Total vegetation cover soil protection
Region:LGA Colac-Otway_(S) VIC Date: November 2025

This report describes vegetation protecting the soil surface from erosion during a chosen month compared to previous years. This report has been generated using MODIS fractional vegetation cover information available in Rangelands and Pasture Productivity (RAPP) map tool https://map.geo-rapp.org/#australia. The report is based on 500 metre pixel data on monthly time steps.
Land use forest cover:

Results can be shown for the whole region (polygon), and separated by land use and forest cover classes which are likely to show different cover patterns and targets. Land use is divided into four broad classes: Conservation and natural environments, Agriculture, production native forests and plantation forests (no report), and other (no report). Agriculture is divided into grazing, crops and horticulture which are sub-divided into non-irrigated and irrigated. If forest is present land use is further divided into: non-forest, woodland forest and non-woodland forest. The area of each land use and forest class are shown as a map and chart. The report content is repeated for each land use and forest cover class that covers at least 1% of the area of the chosen region.
Total vegetation Cover:
The total vegetation cover indicates where soil is likely to be protected from wind and or water hillslope erosion. Total vegetation cover for this month is shown on a map and chart classified into 4 classes.

- 71-100% High cover - protected from wind and usually water erosion (high rainfall, steep slopes, and erodible soils may need greater than 80, 90, 95 and up to 100% cover)
- 51-70% Moderate cover - protected from wind erosion
- 31-50% Low cover - not protected
- 0-30% Very Low cover - not protected

Erosion protection: Wind erosion 50% total vegetation cover

The vegetation cover threshold required to prevent soil erosion is usually 50% to reduce wind erosion, 70% or 80% to reduce water (hillslope) erosion depending on the steepness and rainfall. Areas protected from erosion for the month:

- Map: water erosion protection (>70% cover) percentage area and hectares.
- Map: wind erosion protection (>50% cover) percentage area and hectares.

Comparison with previous years:

- Map: anomaly comparing this month to the average cover from the same month in previous years.
- Map: deciles rank of month against the same month in previous years.

Anomalies and deciles until September 2019 are calculated comparing to the same months 2001 to 2019. Extra monthly data will be used to calculate anomalies and deciles post September 2019 as they become available.
Time series monthly from January 2001 to current:
Erosion protection

- Wind erosion protection time series: percentage of the area of the region with greater than 50% cover for each month (orange lines). Horizontal lines are 10th (cover target) and 50th percentiles.
- Water erosion protection time series: percentage of the area of the region with greater than 70% cover for each month (blue line). Horizontal lines are 10th (cover target) and 50th percentiles.

Rainfall

- Millimetres rainfall each month (black line).

Each time series is also stacked by year. The black line shows the current year of data.
Water erosion protection for higher rainfall and steeper slopes:

Water erosion protection on higher slopes. As slope increases, more cover is required to control water erosion. The thresholds reported are:

- the percentage area with pixels greater than 80% total cover.
- the percentage area with pixels greater than 90% total cover.
- the percentage area with pixels greater than 95% total cover.

Acknowledgment of data:

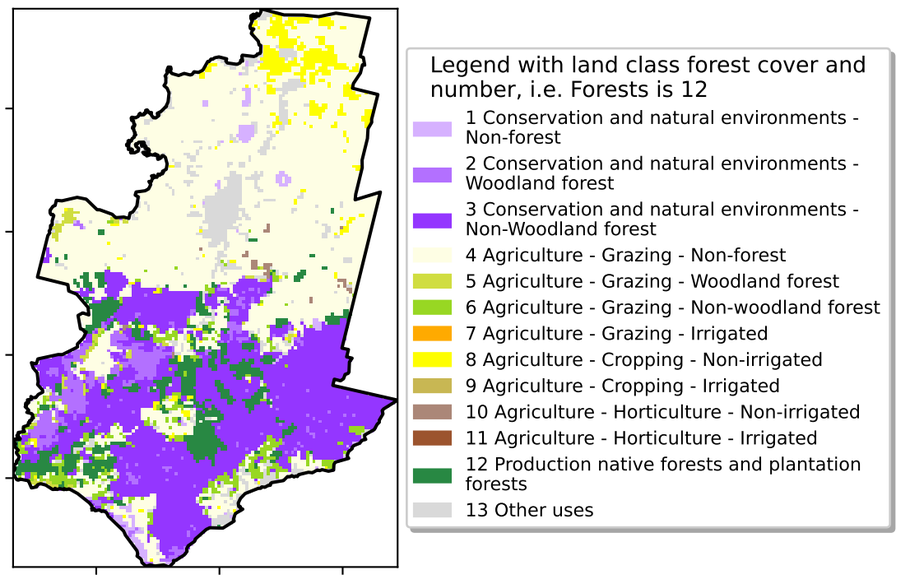
1. http://www.agriculture.gov.au/abares/aclump/land-use/alum-classification
2. http://www.agriculture.gov.au/abares/forestsaustralia/sofr/sofr-2018
3. https://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/agriculture/pastures-and-rangelands/establishment-mgmt/production-management2/groundcover
4. MODIS Fractional cover algorithm:

   https://doi.org/10.4225/08/5848a3f19a7b3

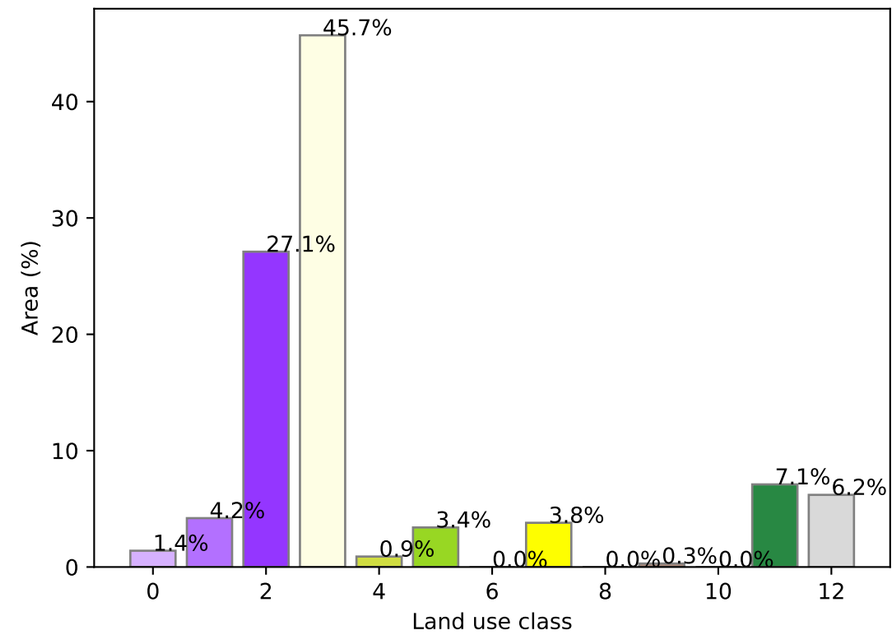
Vegetation Cover Nov 2025

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

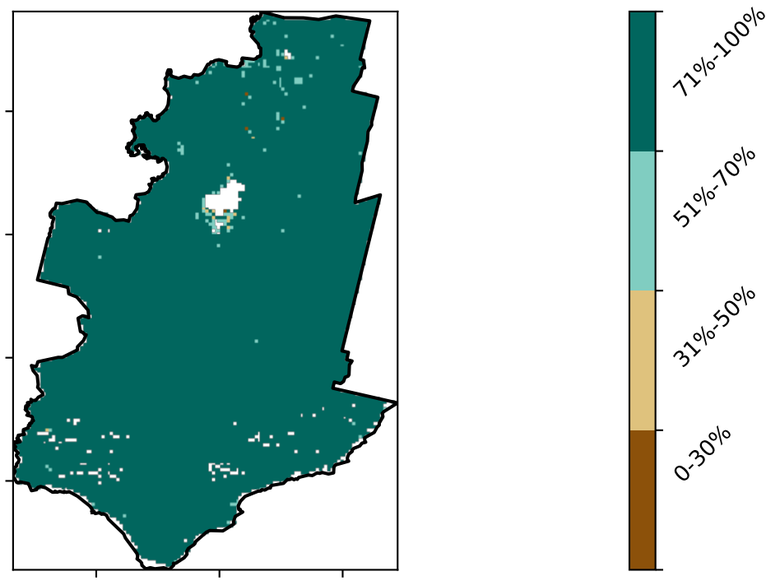
Land use and forest cover



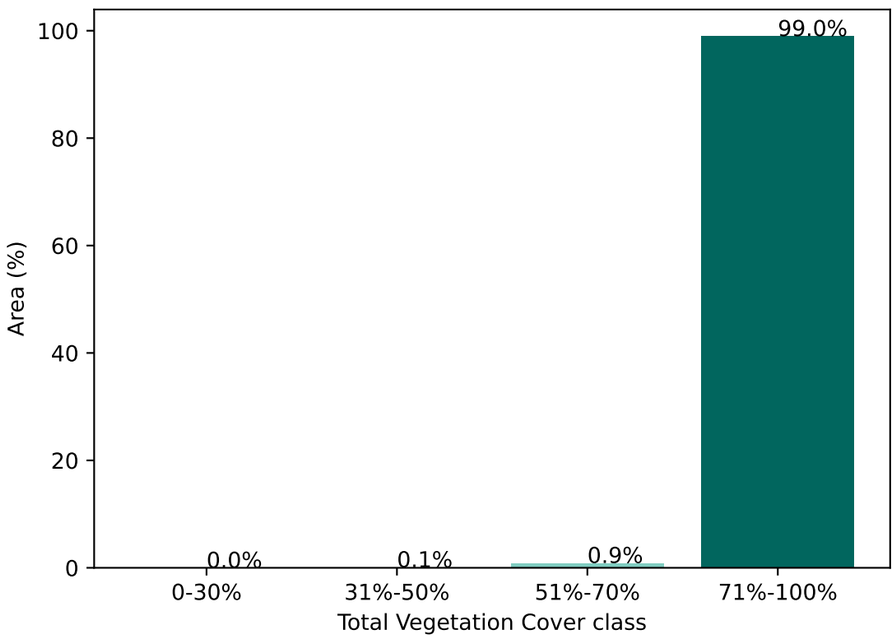
Proportion of each land class in area



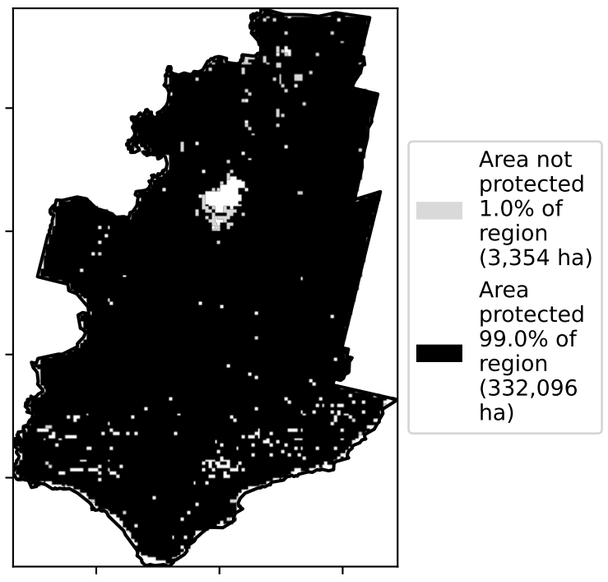
Total Vegetation Cover [%]



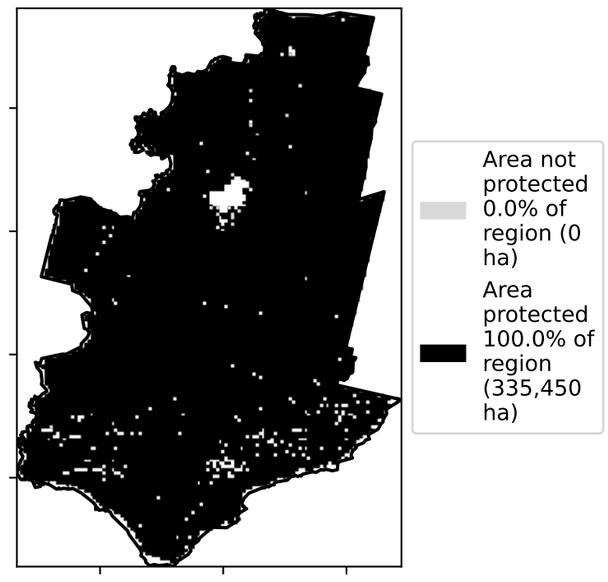
Proportion of vegetation cover class in area



% Area protected from water erosion (>70%)



% Area protected from wind erosion (>50%)



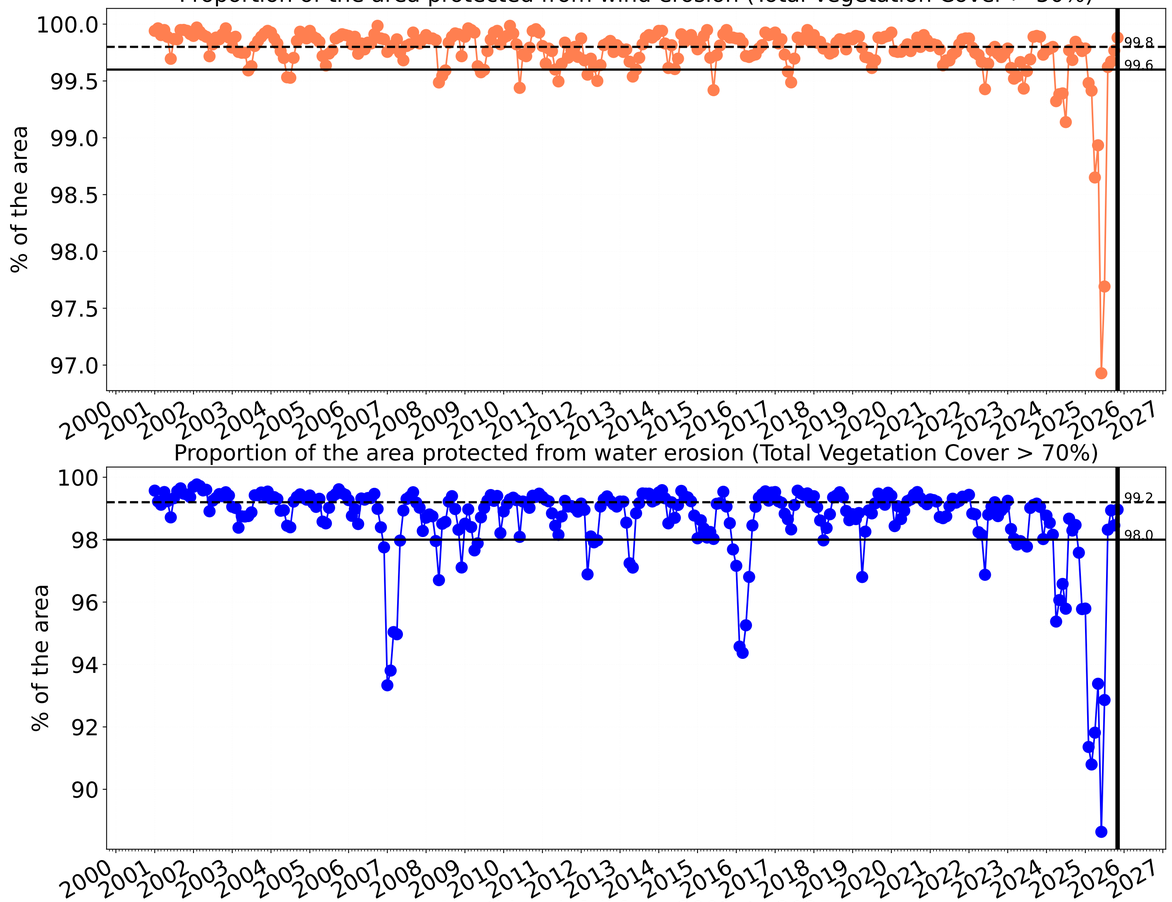
Total Vegetation Cover Anomaly [%]

Anomaly show how many percetage 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.

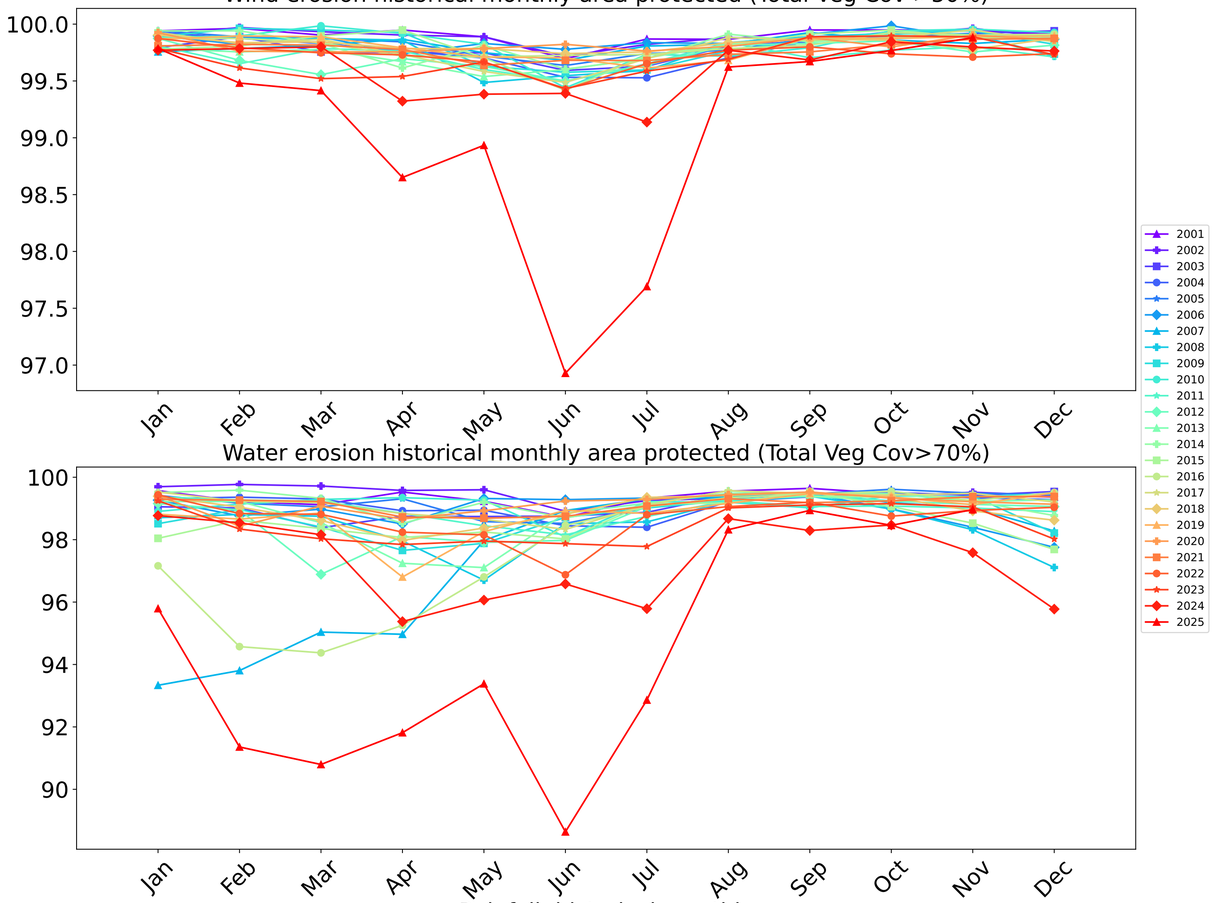
Total Vegetation Cover Decile [%]

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.

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



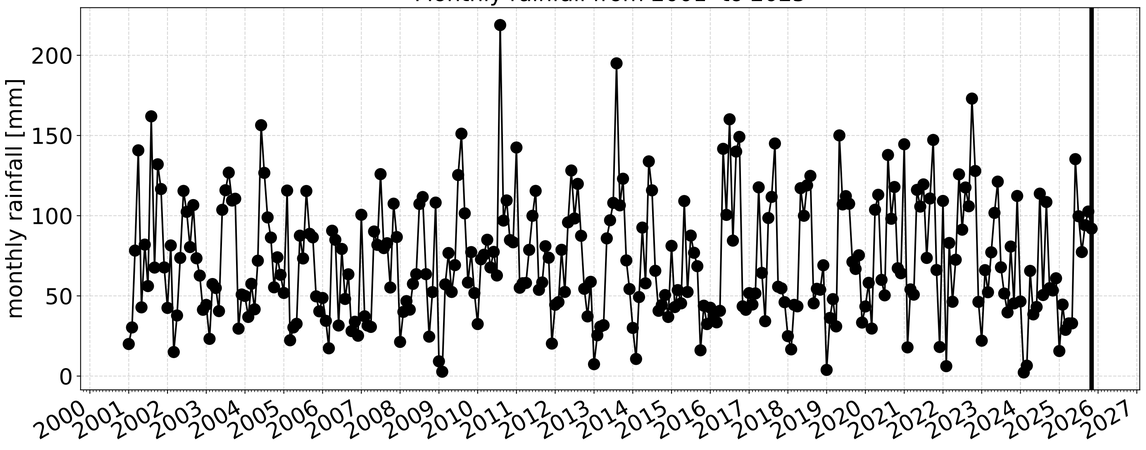
Wind erosion historical monthly area protected (Total Veg Cov >50%)



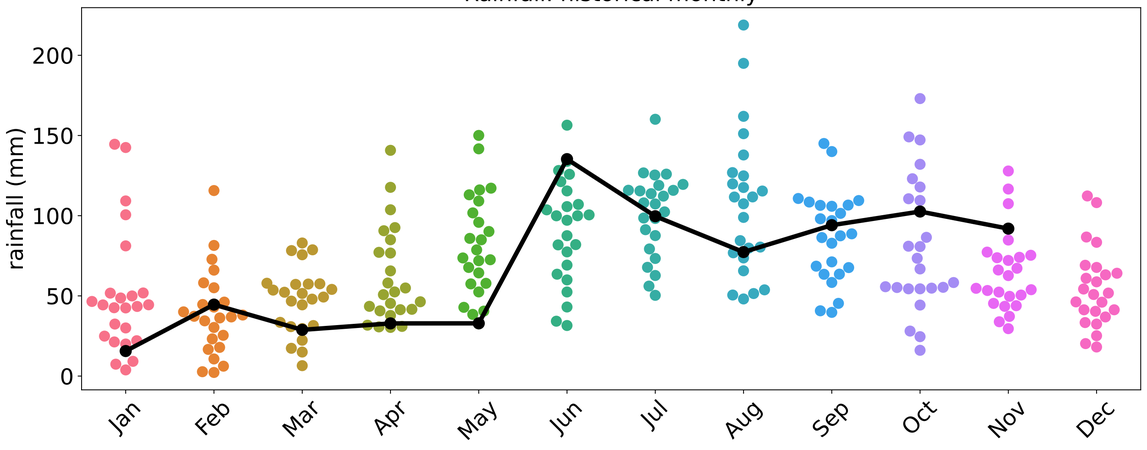
Proportion of the area protected from water erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 70%)

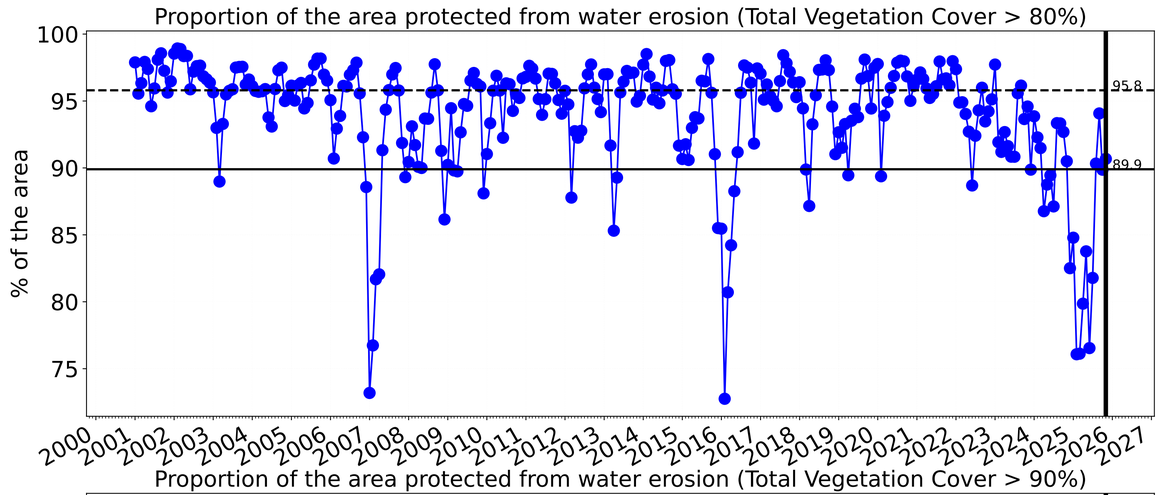
Water erosion historical monthly area protected (Total Veg Cov>70%)

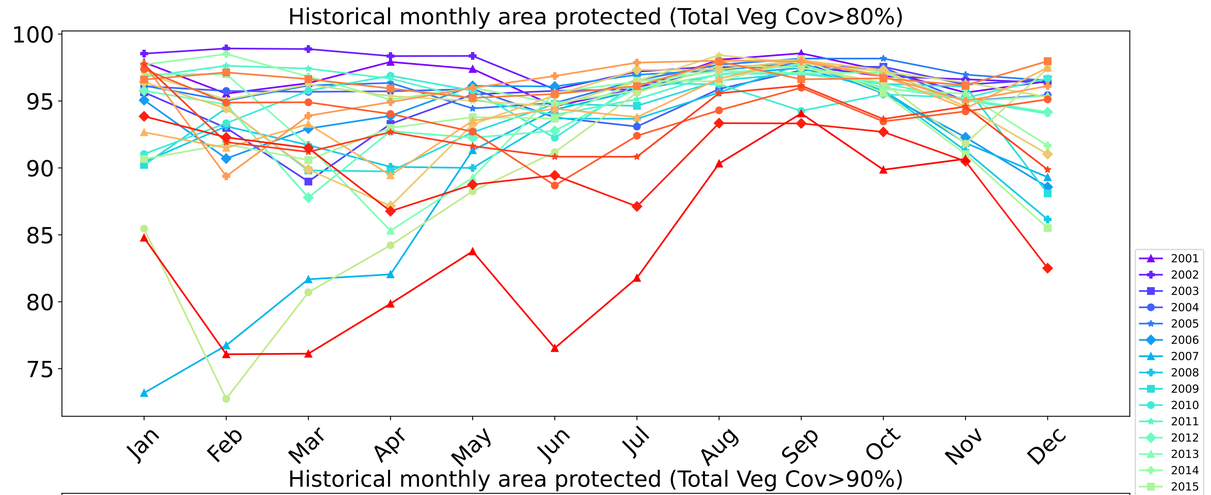
Monthly rainfall from 2001 to 2025



Rainfall: historical monthly




Proportion of the area protected from water erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 80%)
% of the area
95.8
89.9
above_80
10th
50th
2025 Nov


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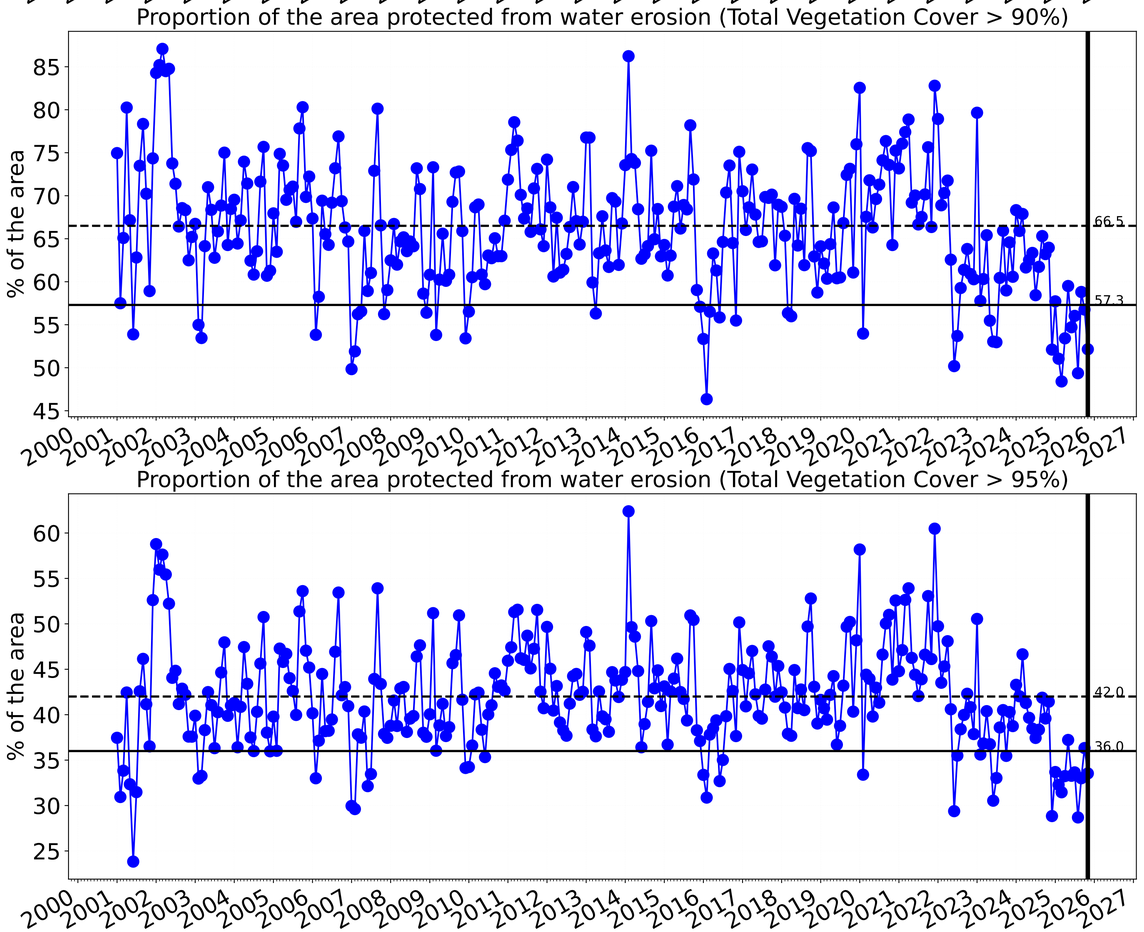
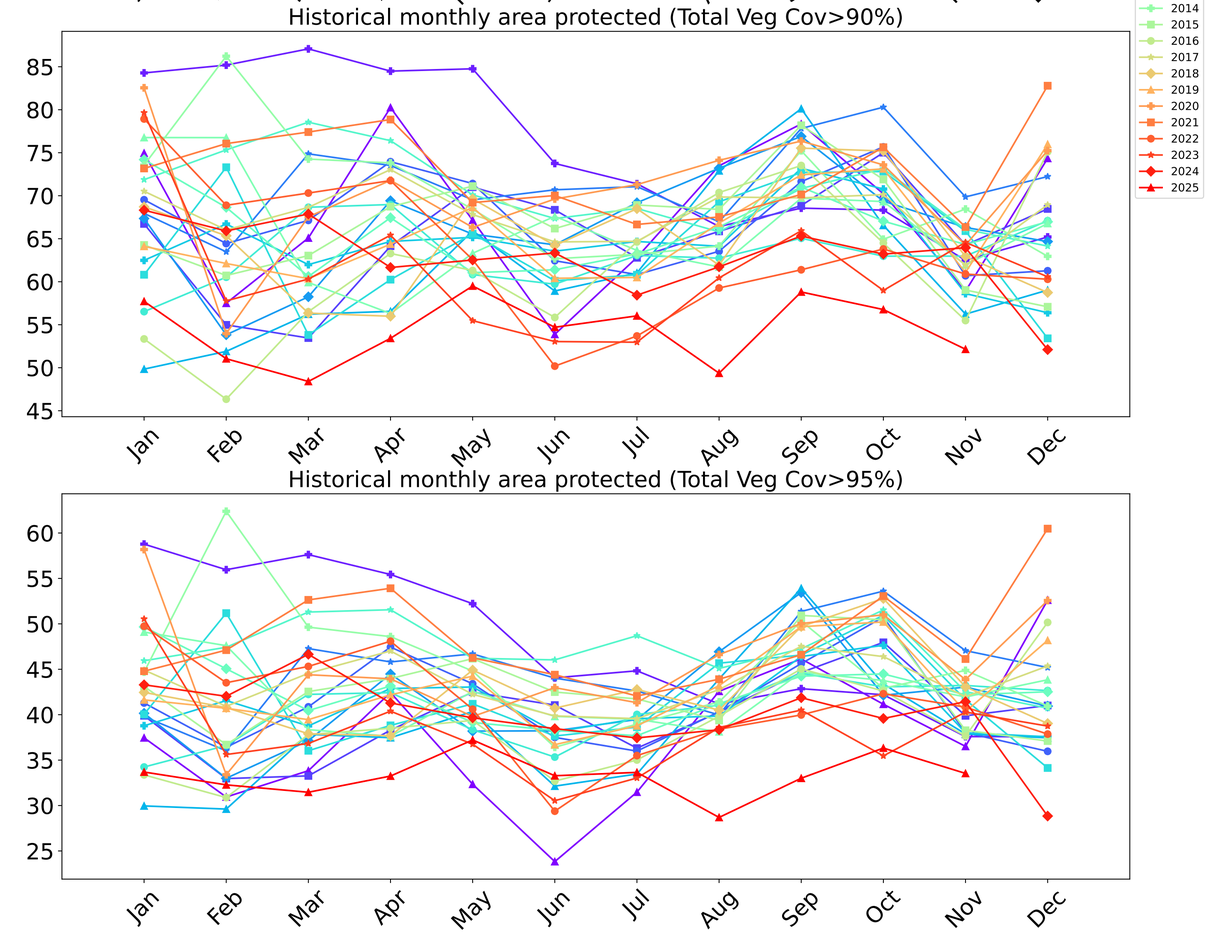

Proportion of the area protected from water erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 90%)
% of the area
66.5
57.3
above_90
10th
50th
2025 Nov
Proportion of the area protected from water erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 95%)
% of the area
42.0
36.0
above_95
10th
50th
2025 Nov


Historical monthly area protected (Total Veg Cov>90%)
Historical monthly area protected (Total Veg Cov>95%)
Jan
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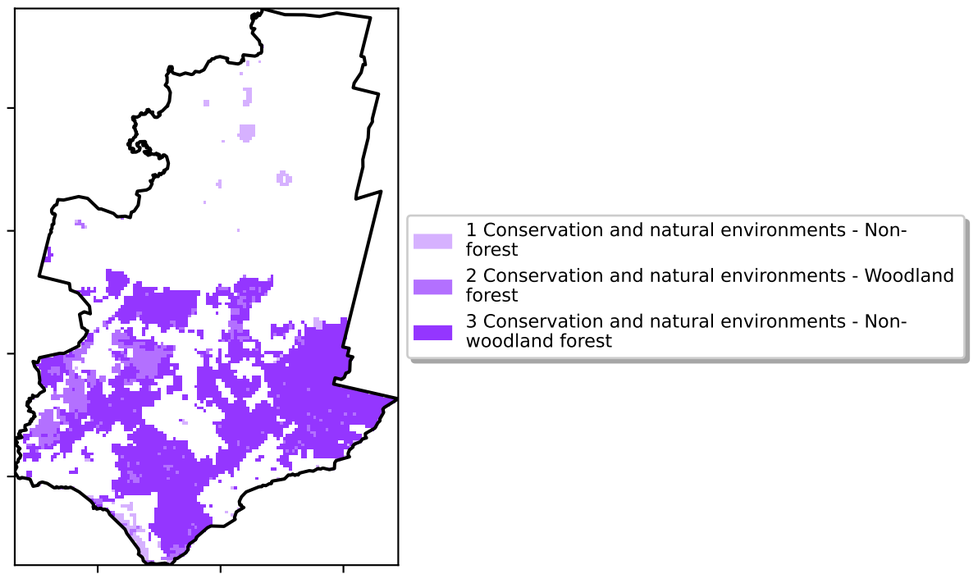
Conservation and natural environments

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

Land use and forest cover



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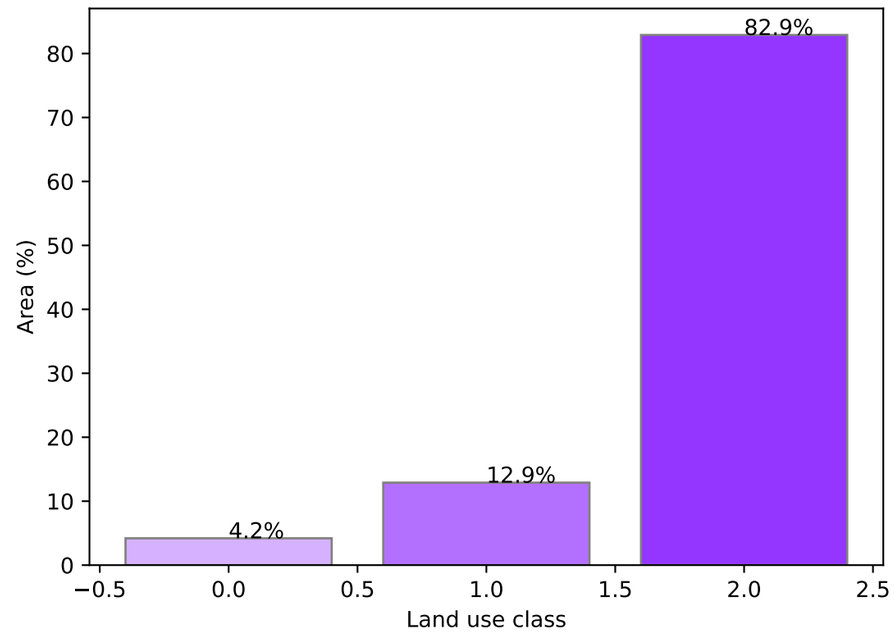
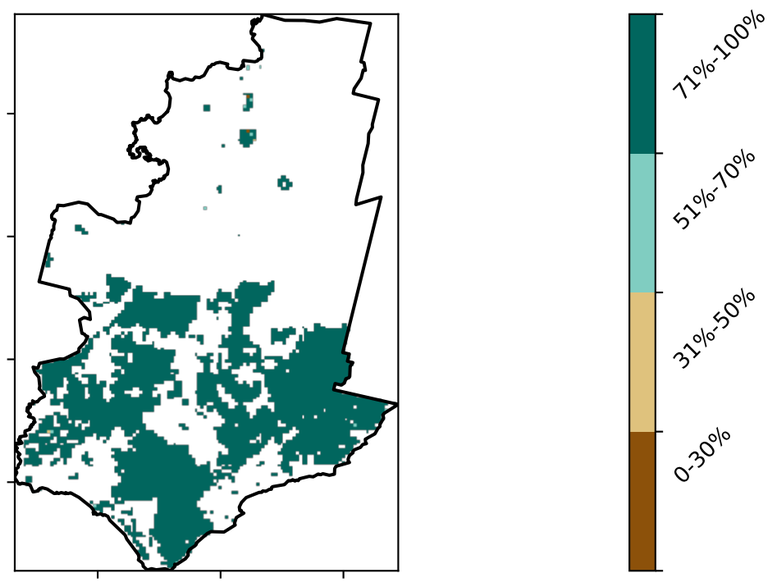


Total Vegetation Cover [%]



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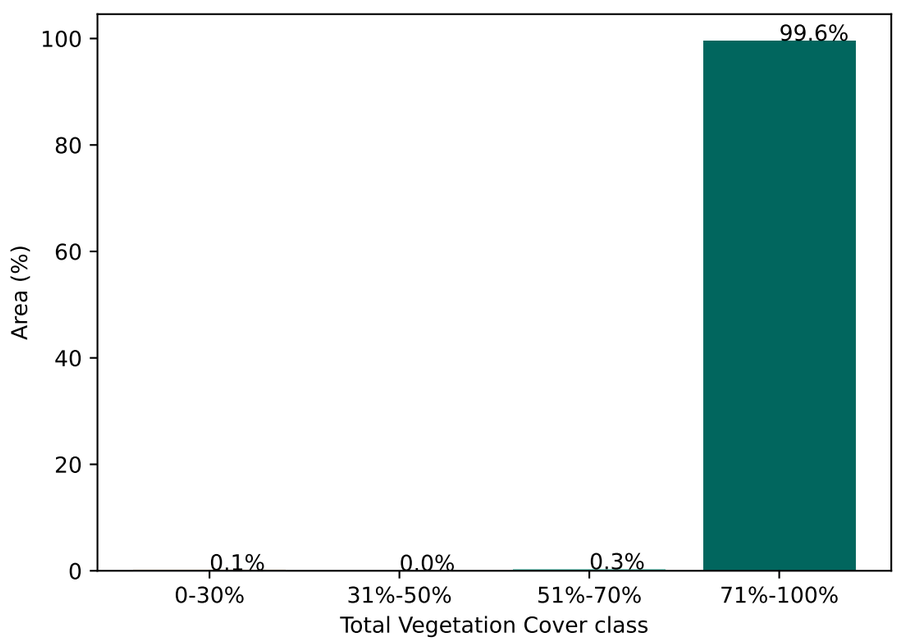
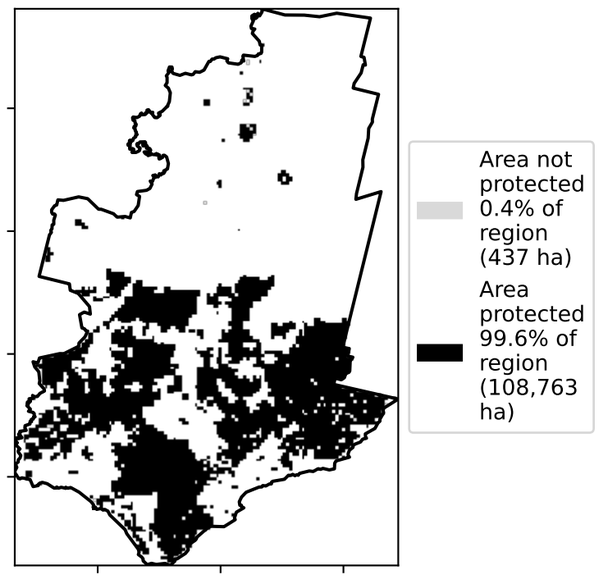
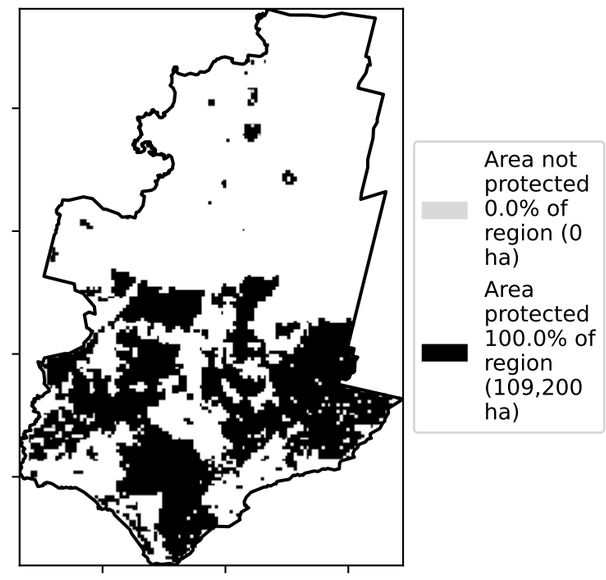


% Area protected from water erosion (>70%)



% Area protected from wind erosion (>50%)



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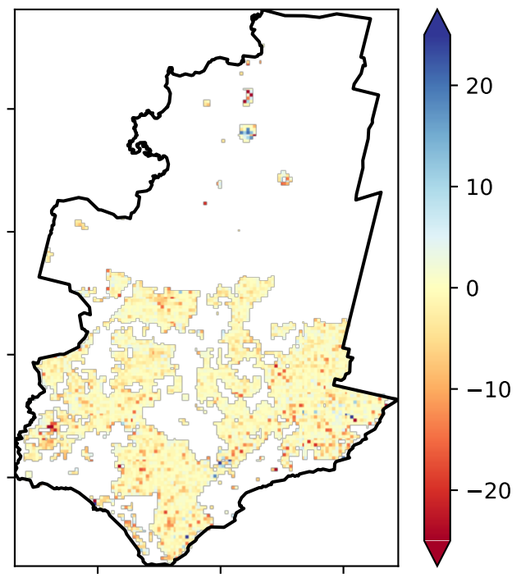

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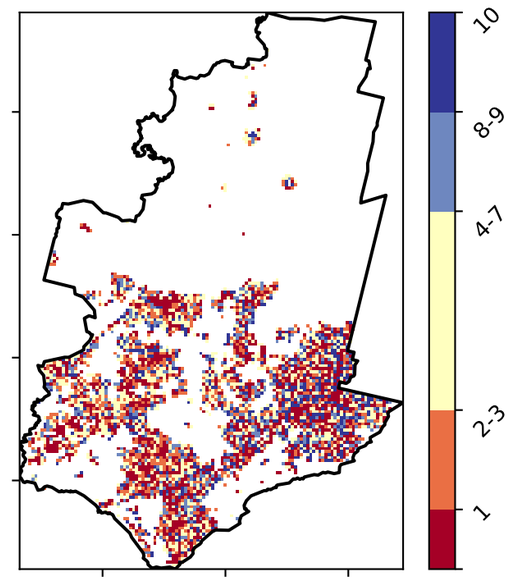
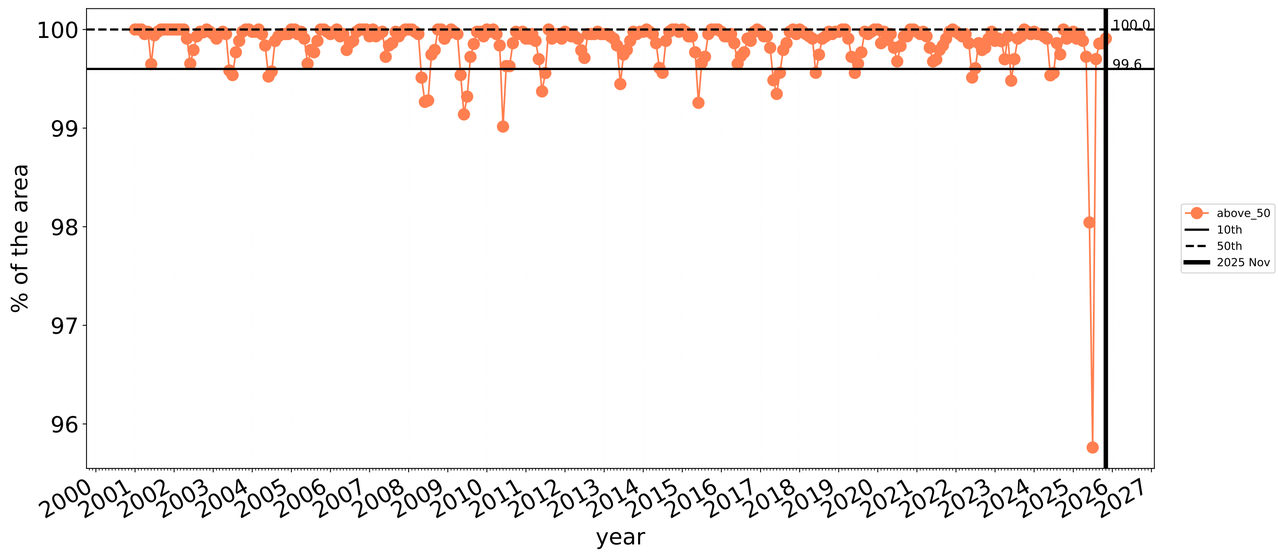
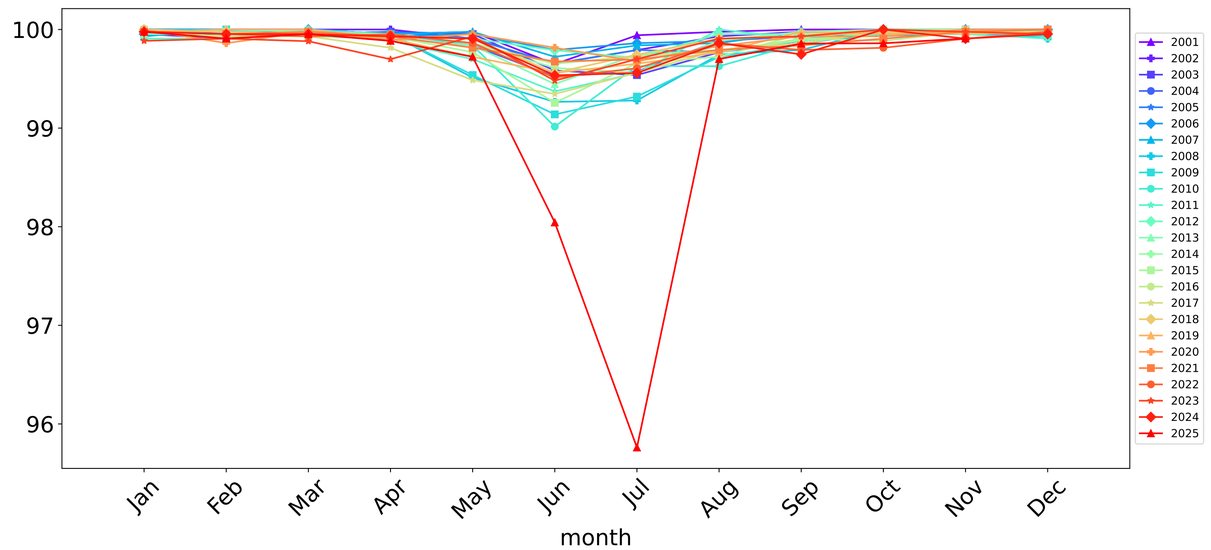


Conservation and natural environments timeseries

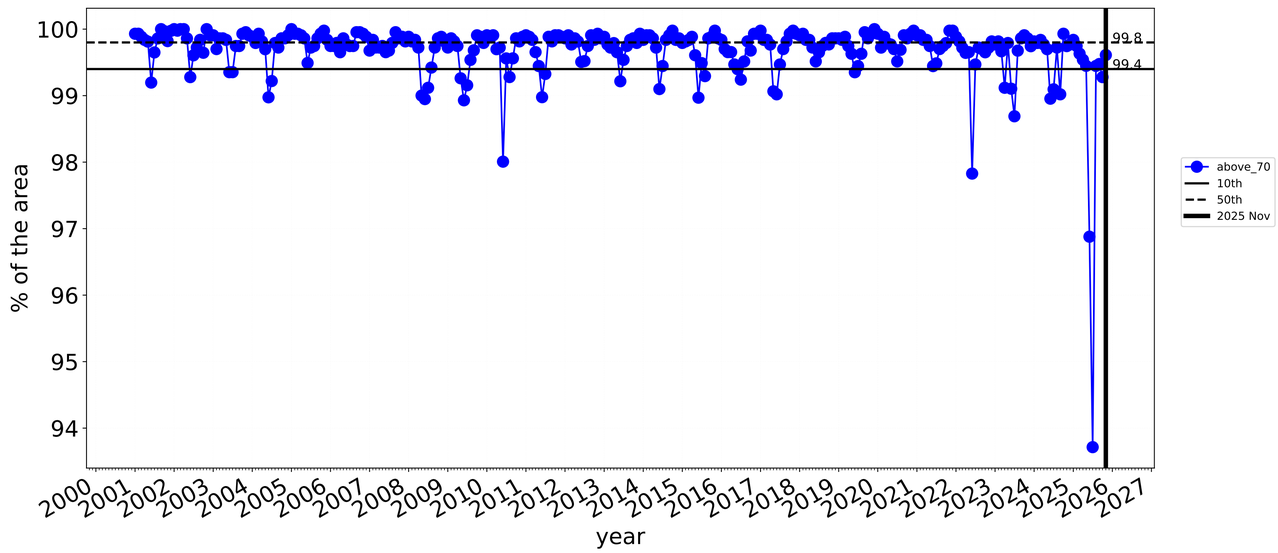
Proportion of the area protected from wind erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 50%)



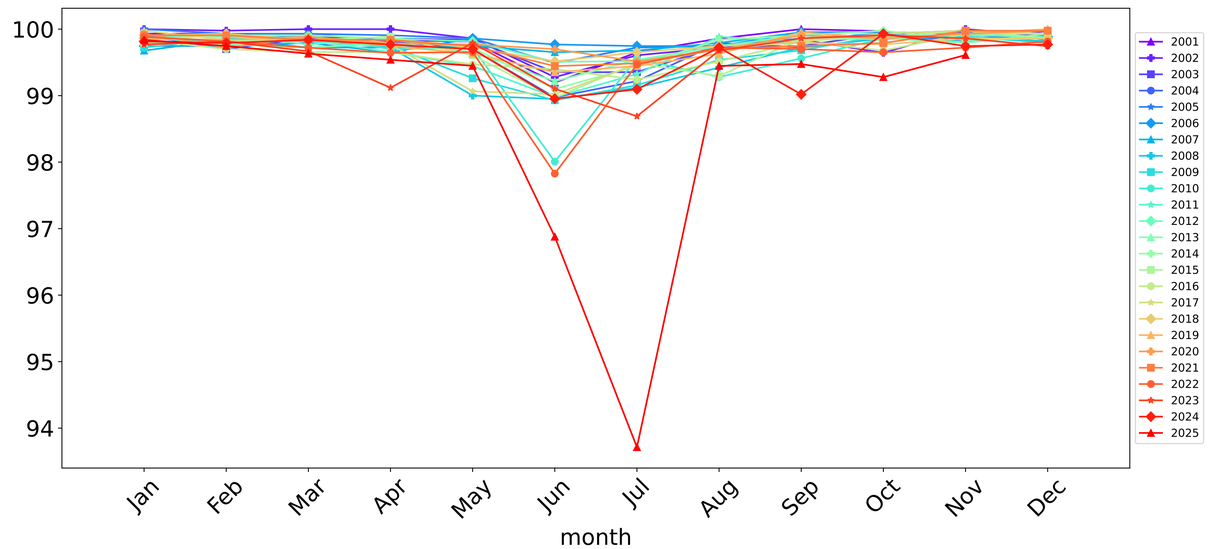
Wind erosion historical monthly area protected (Total Veg Cov >50%)



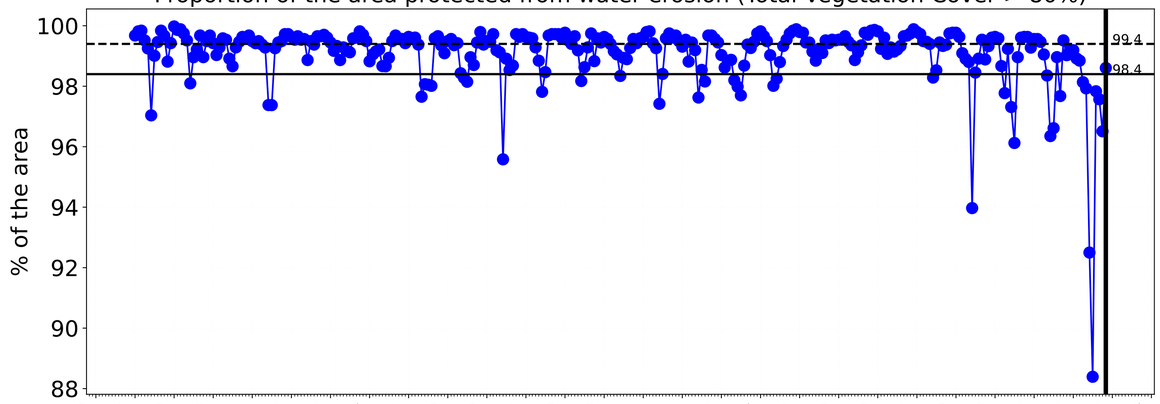
Proportion of the area protected from water erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 70%)

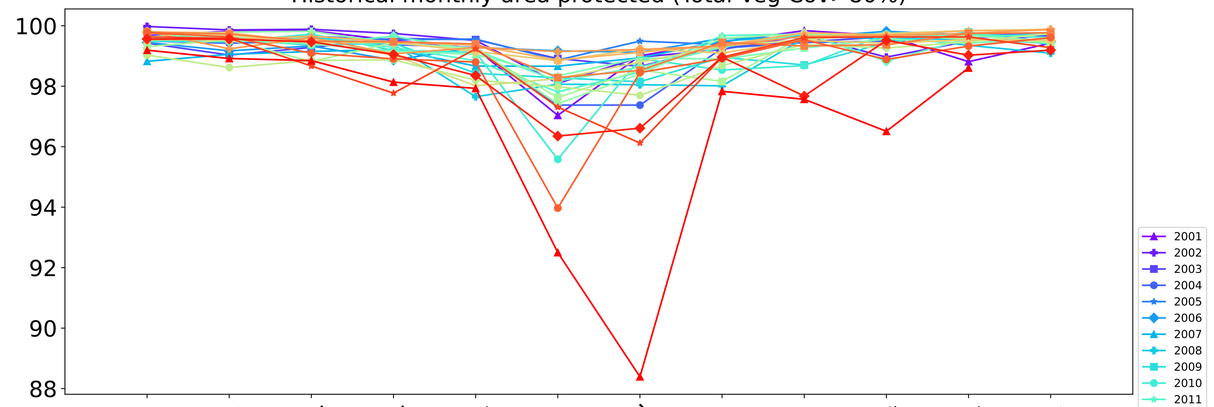


Water erosion historical monthly area protected (Total Veg Cov>70%)



CSIRO tern Ecosystem Research Infrastructure Australian Government National Landcare Programme NSW GOVERNMENT


Proportion of the area protected from water erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 80%)
% of the area
99.4
98.4
above_80
10th
50th
2025 Nov


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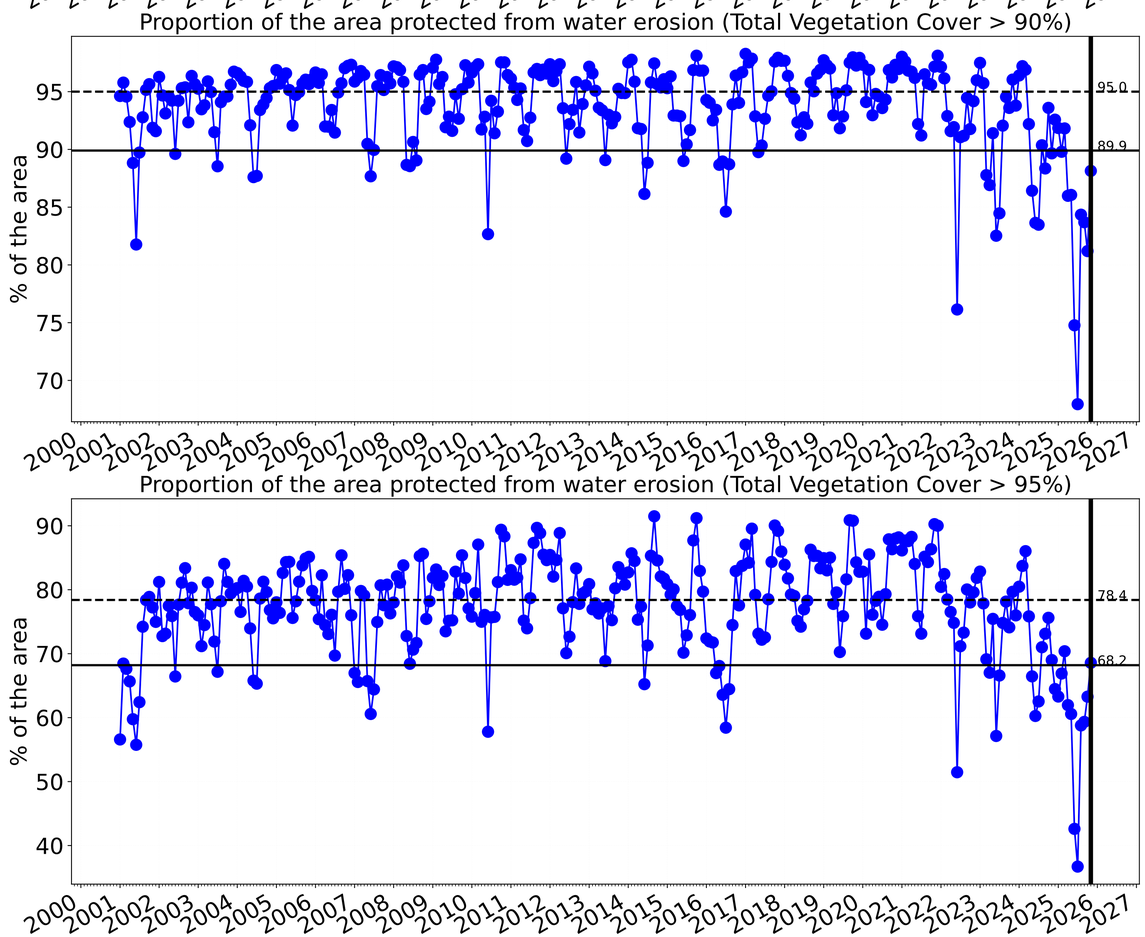
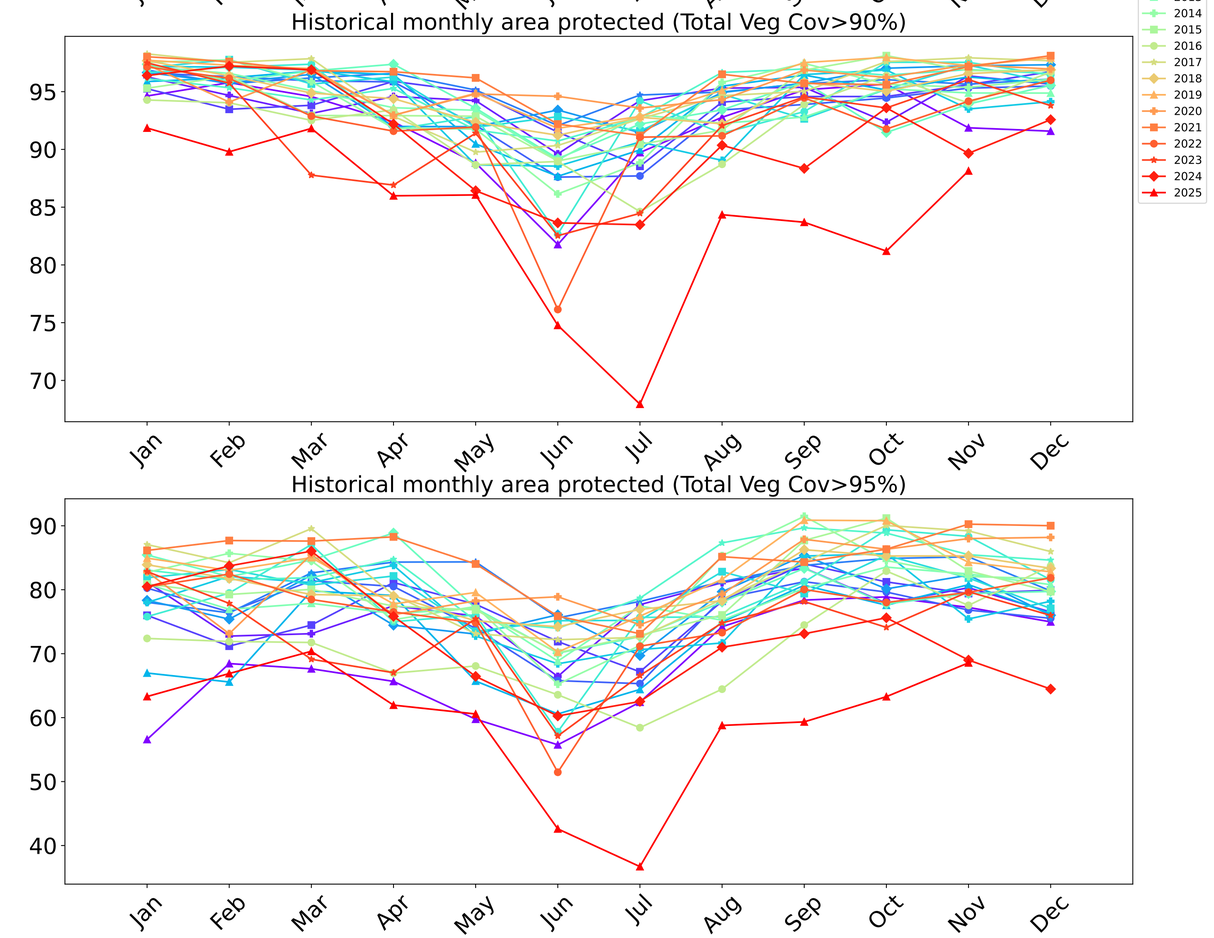

Proportion of the area protected from water erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 90%)
% of the area
95.0
89.9
above_90
10th
50th
2025 Nov
Proportion of the area protected from water erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 95%)
% of the area
78.4
68.2
above_95
10th
50th
2025 Nov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Conservation and natural environments non forest

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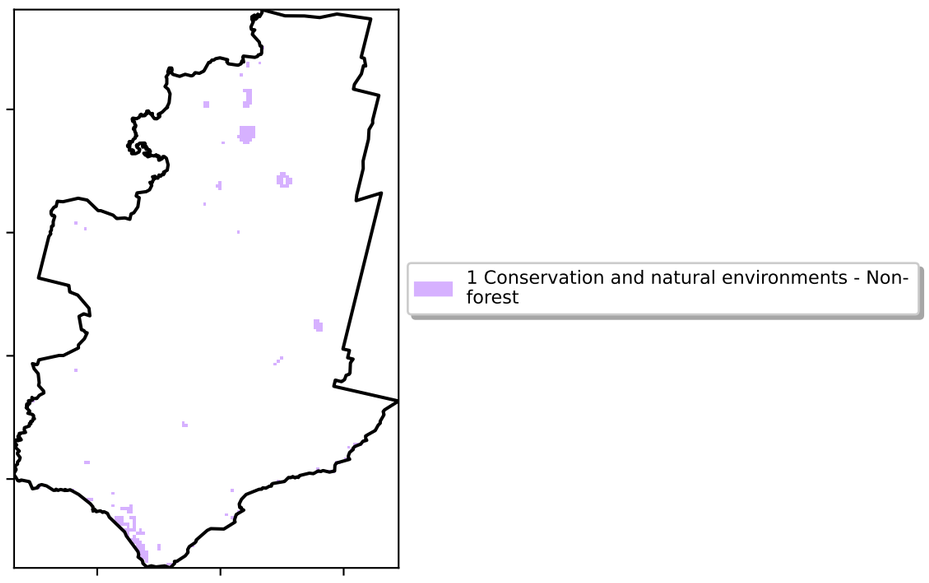
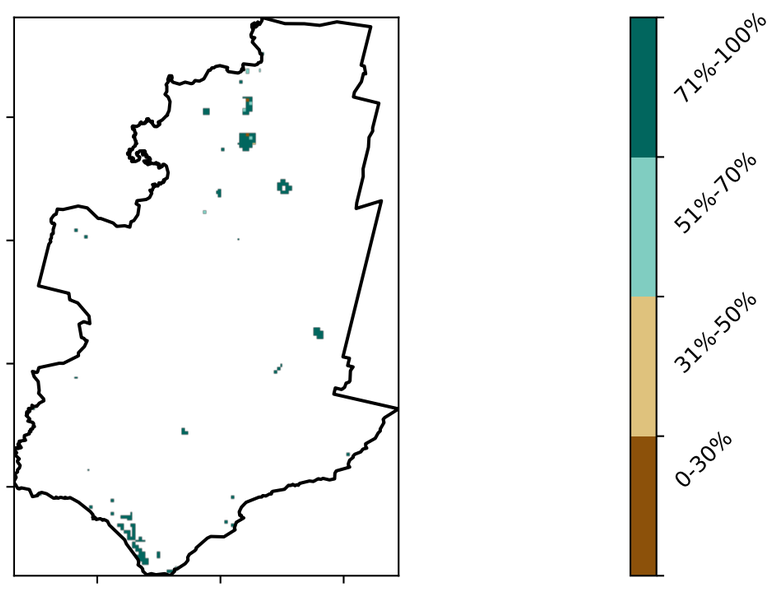
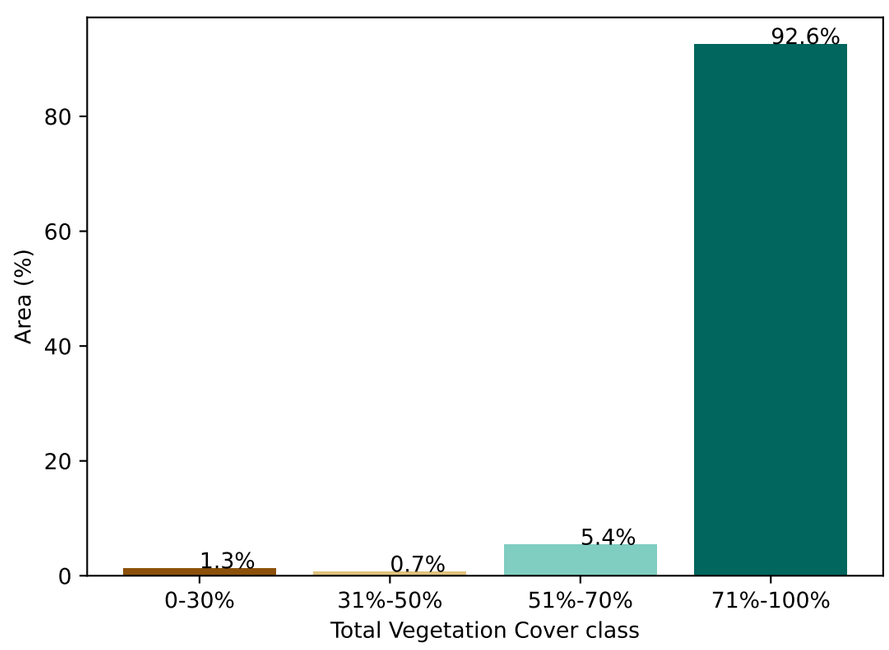
Land use and forest cover



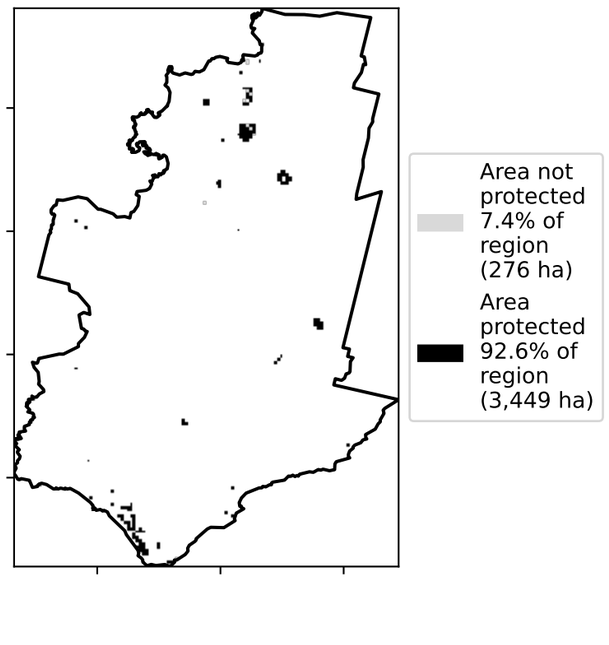
Total Vegetation Cover [%]



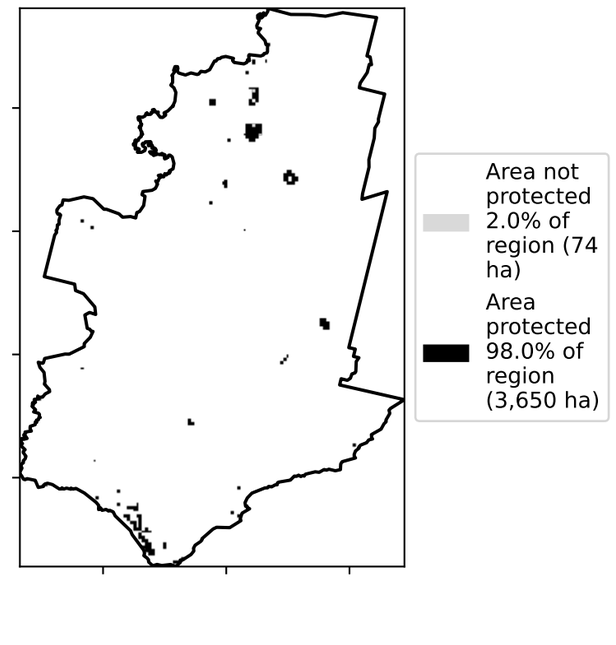
Proportion of vegetation cover class in area



% Area protected from water erosion (>70%)



% Area protected from wind erosion (>50%)



Total Vegetation Cover Anomaly [%]

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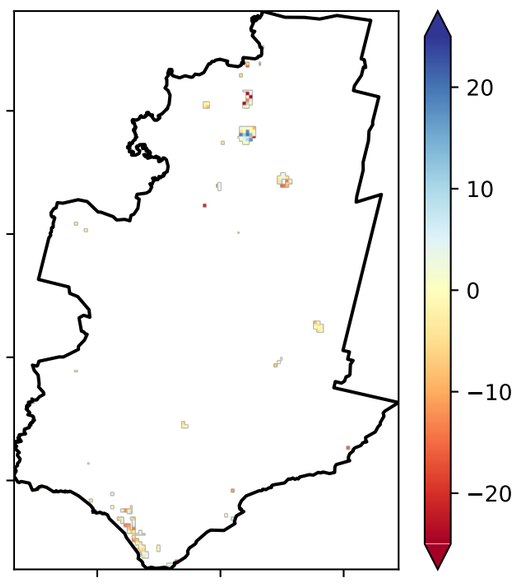
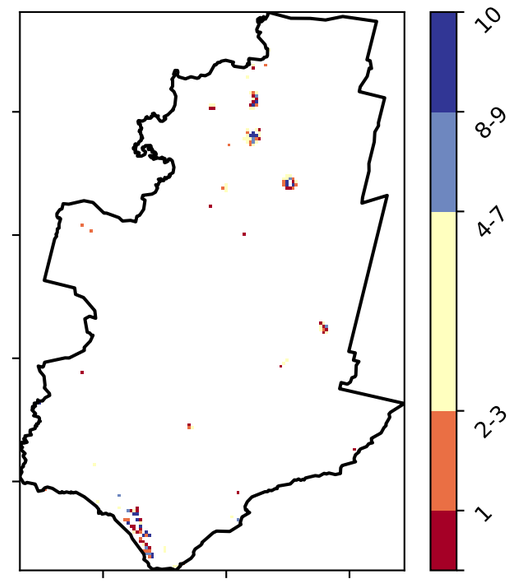


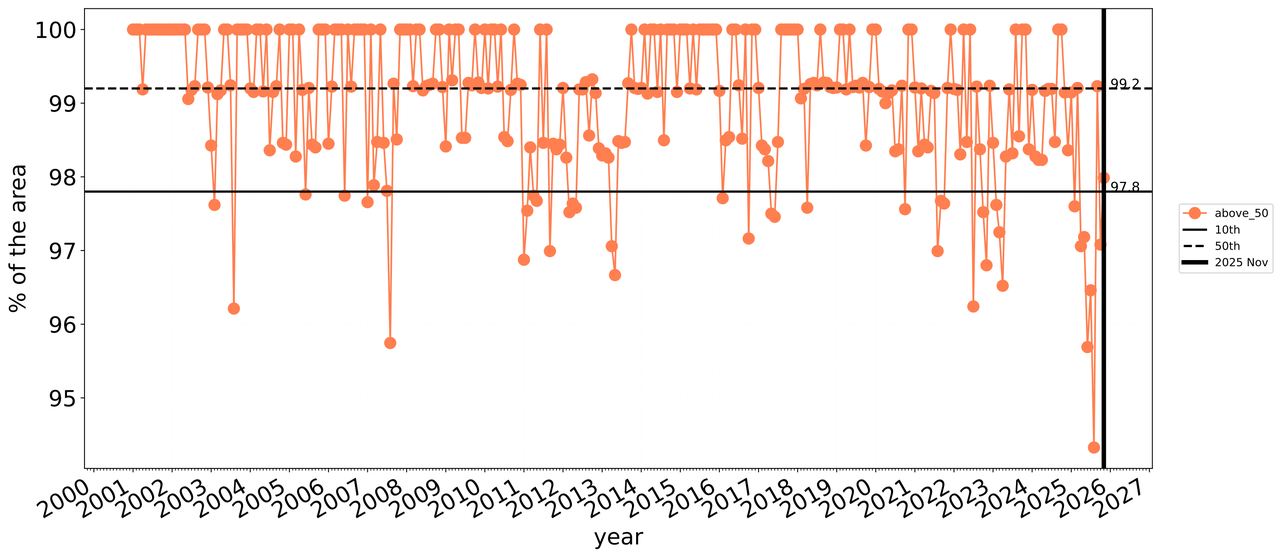
Total Vegetation Cover Decile [%]

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.

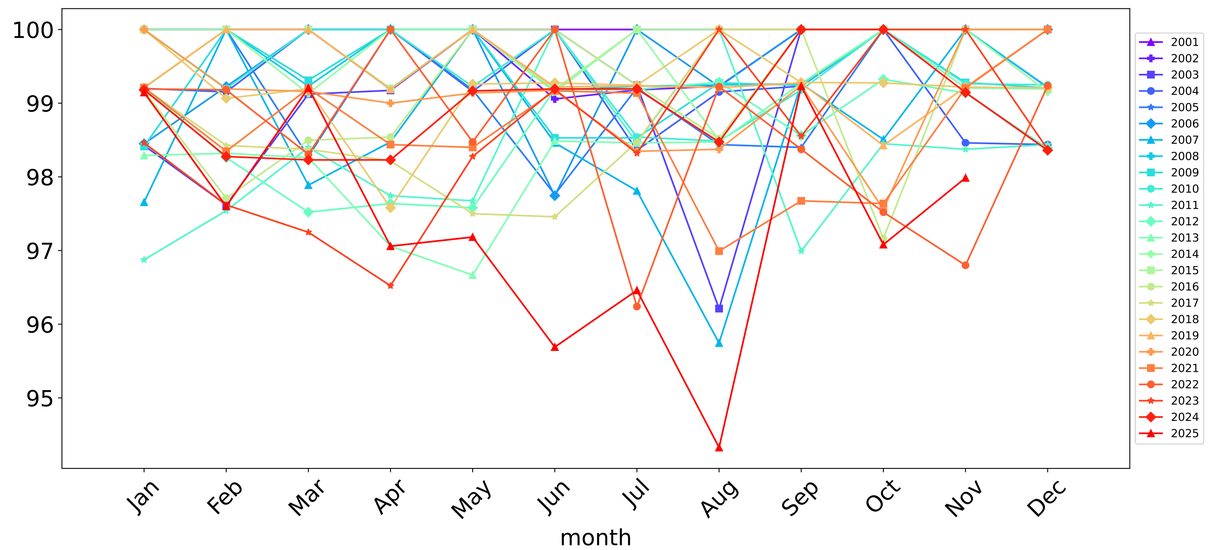


Conservation and natural environments non forest timeseries

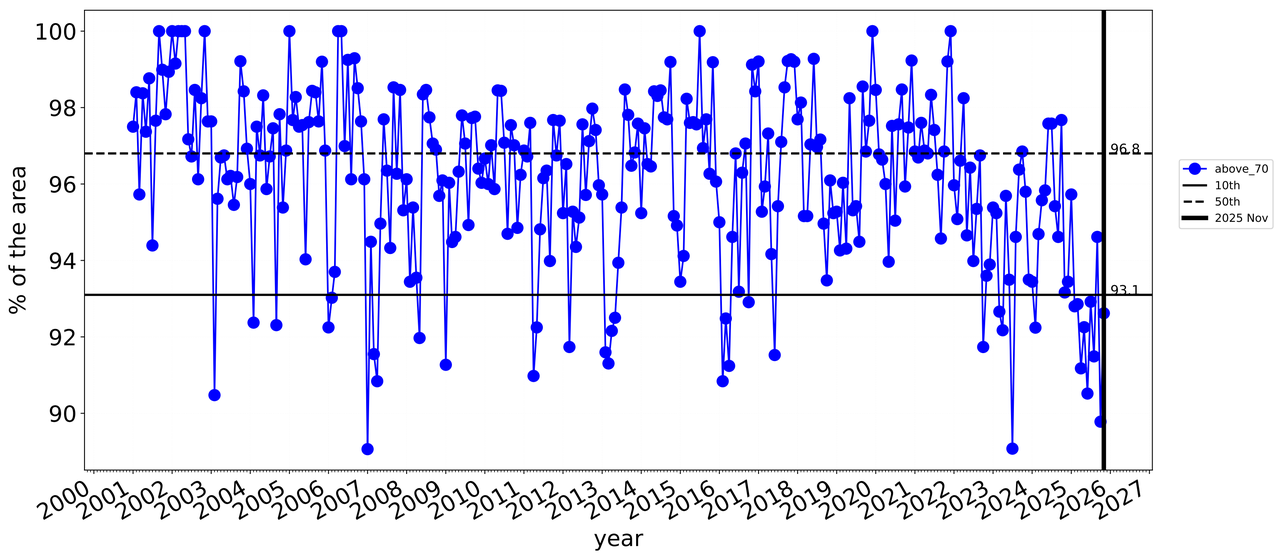
Proportion of the area protected from wind erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 50%)



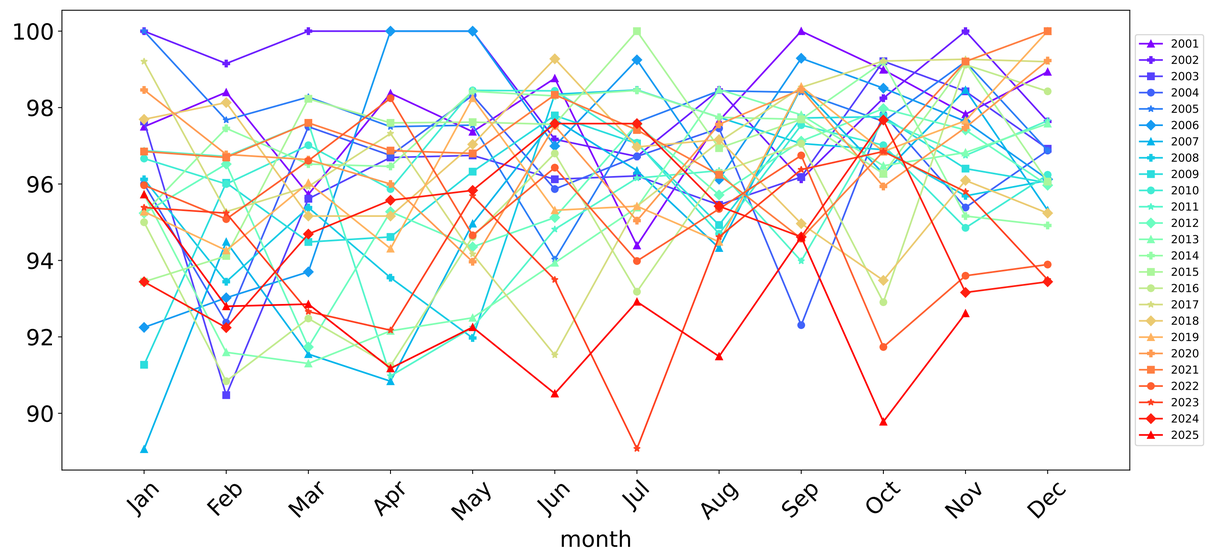
Wind erosion historical monthly area protected (Total Veg Cov >50%)

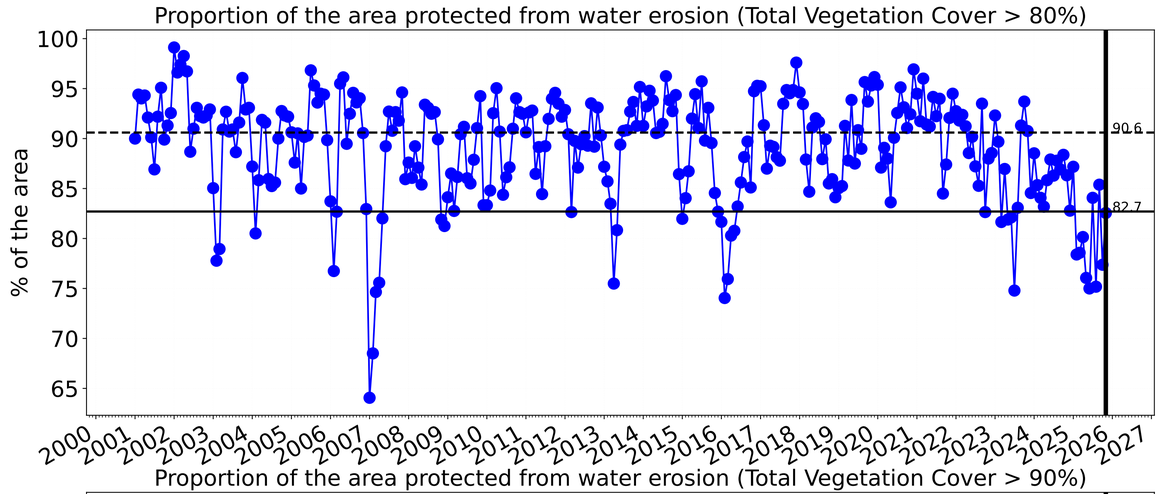


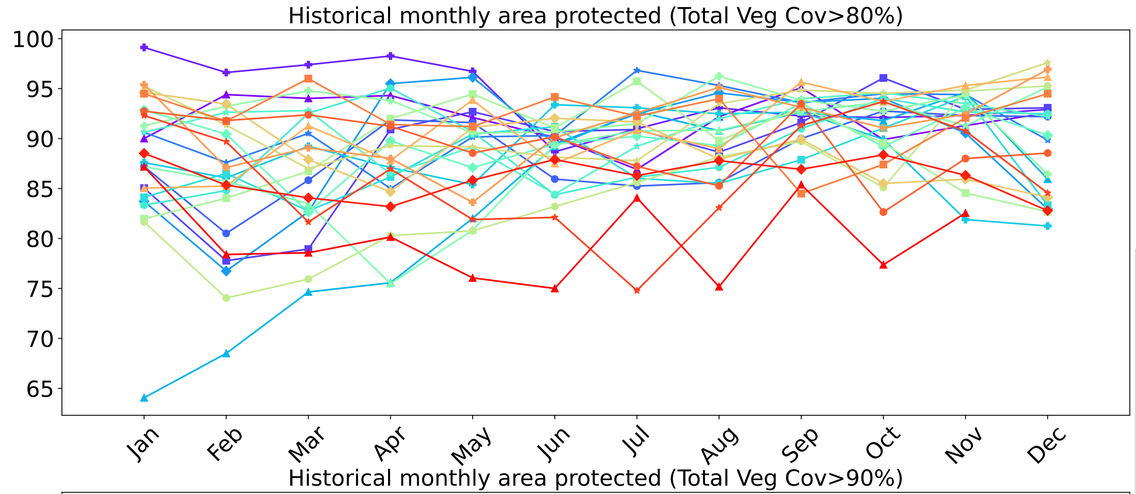
Proportion of the area protected from water erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 70%)



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




Proportion of the area protected from water erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 80%)
% of the area
90.6
82.7
above_80
10th
50th
2025 Nov


Historical monthly area protected (Total Veg Cov>80%)
Jan
Feb
Mar
Apr
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Nov
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2001
2002
2003
2004
2005
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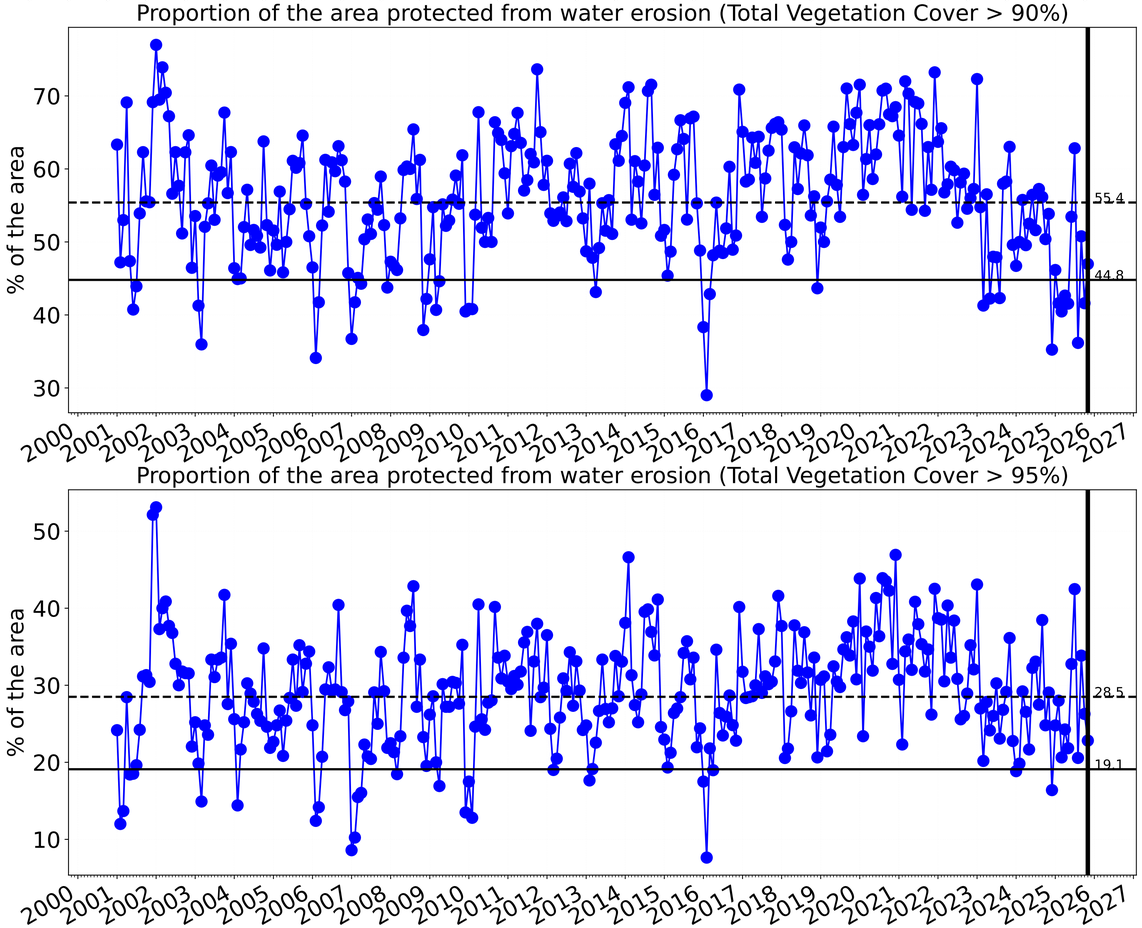
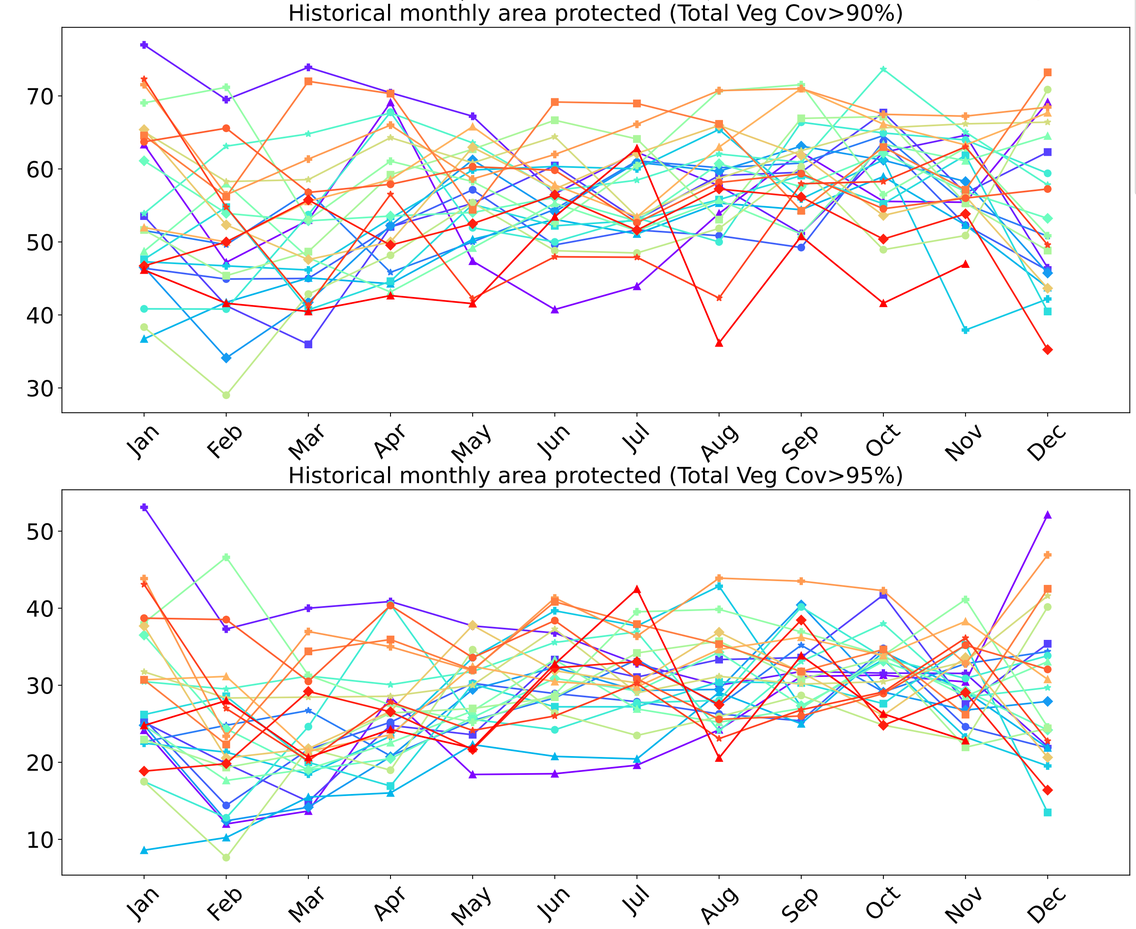
2020
2021
2022
2023
2024
2025

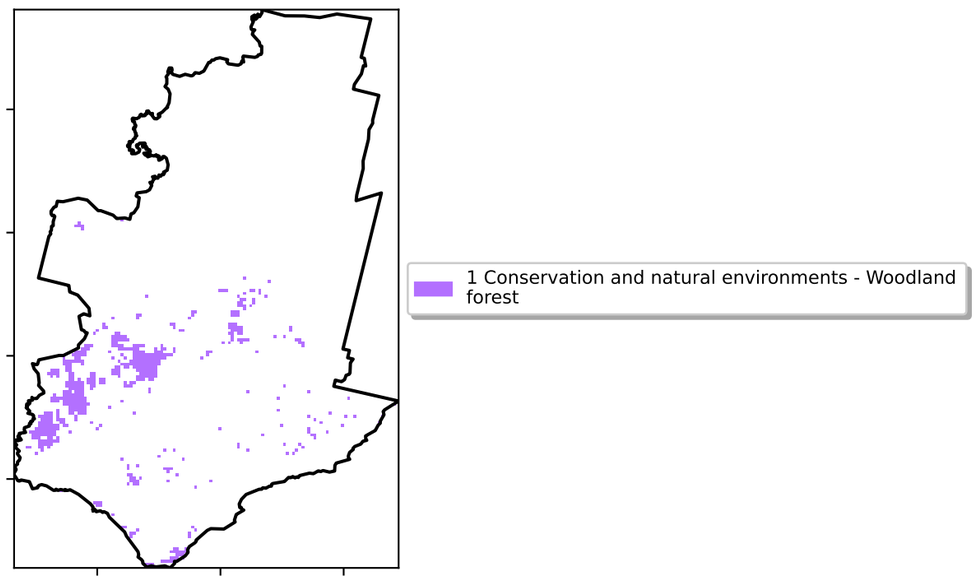

Proportion of the area protected from water erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 90%)
% of the area
55.4
44.8
above_90
10th
50th
2025 Nov
Proportion of the area protected from water erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 95%)
% of the area
28.5
19.1
above_95
10th
50th
2025 Nov


Historical monthly area protected (Total Veg Cov>90%)
Historical monthly area protected (Total Veg Cov>95%)
Jan
Feb
Mar
Apr
May
Jun
Jul
Aug
Sep
Oct
Nov
Dec

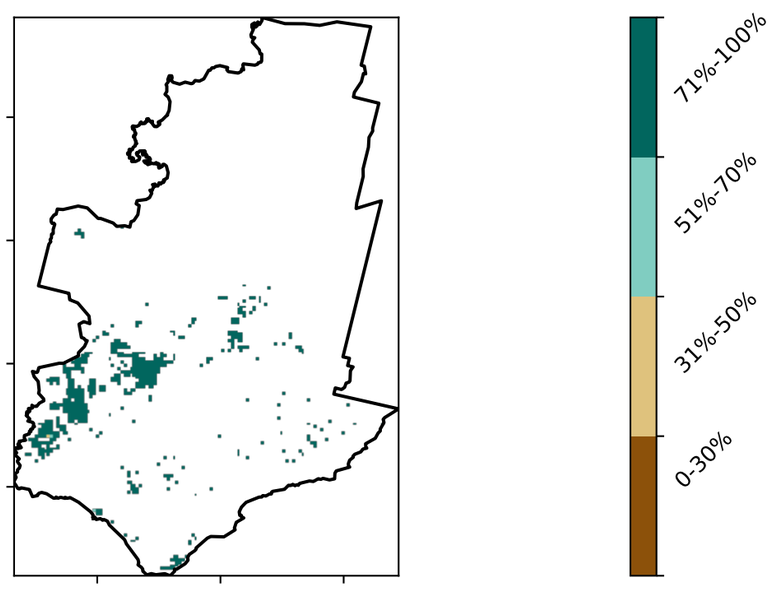
Conservation and natural environments Woodland forest

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

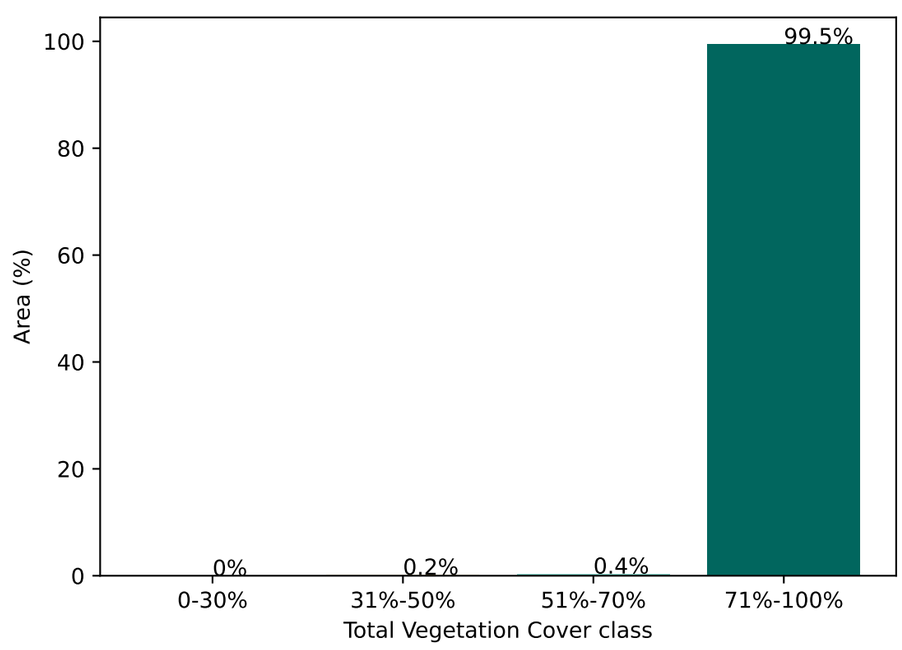
Land use and forest cover



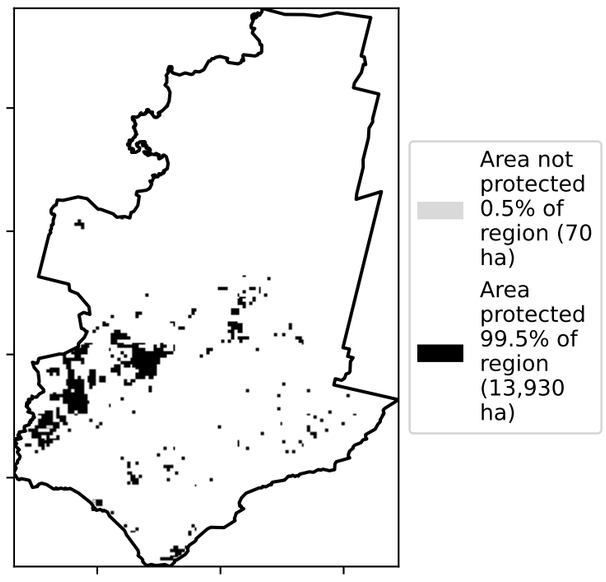
Total Vegetation Cover [%]



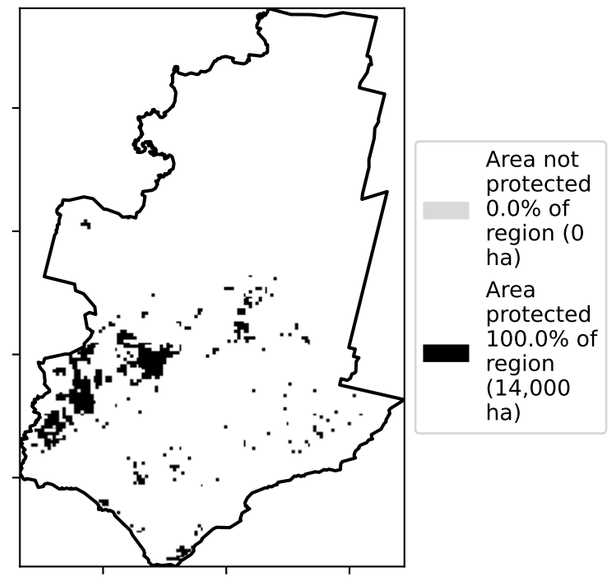
Proportion of vegetation cover class in area



% Area protected from water erosion (>70%)

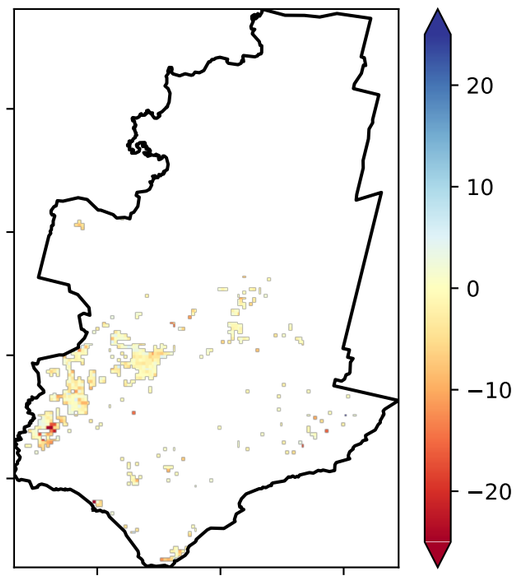


% Area protected from wind erosion (>50%)



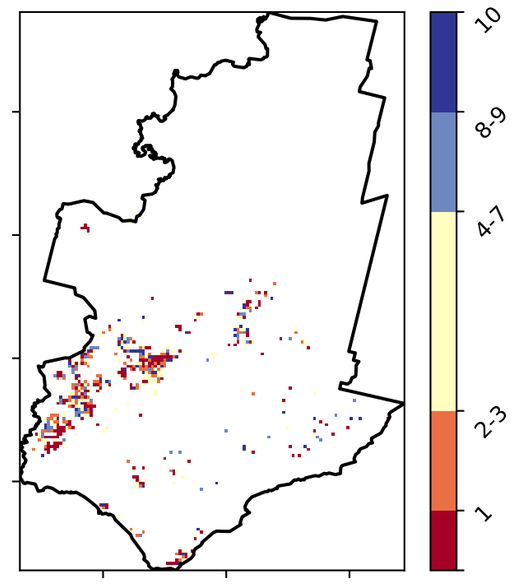
Total Vegetation Cover Anomaly [%]

Anomaly show how many percetage 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.



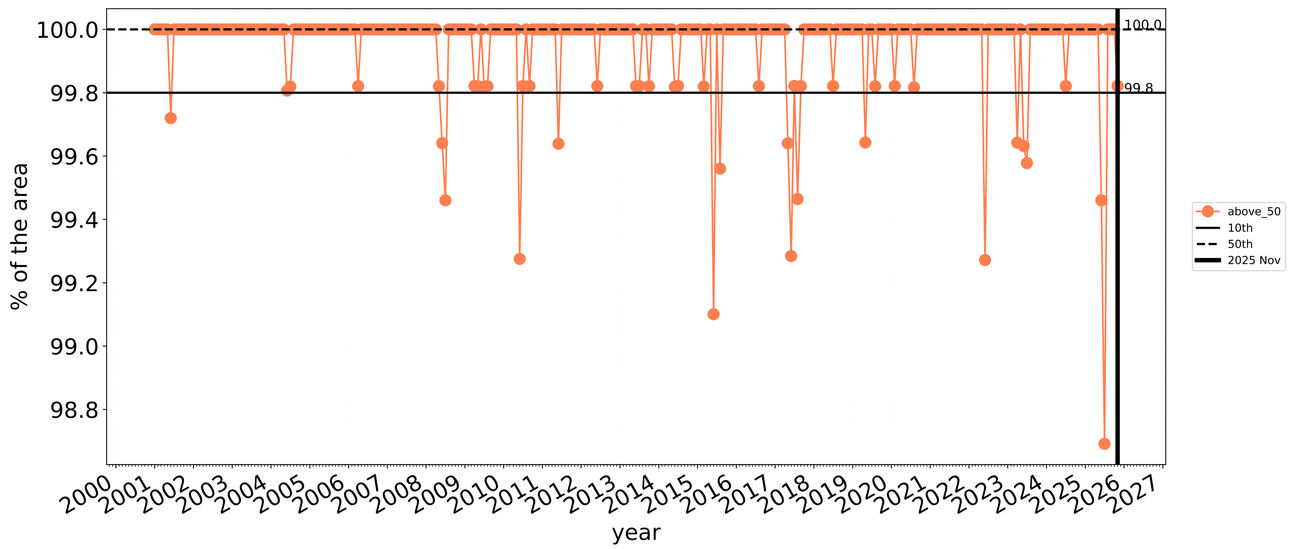
Total Vegetation Cover Decile [%]

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.

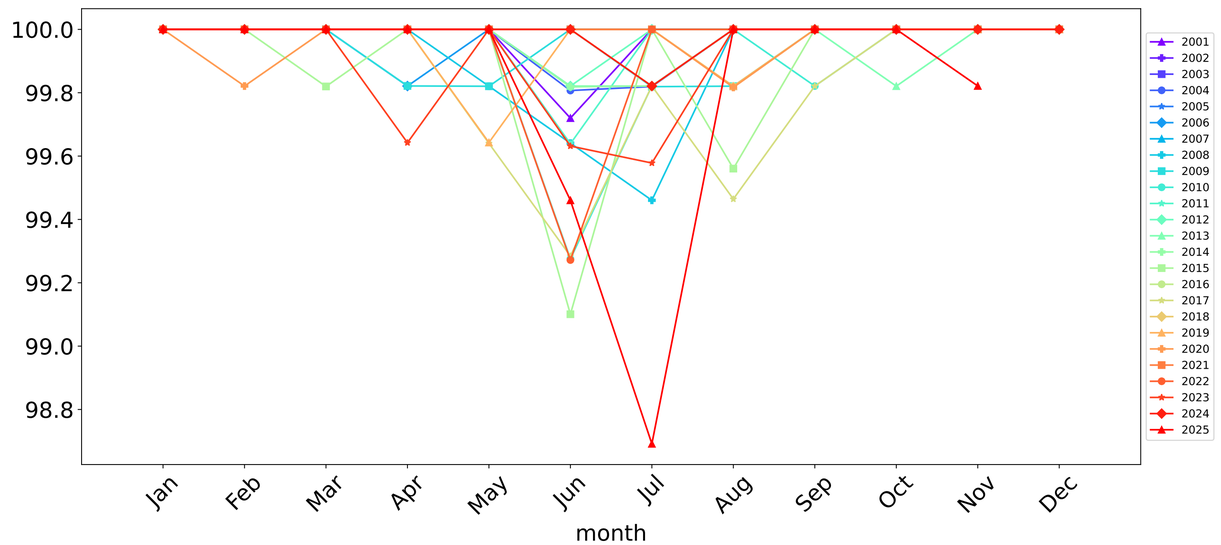


Conservation and natural environments Woodland forest timeseries

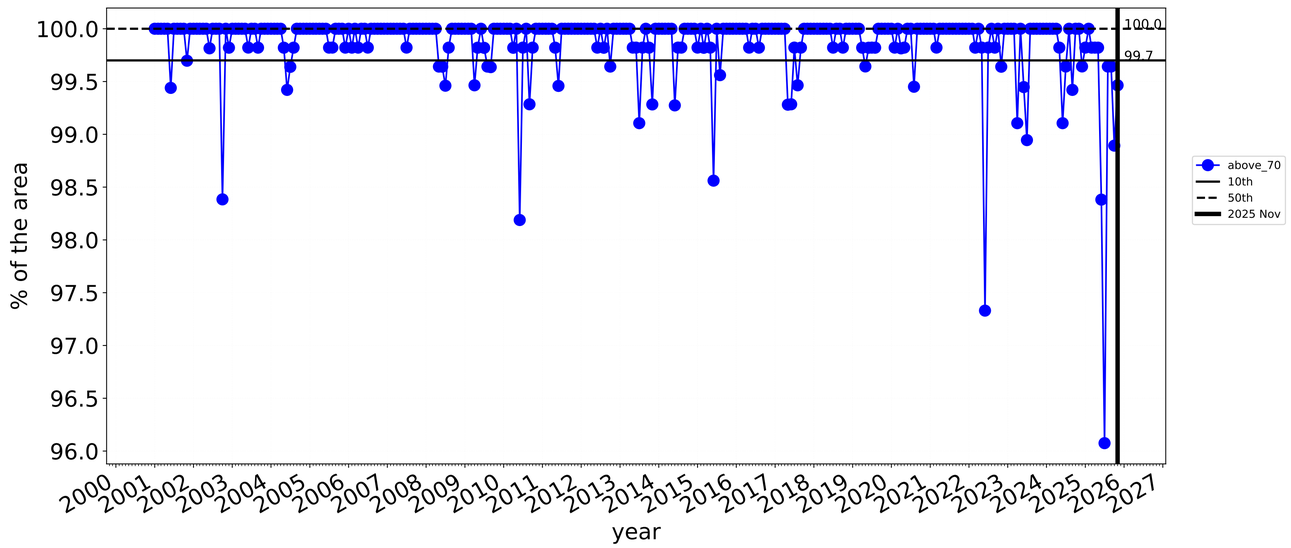
Proportion of the area protected from wind erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 50%)



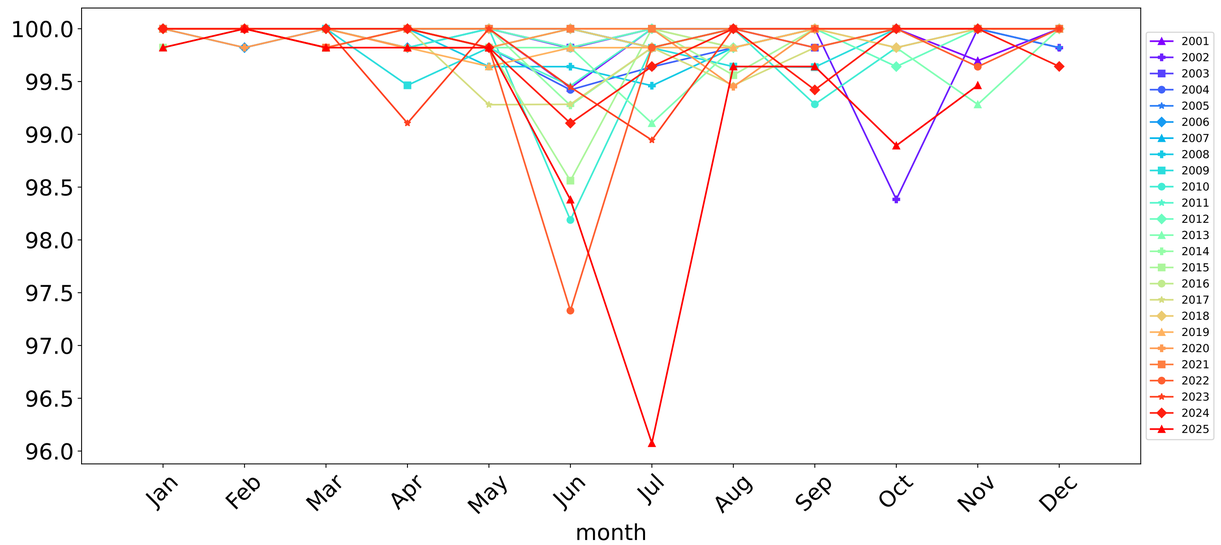
Wind erosion historical monthly area protected (Total Veg Cov >50%)

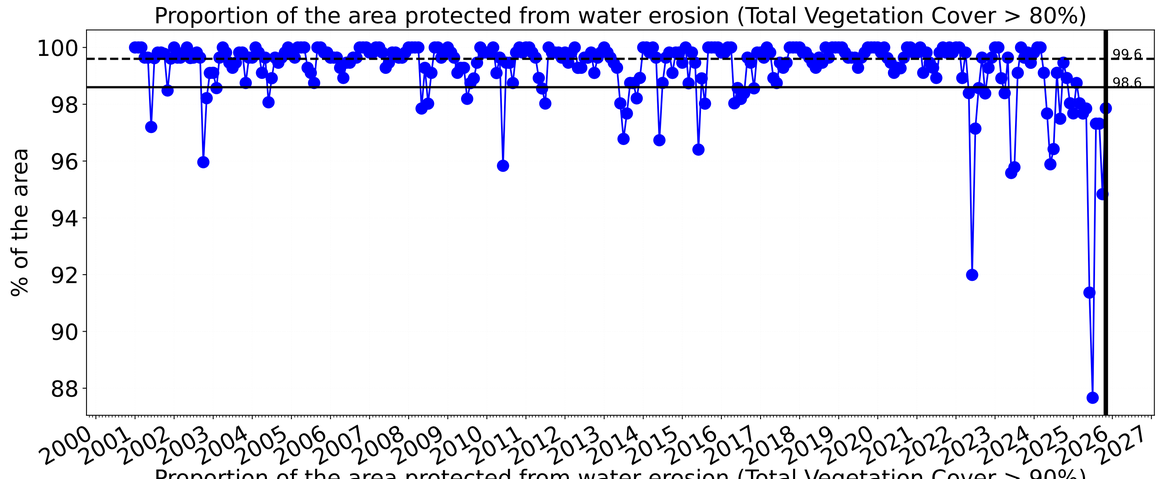


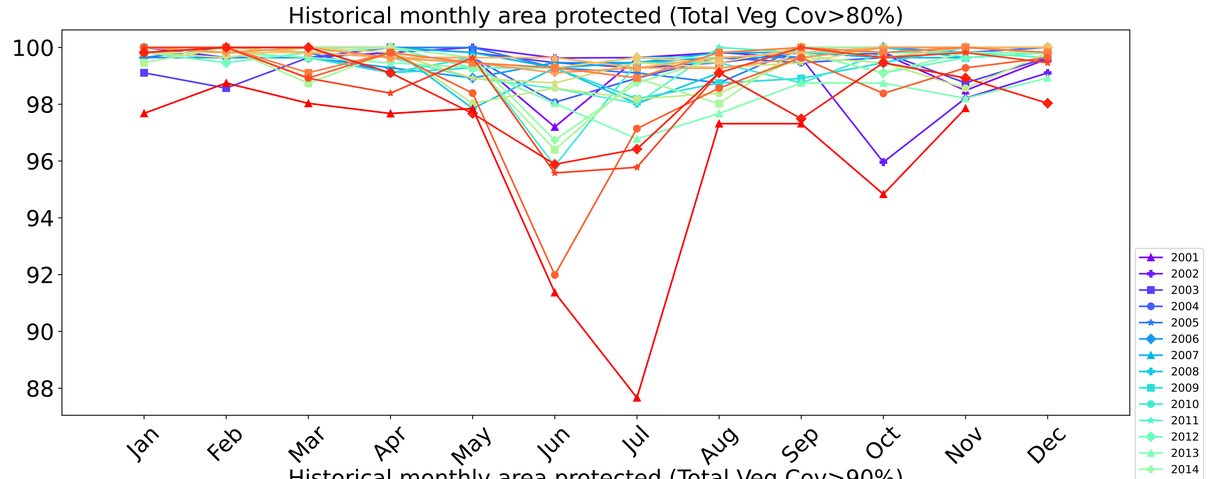
Proportion of the area protected from water erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 70%)



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




Proportion of the area protected from water erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 80%)
% of the area
99.6
98.6
above_80
10th
50th
2025 Nov


Historical monthly area protected (Total Veg Cov>80%)
Jan
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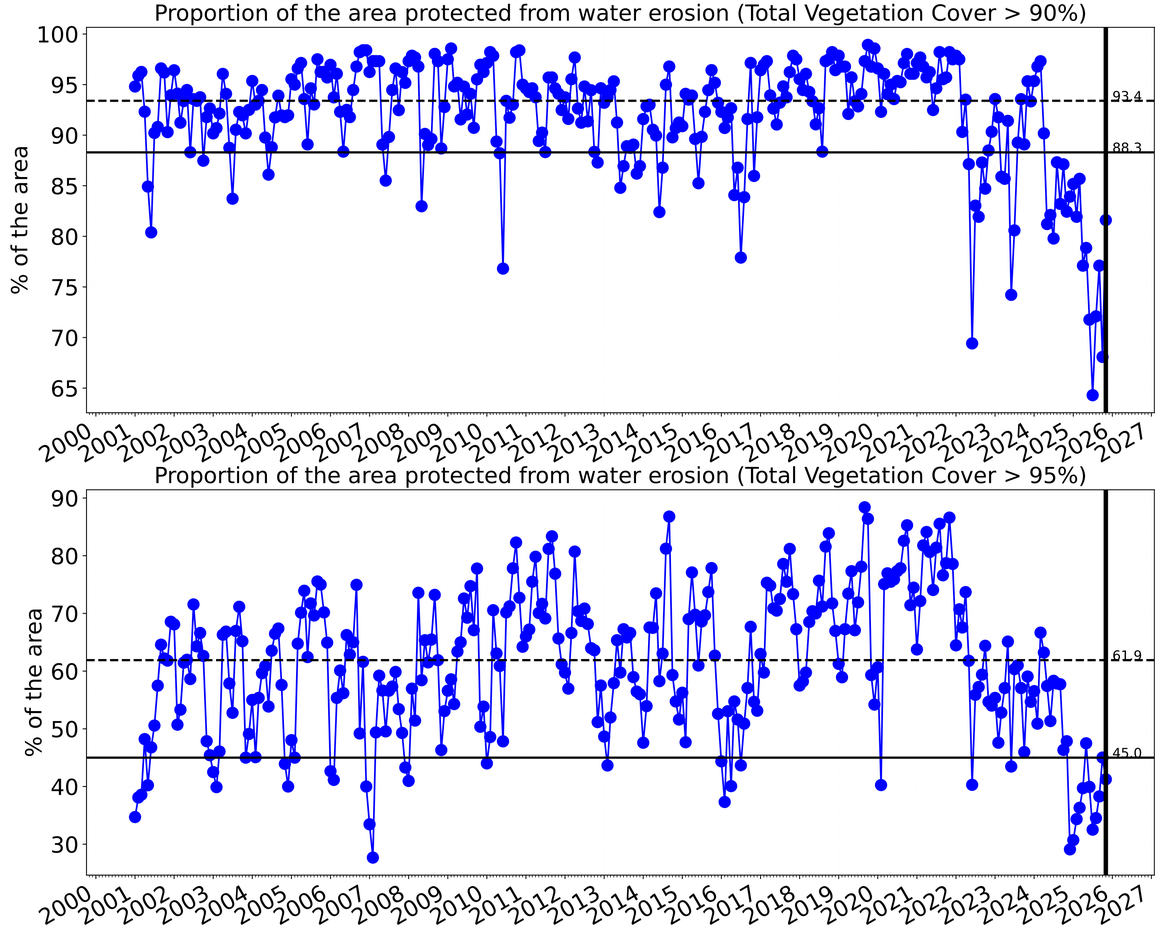
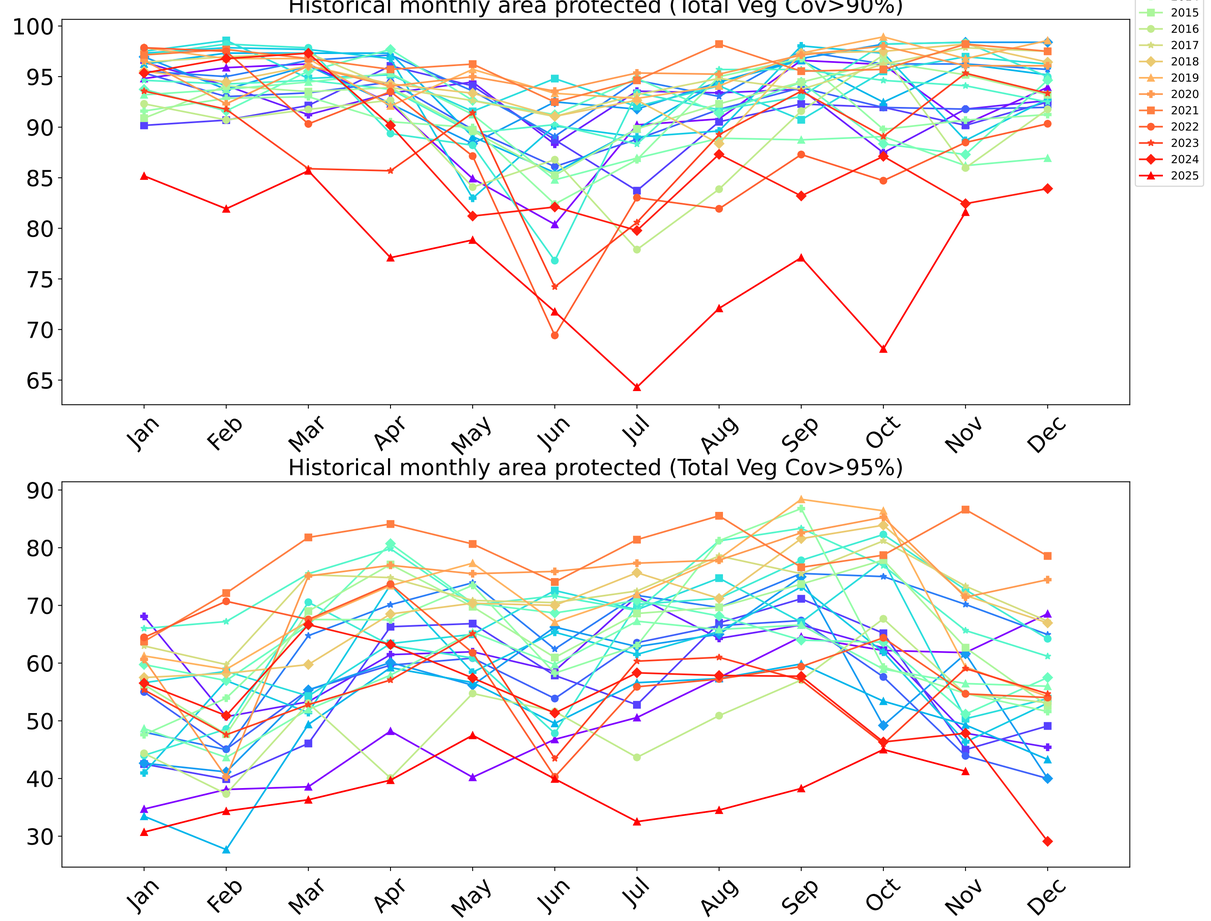
2025

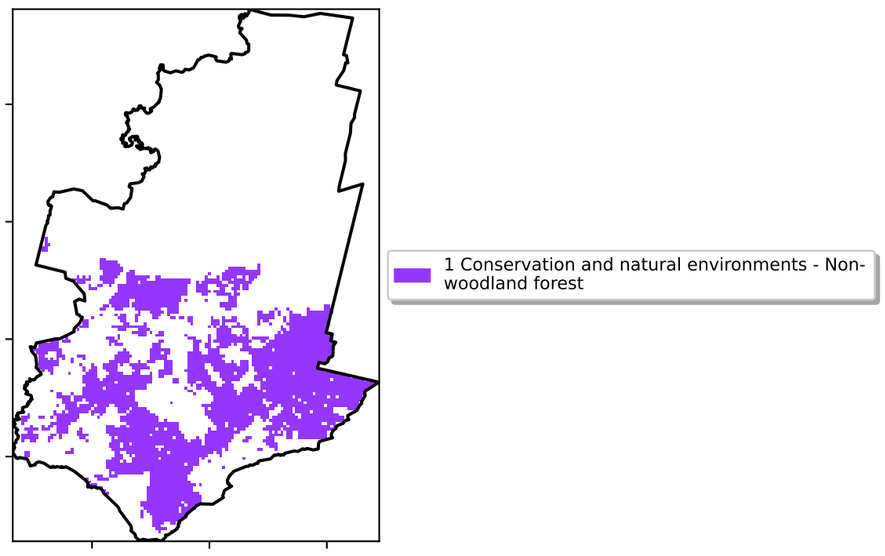

Proportion of the area protected from water erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 90%)
% of the area
93.4
88.3
above_90
10th
50th
2025 Nov
Proportion of the area protected from water erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 95%)
% of the area
61.9
45.0
above_95
10th
50th
2025 Nov


Historical monthly area protected (Total Veg Cov>90%)
Historical monthly area protected (Total Veg Cov>95%)
Jan
Feb
Mar
Apr
May
Jun
Jul
Aug
Sep
Oct
Nov
Dec

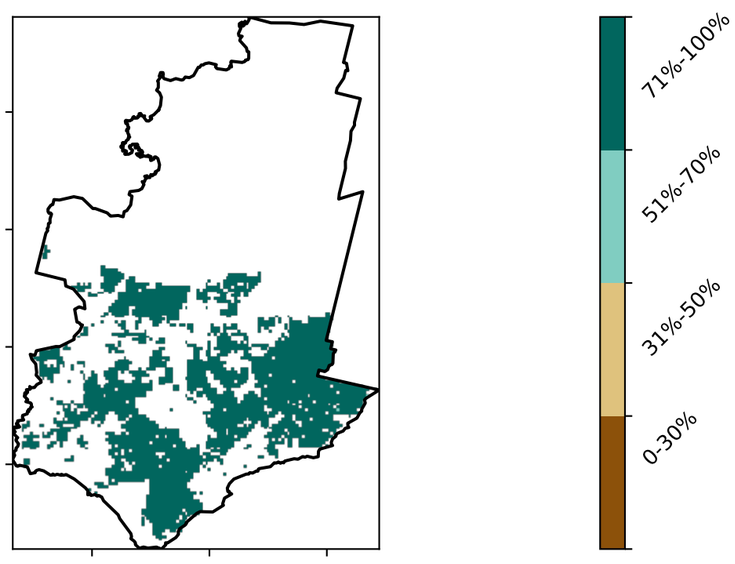
Conservation and natural environments Forest (non woodland)

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

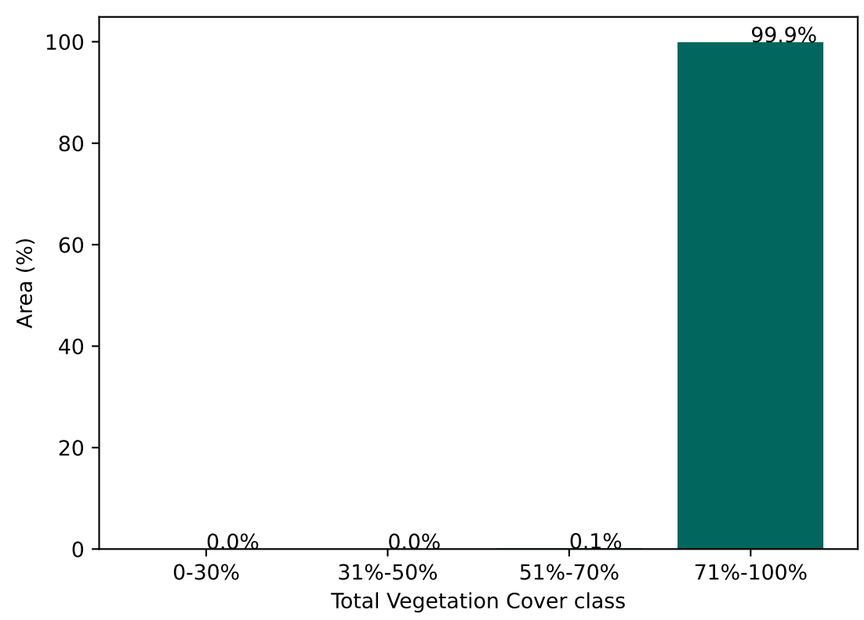
Land use and forest cover



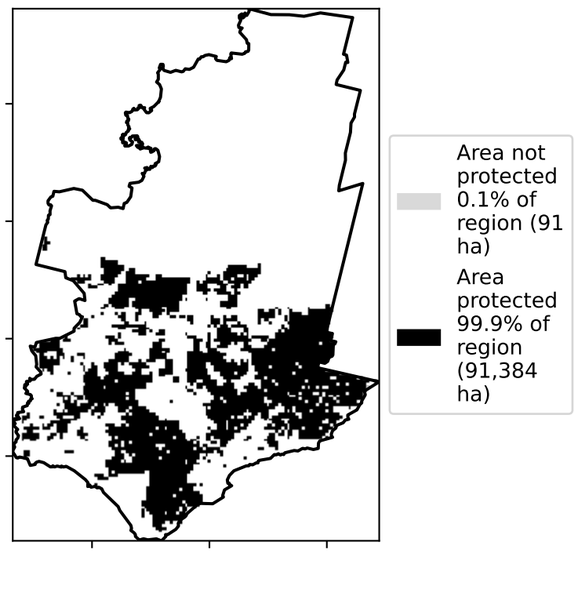
Total Vegetation Cover [%]



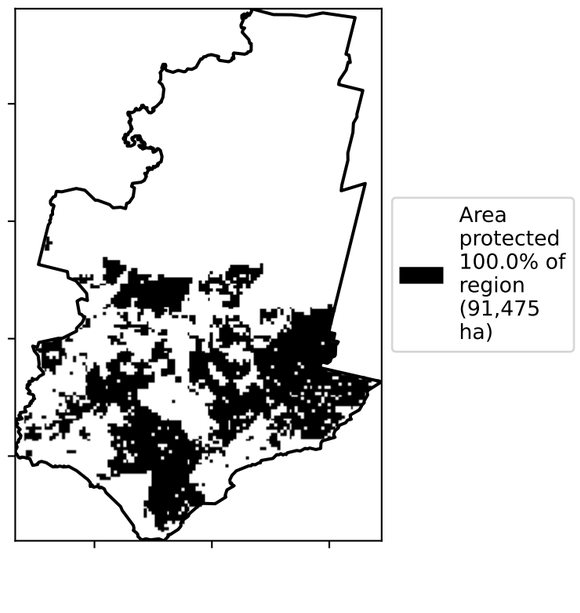
Proportion of vegetation cover class in area



% Area protected from water erosion (>70%)

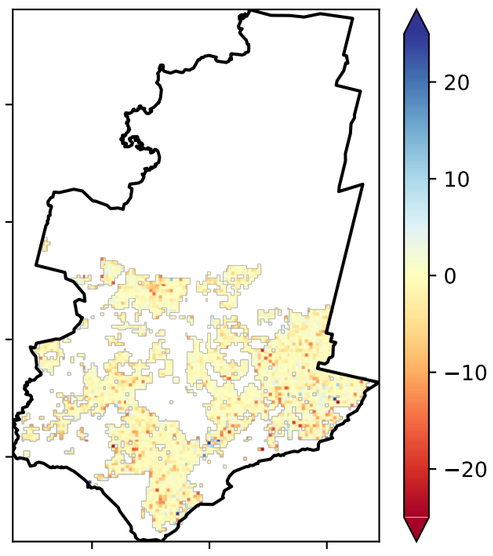


% Area protected from wind erosion (>50%)



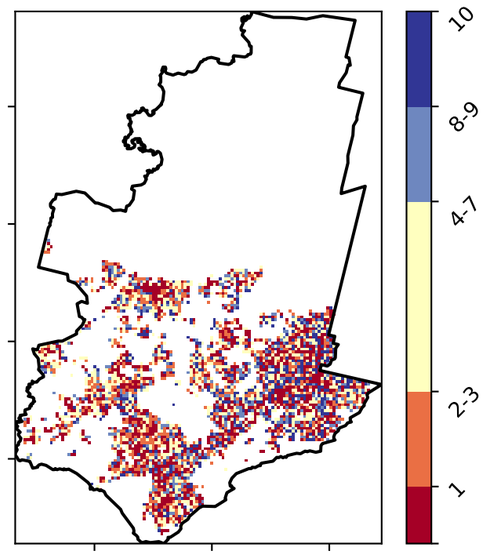
Total Vegetation Cover Anomaly [%]

Anomaly show how many percetage 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.



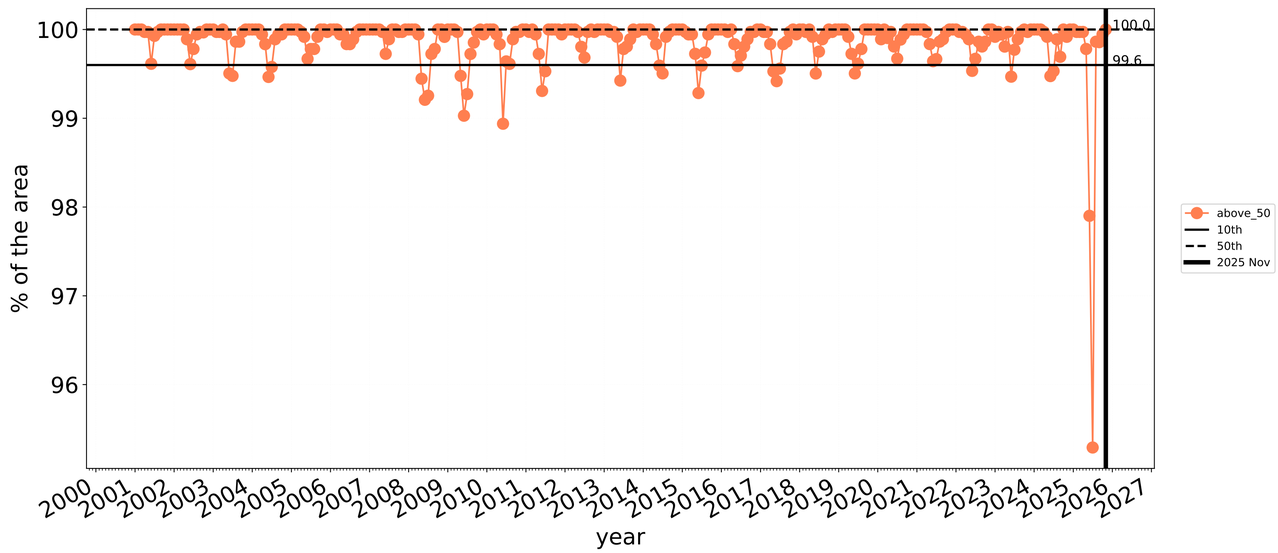
Total Vegetation Cover Decile [%]

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.

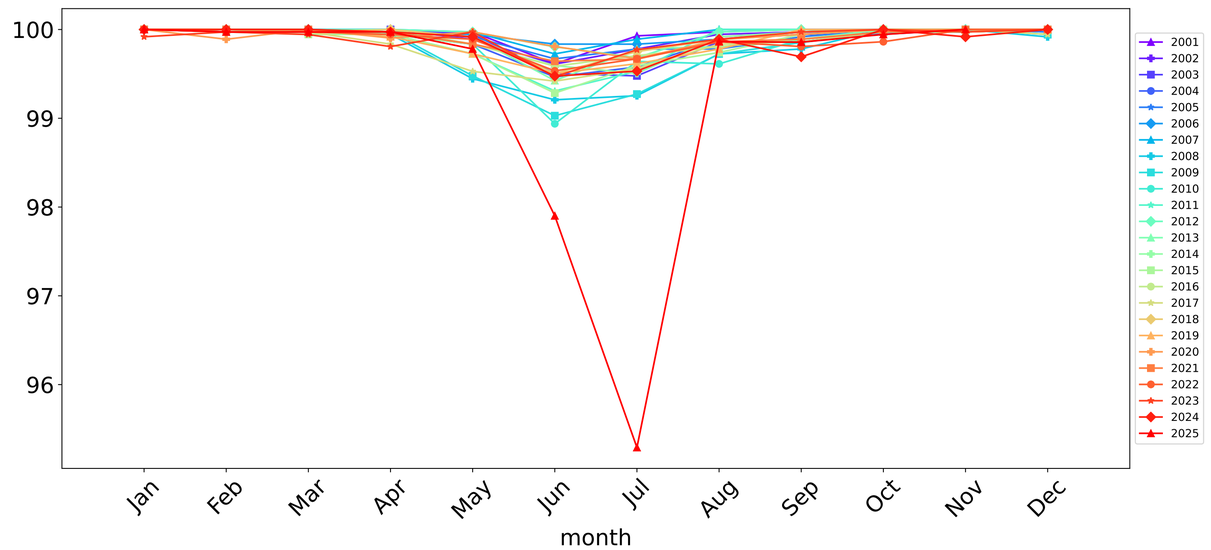


Conservation and natural environments Forest (non woodland) timeseries

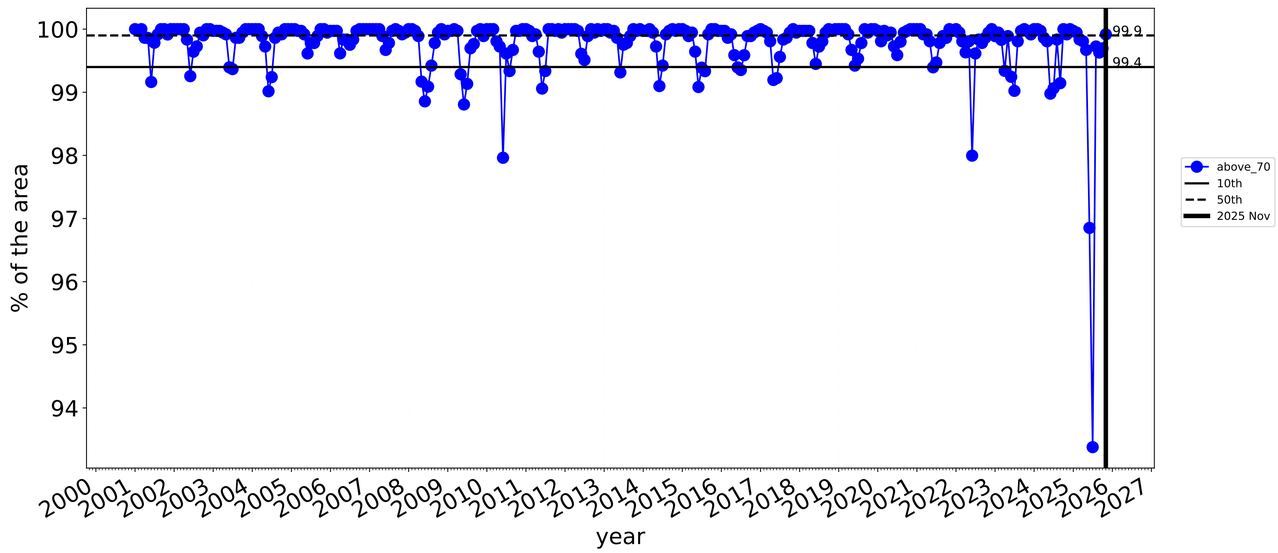
Proportion of the area protected from wind erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 50%)



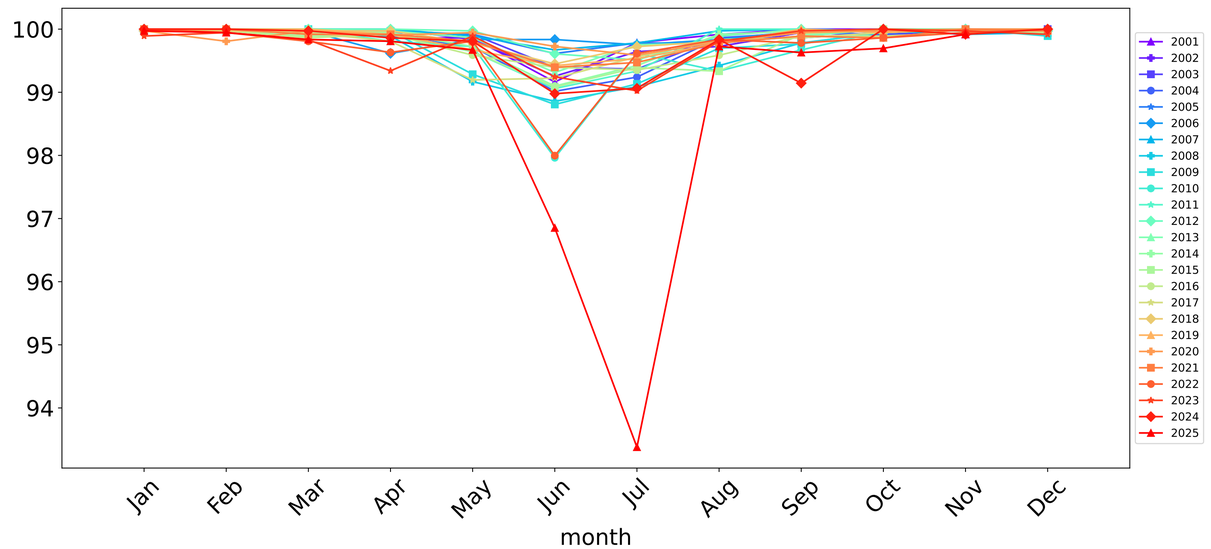
Wind erosion historical monthly area protected (Total Veg Cov >50%)

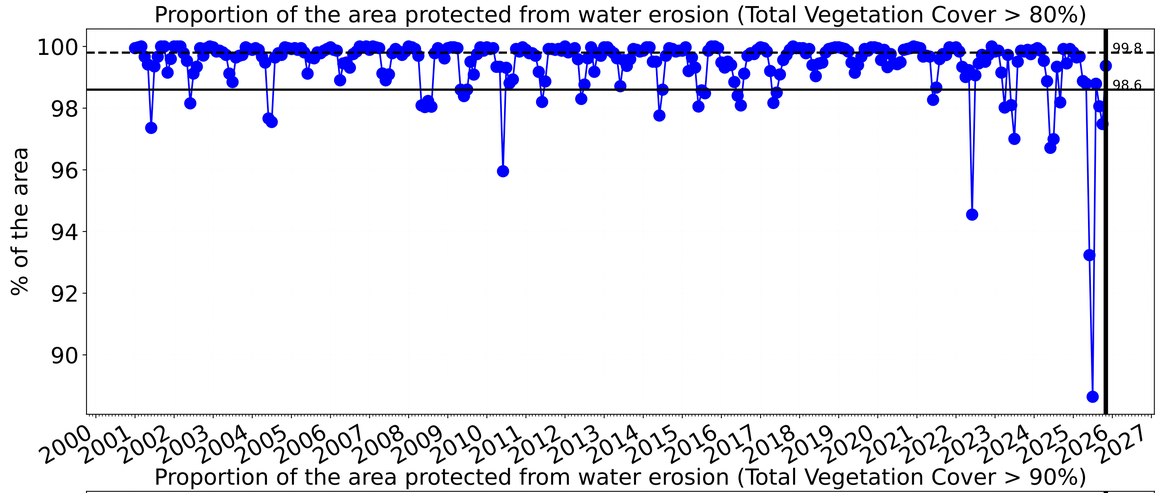


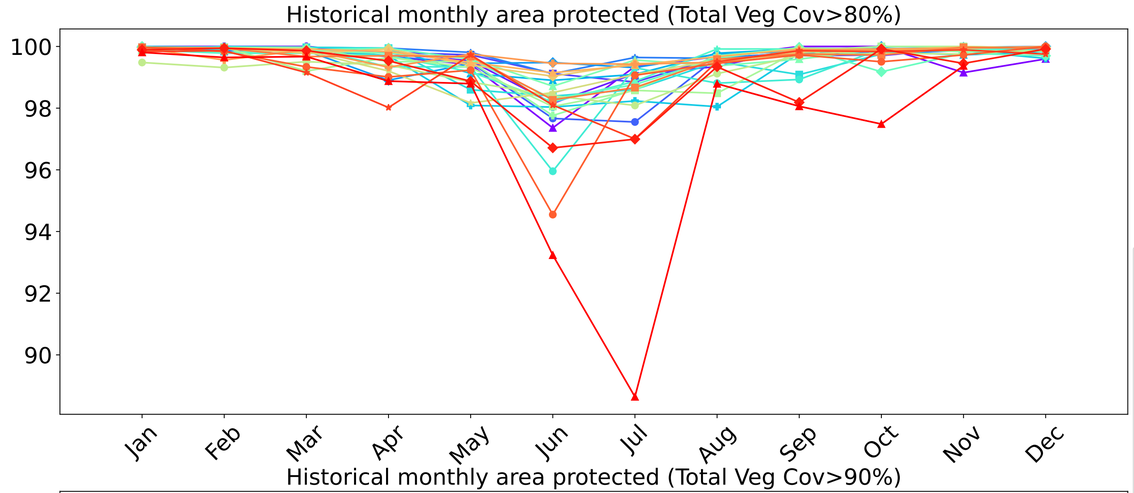
Proportion of the area protected from water erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 70%)



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




Proportion of the area protected from water erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 80%)
% of the area
99.8
98.6
above_80
10th
50th
2025 Nov


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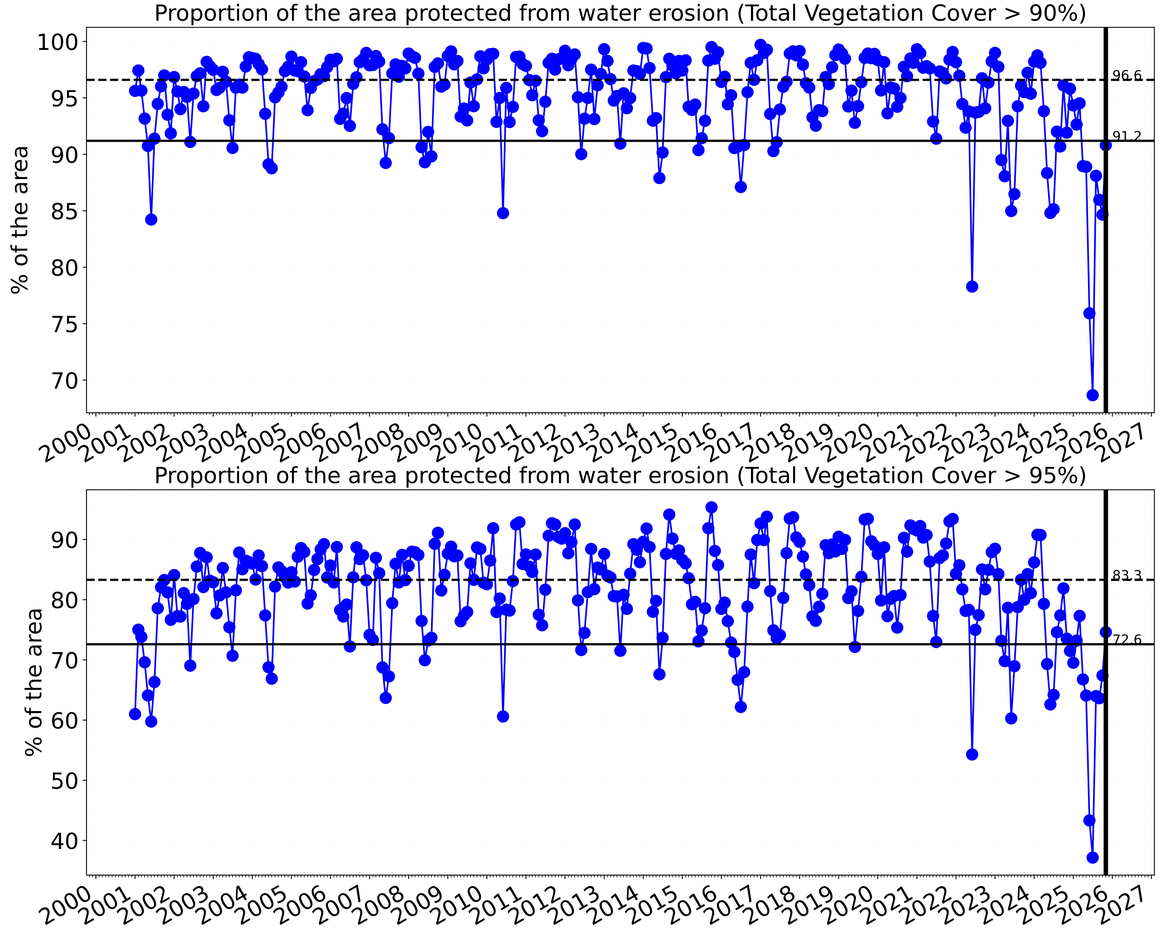
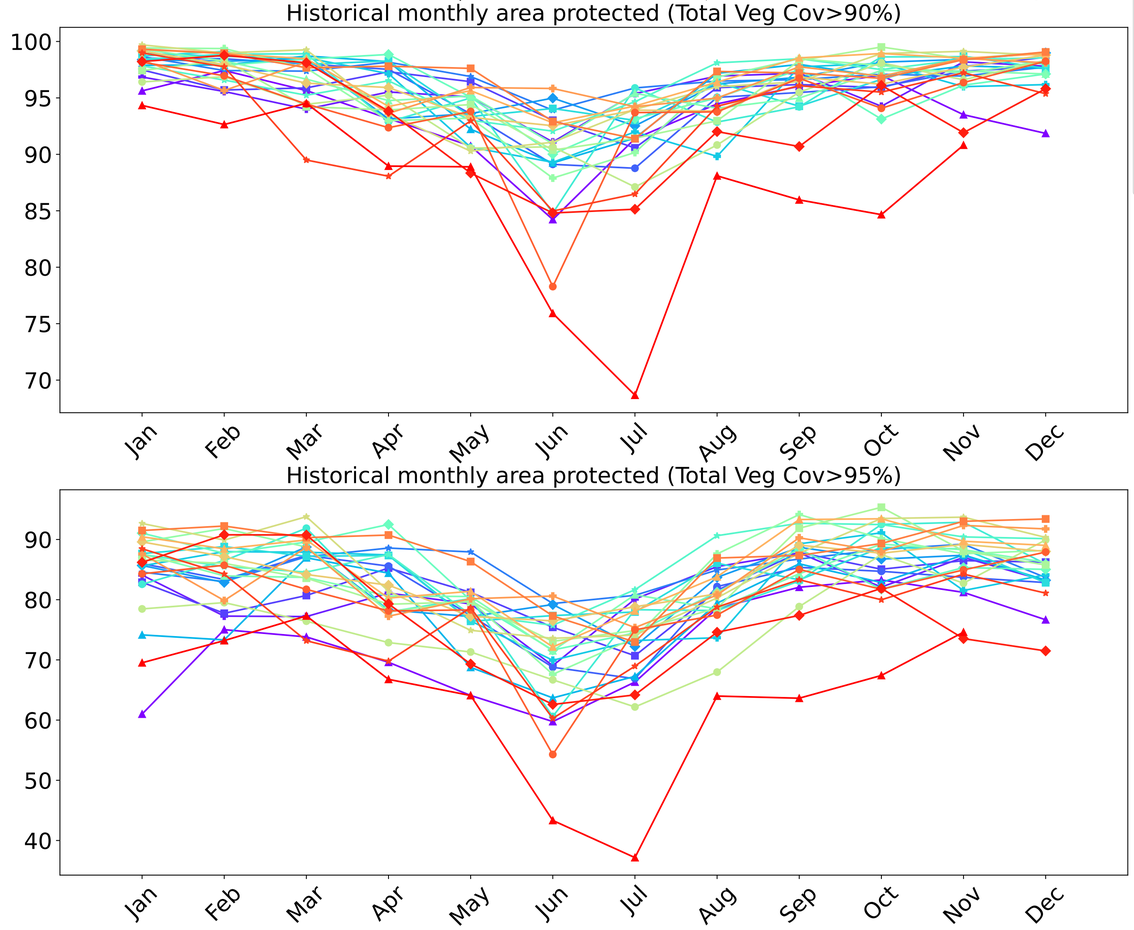

Proportion of the area protected from water erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 90%)
% of the area
96.6
91.2
above_90
10th
50th
2025 Nov
Proportion of the area protected from water erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 95%)
% of the area
83.3
72.6
above_95
10th
50th
2025 Nov


Historical monthly area protected (Total Veg Cov>90%)
Historical monthly area protected (Total Veg Cov>95%)
Jan
Feb
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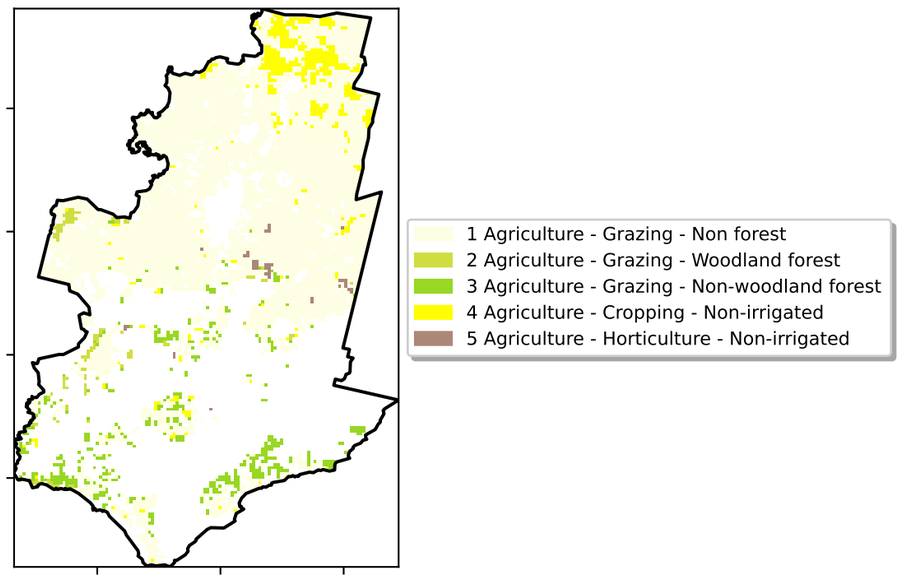
Oct
Nov
Dec

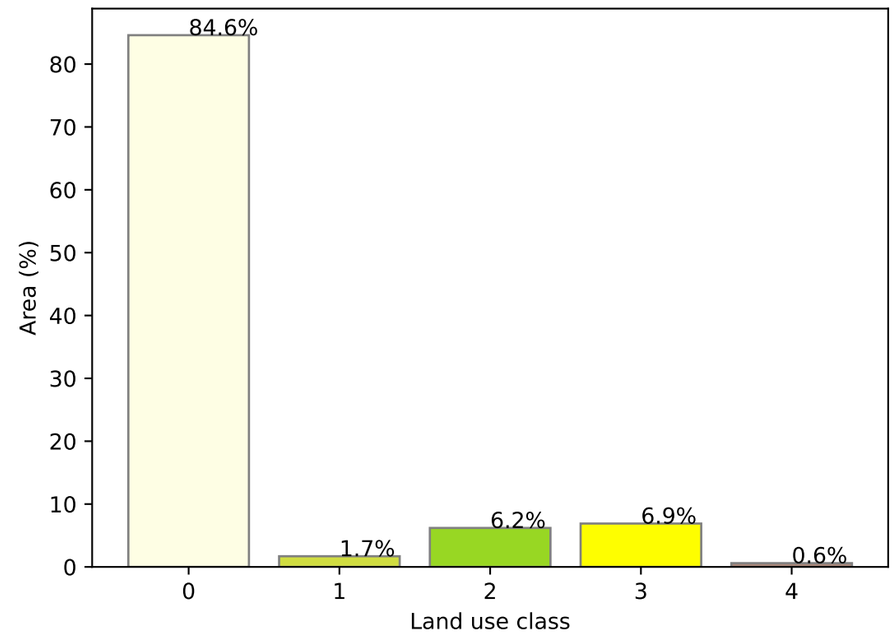
Agriculture

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

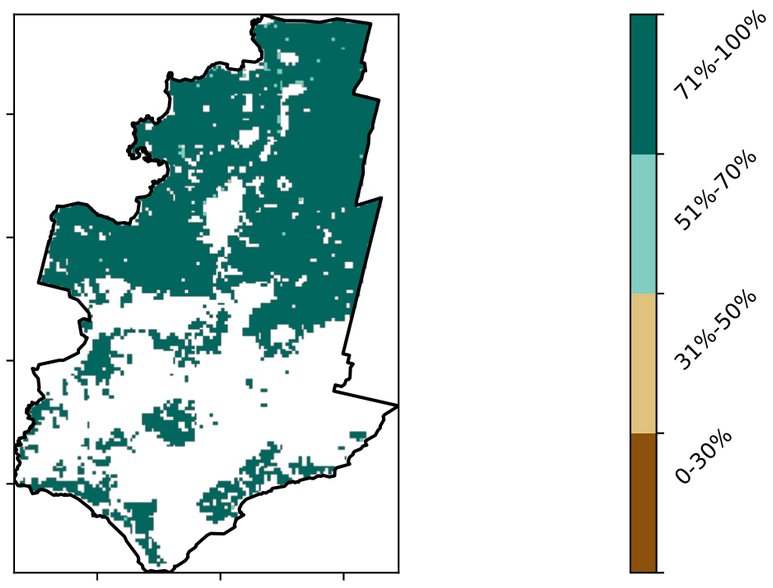
Land use and forest cover



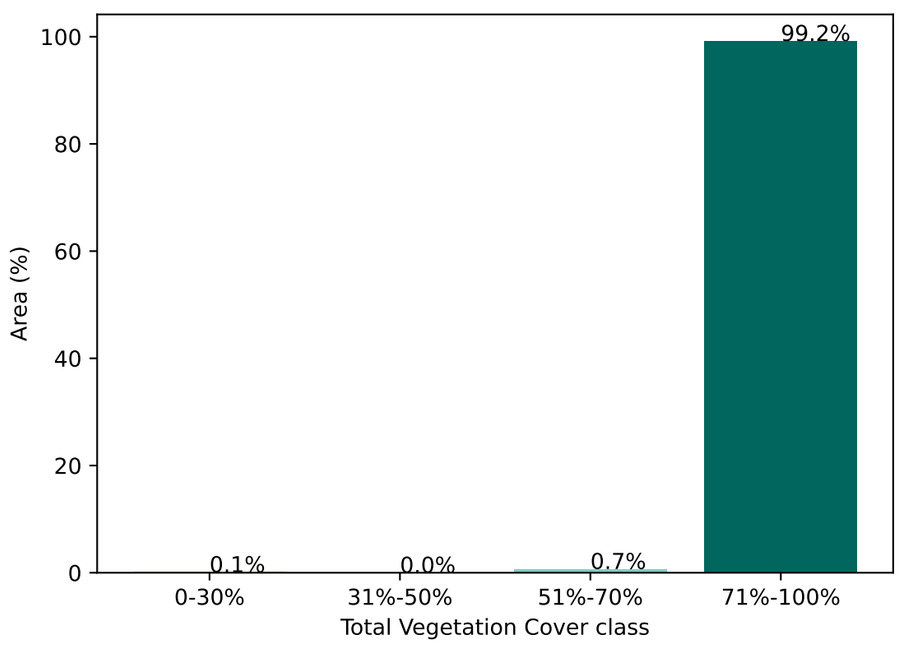
Proportion of each land class in area



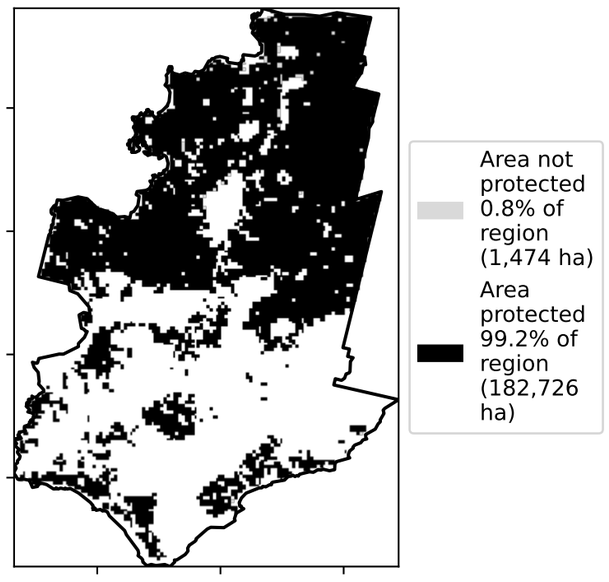
Total Vegetation Cover [%]



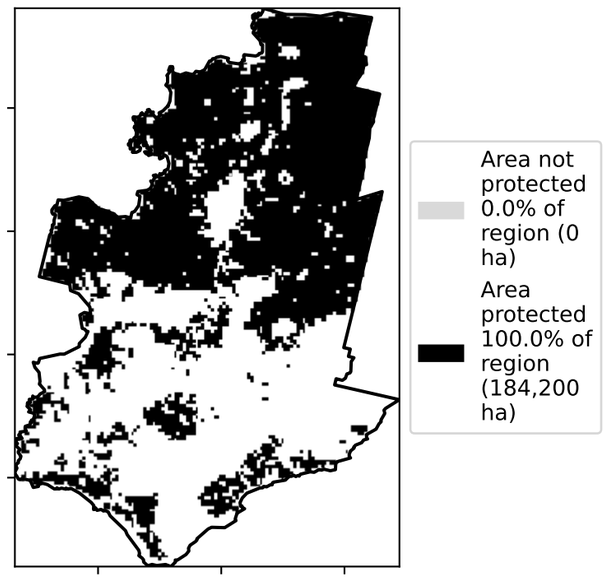
Proportion of vegetation cover class in area



% Area protected from water erosion (>70%)

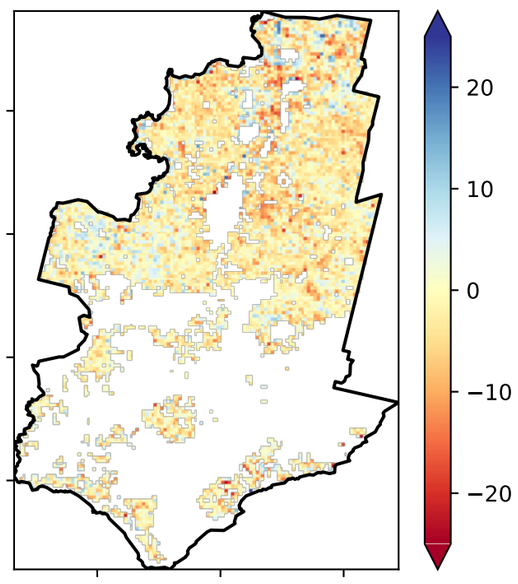


% Area protected from wind erosion (>50%)



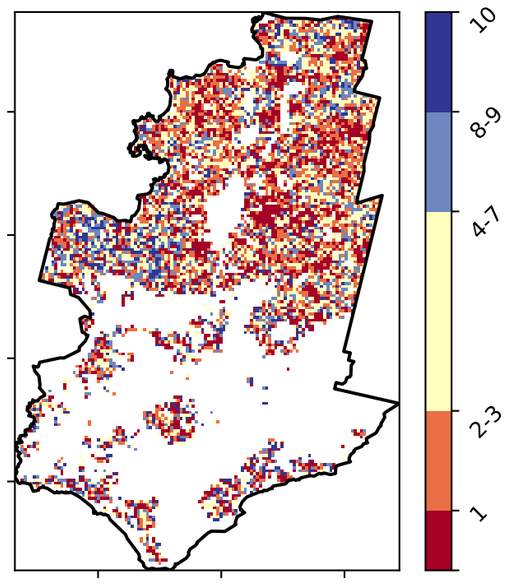
Total Vegetation Cover Anomaly [%]

Anomaly show how many percetage 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.



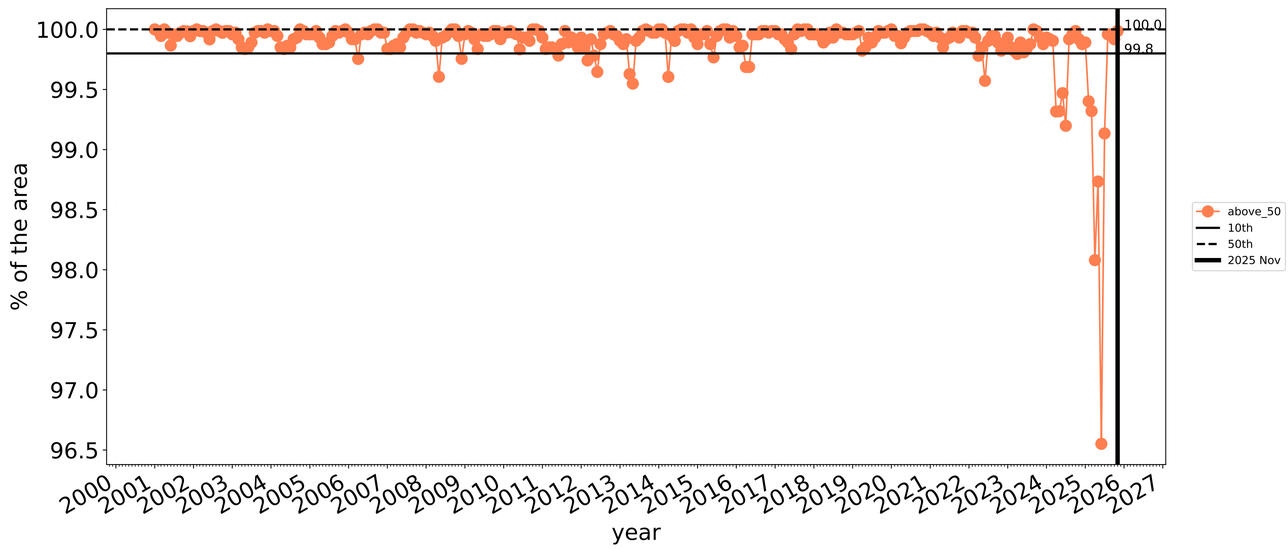
Total Vegetation Cover Decile [%]

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.

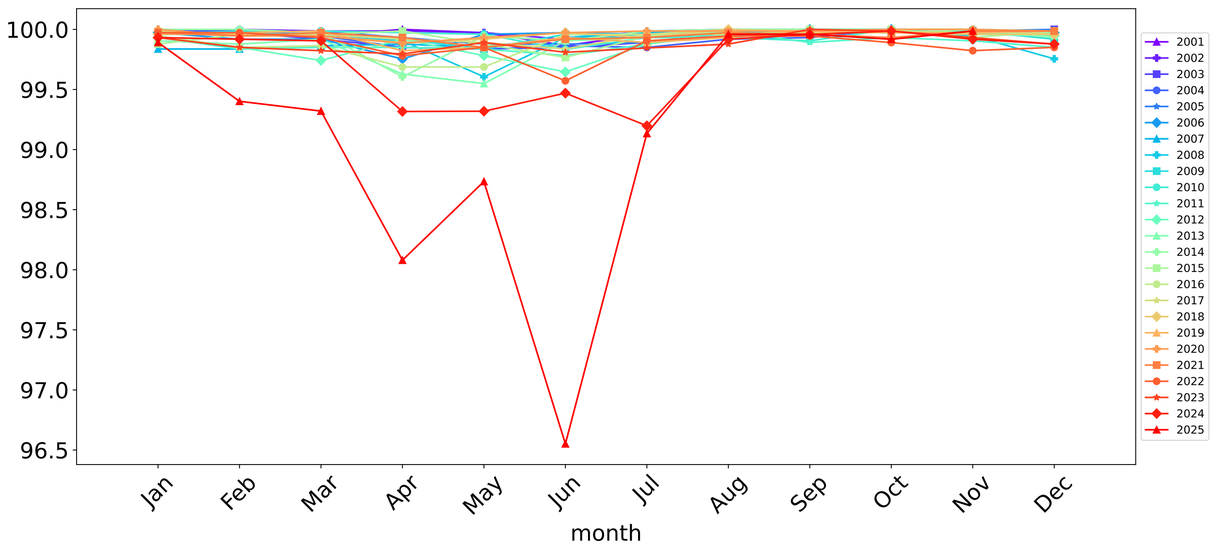


Agriculture timeseries

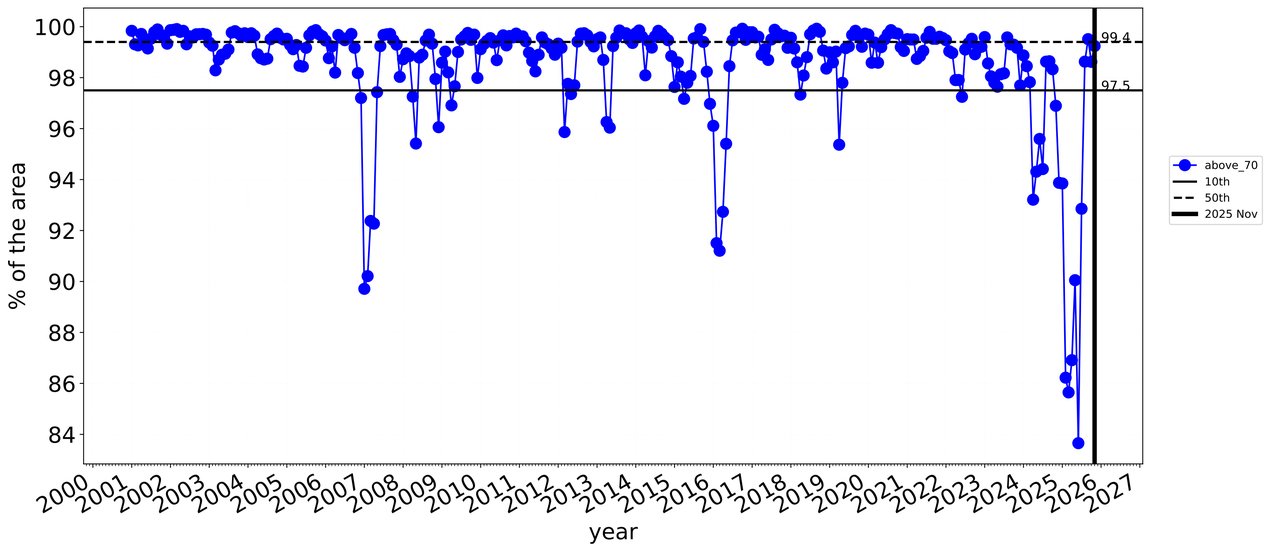
Proportion of the area protected from wind erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 50%)



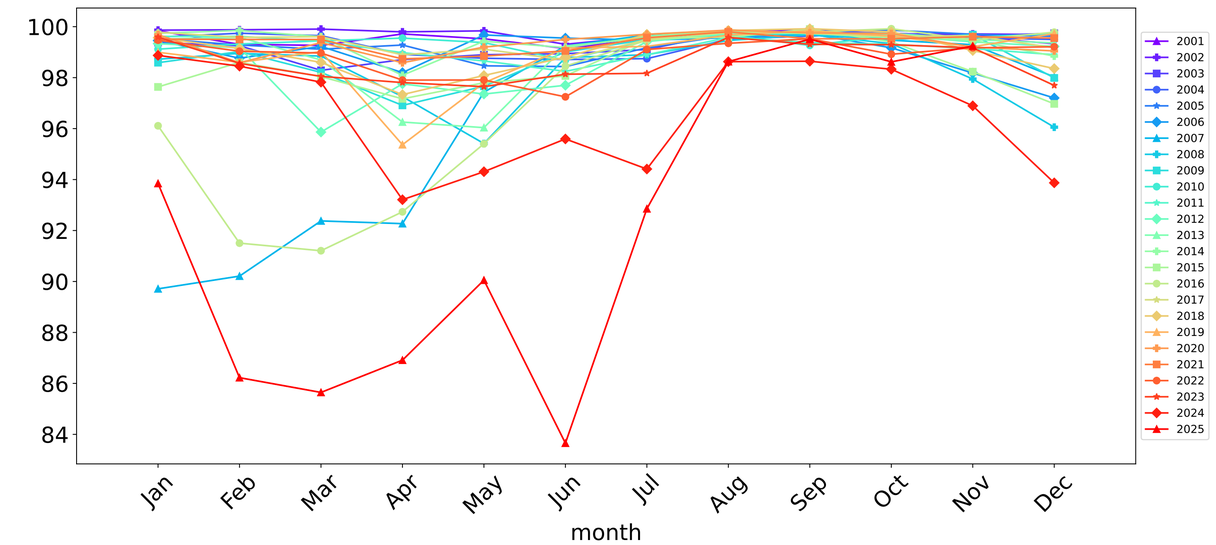
Wind erosion historical monthly area protected (Total Veg Cov >50%)



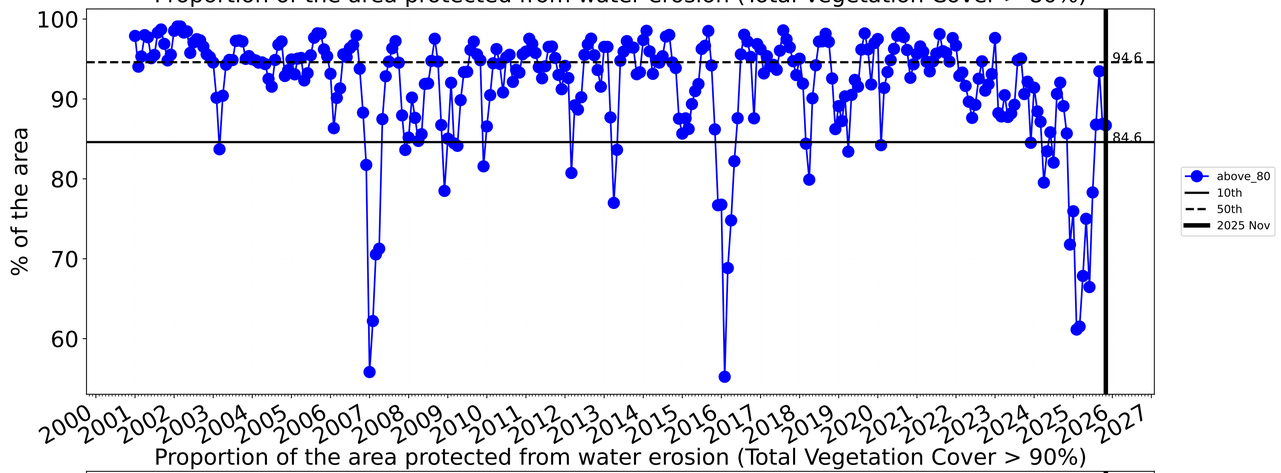
Proportion of the area protected from water erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 70%)



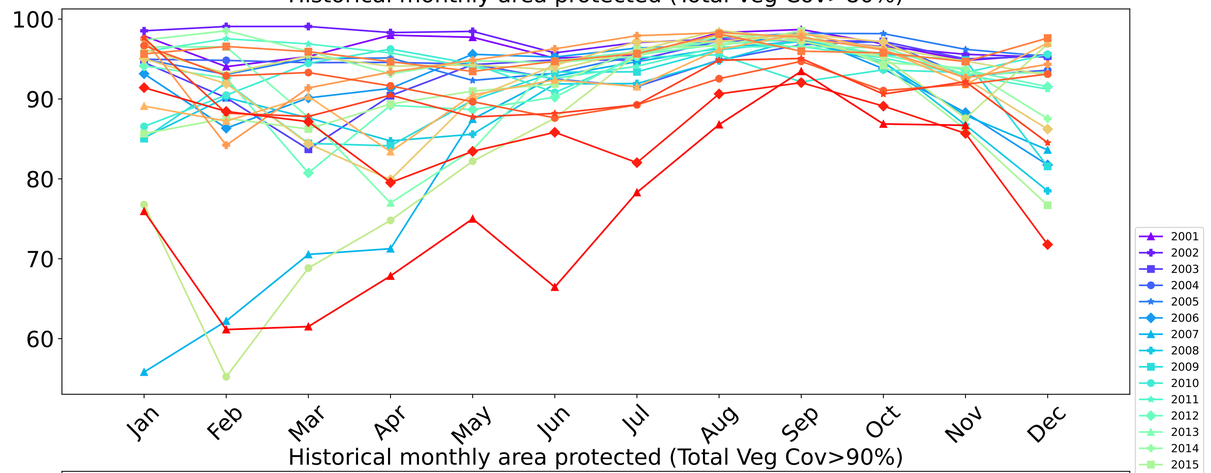
Water erosion historical monthly area protected (Total Veg Cov>70%)



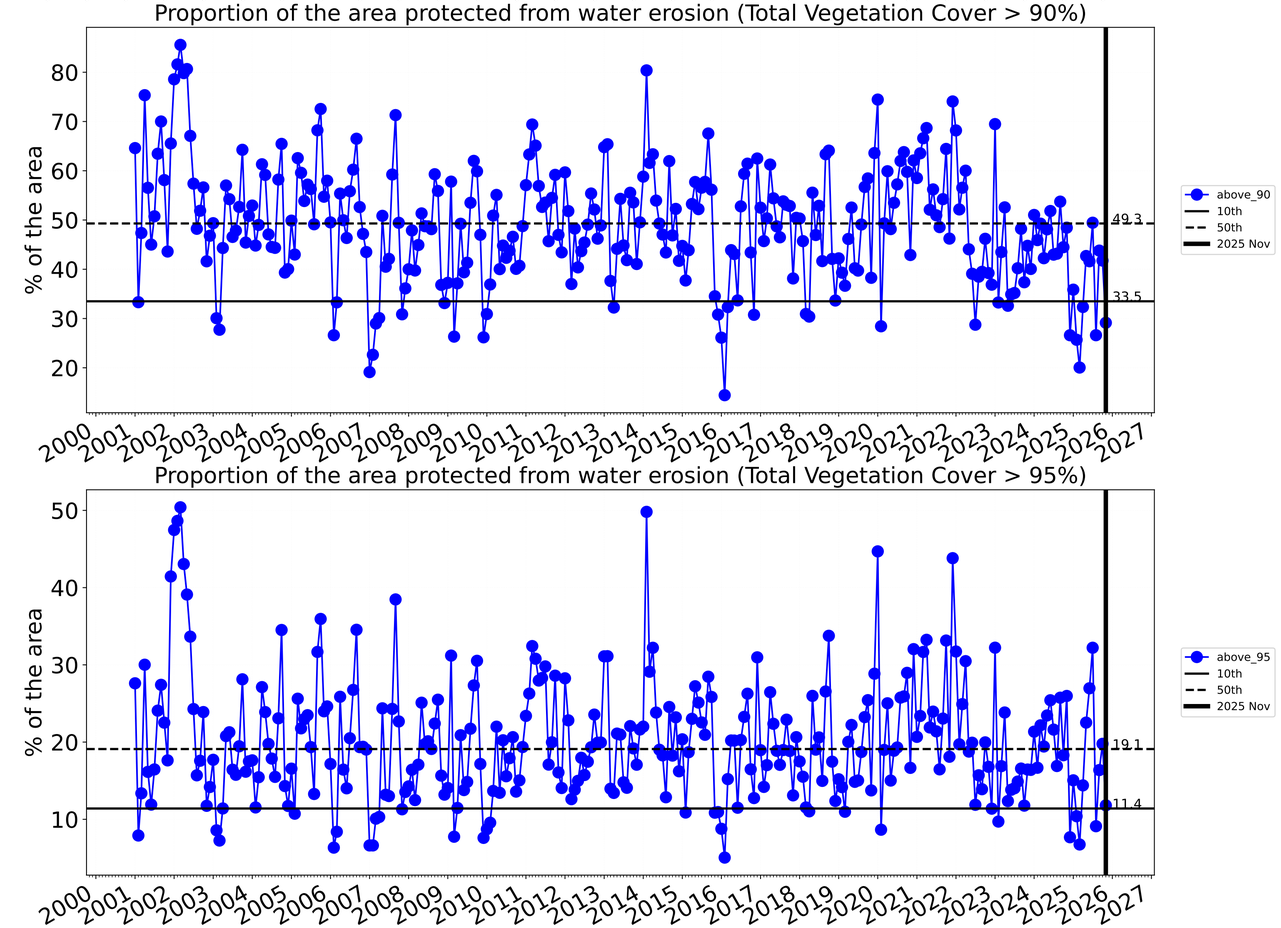
Proportion of the area protected from water erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 80%)



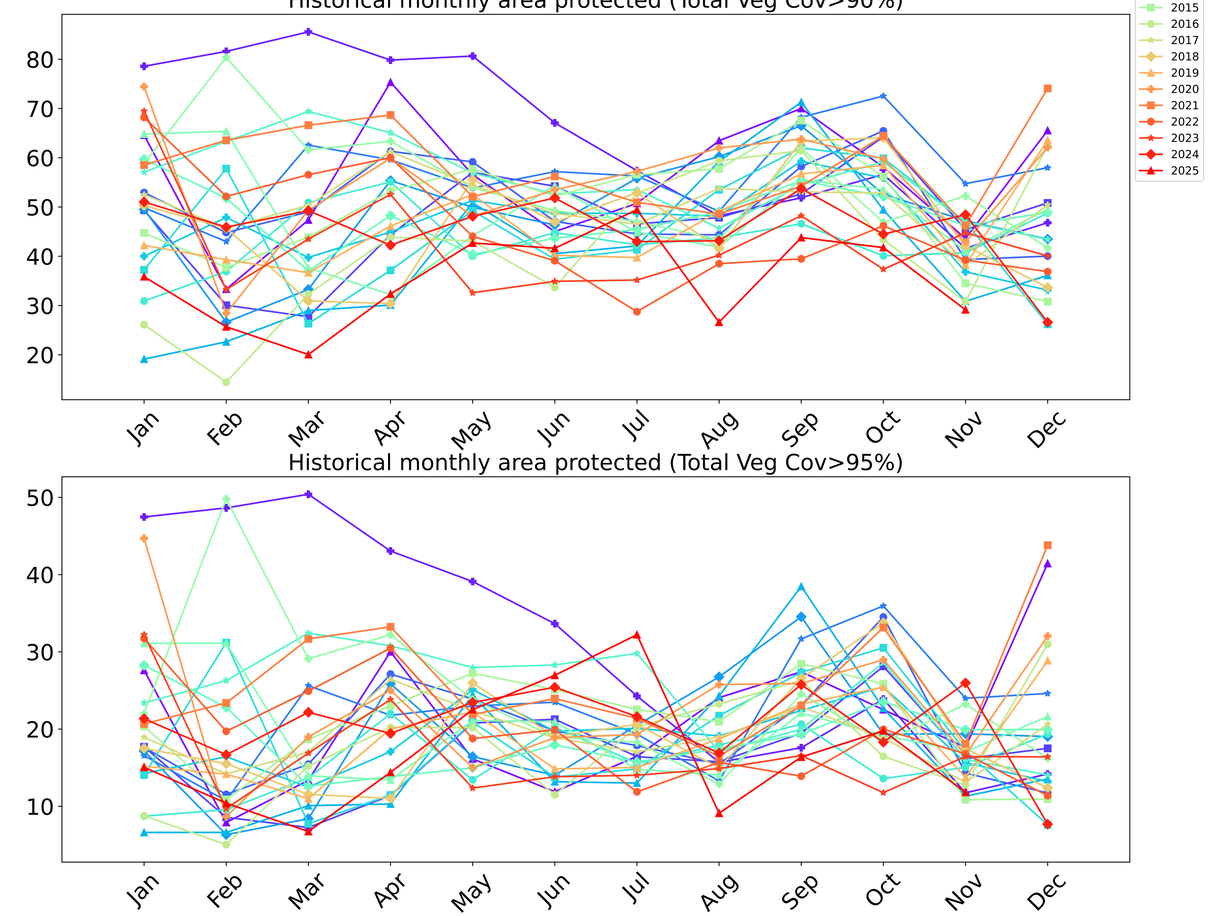
Historical monthly area protected (Total Veg Cov>80%)



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



Historical monthly area protected (Total Veg Cov>90%)



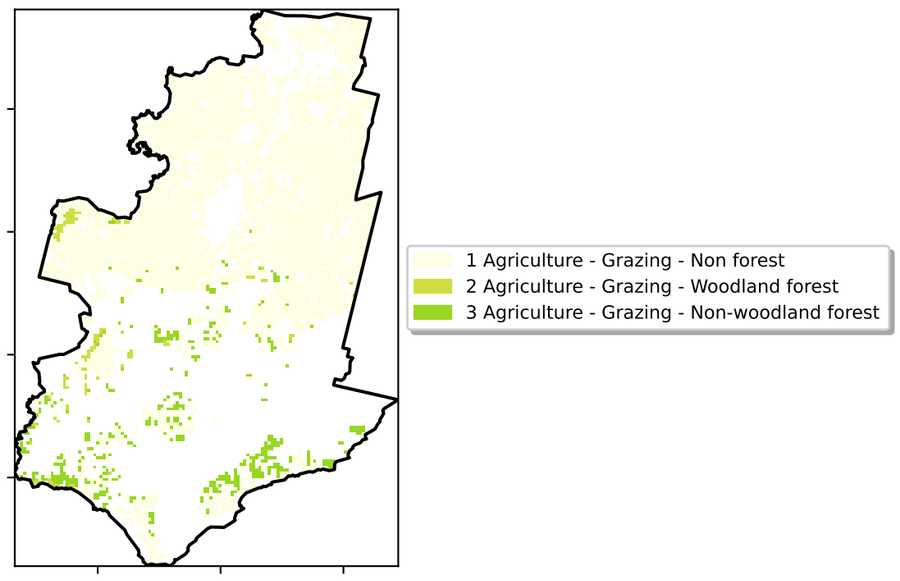
Proportion of the area protected from water erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 95%)

Historical monthly area protected (Total Veg Cov>95%)

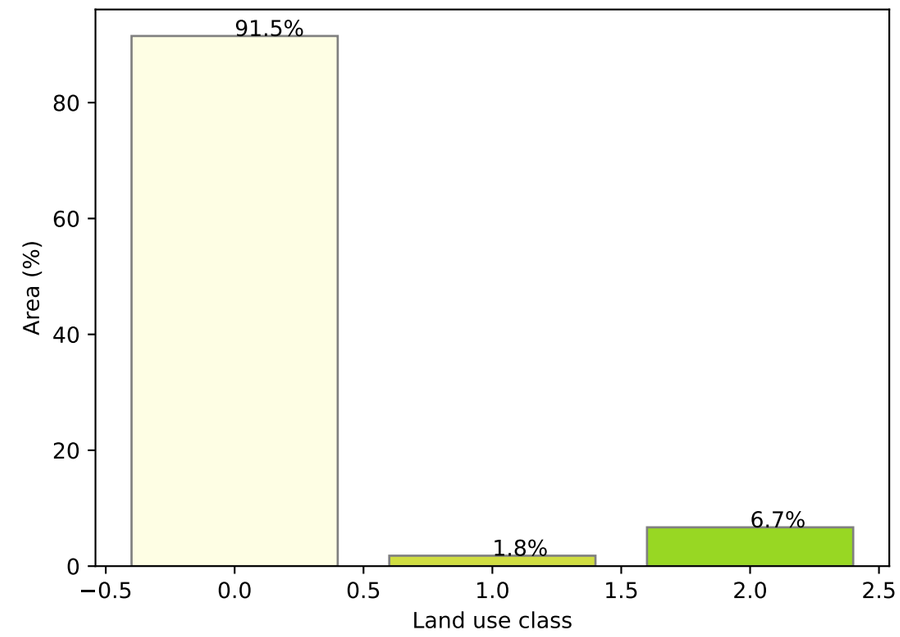
Grazing

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

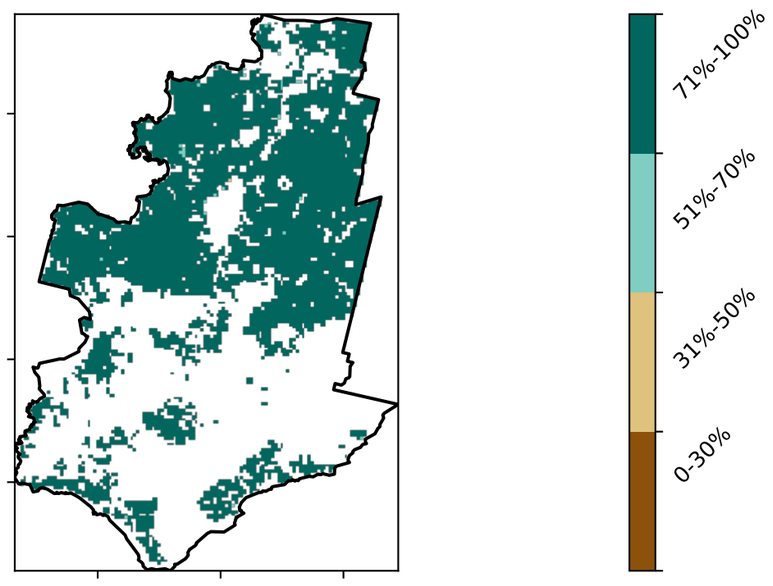
Land use and forest cover



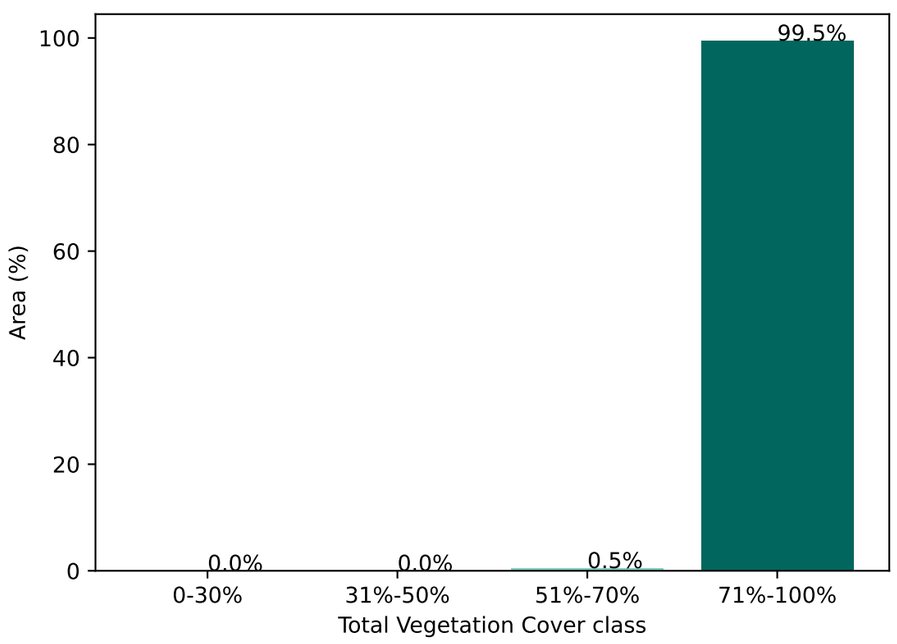
Proportion of each land class in area



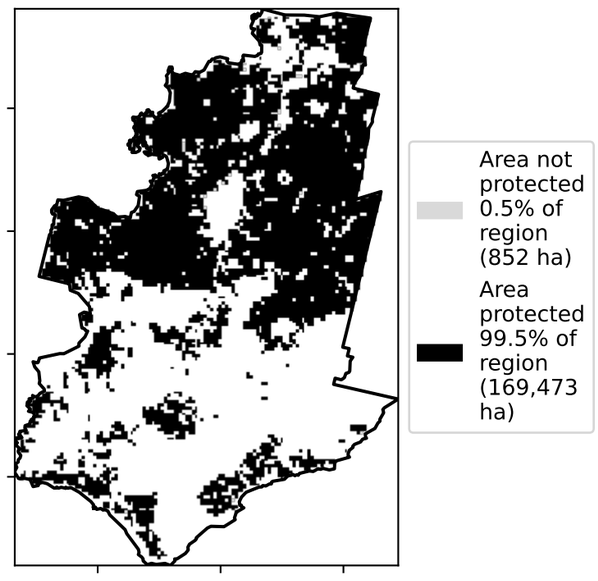
Total Vegetation Cover [%]



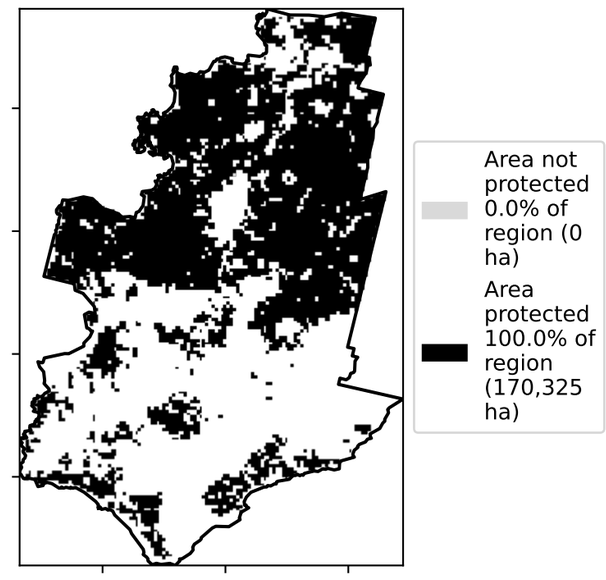
Proportion of vegetation cover class in area



% Area protected from water erosion (>70%)

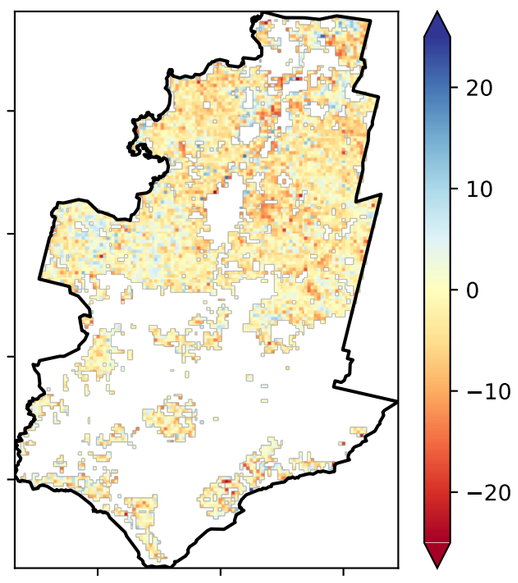


% Area protected from wind erosion (>50%)



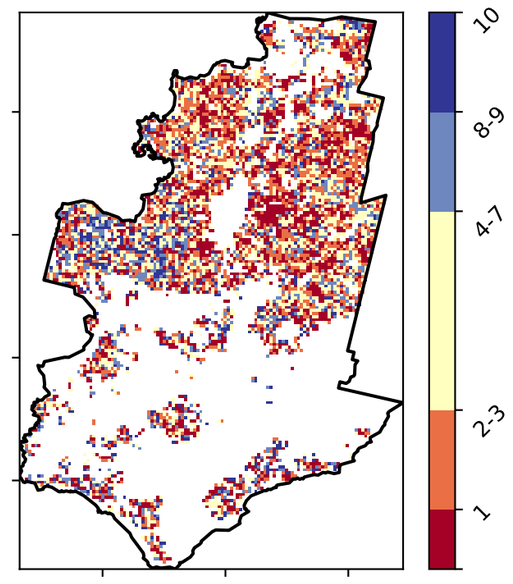
Total Vegetation Cover Anomaly [%]

Anomaly show how many percetage 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.



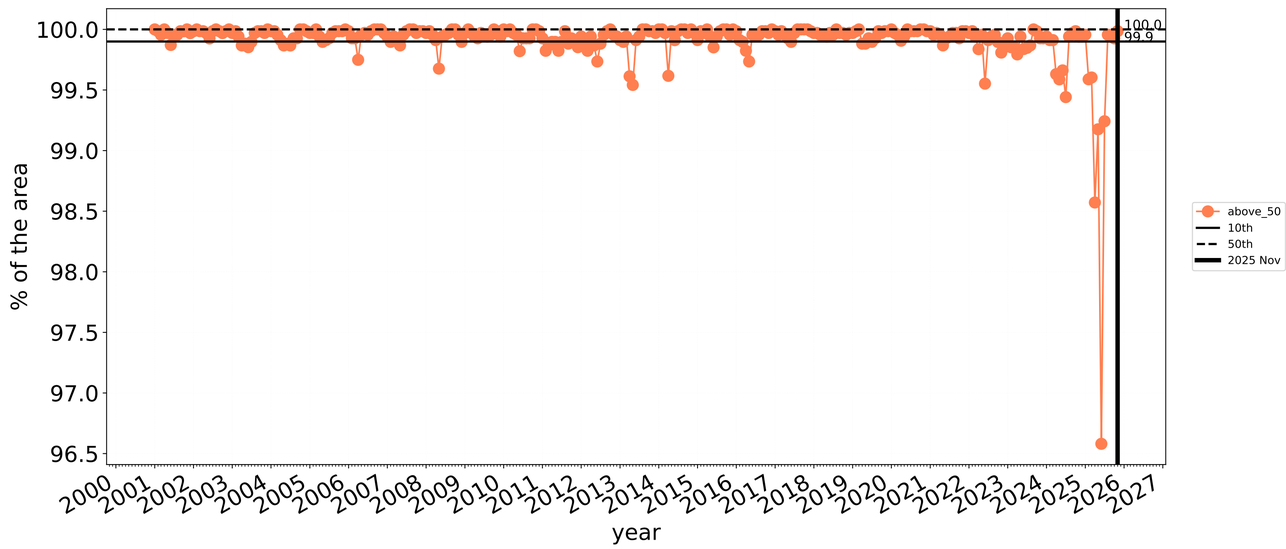
Total Vegetation Cover Decile [%]

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.

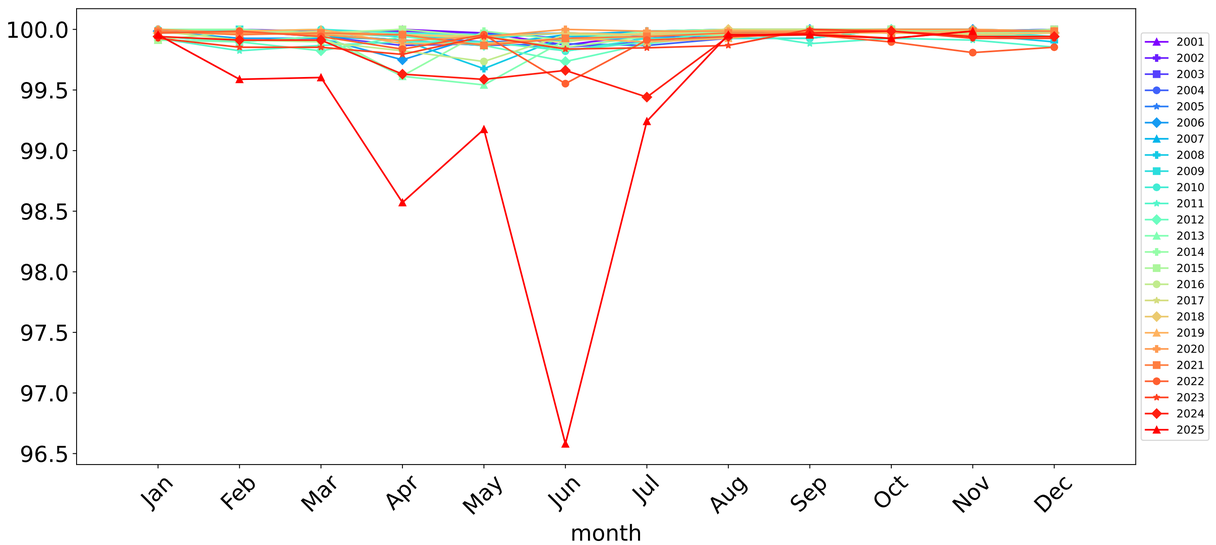


Grazing timeseries

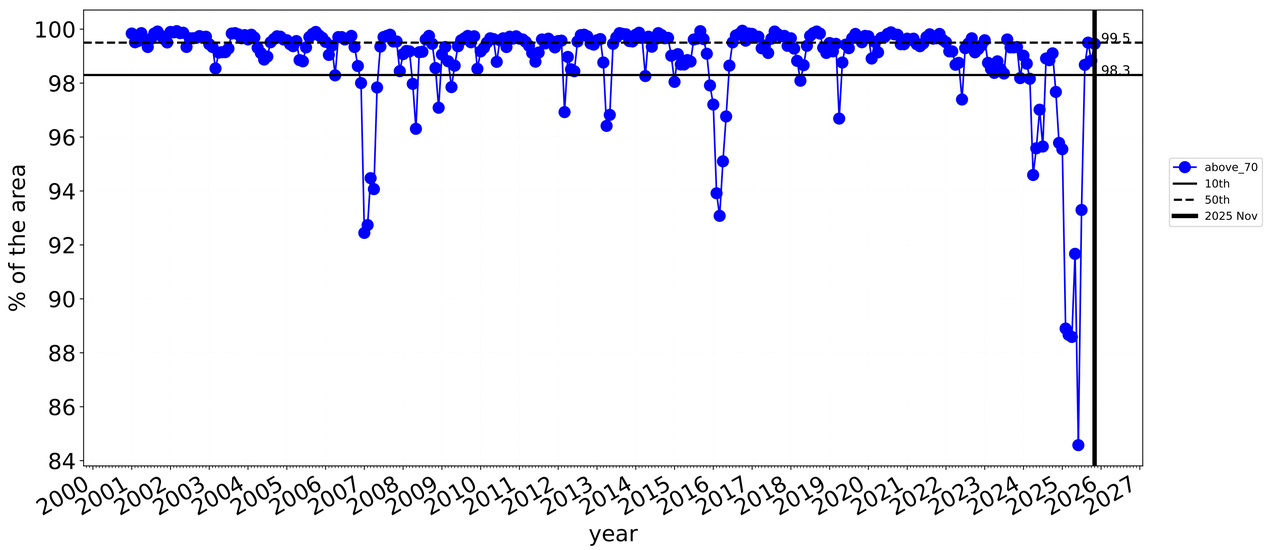
Proportion of the area protected from wind erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 50%)



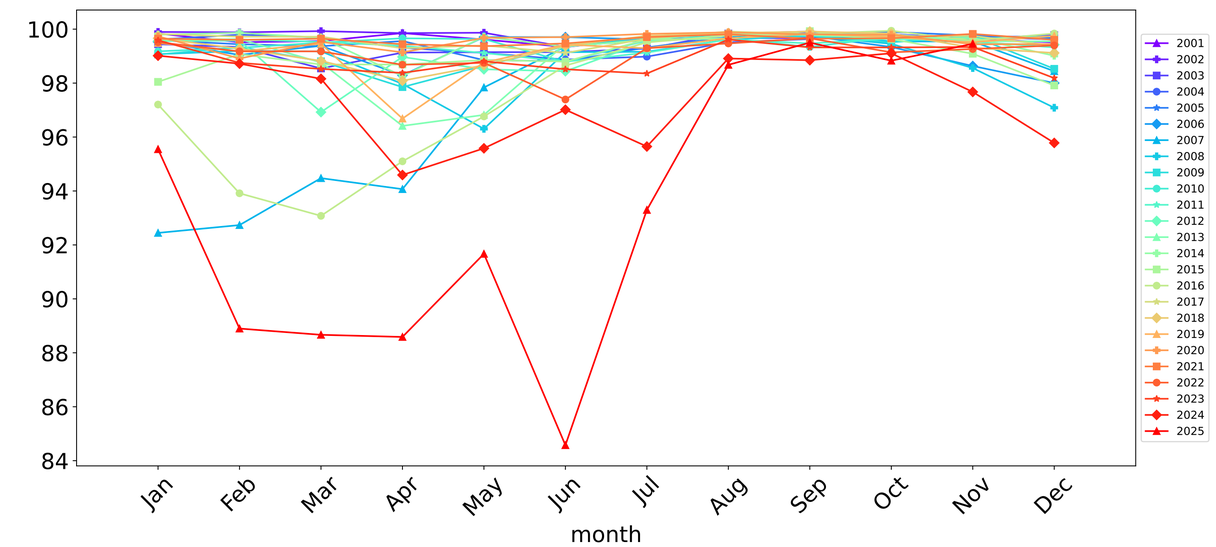
Wind erosion historical monthly area protected (Total Veg Cov >50%)

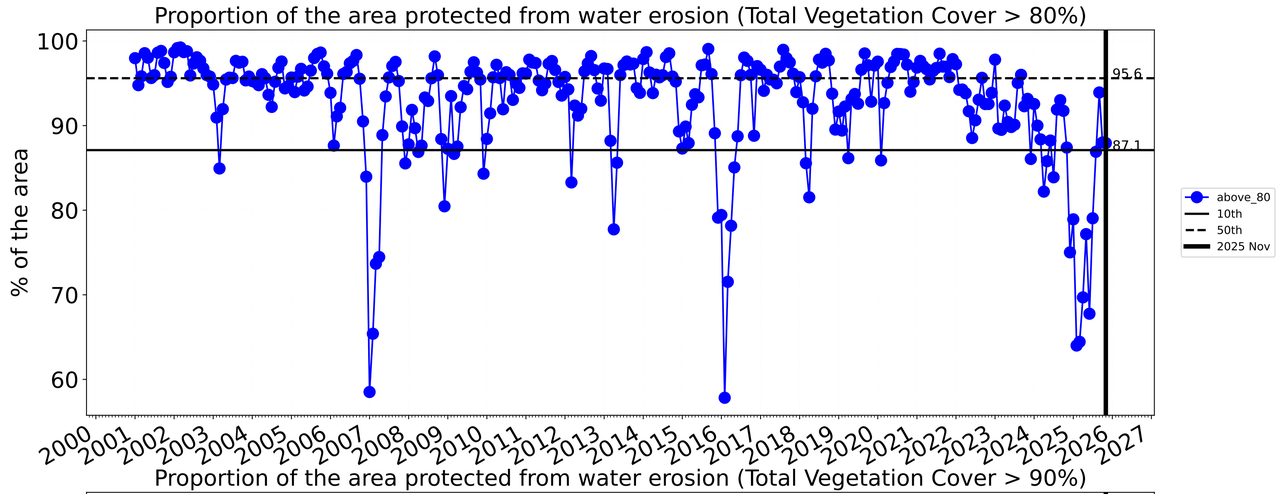


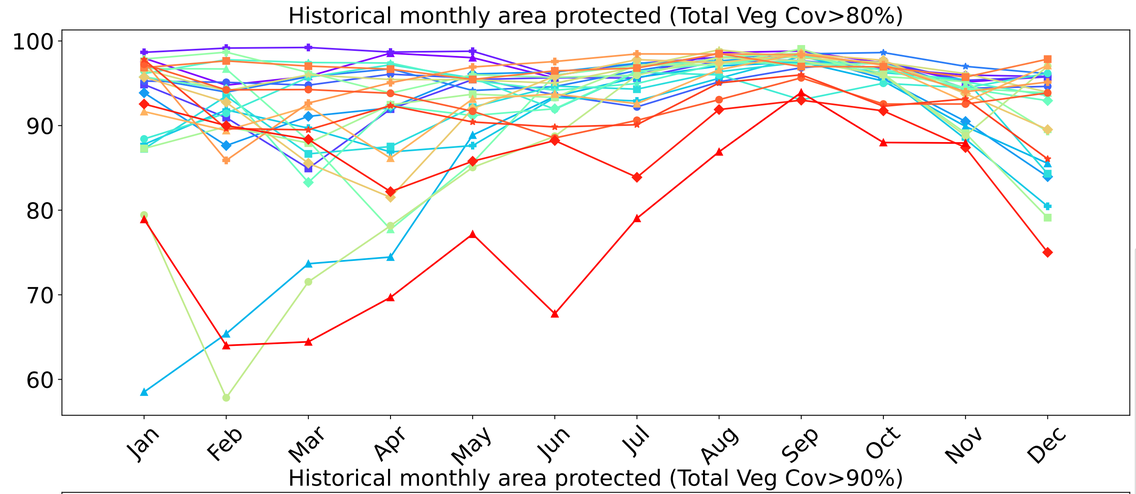
Proportion of the area protected from water erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 70%)



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




Proportion of the area protected from water erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 80%)
% of the area
95.6
87.1
above_80
10th
50th
2025 Nov


Historical monthly area protected (Total Veg Cov>80%)
Jan
Feb
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Nov
Dec
2001
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2003
2004
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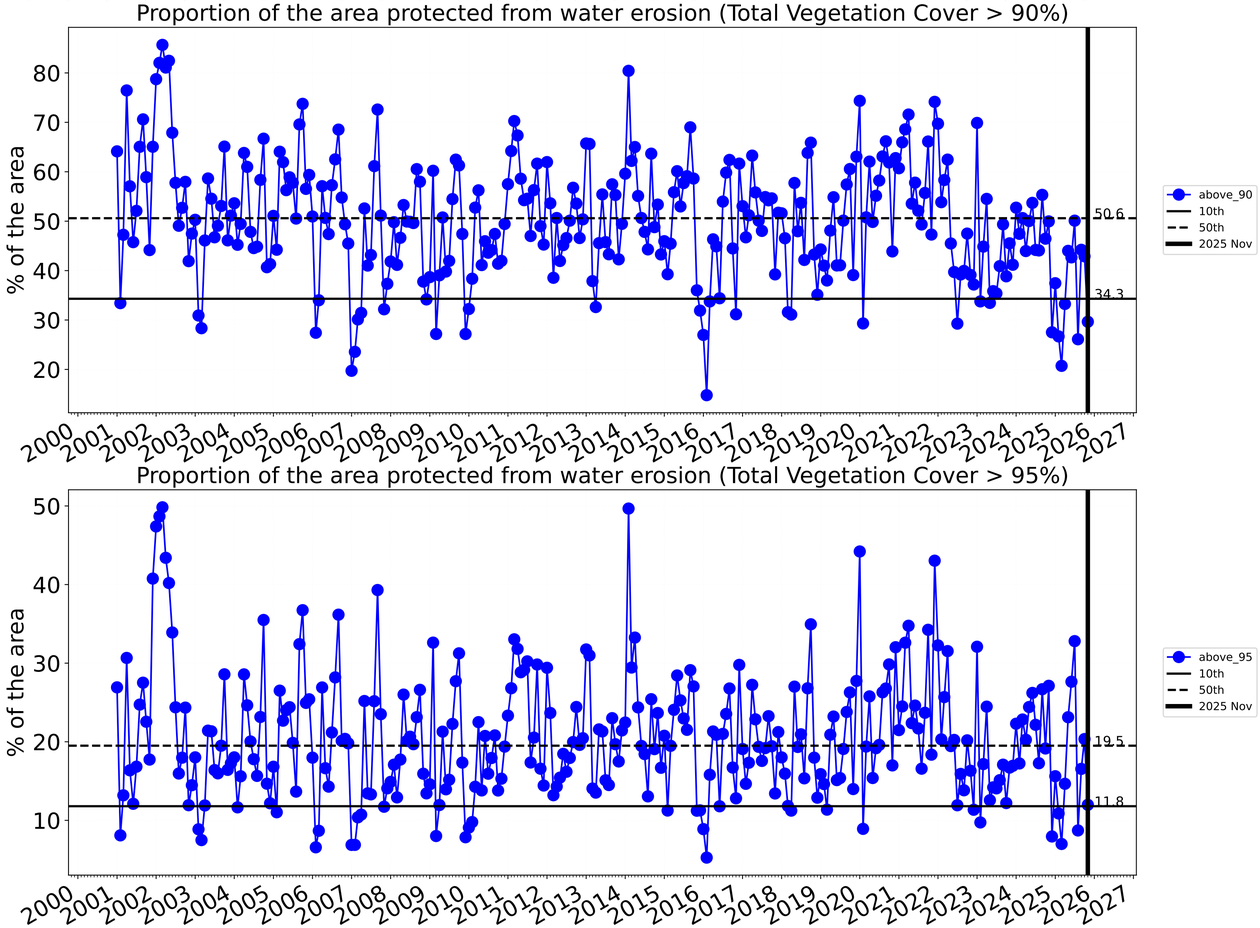
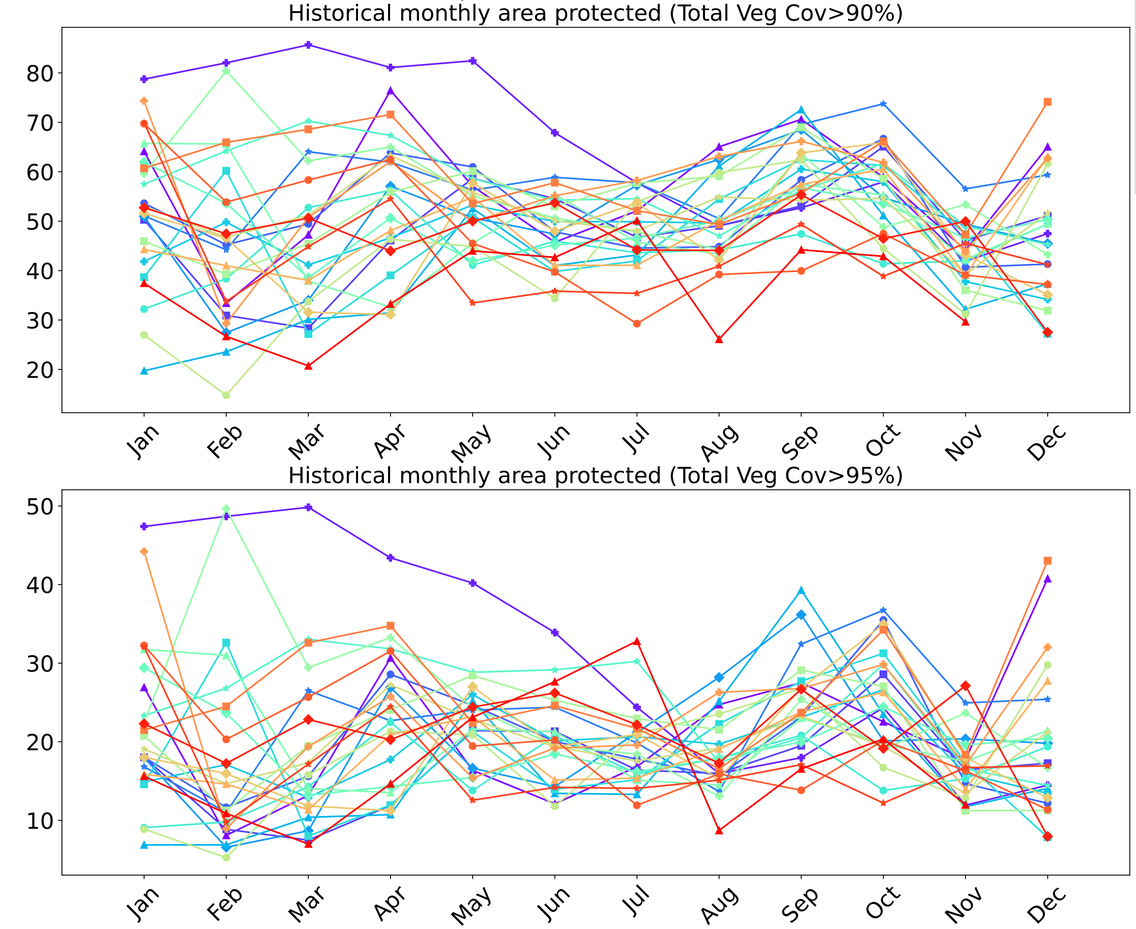
2020
2021
2022
2023
2024
2025


Proportion of the area protected from water erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 90%)
% of the area
50.6
34.3
above_90
10th
50th
2025 Nov
Proportion of the area protected from water erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 95%)
% of the area
19.5
11.8
above_95
10th
50th
2025 Nov


Historical monthly area protected (Total Veg Cov>90%)
Historical monthly area protected (Total Veg Cov>95%)
Jan
Feb
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May
Jun
Jul
Aug
Sep
Oct
Nov
Dec
2001
2002
2003
2004
2005
2006
2007
2008
2009
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2011
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2013
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2017
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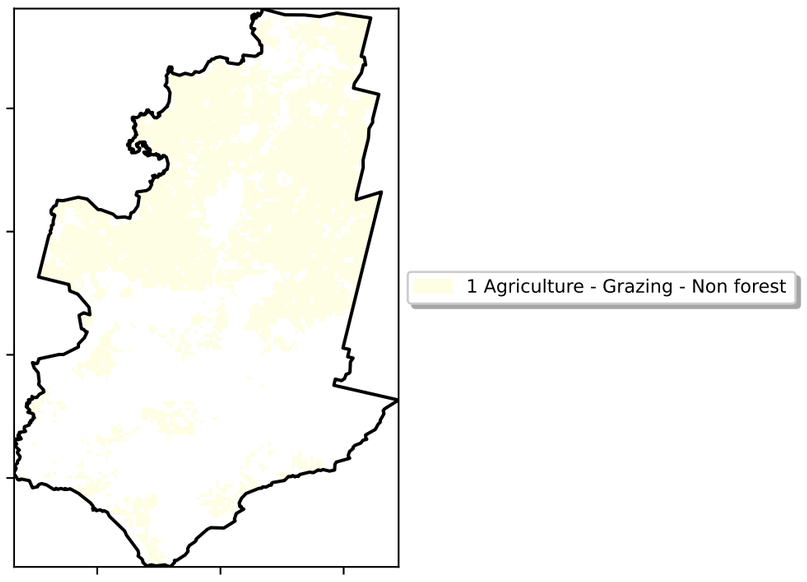
2019
2020
2021
2022
2023
2024
2025

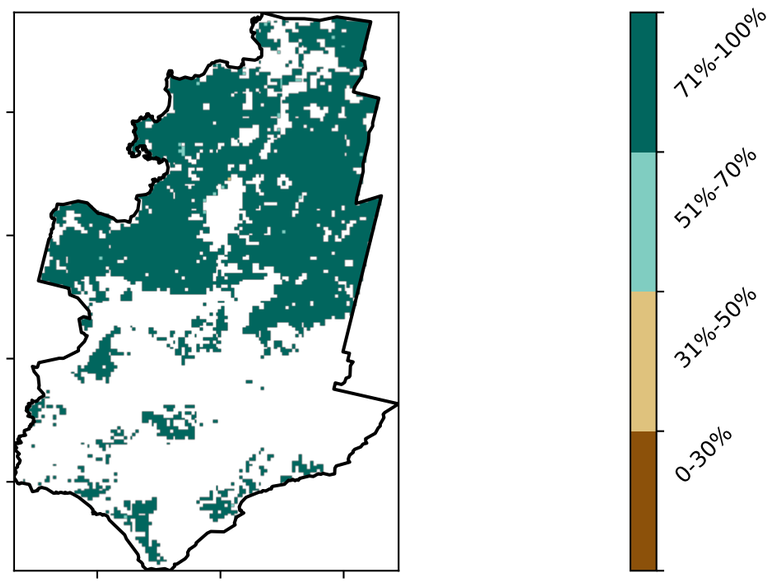
Grazing non forest

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

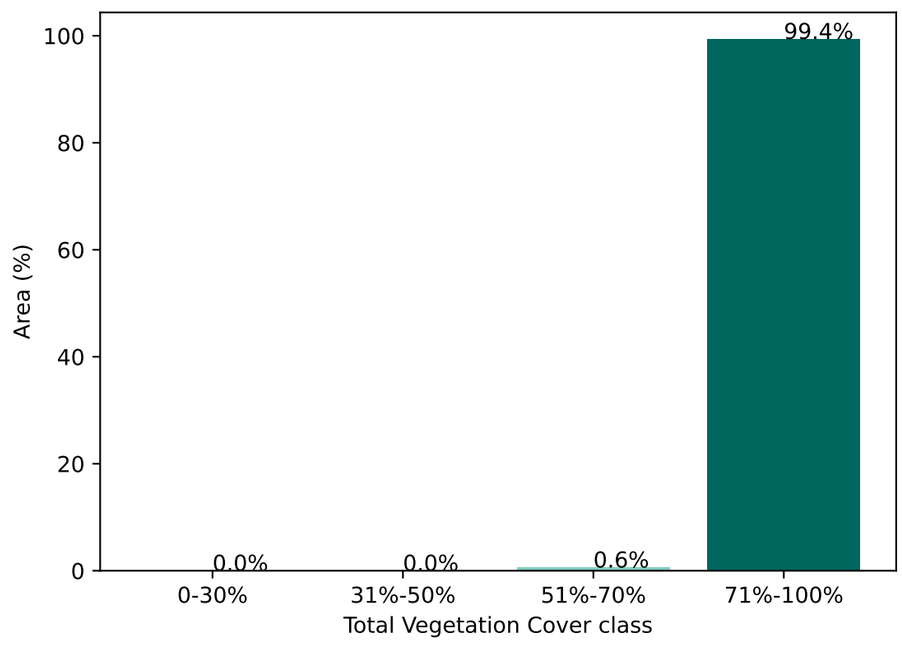
Land use and forest cover



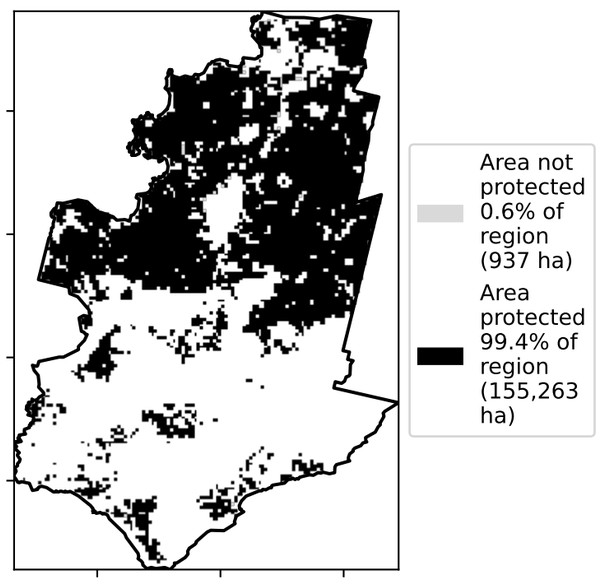
Total Vegetation Cover [%]



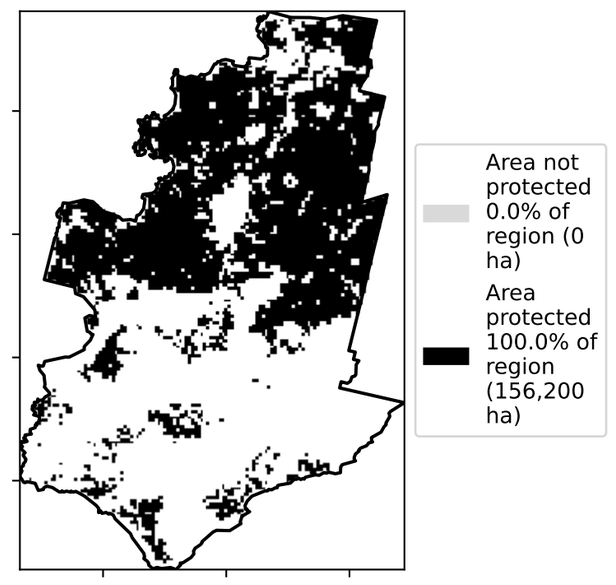
Proportion of vegetation cover class in area



% Area protected from water erosion (>70%)

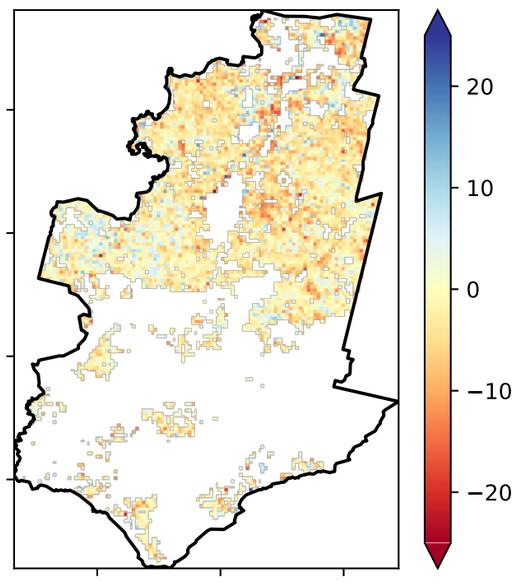


% Area protected from wind erosion (>50%)



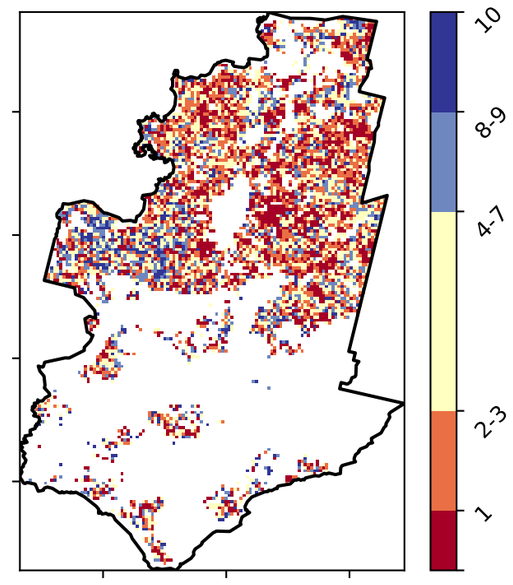
Total Vegetation Cover Anomaly [%]

Anomaly show how many percetage 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.



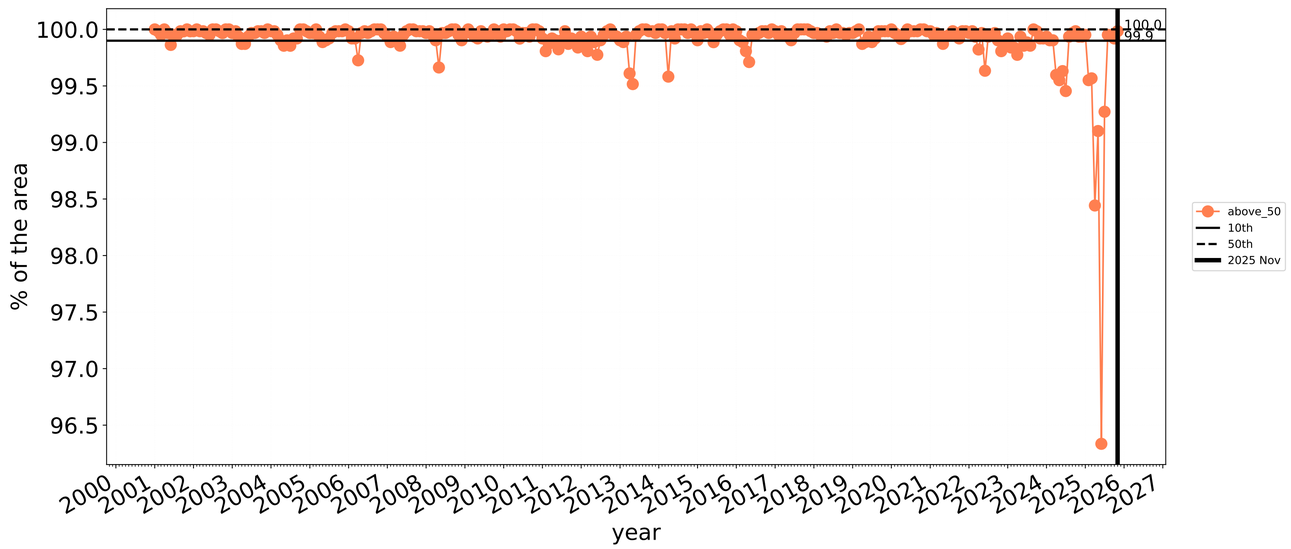
Total Vegetation Cover Decile [%]

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.

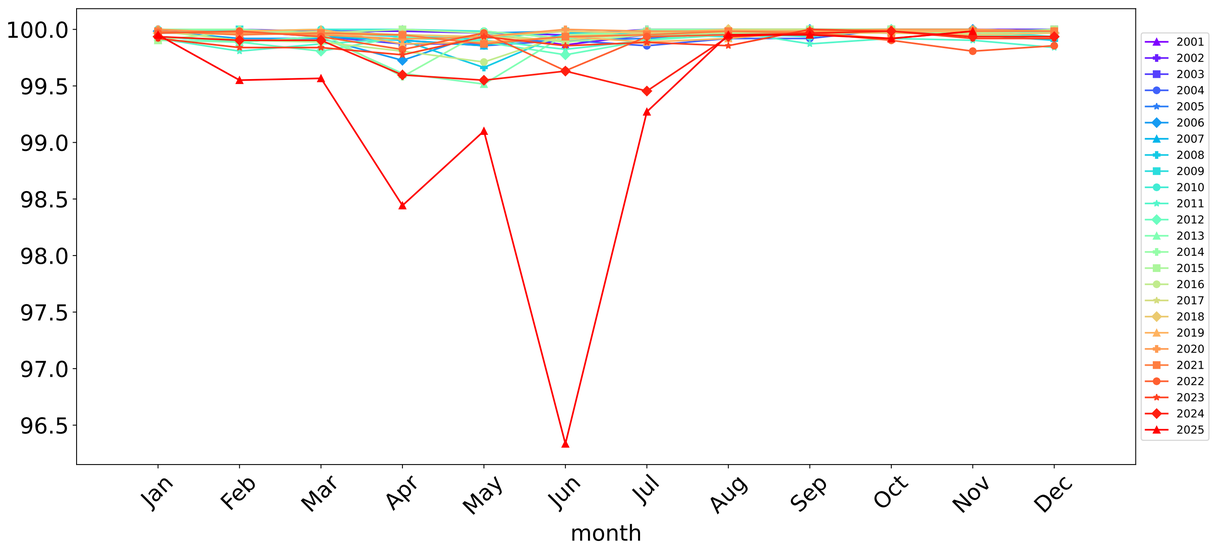


Grazing non forest timeseries

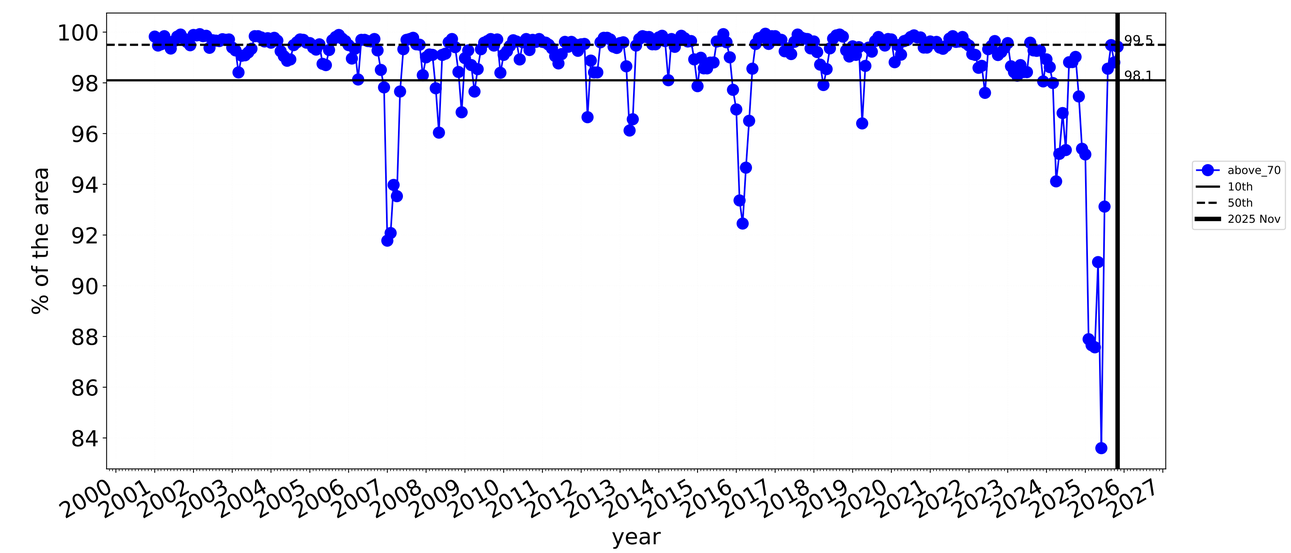
Proportion of the area protected from wind erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 50%)



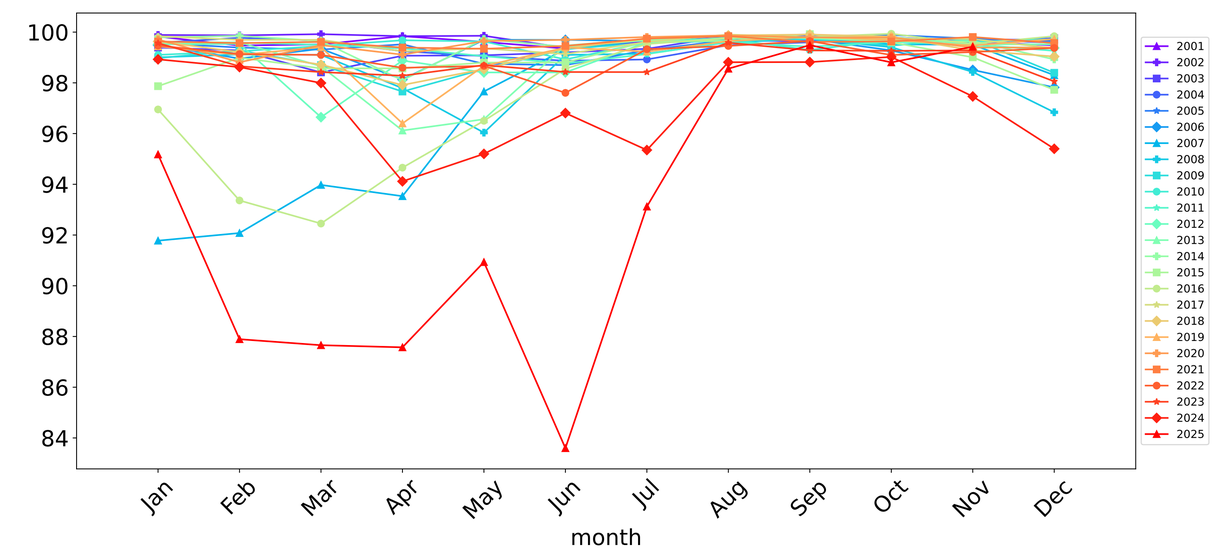
Wind erosion historical monthly area protected (Total Veg Cov >50%)

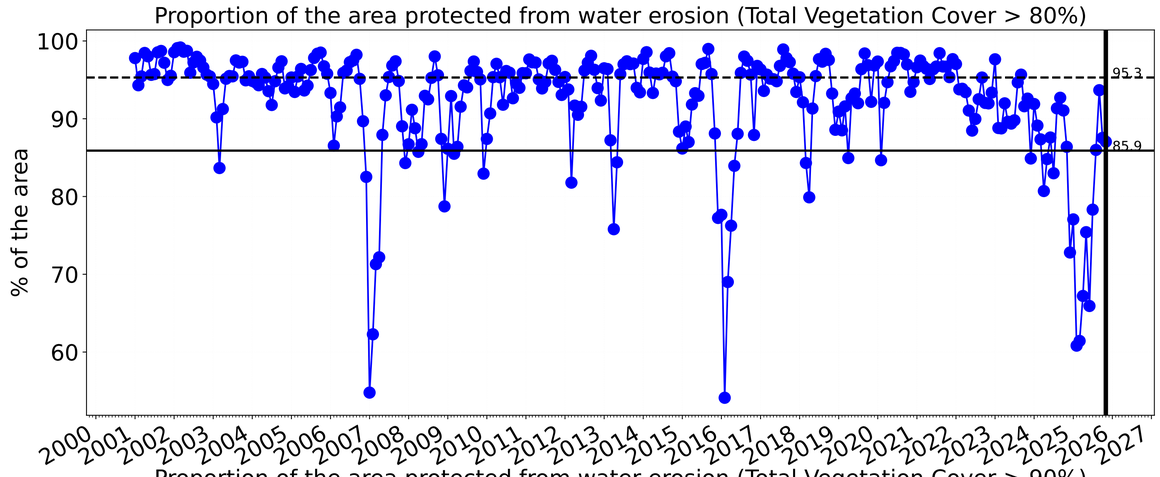


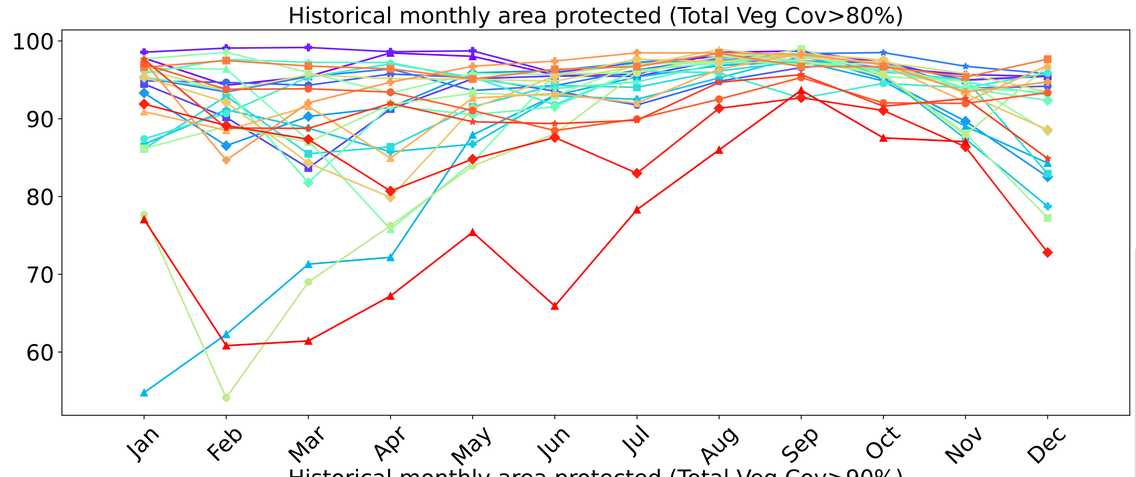
Proportion of the area protected from water erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 70%)



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




Proportion of the area protected from water erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 80%)
% of the area
95.3
85.9
above_80
10th
50th
2025 Nov


Historical monthly area protected (Total Veg Cov>80%)
Jan
Feb
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Nov
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2001
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2003
2004
2005
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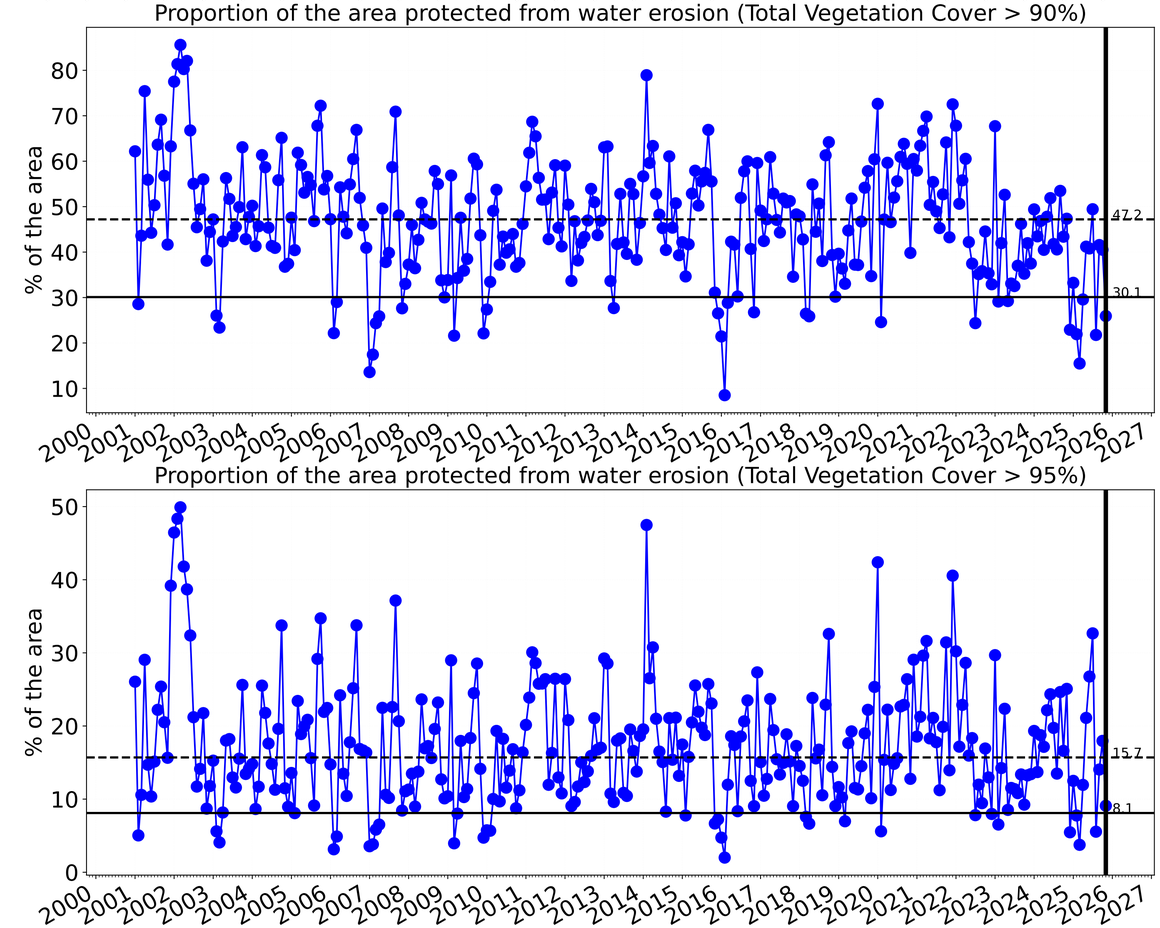
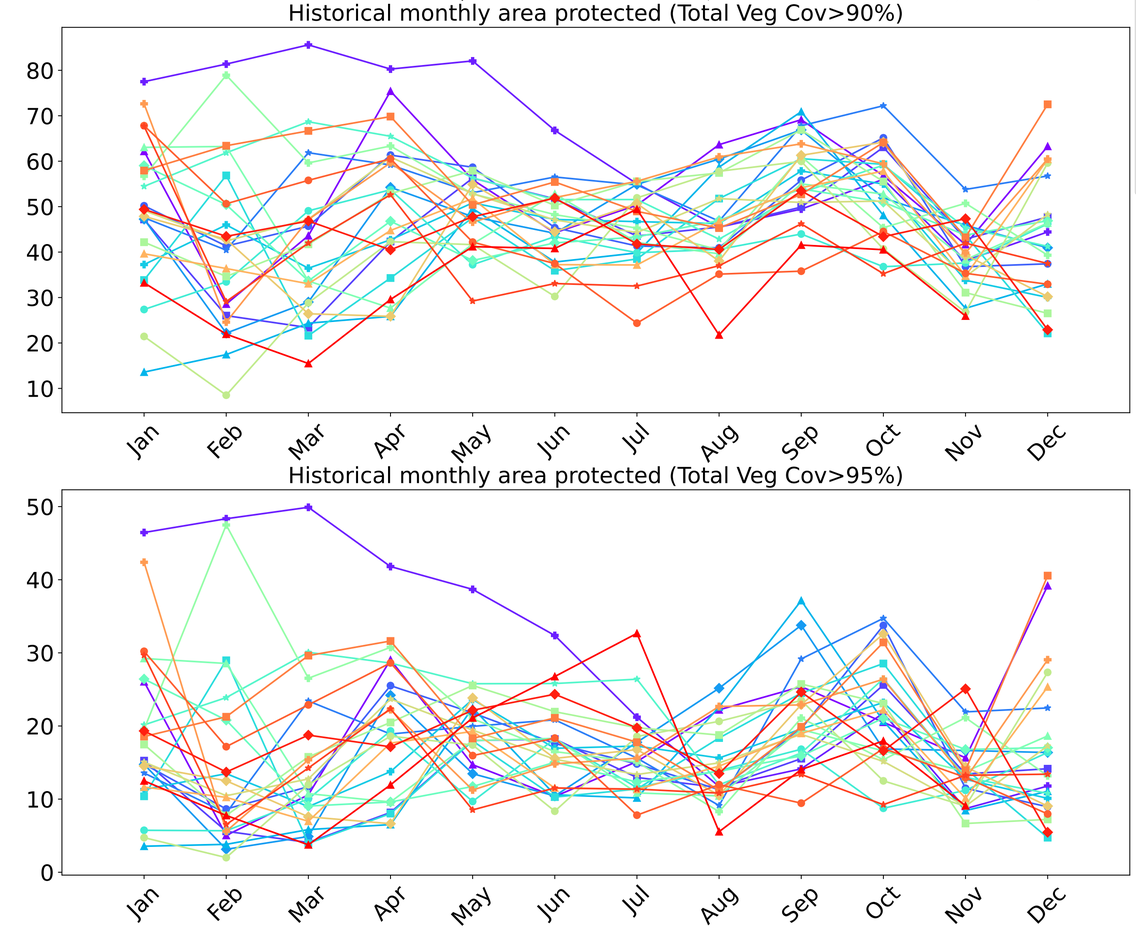
2024
2025

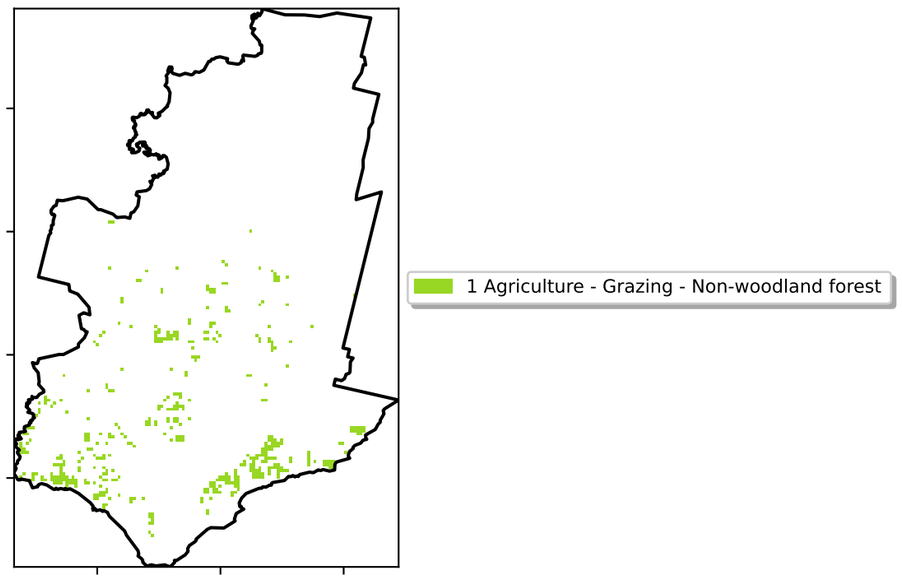

Proportion of the area protected from water erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 90%)
% of the area
47.2
30.1
above_90
10th
50th
2025 Nov
Proportion of the area protected from water erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 95%)
% of the area
15.7
8.1
above_95
10th
50th
2025 Nov


Historical monthly area protected (Total Veg Cov>90%)
Historical monthly area protected (Total Veg Cov>95%)
Jan
Feb
Mar
Apr
May
Jun
Jul
Aug
Sep
Oct
Nov
Dec

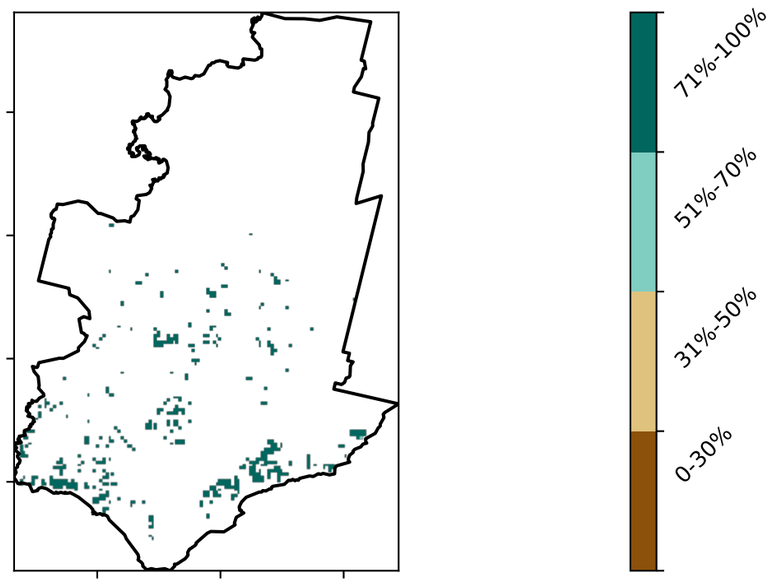
Grazing - Forest (non woodland)

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

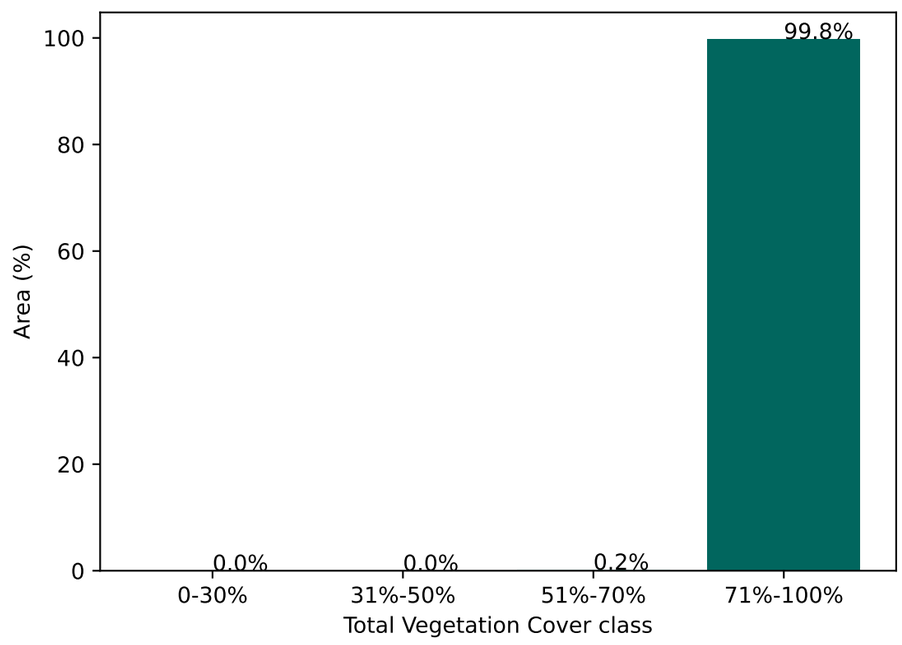
Land use and forest cover



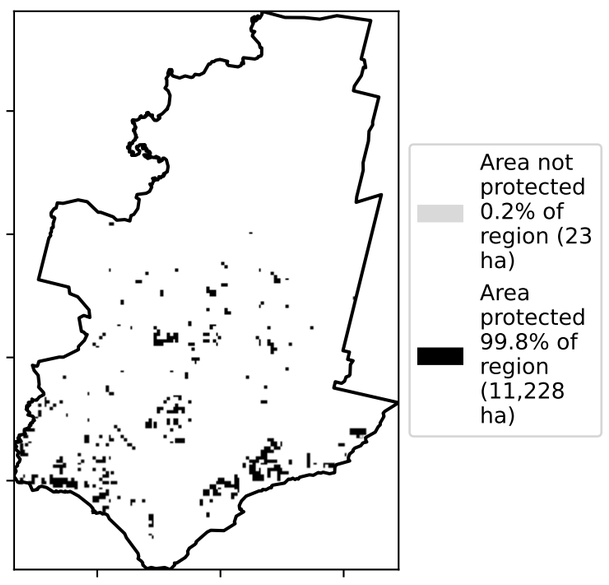
Total Vegetation Cover [%]



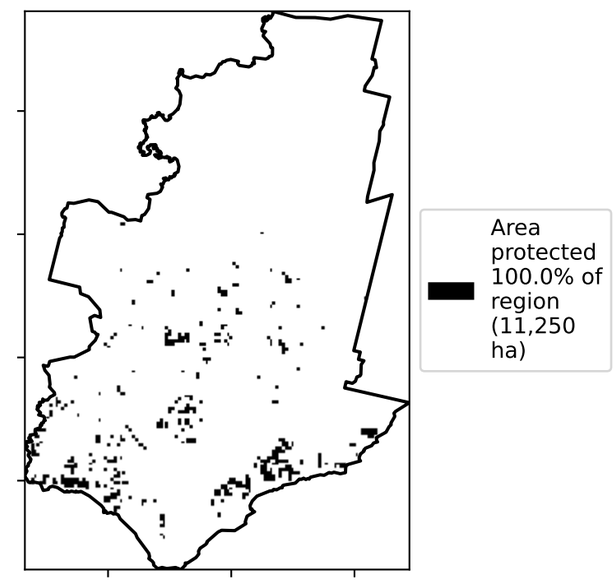
Proportion of vegetation cover class in area



% Area protected from water erosion (>70%)

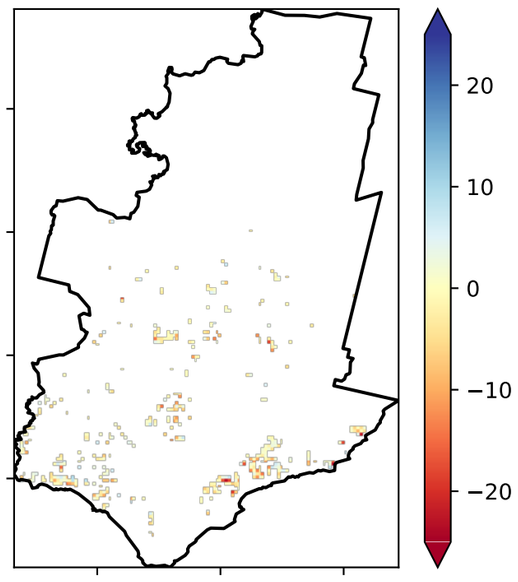


% Area protected from wind erosion (>50%)



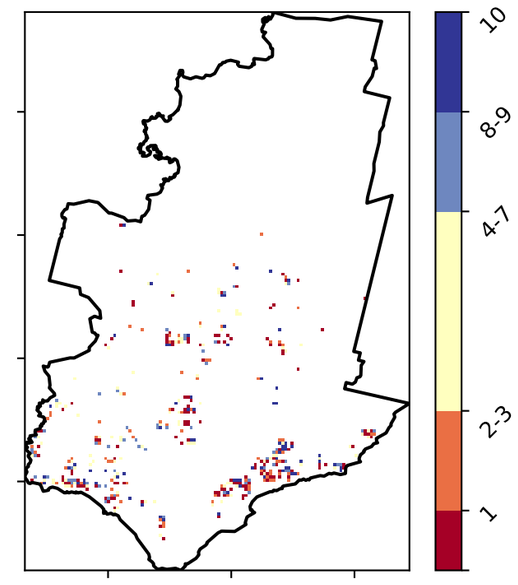
Total Vegetation Cover Anomaly [%]

Anomaly show how many percetage 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.



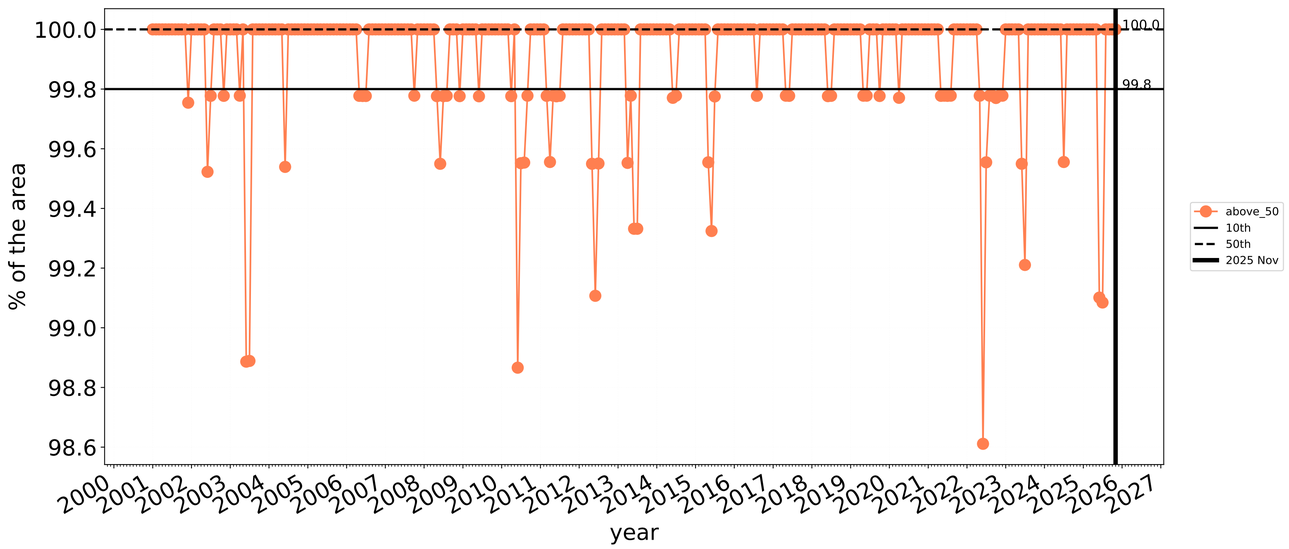
Total Vegetation Cover Decile [%]

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.

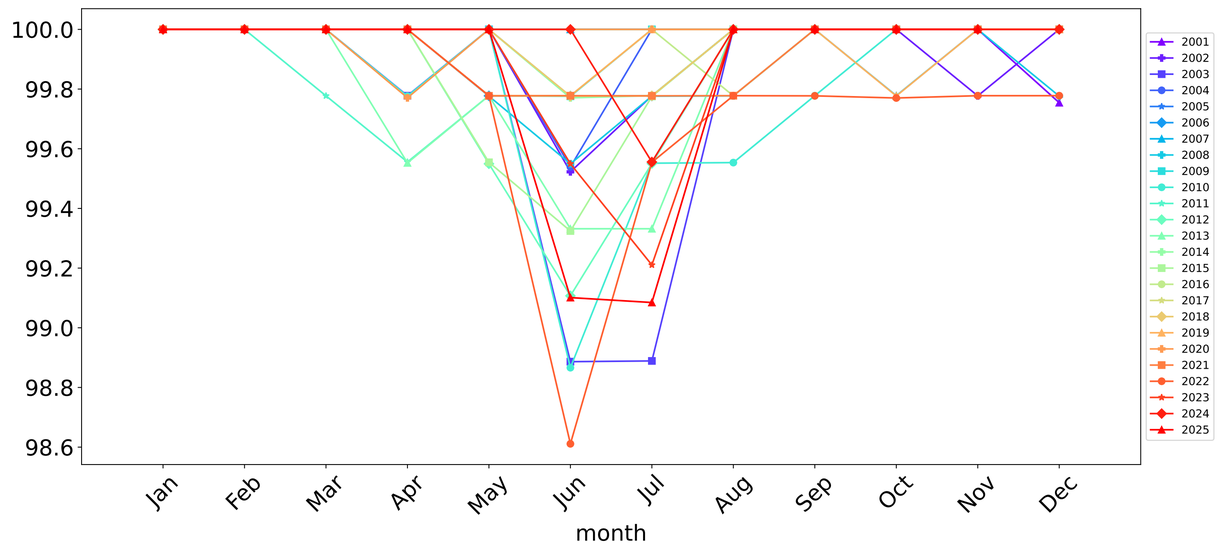


Grazing - Forest (non woodland) timeseries

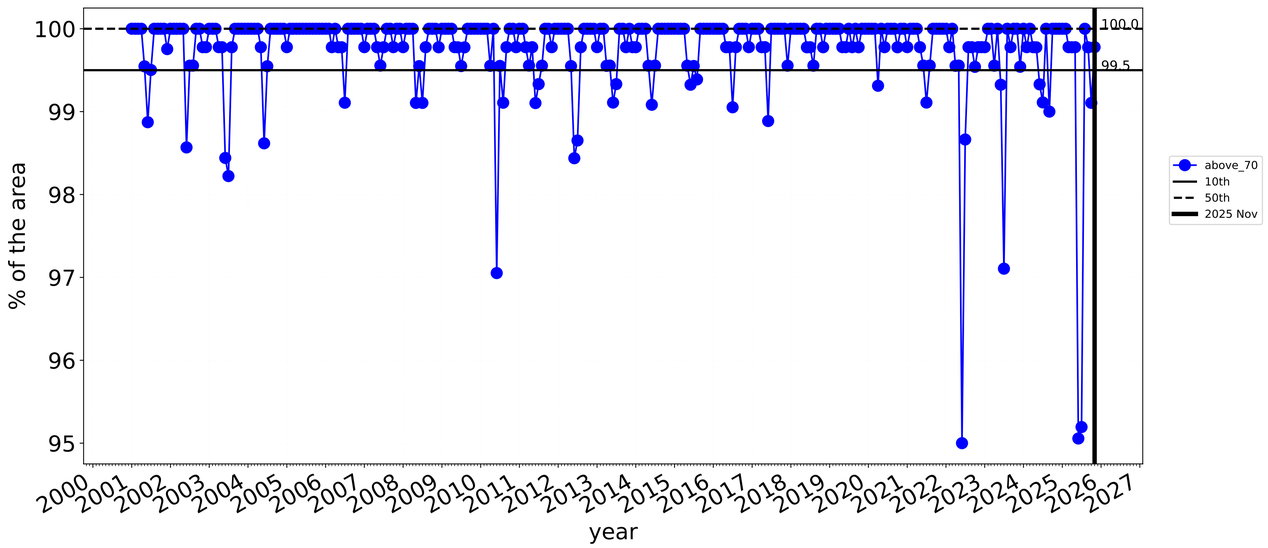
Proportion of the area protected from wind erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 50%)



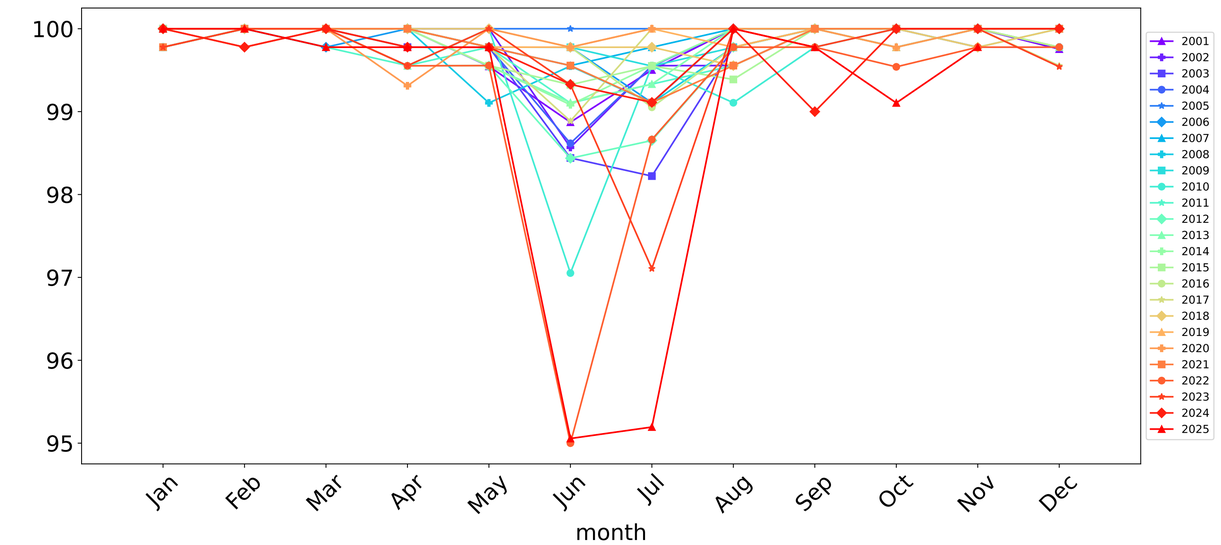
Wind erosion historical monthly area protected (Total Veg Cov >50%)

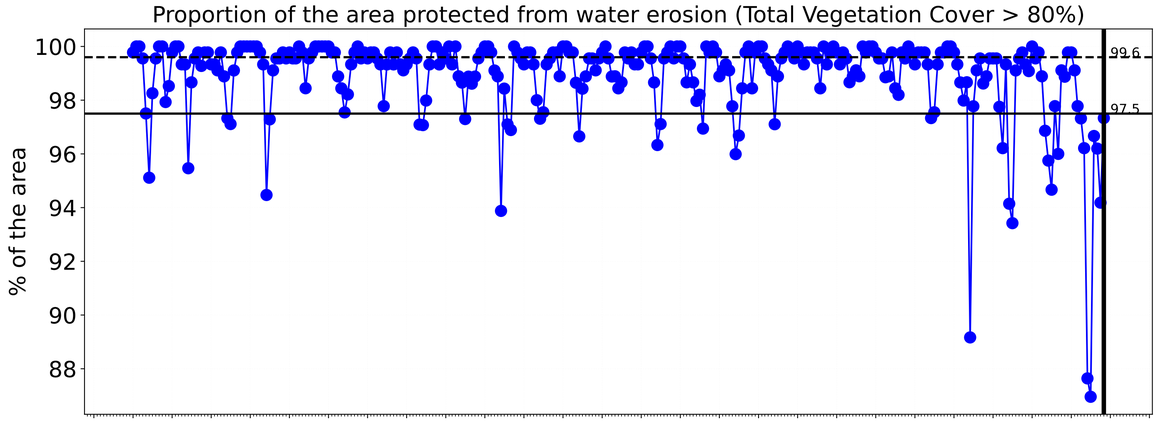


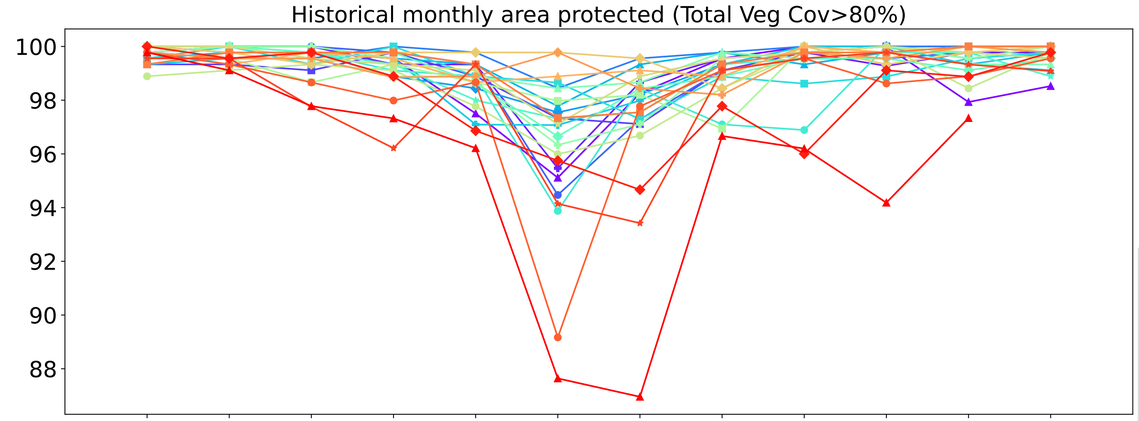
Proportion of the area protected from water erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 70%)

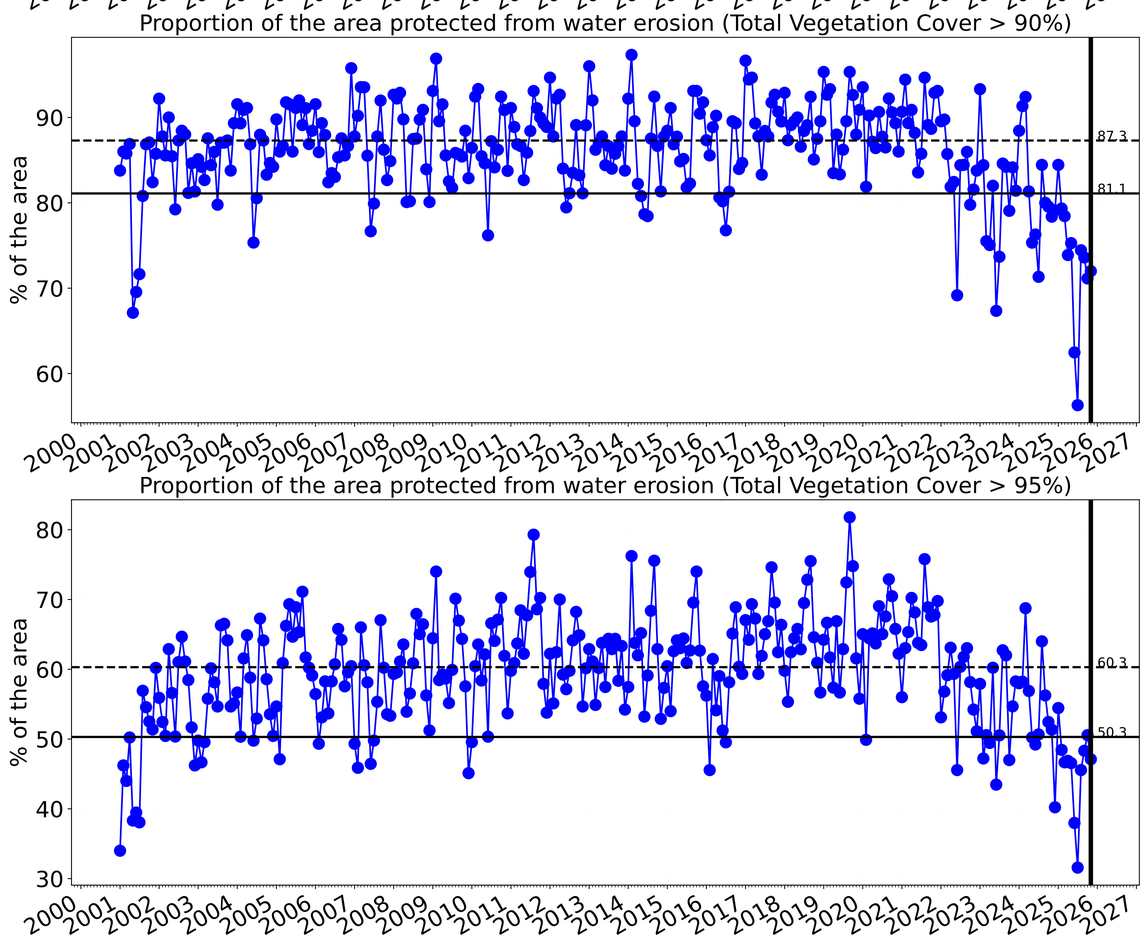


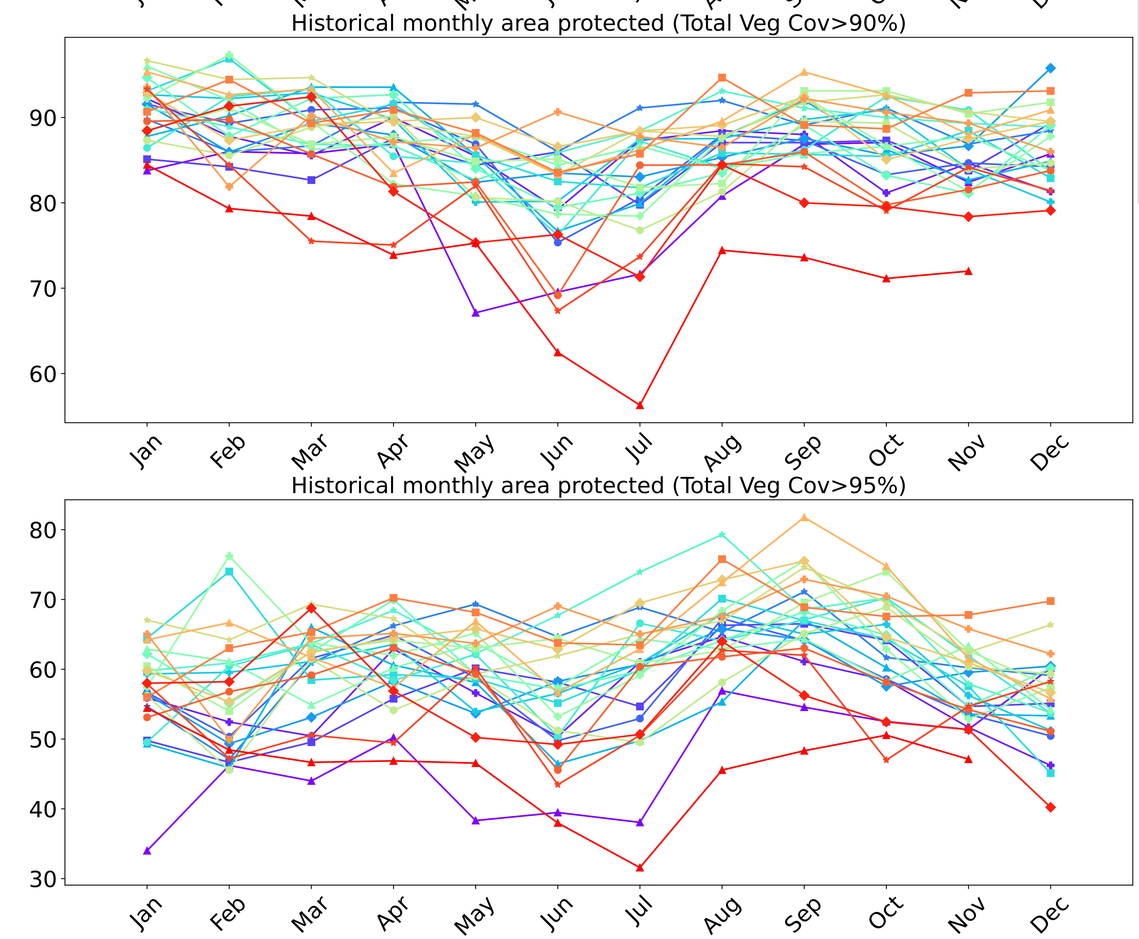
Water erosion historical monthly area protected (Total Veg Cov>70%)




Proportion of the area protected from water erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 80%)
% of the area
99.6
97.5
above_80
10th
50th
2025 Nov


Historical monthly area protected (Total Veg Cov>80%)
Jan
Feb
Mar
Apr
May
Jun
Jul
Aug
Sep
Oct
Nov
Dec
2001
2002
2003
2004
2005
2006
2007
2008
2009
2010
2011
2012
2013
2014
2015
2016
2017
2018
2019
2020
2021
2022
2023
2024
2025

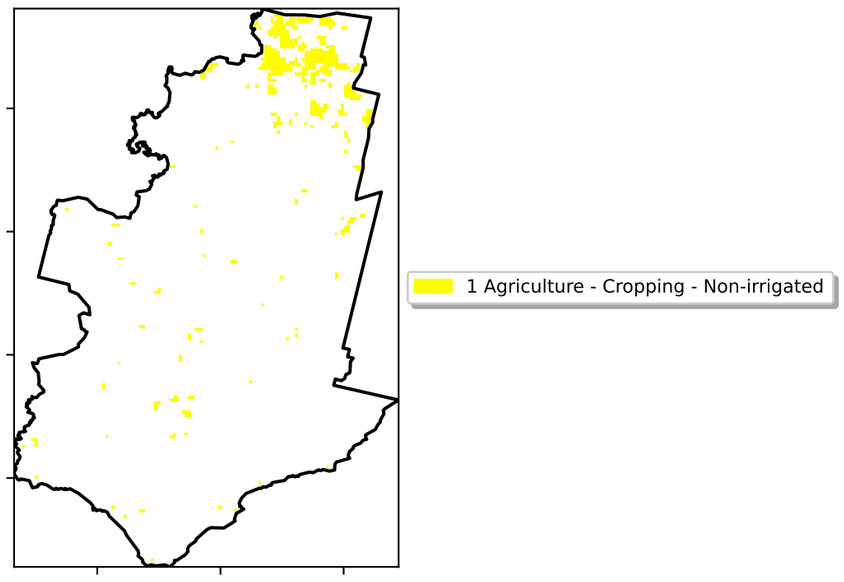

Proportion of the area protected from water erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 90%)
% of the area
87.3
81.1
above_90
10th
50th
2025 Nov
Proportion of the area protected from water erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 95%)
% of the area
60.3
50.3
above_95
10th
50th
2025 Nov


Historical monthly area protected (Total Veg Cov>90%)
Historical monthly area protected (Total Veg Cov>95%)
Jan
Feb
Mar
Apr
May
Jun
Jul
Aug
Sep
Oct
Nov
Dec

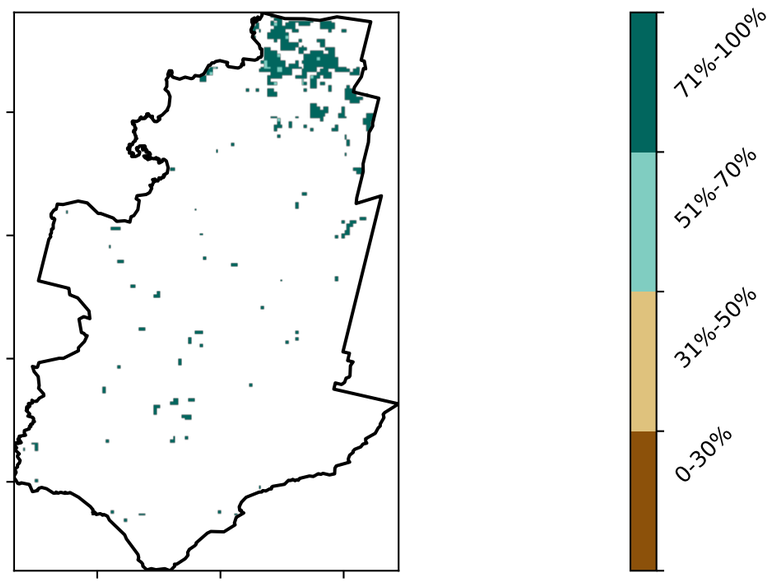
Cropping

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

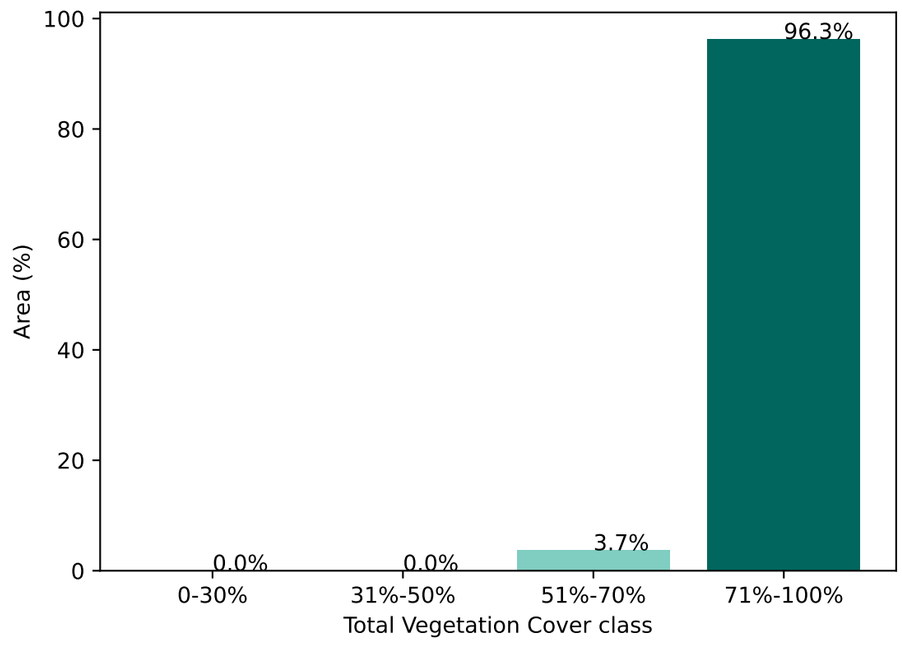
Land use and forest cover



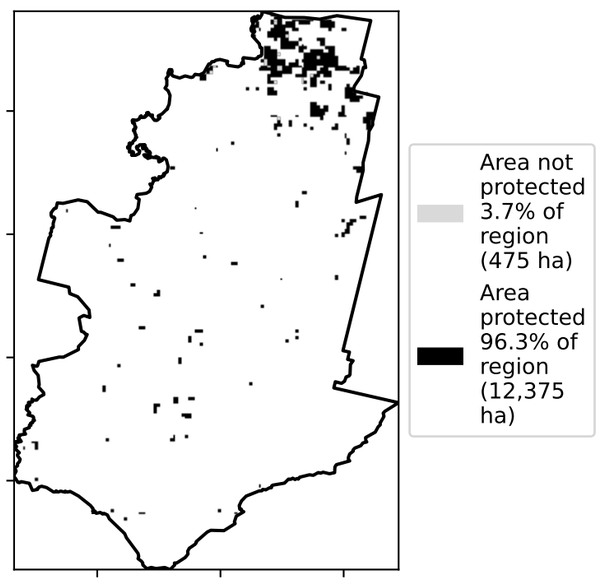
Total Vegetation Cover [%]



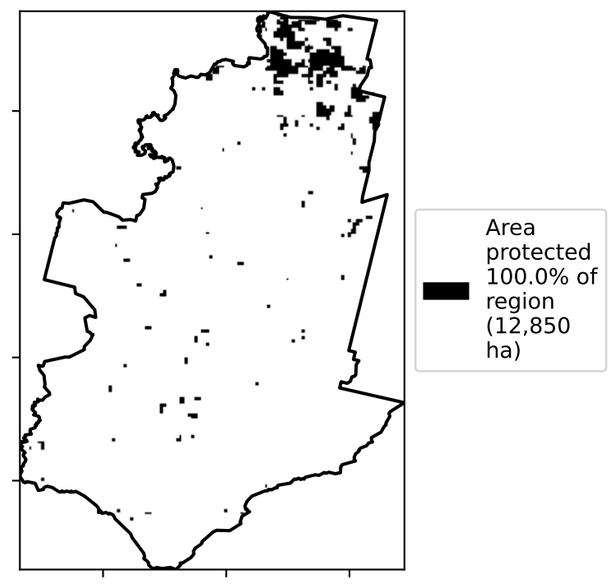
Proportion of vegetation cover class in area



% Area protected from water erosion (>70%)

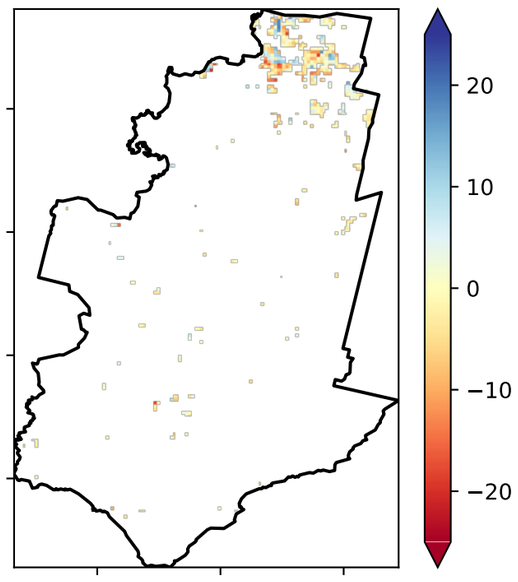


% Area protected from wind erosion (>50%)



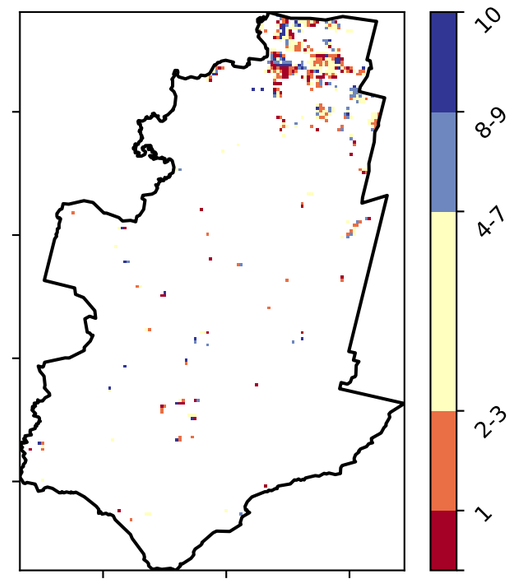
Total Vegetation Cover Anomaly [%]

Anomaly show how many percetage 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.



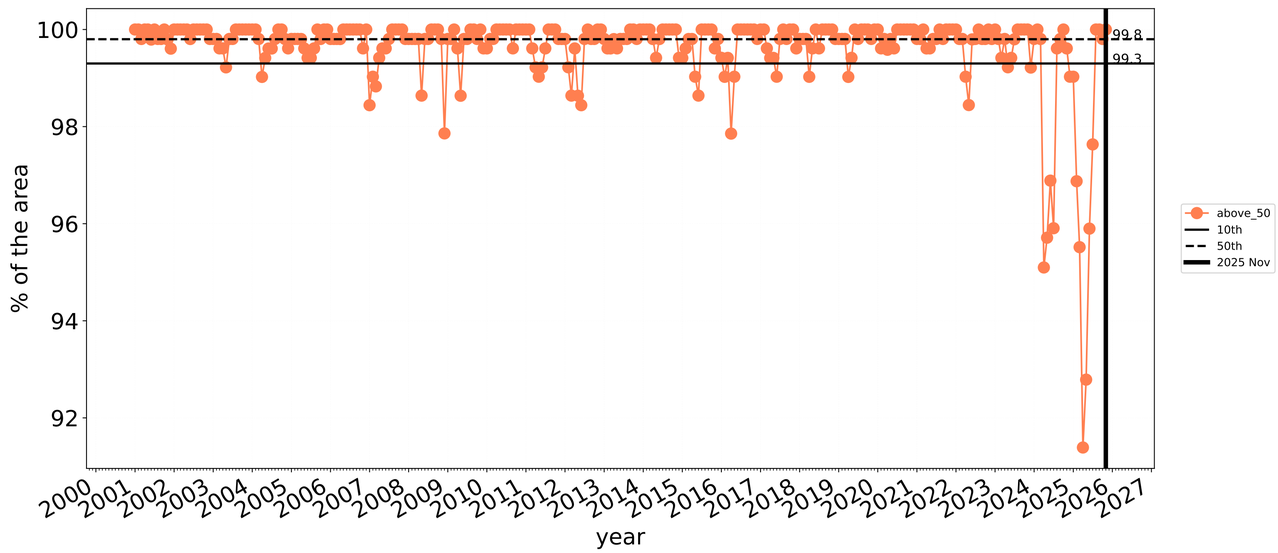
Total Vegetation Cover Decile [%]

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.

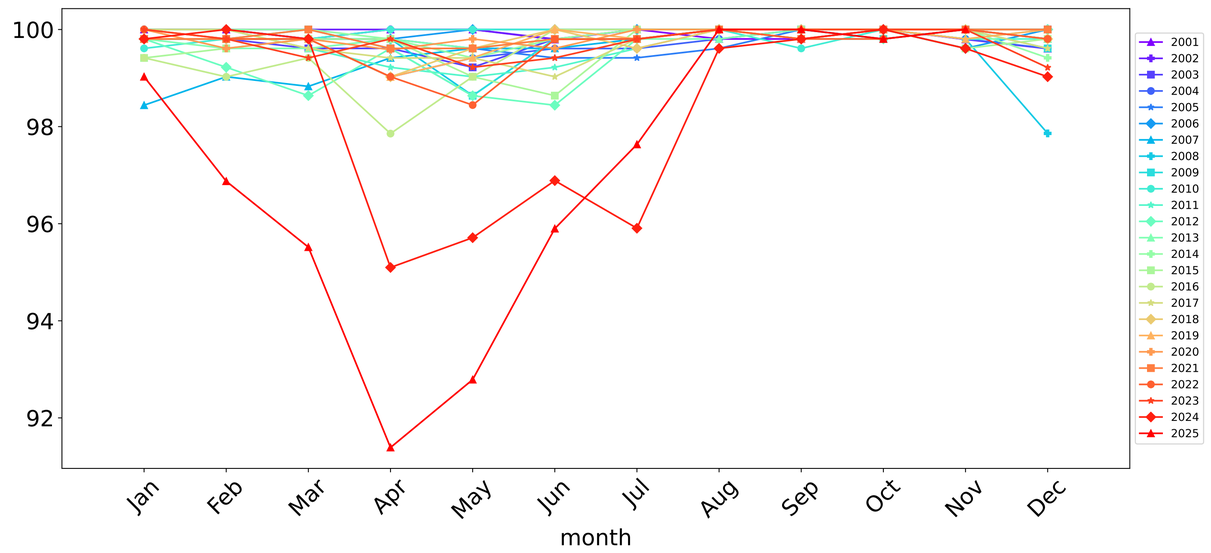


Cropping timeseries

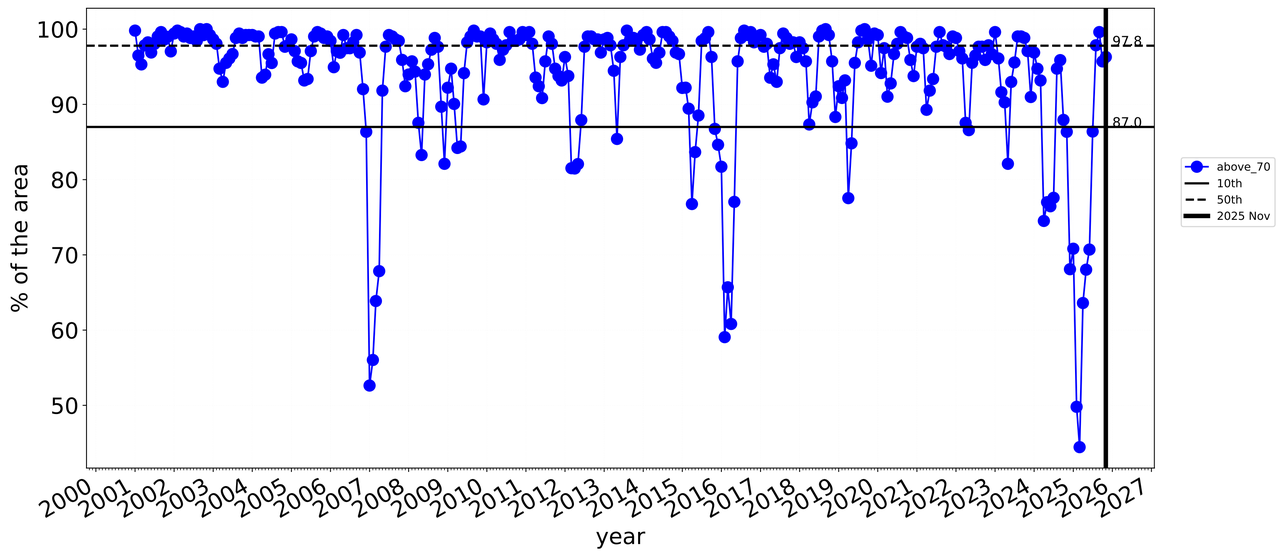
Proportion of the area protected from wind erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 50%)



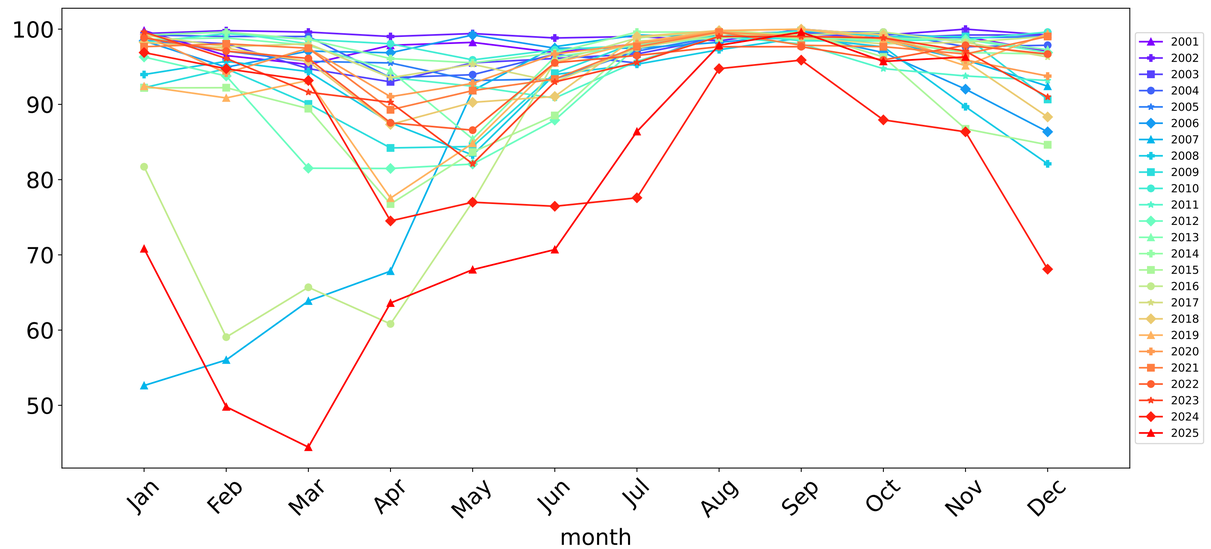
Wind erosion historical monthly area protected (Total Veg Cov >50%)



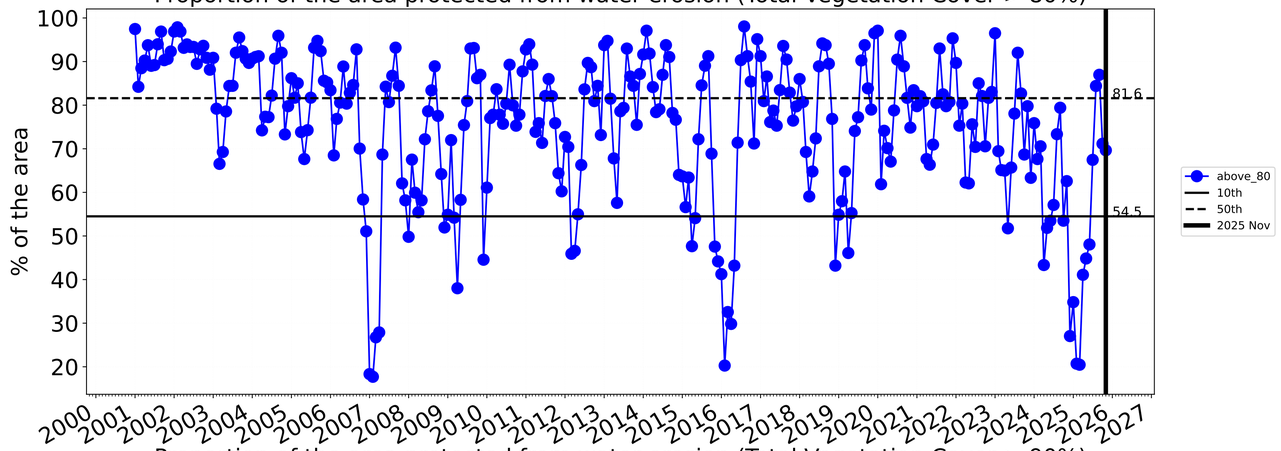
Proportion of the area protected from water erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 70%)



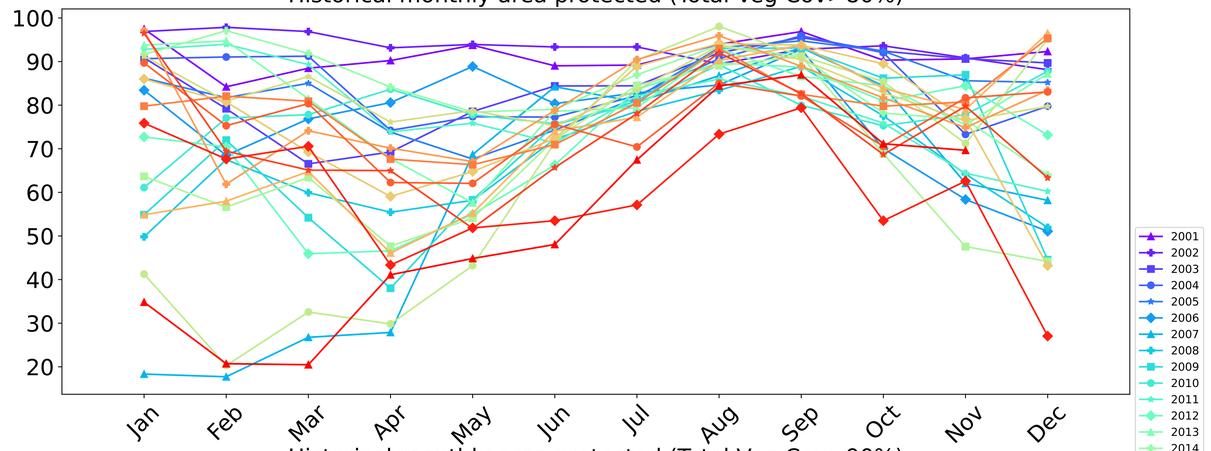
Water erosion historical monthly area protected (Total Veg Cov>70%)



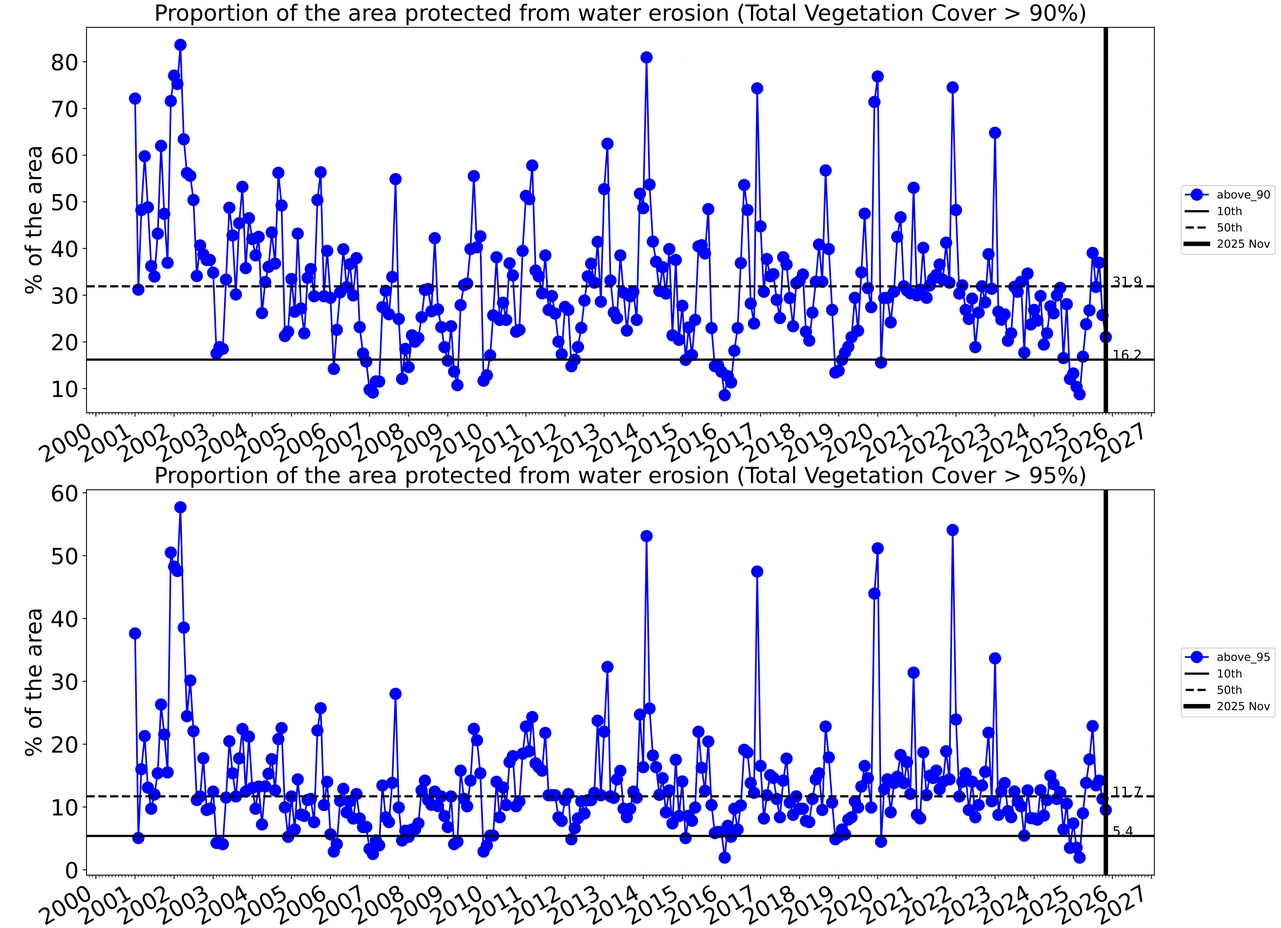
Proportion of the area protected from water erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 80%)



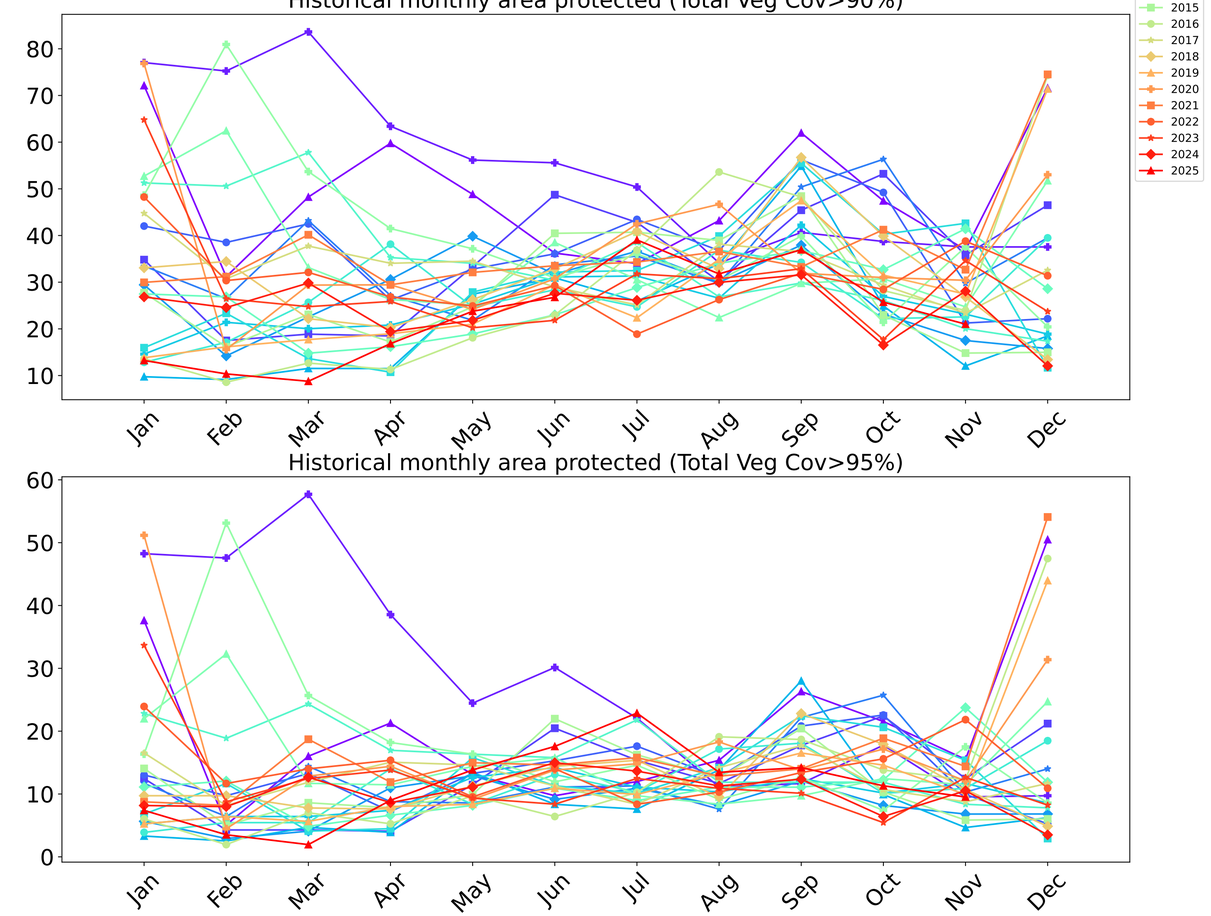
Historical monthly area protected (Total Veg Cov>80%)



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



Historical monthly area protected (Total Veg Cov>90%)



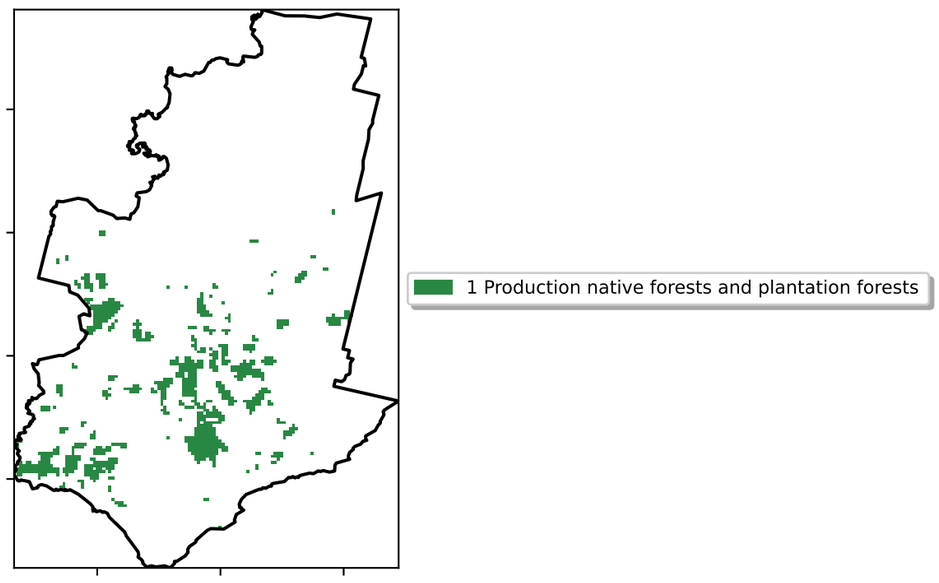
Proportion of the area protected from water erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 95%)

Historical monthly area protected (Total Veg Cov>95%)

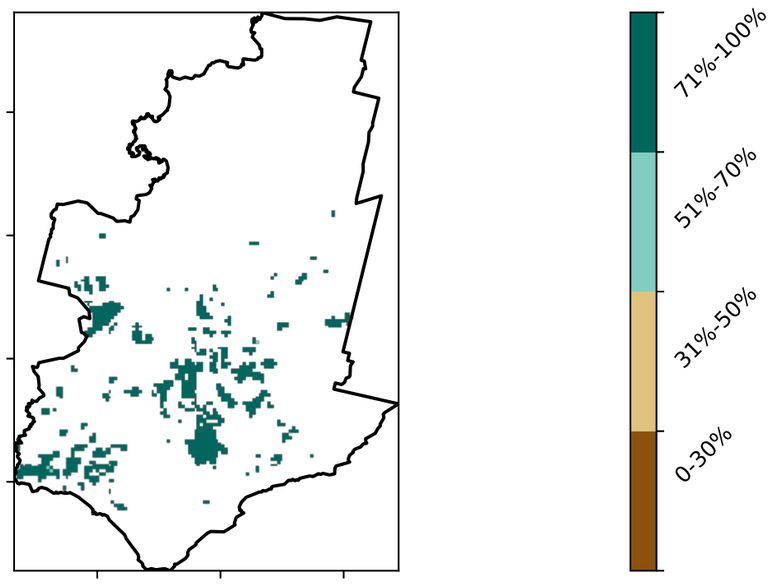
Production native forests and plantation forests

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

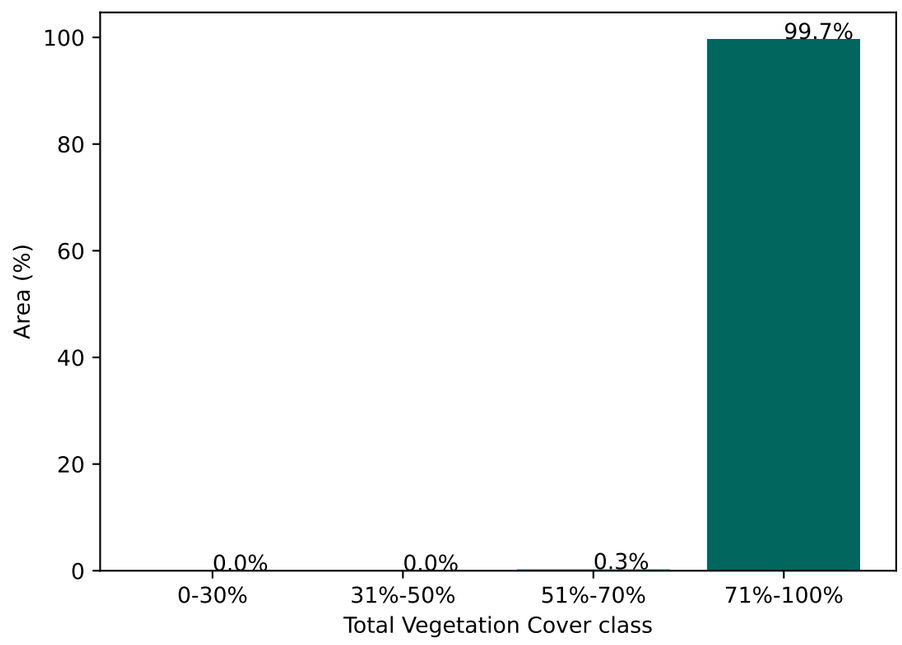
Land use and forest cover



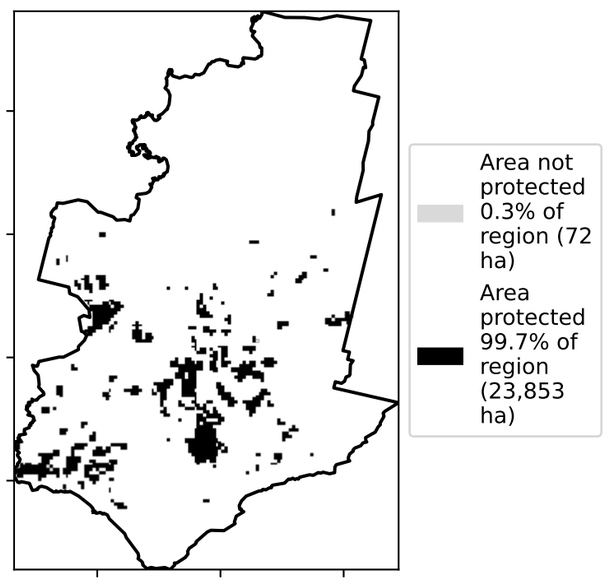
Total Vegetation Cover [%]



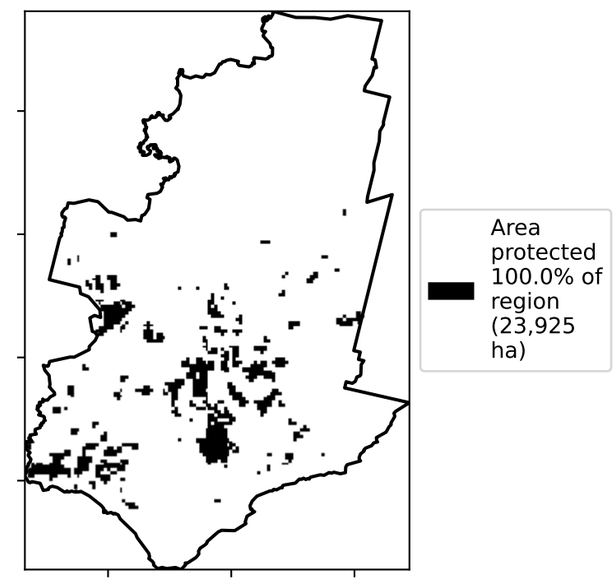
Proportion of vegetation cover class in area



% Area protected from water erosion (>70%)

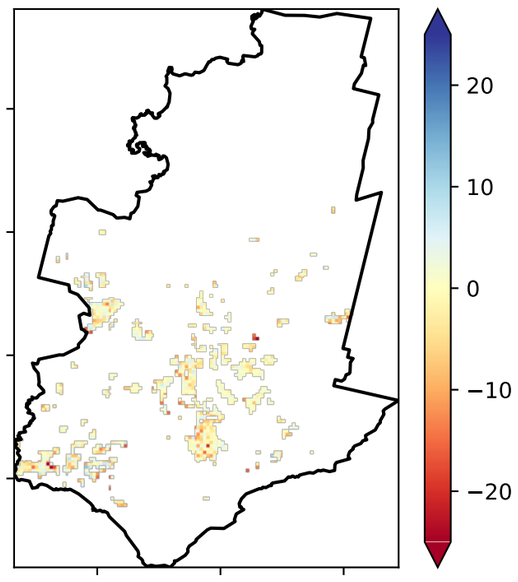


% Area protected from wind erosion (>50%)



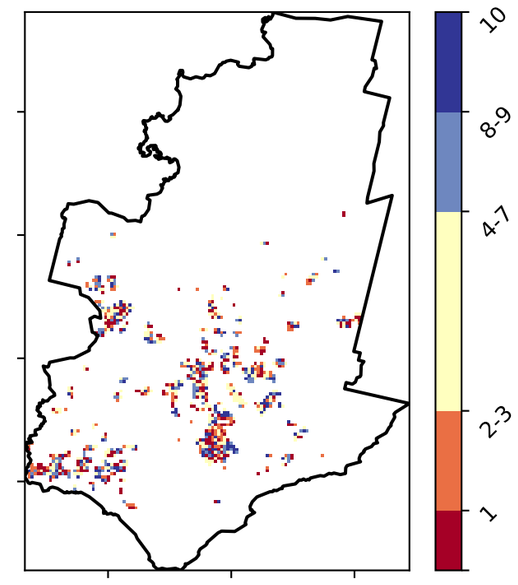
Total Vegetation Cover Anomaly [%]

Anomaly show how many percetage 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.



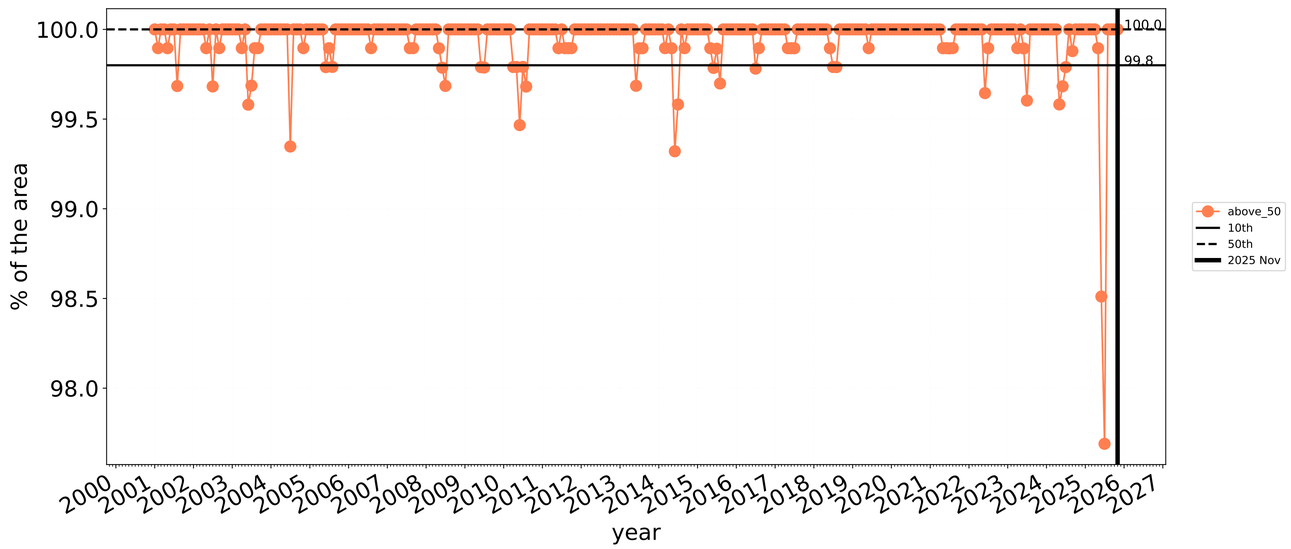
Total Vegetation Cover Decile [%]

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.

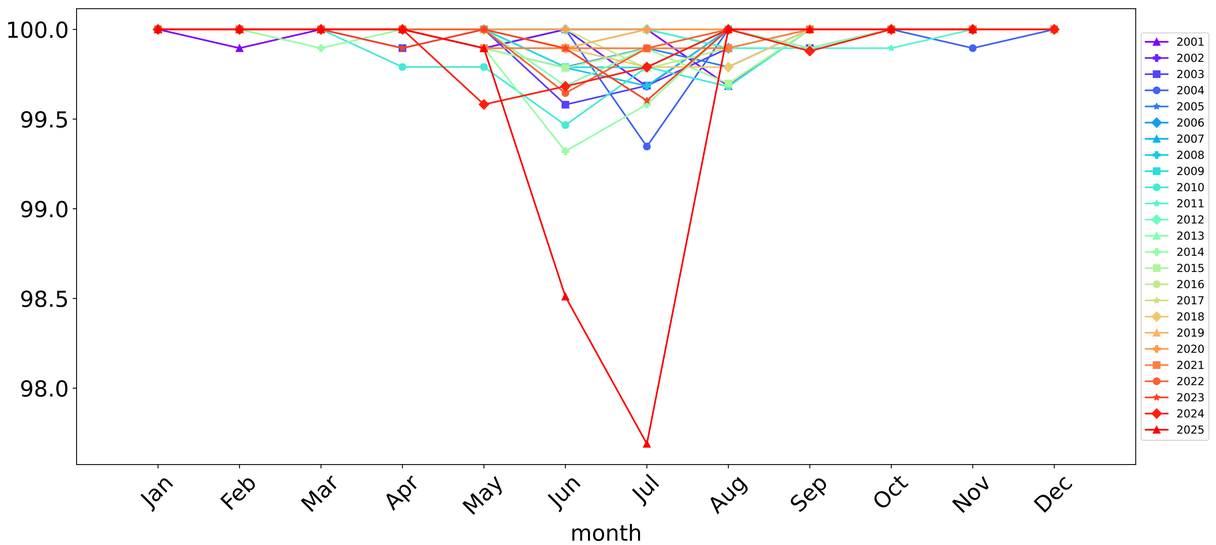


Production native forests and plantation forests timeseries

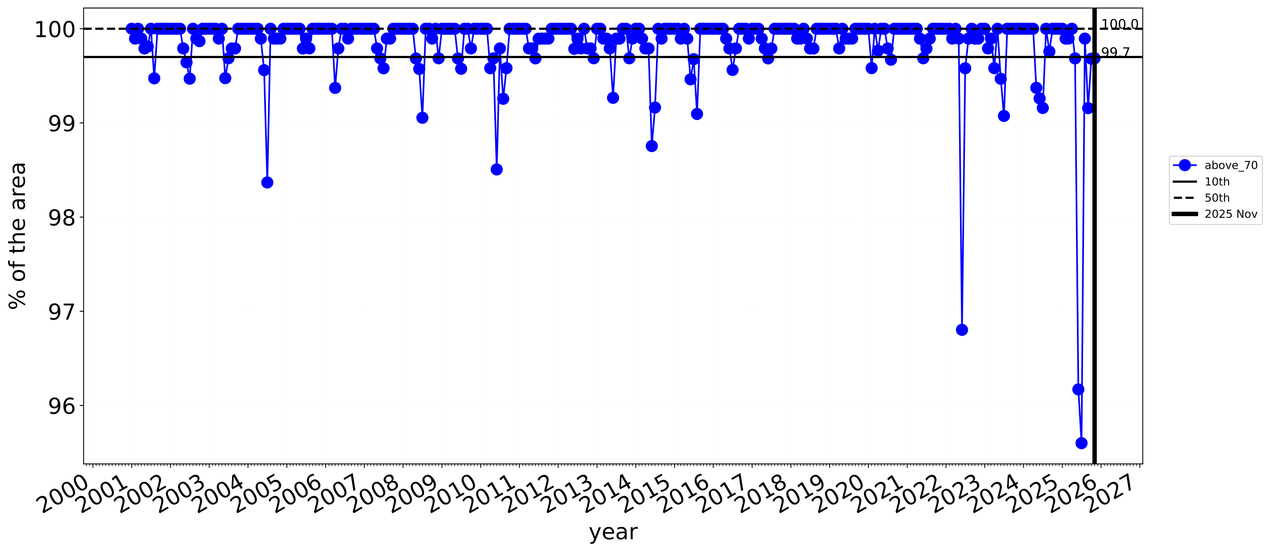
Proportion of the area protected from wind erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 50%)



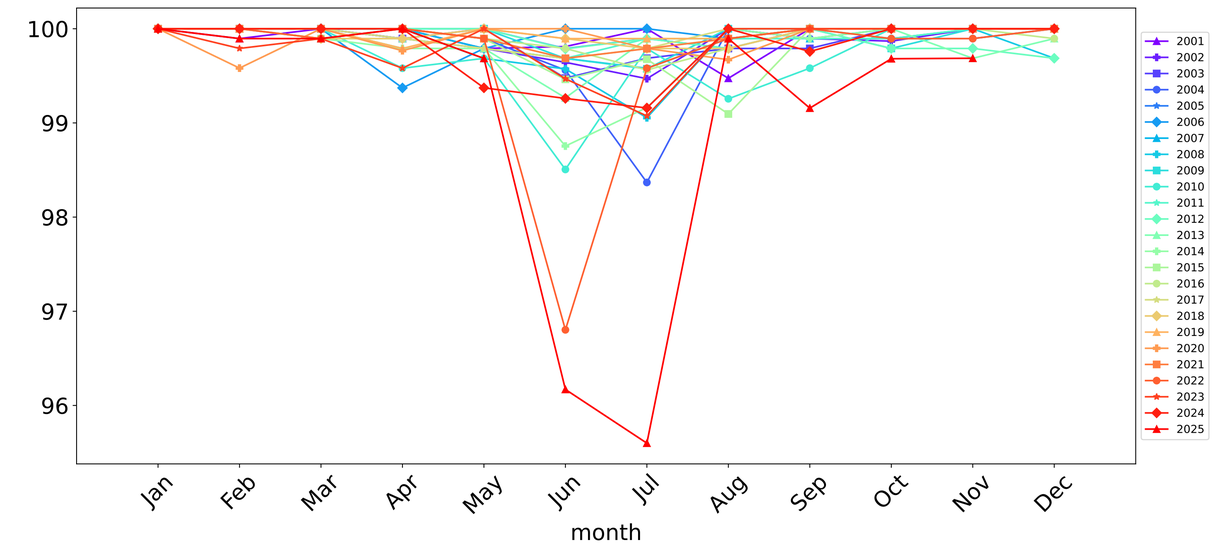
Wind erosion historical monthly area protected (Total Veg Cov >50%)

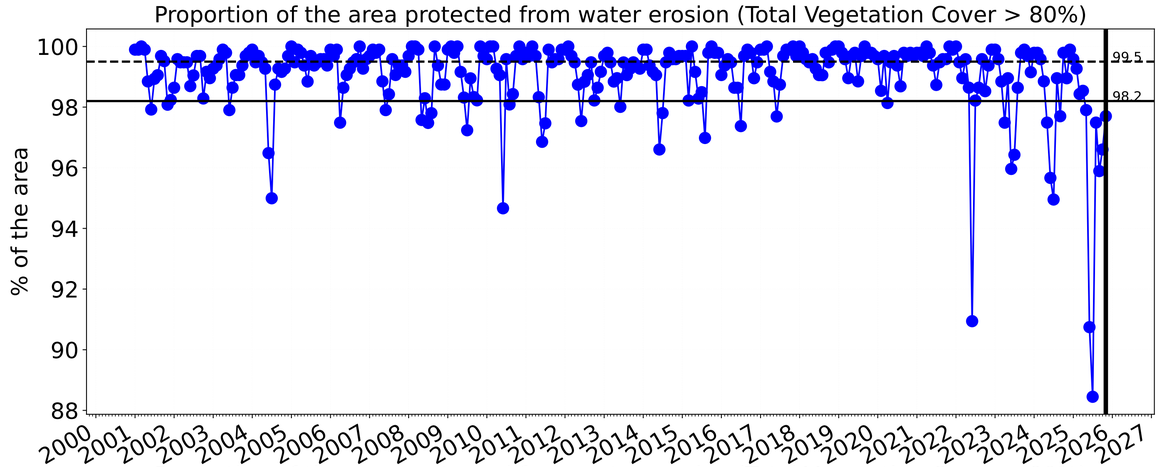


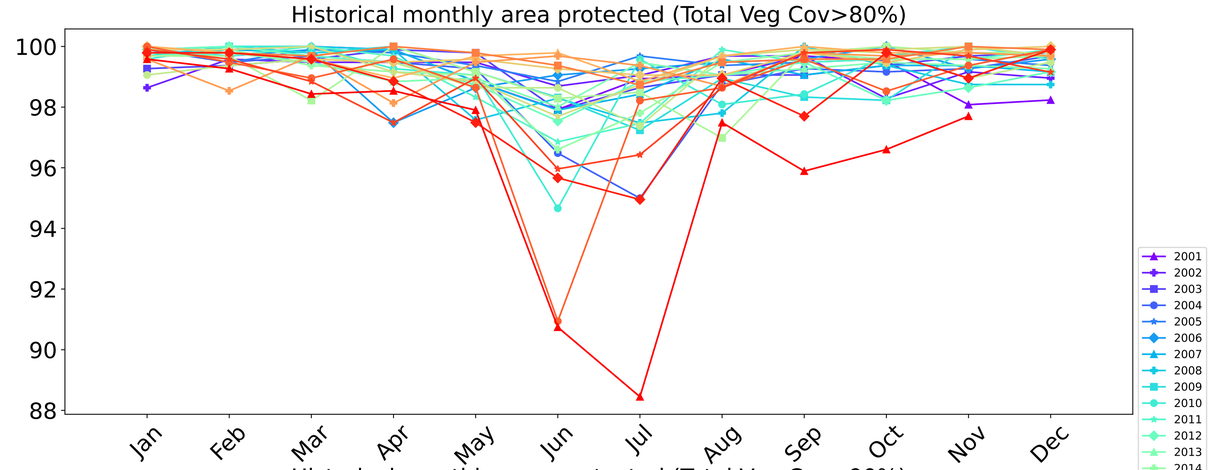
Proportion of the area protected from water erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 70%)



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




Proportion of the area protected from water erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 80%)
% of the area
99.5
98.2
above_80
10th
50th
2025 Nov


Historical monthly area protected (Total Veg Cov>80%)
Jan
Feb
Mar
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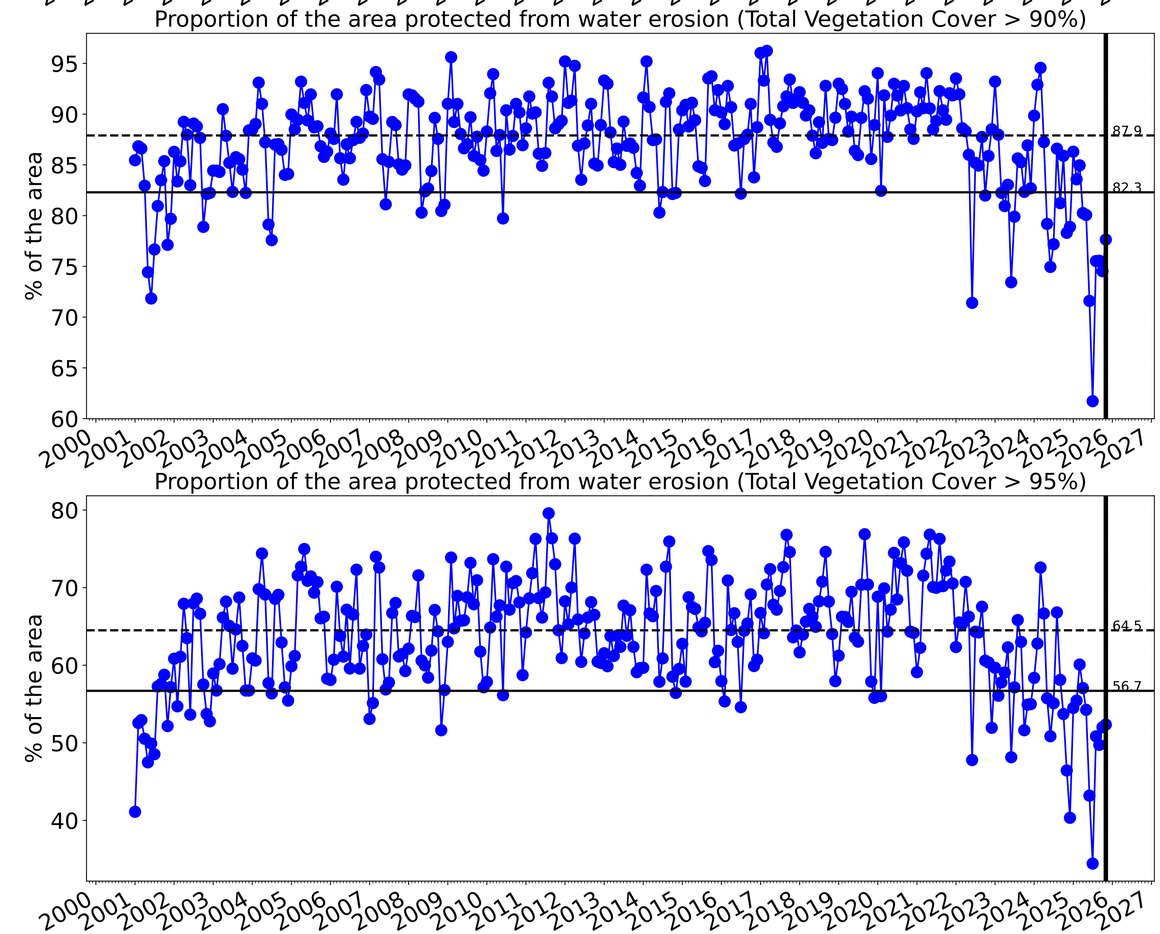
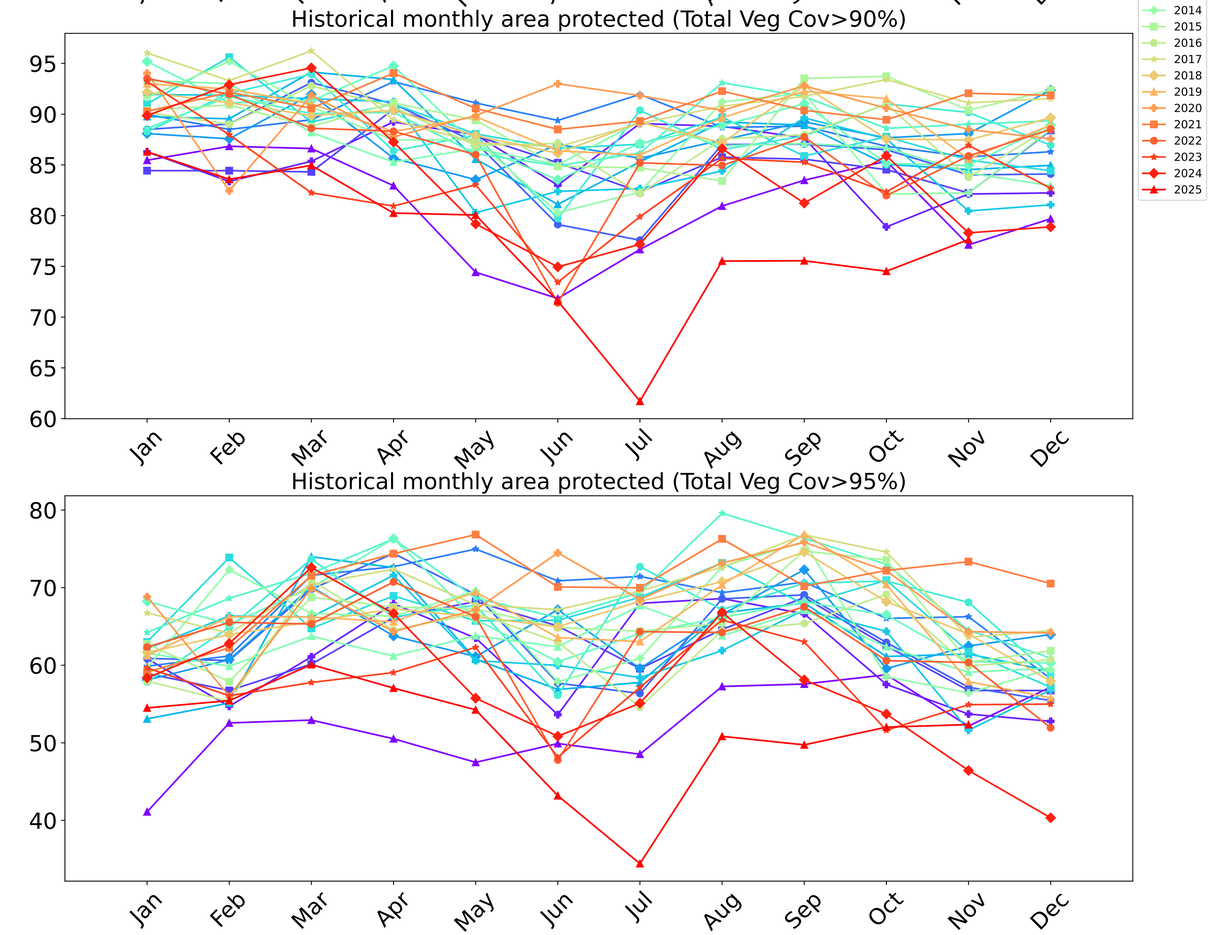
May
Jun
Jul
Aug
Sep
Oct
Nov
Dec


Proportion of the area protected from water erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 90%)
% of the area
87.9
82.3
above_90
10th
50th
2025 Nov
Proportion of the area protected from water erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 95%)
% of the area
64.5
56.7
above_95
10th
50th
2025 Nov


Historical monthly area protected (Total Veg Cov>90%)
Historical monthly area protected (Total Veg Cov>95%)
Jan
Feb
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Nov
Dec
2001
2002
2003
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2025

Colac-Otway_(S) (335,450 ha and no data 8,375 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	335,450	100.0% 335,350	99.9% 335,050	99.0% 331,975	90.7% 304,175	52.1% 174,925	33.5% 112,500
Conservation and natural environments	109,200	100.0% 109,150	99.9% 109,100	99.6% 108,775	98.6% 107,675	88.1% 96,250	68.6% 74,875
Conservation and natural environments non forest	3,725	98.7% 3,675	98.0% 3,650	92.6% 3,450	82.6% 3,075	47.0% 1,750	22.8% 850
Conservation and natural environments Woodland forest	14,000	100.0% 14,000	99.8% 13,975	99.5% 13,925	97.9% 13,700	81.6% 11,425	41.2% 5,775
Conservation and natural environments Forest (non woodland)	91,475	100.0% 91,475	100.0% 91,475	99.9% 91,400	99.4% 90,900	90.8% 83,075	74.6% 68,250
Agriculture	184,200	100.0% 184,200	100.0% 184,175	99.2% 182,800	86.7% 159,700	29.1% 53,675	11.8% 21,750
Grazing	170,325	100.0% 170,325	100.0% 170,300	99.5% 169,400	87.9% 149,775	29.6% 50,500	12.0% 20,400
Grazing non forest	156,200	100.0% 156,200	100.0% 156,175	99.4% 155,300	87.1% 135,975	25.9% 40,500	9.1% 14,200
Grazing - Forest (non woodland)	11,250	100.0% 11,250	100.0% 11,250	99.8% 11,225	97.3% 10,950	72.0% 8,100	47.1% 5,300
Cropping	12,850	100.0% 12,850	100.0% 12,850	96.3% 12,375	69.6% 8,950	21.0% 2,700	9.5% 1,225
Production native forests and plantation forests	23,925	100.0% 23,925	100.0% 23,925	99.7% 23,850	97.7% 23,375	77.6% 18,575	52.4% 12,525