# Total vegetation cover soil protection Region:NRM Greater Sydney NSW

# **Date: January 2019**

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 covers at least 1% of the area of the chosen region. Total vegetation Cover:

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

• 71-100% High cover – protected from wind and usually water erosion (high rainfall, steep slopes, and erodible soils may need greater than 80, 90, 95 and up to 100% cover)

- 51-70% Moderate cover protected from wind erosion
- 31-50% Low cover not protected
- 0-30% Very Low cover not protected

Erosion protection: Wind erosion 50% total vegetation cover

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

- Map: water erosion protection (>70% cover) percentage area and hectares.
- Map: wind erosion protection (>50% cover) percentage area and hectares. Comparison with previous years:
  - Map: anomaly comparing this month to the average cover from the same month in previous years.
  - Map: deciles rank of month against the same month in previous years.

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

### **Erosion protection**

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

### Rainfall

• Millimetres rainfall each month (black line).

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

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

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

## Acknowledgment of data:

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

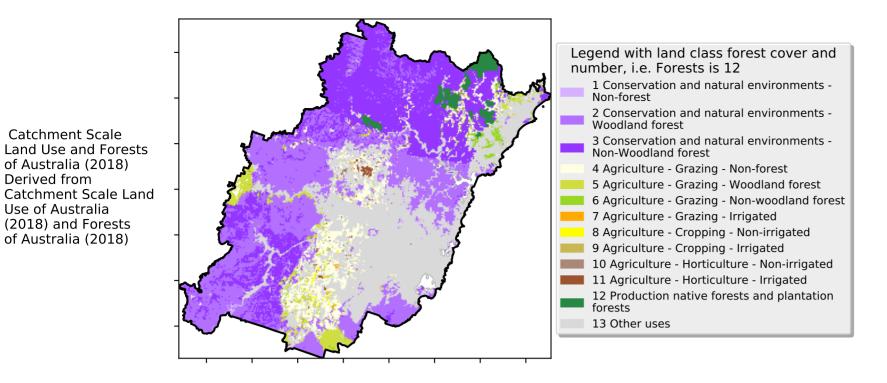
https://doi.org/10.4225/08/5848a3f19a7b3



# **Vegetation Cover Jan 2019**

#### Land use and forest cover

#### Proportion of each land class in area



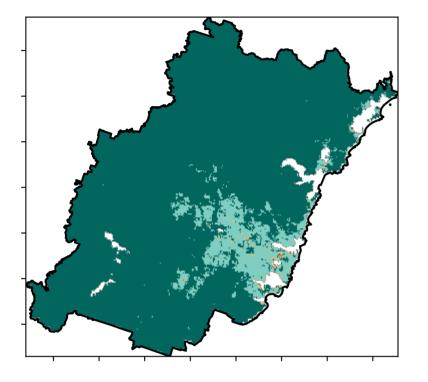
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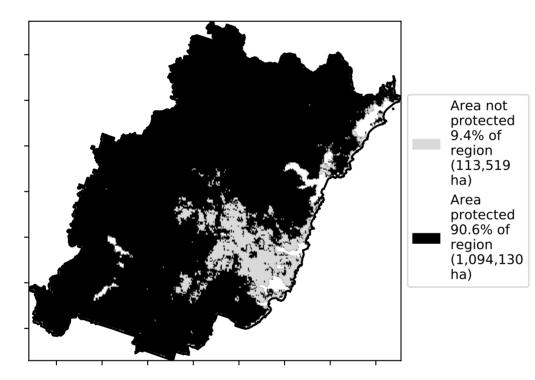
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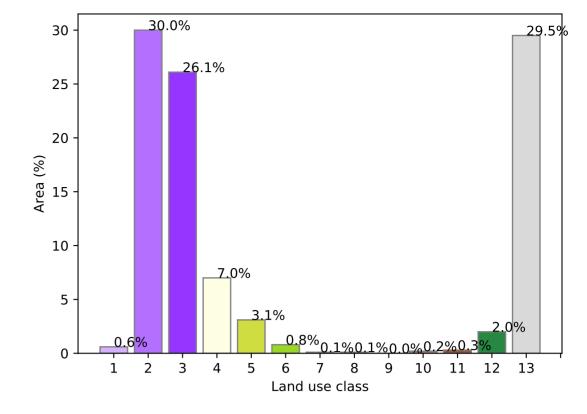
0.30%

#### **Total Vegetation Cover [%]**

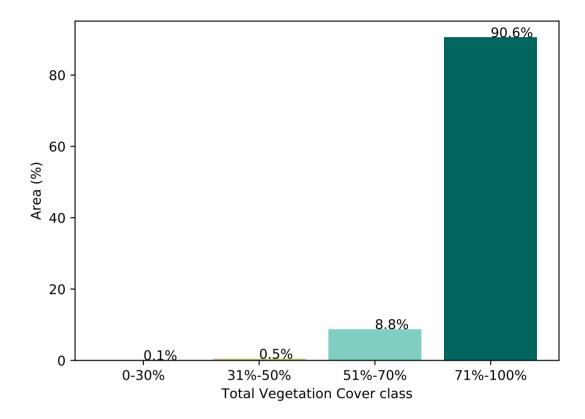


% Area protected from water erosion (>70%)

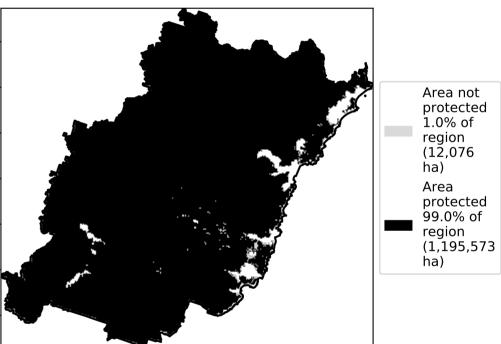




#### Proportion of vegetation cover class in area



#### % Area protected from wind erosion (>50%)



Area not protected 1.0% of region (12,076

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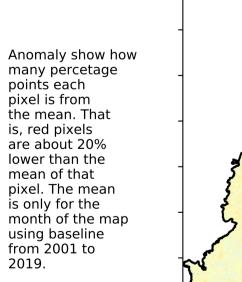
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**Total Vegetation Cover Anomaly [%]** 

**Total Vegetation Cover Decile [%]** 



Catchment Scale

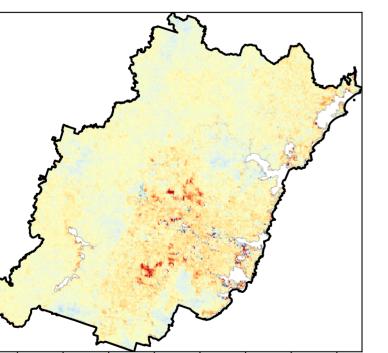
of Australia (2018)

(2018) and Forests

of Australia (2018)

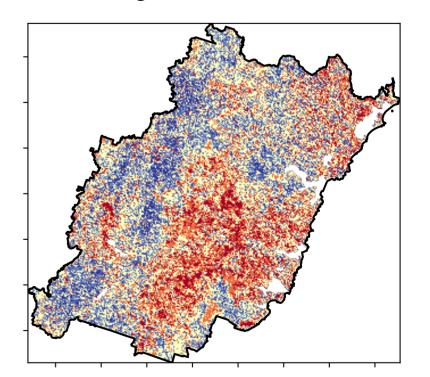
Derived from

Use of Australia



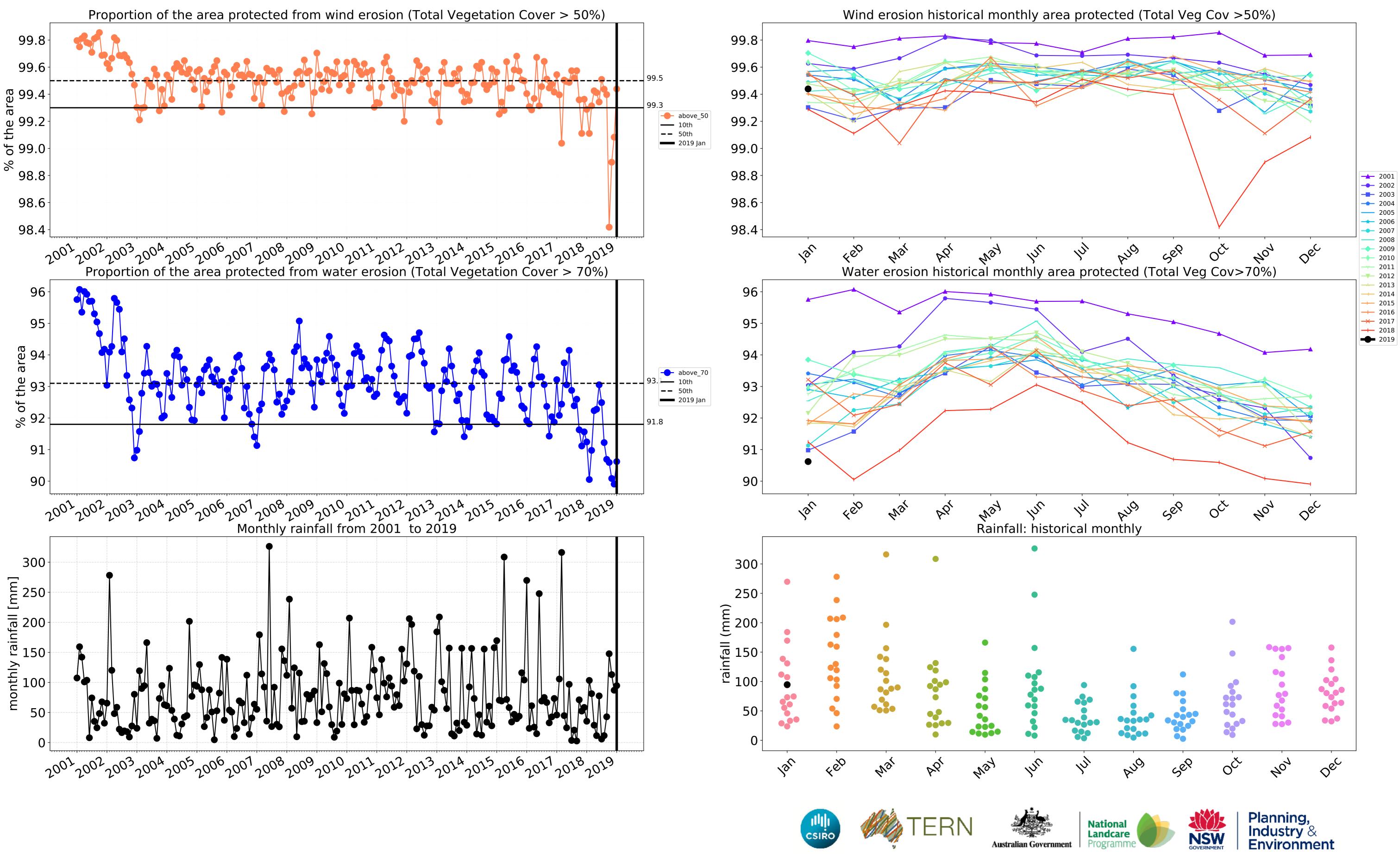
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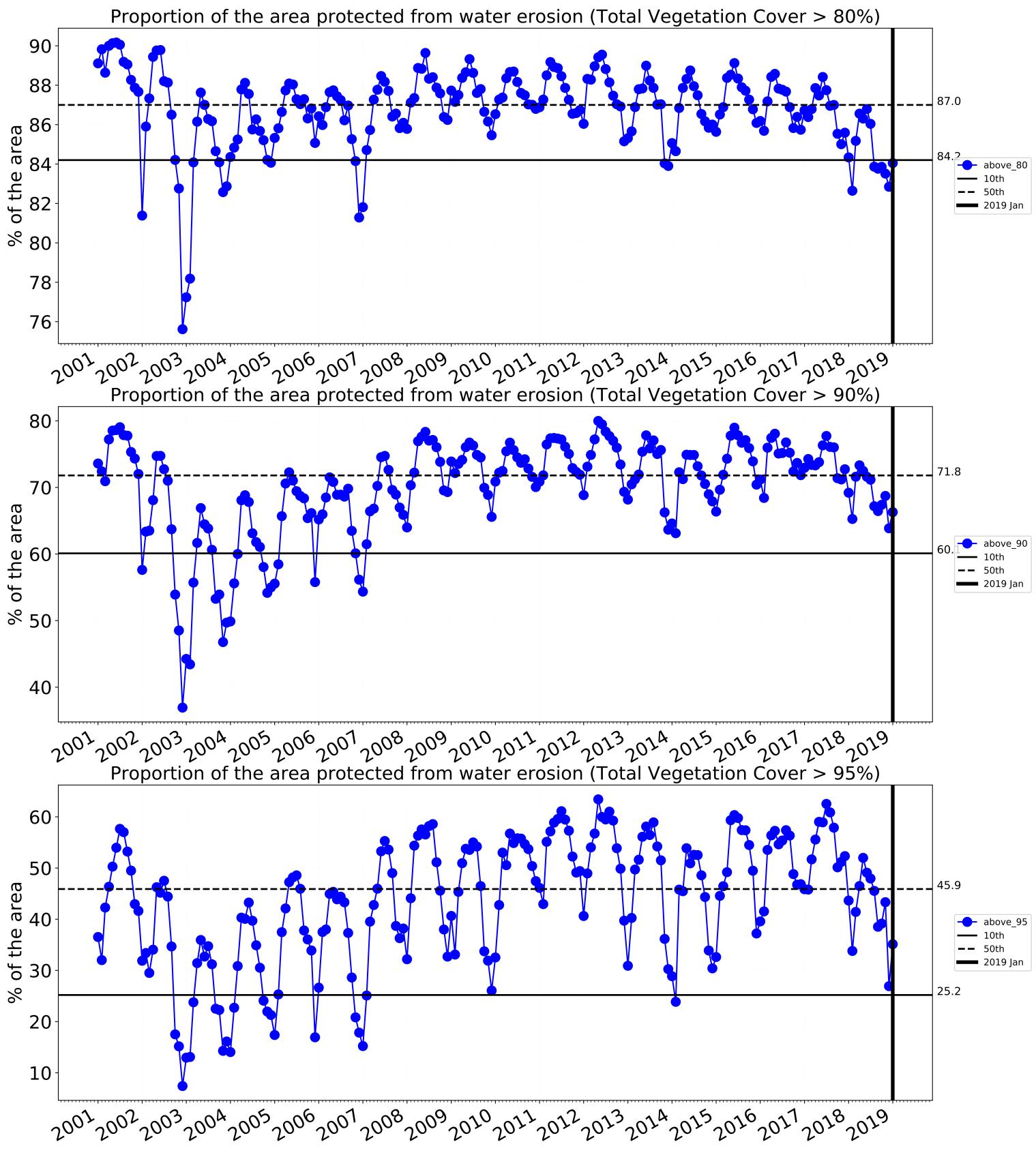
Deciles show where the pixel value lies in the record, from highest to lowest, for that month. That is, red pixels are in the lowest 10% of records for that month of the map using baseline from 2001 to 2019.

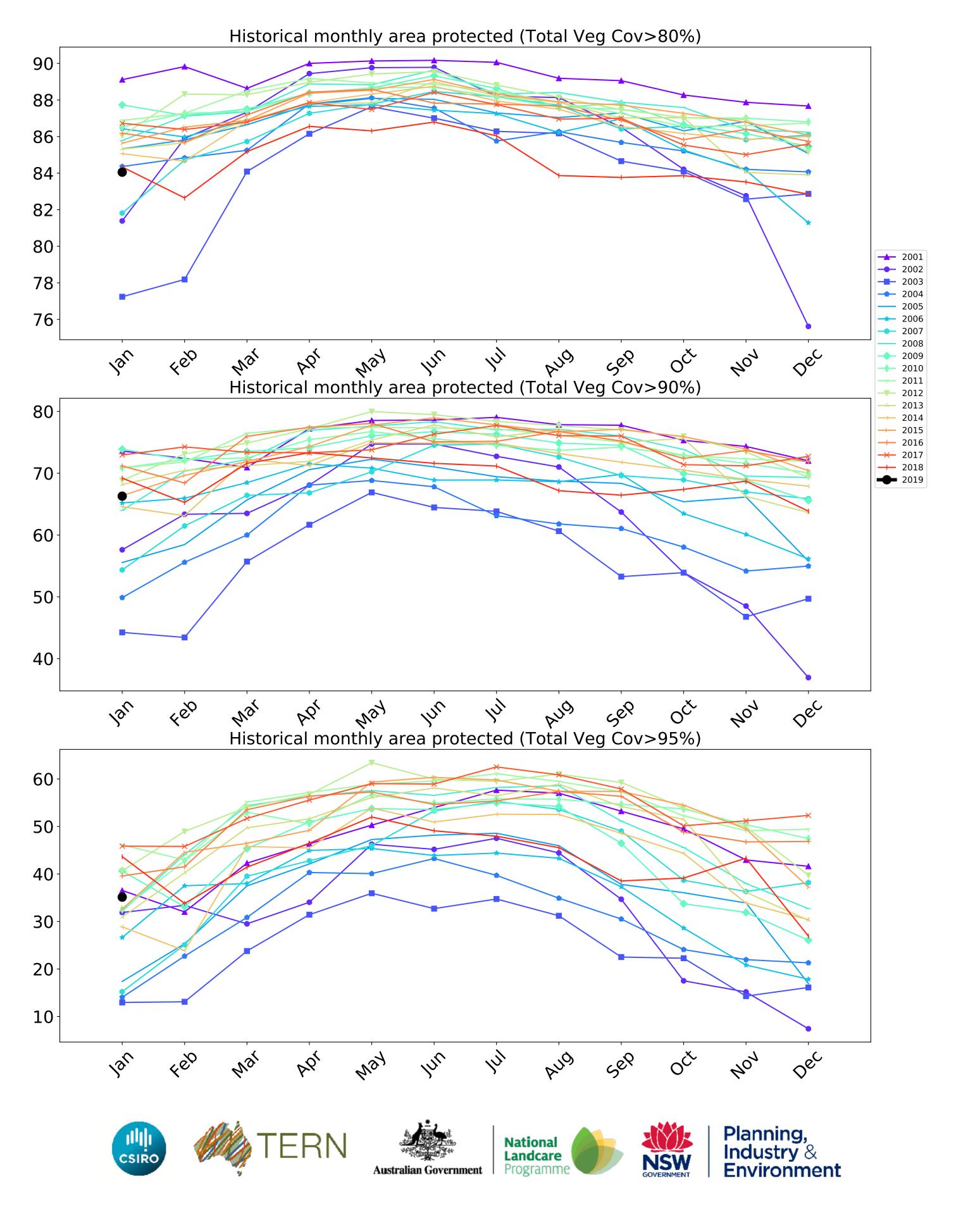




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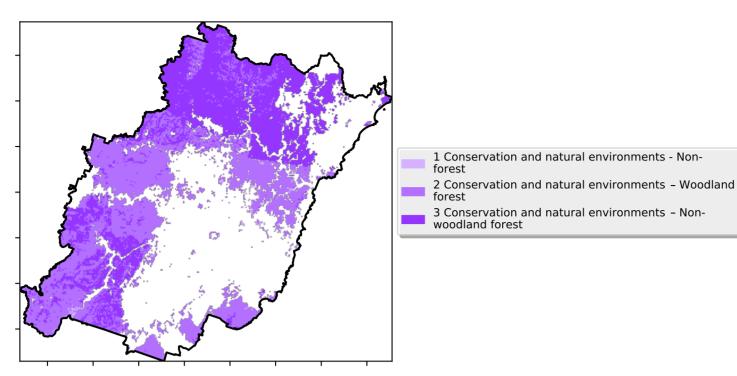






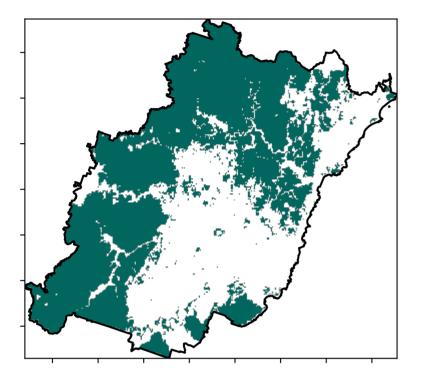
### **Conservation and natural environments**

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

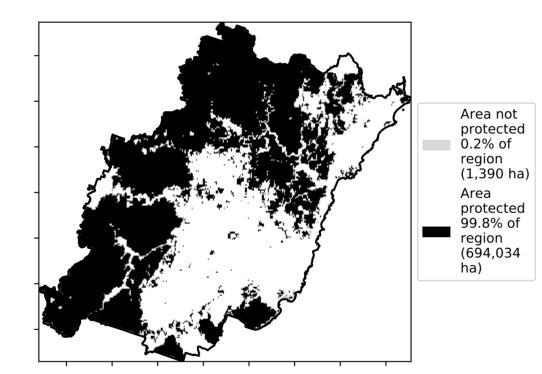


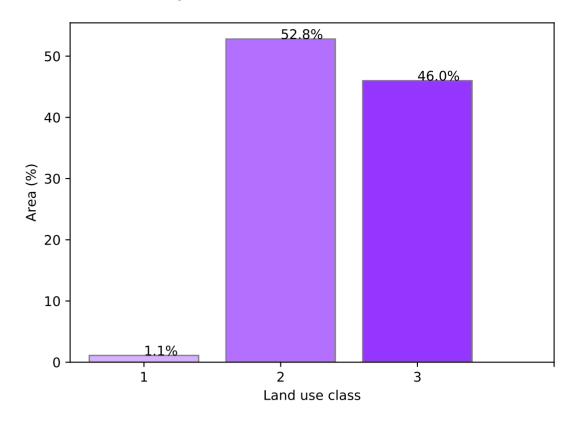
Land use and forest cover

**Total Vegetation Cover [%]** 



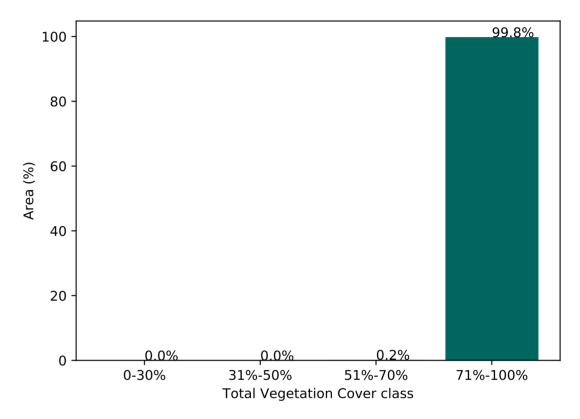
% Area protected from water erosion (>70%)



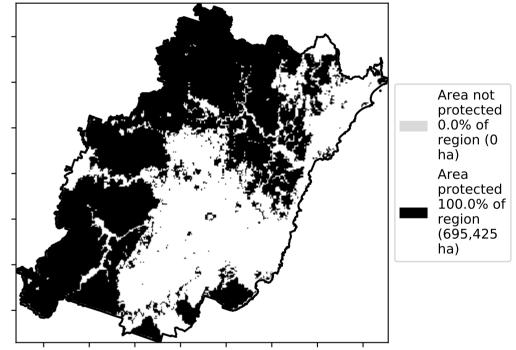


#### Proportion of each land class in area

Proportion of vegetation cover class in area



#### % Area protected from wind erosion (>50%)



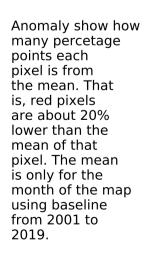
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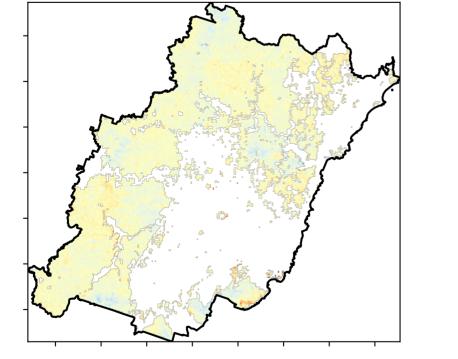
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**Total Vegetation Cover Anomaly [%]** 





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- 20

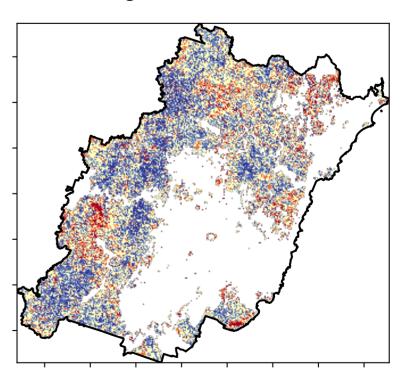
12%200%

52°10°10°10

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0.30%

Total Vegetation Cover Decile [%]

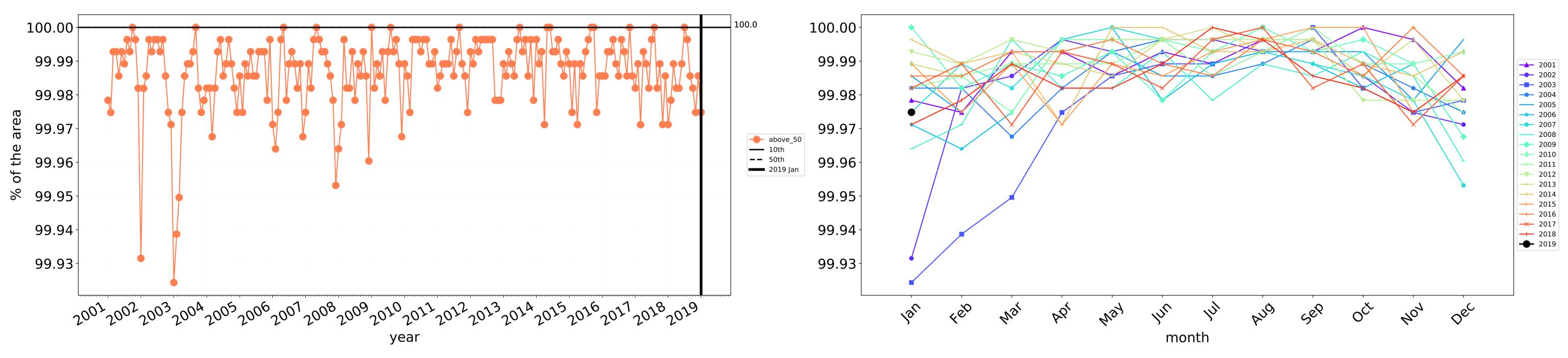




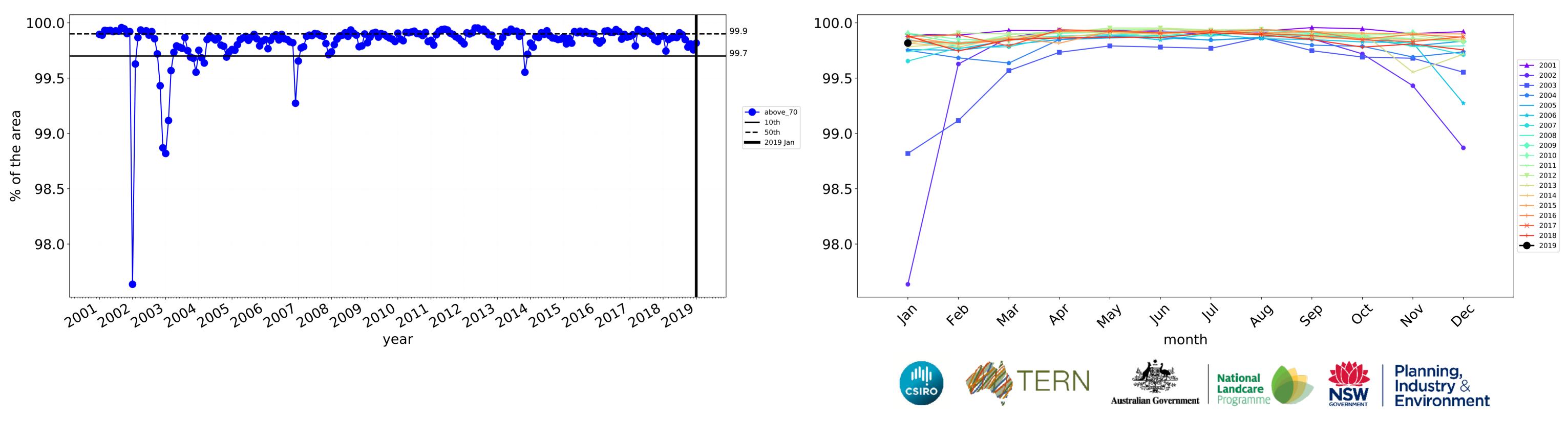
Deciles show where the pixel value lies in the

record, from highest to lowest, for that month. That is, red pixels are in the lowest 10% of

records for that month of



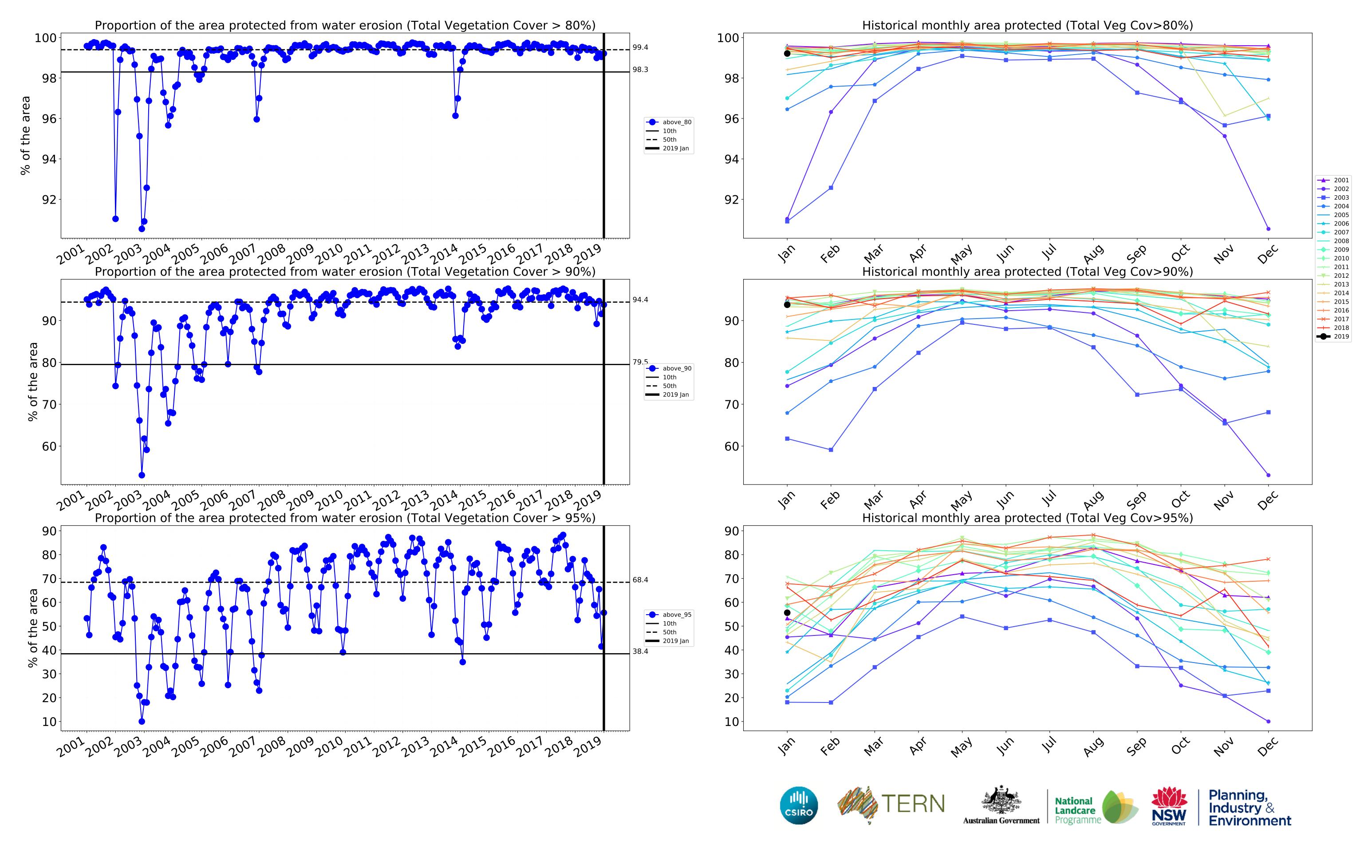
Proportion of the area protected from wind erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 50%)





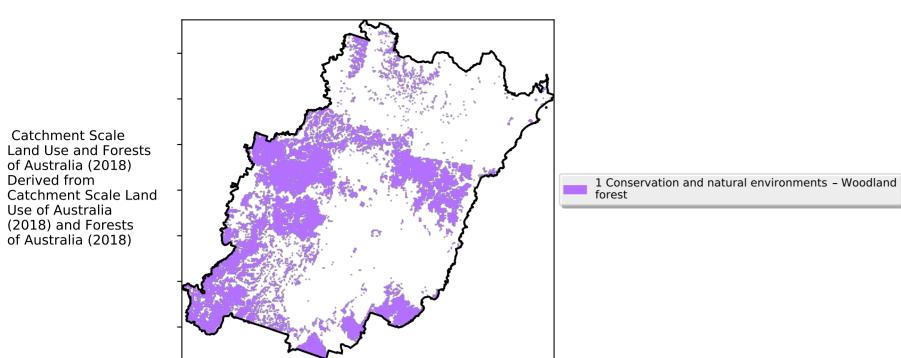
Wind erosion historical monthly area protected (Total Veg Cov >50%)

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

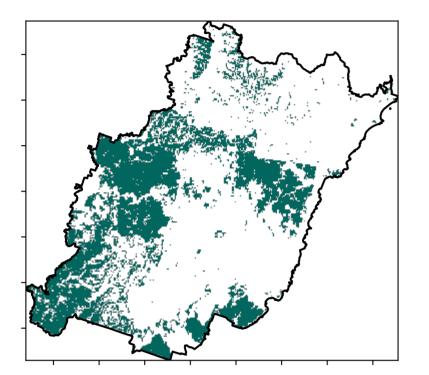


## **Conservation and natural environments Woodland forest**

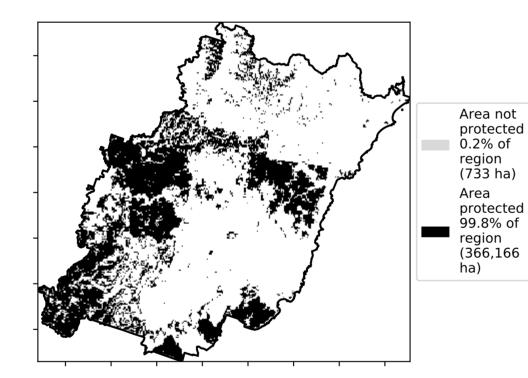
Land use and forest cover



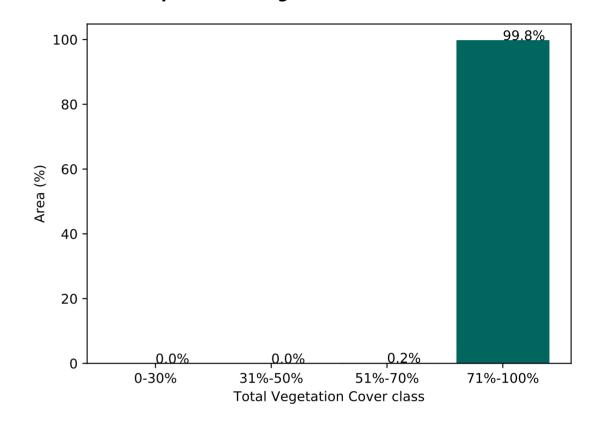
**Total Vegetation Cover [%]** 



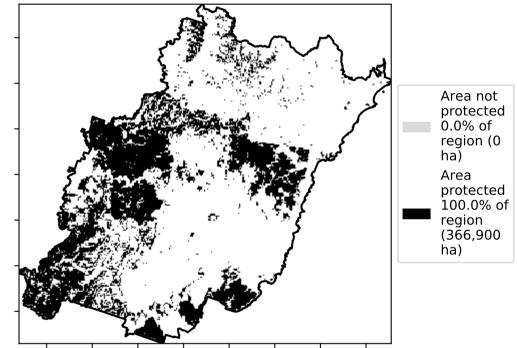
% Area protected from water erosion (>70%)



Proportion of vegetation cover class in area



% Area protected from wind erosion (>50%)



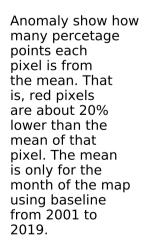
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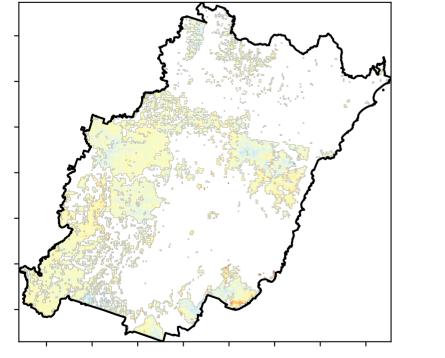
**Total Vegetation Cover Anomaly [%]** 

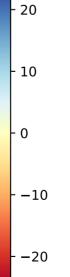


Catchment Scale

Derived from

Use of Australia



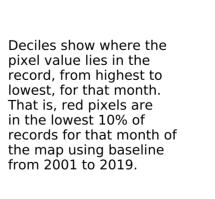


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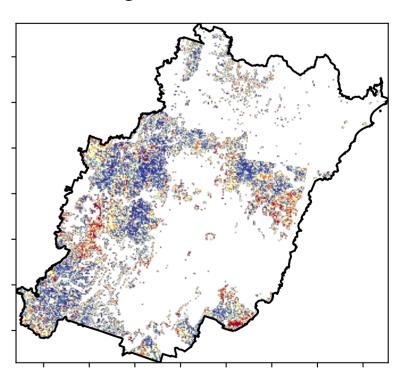
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0.30%

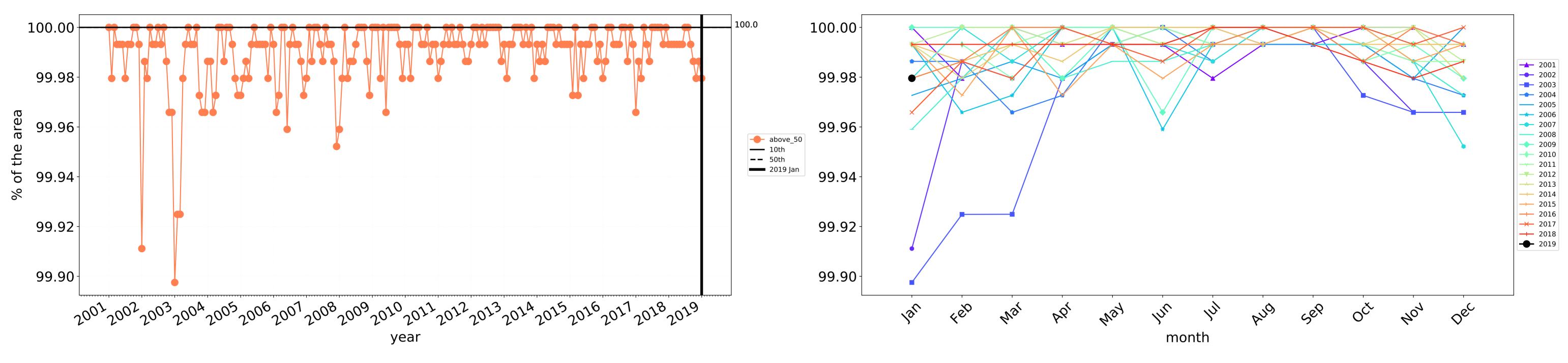


Total Vegetation Cover Decile [%]

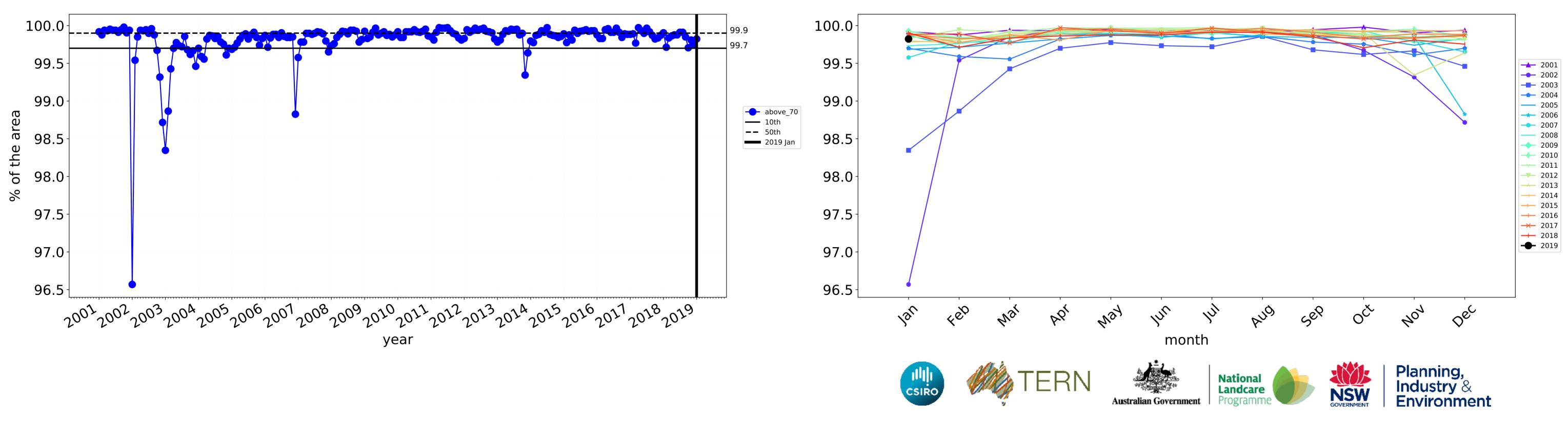




pixel is from the mean. That is, red pixels are about 20% lower than the mean of that pixel. The mean

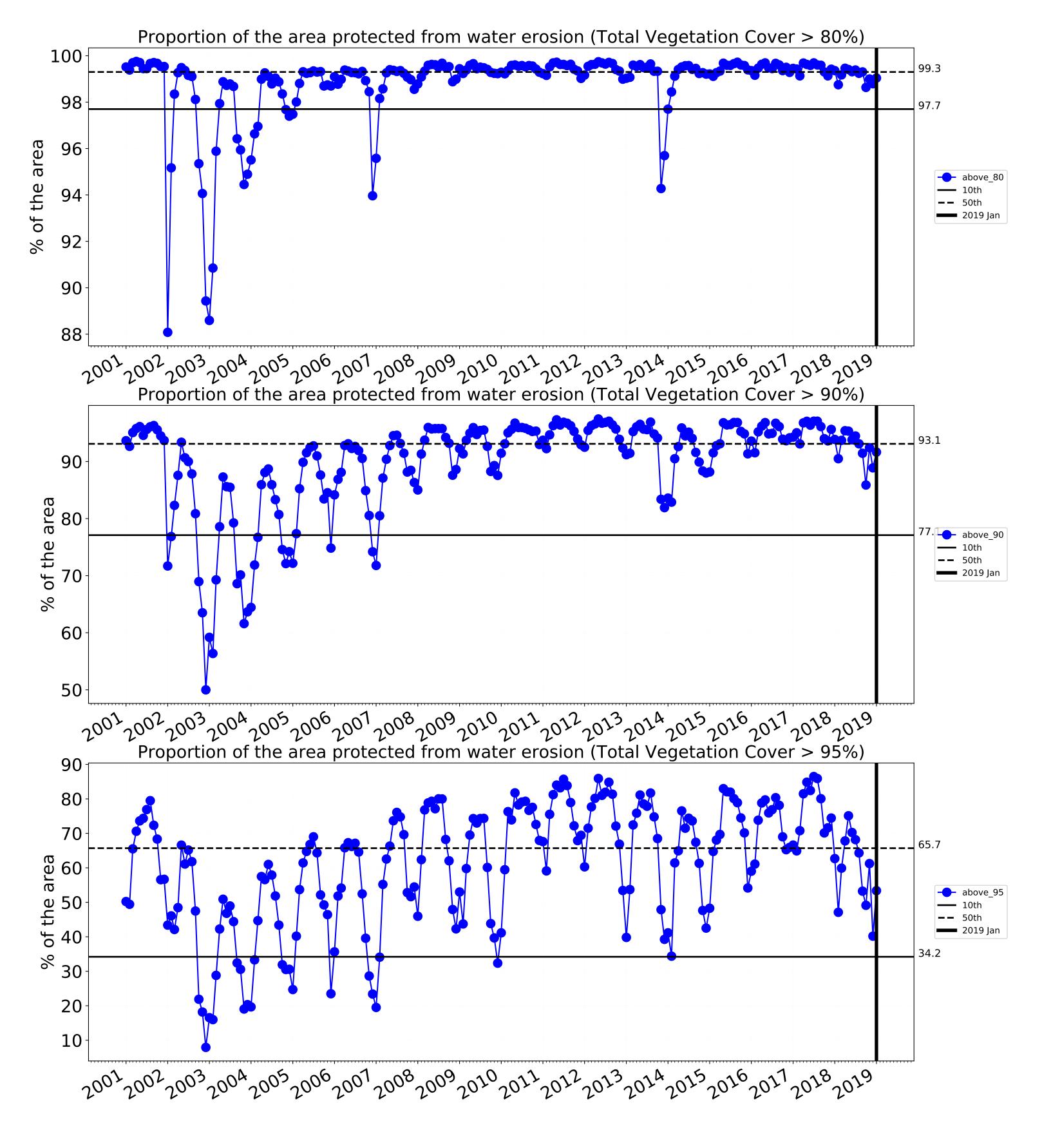


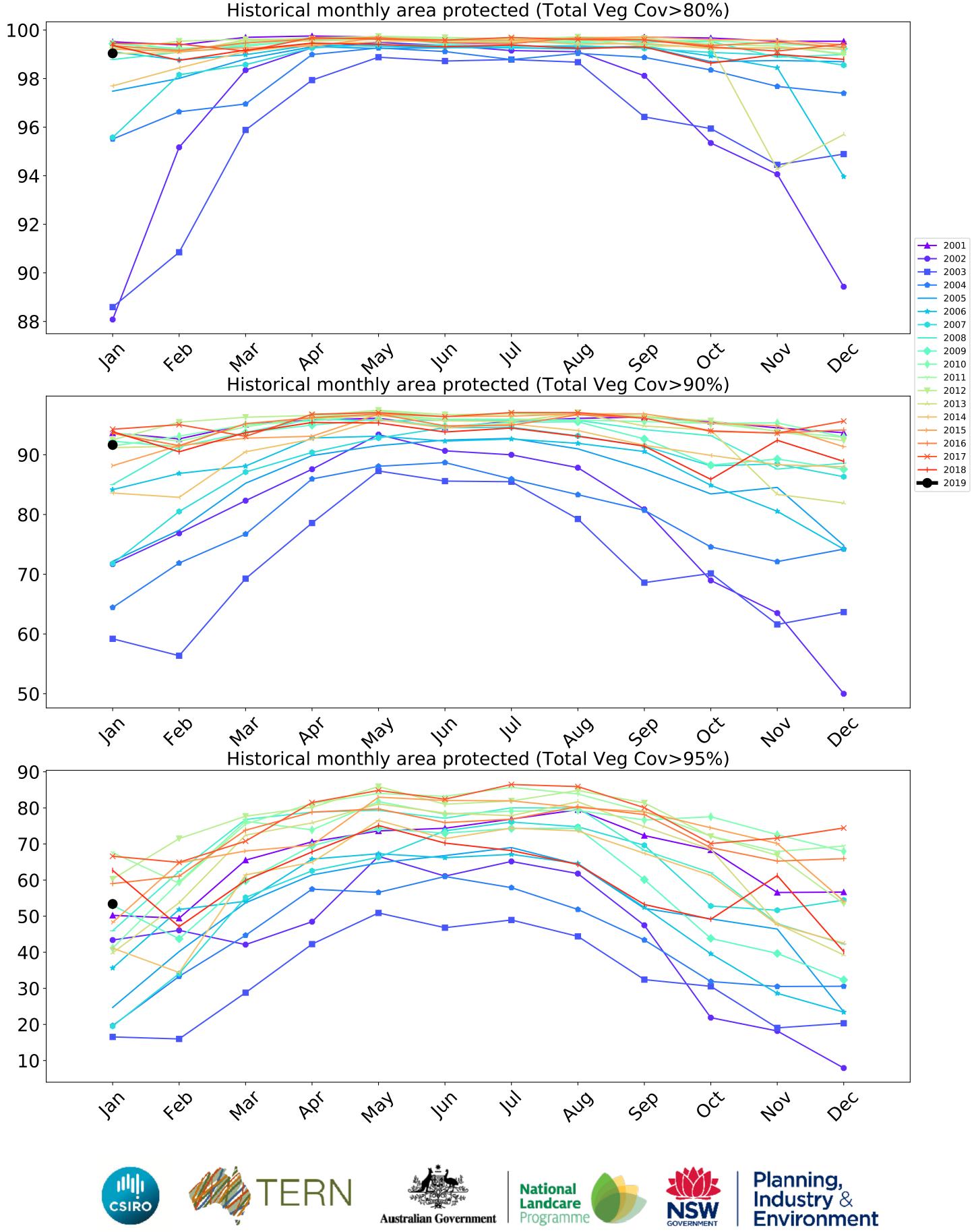
Proportion of the area protected from wind erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 50%)



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

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





## **Conservation and natural environments Forest (non woodland)**

Land use and forest cover Catchment Scale Land Use and Forests of Australia (2018) 1 Conservation and natural environments - Non-woodland forest Catchment Scale Land Use of Australia (2018) and Forests of Australia (2018)

12%200%

· 52% 70%

32%50%

0.30%

- 20

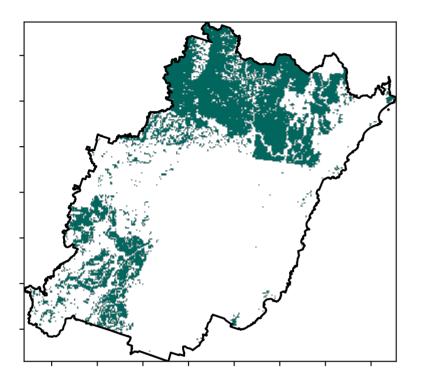
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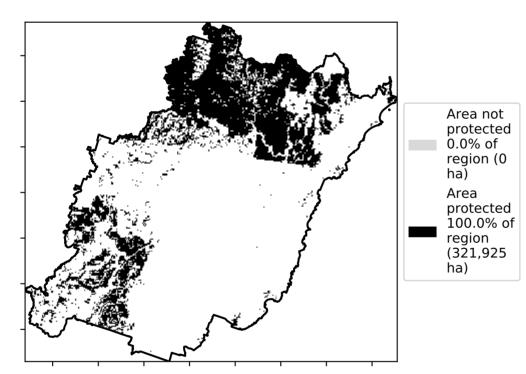
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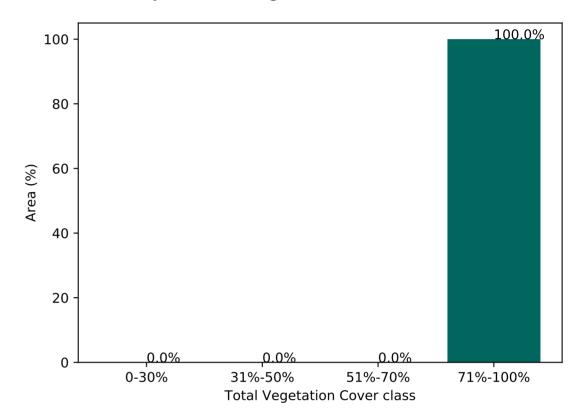
**Total Vegetation Cover [%]** 



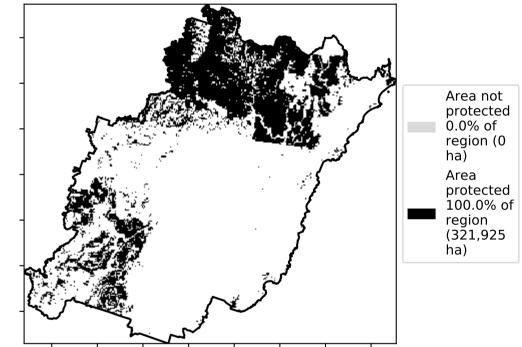
% Area protected from water erosion (>70%)



Proportion of vegetation cover class in area



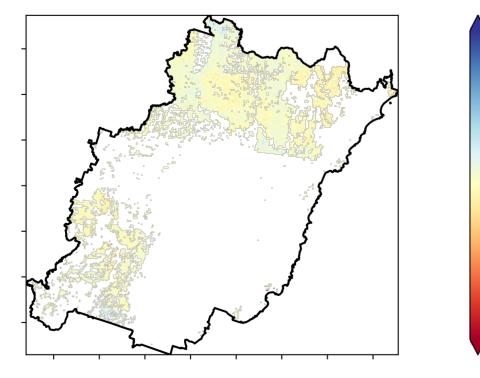
% Area protected from wind erosion (>50%)



**Total Vegetation Cover Anomaly [%]** 

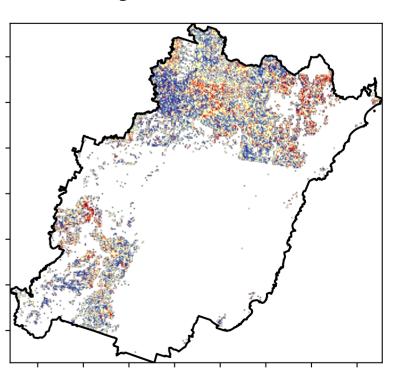
Anomaly show how many percetage points each pixel is from the mean. That is, red pixels are about 20% lower than the mean of that pixel. The mean is only for the month of the map using baseline from 2001 to 2019.

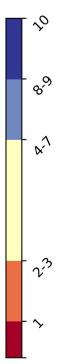
Derived from



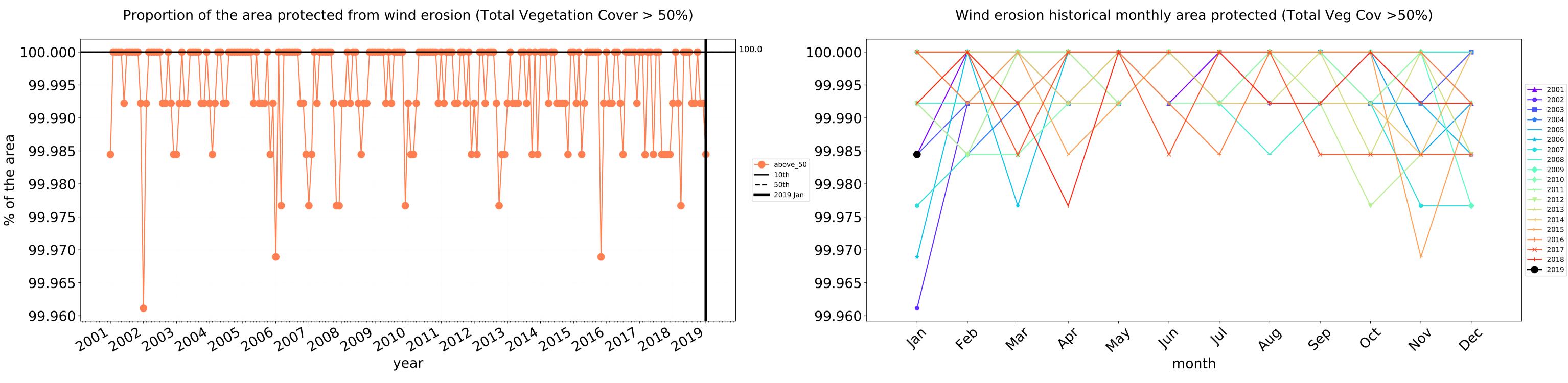
Deciles show where the pixel value lies in the record, from highest to lowest, for that month. That is, red pixels are in the lowest 10% of records for that month of the man using baseline the map using baseline from 2001 to 2019.

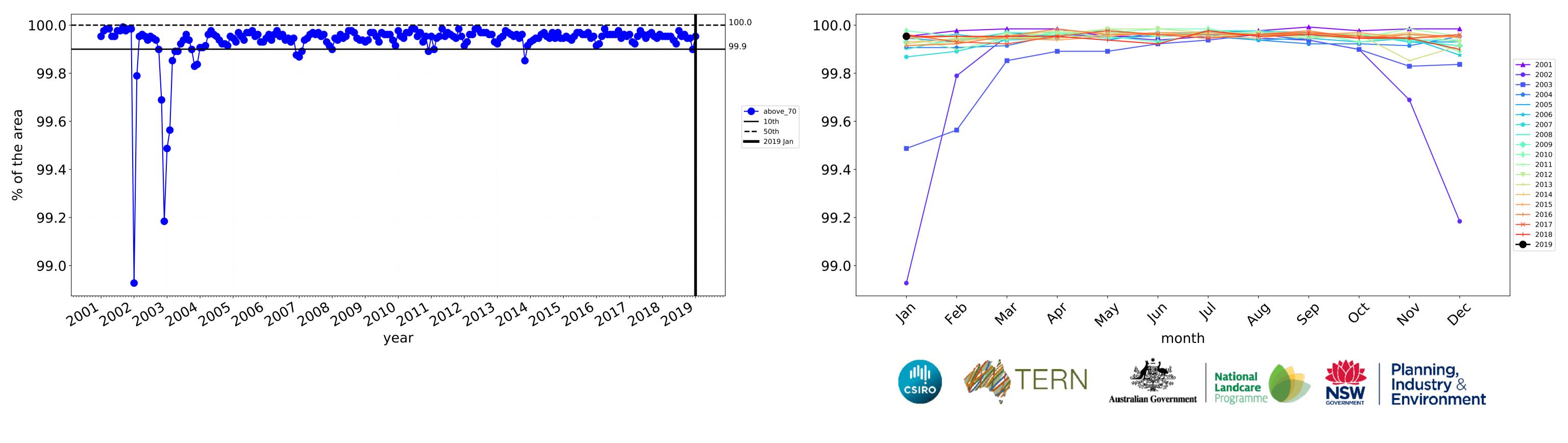
**Total Vegetation Cover Decile [%]** 



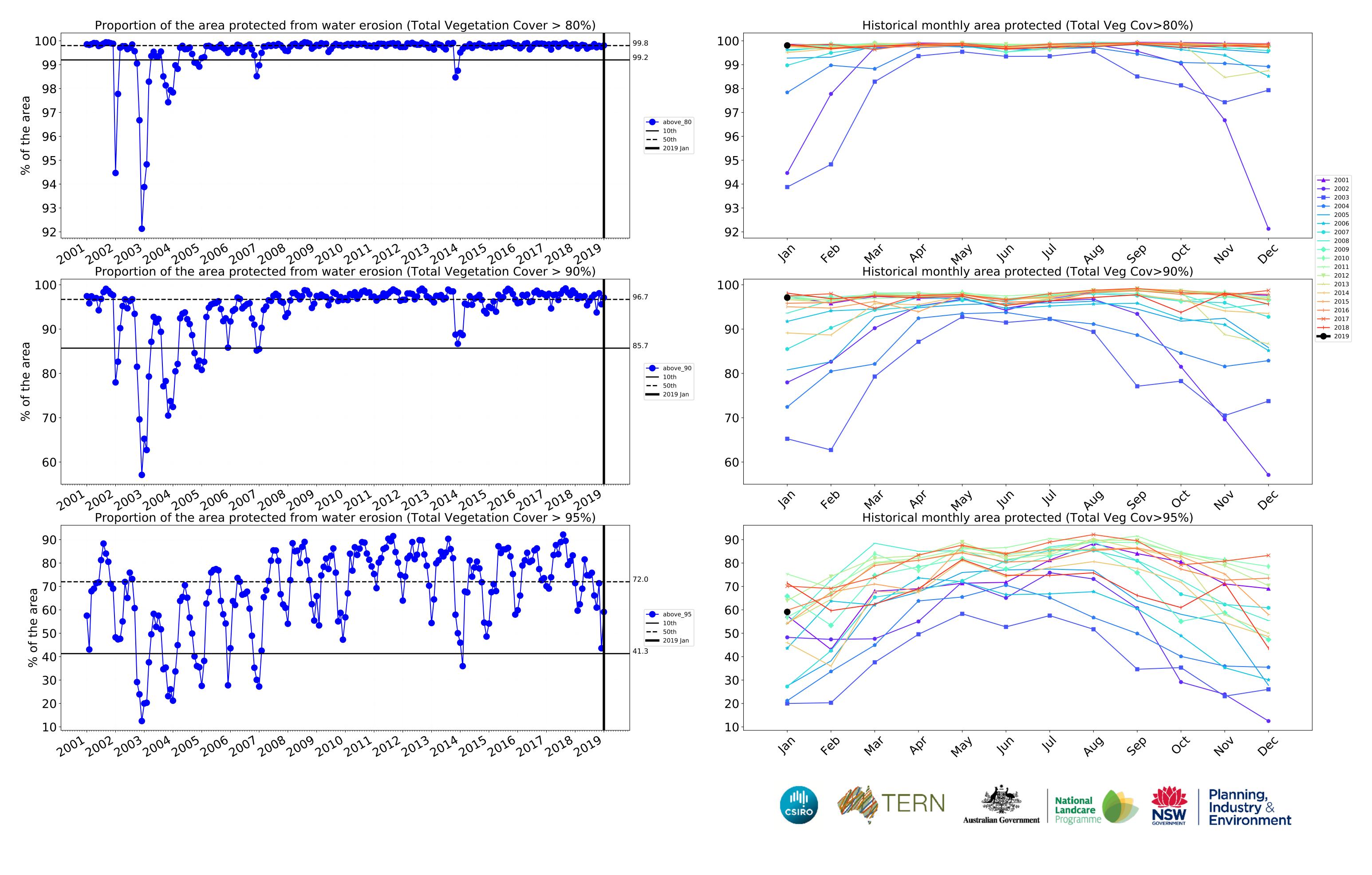






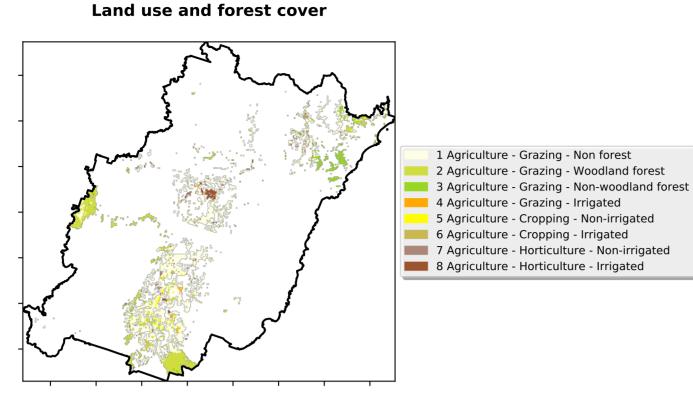


Water erosion historical monthly area protected (Total Veg Cov>70%)

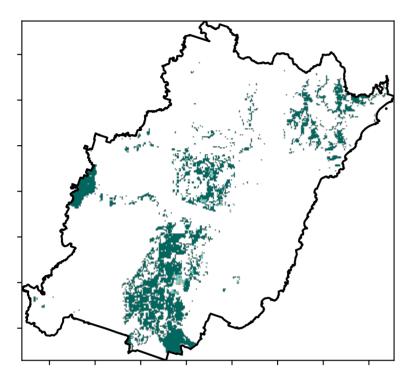


## Agriculture

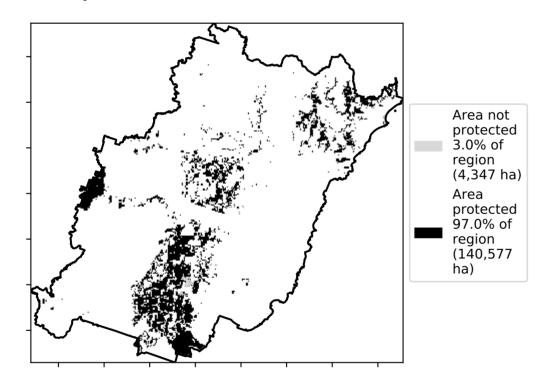
Catchment Scale Land Use and Forests of Australia (2018) Derived from Catchment Scale Land Use of Australia (2018) and Forests of Australia (2018)



**Total Vegetation Cover [%]** 



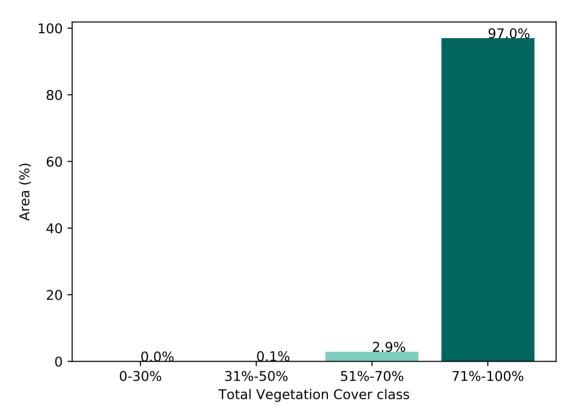
% Area protected from water erosion (>70%)



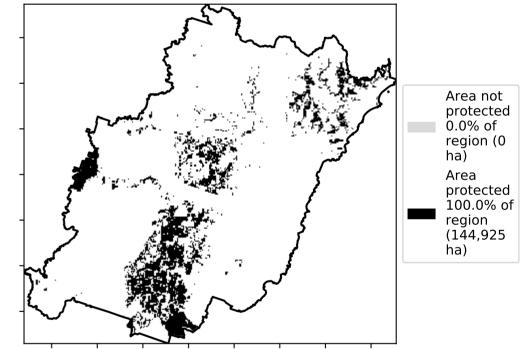
<u>59.</u>9% 60 50 40 Area (%) 00 26.2% 20 10 7.2% 0.8% 1.0%0 1 2 3 4 5 6 Land use class

#### Proportion of each land class in area

Proportion of vegetation cover class in area



% Area protected from wind erosion (>50%)



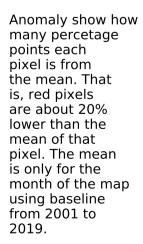
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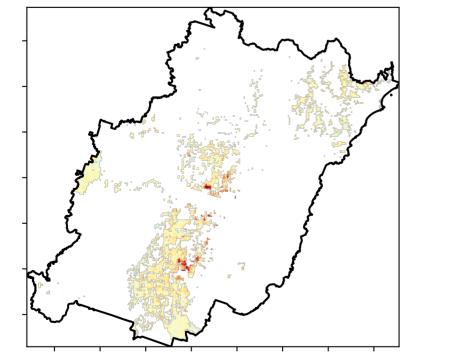
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**Total Vegetation Cover Anomaly [%]** 





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- 20

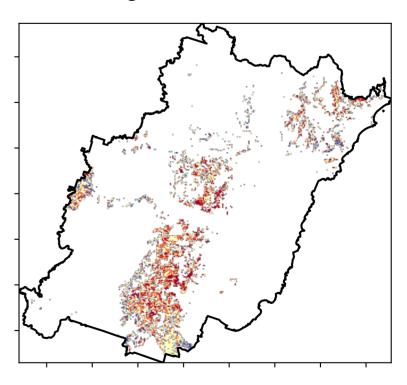
12%200%

52°10'10°10

320/05/00/0

0.30%

**Total Vegetation Cover Decile [%]** 



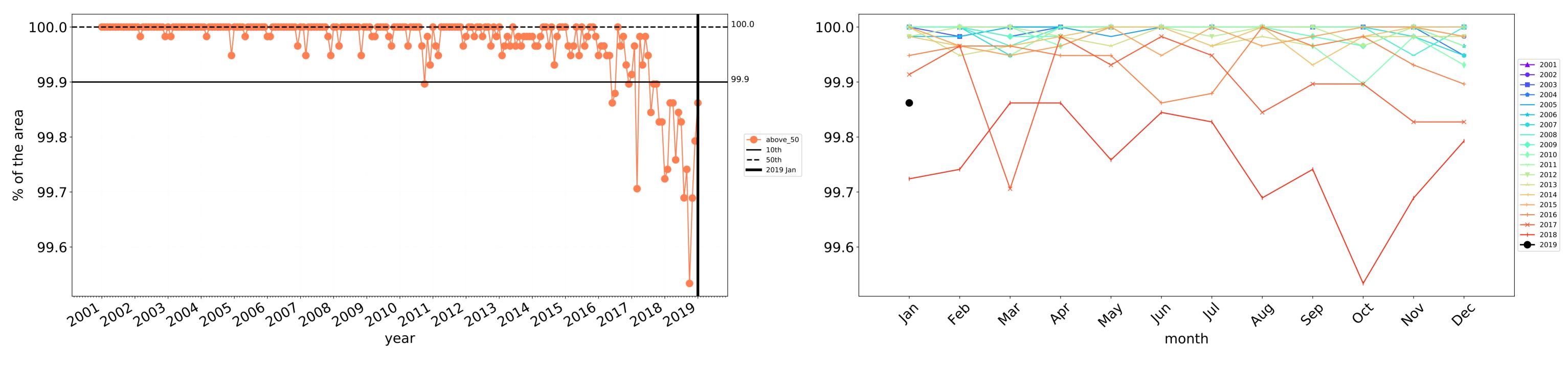


Deciles show where the pixel value lies in the

record, from highest to lowest, for that month. That is, red pixels are in the lowest 10% of

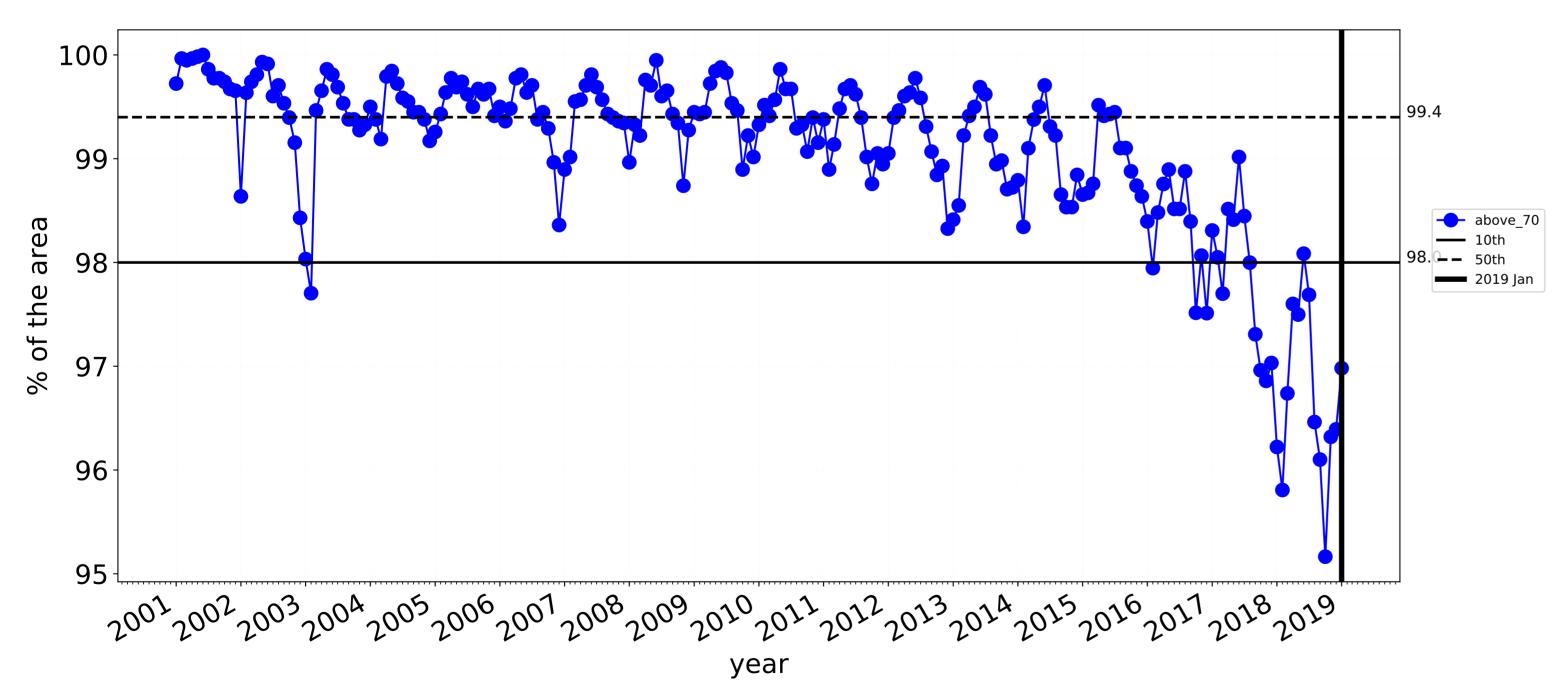
records for that month of

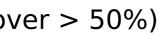




Proportion of the area protected from wind erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 50%)

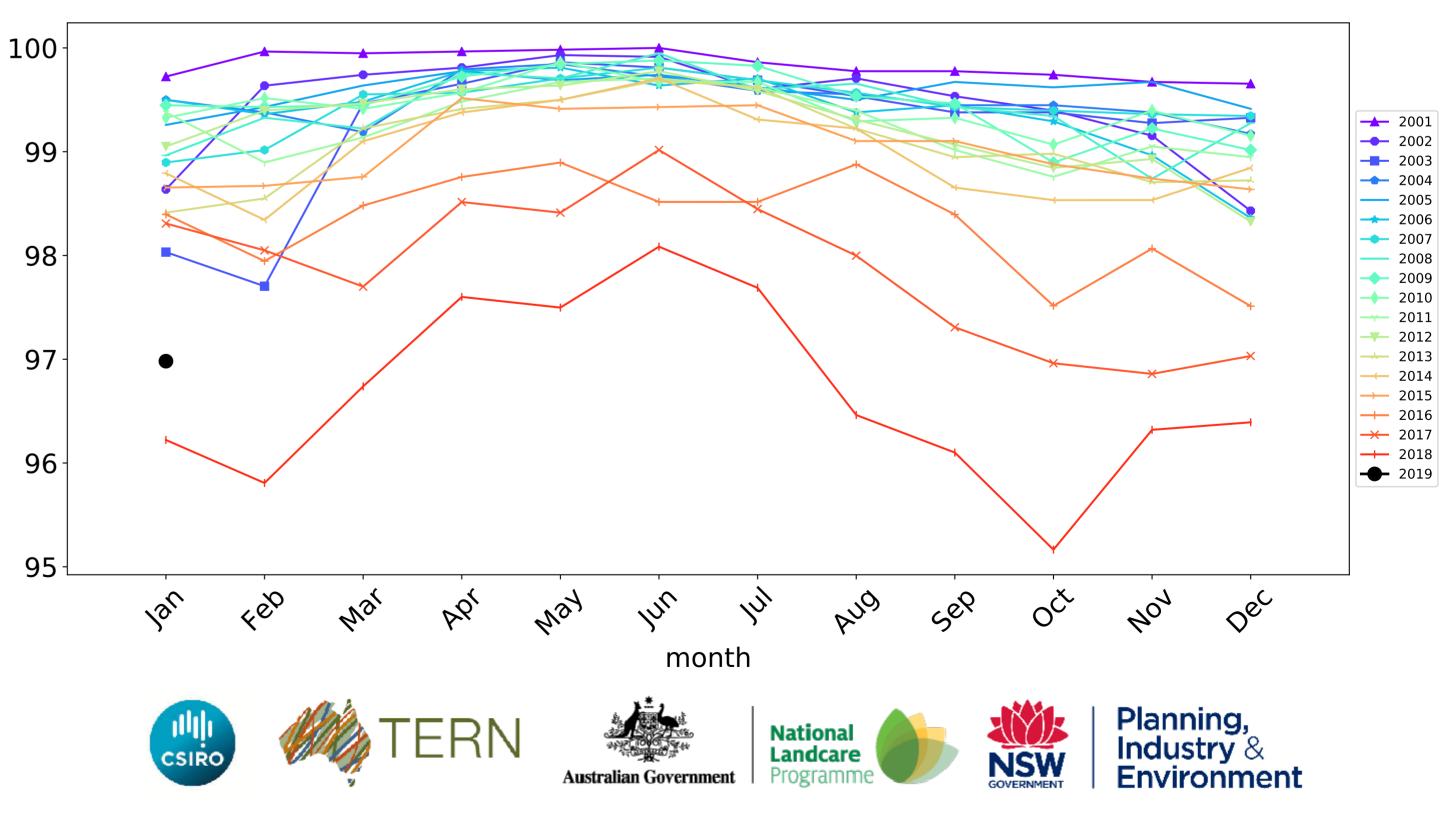
Proportion of the area protected from water erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 70%)

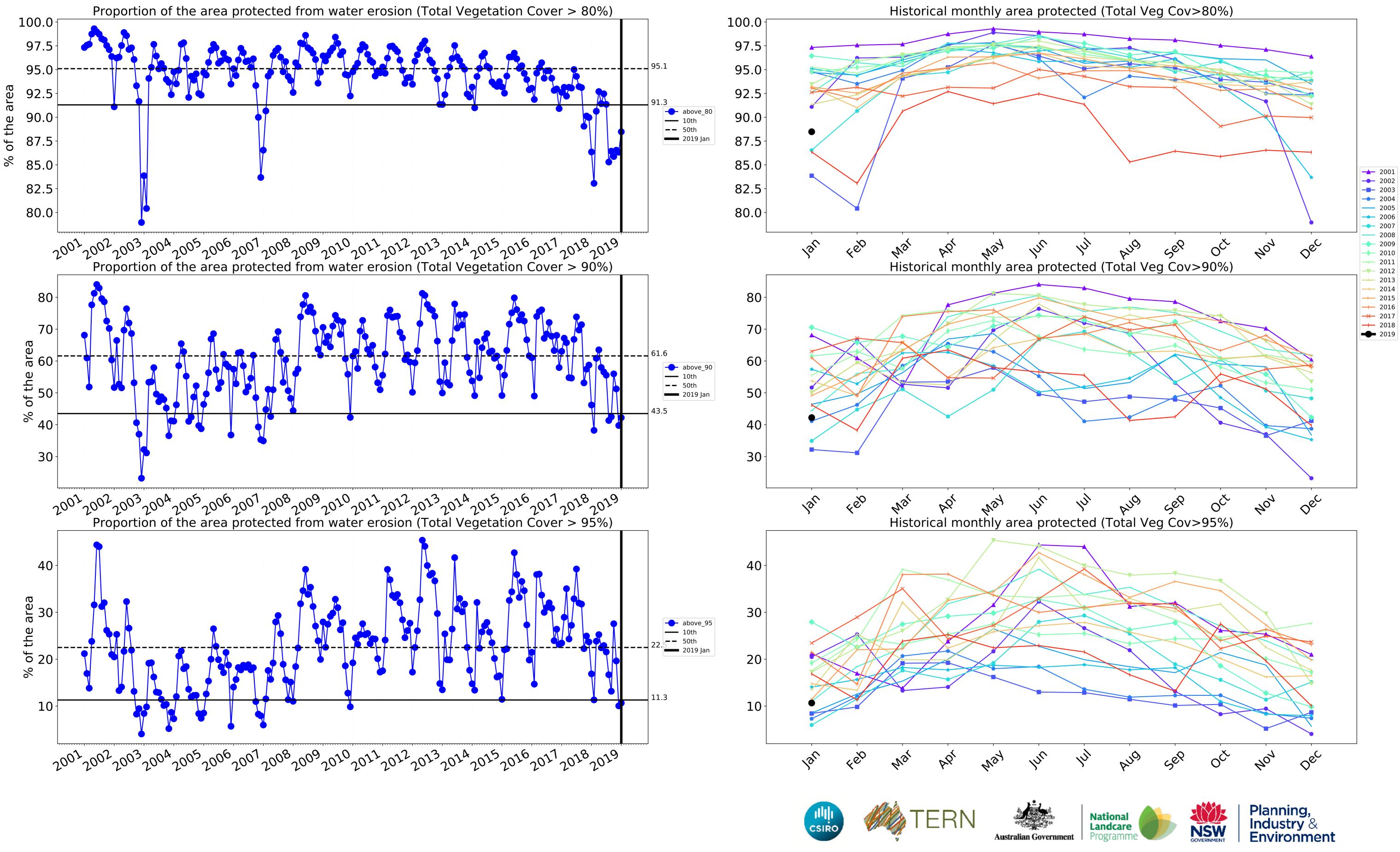




Wind erosion historical monthly area protected (Total Veg Cov >50%)

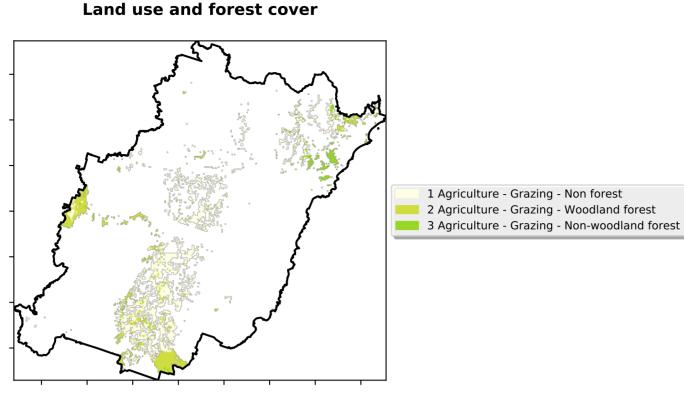
Water erosion historical monthly area protected (Total Veg Cov>70%)



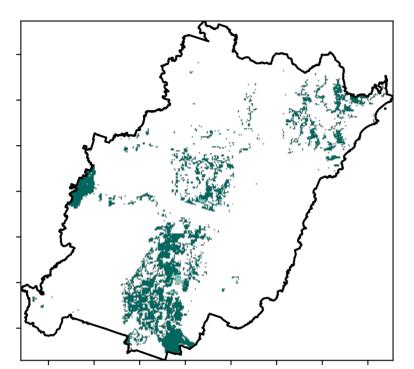


## Grazing

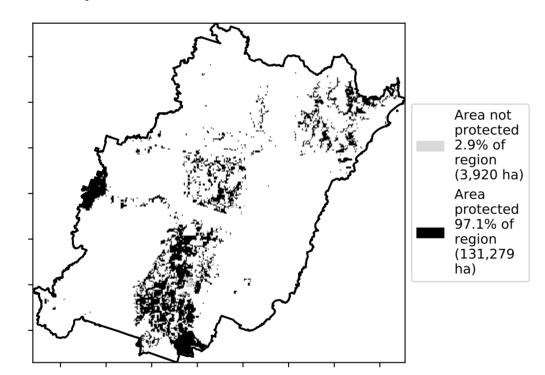
Catchment Scale Land Use and Forests of Australia (2018) Derived from Catchment Scale Land Use of Australia (2018) and Forests of Australia (2018)



**Total Vegetation Cover [%]** 



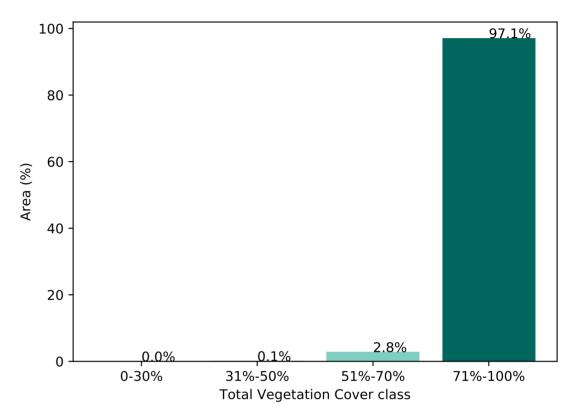
% Area protected from water erosion (>70%)



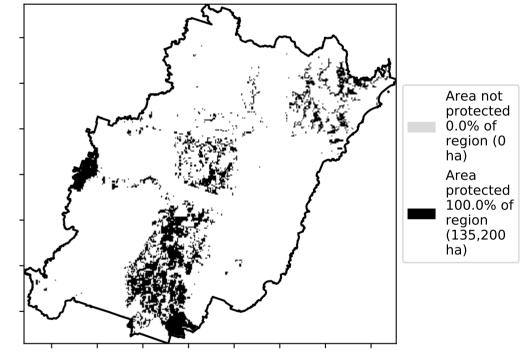
64.2% 60 50 40 Area (%) 05 00 28.1% 20 10 7.7% 0 2 3 1 Land use class

Proportion of each land class in area

Proportion of vegetation cover class in area



% Area protected from wind erosion (>50%)



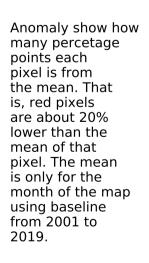
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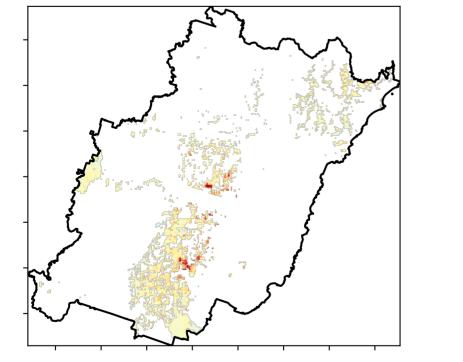
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**Total Vegetation Cover Anomaly [%]** 





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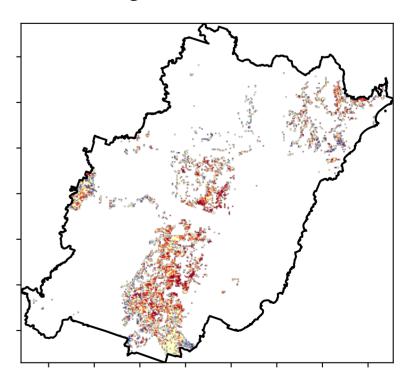
12%100%

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0.30%

**Total Vegetation Cover Decile [%]** 

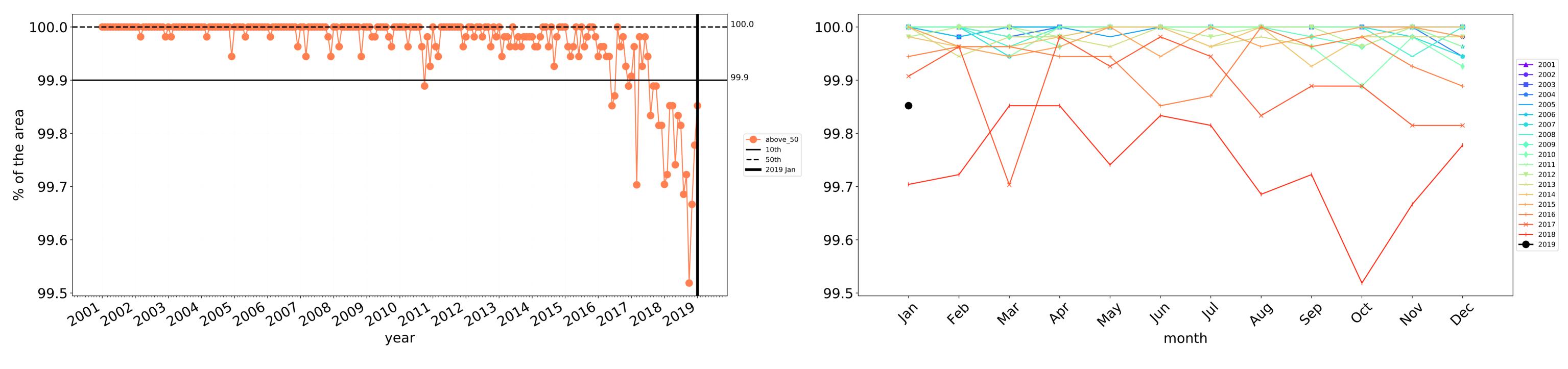




Deciles show where the pixel value lies in the

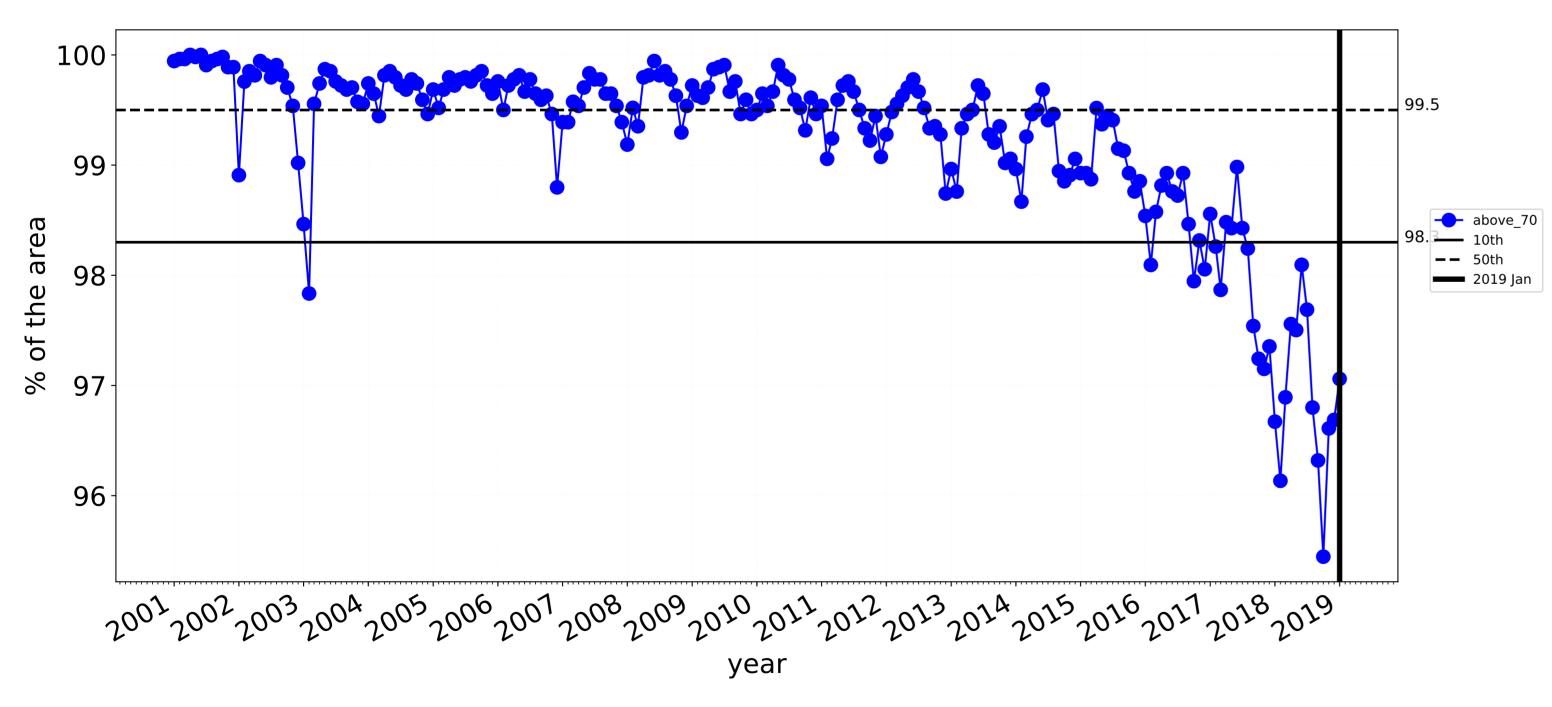
record, from highest to lowest, for that month. That is, red pixels are in the lowest 10% of

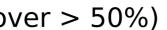
records for that month of



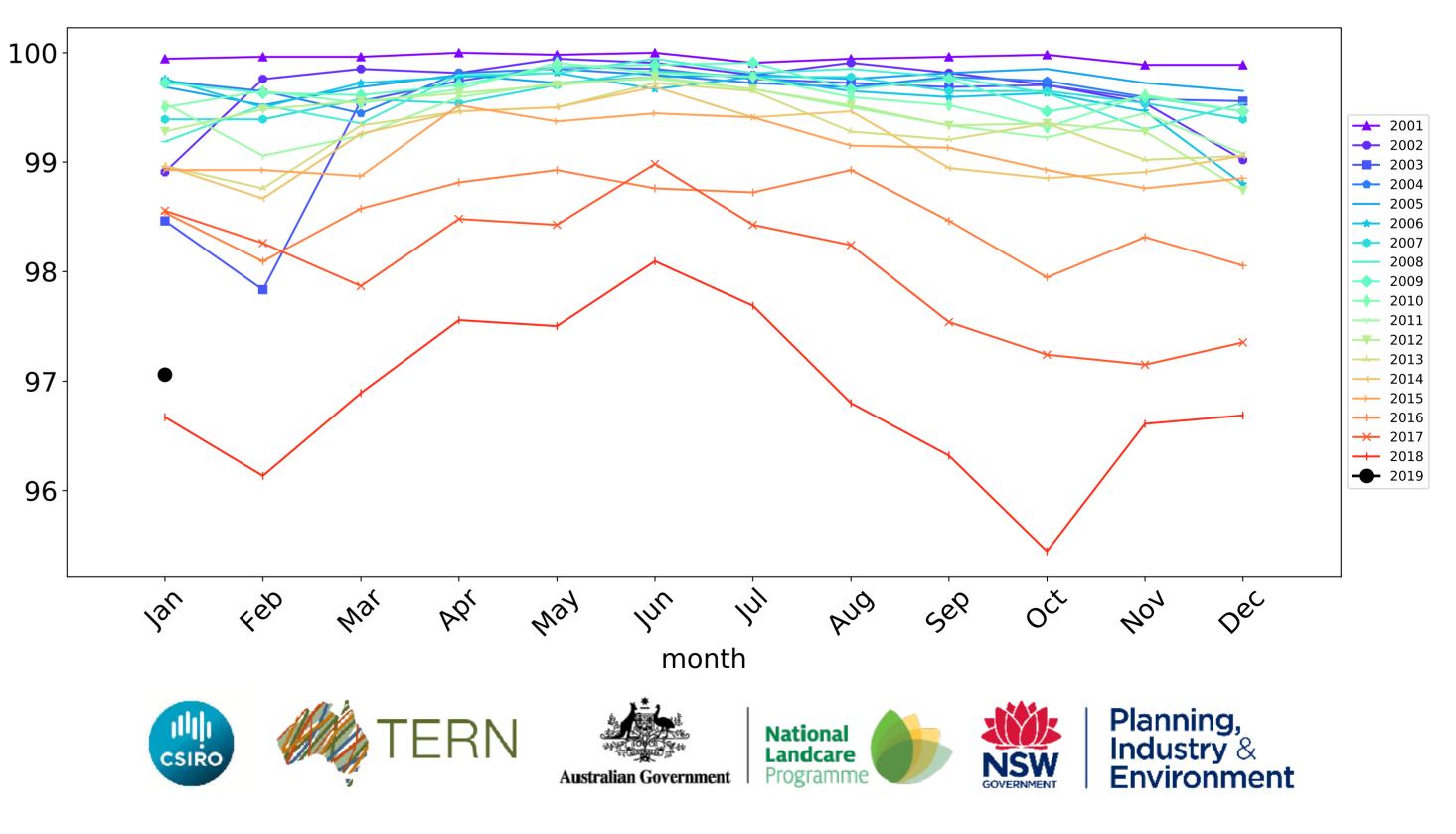
Proportion of the area protected from wind erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 50%)

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

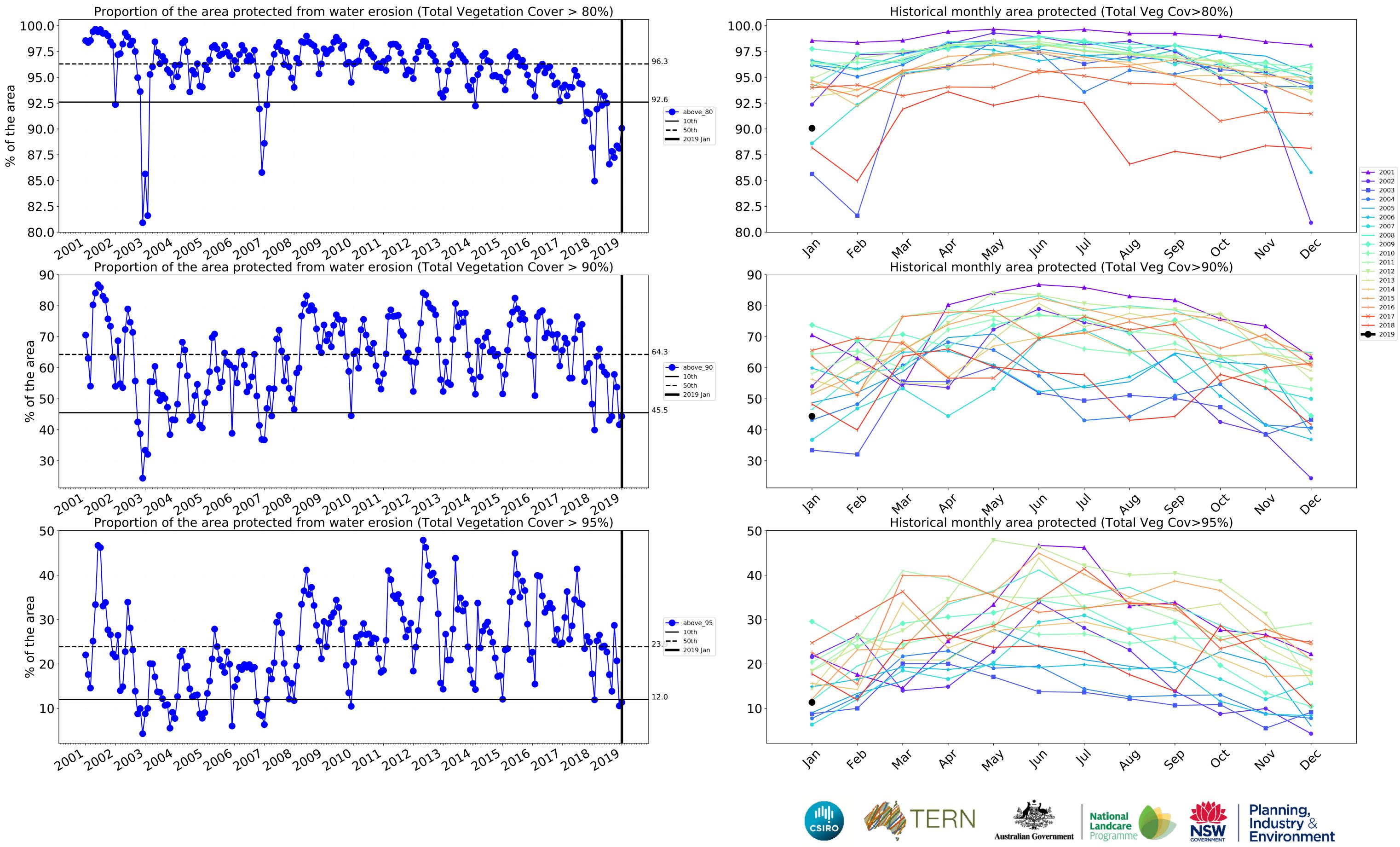




Wind erosion historical monthly area protected (Total Veg Cov >50%)



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



## **Grazing non forest**

Land use and forest cover



1 Agriculture - Grazing - Non forest

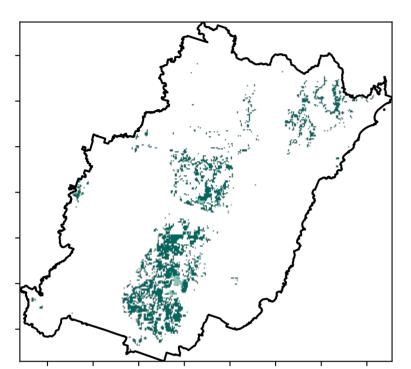
12%100%

· 52°10'70°10

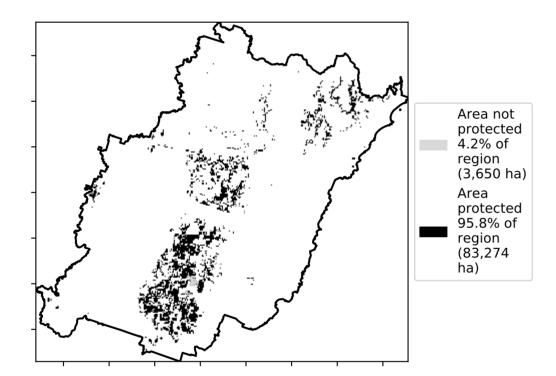
32°10'50°10

0.30%

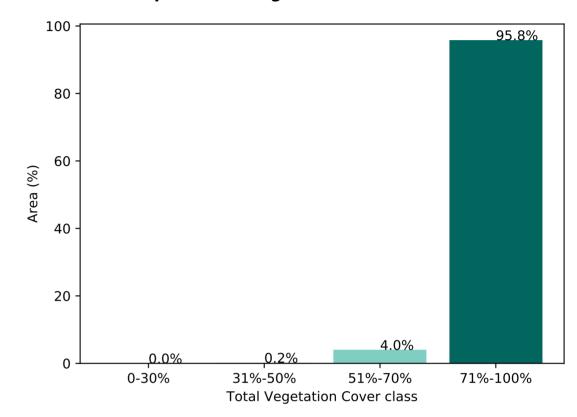
**Total Vegetation Cover [%]** 



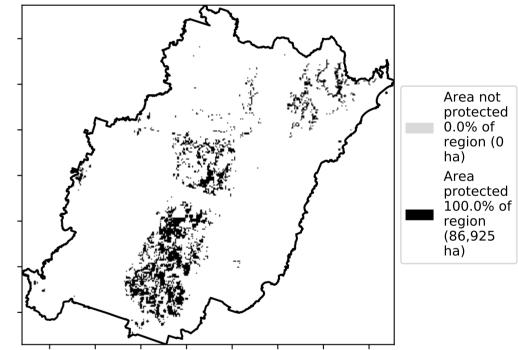




Proportion of vegetation cover class in area



% Area protected from wind erosion (>50%)



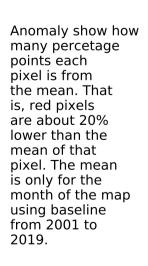
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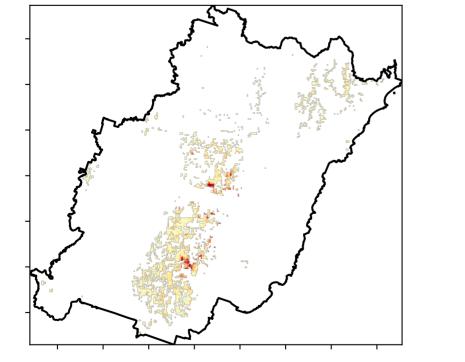
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**Total Vegetation Cover Anomaly [%]** 

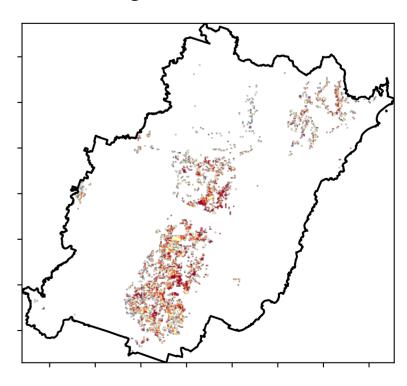




- 10 - 0 -10 -20

- 20

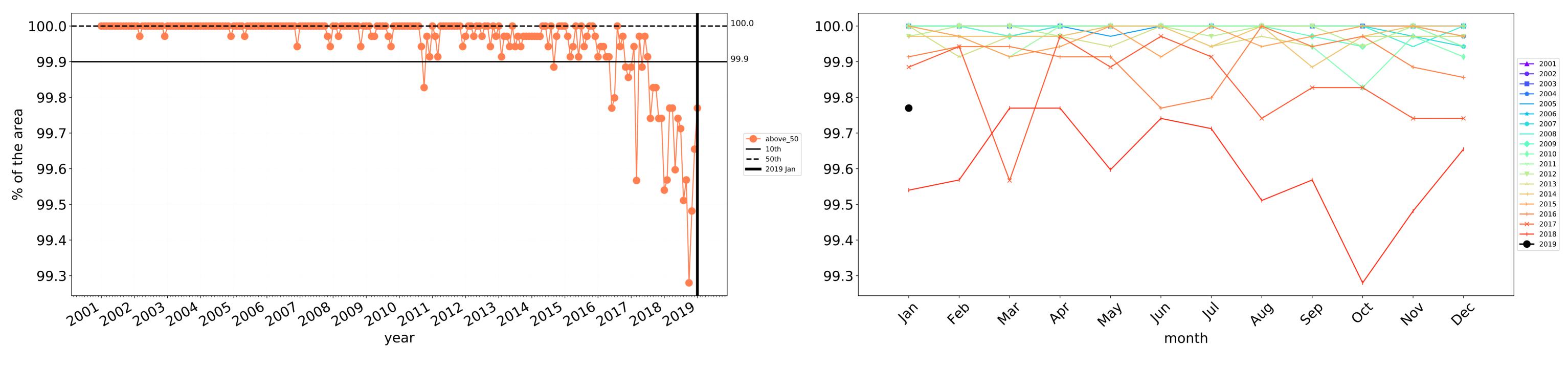
**Total Vegetation Cover Decile [%]** 



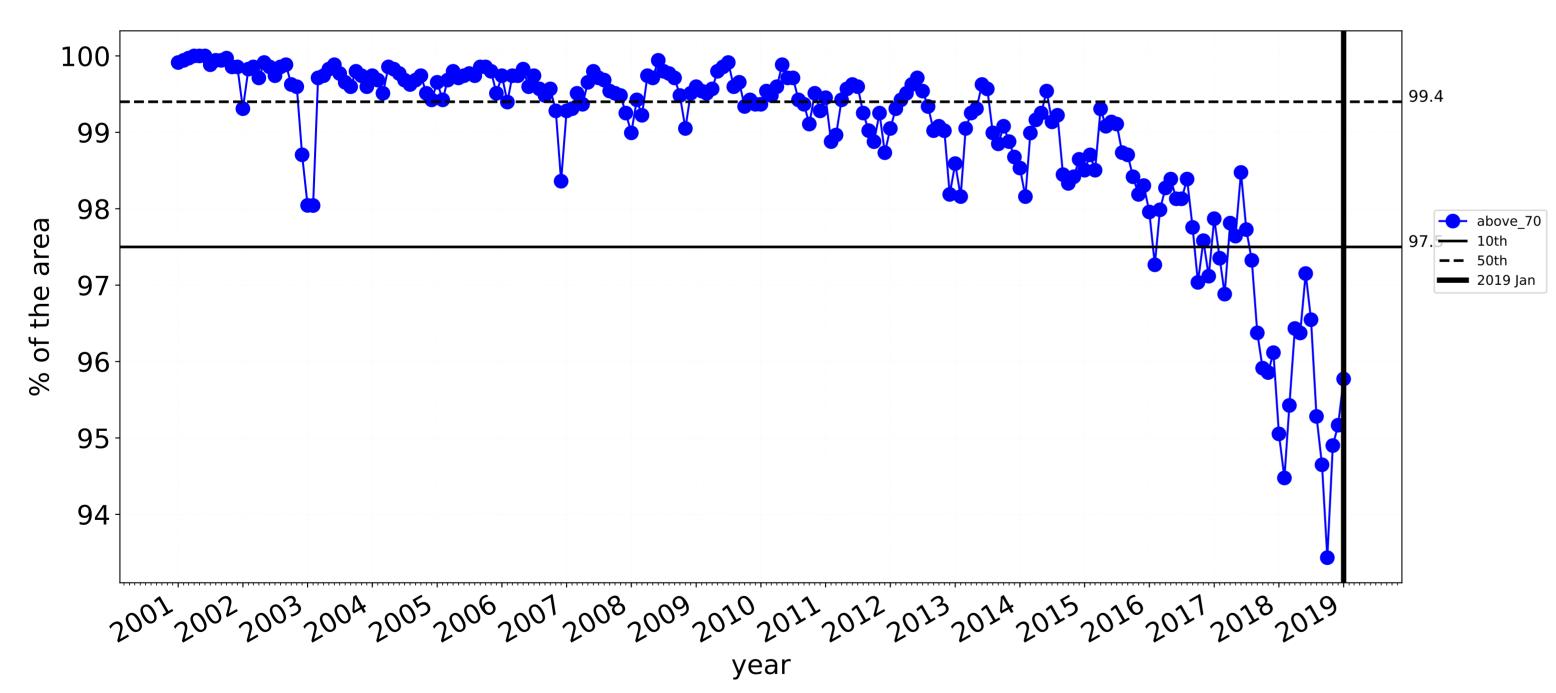


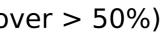
Deciles show where the pixel value lies in the record, from highest to lowest, for that month. That is, red pixels are in the lowest 10% of records for that month of the man using baseline



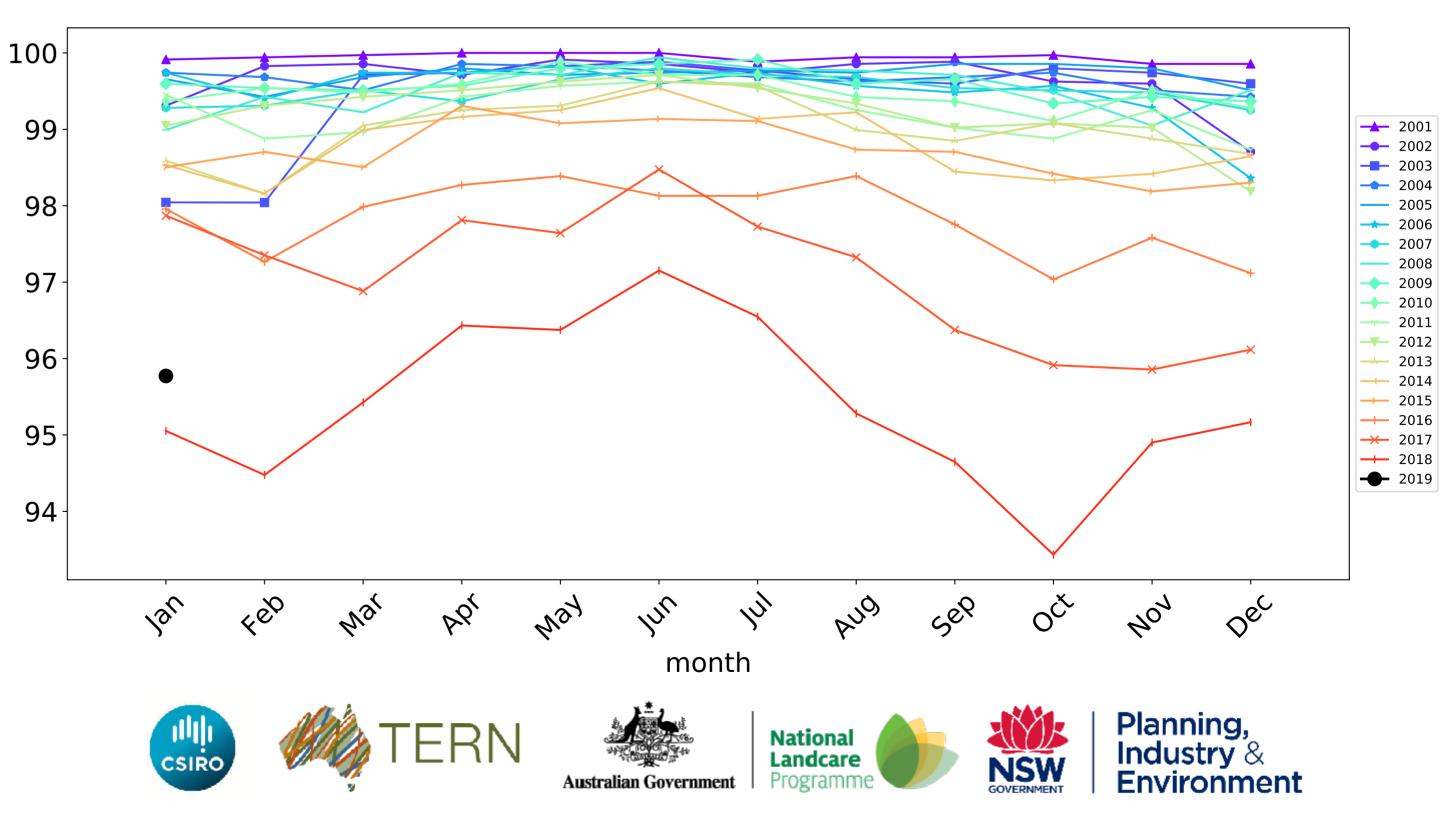


Proportion of the area protected from wind erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 50%)

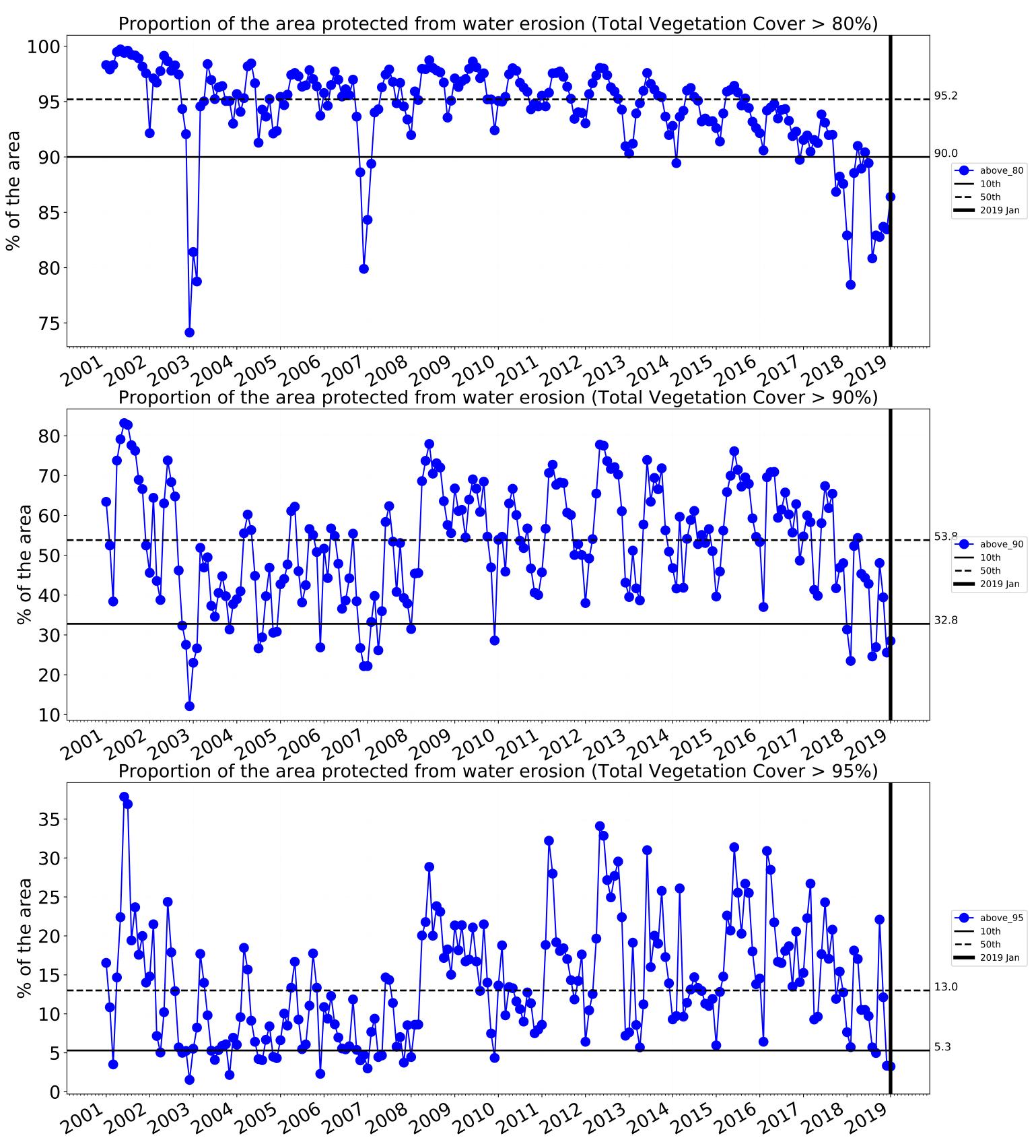


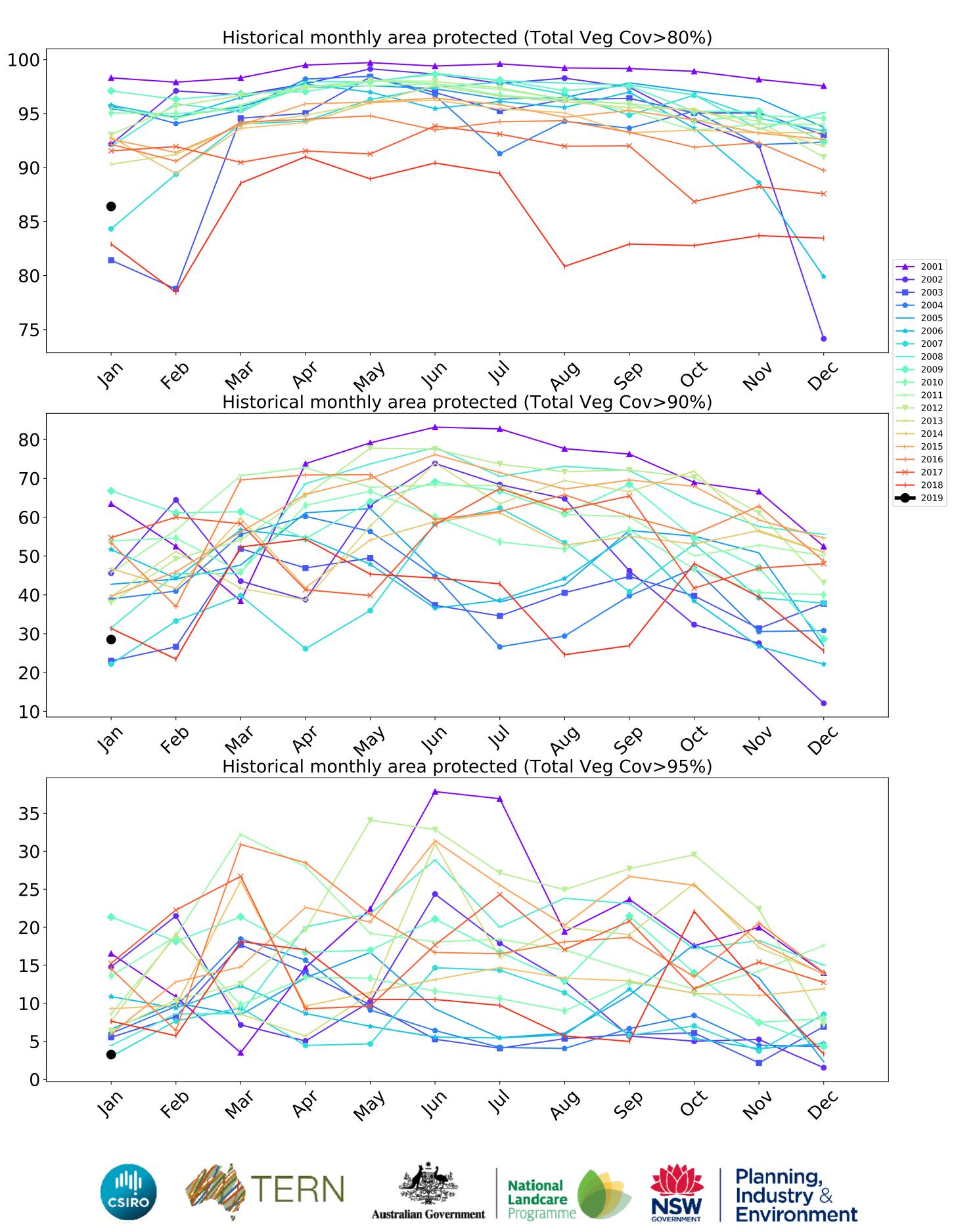


Wind erosion historical monthly area protected (Total Veg Cov >50%)



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





## **Grazing Woodland forest**

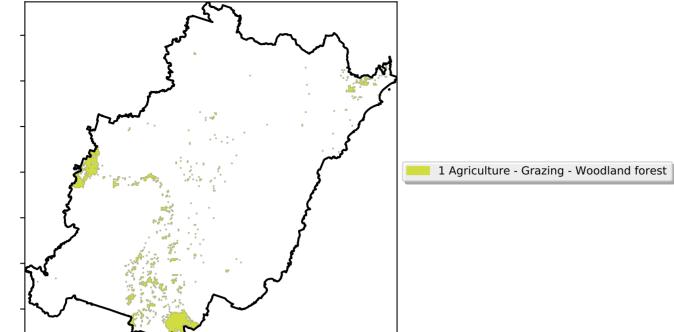
1200-20000

· 52°10'10°10

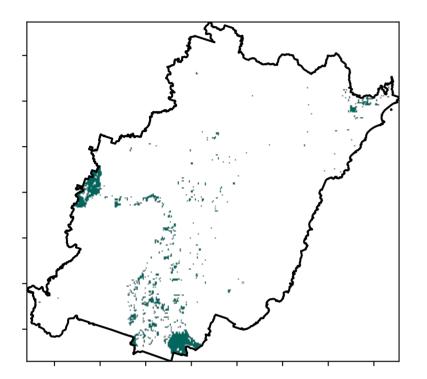
3201050010

0.30%

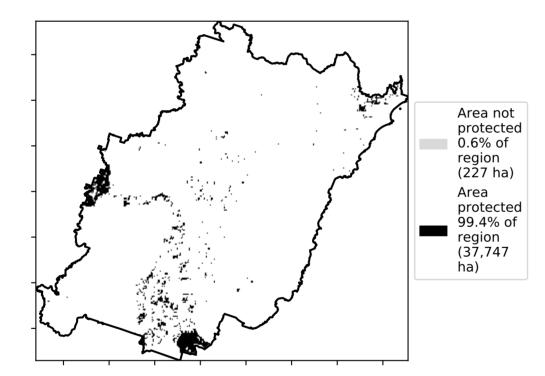
Land use and forest cover



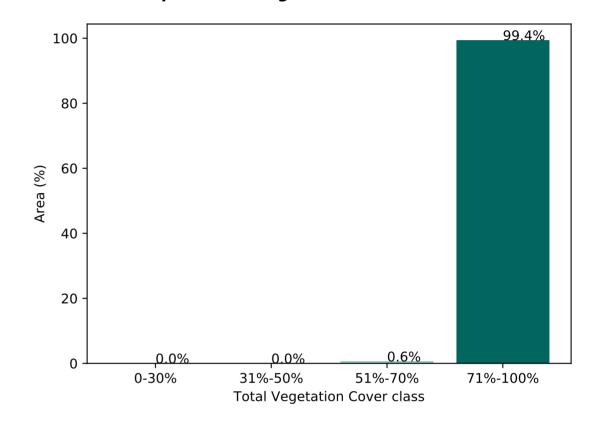
**Total Vegetation Cover [%]** 



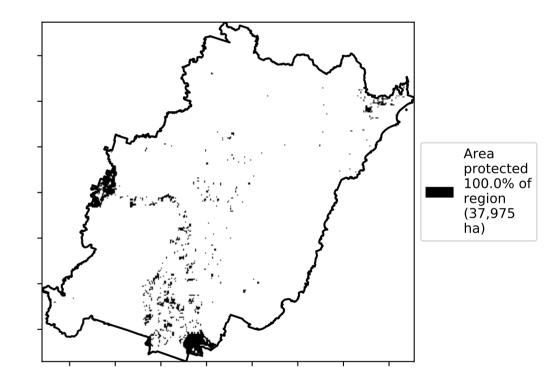




Proportion of vegetation cover class in area



% Area protected from wind erosion (>50%)



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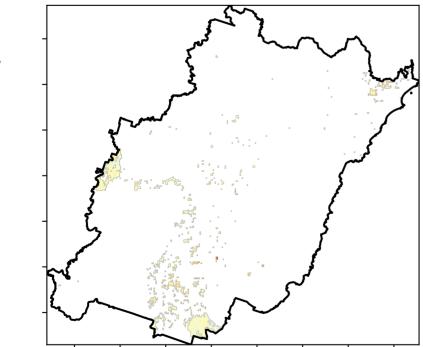
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Catchment Scale Land Use and Forests of Australia (2018) Derived from Catchment Scale Land Use of Australia (2018) and Forests of Australia (2018)

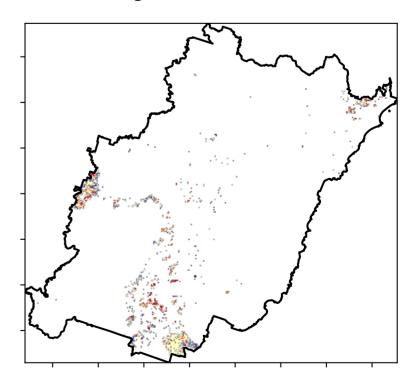
**Total Vegetation Cover Anomaly [%]** 



- 10 - 0 - -10

- 20

**Total Vegetation Cover Decile [%]** 





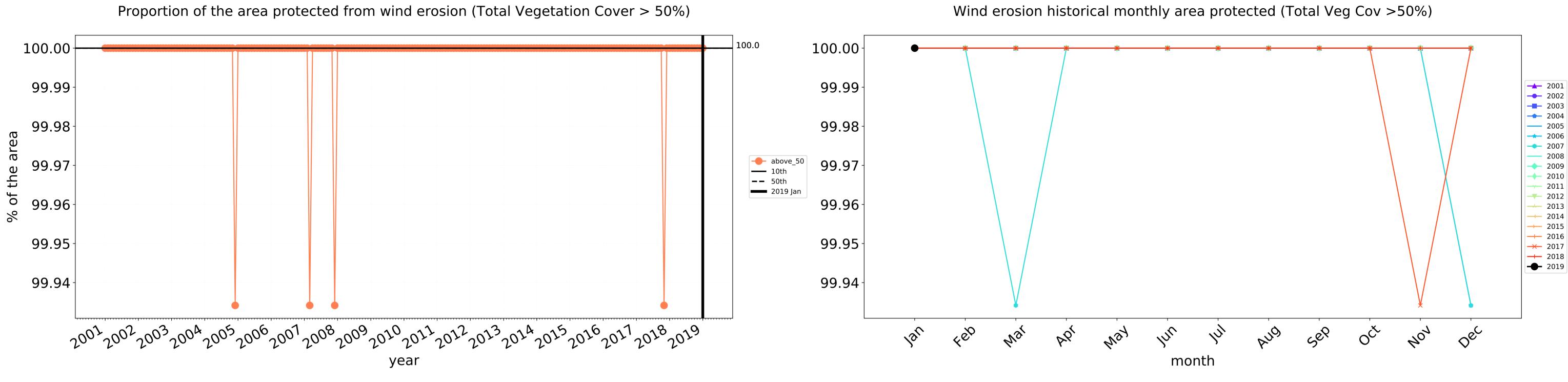
Deciles show where the pixel value lies in the

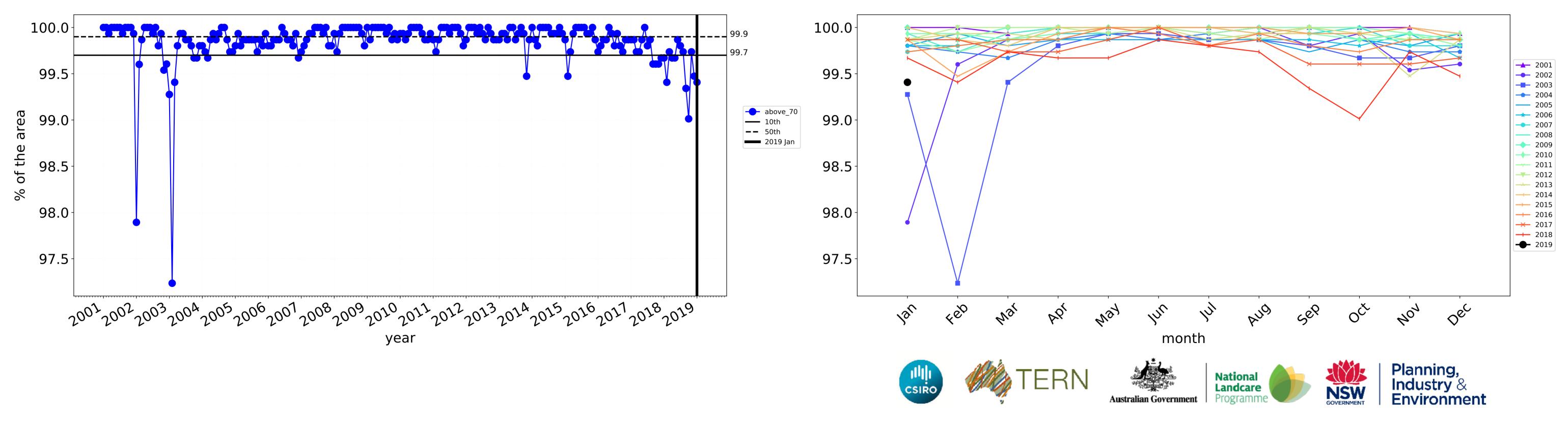
record, from highest to lowest, for that month. That is, red pixels are in the lowest 10% of

records for that month of

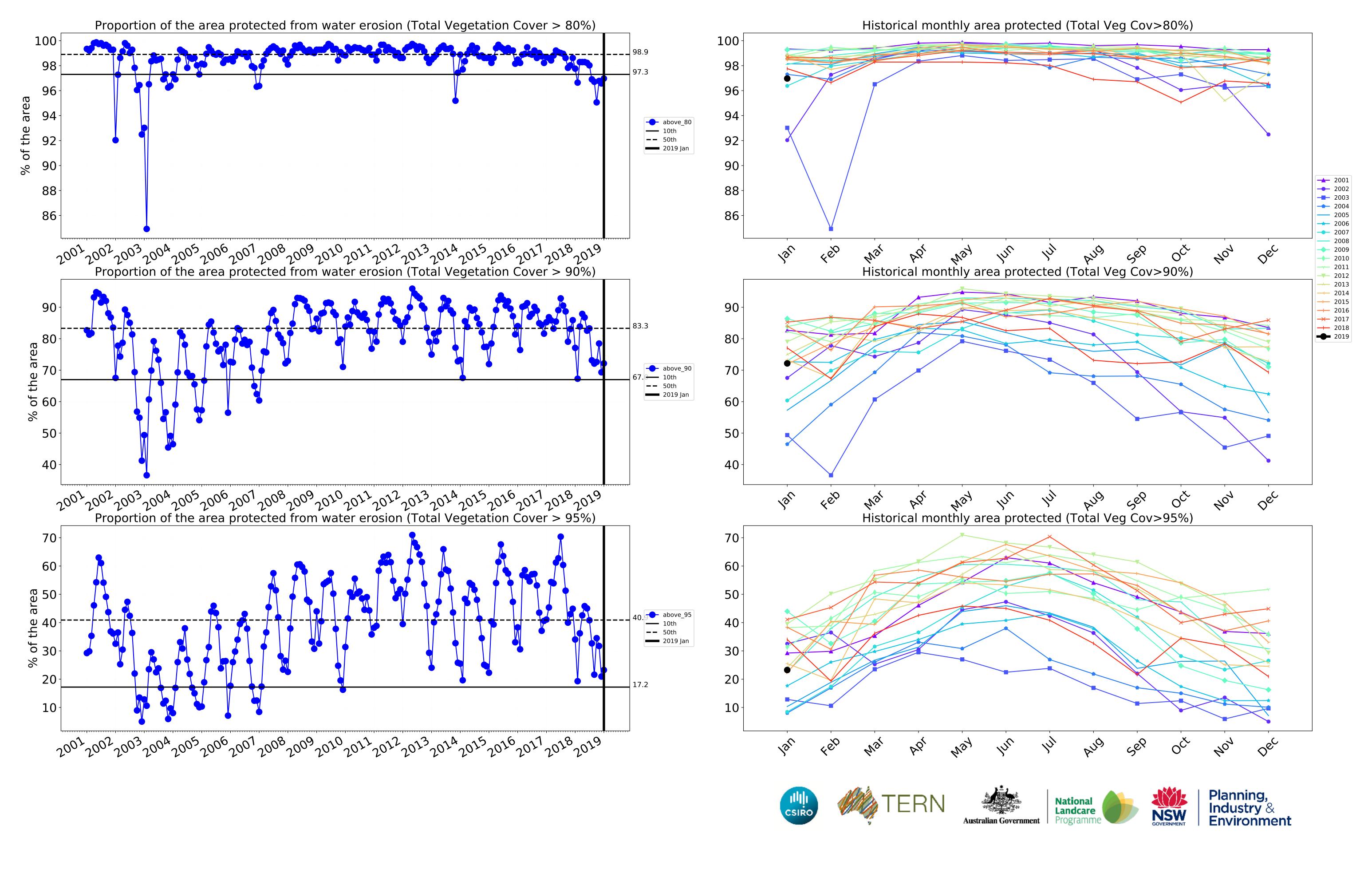
the map using baseline from 2001 to 2019.

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

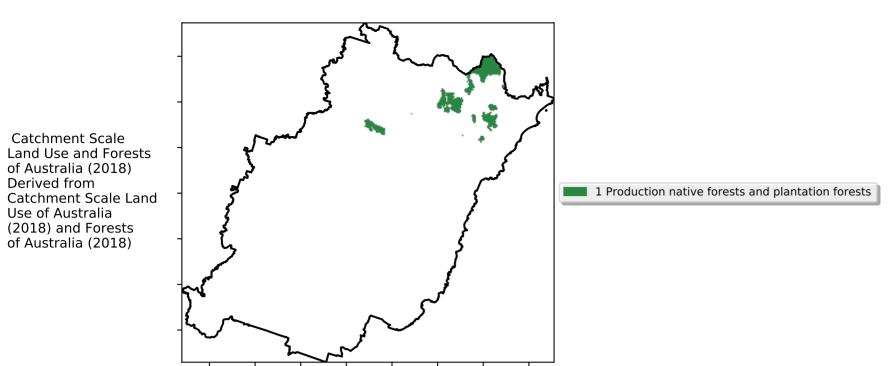




Water erosion historical monthly area protected (Total Veg Cov>70%)



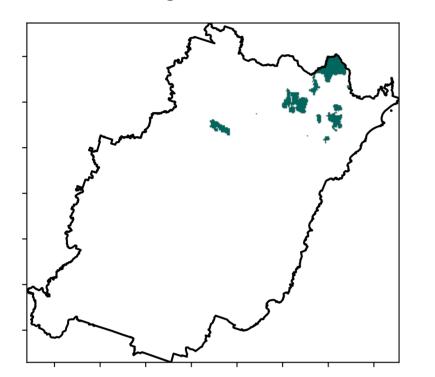
## **Production native forests and plantation forests**

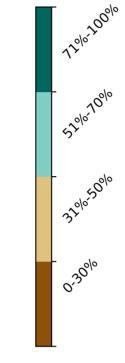


Land use and forest cover

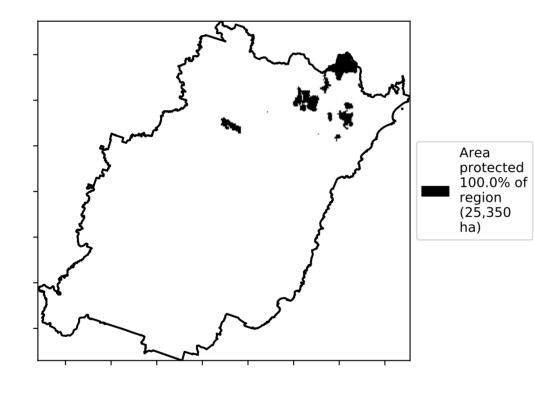
Derived from

**Total Vegetation Cover [%]** 

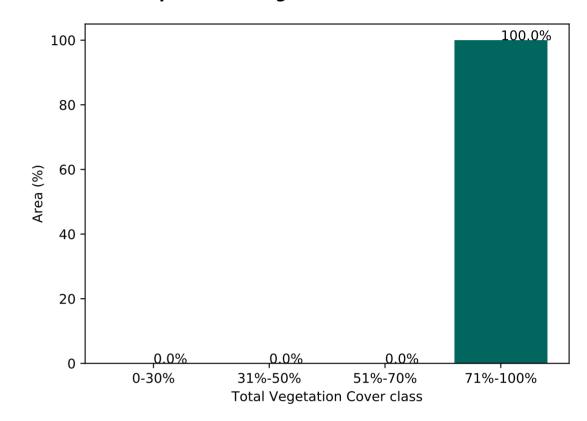




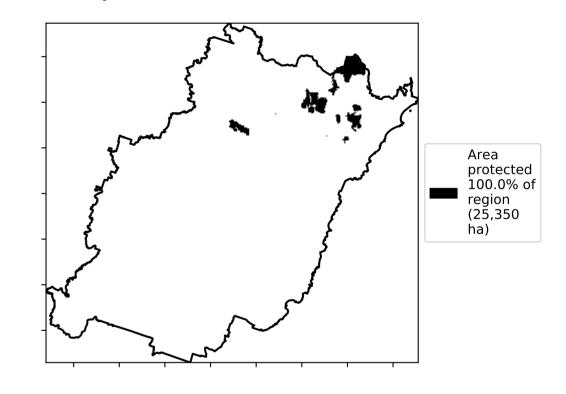
% Area protected from water erosion (>70%)



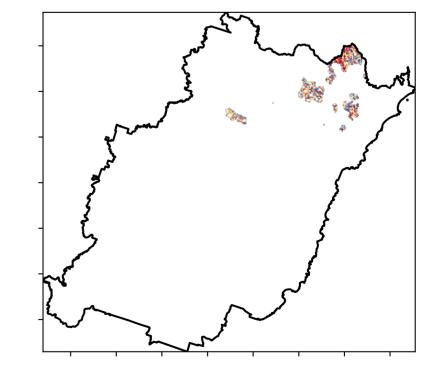
Proportion of vegetation cover class in area



% Area protected from wind erosion (>50%)



**Total Vegetation Cover Decile [%]** 





Deciles show where the pixel value lies in the

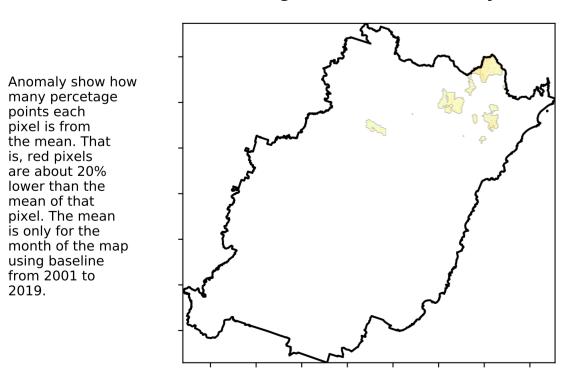
record, from highest to

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.

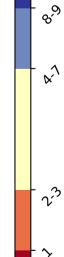
**Total Vegetation Cover Anomaly [%]** 



- 10 - 0 -10 -20

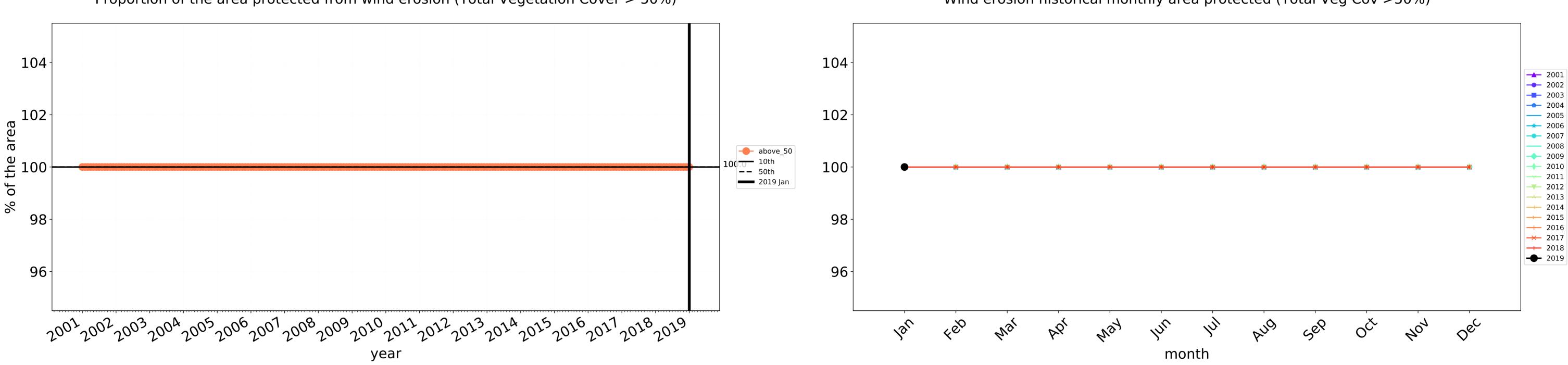
- 20



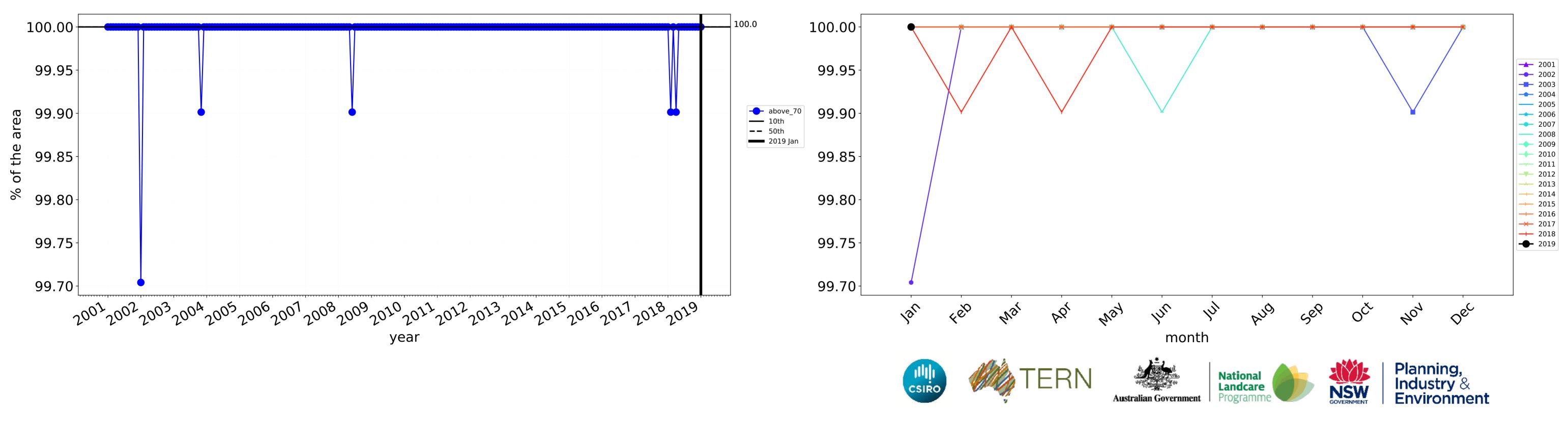


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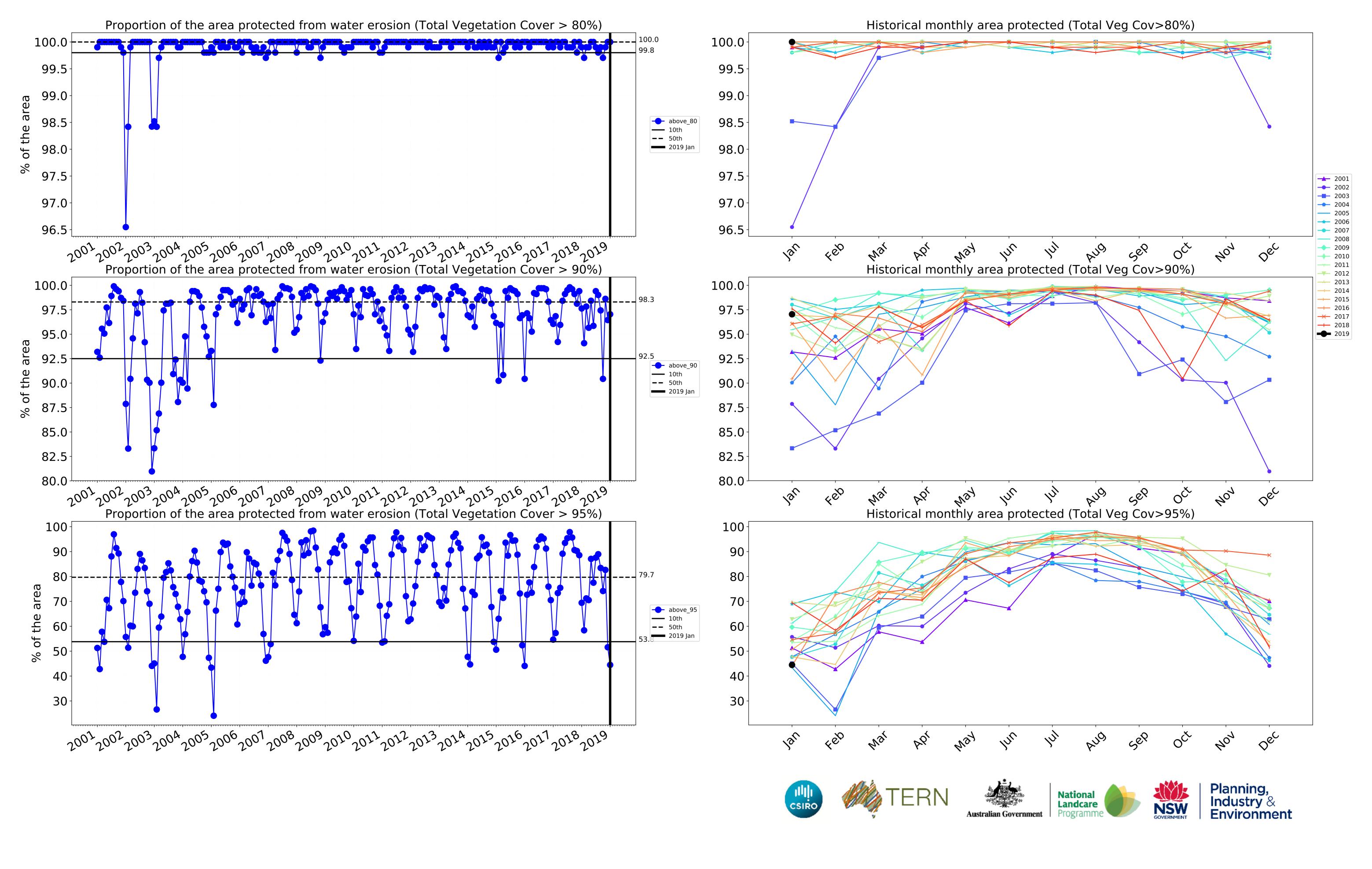


Proportion of the area protected from wind erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 50%)



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

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



# Greater Sydney (1,207,650 ha and no data 41,521 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	1,207,650	99.9% 1,206,650	99.4% 1,200,875	90.6% 1,094,375	84.0% 1,015,025	66.3% 800,600	35.1% 424,200
Conservation and natural environments	695,425	100.0% 695,425	100.0% 695,250	99.8% 694,150	99.2% 689,950	93.8% 652,075	55.6% 386,850
Conservation and natural environments Woodland forest	366,900	100.0% 366,900	100.0% 366,825	99.8% 366,250	99.0% 363,375	91.6% 336,250	53.4% 195,850
Conservation and natural environments Forest (non woodland)	321,925	100.0% 321,925	100.0% 321,875	100.0% 321,775	99.8% 321,300	97.1% 312,600	59.1% 190,325
Agriculture	144,925	100.0% 144,875	99.9% 144,725	97.0% 140,550	88.5% 128,225	42.2% 61,200	10.7% 15,450
Grazing	135,200	100.0% 135,150	99.9% 135,000	97.1% 131,225	90.1% 121,775	44.4% 59,975	11.4% 15,350
Grazing non forest	86,925	99.9% 86,875	99.8% 86,725	95.8% 83,250	86.4% 75,100	28.5% 24,775	3.2% 2,825
Grazing Woodland forest	37,975	100.0% 37,975	100.0% 37,975	99.4% 37,750	97.0% 36,825	72.2% 27,400	23.2% 8,825
Production native forests and plantation forests	25,350	100.0% 25,350	100.0% 25,350	100.0% 25,350	100.0% 25,350	97.0% 24,600	44.5% 11,275

