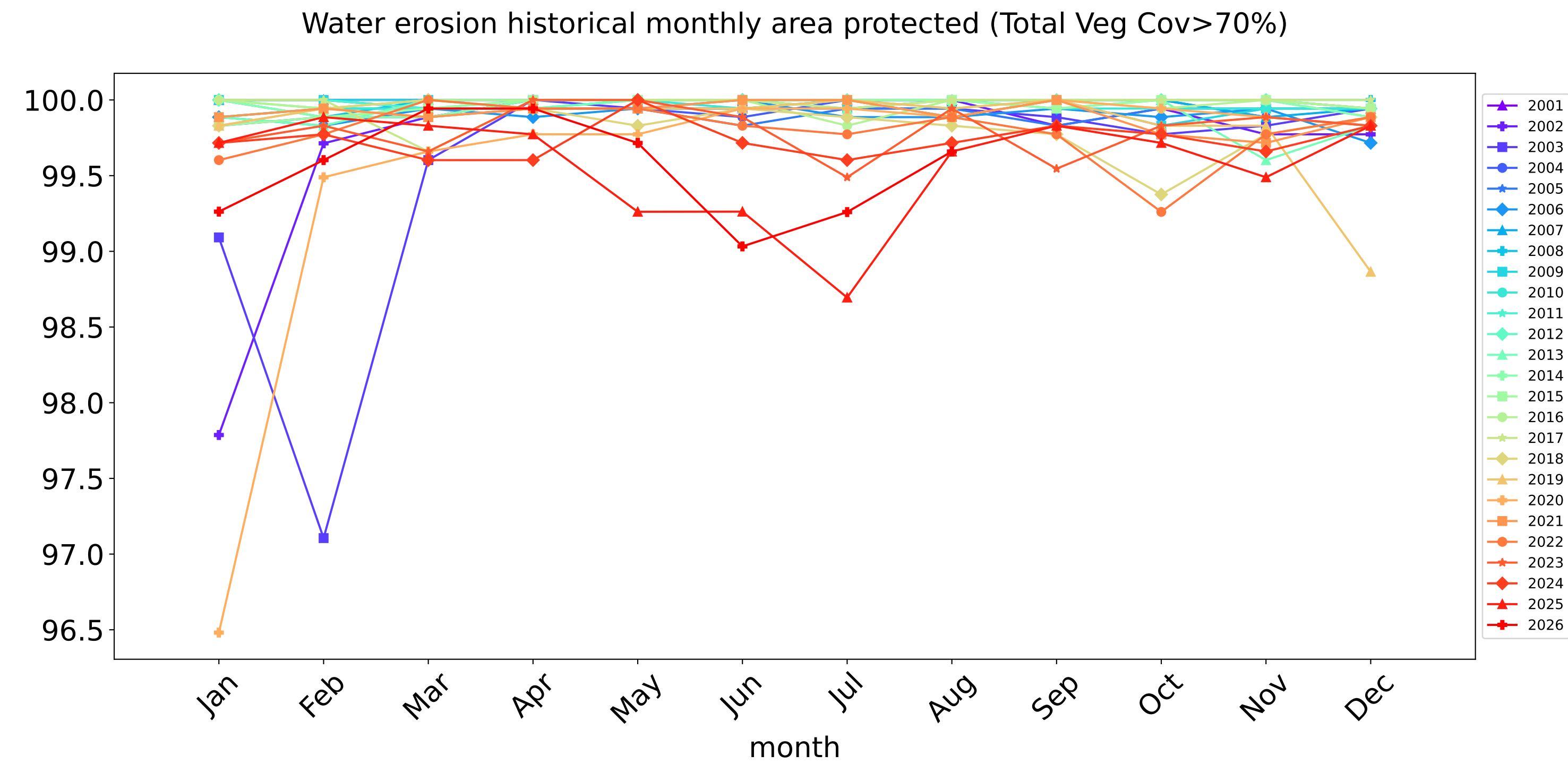
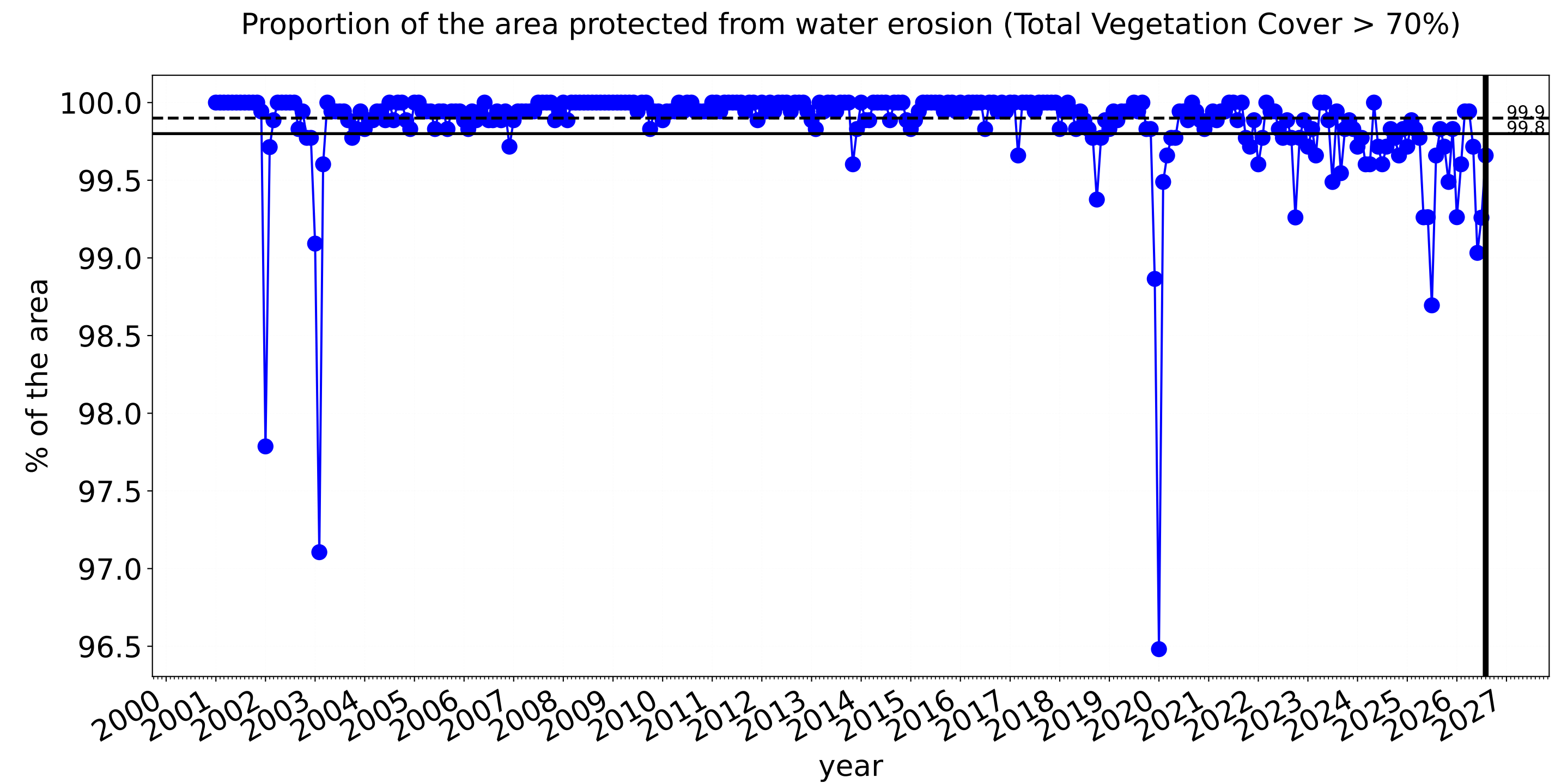
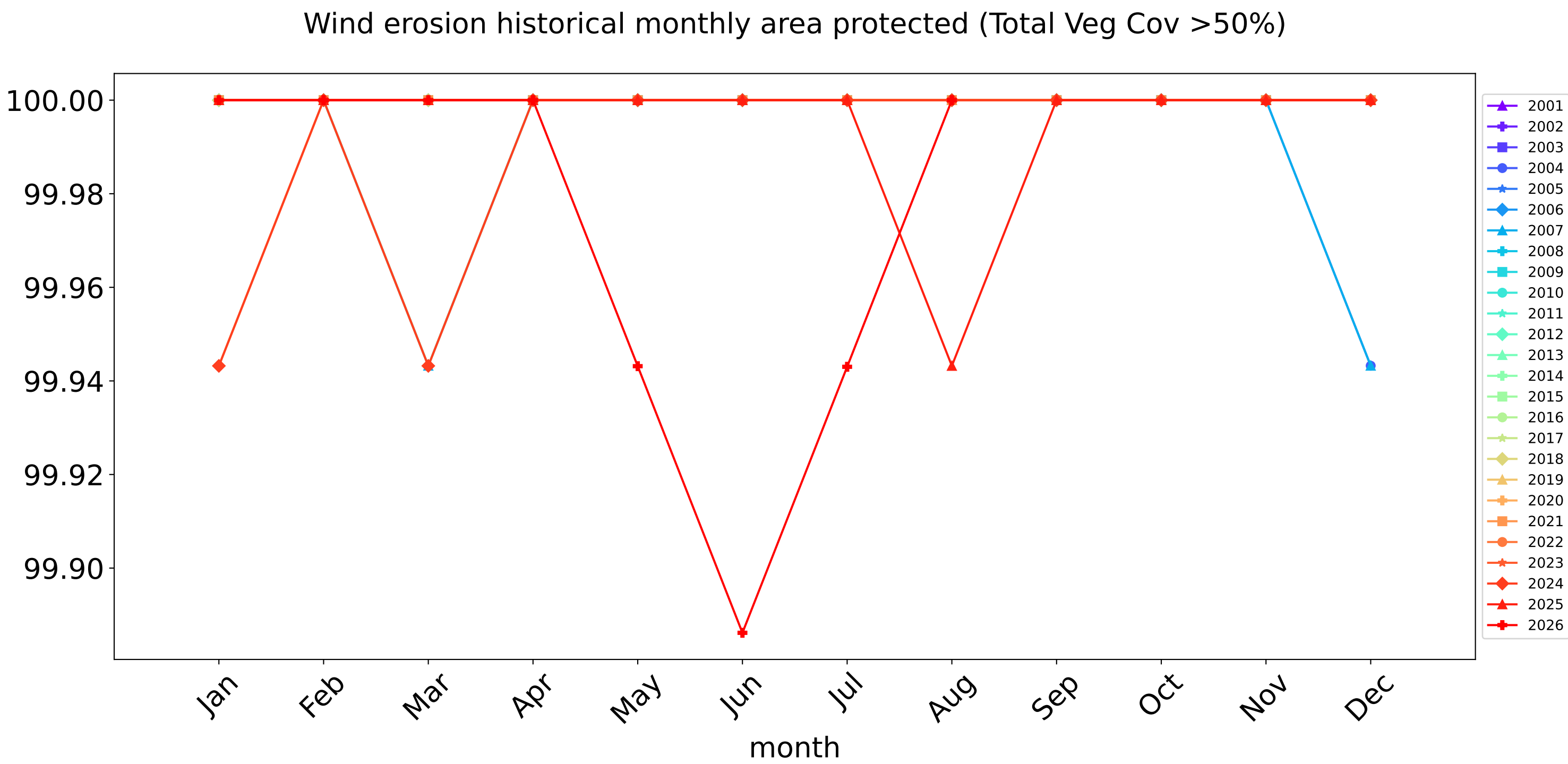
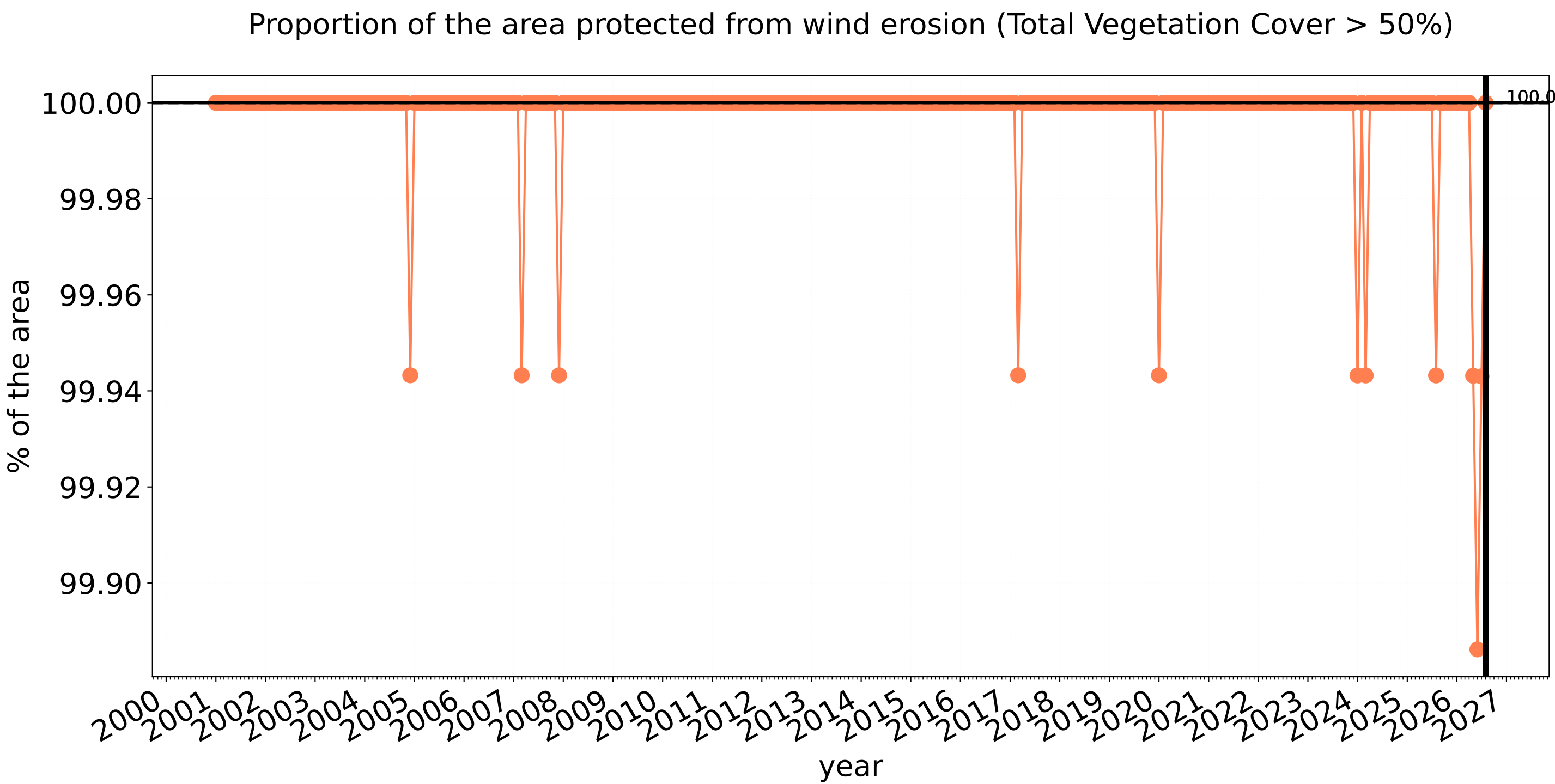
tern
Ecosystem Research Infrastructure



National
Landcare
Programme



Grazing timeseries

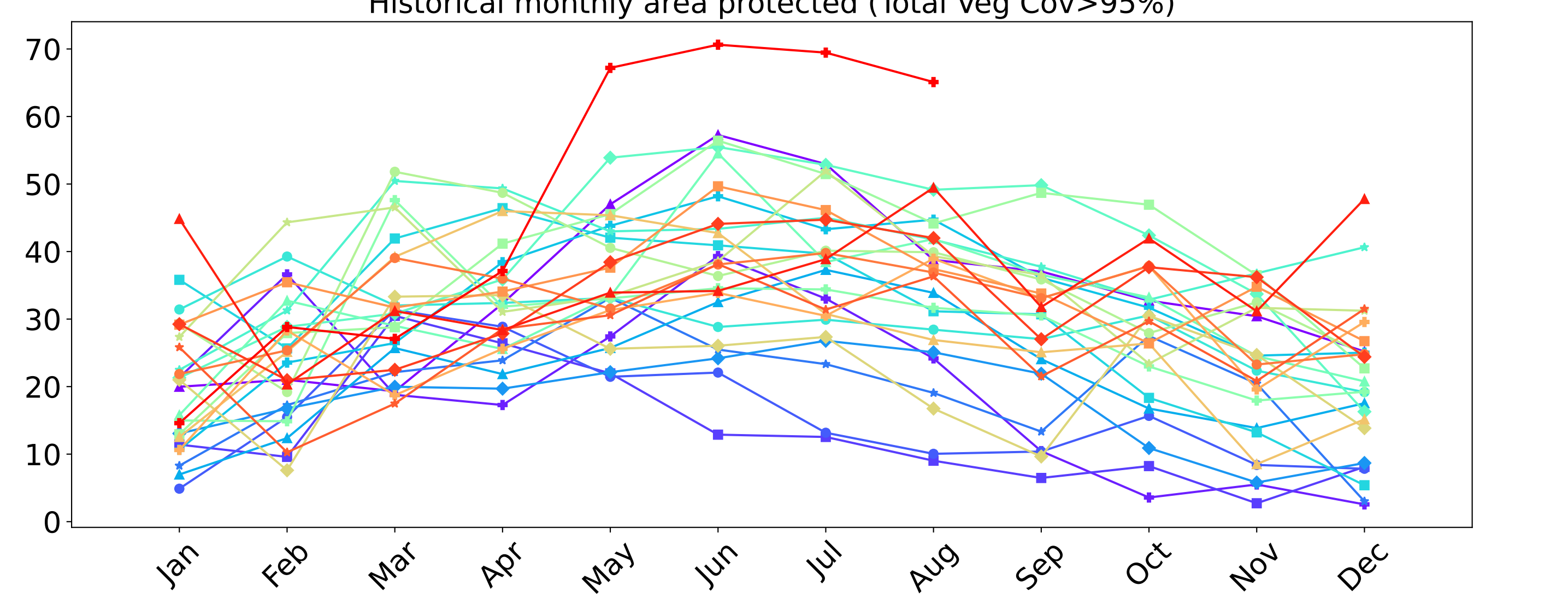
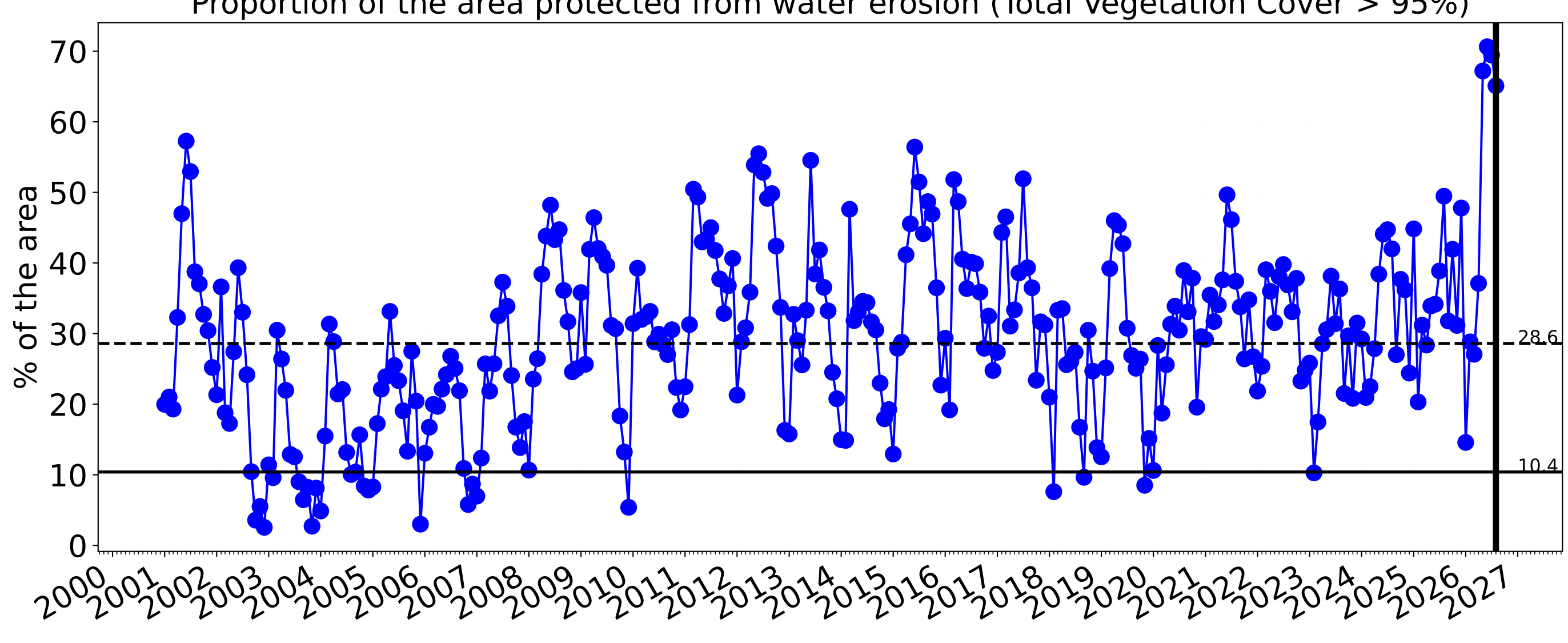
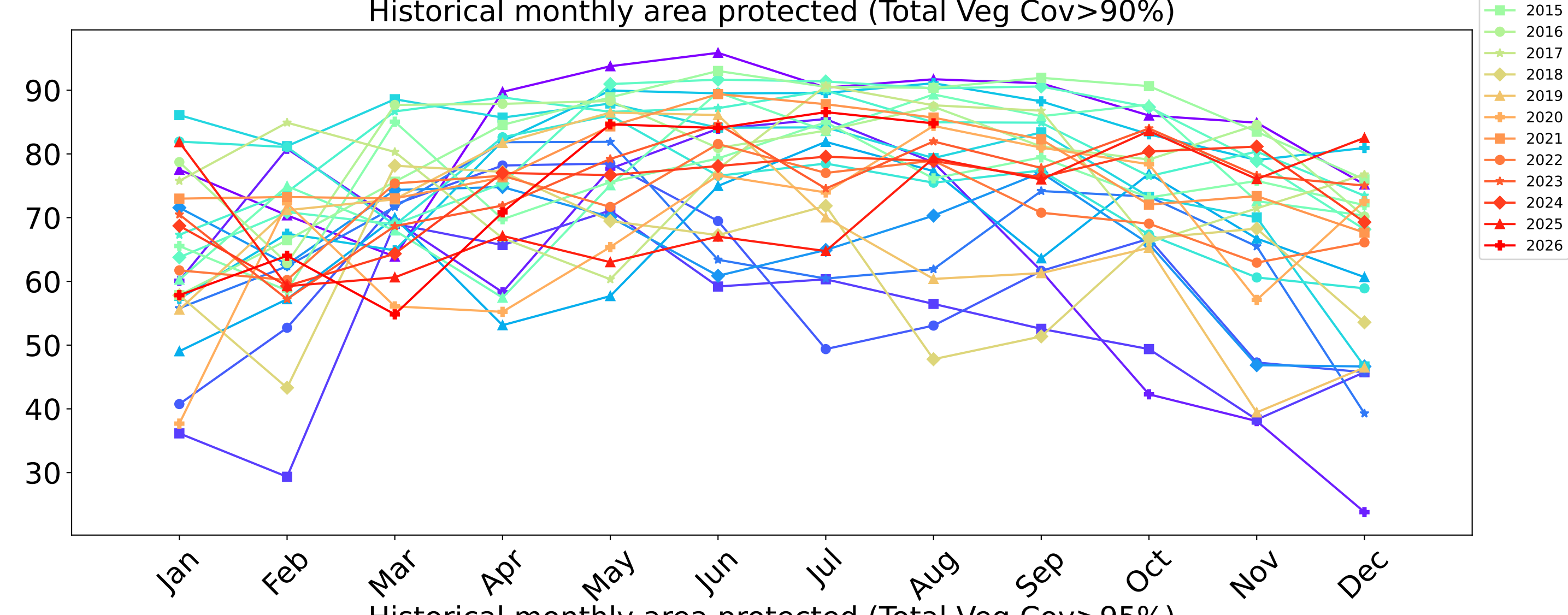
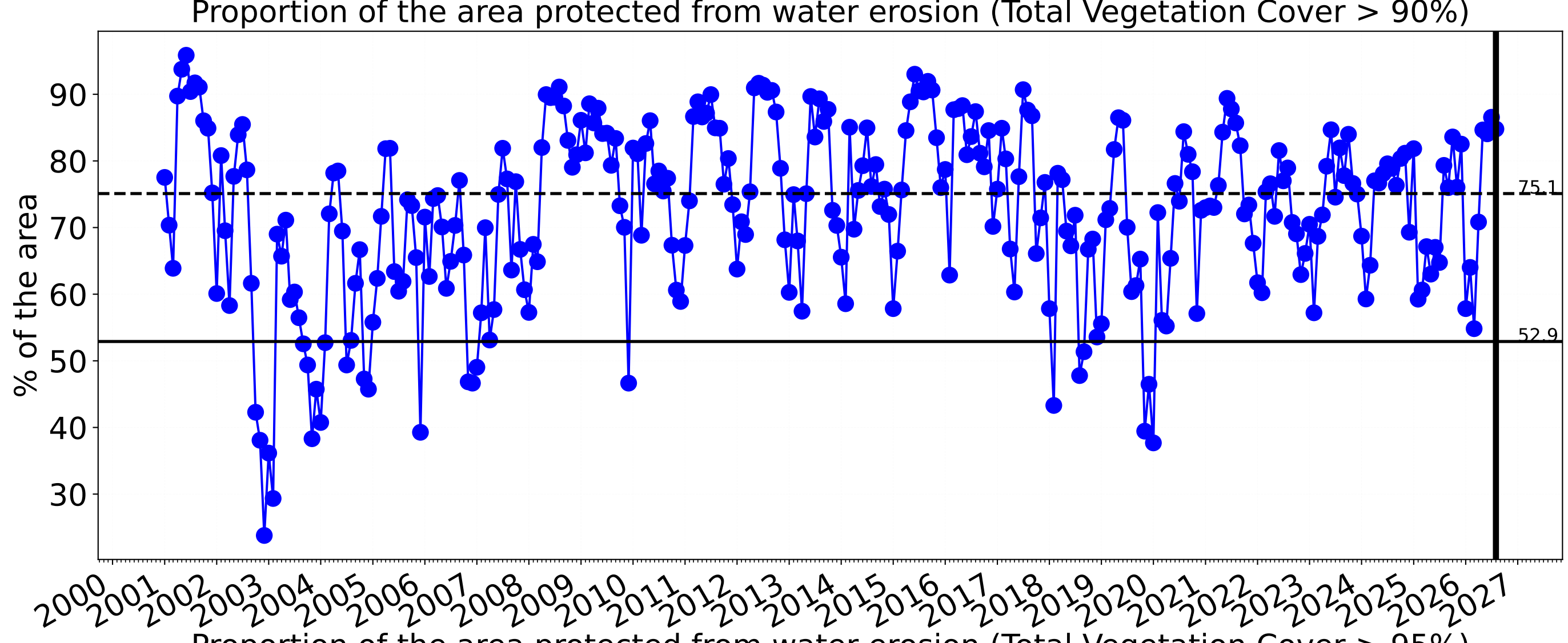
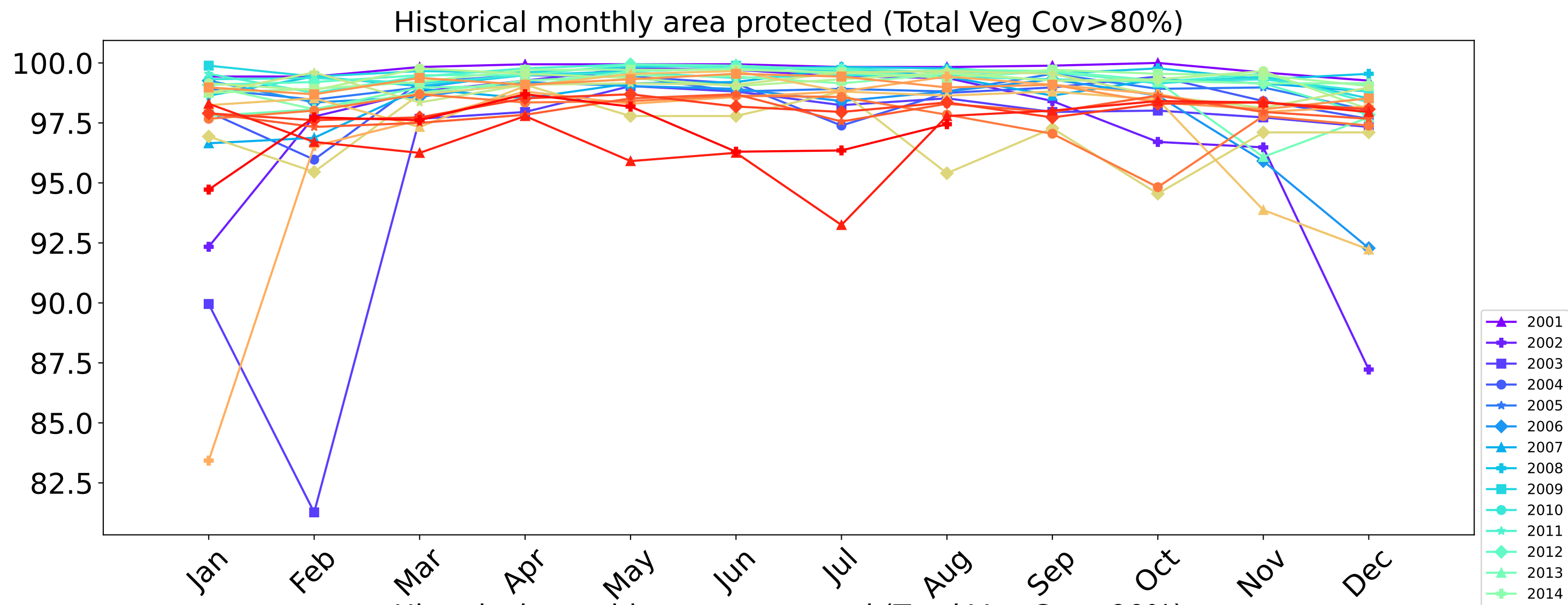
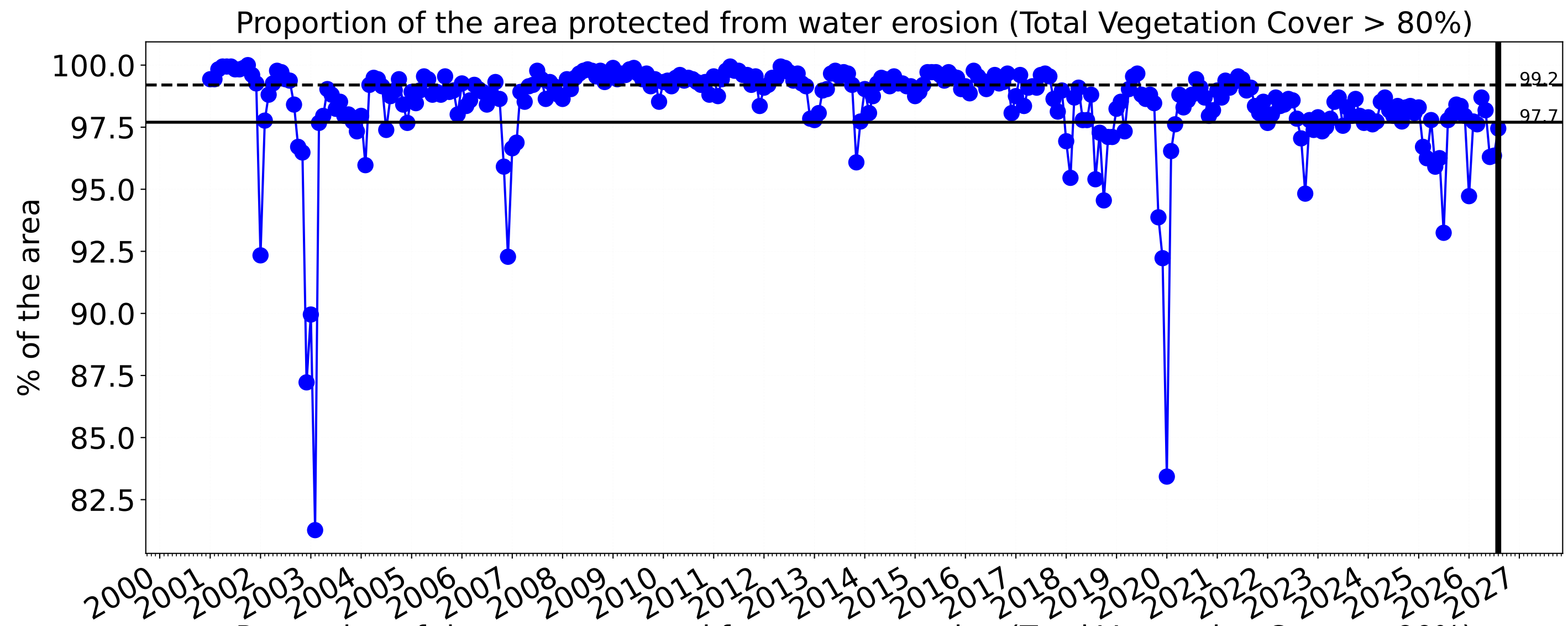


Ecosystem Research Infrastructure



National Landcare Programme

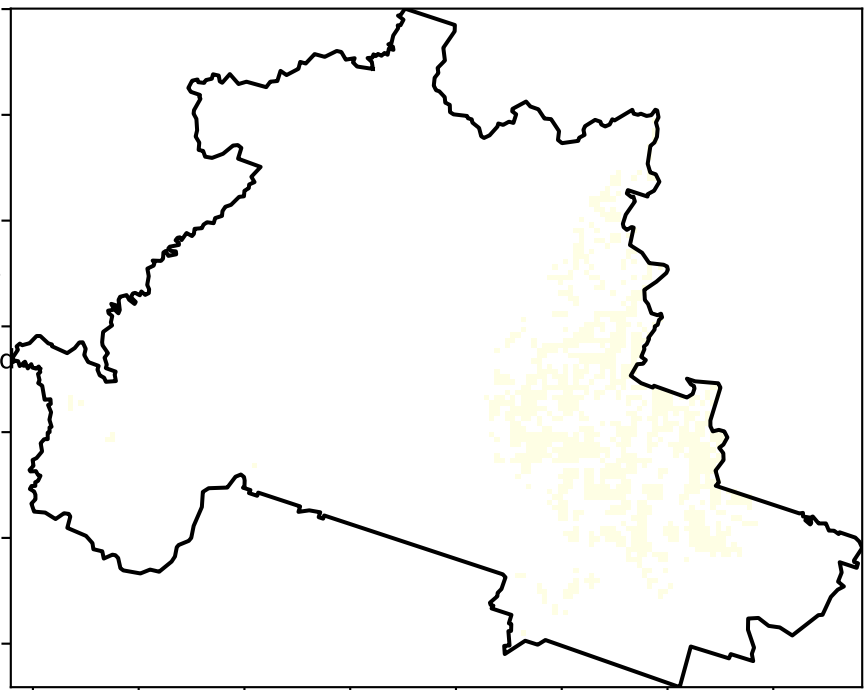




Grazing non forest

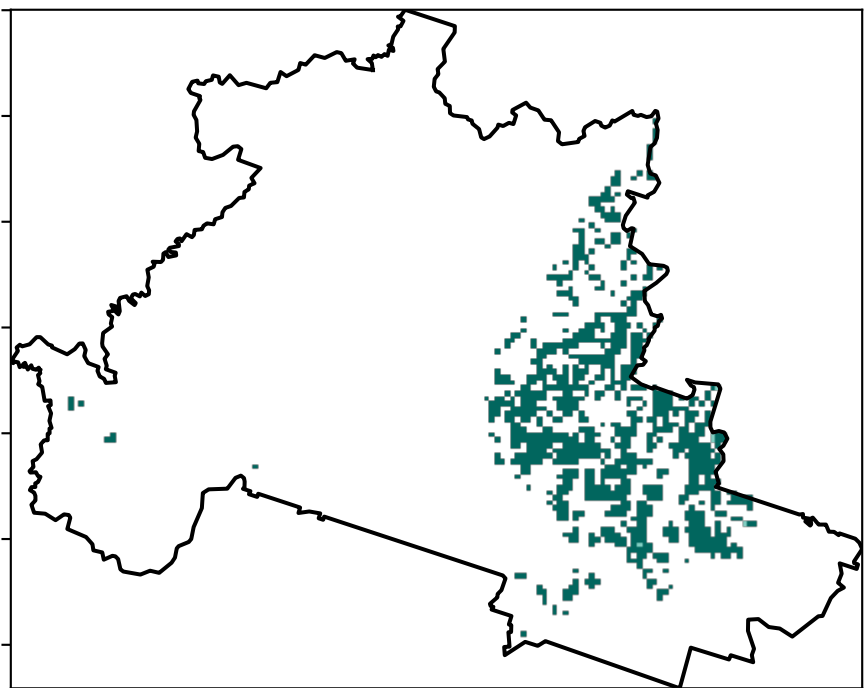
Land use and forest cover

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

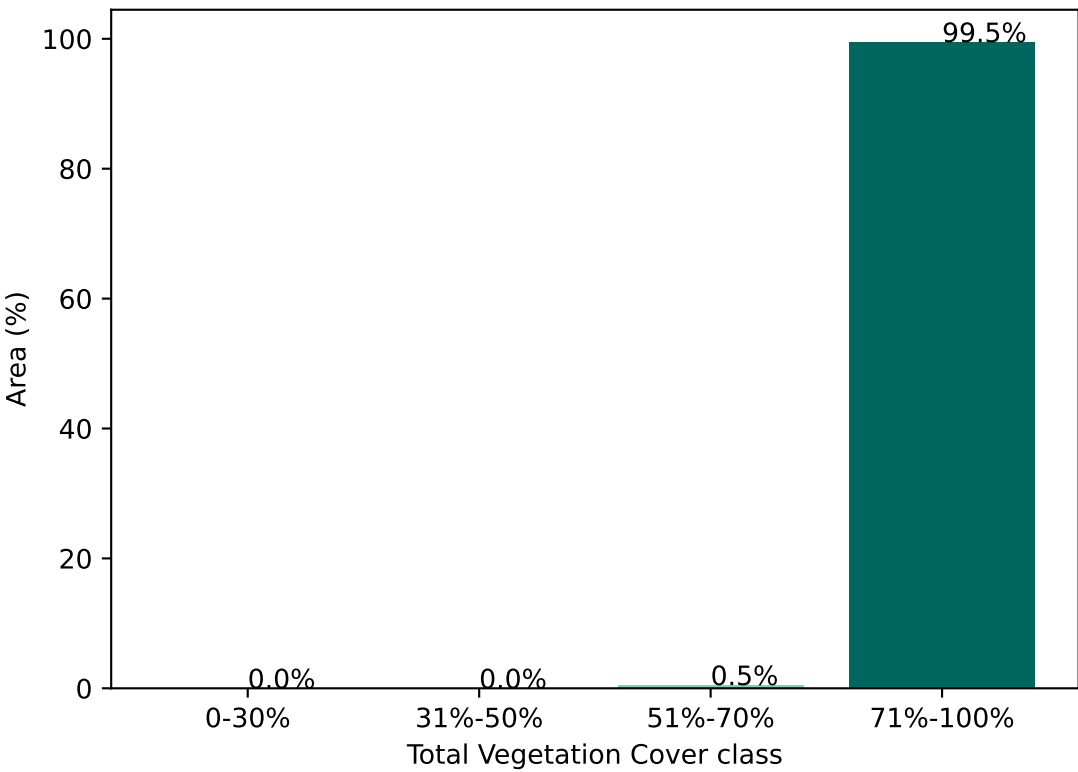


1 Agriculture - Grazing - Non forest

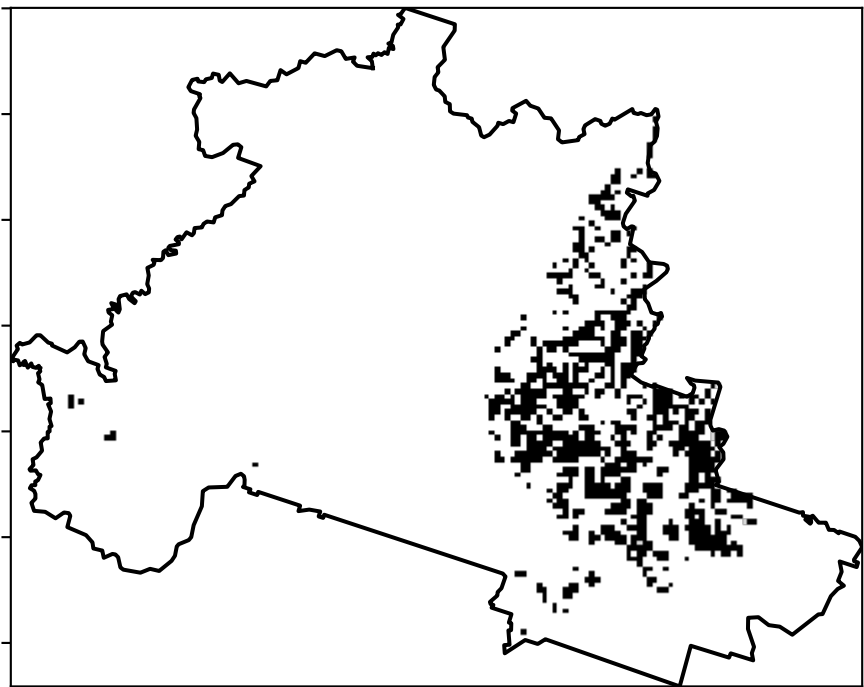
Total Vegetation Cover [%]



Proportion of vegetation cover class in area

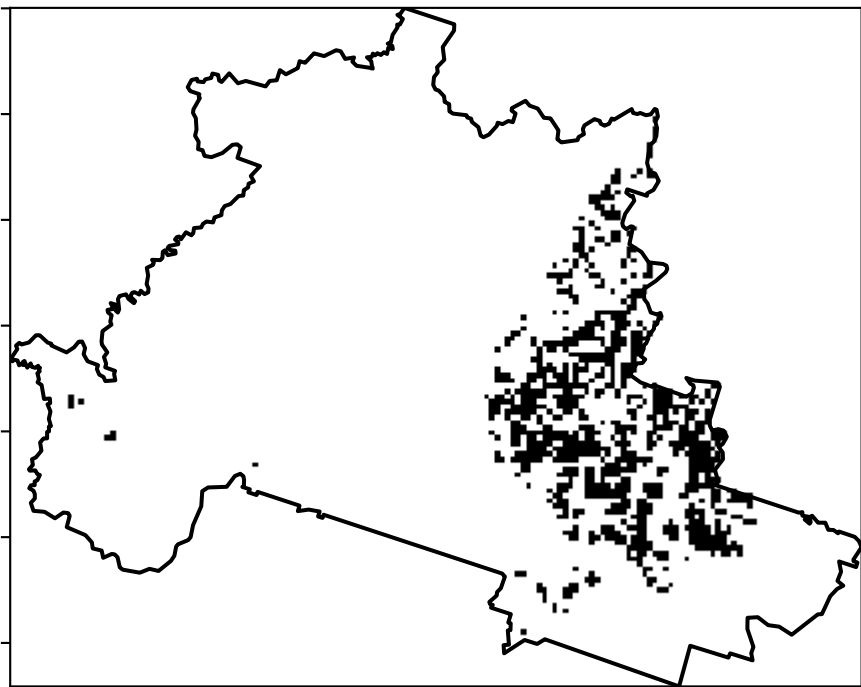


% Area protected from water erosion (>70%)



Area not protected
0.5% of region
(122 ha)
Area protected
99.5% of region
(24,278 ha)

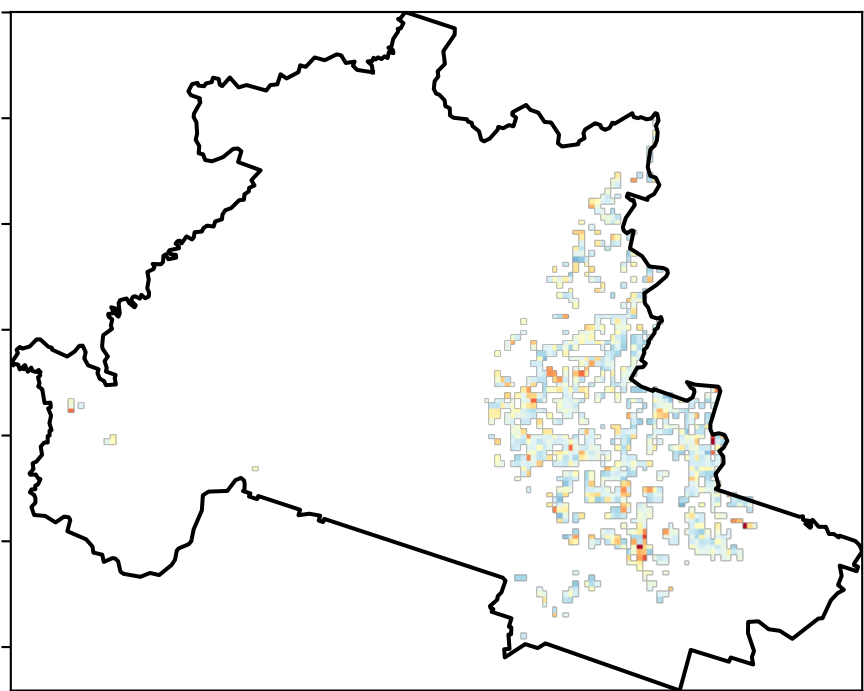
% Area protected from wind erosion (>50%)



Area protected
100.0% of region
(24,400 ha)

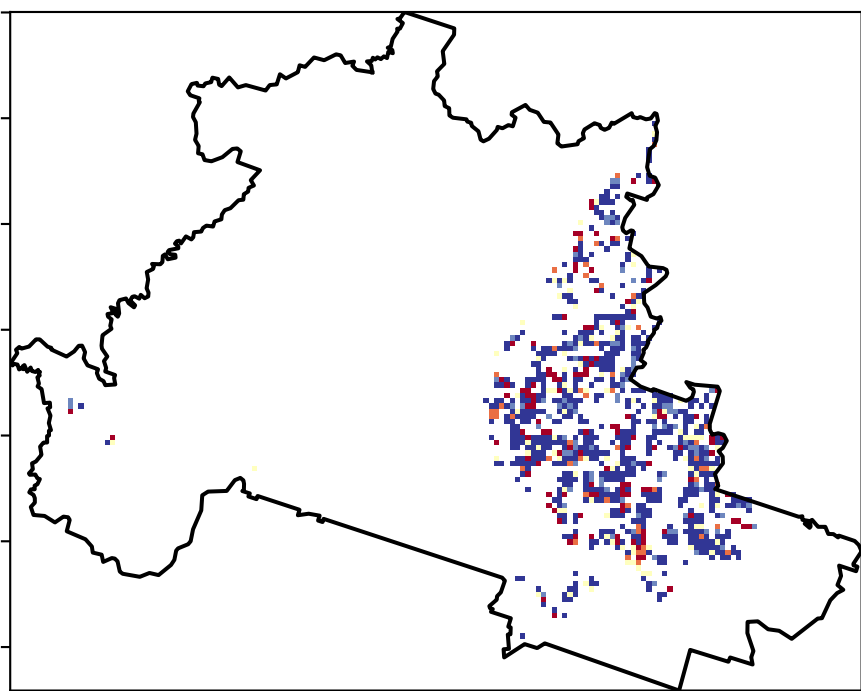
Total Vegetation Cover Anomaly [%]

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 [%]



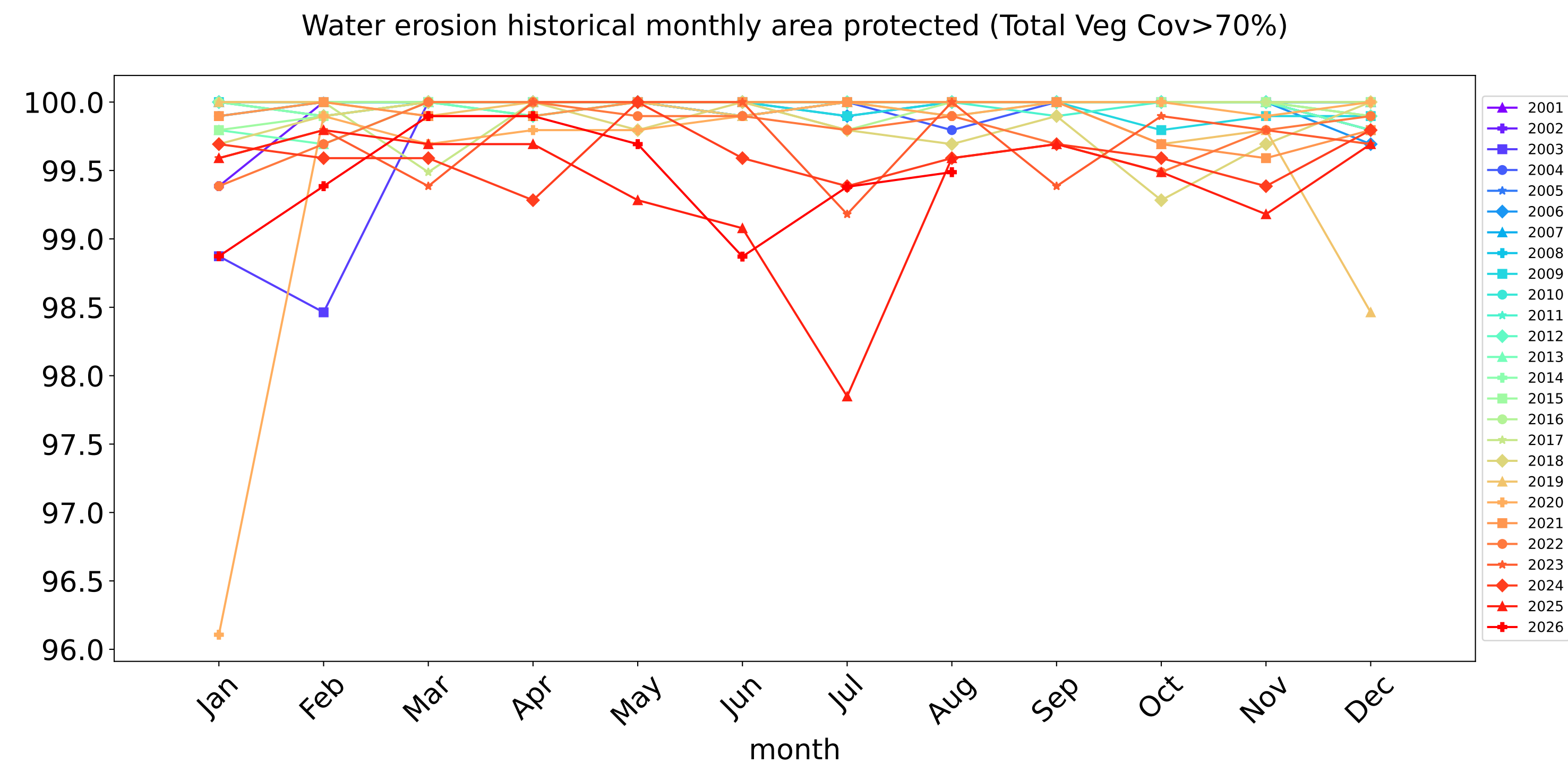
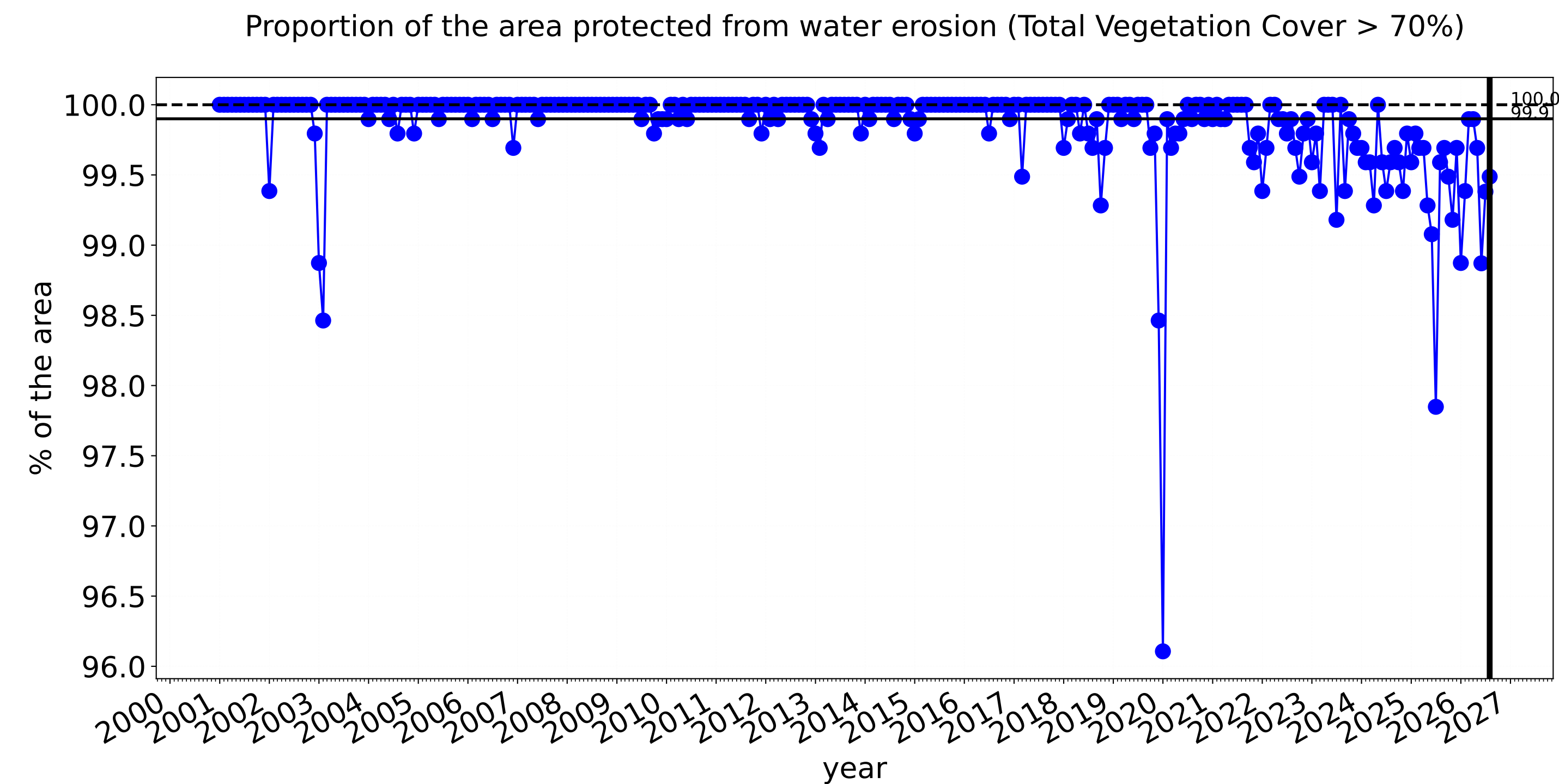
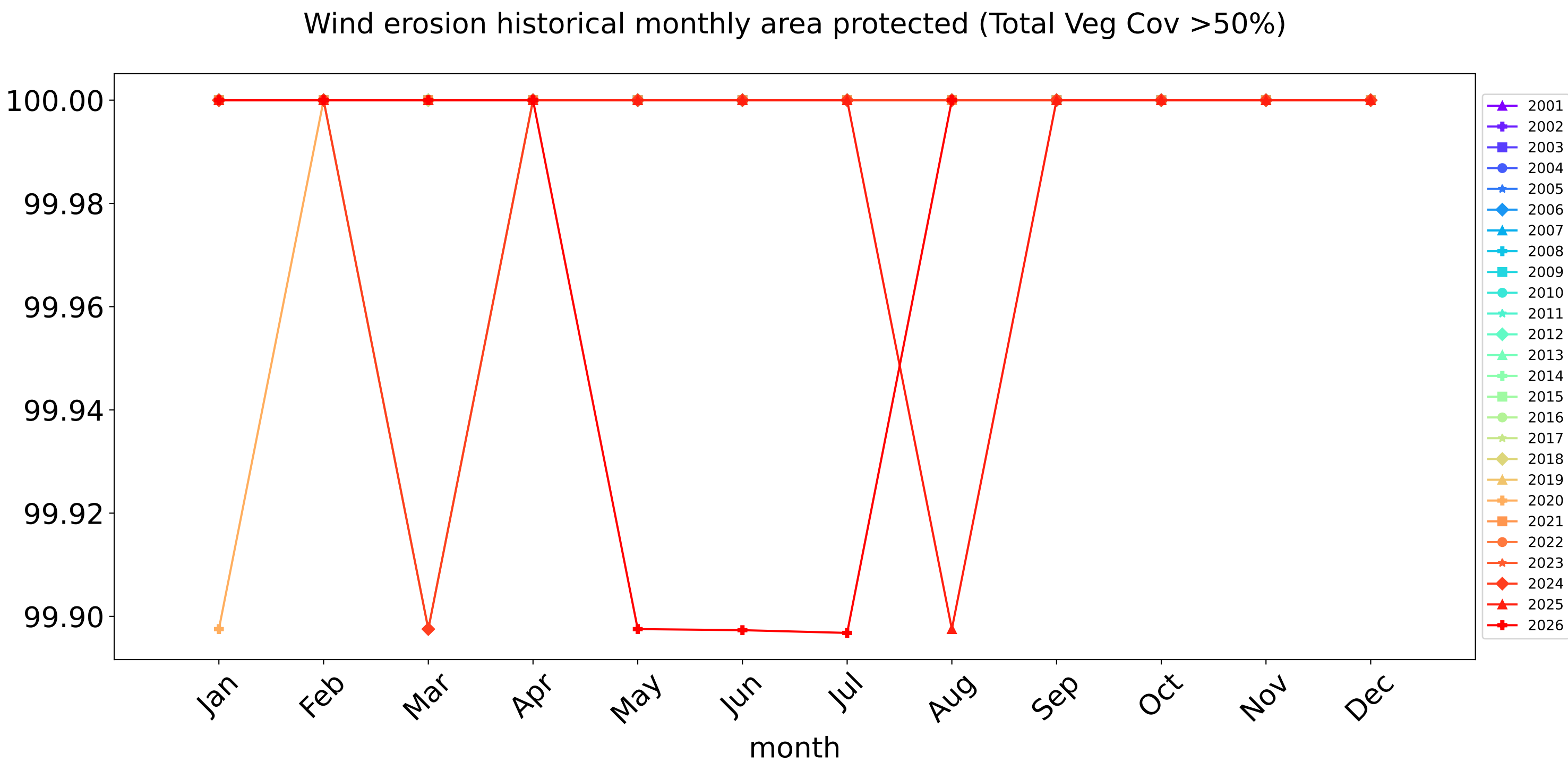
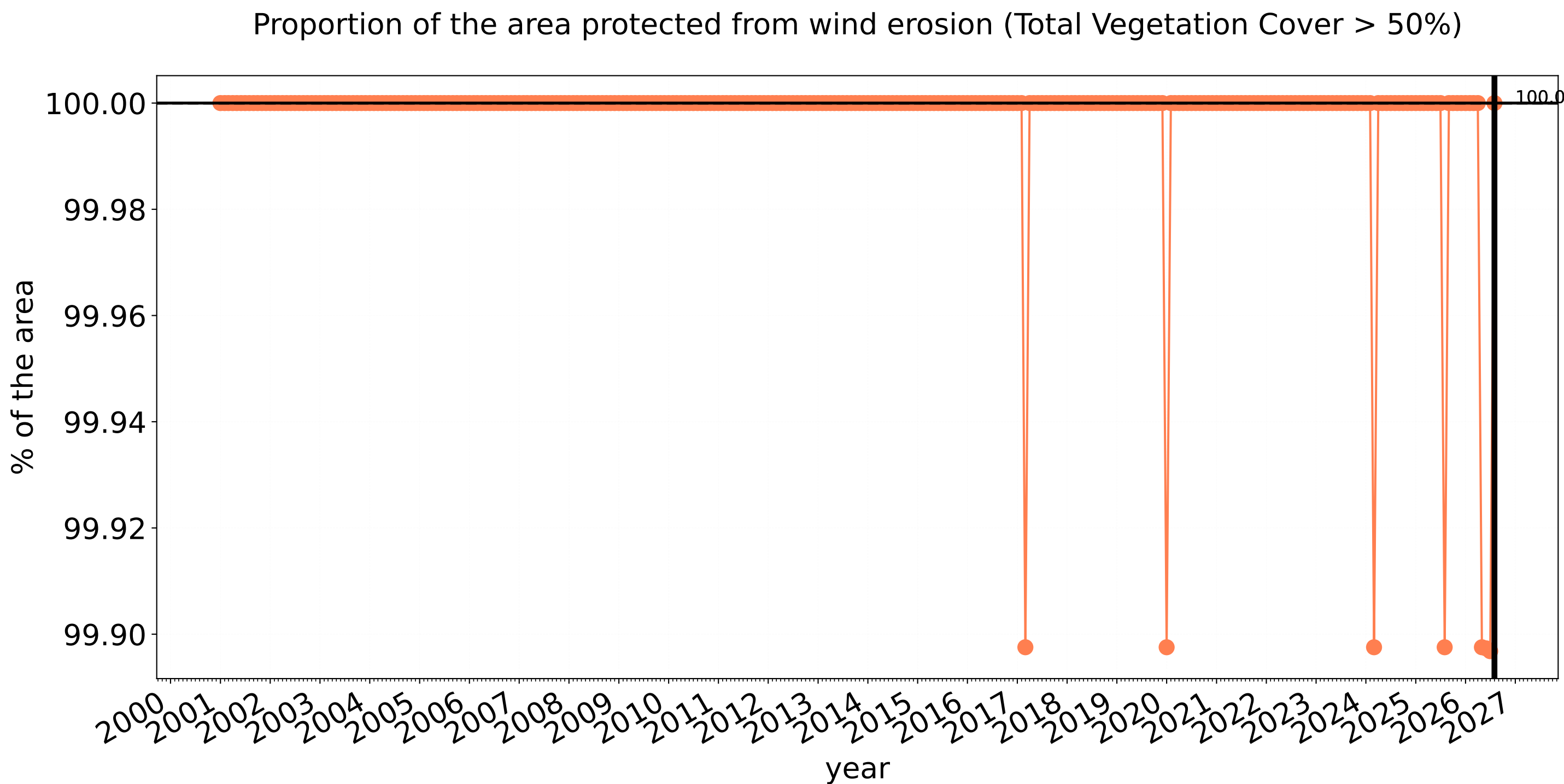
tern
Ecosystem Research Infrastructure



National
Landcare
Programme



Grazing non forest timeseries

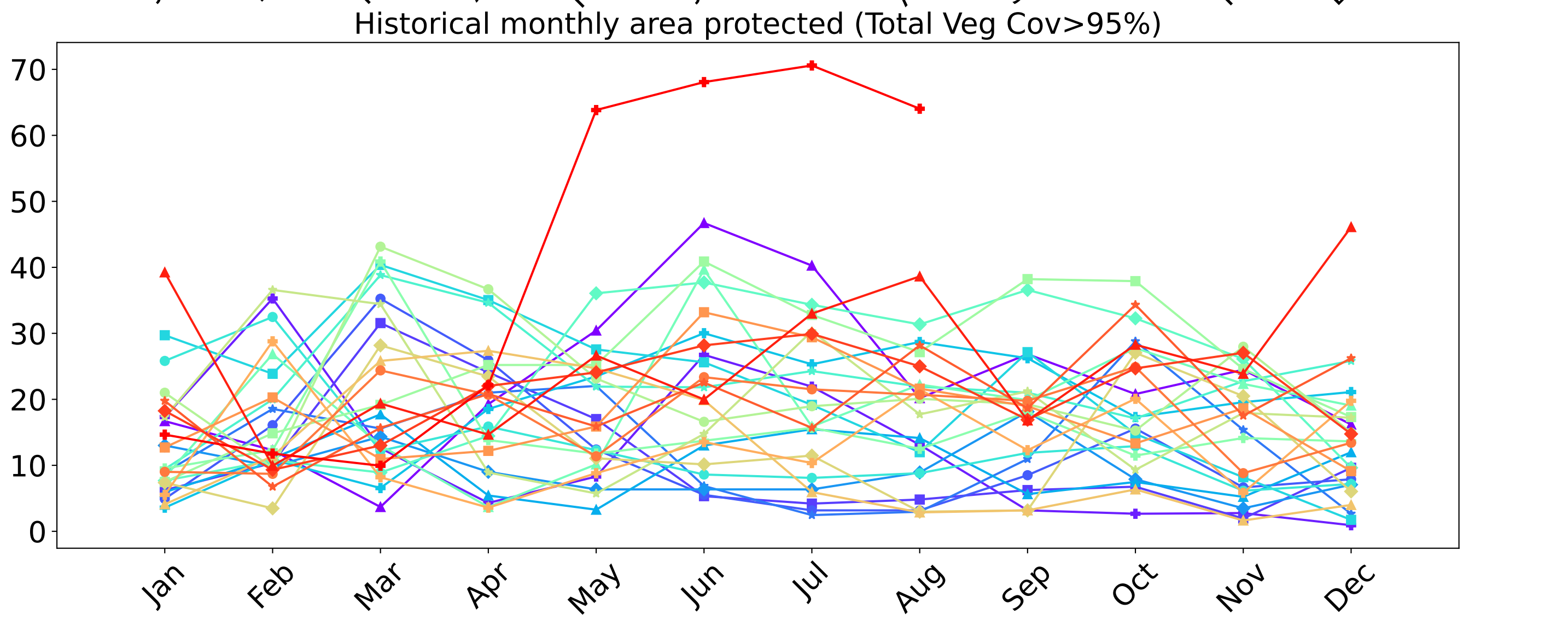
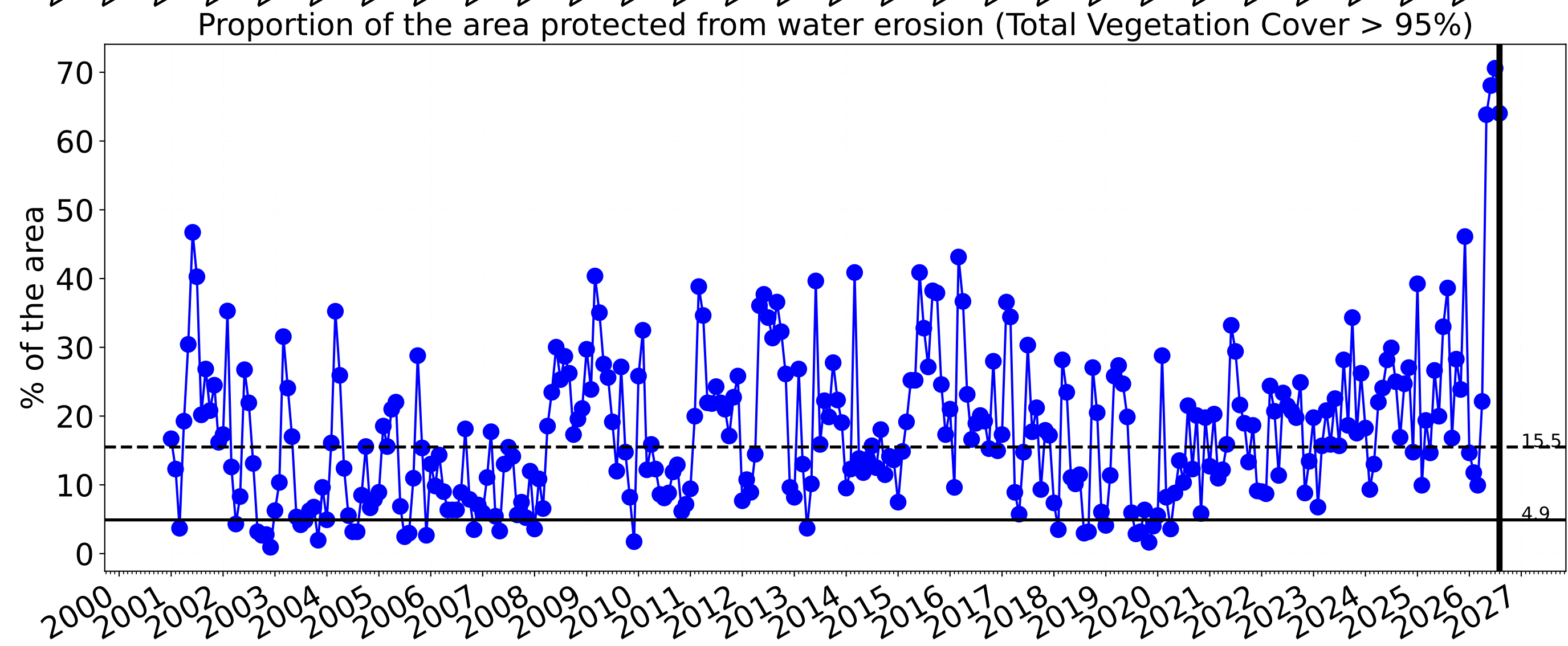
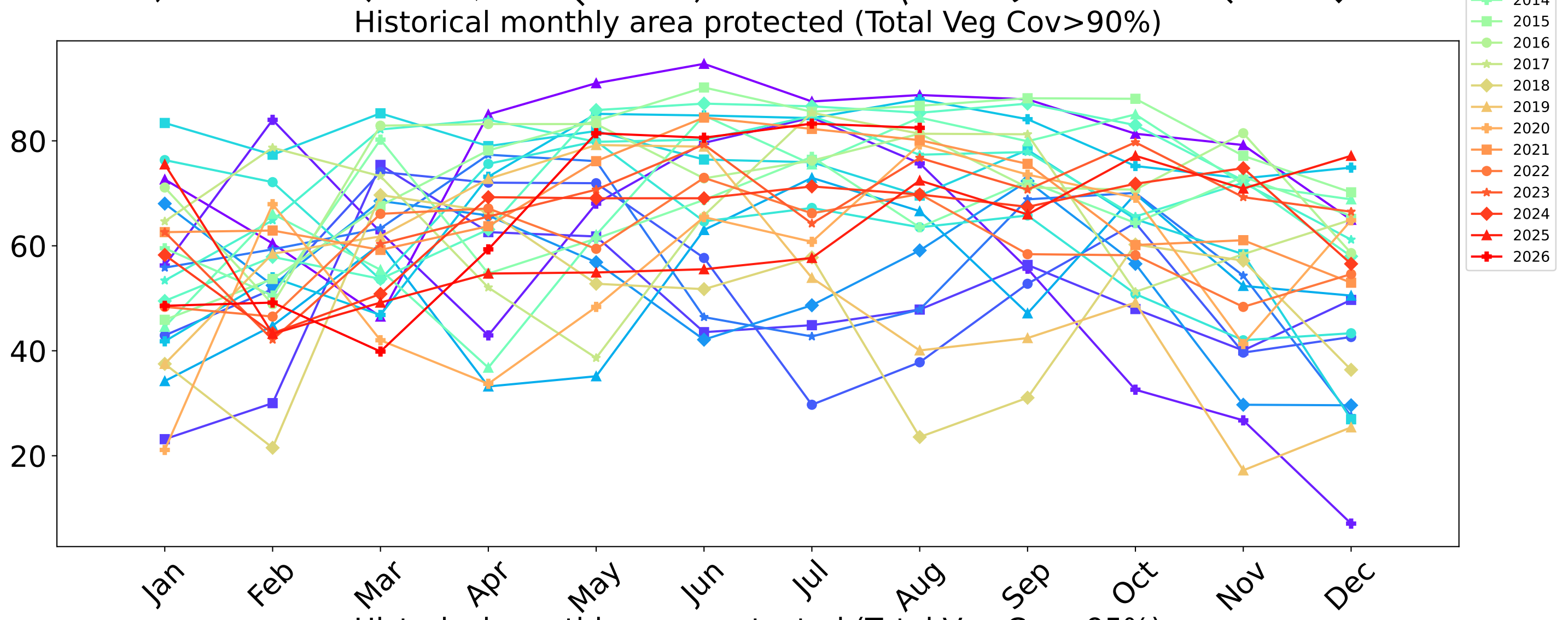
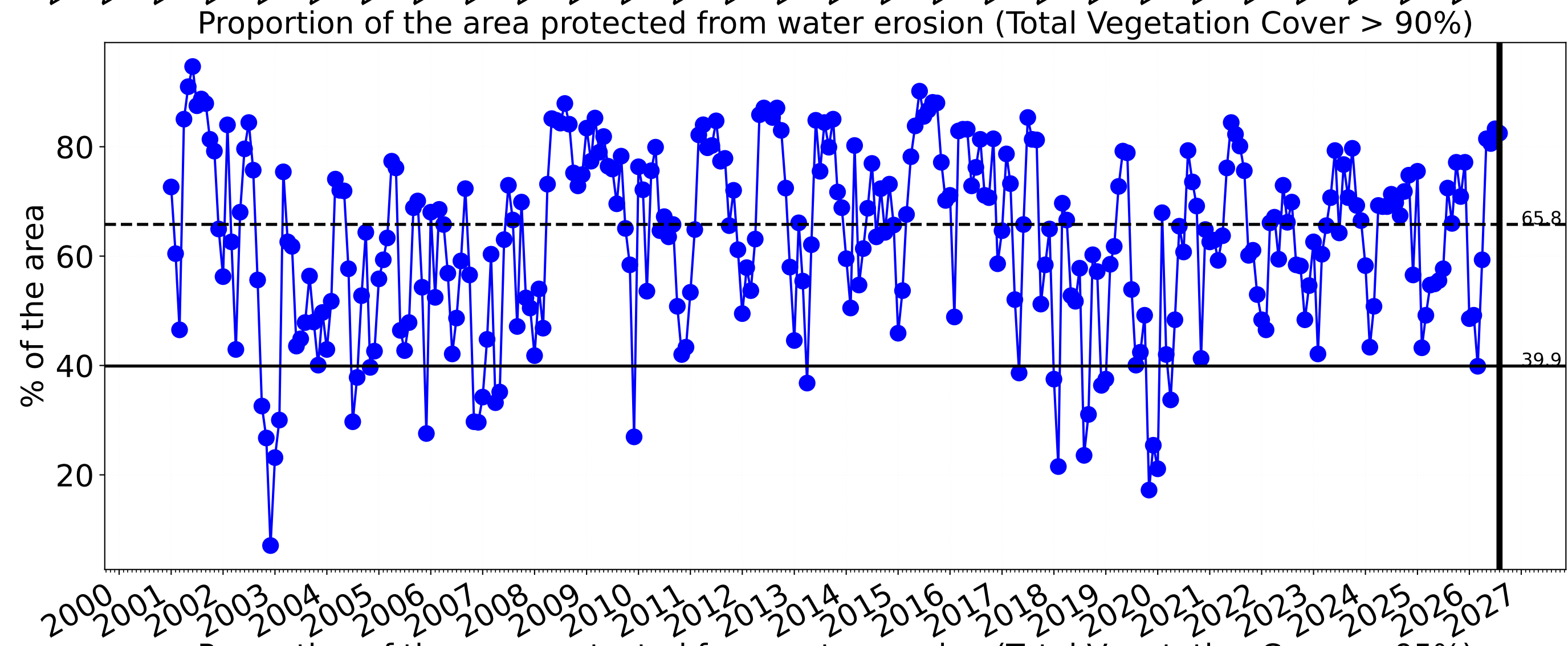
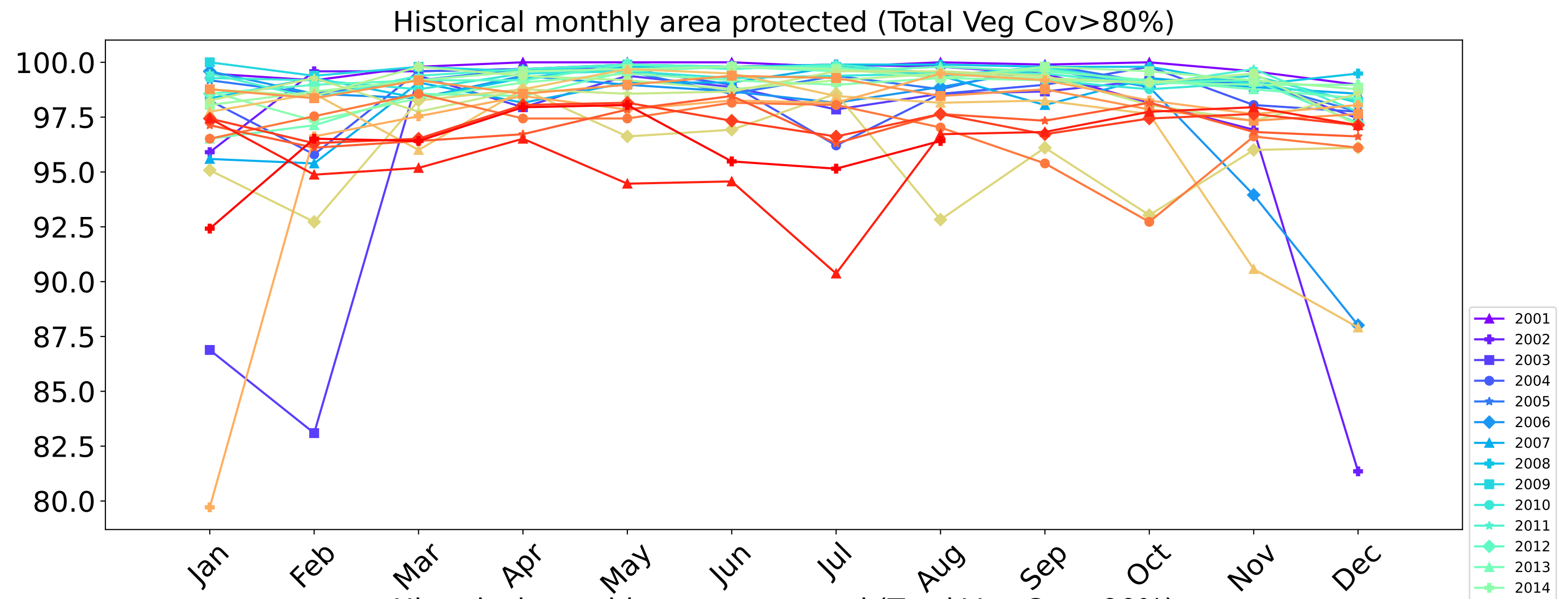
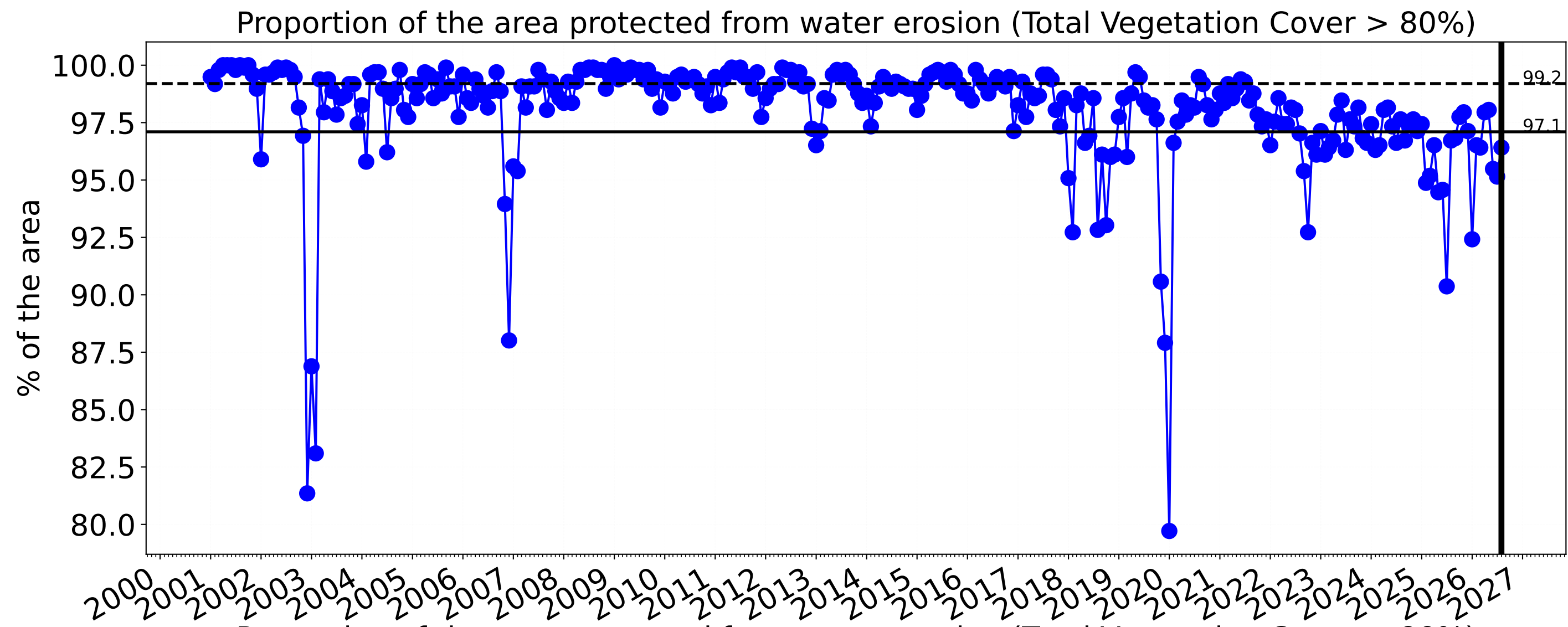


Ecosystem Research Infrastructure



National Landcare Programme





tern
Ecosystem Research Infrastructure



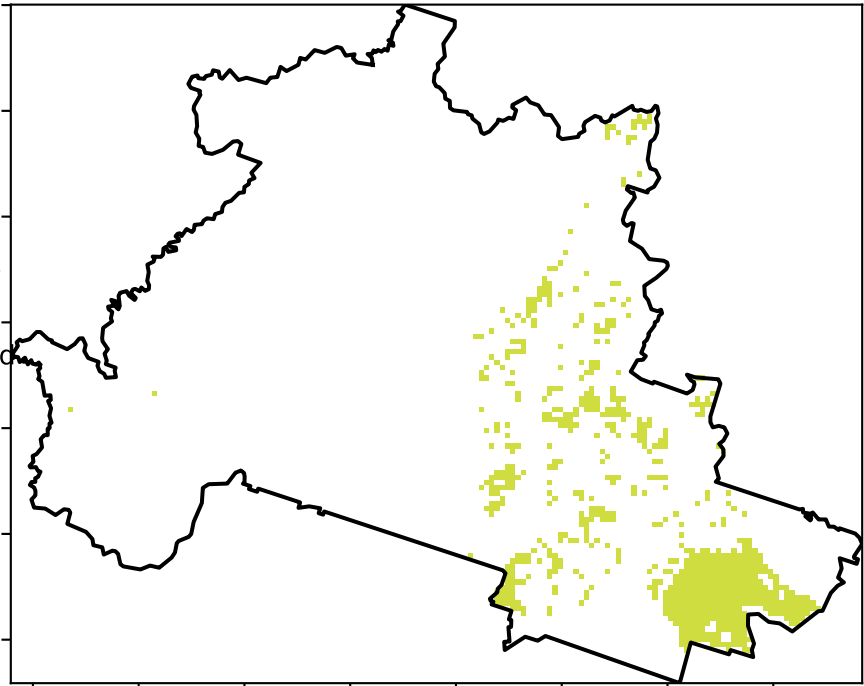
National
Landcare
Programme



Grazing Woodland forest

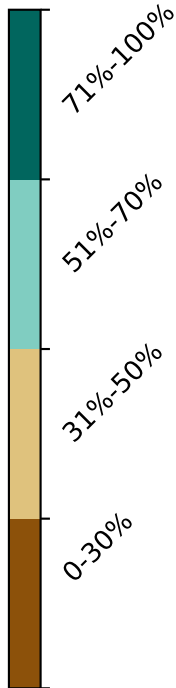
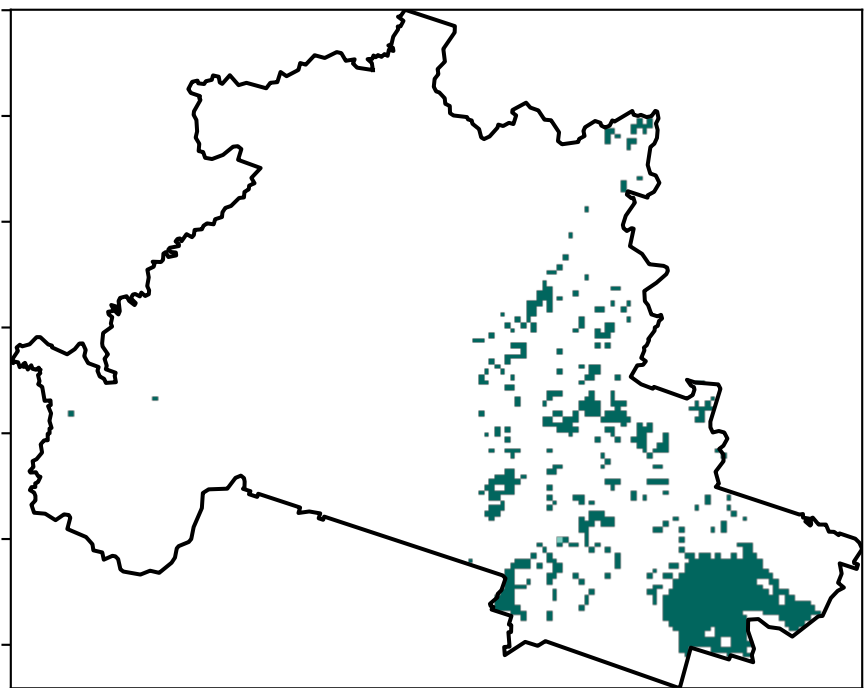
Land use and forest cover

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

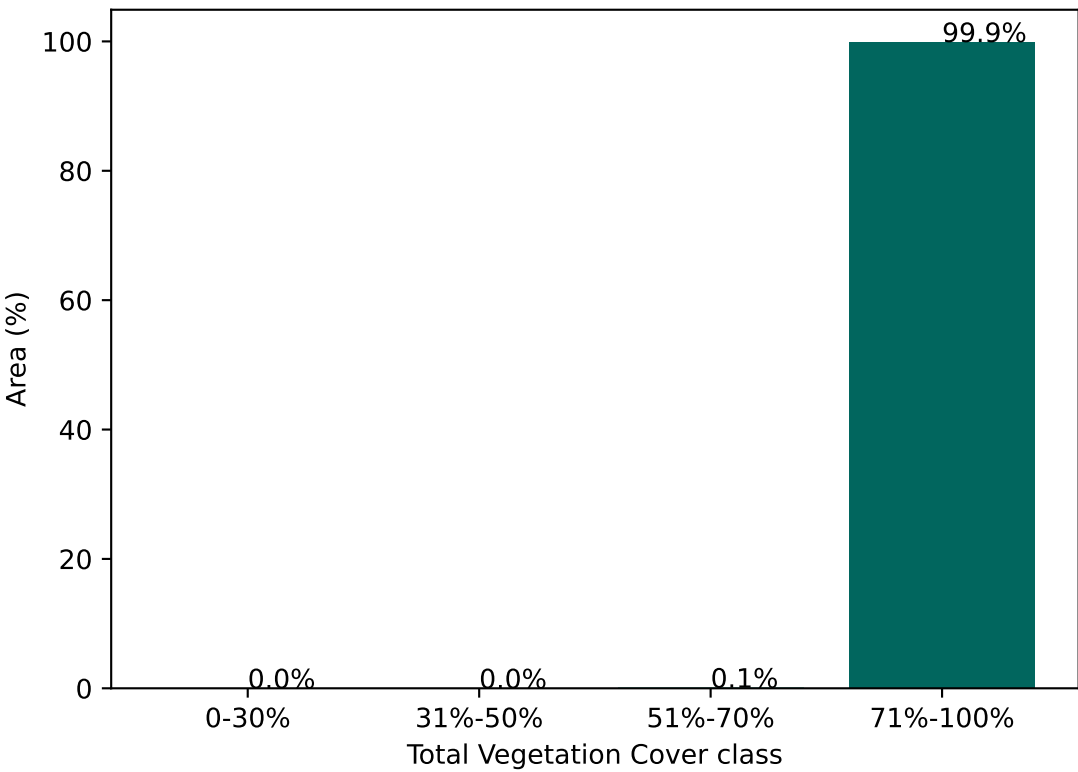


1 Agriculture - Grazing - Woodland forest

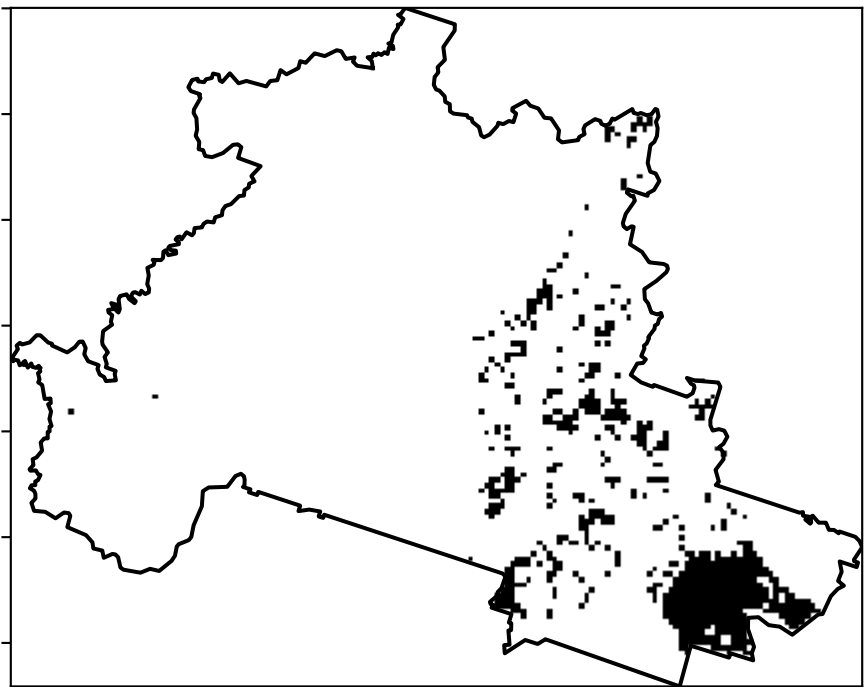
Total Vegetation Cover [%]



Proportion of vegetation cover class in area

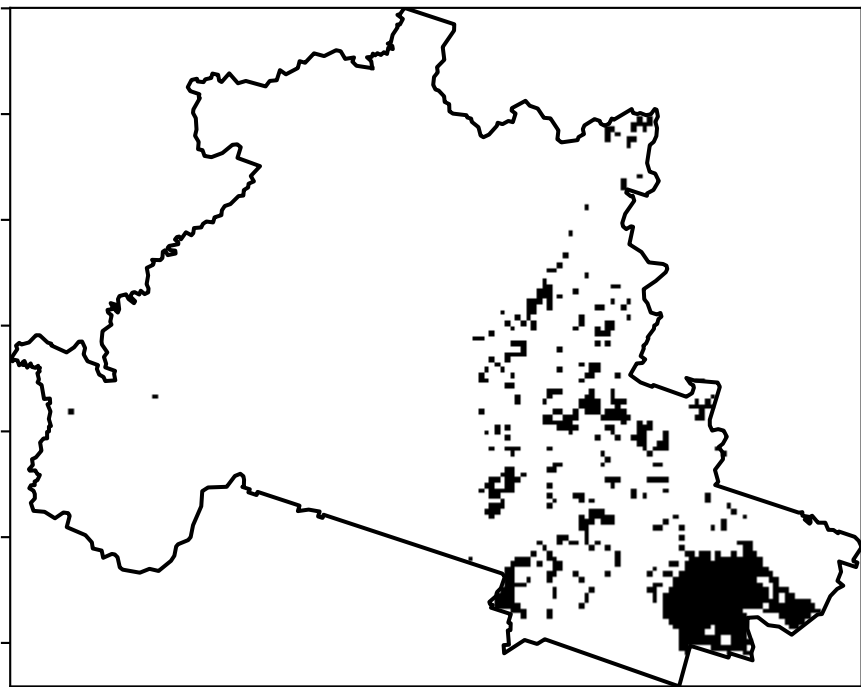


% Area protected from water erosion (>70%)



Area
protected
99.9% of
region
(18,731
ha)

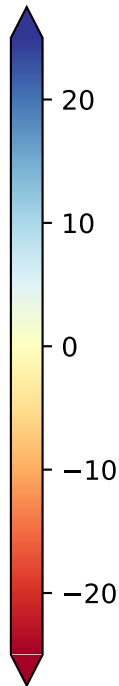
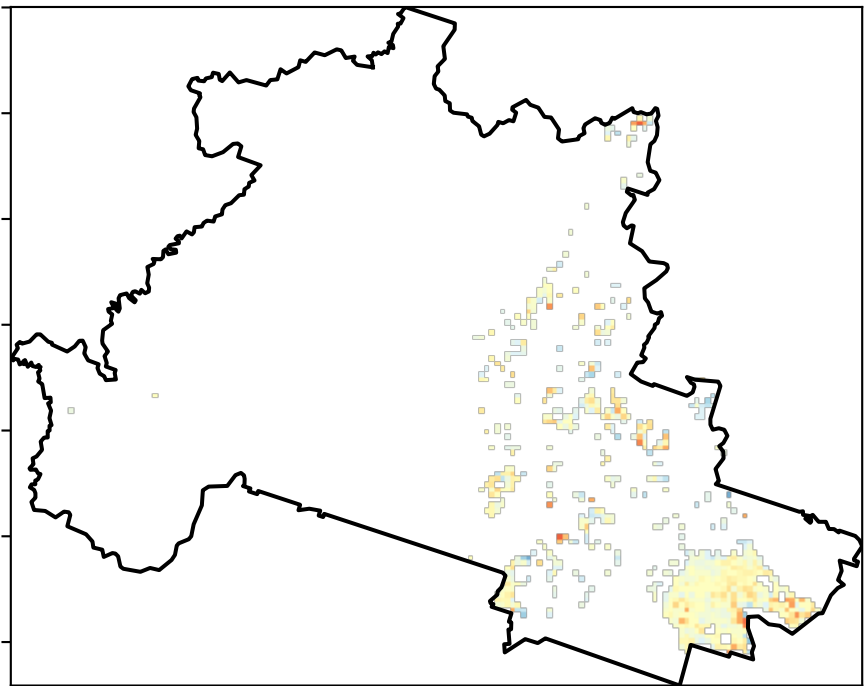
% Area protected from wind erosion (>50%)



Area
protected
100.0% of
region
(18,750
ha)

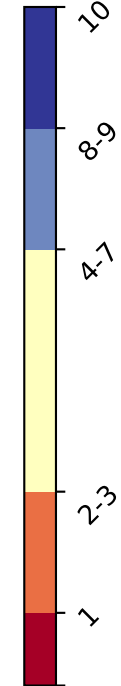
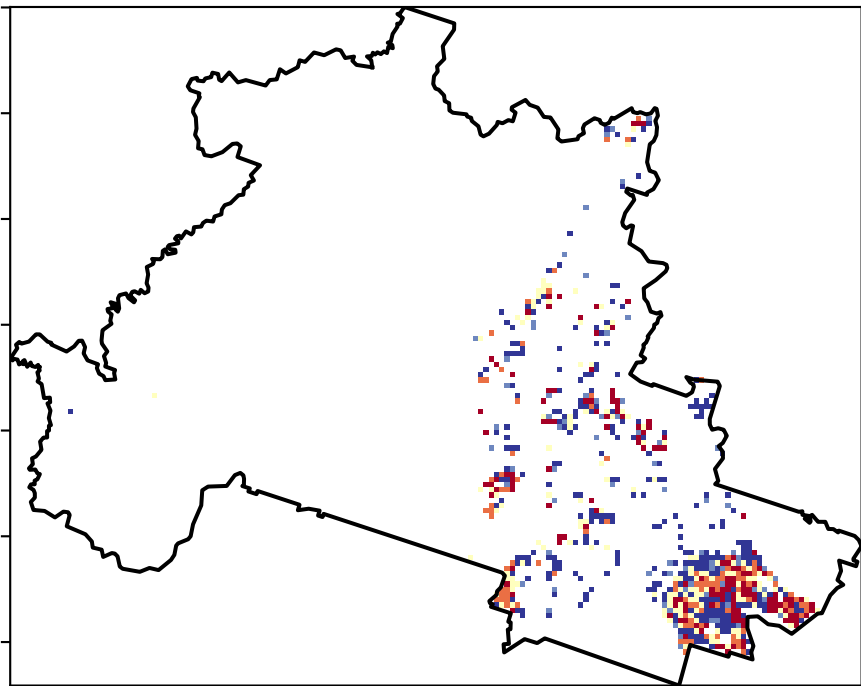
Total Vegetation Cover Anomaly [%]

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.

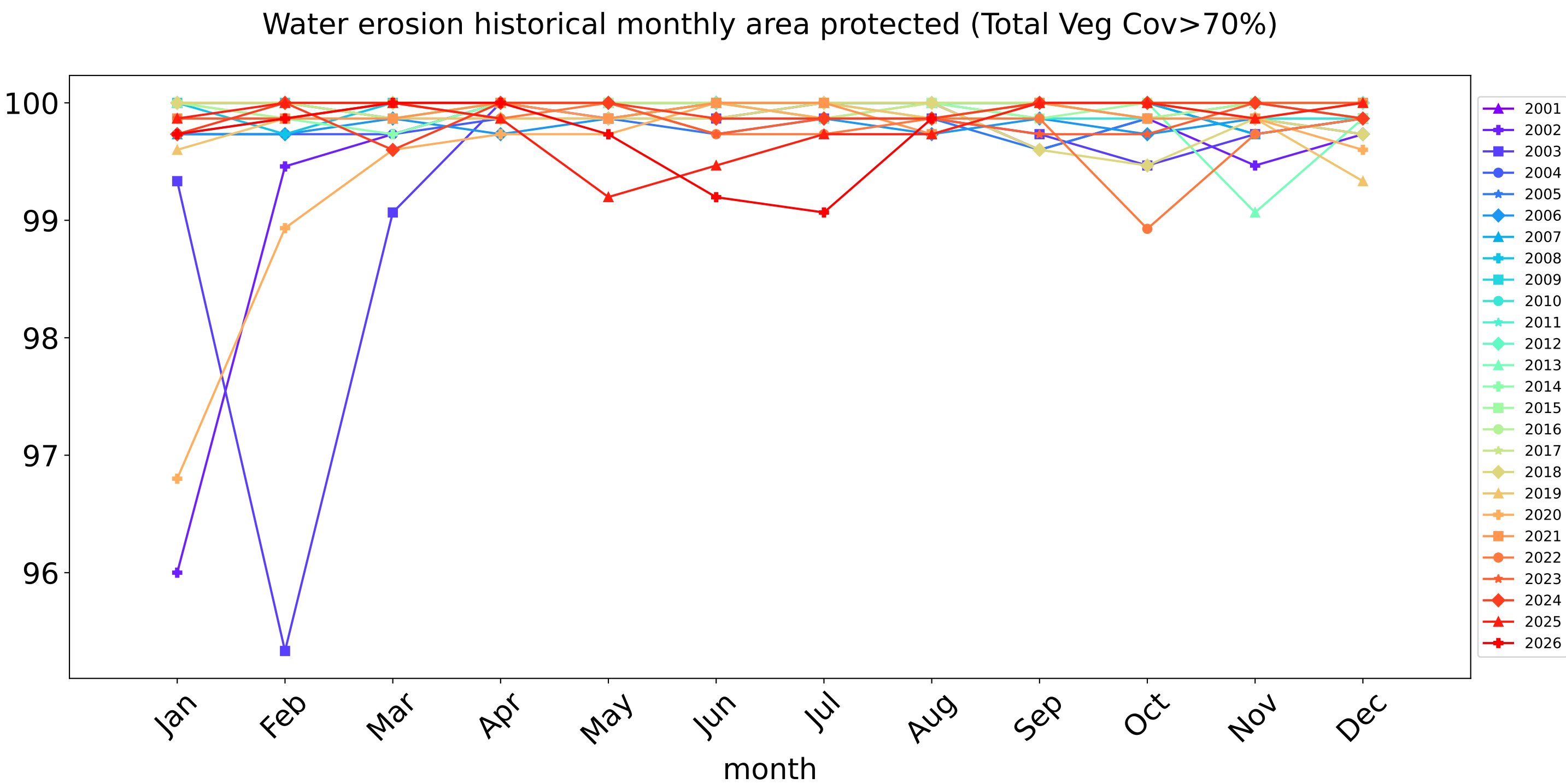
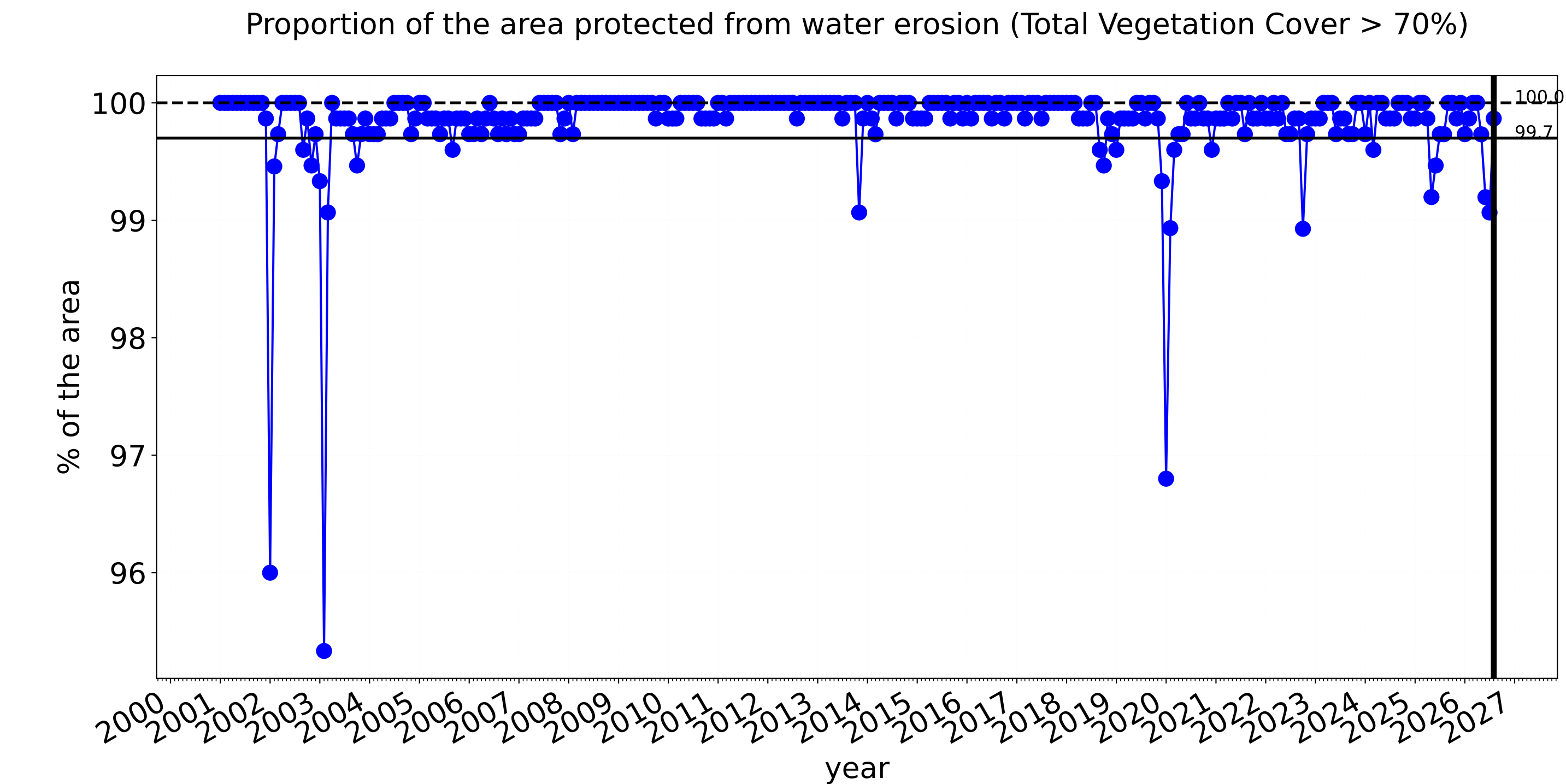
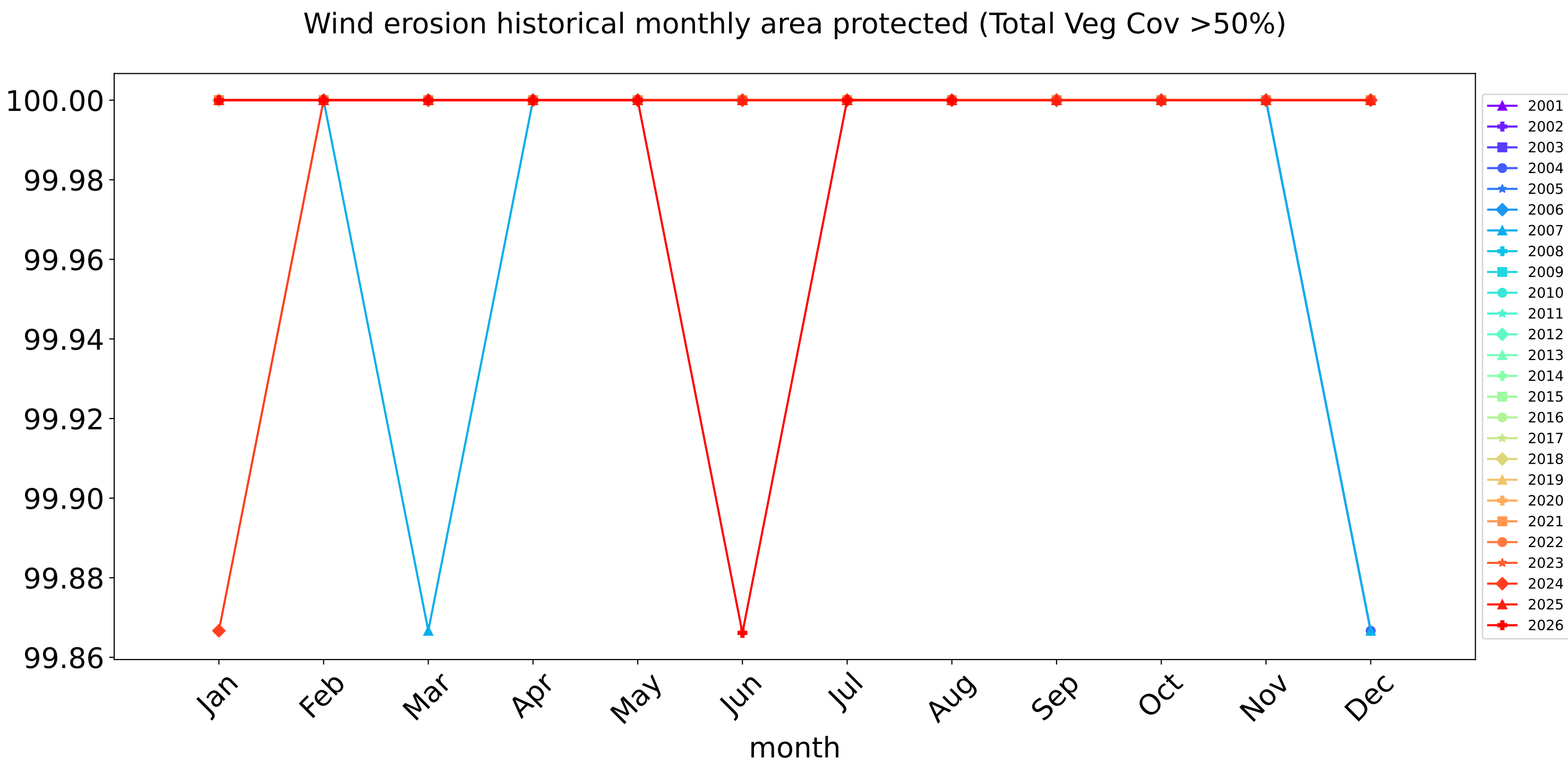
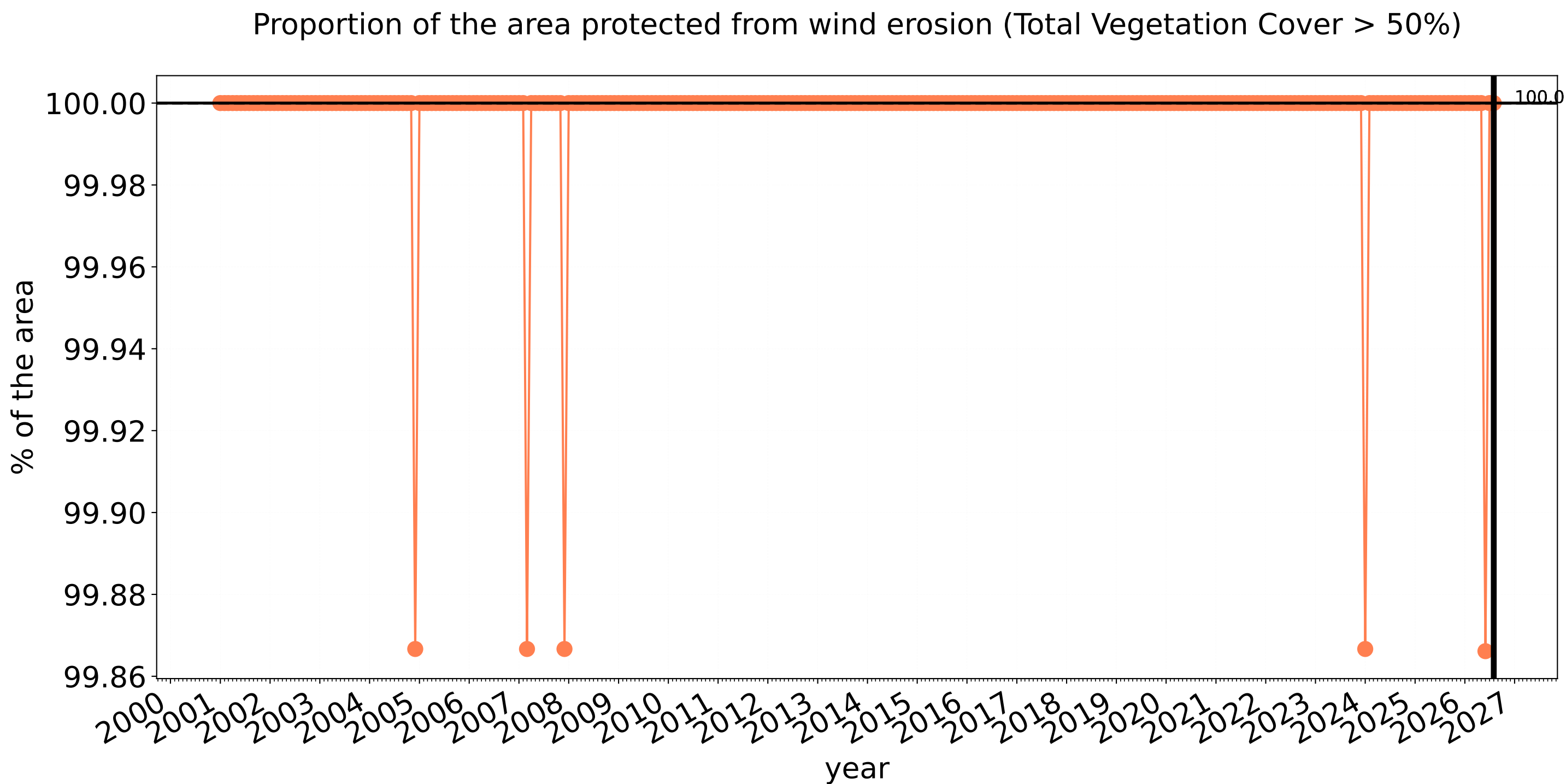


Deciles show where the
pixel value lies in the
record, from highest to
lowest, for that month.
That is, red pixels are
in the lowest 10% of
records for that month of
the map using baseline
from 2001 to 2019.

Total Vegetation Cover Decile [%]



Grazing Woodland forest timeseries

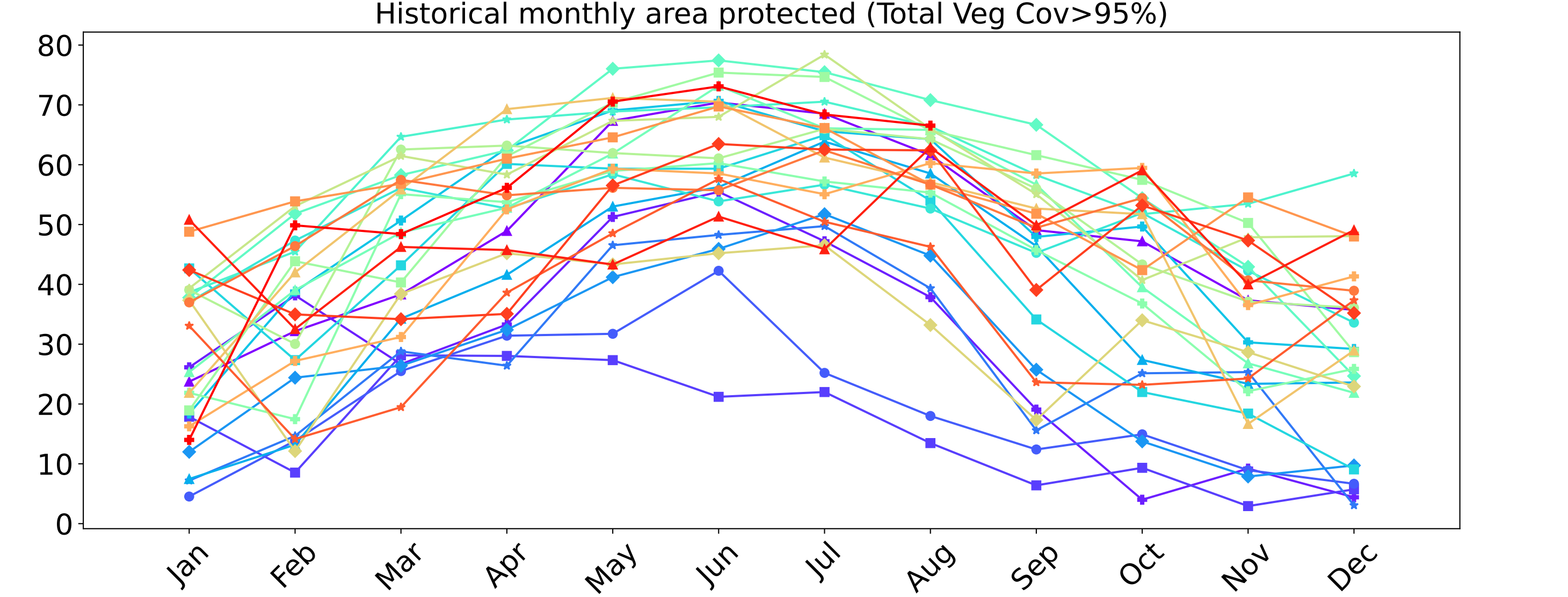
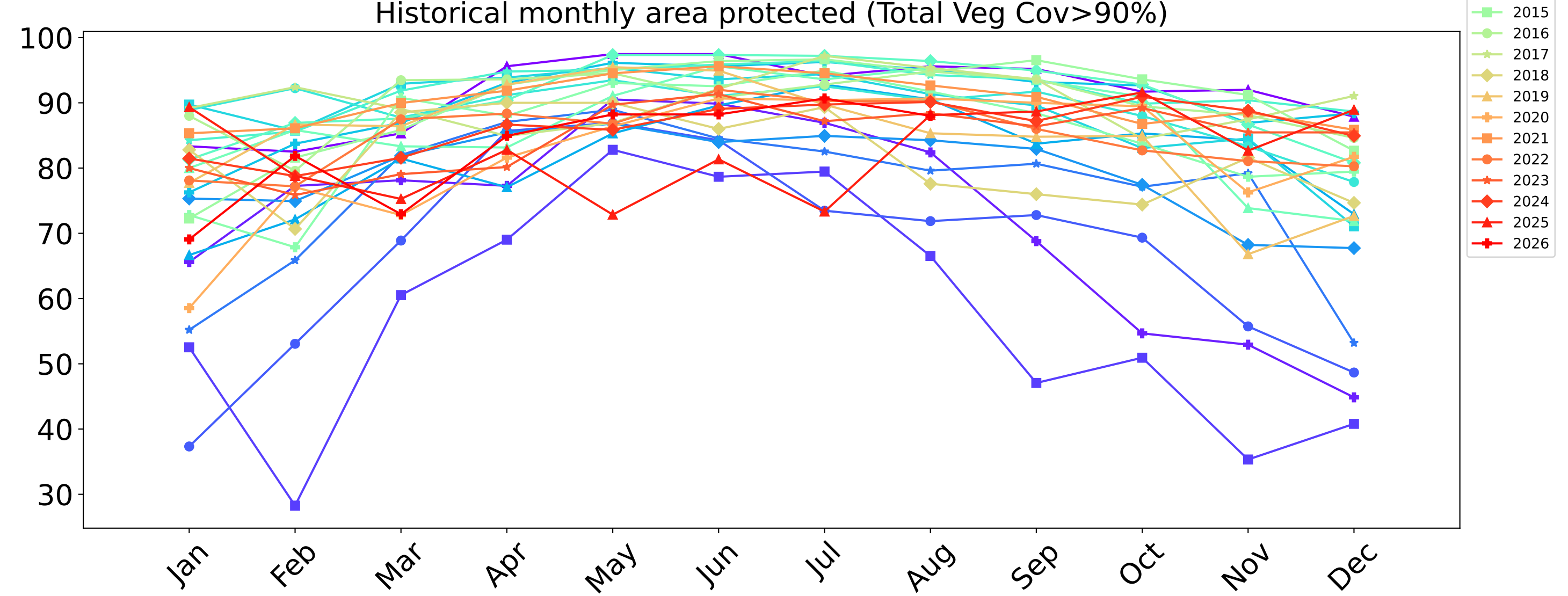
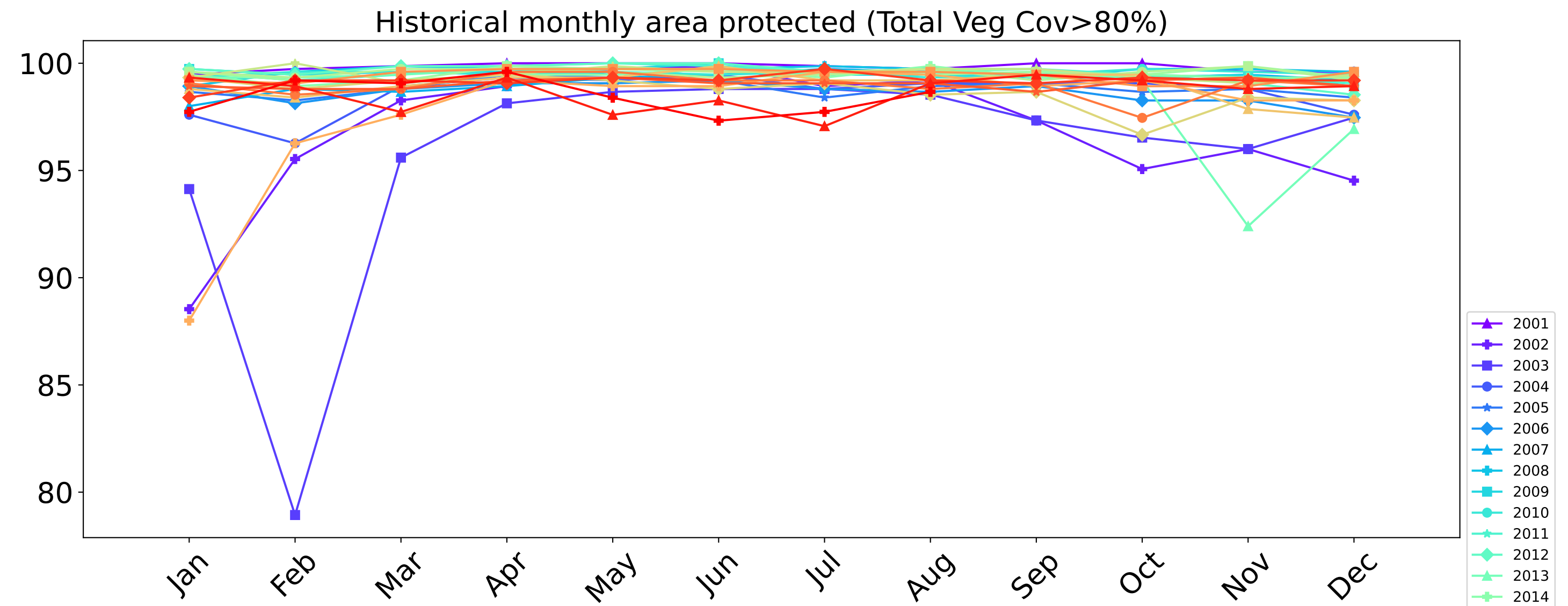
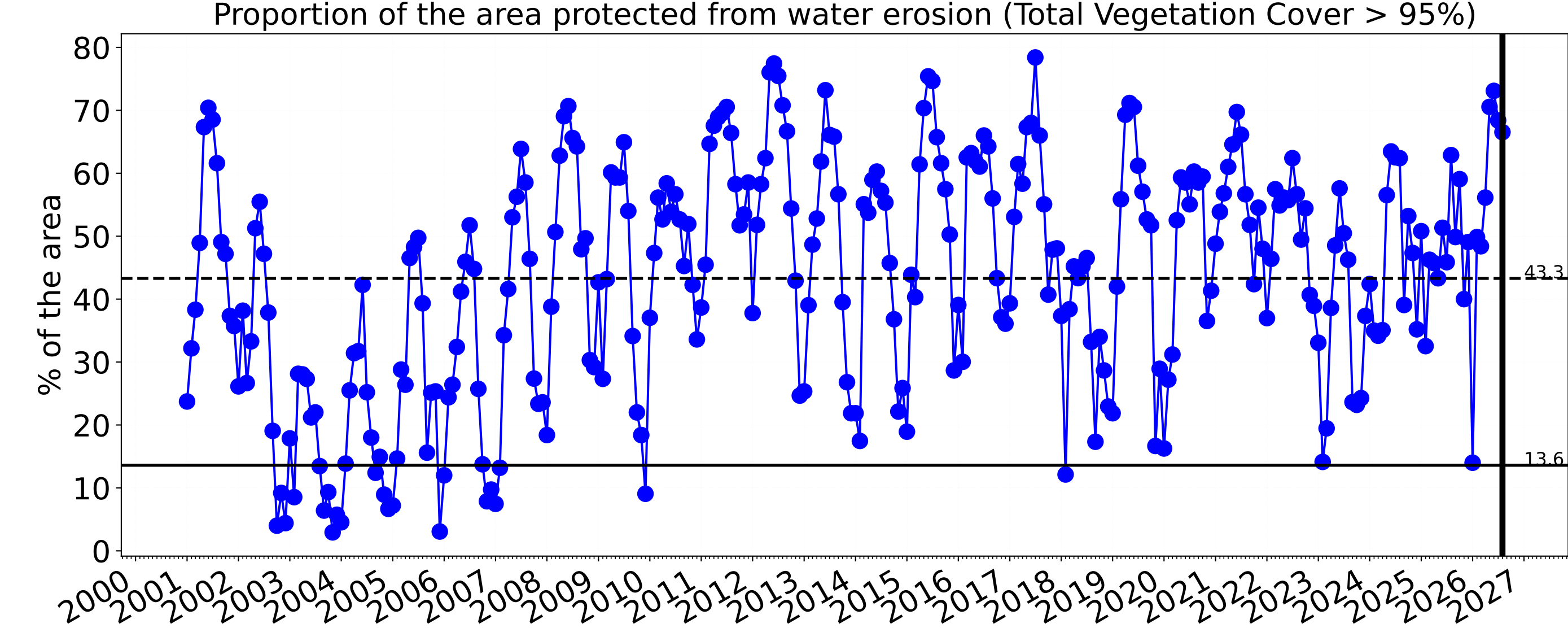
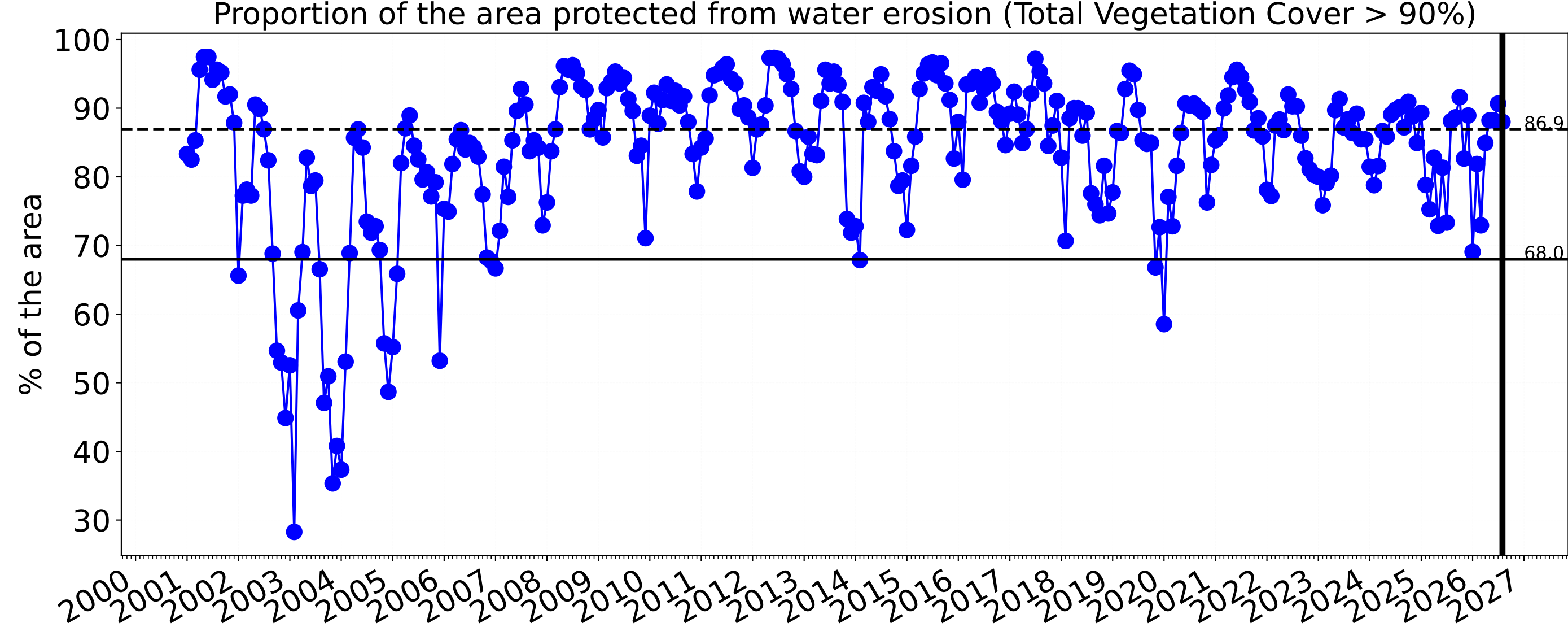
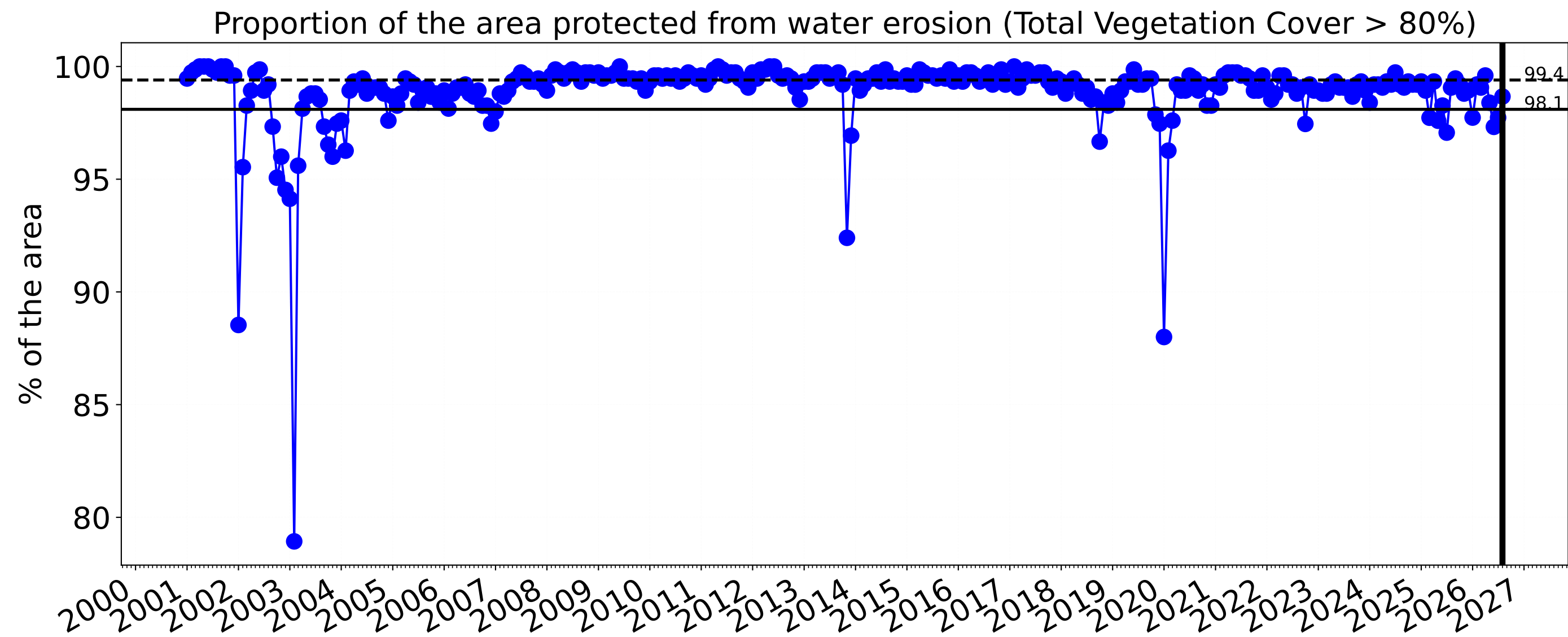


tern
Ecosystem Research Infrastructure



National
Landcare
Programme





Wollondilly_(A) (250,350 ha and no data 5,241 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	250,350	99.8% 249,800	99.5% 249,150	97.8% 244,875	93.8% 234,725	76.7% 192,125	51.2% 128,100
Conservation and natural environments	175,000	99.8% 174,650	99.6% 174,250	98.0% 171,450	93.7% 163,975	76.6% 134,000	49.1% 85,850
Conservation and natural environments Woodland forest	113,375	99.9% 113,250	99.7% 113,050	98.5% 111,700	95.0% 107,725	78.4% 88,925	49.9% 56,525
Conservation and natural environments Forest (non woodland)	59,875	99.7% 59,675	99.4% 59,525	97.0% 58,075	91.1% 54,575	72.9% 43,625	47.3% 28,350
Agriculture	46,300	100.0% 46,300	99.9% 46,275	99.5% 46,050	97.0% 44,925	83.4% 38,600	63.8% 29,550
Grazing	44,050	100.0% 44,050	100.0% 44,050	99.7% 43,900	97.4% 42,925	84.8% 37,350	65.1% 28,675
Grazing non forest	24,400	100.0% 24,400	100.0% 24,400	99.5% 24,275	96.4% 23,525	82.5% 20,125	64.0% 15,625
Grazing Woodland forest	18,750	100.0% 18,750	100.0% 18,750	99.9% 18,725	98.7% 18,500	88.0% 16,500	66.5% 12,475