

Total vegetation cover soil protection

Region:LGA Esperance_(S) WA

Date: August 2025

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

Land use forest cover:

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

Total vegetation Cover:

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

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

Erosion protection: Wind erosion 50% total vegetation cover

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

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

Comparison with previous years:

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

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

Time series monthly from January 2001 to current:

Erosion protection

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

Rainfall

- Millimetres rainfall each month (black line).

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

Water erosion protection for higher rainfall and steeper slopes:

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

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

Acknowledgment of data:

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



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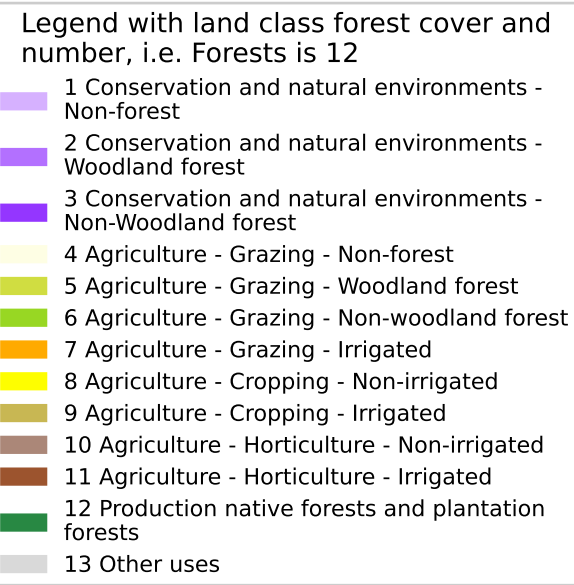
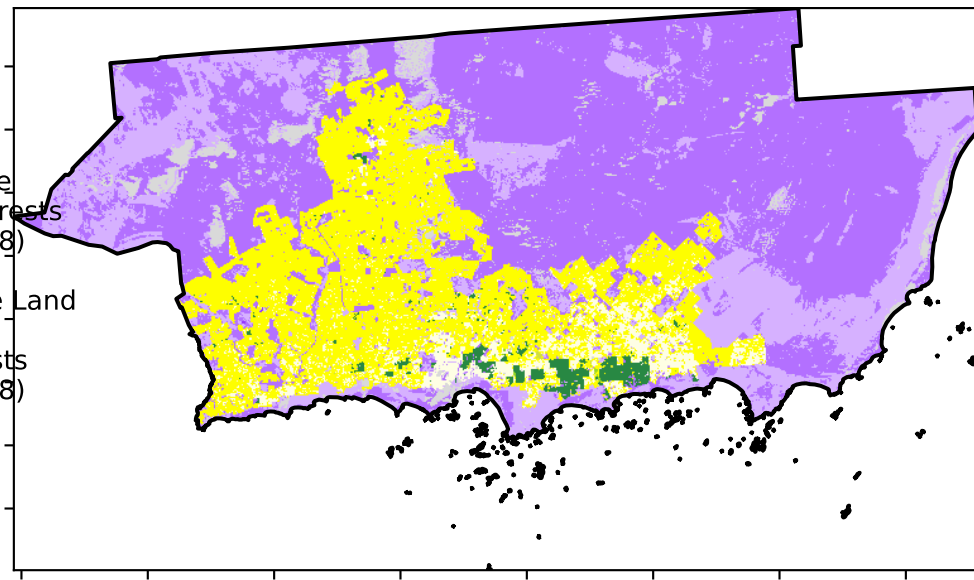
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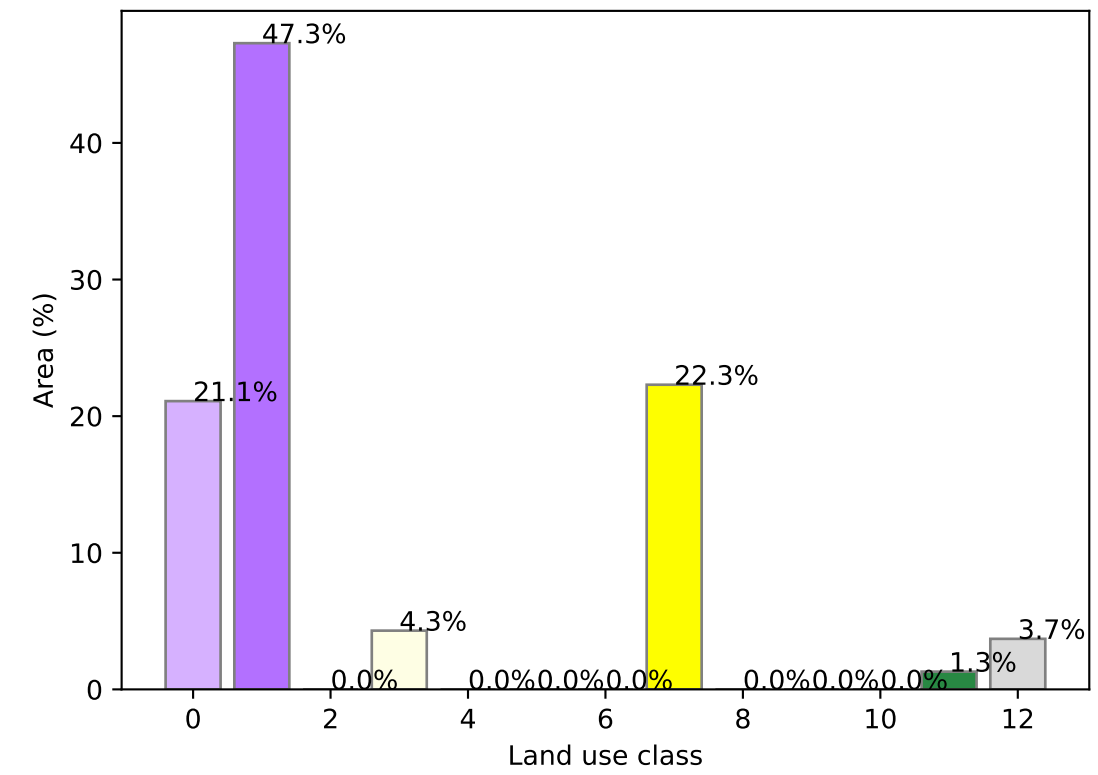
Vegetation Cover Aug 2025

Land use and forest cover

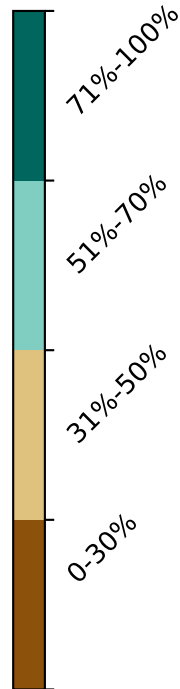
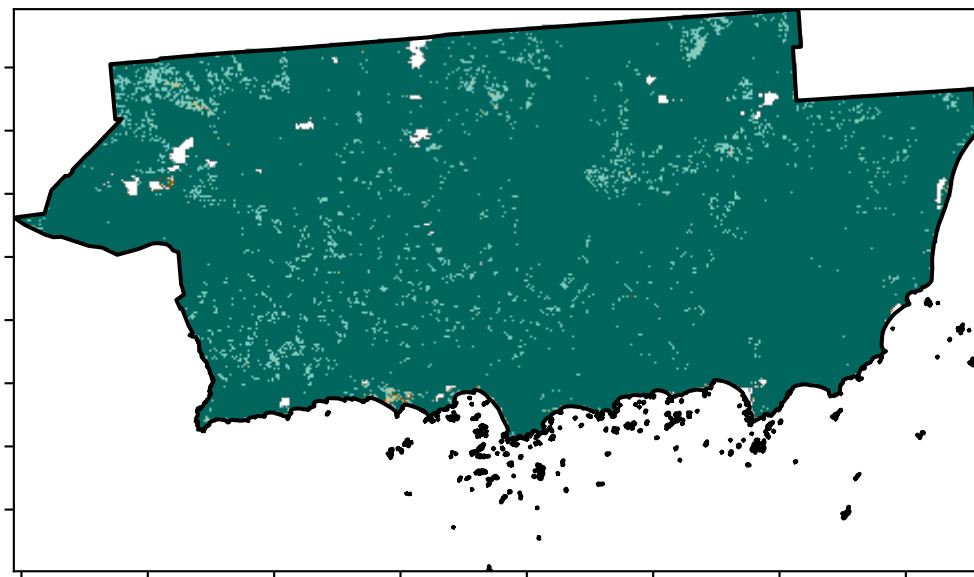
Catchment Scale
Land Use and Forests
of Australia (2018)
Derived from
Catchment Scale
Land Use of Australia
(2018) and Forests
of Australia (2018)



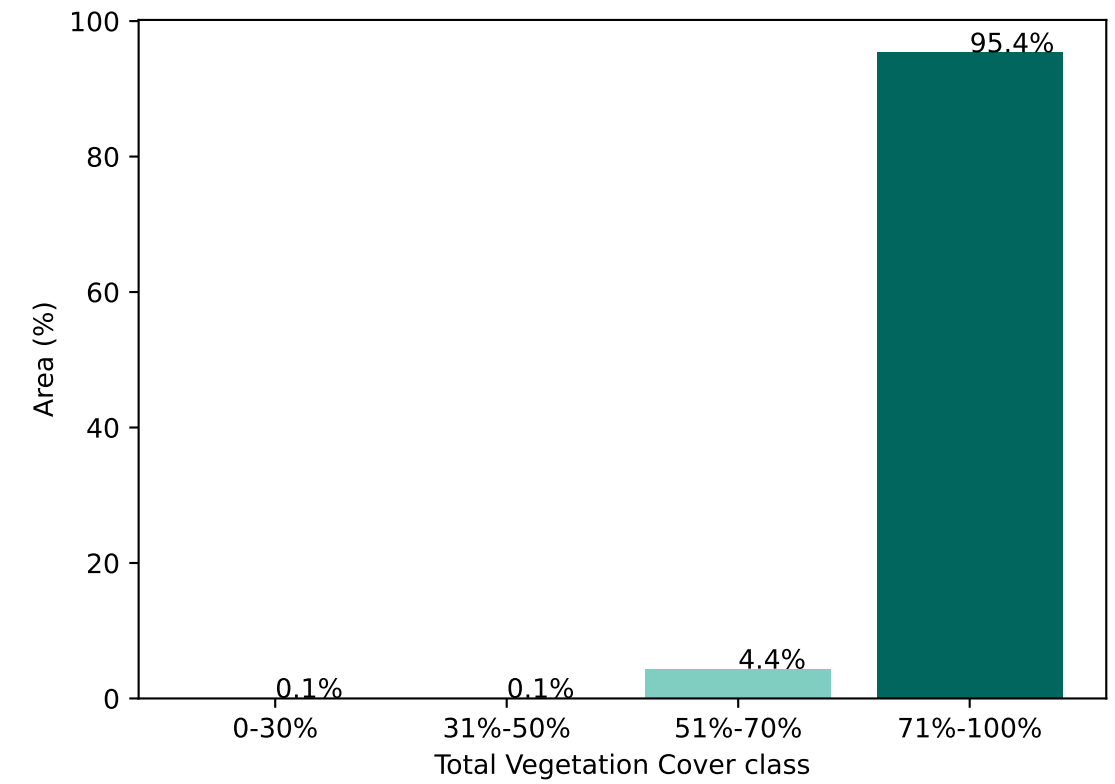
Proportion of each land class in area



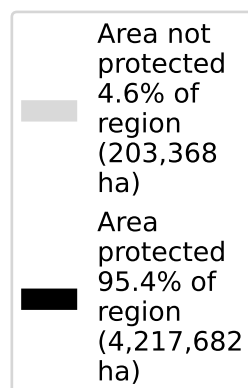
Total Vegetation Cover [%]



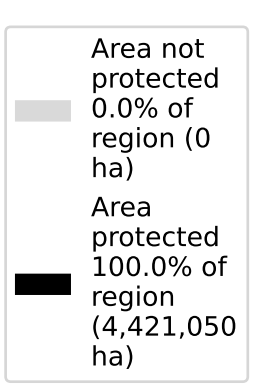
Proportion of vegetation cover class in area



% Area protected from water erosion (>70%)

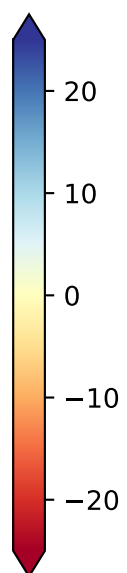
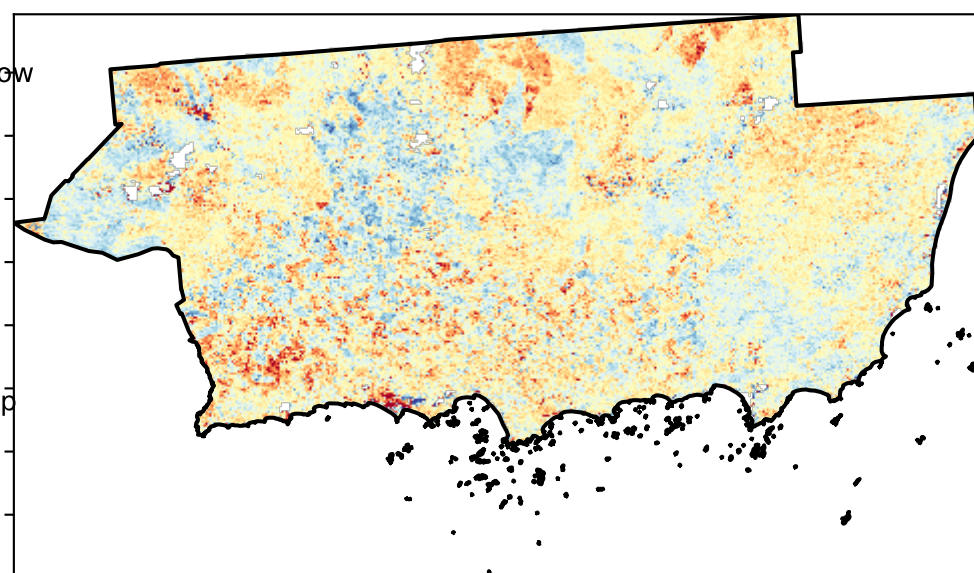


% Area protected from wind erosion (>50%)



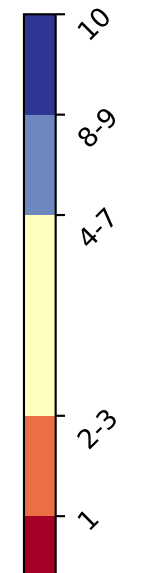
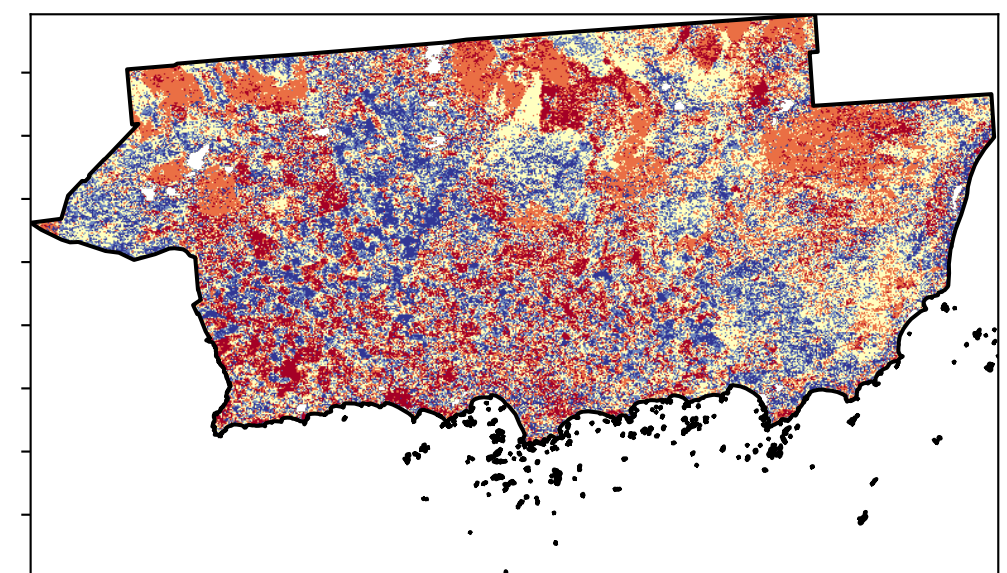
Total Vegetation Cover Anomaly [%]

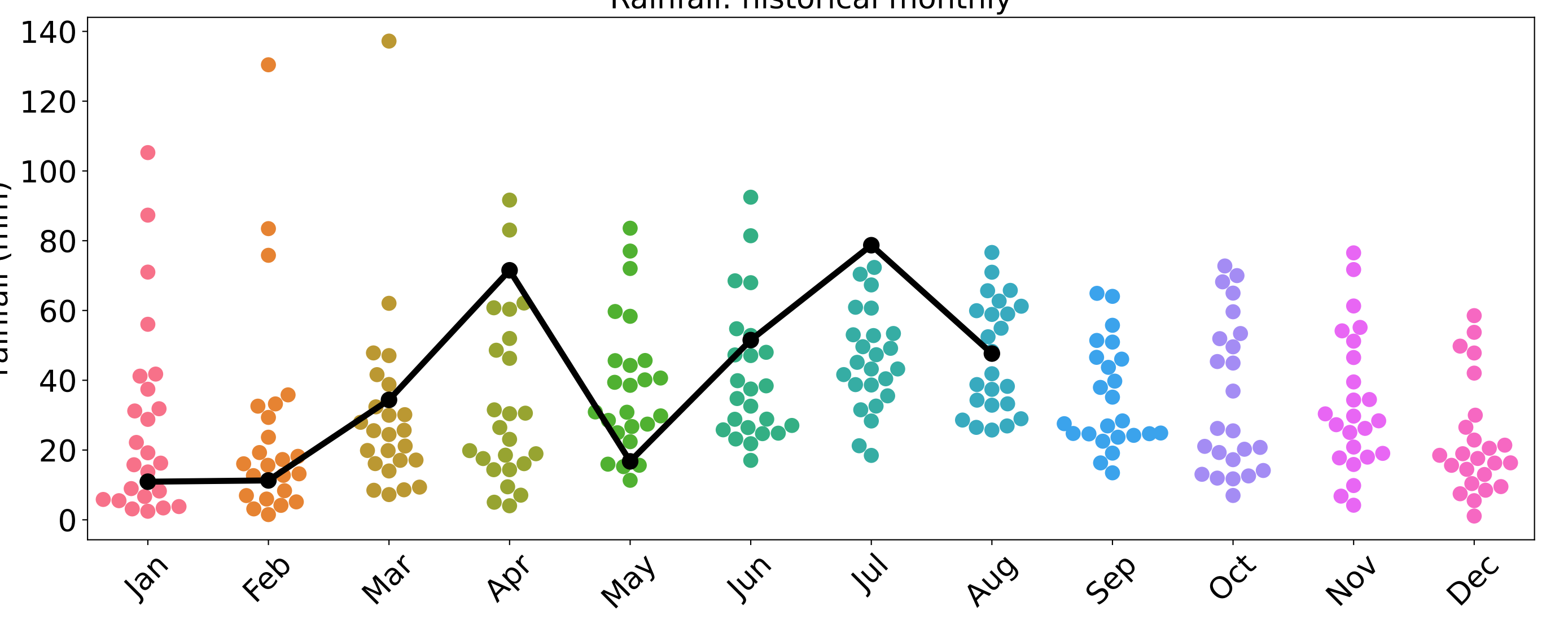
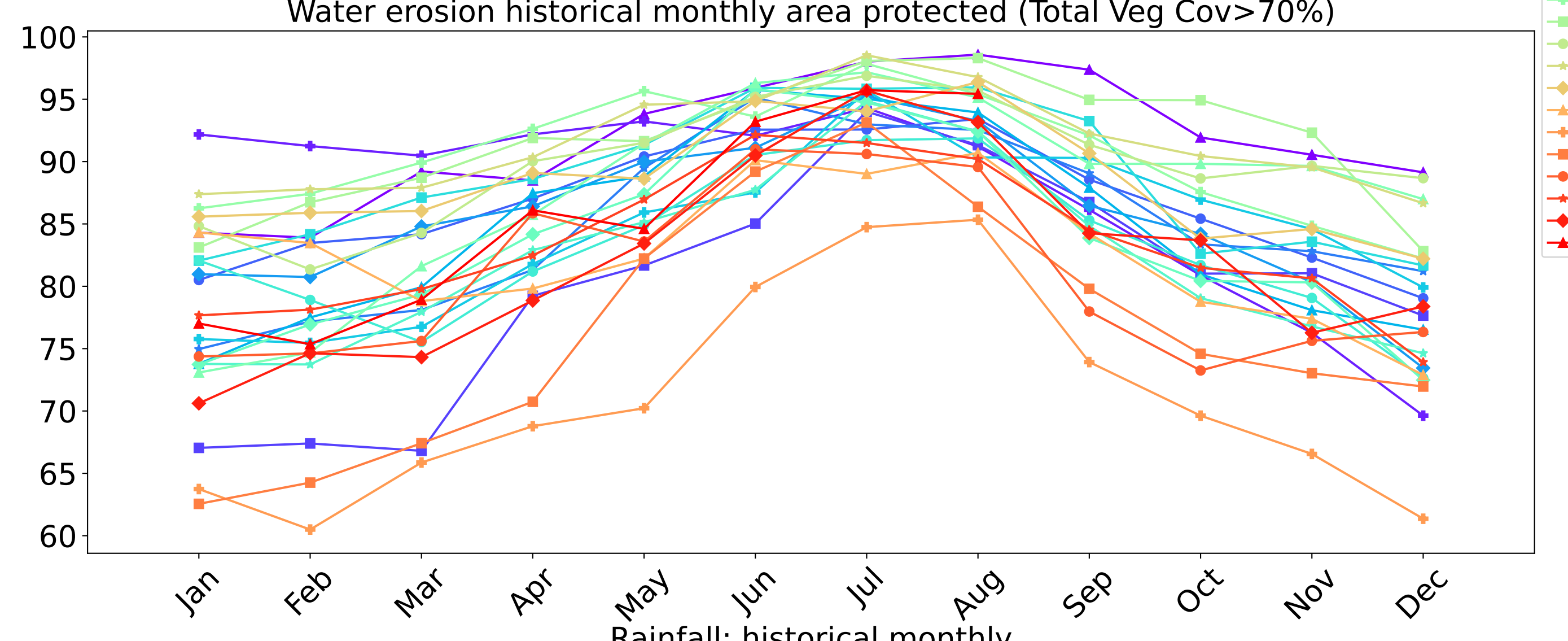
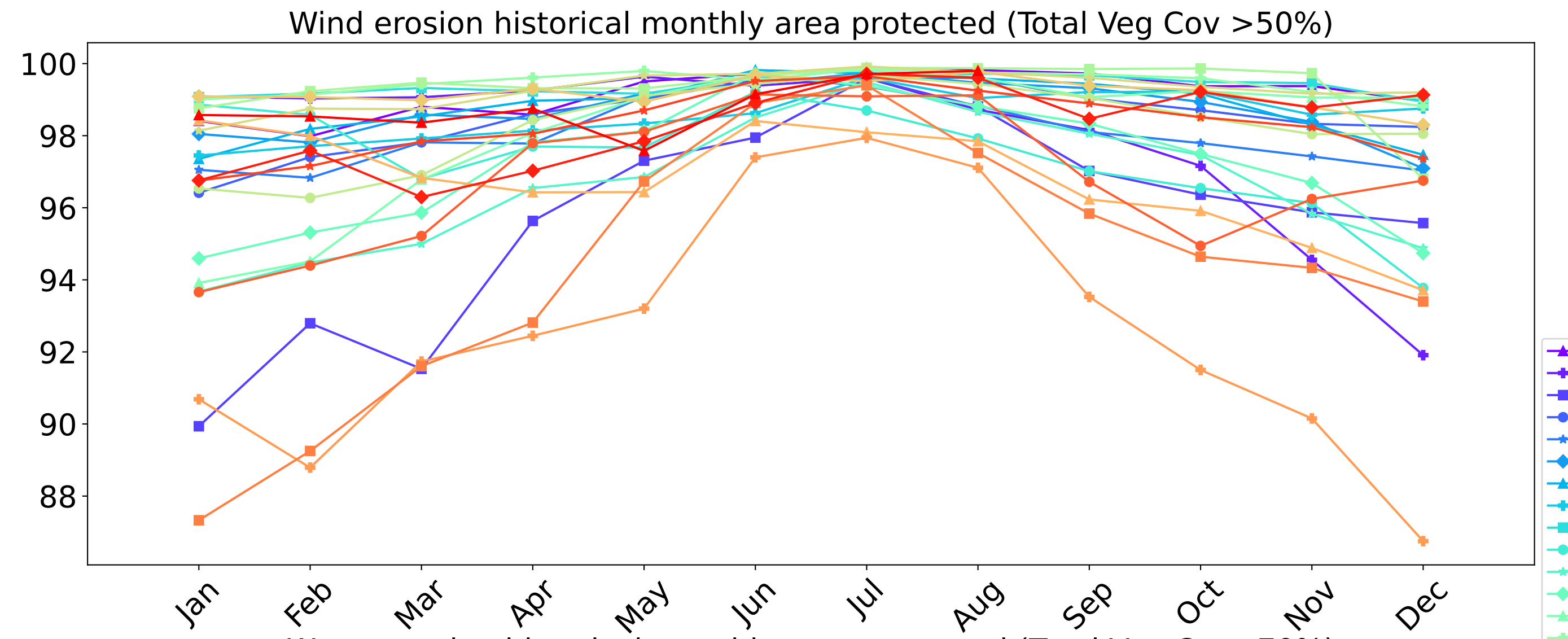
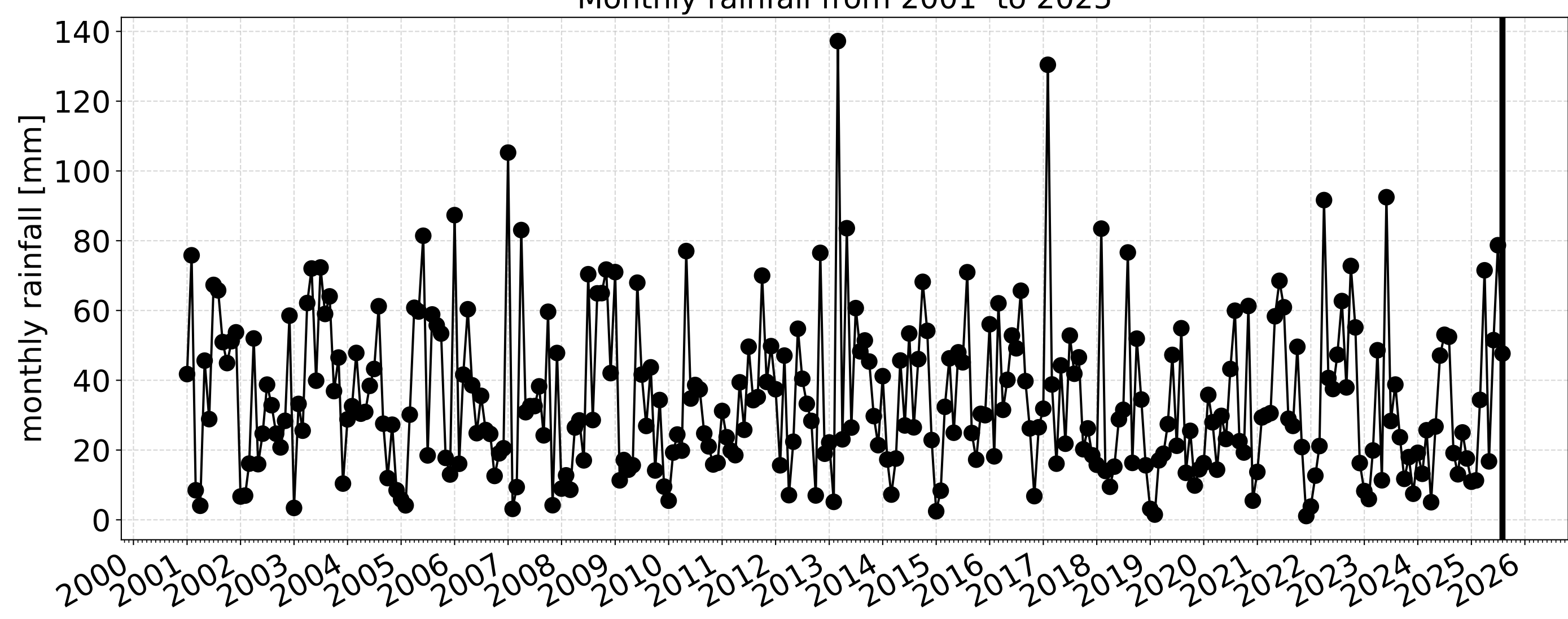
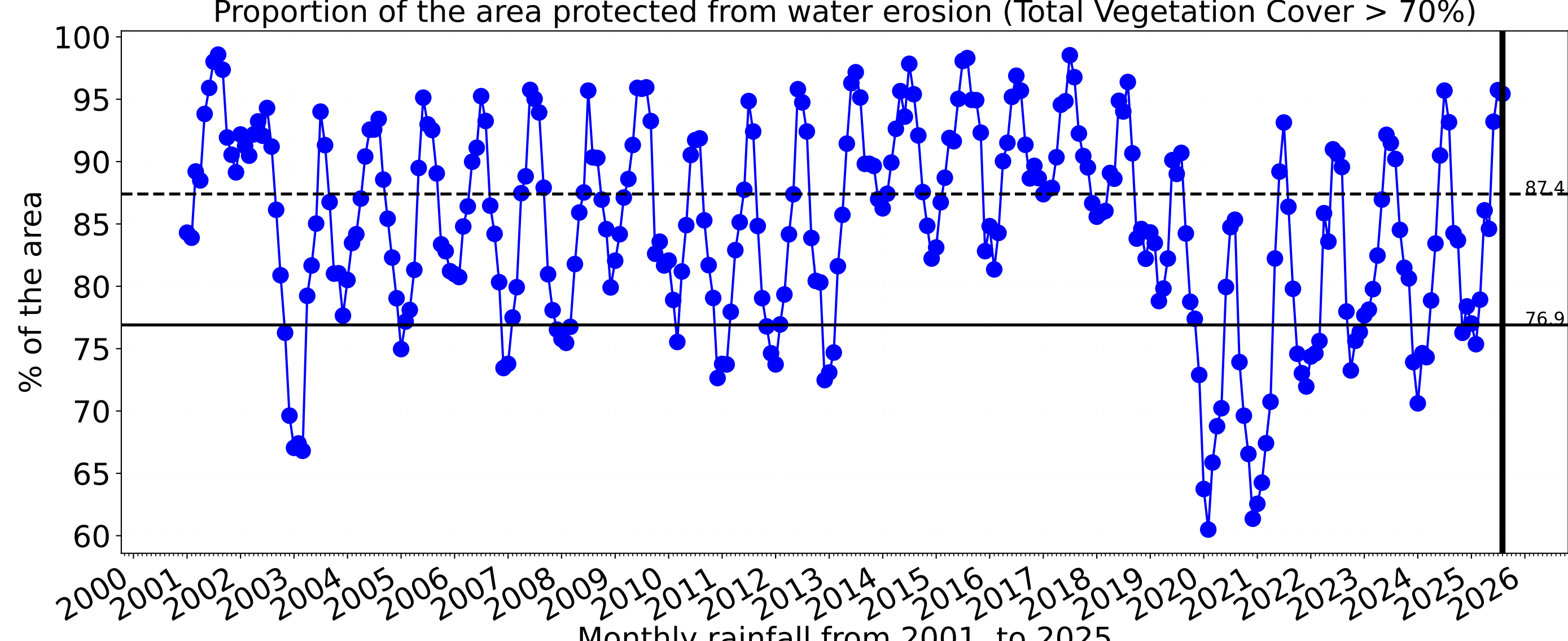
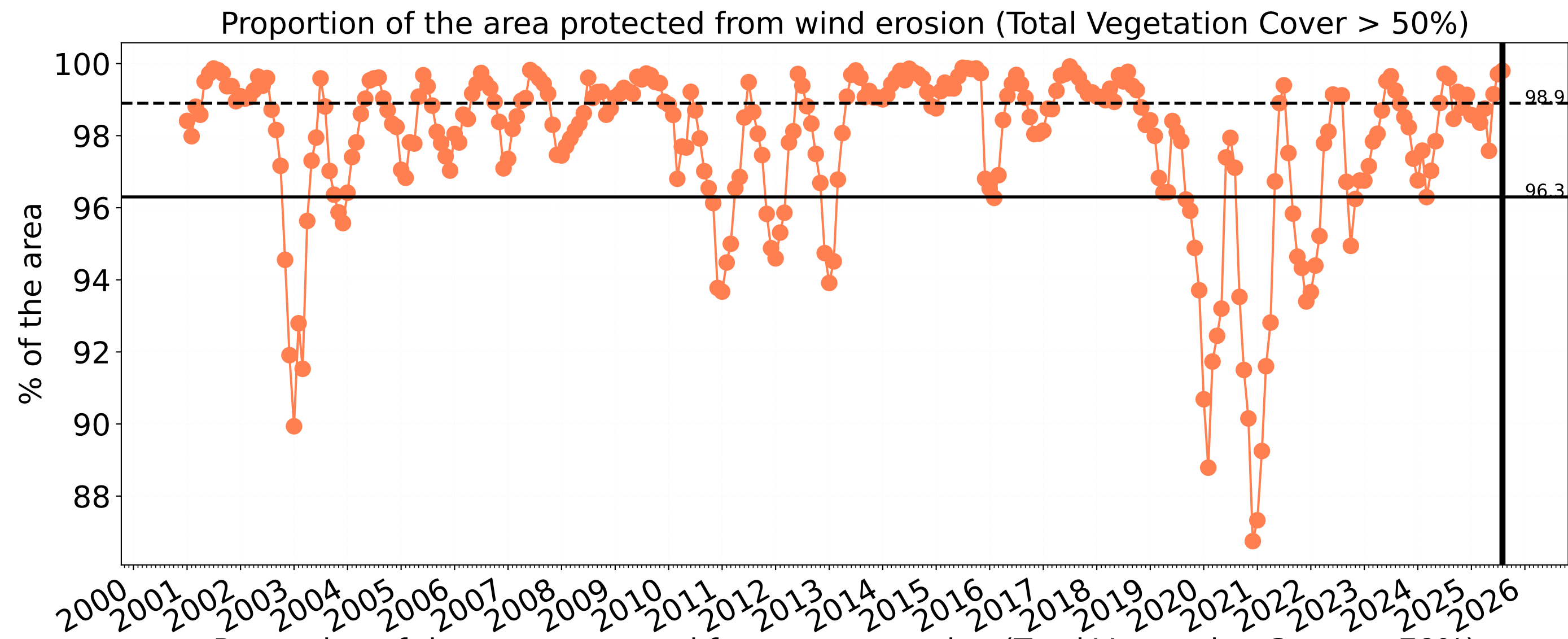
Anomaly show how many percentage points each pixel is from the mean. That is, red pixels are about 20% lower than the mean of that pixel. The mean is only for the month of the map using baseline from 2001 to 2019.



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

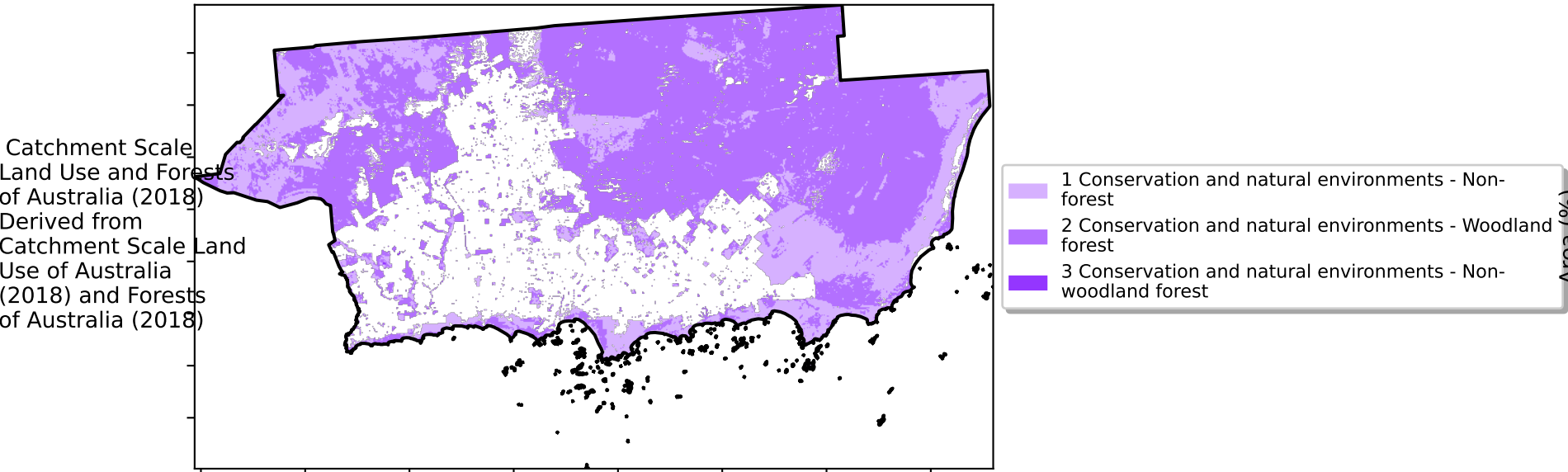
Total Vegetation Cover Decile [%]



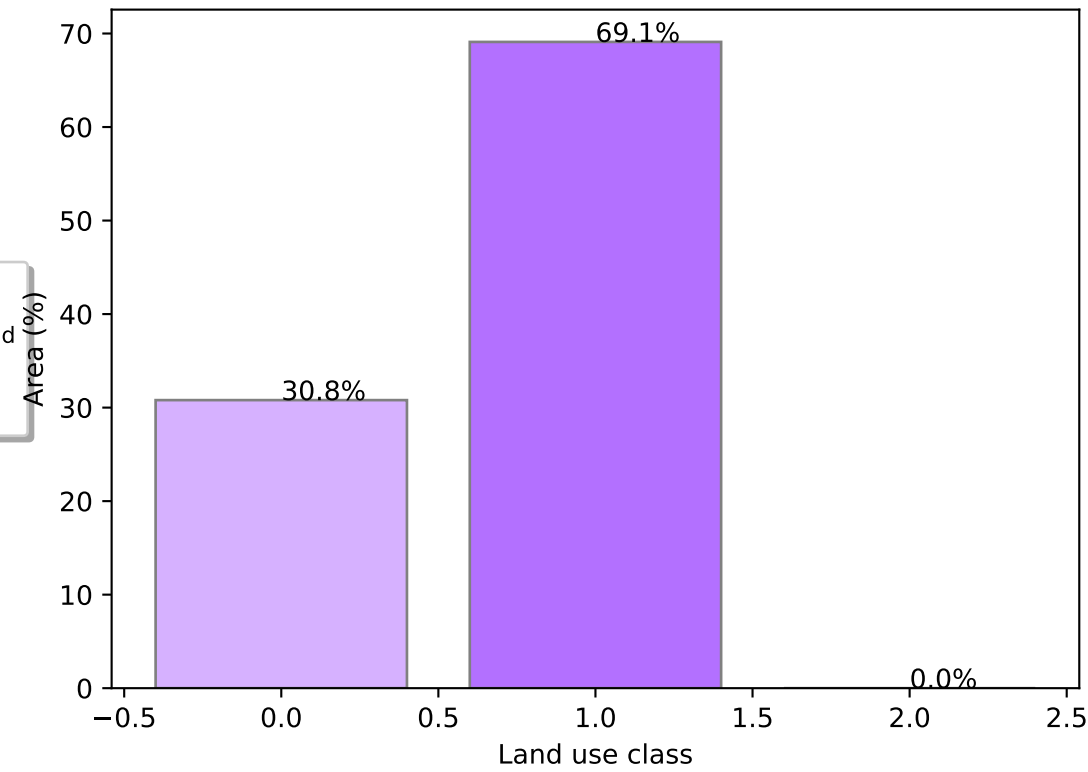


Conservation and natural environments

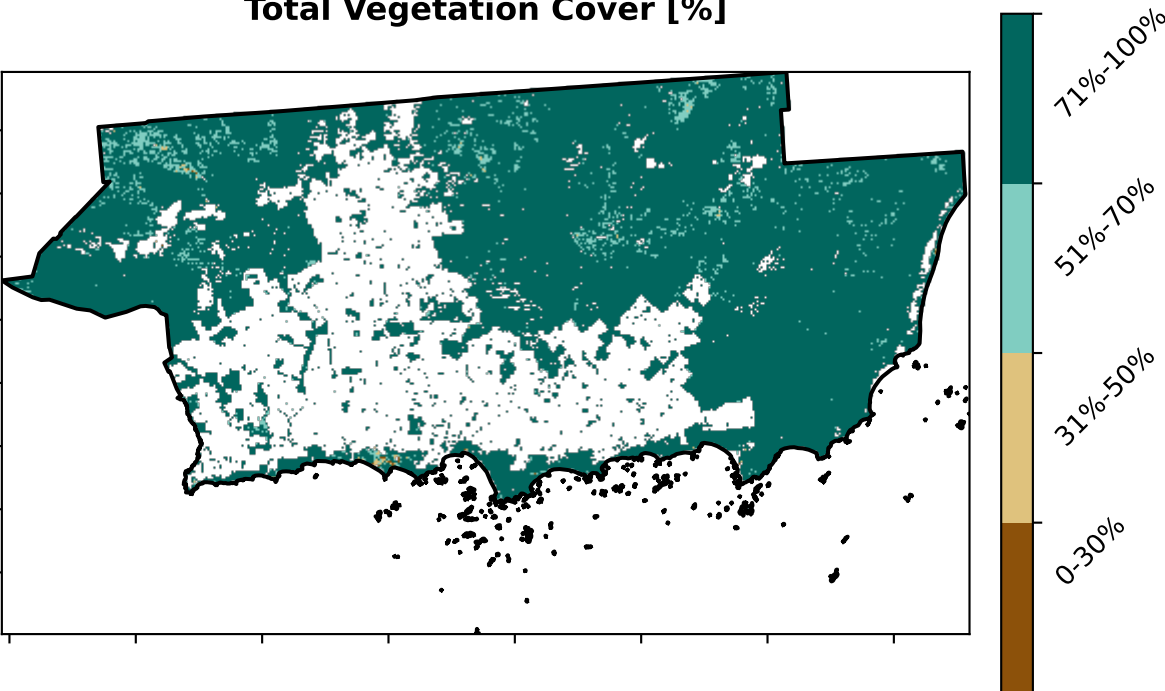
Land use and forest cover



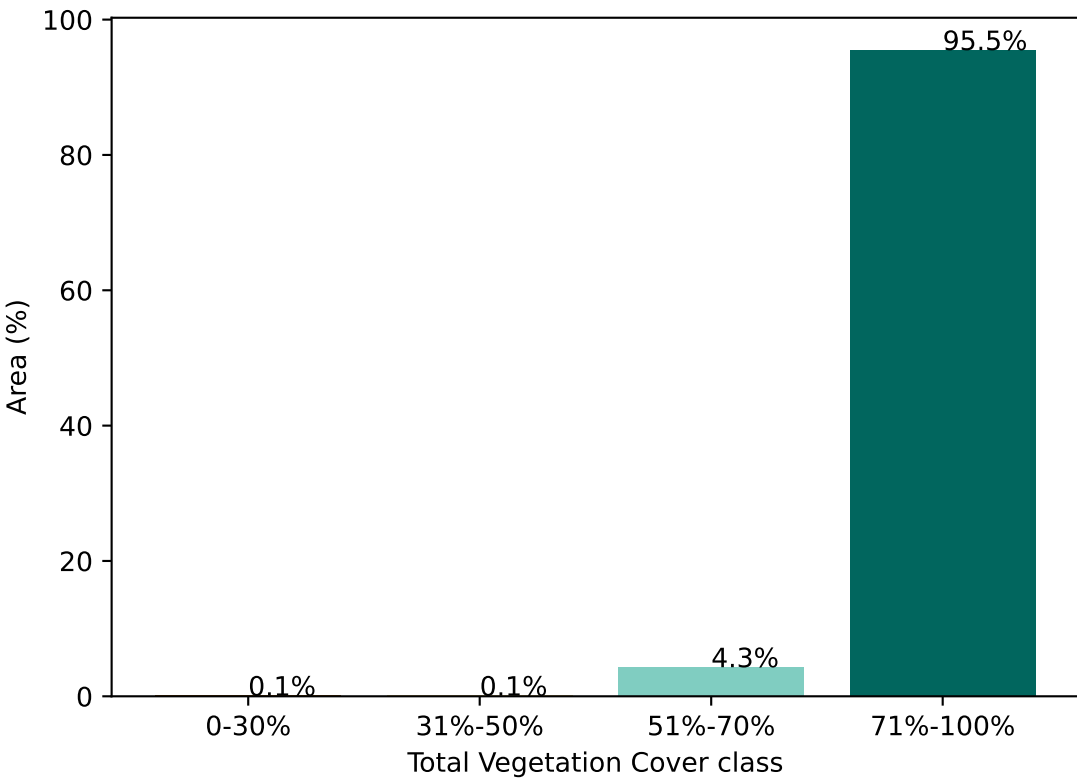
Proportion of each land class in area



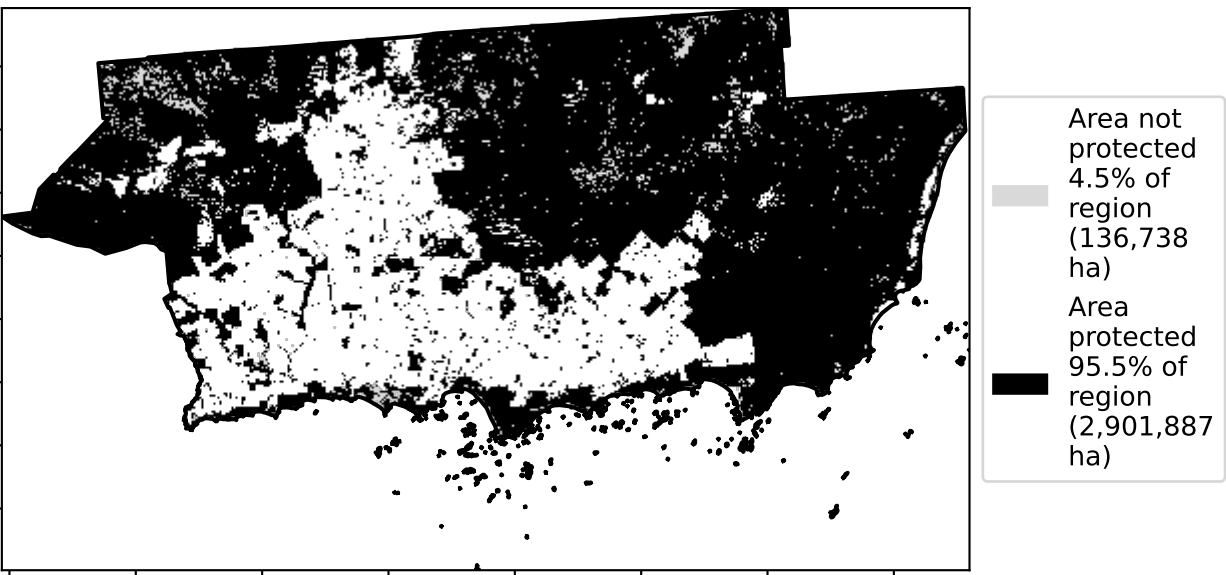
Total Vegetation Cover [%]



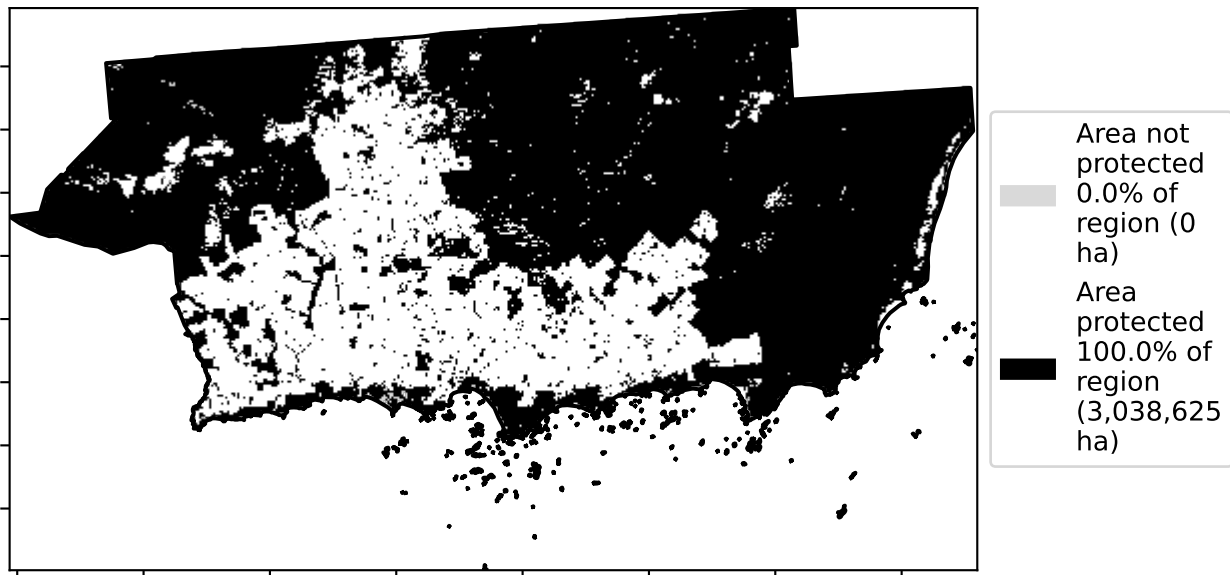
Proportion of vegetation cover class in area



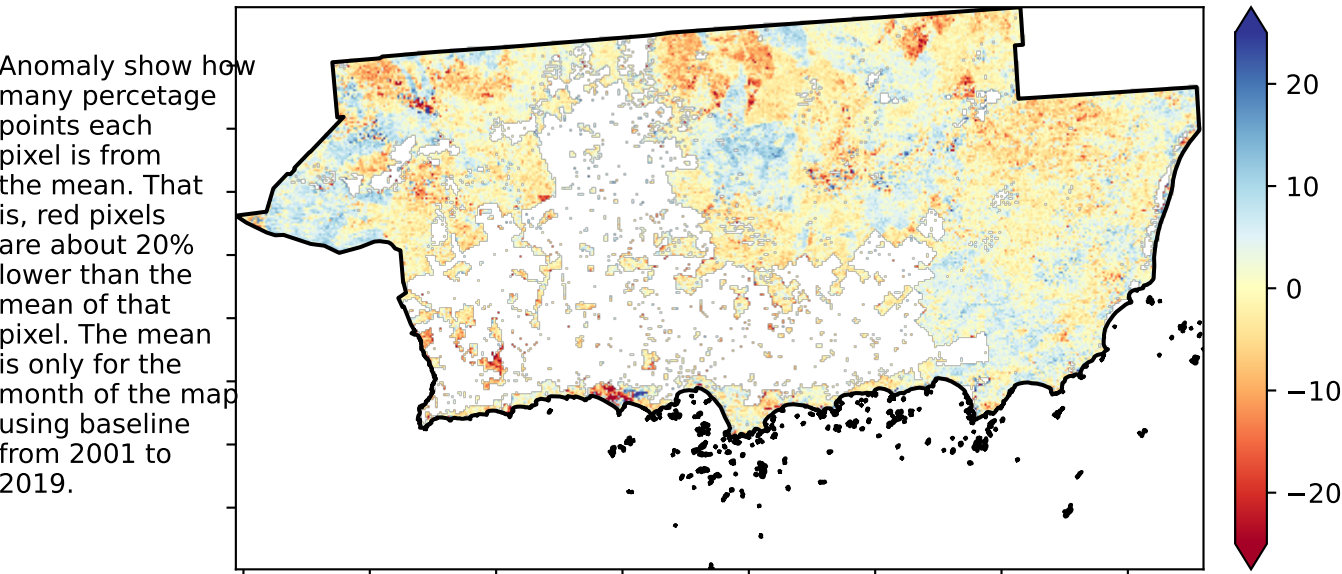
% Area protected from water erosion (>70%)



% Area protected from wind erosion (>50%)

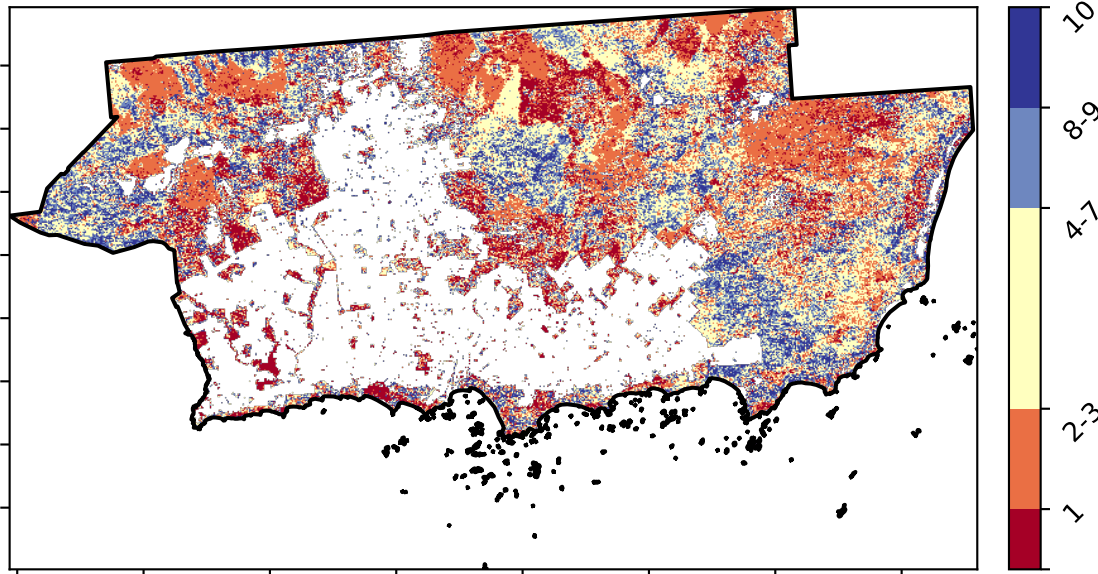


Total Vegetation Cover Anomaly [%]



Total Vegetation Cover Decile [%]

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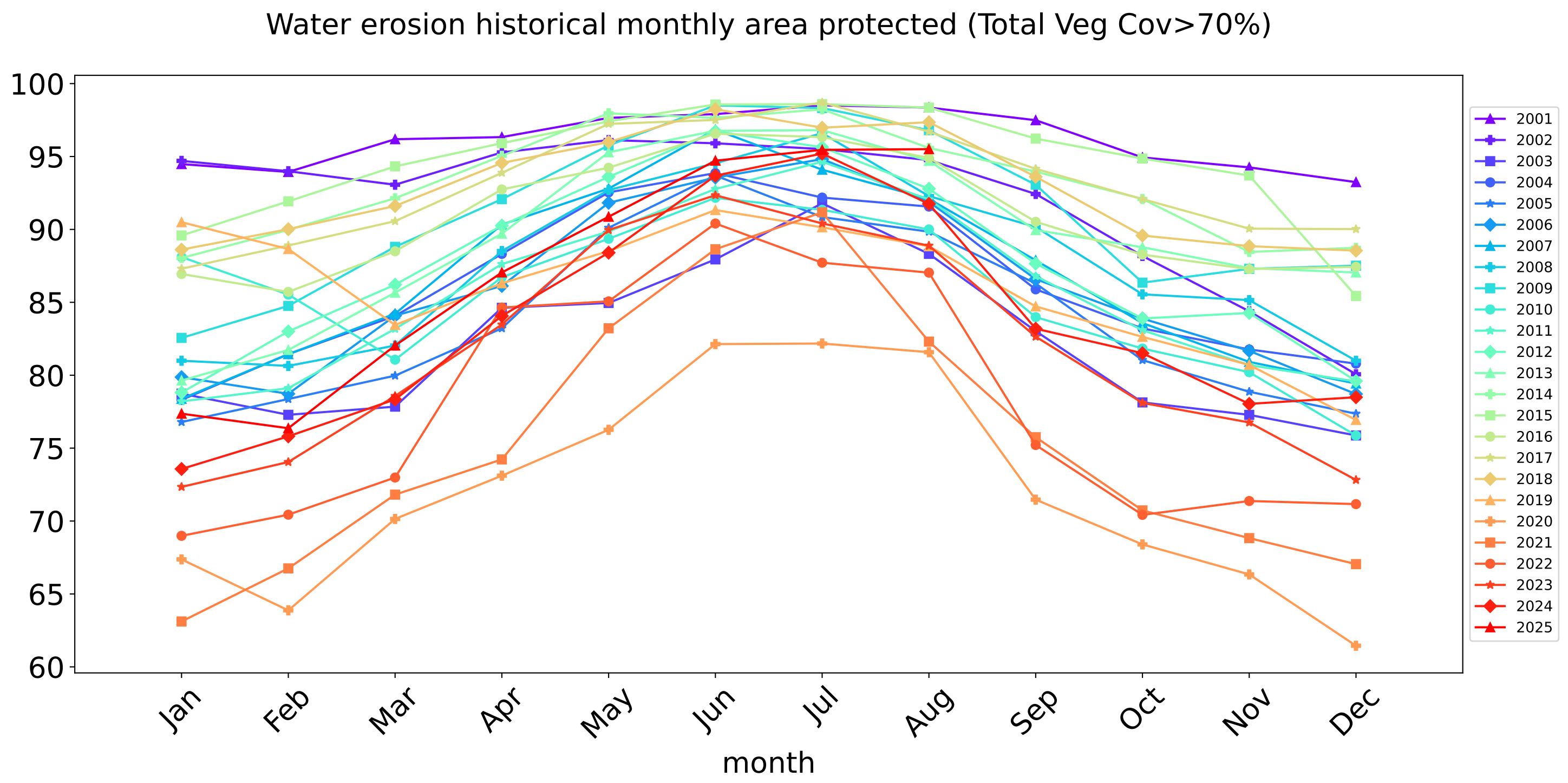
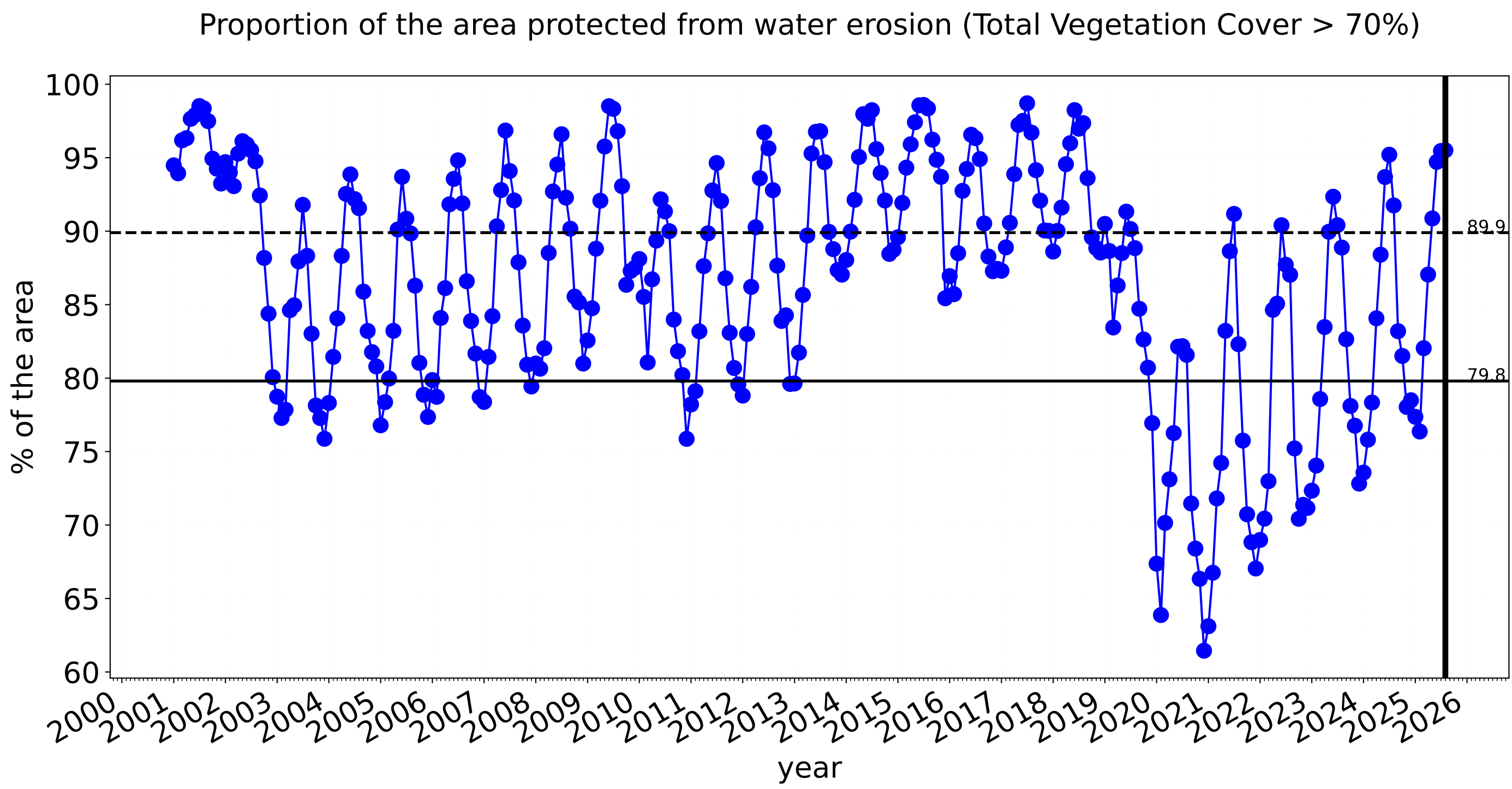
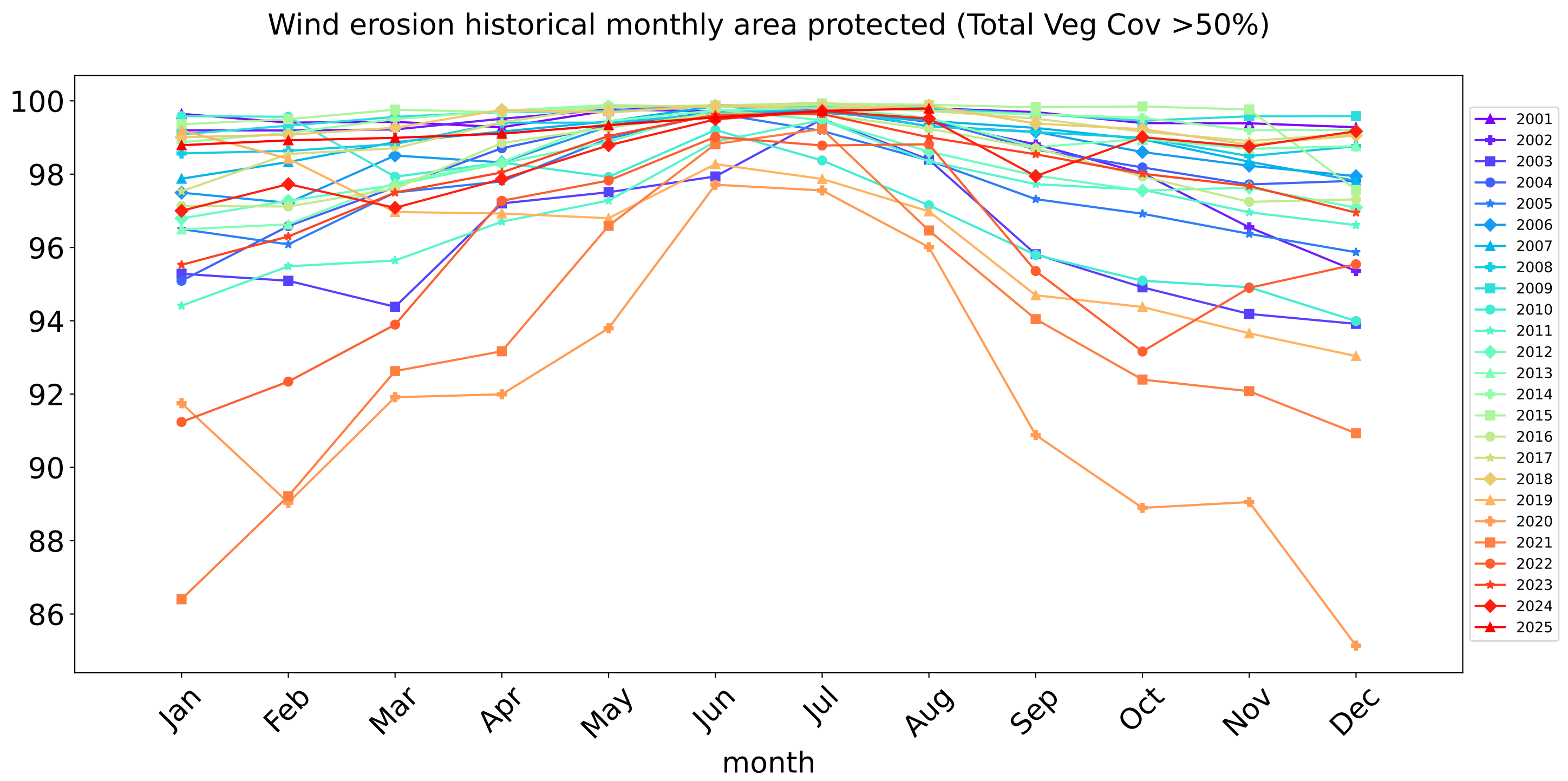
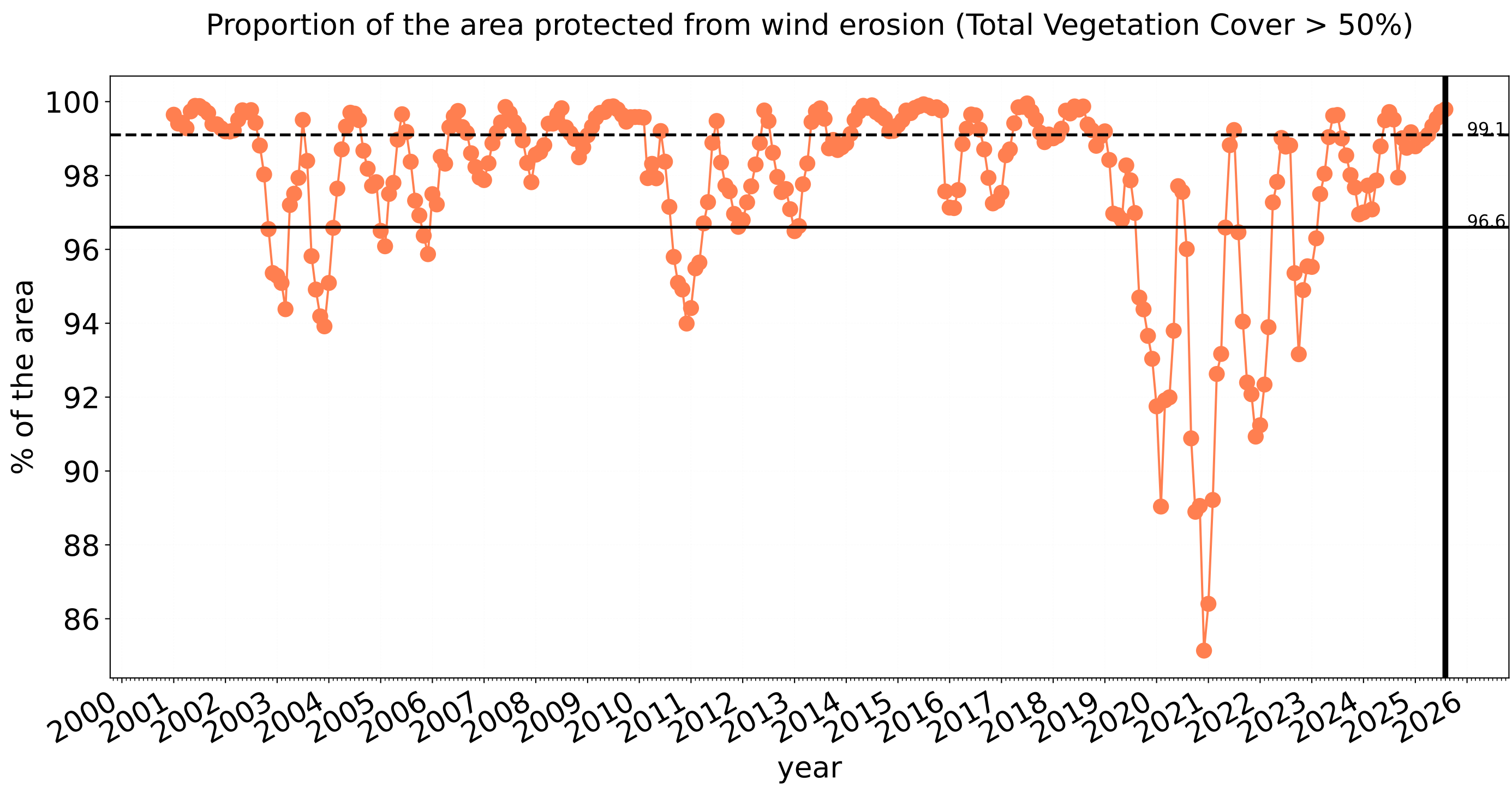


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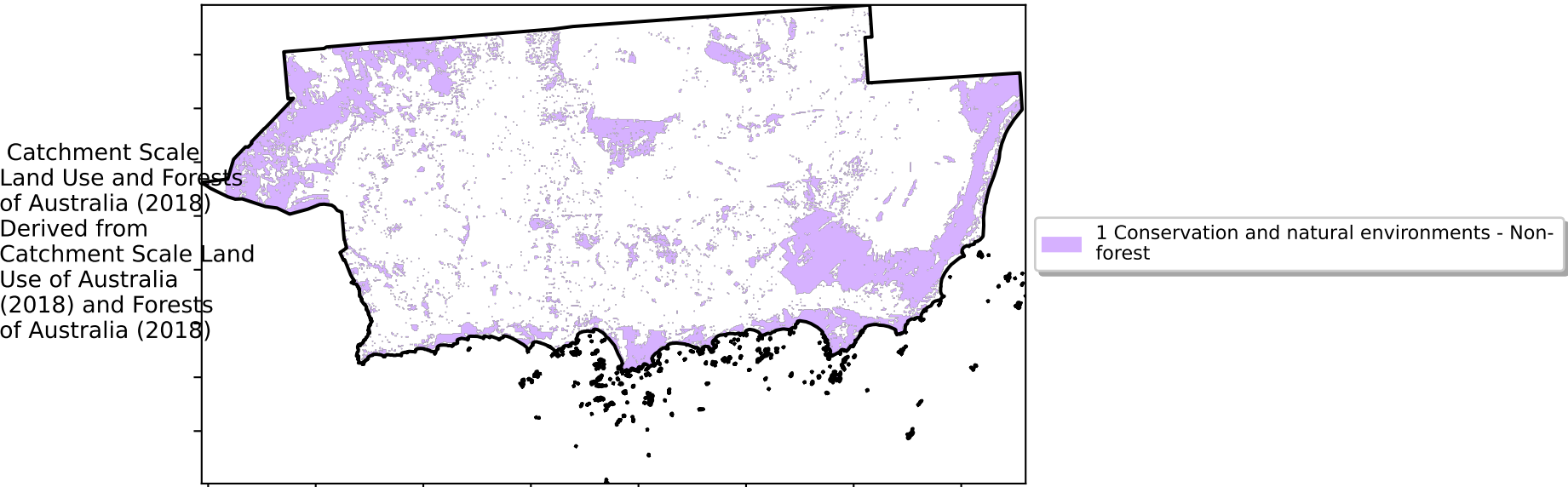


Conservation and natural environments timeseries

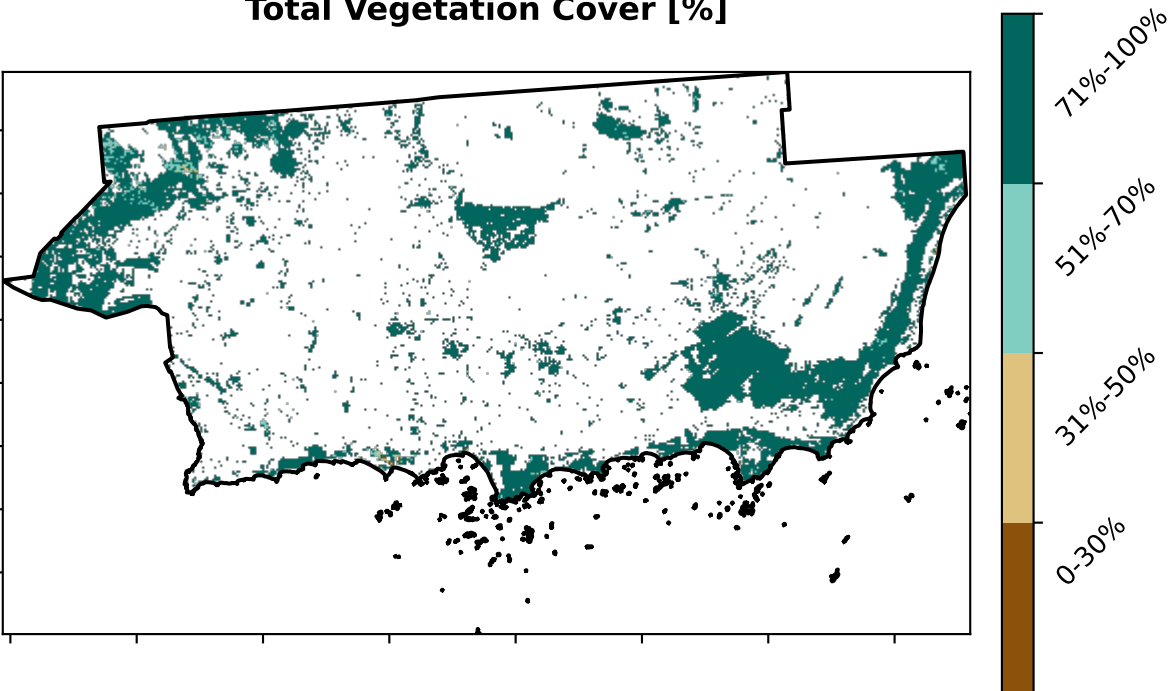


Conservation and natural environments non forest

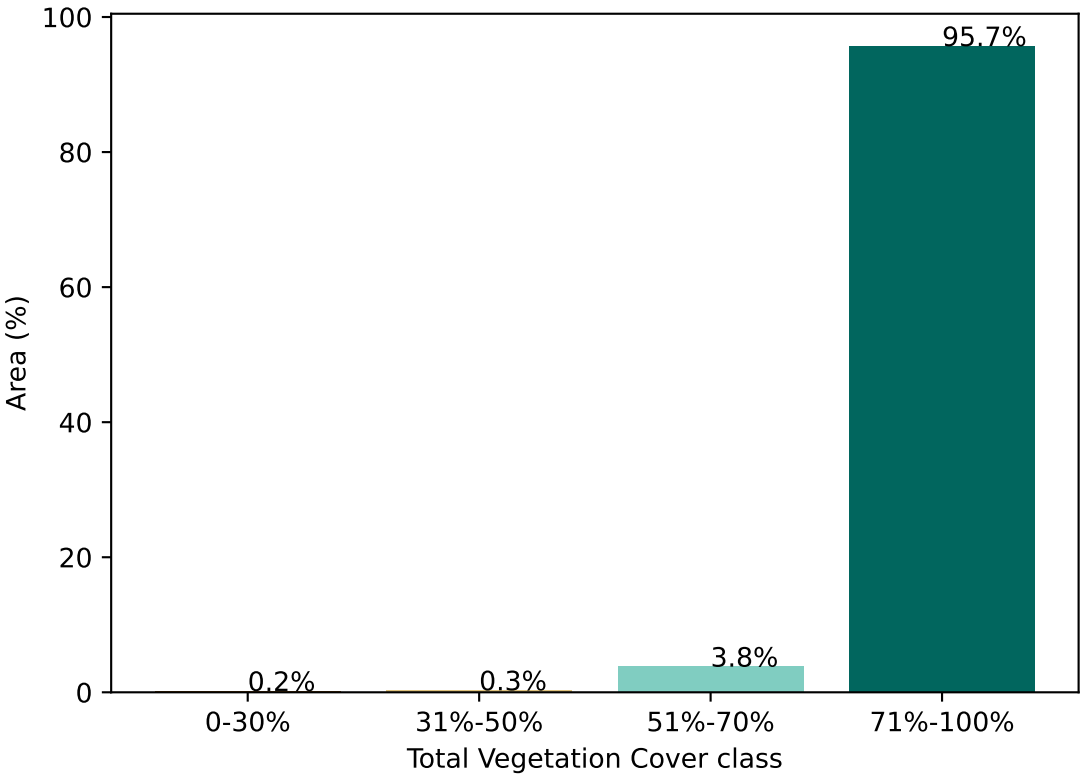
Land use and forest cover



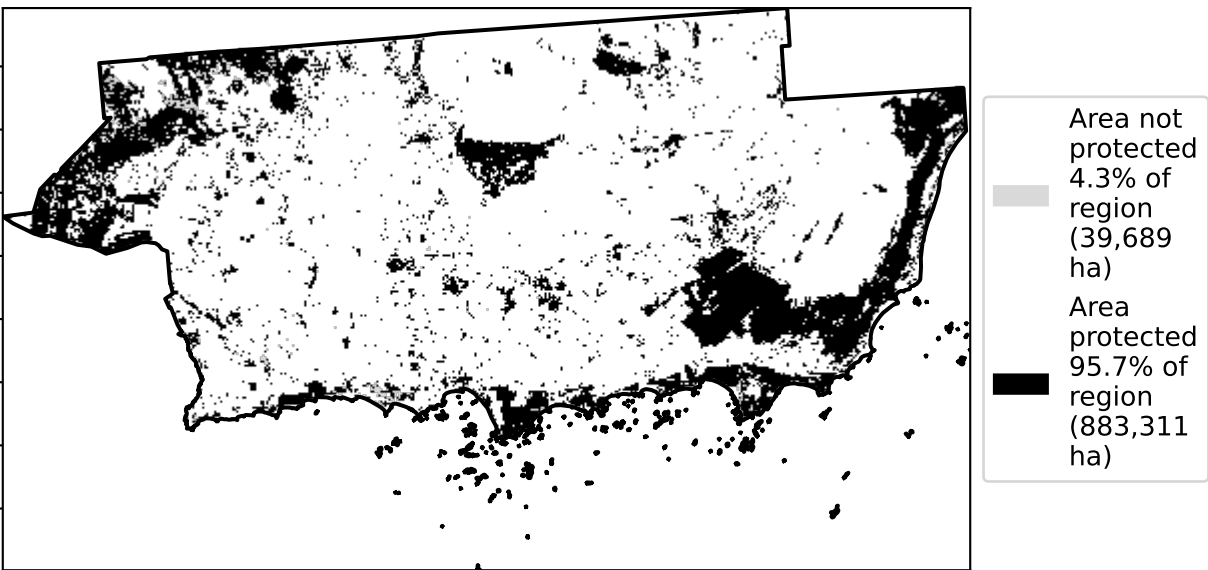
Total Vegetation Cover [%]



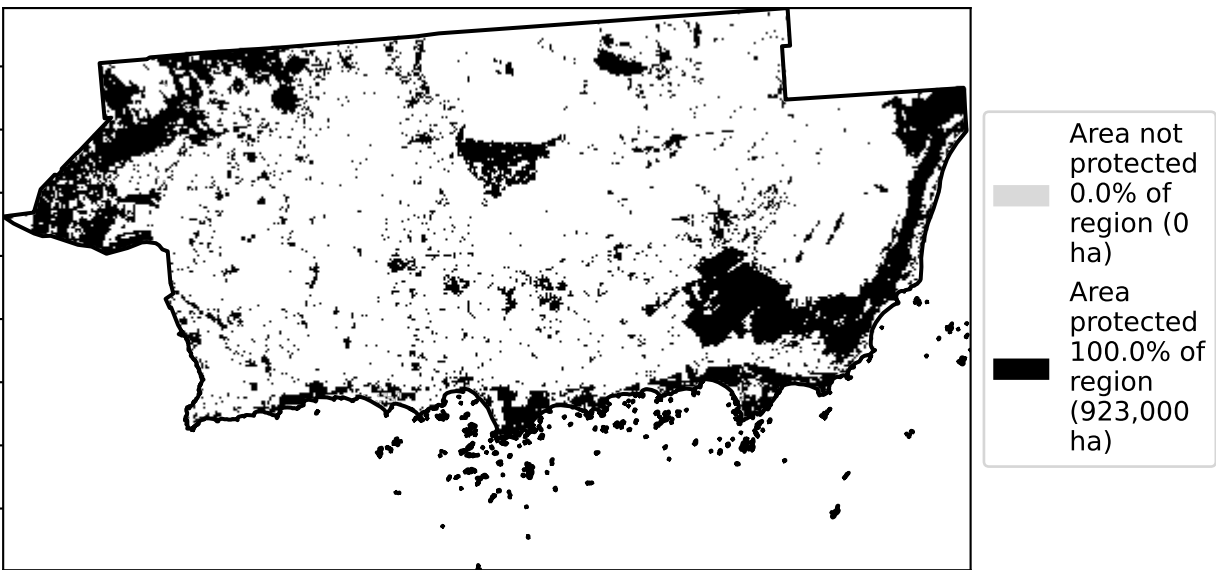
Proportion of vegetation cover class in area



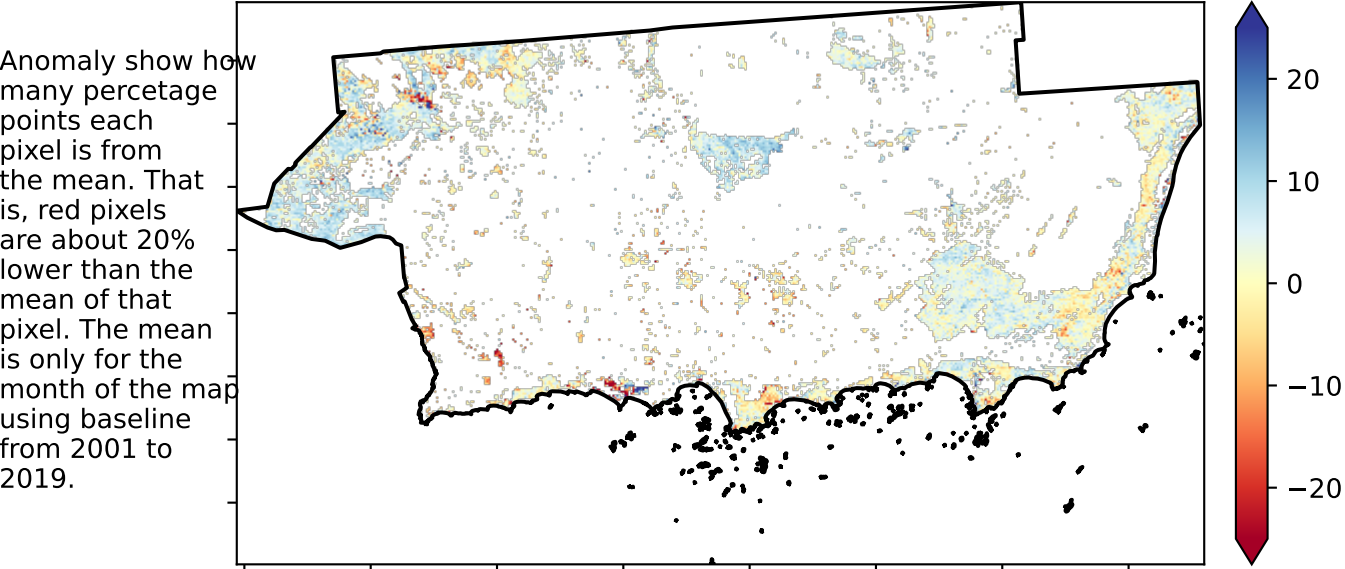
% Area protected from water erosion (>70%)



% Area protected from wind erosion (>50%)

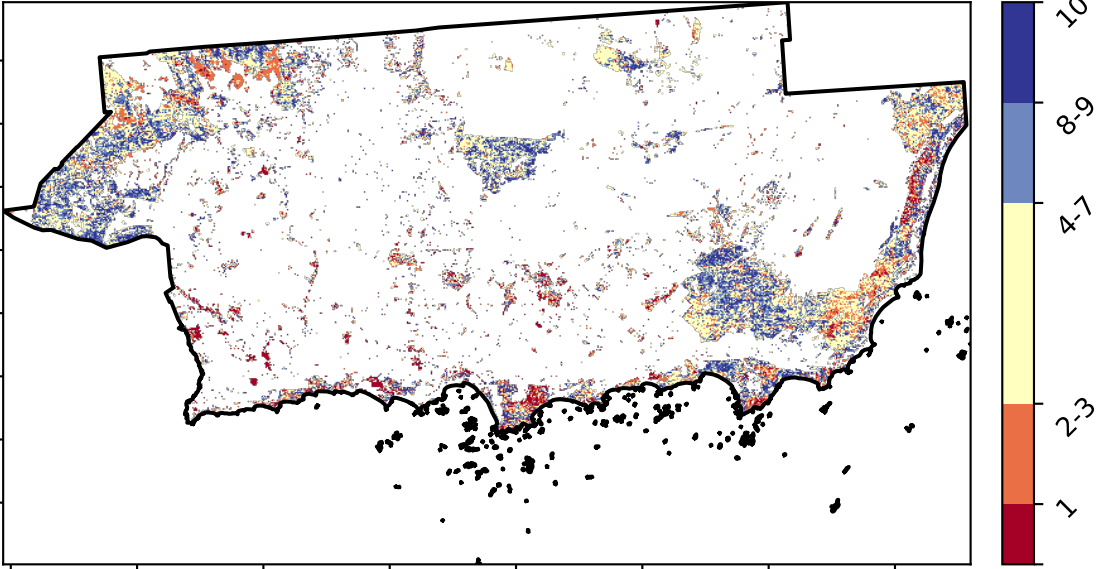


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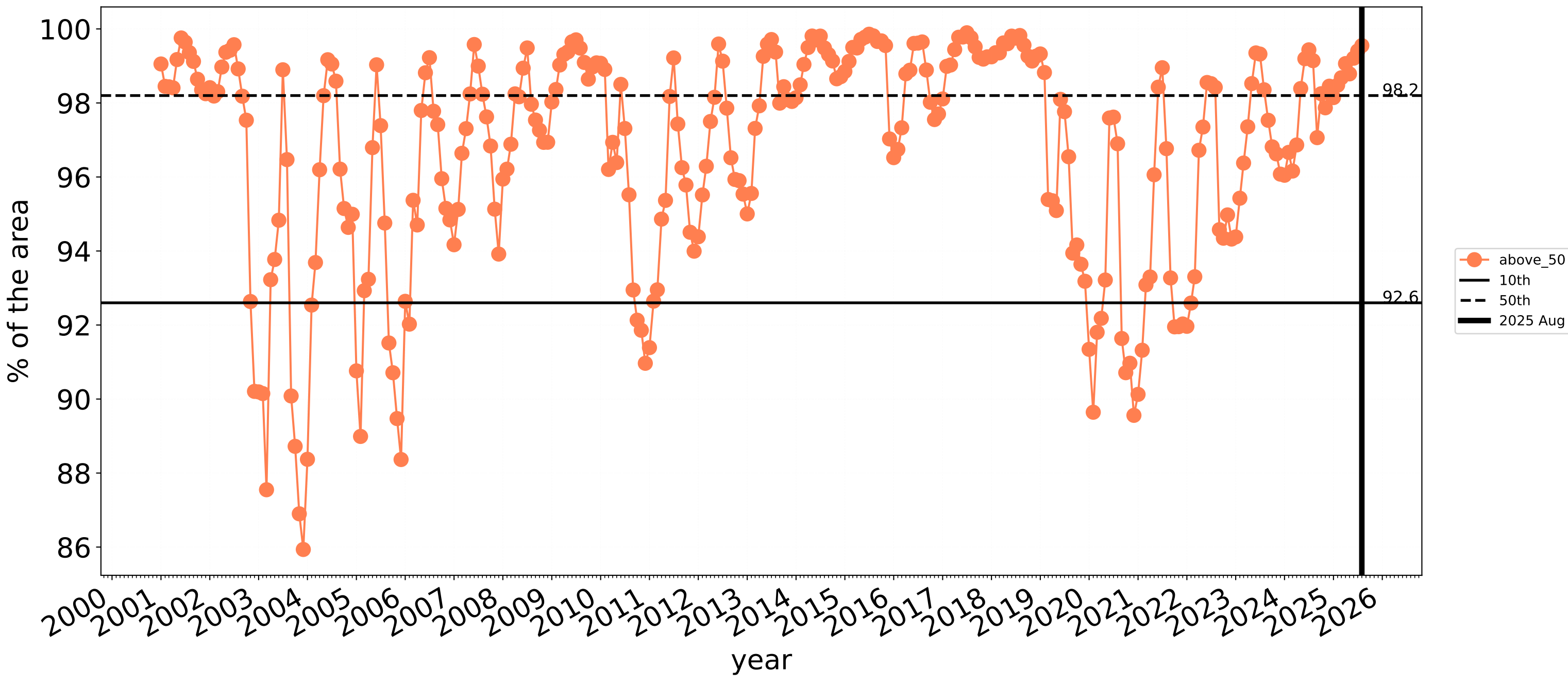


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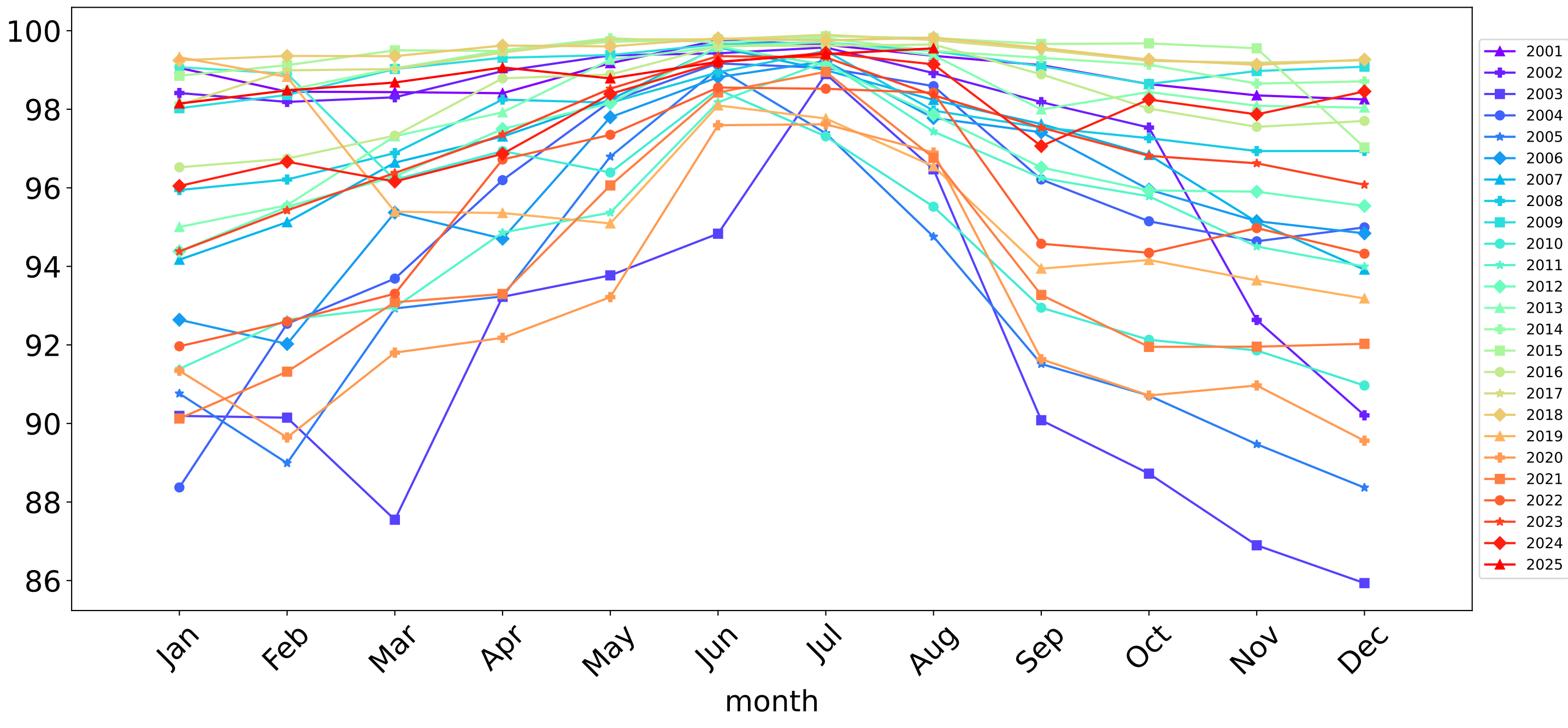


Conservation and natural environments non forest timeseries

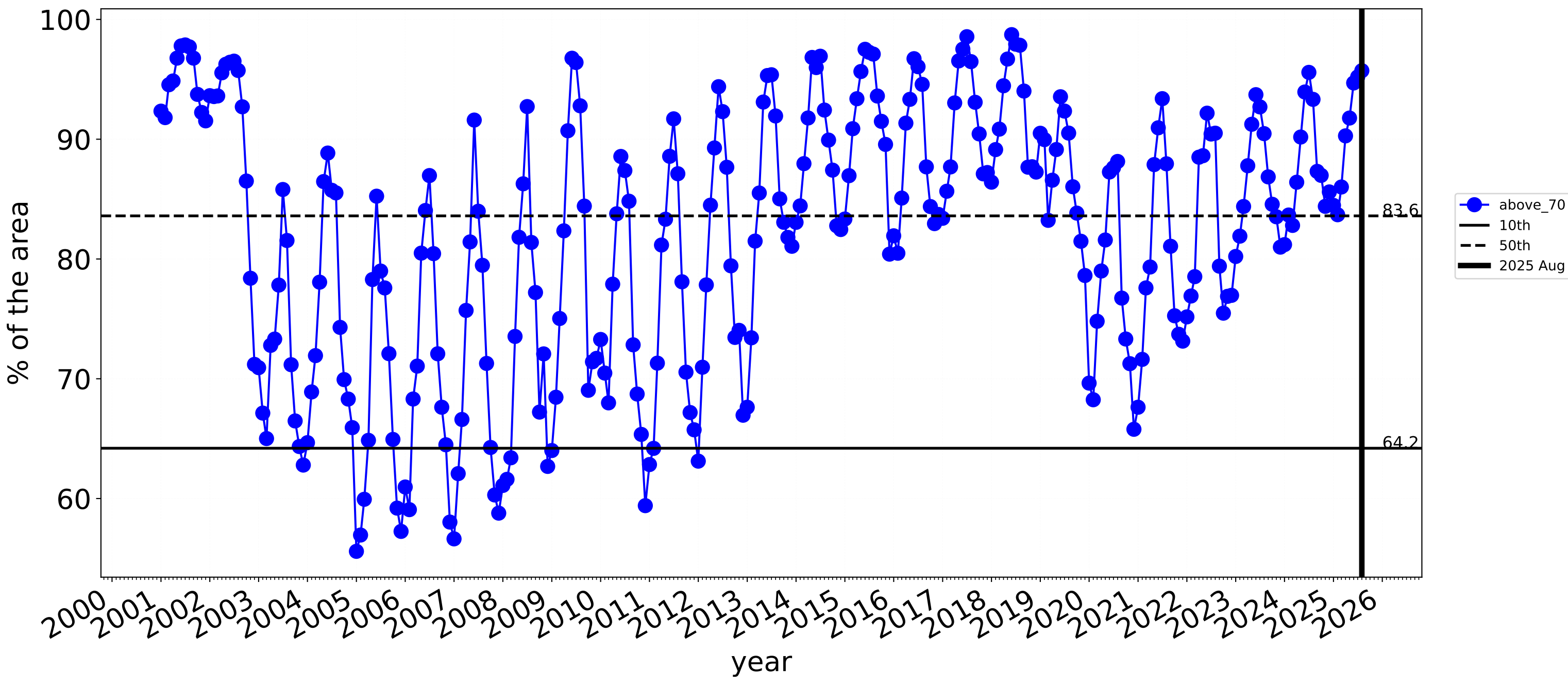
Proportion of the area protected from wind erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 50%)



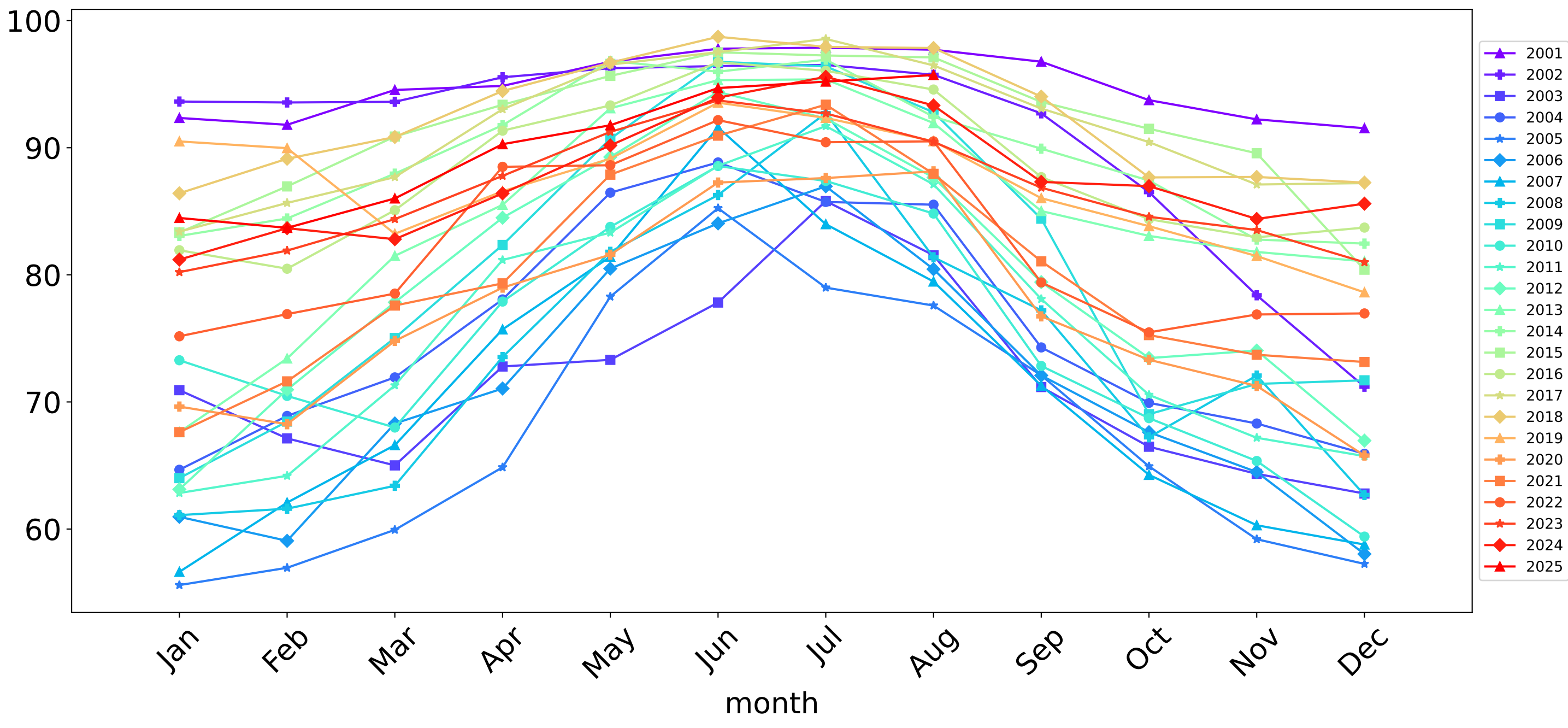
Wind erosion historical monthly area protected (Total Veg Cov >50%)



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

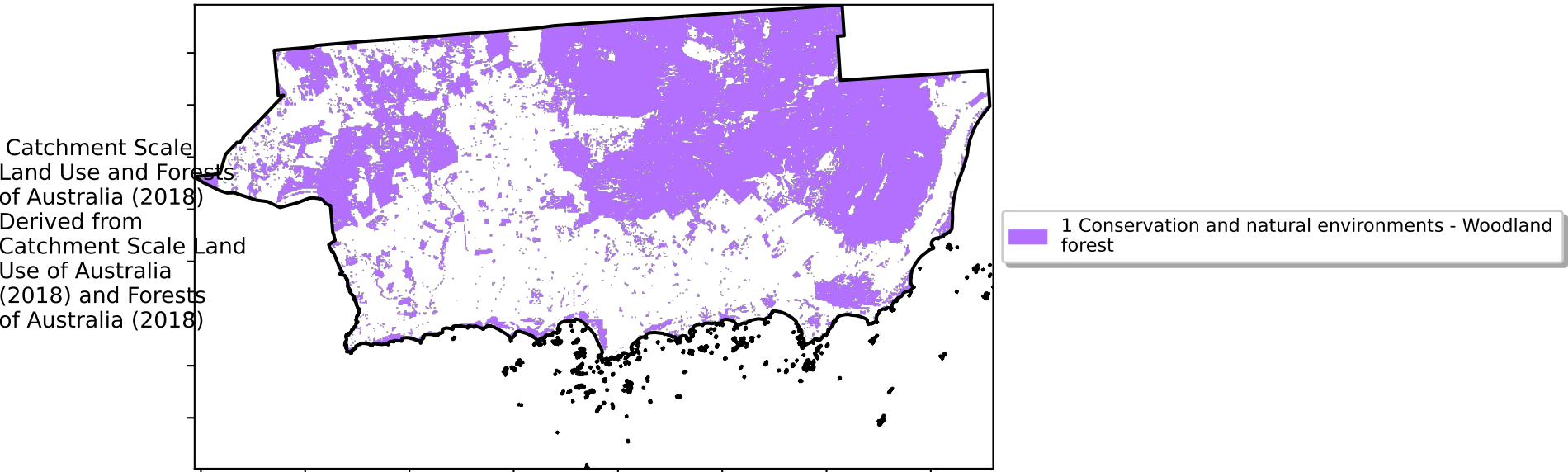


Water erosion historical monthly area protected (Total Veg Cov>70%)

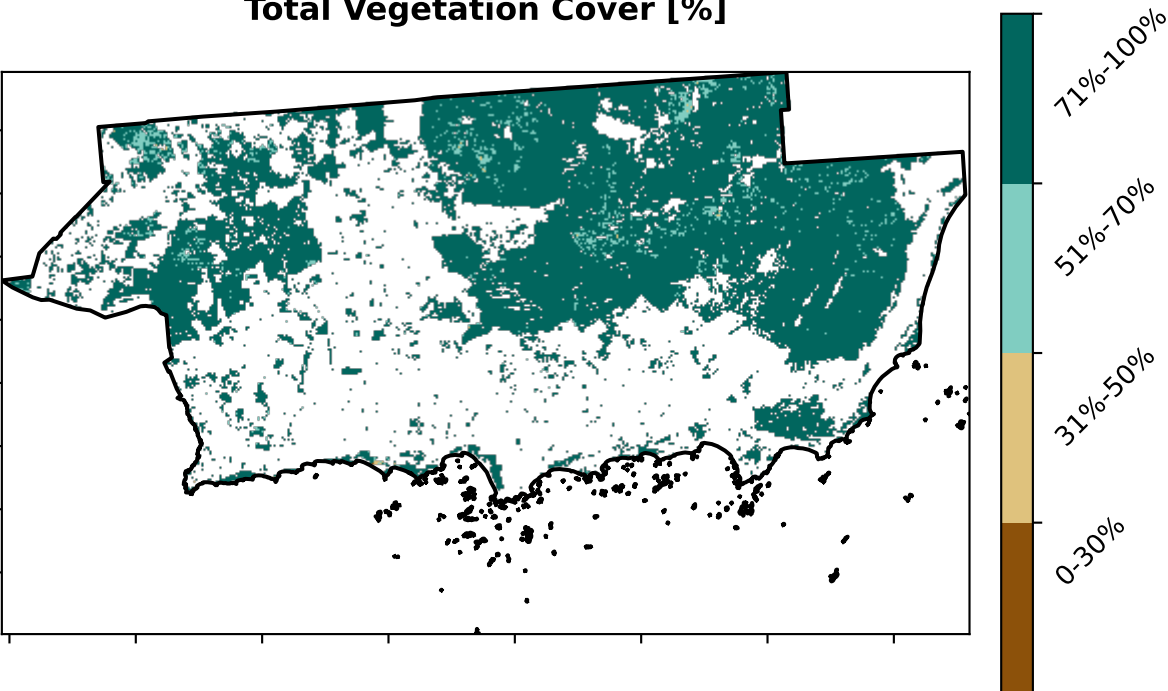


Conservation and natural environments Woodland forest

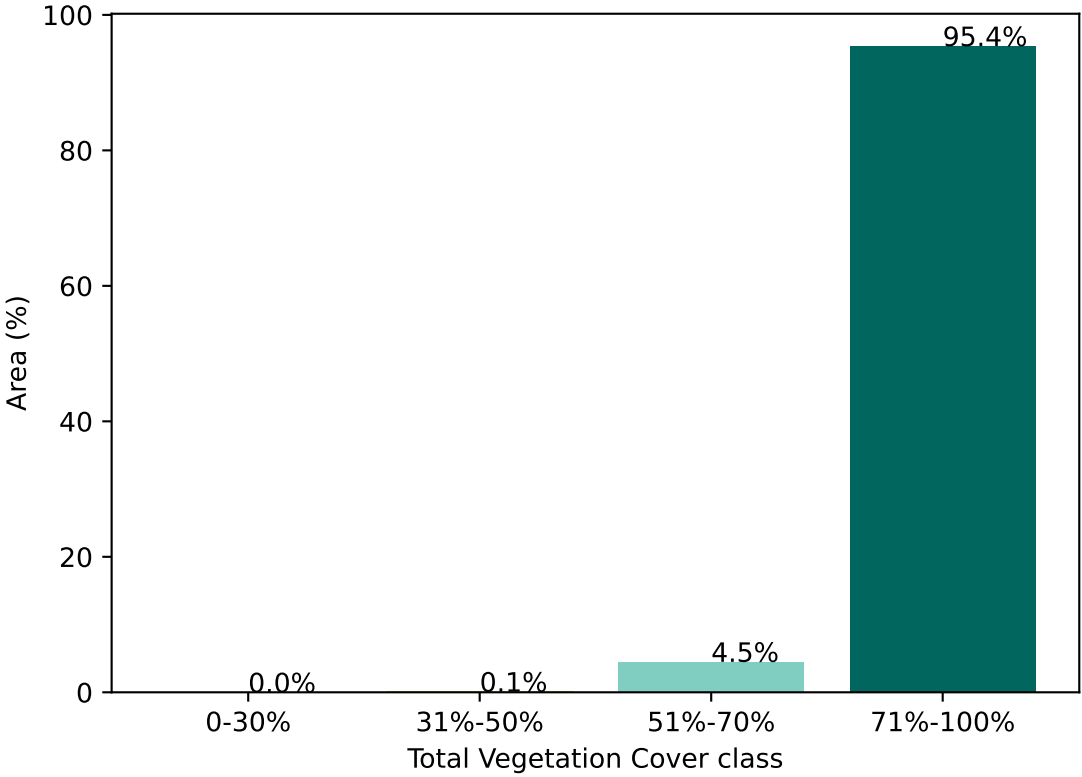
Land use and forest cover



Total Vegetation Cover [%]



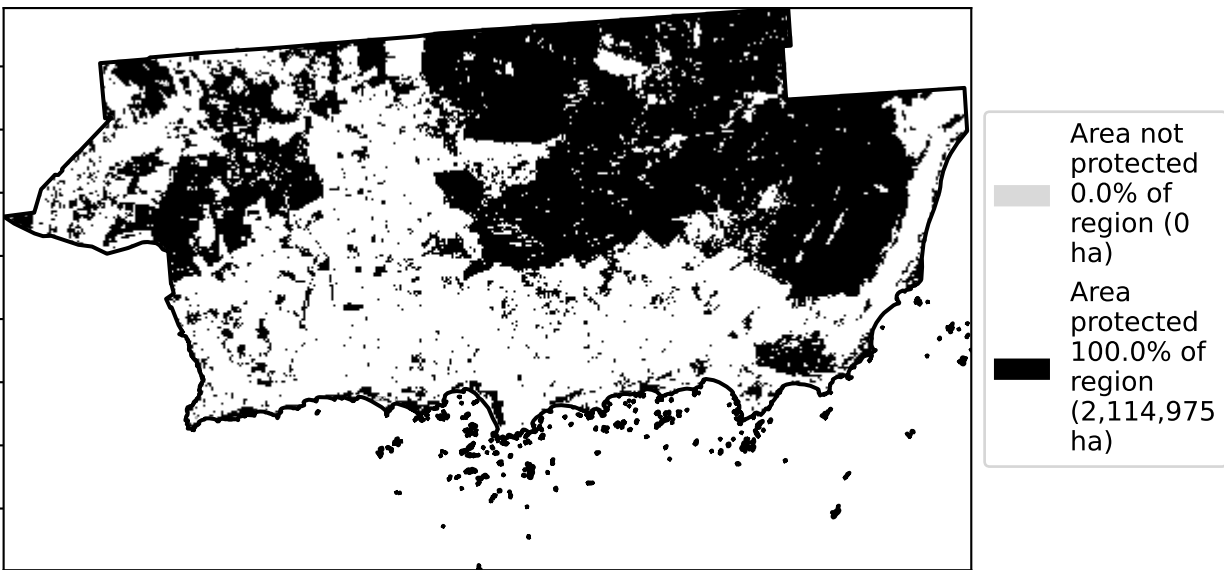
Proportion of vegetation cover class in area



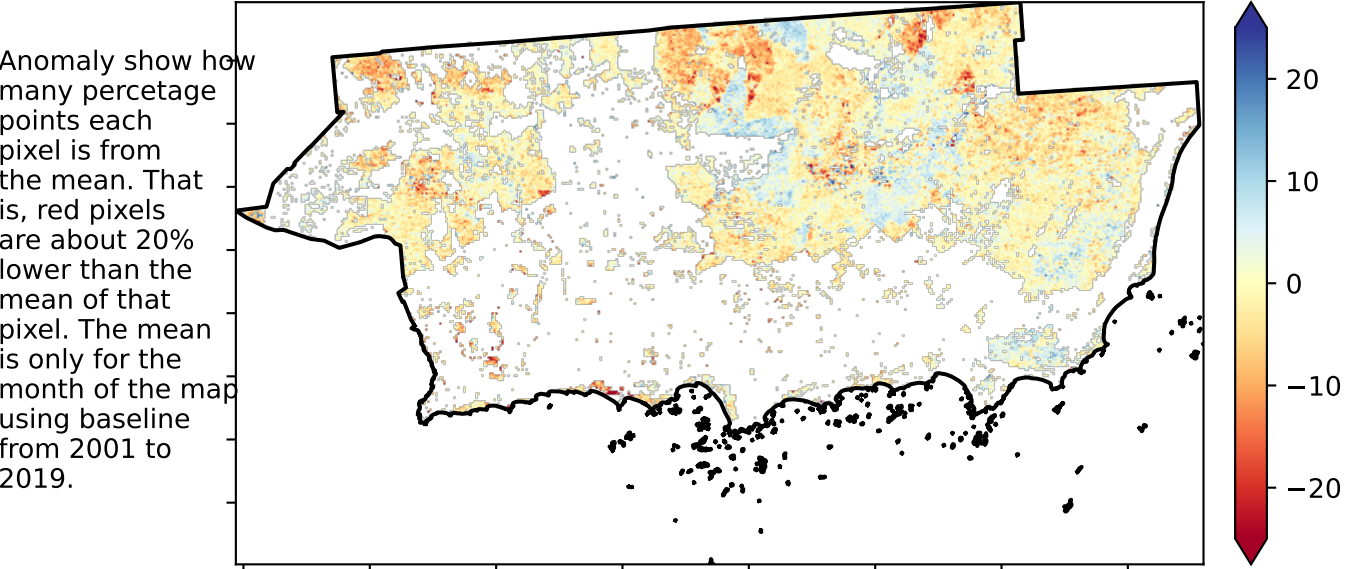
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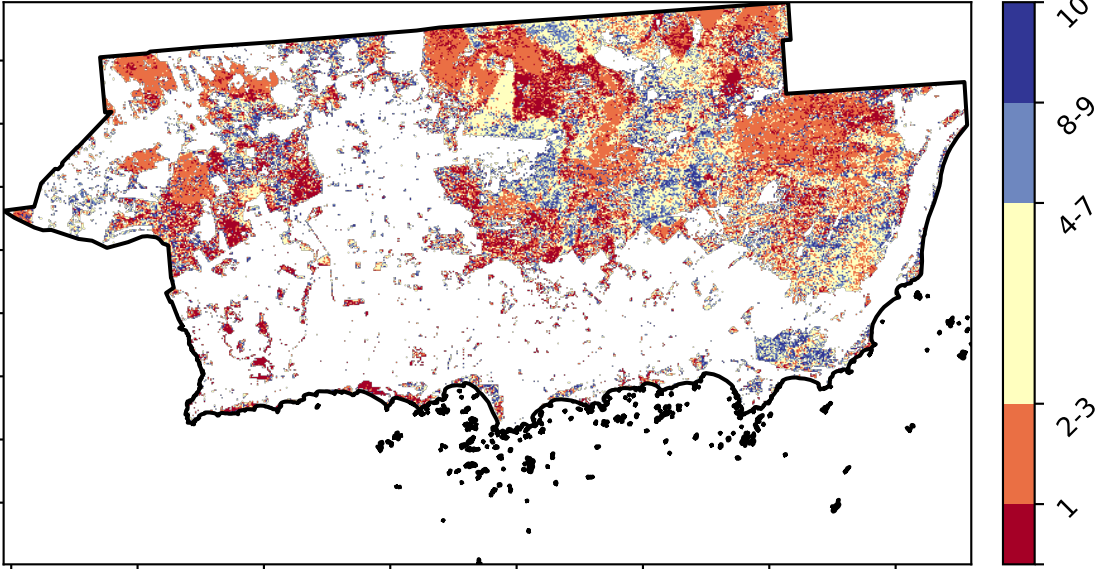


Total Vegetation Cover Anomaly [%]



Total Vegetation Cover Decile [%]

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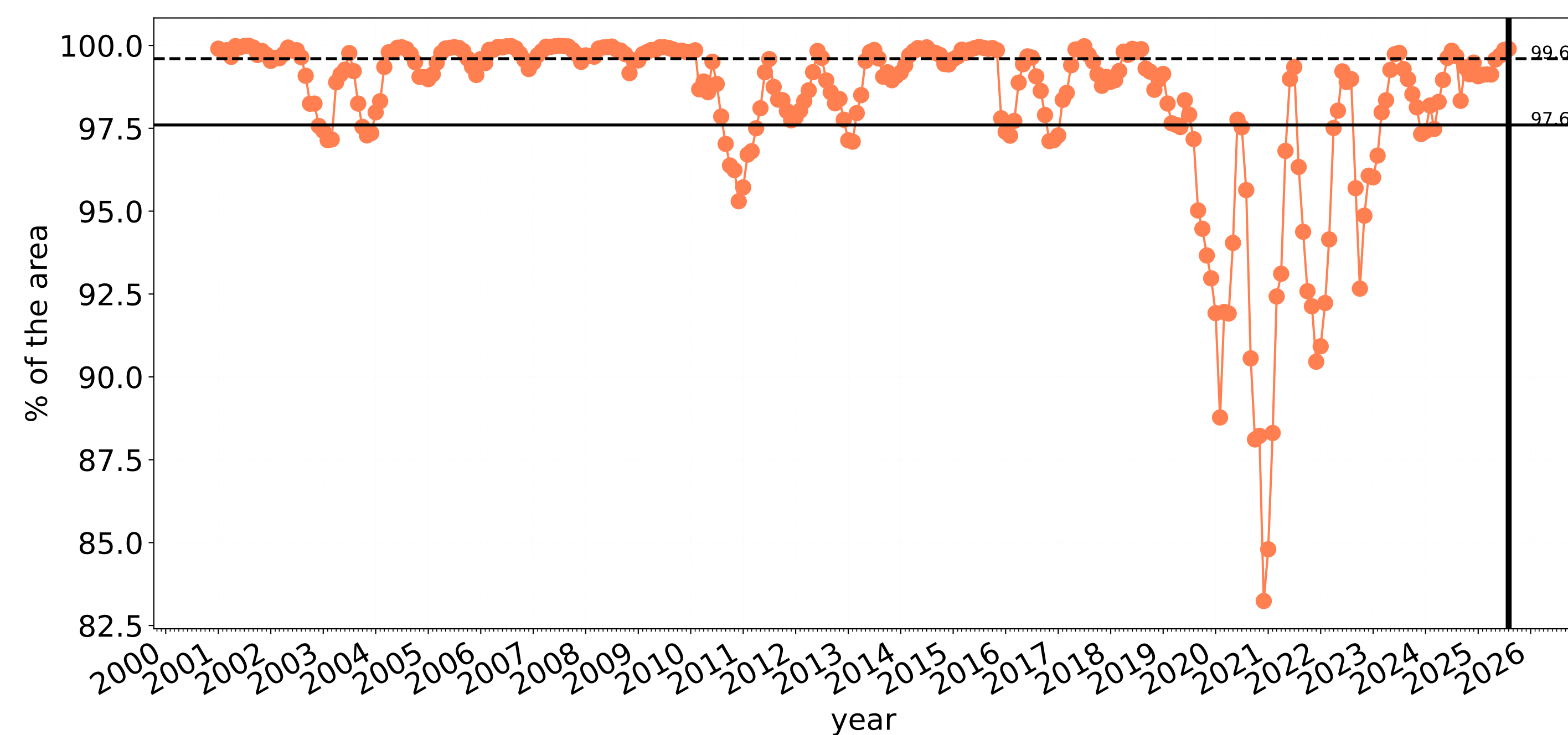
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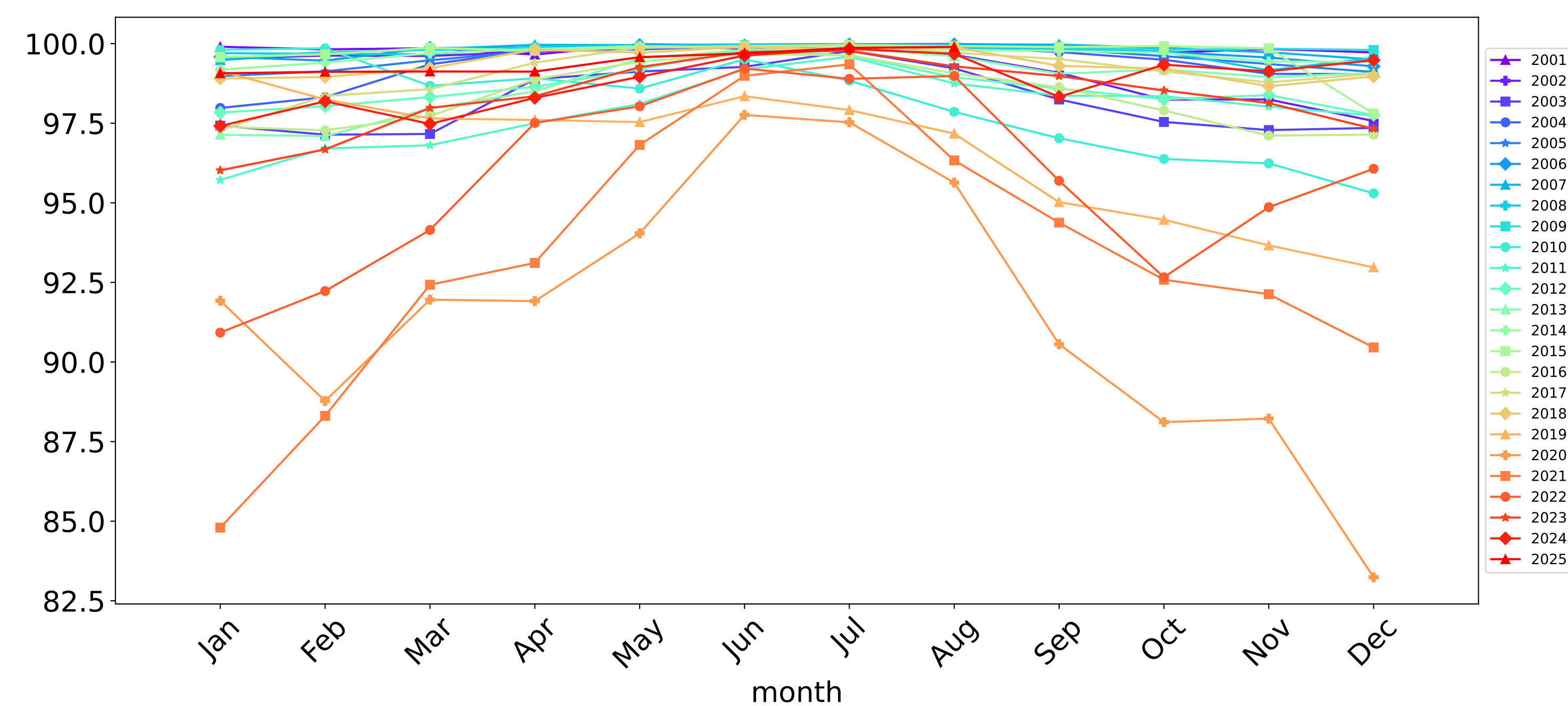


Conservation and natural environments Woodland forest timeseries

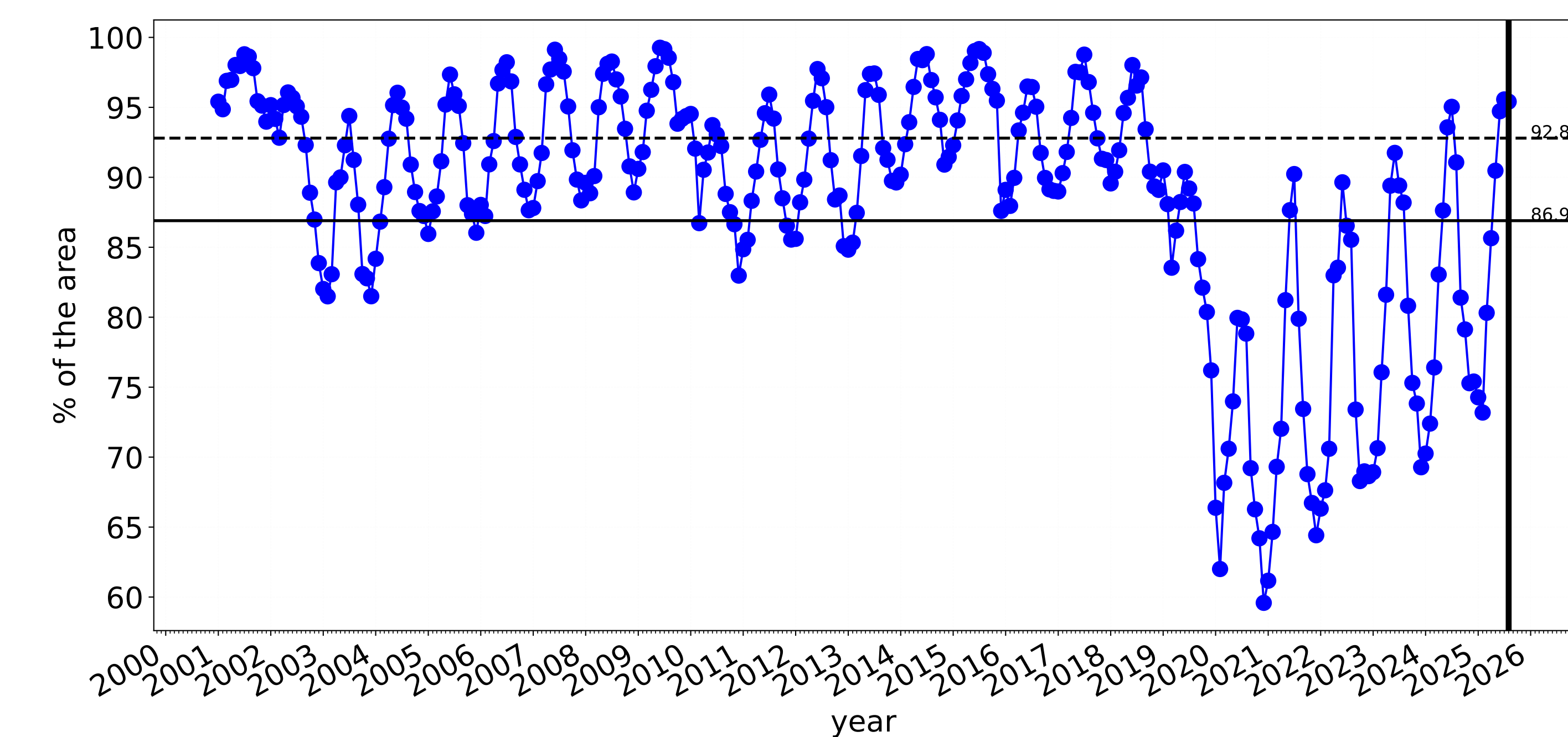
Proportion of the area protected from wind erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 50%)



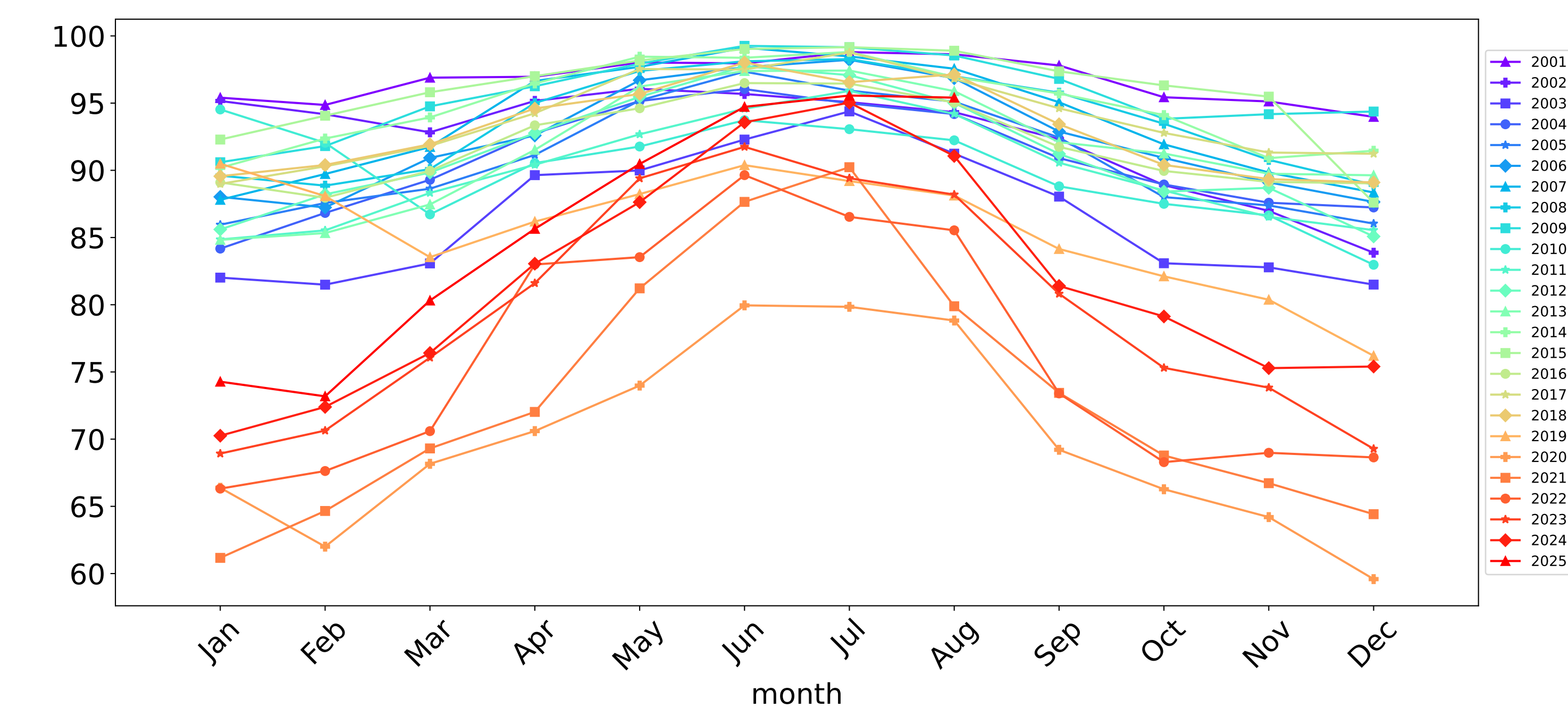
Wind erosion historical monthly area protected (Total Veg Cov >50%)



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

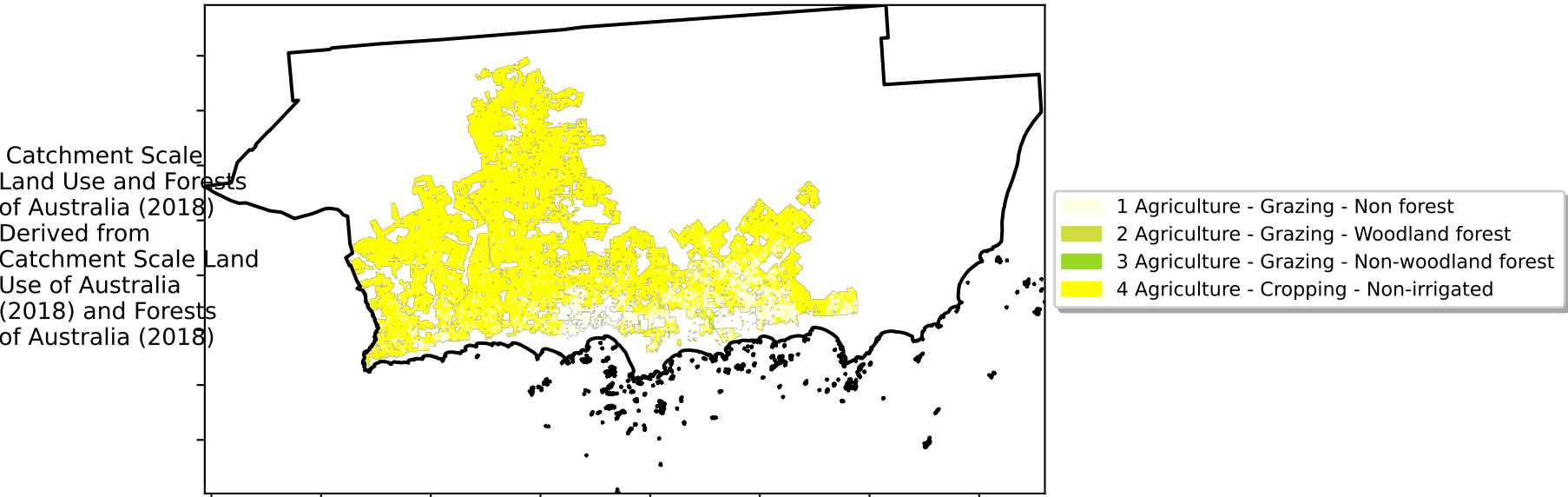


Water erosion historical monthly area protected (Total Veg Cov>70%)

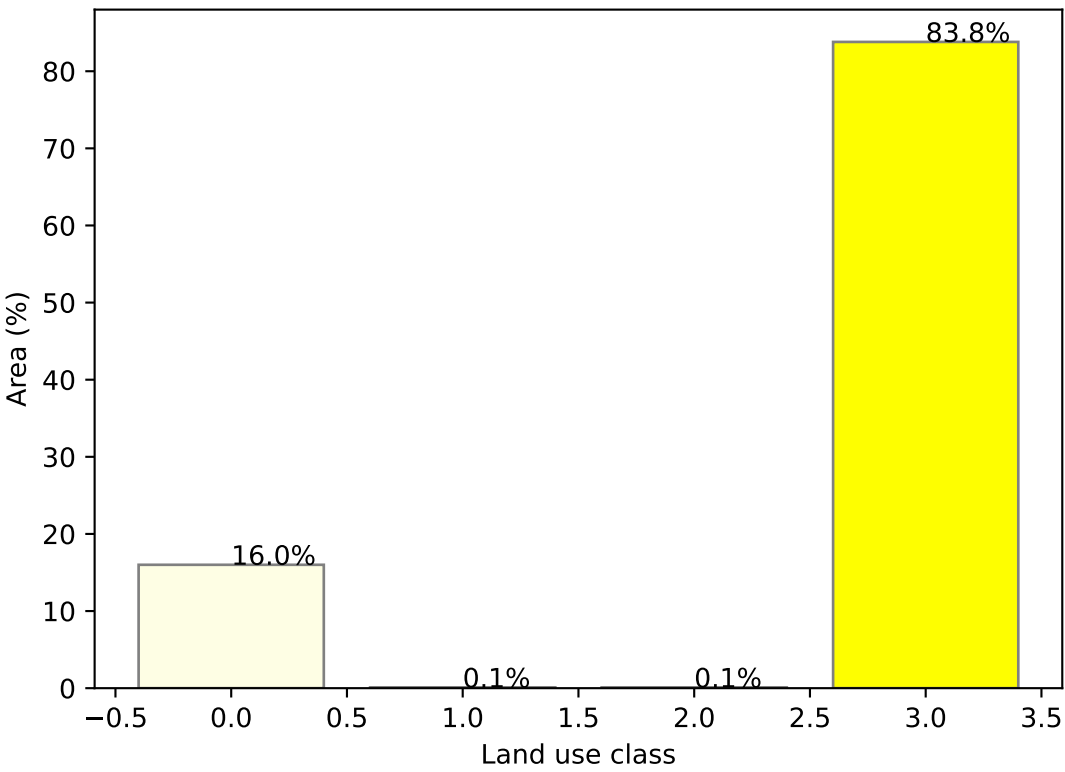


Agriculture

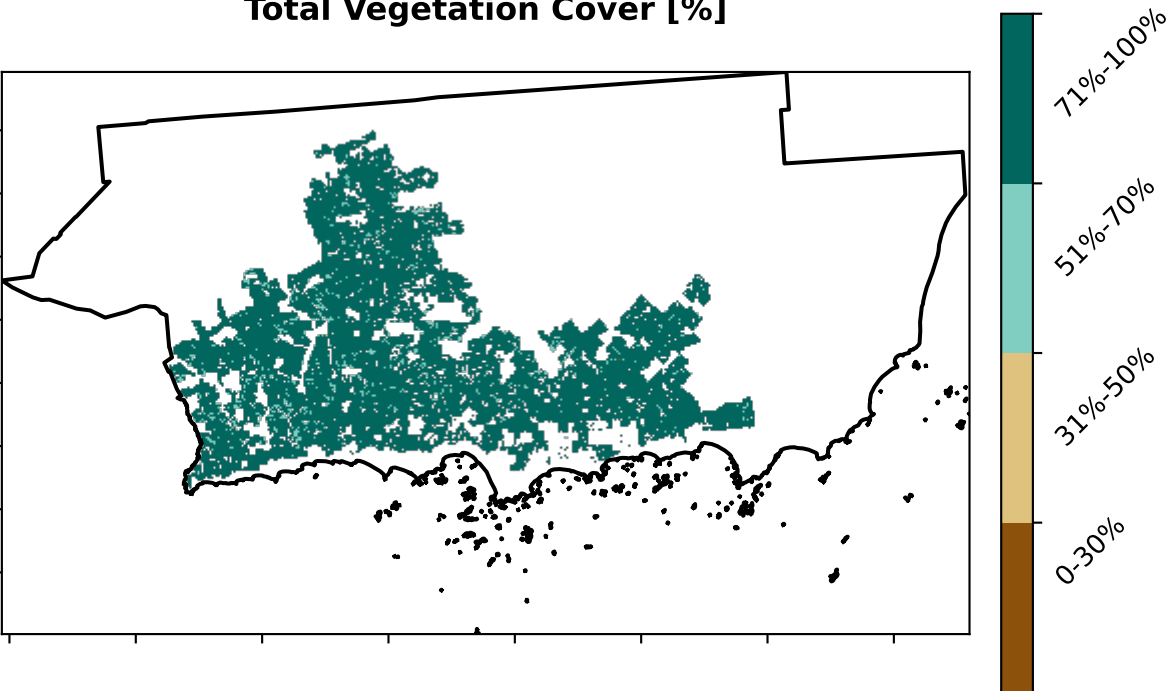
Land use and forest cover



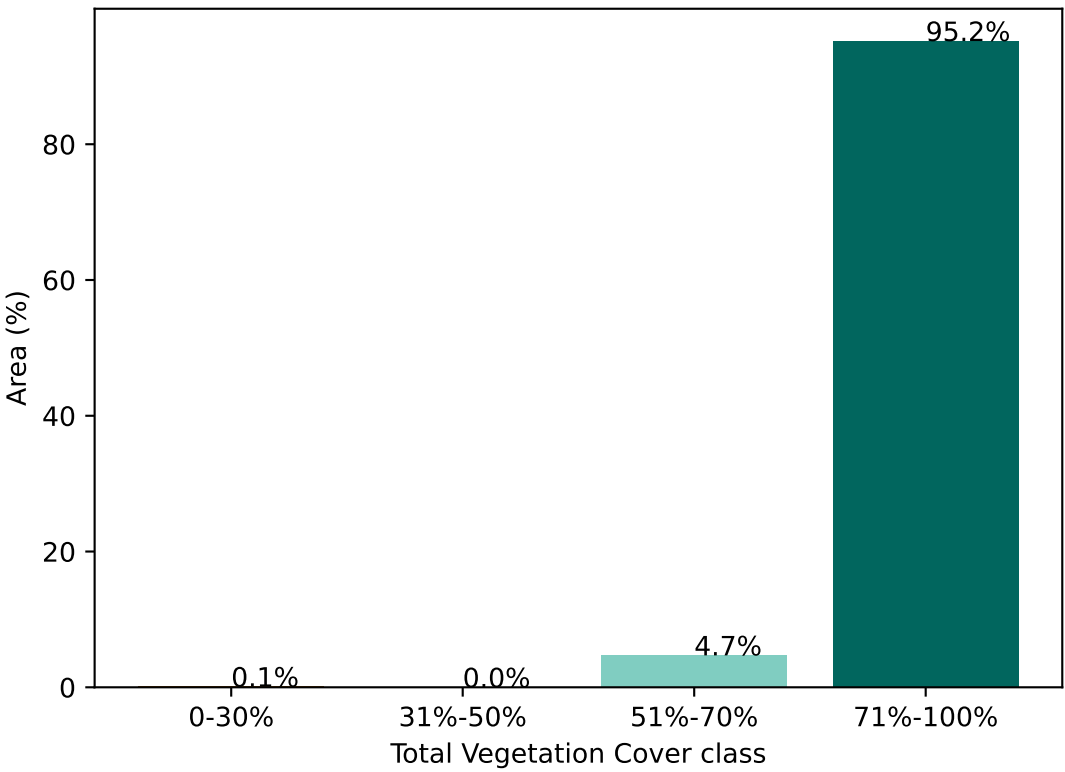
Proportion of each land class in area



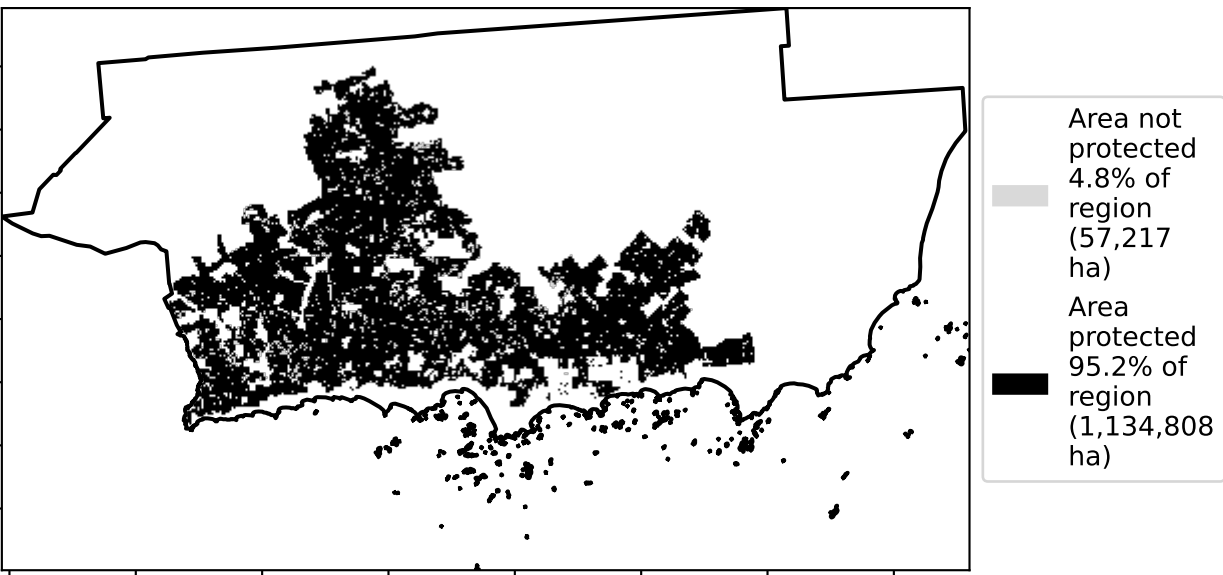
Total Vegetation Cover [%]



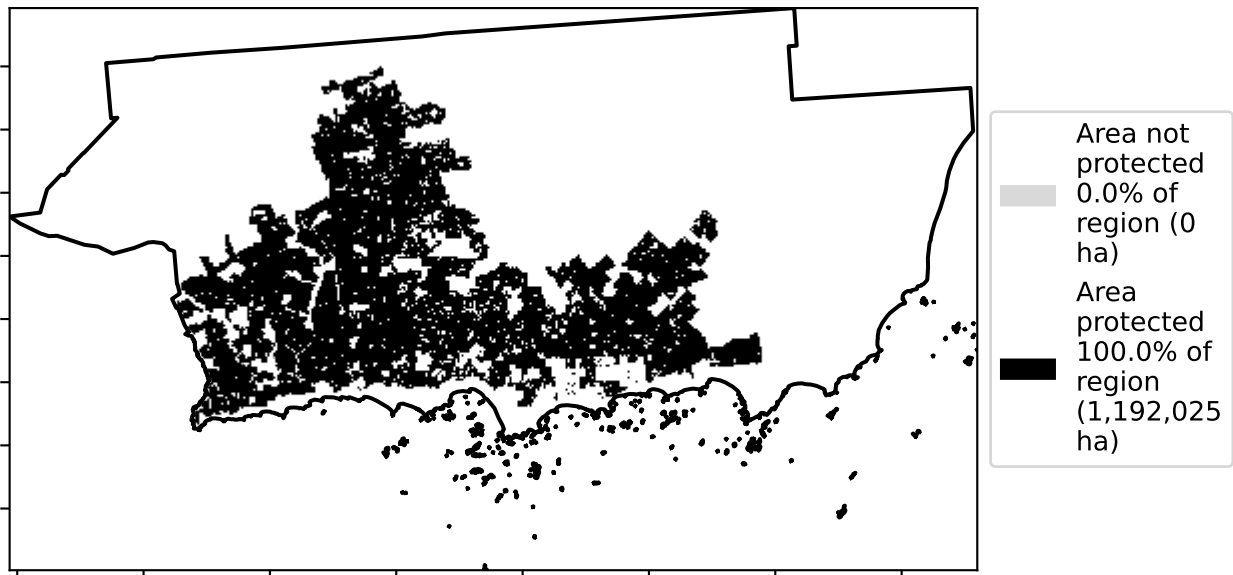
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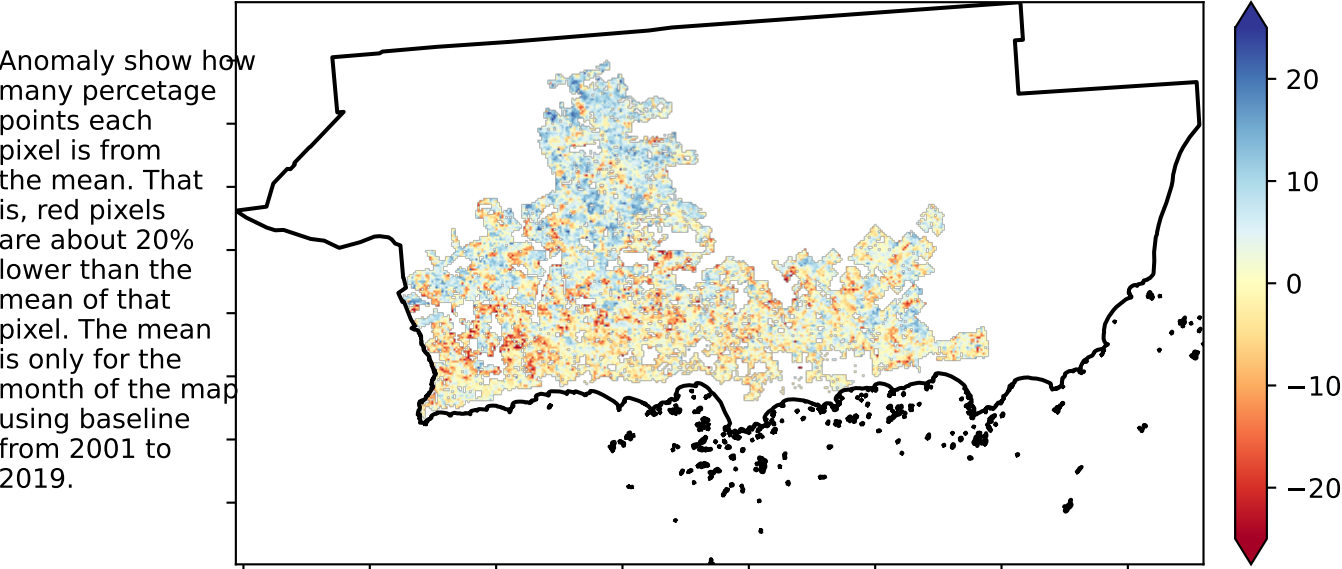
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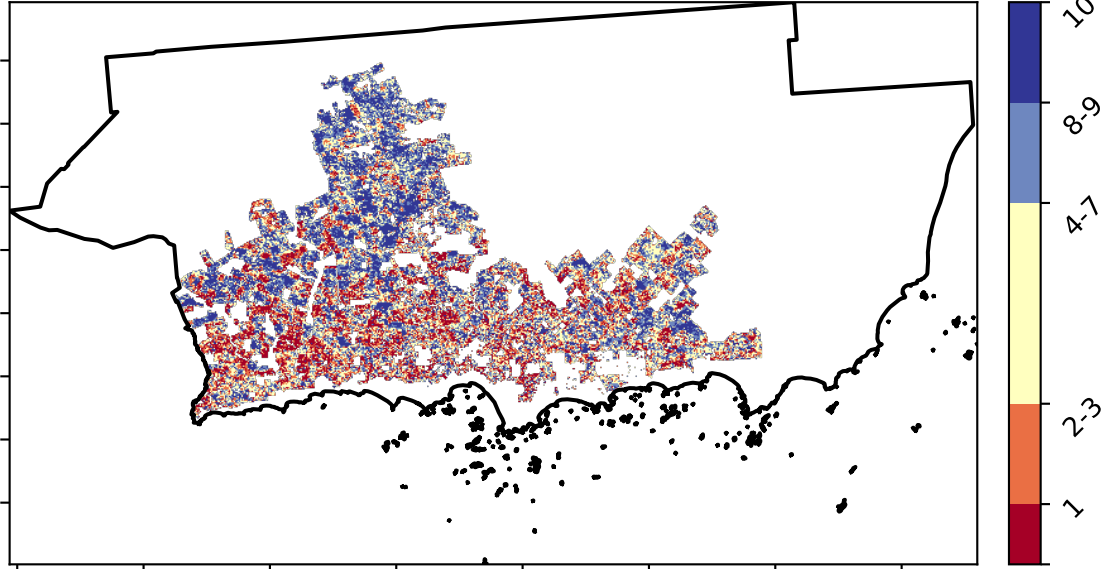


Total Vegetation Cover Anomaly [%]



Total Vegetation Cover Decile [%]

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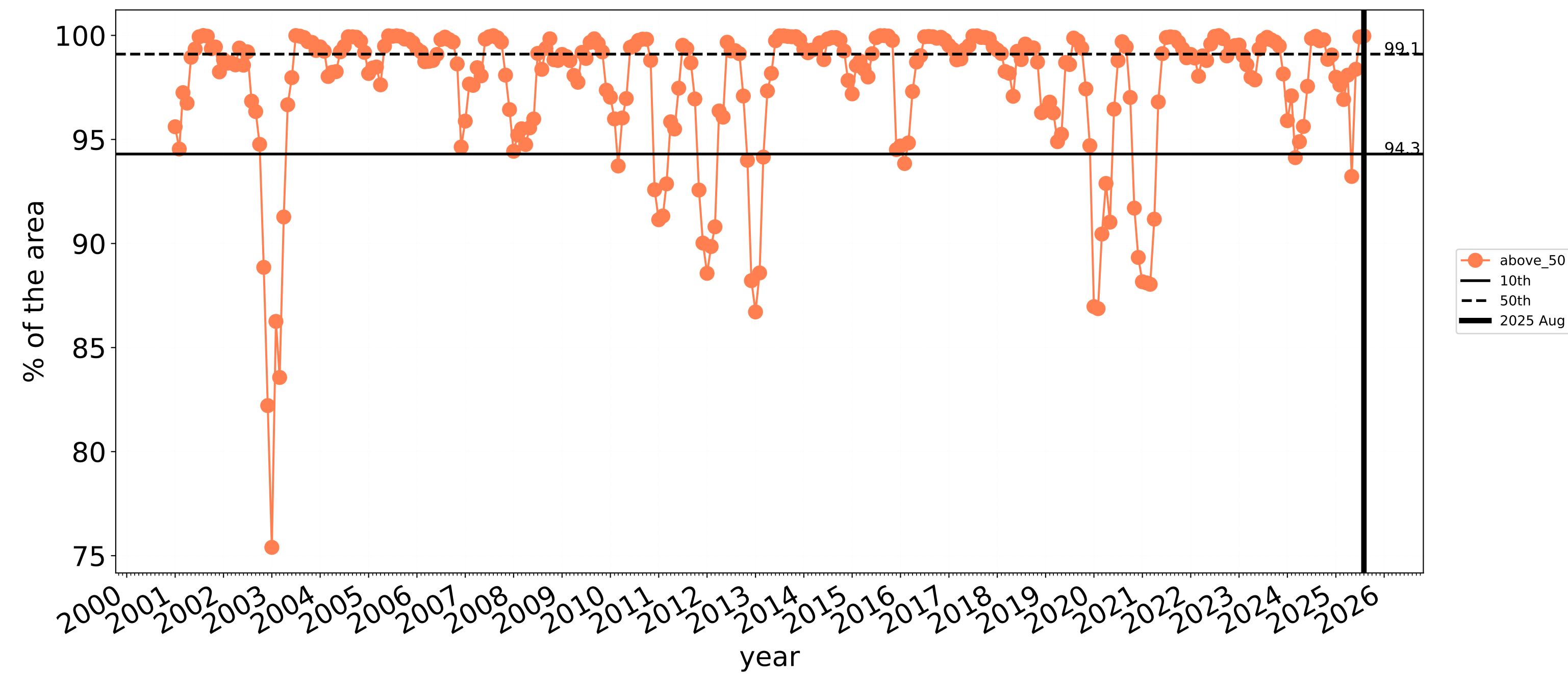
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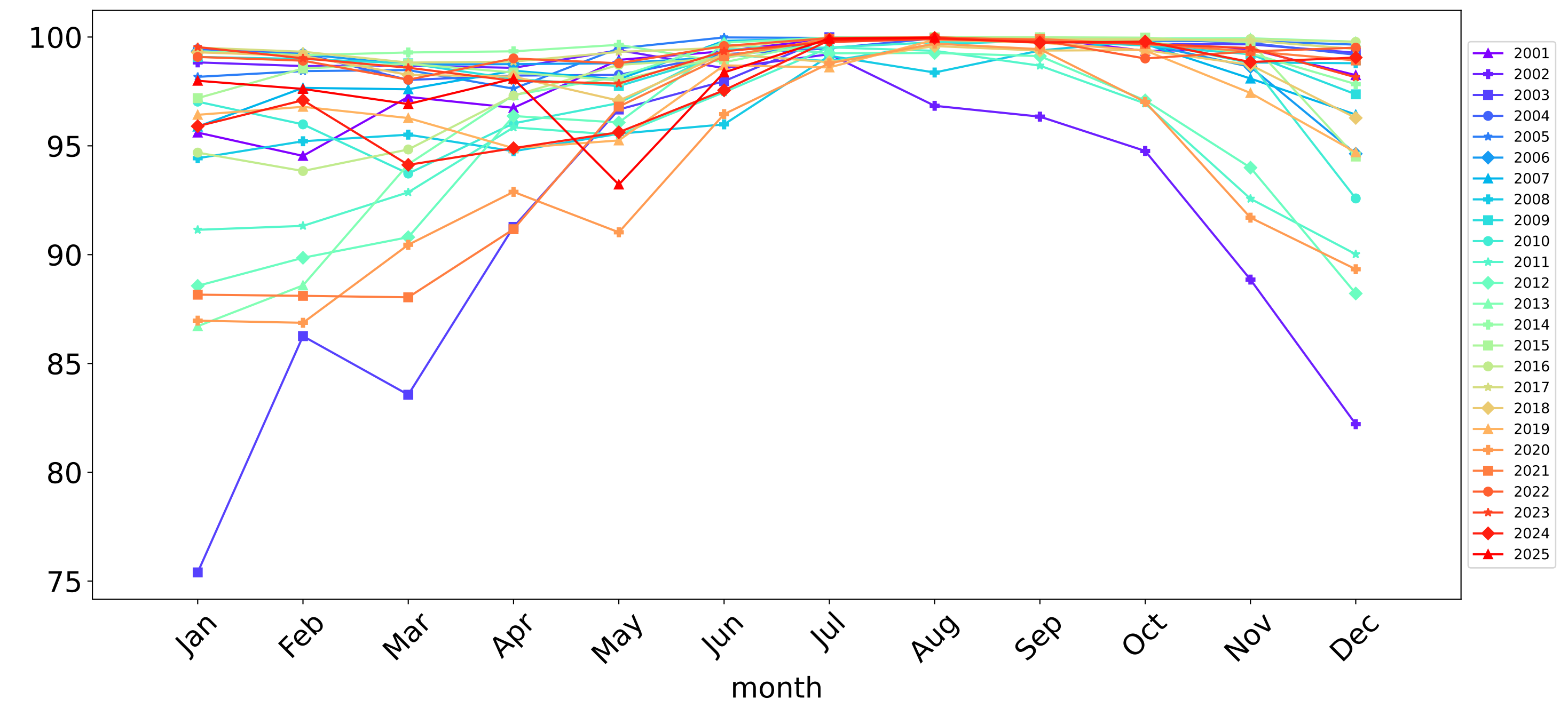


Agriculture timeseries

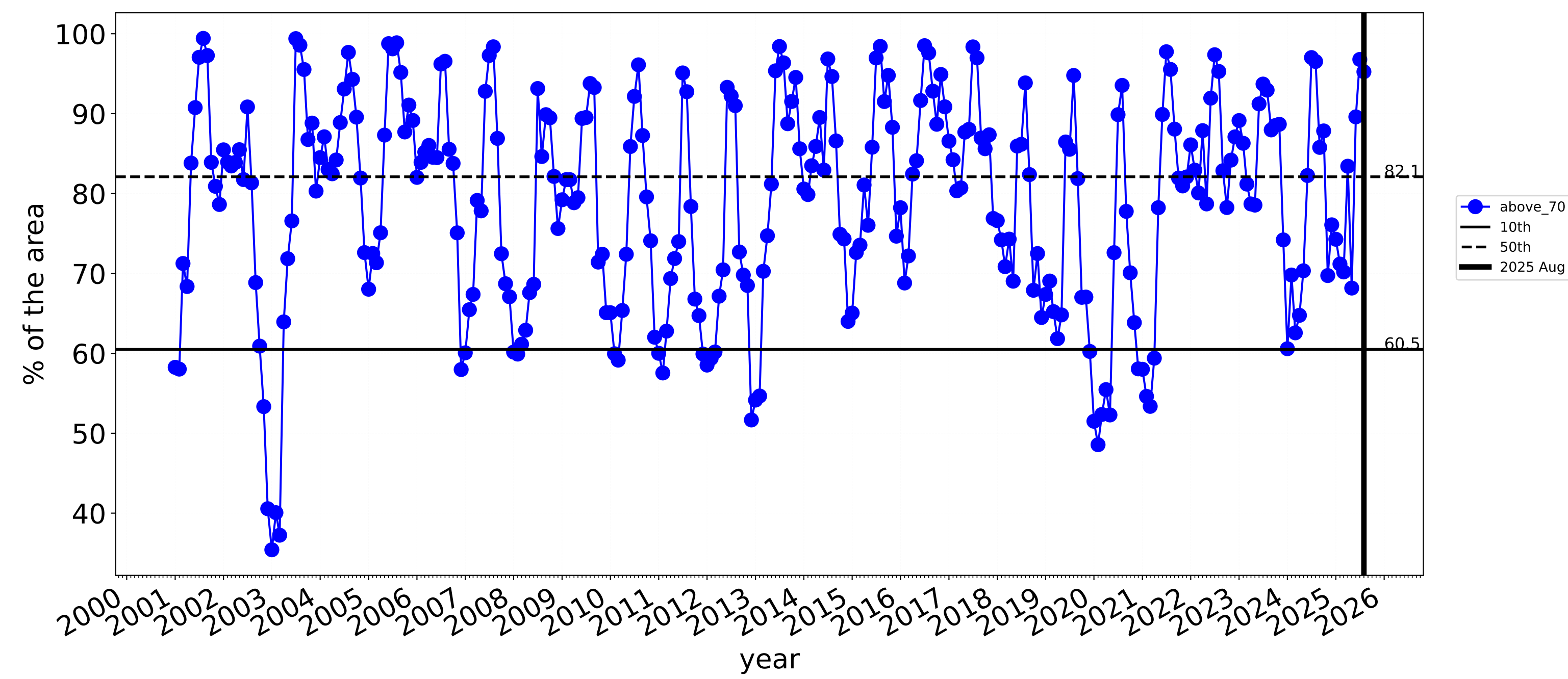
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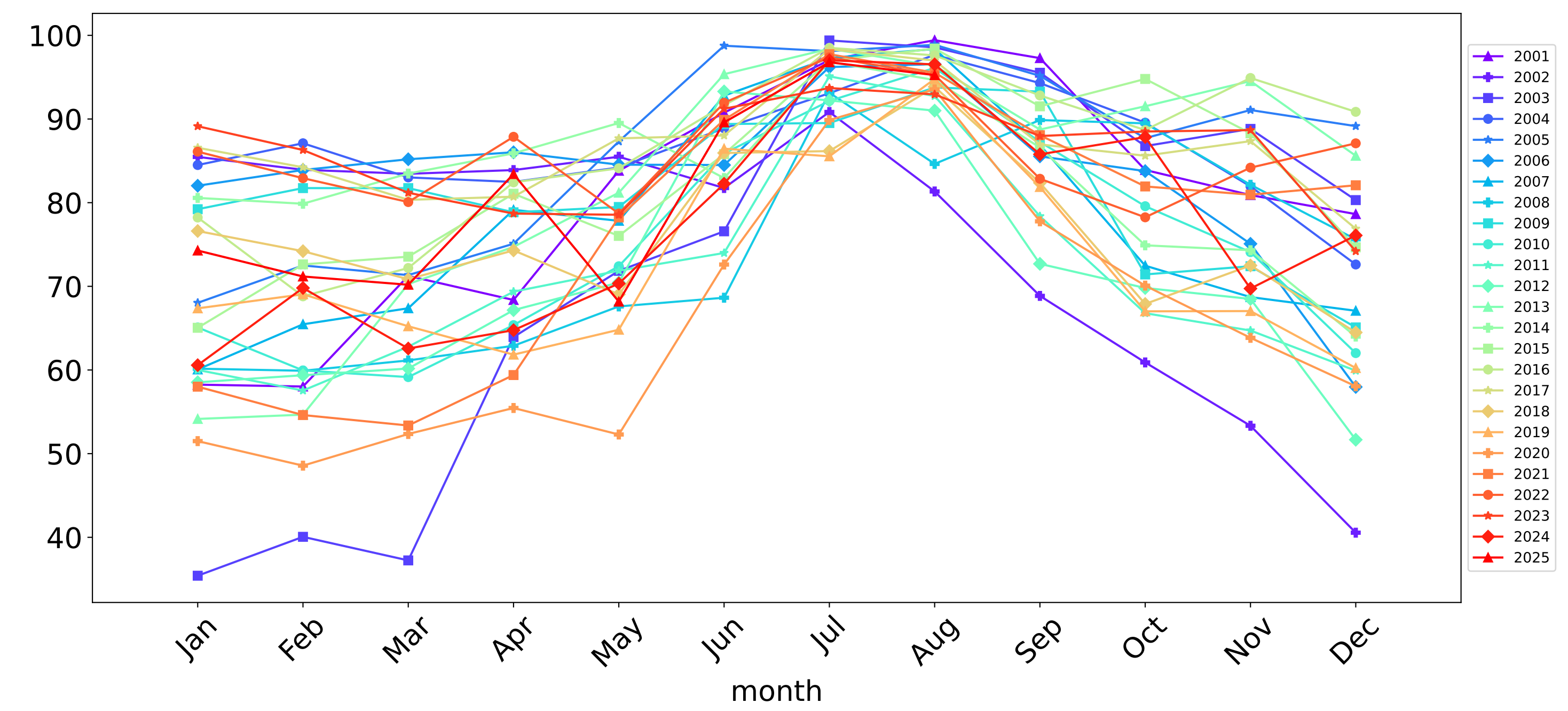
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Proportion of the area protected from water erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 70%)



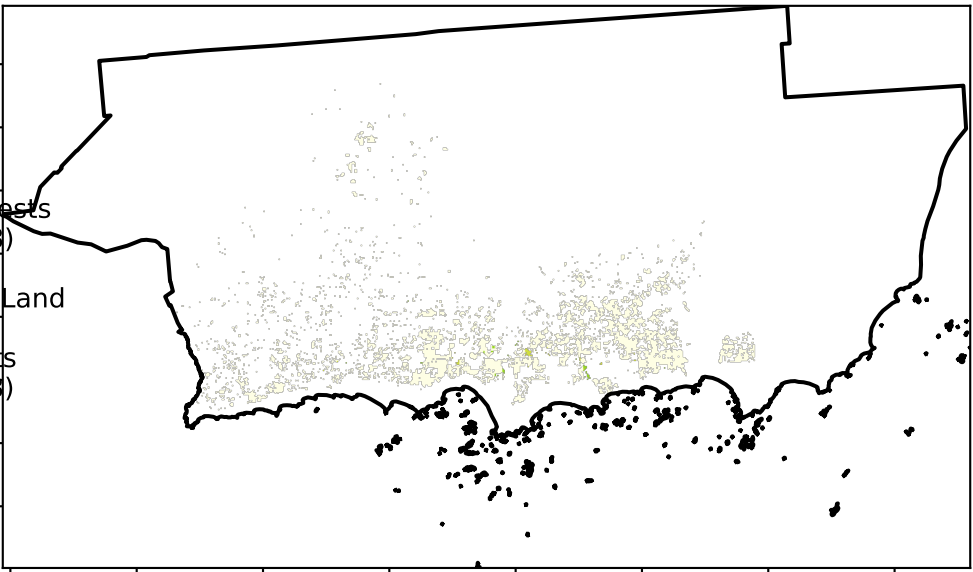
Water erosion historical monthly area protected (Total Veg Cov>70%)



Grazing

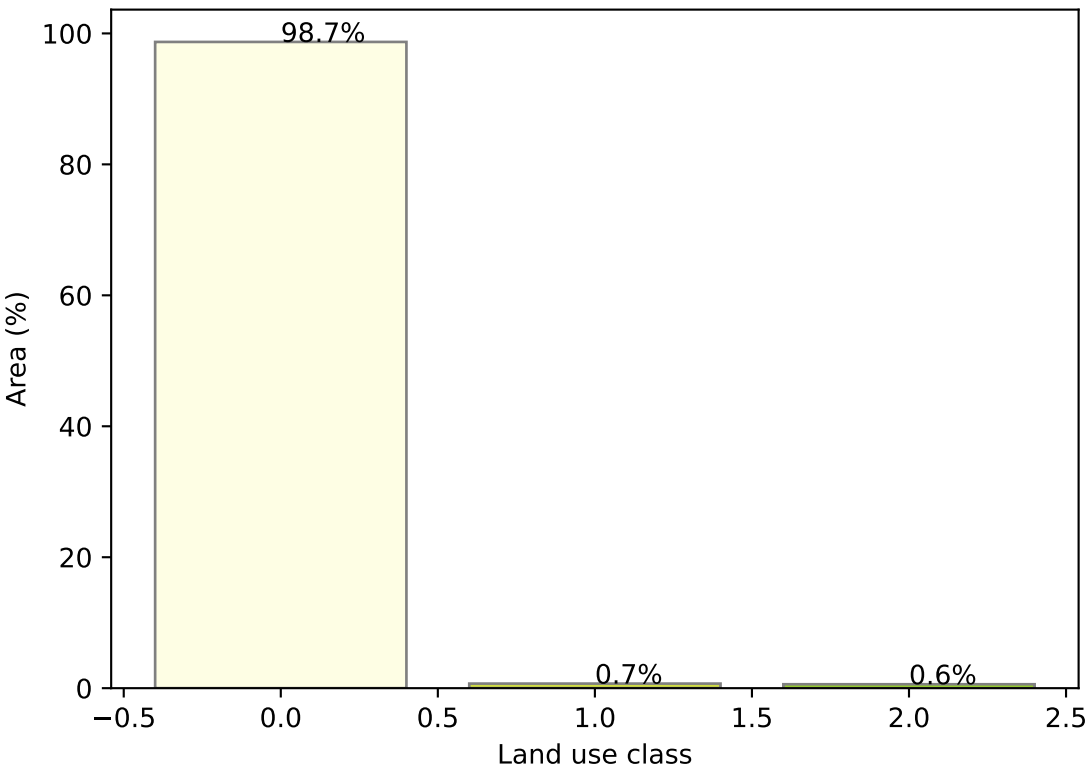
Land use and forest cover

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

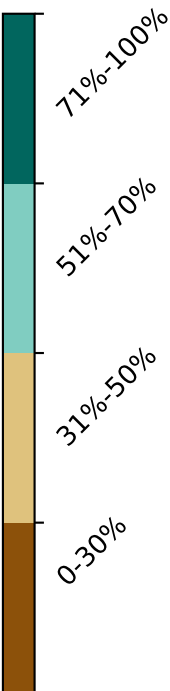


- 1 Agriculture - Grazing - Non forest
- 2 Agriculture - Grazing - Woodland forest
- 3 Agriculture - Grazing - Non-woodland forest

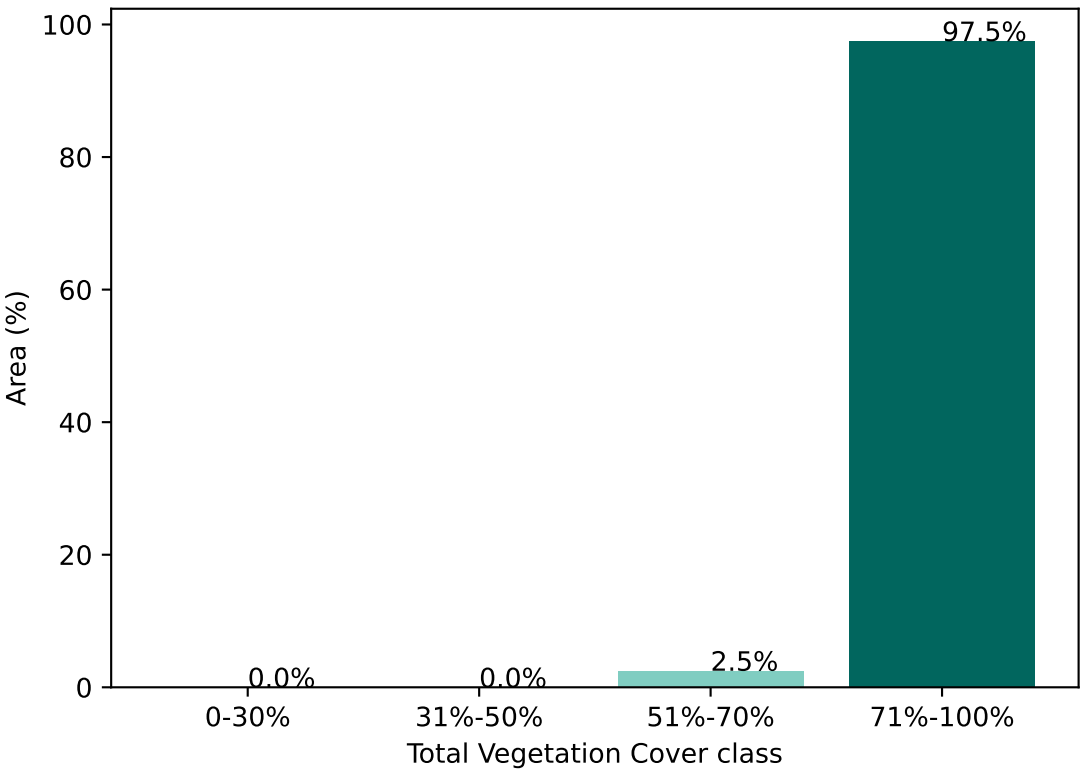
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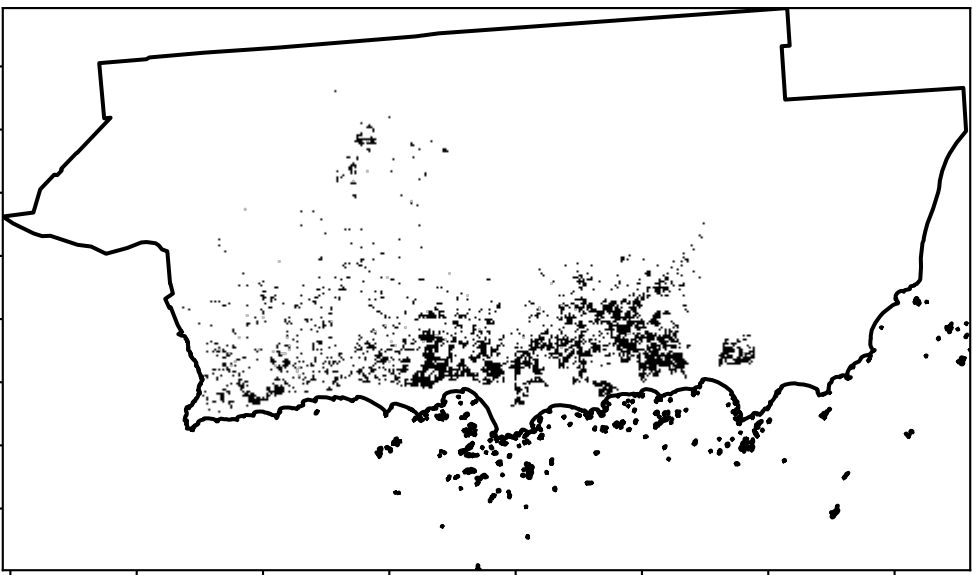
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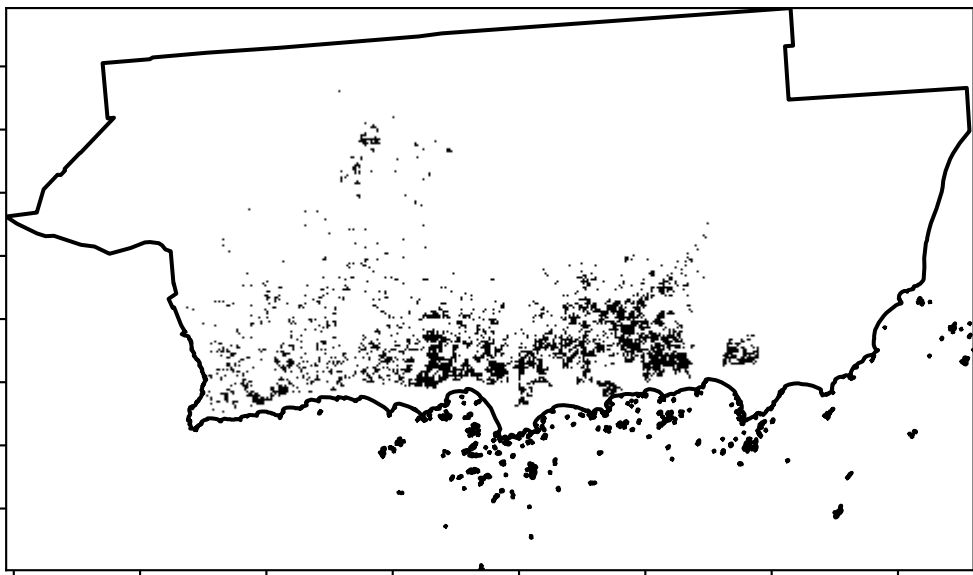


% Area protected from water erosion (>70%)



- Area not protected 2.5% of region (4,828 ha)
- Area protected 97.5% of region (188,272 ha)

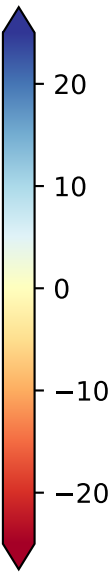
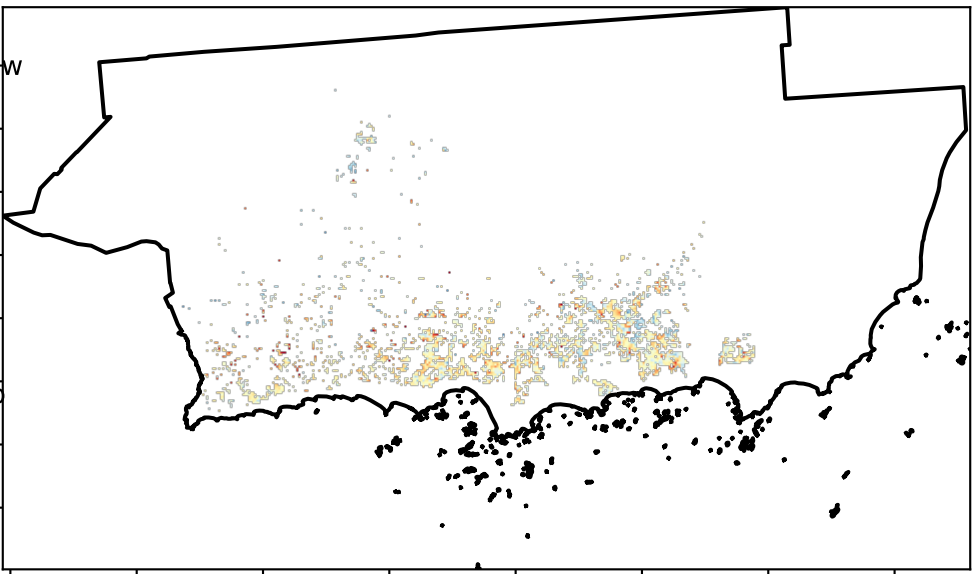
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- Area protected 97.5% of region (188,272 ha)

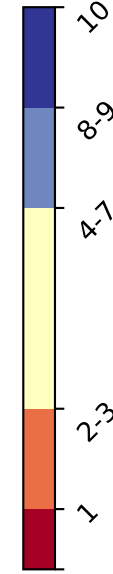
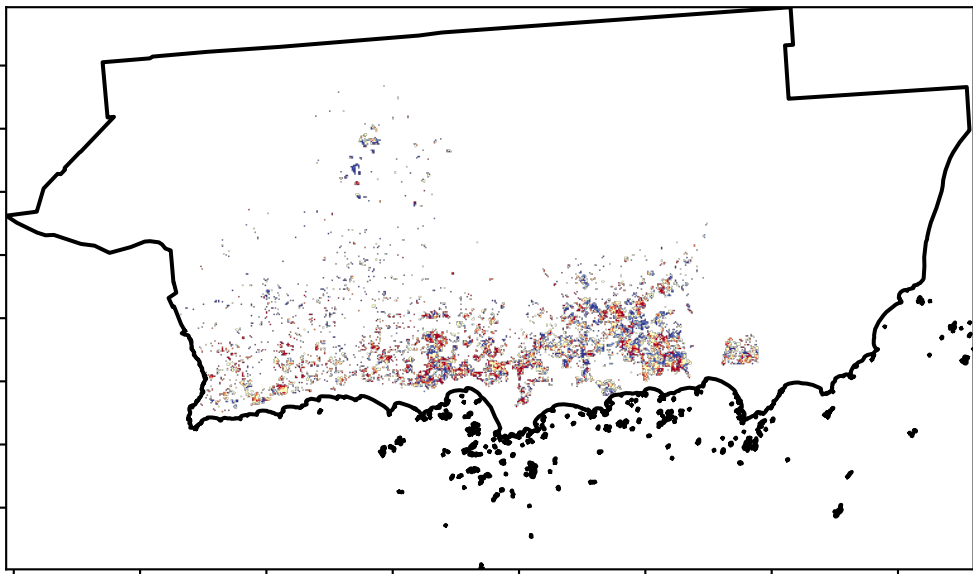
Total Vegetation Cover Anomaly [%]

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



Total Vegetation Cover Decile [%]

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



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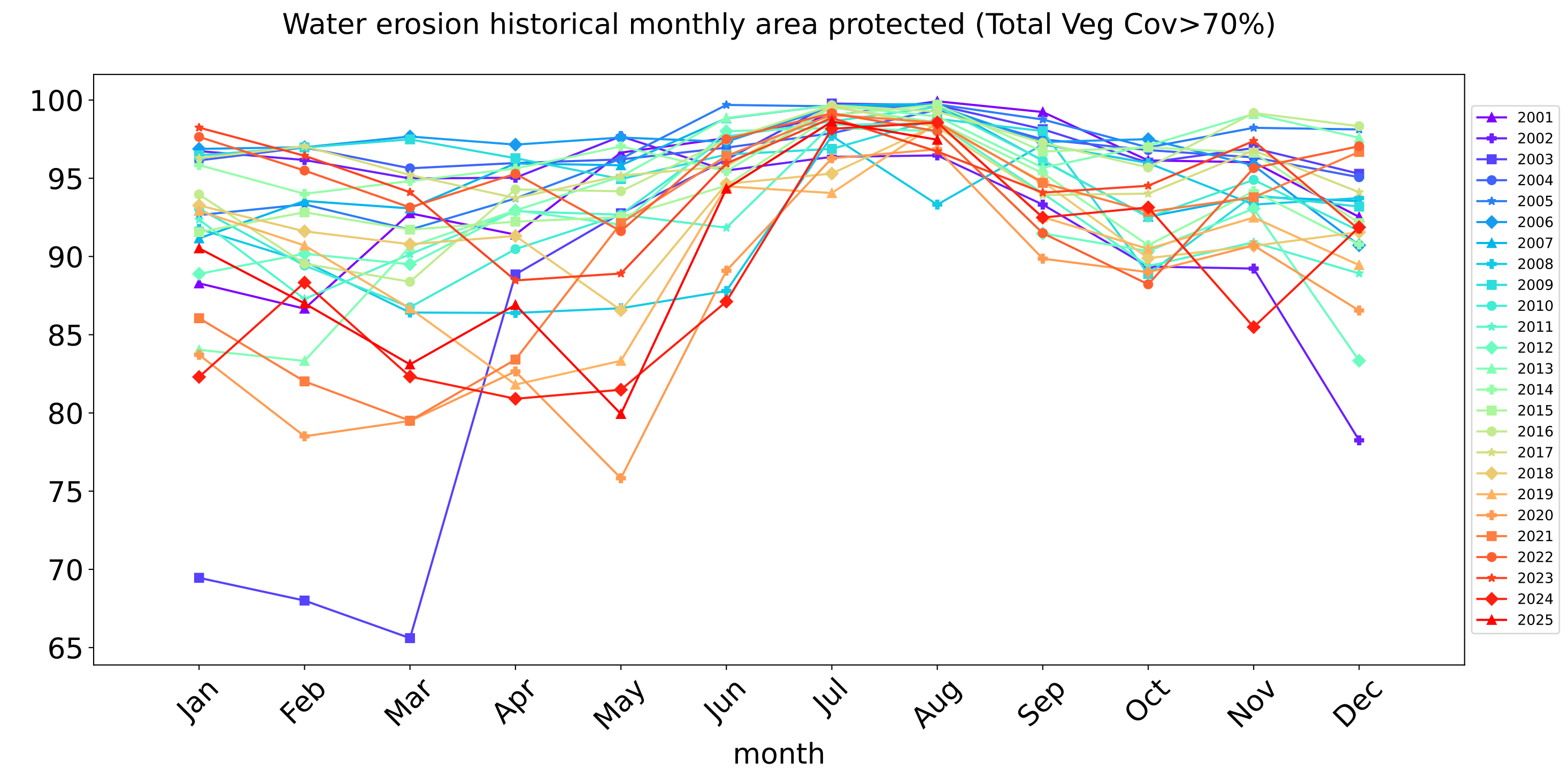
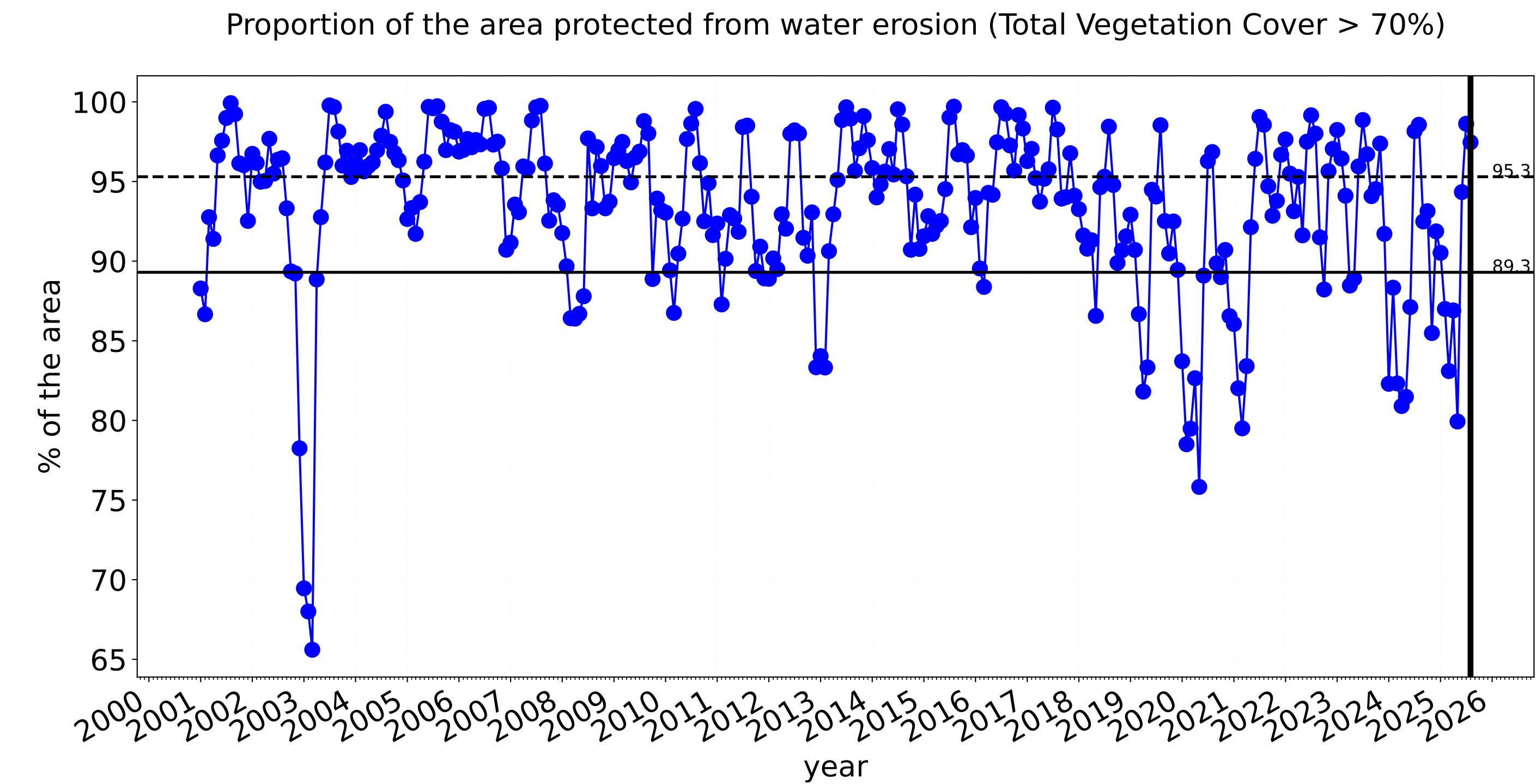
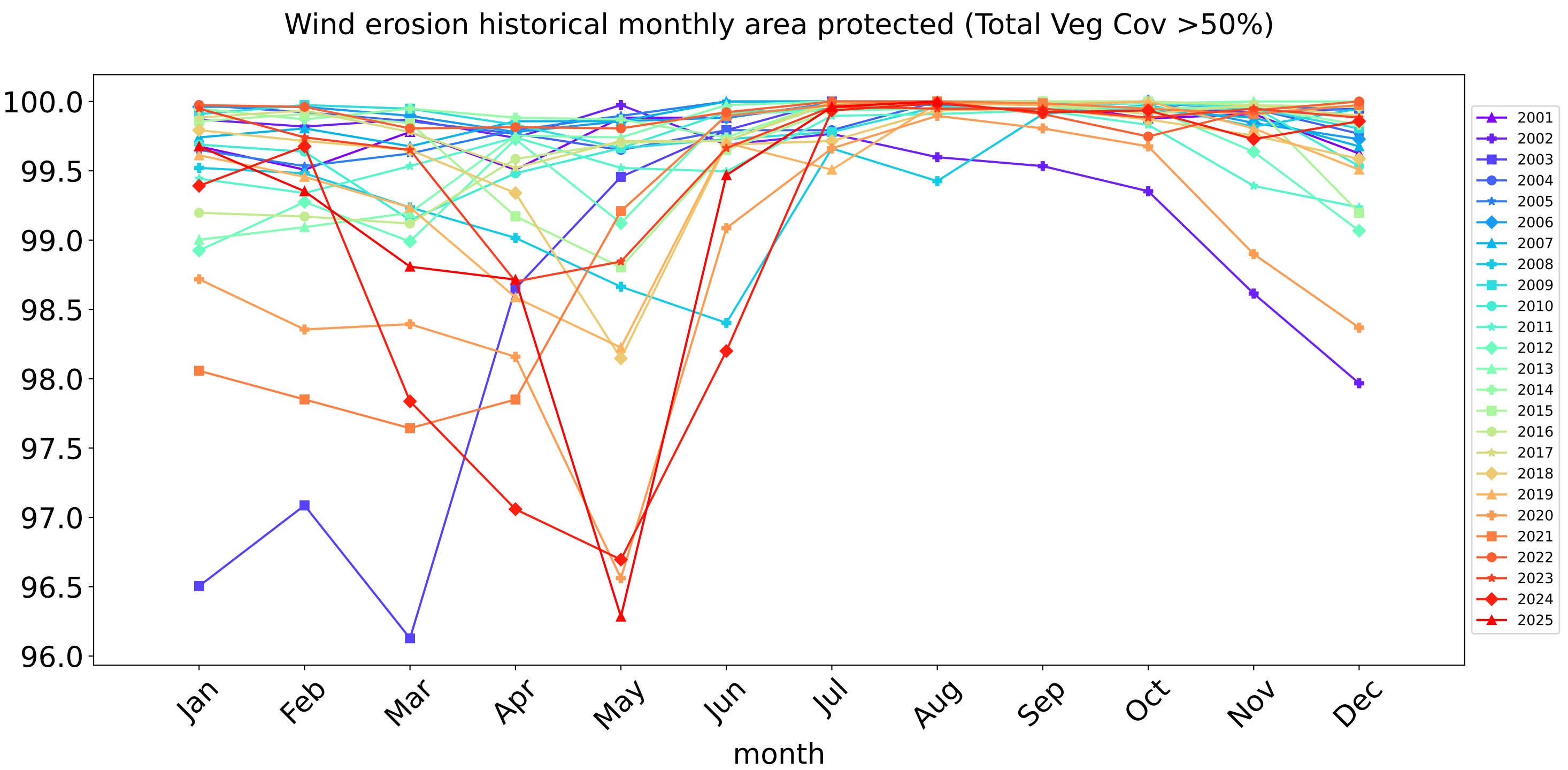
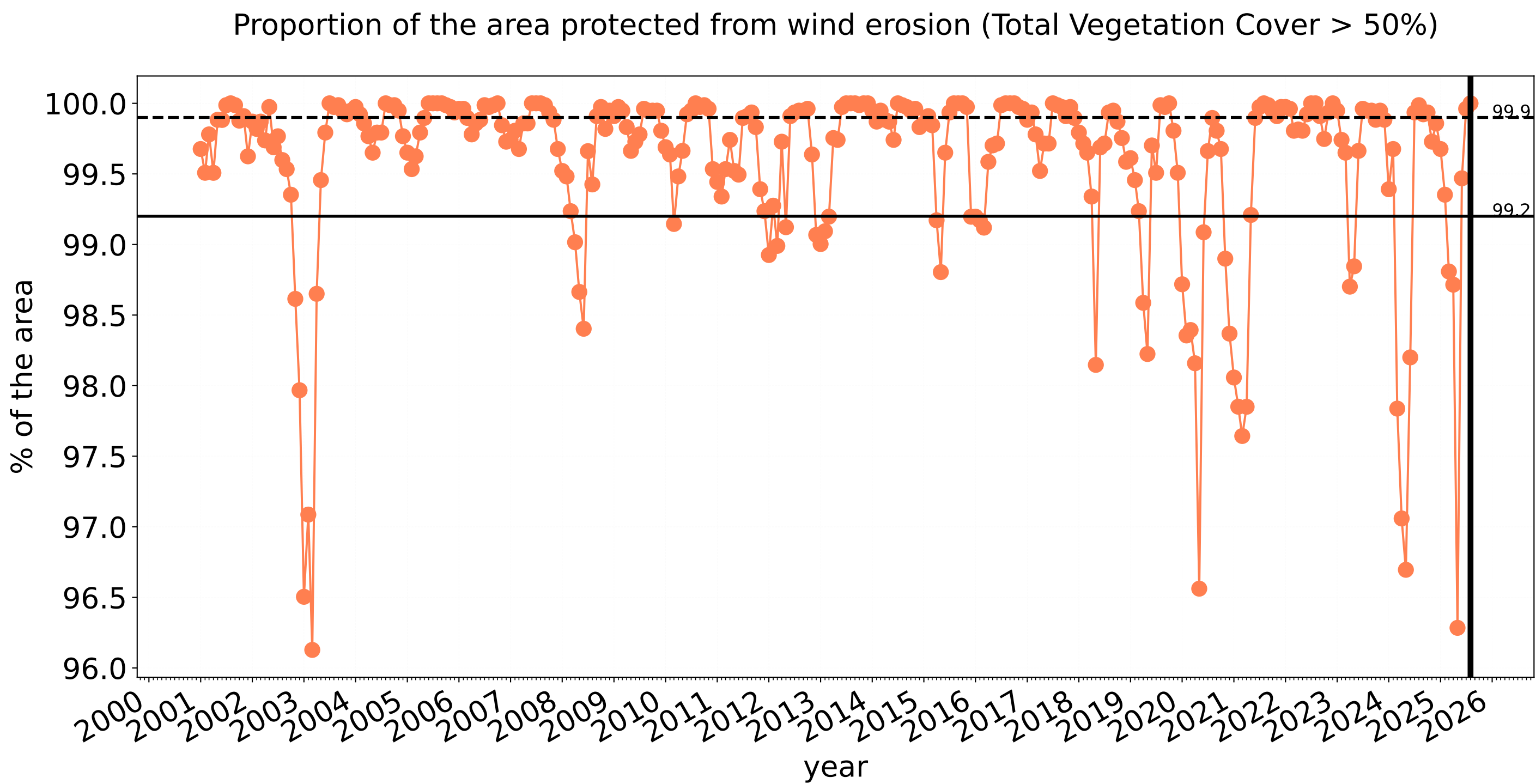


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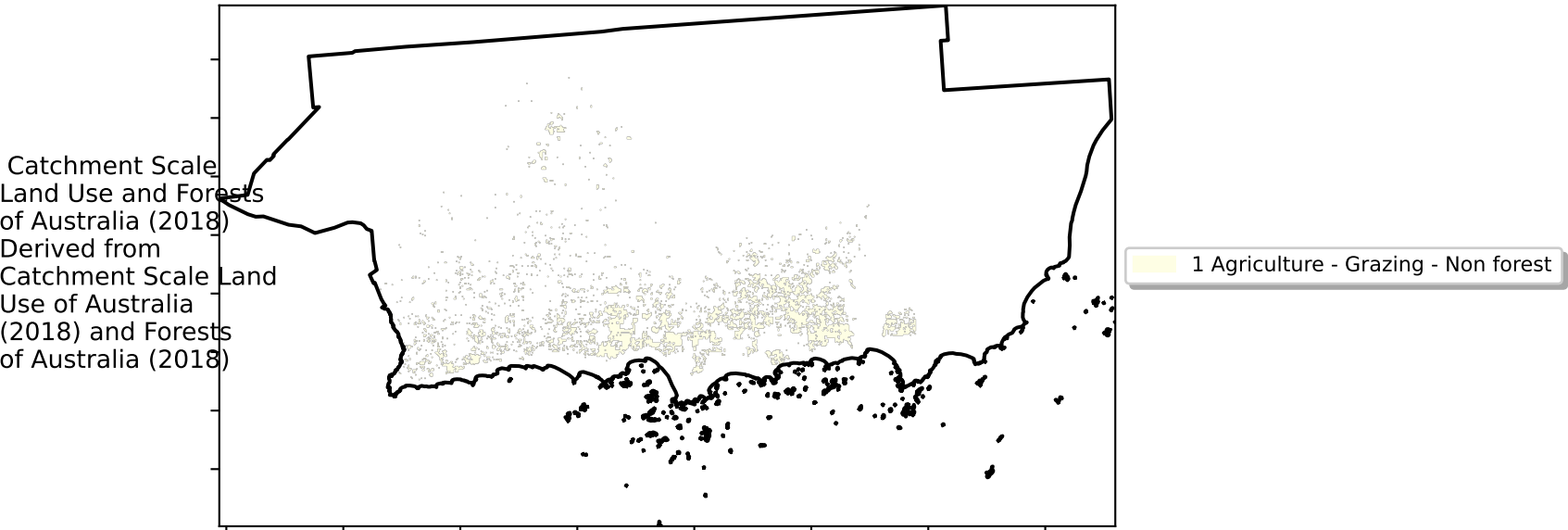


Grazing timeseries

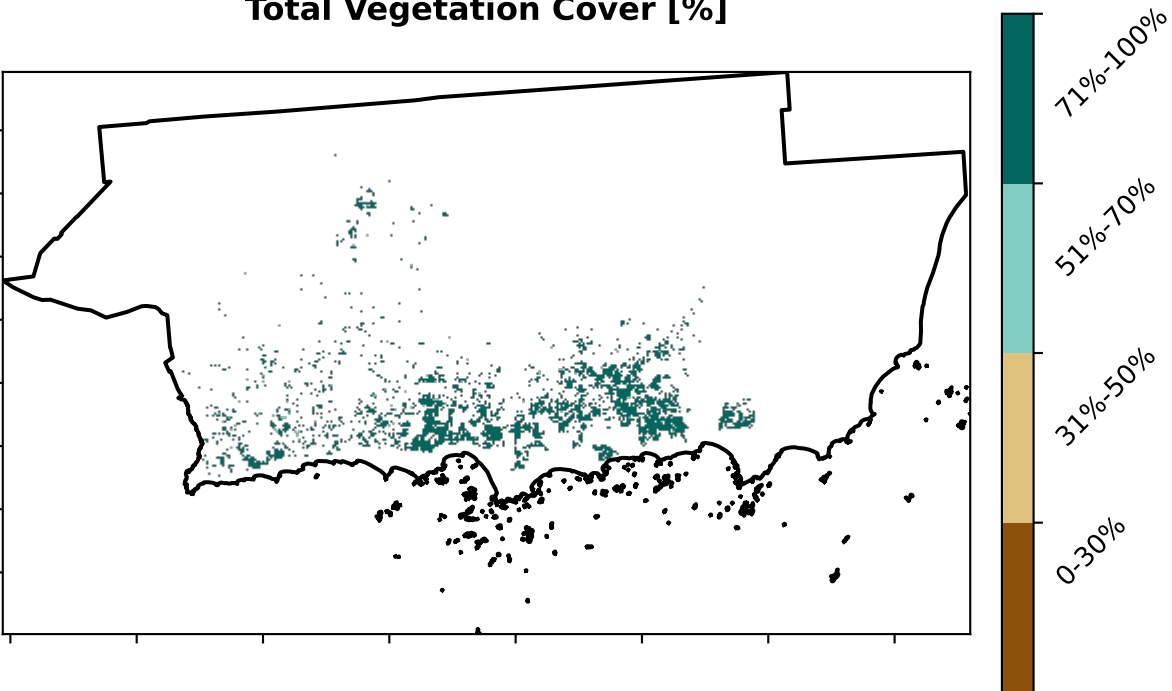


Grazing non forest

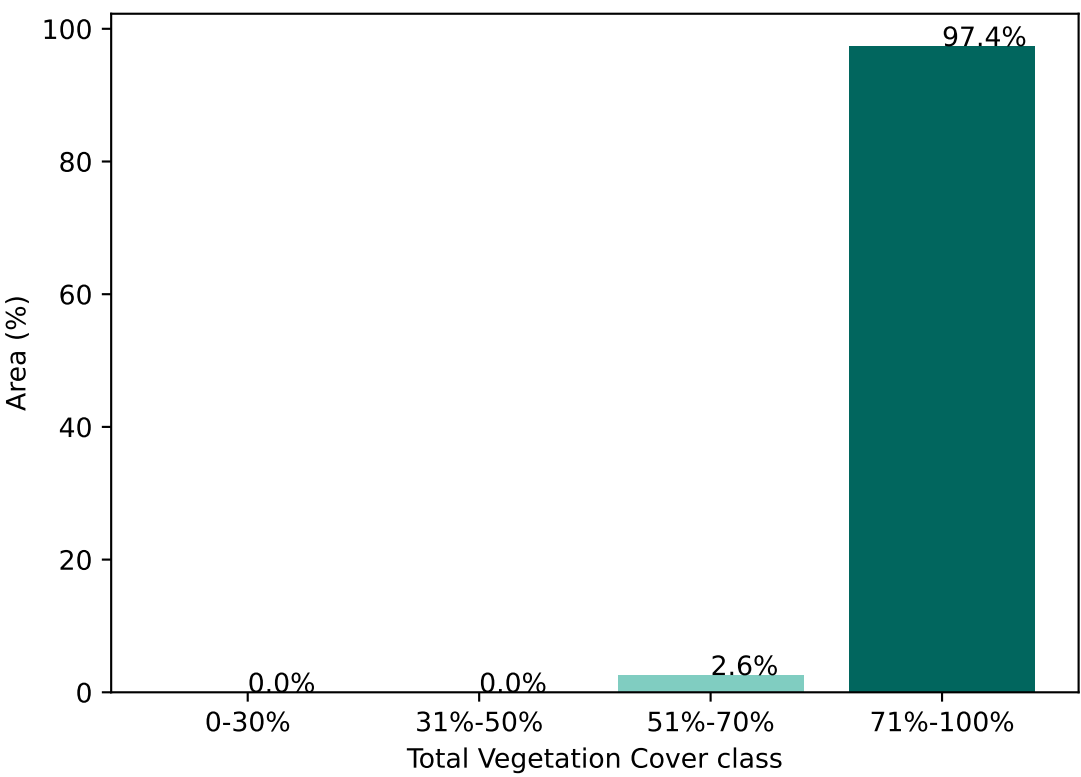
Land use and forest cover



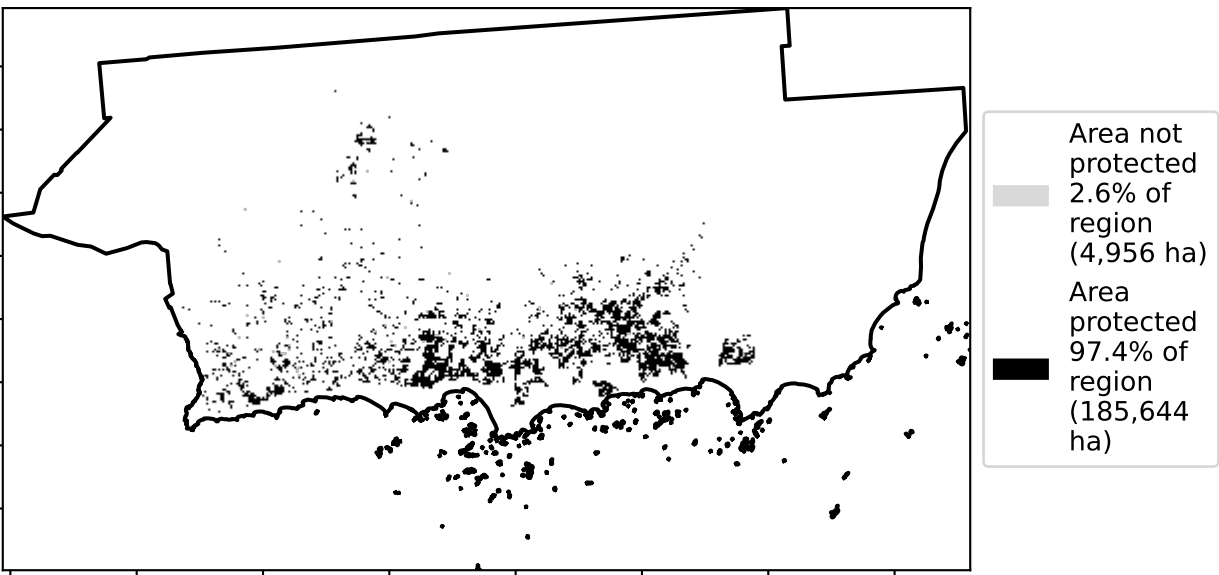
Total Vegetation Cover [%]



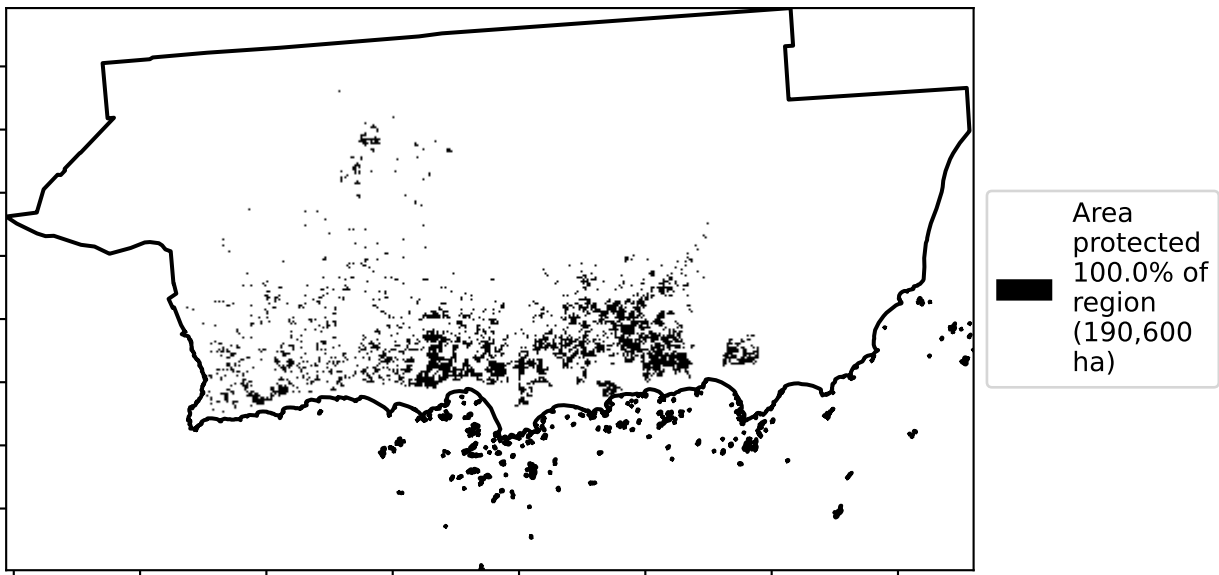
Proportion of vegetation cover class in area



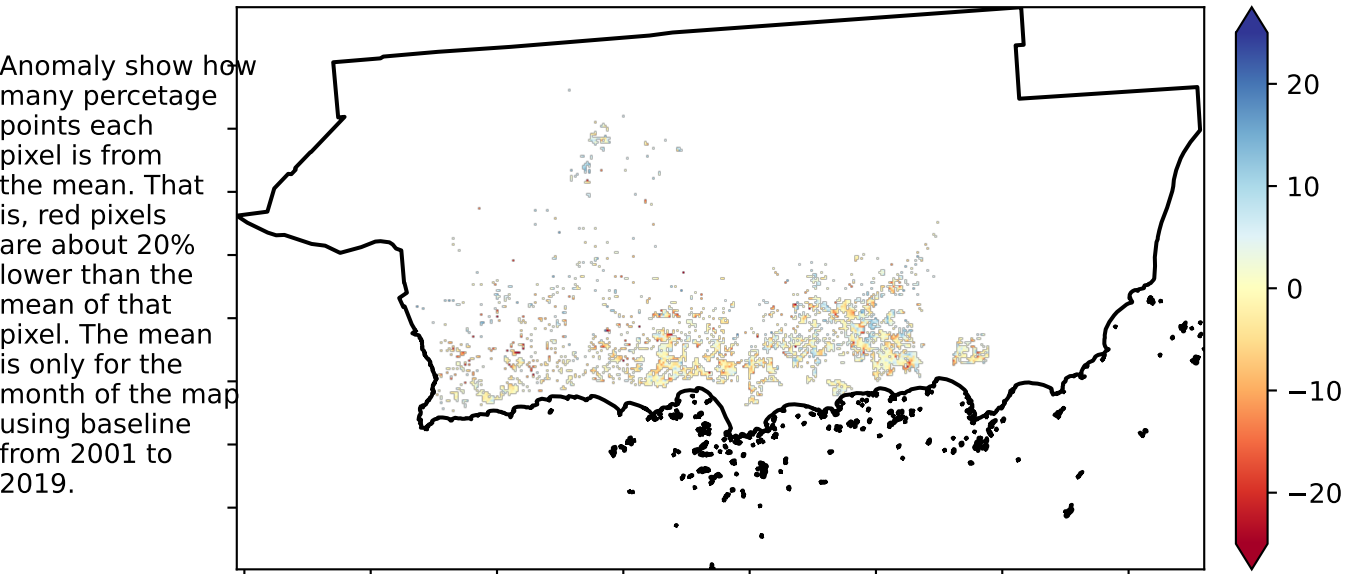
% Area protected from water erosion (>70%)



% Area protected from wind erosion (>50%)

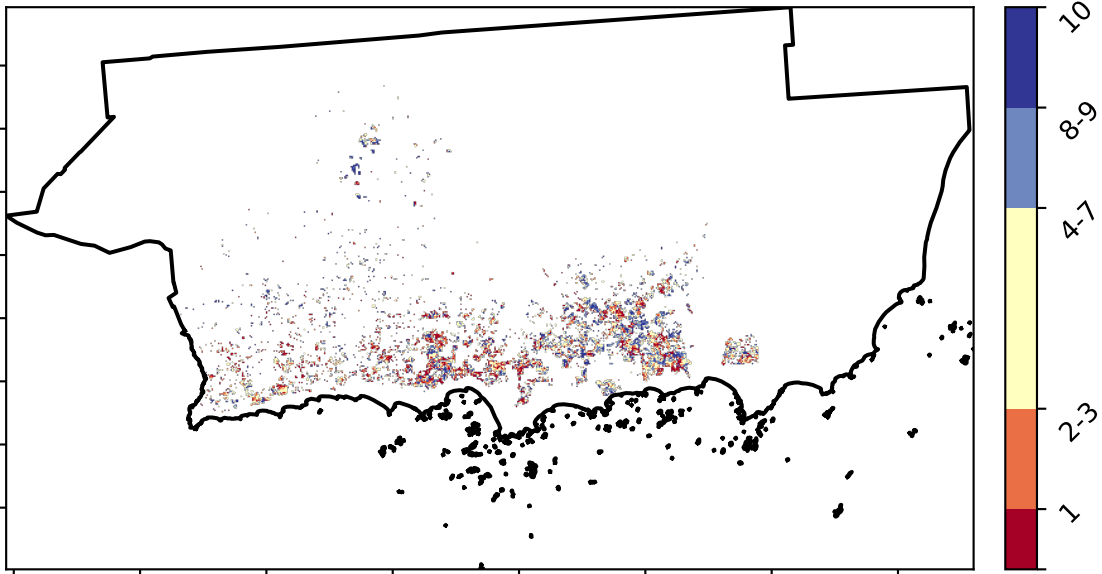


Total Vegetation Cover Anomaly [%]



Total Vegetation Cover Decile [%]

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



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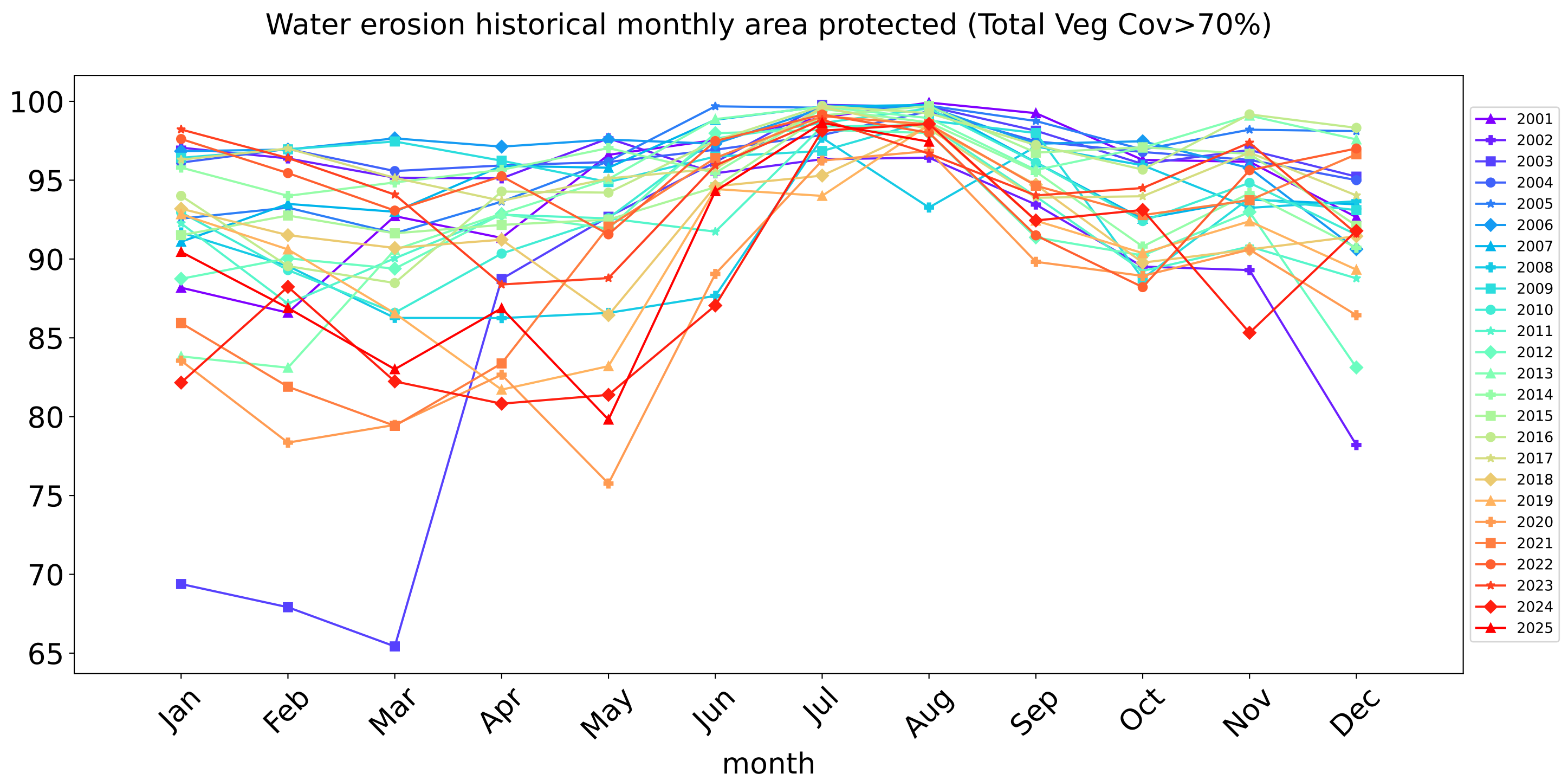
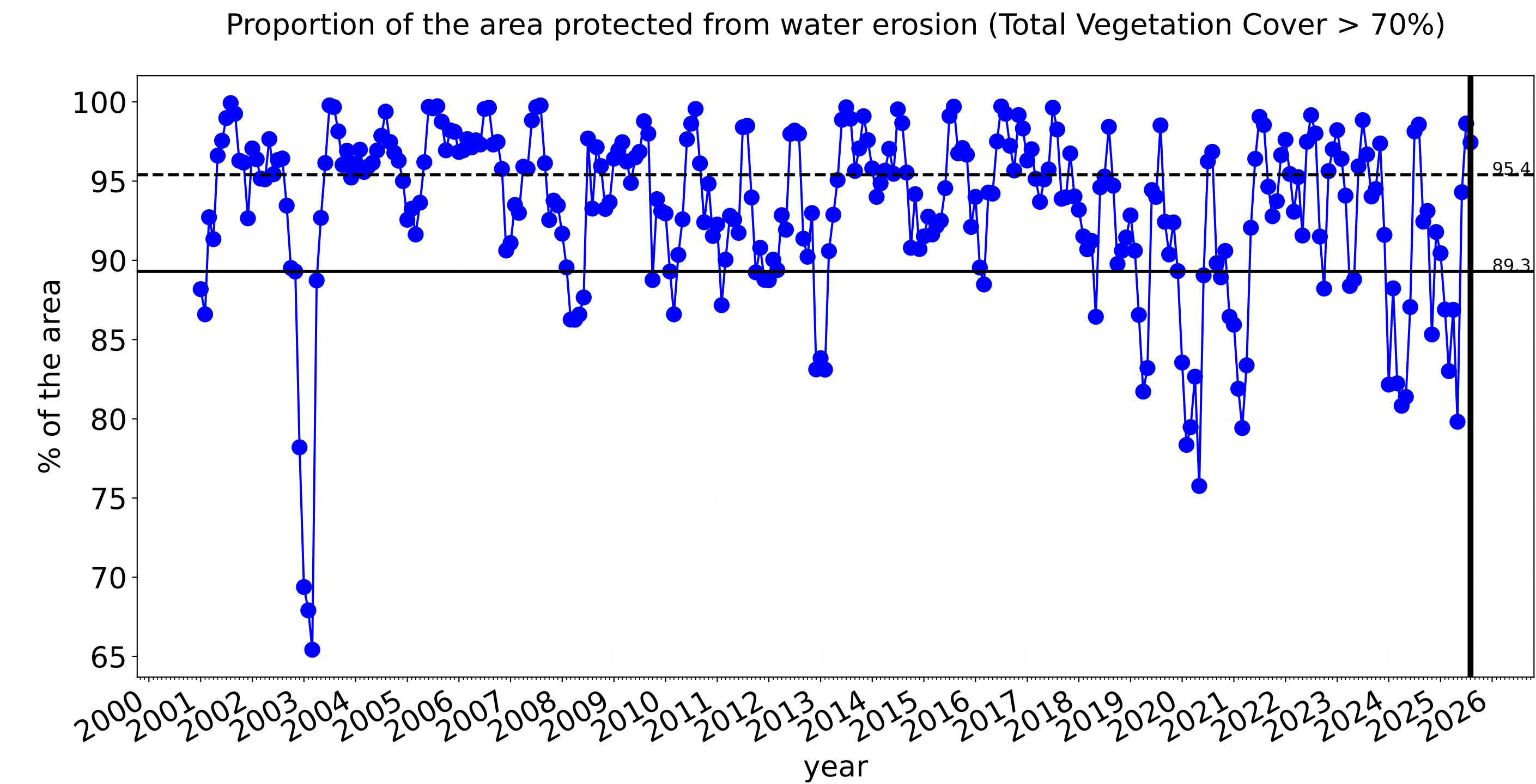
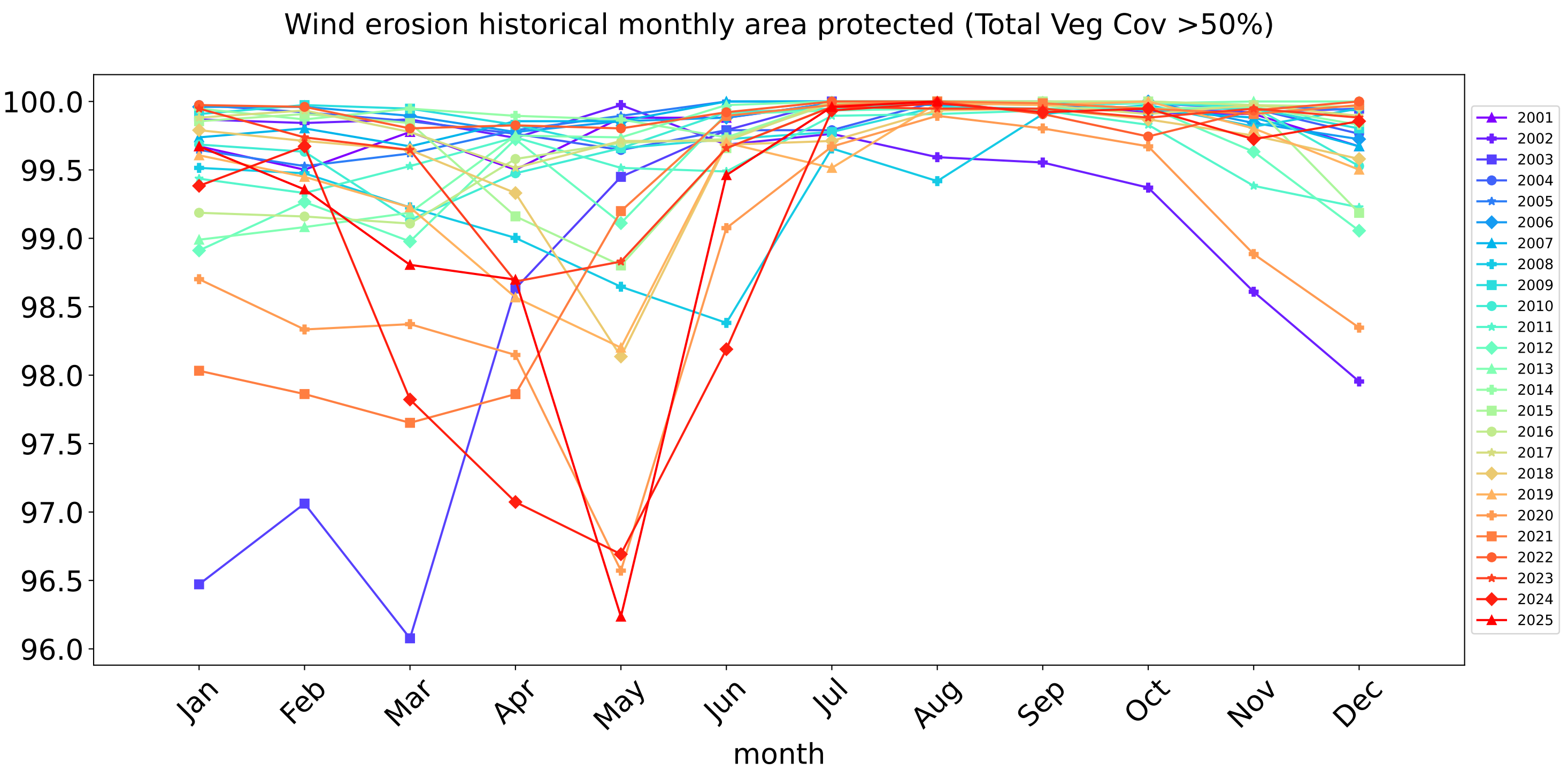
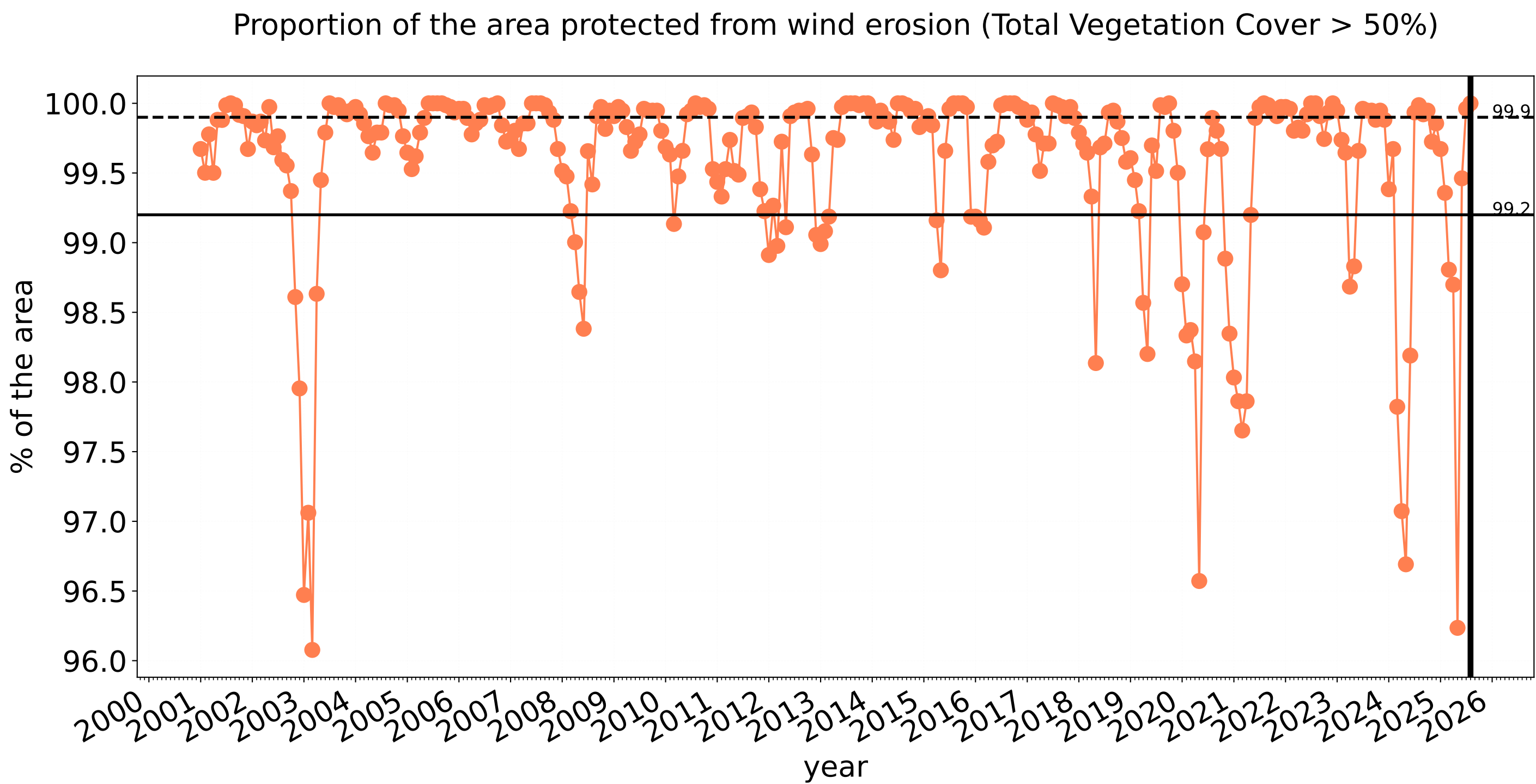


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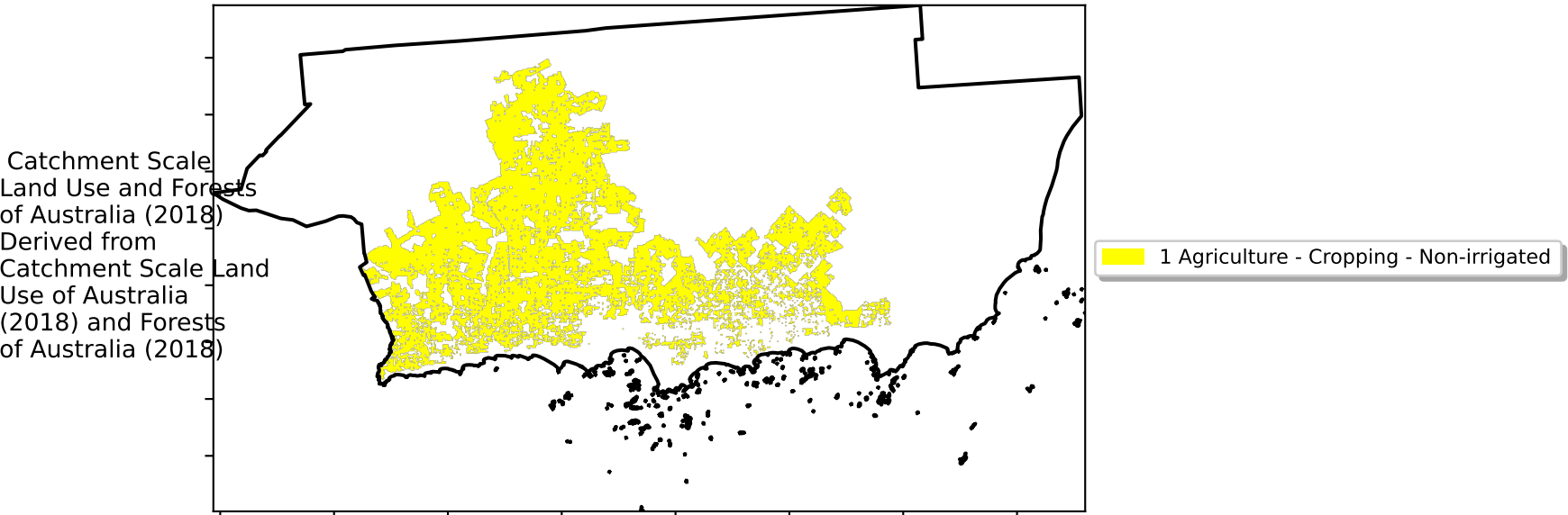


Grazing non forest timeseries

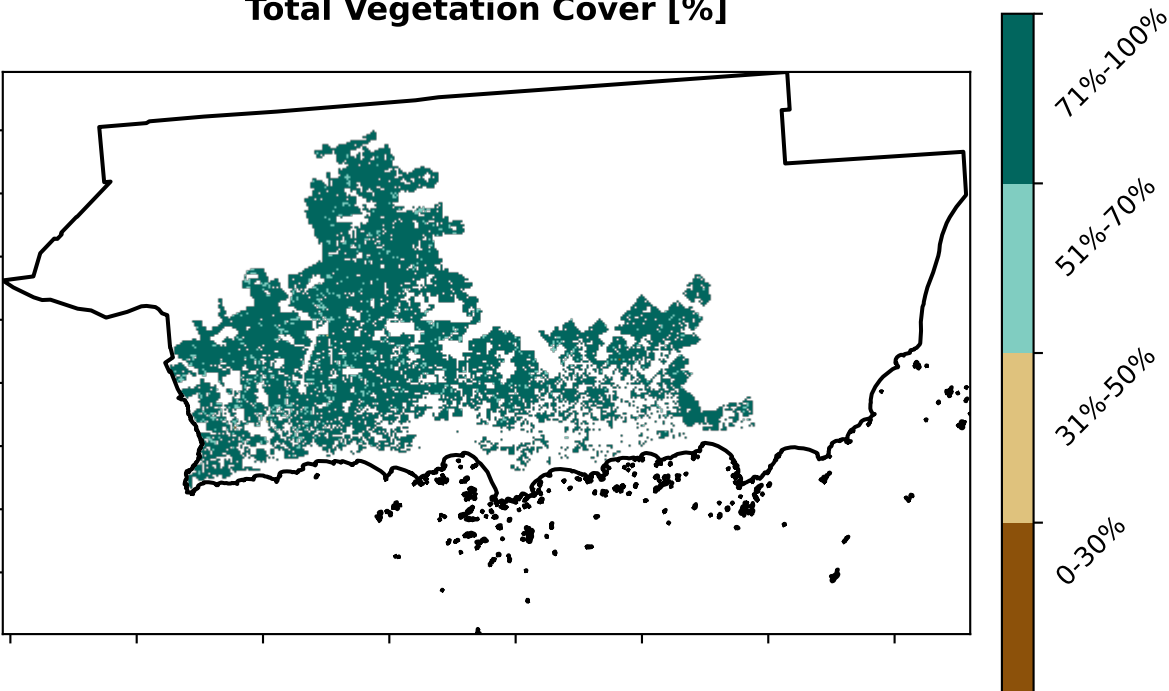


Cropping

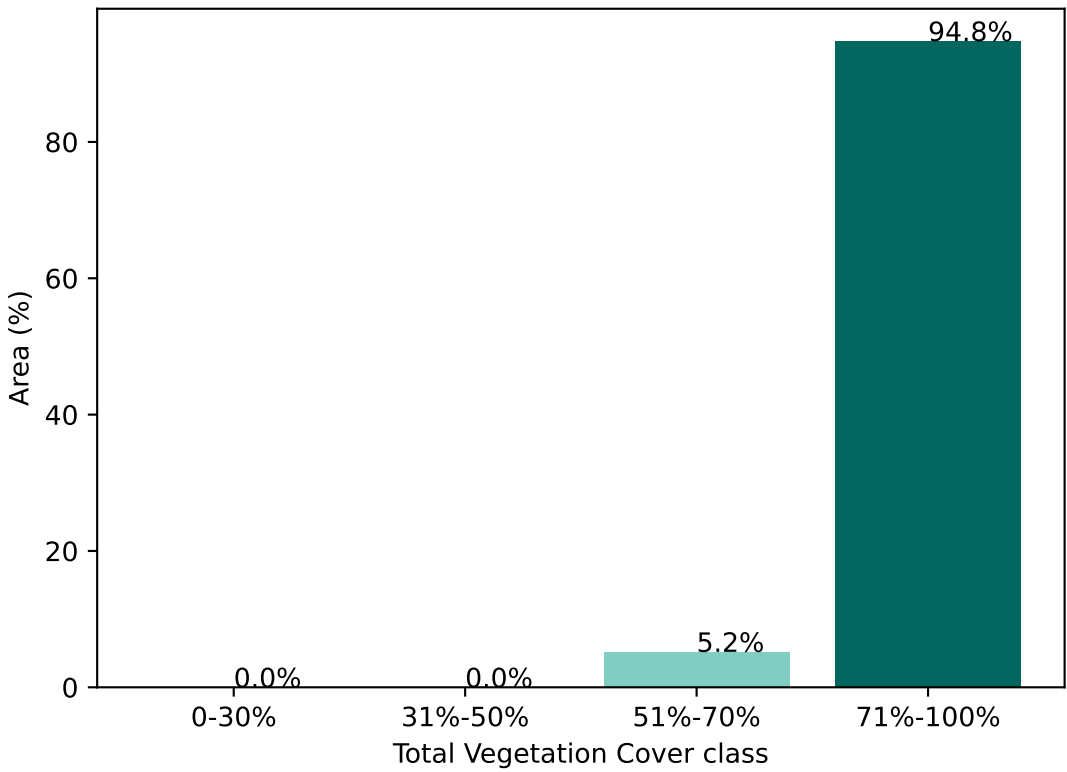
Land use and forest cover



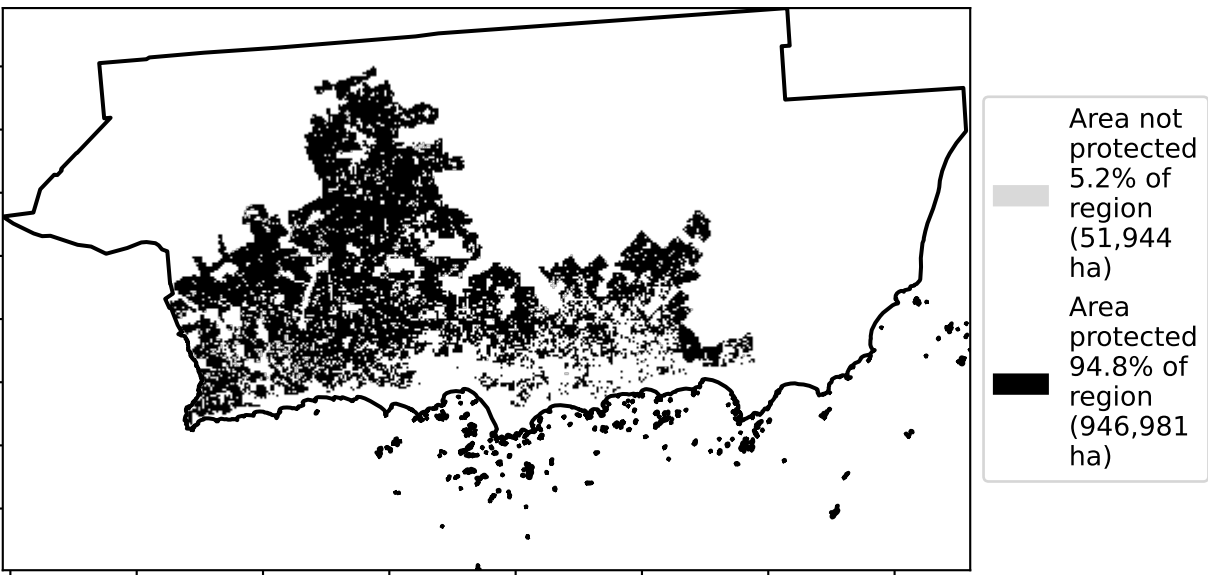
Total Vegetation Cover [%]



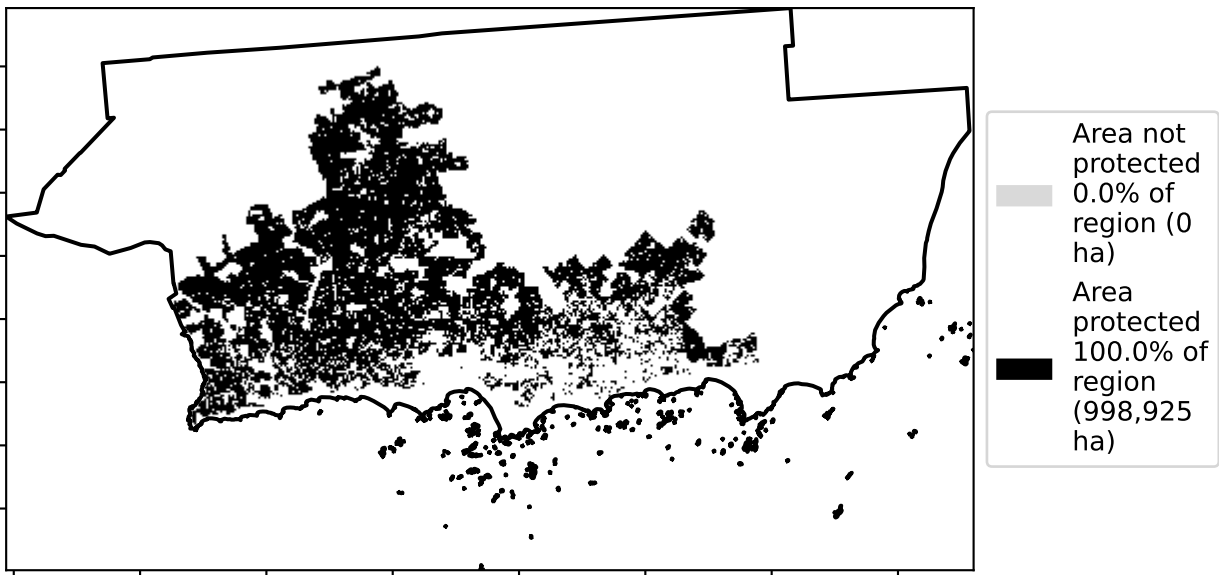
Proportion of vegetation cover class in area



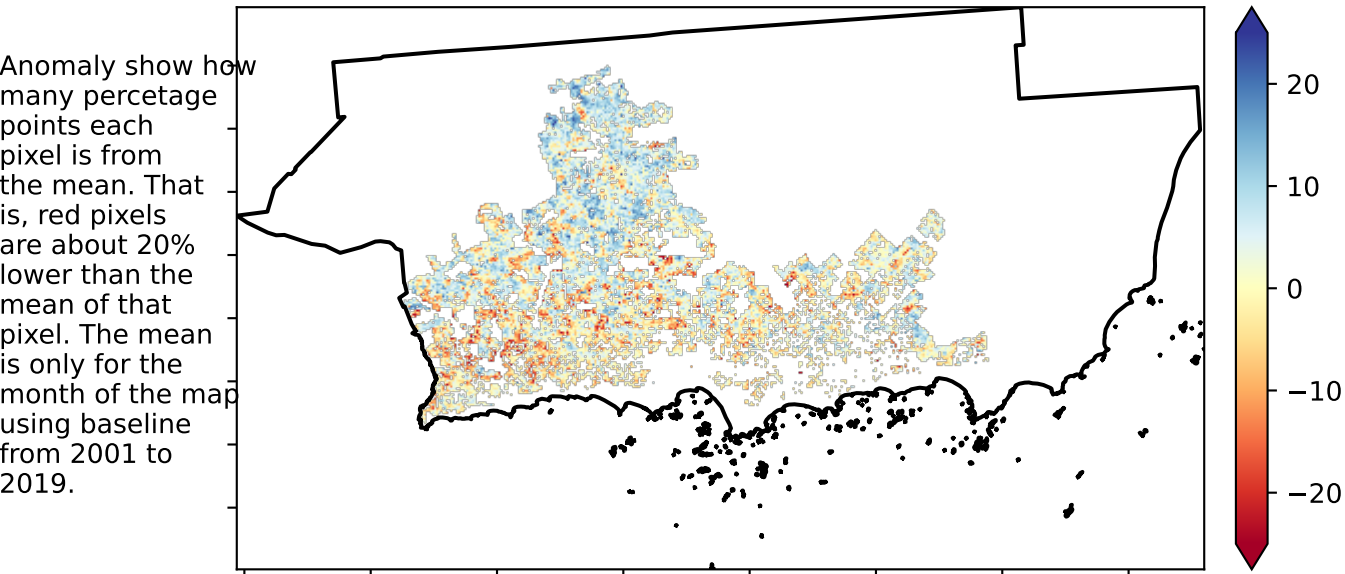
% Area protected from water erosion (>70%)



% Area protected from wind erosion (>50%)

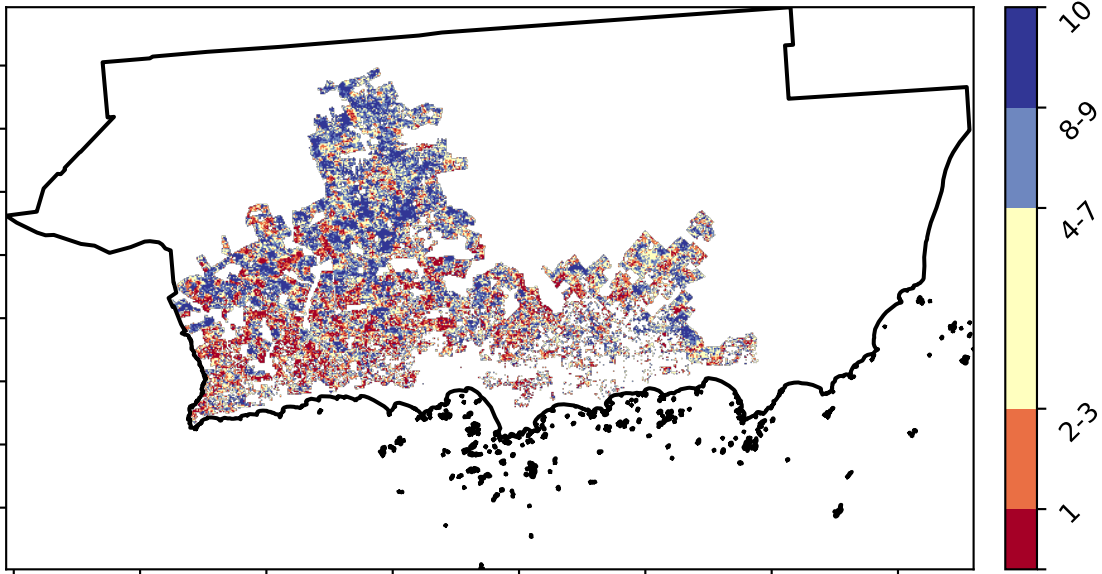


Total Vegetation Cover Anomaly [%]



Total Vegetation Cover Decile [%]

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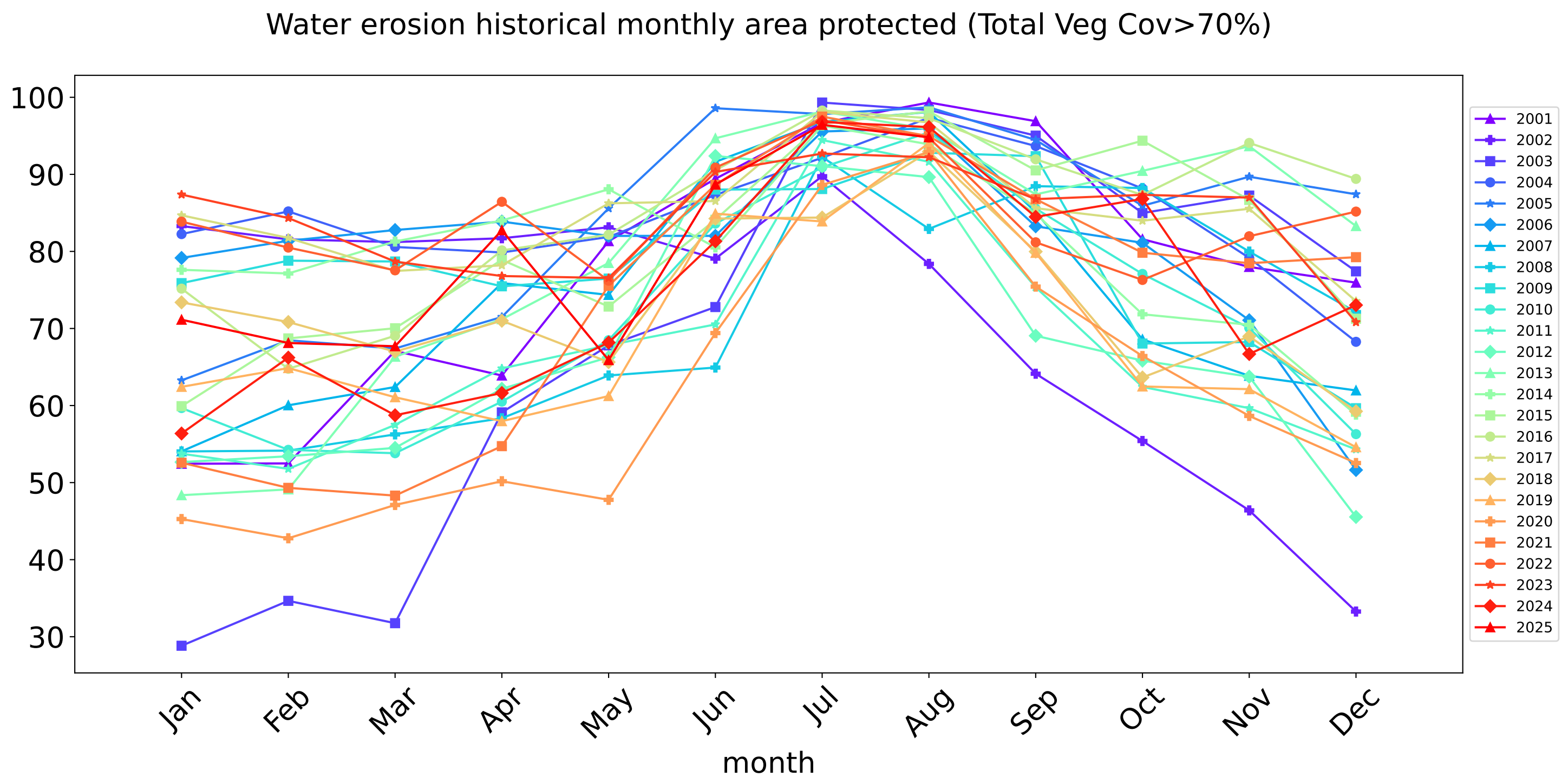
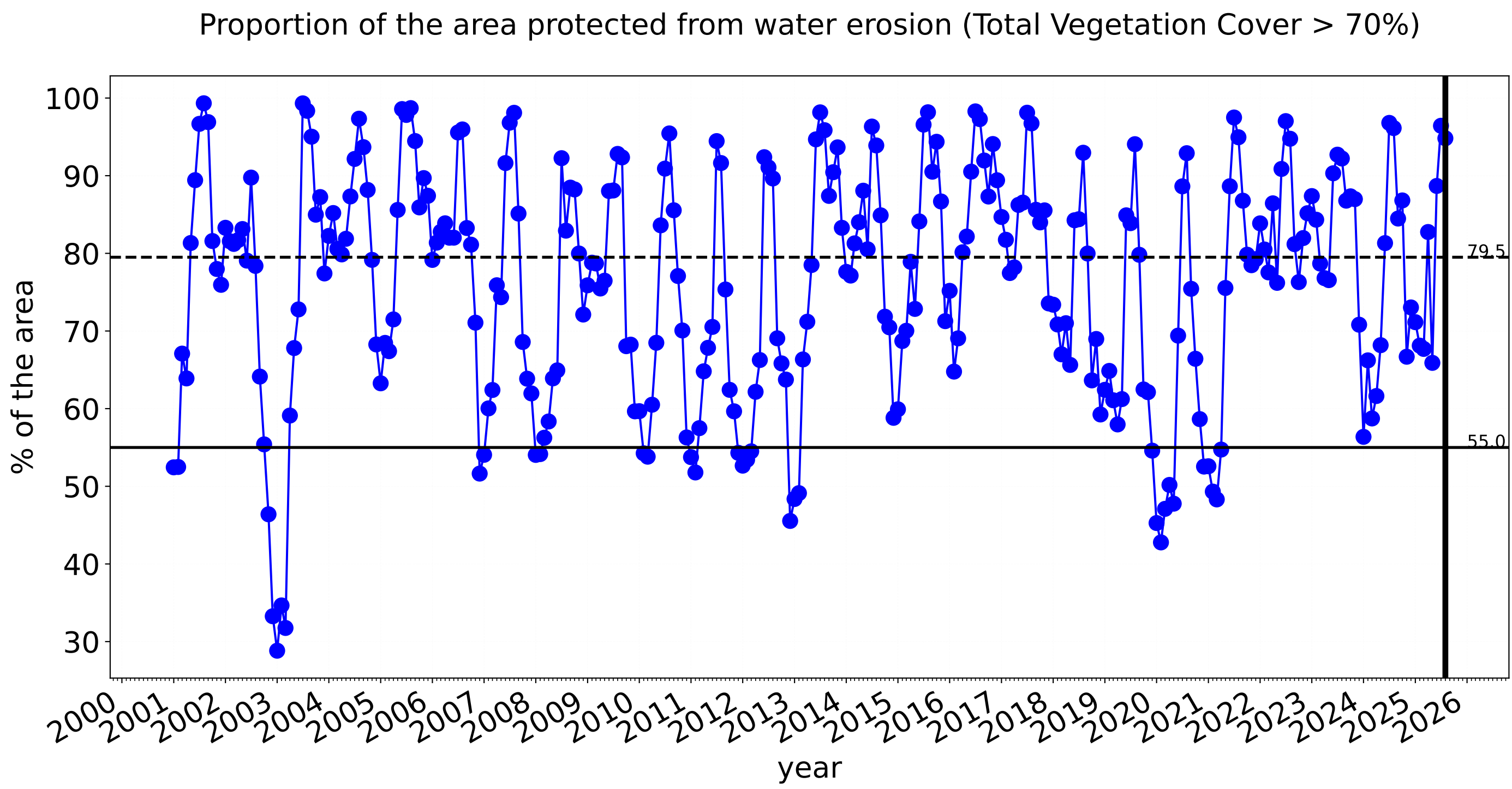
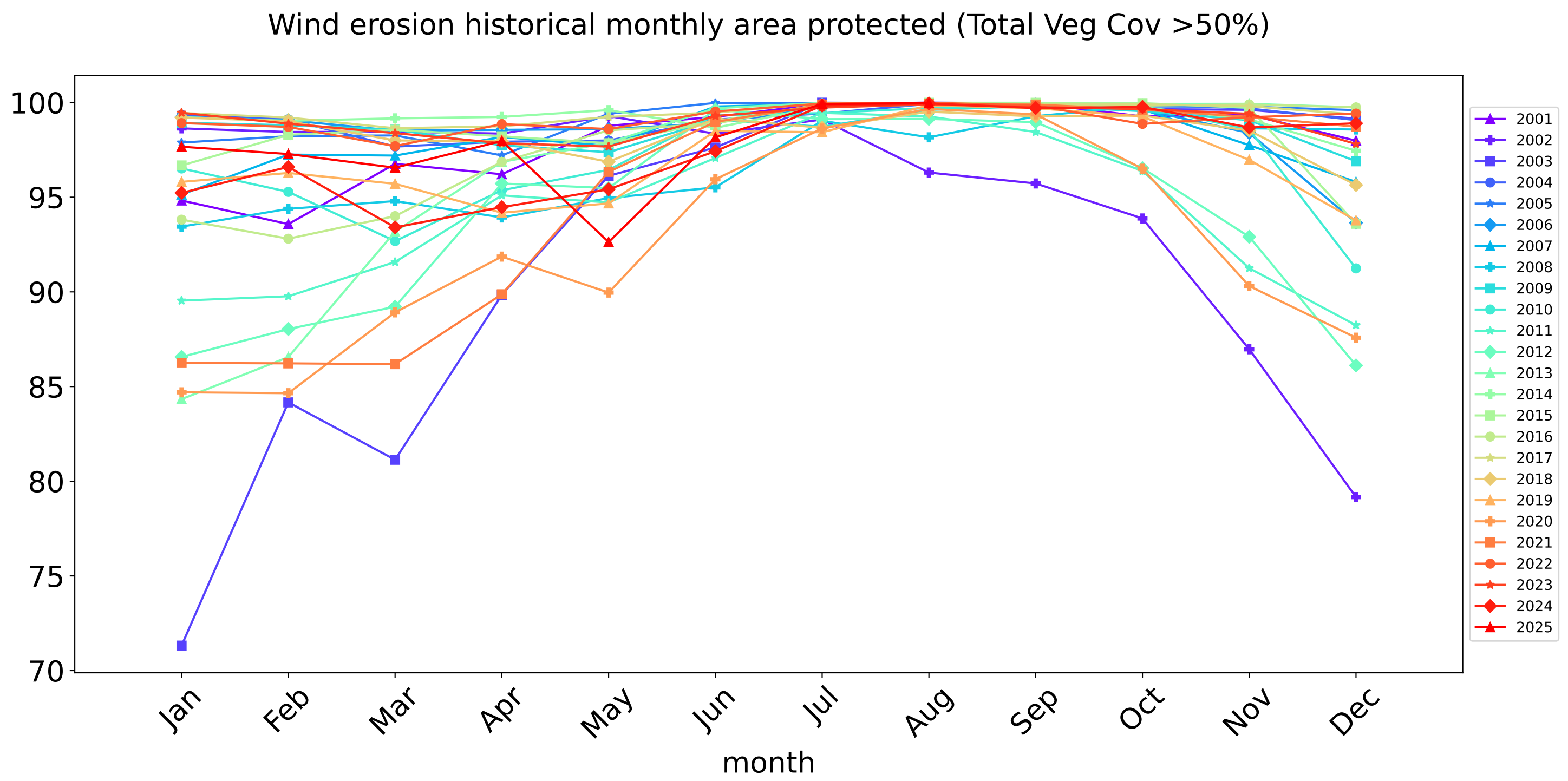
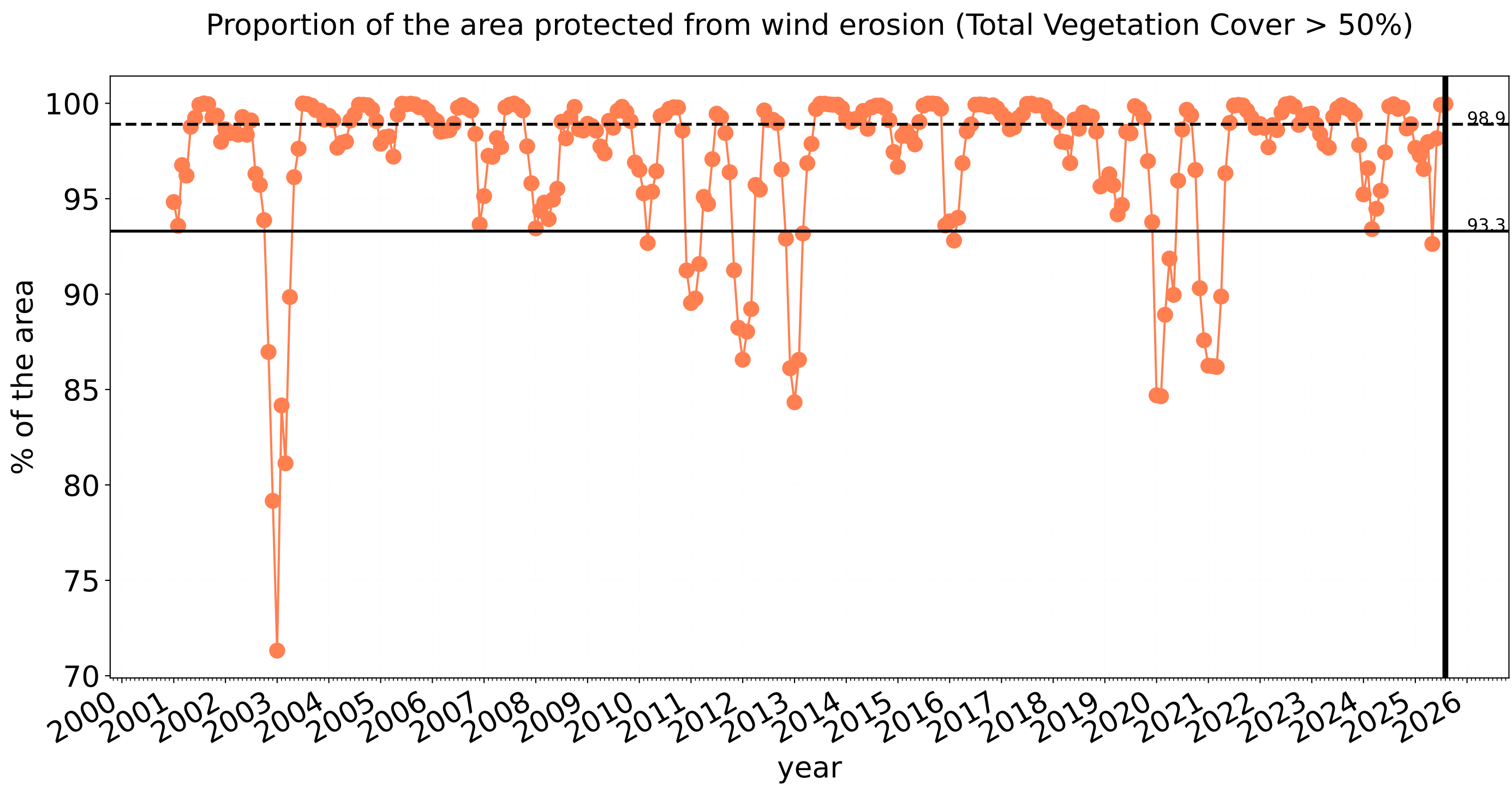


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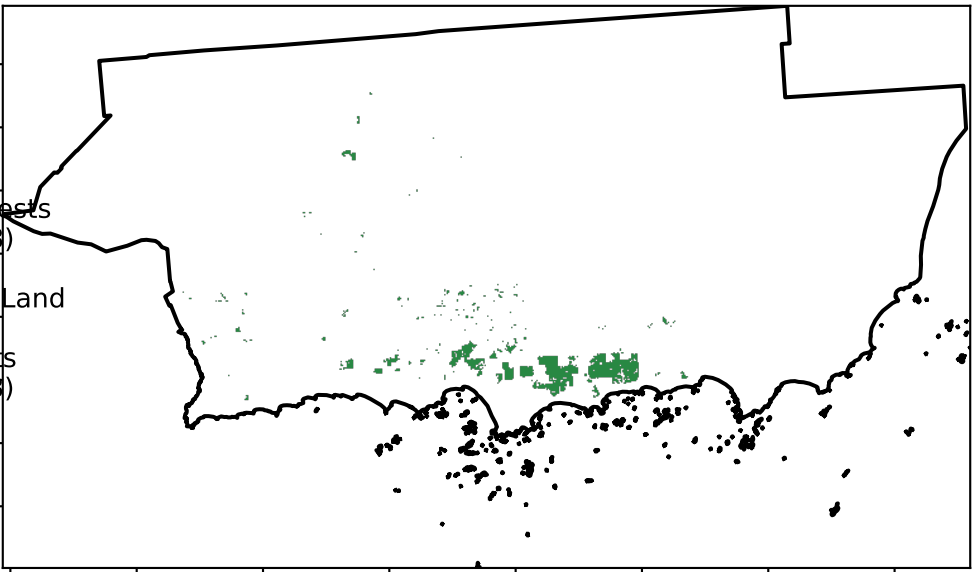
Cropping timeseries



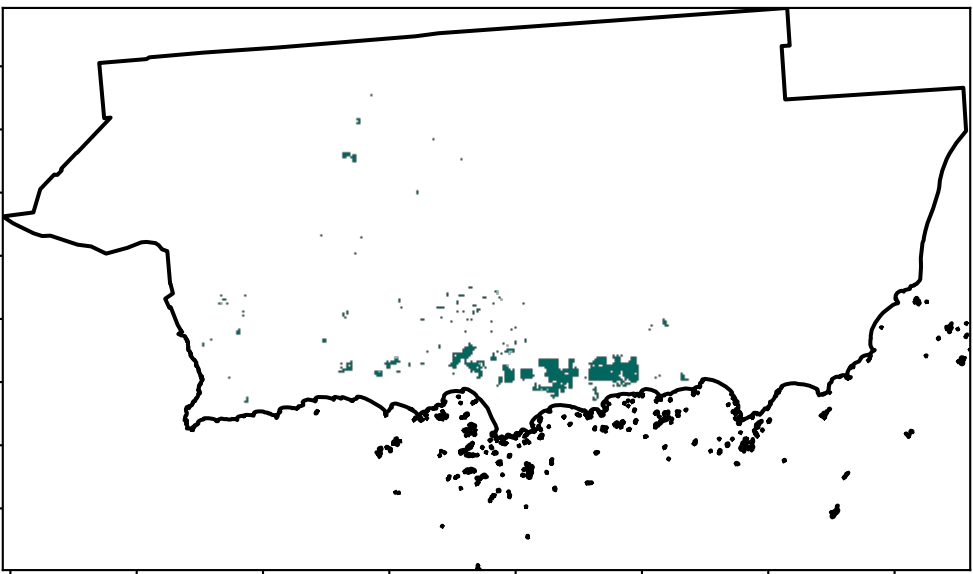
Production native forests and plantation forests

Land use and forest cover

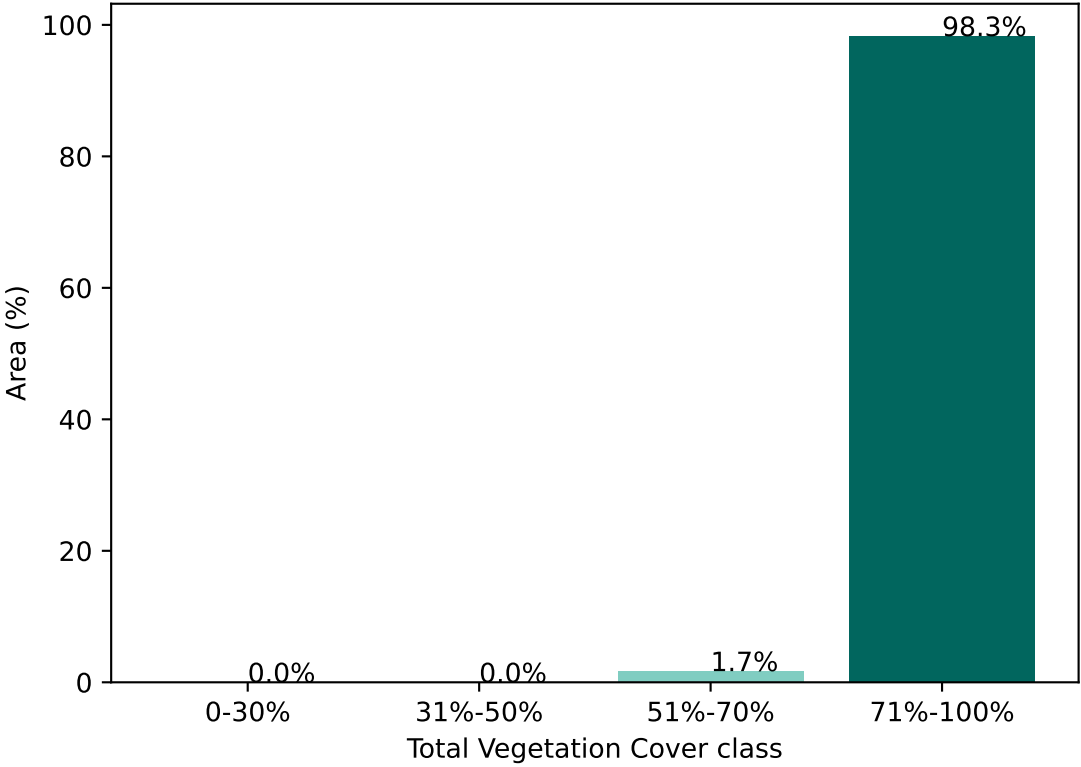
Catchment Scale Land Use and Forests of Australia (2018) Derived from Catchment Scale Land Use of Australia (2018) and Forests of Australia (2018)



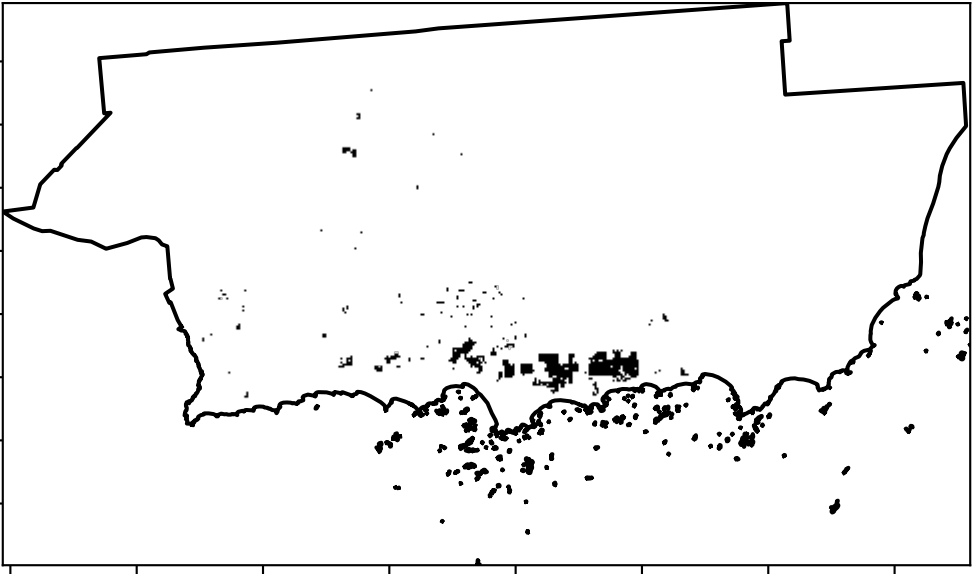
Total Vegetation Cover [%]



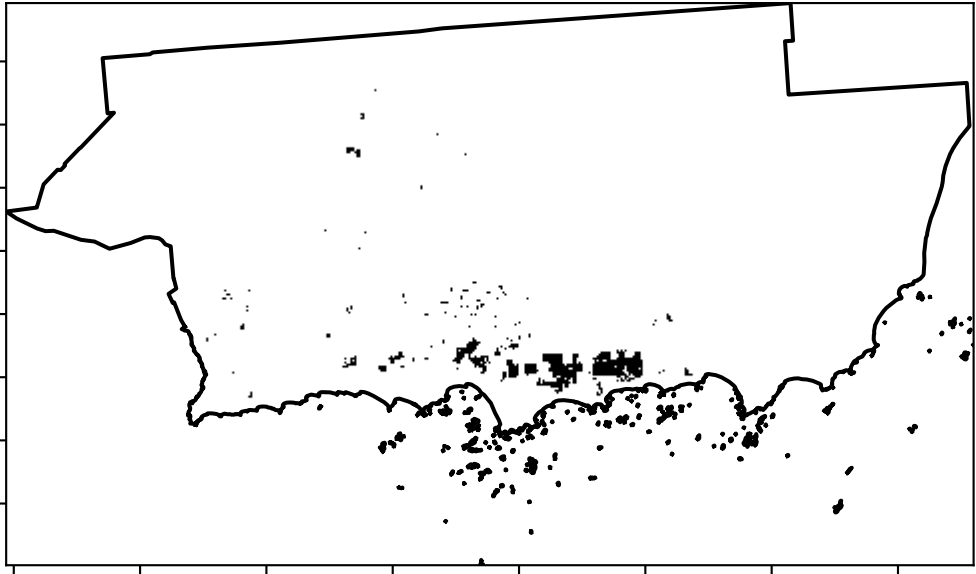
Proportion of vegetation cover class in area



% Area protected from water erosion (>70%)

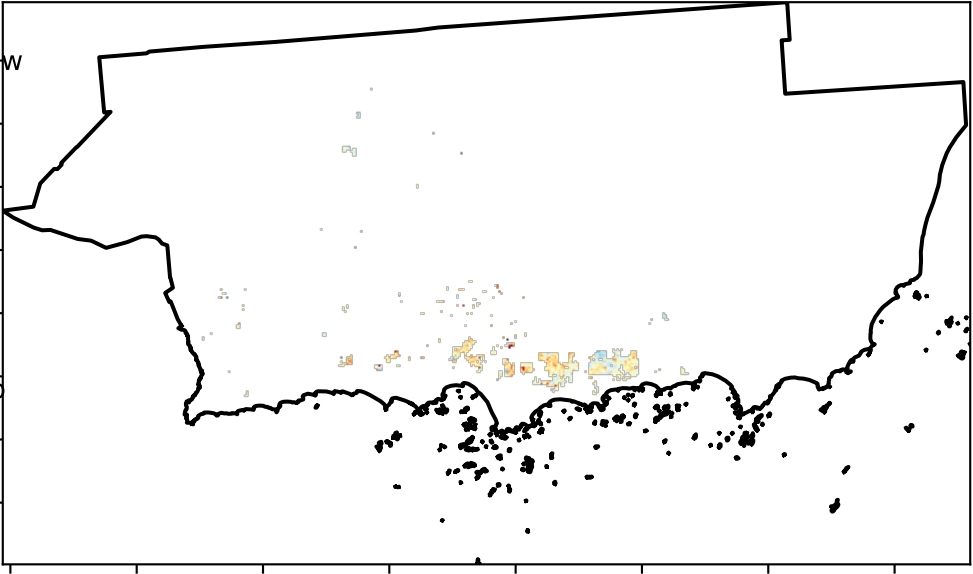


% Area protected from wind erosion (>50%)



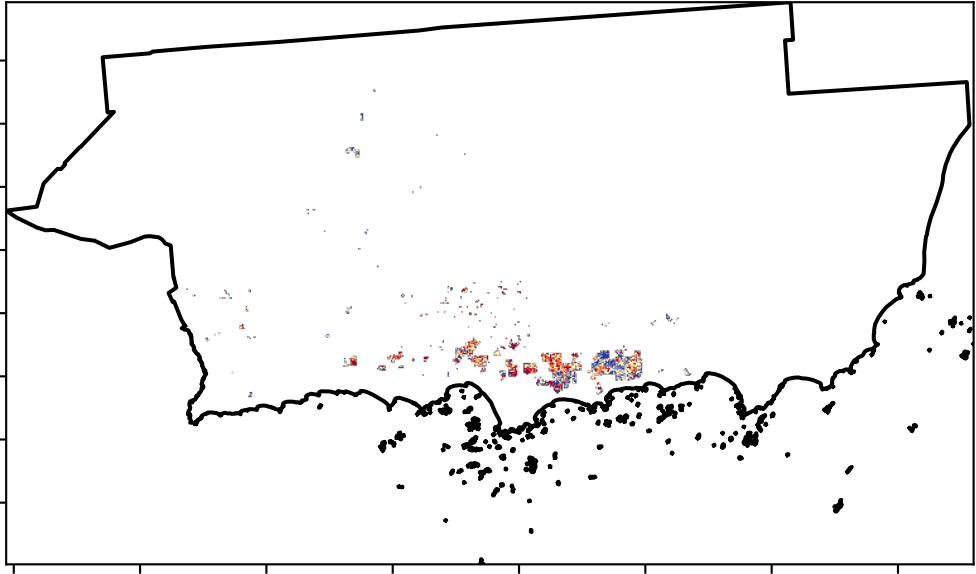
Total Vegetation Cover Anomaly [%]

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Total Vegetation Cover Decile [%]

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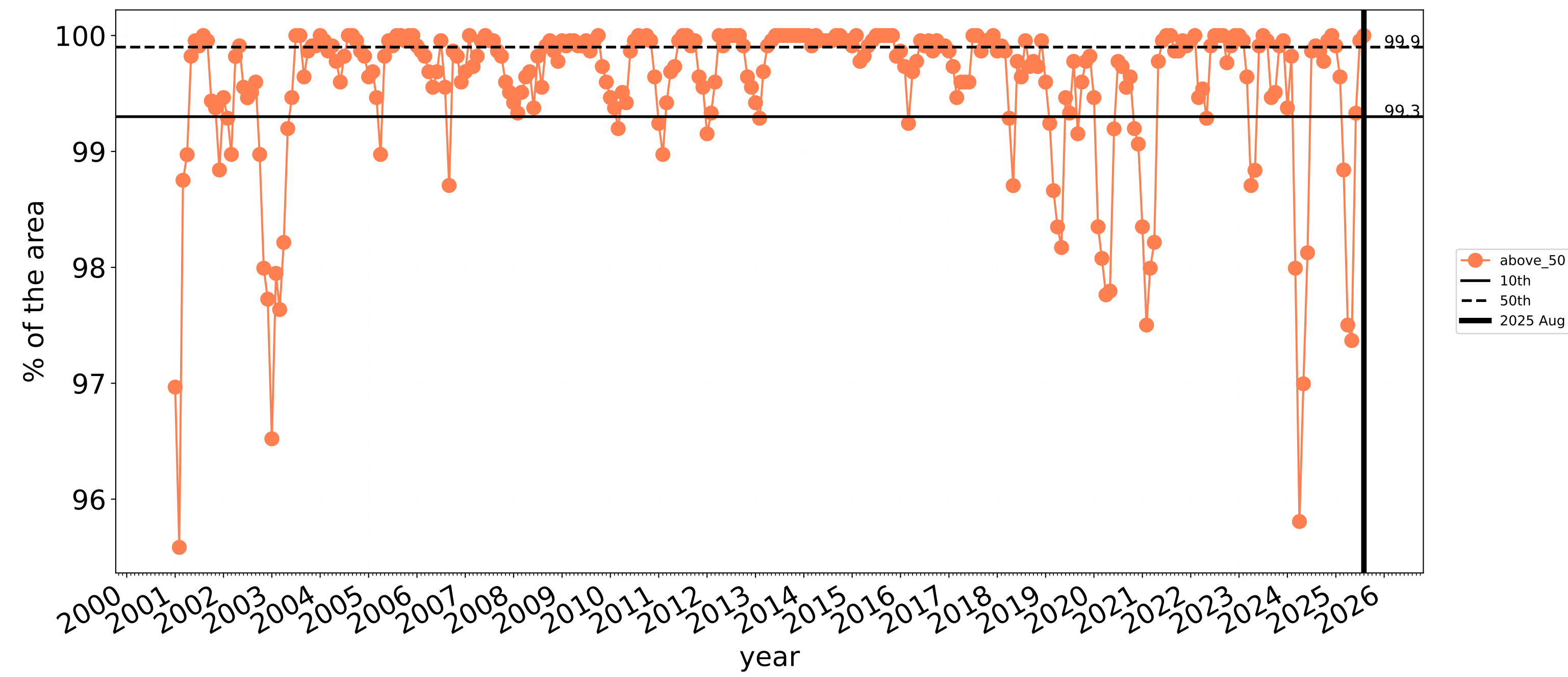


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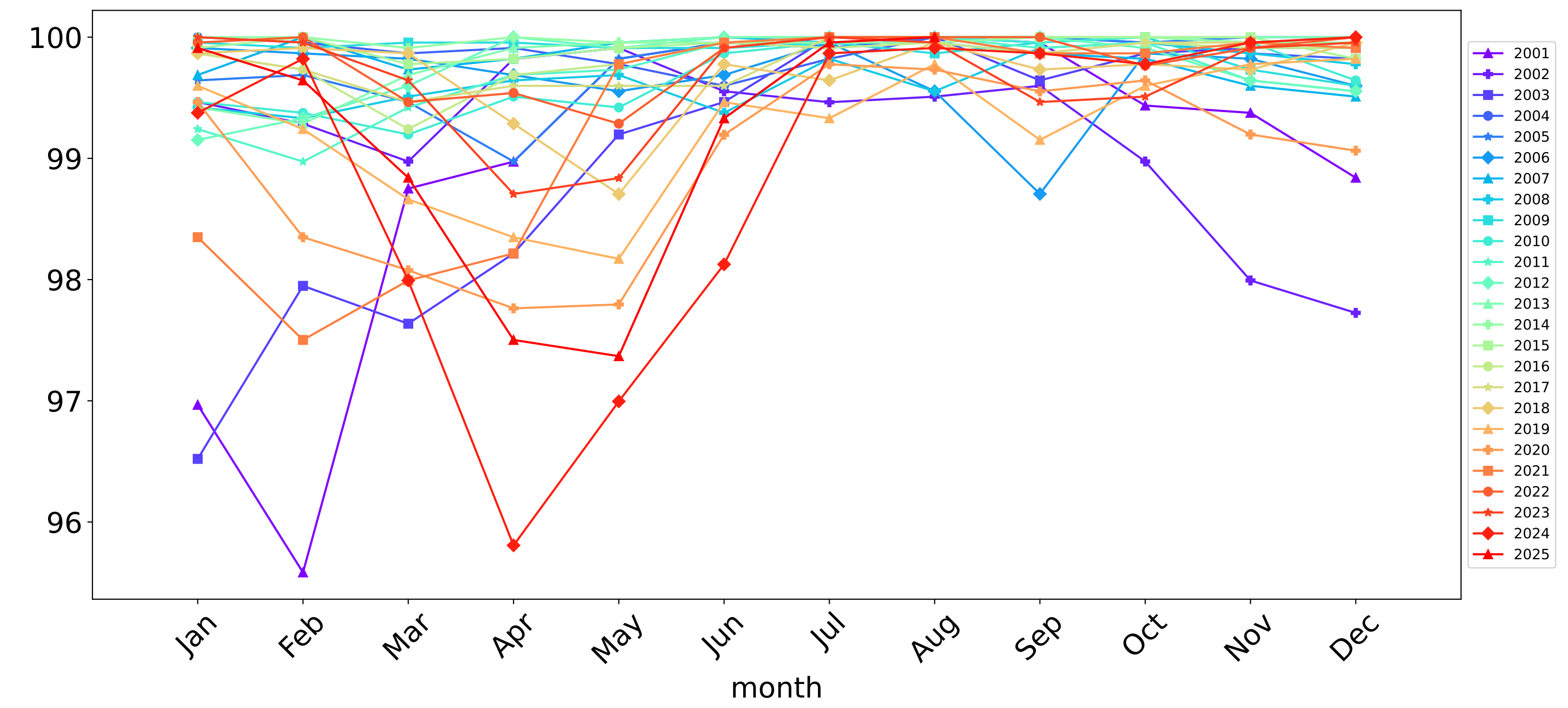


Production native forests and plantation forests timeseries

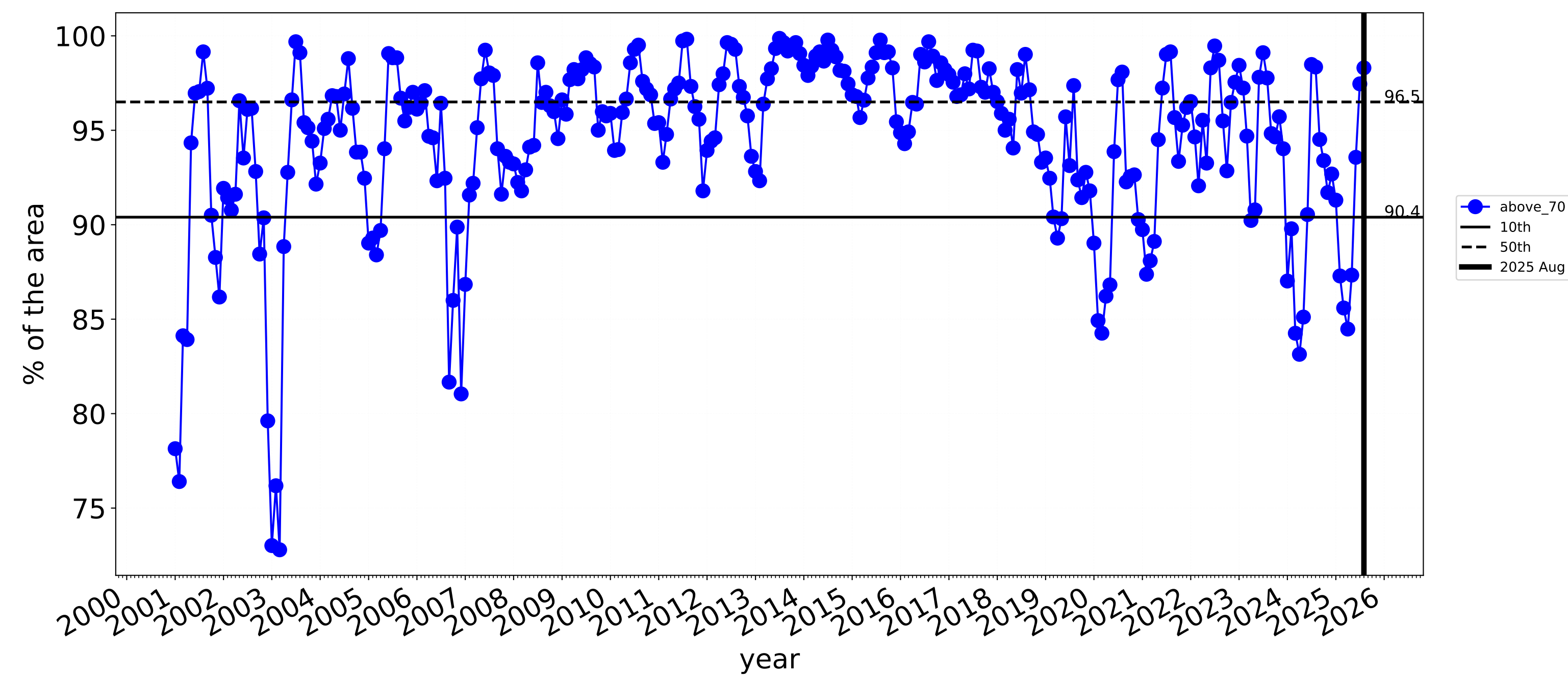
Proportion of the area protected from wind erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 50%)



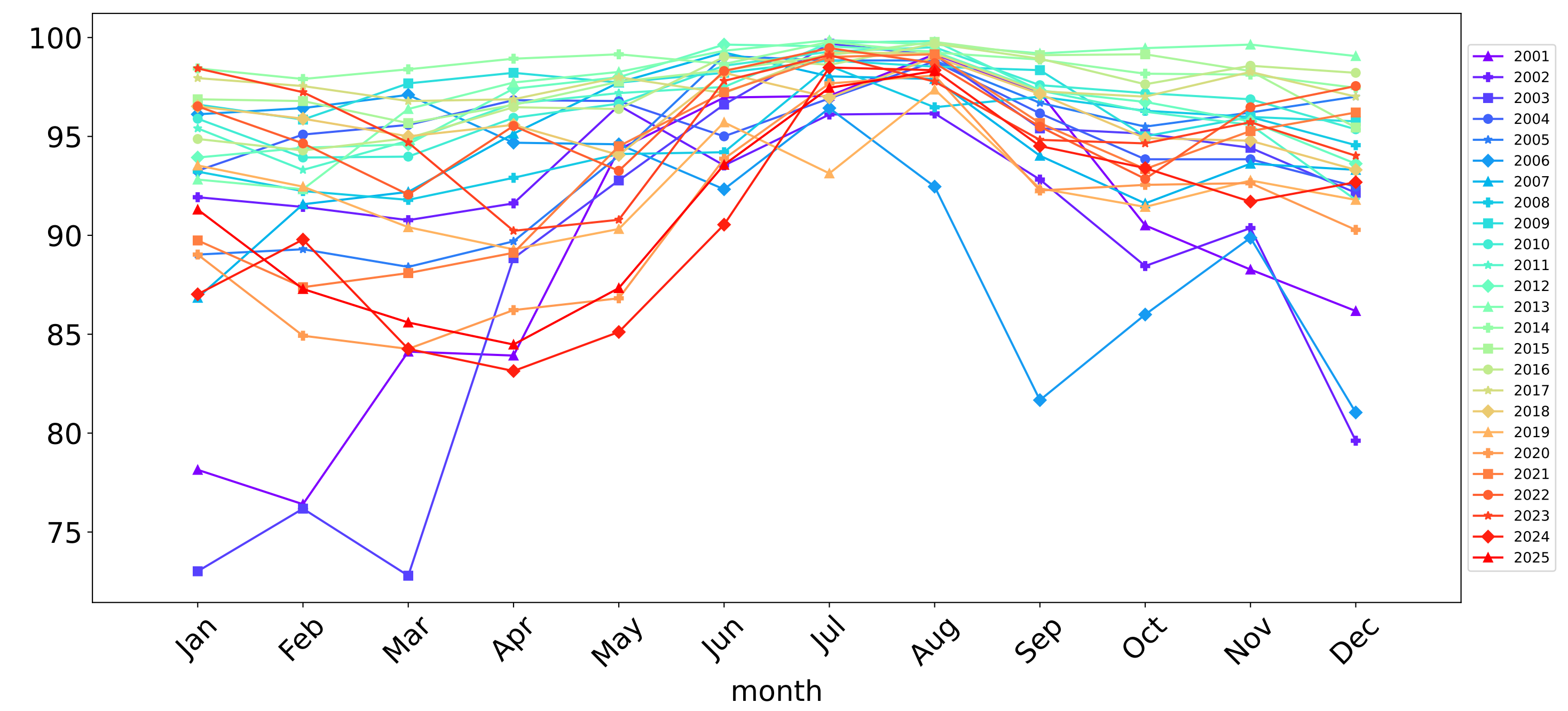
Wind erosion historical monthly area protected (Total Veg Cov >50%)



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



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



Esperance_(S) (4,421,050 ha and no data 56,850 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	4,421,050	99.9% 4,417,900	99.8% 4,412,150	95.4% 4,219,125	70.8% 3,131,575	13.4% 592,000	4.9% 217,500
Conservation and natural environments	3,038,625	99.9% 3,036,825	99.8% 3,032,275	95.5% 2,902,000	68.5% 2,082,075	7.3% 222,700	2.3% 70,000
Conservation and natural environments non forest	923,000	99.8% 921,375	99.6% 918,850	95.7% 883,525	76.4% 705,350	13.5% 124,425	4.8% 44,125
Conservation and natural environments Woodland forest	2,114,975	100.0% 2,114,800	99.9% 2,112,775	95.4% 2,017,850	65.1% 1,376,225	4.6% 98,200	1.2% 25,875
Agriculture	1,192,025	100.0% 1,191,900	100.0% 1,191,700	95.2% 1,135,350	74.4% 887,075	22.1% 263,325	6.6% 78,825
Grazing	193,100	100.0% 193,100	100.0% 193,100	97.5% 188,200	83.2% 160,650	28.0% 53,975	8.4% 16,175
Grazing non forest	190,600	100.0% 190,600	100.0% 190,600	97.4% 185,725	83.2% 158,575	28.1% 53,500	8.4% 16,050
Cropping	998,925	100.0% 998,800	100.0% 998,600	94.8% 947,150	72.7% 726,425	21.0% 209,350	6.3% 62,650
Production native forests and plantation forests	56,050	100.0% 56,050	100.0% 56,050	98.3% 55,100	88.1% 49,375	40.5% 22,675	19.3% 10,800