

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

Land use forest cover:

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

Total vegetation Cover:

The total vegetation cover indicates where soil is likely to be protected from wind and or water hillslope erosion. Total vegetation cover for this month is shown on a map and chart classified into 4 classes.

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

Erosion protection: Wind erosion 50% total vegetation cover

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

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

Comparison with previous years:

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

Anomalies and deciles until September 2019 are calculated comparing to the same months 2001 to 2019. Extra monthly data will be used to calculate anomalies and deciles post September 2019 as they become available.

Time series monthly from January 2001 to current:

Erosion protection

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

Rainfall

- Millimetres rainfall each month (black line).

Each time series is also stacked by year. The black line shows the current year of data.

Water erosion protection for higher rainfall and steeper slopes:

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

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

Acknowledgment of data:

1. <http://www.agriculture.gov.au/abares/aclump/land-use/alum-classification>
2. <http://www.agriculture.gov.au/abares/forestsaustralia/sofr/sofr-2018>
3. <https://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/agriculture/pastures-and-rangelands/establishment-mgmt/production-management2/groundcover>
4. MODIS Fractional cover algorithm:
<https://doi.org/10.4225/08/5848a3f19a7b3>



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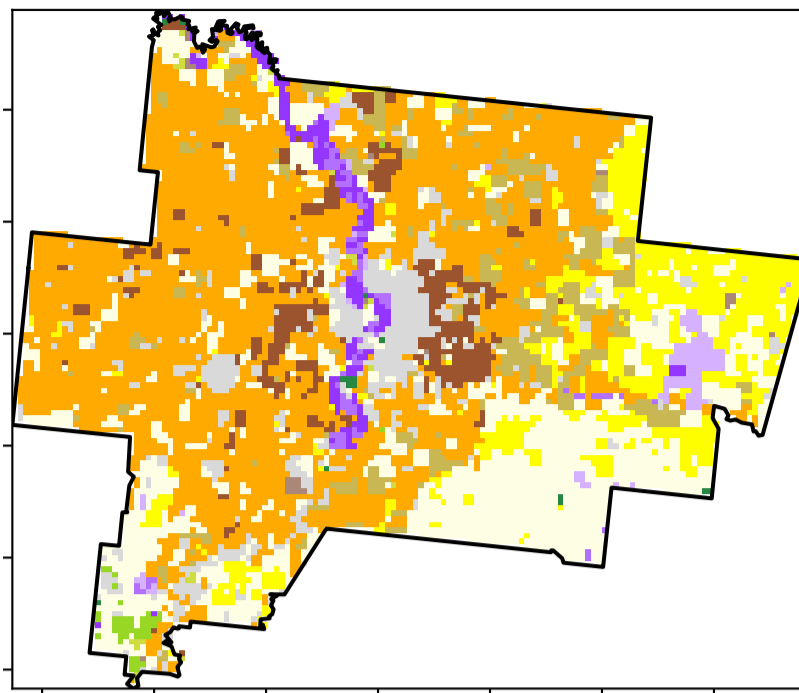
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Vegetation Cover May 2025

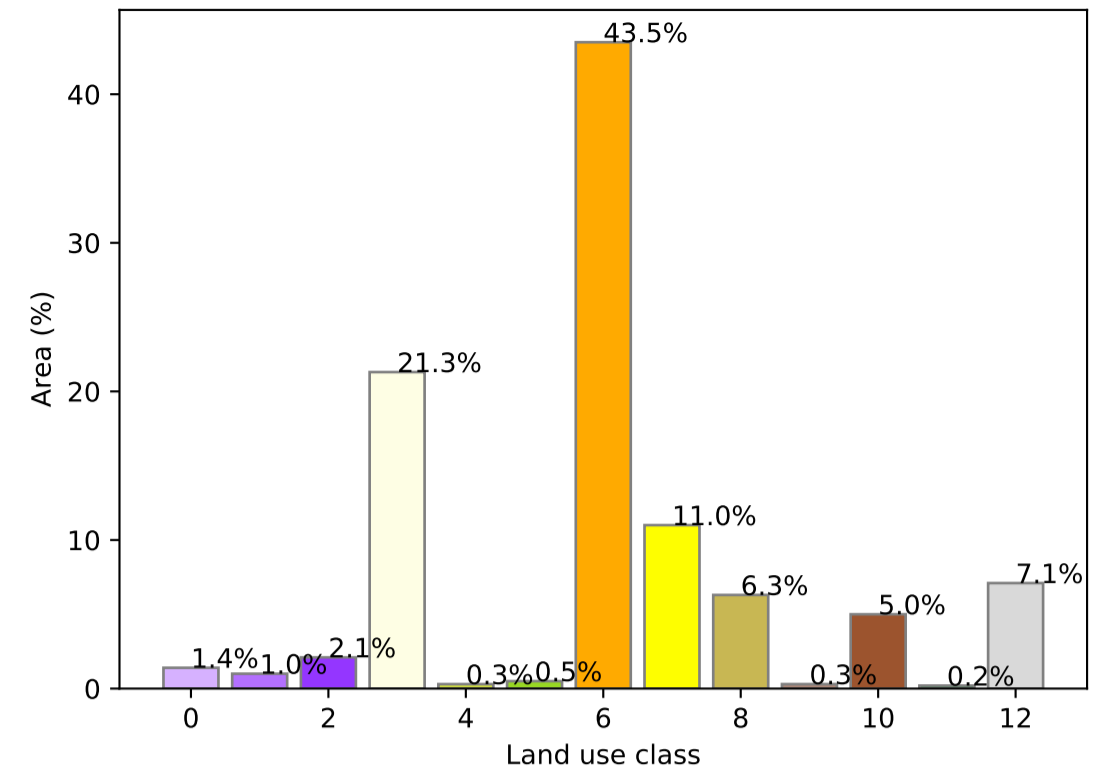
Land use and forest cover

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

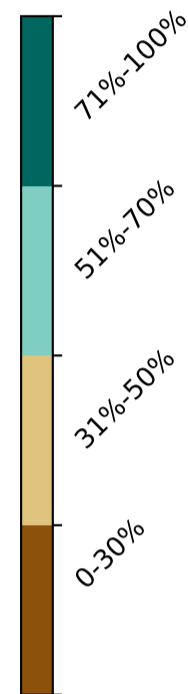
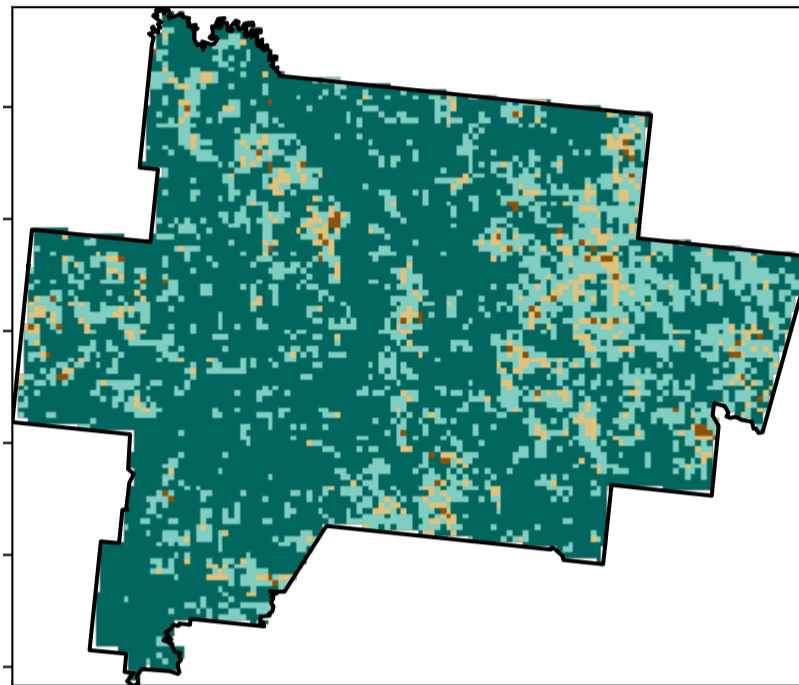


- Legend with land class forest cover and number, i.e. Forests is 12
- 1 Conservation and natural environments - Non-forest
 - 2 Conservation and natural environments - Woodland forest
 - 3 Conservation and natural environments - Non-Woodland forest
 - 4 Agriculture - Grazing - Non-forest
 - 5 Agriculture - Grazing - Woodland forest
 - 6 Agriculture - Grazing - Non-woodland forest
 - 7 Agriculture - Grazing - Irrigated
 - 8 Agriculture - Cropping - Non-irrigated
 - 9 Agriculture - Cropping - Irrigated
 - 10 Agriculture - Horticulture - Non-irrigated
 - 11 Agriculture - Horticulture - Irrigated
 - 12 Production native forests and plantation forests
 - 13 Other uses

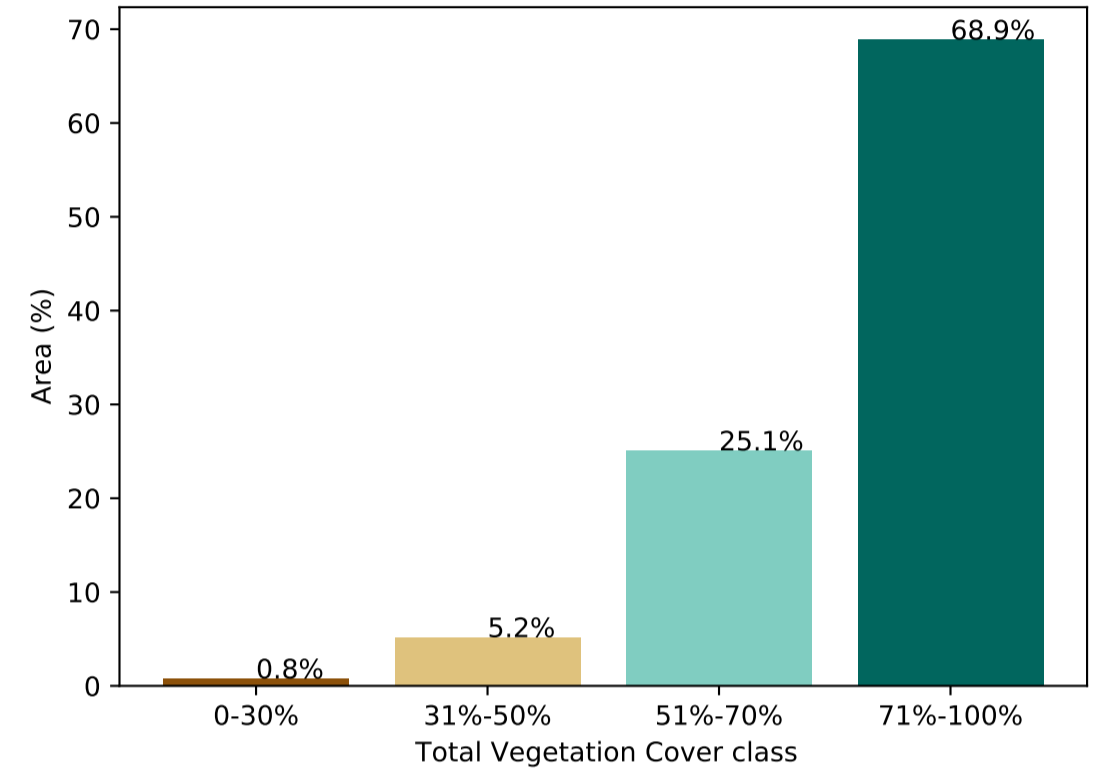
Proportion of each land class in area



Total Vegetation Cover [%]



Proportion of vegetation cover class in area



% Area protected from water erosion (>70%)



- Area not protected
31.1% of region
(75,278 ha)
- Area protected
68.9% of region
(166,772 ha)

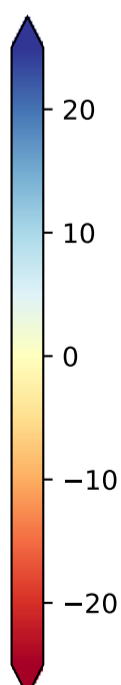
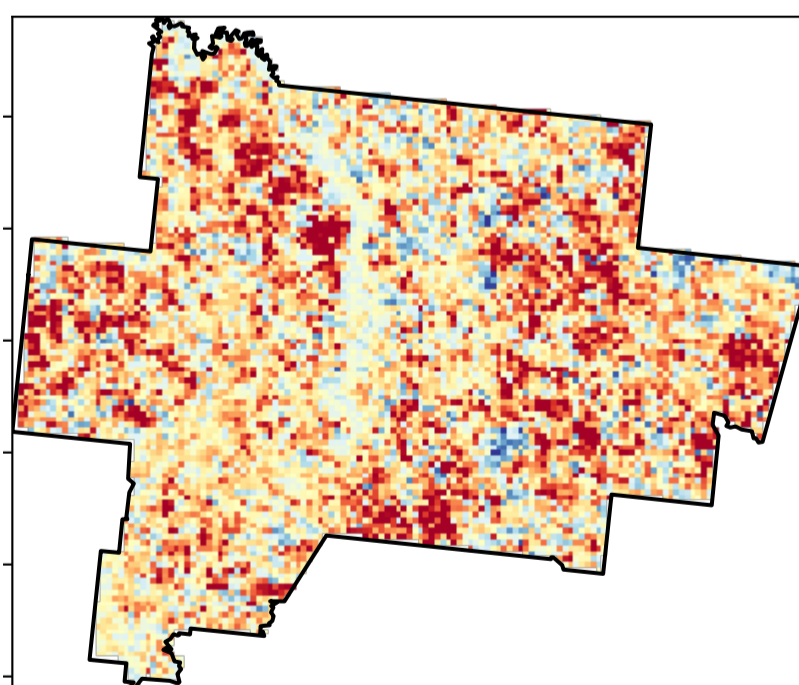
% Area protected from wind erosion (>50%)



- Area not protected
6.0% of region
(14,523 ha)
- Area protected
94.0% of region
(227,527 ha)

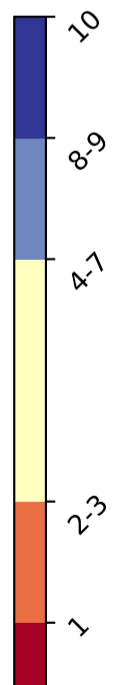
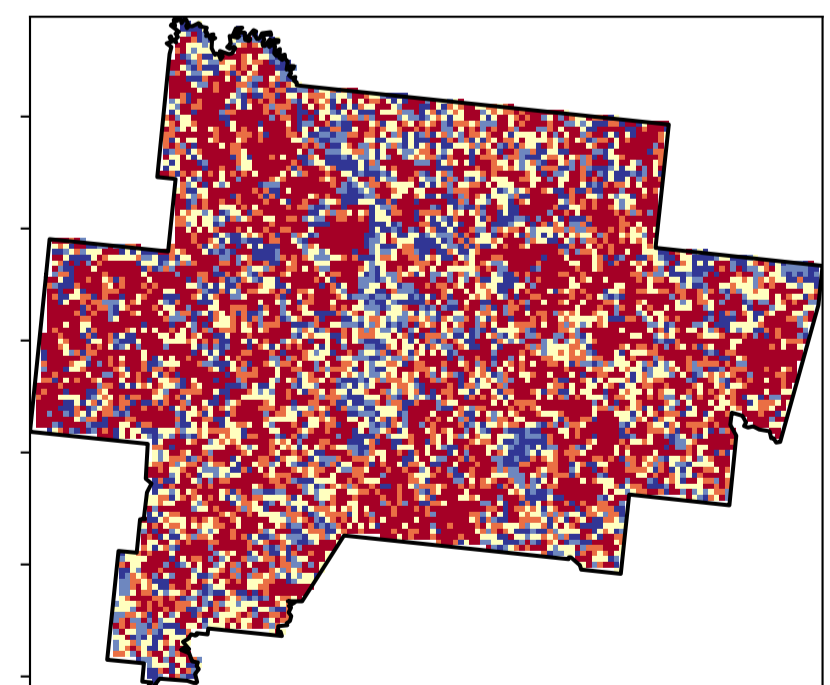
Total Vegetation Cover Anomaly [%]

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.



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Total Vegetation Cover Decile [%]



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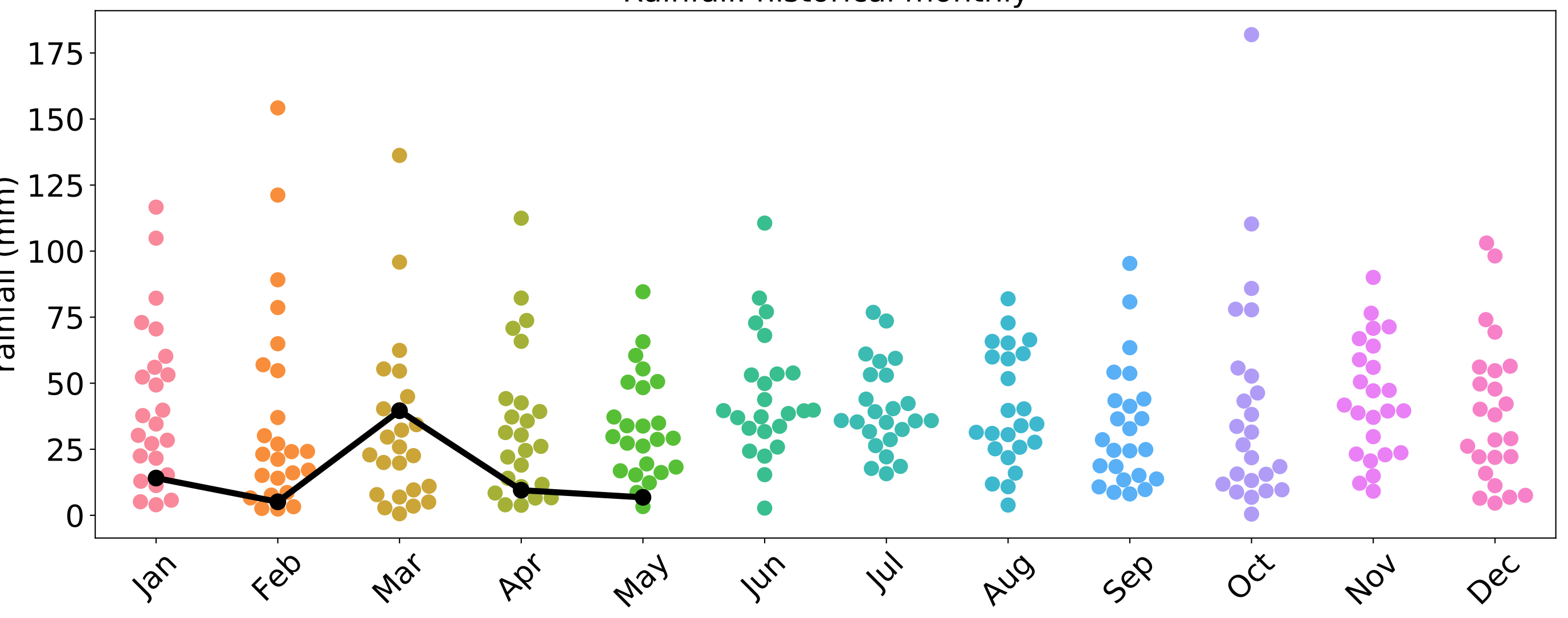
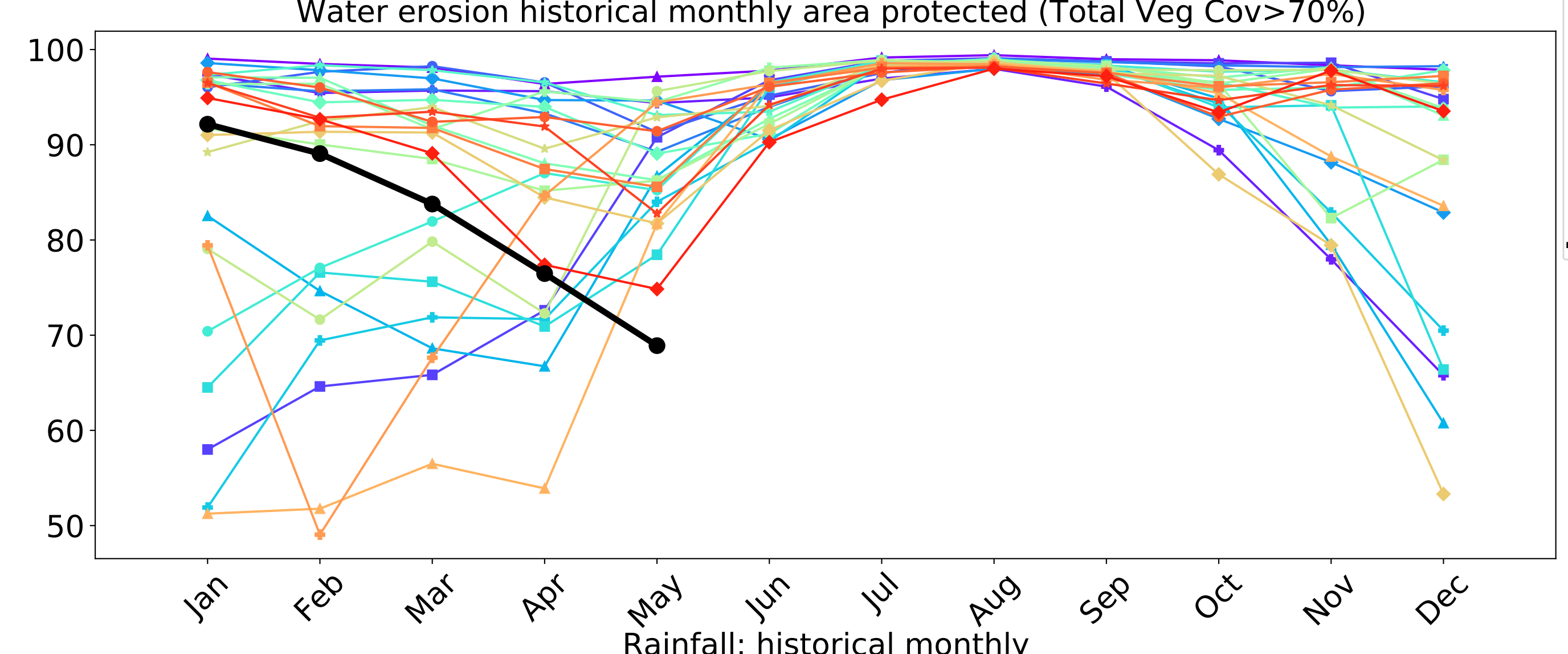
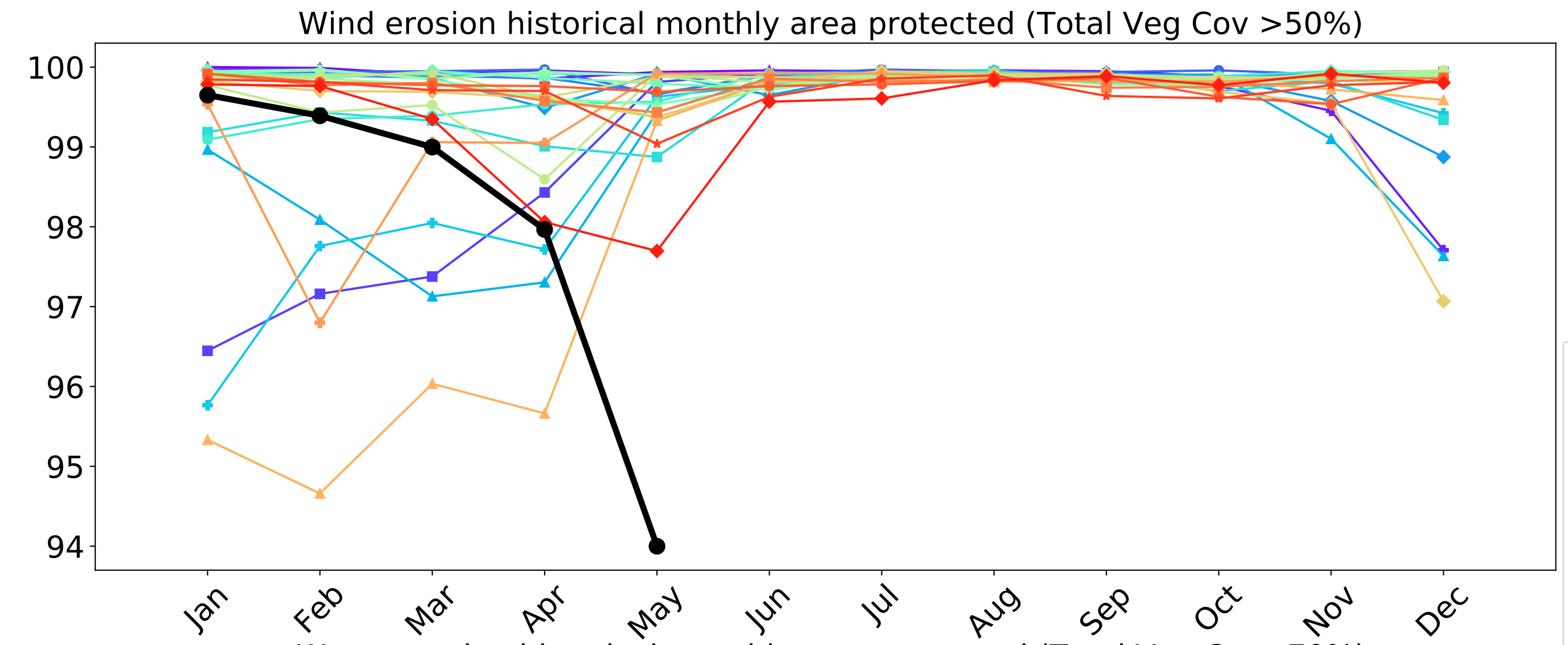
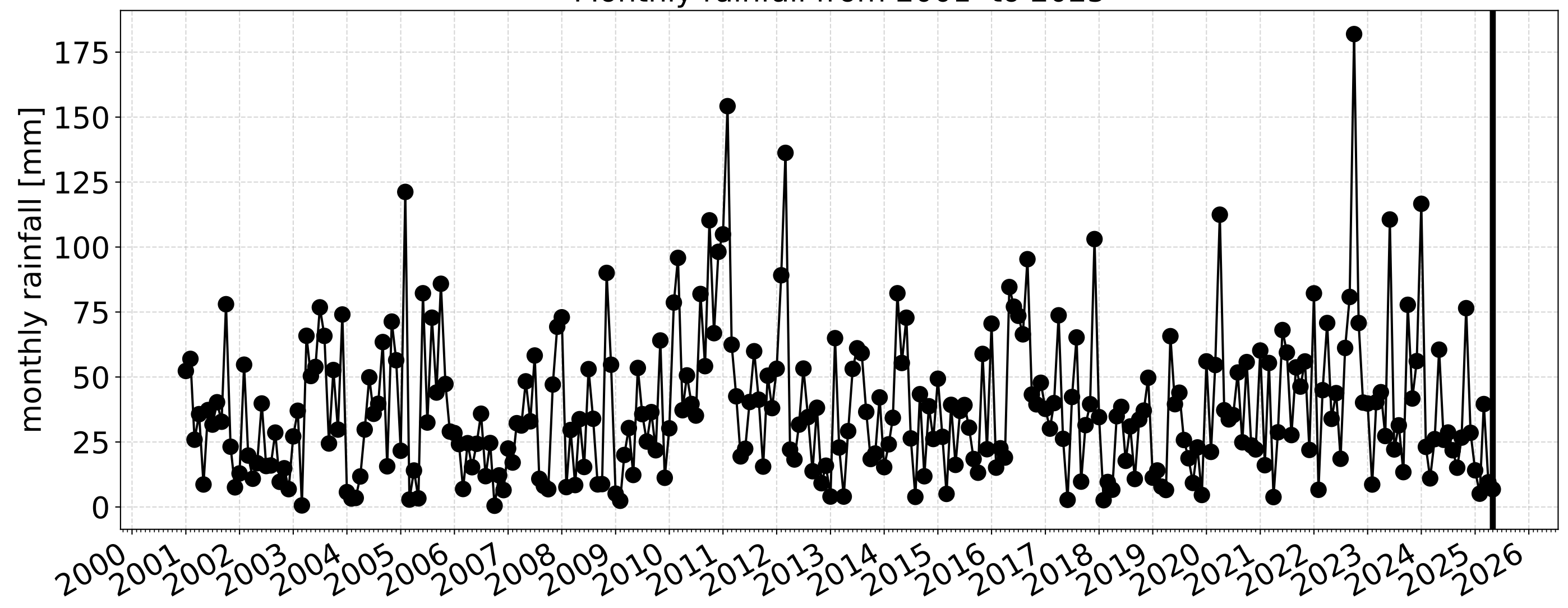
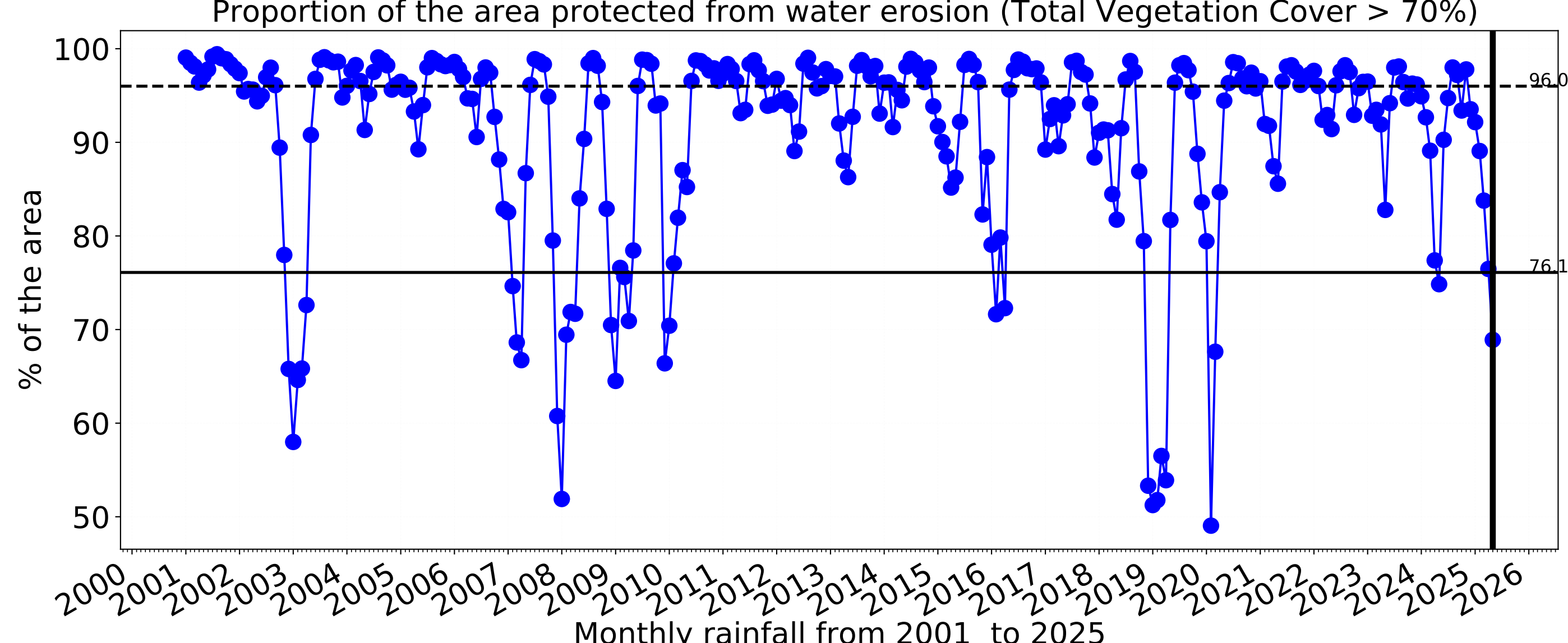
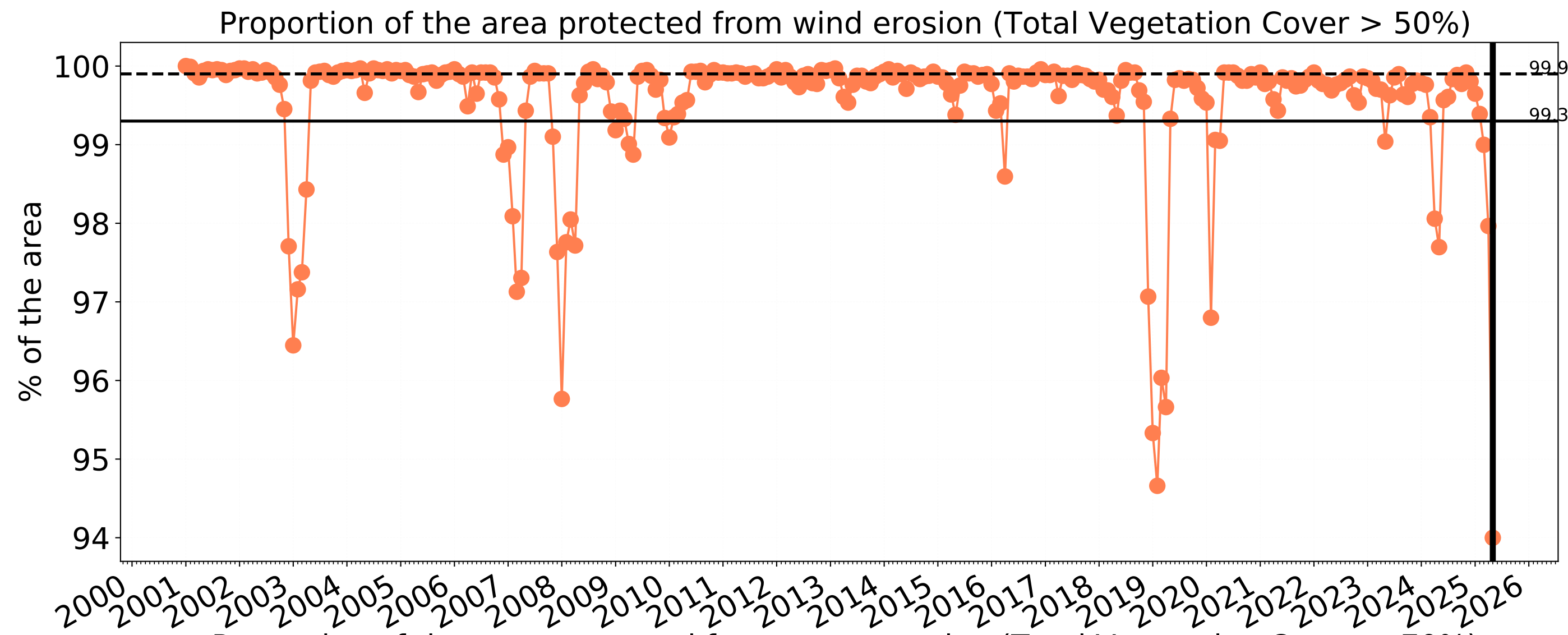
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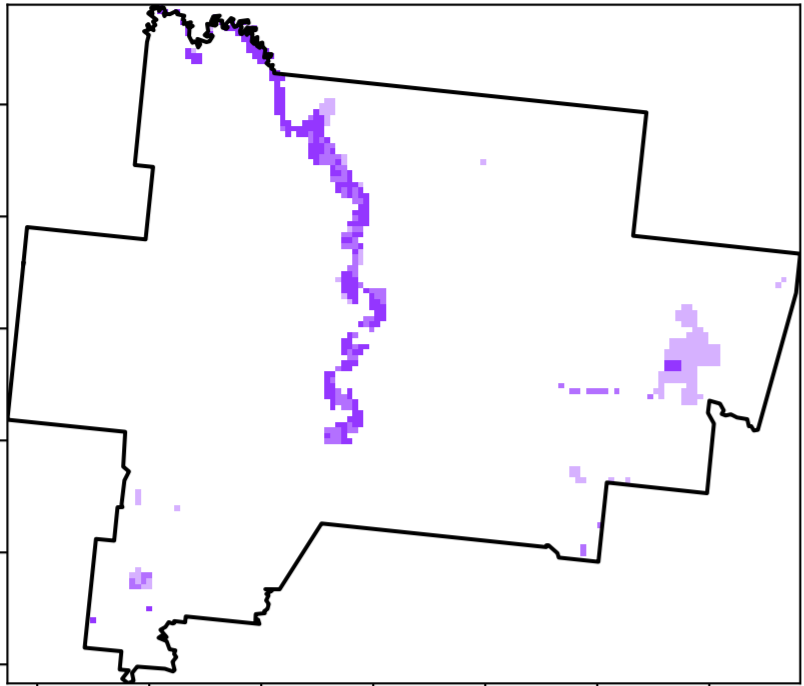




Conservation and natural environments

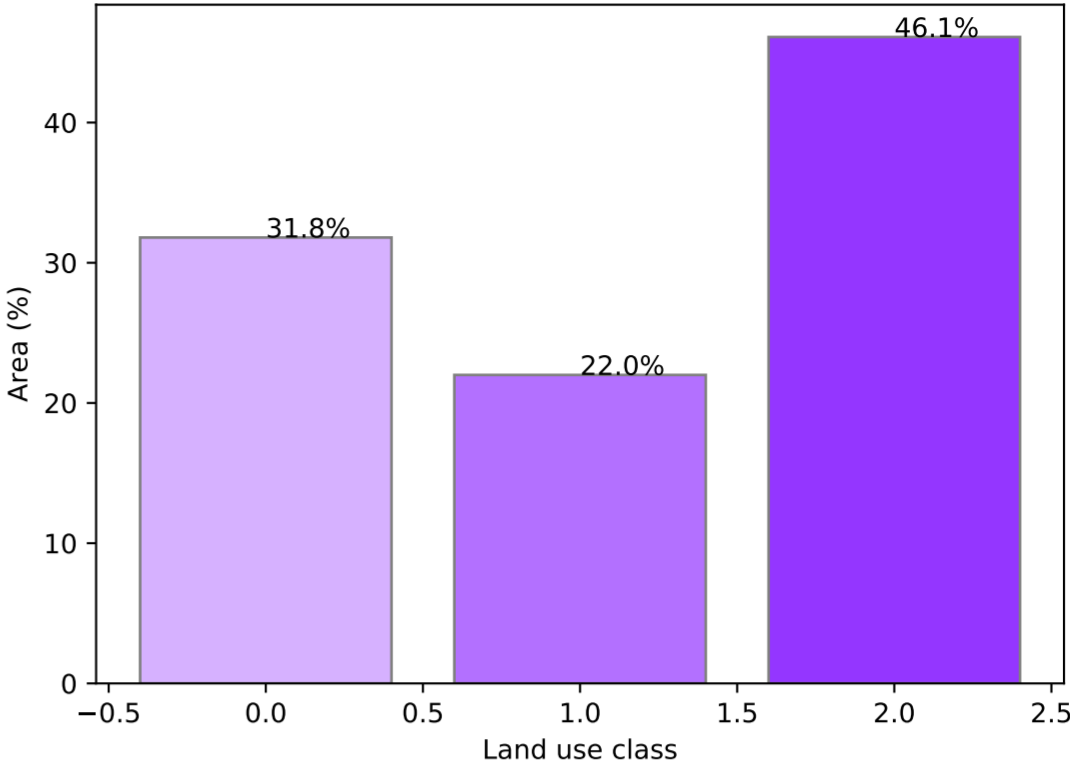
Land use and forest cover

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

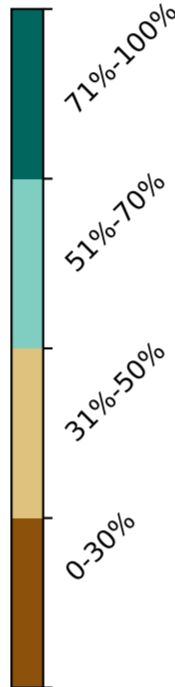
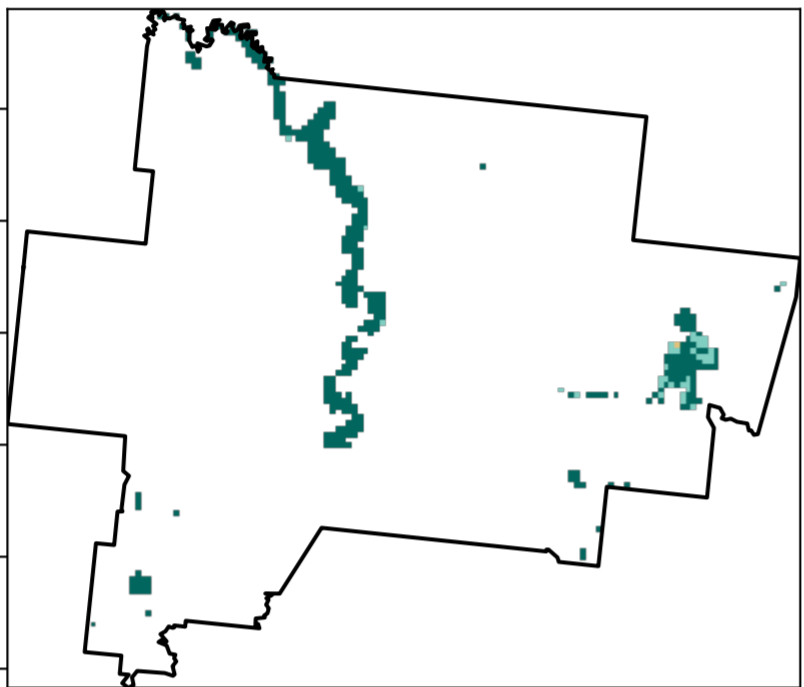


- 1 Conservation and natural environments - Non-forest
- 2 Conservation and natural environments - Woodland forest
- 3 Conservation and natural environments - Non-woodland forest

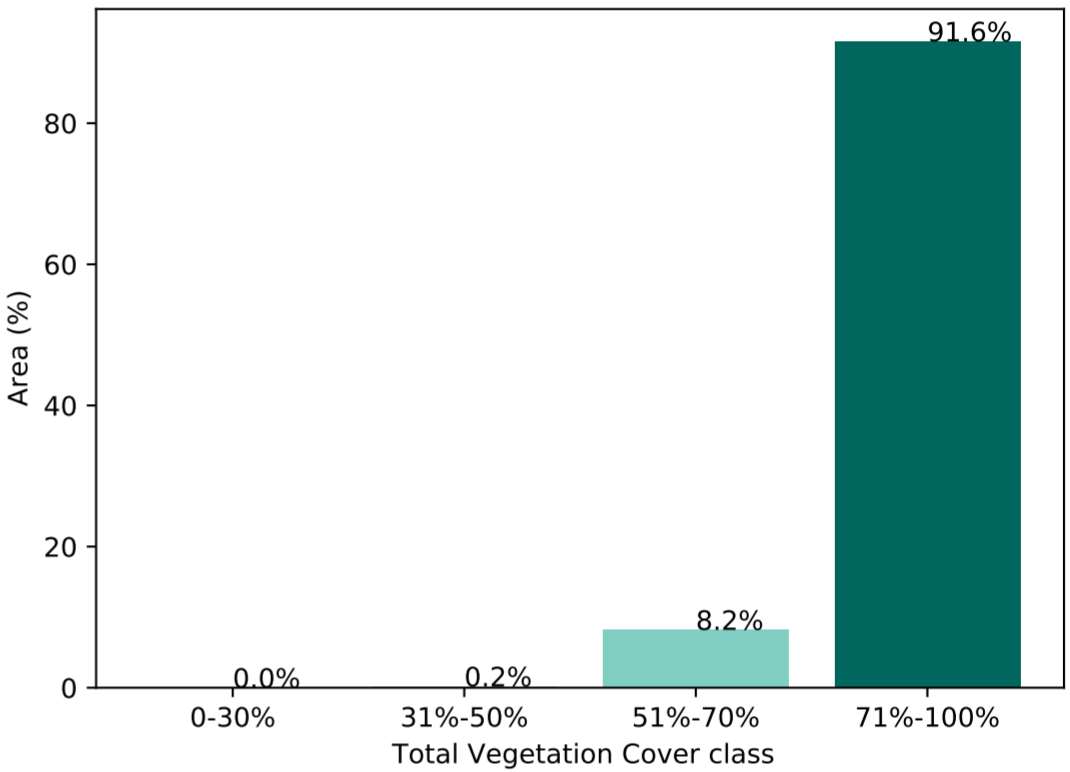
Proportion of each land class in area



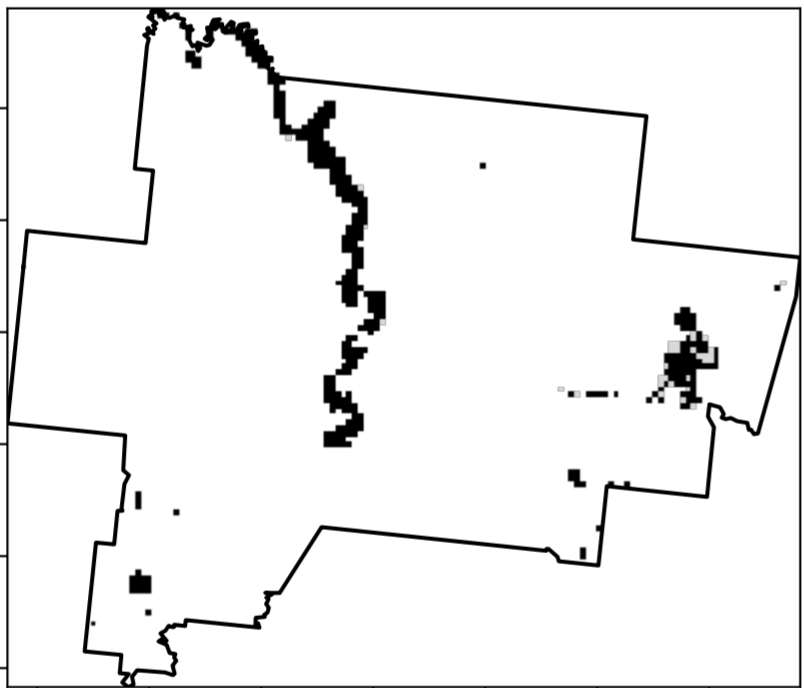
Total Vegetation Cover [%]



Proportion of vegetation cover class in area

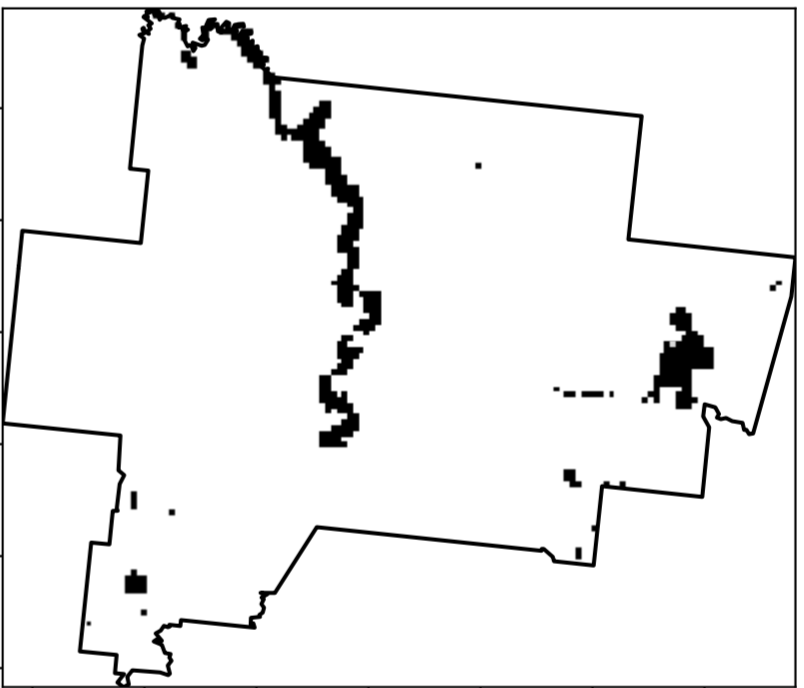


% Area protected from water erosion (>70%)



- Area not protected
8.4% of region
(924 ha)
- Area protected
91.6% of region
(10,076 ha)

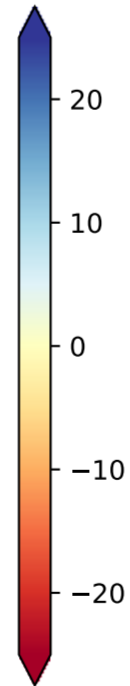
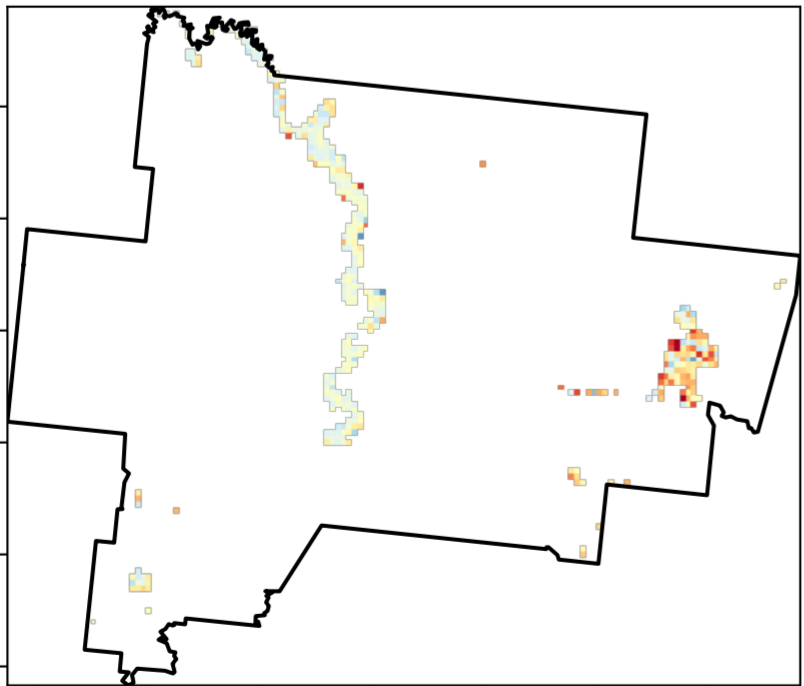
% Area protected from wind erosion (>50%)



- Area not protected
0.0% of region
(0 ha)
- Area protected
100.0% of region
(11,000 ha)

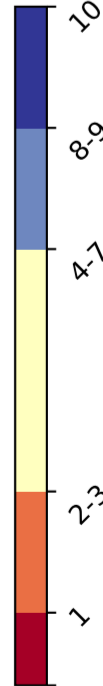
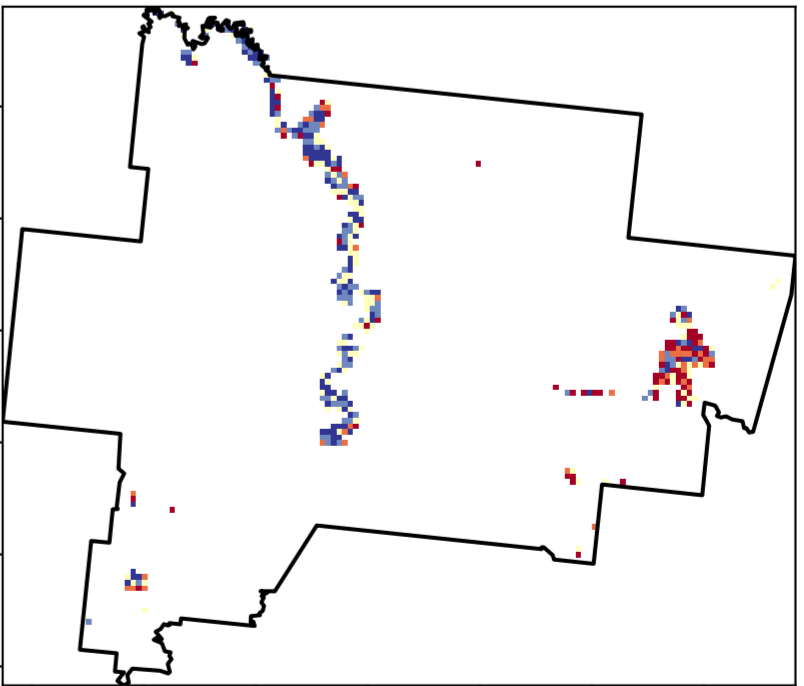
Total Vegetation Cover Anomaly [%]

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Total Vegetation Cover Decile [%]



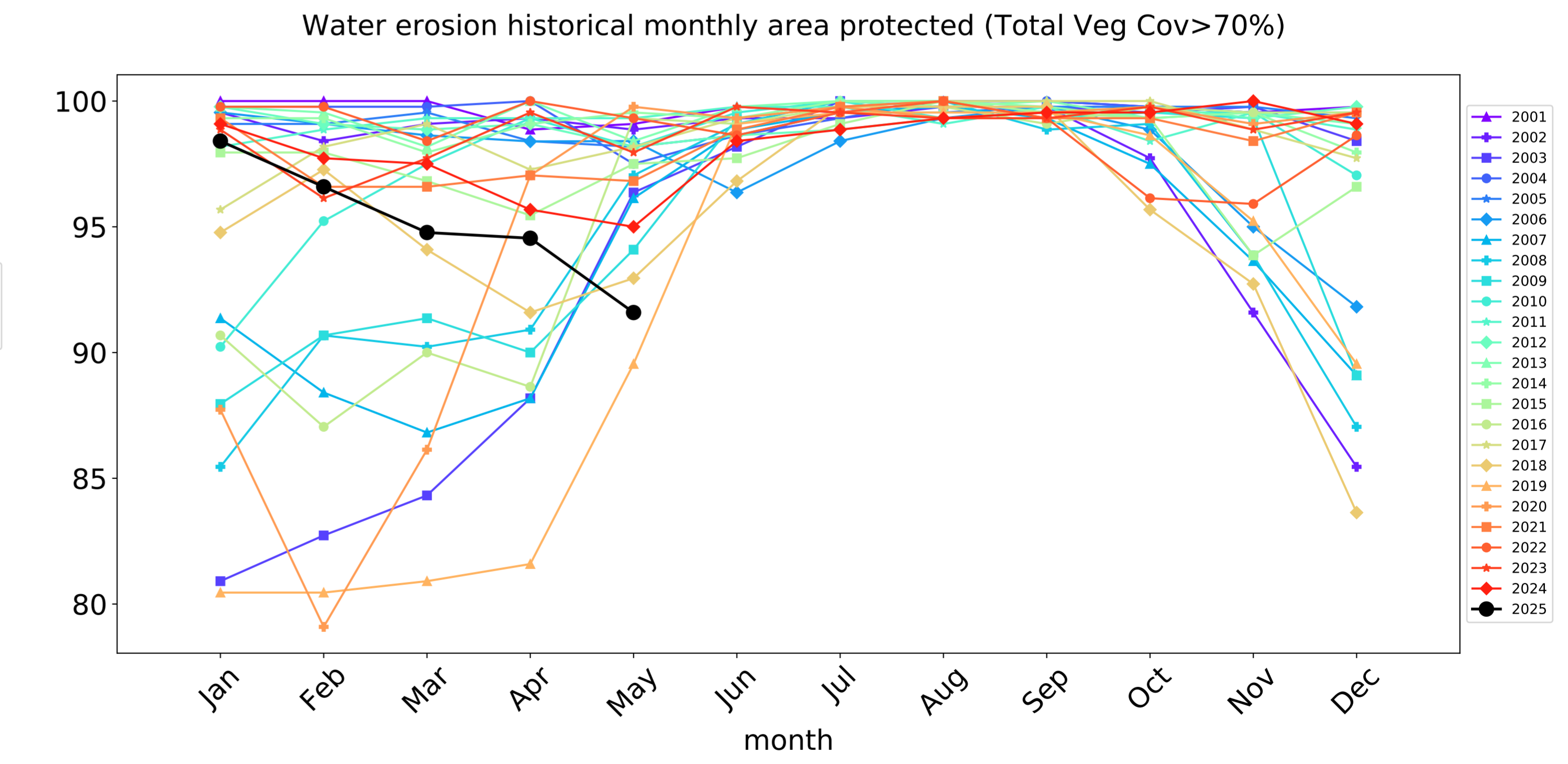
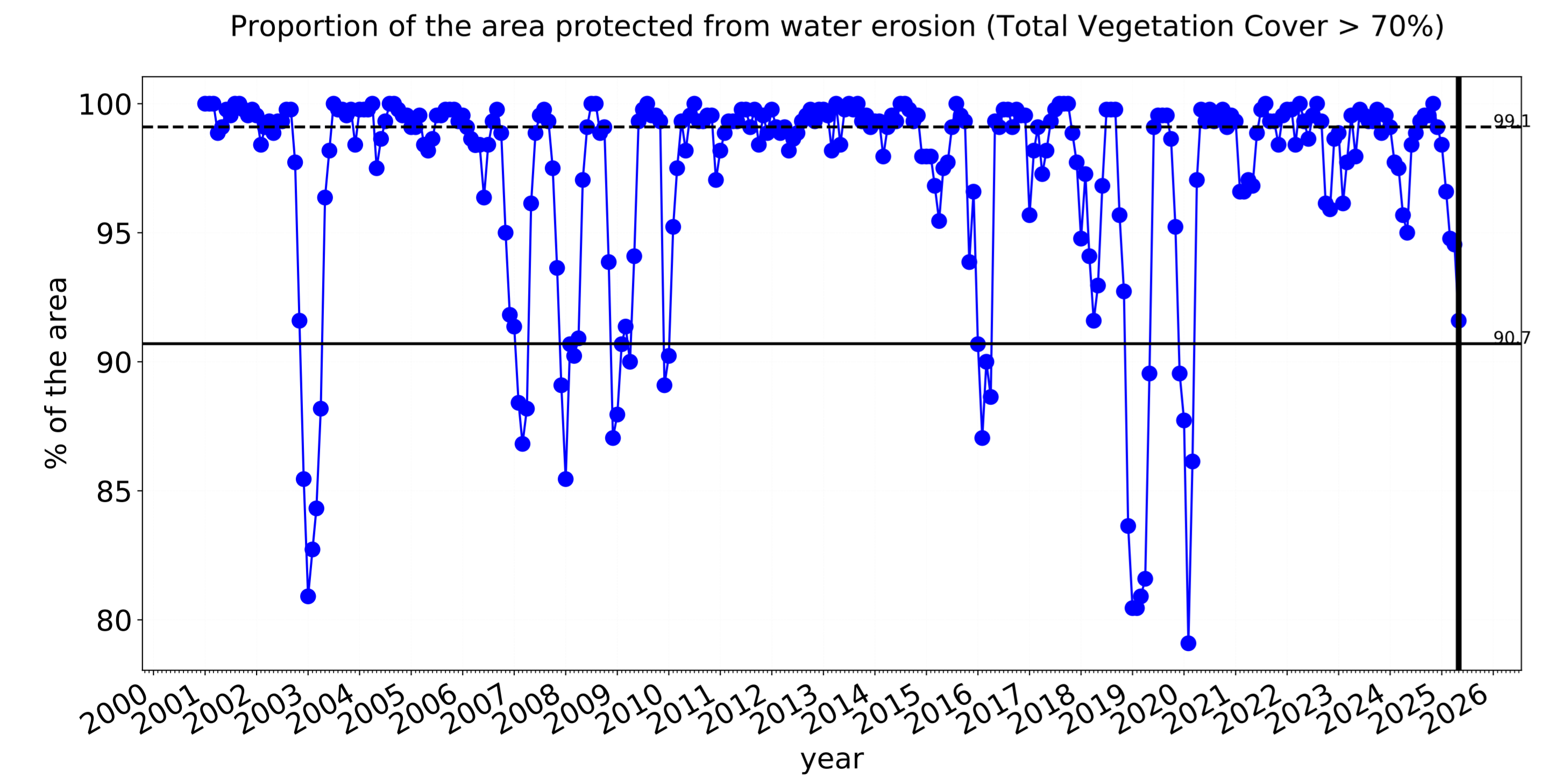
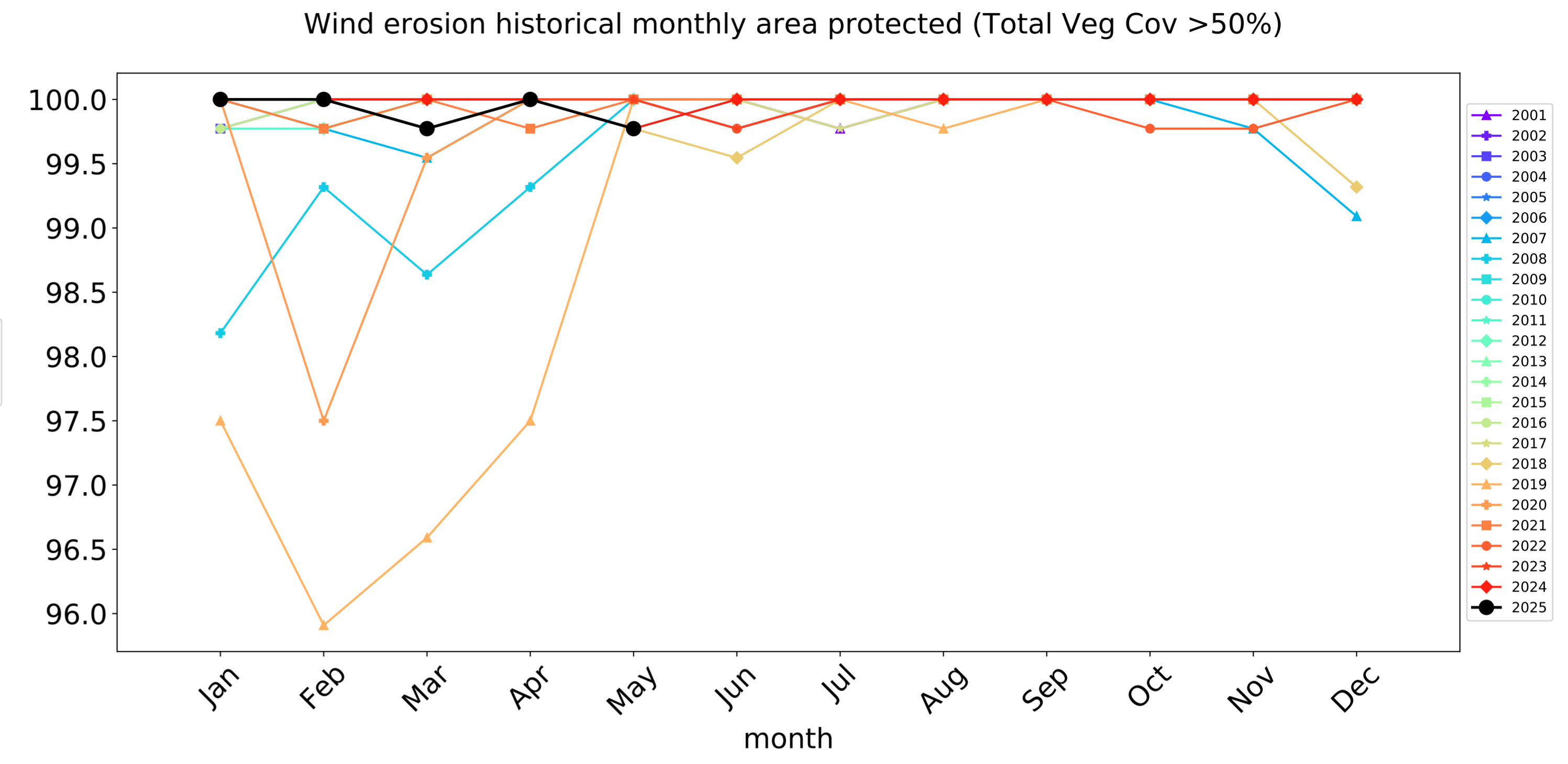
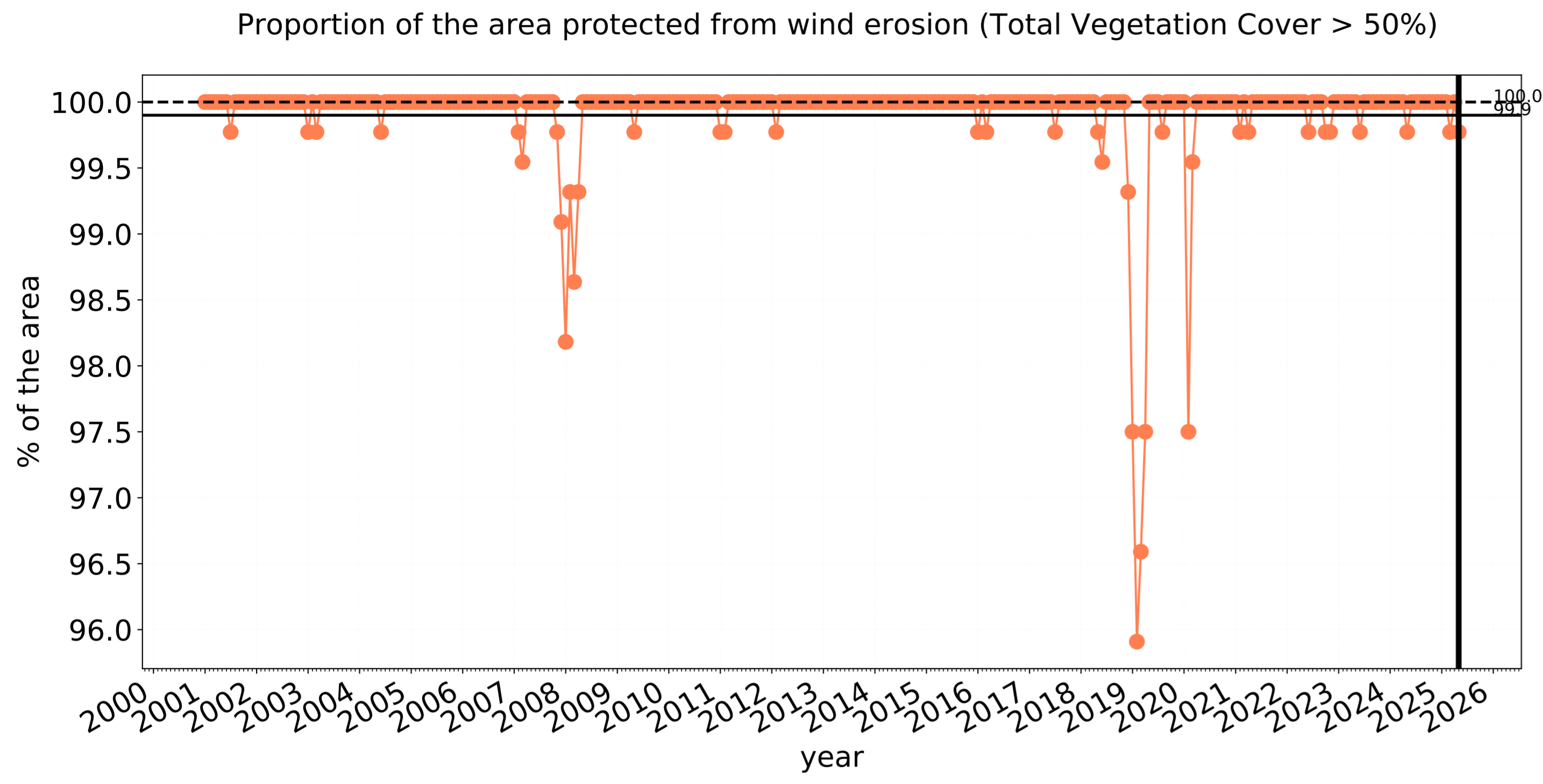
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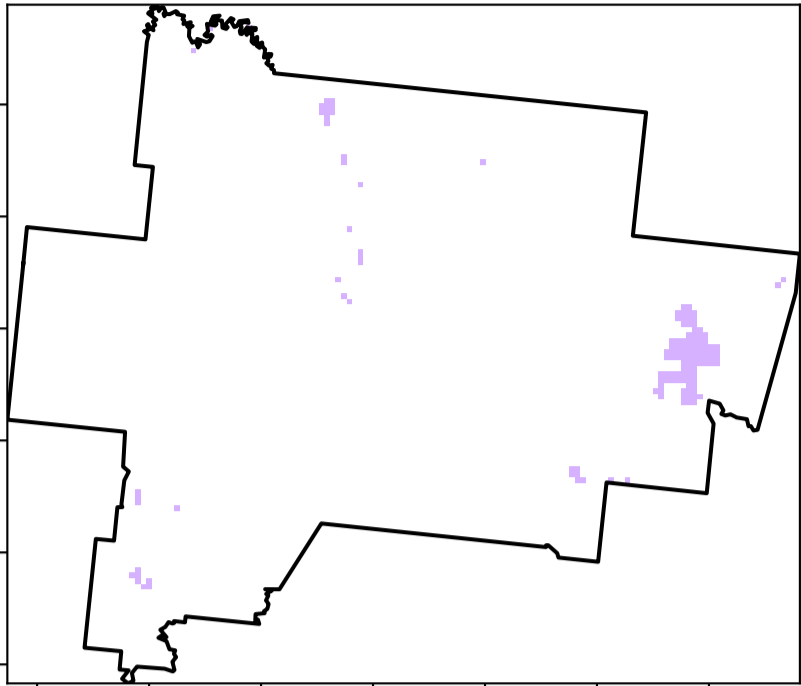
Conservation and natural environments timeseries



Conservation and natural environments non forest

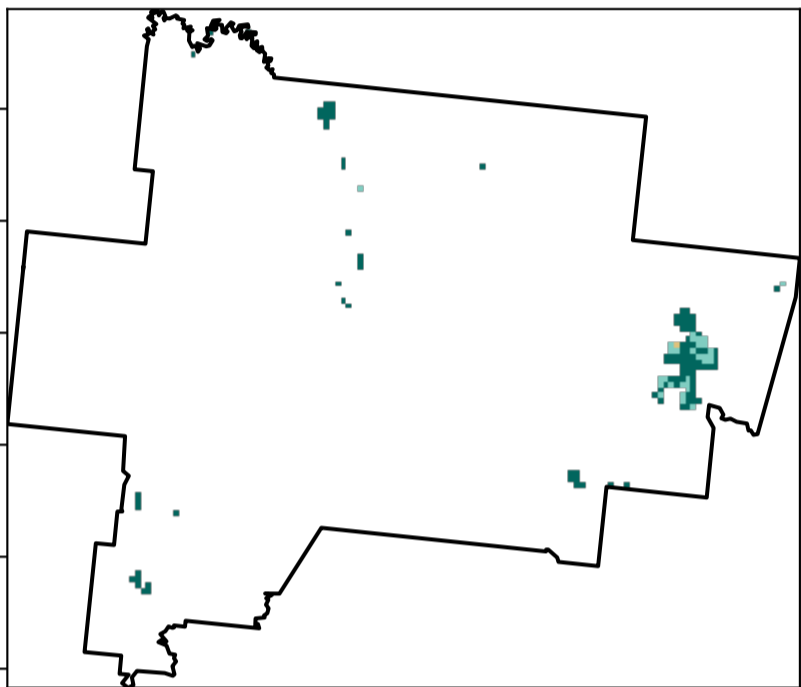
Land use and forest cover

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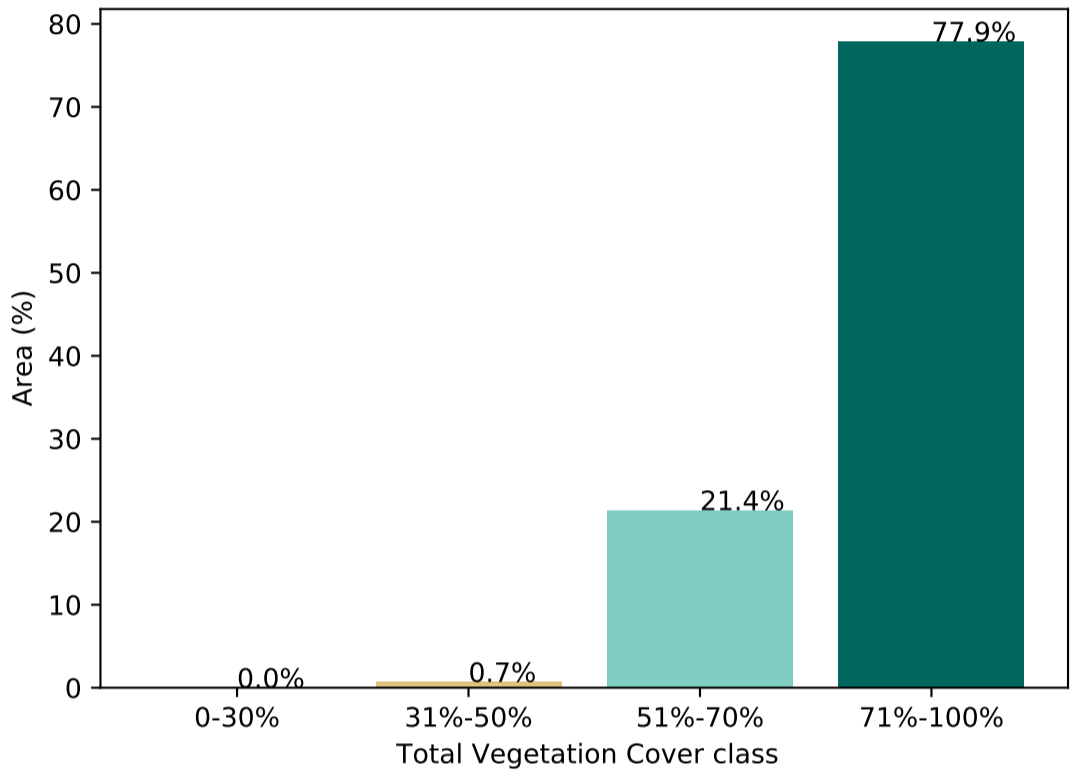


1 Conservation and natural environments - Non-forest

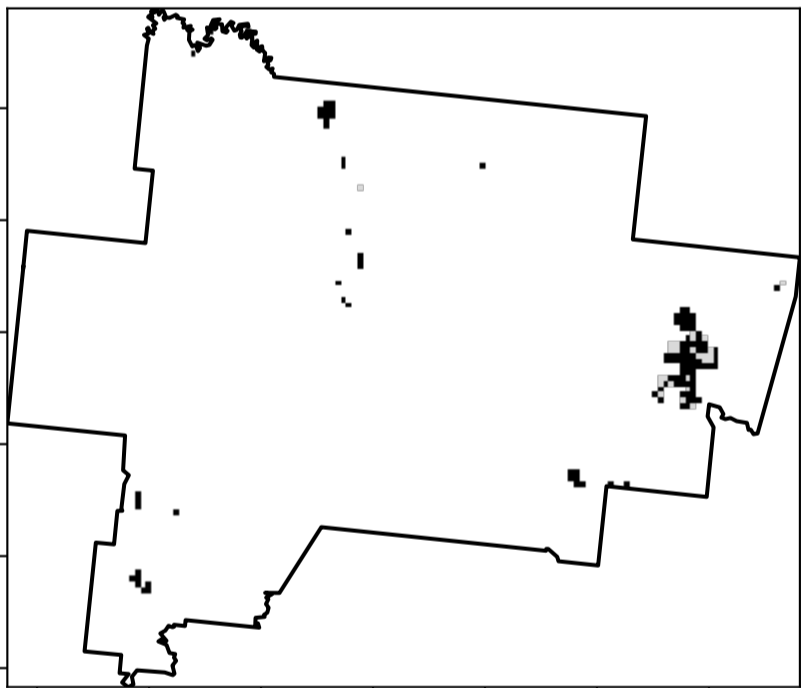
Total Vegetation Cover [%]



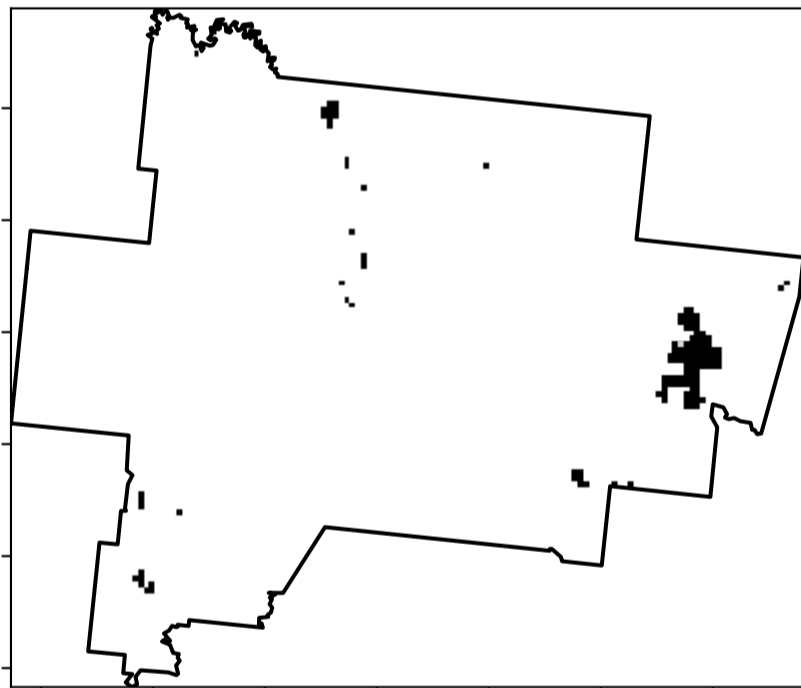
Proportion of vegetation cover class in area



% Area protected from water erosion (>70%)

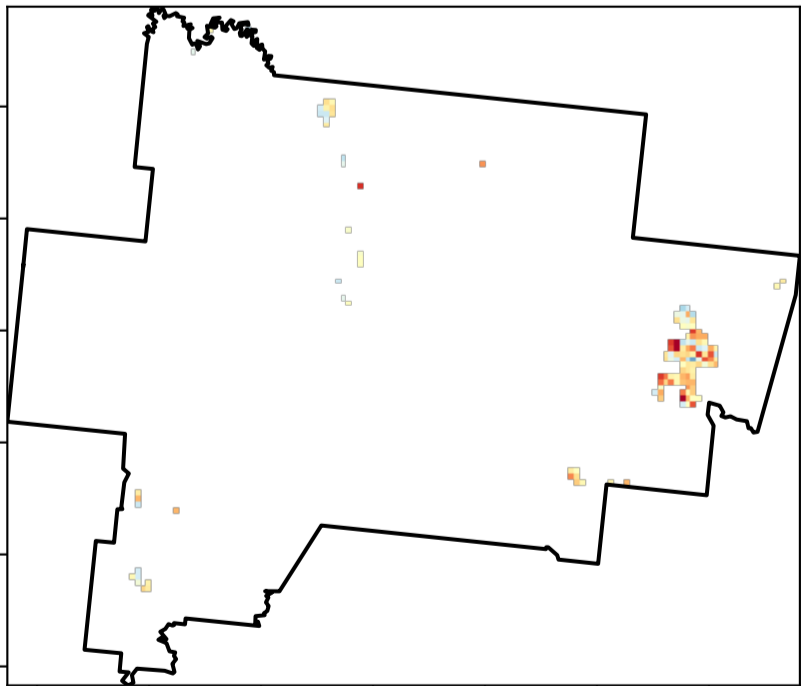


% Area protected from wind erosion (>50%)



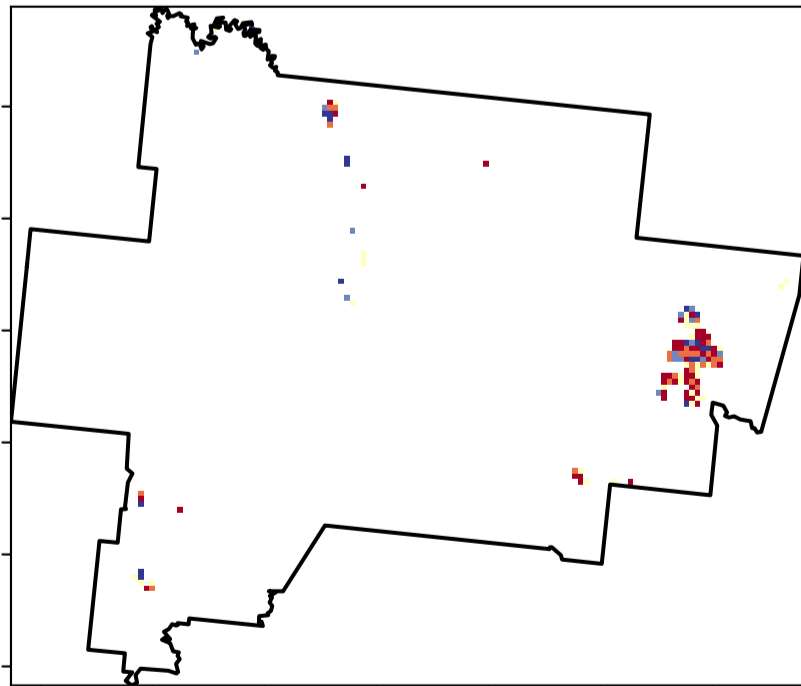
Total Vegetation Cover Anomaly [%]

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Total Vegetation Cover Decile [%]



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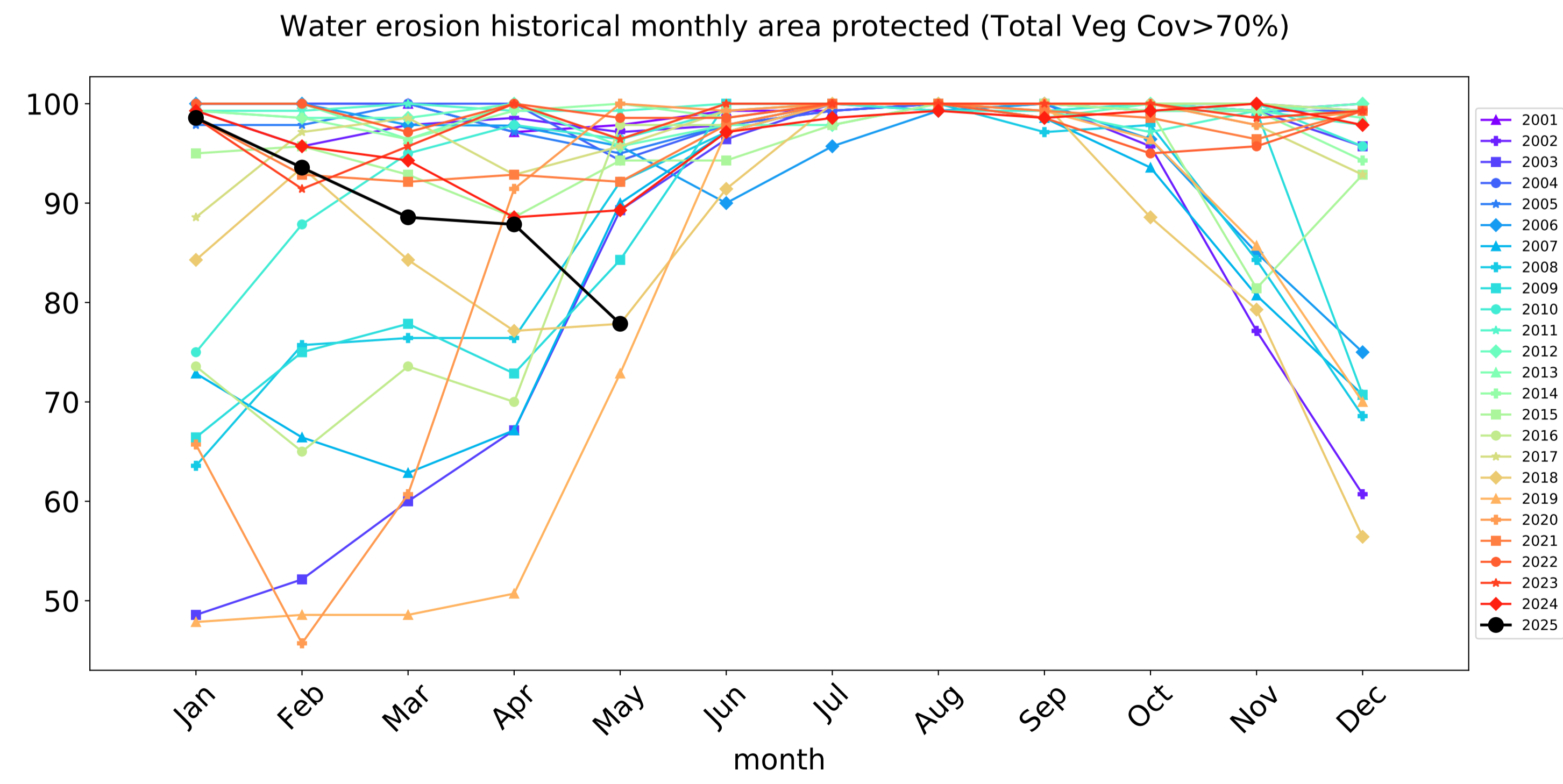
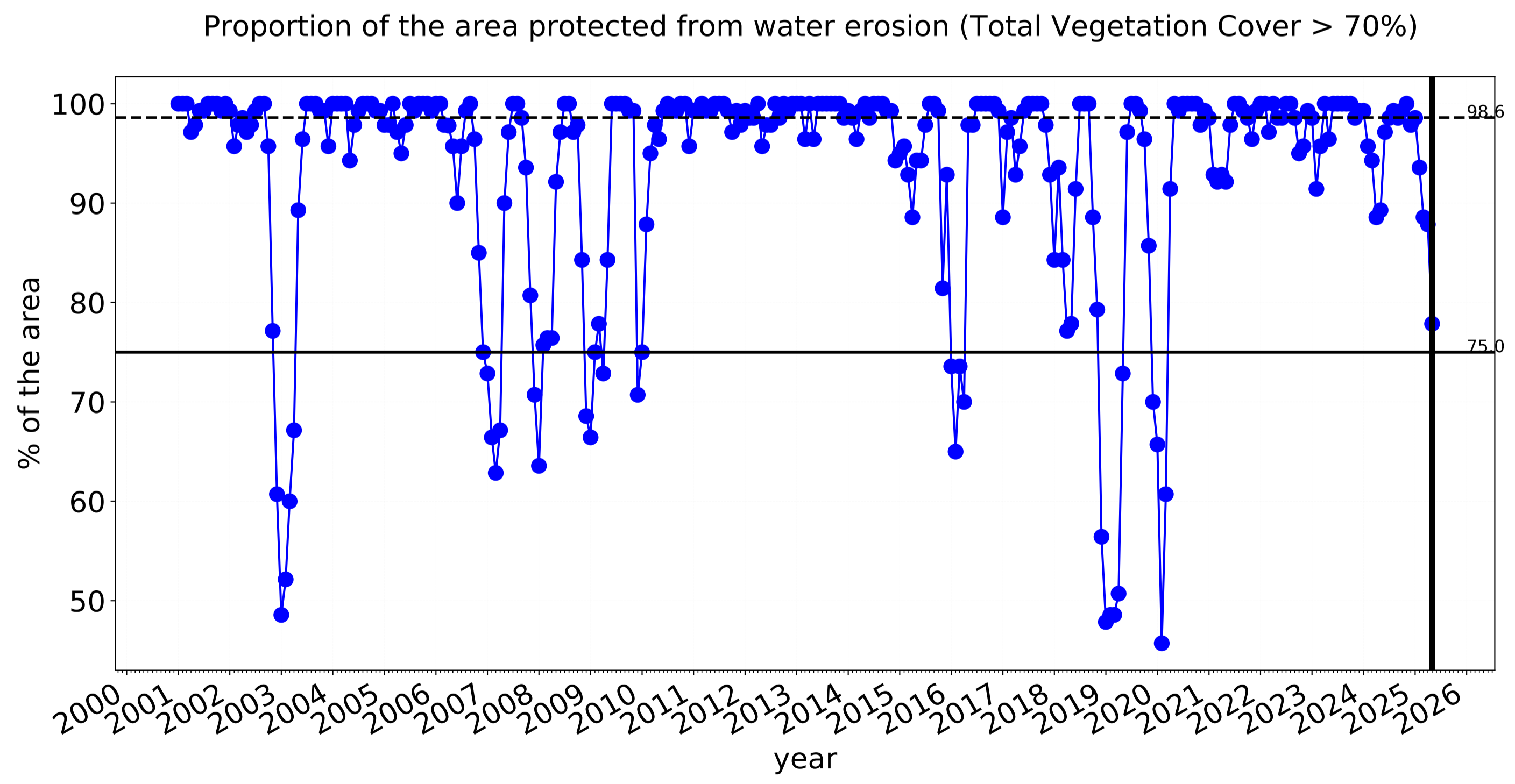
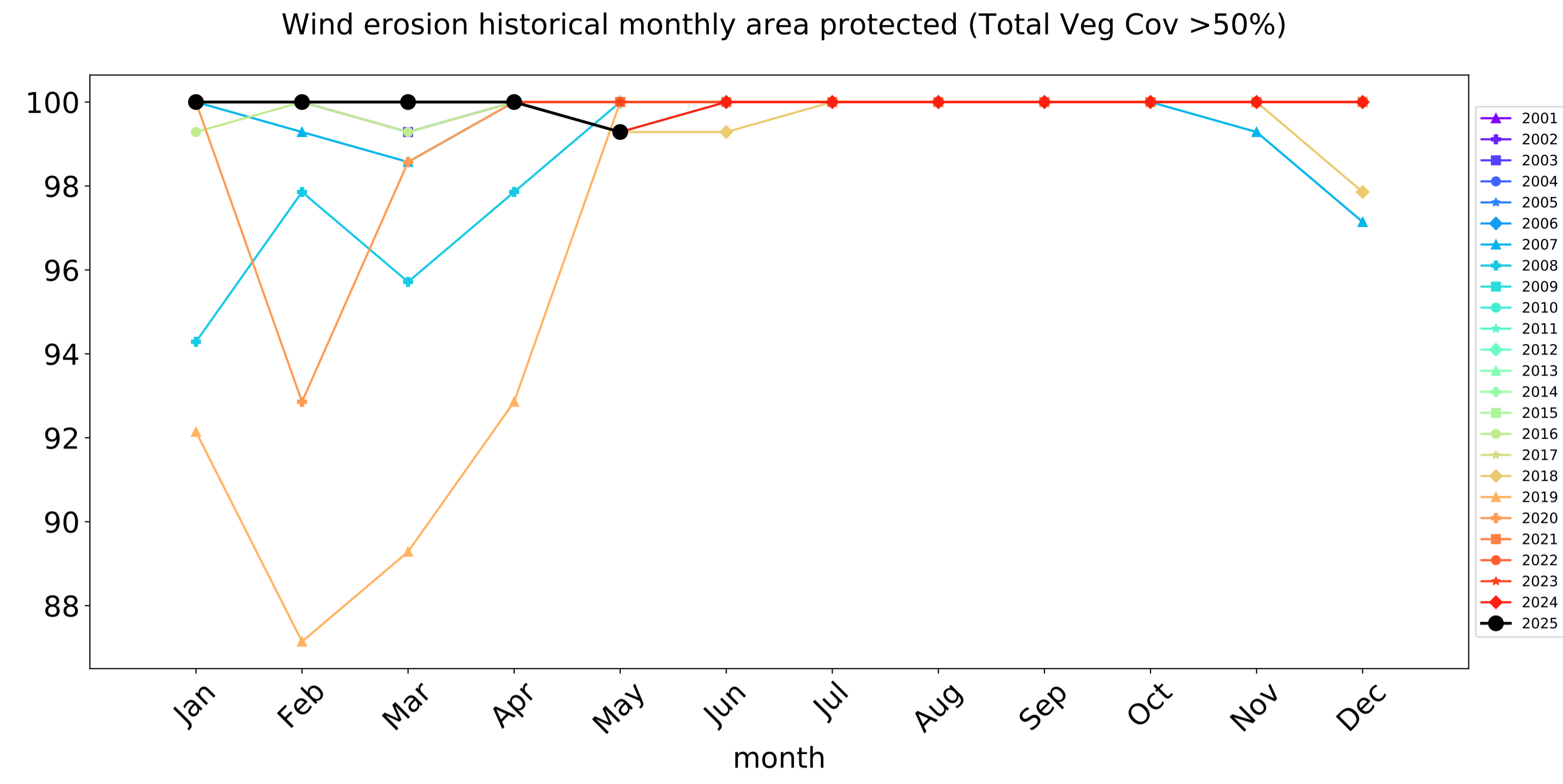
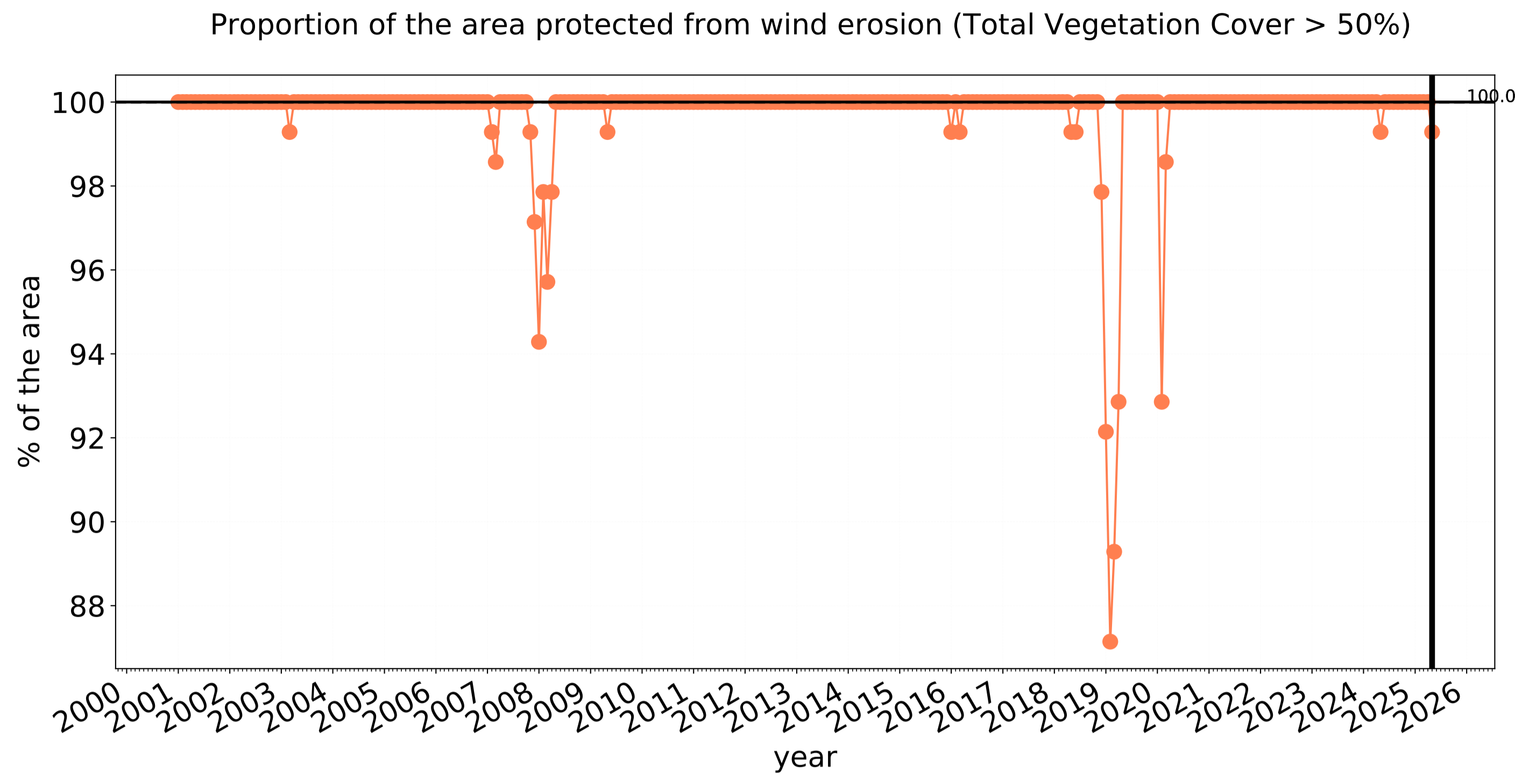


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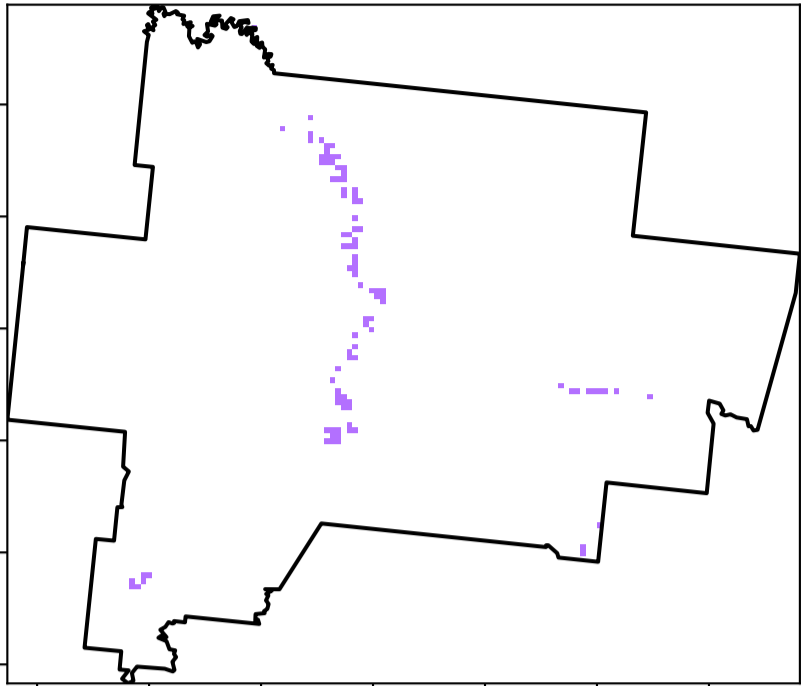
Conservation and natural environments non forest timeseries



Conservation and natural environments Woodland forest

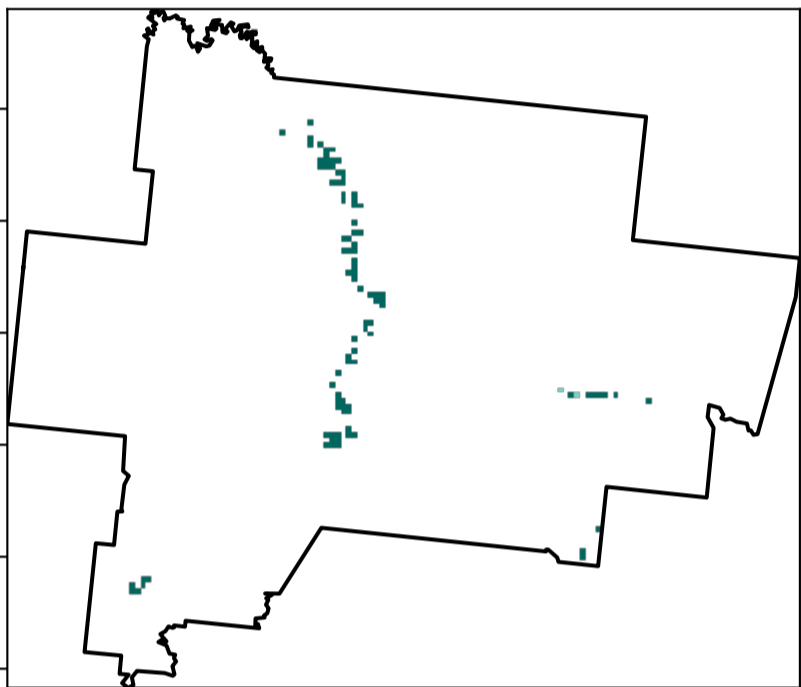
Land use and forest cover

Catchment Scale
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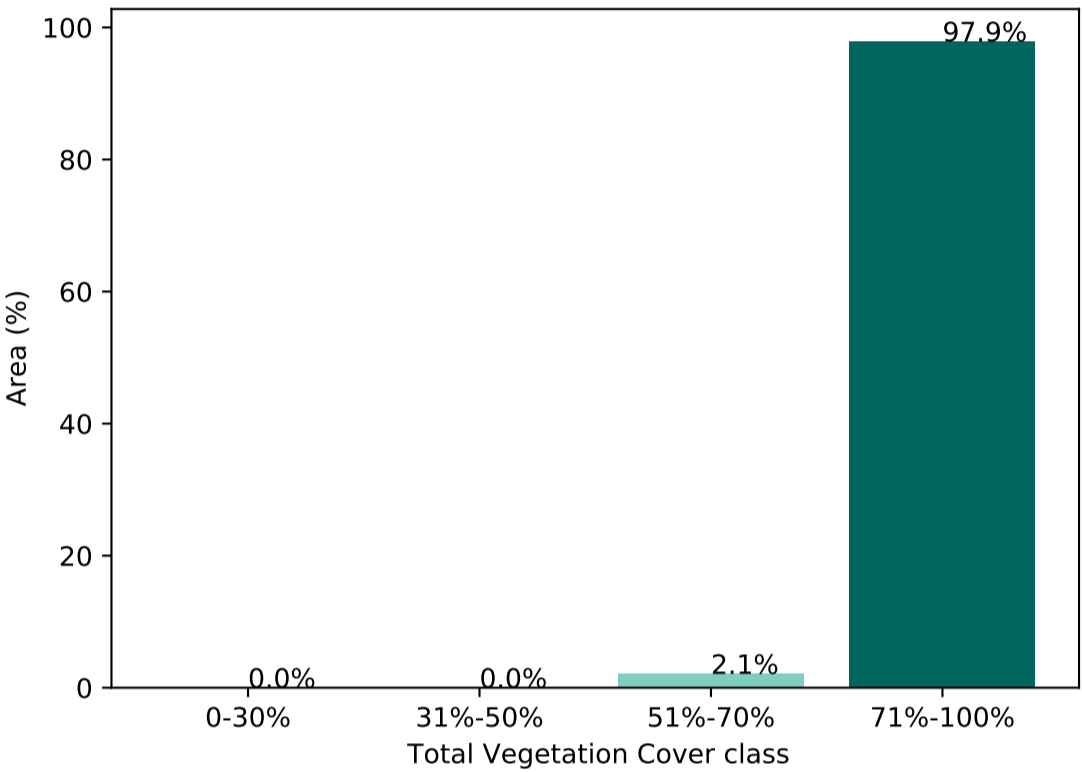


1 Conservation and natural environments - Woodland forest

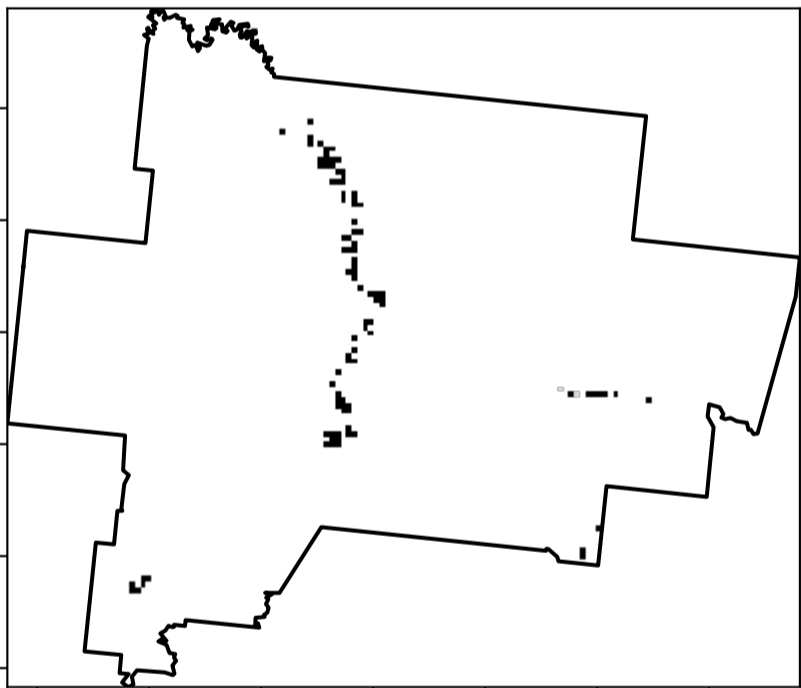
Total Vegetation Cover [%]



Proportion of vegetation cover class in area

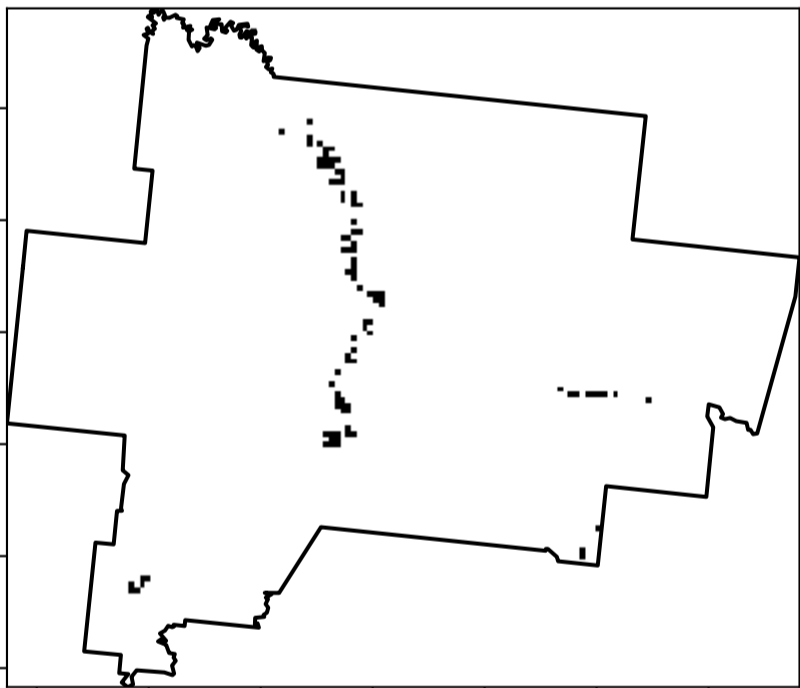


% Area protected from water erosion (>70%)



Area not protected
2.1% of region (51 ha)
Area protected
97.9% of region (2,374 ha)

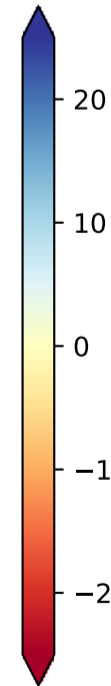
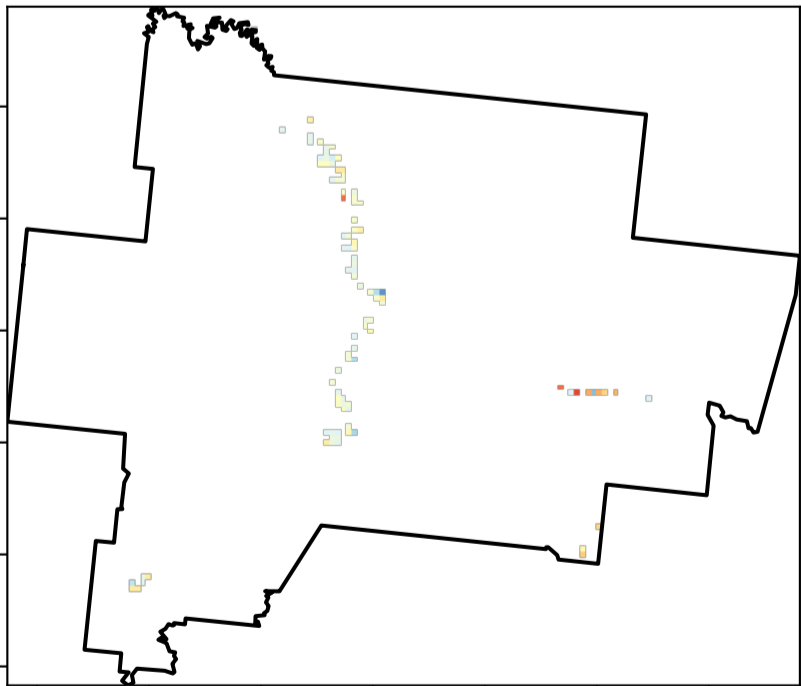
% Area protected from wind erosion (>50%)



Area protected
100.0% of region (2,425 ha)

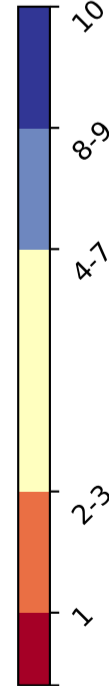
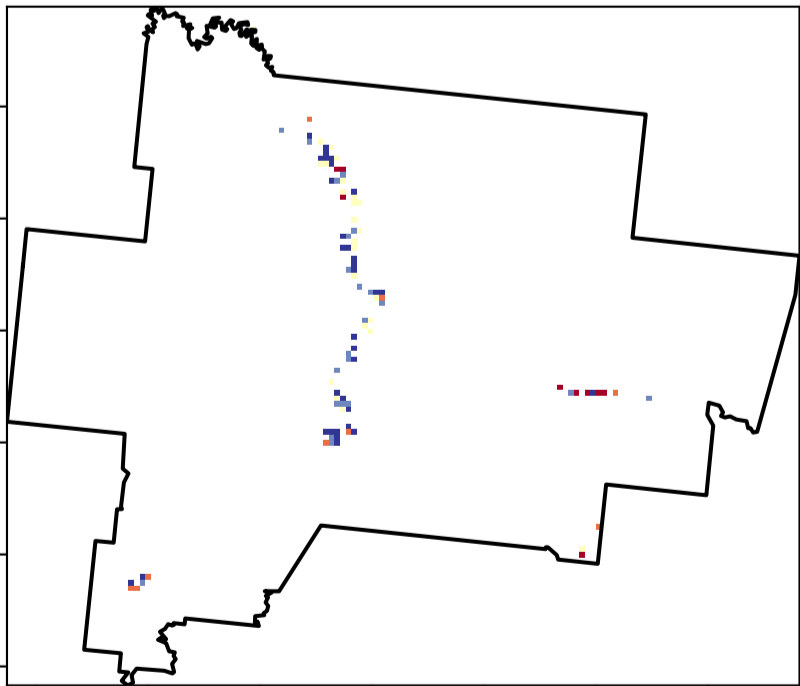
Total Vegetation Cover Anomaly [%]

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Total Vegetation Cover Decile [%]



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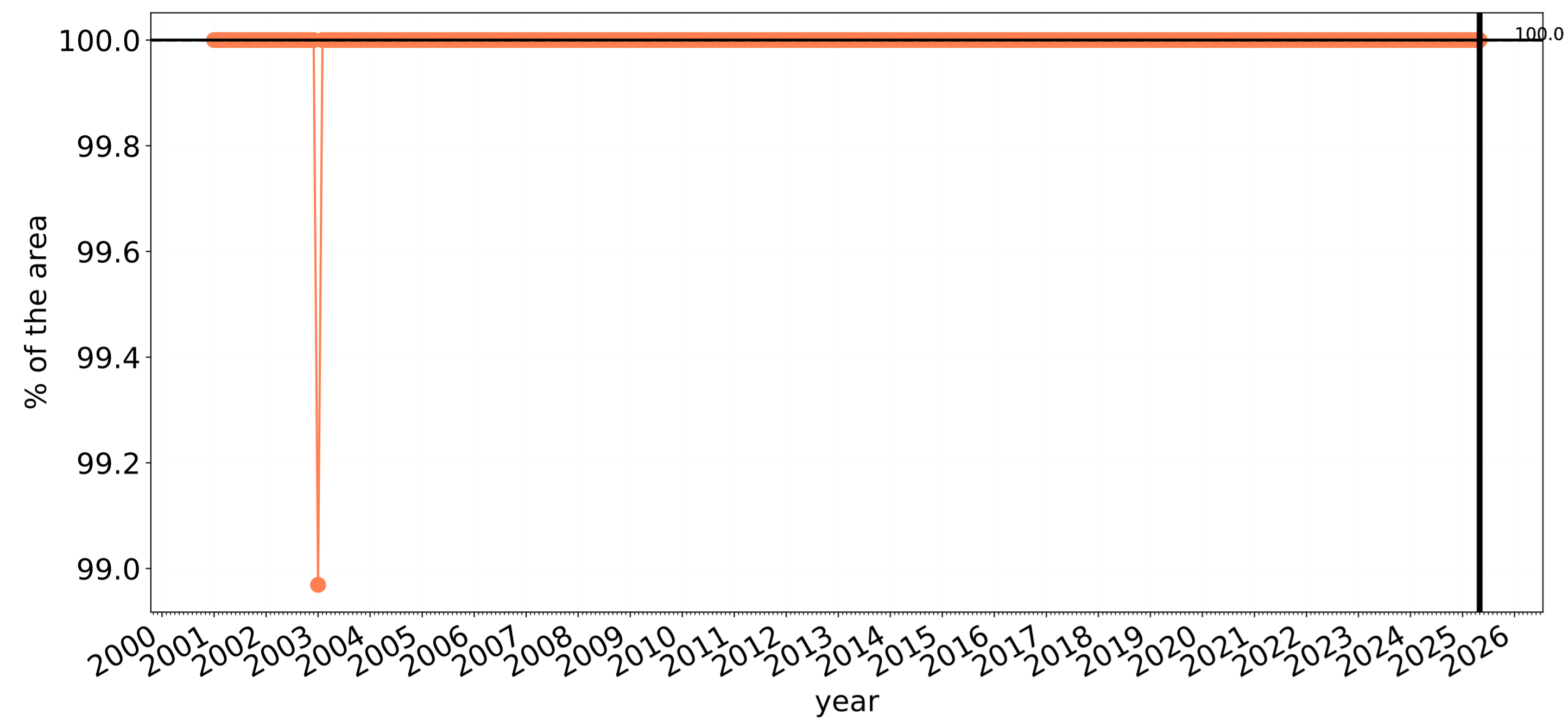


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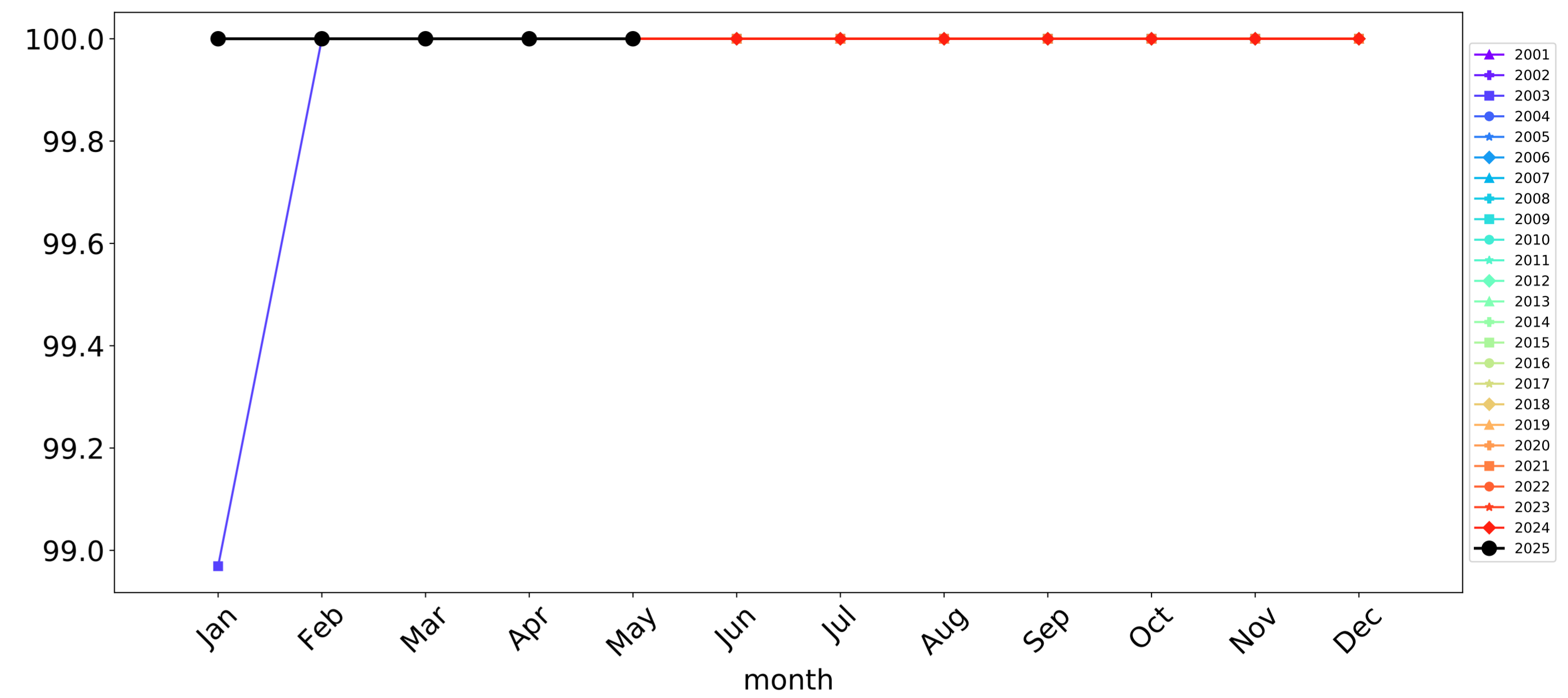


Conservation and natural environments Woodland forest timeseries

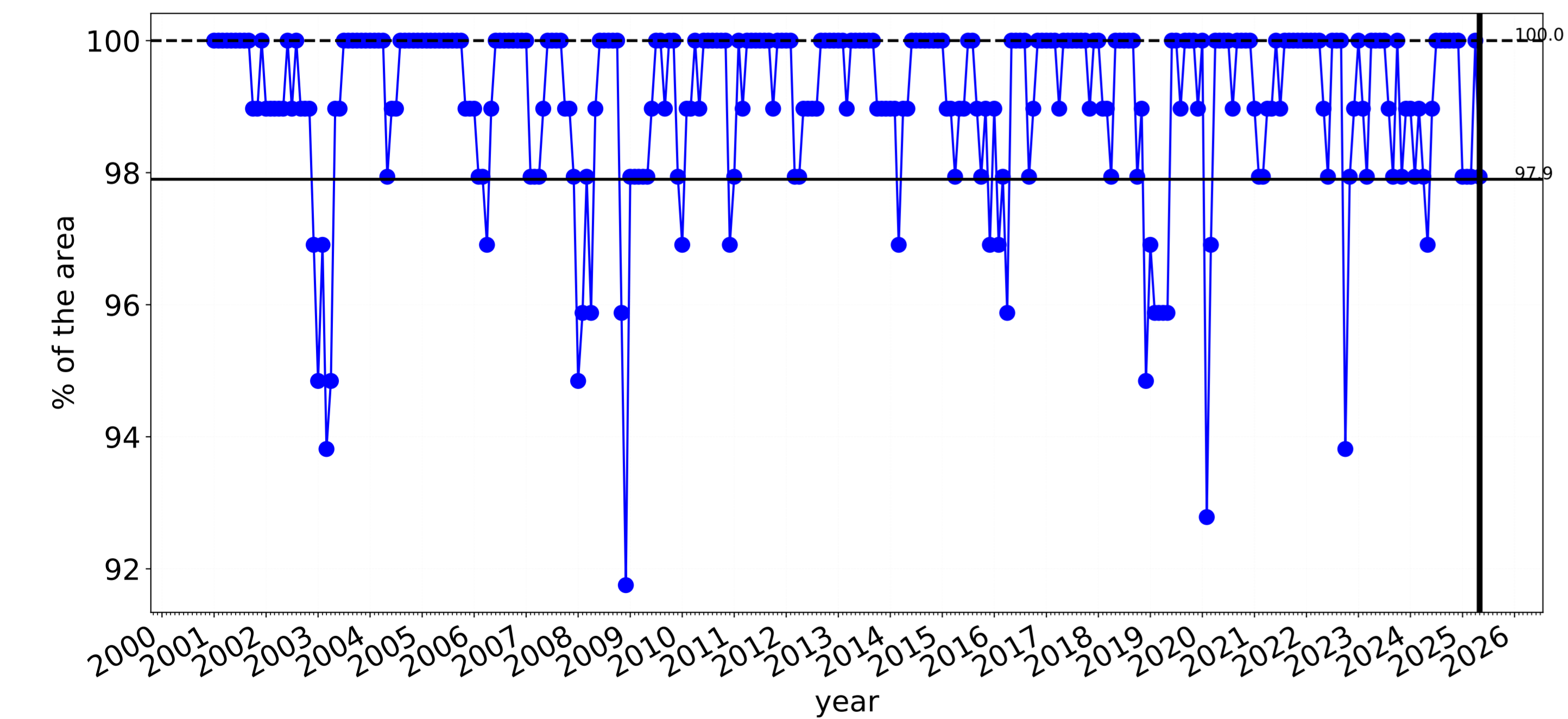
Proportion of the area protected from wind erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 50%)



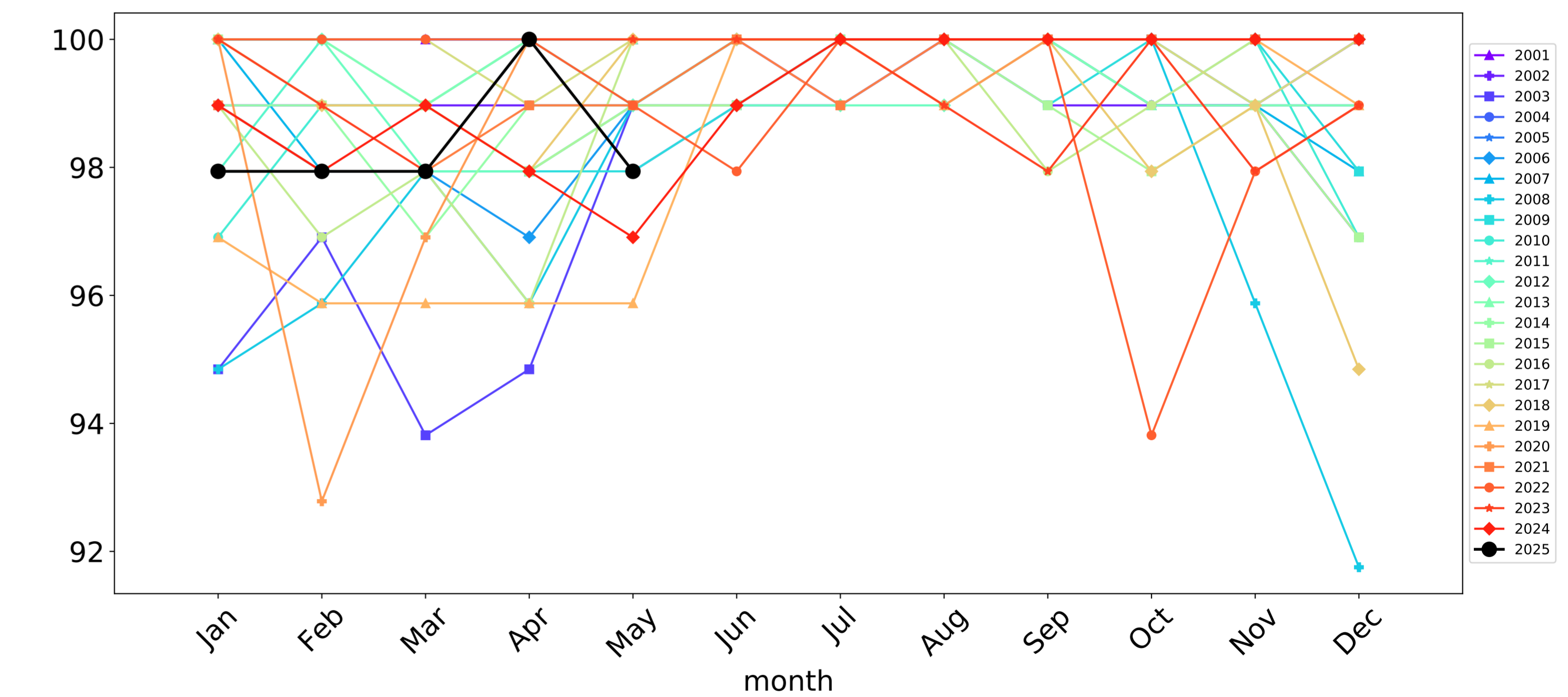
Wind erosion historical monthly area protected (Total Veg Cov > 50%)



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



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



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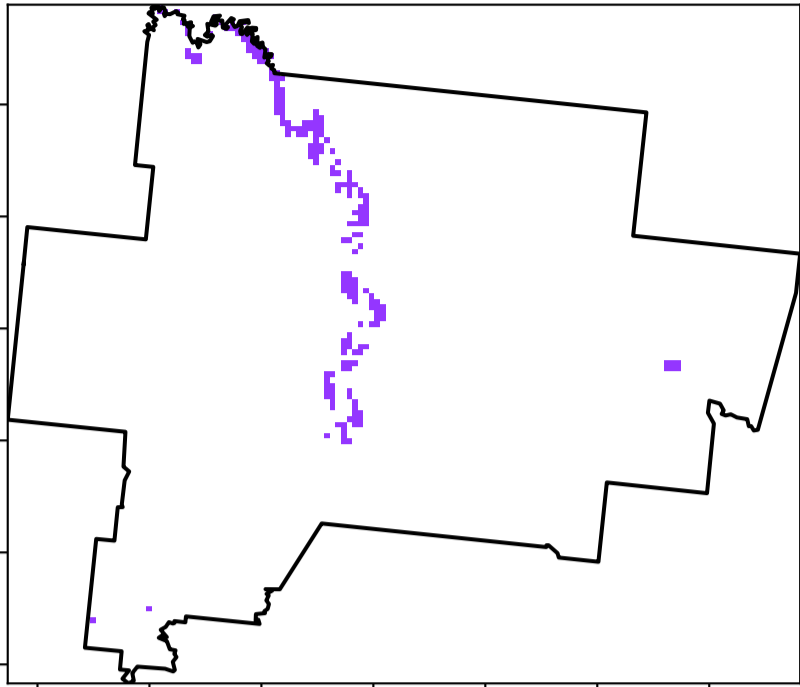
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Conservation and natural environments Forest (non woodland)

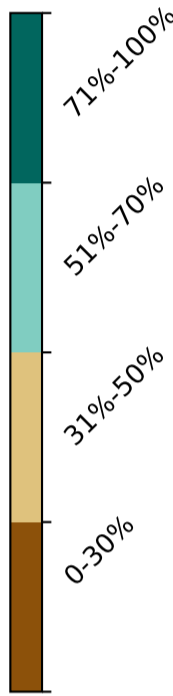
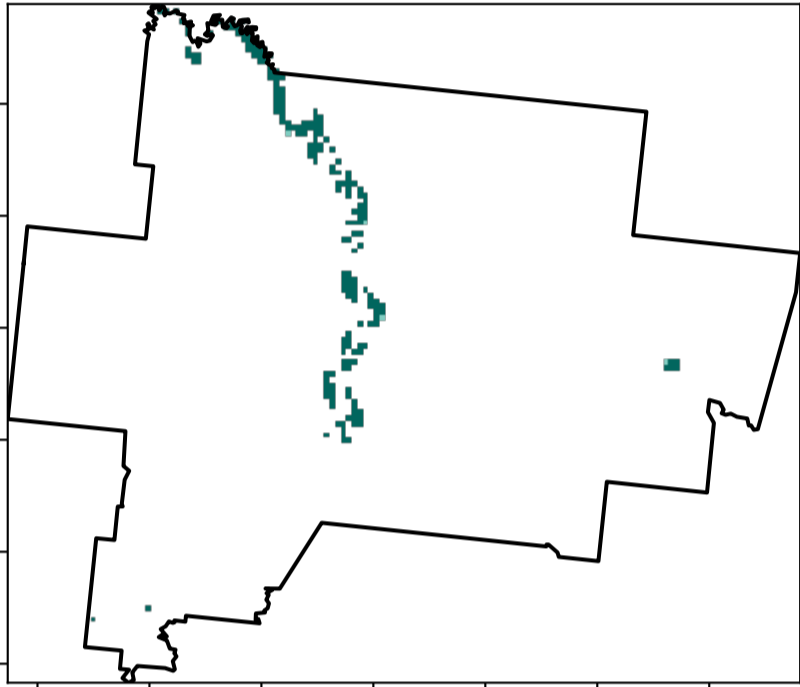
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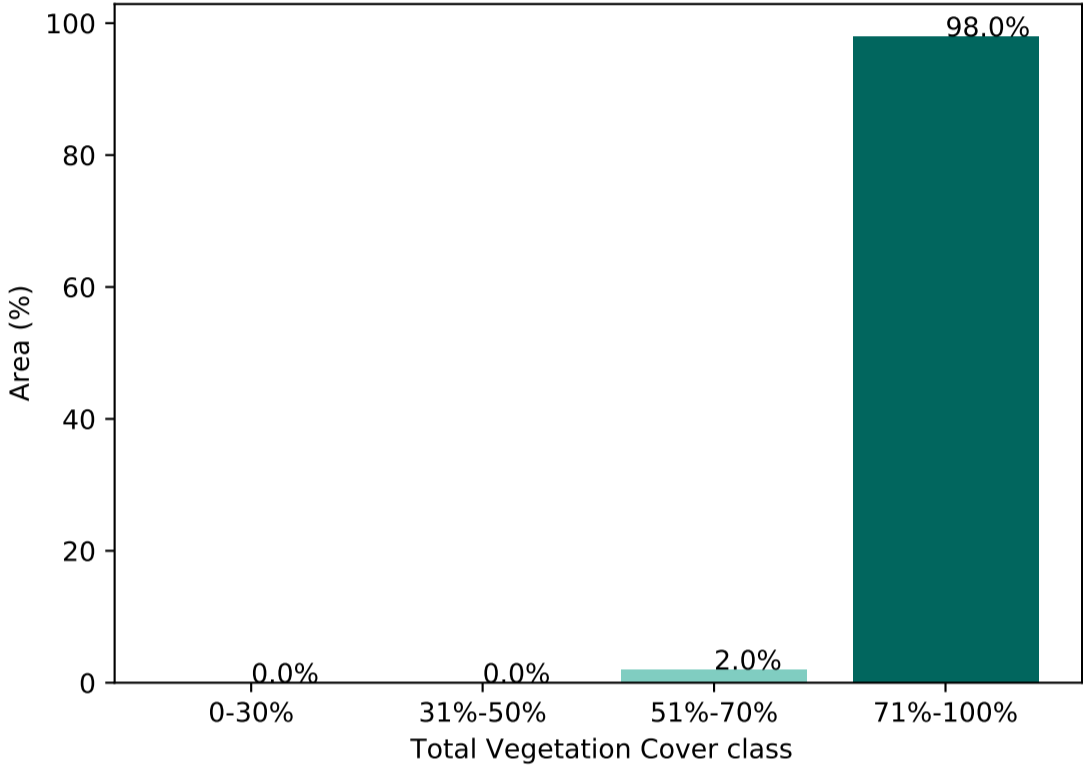


1 Conservation and natural environments - Non-woodland forest

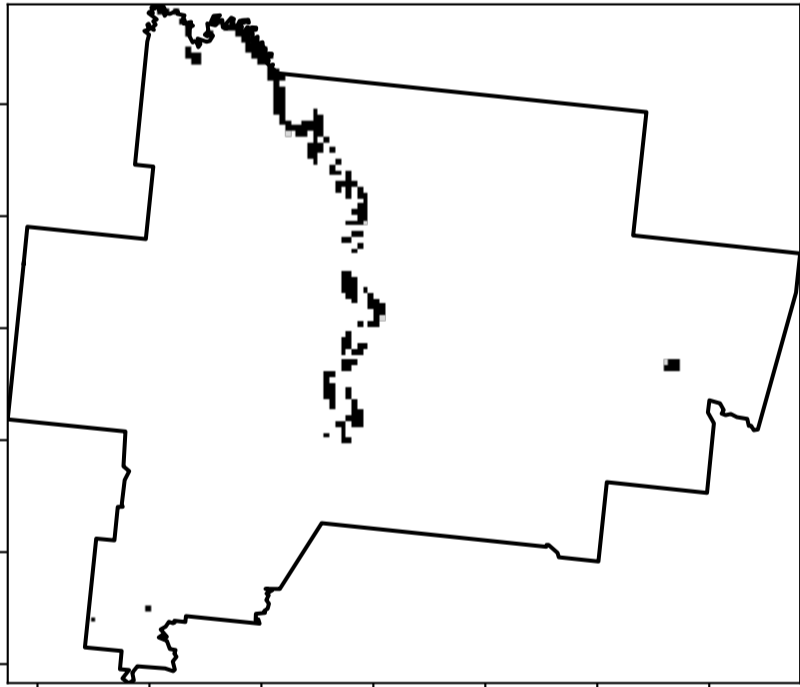
Total Vegetation Cover [%]



Proportion of vegetation cover class in area

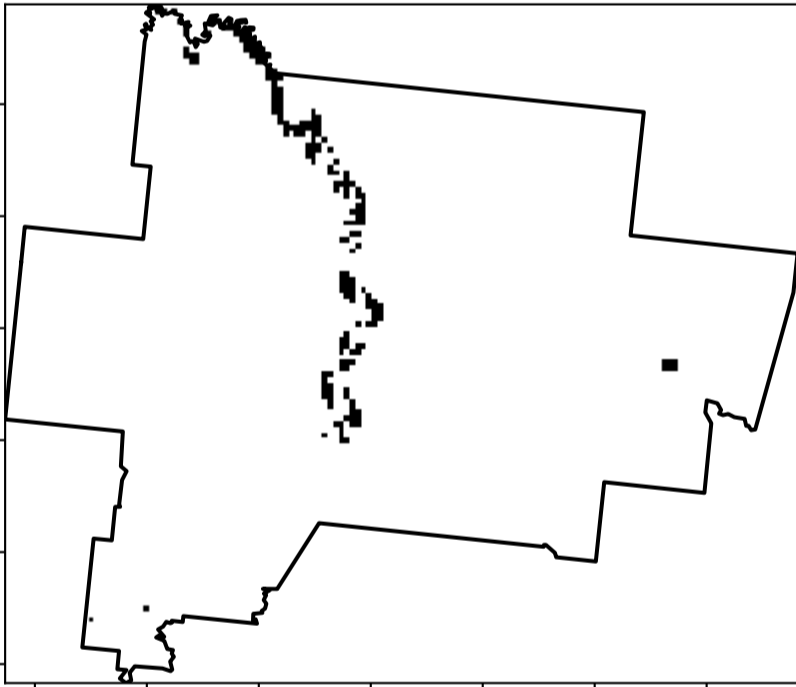


% Area protected from water erosion (>70%)



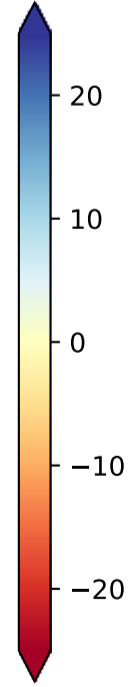
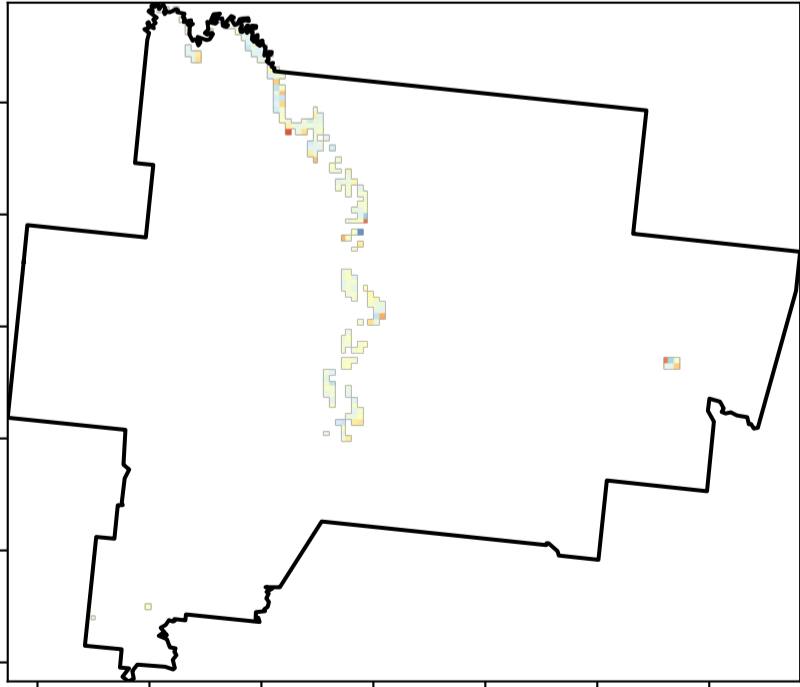
Area not protected
2.0% of region
(102 ha)
Area protected
98.0% of region
(4,974 ha)

% Area protected from wind erosion (>50%)



Area
protected
100.0% of
region
(5,075 ha)

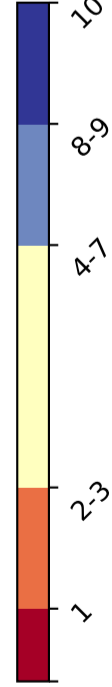
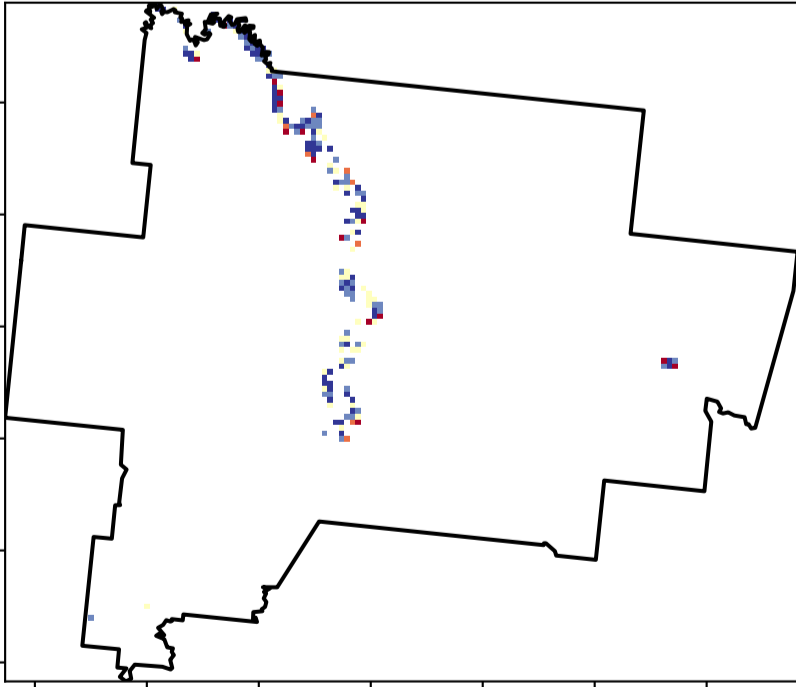
Total Vegetation Cover Anomaly [%]



Anomaly show how
many percentage
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pixel is from
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is, red pixels
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lower than the
mean of that
pixel. The mean
is only for the
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Deciles show where the
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record, from highest to
lowest, for that month.
That is, red pixels are
in the lowest 10% of
records for that month of
the map using baseline
from 2001 to 2019.

Total Vegetation Cover Decile [%]



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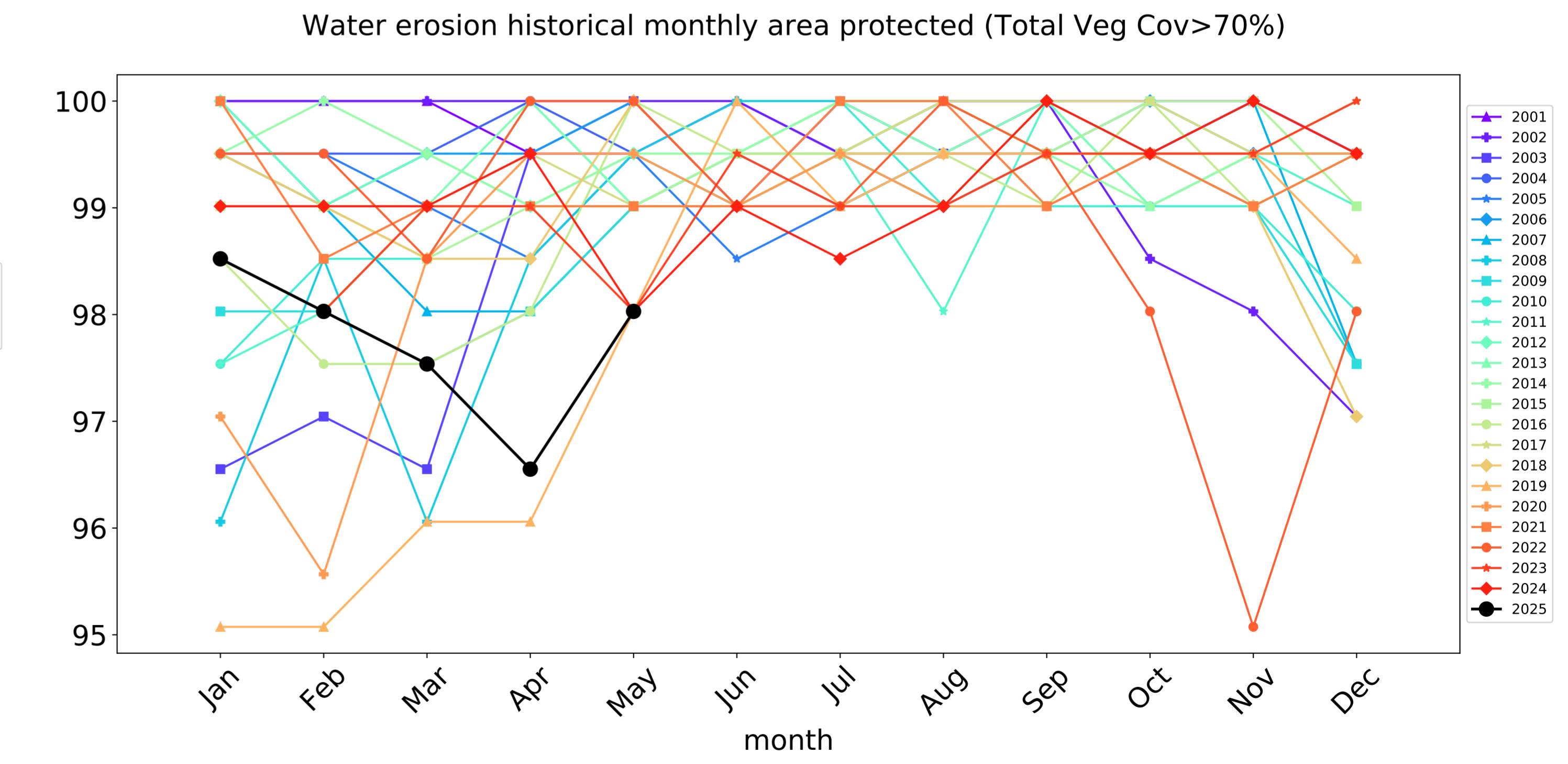
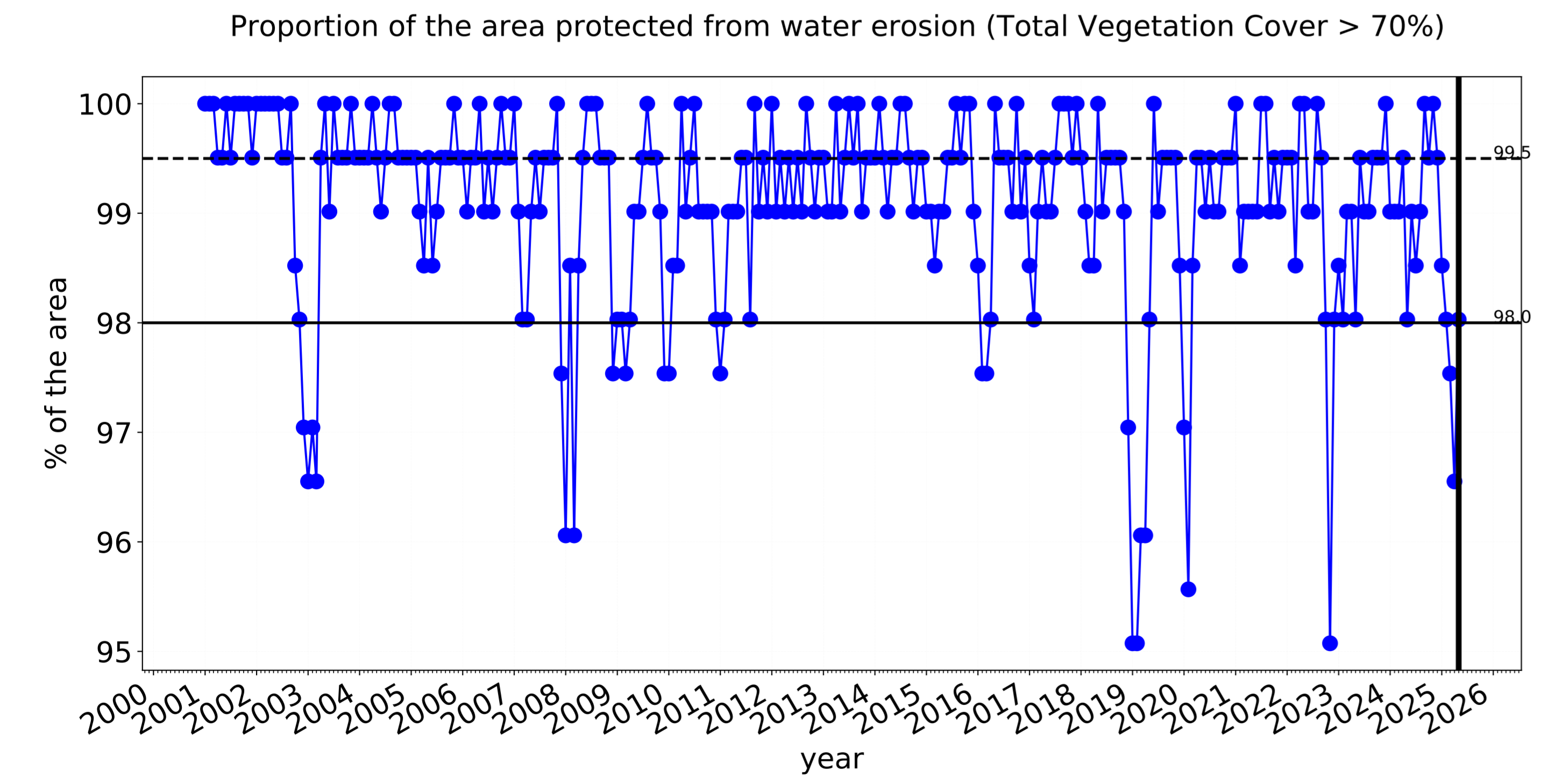
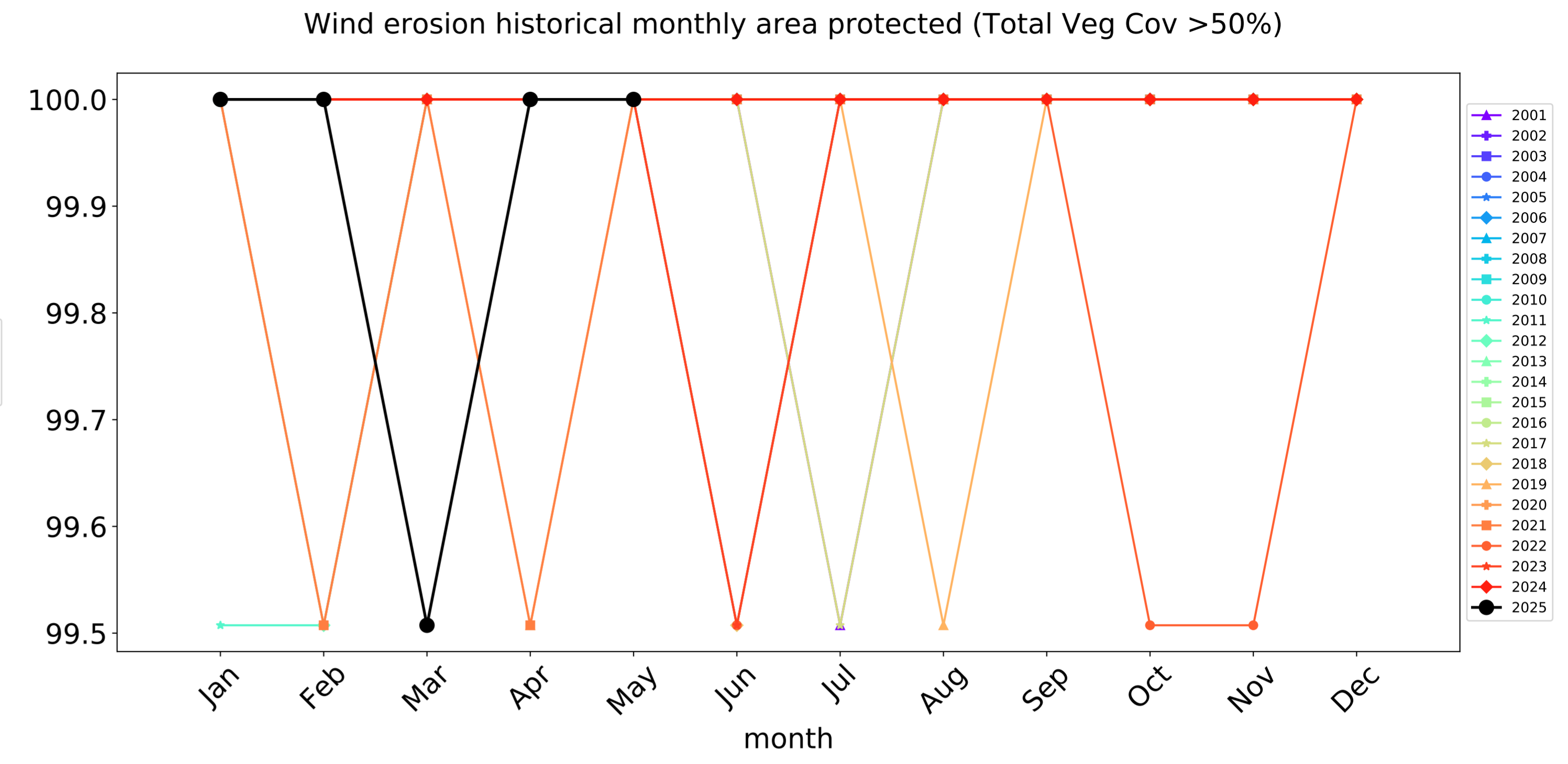
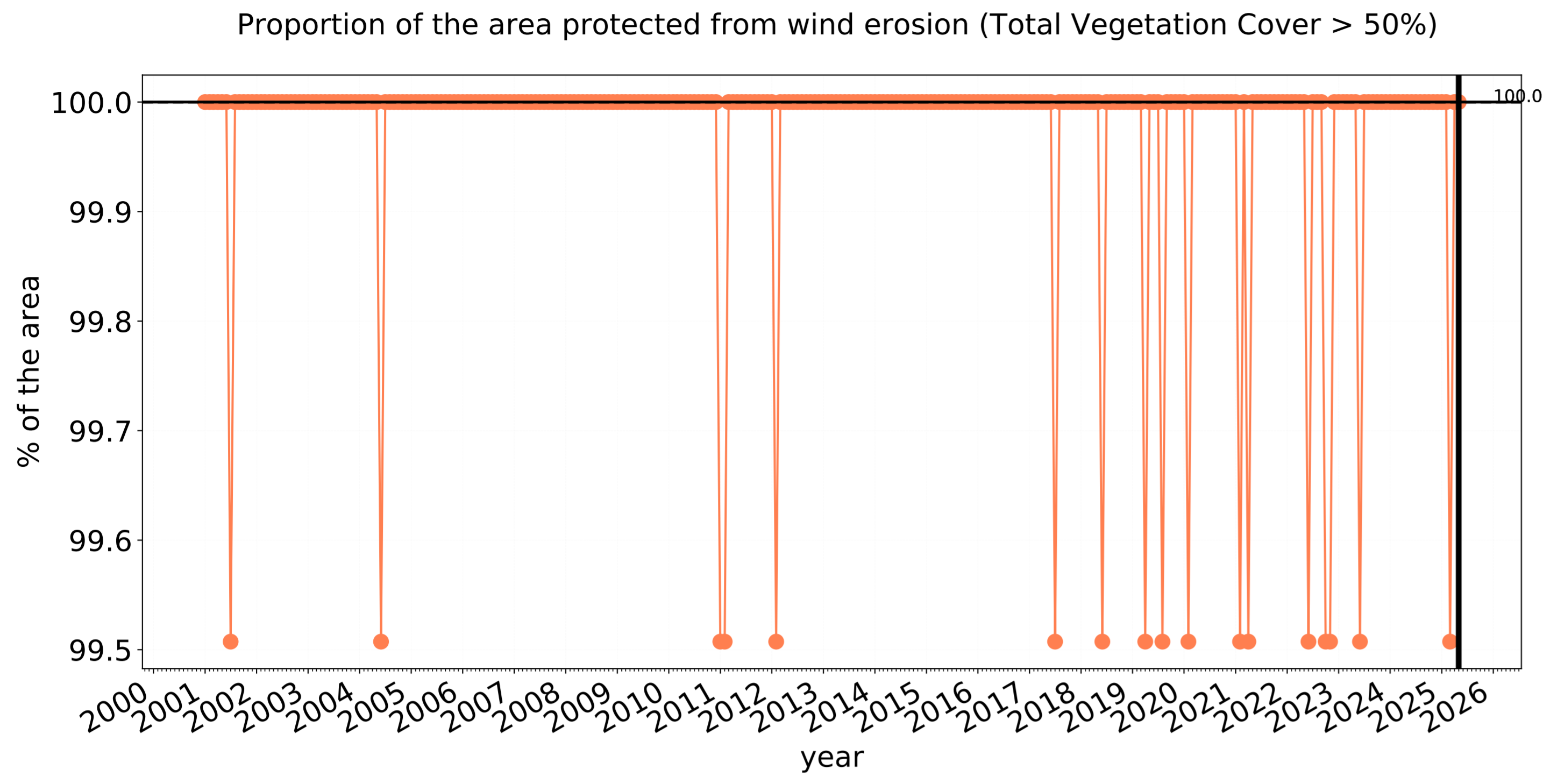


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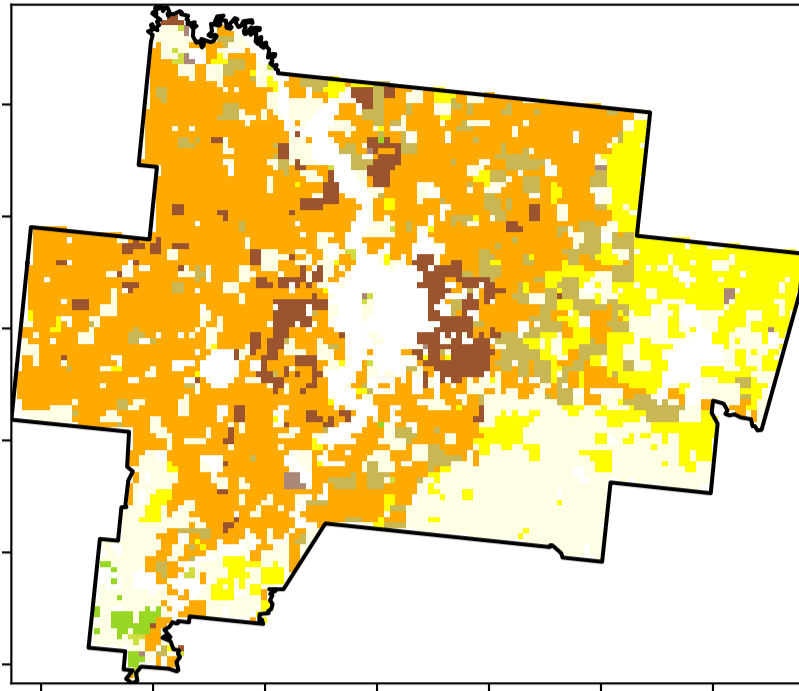
Conservation and natural environments Forest (non woodland) timeseries



Agriculture

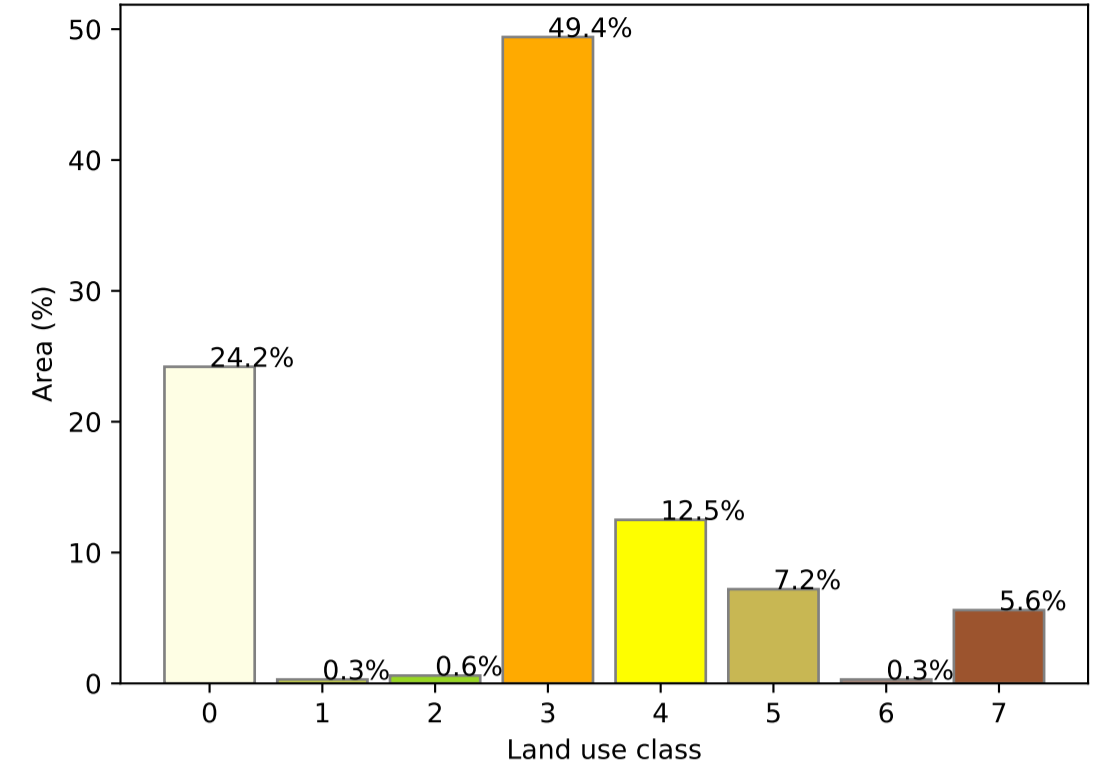
Land use and forest cover

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

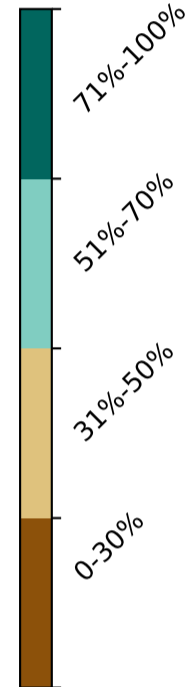
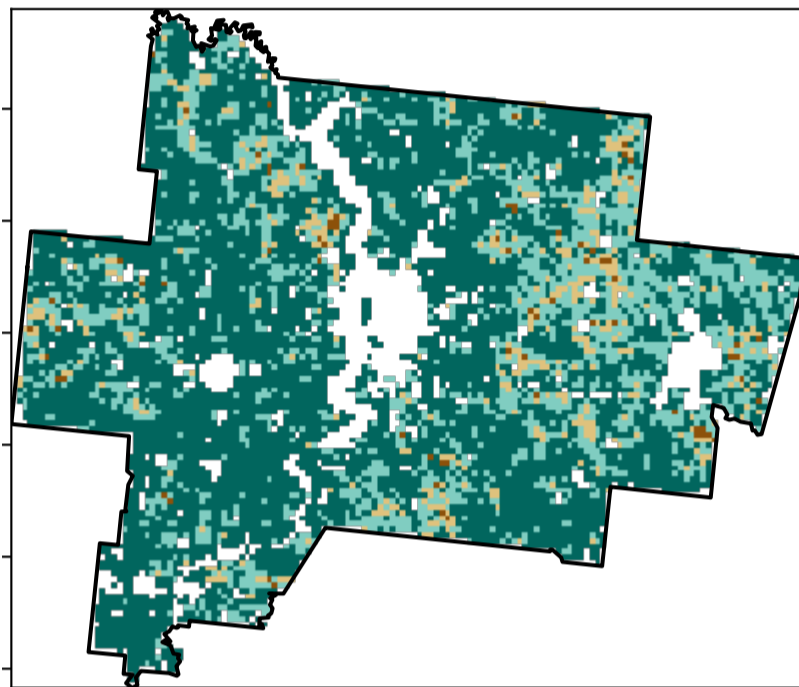


- 1 Agriculture - Grazing - Non forest
- 2 Agriculture - Grazing - Woodland forest
- 3 Agriculture - Grazing - Non-woodland forest
- 4 Agriculture - Grazing - Irrigated
- 5 Agriculture - Cropping - Non-irrigated
- 6 Agriculture - Cropping - Irrigated
- 7 Agriculture - Horticulture - Non-irrigated
- 8 Agriculture - Horticulture - Irrigated

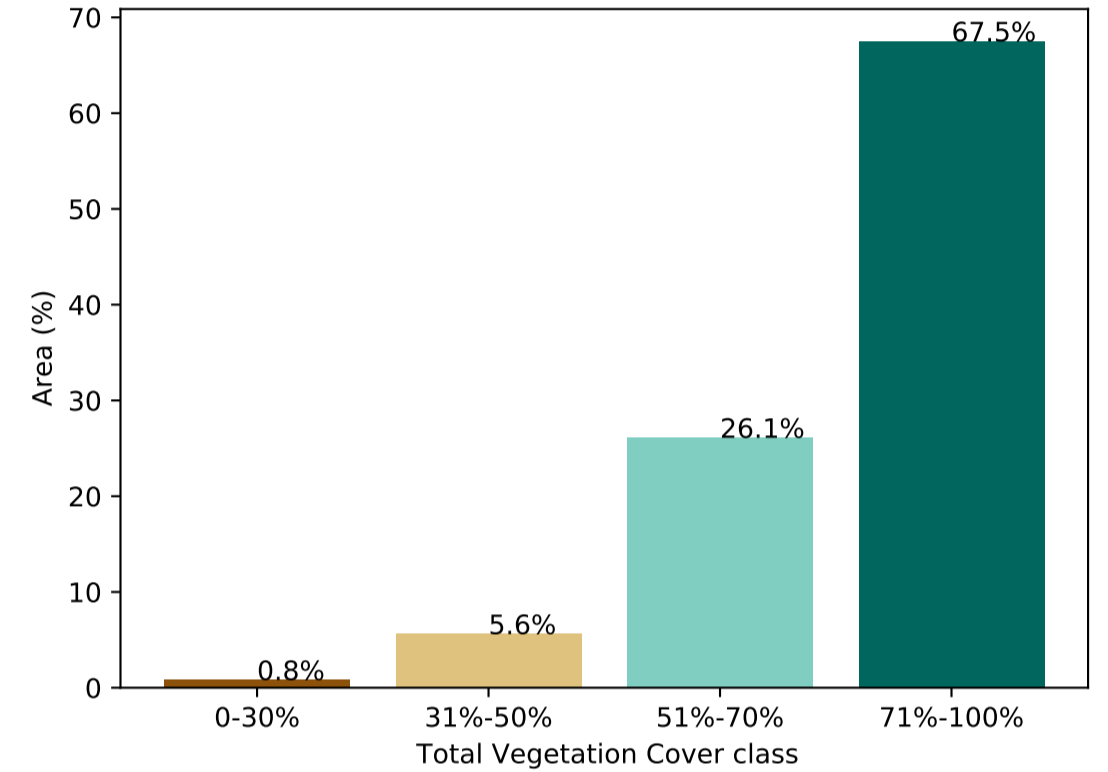
Proportion of each land class in area



Total Vegetation Cover [%]



Proportion of vegetation cover class in area



% Area protected from water erosion (>70%)



- Area not protected
32.5% of region
(69,388 ha)
- Area protected
67.5% of region
(144,112 ha)

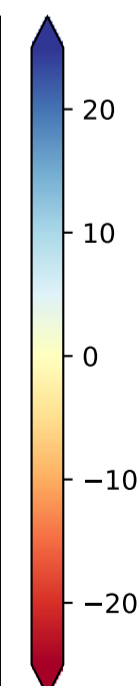
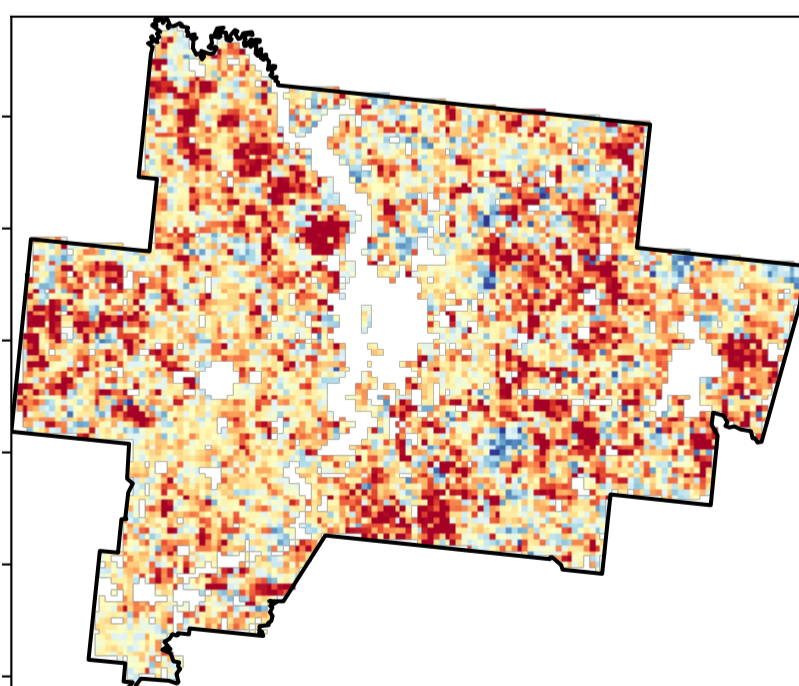
% Area protected from wind erosion (>50%)



- Area not protected
6.0% of region
(12,810 ha)
- Area protected
94.0% of region
(200,690 ha)

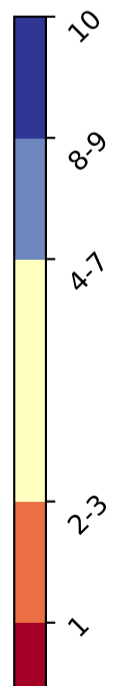
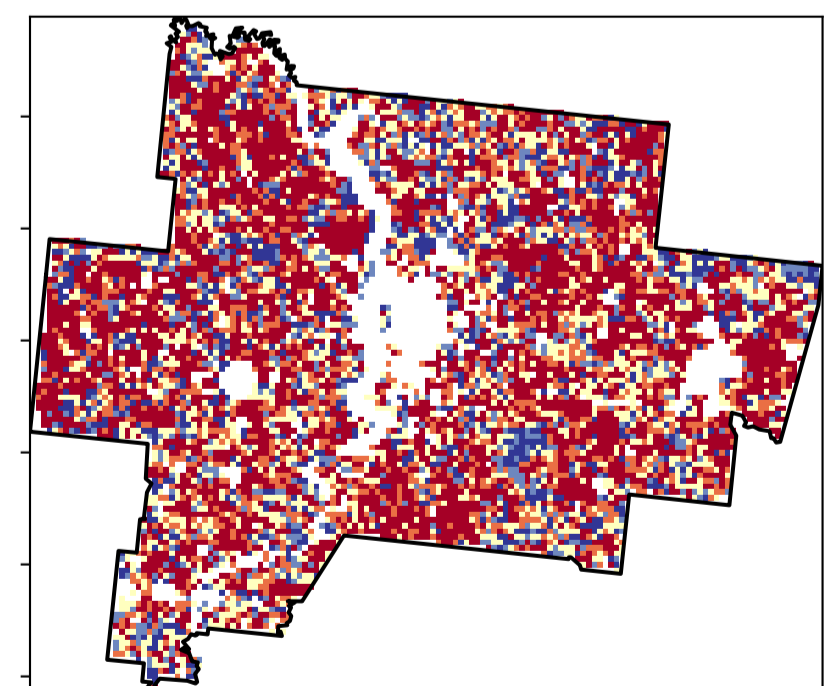
Total Vegetation Cover Anomaly [%]

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.



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Total Vegetation Cover Decile [%]



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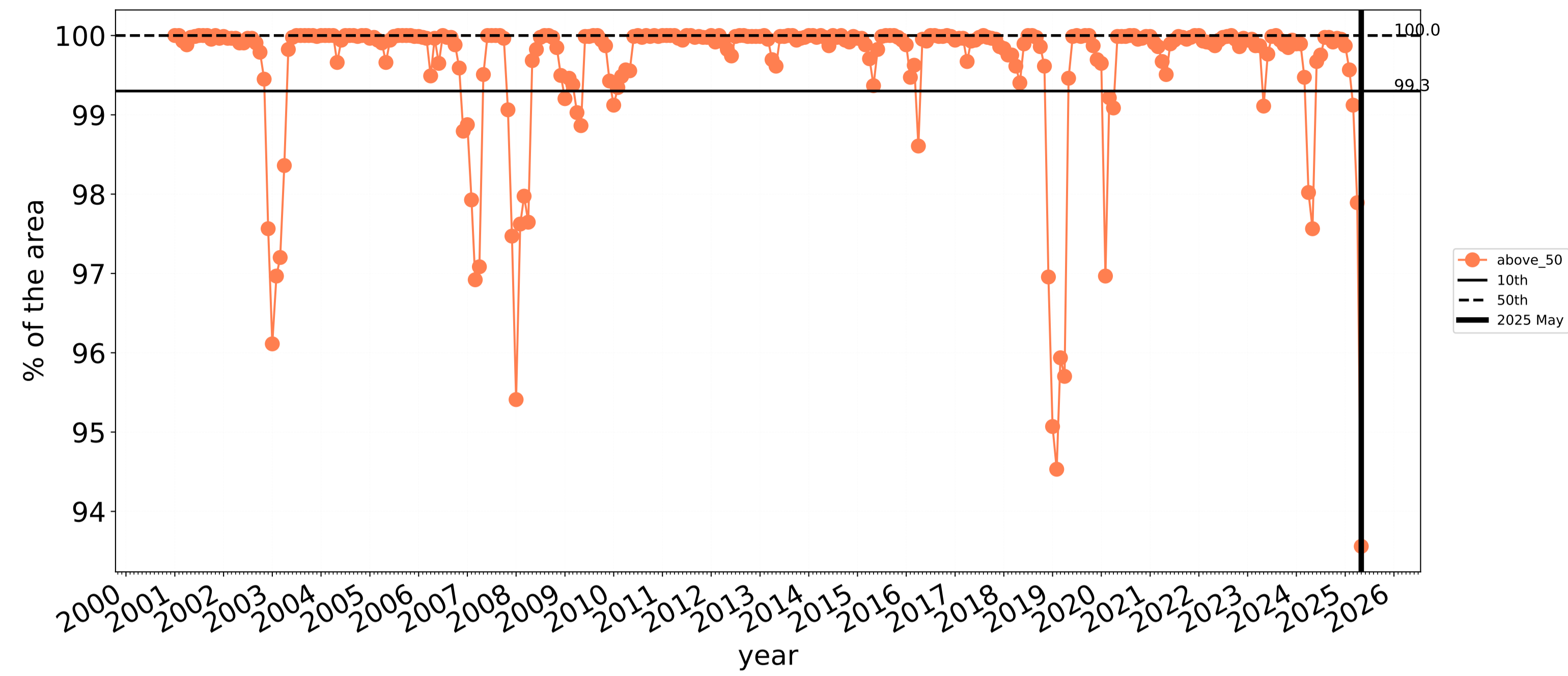


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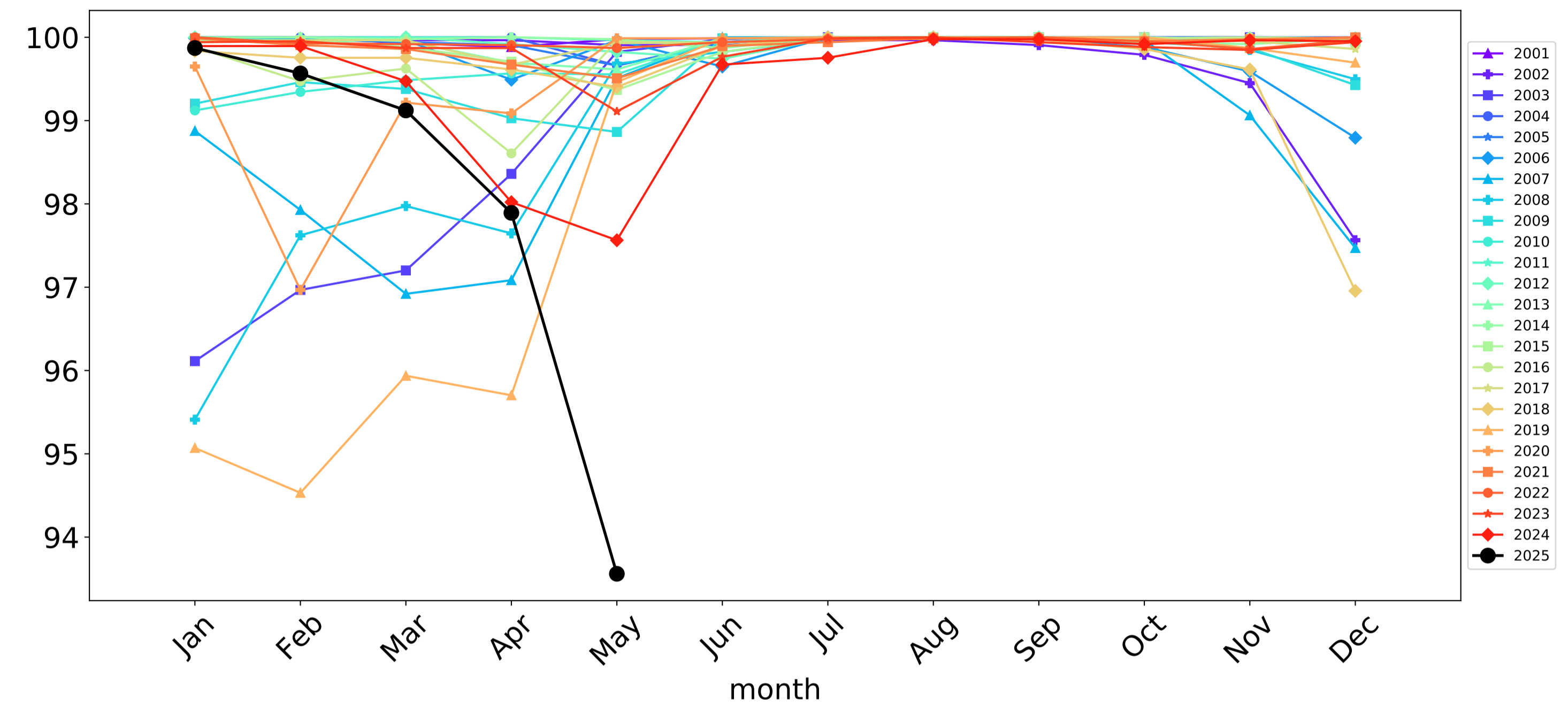


Agriculture timeseries

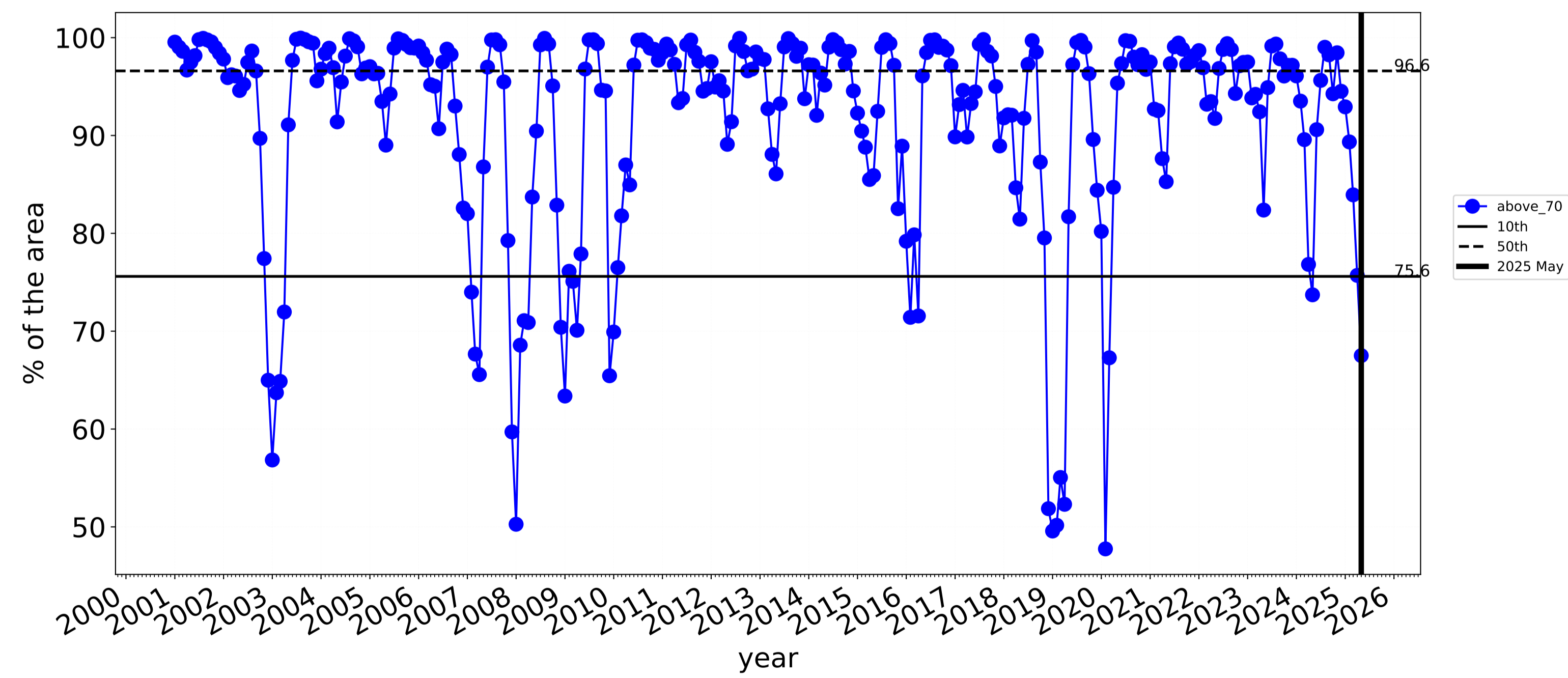
Proportion of the area protected from wind erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 50%)



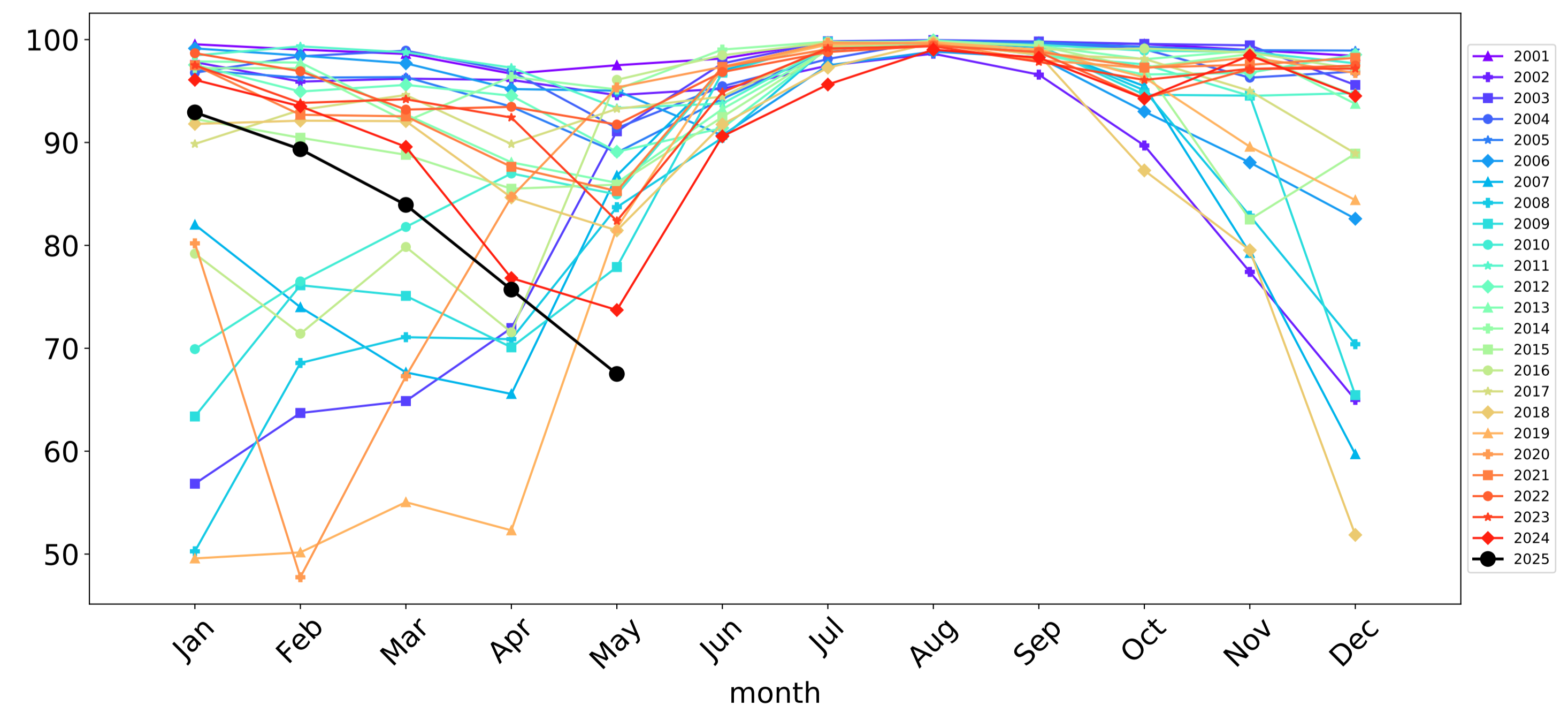
Wind erosion historical monthly area protected (Total Veg Cov >50%)



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



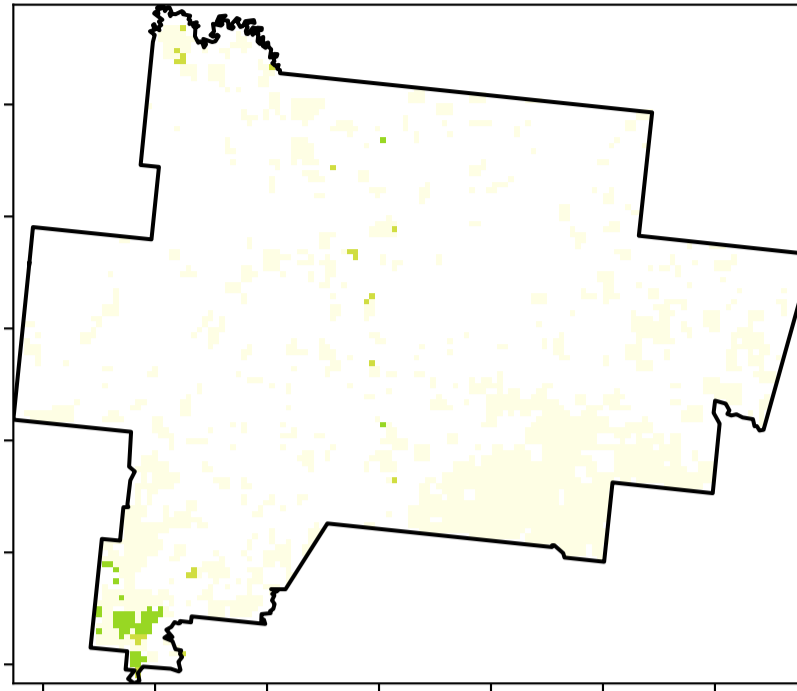
Water erosion historical monthly area protected (Total Veg Cov>70%)



Grazing

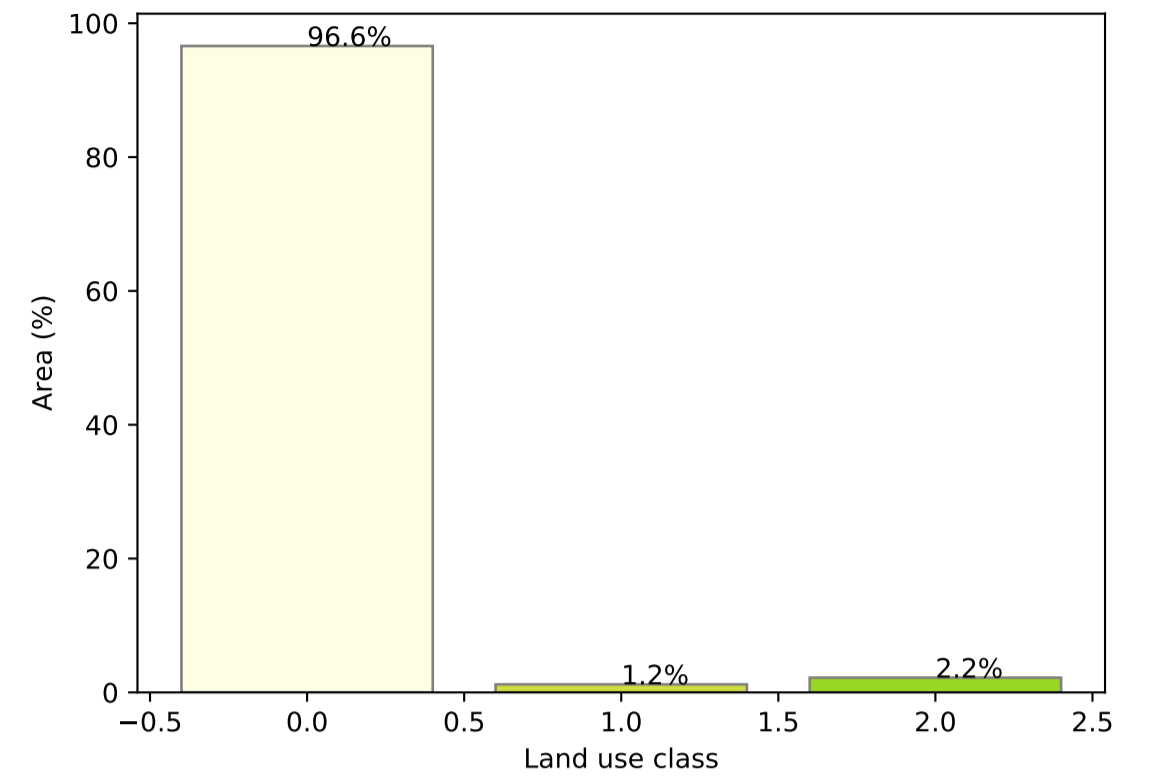
Land use and forest cover

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

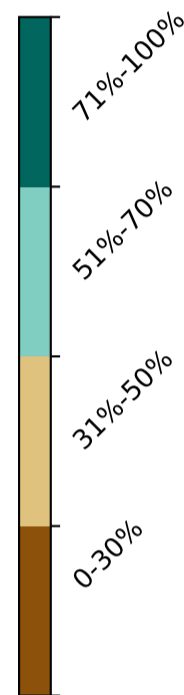
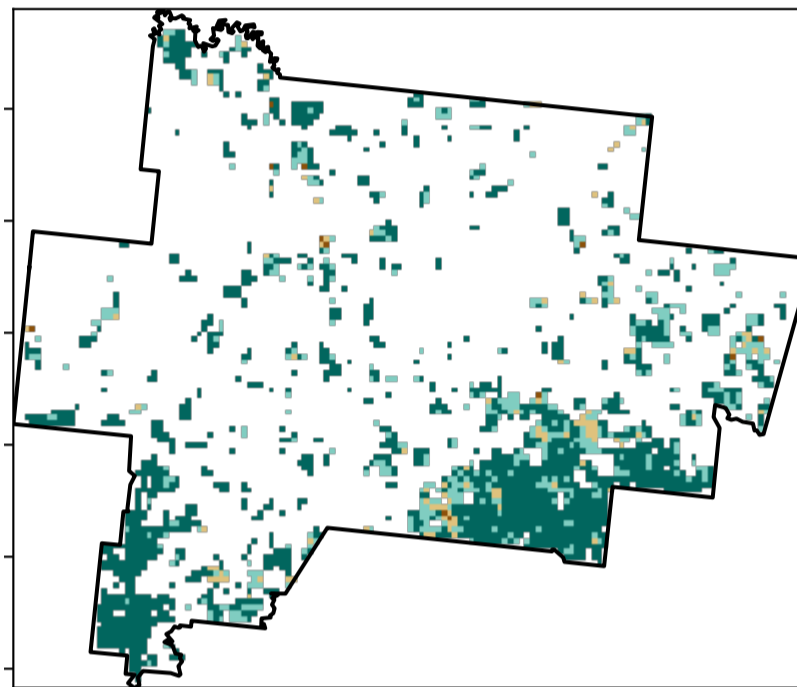


- 1 Agriculture - Grazing - Non forest
- 2 Agriculture - Grazing - Woodland forest
- 3 Agriculture - Grazing - Non-woodland forest

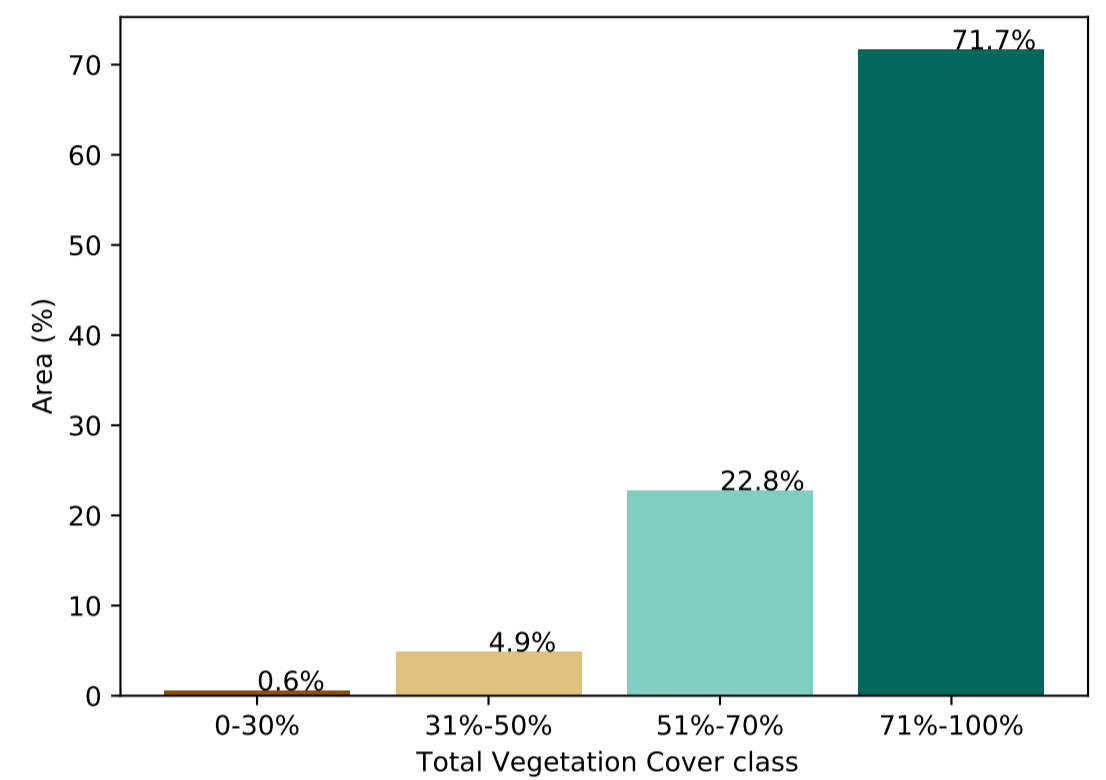
Proportion of each land class in area



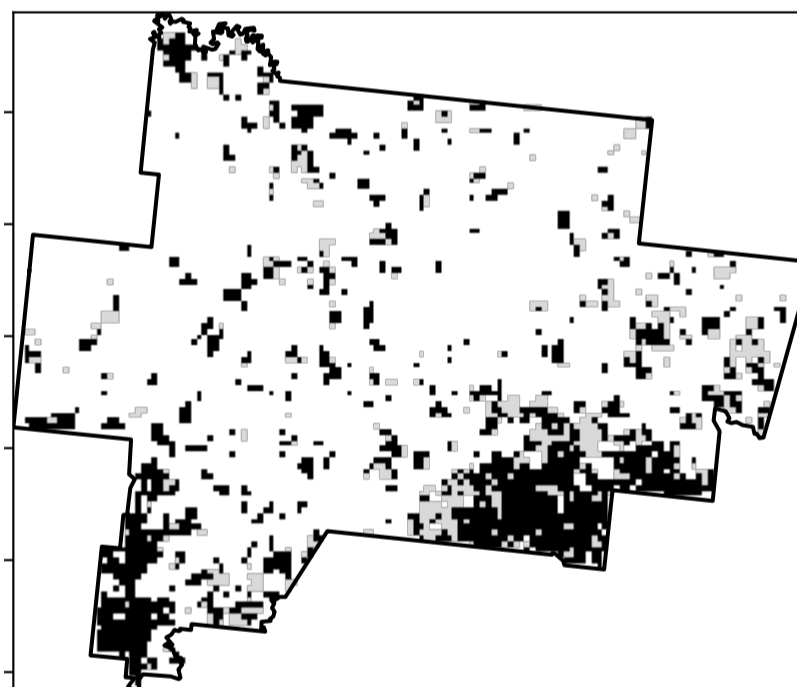
Total Vegetation Cover [%]



Proportion of vegetation cover class in area

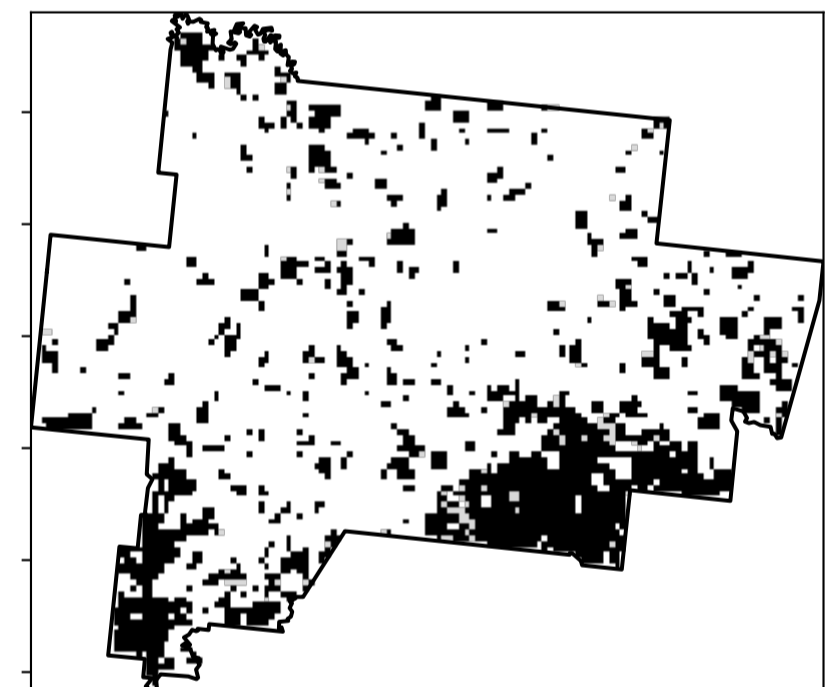


% Area protected from water erosion (>70%)



- Area not protected 28.3% of region (15,126 ha)
- Area protected 71.7% of region (38,324 ha)

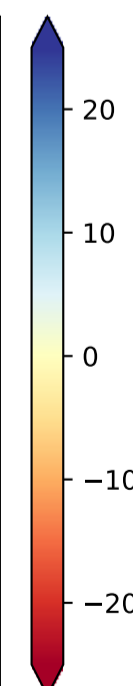
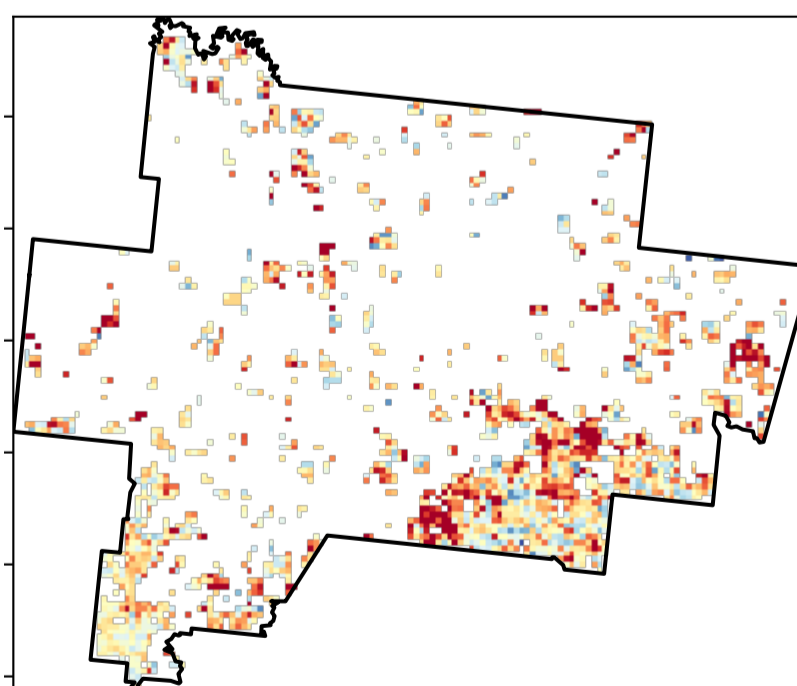
% Area protected from wind erosion (>50%)



- Area not protected 6.0% of region (3,207 ha)
- Area protected 94.0% of region (50,243 ha)

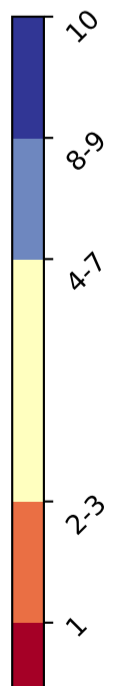
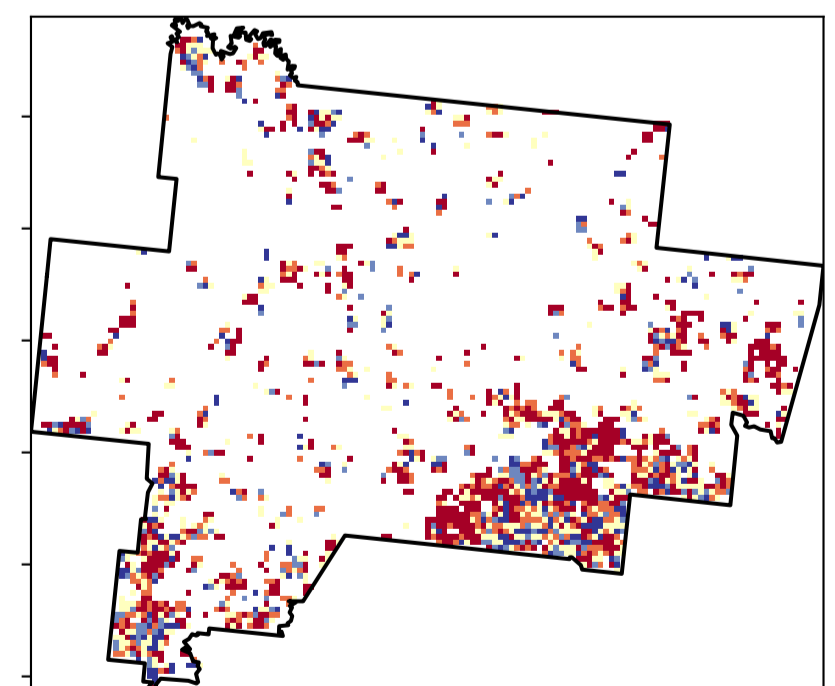
Total Vegetation Cover Anomaly [%]

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



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

Total Vegetation Cover Decile [%]



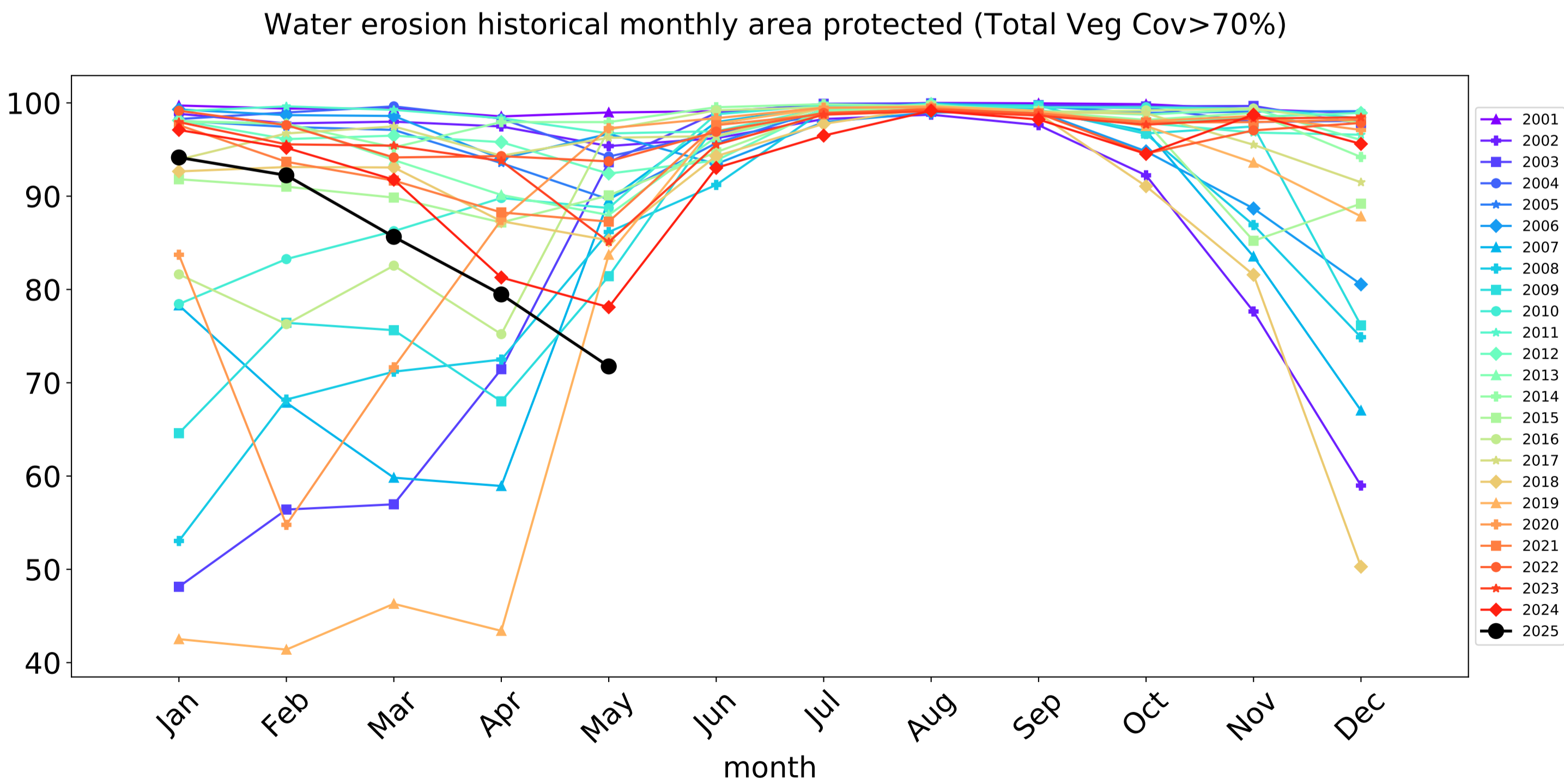
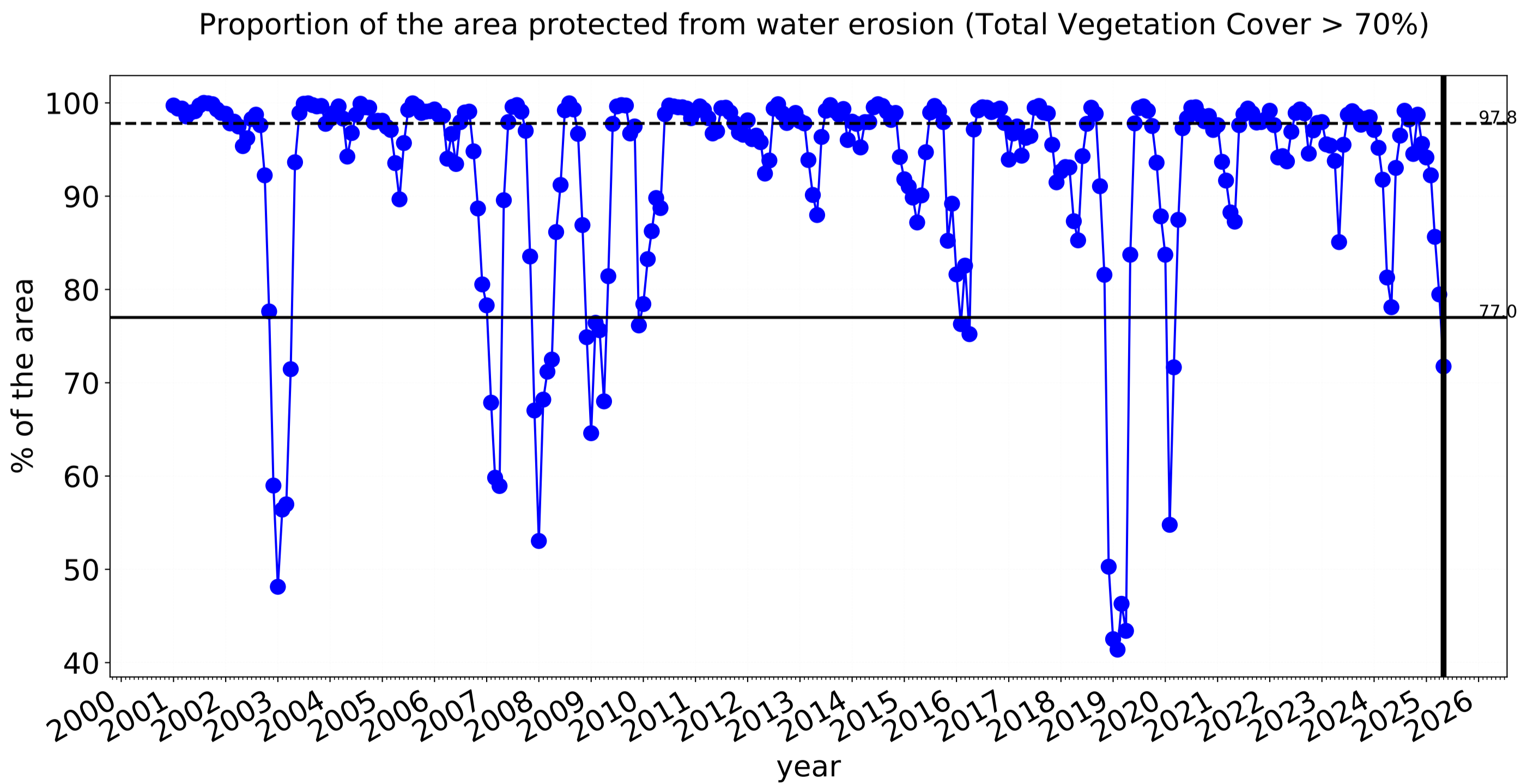
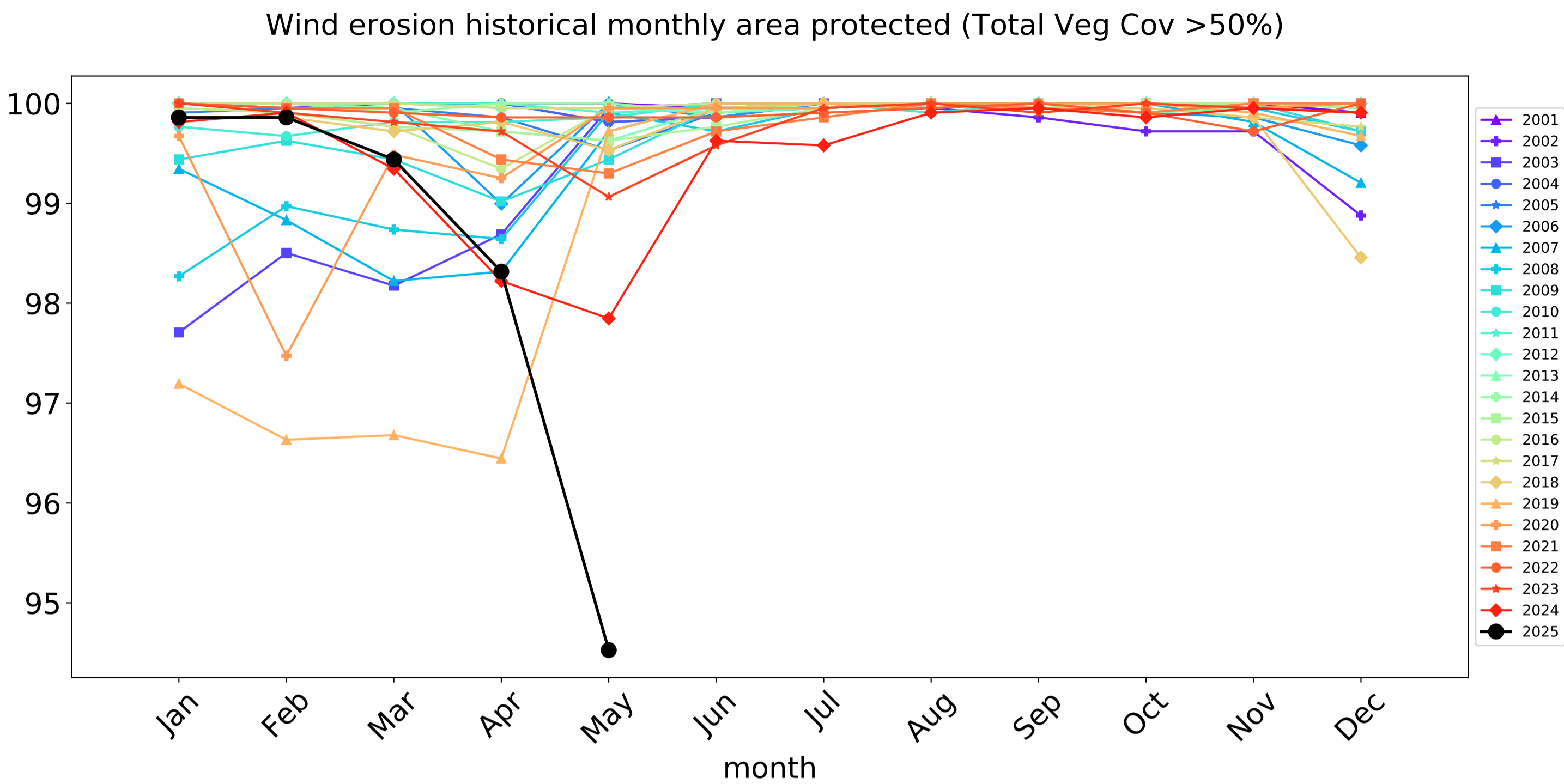
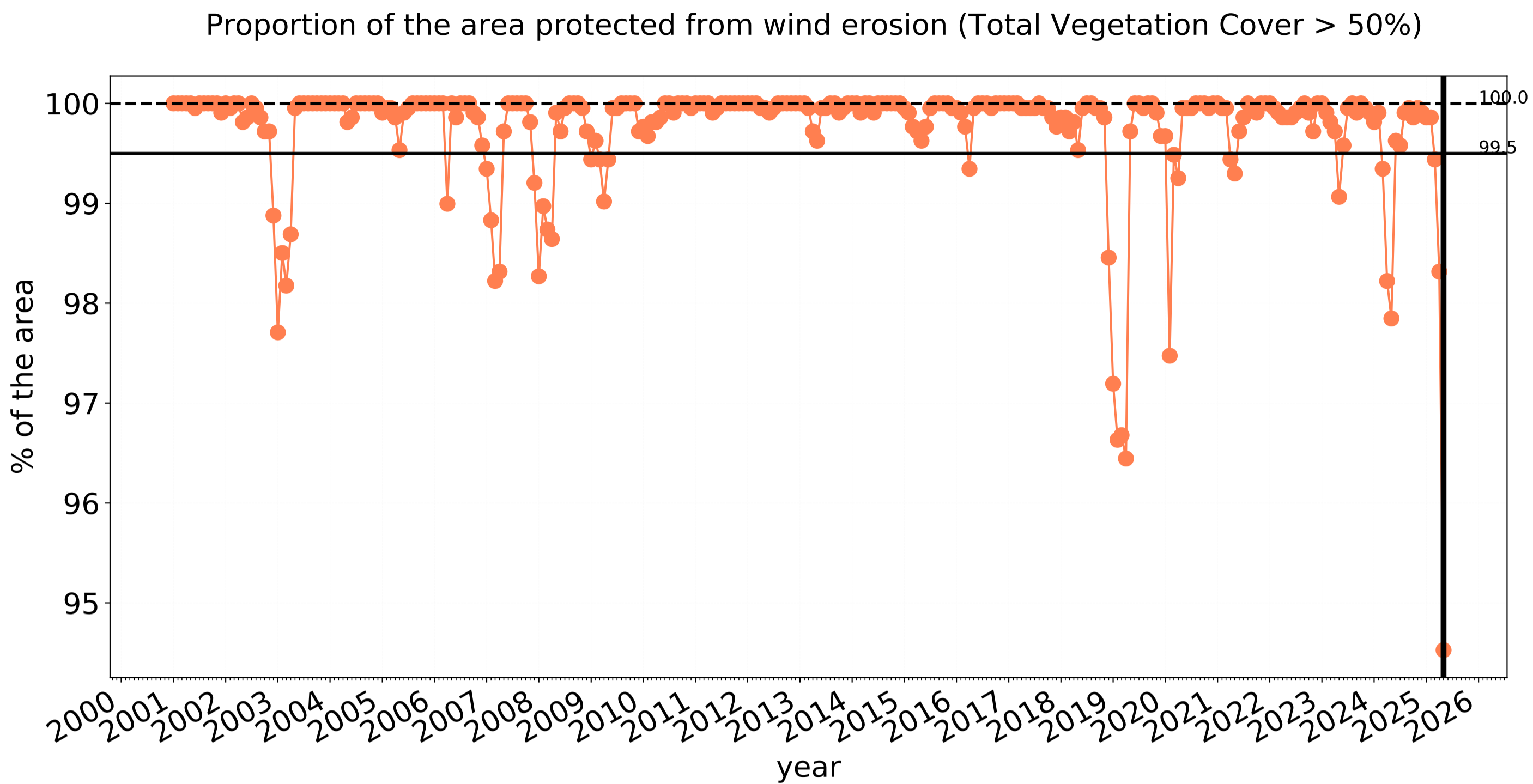
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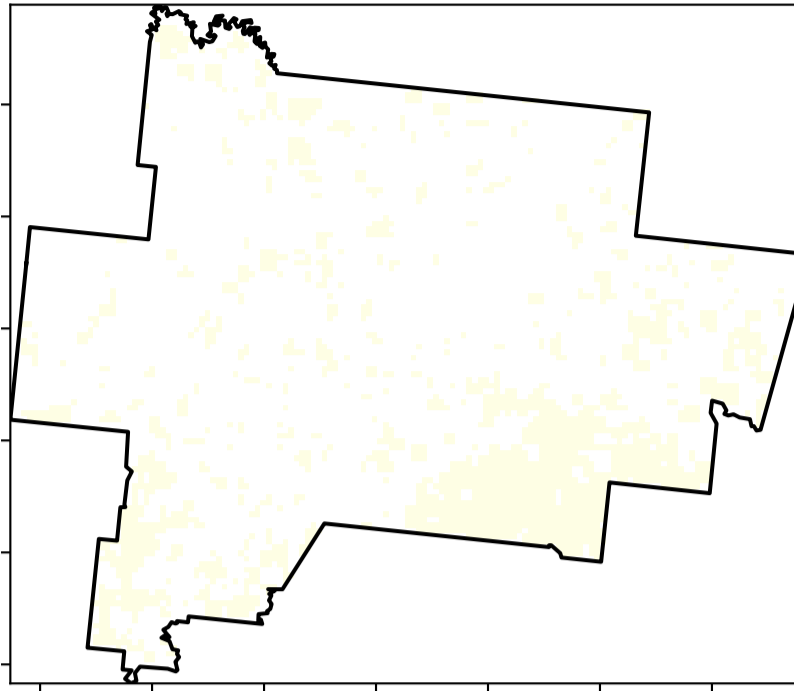
Grazing timeseries



Grazing non forest

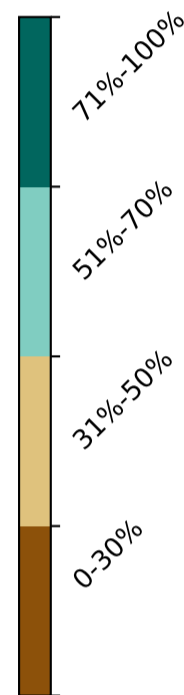
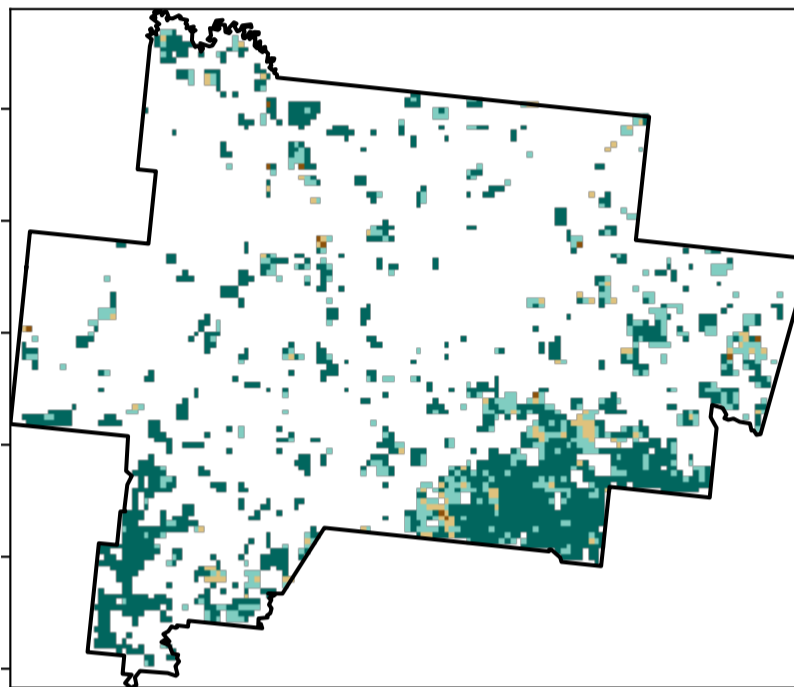
Land use and forest cover

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

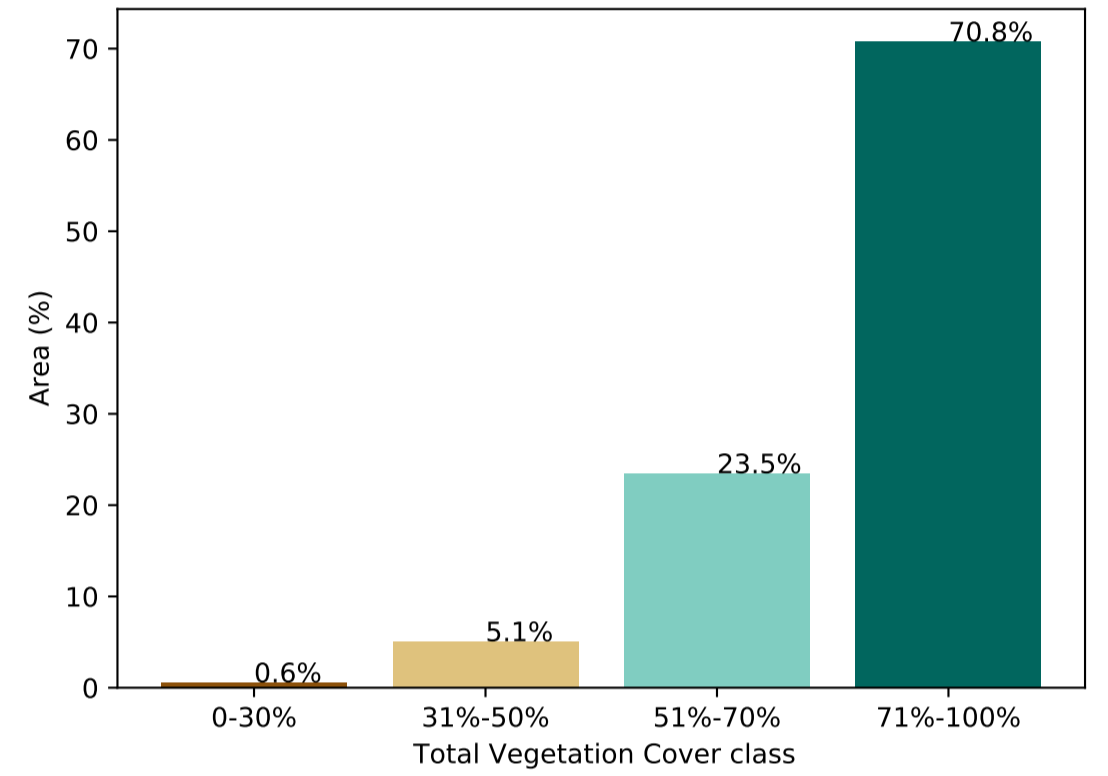


1 Agriculture - Grazing - Non forest

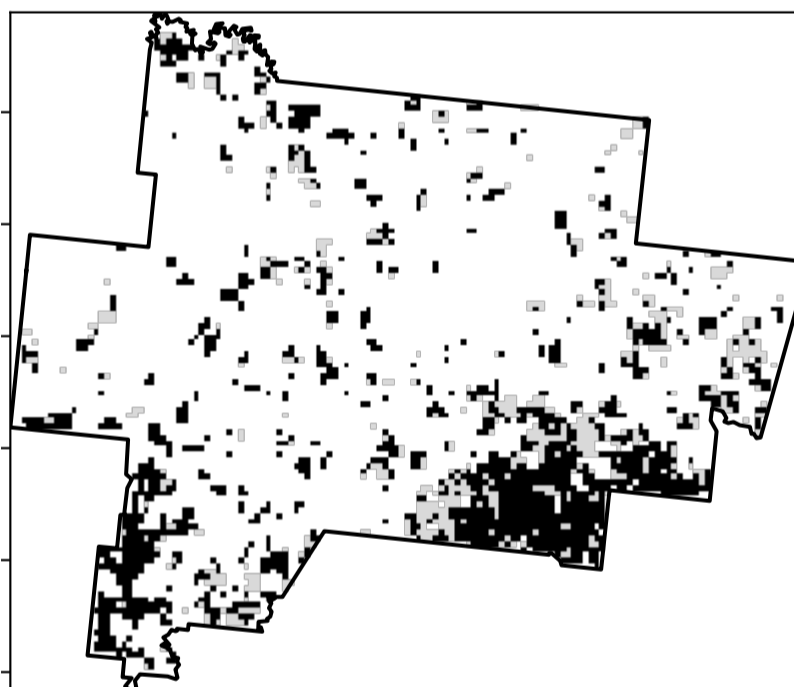
Total Vegetation Cover [%]



Proportion of vegetation cover class in area

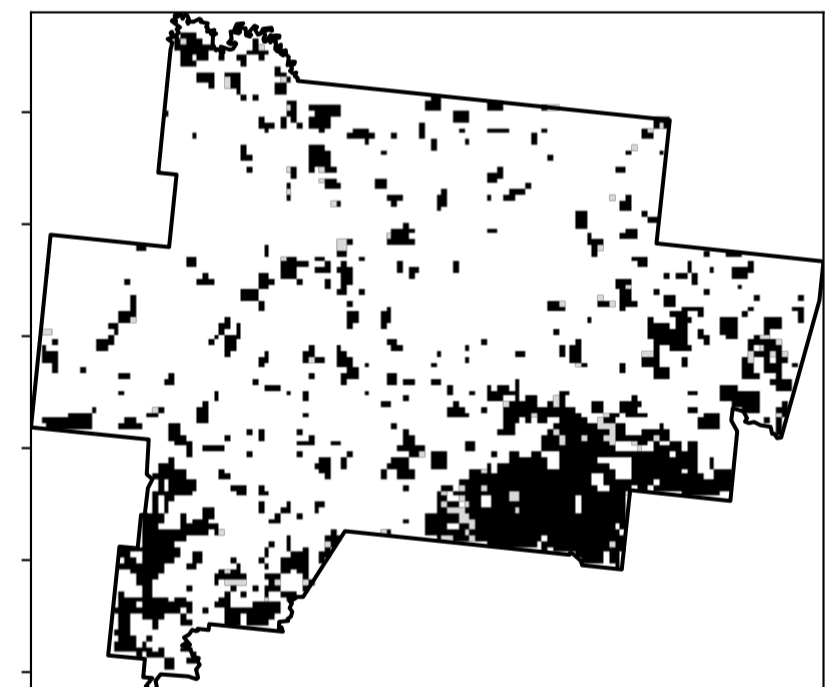


% Area protected from water erosion (>70%)



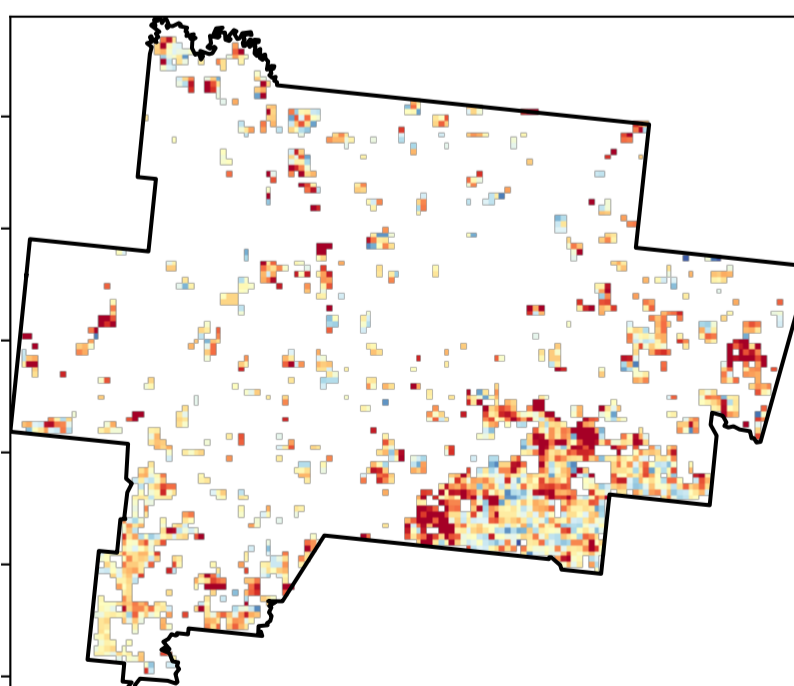
Area not protected
29.2% of region
(15,082 ha)
Area protected
70.8% of region
(36,568 ha)

% Area protected from wind erosion (>50%)

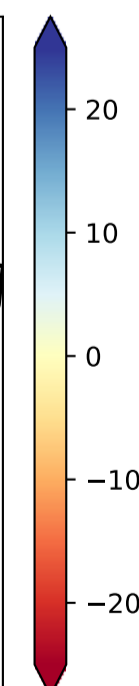


Area not protected
6.0% of region
(3,099 ha)
Area protected
94.0% of region
(48,551 ha)

Total Vegetation Cover Anomaly [%]

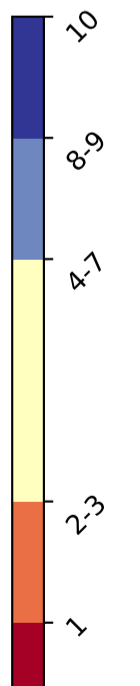
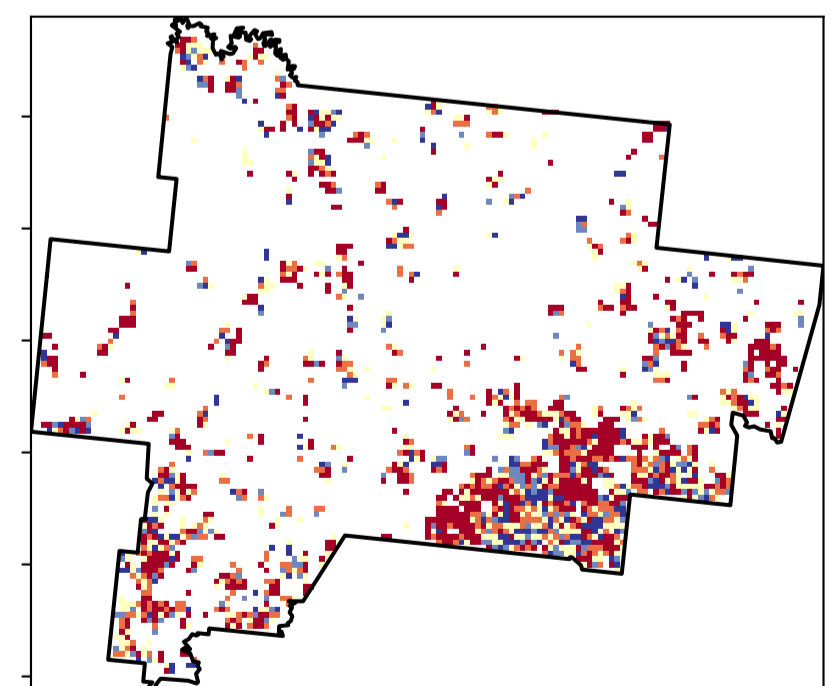


Anomaly show how many percentage points each pixel is from the mean. That is, red pixels are about 20% lower than the mean of that pixel. The mean is only for the month of the map using baseline from 2001 to 2019.



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Total Vegetation Cover Decile [%]



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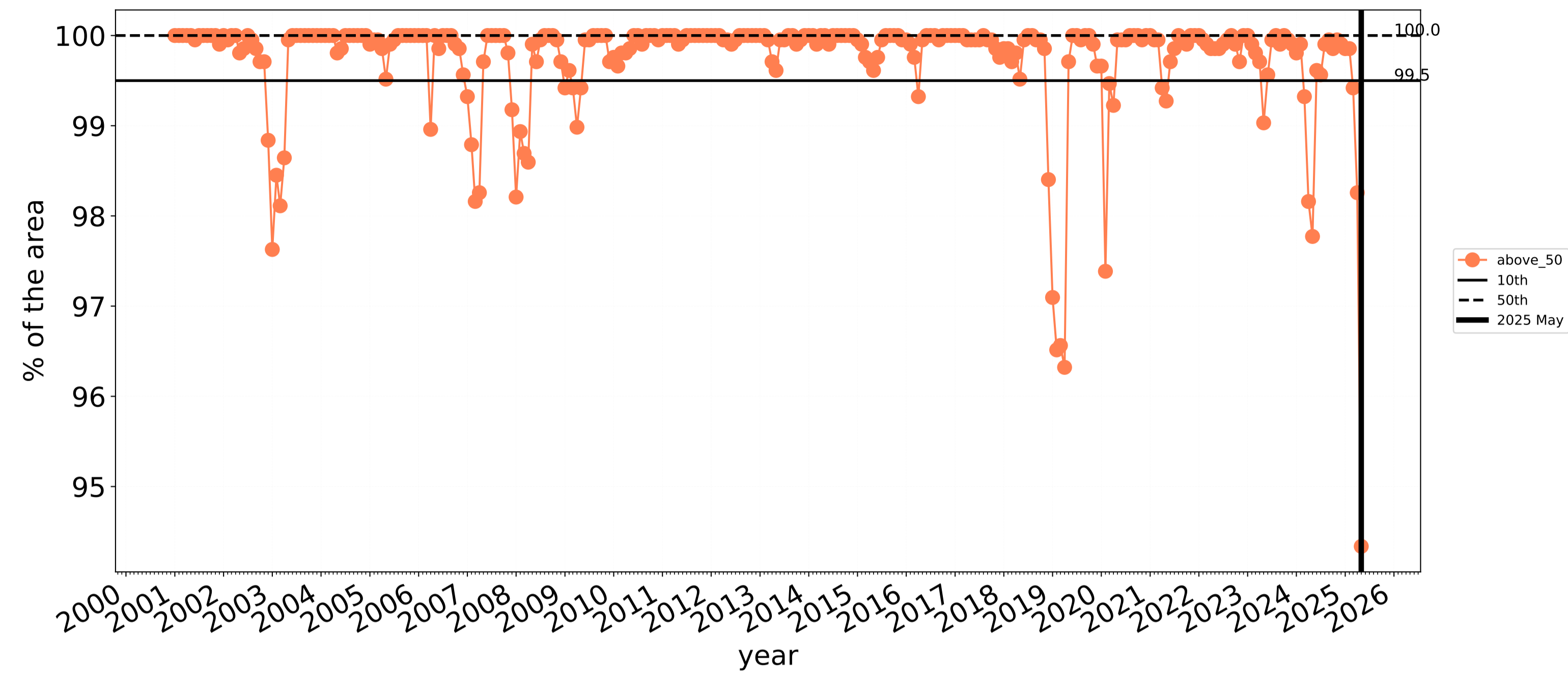


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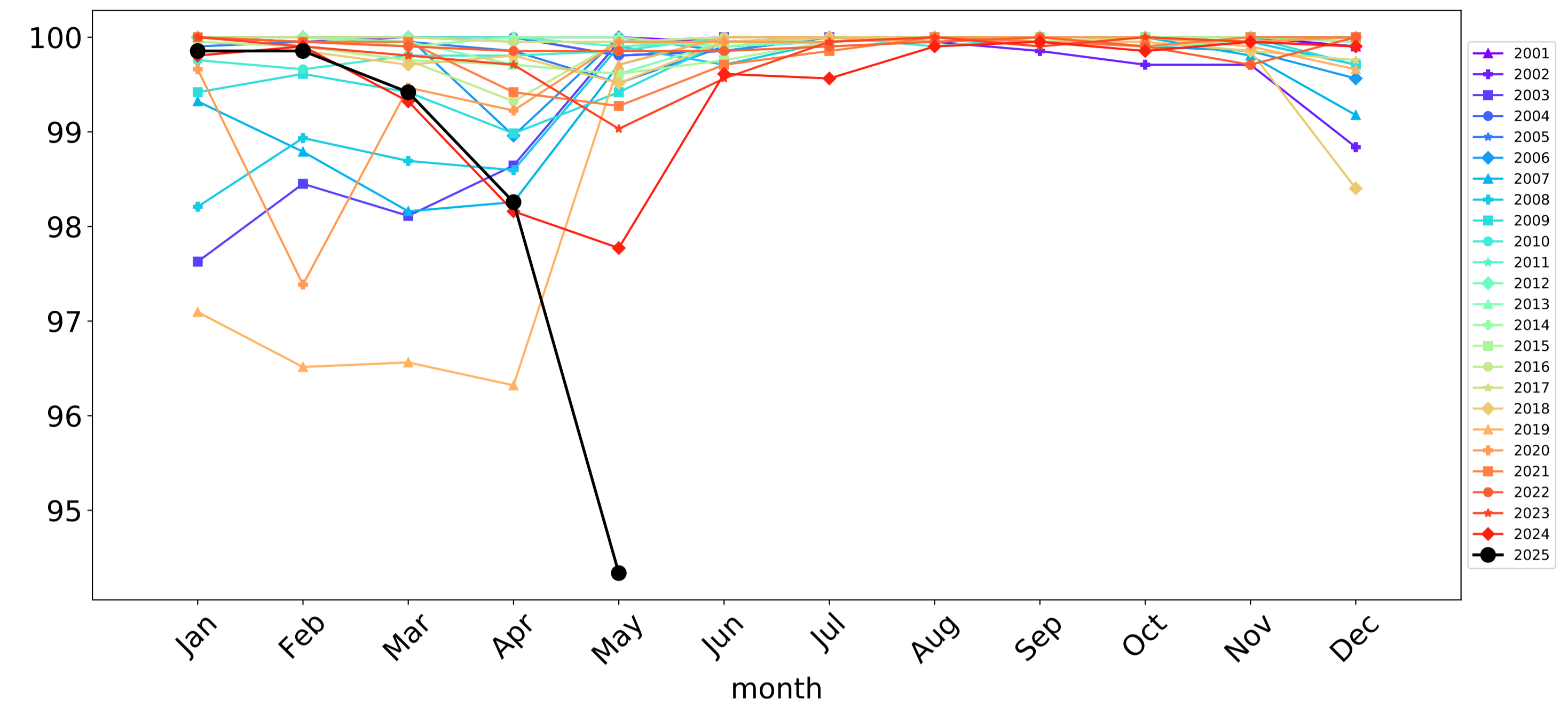


Grazing non forest timeseries

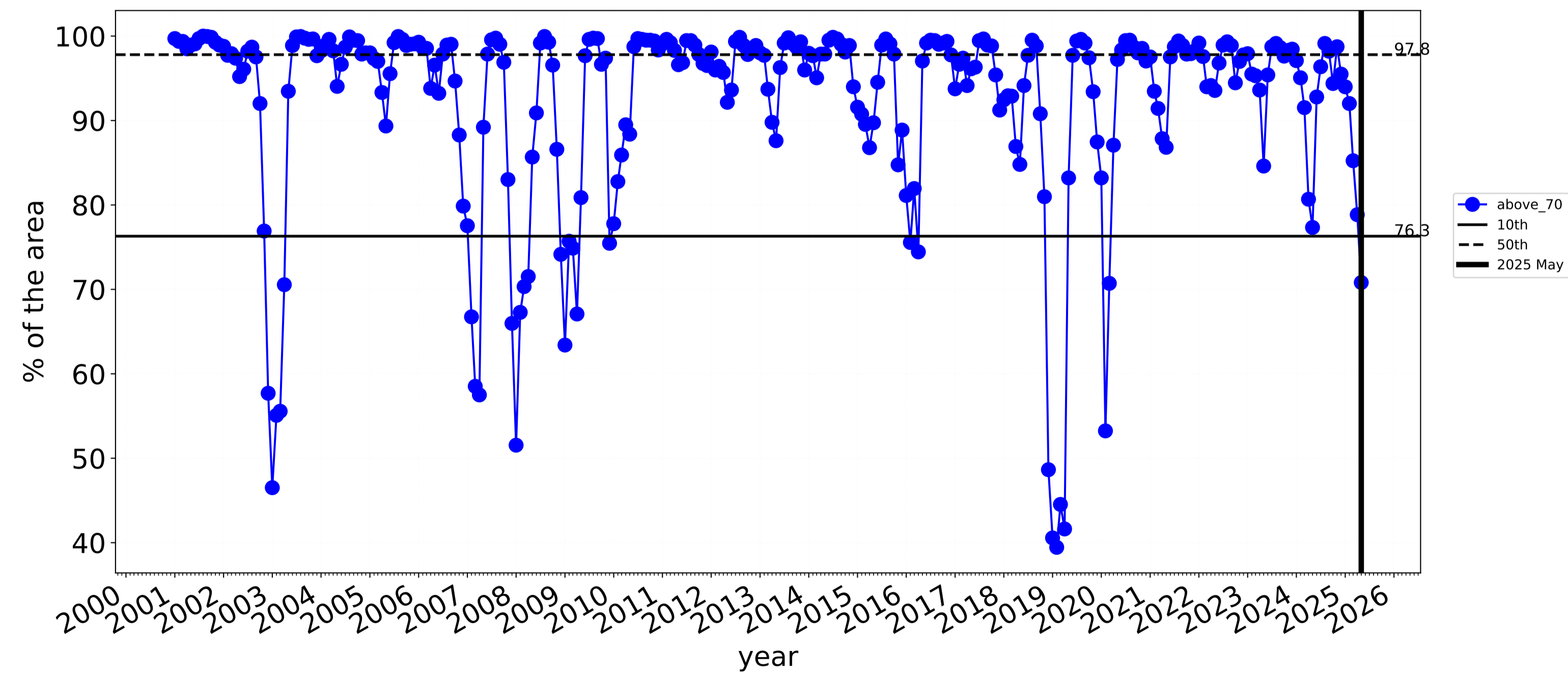
Proportion of the area protected from wind erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 50%)



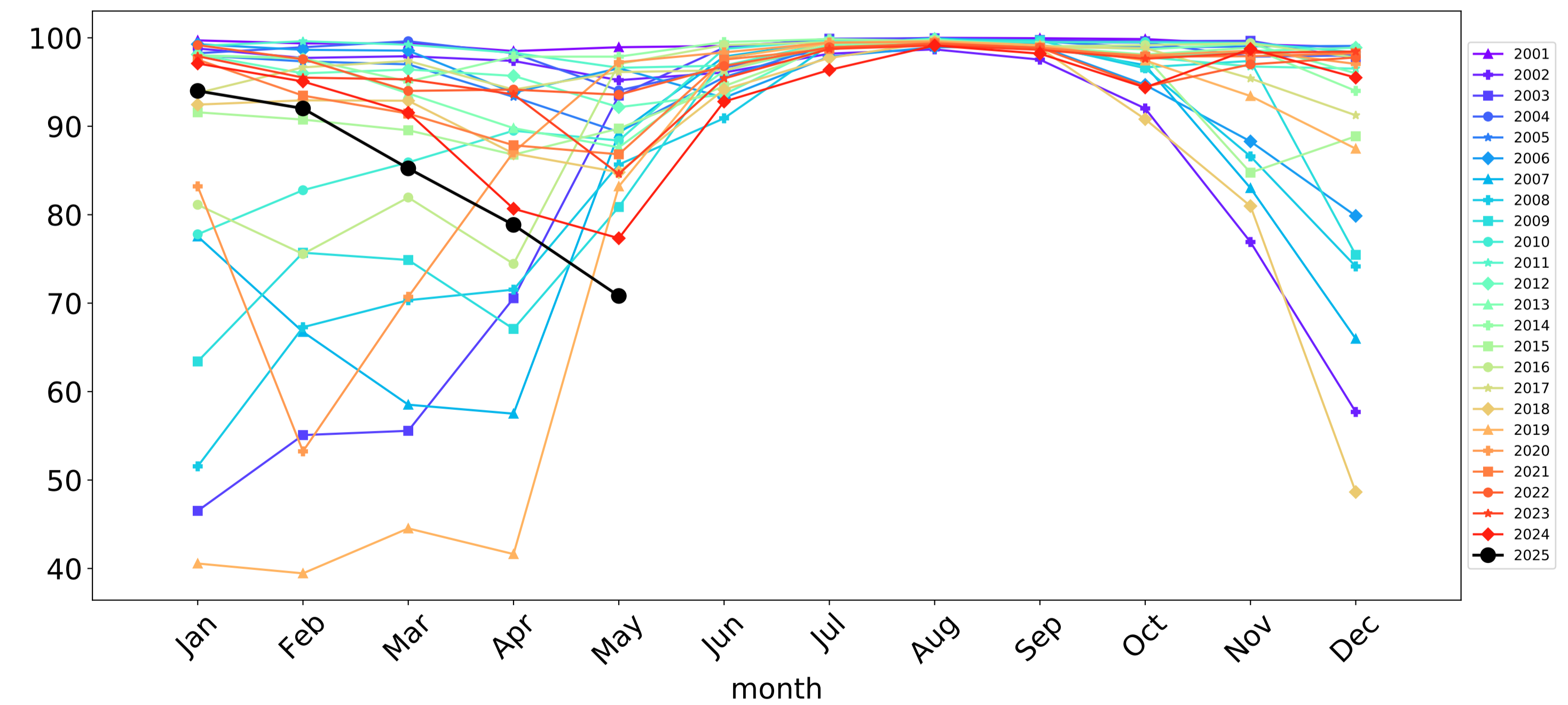
Wind erosion historical monthly area protected (Total Veg Cov >50%)



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



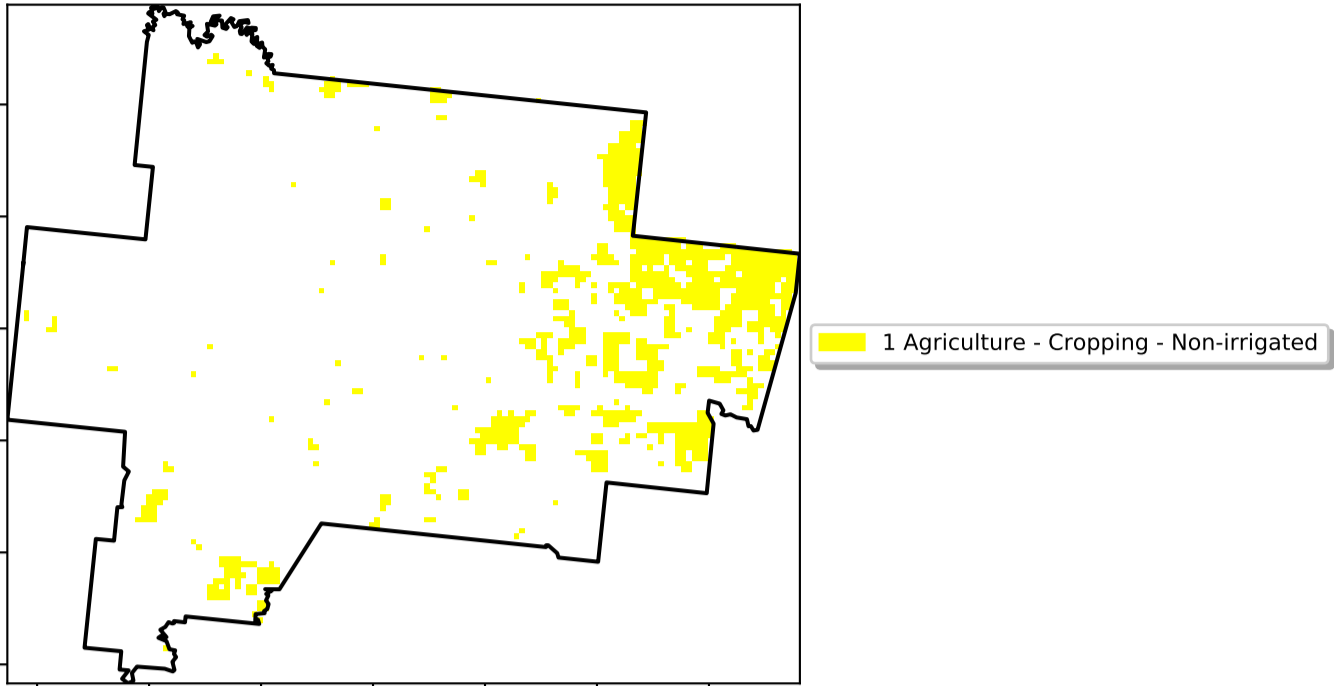
Water erosion historical monthly area protected (Total Veg Cov>70%)



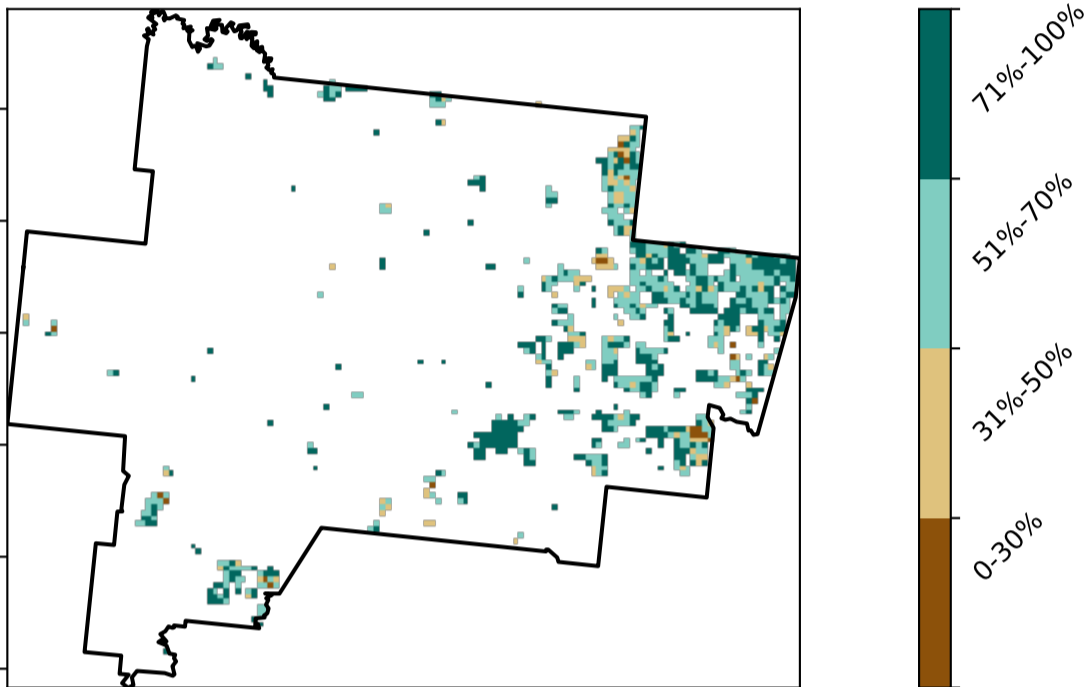
Cropping

Land use and forest cover

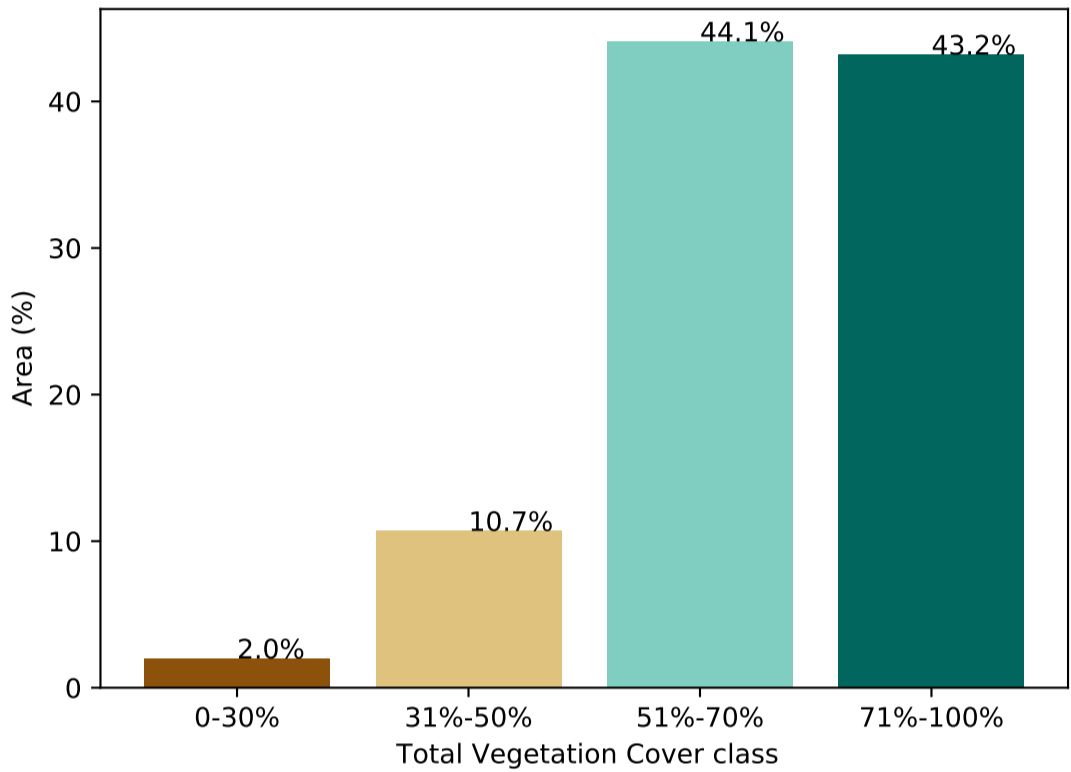
Catchment Scale Land Use and Forests of Australia (2018)
Derived from Catchment Scale Land Use of Australia (2018) and Forests of Australia (2018)



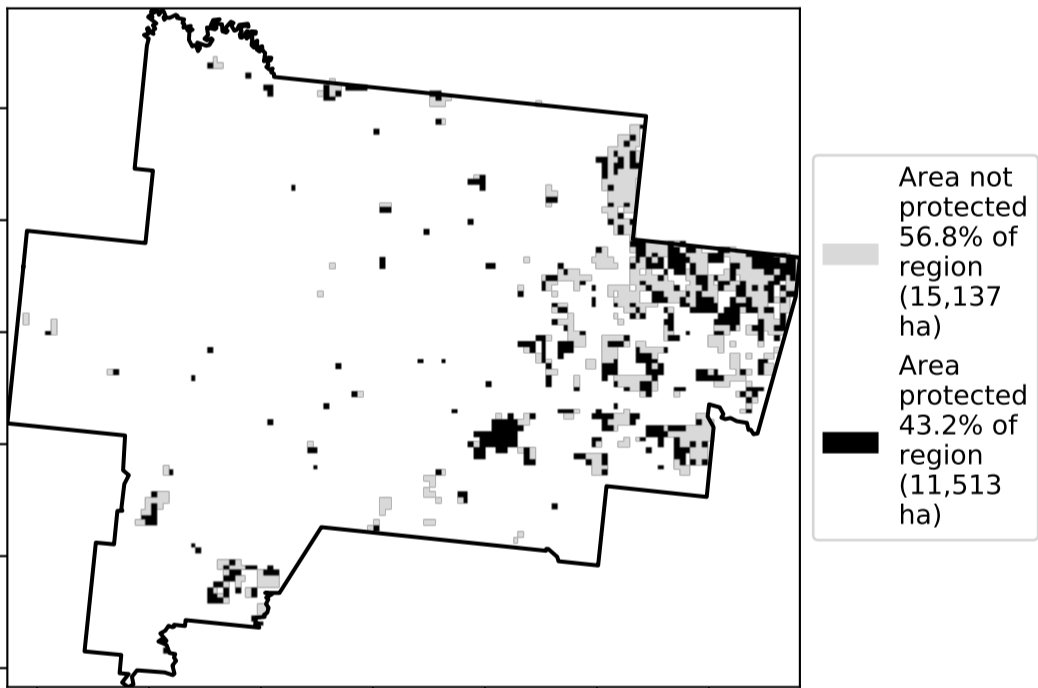
Total Vegetation Cover [%]



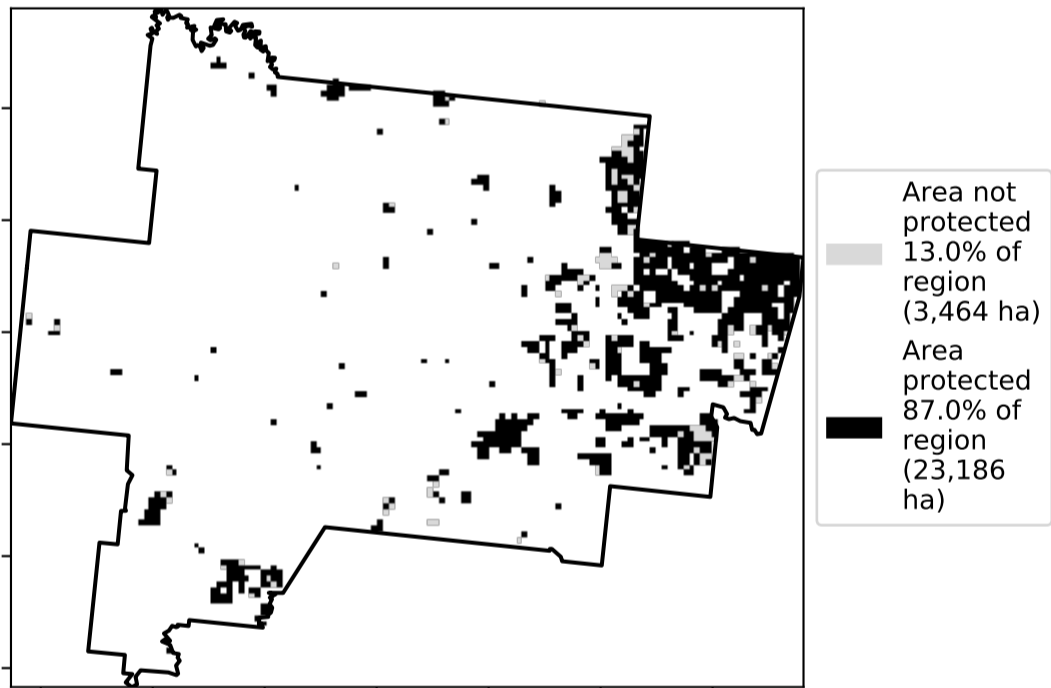
Proportion of vegetation cover class in area



% Area protected from water erosion (>70%)

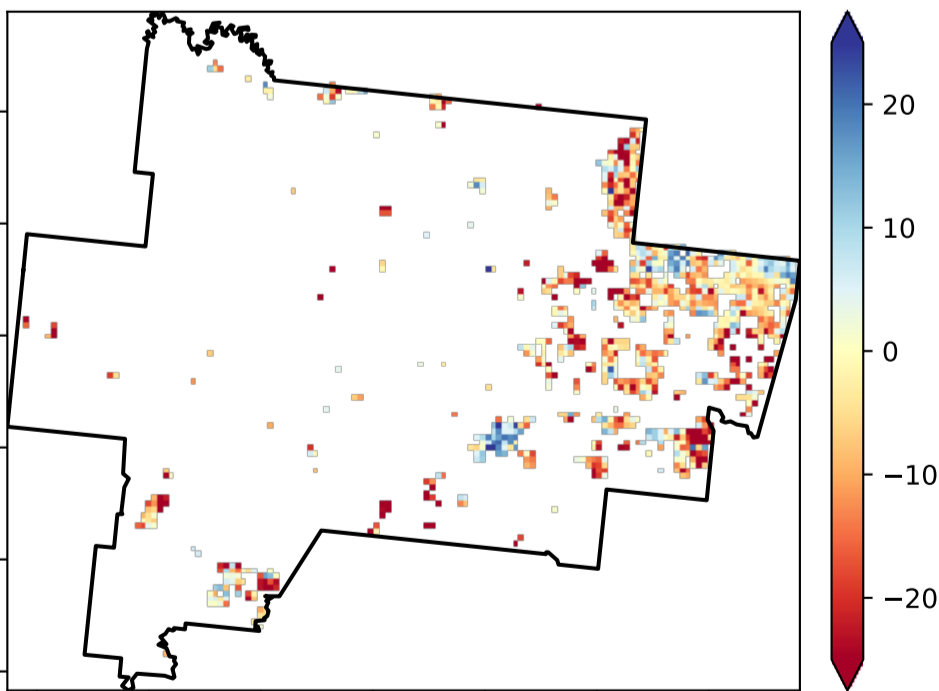


% Area protected from wind erosion (>50%)



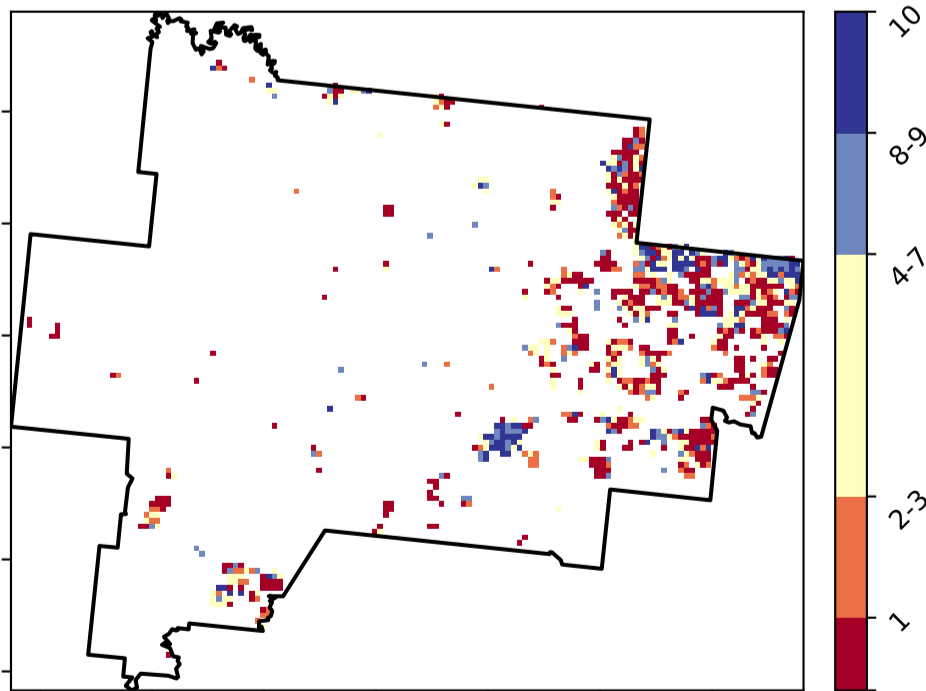
Total Vegetation Cover Anomaly [%]

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Total Vegetation Cover Decile [%]



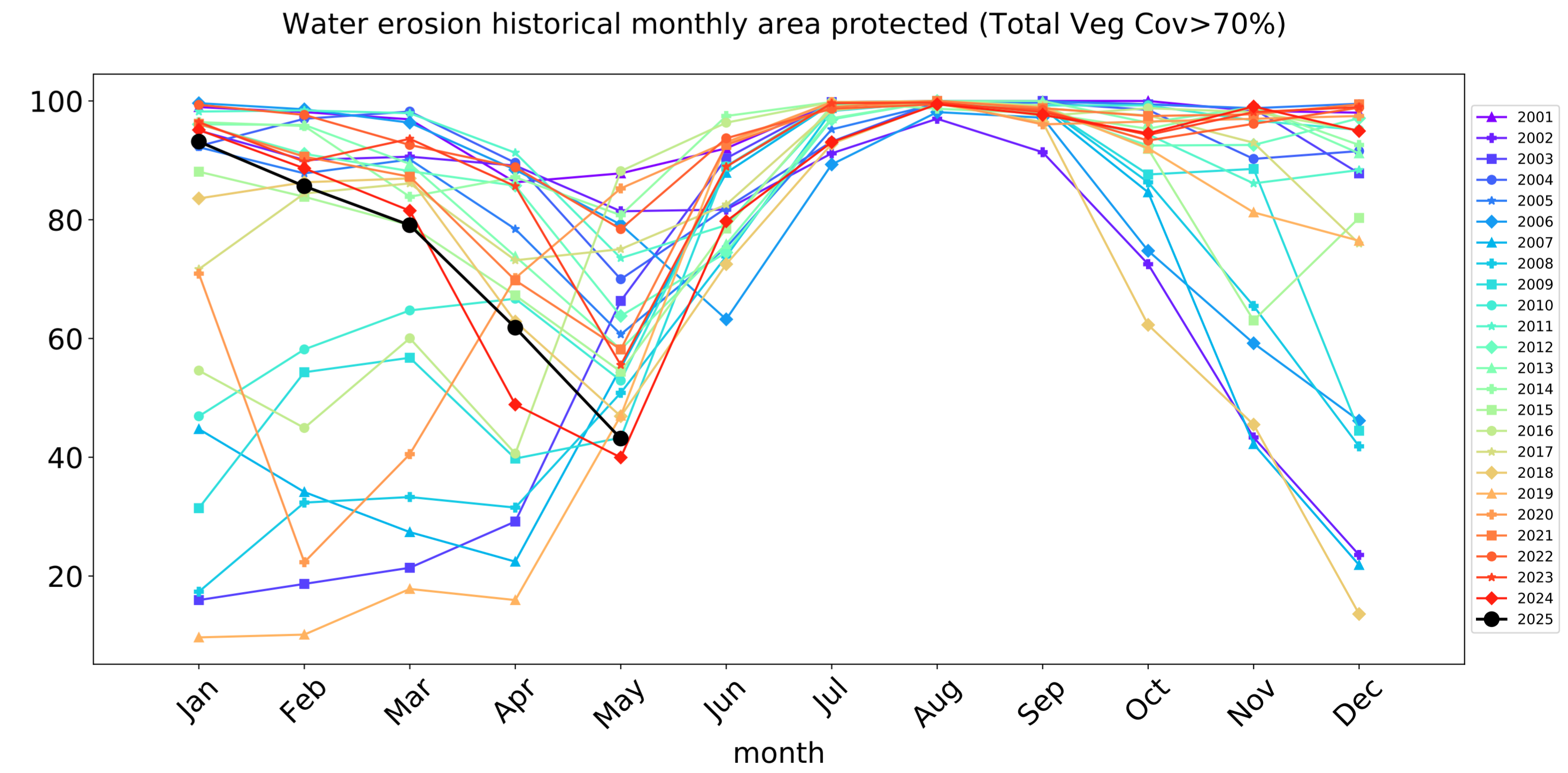
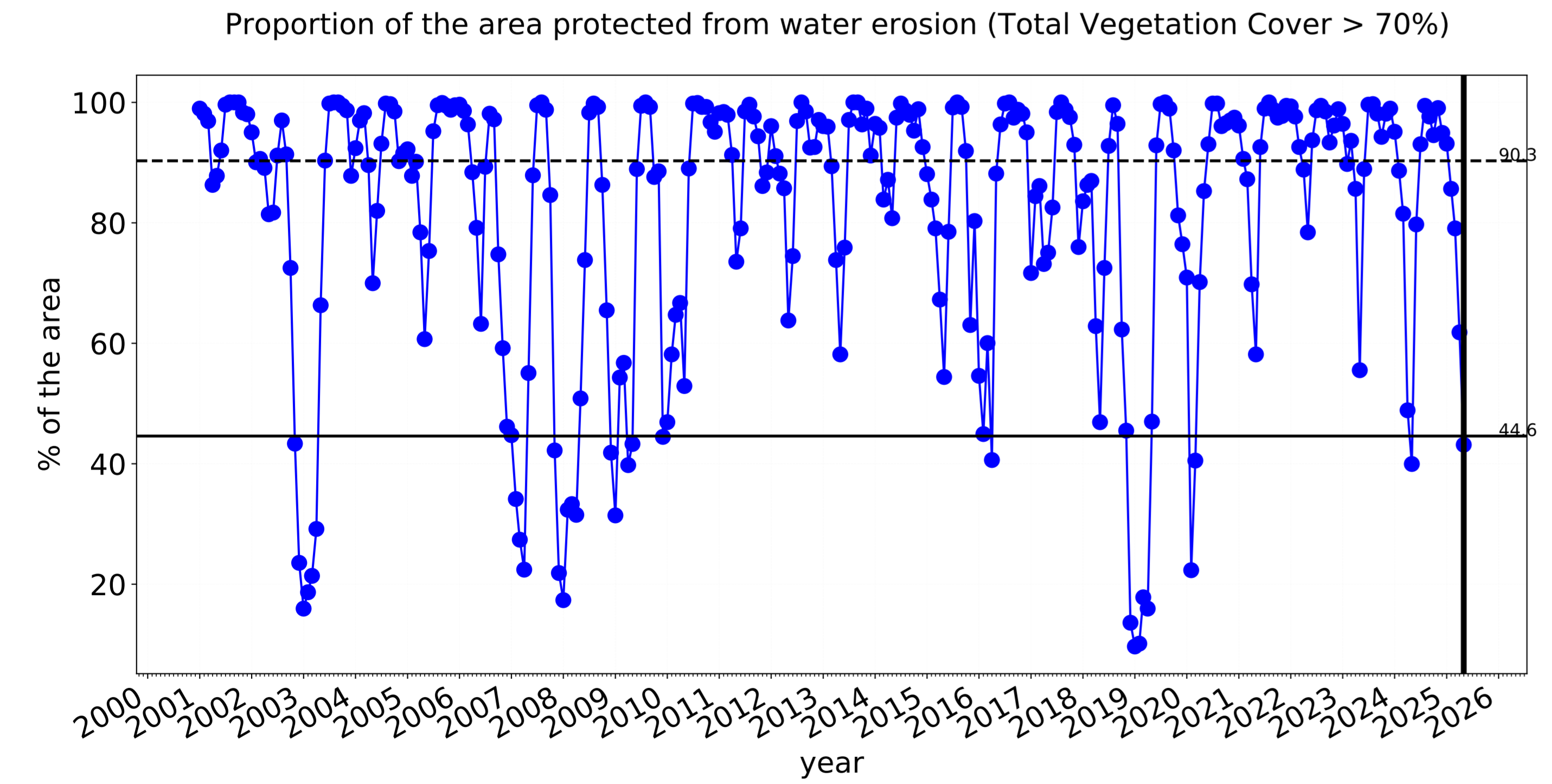
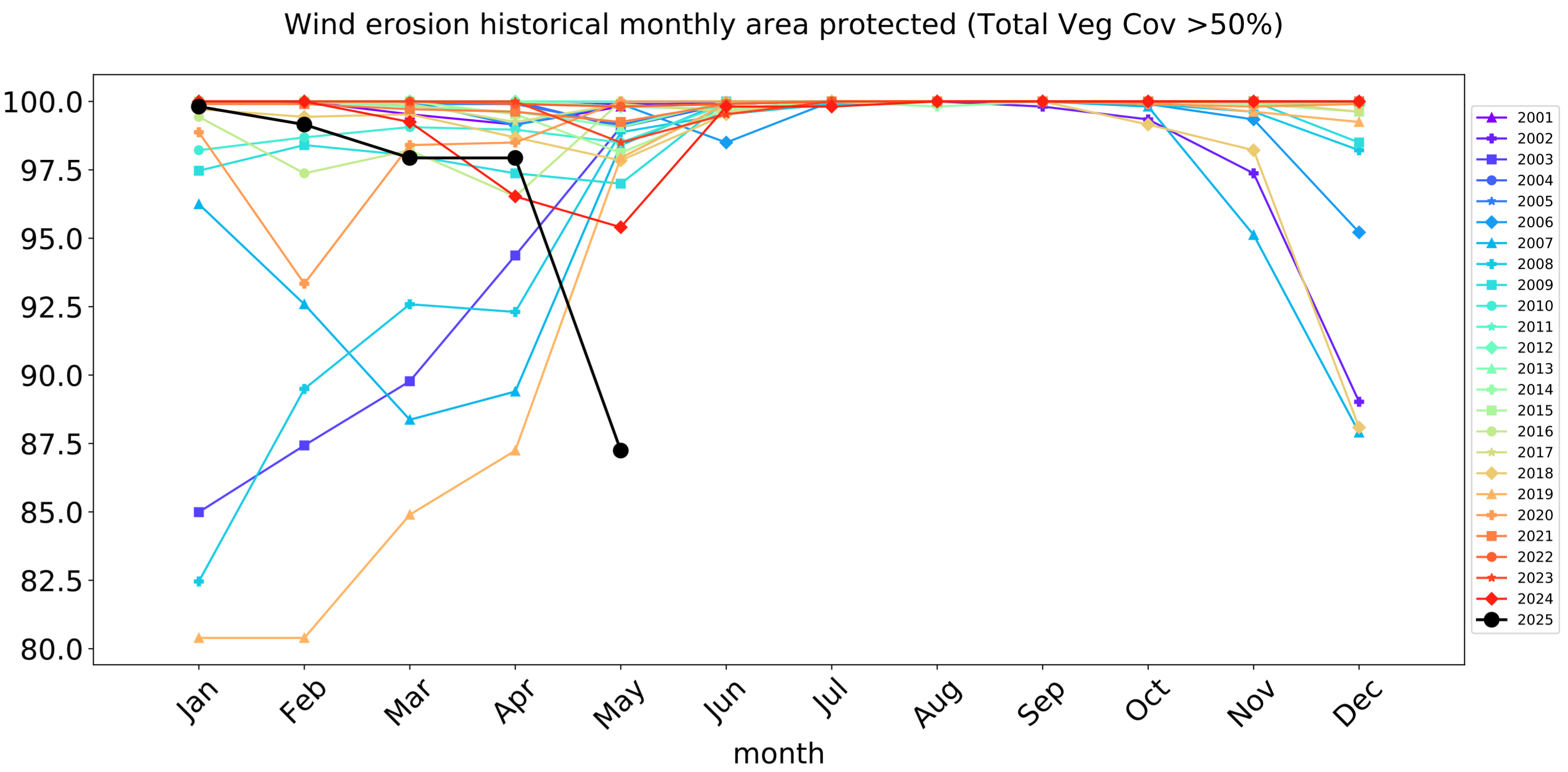
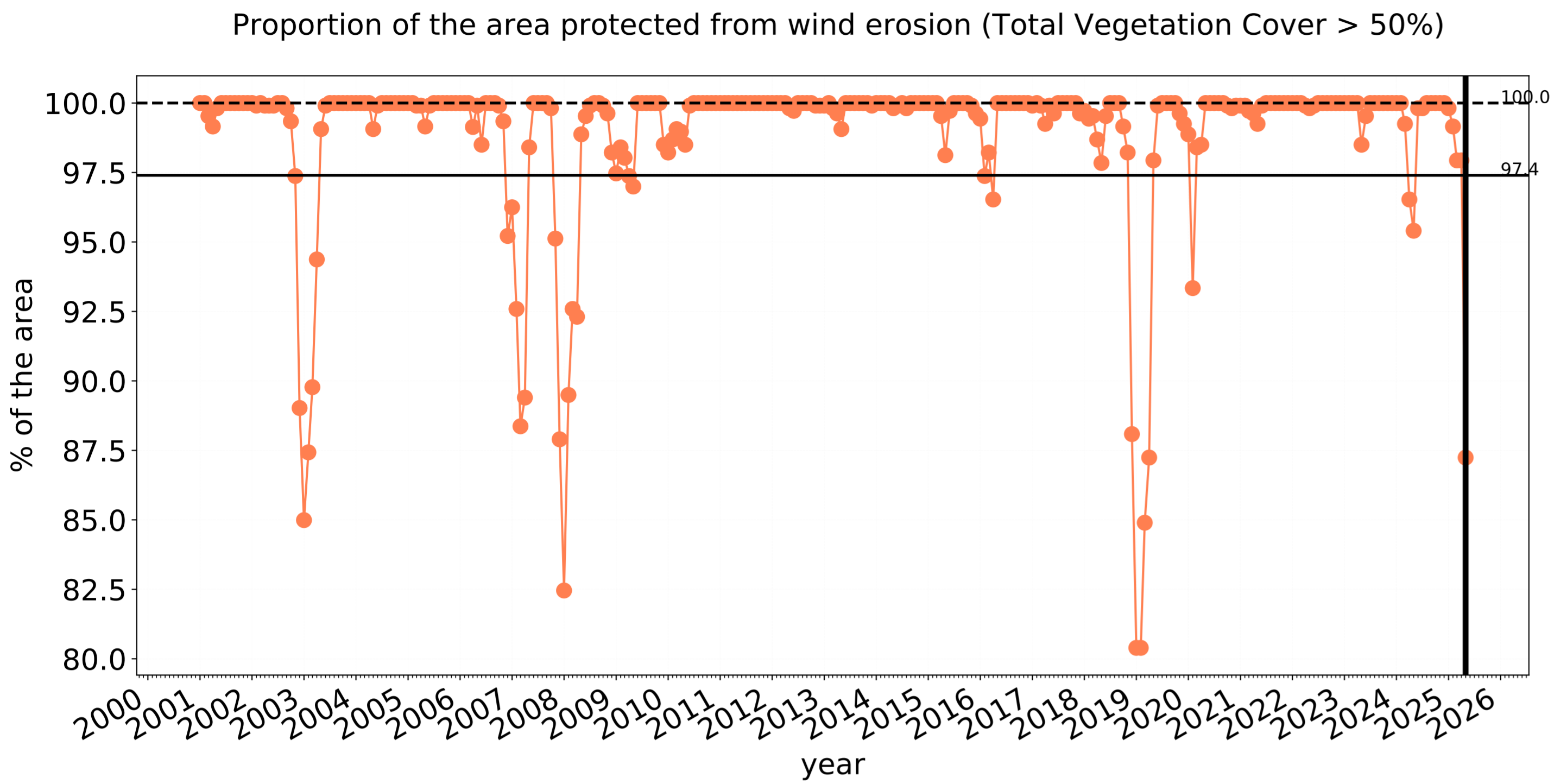
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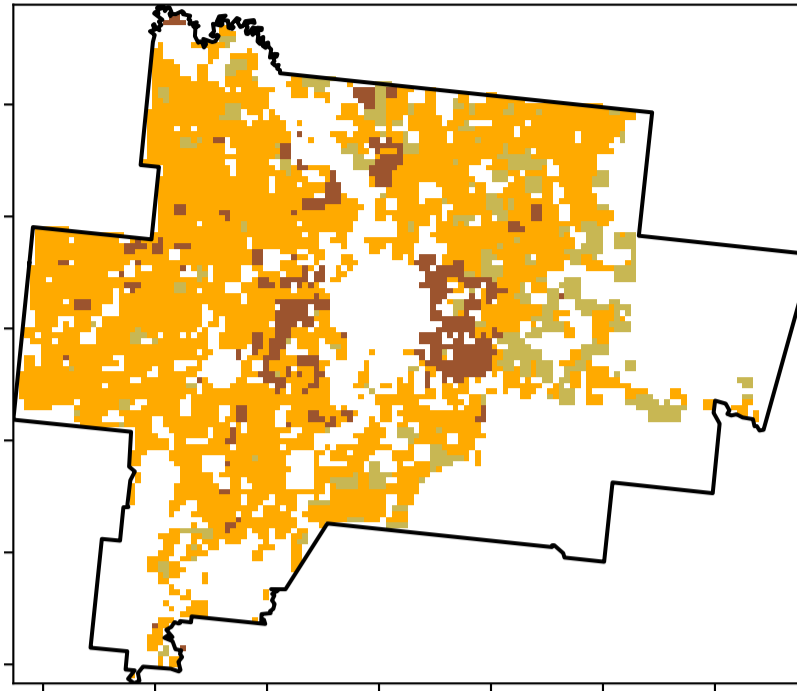
Cropping timeseries



Irrigation

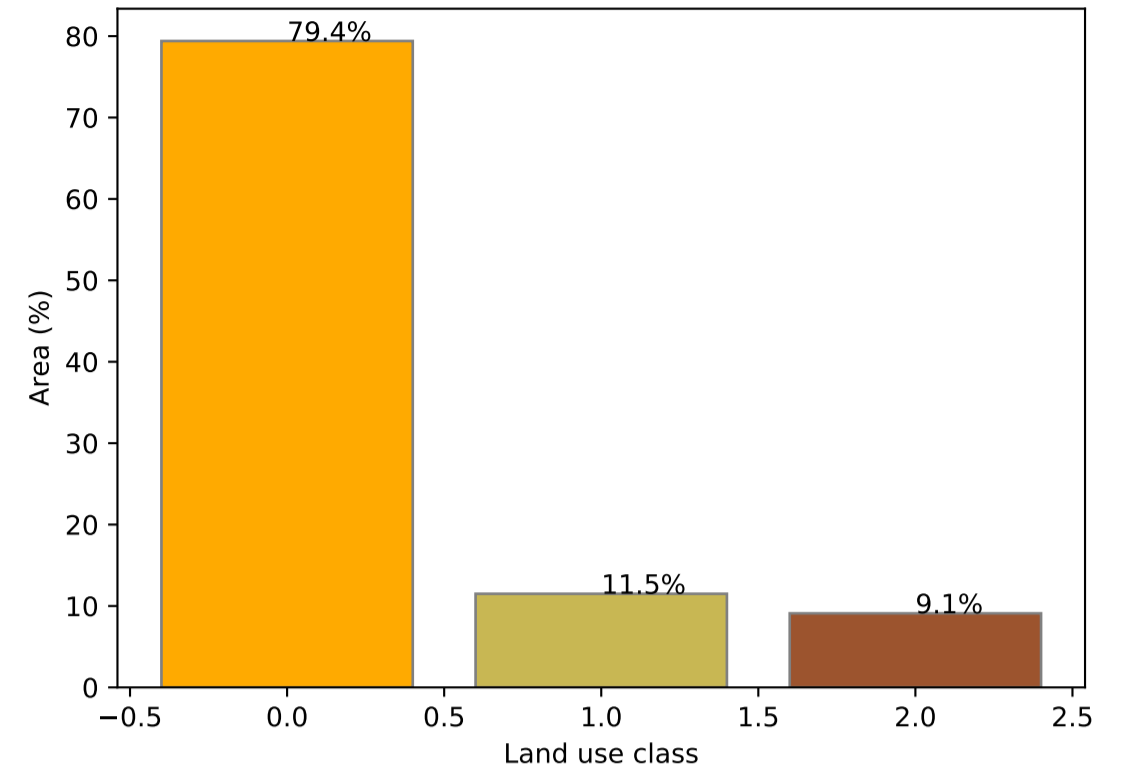
Land use and forest cover

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

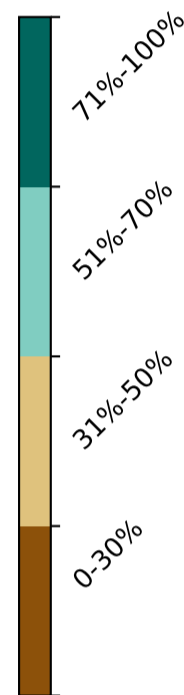
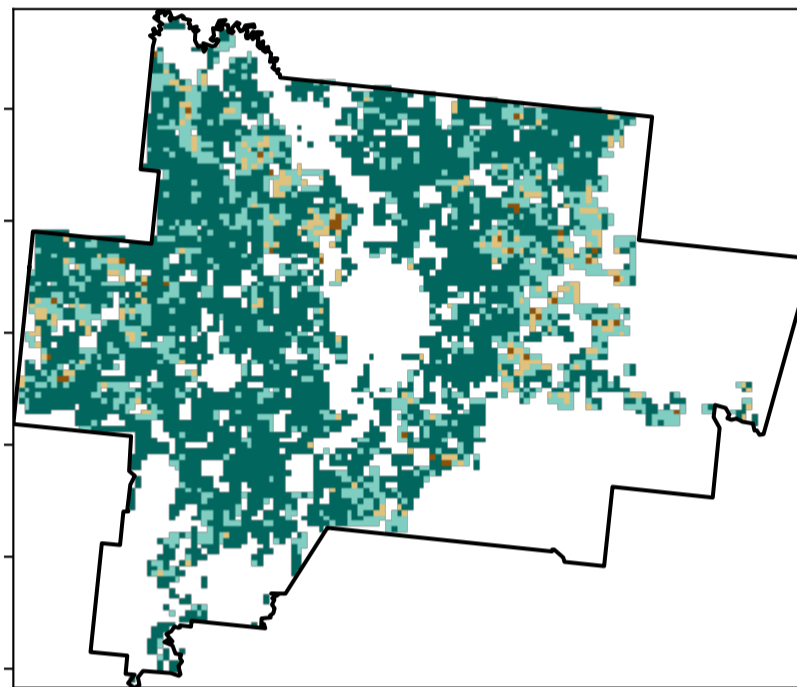


- 1 Agriculture - Grazing - Irrigated
- 2 Agriculture - Cropping - Irrigated
- 3 Agriculture - Horticulture - Irrigated

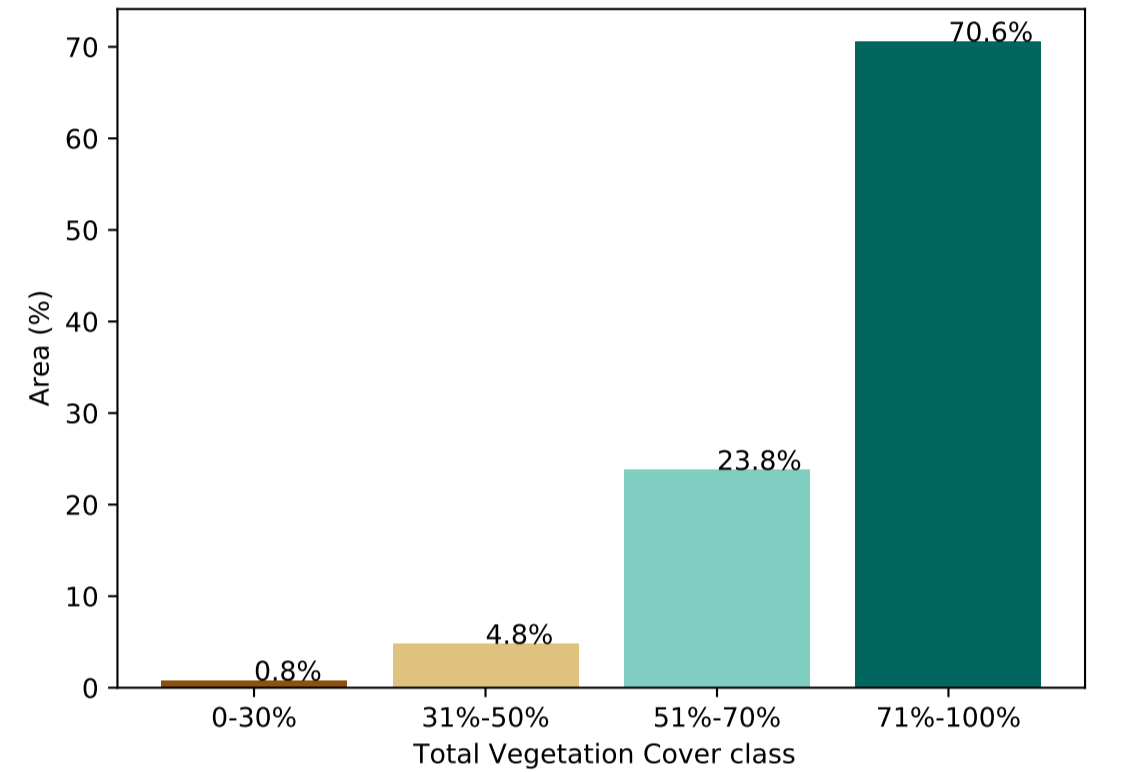
Proportion of each land class in area



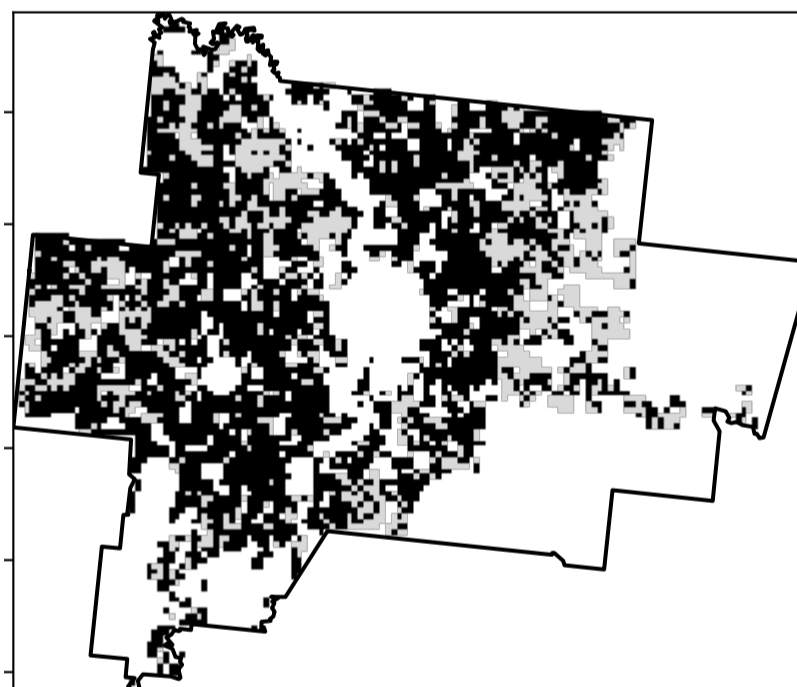
Total Vegetation Cover [%]



Proportion of vegetation cover class in area

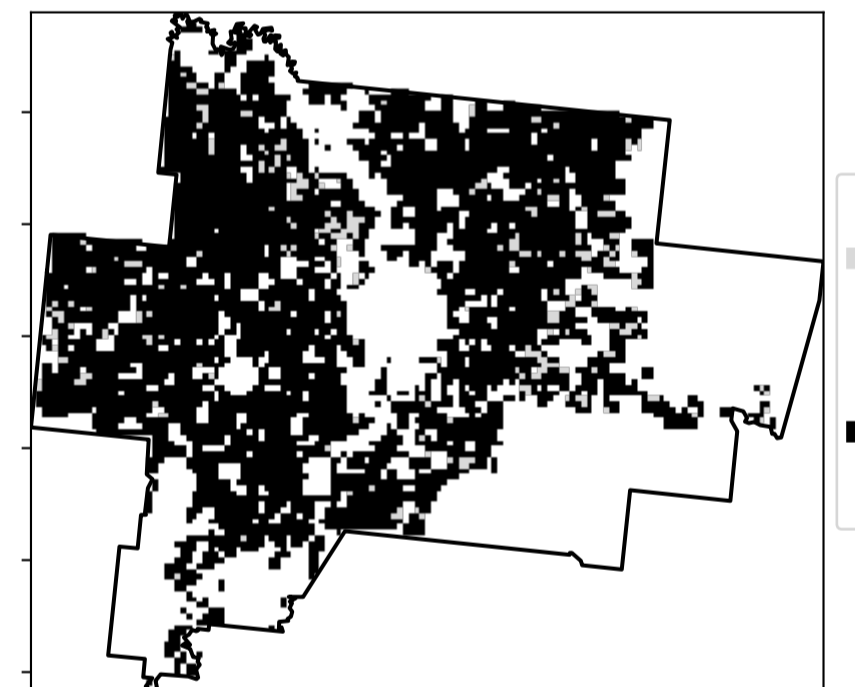


% Area protected from water erosion (>70%)



- Area not protected 29.4% of region (39,021 ha)
- Area protected 70.6% of region (93,704 ha)

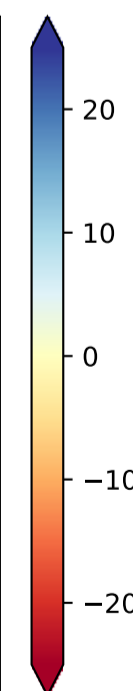
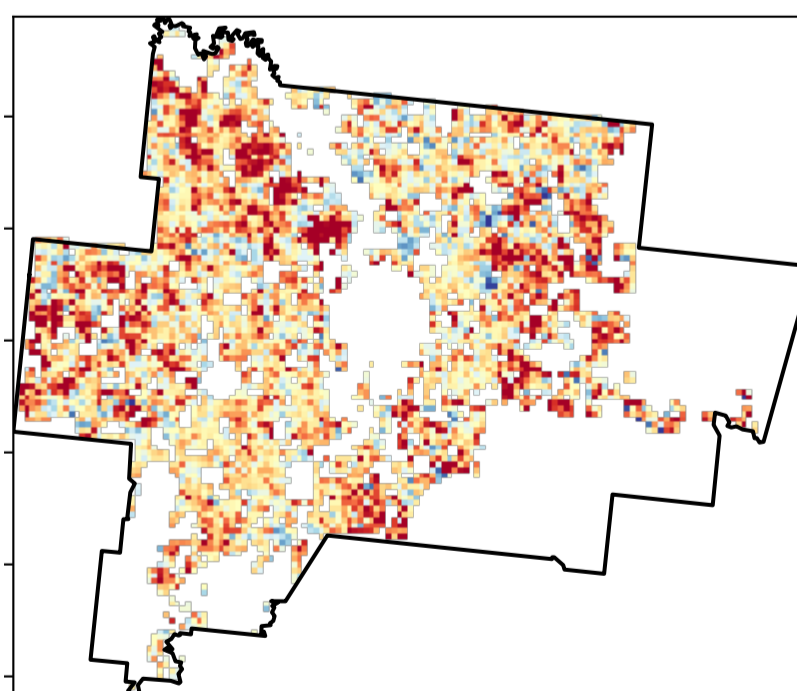
% Area protected from wind erosion (>50%)



- Area not protected 6.0% of region (7,964 ha)
- Area protected 94.0% of region (124,762 ha)

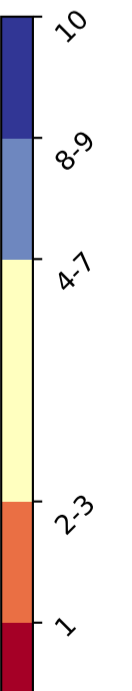
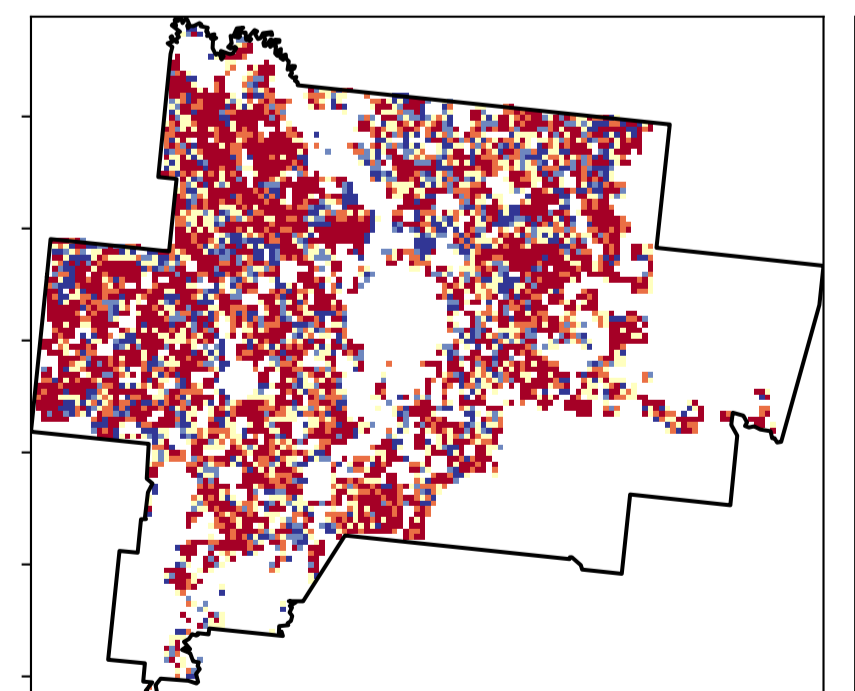
Total Vegetation Cover Anomaly [%]

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Total Vegetation Cover Decile [%]



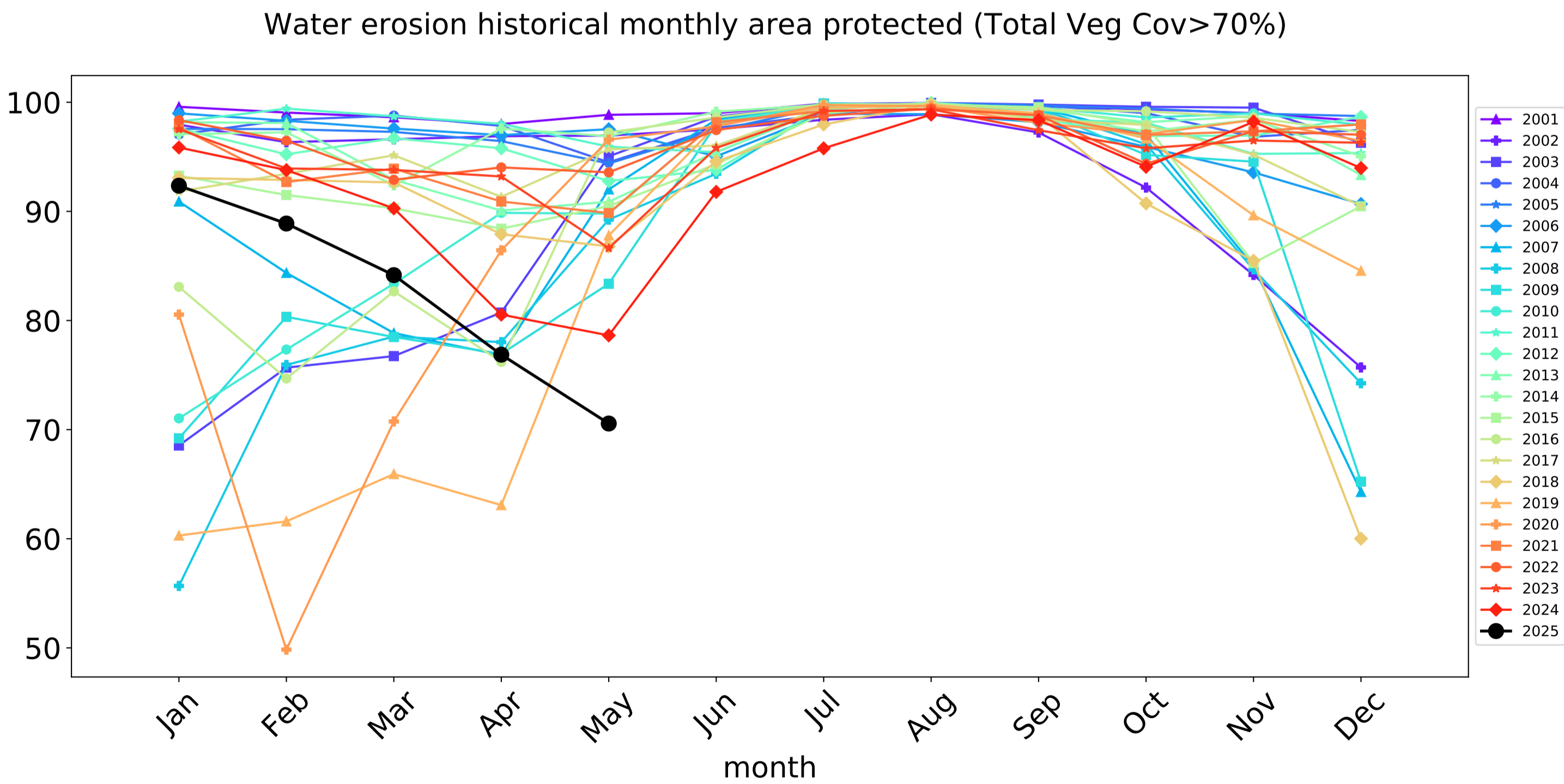
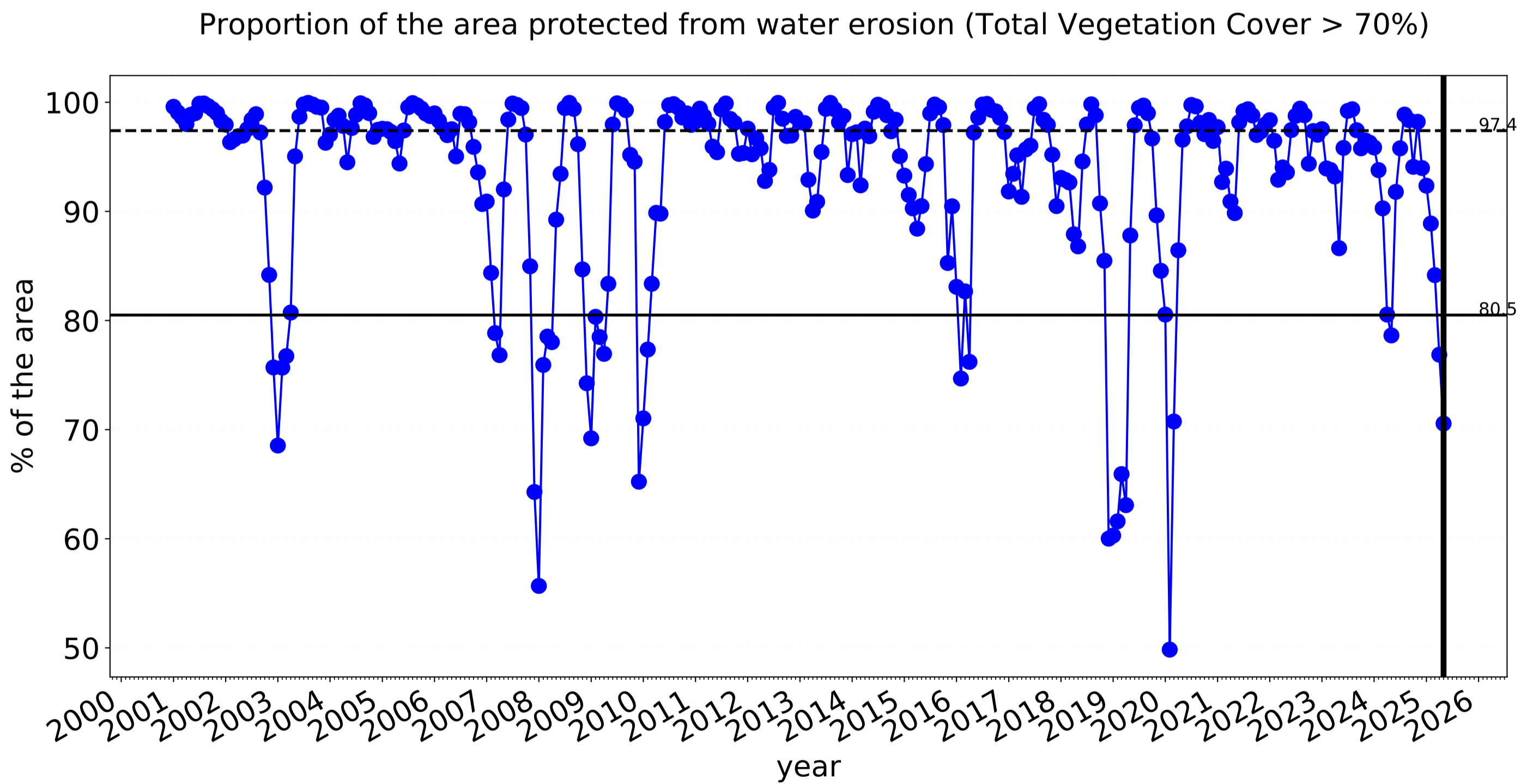
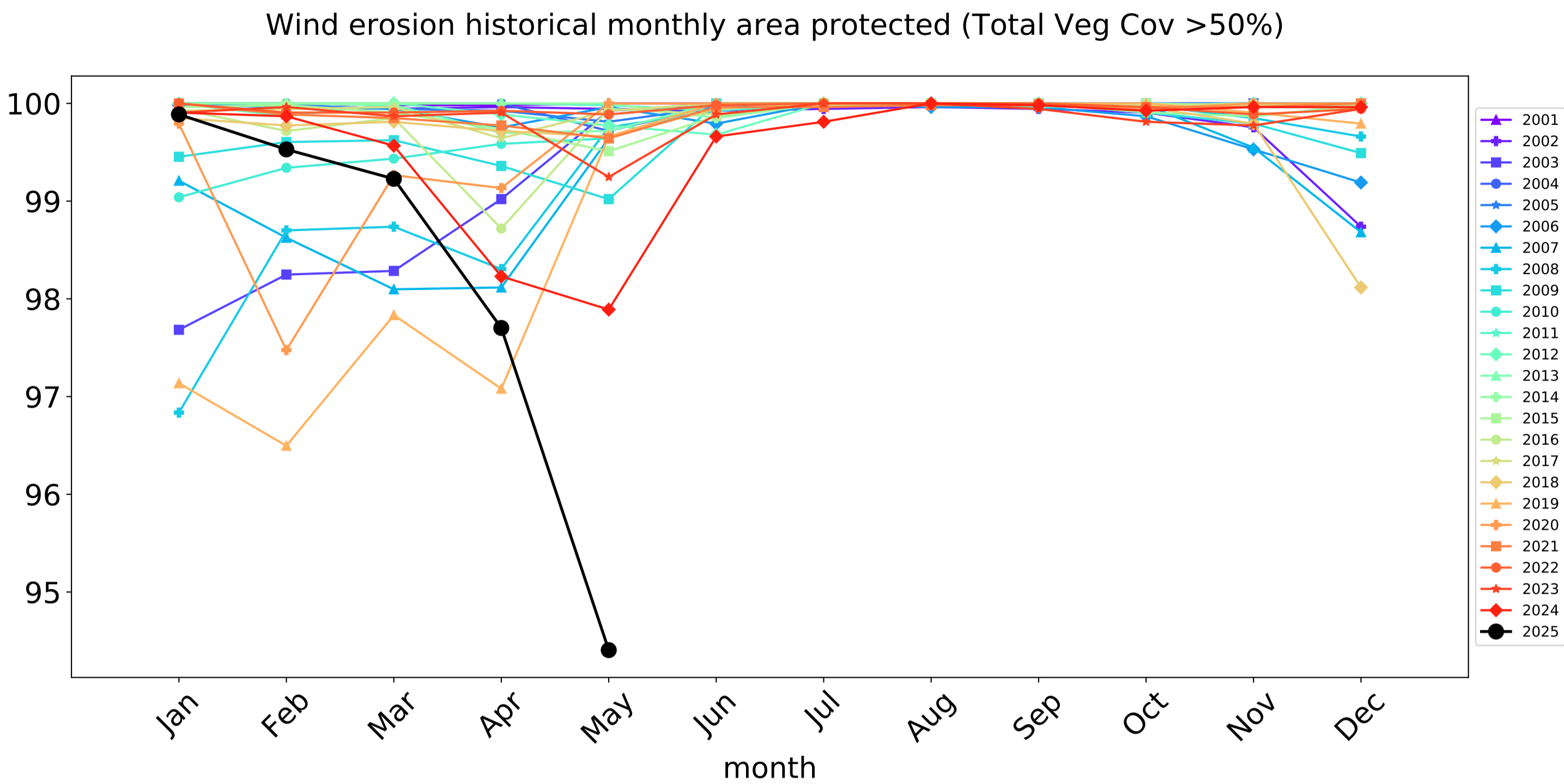
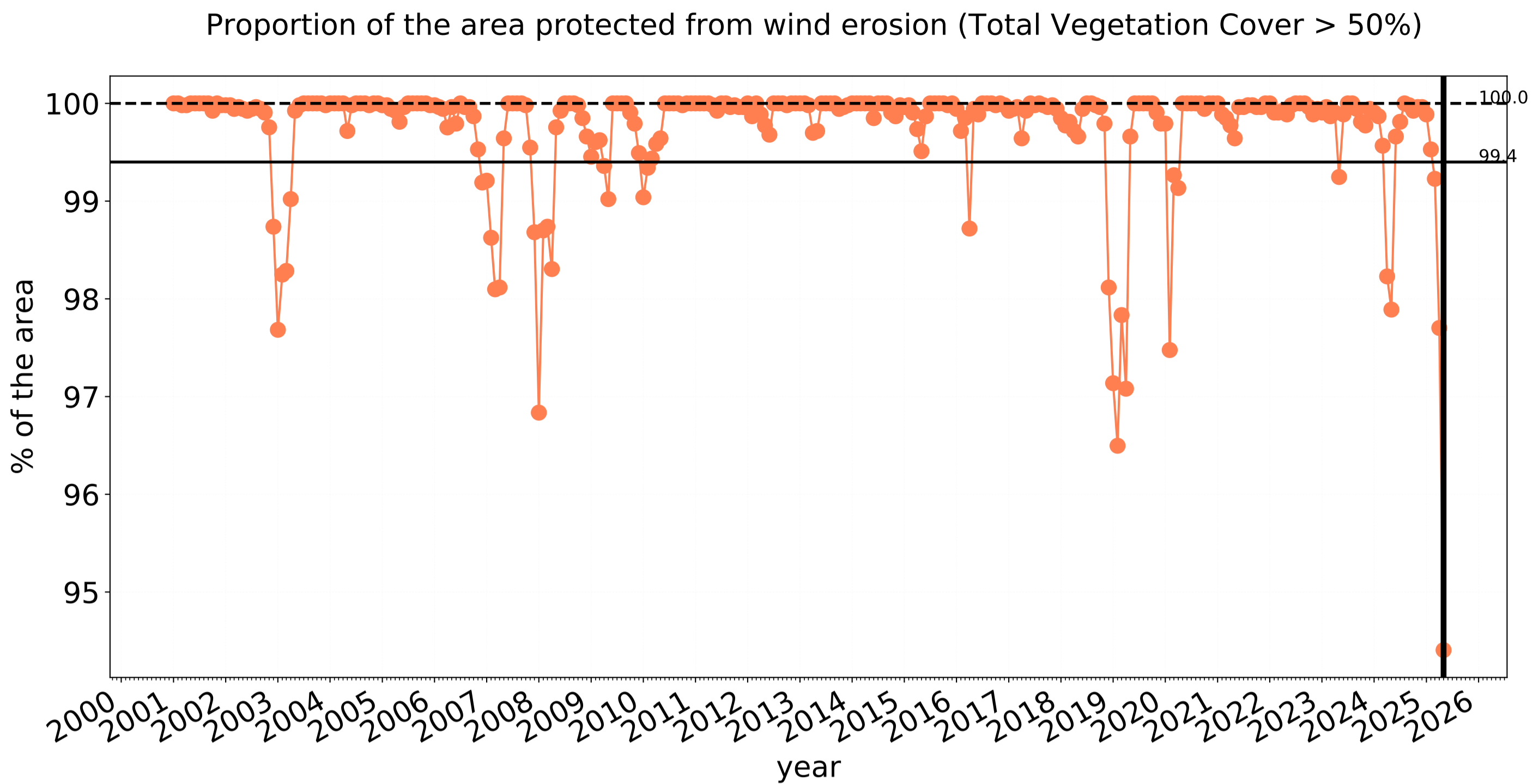
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Irrigation timeseries



Greater_Shepparton_(C) (242,050 ha and no data 96 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	242,050	99.2% 240,125	94.0% 227,525	68.9% 166,775	42.7% 103,475	14.7% 35,550	6.5% 15,800
Conservation and natural environments	11,000	100.0% 11,000	99.8% 10,975	91.6% 10,075	81.1% 8,925	59.5% 6,550	44.1% 4,850
Conservation and natural environments non forest	3,500	100.0% 3,500	99.3% 3,475	77.9% 2,725	52.9% 1,850	17.9% 625	7.1% 250
Conservation and natural environments Woodland forest	2,425	100.0% 2,425	100.0% 2,425	97.9% 2,375	90.7% 2,200	75.3% 1,825	57.7% 1,400
Conservation and natural environments Forest (non woodland)	5,075	100.0% 5,075	100.0% 5,075	98.0% 4,975	96.1% 4,875	80.8% 4,100	63.1% 3,200
Agriculture	213,500	99.1% 211,650	93.6% 199,750	67.5% 144,125	40.8% 87,200	12.3% 26,325	4.6% 9,900
Grazing	53,450	99.4% 53,150	94.5% 50,525	71.7% 38,350	45.9% 24,550	15.9% 8,500	6.5% 3,450
Grazing non forest	51,650	99.4% 51,350	94.3% 48,725	70.8% 36,575	44.2% 22,825	14.3% 7,400	5.9% 3,025
Cropping	26,650	97.9% 26,100	87.2% 23,250	43.2% 11,500	17.1% 4,550	5.5% 1,475	2.5% 675
Irrigation	132,725	99.2% 131,725	94.4% 125,300	70.6% 93,650	43.4% 57,550	12.0% 15,975	4.2% 5,600

