

Total vegetation cover soil protection

Region:NRM Riverina NSW

Date: February 2025

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

Land use forest cover:

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

Total vegetation Cover:

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

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

Erosion protection: Wind erosion 50% total vegetation cover

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

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

Comparison with previous years:

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

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

Time series monthly from January 2001 to current:

Erosion protection

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

Rainfall

- Millimetres rainfall each month (black line).

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

Water erosion protection for higher rainfall and steeper slopes:

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

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

Acknowledgment of data:

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



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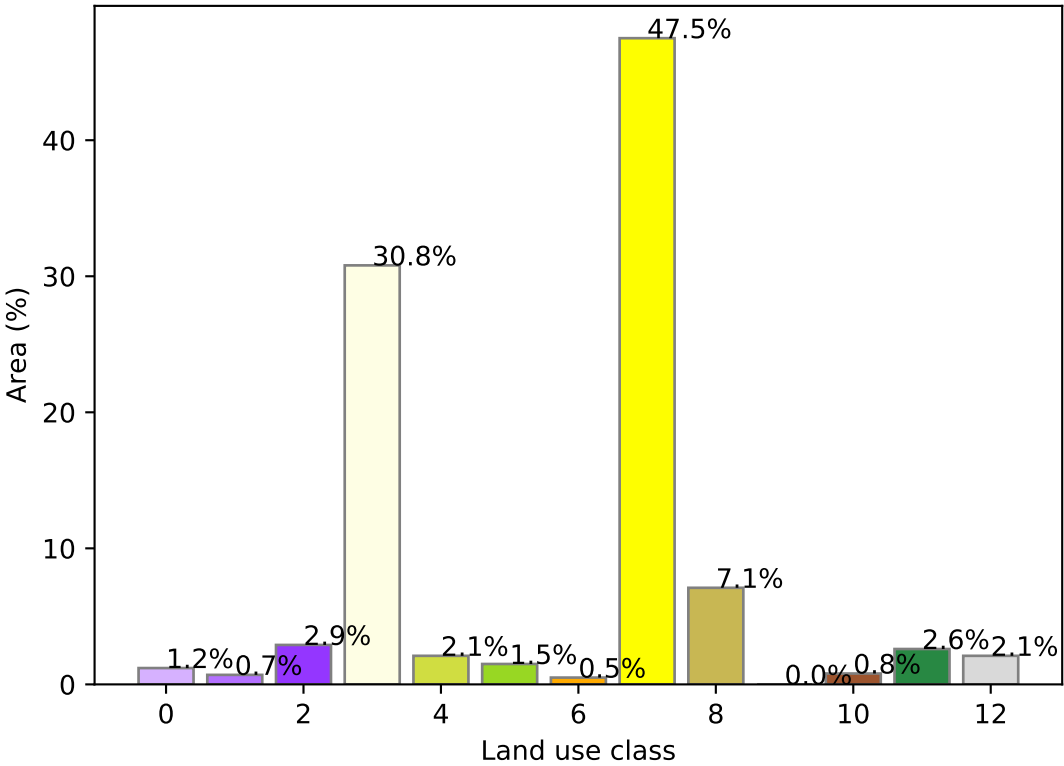


Vegetation Cover Feb 2025

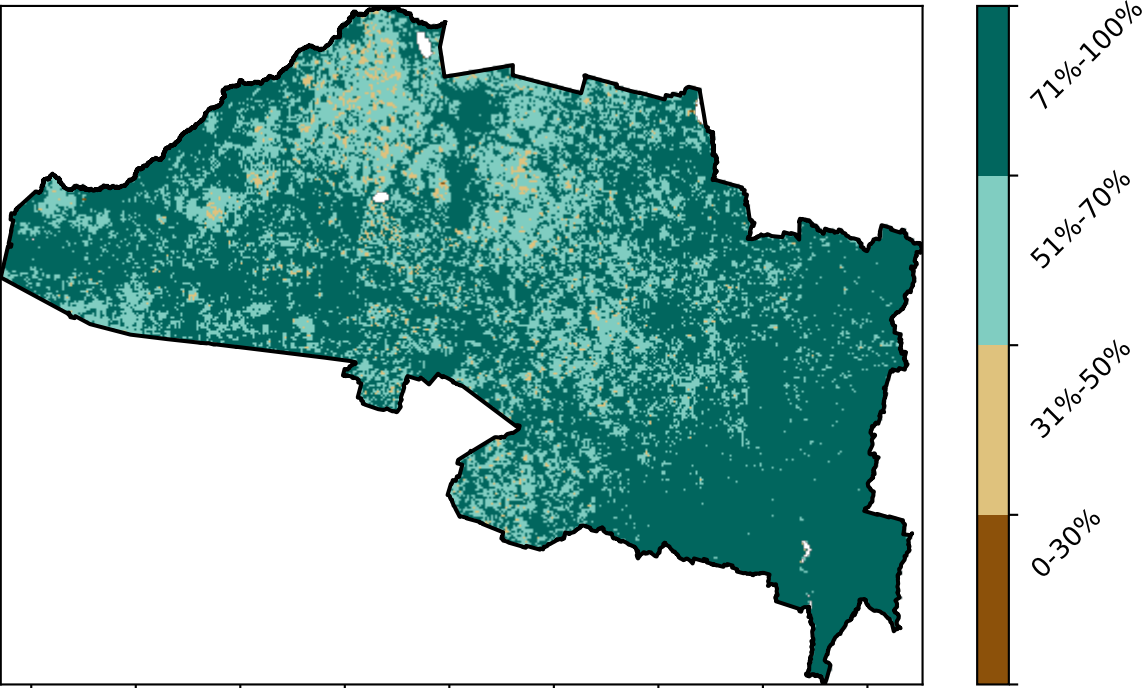
Land use and forest cover



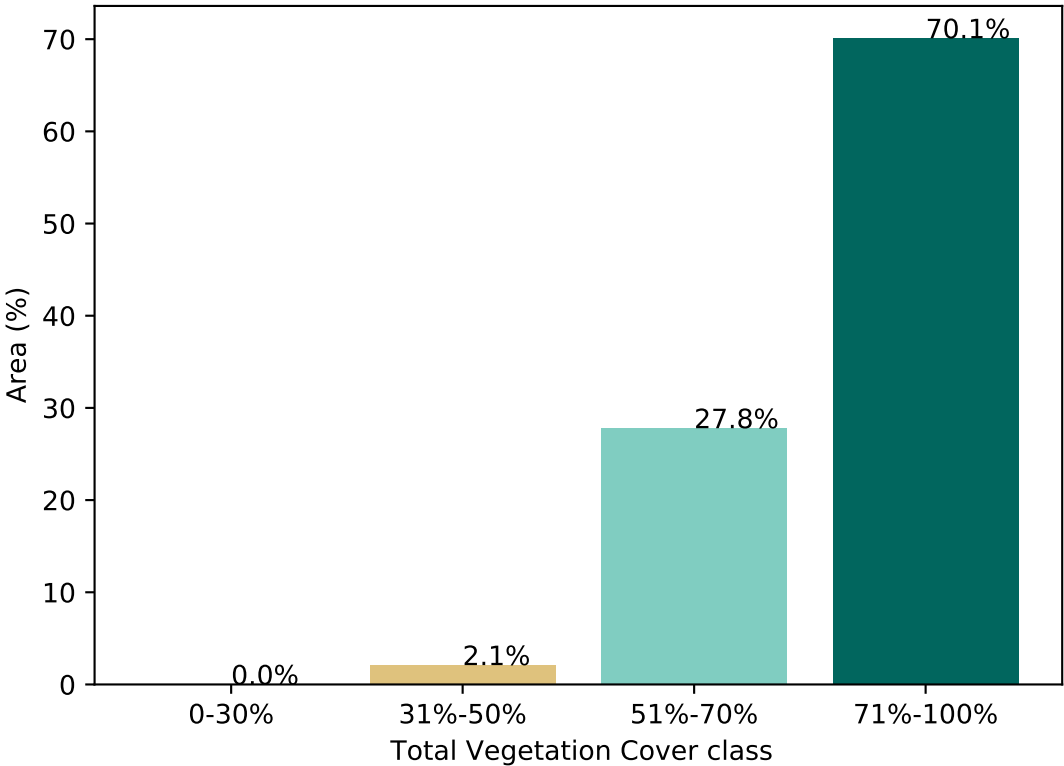
Proportion of each land class in area



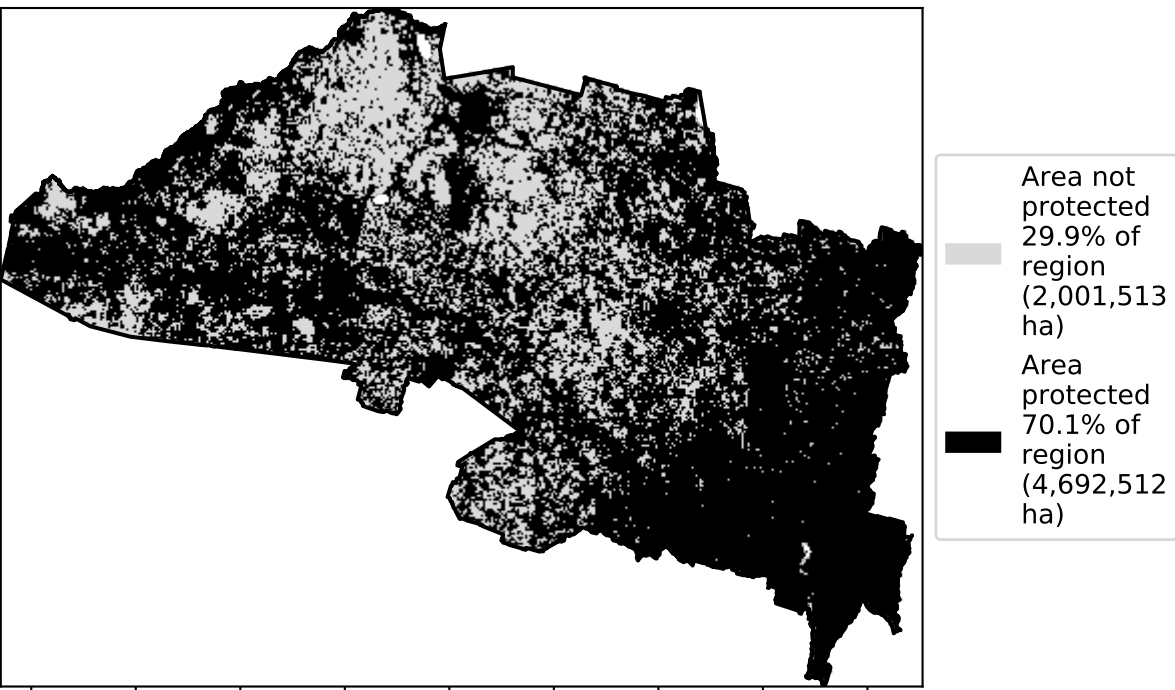
Total Vegetation Cover [%]



Proportion of vegetation cover class in area



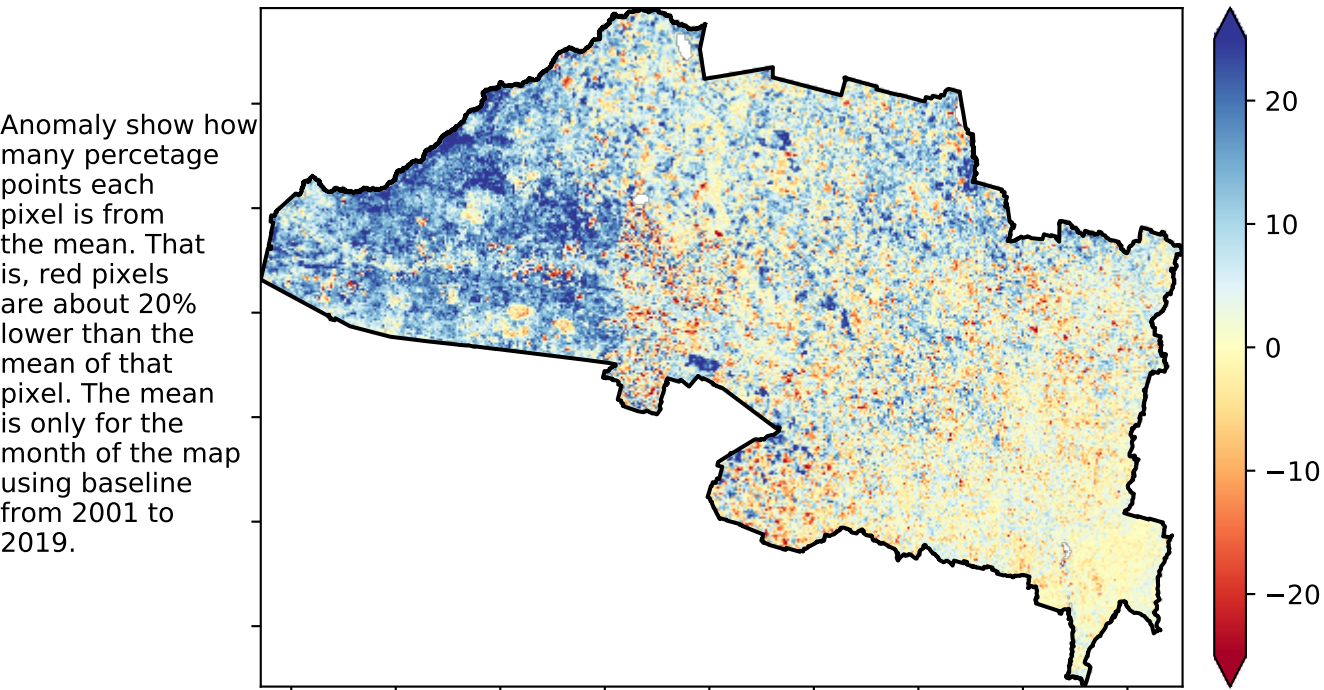
% Area protected from water erosion (>70%)



% Area protected from wind erosion (>50%)

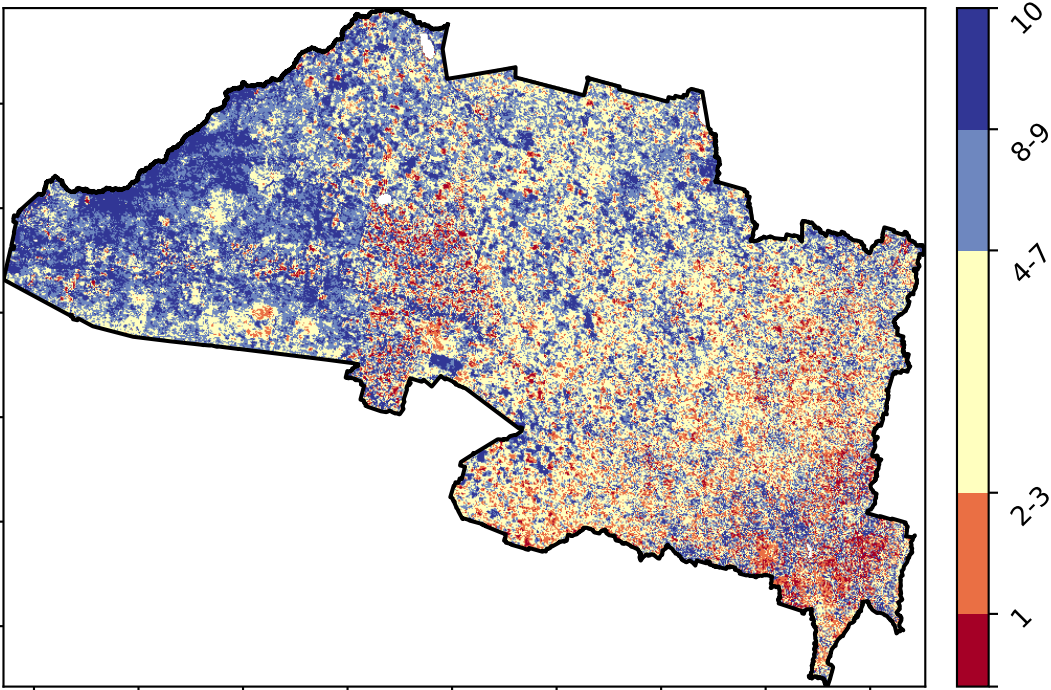


Total Vegetation Cover Anomaly [%]



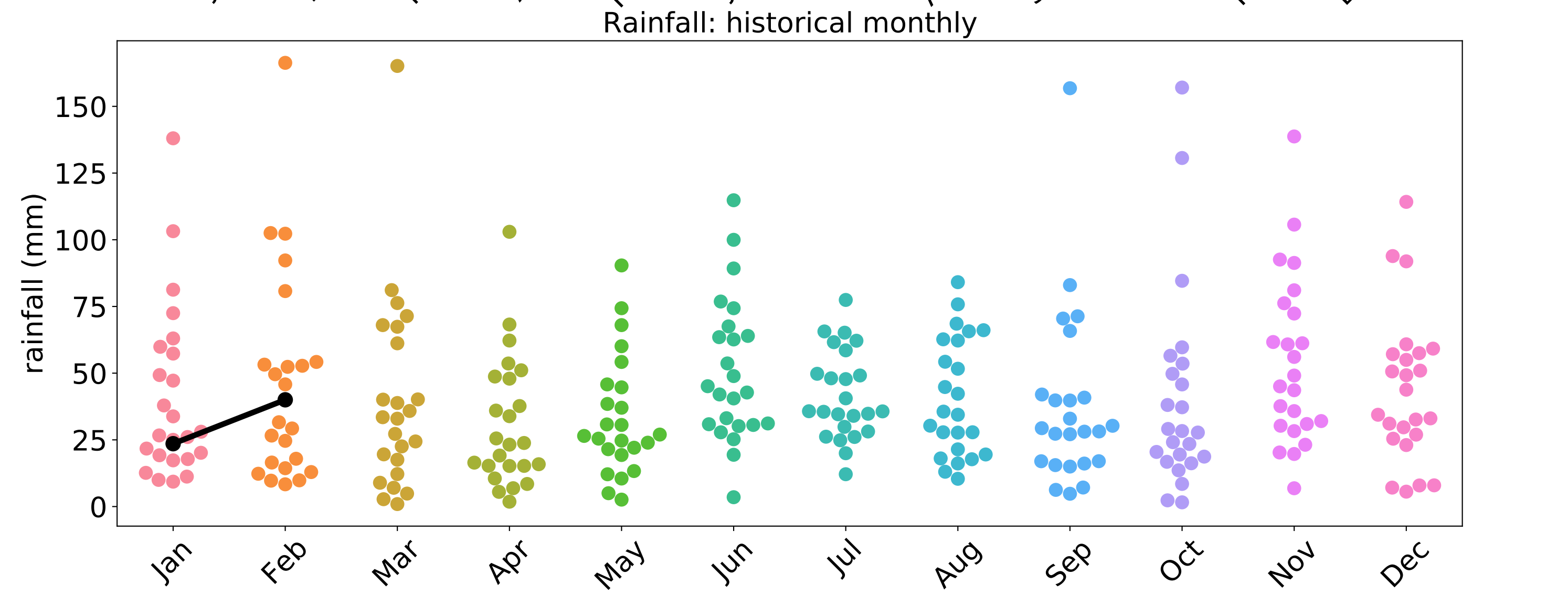
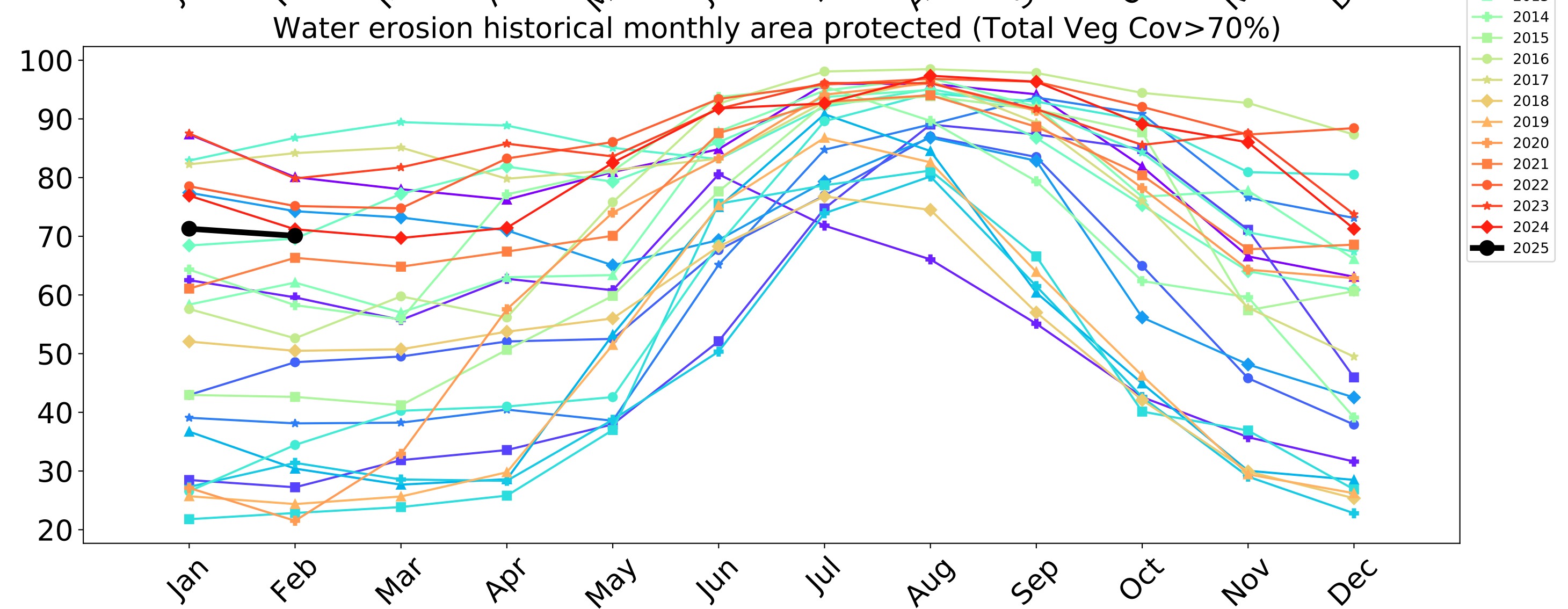
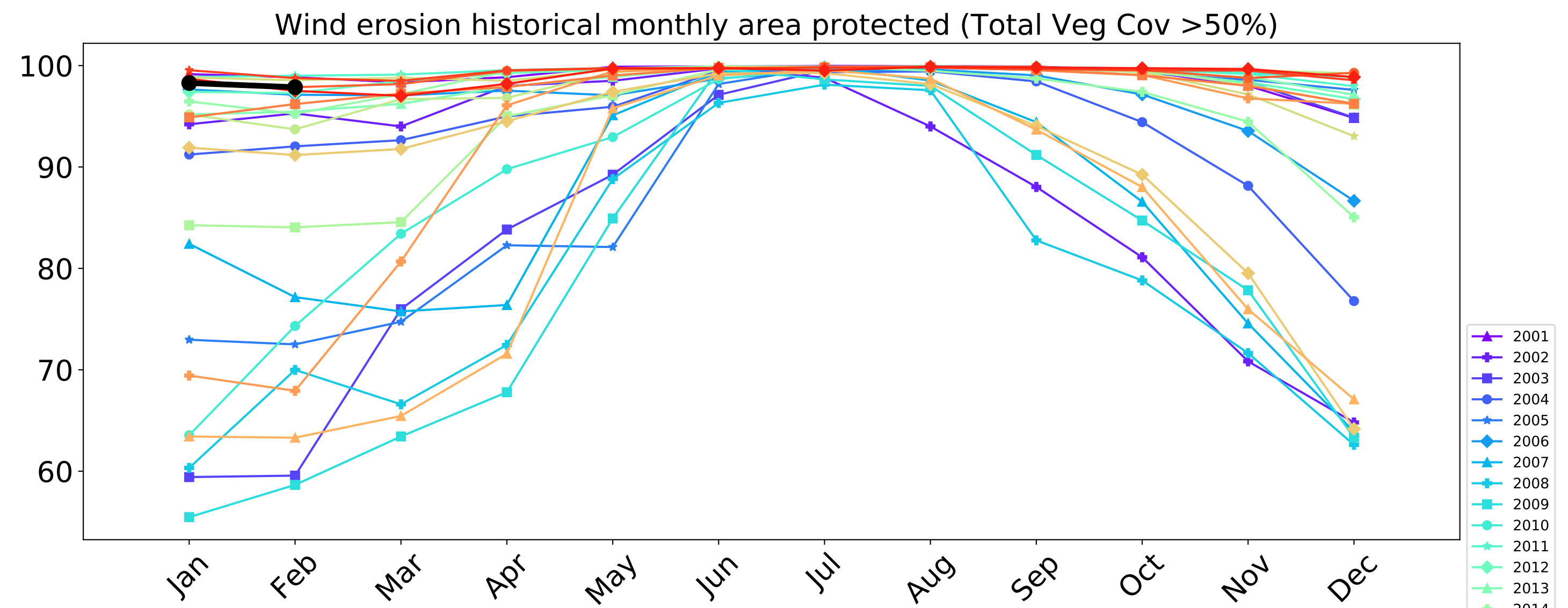
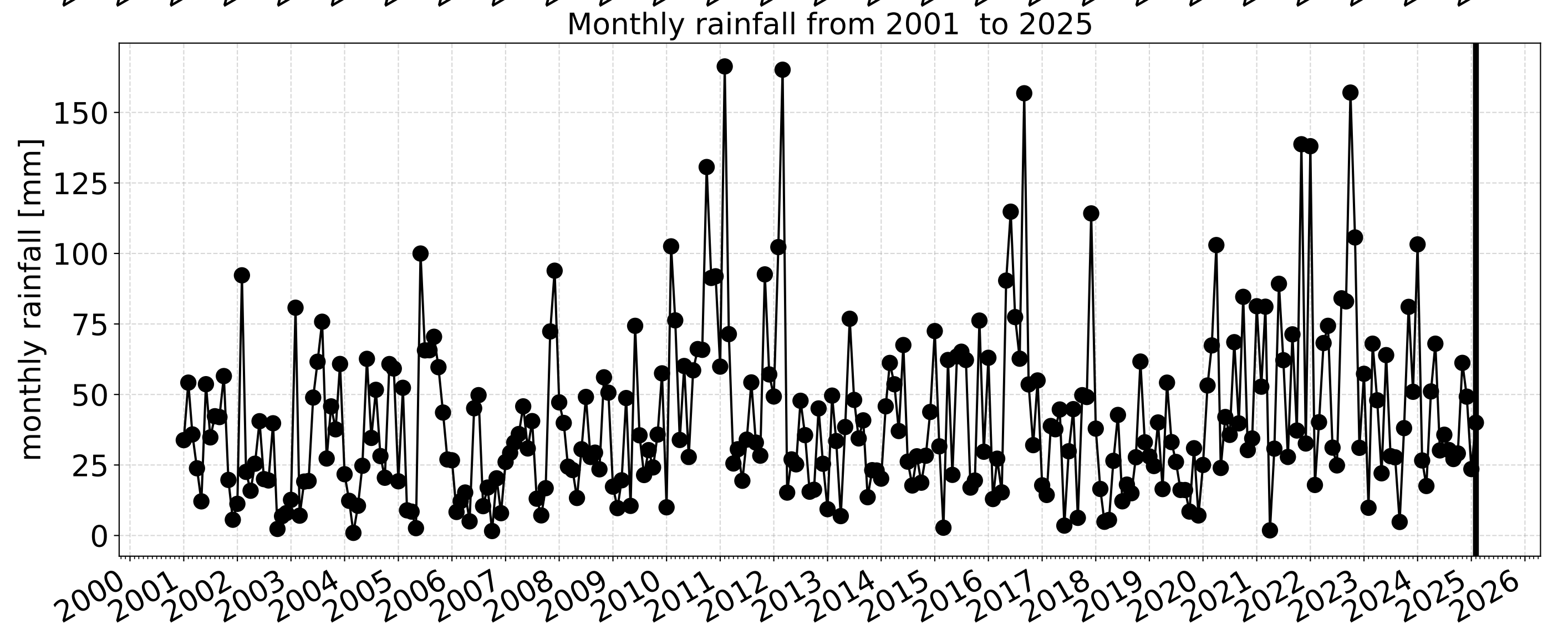
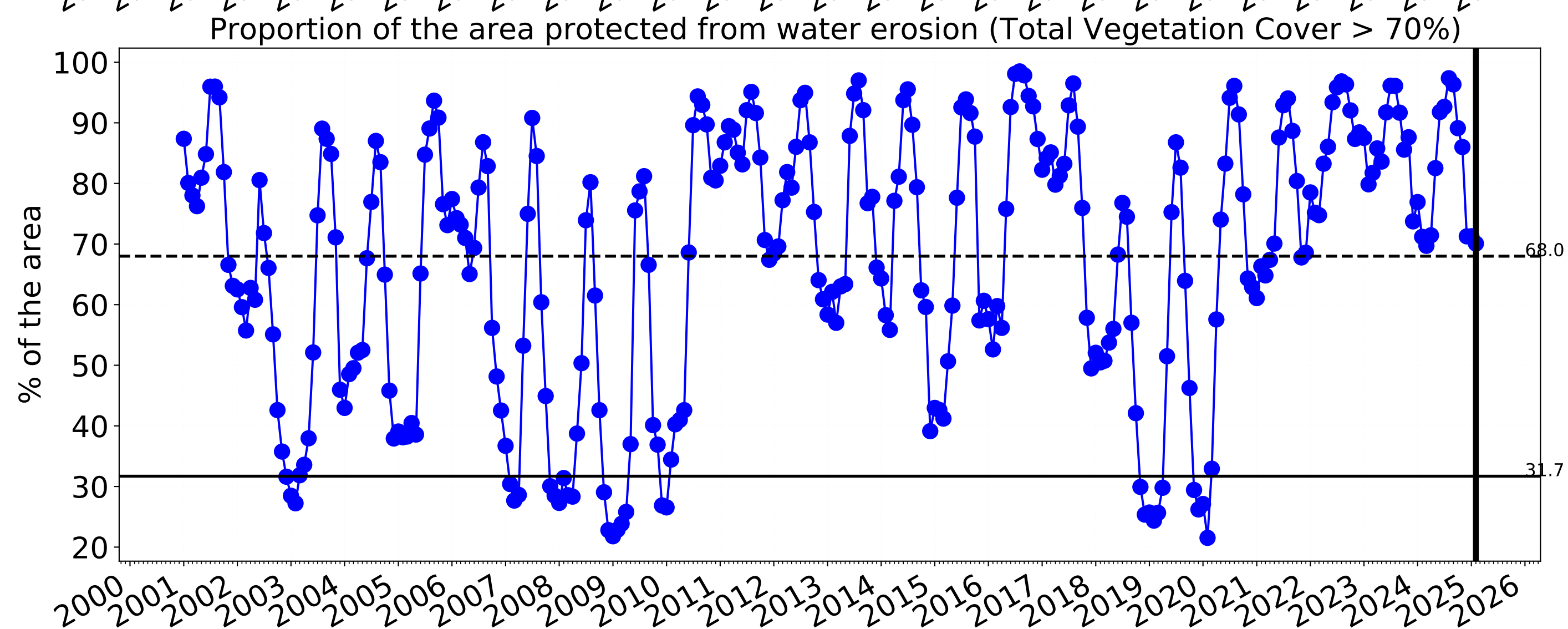
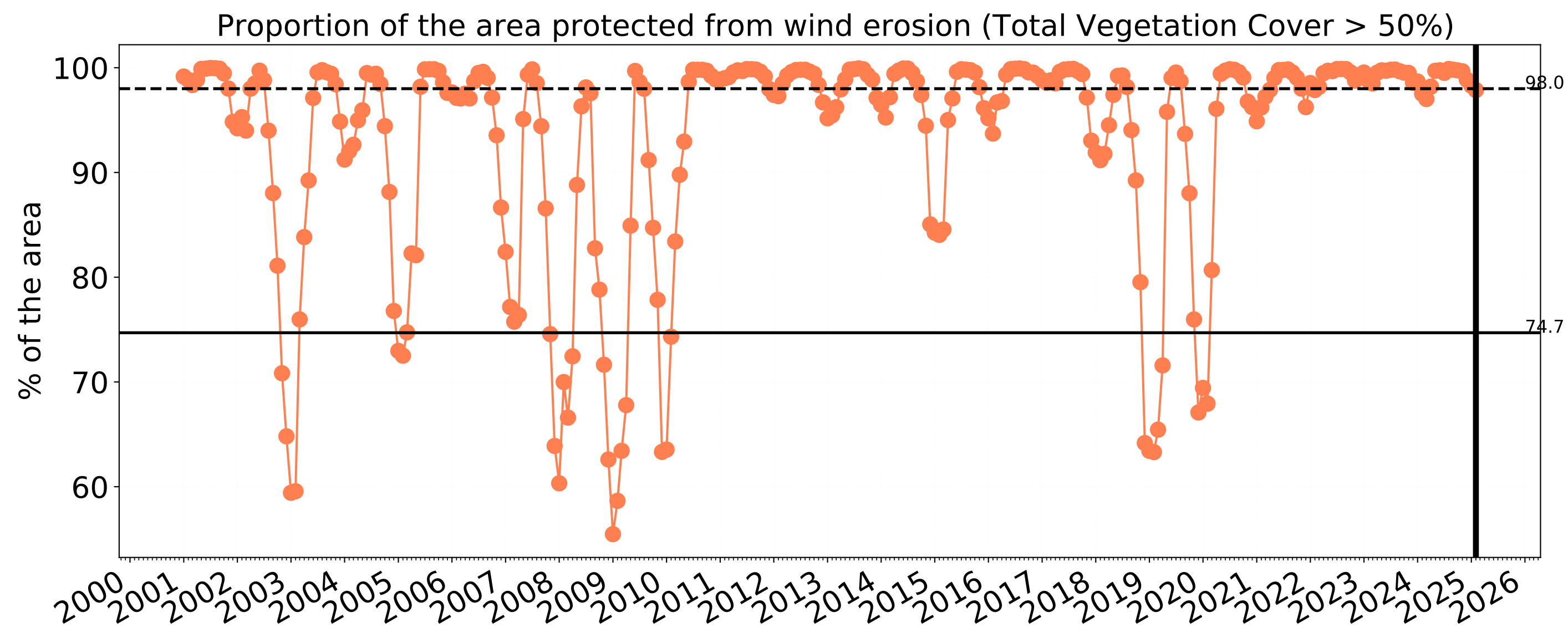
Total Vegetation Cover Decile [%]

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



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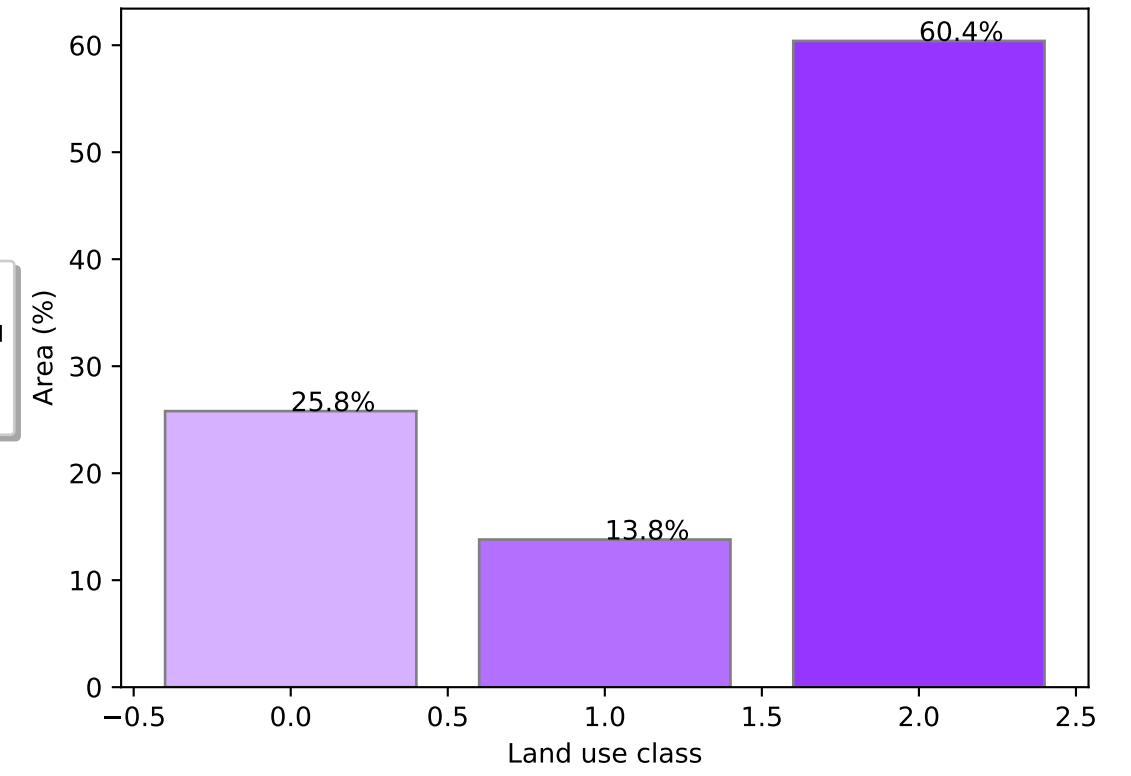
Conservation and natural environments

Land use and forest cover

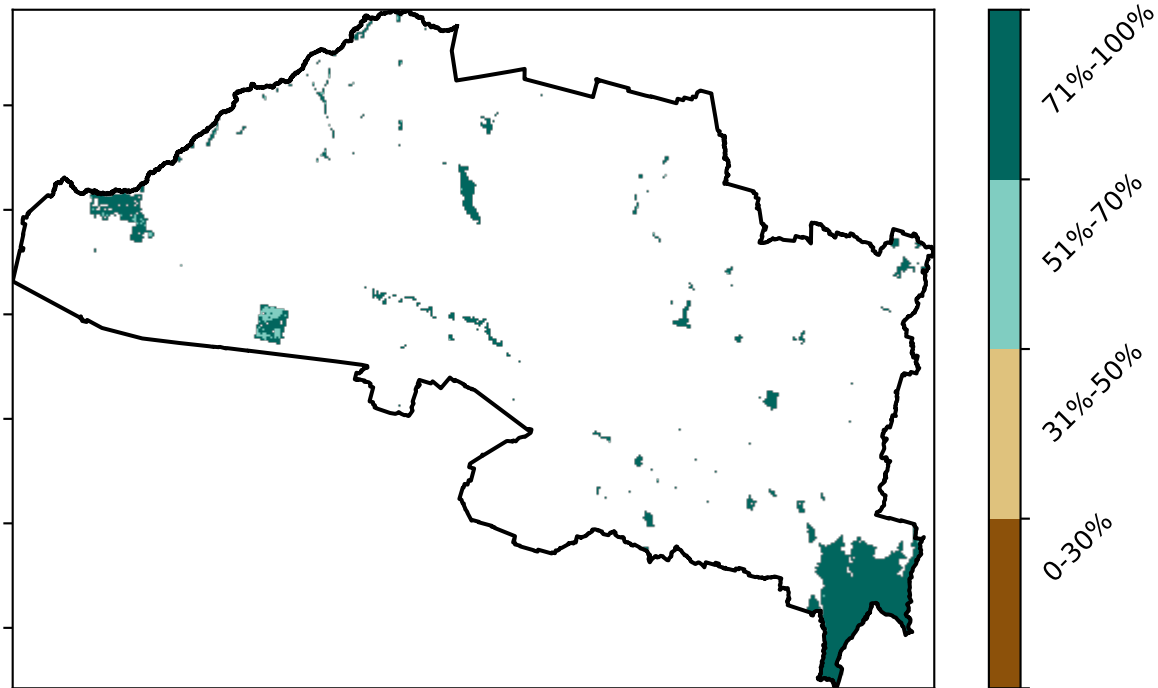
Catchment Scale Land Use and Forests of Australia (2018). Derived from Catchment Scale Land Use of Australia (2018) and Forests of Australia (2018)



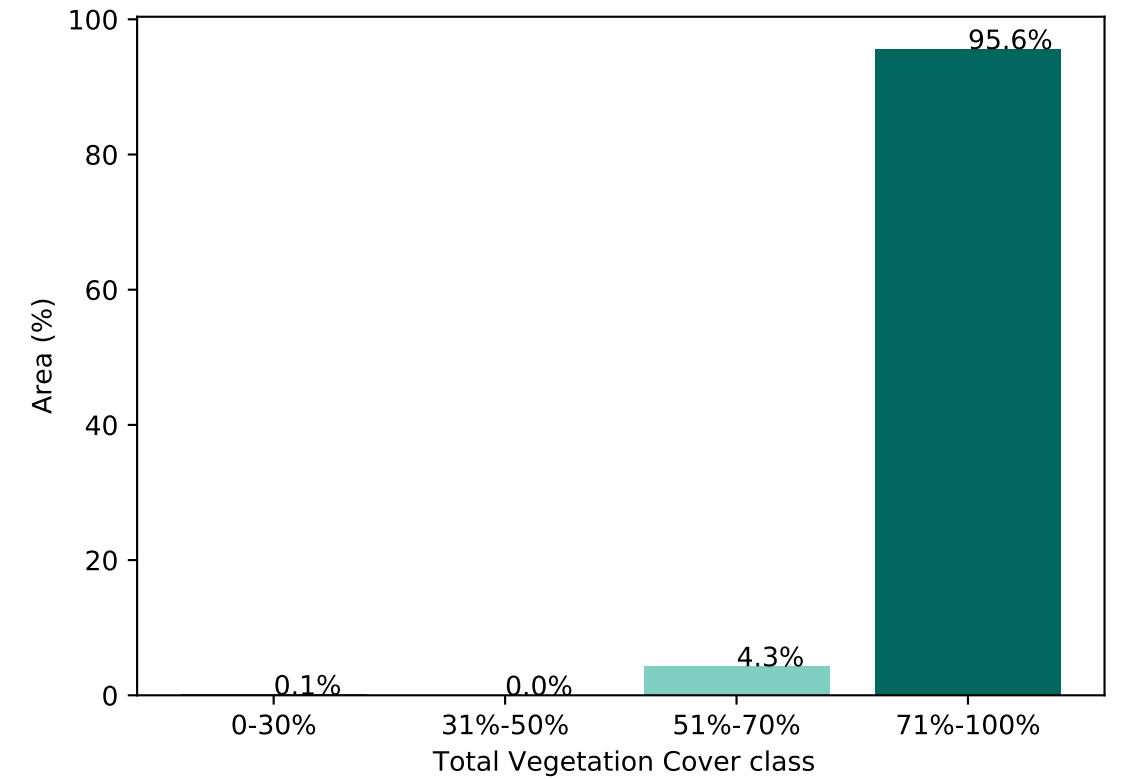
Proportion of each land class in area



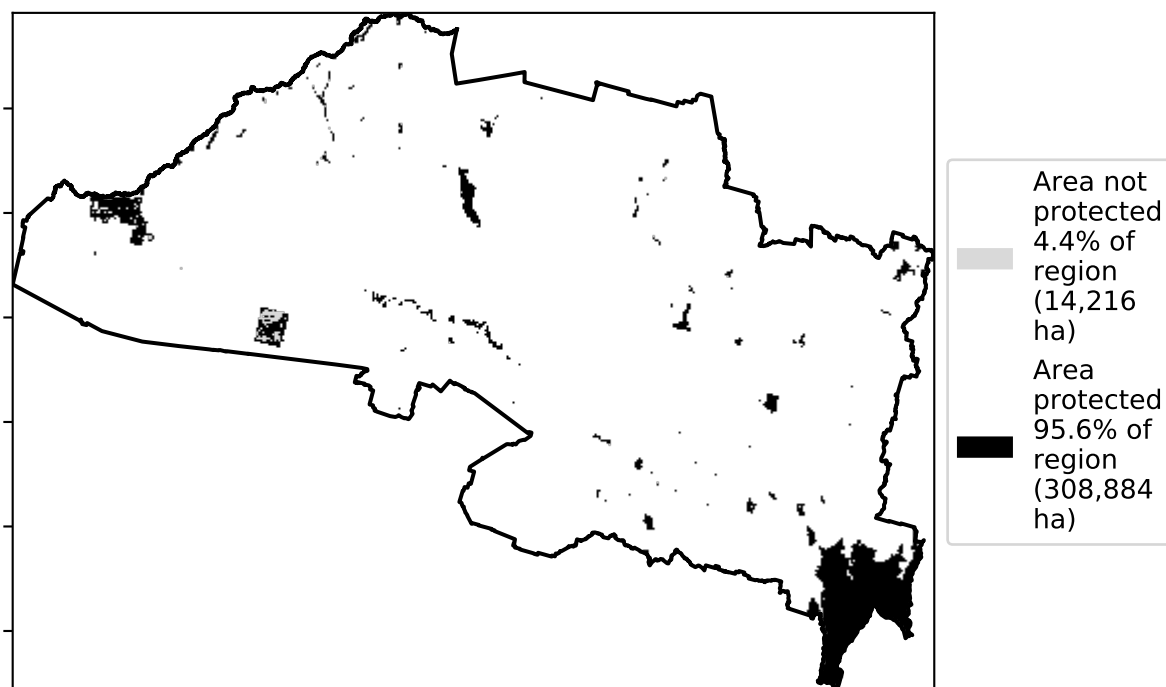
Total Vegetation Cover [%]



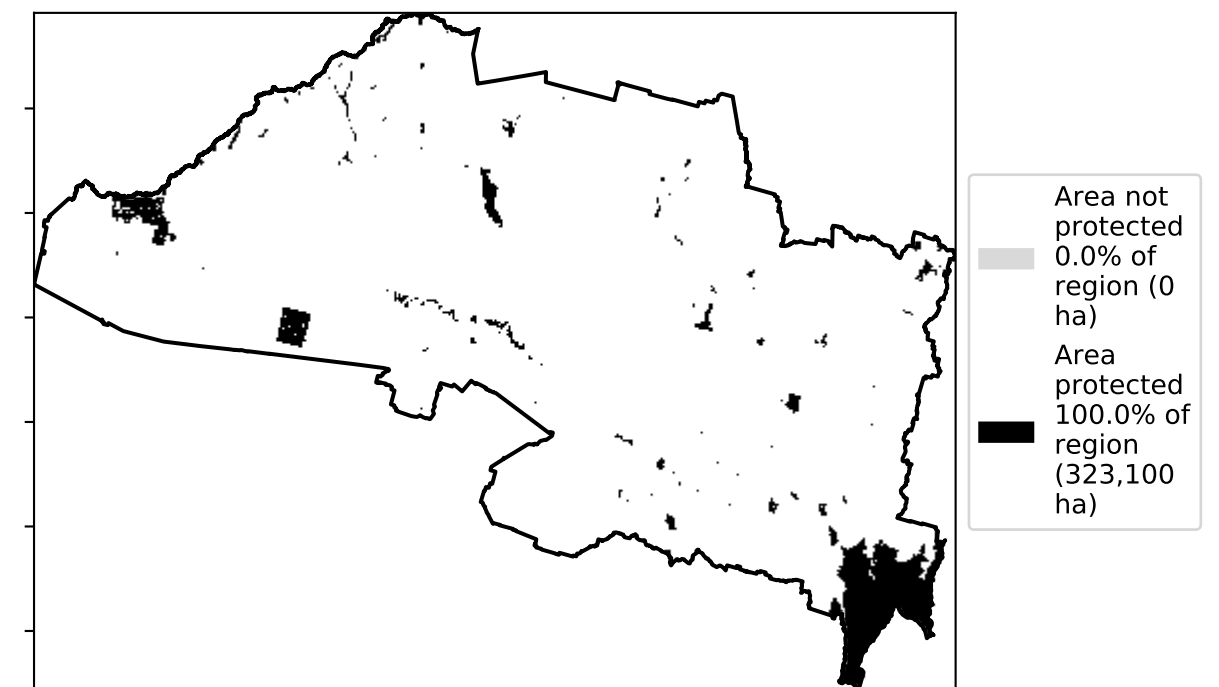
Proportion of vegetation cover class in area



% Area protected from water erosion (>70%)

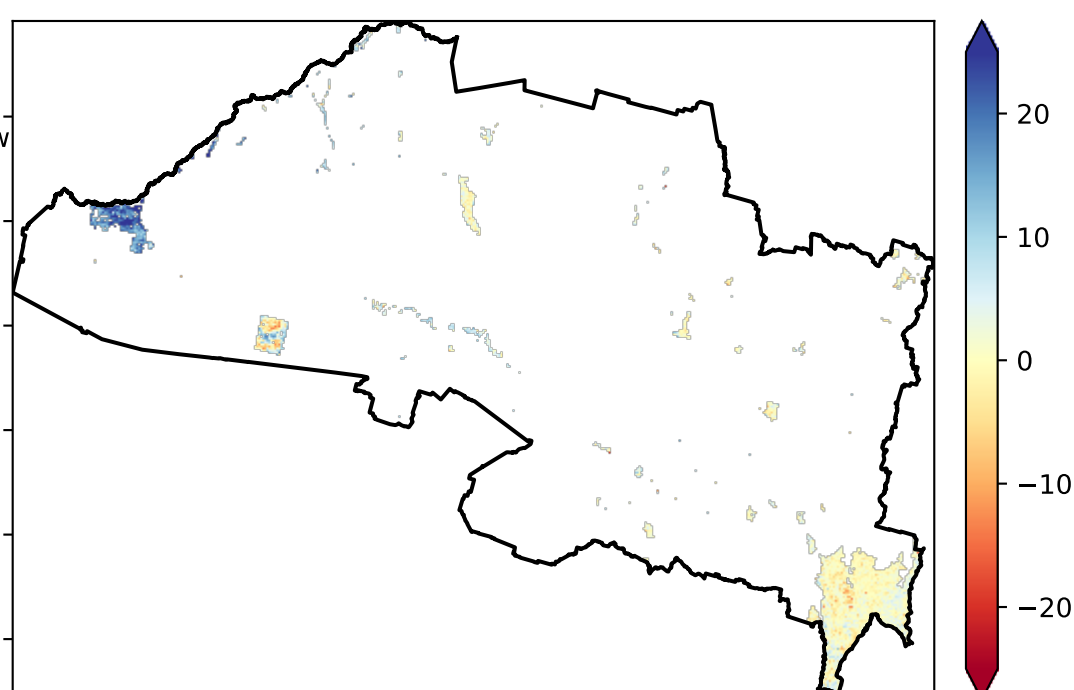


% Area protected from wind erosion (>50%)



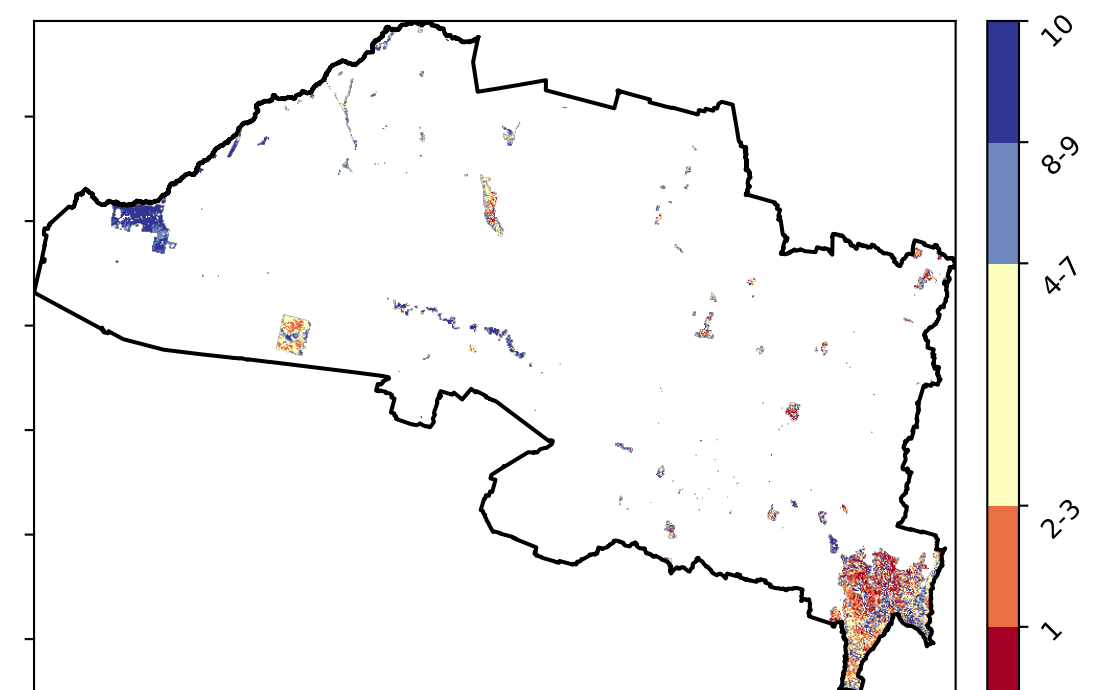
Total Vegetation Cover Anomaly [%]

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

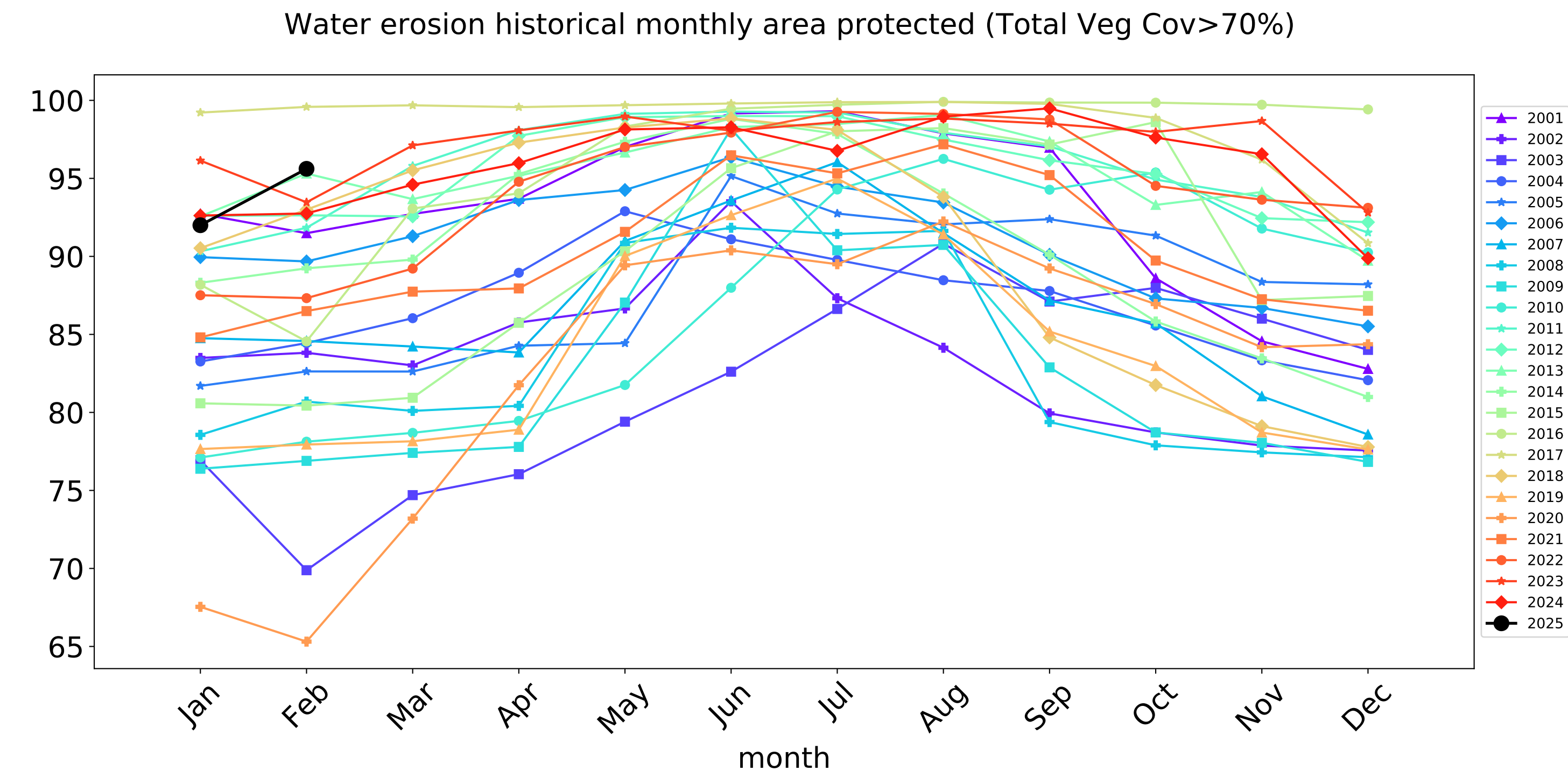
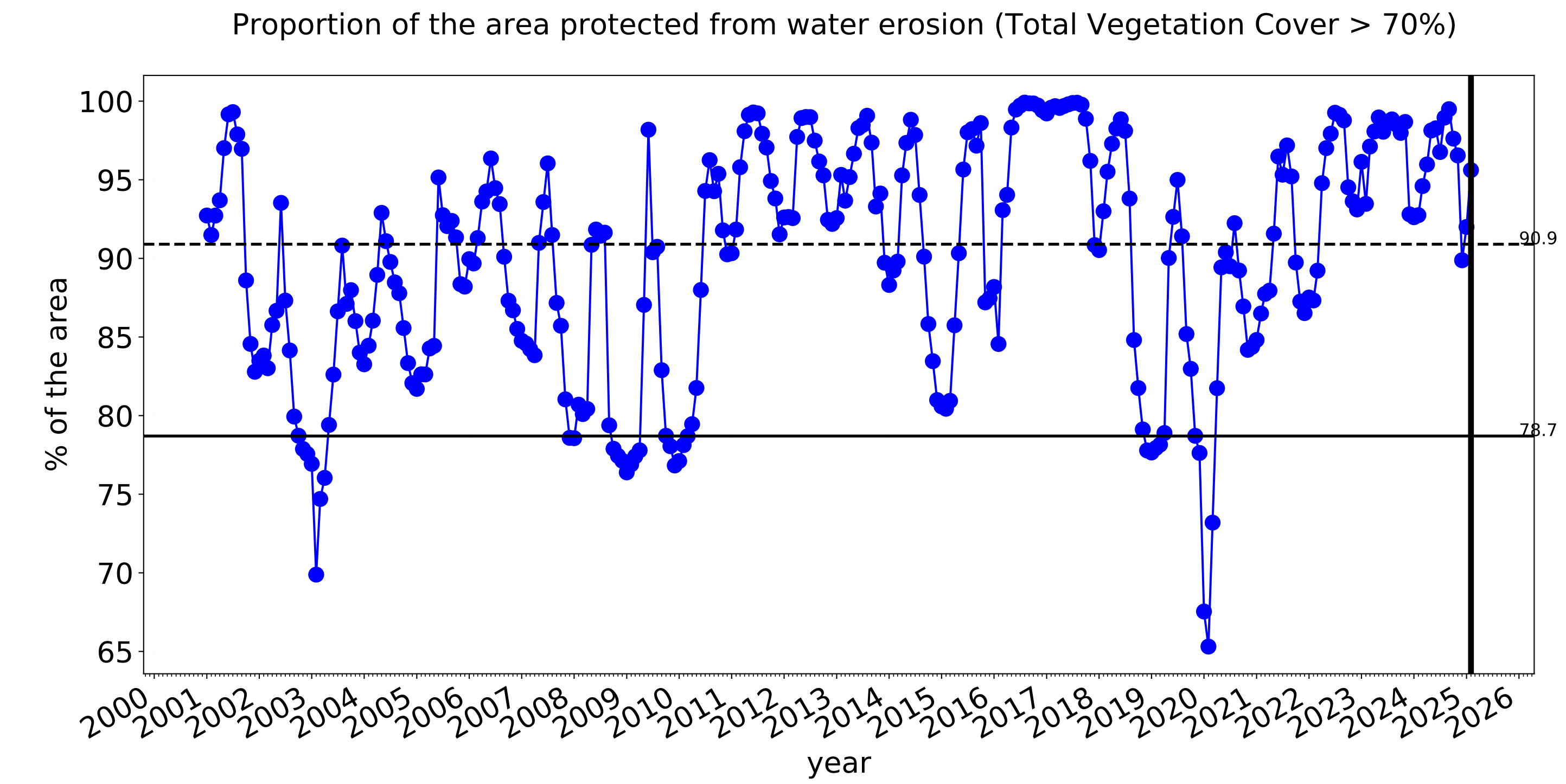
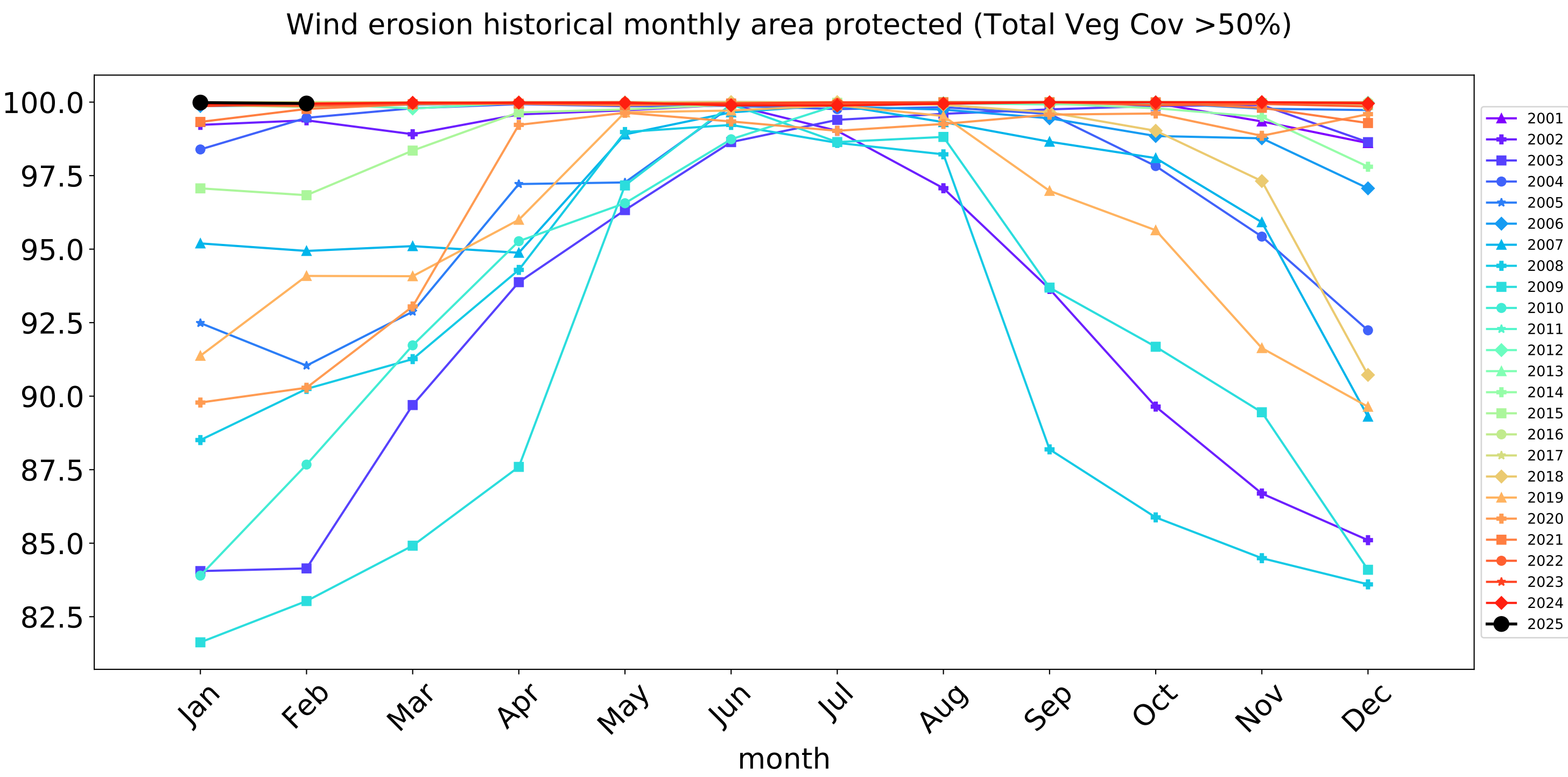
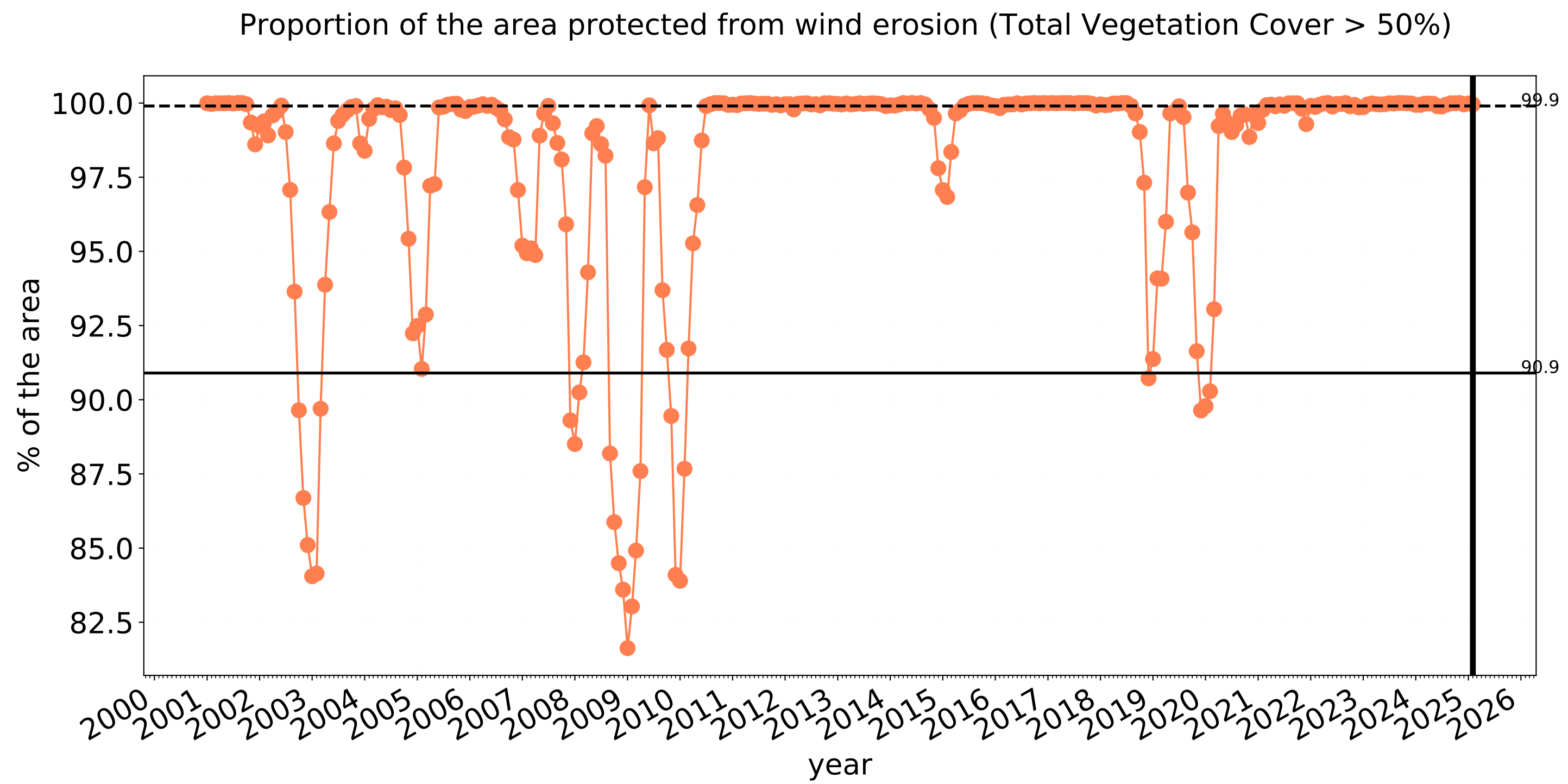


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Total Vegetation Cover Decile [%]



Conservation and natural environments timeseries



Conservation and natural environments non forest

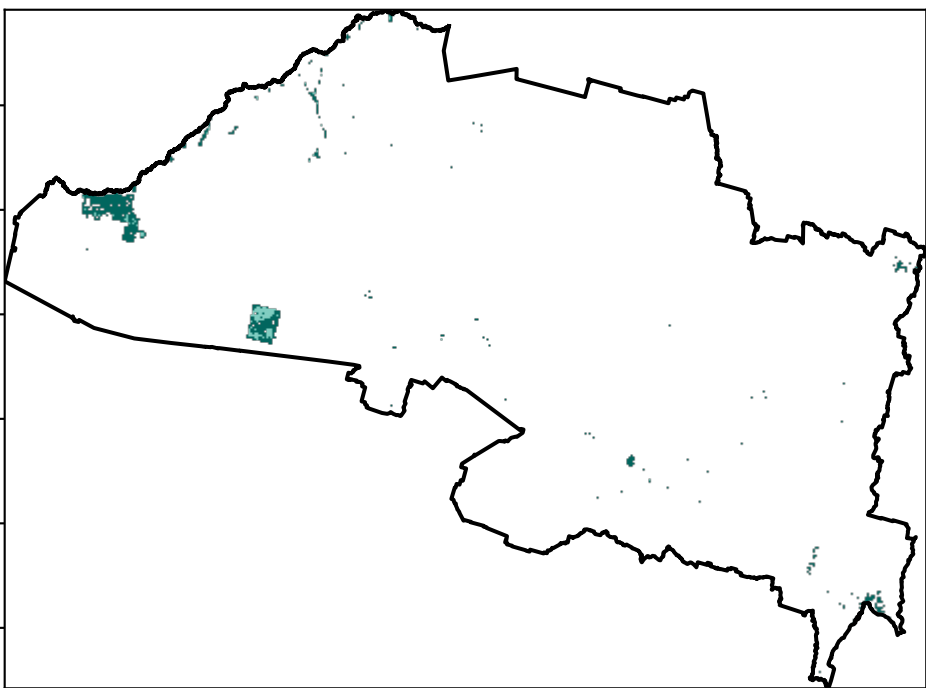
Land use and forest cover

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

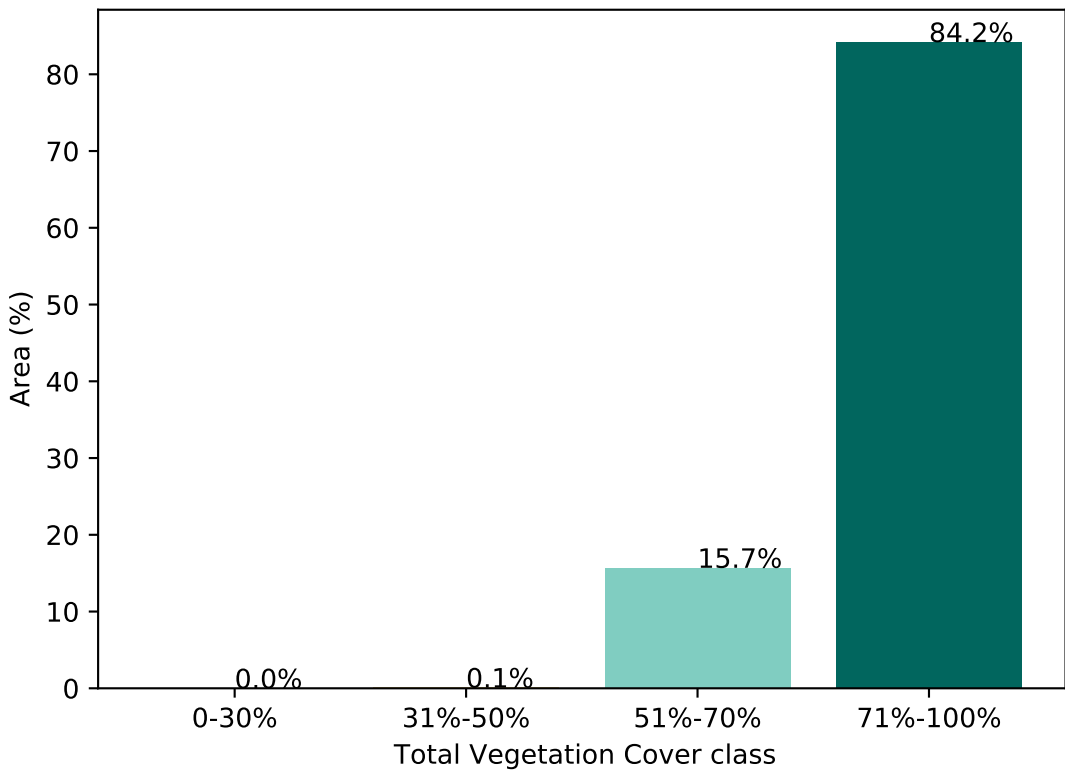


1 Conservation and natural environments - Non-forest

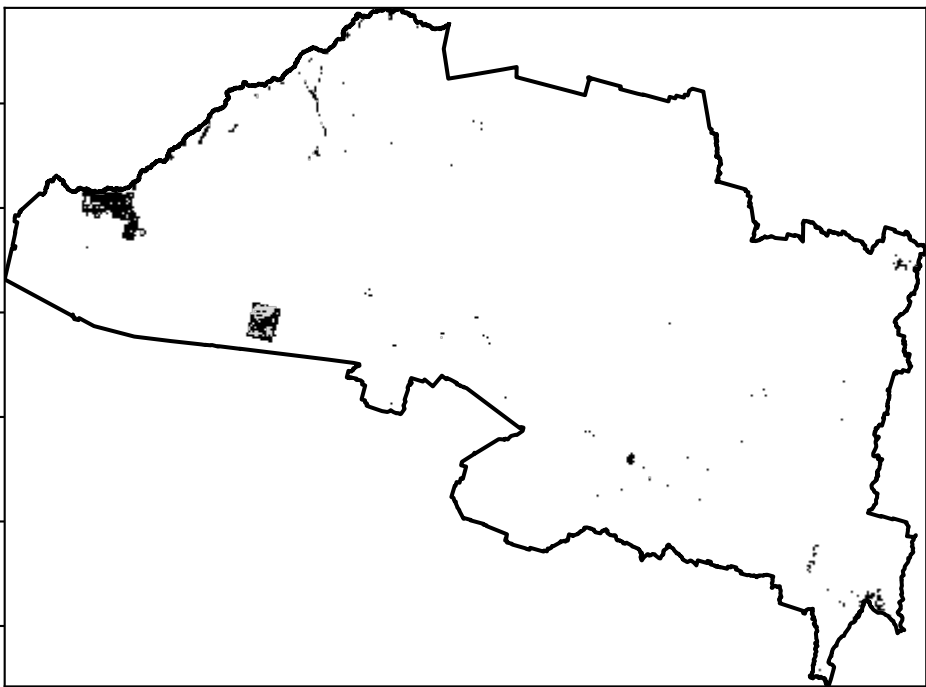
Total Vegetation Cover [%]



Proportion of vegetation cover class in area

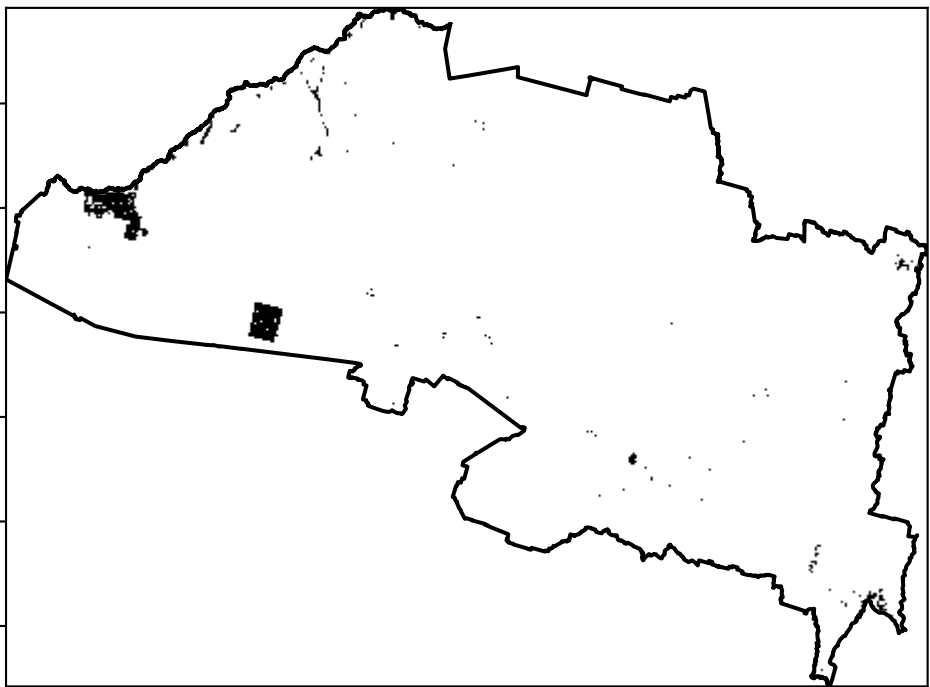


% Area protected from water erosion (>70%)



Area not protected
15.8% of region
(13,169 ha)
Area protected
84.2% of region
(70,181 ha)

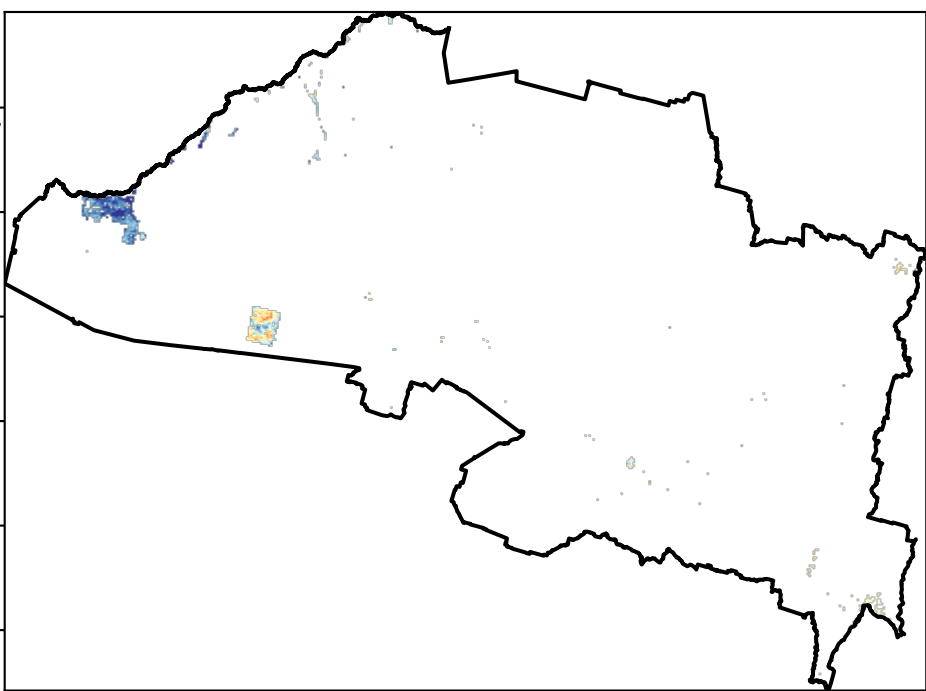
% Area protected from wind erosion (>50%)



Area not protected
0.0% of region
(0 ha)
Area protected
100.0% of region
(83,350 ha)

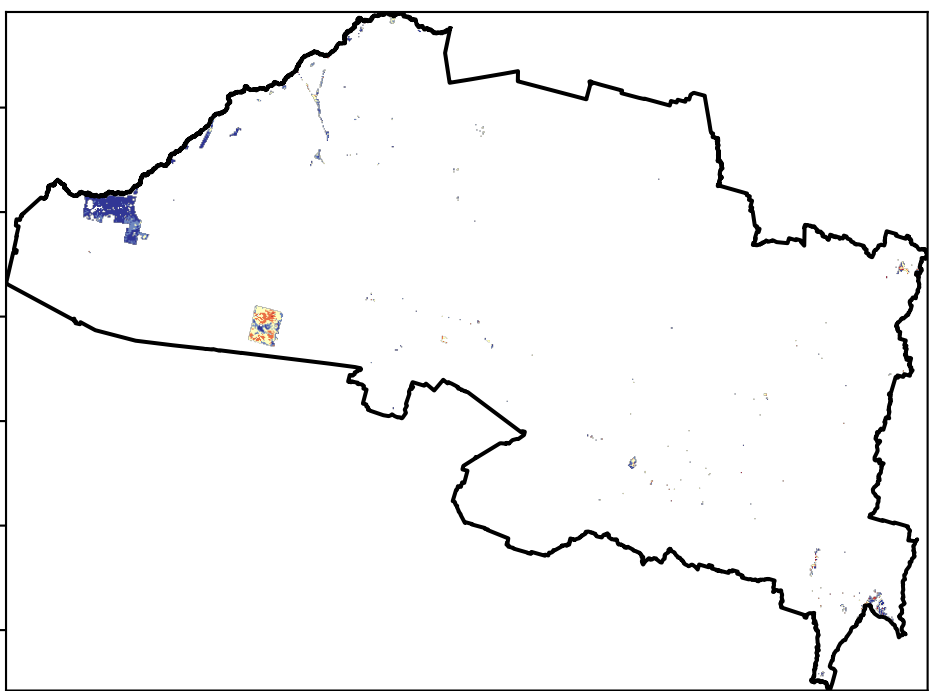
Total Vegetation Cover Anomaly [%]

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Total Vegetation Cover Decile [%]



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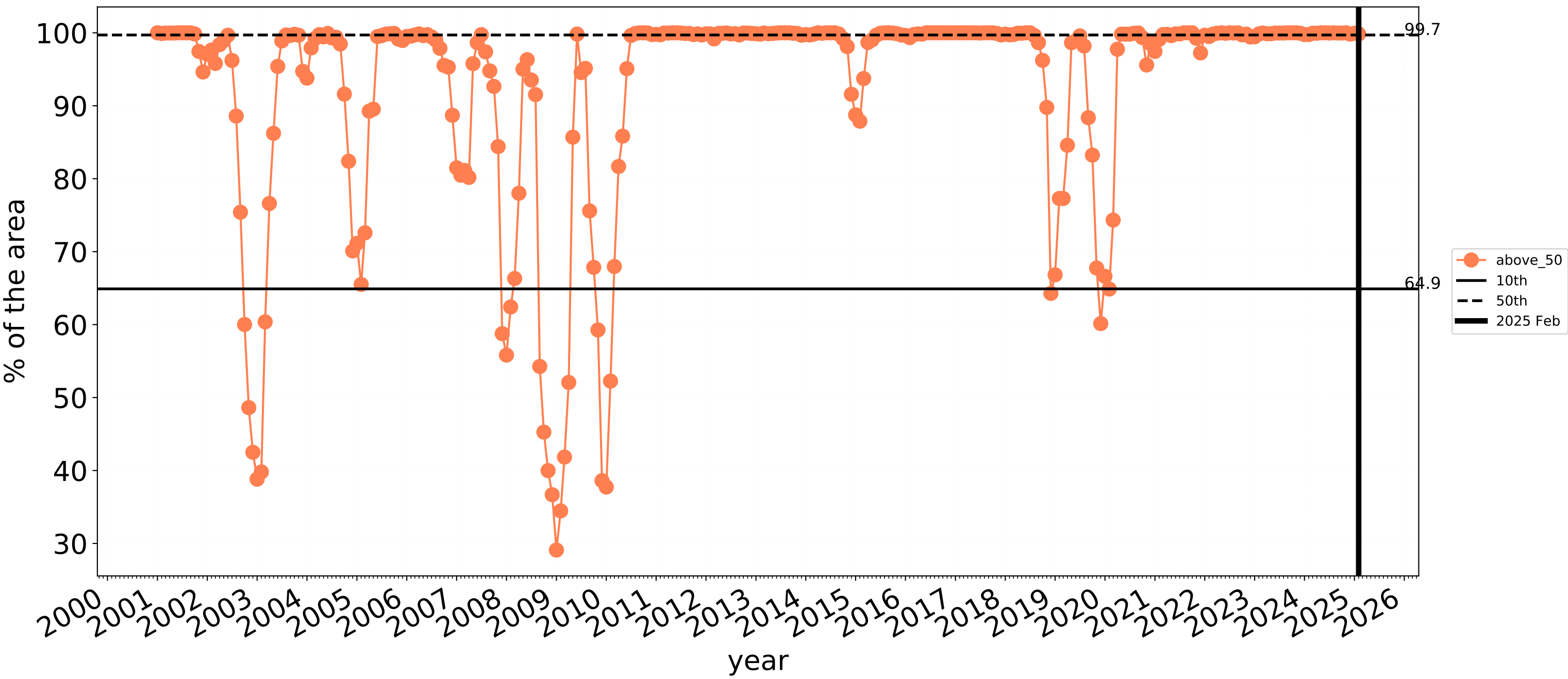


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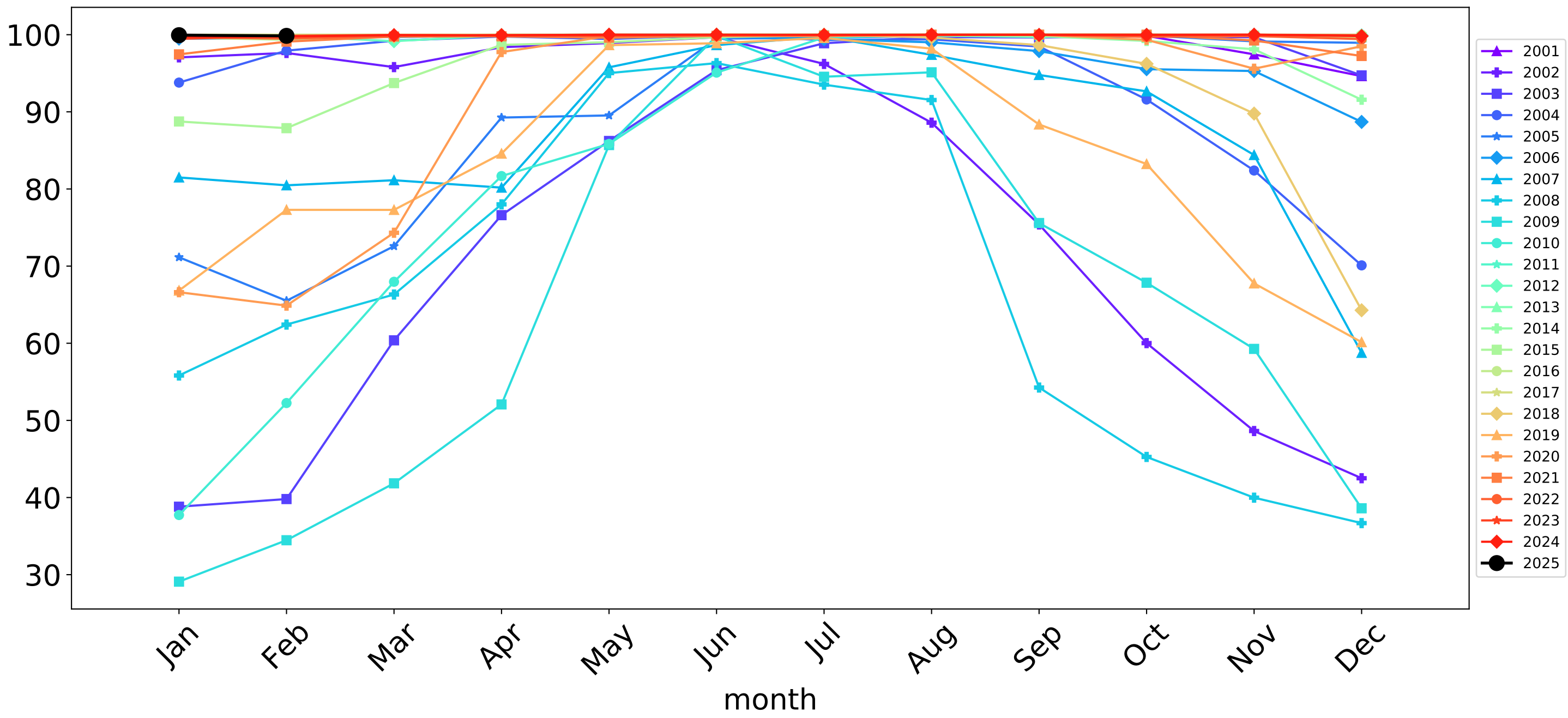


Conservation and natural environments non forest timeseries

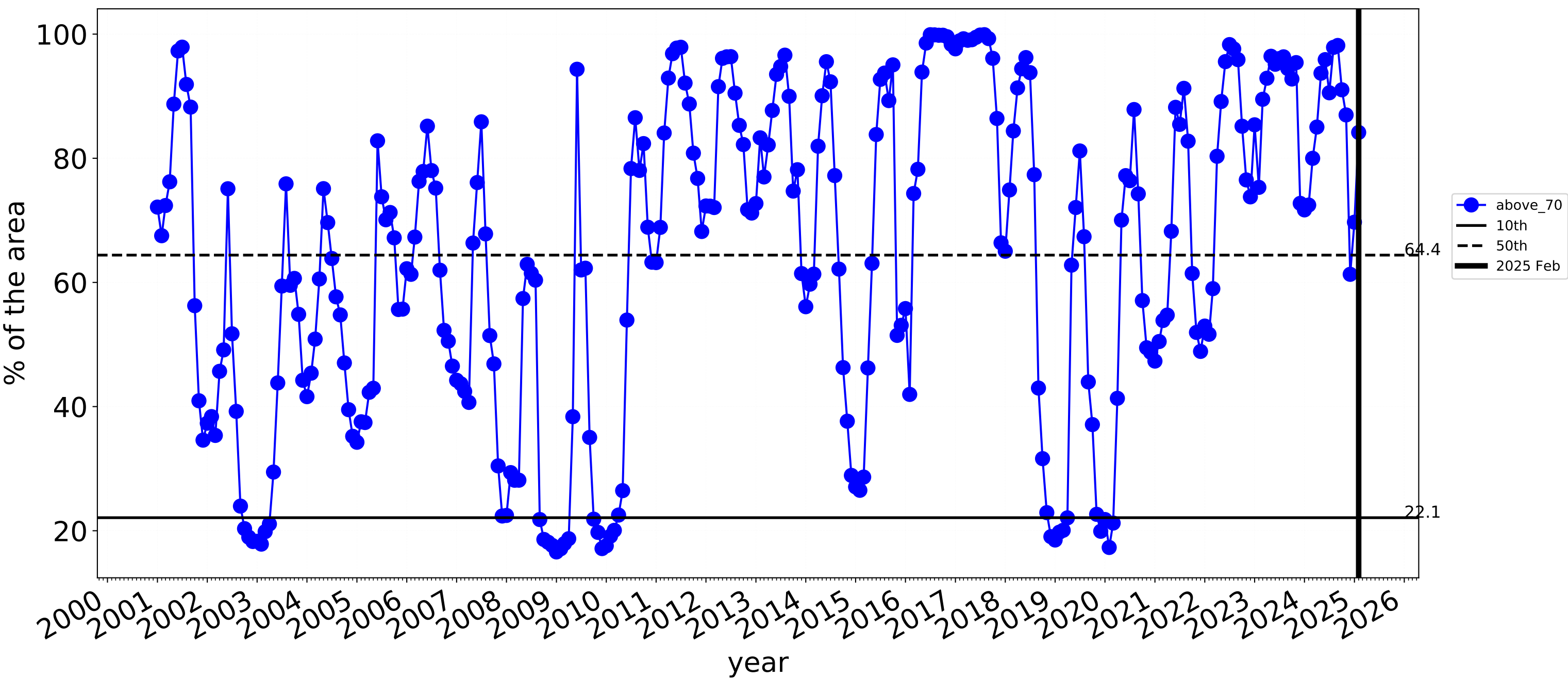
Proportion of the area protected from wind erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 50%)



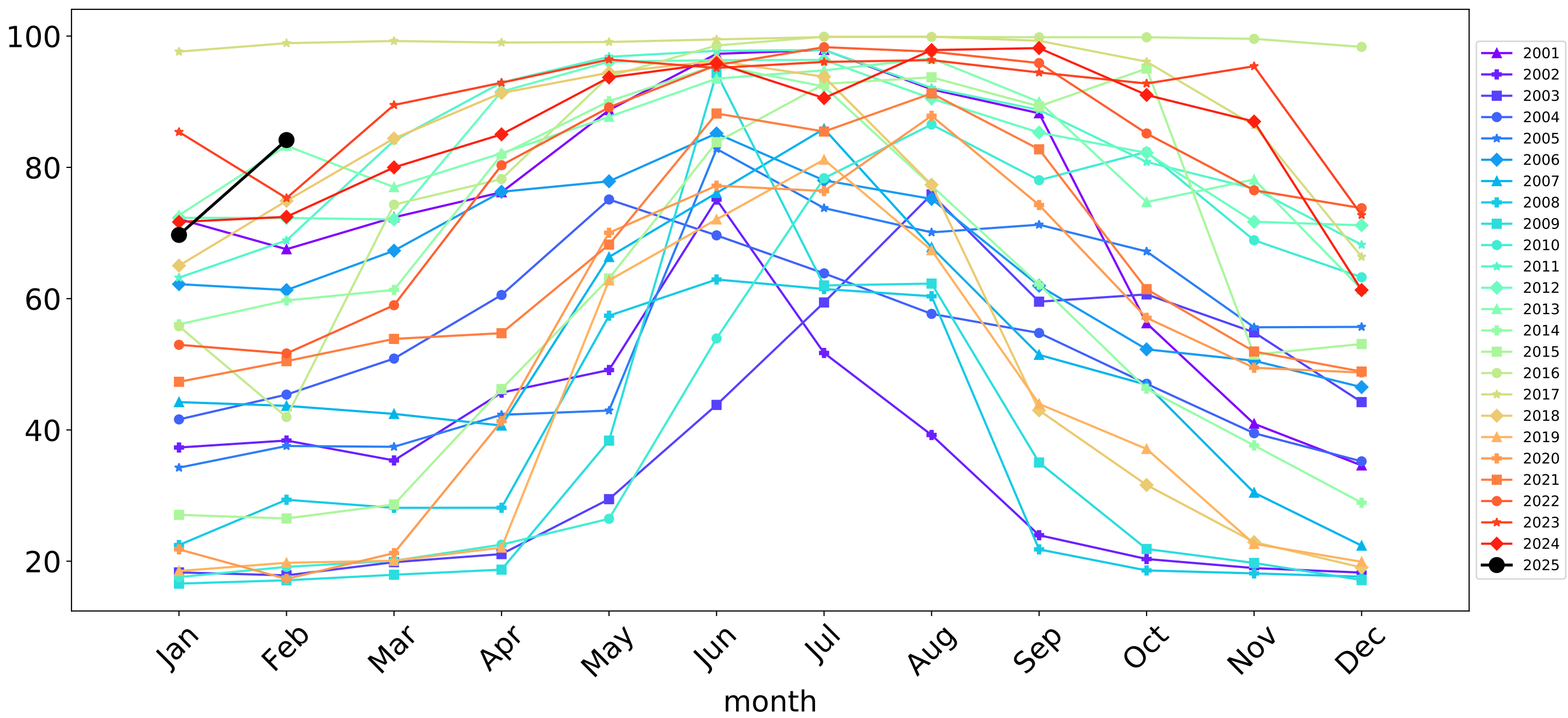
Wind erosion historical monthly area protected (Total Veg Cov >50%)



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



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



Conservation and natural environments Forest (non woodland)

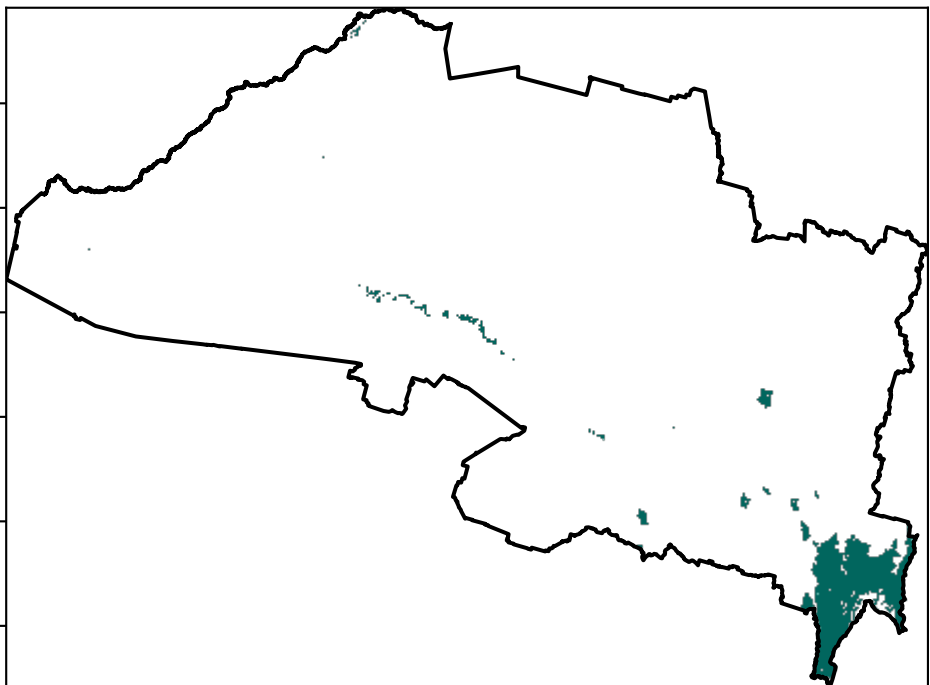
Land use and forest cover

Catchment Scale
Land Use and Forests
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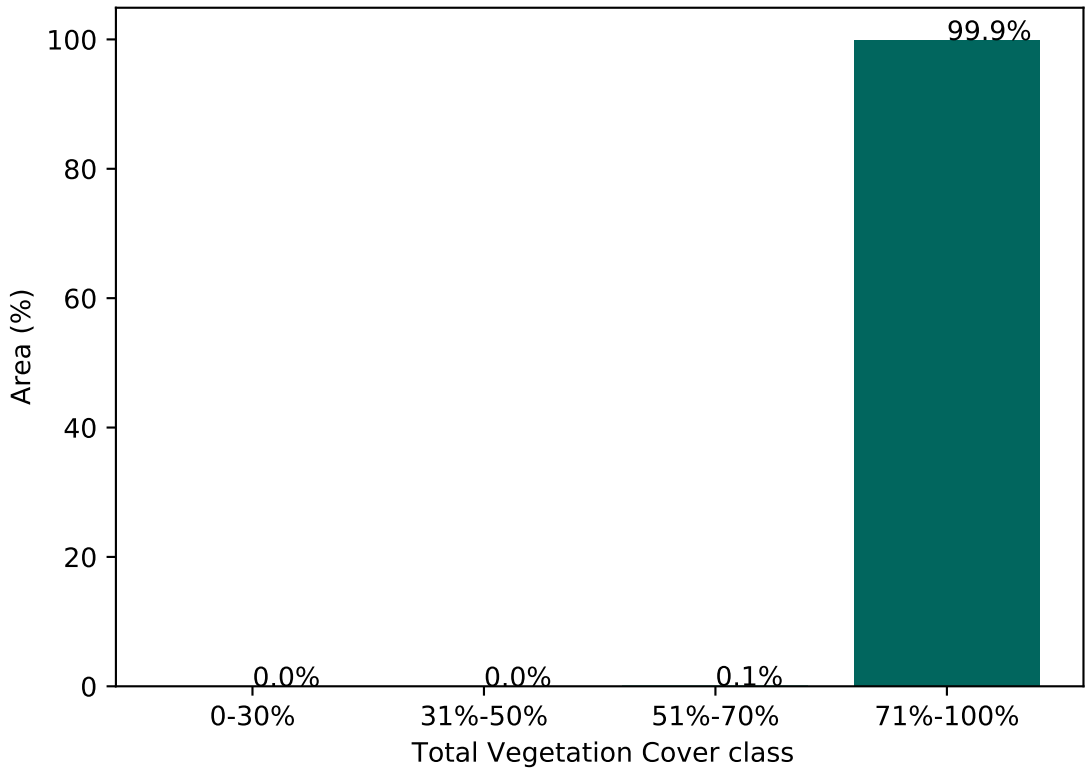


1 Conservation and natural environments - Non-woodland forest

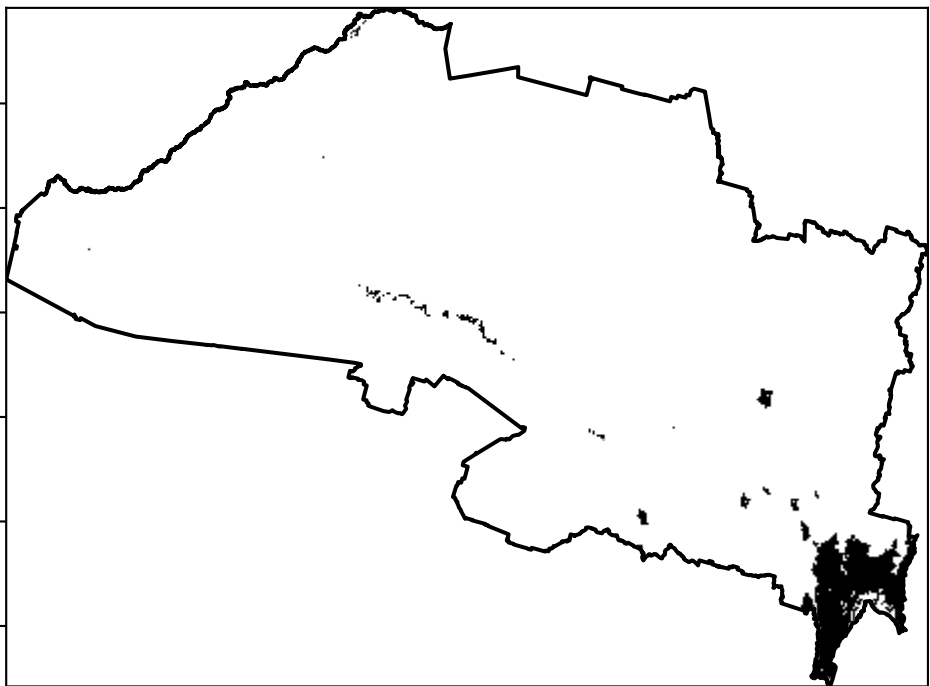
Total Vegetation Cover [%]



Proportion of vegetation cover class in area

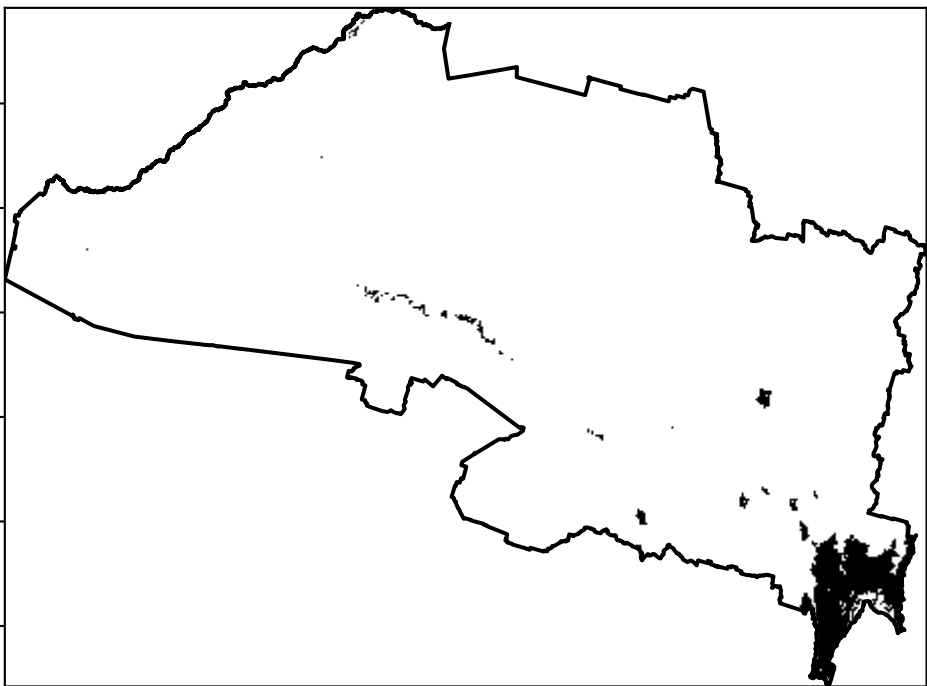


% Area protected from water erosion (>70%)



Area not protected
0.1% of region
(195 ha)
Area protected
99.9% of region
(195,055 ha)

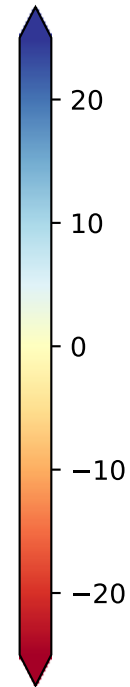
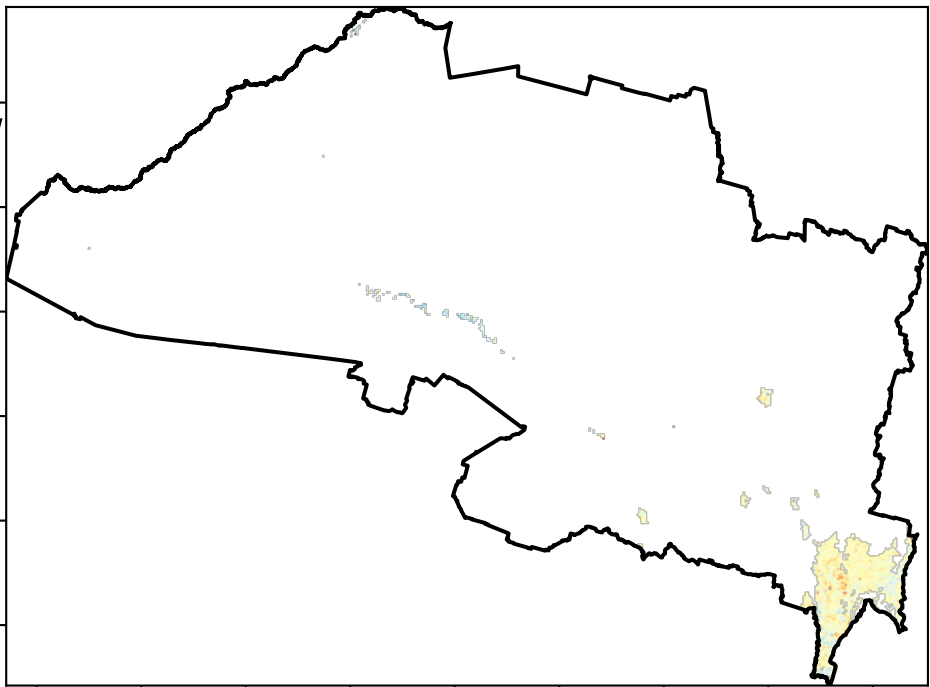
% Area protected from wind erosion (>50%)



Area protected
100.0% of region
(195,250 ha)

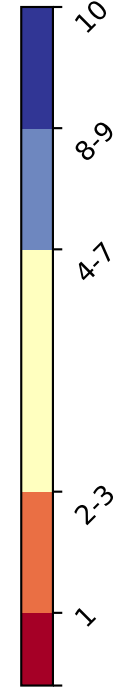
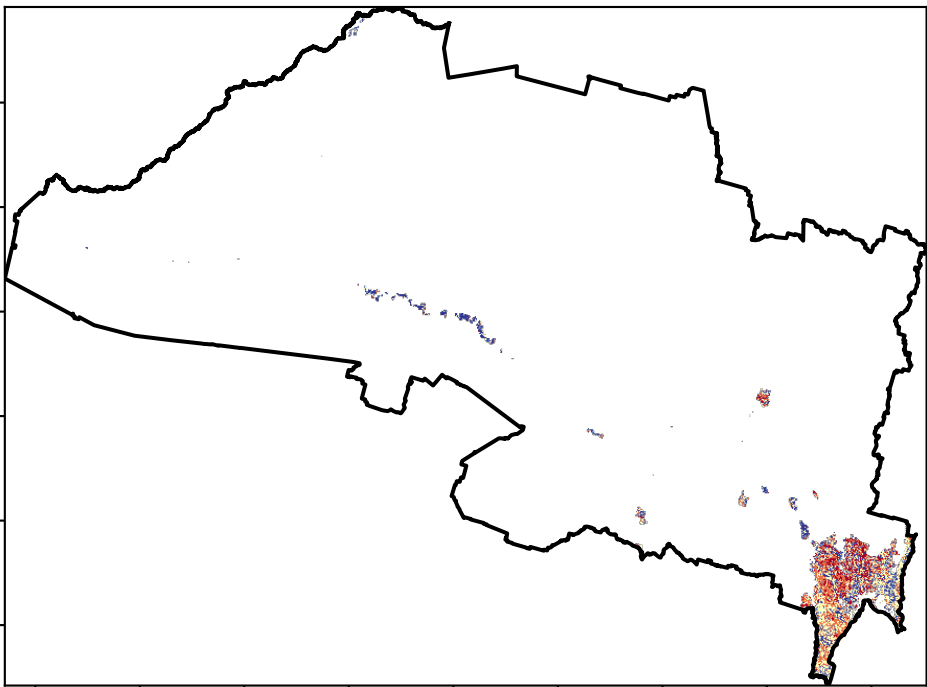
Total Vegetation Cover Anomaly [%]

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



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

Total Vegetation Cover Decile [%]



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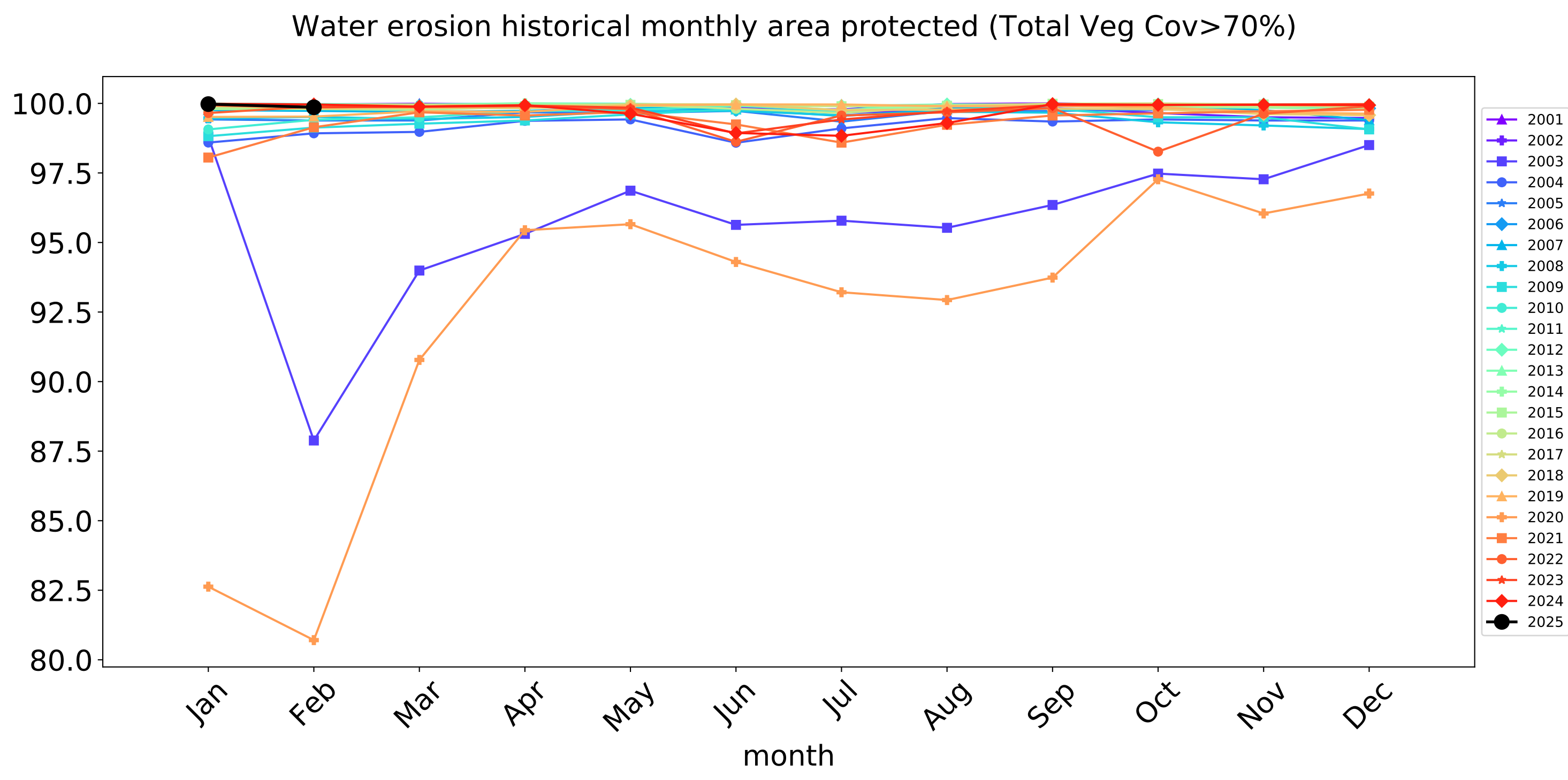
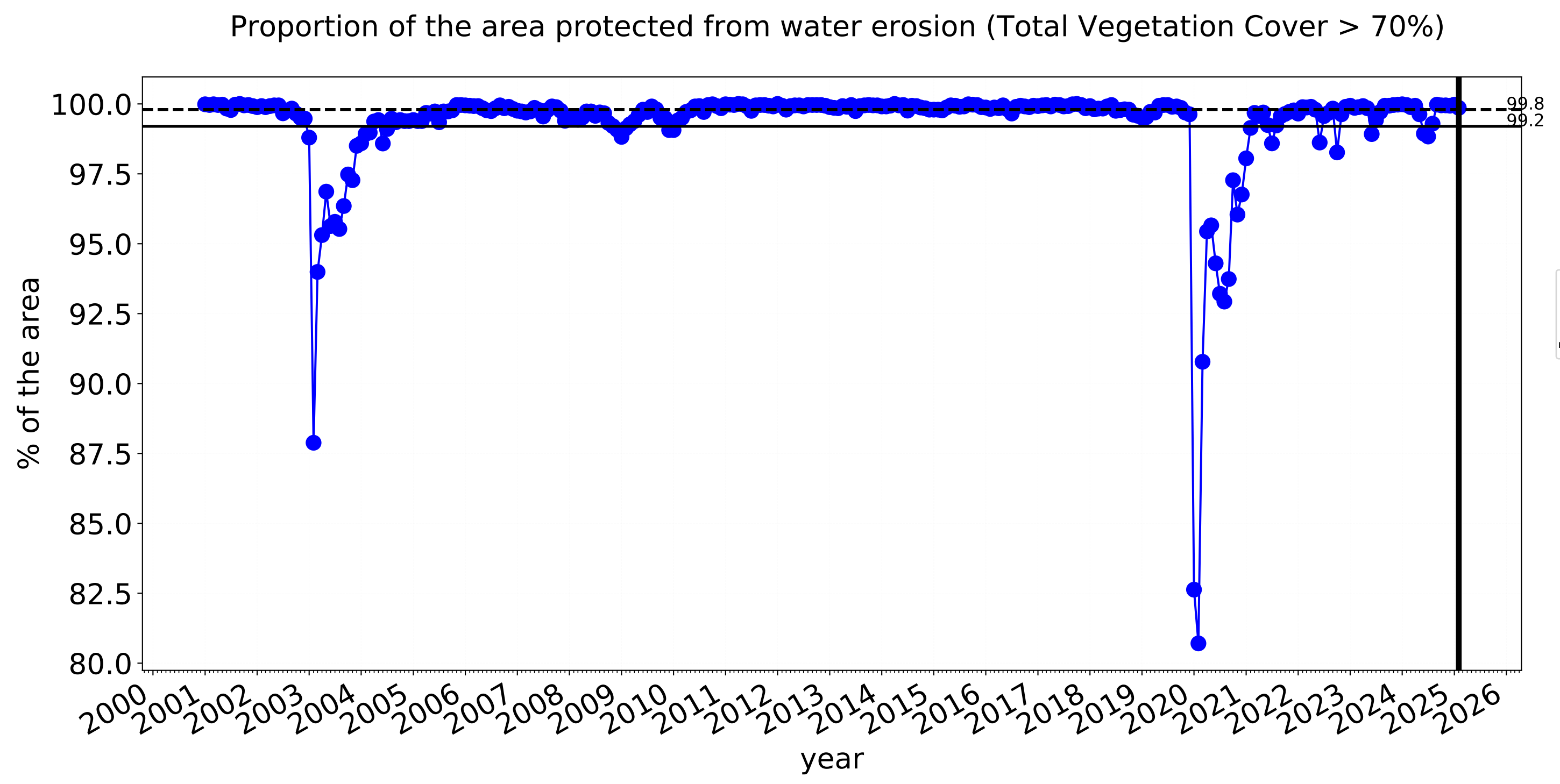
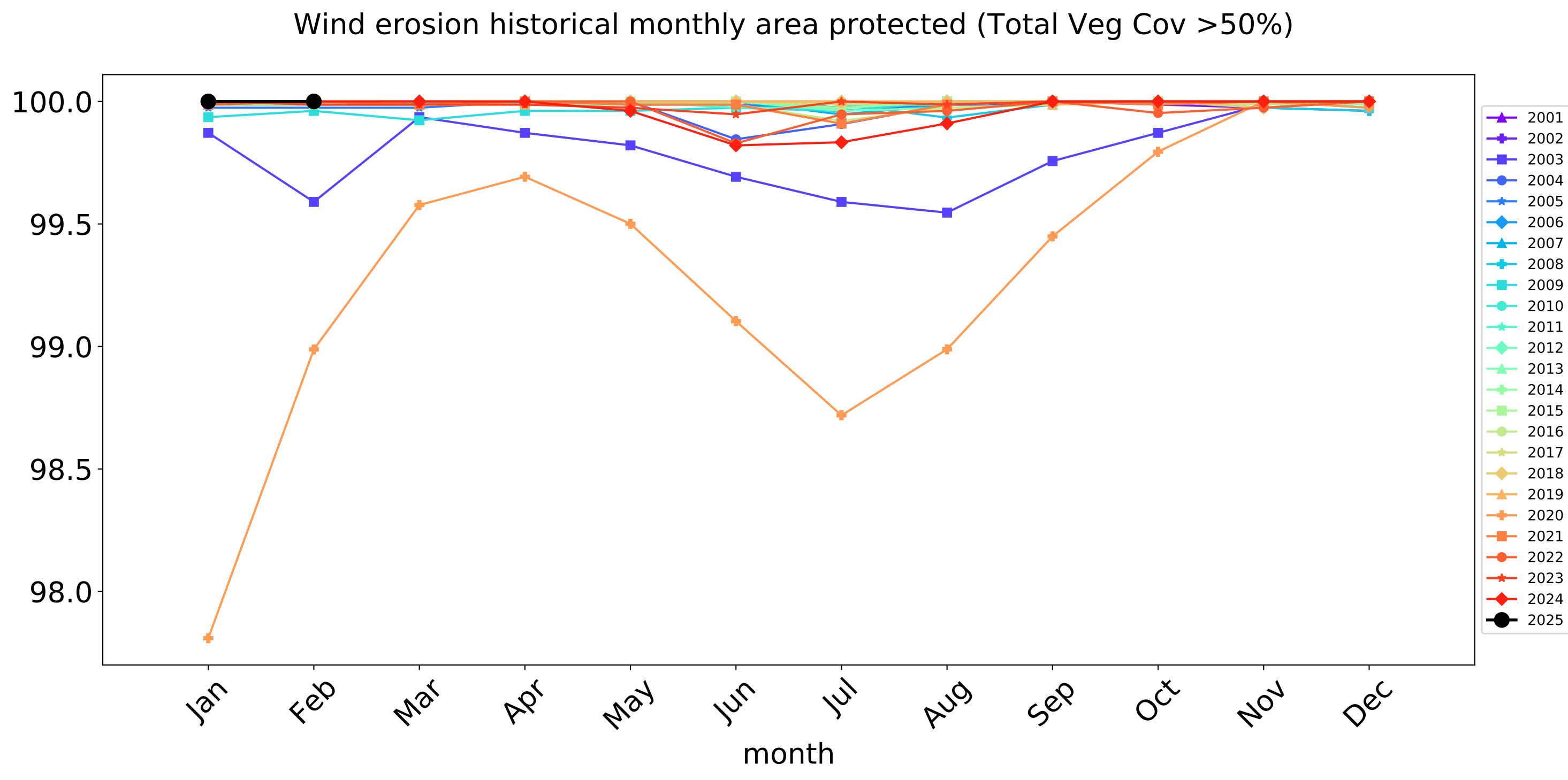
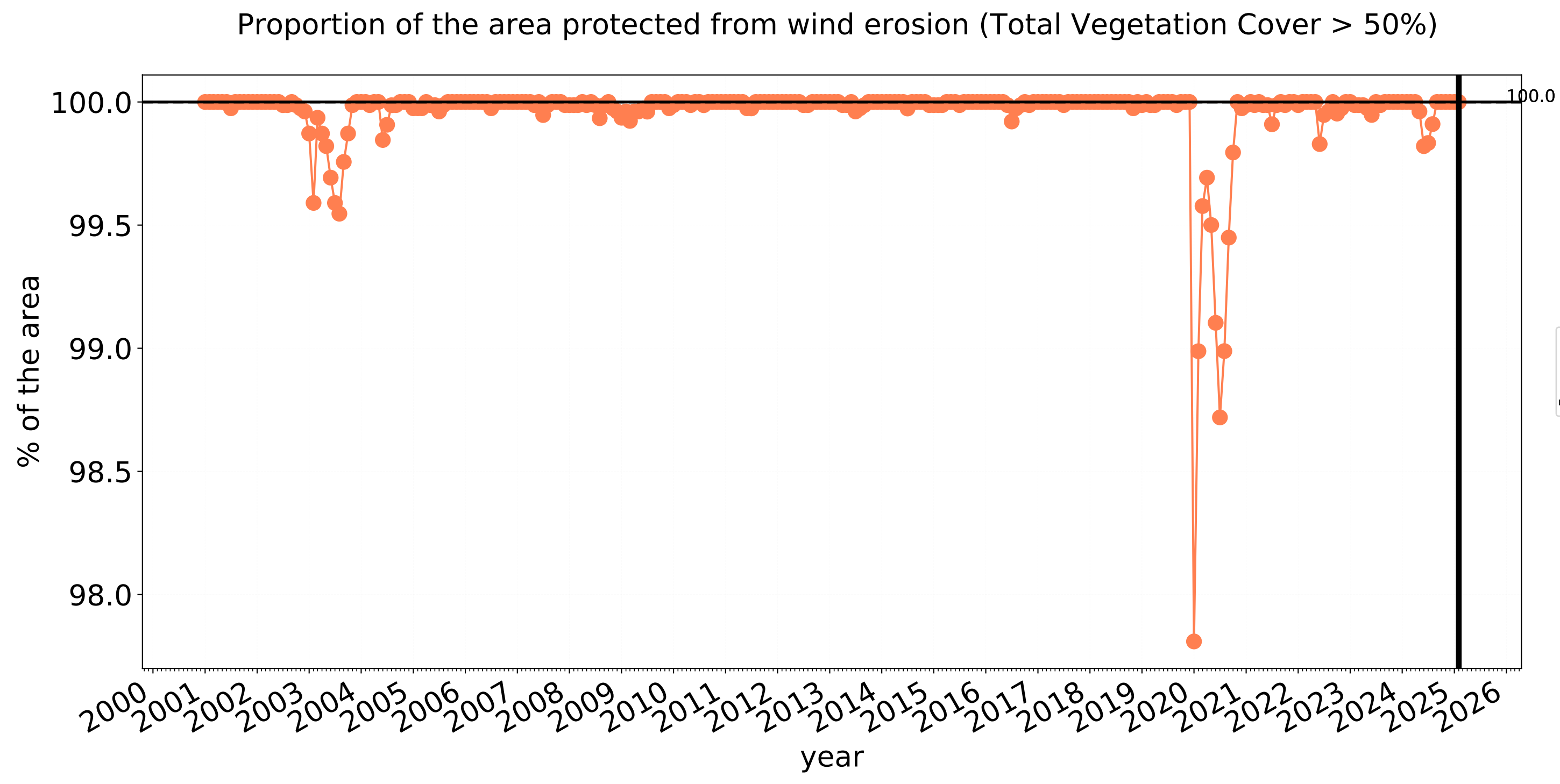


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Conservation and natural environments Forest (non woodland) timeseries



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)

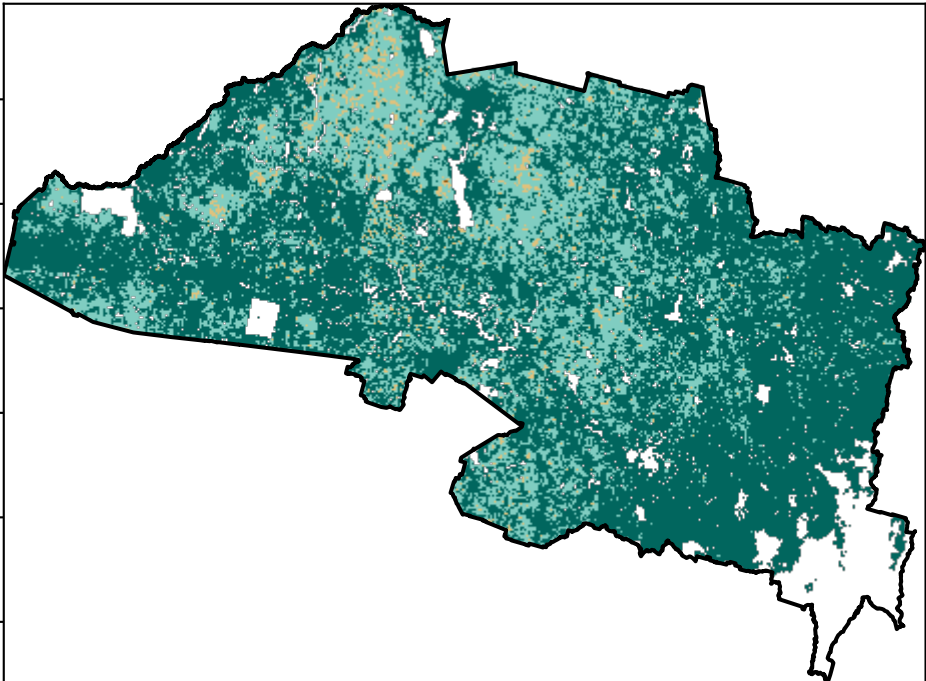


- 1 Agriculture - Grazing - Non forest
- 2 Agriculture - Grazing - Woodland forest
- 3 Agriculture - Grazing - Non-woodland forest
- 4 Agriculture - Grazing - Irrigated
- 5 Agriculture - Cropping - Non-irrigated
- 6 Agriculture - Cropping - Irrigated
- 7 Agriculture - Horticulture - Non-irrigated
- 8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

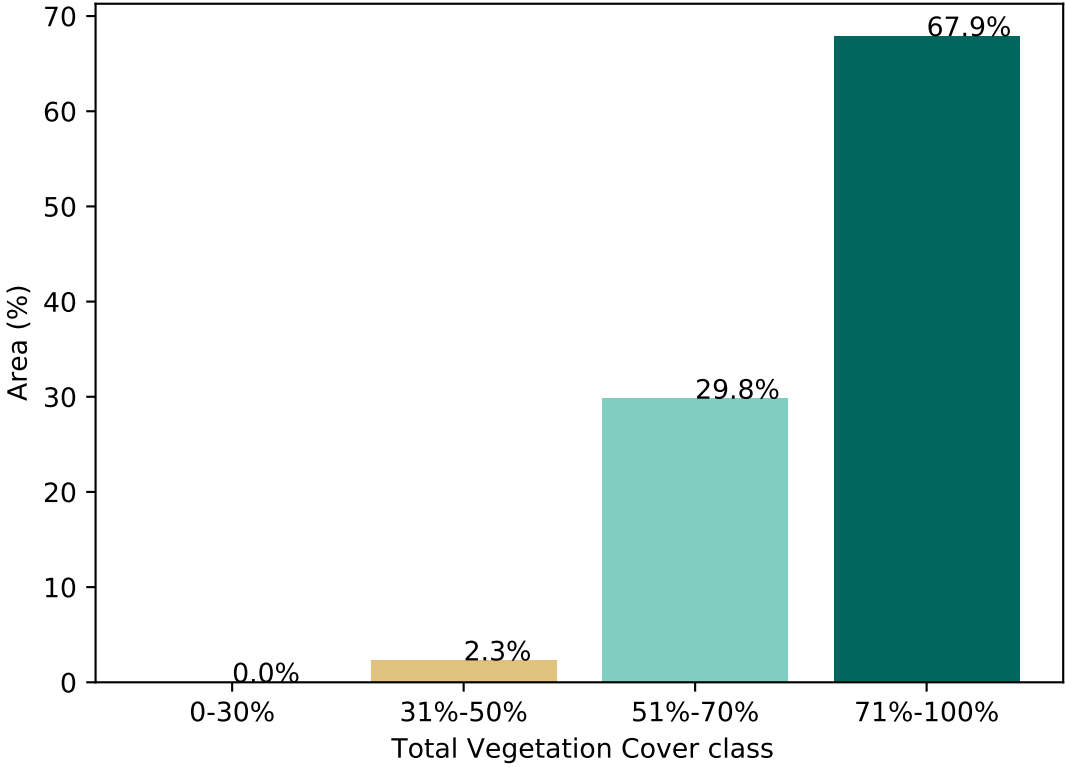
Proportion of each land class in area



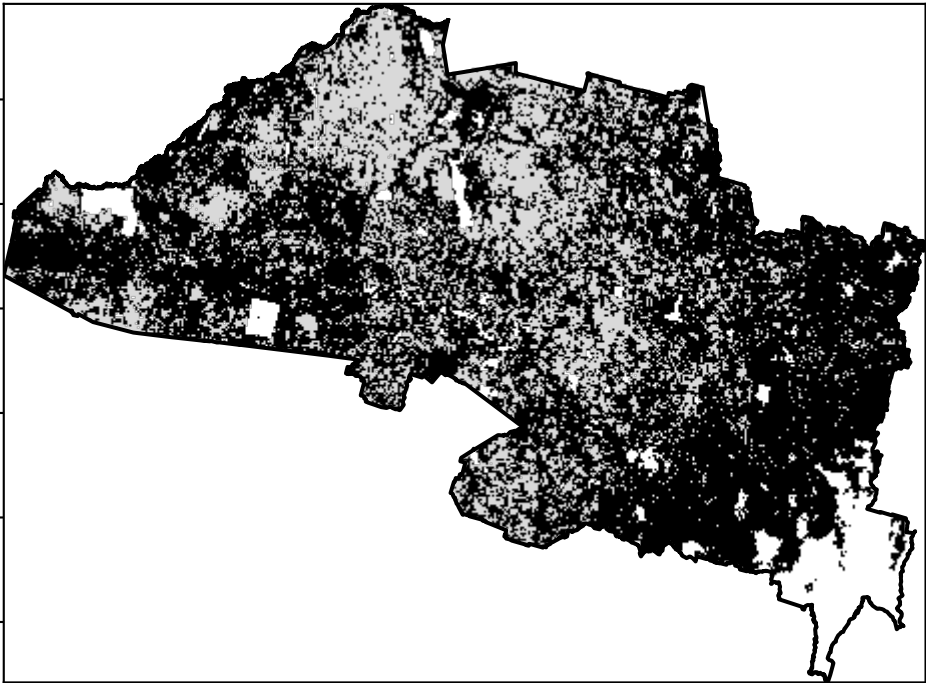
Total Vegetation Cover [%]



Proportion of vegetation cover class in area



% Area protected from water erosion (>70%)



- Area not protected
32.1% of region
(1,947,740 ha)
- Area protected
67.9% of region
(4,119,985 ha)

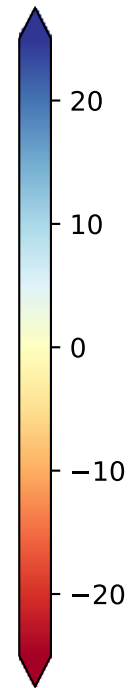
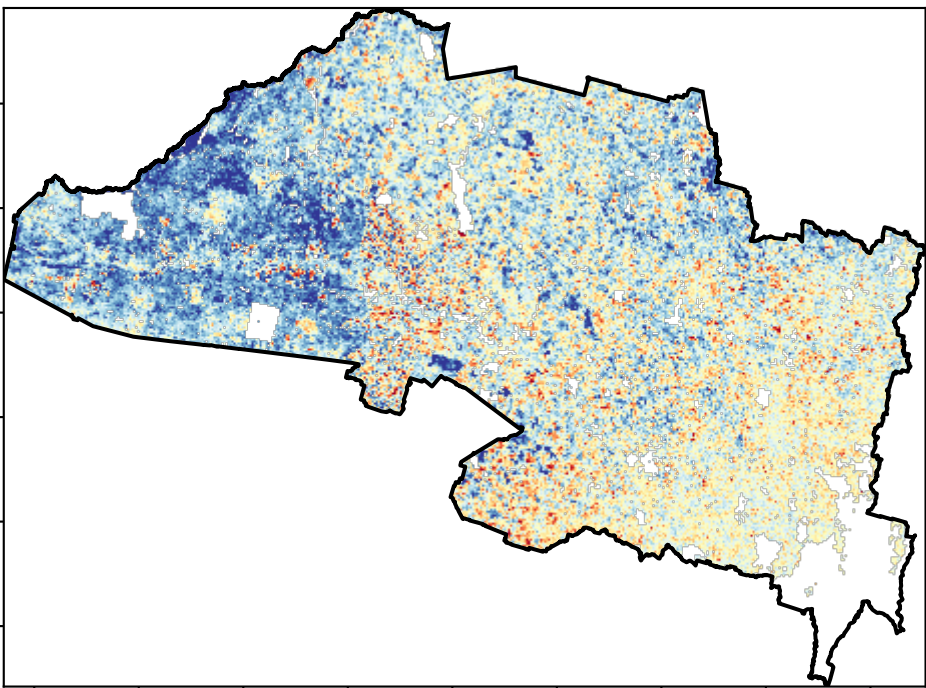
% Area protected from wind erosion (>50%)



- Area not protected
2.0% of region
(121,354 ha)
- Area protected
98.0% of region
(5,946,370 ha)

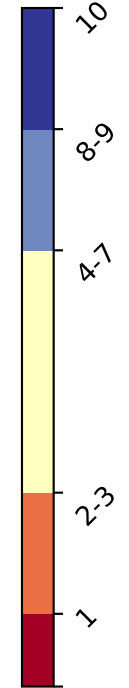
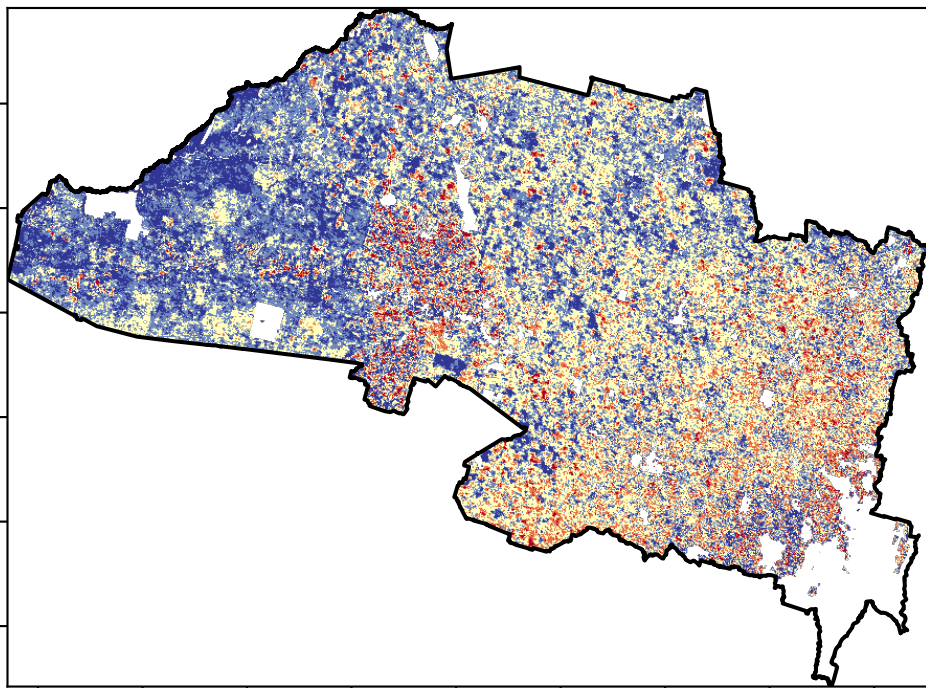
Total Vegetation Cover Anomaly [%]

Anomaly show how
many percentage
points each pixel
is from the mean.
That is, red pixels
are about 20%
lower than the
mean of that
pixel. The mean
is only for the
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Deciles show where the
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Total Vegetation Cover Decile [%]



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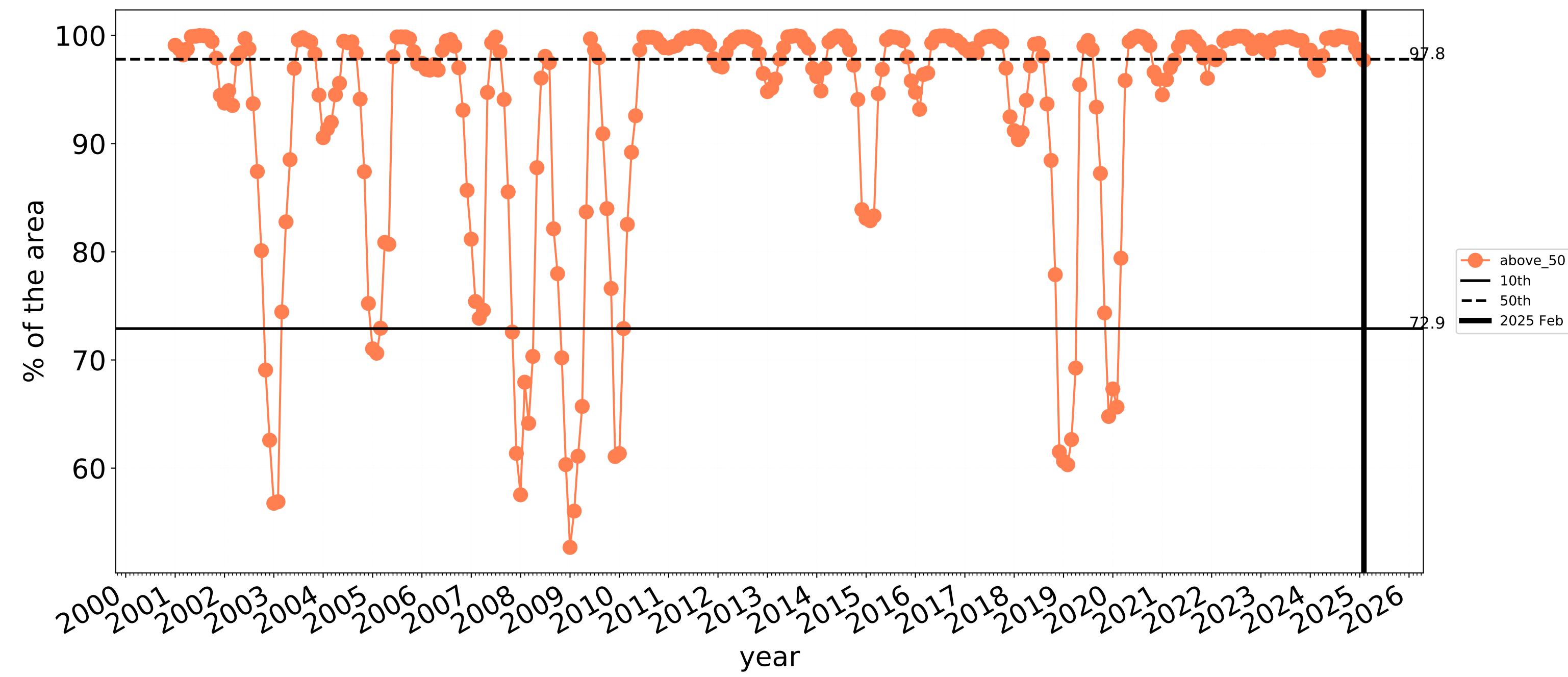
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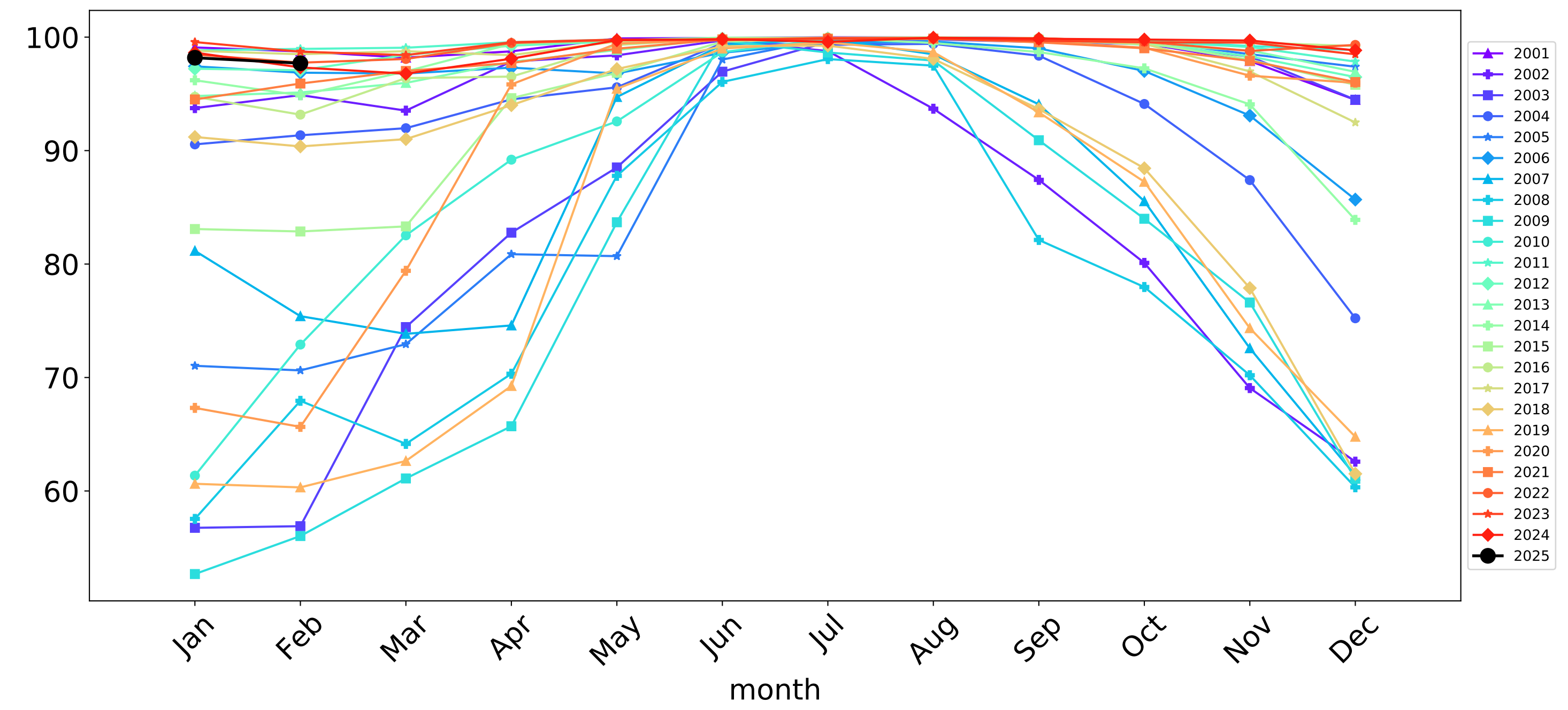


Agriculture timeseries

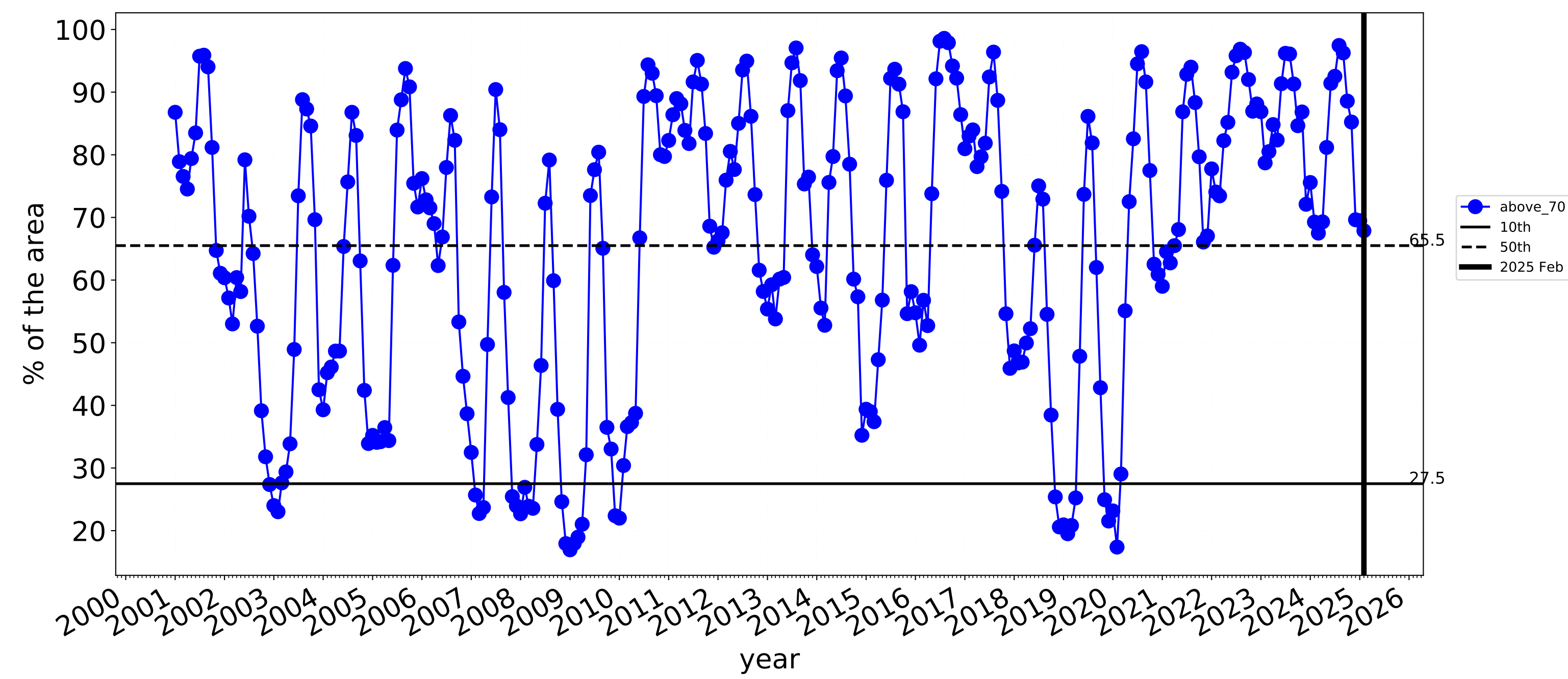
Proportion of the area protected from wind erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 50%)



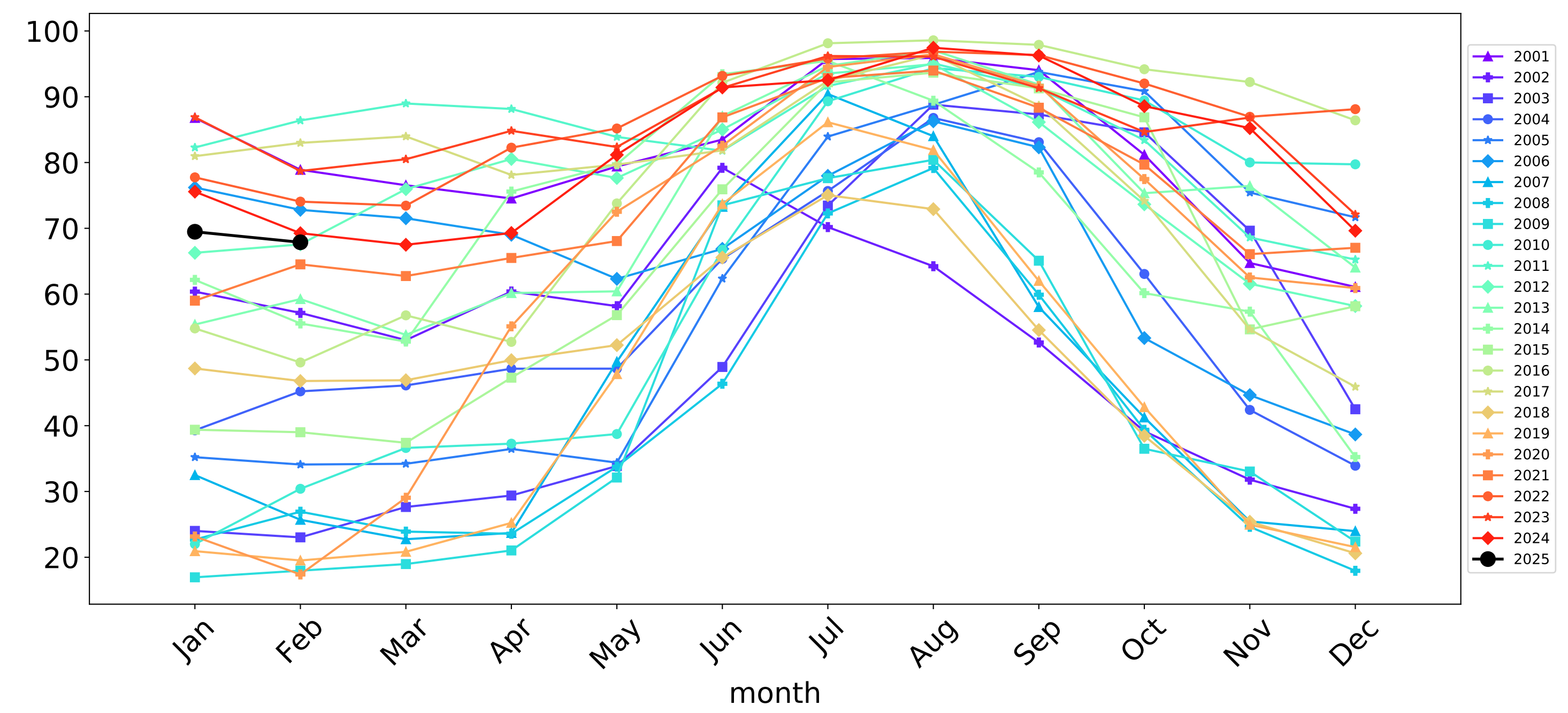
Wind erosion historical monthly area protected (Total Veg Cov >50%)



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



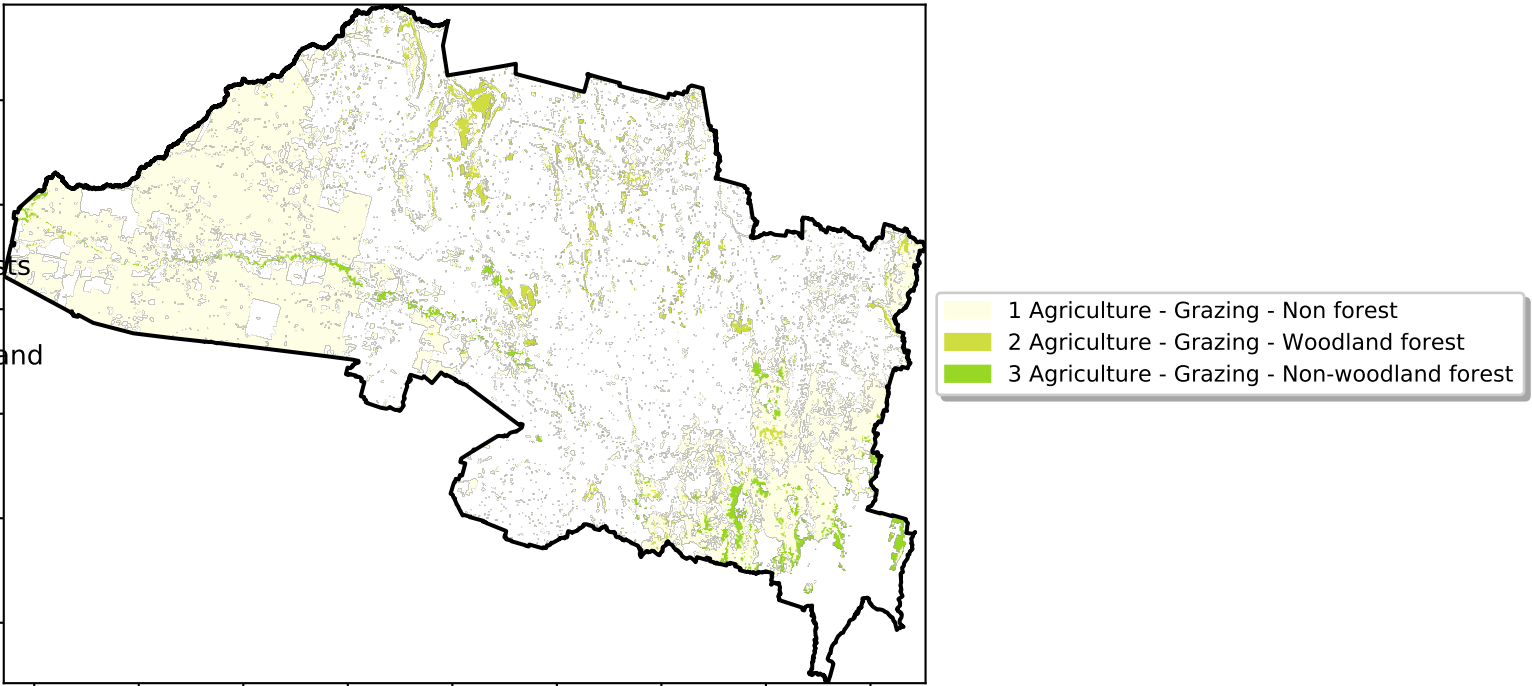
Water erosion historical monthly area protected (Total Veg Cov>70%)



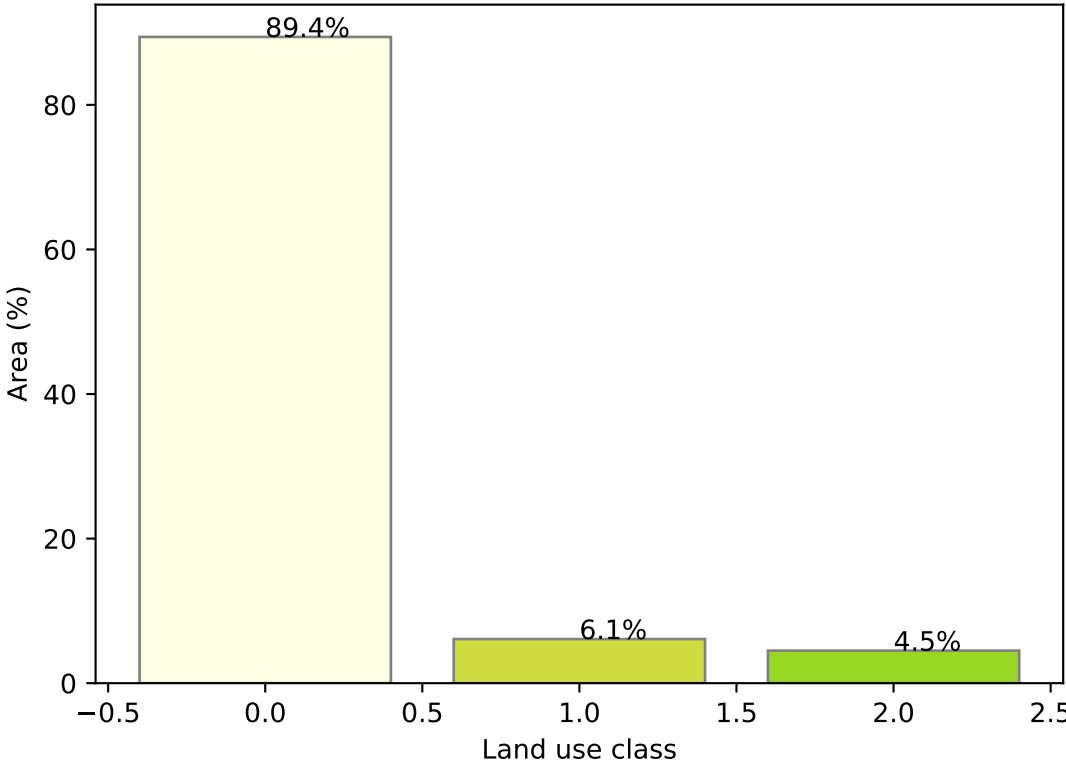
Grazing

Land use and forest cover

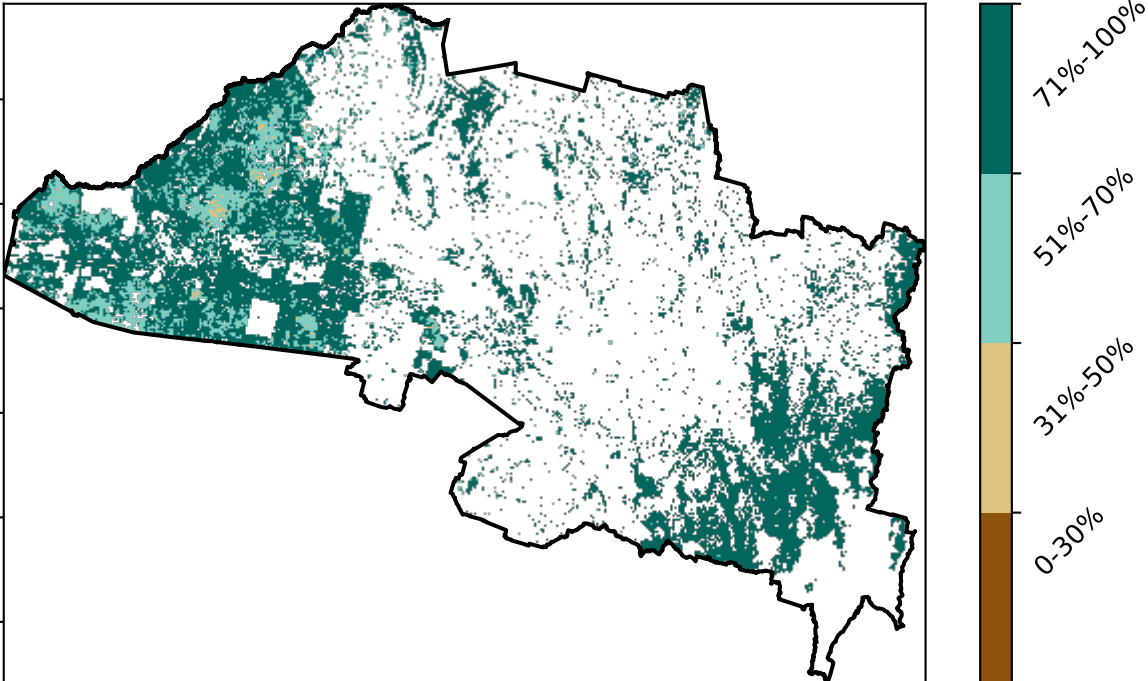
Catchment Scale Land Use and Forests of Australia (2018). Derived from Catchment Scale Land Use of Australia (2018) and Forests of Australia (2018)



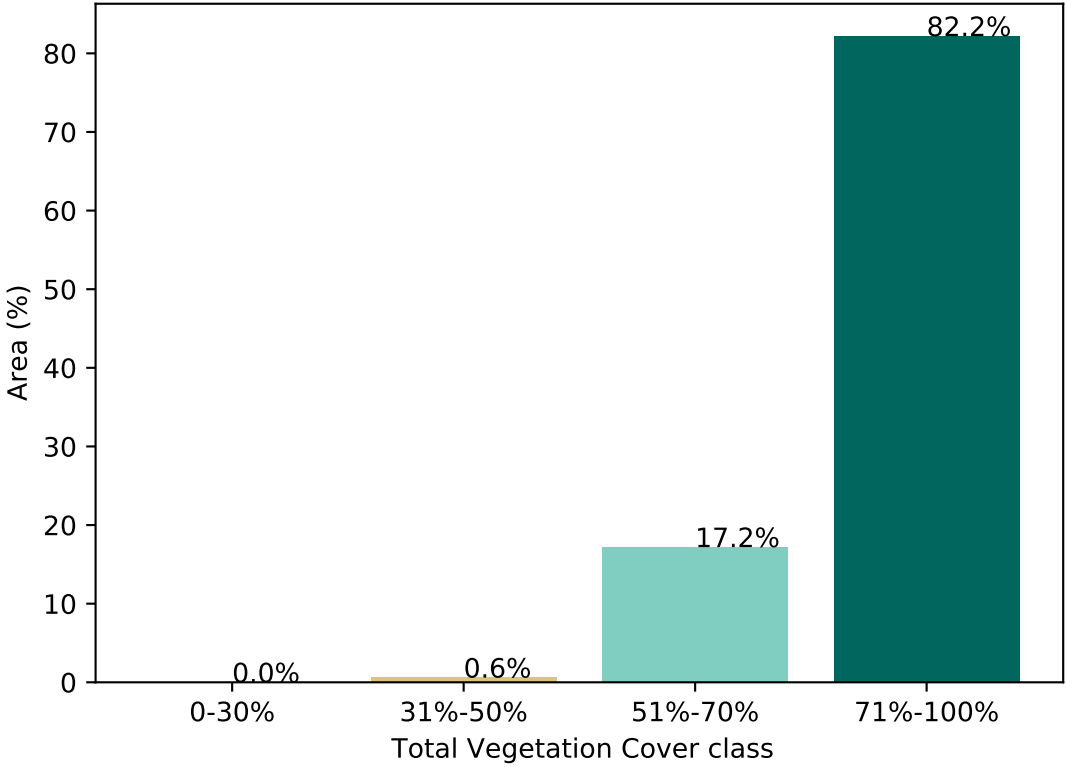
Proportion of each land class in area



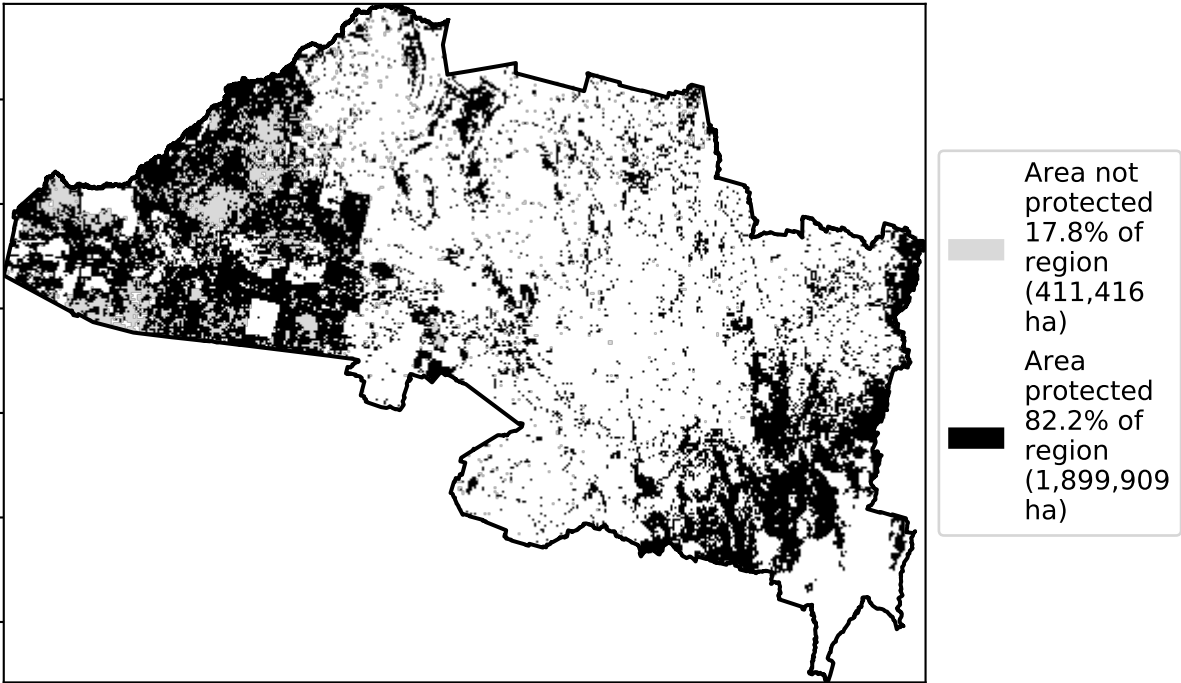
Total Vegetation Cover [%]



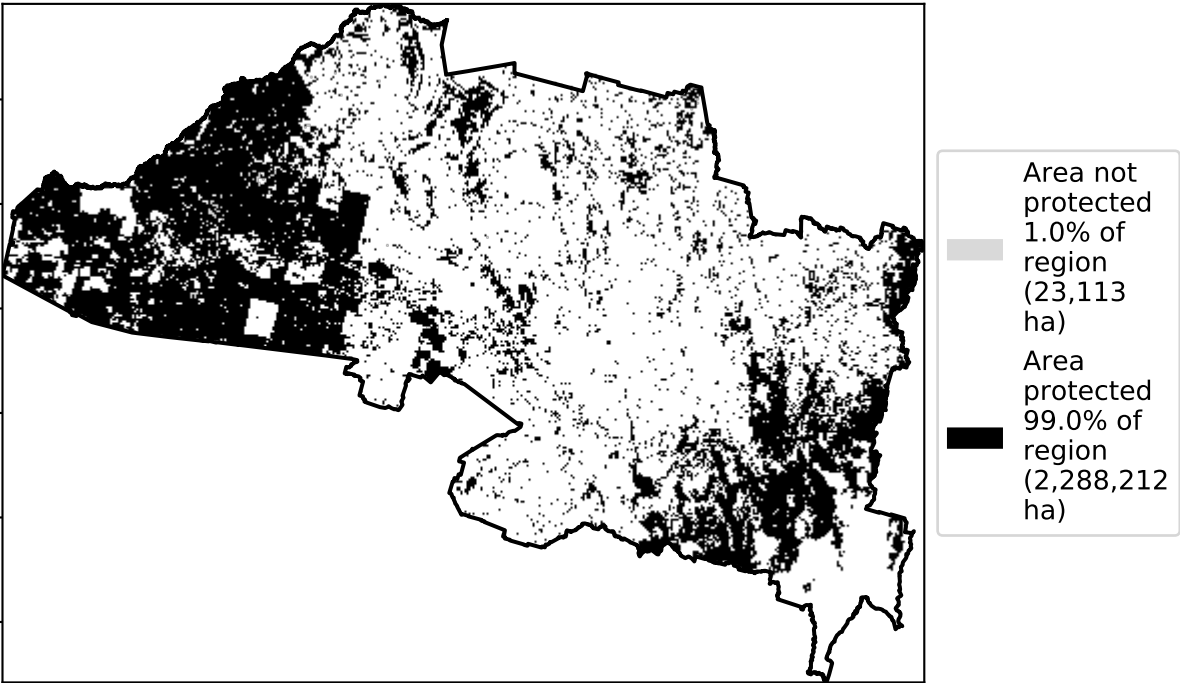
Proportion of vegetation cover class in area



% Area protected from water erosion (>70%)

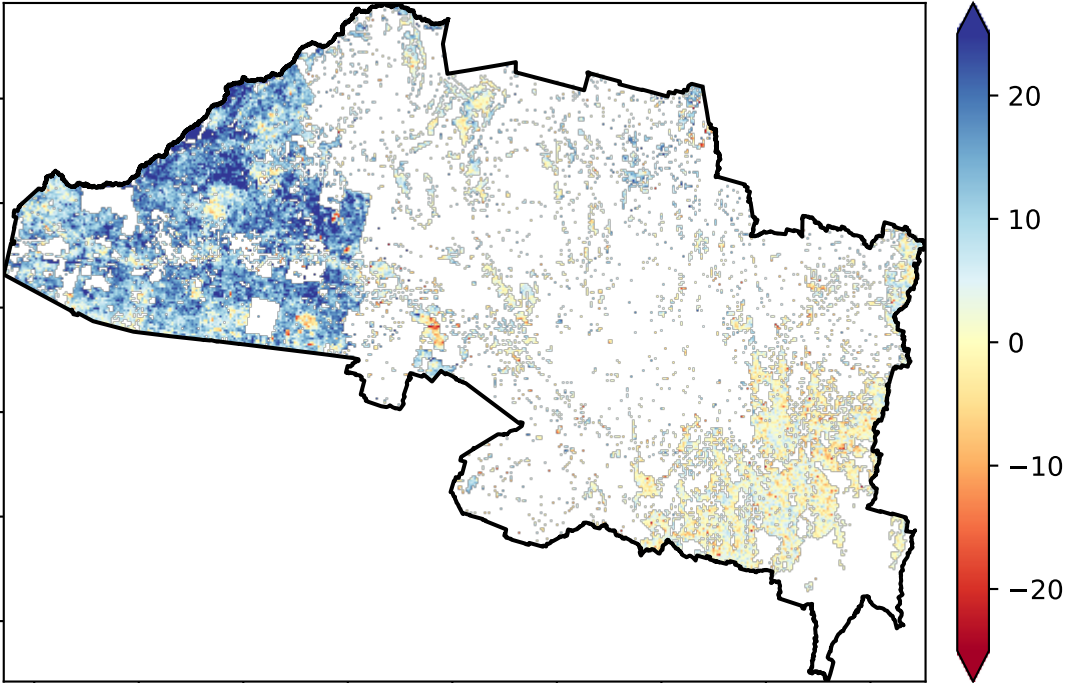


% Area protected from wind erosion (>50%)



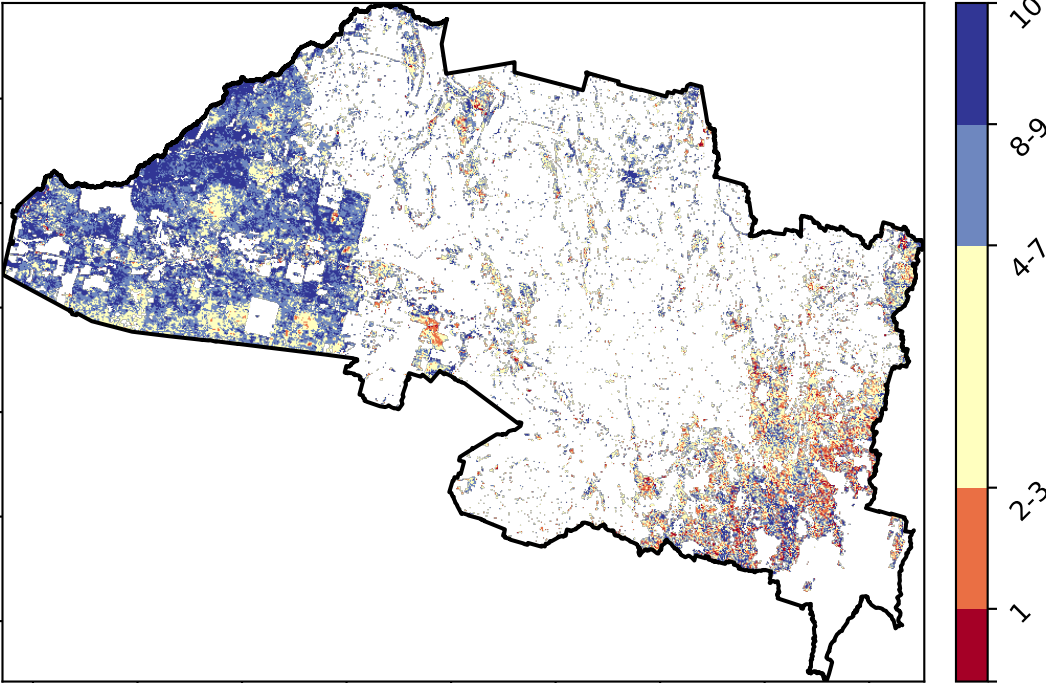
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Total Vegetation Cover Decile [%]



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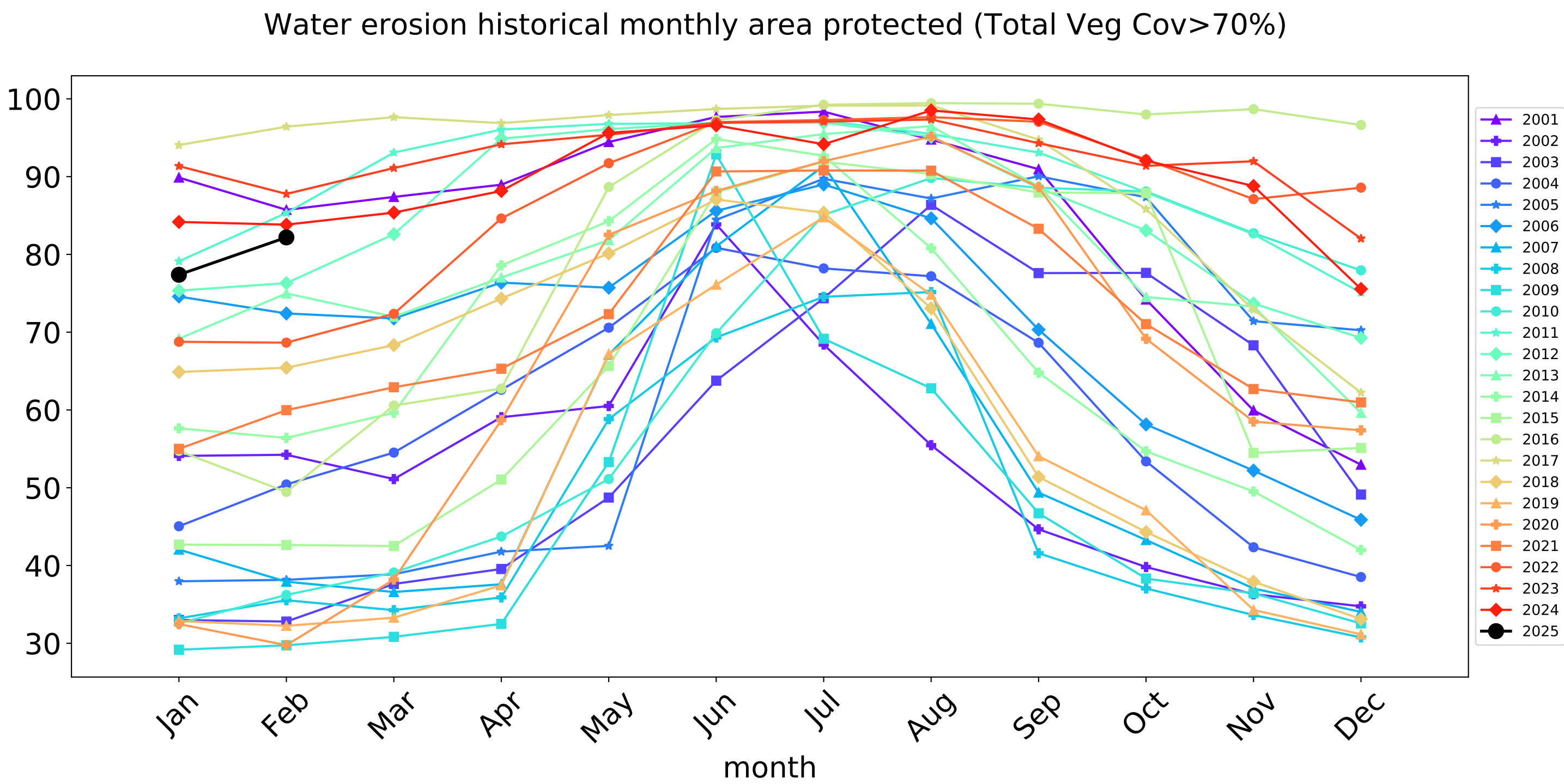
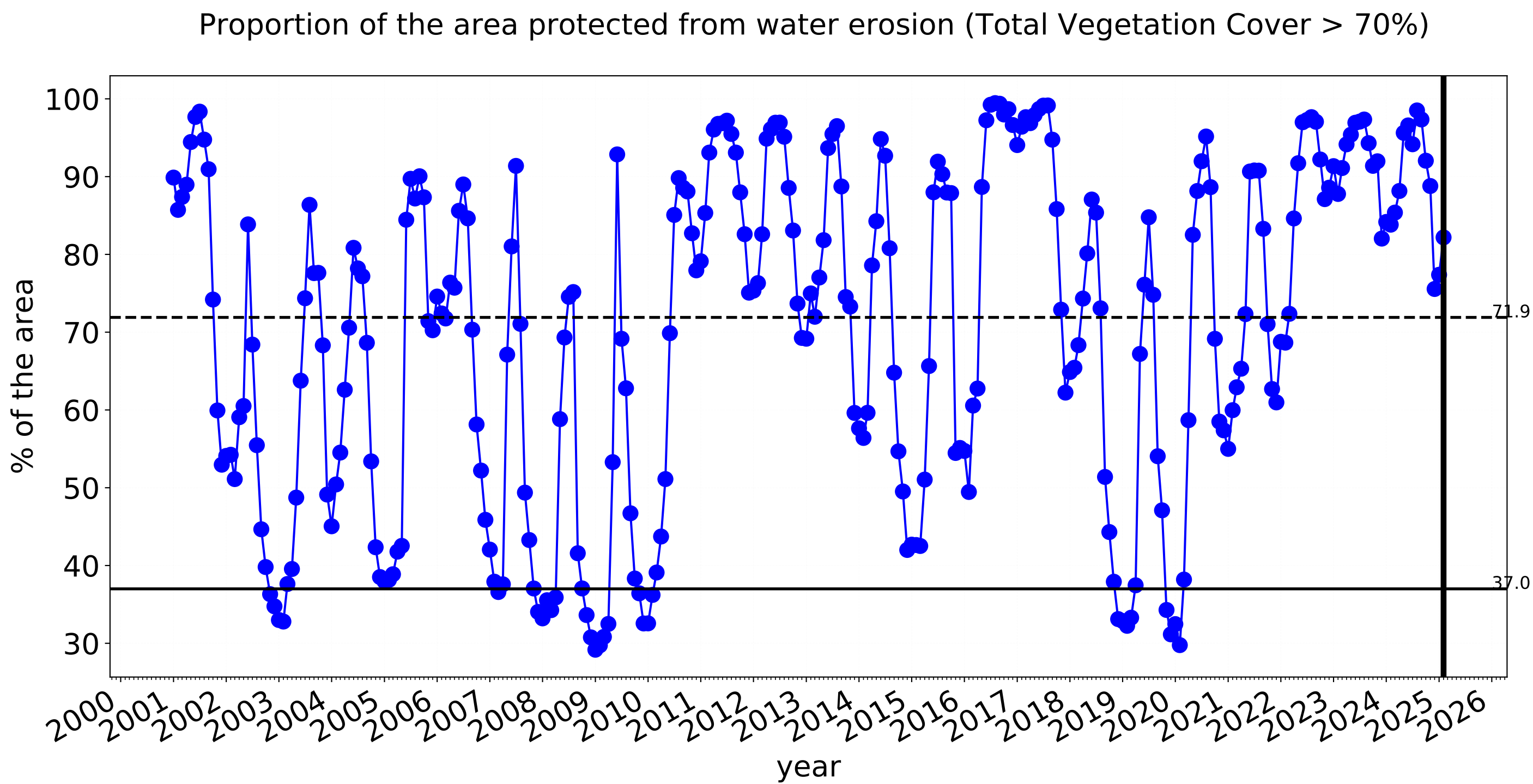
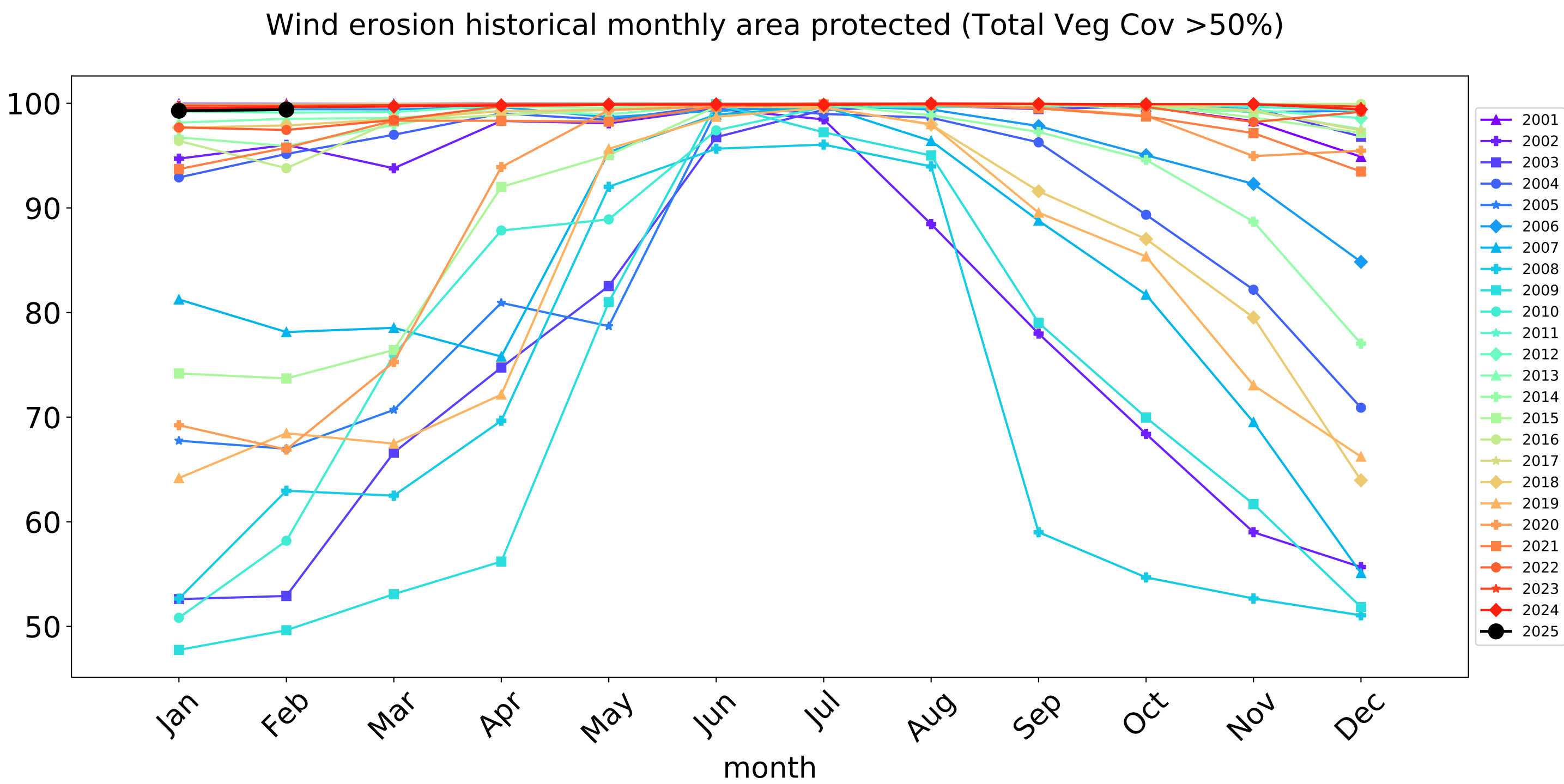
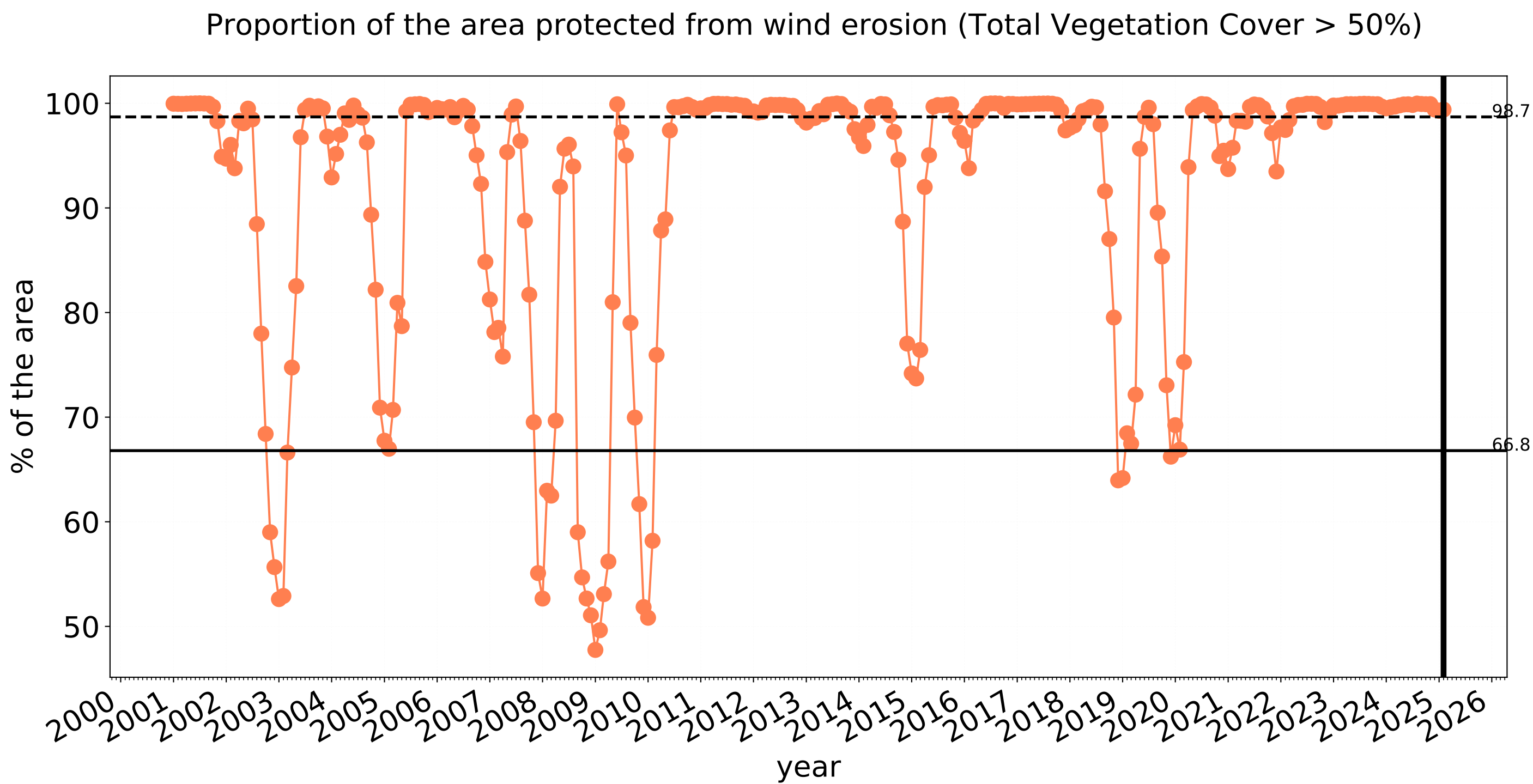


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Grazing timeseries



Grazing non forest

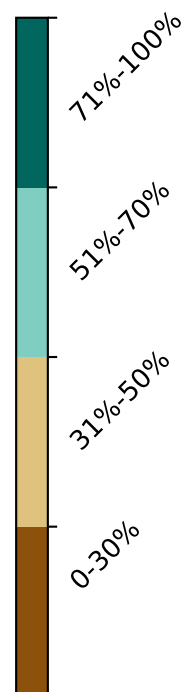
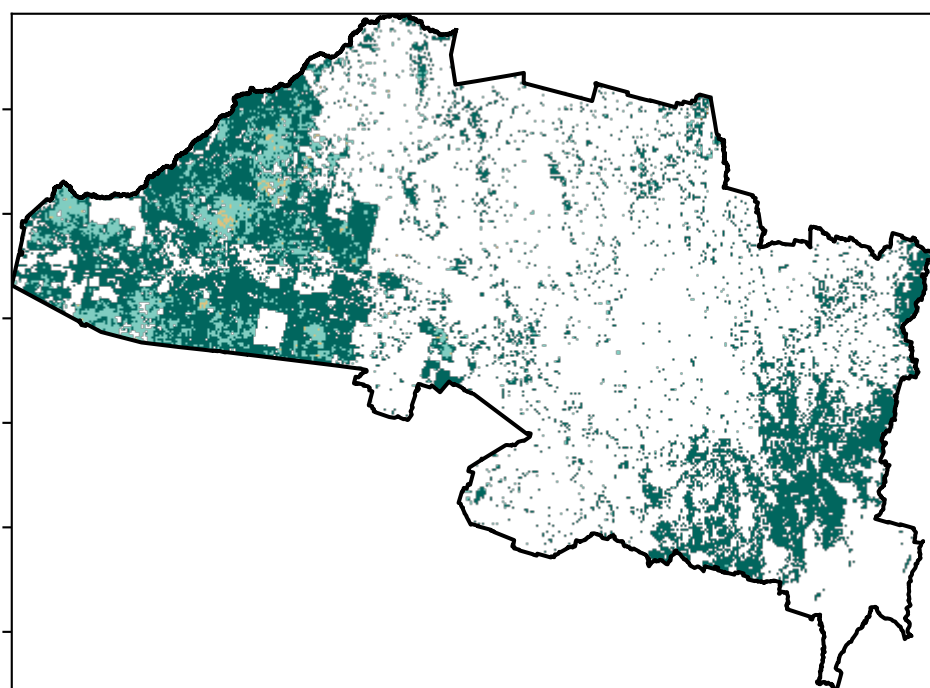
Land use and forest cover

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

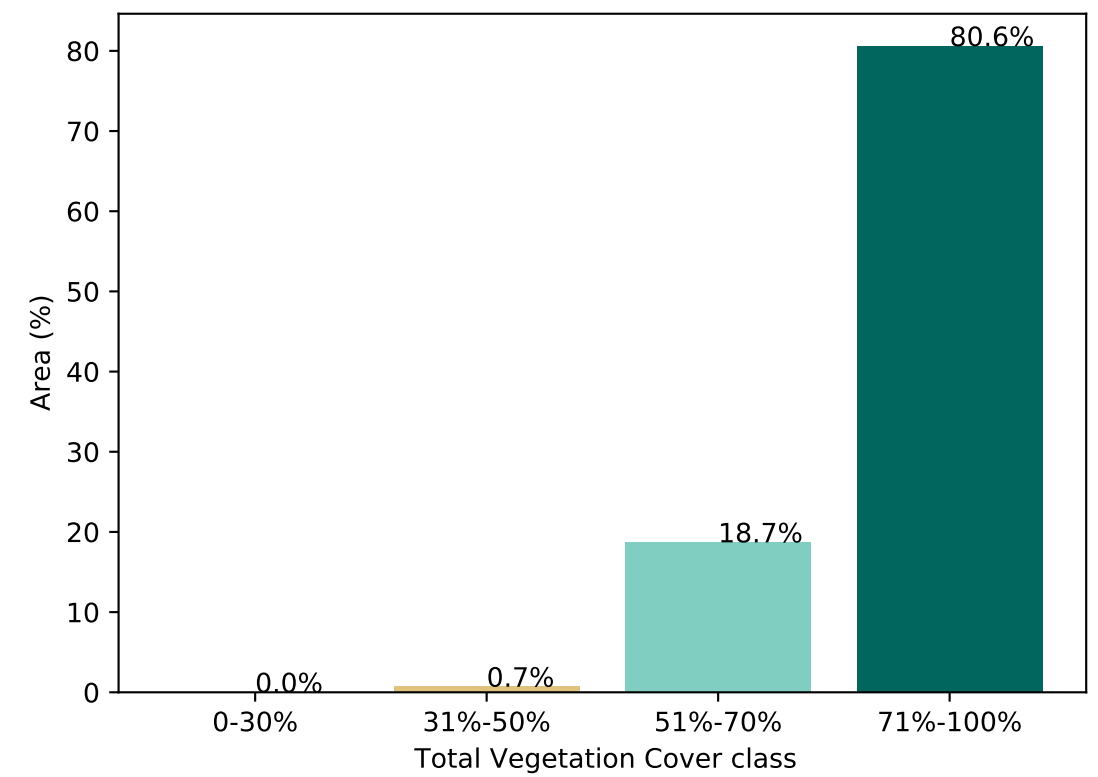


1 Agriculture - Grazing - Non forest

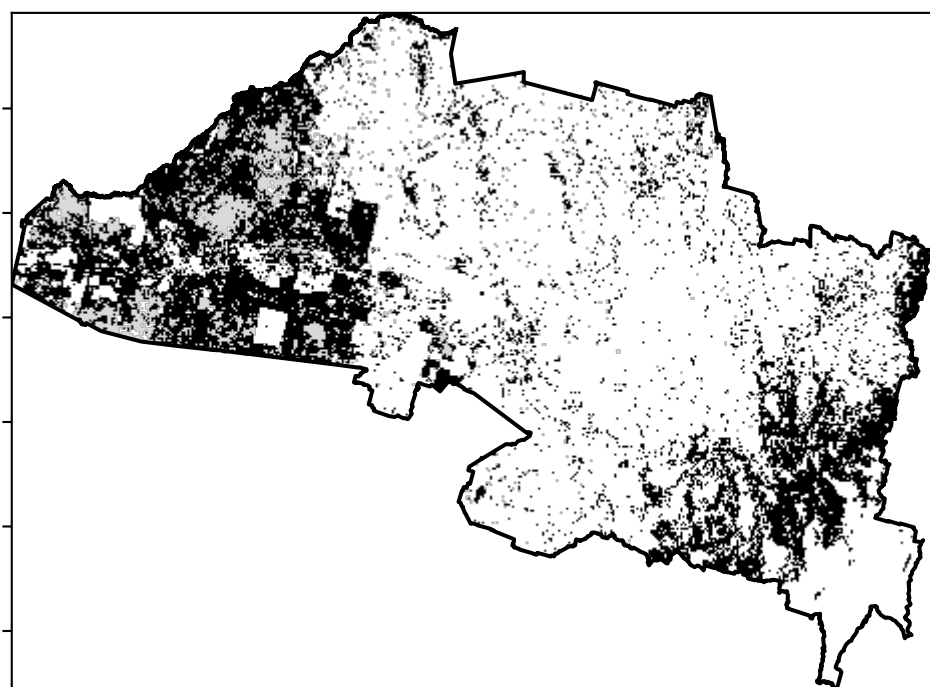
Total Vegetation Cover [%]



Proportion of vegetation cover class in area

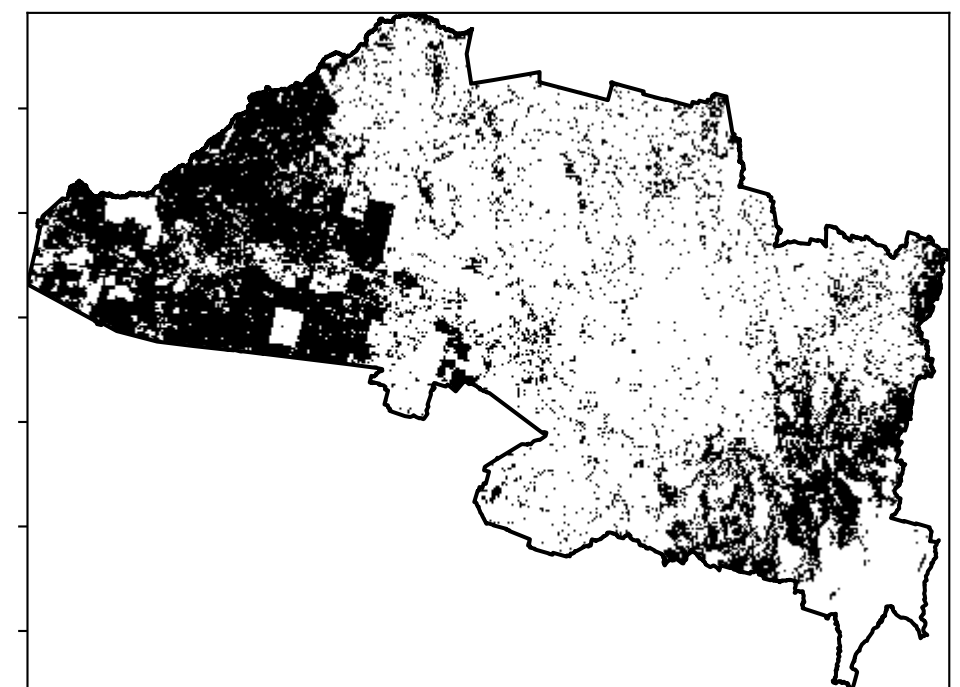


% Area protected from water erosion (>70%)



Area not protected
19.4% of region
(400,867 ha)
Area protected
80.6% of region
(1,665,458 ha)

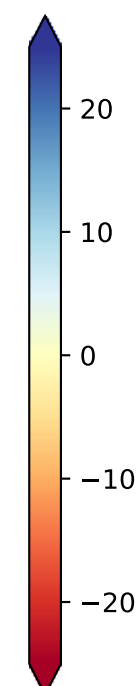
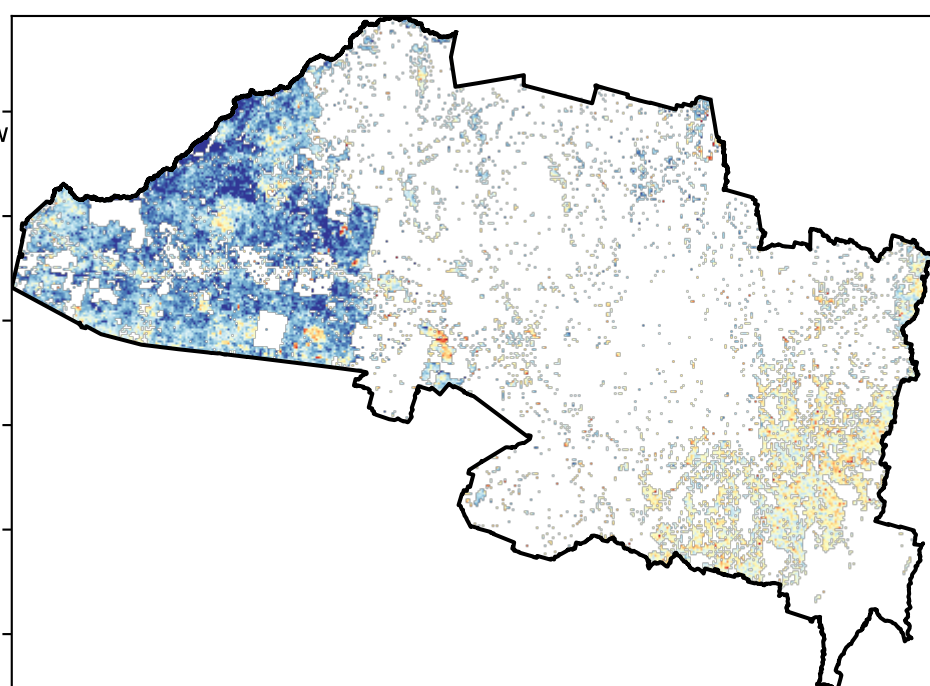
% Area protected from wind erosion (>50%)



Area not protected
1.0% of region
(20,663 ha)
Area protected
99.0% of region
(2,045,662 ha)

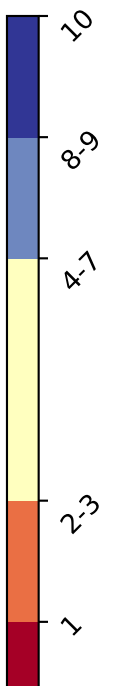
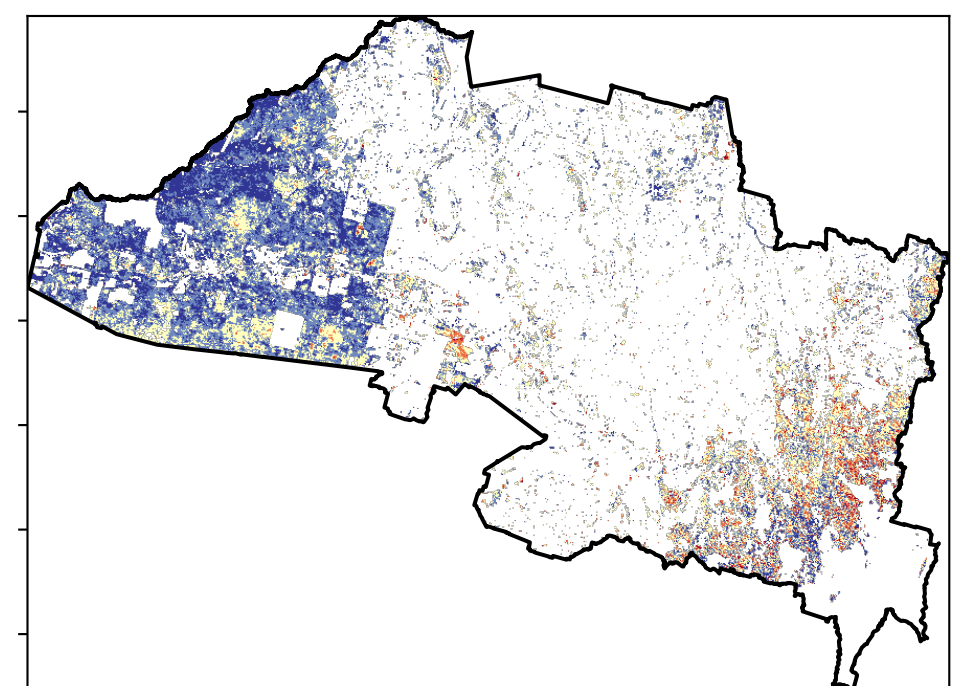
Total Vegetation Cover Anomaly [%]

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



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

Total Vegetation Cover Decile [%]



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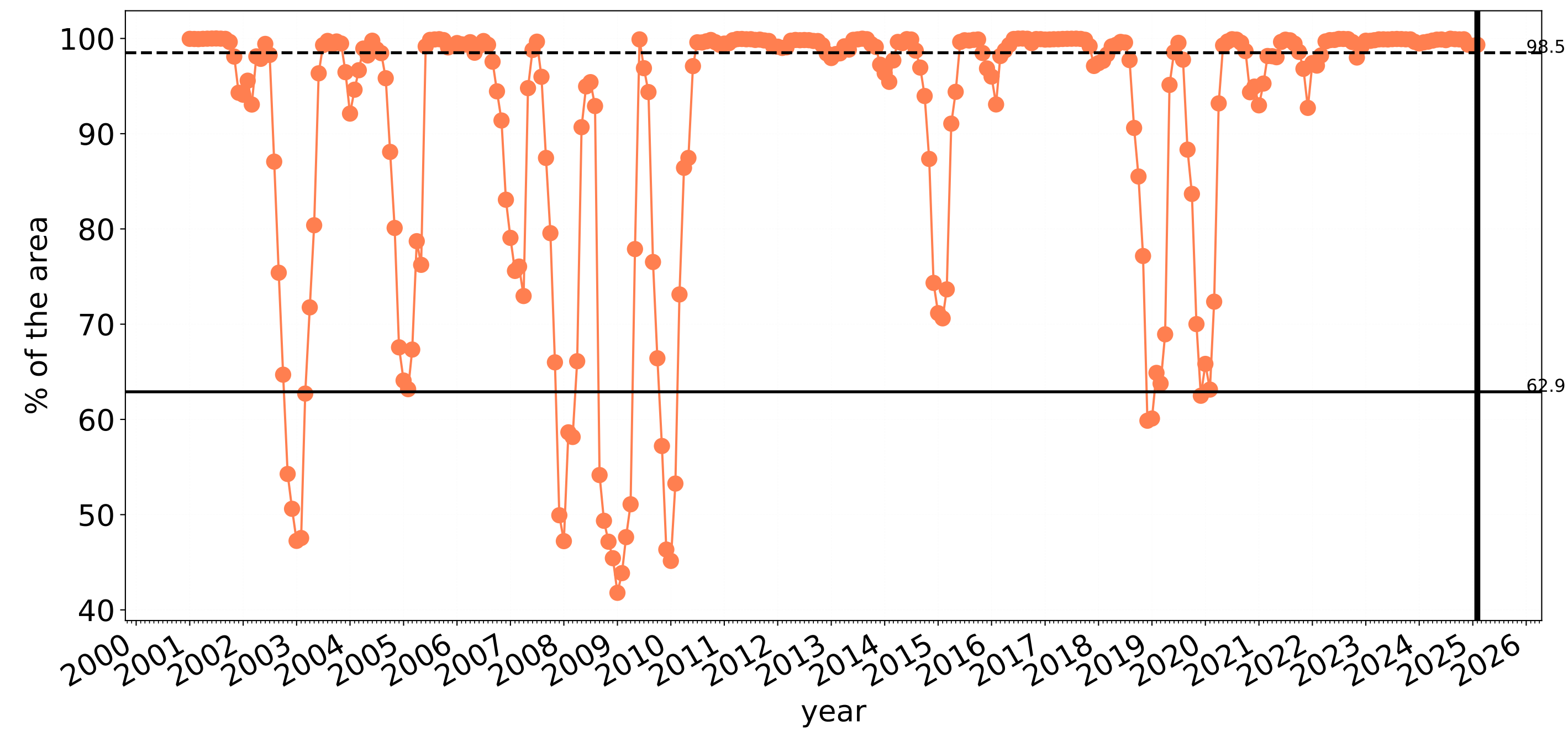
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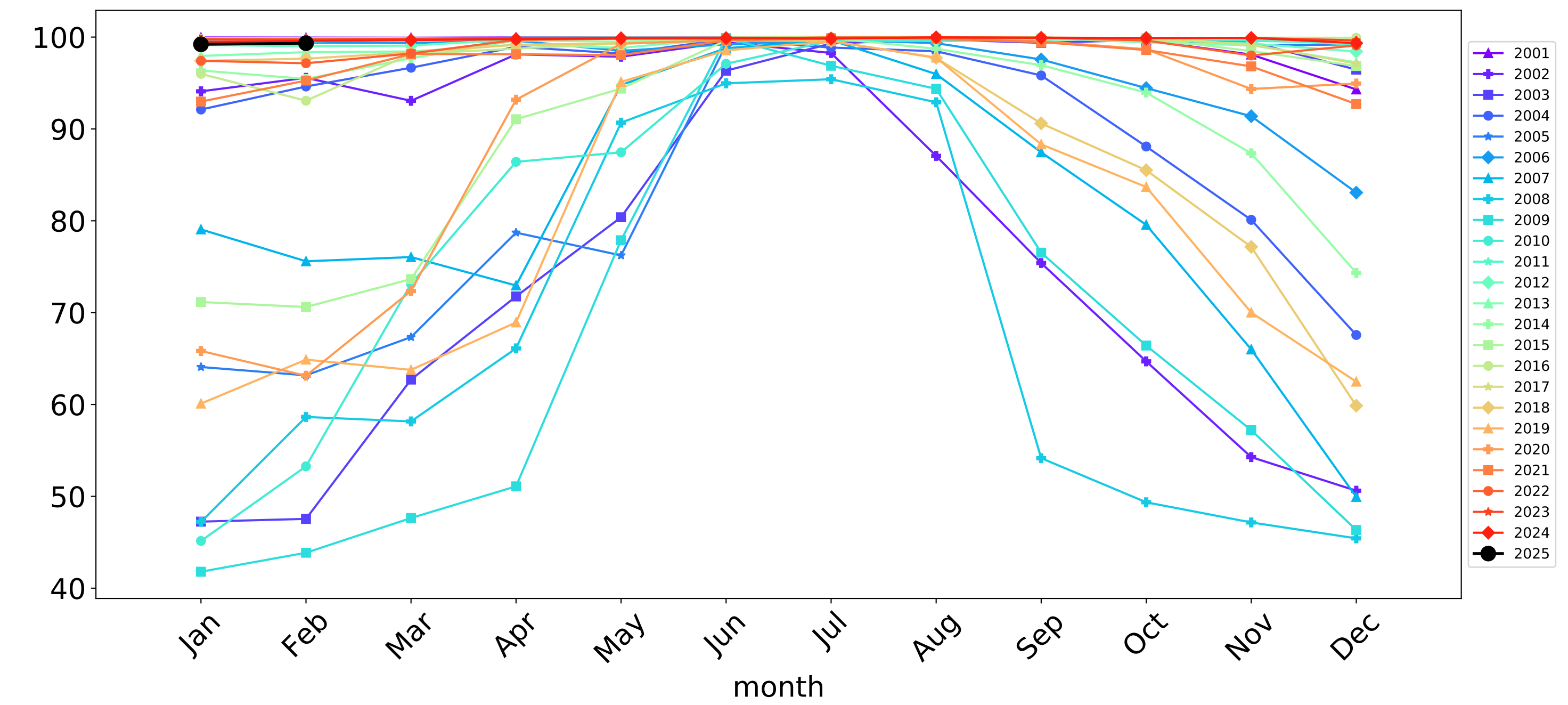


Grazing non forest timeseries

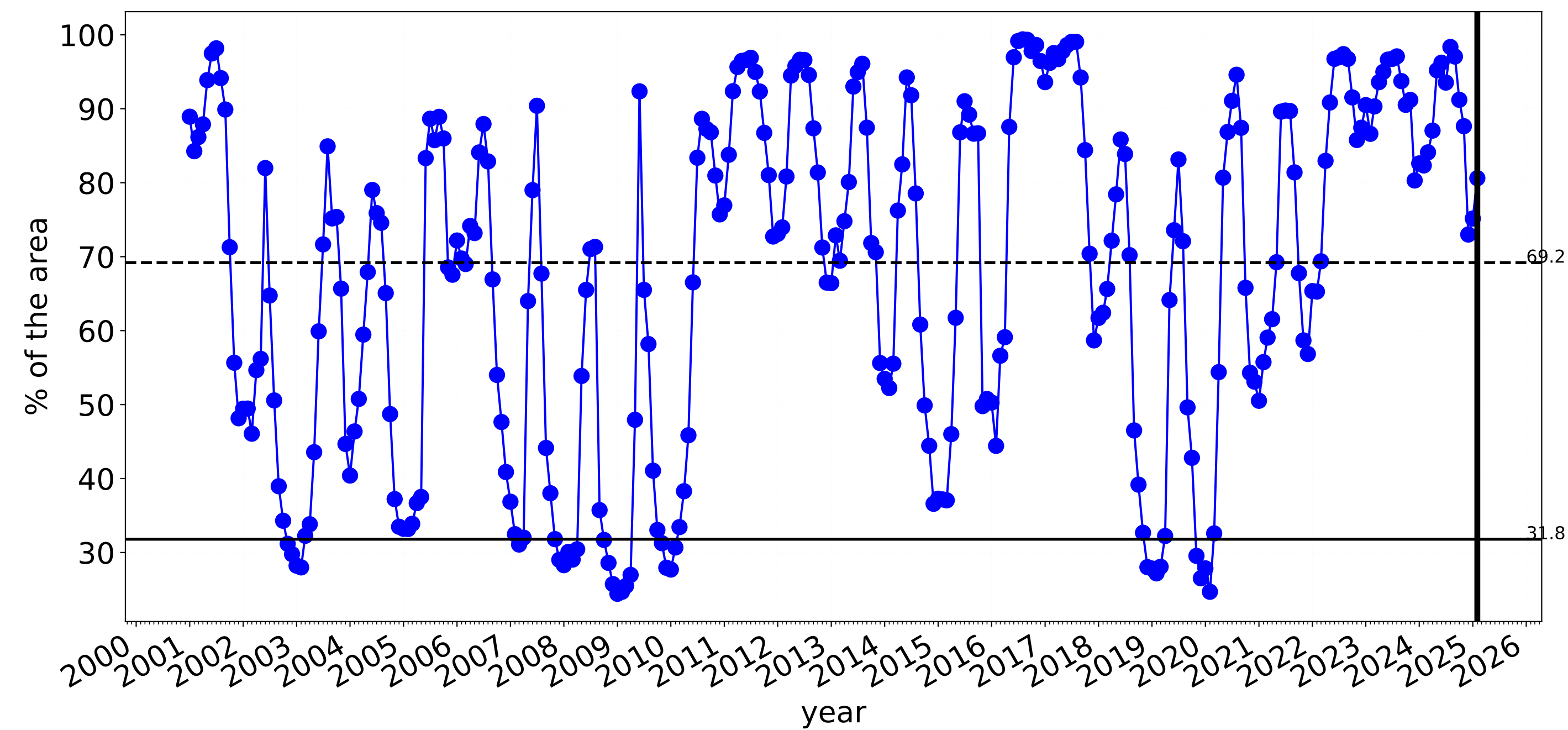
Proportion of the area protected from wind erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 50%)



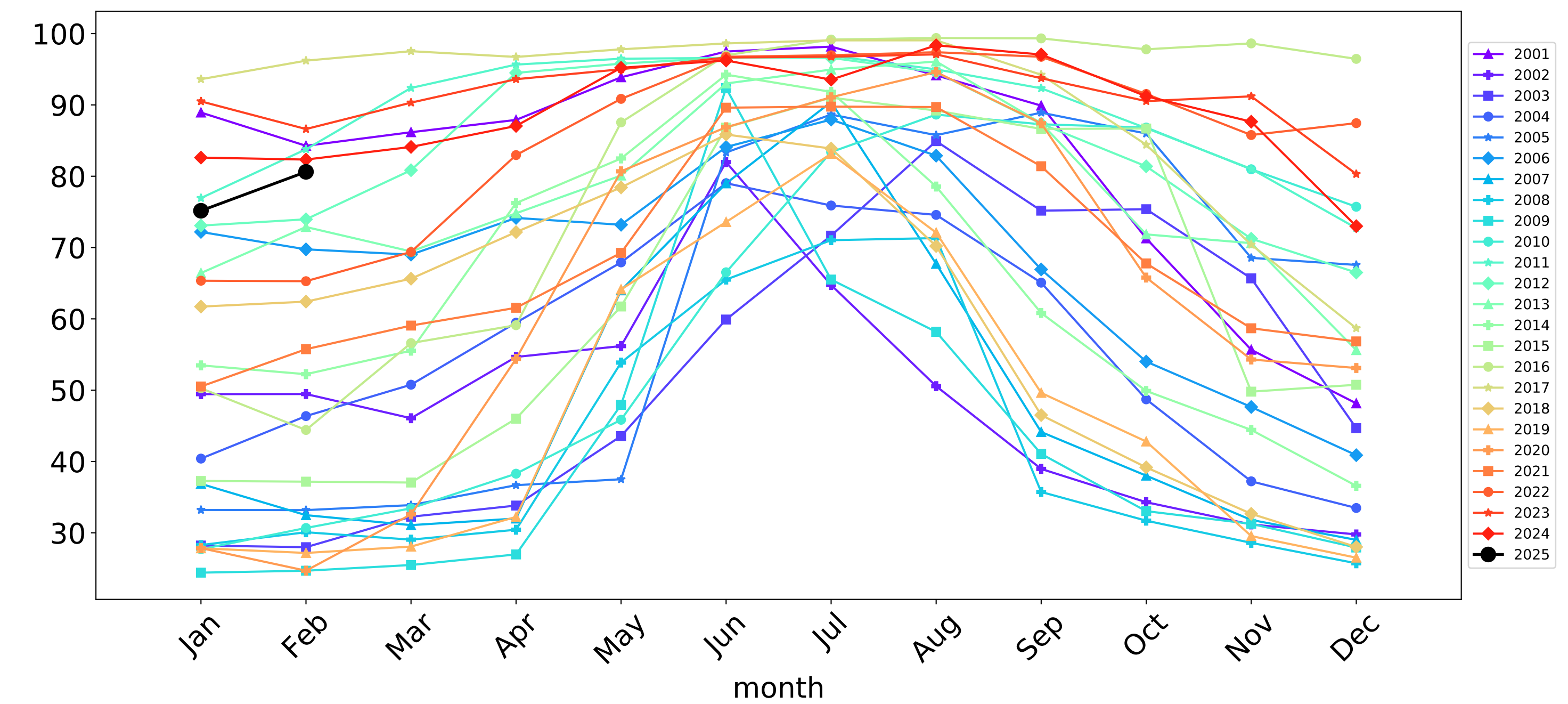
Wind erosion historical monthly area protected (Total Veg Cov >50%)



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



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



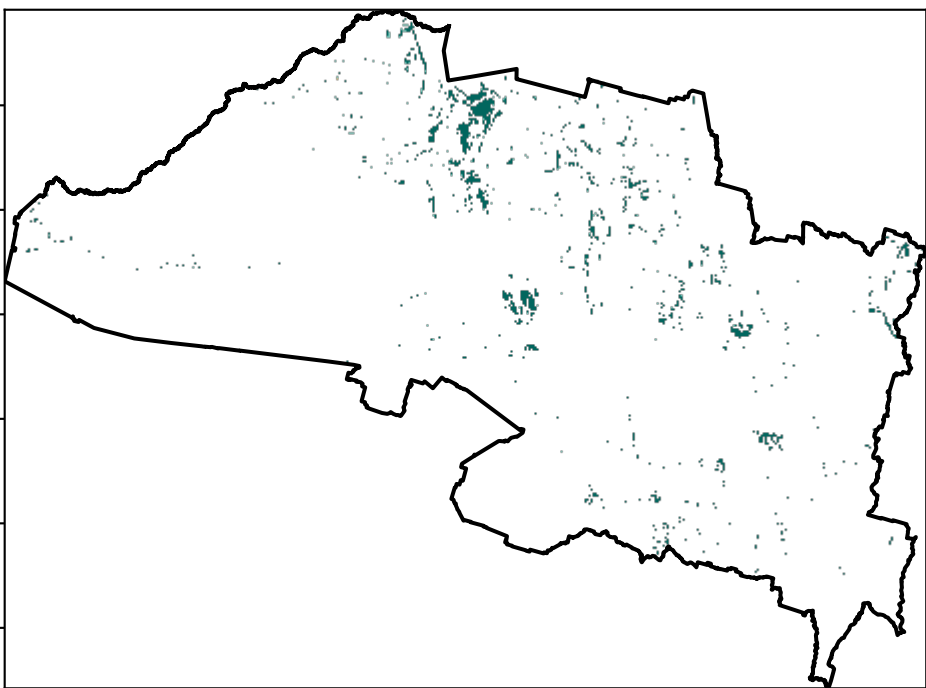
Grazing Woodland forest

Land use and forest cover

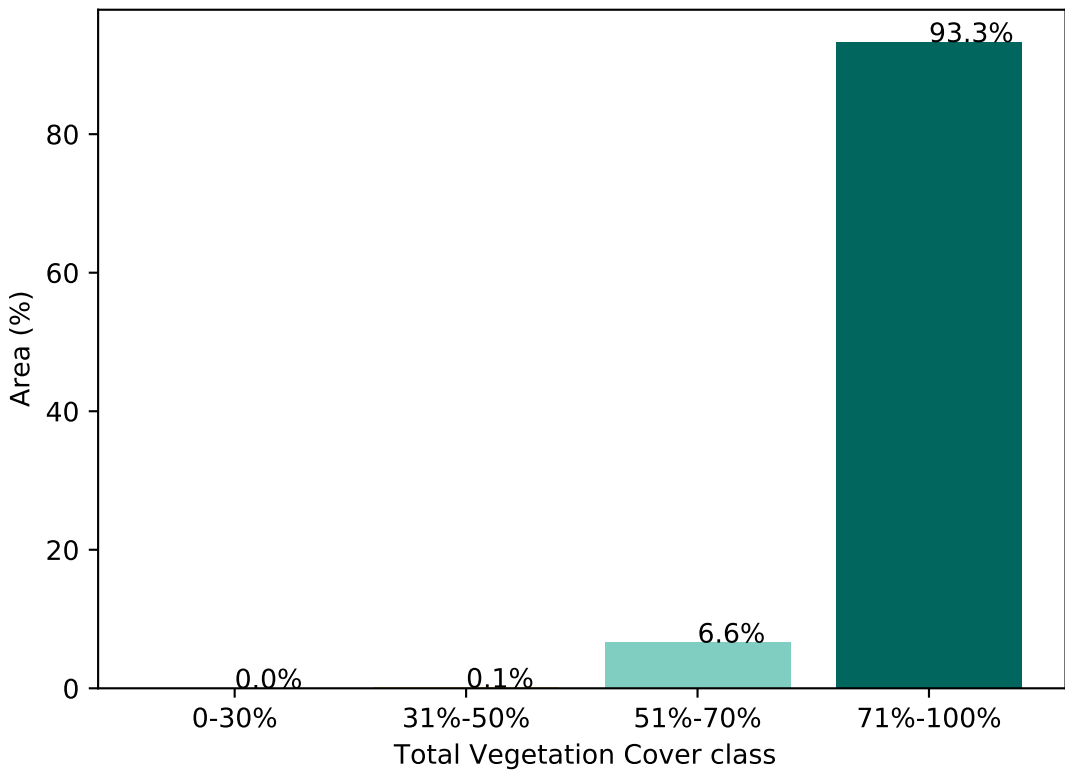
Catchment Scale Land Use and Forests of Australia (2018). Derived from Catchment Scale Land Use of Australia (2018) and Forests of Australia (2018)



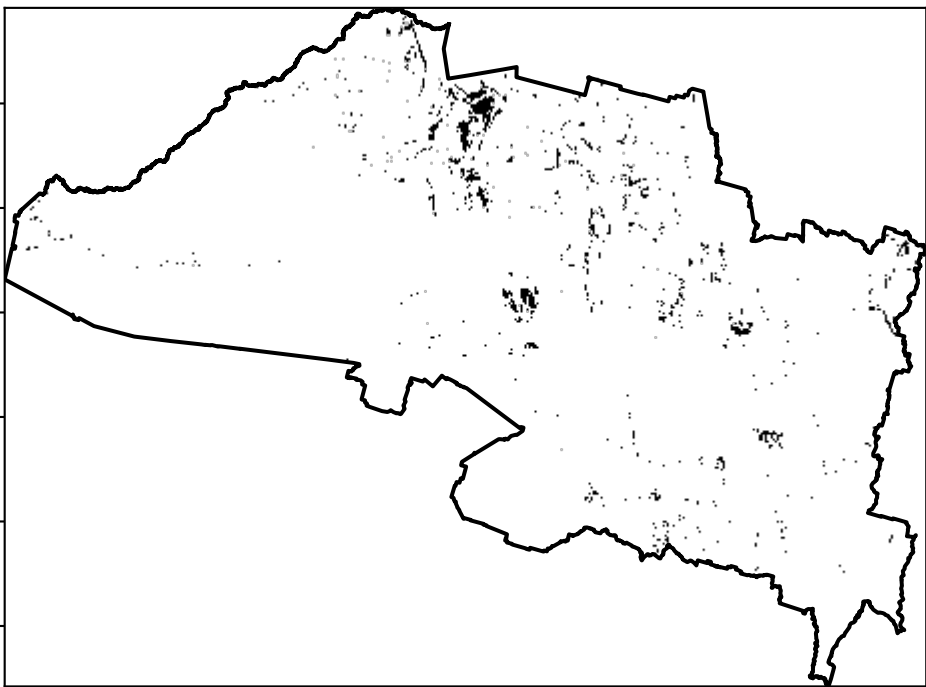
Total Vegetation Cover [%]



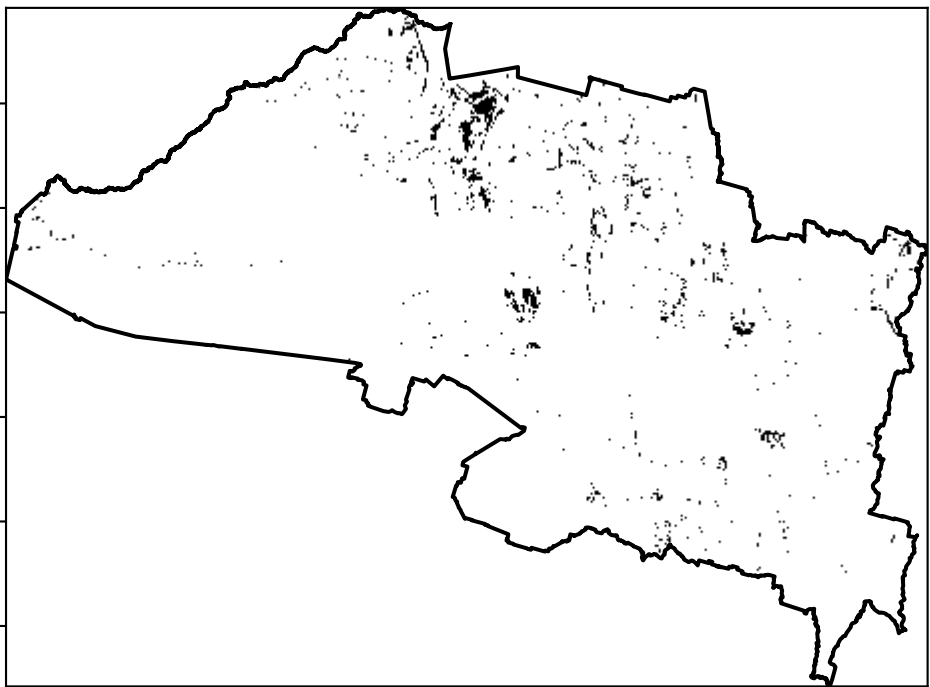
Proportion of vegetation cover class in area



% Area protected from water erosion (>70%)

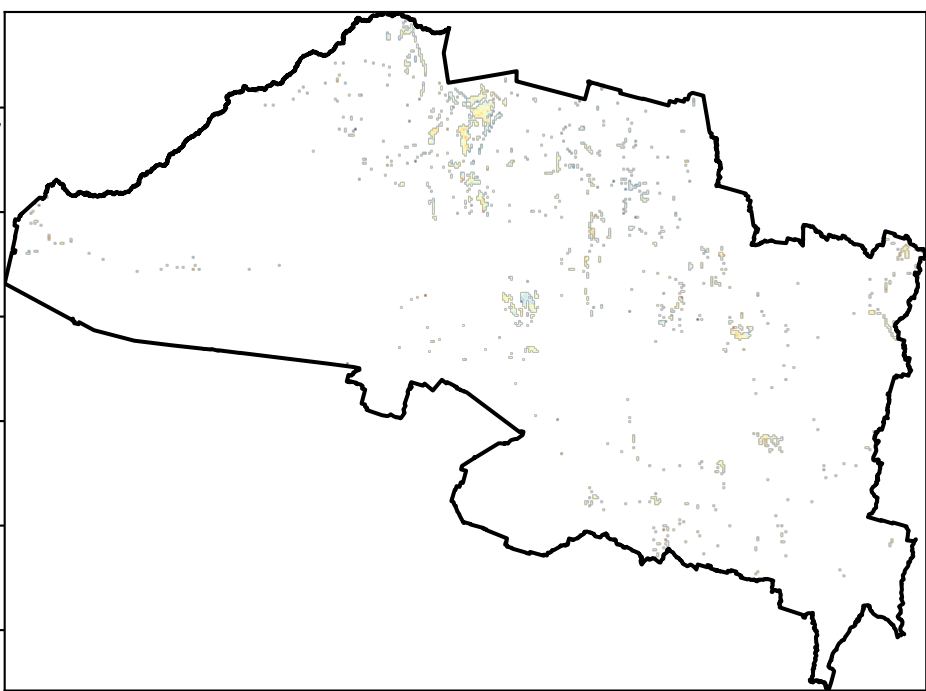


% Area protected from wind erosion (>50%)



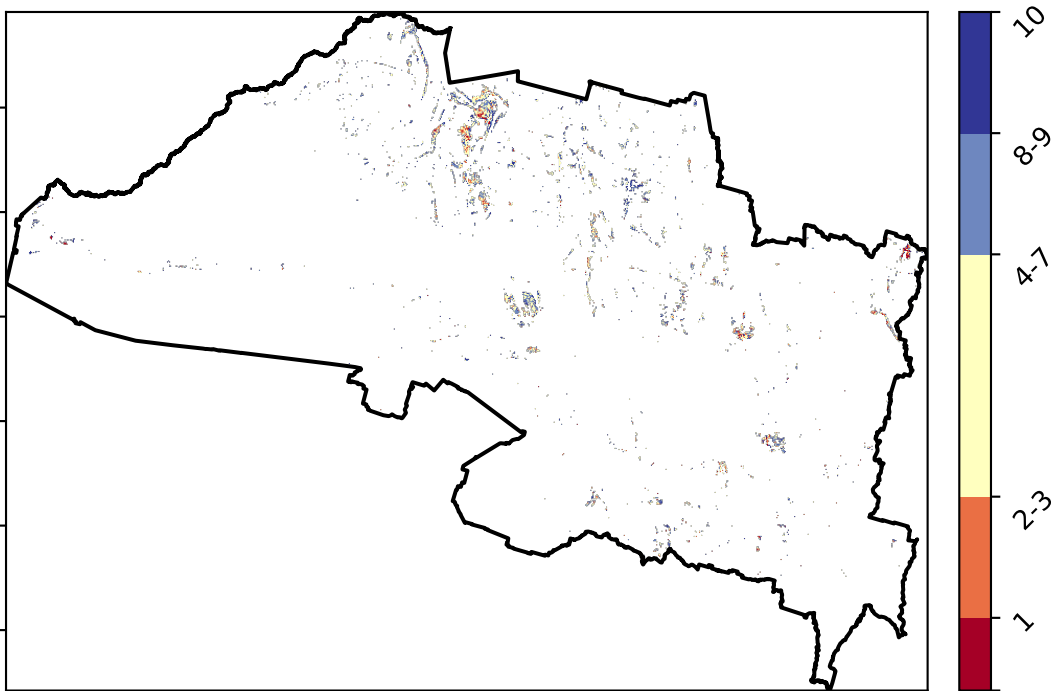
Total Vegetation Cover Anomaly [%]

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



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

Total Vegetation Cover Decile [%]



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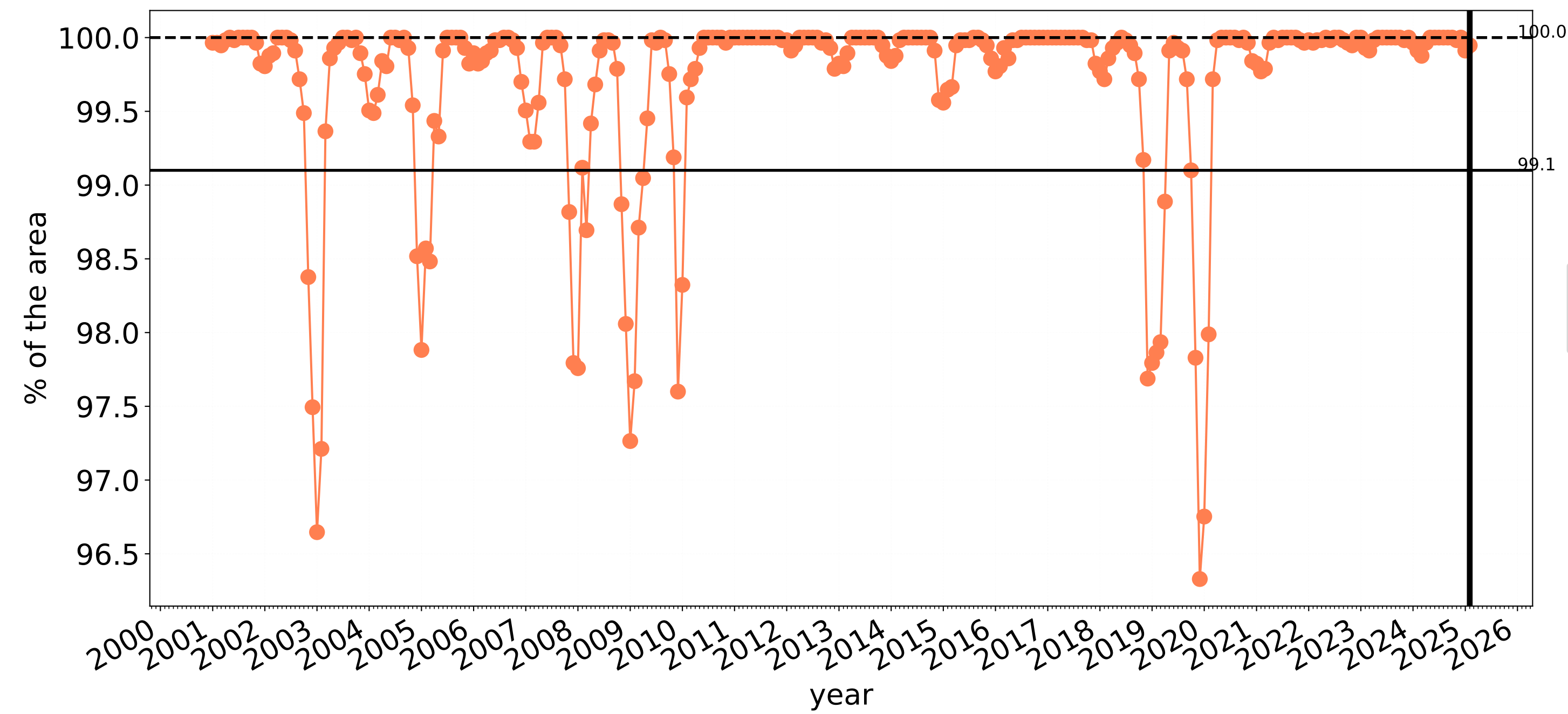


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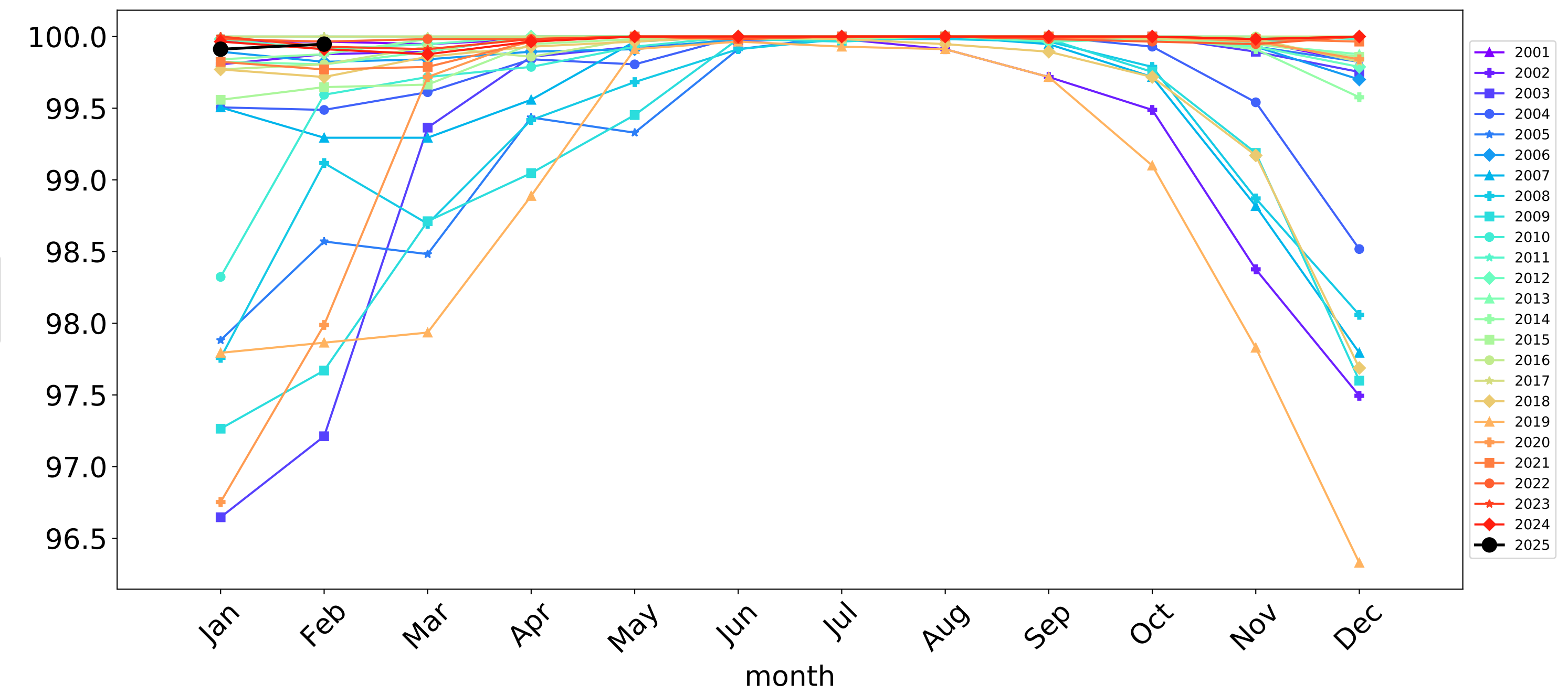


Grazing Woodland forest timeseries

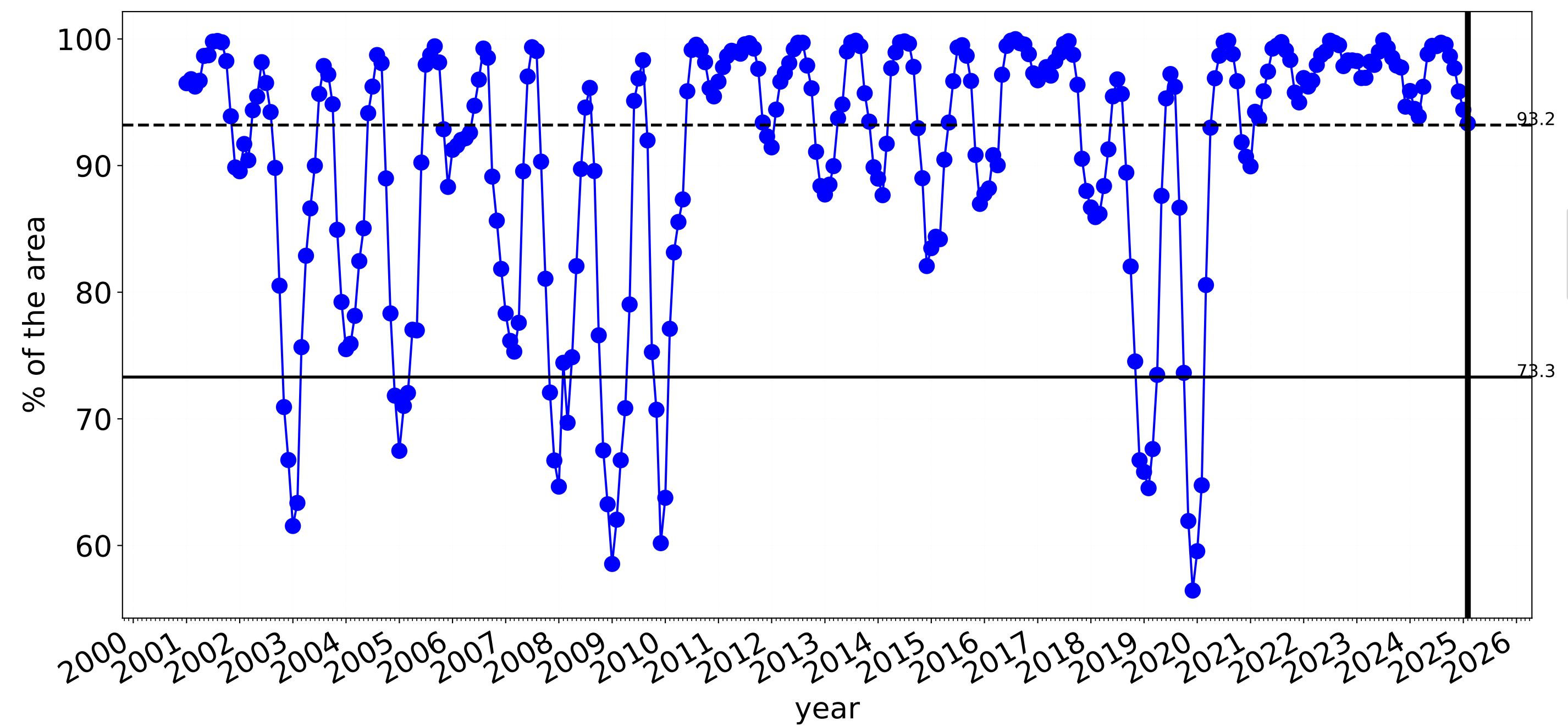
Proportion of the area protected from wind erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 50%)



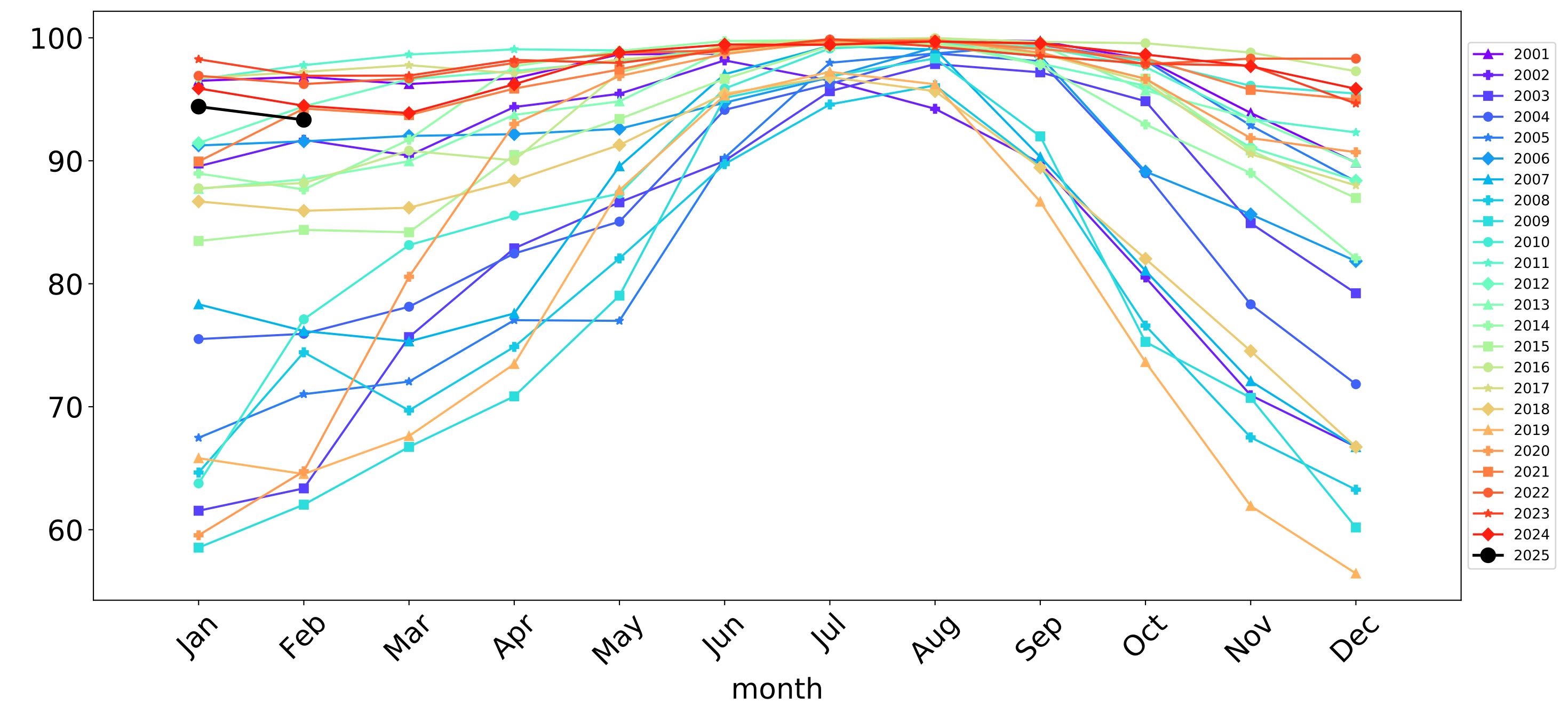
Wind erosion historical monthly area protected (Total Veg Cov >50%)



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)

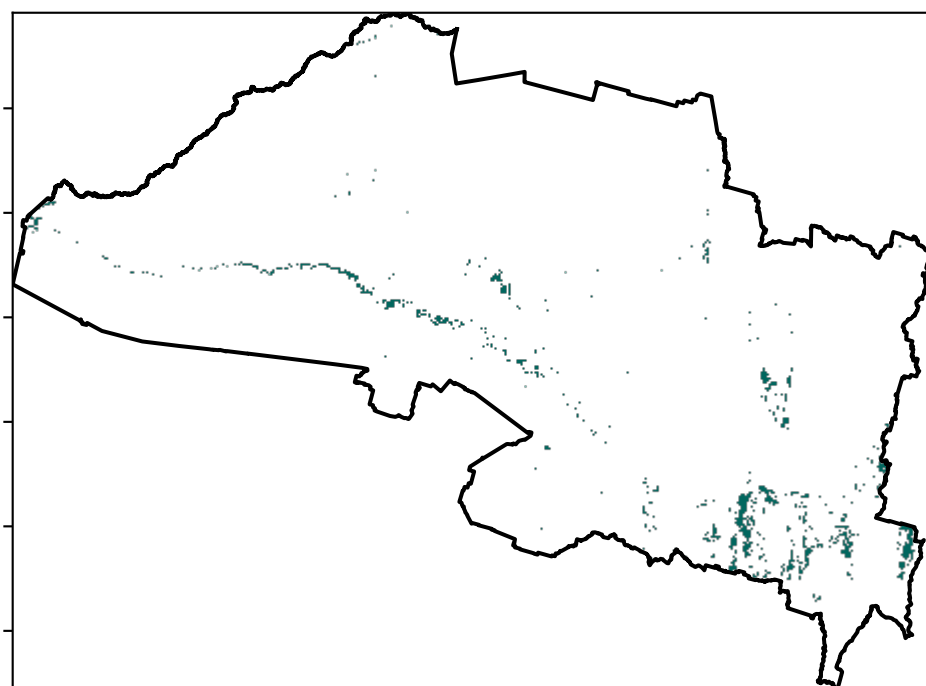
Land use and forest cover

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

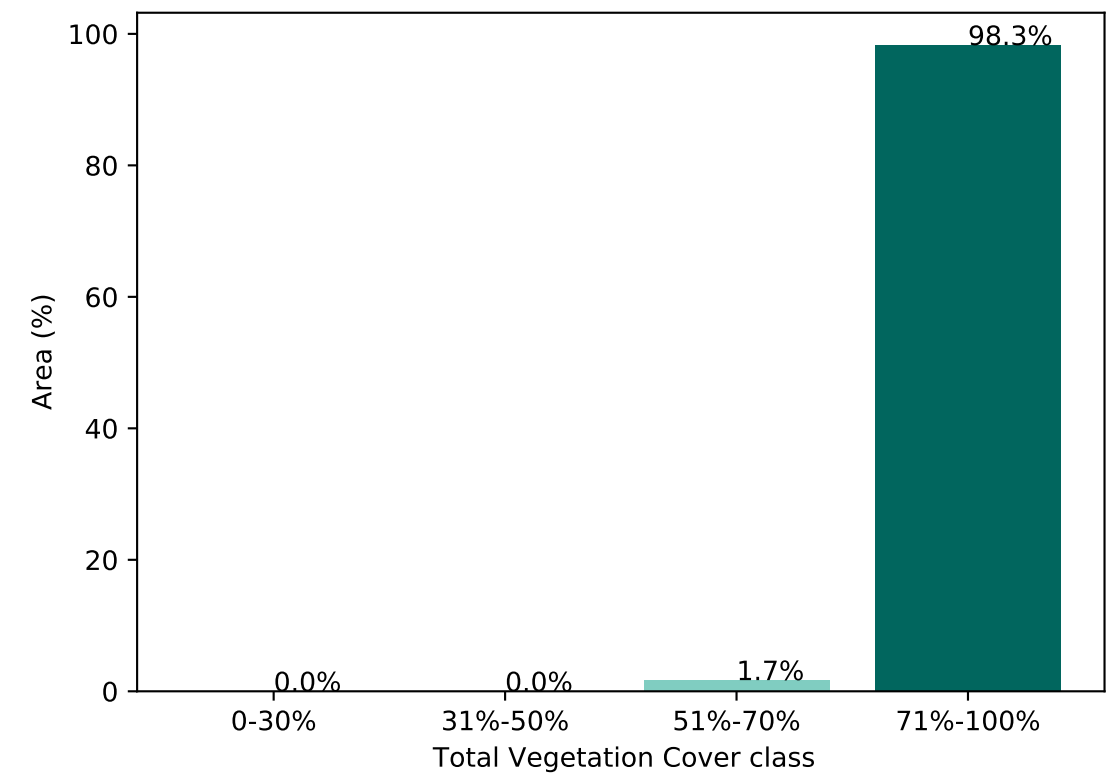


1 Agriculture - Grazing - Non-woodland forest

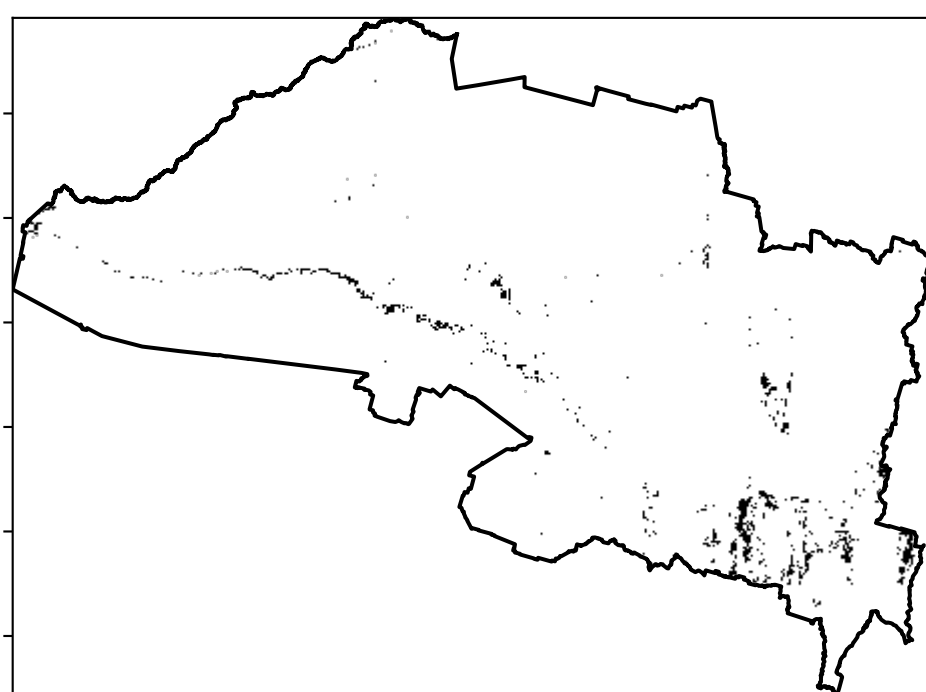
Total Vegetation Cover [%]



Proportion of vegetation cover class in area



% Area protected from water erosion (>70%)



Area not protected 1.7% of region (1,757 ha)
Area protected 98.3% of region (101,593 ha)

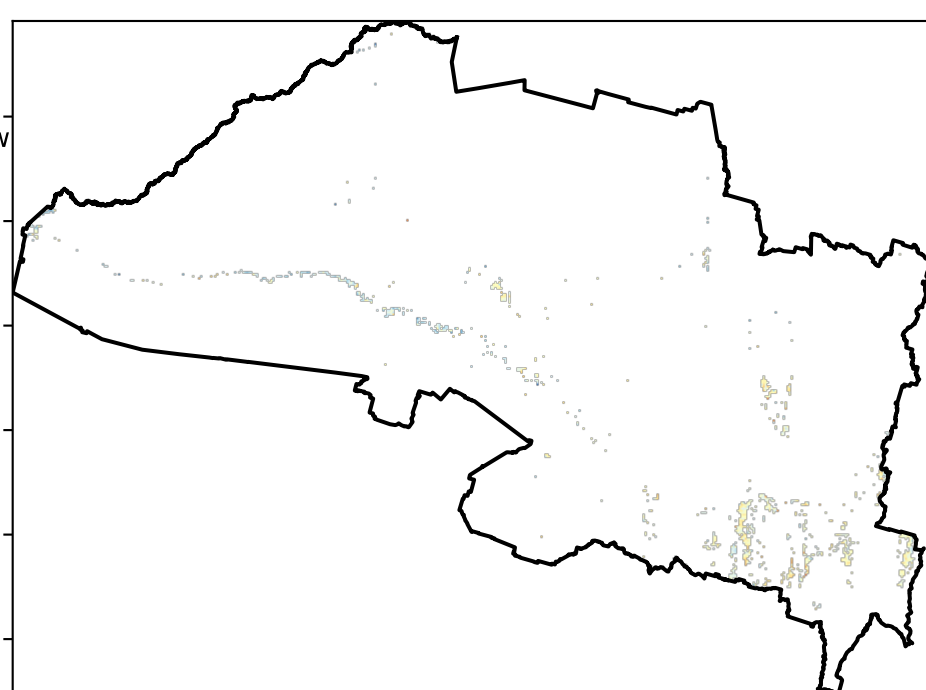
% Area protected from wind erosion (>50%)



Area not protected 0.0% of region (0 ha)
Area protected 100.0% of region (103,350 ha)

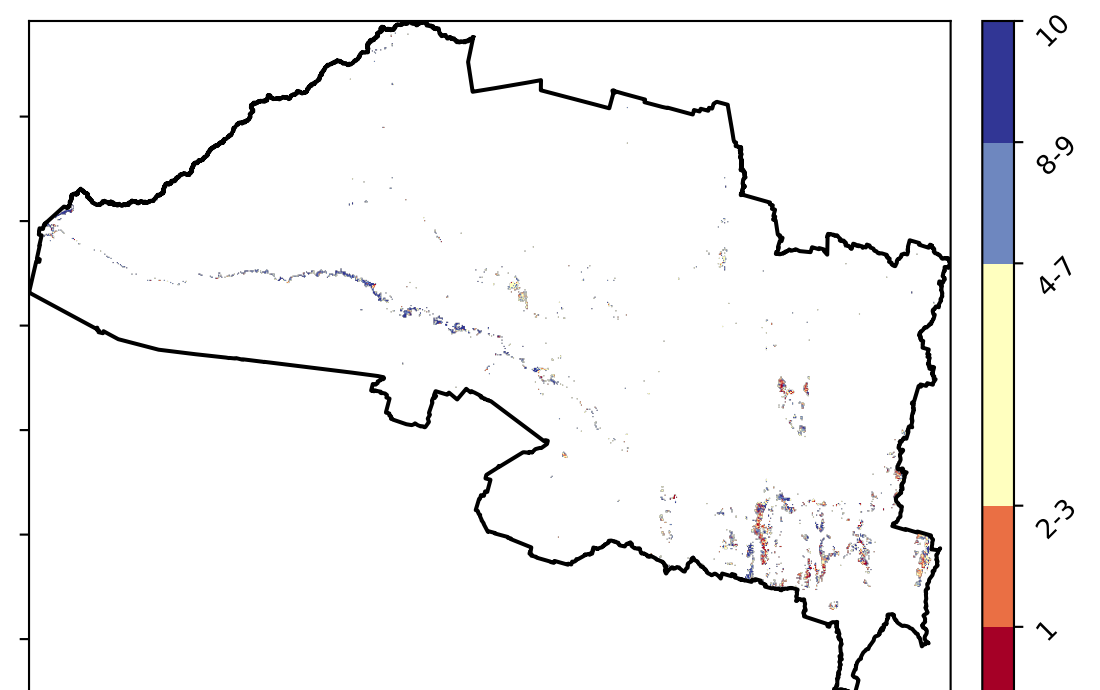
Total Vegetation Cover Anomaly [%]

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



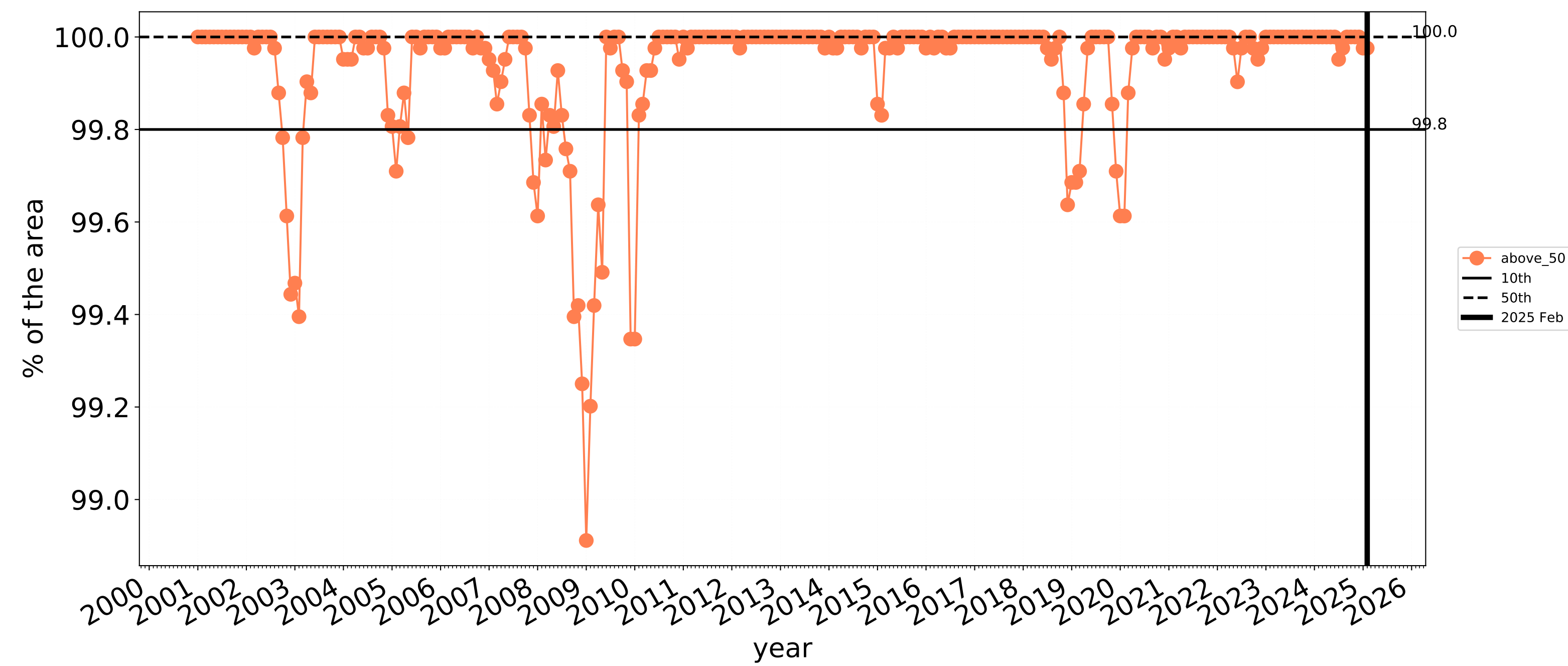
Deciles show where the pixel value lies in the record, from highest to lowest, for that month. That is, red pixels are in the lowest 10% of records for that month of the map using baseline from 2001 to 2019.

Total Vegetation Cover Decile [%]

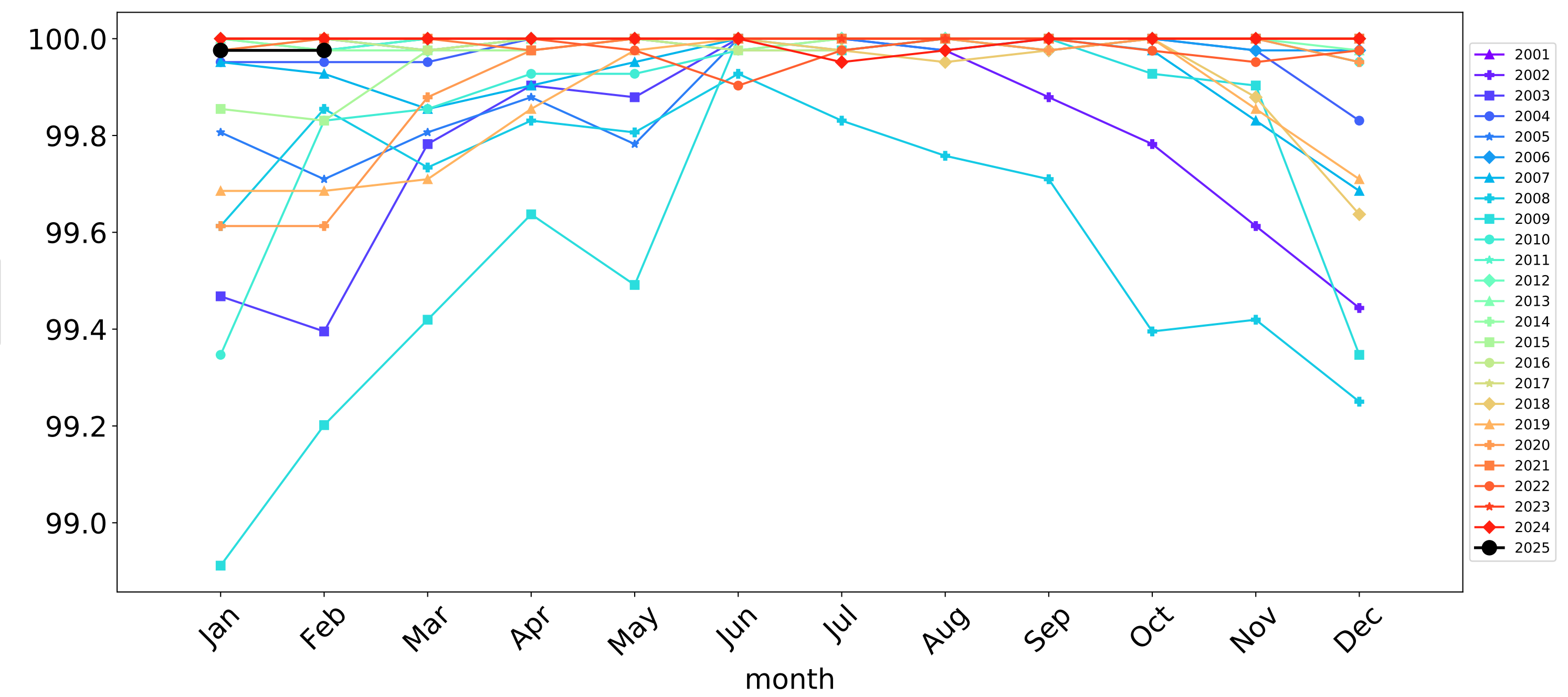


Grazing - Forest (non woodland) timeseries

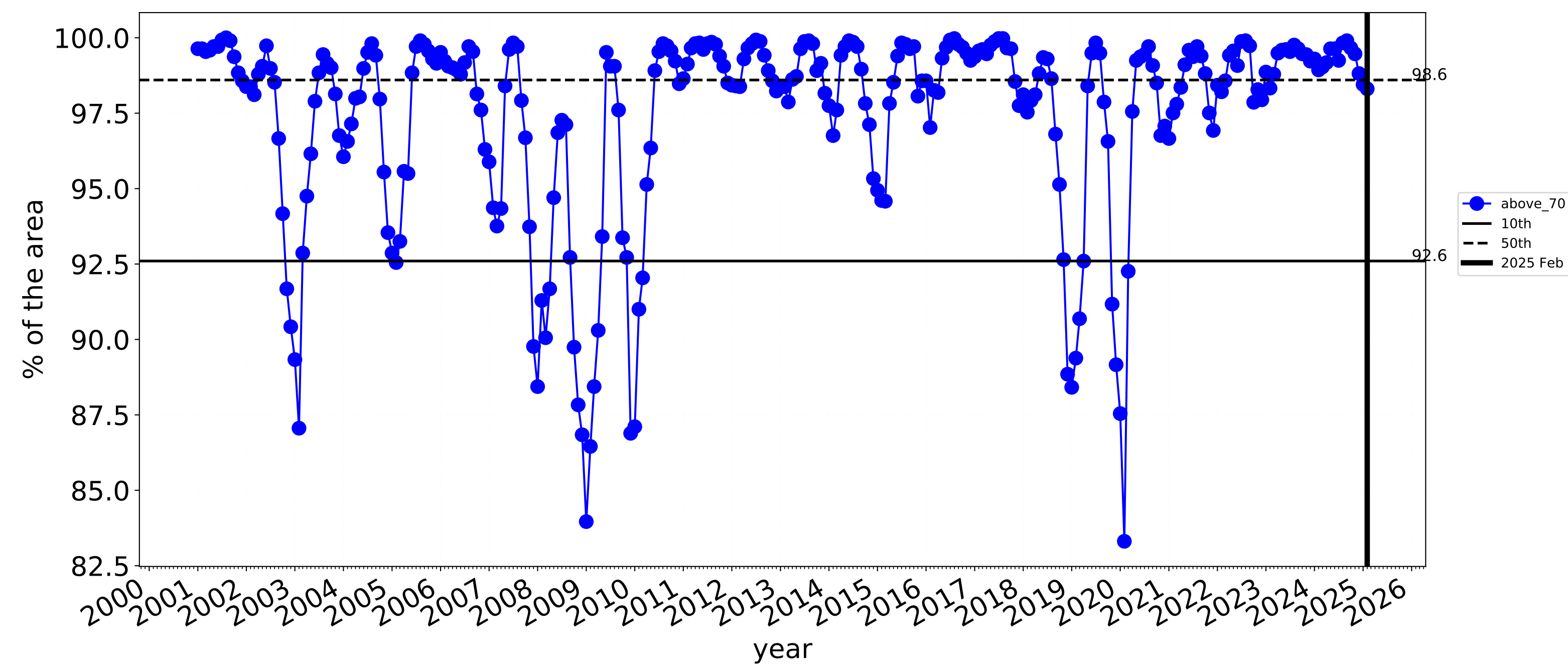
Proportion of the area protected from wind erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 50%)



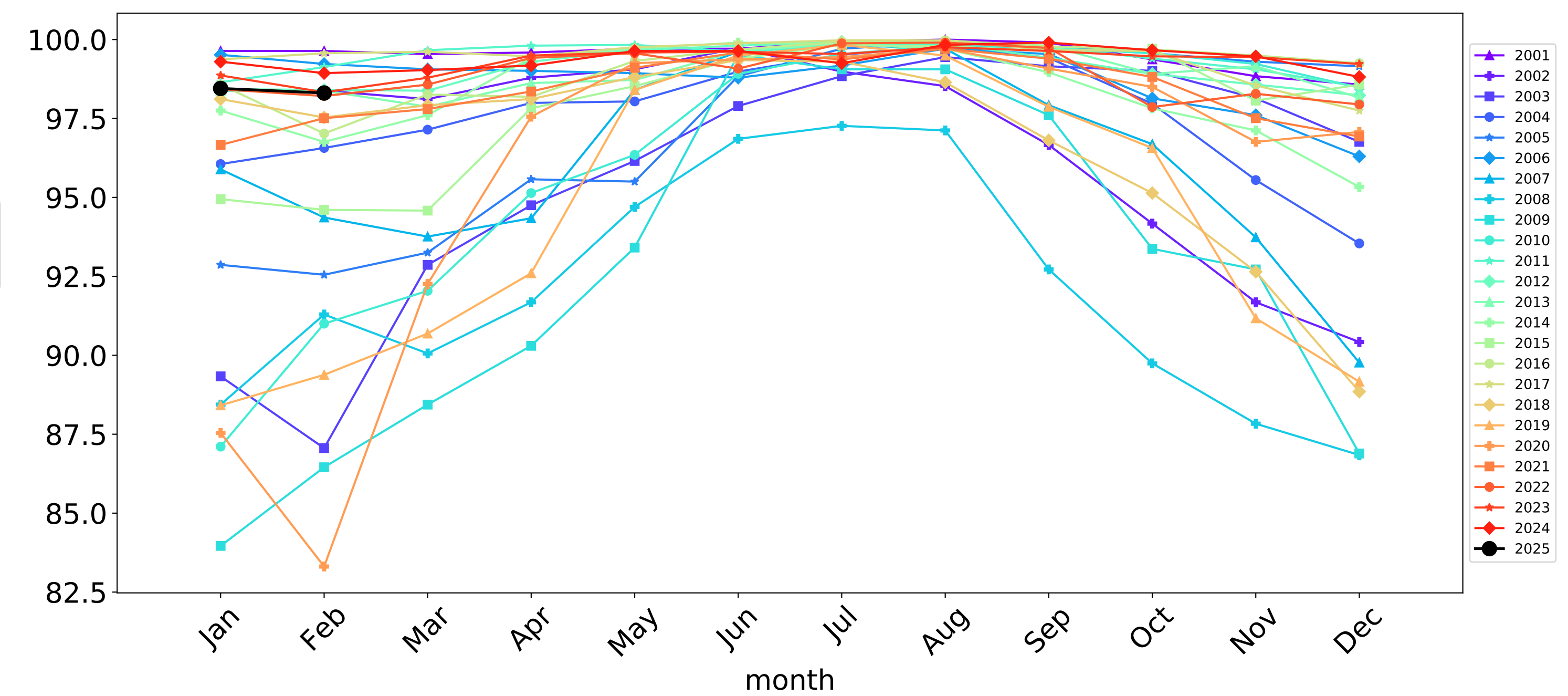
Wind erosion historical monthly area protected (Total Veg Cov >50%)



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



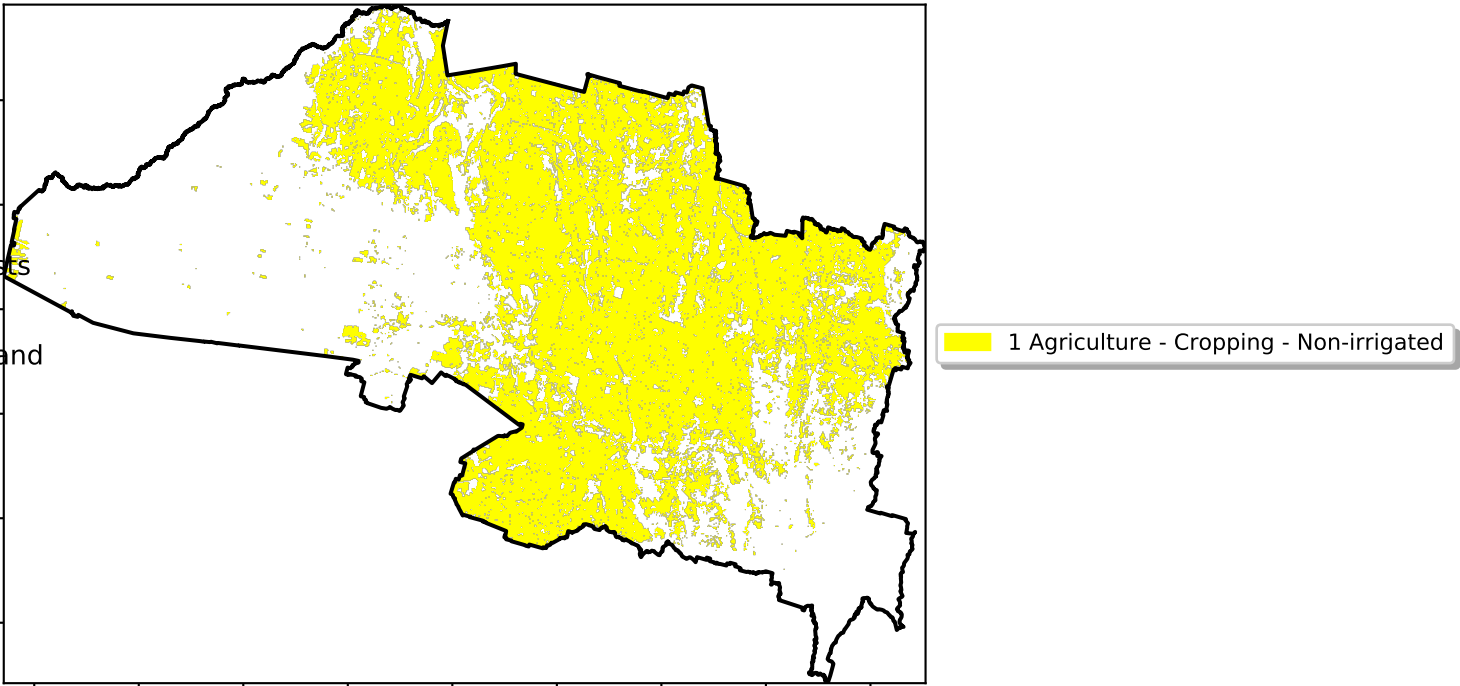
Water erosion historical monthly area protected (Total Veg Cov>70%)



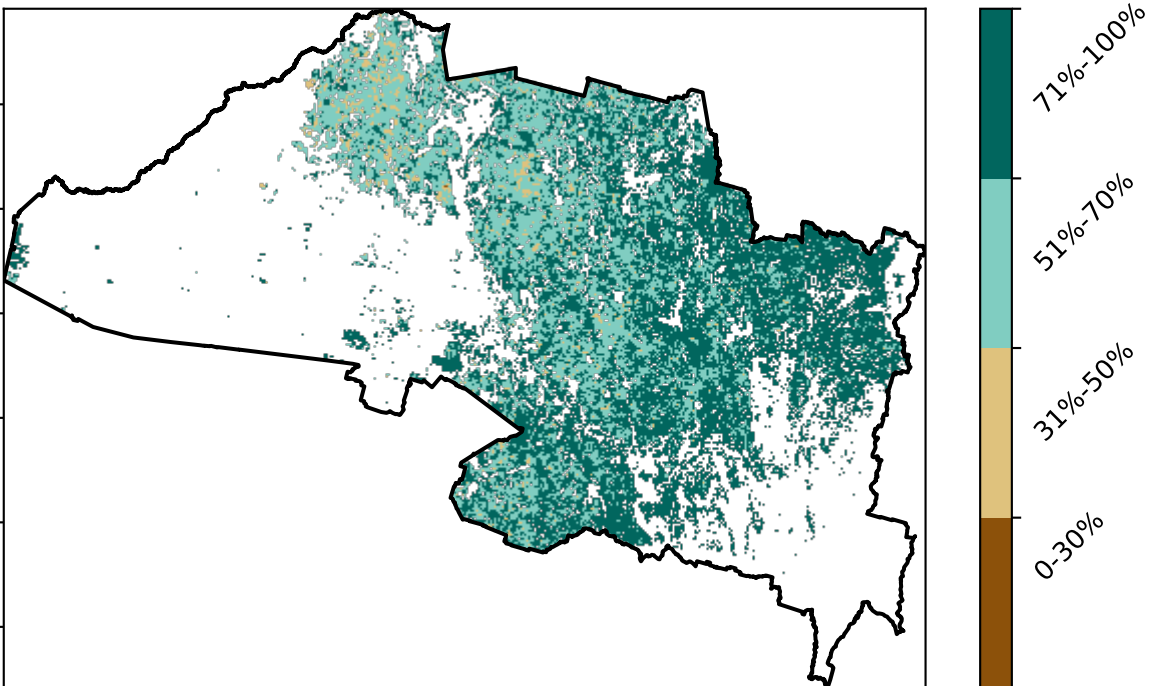
Cropping

Land use and forest cover

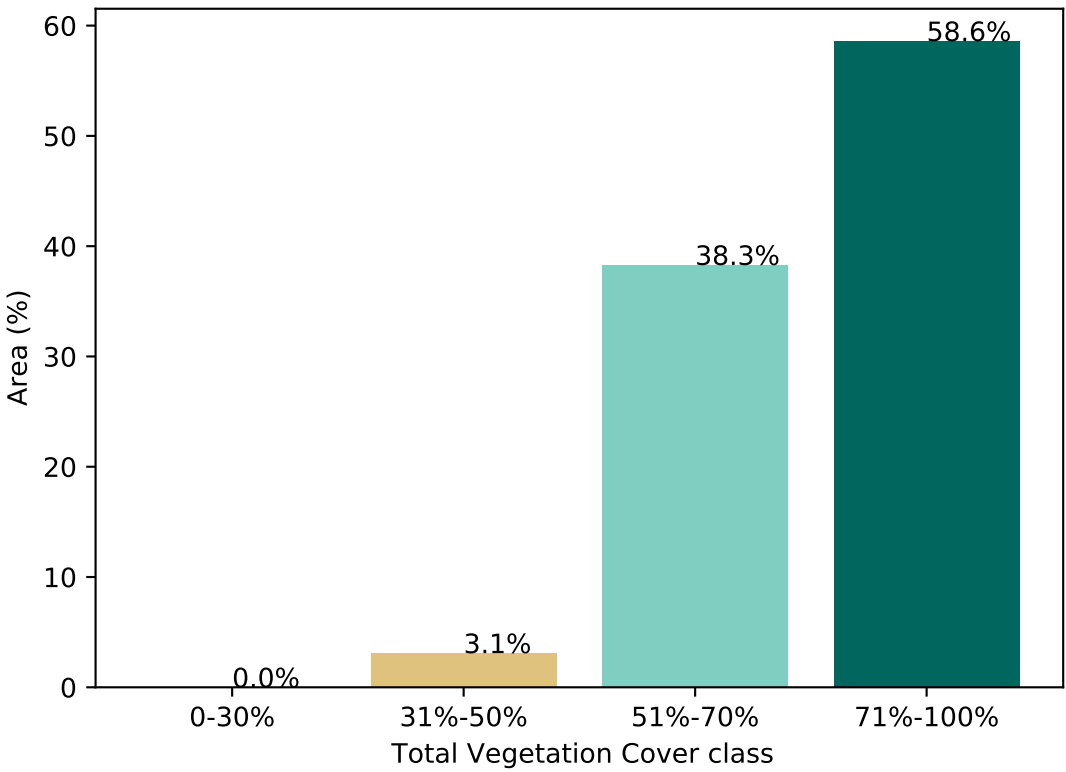
Catchment Scale Land Use and Forests of Australia (2018). Derived from Catchment Scale Land Use of Australia (2018) and Forests of Australia (2018)



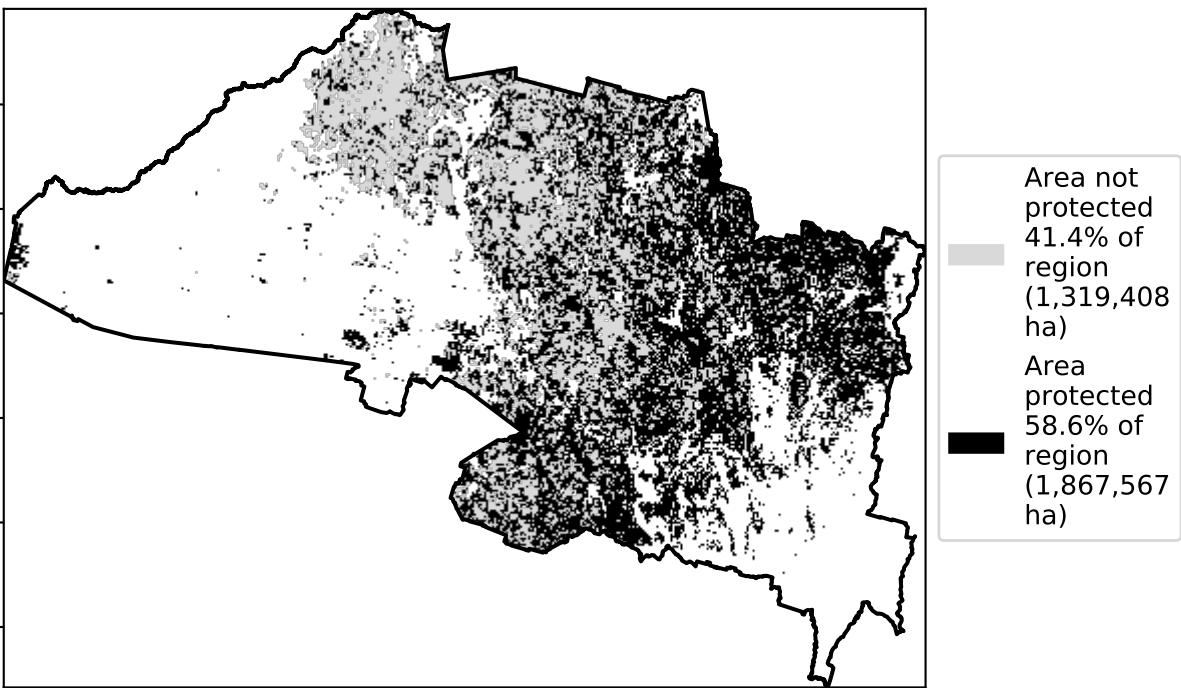
Total Vegetation Cover [%]



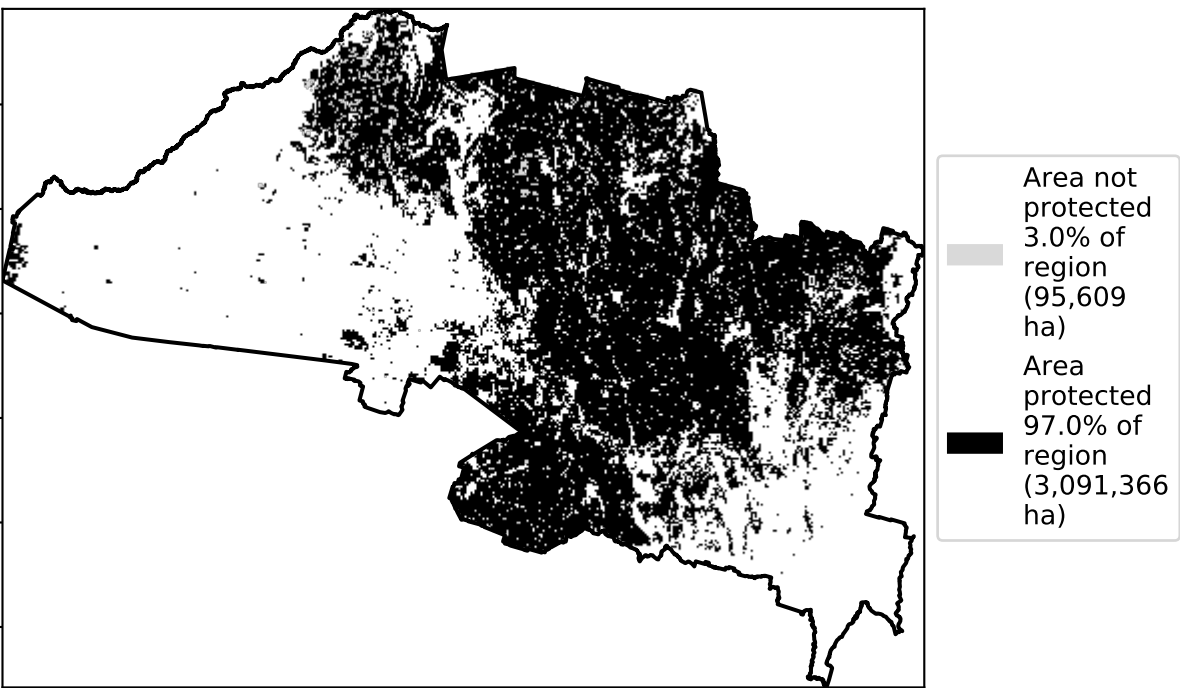
Proportion of vegetation cover class in area



% Area protected from water erosion (>70%)

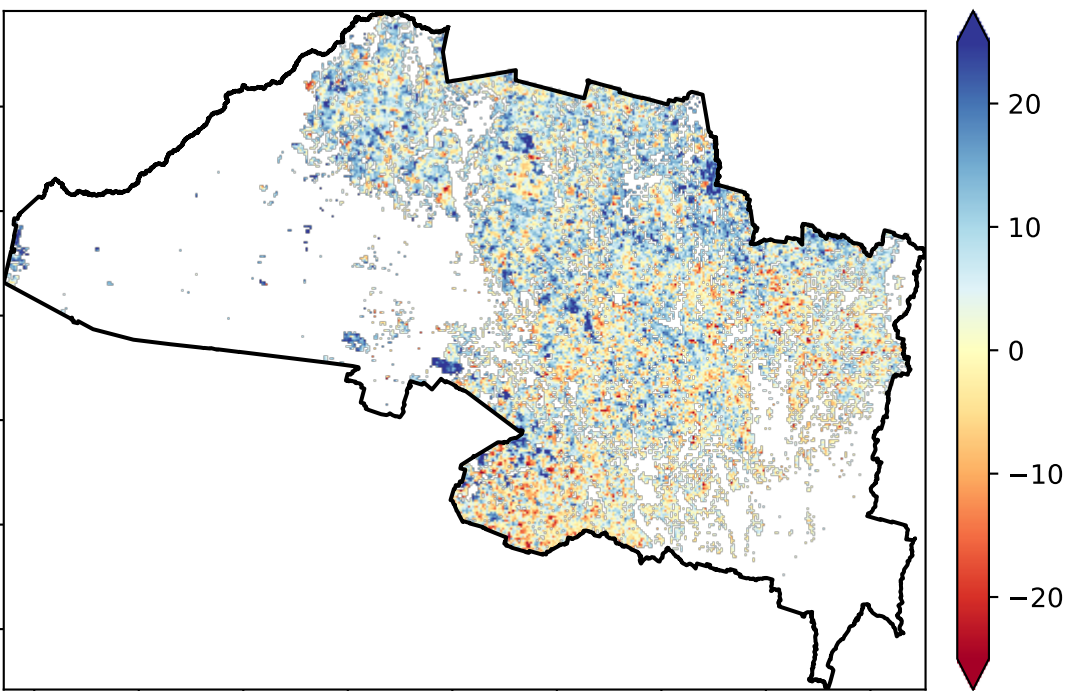


% Area protected from wind erosion (>50%)



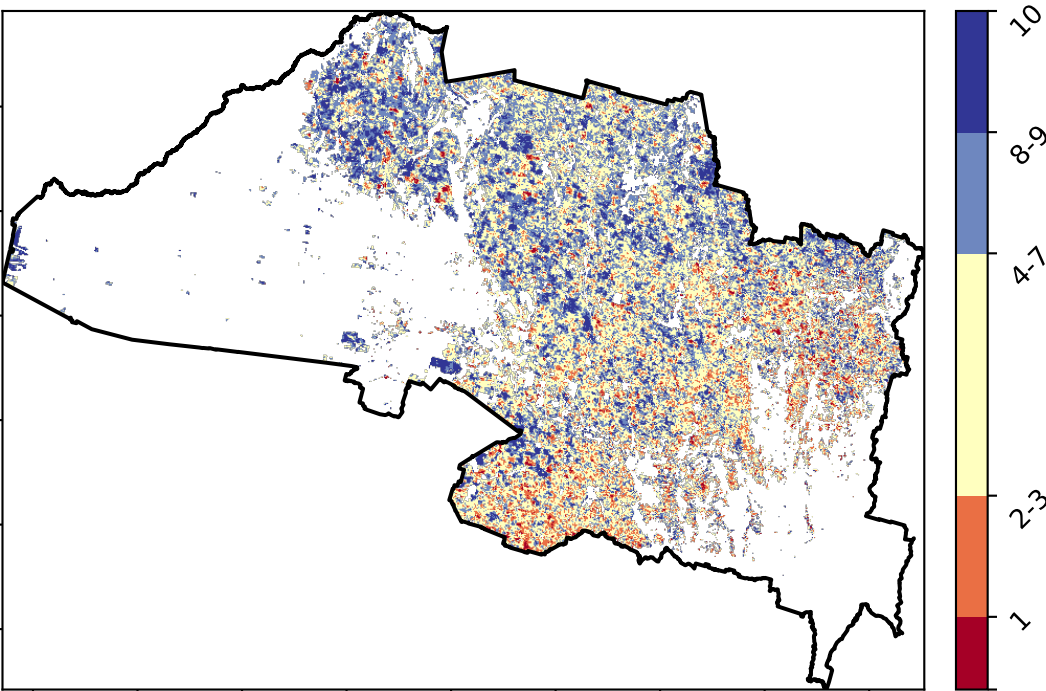
Total Vegetation Cover Anomaly [%]

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

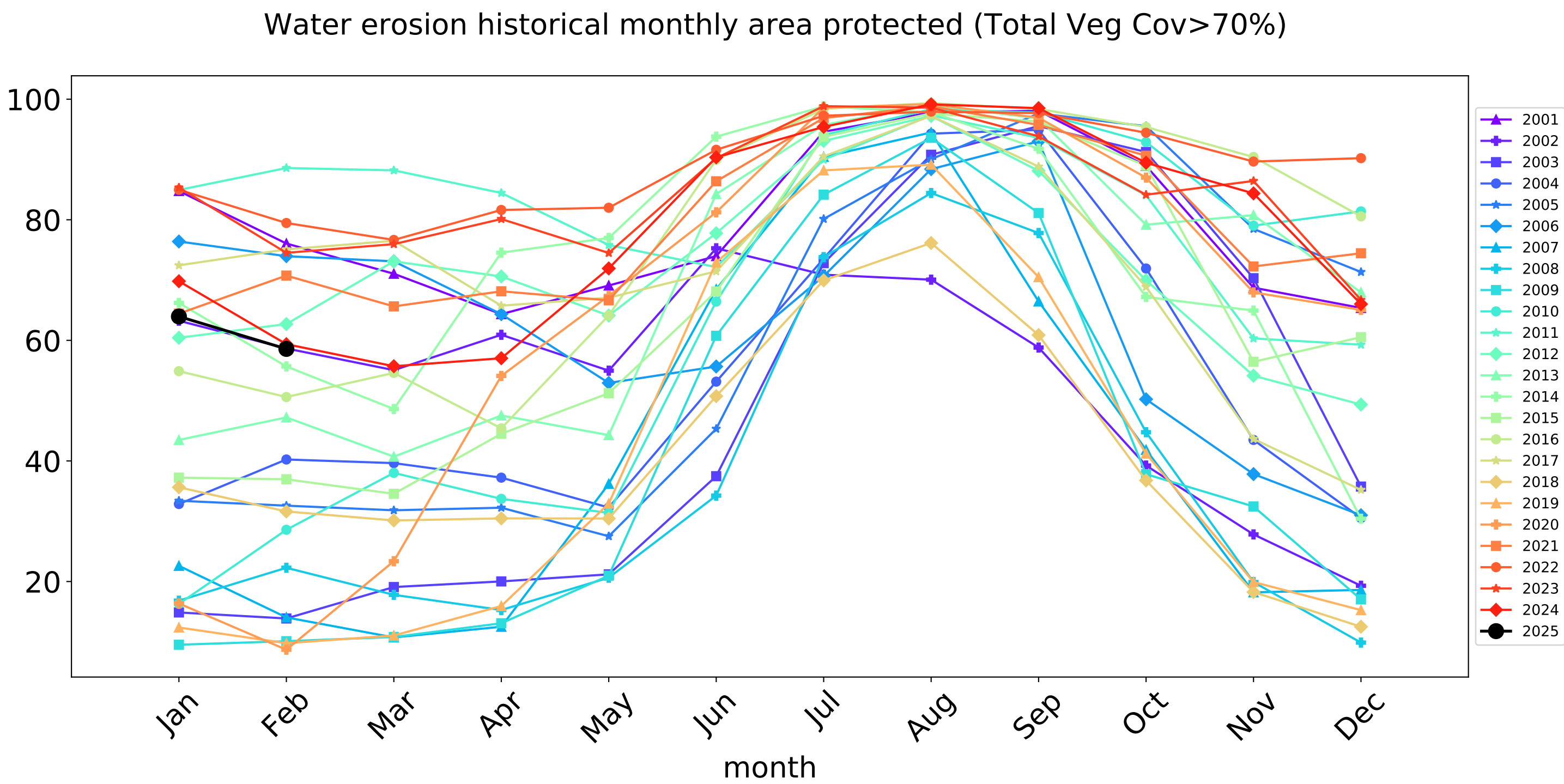
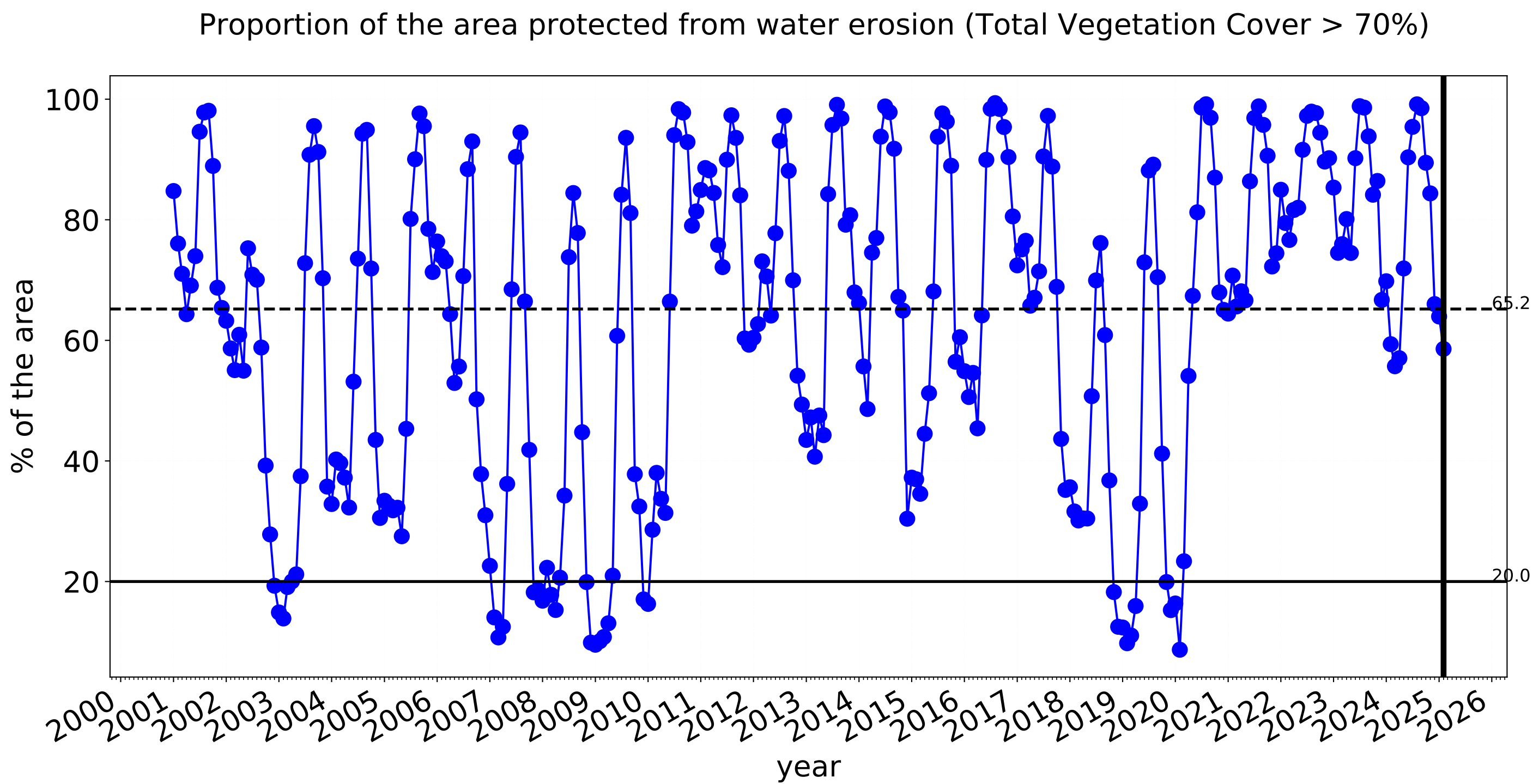
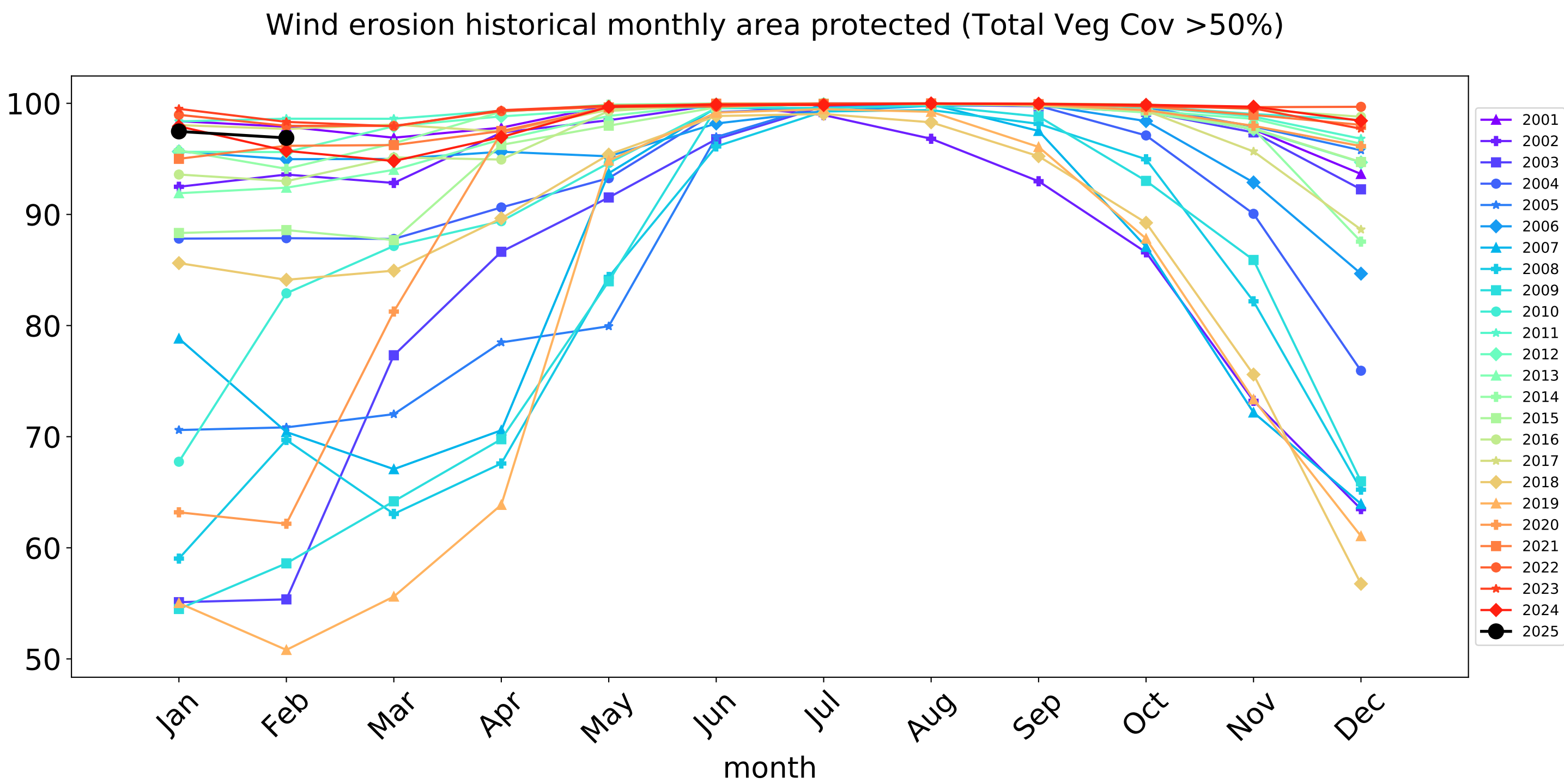
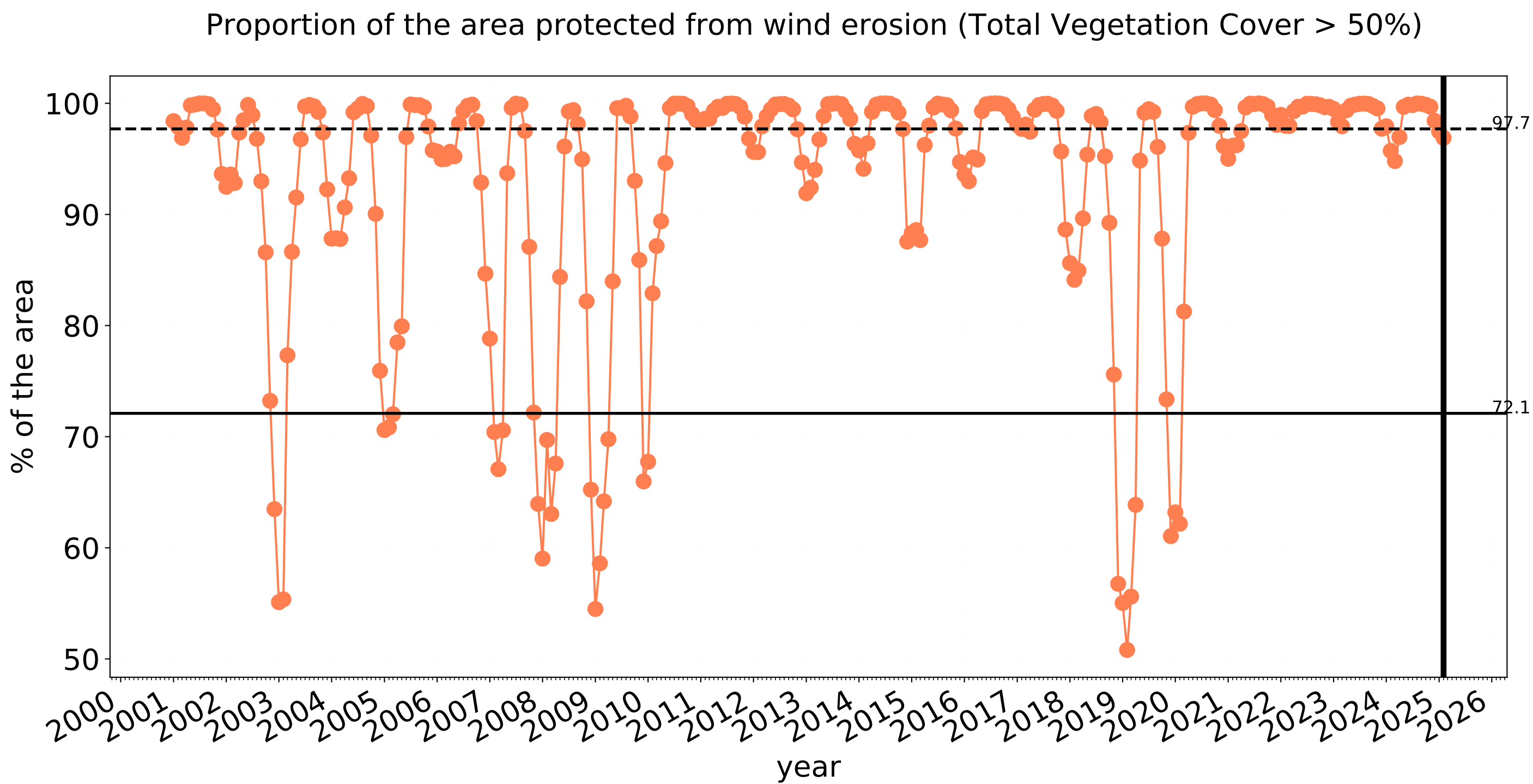


Deciles show where the pixel value lies in the record, from highest to lowest, for that month. That is, red pixels are in the lowest 10% of records for that month of the map using baseline from 2001 to 2019.

Total Vegetation Cover Decile [%]



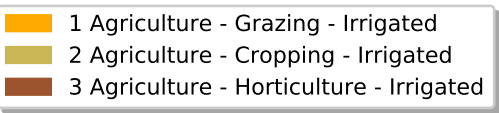
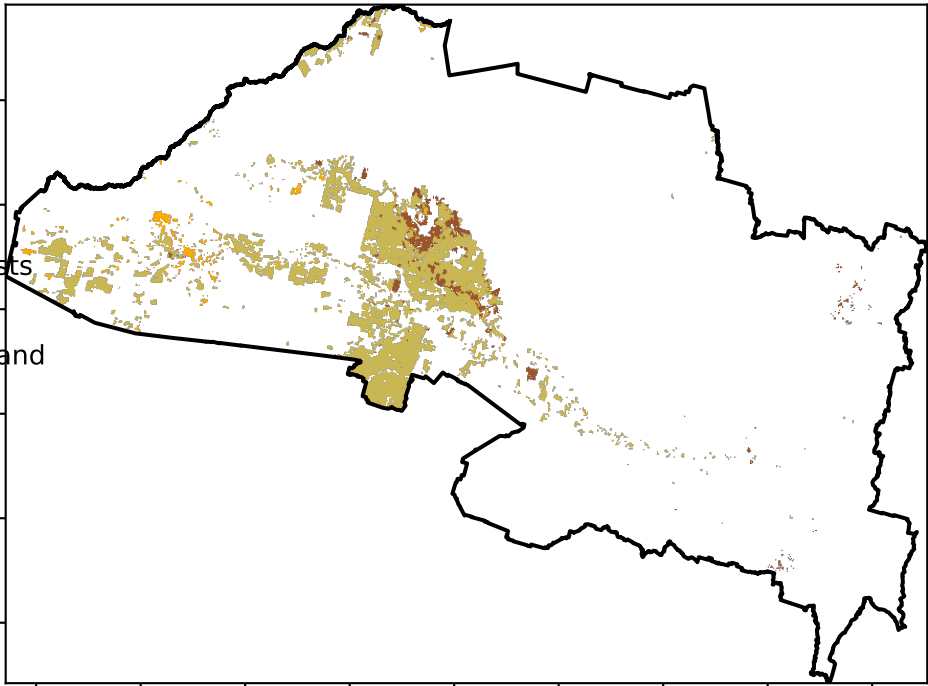
Cropping timeseries



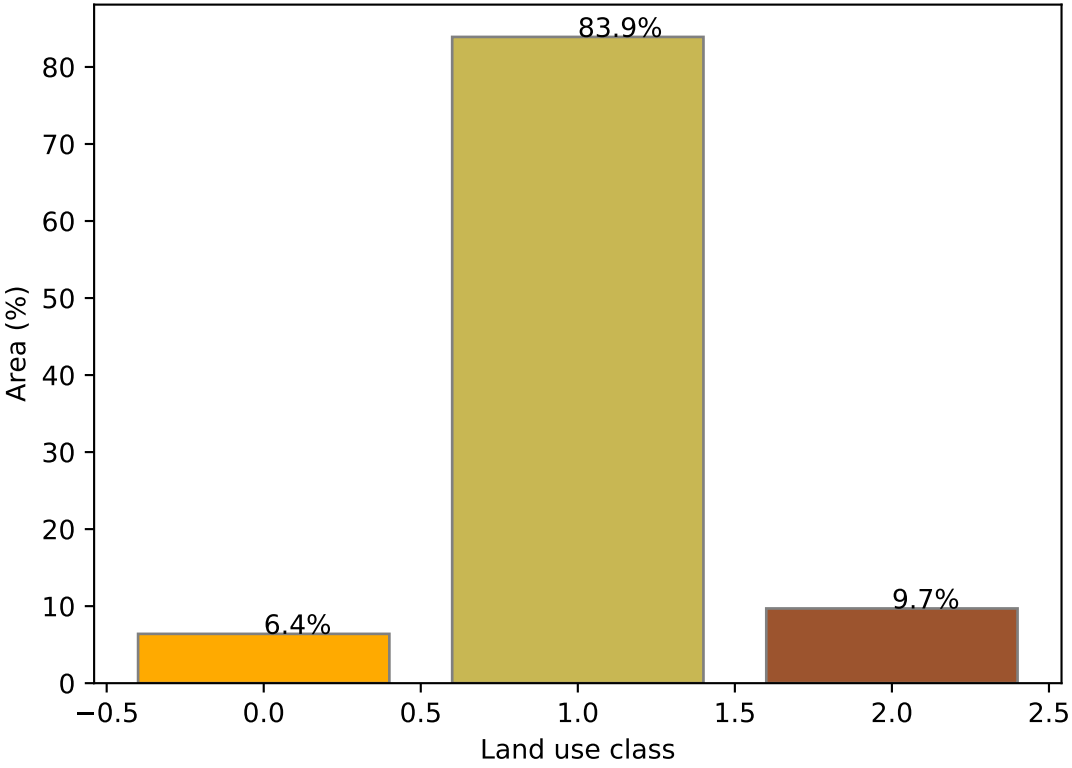
Irrigation

Land use and forest cover

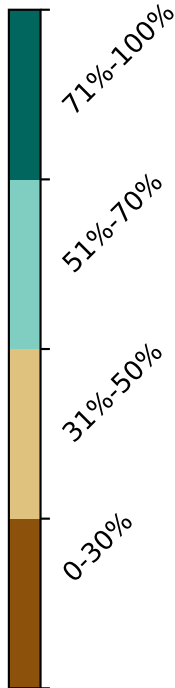
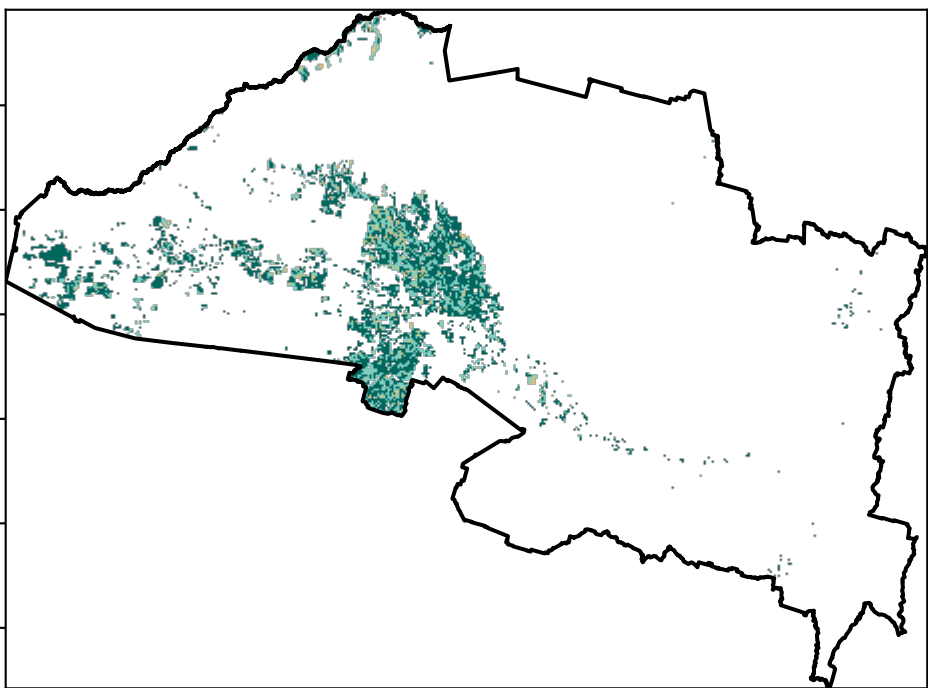
Catchment Scale Land Use and Forests of Australia (2018). Derived from Catchment Scale Land Use of Australia (2018) and Forests of Australia (2018)



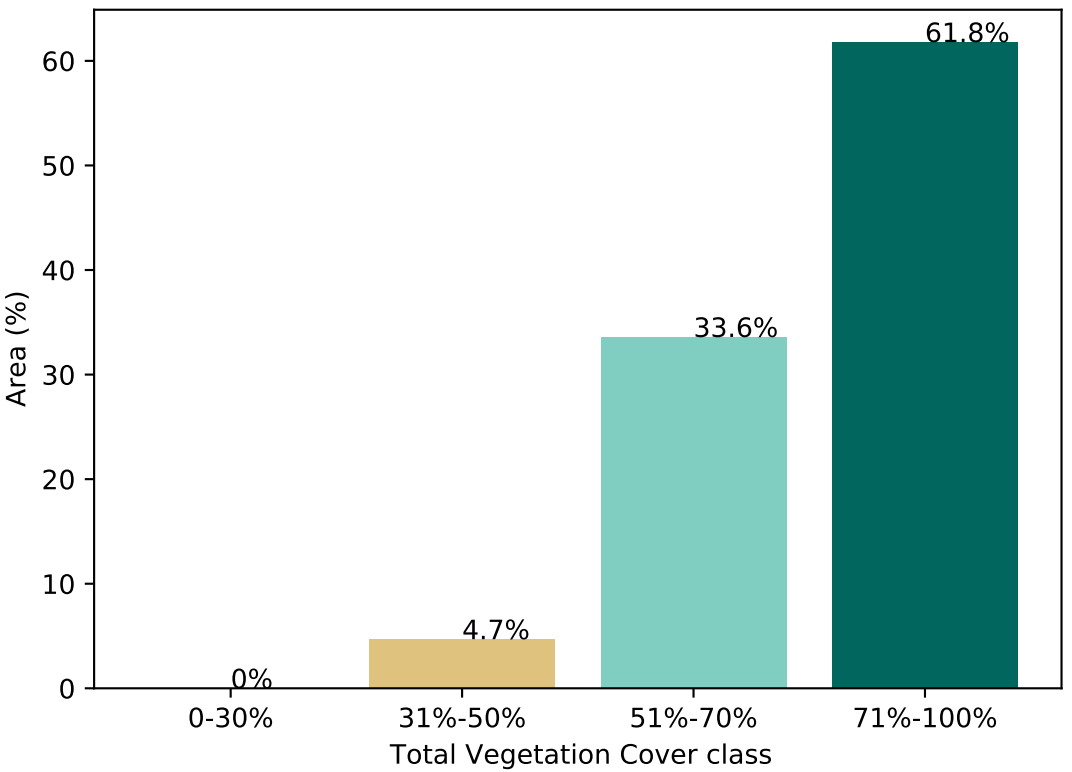
Proportion of each land class in area



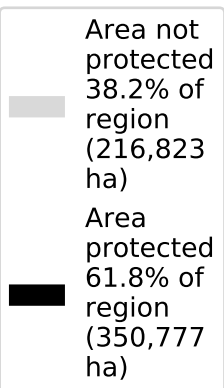
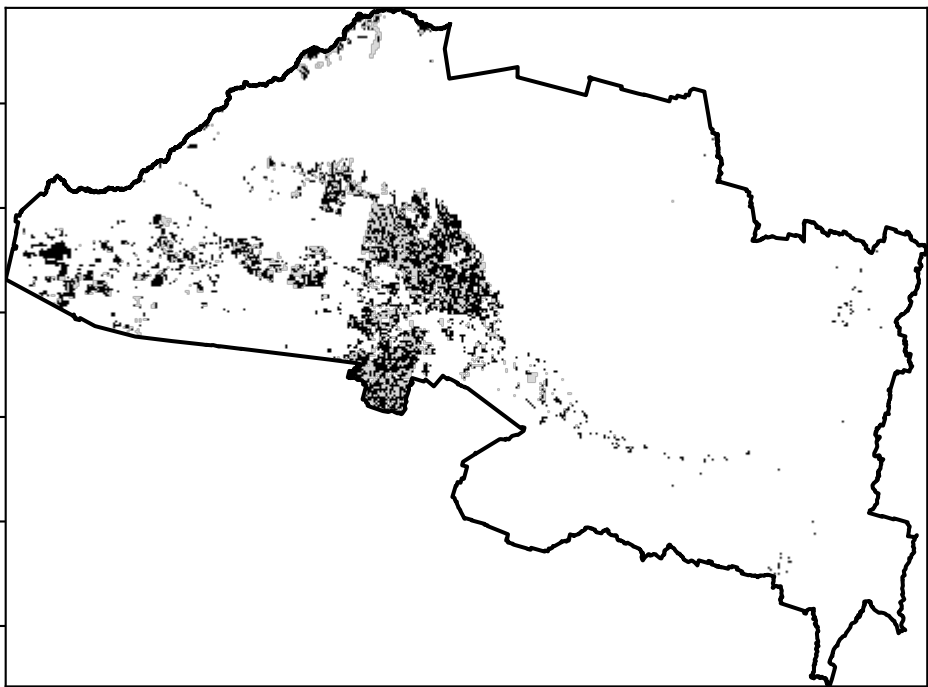
Total Vegetation Cover [%]



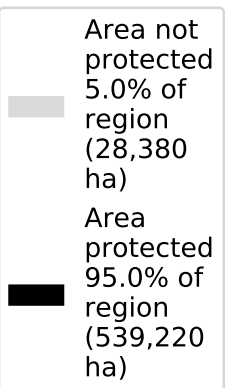
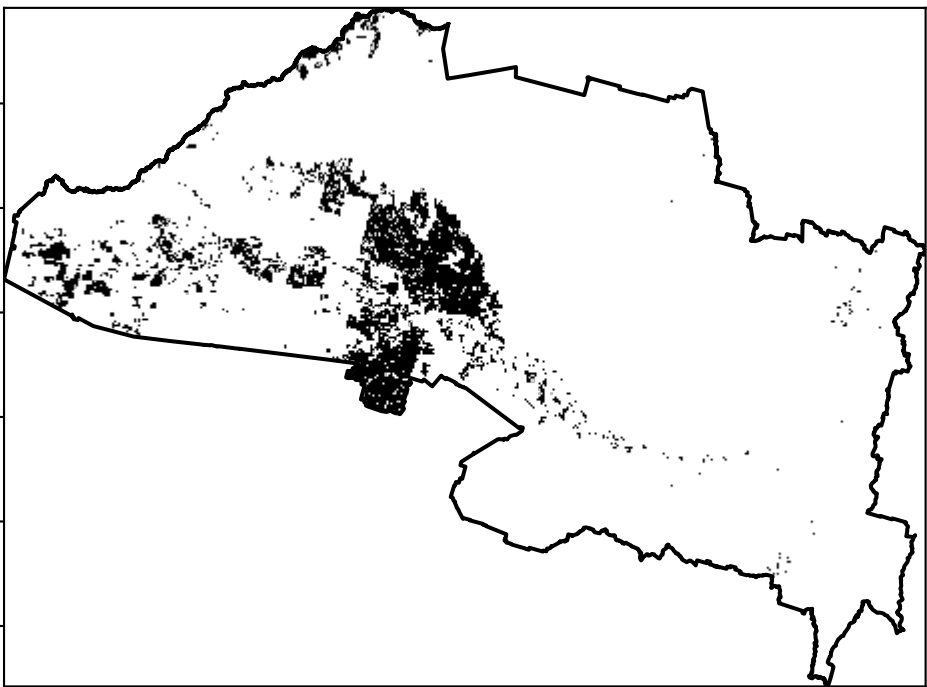
Proportion of vegetation cover class in area



% Area protected from water erosion (>70%)

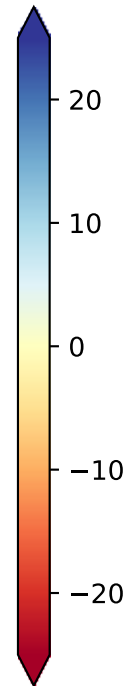
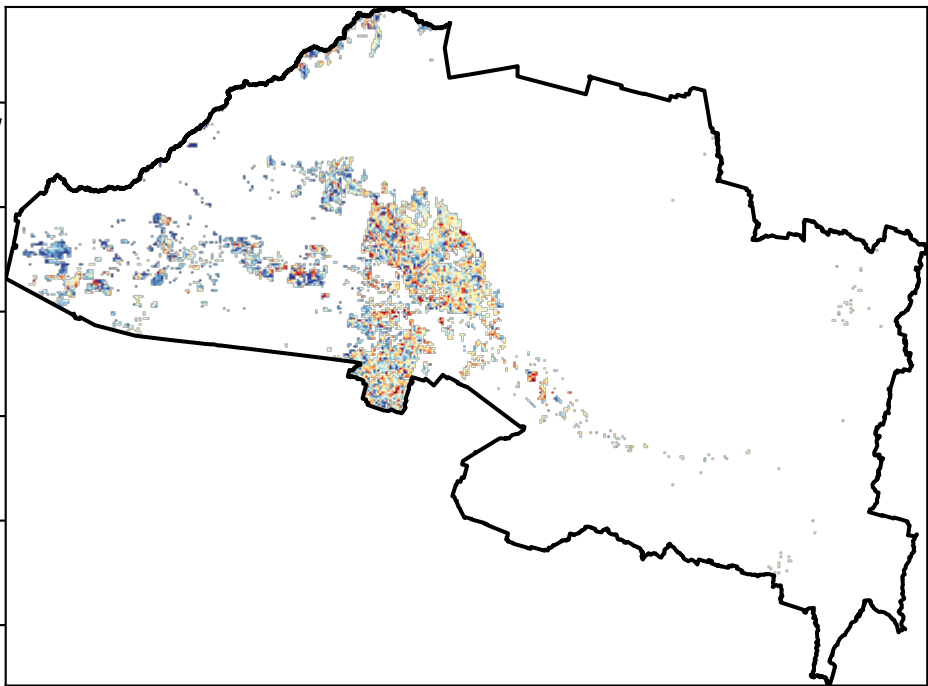


% Area protected from wind erosion (>50%)



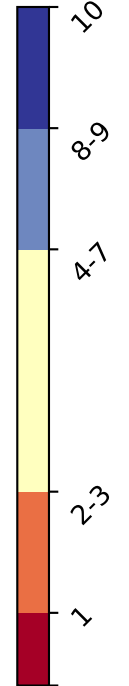
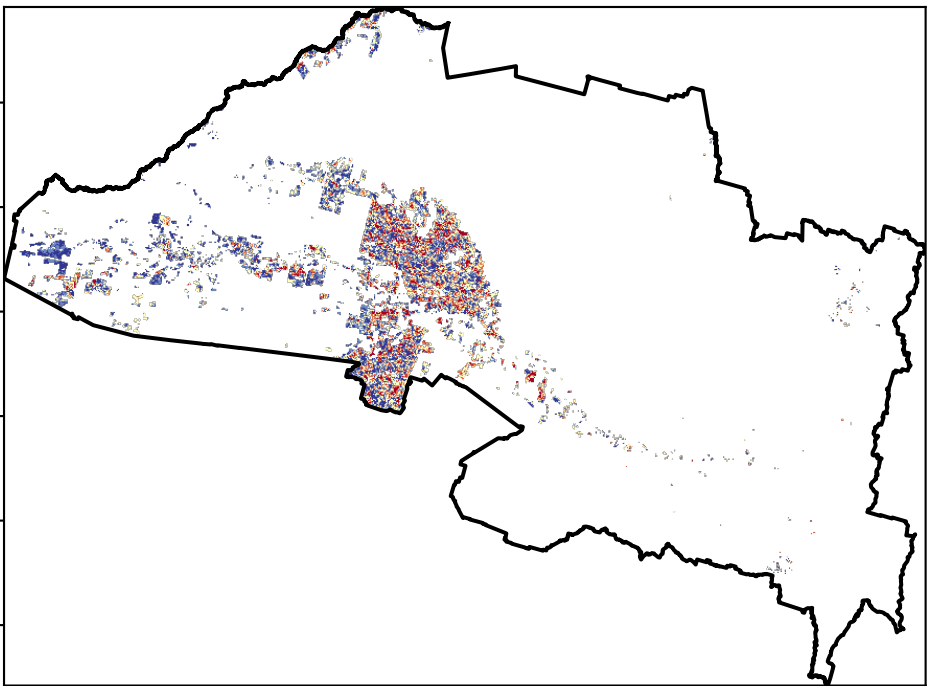
Total Vegetation Cover Anomaly [%]

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

Total Vegetation Cover Decile [%]



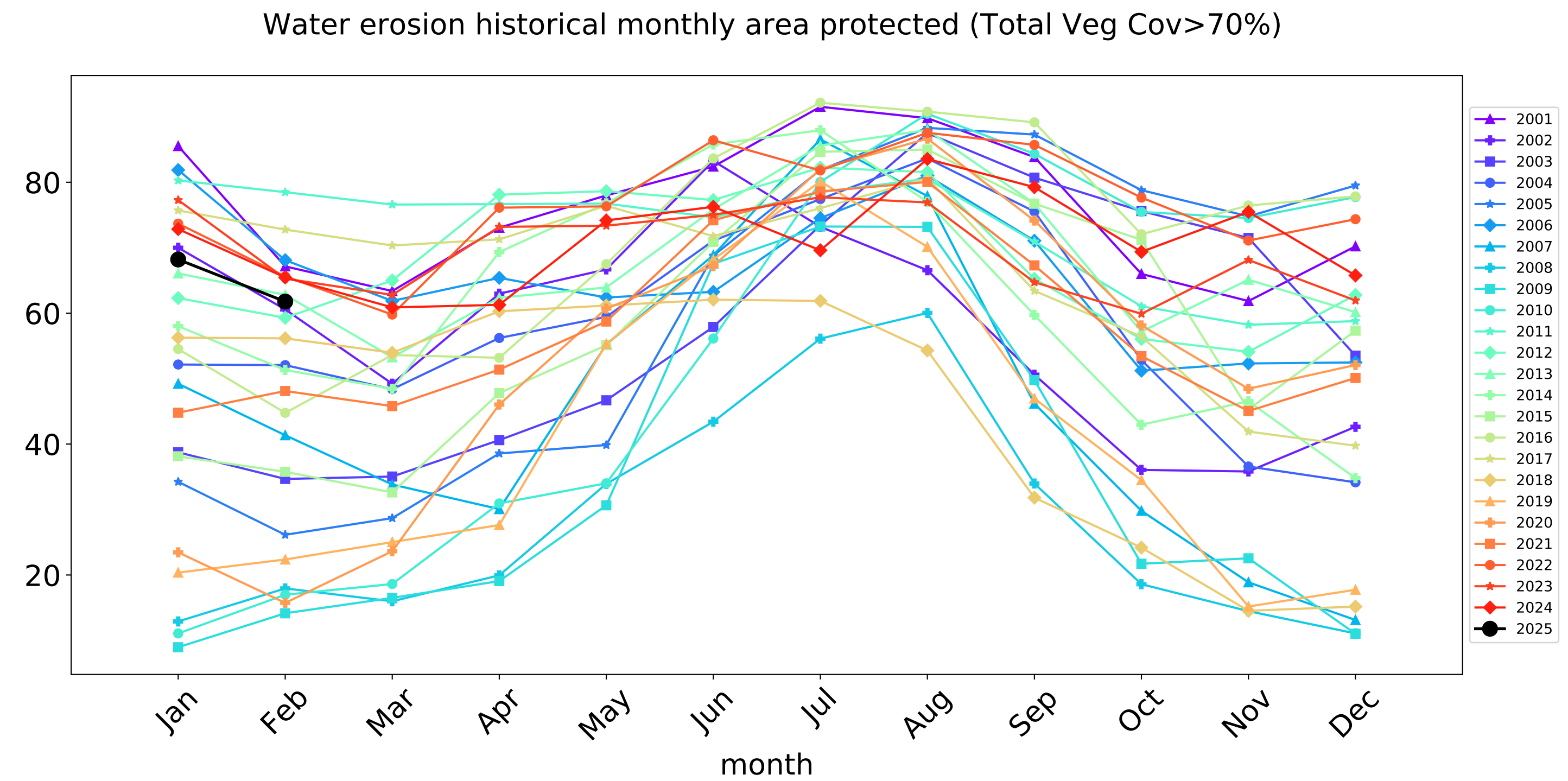
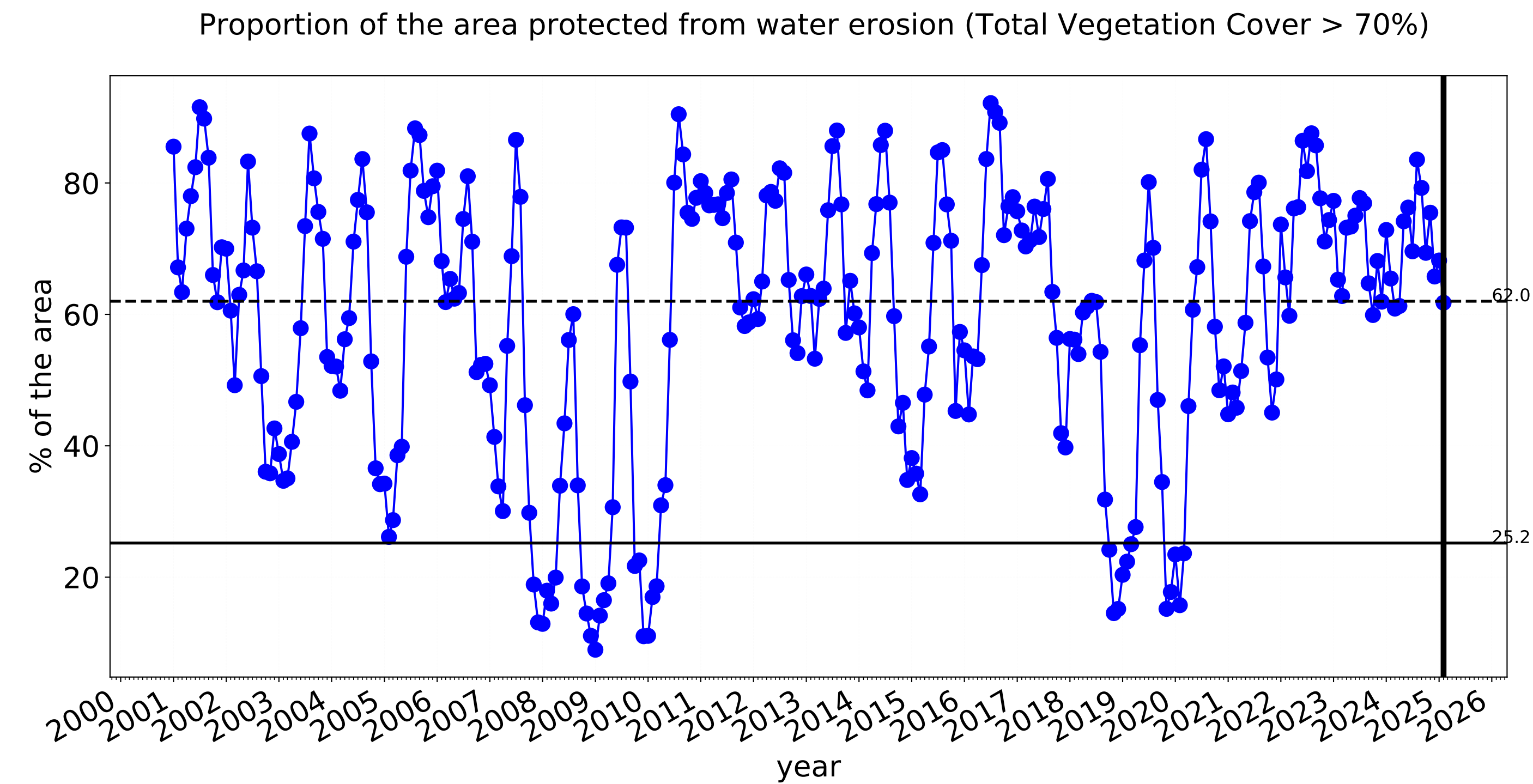
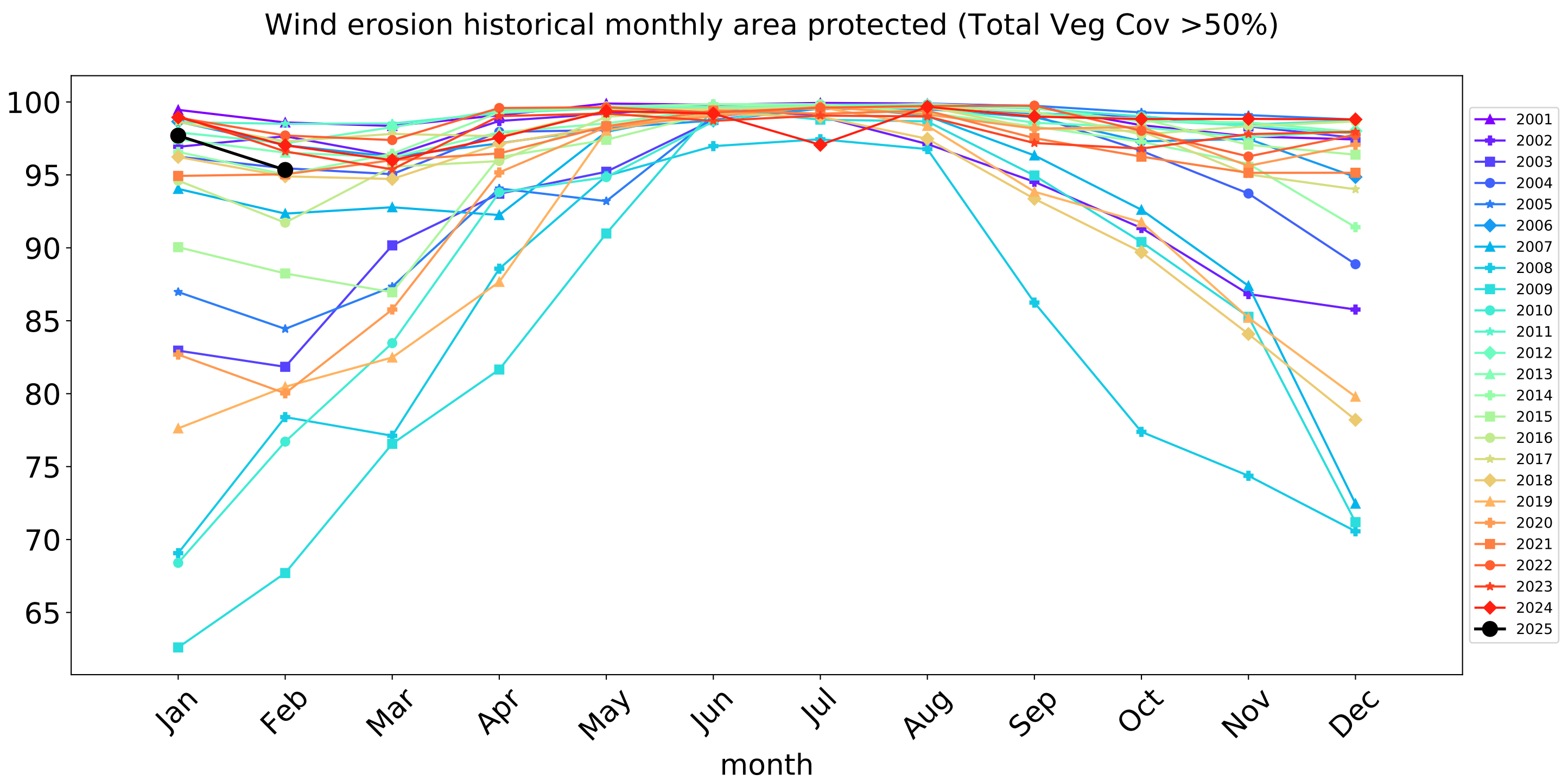
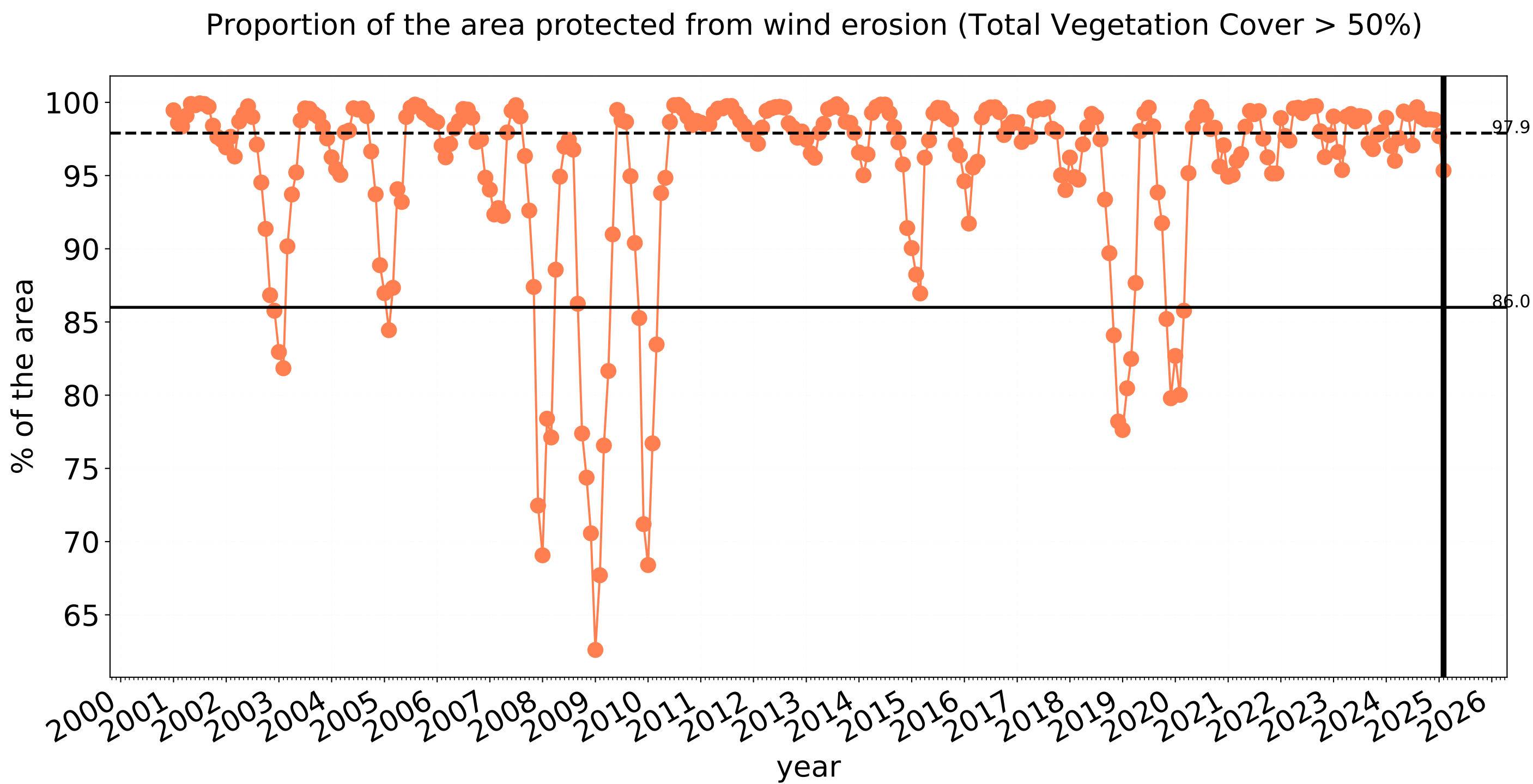
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Irrigation timeseries



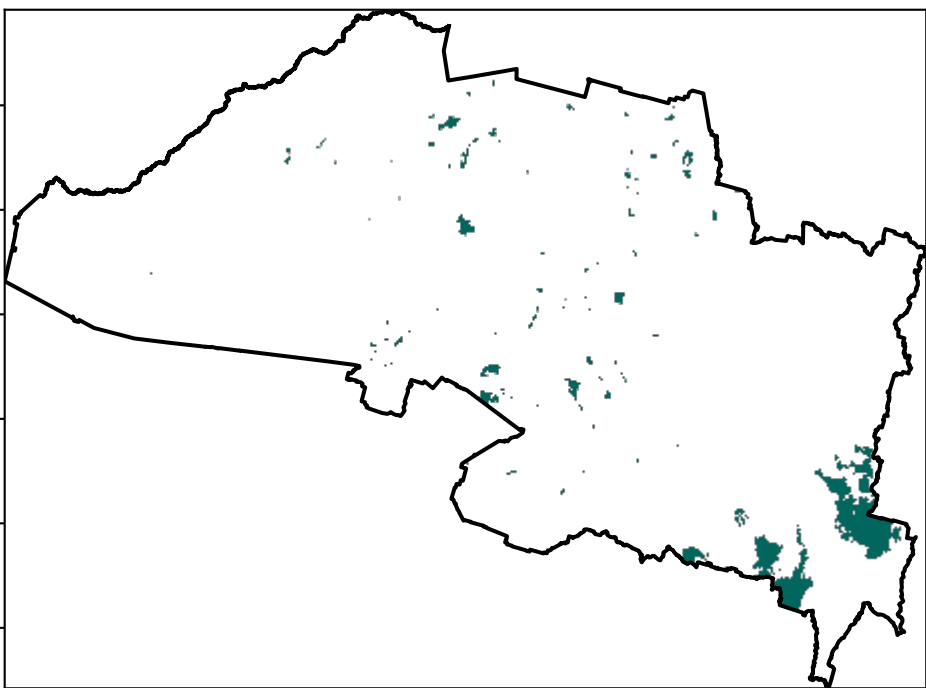
Production native forests and plantation forests

Land use and forest cover

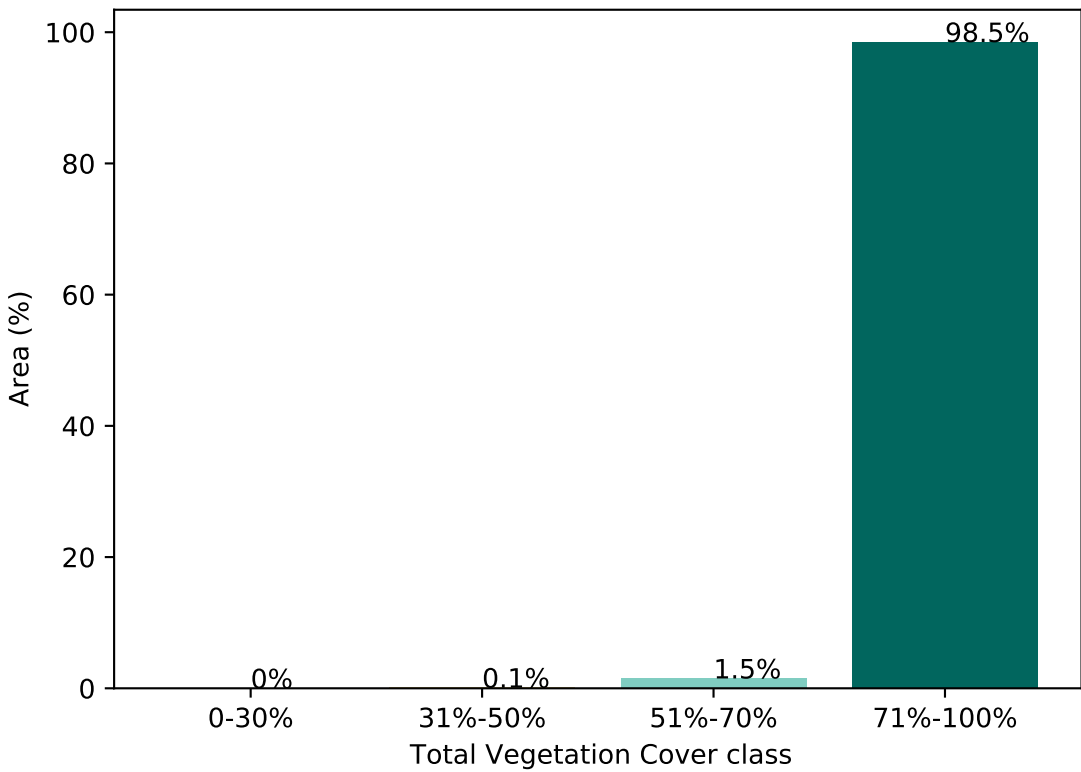
Catchment Scale Land Use and Forests of Australia (2018). Derived from Catchment Scale Land Use of Australia (2018) and Forests of Australia (2018)



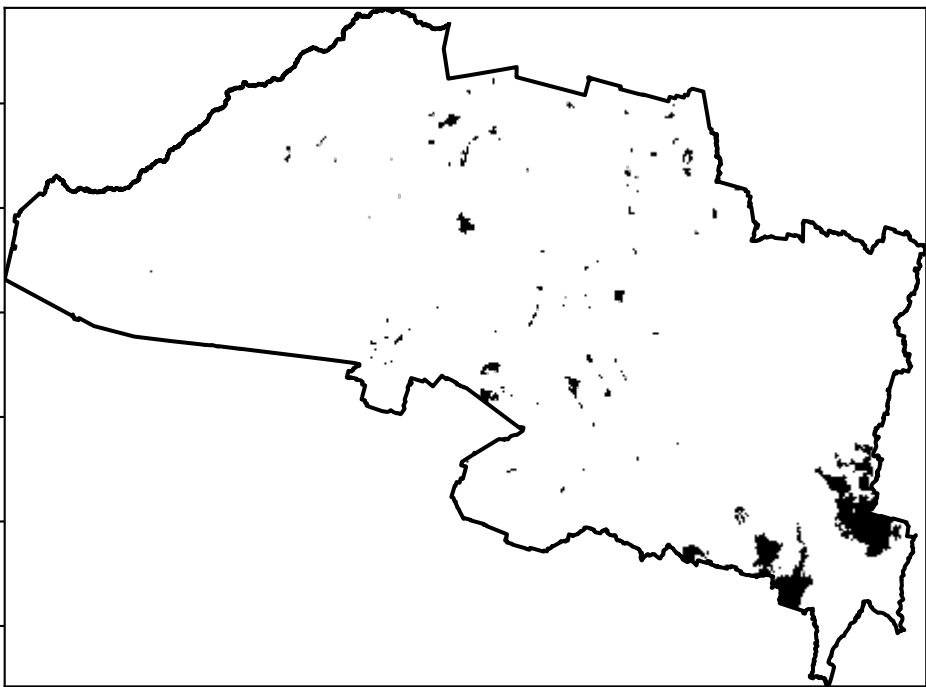
Total Vegetation Cover [%]



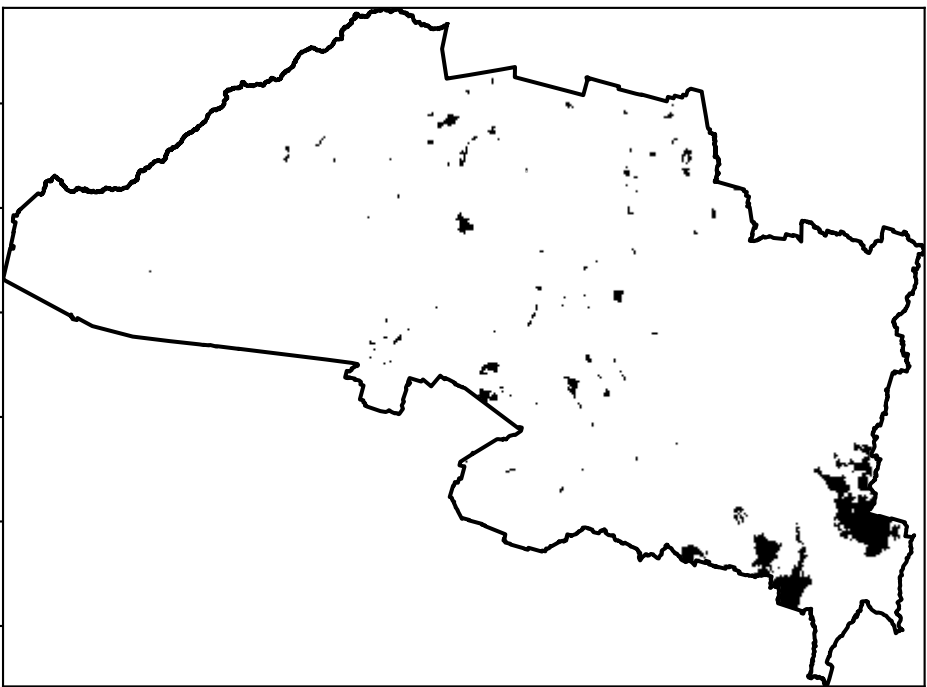
Proportion of vegetation cover class in area



% Area protected from water erosion (>70%)

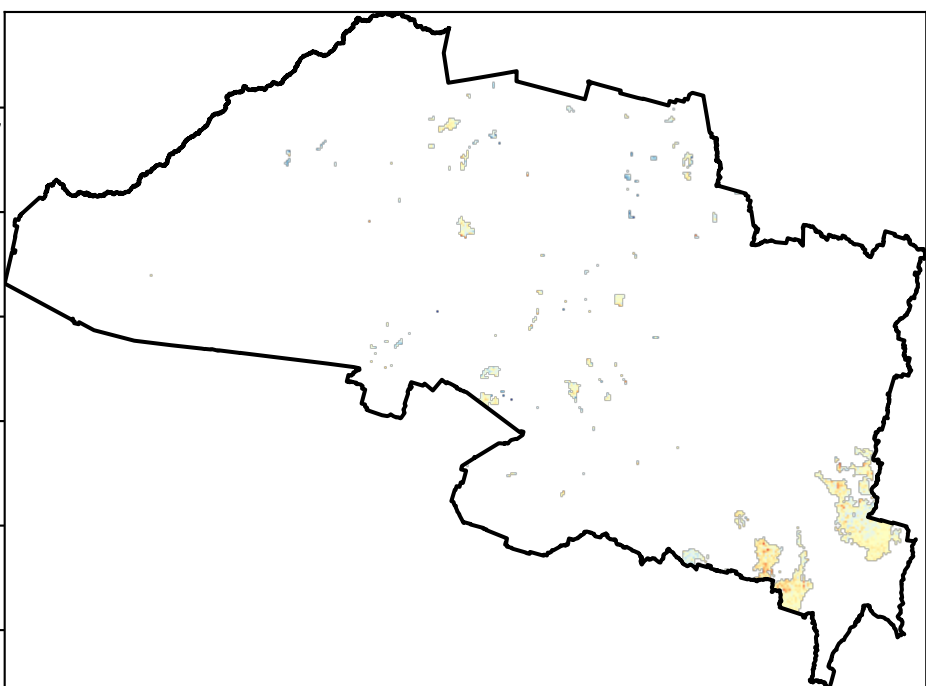


% Area protected from wind erosion (>50%)



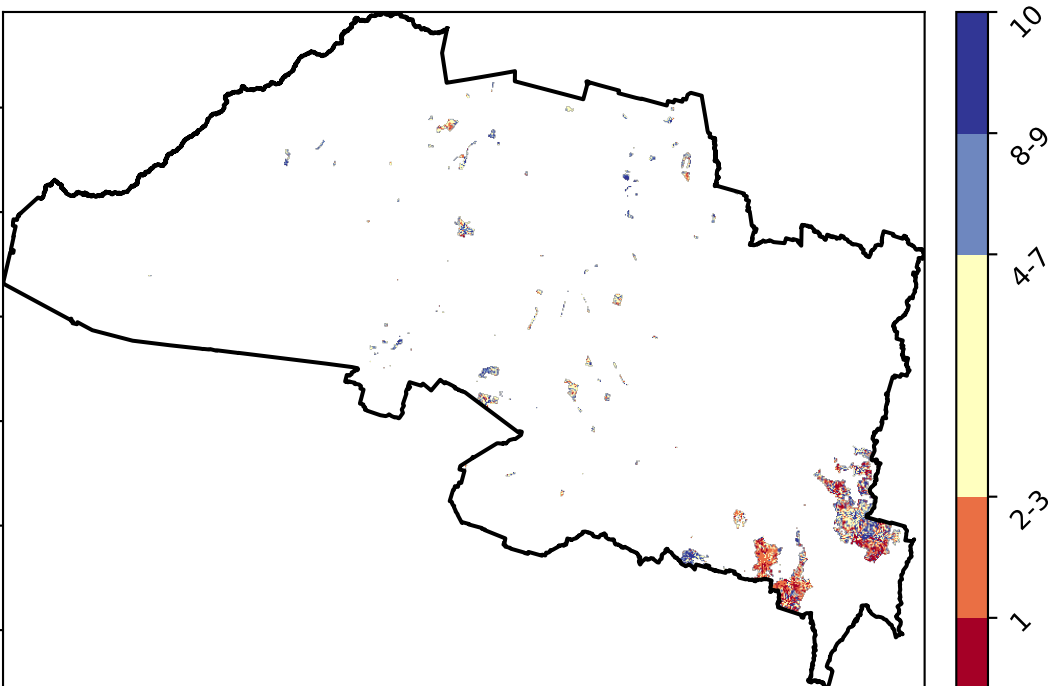
Total Vegetation Cover Anomaly [%]

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



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

Total Vegetation Cover Decile [%]



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Ecosystem Research Infrastructure



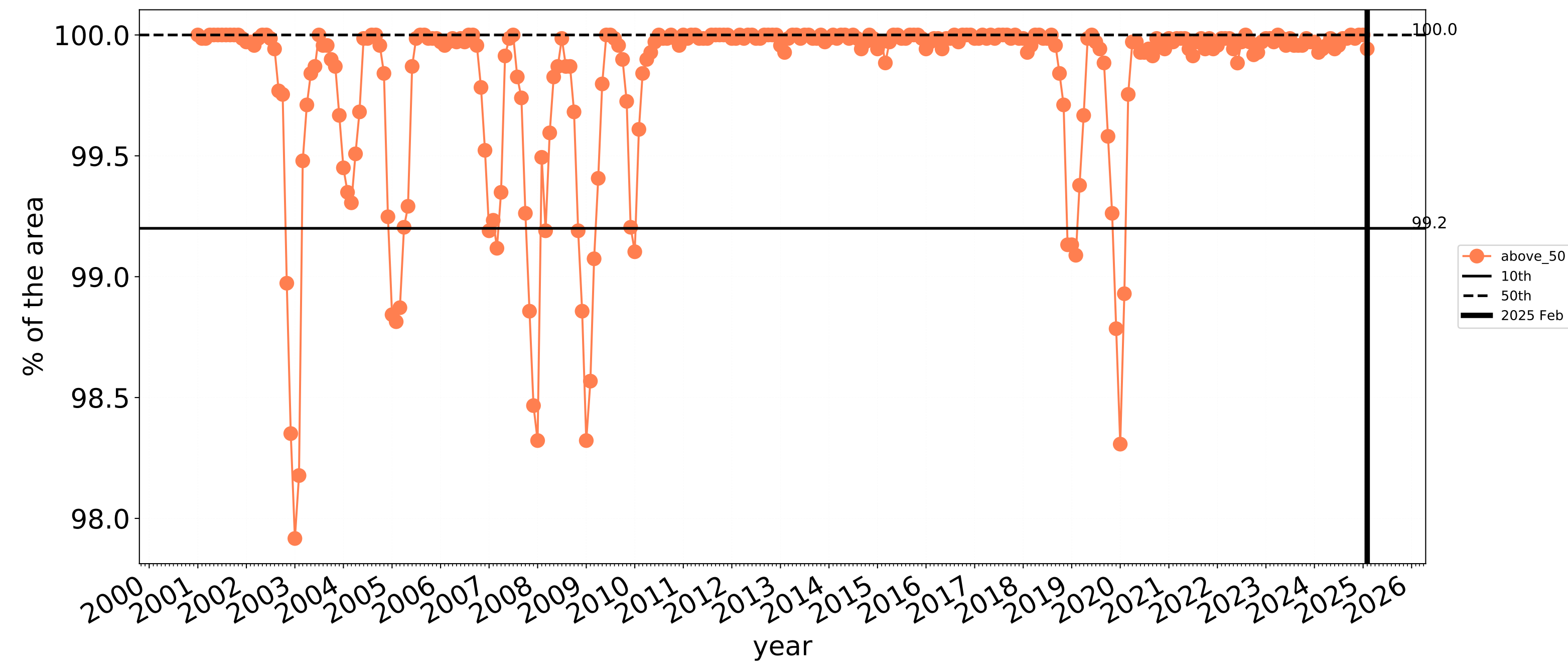
Australian Government

National Landcare Programme

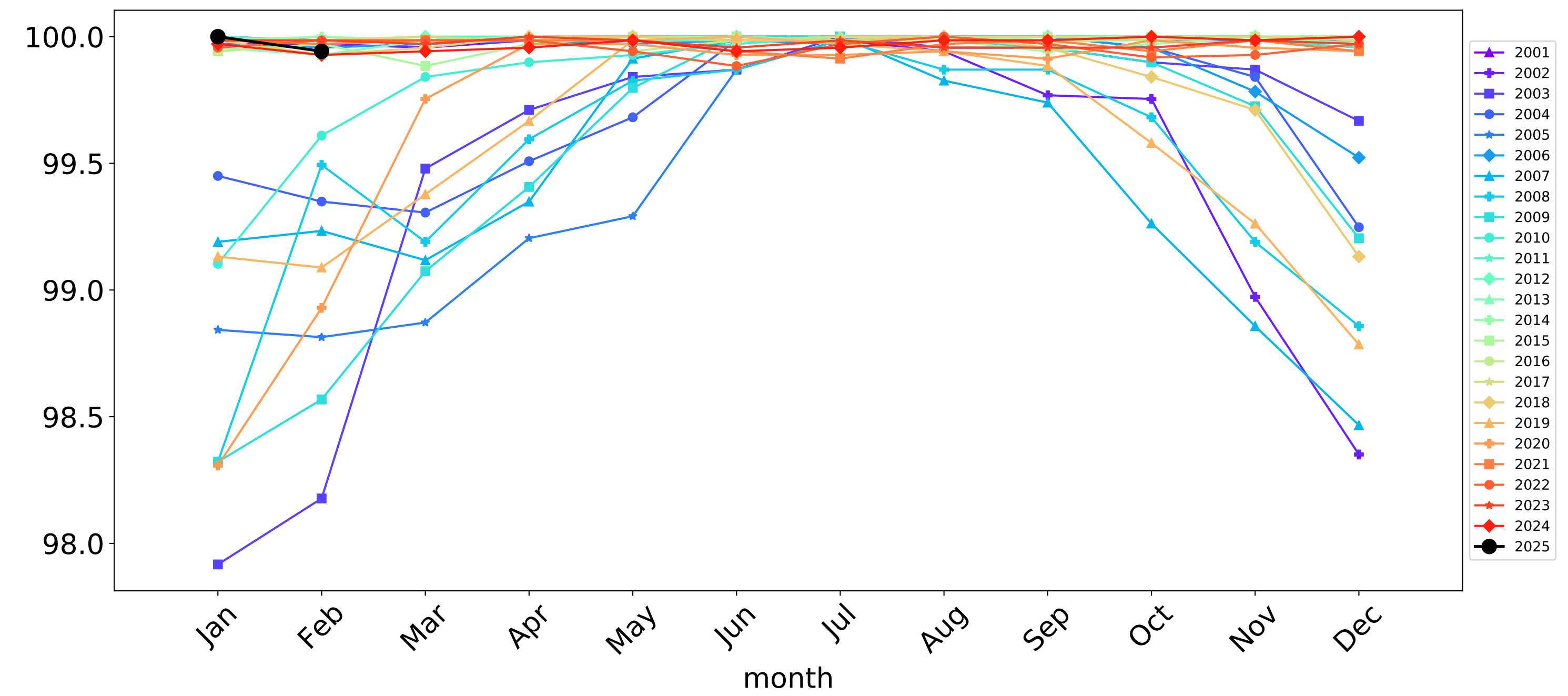


Production native forests and plantation forests timeseries

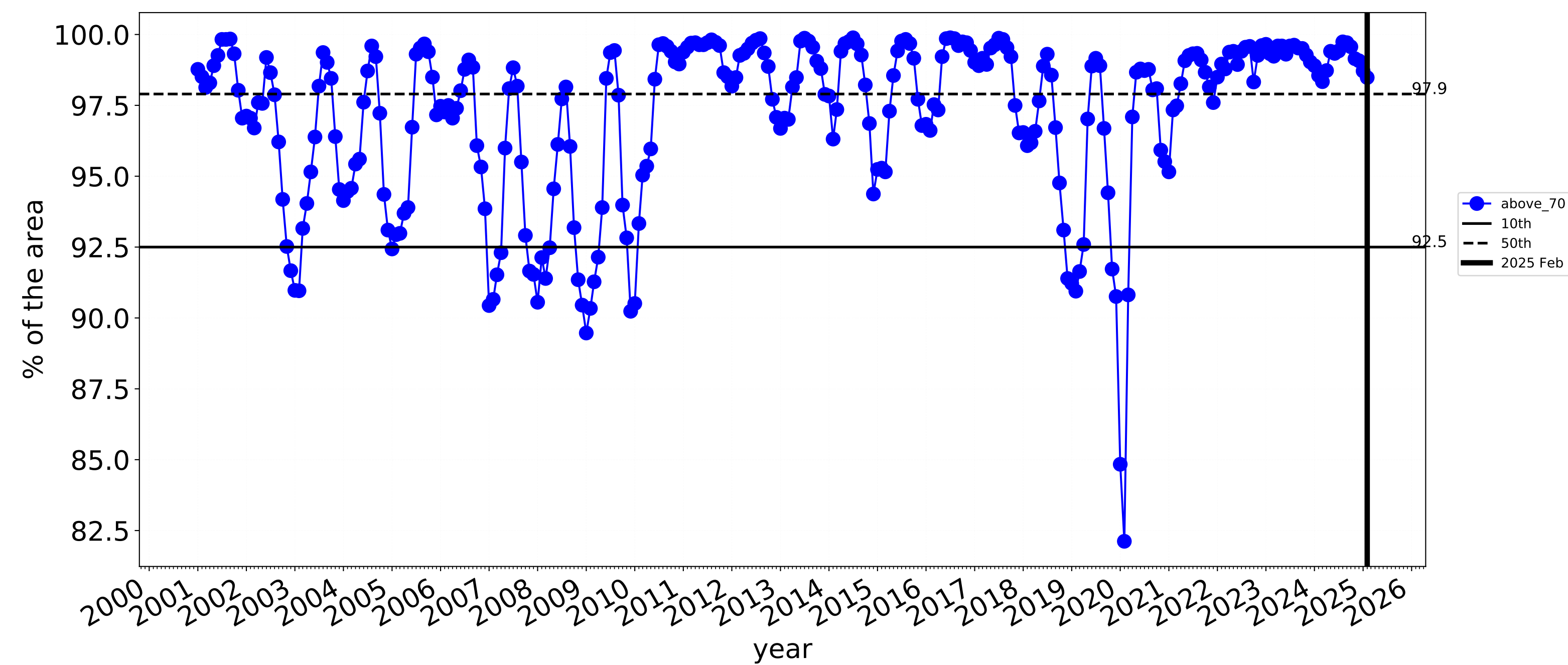
Proportion of the area protected from wind erosion (Total Vegetation Cover > 50%)



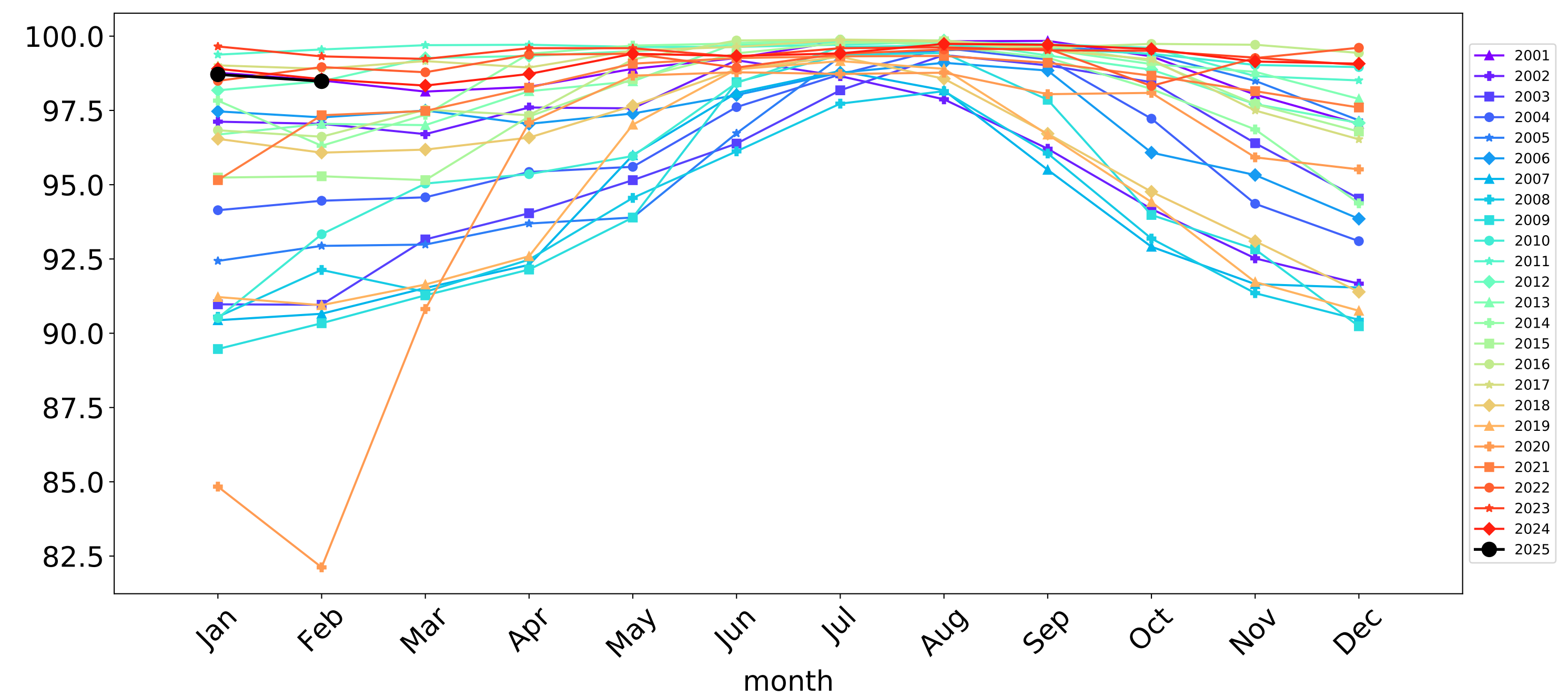
Wind erosion historical monthly area protected (Total Veg Cov >50%)



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



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



Riverina (6,694,025 ha and no data 14,310 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	6,694,025	100.0% 6,692,800	97.9% 6,551,150	70.1% 4,691,200	41.7% 2,790,950	14.3% 954,950	5.2% 349,975
Conservation and natural environments	323,100	100.0% 323,100	100.0% 322,950	95.6% 308,925	84.7% 273,775	58.4% 188,550	29.6% 95,650
Conservation and natural environments non forest	83,350	100.0% 83,350	99.9% 83,225	84.2% 70,150	47.9% 39,925	17.2% 14,325	8.7% 7,225
Conservation and natural environments Forest (non woodland)	195,250	100.0% 195,250	100.0% 195,250	99.9% 194,975	98.8% 192,975	81.6% 159,350	43.3% 84,450
Agriculture	6,067,725	100.0% 6,067,225	97.7% 5,928,200	67.9% 4,118,675	38.1% 2,310,850	10.8% 654,400	3.2% 196,600
Grazing	2,311,325	100.0% 2,311,225	99.4% 2,297,450	82.2% 1,899,600	53.4% 1,233,400	17.9% 413,625	5.5% 127,650
Grazing non forest	2,066,325	100.0% 2,066,225	99.3% 2,052,550	80.6% 1,665,800	50.4% 1,040,825	16.5% 341,075	5.2% 107,275
Grazing Woodland forest	141,650	100.0% 141,650	99.9% 141,575	93.3% 132,200	70.3% 99,525	14.9% 21,150	2.6% 3,750
Grazing - Forest (non woodland)	103,350	100.0% 103,350	100.0% 103,325	98.3% 101,600	90.0% 93,050	49.7% 51,400	16.1% 16,625
Cropping	3,186,975	100.0% 3,186,625	96.9% 3,087,775	58.6% 1,866,925	28.3% 901,300	6.3% 199,500	1.7% 55,025
Irrigation	567,600	100.0% 567,550	95.3% 541,150	61.8% 350,625	30.9% 175,300	7.2% 41,100	2.4% 13,900
Production native forests and plantation forests	172,825	100.0% 172,825	99.9% 172,725	98.5% 170,200	91.7% 158,475	59.3% 102,550	31.7% 54,750

