Total vegetation cover soil protection
Region:NRM Hunter NSW Date: December 2024

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.

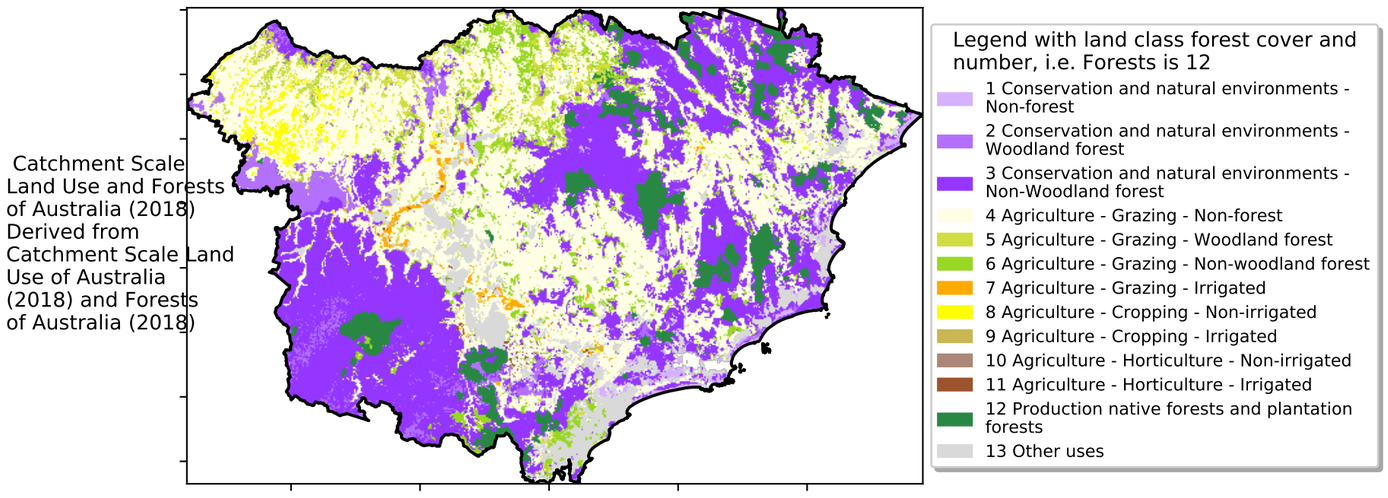
Acknowledgment of data:

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

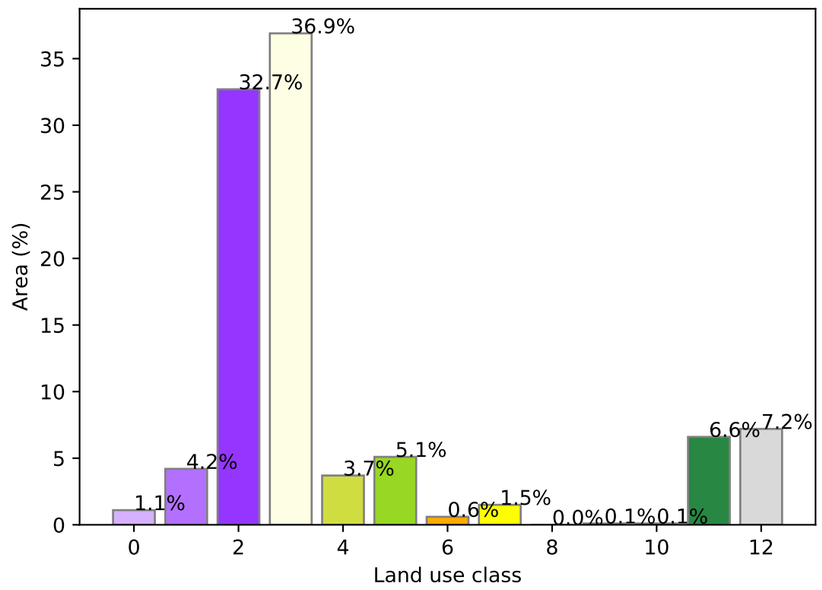
Vegetation Cover Dec 2024

Land use and forest cover

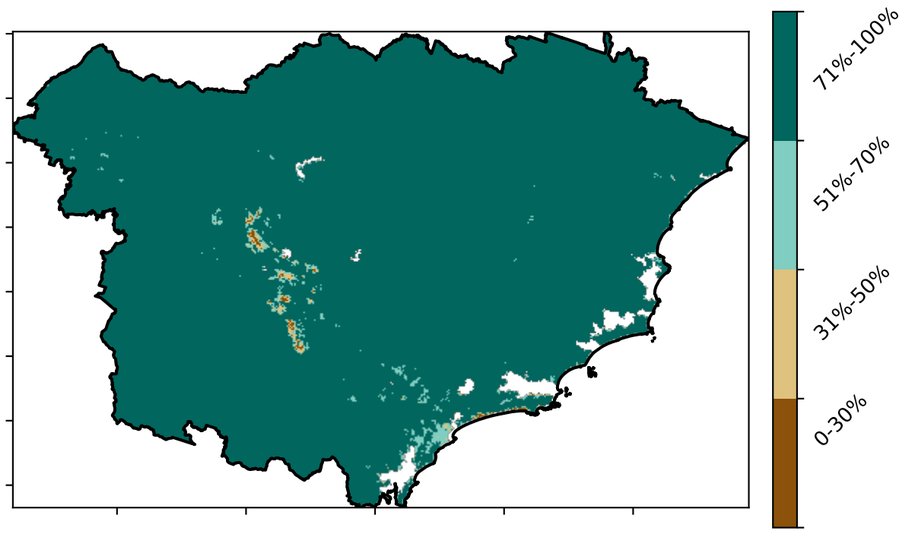


Catchment Scale Land Use and Forests of Australia (2018) Derived from Catchment Scale Land Use of Australia (2018) and Forests of Australia (2018)

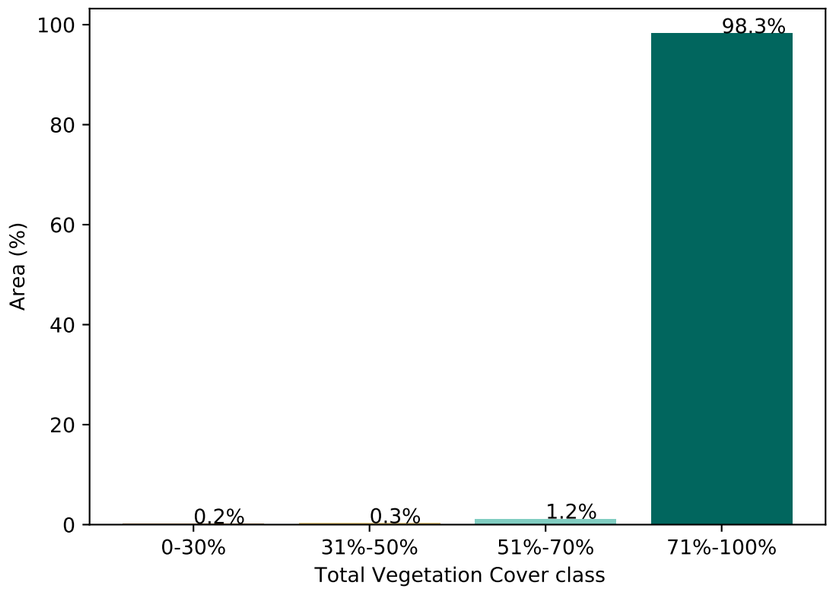
Proportion of each land class in area



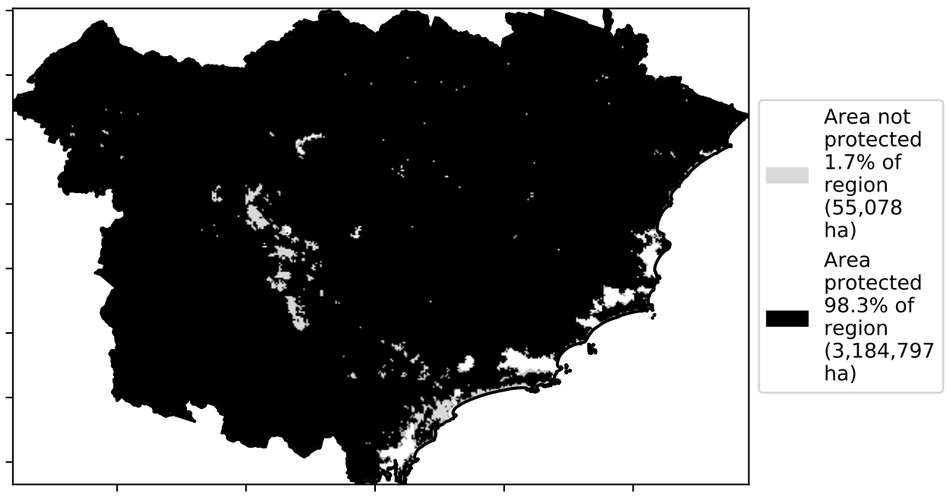
Total Vegetation Cover [%]



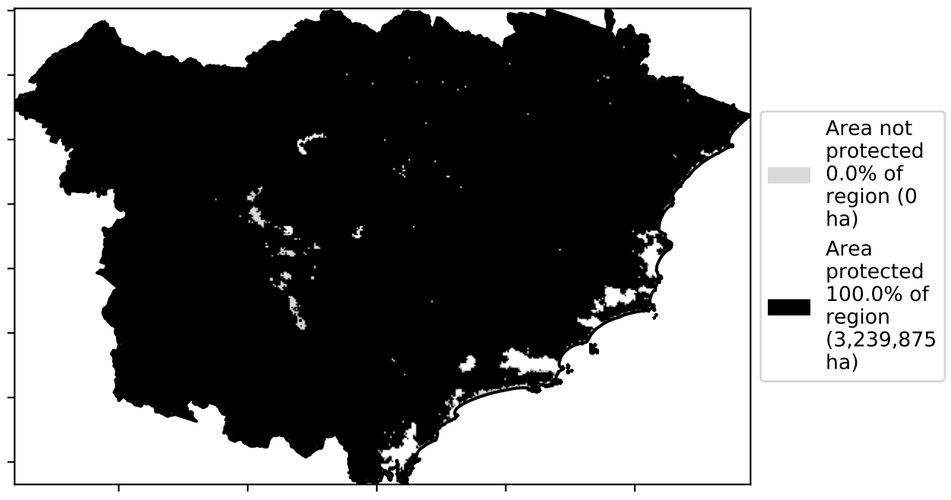
Proportion of vegetation cover class in area



% Area protected from water erosion (>70%)



% Area protected from wind erosion (>50%)



Total Vegetation Cover Anomaly [%]

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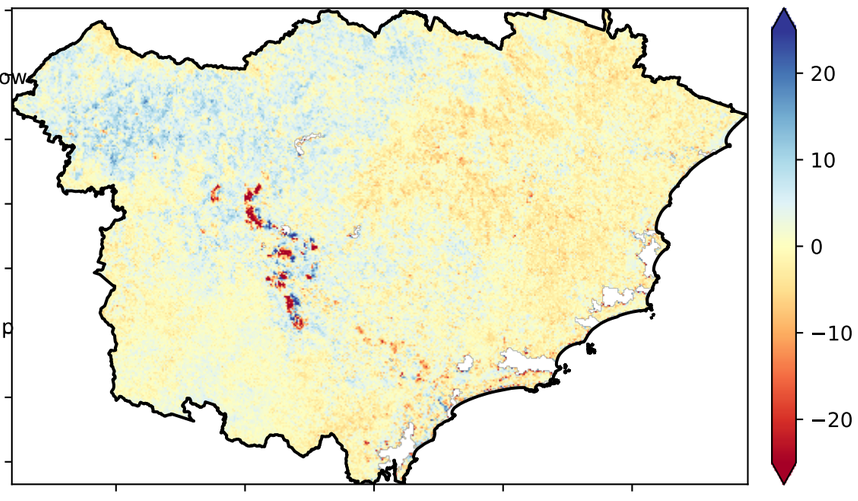

Total Vegetation Cover Decile [%]

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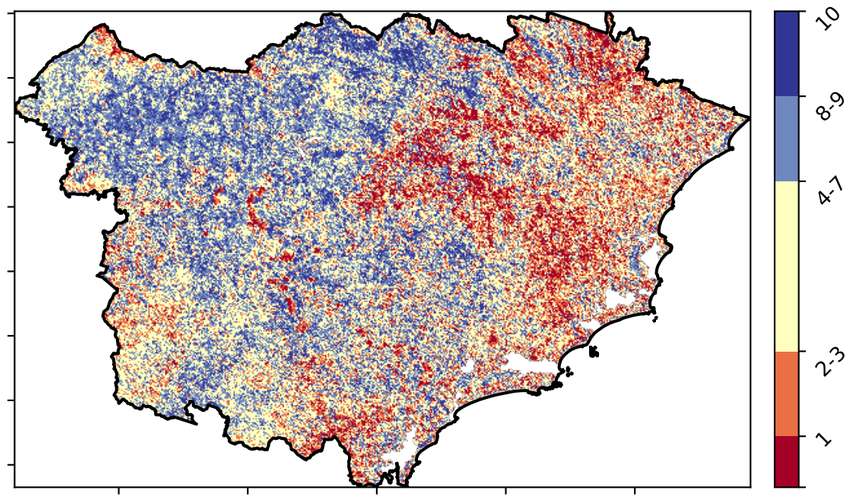
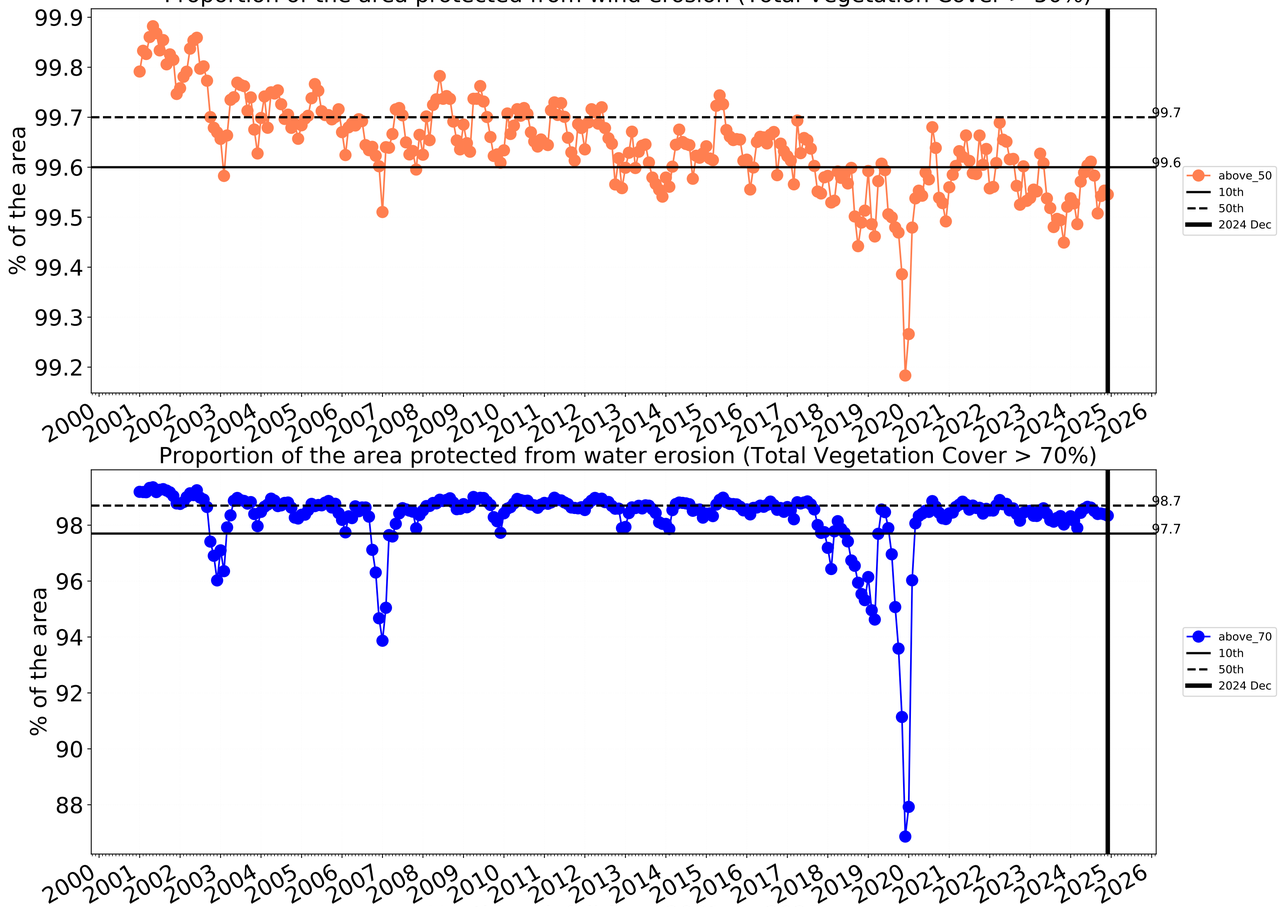
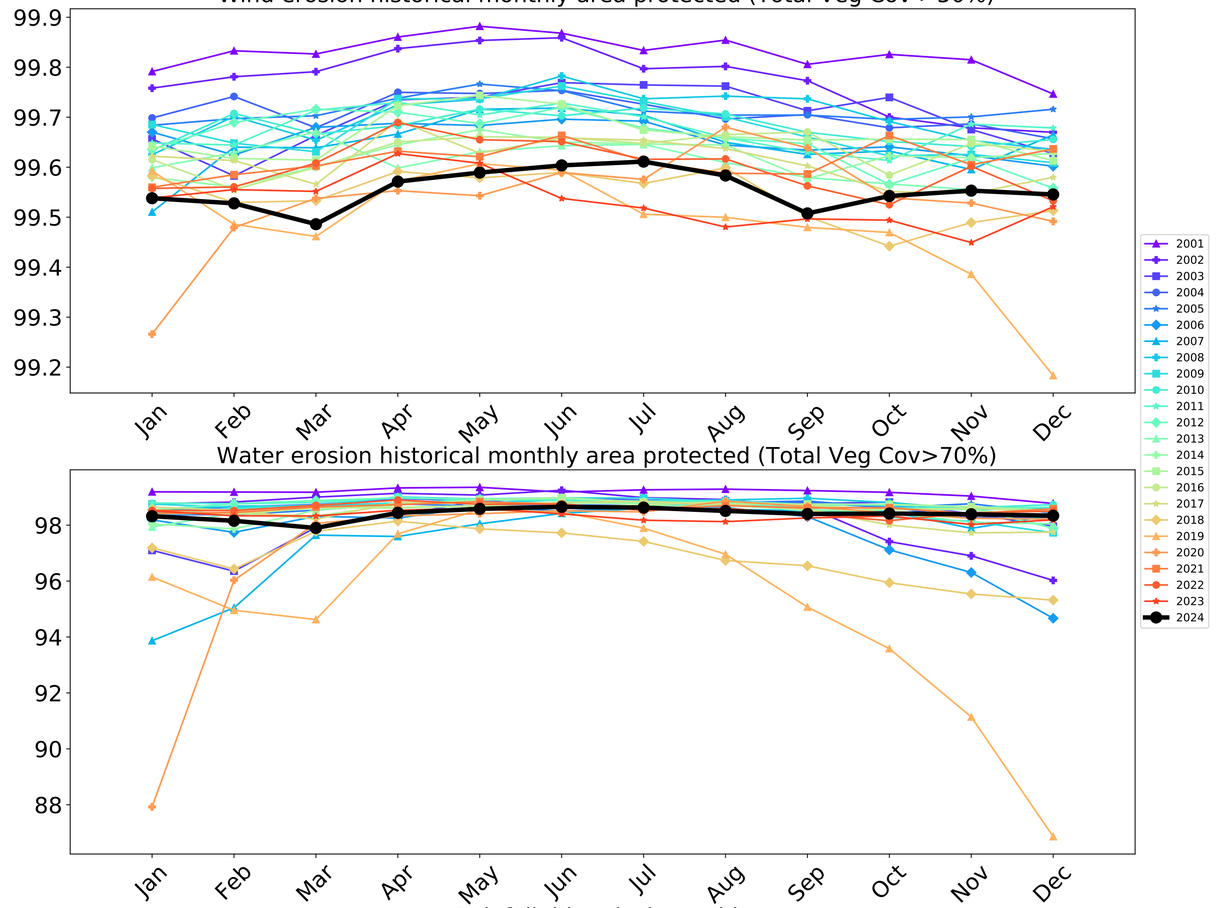


Proportion of the area protected from wind erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 50%)



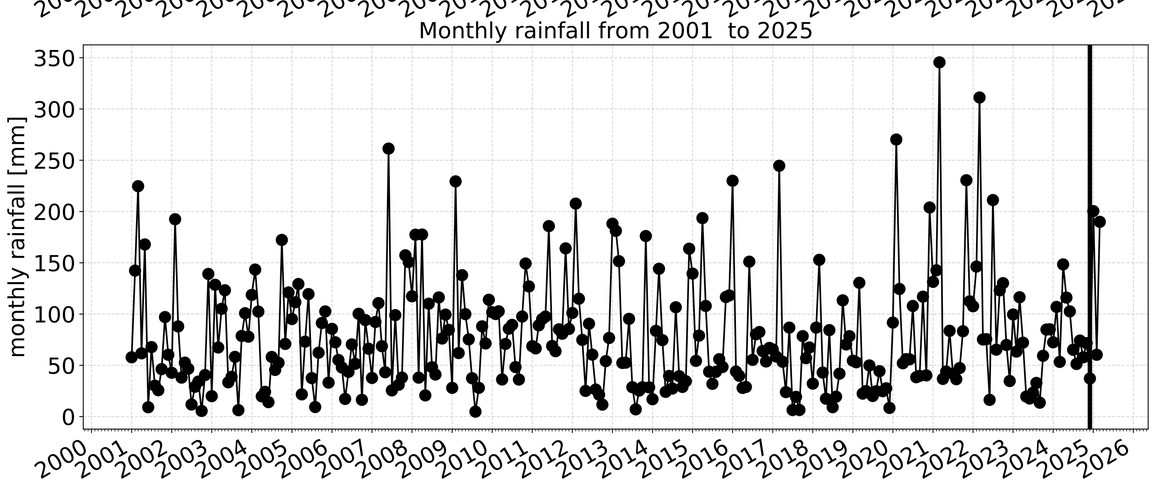
Wind erosion historical monthly area protected (Total Veg Cov >50%)



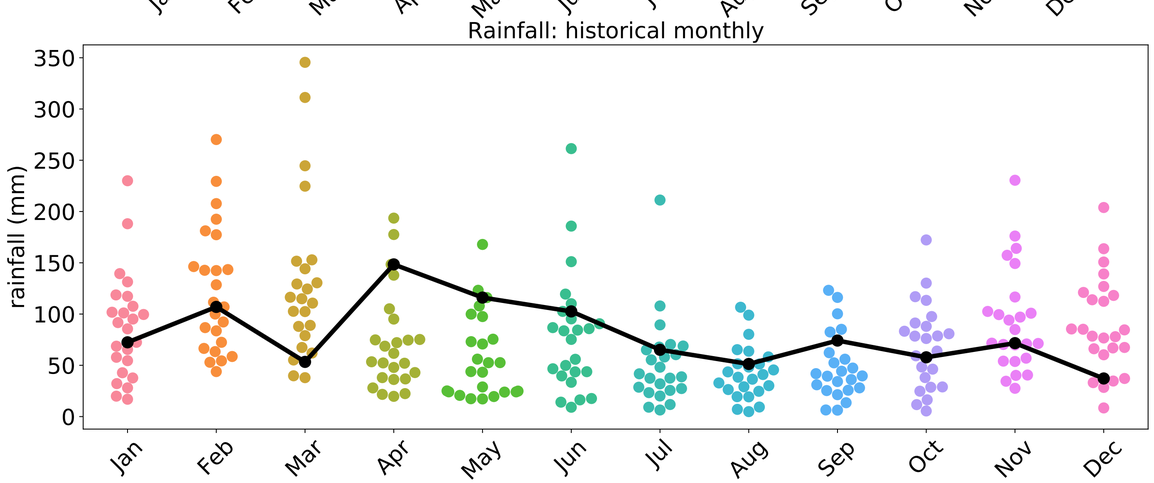
Proportion of the area protected from water erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 70%)

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

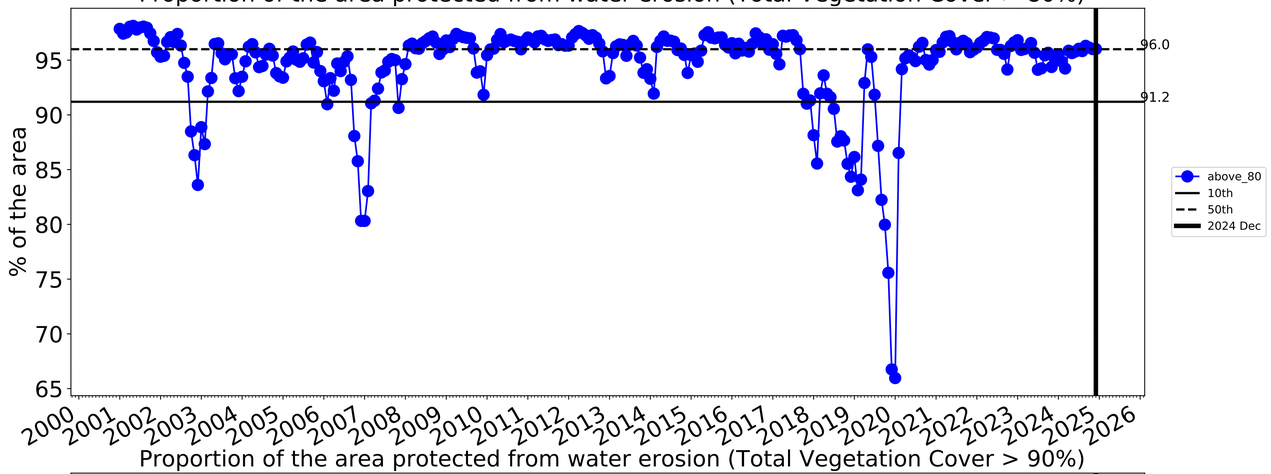
Monthly rainfall from 2001 to 2025



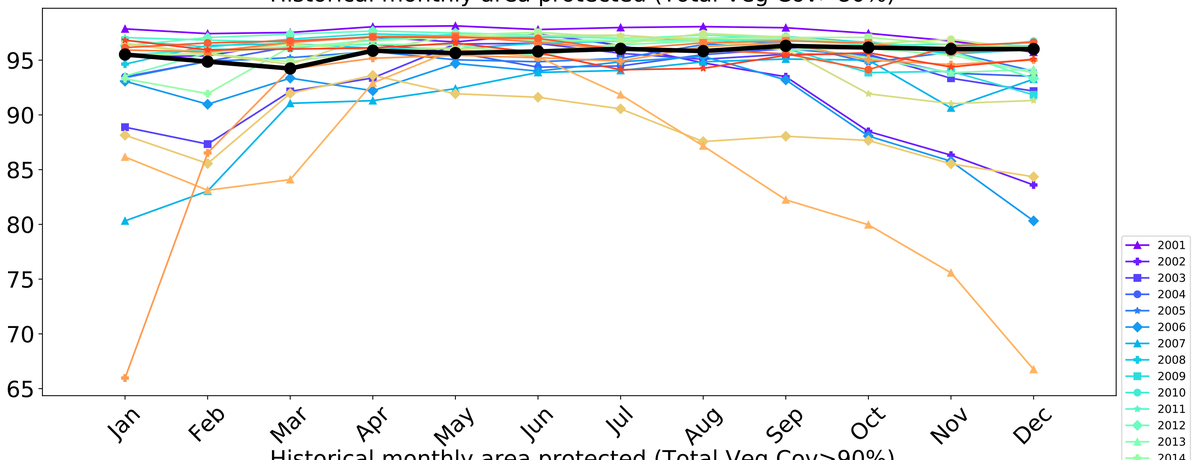
Rainfall: historical monthly



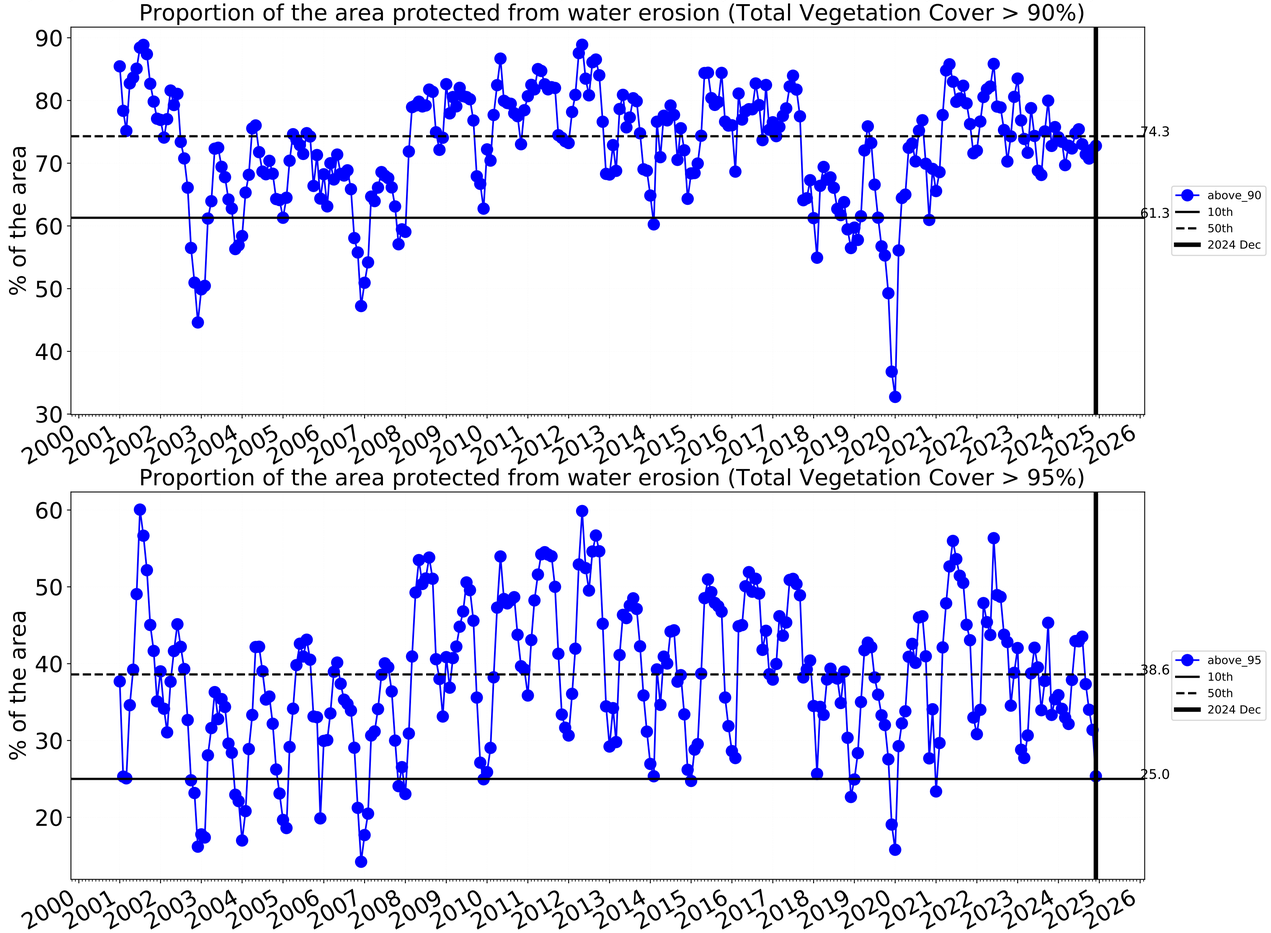
Proportion of the area protected from water erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 80%)



Historical monthly area protected (Total Veg Cov>80%)



Proportion of the area protected from water erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 90%)



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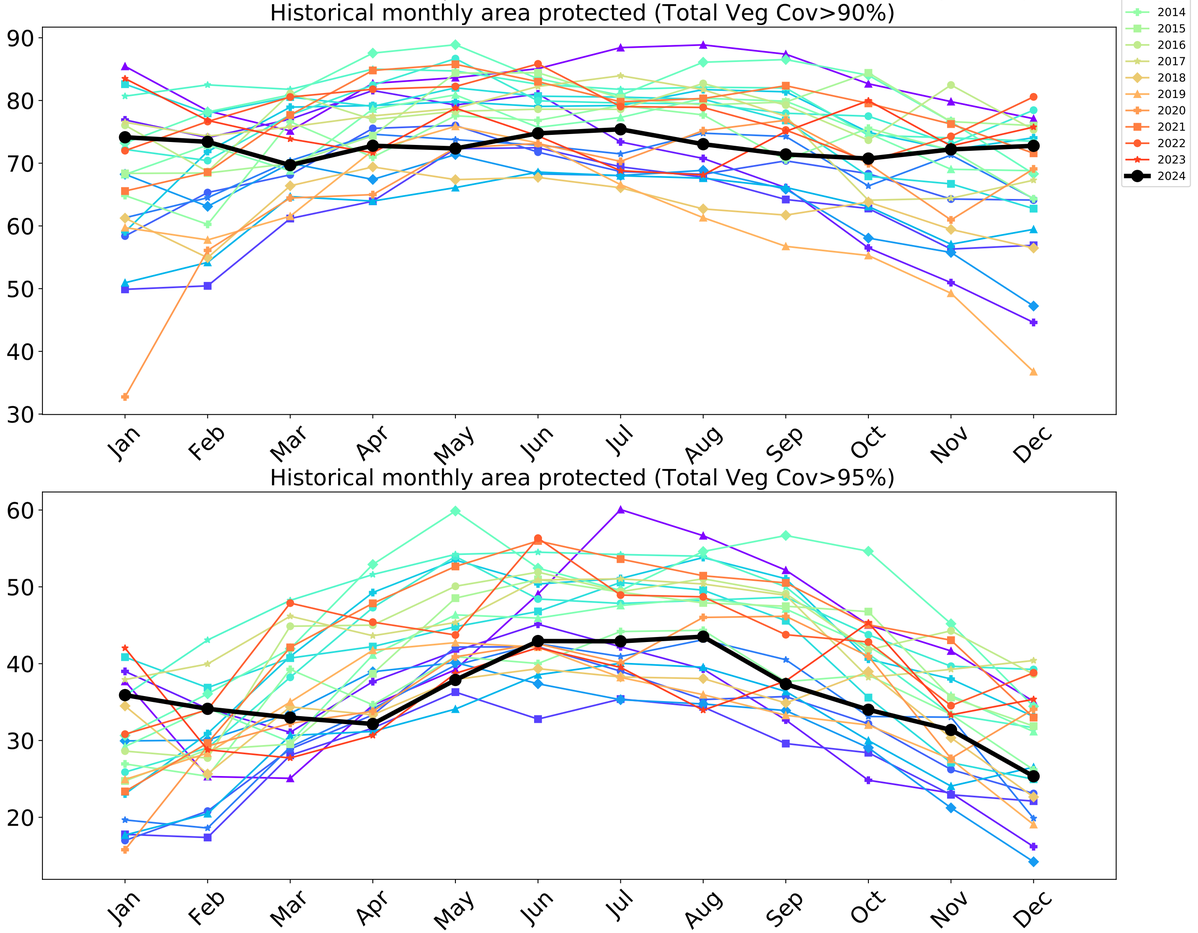
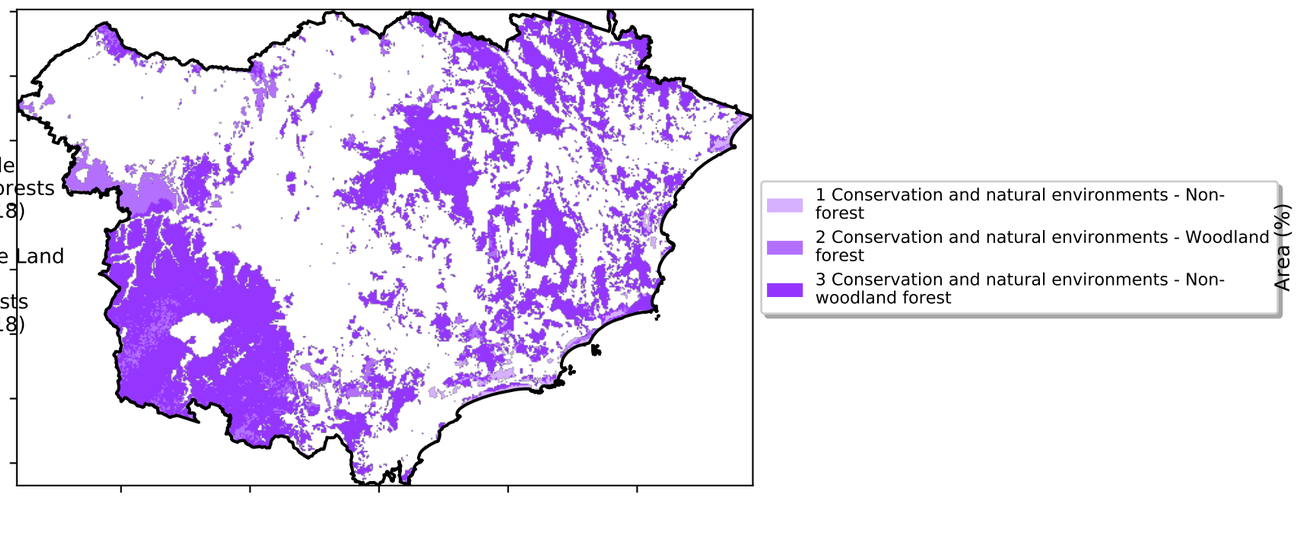


Proportion of the area protected from water erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 95%)

Historical monthly area protected (Total Veg Cov>95%)

Conservation and natural environments

Land use and forest cover



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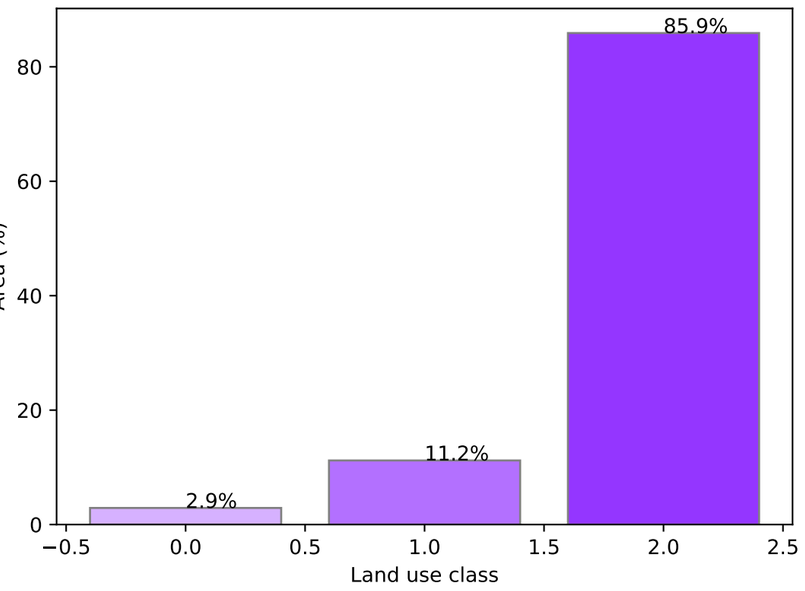
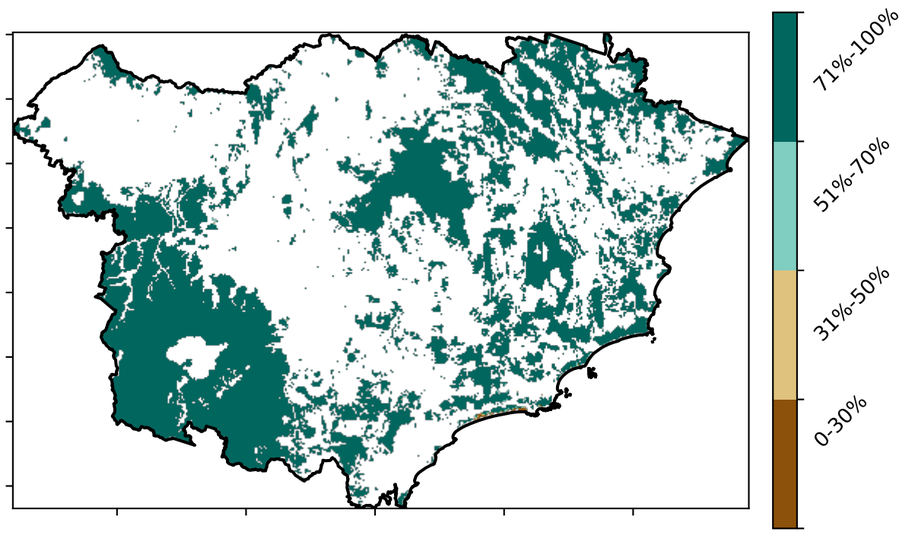


Total Vegetation Cover [%]



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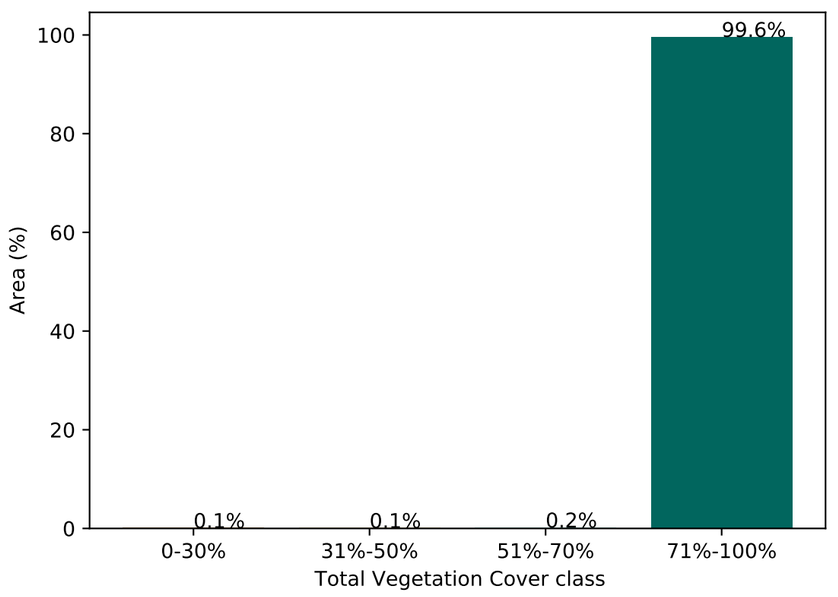
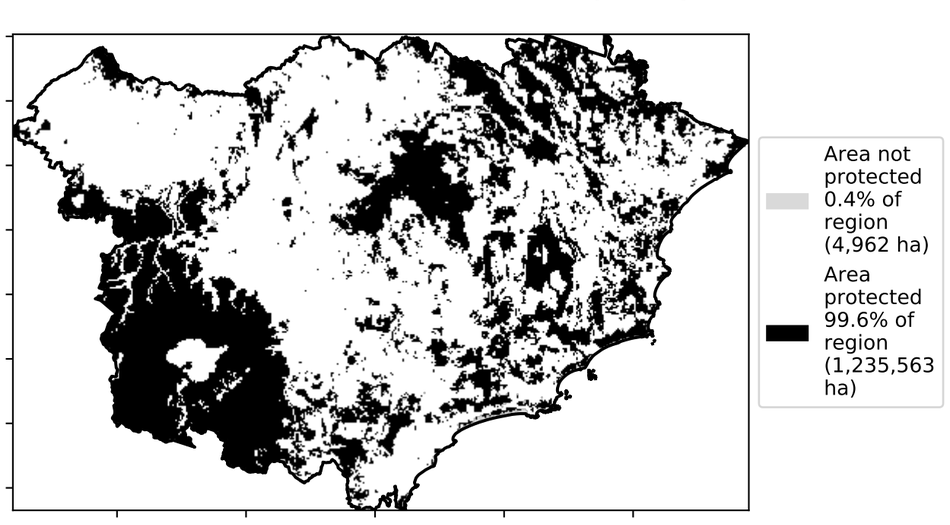


% Area protected from water erosion (>70%)



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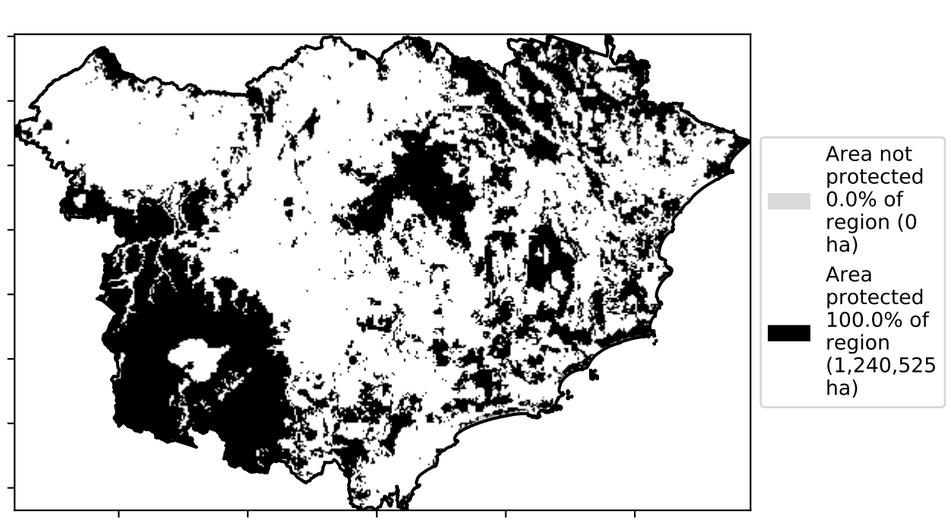

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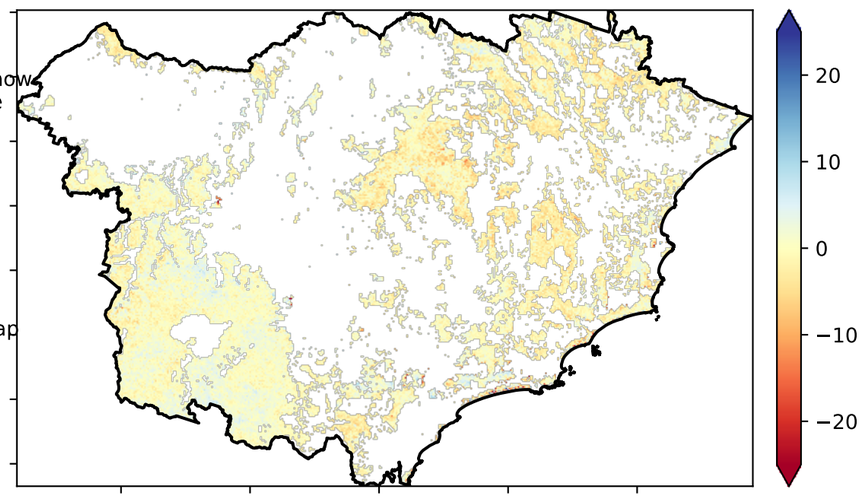

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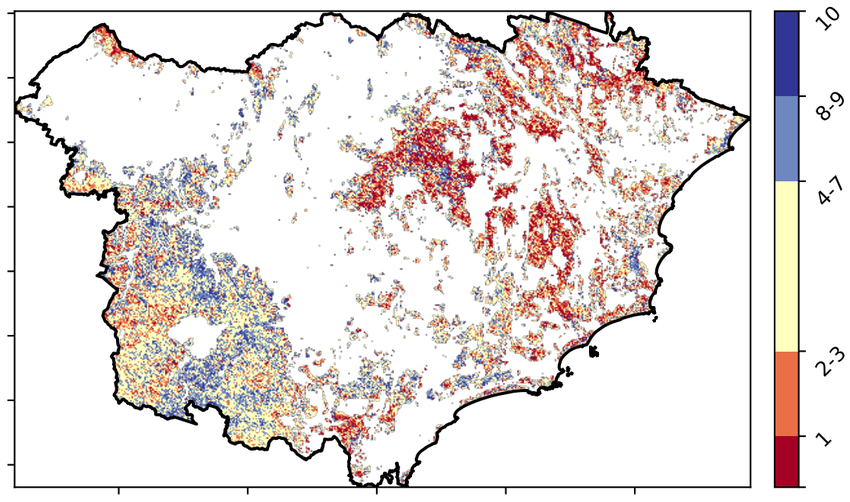
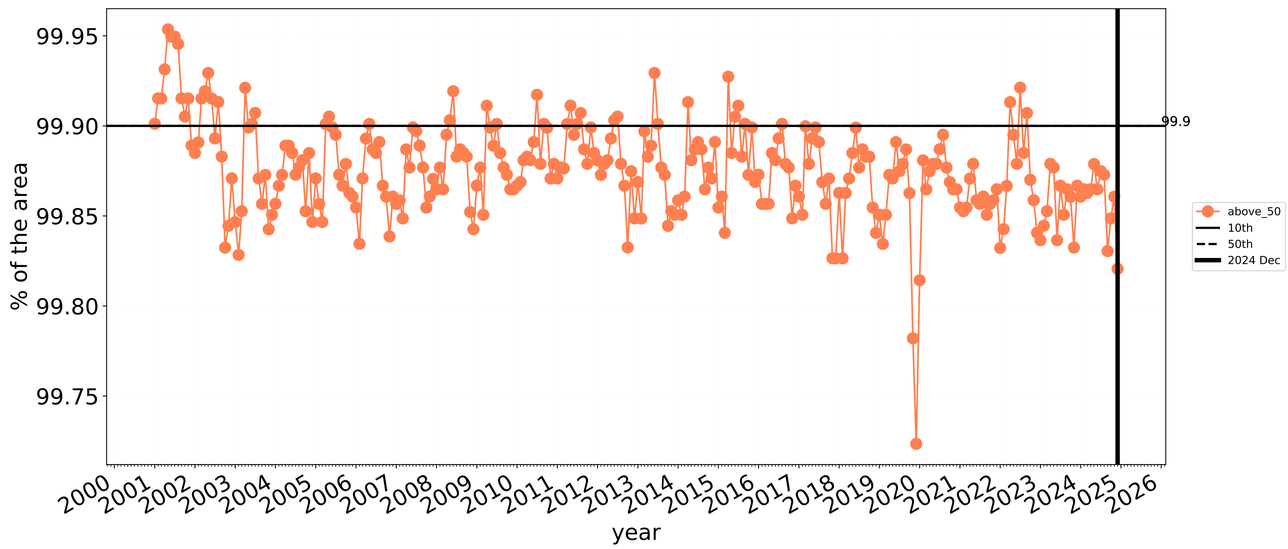
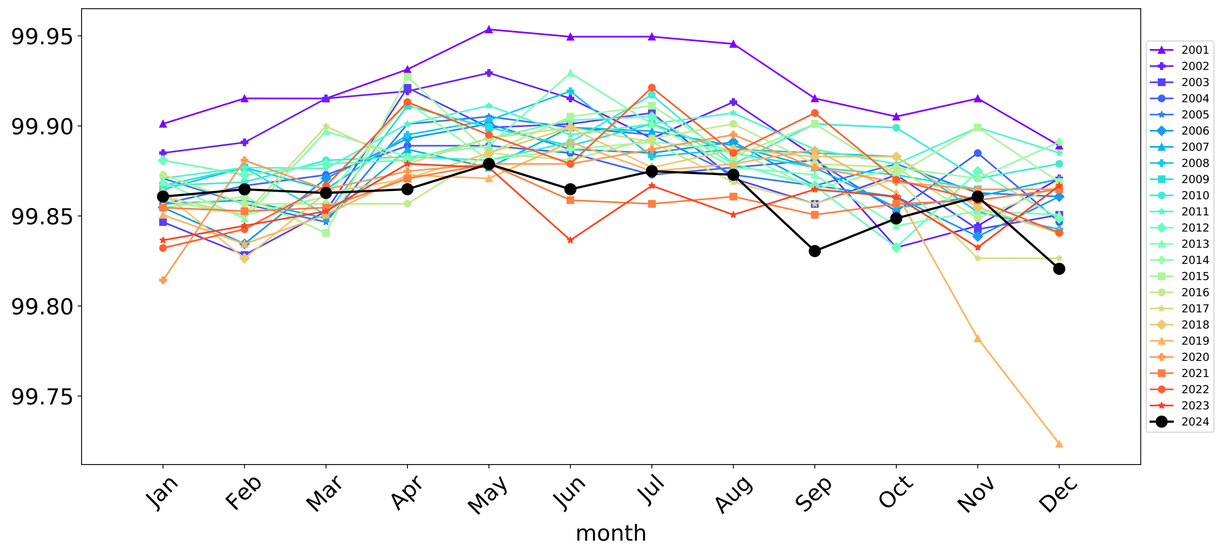


Conservation and natural environments timeseries

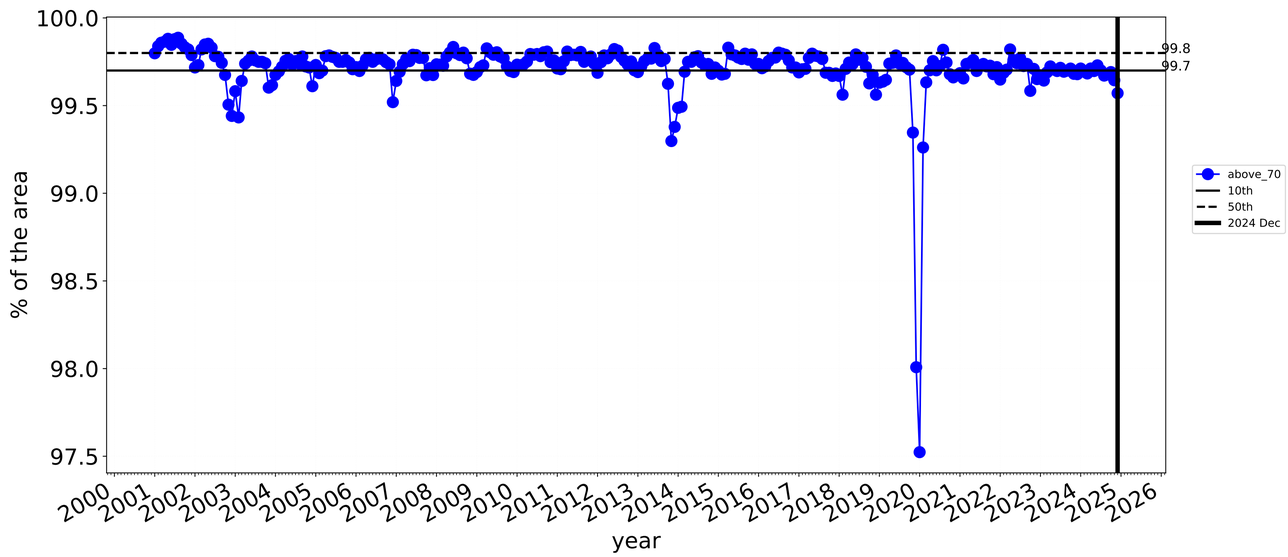
Proportion of the area protected from wind erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 50%)



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



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



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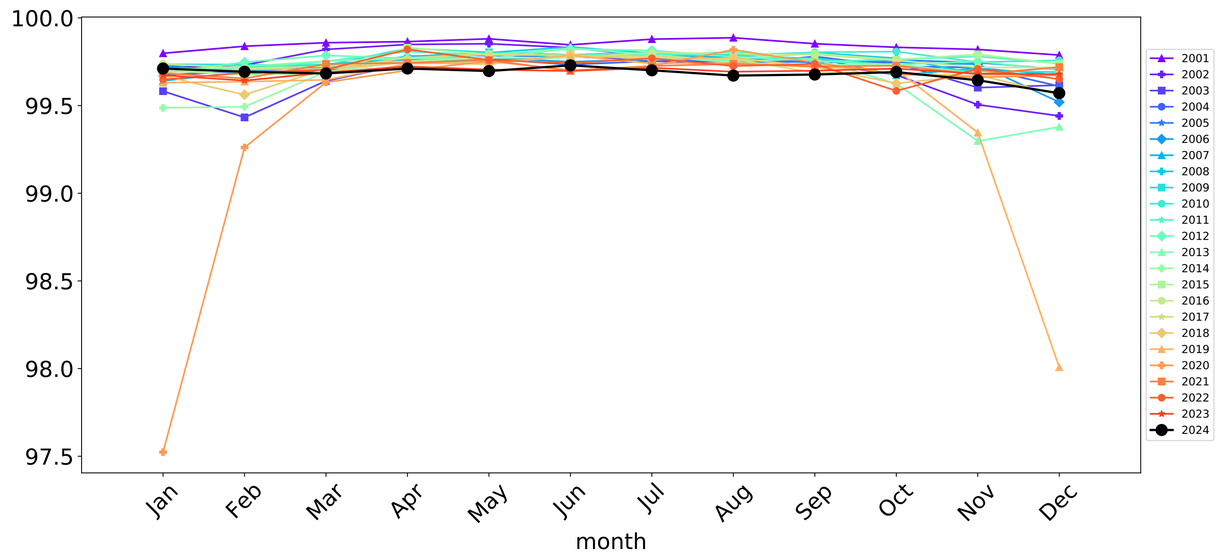
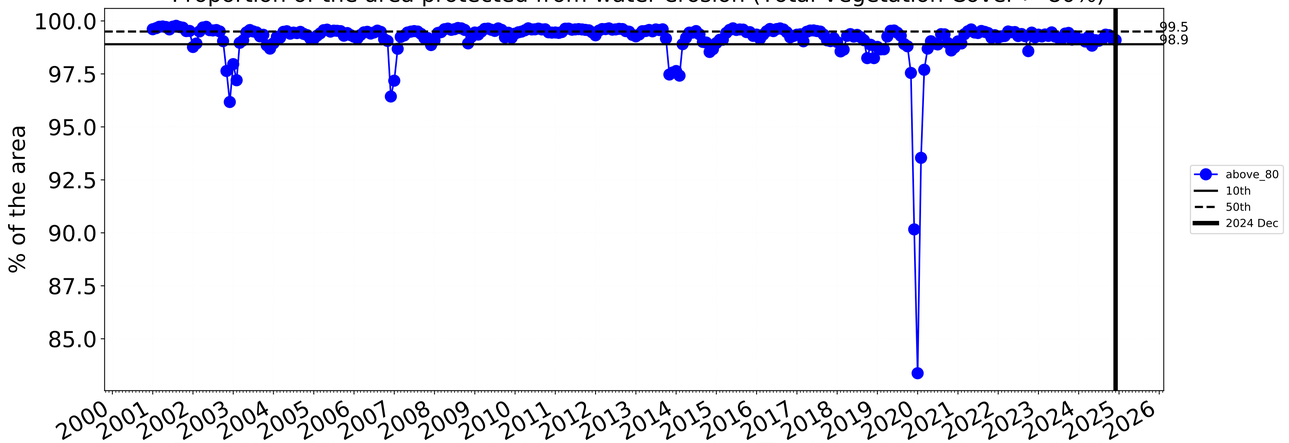
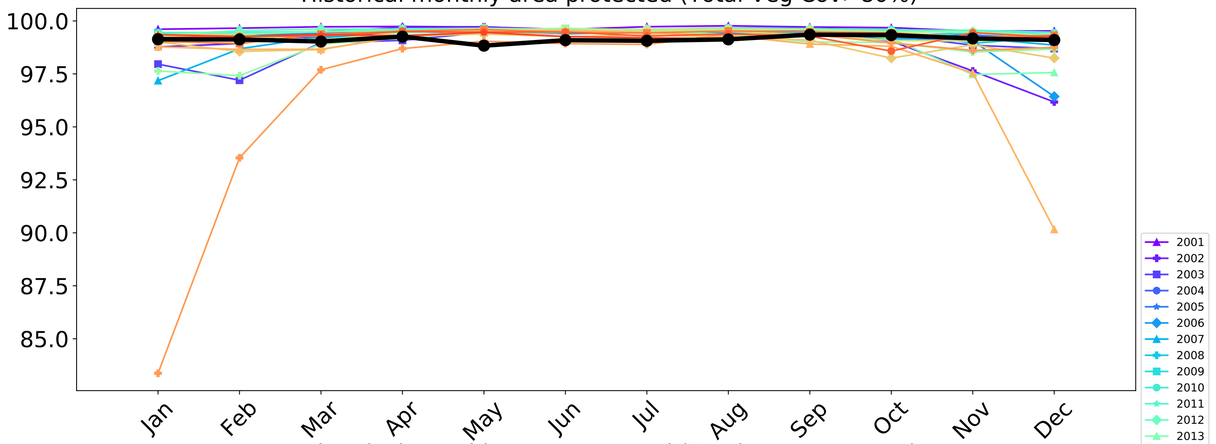


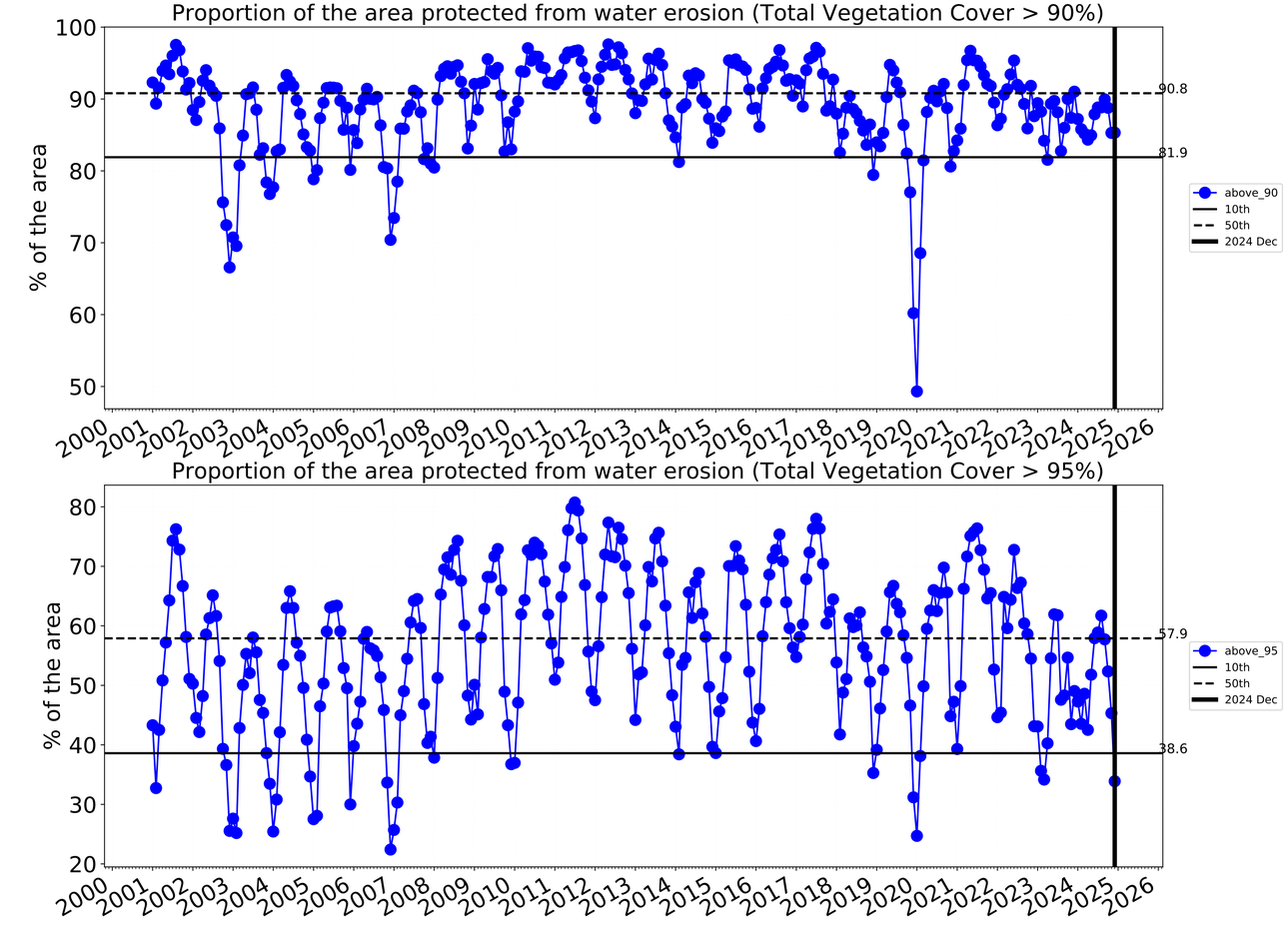
Proportion of the area protected from water erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 80%)



Historical monthly area protected (Total Veg Cov>80%)



Proportion of the area protected from water erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 90%)



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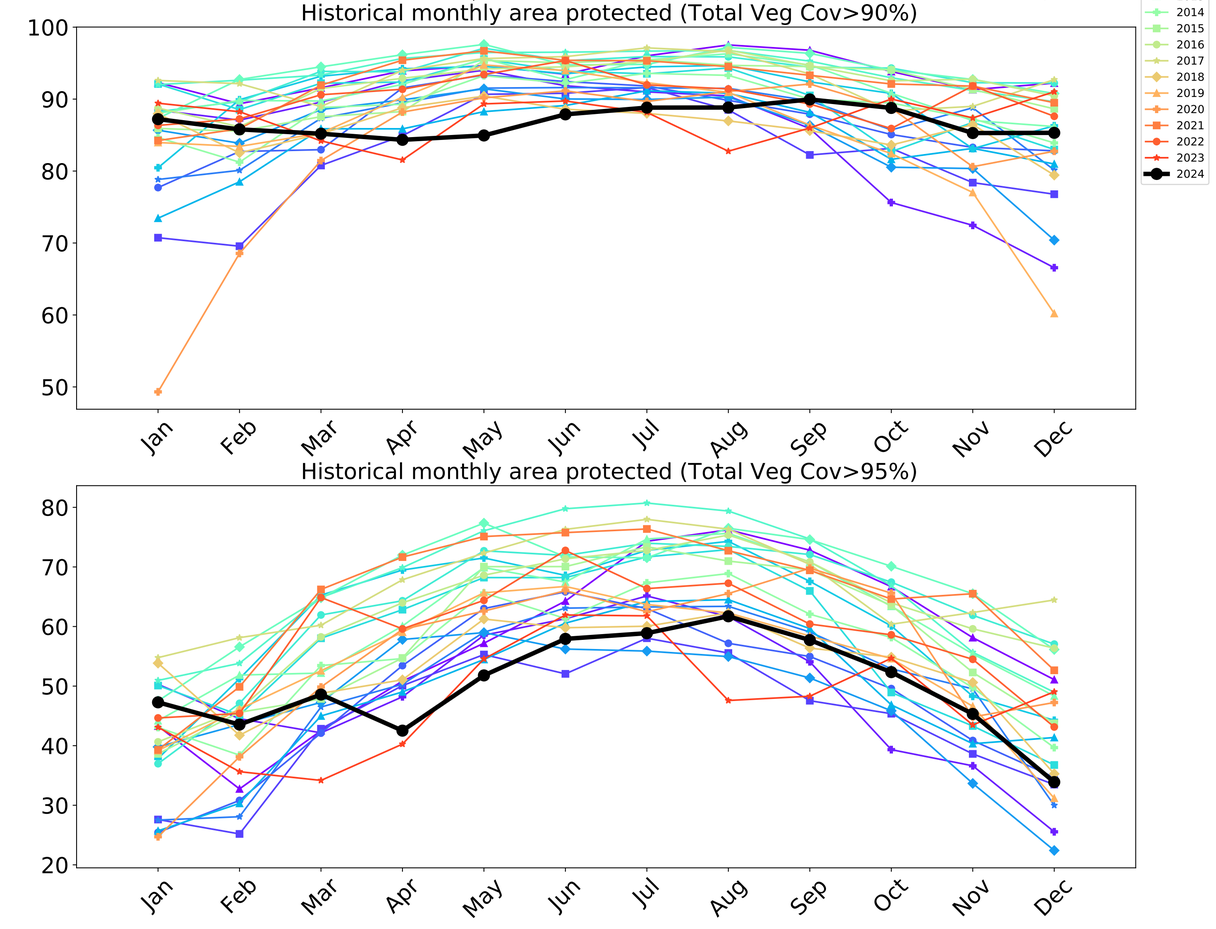
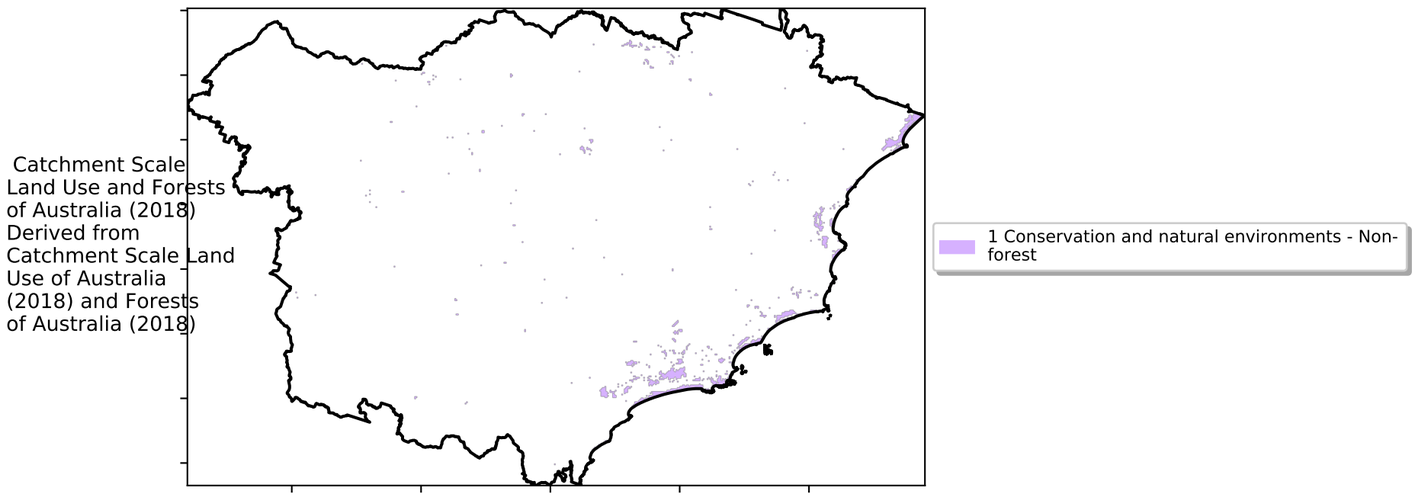


Proportion of the area protected from water erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 95%)

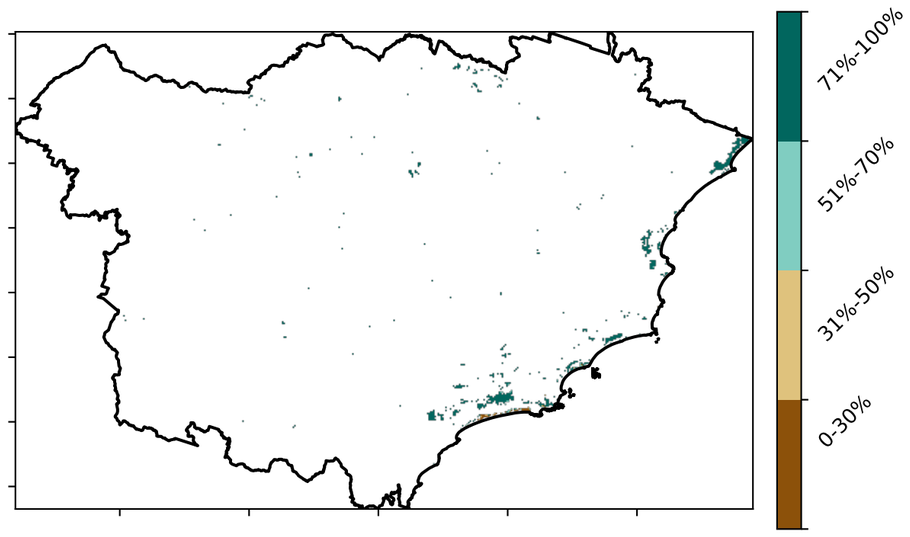
Historical monthly area protected (Total Veg Cov>95%)

Conservation and natural environments non forest

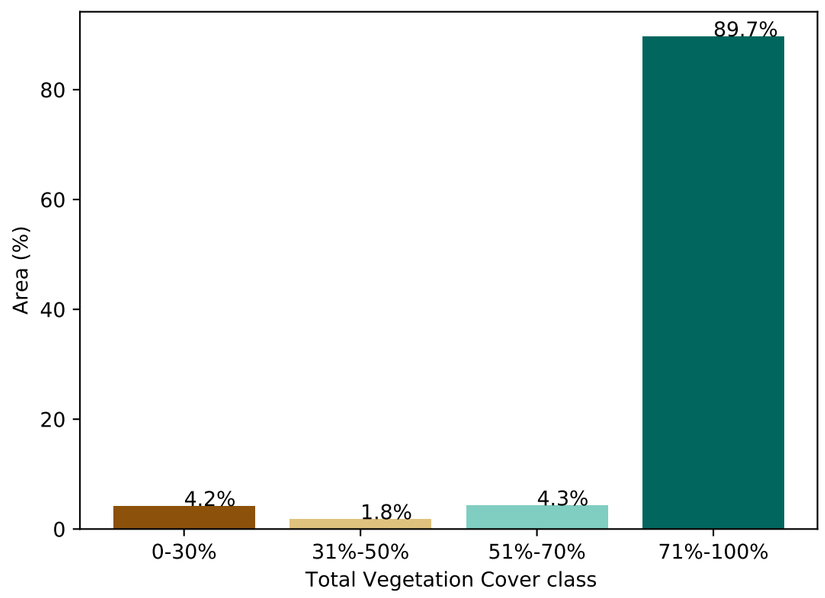
Land use and forest cover



Total Vegetation Cover [%]



Proportion of vegetation cover class in area



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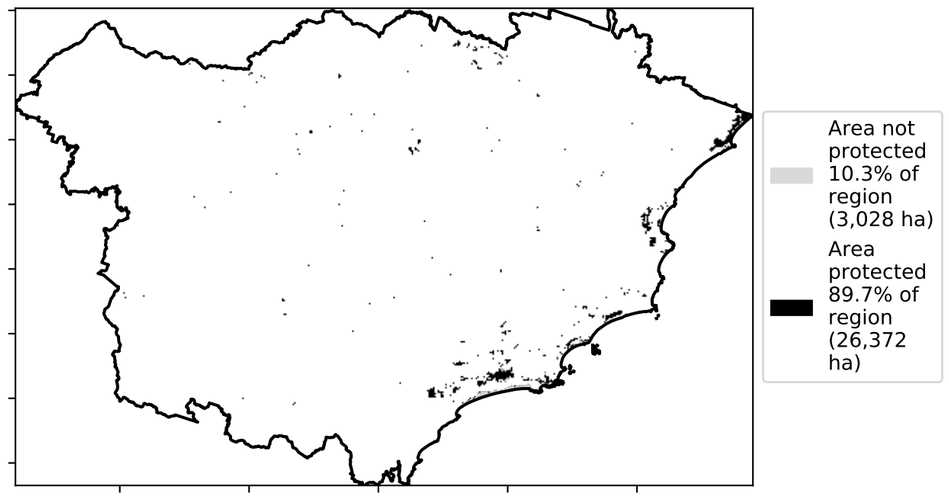

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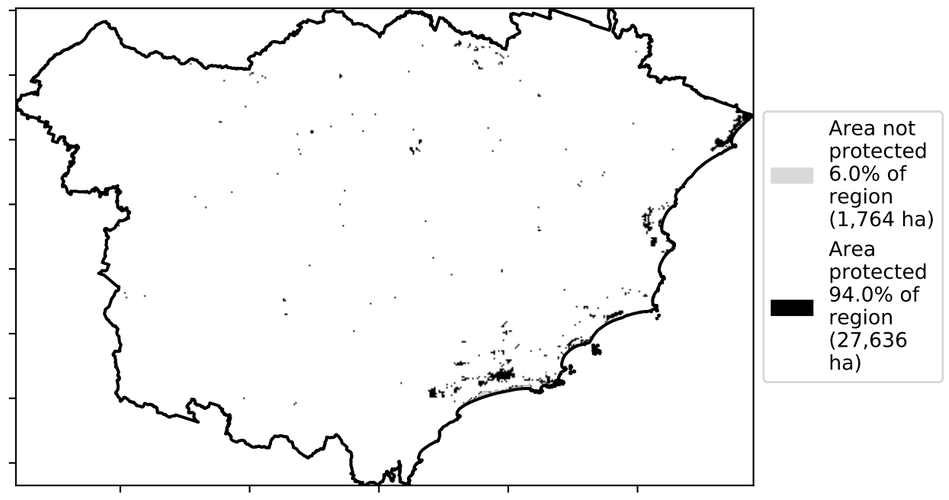

Total Vegetation Cover Anomaly [%]

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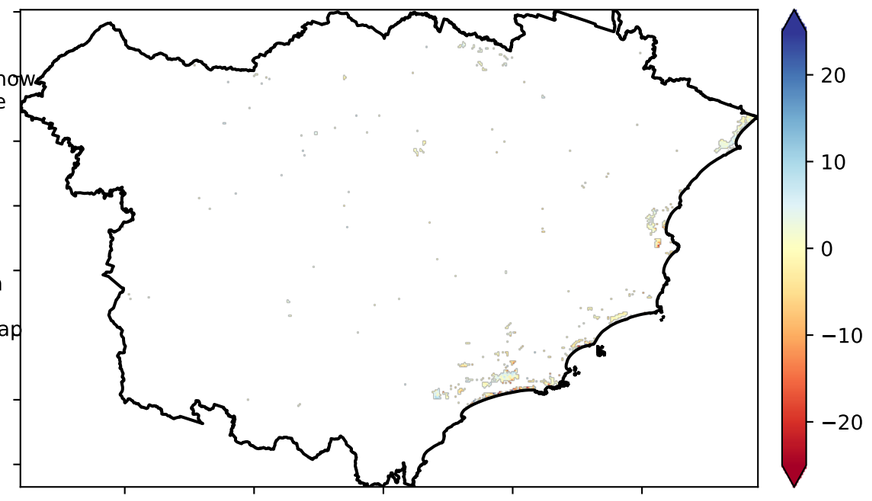

Total Vegetation Cover Decile [%]

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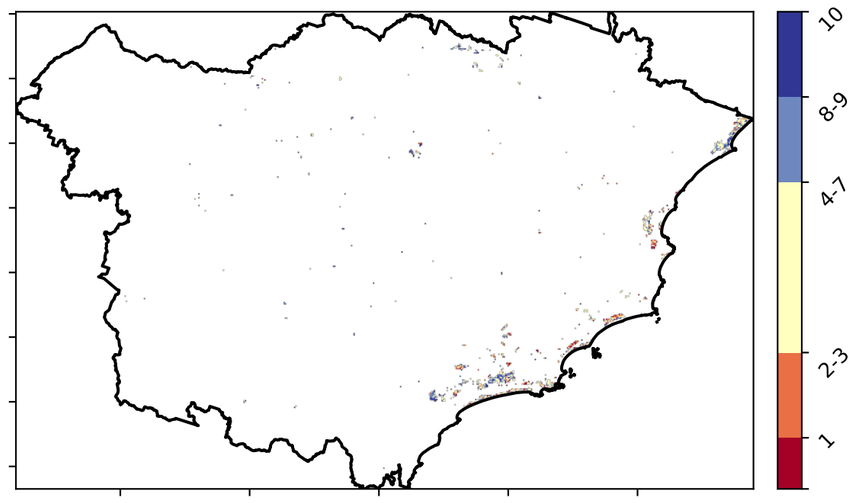
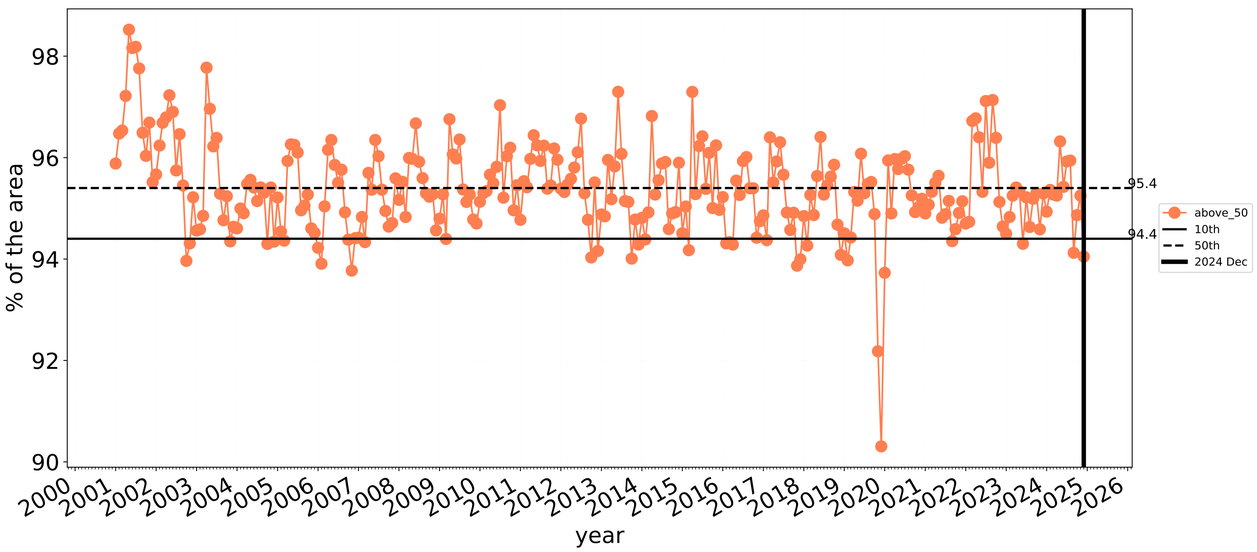
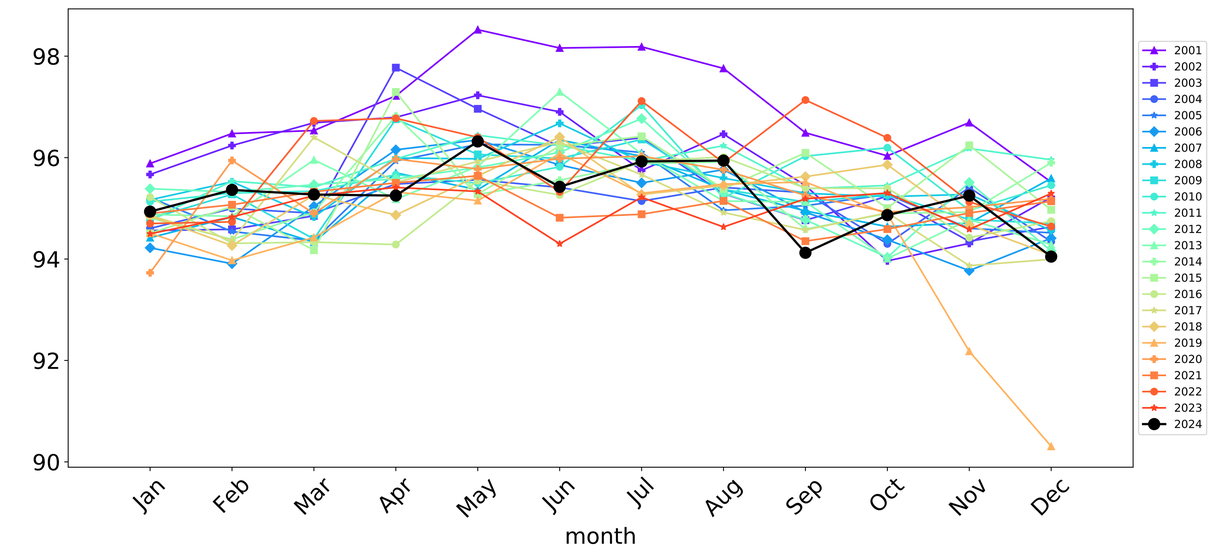


Conservation and natural environments non forest timeseries

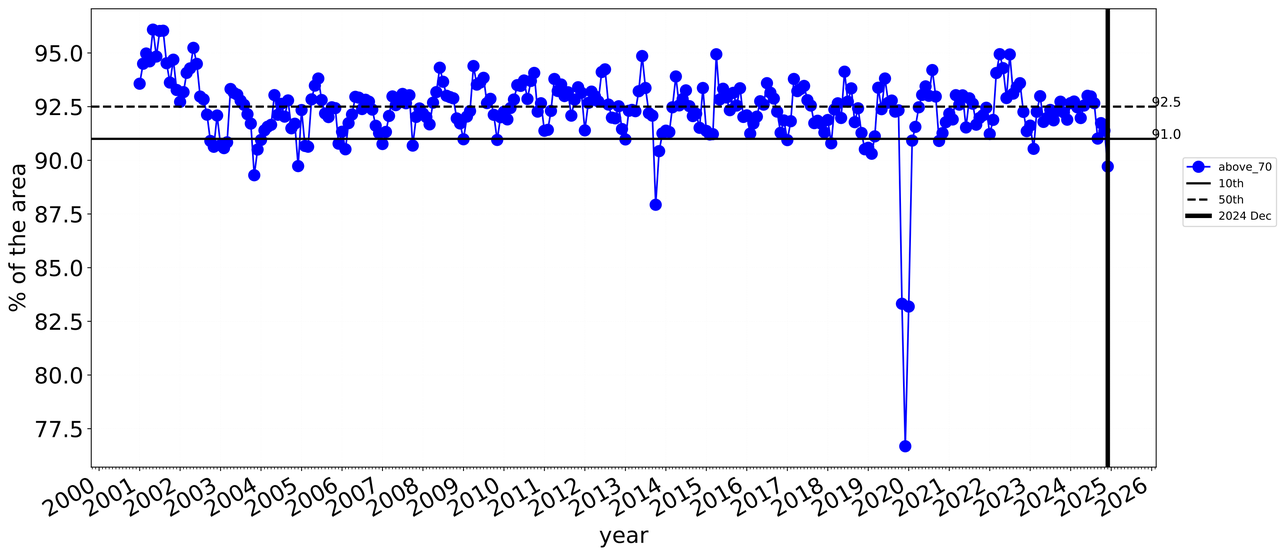
Proportion of the area protected from wind erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 50%)



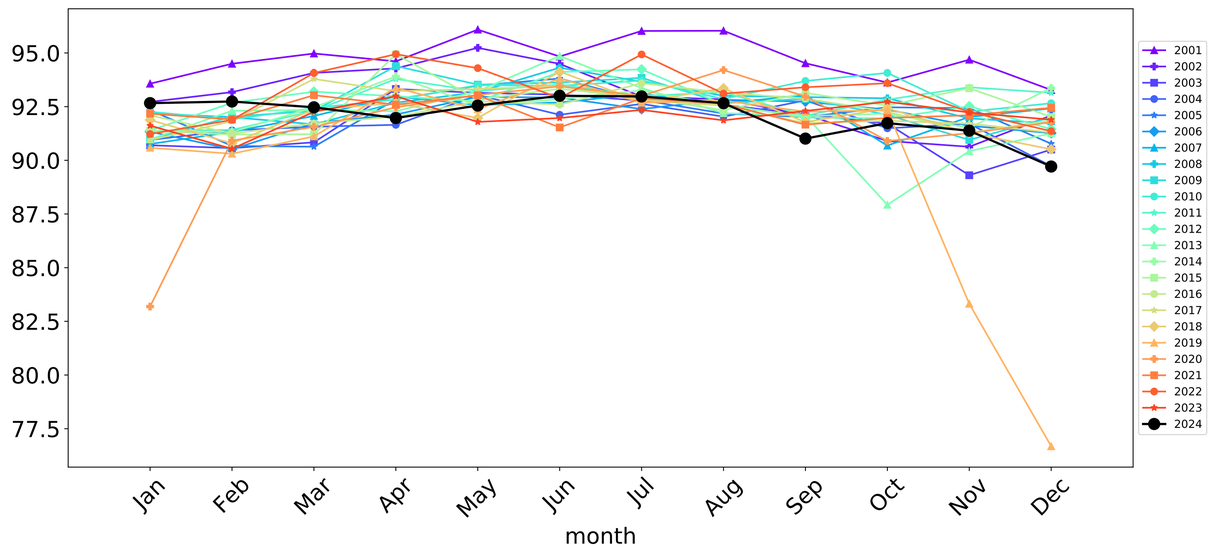
Wind erosion historical monthly area protected (Total Veg Cov >50%)



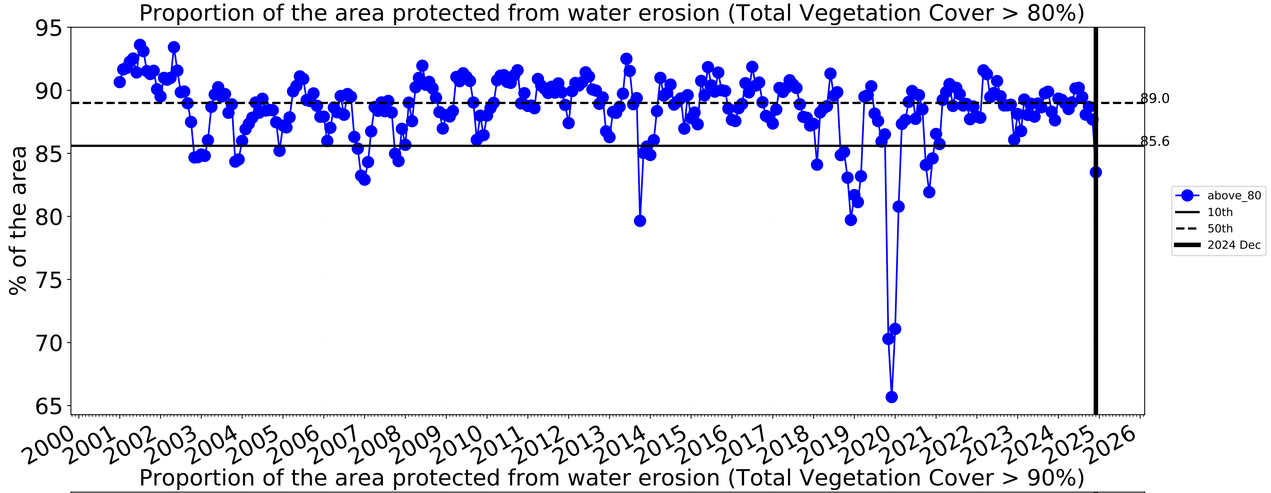
Proportion of the area protected from water erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 70%)



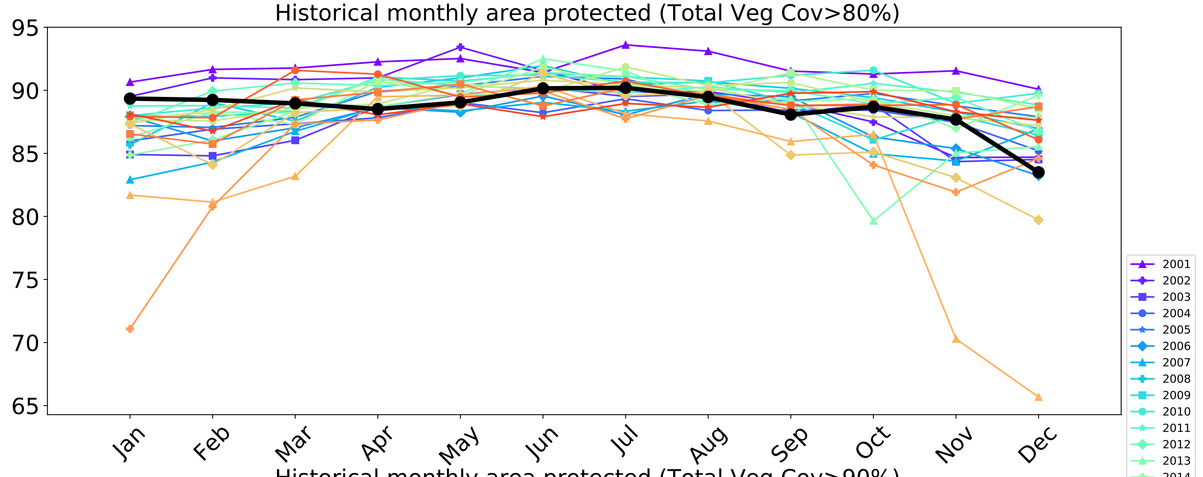
Water erosion historical monthly area protected (Total Veg Cov>70%)



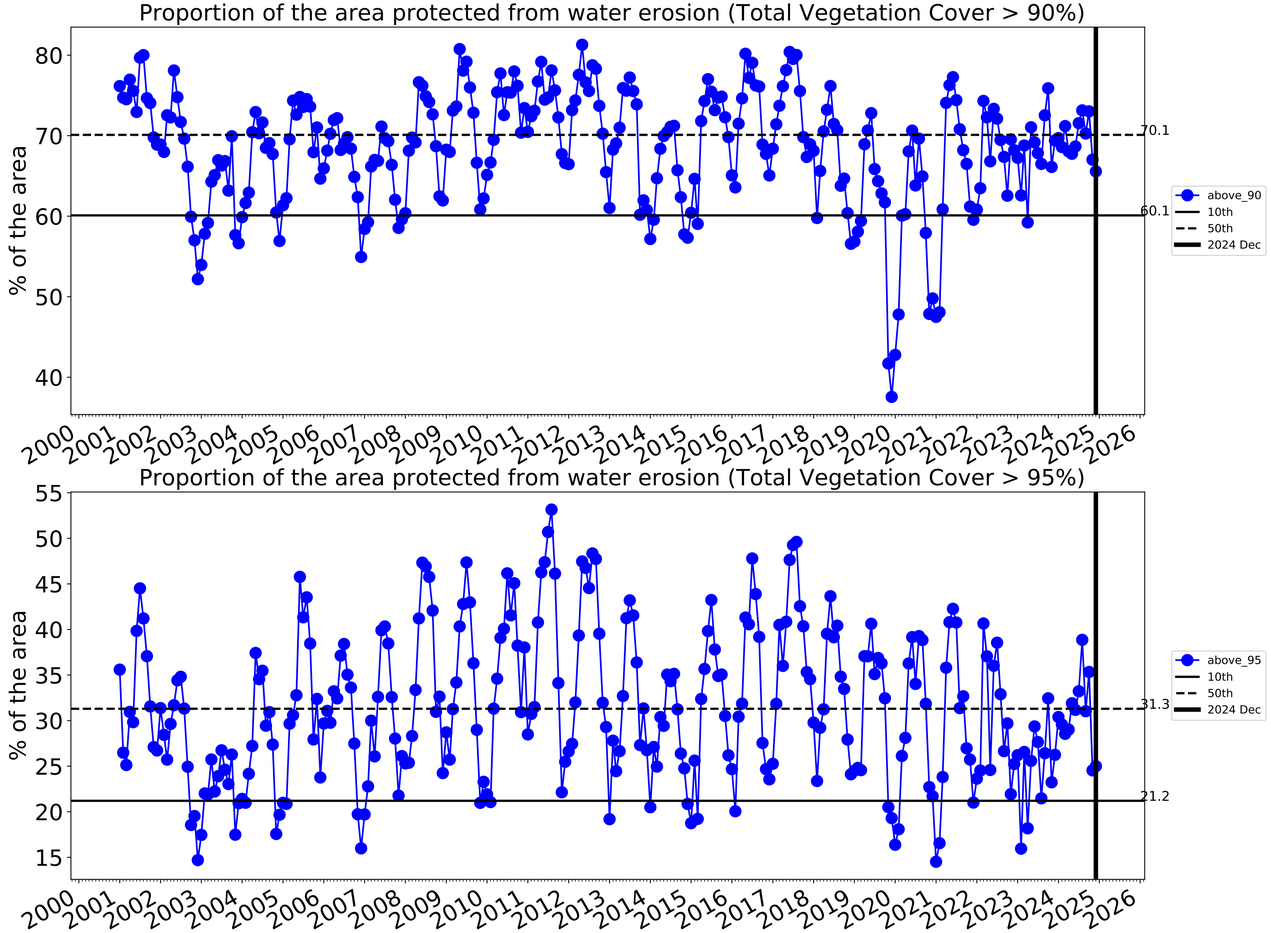
Proportion of the area protected from water erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 80%)



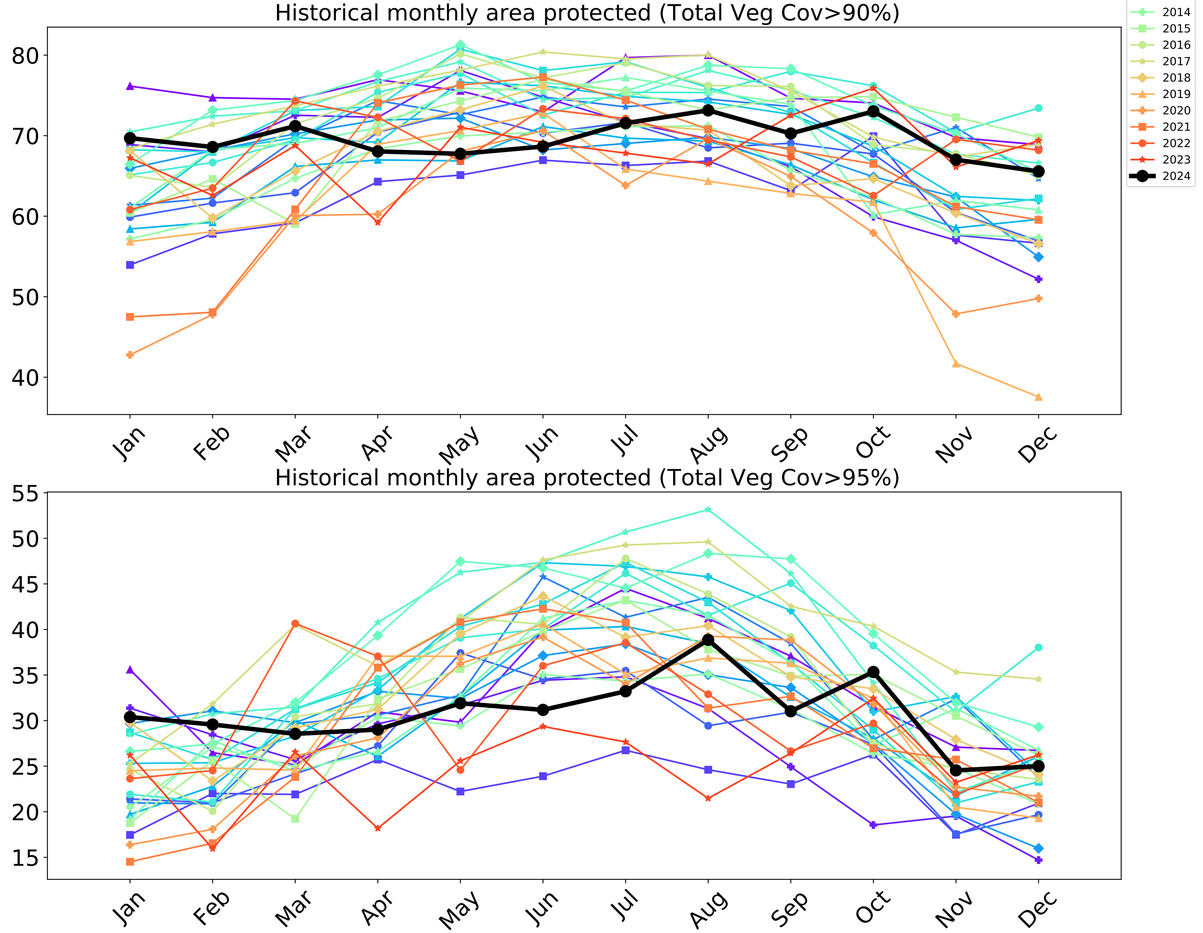
Historical monthly area protected (Total Veg Cov>80%)



Proportion of the area protected from water erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 90%)



Historical monthly area protected (Total Veg Cov>90%)

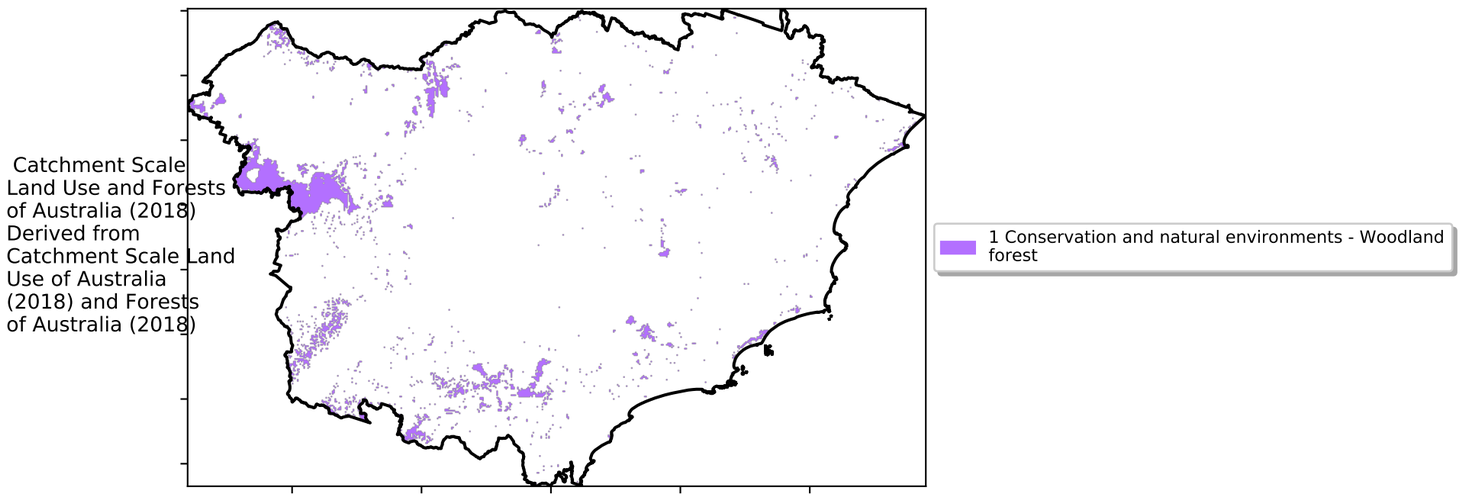


Proportion of the area protected from water erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 95%)

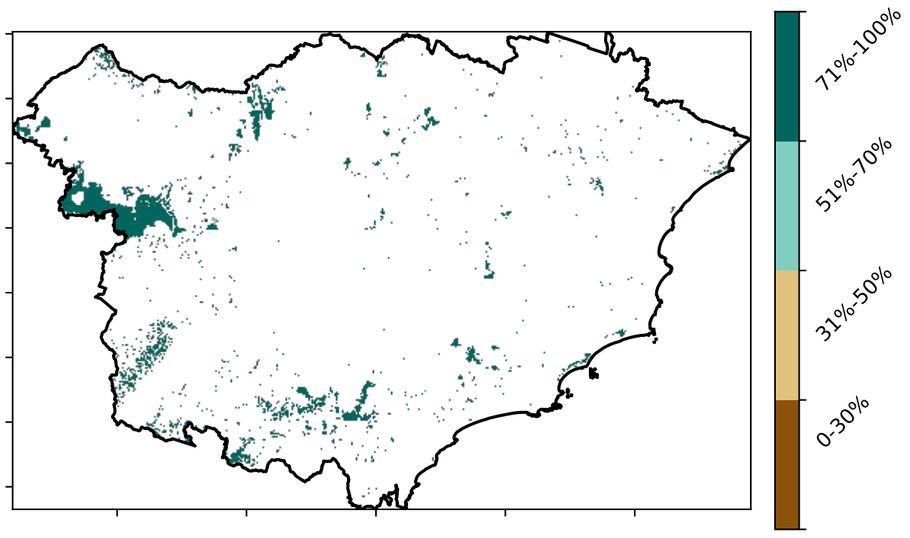
Historical monthly area protected (Total Veg Cov>95%)

Conservation and natural environments Woodland forest

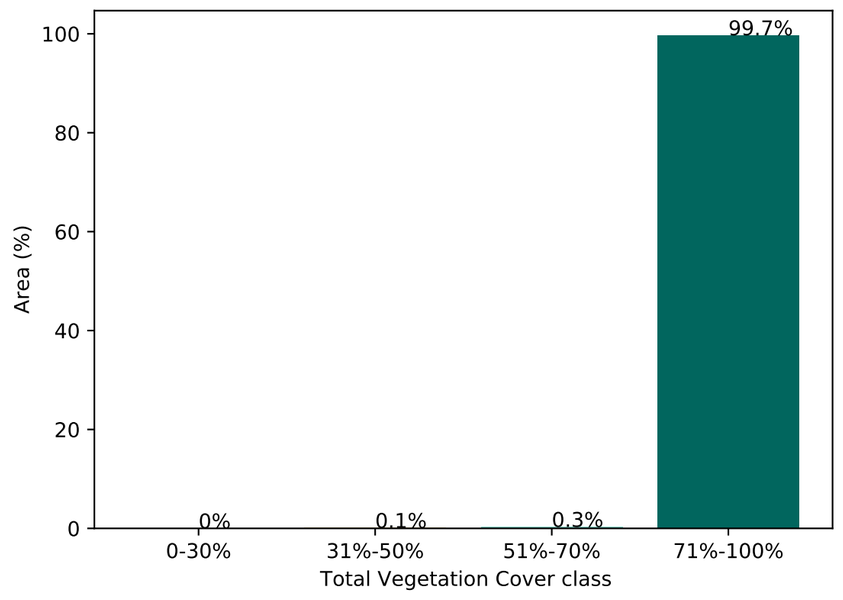
Land use and forest cover



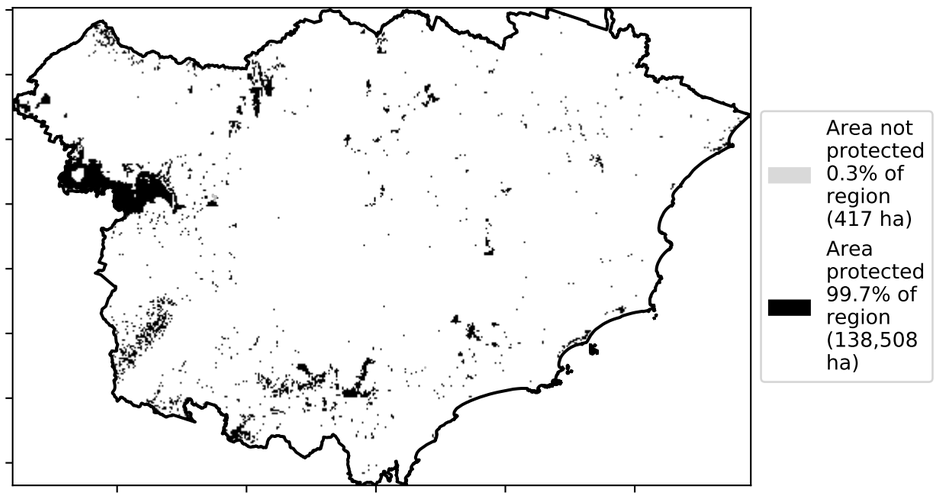
Total Vegetation Cover [%]



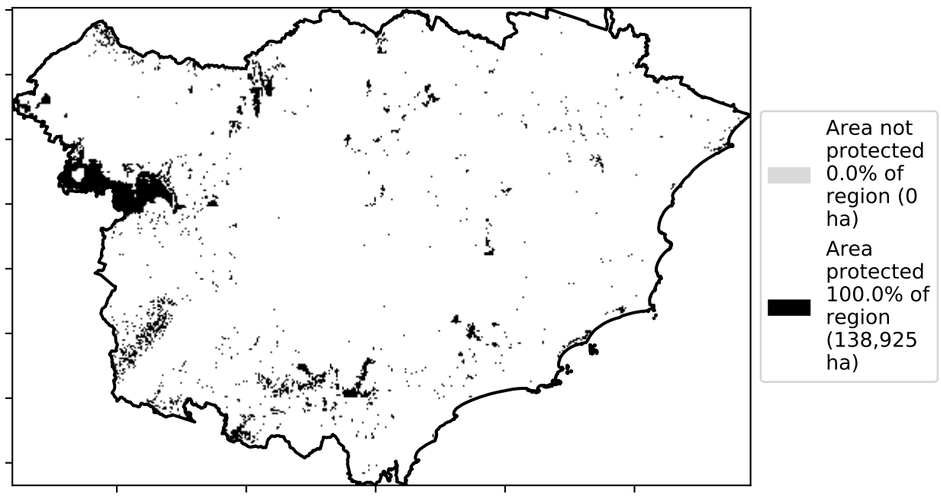
Proportion of vegetation cover class in area



% Area protected from water erosion (>70%)

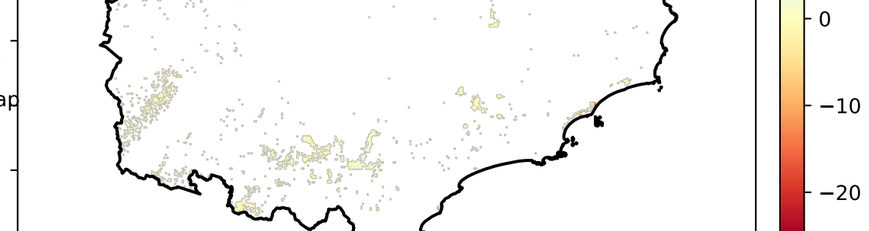


% Area protected from wind erosion (>50%)



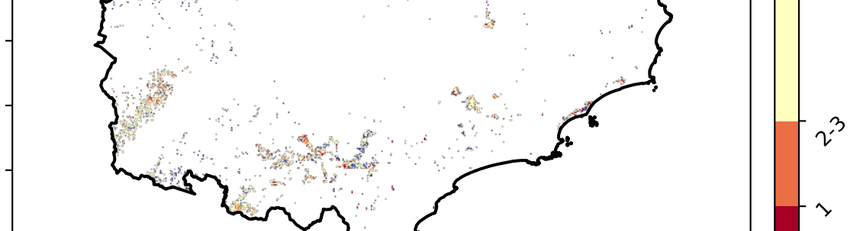
Total Vegetation Cover Anomaly [%]

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.



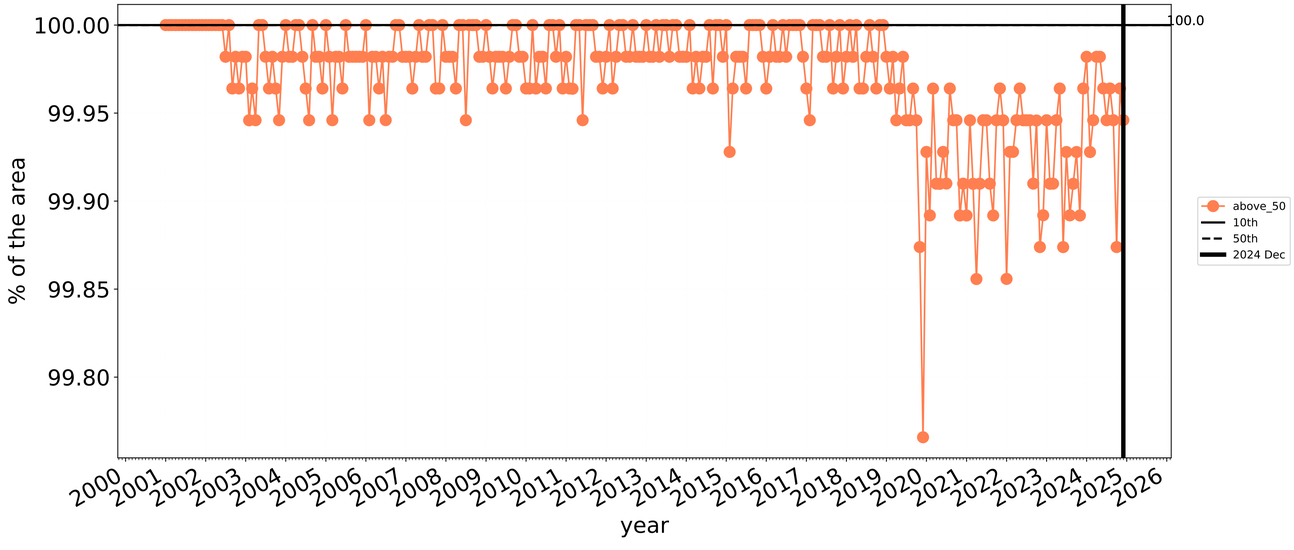
Total Vegetation Cover Decile [%]

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.

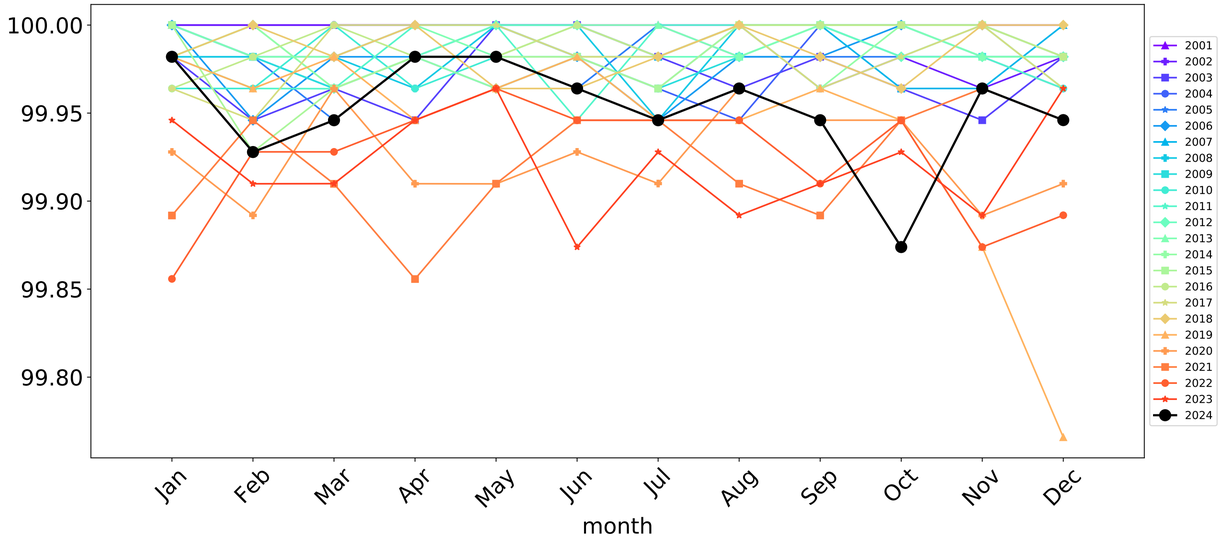


Conservation and natural environments Woodland forest timeseries

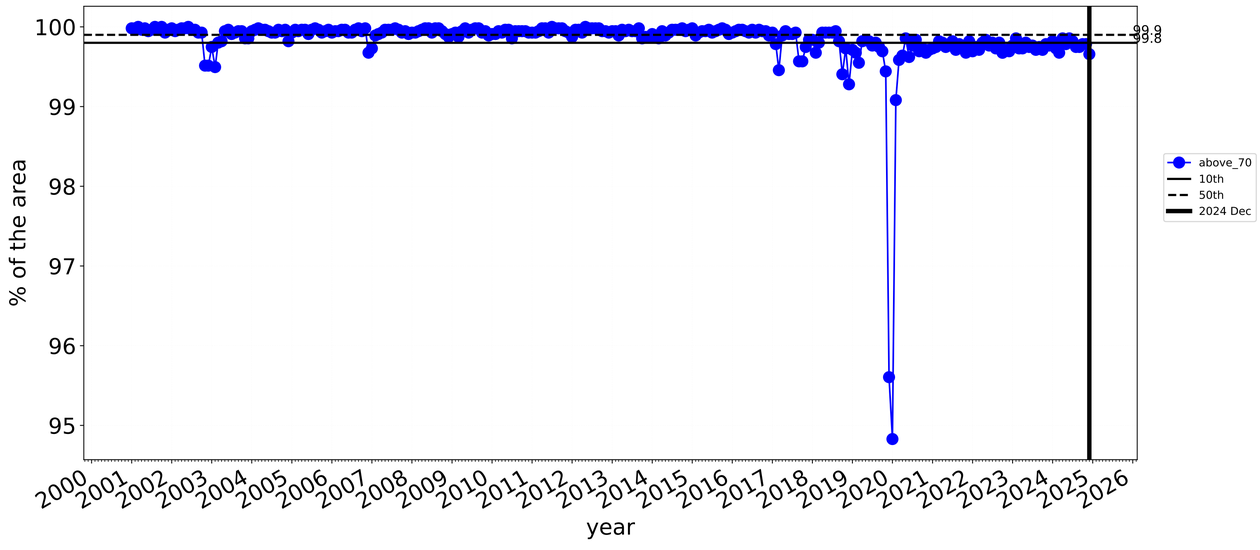
Proportion of the area protected from wind erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 50%)



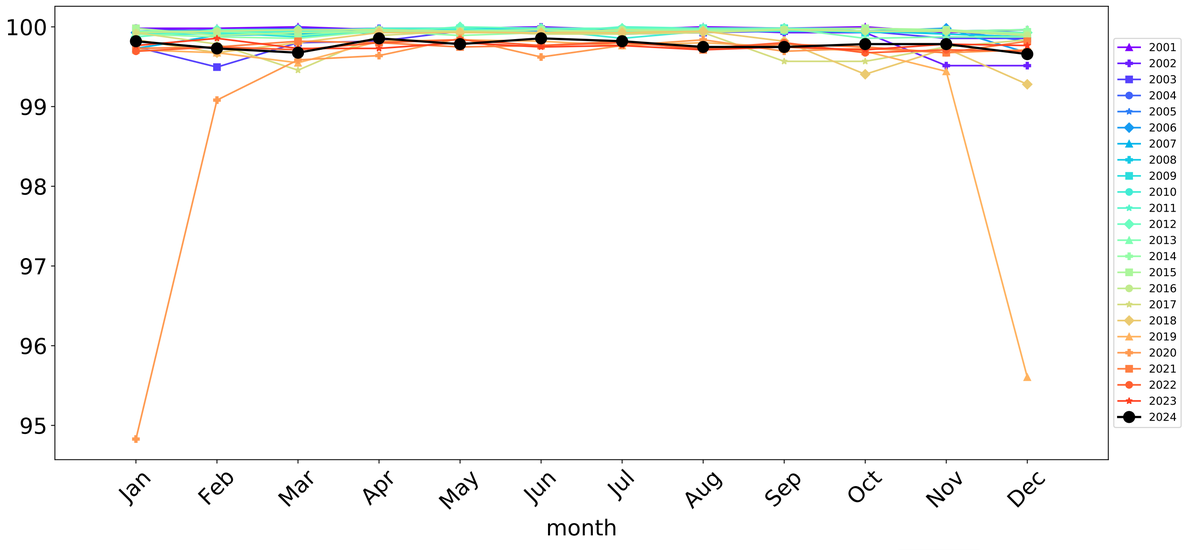
Wind erosion historical monthly area protected (Total Veg Cov >50%)

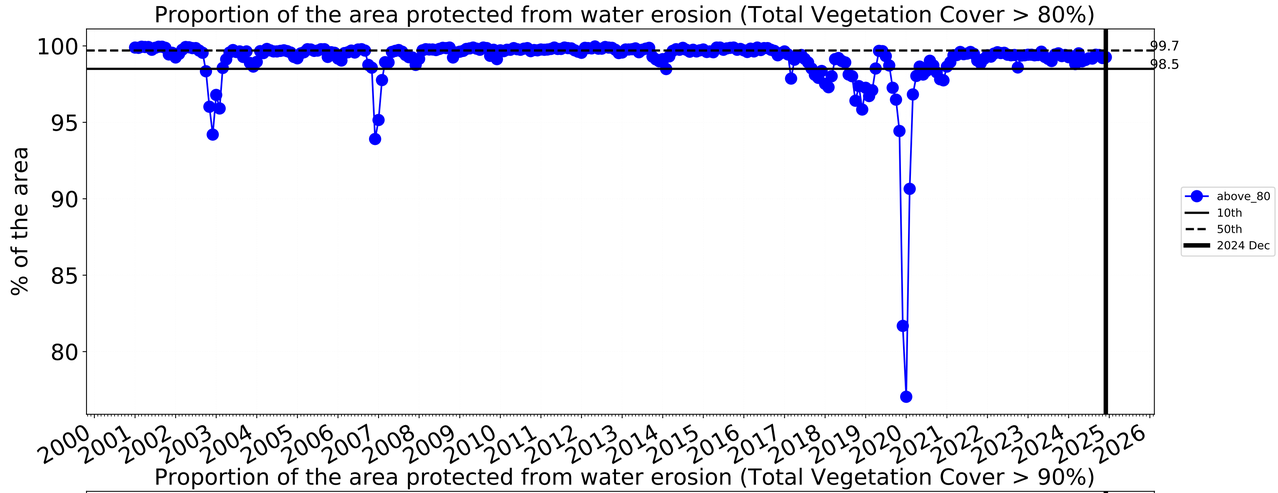


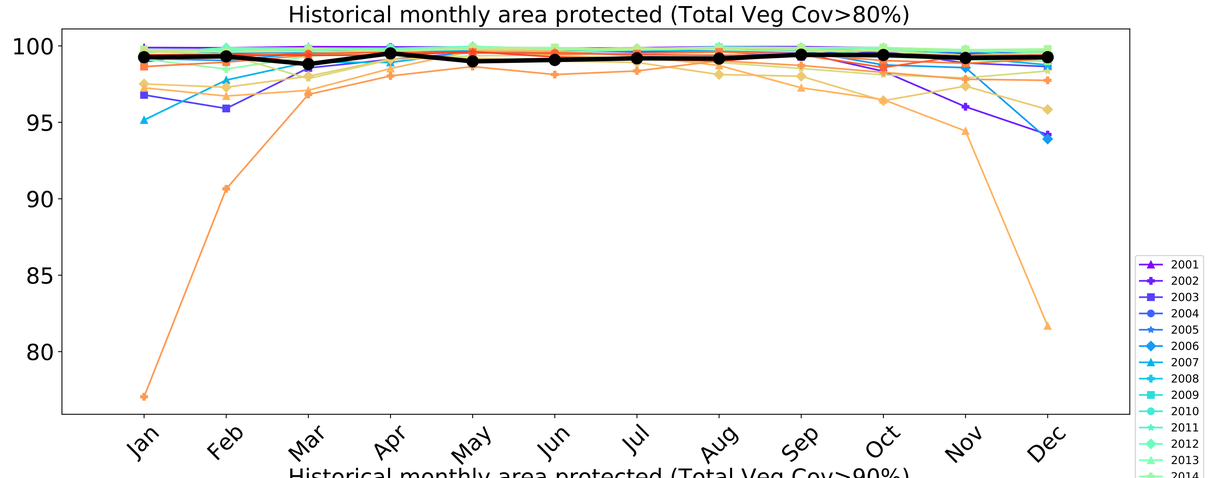
Proportion of the area protected from water erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 70%)

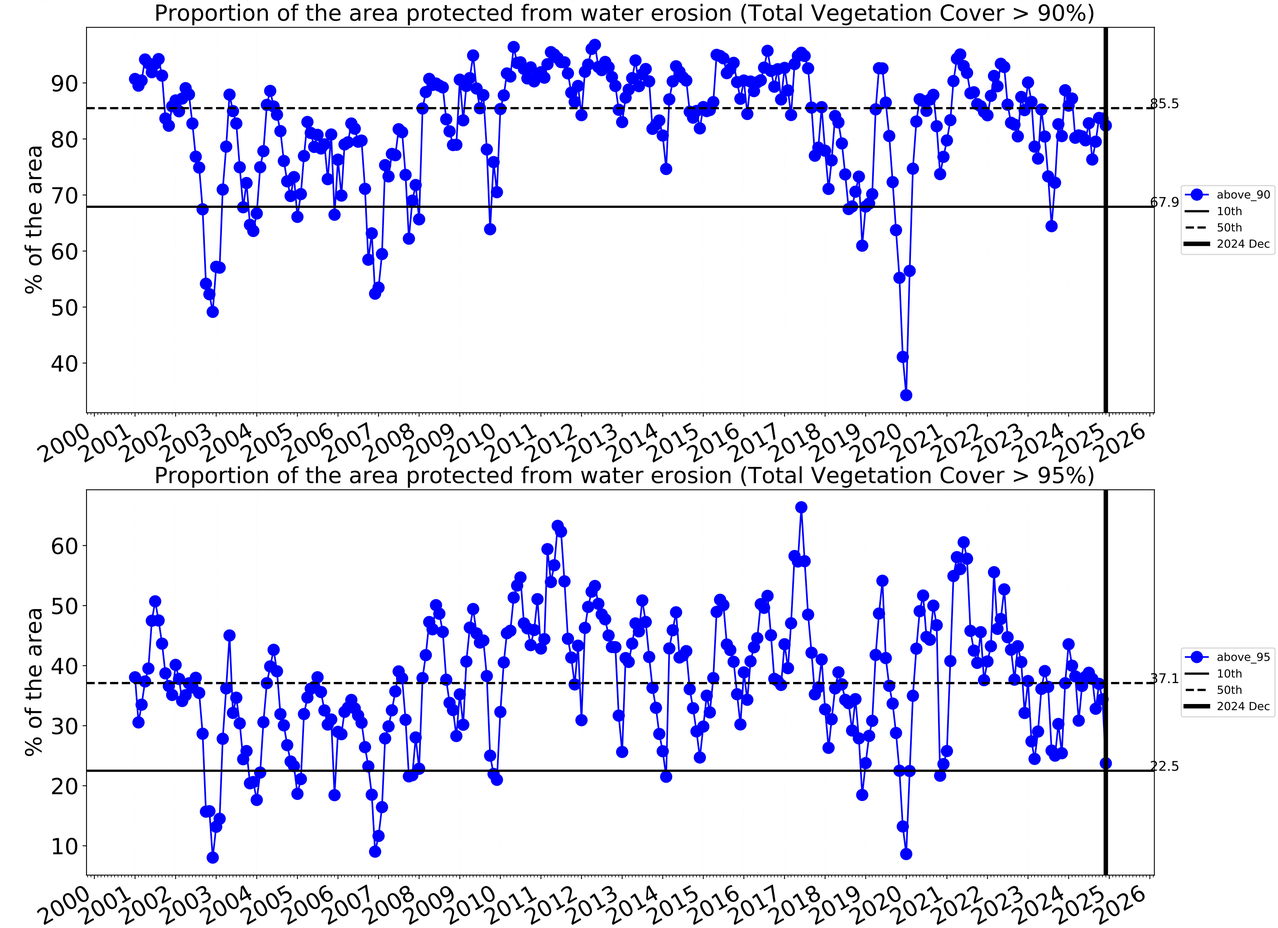


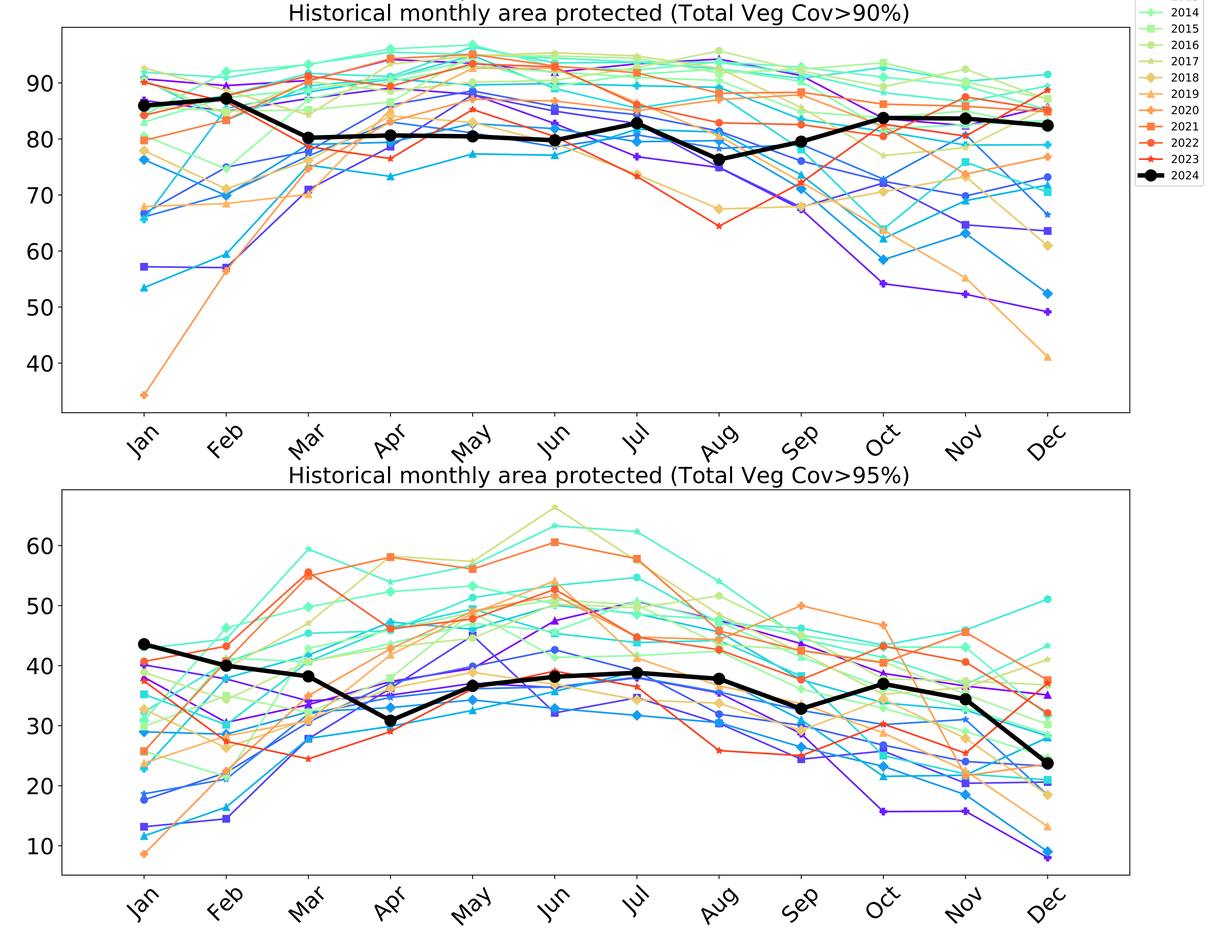
Water erosion historical monthly area protected (Total Veg Cov>70%)




Proportion of the area protected from water erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 80%)
% of the area
99.7
98.5
above_80
10th
50th
2024 Dec

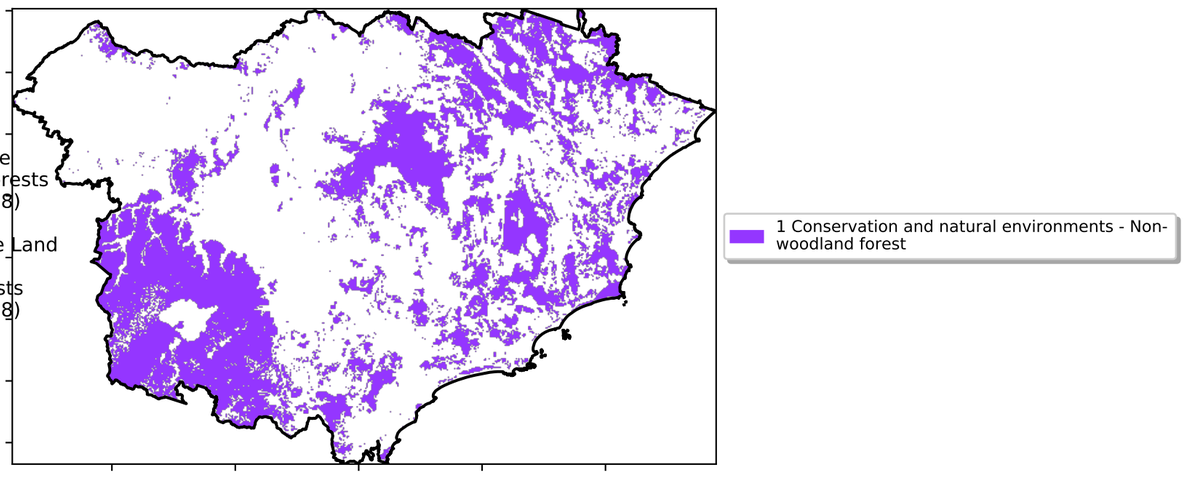

Historical monthly area protected (Total Veg Cov>80%)
Jan
Feb
Mar
Apr
May
Jun
Jul
Aug
Sep
Oct
Nov
Dec
2001
2002
2003
2004
2005
2006
2007
2008
2009
2010
2011
2012
2013
2014
2015
2016
2017
2018
2019
2020
2021
2022
2023
2024


Proportion of the area protected from water erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 90%)
% of the area
85.5
67.9
above_90
10th
50th
2024 Dec
Proportion of the area protected from water erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 95%)
% of the area
37.1
22.5
above_95
10th
50th
2024 Dec


Historical monthly area protected (Total Veg Cov>90%)
Historical monthly area protected (Total Veg Cov>95%)
Jan
Feb
Mar
Apr
May
Jun
Jul
Aug
Sep
Oct
Nov
Dec
2001
2002
2003
2004
2005
2006
2007
2008
2009
2010
2011
2012
2013
2014
2015
2016
2017
2018
2019
2020
2021
2022
2023
2024

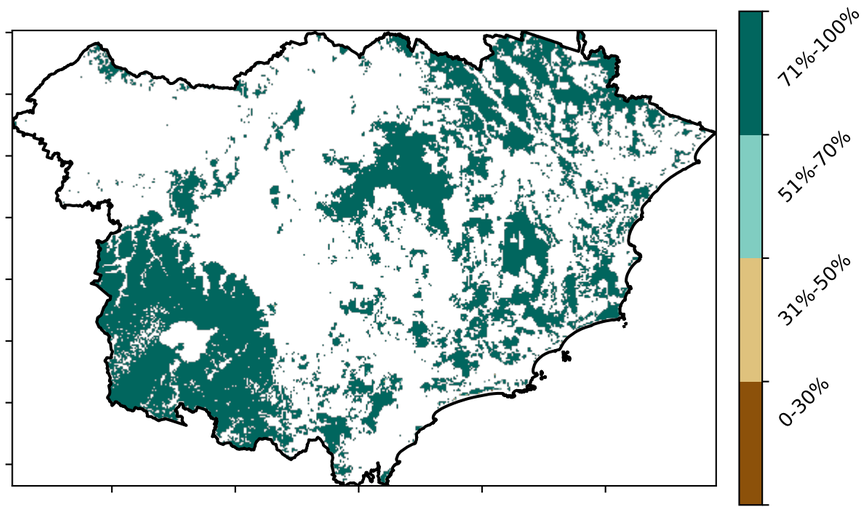
Conservation and natural environments Forest (non woodland)

Land use and forest cover

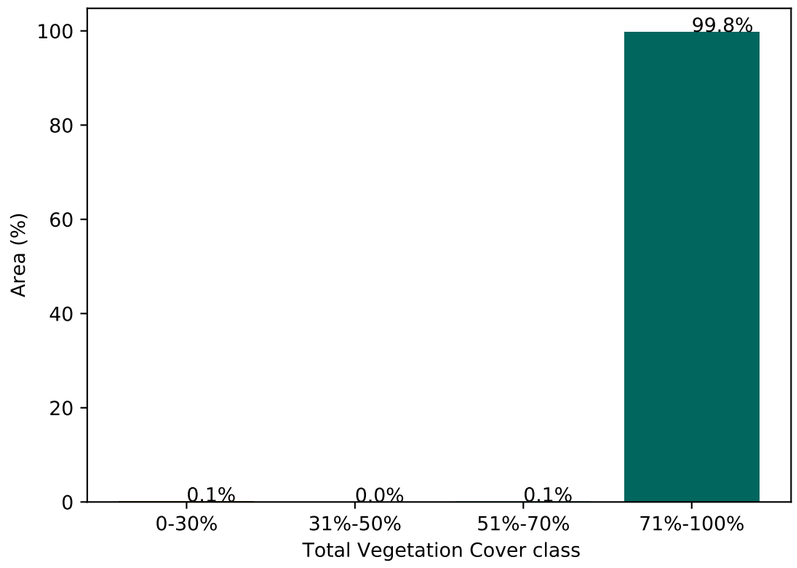


Catchment Scale Land Use and Forests of Australia (2018) Derived from Catchment Scale Land Use of Australia (2018) and Forests of Australia (2018)

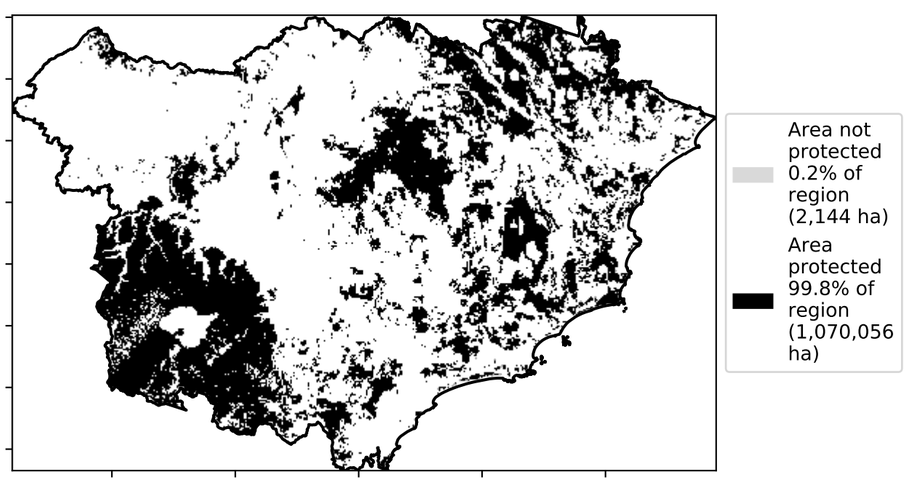
Total Vegetation Cover [%]



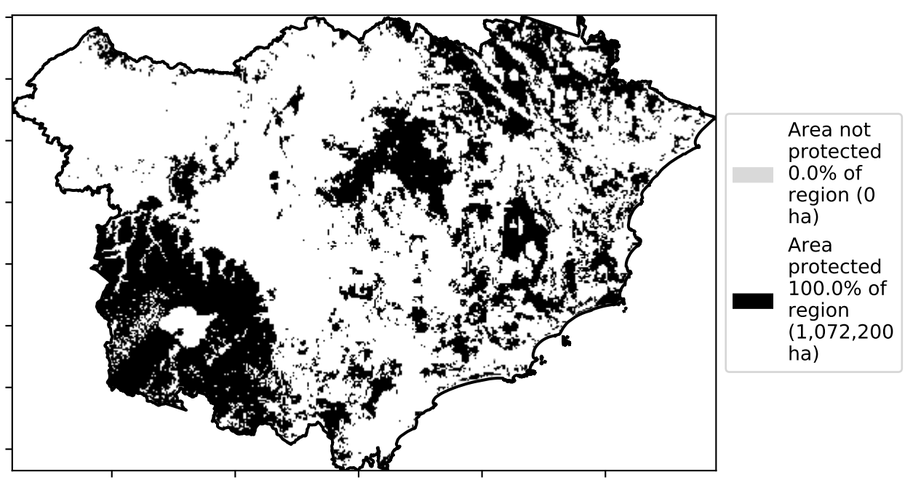
Proportion of vegetation cover class in area



% Area protected from water erosion (>70%)

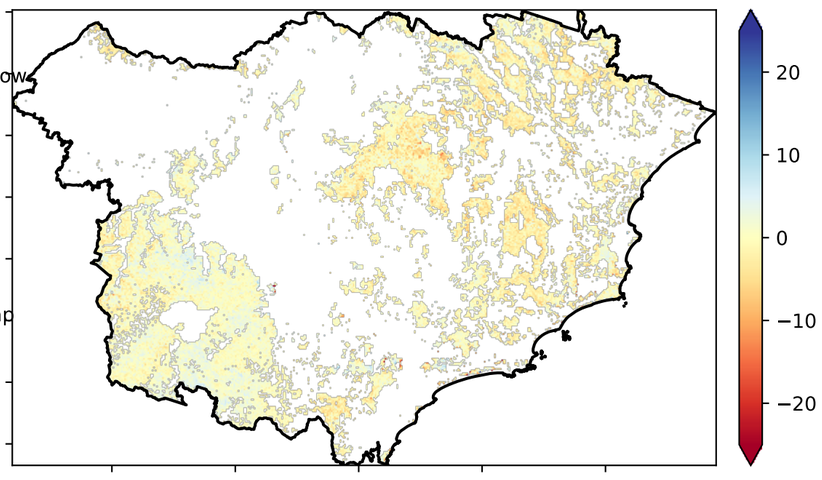


% Area protected from wind erosion (>50%)



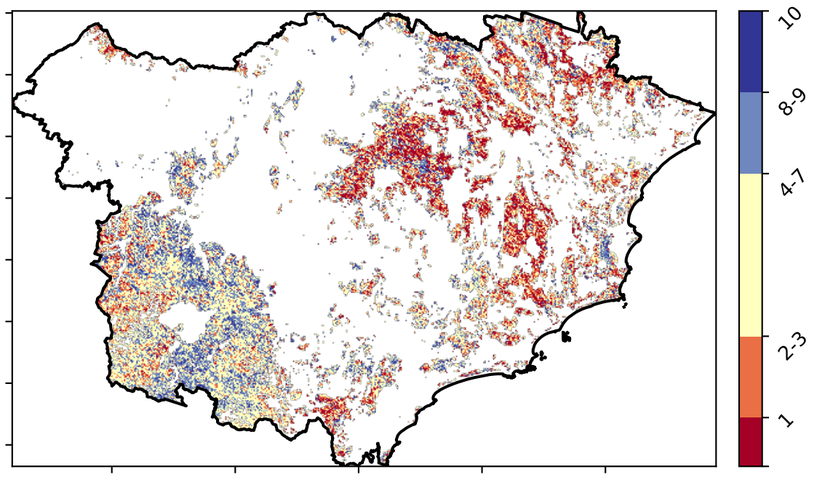
Total Vegetation Cover Anomaly [%]

Anomaly show how many 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.



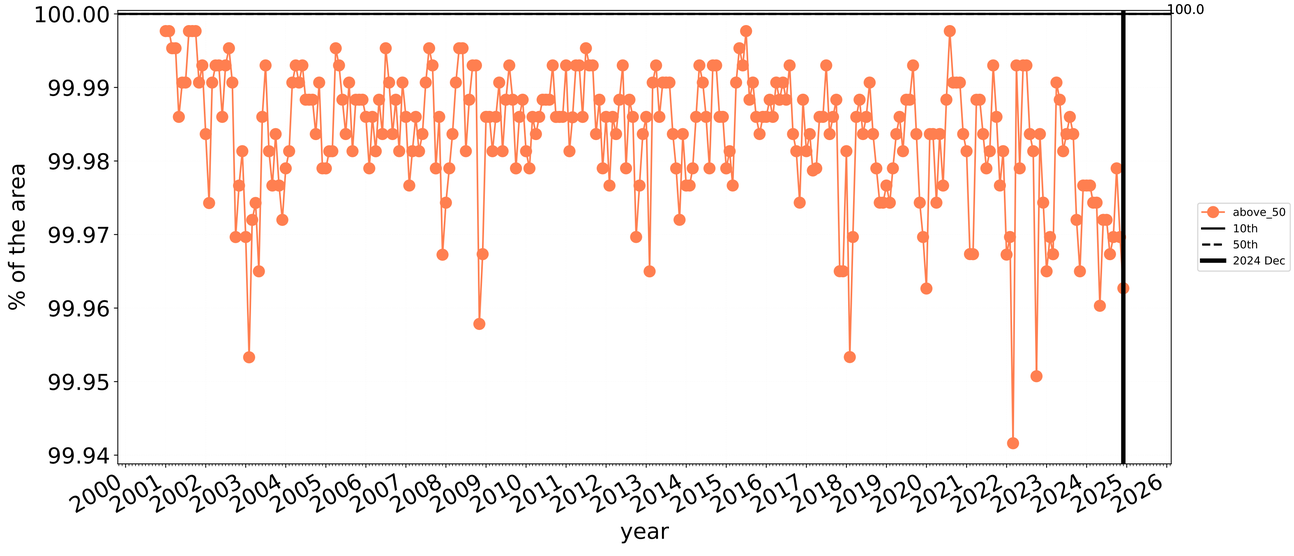
Total Vegetation Cover Decile [%]

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.

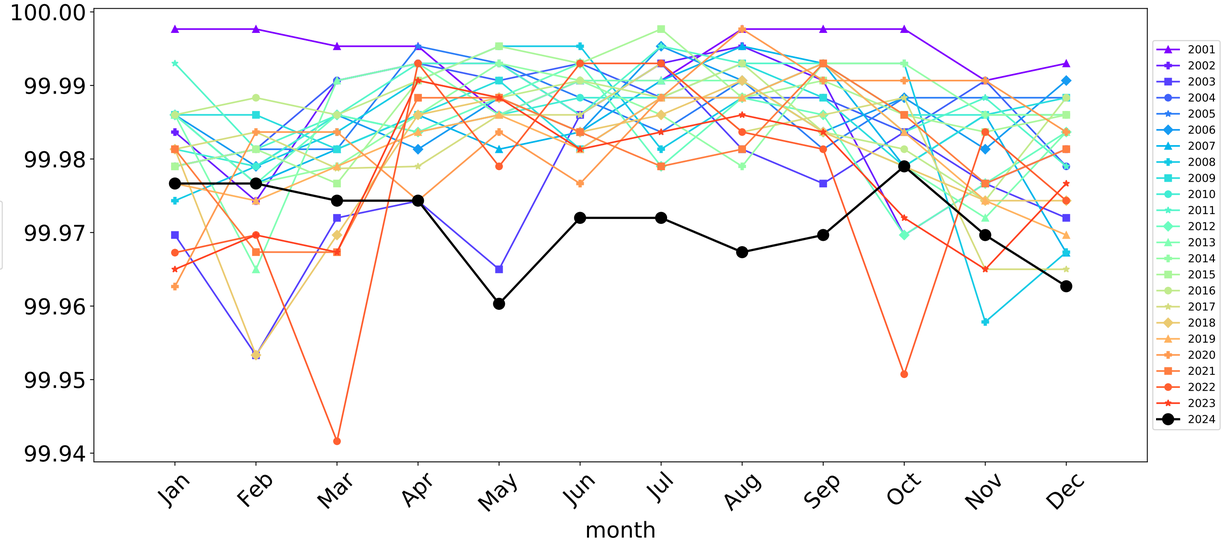


Conservation and natural environments Forest (non woodland) timeseries

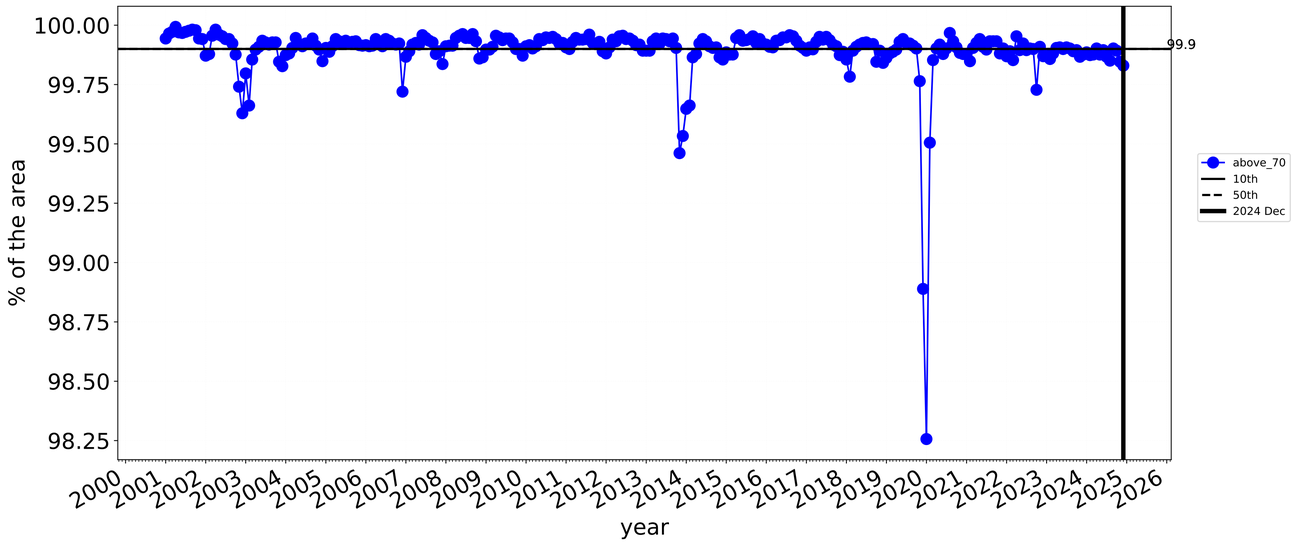
Proportion of the area protected from wind erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 50%)



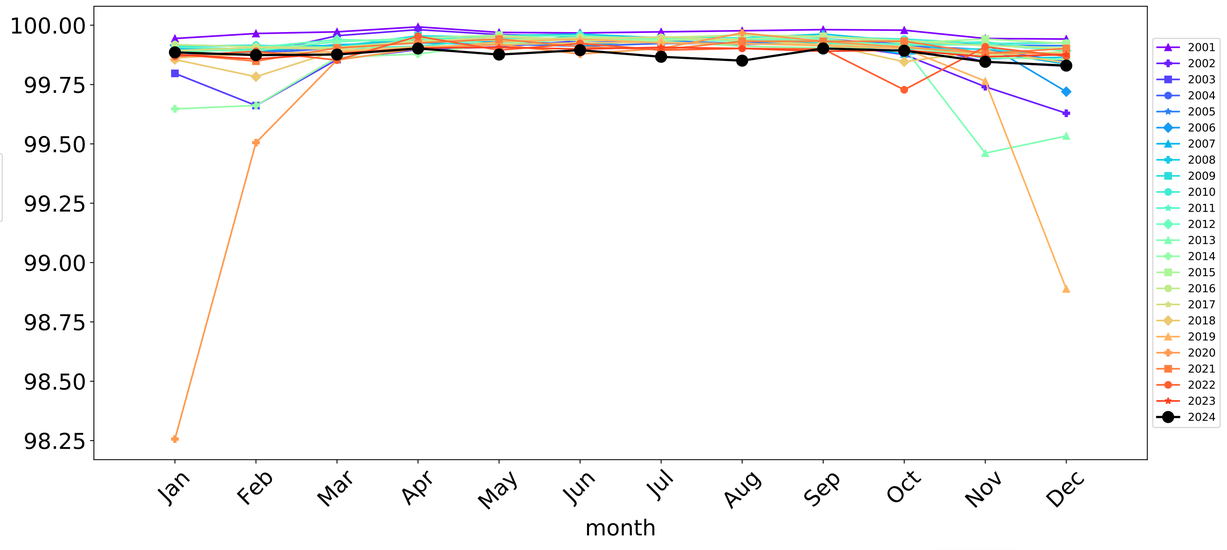
Wind erosion historical monthly area protected (Total Veg Cov >50%)



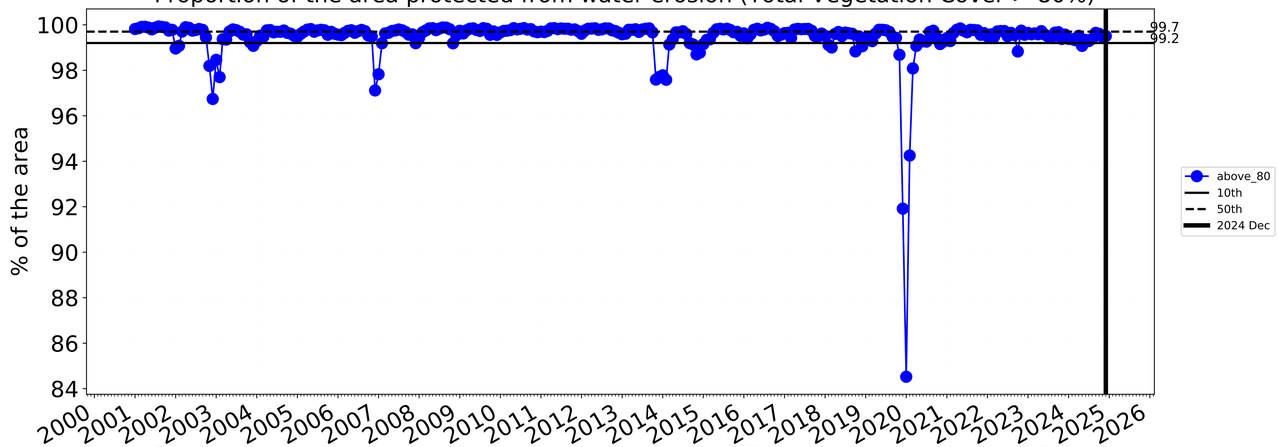
Proportion of the area protected from water erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 70%)



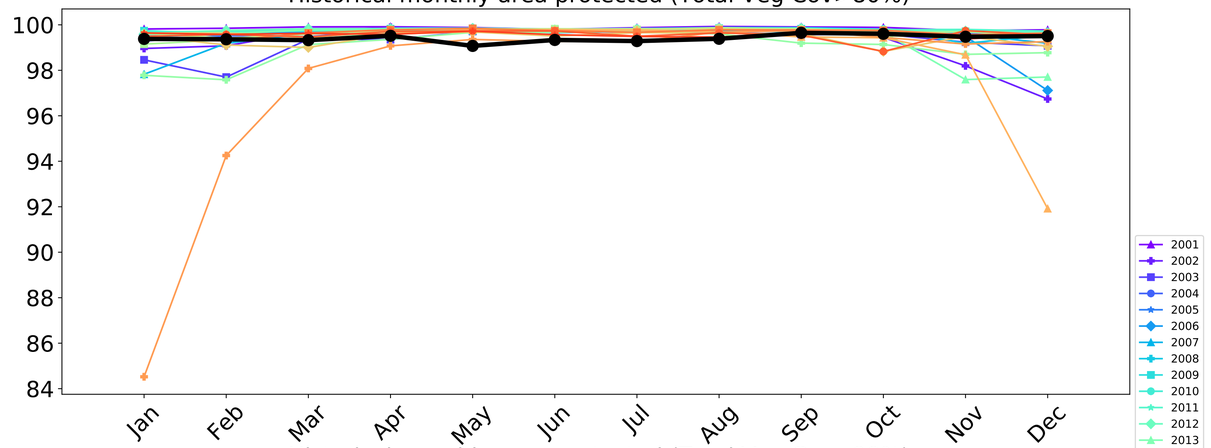
Water erosion historical monthly area protected (Total Veg Cov>70%)



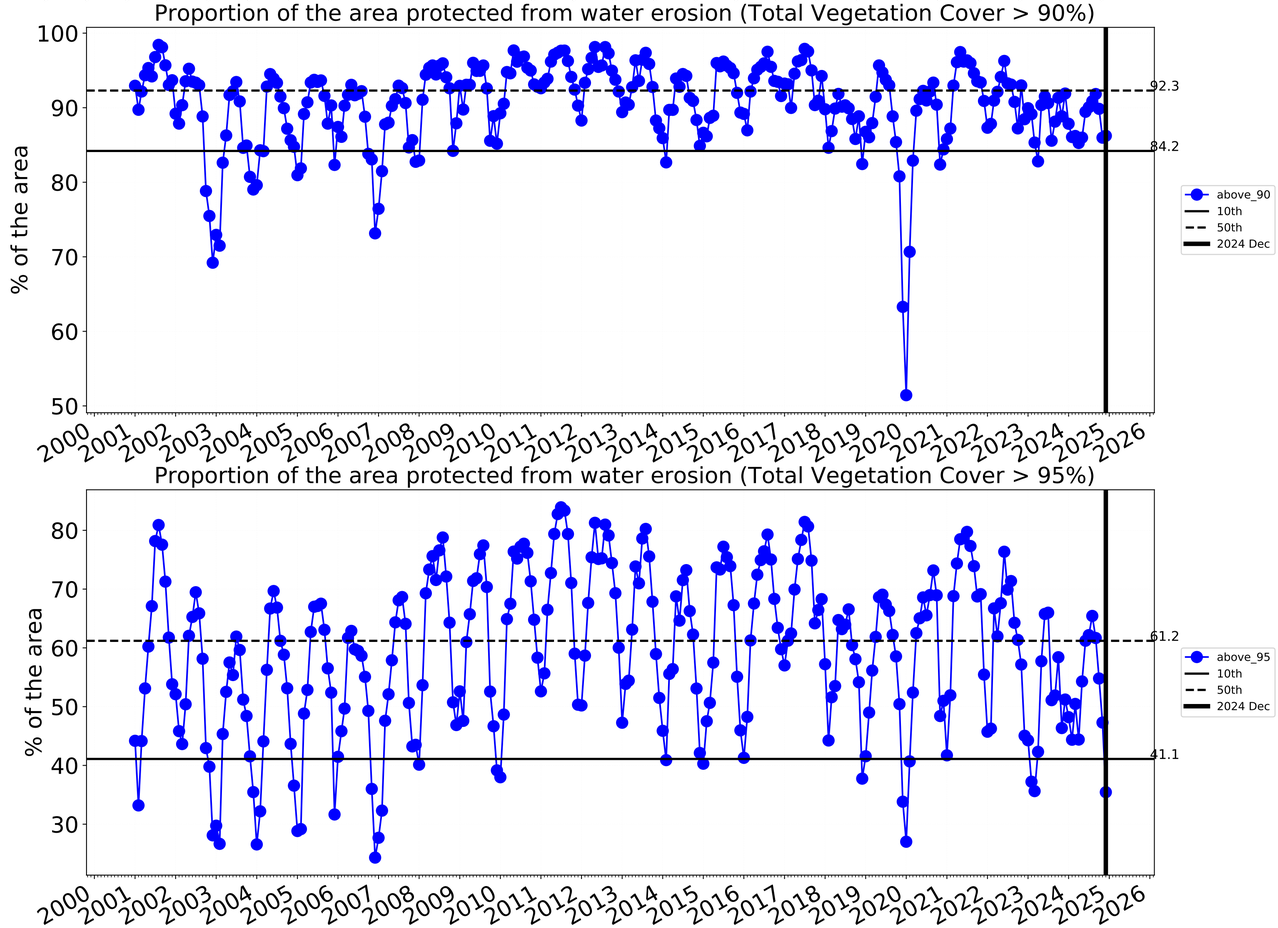
Proportion of the area protected from water erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 80%)



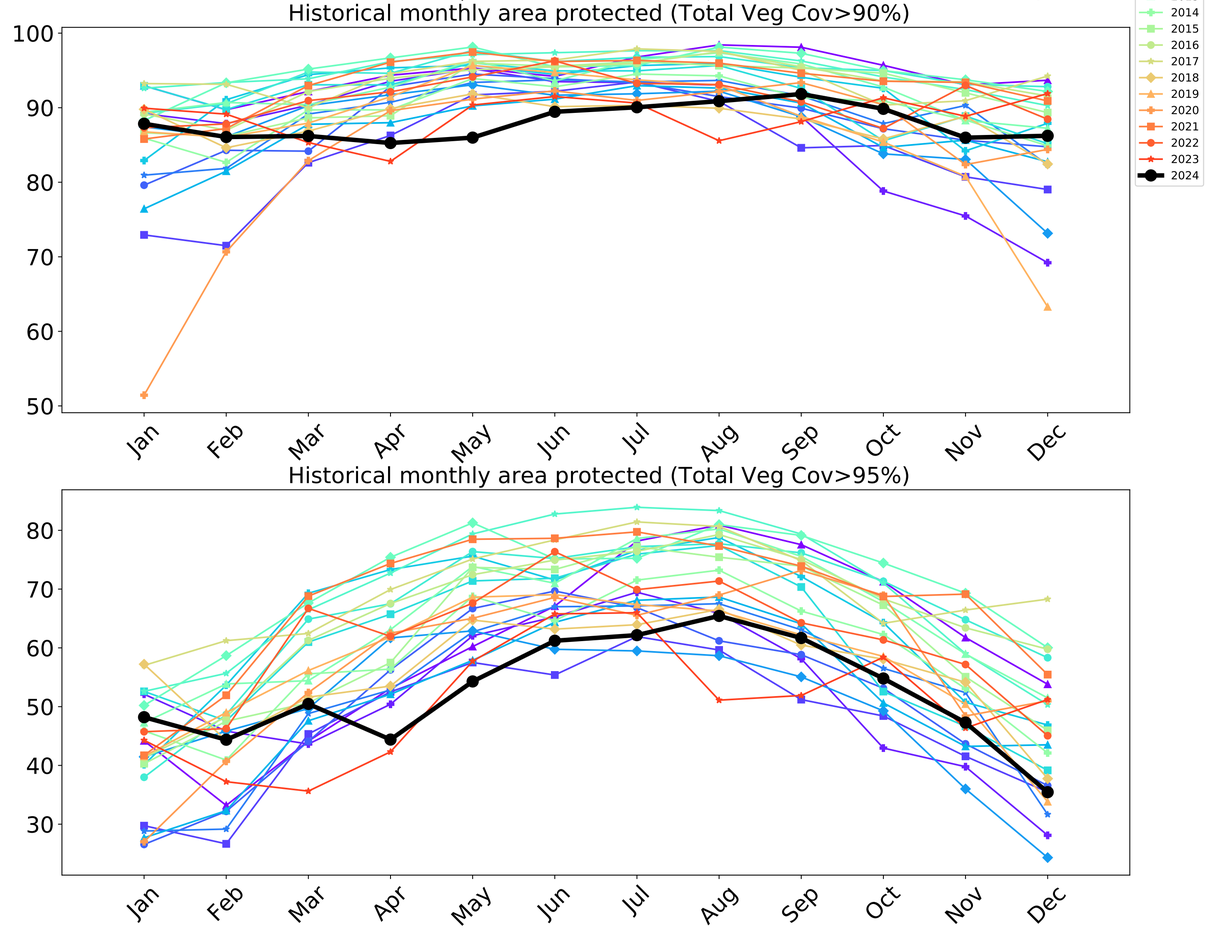
Historical monthly area protected (Total Veg Cov>80%)



Proportion of the area protected from water erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 90%)



Historical monthly area protected (Total Veg Cov>90%)

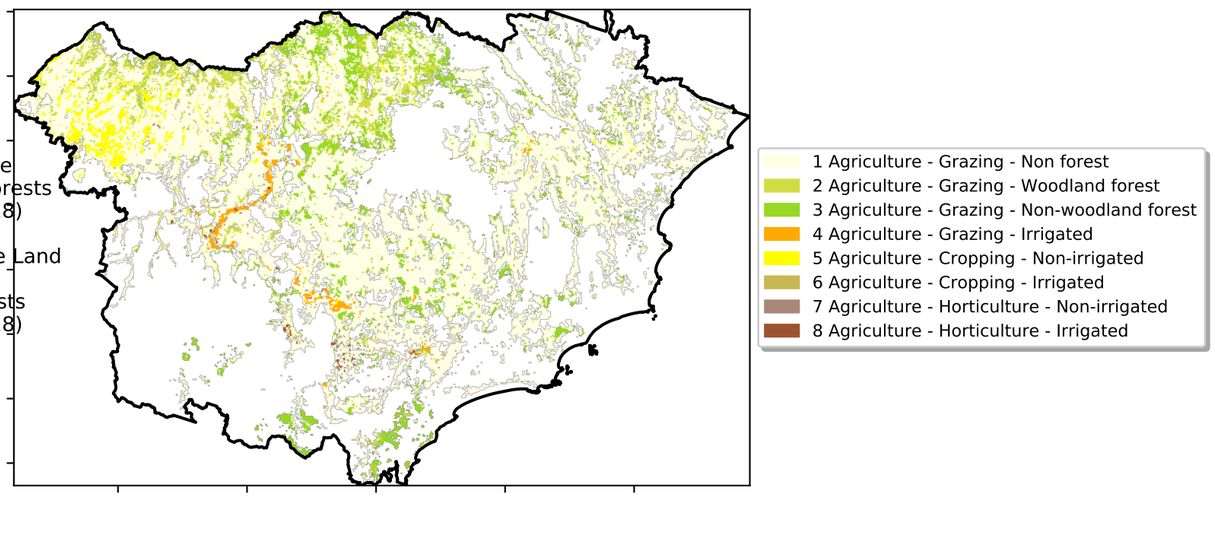


Proportion of the area protected from water erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 95%)

Historical monthly area protected (Total Veg Cov>95%)

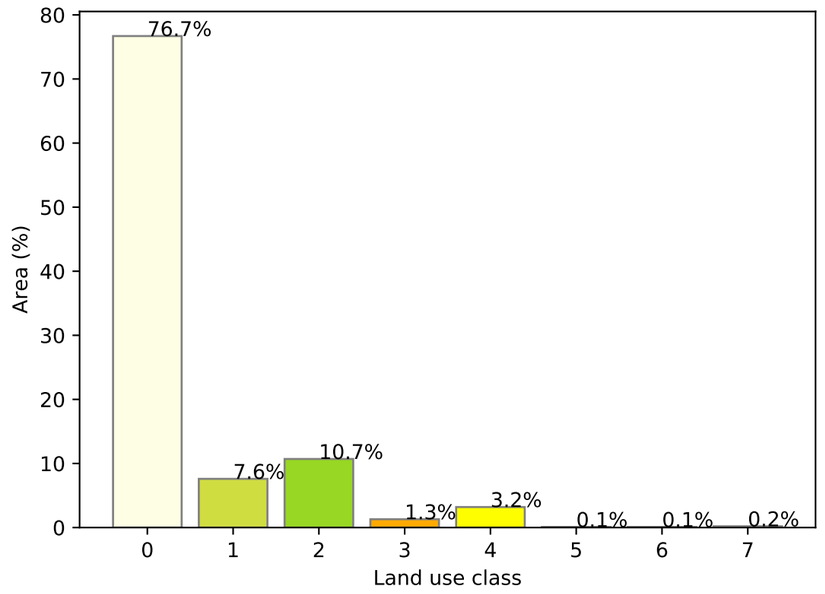
Agriculture

Land use and forest cover

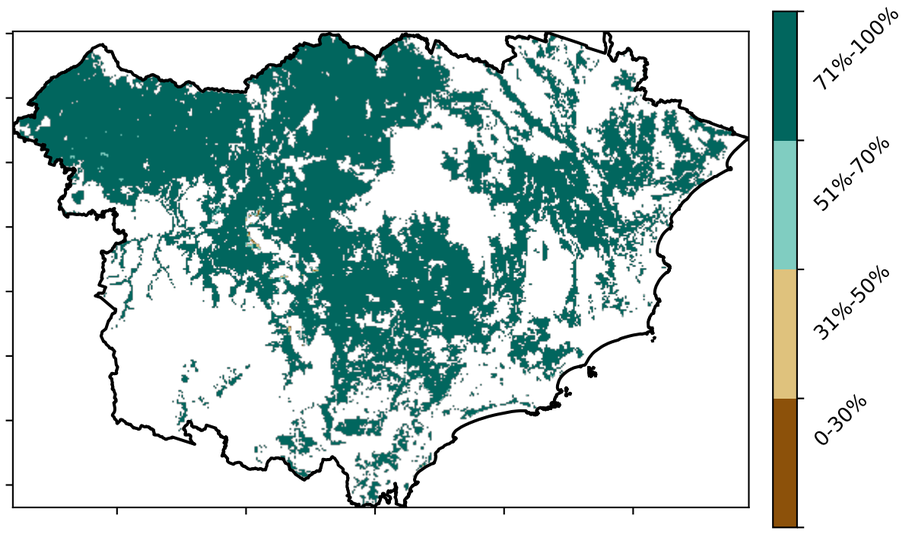


Catchment Scale Land Use and Forests of Australia (2018) Derived from Catchment Scale Land Use of Australia (2018) and Forests of Australia (2018)

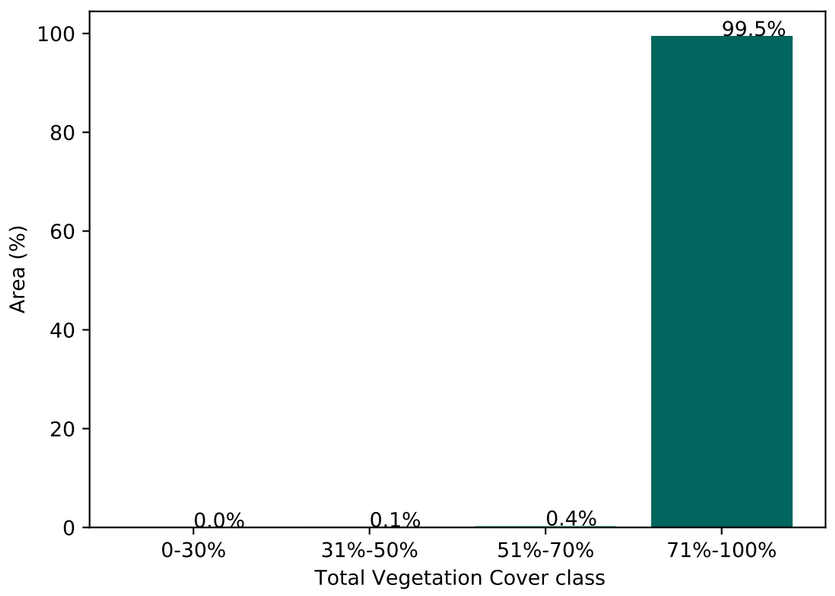
Proportion of each land class in area



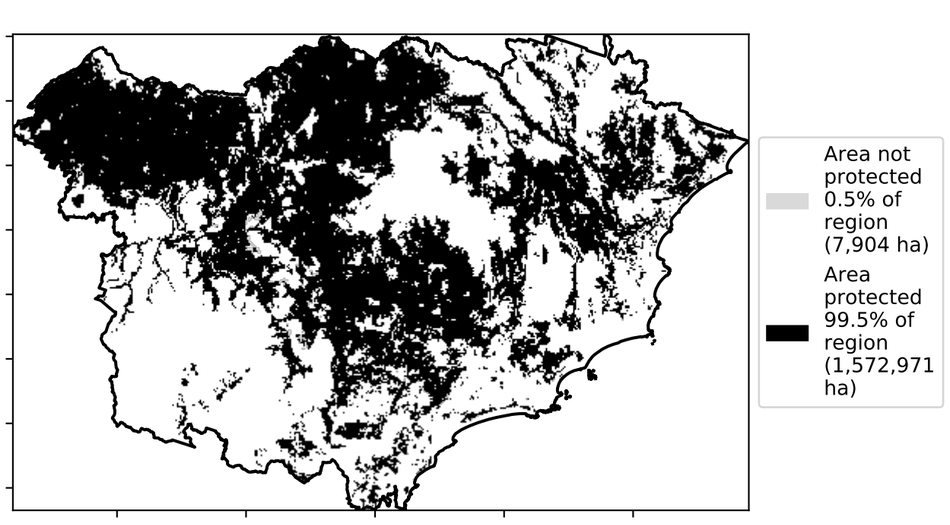
Total Vegetation Cover [%]



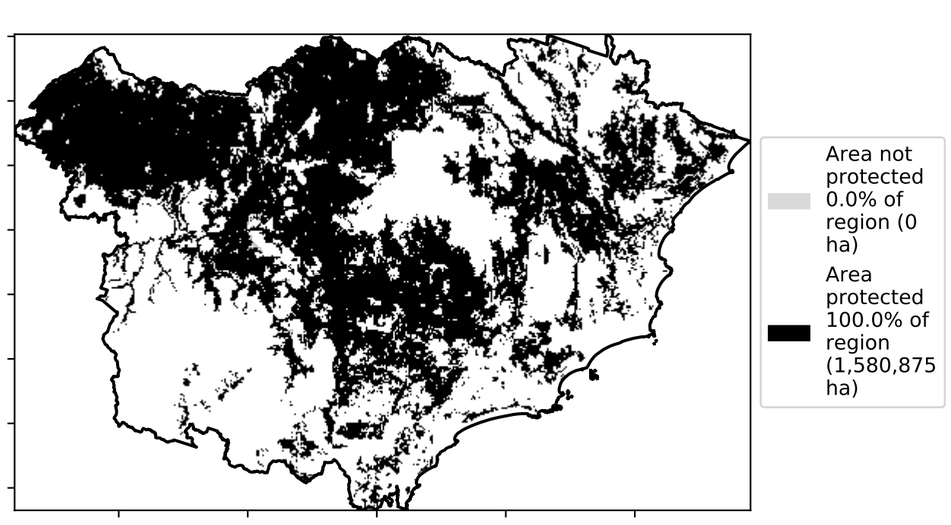
Proportion of vegetation cover class in area



% Area protected from water erosion (>70%)

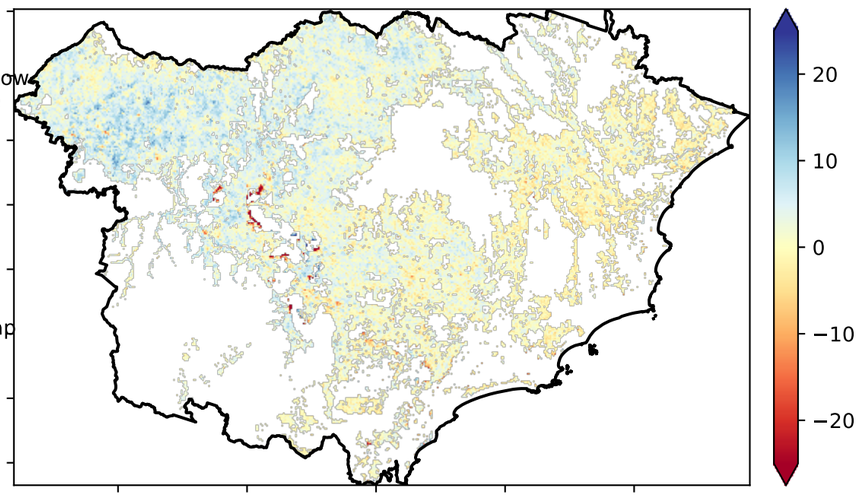


% Area protected from wind erosion (>50%)



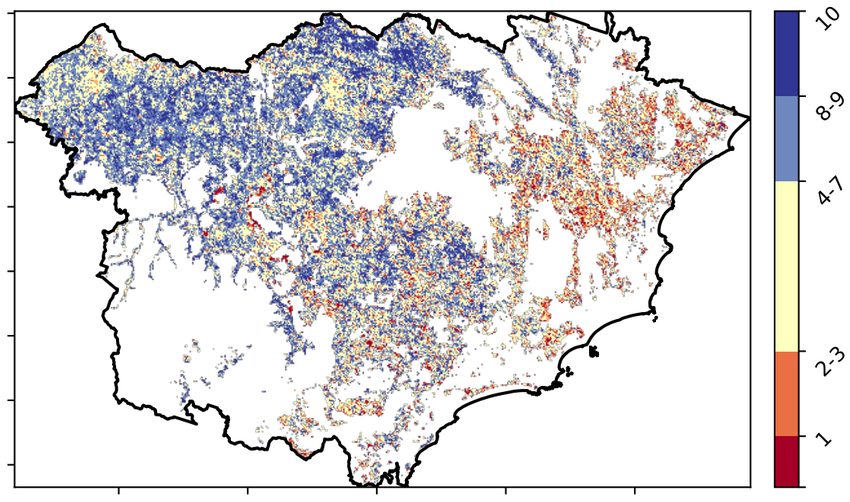
Total Vegetation Cover Anomaly [%]

Anomaly show how many 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.



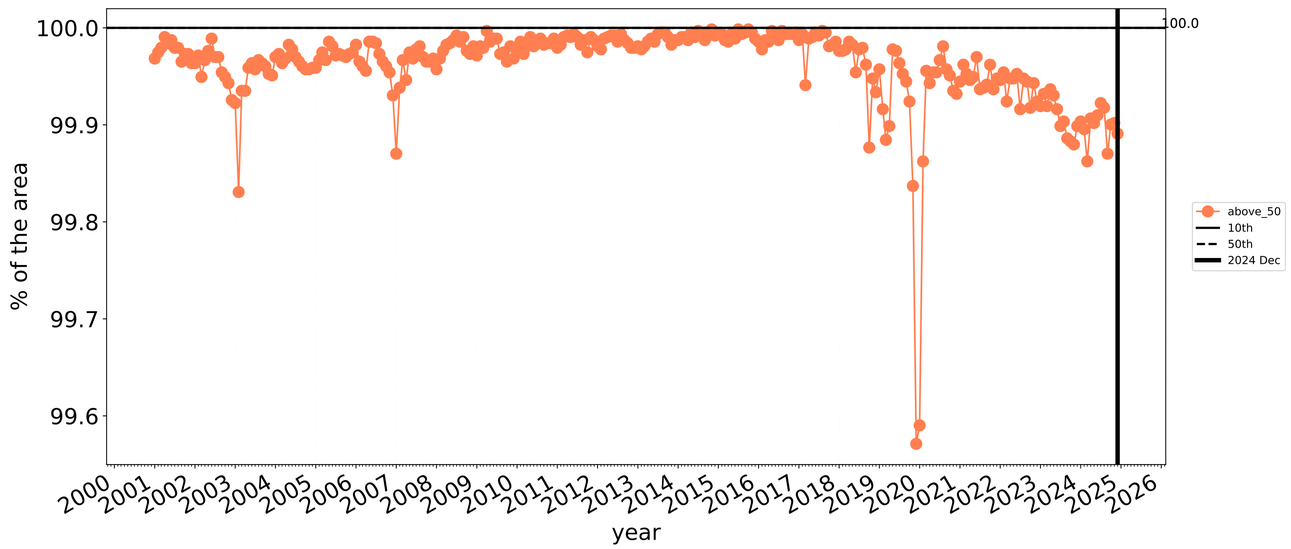
Total Vegetation Cover Decile [%]

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.

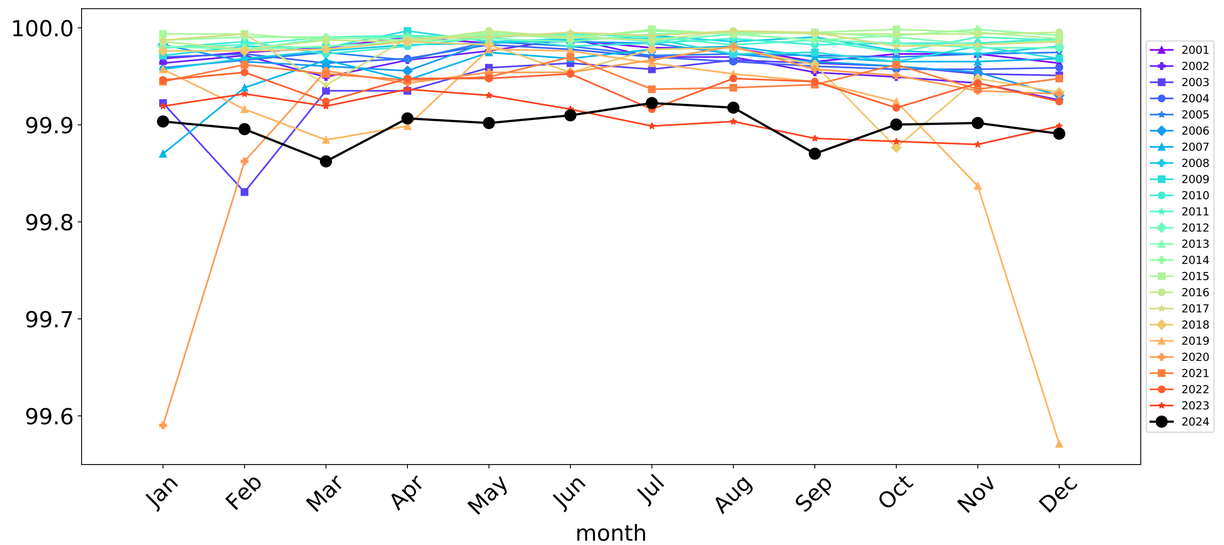


Agriculture timeseries

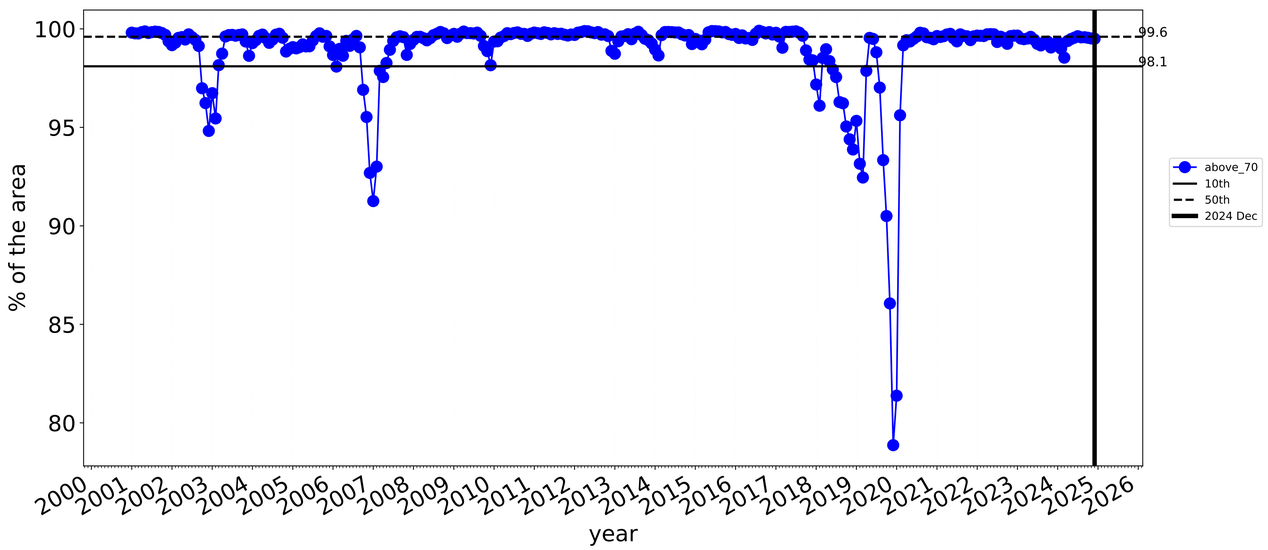
Proportion of the area protected from wind erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 50%)



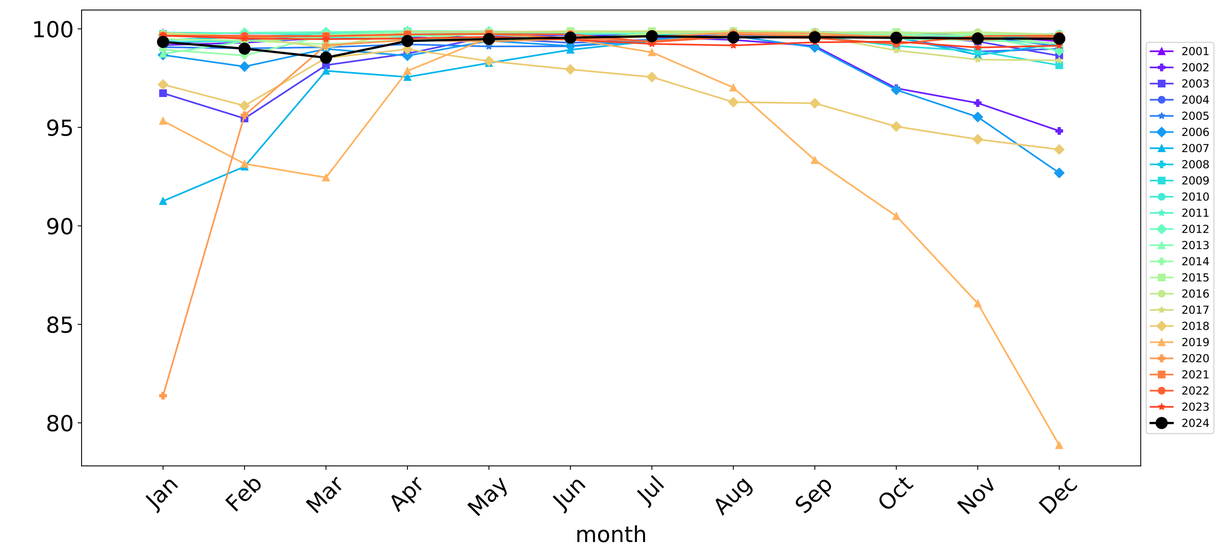
Wind erosion historical monthly area protected (Total Veg Cov >50%)

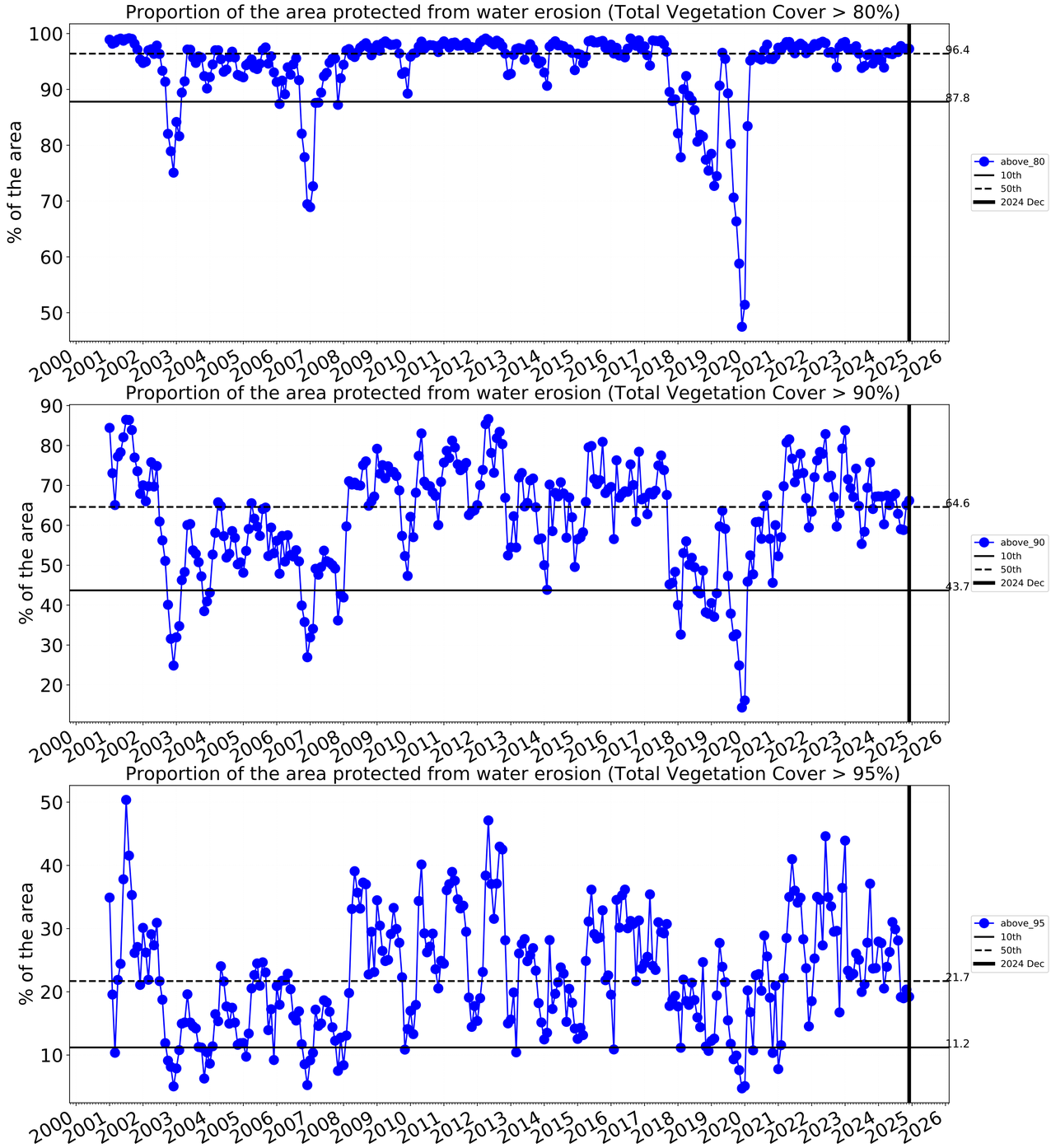


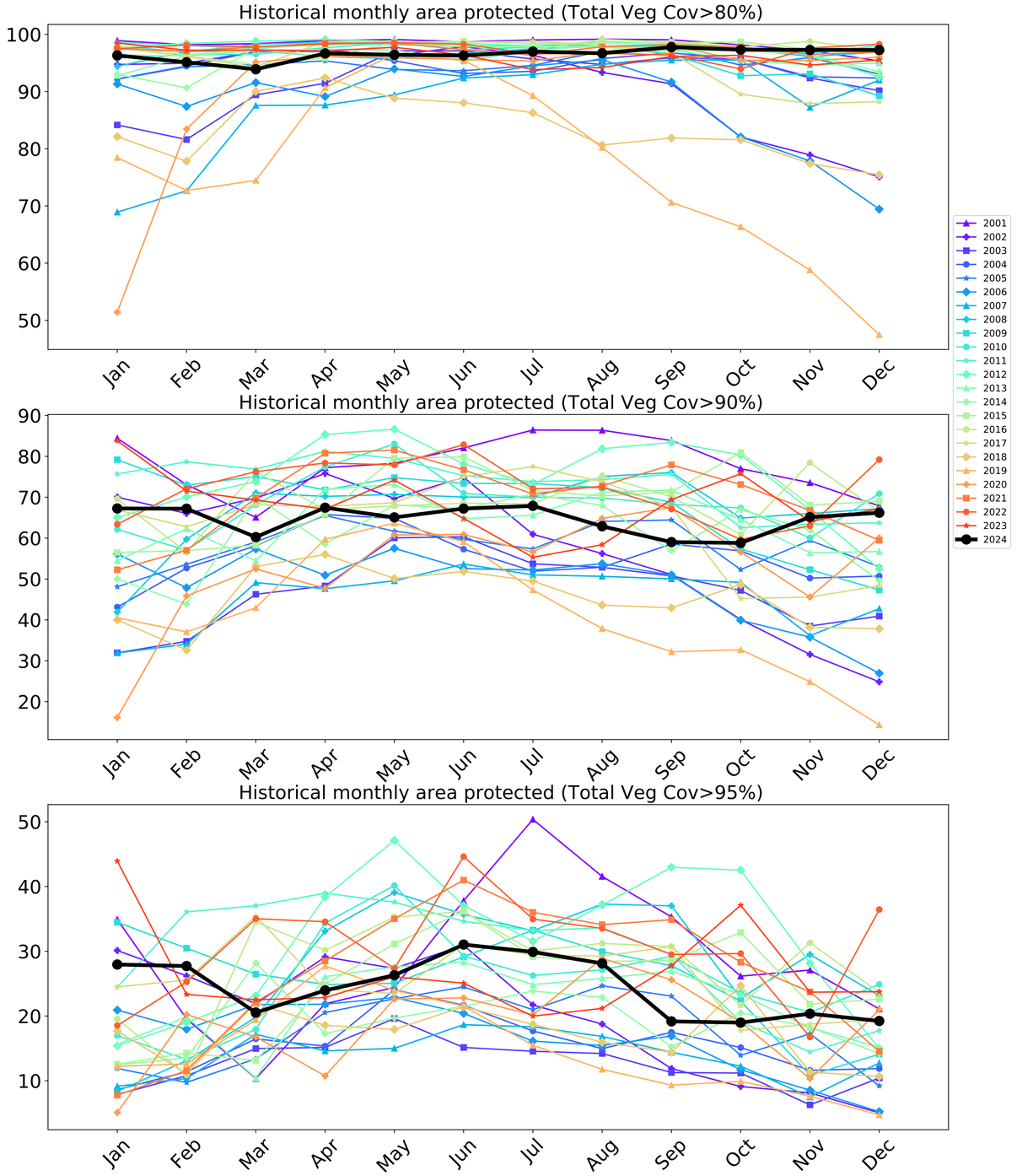
Proportion of the area protected from water erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 70%)



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




Proportion of the area protected from water erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 80%)
% of the area
96.4
87.8
above_80
10th
50th
2024 Dec
Proportion of the area protected from water erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 90%)
% of the area
64.6
43.7
above_90
10th
50th
2024 Dec
Proportion of the area protected from water erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 95%)
% of the area
21.7
11.2
above_95
10th
50th
2024 Dec


Historical monthly area protected (Total Veg Cov>80%)
Historical monthly area protected (Total Veg Cov>90%)
Historical monthly area protected (Total Veg Cov>95%)
Jan
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Jun
Jul
Aug
Sep
Oct
Nov
Dec
2001
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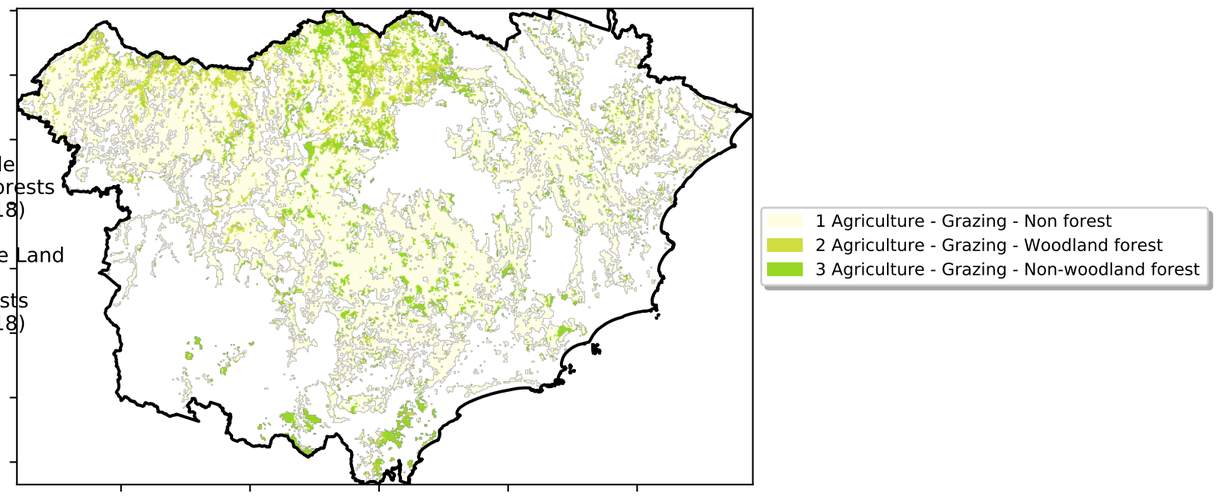
2024

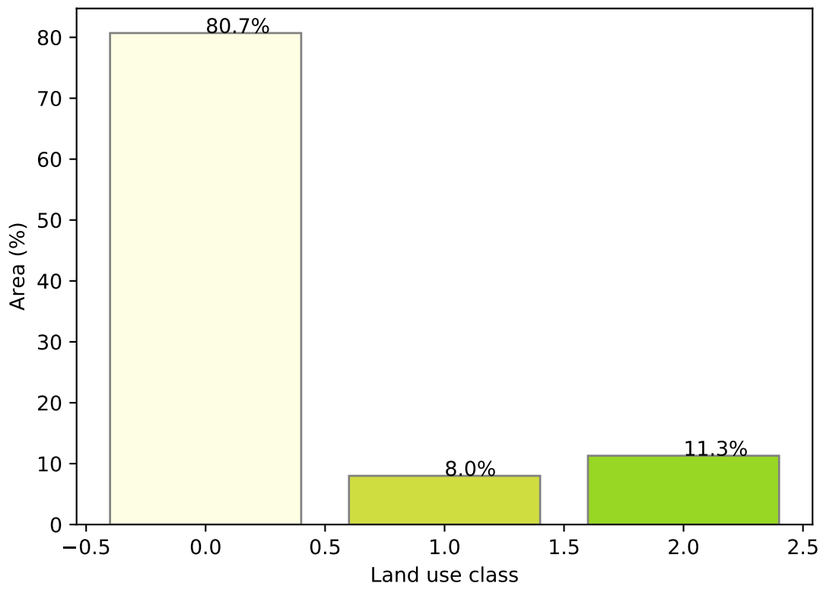
Grazing

Land use and forest cover

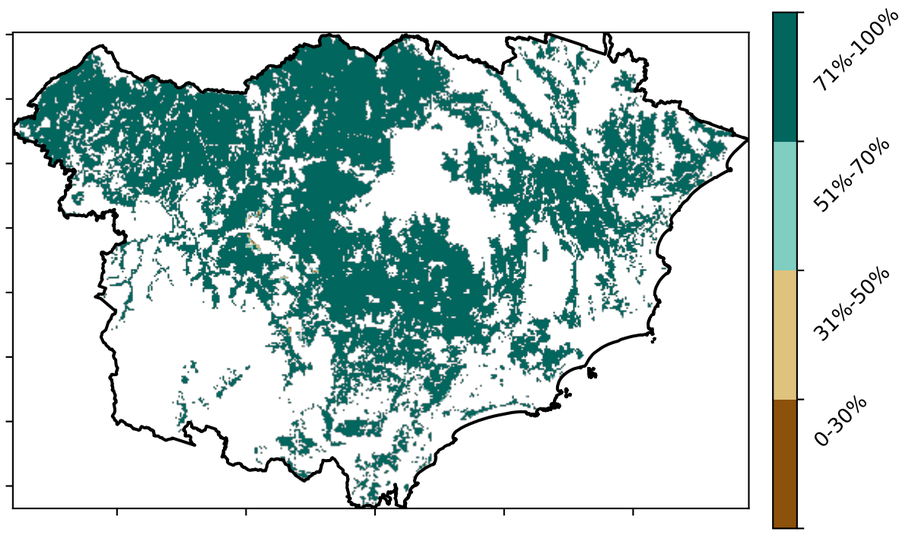


Catchment Scale Land Use and Forests of Australia (2018) Derived from Catchment Scale Land Use of Australia (2018) and Forests of Australia (2018)

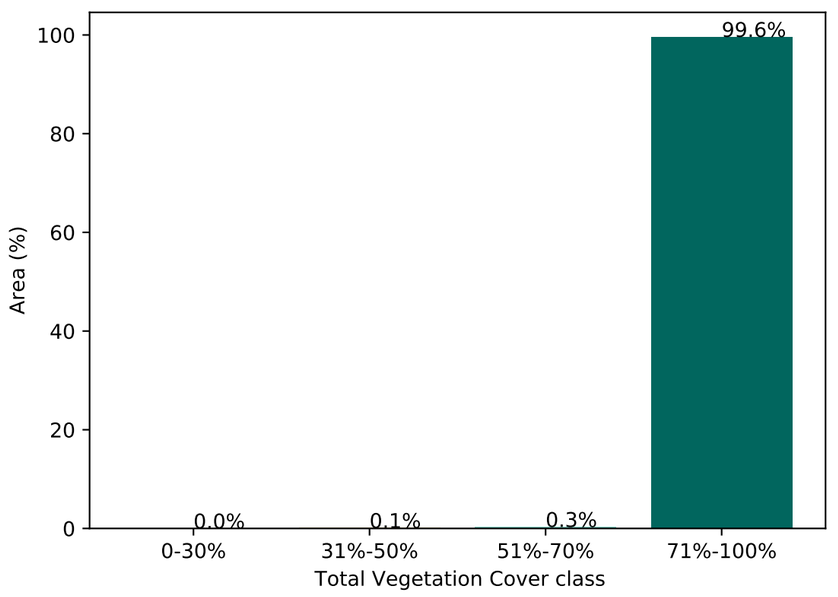
Proportion of each land class in area



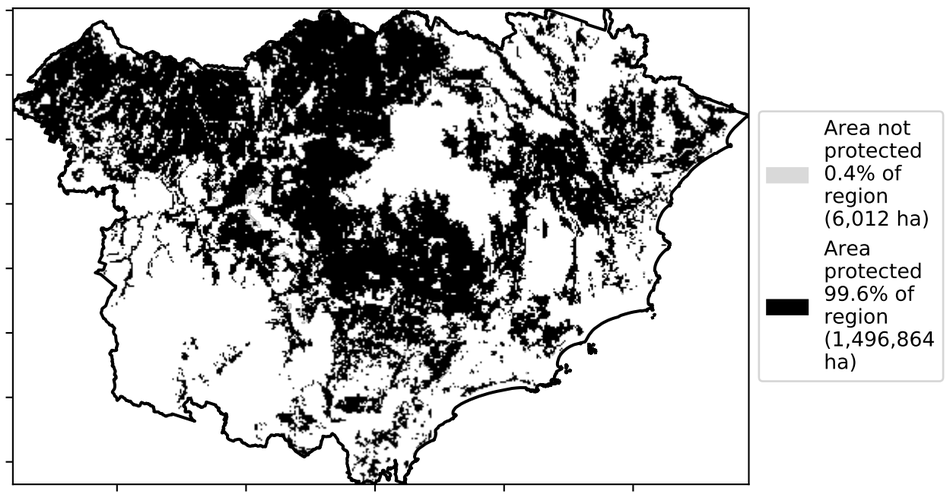
Total Vegetation Cover [%]



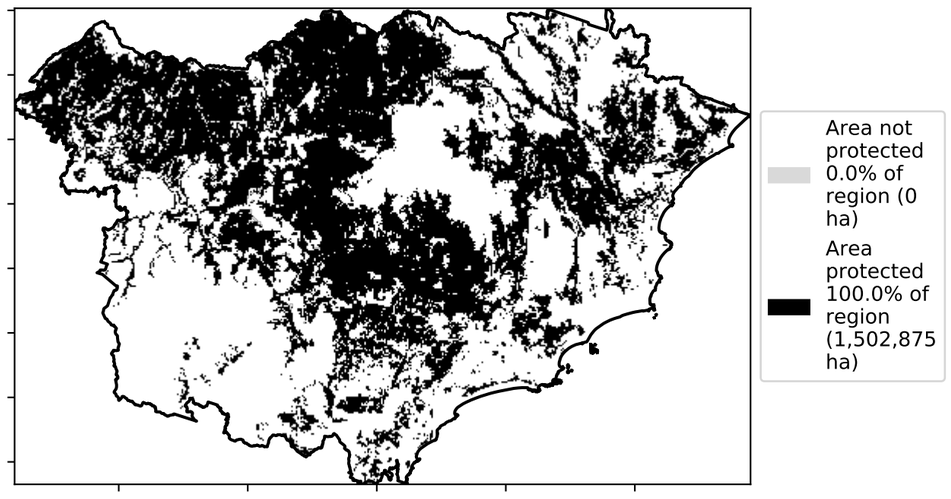
Proportion of vegetation cover class in area



% Area protected from water erosion (>70%)

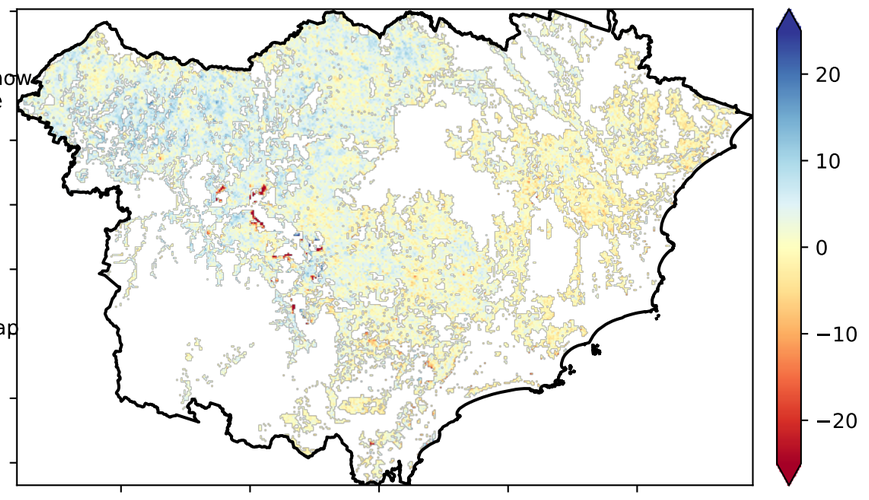


% Area protected from wind erosion (>50%)



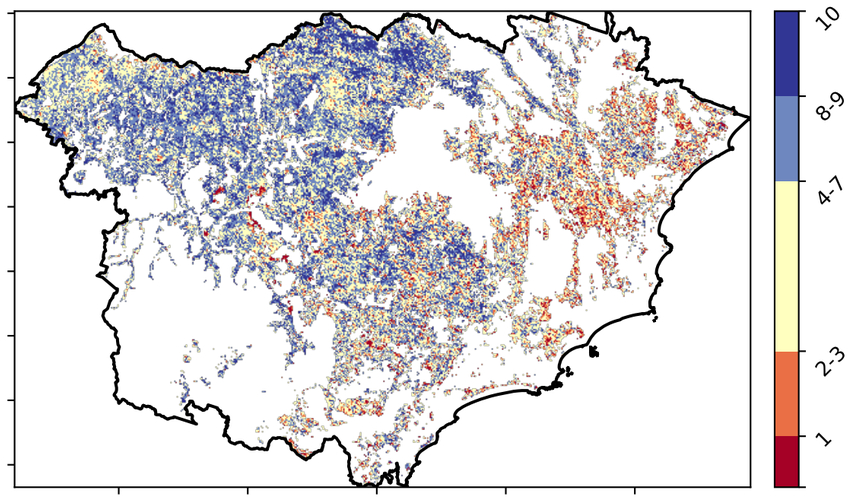
Total Vegetation Cover Anomaly [%]

Anomaly show how many 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.

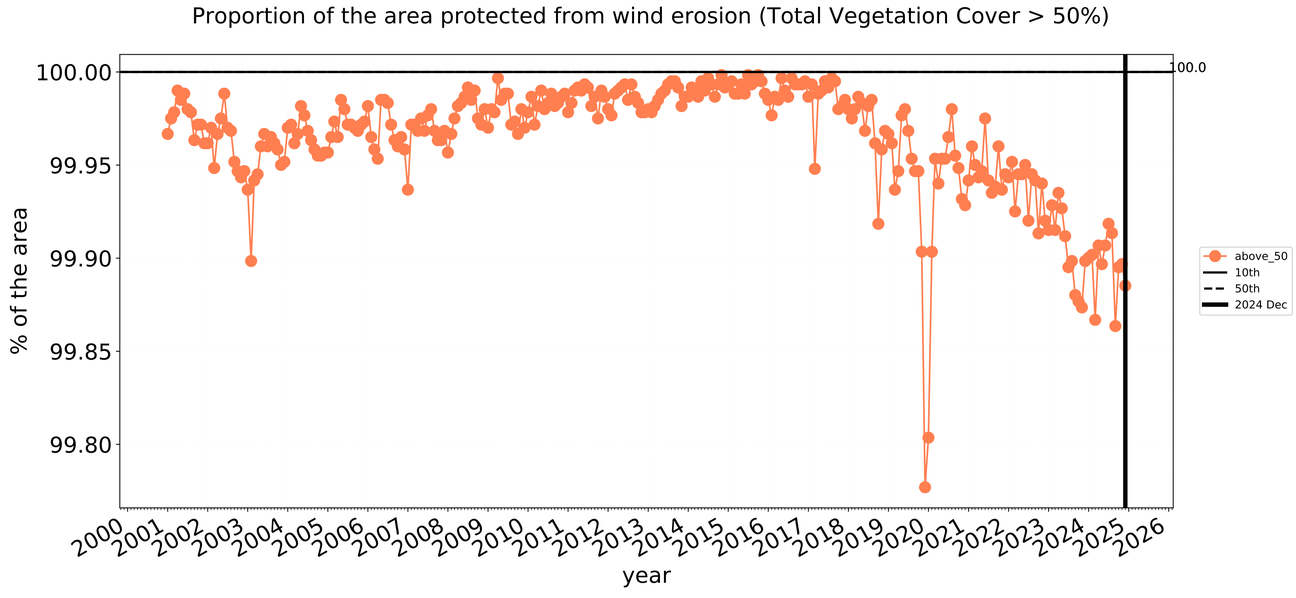


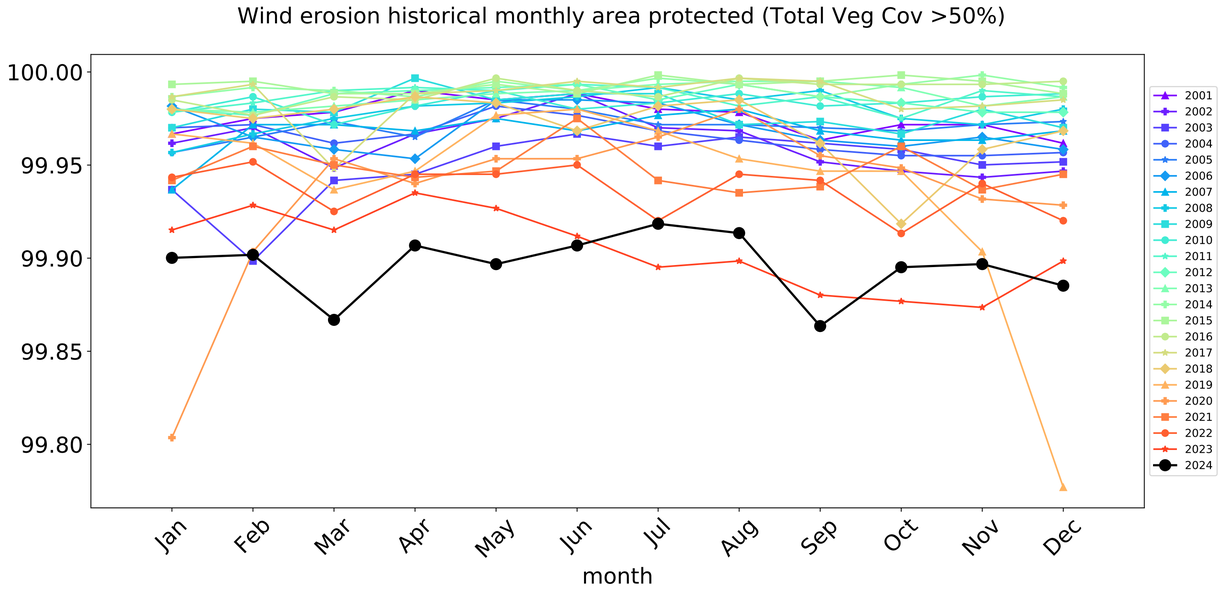
Total Vegetation Cover Decile [%]

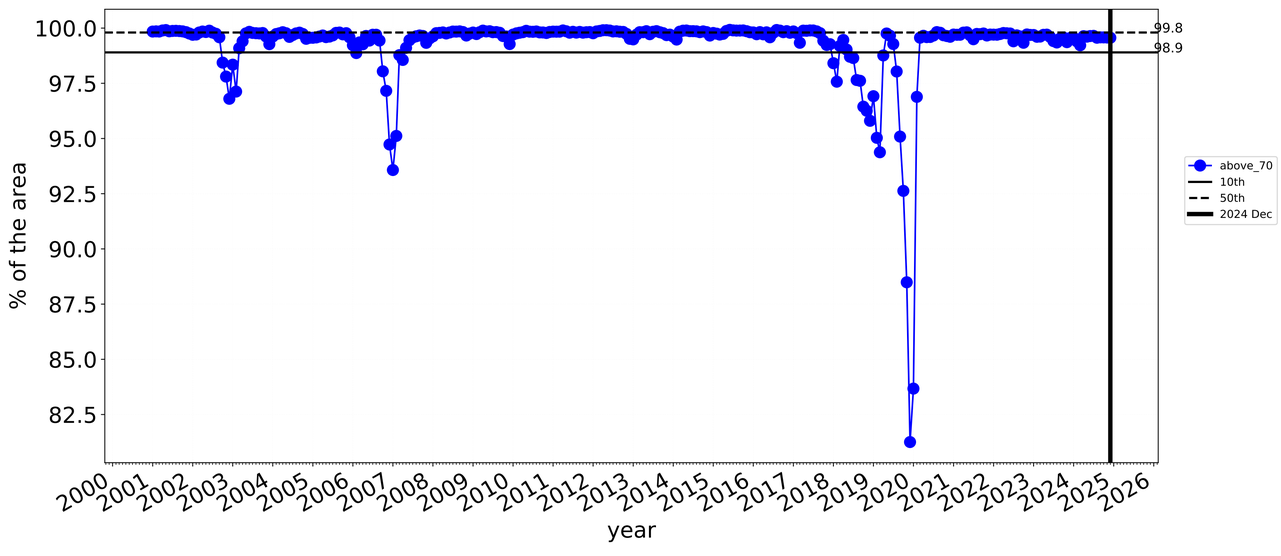
Deciles show where the pixel value lies in the record, from highest to lowest, for that month. That is, red pixels are in the lowest 10% of records for that month of the map using baseline from 2001 to 2019.

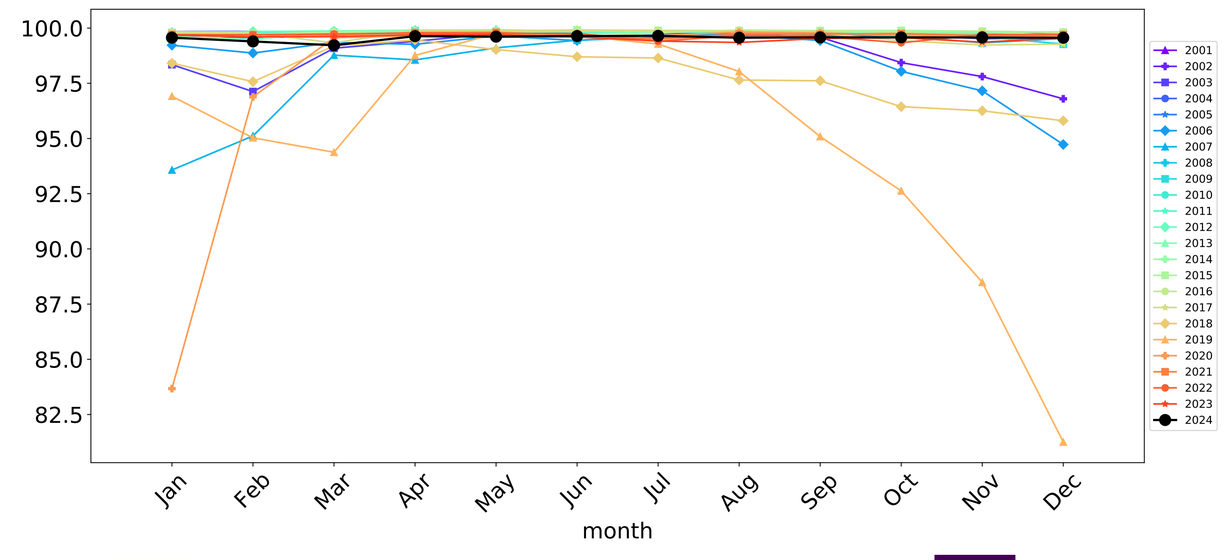


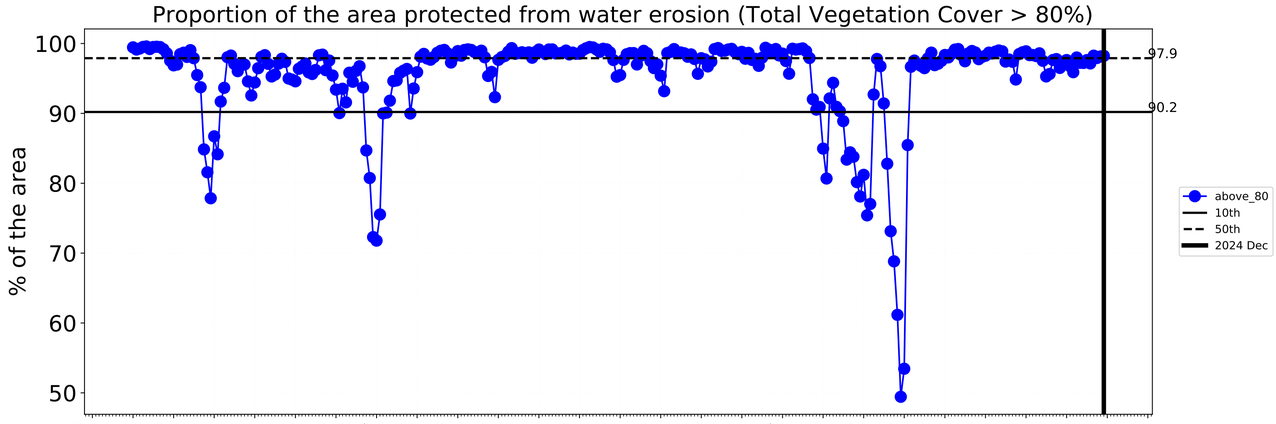
Grazing timeseries

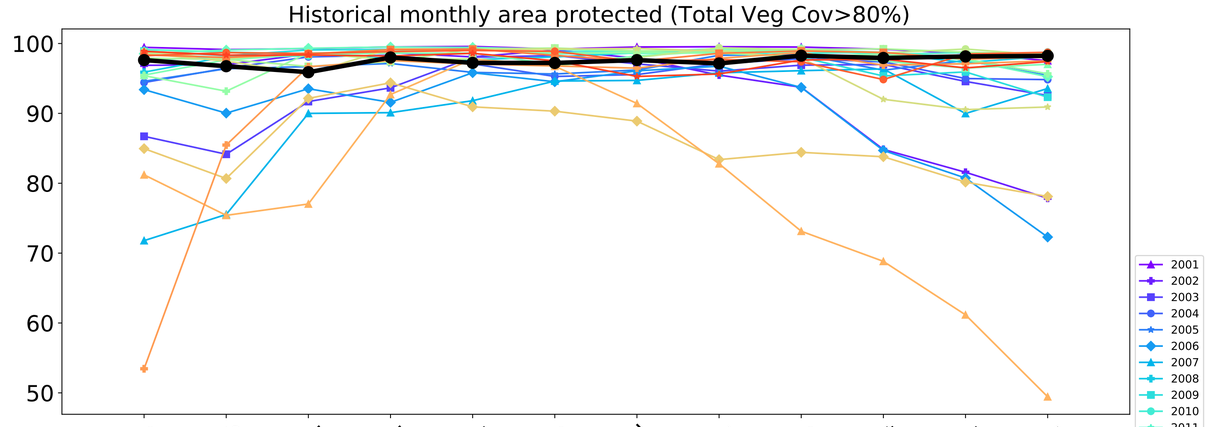









Proportion of the area protected from water erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 80%)
% of the area
97.9
90.2
above_80
10th
50th
2024 Dec


Historical monthly area protected (Total Veg Cov>80%)
Jan
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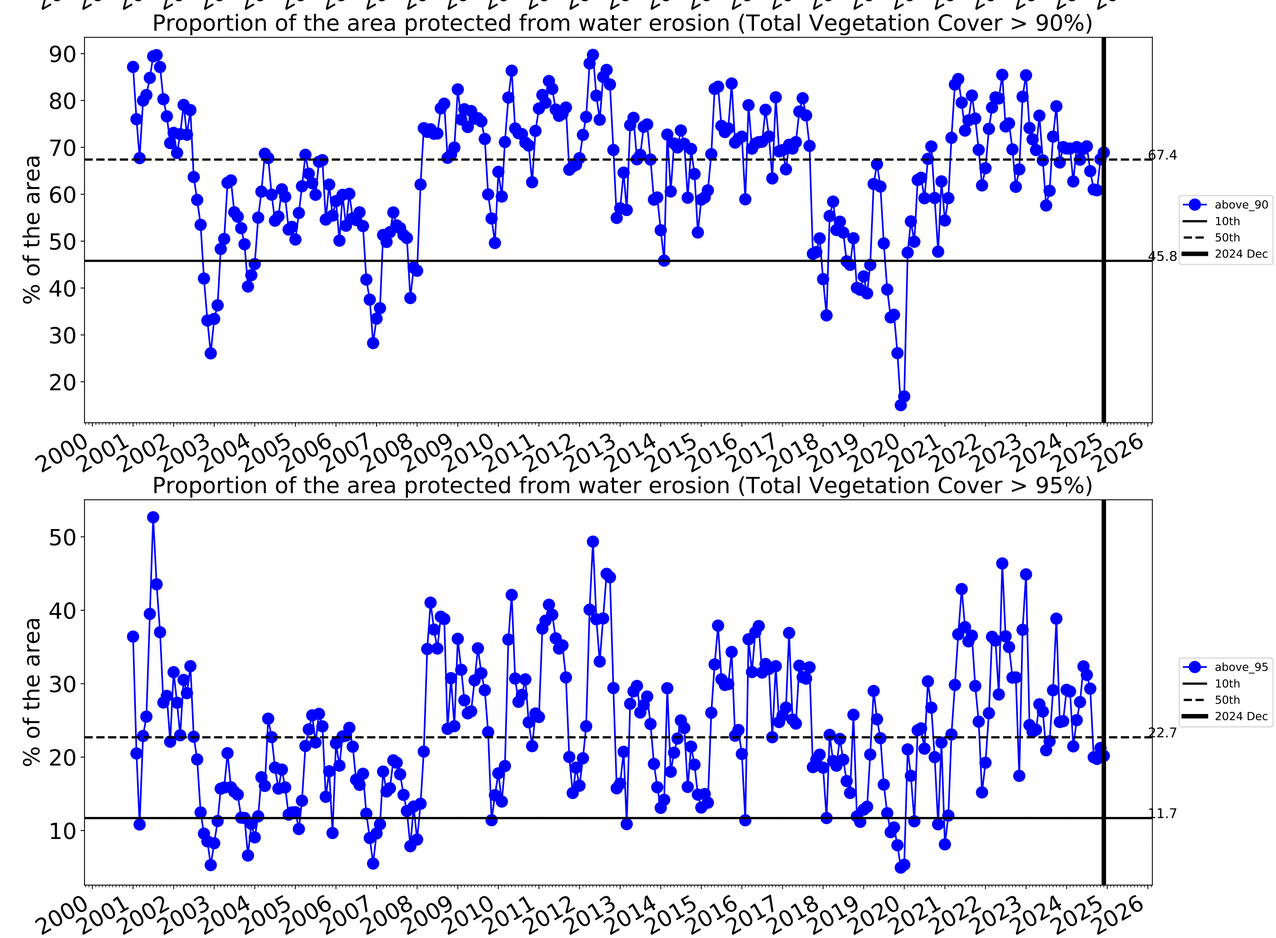
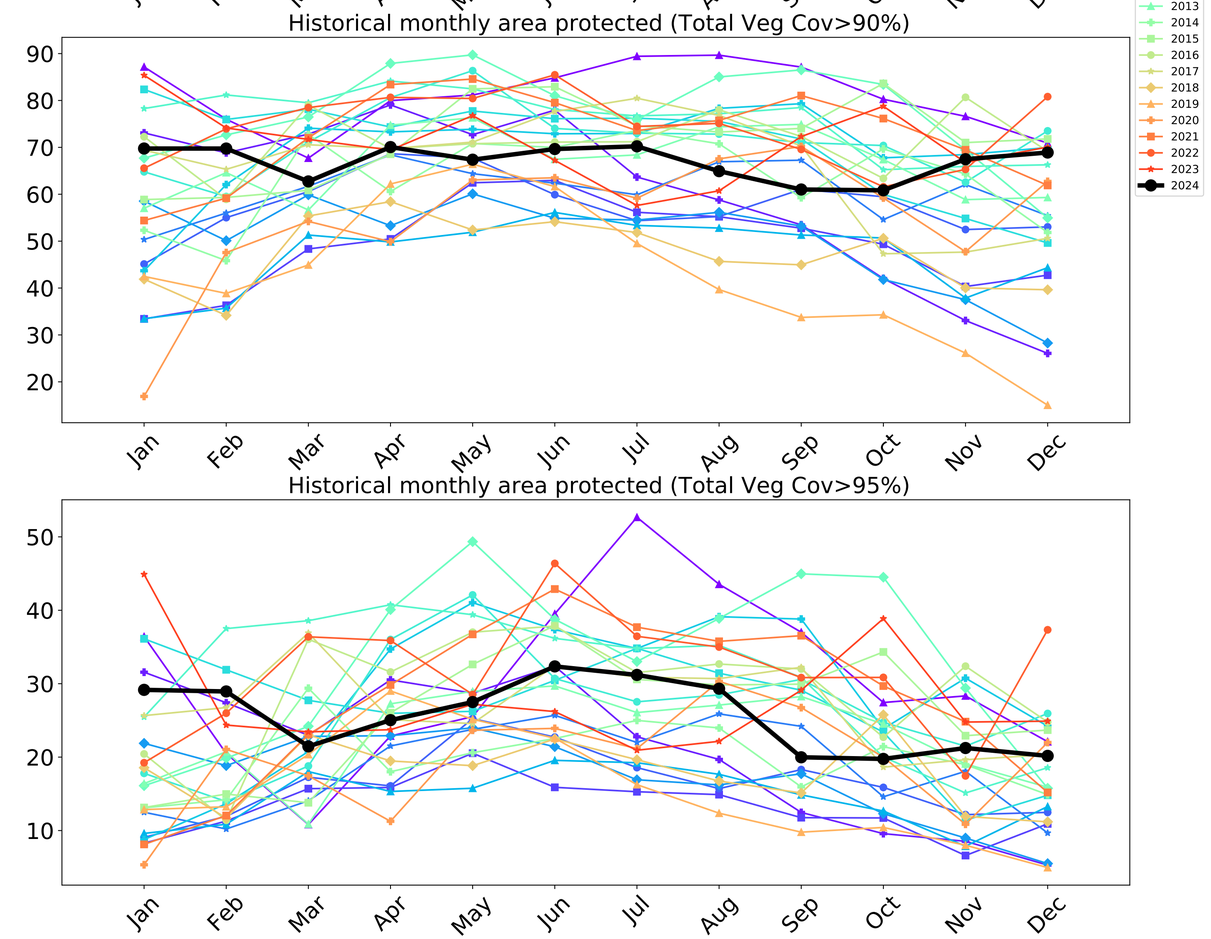

Proportion of the area protected from water erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 90%)
% of the area
67.4
45.8
above_90
10th
50th
2024 Dec
Proportion of the area protected from water erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 95%)
% of the area
22.7
11.7
above_95
10th
50th
2024 Dec


Historical monthly area protected (Total Veg Cov>90%)
Historical monthly area protected (Total Veg Cov>95%)
Jan
Feb
Mar
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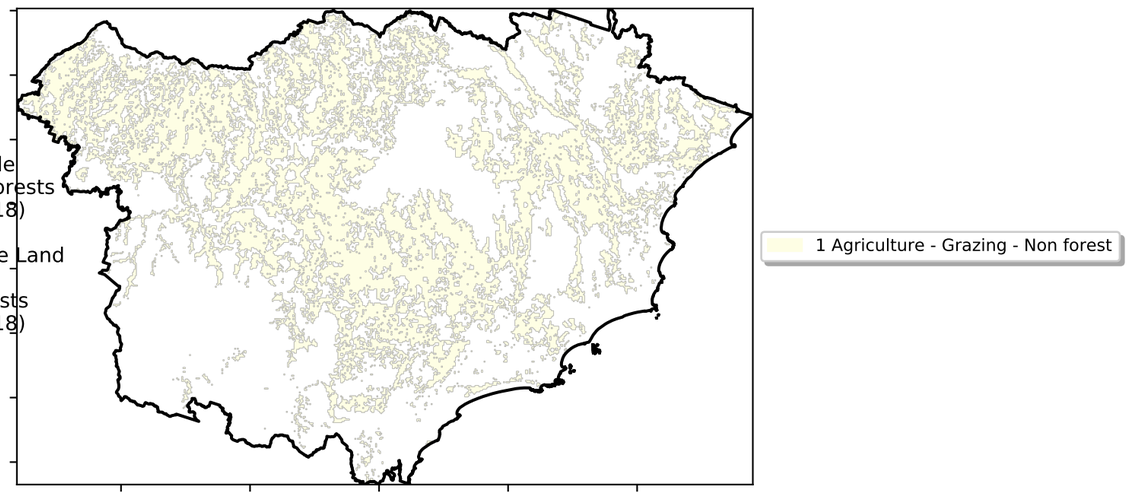
May
Jun
Jul
Aug
Sep
Oct
Nov
Dec

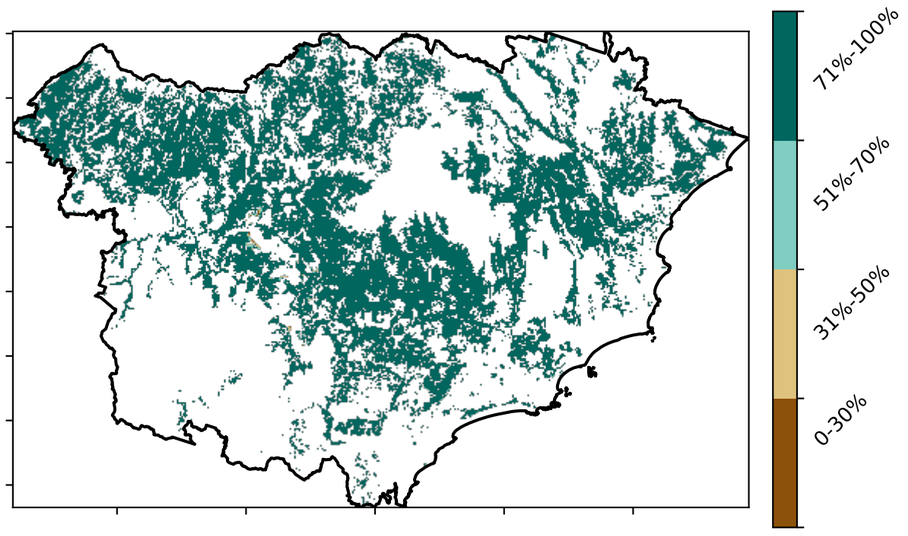
Grazing non forest

Land use and forest cover

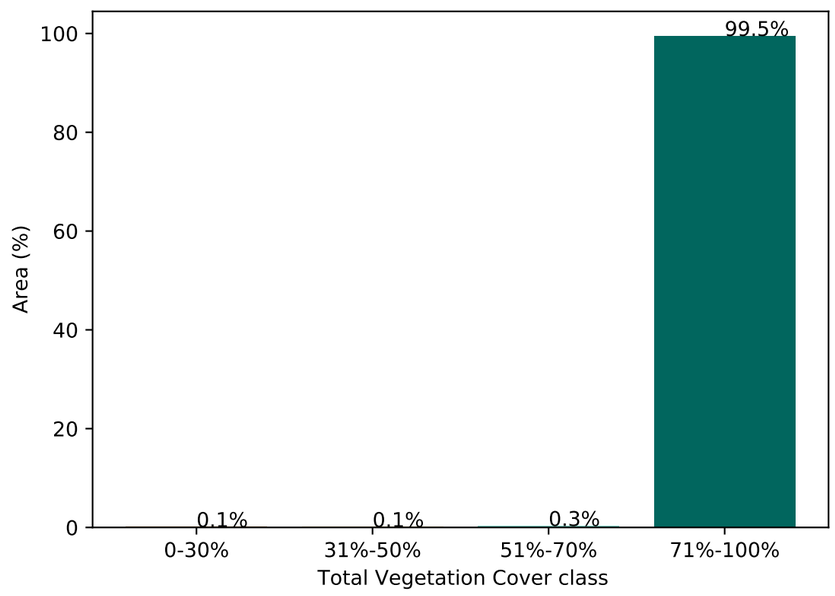


Catchment Scale Land Use and Forests of Australia (2018) Derived from Catchment Scale Land Use of Australia (2018) and Forests of Australia (2018)

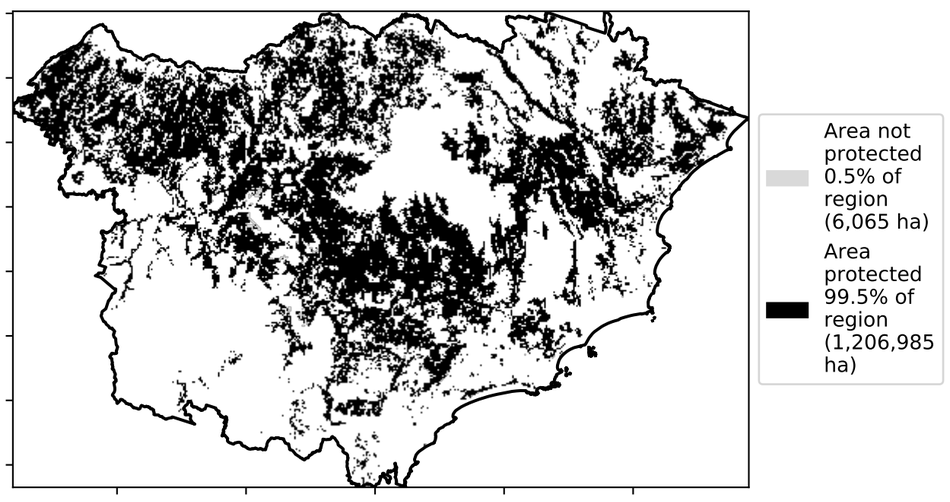
Total Vegetation Cover [%]



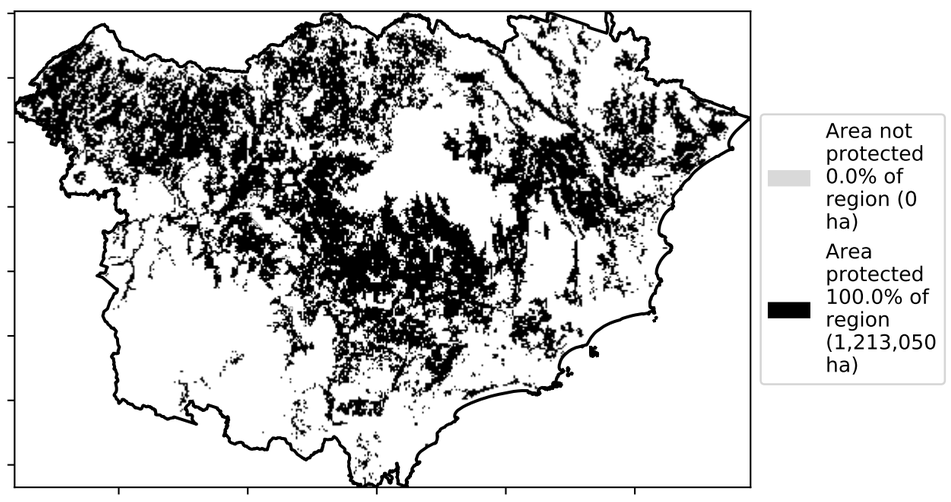
Proportion of vegetation cover class in area



% Area protected from water erosion (>70%)

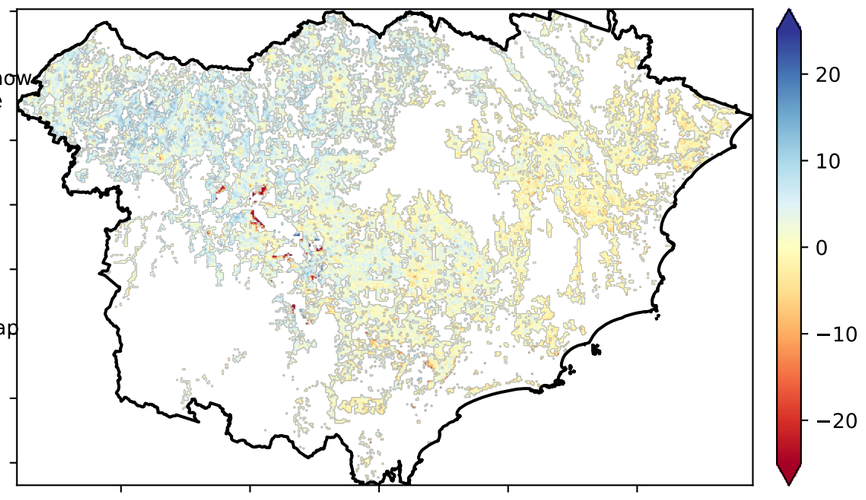


% Area protected from wind erosion (>50%)



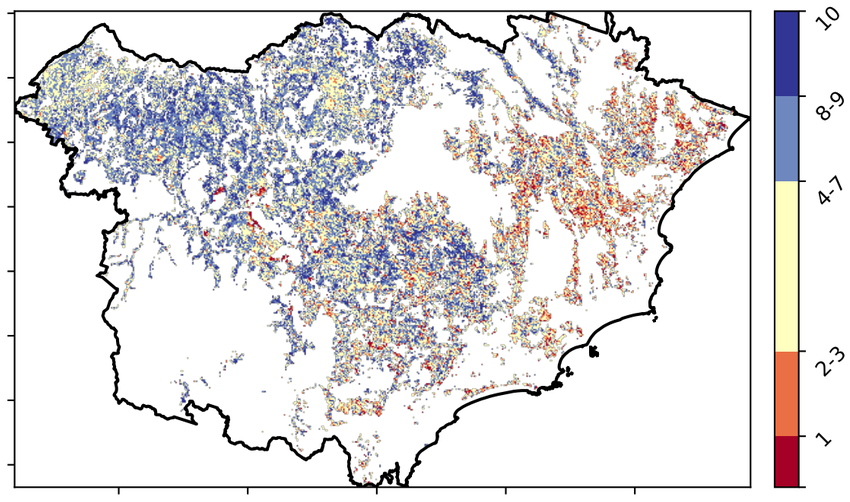
Total Vegetation Cover Anomaly [%]

Anomaly show how 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.



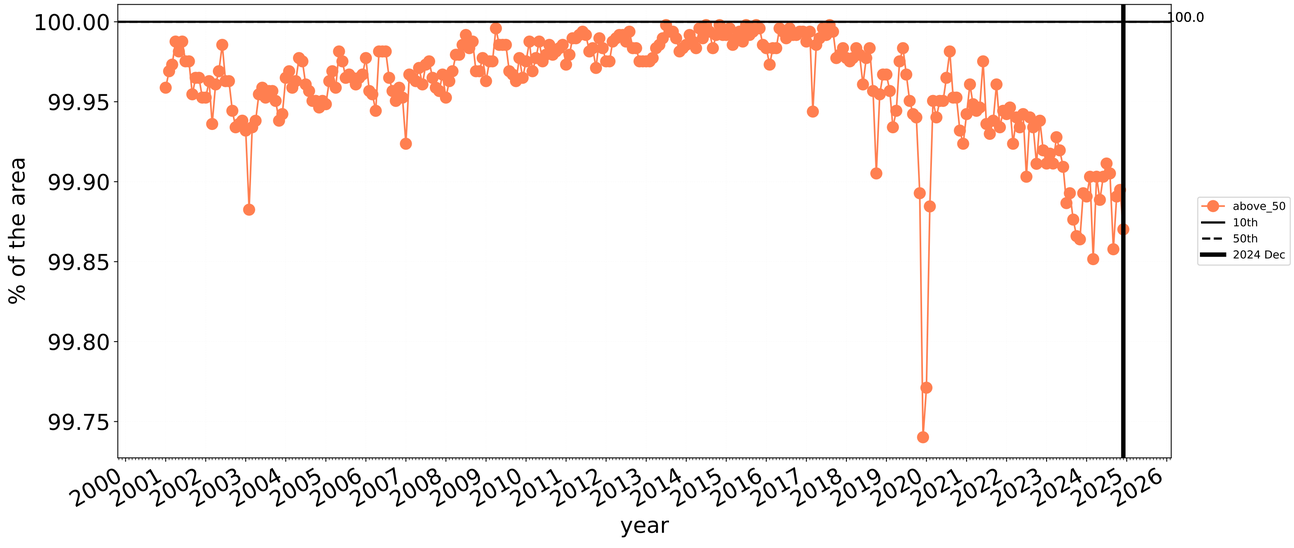
Total Vegetation Cover Decile [%]

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.

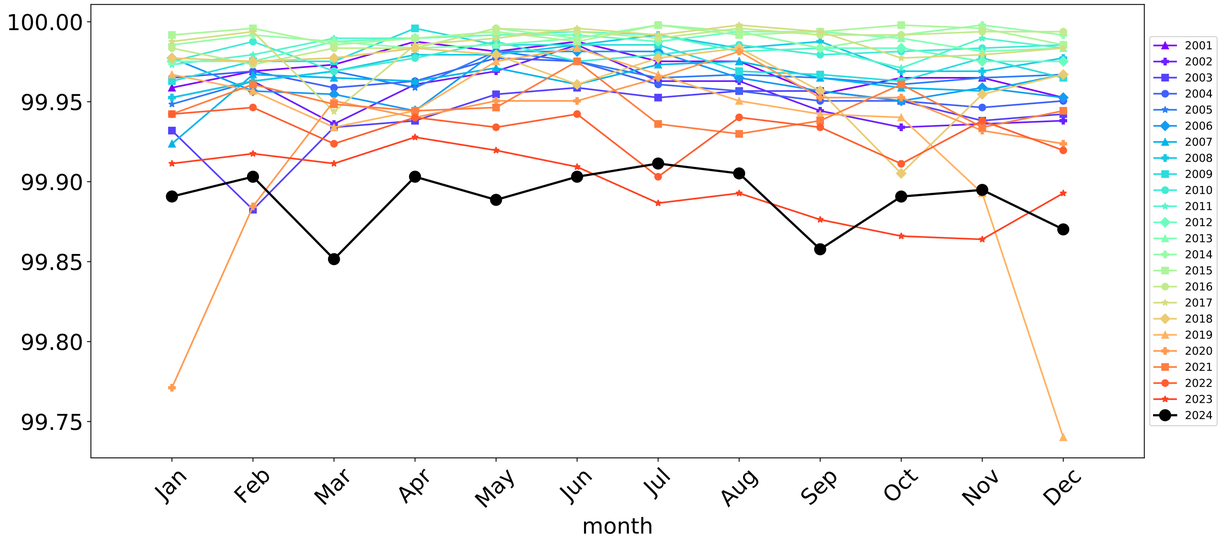


Grazing non forest timeseries

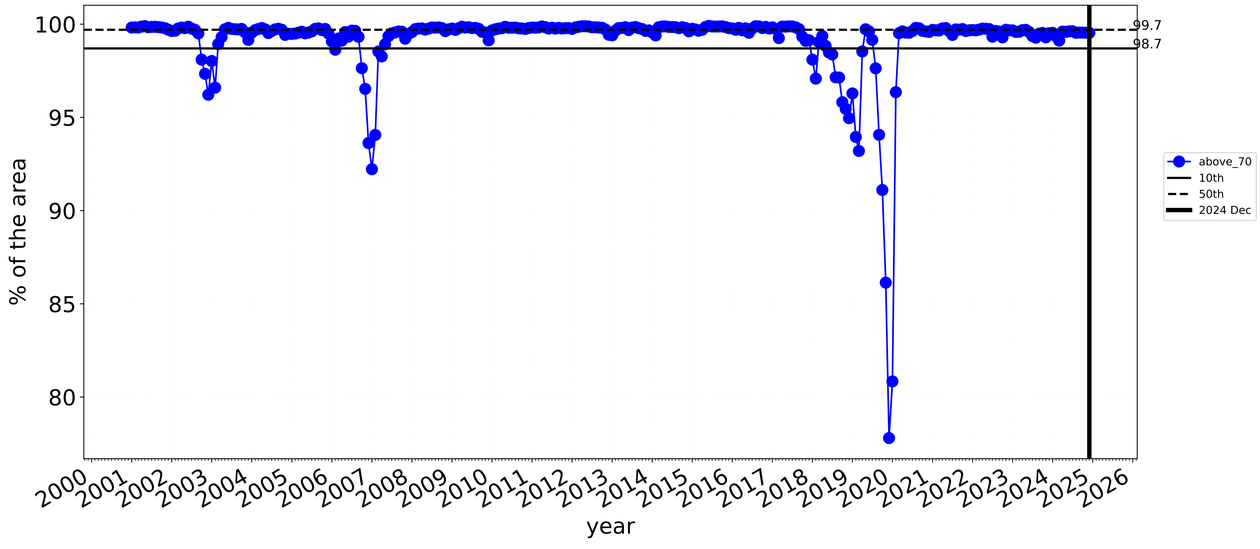
Proportion of the area protected from wind erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 50%)



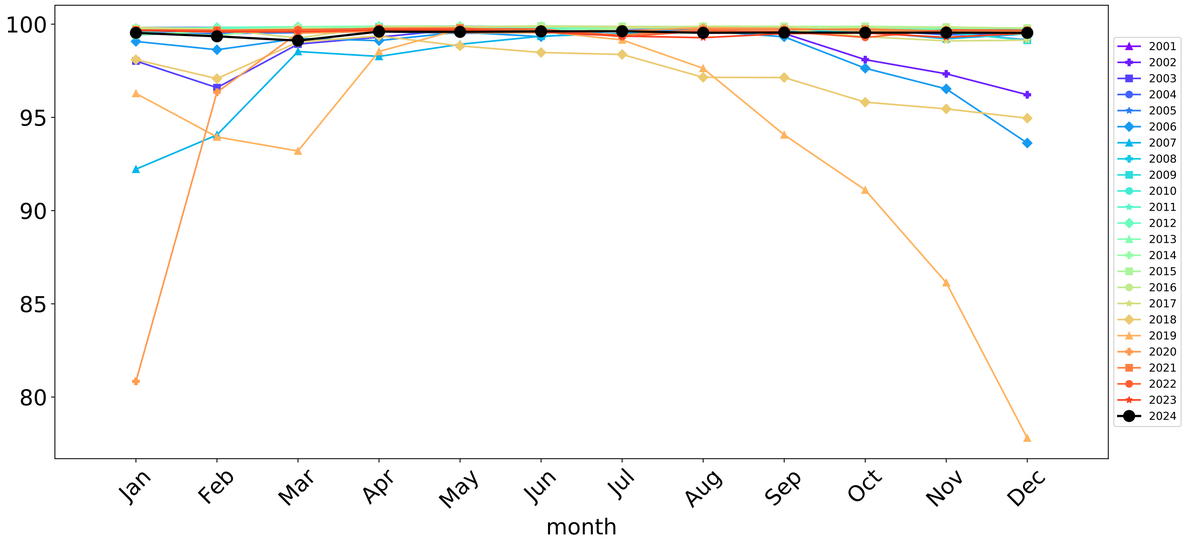
Wind erosion historical monthly area protected (Total Veg Cov >50%)

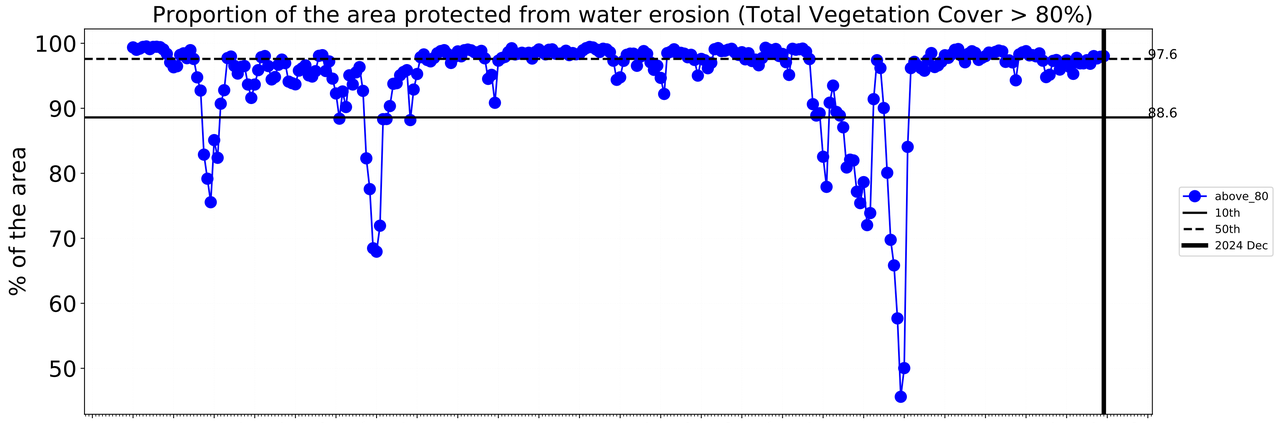


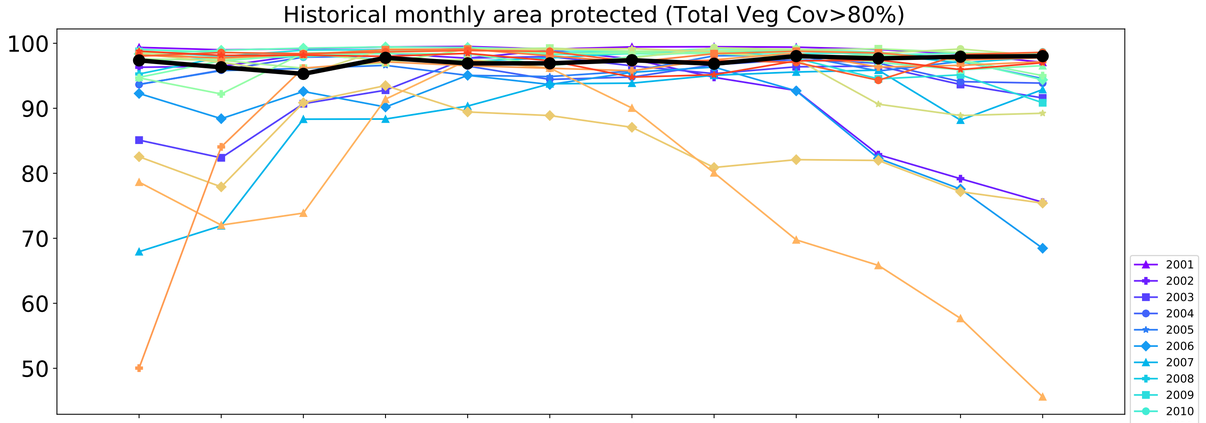
Proportion of the area protected from water erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 70%)



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




Proportion of the area protected from water erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 80%)
% of the area
97.6
88.6
above_80
10th
50th
2024 Dec


Historical monthly area protected (Total Veg Cov>80%)
Jan
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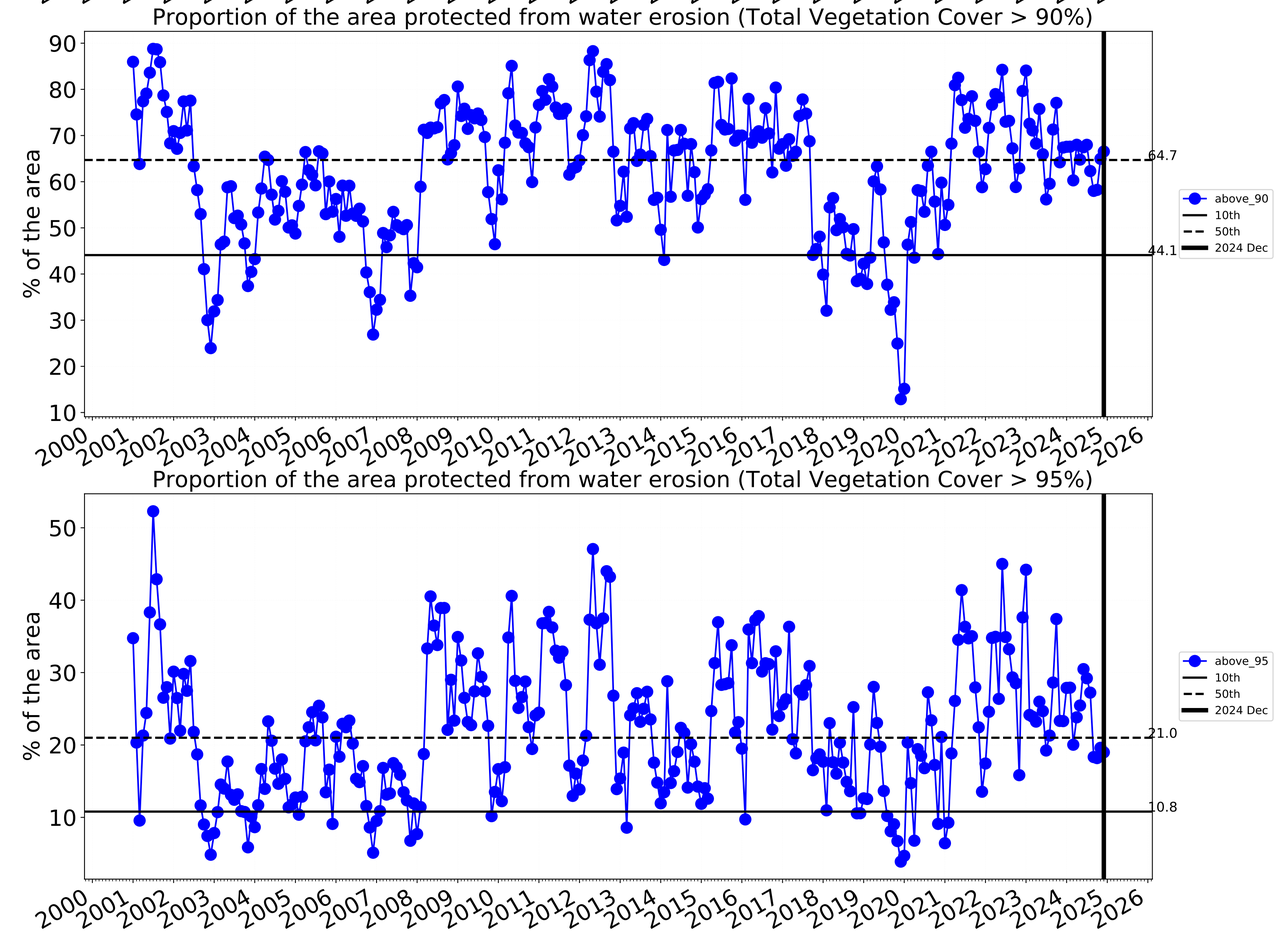
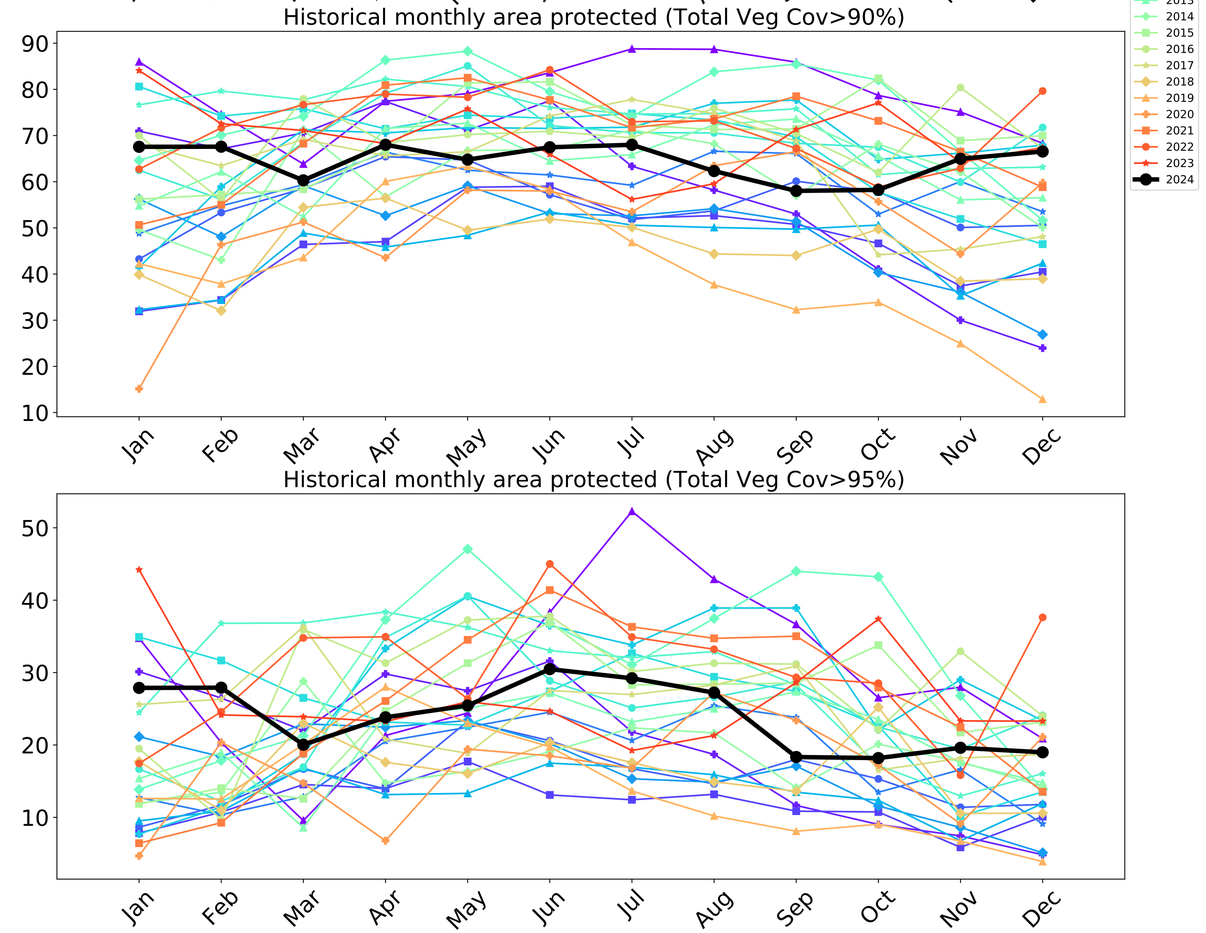

Proportion of the area protected from water erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 90%)
% of the area
64.7
44.1
above_90
10th
50th
2024 Dec
Proportion of the area protected from water erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 95%)
% of the area
21.0
10.8
above_95
10th
50th
2024 Dec


Historical monthly area protected (Total Veg Cov>90%)
Historical monthly area protected (Total Veg Cov>95%)
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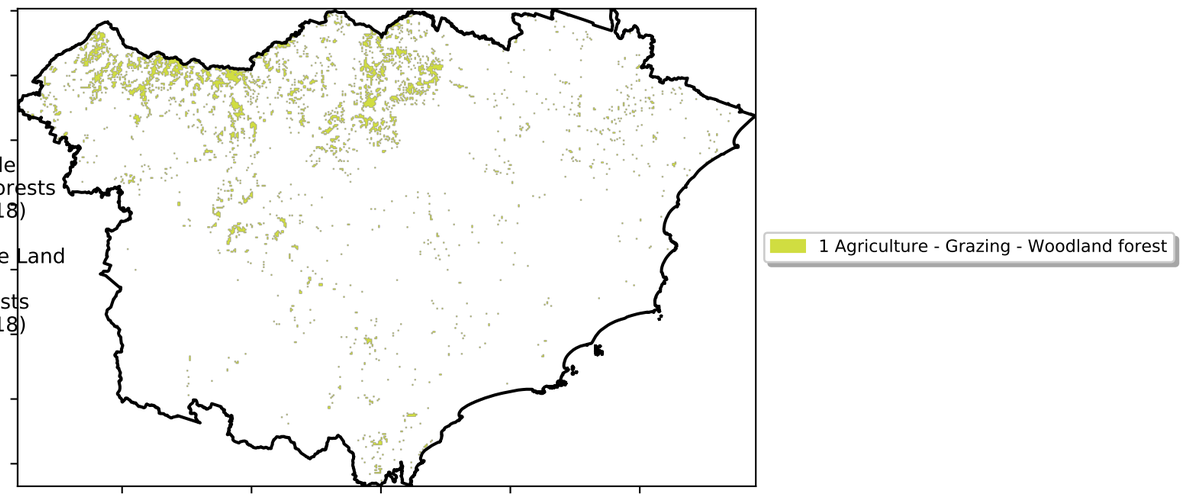
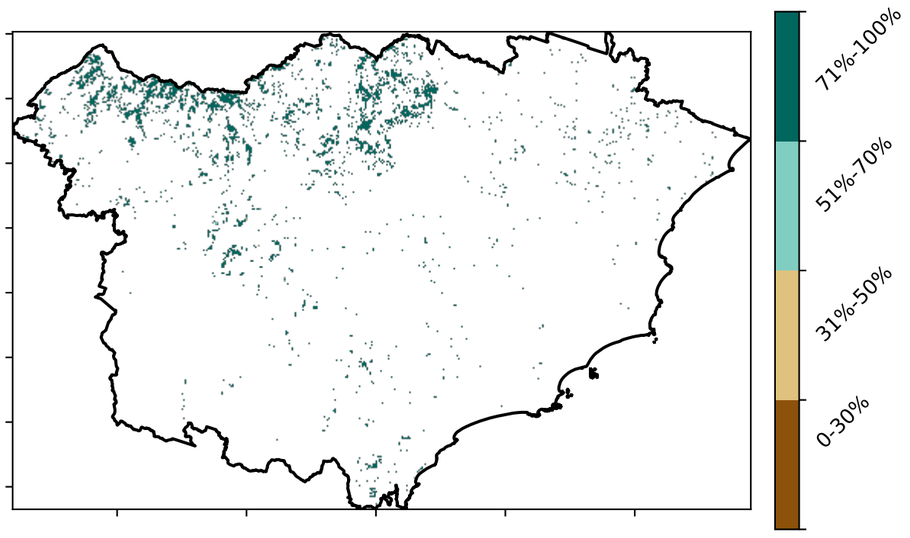
Grazing Woodland forest

Land use and forest cover

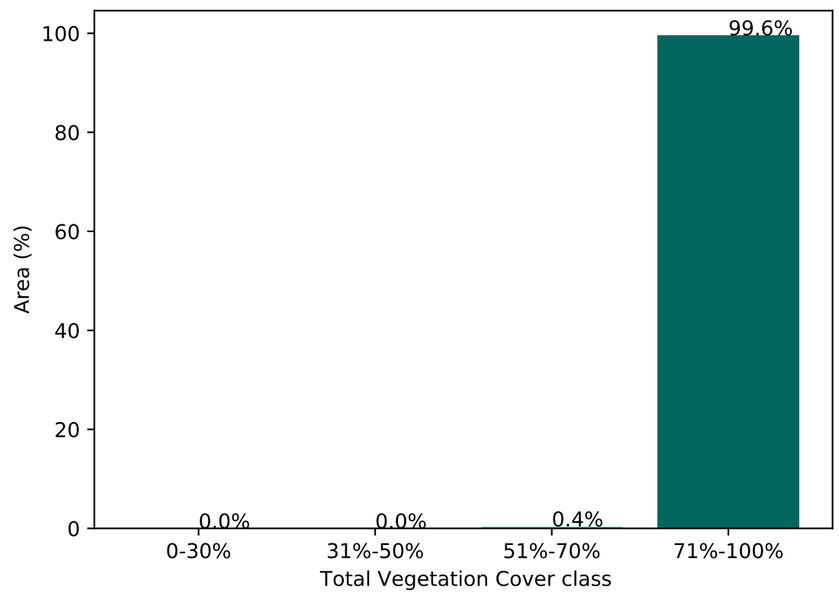


Catchment Scale Land Use and Forests of Australia (2018) Derived from Catchment Scale Land Use of Australia (2018) and Forests of Australia (2018)

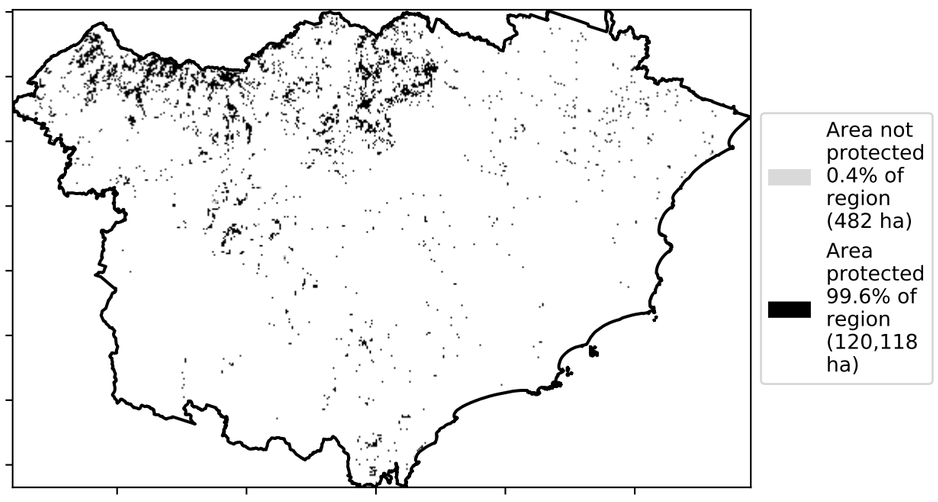
Total Vegetation Cover [%]



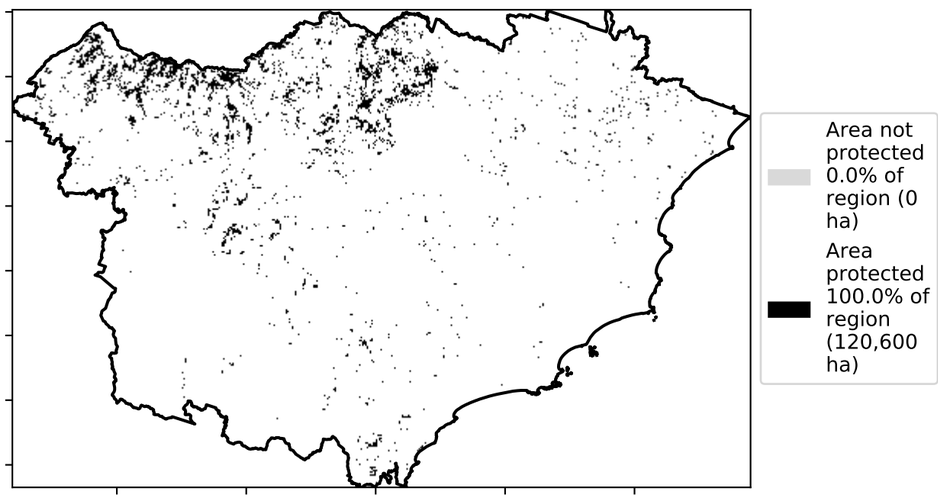
Proportion of vegetation cover class in area



% Area protected from water erosion (>70%)

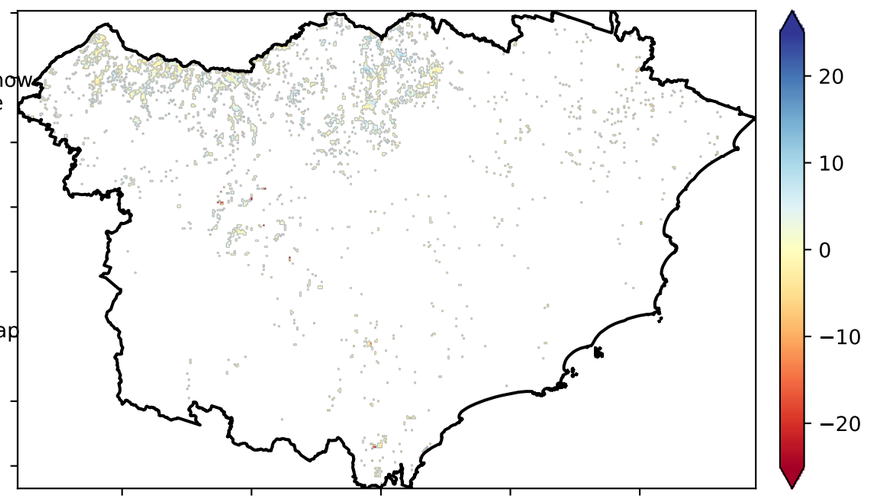


% Area protected from wind erosion (>50%)



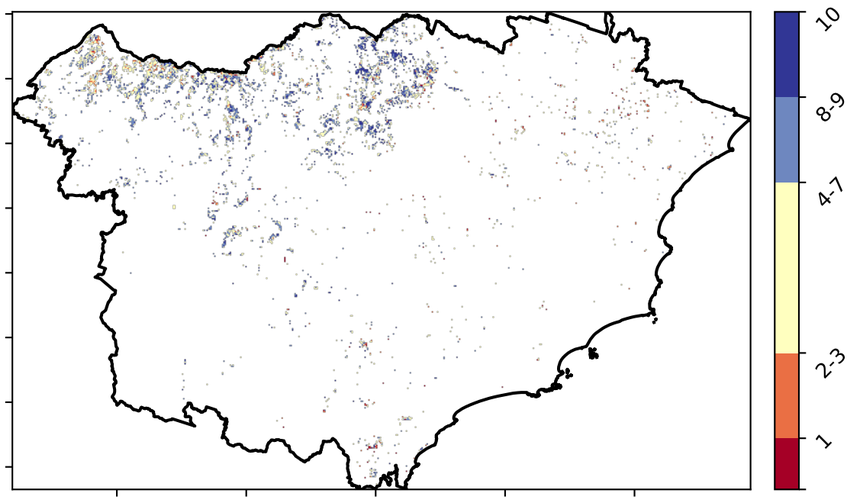
Total Vegetation Cover Anomaly [%]

Anomaly show how 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.



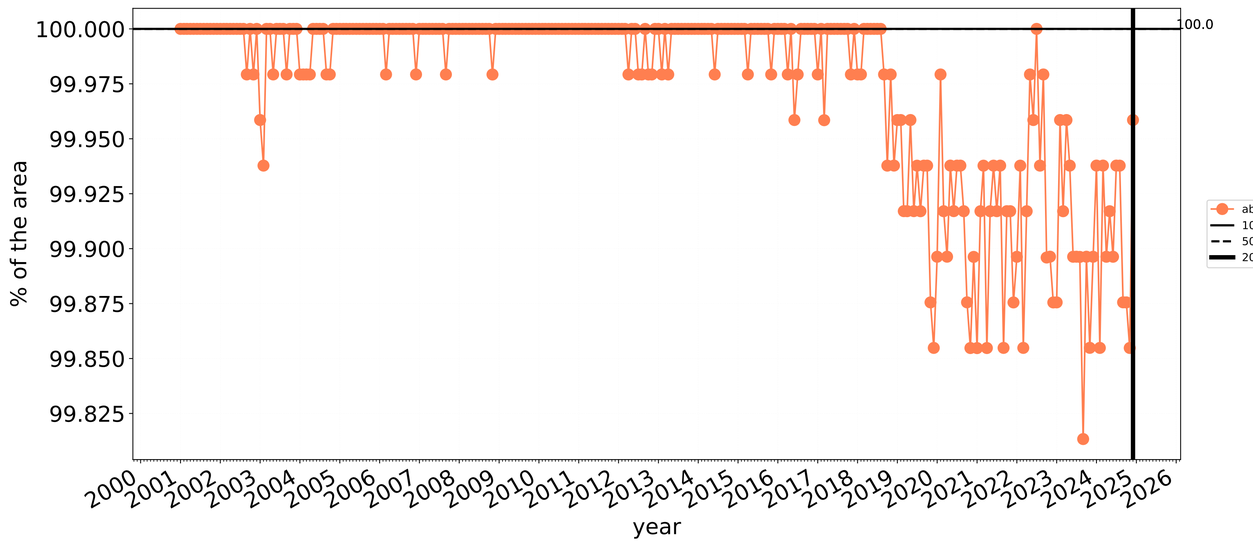
Total Vegetation Cover Decile [%]

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.

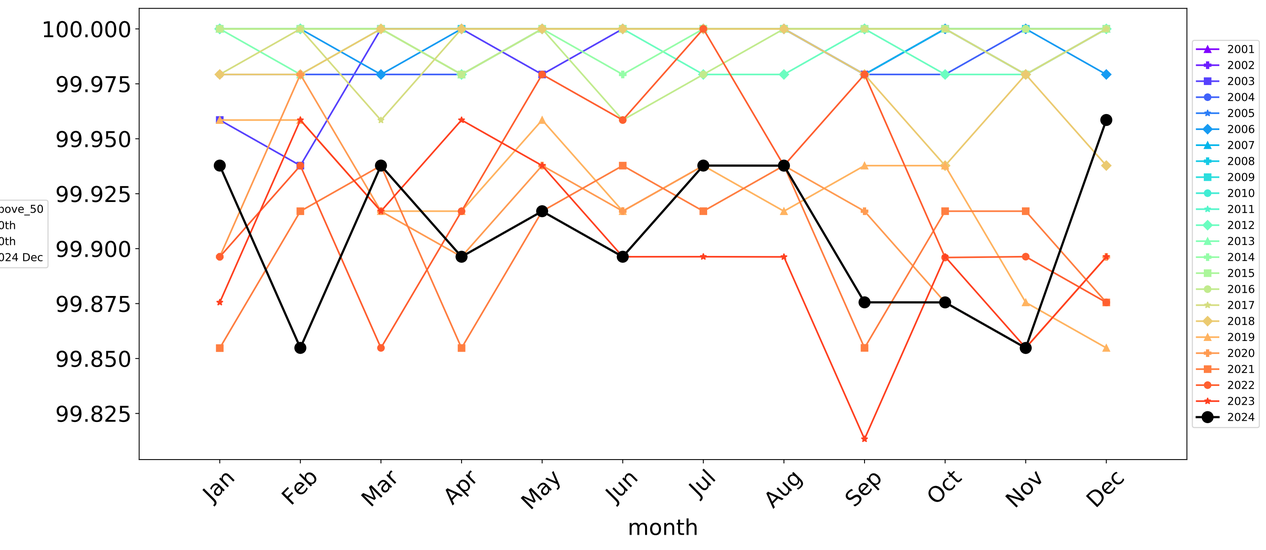


Grazing Woodland forest timeseries

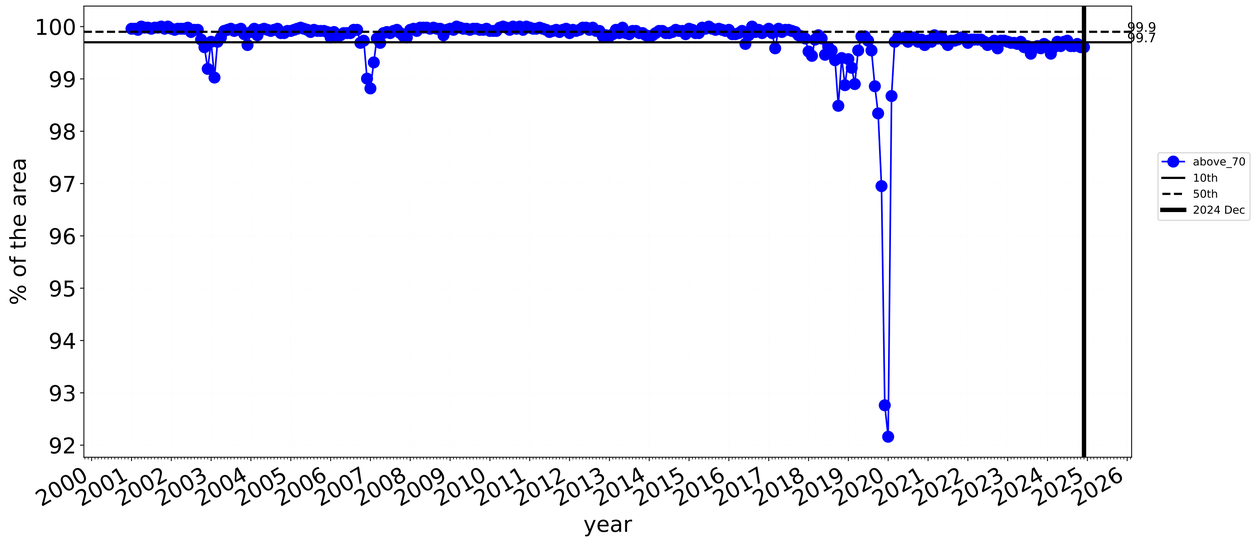
Proportion of the area protected from wind erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 50%)



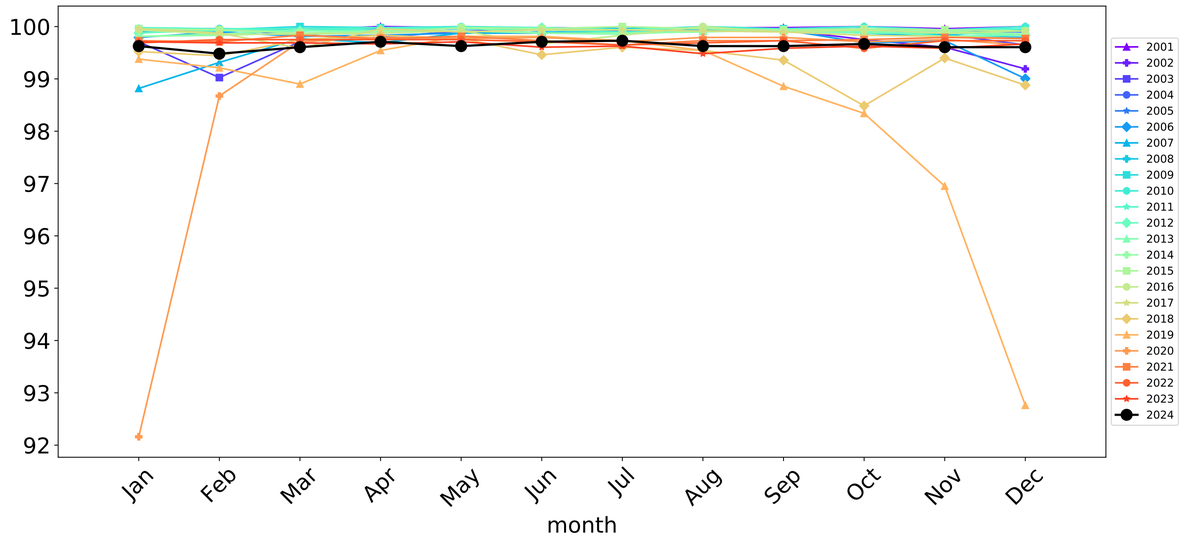
Wind erosion historical monthly area protected (Total Veg Cov >50%)

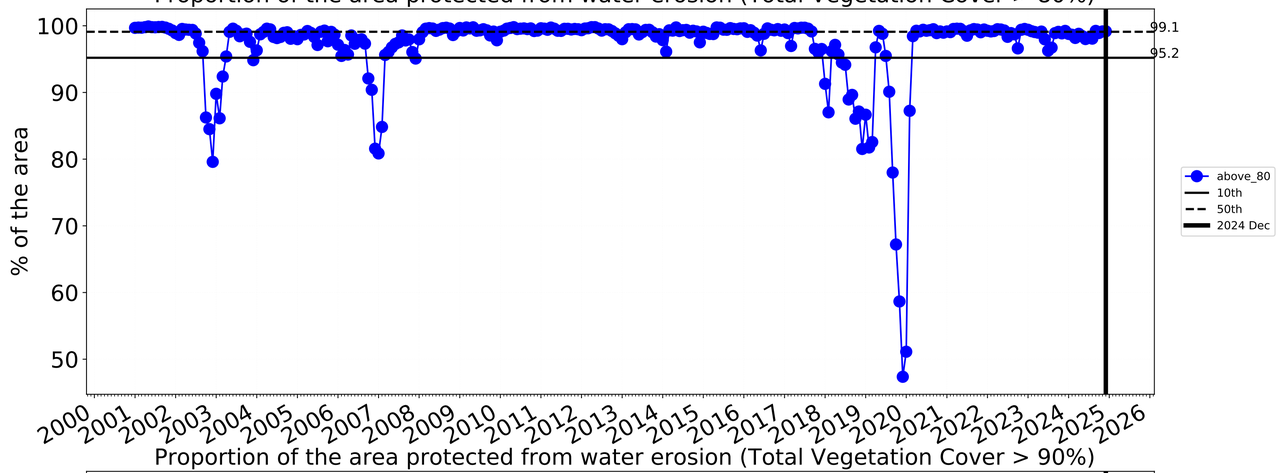


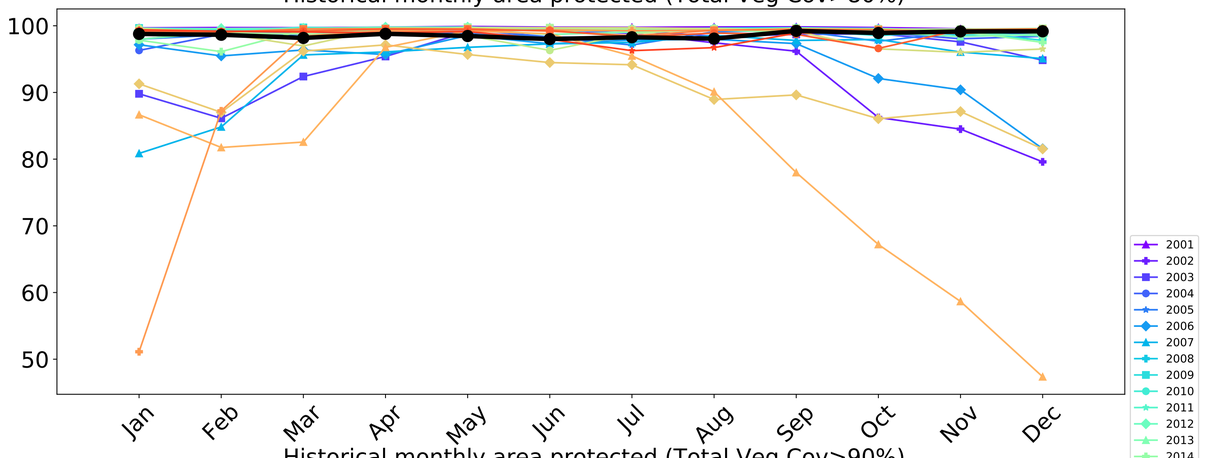
Proportion of the area protected from water erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 70%)



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




Proportion of the area protected from water erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 80%)
% of the area
99.1
95.2
above_80
10th
50th
2024 Dec


Historical monthly area protected (Total Veg Cov>80%)
Jan
Feb
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2001
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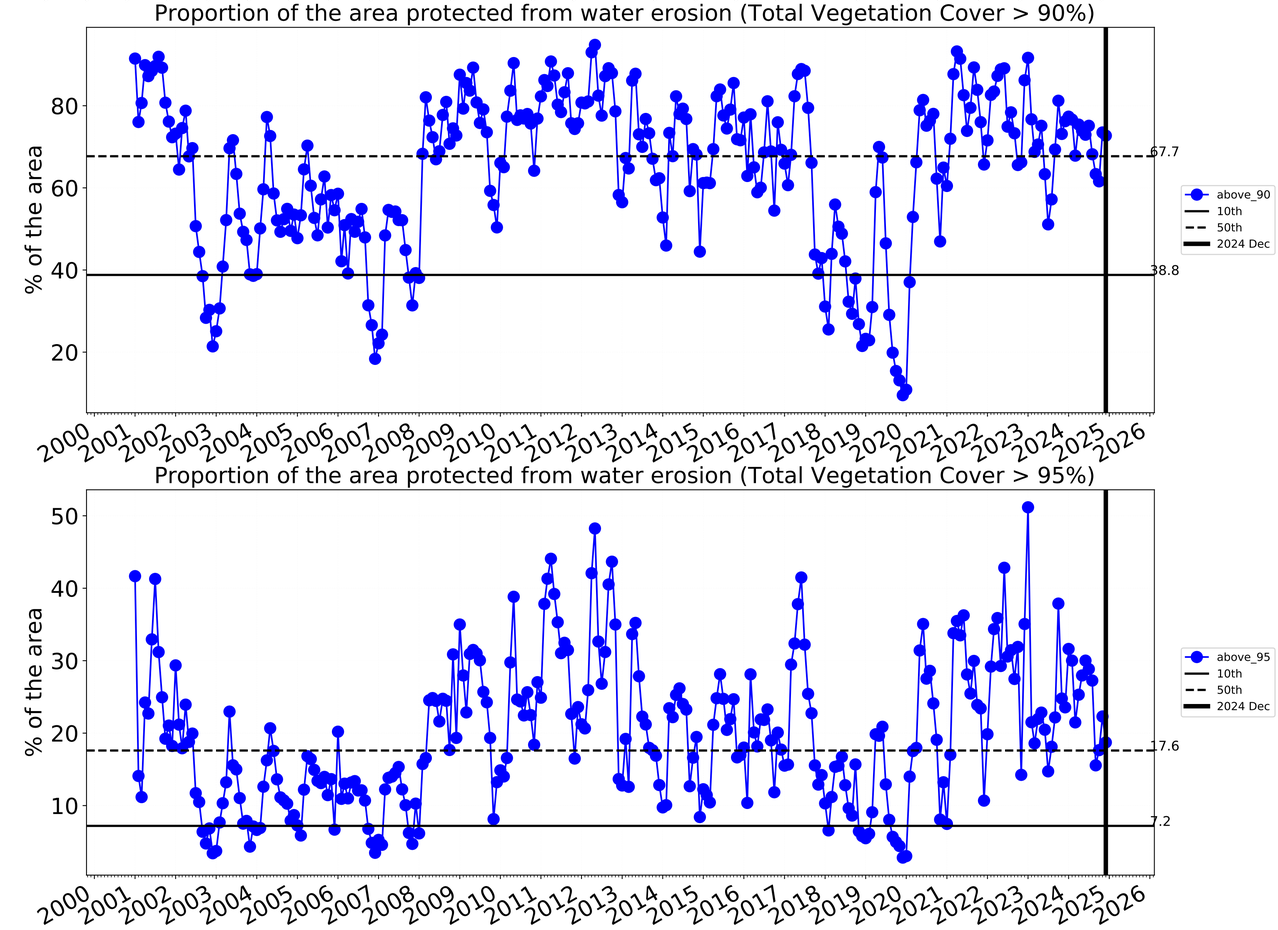
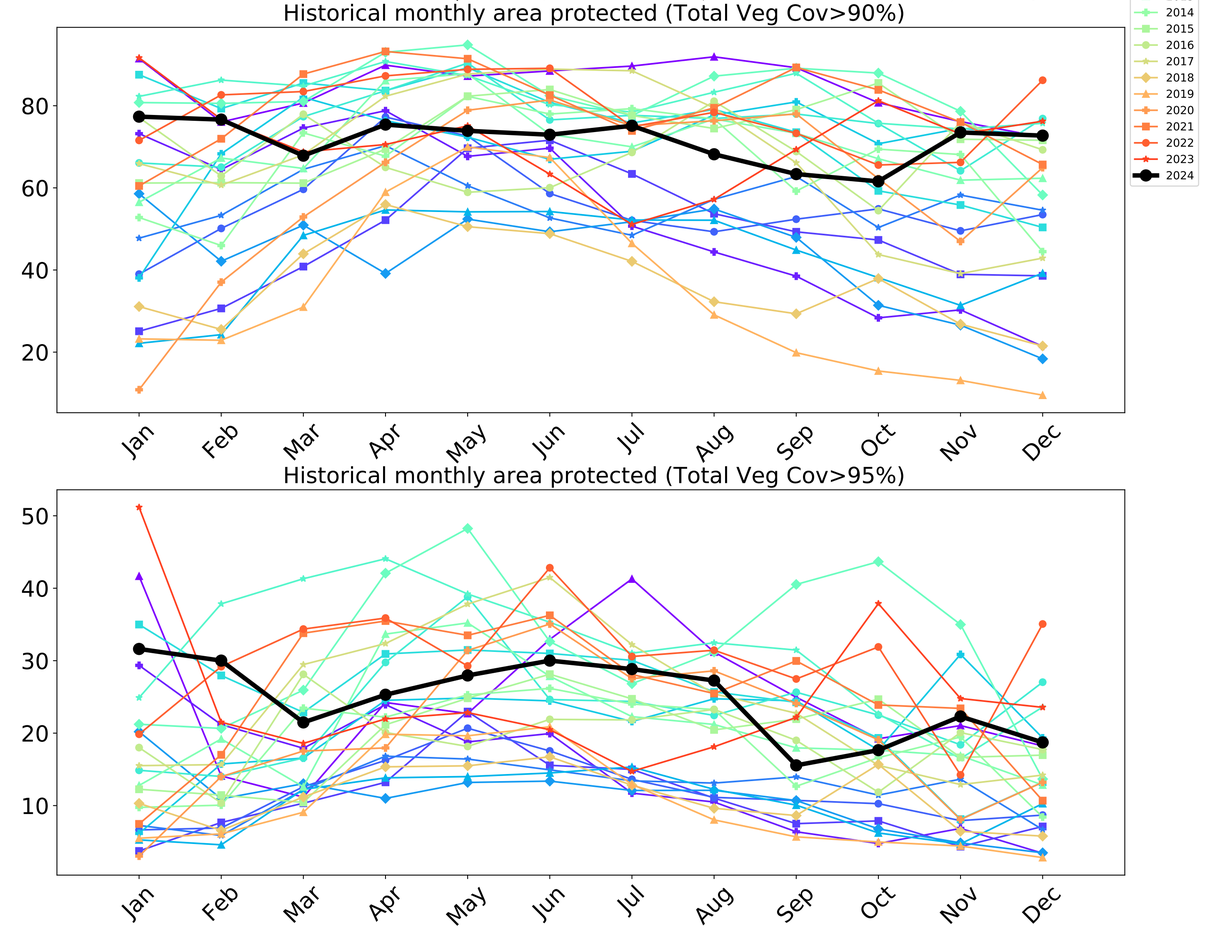
2023
2024


Proportion of the area protected from water erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 90%)
% of the area
67.7
38.8
above_90
10th
50th
2024 Dec
Proportion of the area protected from water erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 95%)
% of the area
17.6
7.2
above_95
10th
50th
2024 Dec


Historical monthly area protected (Total Veg Cov>90%)
Historical monthly area protected (Total Veg Cov>95%)
Jan
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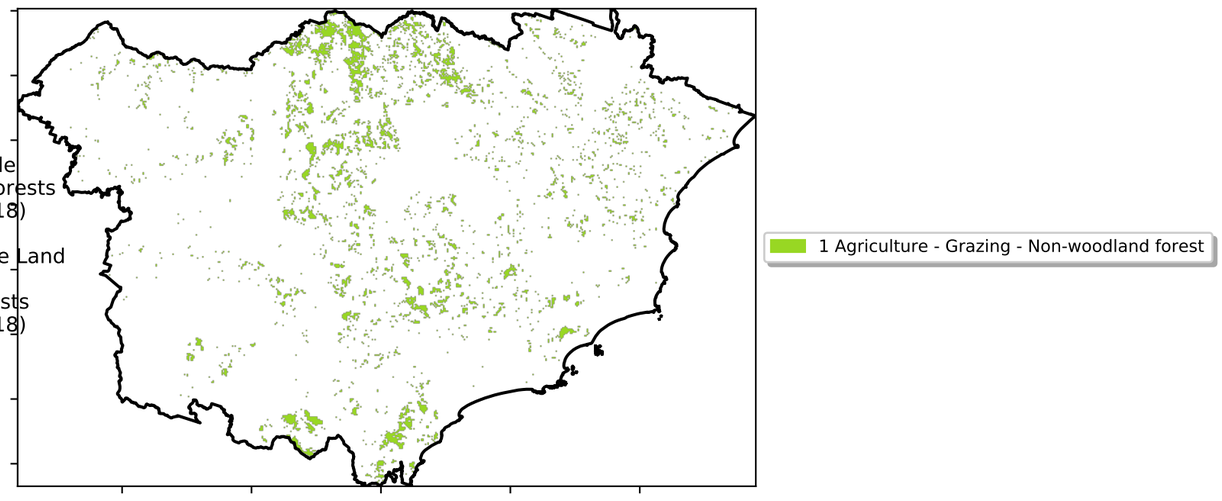
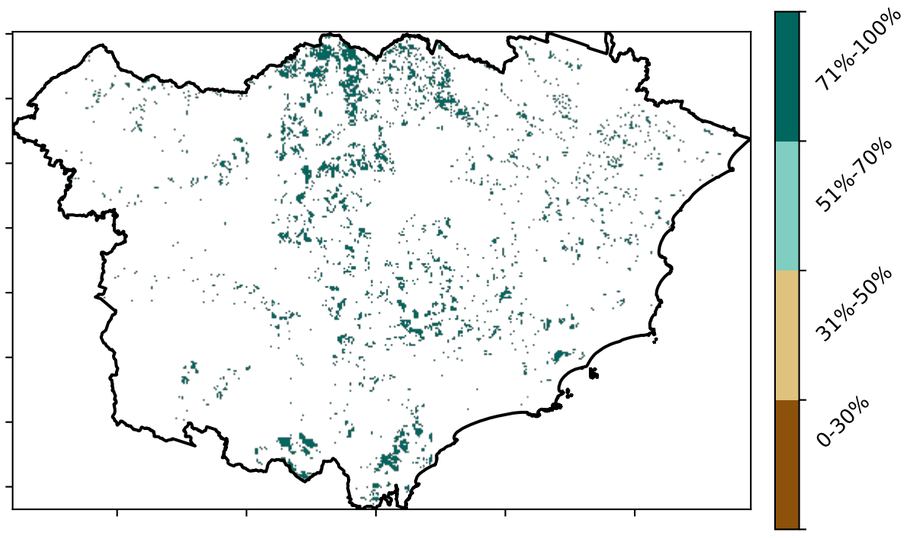
Grazing - Forest (non woodland)

Land use and forest cover

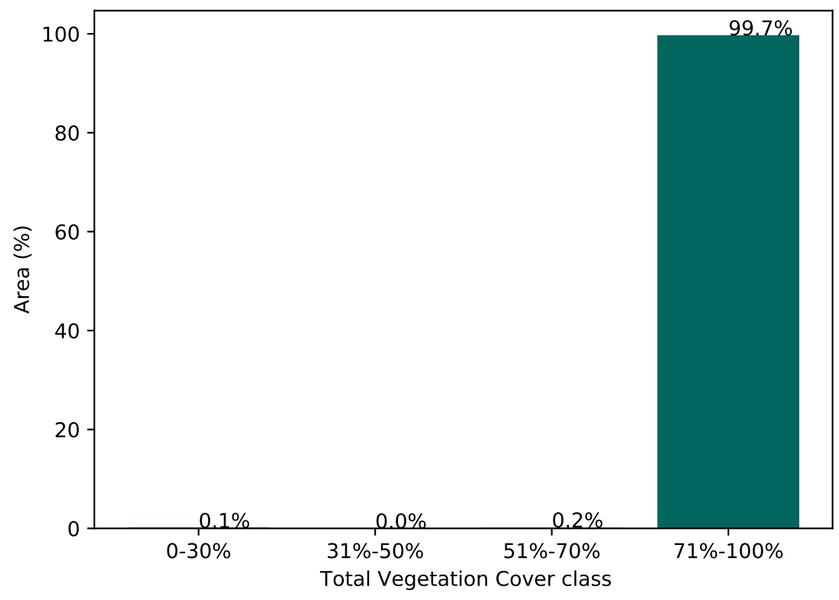


Catchment Scale Land Use and Forests of Australia (2018) Derived from Catchment Scale Land Use of Australia (2018) and Forests of Australia (2018)

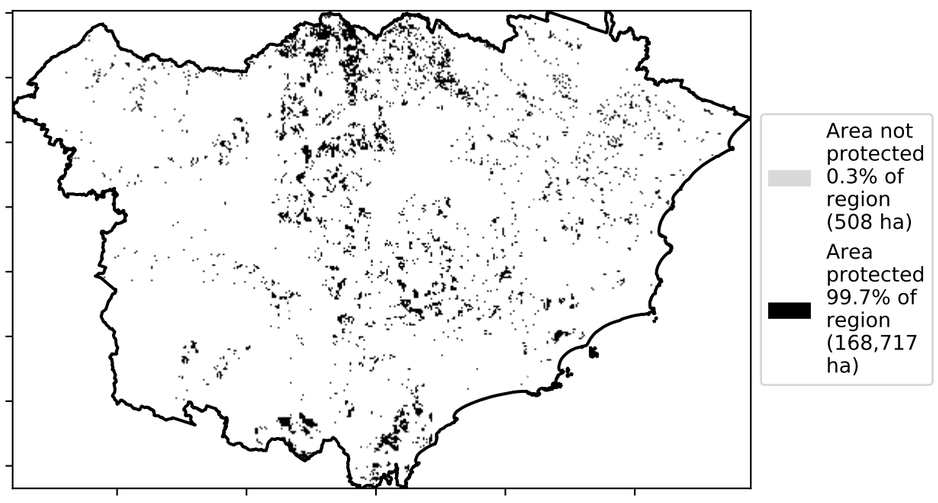
Total Vegetation Cover [%]



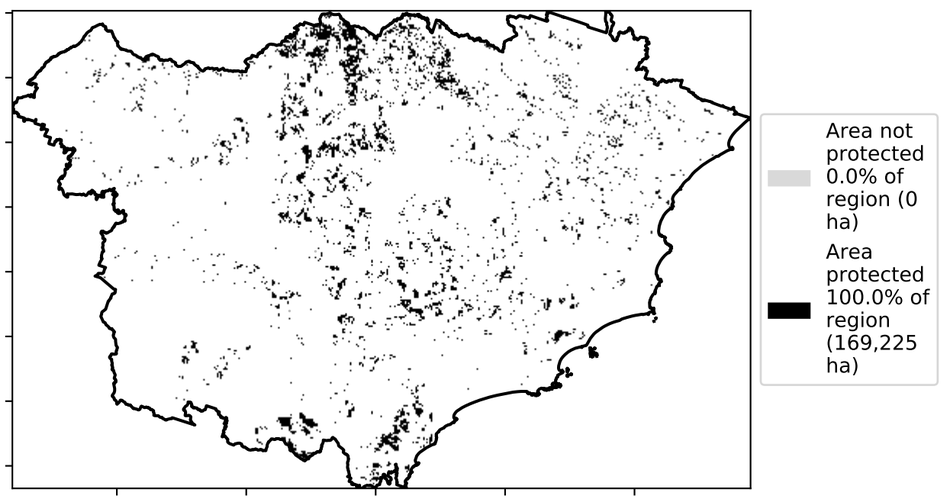
Proportion of vegetation cover class in area



% Area protected from water erosion (>70%)

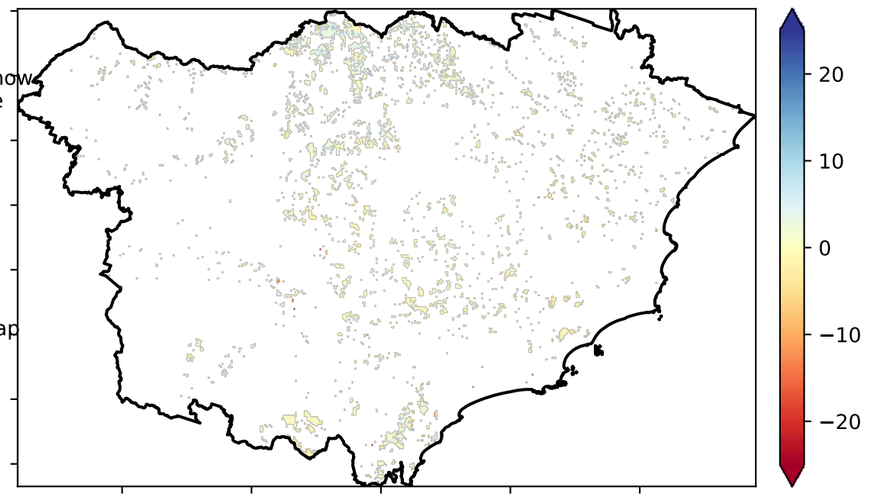


% Area protected from wind erosion (>50%)



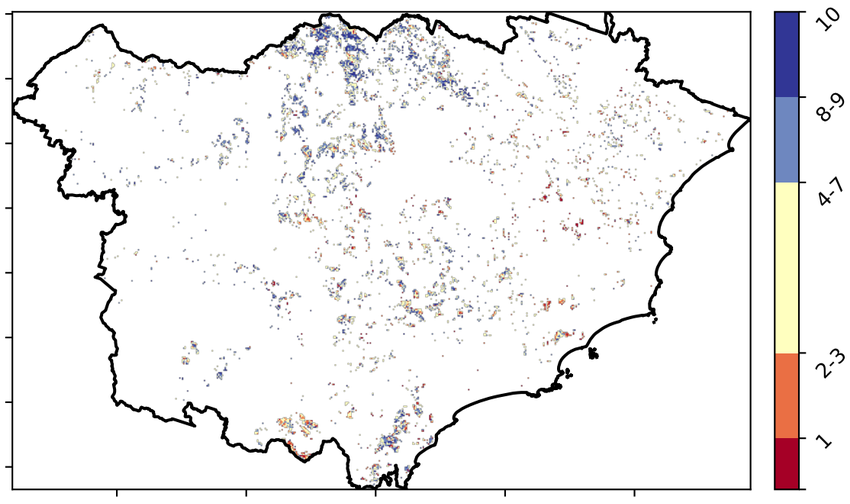
Total Vegetation Cover Anomaly [%]

Anomaly show how many 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.



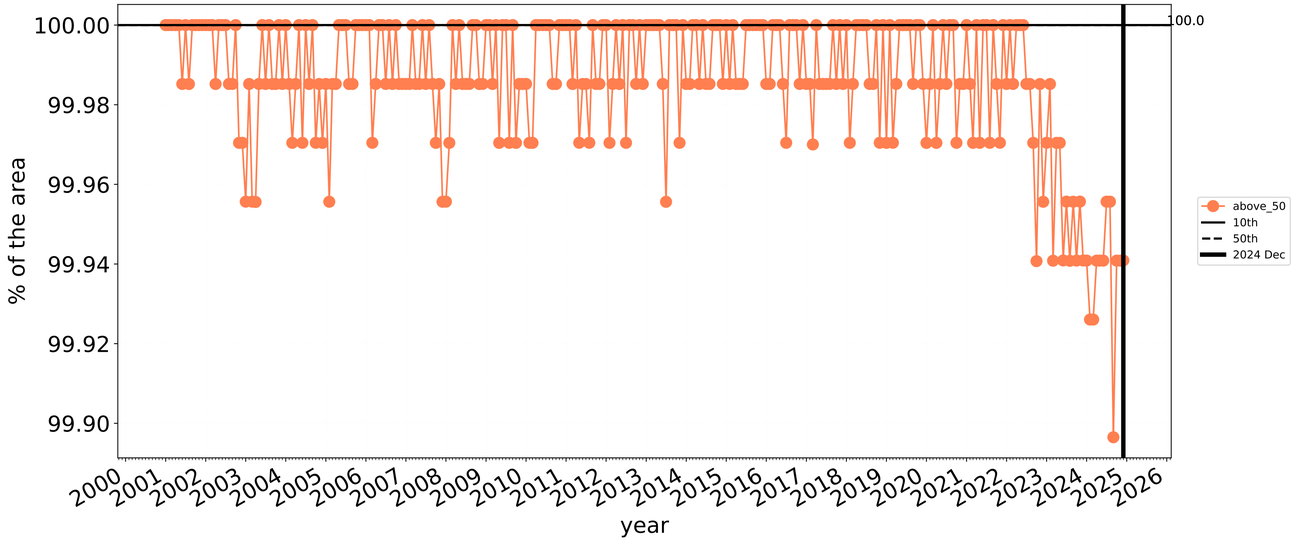
Total Vegetation Cover Decile [%]

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.

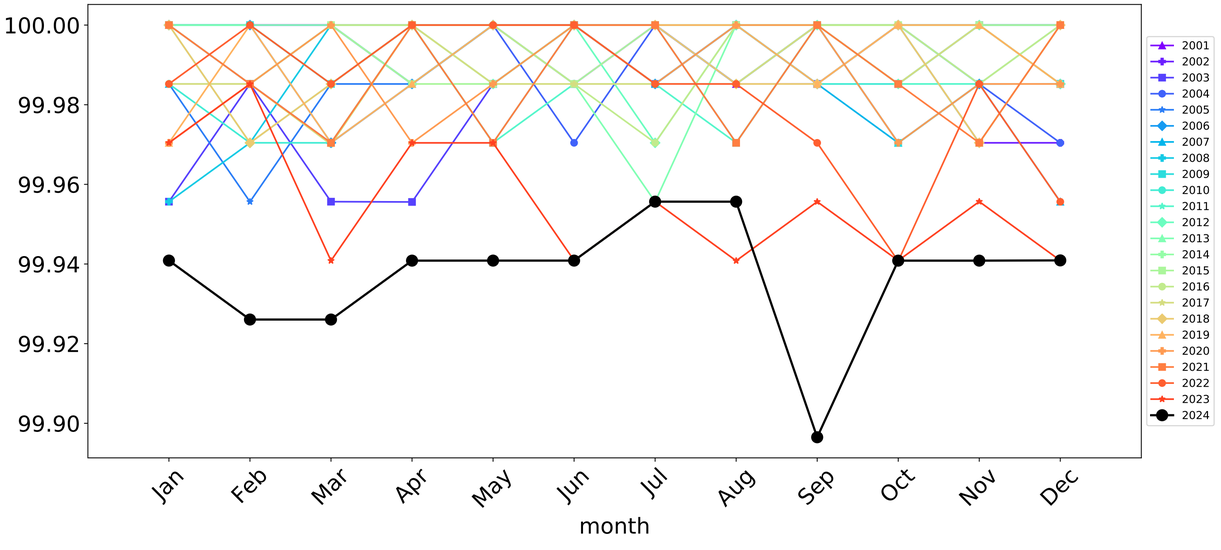


Grazing - Forest (non woodland) timeseries

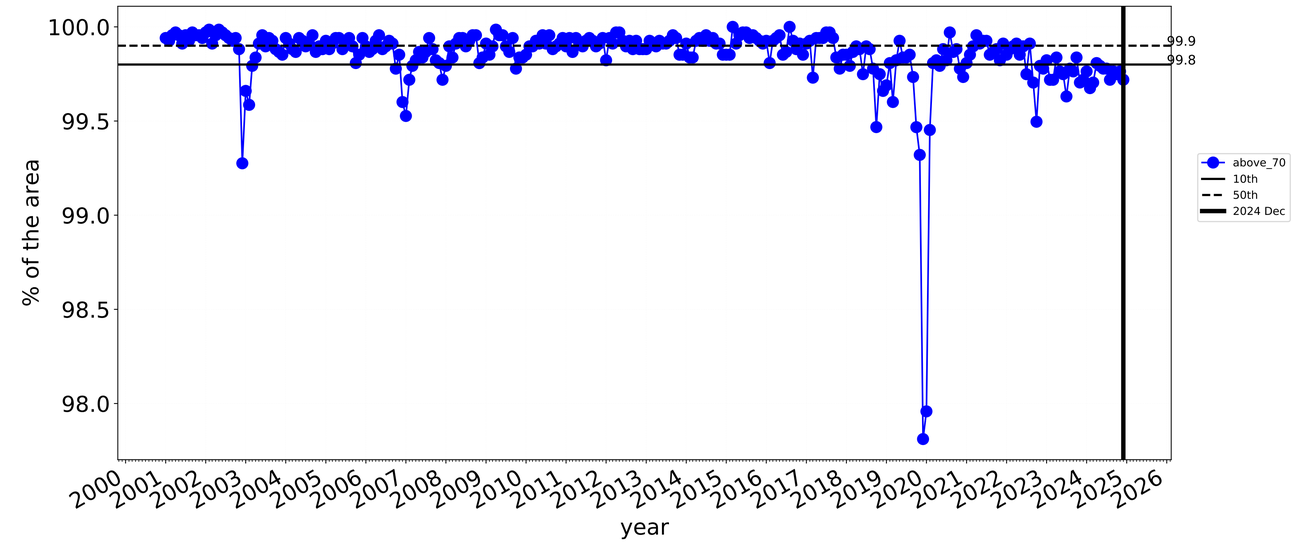
Proportion of the area protected from wind erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 50%)



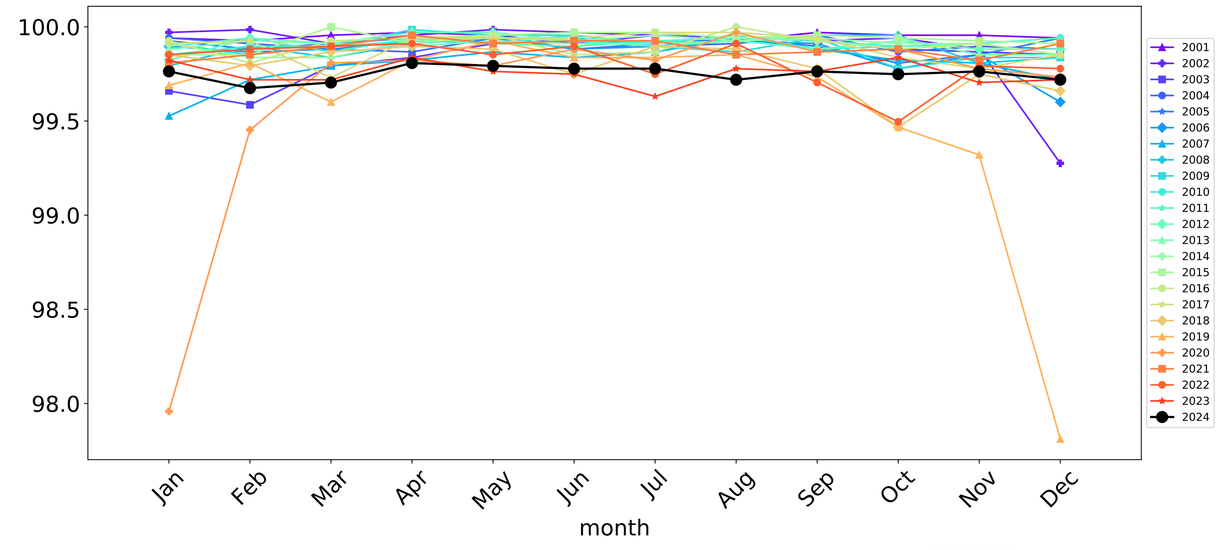
Wind erosion historical monthly area protected (Total Veg Cov >50%)

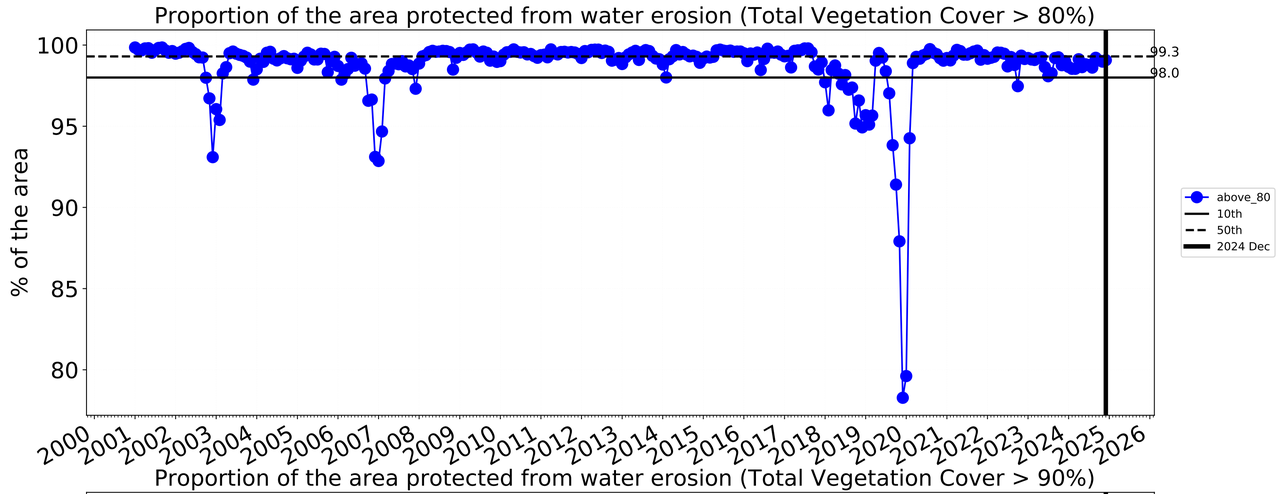


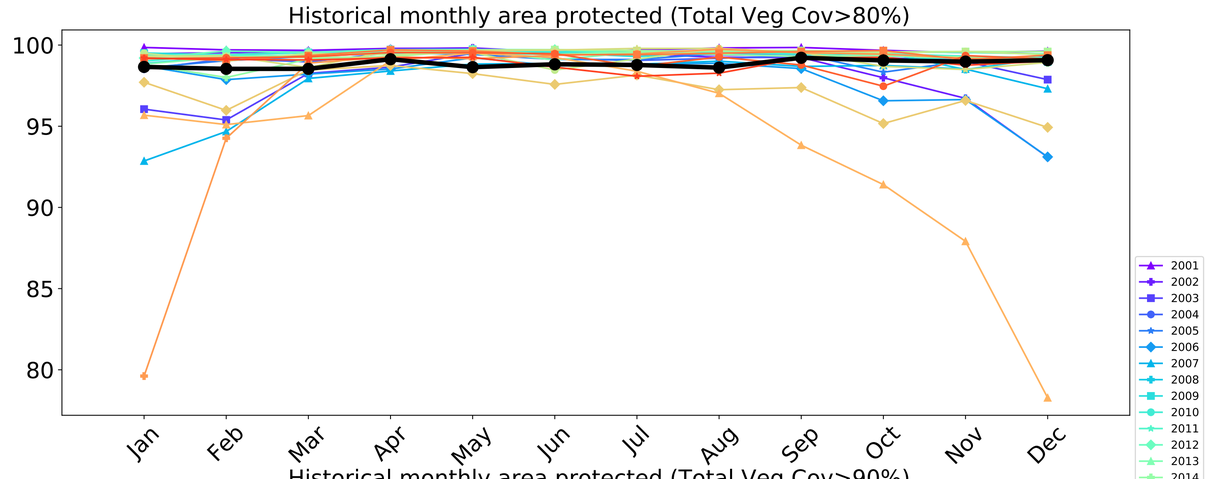
Proportion of the area protected from water erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 70%)



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




Proportion of the area protected from water erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 80%)
% of the area
99.3
98.0
above_80
10th
50th
2024 Dec


Historical monthly area protected (Total Veg Cov>80%)
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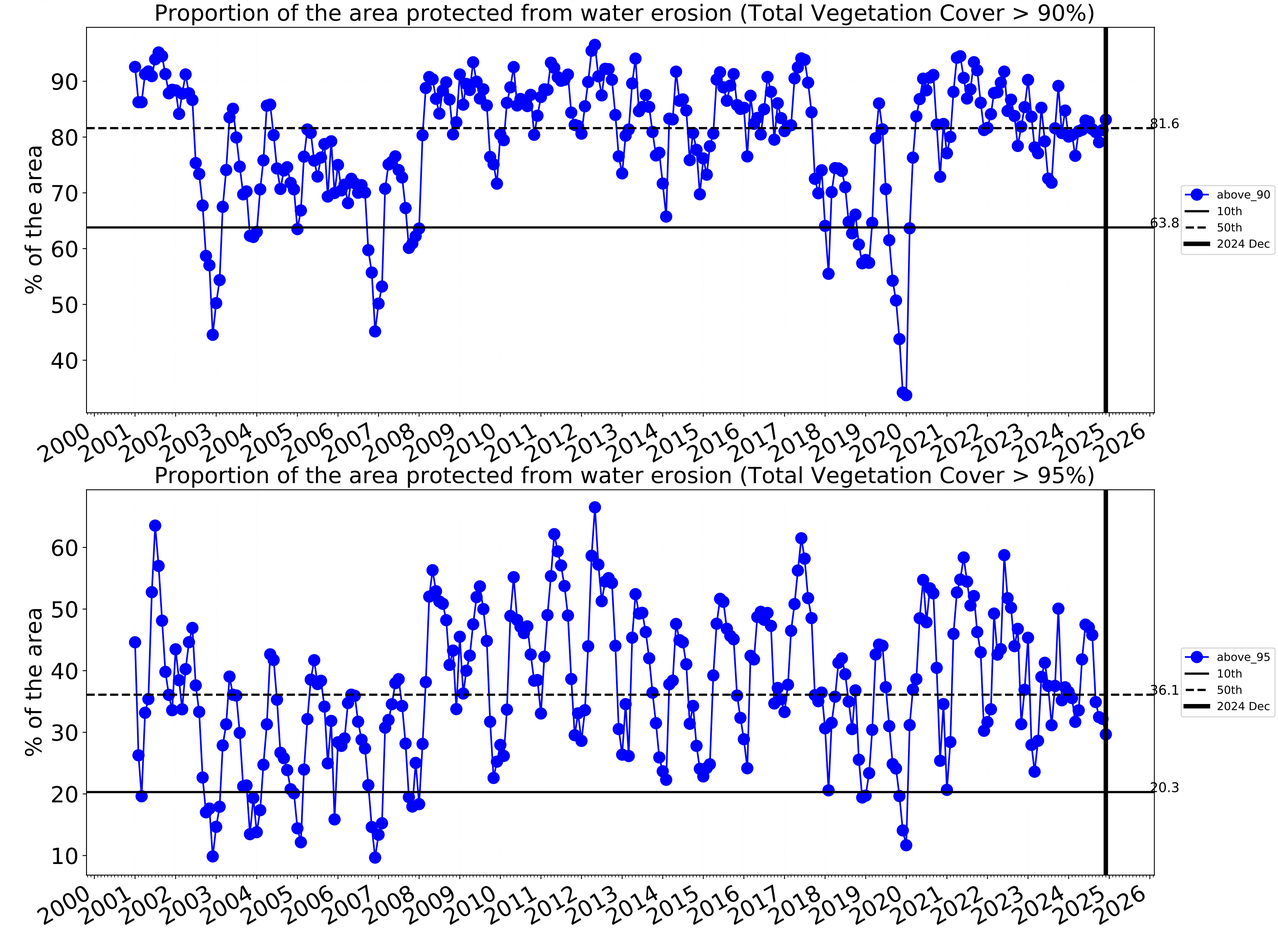
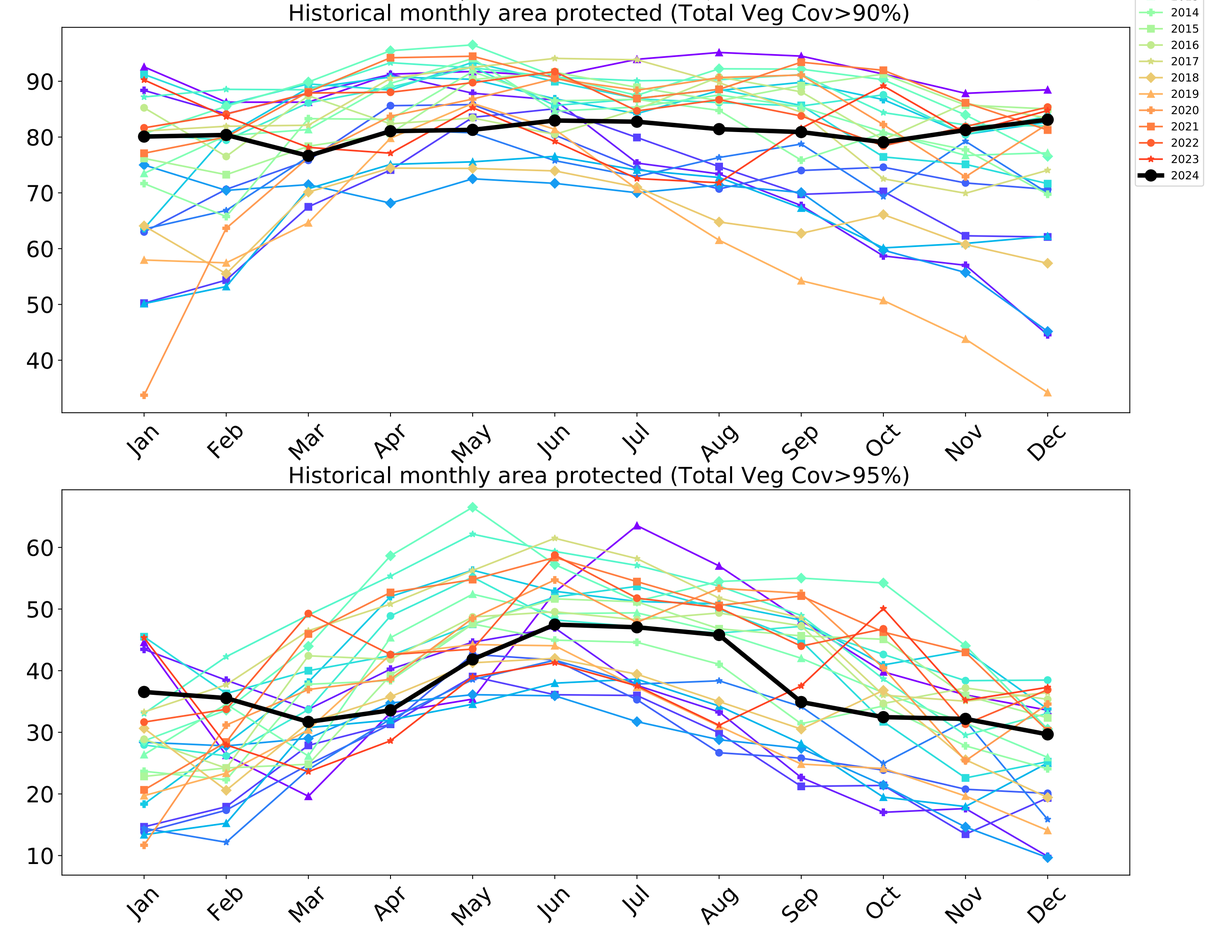

Proportion of the area protected from water erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 90%)
% of the area
81.6
63.8
above_90
10th
50th
2024 Dec
Proportion of the area protected from water erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 95%)
% of the area
36.1
20.3
above_95
10th
50th
2024 Dec


Historical monthly area protected (Total Veg Cov>90%)
Historical monthly area protected (Total Veg Cov>95%)
Jan
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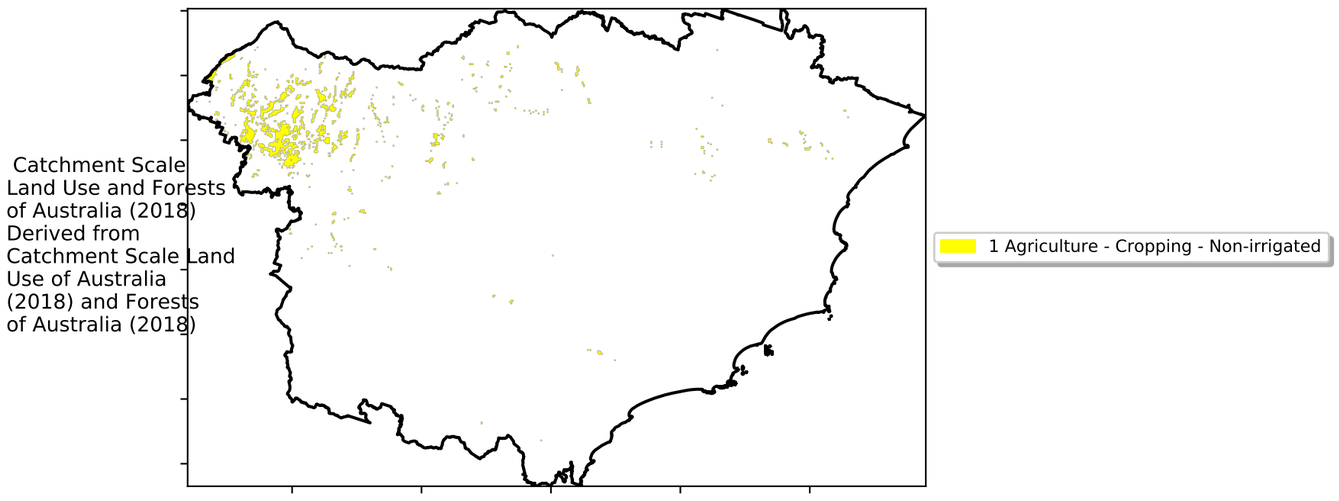
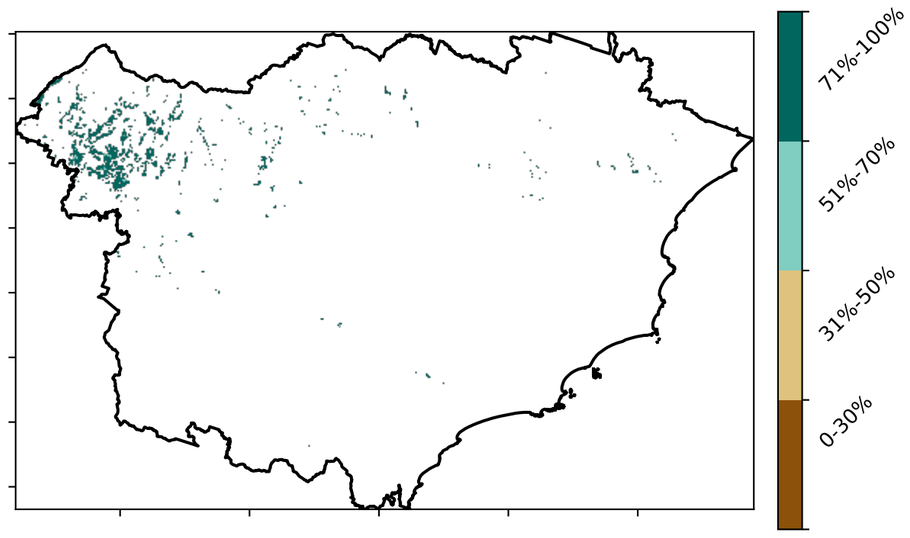
Cropping

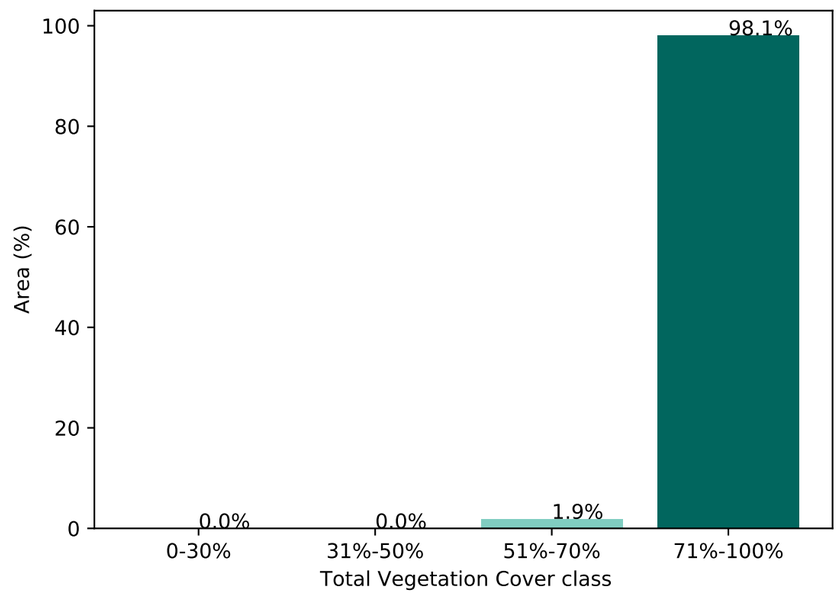
Land use and forest cover



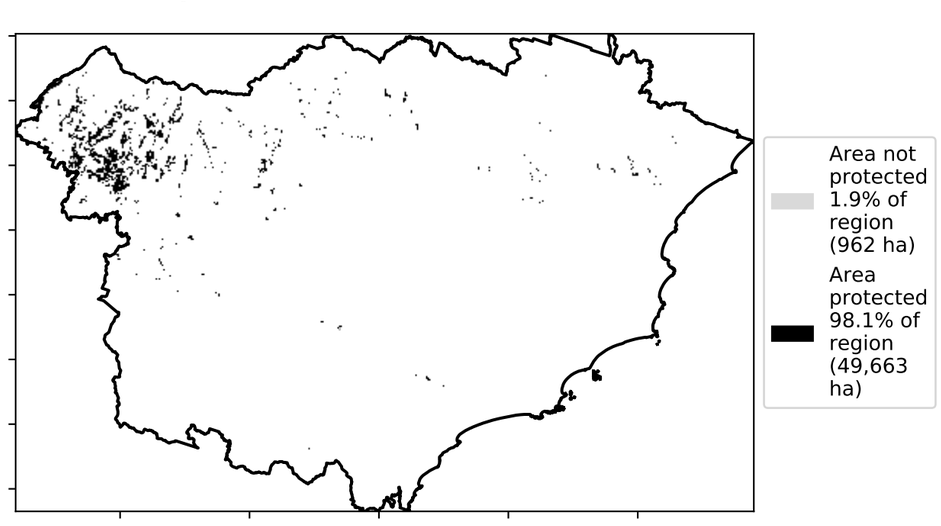
Total Vegetation Cover [%]



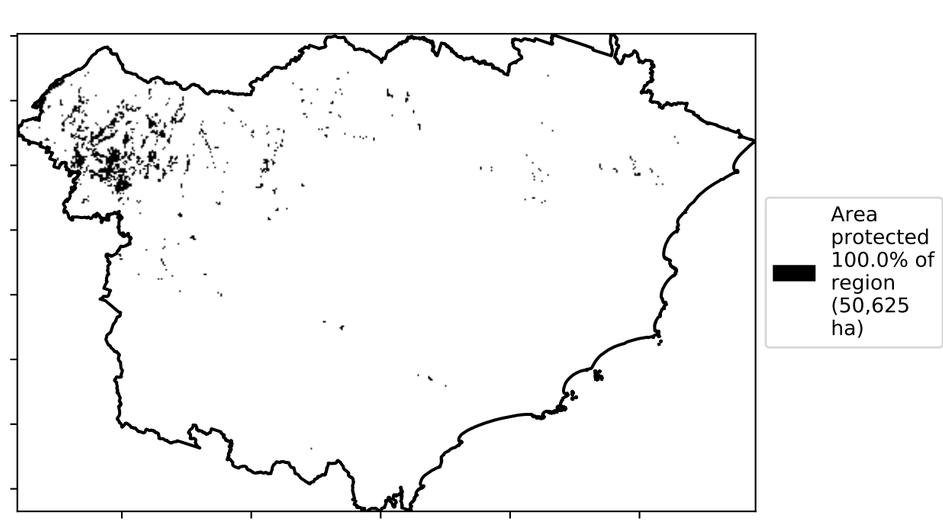
Proportion of vegetation cover class in area



% Area protected from water erosion (>70%)

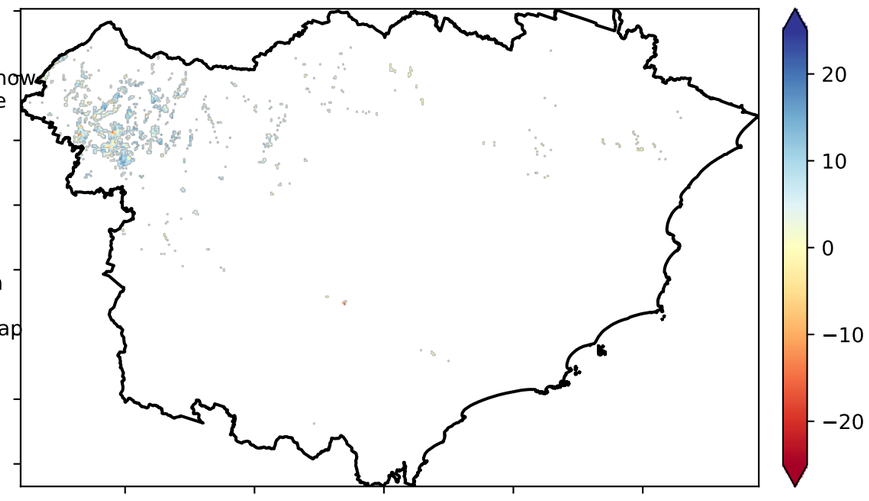


% Area protected from wind erosion (>50%)



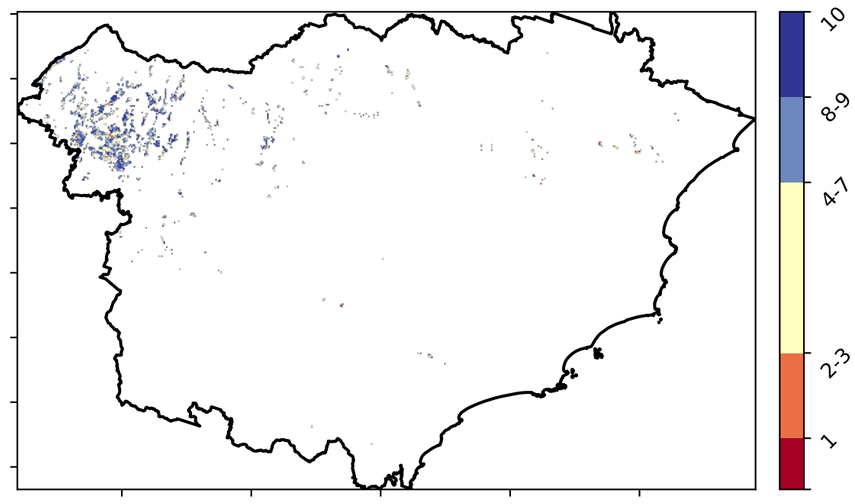
Total Vegetation Cover Anomaly [%]

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.



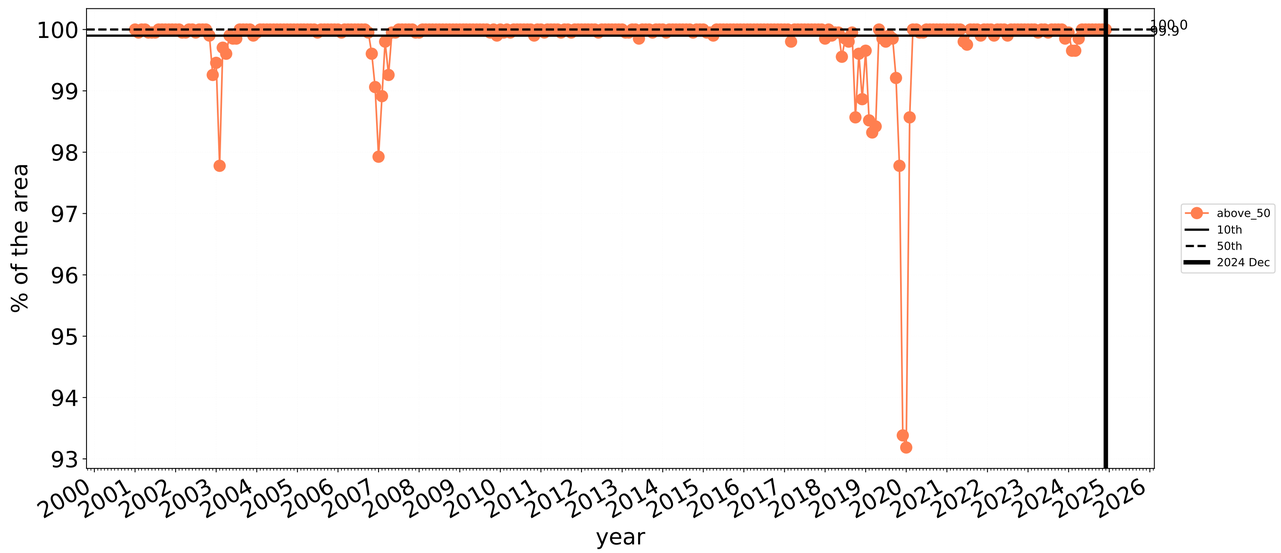
Total Vegetation Cover Decile [%]

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.

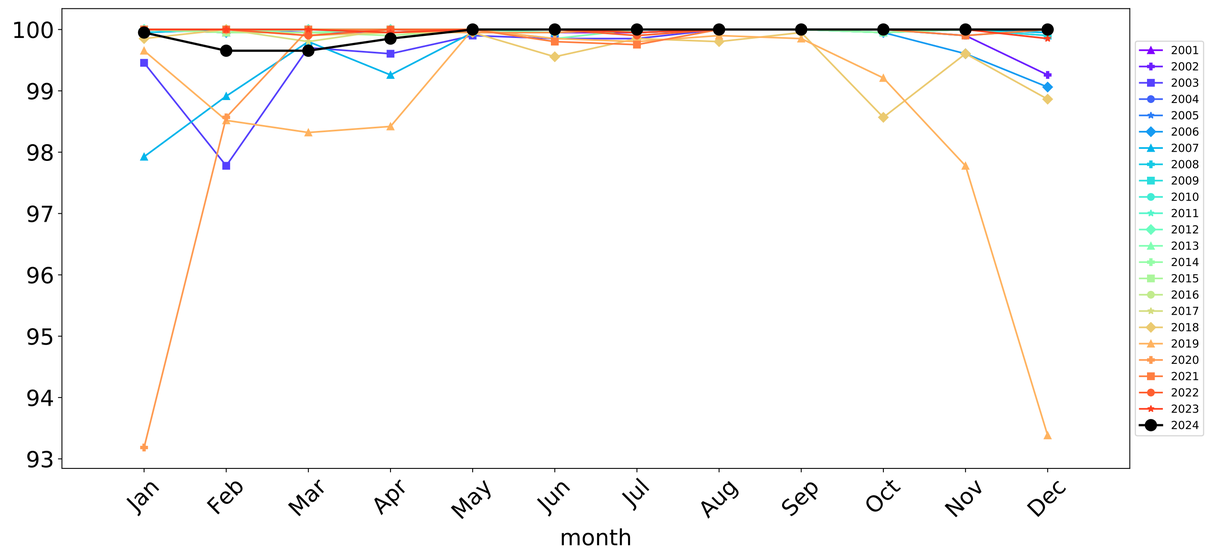


Cropping timeseries

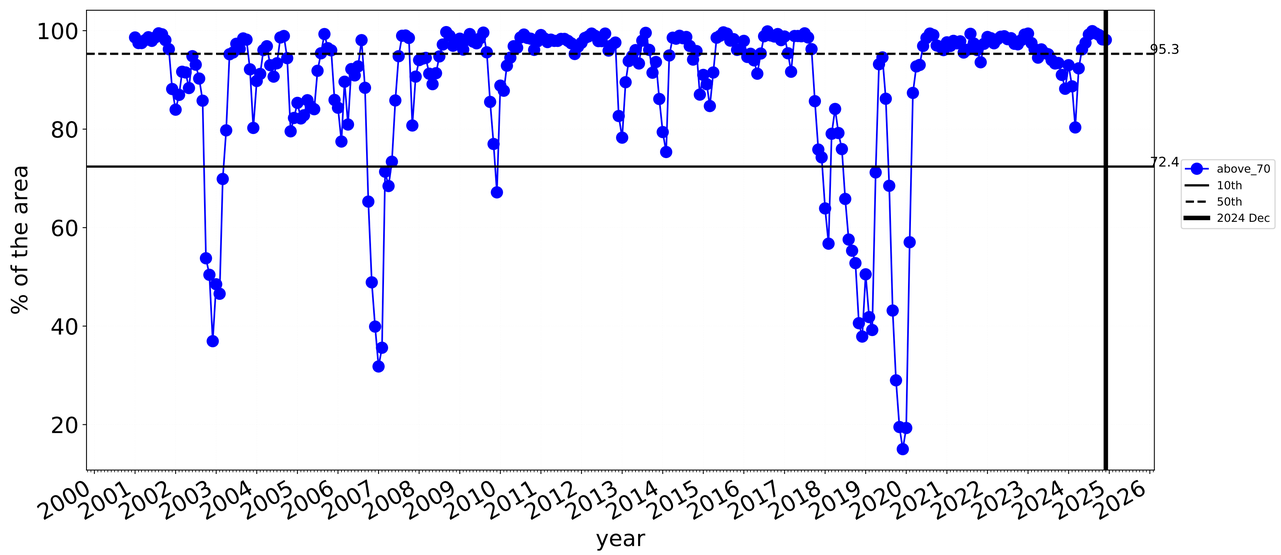
Proportion of the area protected from wind erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 50%)



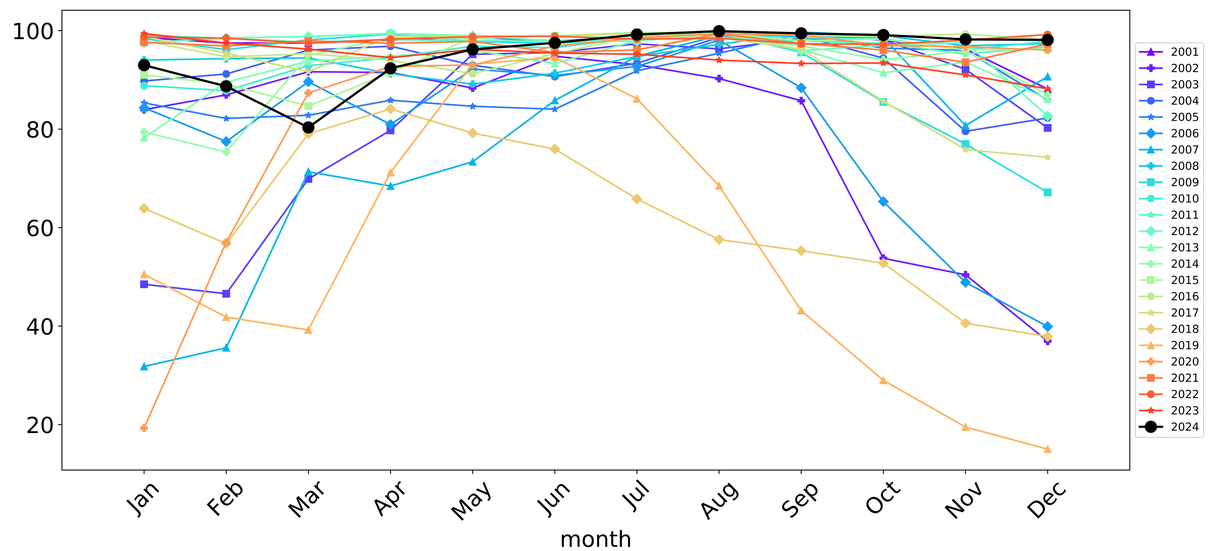
Wind erosion historical monthly area protected (Total Veg Cov >50%)

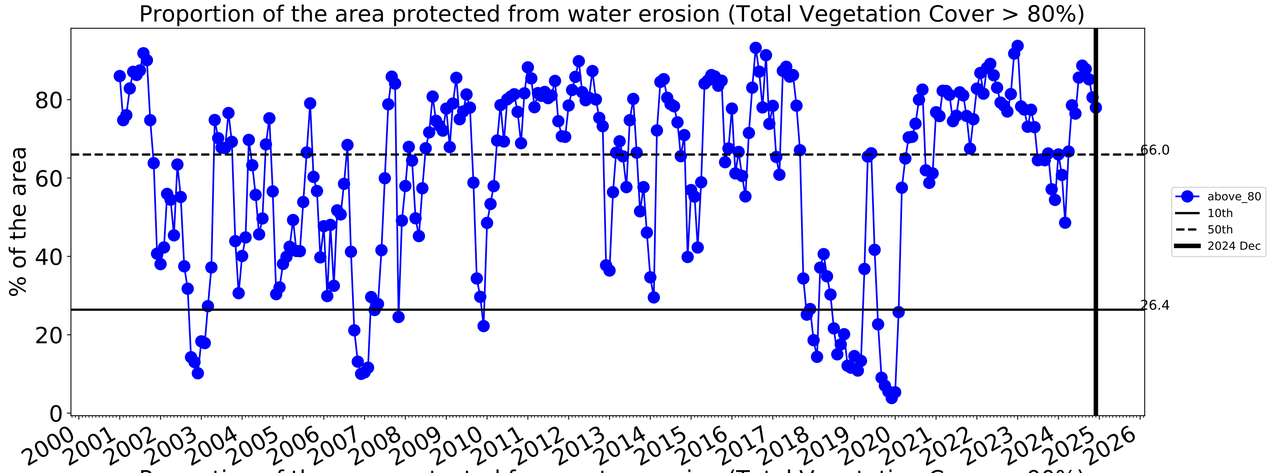


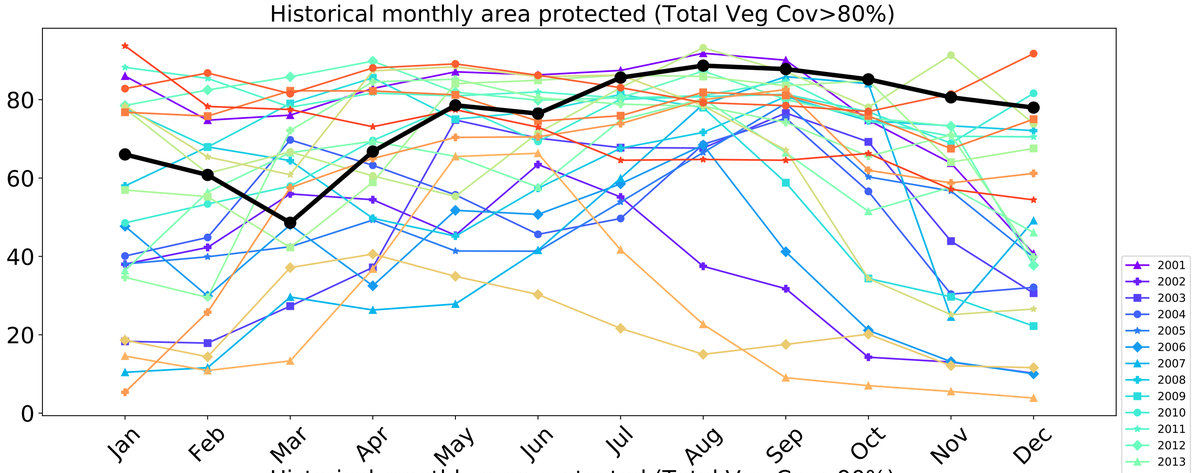
Proportion of the area protected from water erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 70%)



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




Proportion of the area protected from water erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 80%)
% of the area
66.0
26.4
above_80
10th
50th
2024 Dec


Historical monthly area protected (Total Veg Cov>80%)
Jan
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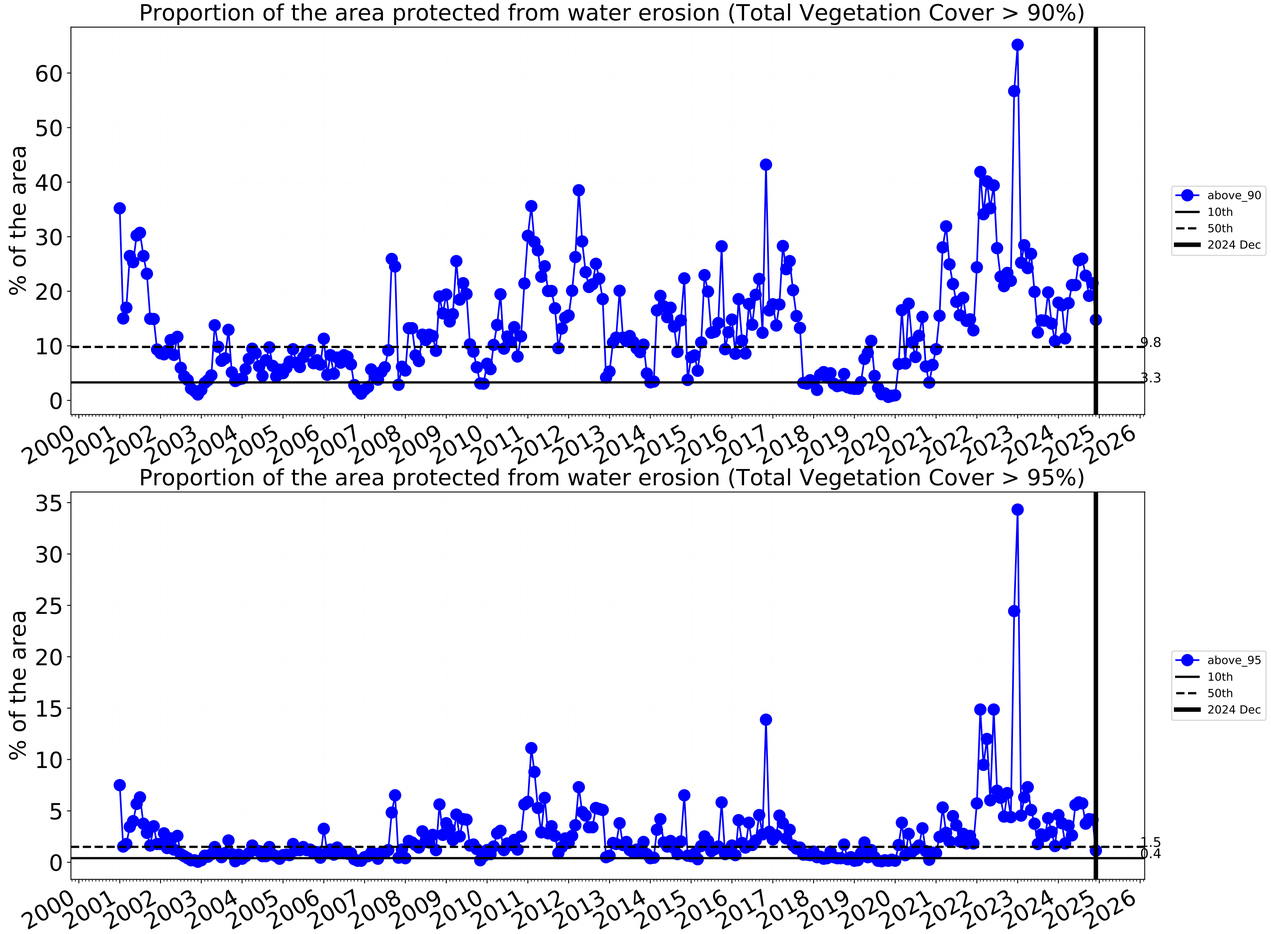
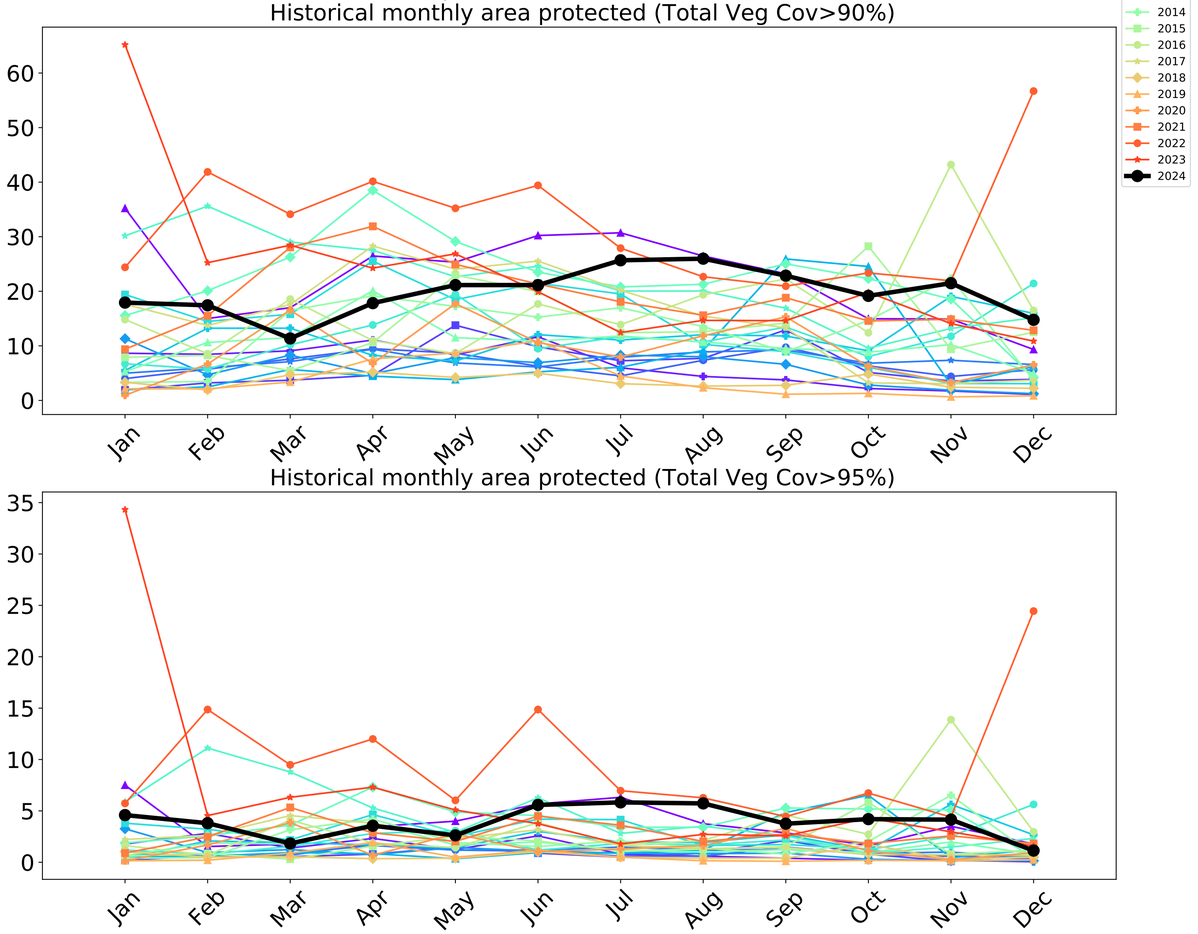

Proportion of the area protected from water erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 90%)
% of the area
9.8
3.3
above_90
10th
50th
2024 Dec
Proportion of the area protected from water erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 95%)
% of the area
1.5
0.4
above_95
10th
50th
2024 Dec


Historical monthly area protected (Total Veg Cov>90%)
Historical monthly area protected (Total Veg Cov>95%)
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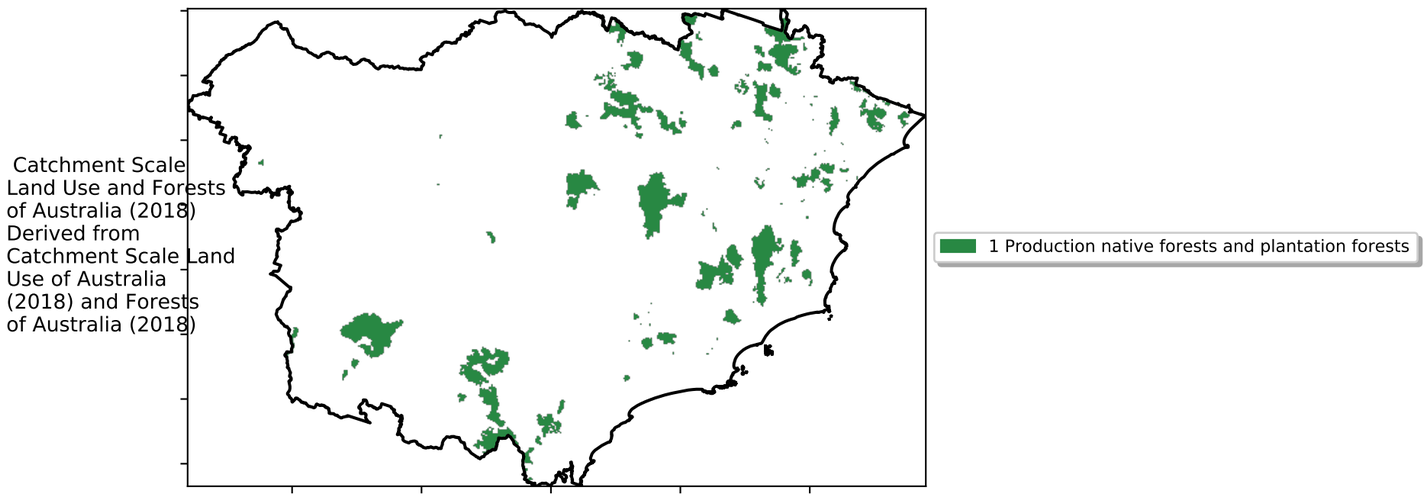
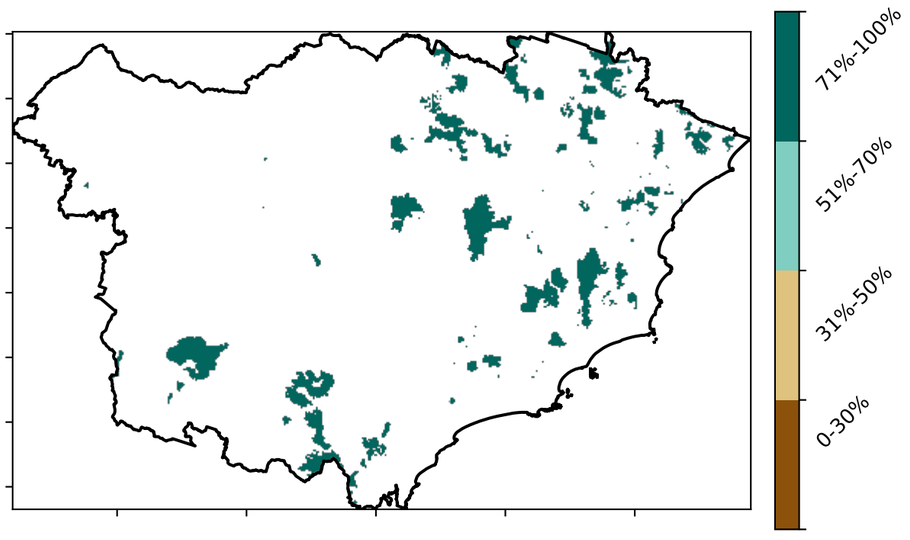
Production native forests and plantation forests

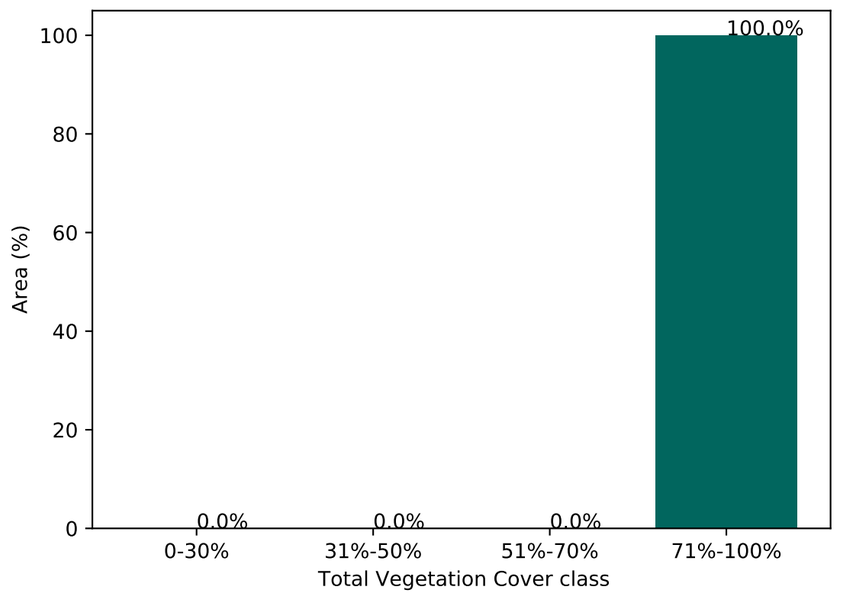
Land use and forest cover



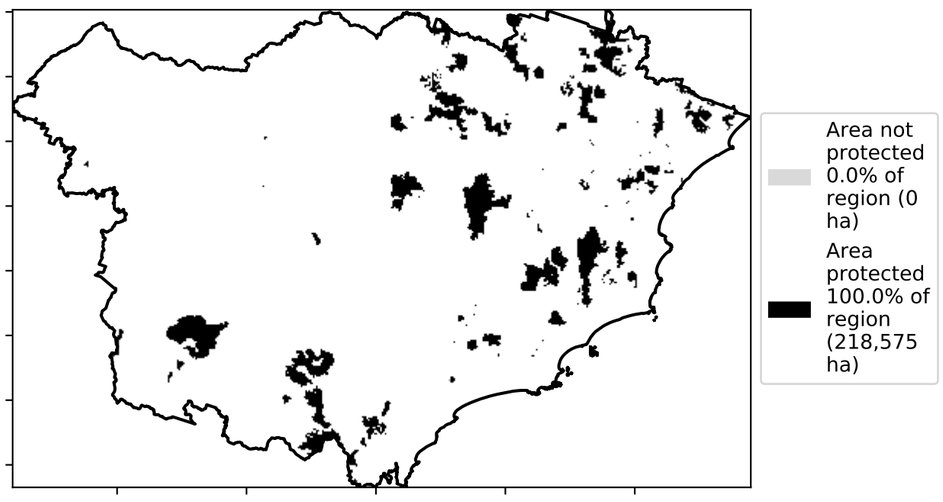
Total Vegetation Cover [%]



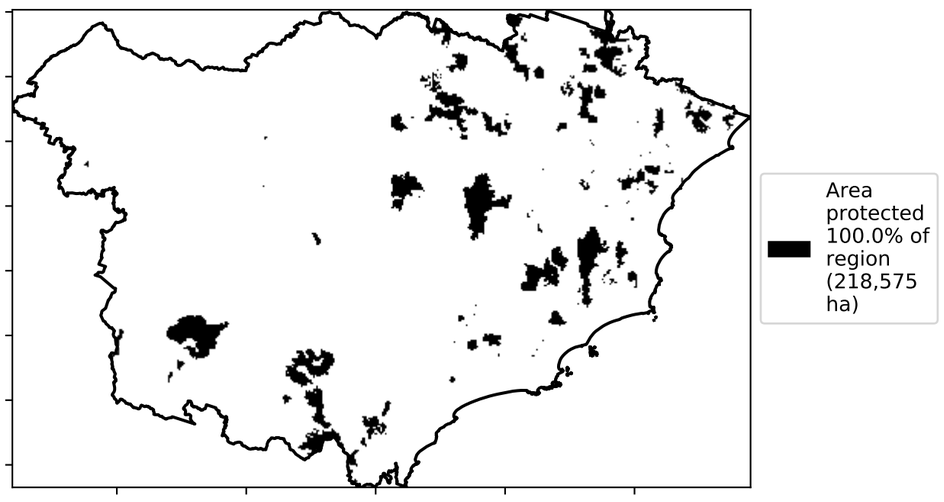
Proportion of vegetation cover class in area



% Area protected from water erosion (>70%)

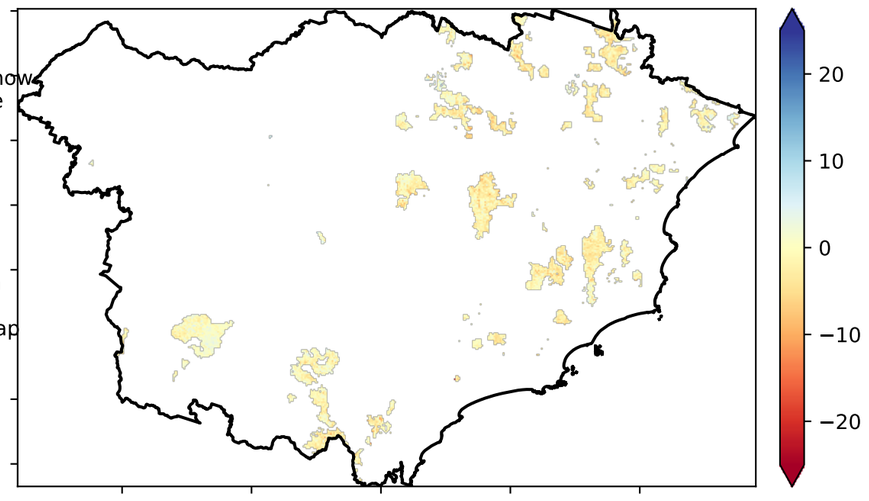


% Area protected from wind erosion (>50%)



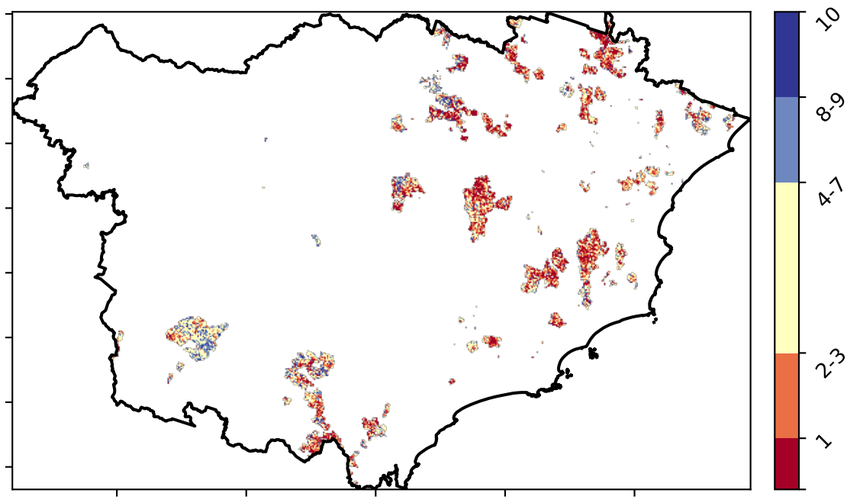
Total Vegetation Cover Anomaly [%]

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.



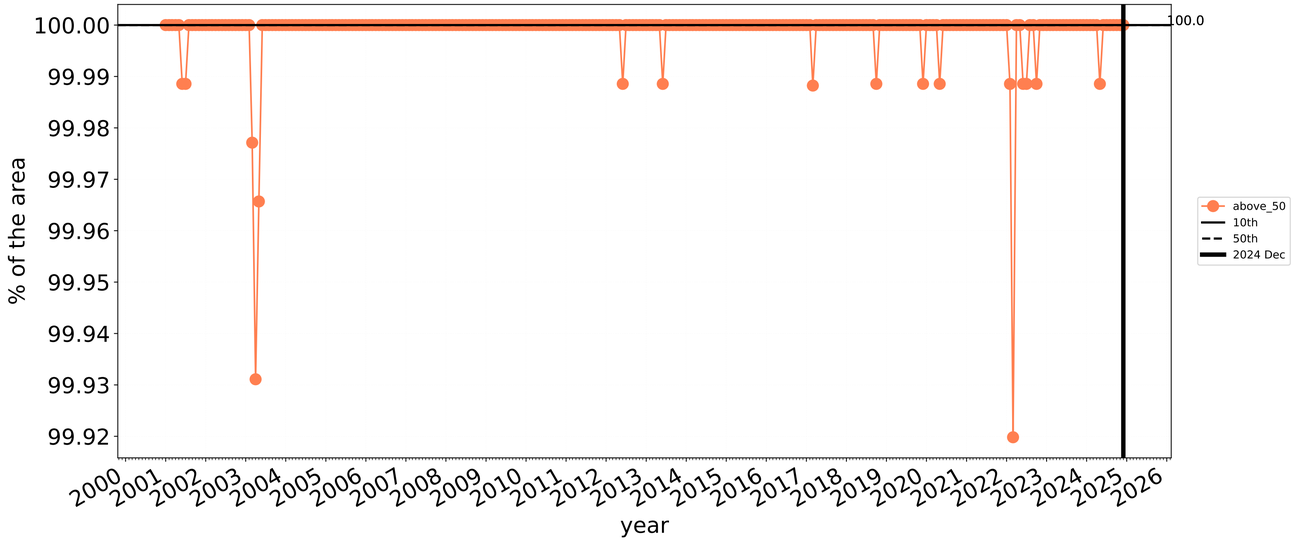
Total Vegetation Cover Decile [%]

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.

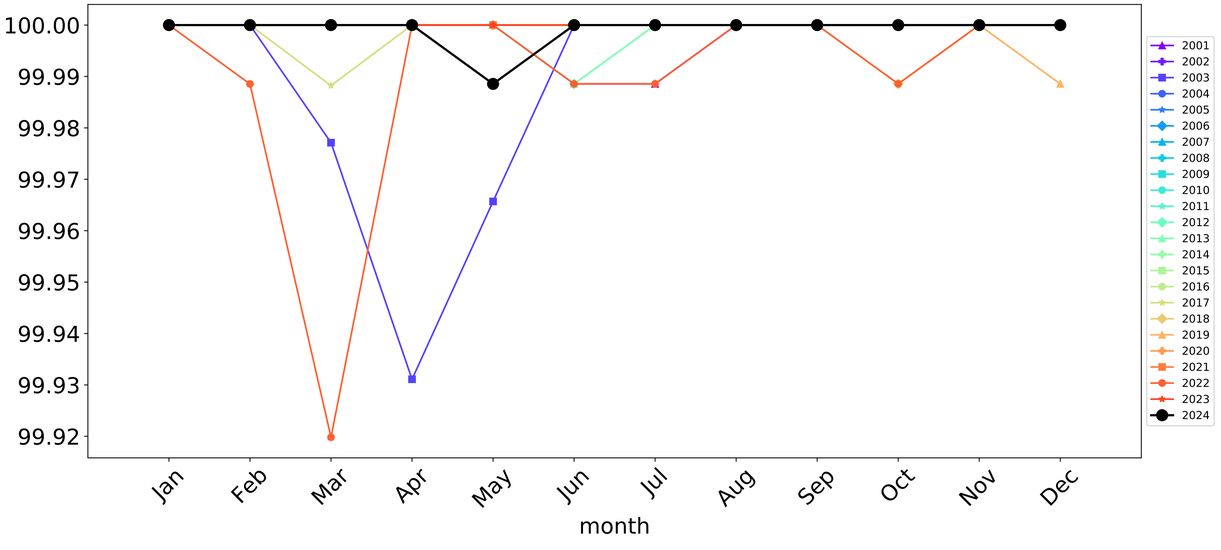


Production native forests and plantation forests timeseries

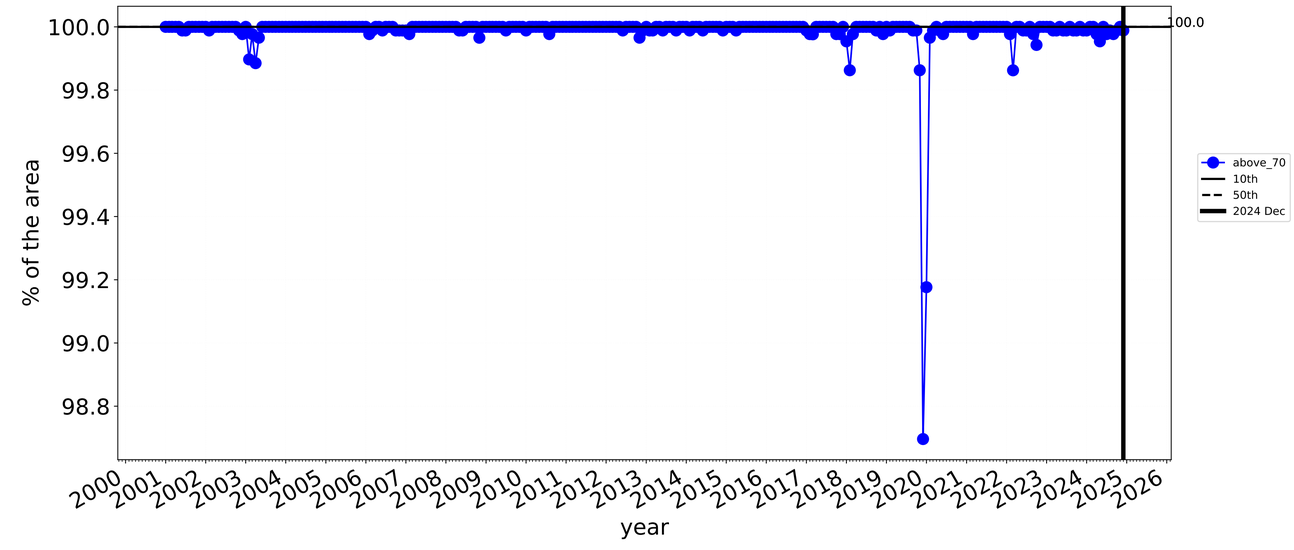
Proportion of the area protected from wind erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 50%)



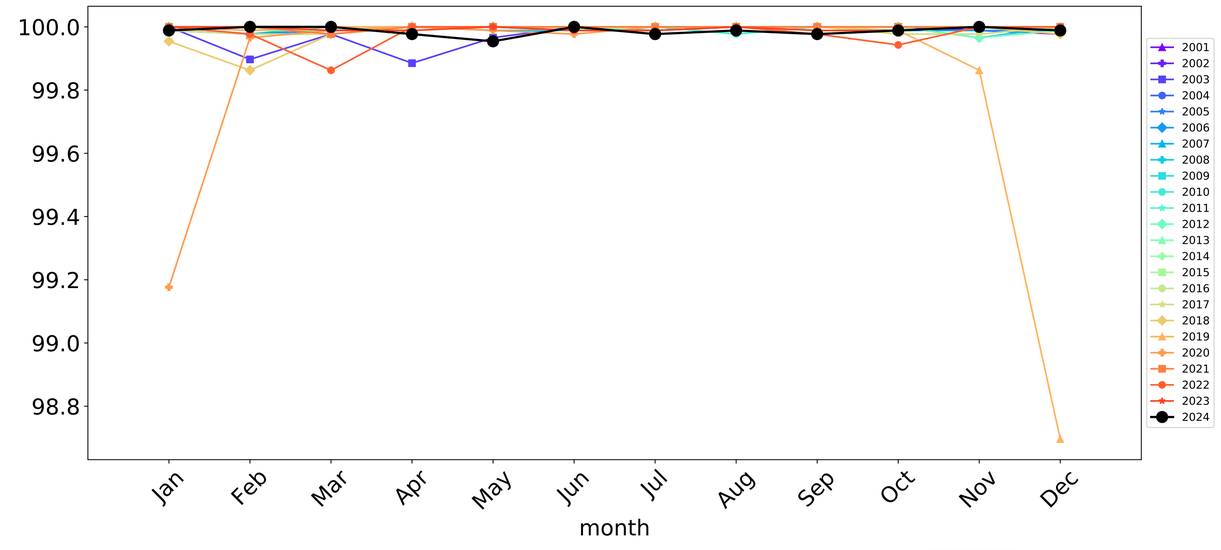
Wind erosion historical monthly area protected (Total Veg Cov >50%)



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



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



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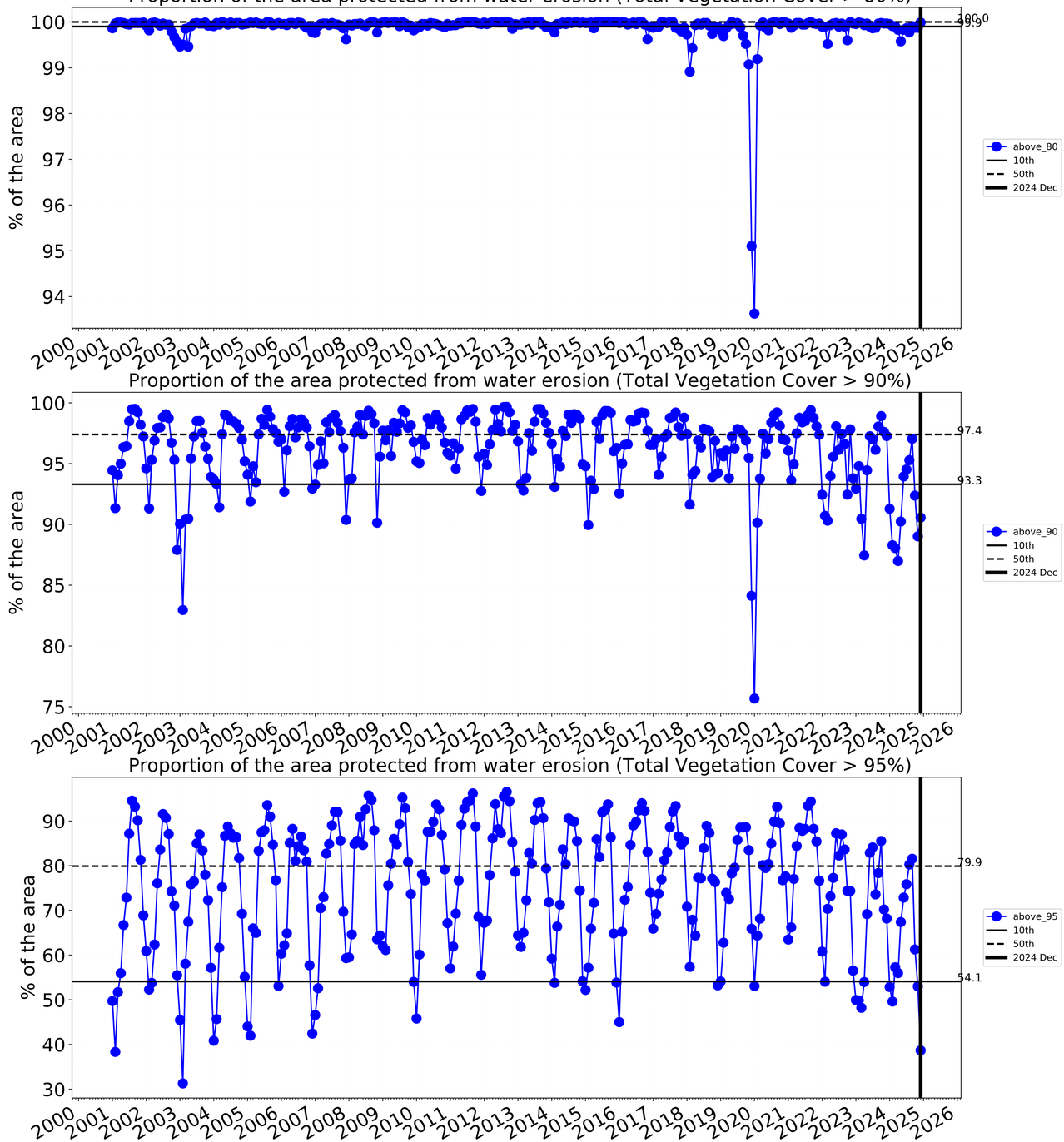
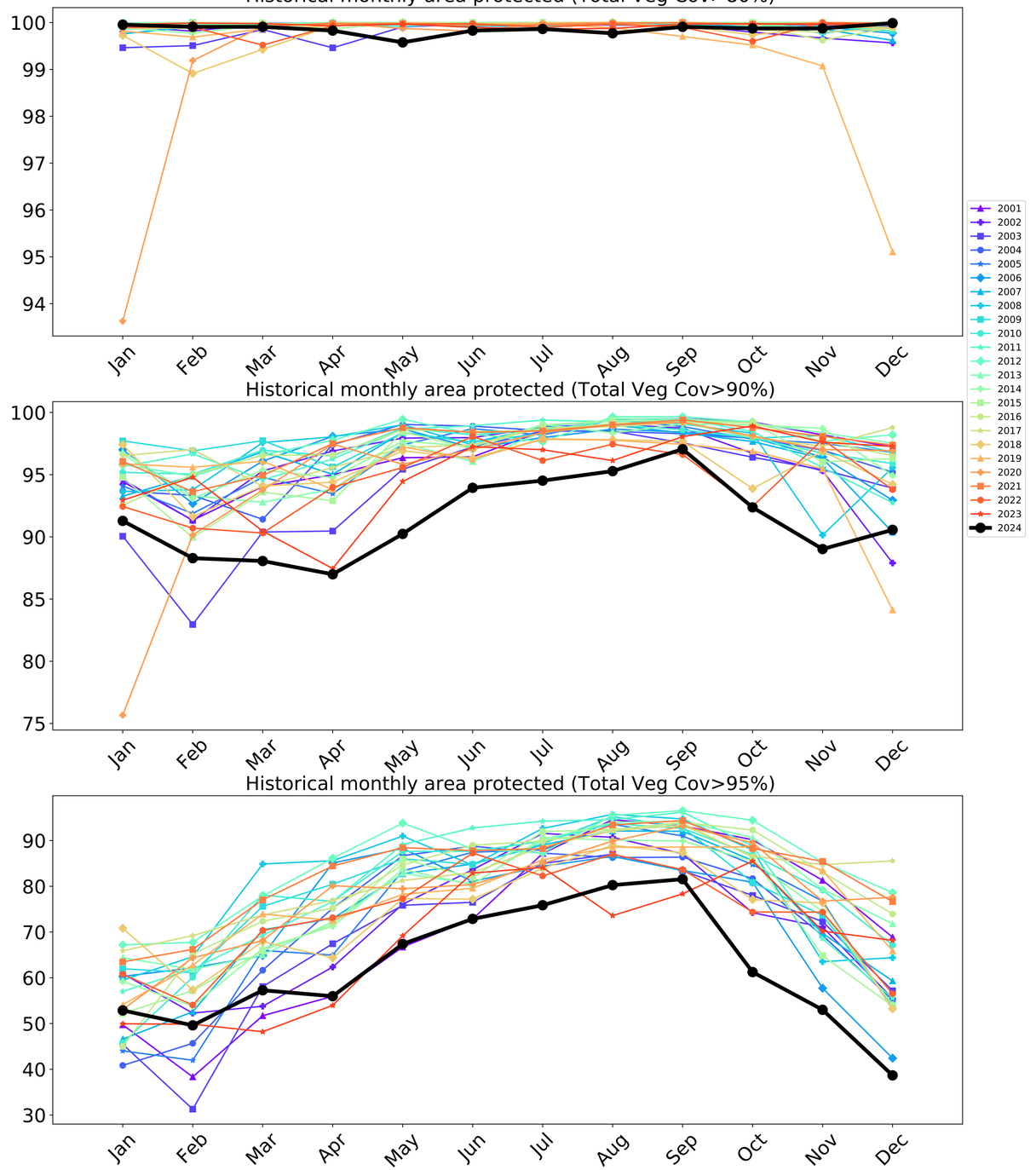
Australian Government
National Landcare Programme
NSW GOVERNMENT


Proportion of the area protected from water erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 80%)
% of the area
100.0
99.5
above_80
10th
50th
2024 Dec
Proportion of the area protected from water erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 90%)
% of the area
97.4
93.3
above_90
10th
50th
2024 Dec
Proportion of the area protected from water erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 95%)
% of the area
79.9
54.1
above_95
10th
50th
2024 Dec


Historical monthly area protected (Total Veg Cov>80%)
Historical monthly area protected (Total Veg Cov>90%)
Historical monthly area protected (Total Veg Cov>95%)
Jan
Feb
Mar
Apr
May
Jun
Jul
Aug
Sep
Oct
Nov
Dec
2001
2002
2003
2004
2005
2006
2007
2008
2009
2010
2011
2012
2013
2014
2015
2016
2017
2018
2019
2020
2021
2022
2023
2024

Hunter (3,239,875 ha and no data 60,550 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	3,239,875	99.8% 3,235,000	99.5% 3,225,150	98.3% 3,186,100	96.0% 3,110,850	72.8% 2,357,700	25.3% 821,025
Conservation and natural environments	1,240,525	99.9% 1,239,275	99.8% 1,238,300	99.6% 1,235,200	99.1% 1,229,350	85.3% 1,058,325	33.9% 420,400
Conservation and natural environments non forest	29,400	95.8% 28,175	94.0% 27,650	89.7% 26,375	83.5% 24,550	65.6% 19,275	25.0% 7,350
Conservation and natural environments Woodland forest	138,925	100.0% 138,925	99.9% 138,850	99.7% 138,450	99.3% 137,900	82.4% 114,475	23.7% 32,975
Conservation and natural environments Forest (non woodland)	1,072,200	100.0% 1,072,175	100.0% 1,071,800	99.8% 1,070,375	99.5% 1,066,900	86.2% 924,575	35.4% 380,075
Agriculture	1,580,875	100.0% 1,580,525	99.9% 1,579,150	99.5% 1,572,975	97.3% 1,537,775	66.2% 1,046,550	19.2% 304,025
Grazing	1,502,875	100.0% 1,502,525	99.9% 1,501,150	99.6% 1,496,300	98.2% 1,476,350	68.9% 1,035,500	20.2% 303,125
Grazing non forest	1,213,050	100.0% 1,212,725	99.9% 1,211,475	99.5% 1,207,425	98.0% 1,189,100	66.5% 807,150	19.0% 230,350
Grazing Woodland forest	120,600	100.0% 120,600	100.0% 120,550	99.6% 120,125	99.2% 119,600	72.7% 87,700	18.7% 22,575
Grazing - Forest (non woodland)	169,225	100.0% 169,200	99.9% 169,125	99.7% 168,750	99.1% 167,650	83.1% 140,650	29.7% 50,200
Cropping	50,625	100.0% 50,625	100.0% 50,625	98.1% 49,675	78.0% 39,475	14.8% 7,475	1.1% 575
Production native forests and plantation forests	218,575	100.0% 218,575	100.0% 218,575	100.0% 218,550	100.0% 218,550	90.6% 197,950	38.7% 84,525