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

# Date: January 2022

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 2022**

#### Land use and forest cover

Catchment Scale

of Australia (2018)

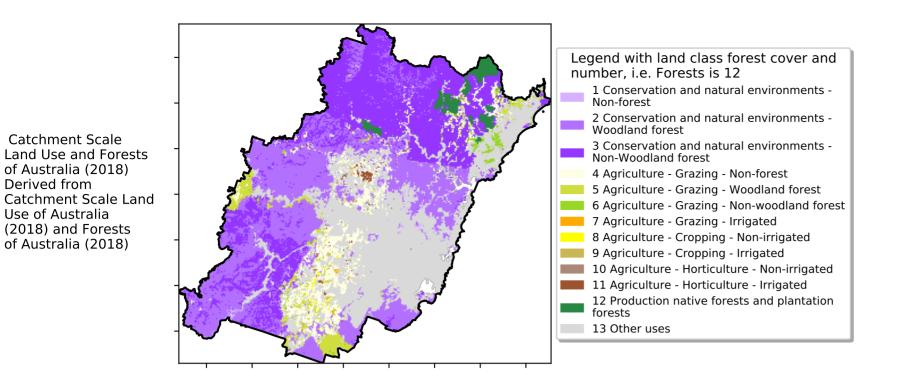
(2018) and Forests

of Australia (2018)

Derived from

Use of Australia

#### Proportion of each land class in area



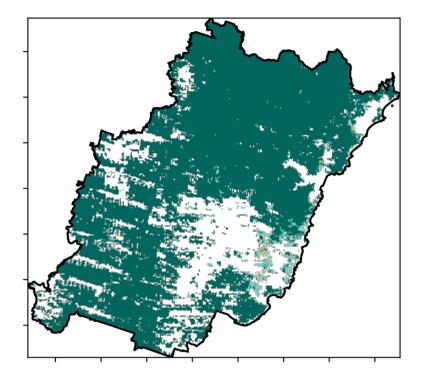
12%200%

52°10'10°10

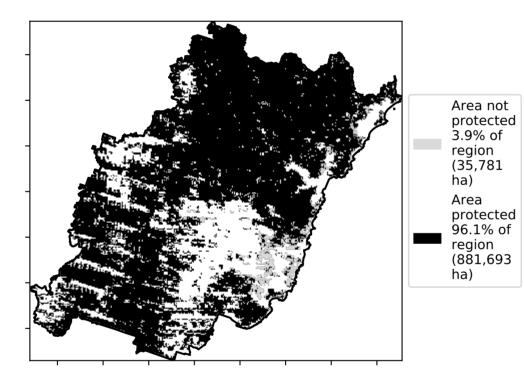
3201050010

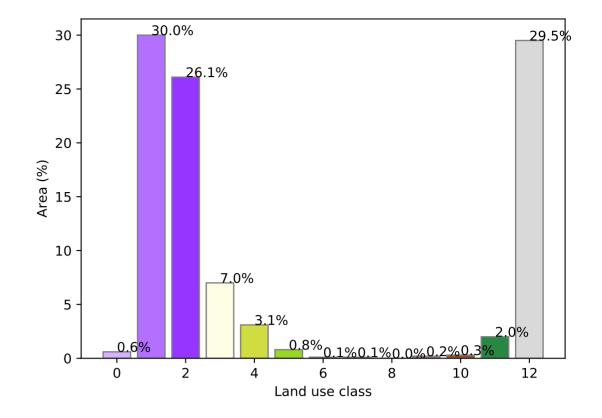
0.30%

**Total Vegetation Cover [%]** 

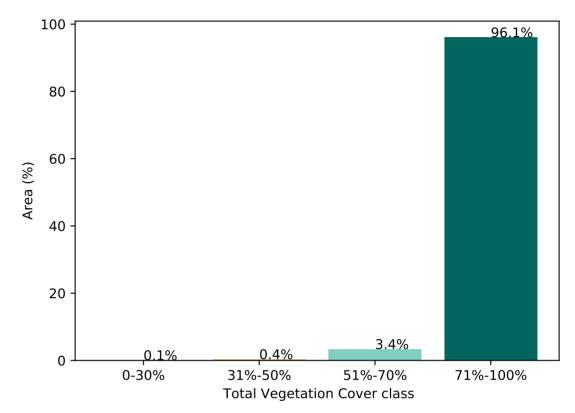


% Area protected from water erosion (>70%)

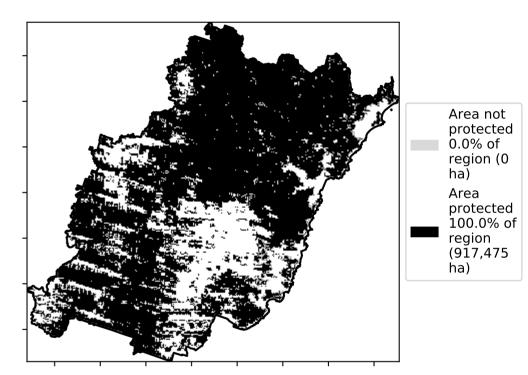




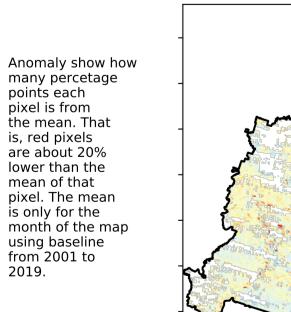
#### **Proportion of vegetation cover class in area**

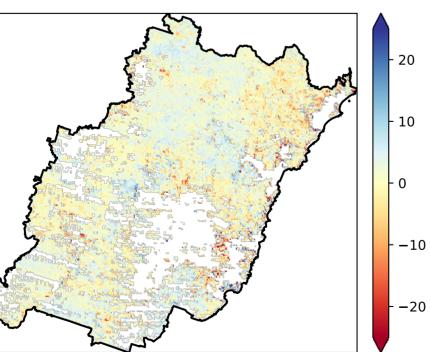


#### % Area protected from wind erosion (>50%)

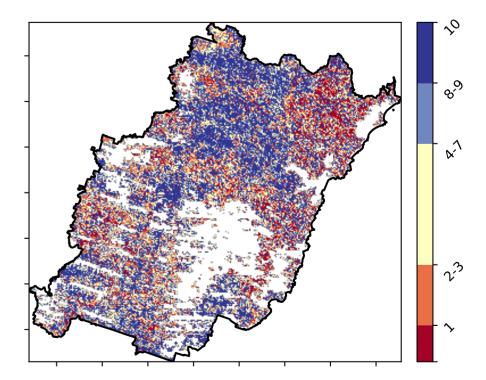


**Total Vegetation Cover Anomaly [%]** 



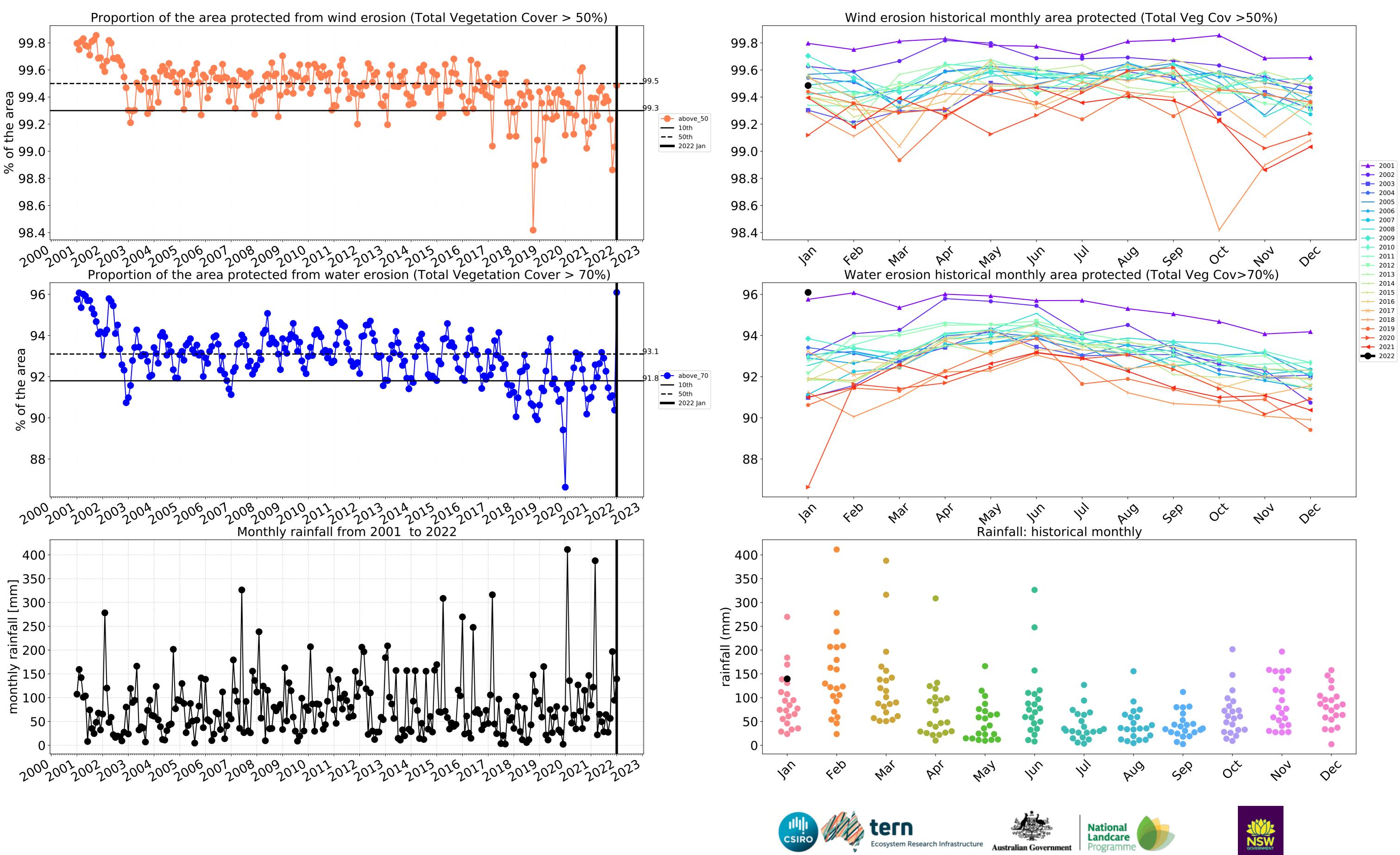


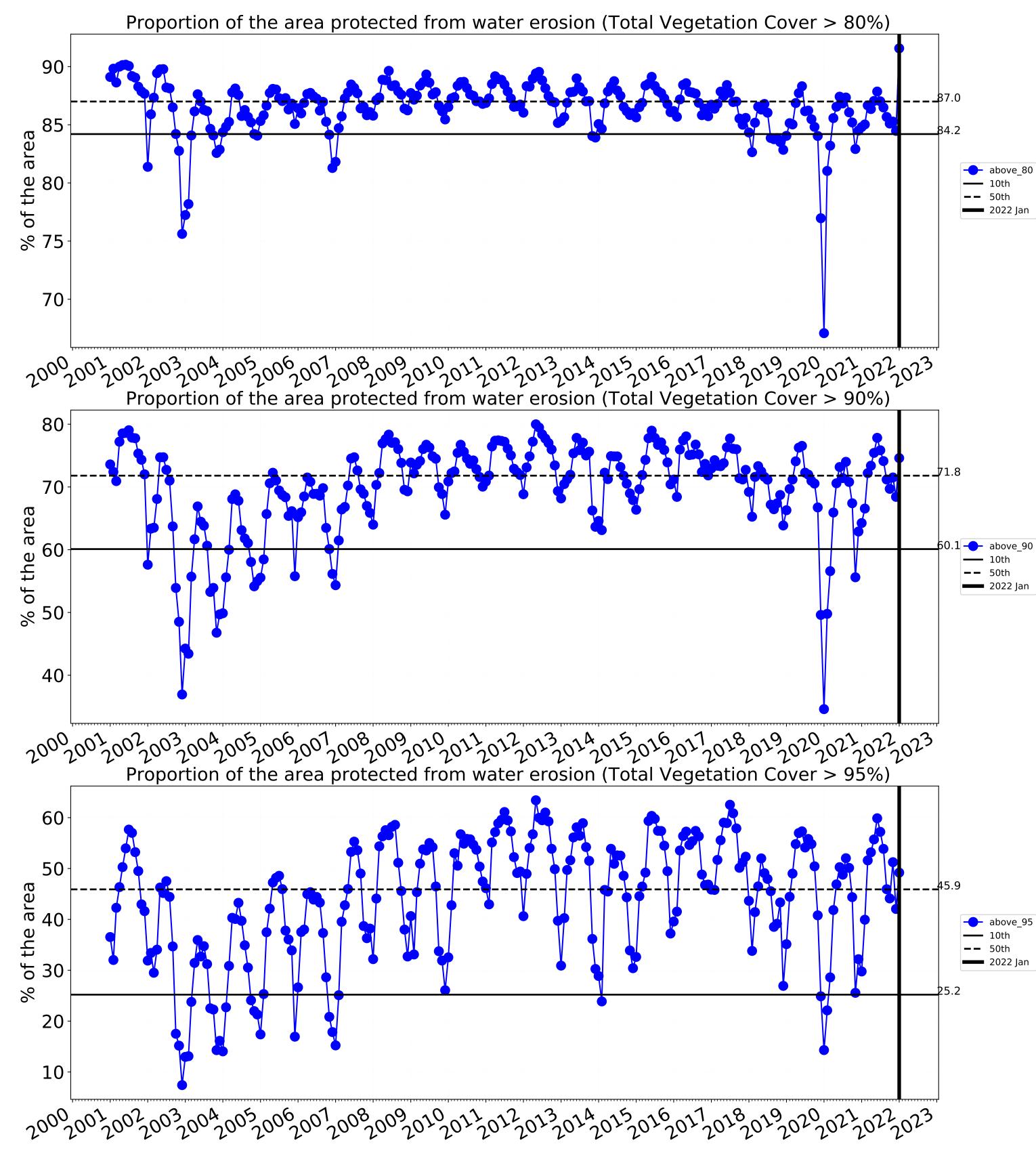
Deciles show where the pixel value lies in the record, from highest to lowest, for that month. That is, red pixels are in the lowest 10% of records for that month of the map using baseline from 2001 to 2019. **Total Vegetation Cover Decile [%]** 

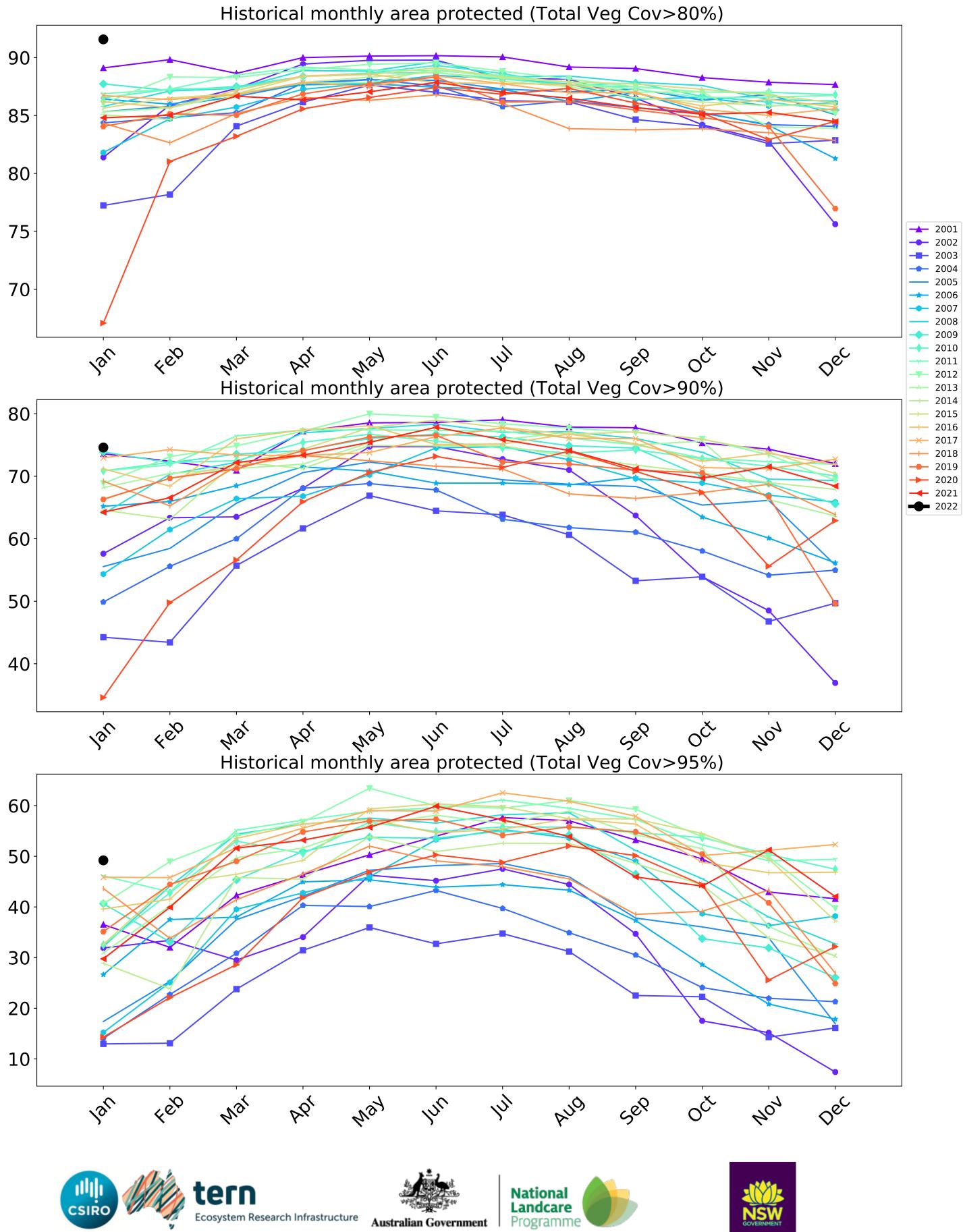




2









#### **Conservation and natural environments**

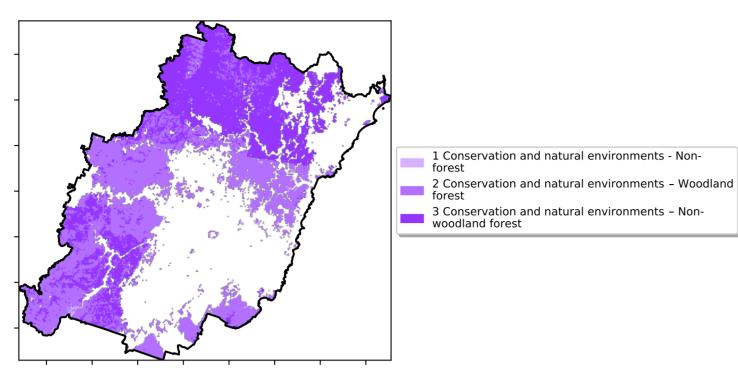
12%200%

52°1001001

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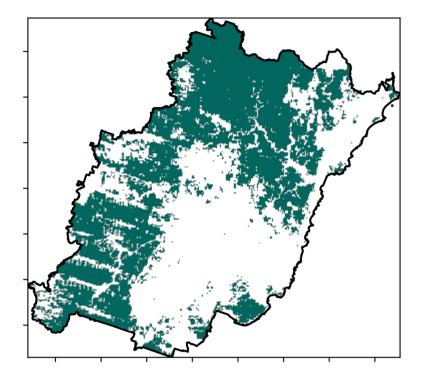
0.30%

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

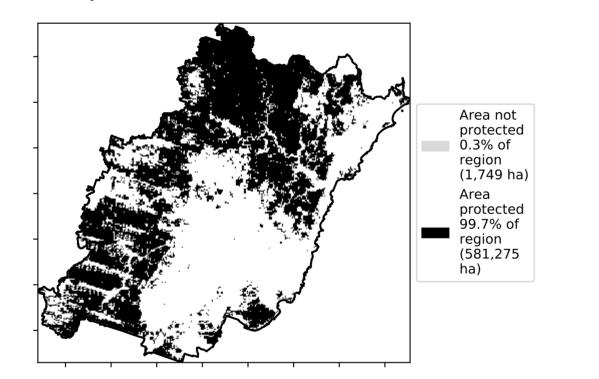


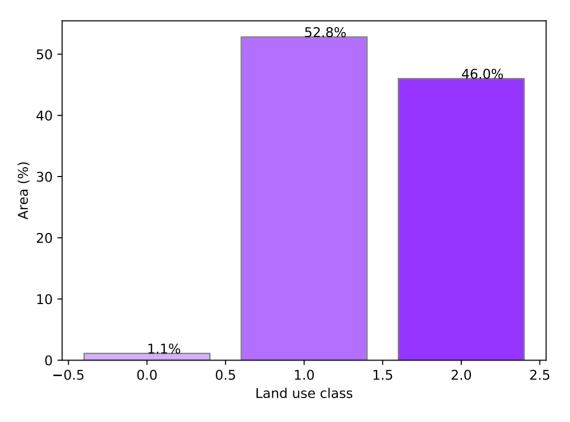
Land use and forest cover

**Total Vegetation Cover [%]** 



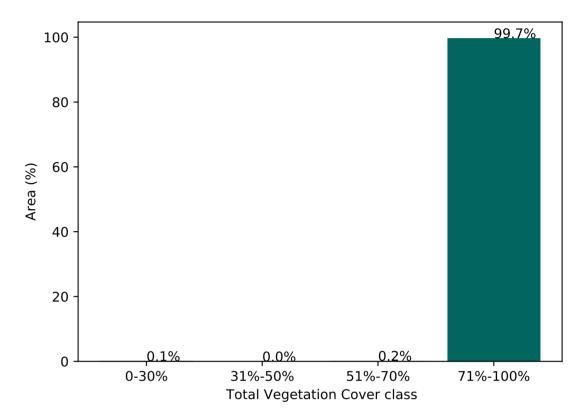
% Area protected from water erosion (>70%)



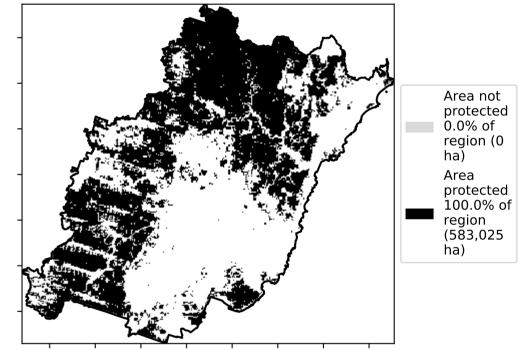


#### Proportion of each land class in area

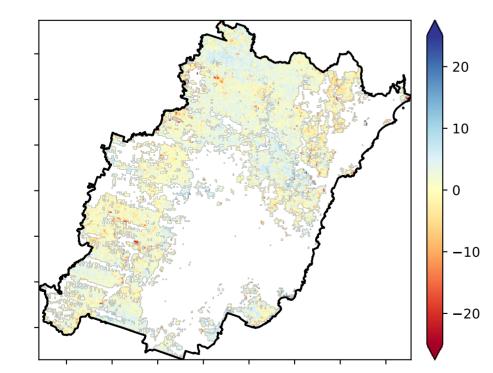
Proportion of vegetation cover class in area



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

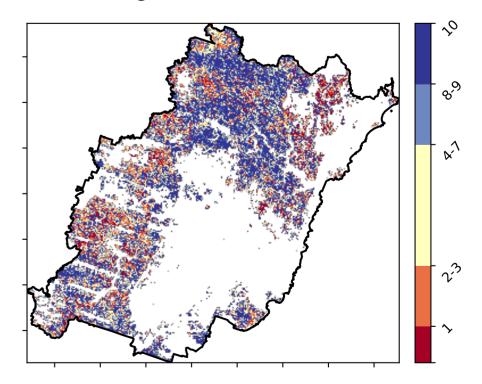


**Total Vegetation Cover Anomaly [%]** 



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.

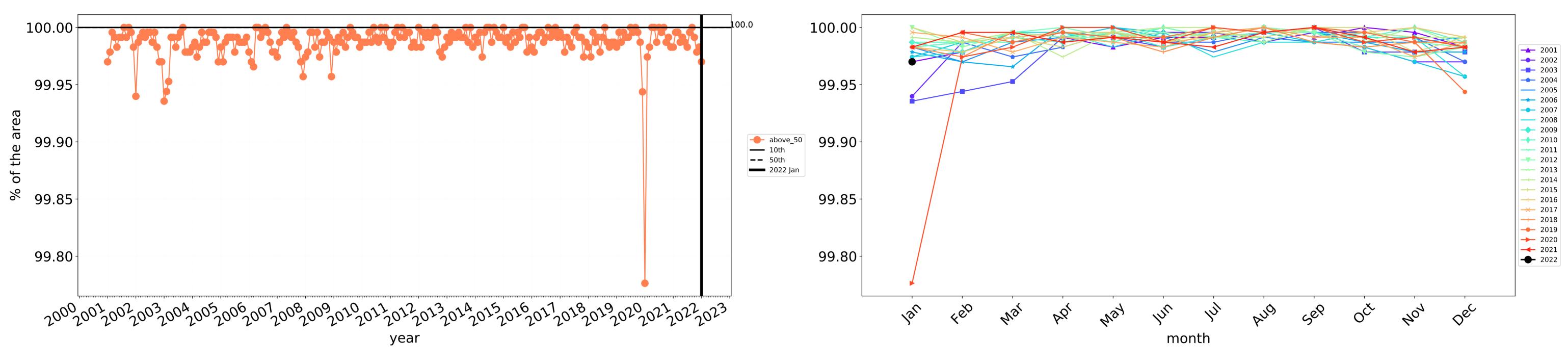
**Total Vegetation Cover Decile [%]** 



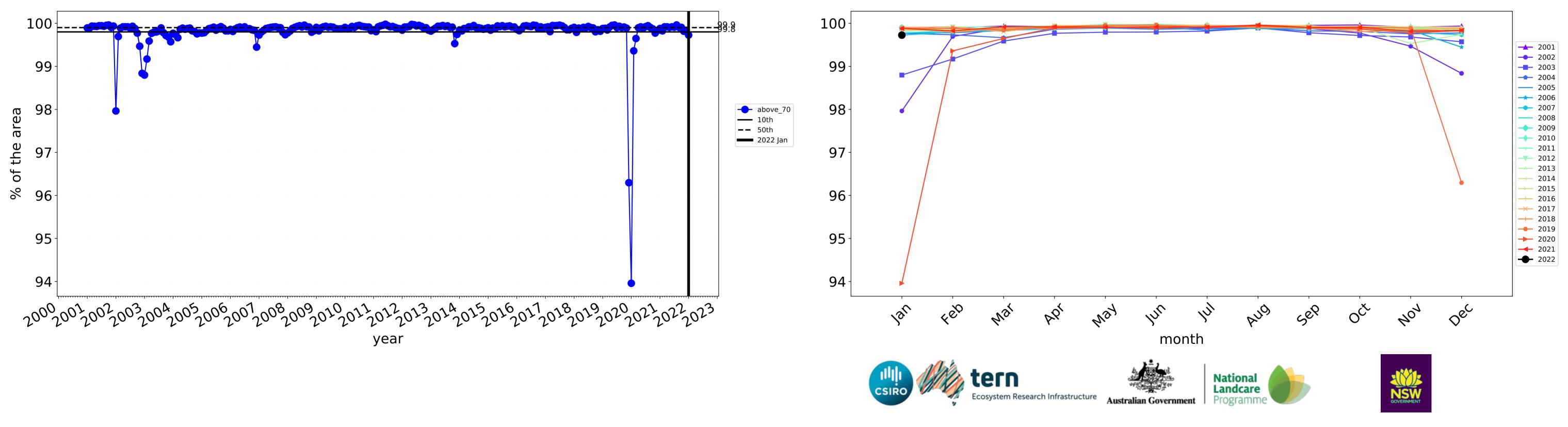




Anomaly show how many percetage points each pixel is from the mean. That is, red pixels are about 20% lower than the mean of that pixel. The mean is only for the month of the map using baseline from 2001 to 2019.

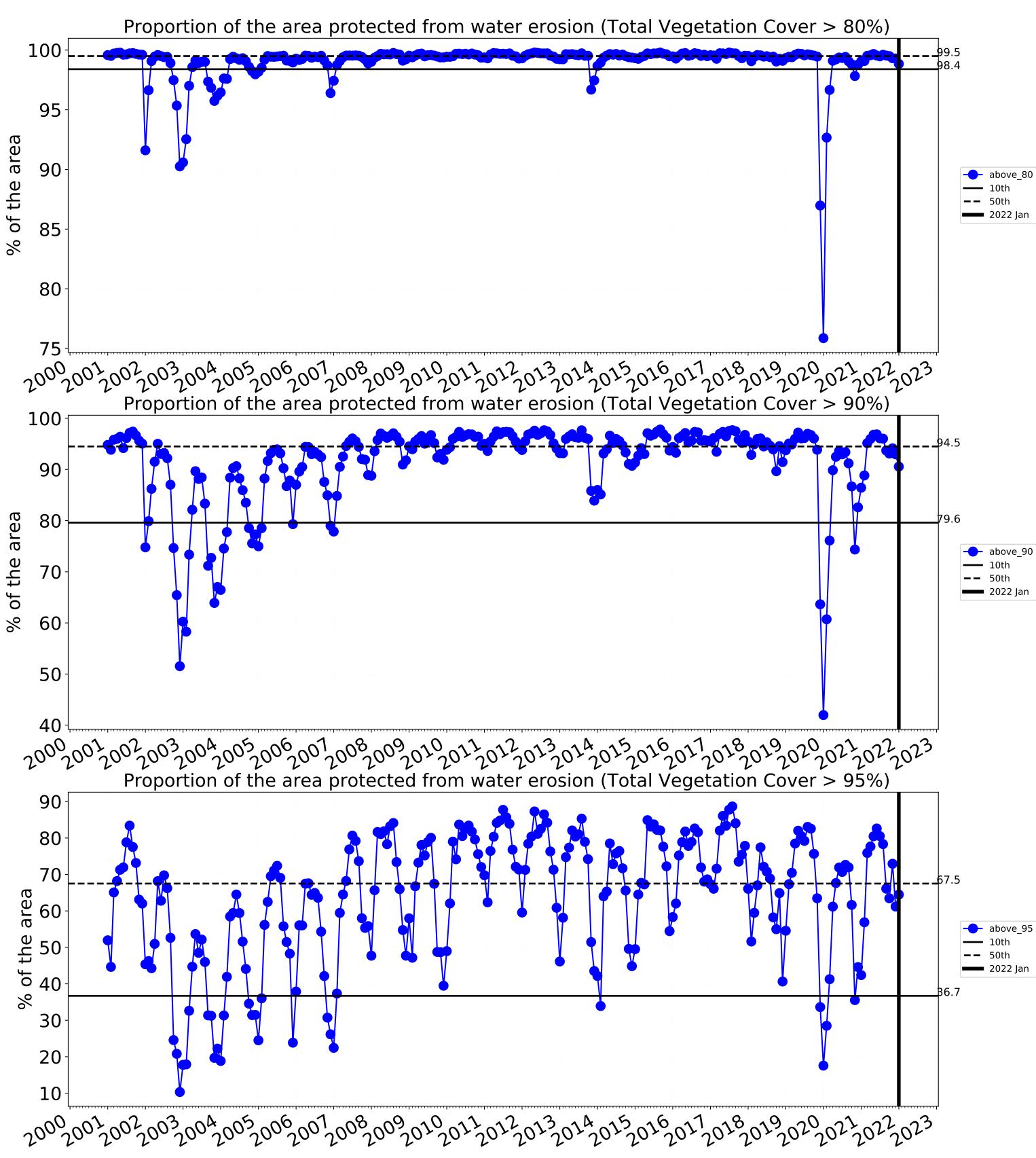


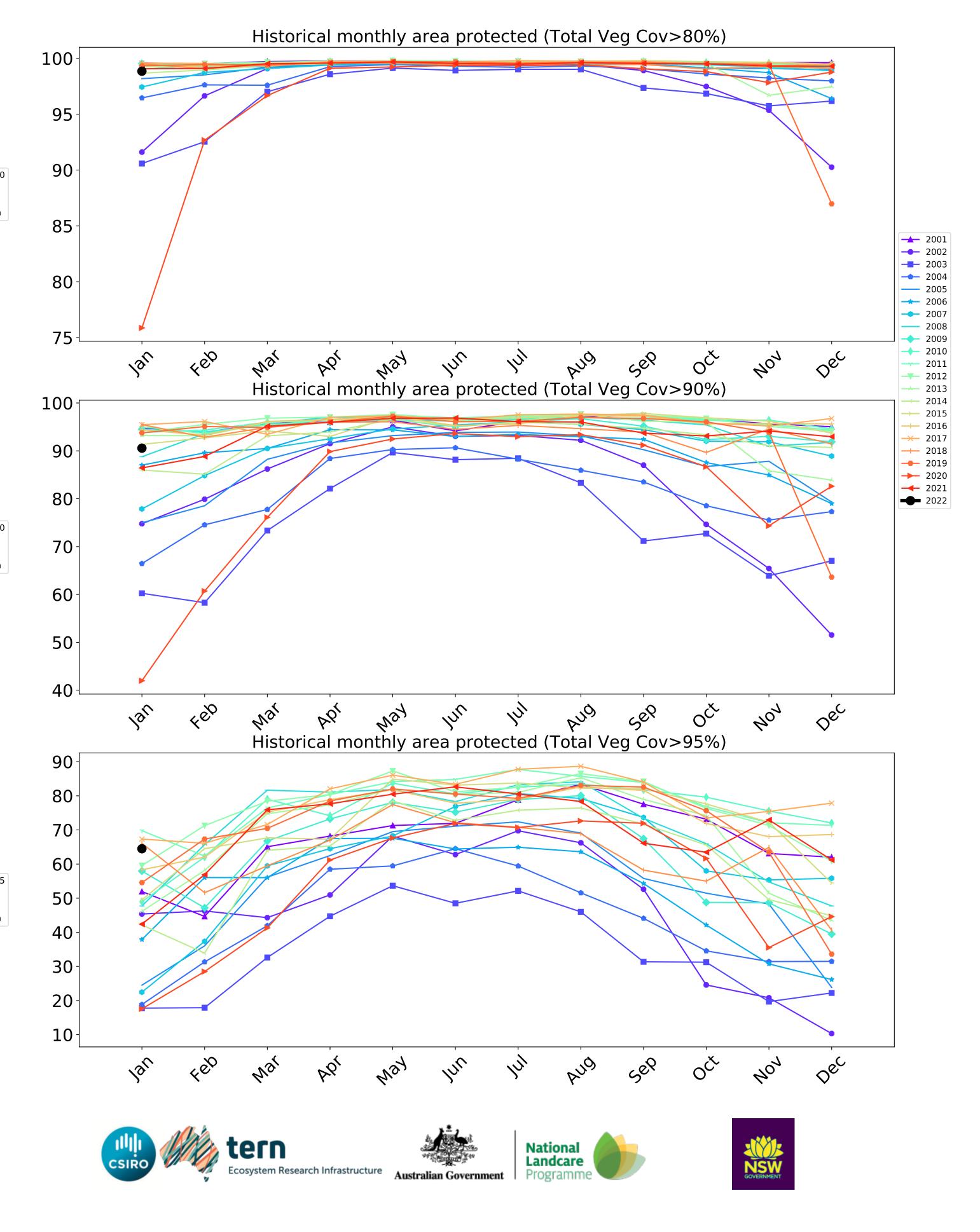
Proportion of the area protected from wind erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 50%)



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**

1 Conservation and natural environments - Woodland forest

12%200%

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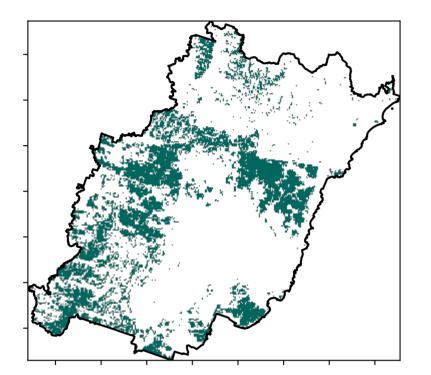
0.30%

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

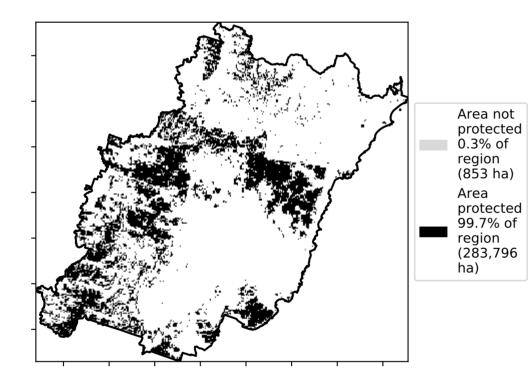
Catchment Scale Land Use and Forests of Australia (2018)

Total Vegetation Cover [%]

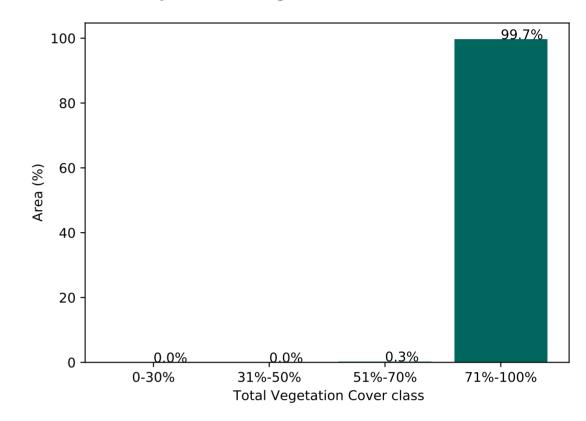
Land use and forest cover



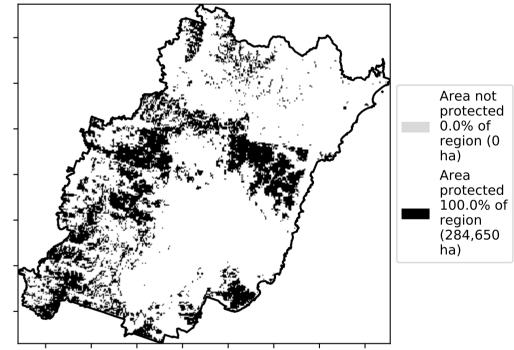
% Area protected from water erosion (>70%)



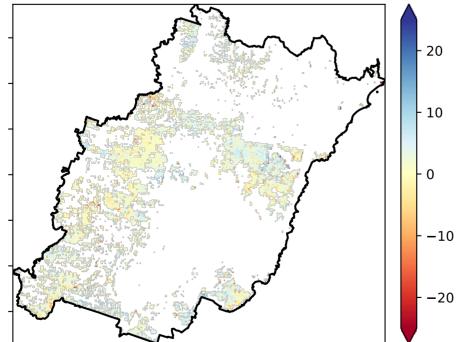
Proportion of vegetation cover class in area



% Area protected from wind erosion (>50%)

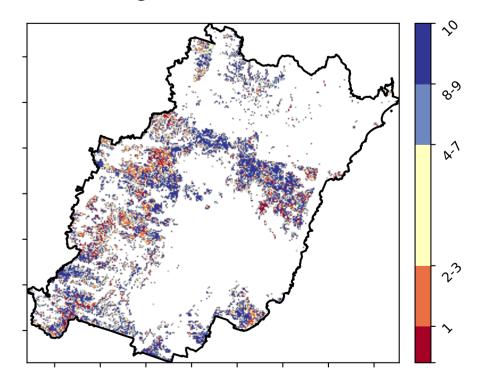


**Total Vegetation Cover Anomaly [%]** 



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 [%]



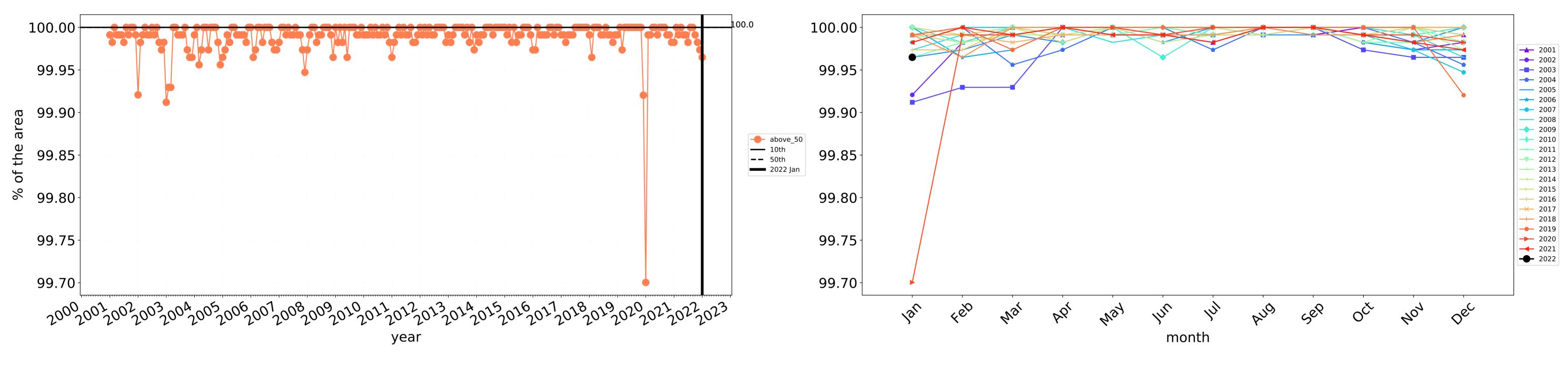




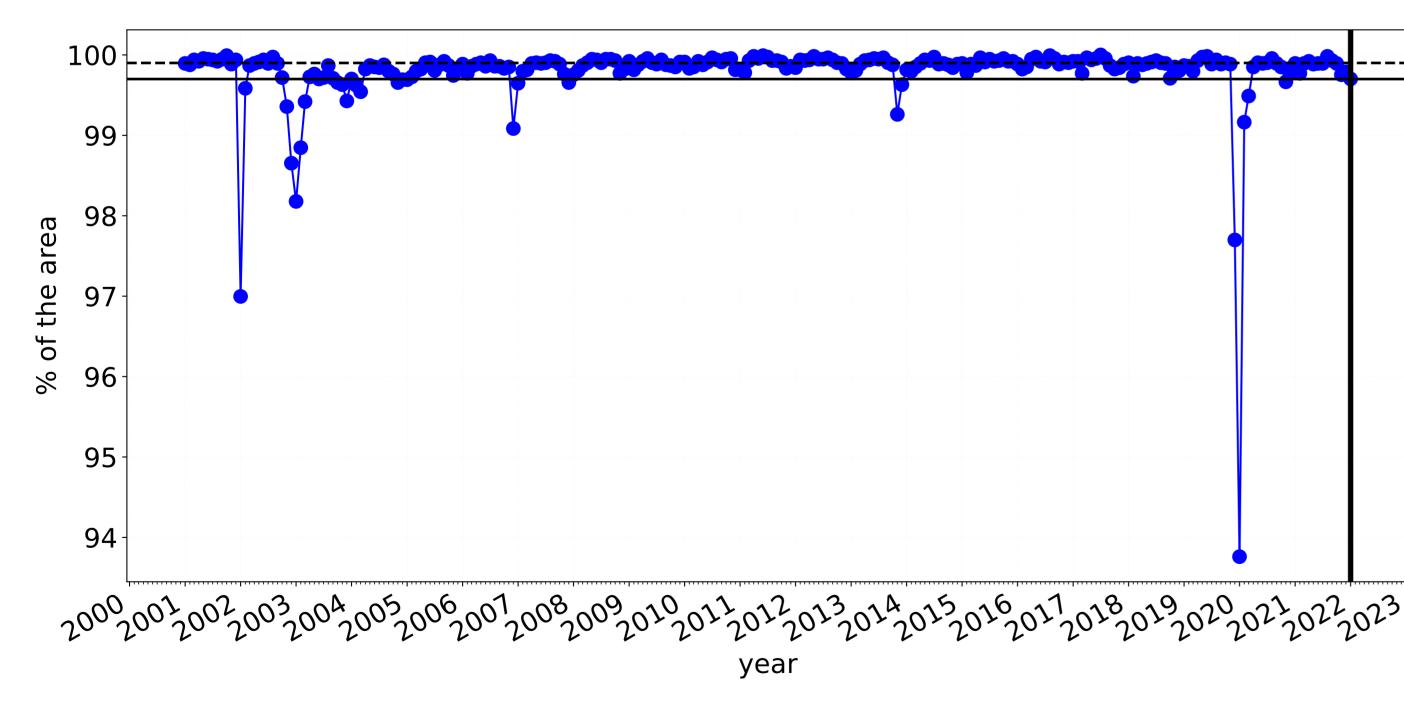
pixel is from the mean. That is, red pixels are about 20% lower than the mean of that pixel. The mean is only for the month of the map using baseline from 2001 to 2019.

Anomaly show how many percetage points each

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



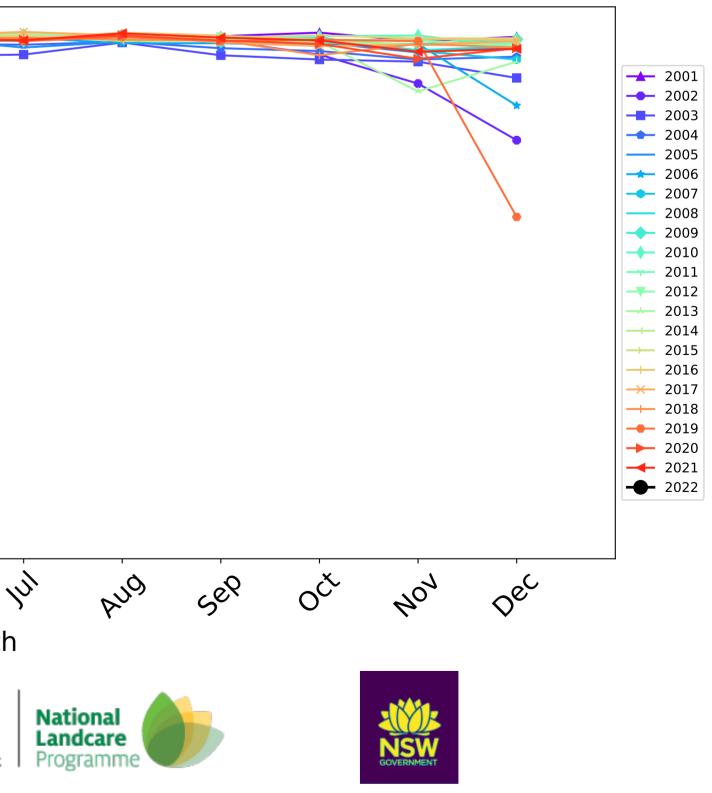
Proportion of the area protected from wind erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 50%)

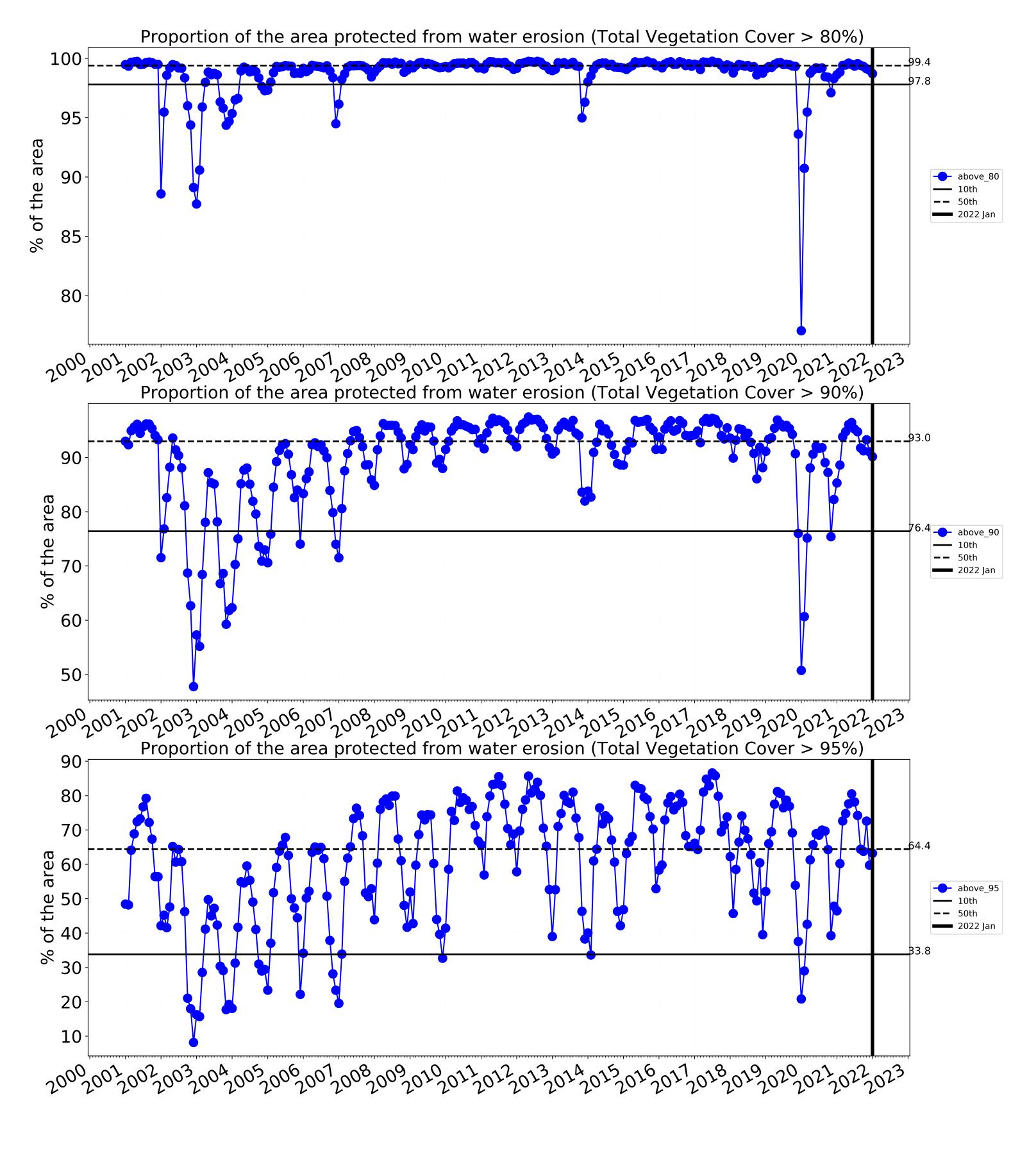


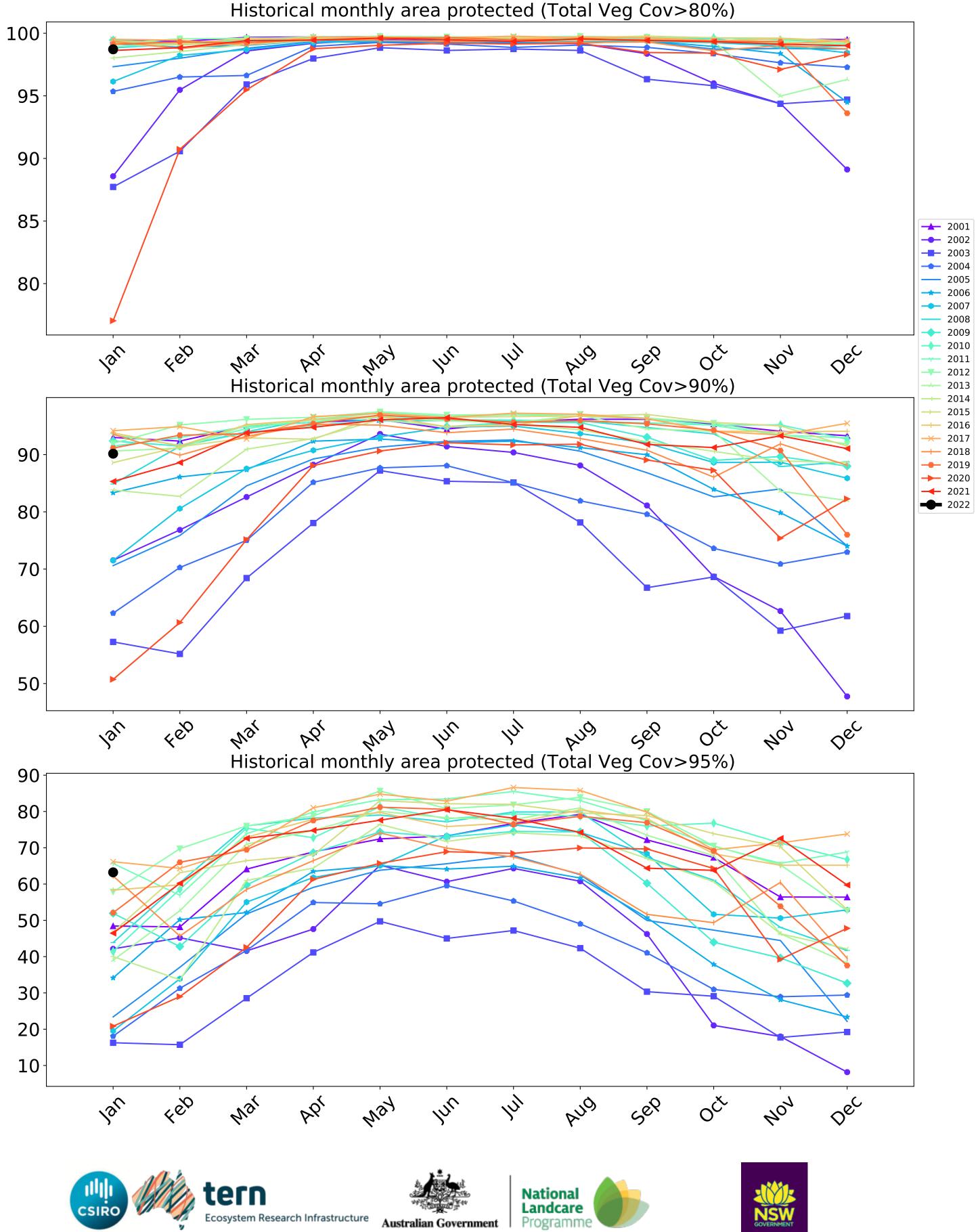
Wind erosion historical monthly area protected (Total Veg Cov >50%)

100 **---**99.7 99 98 ---- above\_70 **—** 10th **--** 50th **——** 2022 Jan 97 96 95 94 4eb lar Inu way PQ War month tern Ecosystem Research Infrastructure Australian Government

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

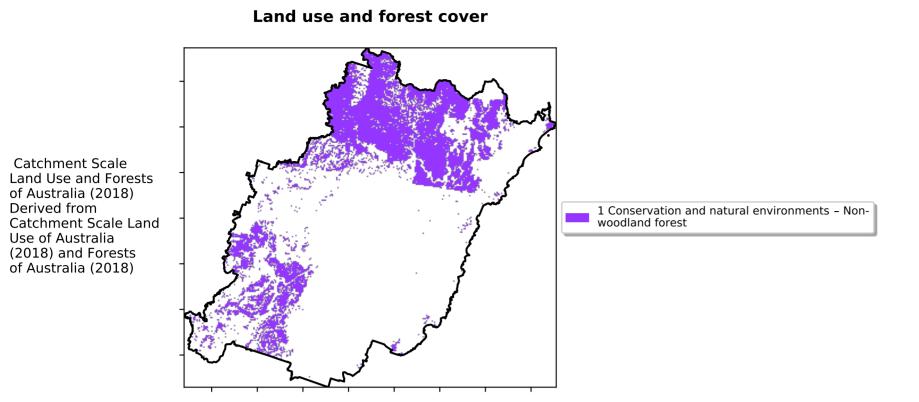








### **Conservation and natural environments Forest (non woodland)**



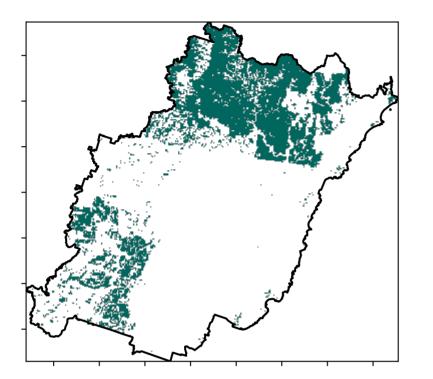
12%200%

, 52% TON

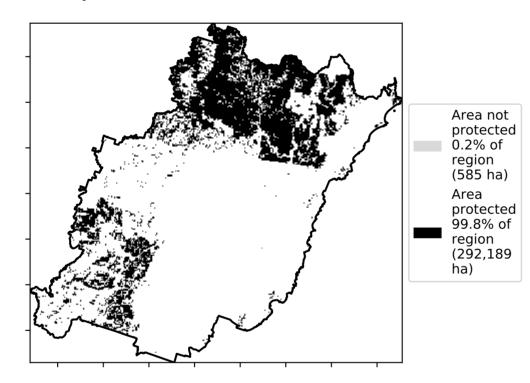
32%50%

0.30%

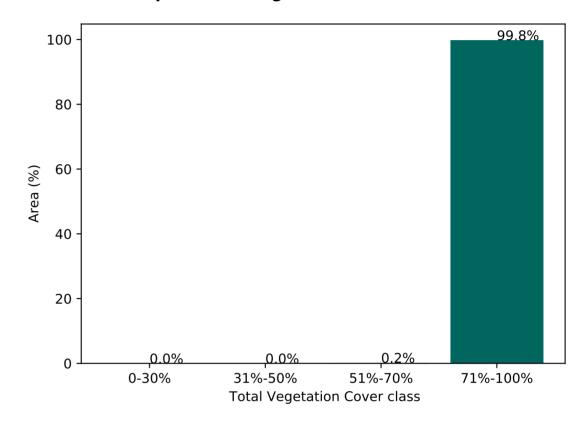
Total Vegetation Cover [%]



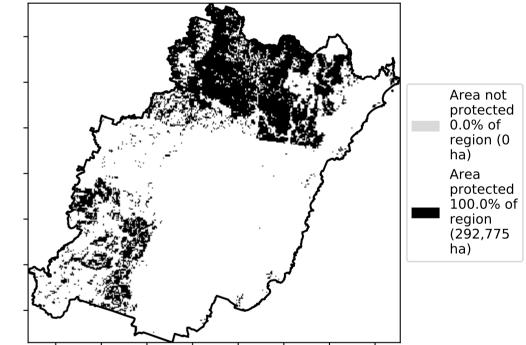
% Area protected from water erosion (>70%)



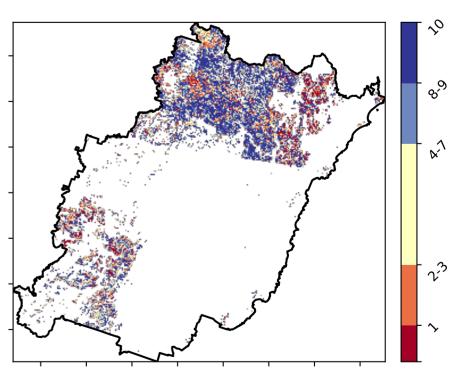
Proportion of vegetation cover class in area



% Area protected from wind erosion (>50%)

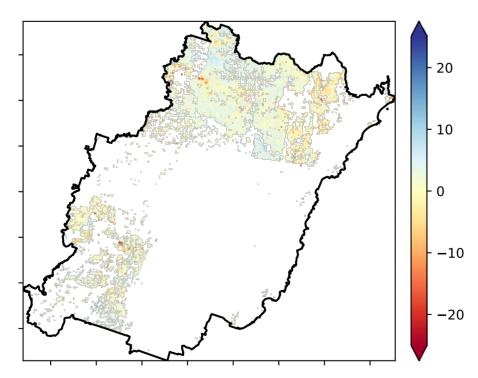


**Total Vegetation Cover Decile [%]** 



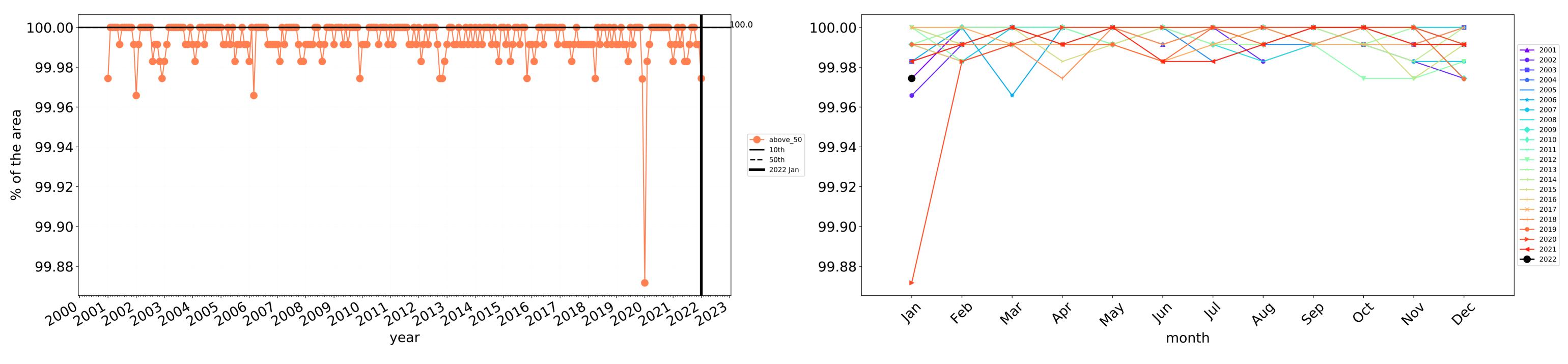
**Total Vegetation Cover Anomaly [%]** 

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.

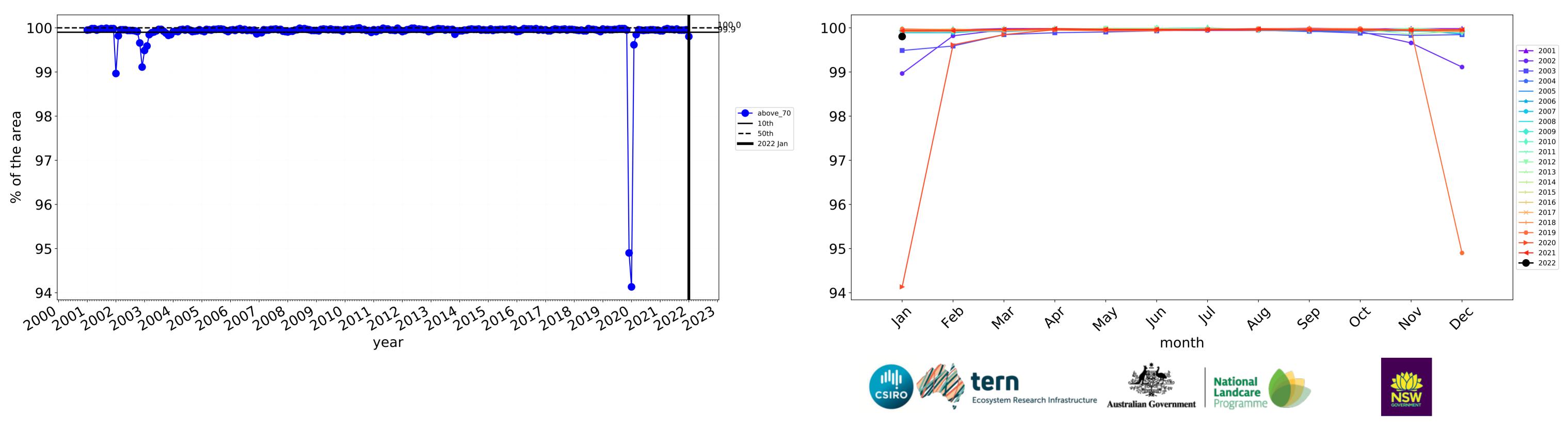


Deciles show where the pixel value lies in the record, from highest to lowest, for that month. That is, red pixels are in the lowest 10% of records for that month of the map using baseline from 2001 to 2019.



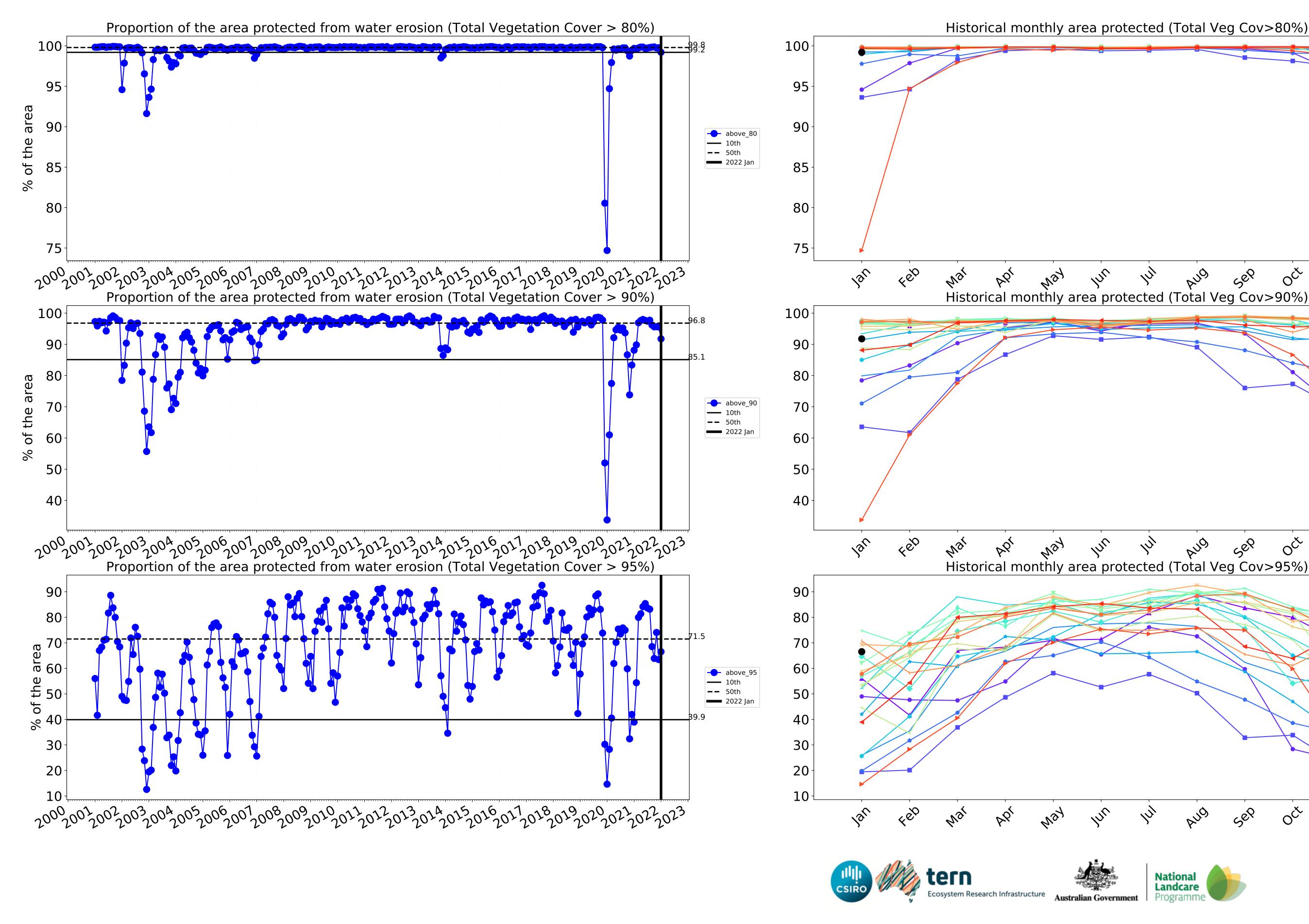


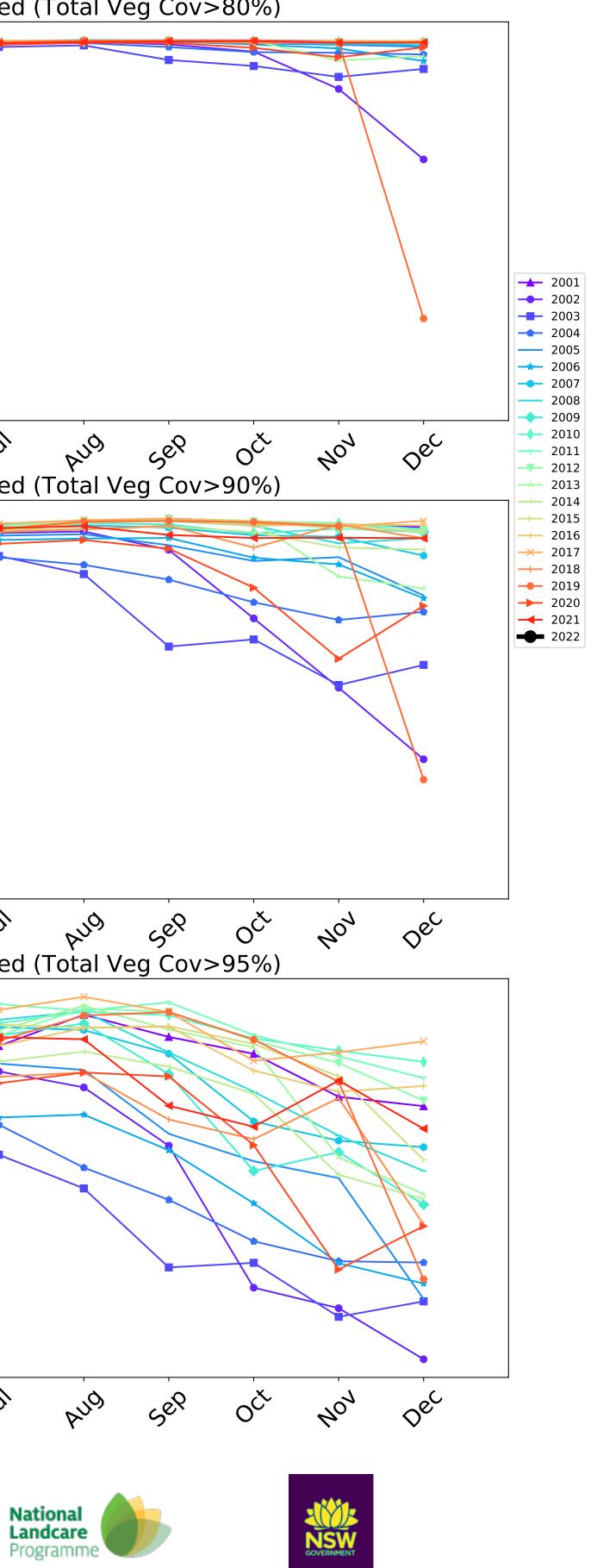
Proportion of the area protected from wind erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 50%)



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

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





#### Agriculture

12%100%

· 52°10'70°10

3201050010

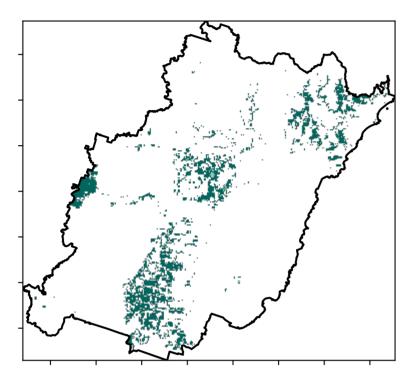
0.30%

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

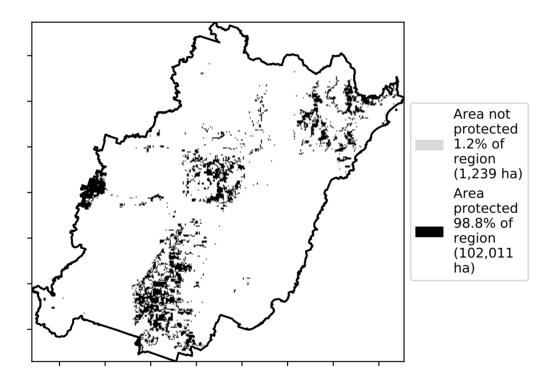
1 Agriculture - Grazing - Non forest 2 Agriculture - Grazing - Woodland forest 3 Agriculture - Grazing - Non-woodland forest 4 Agriculture - Grazing - Irrigated 5 Agriculture - Cropping - Non-irrigated 6 Agriculture - Cropping - Irrigated 7 Agriculture - Horticulture - Non-irrigated 8 Agriculture - Horticulture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

**Total Vegetation Cover [%]** 

Land use and forest cover



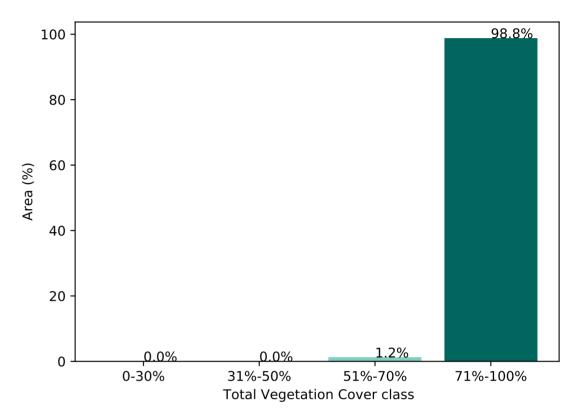




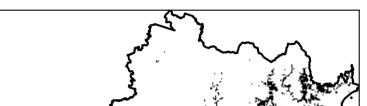
<u>59.</u>9% 60 50 40 Area (%) 00 <u>26.</u>2% 20 10 7.2% 0.8% 1 0% 0 0 1 2 3 4 5 Land use class

#### Proportion of each land class in area

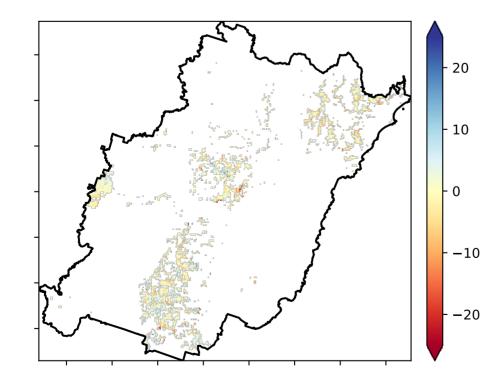
Proportion of vegetation cover class in area



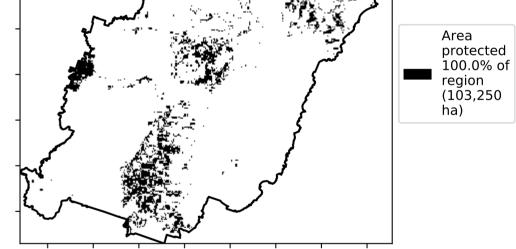
% Area protected from wind erosion (>50%)



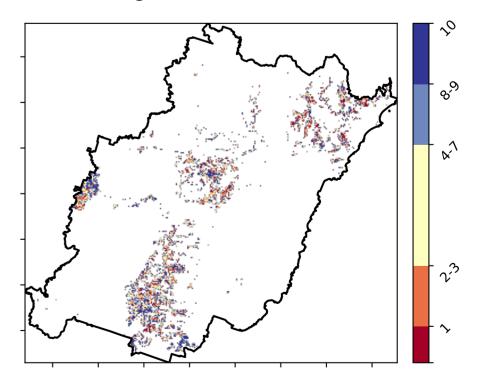
**Total Vegetation Cover Anomaly [%]** 



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.

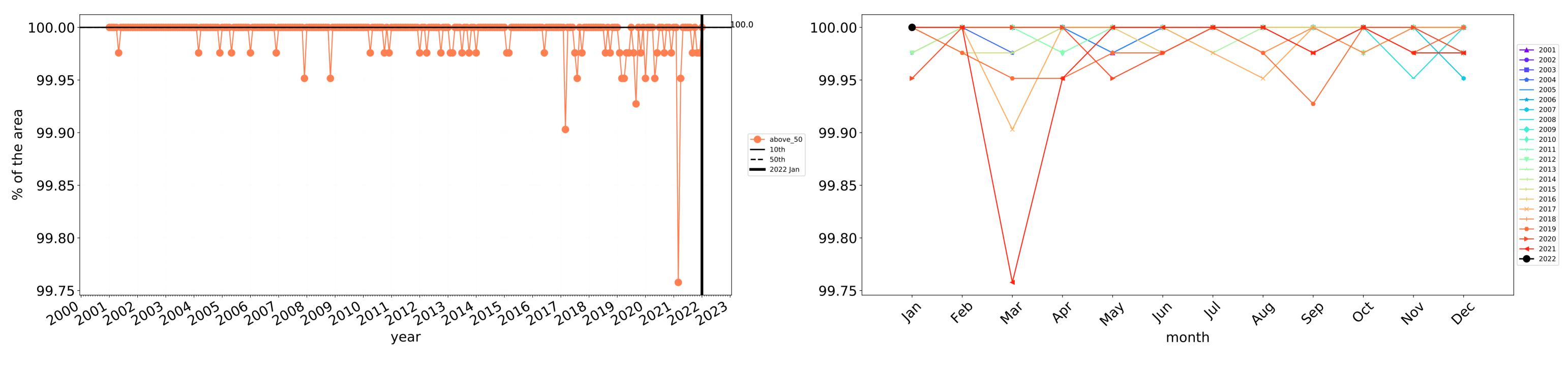


Total Vegetation Cover Decile [%]

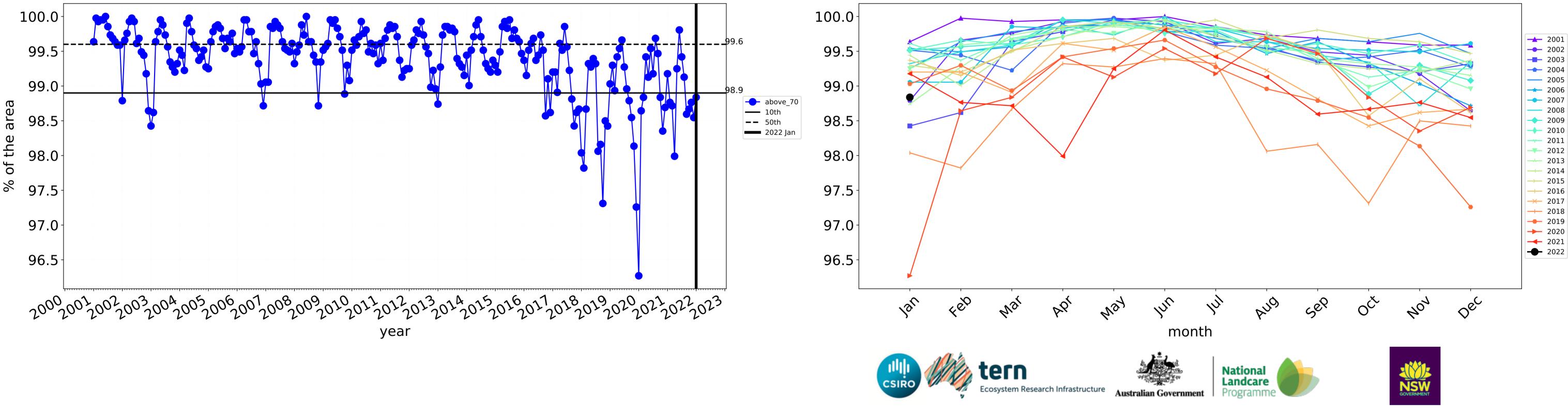




Anomaly show how many percetage points each pixel is from the mean. That is, red pixels are about 20% lower than the mean of that pixel. The mean is only for the month of the map from 2001 to 2019.



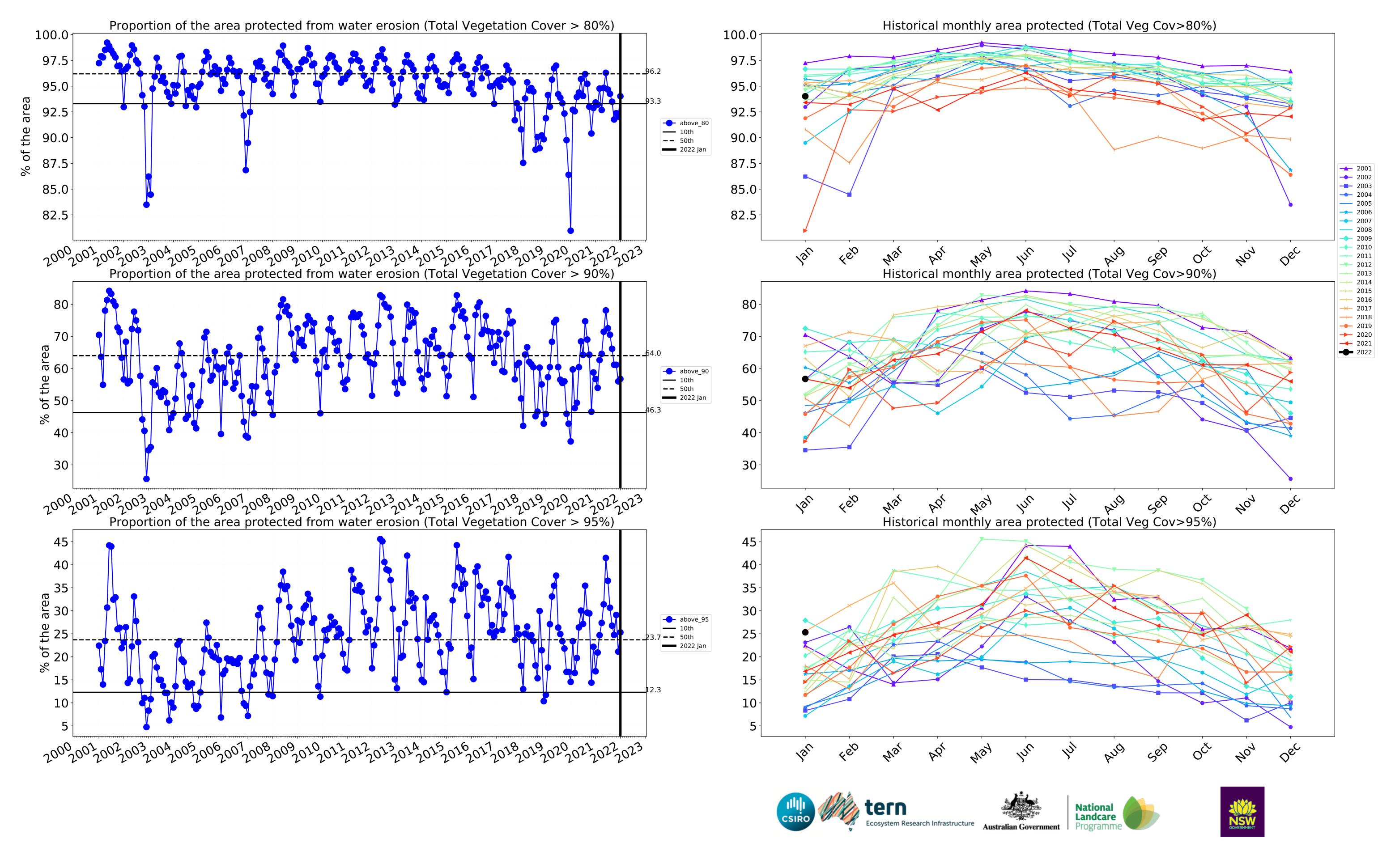
Proportion of the area protected from wind erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 50%)



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

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





#### Grazing

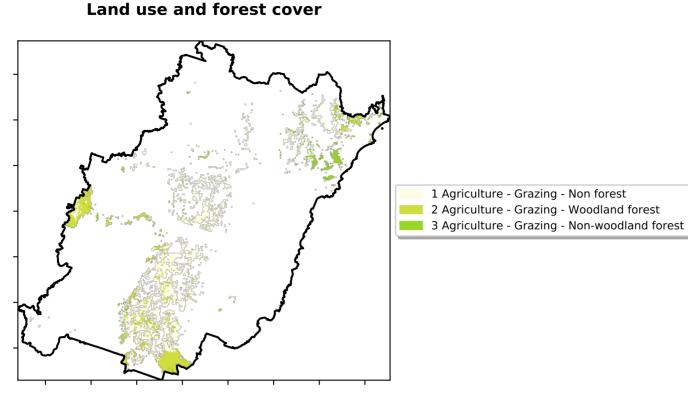
12º10000

· 52°10'10°10

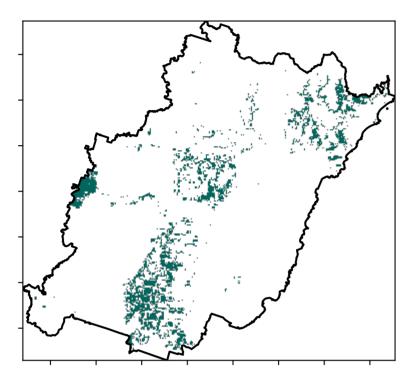
320050010

0.30%

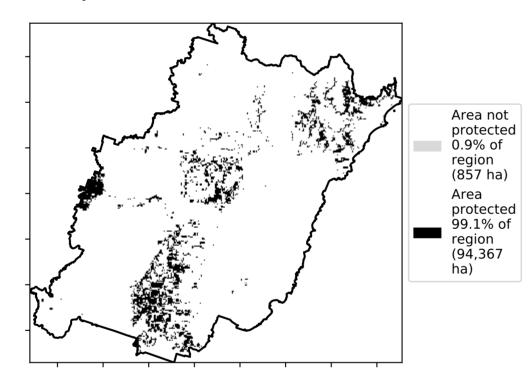
Catchment Scale Land Use and Forests of Australia (2018) Derived from Catchment Scale Land Use of Australia (2018) and Forests of Australia (2018)



**Total Vegetation Cover [%]** 



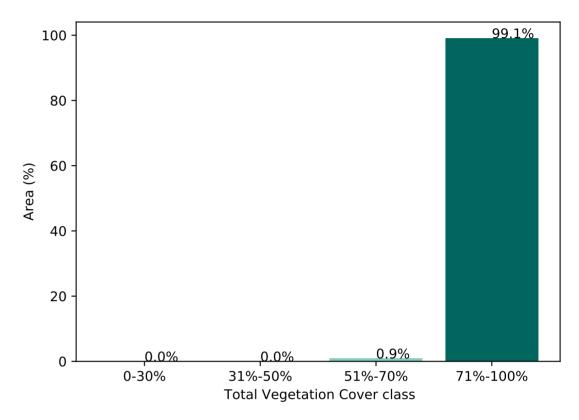
% Area protected from water erosion (>70%)



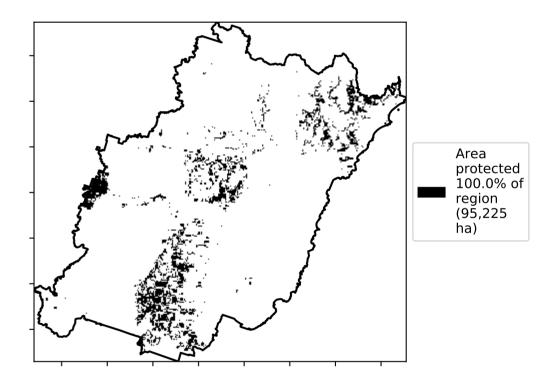
64.2% 60 50 Area (%) 05 00 00 28.1% 20 10 7.7% 0 -0.5 0.5 1.0 1.5 2.0 2.5 0.0 Land use class

Proportion of each land class in area

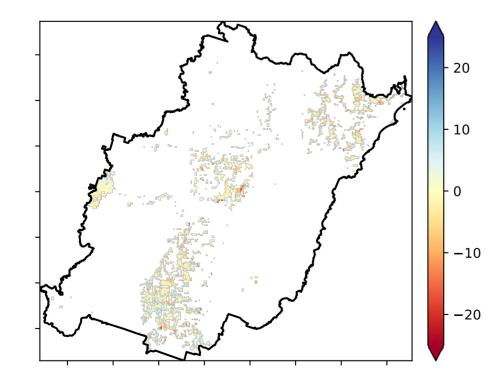
Proportion of vegetation cover class in area



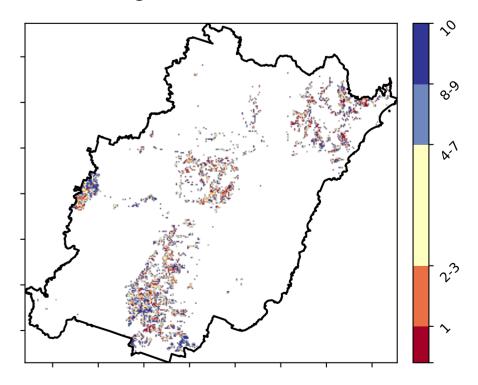
% Area protected from wind erosion (>50%)



**Total Vegetation Cover Anomaly [%]** 

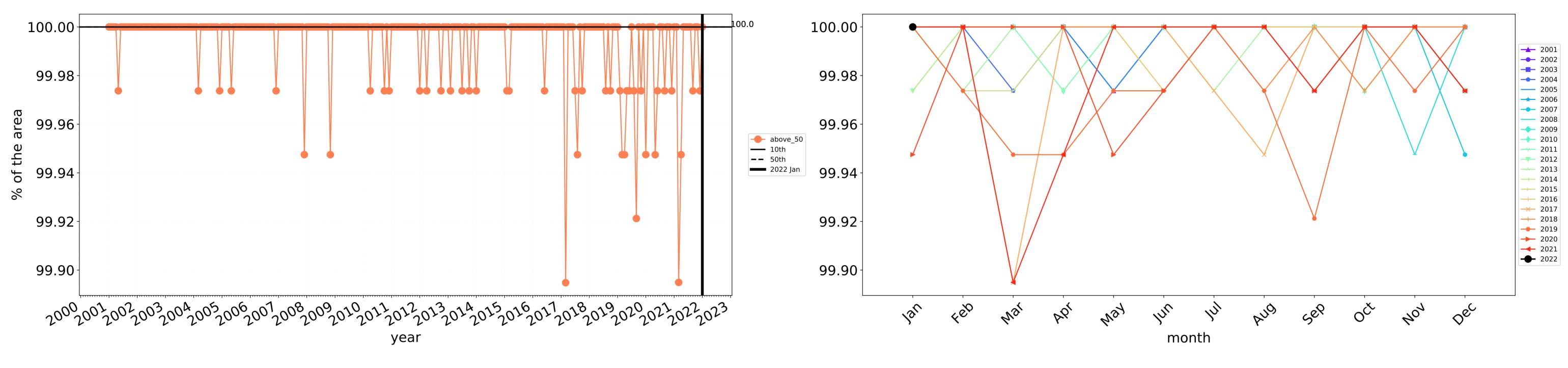


Deciles show where the pixel value lies in the record, from highest to lowest, for that month. That is, red pixels are in the lowest 10% of records for that month of the map using baseline from 2001 to 2019. **Total Vegetation Cover Decile [%]** 

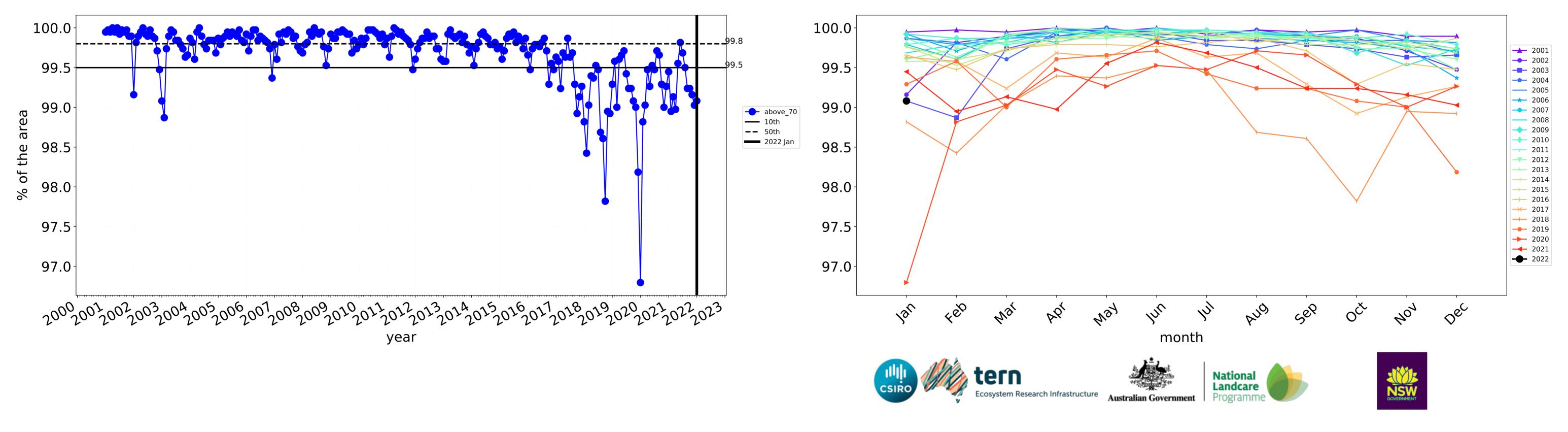




Anomaly show how many percetage points each pixel is from the mean. That is, red pixels are about 20% lower than the mean of that pixel. The mean is only for the month of the map using baseline from 2001 to 2019.

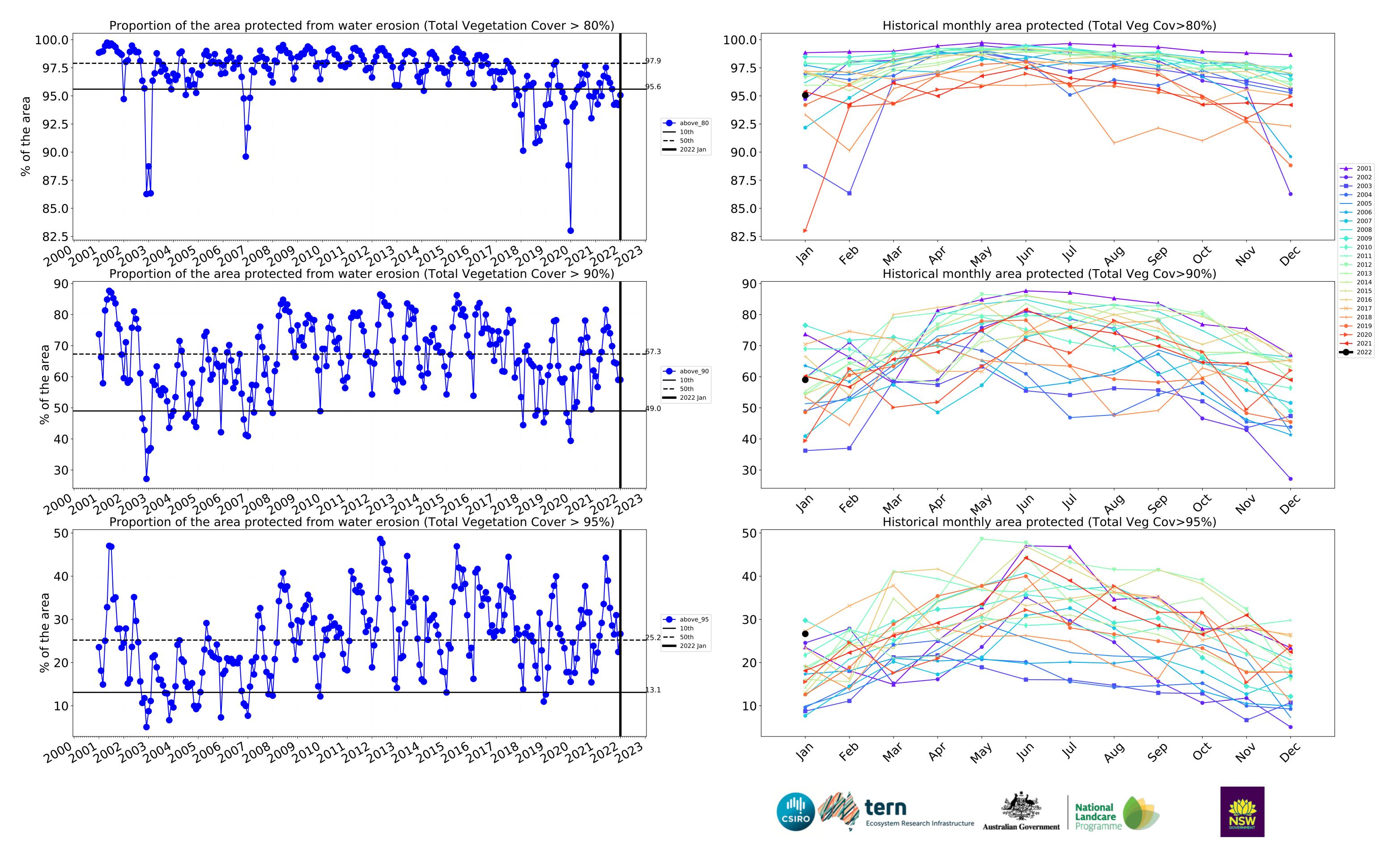


Proportion of the area protected from wind erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 50%)



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

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



# **Grazing non forest**

Land use and forest cover



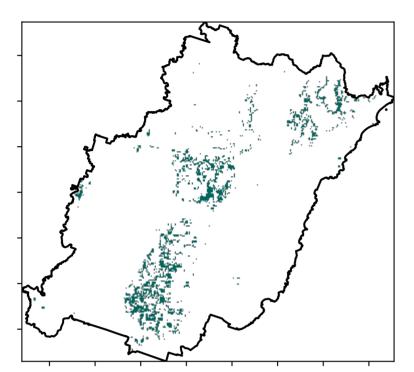
Anomaly show how many percetage points each

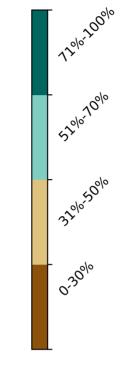
pixel is from the mean. That is, red pixels are about 20% lower than the

mean of that

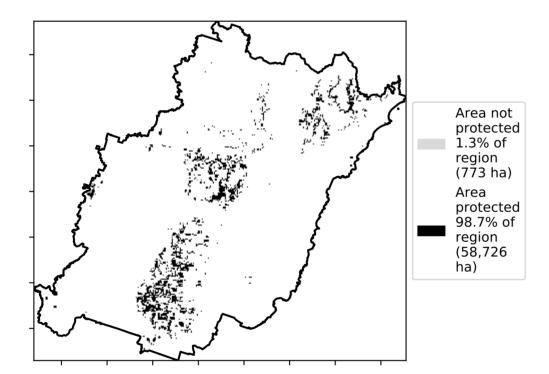
pixel. The mean is only for the month of the map using baseline from 2001 to 2019. 1 Agriculture - Grazing - Non forest

Total Vegetation Cover [%]

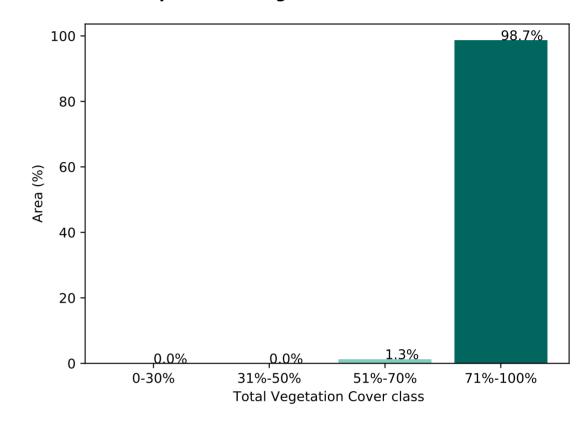




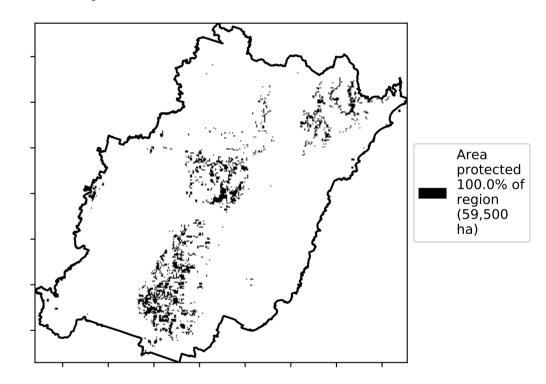
% Area protected from water erosion (>70%)



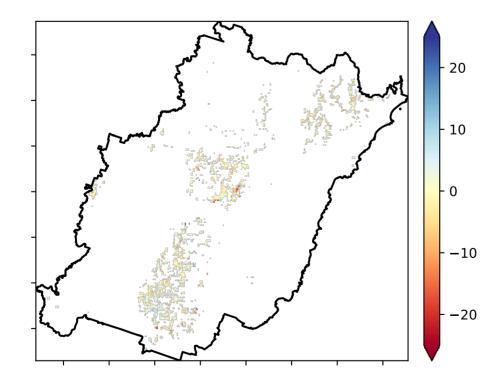
Proportion of vegetation cover class in area



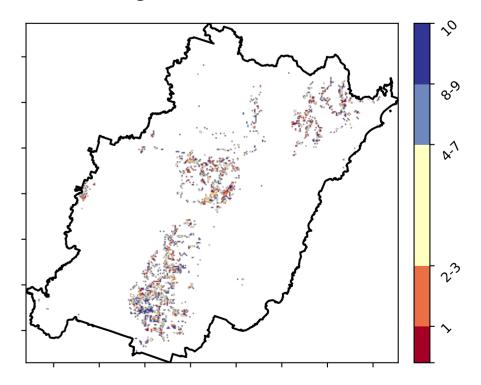
% Area protected from wind erosion (>50%)



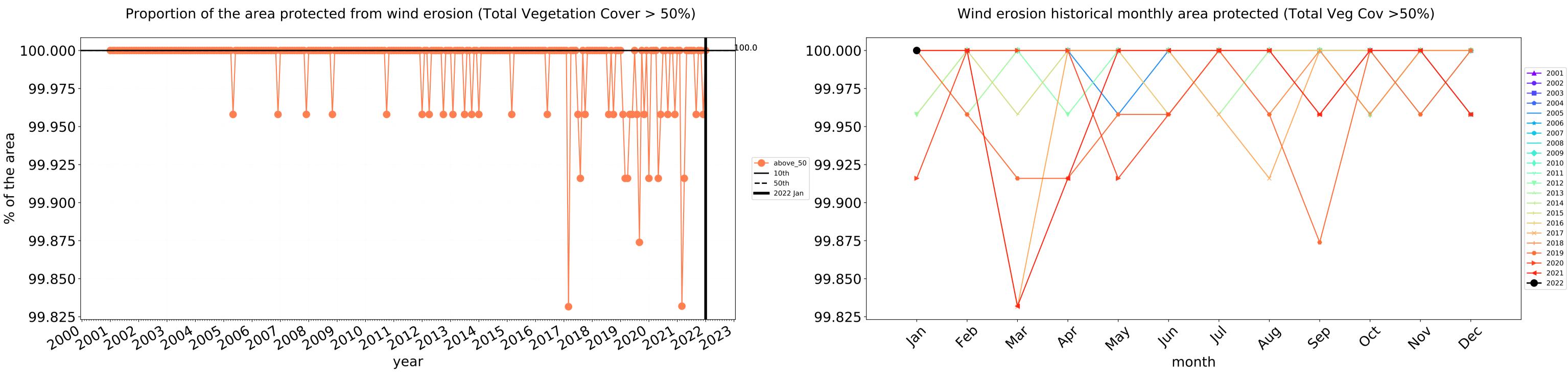
**Total Vegetation Cover Anomaly [%]** 

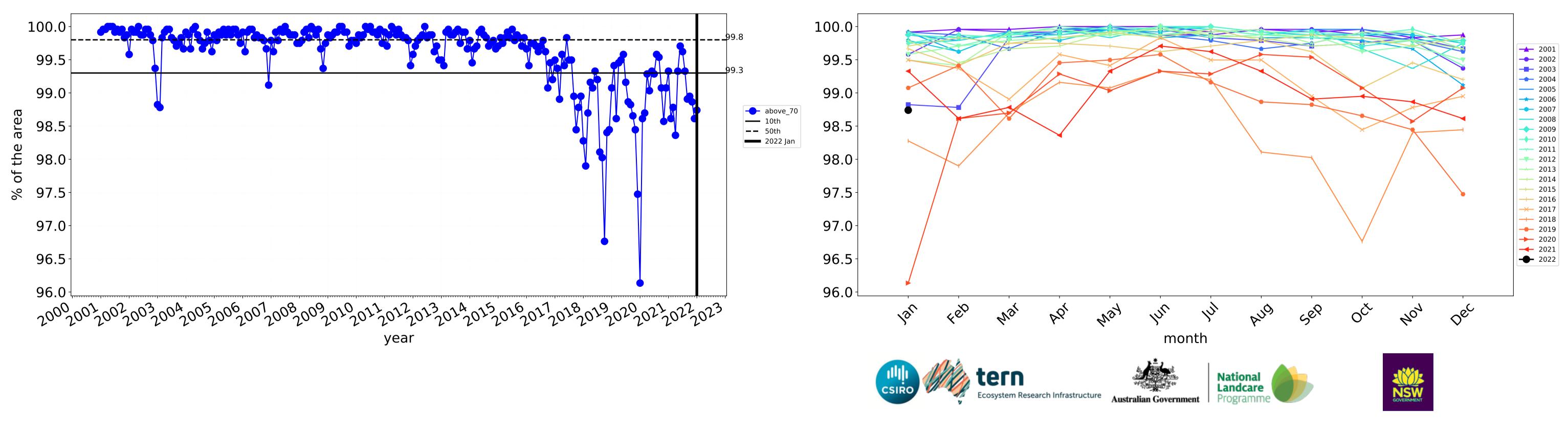


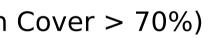
Deciles show where the pixel value lies in the record, from highest to lowest, for that month. That is, red pixels are in the lowest 10% of records for that month of the map using baseline from 2001 to 2019. **Total Vegetation Cover Decile [%]** 



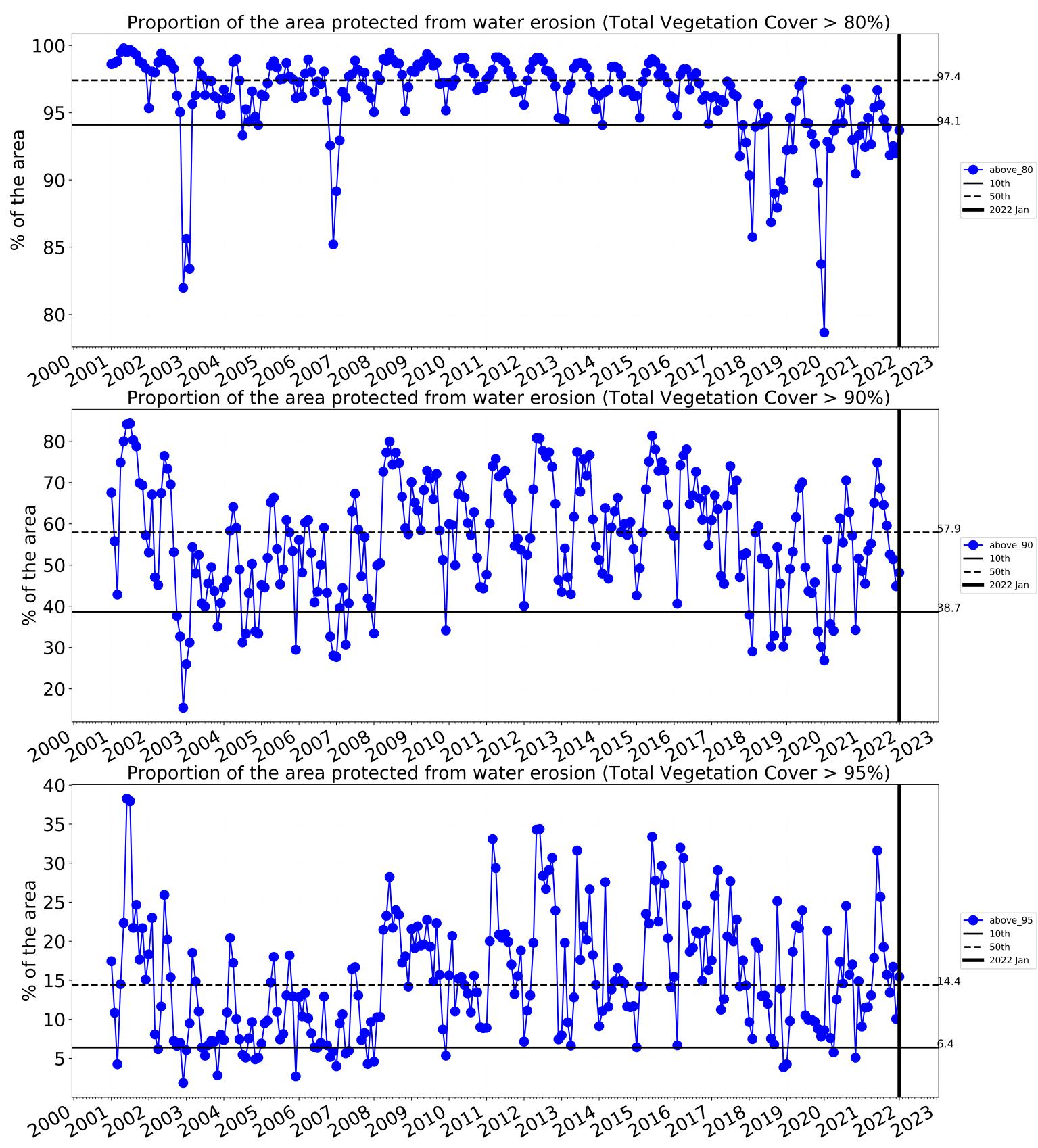


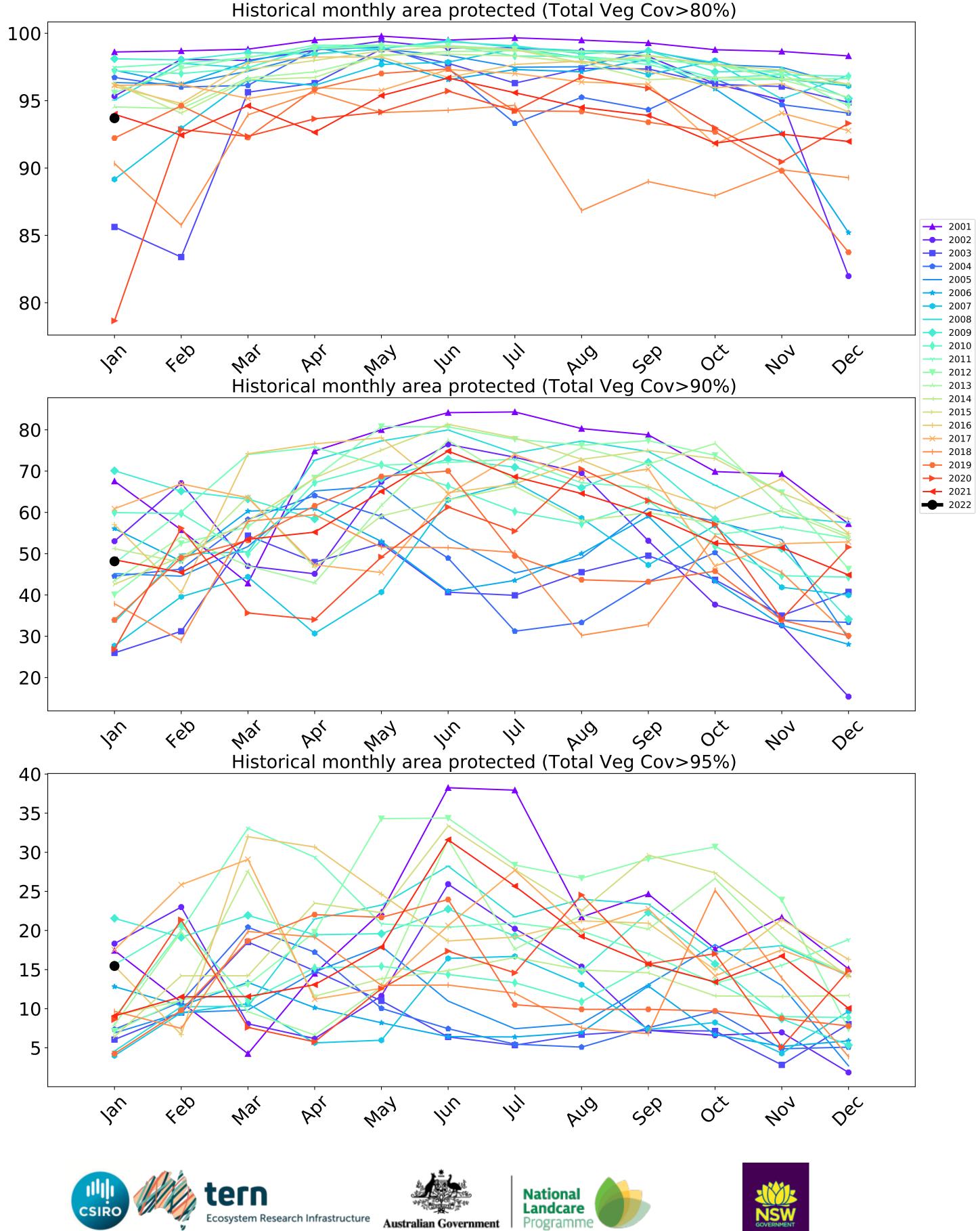














### **Grazing Woodland forest**

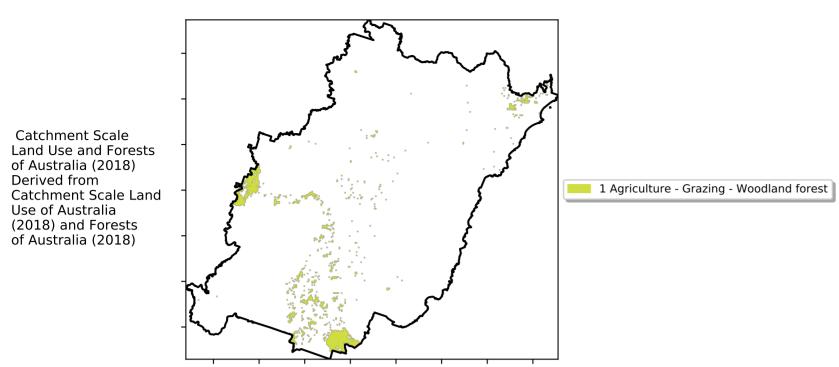
1200-20000

· 52°10'70°10

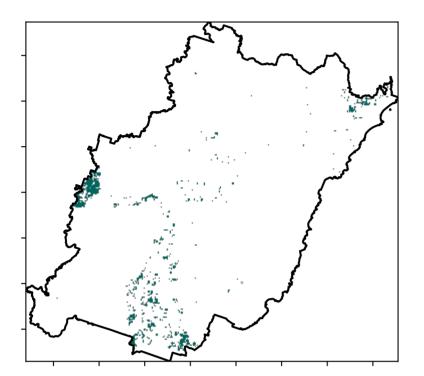
3201050010

0.30%

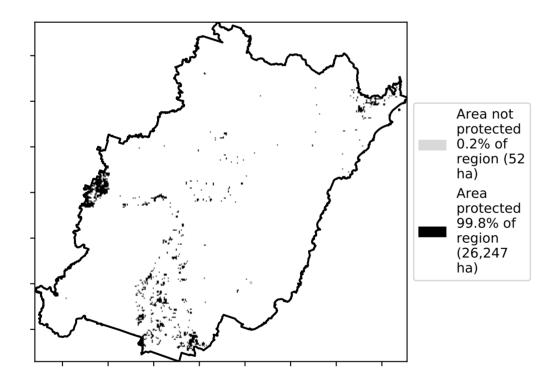
Land use and forest cover



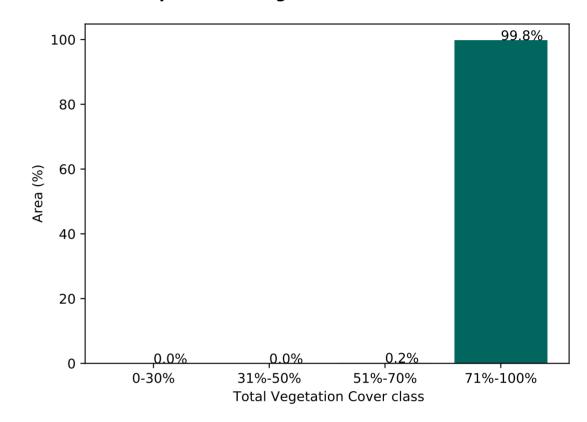
Total Vegetation Cover [%]



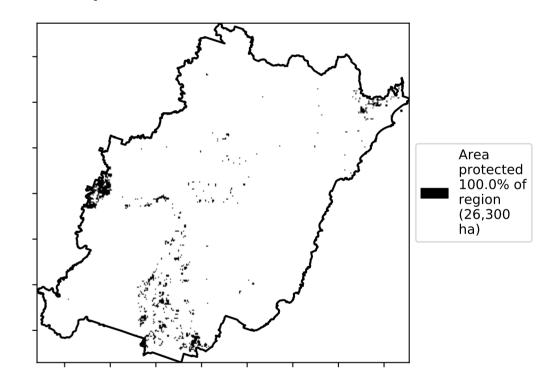




Proportion of vegetation cover class in area



% Area protected from wind erosion (>50%)



**Total Vegetation Cover Anomaly [%]** 

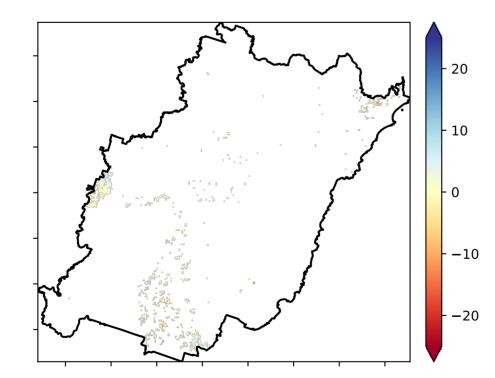
Anomaly show how many percetage points each

pixel is from the mean. That

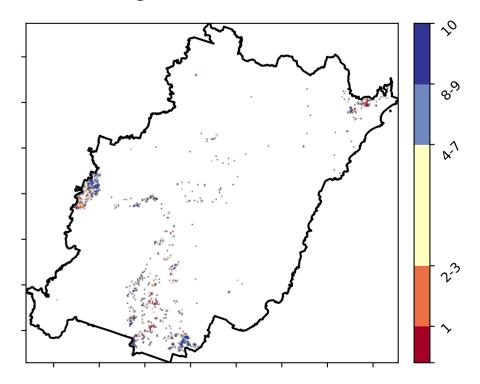
is, red pixels are about 20% lower than the

mean of that

pixel. The mean is only for the month of the map using baseline from 2001 to 2019.

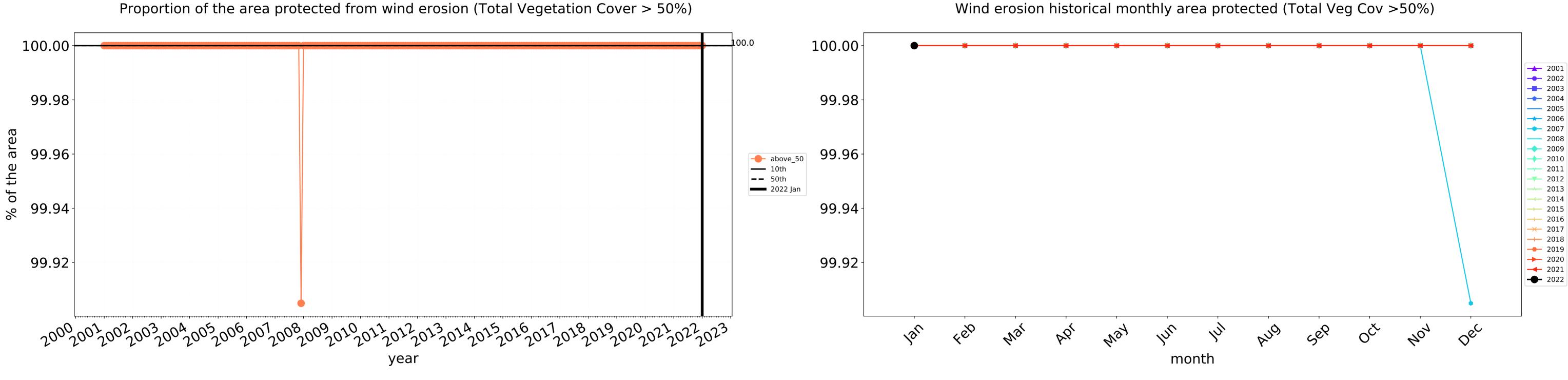


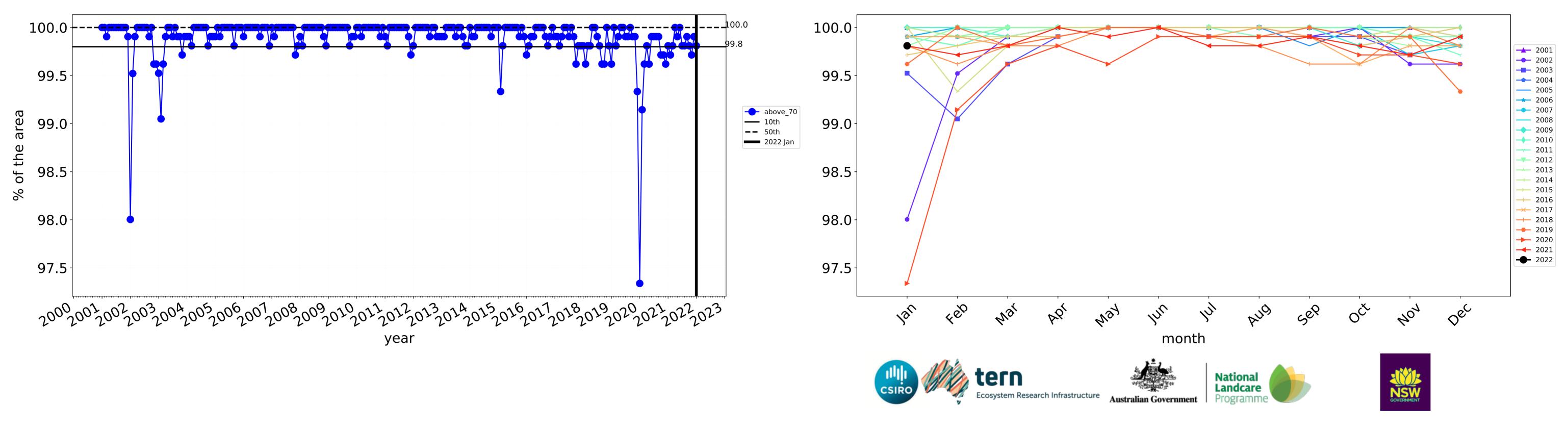
Deciles show where the pixel value lies in the record, from highest to lowest, for that month. That is, red pixels are in the lowest 10% of records for that month of the map using baseline from 2001 to 2019. **Total Vegetation Cover Decile [%]** 



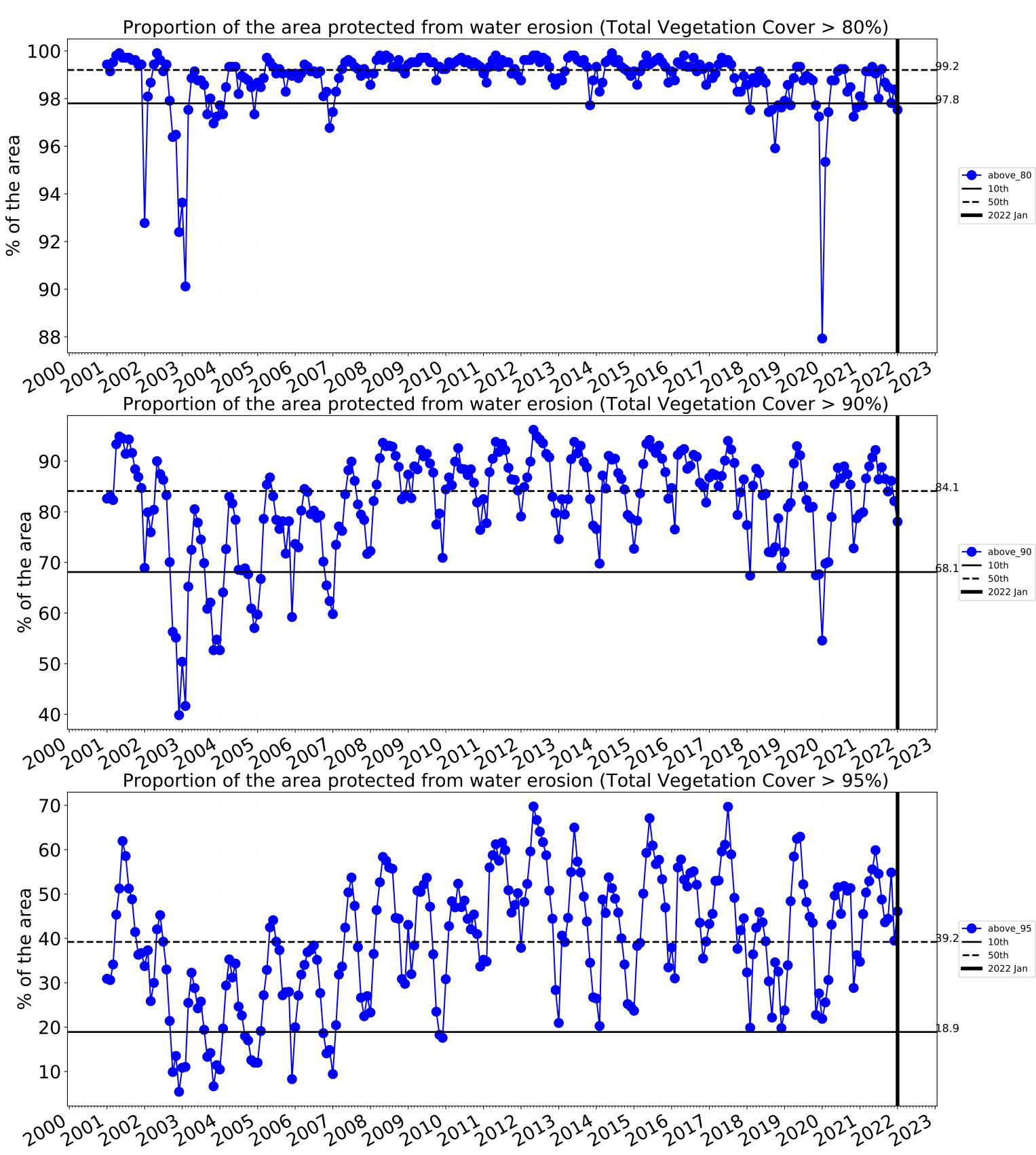


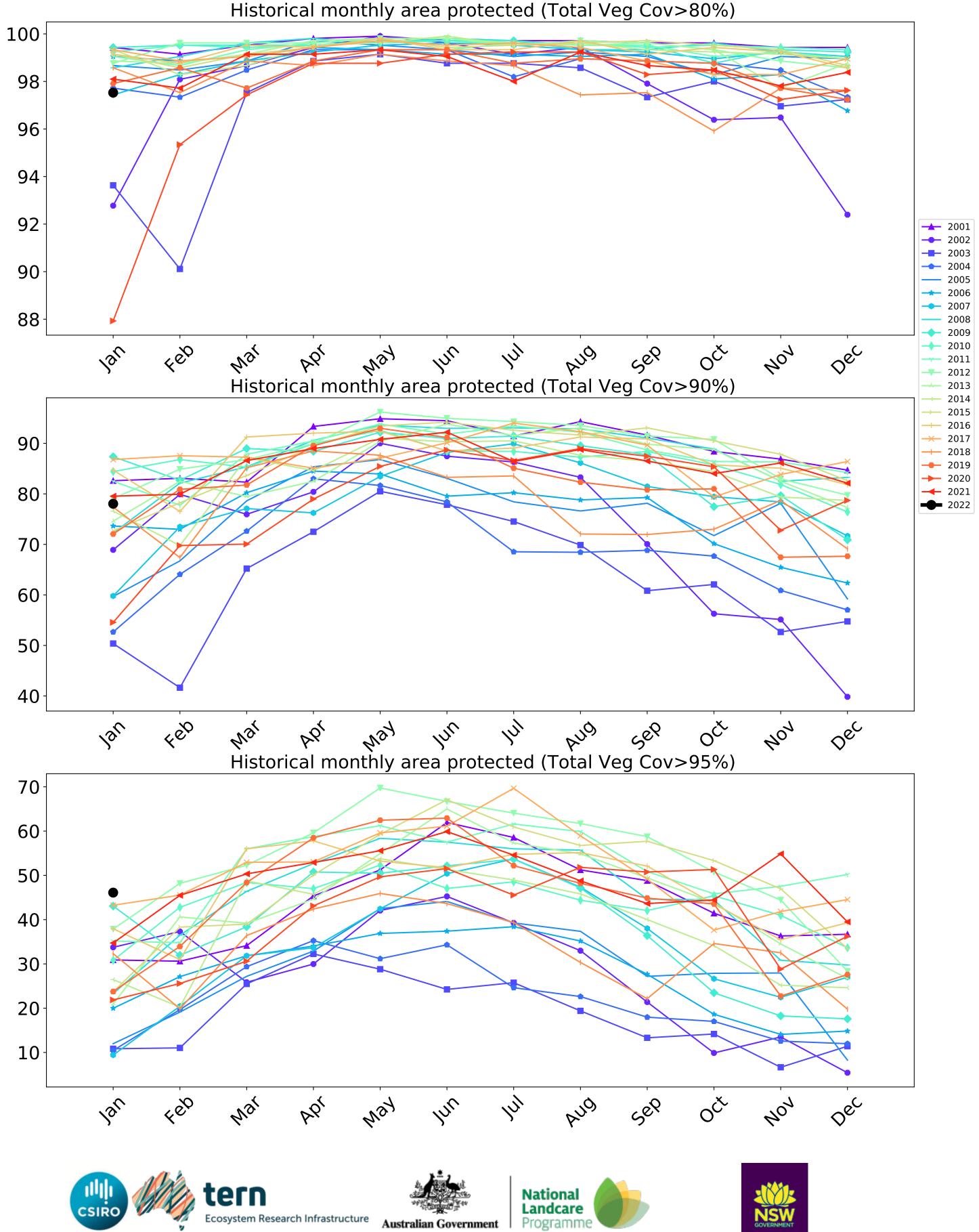
23





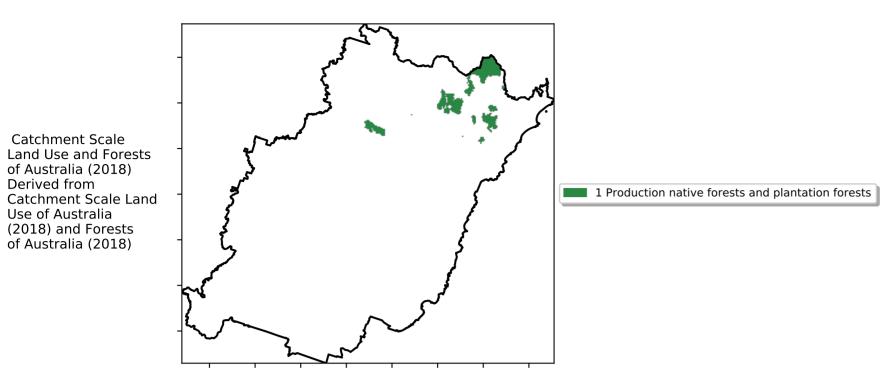
Water erosion historical monthly area protected (Total Veg Cov>70%)





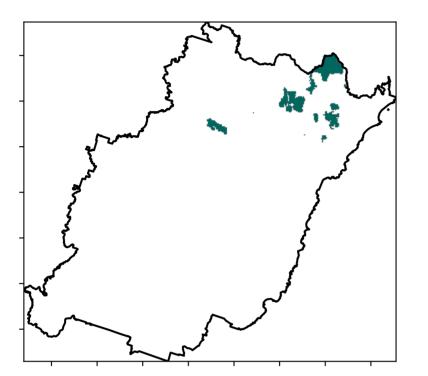


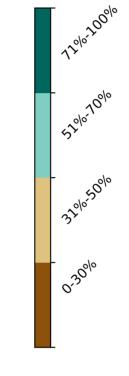
# **Production native forests and plantation forests**



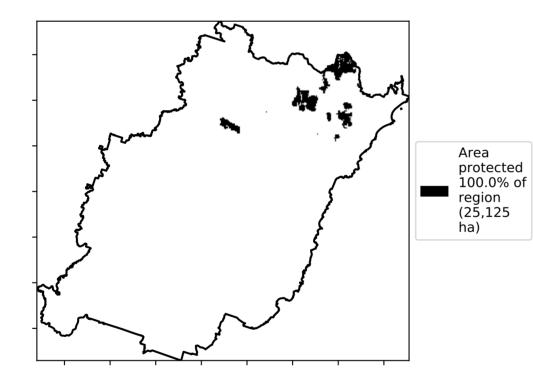
Land use and forest cover

**Total Vegetation Cover [%]** 

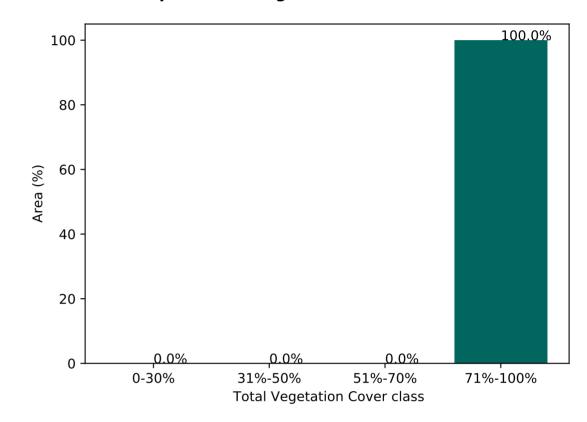




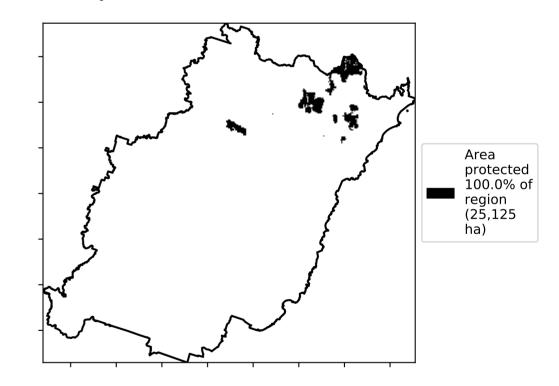
% Area protected from water erosion (>70%)



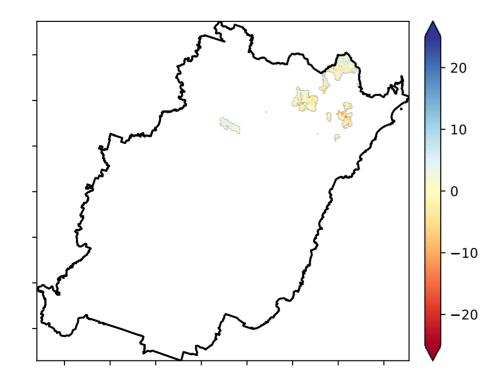
Proportion of vegetation cover class in area



% Area protected from wind erosion (>50%)

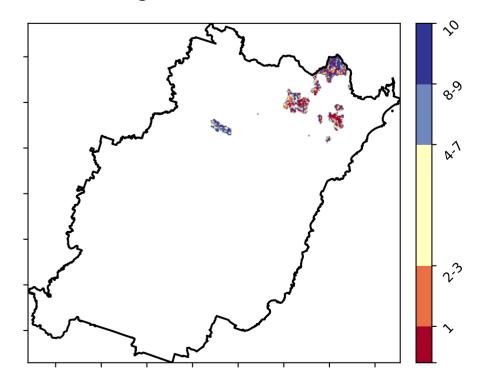


**Total Vegetation Cover Anomaly [%]** 



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.

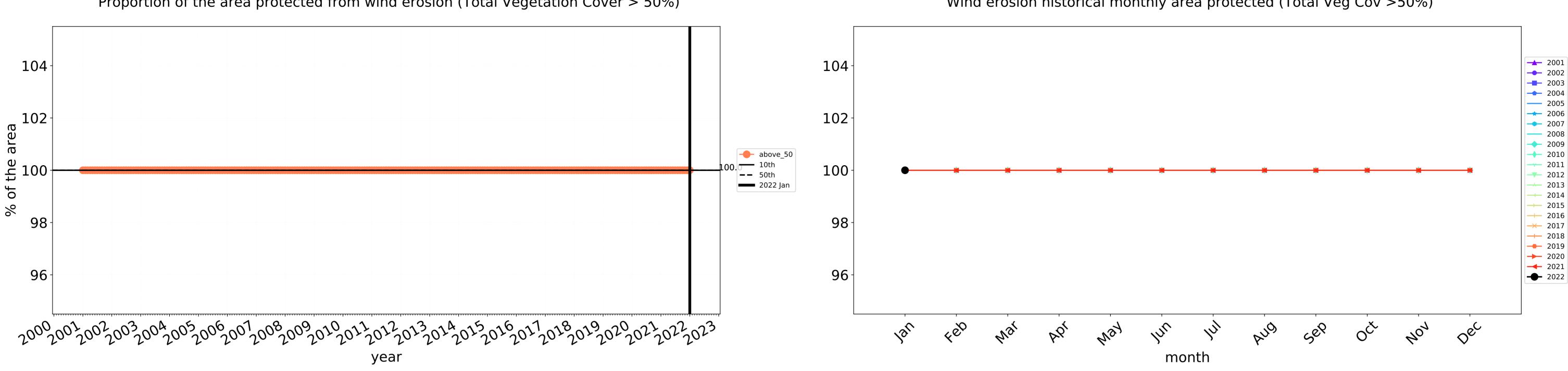
**Total Vegetation Cover Decile [%]** 



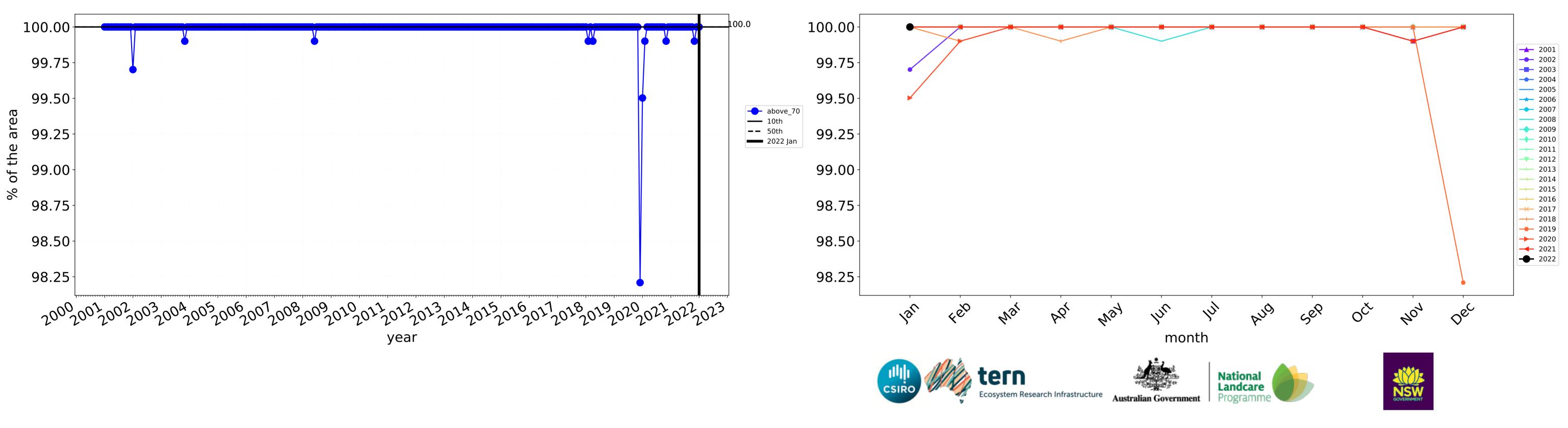


Anomaly show how many percetage points each pixel is from the mean. That is, red pixels are about 20% lower than the mean of that pixel. The mean is only for the month of the map using baseline from 2001 to 2019.

Derived from

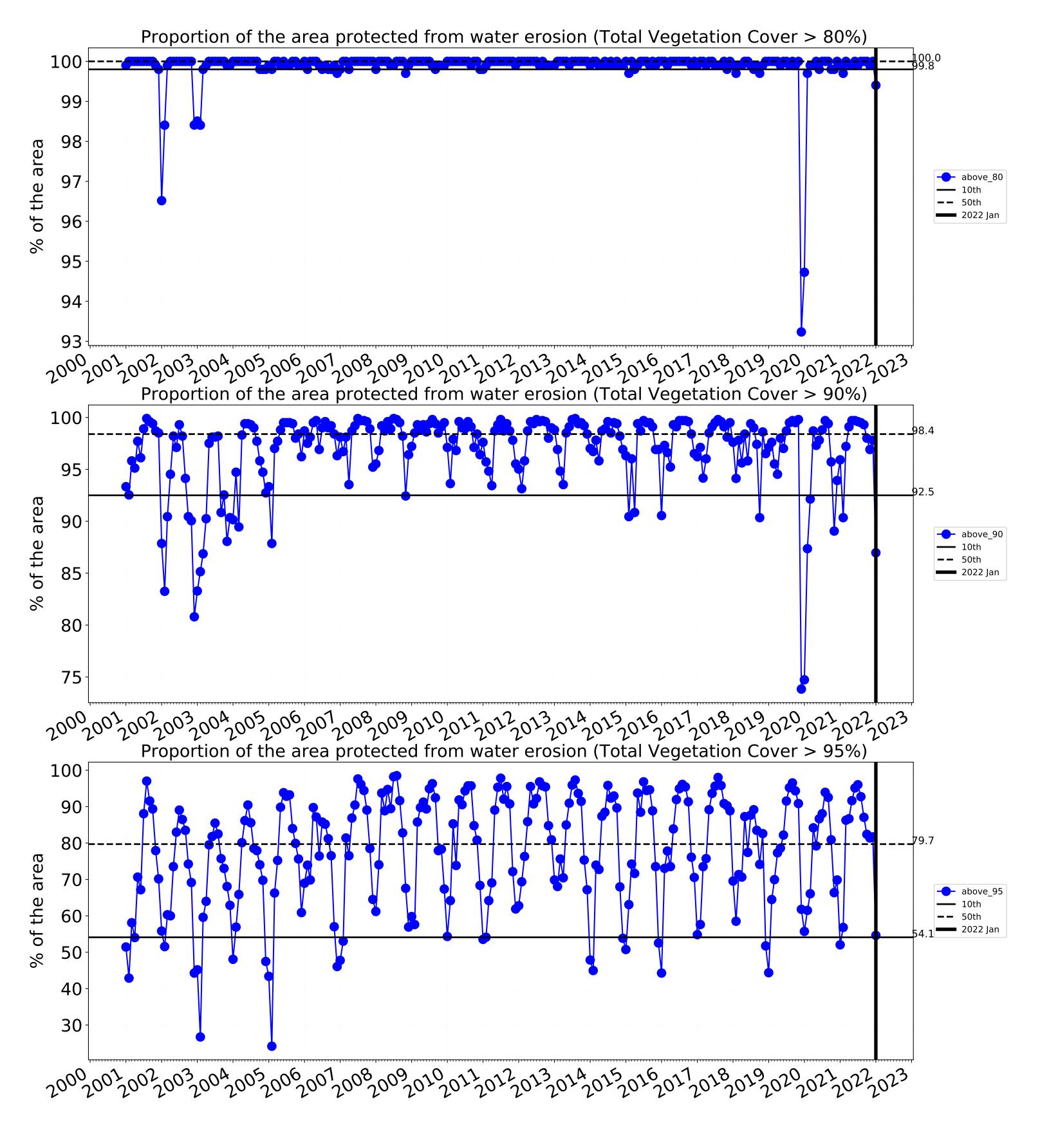


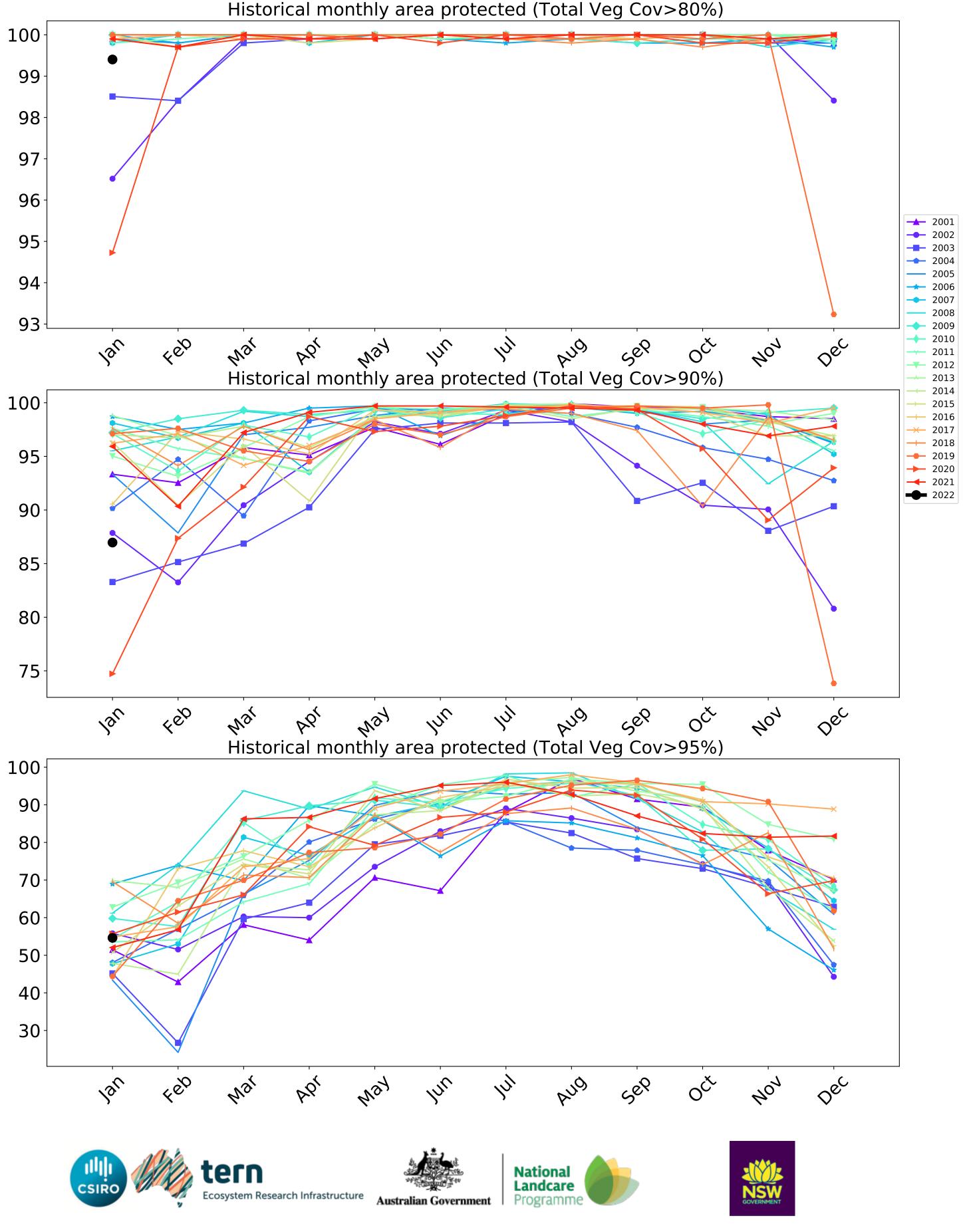
Proportion of the area protected from wind erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 50%)



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

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







# Greater Sydney (917,475 ha and no data 331,696 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	917,475	99.9% 916,800	99.5% 912,750	96.1% 881,625	91.6% 840,150	74.6% 684,425	49.2% 451,350
Conservation and natural environments	583,025	100.0% 583,025	100.0% 582,850	99.7% 581,425	98.8% 576,300	90.6% 528,025	64.5% 375,950
Conservation and natural environments Woodland forest	284,650	100.0% 284,650	100.0% 284,550	99.7% 283,800	98.7% 281,000	90.2% 256,625	63.2% 179,975
Conservation and natural environments Forest (non woodland)	292,775	100.0% 292,775	100.0% 292,700	99.8% 292,200	99.2% 290,450	91.8% 268,675	66.5% 194,775
Agriculture	103,250	100.0% 103,250	100.0% 103,250	98.8% 102,050	94.0% 97,075	56.8% 58,600	25.3% 26,150
Grazing	95,225	100.0% 95,225	100.0% 95,225	99.1% 94,350	95.1% 90,525	59.0% 56,200	26.6% 25,375
Grazing non forest	59 <i>,</i> 500	100.0% 59,500	100.0% 59,500	98.7% 58,750	93.7% 55,750	48.2% 28,650	15.5% 9,200
Grazing Woodland forest	26,300	100.0% 26,300	100.0% 26,300	99.8% 26,250	97.5% 25,650	78.0% 20,525	46.1% 12,125
Production native forests and plantation forests	25,125	100.0% 25,125	100.0% 25,125	100.0% 25,125	99.4% 24,975	87.0% 21,850	54.6% 13,725

