

Total vegetation cover soil protection

Region:LGA Indigo_(S) VIC

Date: May 2026

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

Land use forest cover:

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

Total vegetation Cover:

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

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

Erosion protection: Wind erosion 50% total vegetation cover

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

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

Comparison with previous years:

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

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

Time series monthly from January 2001 to current:

Erosion protection

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

Rainfall

- Millimetres rainfall each month (black line).

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

Water erosion protection for higher rainfall and steeper slopes:

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

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

Acknowledgment of data:

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



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Ecosystem Research Infrastructure

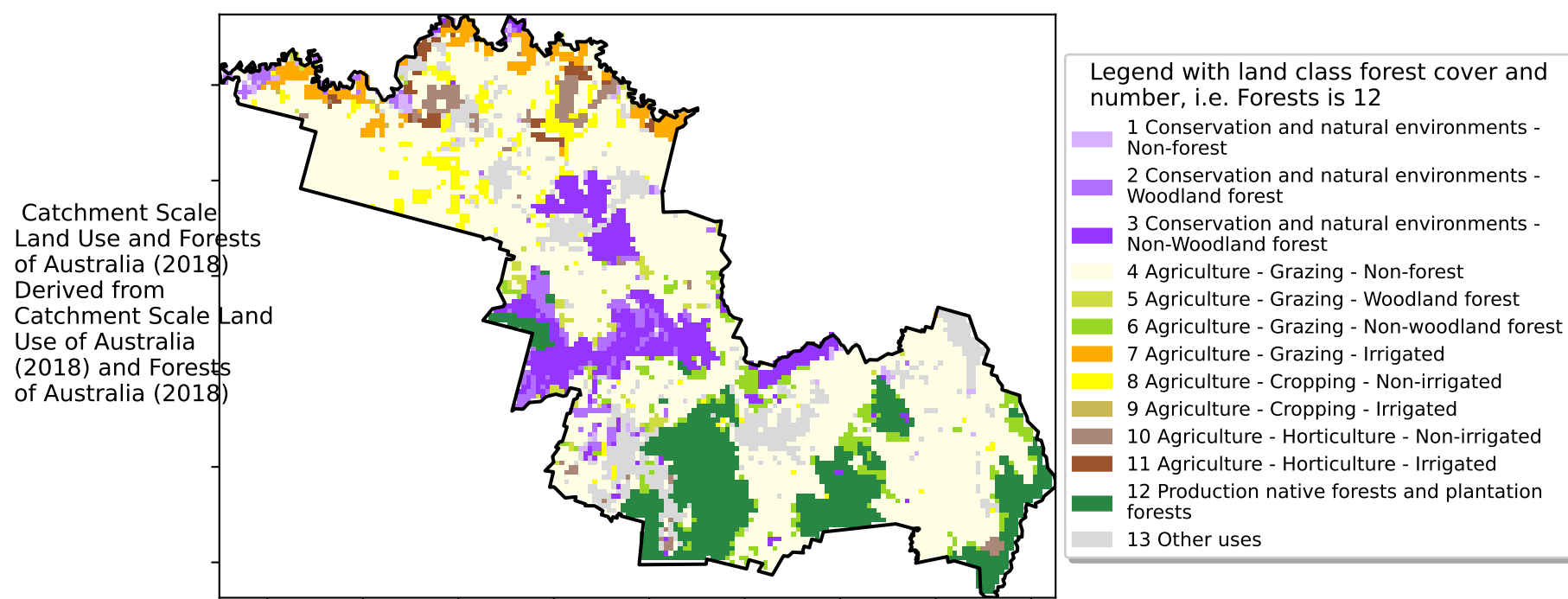


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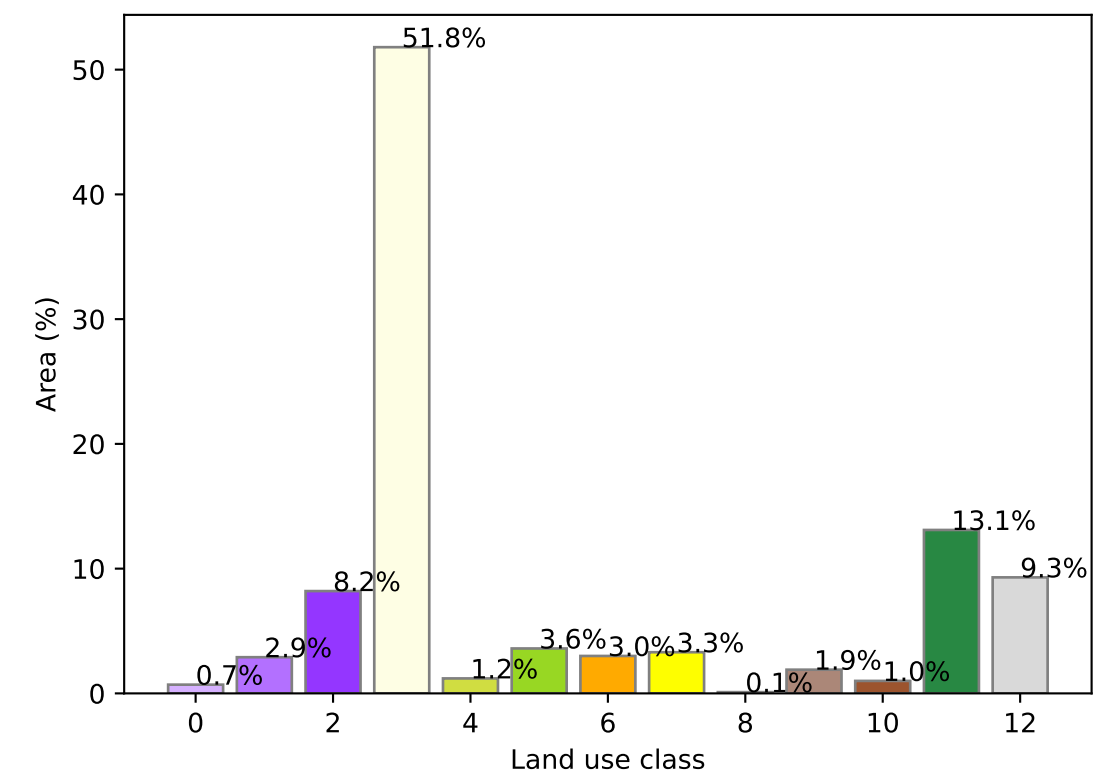


Vegetation Cover May 2026

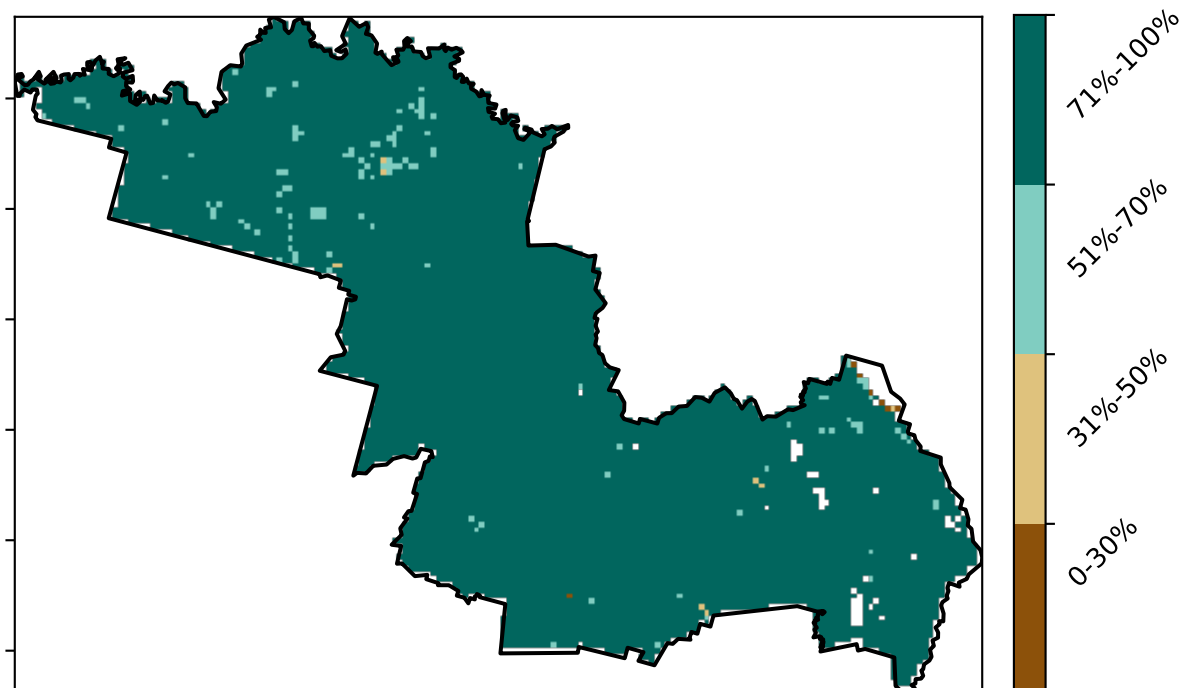
Land use and forest cover



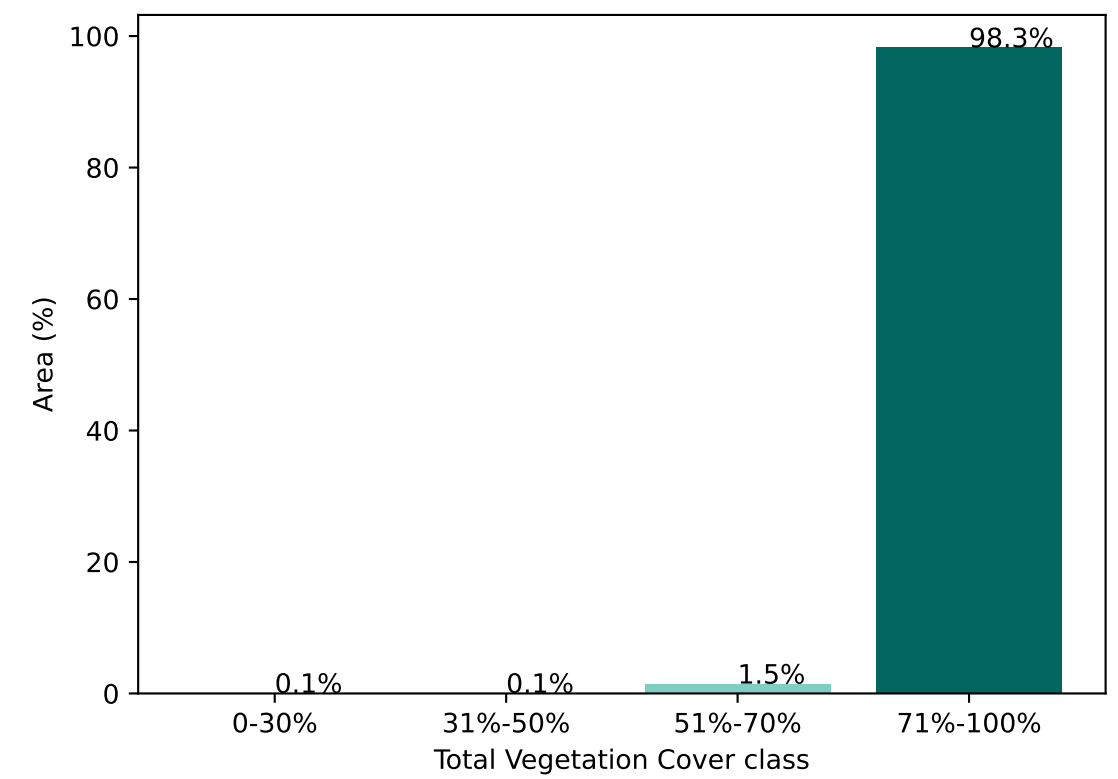
Proportion of each land class in area



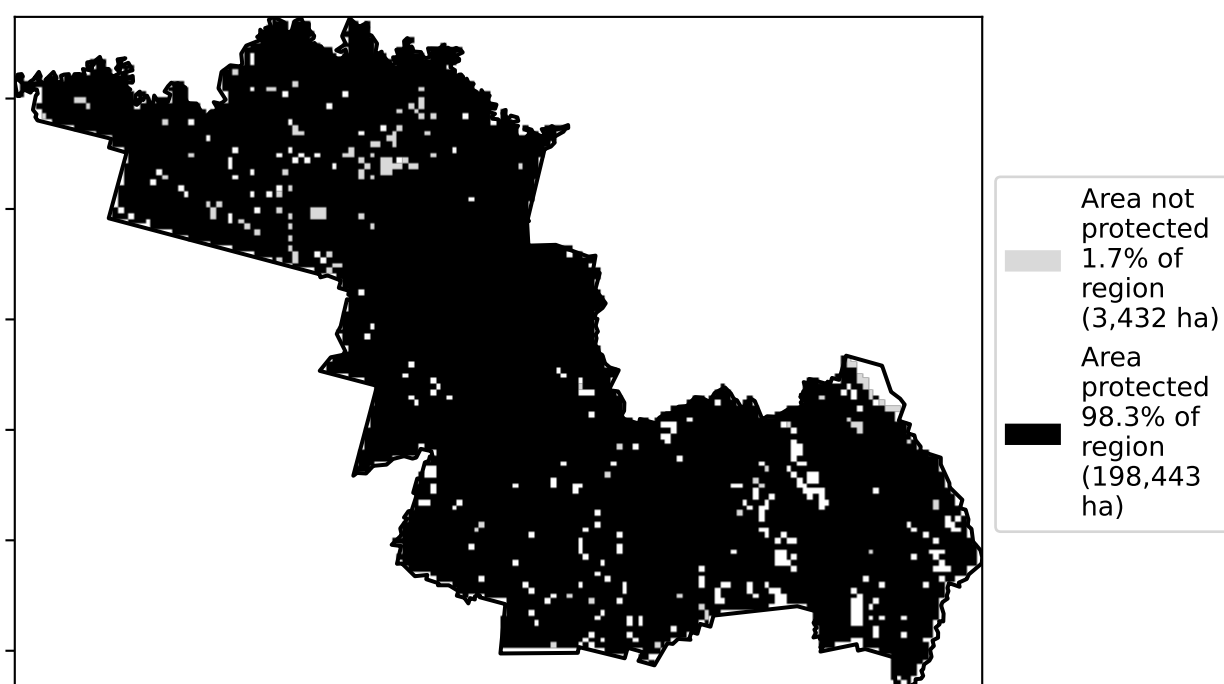
Total Vegetation Cover [%]



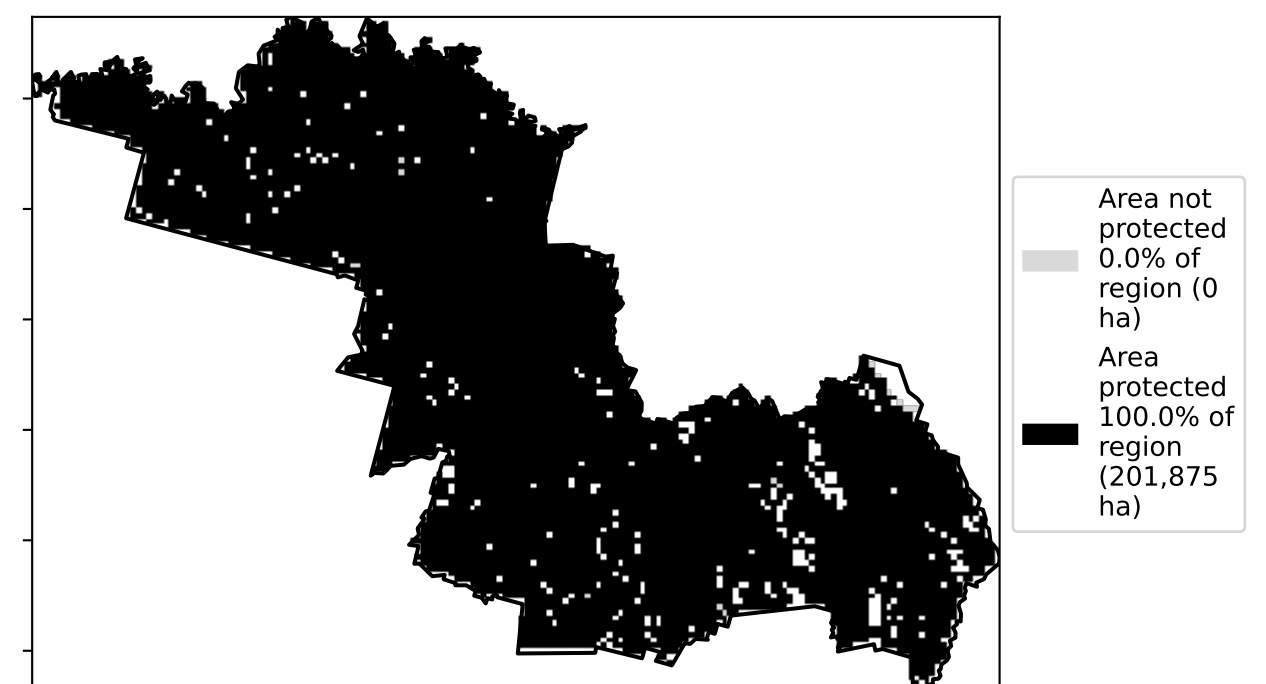
Proportion of vegetation cover class in area



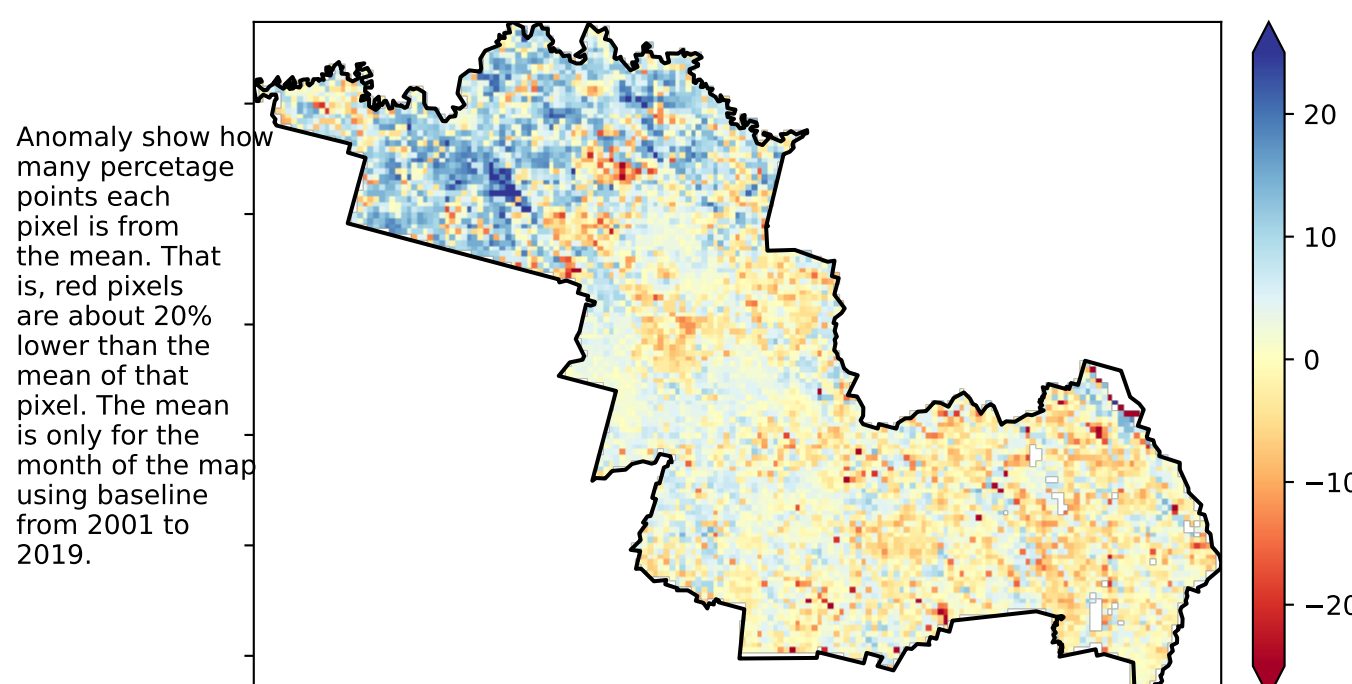
% Area protected from water erosion (>70%)



% Area protected from wind erosion (>50%)

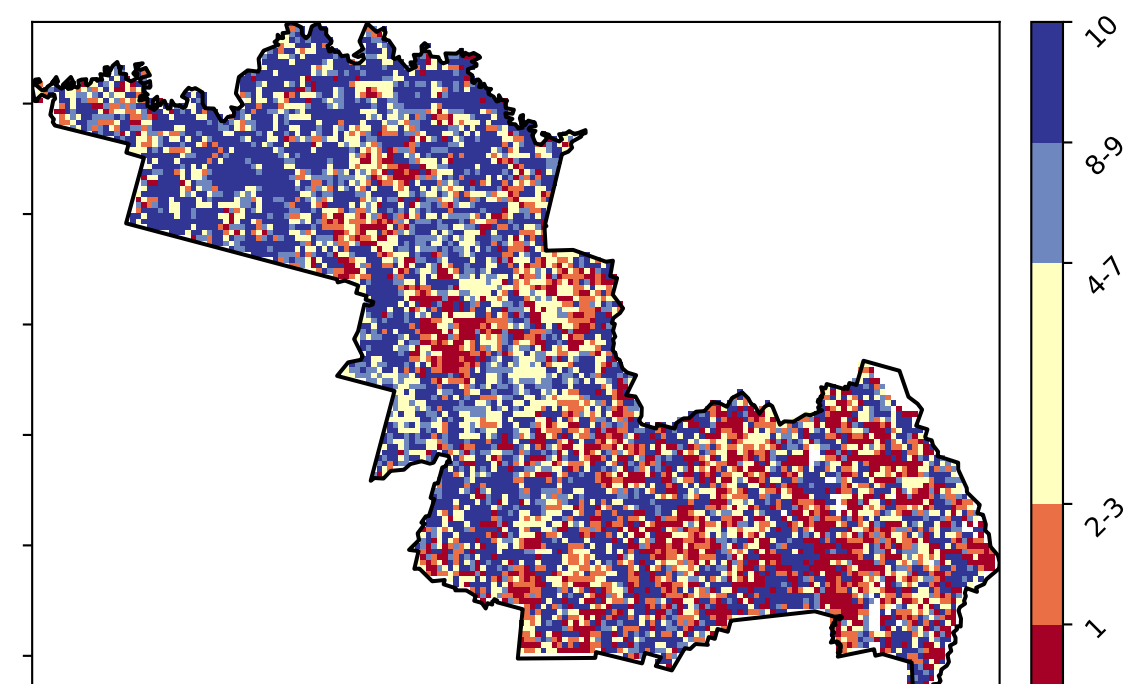


Total Vegetation Cover Anomaly [%]



Total Vegetation Cover Decile [%]

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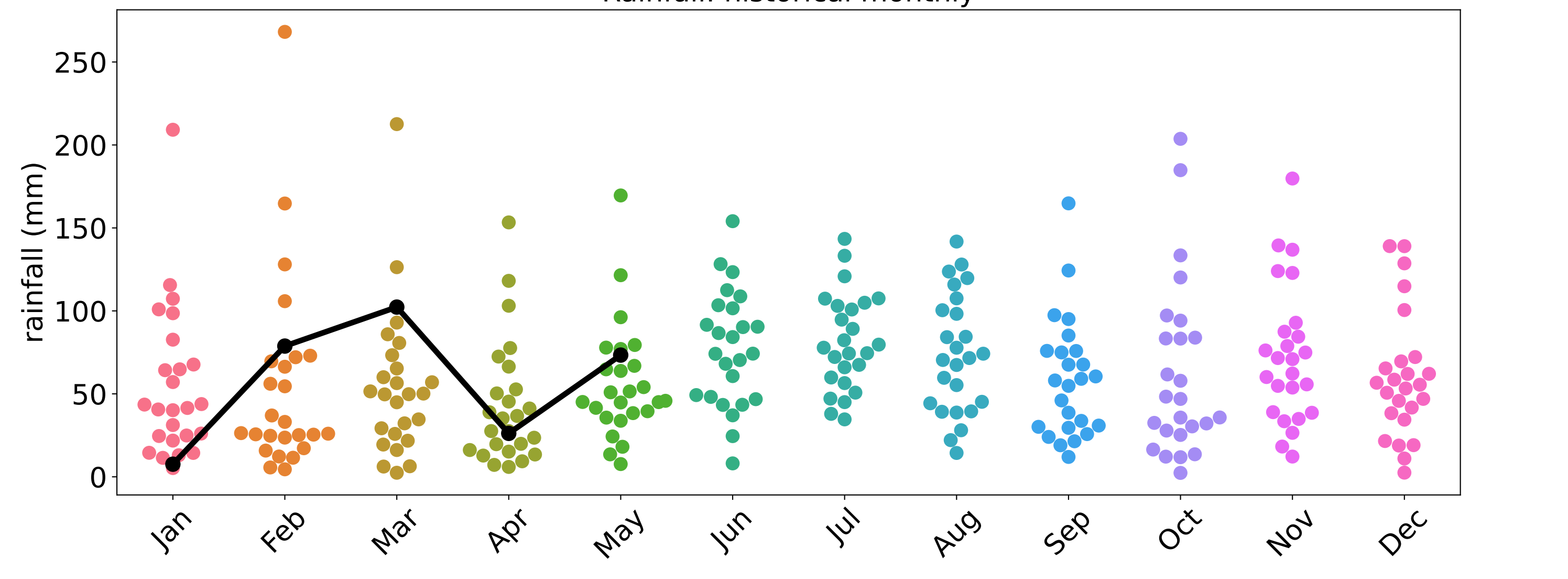
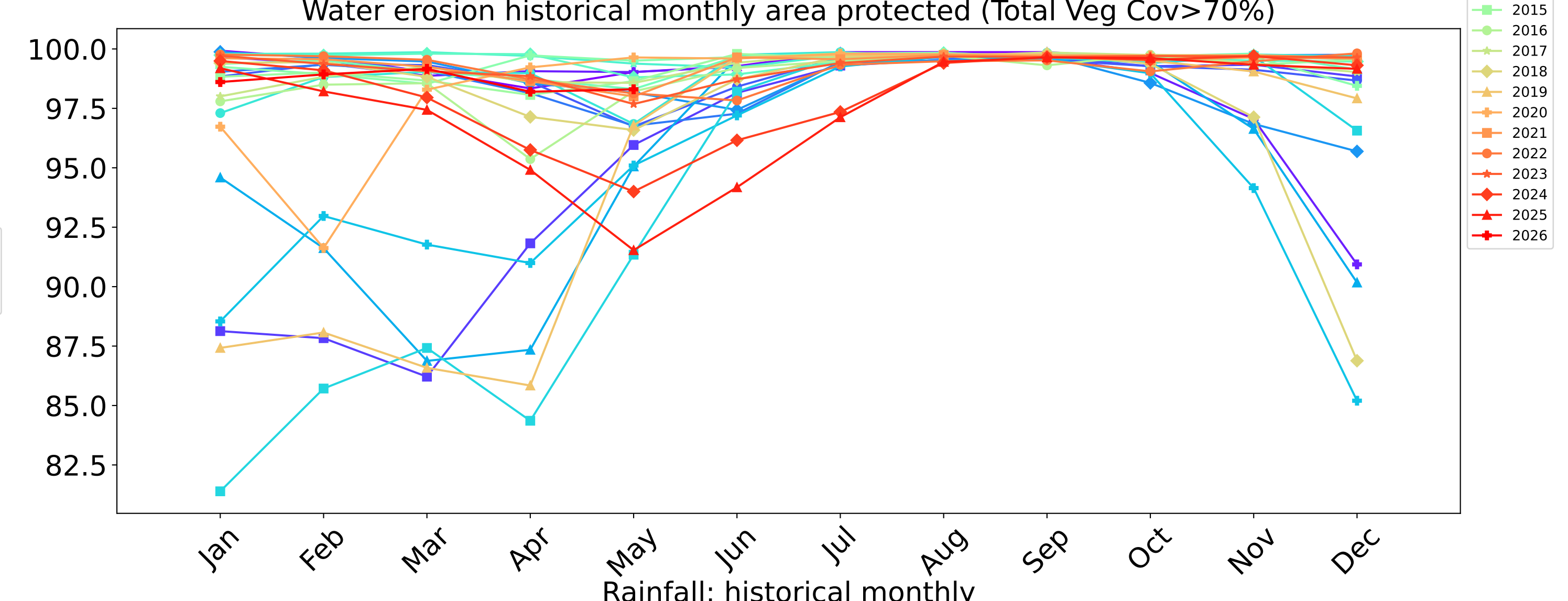
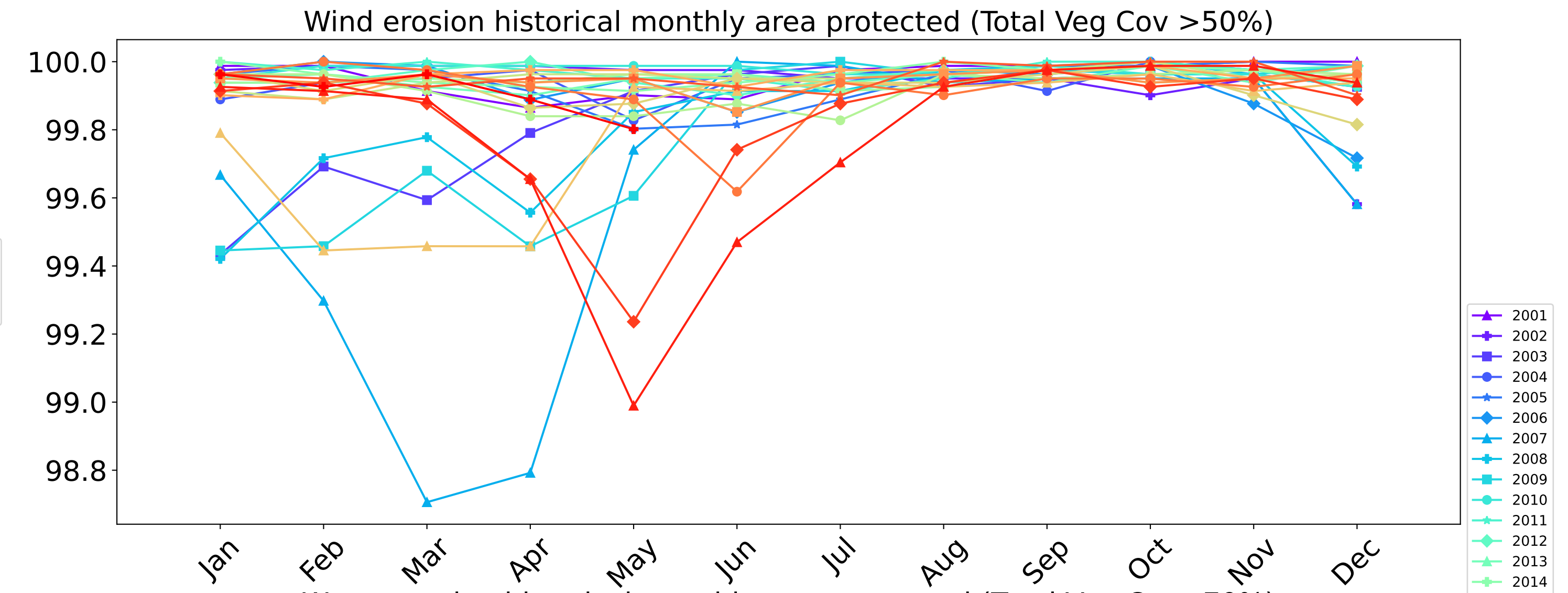
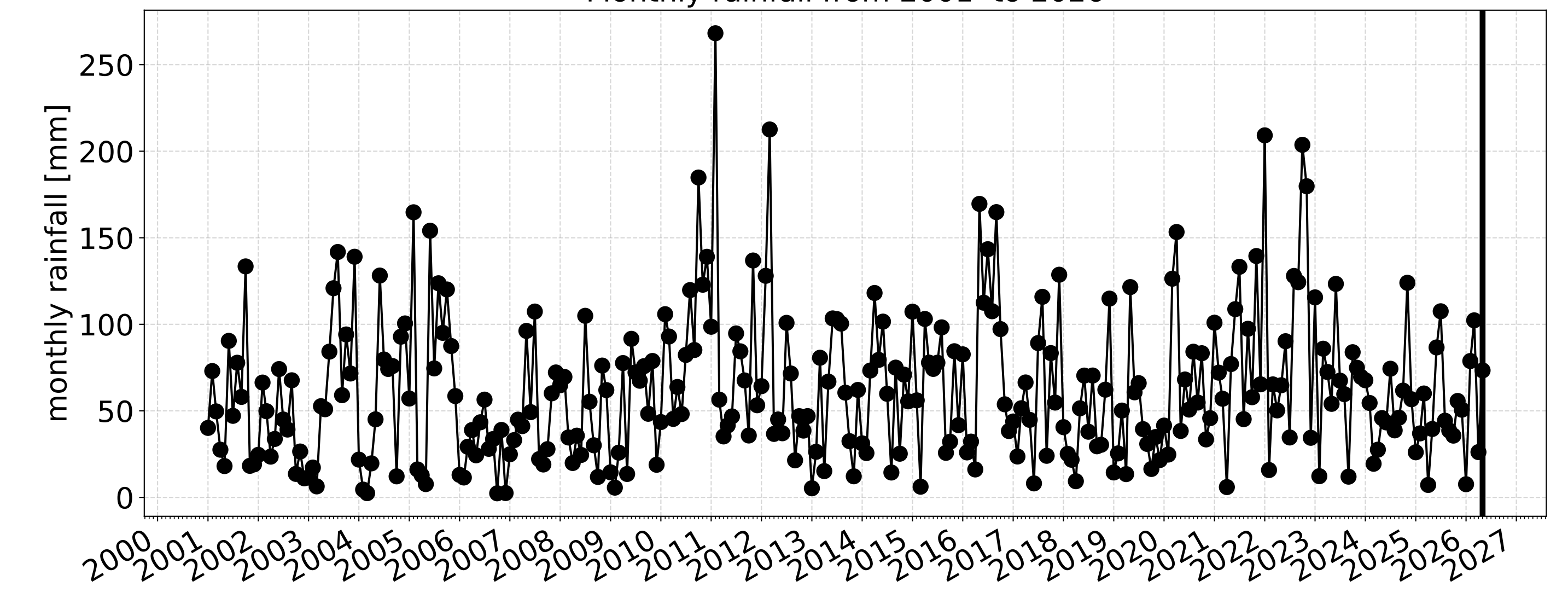
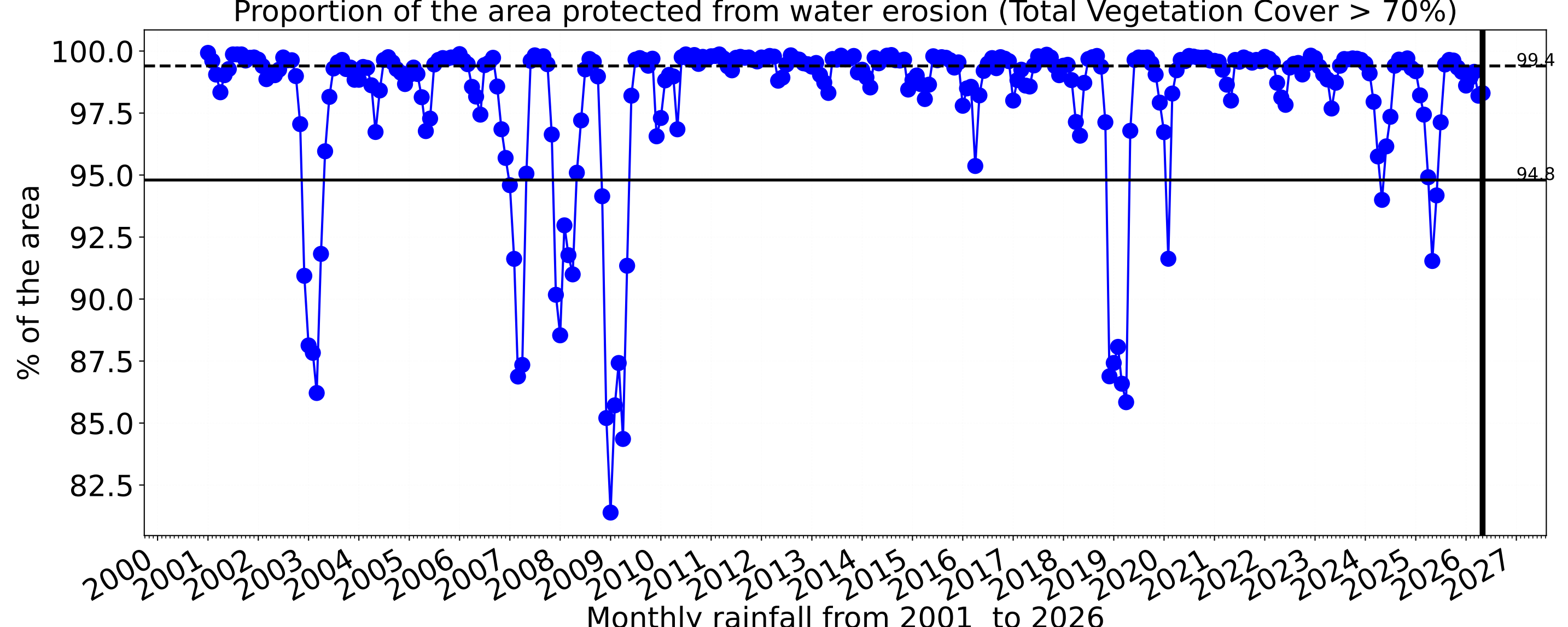
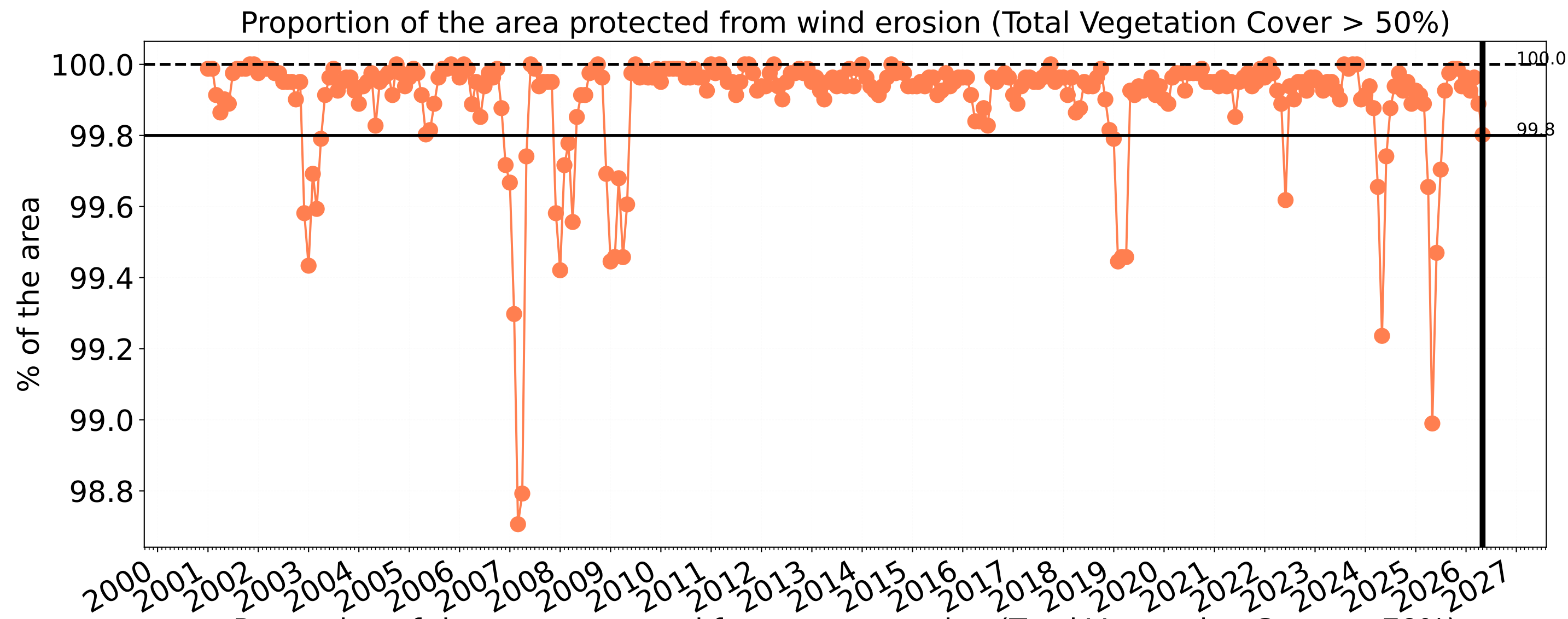
Ecosystem Research Infrastructure

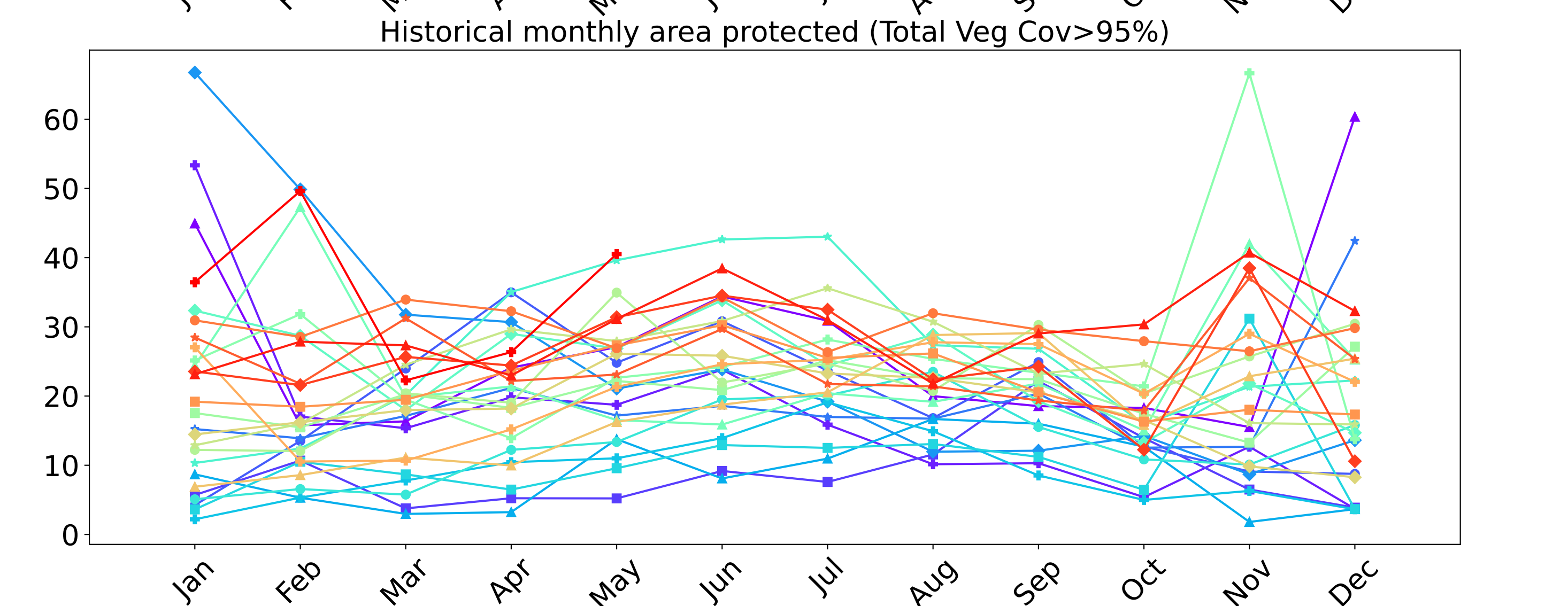
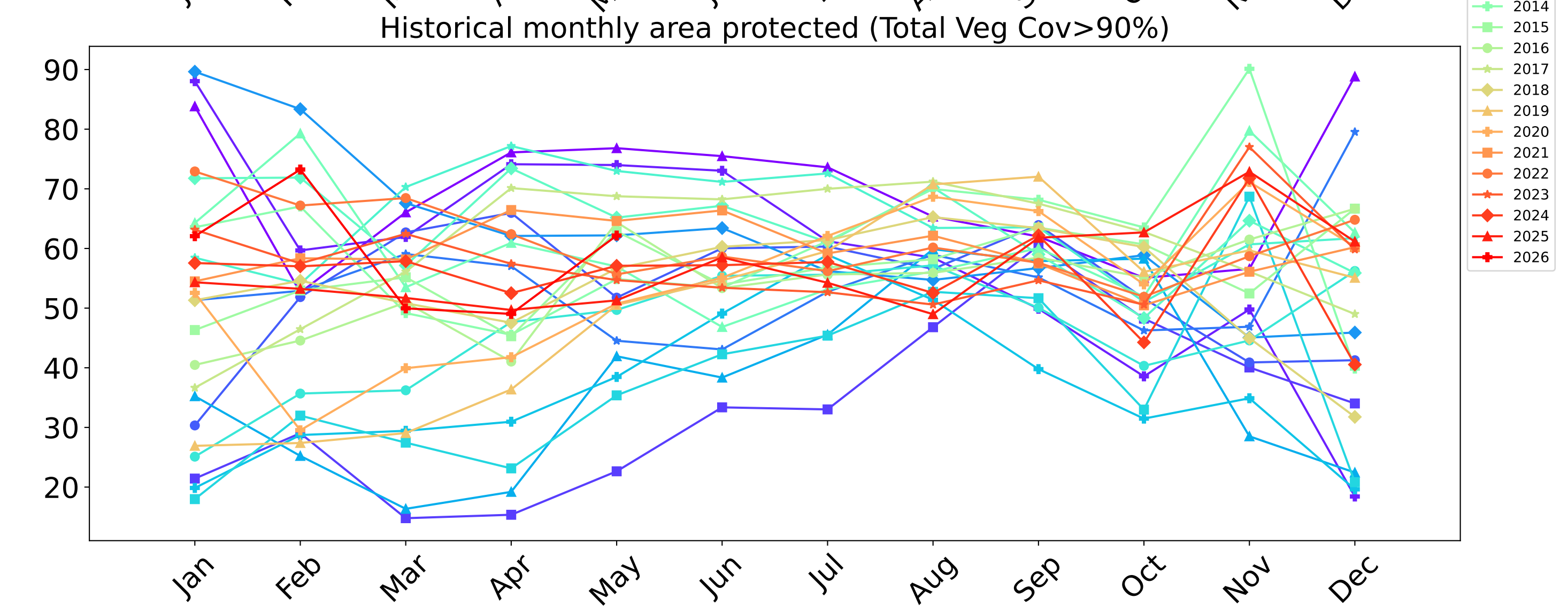
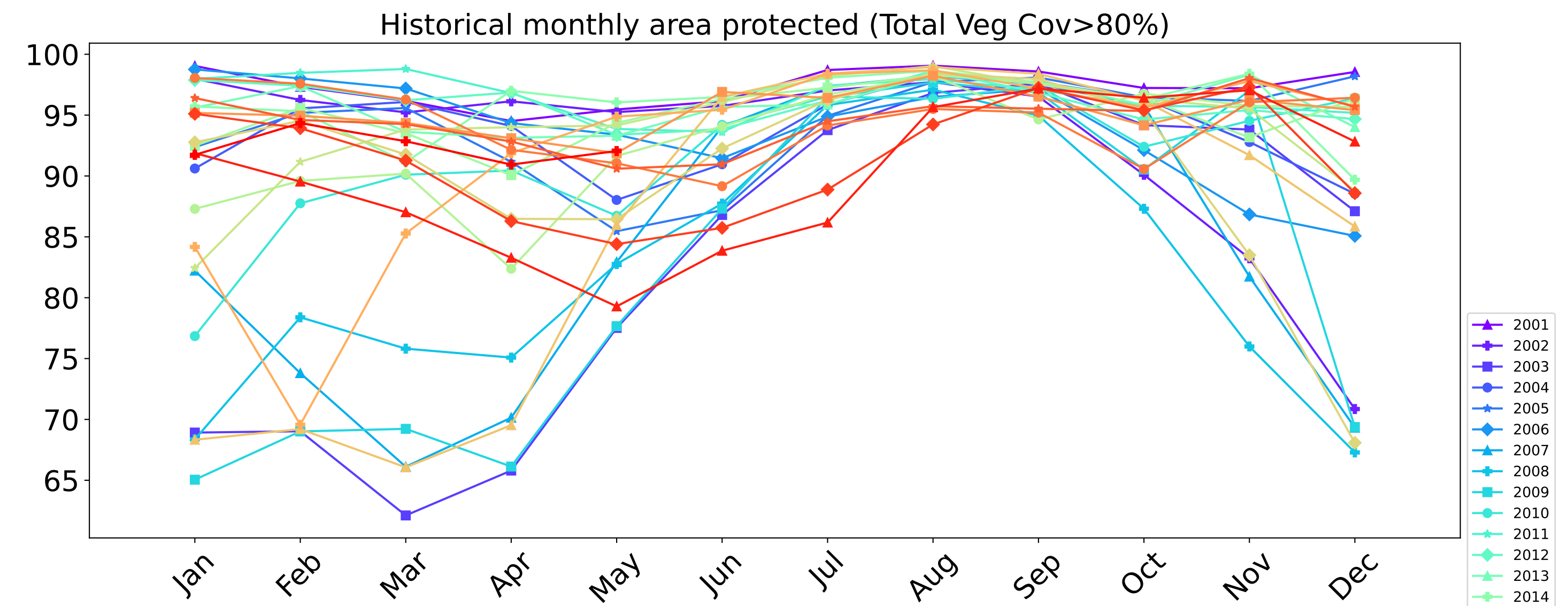
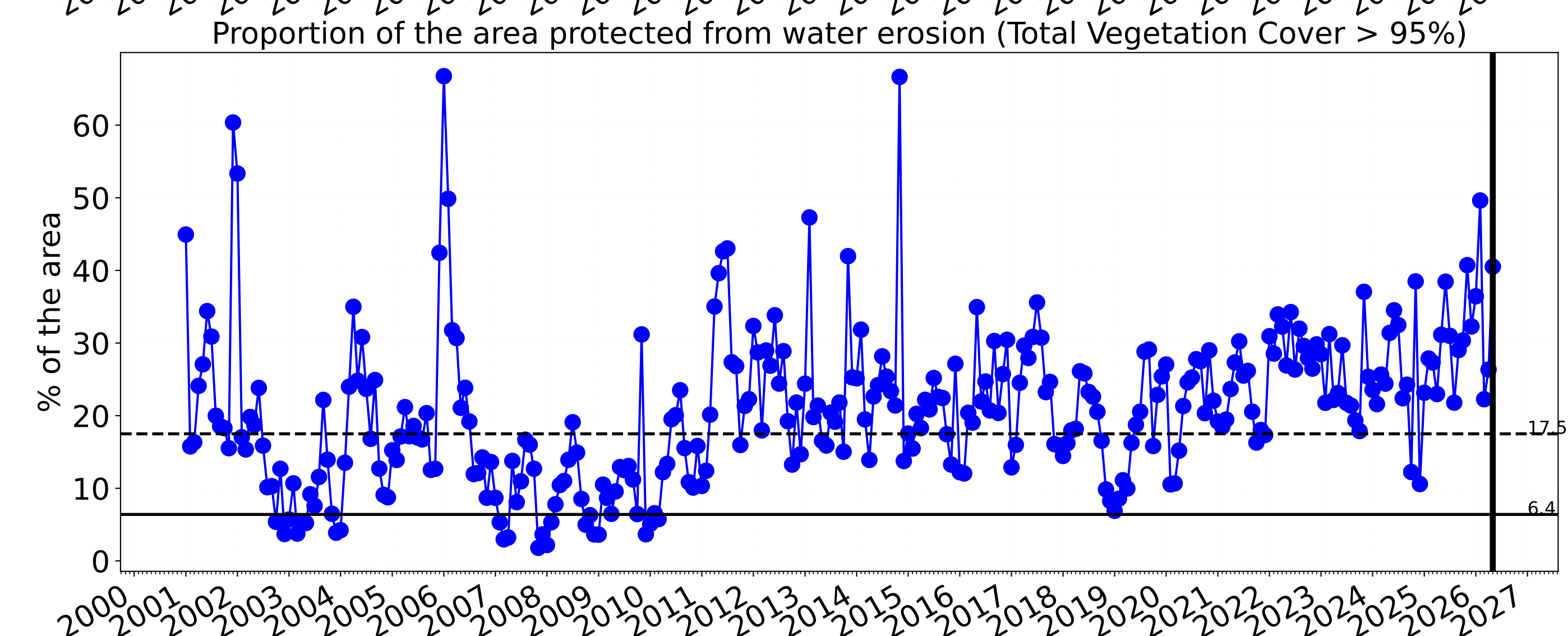
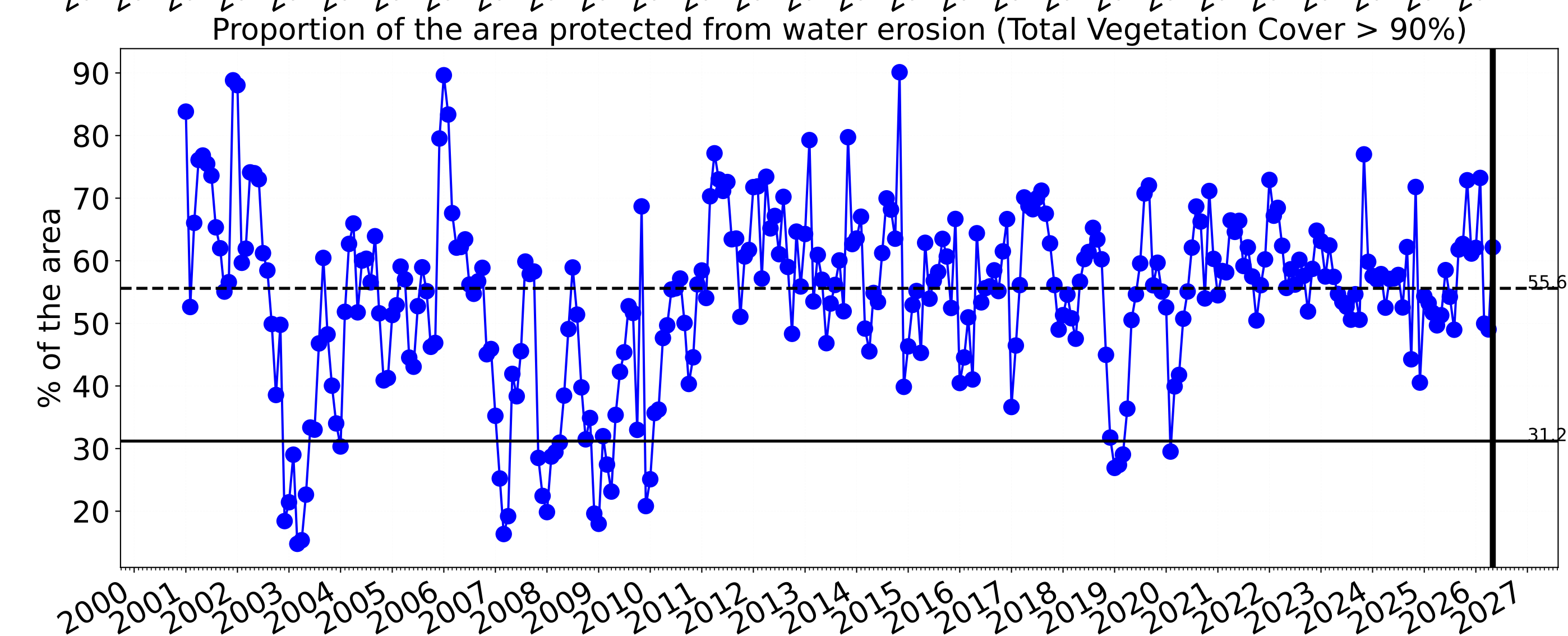
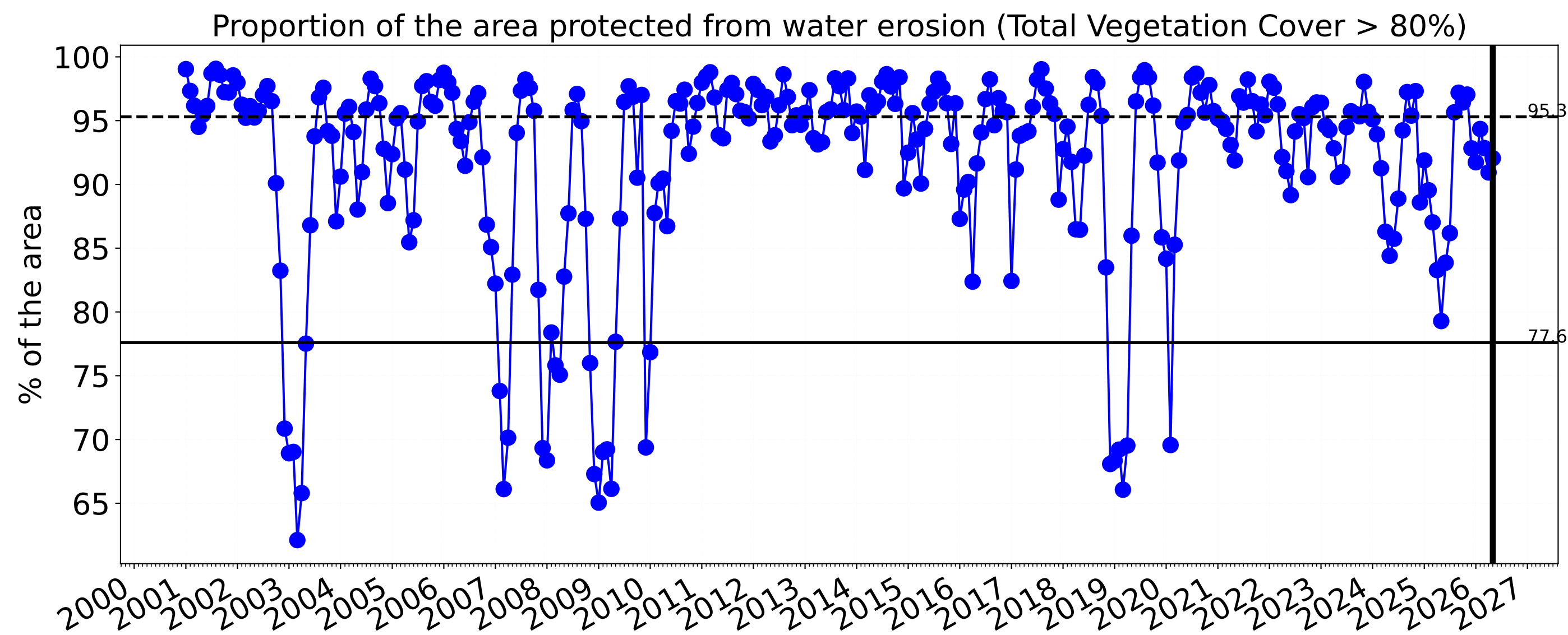


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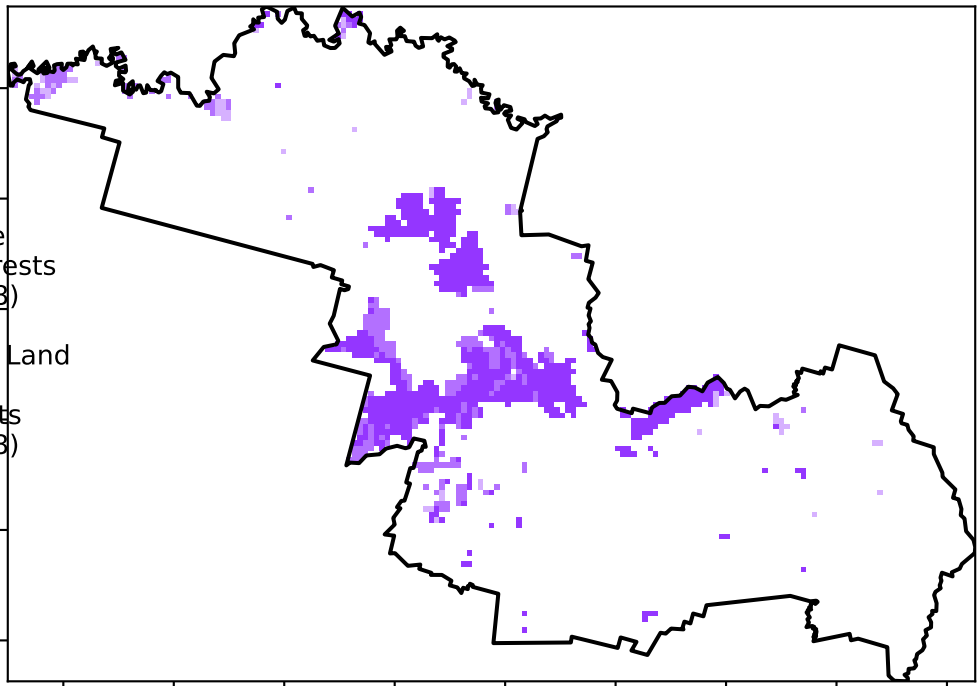




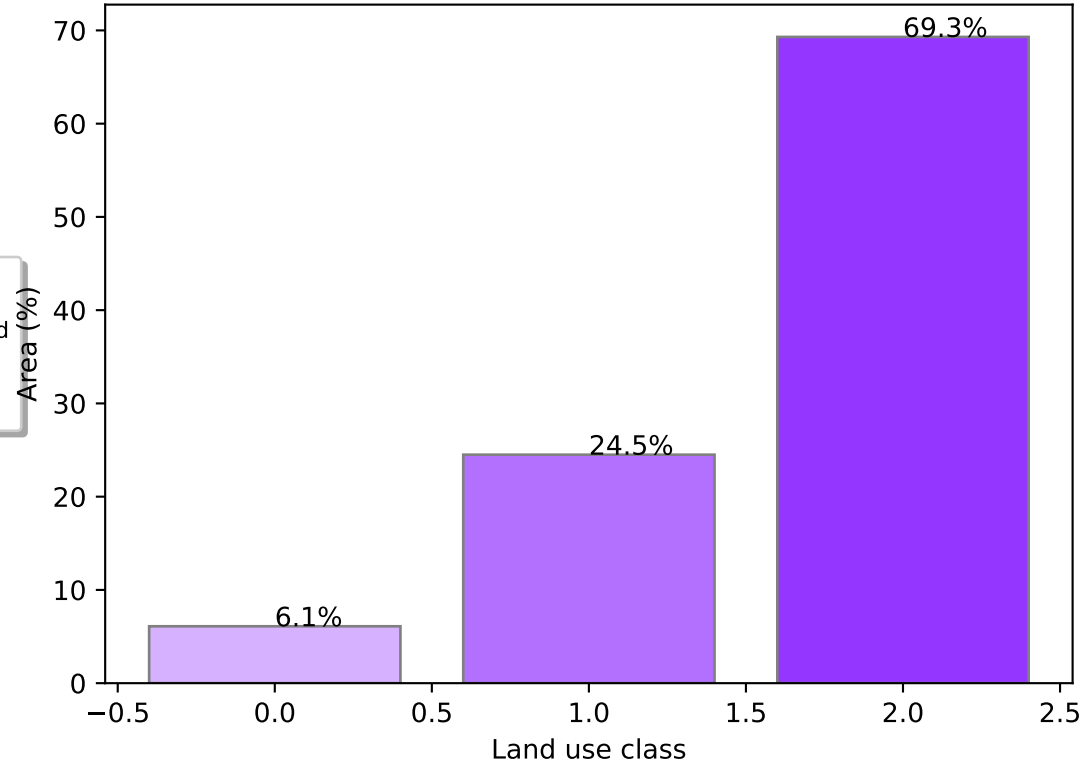
Conservation and natural environments

Land use and forest cover

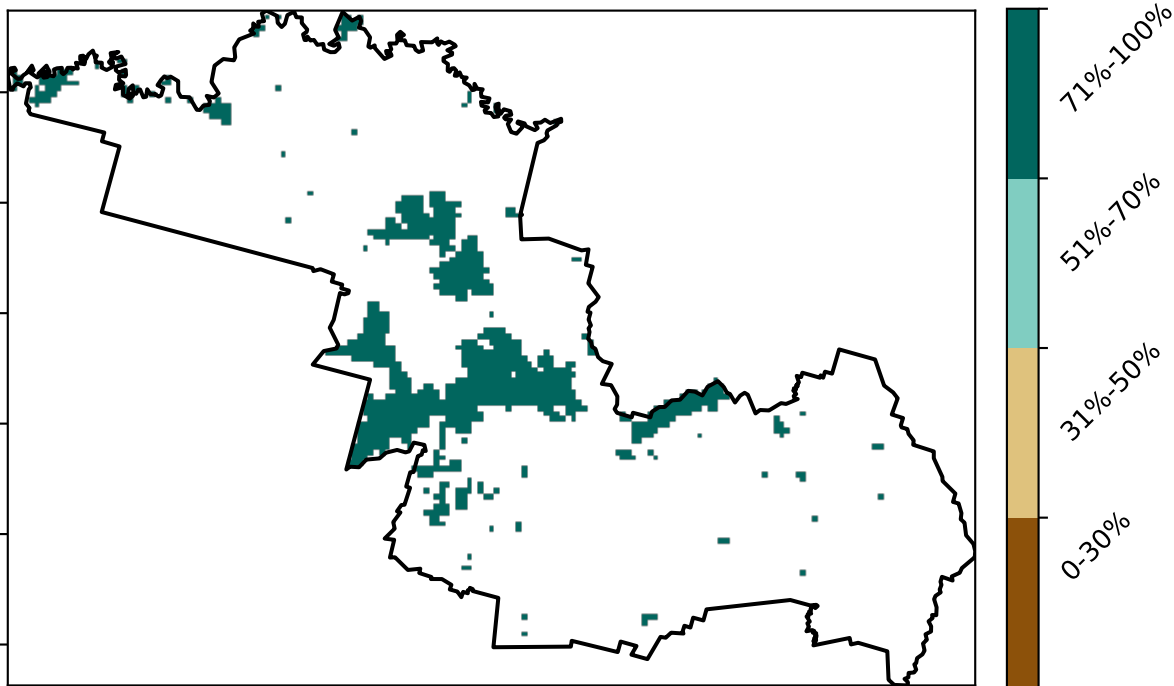
Catchment Scale
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Derived from
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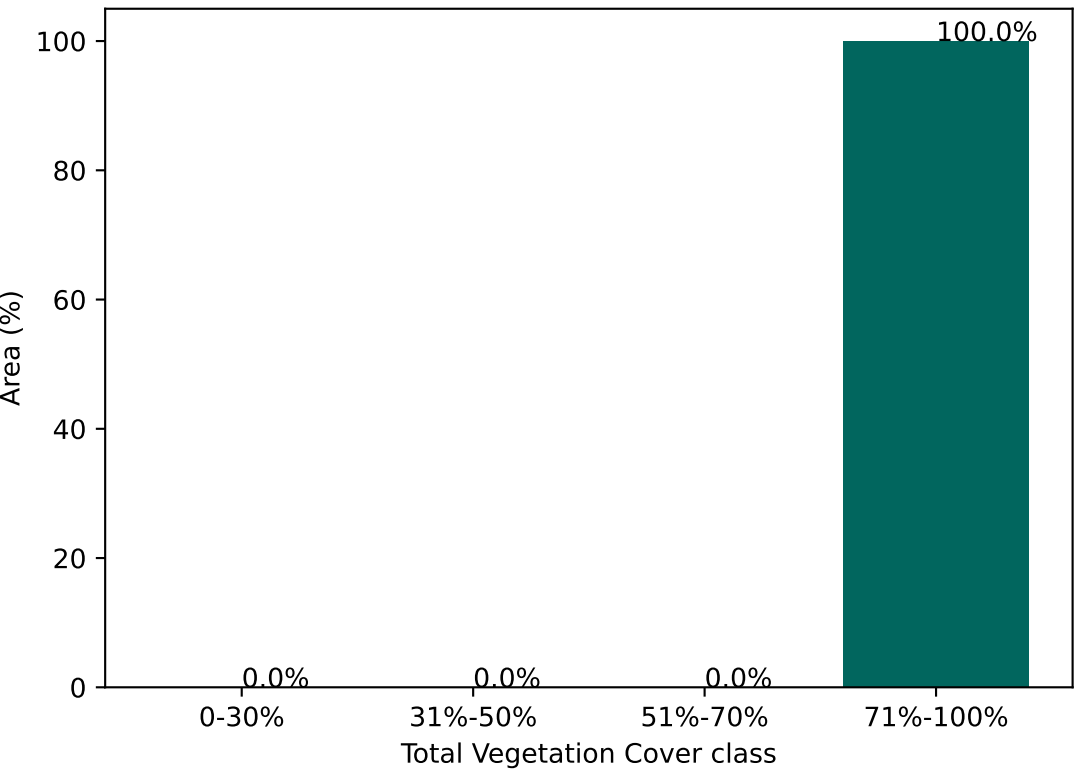
Proportion of each land class in area



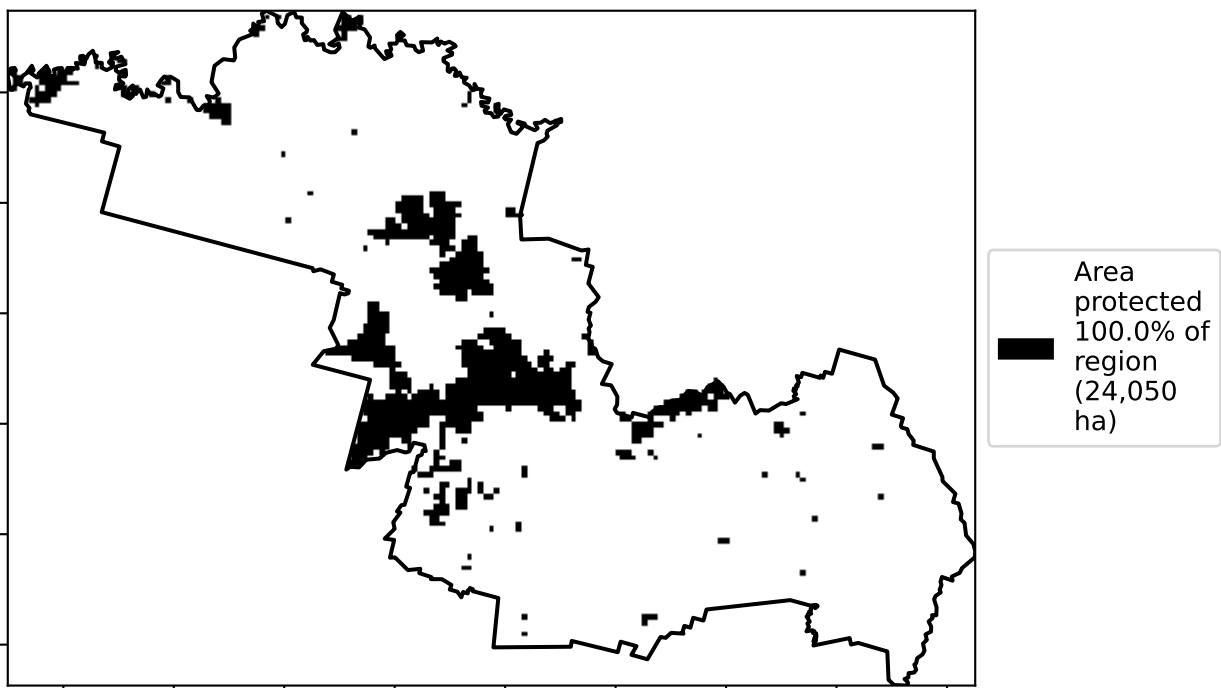
Total Vegetation Cover [%]



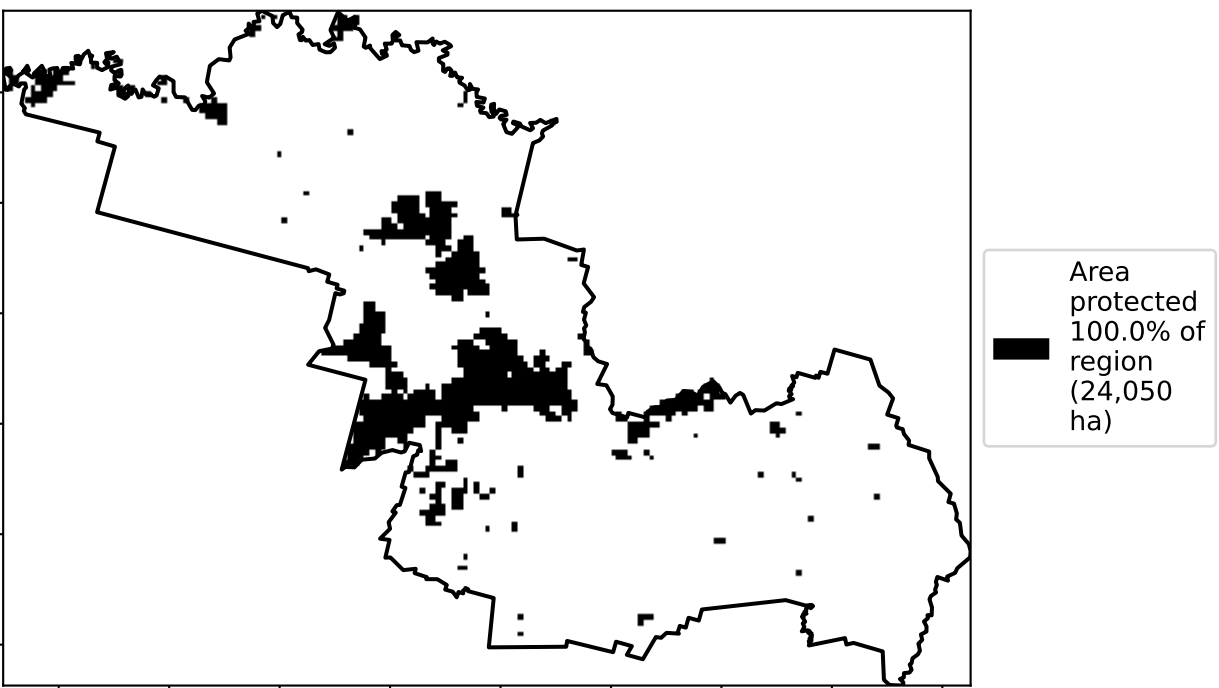
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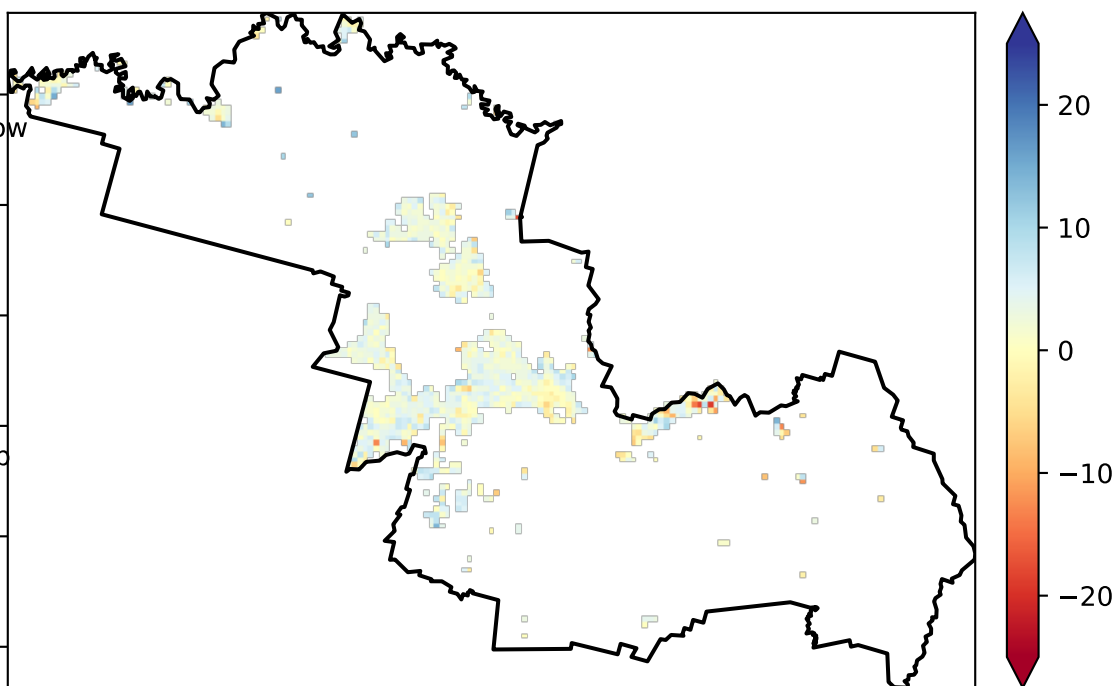


% Area protected from wind erosion (>50%)



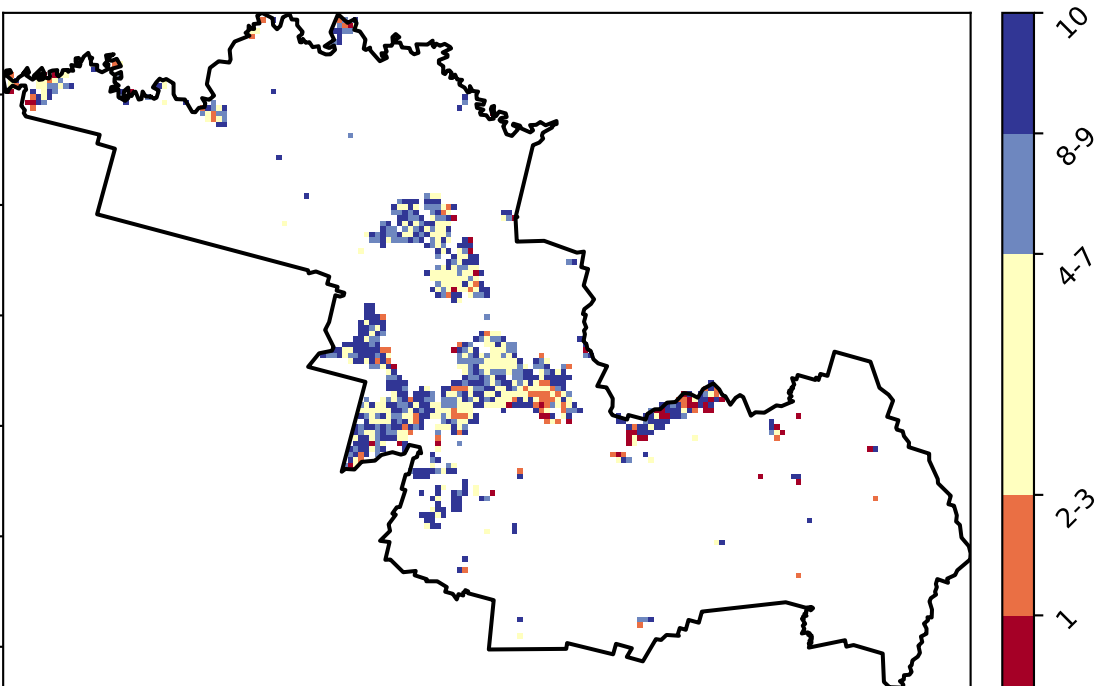
Total Vegetation Cover Anomaly [%]

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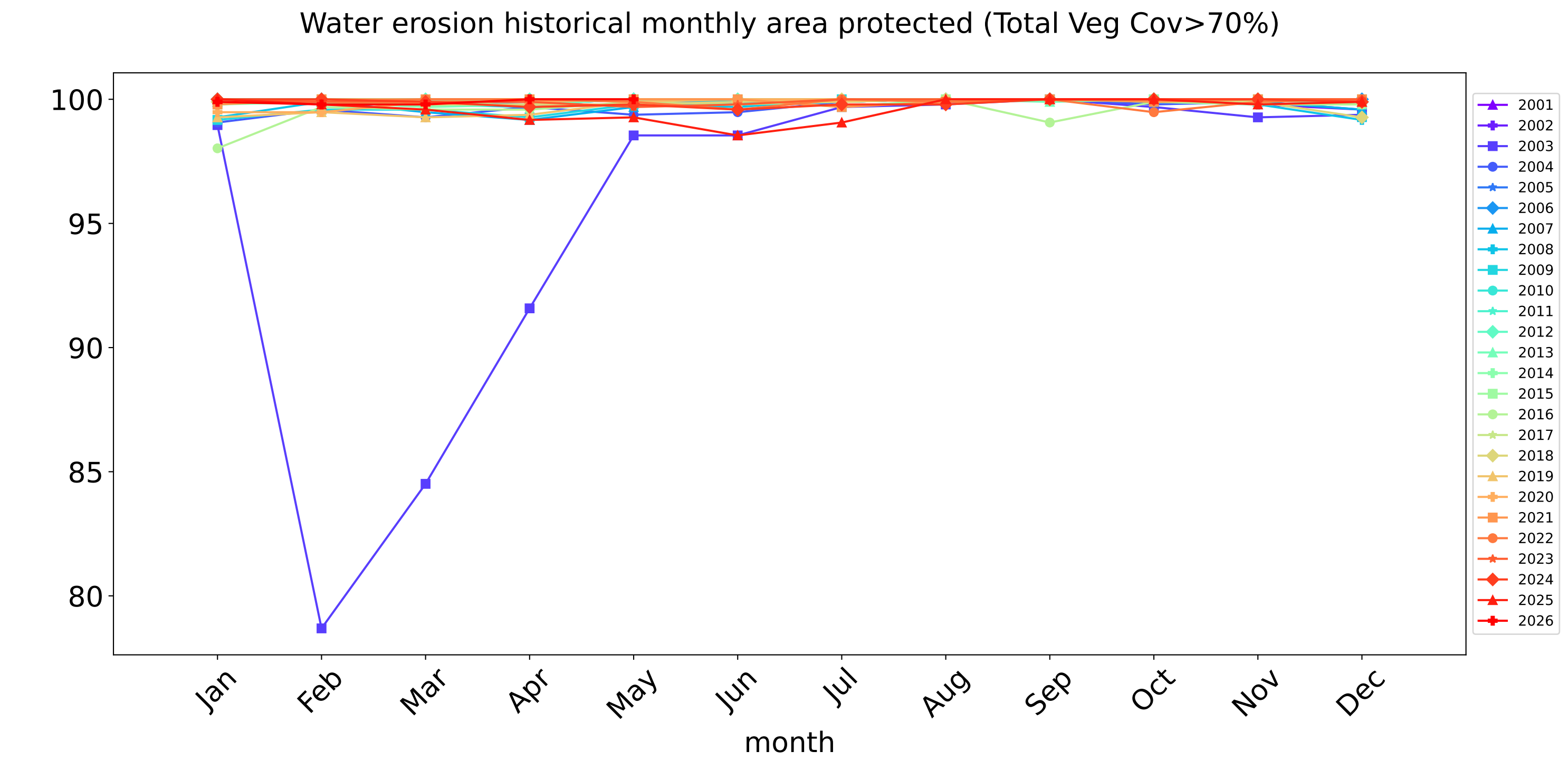
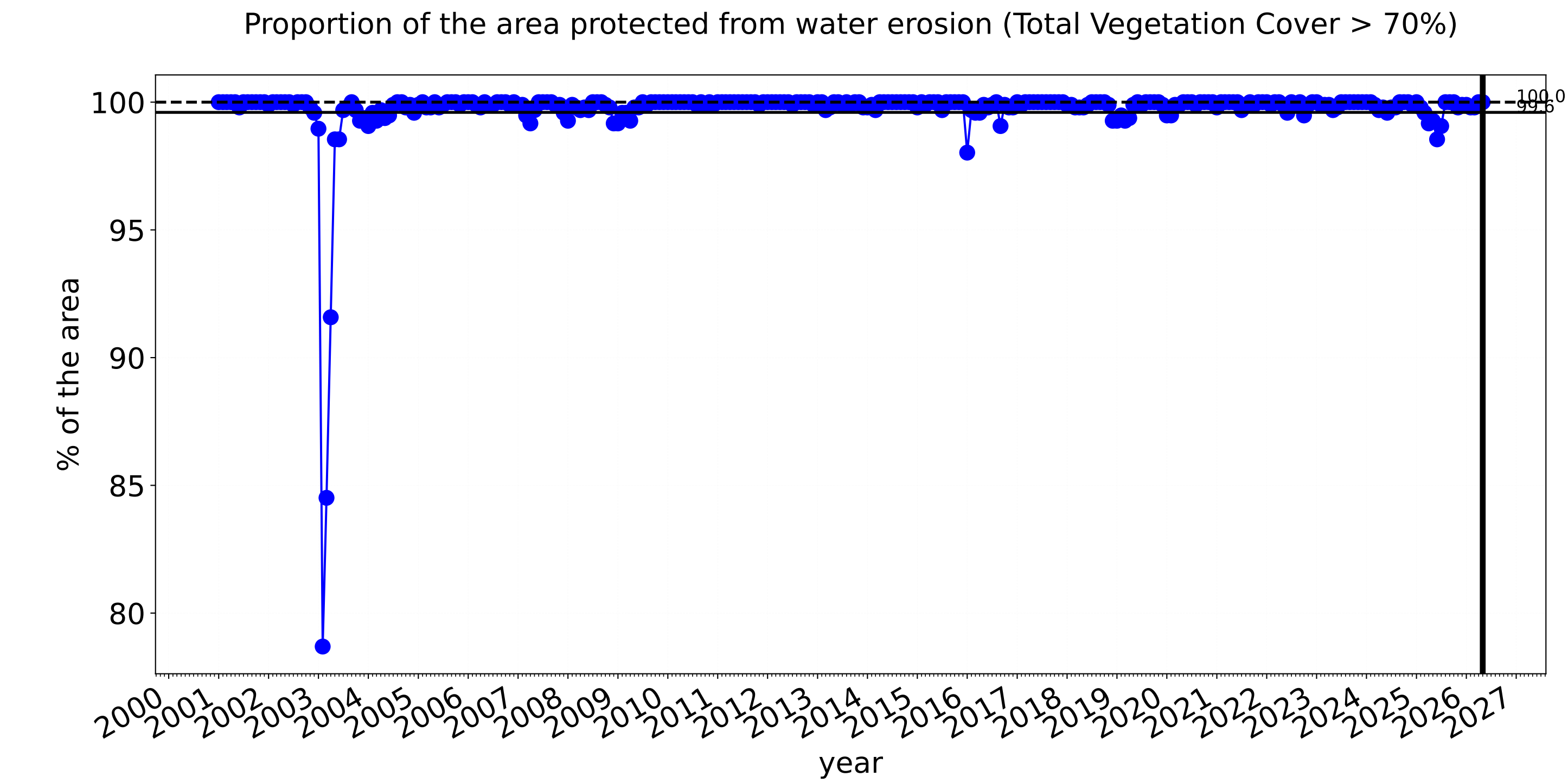
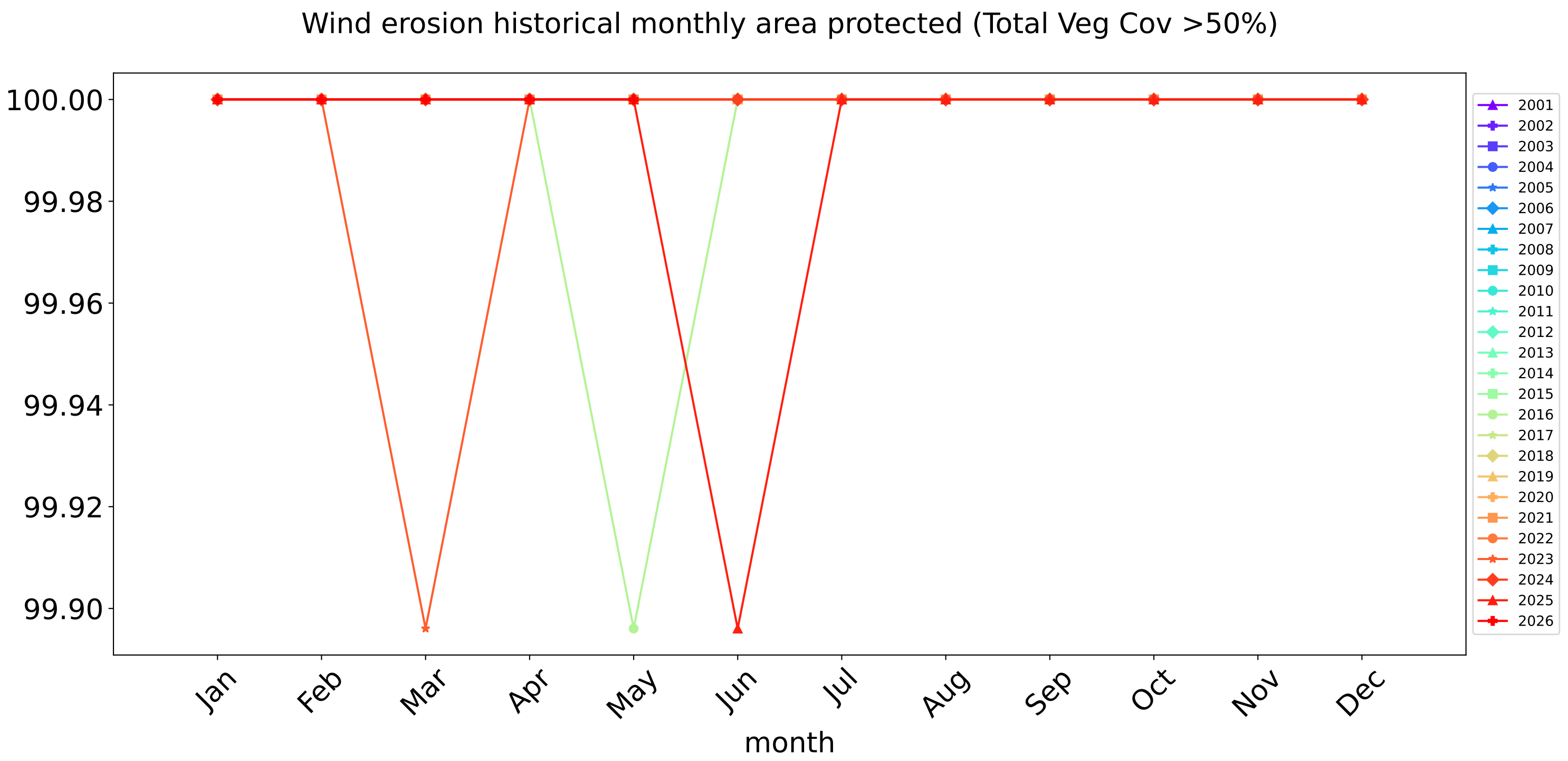
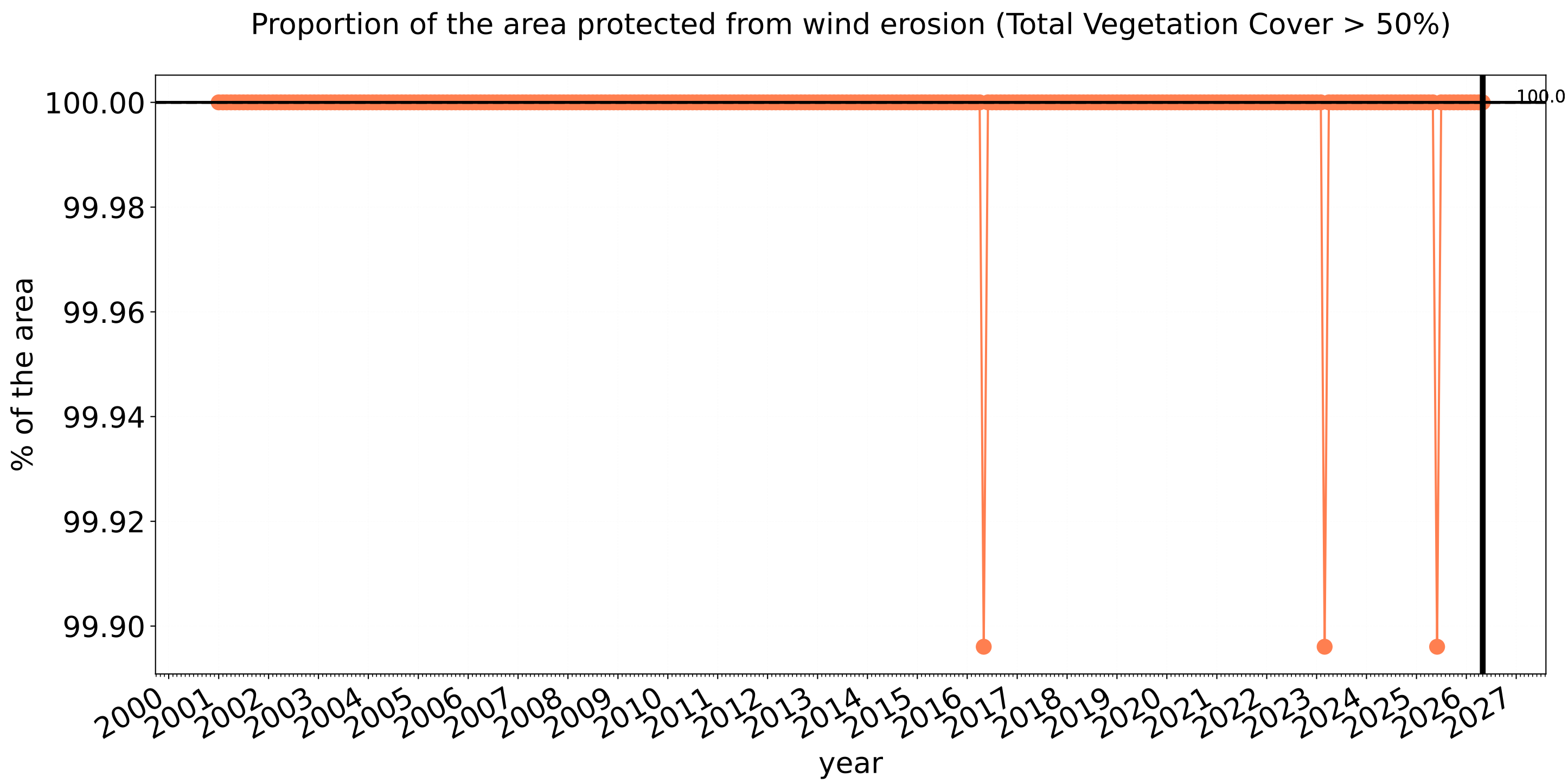


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Total Vegetation Cover Decile [%]



Conservation and natural environments timeseries

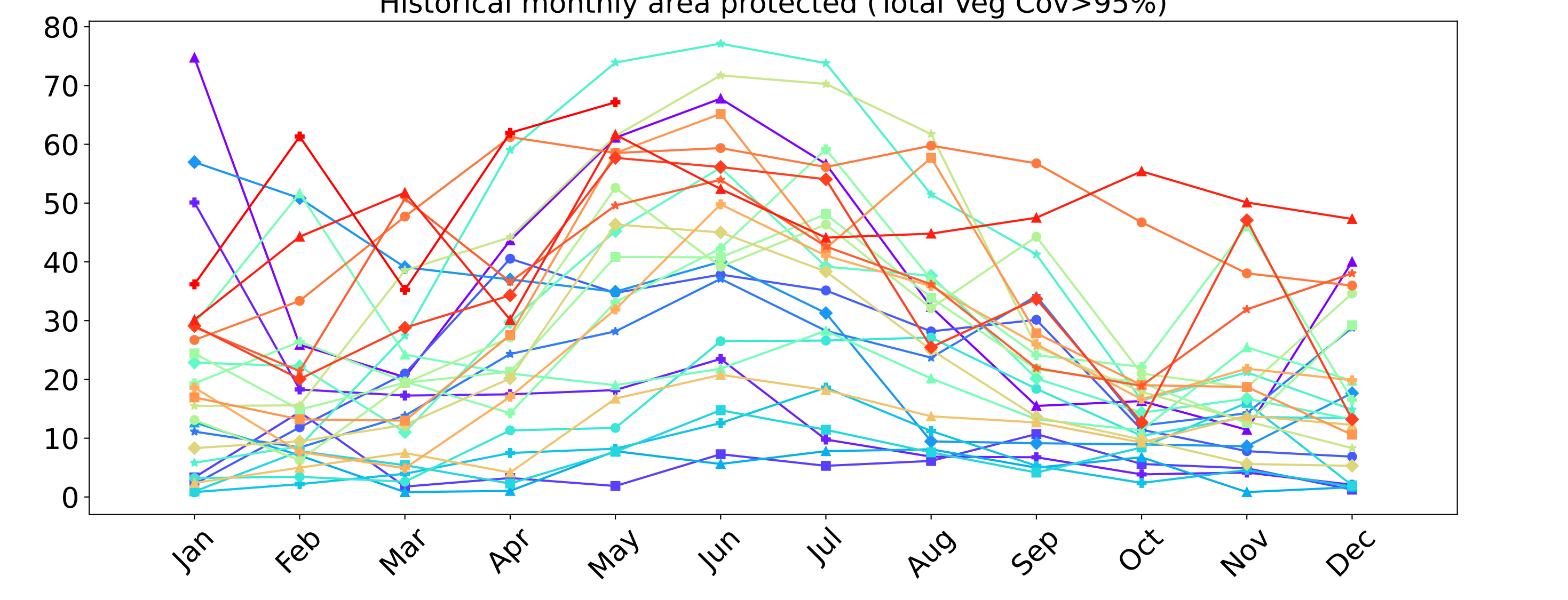
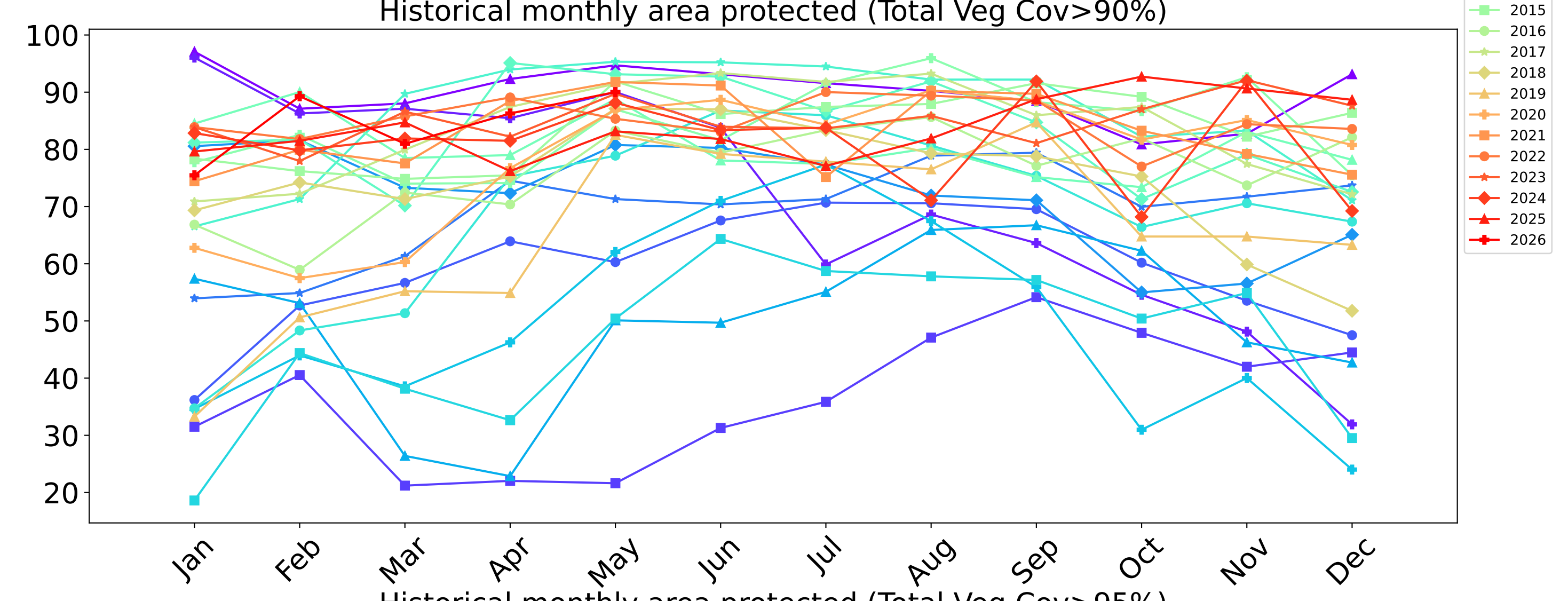
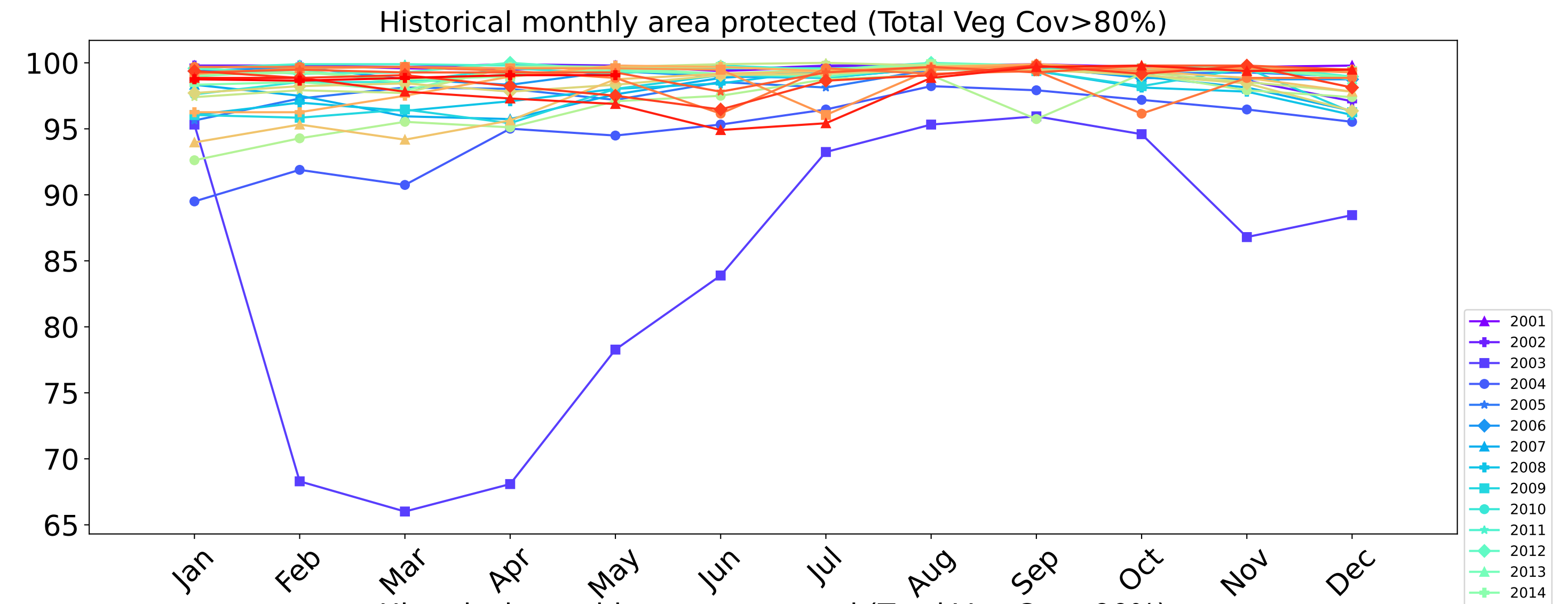
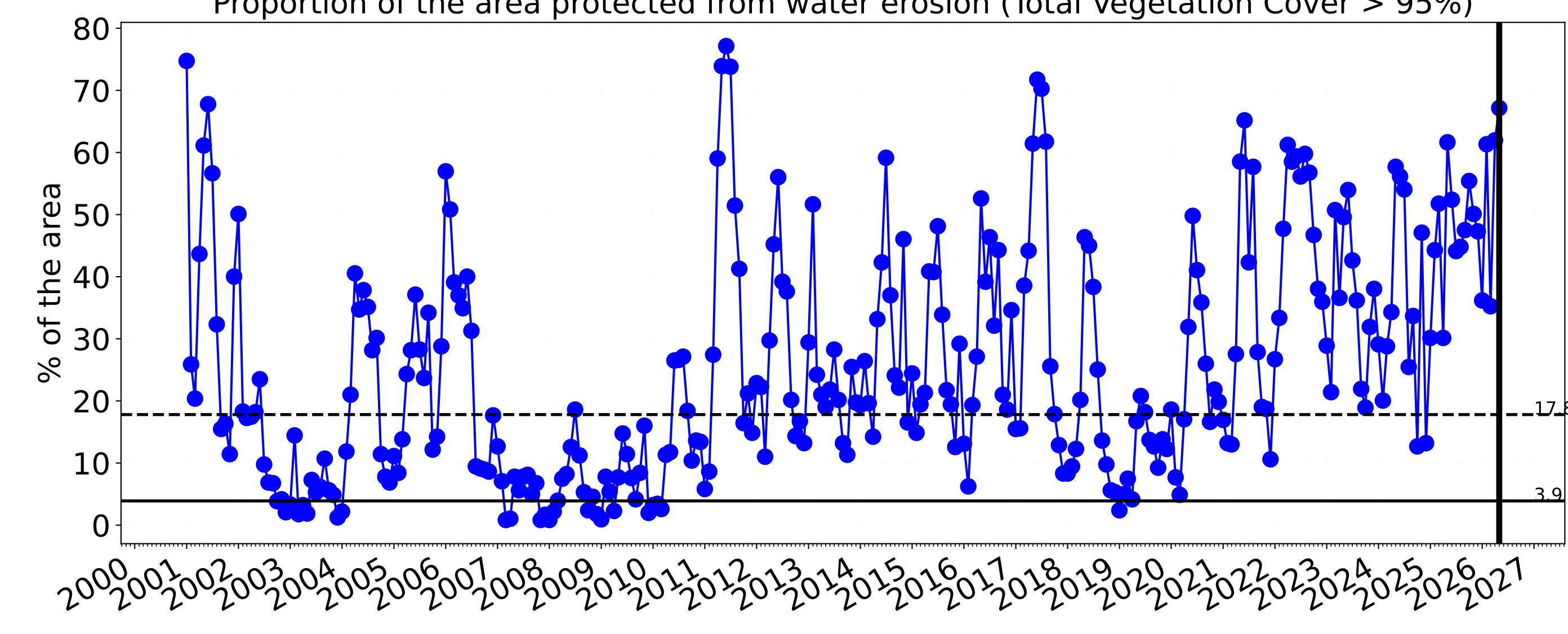
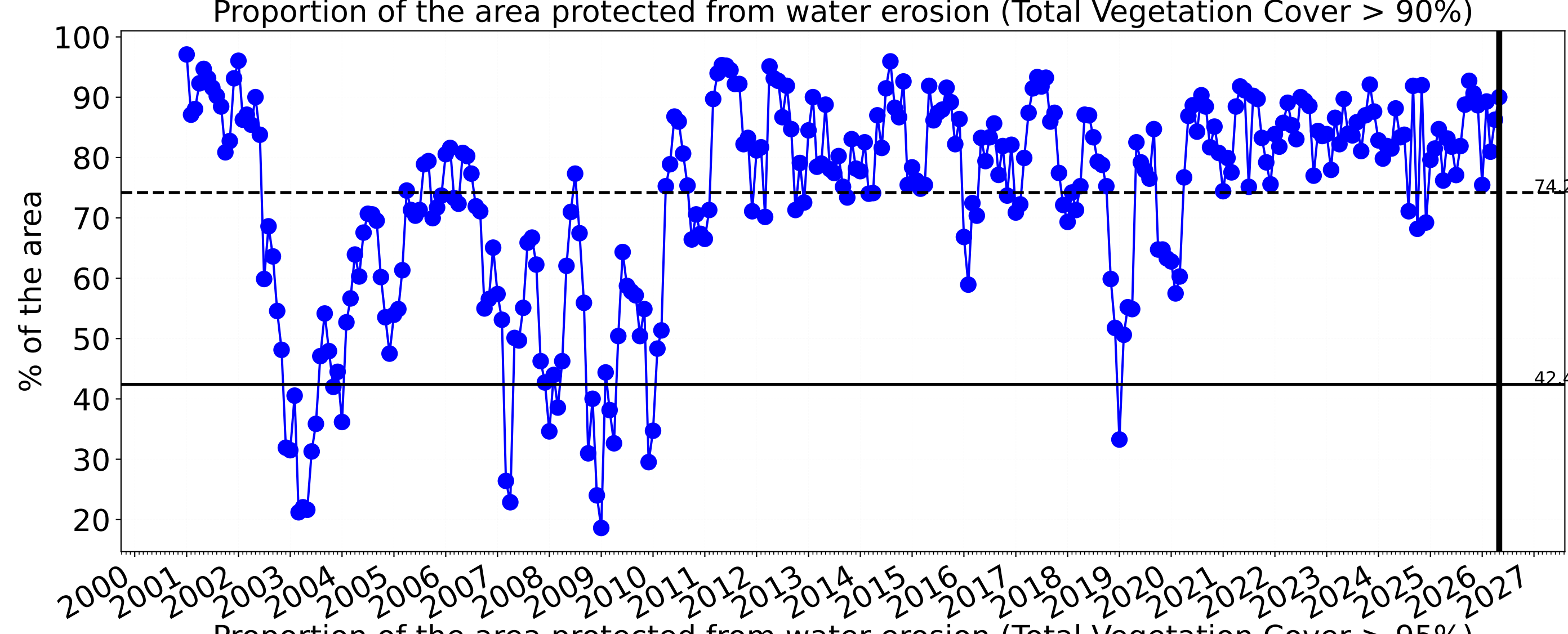
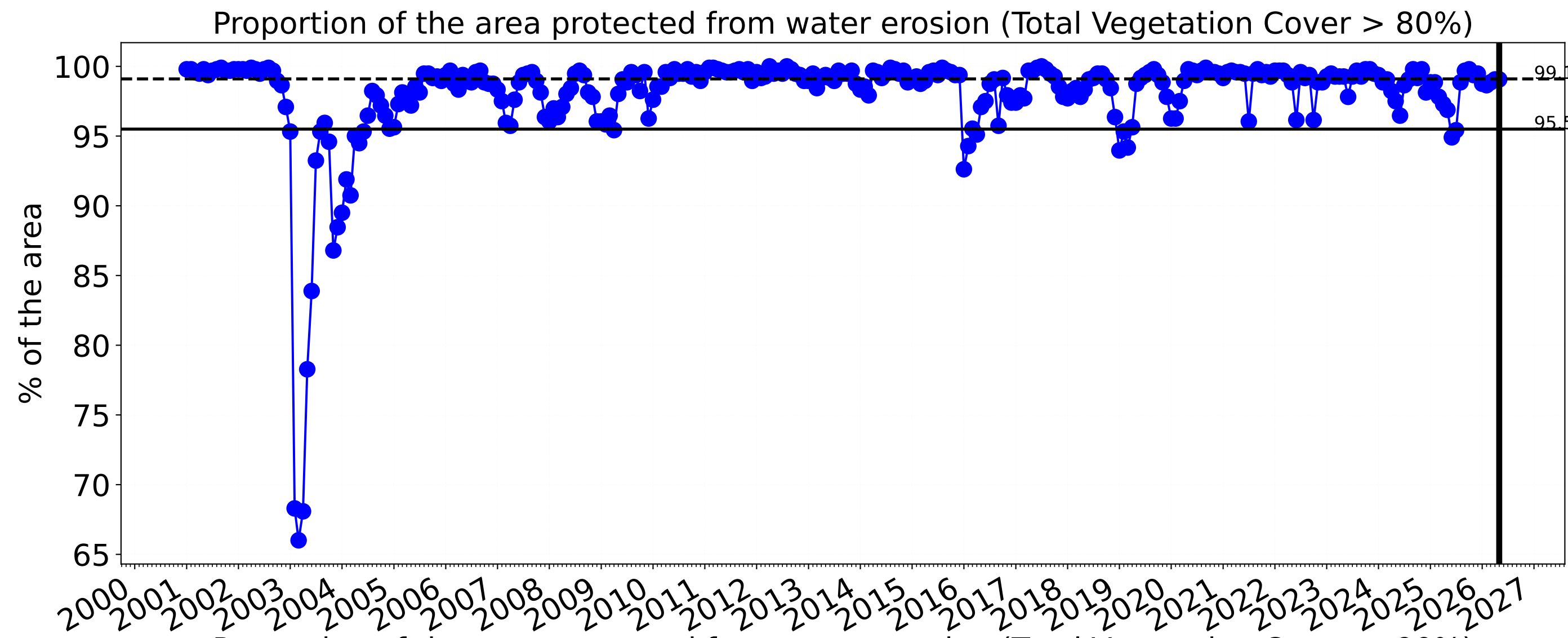


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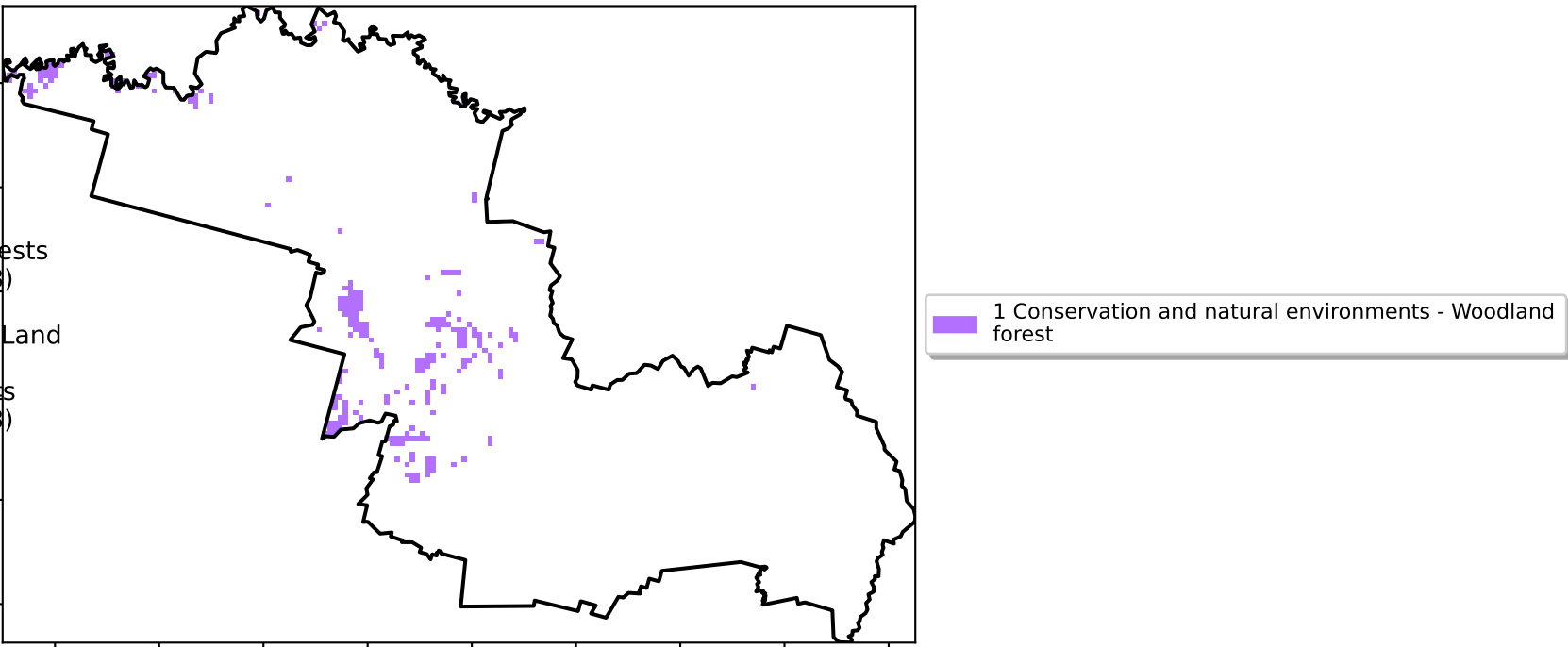




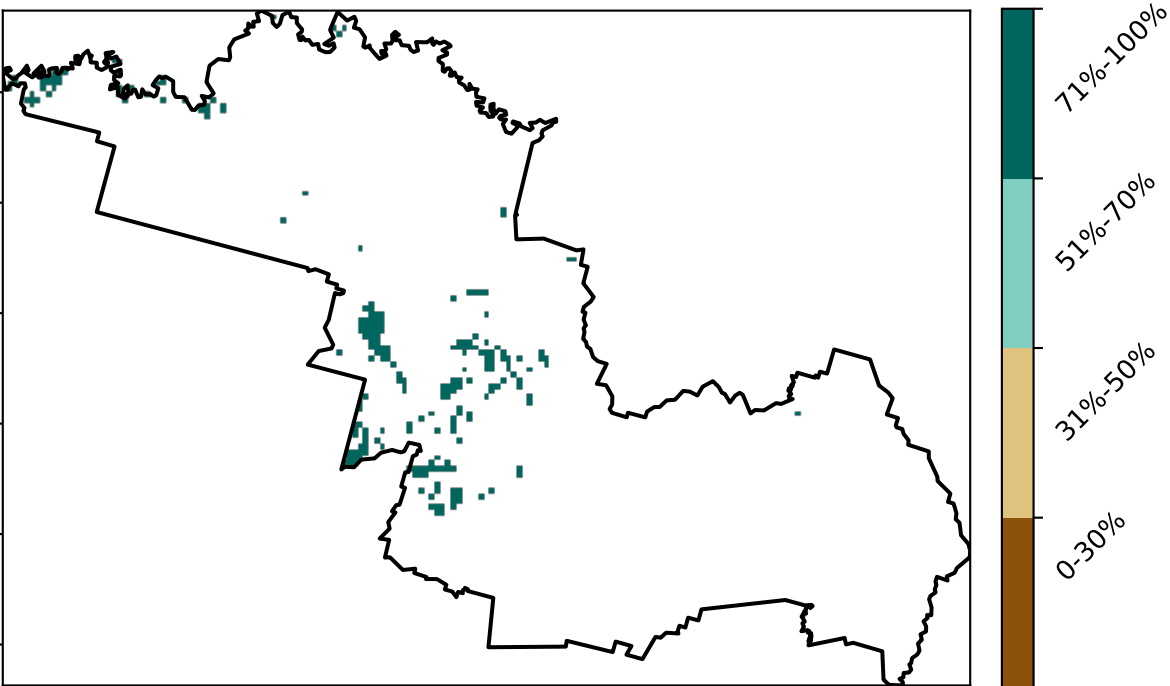
Conservation and natural environments Woodland forest

Land use and forest cover

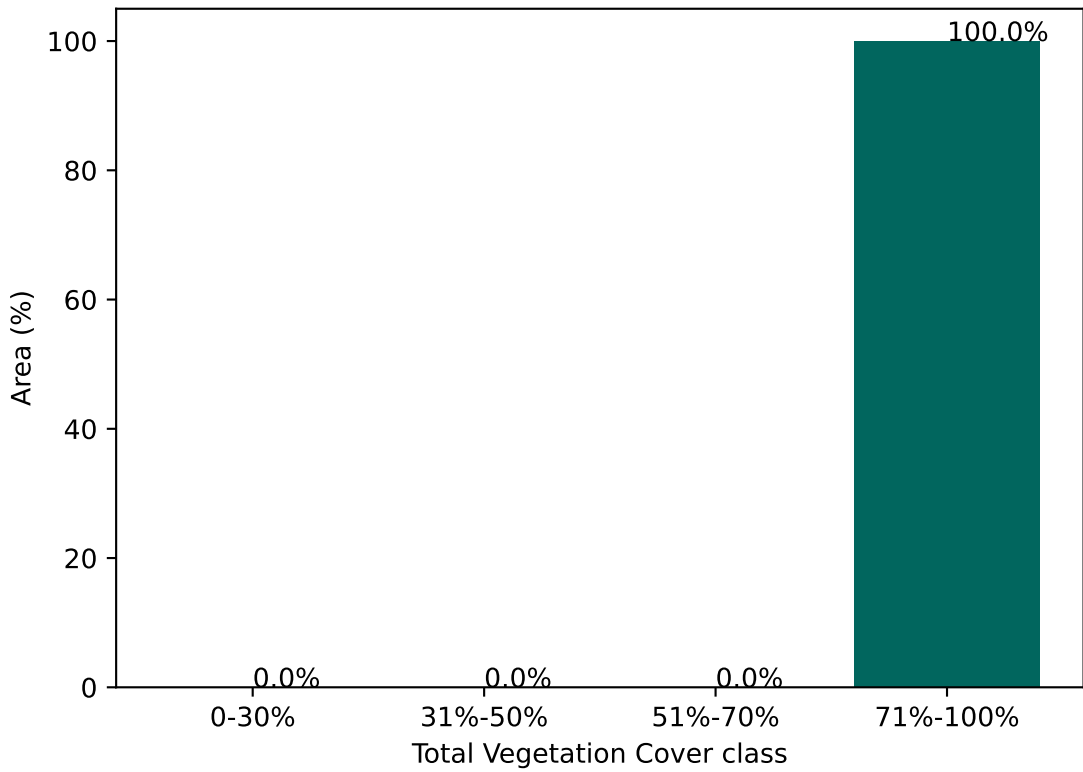
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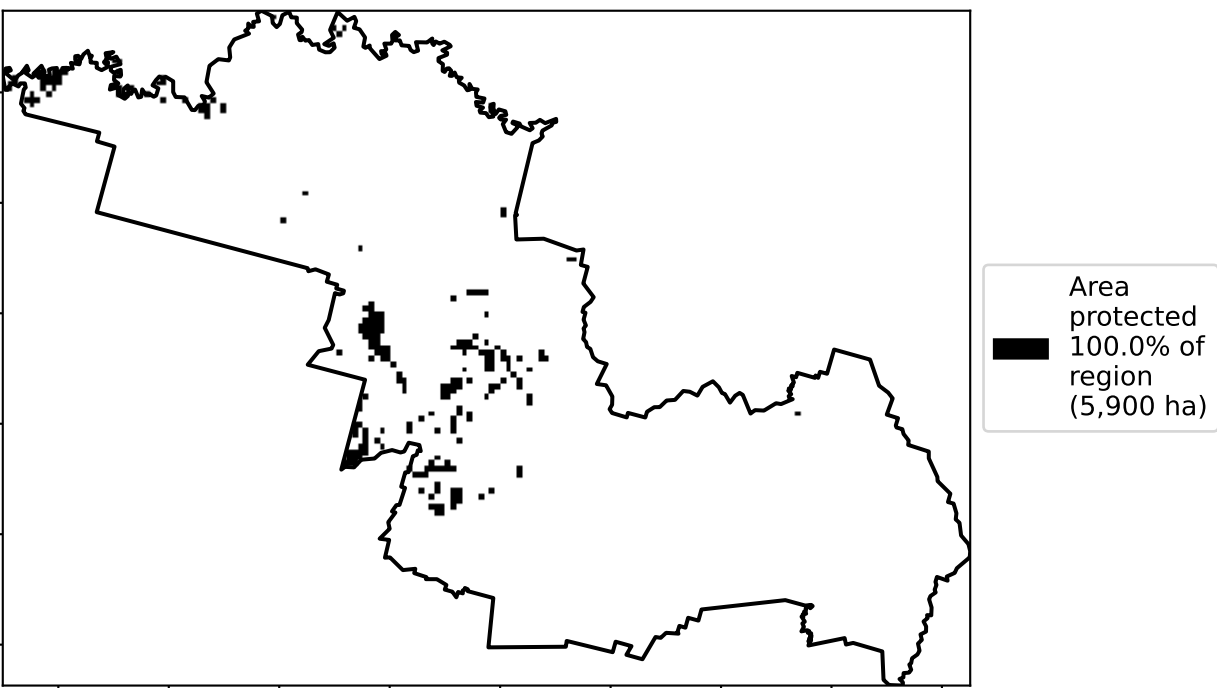
Total Vegetation Cover [%]



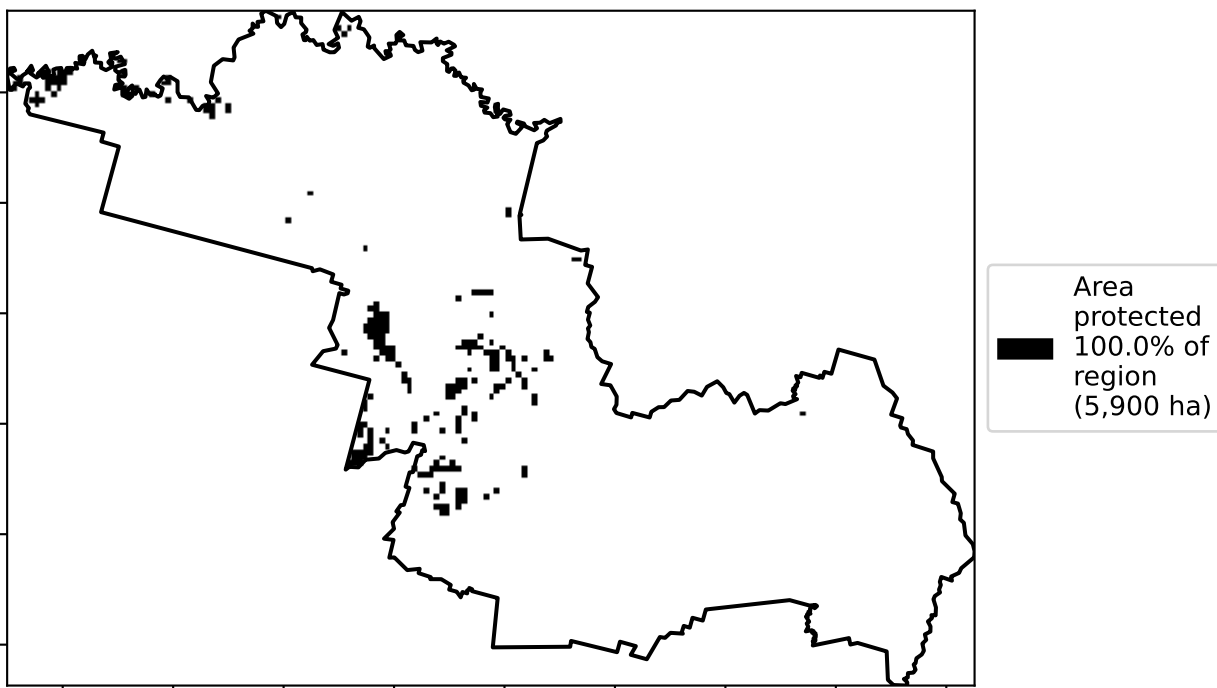
Proportion of vegetation cover class in area



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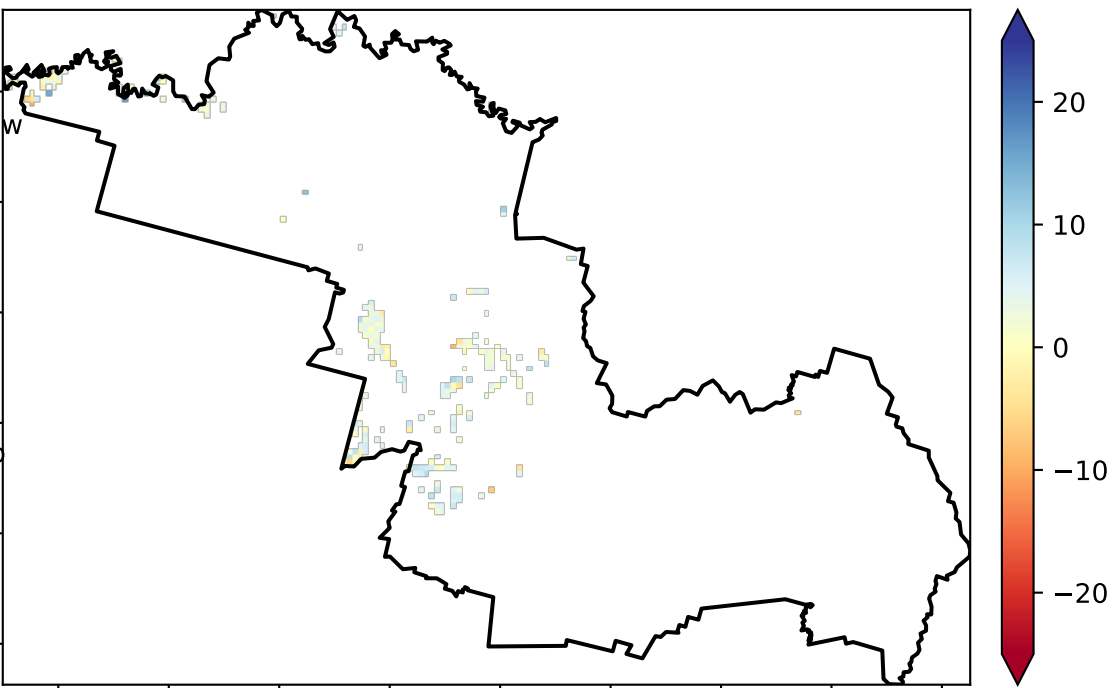


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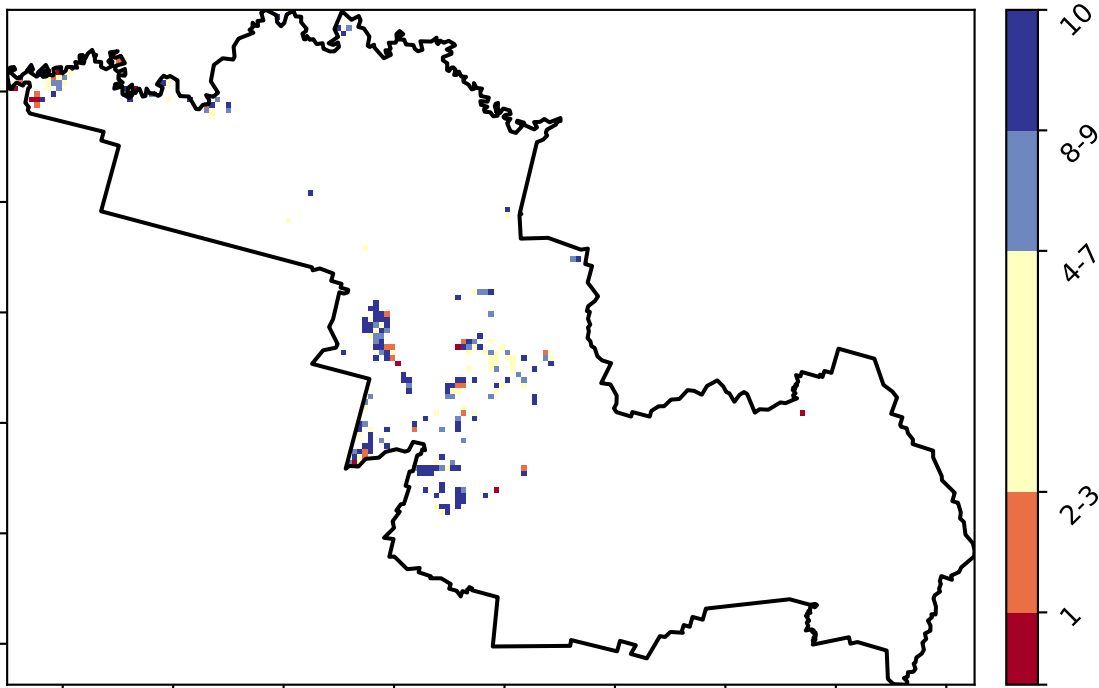
Total Vegetation Cover Anomaly [%]

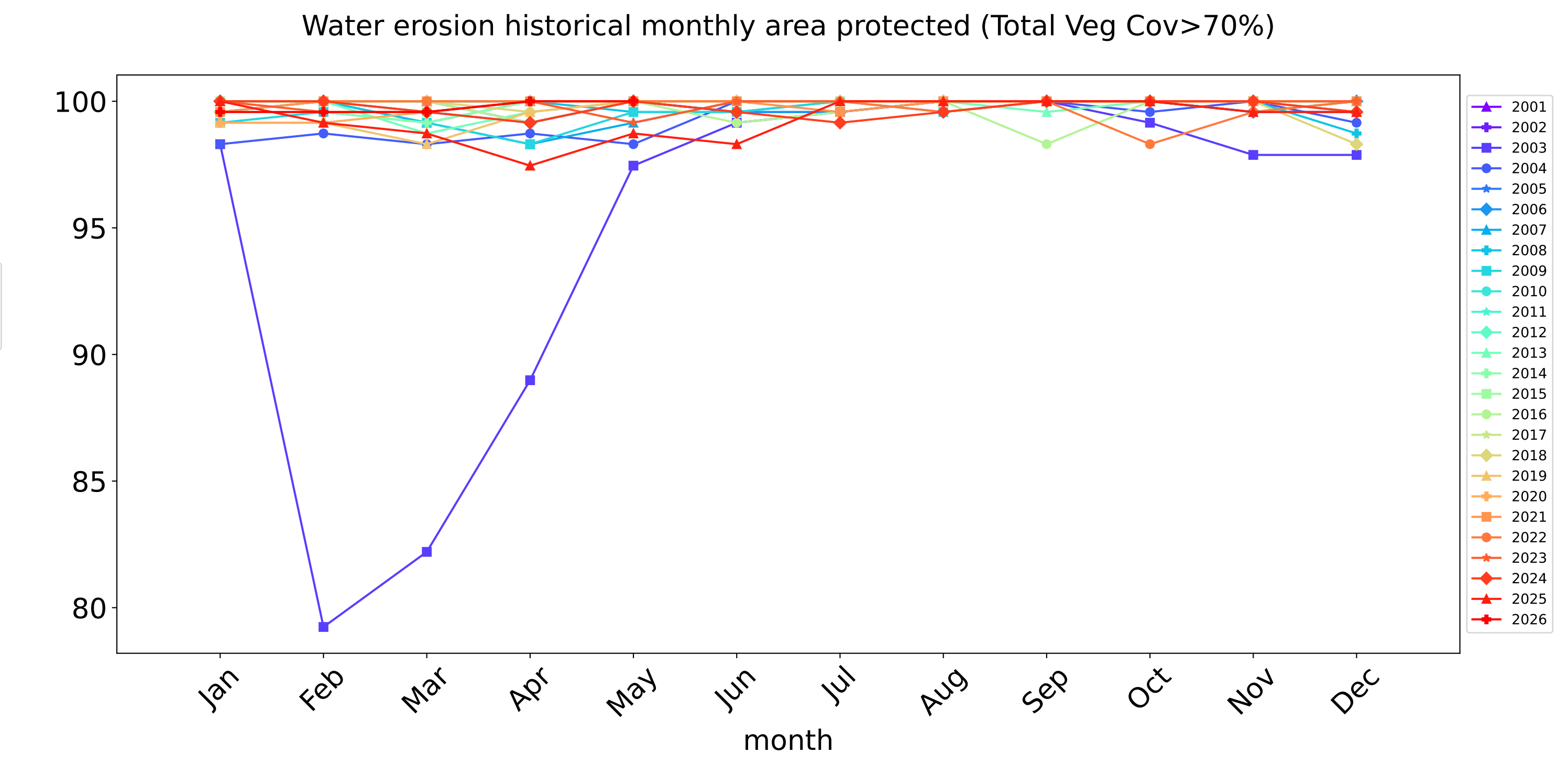
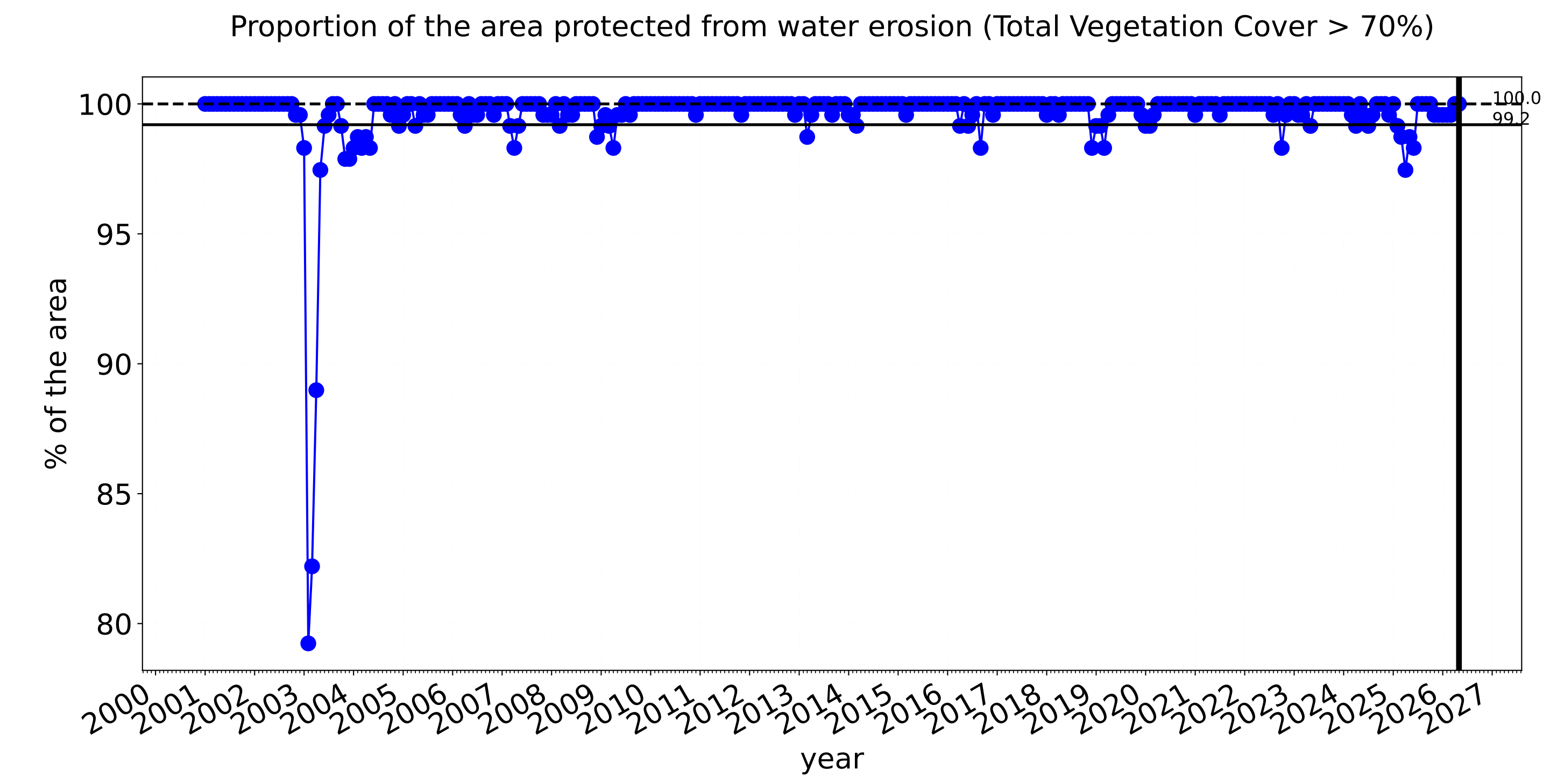
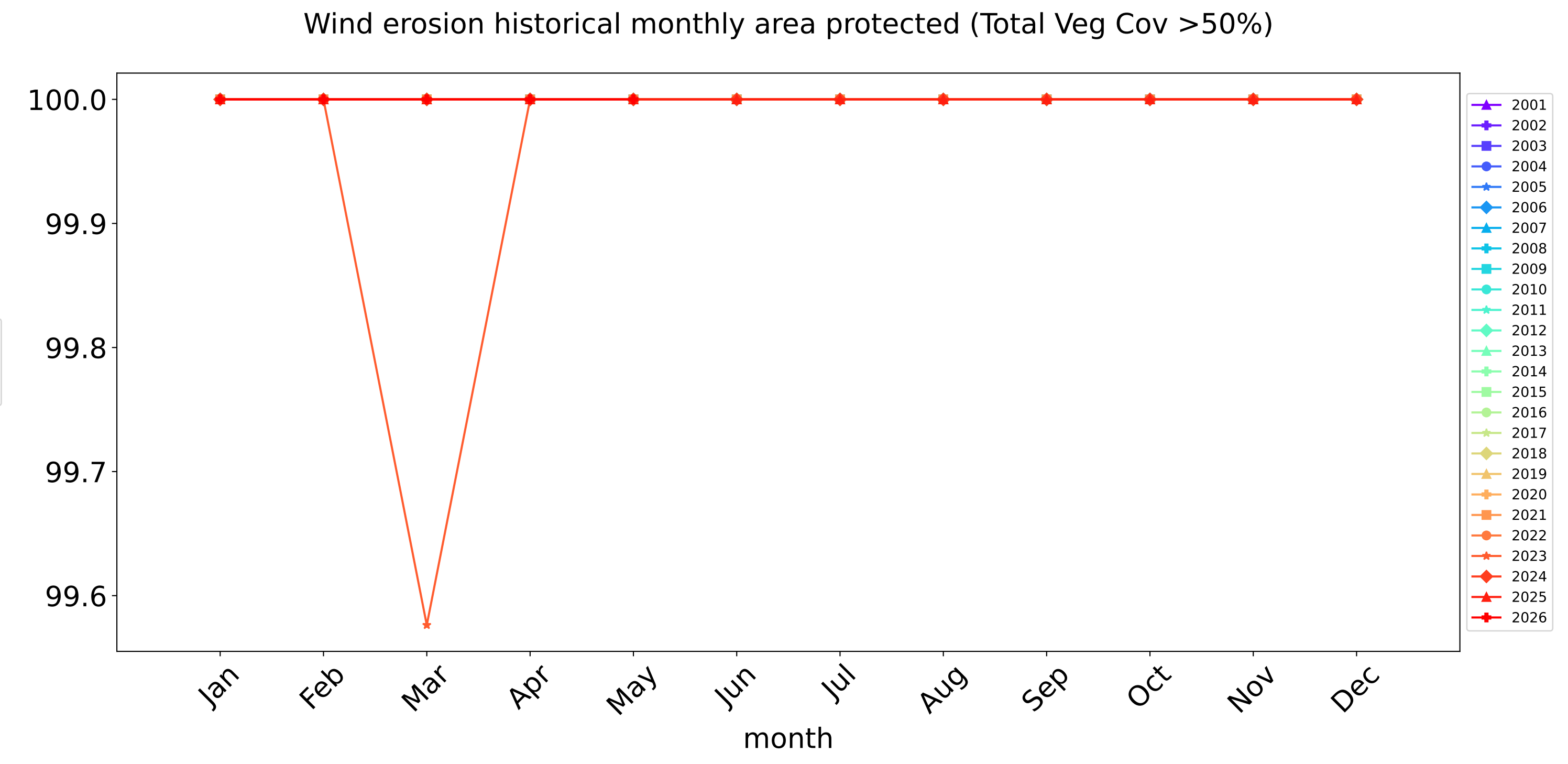
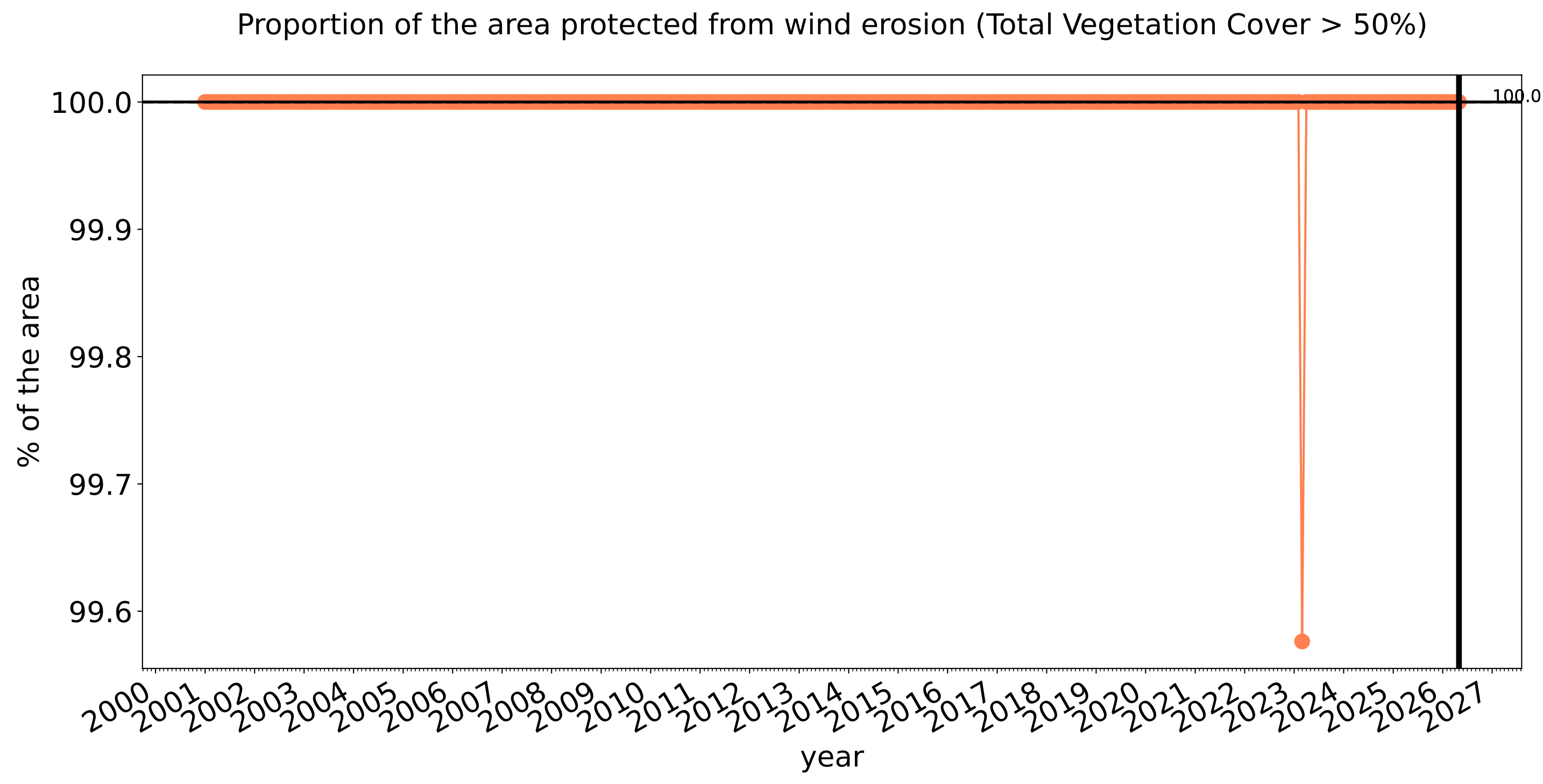
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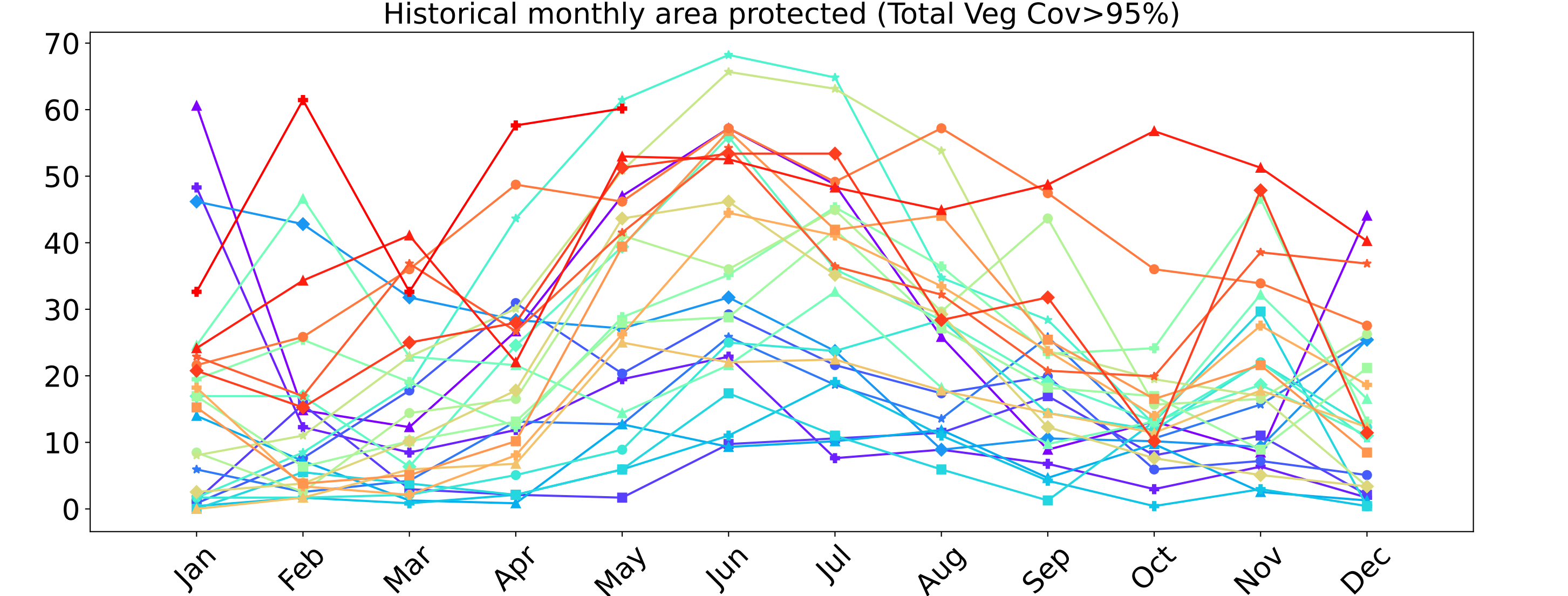
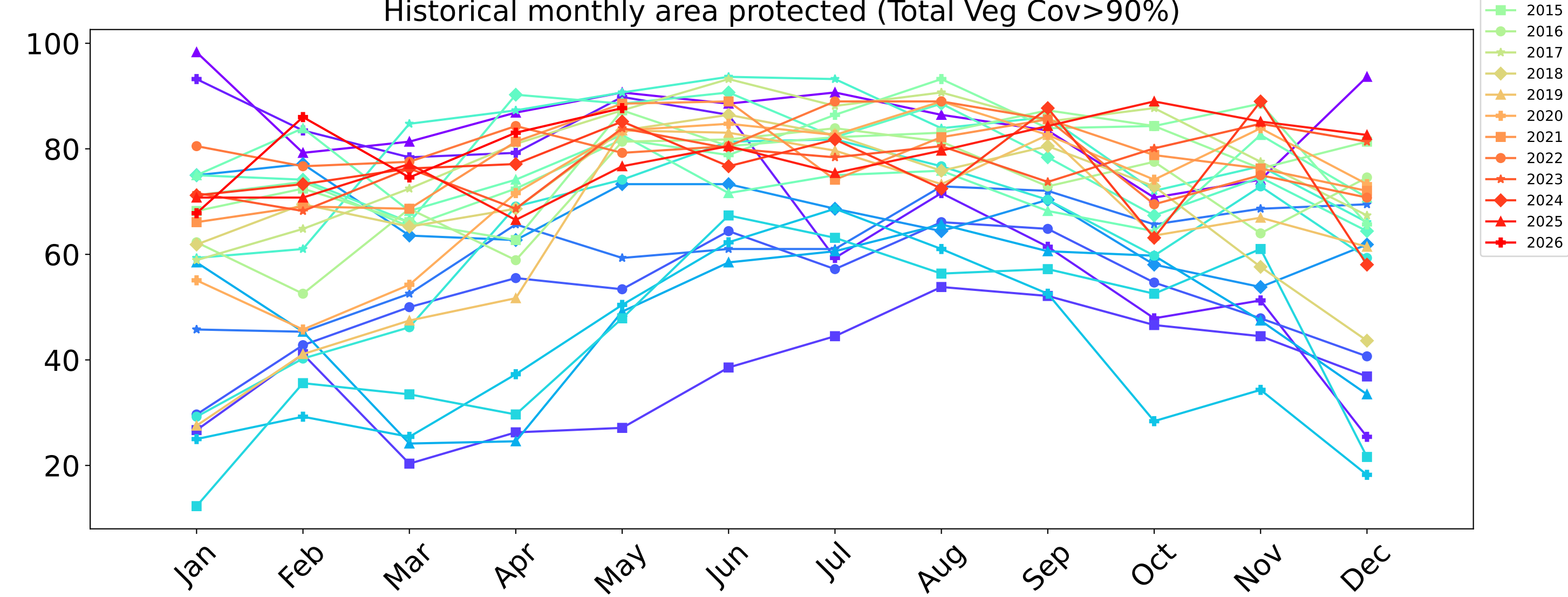
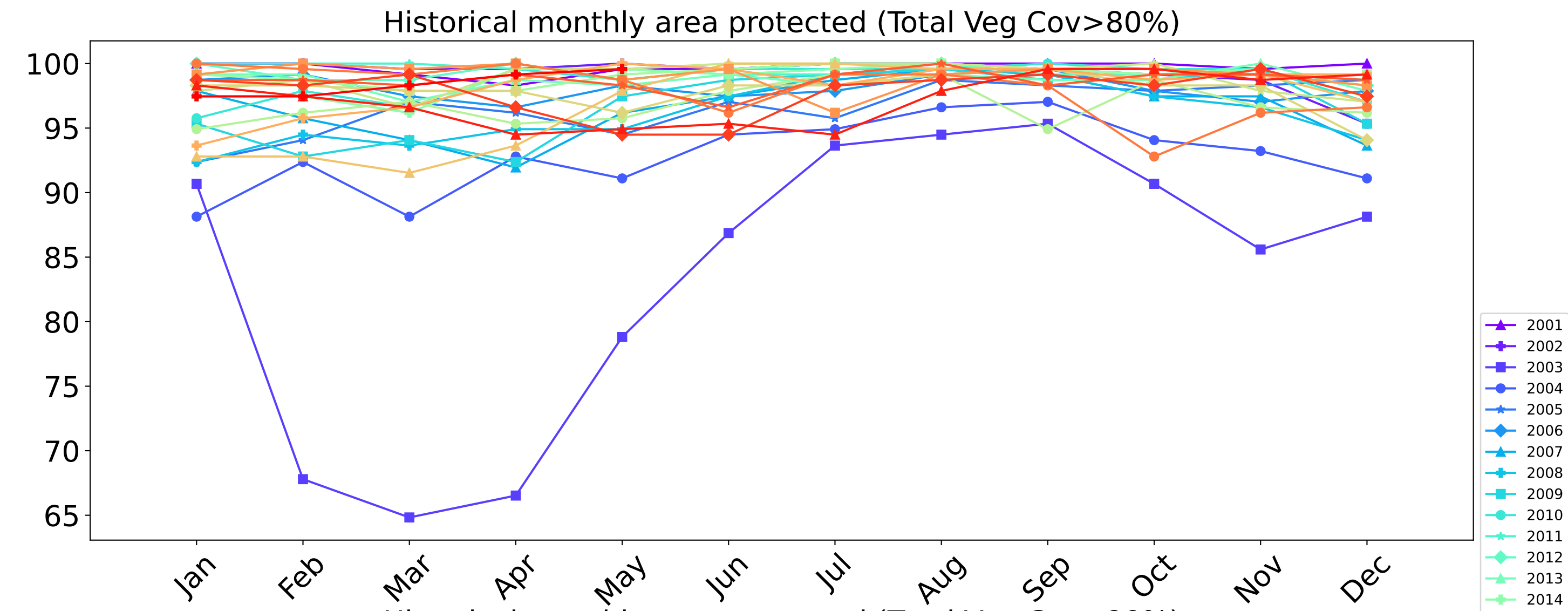
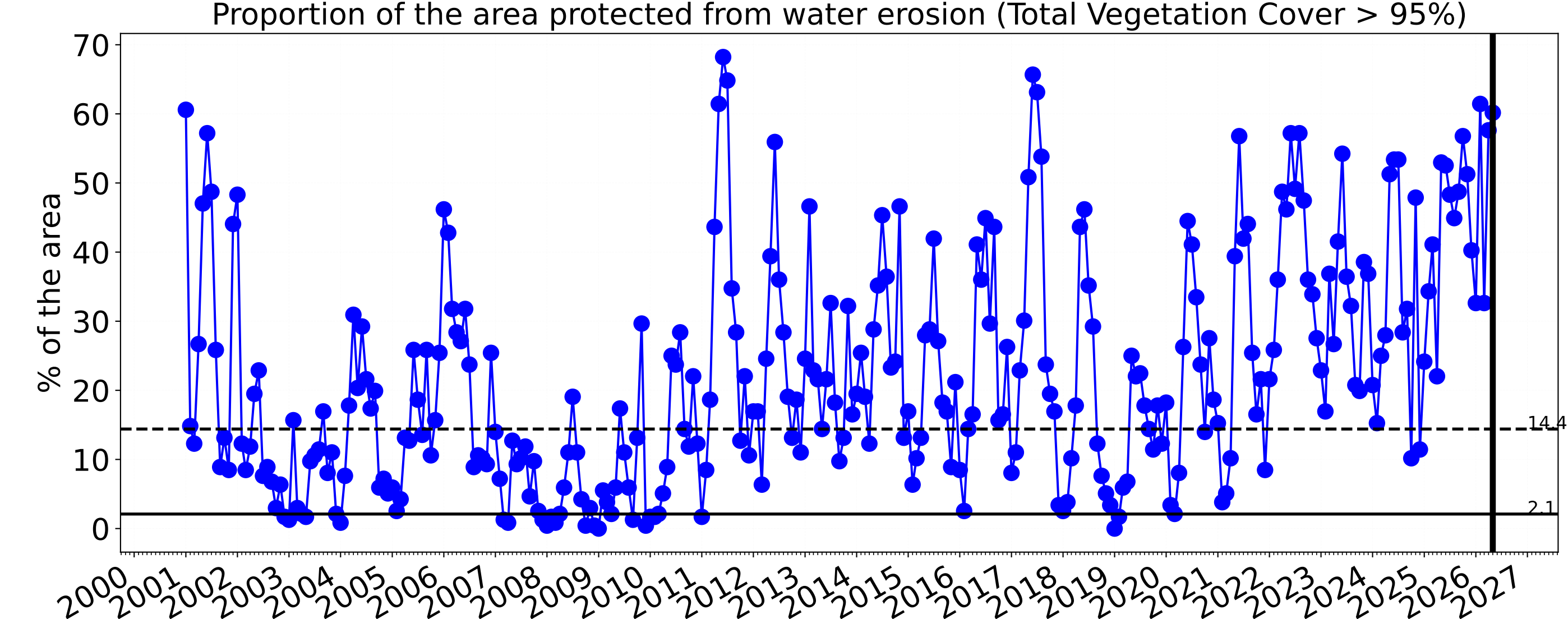
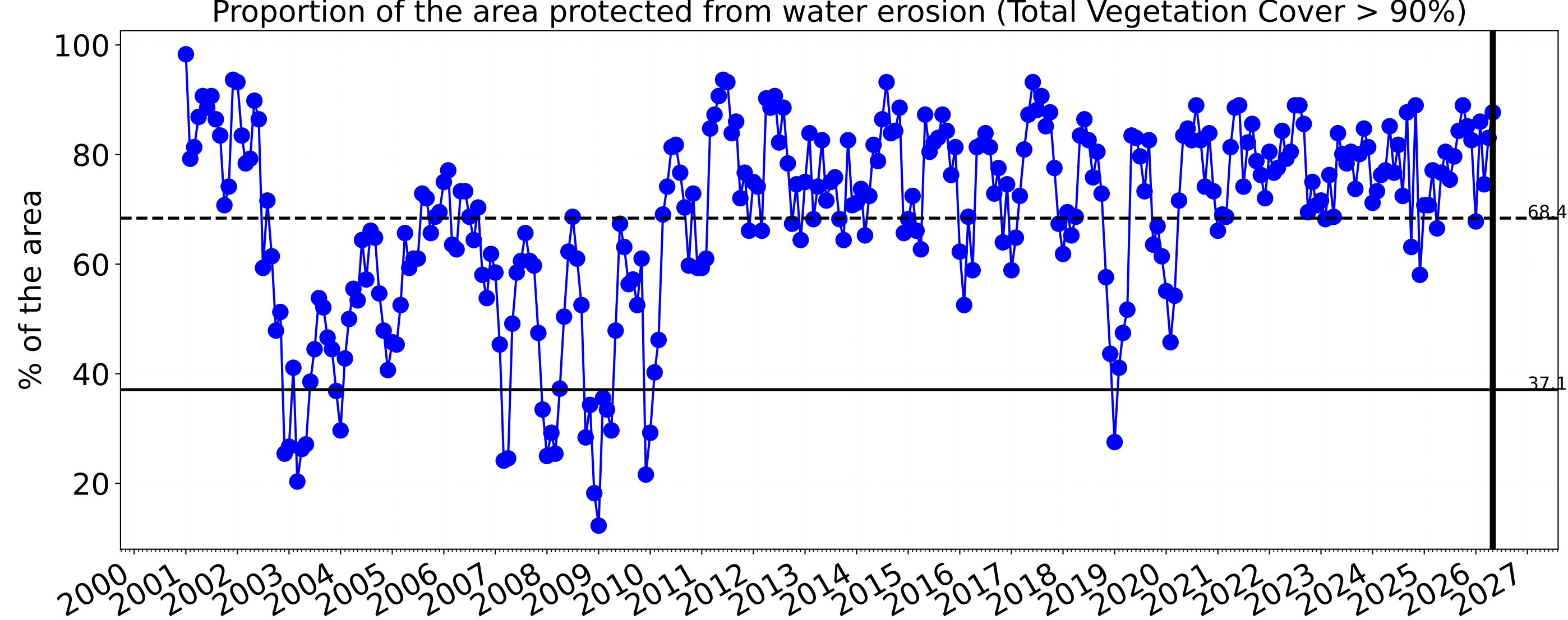
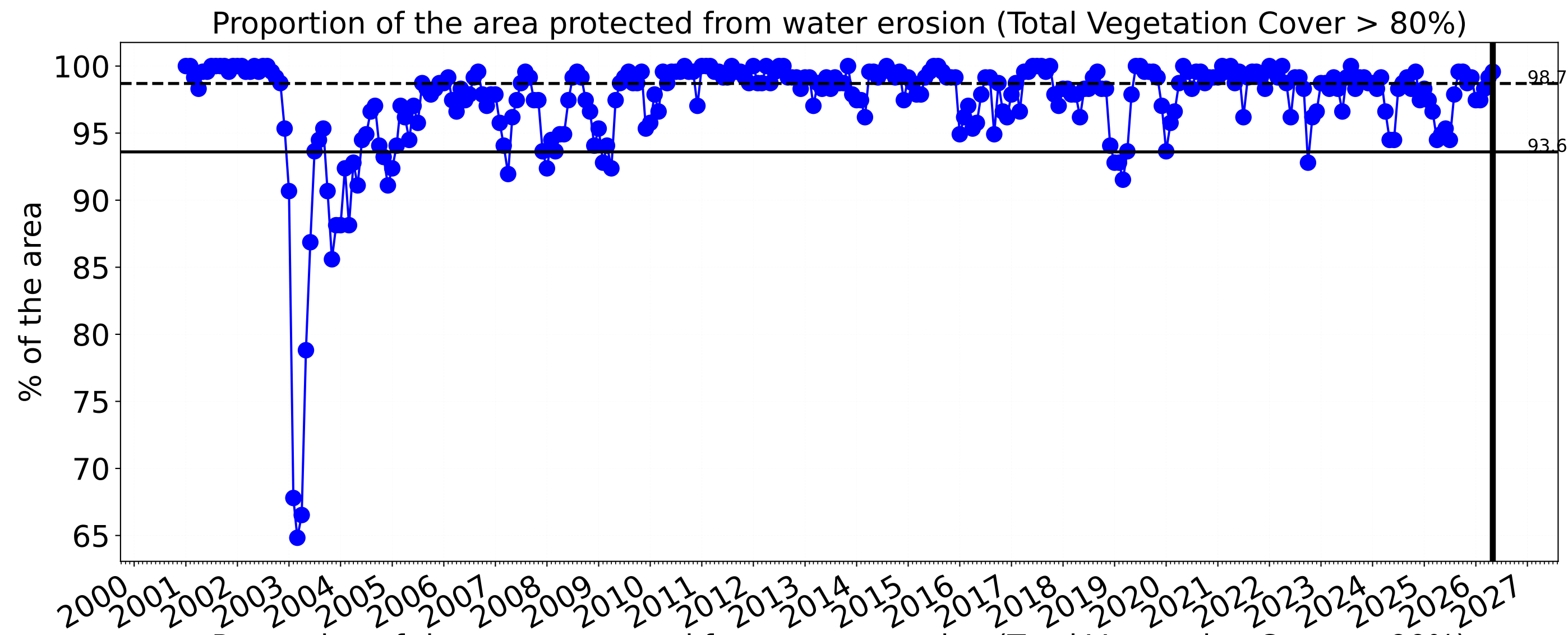


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Total Vegetation Cover Decile [%]



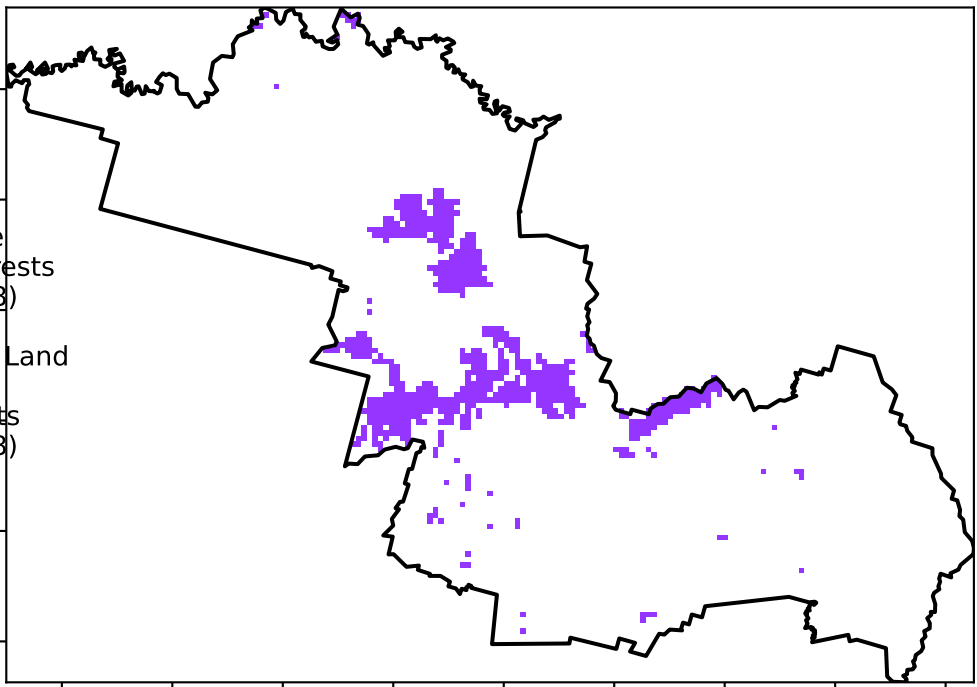




Conservation and natural environments Forest (non woodland)

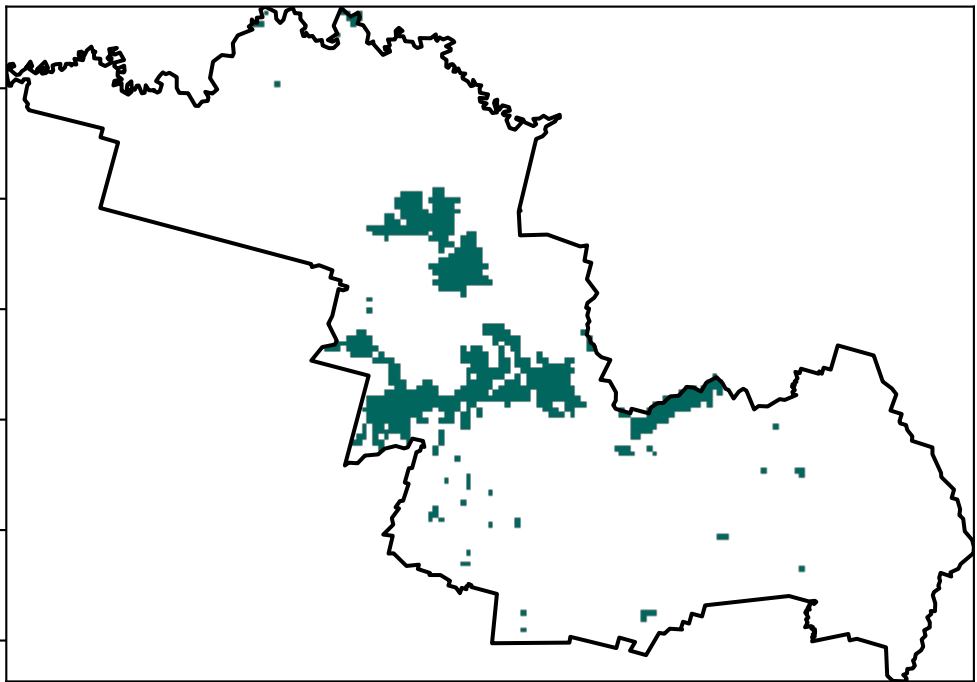
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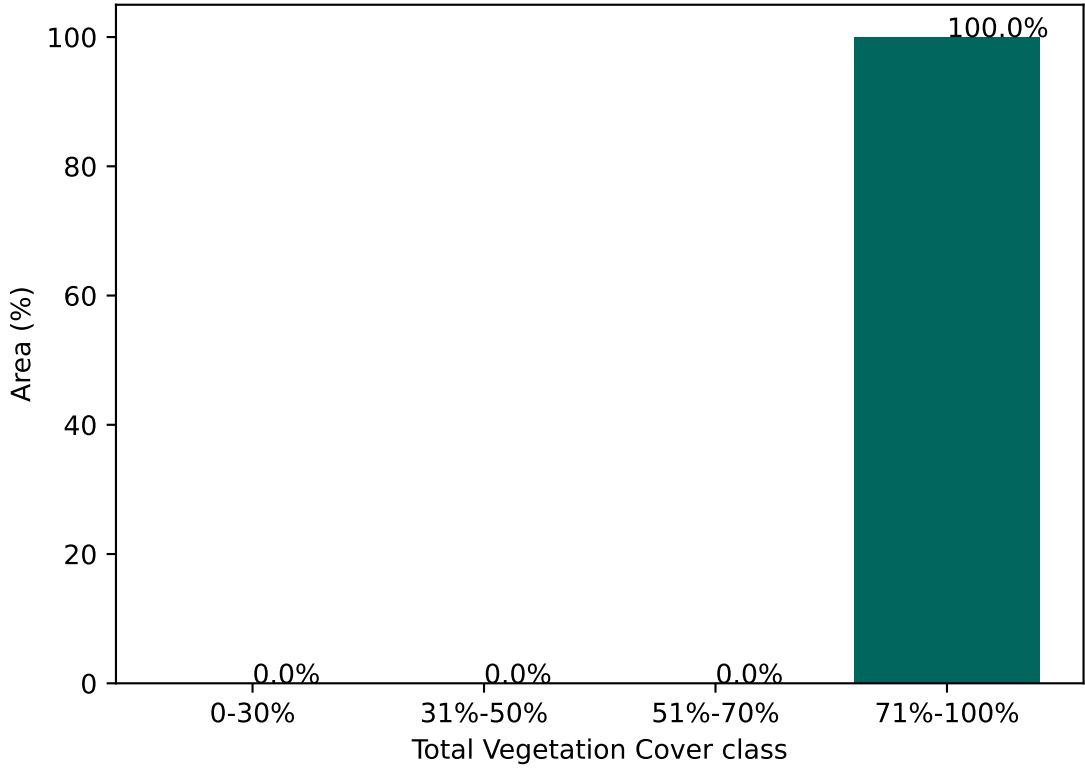


1 Conservation and natural environments - Non-woodland forest

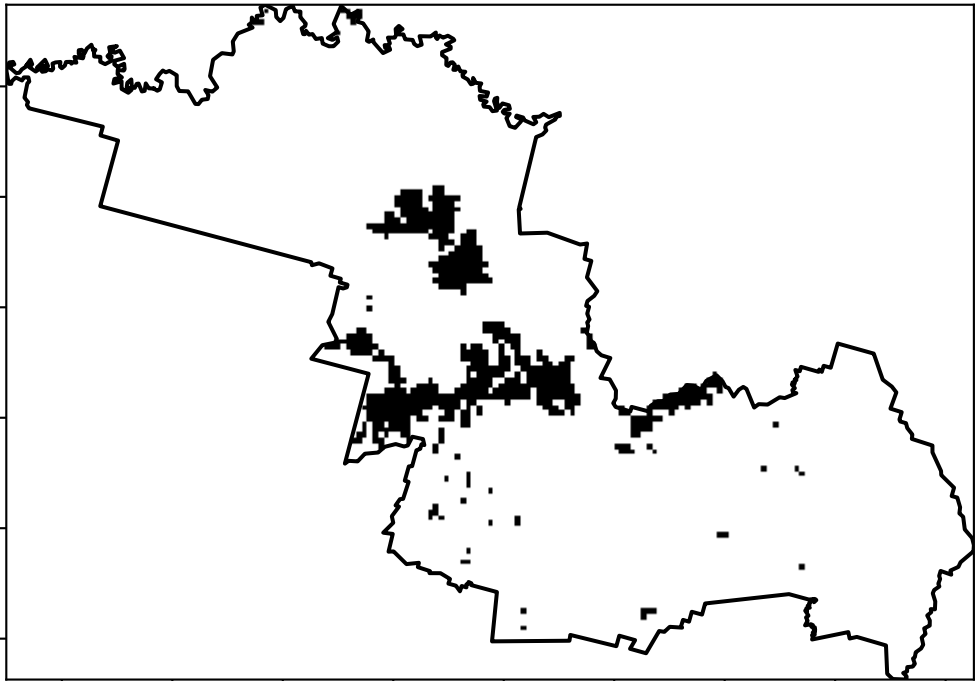
Total Vegetation Cover [%]



Proportion of vegetation cover class in area

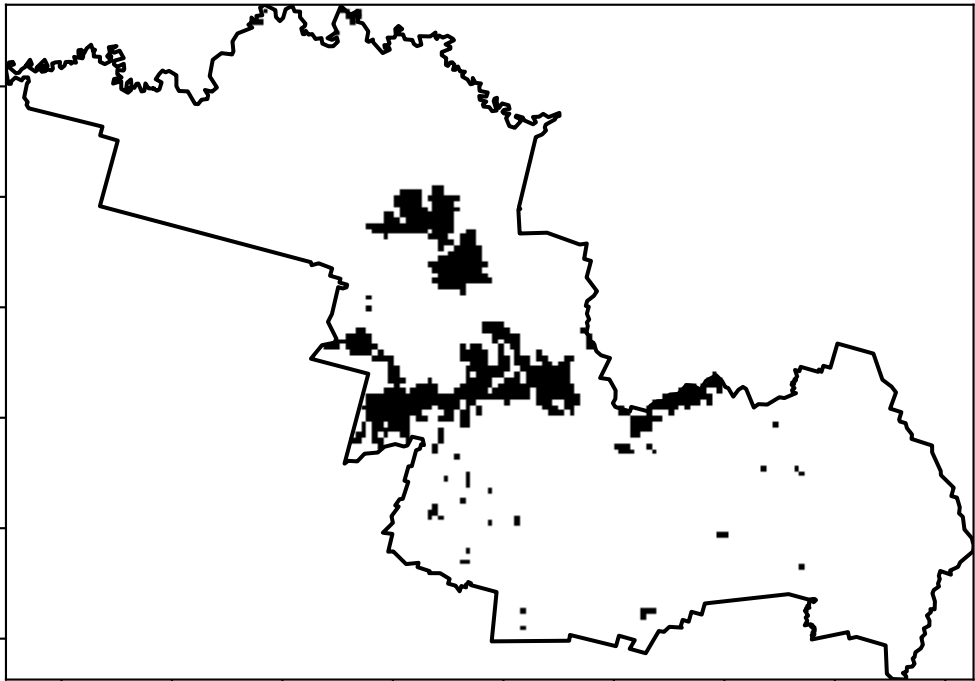


% Area protected from water erosion (>70%)



Area
protected
100.0% of
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(16,675
ha)

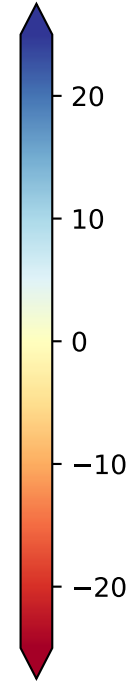
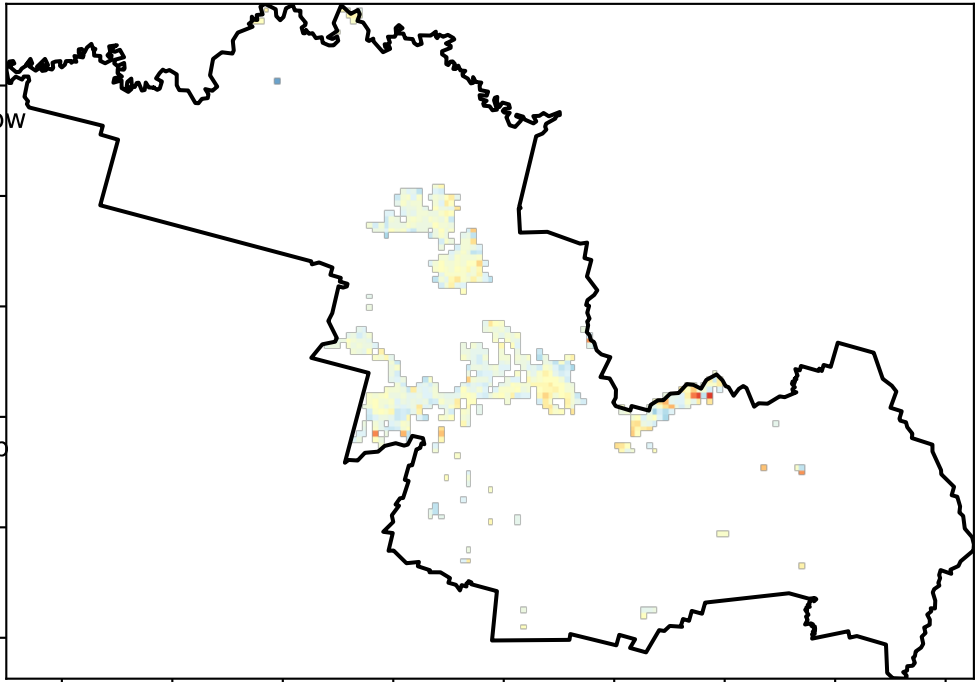
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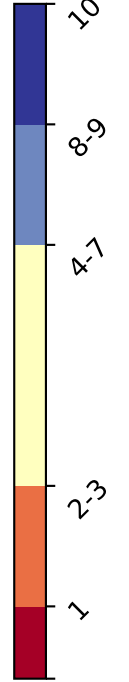
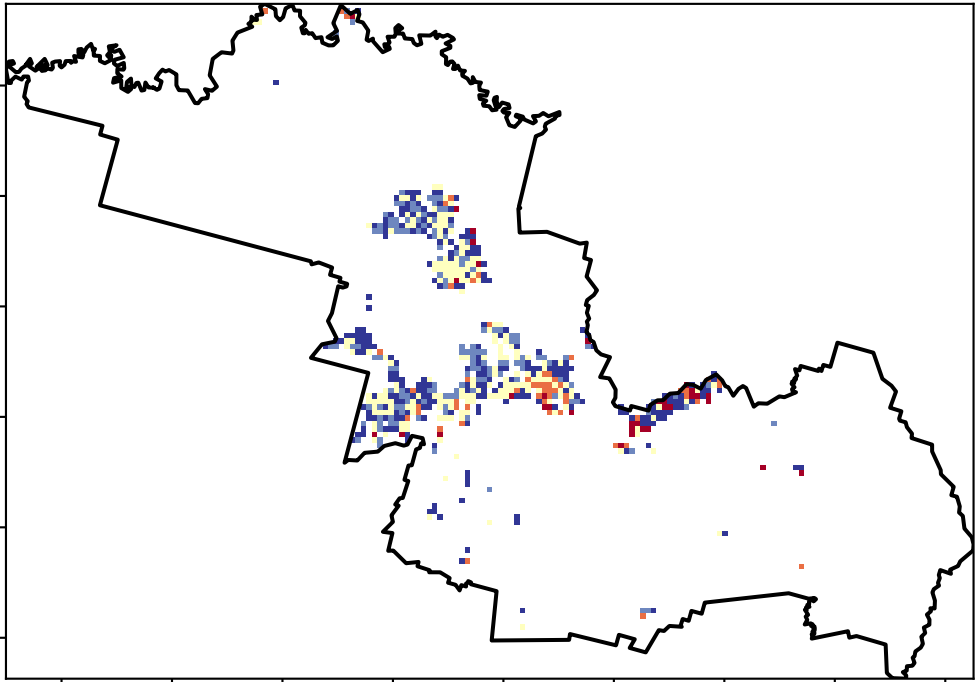
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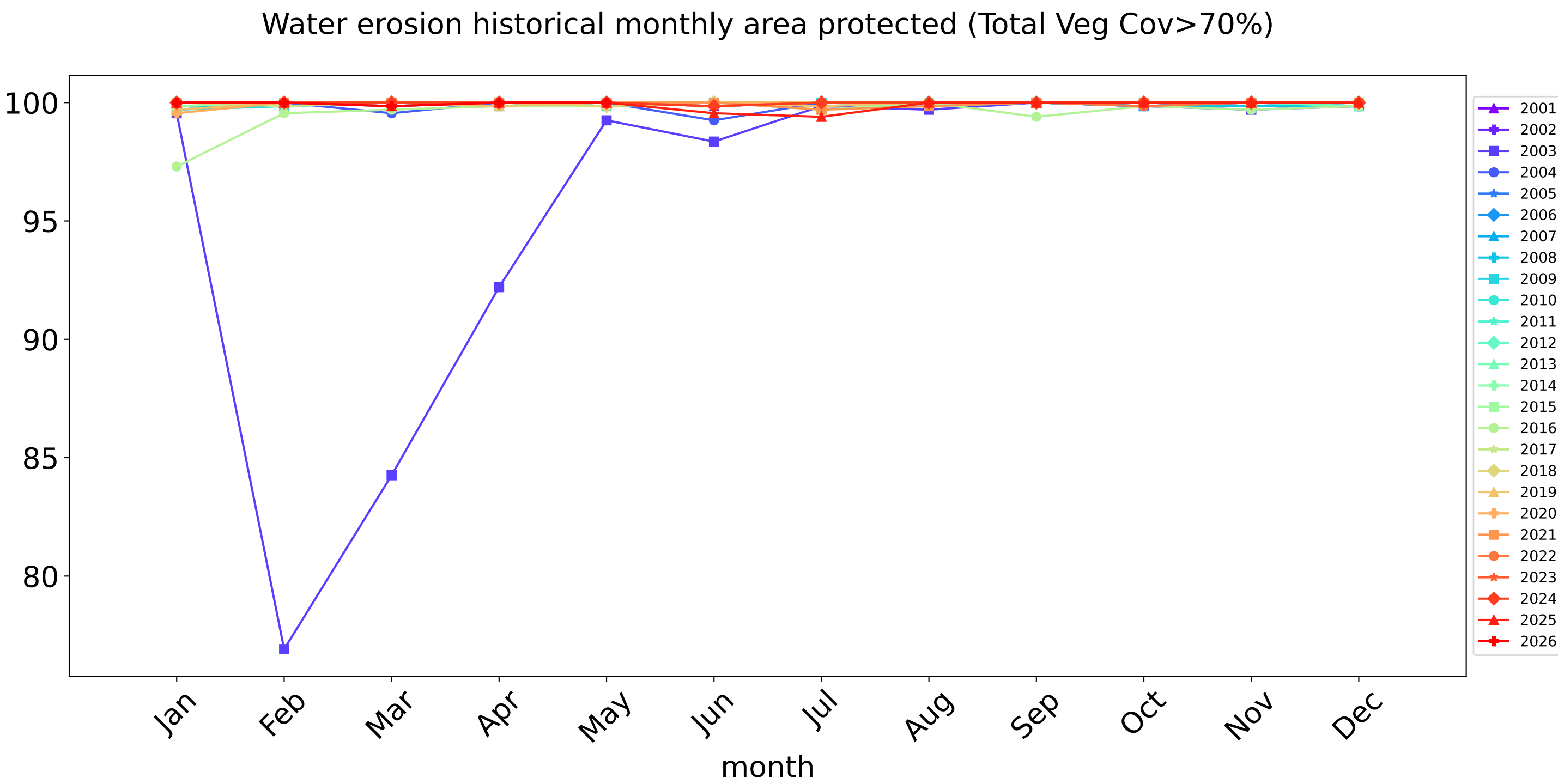
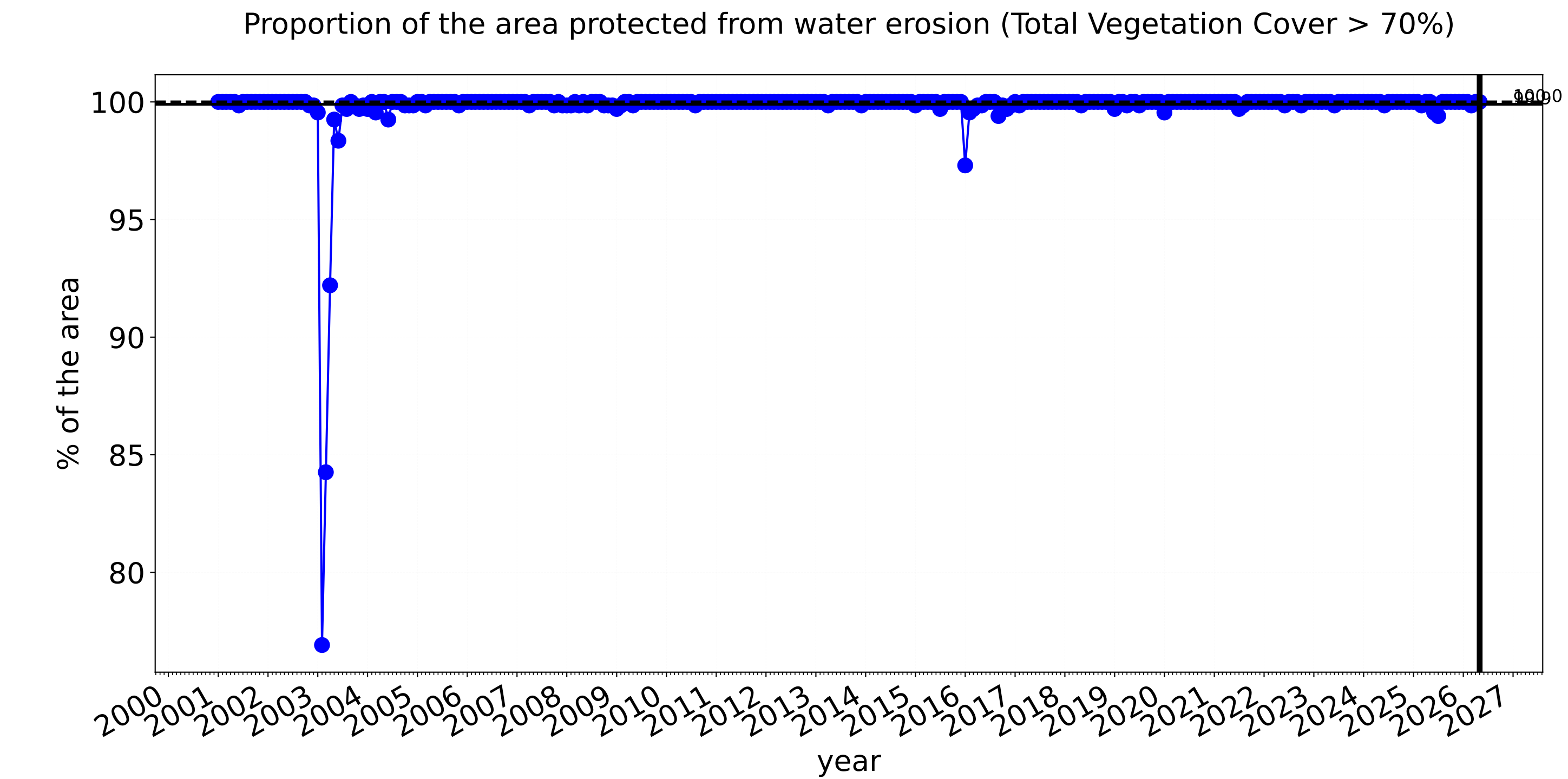
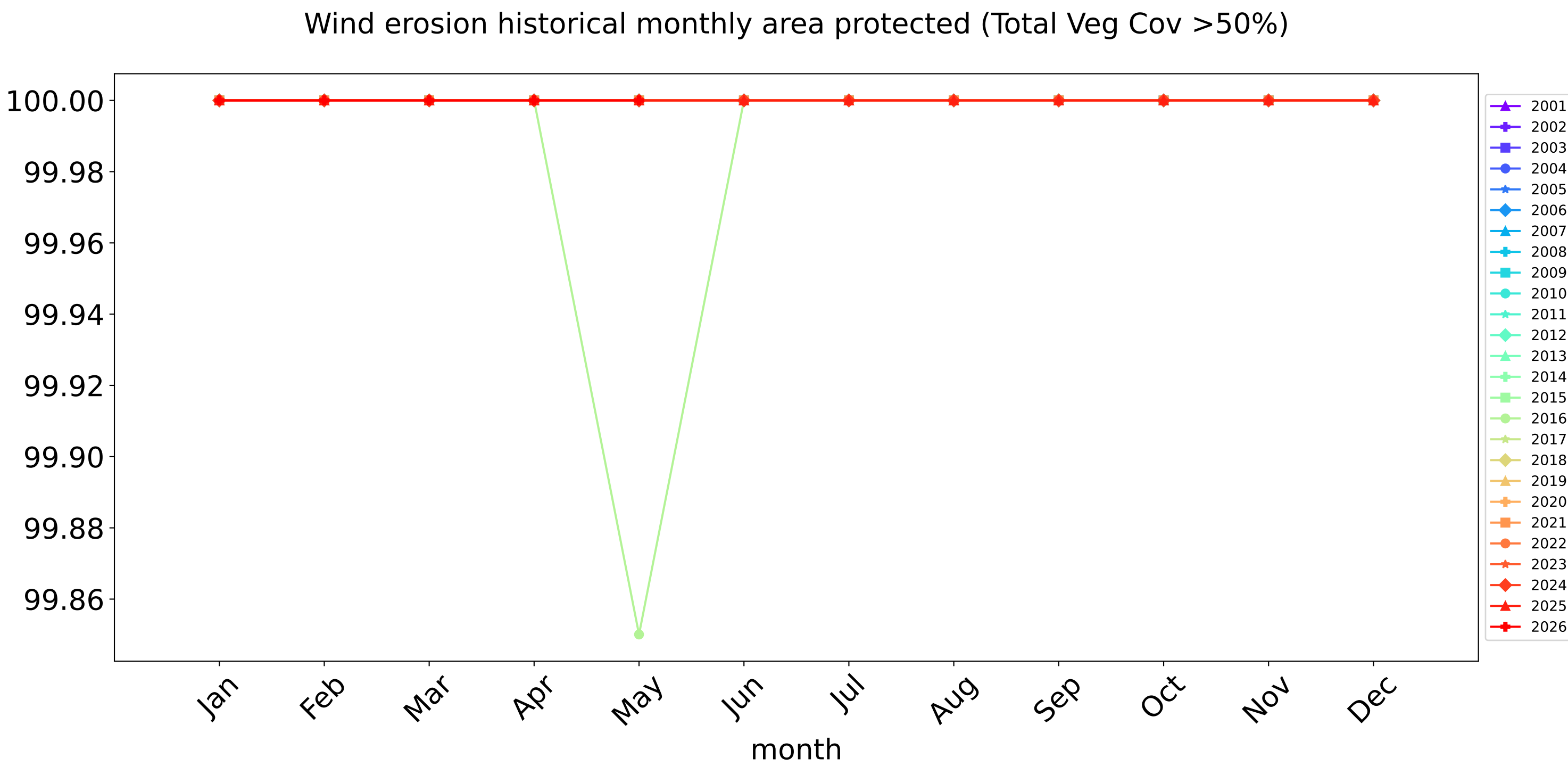
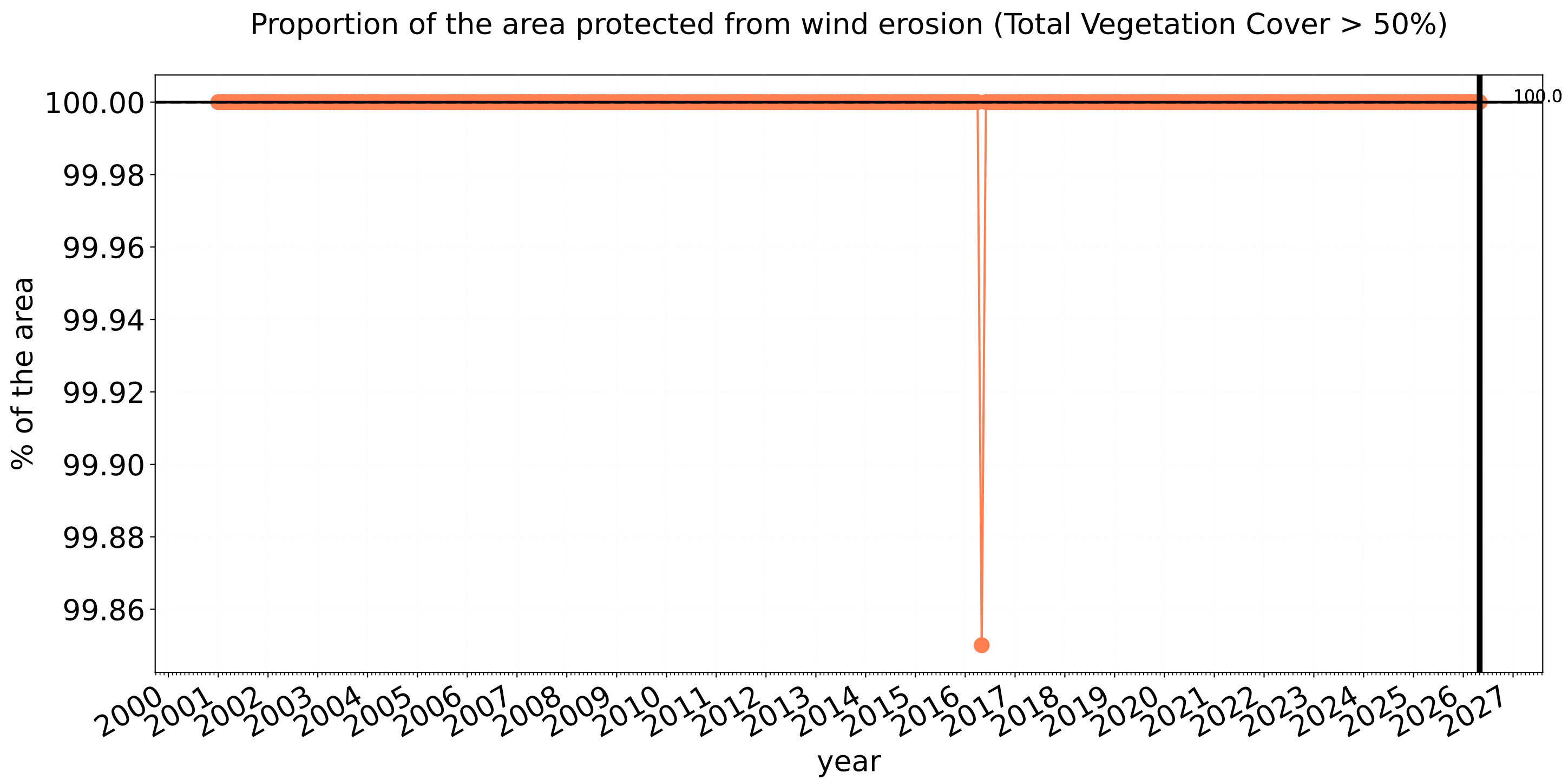


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Total Vegetation Cover Decile [%]



Conservation and natural environments Forest (non woodland) timeseries

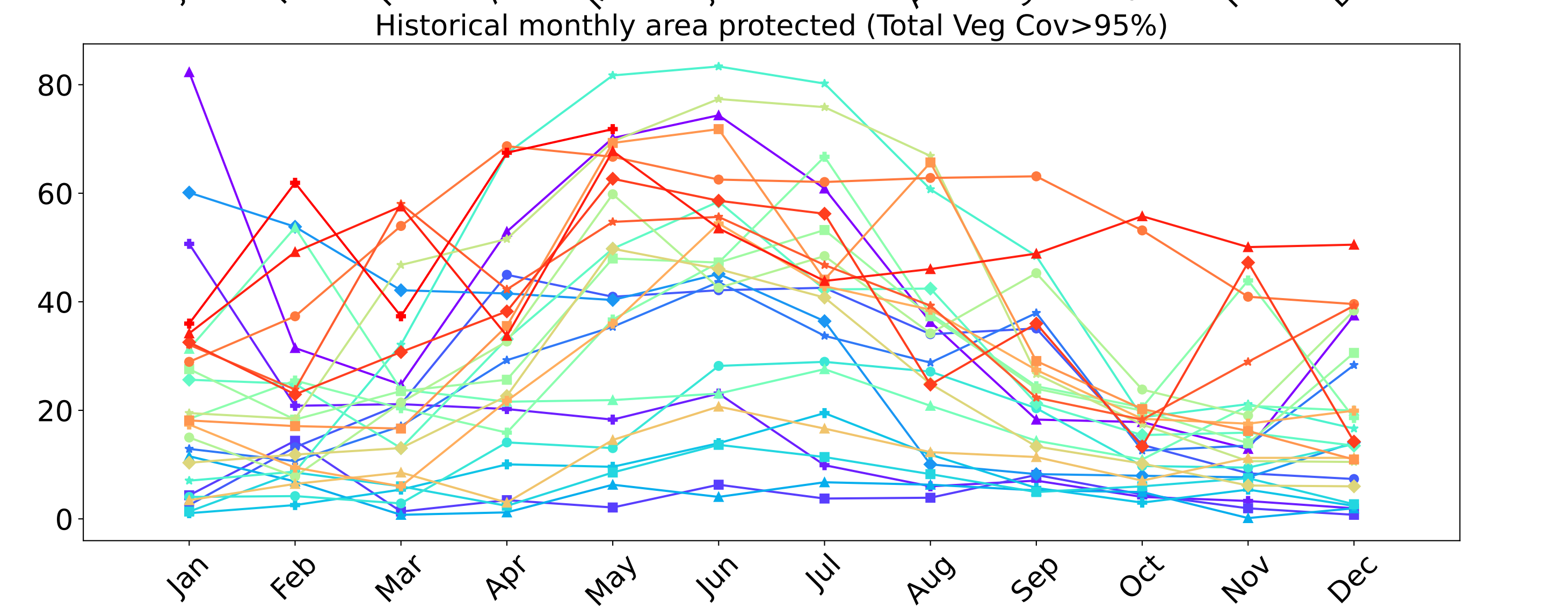
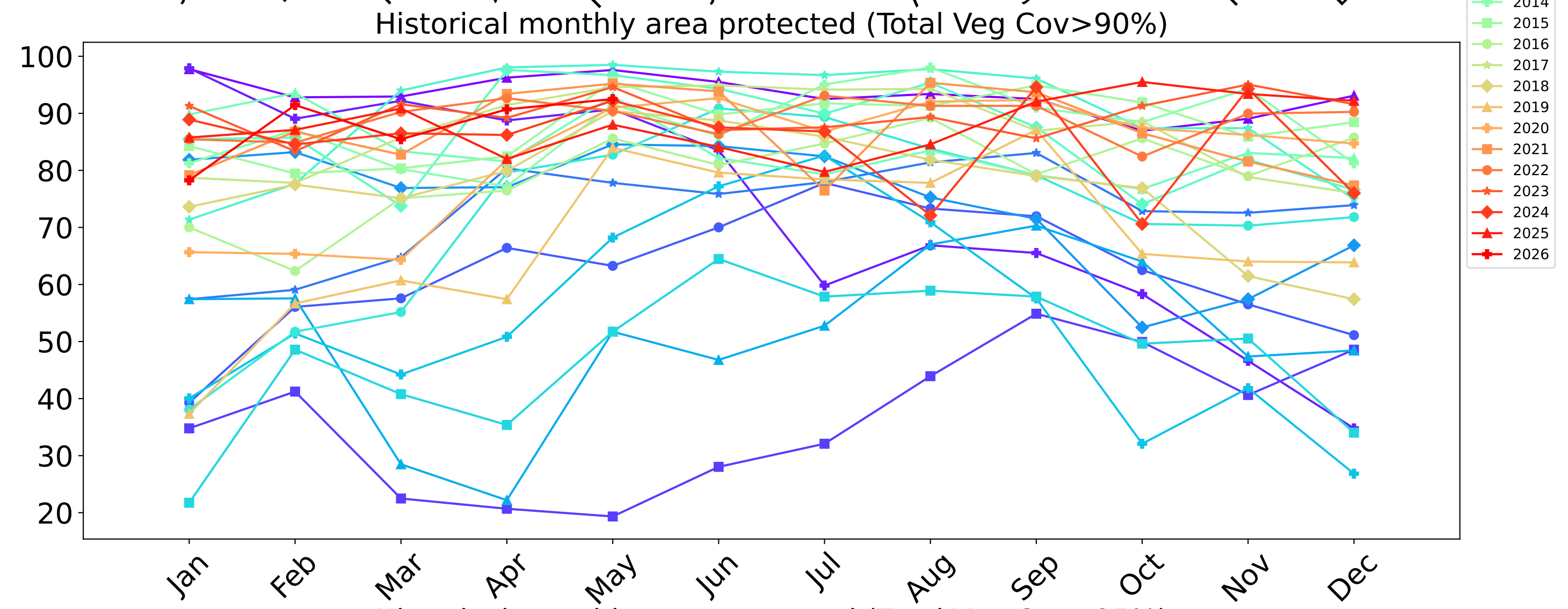
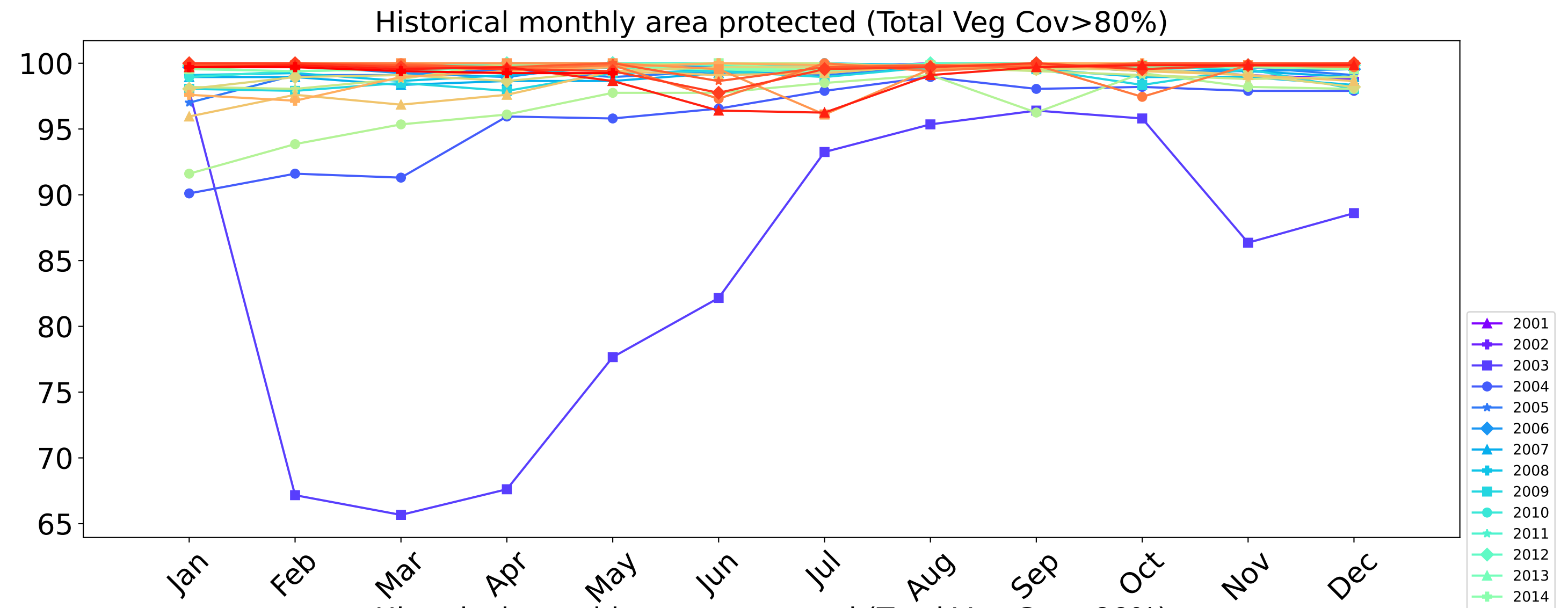
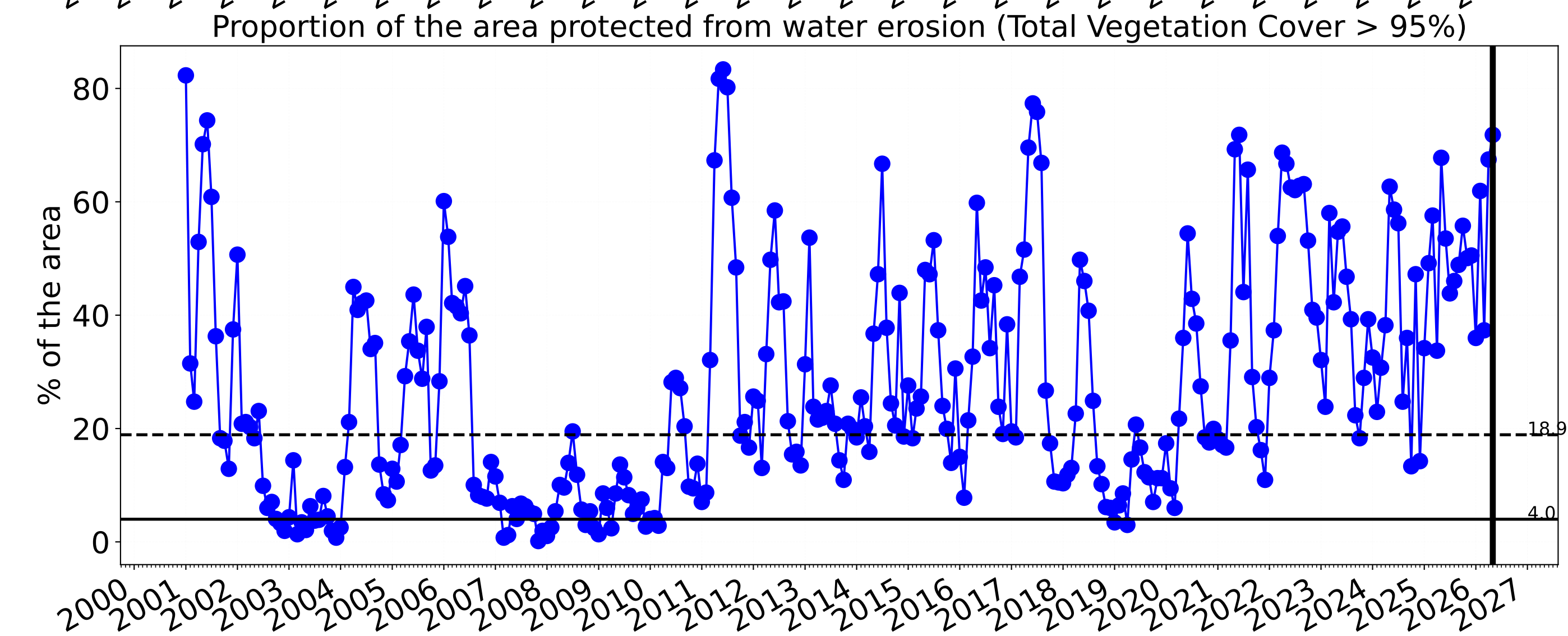
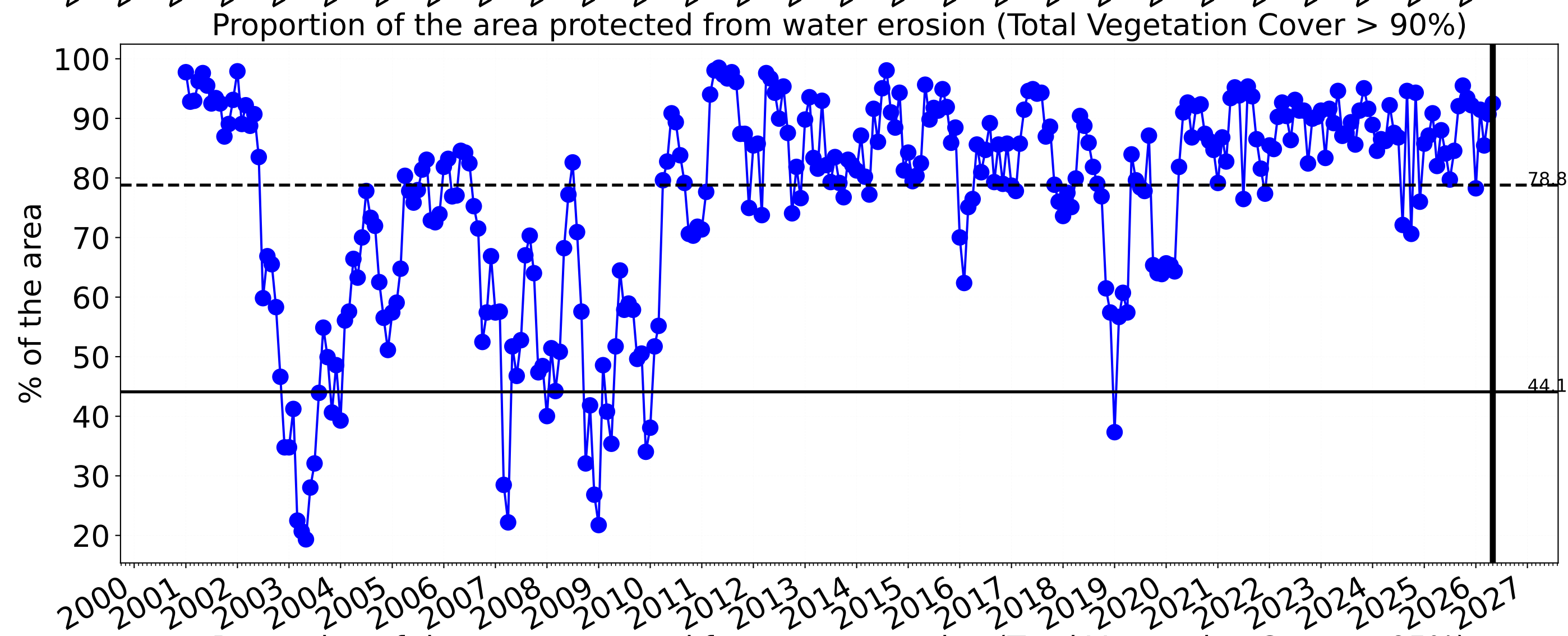
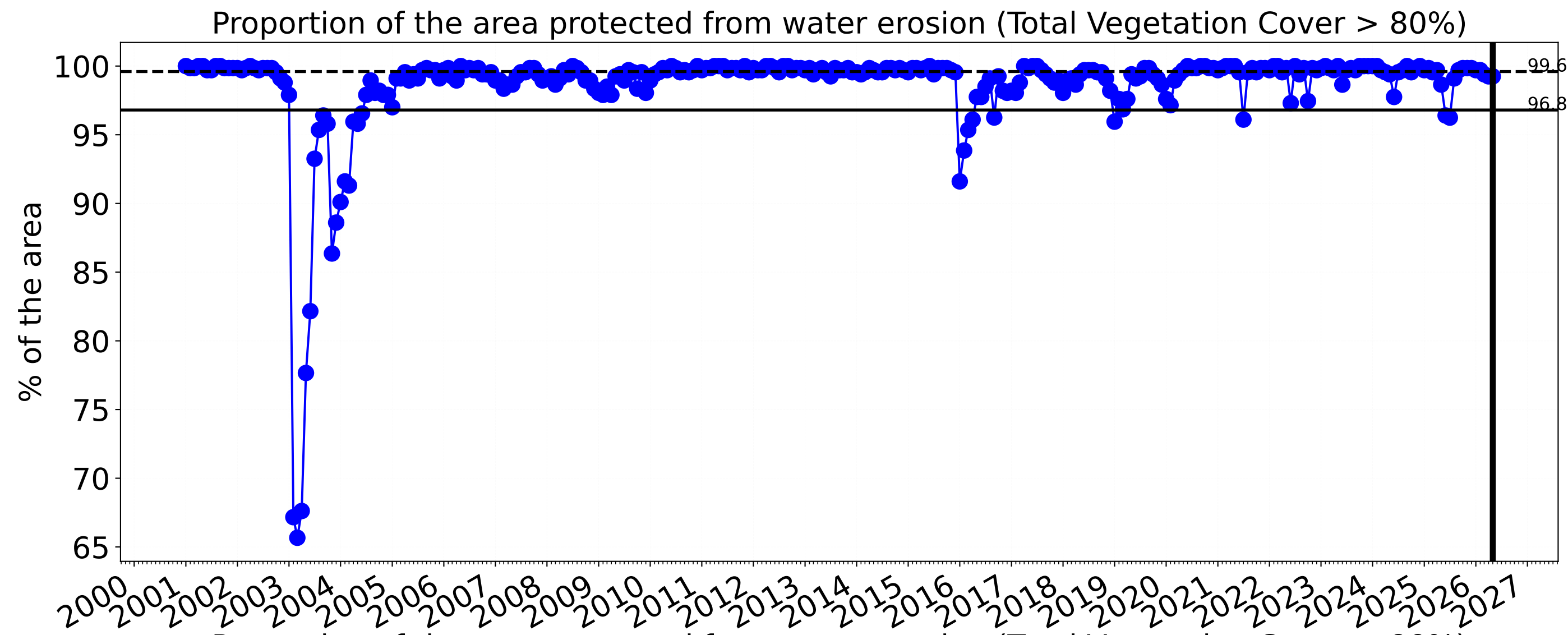


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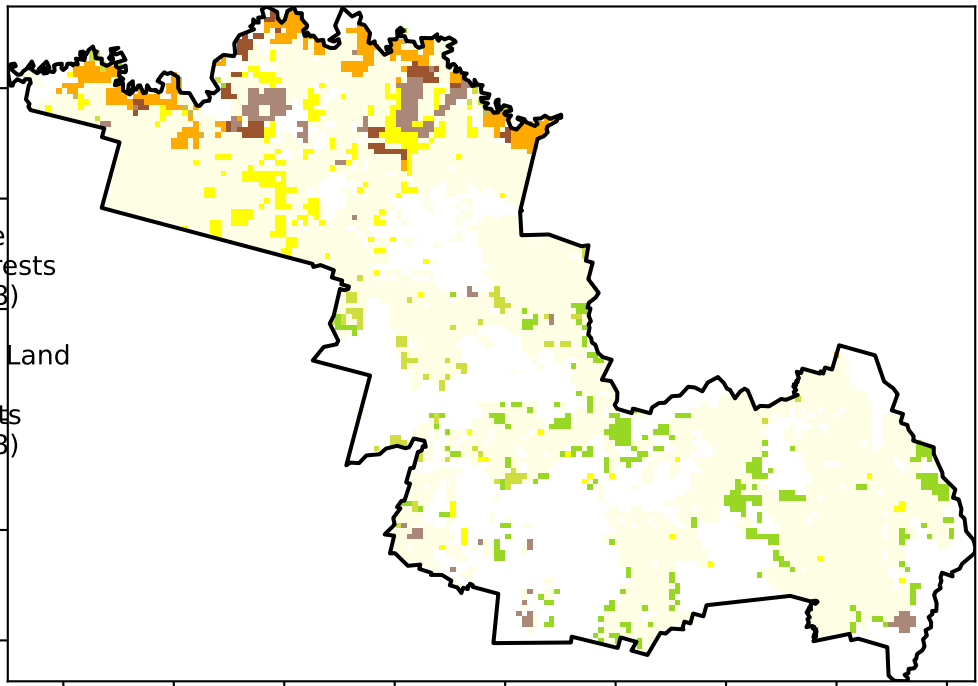




Agriculture

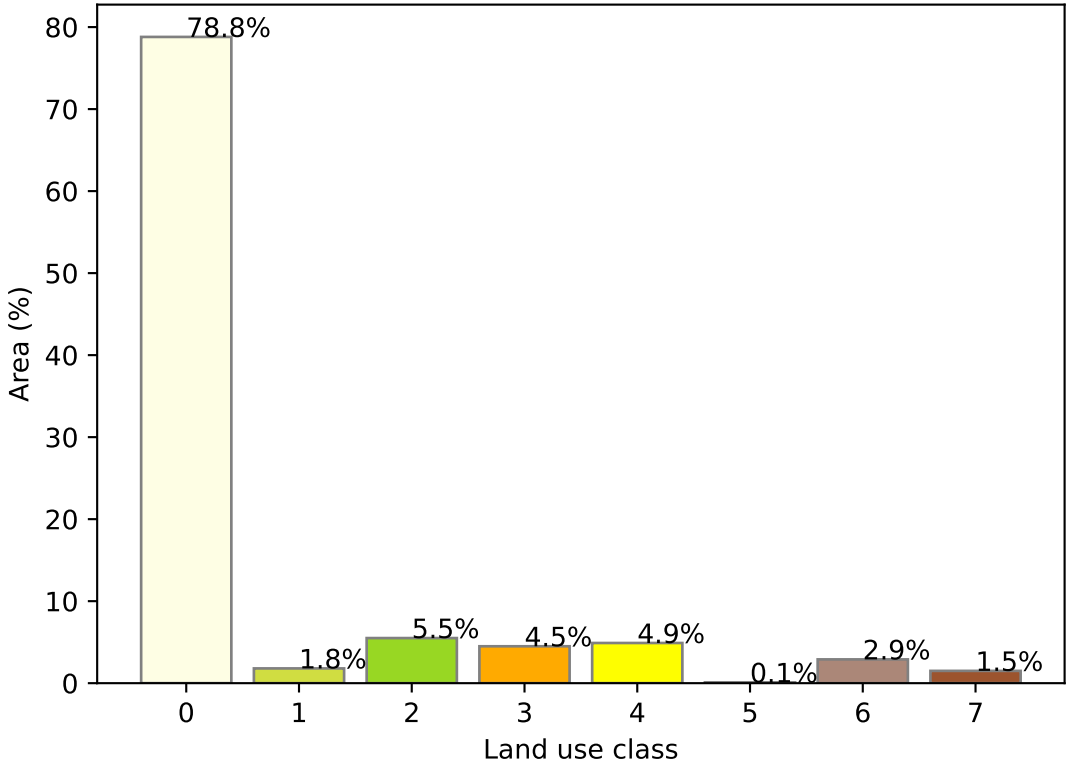
Land use and forest cover

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

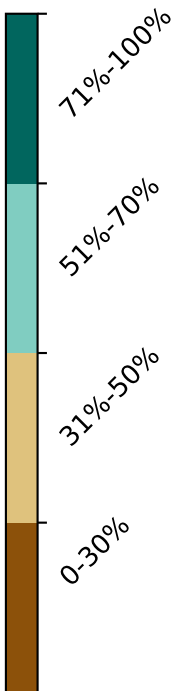
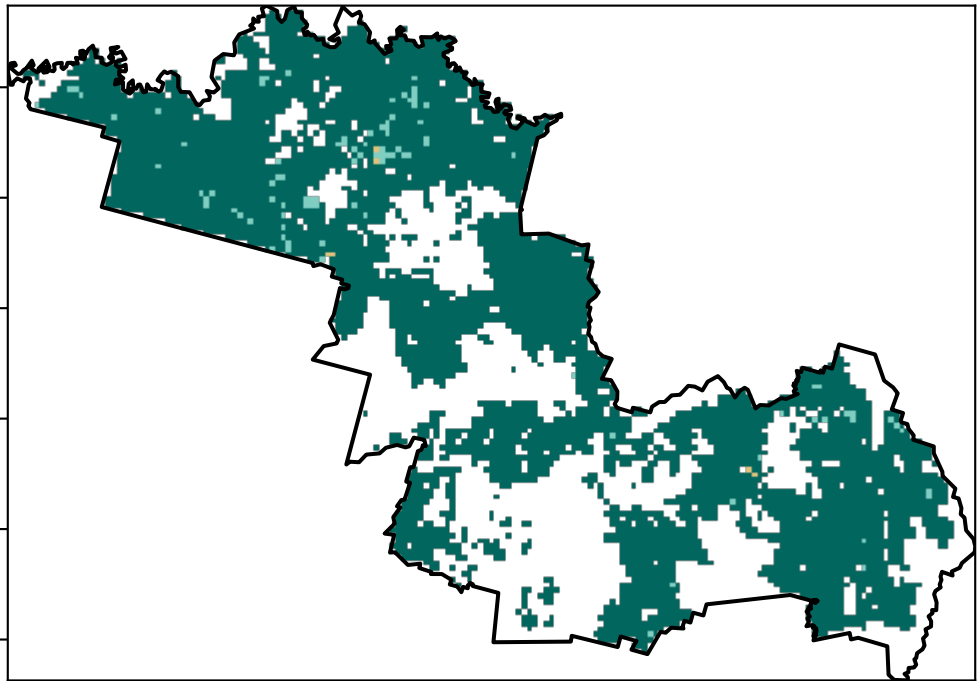


- 1 Agriculture - Grazing - Non forest
- 2 Agriculture - Grazing - Woodland forest
- 3 Agriculture - Grazing - Non-woodland forest
- 4 Agriculture - Grazing - Irrigated
- 5 Agriculture - Cropping - Non-irrigated
- 6 Agriculture - Cropping - Irrigated
- 7 Agriculture - Horticulture - Non-irrigated
- 8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

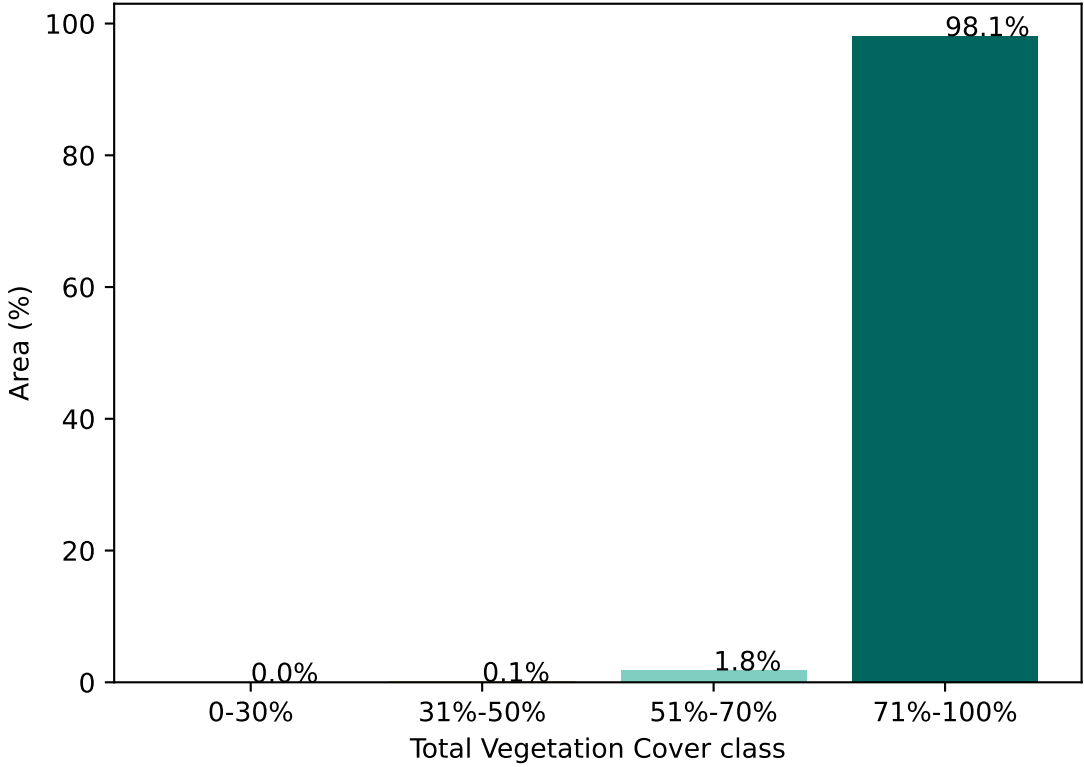
Proportion of each land class in area



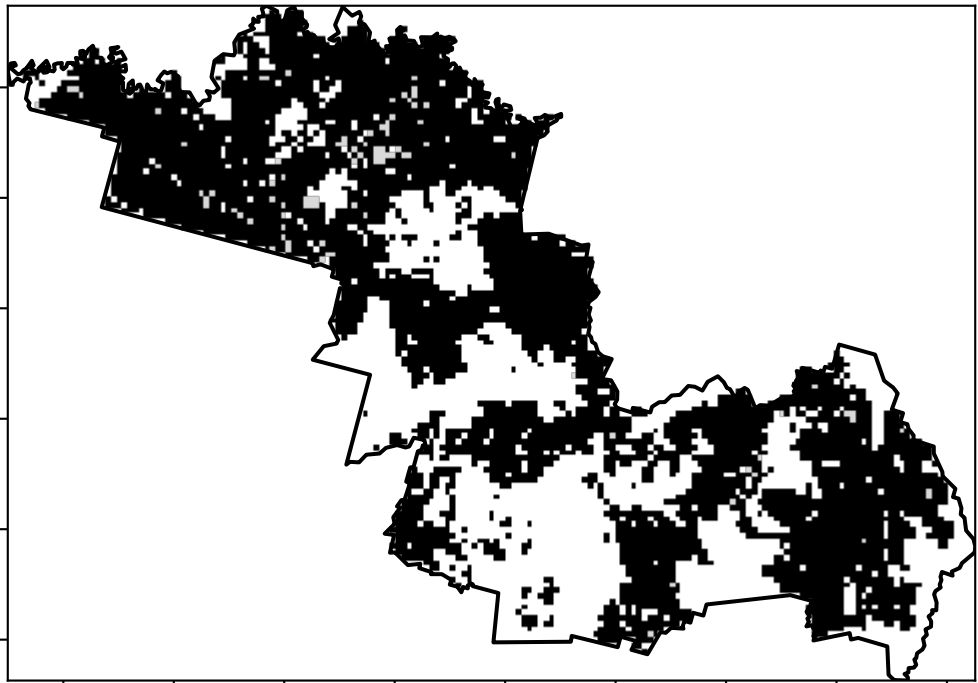
Total Vegetation Cover [%]



Proportion of vegetation cover class in area

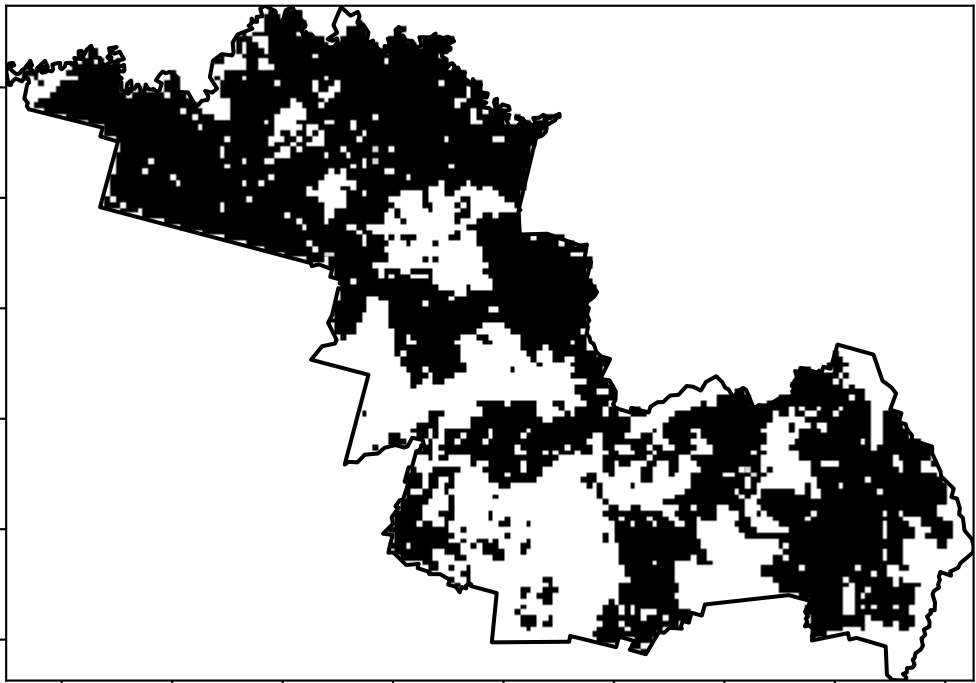


% Area protected from water erosion (>70%)



- Area not protected
1.9% of region
(2,528 ha)
- Area protected
98.1% of region
(130,547 ha)

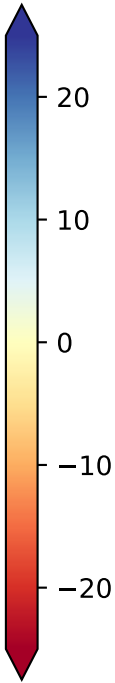
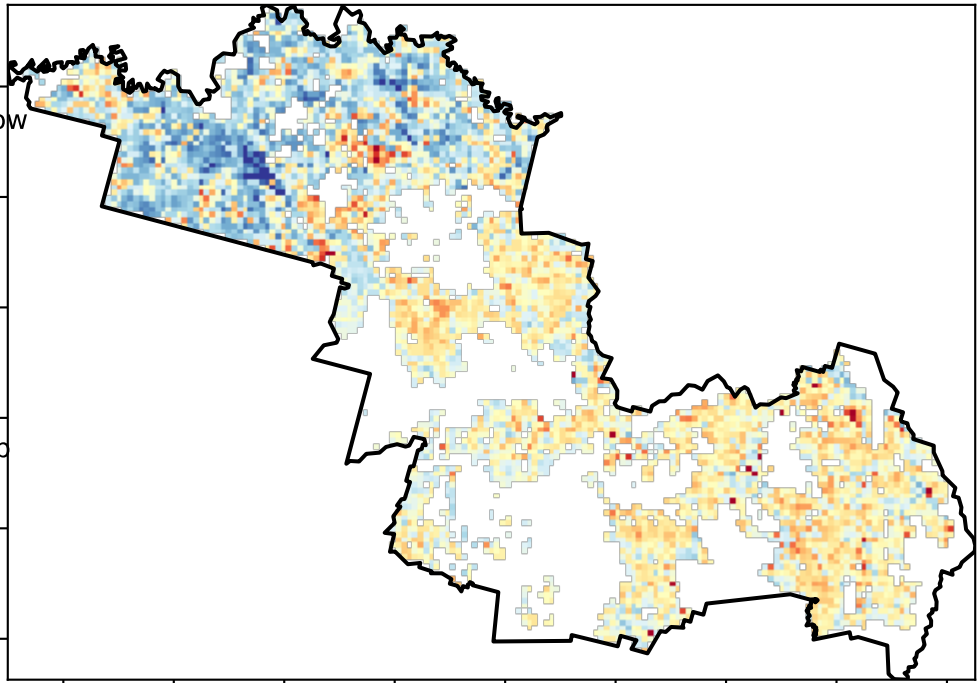
% Area protected from wind erosion (>50%)



- Area not protected
0.0% of region (0 ha)
- Area protected
100.0% of region
(133,075 ha)

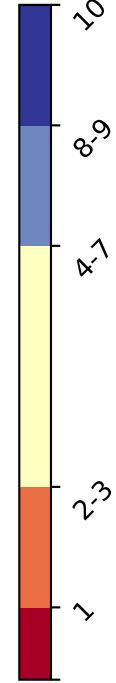
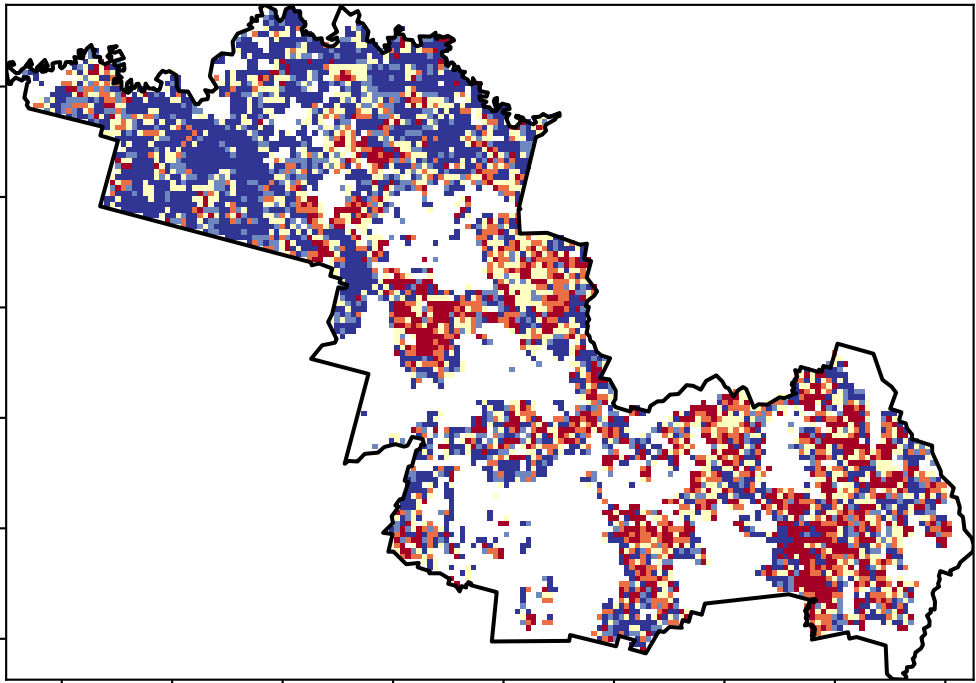
Total Vegetation Cover Anomaly [%]

Anomaly show how
many percentage
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from 2001 to 2019.

Total Vegetation Cover Decile [%]



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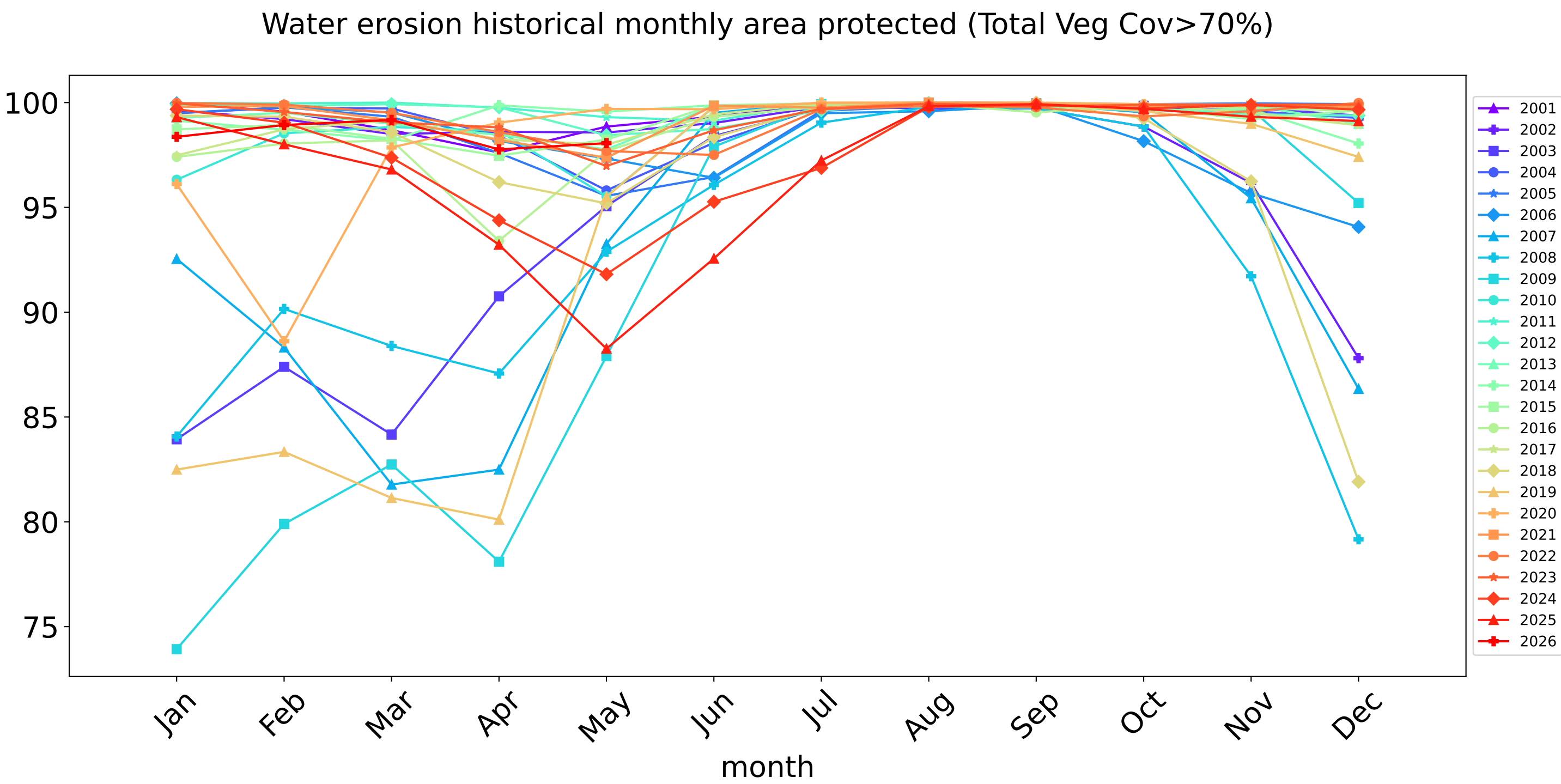
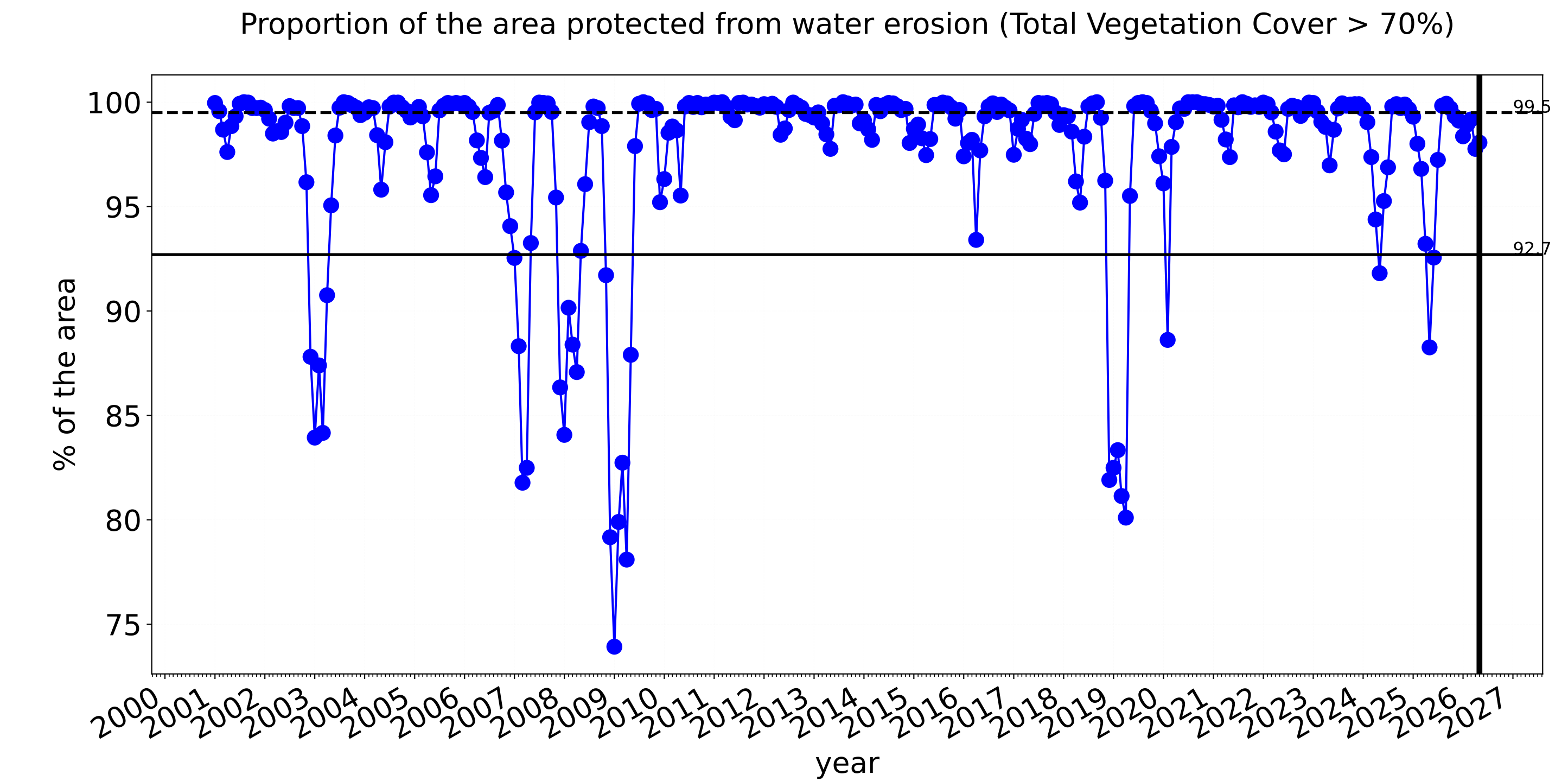
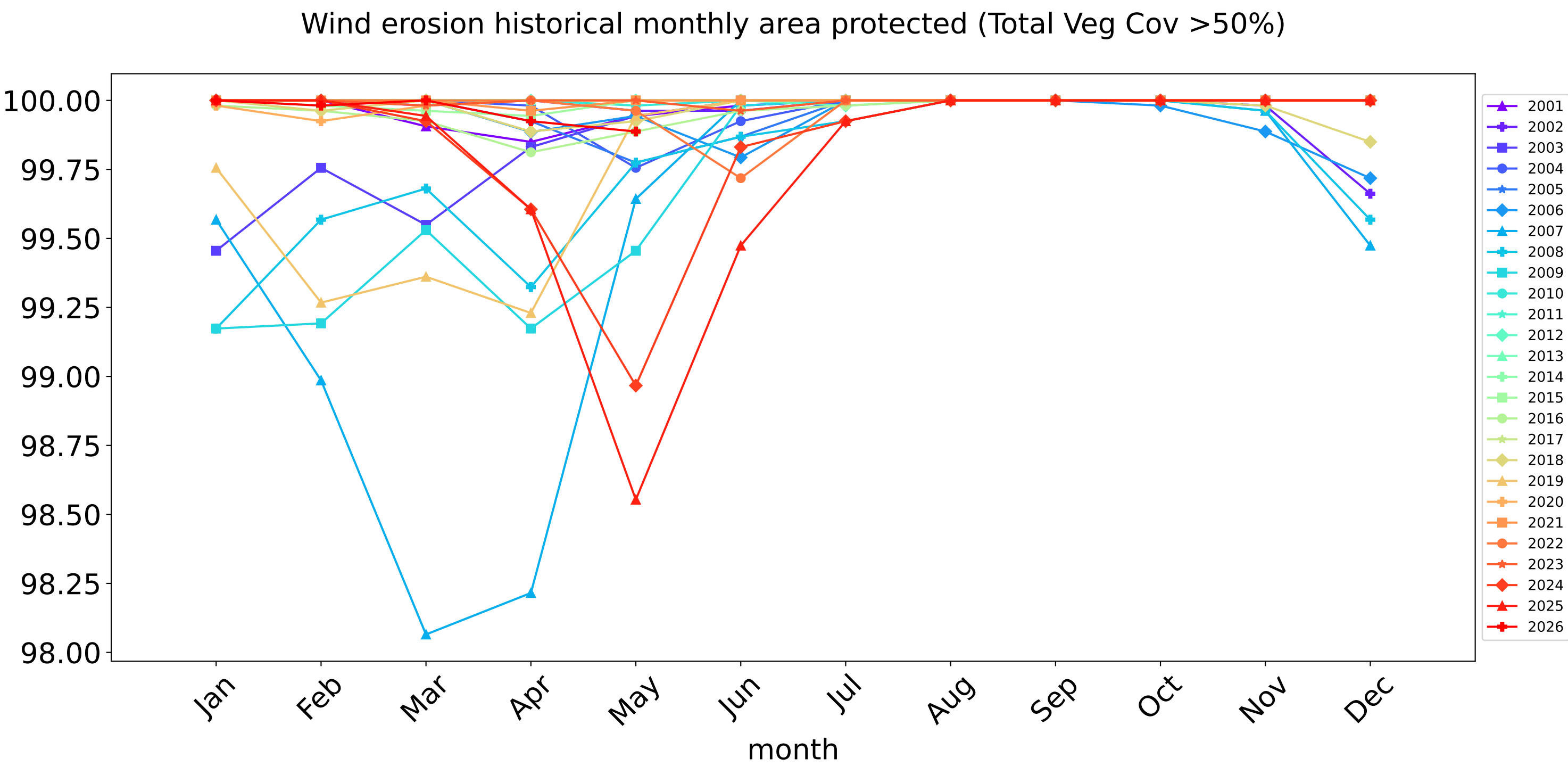
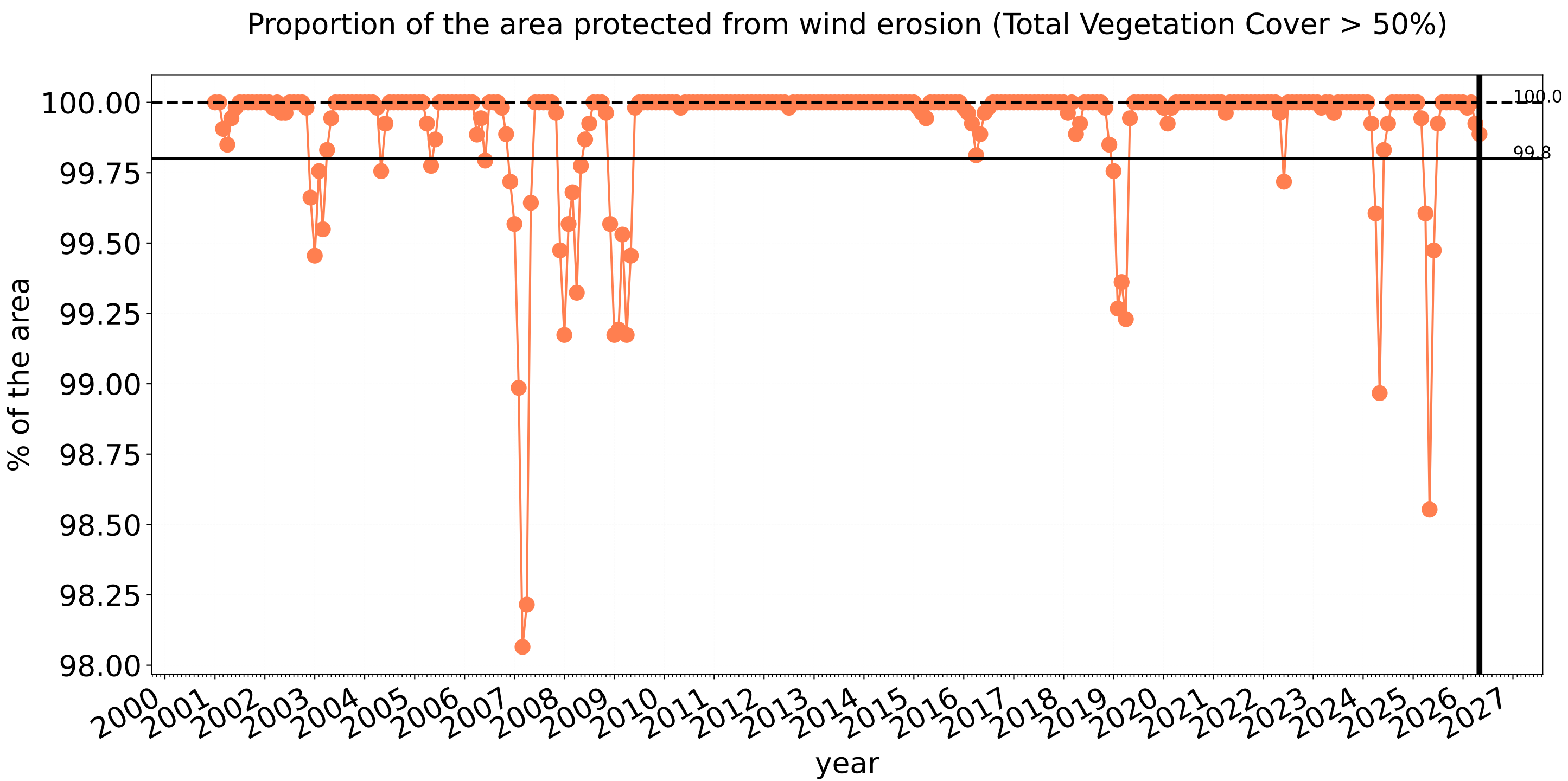


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Agriculture timeseries

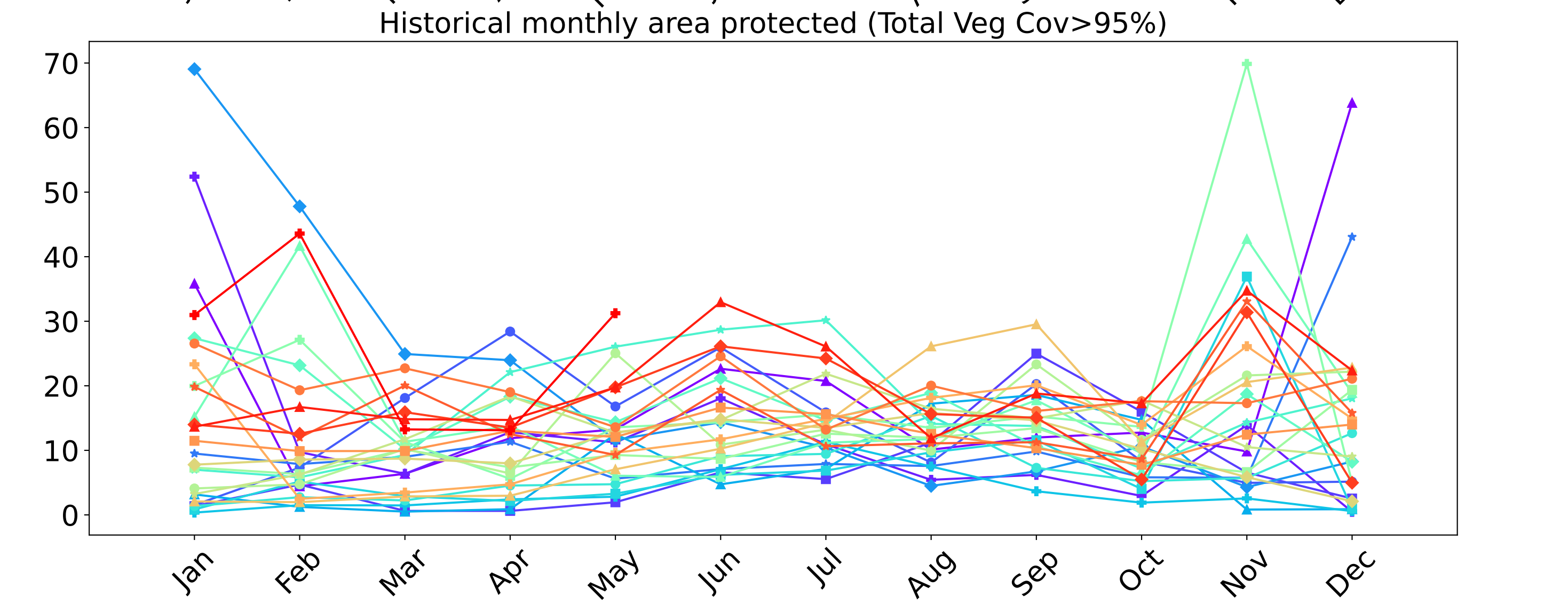
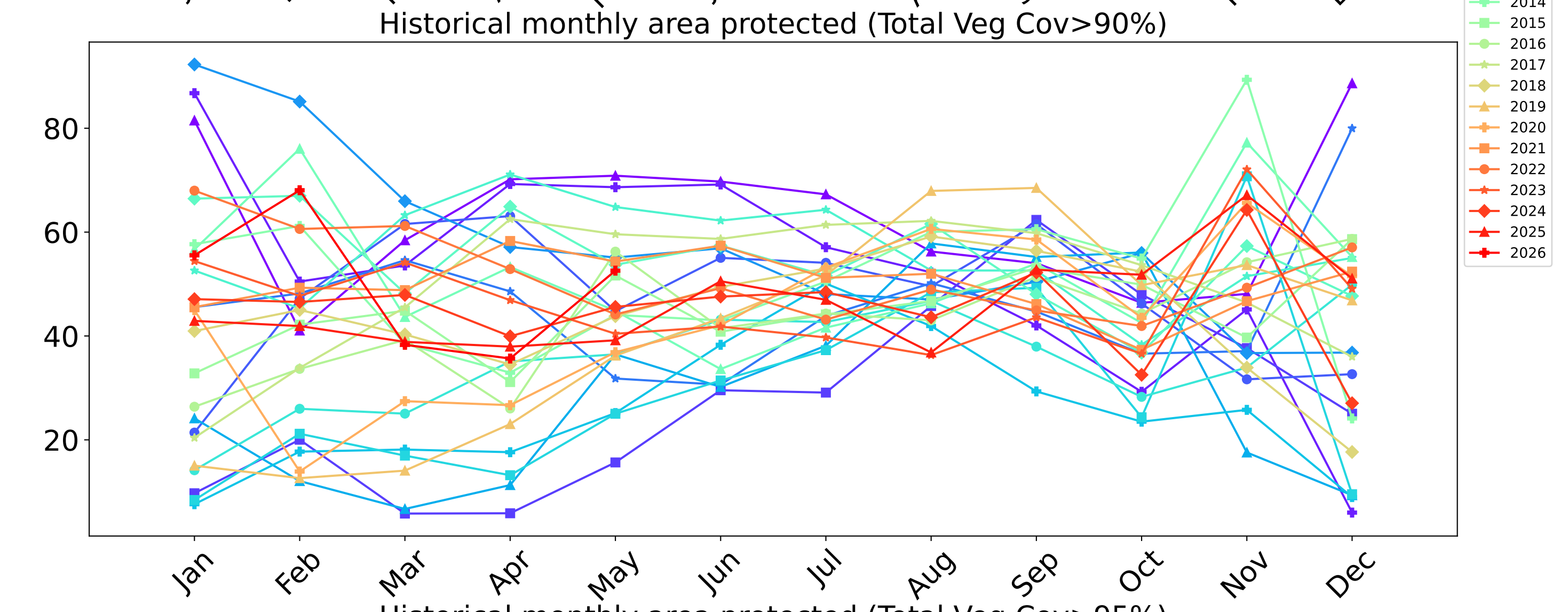
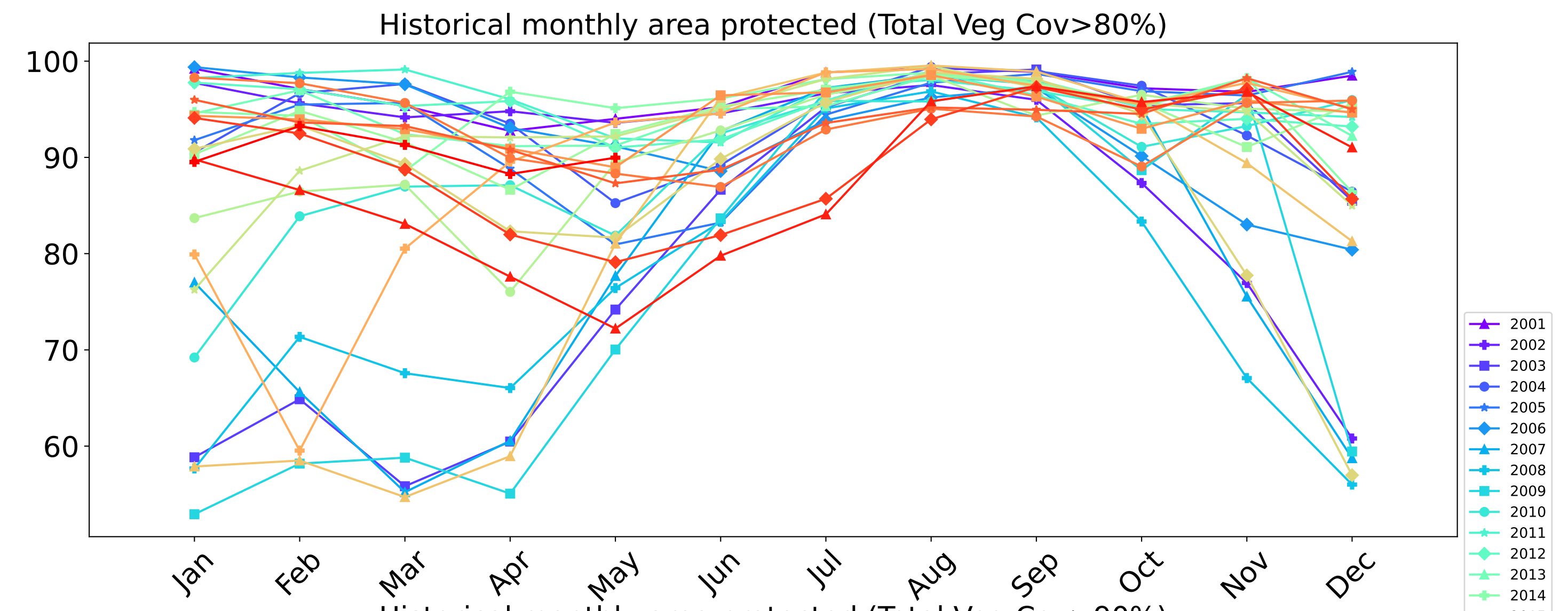
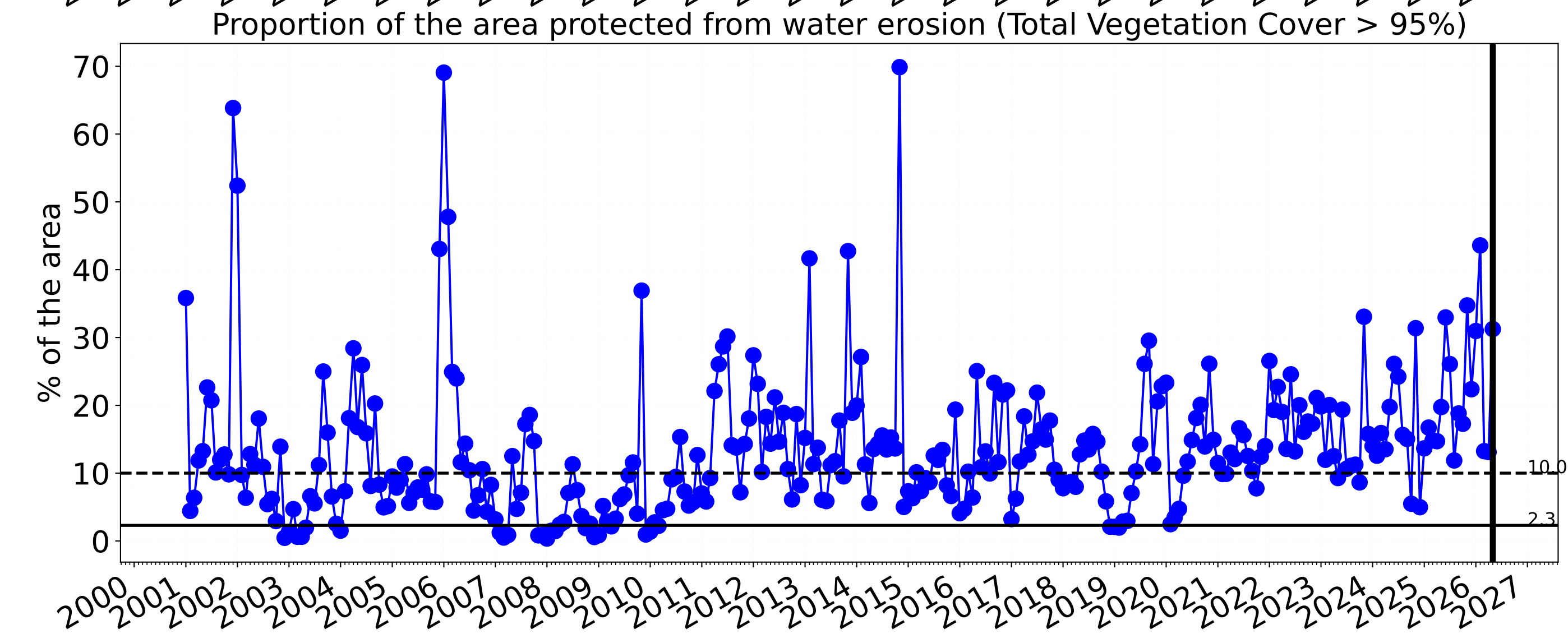
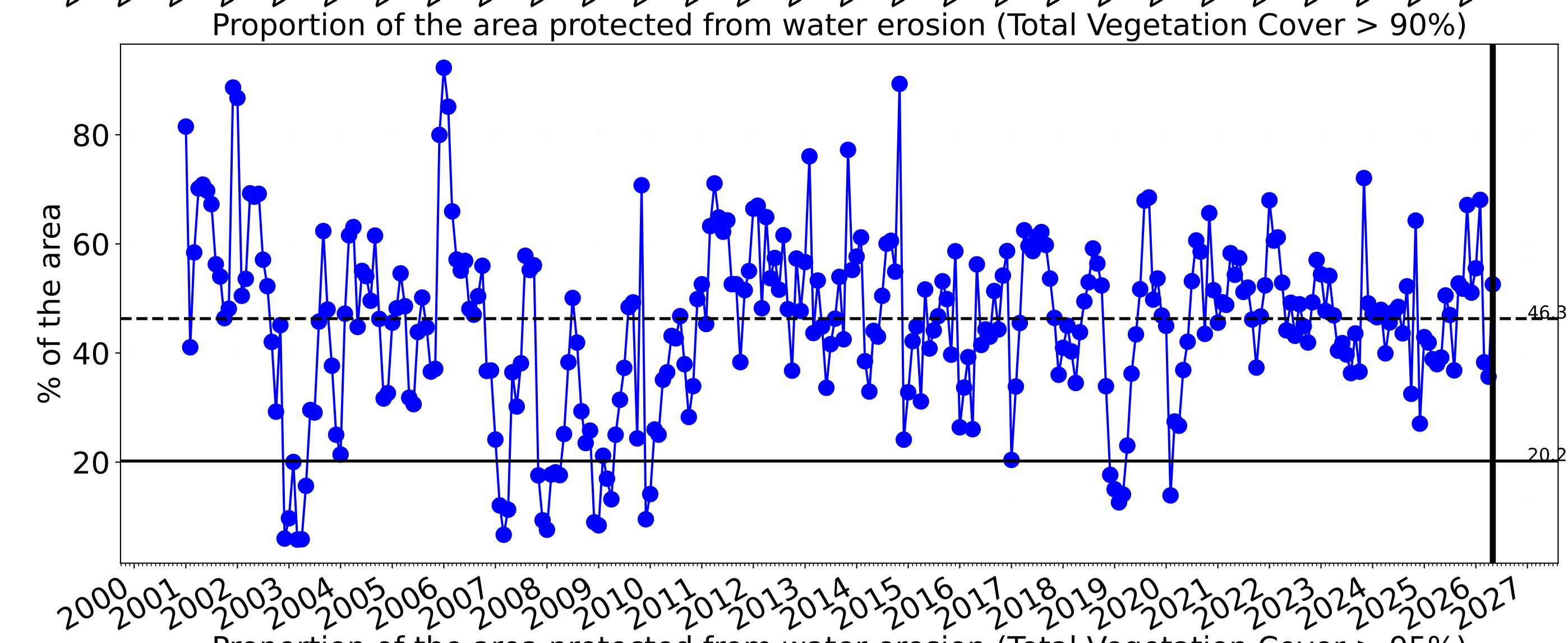
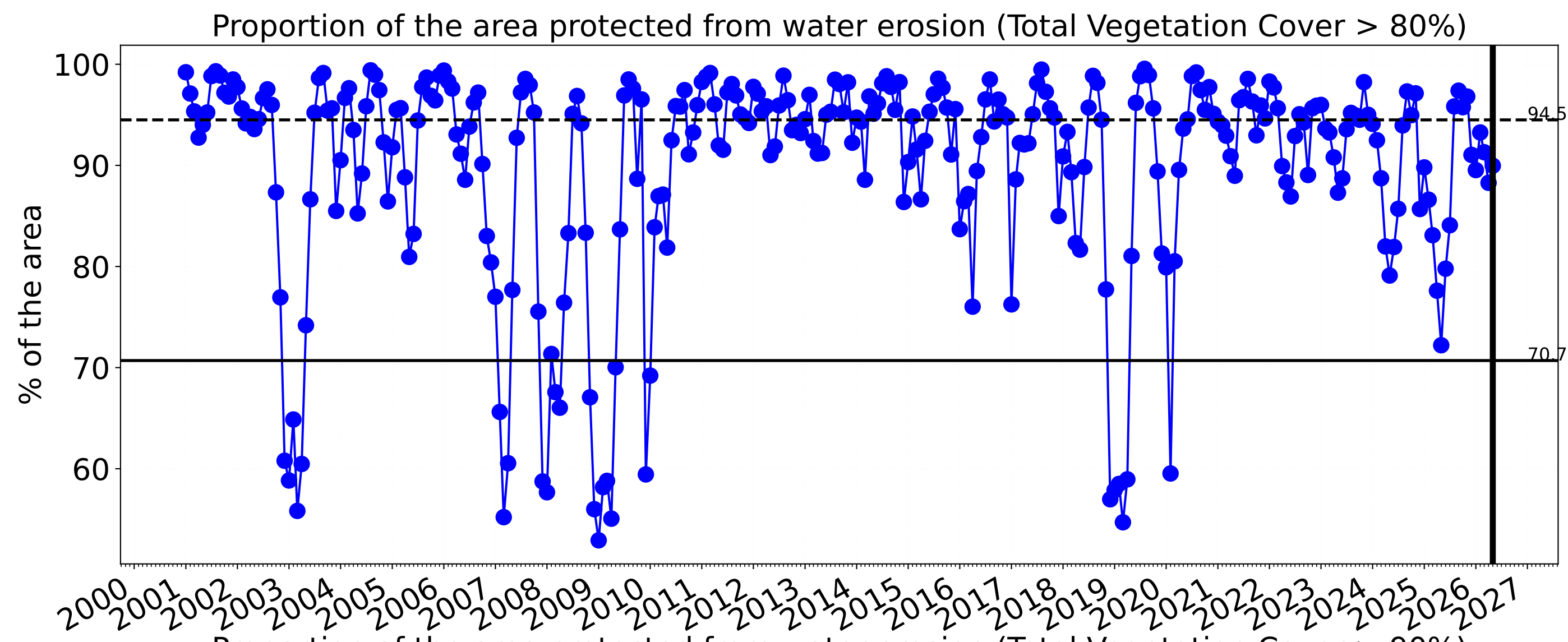


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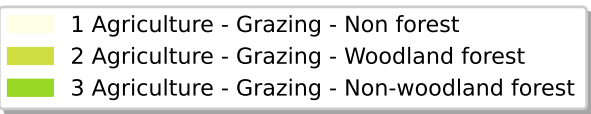
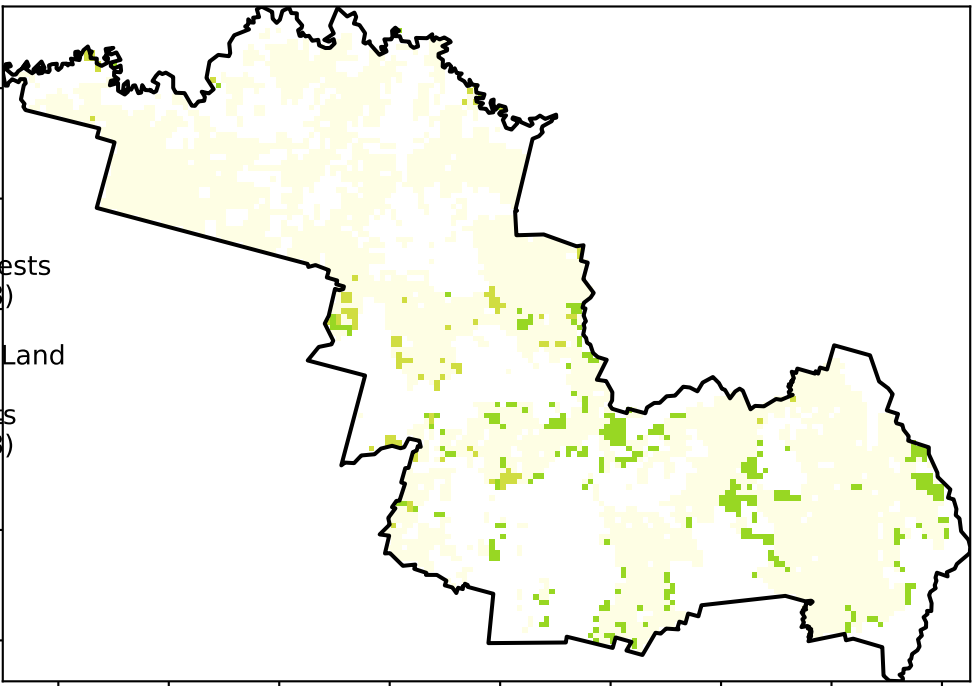




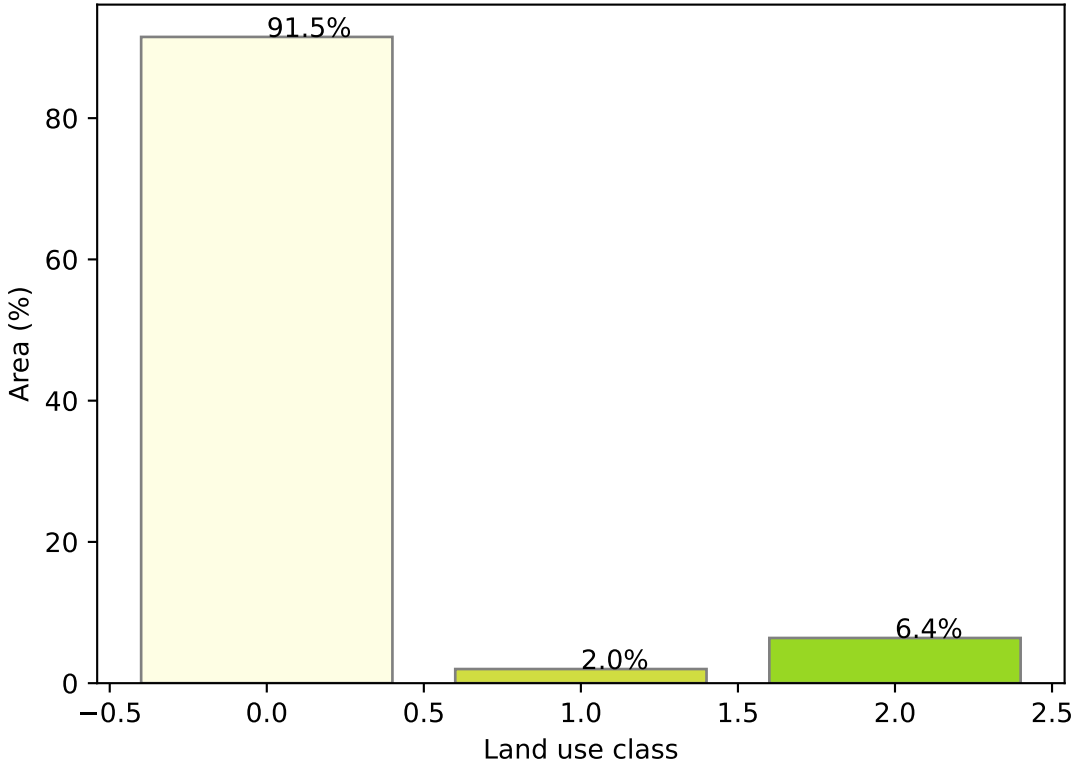
Grazing

Land use and forest cover

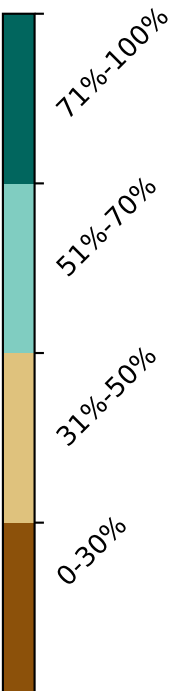
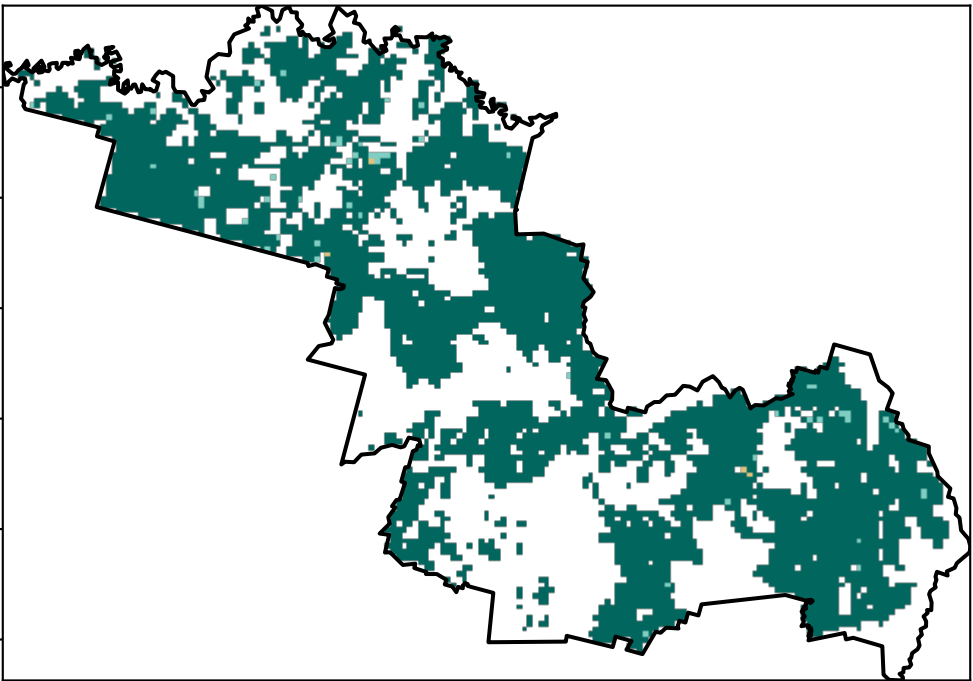
Catchment Scale
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of Australia (2018)
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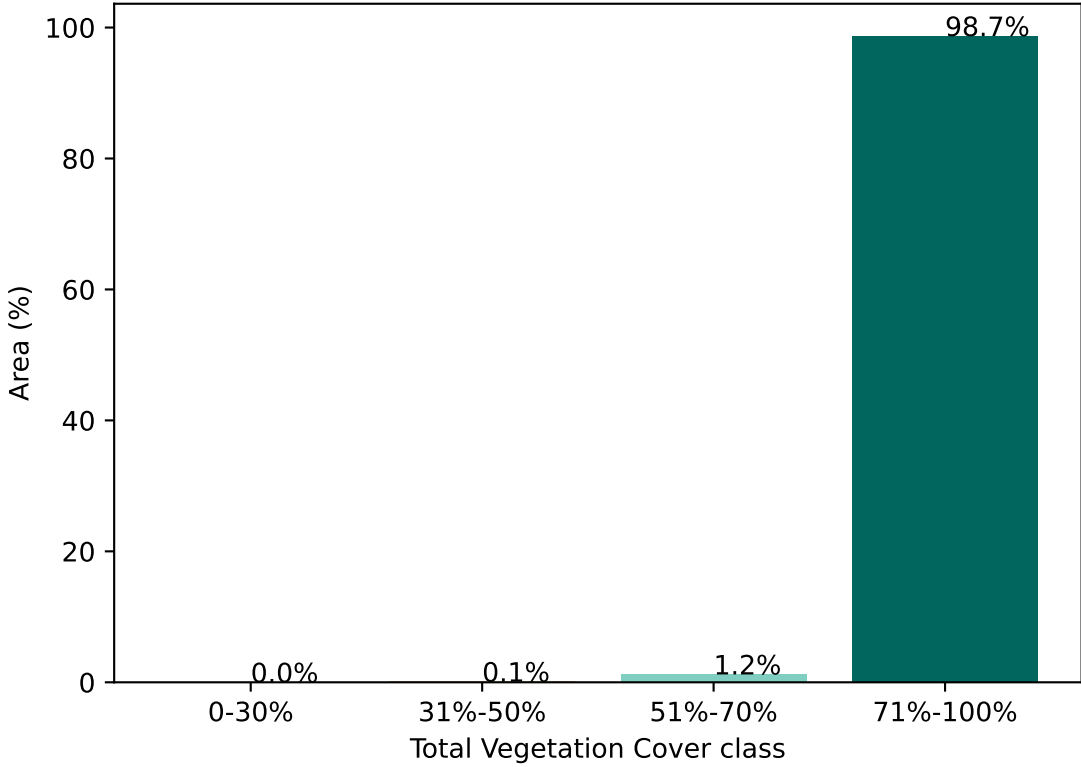
Proportion of each land class in area



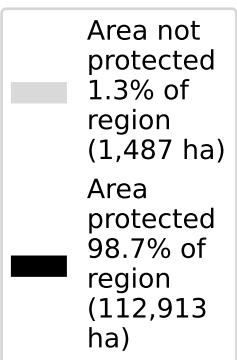
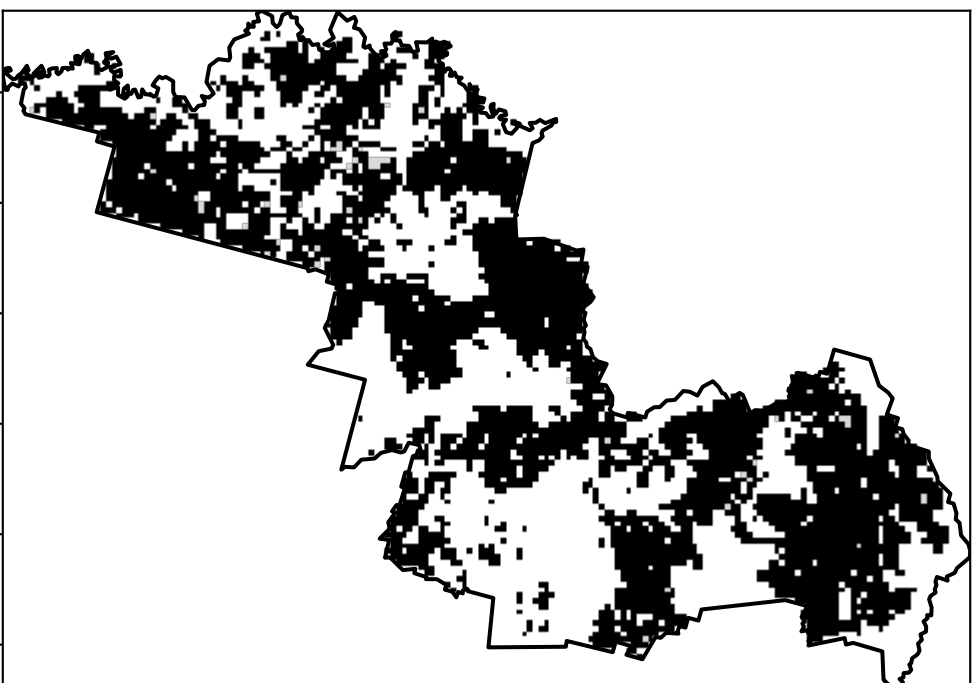
Total Vegetation Cover [%]



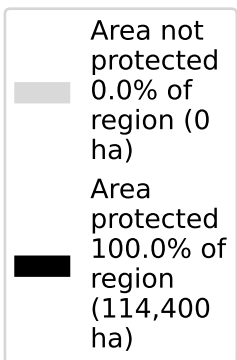
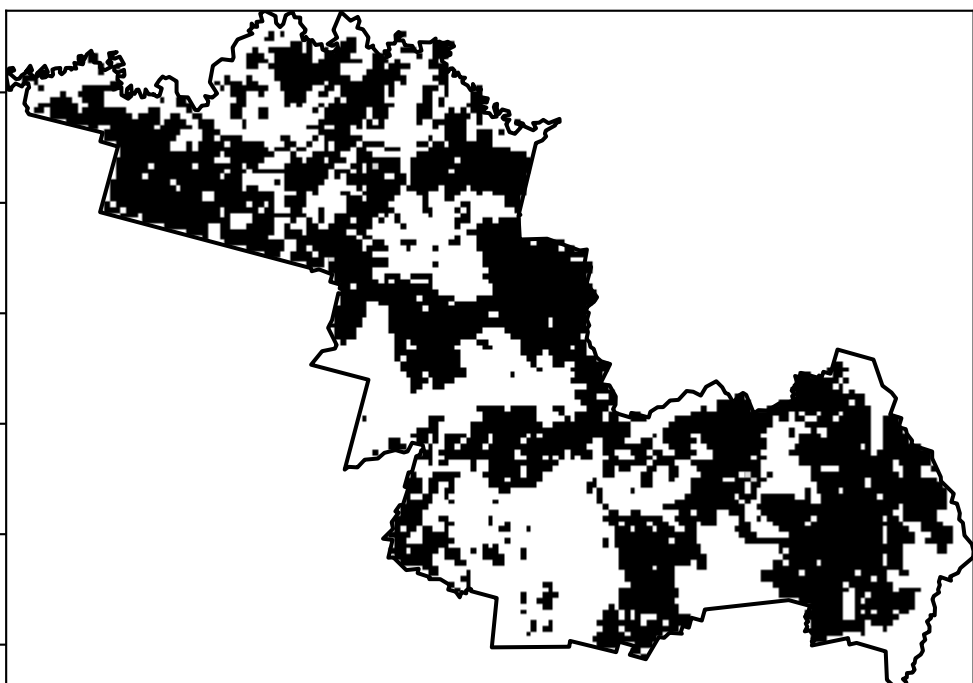
Proportion of vegetation cover class in area



% Area protected from water erosion (>70%)

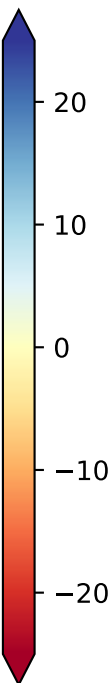
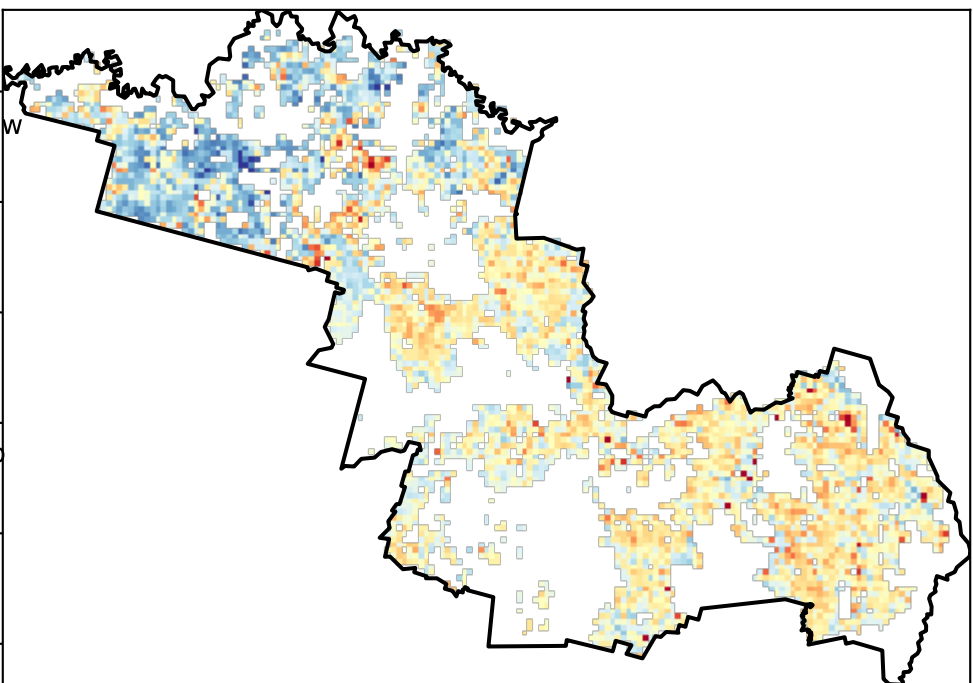


% Area protected from wind erosion (>50%)



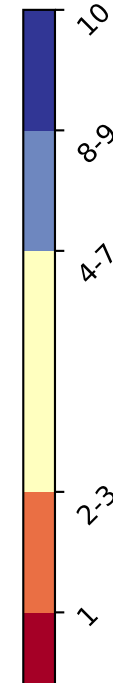
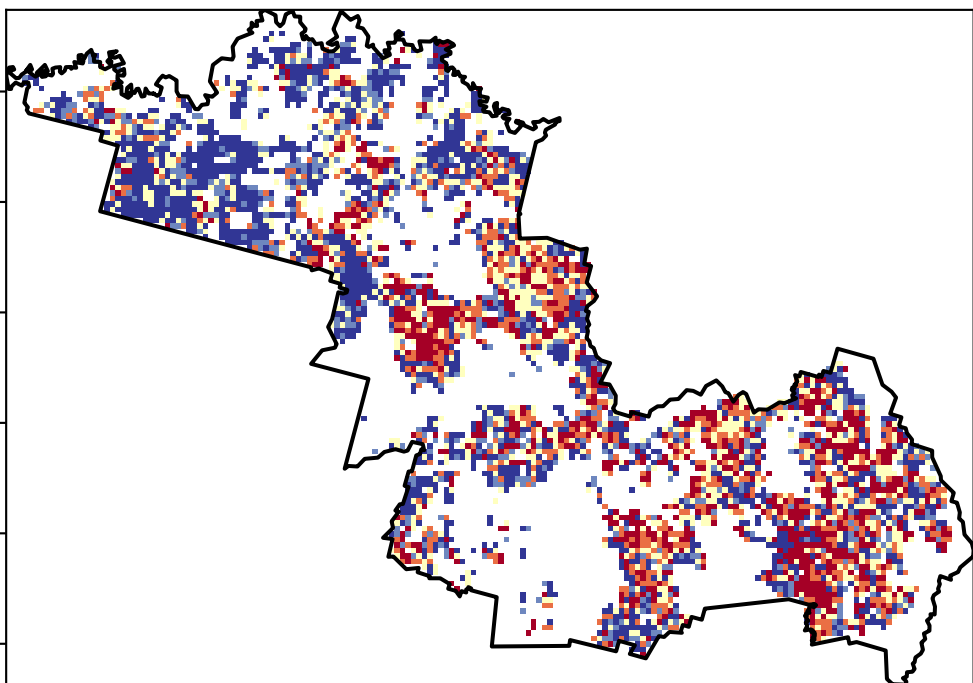
Total Vegetation Cover Anomaly [%]

Anomaly show how
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Total Vegetation Cover Decile [%]



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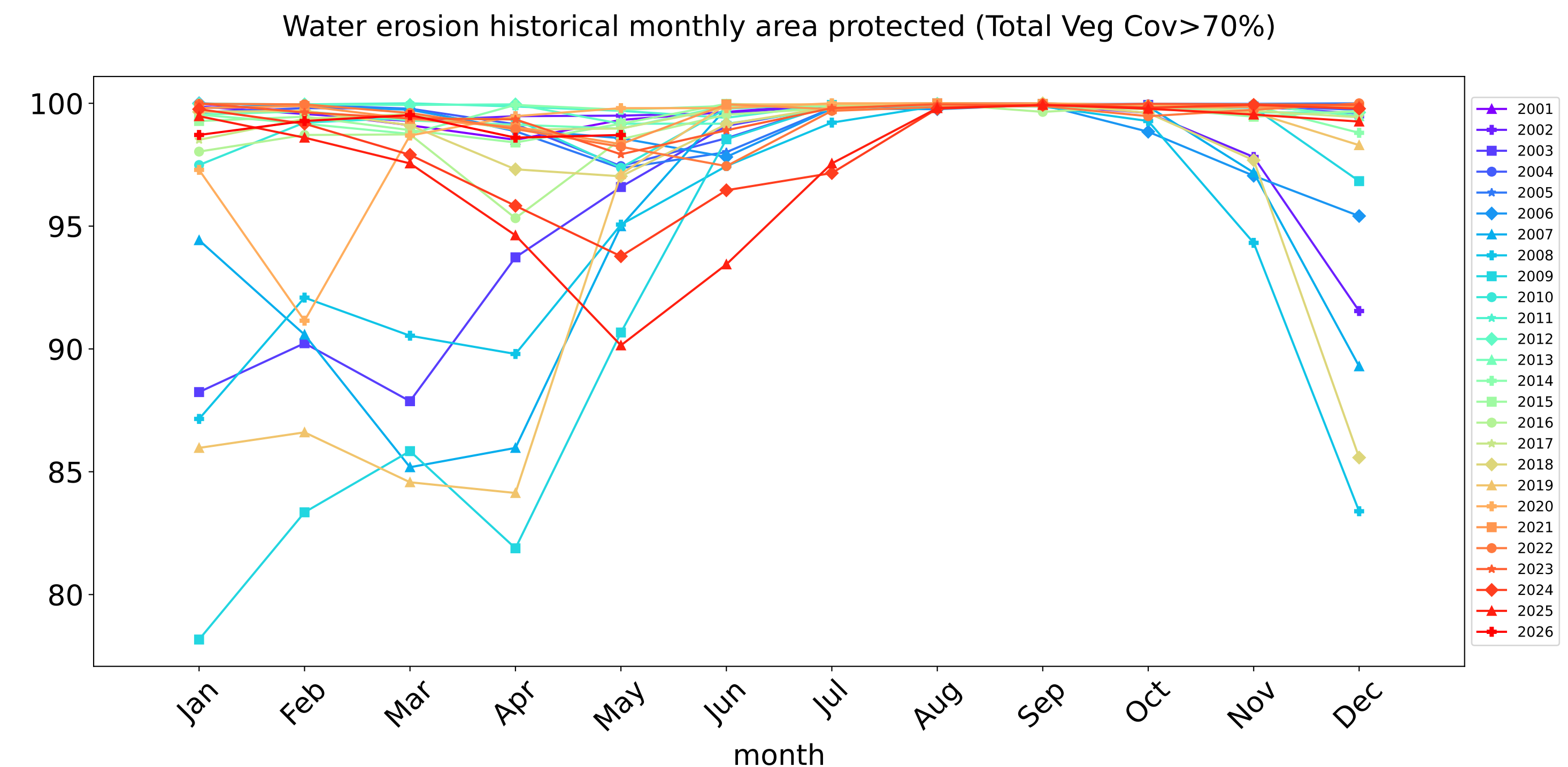
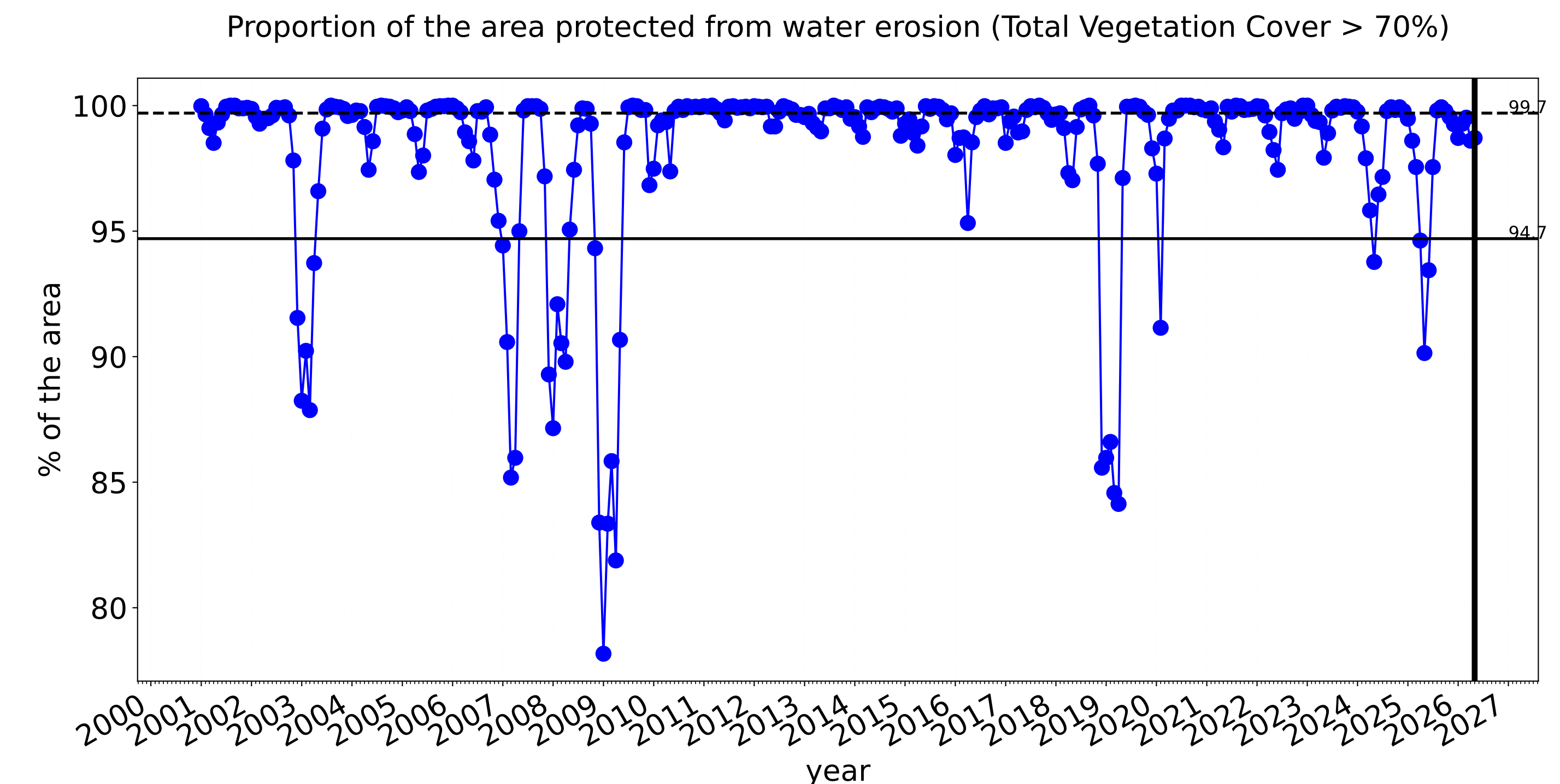
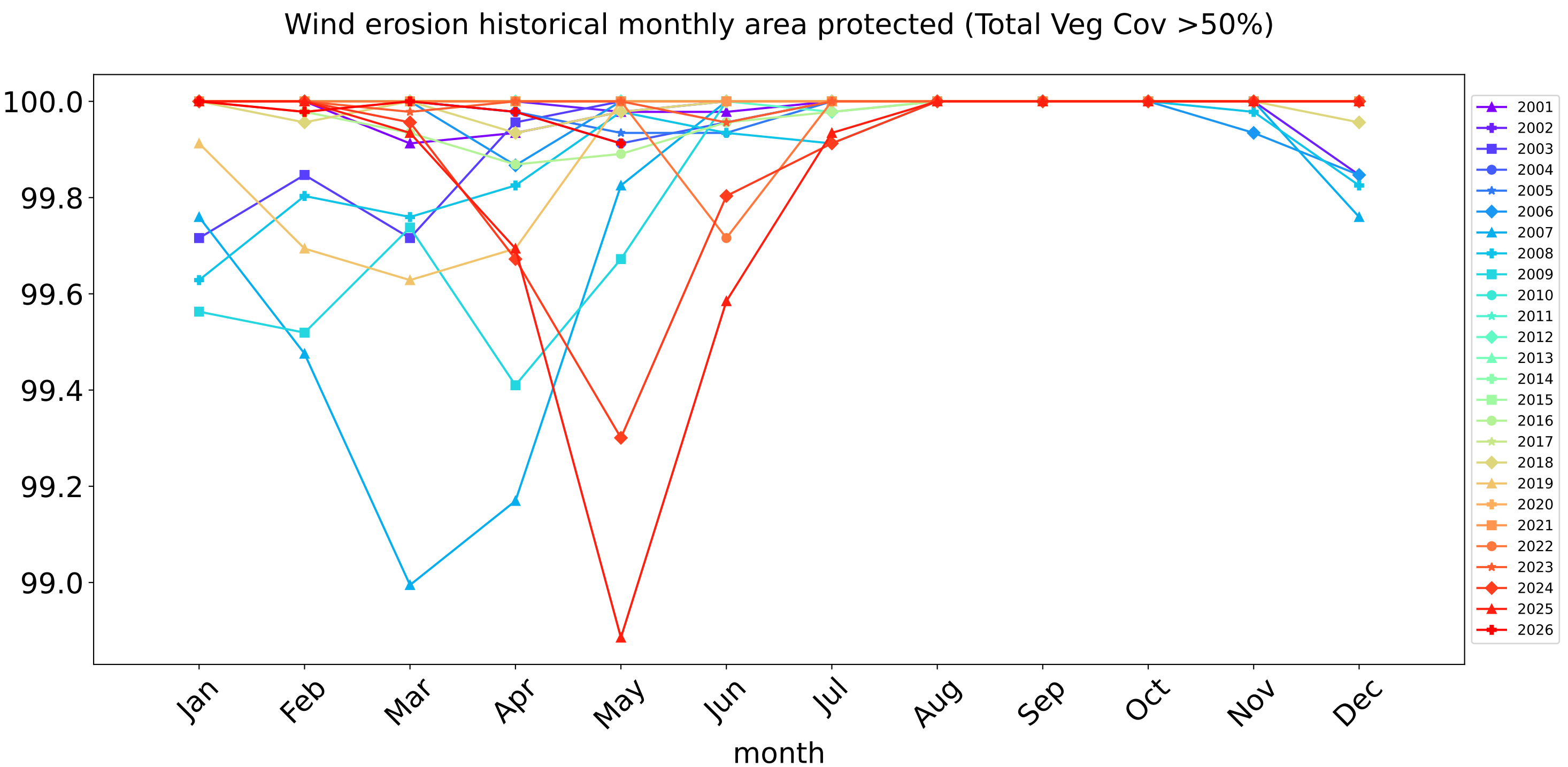
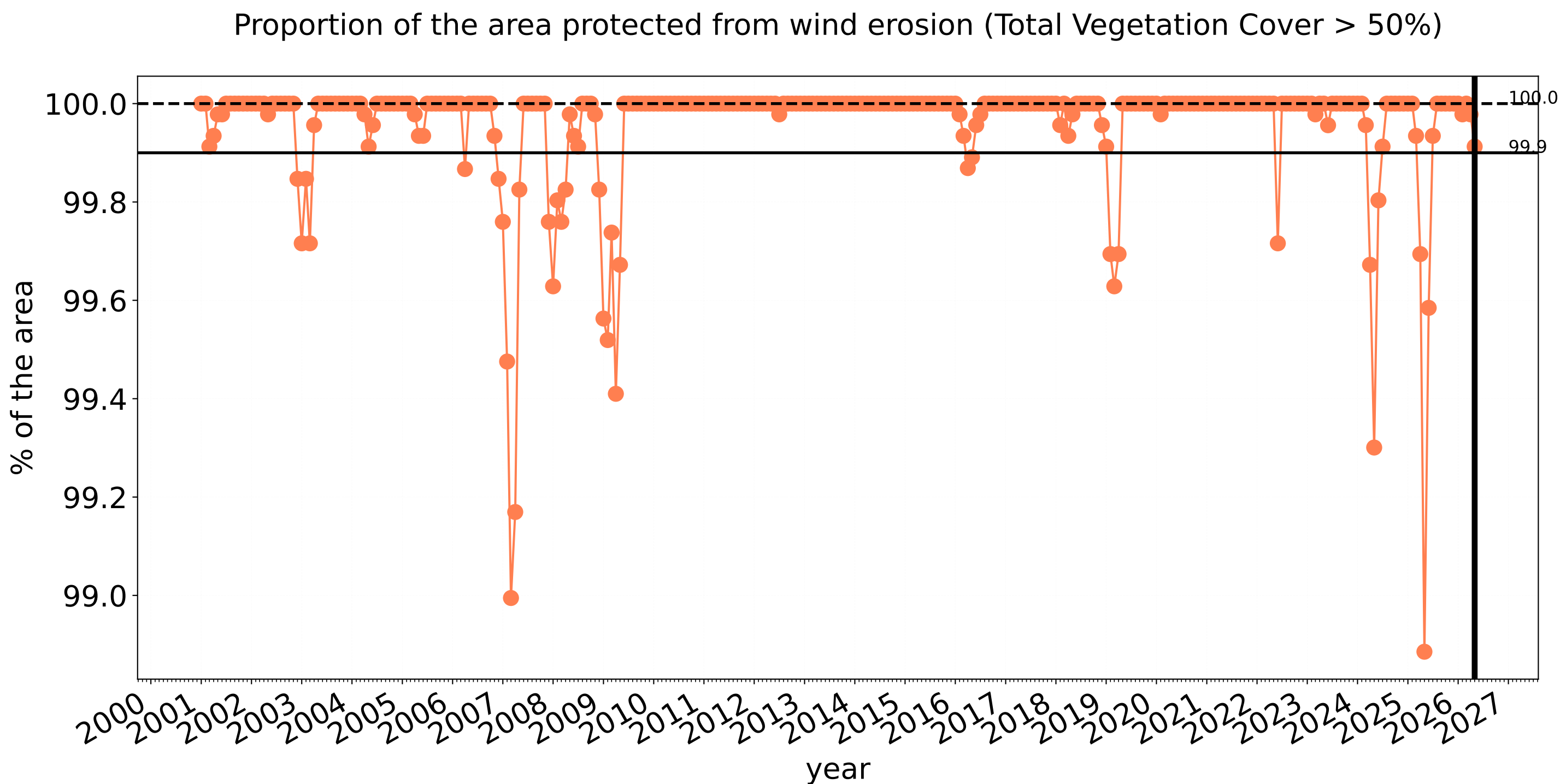


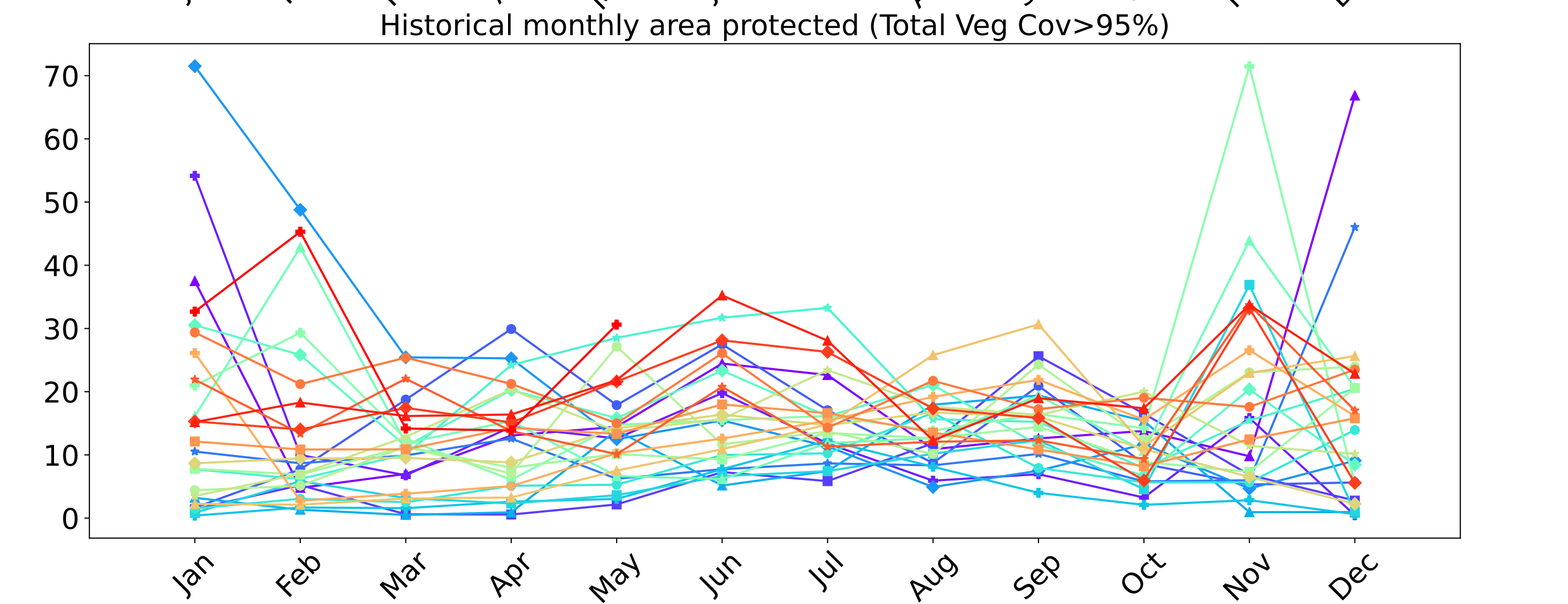
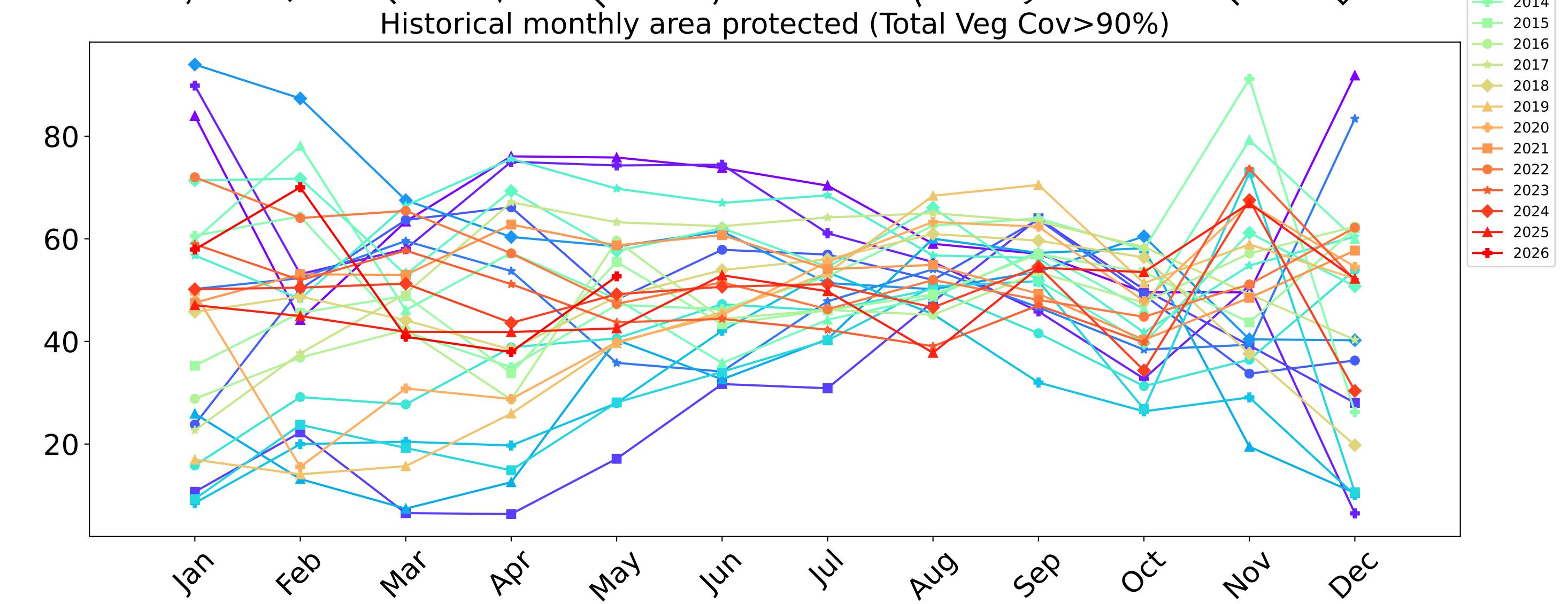
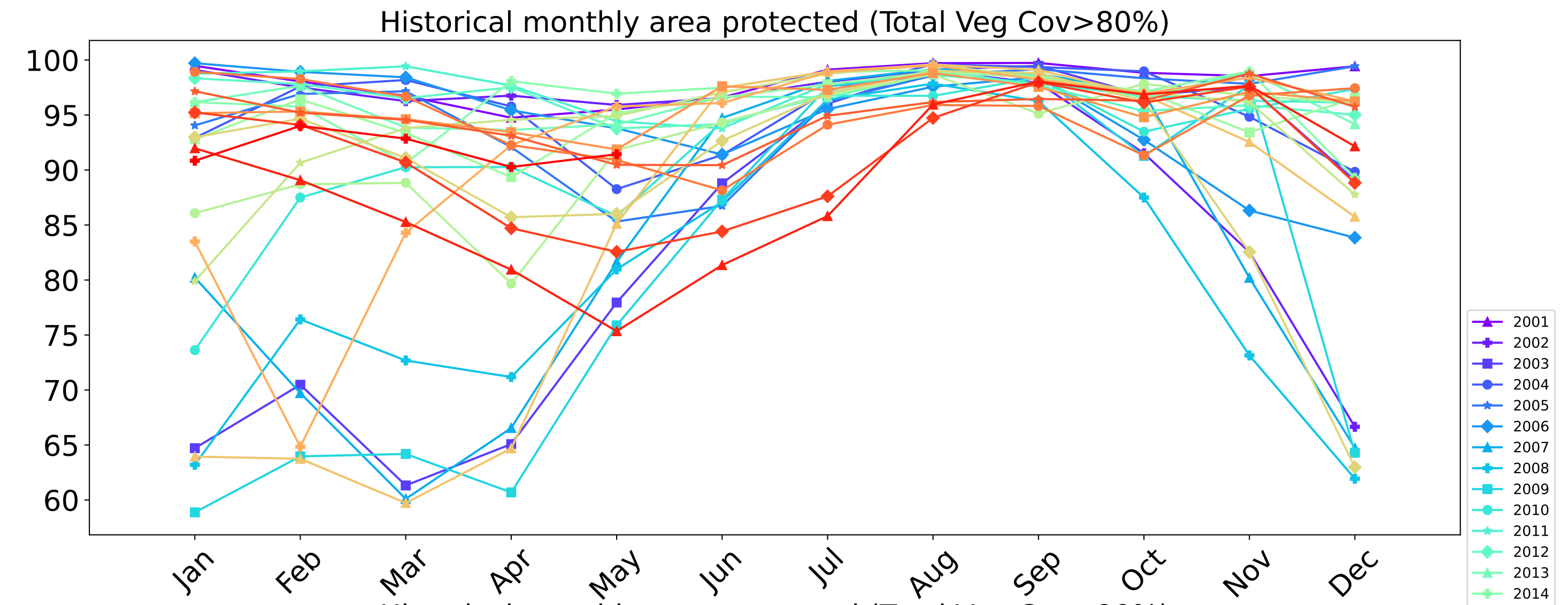
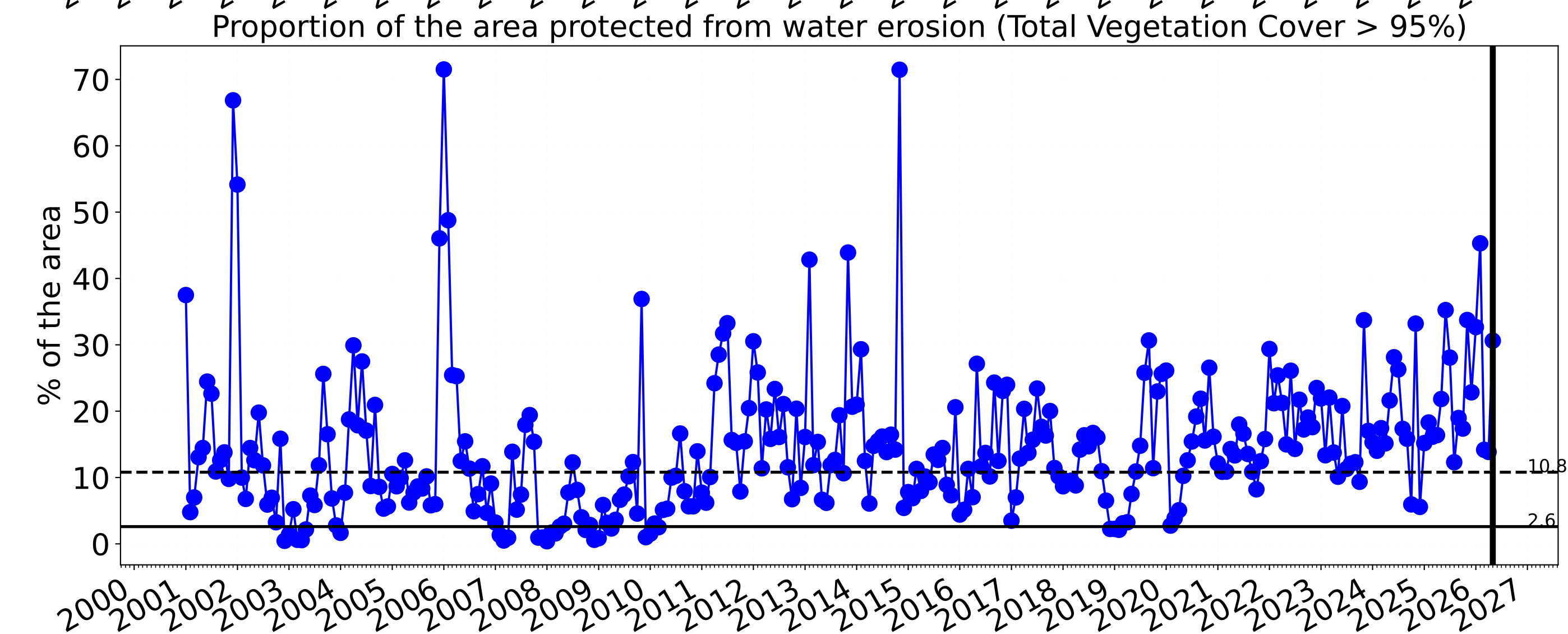
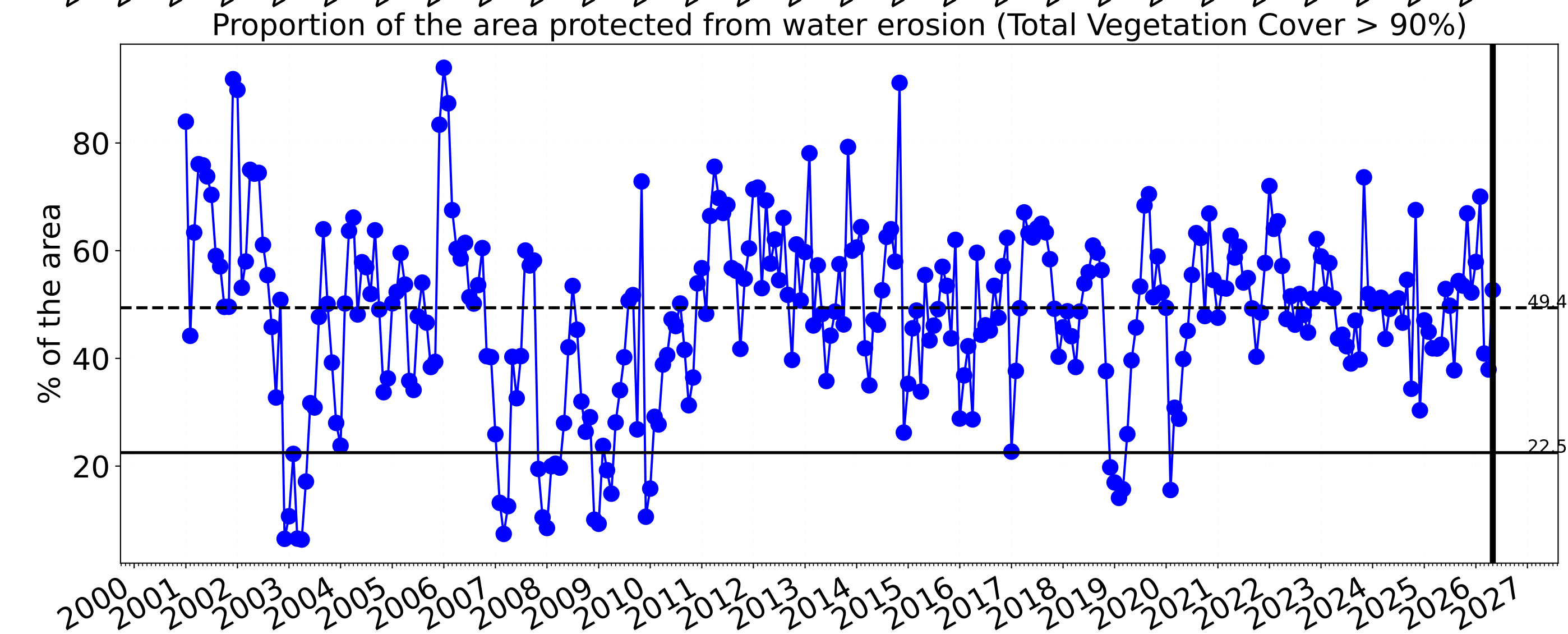
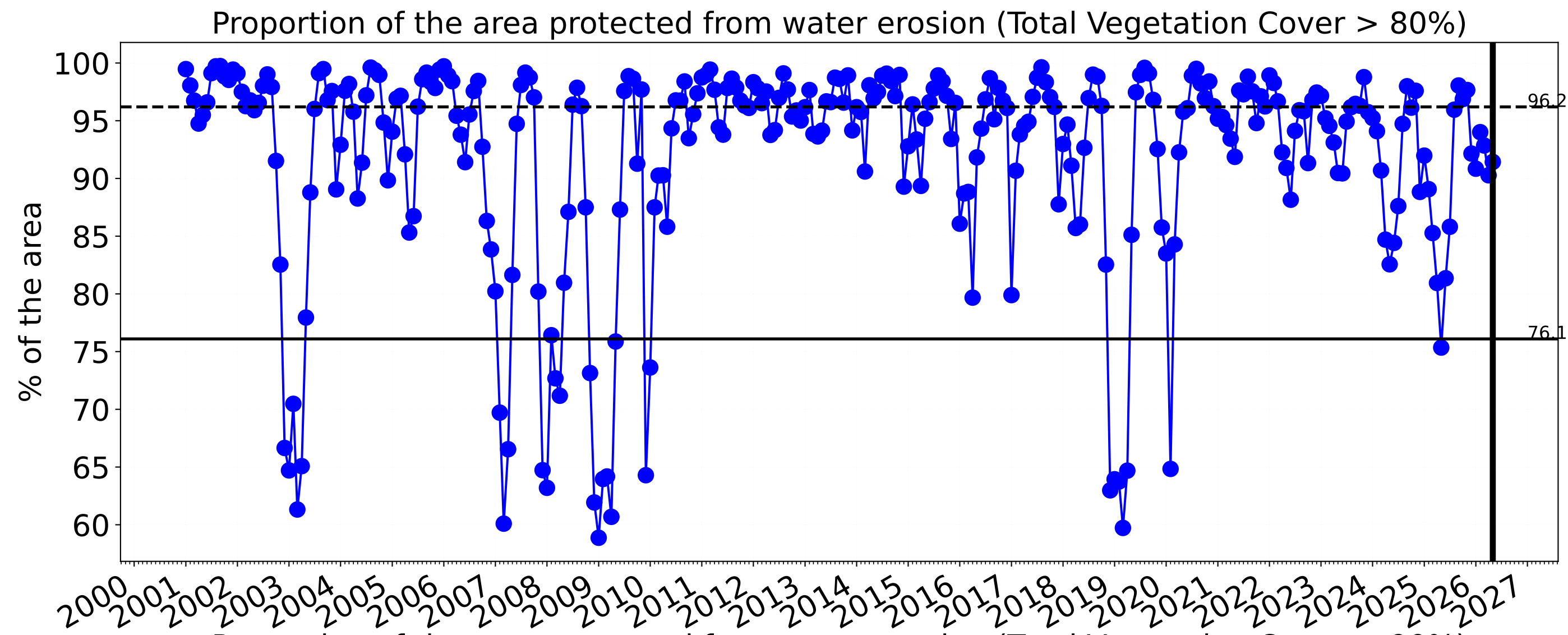
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Grazing timeseries

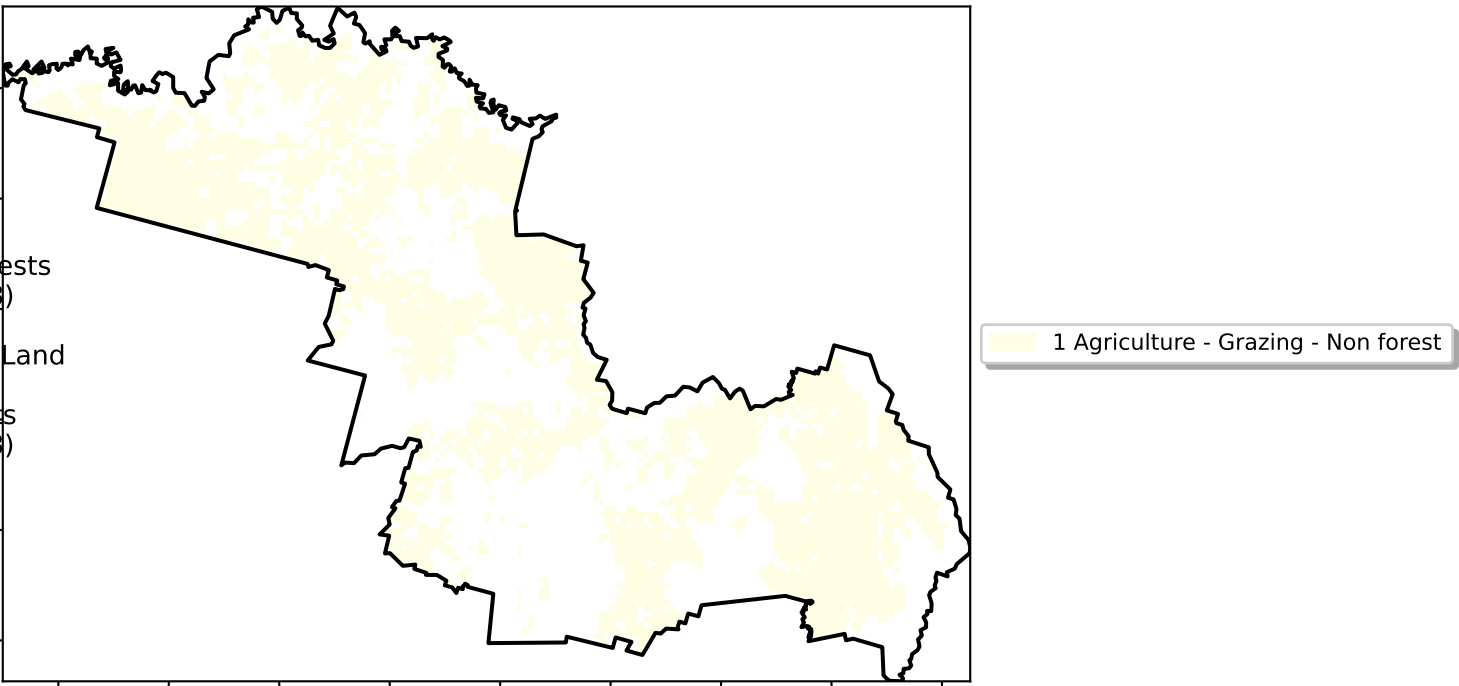




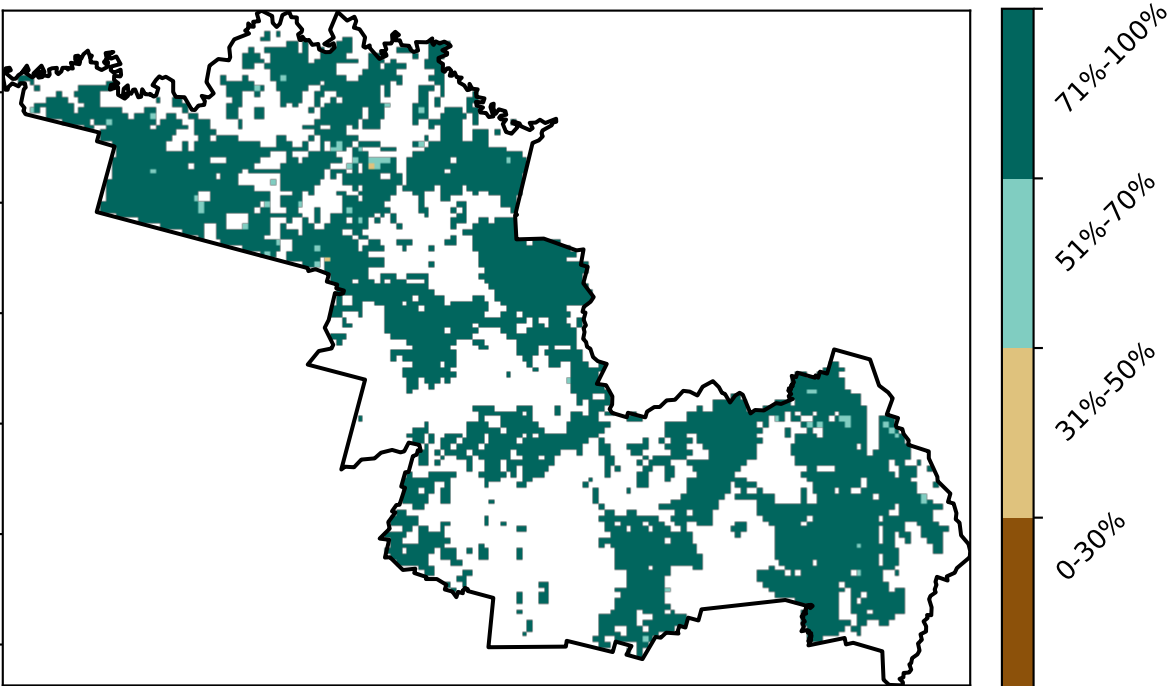
Grazing non forest

Land use and forest cover

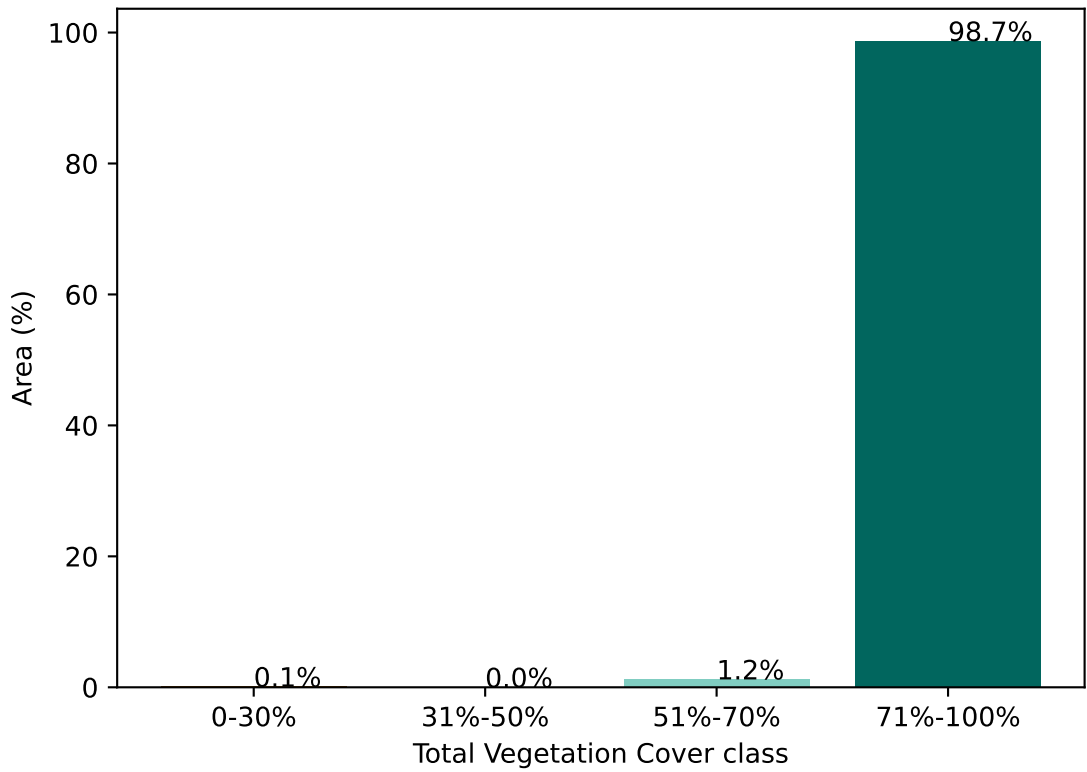
Catchment Scale
Land Use and Forests
of Australia (2018)
Derived from
Catchment Scale Land
Use of Australia
(2018) and Forests
of Australia (2018)



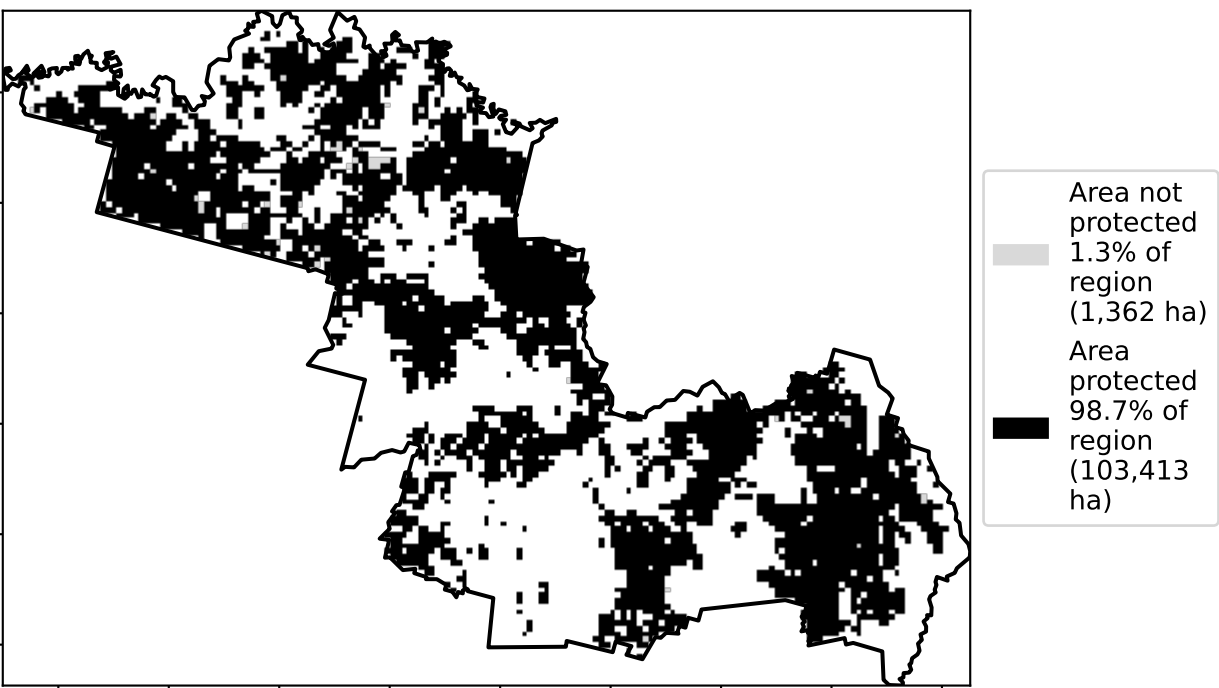
Total Vegetation Cover [%]



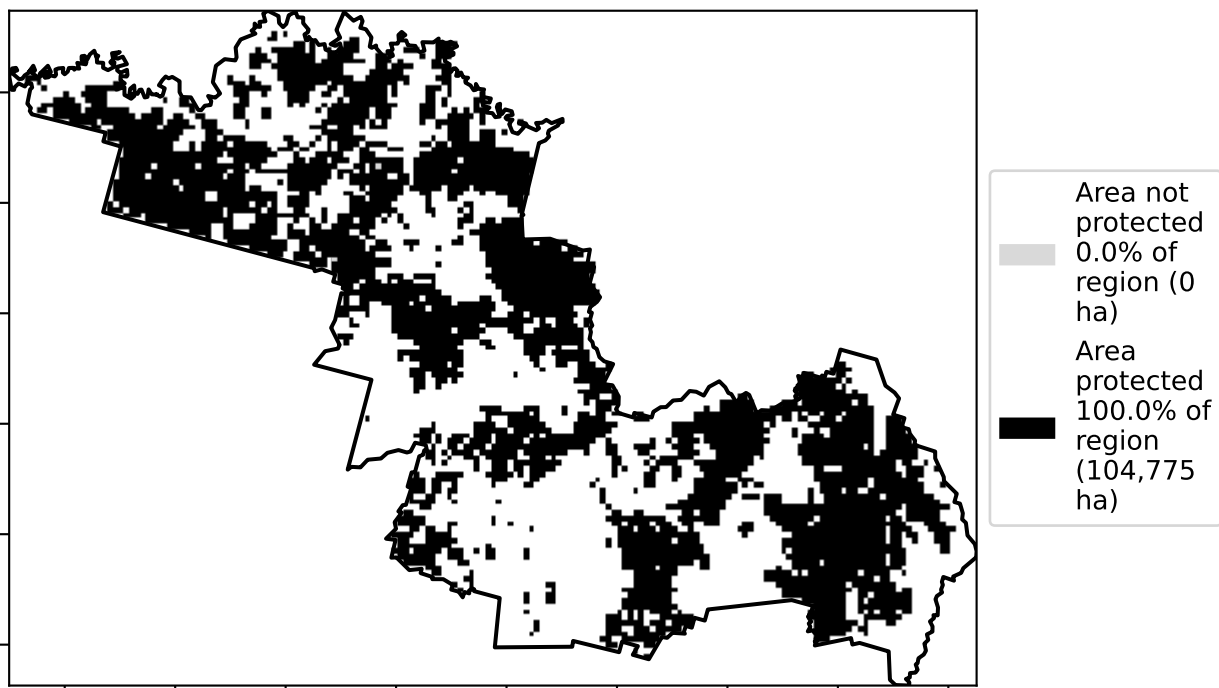
Proportion of vegetation cover class in area



% Area protected from water erosion (>70%)

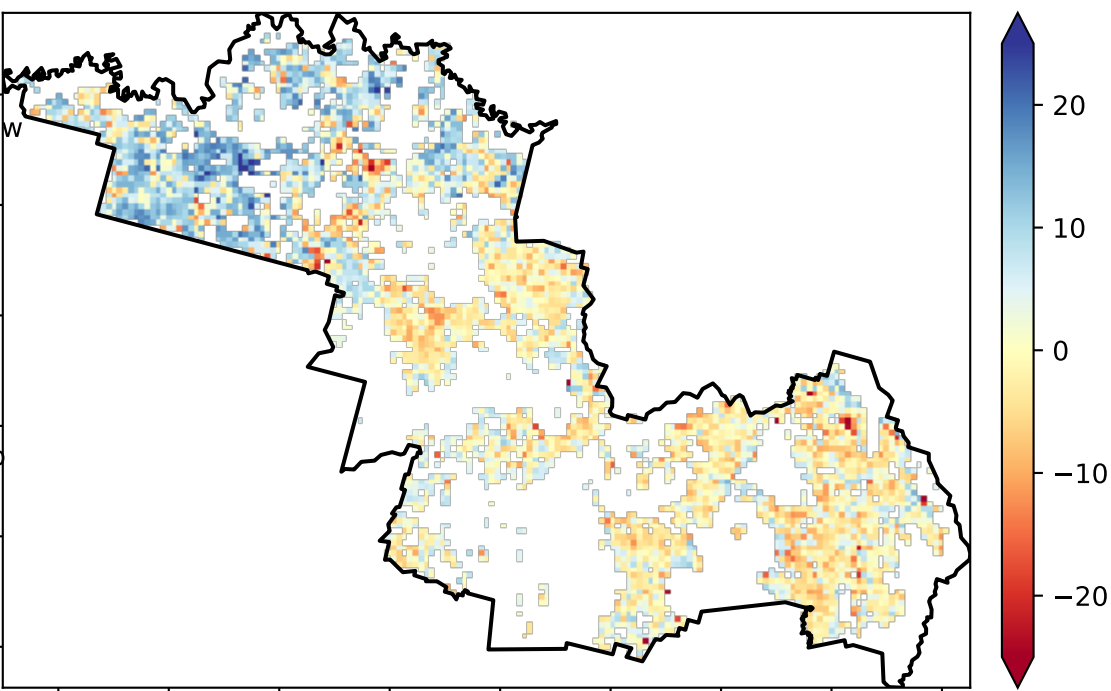


% Area protected from wind erosion (>50%)



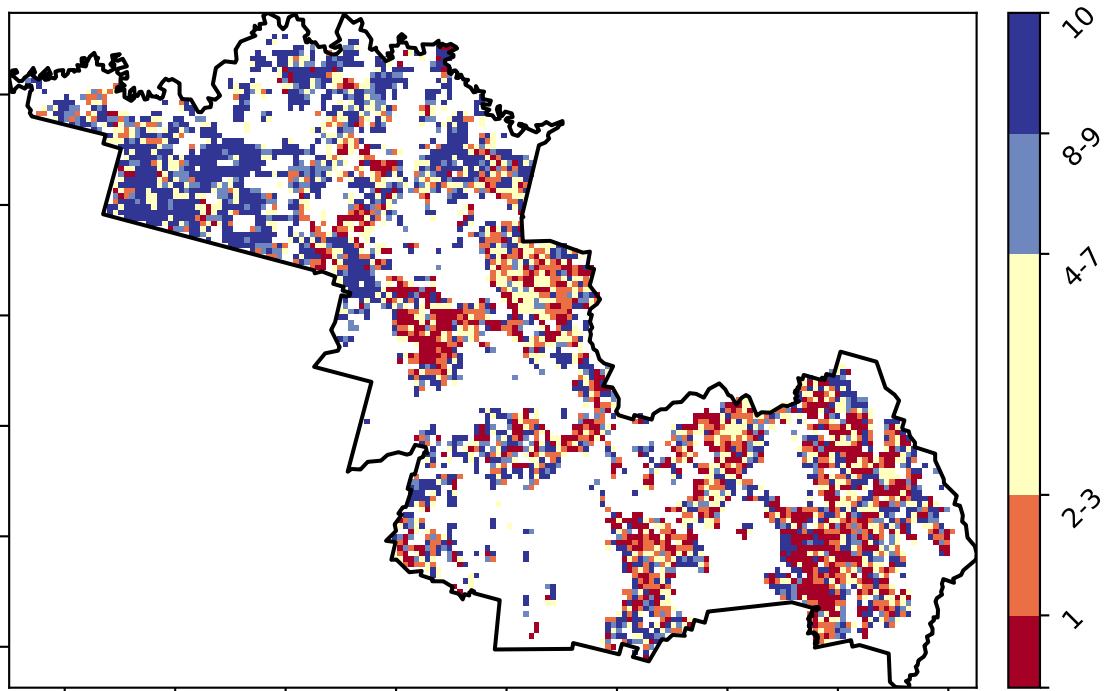
Total Vegetation Cover Anomaly [%]

Anomaly show how
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Total Vegetation Cover Decile [%]



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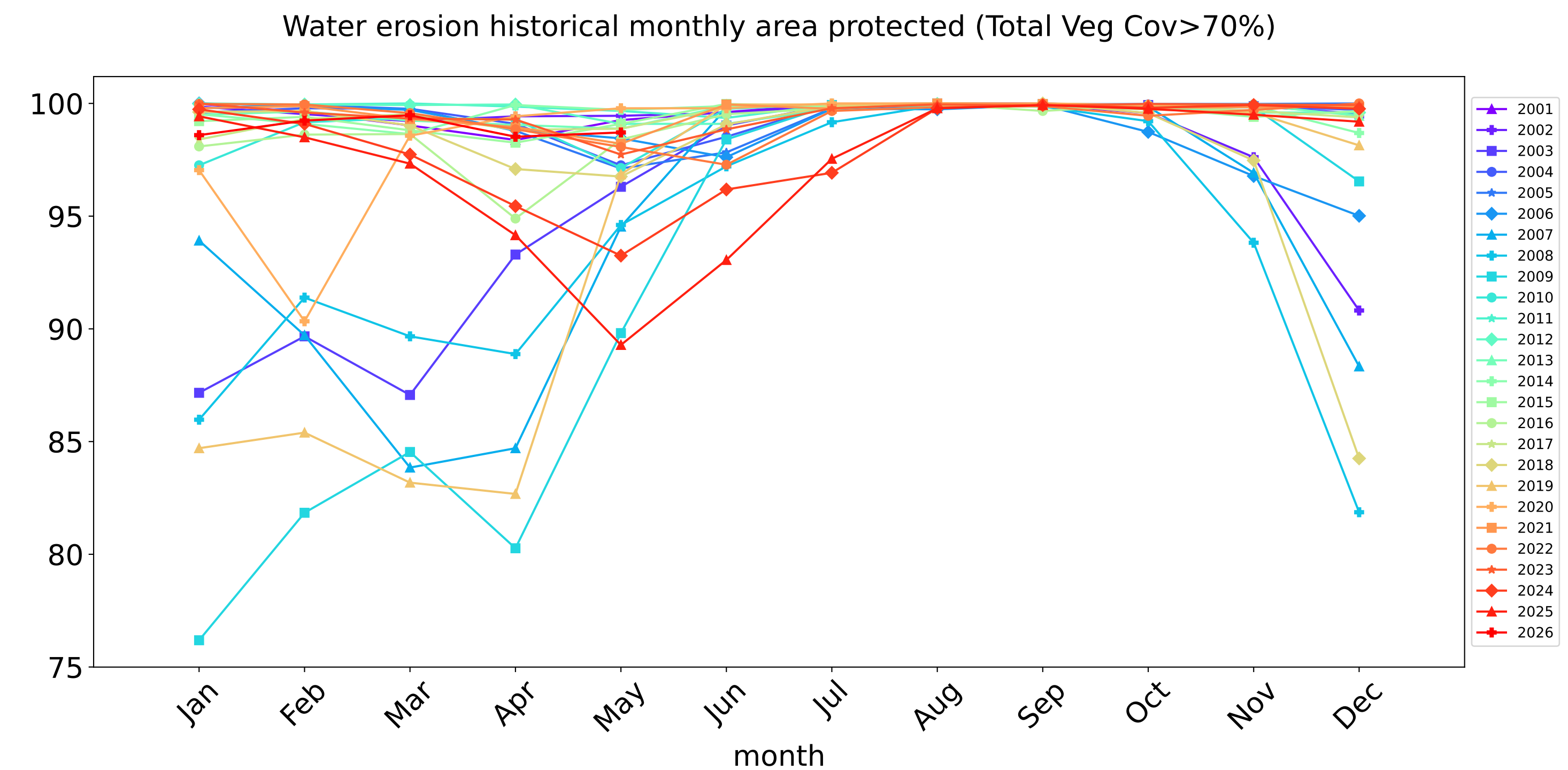
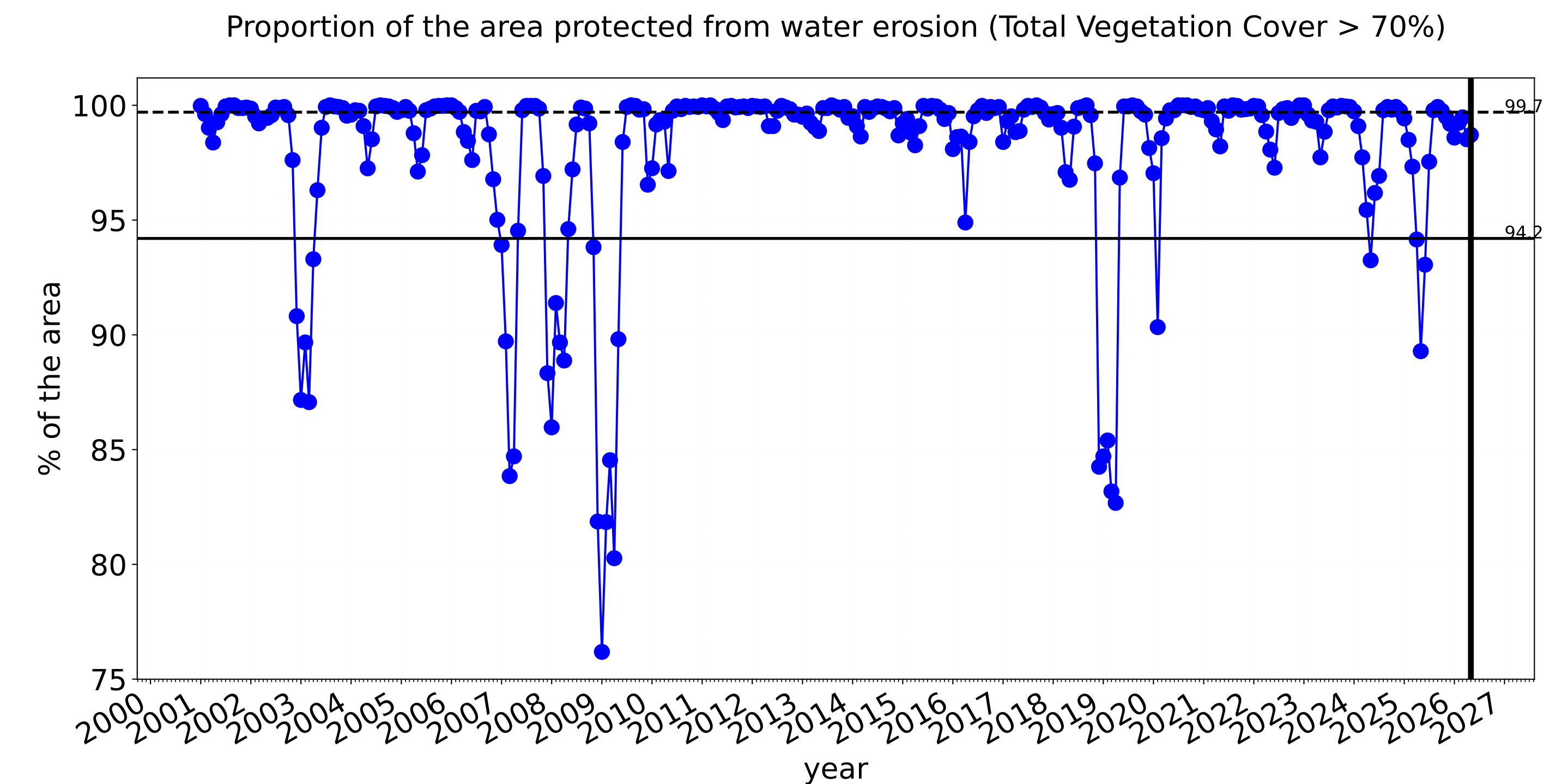
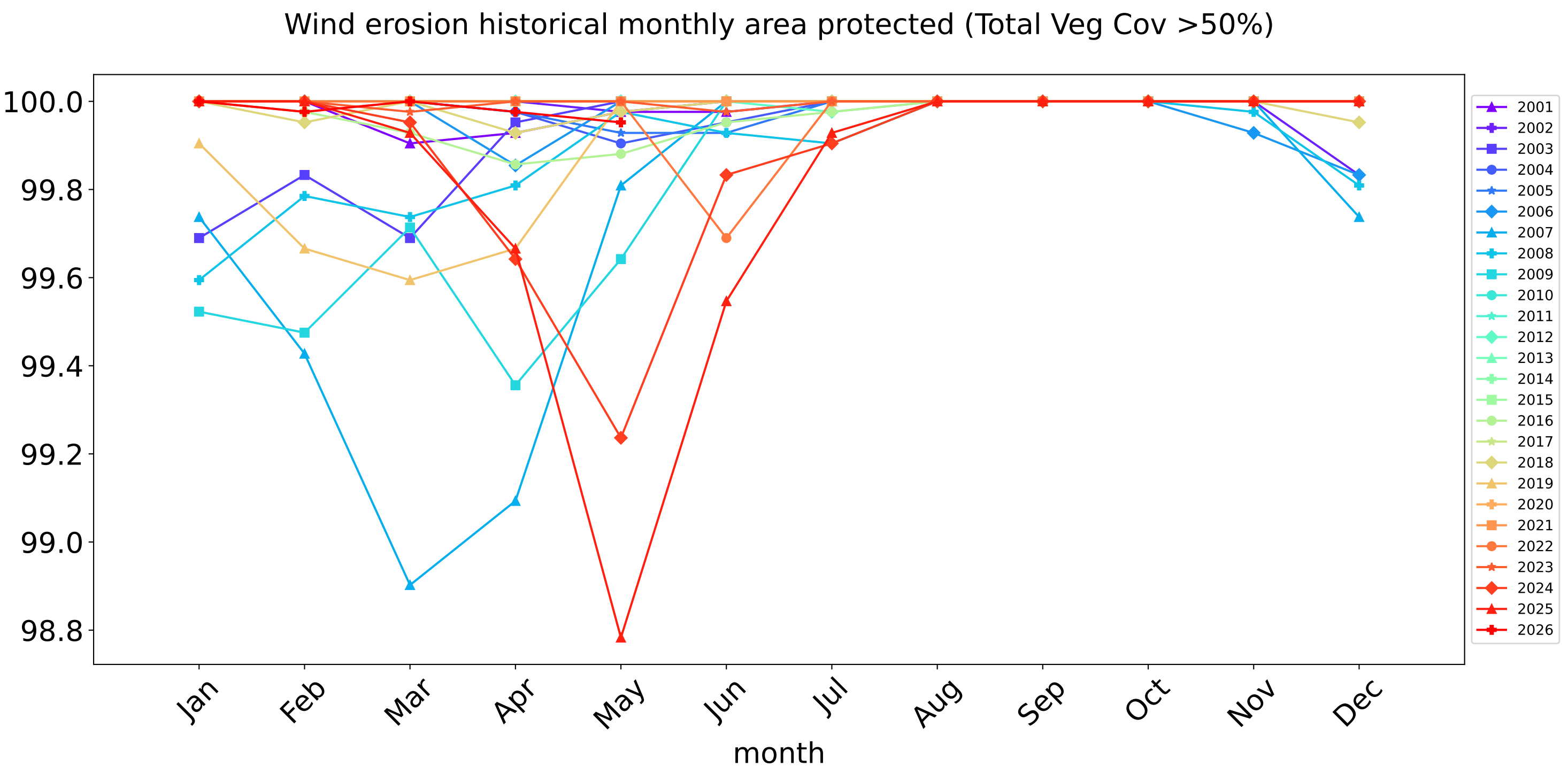
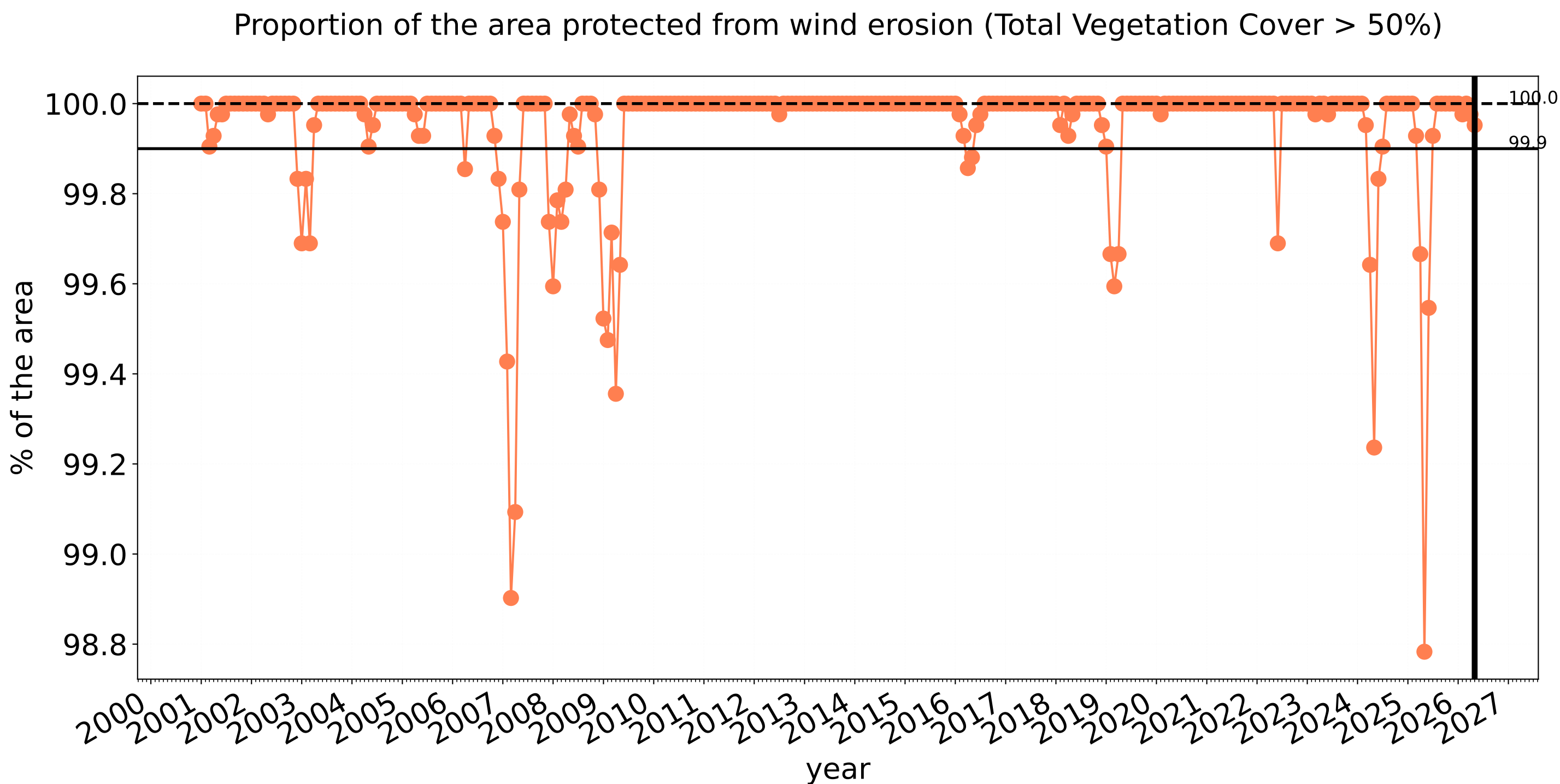


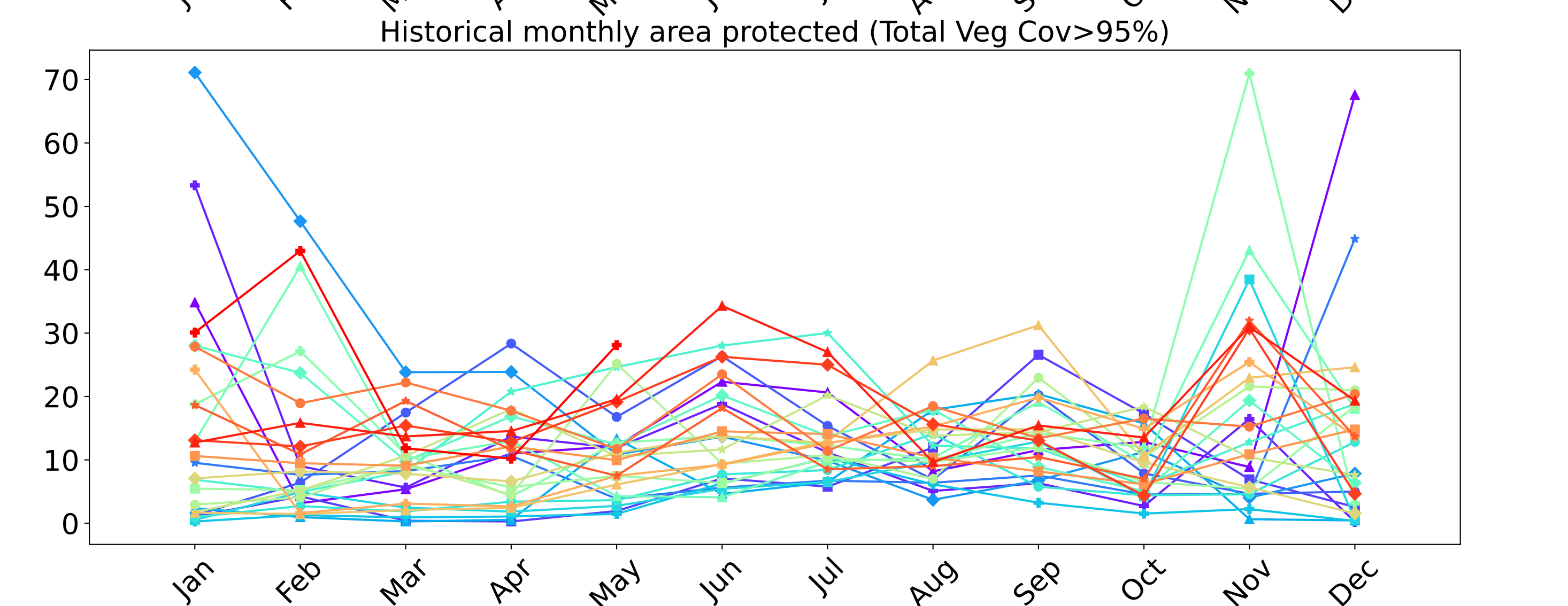
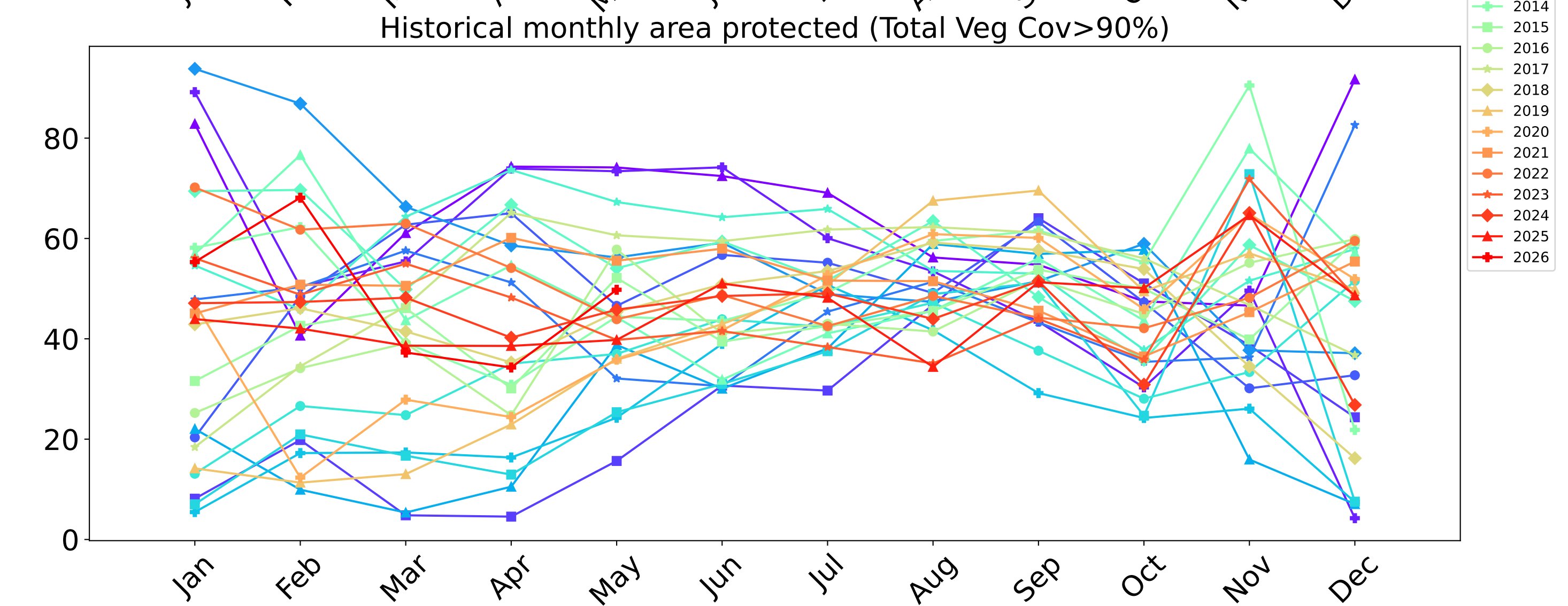
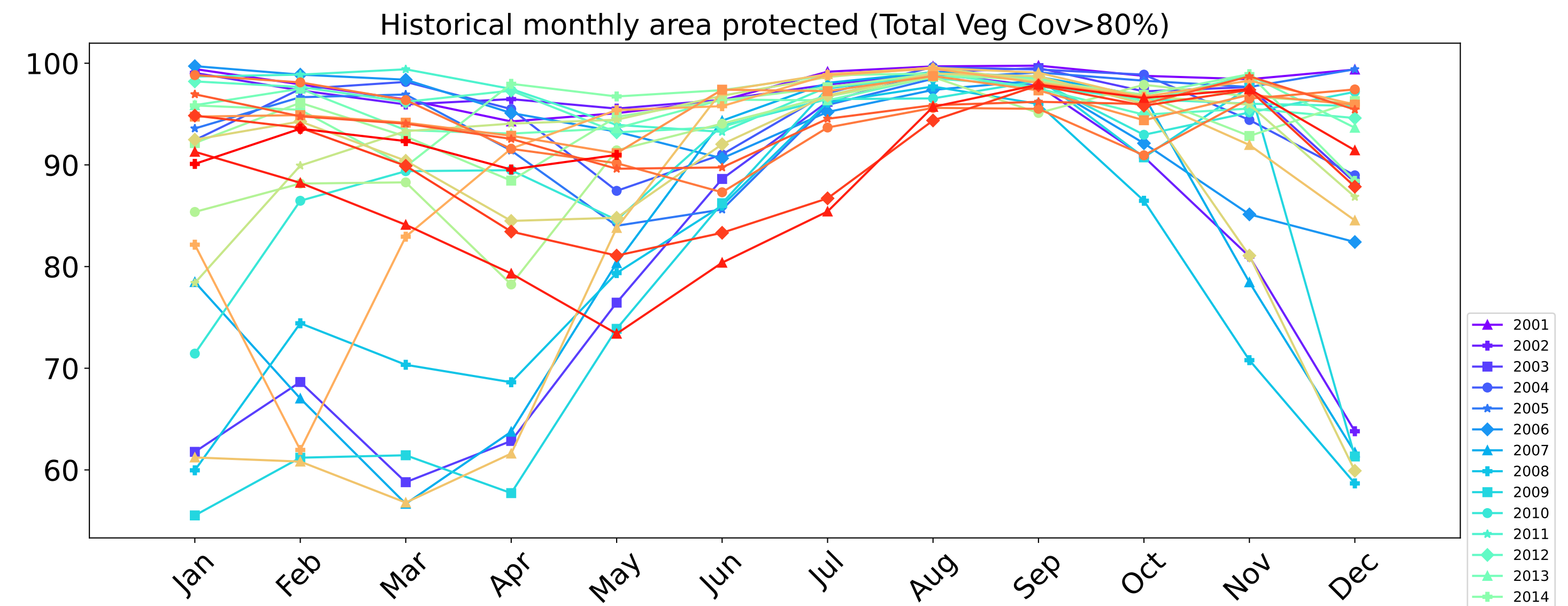
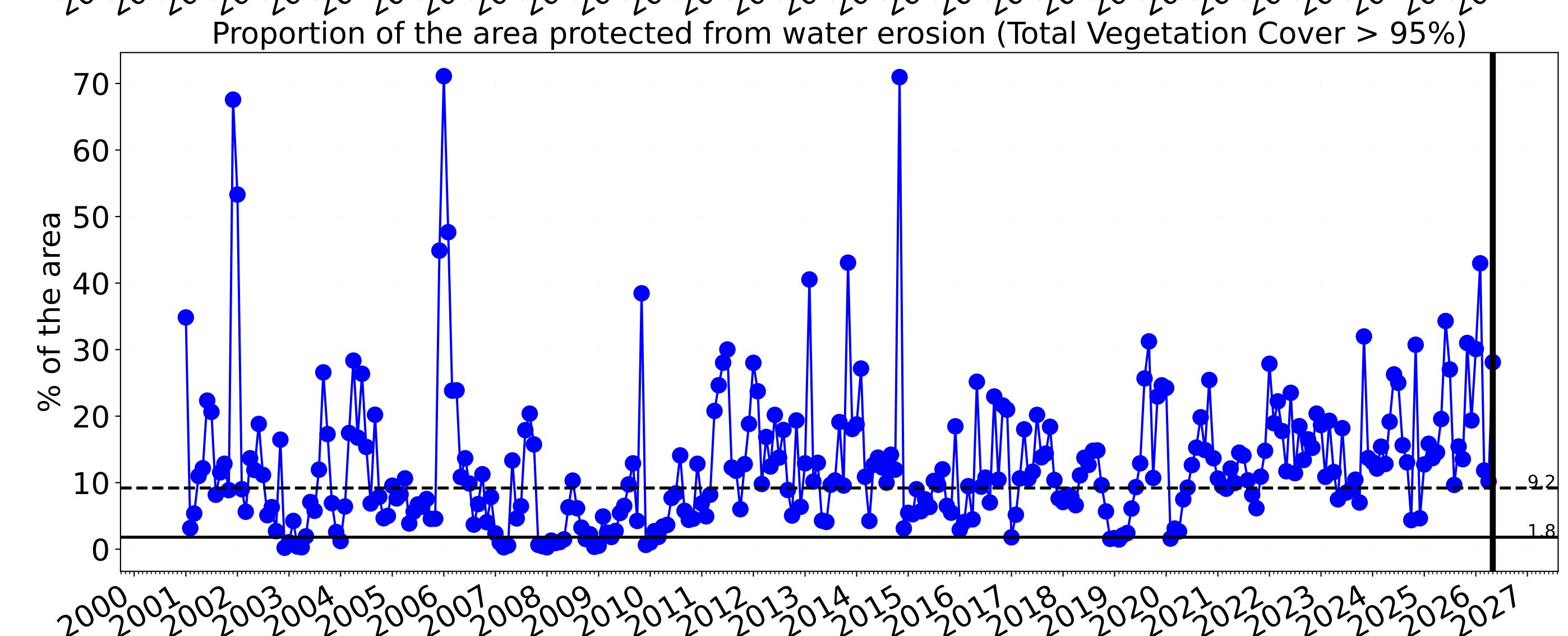
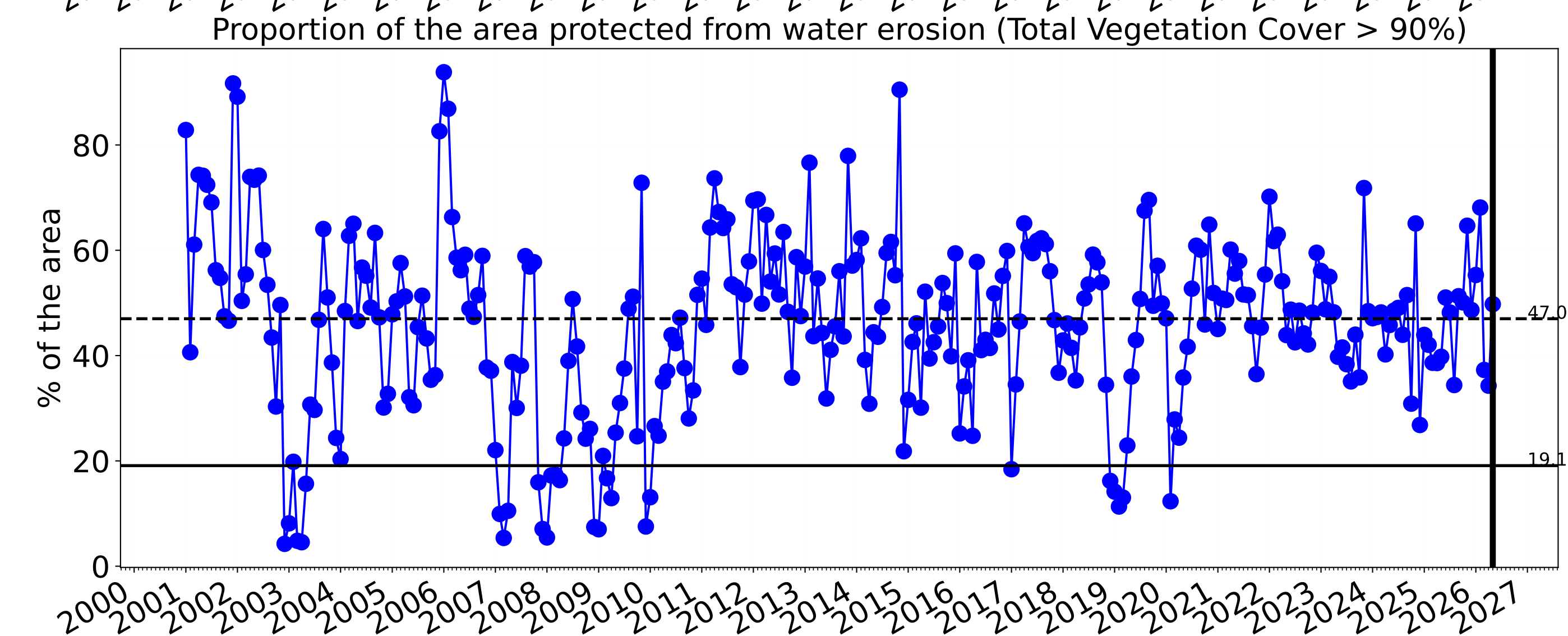
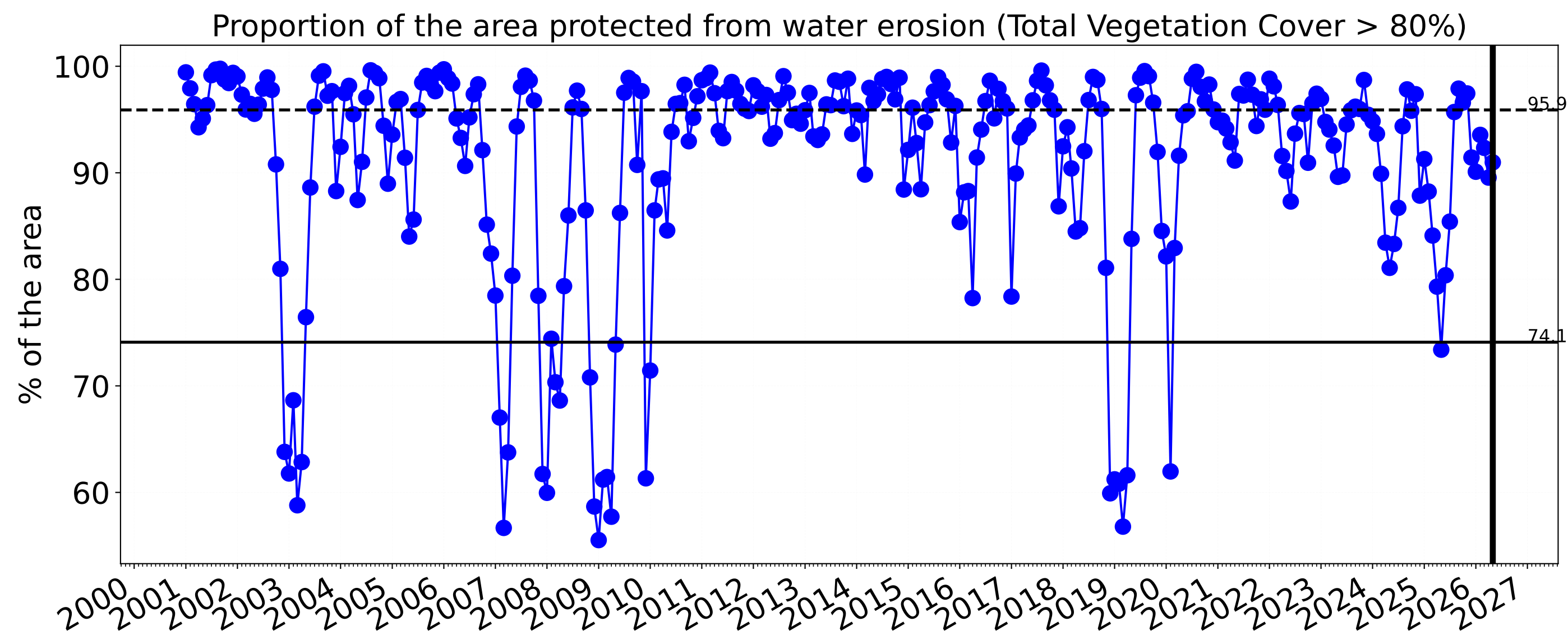
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Grazing non forest timeseries

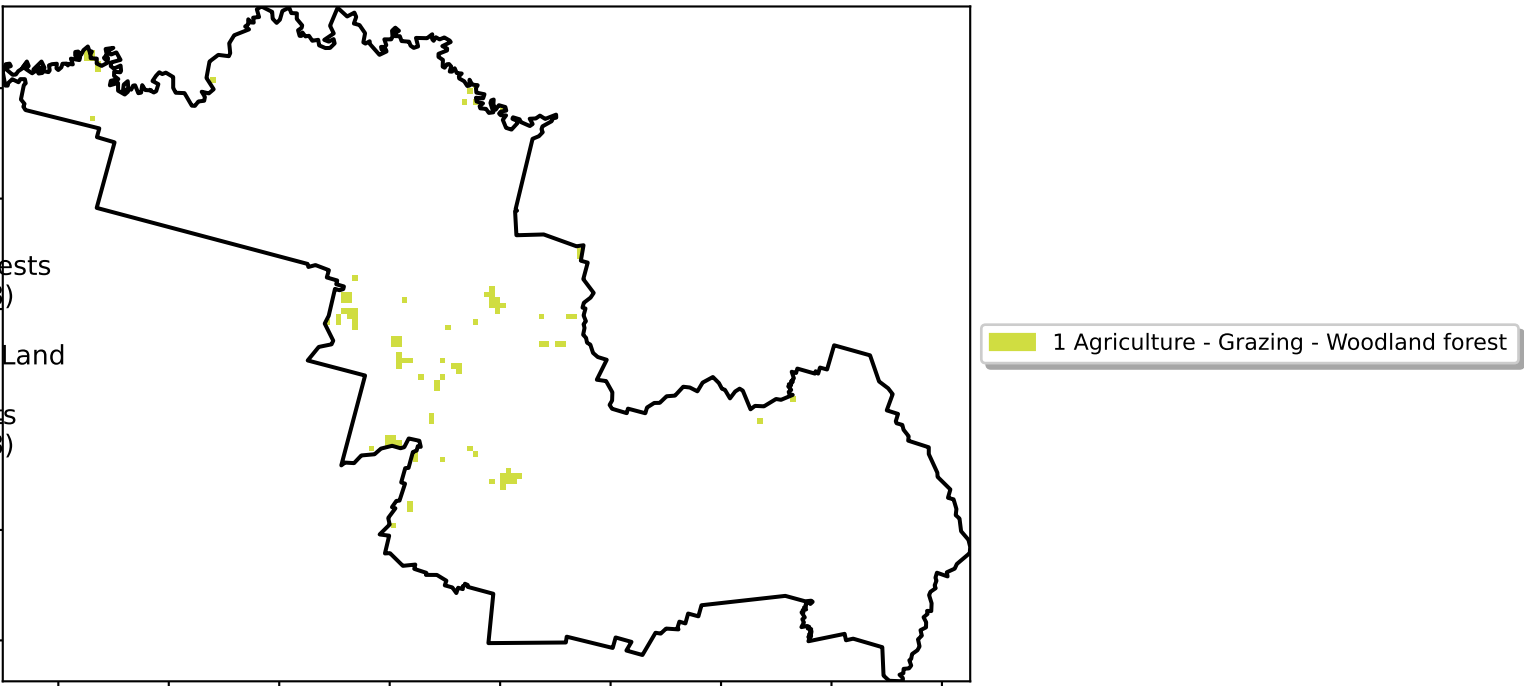




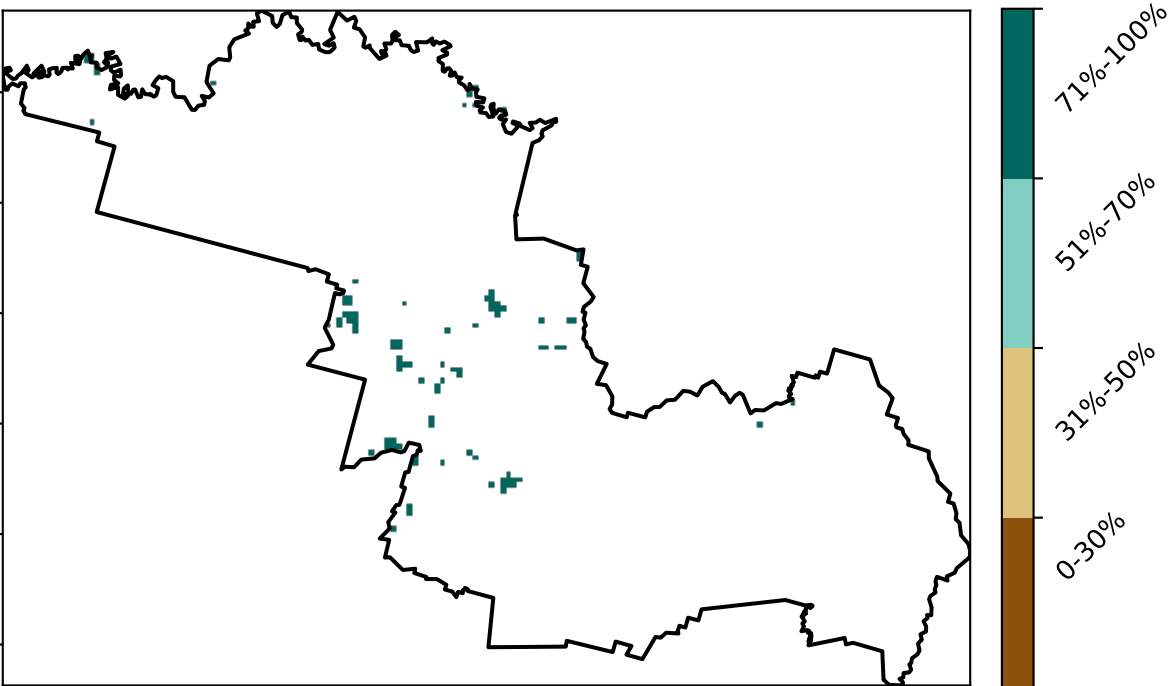
Grazing Woodland forest

Land use and forest cover

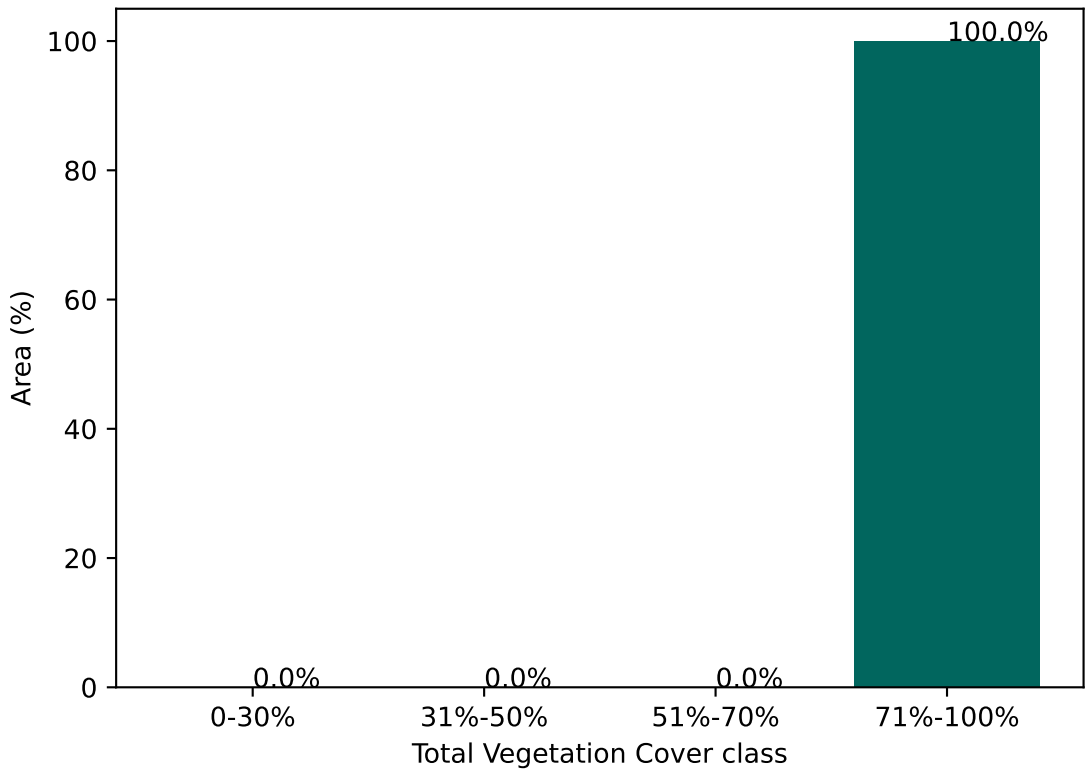
Catchment Scale
Land Use and Forests
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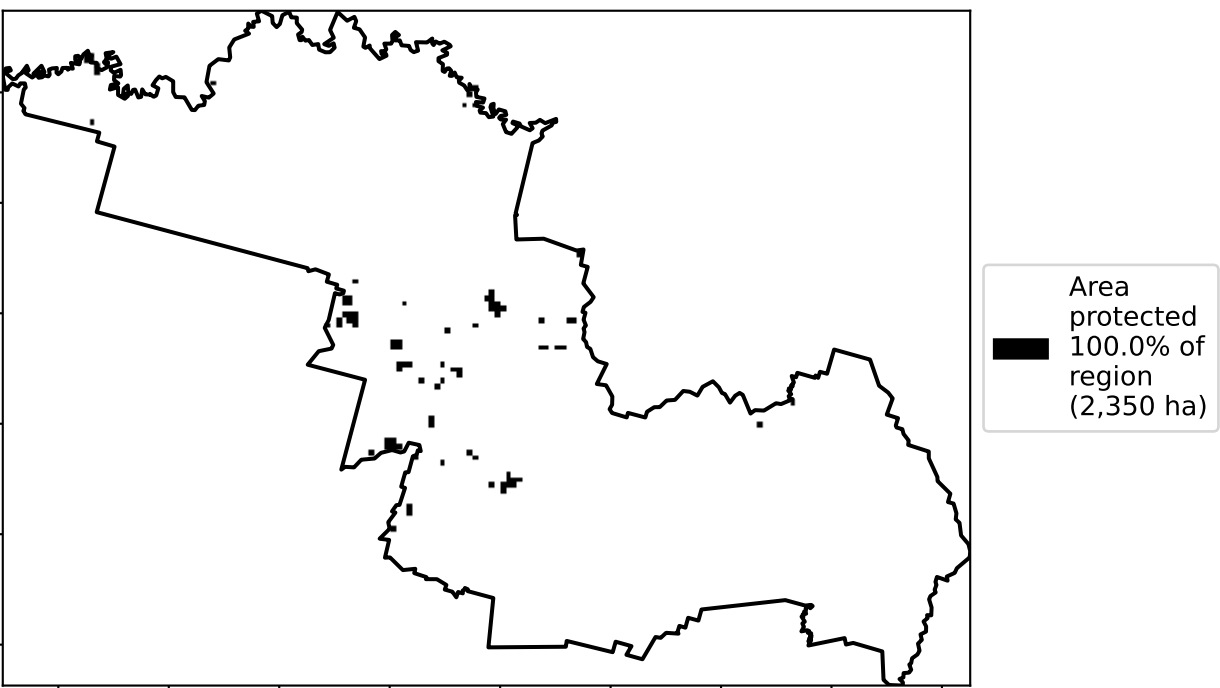
Total Vegetation Cover [%]



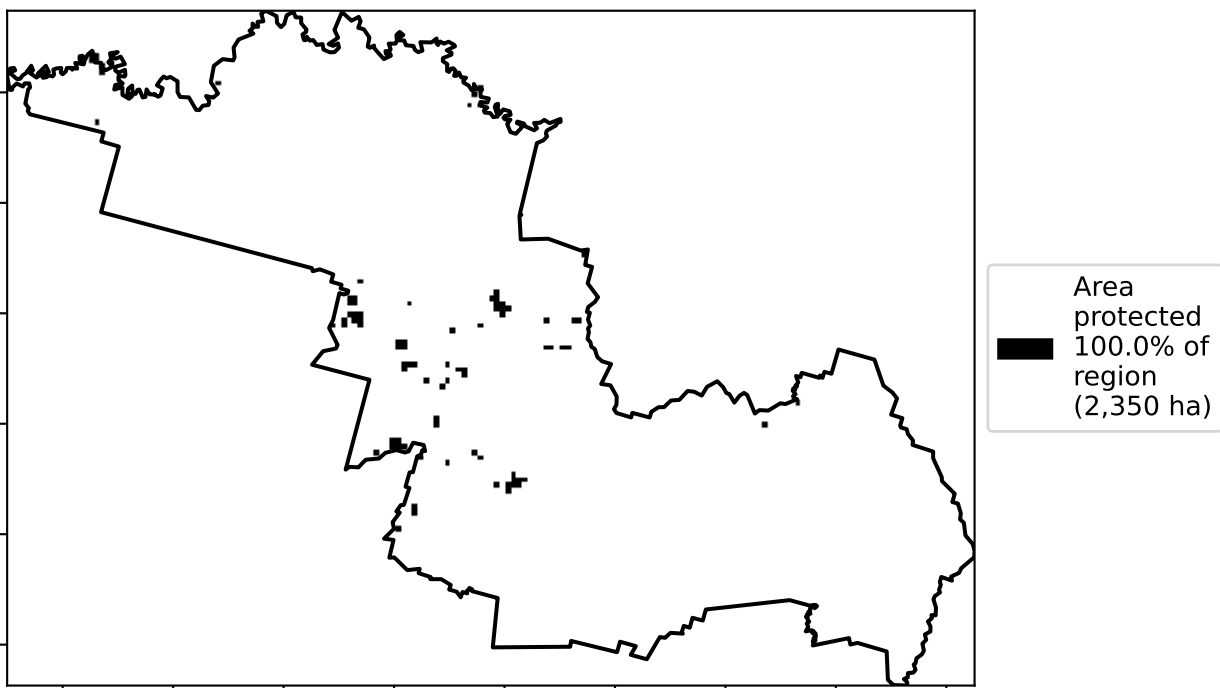
Proportion of vegetation cover class in area



% Area protected from water erosion (>70%)

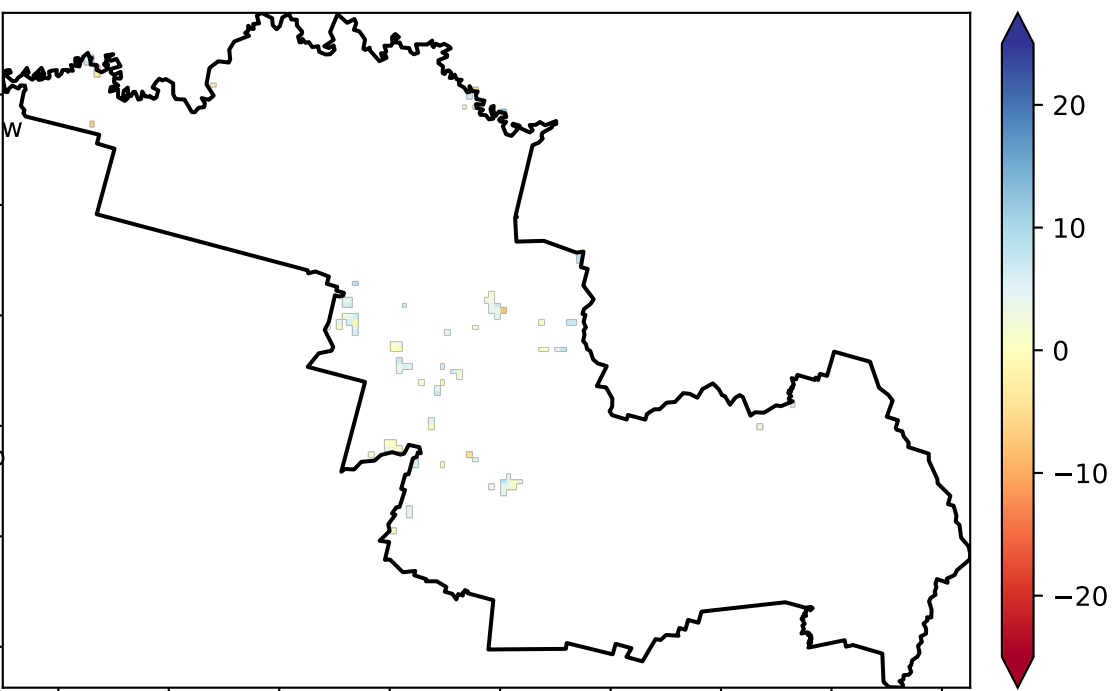


% Area protected from wind erosion (>50%)



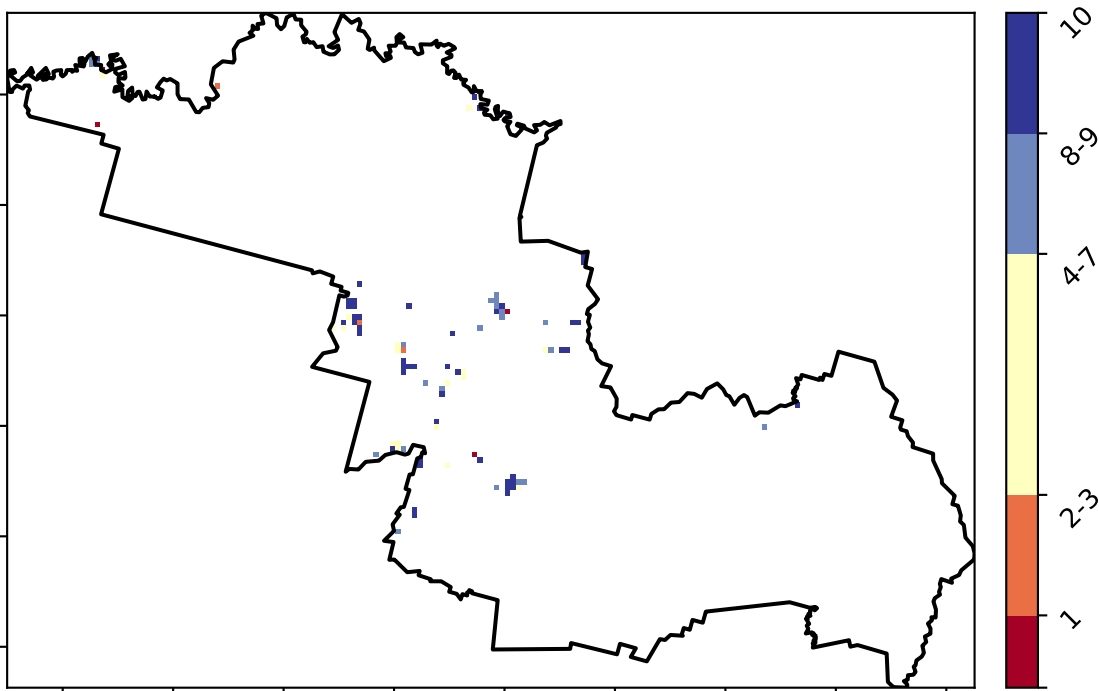
Total Vegetation Cover Anomaly [%]

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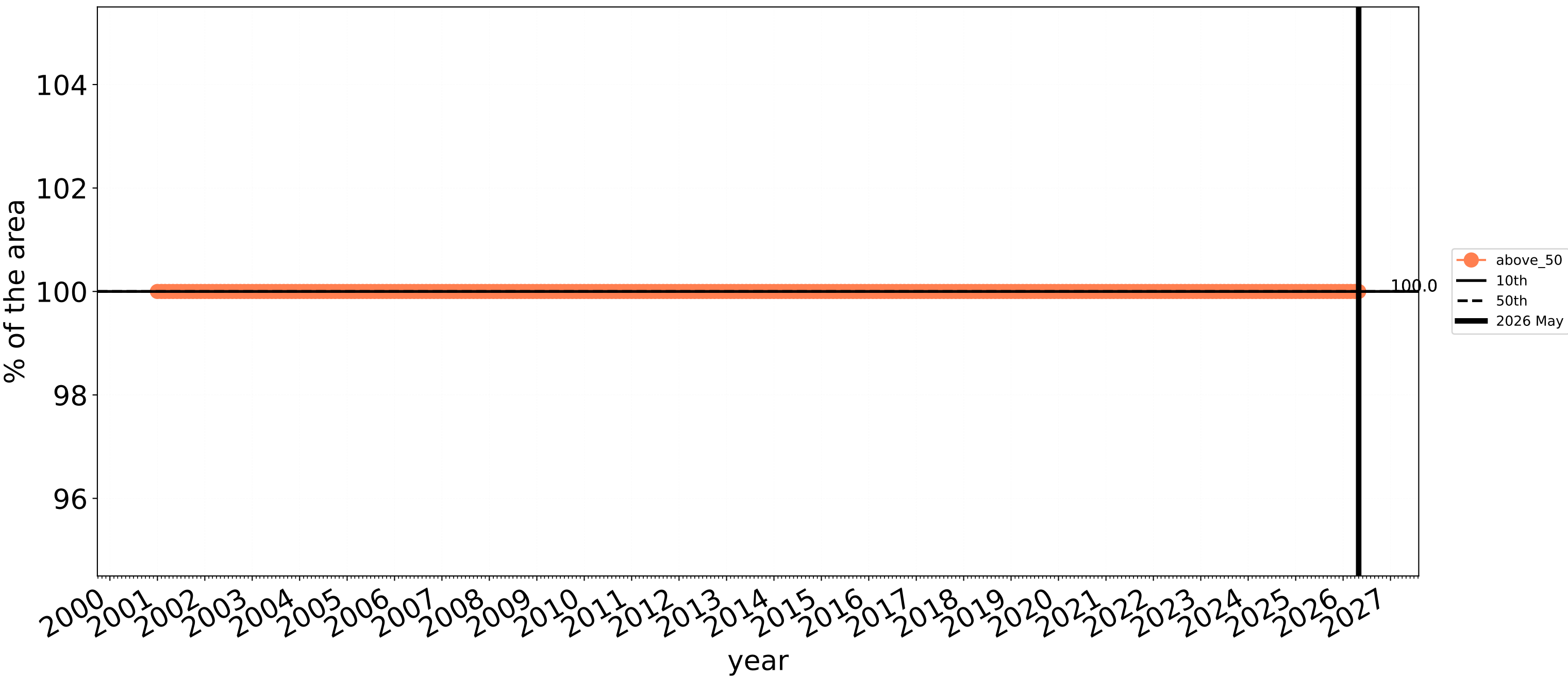
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the map using baseline
from 2001 to 2019.

Total Vegetation Cover Decile [%]

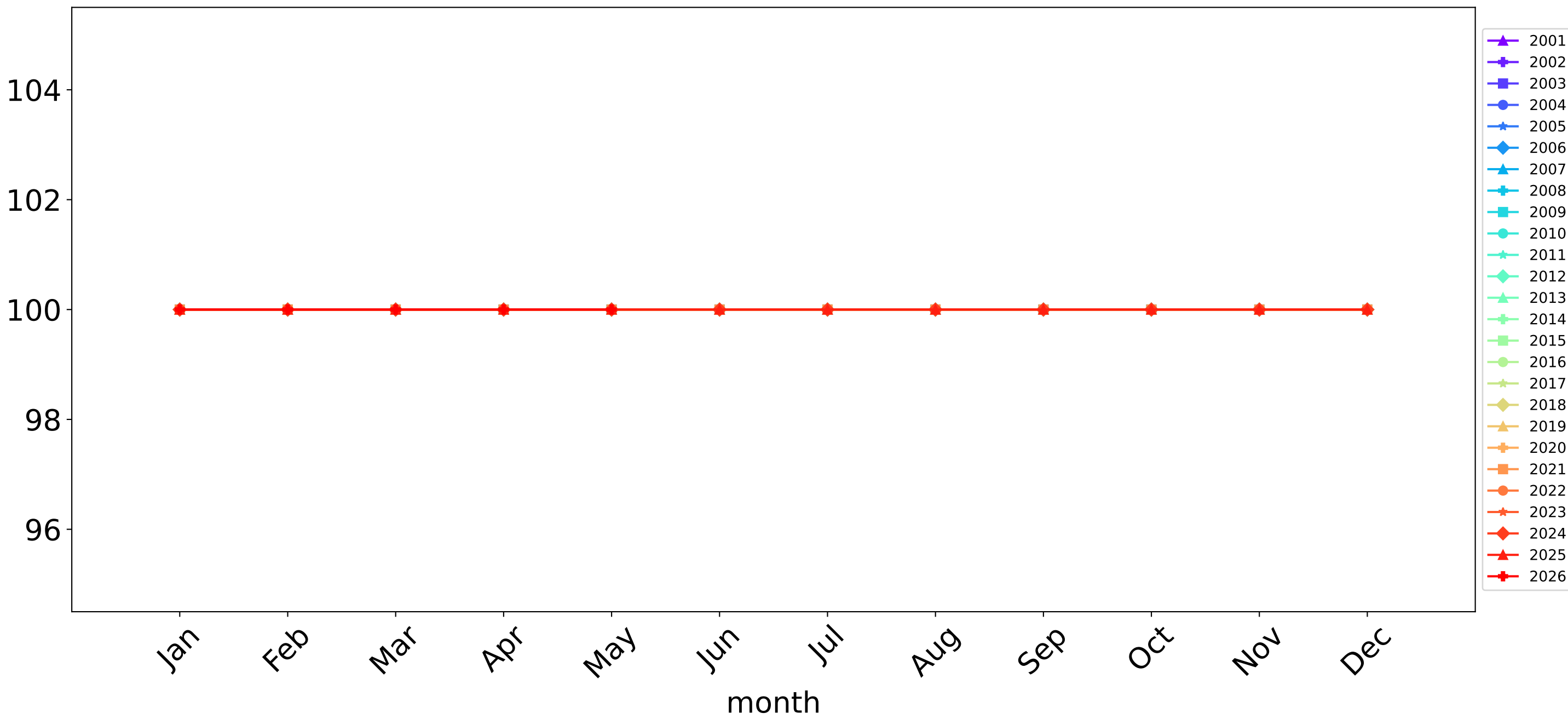


Grazing Woodland forest timeseries

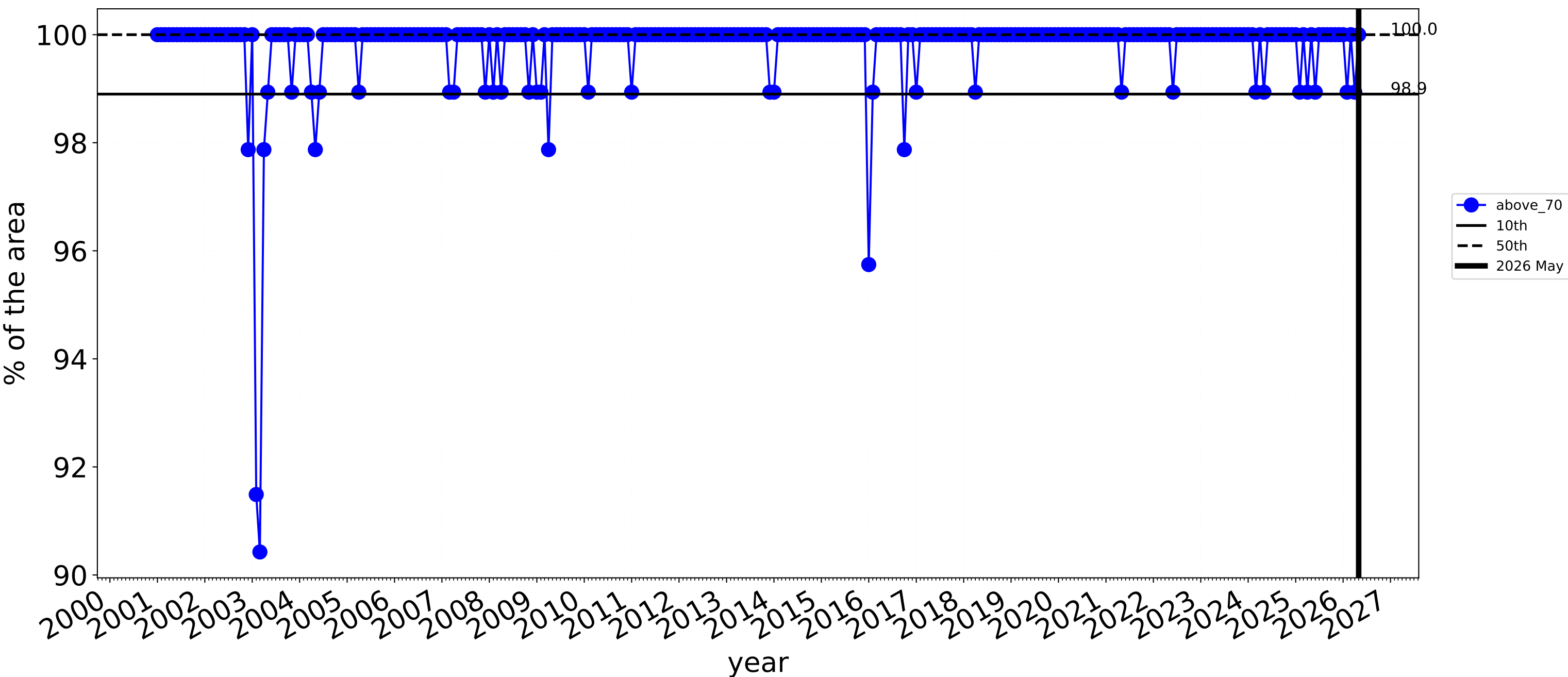
Proportion of the area protected from wind erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 50%)



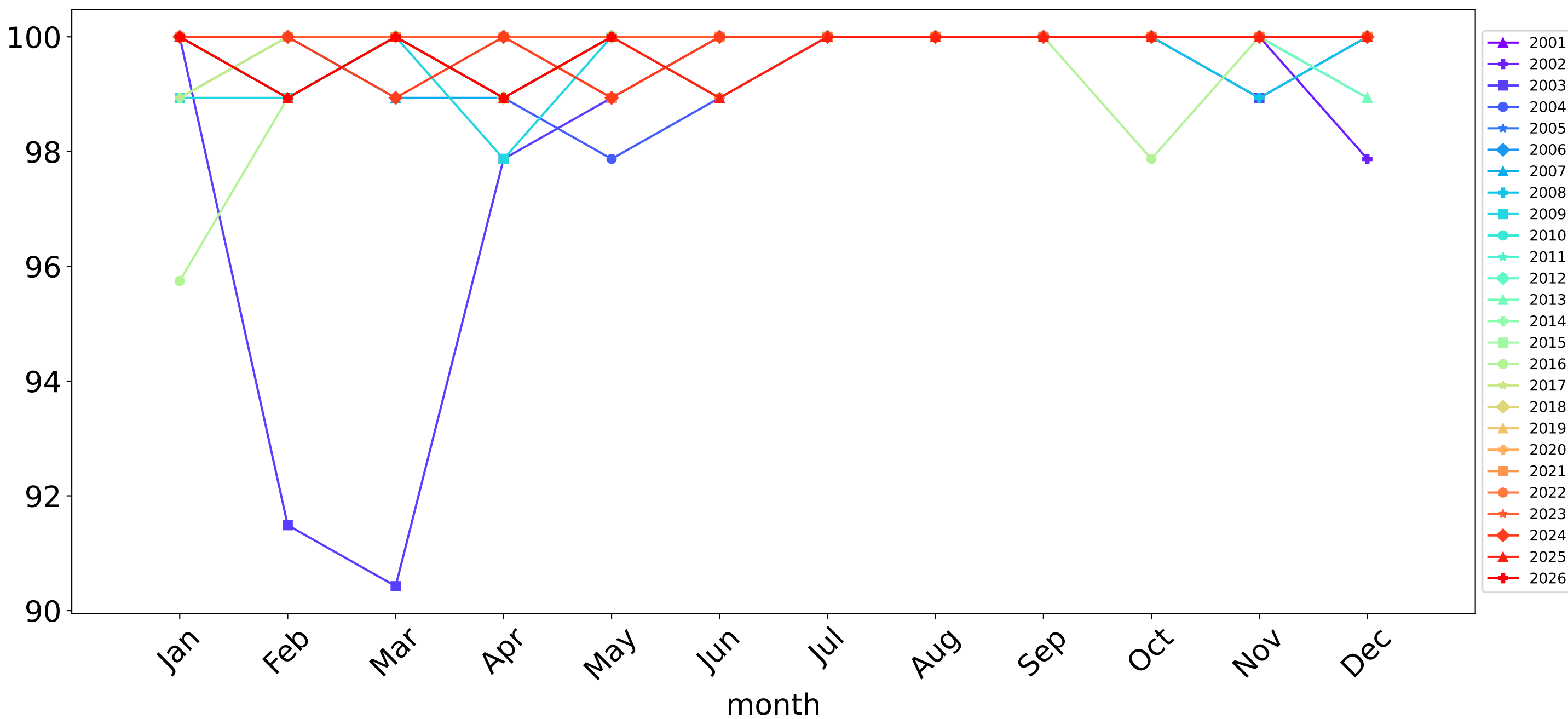
Wind erosion historical monthly area protected (Total Veg Cov >50%)



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



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

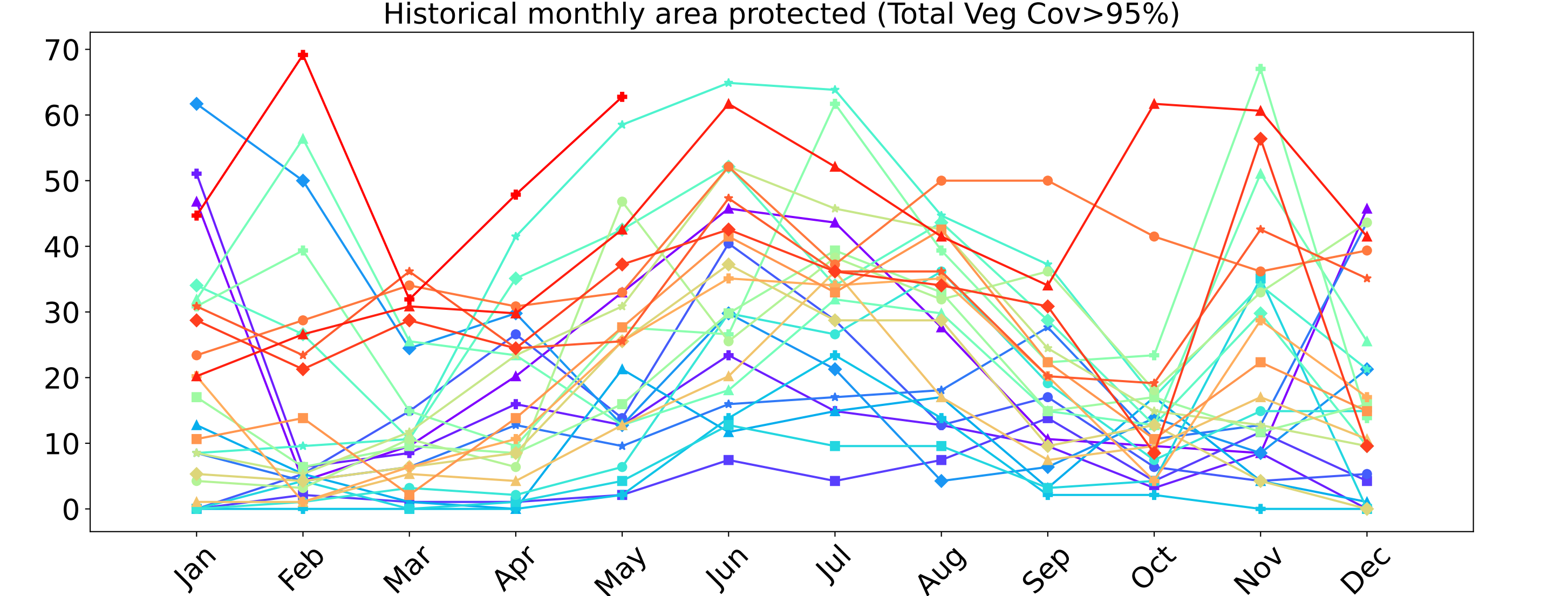
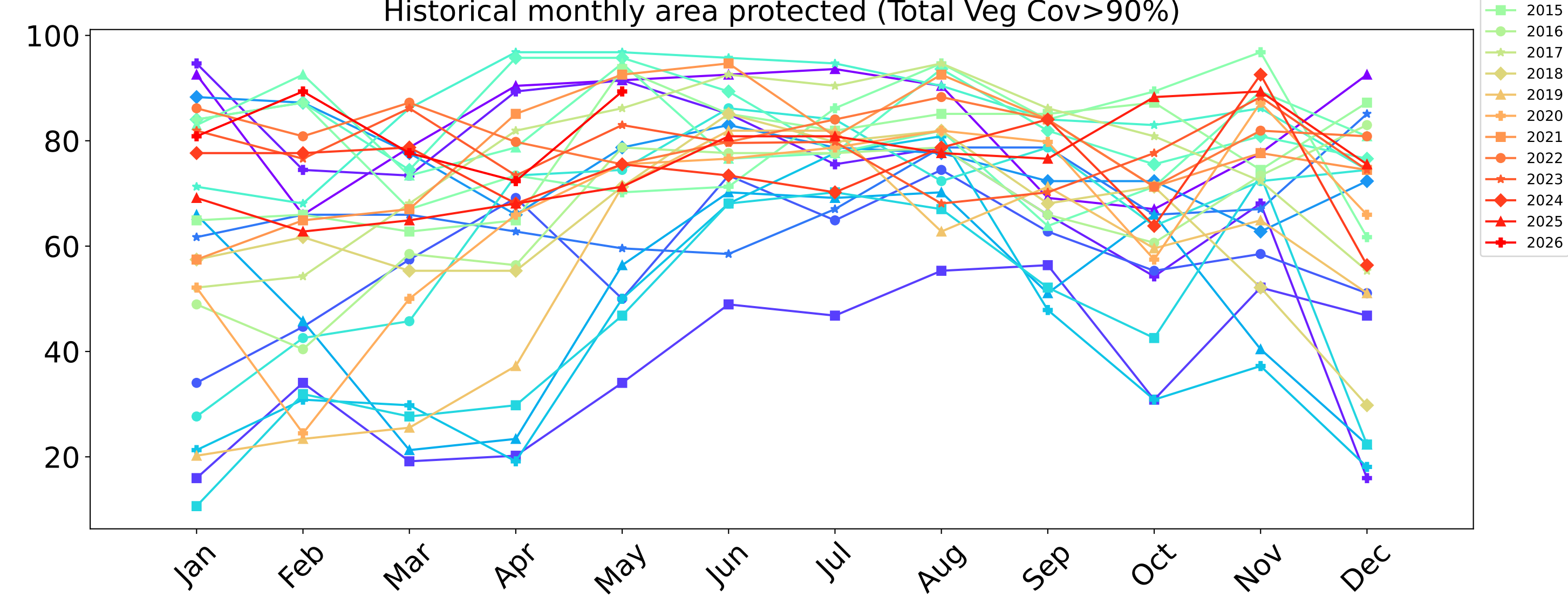
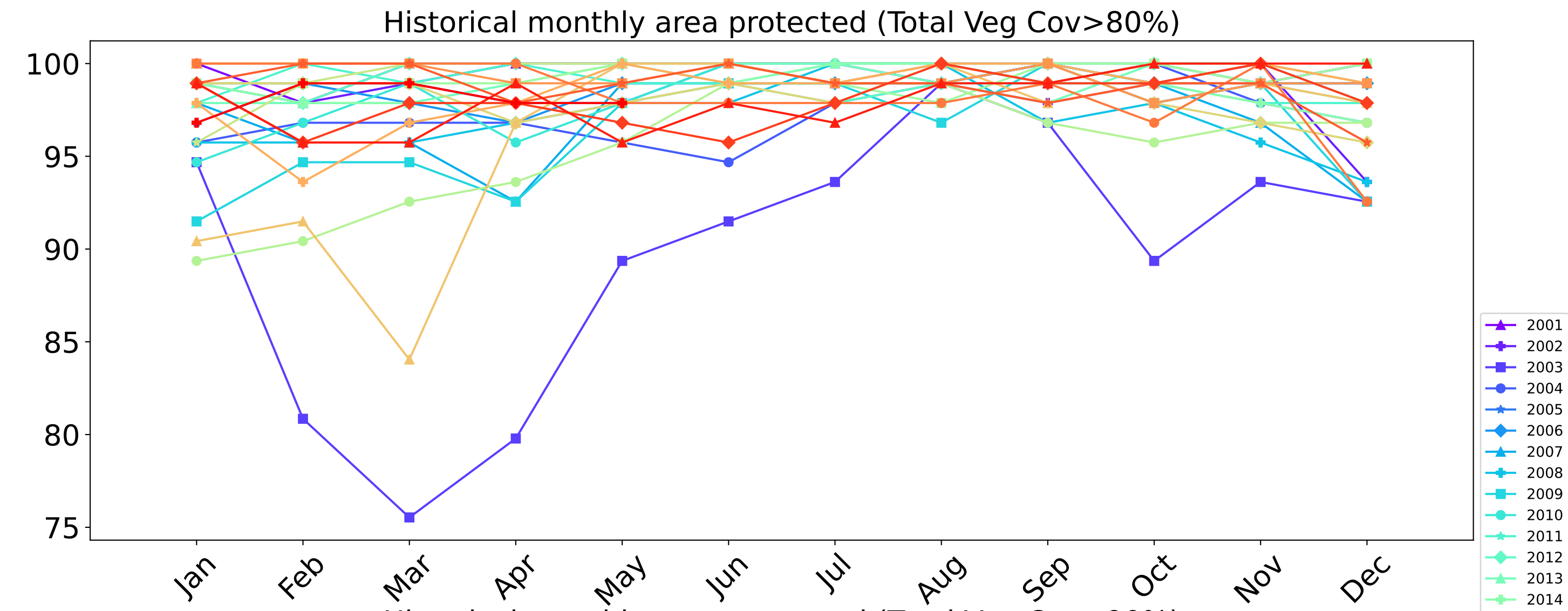
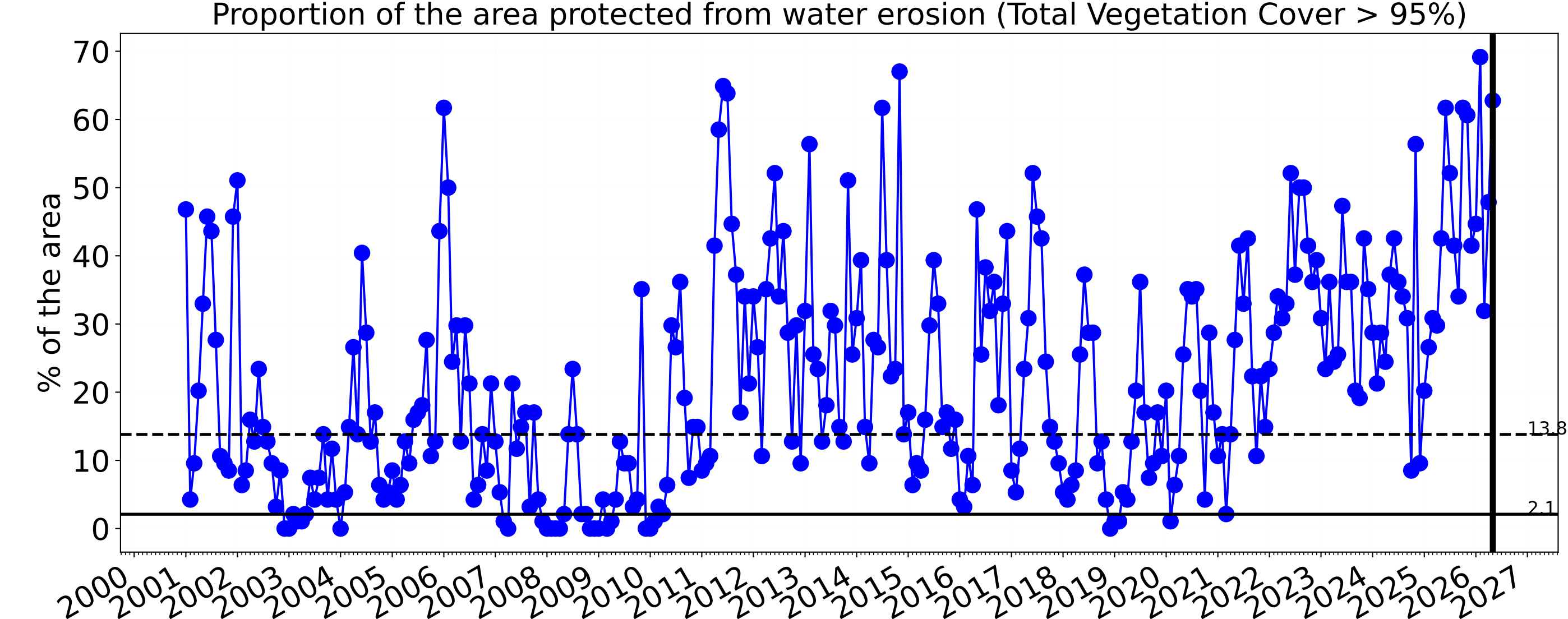
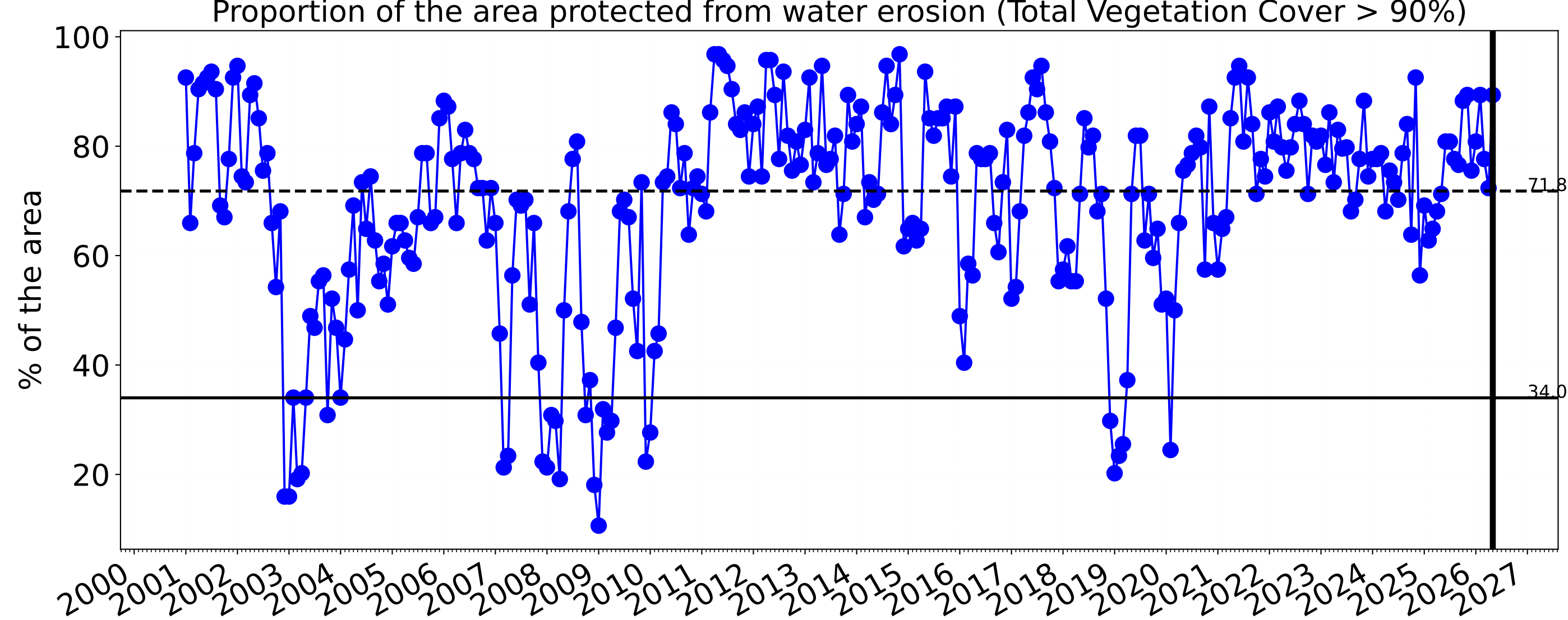
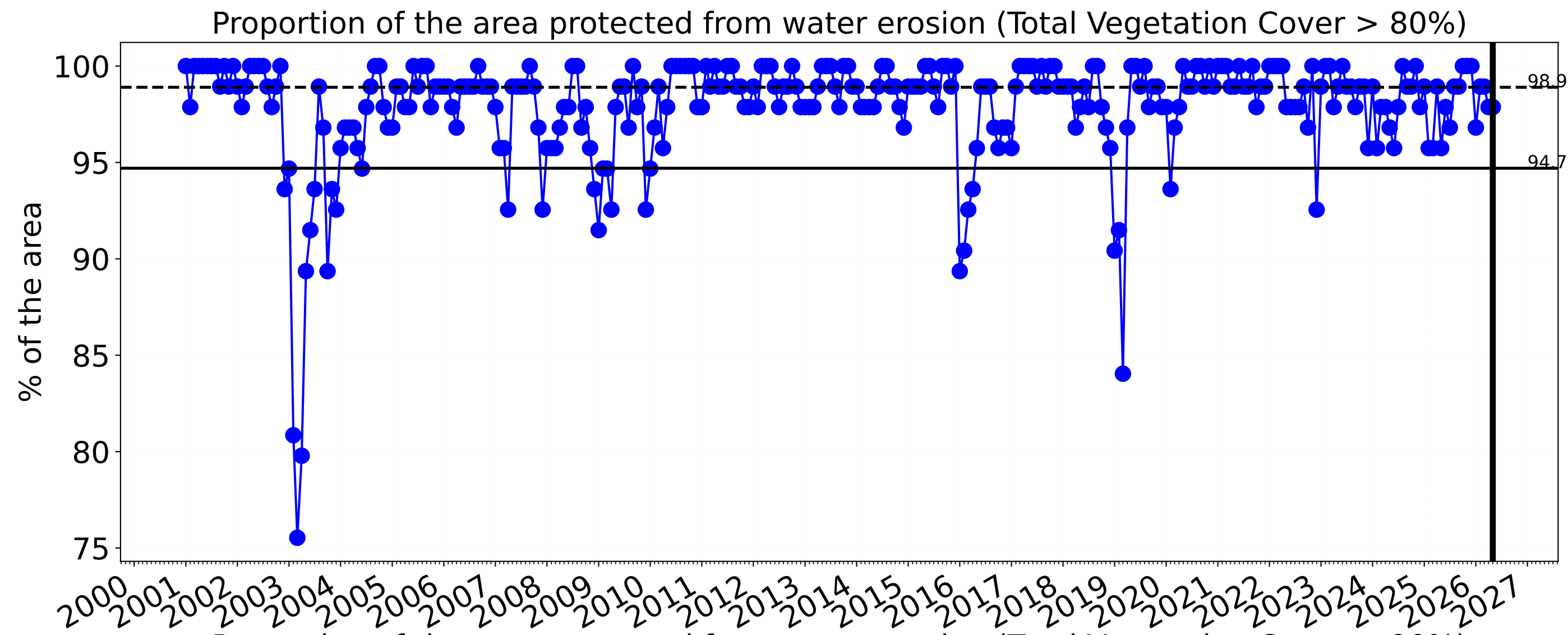


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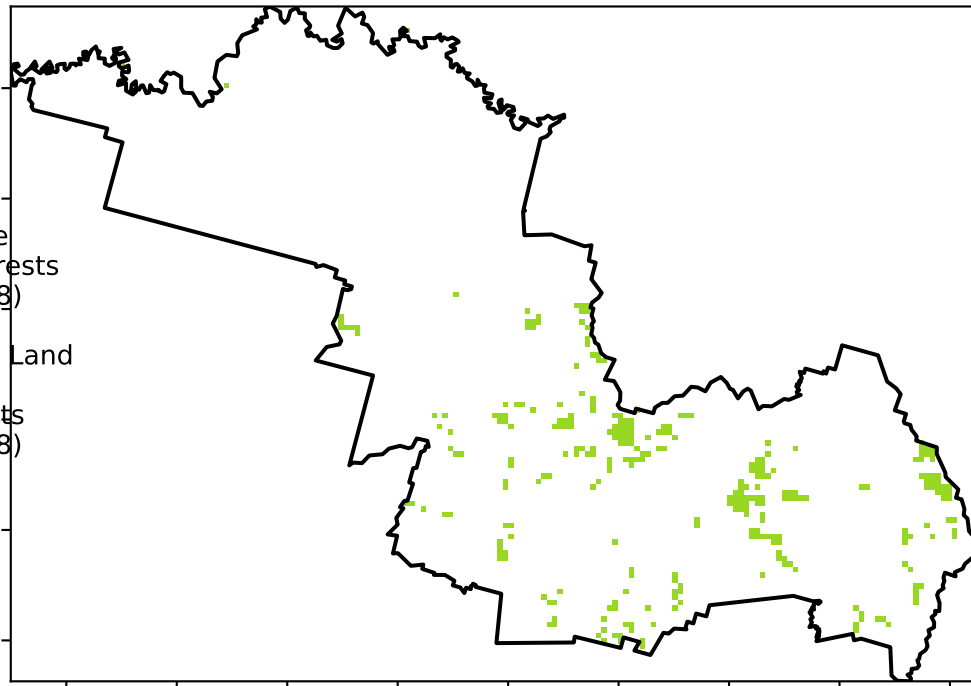




Grazing - Forest (non woodland)

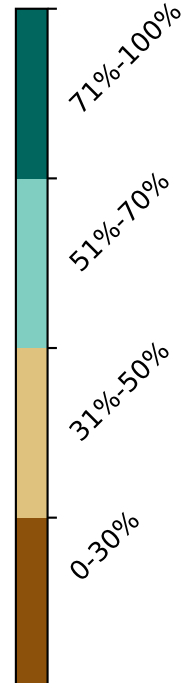
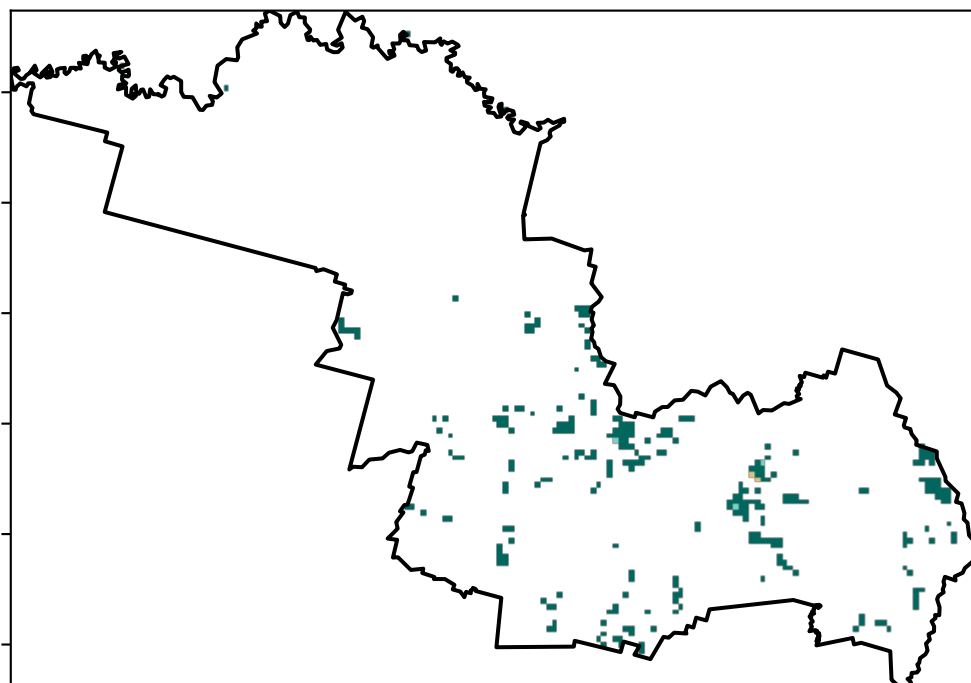
Land use and forest cover

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

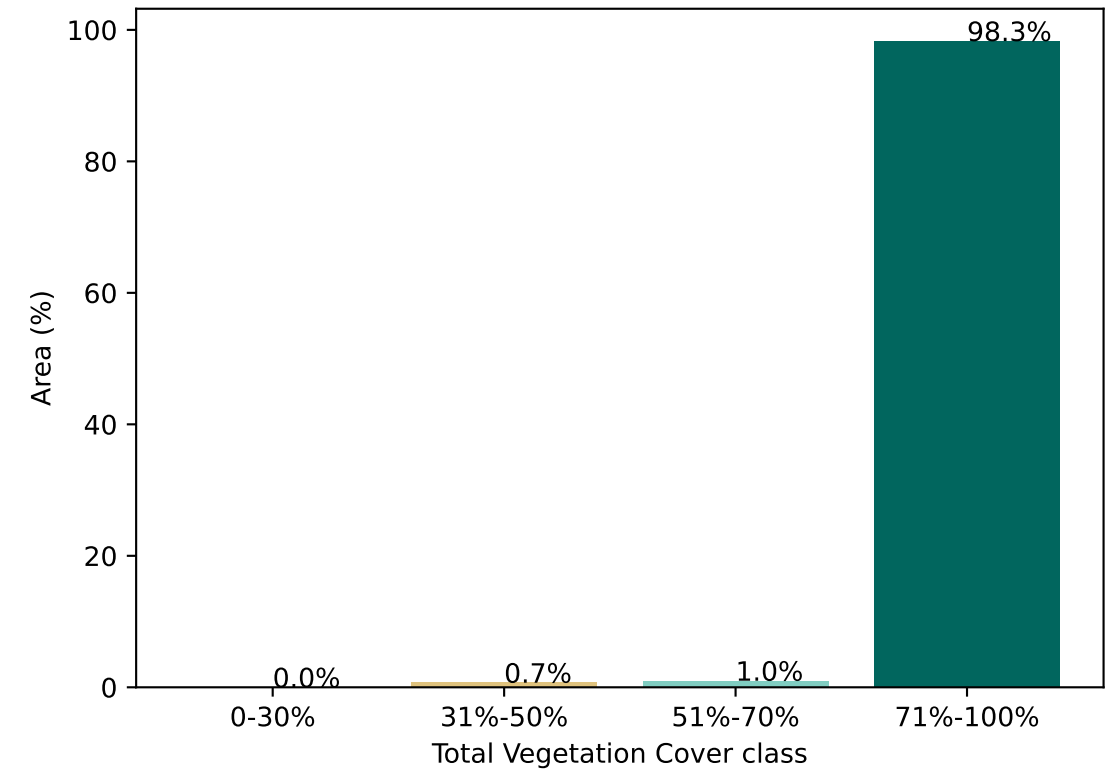


1 Agriculture - Grazing - Non-woodland forest

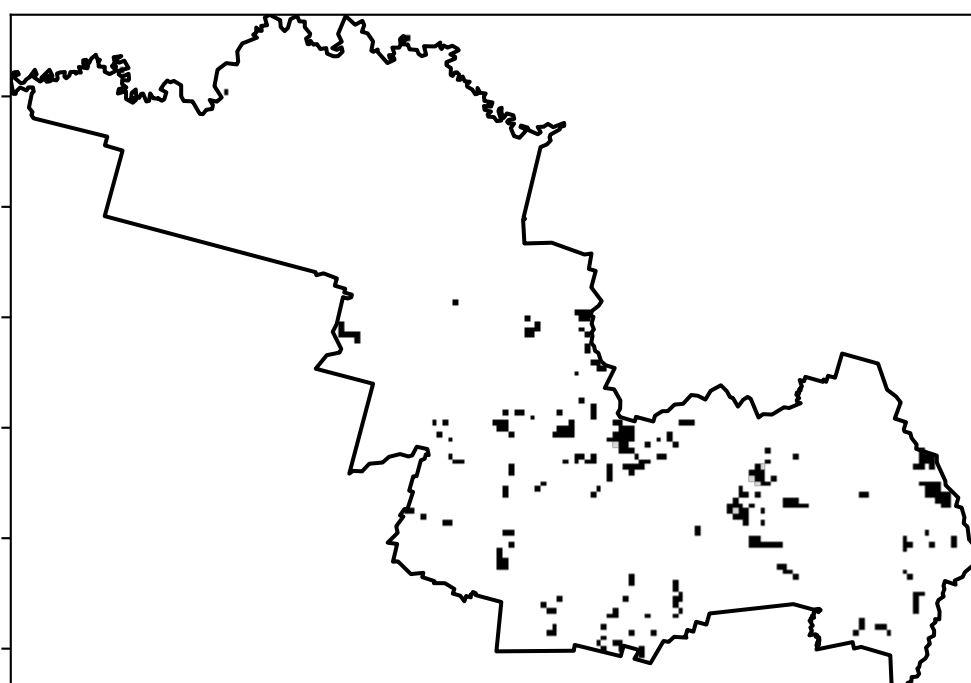
Total Vegetation Cover [%]



Proportion of vegetation cover class in area

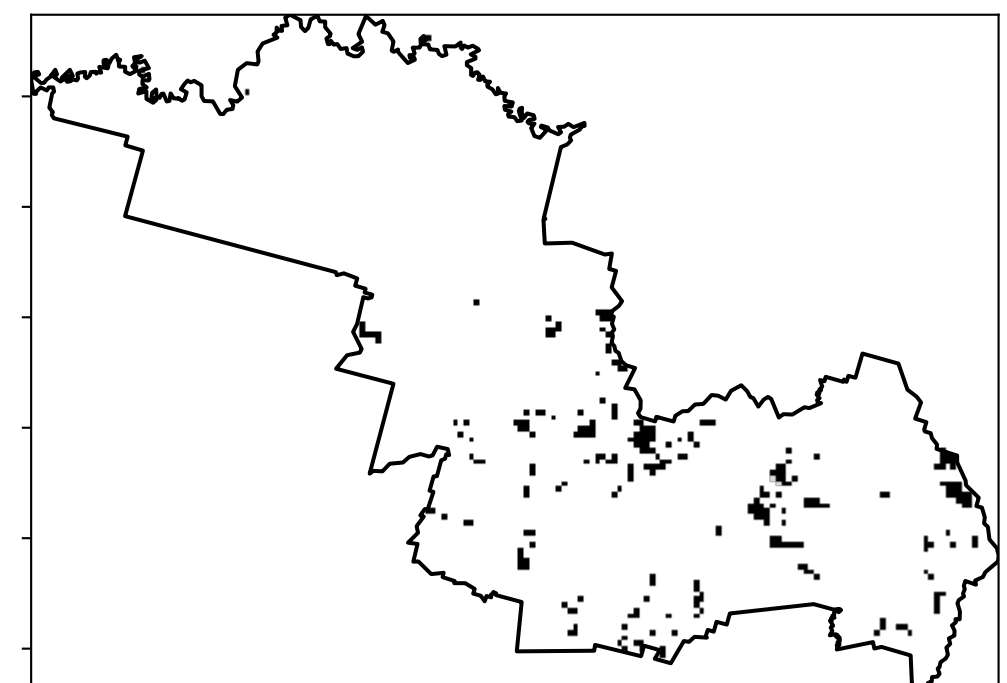


% Area protected from water erosion (>70%)



Area not protected
1.7% of region
(124 ha)
Area protected
98.3% of region
(7,151 ha)

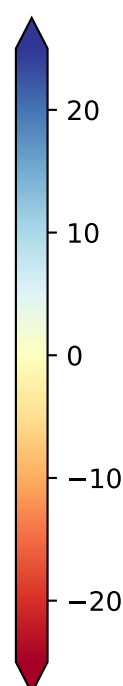
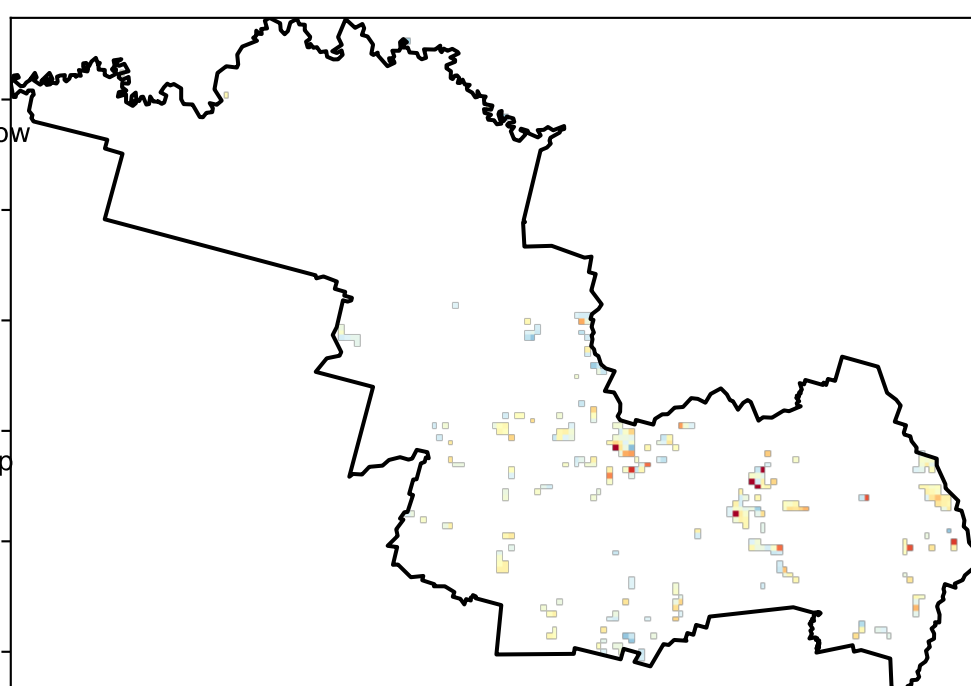
% Area protected from wind erosion (>50%)



Area not protected
1.0% of region (73 ha)
Area protected
99.0% of region
(7,202 ha)

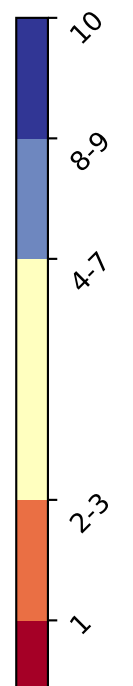
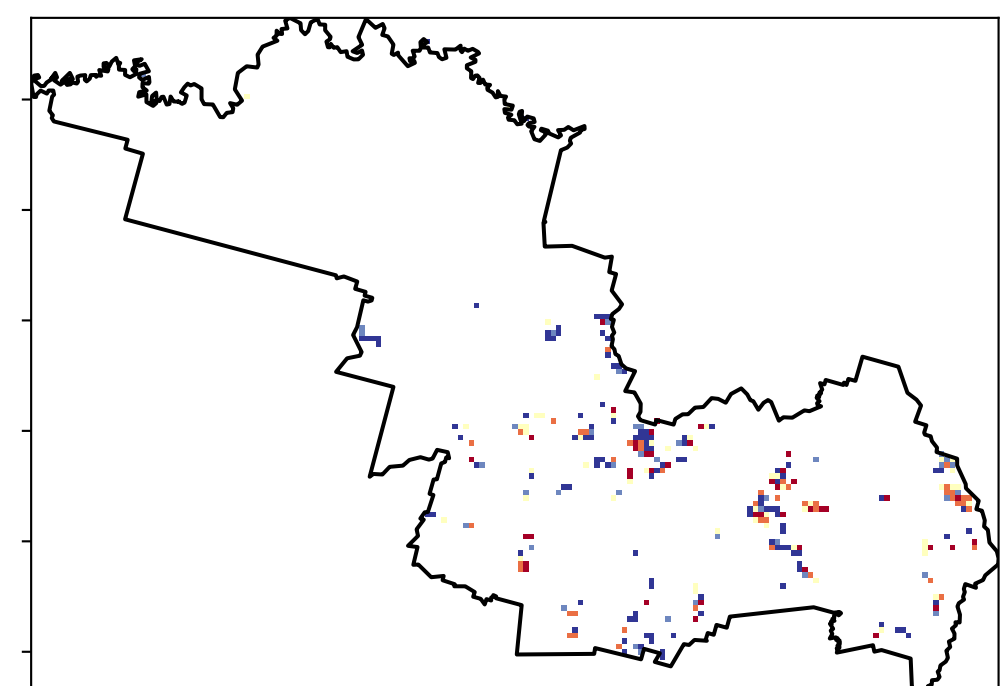
Total Vegetation Cover Anomaly [%]

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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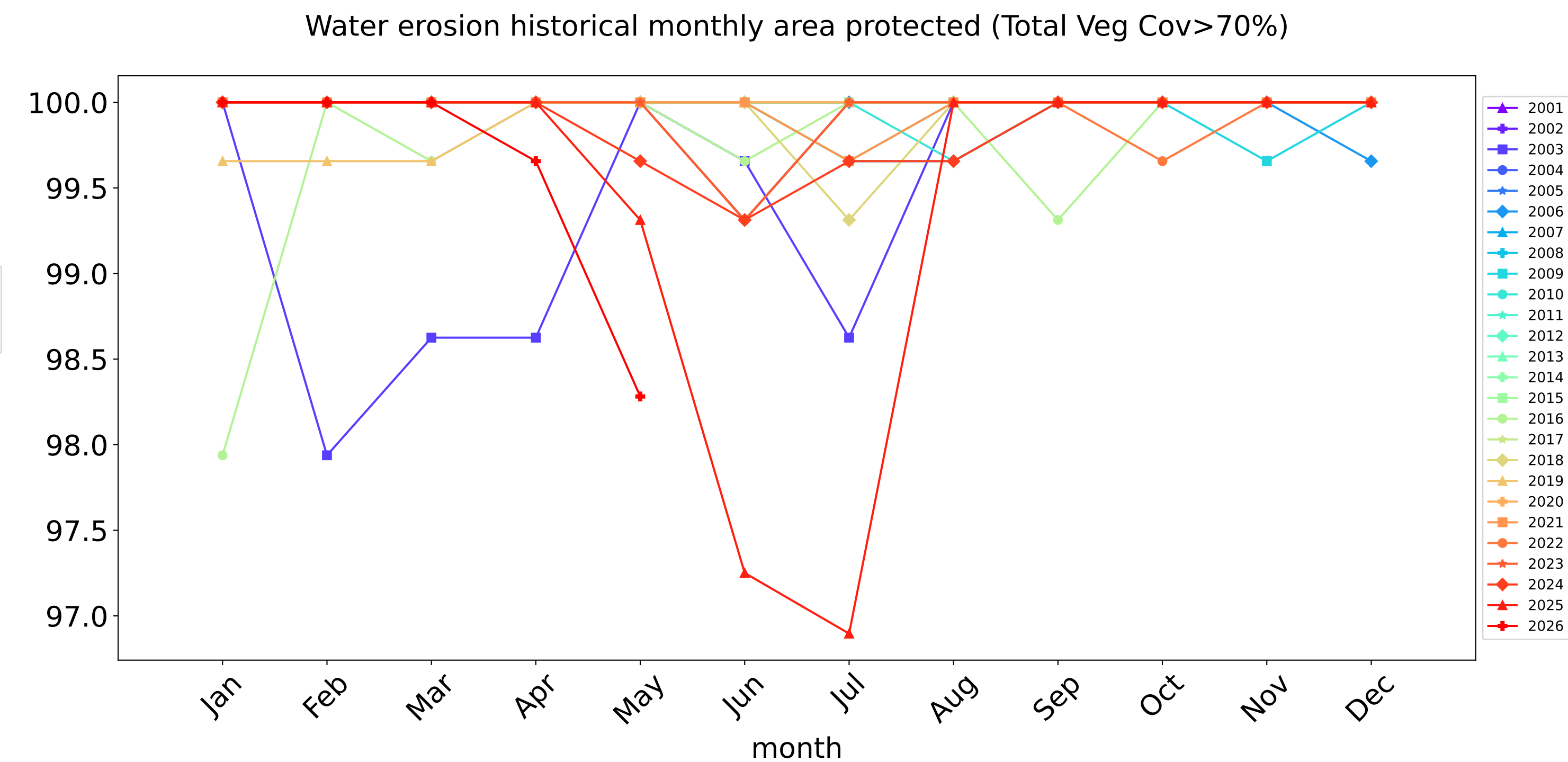
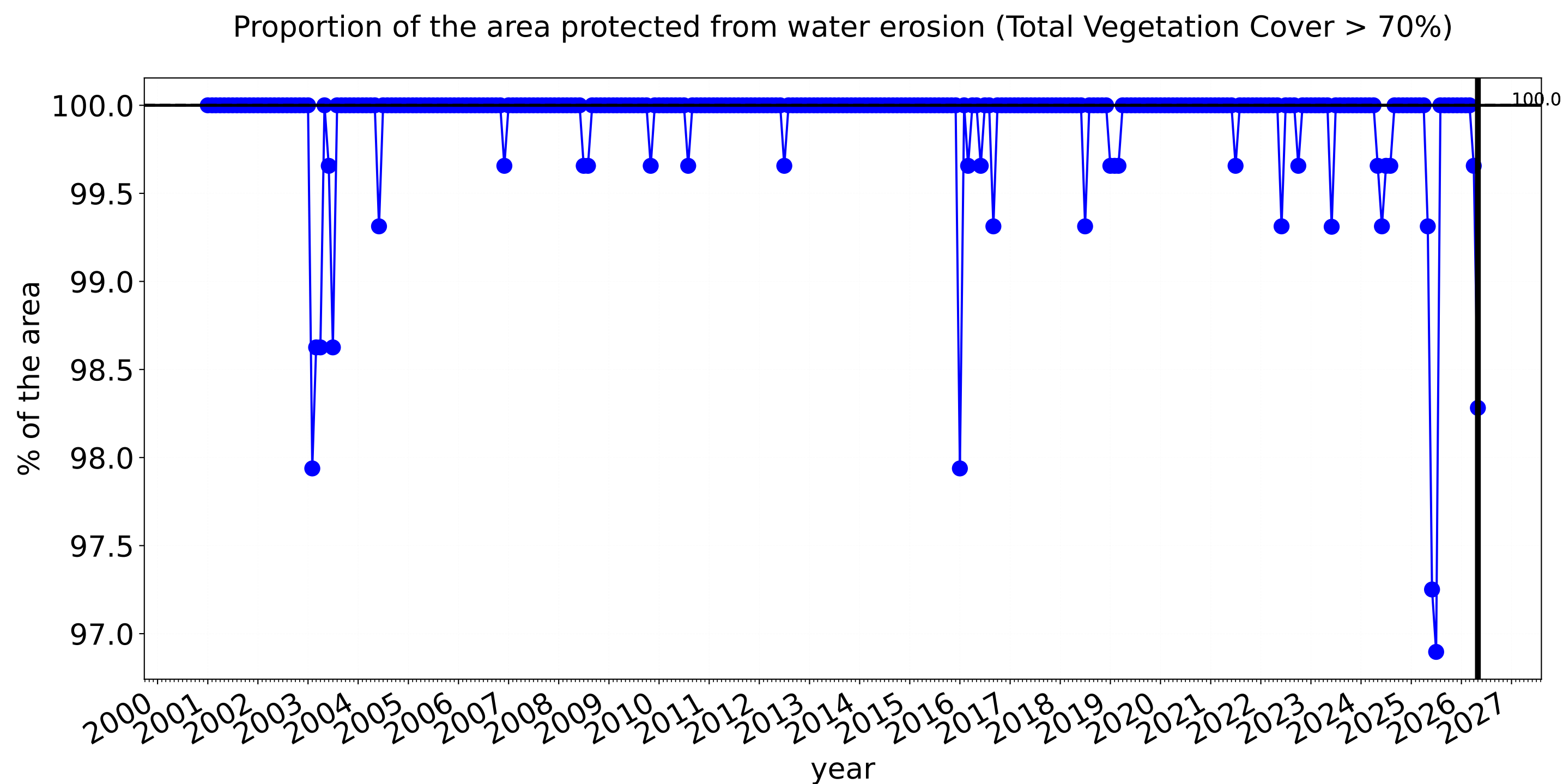
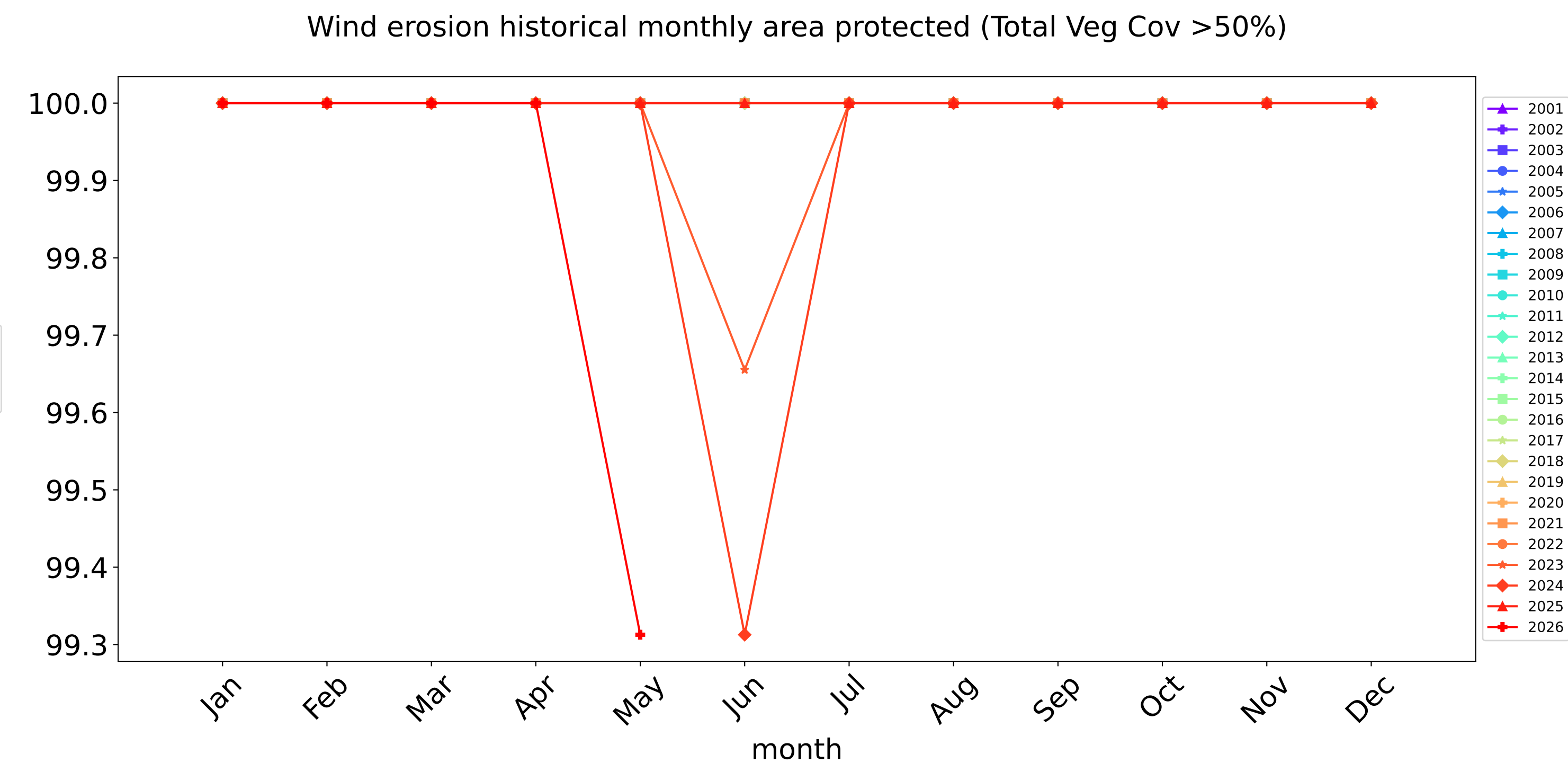
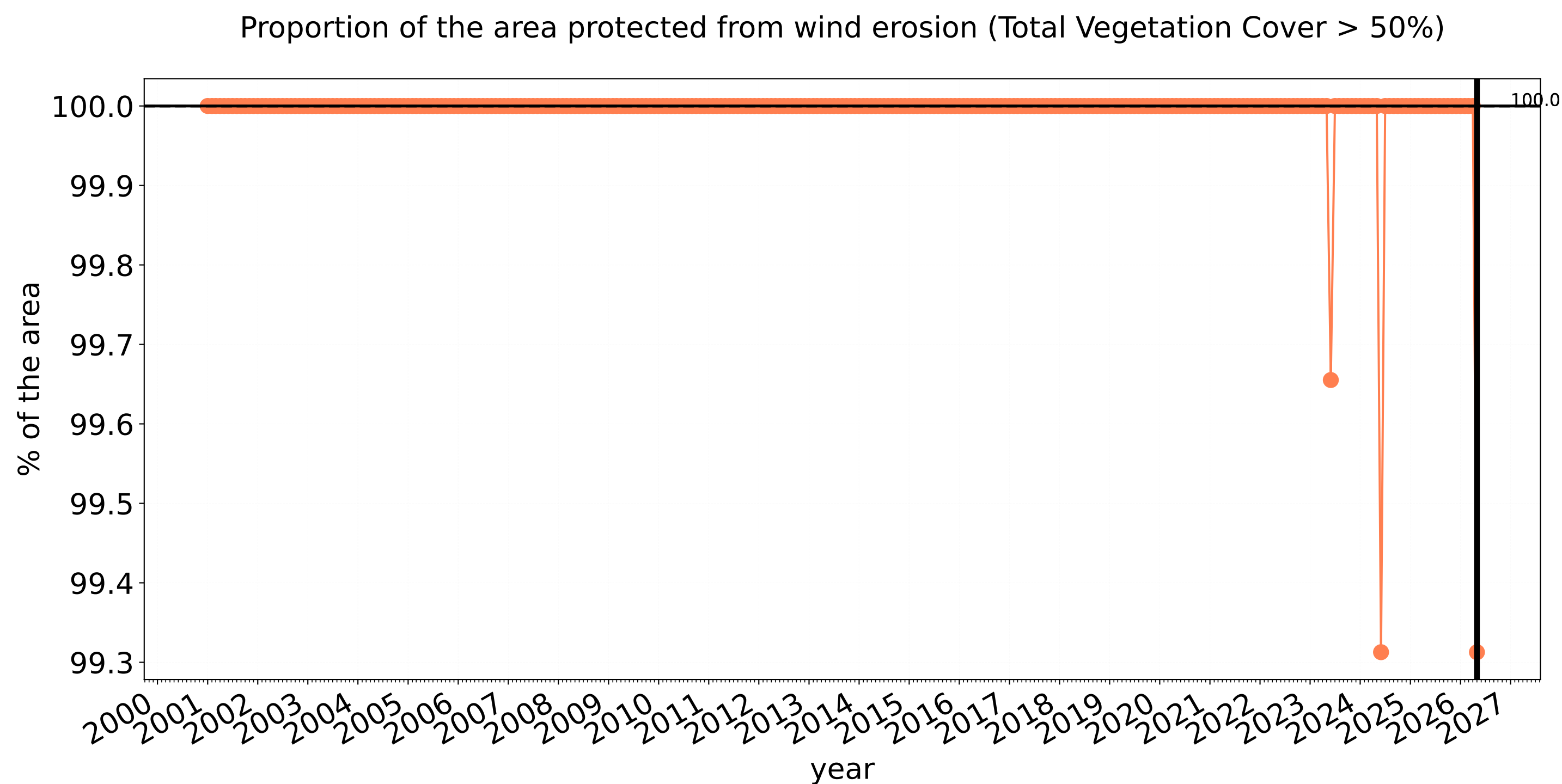


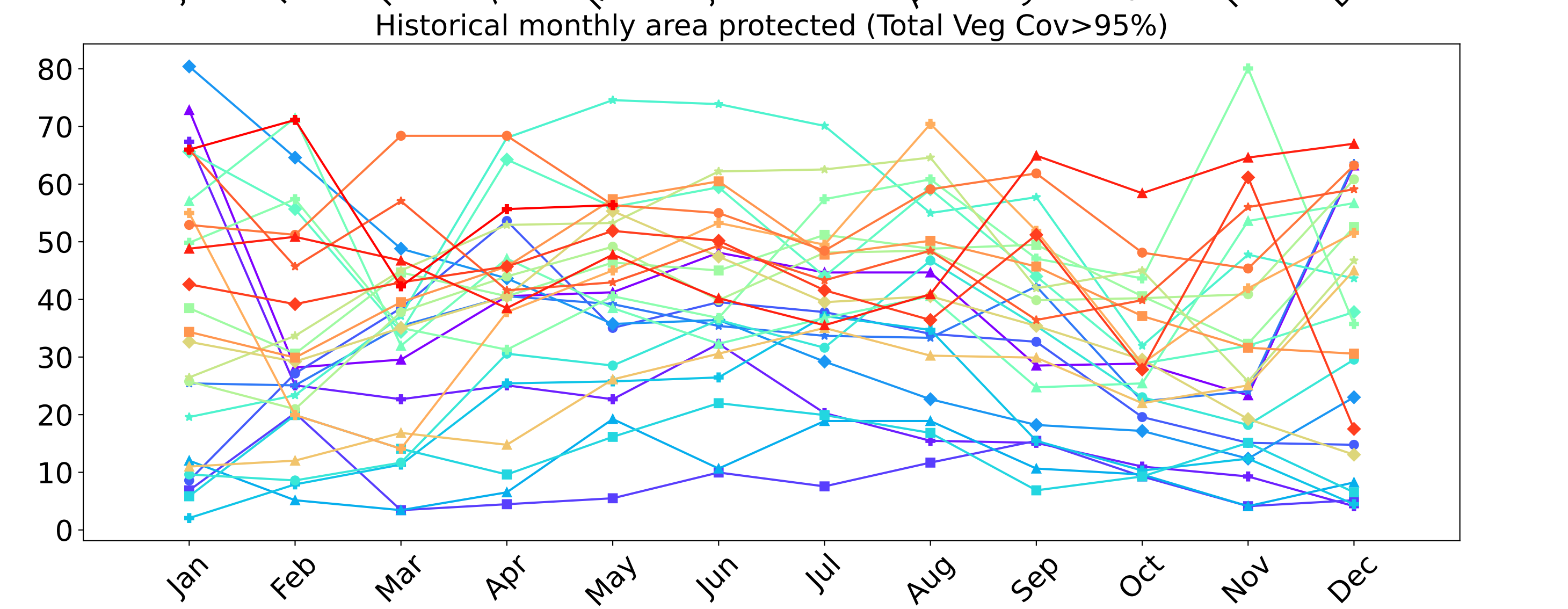
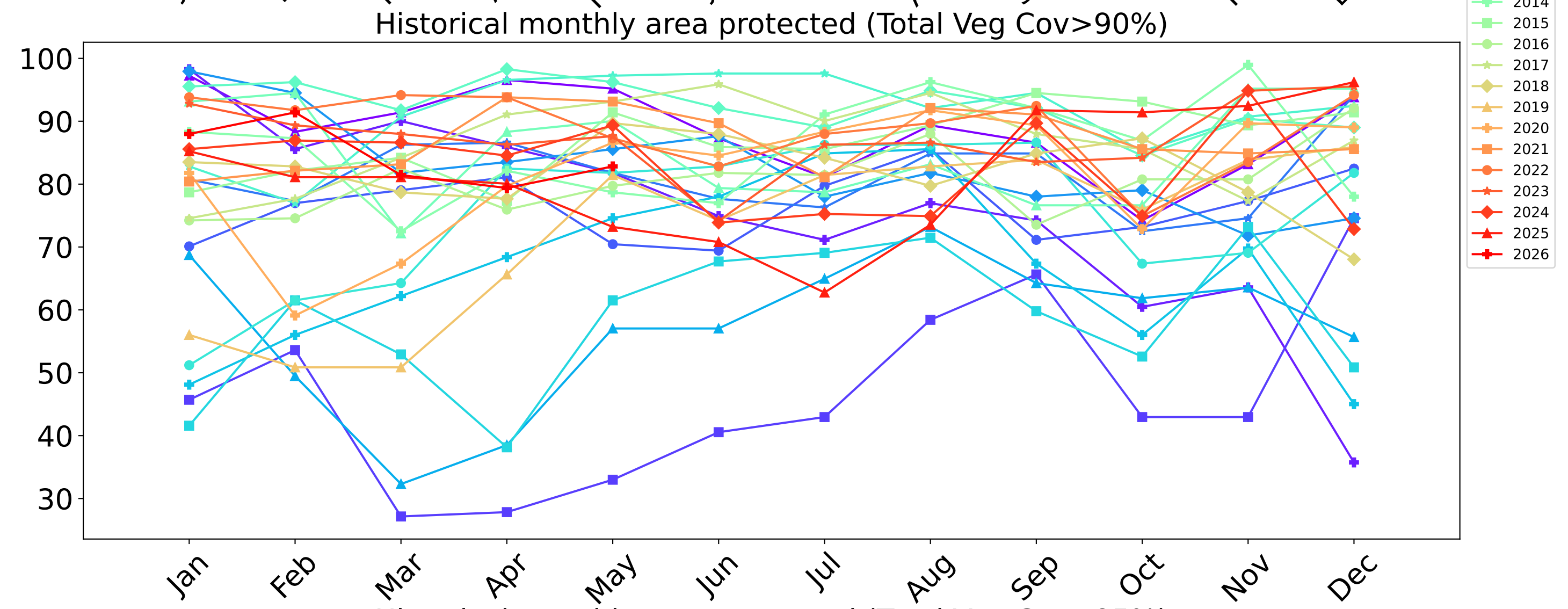
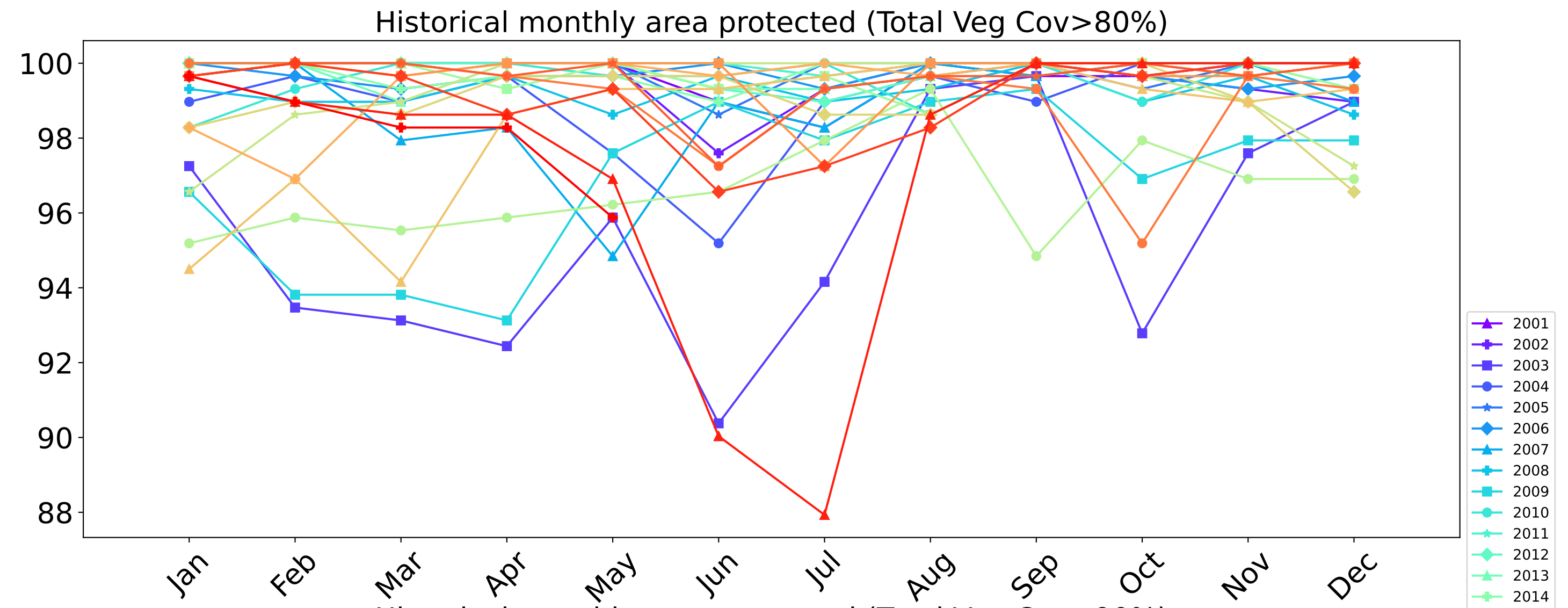
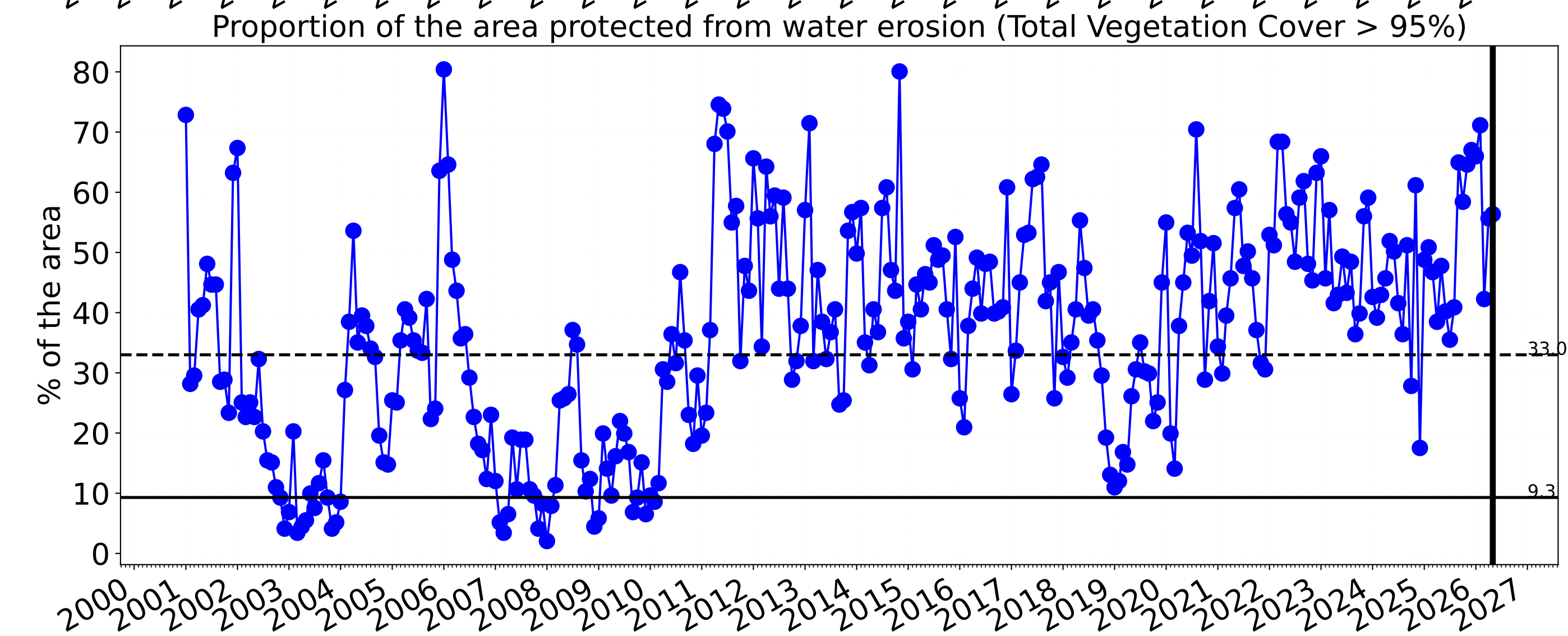
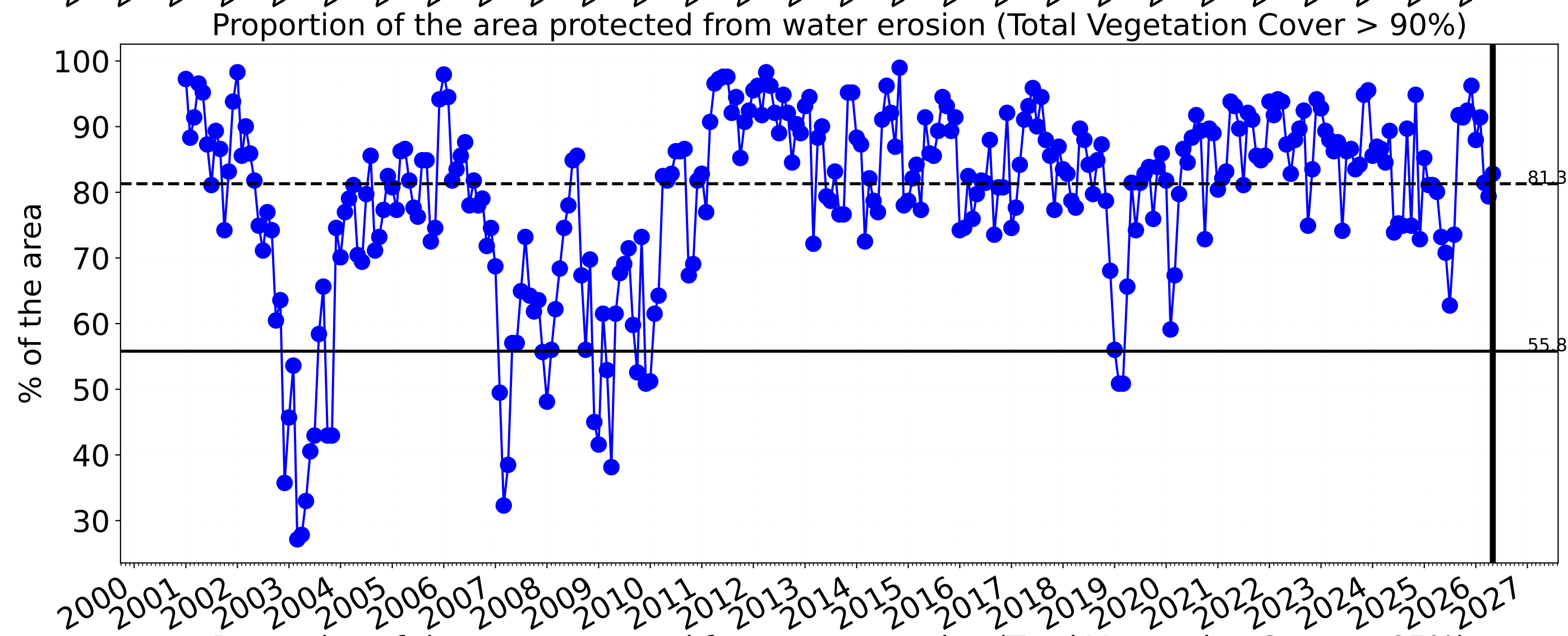
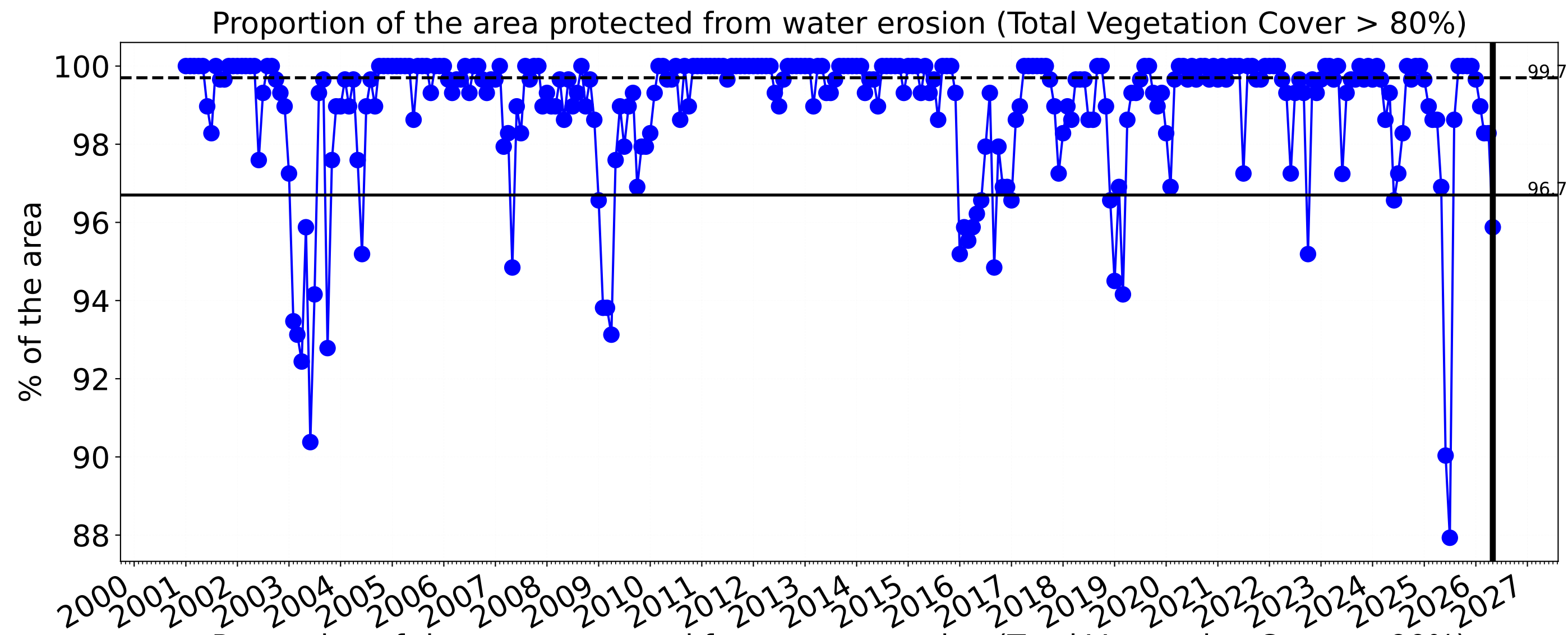
Australian Government

National
Landcare
Programme



Grazing - Forest (non woodland) timeseries

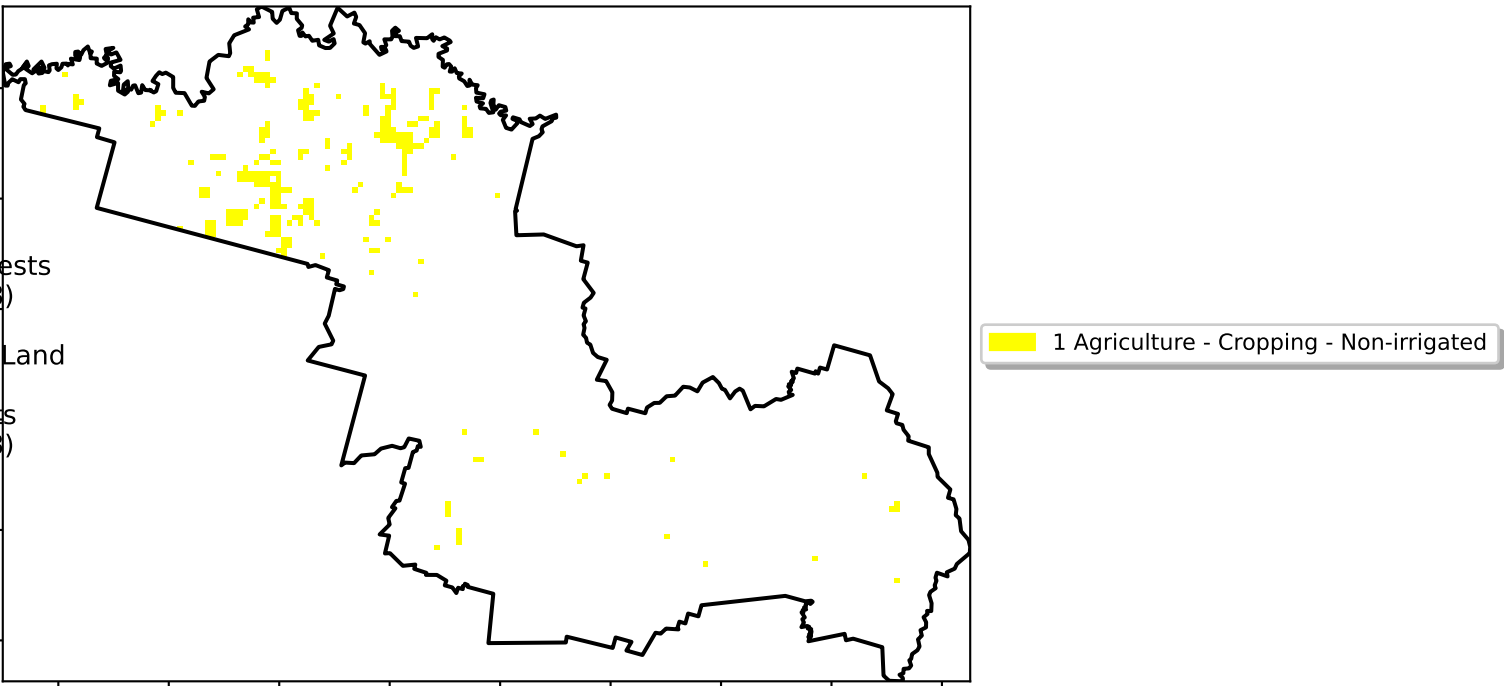




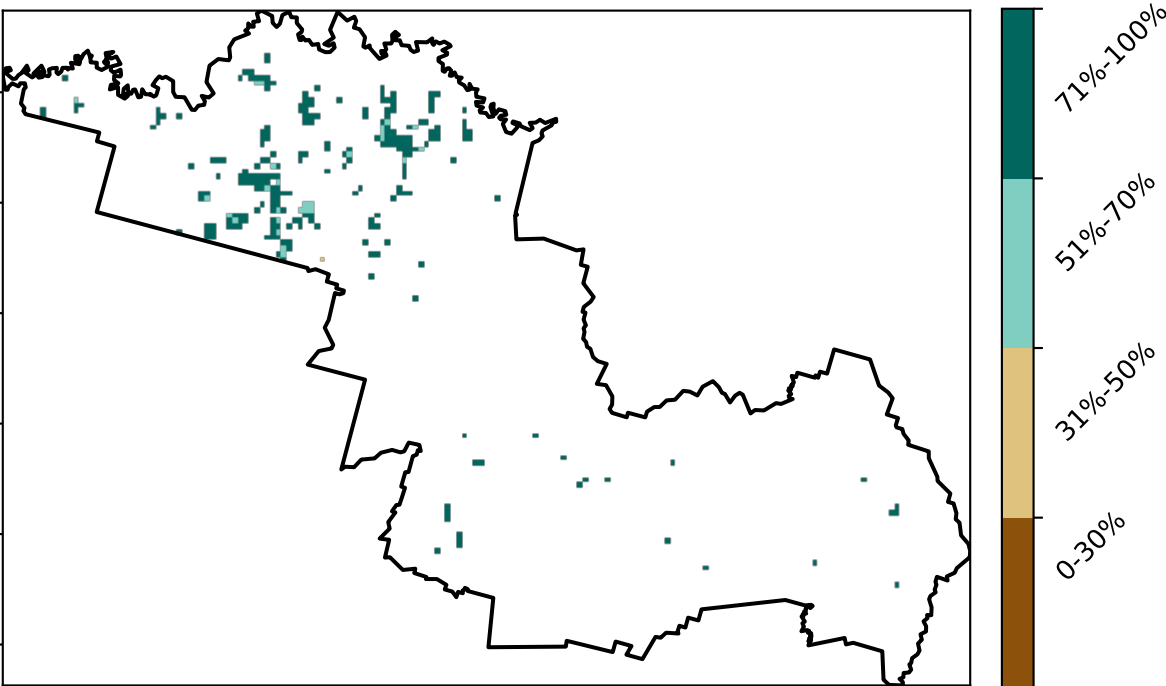
Cropping

Land use and forest cover

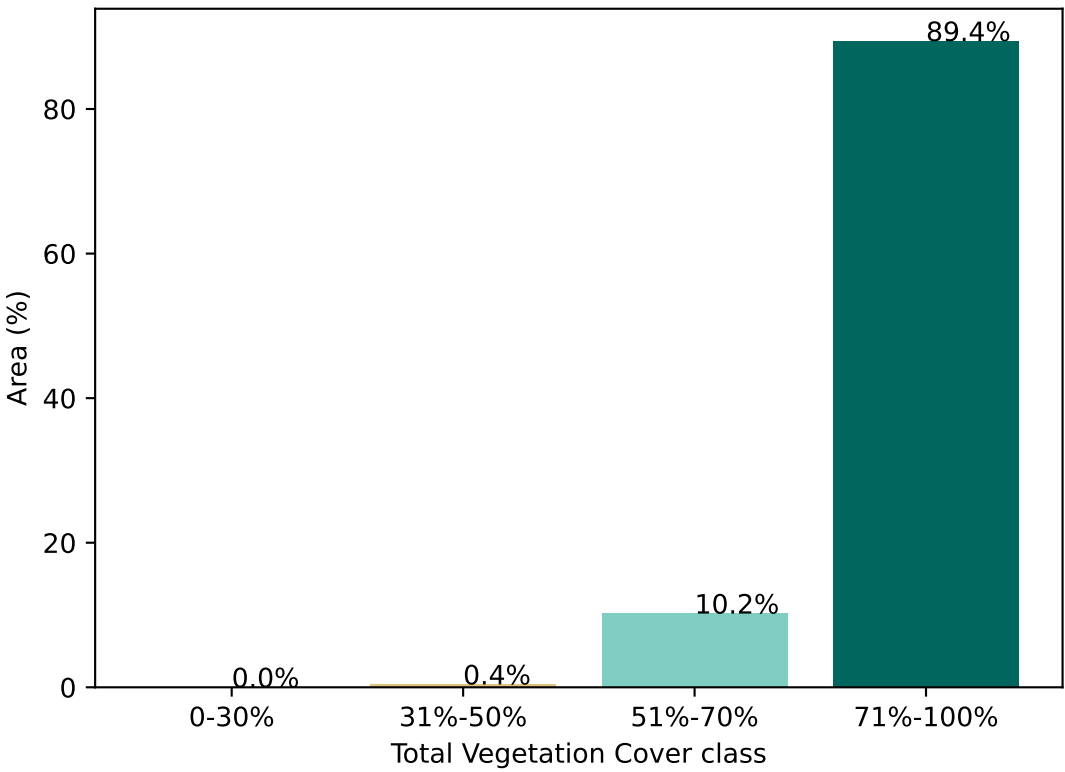
Catchment Scale
Land Use and Forests
of Australia (2018)
Derived from
Catchment Scale Land
Use of Australia
(2018) and Forests
of Australia (2018)



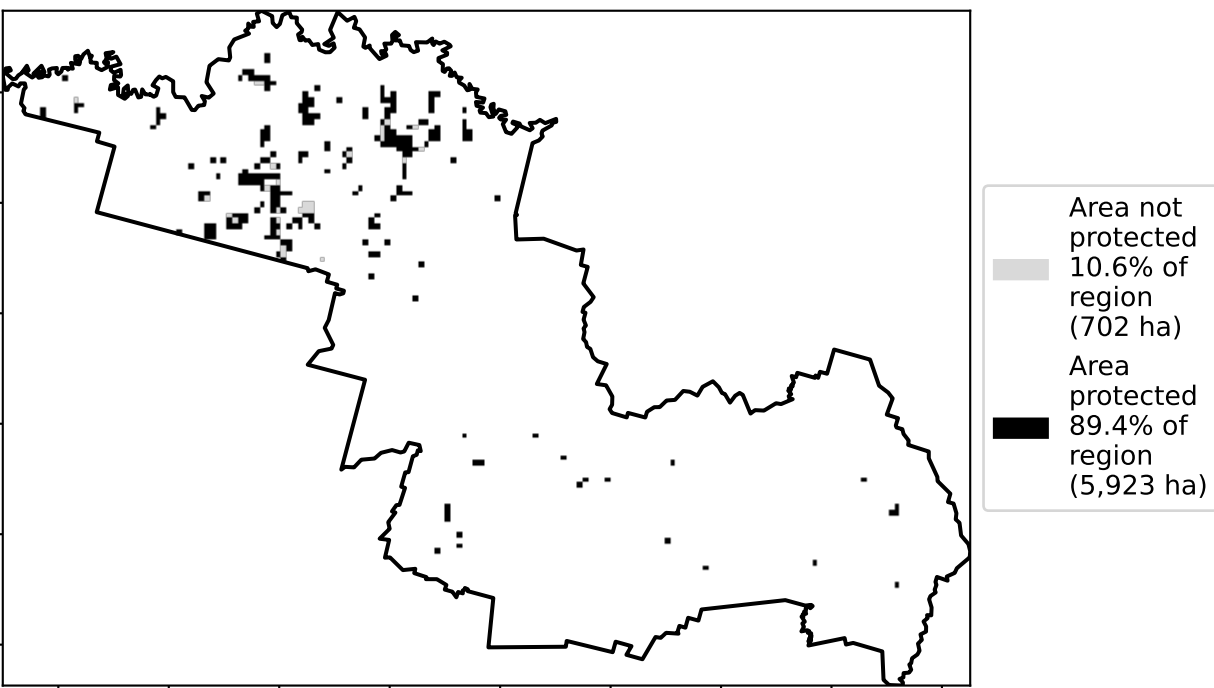
Total Vegetation Cover [%]



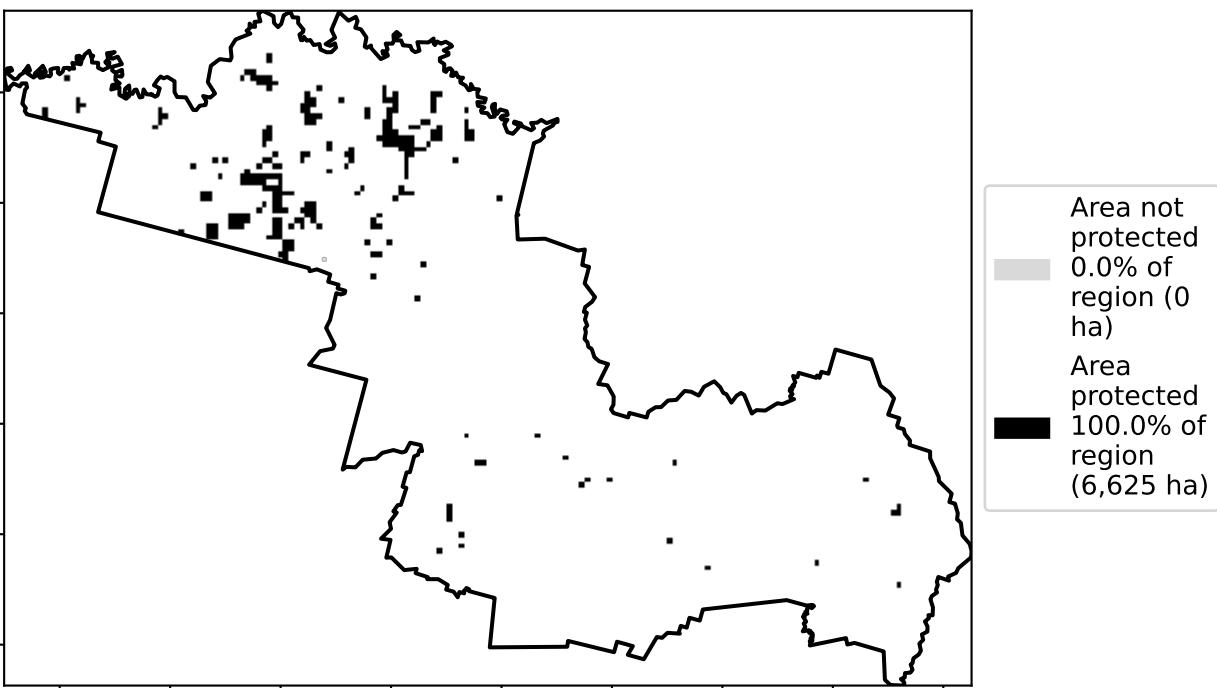
Proportion of vegetation cover class in area



% Area protected from water erosion (>70%)

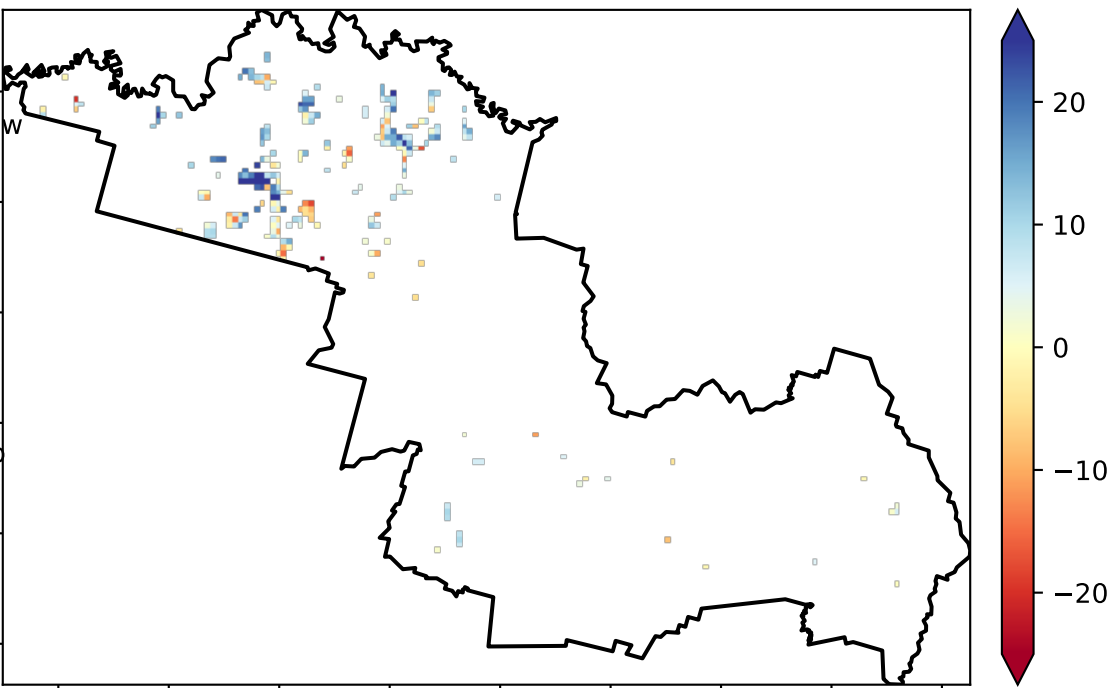


% Area protected from wind erosion (>50%)



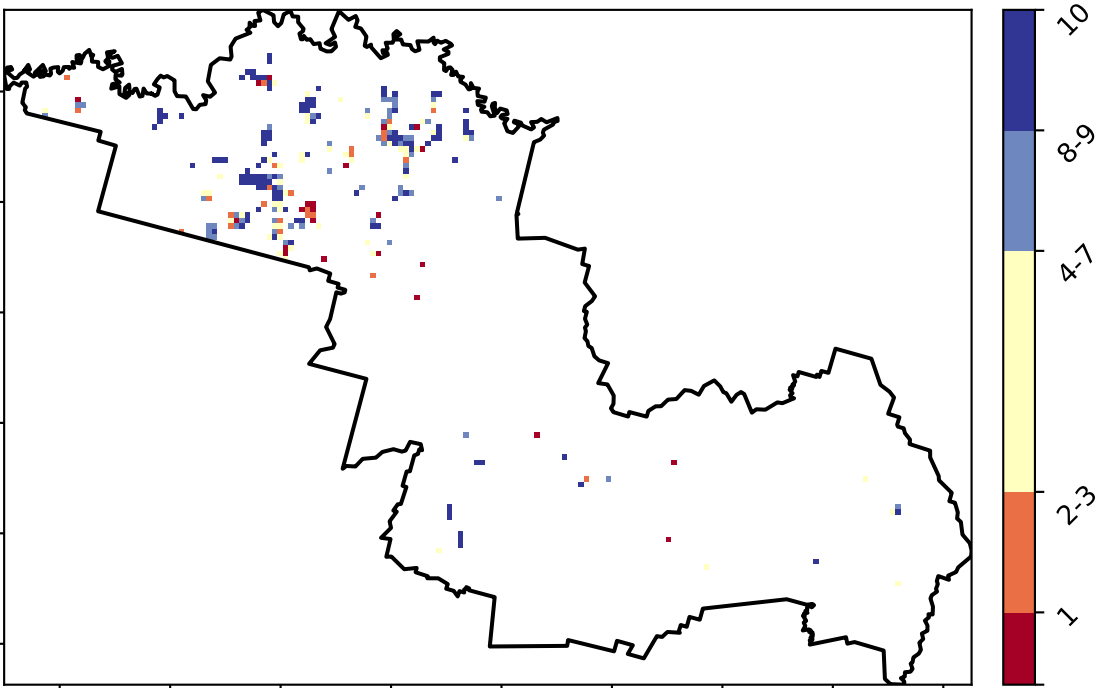
Total Vegetation Cover Anomaly [%]

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

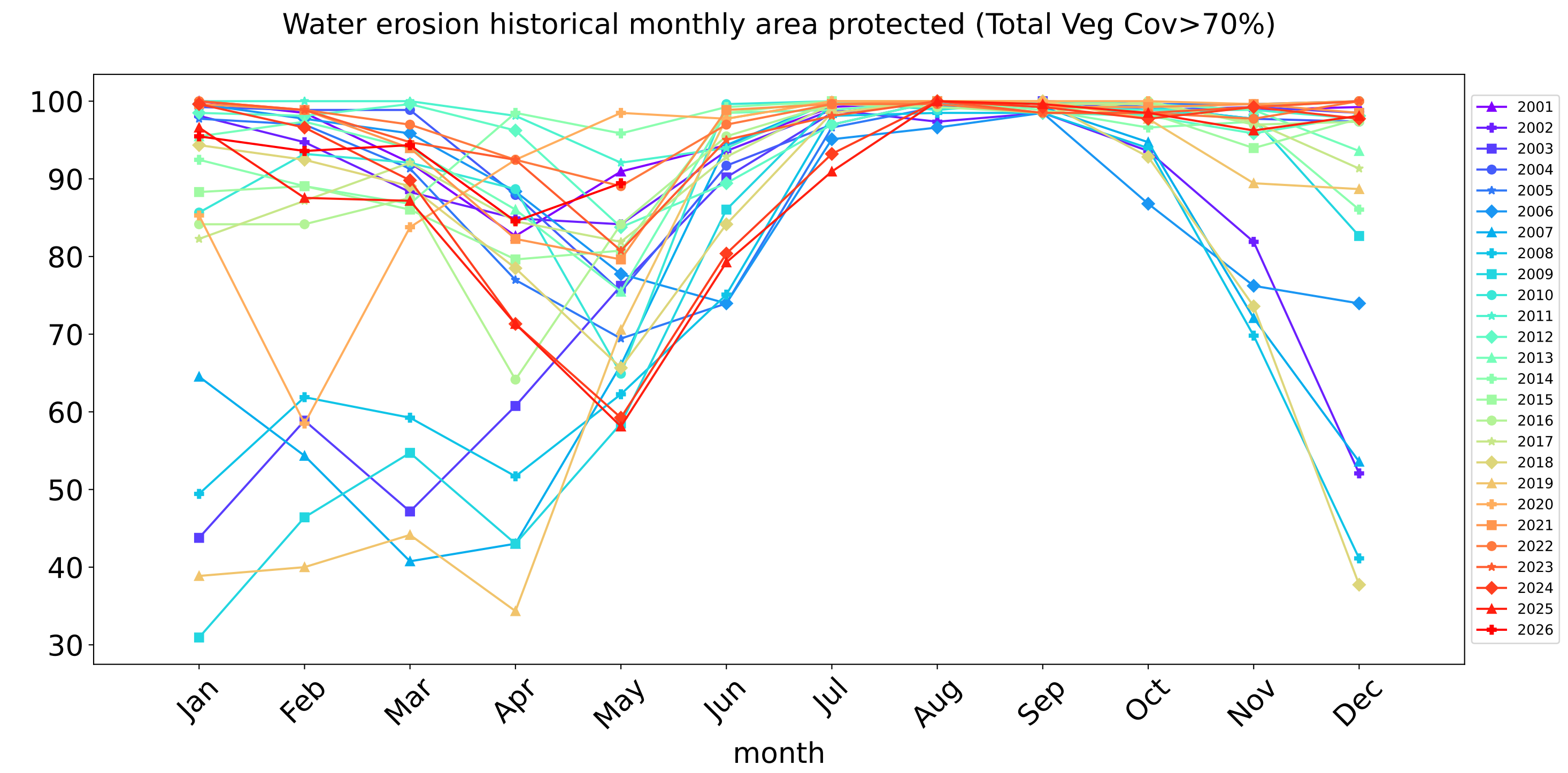
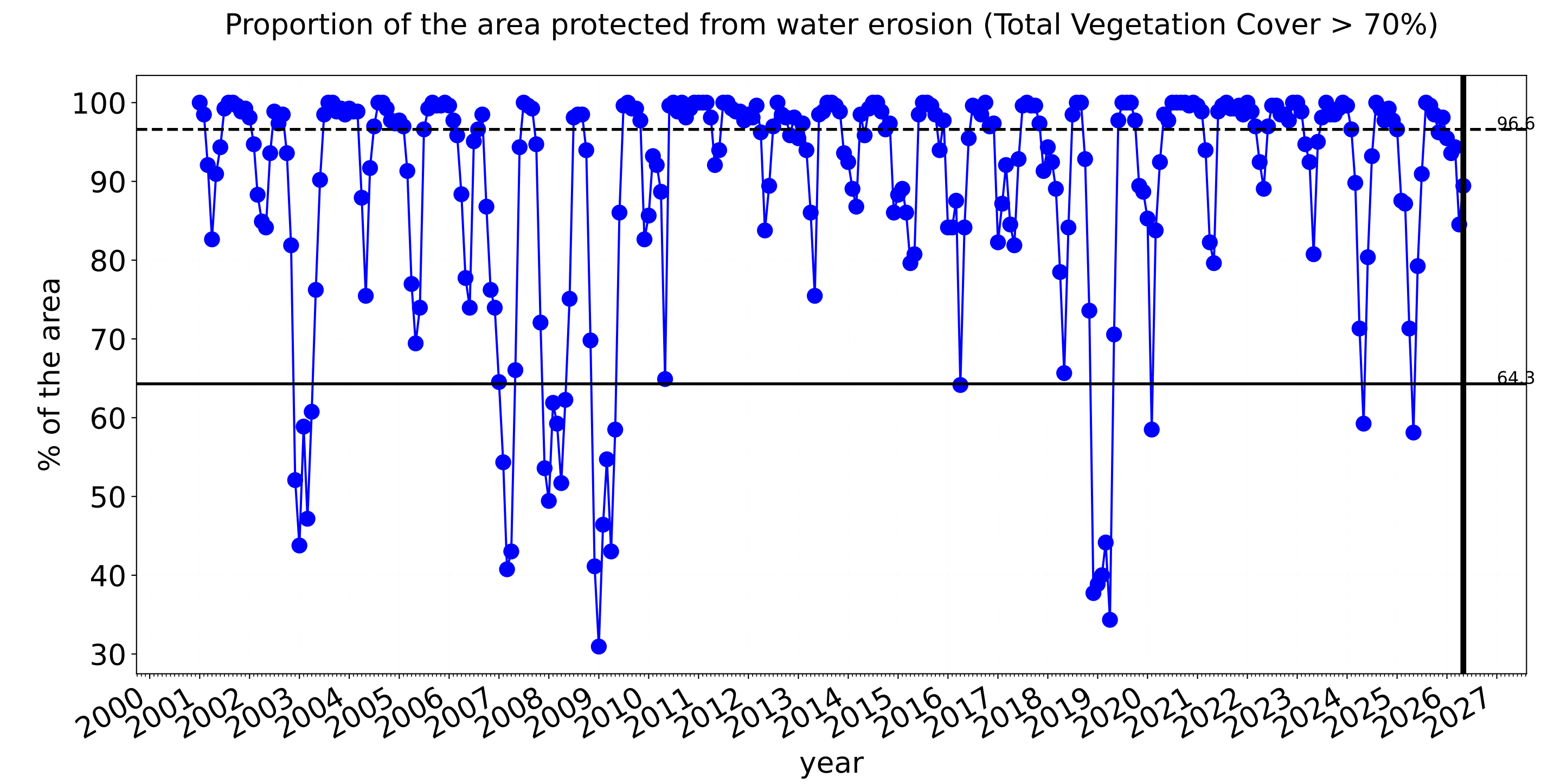
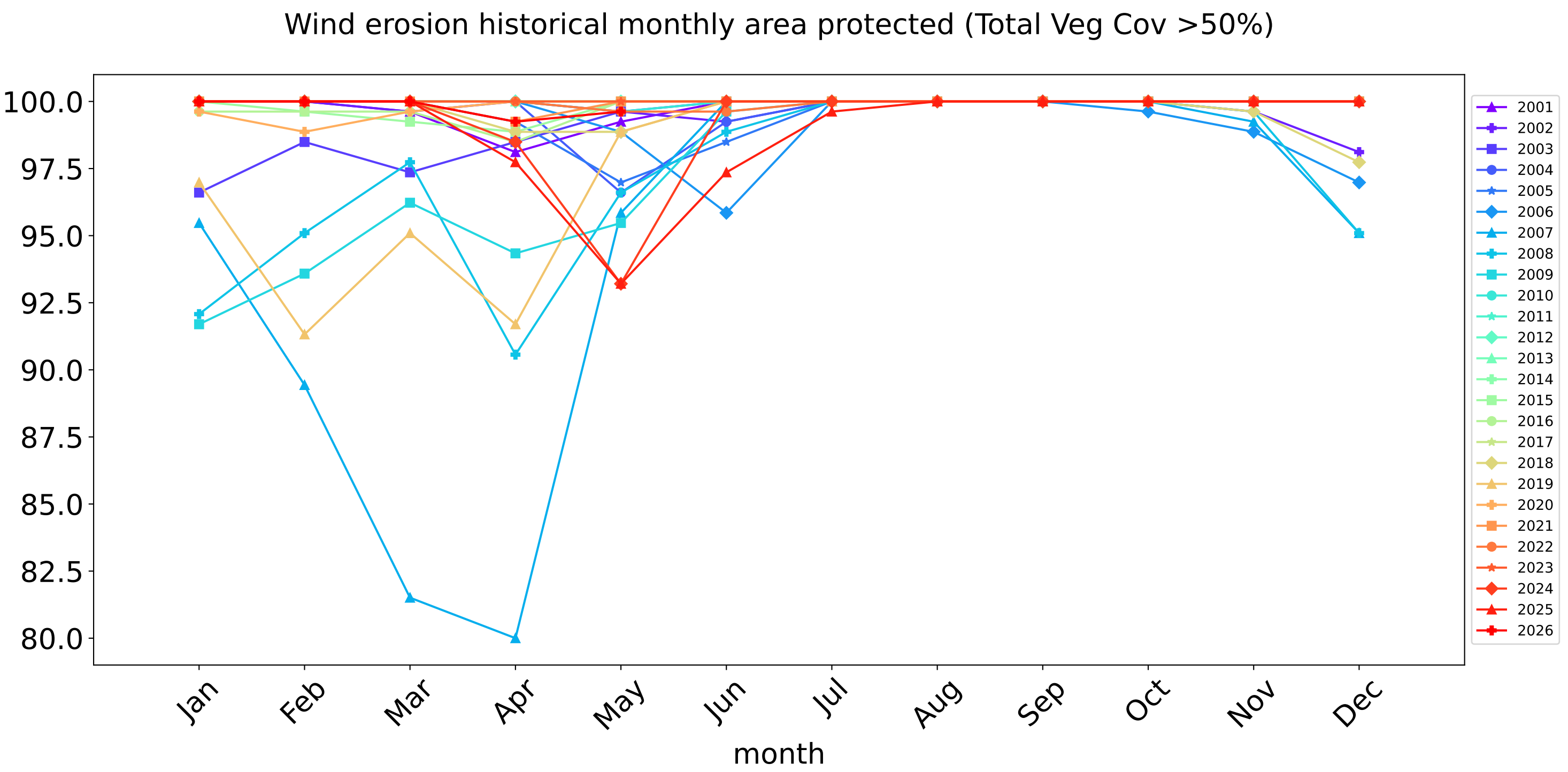
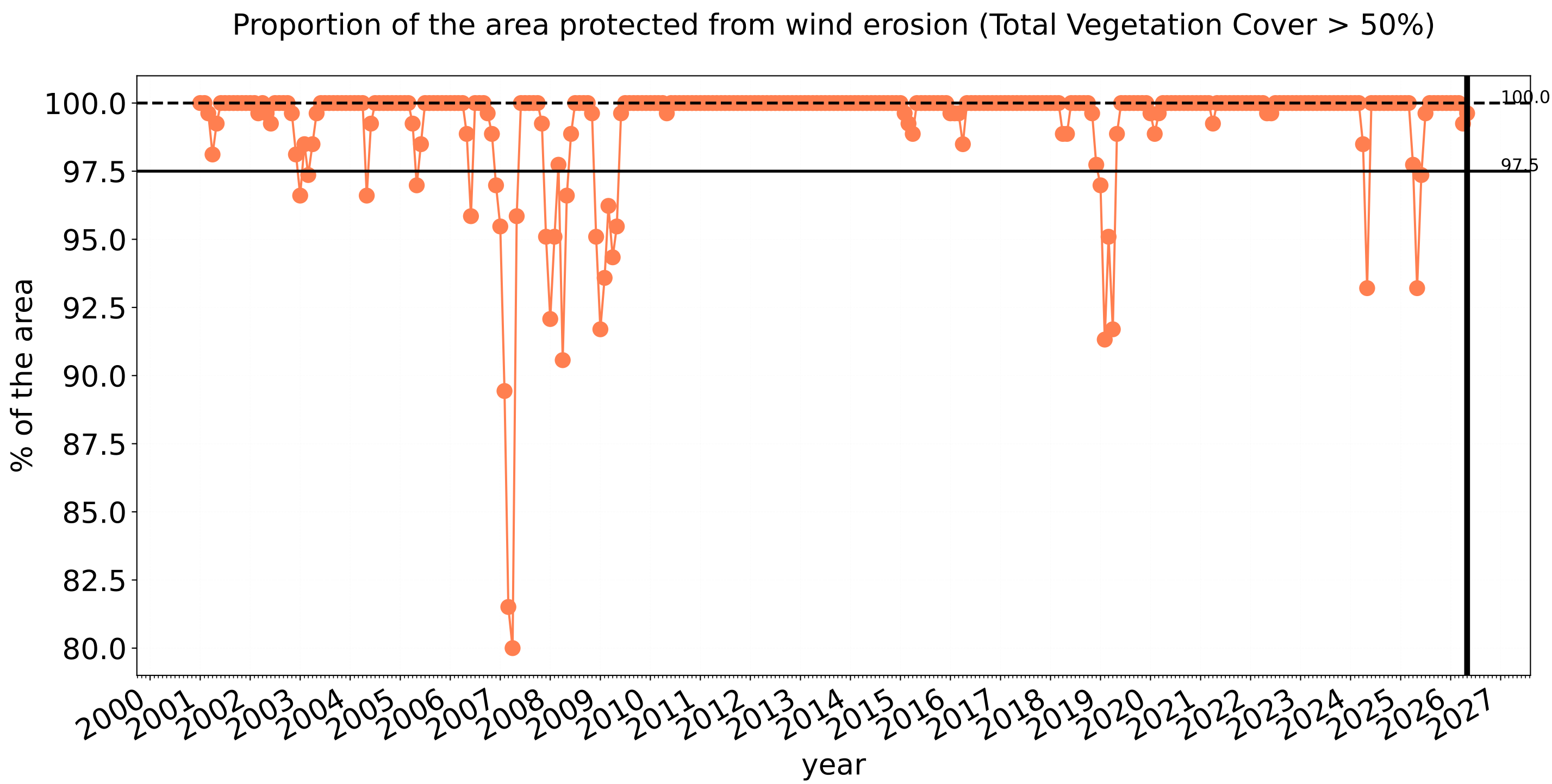


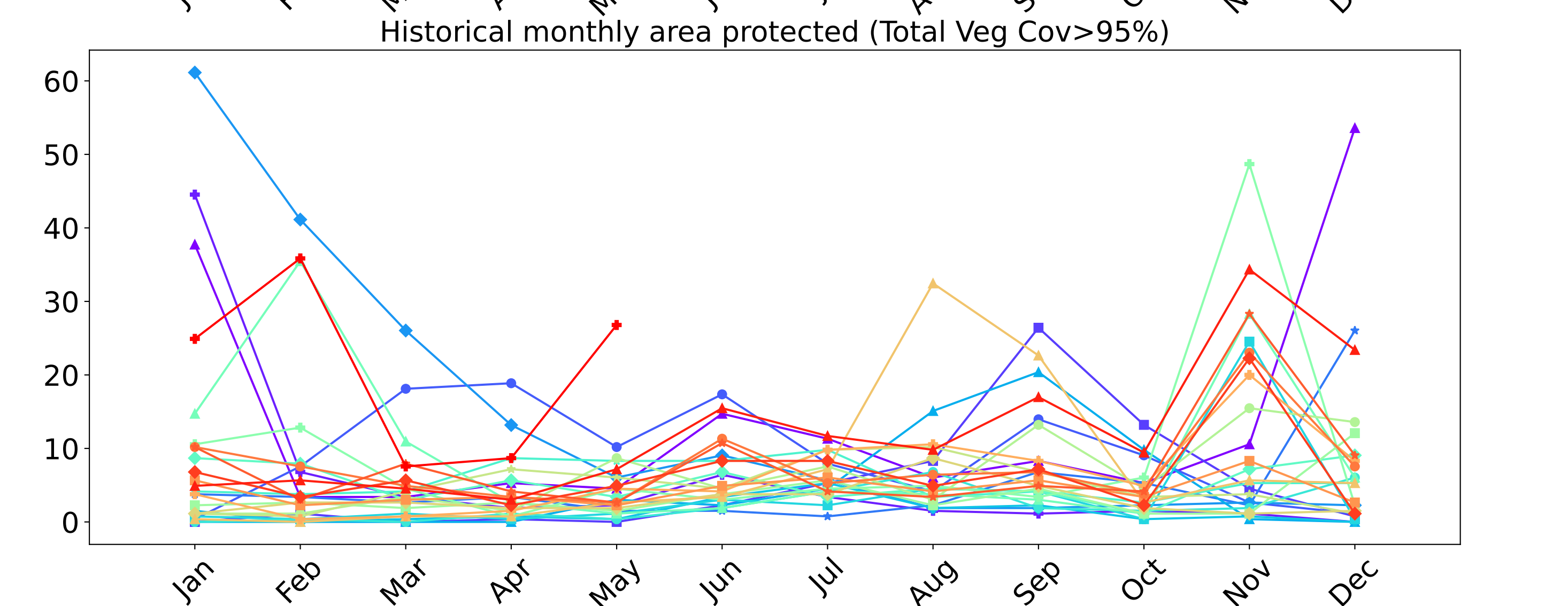
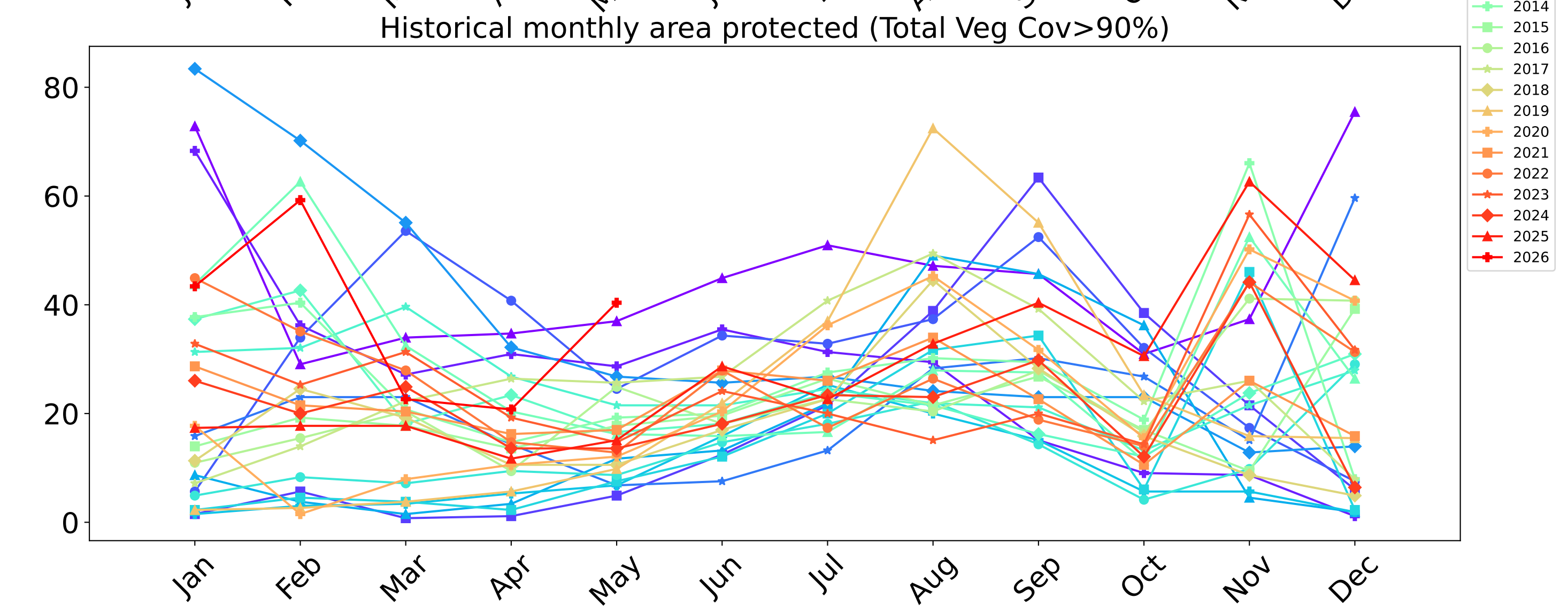
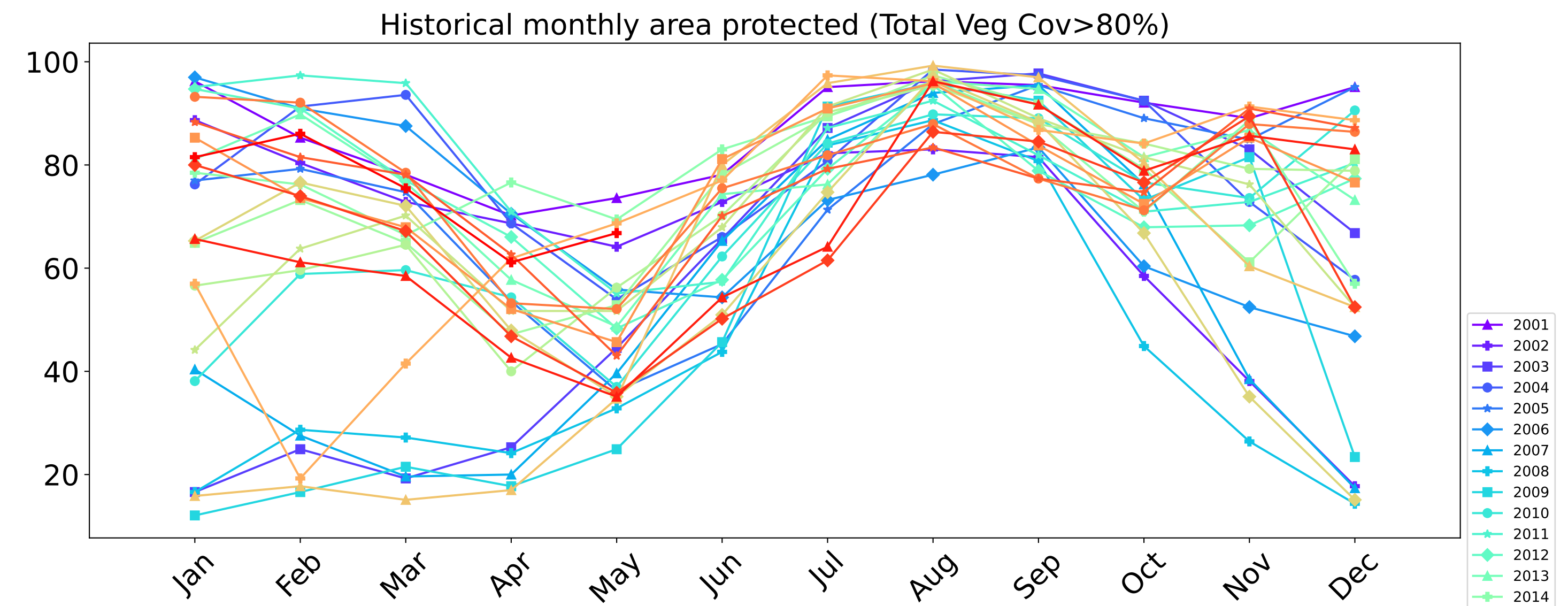
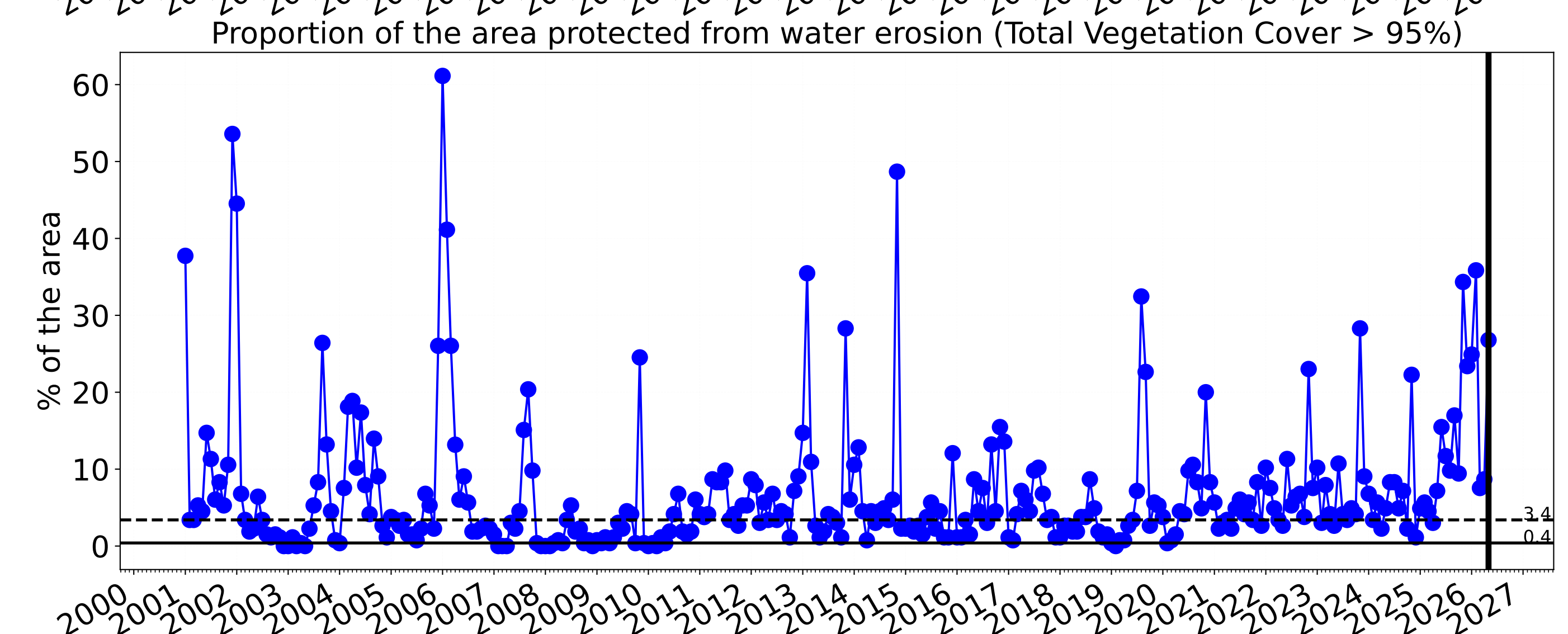
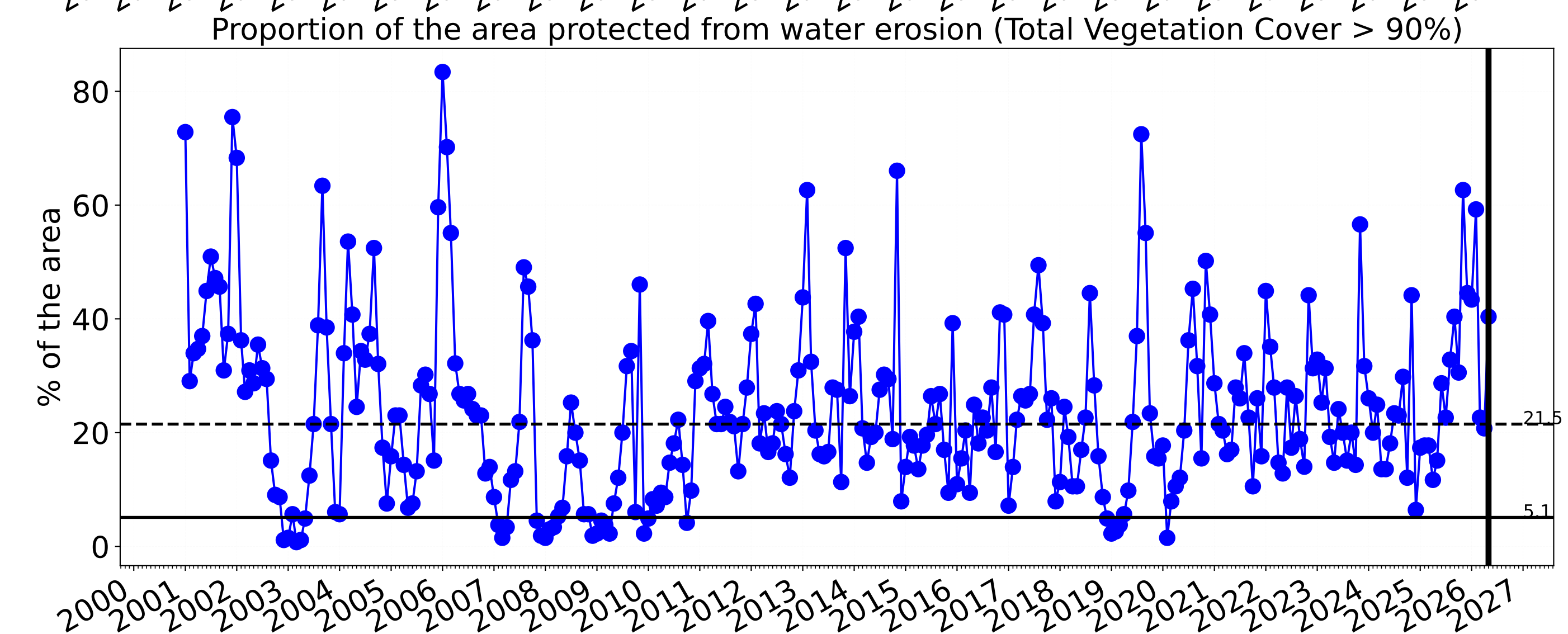
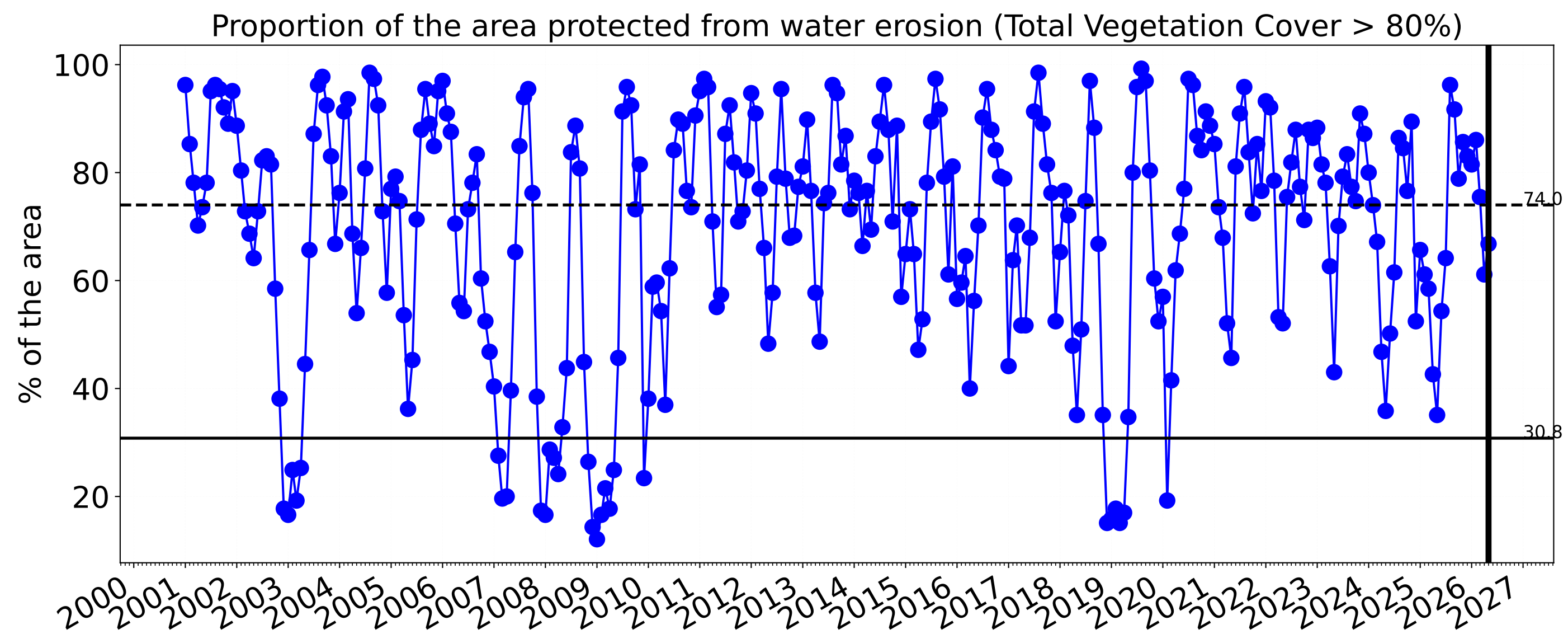
Deciles show where the pixel value lies in the record, from highest to lowest, for that month. That is, red pixels are in the lowest 10% of records for that month of the map using baseline from 2001 to 2019.

Total Vegetation Cover Decile [%]



Cropping timeseries

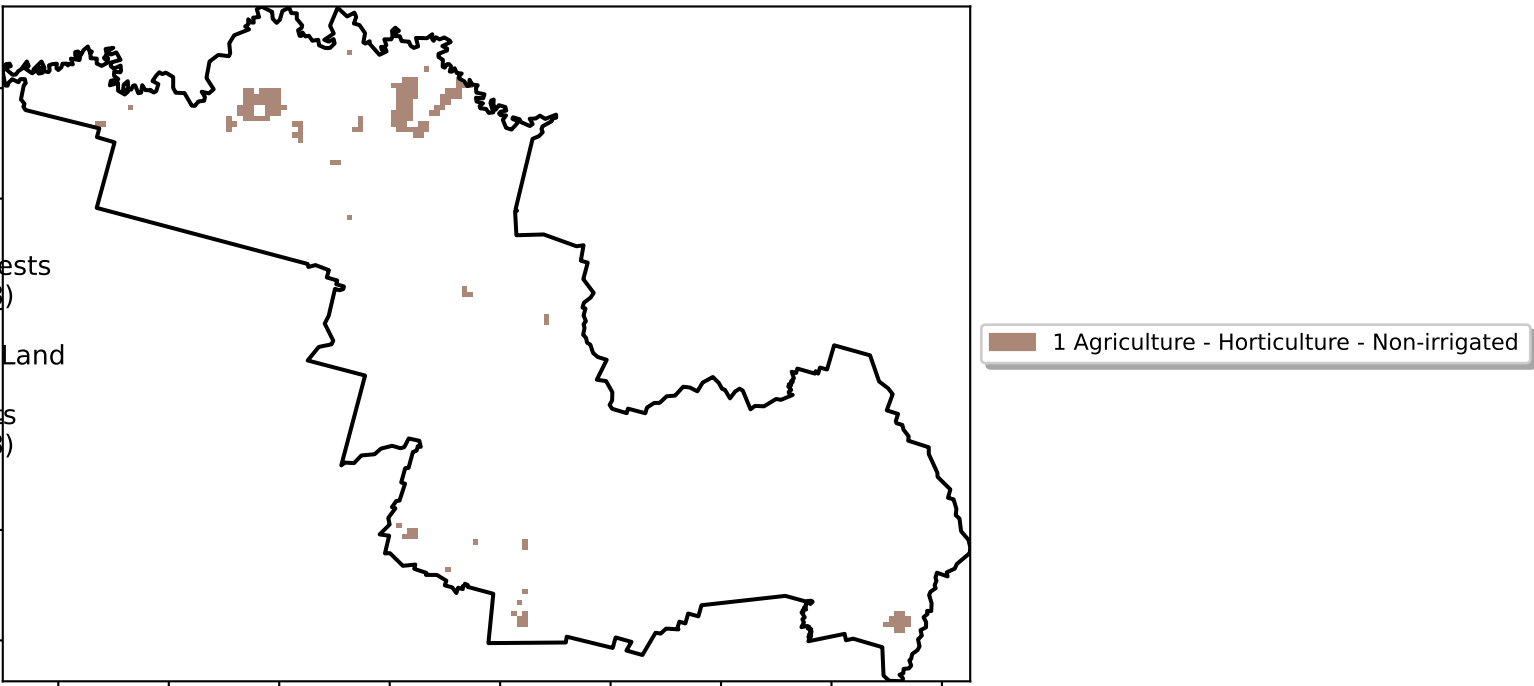




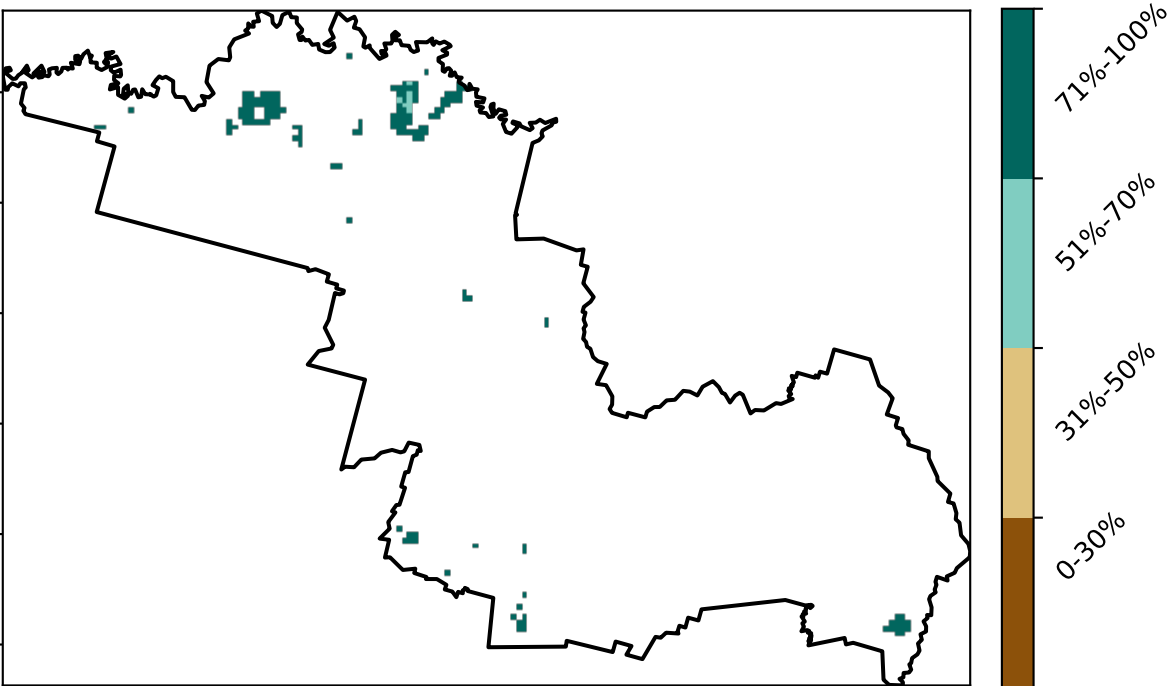
Horticulture

Land use and forest cover

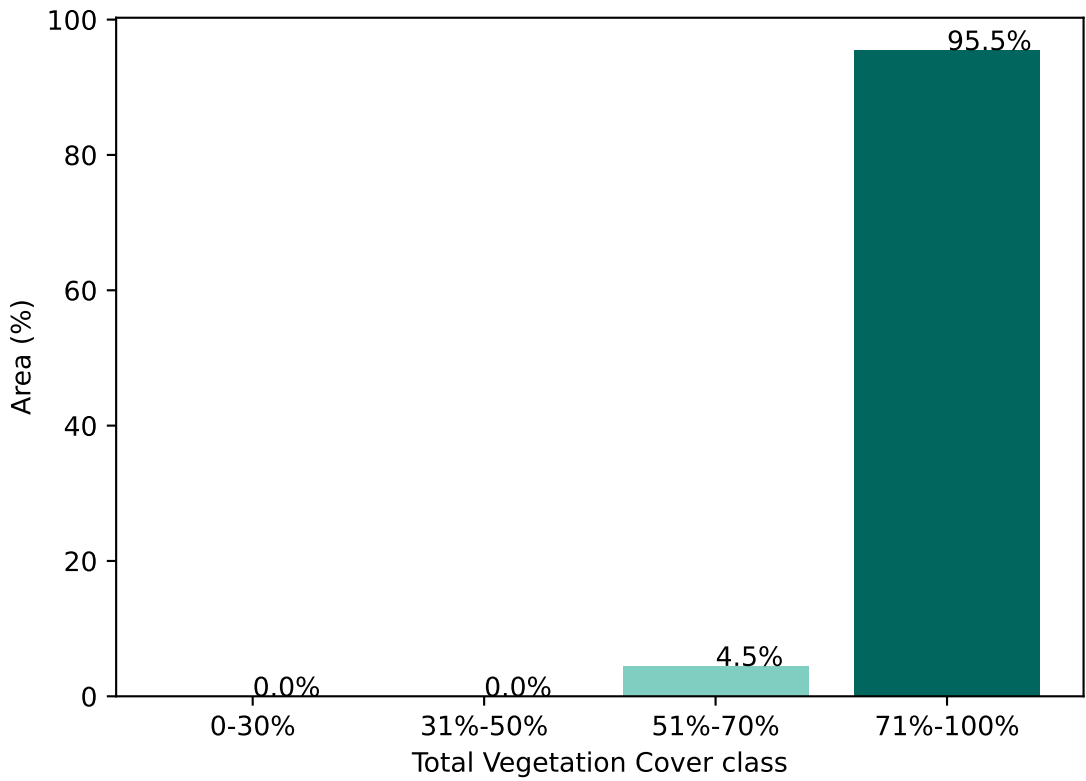
Catchment Scale
Land Use and Forests
of Australia (2018)
Derived from
Catchment Scale Land
Use of Australia
(2018) and Forests
of Australia (2018)



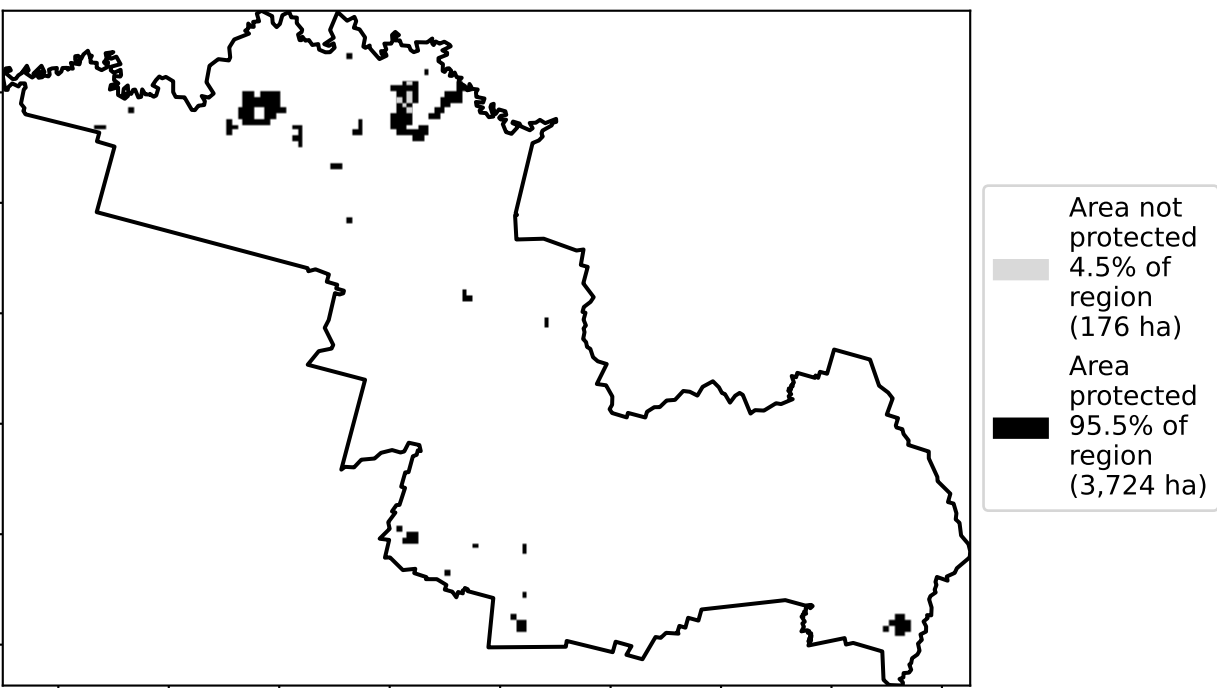
Total Vegetation Cover [%]



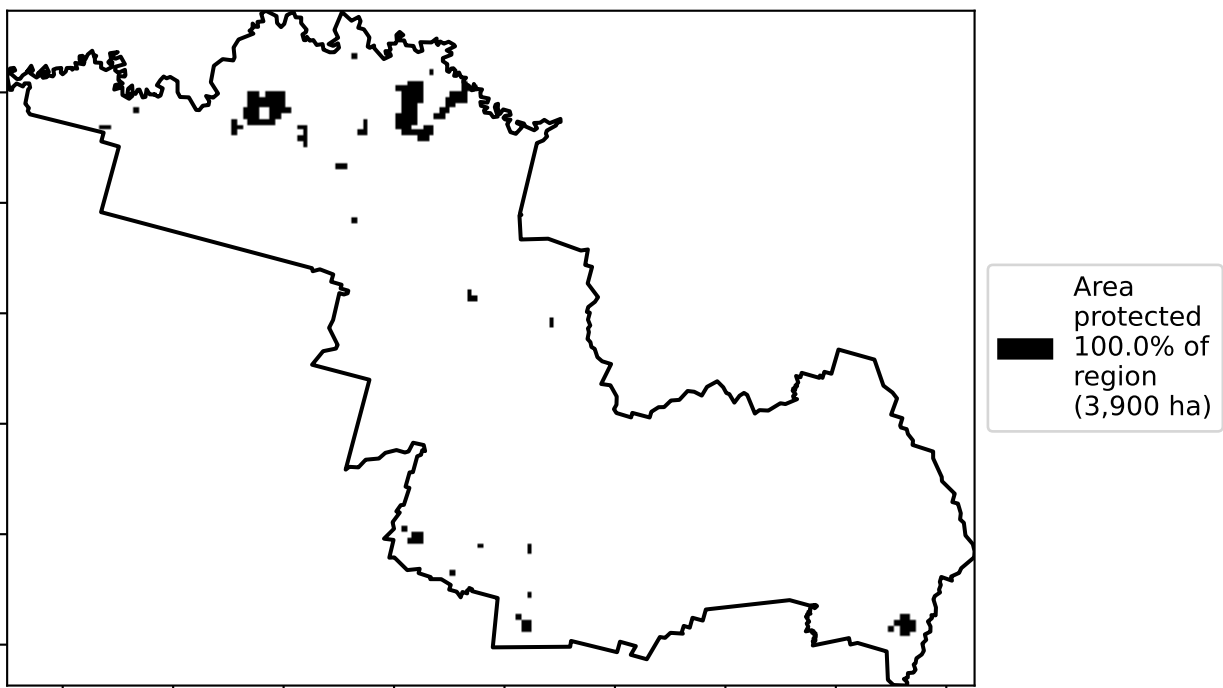
Proportion of vegetation cover class in area



% Area protected from water erosion (>70%)

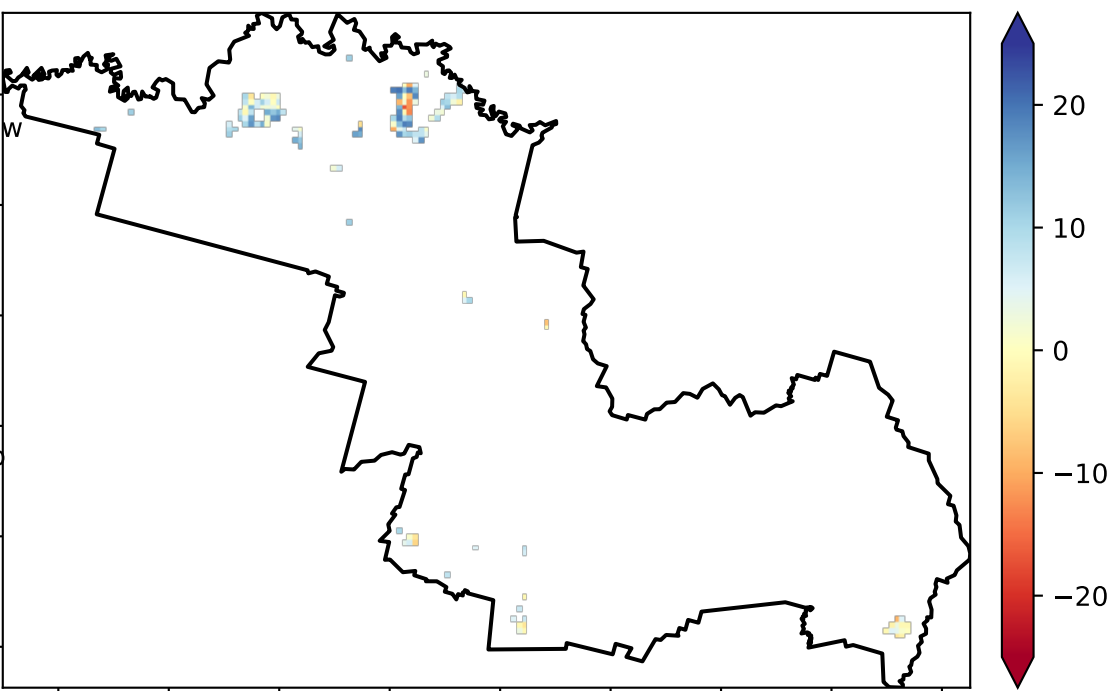


% Area protected from wind erosion (>50%)



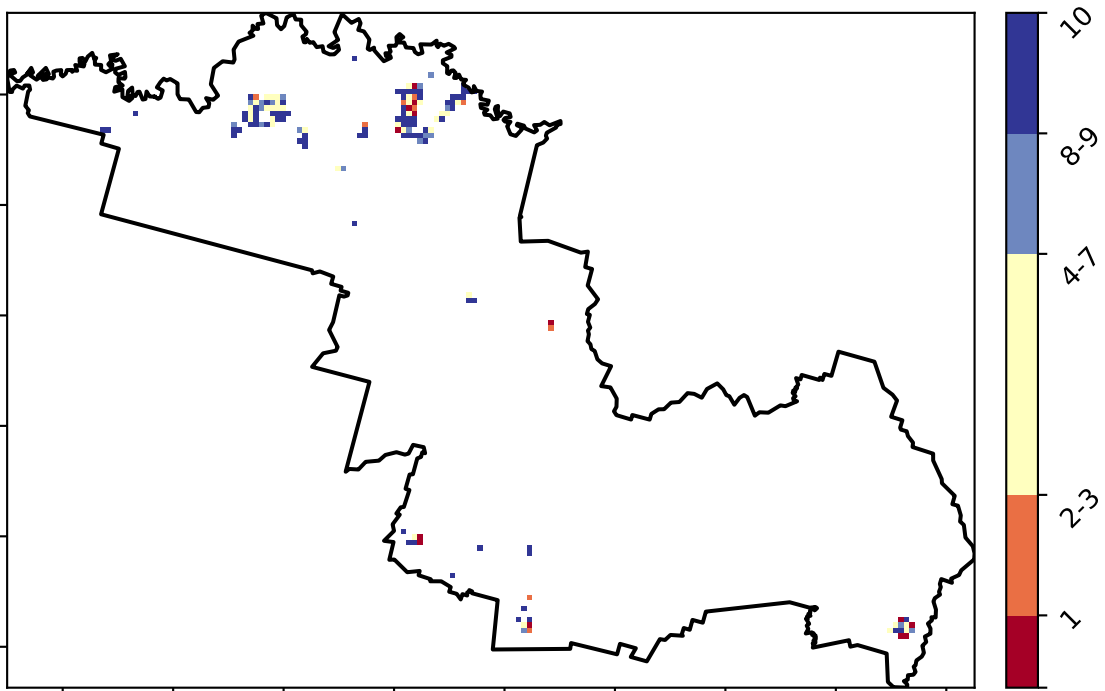
Total Vegetation Cover Anomaly [%]

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

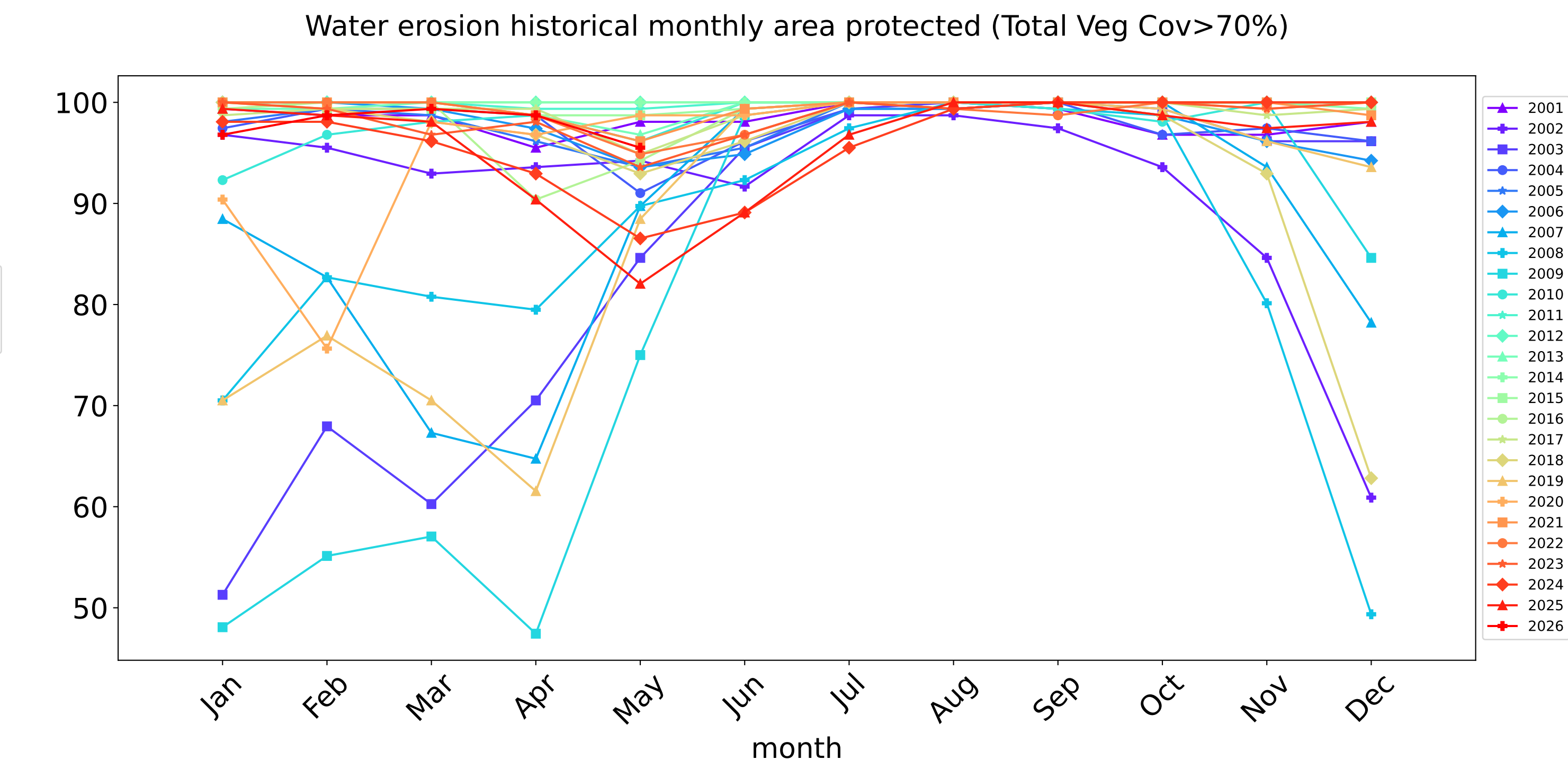
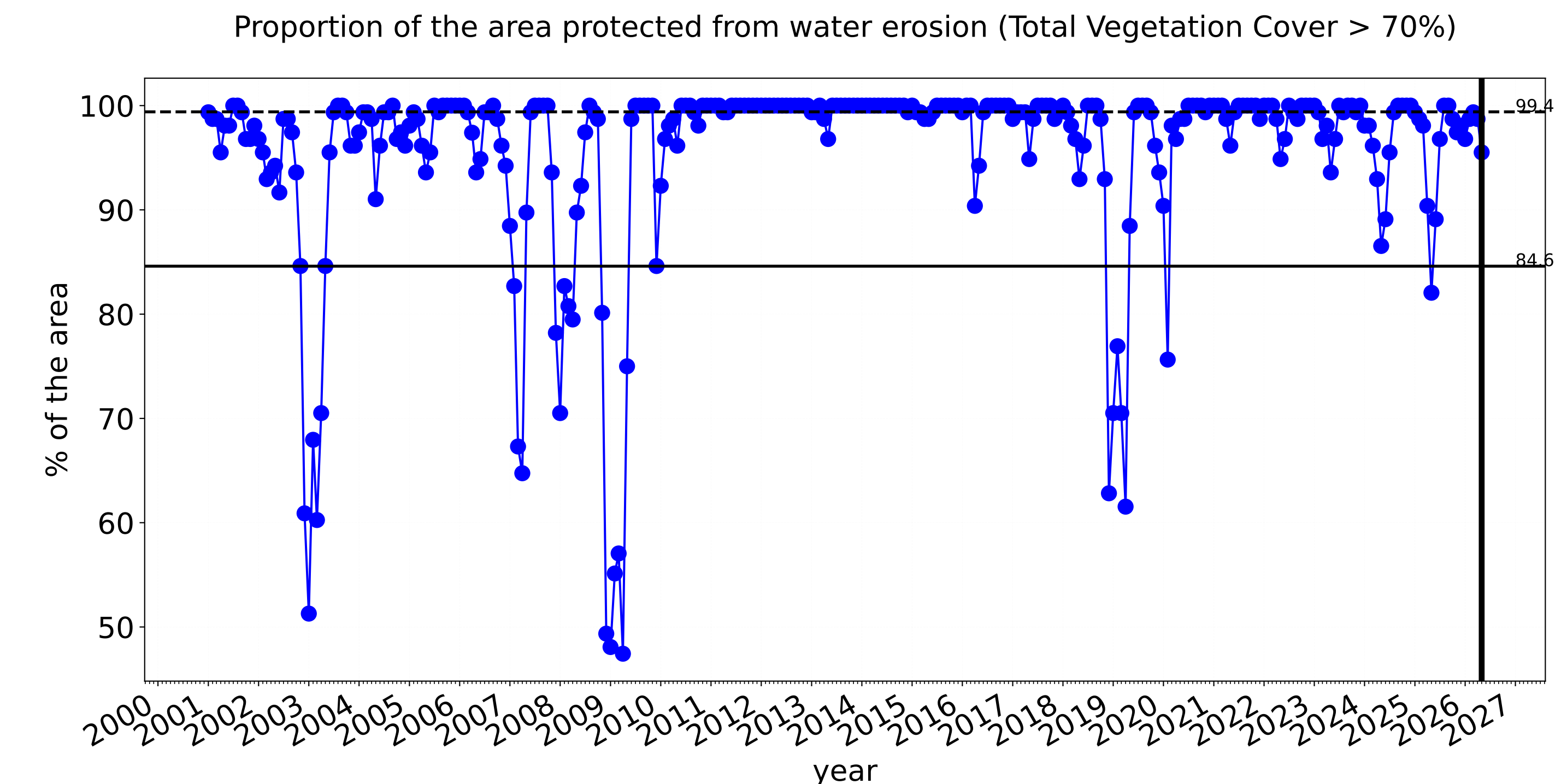
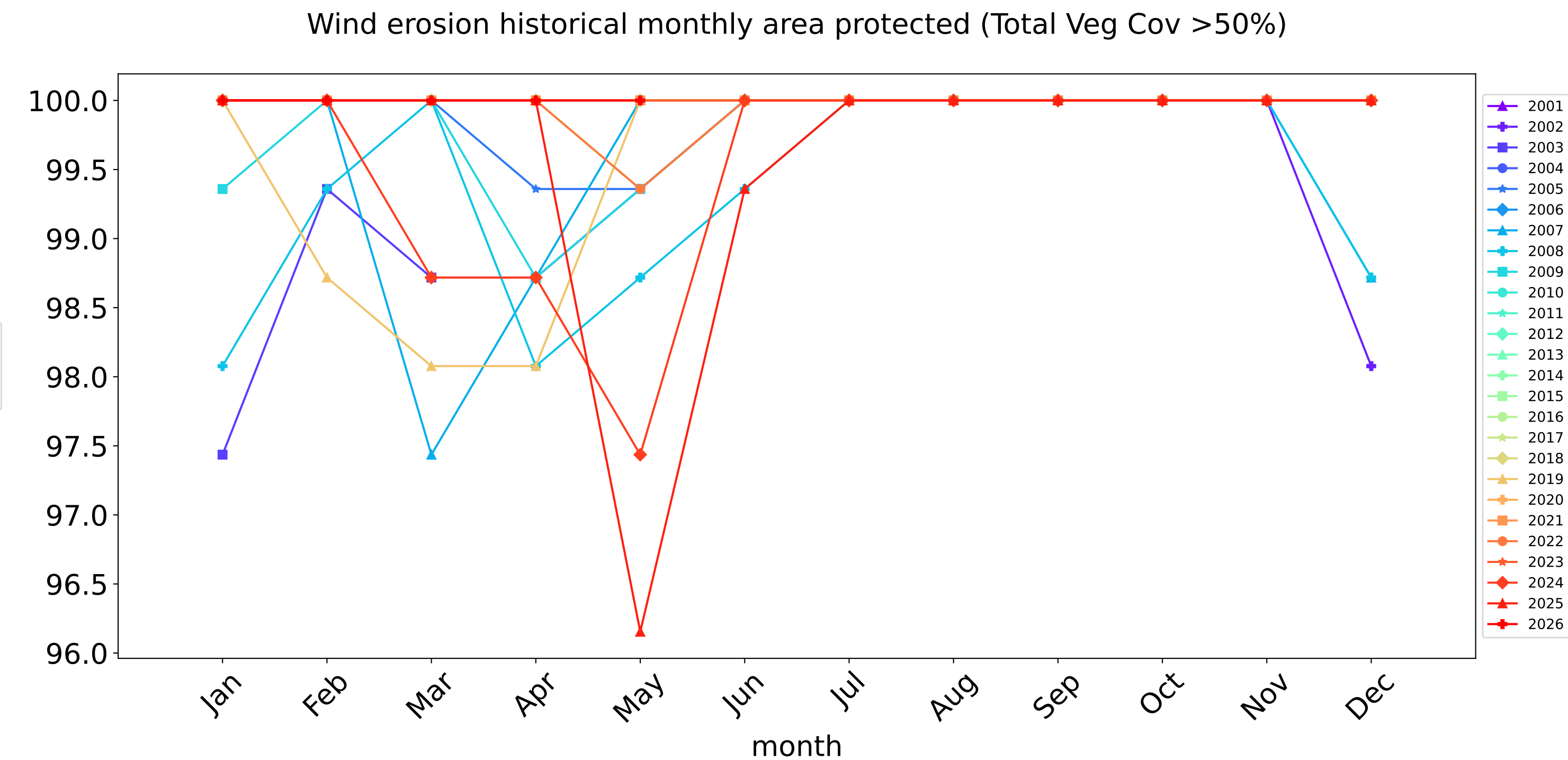
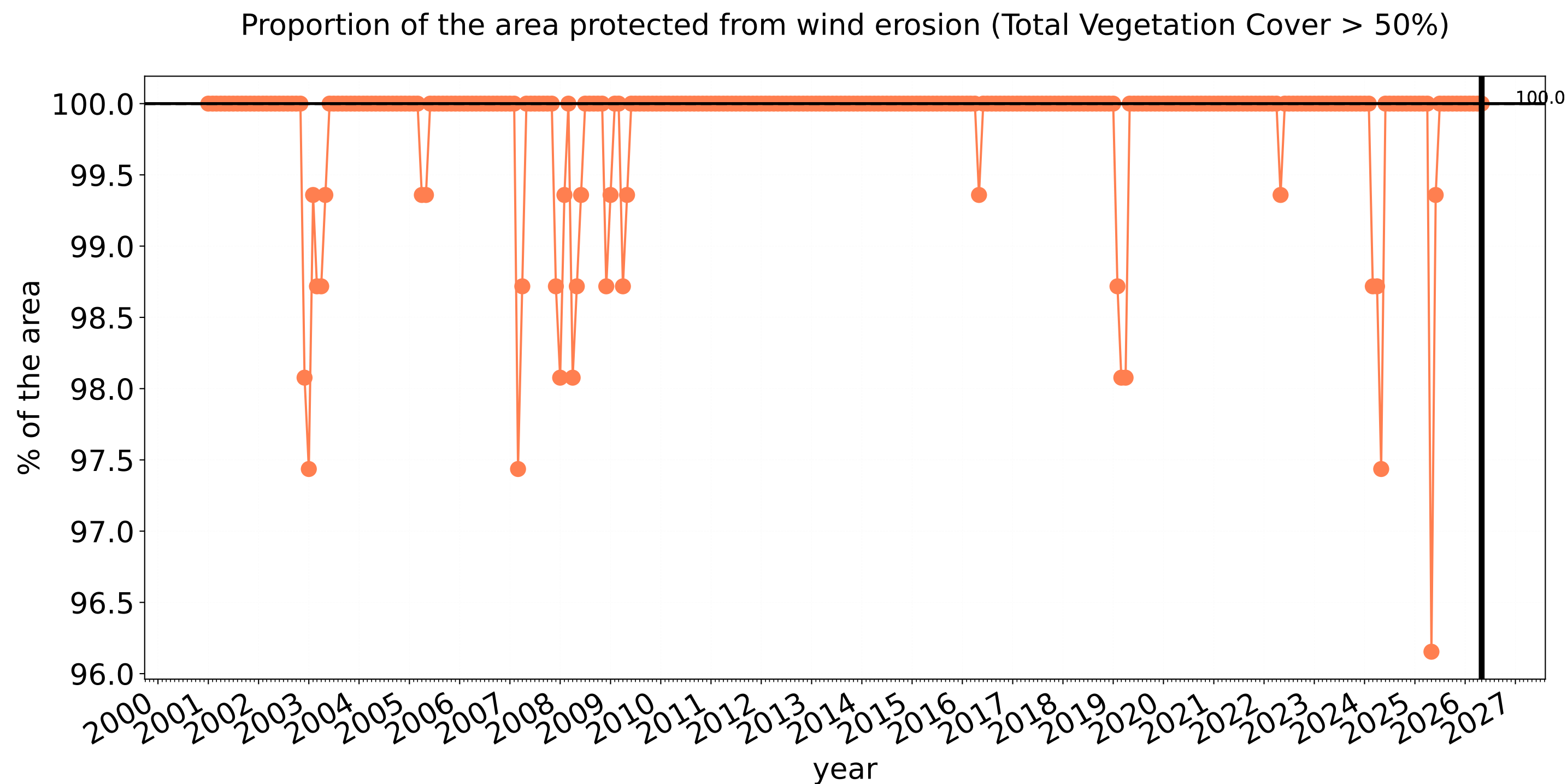


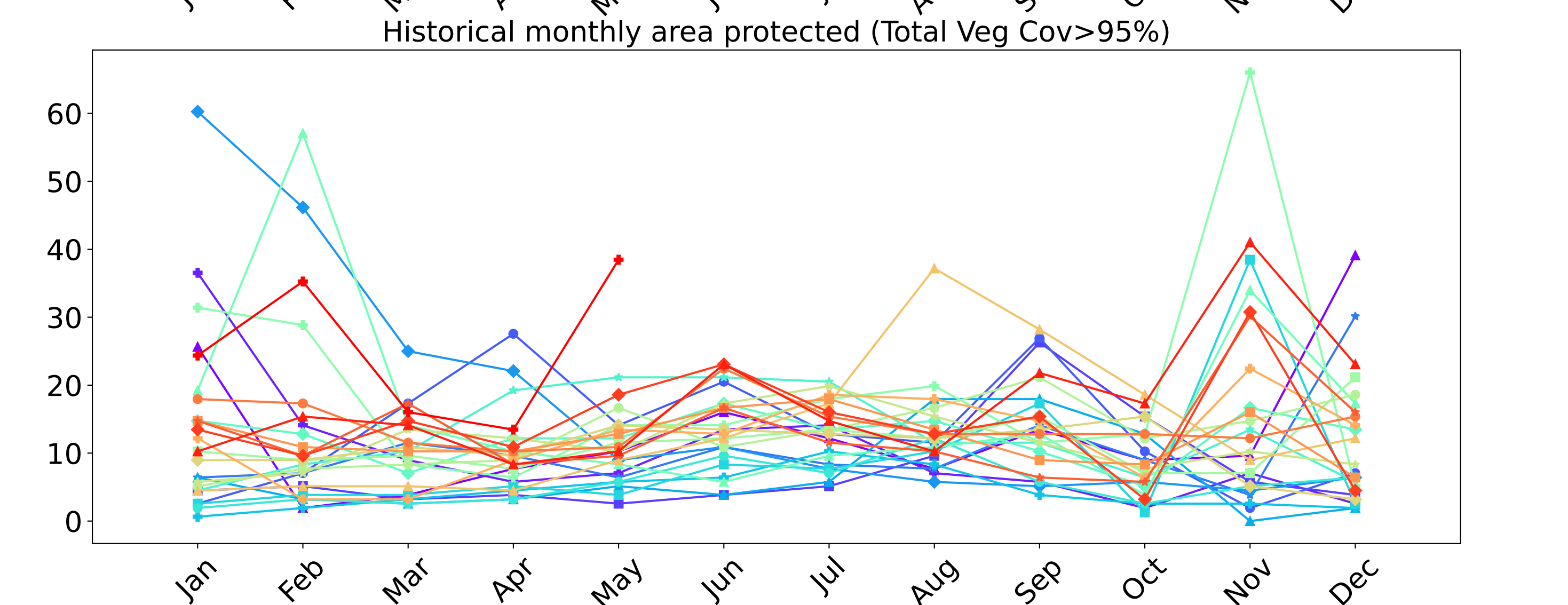
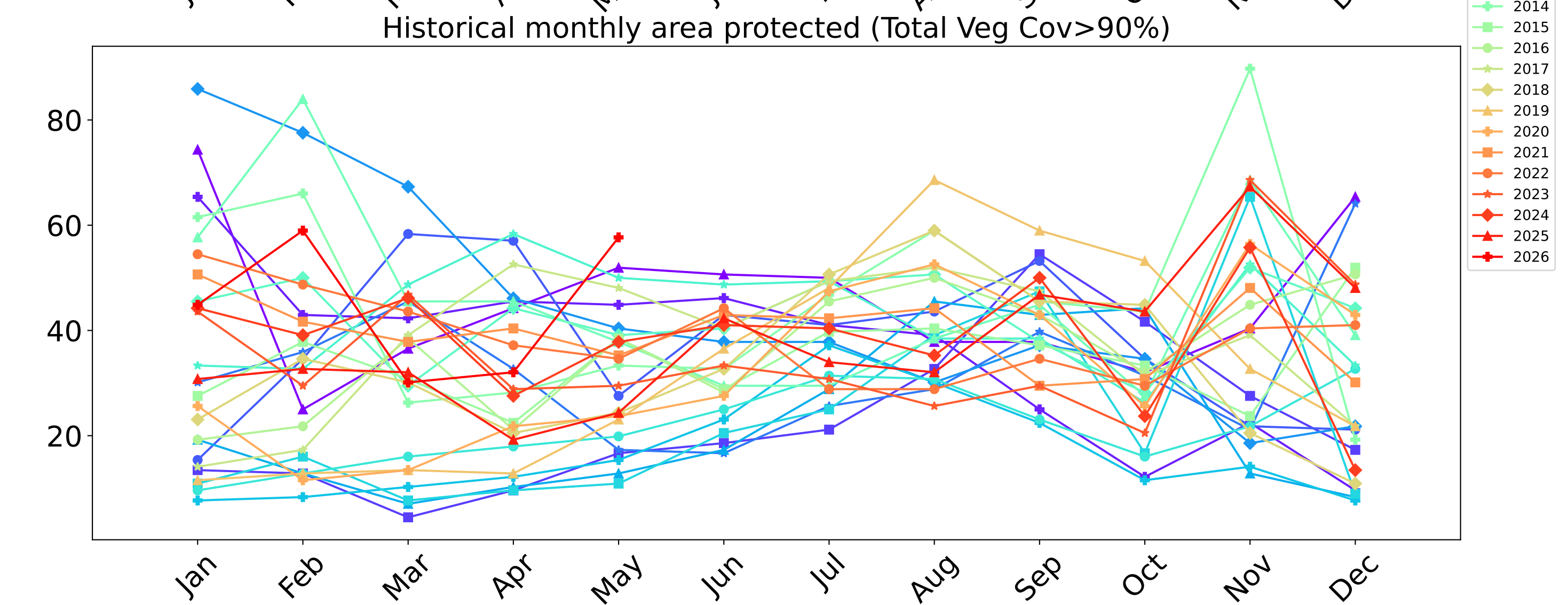
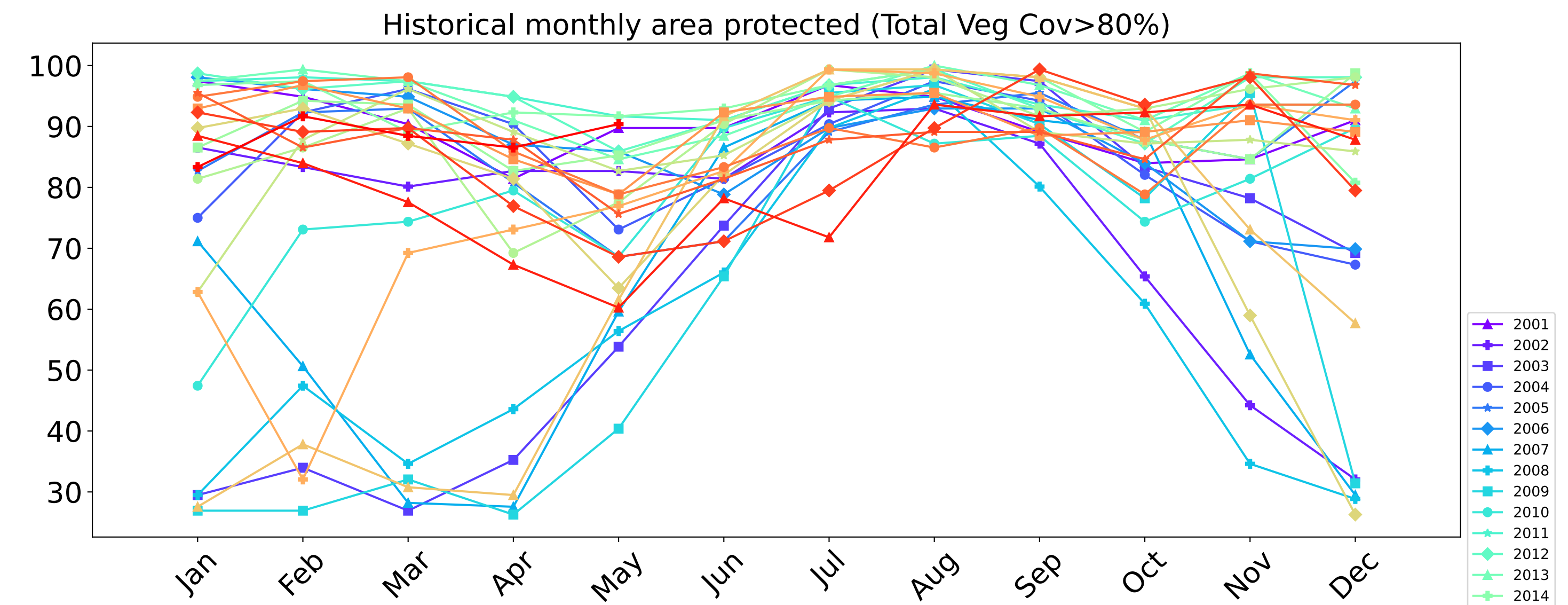
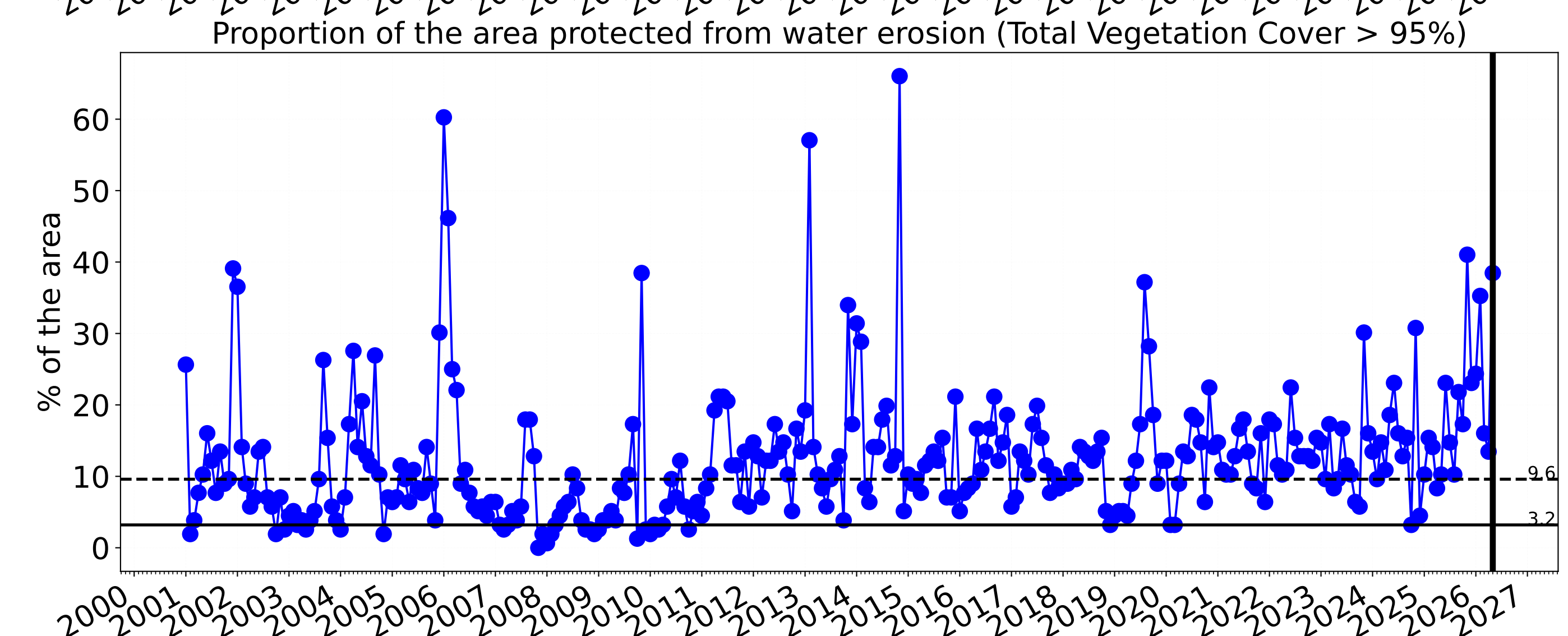
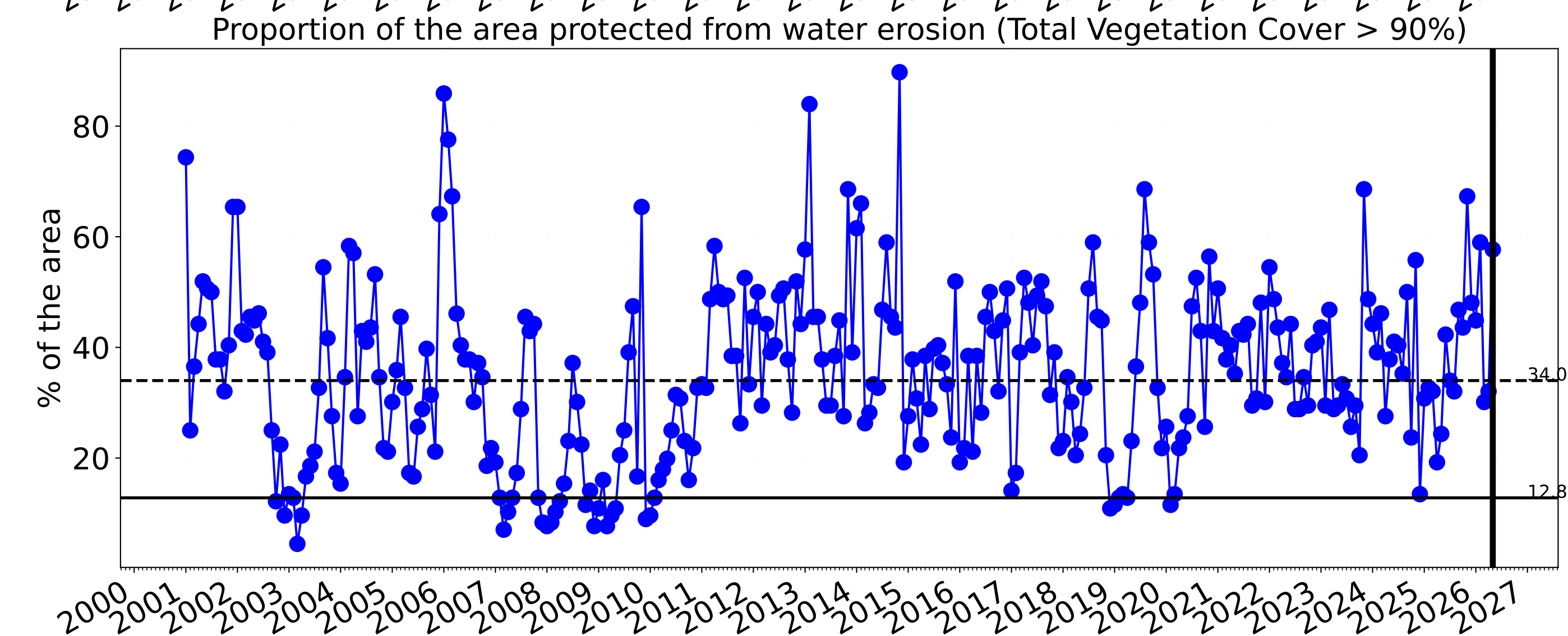
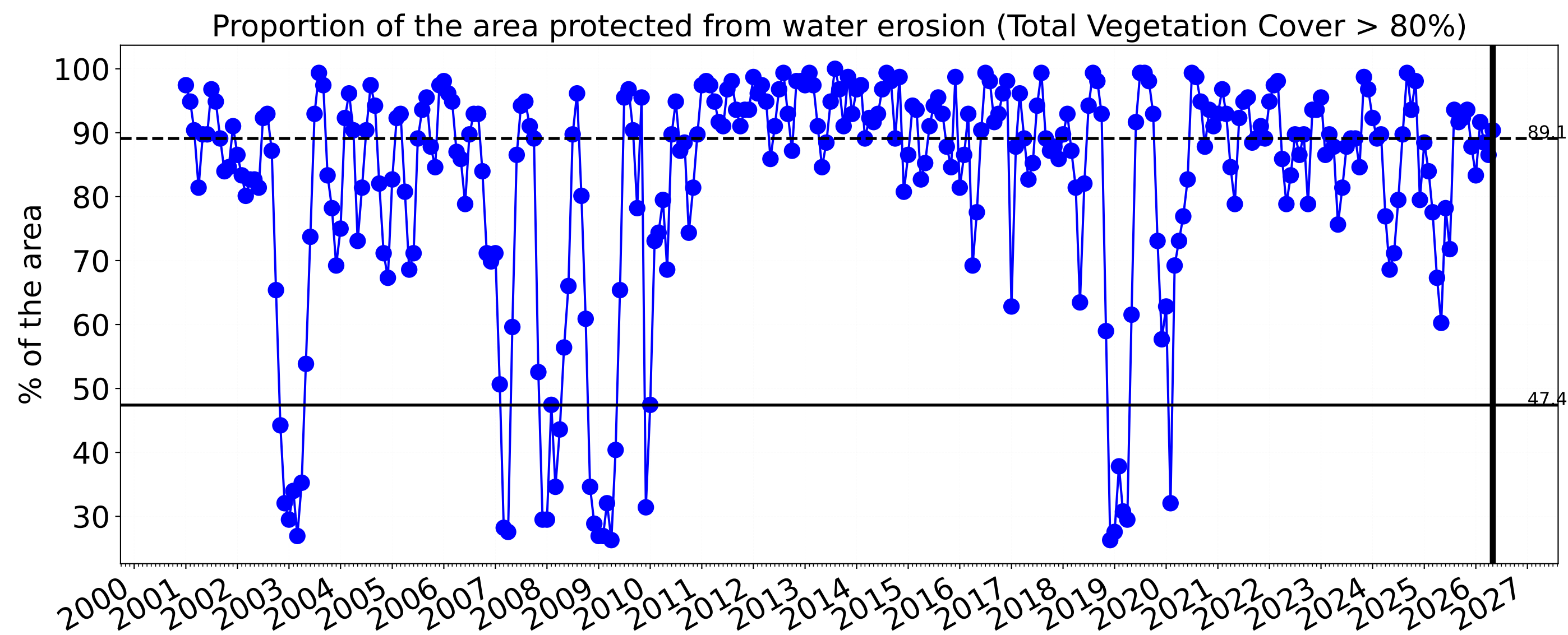
Deciles show where the pixel value lies in the record, from highest to lowest, for that month. That is, red pixels are in the lowest 10% of records for that month of the map using baseline from 2001 to 2019.

Total Vegetation Cover Decile [%]



Horticulture timeseries

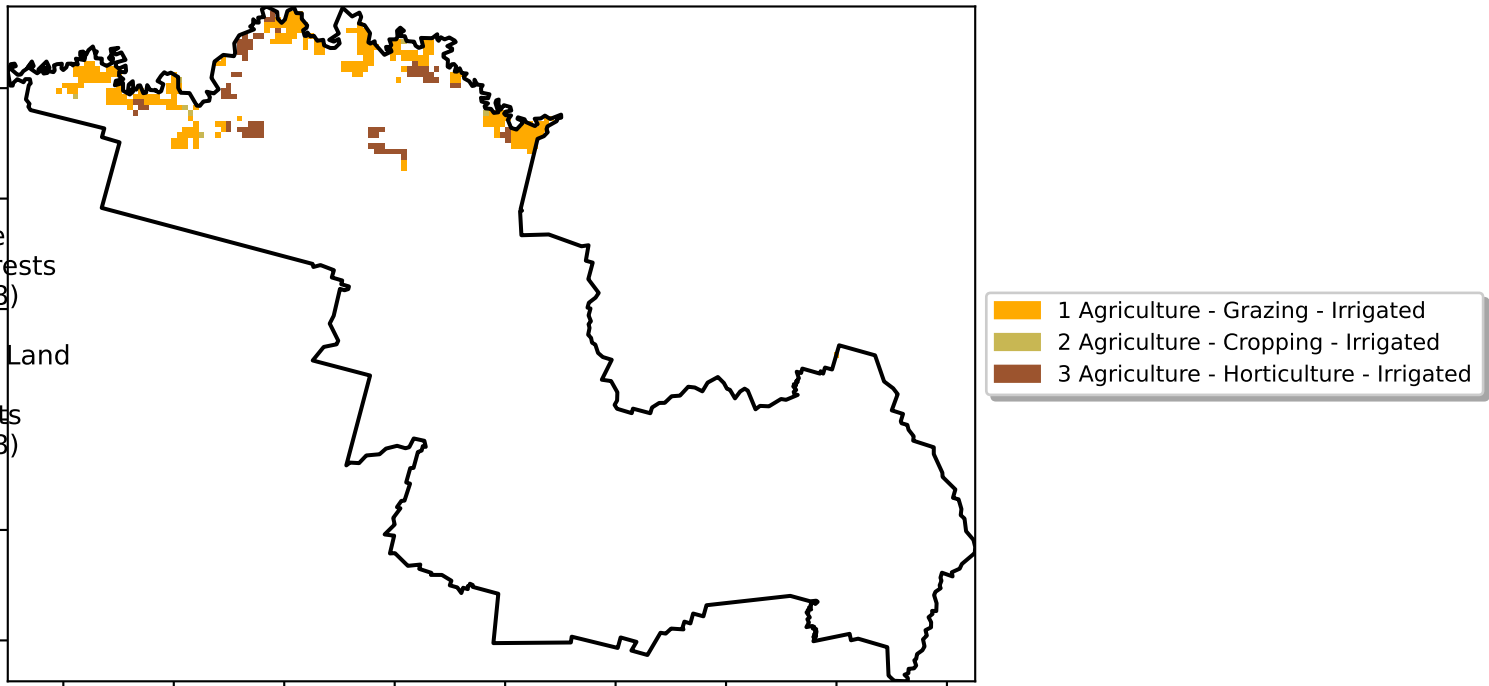




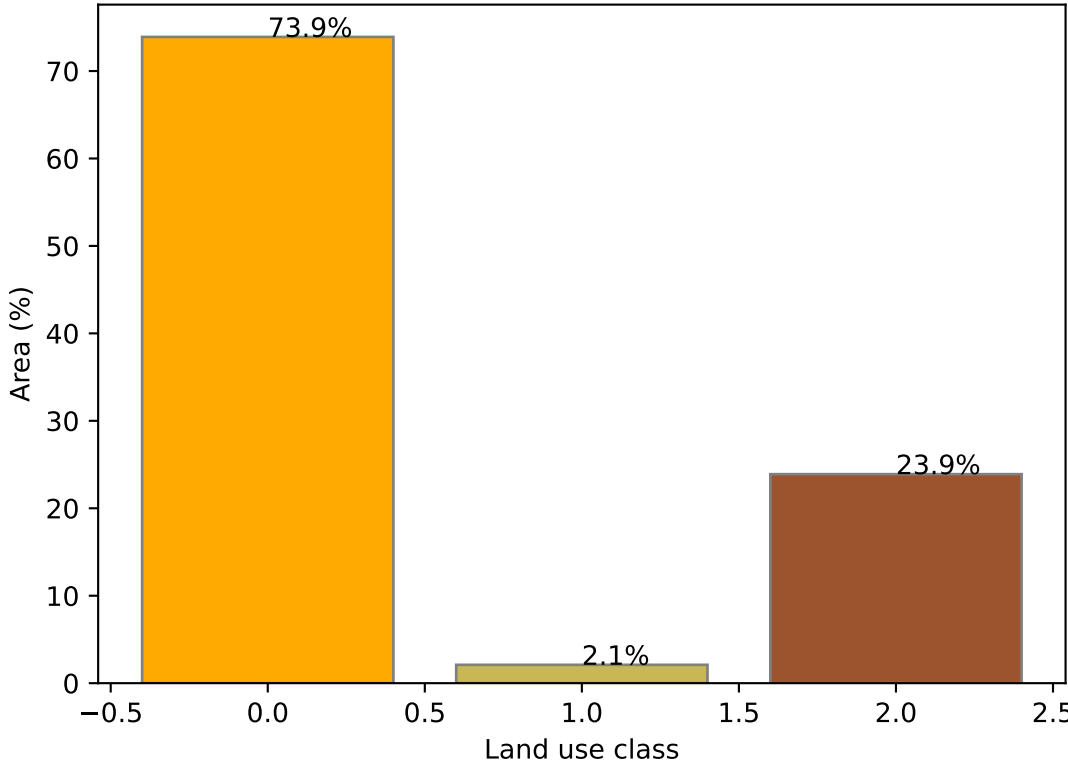
Irrigation

Land use and forest cover

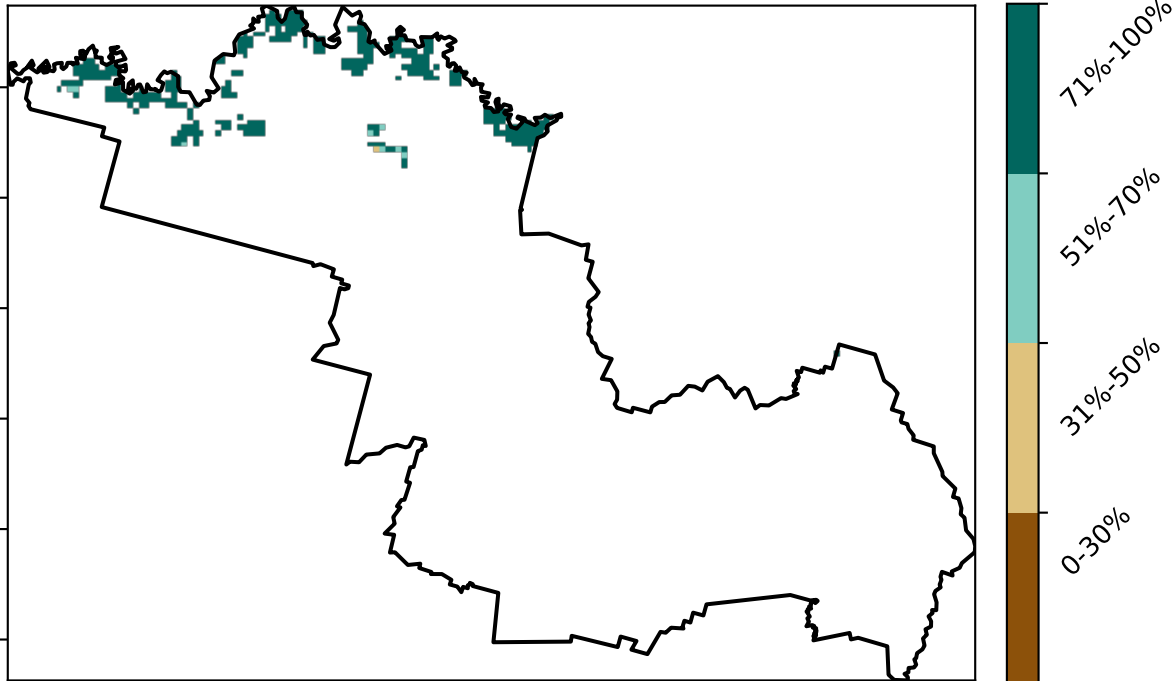
Catchment Scale
Land Use and Forests
of Australia (2018)
Derived from
Catchment Scale Land
Use of Australia
(2018) and Forests
of Australia (2018)



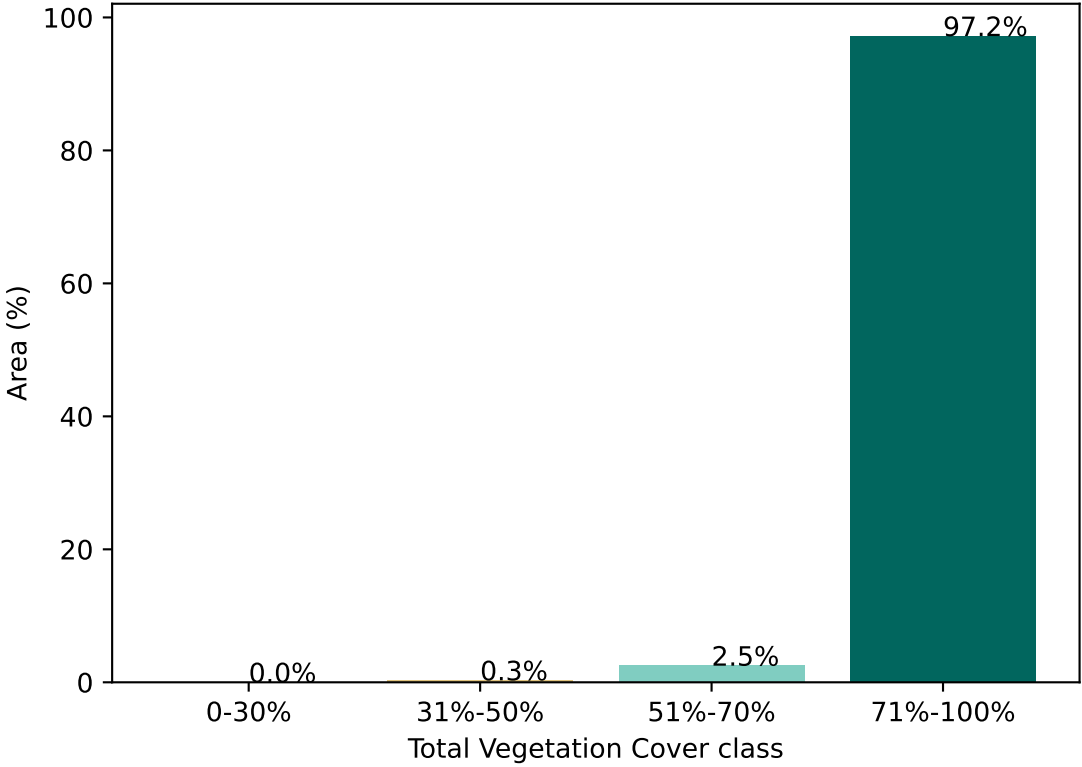
Proportion of each land class in area



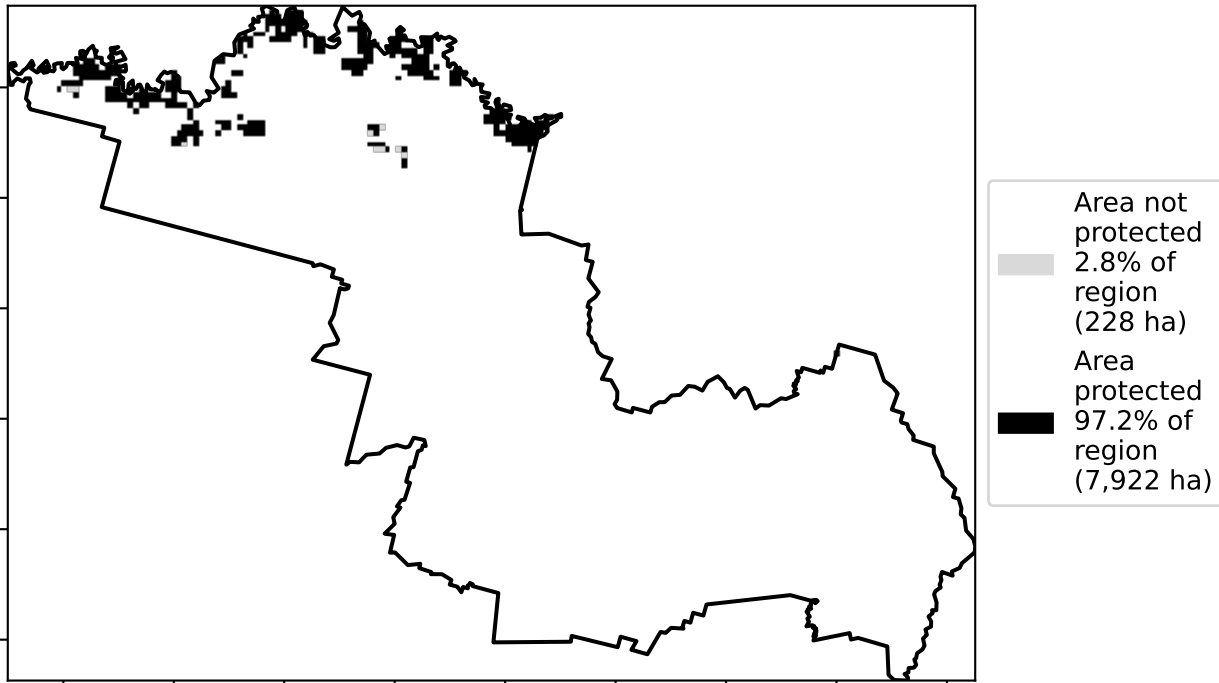
Total Vegetation Cover [%]



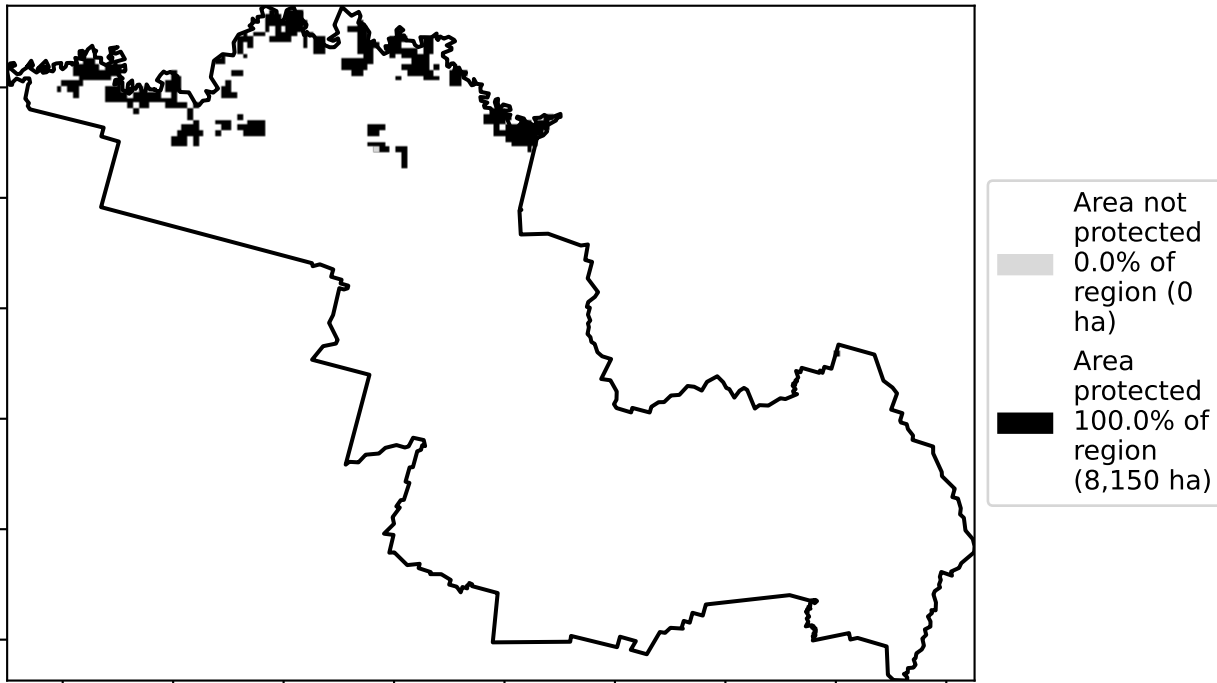
Proportion of vegetation cover class in area



% Area protected from water erosion (>70%)

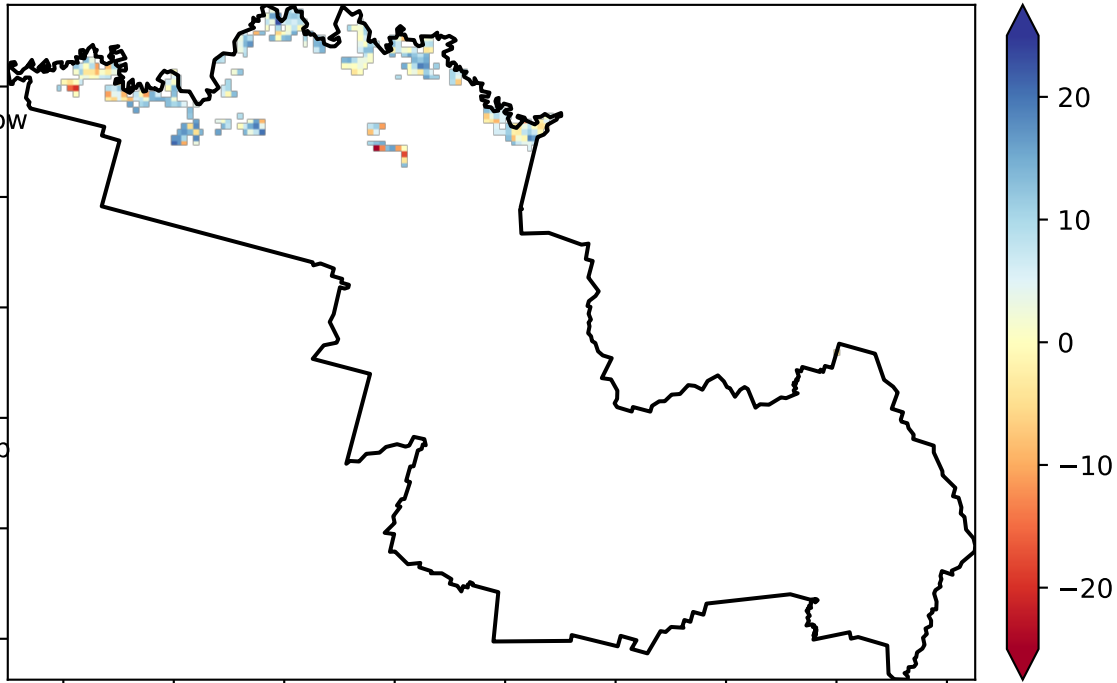


% Area protected from wind erosion (>50%)



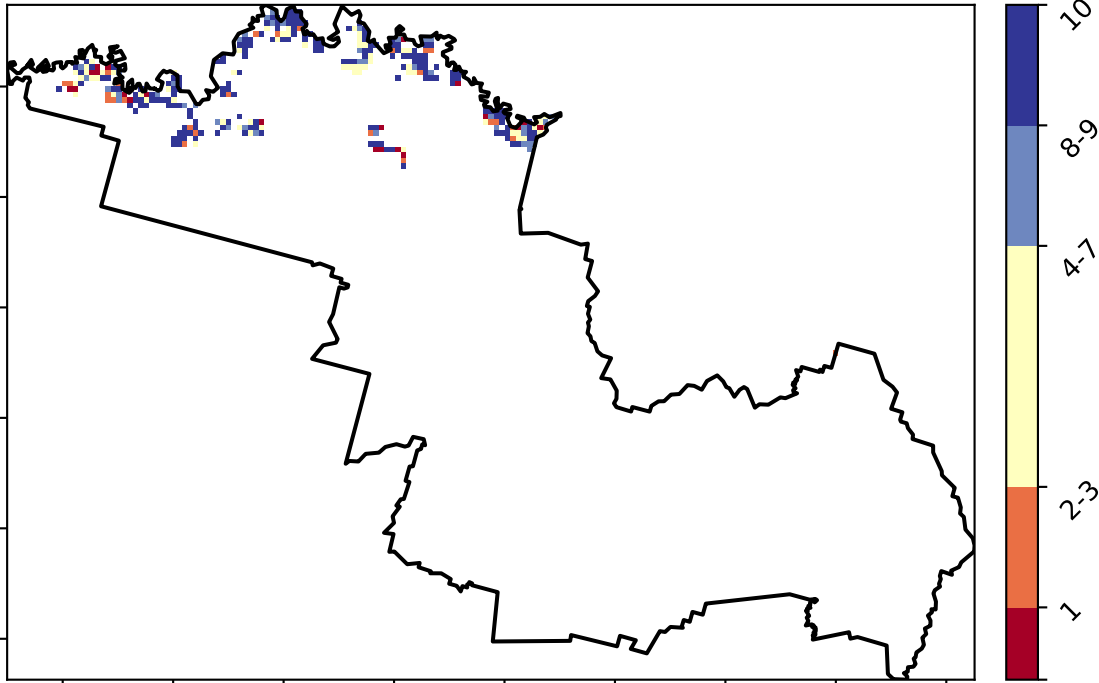
Total Vegetation Cover Anomaly [%]

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



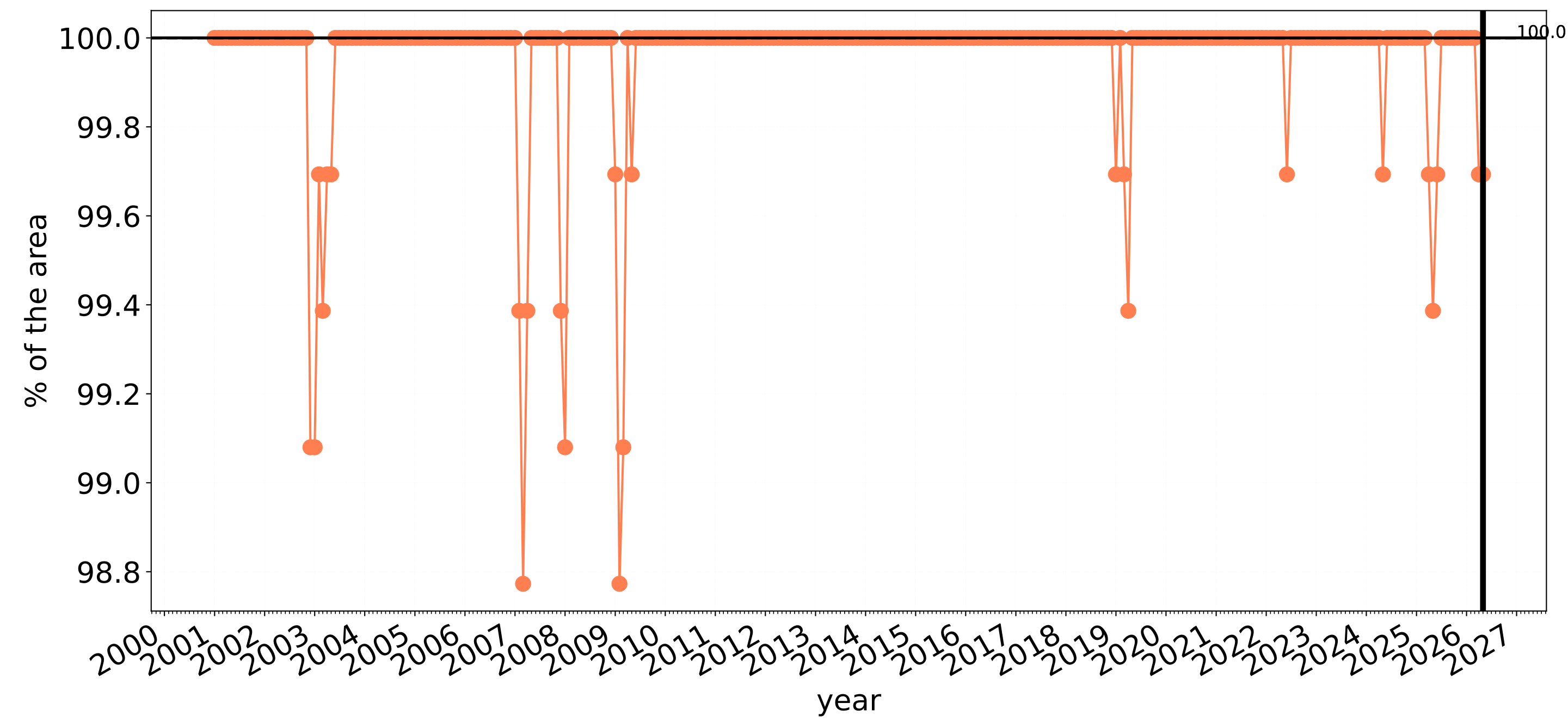
Deciles show where the pixel value lies in the record, from highest to lowest, for that month. That is, red pixels are in the lowest 10% of records for that month of the map using baseline from 2001 to 2019.

Total Vegetation Cover Decile [%]

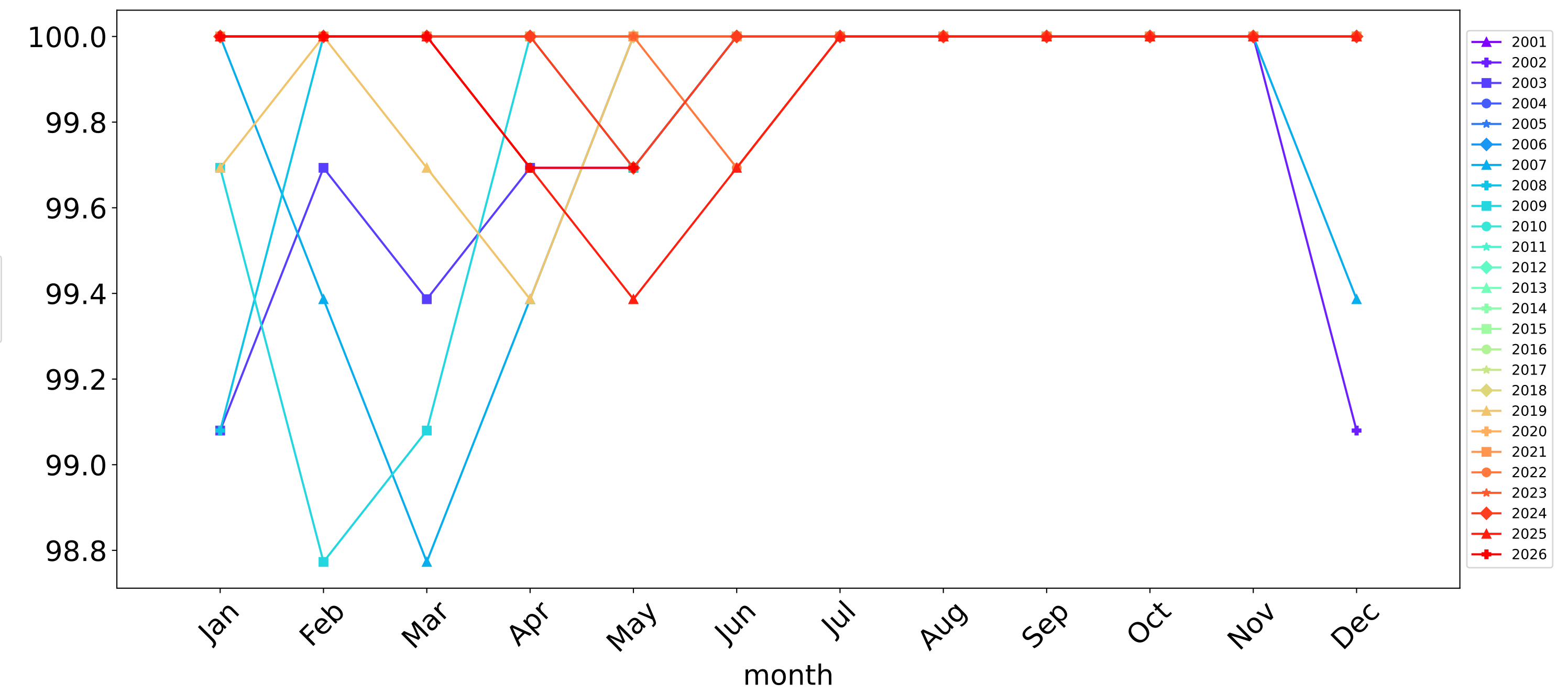


Irrigation timeseries

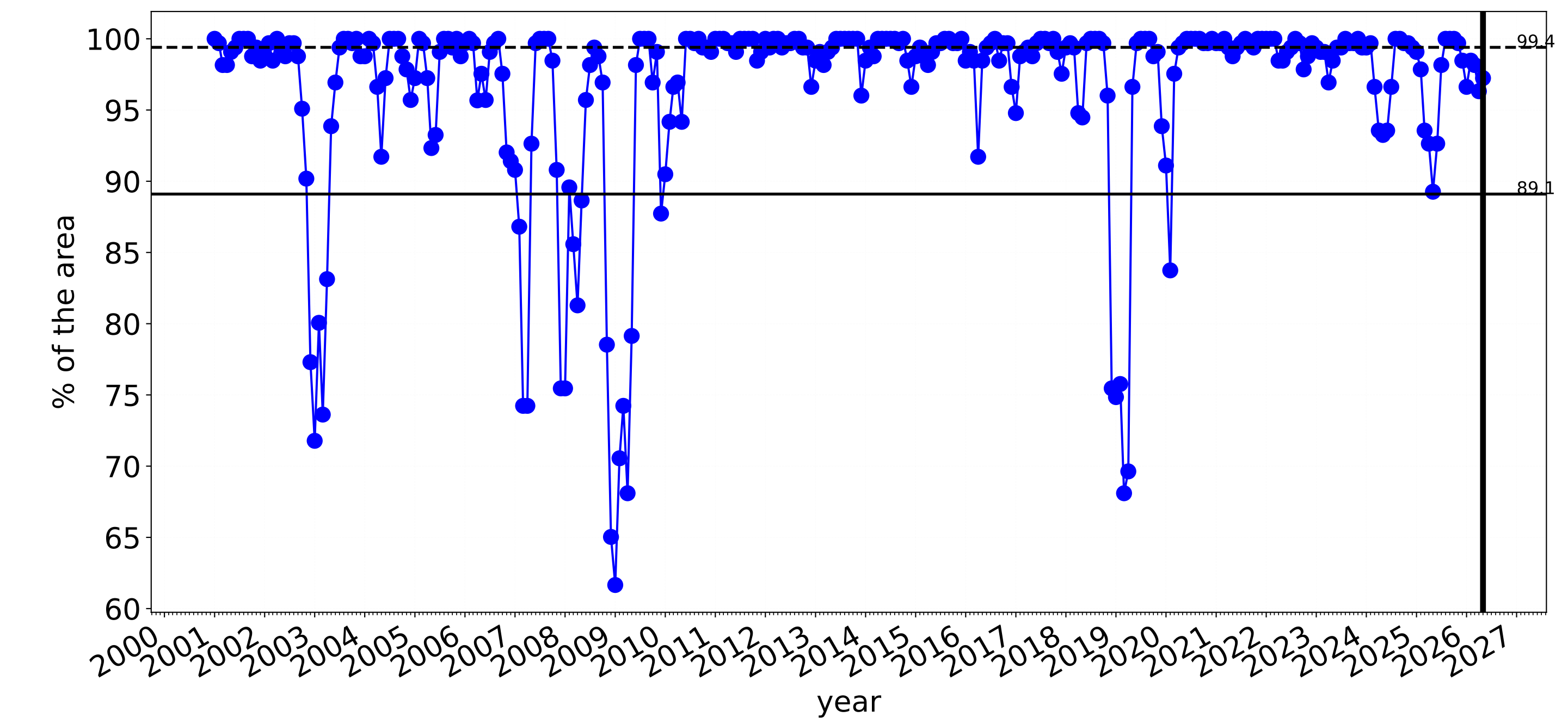
Proportion of the area protected from wind erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 50%)



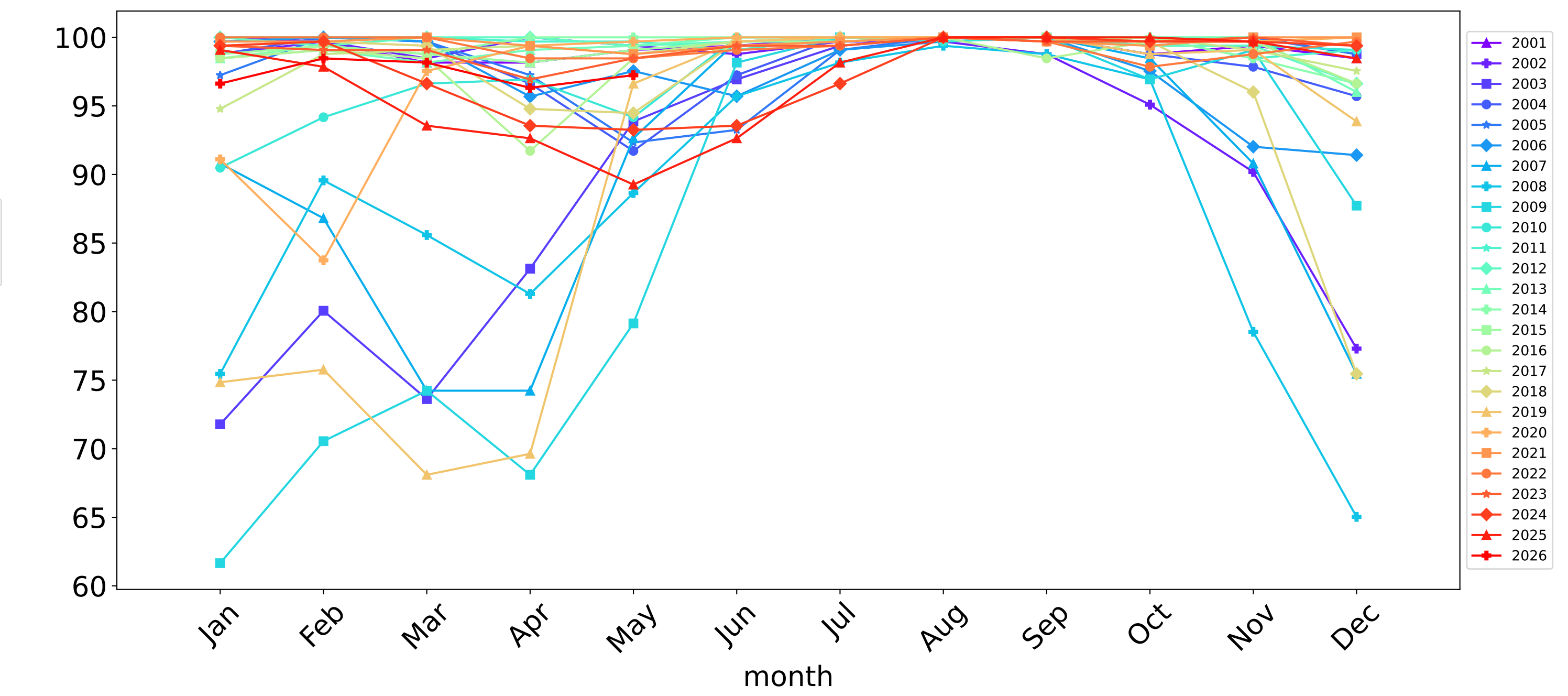
Wind erosion historical monthly area protected (Total Veg Cov >50%)

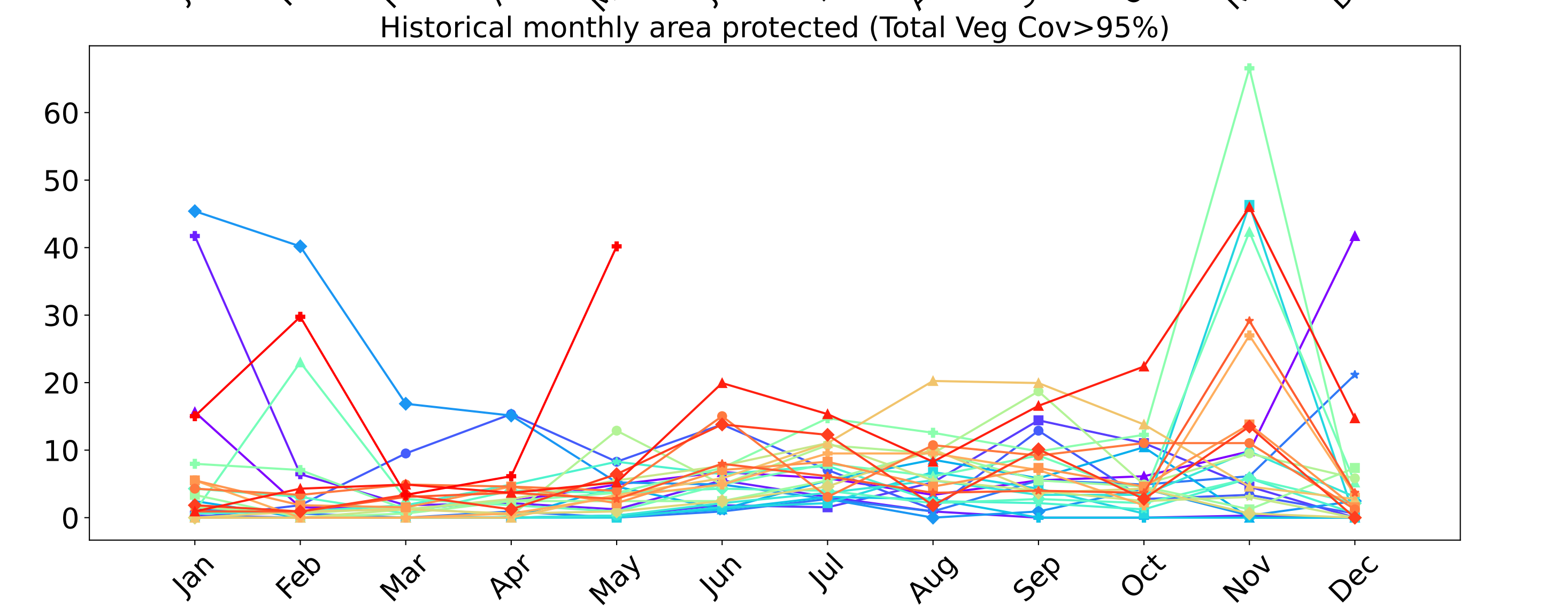
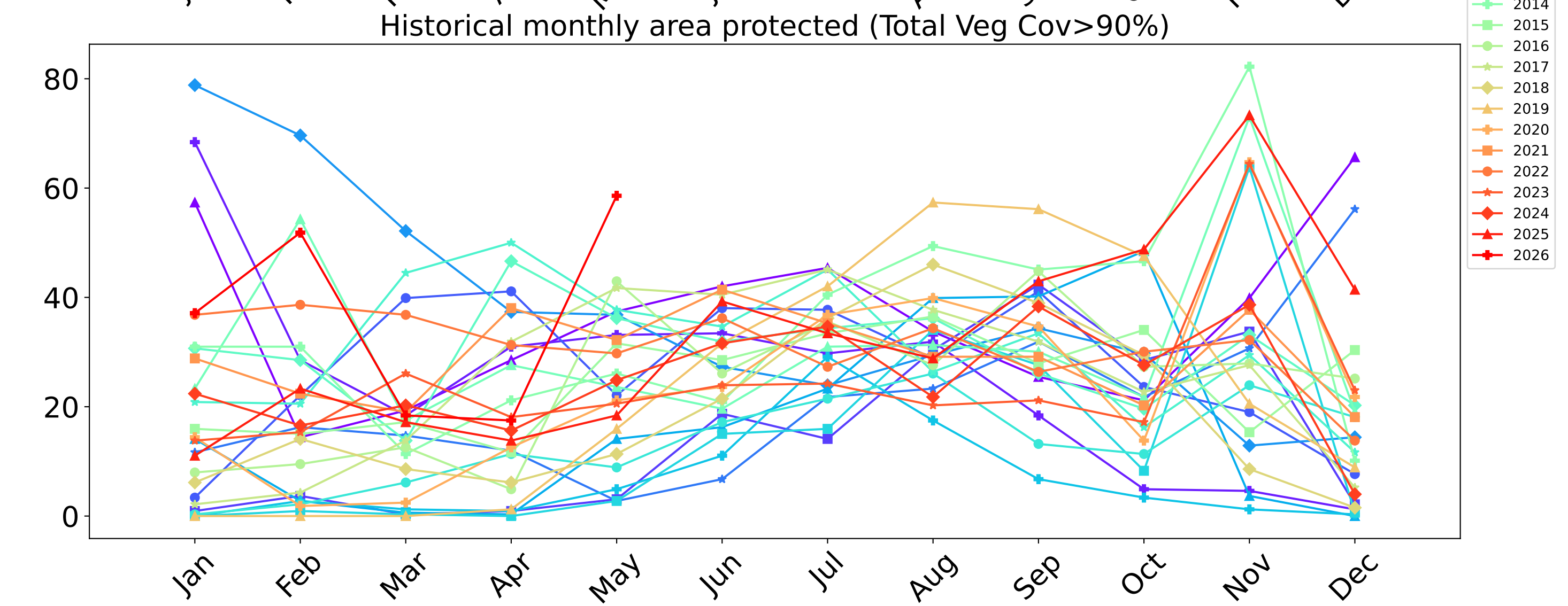
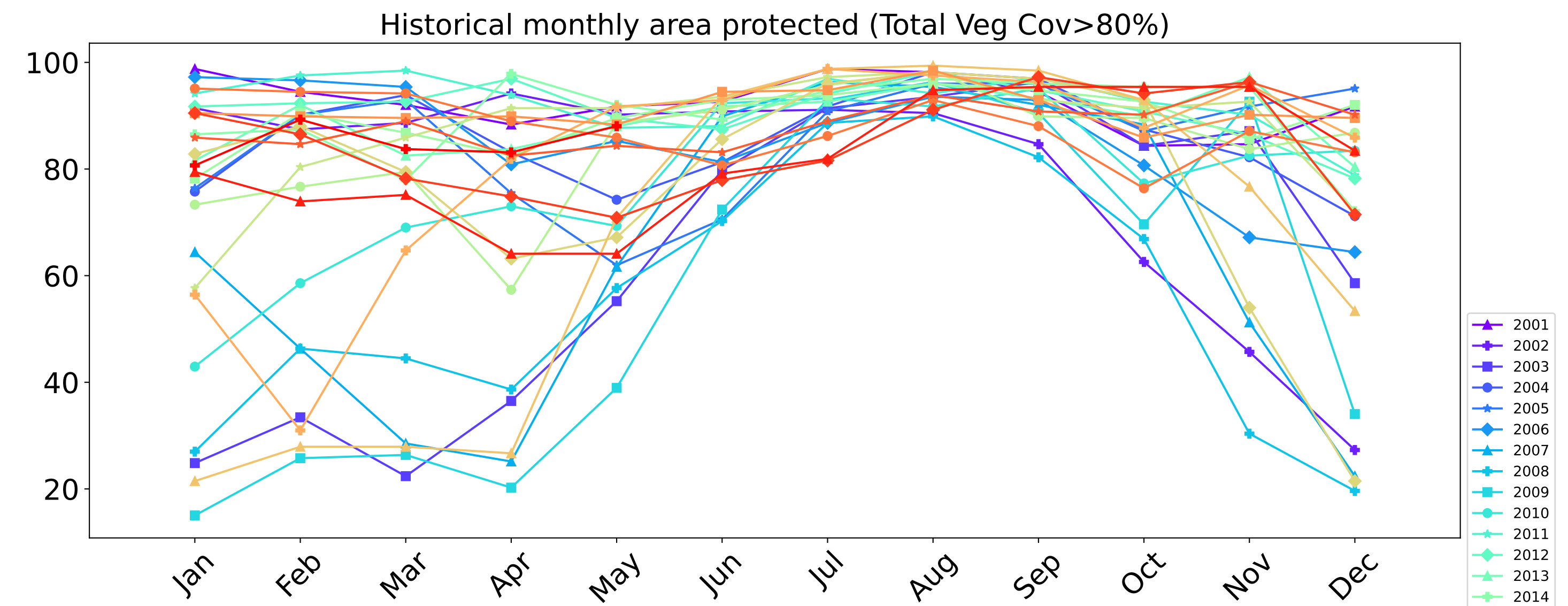
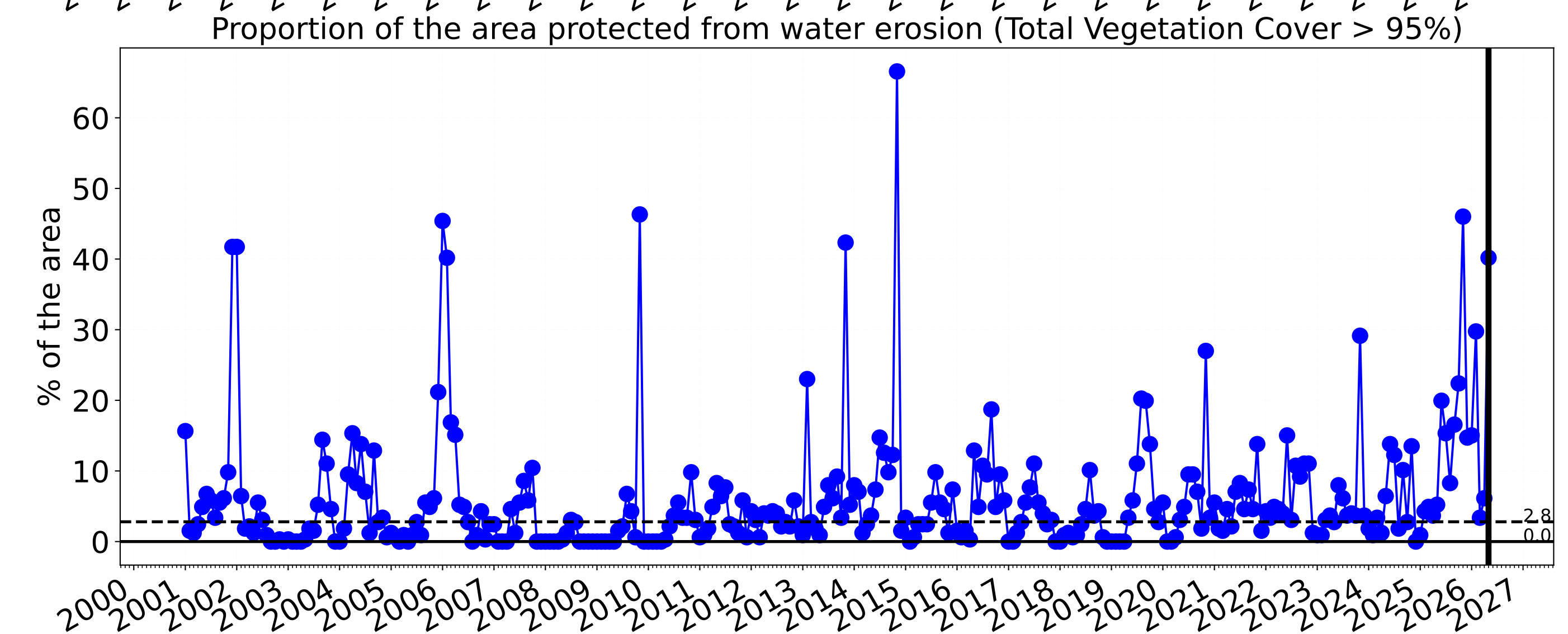
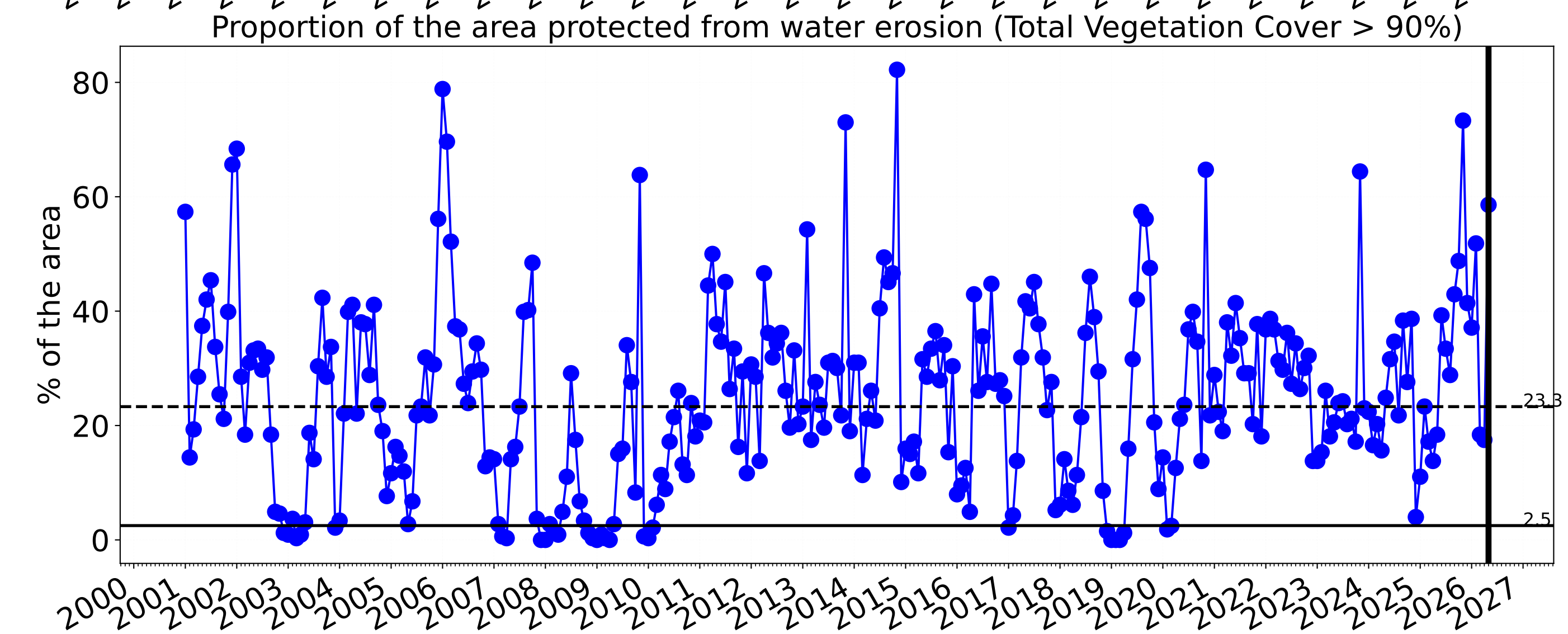
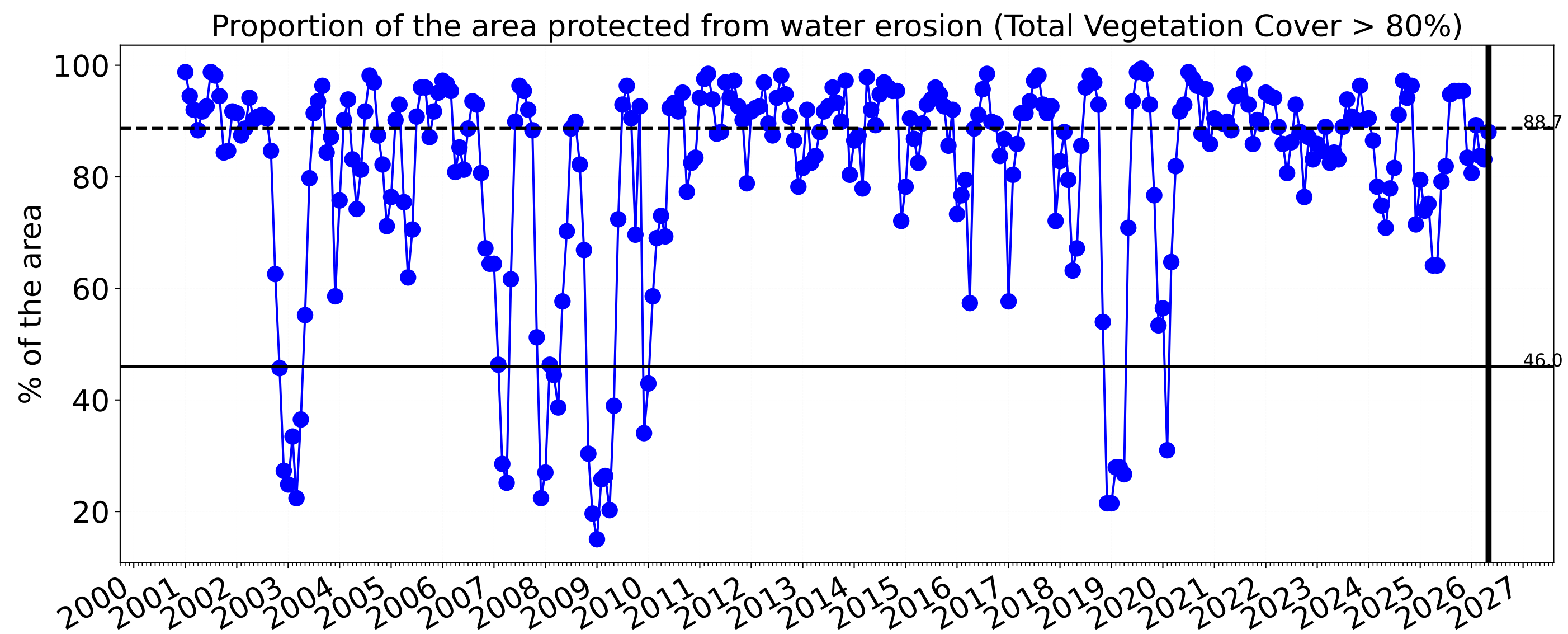


Proportion of the area protected from water erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 70%)



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

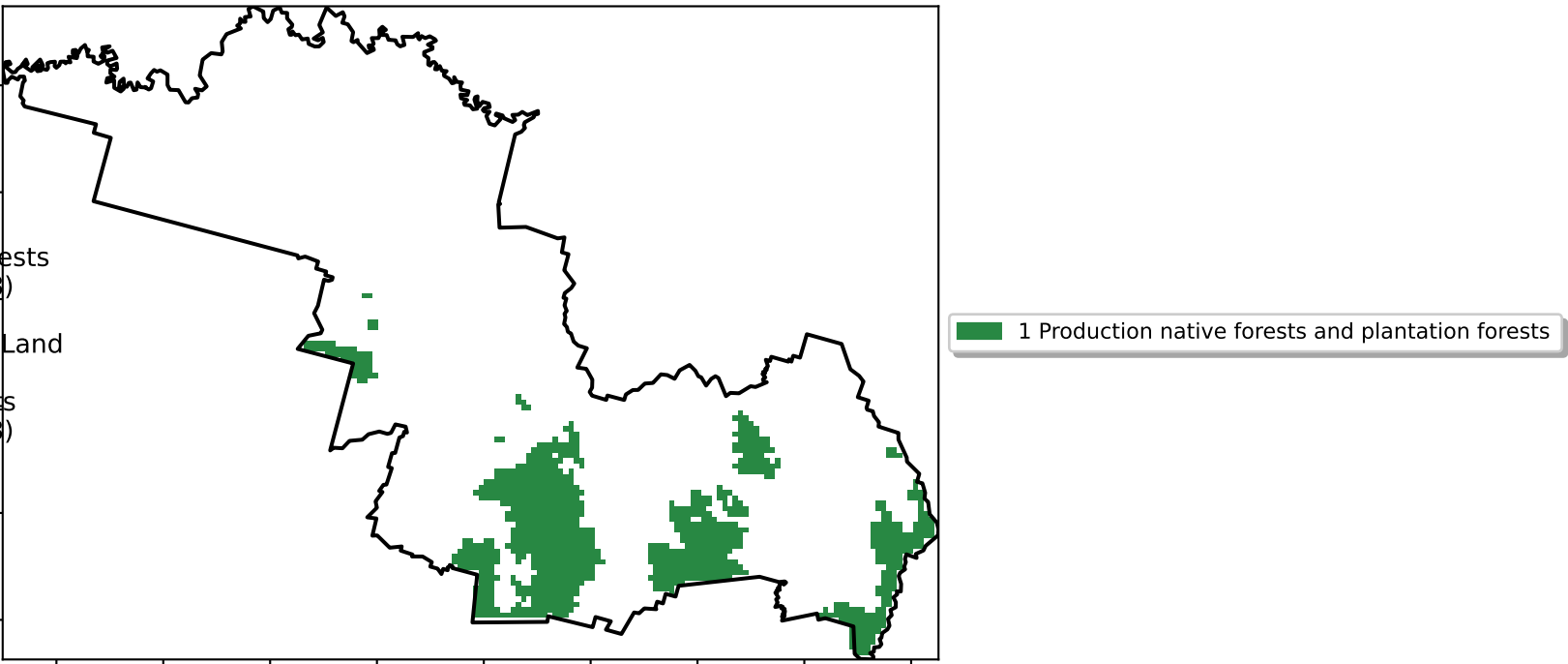




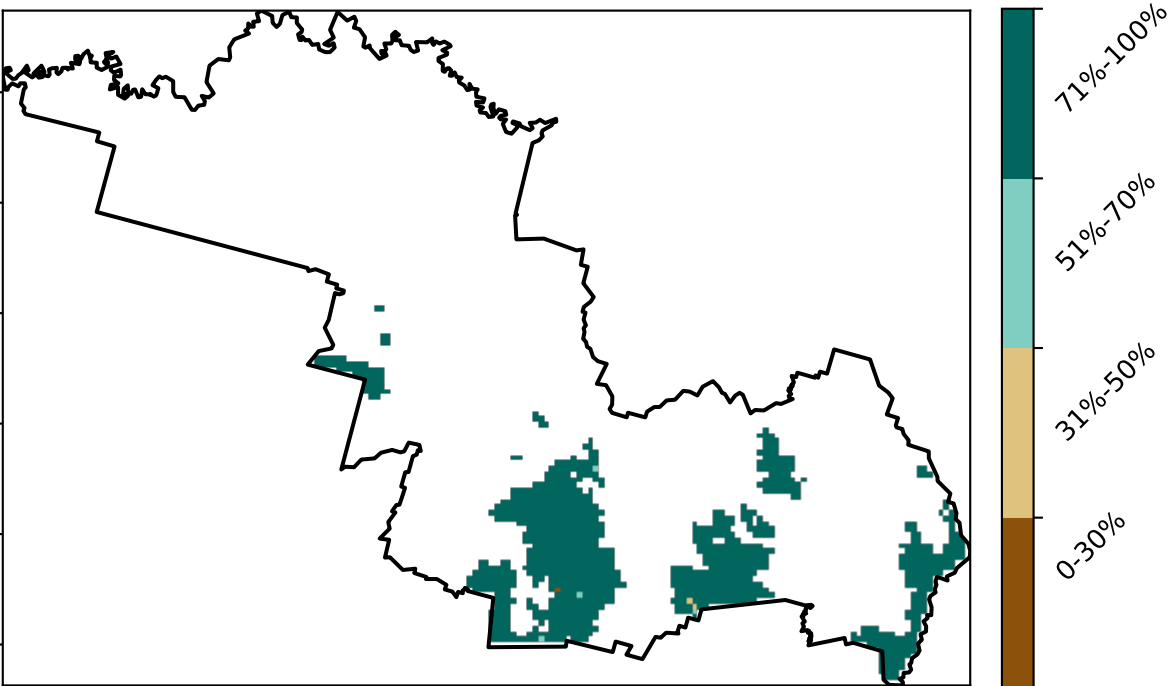
Production native forests and plantation forests

Land use and forest cover

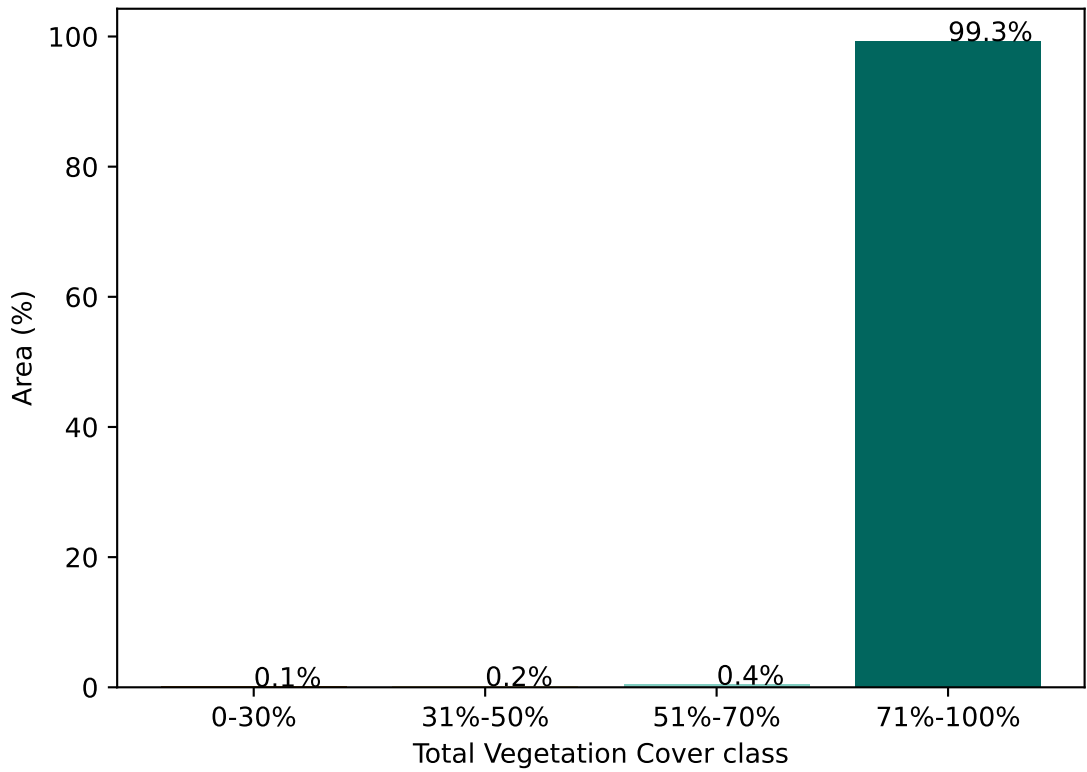
Catchment Scale
Land Use and Forests
of Australia (2018)
Derived from
Catchment Scale Land
Use of Australia
(2018) and Forests
of Australia (2018)



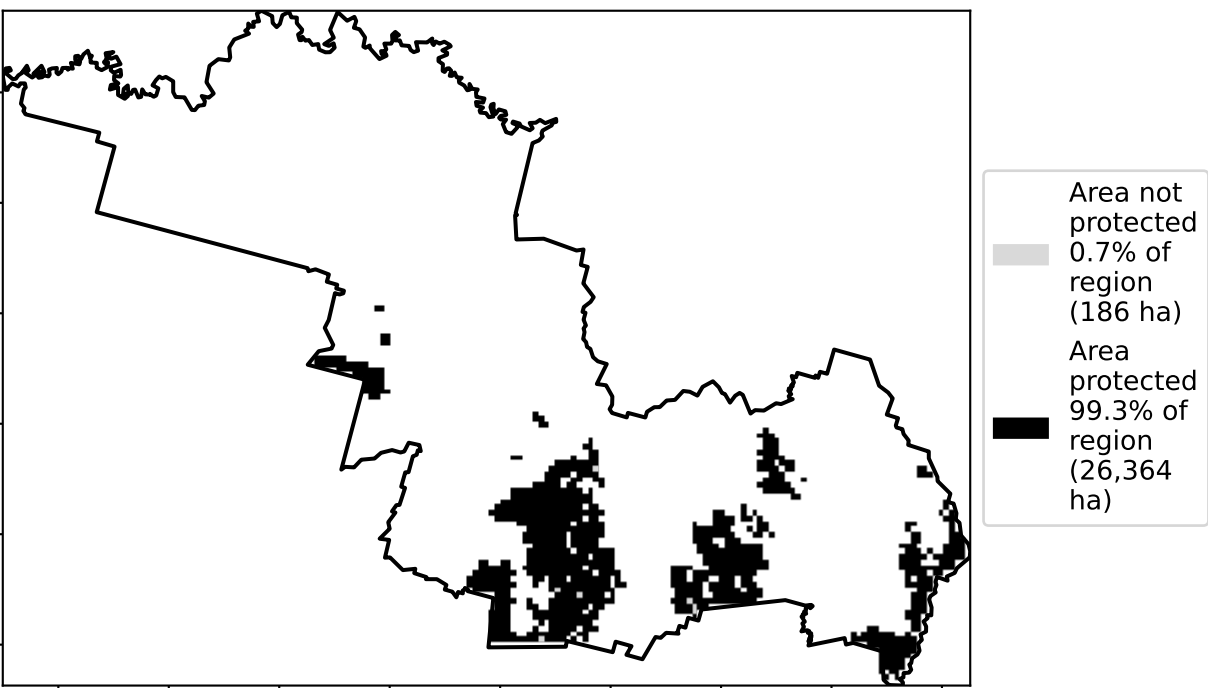
Total Vegetation Cover [%]



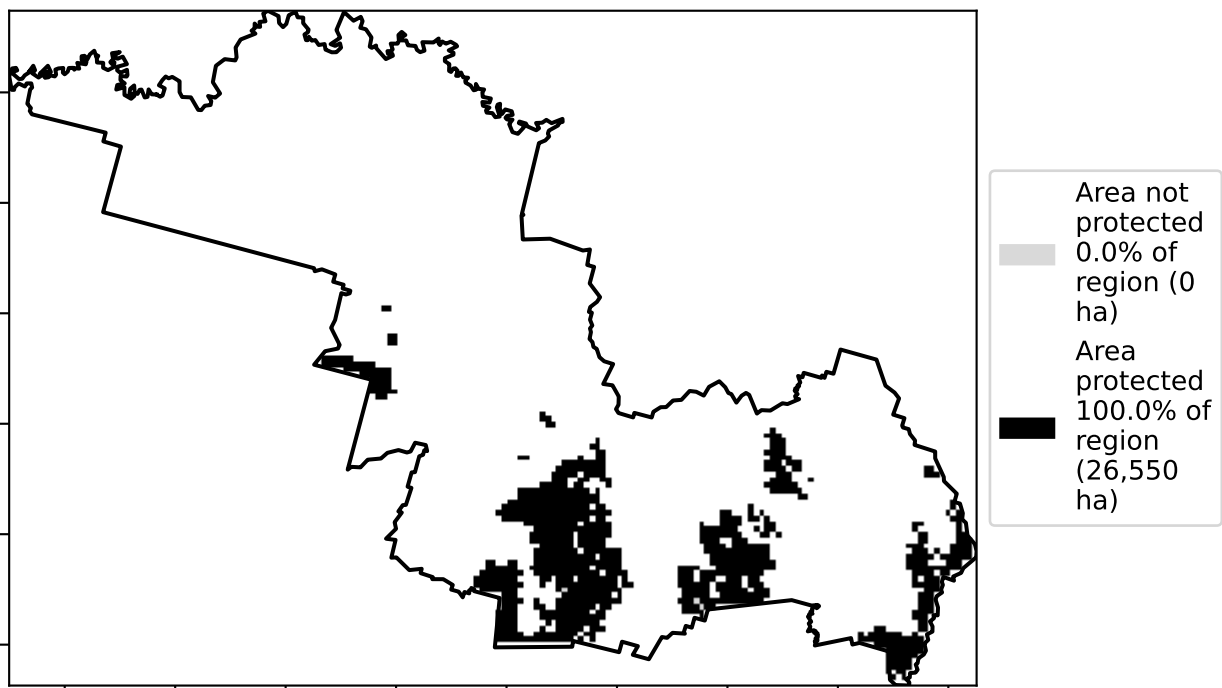
Proportion of vegetation cover class in area



% Area protected from water erosion (>70%)

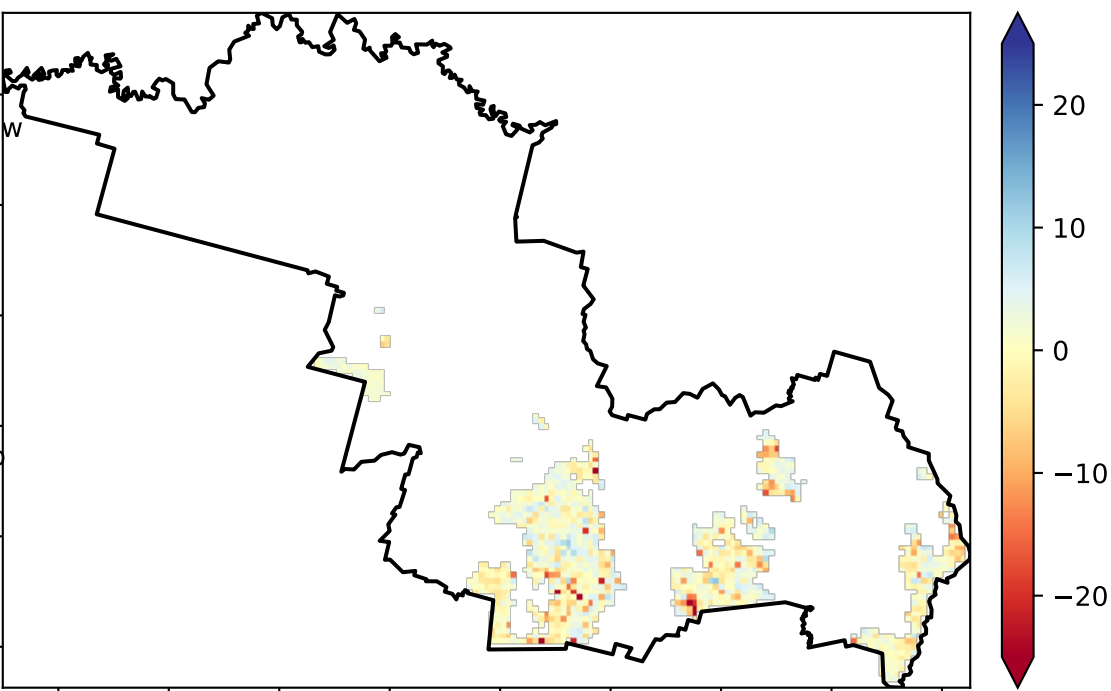


% Area protected from wind erosion (>50%)



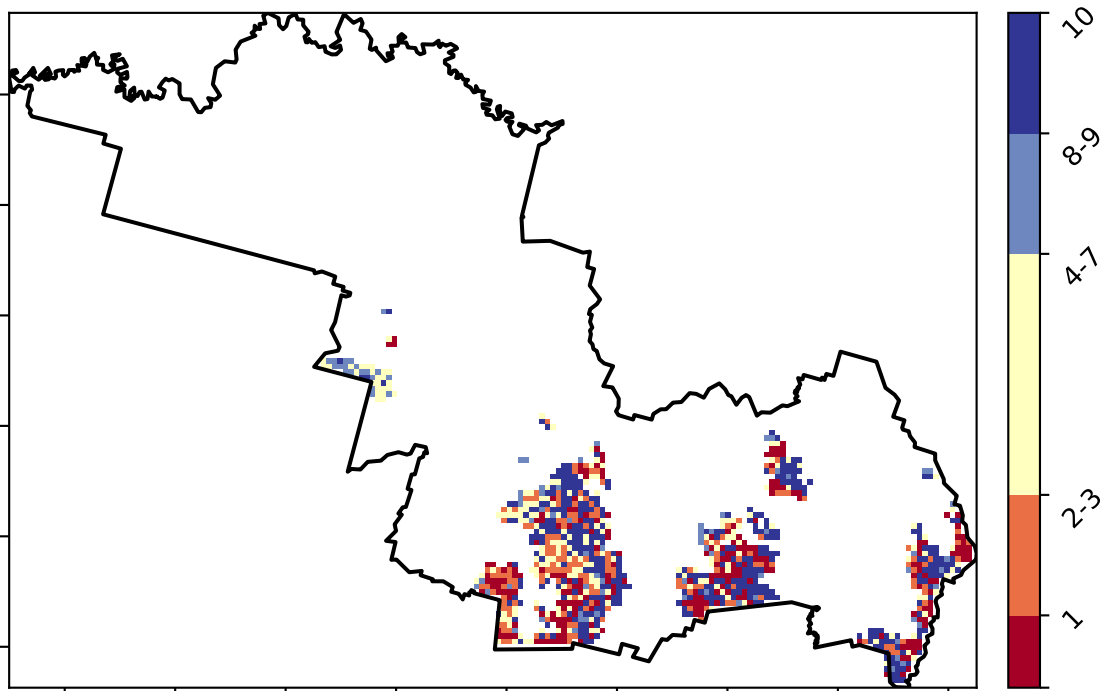
Total Vegetation Cover Anomaly [%]

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

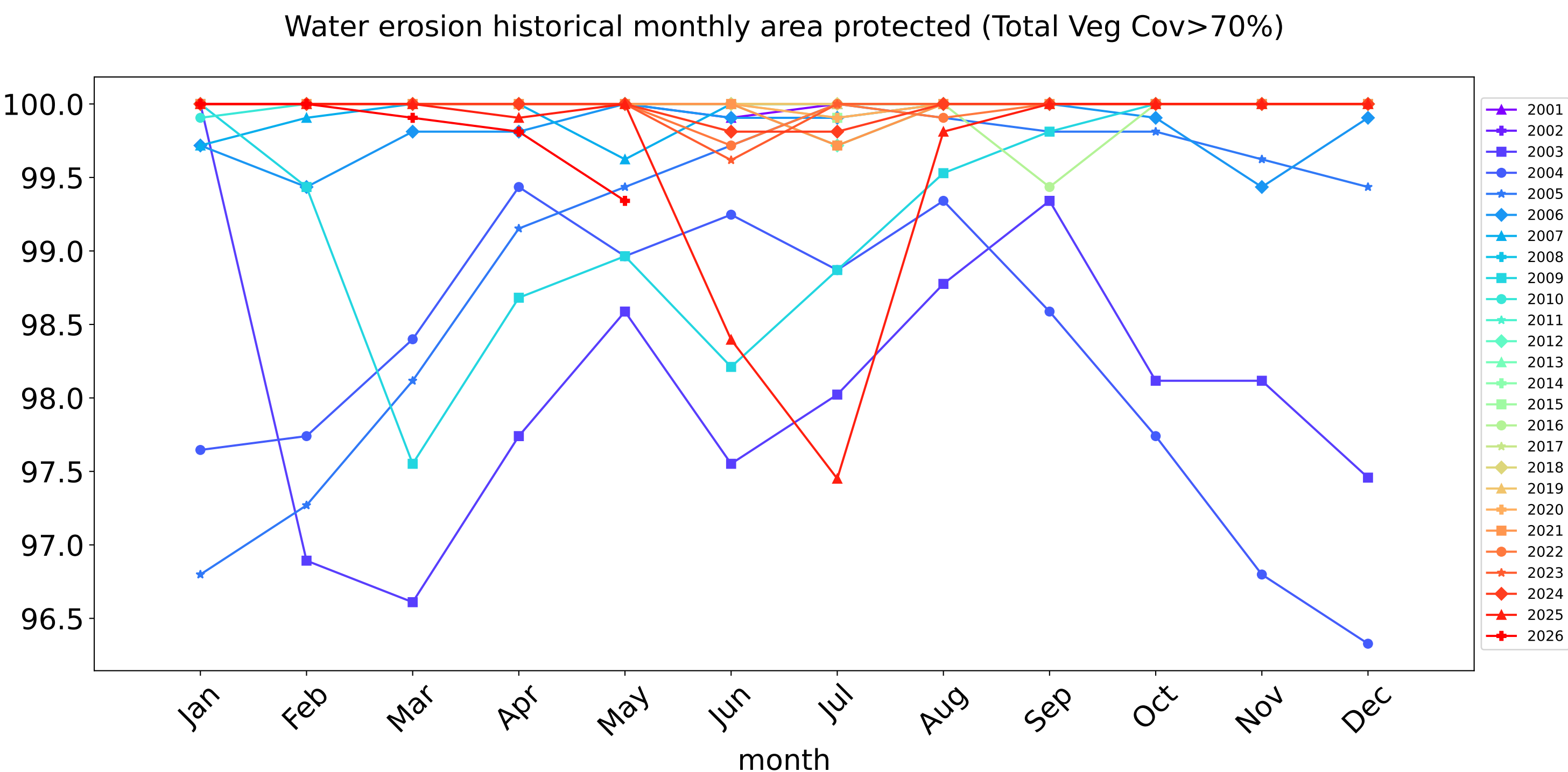
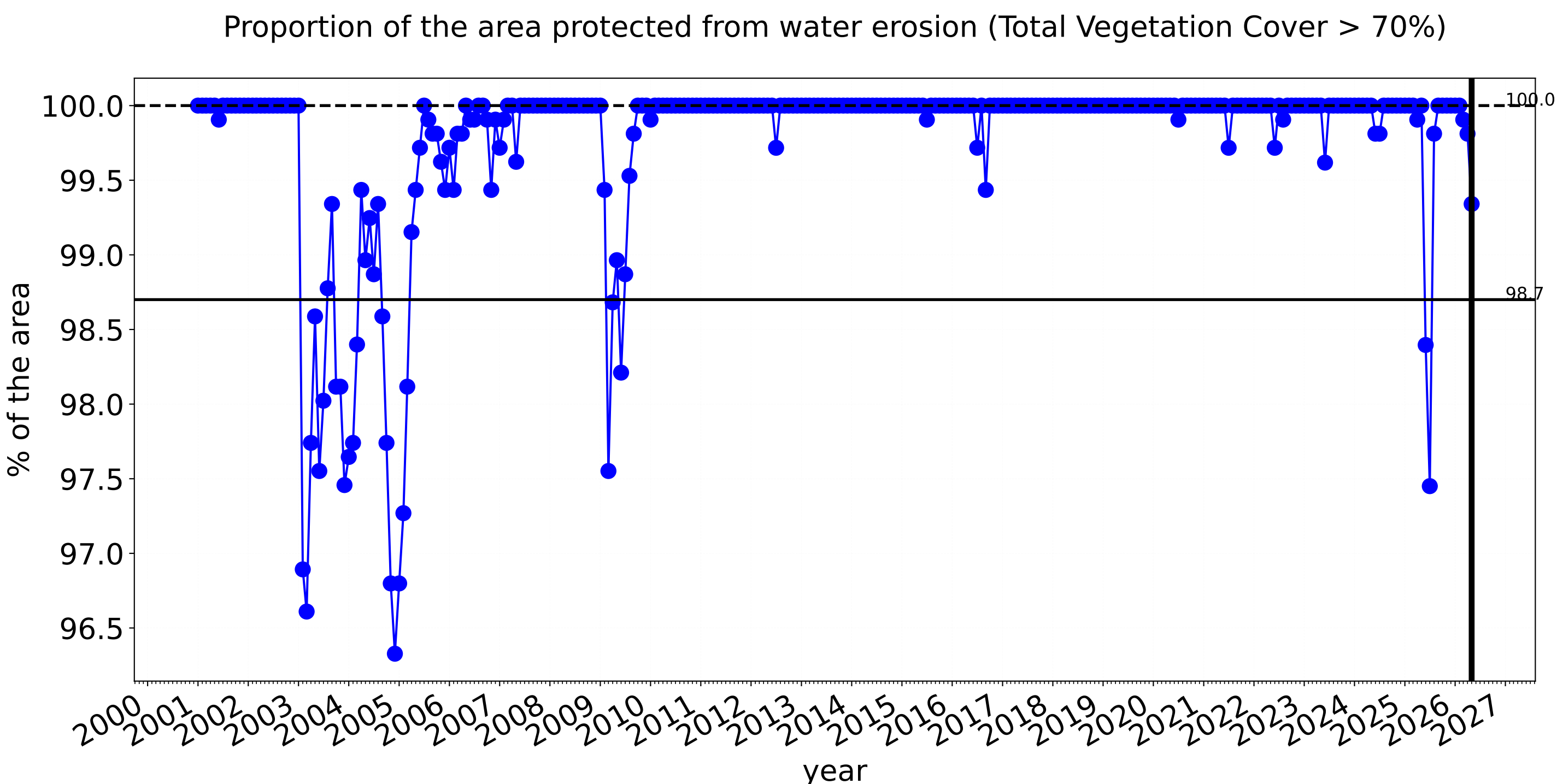
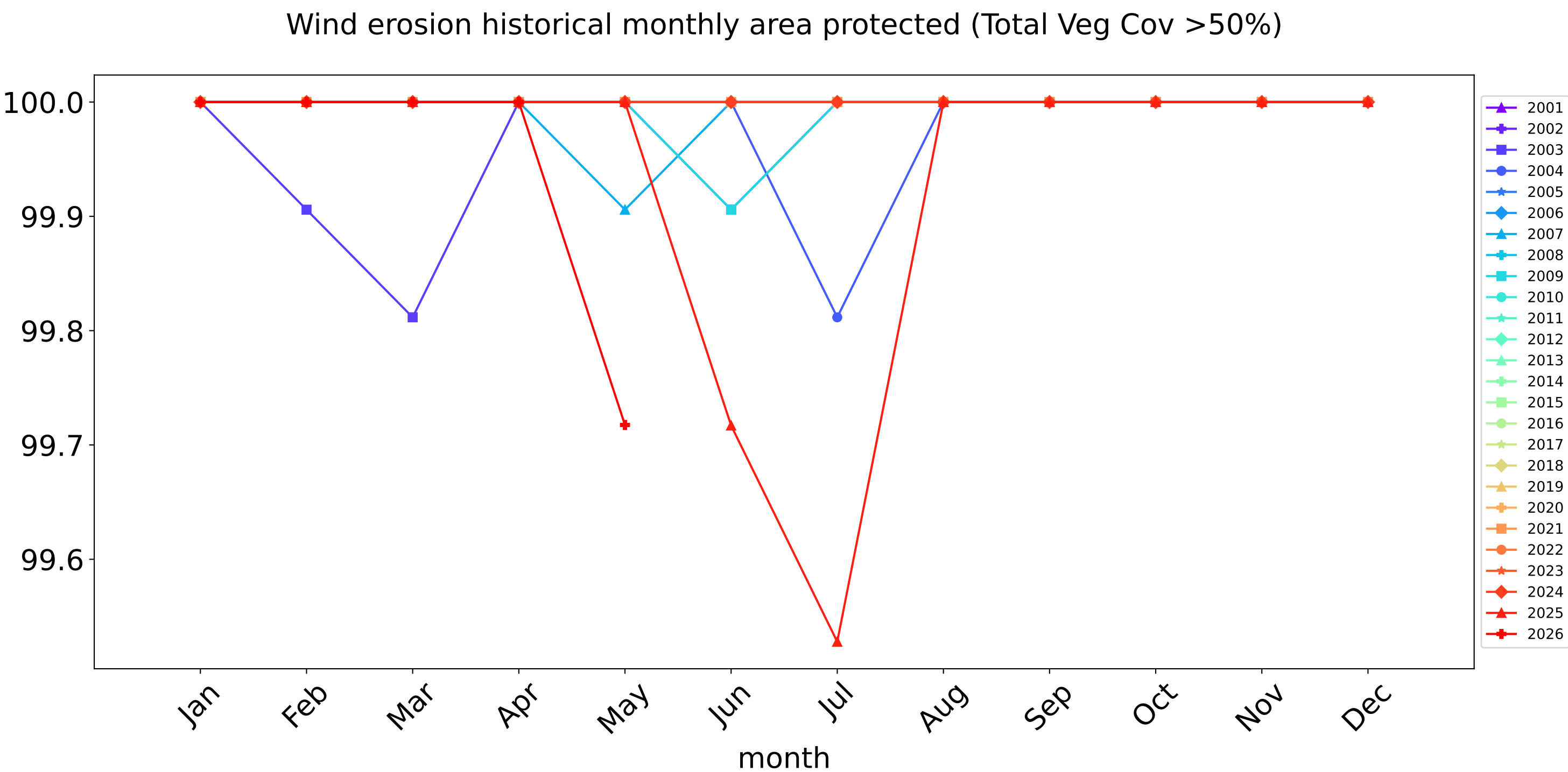
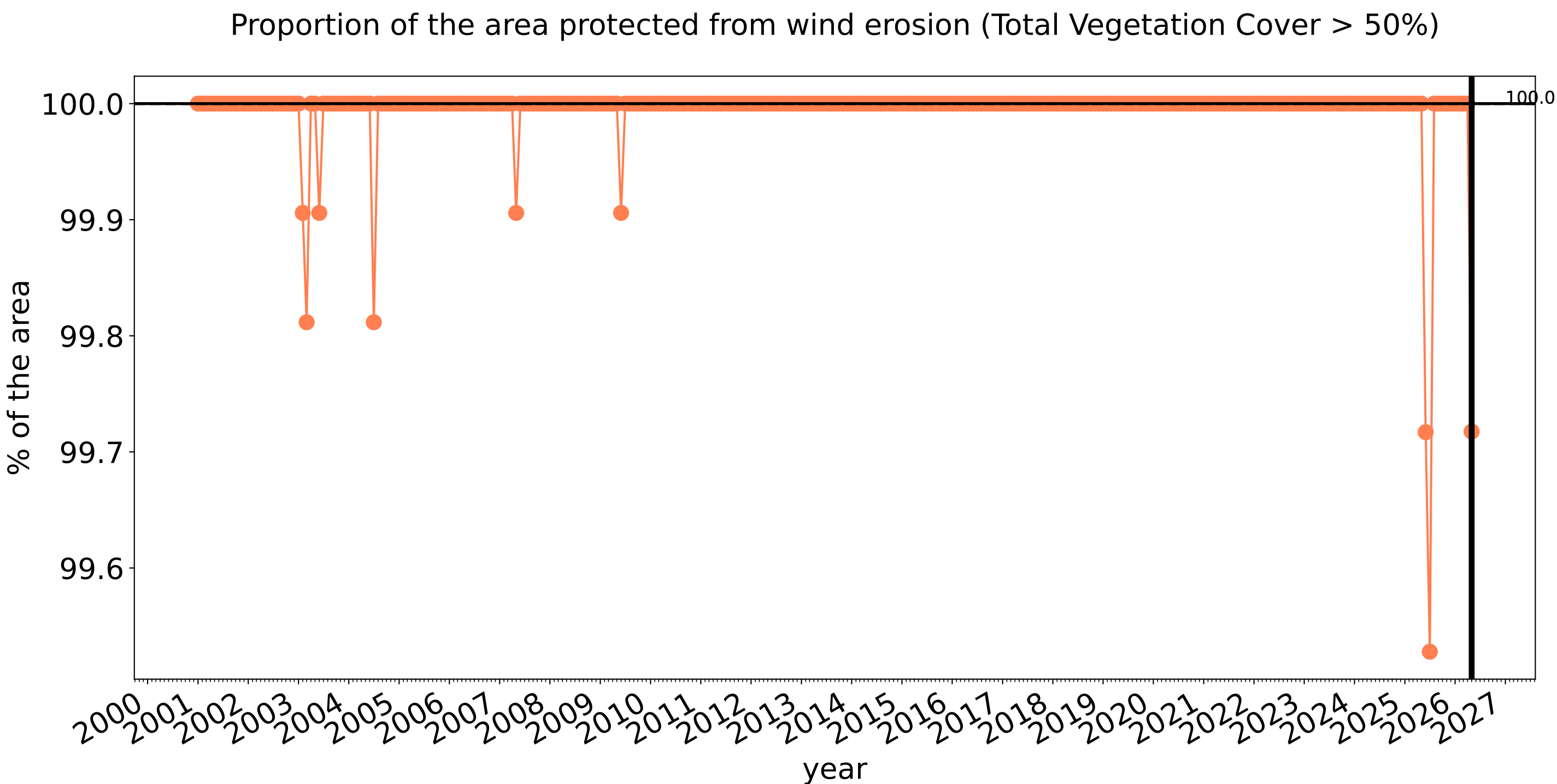


Deciles show where the pixel value lies in the record, from highest to lowest, for that month. That is, red pixels are in the lowest 10% of records for that month of the map using baseline from 2001 to 2019.

Total Vegetation Cover Decile [%]



Production native forests and plantation forests timeseries

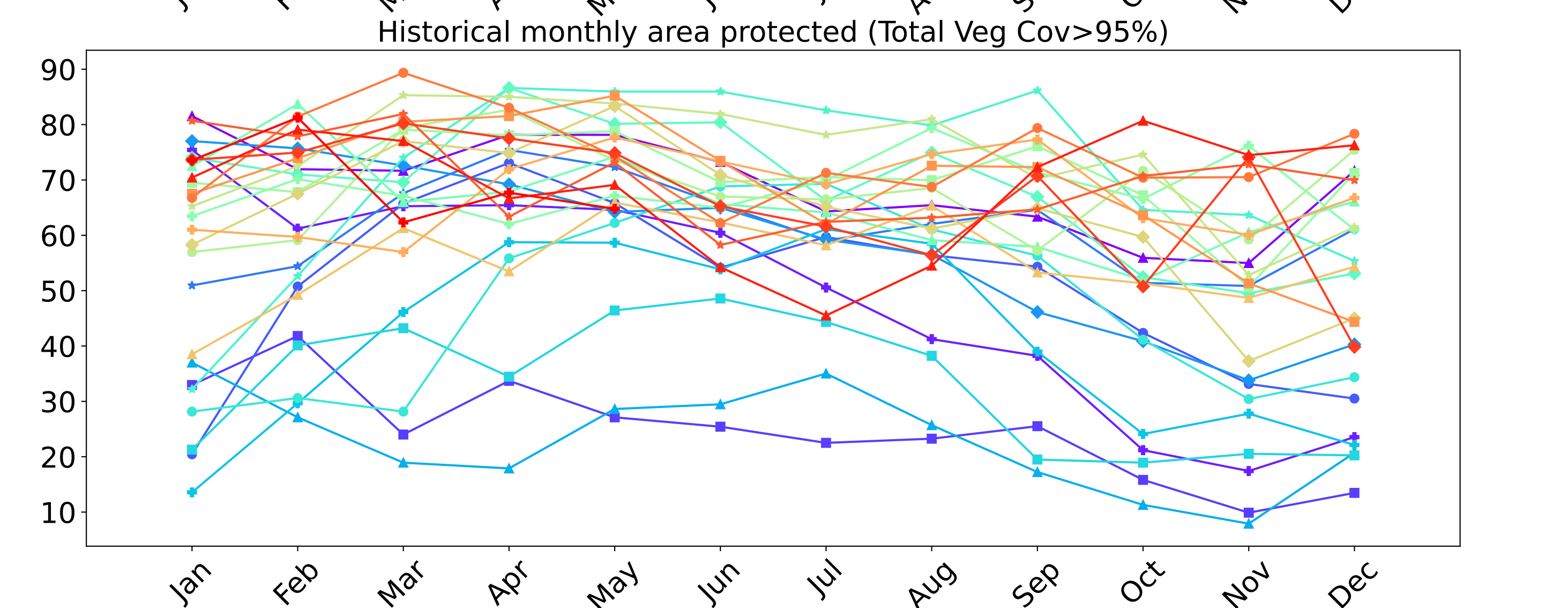
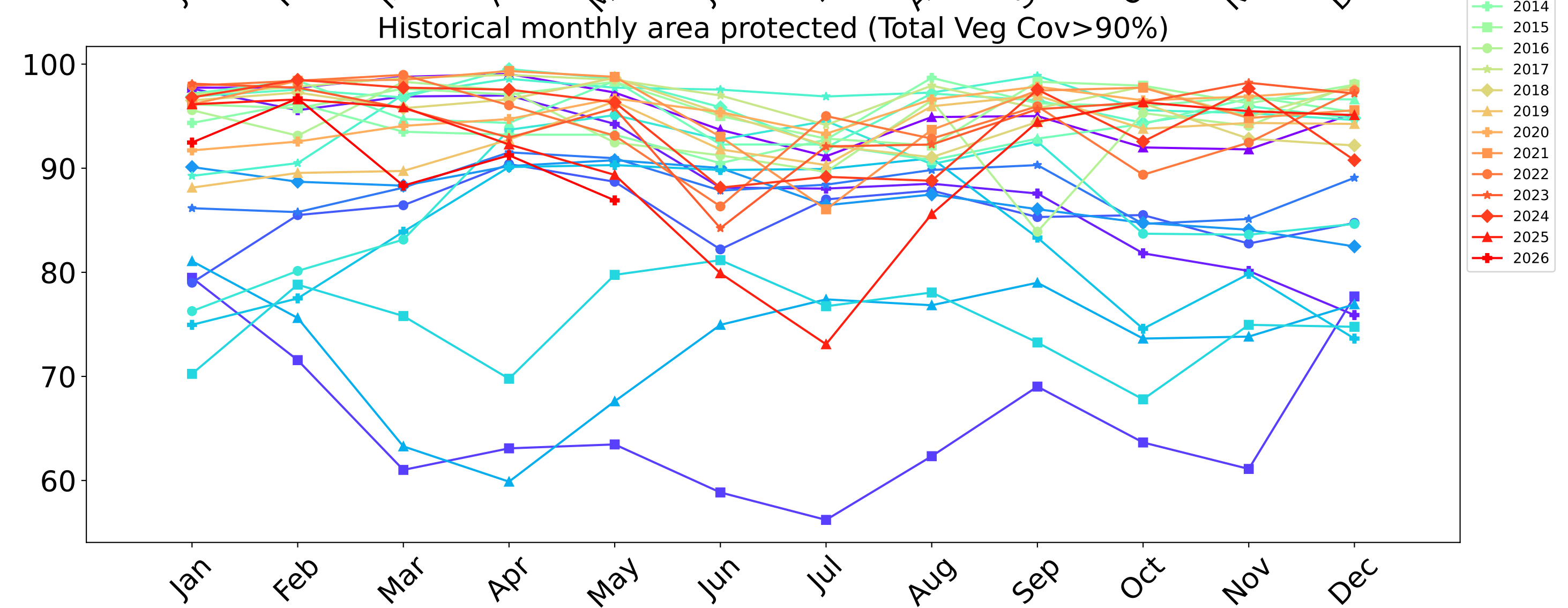
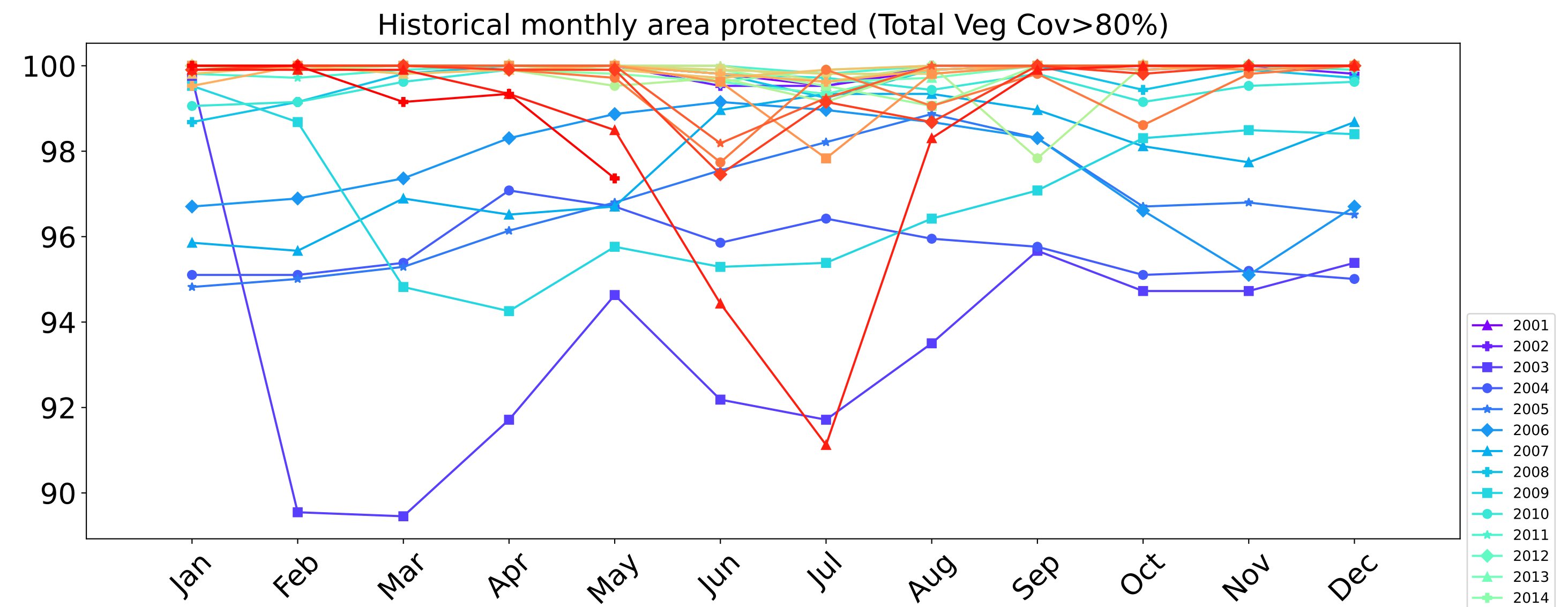
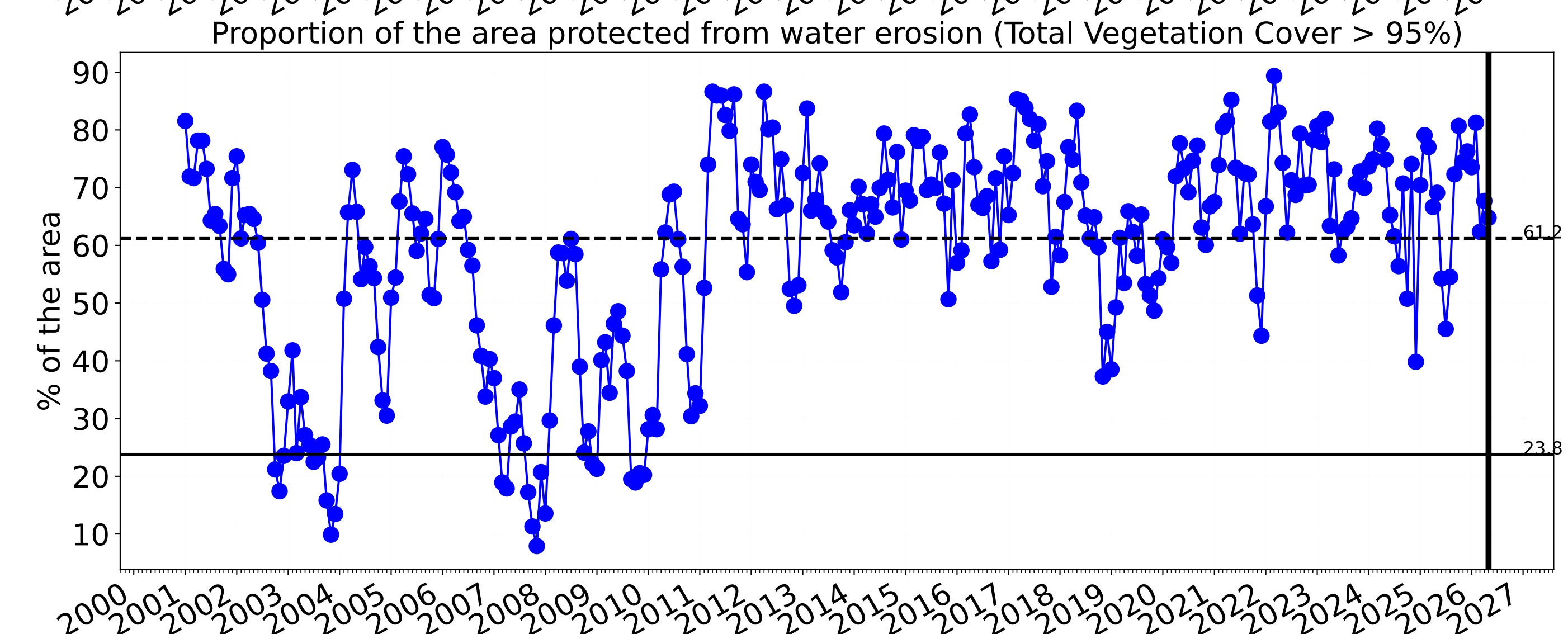
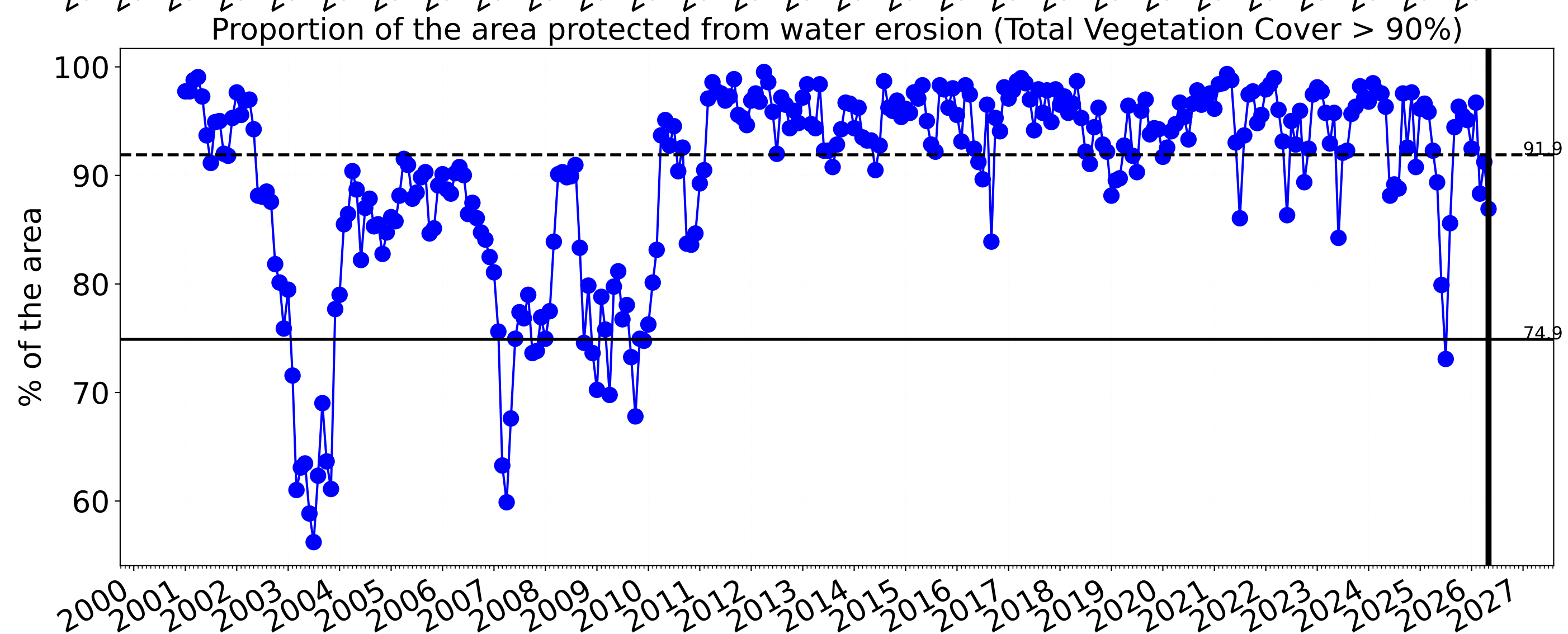
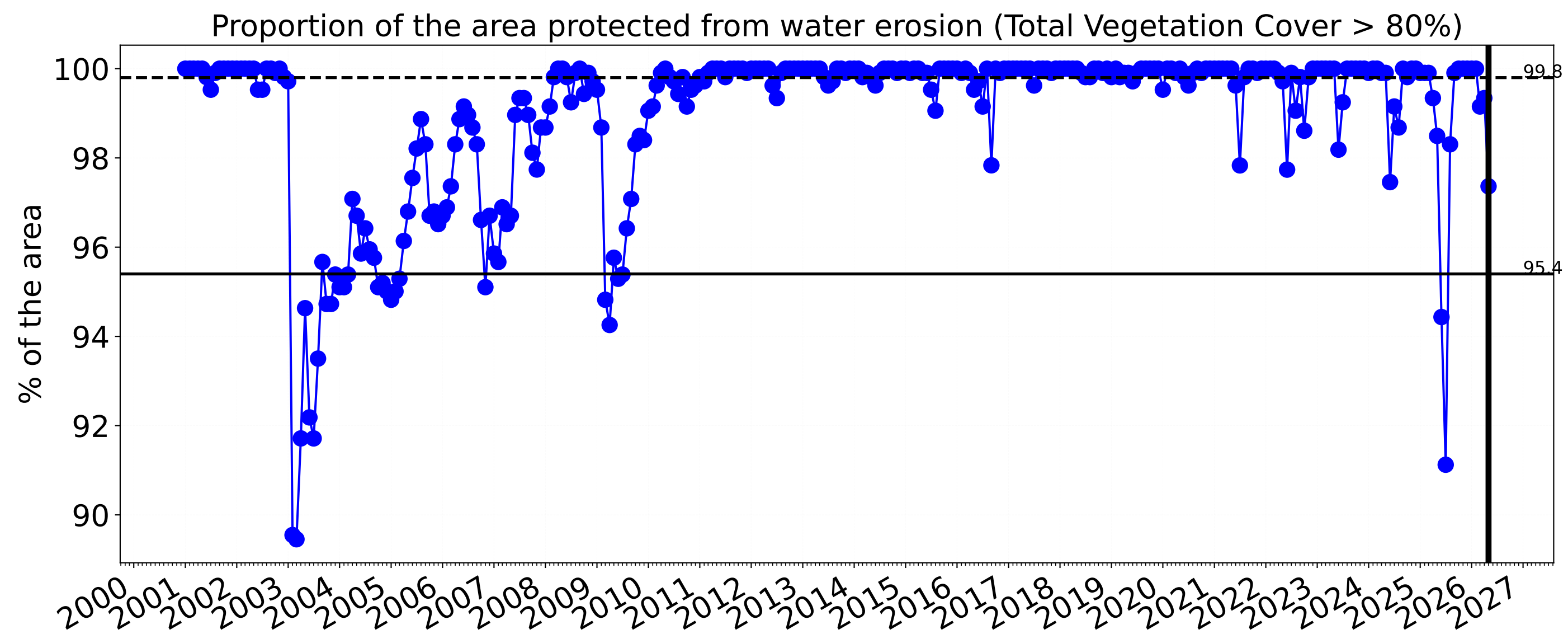


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Indigo_(S) (201,875 ha and no data 2,001 ha) Percentage area and hectares protected with TVC threshold 30,50,70,80,90 and 95%

Land use and forest cover Class	area(ha)	above_30	above_50	above_70	above_80	above_90	above_95
Entire region	201,875	99.9% 201,700	99.8% 201,475	98.3% 198,450	92.0% 185,825	62.2% 125,500	40.5% 81,800
Conservation and natural environments	24,050	100.0% 24,050	100.0% 24,050	100.0% 24,050	99.1% 23,825	90.0% 21,650	67.2% 16,150
Conservation and natural environments Woodland forest	5,900	100.0% 5,900	100.0% 5,900	100.0% 5,900	99.6% 5,875	87.7% 5,175	60.2% 3,550
Conservation and natural environments Forest (non woodland)	16,675	100.0% 16,675	100.0% 16,675	100.0% 16,675	99.3% 16,550	92.5% 15,425	71.8% 11,975
Agriculture	133,075	100.0% 133,075	99.9% 132,925	98.1% 130,500	90.0% 119,725	52.6% 69,975	31.2% 41,575
Grazing	114,400	100.0% 114,400	99.9% 114,300	98.7% 112,925	91.4% 104,600	52.7% 60,275	30.6% 35,025
Grazing non forest	104,775	100.0% 104,775	100.0% 104,725	98.7% 103,425	91.0% 95,325	49.8% 52,150	28.1% 29,450
Grazing Woodland forest	2,350	100.0% 2,350	100.0% 2,350	100.0% 2,350	97.9% 2,300	89.4% 2,100	62.8% 1,475
Grazing - Forest (non woodland)	7,275	100.0% 7,275	99.3% 7,225	98.3% 7,150	95.9% 6,975	82.8% 6,025	56.4% 4,100
Cropping	6,625	100.0% 6,625	99.6% 6,600	89.4% 5,925	66.8% 4,425	40.4% 2,675	26.8% 1,775
Horticulture	3,900	100.0% 3,900	100.0% 3,900	95.5% 3,725	90.4% 3,525	57.7% 2,250	38.5% 1,500
Irrigation	8,150	100.0% 8,150	99.7% 8,125	97.2% 7,925	88.0% 7,175	58.6% 4,775	40.2% 3,275
Production native forests and plantation forests	26,550	99.9% 26,525	99.7% 26,475	99.3% 26,375	97.4% 25,850	86.9% 23,075	64.8% 17,200



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