Total vegetation cover soil protection
Region:NRM Riverina NSW   Date: October 2023

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
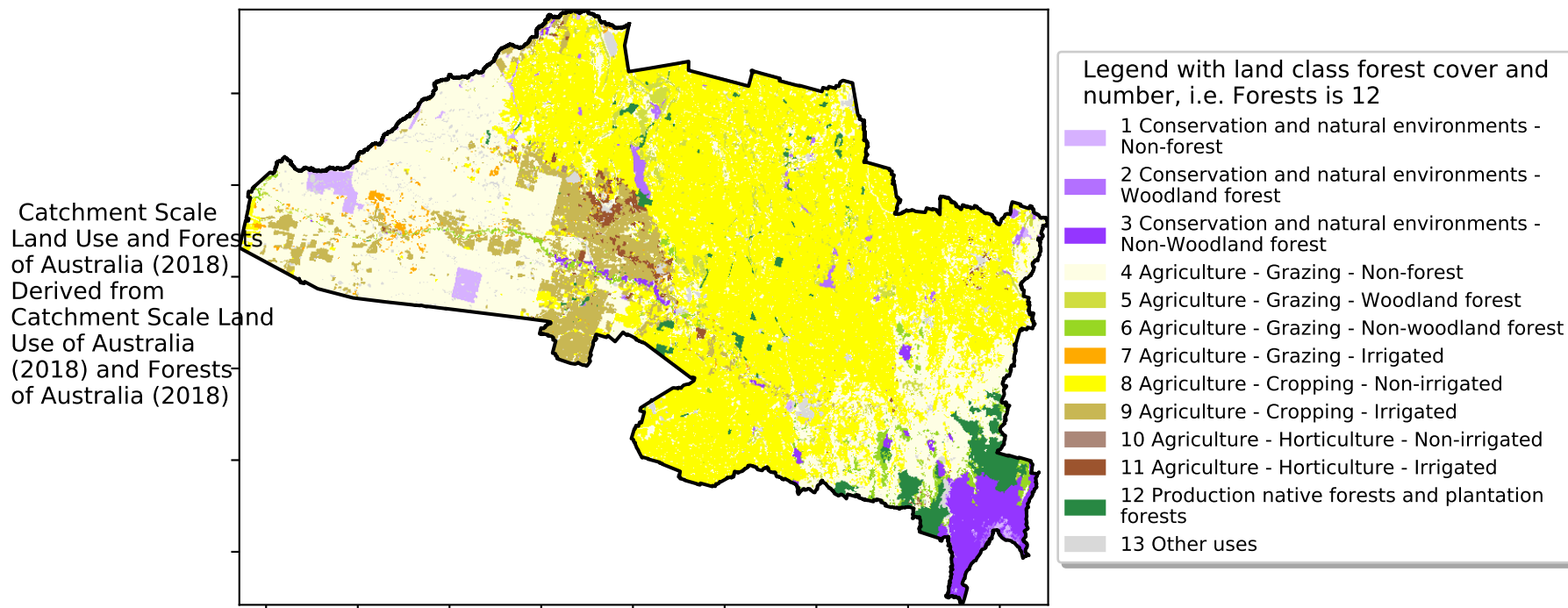
4. MODIS Fractional cover algorithm:

    https://doi.org/10.4225/08/5848a3f19a7b3
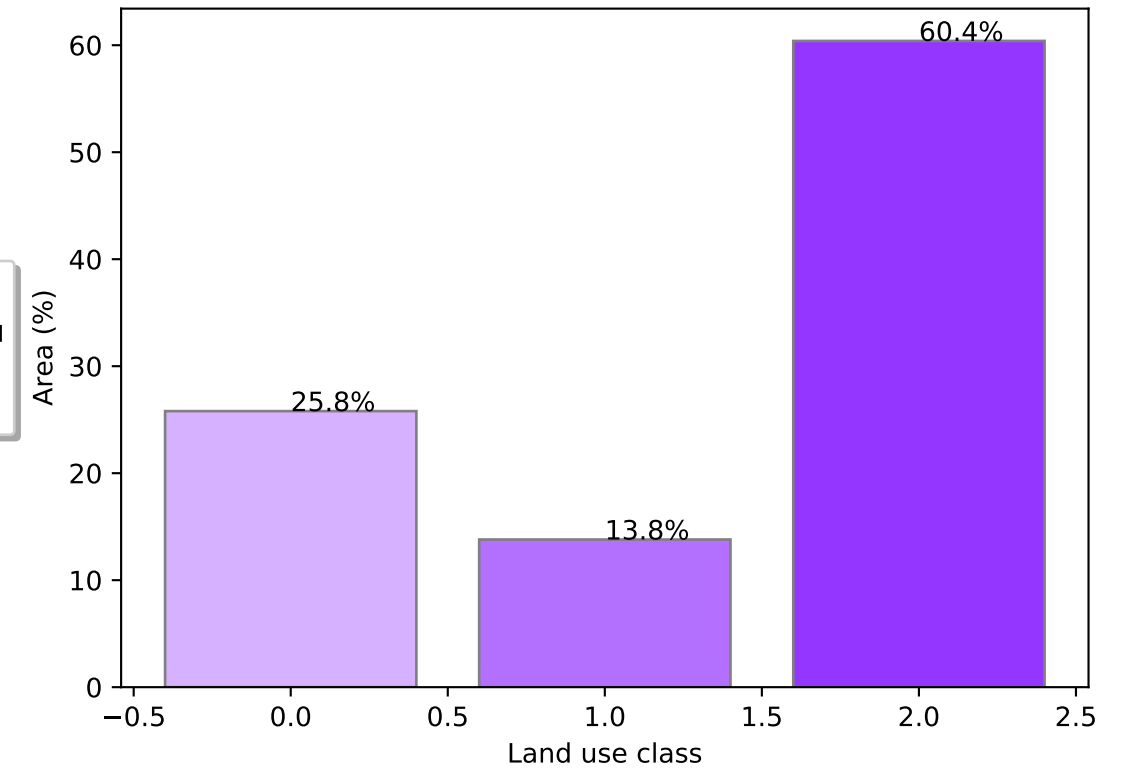
Vegetation Cover Oct 2023

Land use and forest cover

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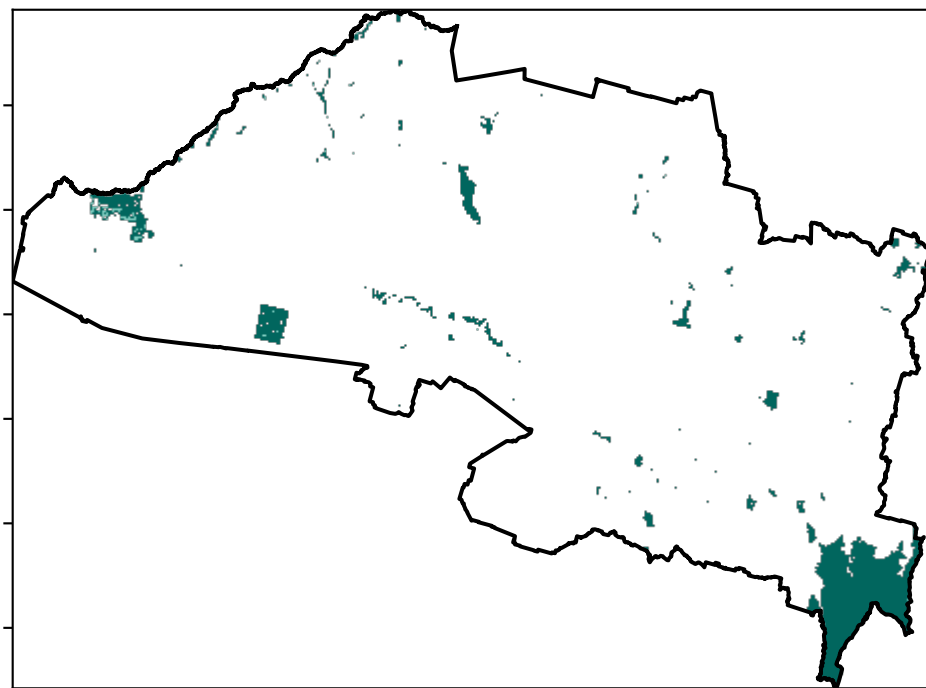(2018) and Forests
of Australia (2018)

Legend with land class forest cover and
number, i.e. Forests is 12

1 Conservation and natural environments -
Non-forest
2 Conservation and natural environments -
Woodland forest
3 Conservation and natural environments -
Non-Woodland forest
4 Agriculture - Grazing - Non-forest
5 Agriculture - Grazing - Woodland forest
6 Agriculture - Grazing - Non-woodland forest
7 Agriculture - Grazing - Irrigated
8 Agriculture - Cropping - Non-irrigated
9 Agriculture - Cropping - Irrigated
10 Agriculture - Horticulture - Non-irrigated
11 Agriculture - Horticulture - Irrigated
12 Production native forests and plantation
forests
13 Other uses

## Proportion of each land class in area

Total Vegetation Cover [%]

Proportion of vegetation cover class in area
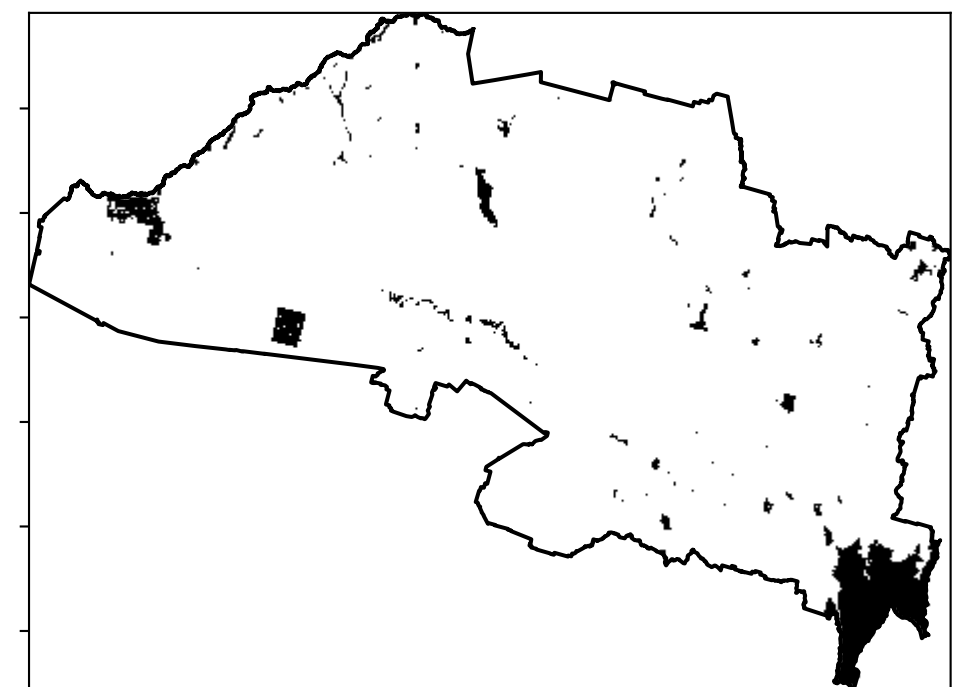

% Area protected from water erosion (>70%)

Area not
protected
14.4% of
region
(963,965
ha)

Area
protected
85.6% of
region
(5,730,235
ha)

% Area protected from wind erosion (>50%)

Area not
protected
0.0% of
region (0
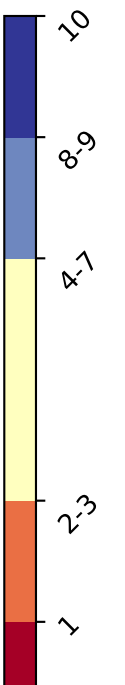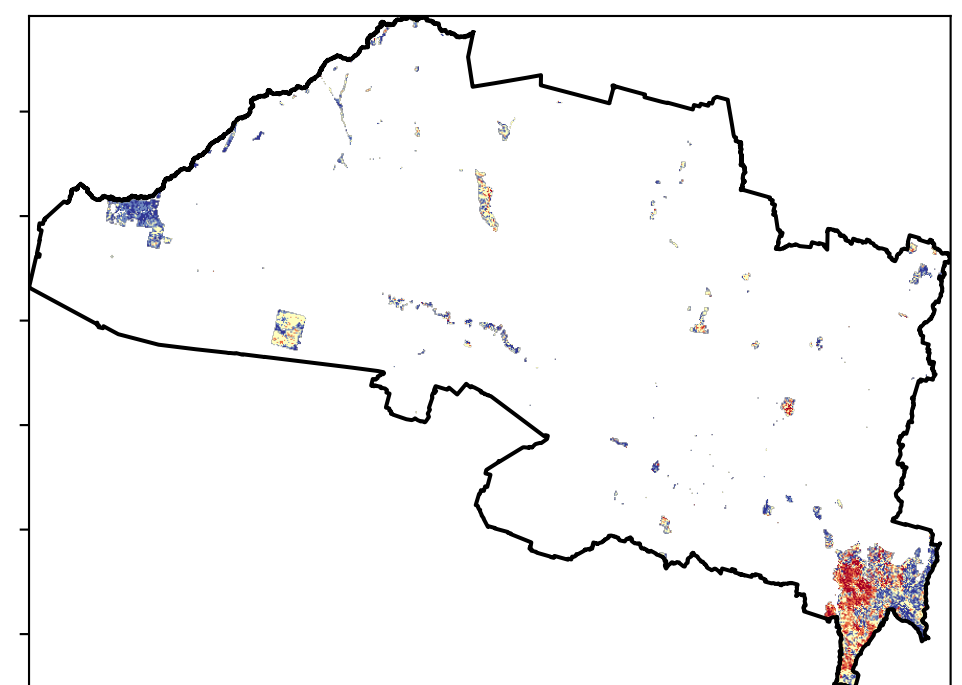ha)

Area
protected
100.0% of
region
(6,694,200
ha)

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.

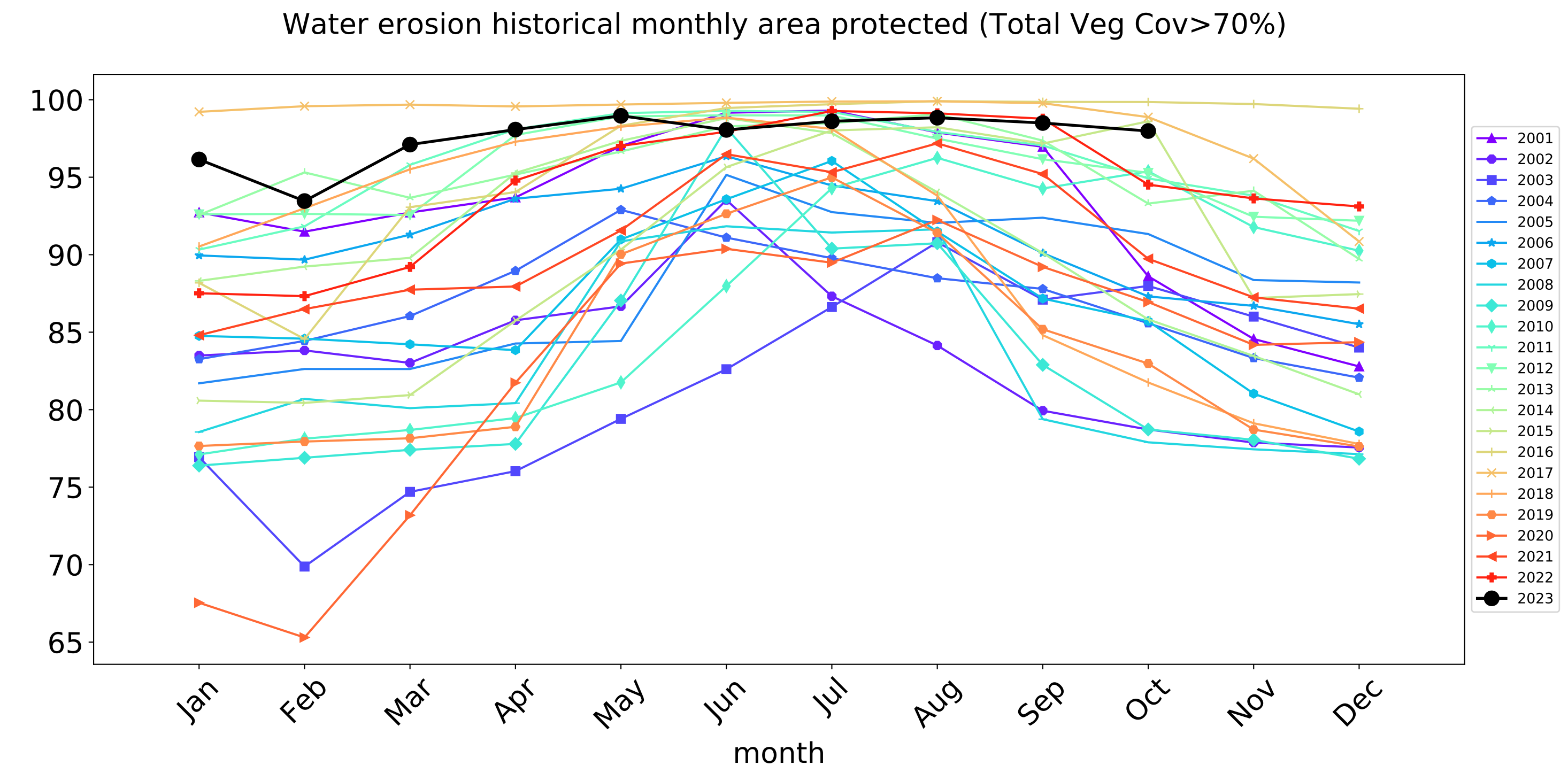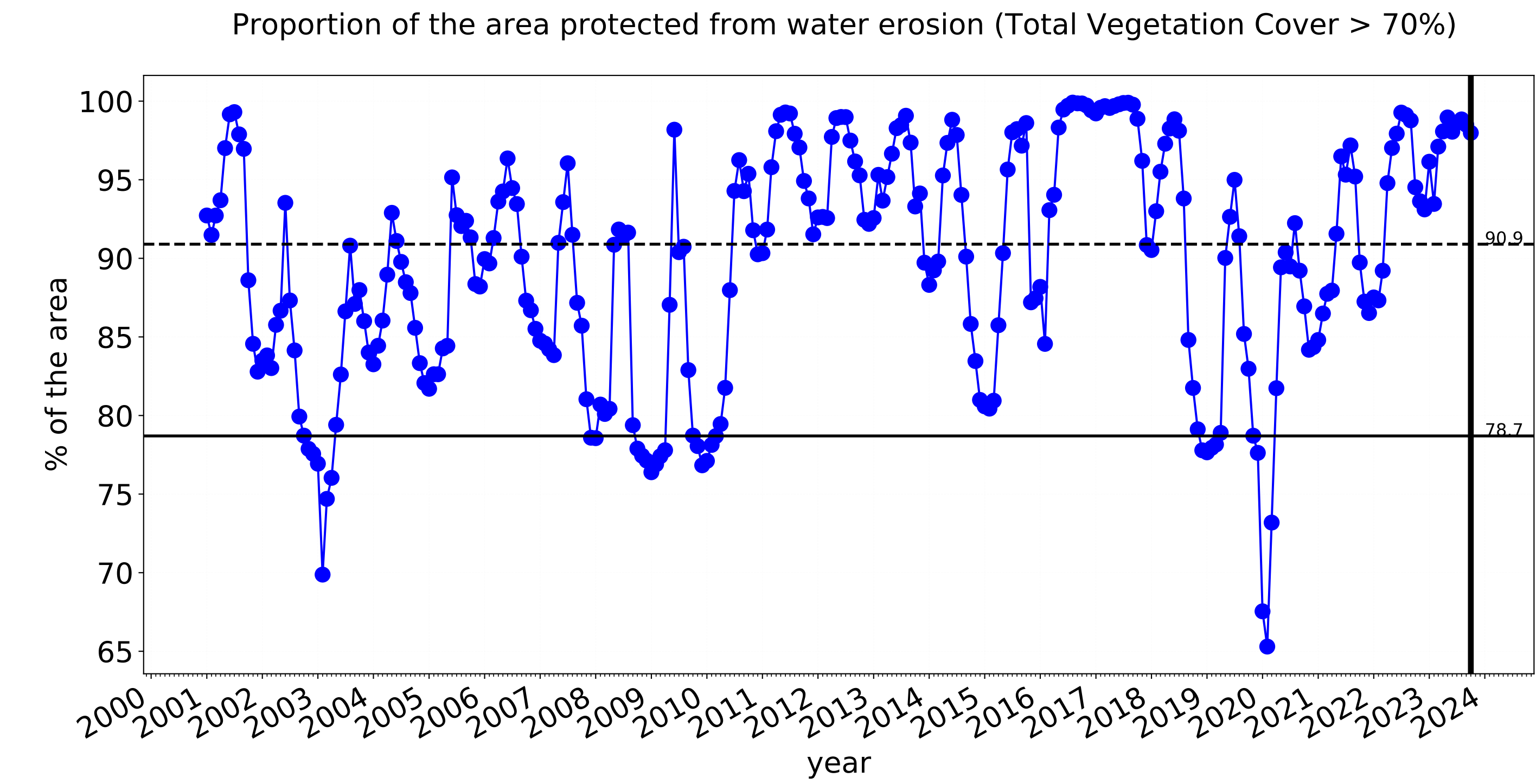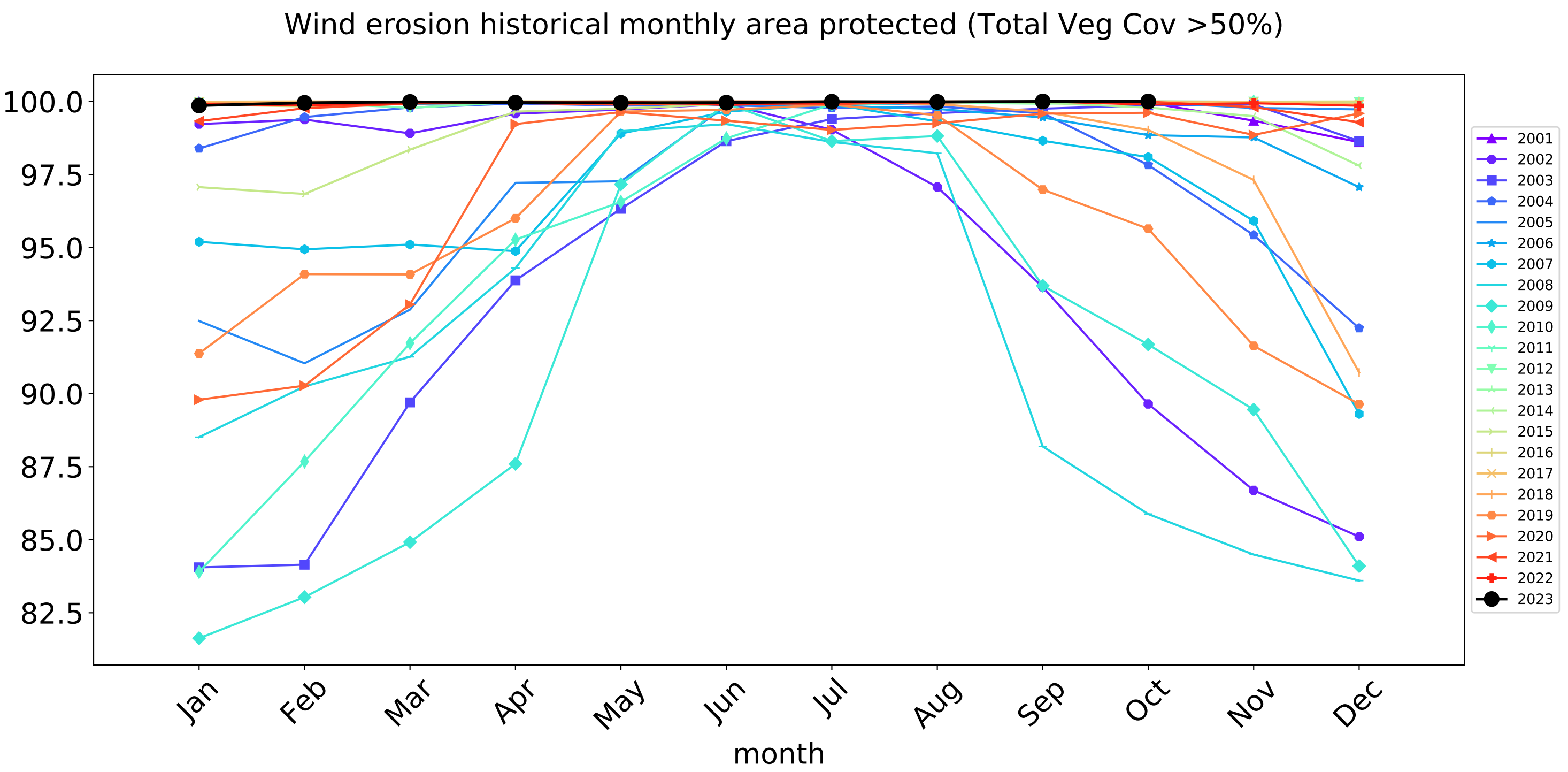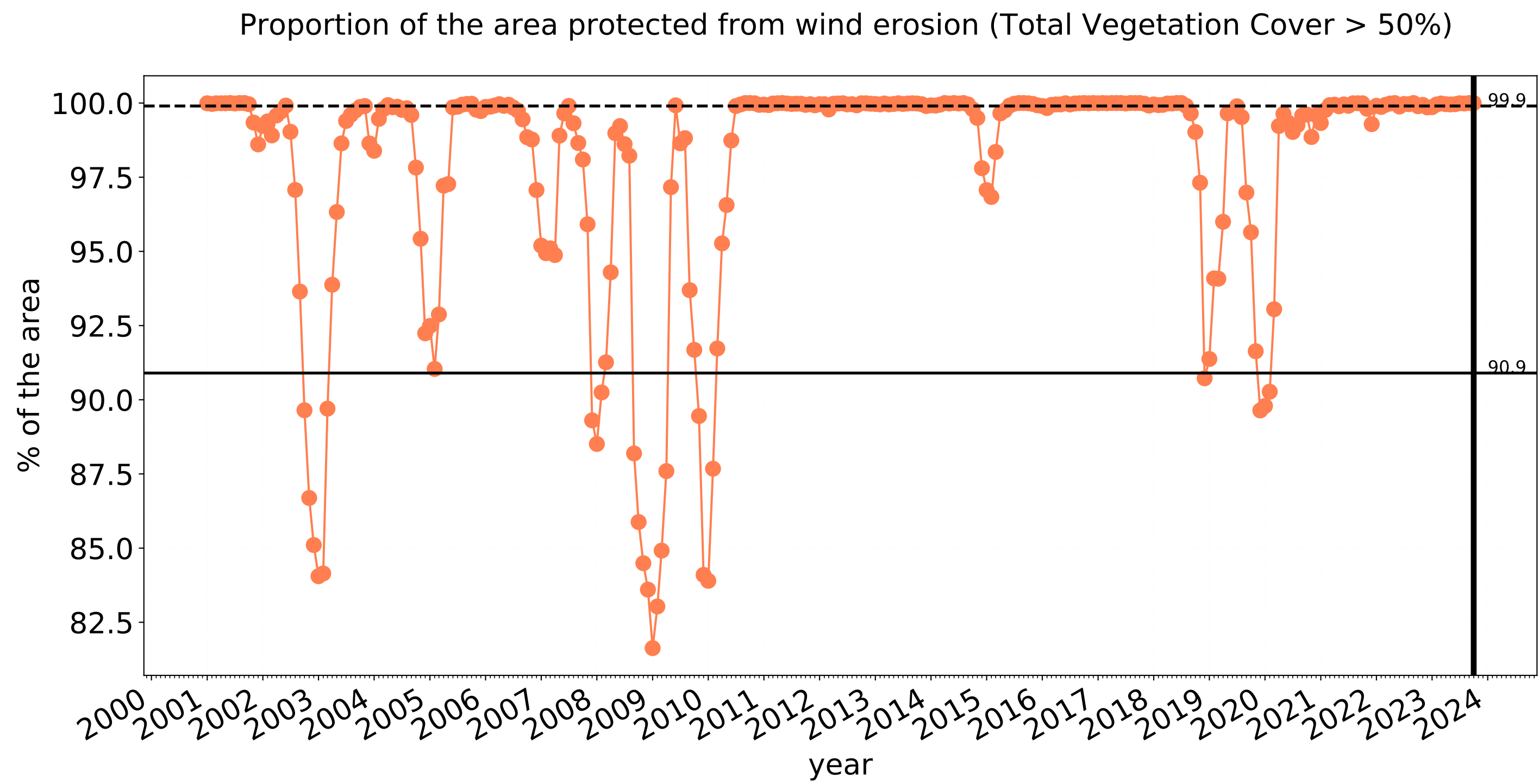## Total Vegetation Cover Decile [%]

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.

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 2023

Rainfall: historical monthly
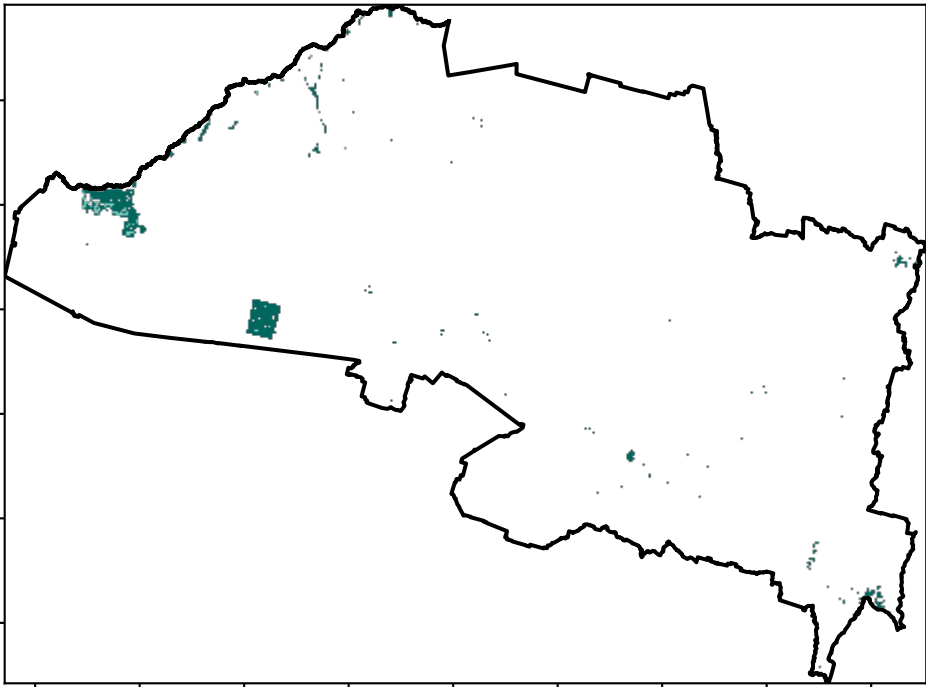
Conservation and natural environments

Land use and forest cover

Catchment Scale Land Use and Forests of Australia (2018) Derived from Catchment Scale Land Use of Australia (2018) and Forests of Australia (2018)
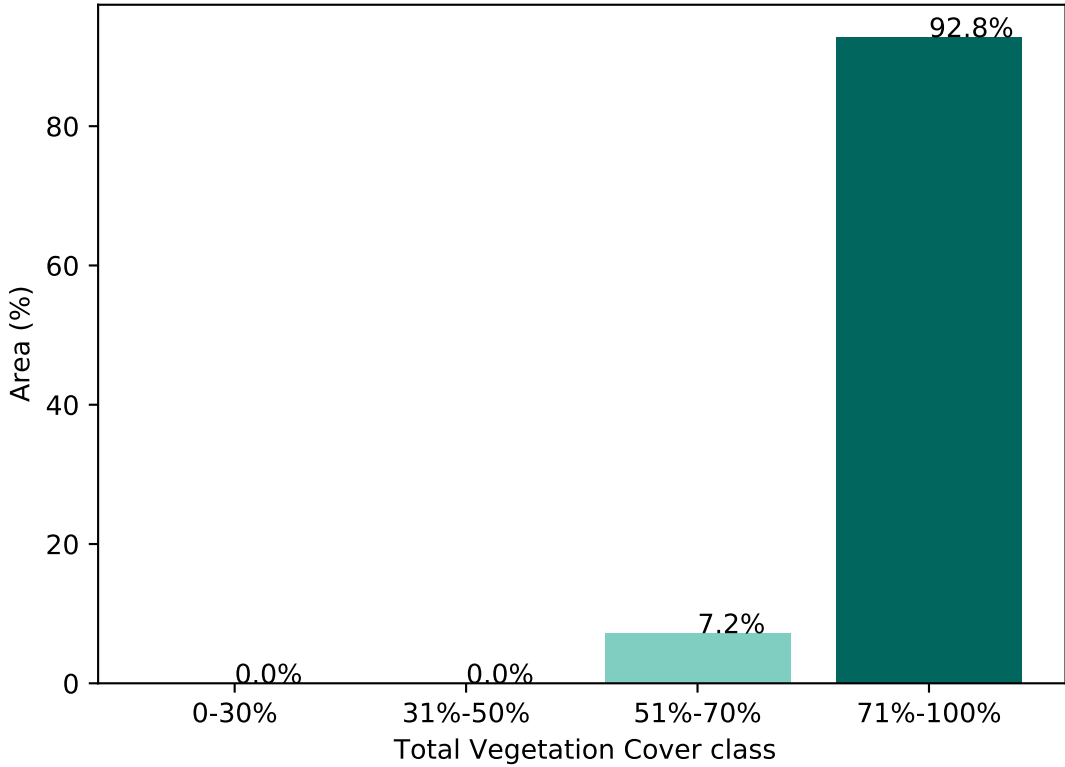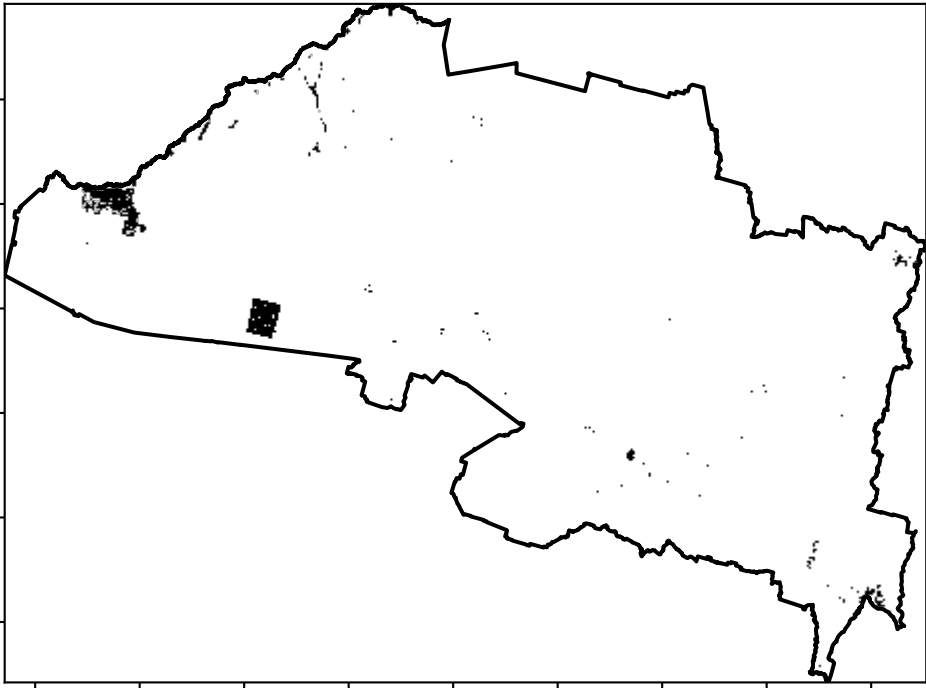
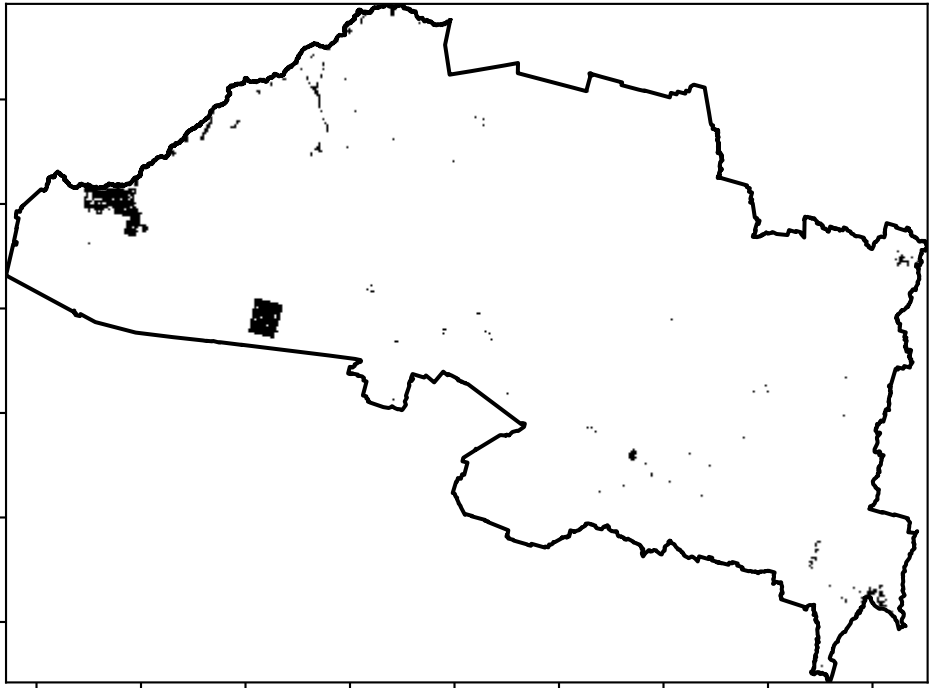1 Conservation and natural environments - Non-forest
2 Conservation and natural environments - Woodland forest
3 Conservation and natural environments - Non-woodland forest

Proportion of each land class in area

Total Vegetation Cover [%]

71%-100%
51%-70%
31%-50%
0-30%

Proportion of vegetation cover class in area
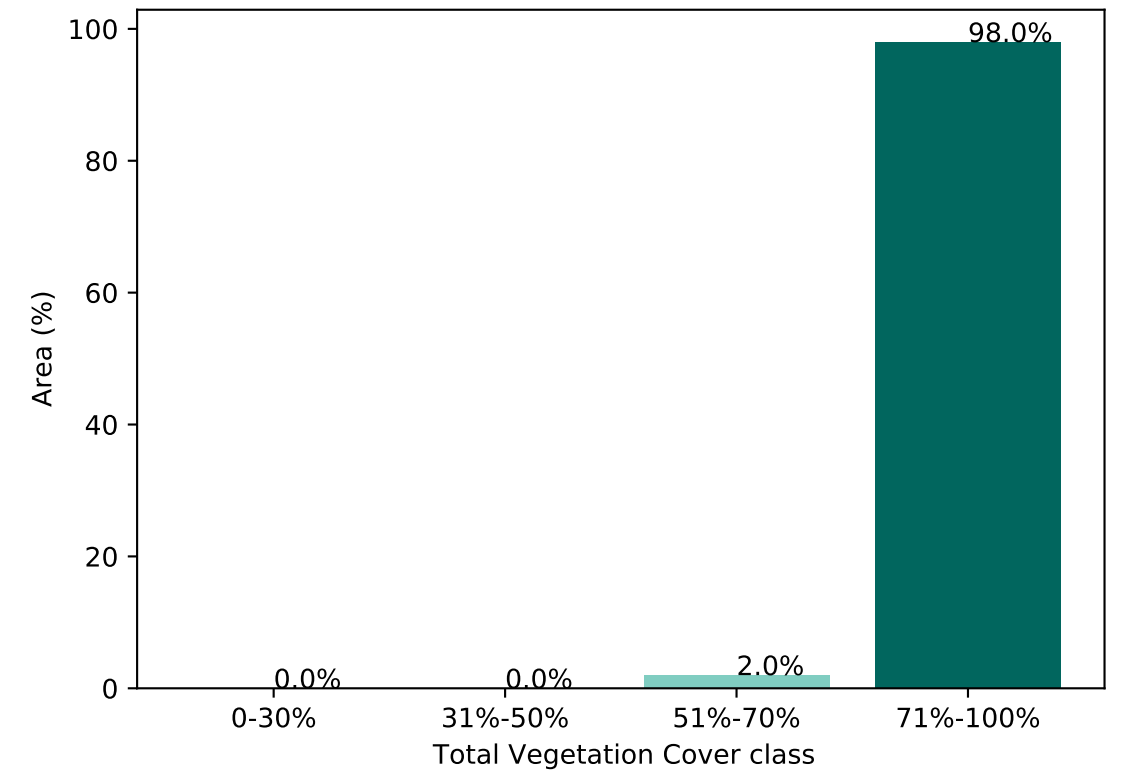
% Area protected from water erosion (>70%)
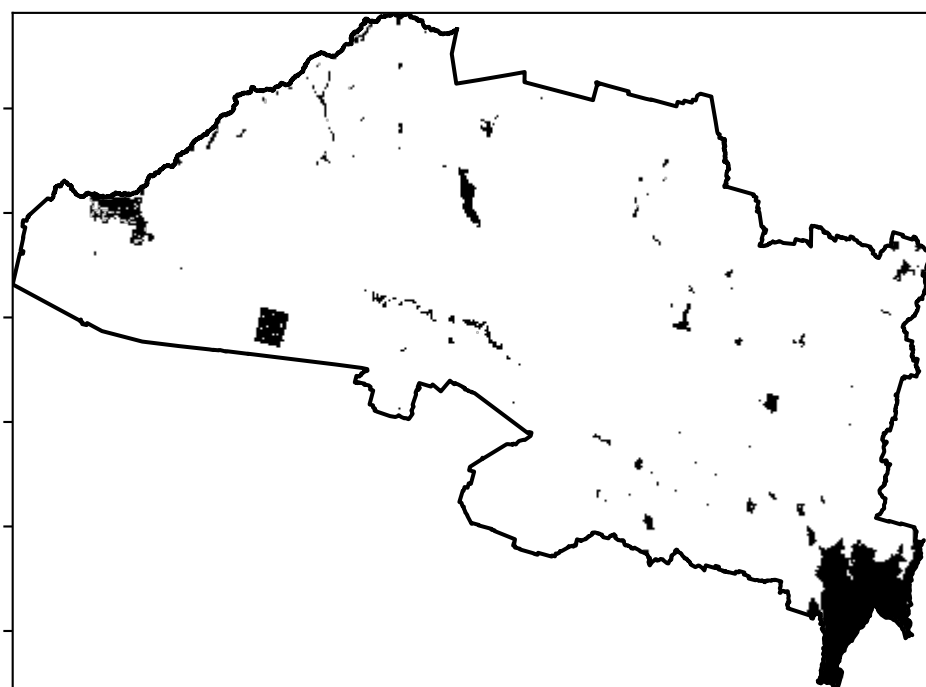
Area not protected 2.0% of region (6,463 ha)

Area protected 98.0% of region (316,687 ha)

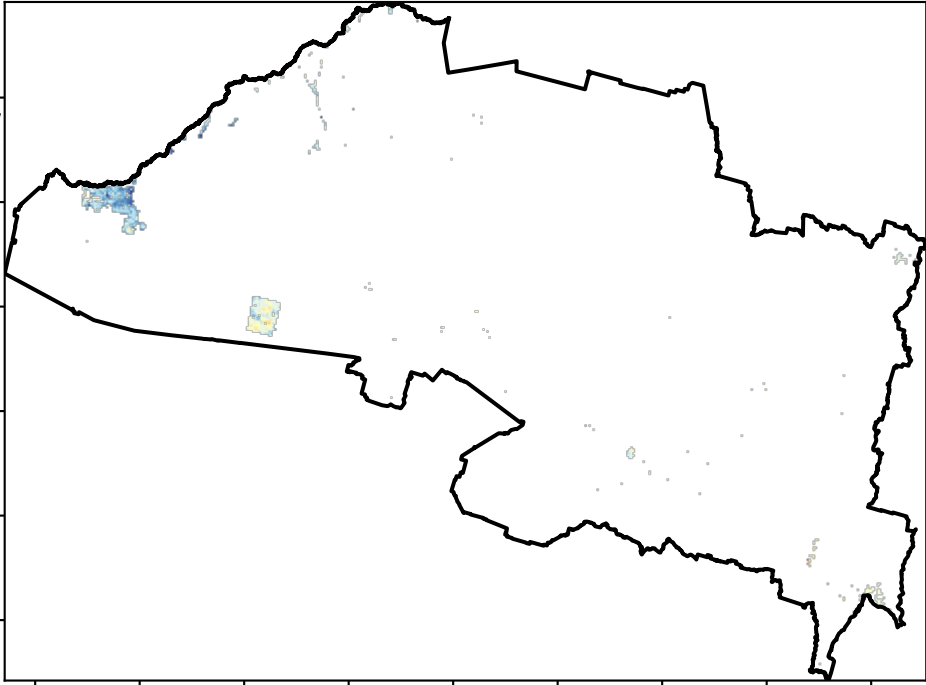### % Area protected from wind erosion (>50%)
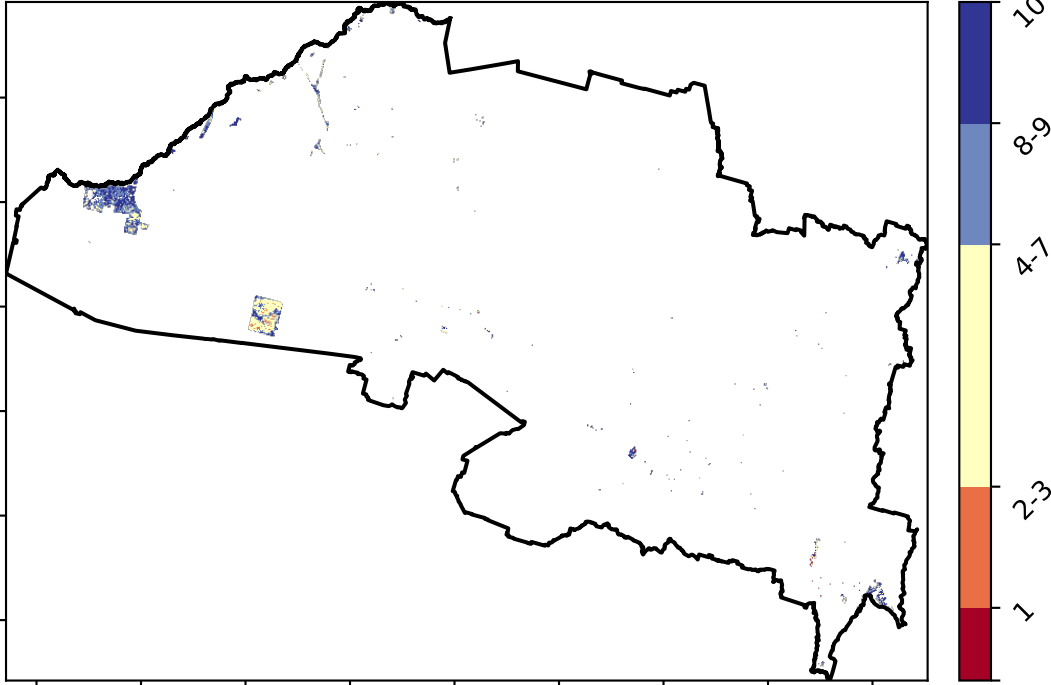

Area protected 100.0% of region (323,150 ha)

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.
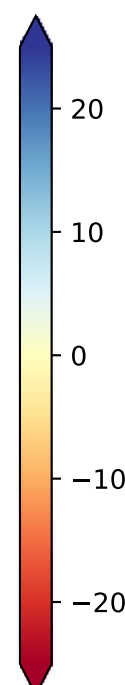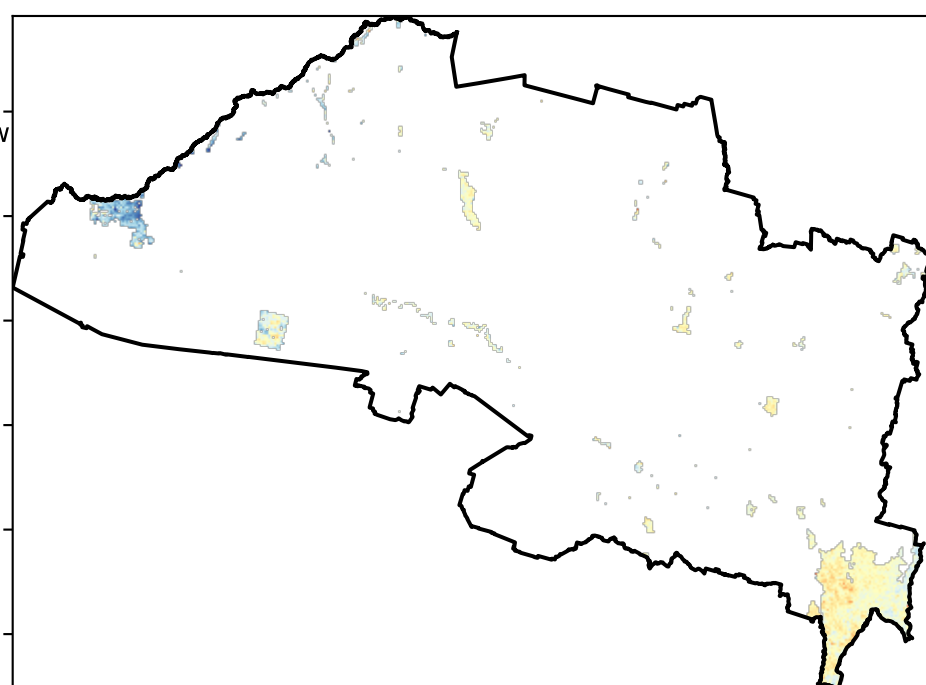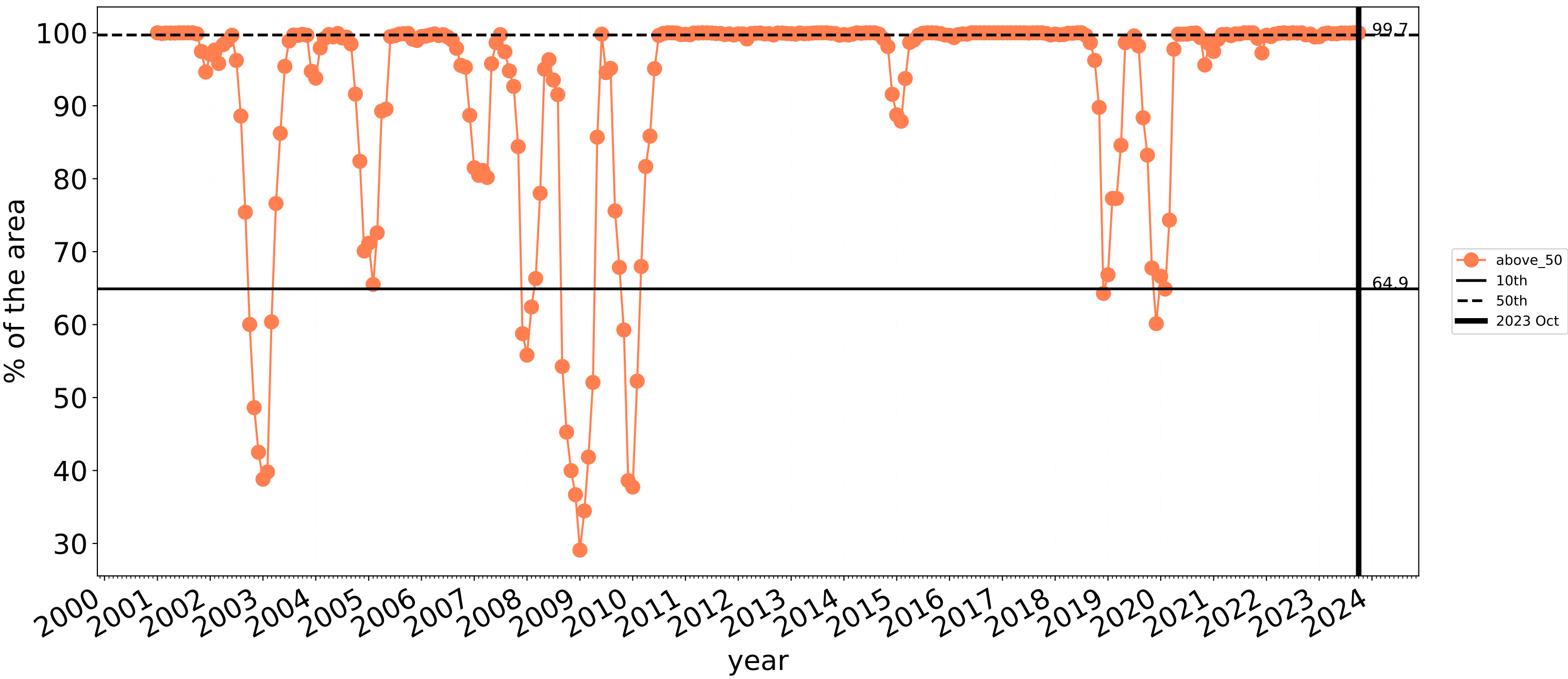
Total Vegetation Cover Decile [%]

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.

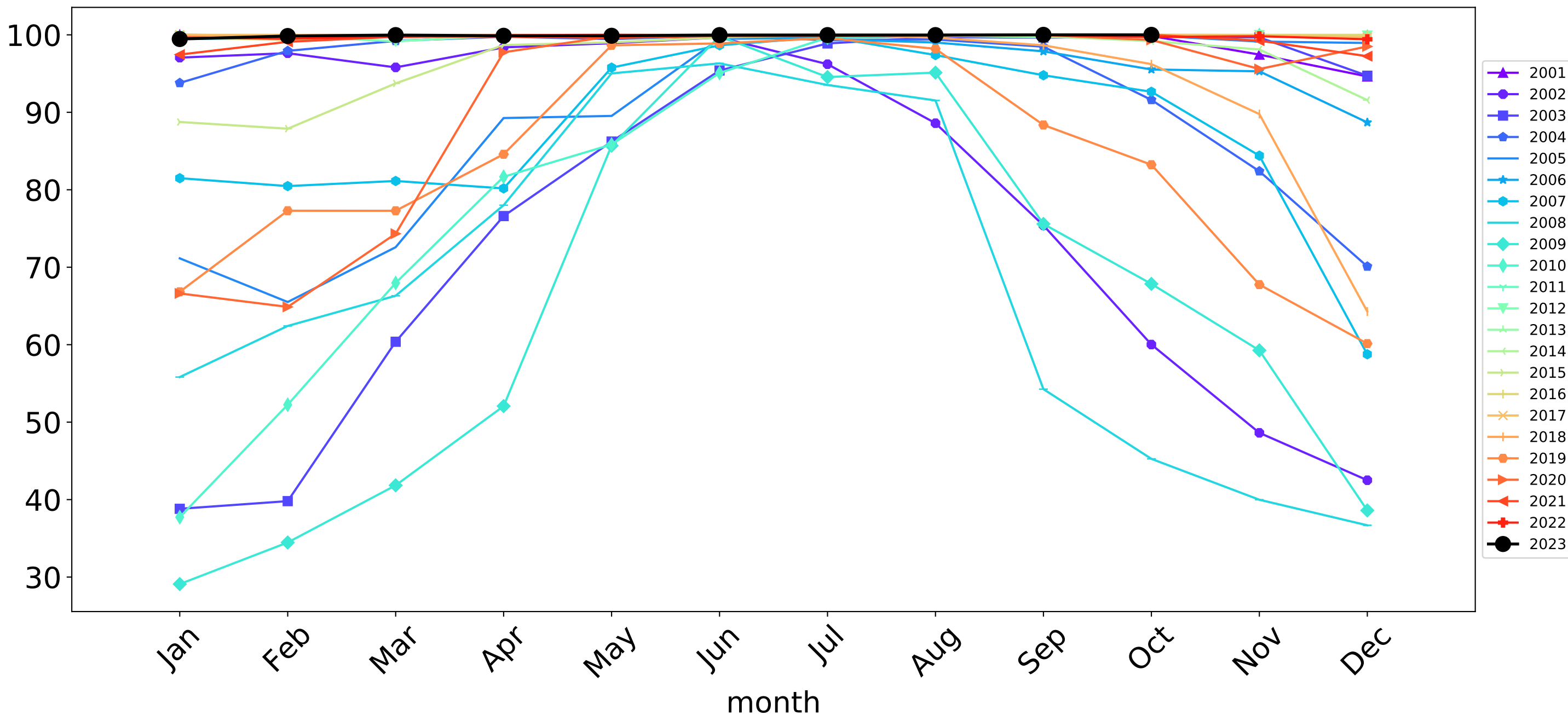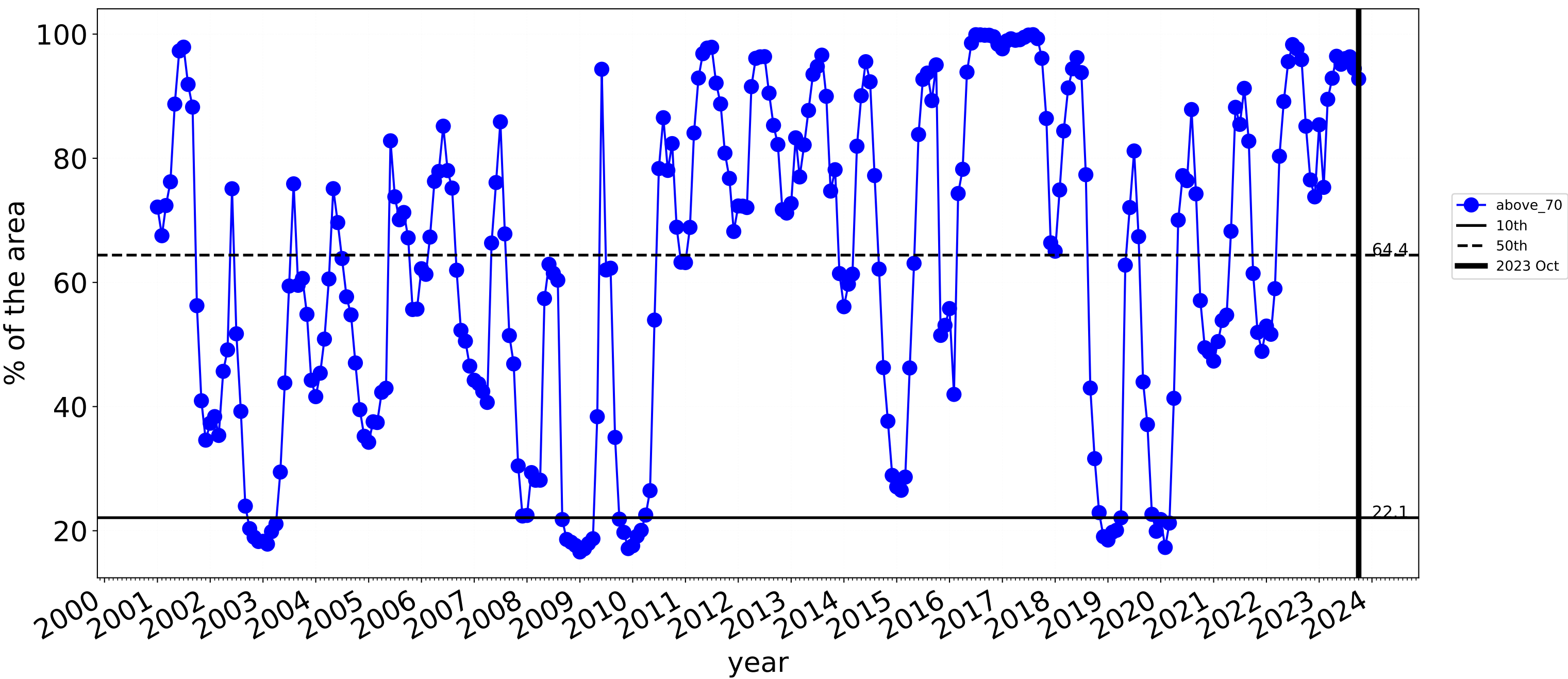# Conservation and natural environments timeseries

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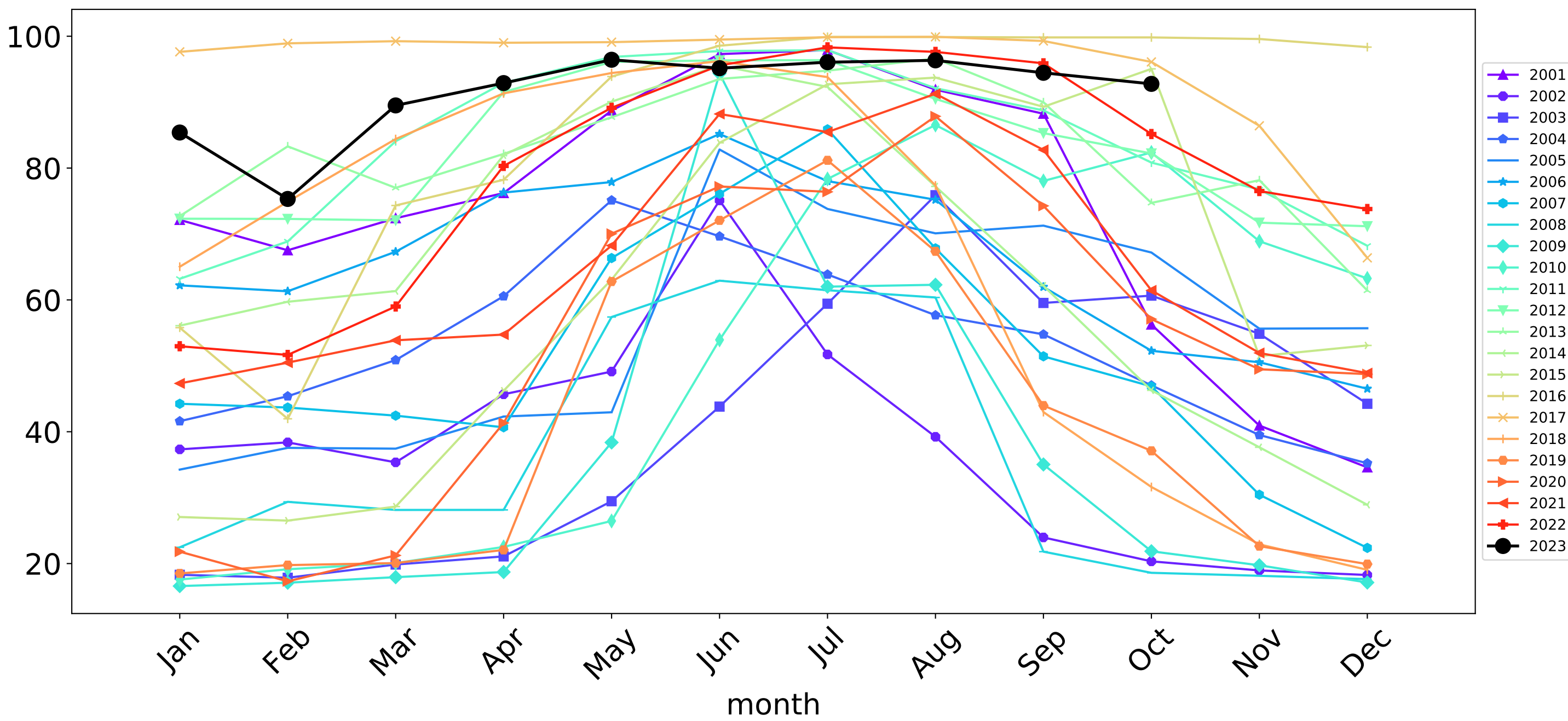

Wind erosion historical monthly area protected (Total Veg Cov >50%)

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

Water erosion historical monthly area protected (Total Veg Cov>70%)
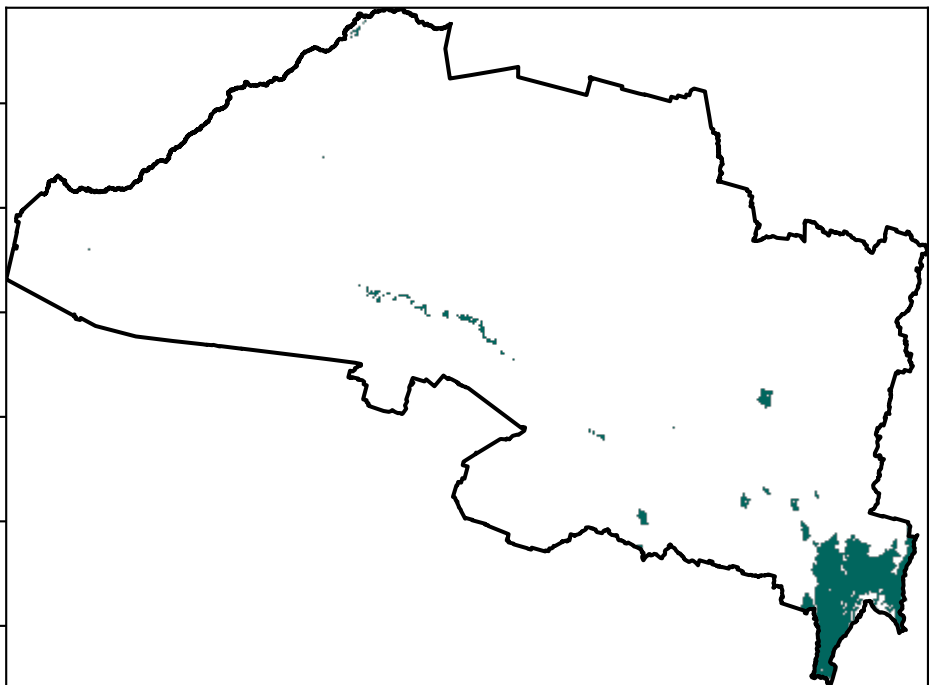
Conservation and natural environments non forest

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)
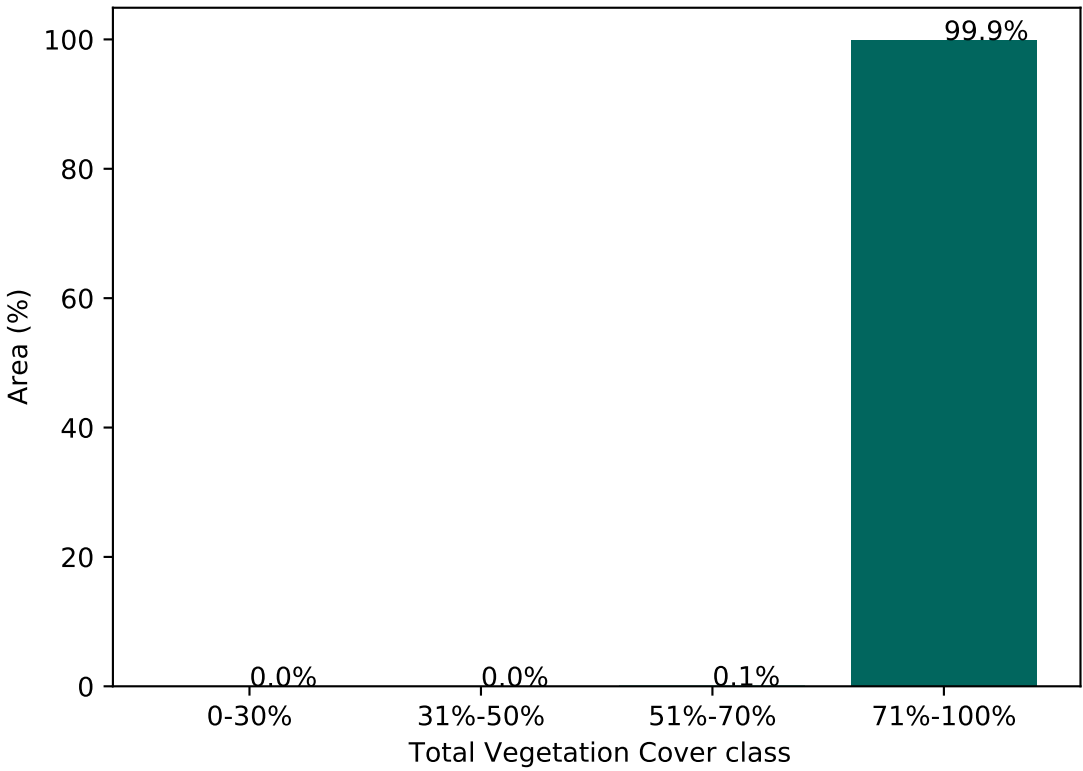
1 Conservation and natural environments - Non-forest

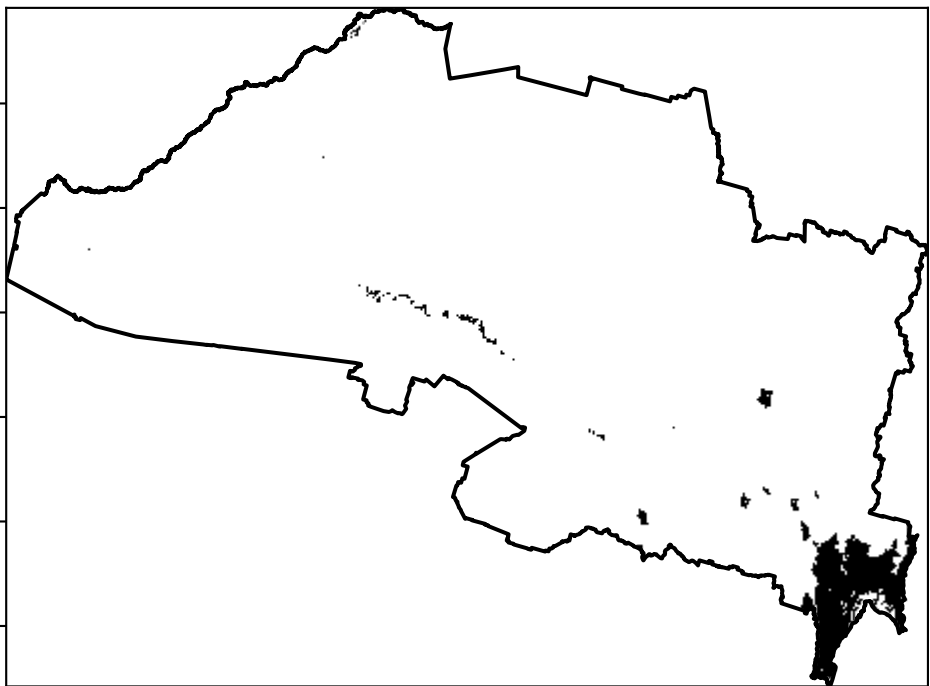### Total Vegetation Cover [%]

71%-100%

51%-70%

31%-50%

0-30%

Proportion of vegetation cover class in area

92.8%

7.2%

0.0%   0.0%

0-30%   31%-50%   51%-70%   71%-100%

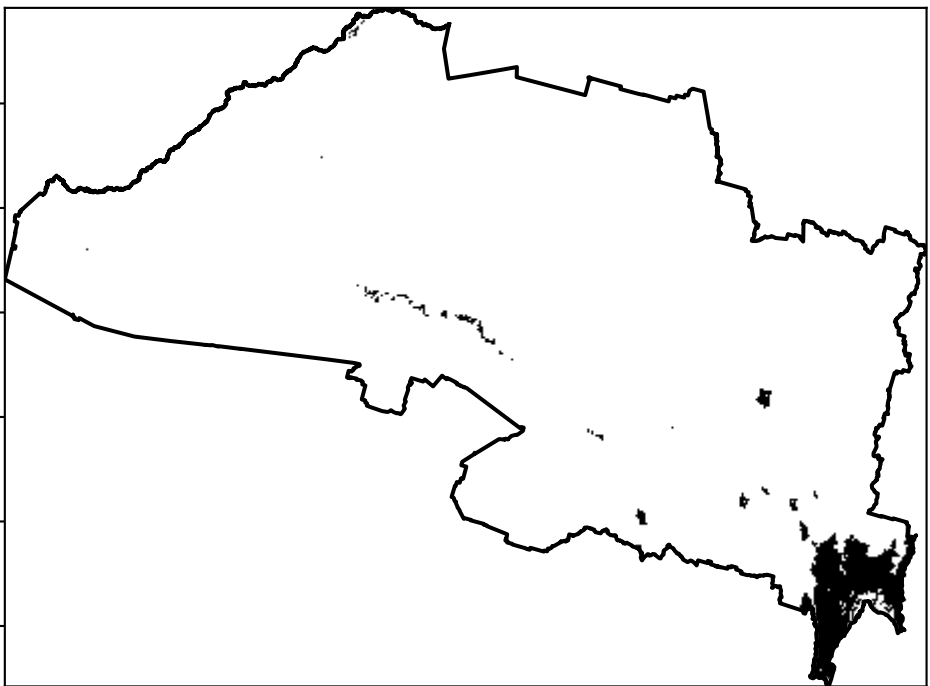Total Vegetation Cover class

% Area protected from water erosion (>70%)

Area not protected 7.2% of region (6,001 ha)

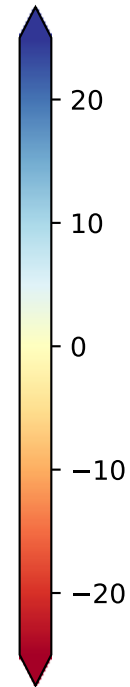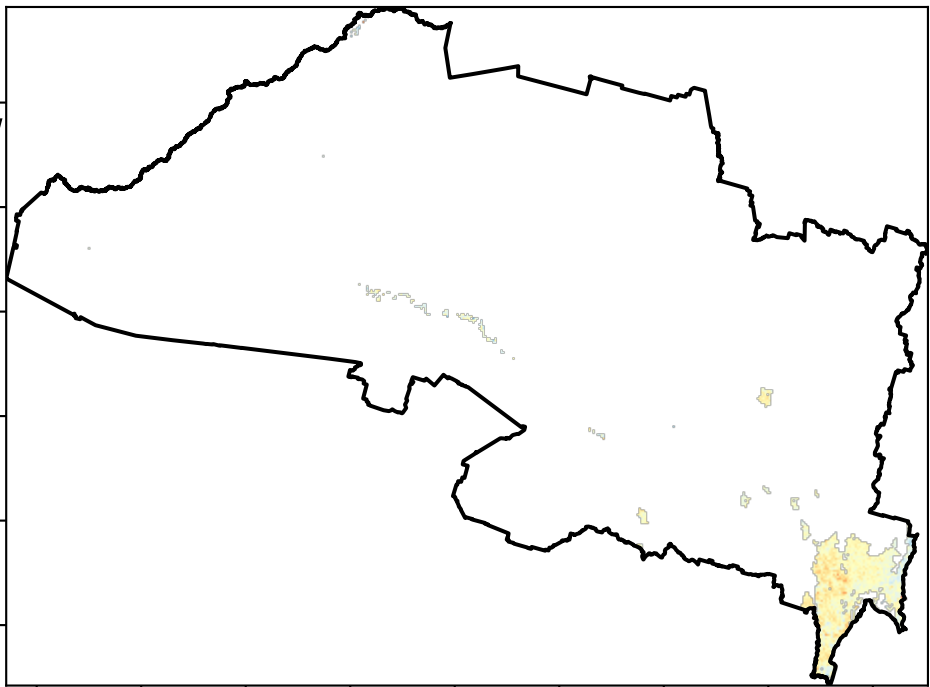Area protected 92.8% of region (77,349 ha)

% Area protected from wind erosion (>50%)
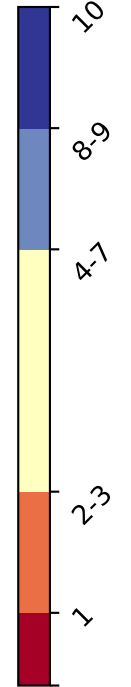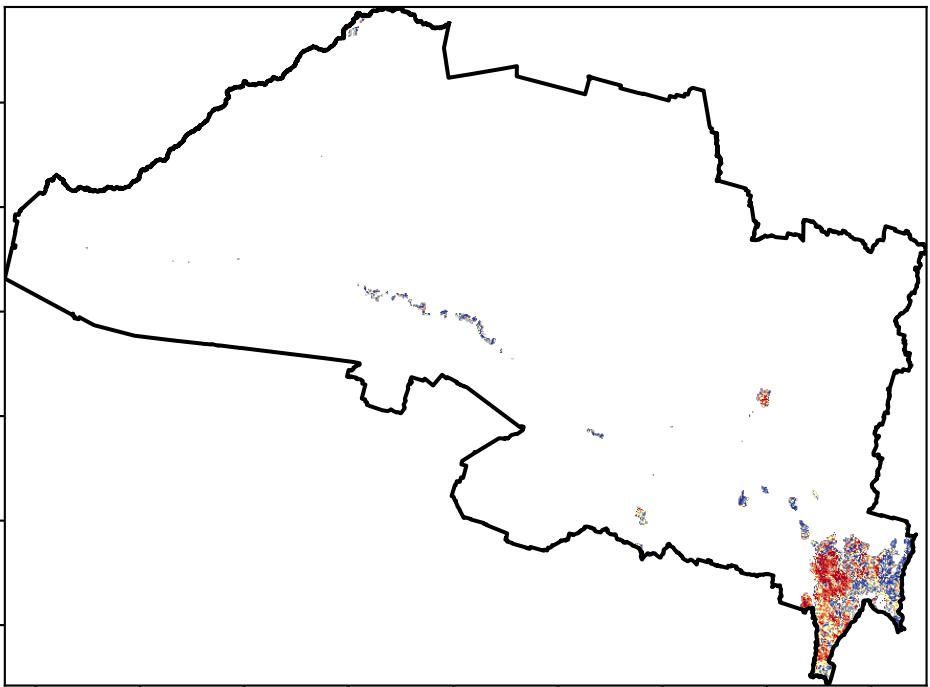
Area protected 100.0% of region (83,350 ha)

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.

10

8-9

4-7

2-3

1

Conservation and natural environments non forest timeseries

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

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

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

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

Conservation and natural environments Forest (non woodland)

Land use and forest cover

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

1 Conservation and natural environments - Non-woodland forest

Total Vegetation Cover [%]

71%-100%
51%-70%
31%-50%
0-30%

Proportion of vegetation cover class in area

% Area protected from water erosion (>70%)

Area not
protected
0.1% of
region
(195 ha)

Area
protected
99.9% of
region
(195,105
ha)

% Area protected from wind erosion (>50%)

Area
protected
100.0% of
region
(195,300
ha)

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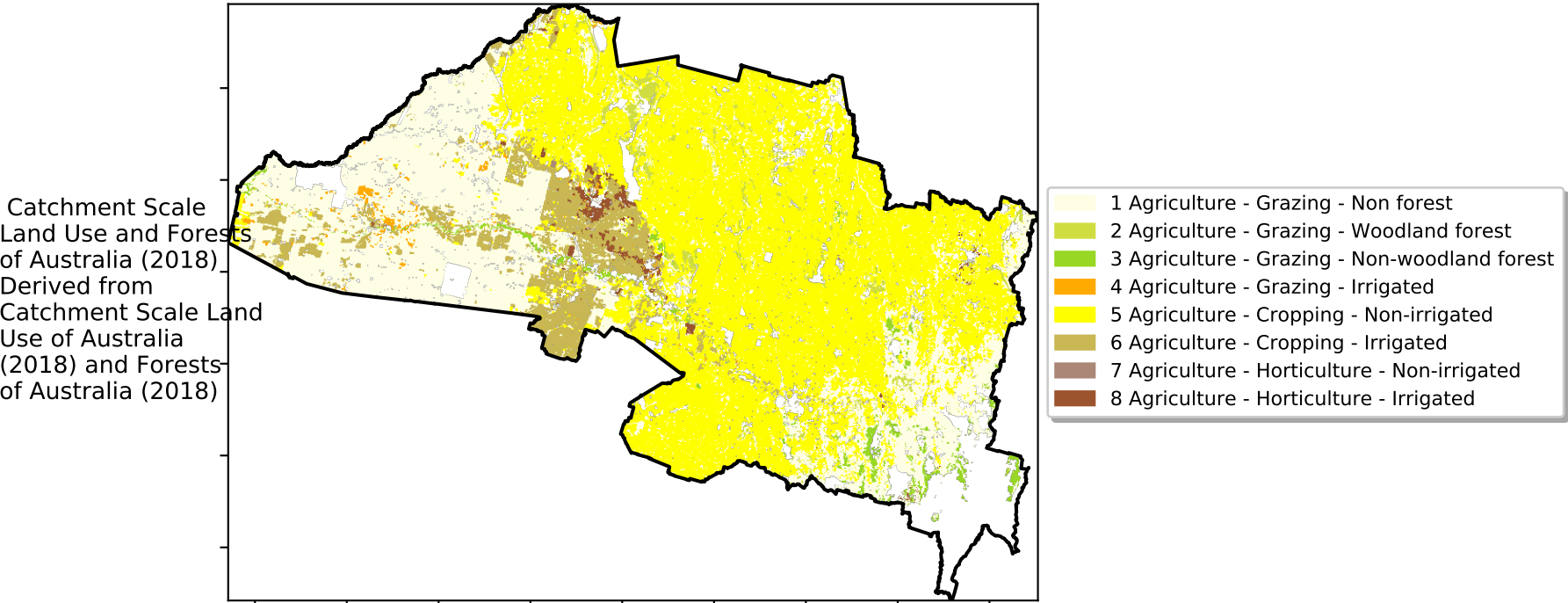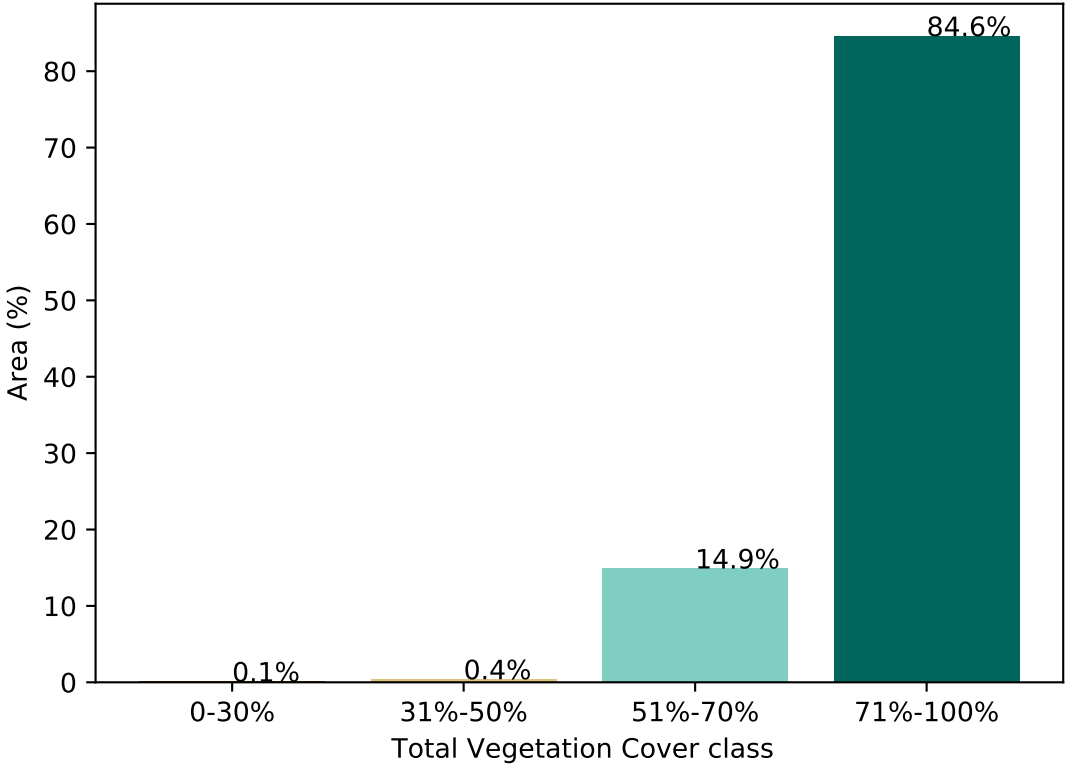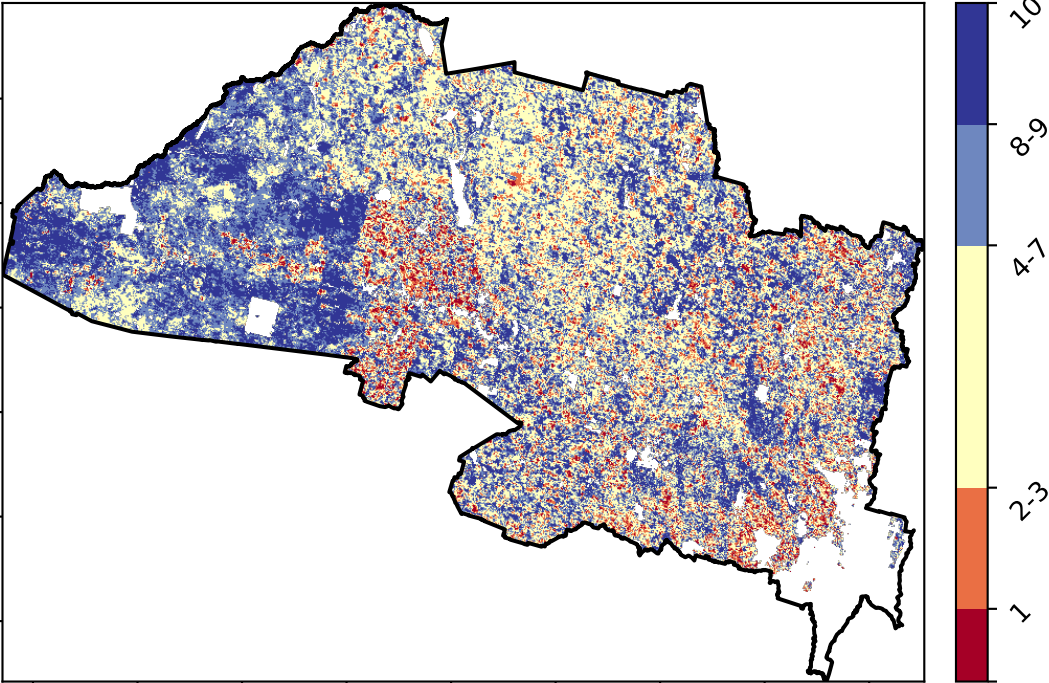pixel value lies in the
record, from highest to
lowest, for that month.
That is, red pixels are
in the lowest 10% of
records for that month of
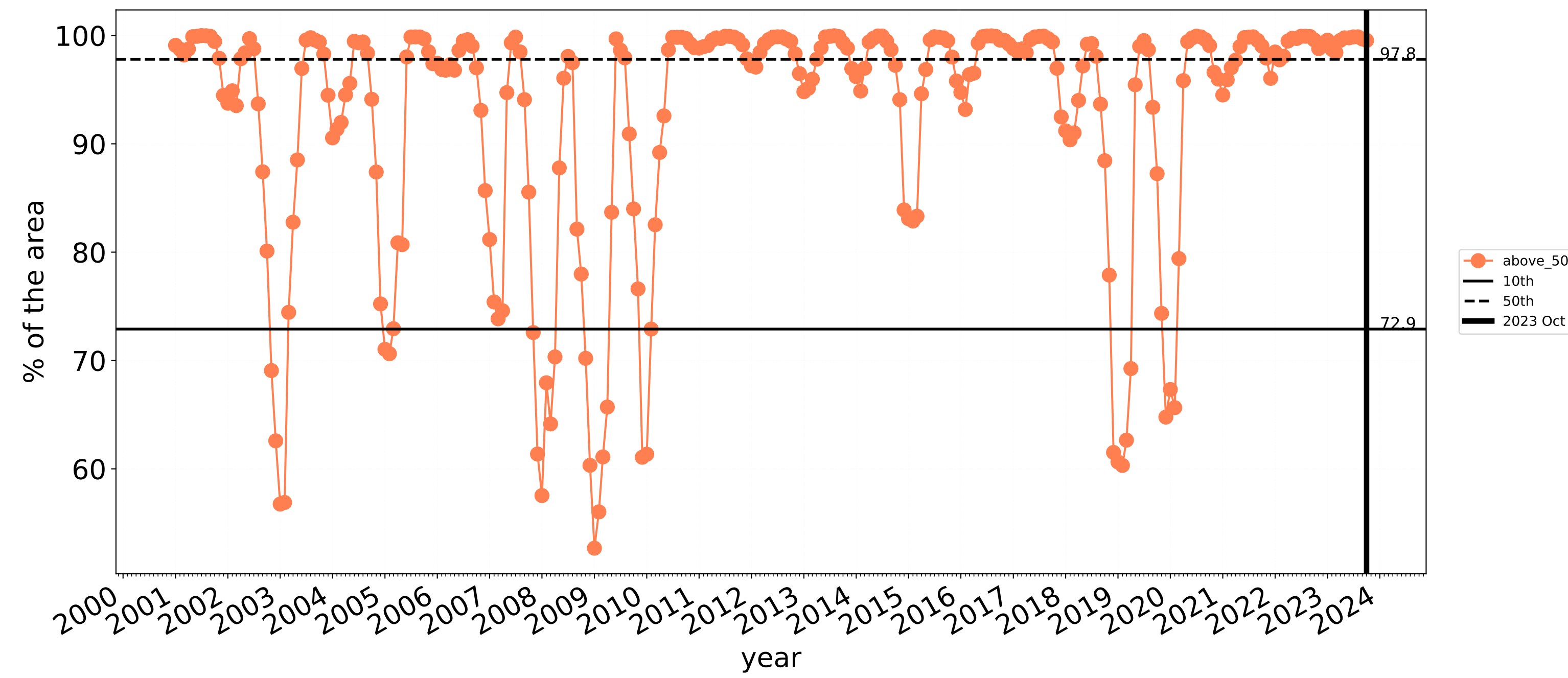the map using baseline
from 2001 to 2019.

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%)

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)

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

Proportion of each land class in area

Total Vegetation Cover [%]

Proportion of vegetation cover class in area

% Area protected from water erosion (>70%)

Area not protected 15.4% of region (934,449 ha)

Area protected 84.6% of region (5,133,401 ha)

% Area protected from wind erosion (>50%)

Area not protected 0.0% of region (0 ha)

Area protected 100.0% of region (6,067,850 ha)

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.
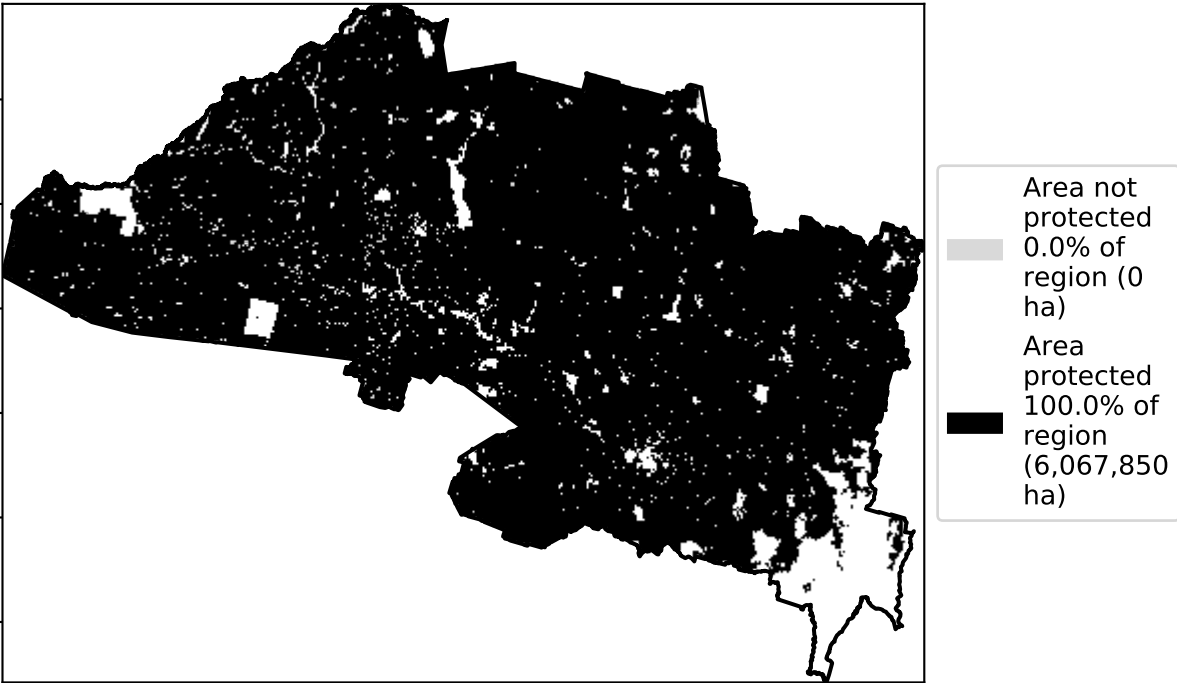
Total Vegetation Cover Decile [%]

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.
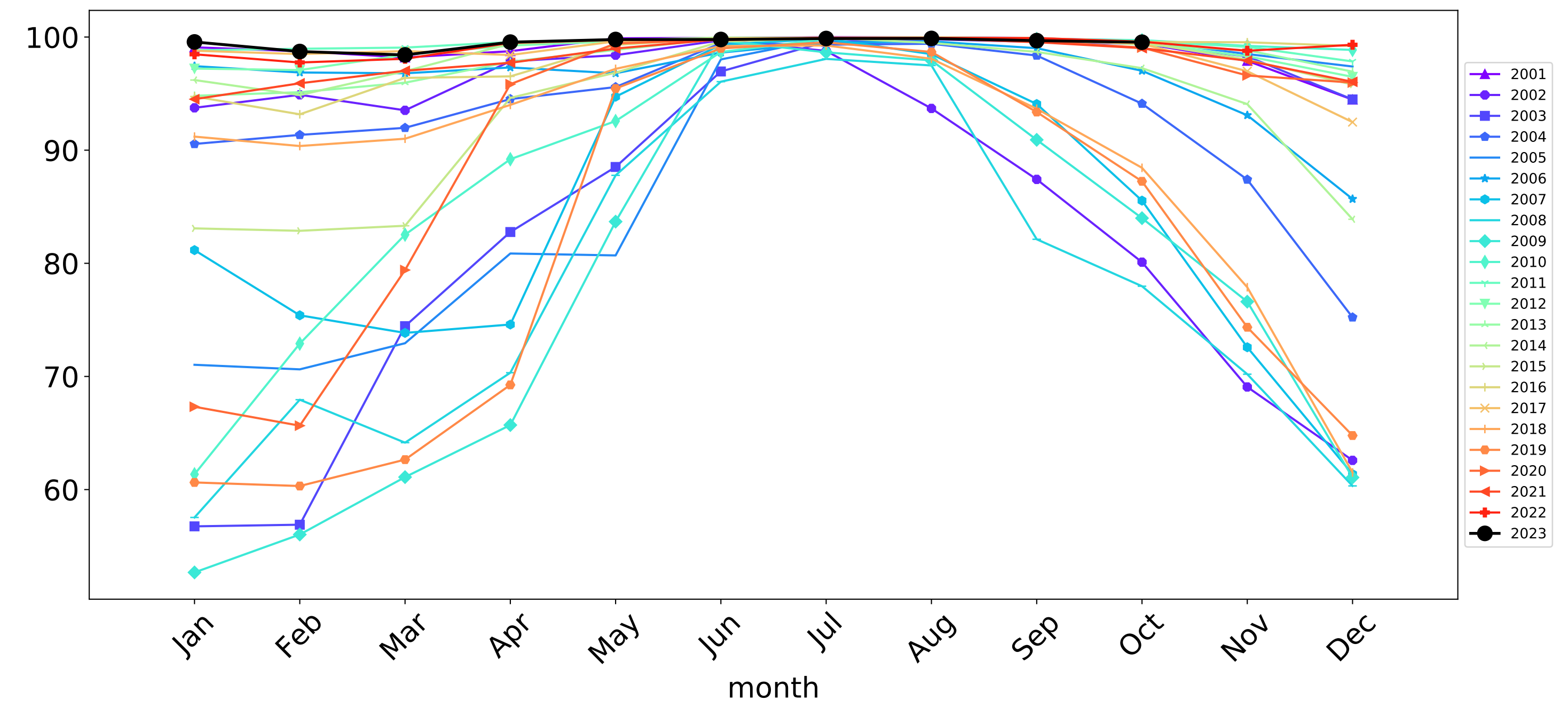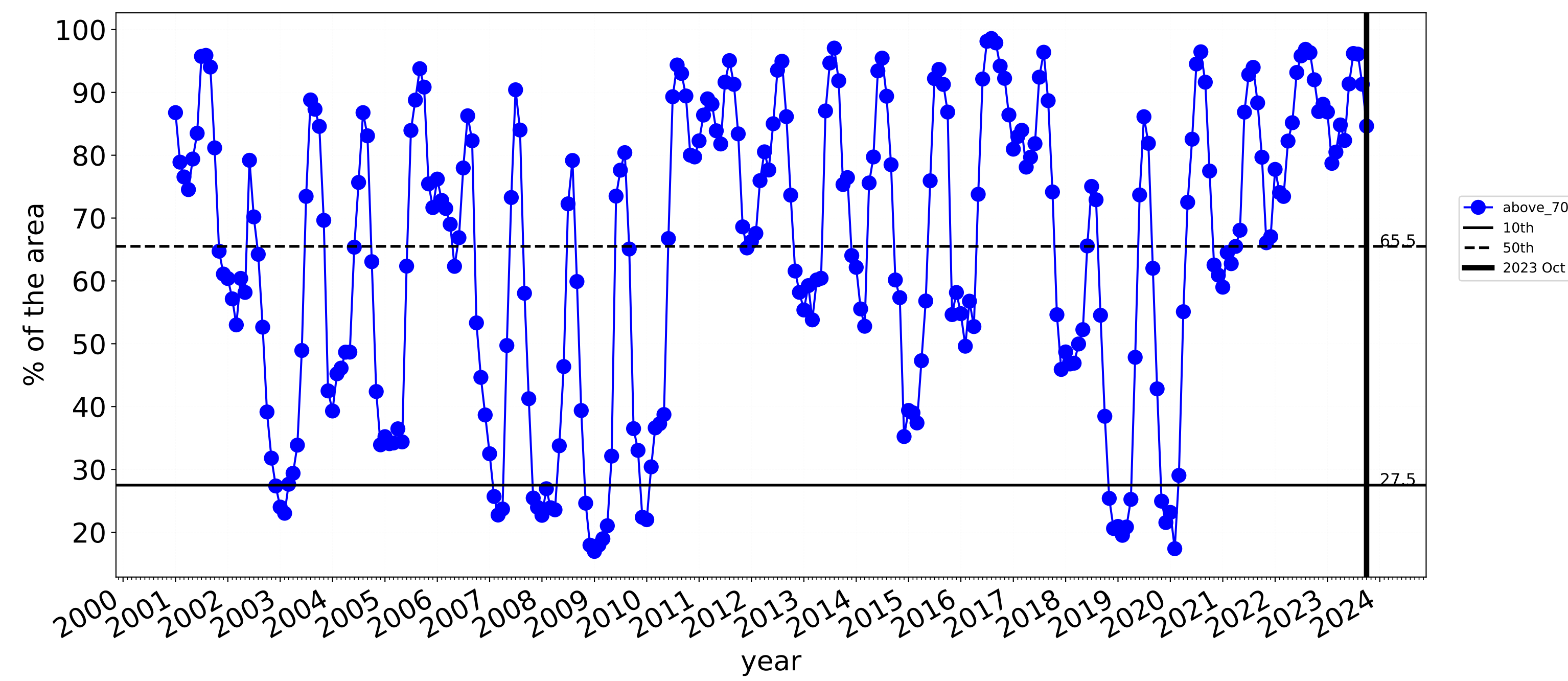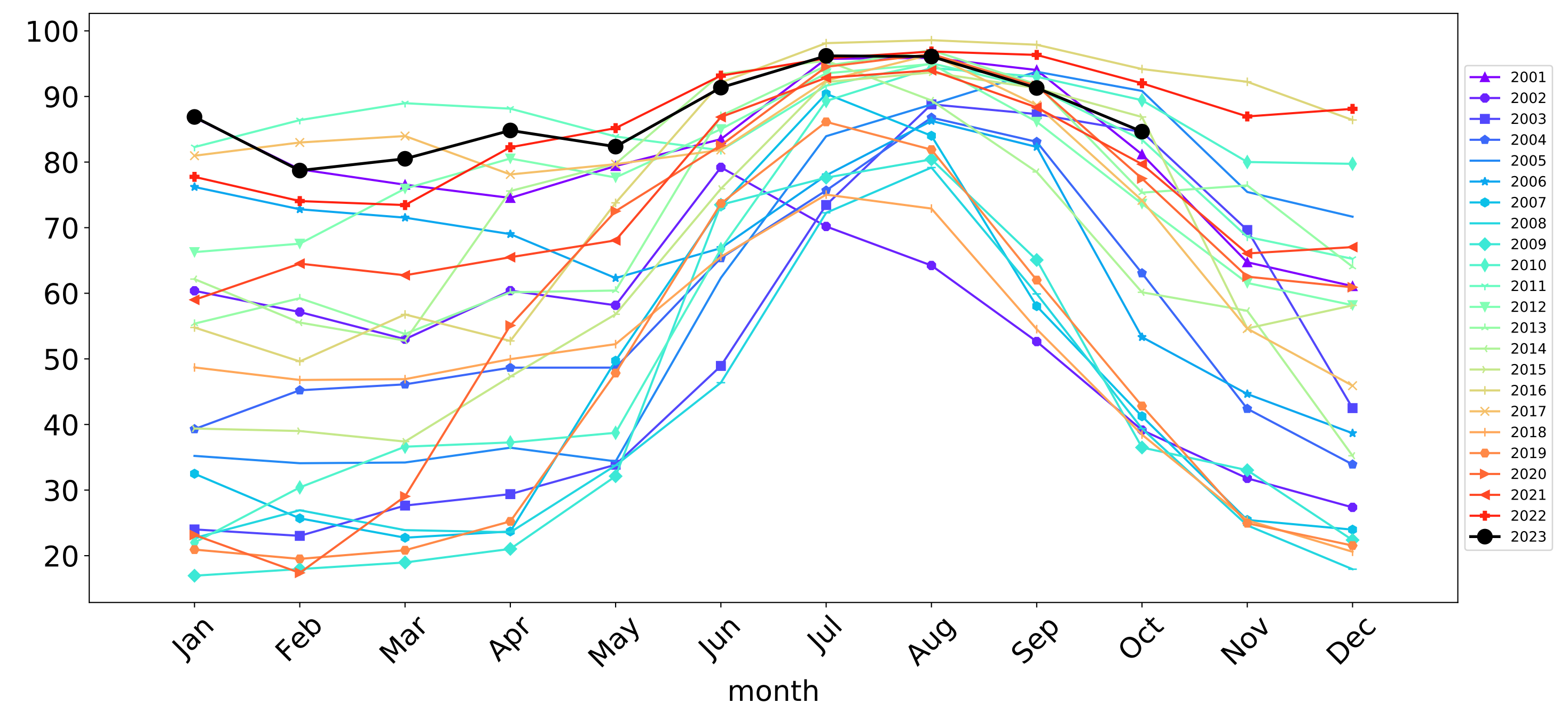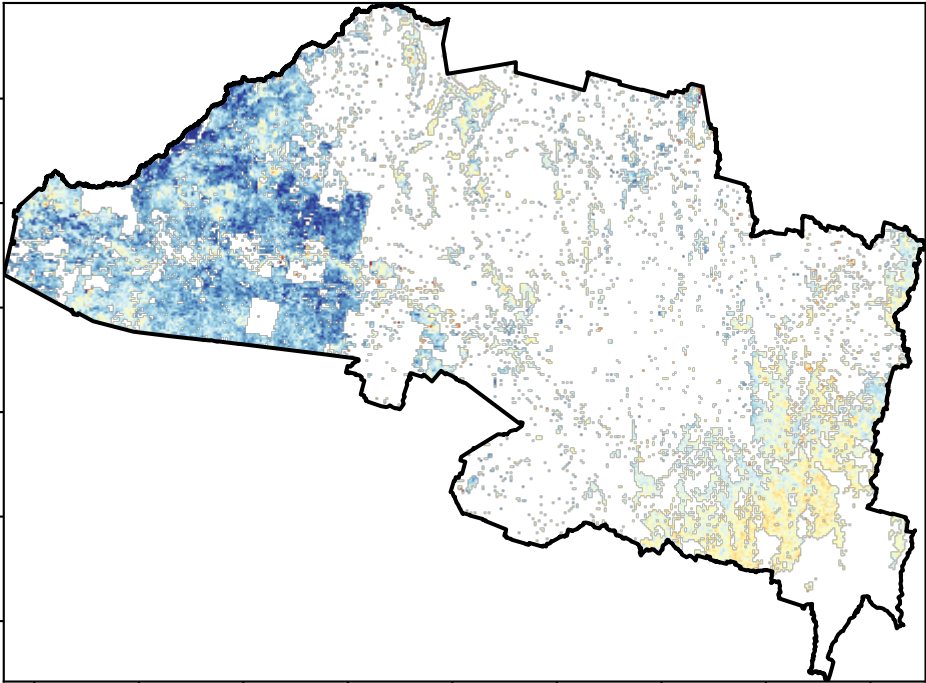
Agriculture timeseries

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%)

Grazing

Land use and forest cover

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

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

Proportion of each land class in area

Total Vegetation Cover [%]

71%-100%
51%-70%
31%-50%
0-30%
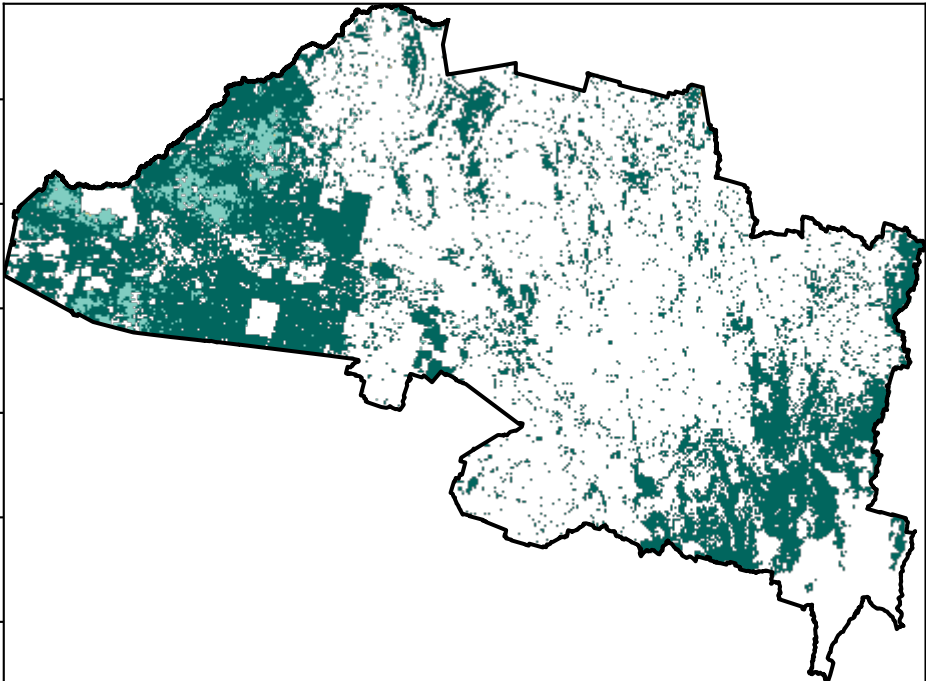
Proportion of vegetation cover class in area
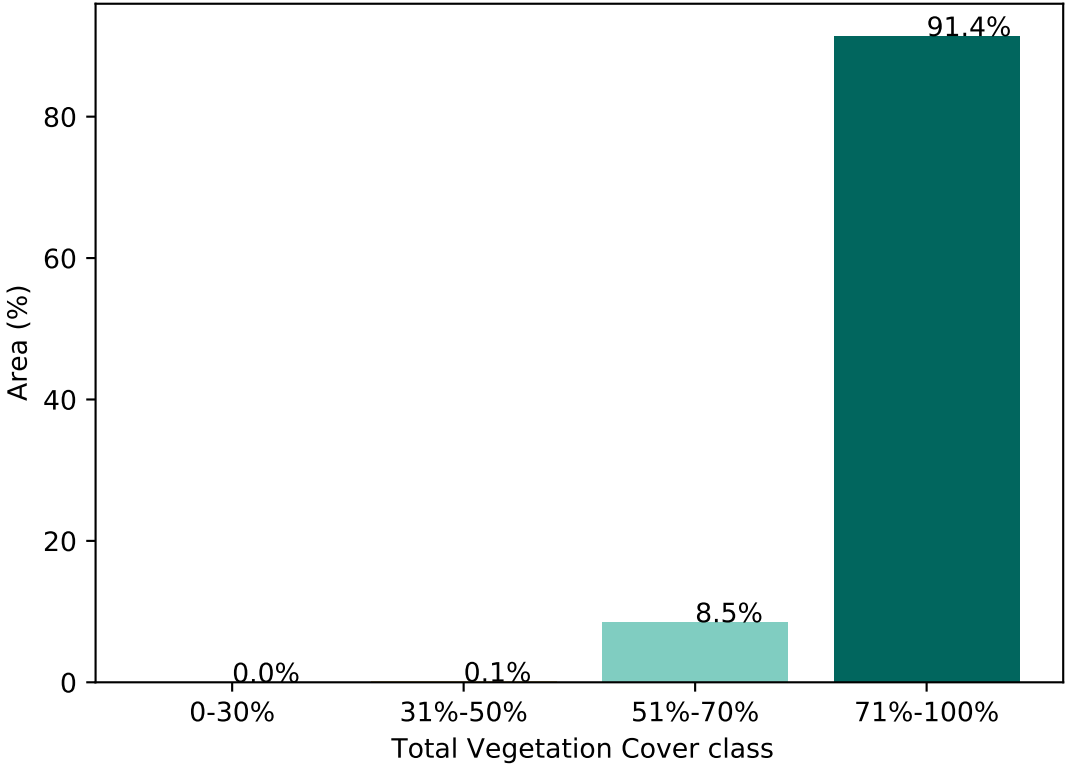
% Area protected from water erosion (>70%)
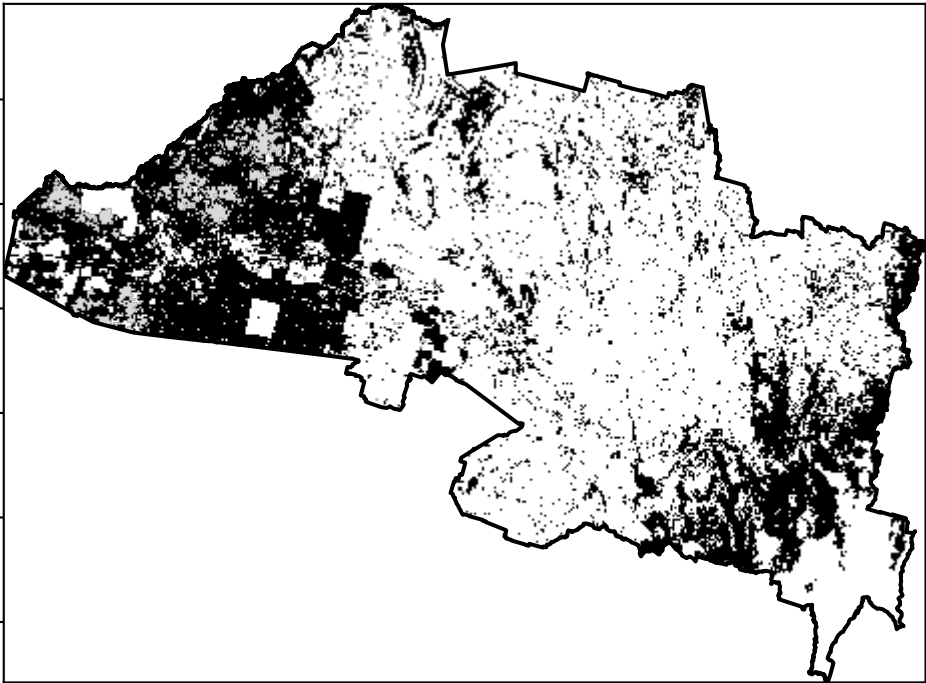
Area not protected 8.6% of region (198,785 ha)

Area protected 91.4% of region (2,112,665 ha)

% Area protected from wind erosion (>50%)
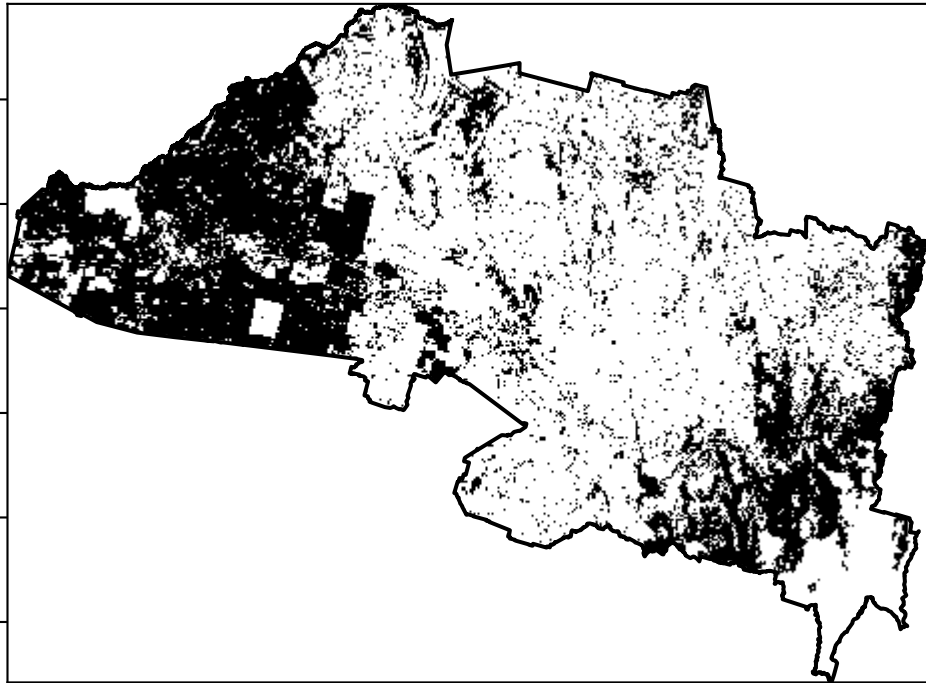
Area not protected 0.0% of region (0 ha)

Area protected 100.0% of region (2,311,450 ha)

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.
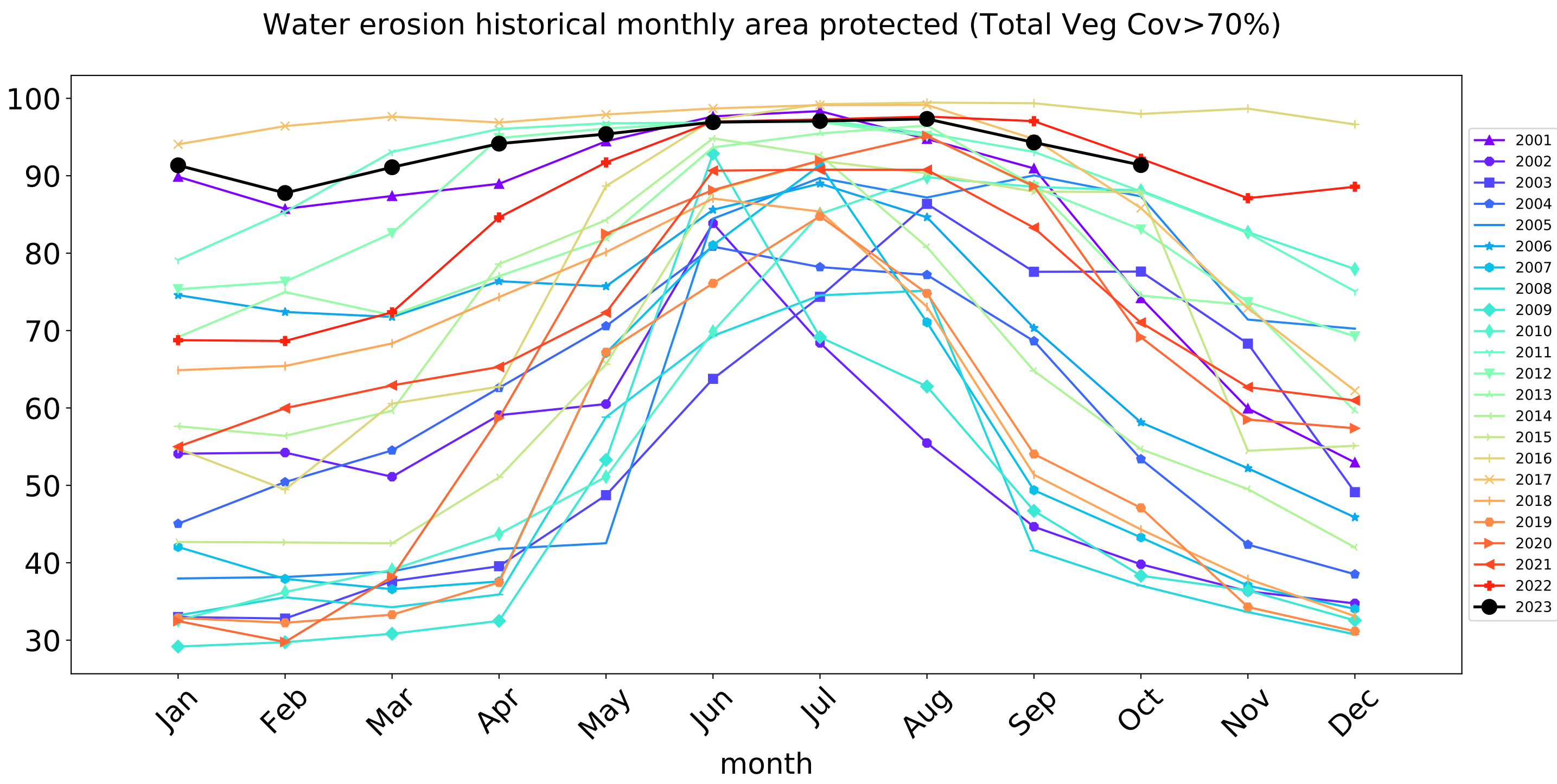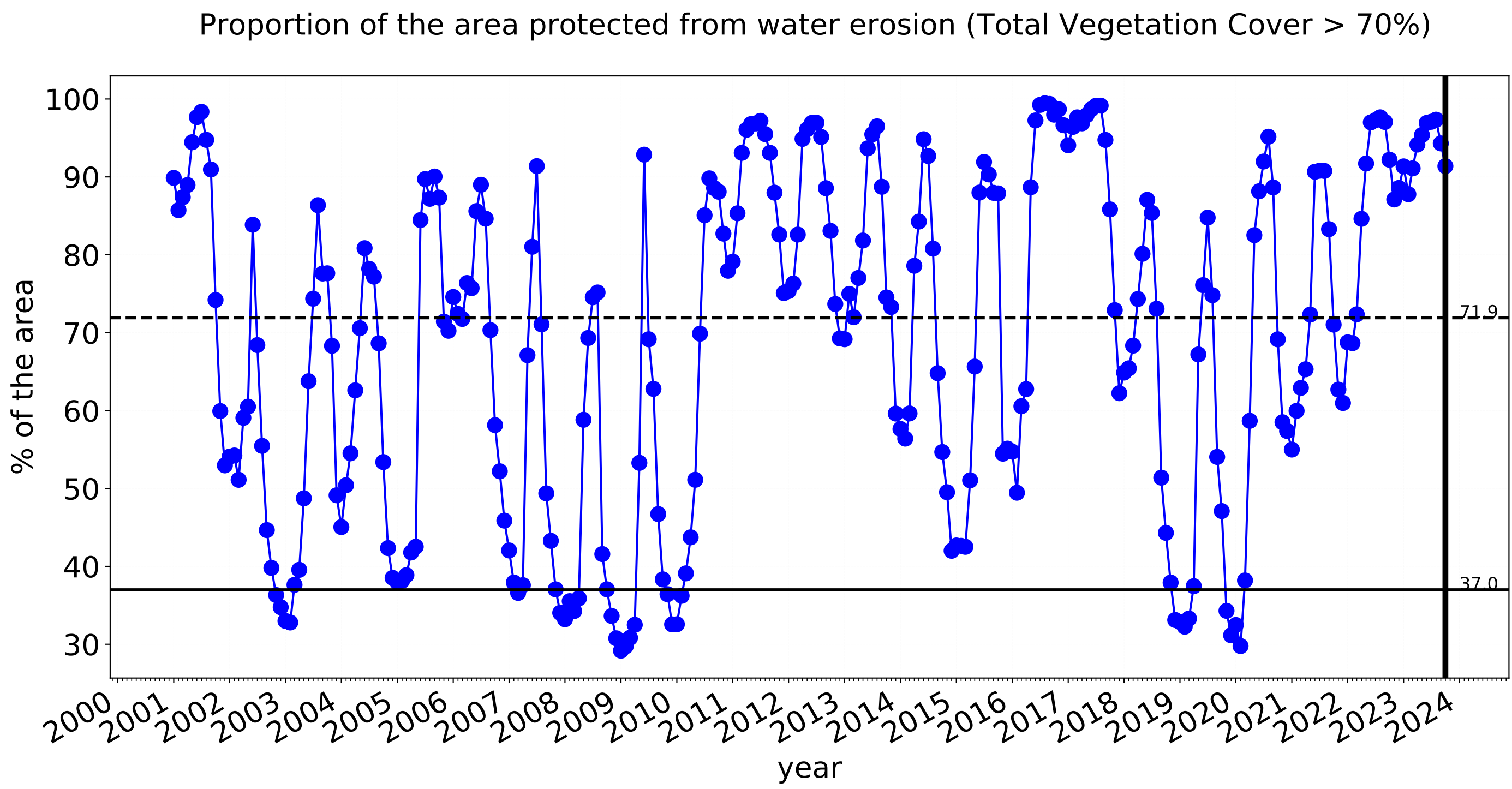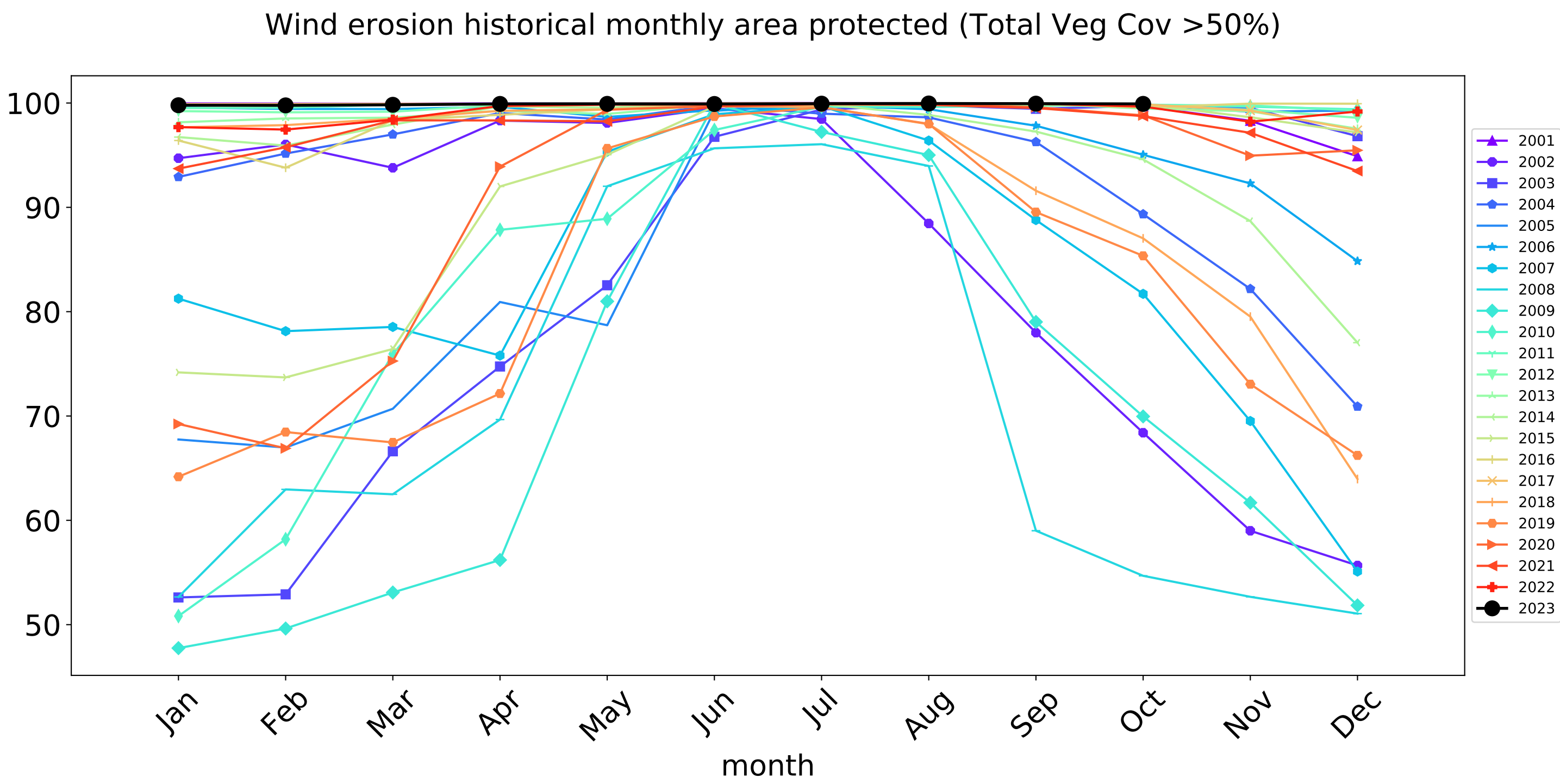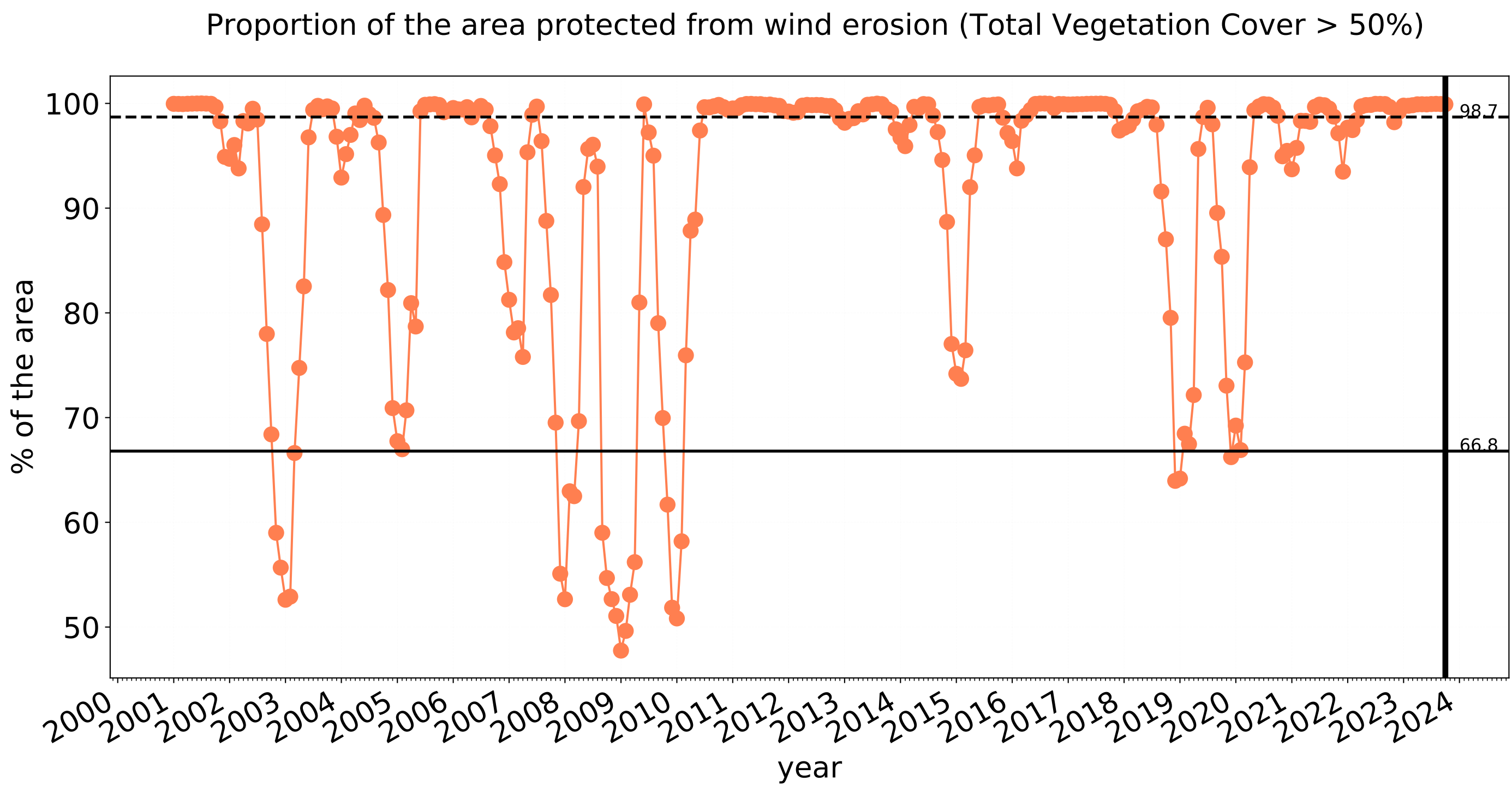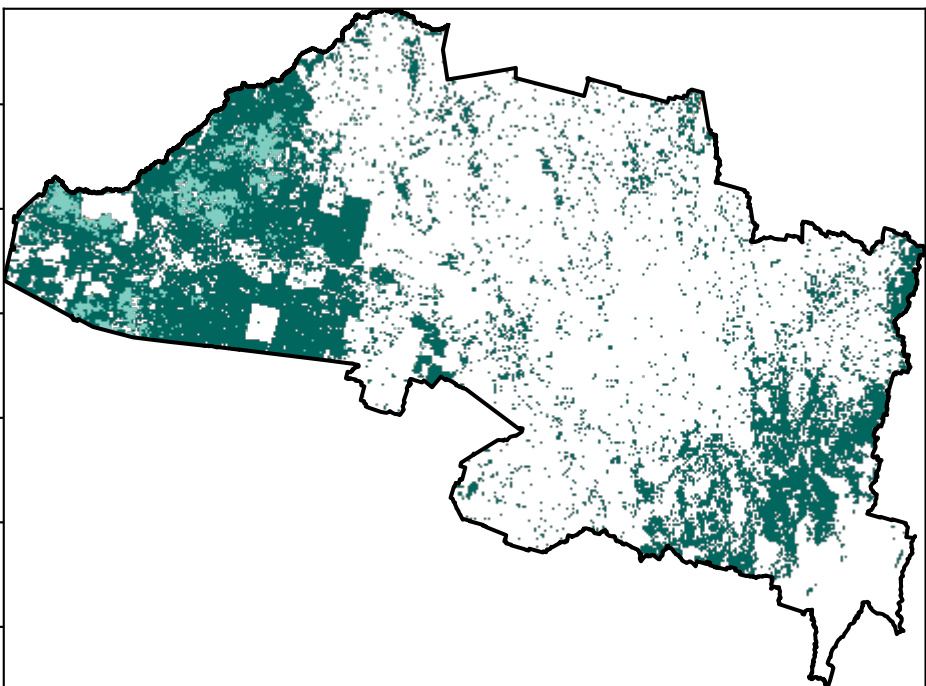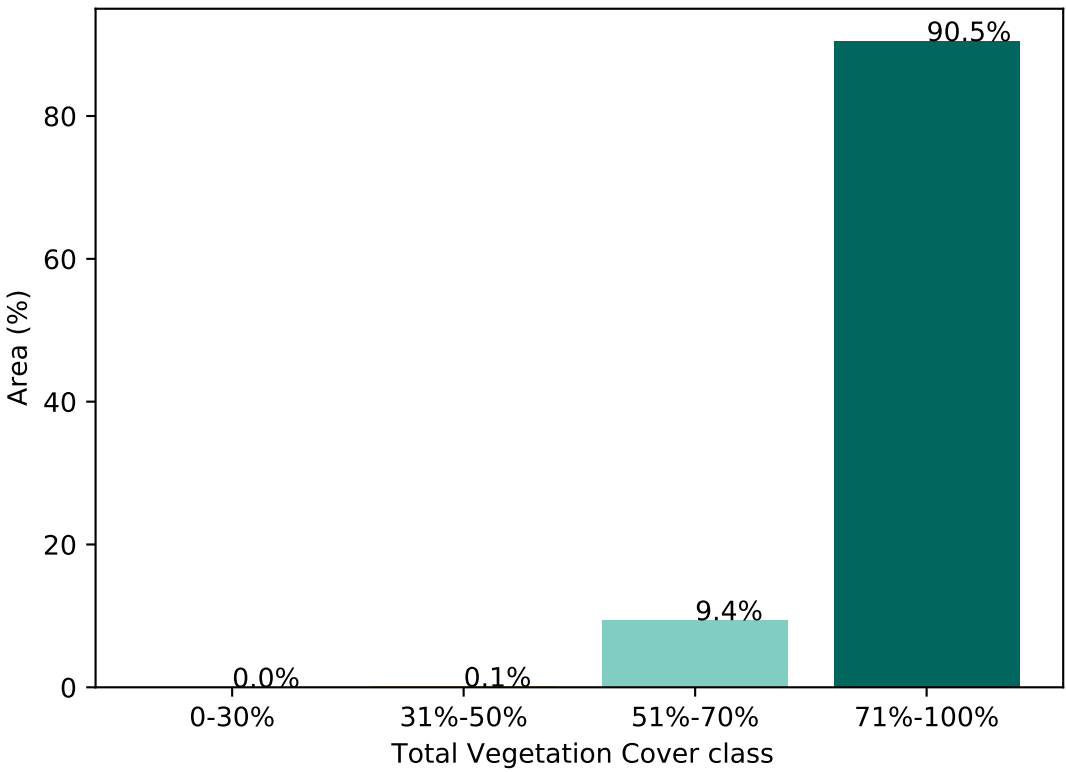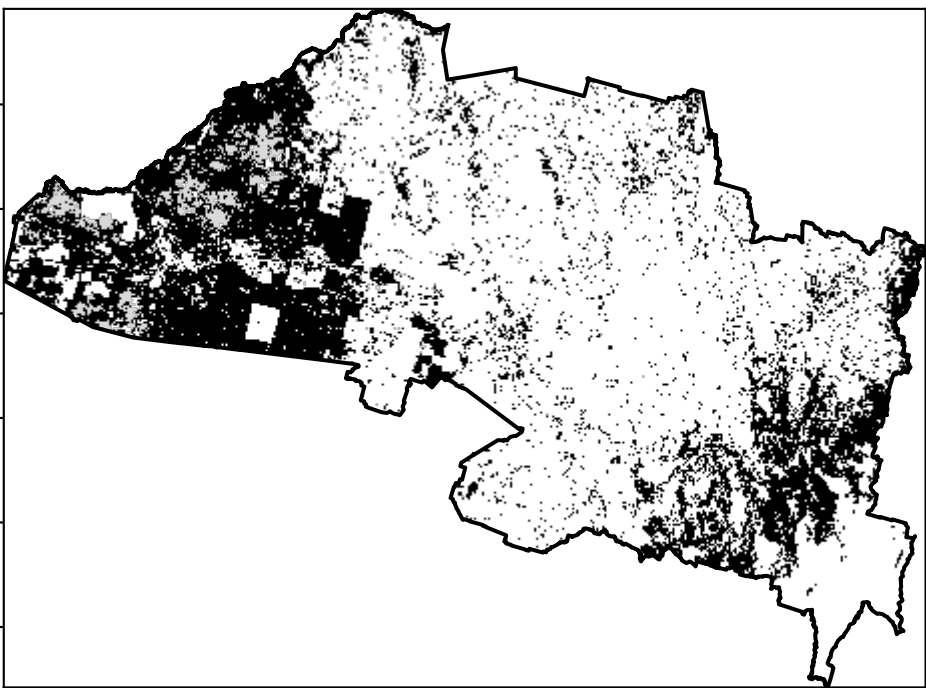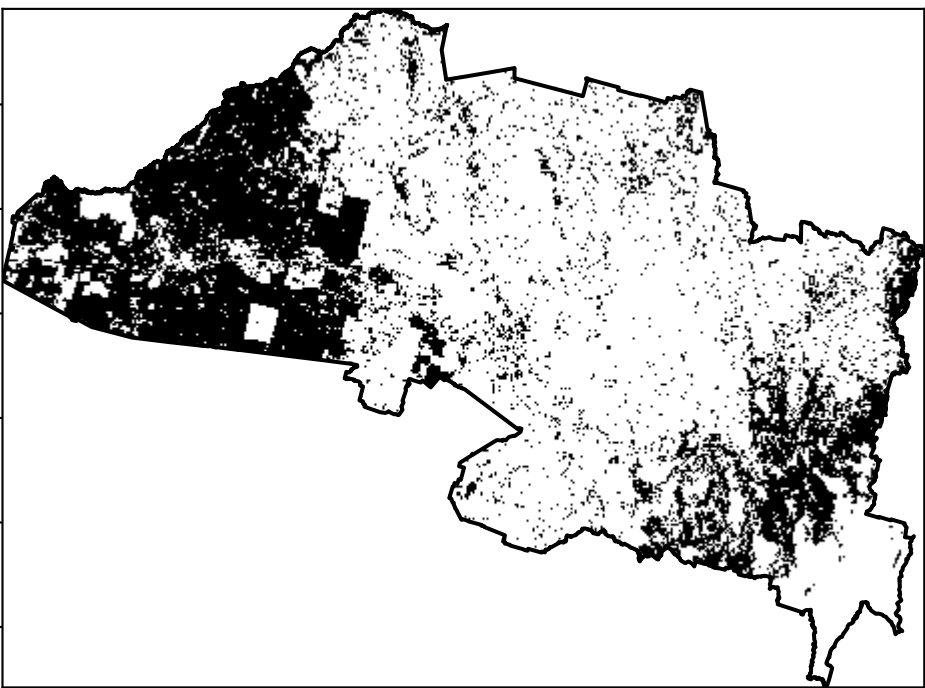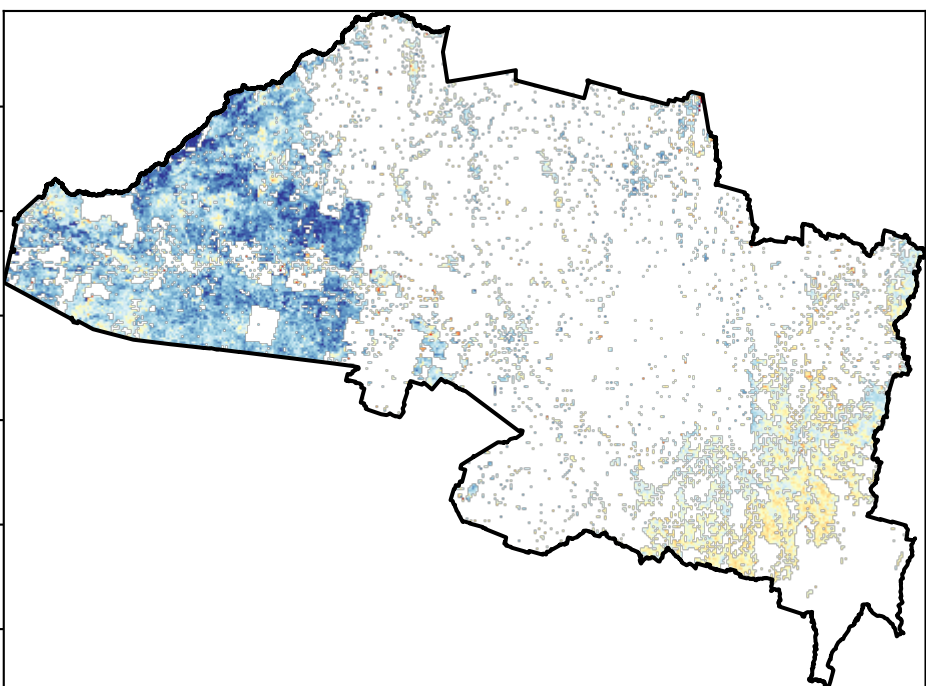
10
8-9
4-7
2-3
1

Grazing 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%)

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)

1 Agriculture - Grazing - Non forest

Total Vegetation Cover [%]

71%-100%

51%-70%

31%-50%

0-30%

Proportion of vegetation cover class in area

90.5%

9.4%

0.0%   0.1%

0-30%   31%-50%   51%-70%   71%-100%

Total Vegetation Cover class

Area (%)

% Area protected from water erosion (>70%)

Area not protected 9.5% of region (196,313 ha)

Area protected 90.5% of region (1,870,137 ha)

% Area protected from wind erosion (>50%)

Area not protected 0.0% of region (0 ha)

Area protected 100.0% of region (2,066,450 ha)

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.
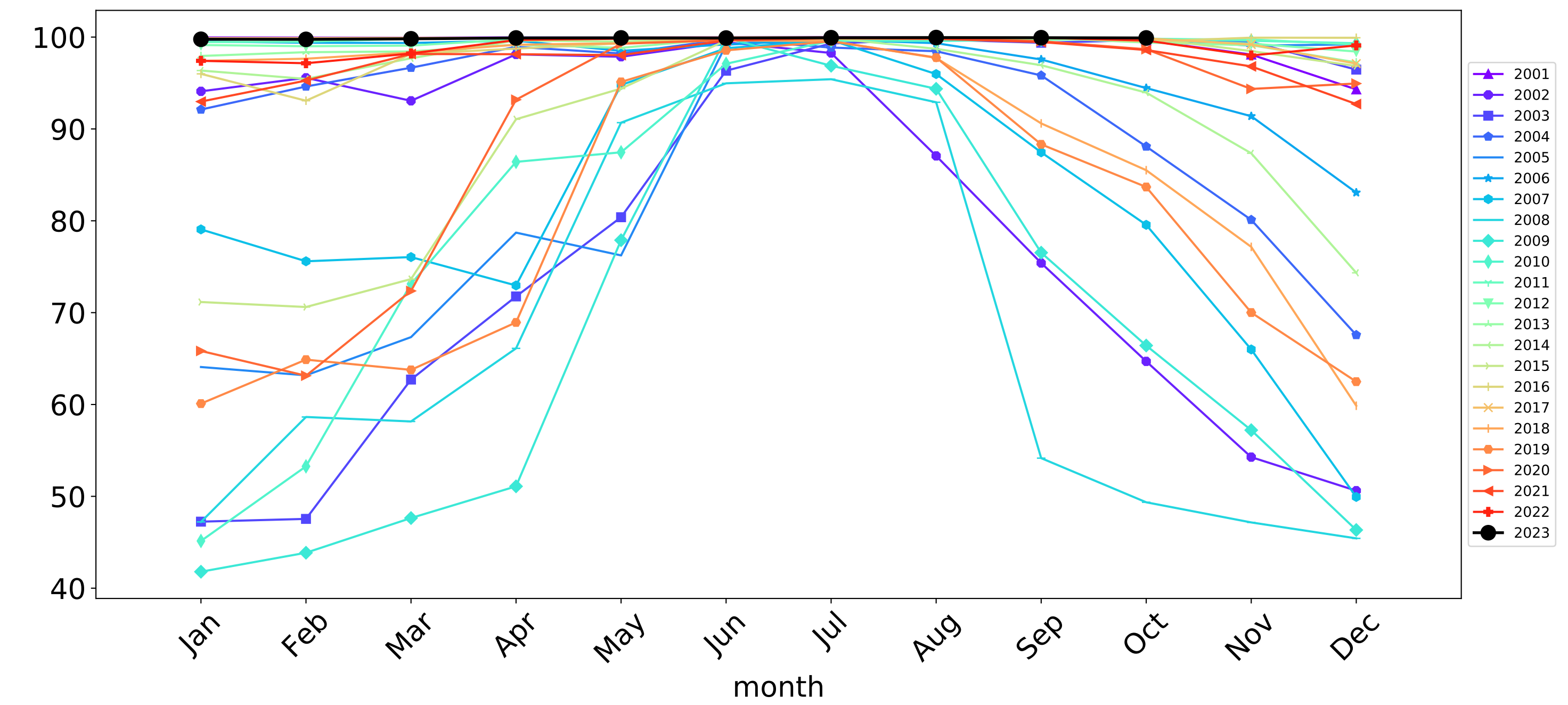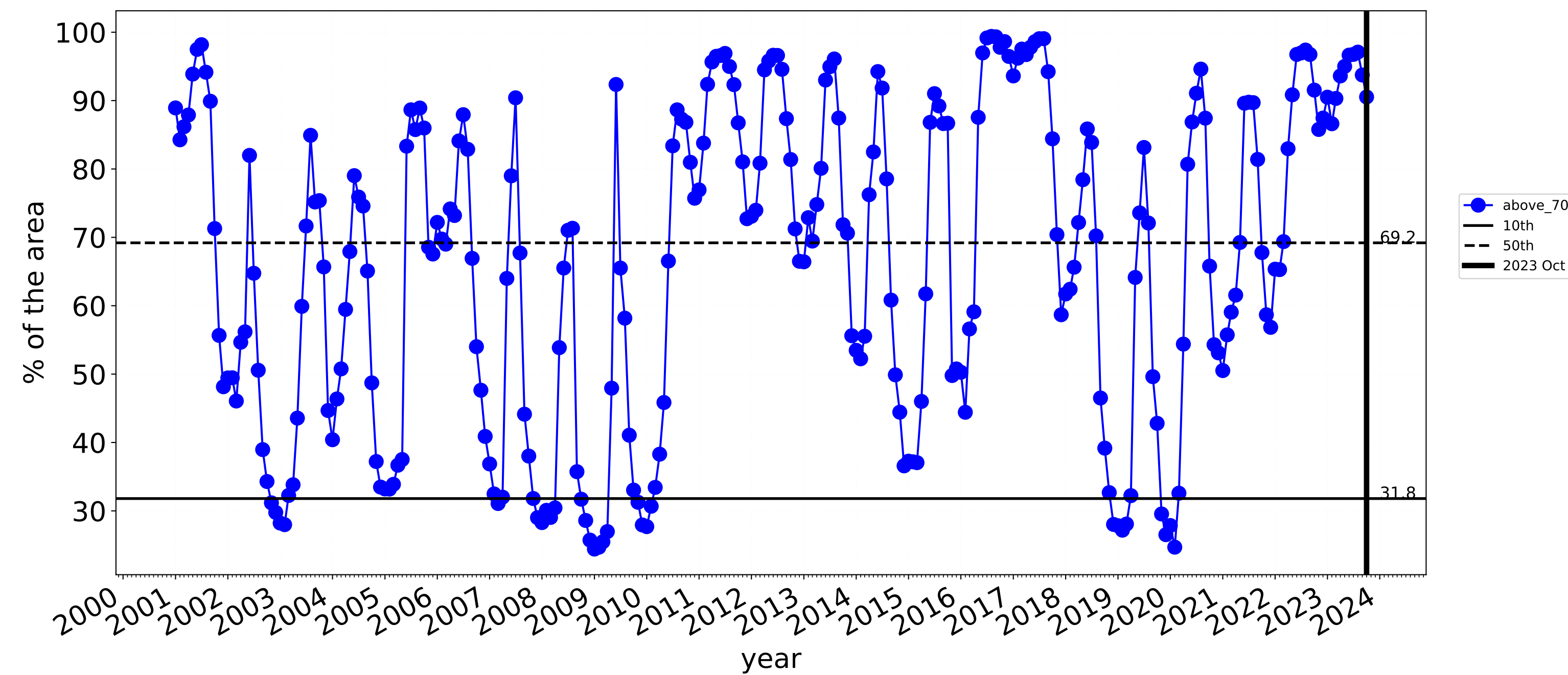
10

8-9

4-7

2-3

1

Grazing non forest timeseries

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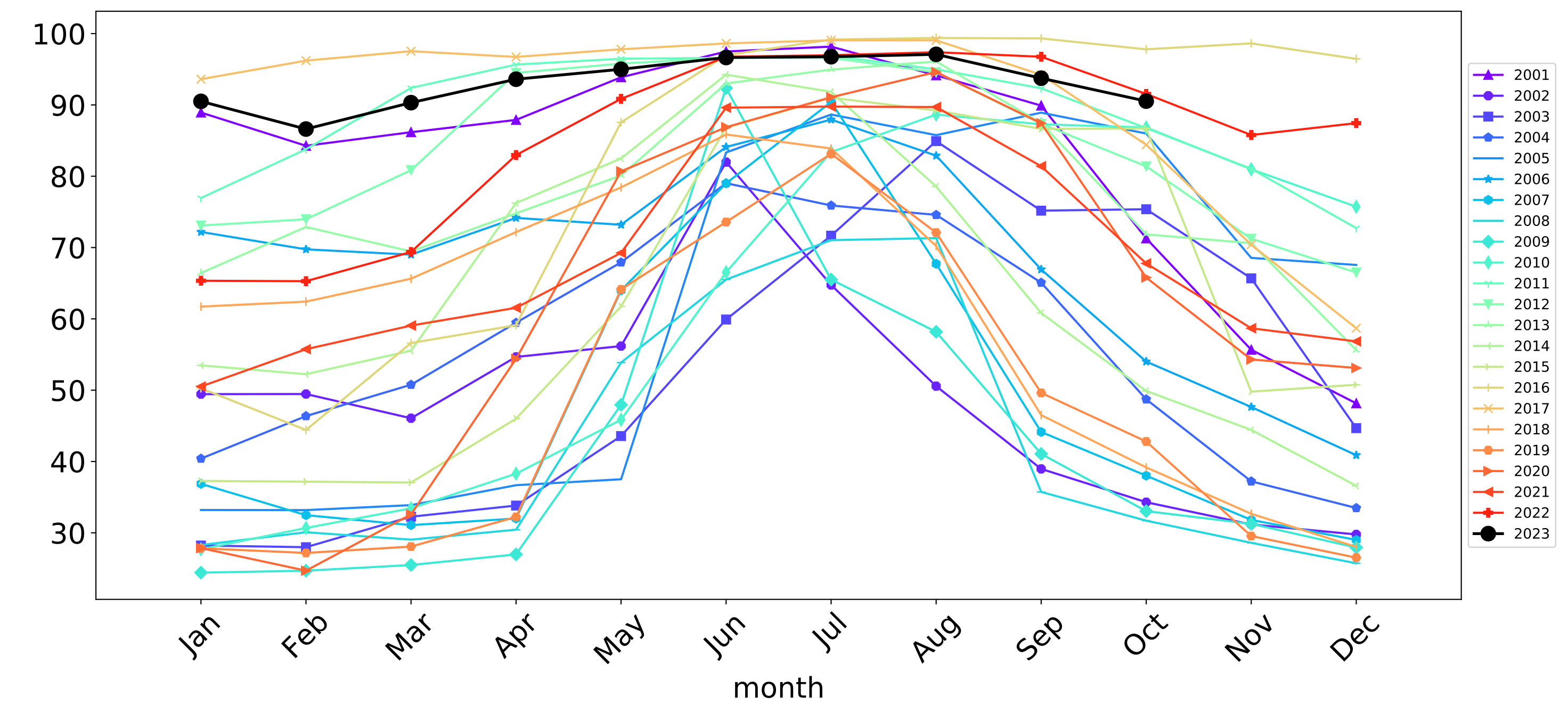

Wind erosion historical monthly area protected (Total Veg Cov >50%)

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

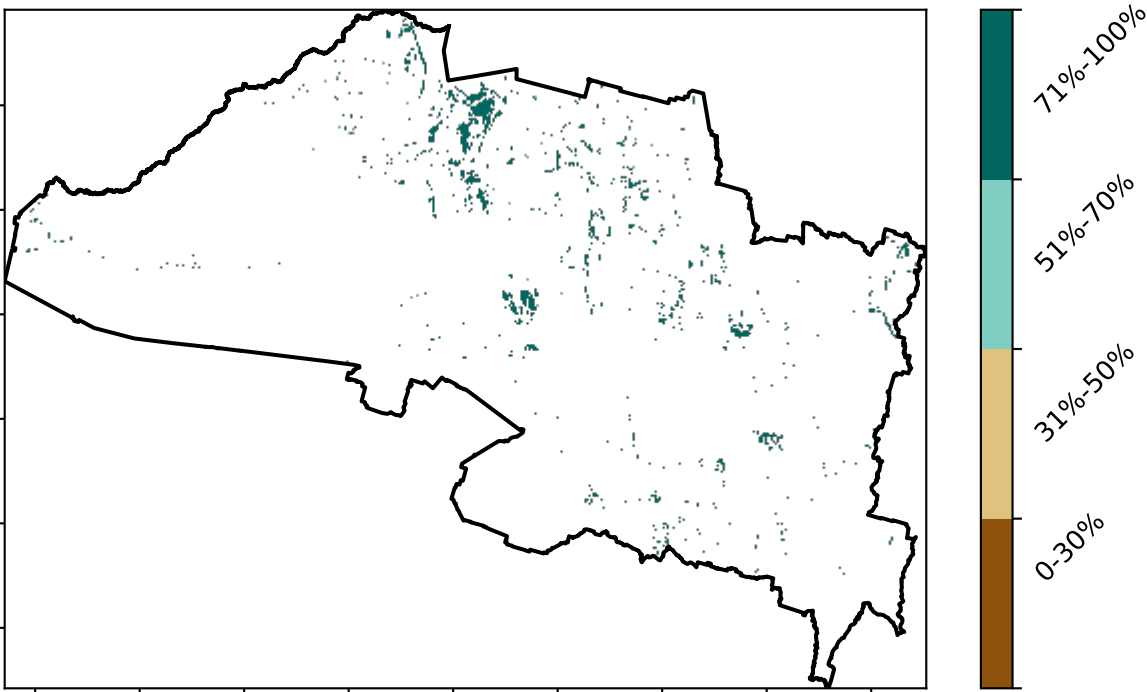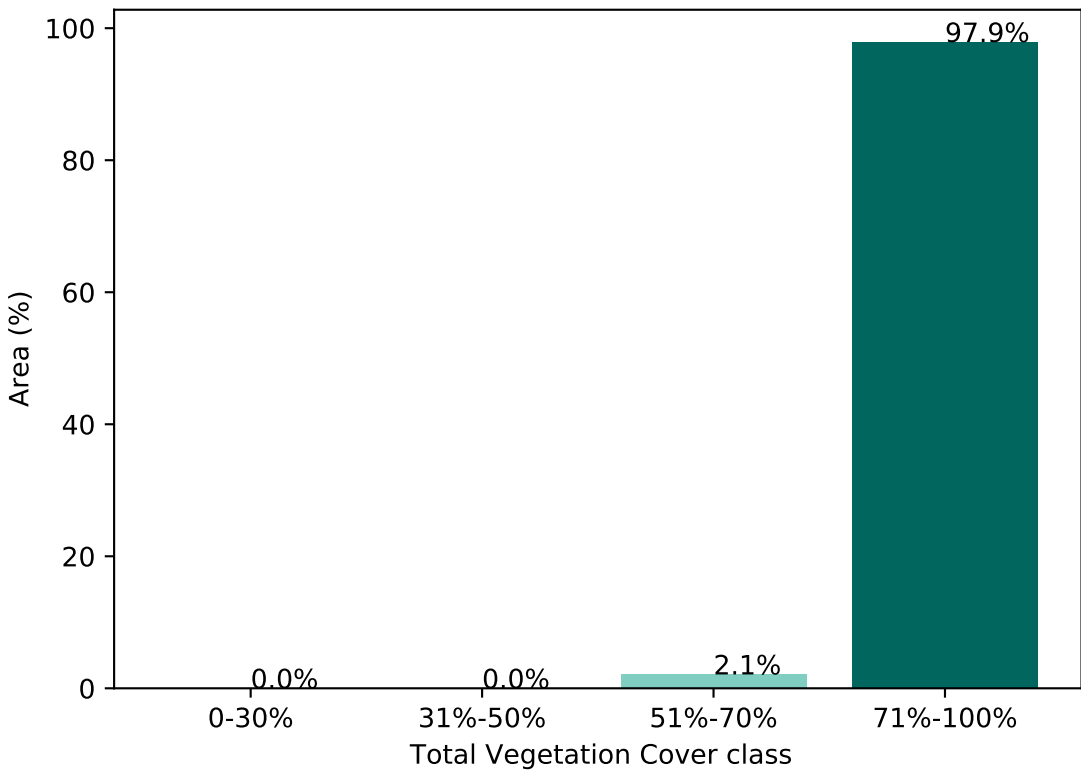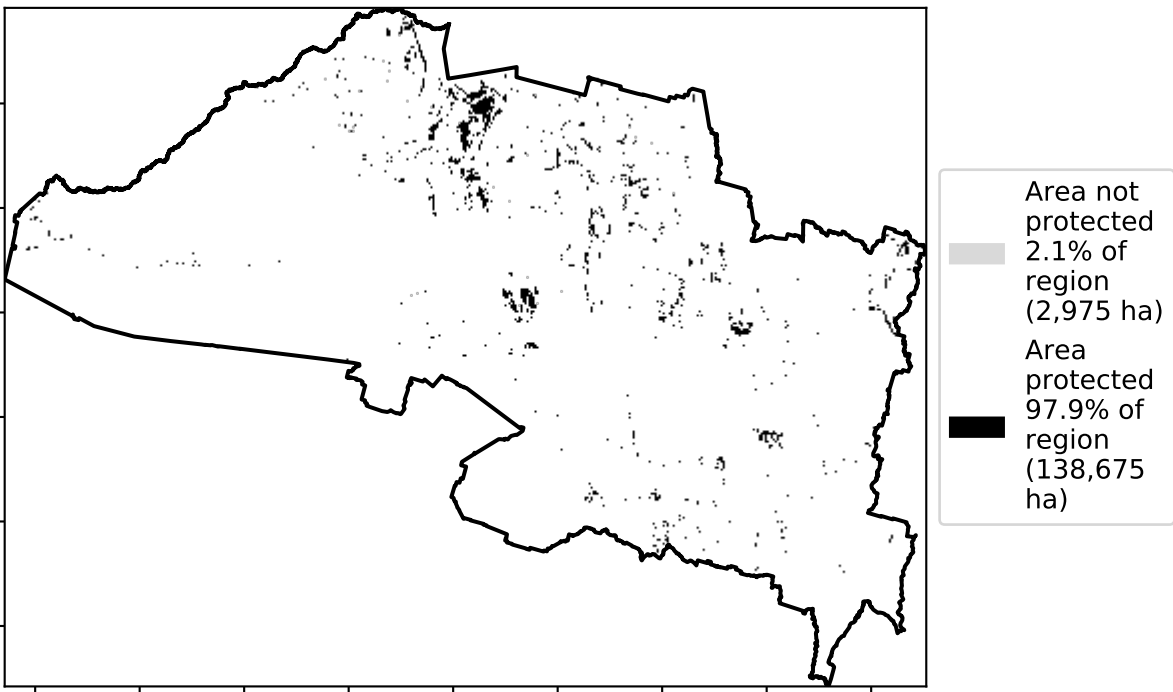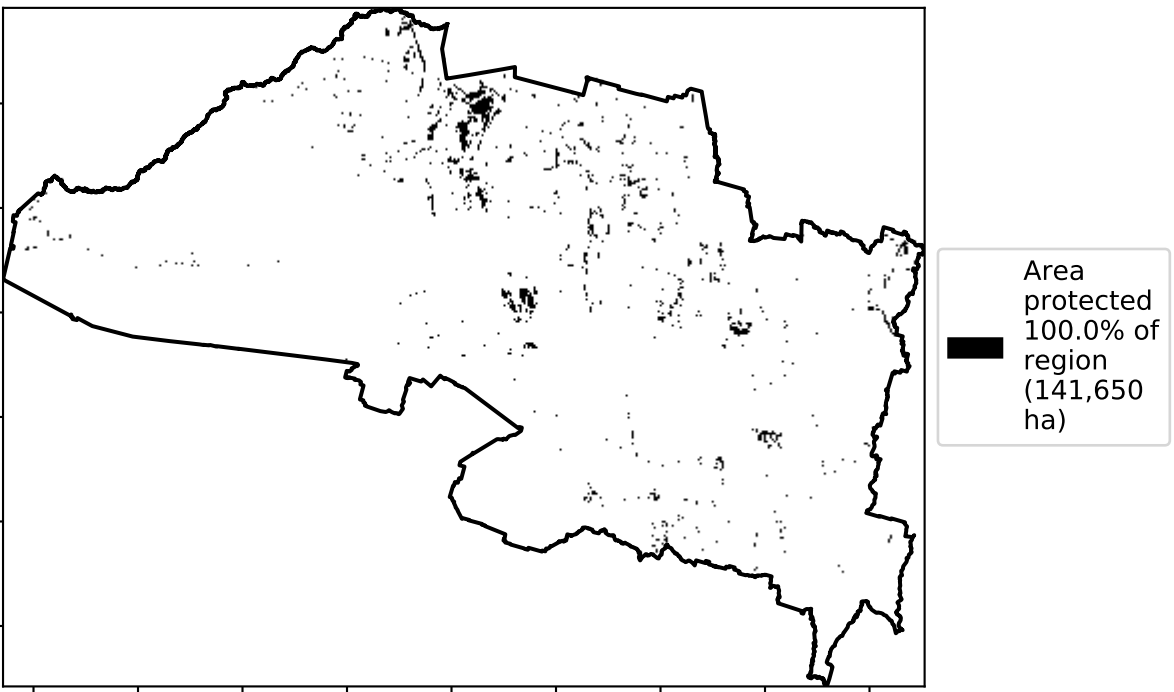Water erosion historical monthly area protected (Total Veg Cov>70%)

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)

1 Agriculture - Grazing - Woodland forest

Total Vegetation Cover [%]

71%-100%
51%-70%
31%-50%
0-30%

Proportion of vegetation cover class in area

% Area protected from water erosion (>70%)

Area not protected 2.1% of region (2,975 ha)

Area protected 97.9% of region (138,675 ha)

% Area protected from wind erosion (>50%)

Area protected 100.0% of region (141,650 ha)

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.
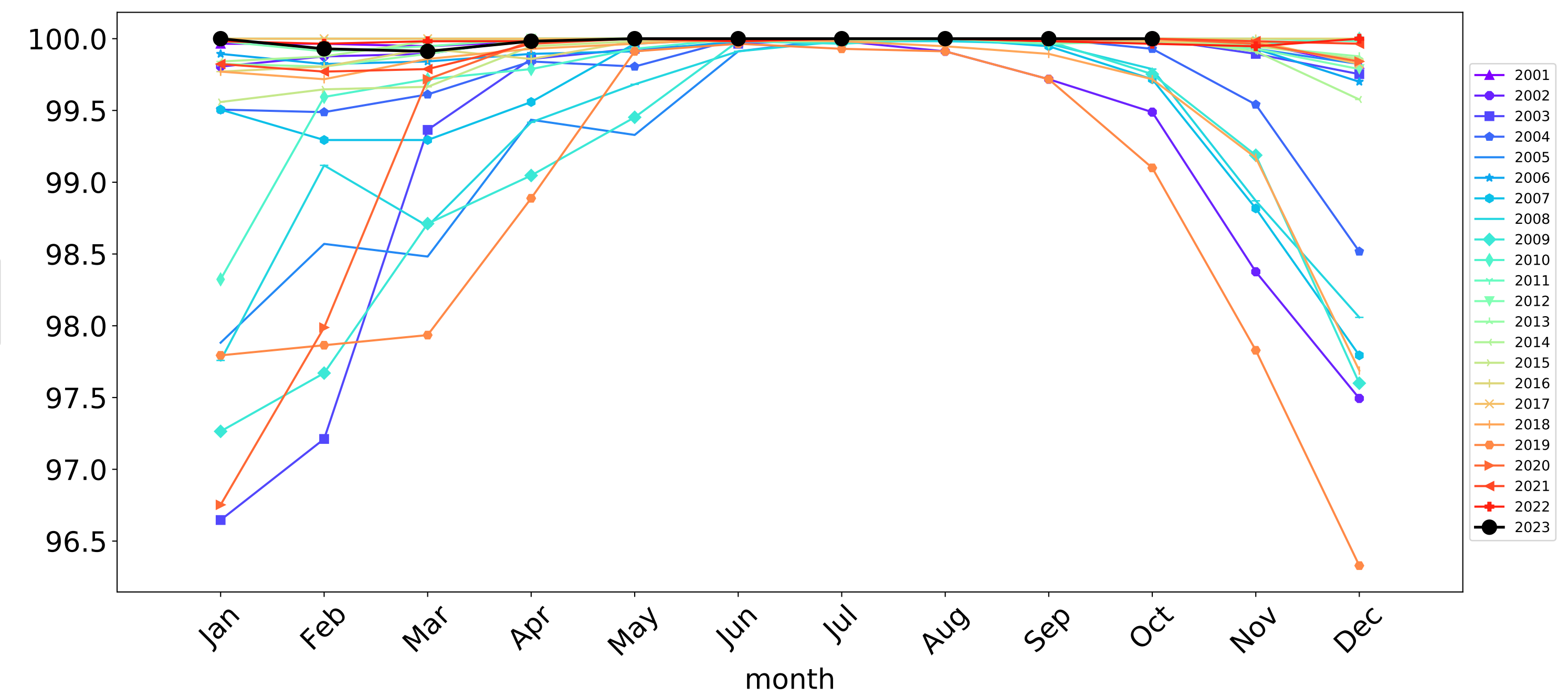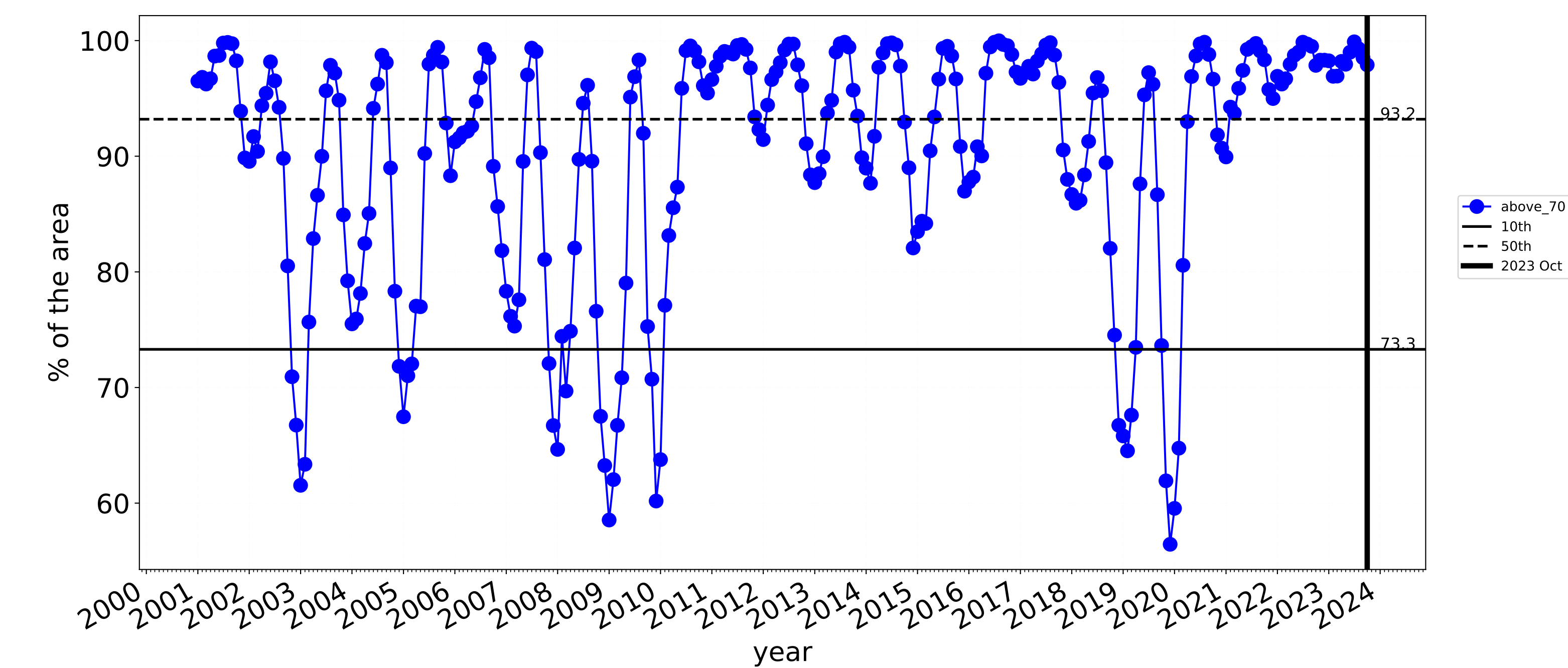
Grazing Woodland forest timeseries

Proportion of the area protected from wind erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 50%)
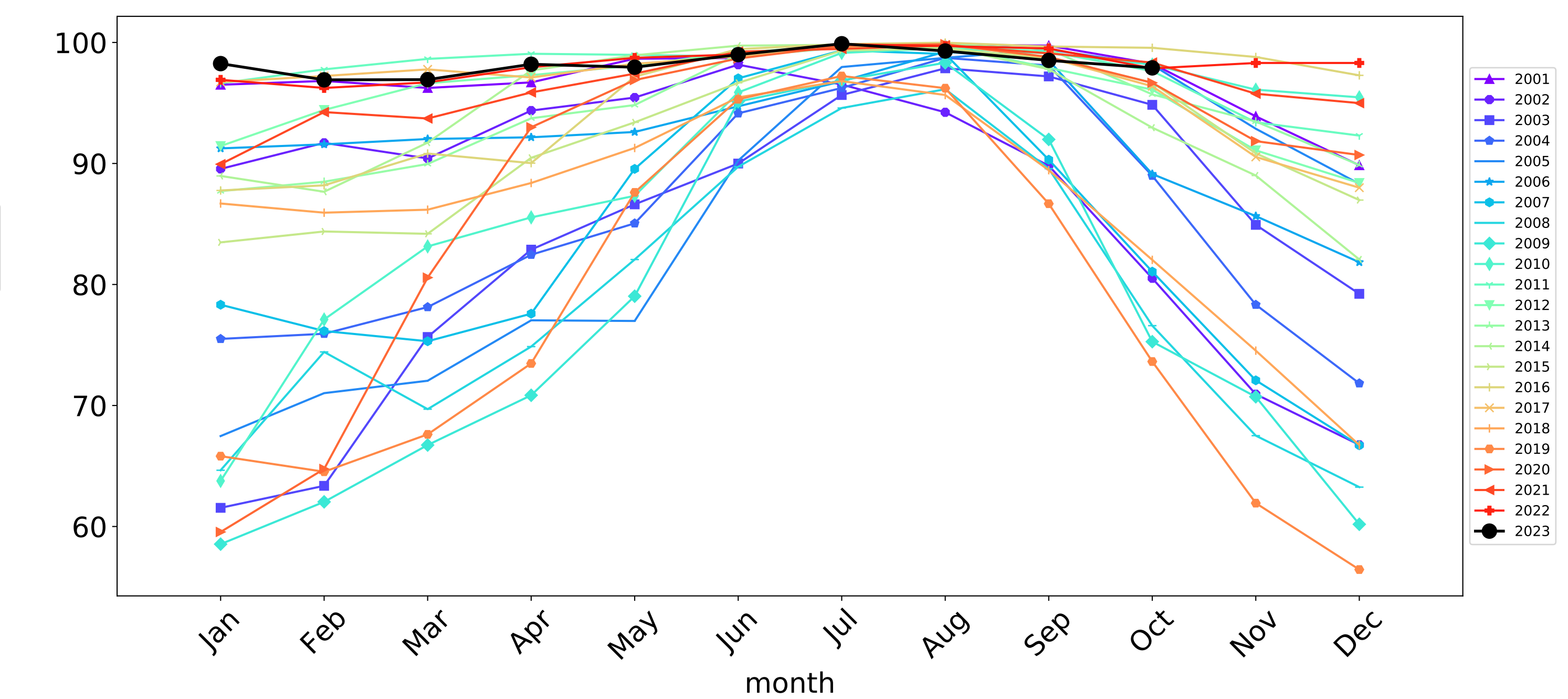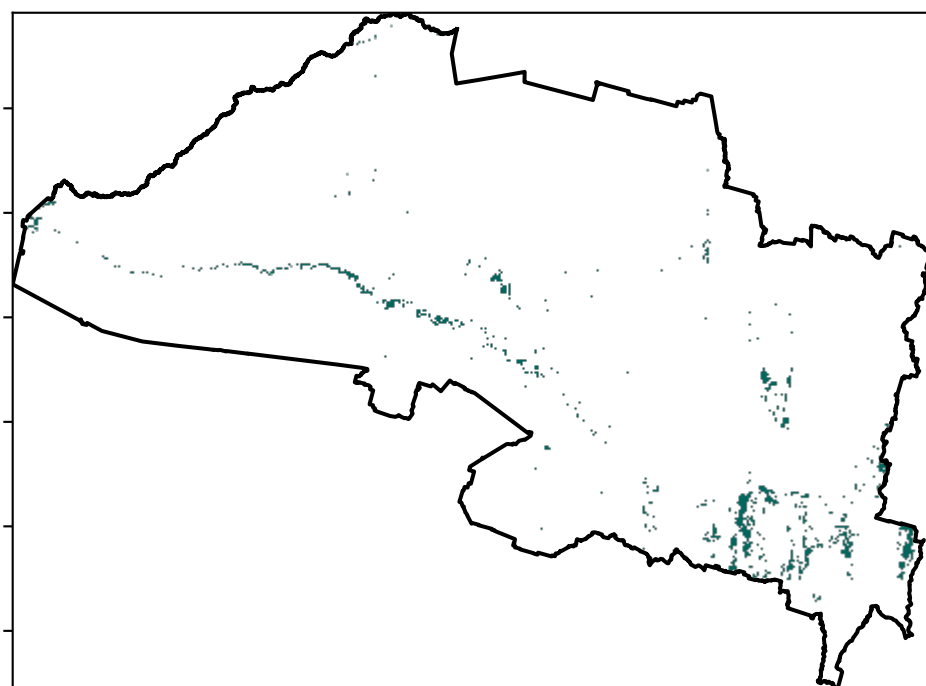
Wind erosion historical monthly area protected (Total Veg Cov >50%)

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

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

Grazing - Forest (non woodland)

Land use and forest cover

Catchment Scale Land Use and Forests of Australia (2018) Derived from Catchment Scale Land Use of Australia (2018) and Forests of Australia (2018)
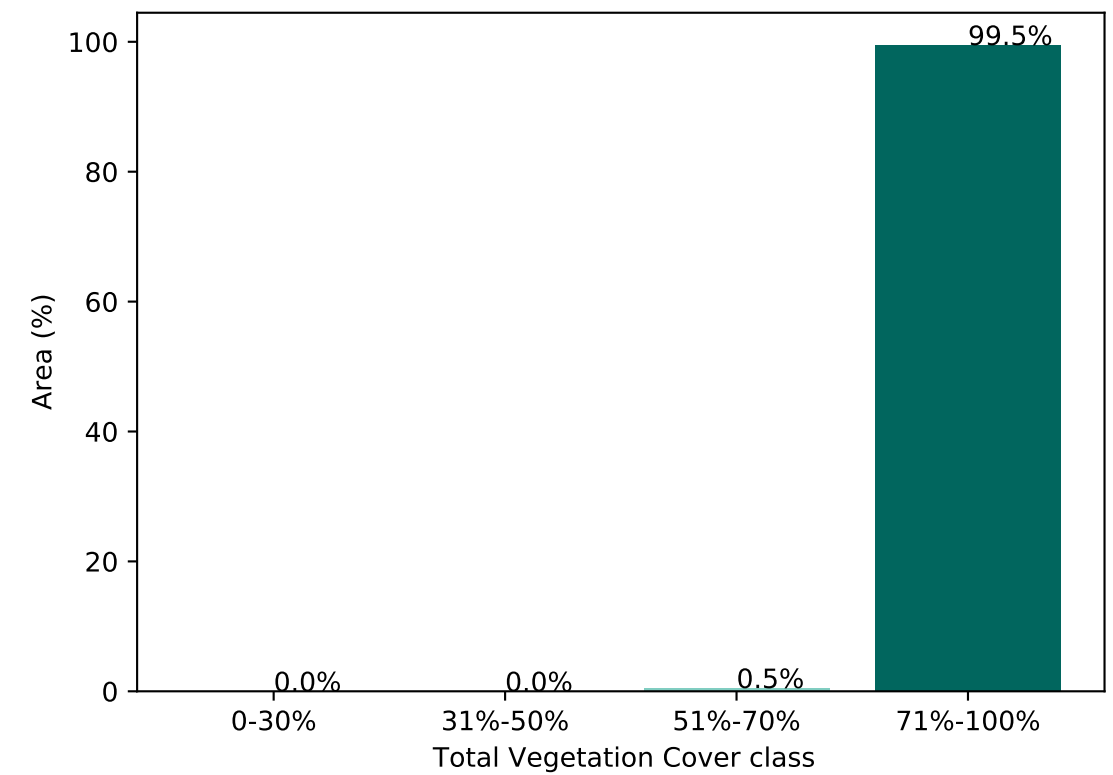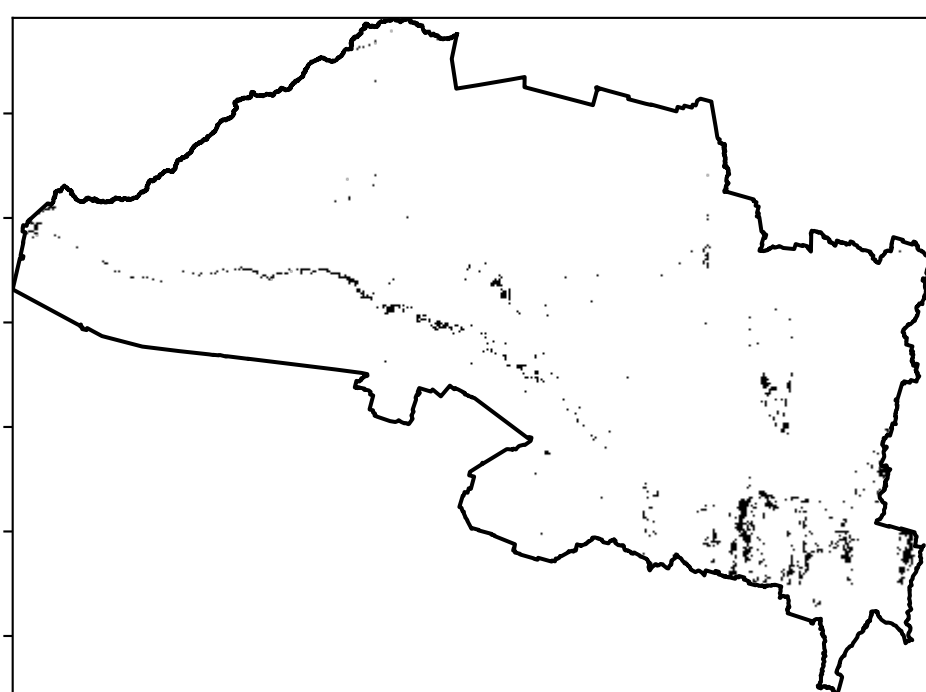
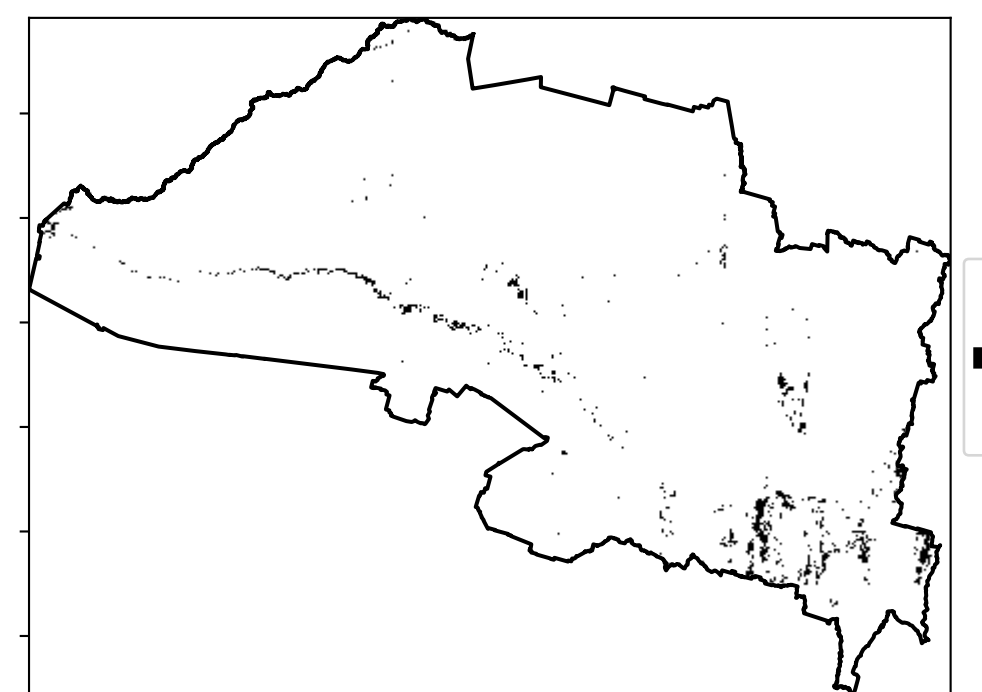1 Agriculture - Grazing - Non-woodland forest

Total Vegetation Cover [%]

71%-100%

51%-70%

31%-50%

0-30%

Proportion of vegetation cover class in area

99.5%

0.0%   0.0%   0.5%

Total Vegetation Cover class

Area (%)

% Area protected from water erosion (>70%)

Area not protected 0.5% of region (517 ha)

Area protected 99.5% of region (102,833 ha)

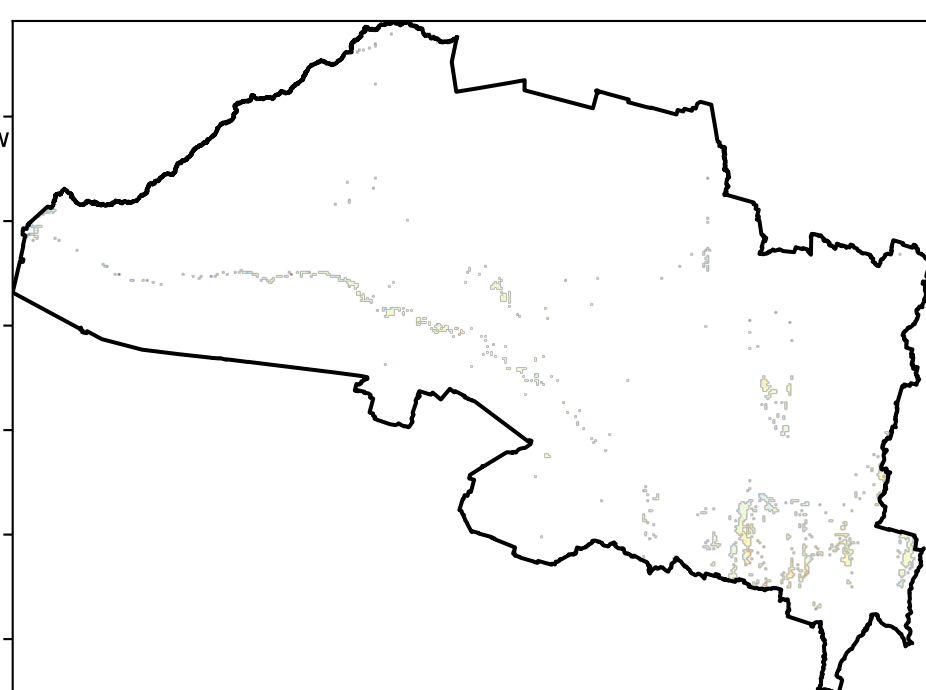## % Area protected from wind erosion (>50%)
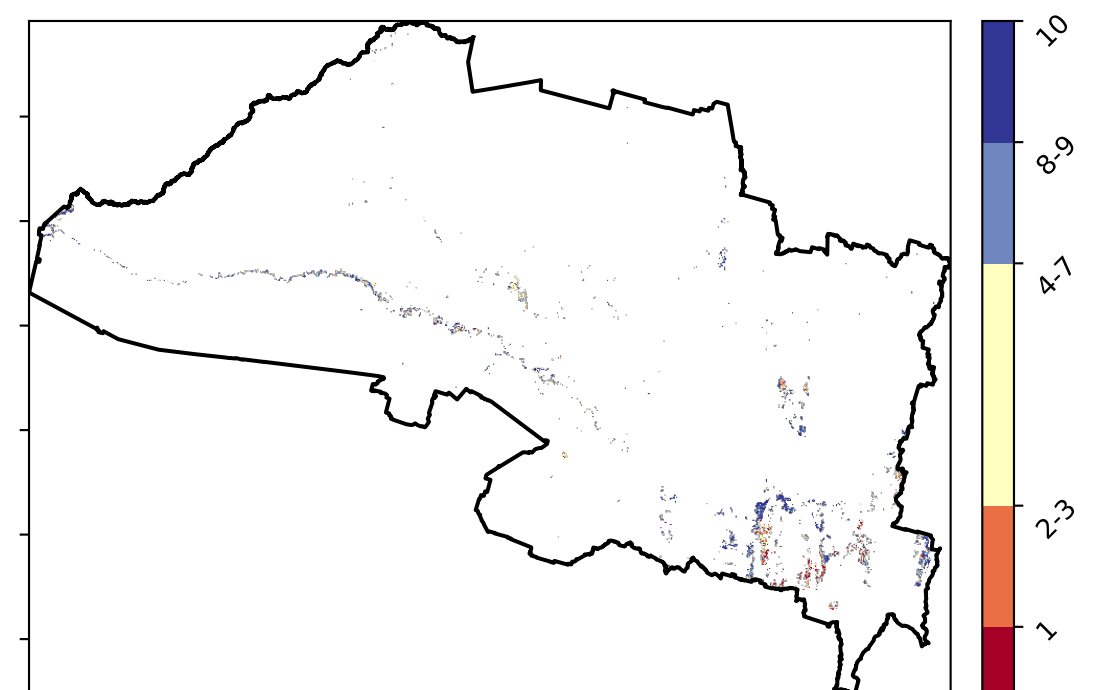
Area protected 100.0% of region (103,350 ha)

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.
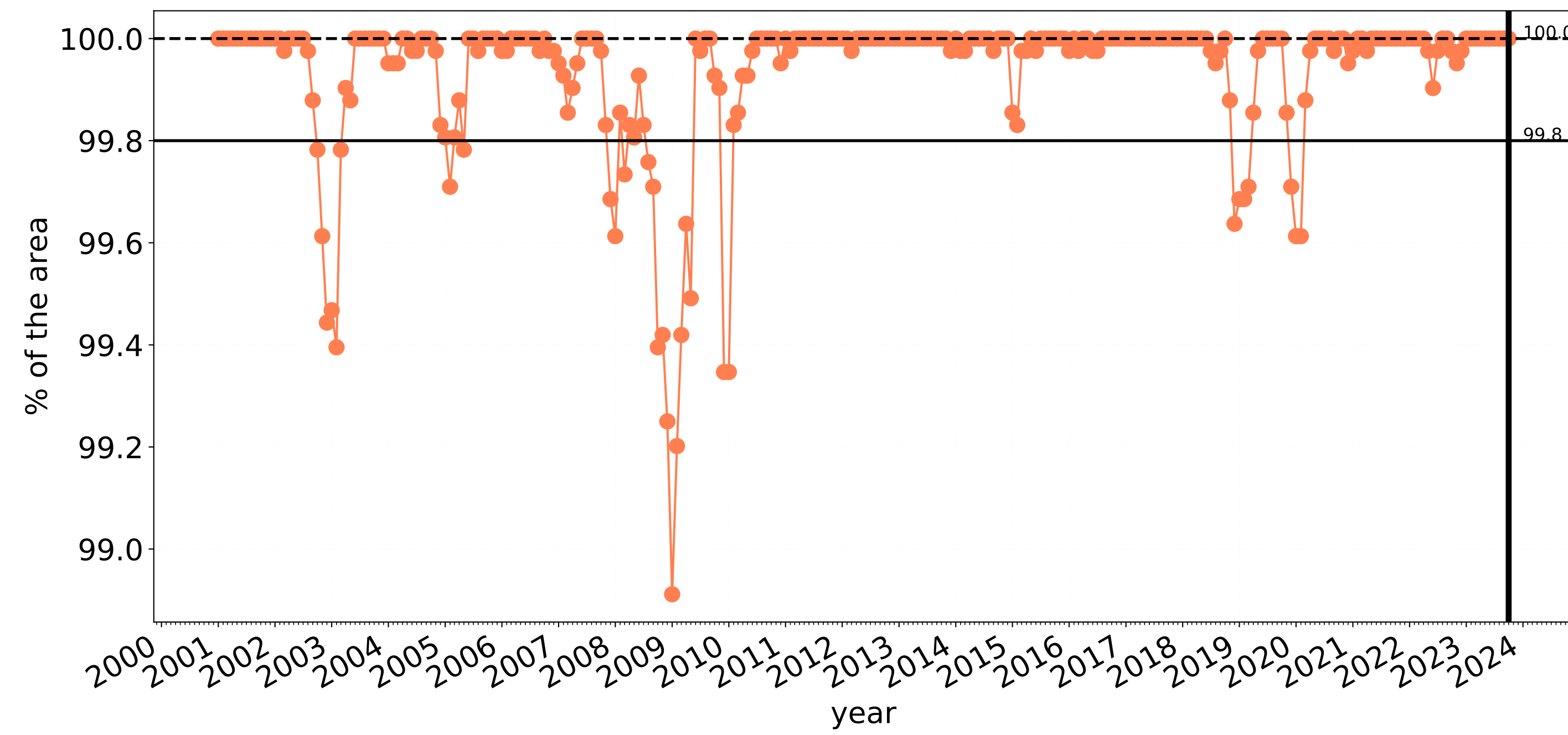
Total Vegetation Cover Decile [%]

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.
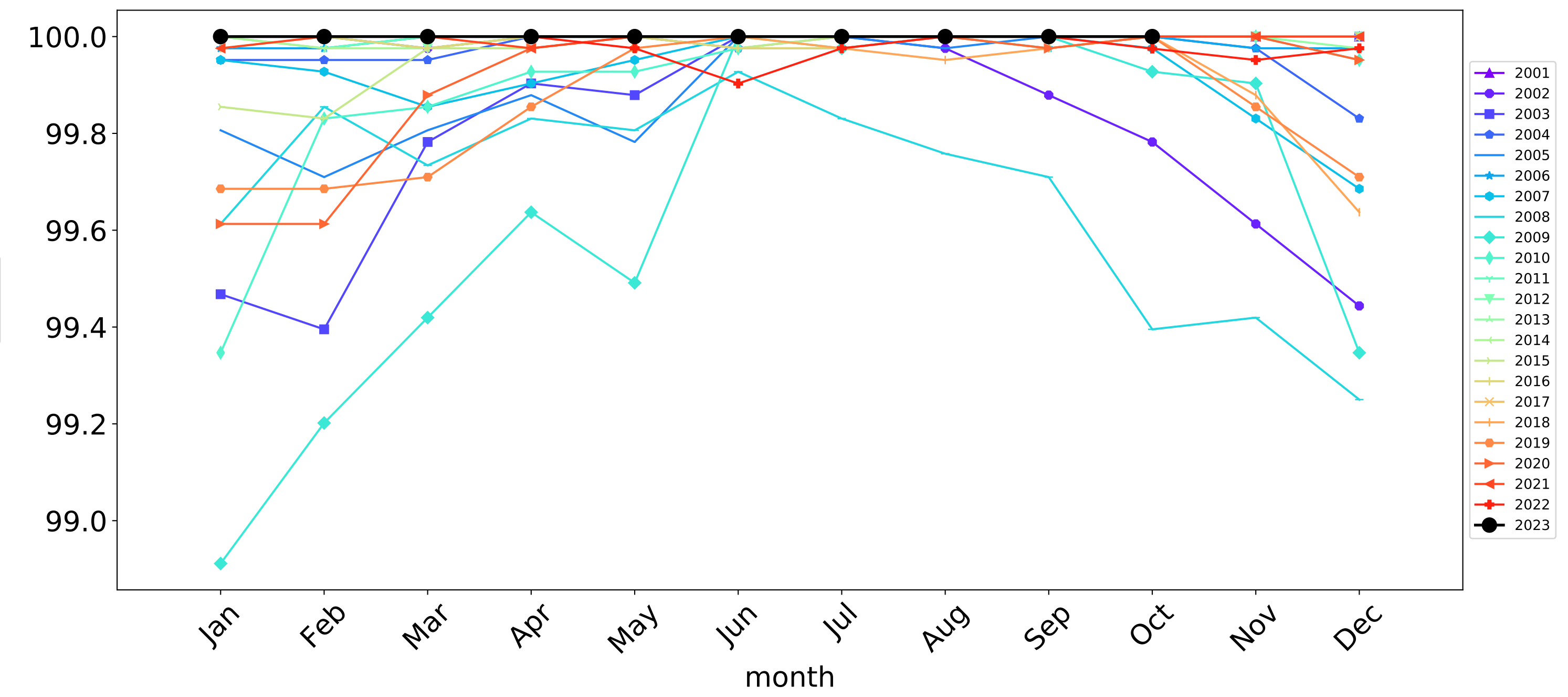
10

8-9

4-7

2-3

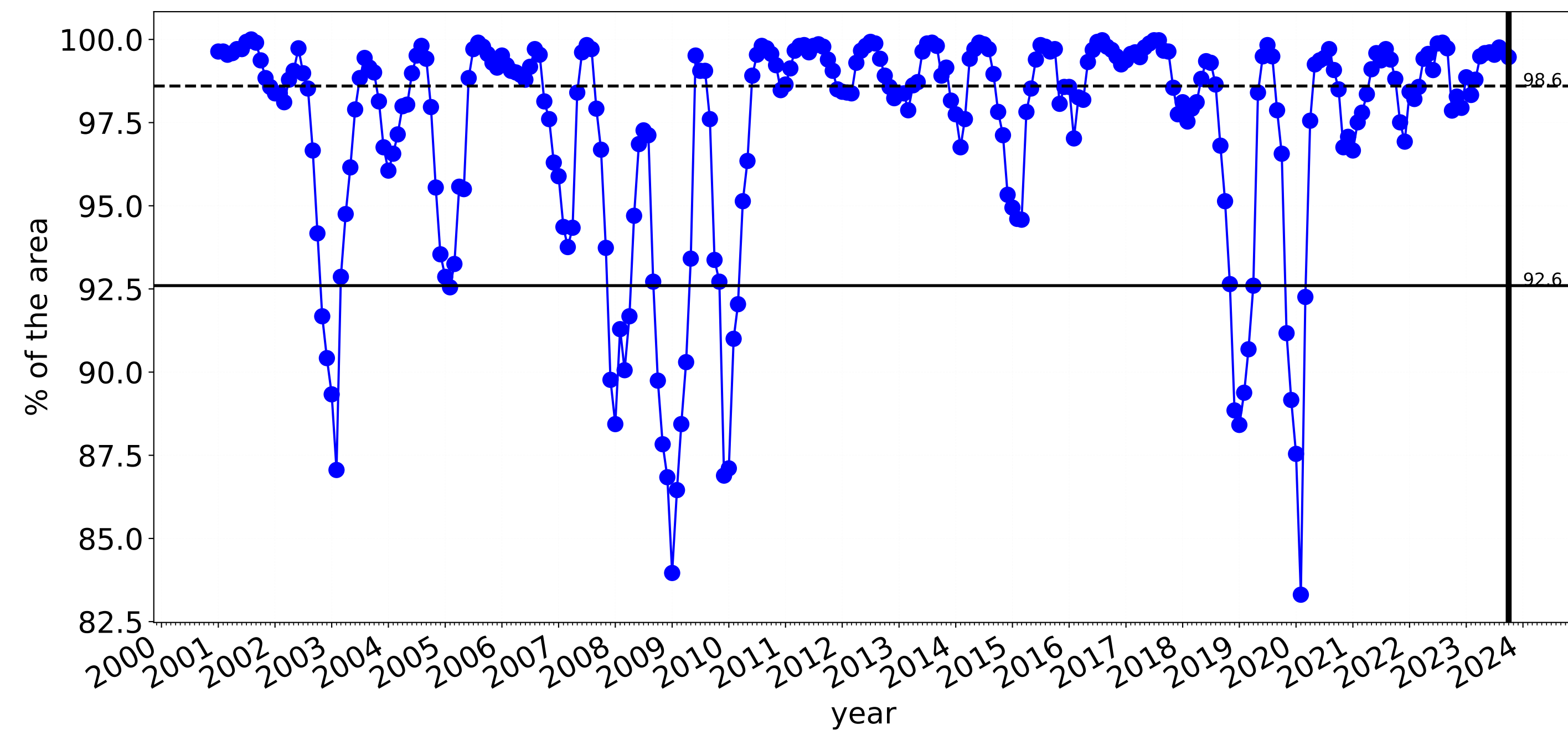1

Grazing - Forest (non woodland) timeseries

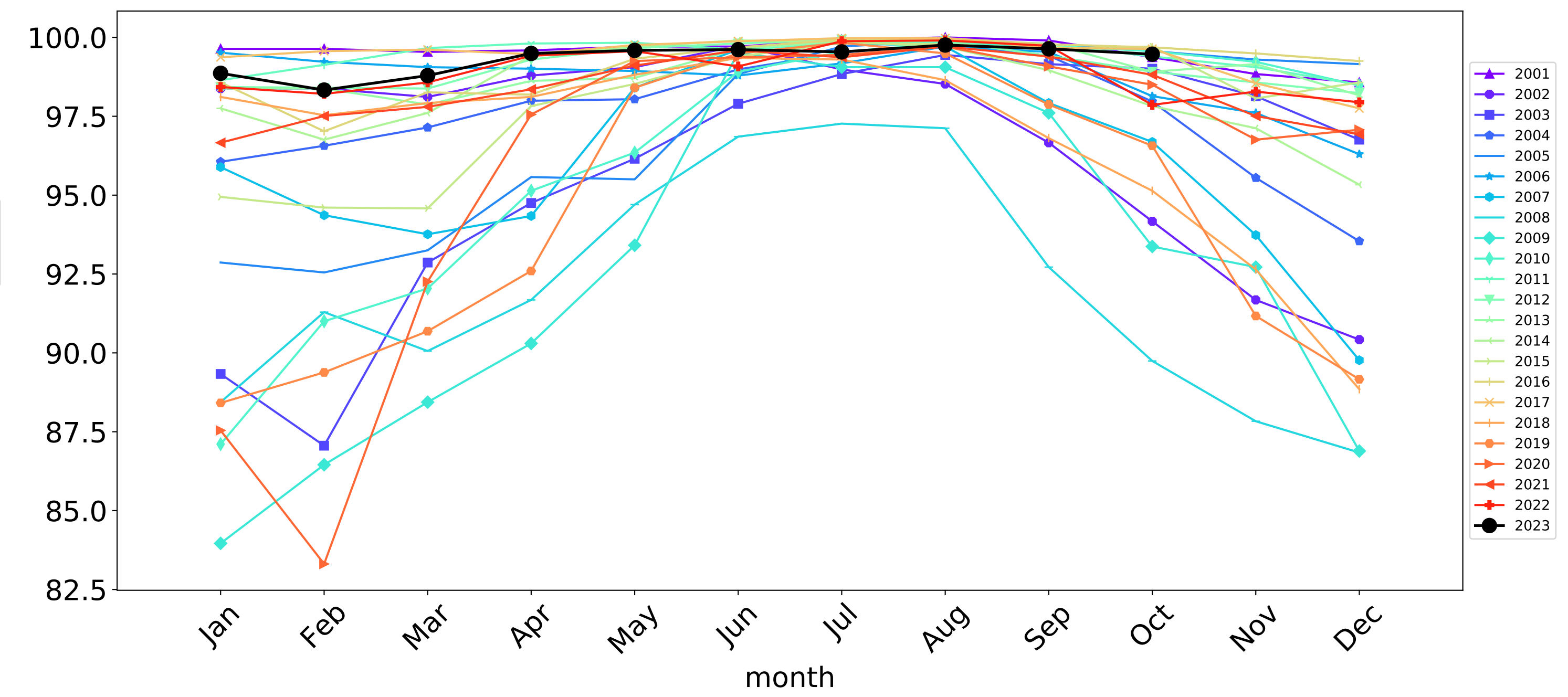### Proportion of the area protected from wind erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 50%)

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

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

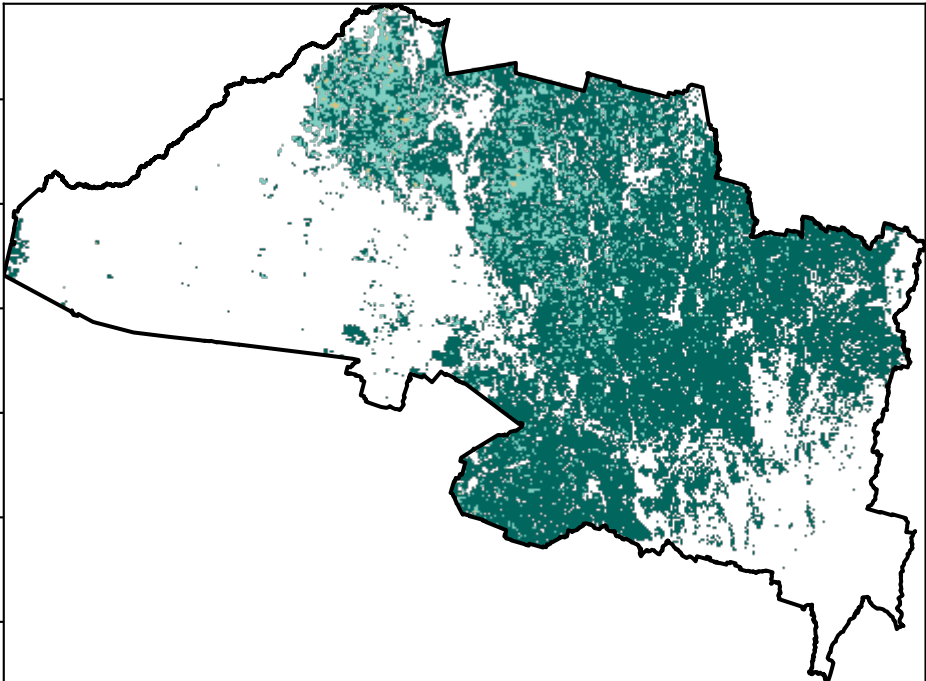### Water erosion historical monthly area protected (Total Veg Cov>70%)

Cropping

Land use and forest cover

1 Agriculture - Cropping - Non-irrigated

Total Vegetation Cover [%]

71%-100%
51%-70%
31%-50%
0-30%

Proportion of vegetation cover class in area

Area (%)

84.2%

15.6%

0.0%   0.2%

0-30%   31%-50%   51%-70%   71%-100%
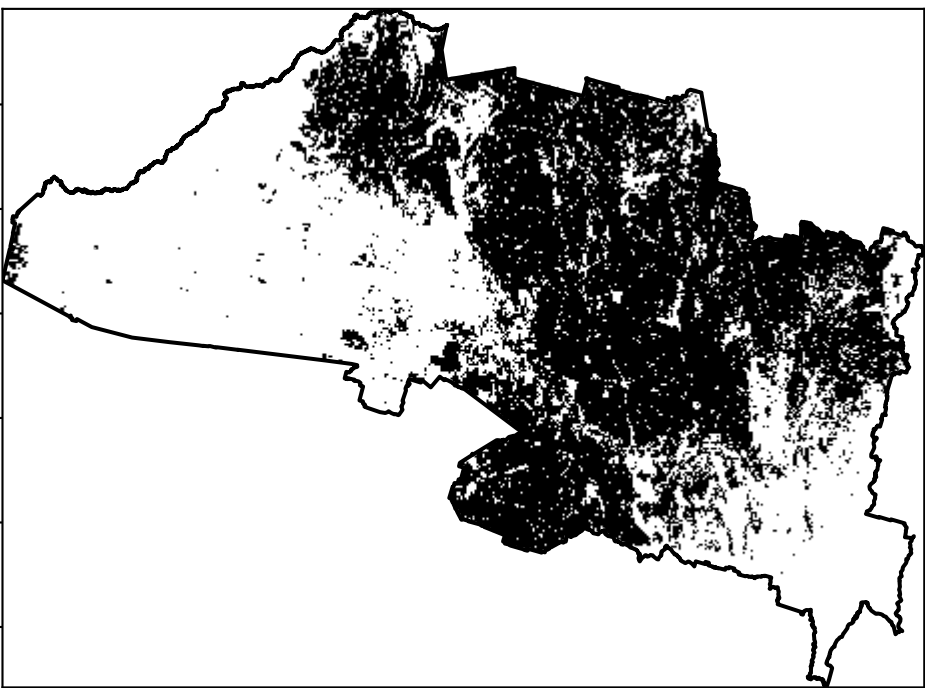
Total Vegetation Cover class
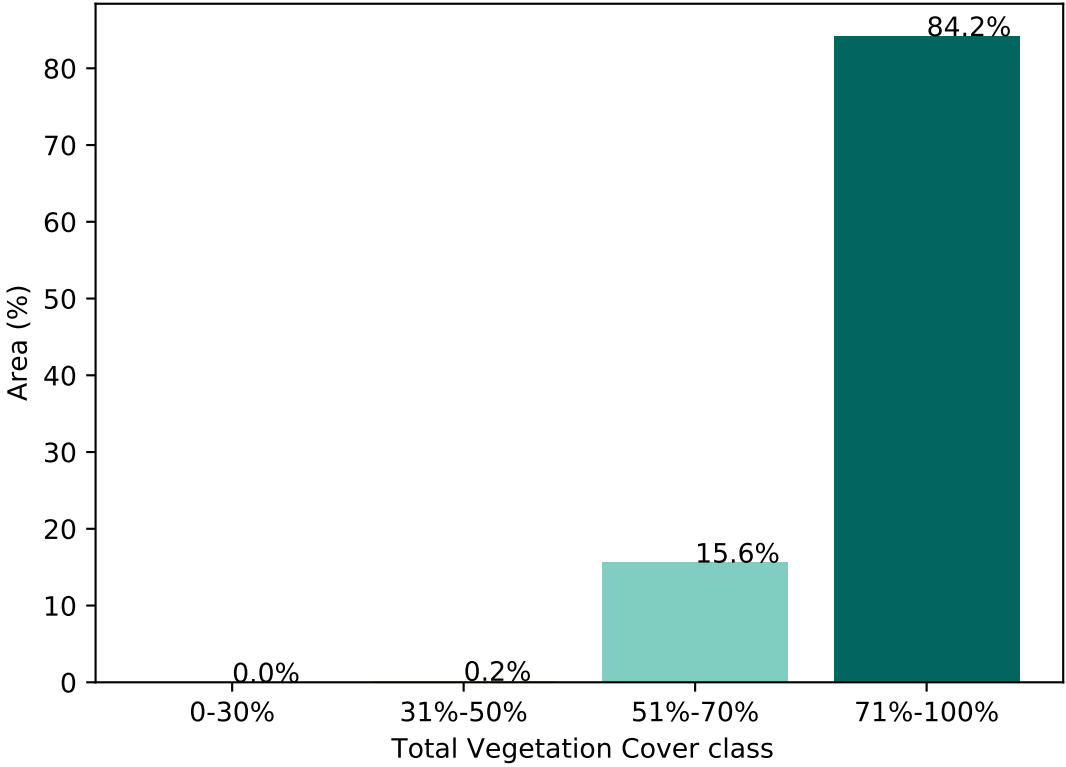
% Area protected from water erosion (>70%)
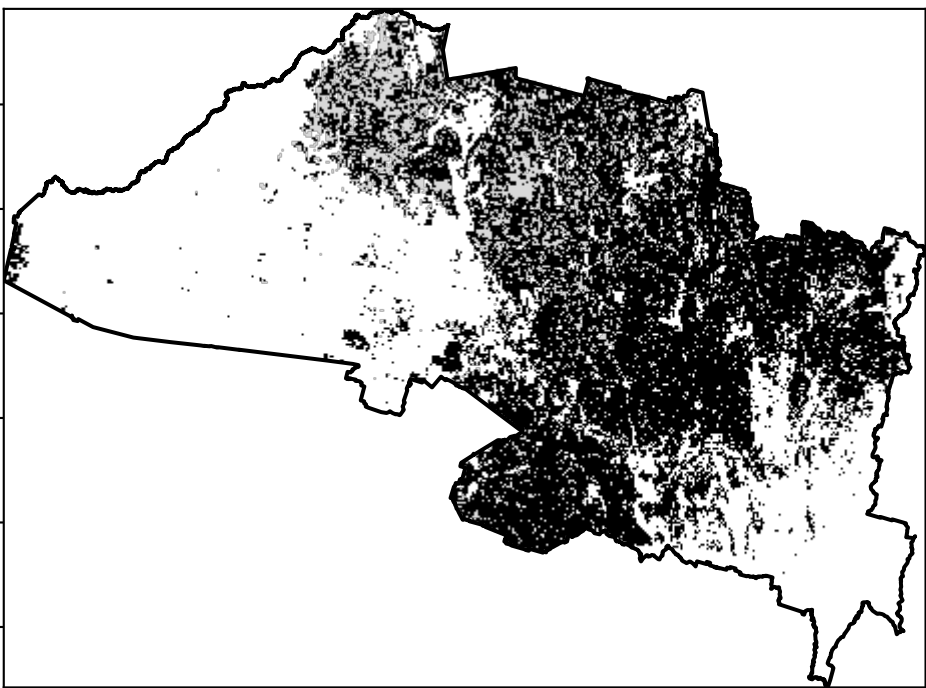
Area not protected 15.8% of region (503,538 ha)

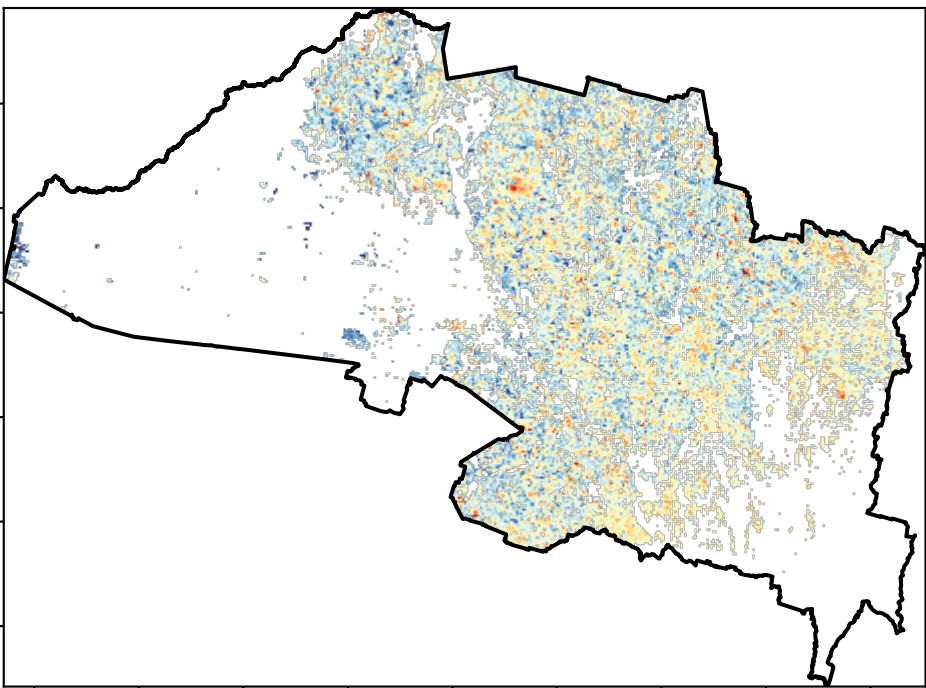Area protected 84.2% of region (2,683,412 ha)

% Area protected from wind erosion (>50%)

Area not protected 0.0% of region (0 ha)
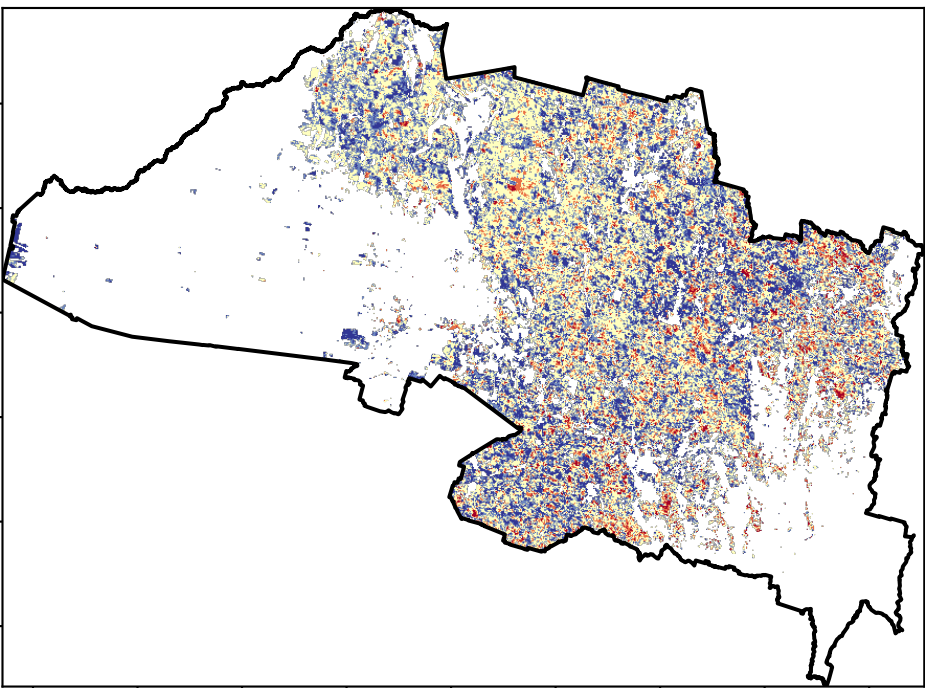
Area protected 100.0% of region (3,186,950 ha)

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.

10
8-9
4-7
2-3
1

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%)

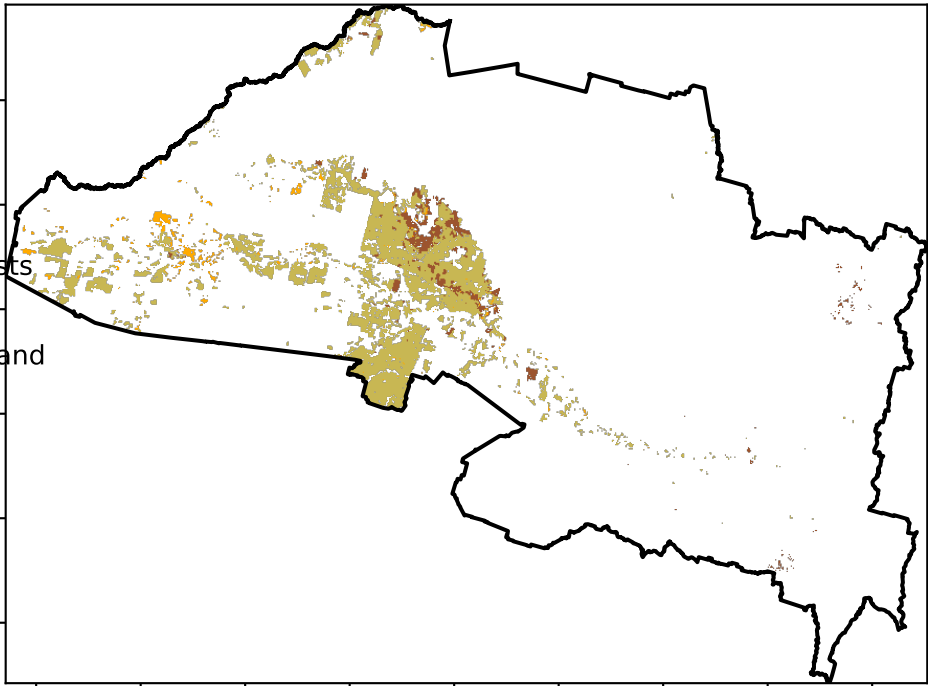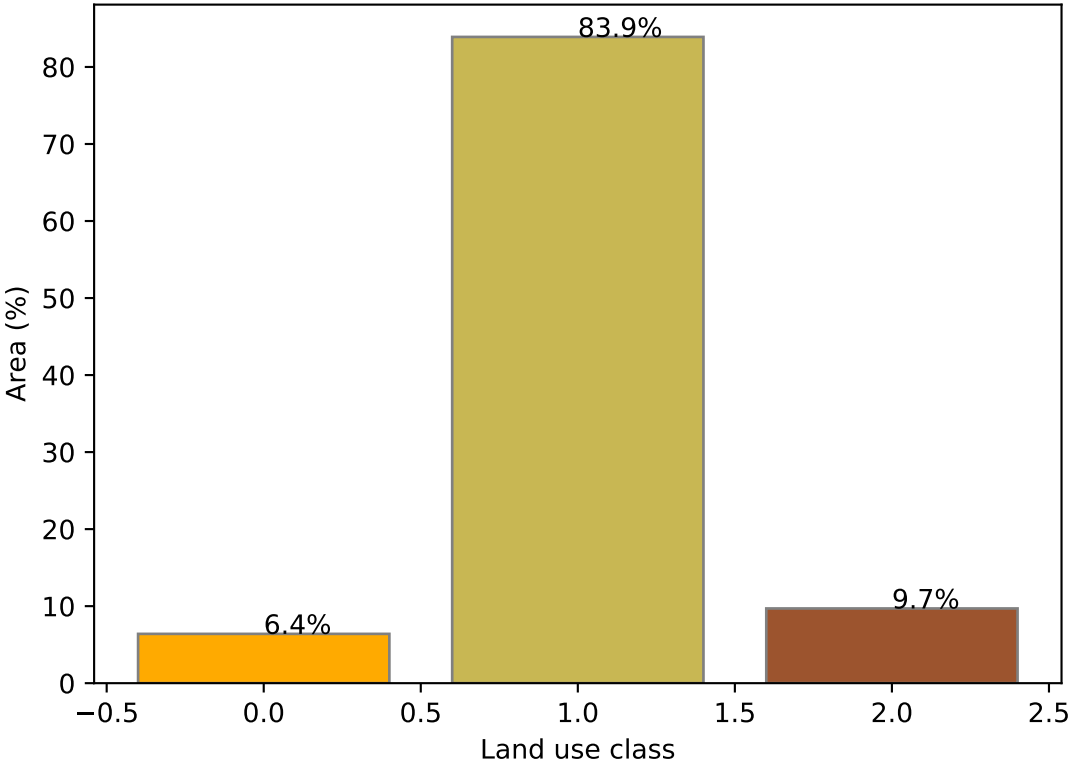### Water erosion historical monthly area protected (Total Veg Cov>70%)
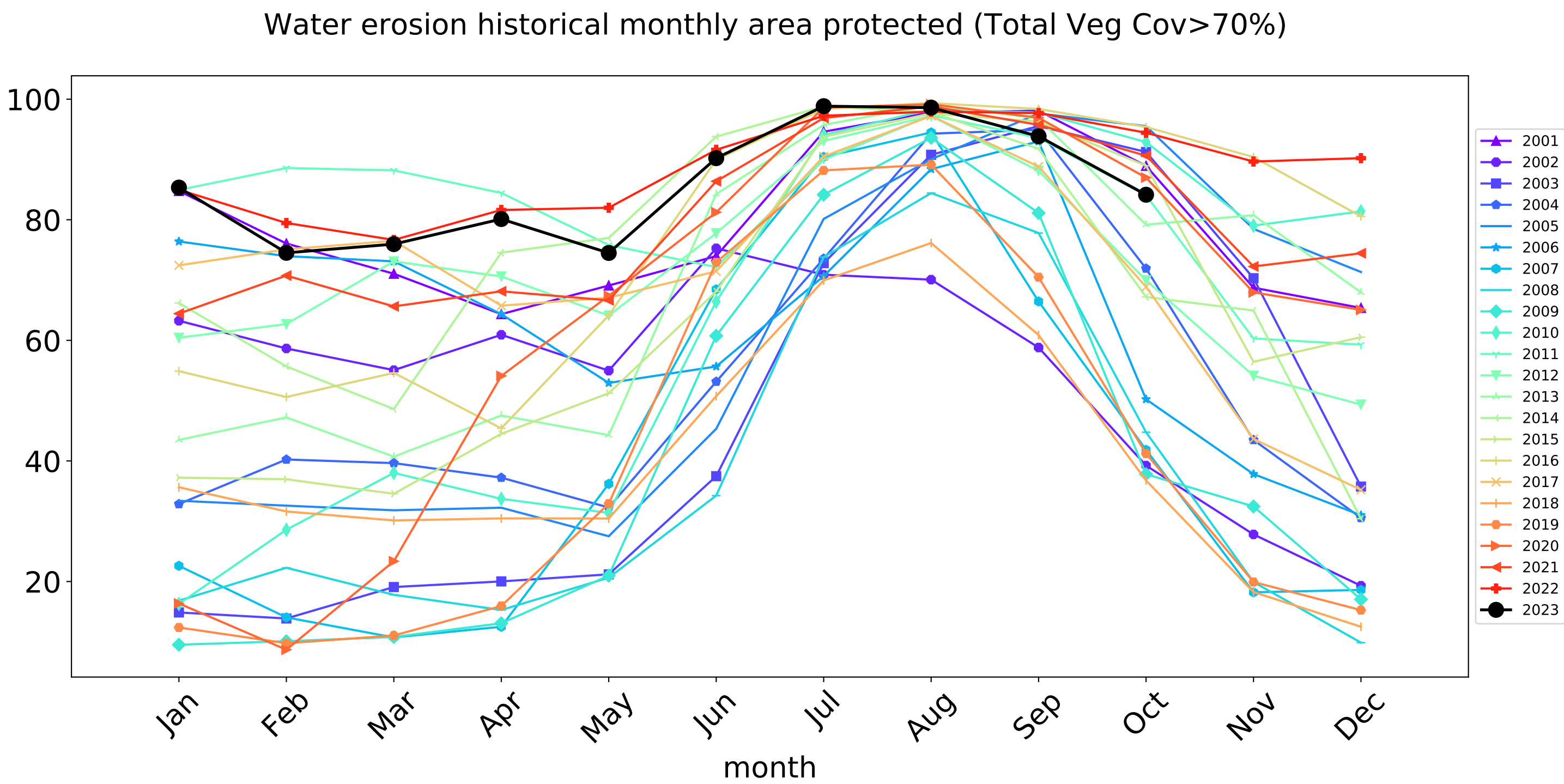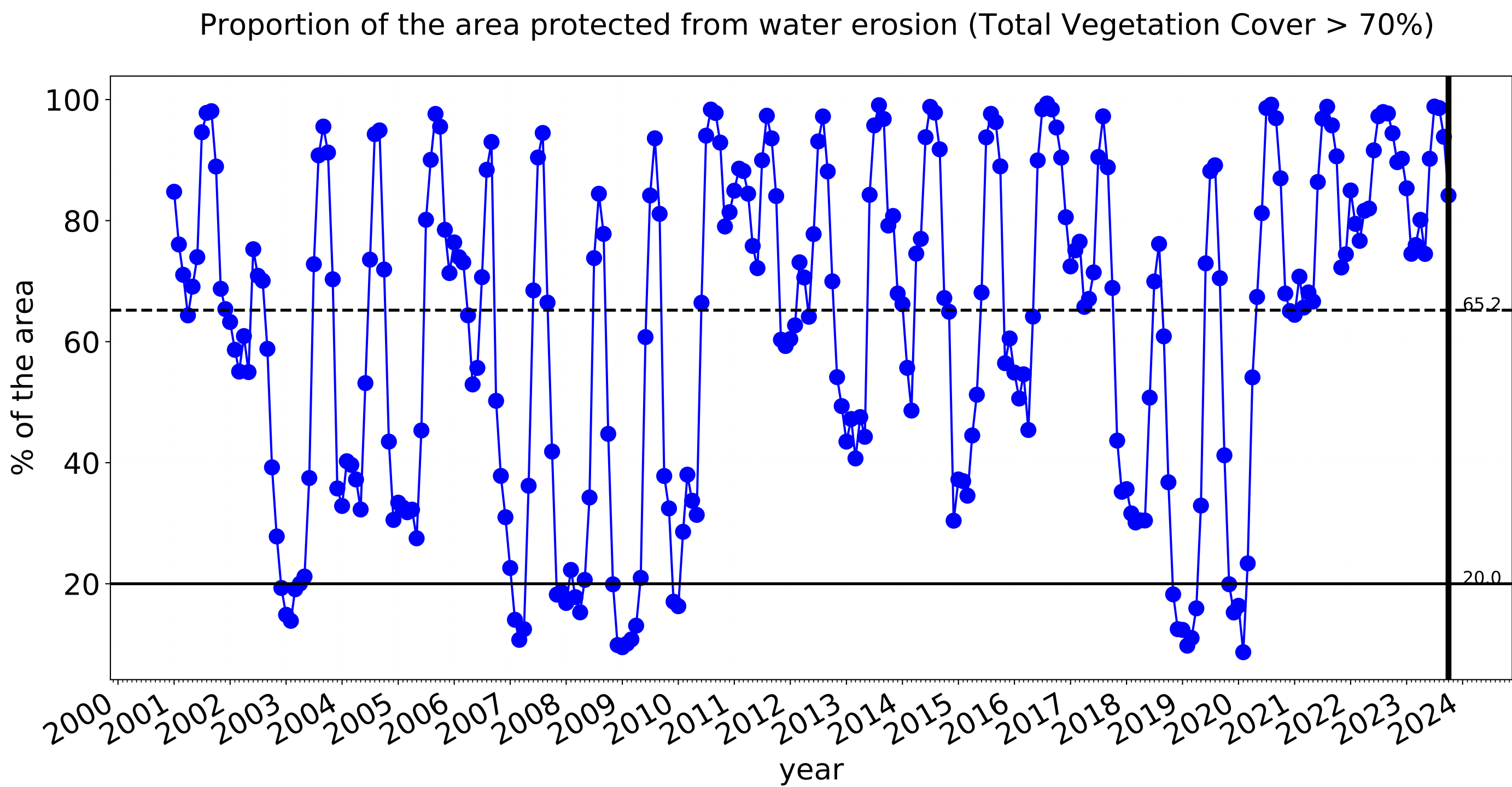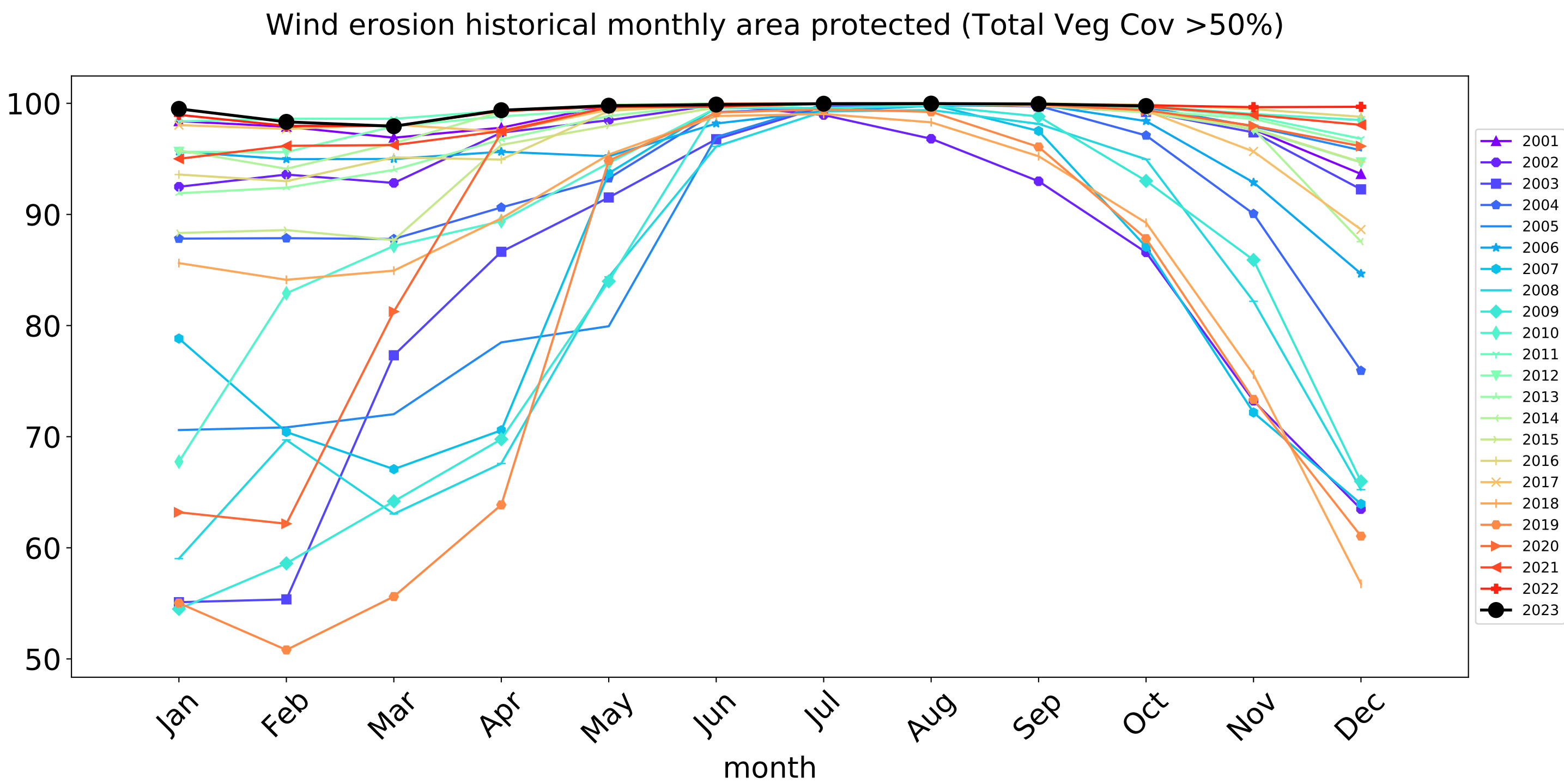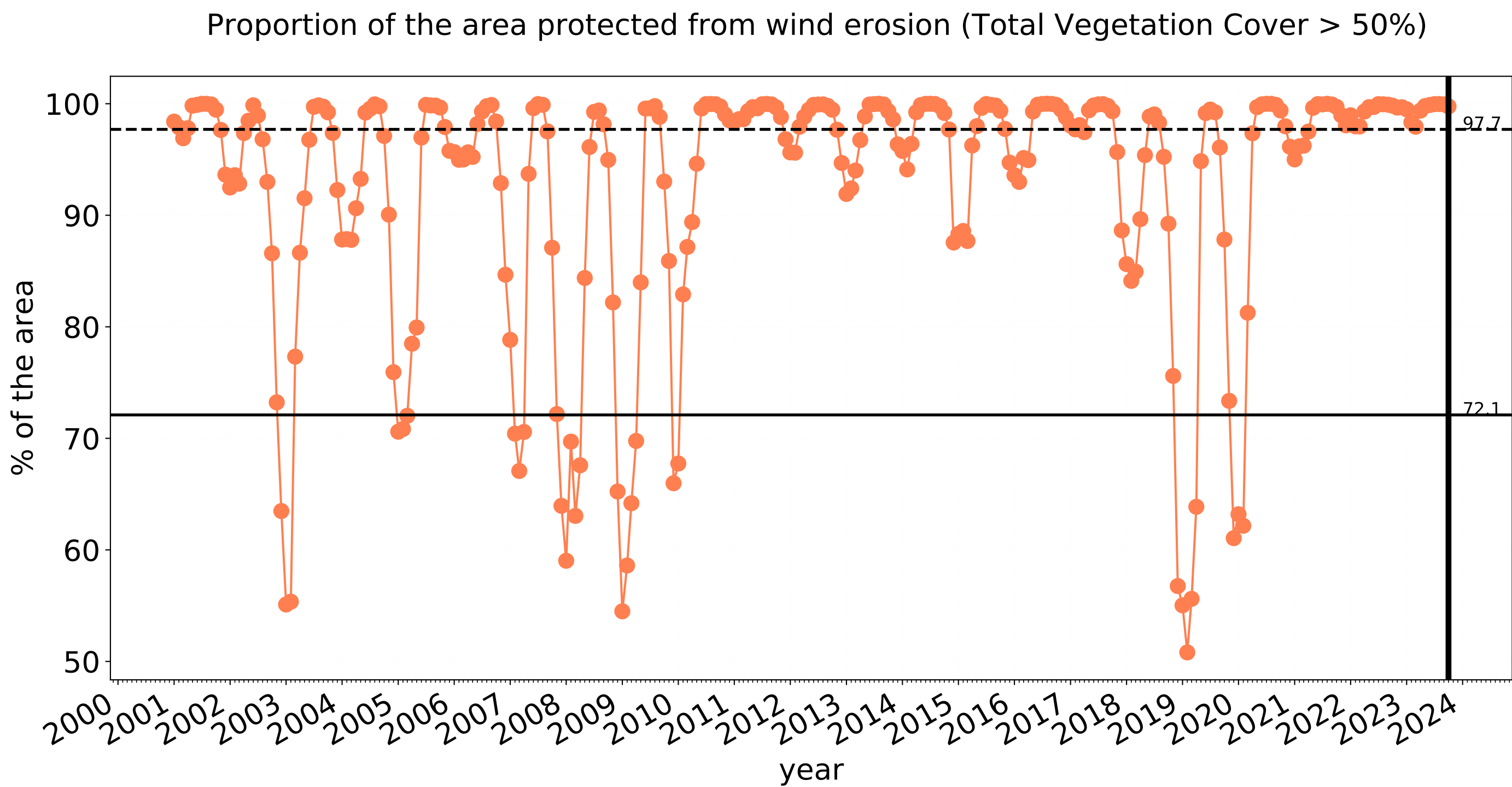
Irrigation

Land use and forest cover

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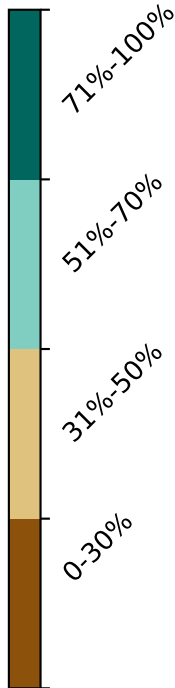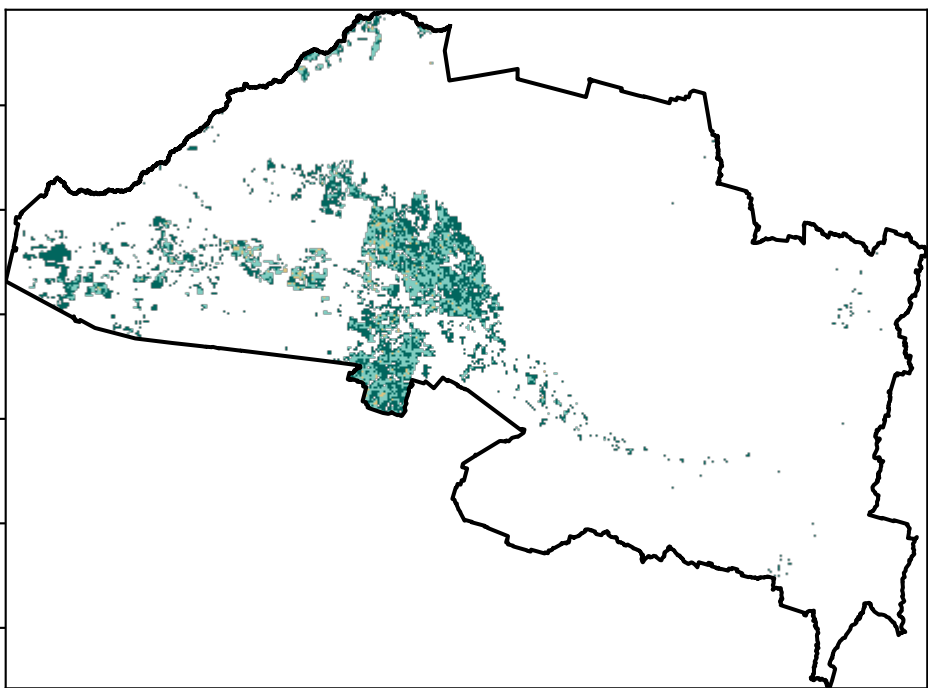Use of Australia
(2018) and Forests
of Australia (2018)

1 Agriculture - Grazing - Irrigated
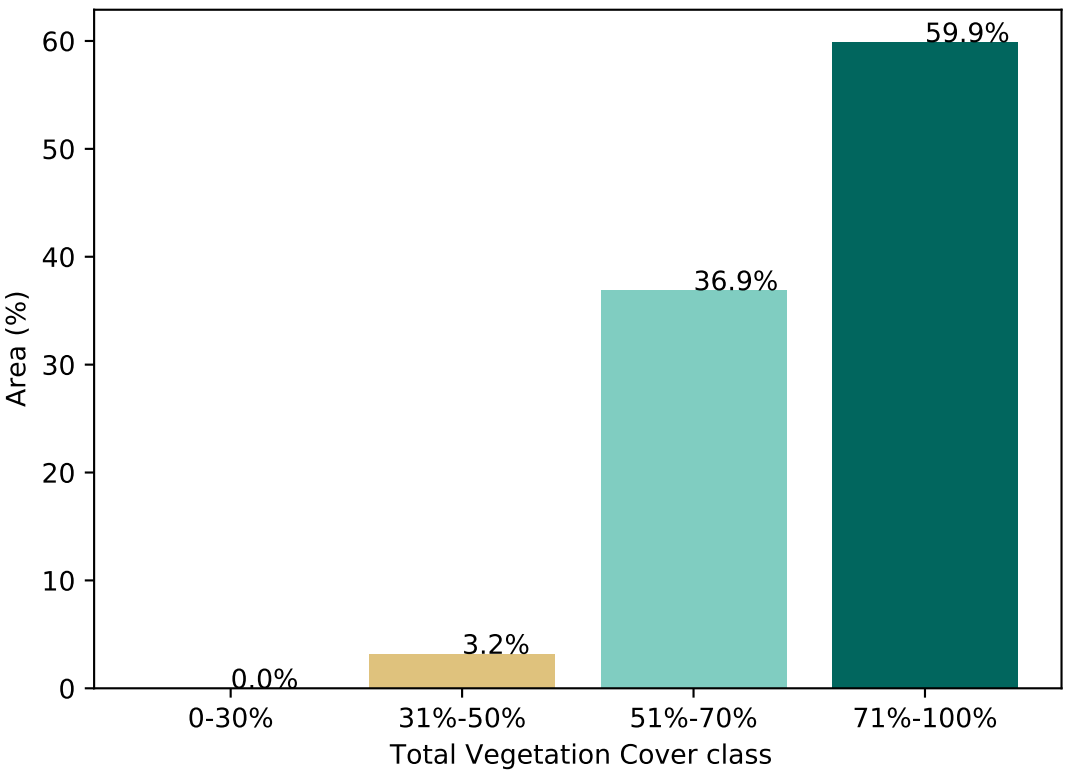2 Agriculture - Cropping - Irrigated
3 Agriculture - Horticulture - Irrigated
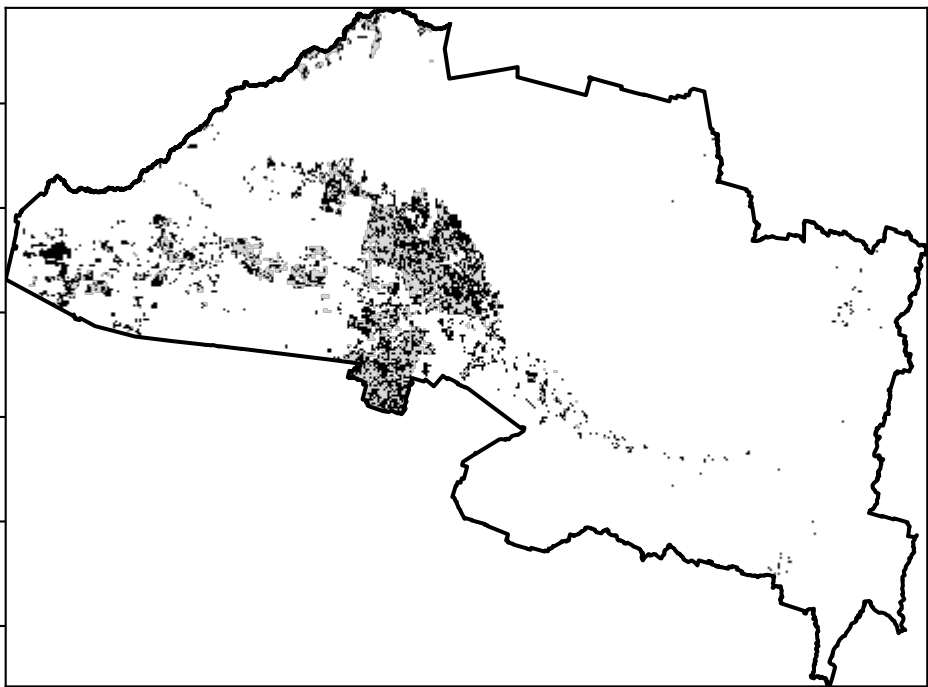
Proportion of each land class in area

Total Vegetation Cover [%]

71%-100%
51%-70%
31%-50%
0-30%
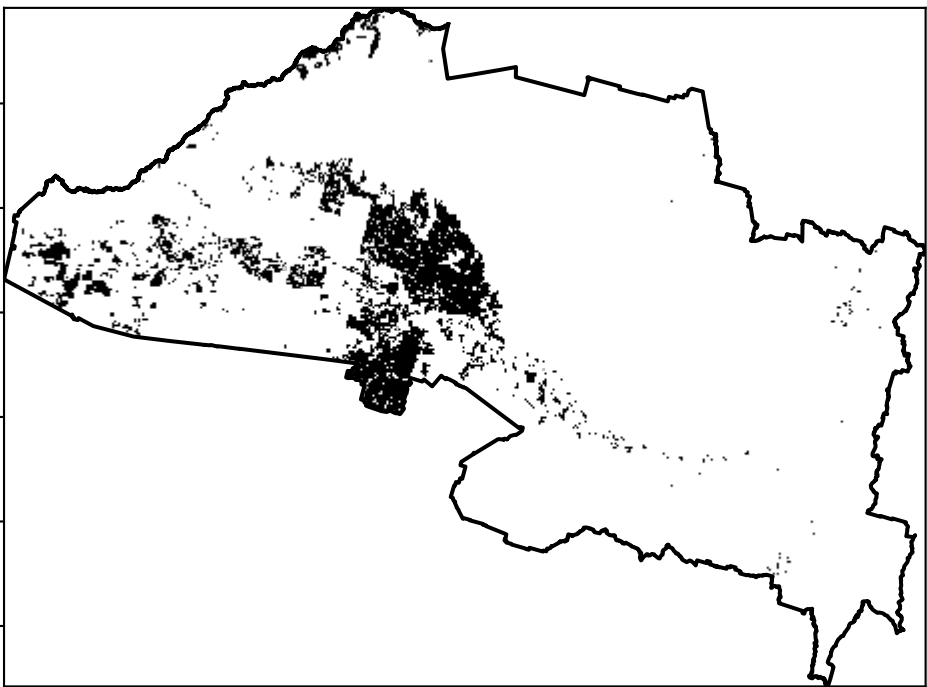
Proportion of vegetation cover class in area

% Area protected from water erosion (>70%)

Area not
protected
40.1% of
region
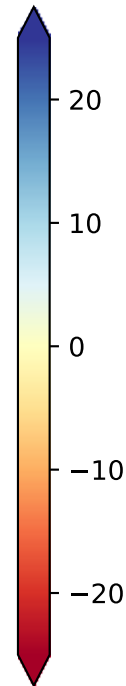(227,618
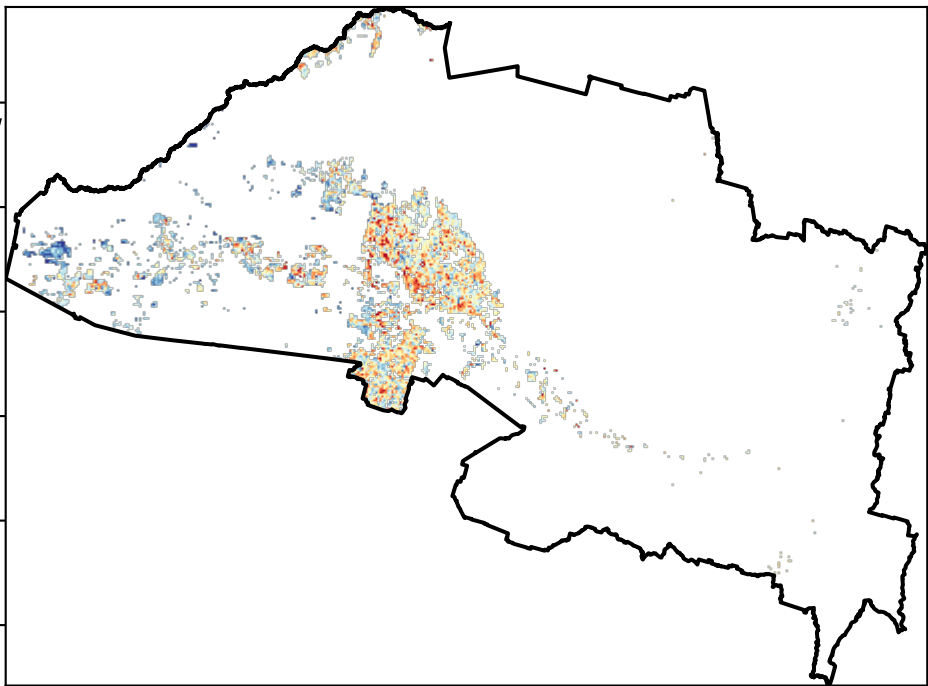ha)

Area
protected
59.9% of
region
(340,007
ha)

% Area protected from wind erosion (>50%)

Area not
protected
3.0% of
region
(17,029
ha)

Area
protected
97.0% of
region
(550,596
ha)

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.

10
8-9
4-7
2-3
1
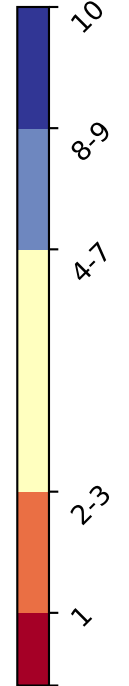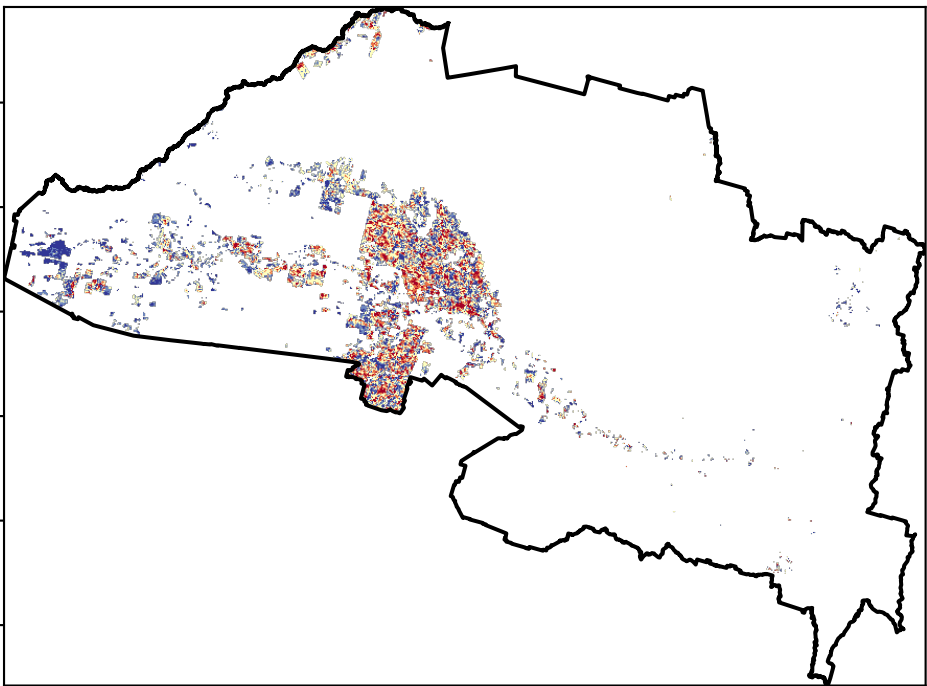
Irrigation timeseries

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

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

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

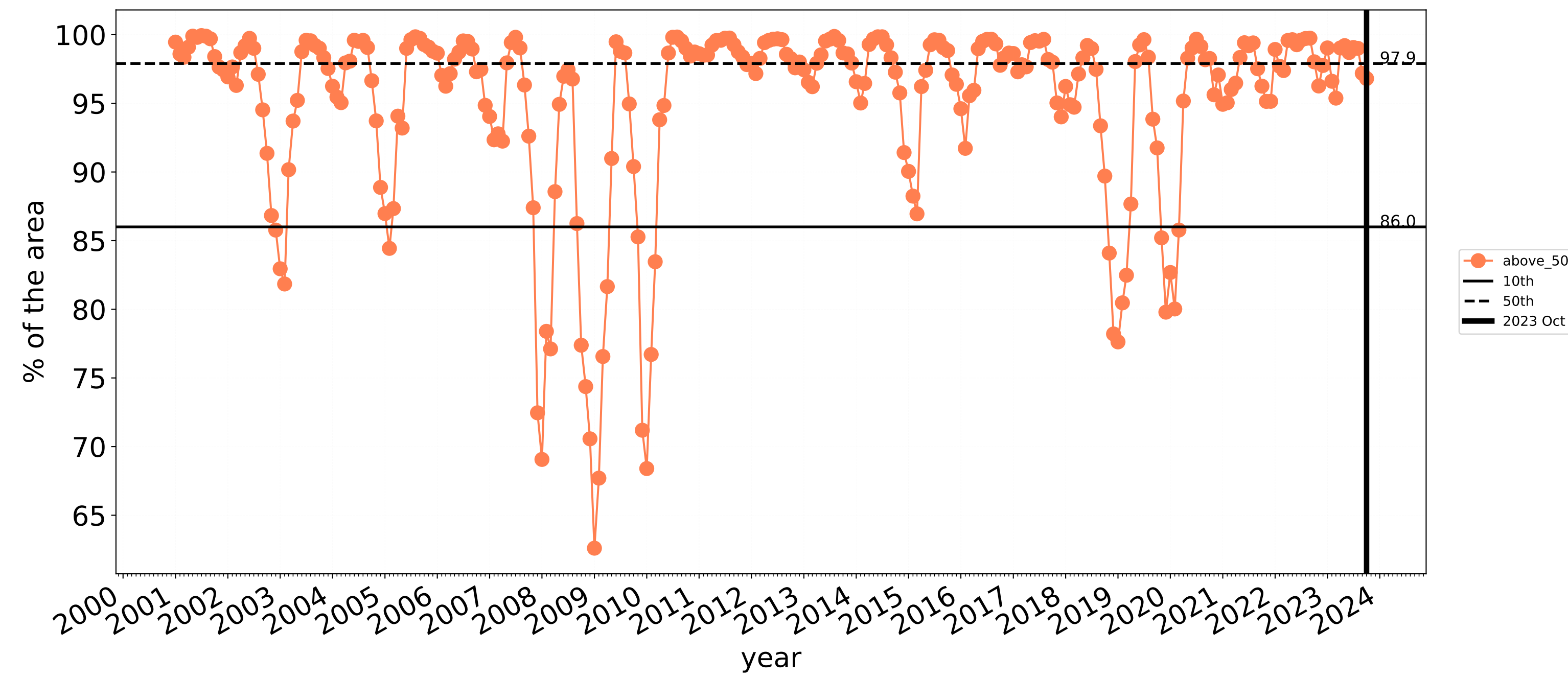Water erosion historical monthly area protected (Total Veg Cov>70%)
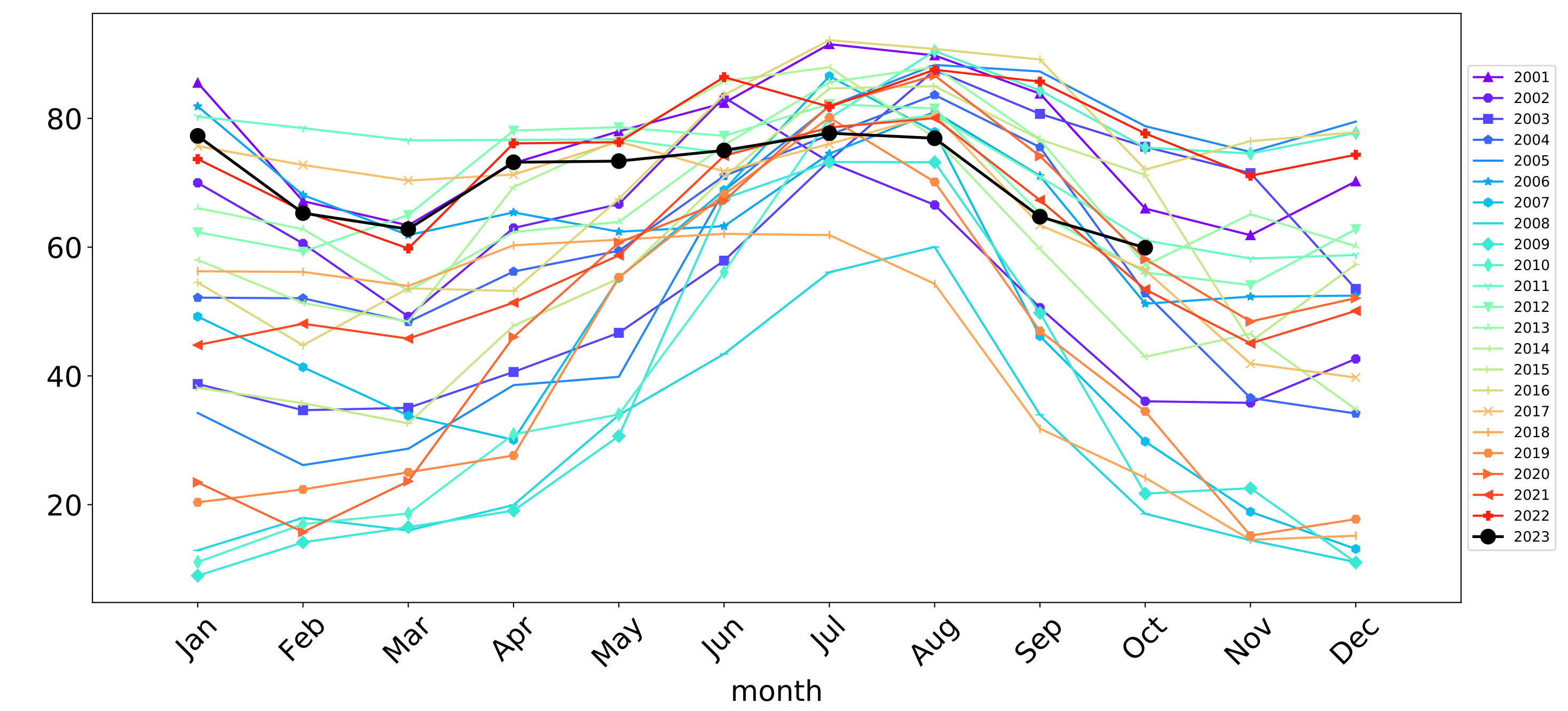
Production native forests and plantation forests

Land use and forest cover

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

■ 1 Production native forests and plantation forests

Total Vegetation Cover [%]

- 71%-100%
- 51%-70%
- 31%-50%
- 0-30%

Proportion of vegetation cover class in area

Area (%) vs Total Vegetation Cover class

- 0-30%: 0.1%
- 31%-50%: 0.0%
- 51%-70%: 0.4%
- 71%-100%: 99.5%

% Area protected from water erosion (>70%)

Area not protected 0.5% of region (864 ha)

Area protected 99.5% of region (171,961 ha)

% Area protected from wind erosion (>50%)

Area not protected 0.0% of region (0 ha)

Area protected 100.0% of region (172,825 ha)

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.

- 10
- 8-9
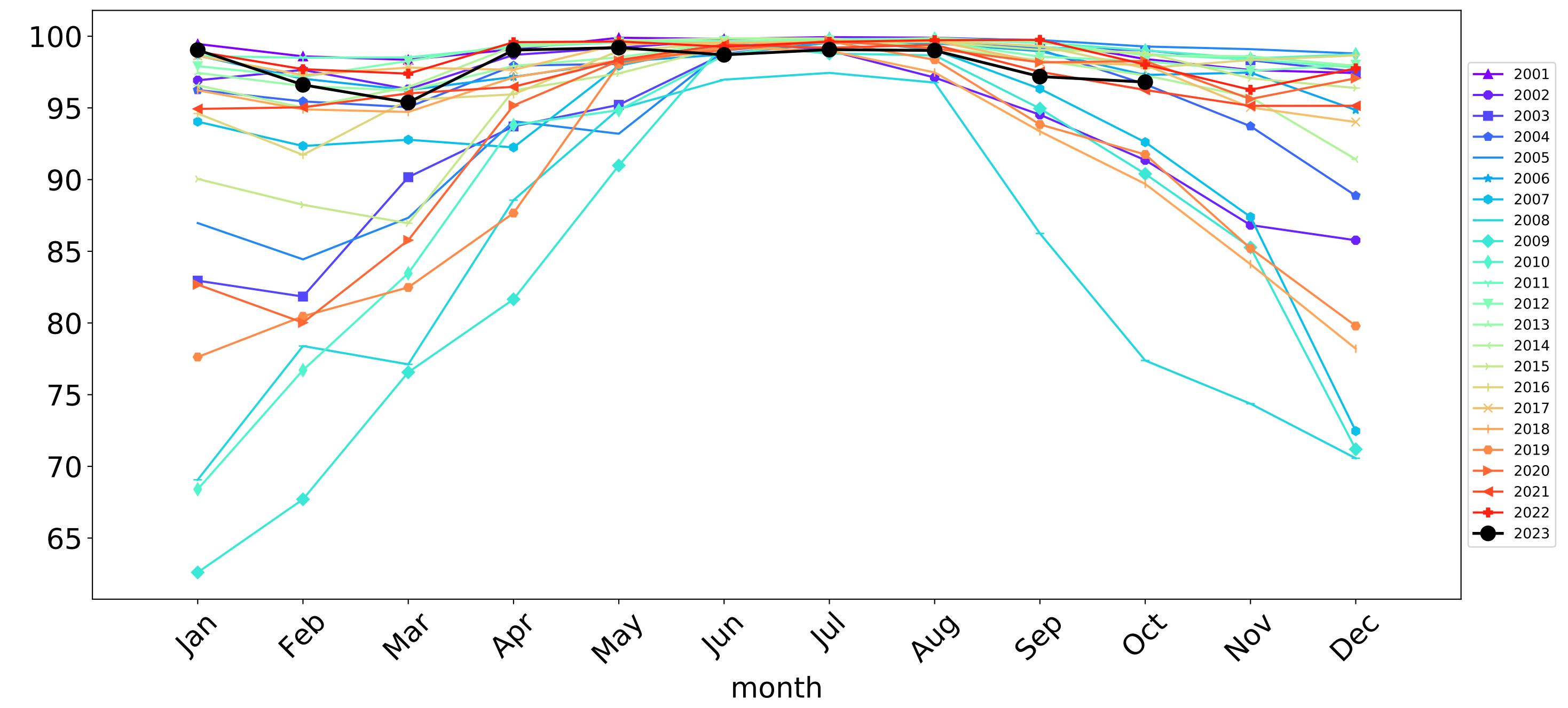- 4-7
- 2-3
- 1

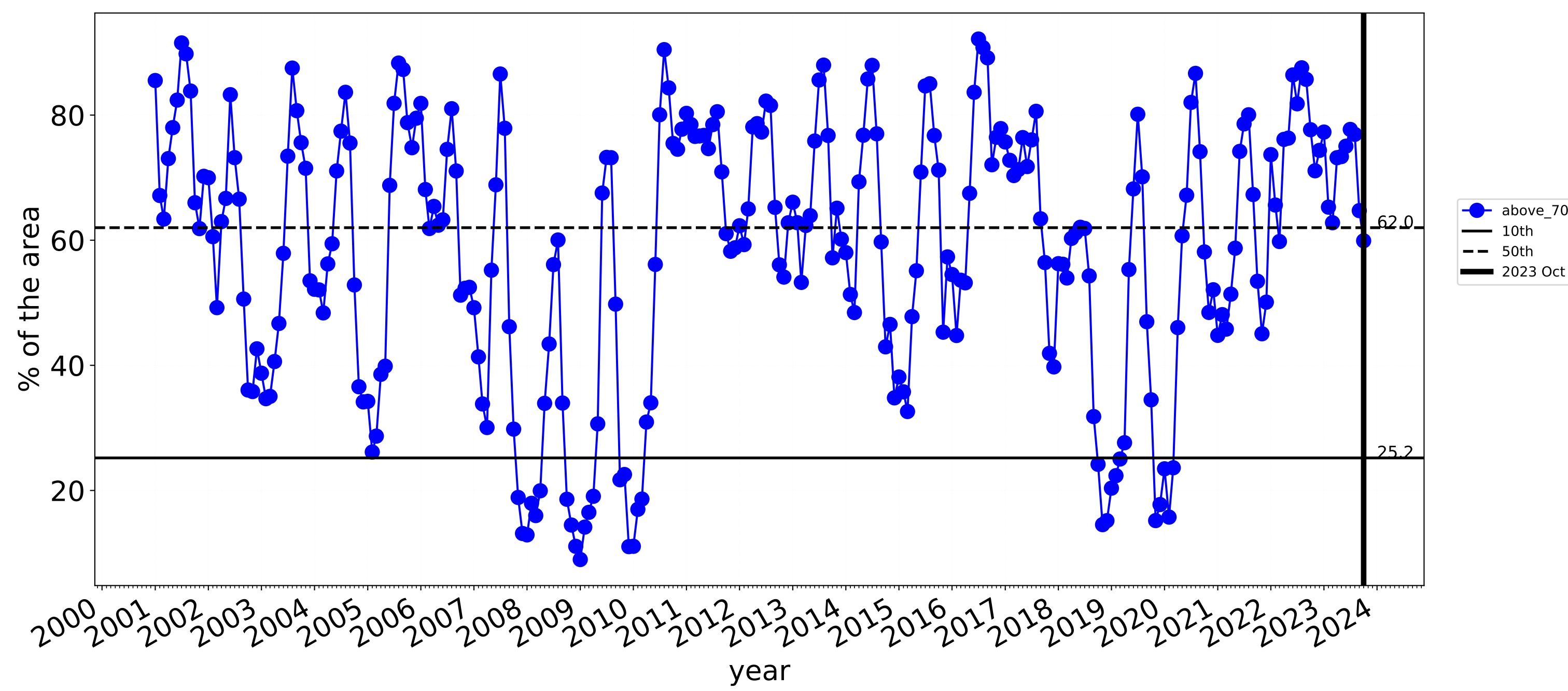# Production native forests and plantation forests timeseries

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

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

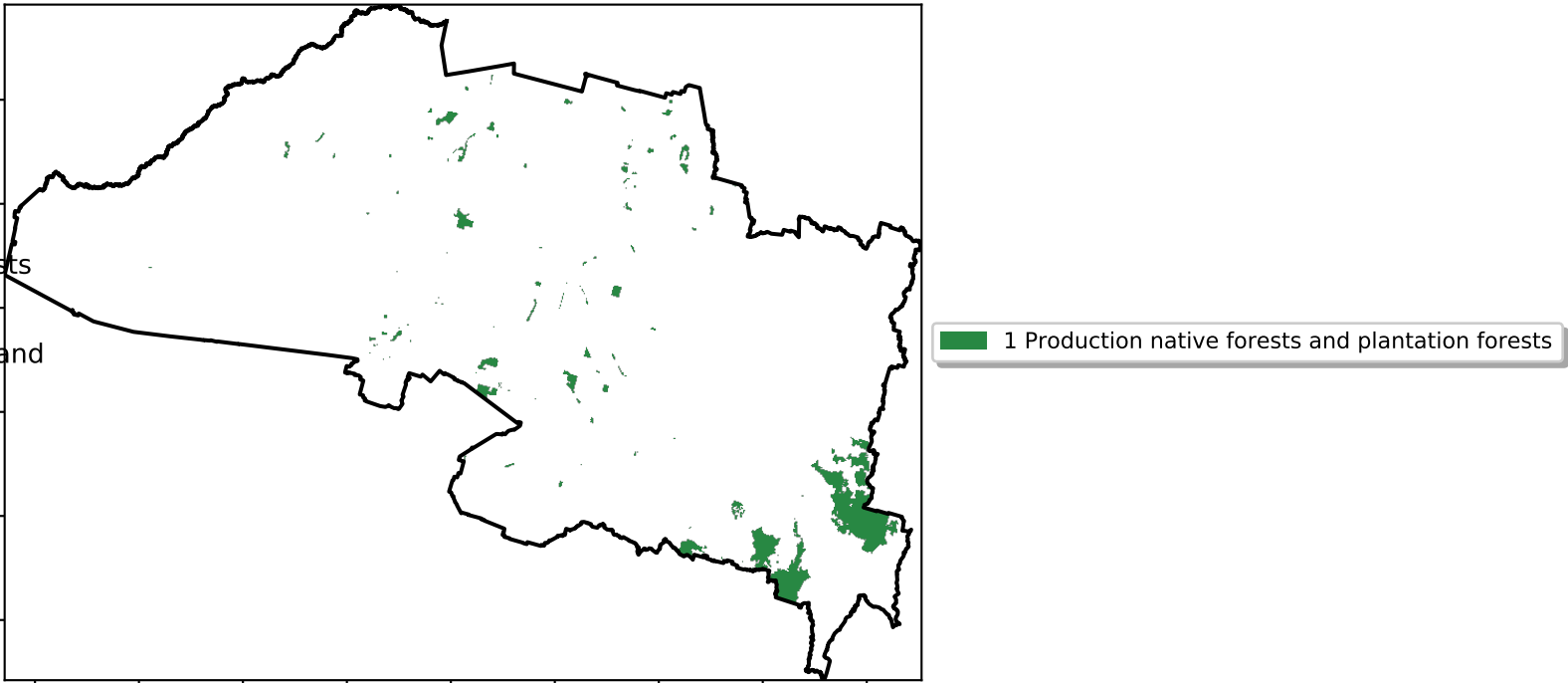Proportion of the area protected from water erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 70%)

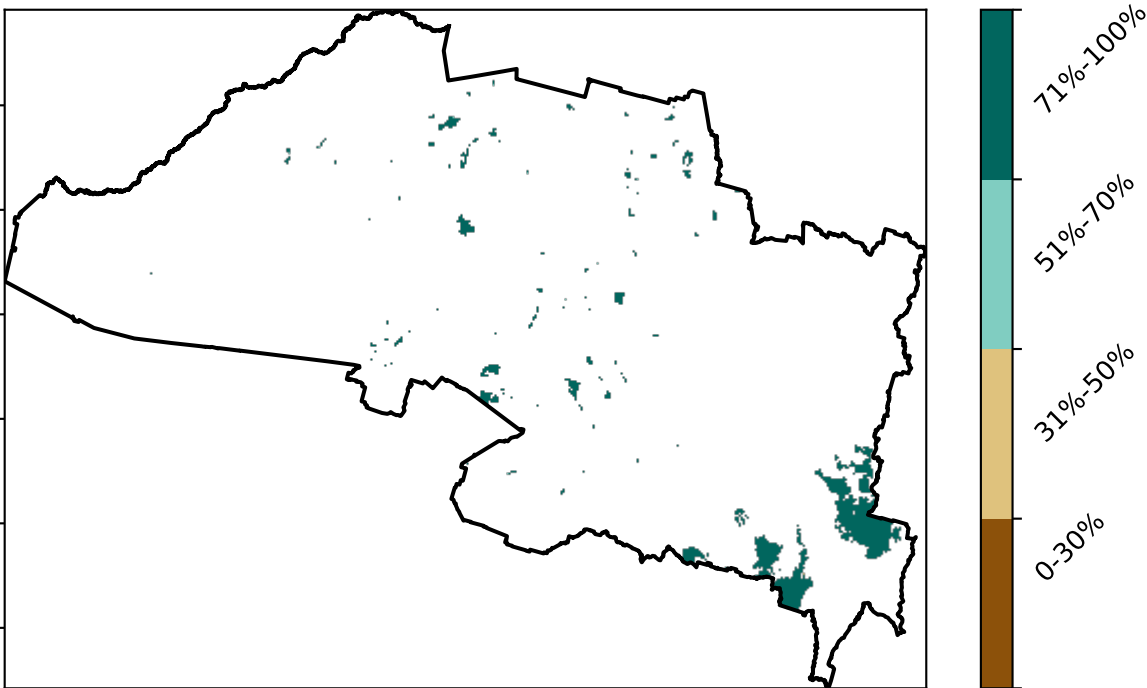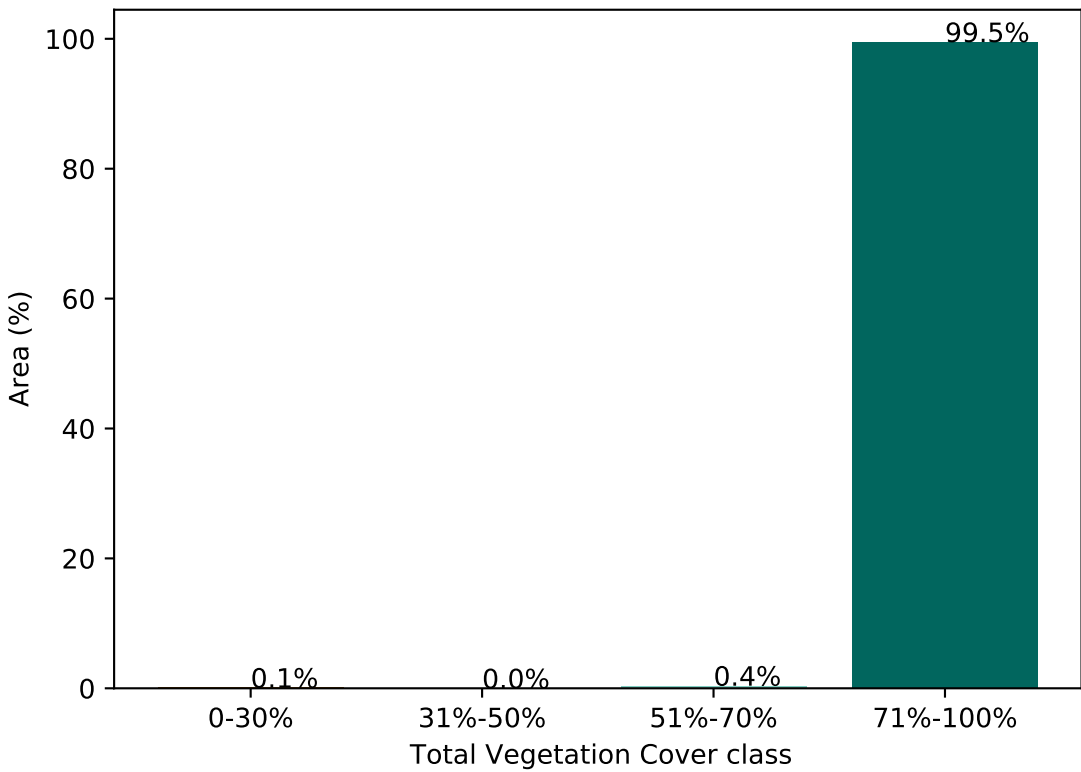Water erosion historical monthly area protected (Total Veg Cov>70%)

Riverina (6,694,200 ha and no data 14,135 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	6,694,200	100.0% 6,692,425	99.5% 6,662,725	85.6% 5,728,375	57.1% 3,820,275	20.2% 1,352,375	5.8% 389,975
Conservation and natural environments	323,150	100.0% 323,150	100.0% 323,150	98.0% 316,625	85.4% 275,875	56.4% 182,275	21.2% 68,450
Conservation and natural environments non forest	83,350	100.0% 83,350	100.0% 83,350	92.8% 77,325	47.5% 39,600	16.1% 13,450	9.6% 8,000
Conservation and natural environments Forest (non woodland)	195,300	100.0% 195,300	100.0% 195,300	99.9% 195,175	99.3% 194,000	77.9% 152,200	29.5% 57,525
Agriculture	6,067,850	100.0% 6,067,050	99.5% 6,040,100	84.6% 5,135,825	54.6% 3,315,525	17.3% 1,046,925	4.4% 268,175
Grazing	2,311,450	100.0% 2,310,975	99.9% 2,309,525	91.4% 2,112,225	67.8% 1,566,275	25.9% 598,600	7.0% 161,425
Grazing non forest	2,066,450	100.0% 2,065,975	99.9% 2,064,525	90.5% 1,870,750	65.6% 1,354,600	24.6% 508,950	6.9% 141,775
Grazing Woodland forest	141,650	100.0% 141,650	100.0% 141,650	97.9% 138,675	80.7% 114,325	21.6% 30,600	3.2% 4,550
Grazing - Forest (non woodland)	103,350	100.0% 103,350	100.0% 103,350	99.5% 102,800	94.2% 97,350	57.1% 59,050	14.6% 15,100
Cropping	3,186,950	100.0% 3,186,725	99.8% 3,179,275	84.2% 2,681,925	50.2% 1,600,675	13.4% 428,200	3.2% 101,750
Irrigation	567,625	100.0% 567,525	96.8% 549,475	59.9% 340,050	26.0% 147,550	3.5% 20,025	0.9% 5,000
Production native forests and plantation forests	172,825	100.0% 172,825	100.0% 172,750	99.5% 171,975	94.9% 163,950	62.8% 108,525	29.3% 50,675