

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

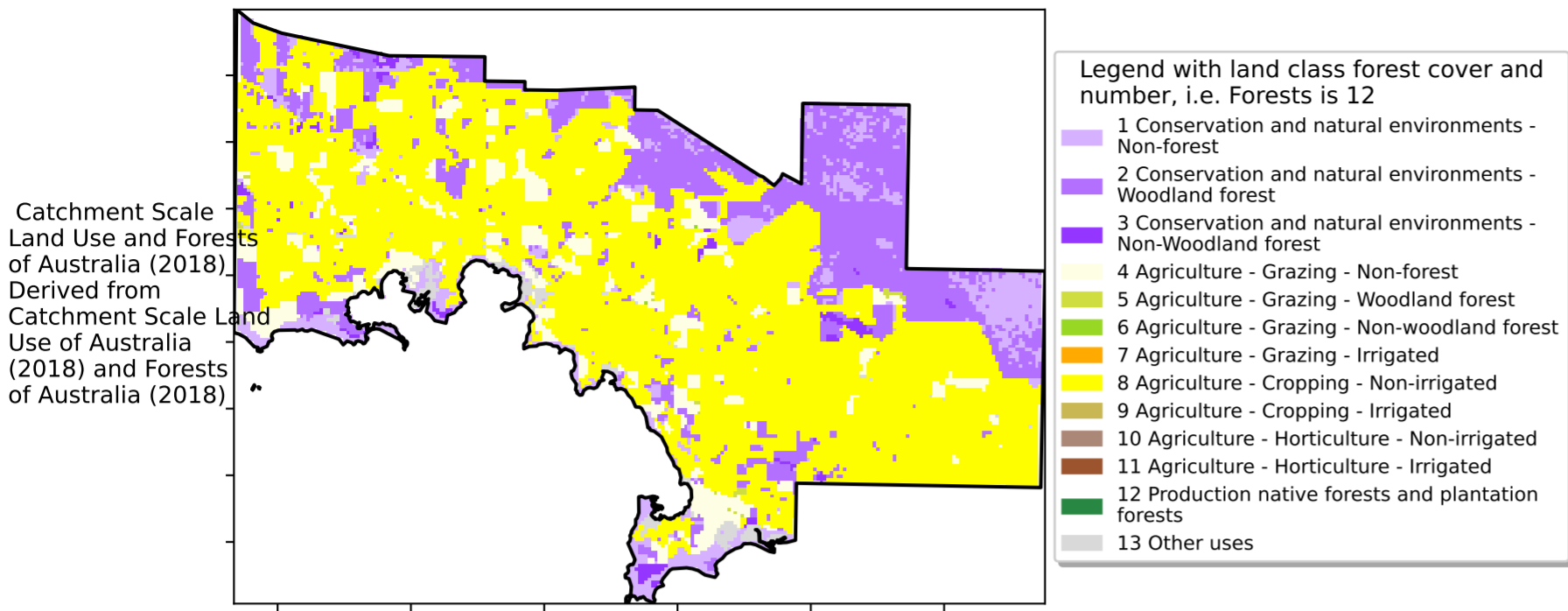


**National
Landcare
Programme**

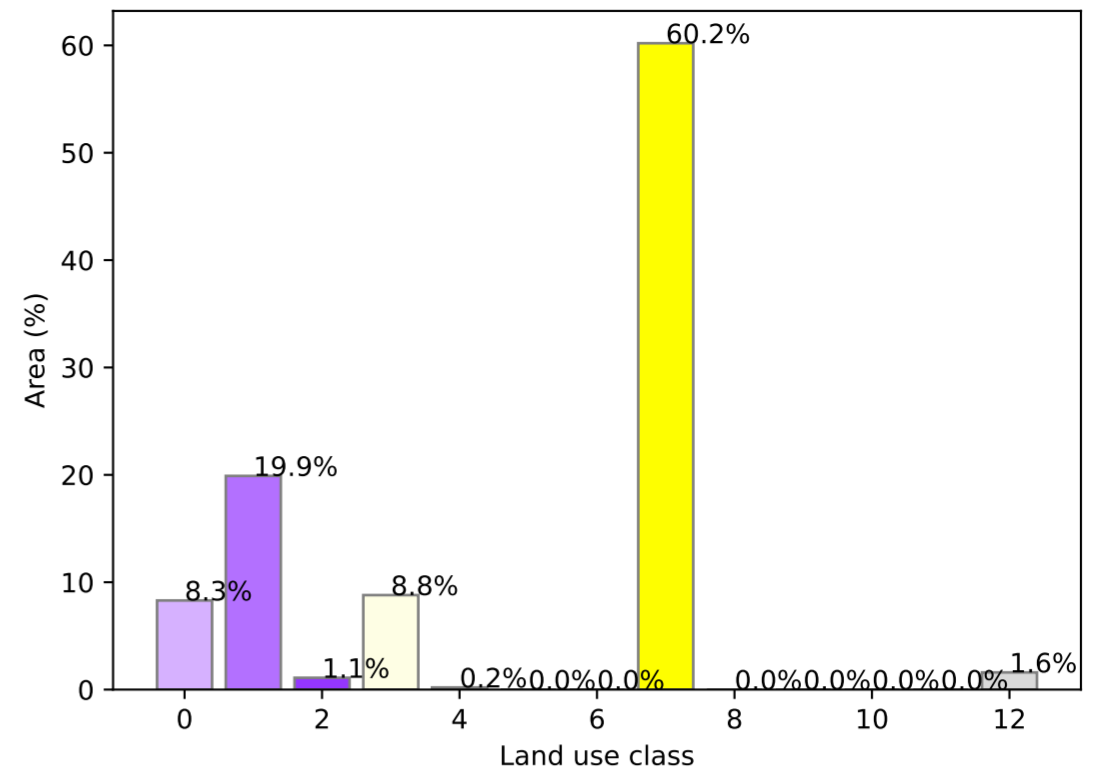


Vegetation Cover May 2026

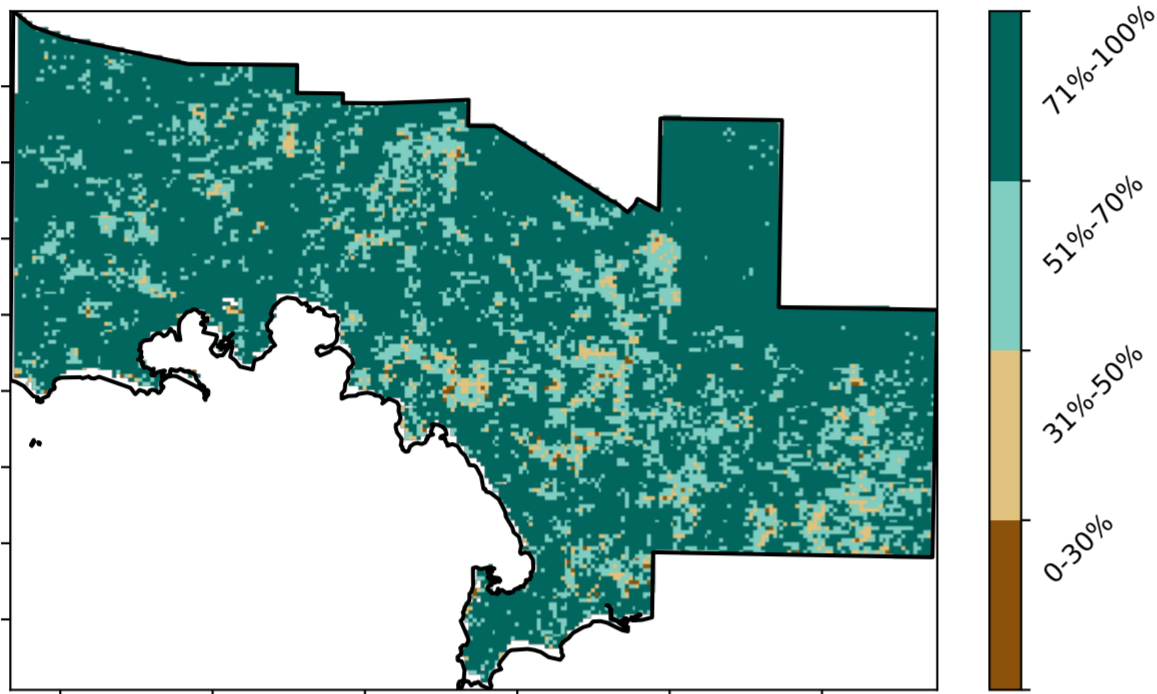
Land use and forest cover



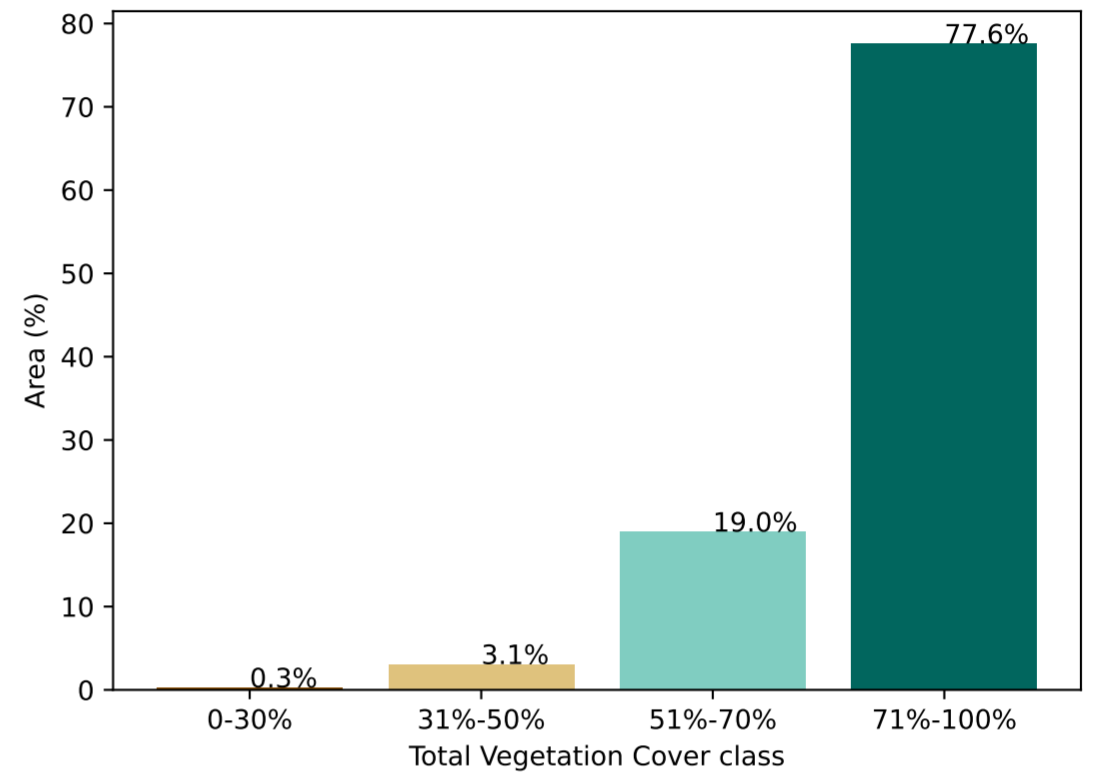
Proportion of each land class in area



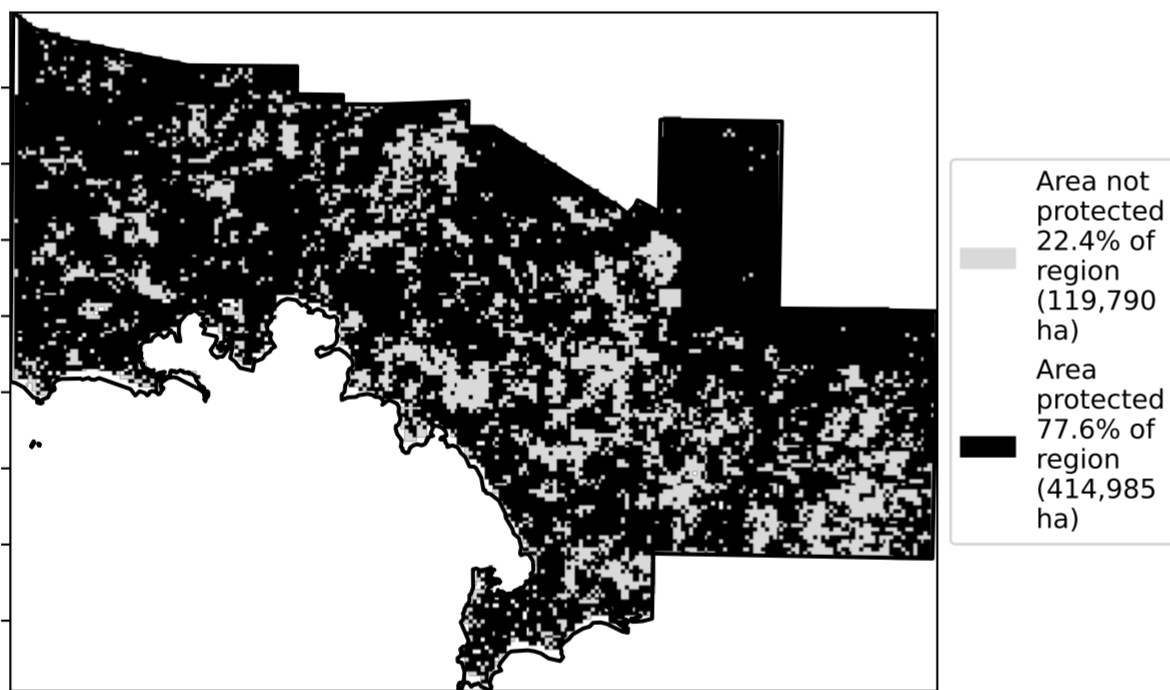
Total Vegetation Cover [%]



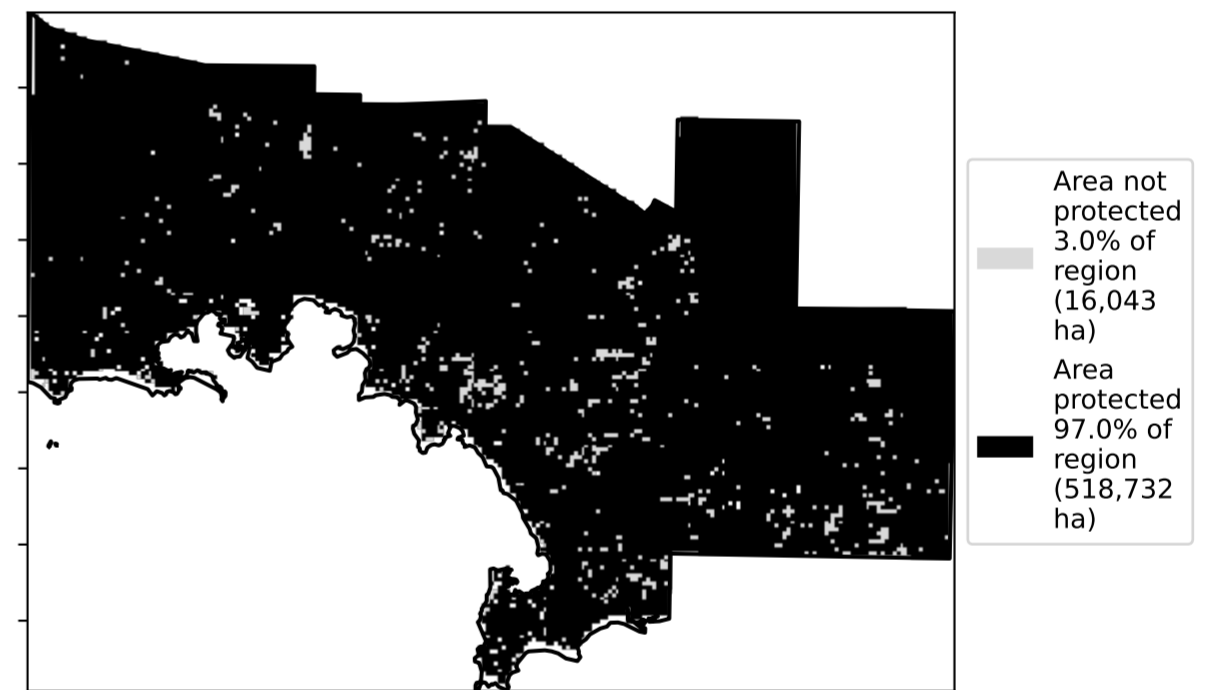
Proportion of vegetation cover class in area



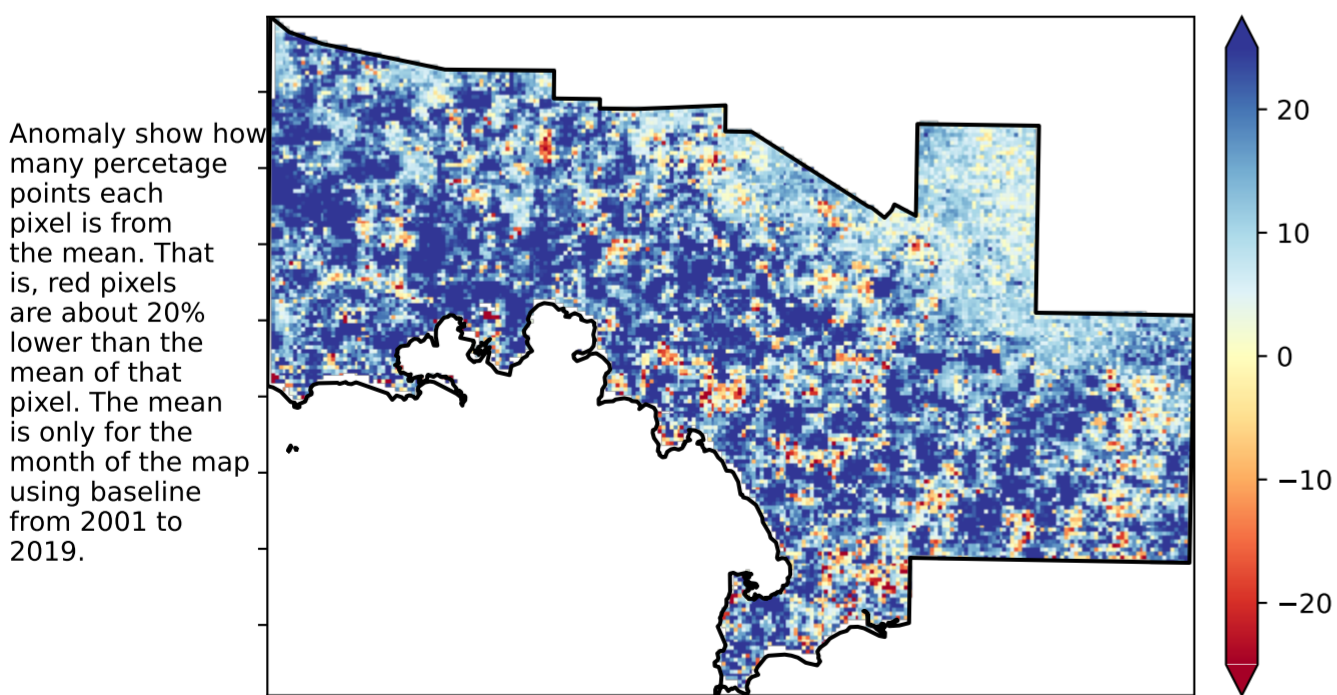
% Area protected from water erosion (>70%)



% Area protected from wind erosion (>50%)

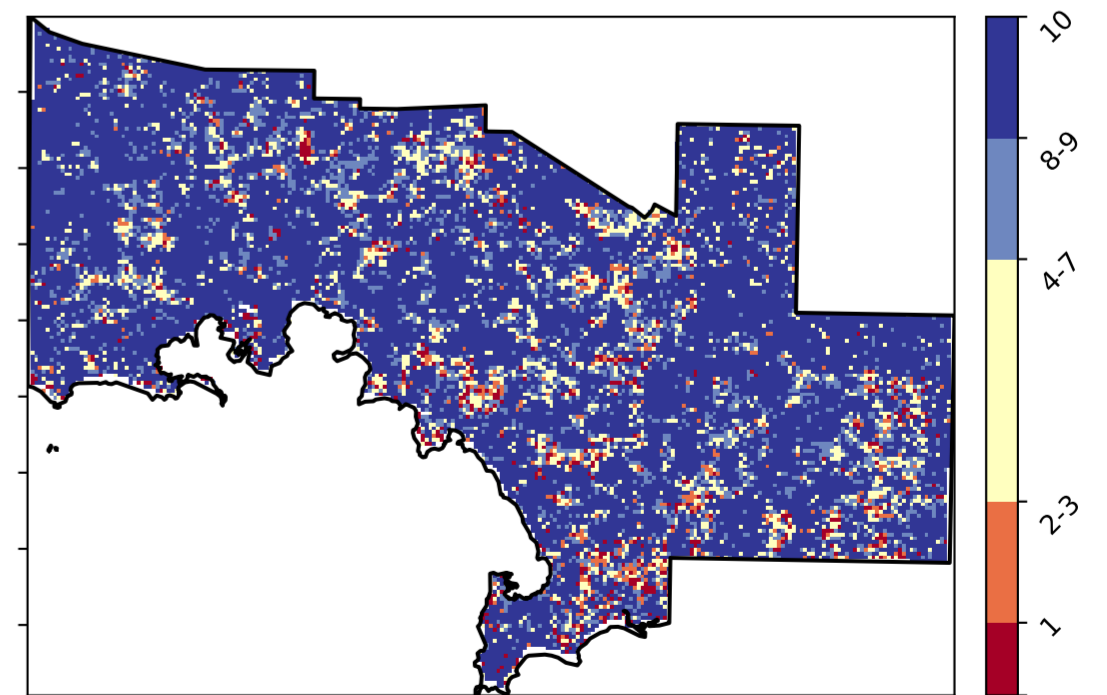


Total Vegetation Cover Anomaly [%]



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 [%]

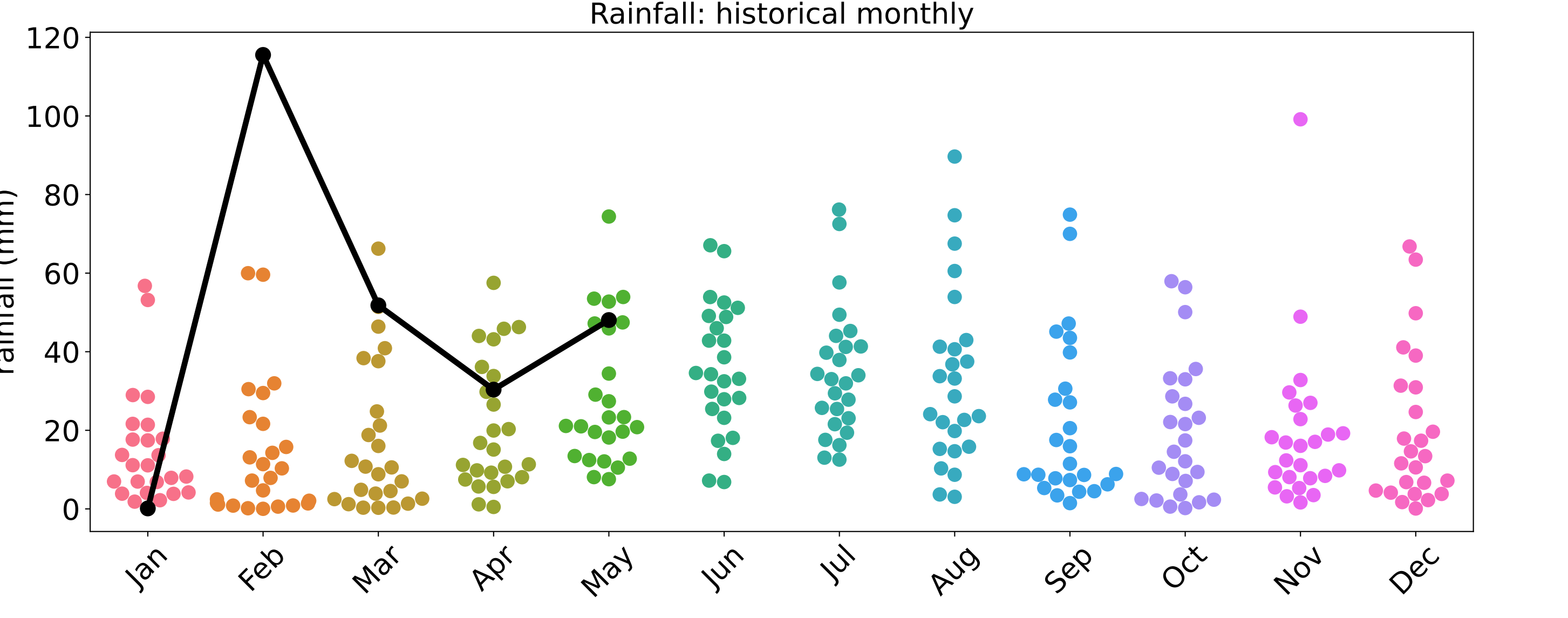
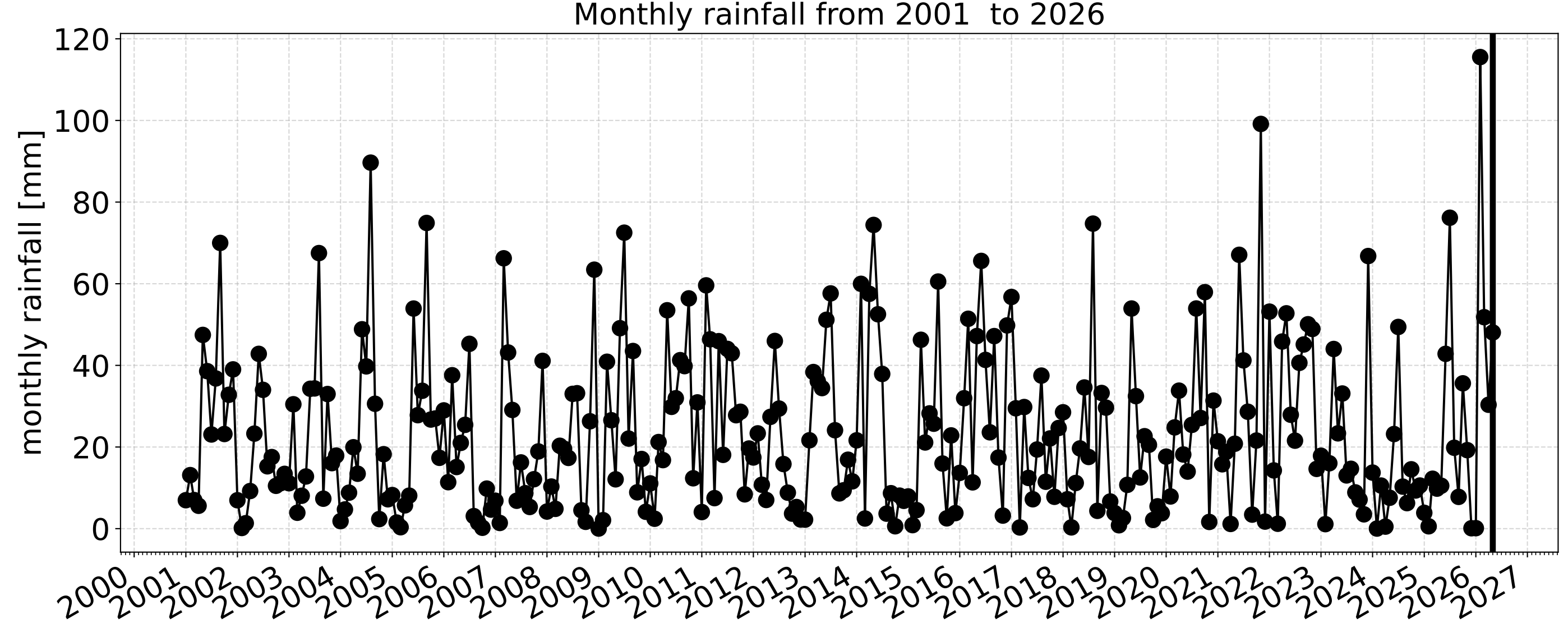
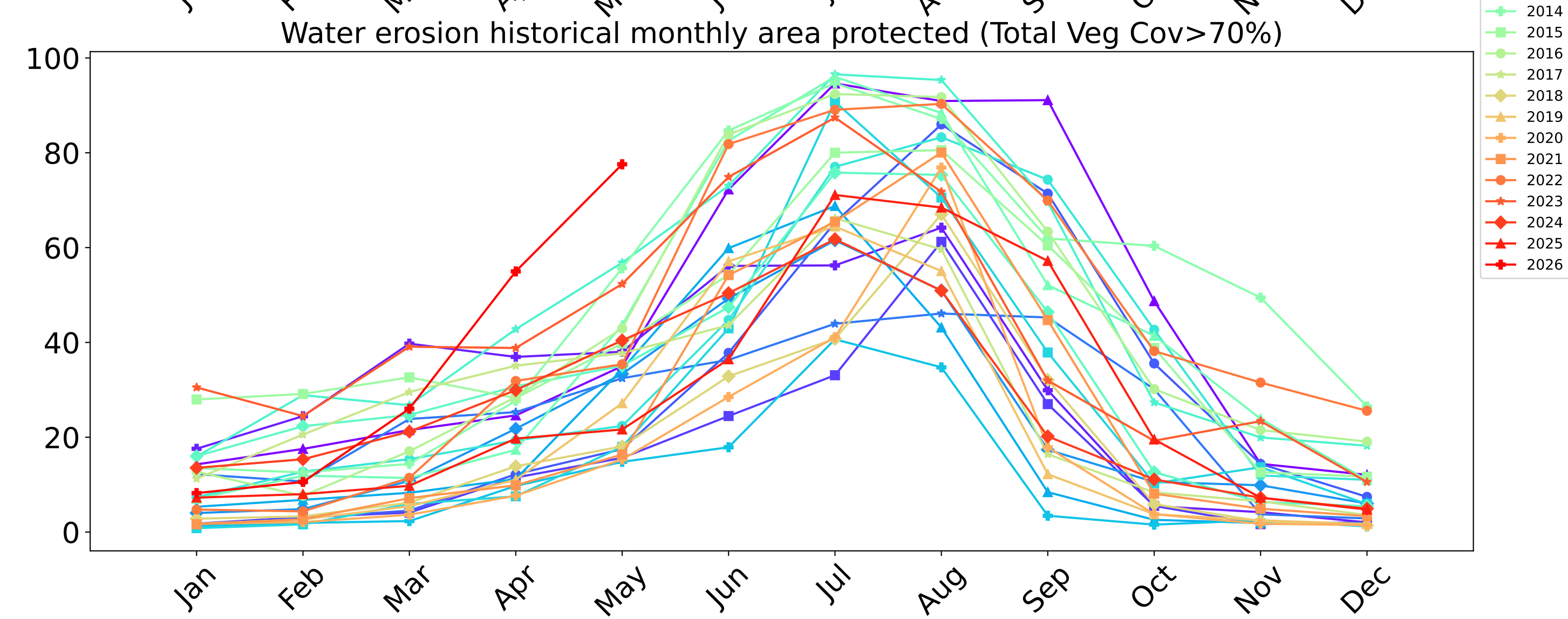
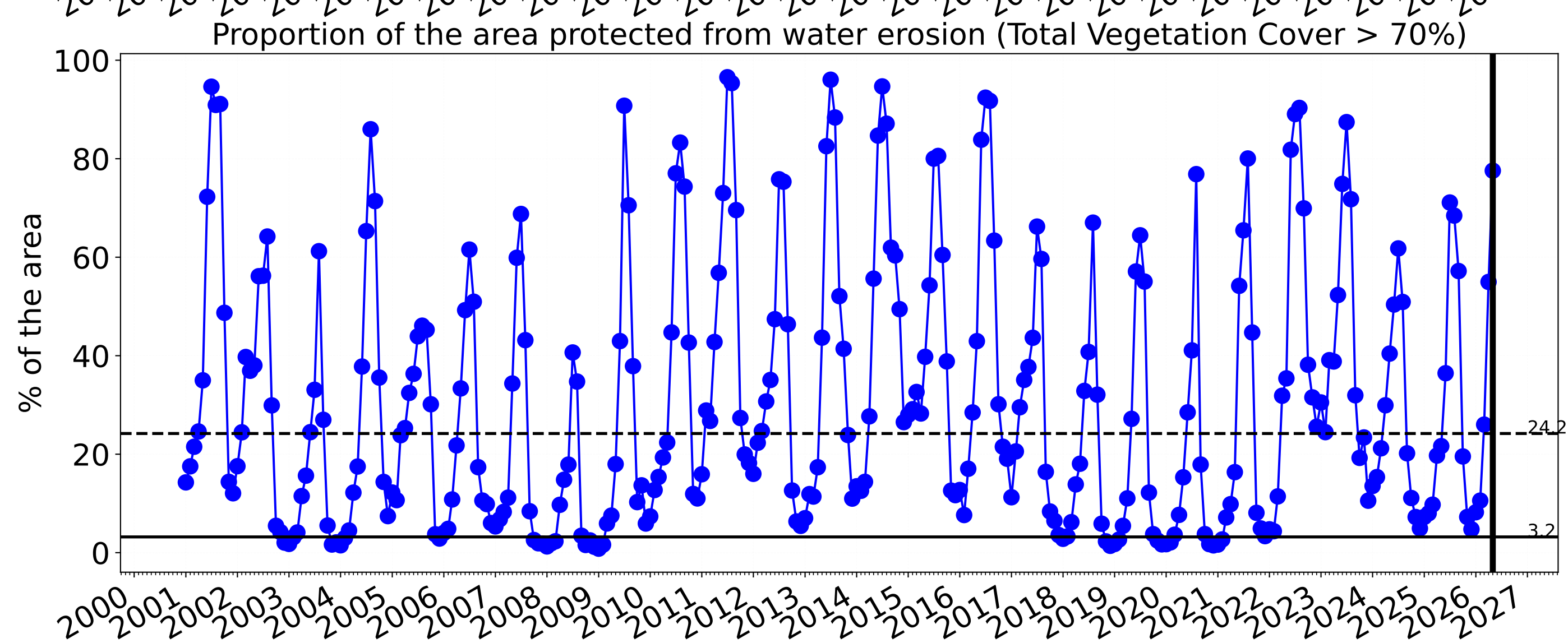
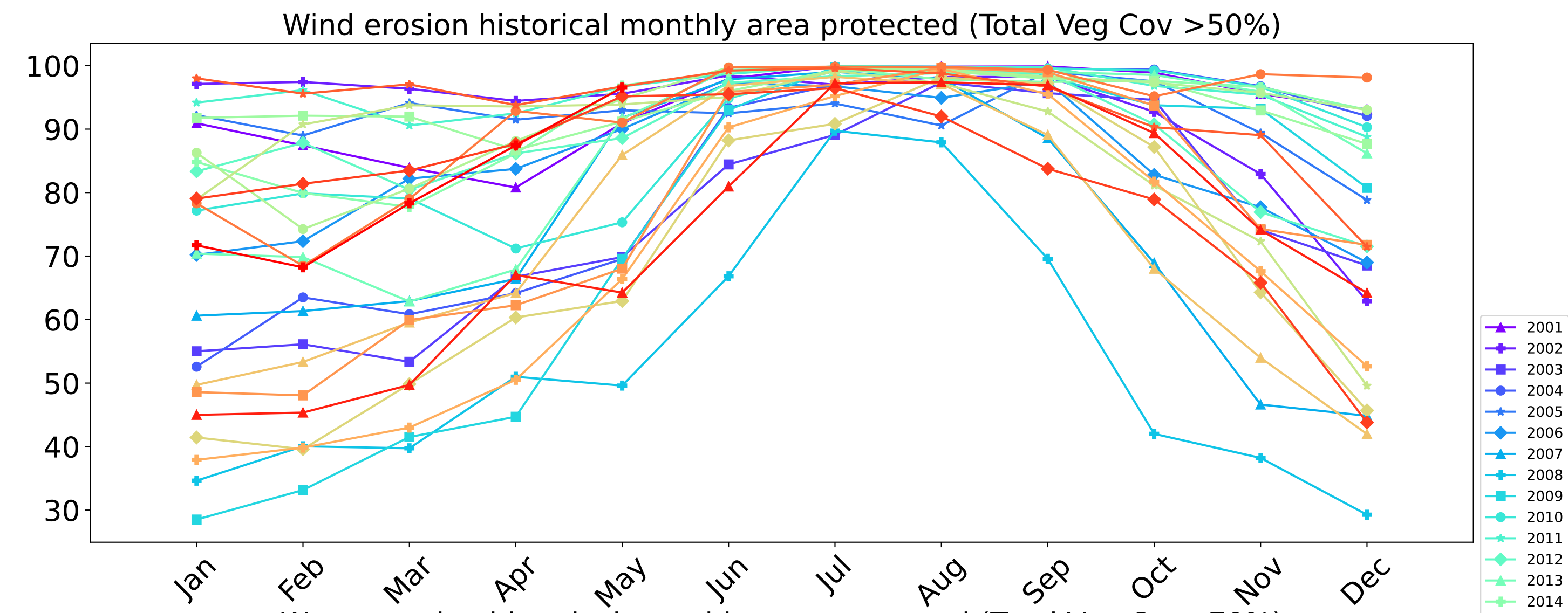
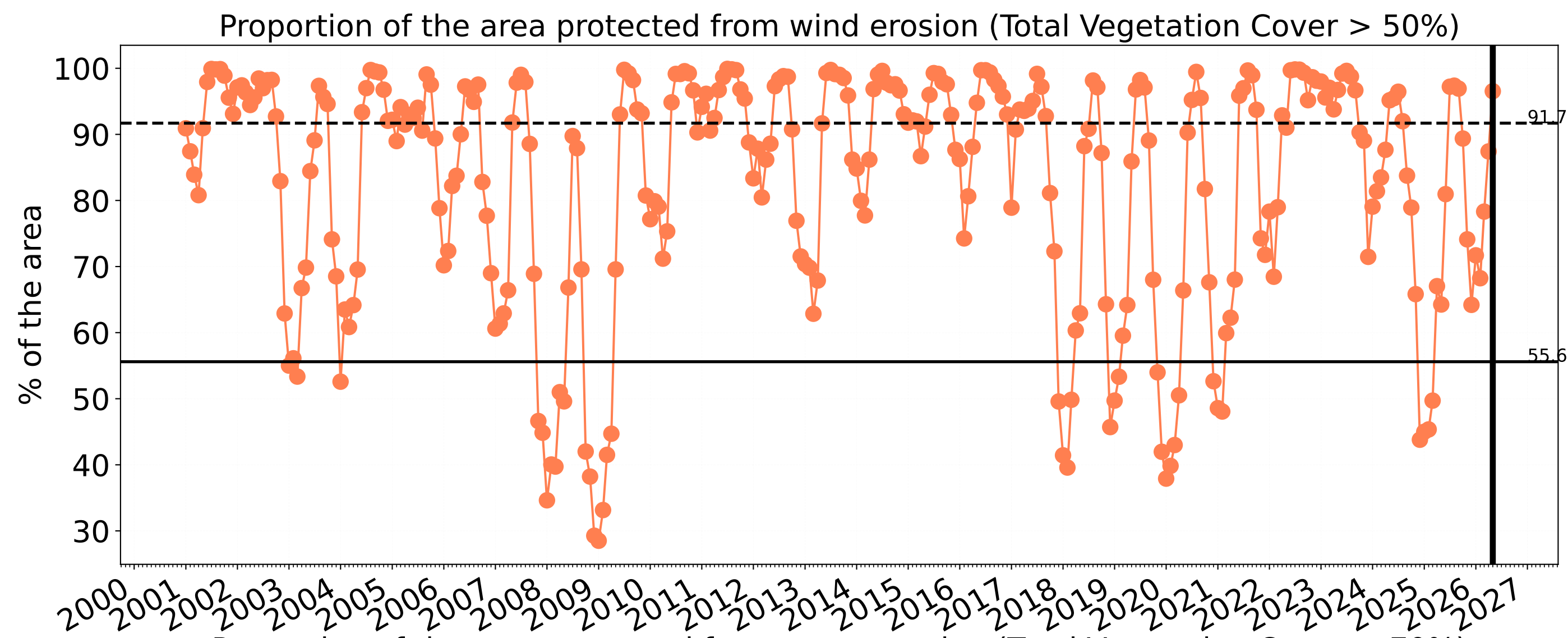


tern
Ecosystem Research Infrastructure



National
Landcare
Programme

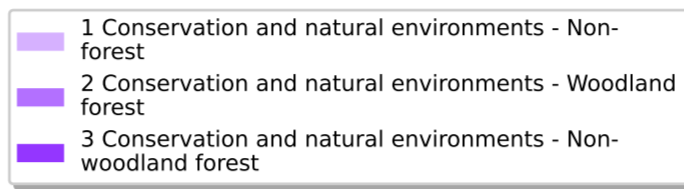
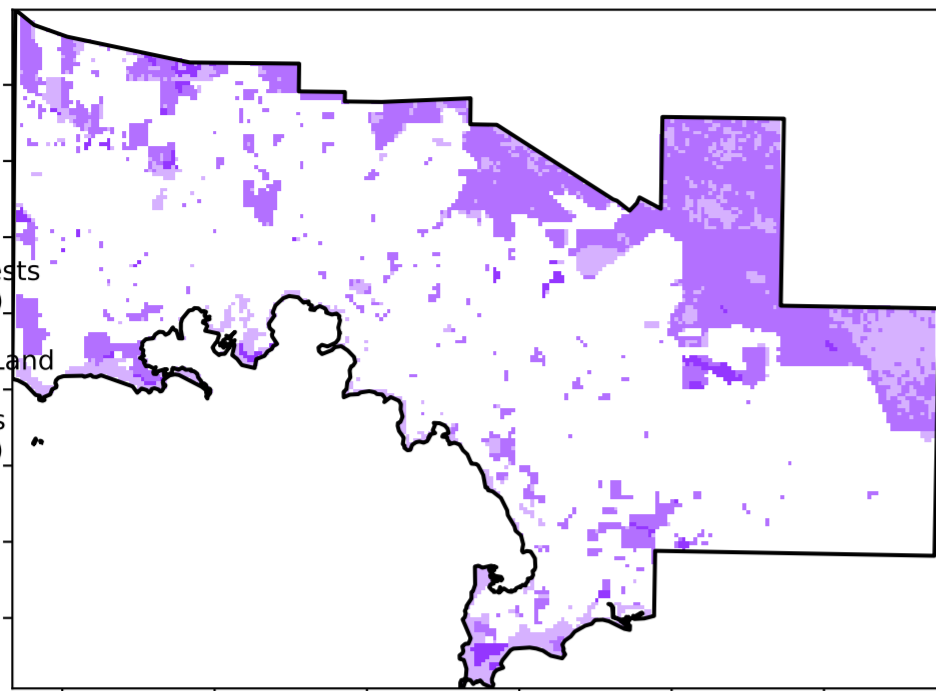




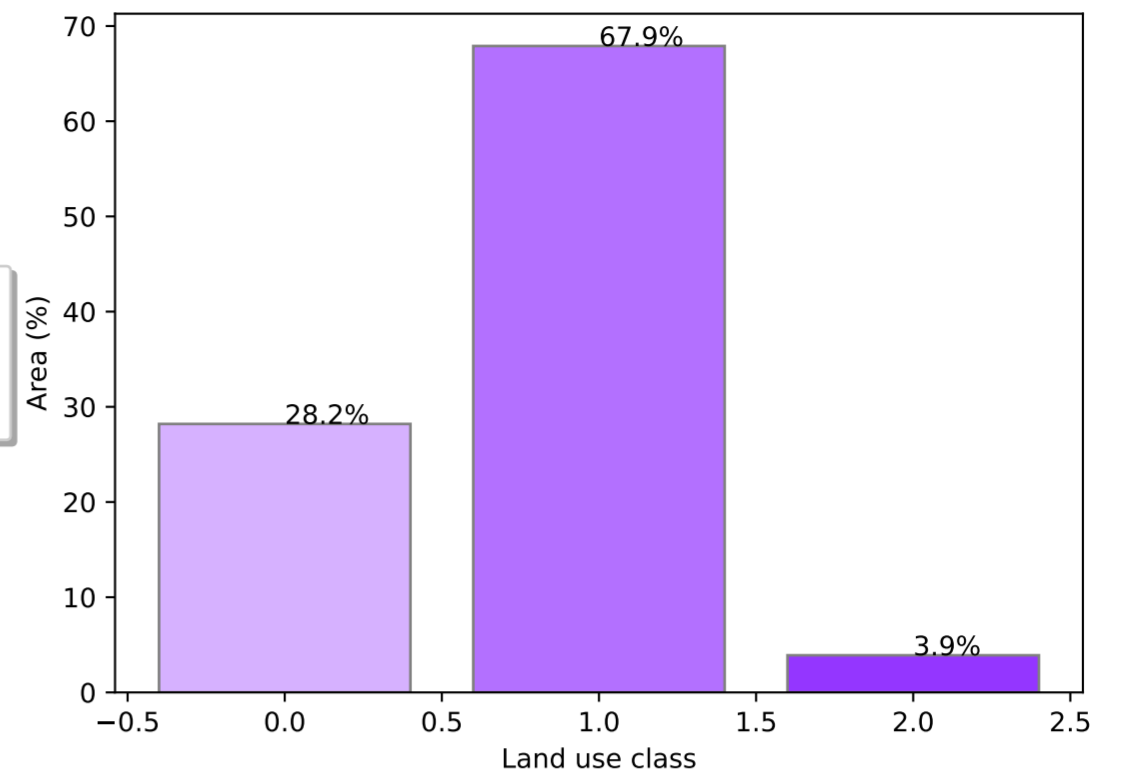
Conservation and natural environments

Land use and forest cover

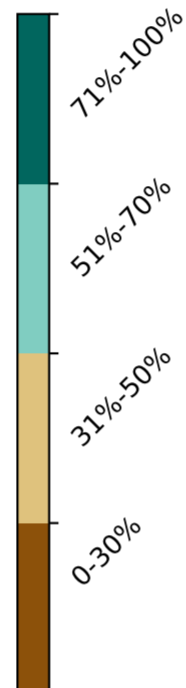
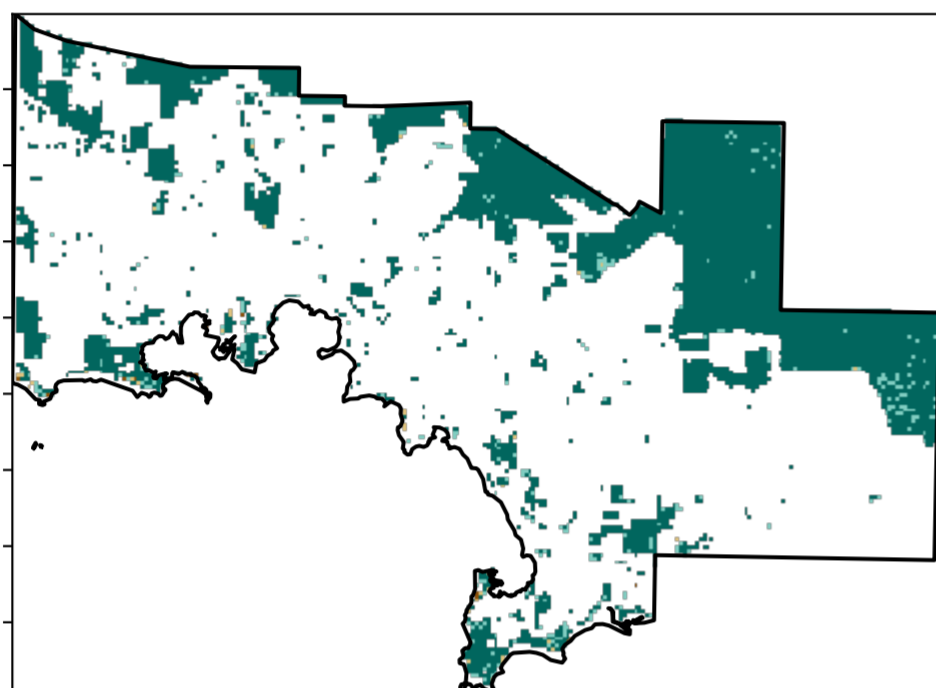
Catchment Scale Land Use and Forests of Australia (2018). Derived from Catchment Scale Land Use of Australia (2018) and Forests of Australia (2018).



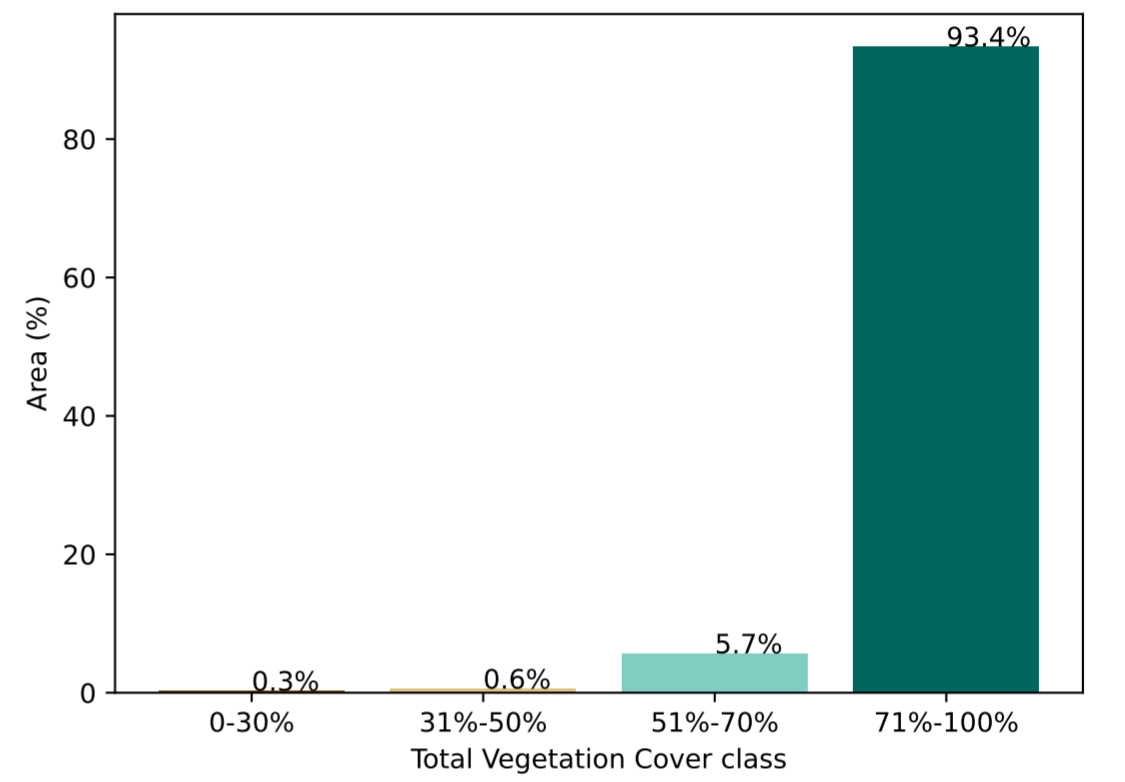
Proportion of each land class in area



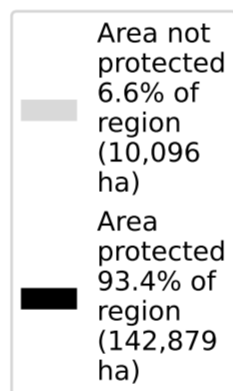
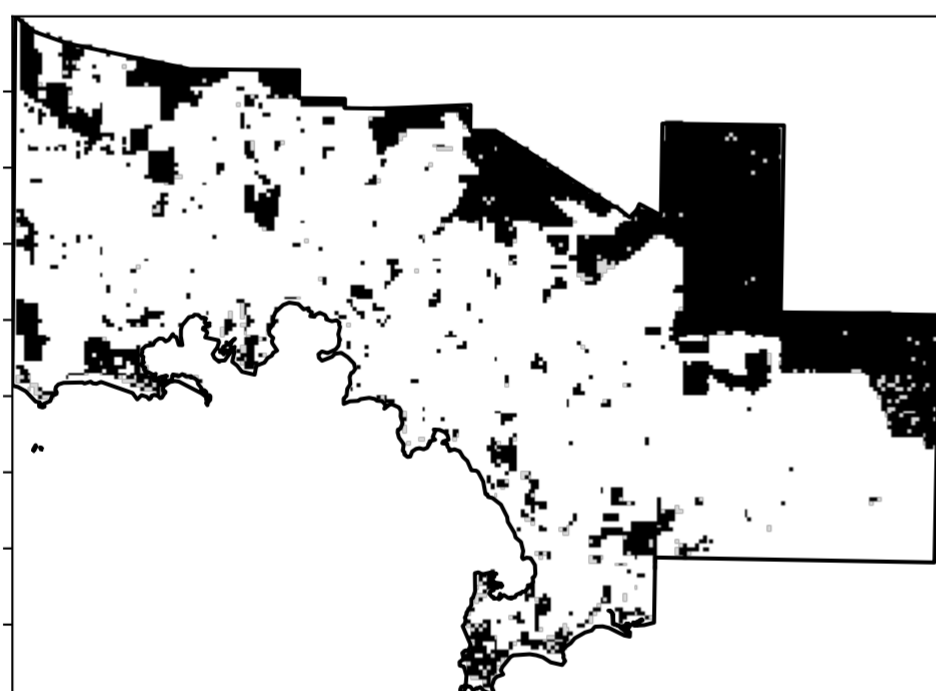
Total Vegetation Cover [%]



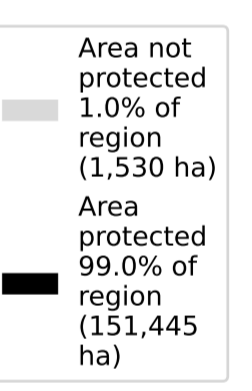
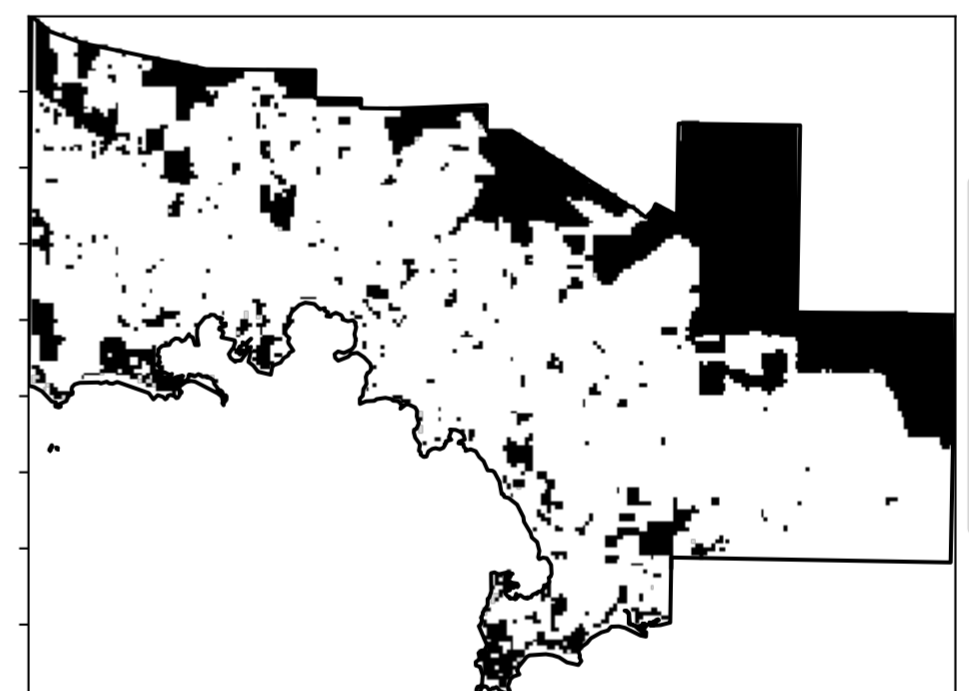
Proportion of vegetation cover class in area



% Area protected from water erosion (>70%)

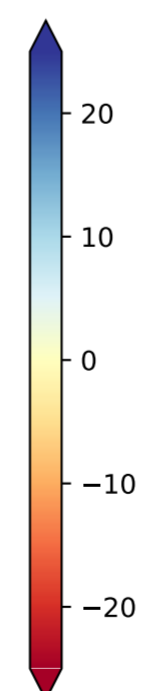
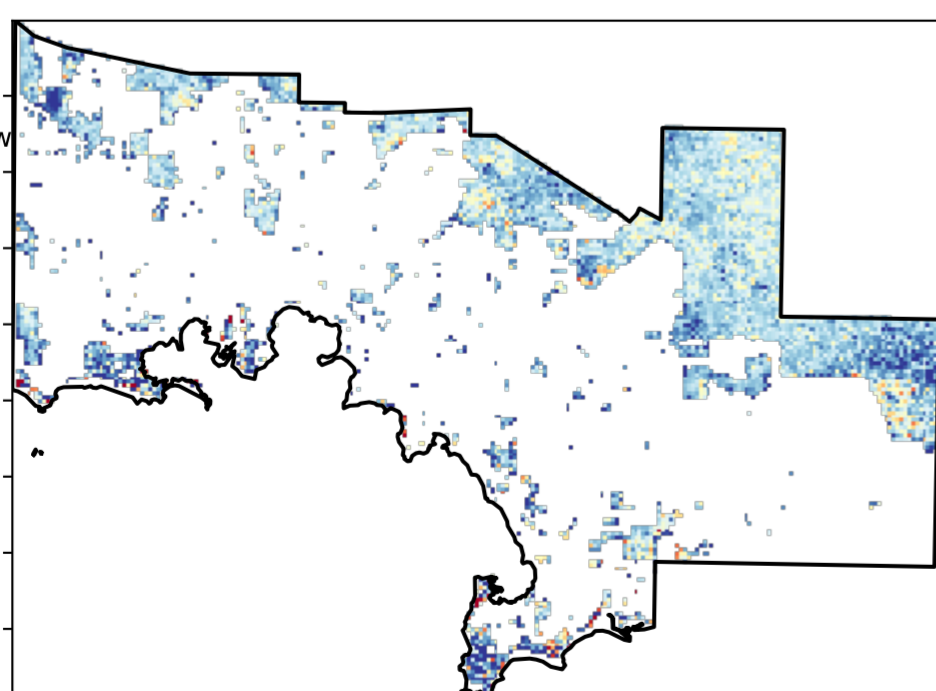


% Area protected from wind erosion (>50%)



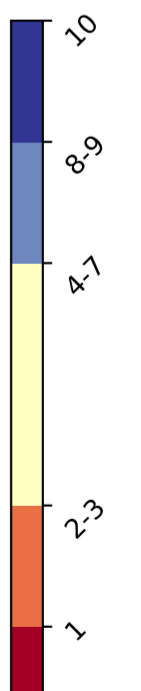
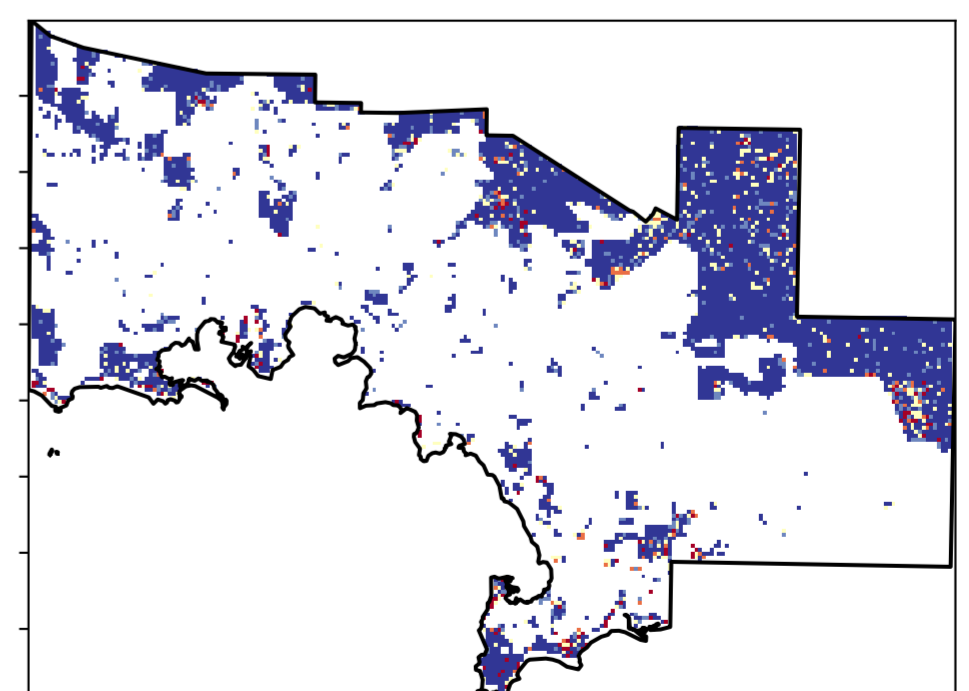
Total Vegetation Cover Anomaly [%]

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.



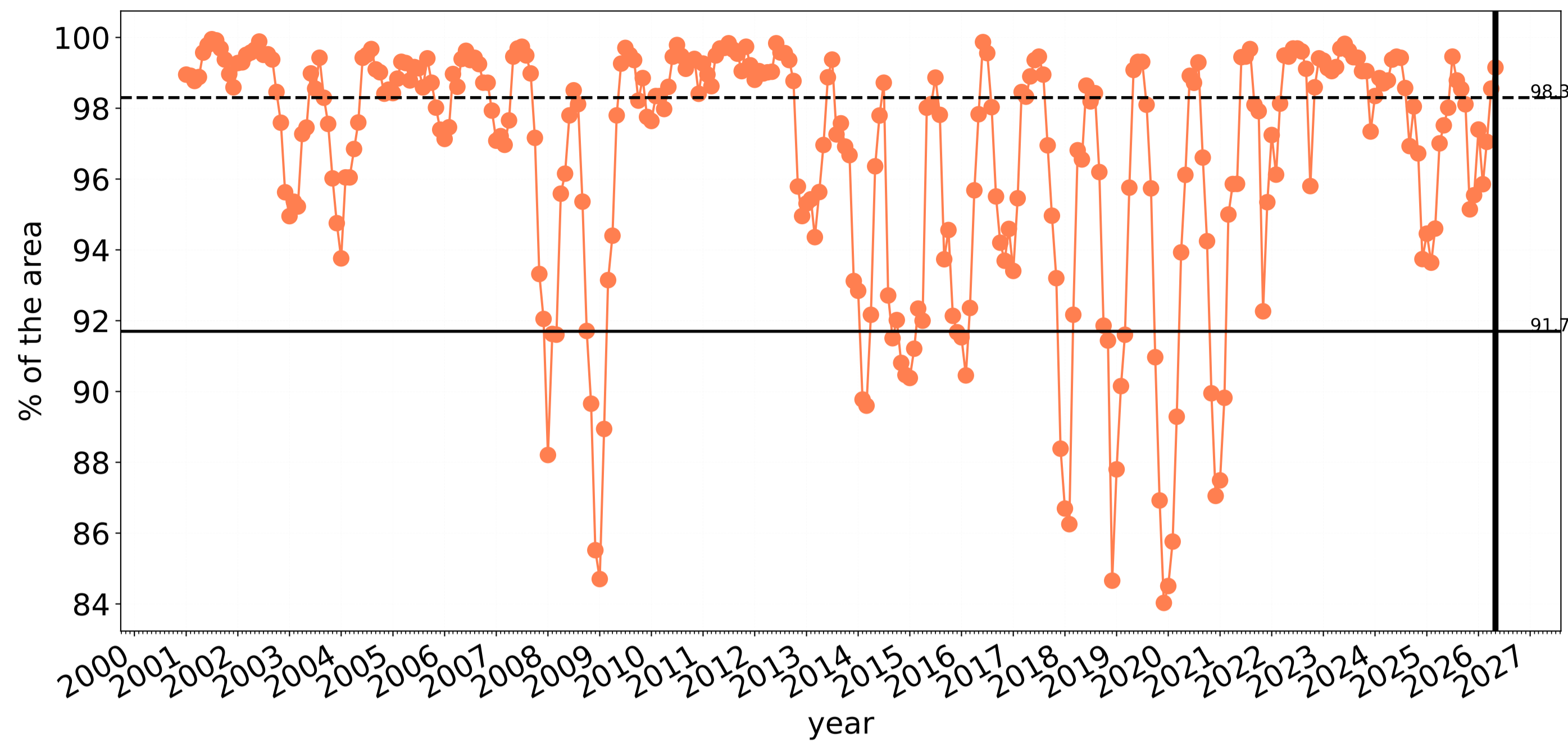
Deciles show where the pixel value lies in the record, from highest to lowest, for that month. That is, red pixels are in the lowest 10% of records for that month of the map using baseline from 2001 to 2019.

Total Vegetation Cover Decile [%]

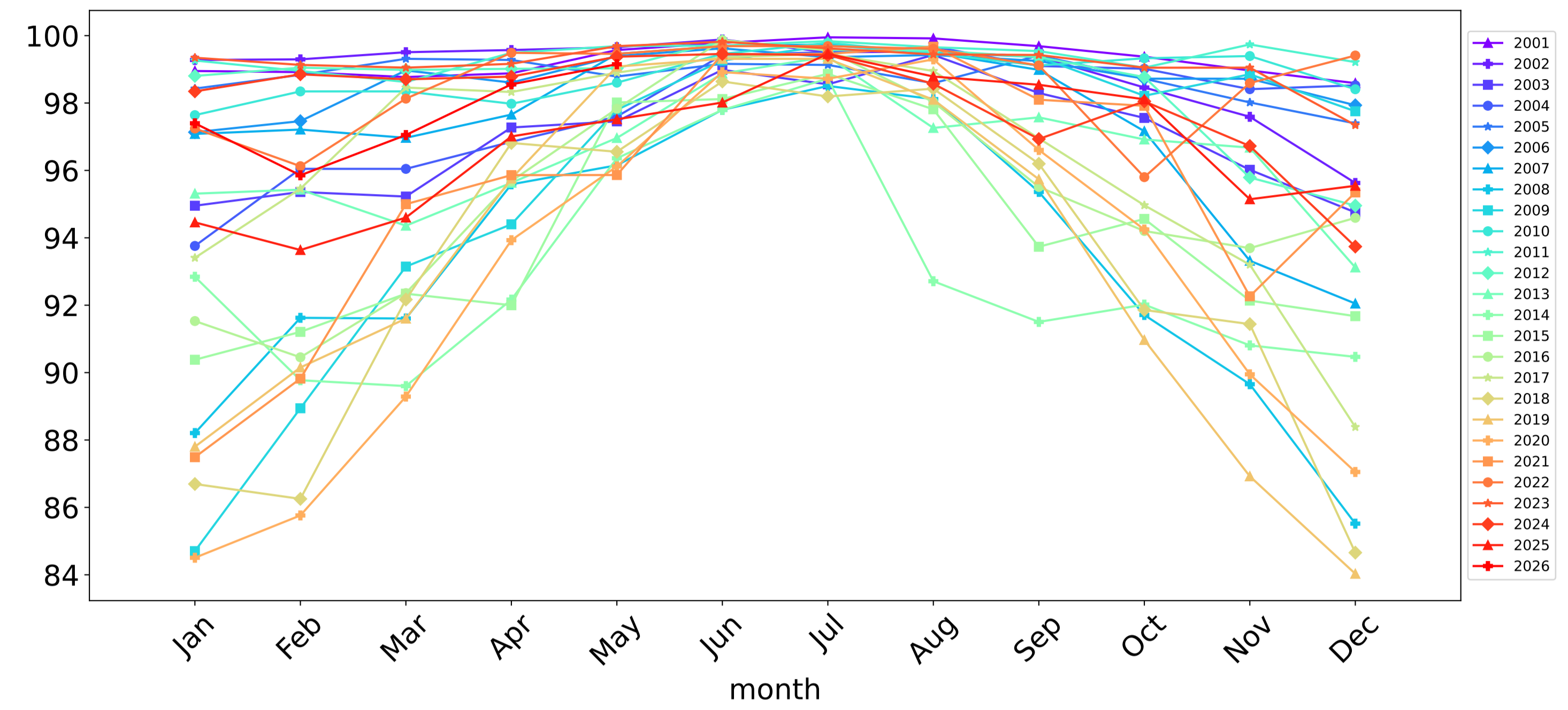


Conservation and natural environments timeseries

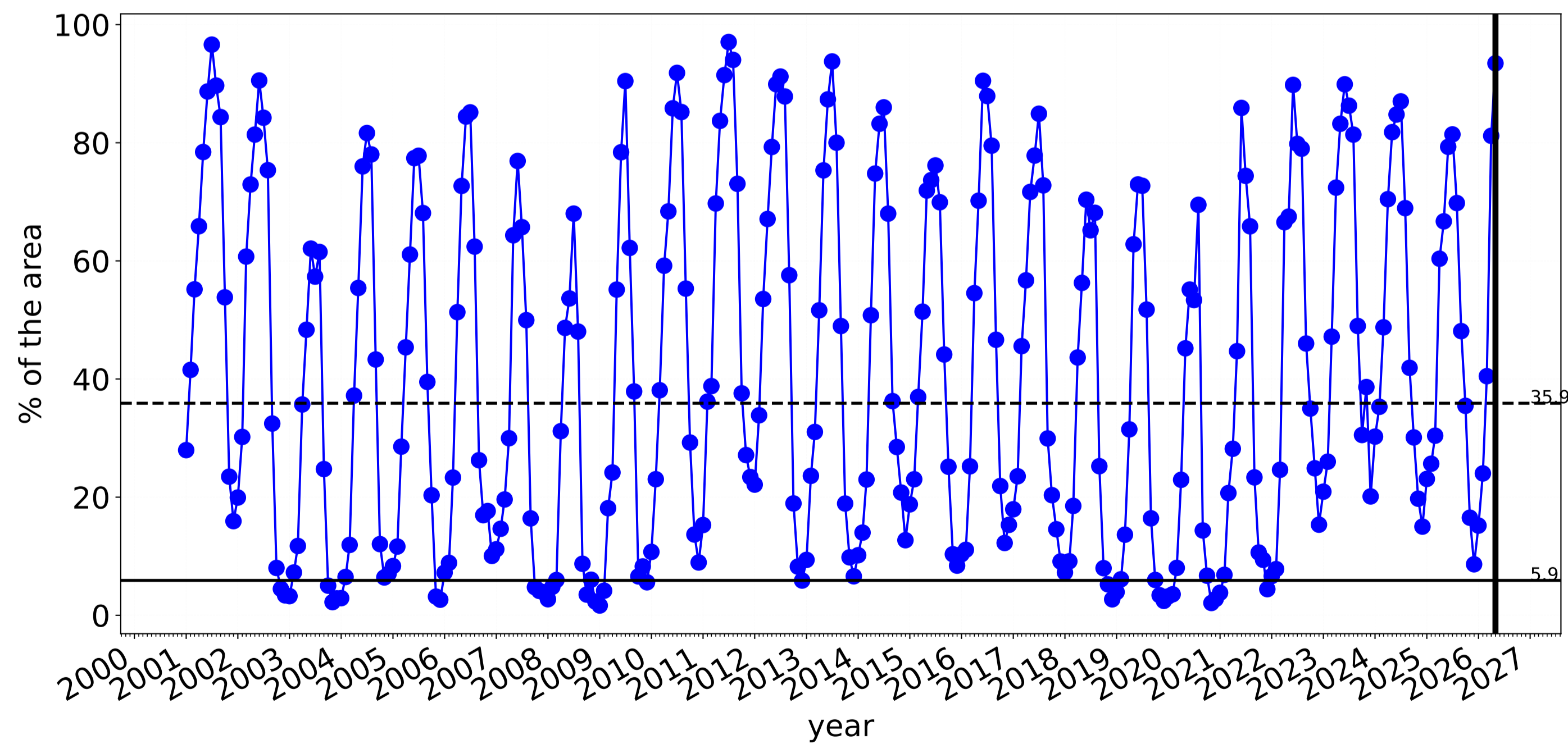
Proportion of the area protected from wind erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 50%)



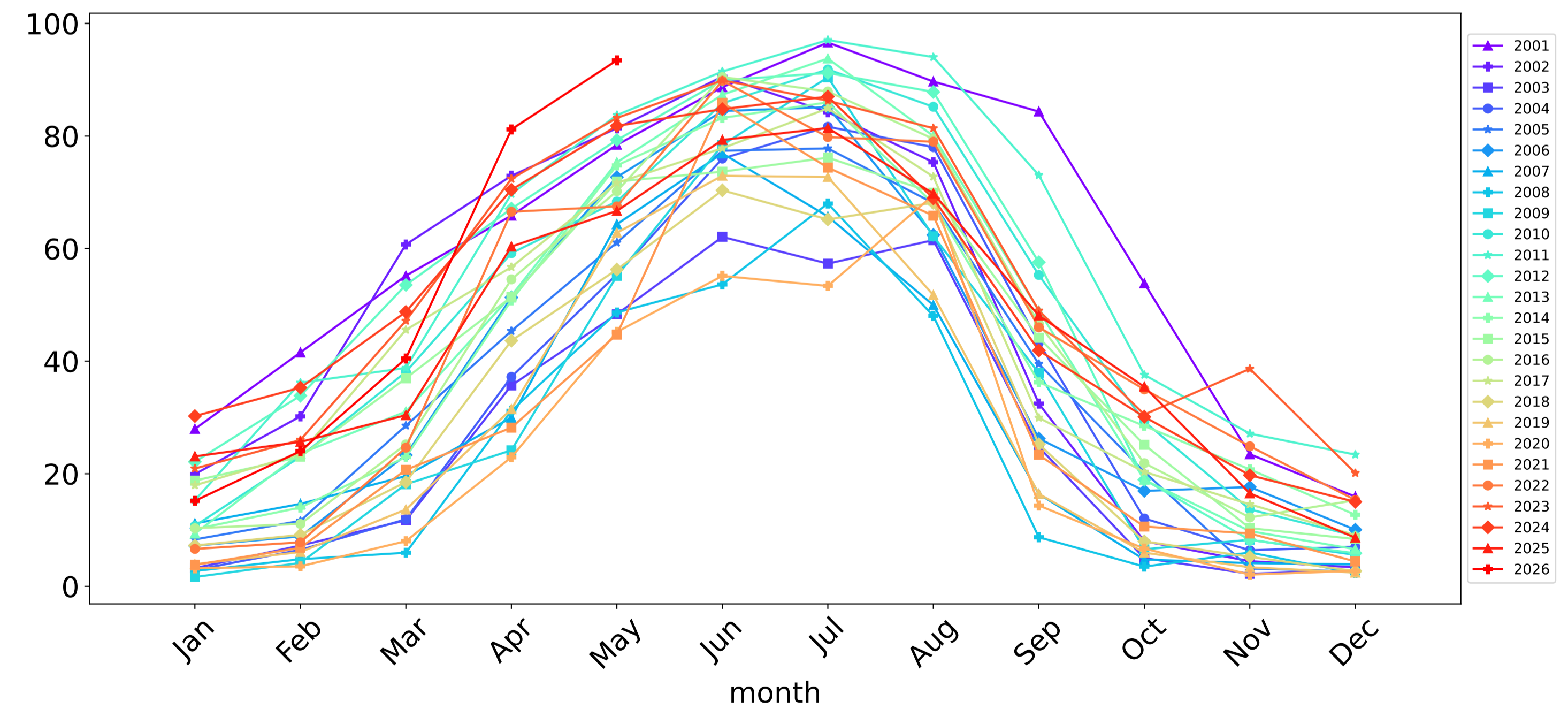
Wind erosion historical monthly area protected (Total Veg Cov >50%)



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



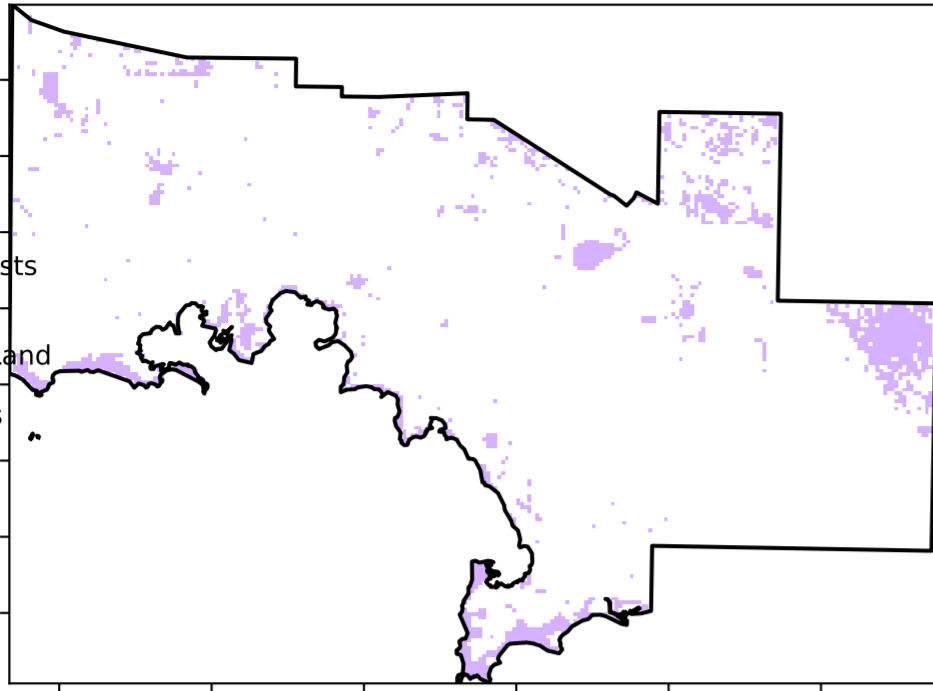
Water erosion historical monthly area protected (Total Veg Cov >70%)



Conservation and natural environments non forest

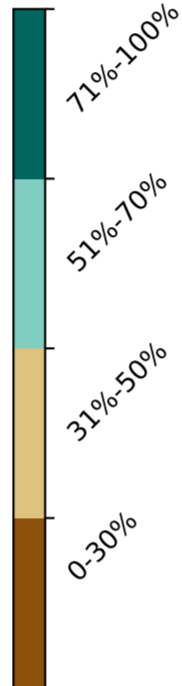
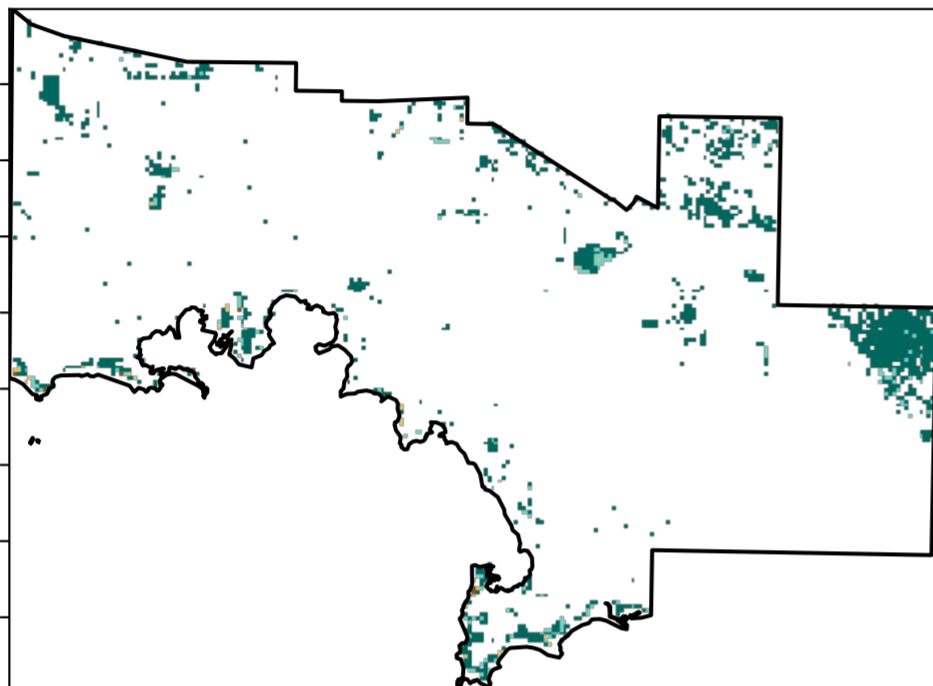
Land use and forest cover

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

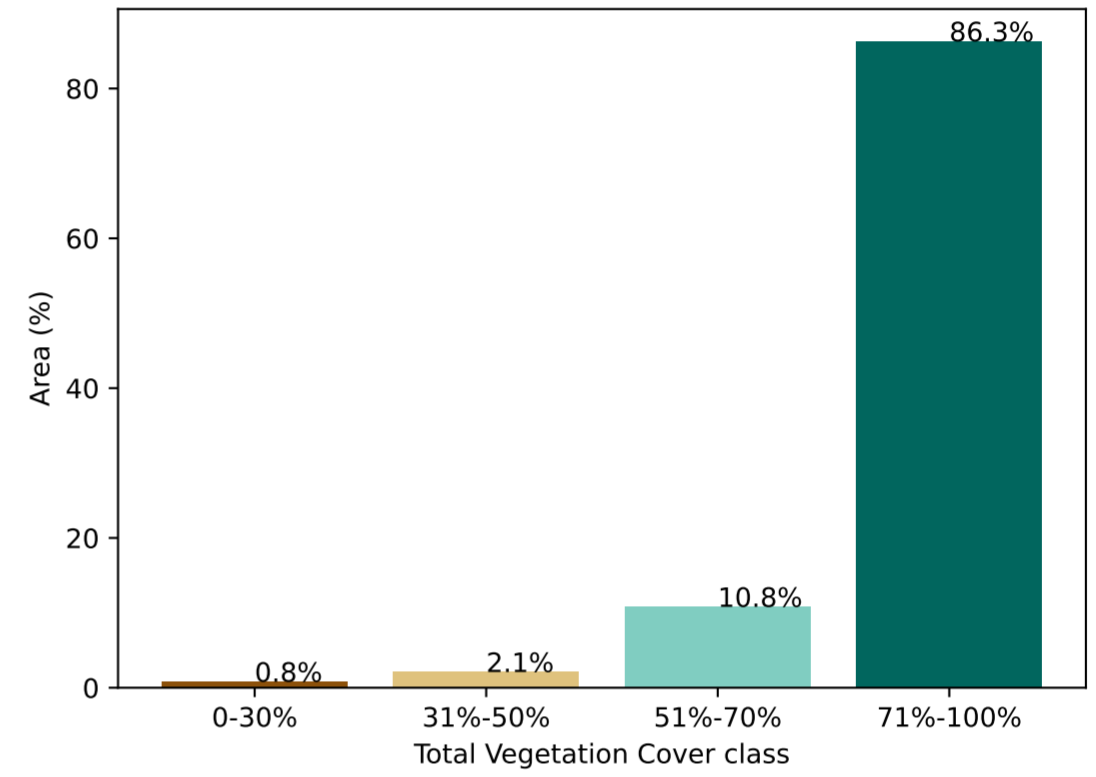


1 Conservation and natural environments - Non-forest

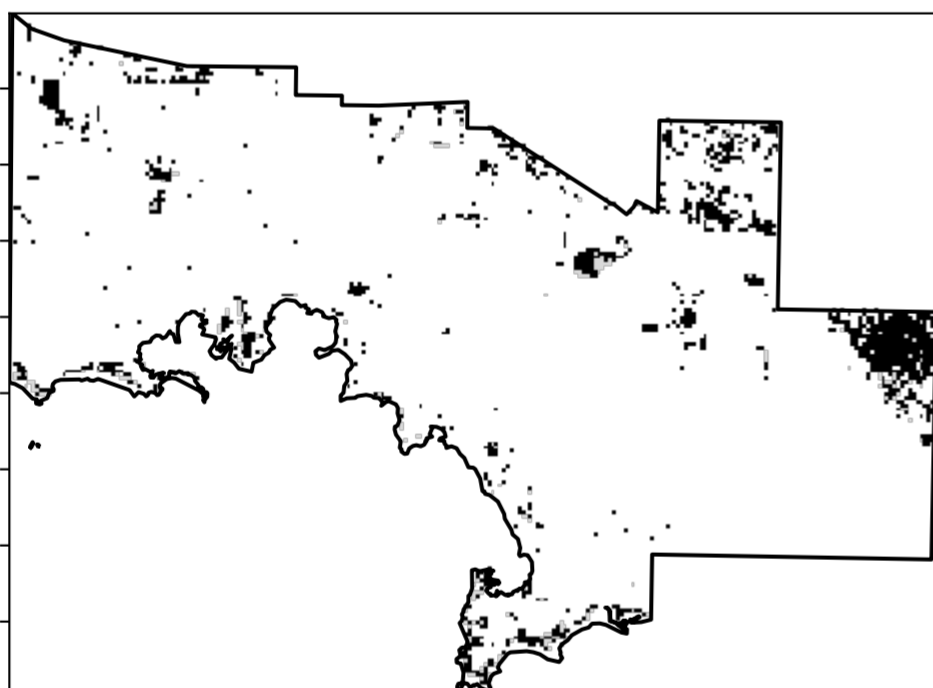
Total Vegetation Cover [%]



Proportion of vegetation cover class in area

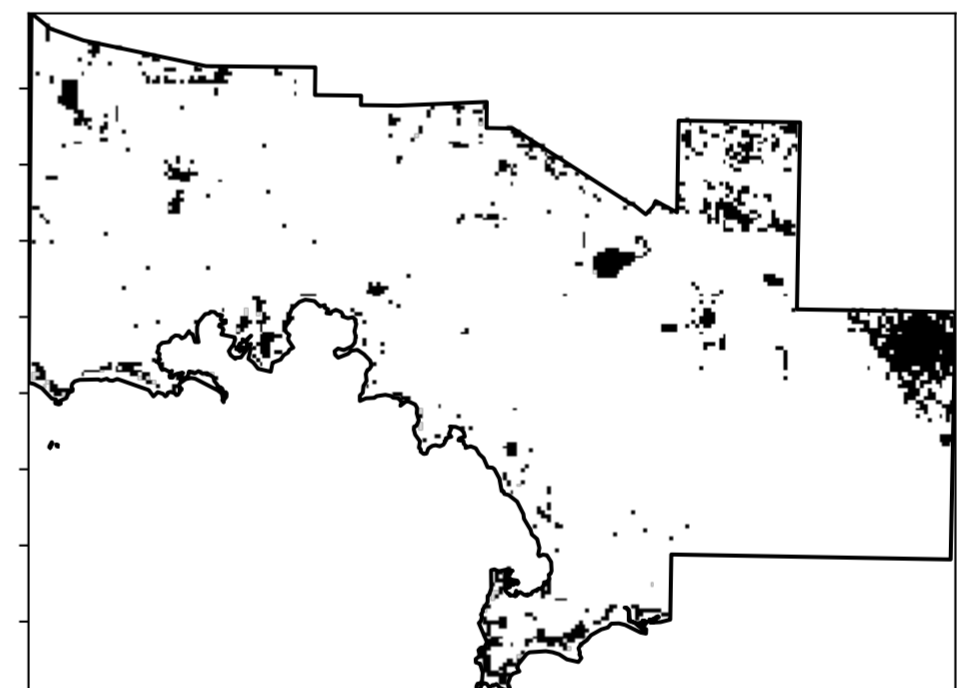


% Area protected from water erosion (>70%)



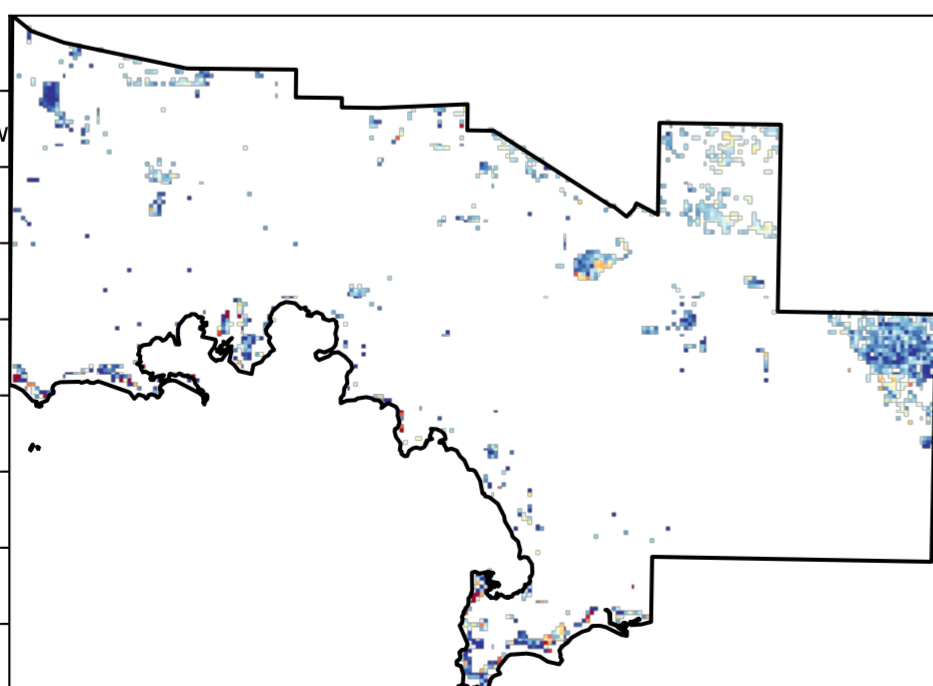
Area not protected
13.7% of region
(5,391 ha)
Area protected
86.3% of region
(33,959 ha)

% Area protected from wind erosion (>50%)

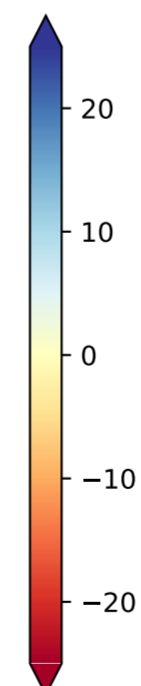


Area not protected
3.0% of region
(1,180 ha)
Area protected
97.0% of region
(38,170 ha)

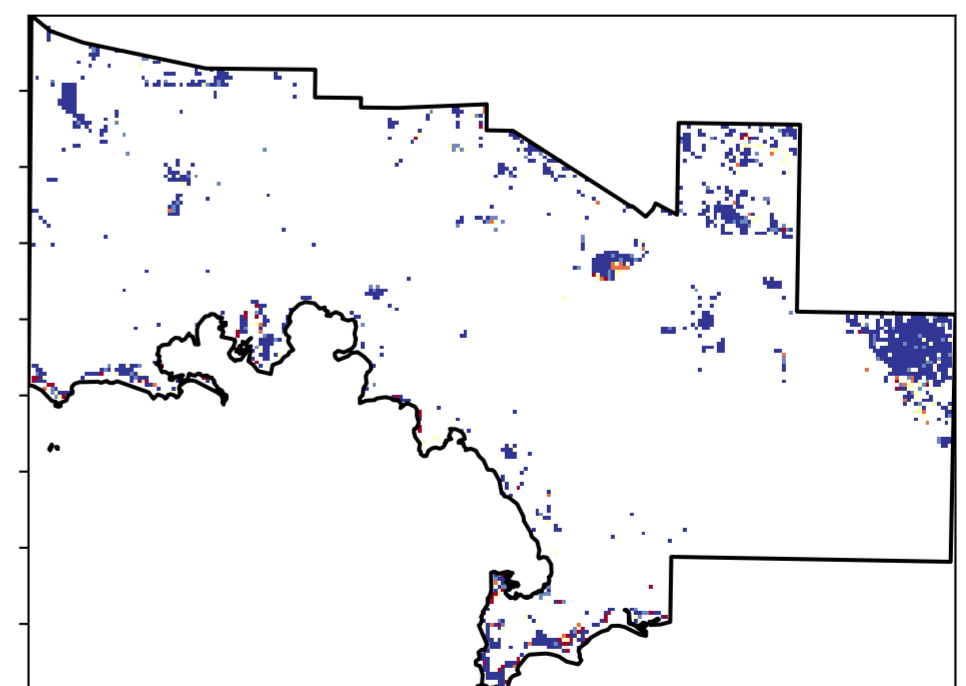
Total Vegetation Cover Anomaly [%]



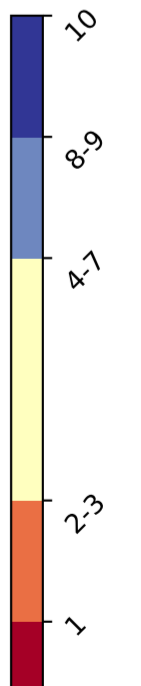
Anomaly show how many percentage points each pixel is from the mean. That is, red pixels are about 20% lower than the mean of that pixel. The mean is only for the month of the map using baseline from 2001 to 2019.



Total Vegetation Cover Decile [%]

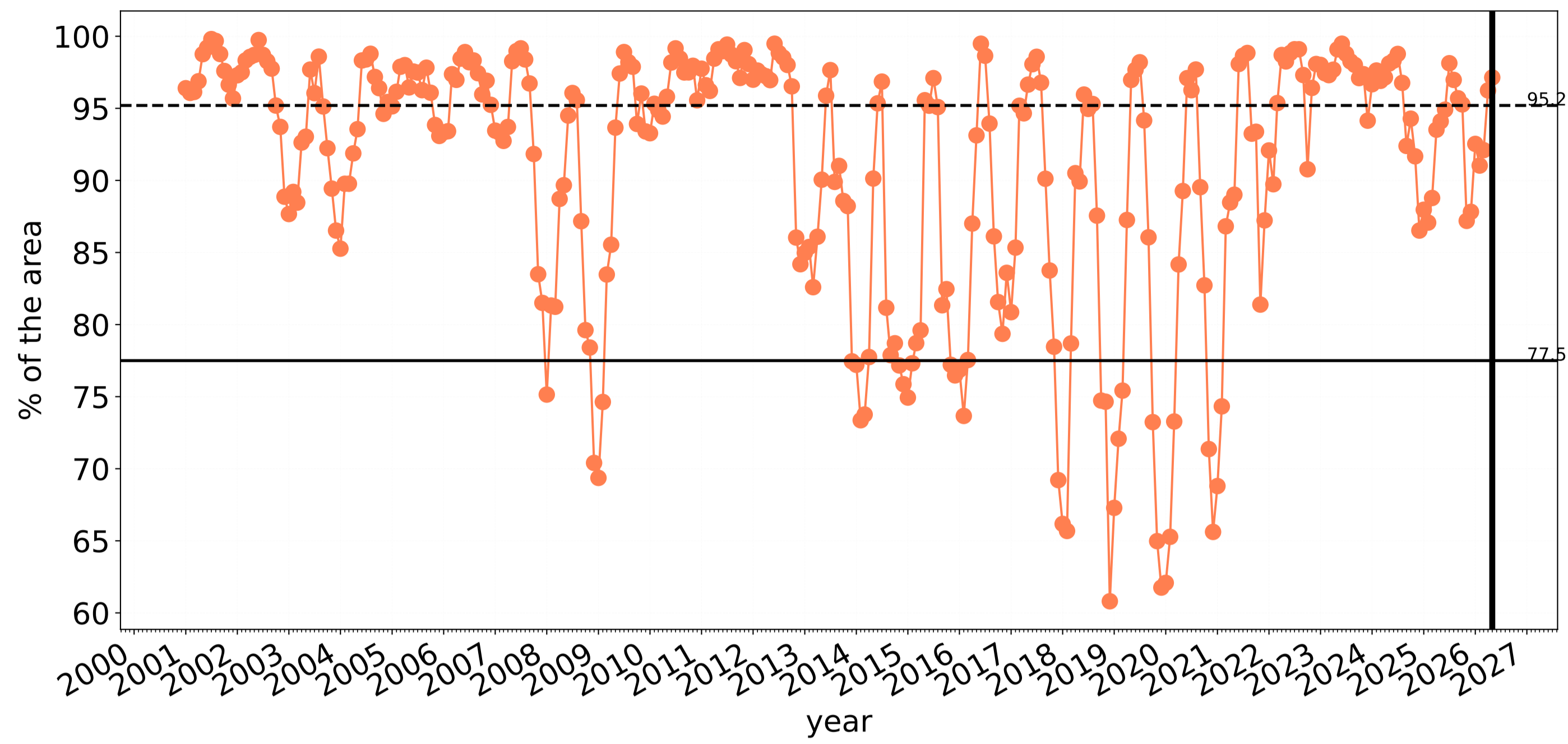


Deciles show where the pixel value lies in the record, from highest to lowest, for that month. That is, red pixels are in the lowest 10% of records for that month of the map using baseline from 2001 to 2019.

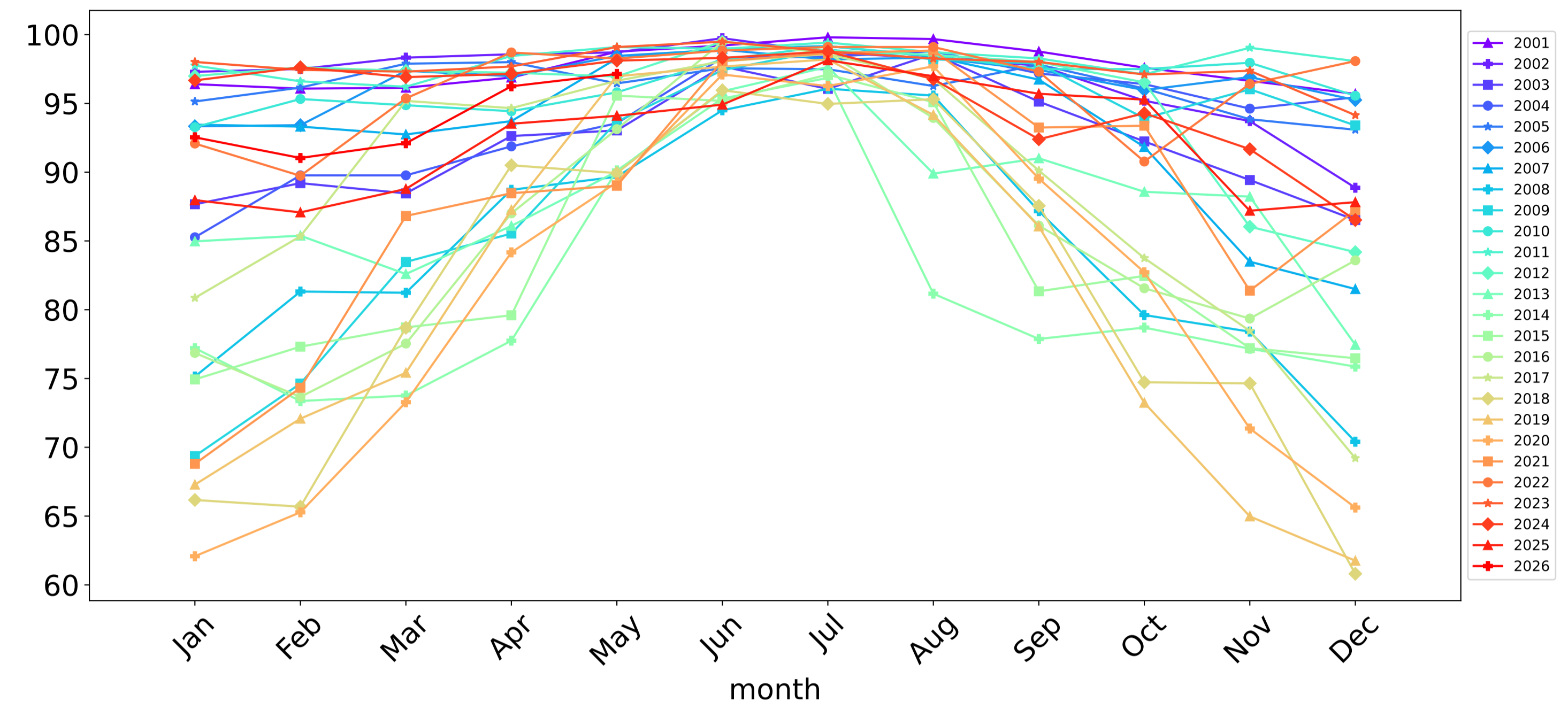


Conservation and natural environments non forest timeseries

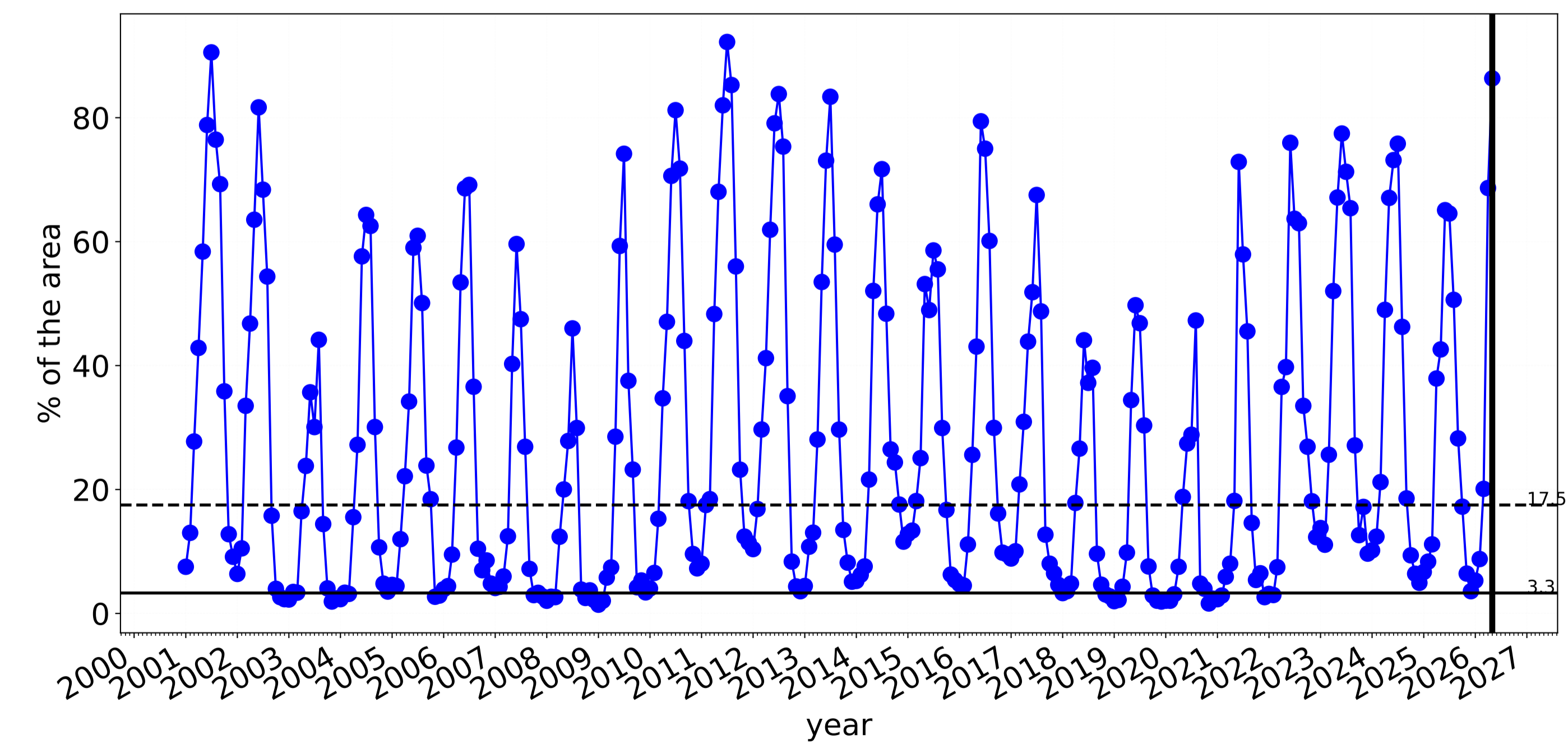
Proportion of the area protected from wind erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 50%)



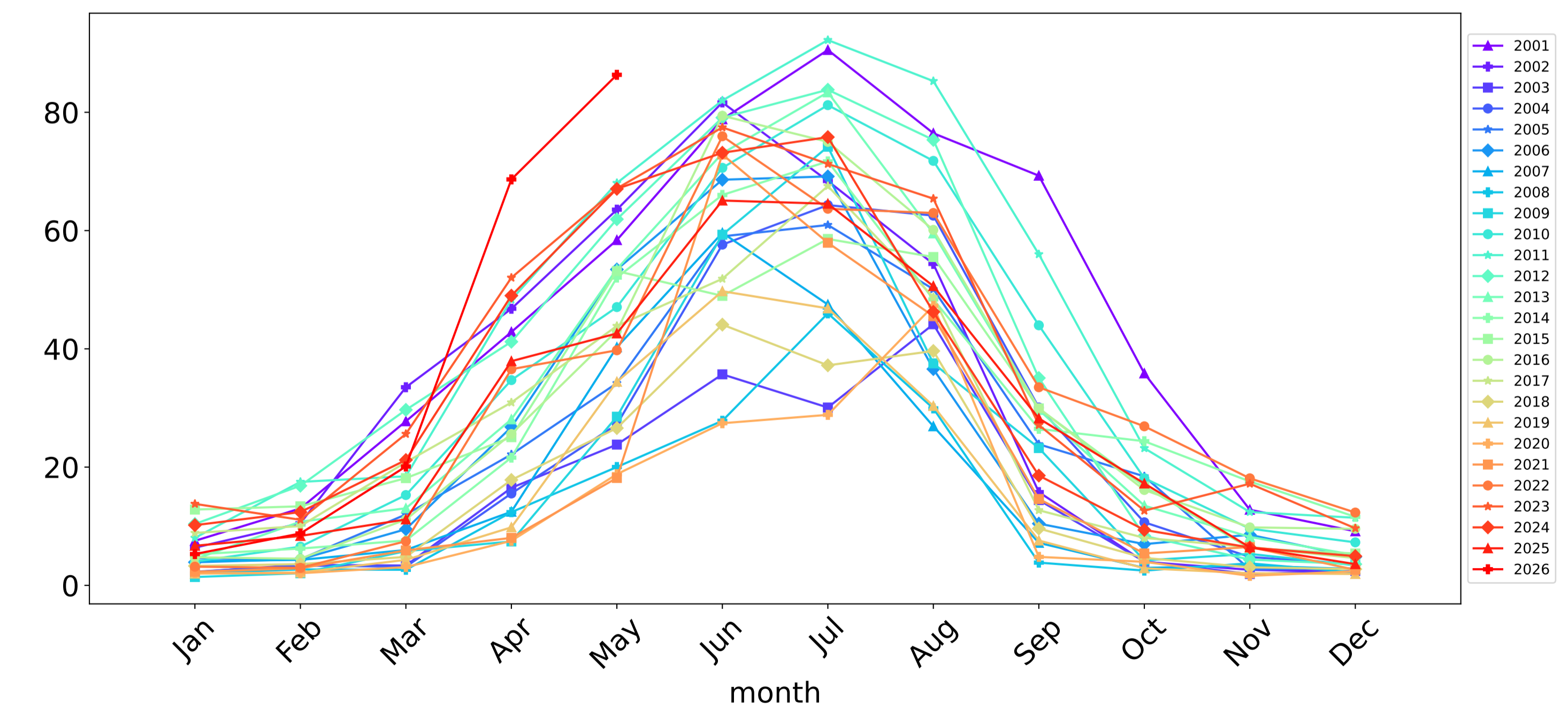
Wind erosion historical monthly area protected (Total Veg Cov >50%)



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



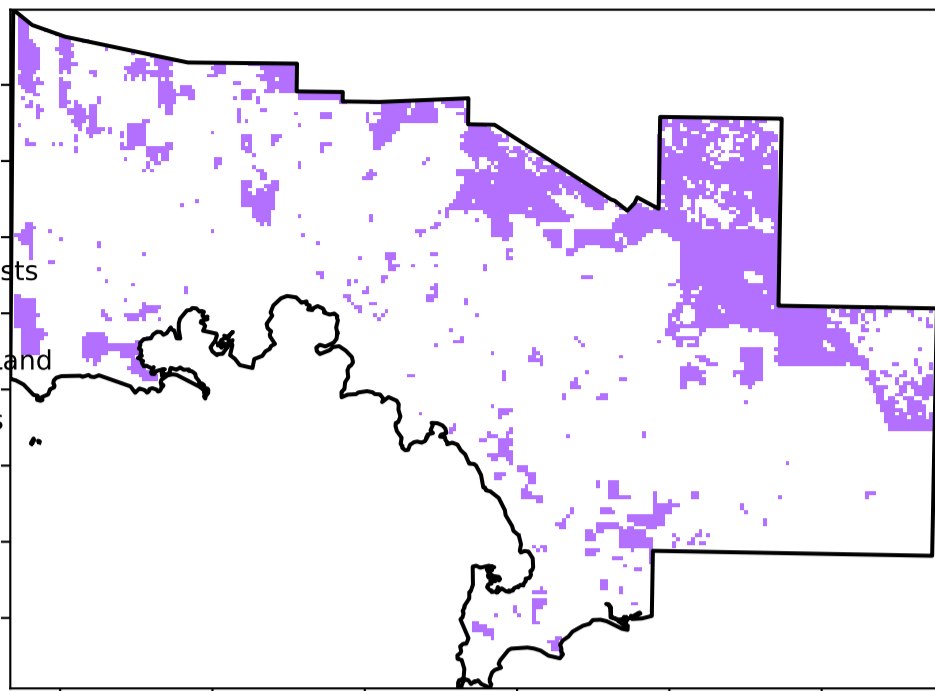
Water erosion historical monthly area protected (Total Veg Cov >70%)



Conservation and natural environments Woodland forest

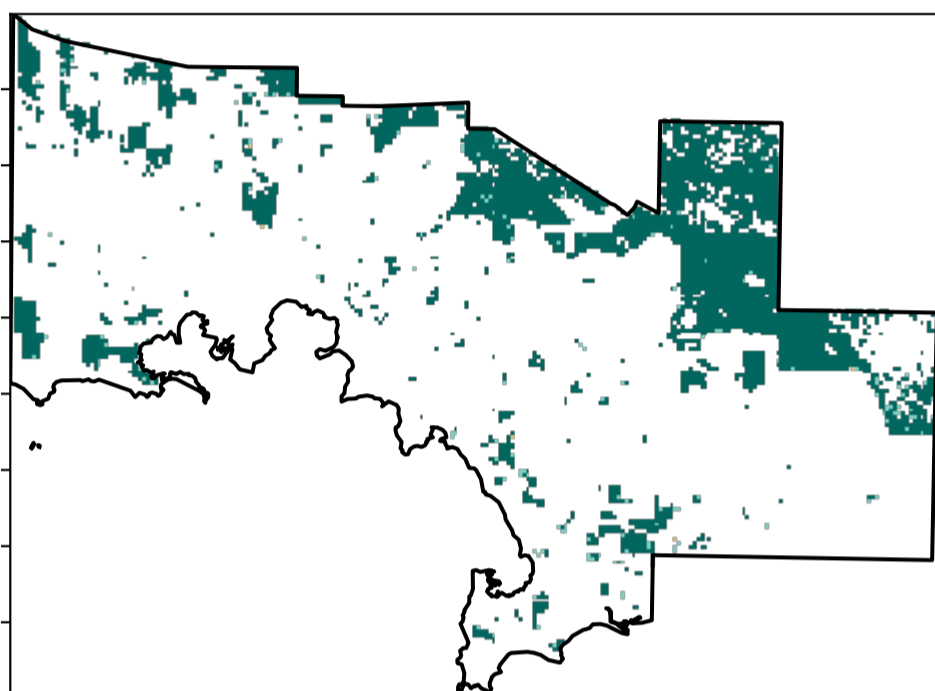
Land use and forest cover

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

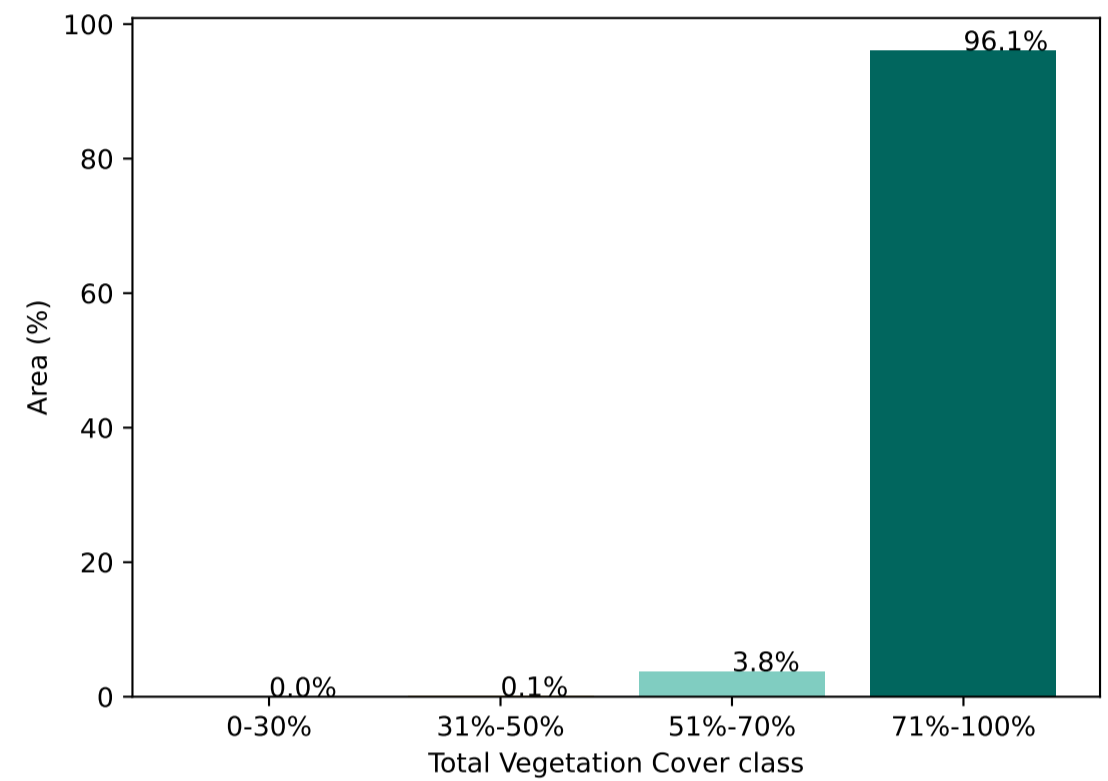


1 Conservation and natural environments - Woodland forest

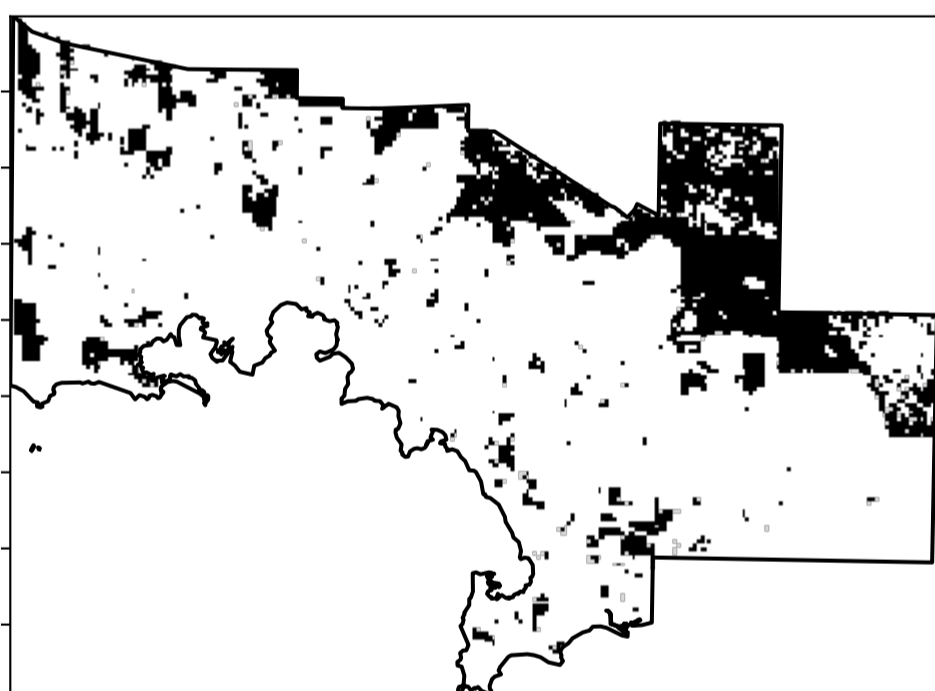
Total Vegetation Cover [%]



Proportion of vegetation cover class in area

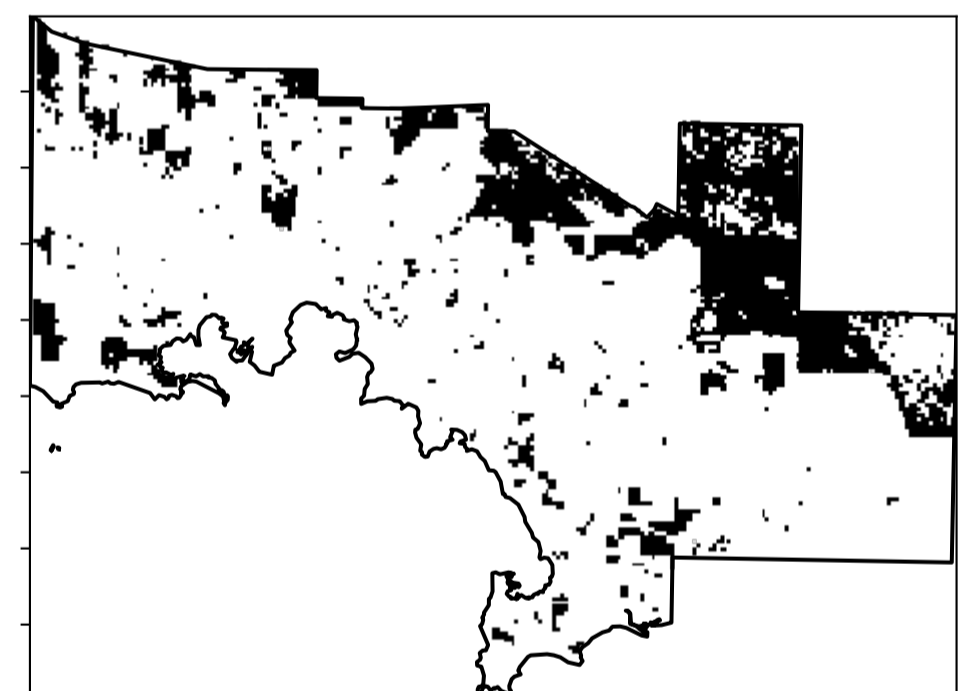


% Area protected from water erosion (>70%)



Area not protected
3.9% of region
(4,199 ha)
Area protected
96.1% of region
(103,476 ha)

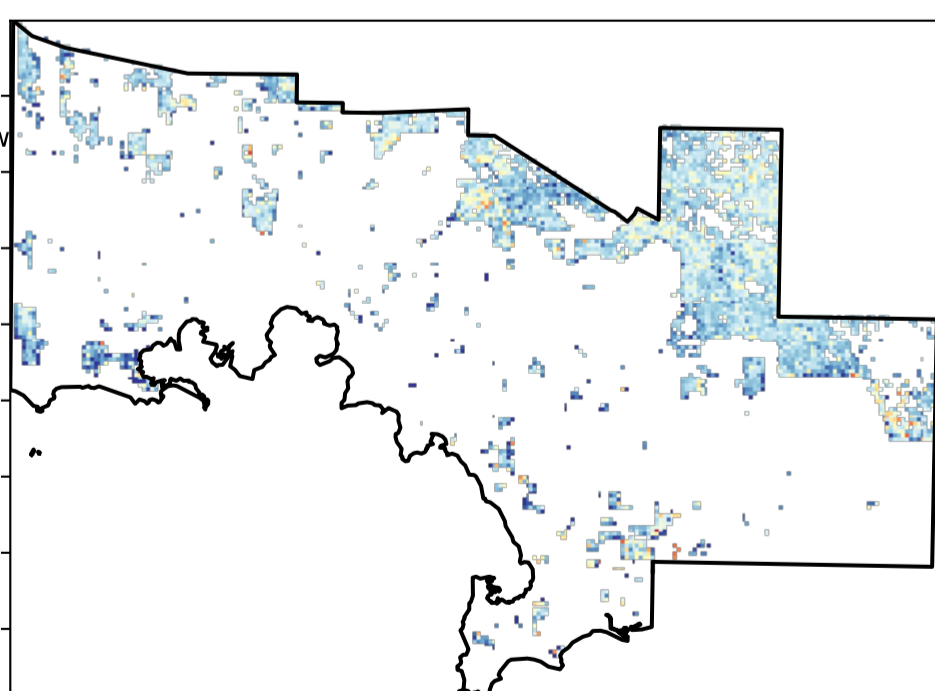
% Area protected from wind erosion (>50%)



Area not protected
0.0% of region
(0 ha)
Area protected
100.0% of region
(107,675 ha)

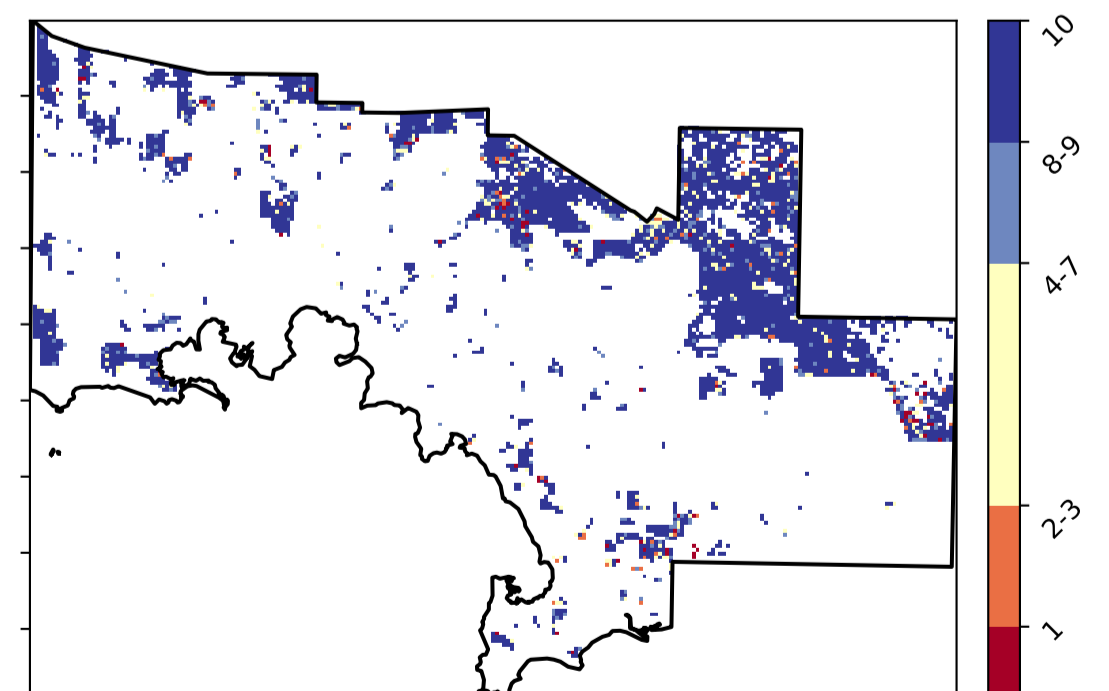
Total Vegetation Cover Anomaly [%]

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



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

Total Vegetation Cover Decile [%]



tern
Ecosystem Research Infrastructure

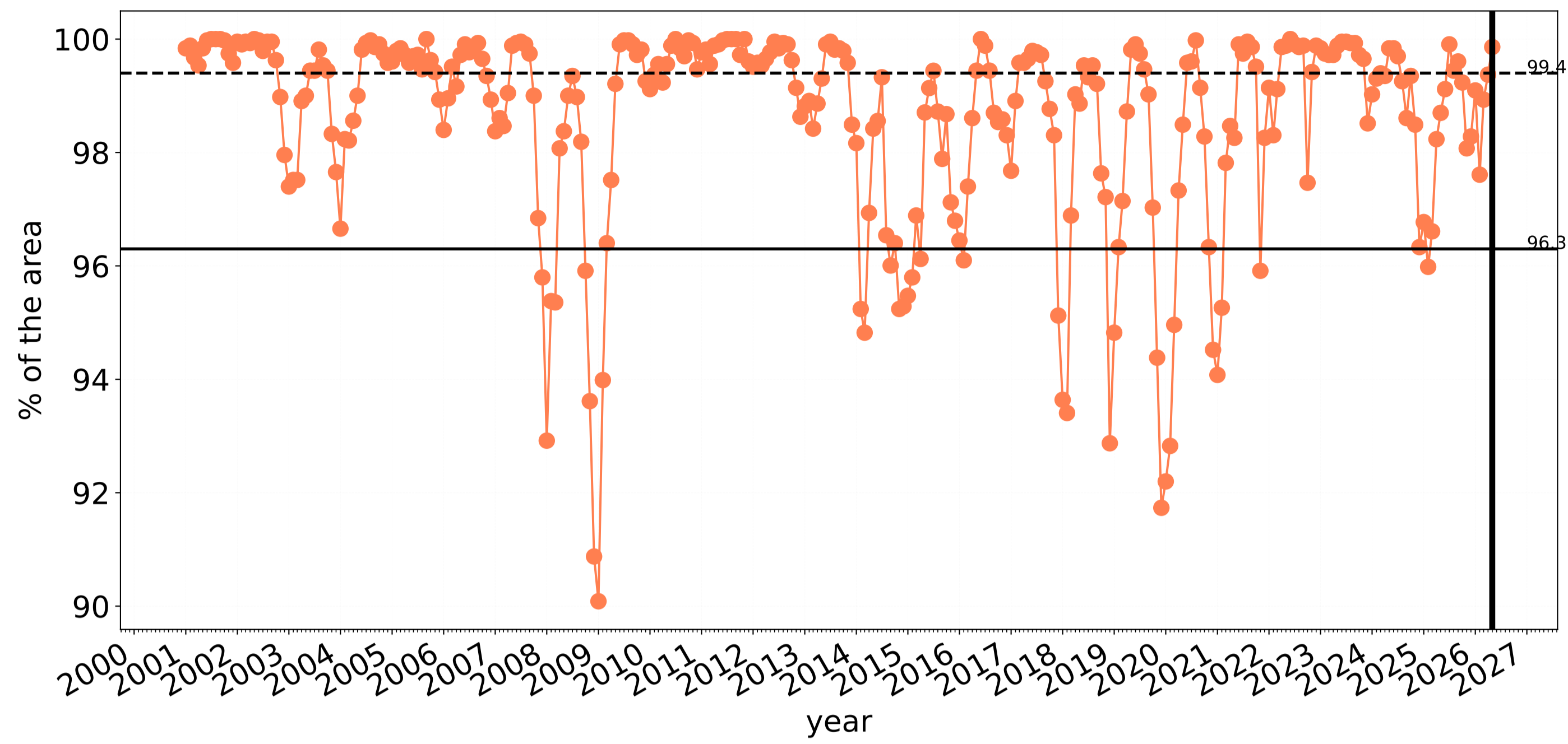


National
Landcare
Programme

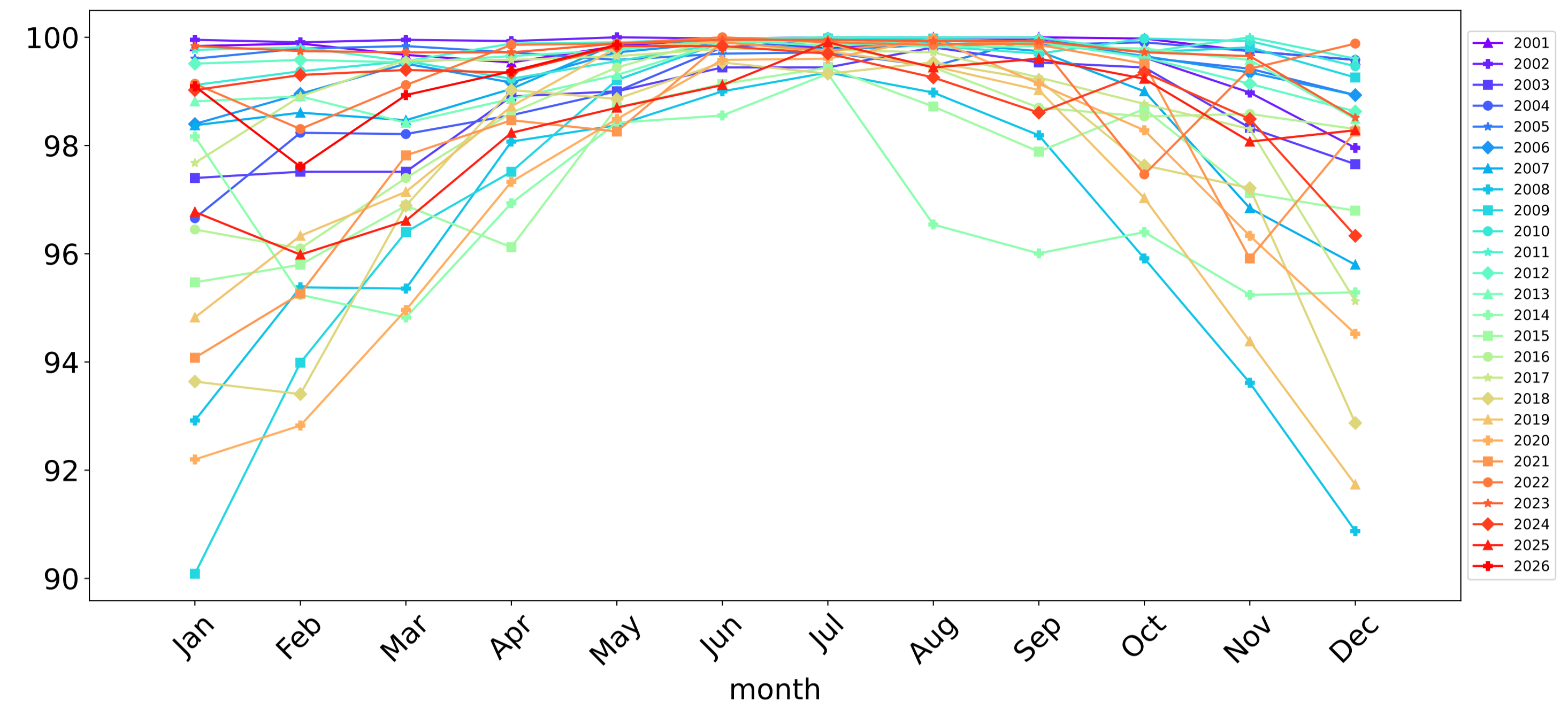


Conservation and natural environments Woodland forest timeseries

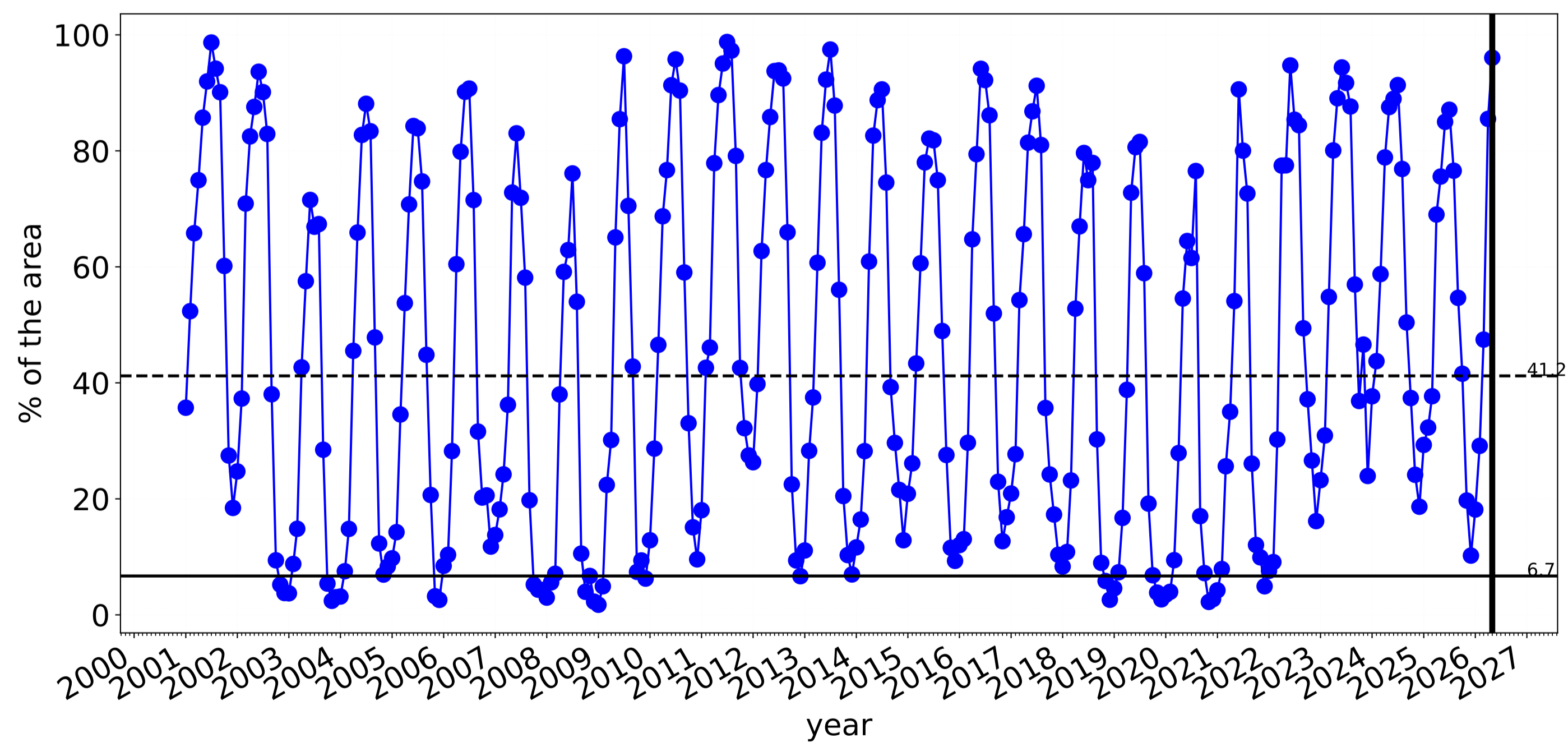
Proportion of the area protected from wind erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 50%)



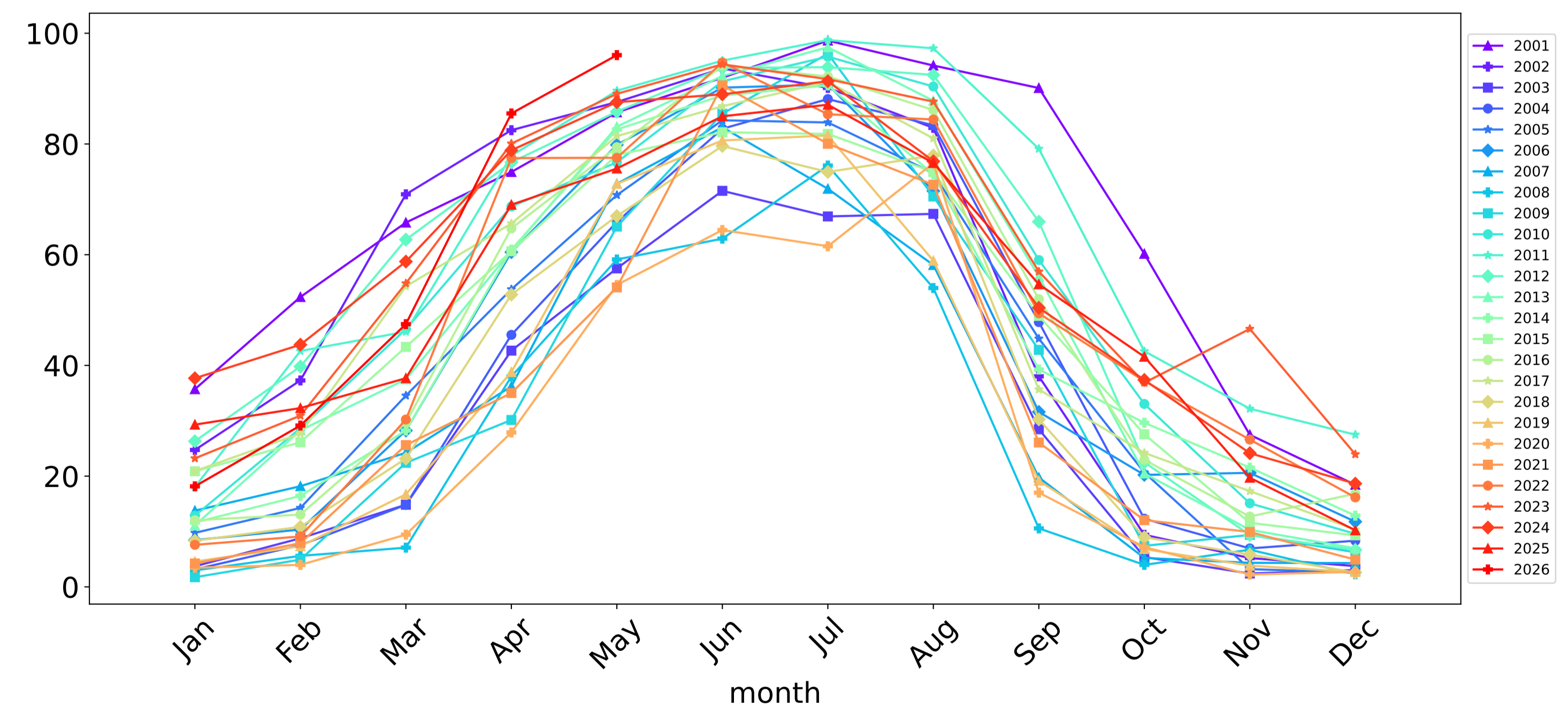
Wind erosion historical monthly area protected (Total Veg Cov >50%)



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



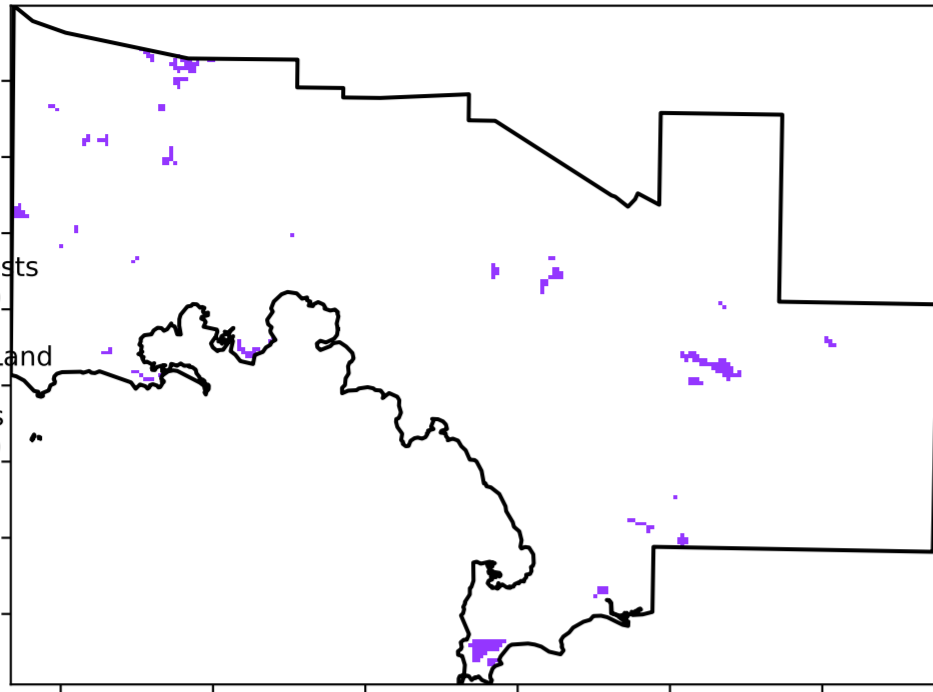
Water erosion historical monthly area protected (Total Veg Cov >70%)



Conservation and natural environments Forest (non woodland)

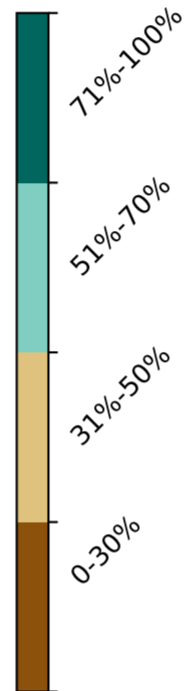
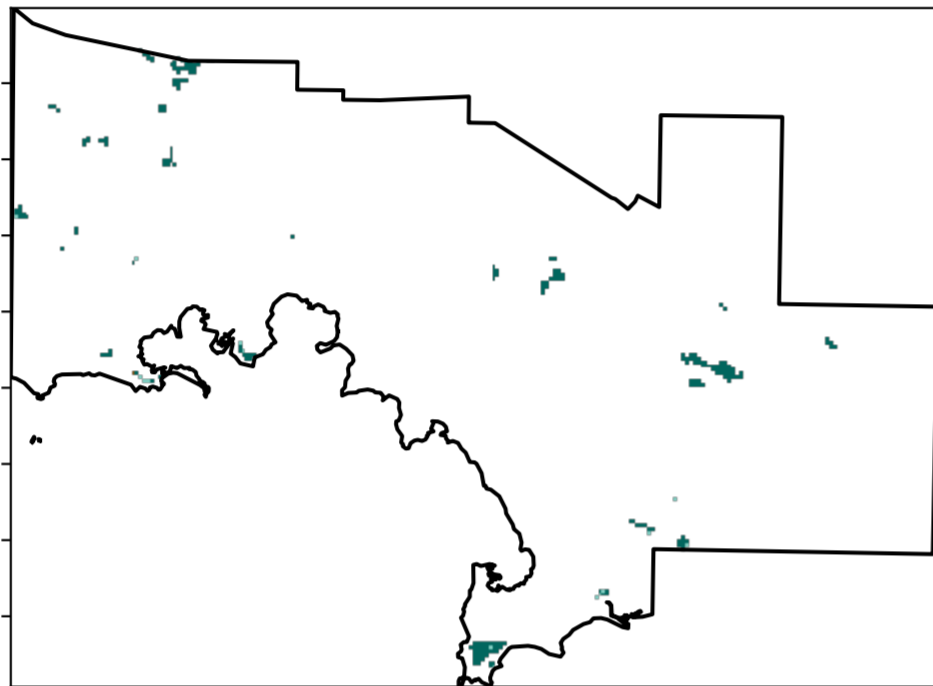
Land use and forest cover

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

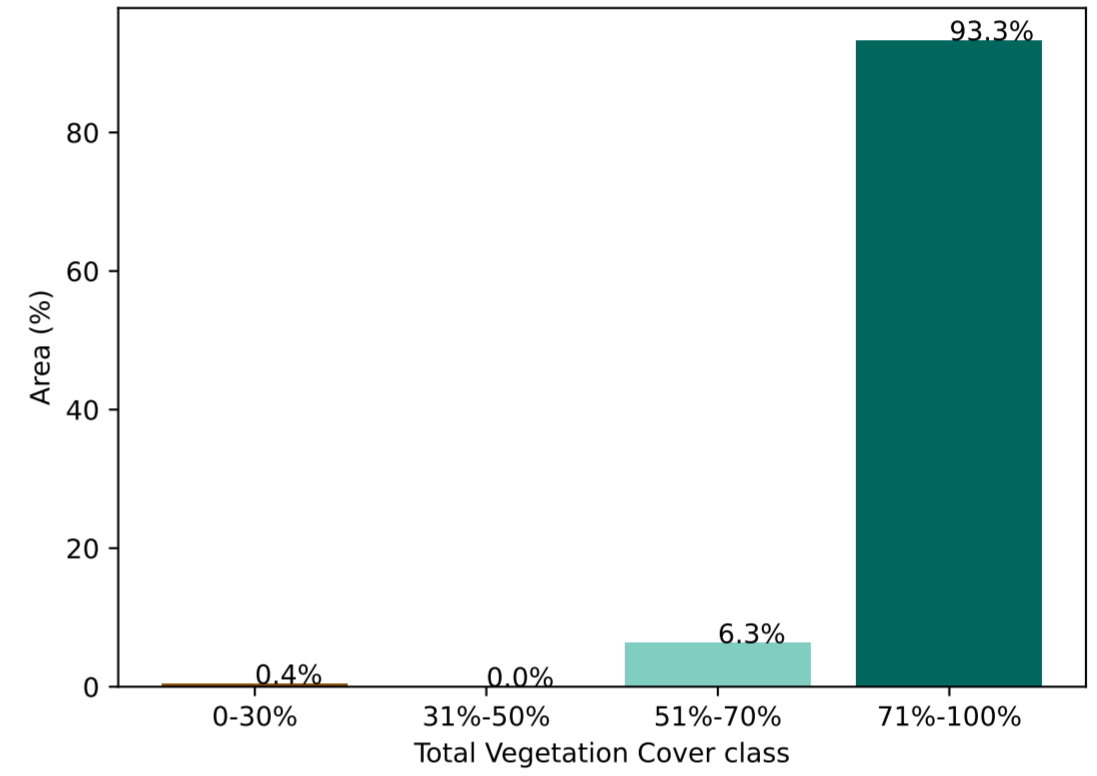


1 Conservation and natural environments - Non-woodland forest

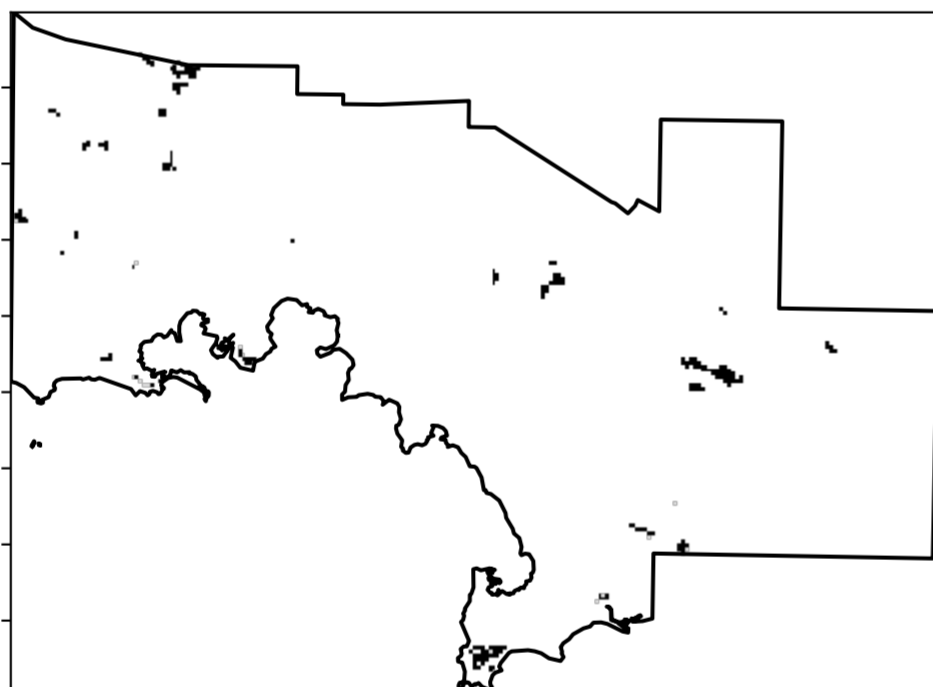
Total Vegetation Cover [%]



Proportion of vegetation cover class in area

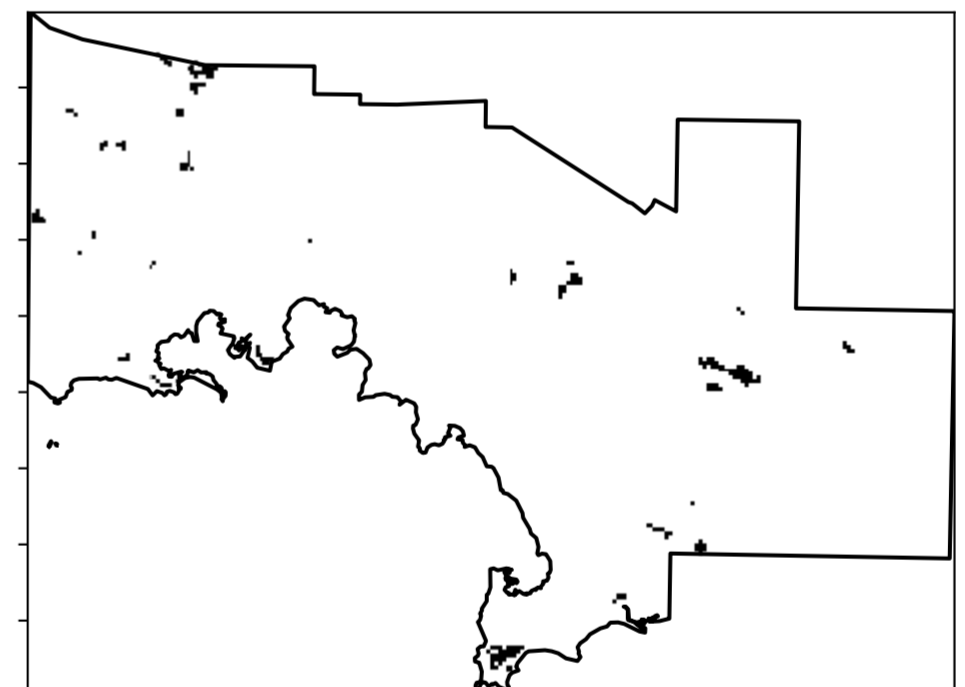


% Area protected from water erosion (>70%)



Area not protected
6.7% of region
(399 ha)
Area protected
93.3% of region
(5,551 ha)

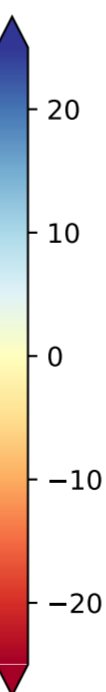
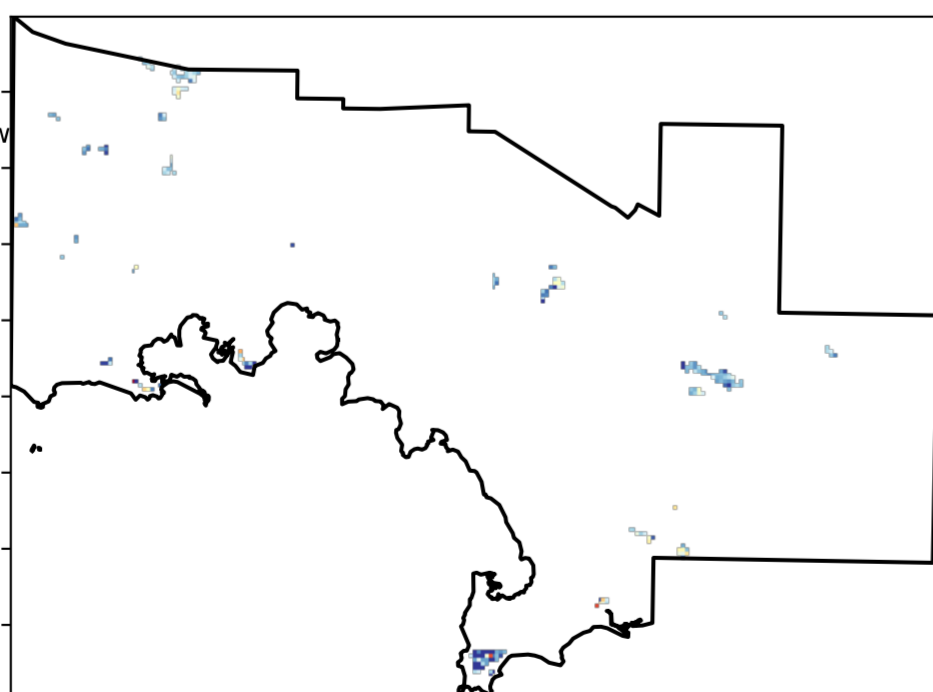
% Area protected from wind erosion (>50%)



Area not protected
0.0% of region
(0 ha)
Area protected
100.0% of region
(5,950 ha)

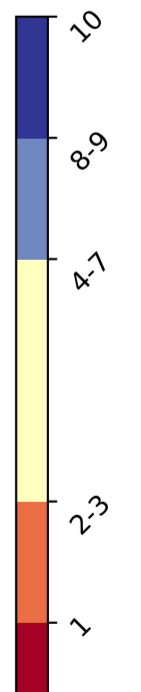
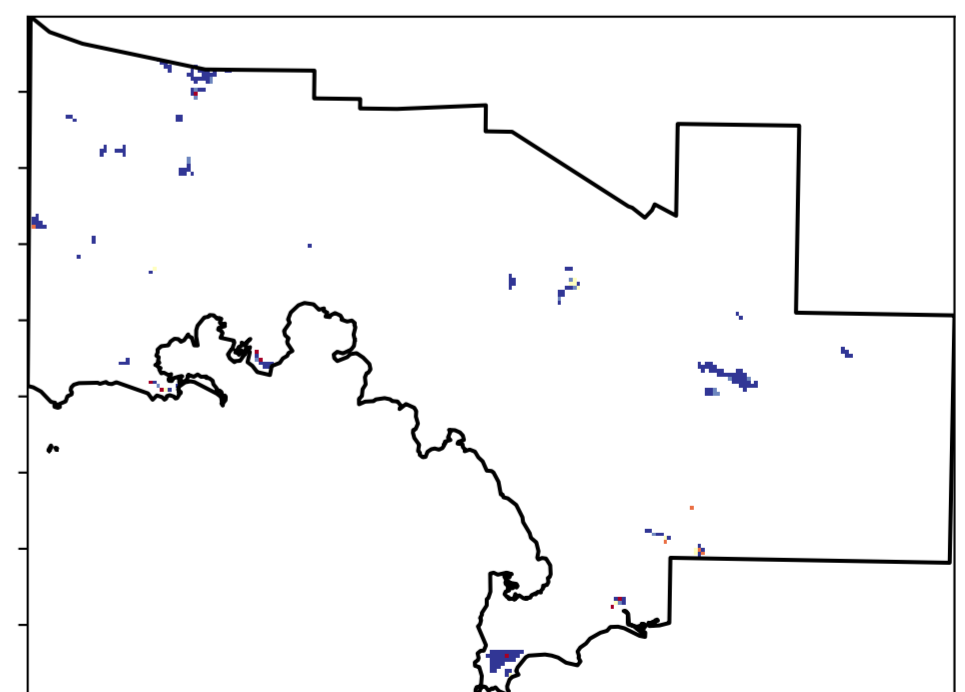
Total Vegetation Cover Anomaly [%]

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



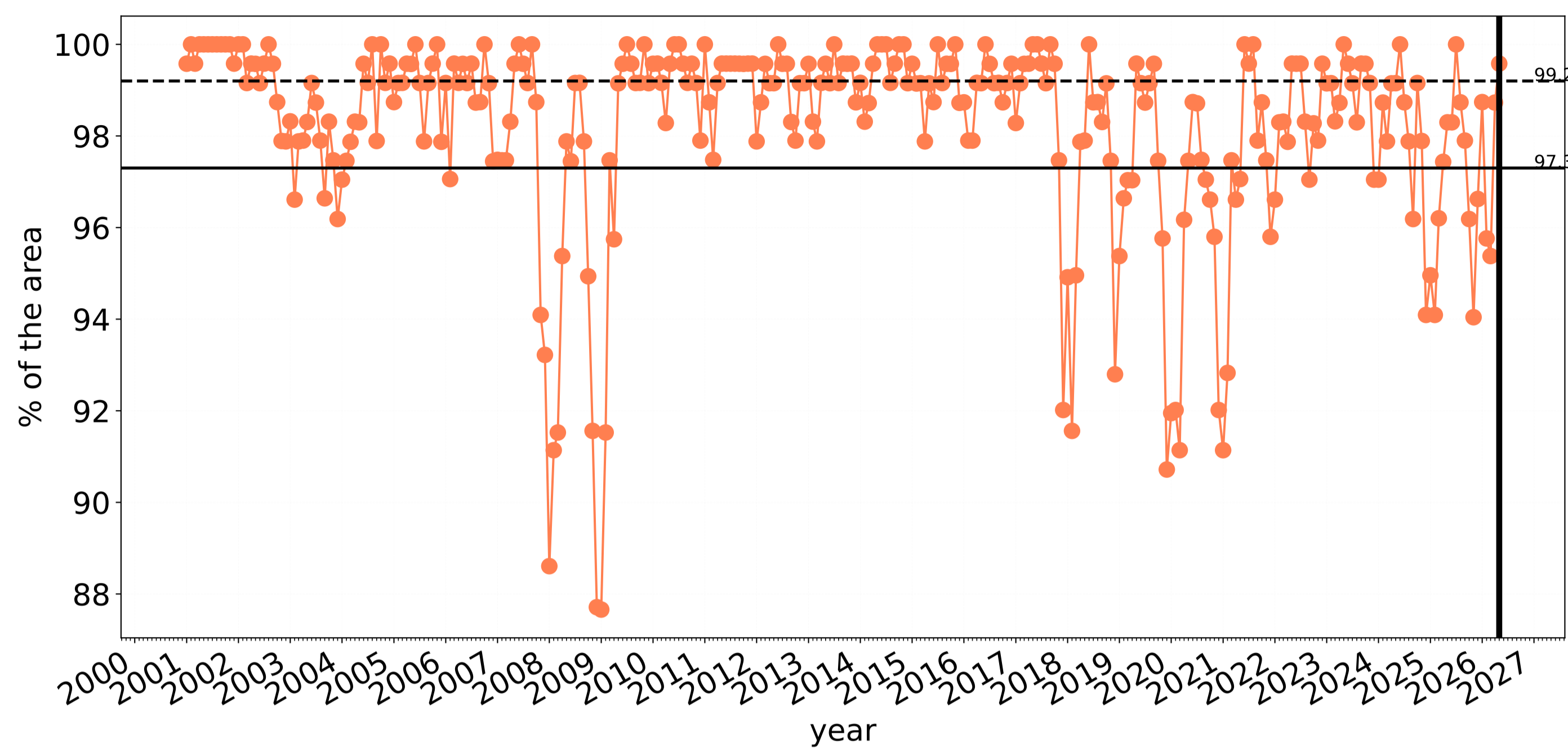
Total Vegetation Cover Decile [%]

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

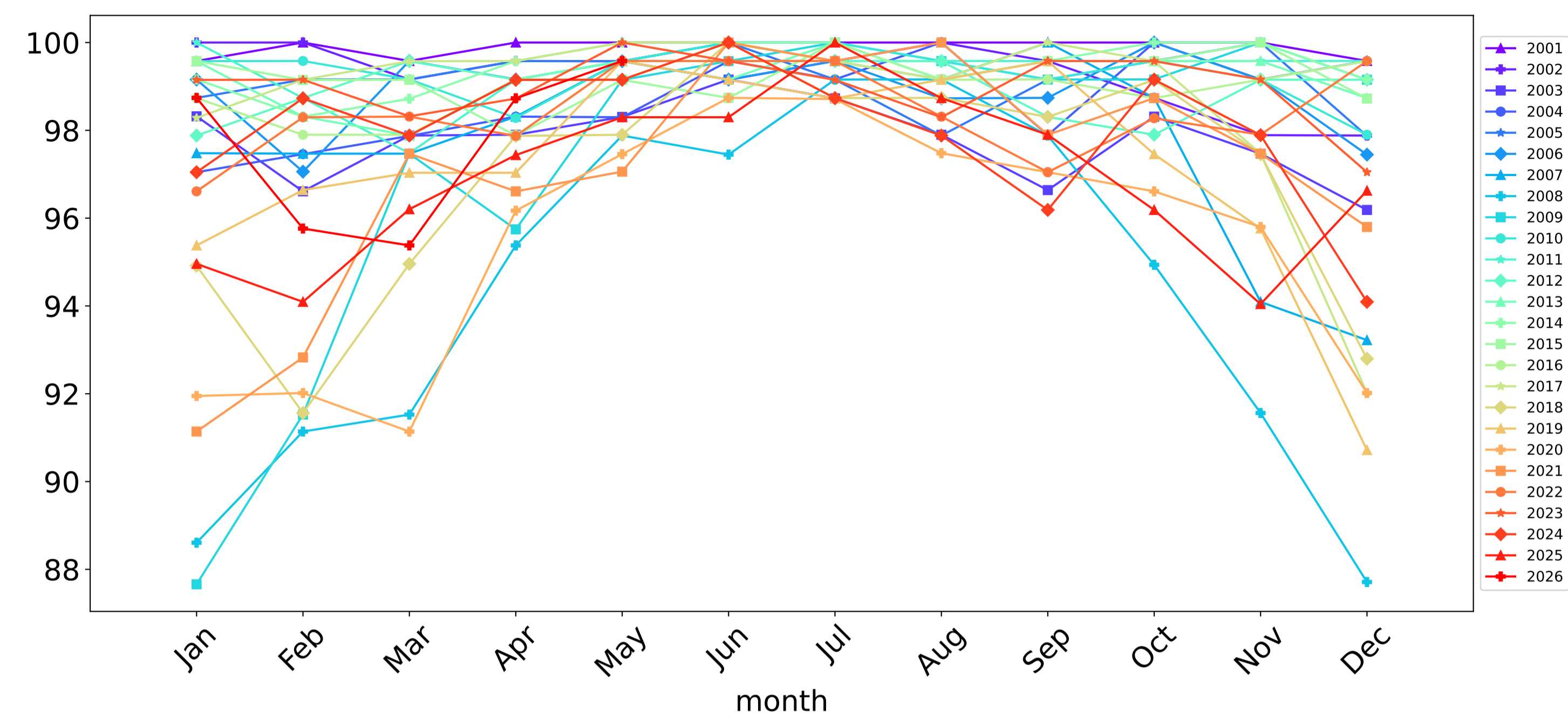


Conservation and natural environments Forest (non woodland) timeseries

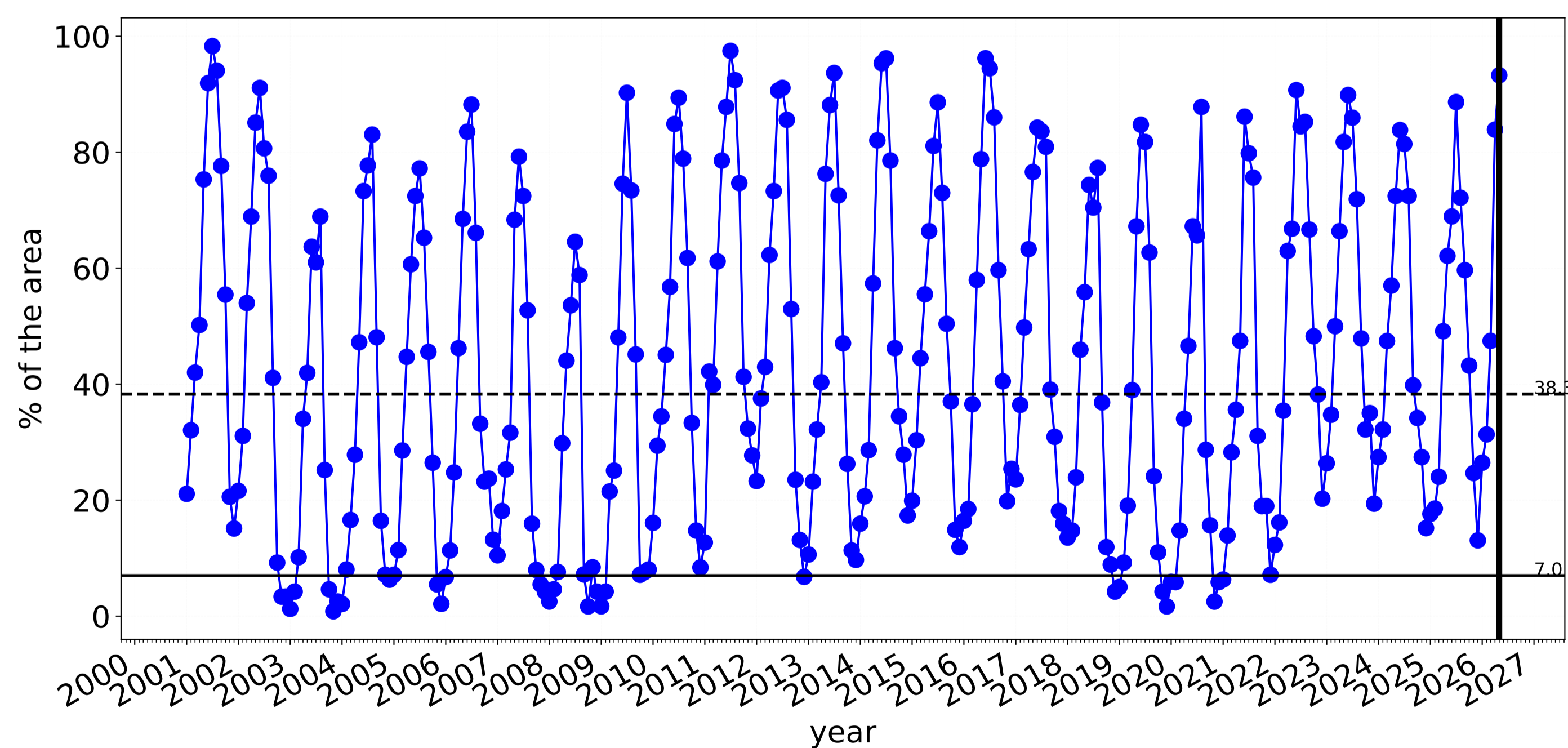
Proportion of the area protected from wind erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 50%)



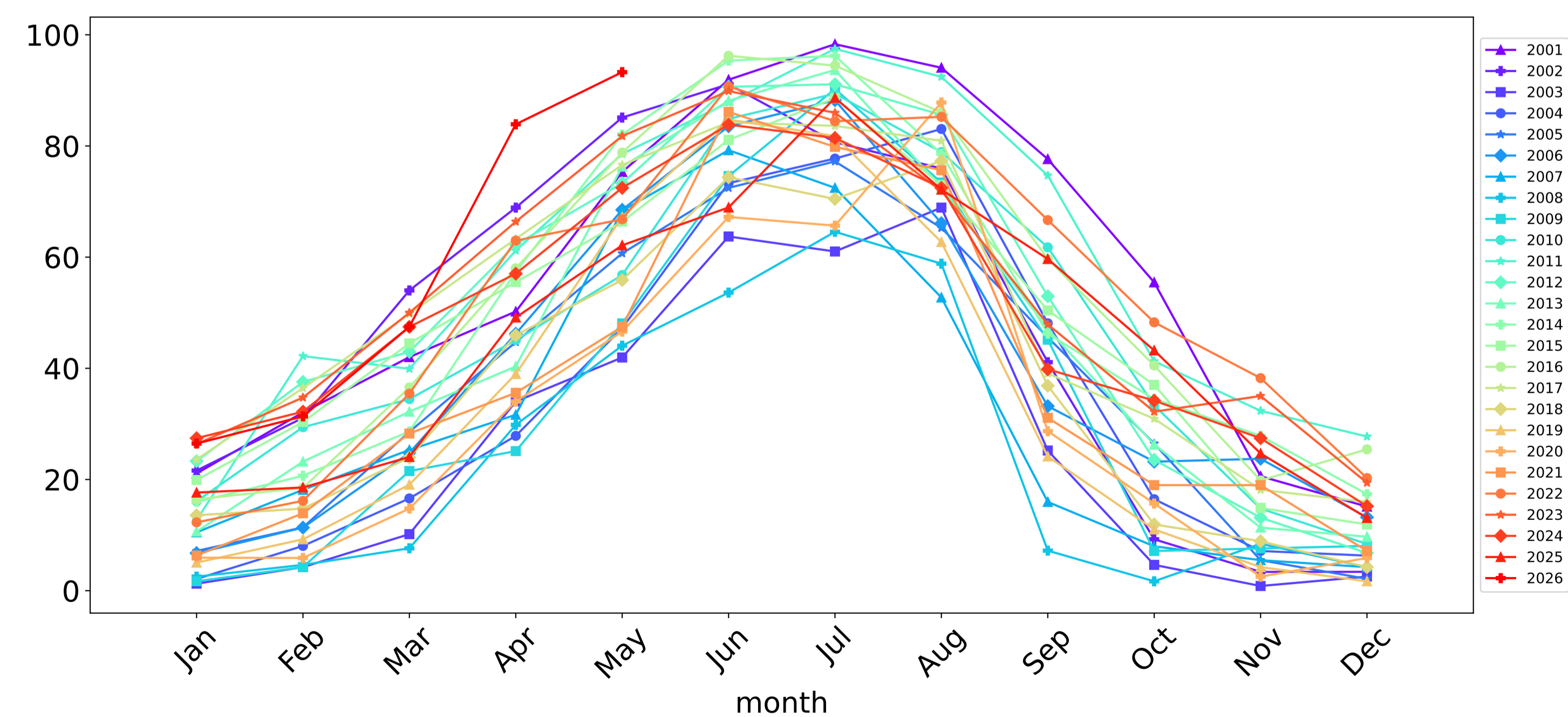
Wind erosion historical monthly area protected (Total Veg Cov >50%)



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



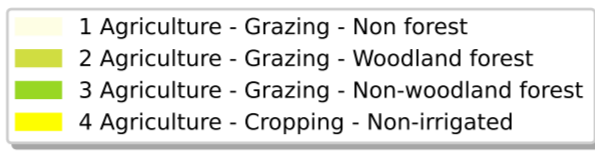
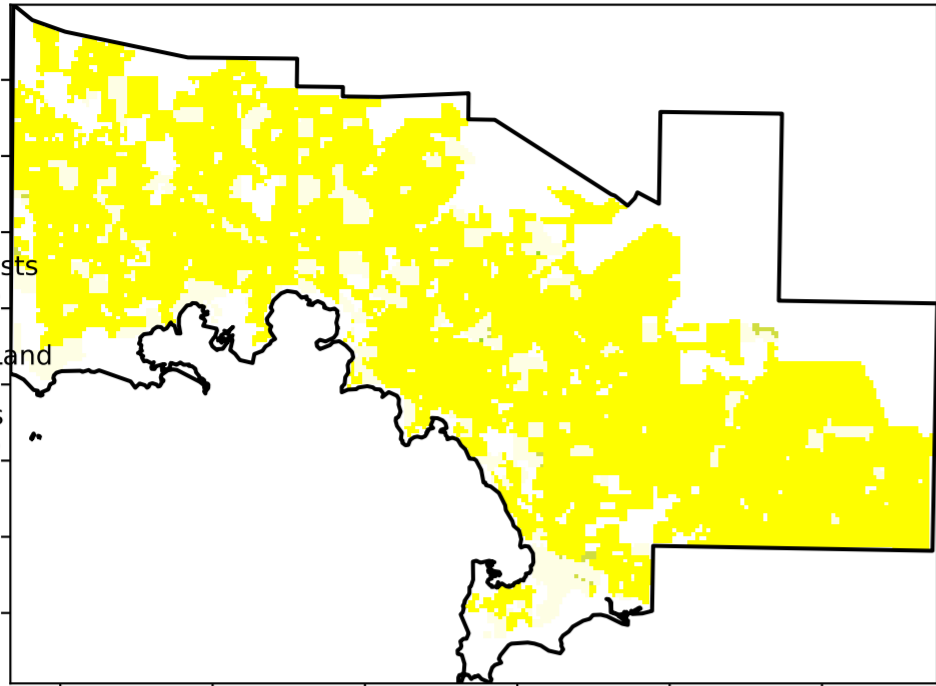
Water erosion historical monthly area protected (Total Veg Cov >70%)



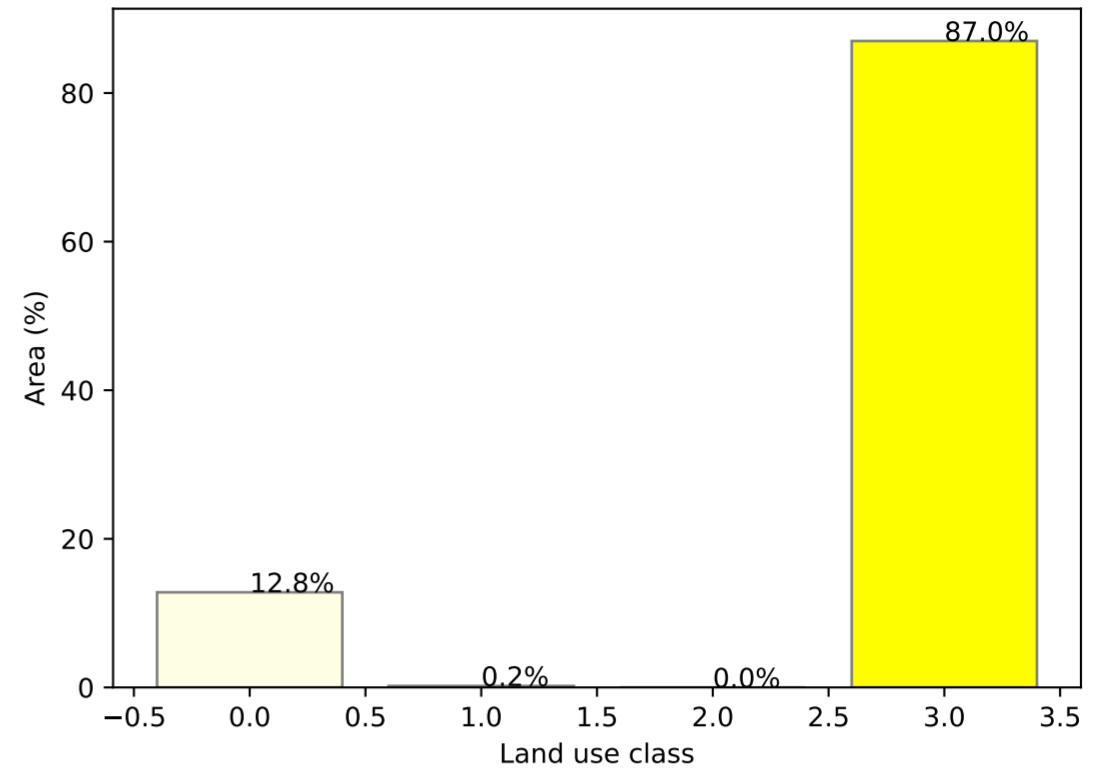
Agriculture

Land use and forest cover

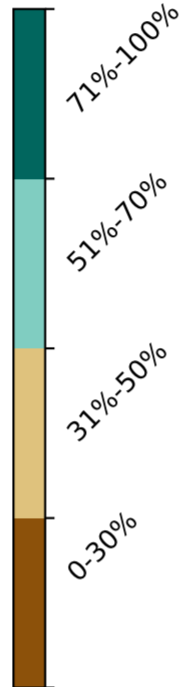
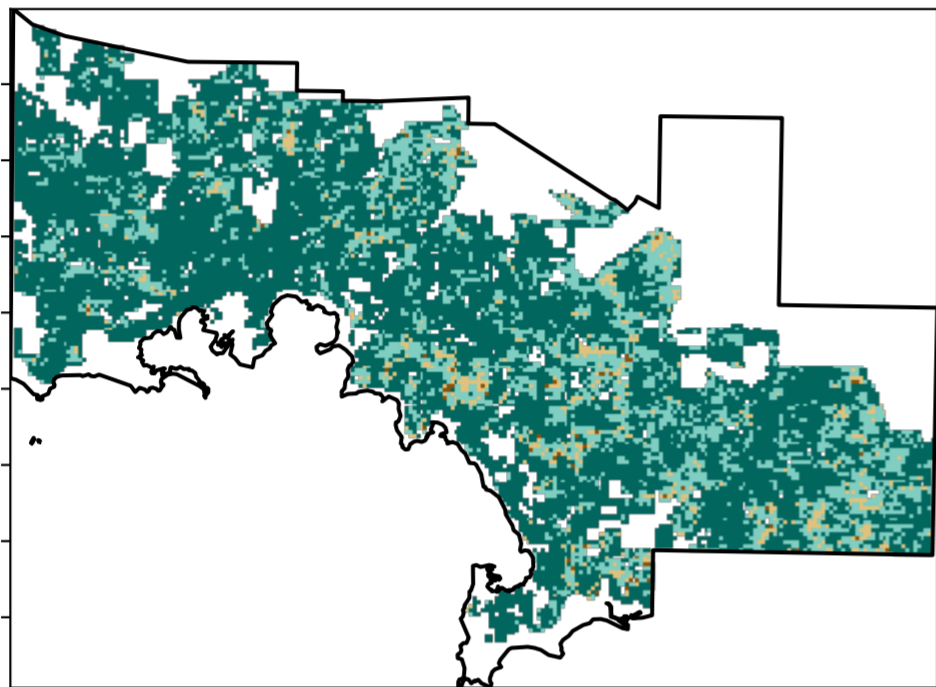
Catchment Scale Land Use and Forests of Australia (2018). Derived from Catchment Scale Land Use of Australia (2018) and Forests of Australia (2018).



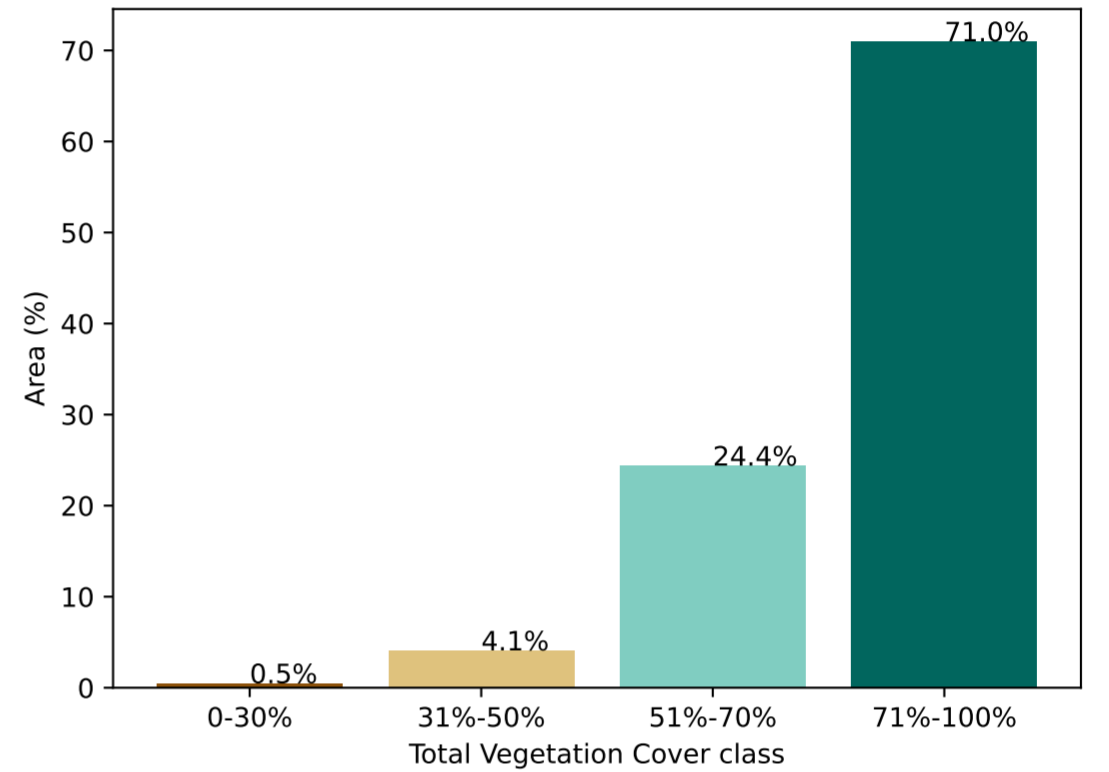
Proportion of each land class in area



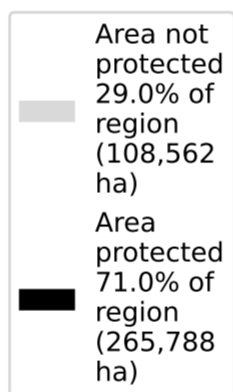
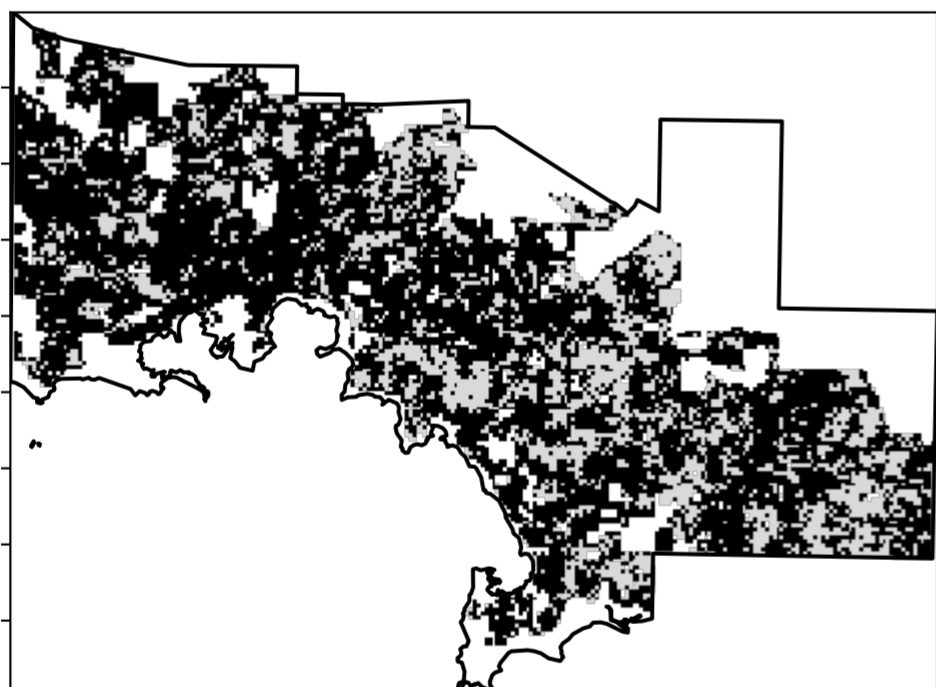
Total Vegetation Cover [%]



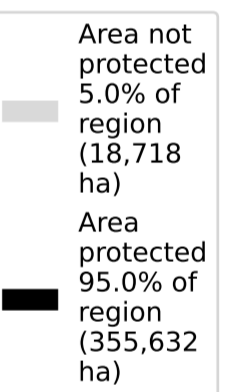
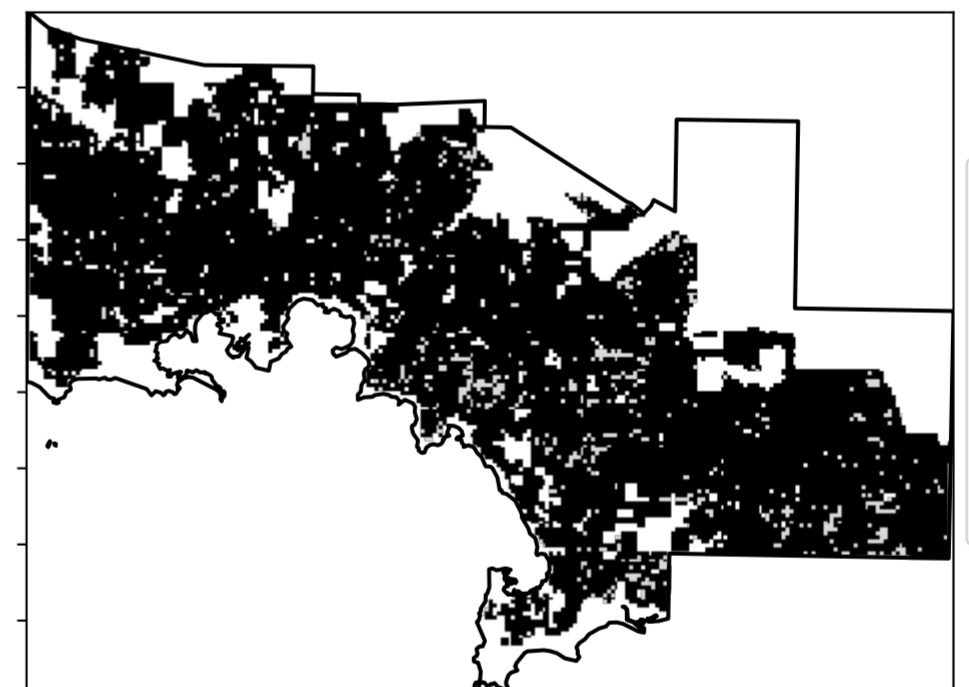
Proportion of vegetation cover class in area



% Area protected from water erosion (>70%)

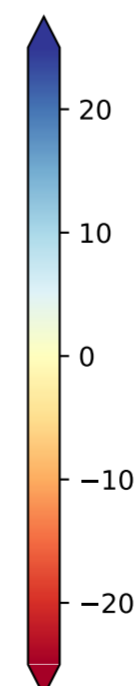
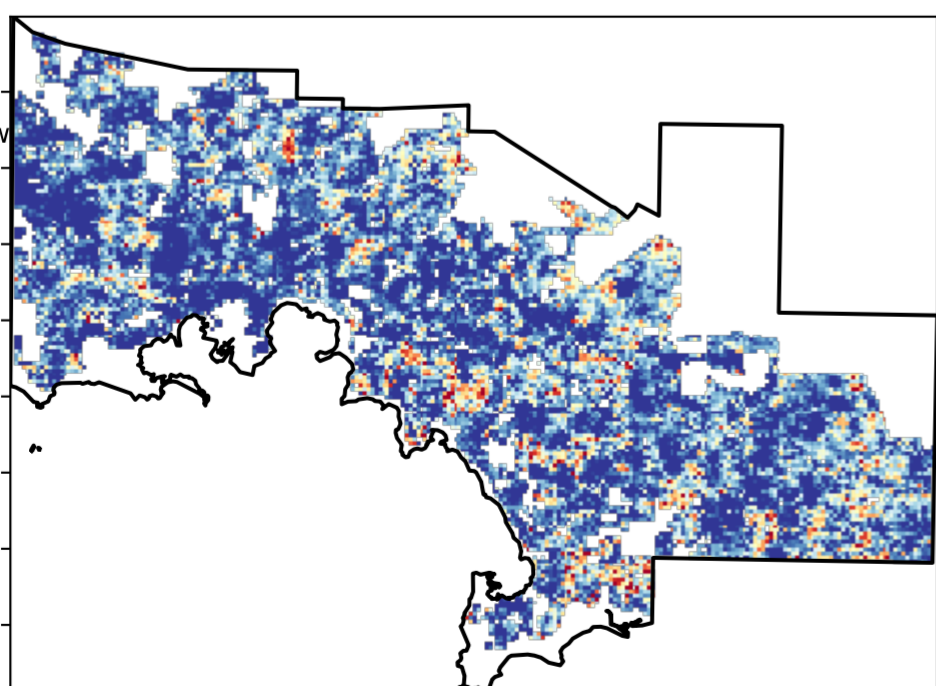


% Area protected from wind erosion (>50%)



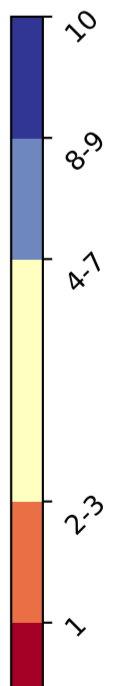
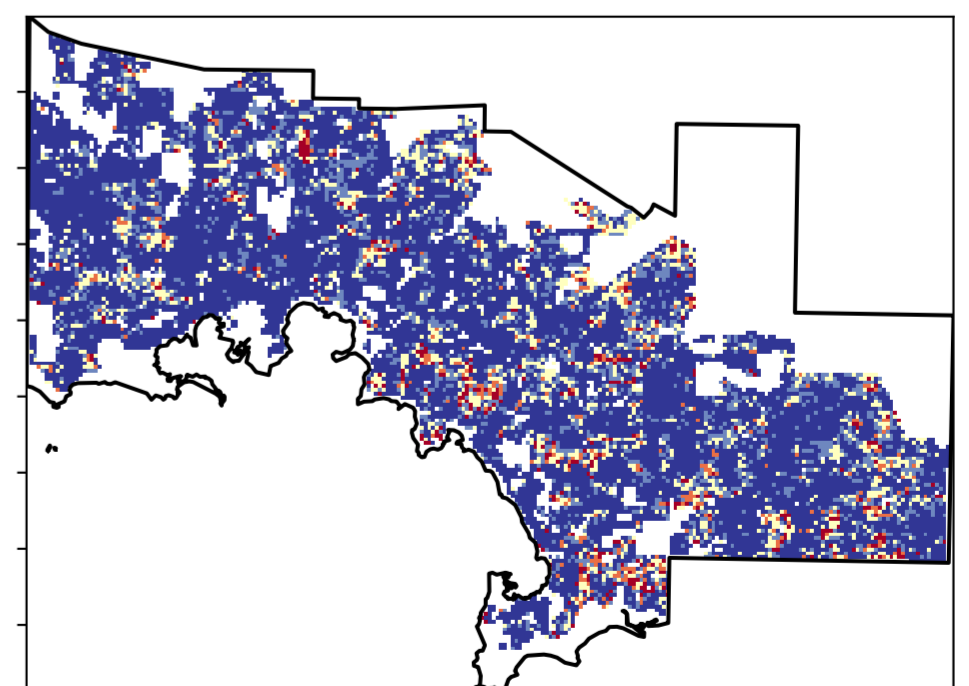
Total Vegetation Cover Anomaly [%]

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.



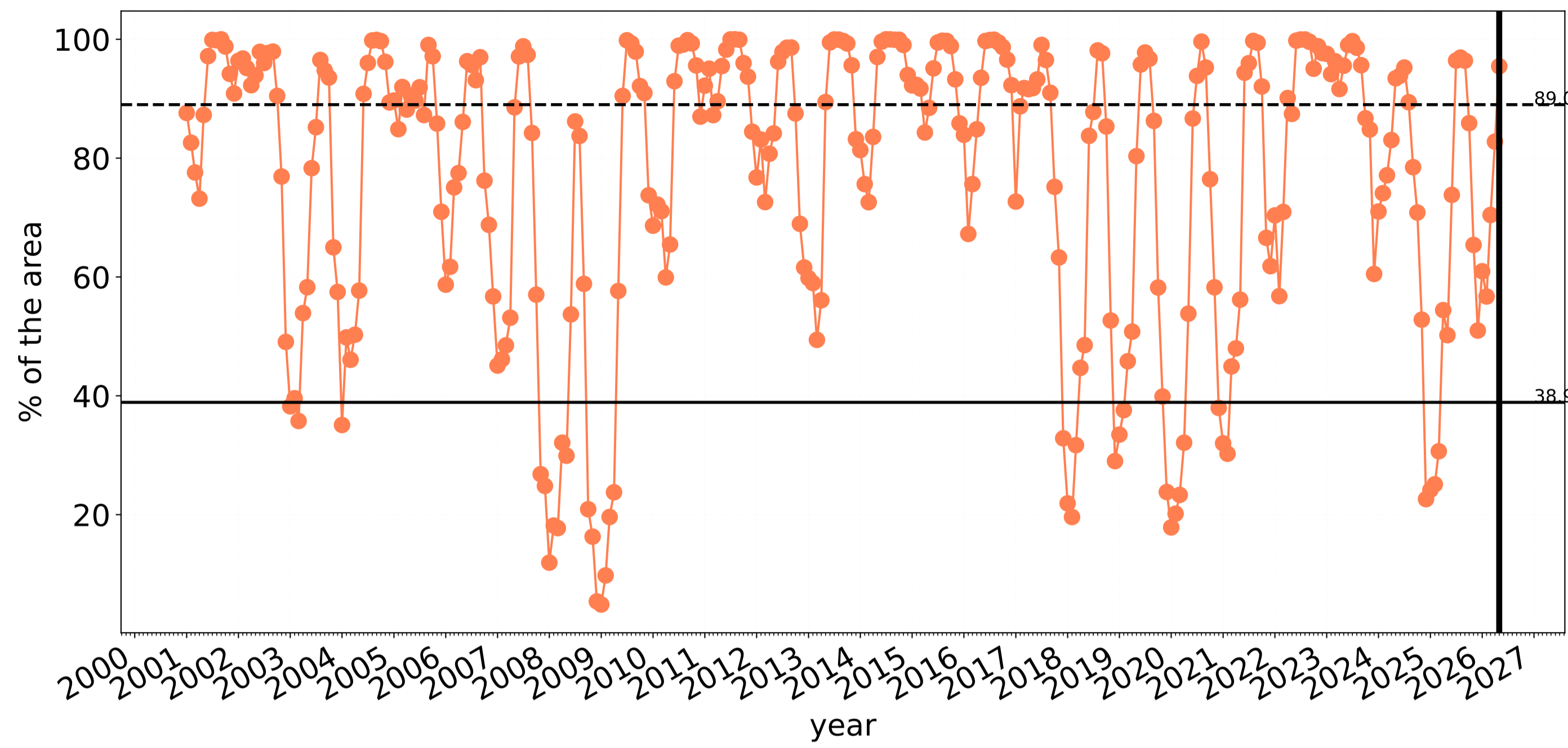
Deciles show where the pixel value lies in the record, from highest to lowest, for that month. That is, red pixels are in the lowest 10% of records for that month of the map using baseline from 2001 to 2019.

Total Vegetation Cover Decile [%]

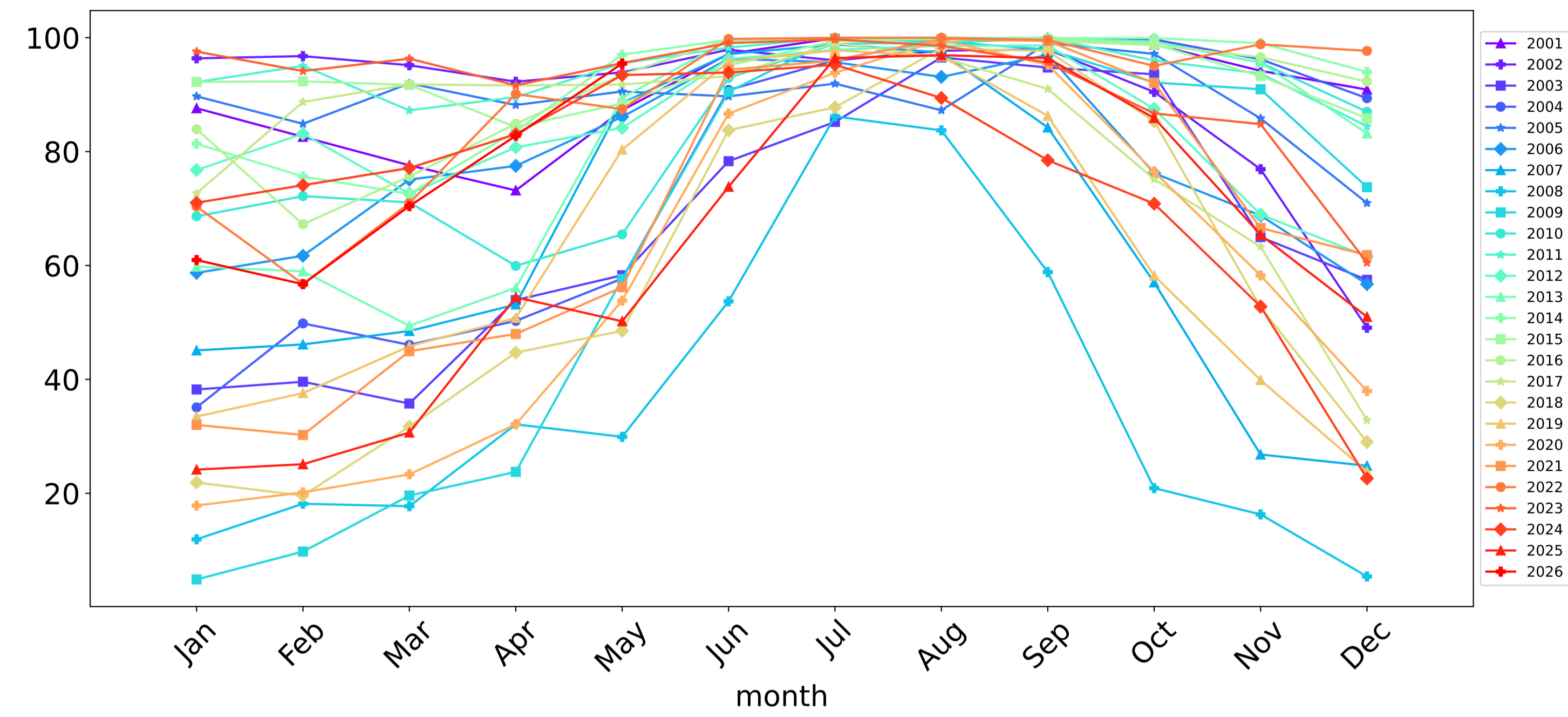


Agriculture timeseries

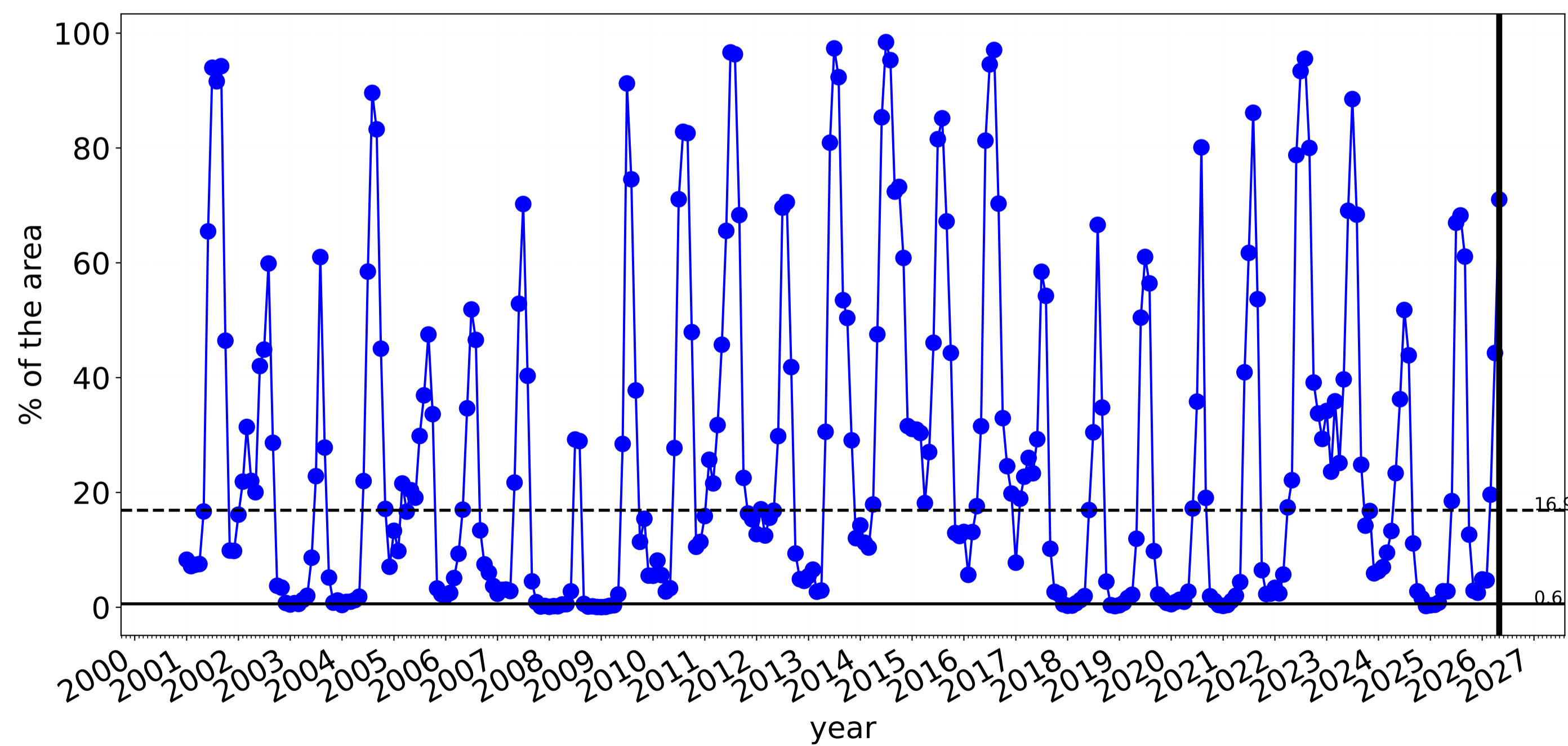
Proportion of the area protected from wind erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 50%)



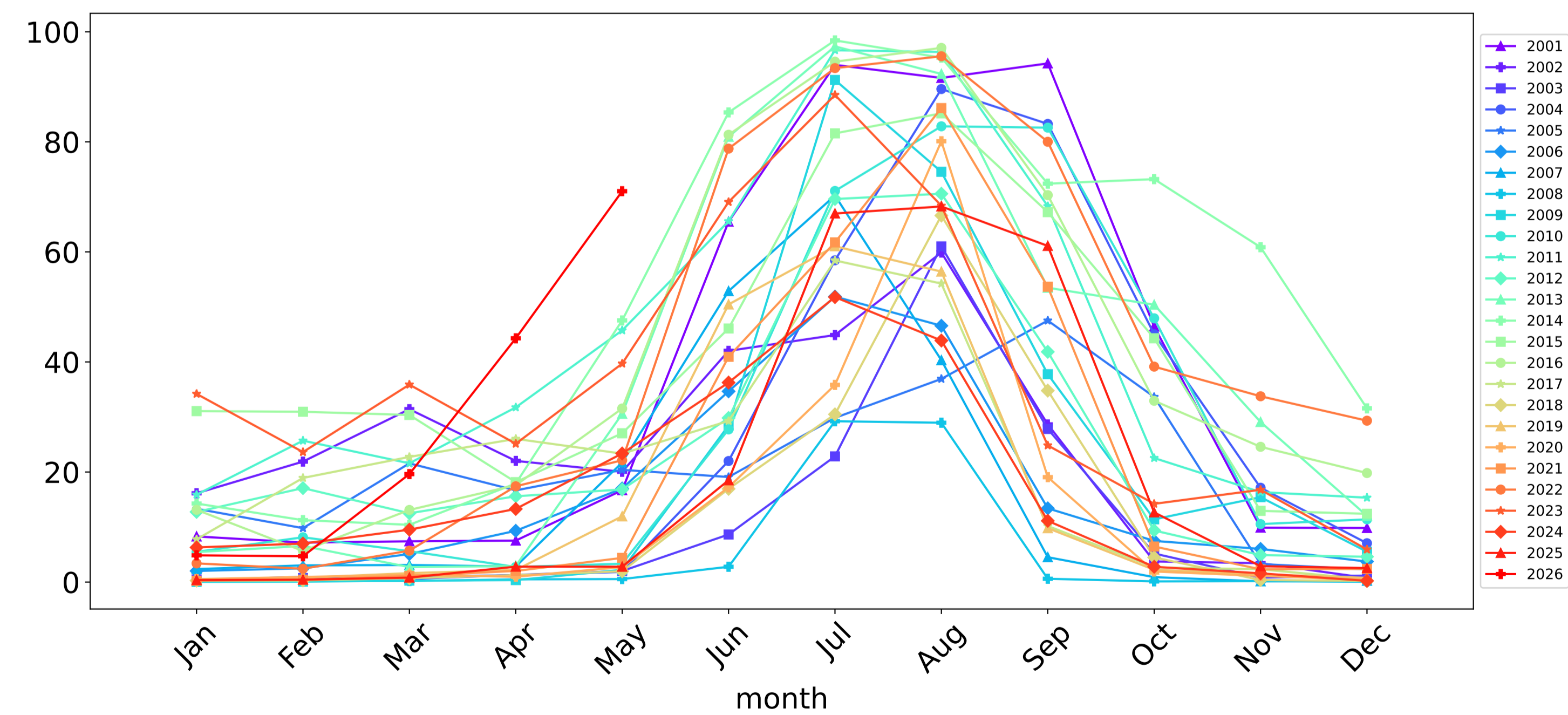
Wind erosion historical monthly area protected (Total Veg Cov >50%)



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



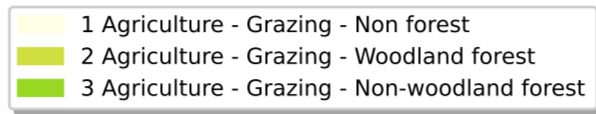
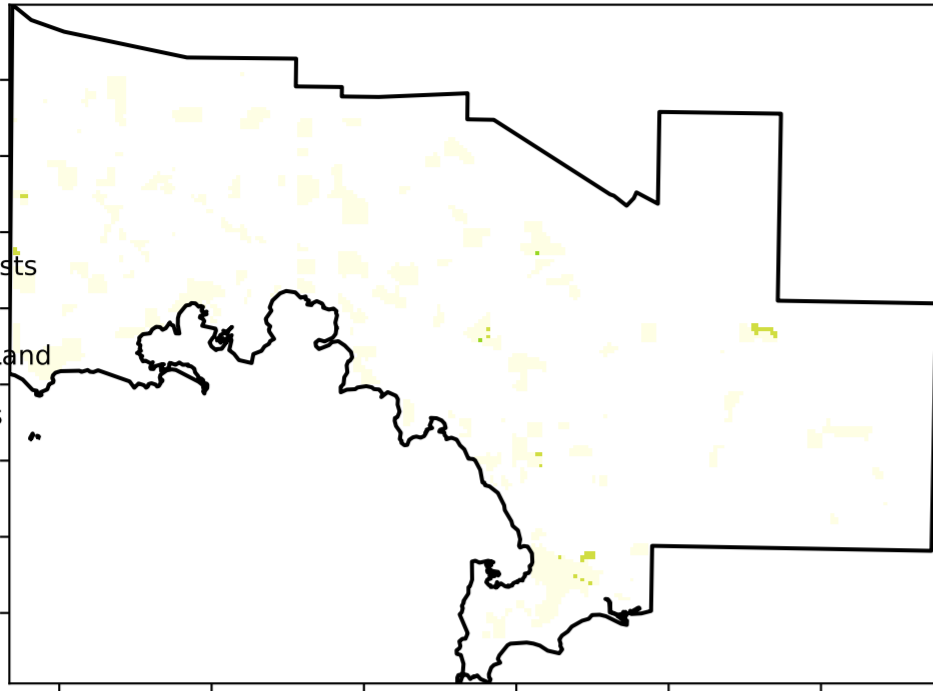
Water erosion historical monthly area protected (Total Veg Cov >70%)



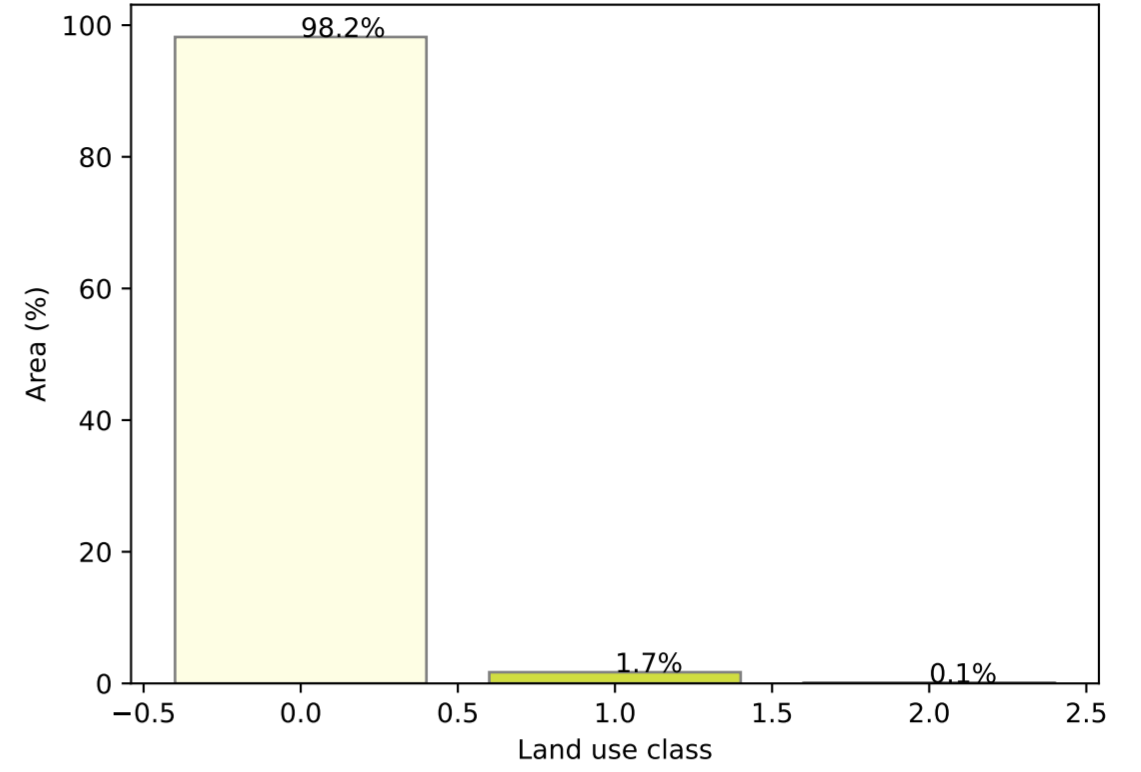
Grazing

Land use and forest cover

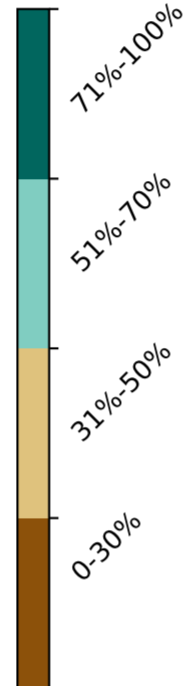
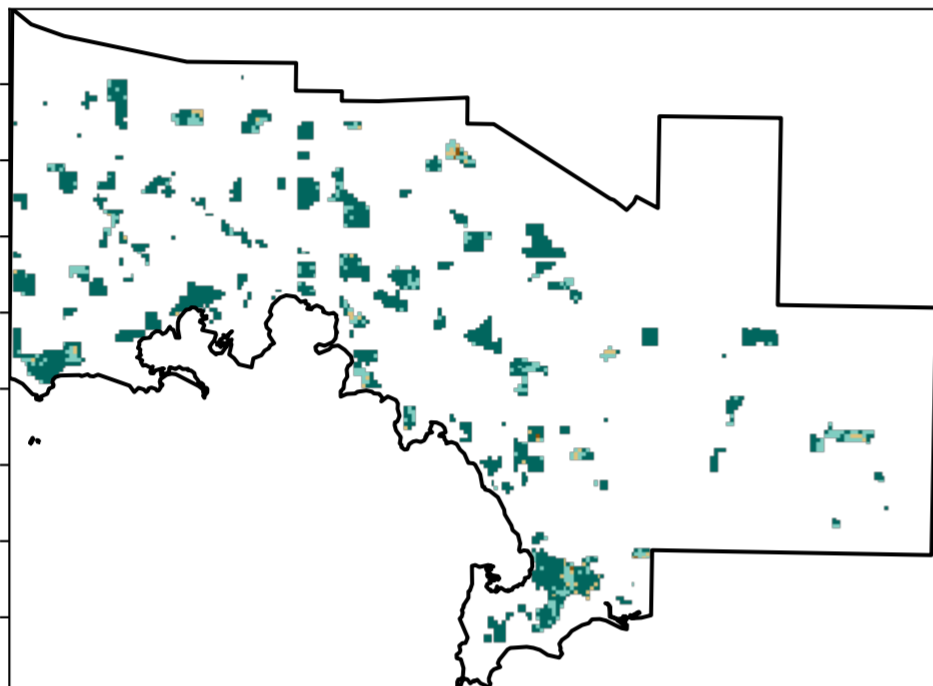
Catchment Scale Land Use and Forests of Australia (2018). Derived from Catchment Scale Land Use of Australia (2018) and Forests of Australia (2018).



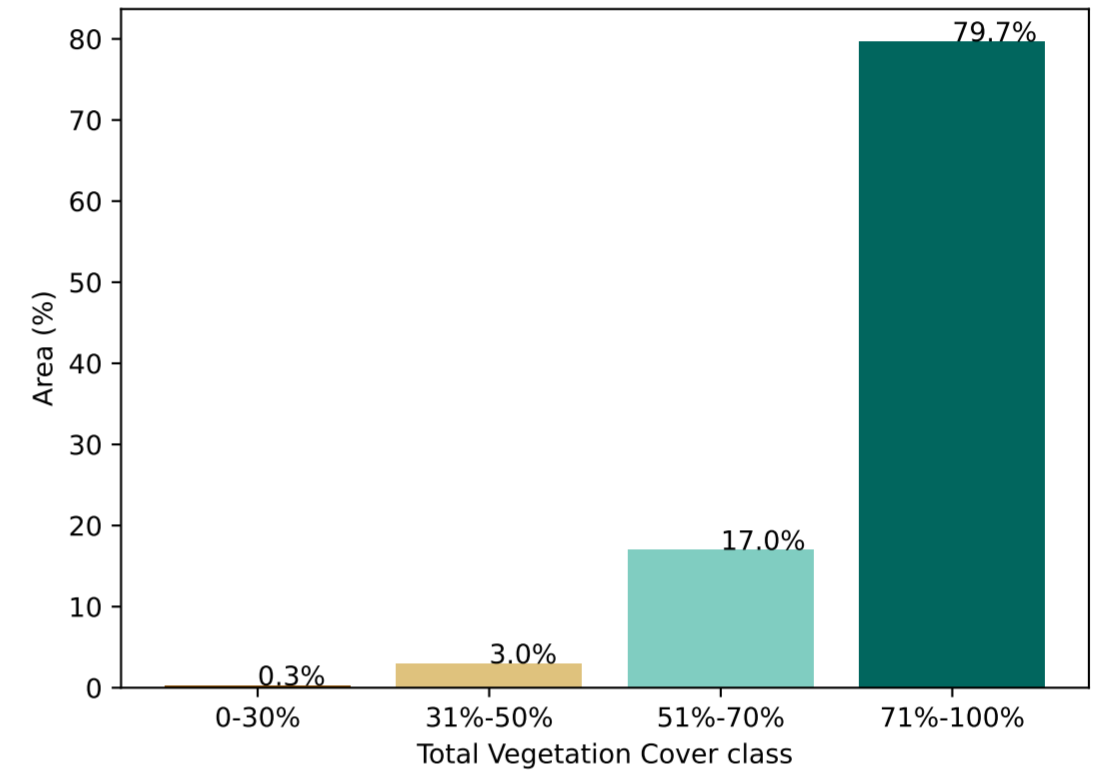
Proportion of each land class in area



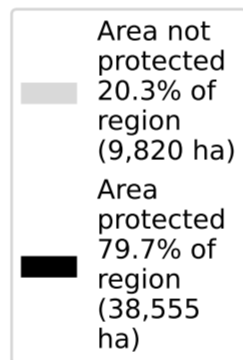
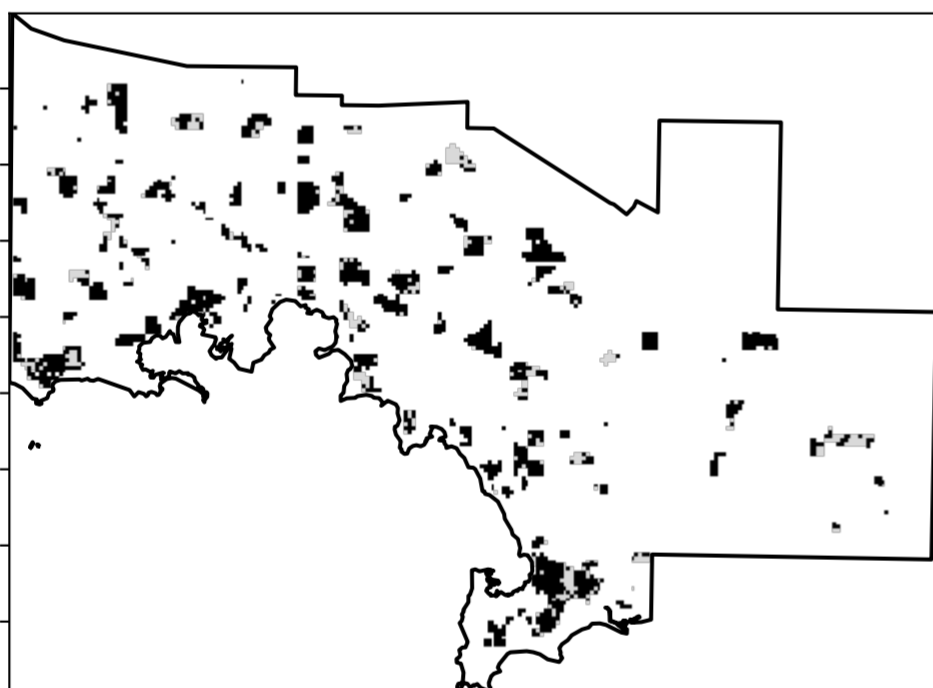
Total Vegetation Cover [%]



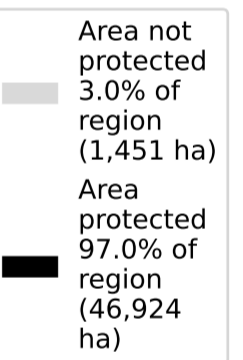
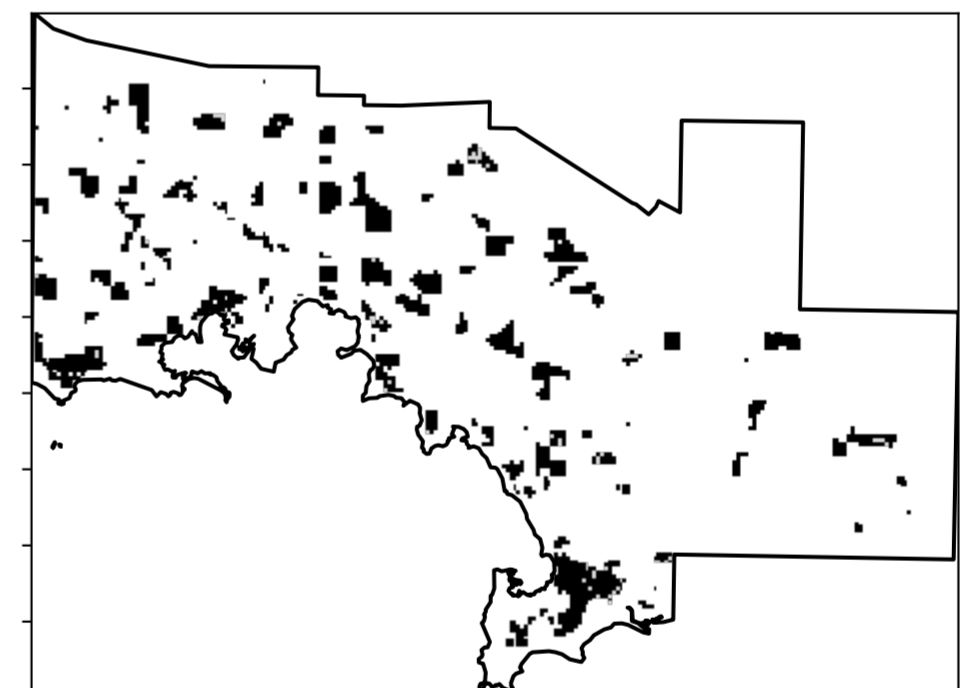
Proportion of vegetation cover class in area



% Area protected from water erosion (>70%)

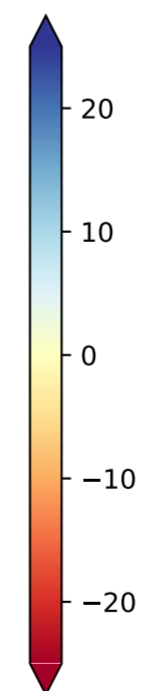
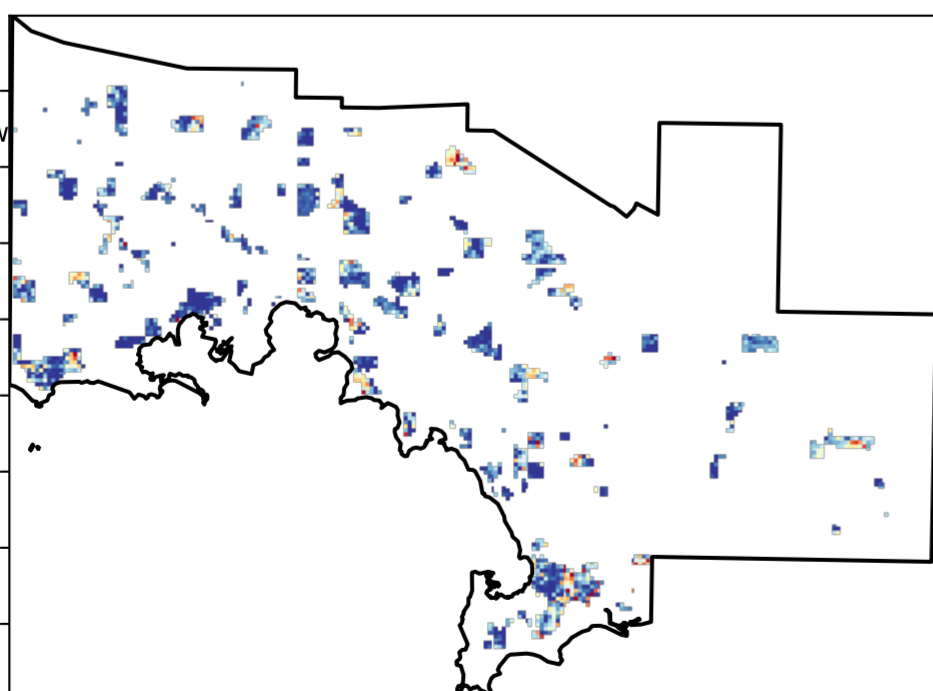


% Area protected from wind erosion (>50%)



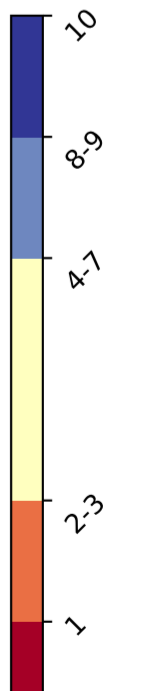
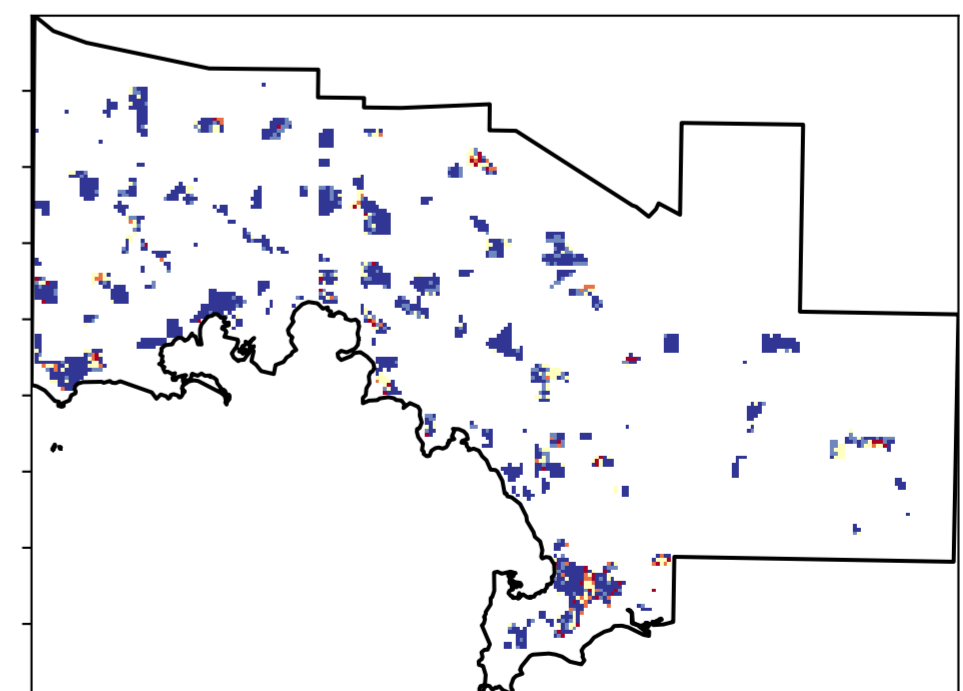
Total Vegetation Cover Anomaly [%]

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.



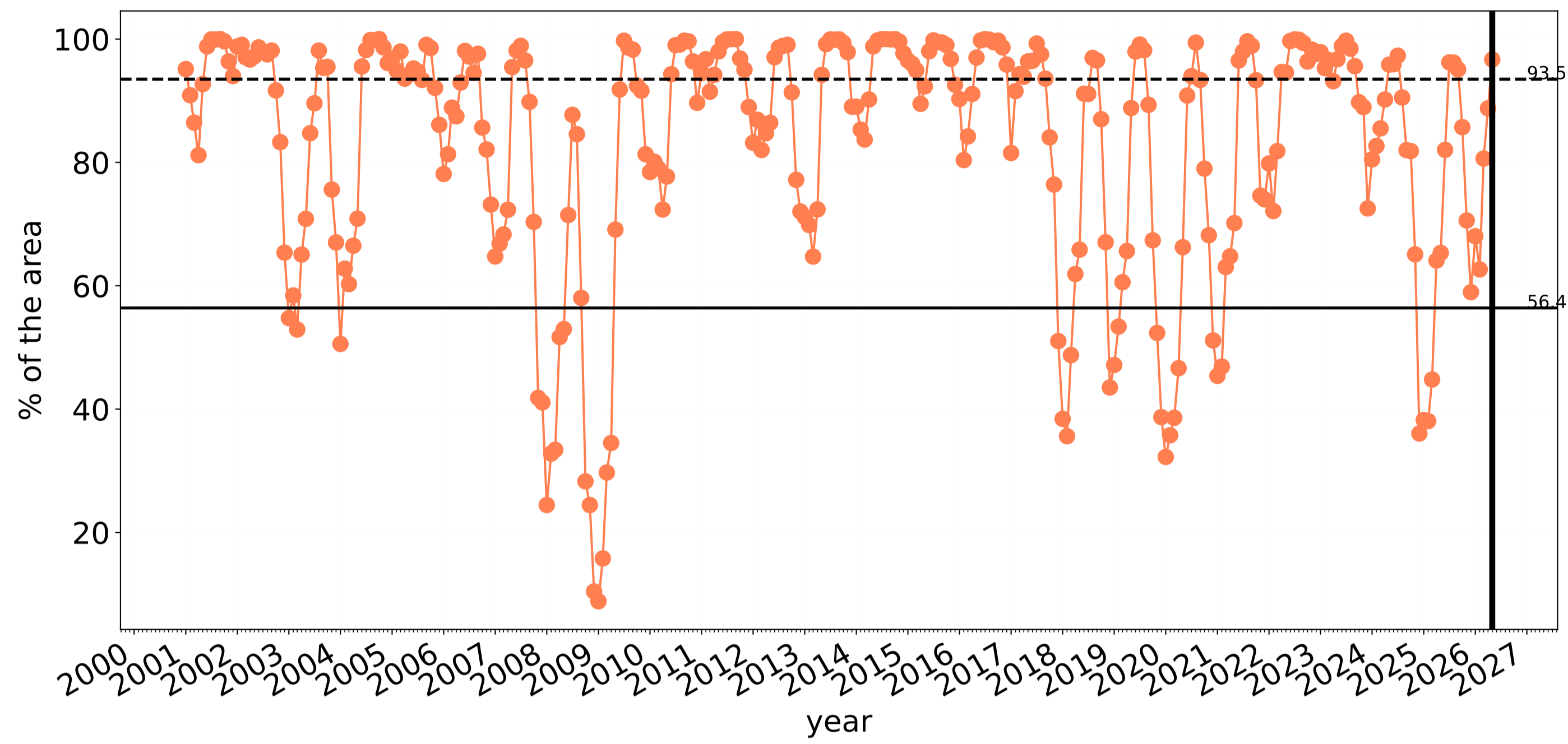
Deciles show where the pixel value lies in the record, from highest to lowest, for that month. That is, red pixels are in the lowest 10% of records for that month of the map using baseline from 2001 to 2019.

Total Vegetation Cover Decile [%]

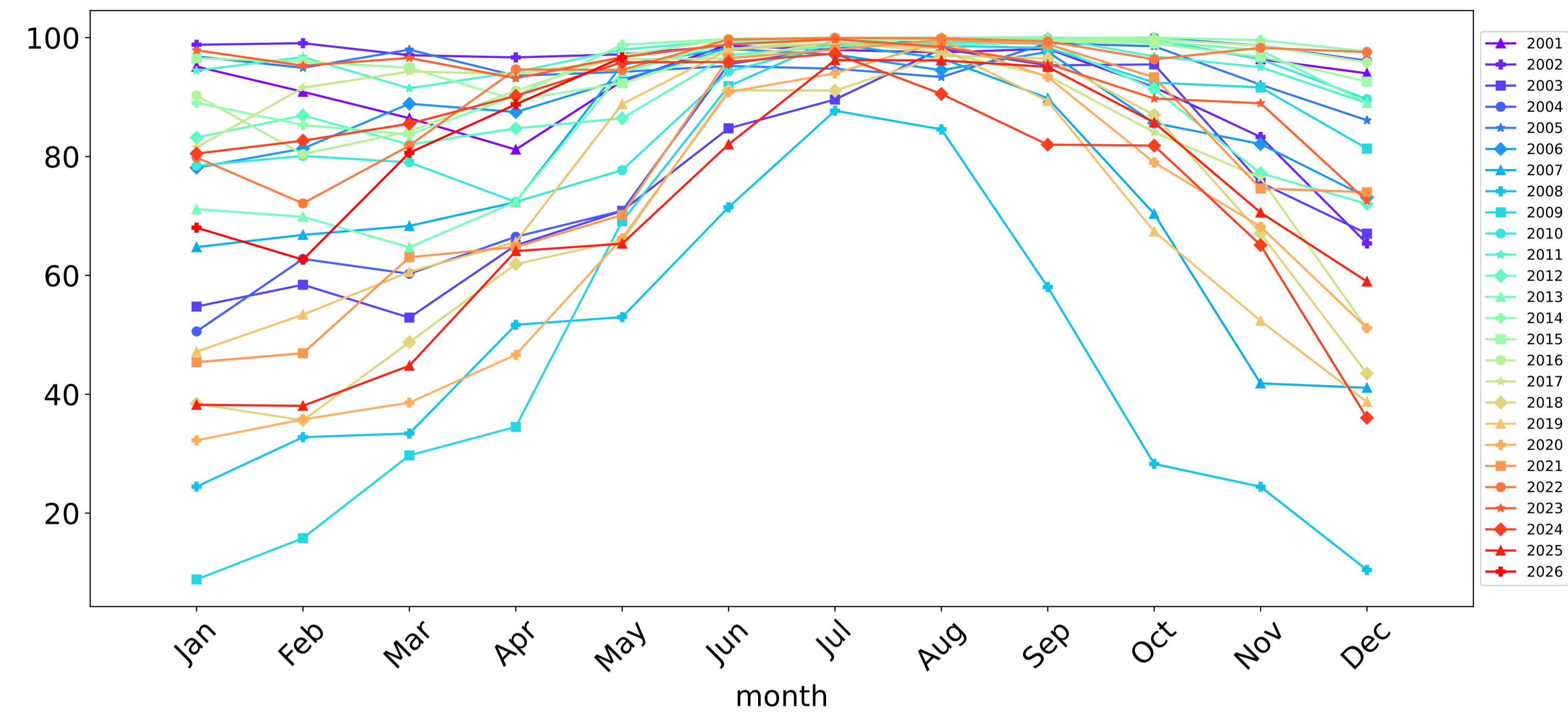


Grazing timeseries

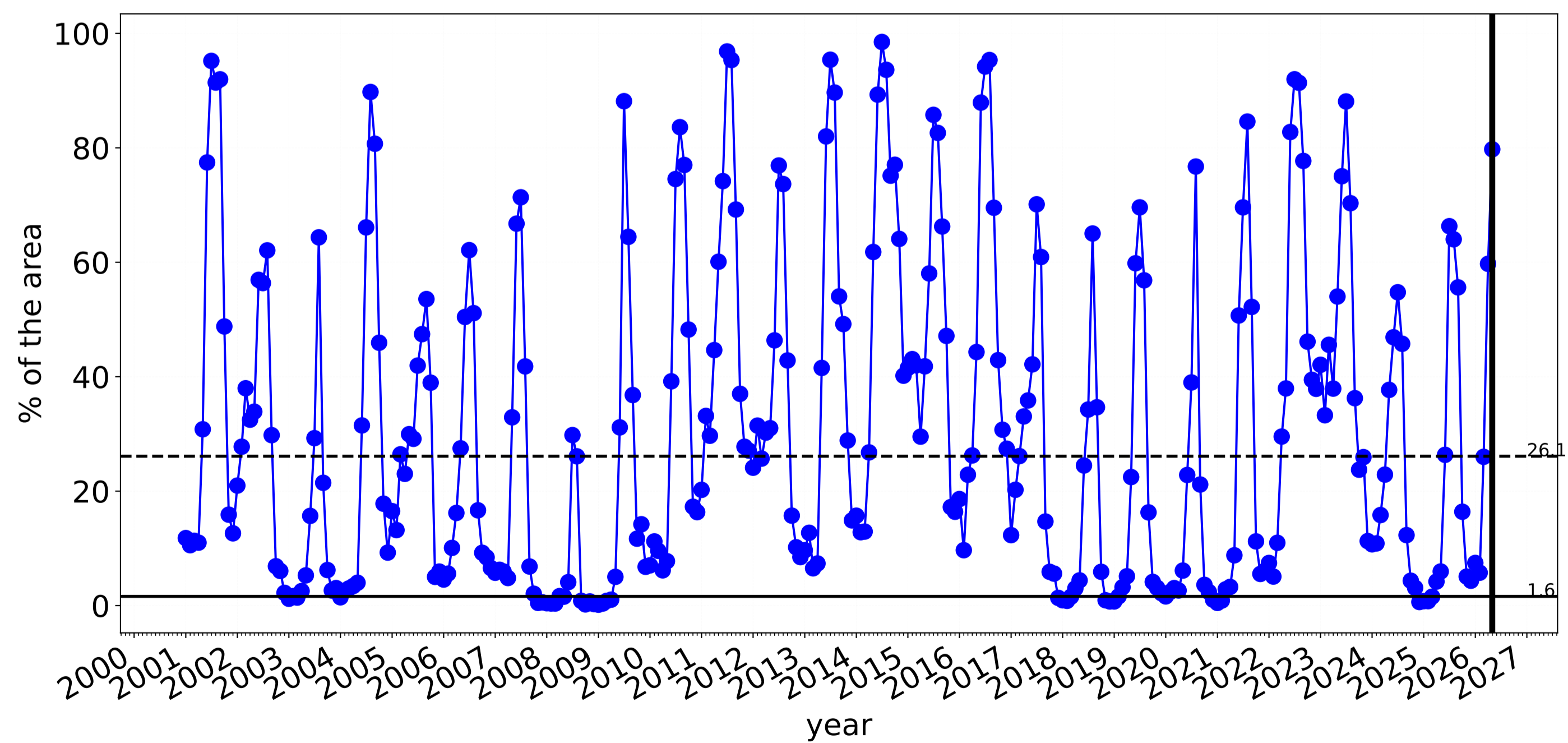
Proportion of the area protected from wind erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 50%)



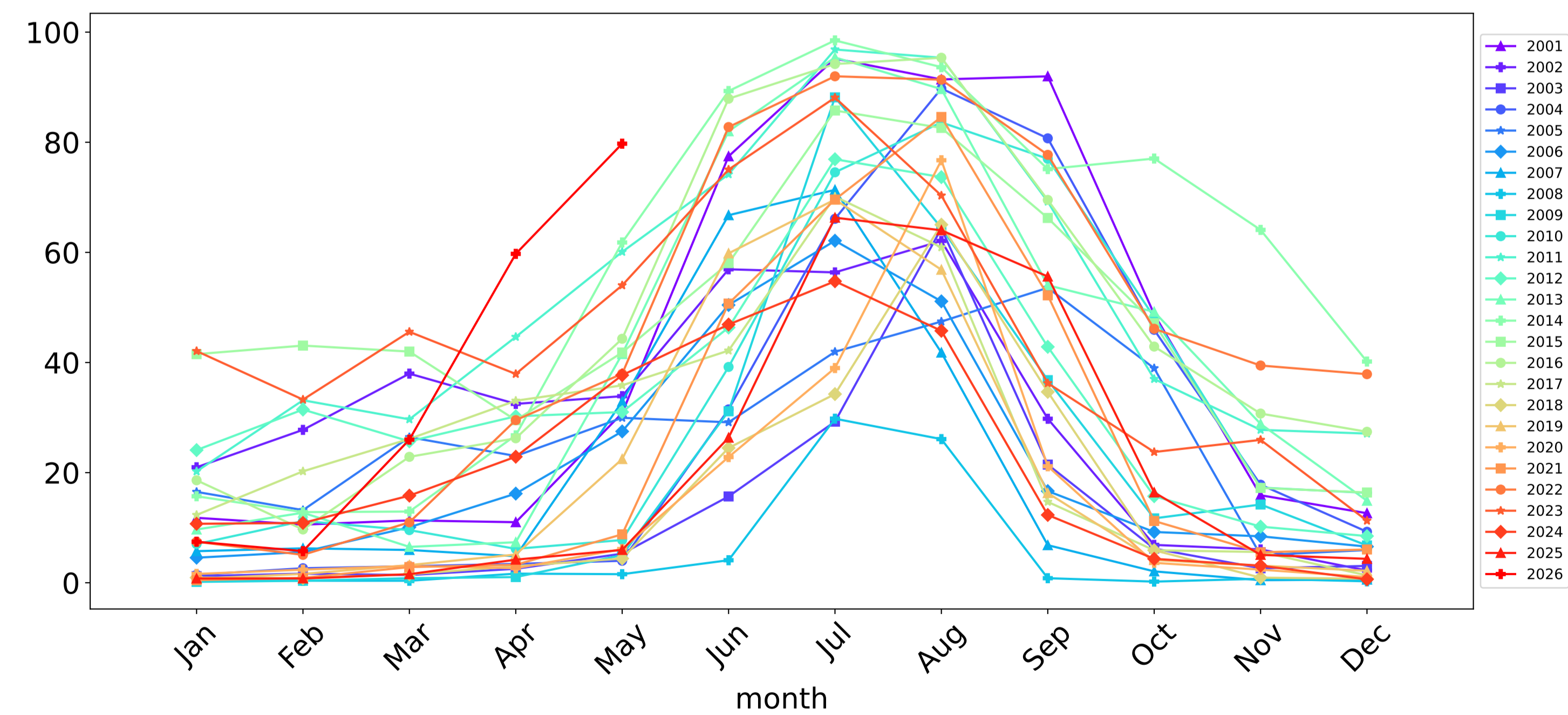
Wind erosion historical monthly area protected (Total Veg Cov >50%)



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



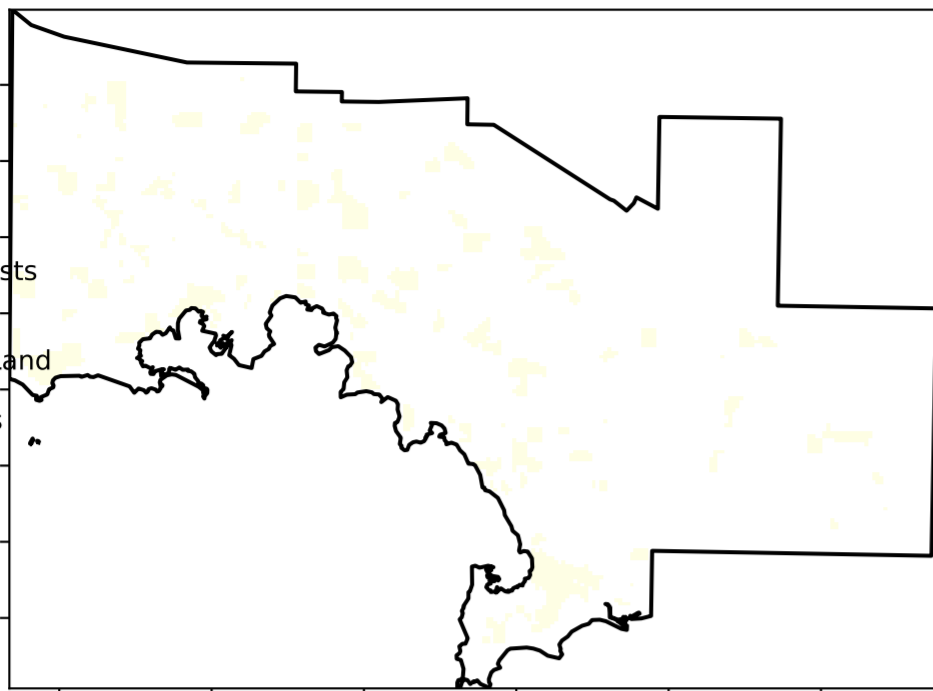
Water erosion historical monthly area protected (Total Veg Cov >70%)



Grazing non forest

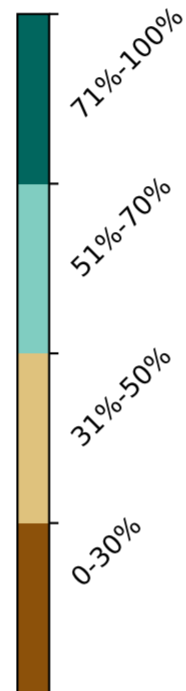
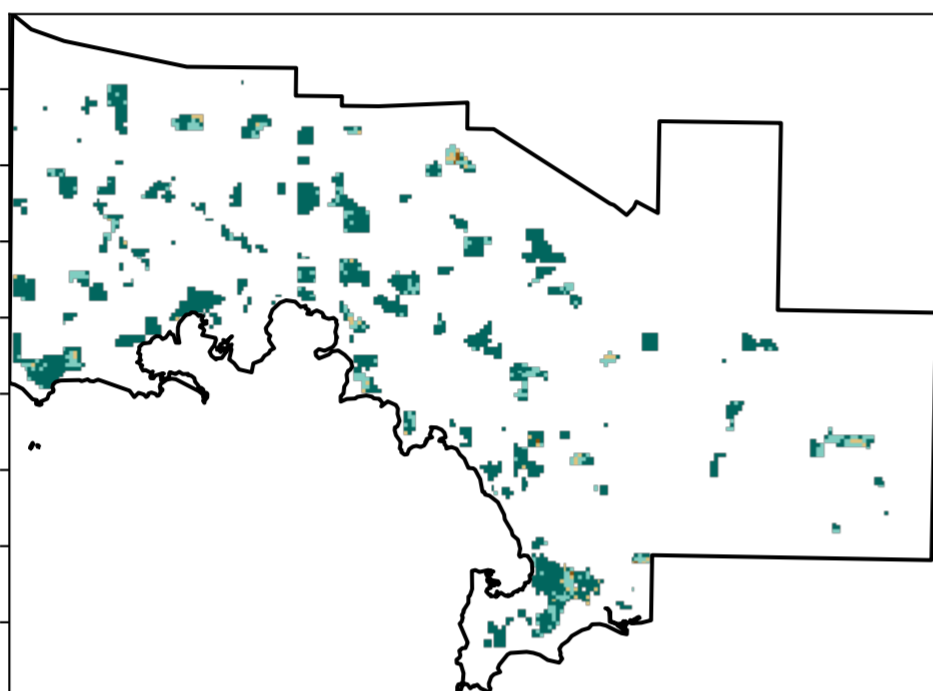
Land use and forest cover

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

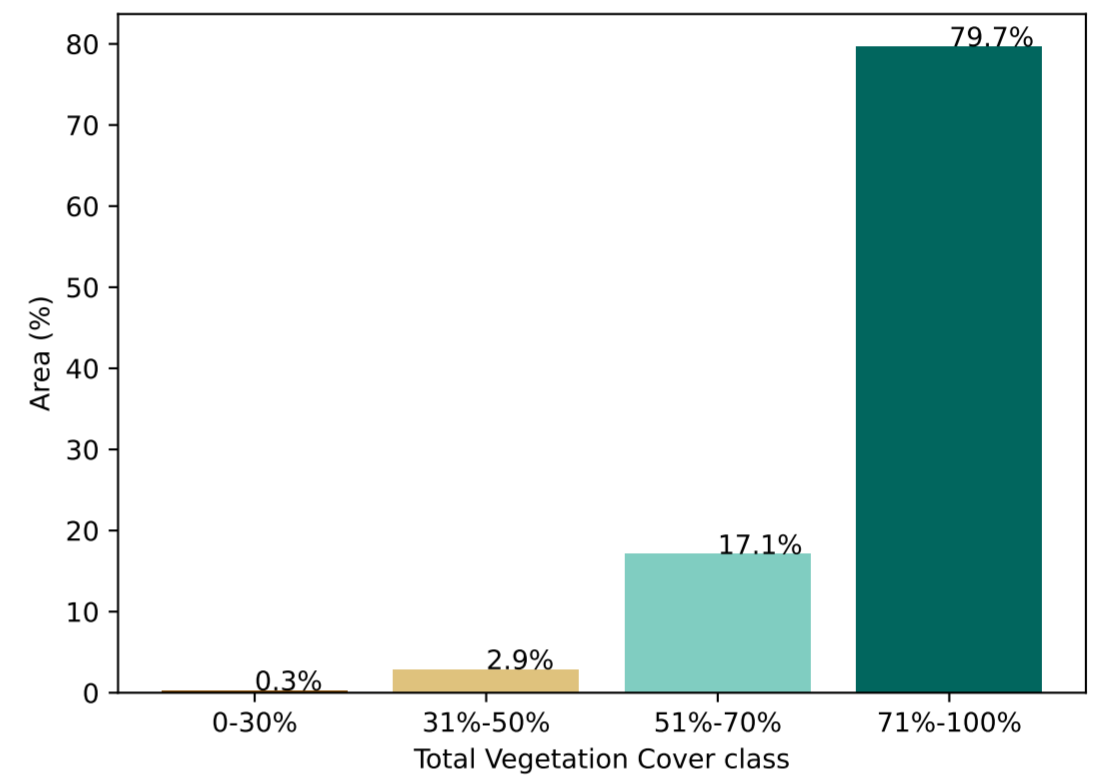


1 Agriculture - Grazing - Non forest

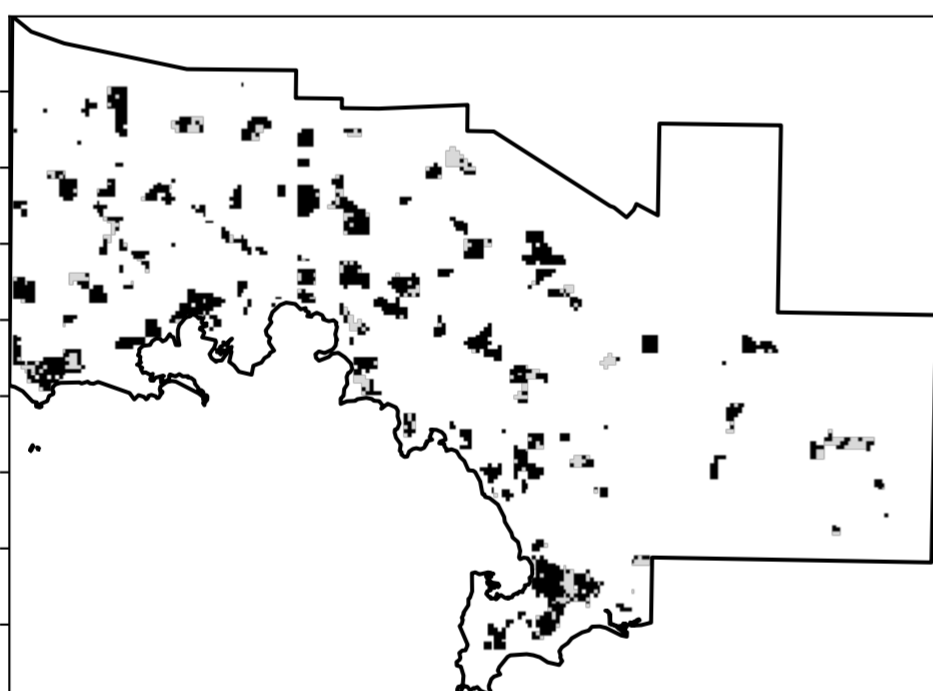
Total Vegetation Cover [%]



Proportion of vegetation cover class in area

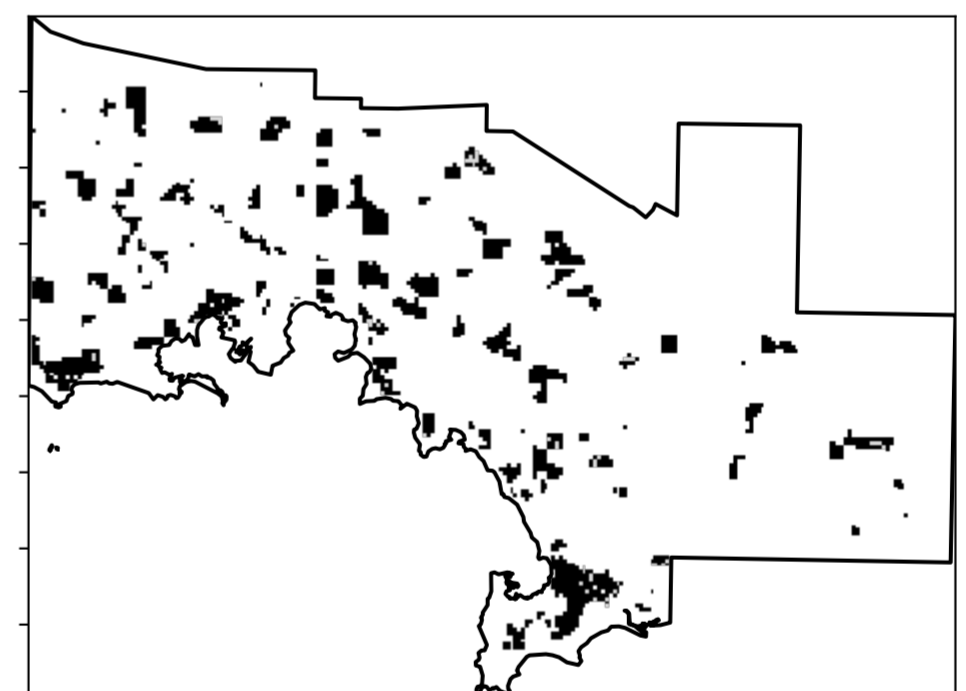


% Area protected from water erosion (>70%)



Area not protected
20.3% of region
(9,637 ha)
Area protected
79.7% of region
(37,838 ha)

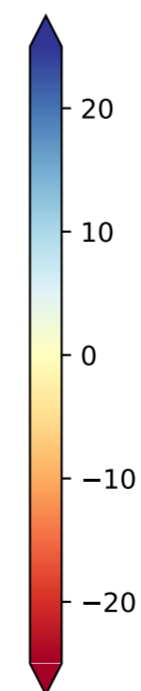
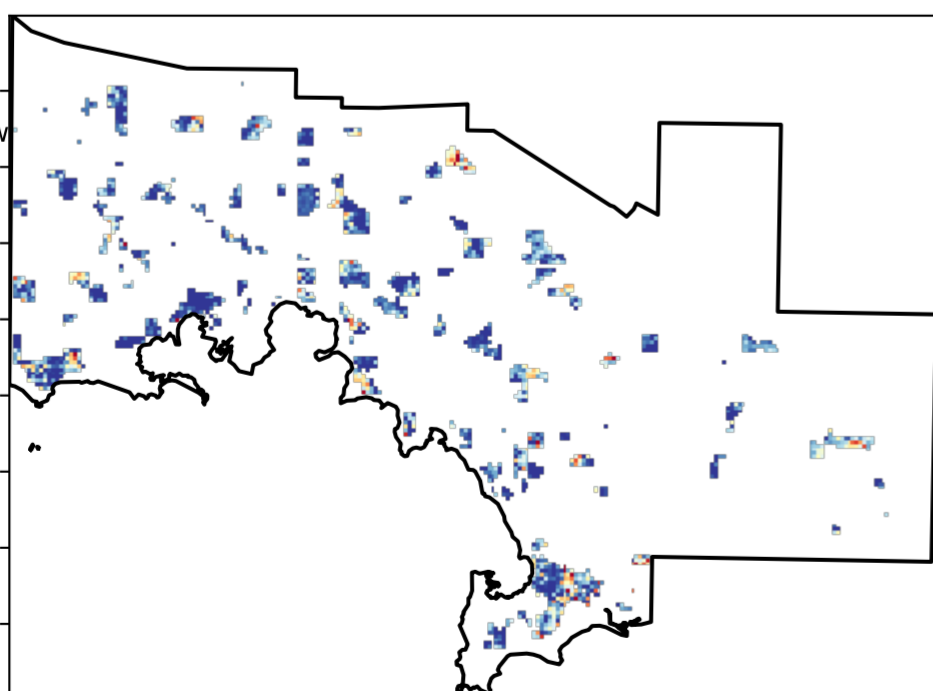
% Area protected from wind erosion (>50%)



Area not protected
3.0% of region
(1,424 ha)
Area protected
97.0% of region
(46,051 ha)

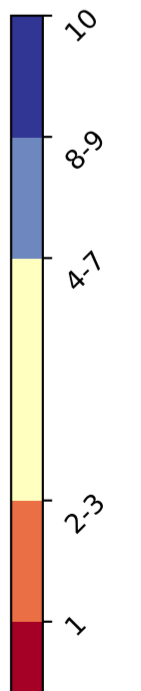
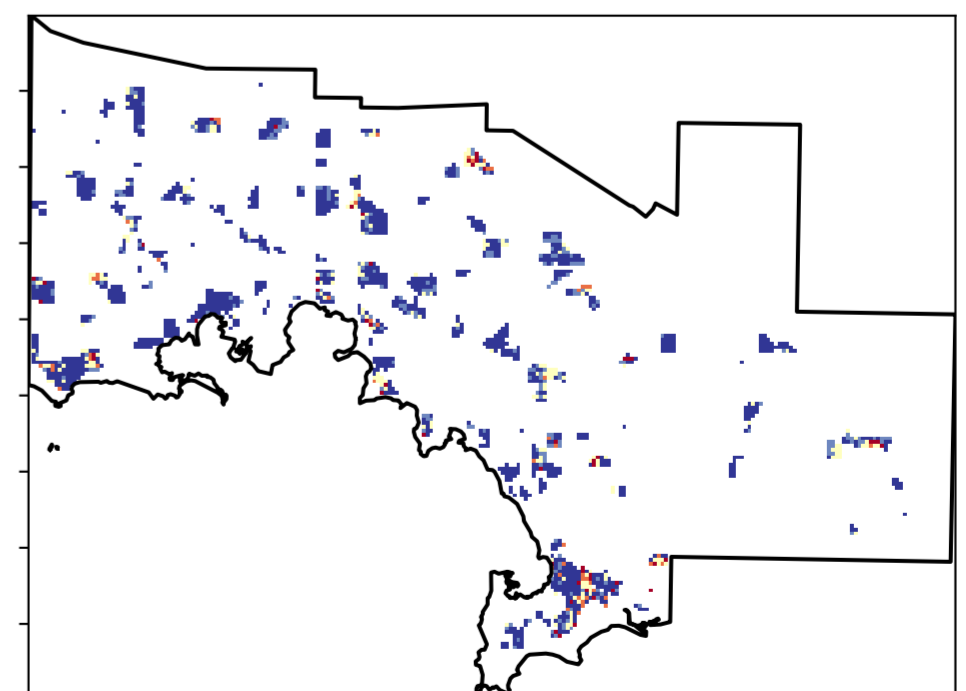
Total Vegetation Cover Anomaly [%]

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.



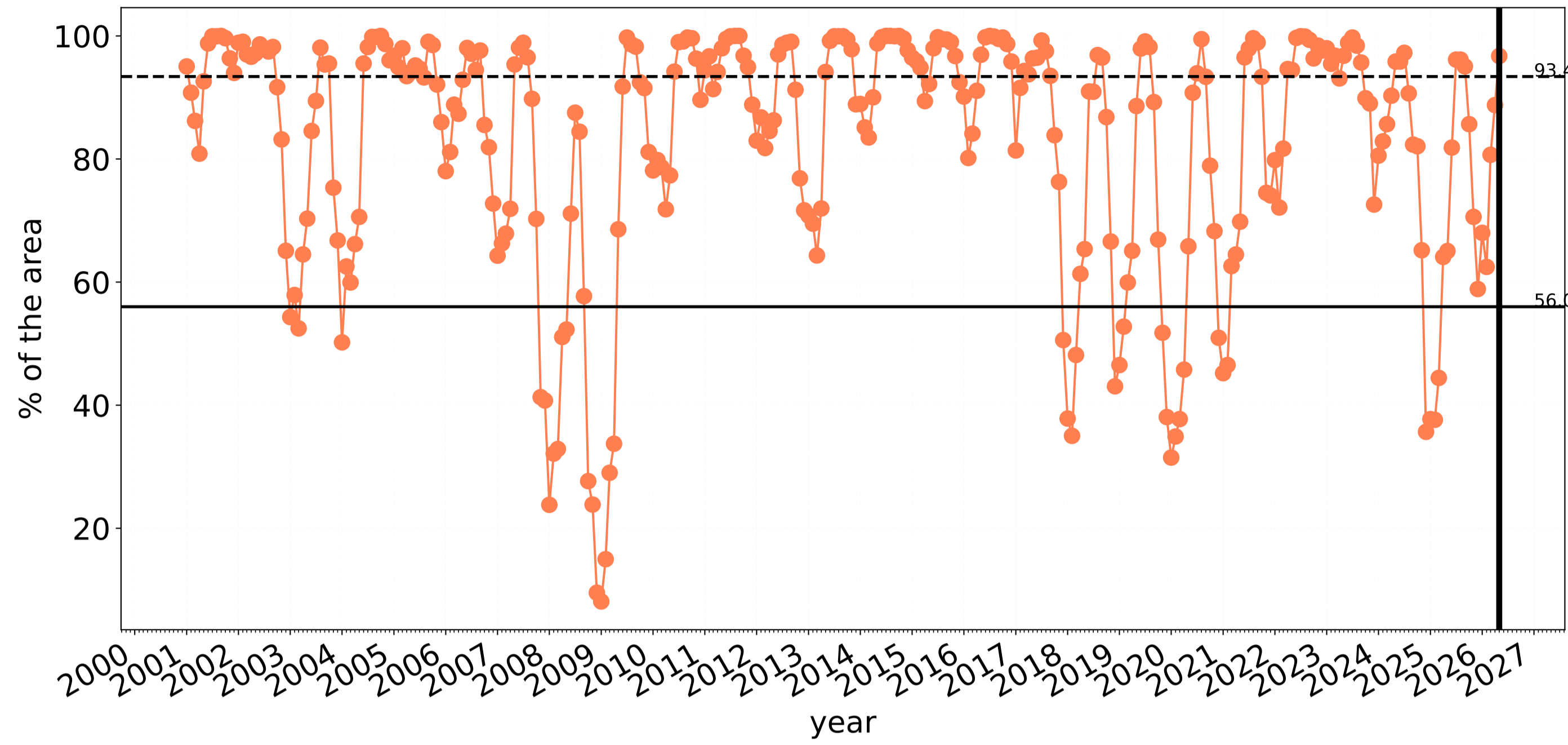
Deciles show where the pixel value lies in the record, from highest to lowest, for that month. That is, red pixels are in the lowest 10% of records for that month of the map using baseline from 2001 to 2019.

Total Vegetation Cover Decile [%]

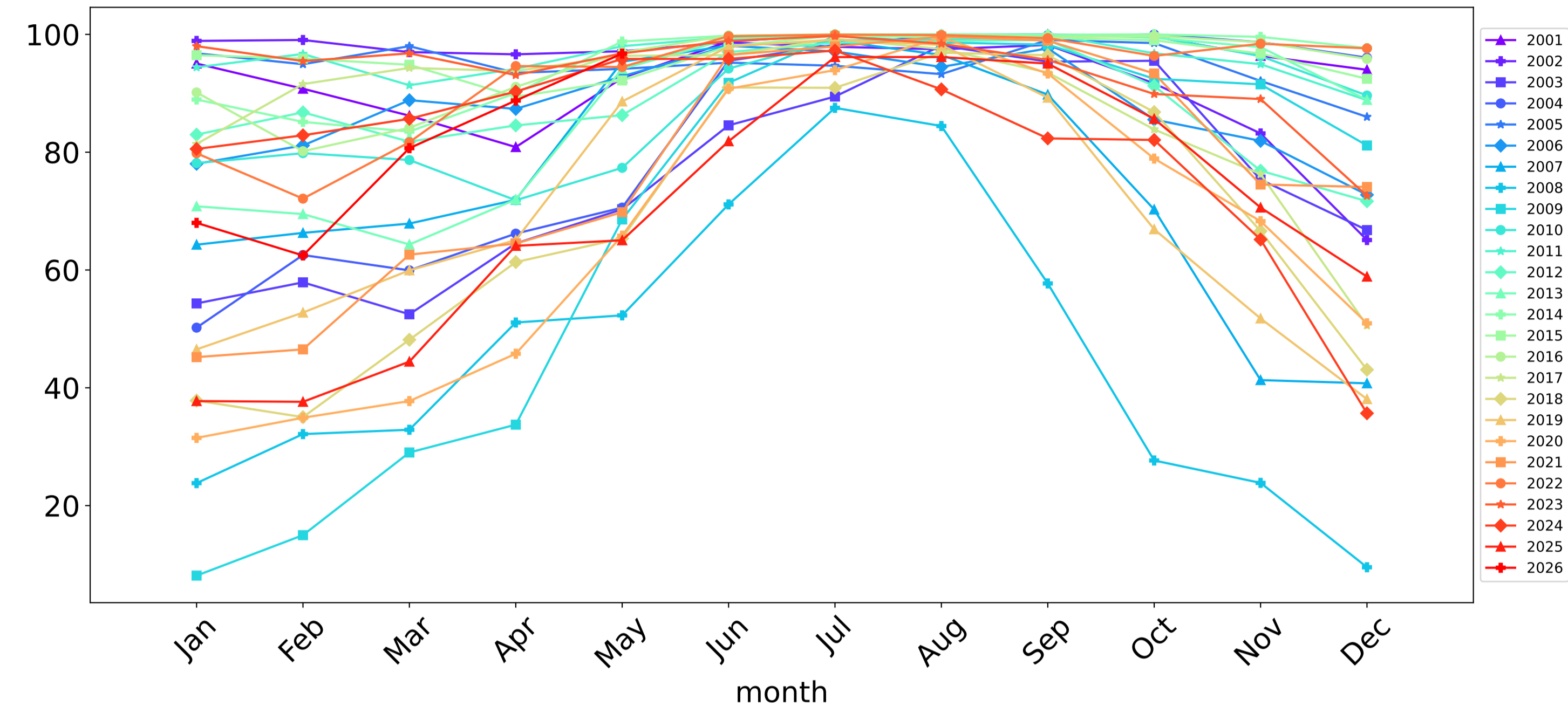


Grazing non forest timeseries

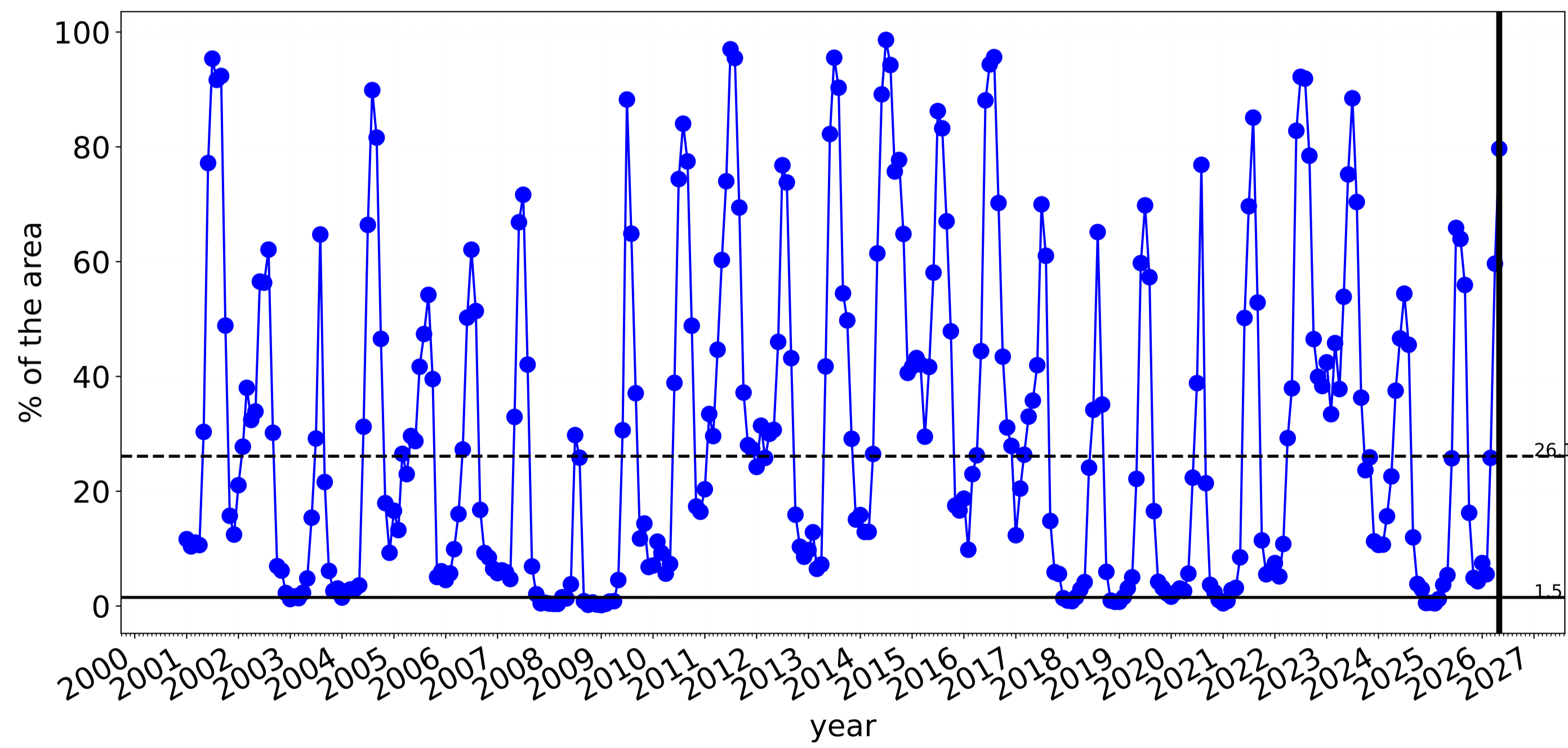
Proportion of the area protected from wind erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 50%)



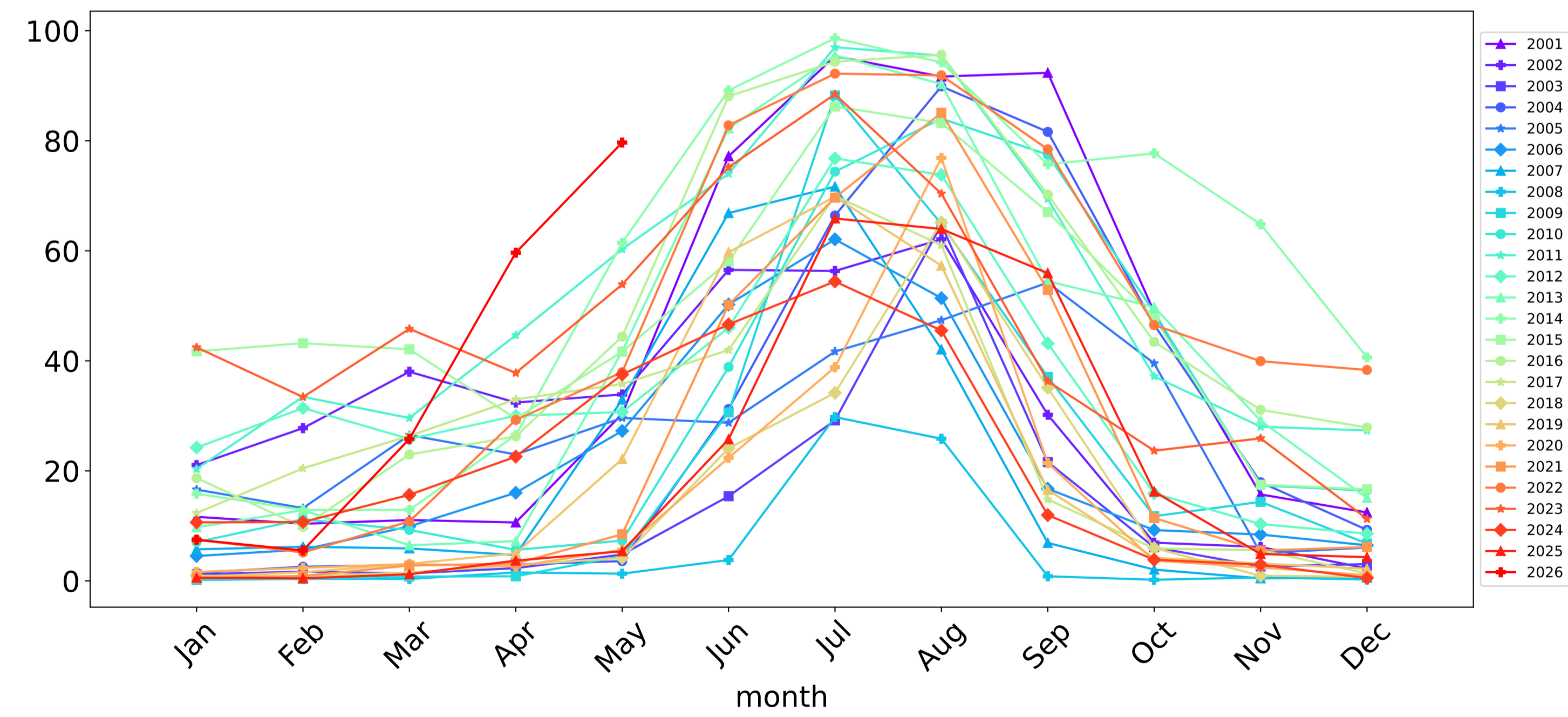
Wind erosion historical monthly area protected (Total Veg Cov >50%)



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



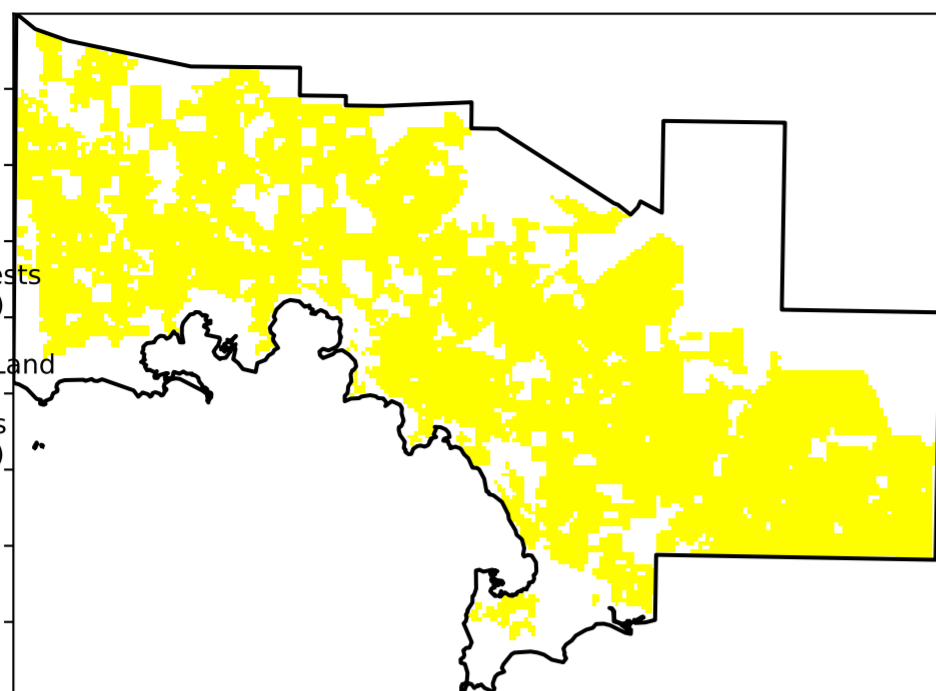
Water erosion historical monthly area protected (Total Veg Cov >70%)



Cropping

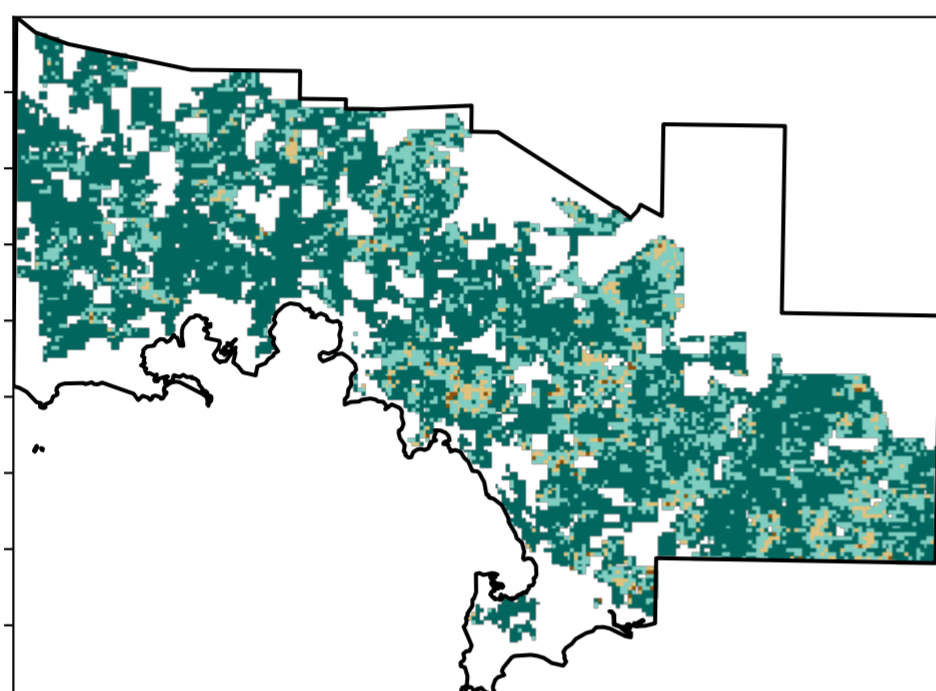
Land use and forest cover

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

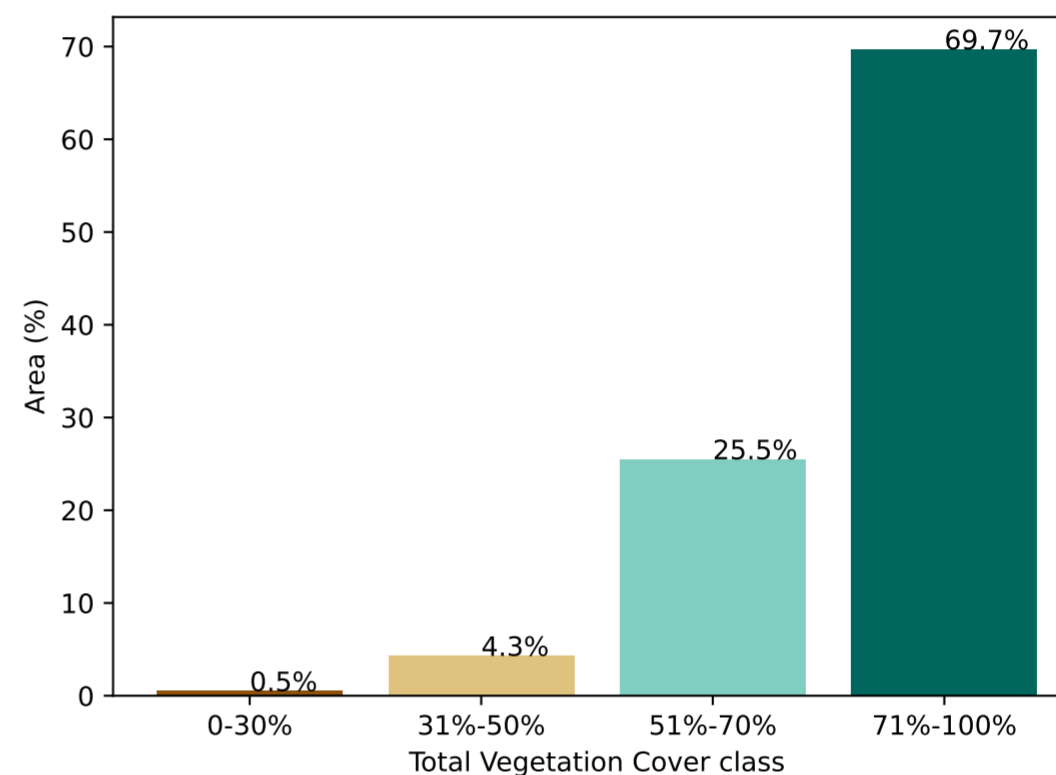


1 Agriculture - Cropping - Non-irrigated

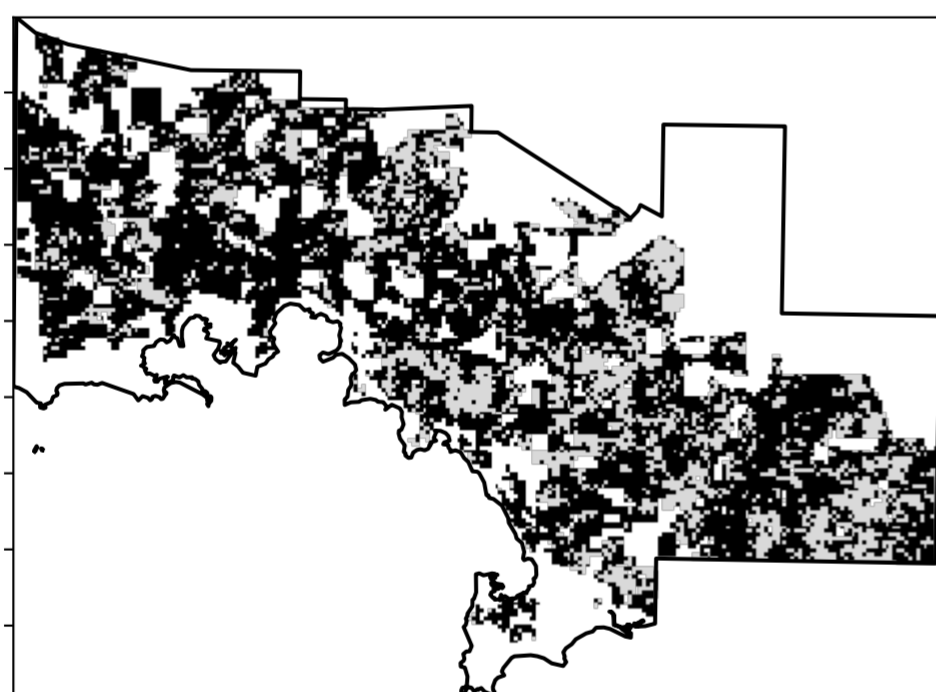
Total Vegetation Cover [%]



Proportion of vegetation cover class in area

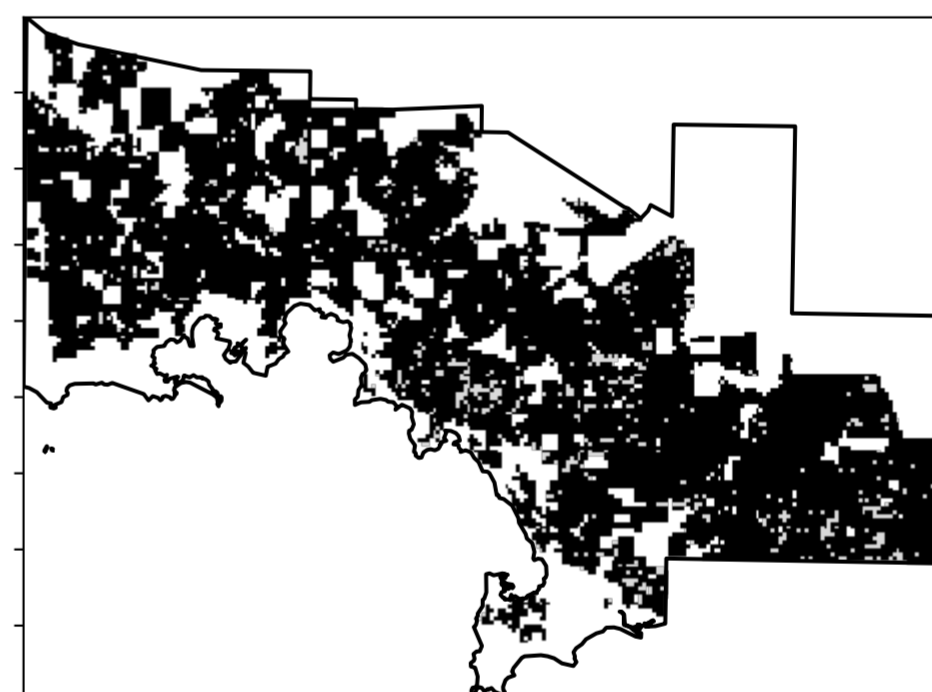


% Area protected from water erosion (>70%)



Area not protected 30.3% of region (98,770 ha)
Area protected 69.7% of region (227,205 ha)

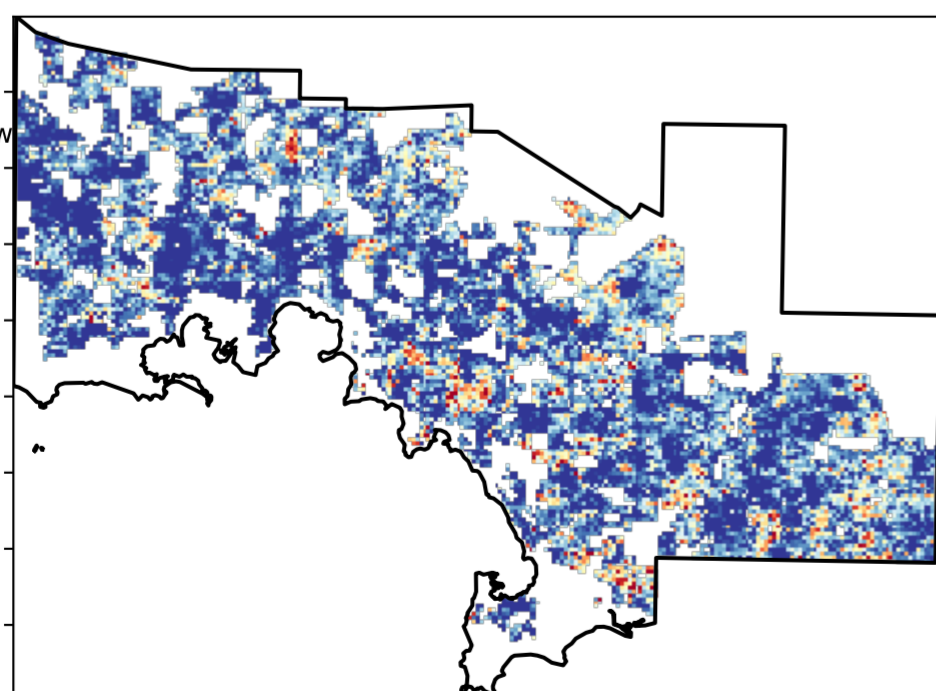
% Area protected from wind erosion (>50%)



Area not protected 5.0% of region (16,299 ha)
Area protected 95.0% of region (309,676 ha)

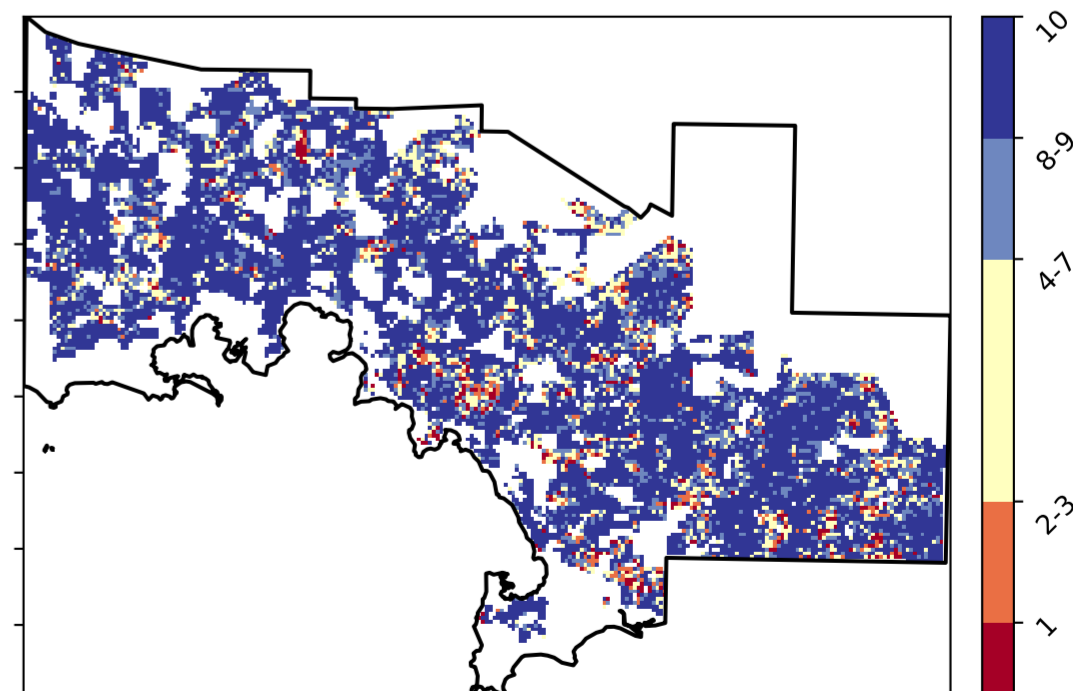
Total Vegetation Cover Anomaly [%]

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.



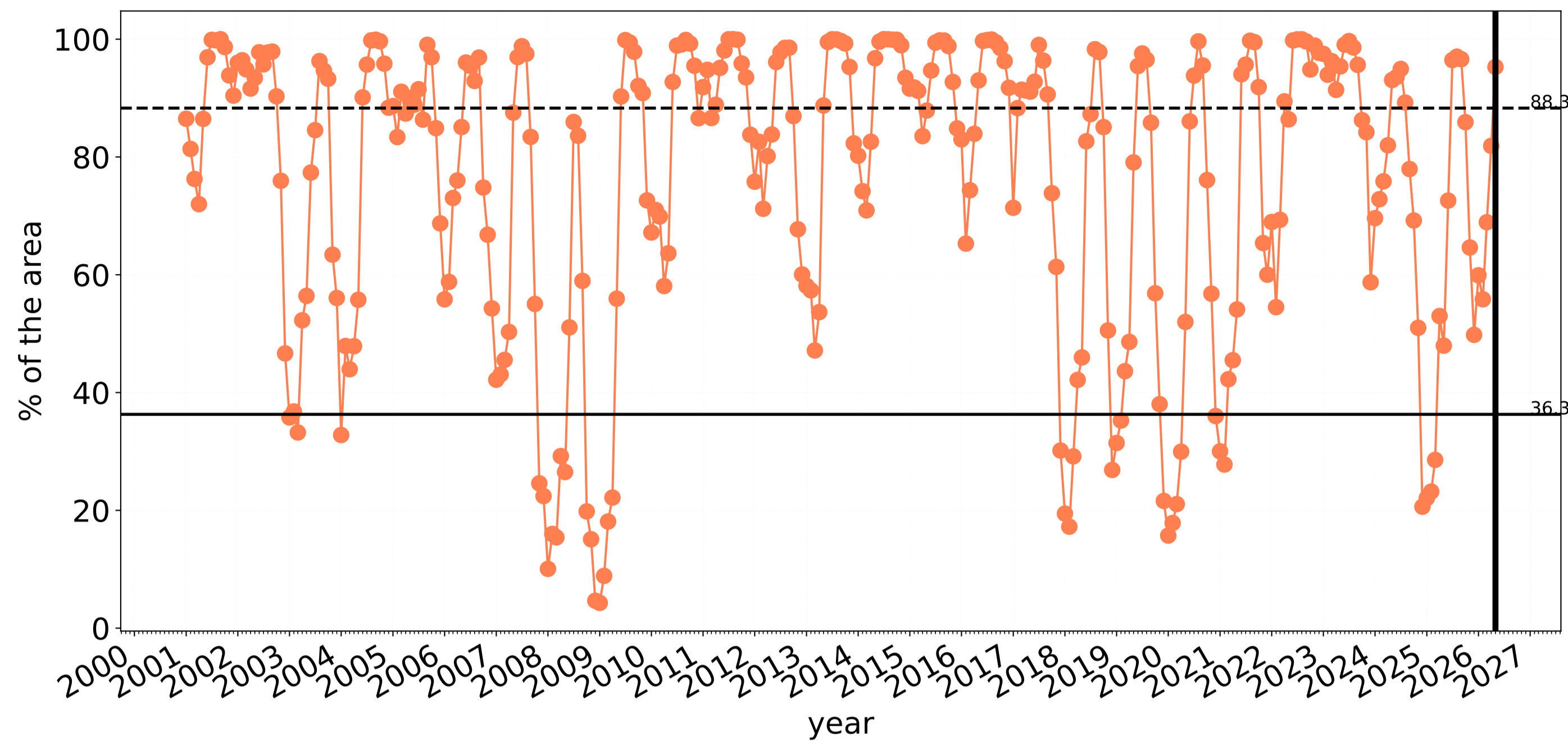
Deciles show where the pixel value lies in the record, from highest to lowest, for that month. That is, red pixels are in the lowest 10% of records for that month of the map using baseline from 2001 to 2019.

Total Vegetation Cover Decile [%]

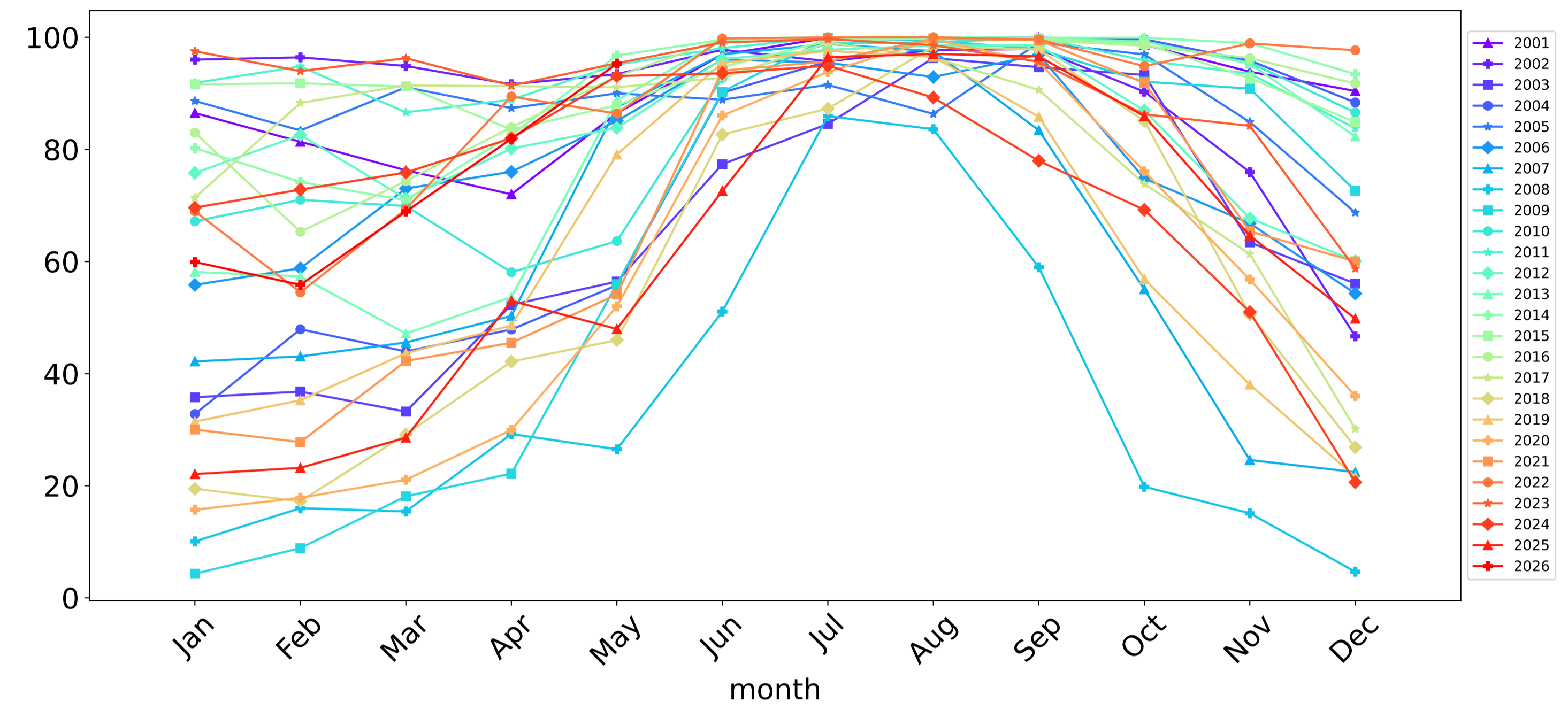


Cropping timeseries

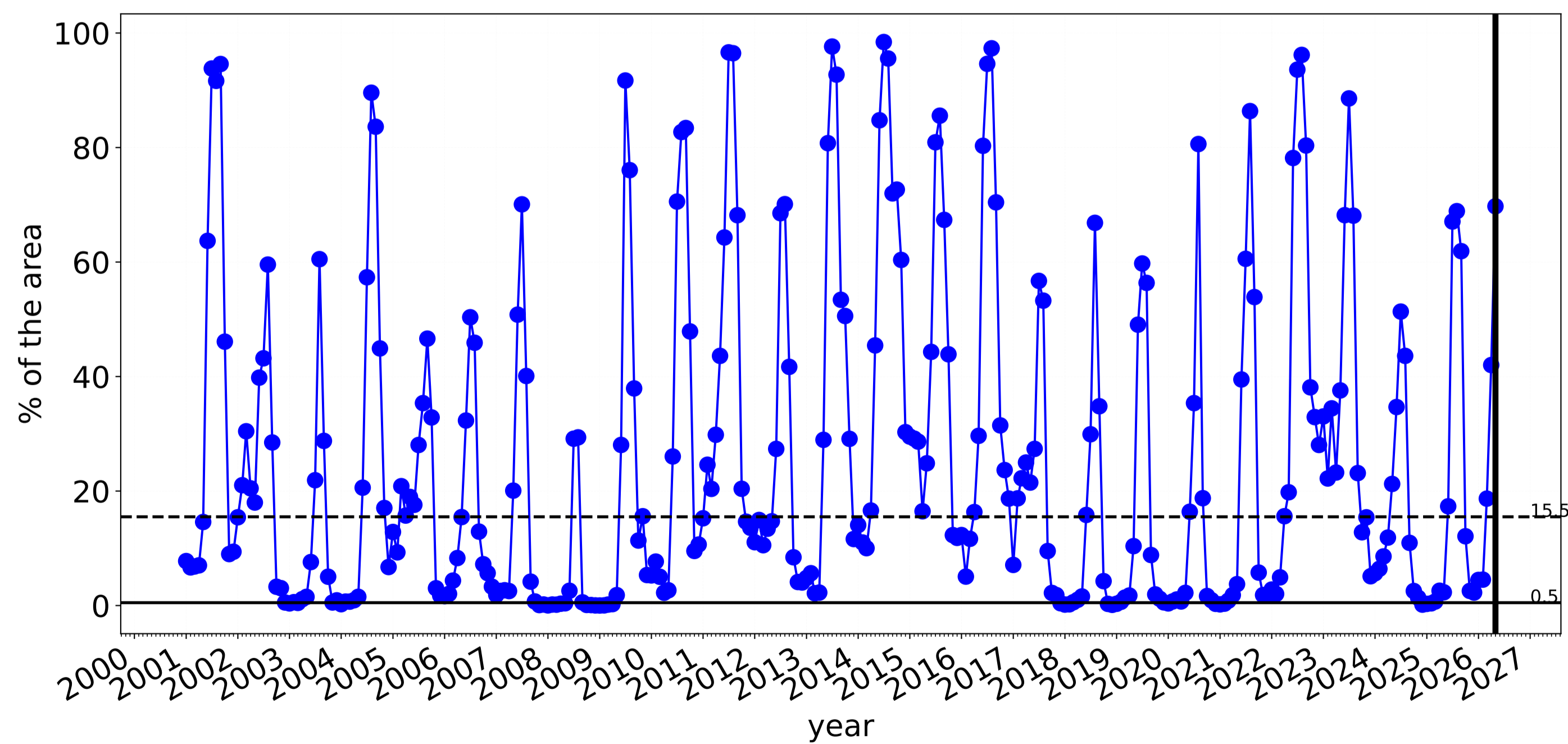
Proportion of the area protected from wind erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 50%)



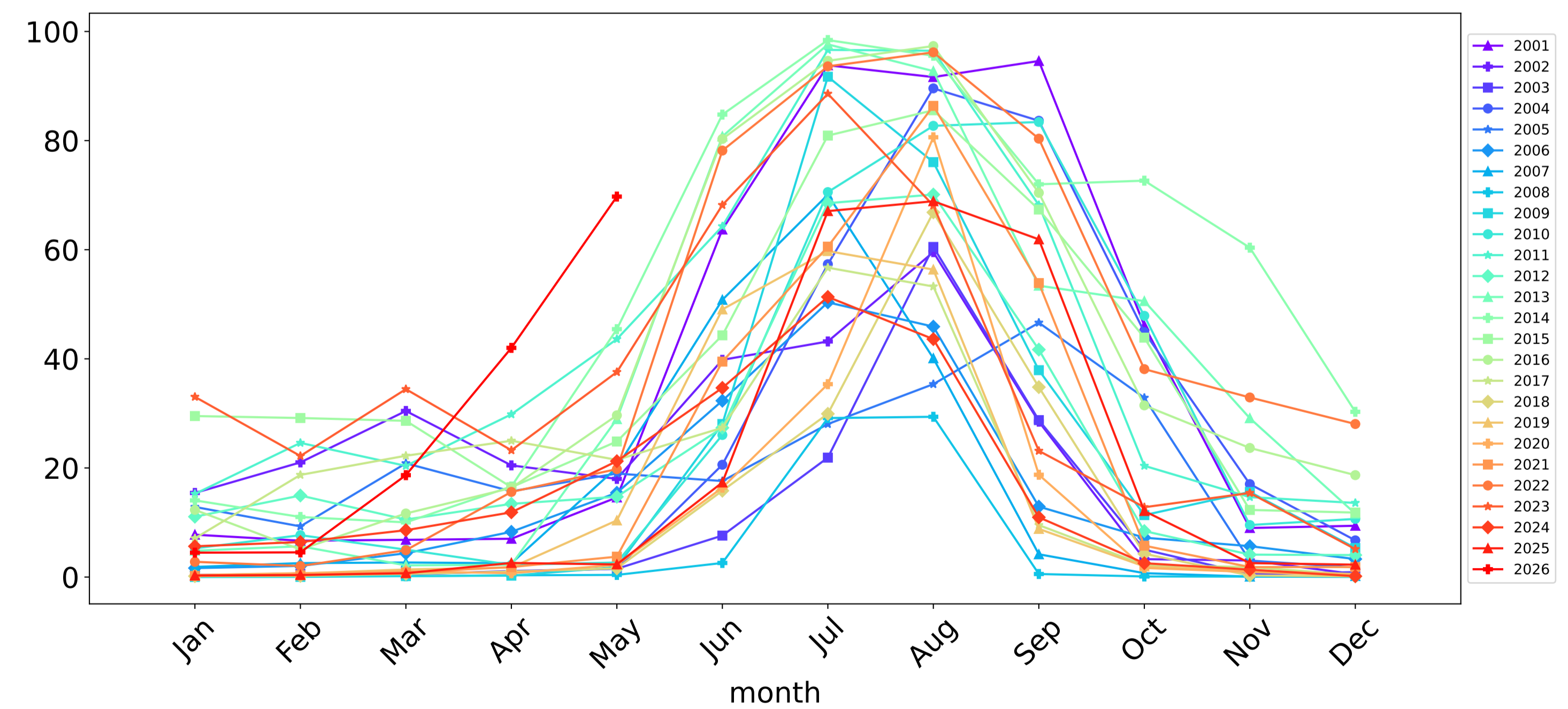
Wind erosion historical monthly area protected (Total Veg Cov >50%)



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



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



Ceduna_(DC) (534,775 ha and no data 7,474 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	534,775	99.7% 532,950	96.5% 516,250	77.6% 414,850	52.6% 281,325	16.7% 89,325	6.6% 35,275
Conservation and natural environments	152,975	99.8% 152,650	99.2% 151,675	93.4% 142,950	65.9% 100,850	14.0% 21,450	4.4% 6,775
Conservation and natural environments non forest	39,350	99.2% 39,050	97.1% 38,225	86.3% 33,975	54.8% 21,575	16.0% 6,300	6.9% 2,700
Conservation and natural environments Woodland forest	107,675	100.0% 107,675	99.9% 107,525	96.1% 103,425	69.5% 74,850	12.5% 13,475	3.1% 3,375
Conservation and natural environments Forest (non woodland)	5,950	99.6% 5,925	99.6% 5,925	93.3% 5,550	74.4% 4,425	28.2% 1,675	11.8% 700
Agriculture	374,350	99.6% 372,875	95.5% 357,375	71.0% 265,900	46.9% 175,425	17.3% 64,925	7.1% 26,475
Grazing	48,375	99.7% 48,225	96.7% 46,775	79.7% 38,575	58.2% 28,175	24.3% 11,750	11.9% 5,750
Grazing non forest	47,475	99.7% 47,325	96.7% 45,925	79.7% 37,825	58.0% 27,550	24.5% 11,625	12.1% 5,750
Cropping	325,975	99.6% 324,650	95.3% 310,600	69.7% 227,325	45.2% 147,250	16.3% 53,175	6.4% 20,725



tern

Ecosystem Research Infrastructure



**National
Landcare
Programme**

