

NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE
CONSERVATION PRACTICE SPECIFICATION

CONTOUR FARMING

(Ac.)
CODE 330

PURPOSE OF SPECIFICATION

This Specification provides guidance for the installation of the practice Contour Farming. Guidance may include information about applying different methods listed in the Conservation Practice Standard, details of site preparation and protection, instructions for use of materials described in the Standard, and other information not directly addressed in the Standard.

Specifications for the installation, operation and maintenance of the practice shall be prepared for each treatment unit in accordance with the requirements in the Conservation Practice Standard and the guidance in this Specification. The site specifications shall be recorded in the Conservation Practice Jobsheet and given to the client.

INSTALLATION

Flag a key contour line in each field. The producer will plant parallel to the key contour line.

If benches are installed, the cut, front and back slope shall not be subject to erosion. The benches shall be of a width that will provide for the safe passage of farm equipment.

PLANS

Provide a contour map of the field with a planting plan if necessary.

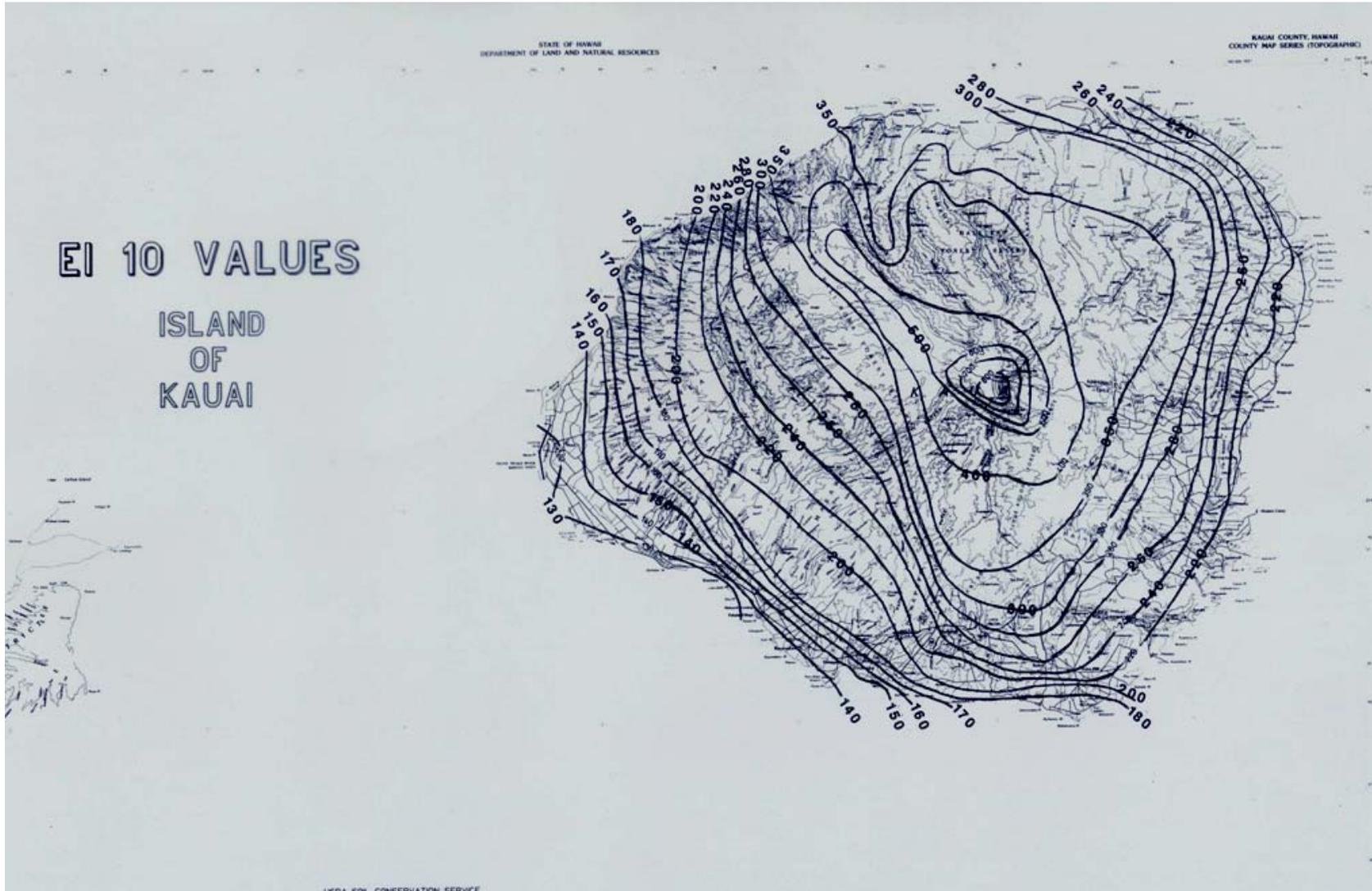
CONDITIONS WHERE PRACTICE APPLIES

This practice applies on sloping land where crops are grown.

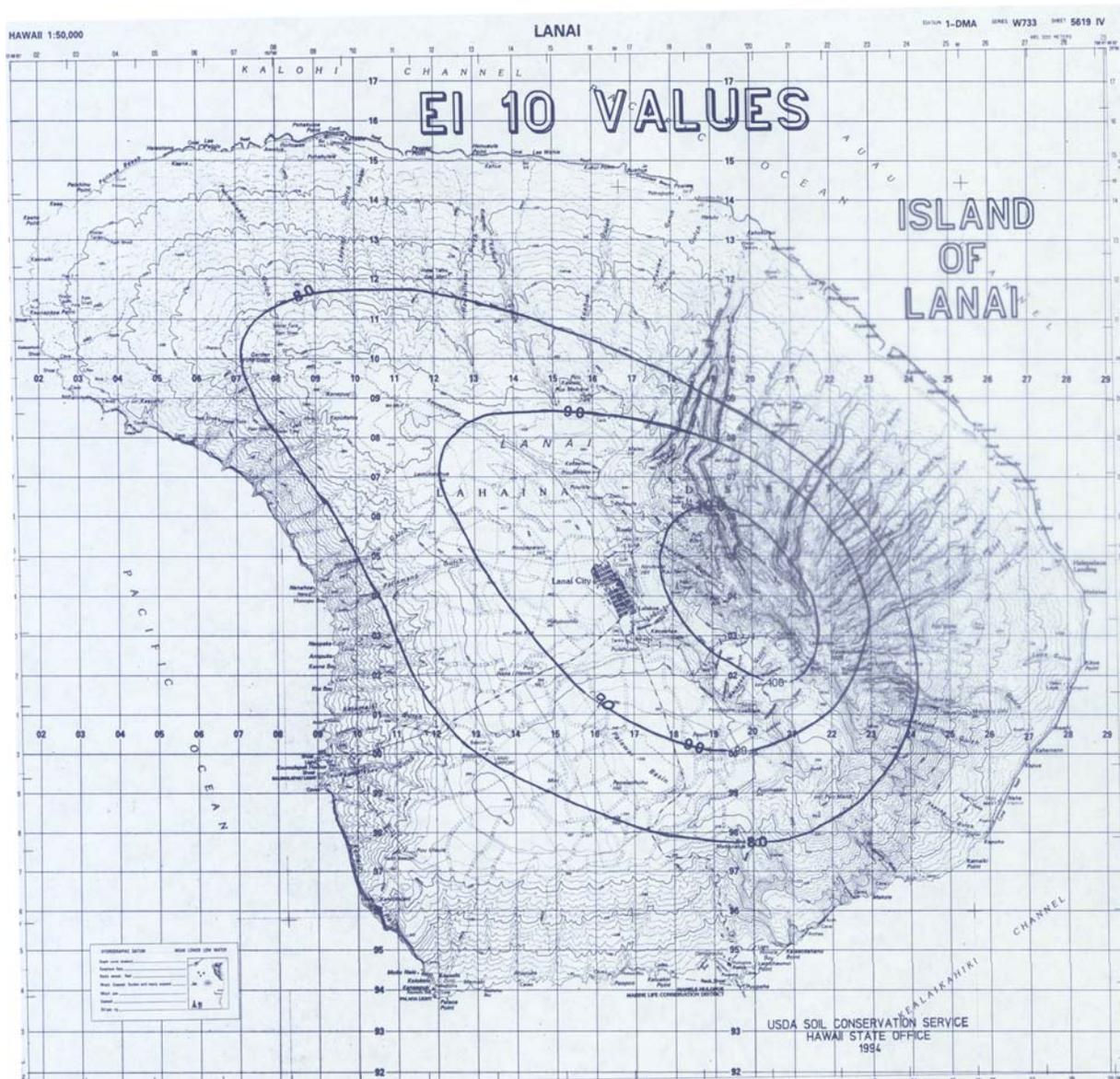
Contour farming is most effective on slopes between 2 and 10 percent. This practice will be less effective in achieving the stated purpose(s) on slopes exceeding 10 percent and in areas with 10-year-frequency, single storm EI values greater than 140. The practice is not well suited to rolling topography having a high degree of slope irregularity because of the difficulty meeting row grade criteria.

Following are EI₁₀ value maps for the major islands in the State of Hawaii. EI₁₀ values for the other Pacific Islands Area locations are included in Table 1 (following the Hawaii maps).

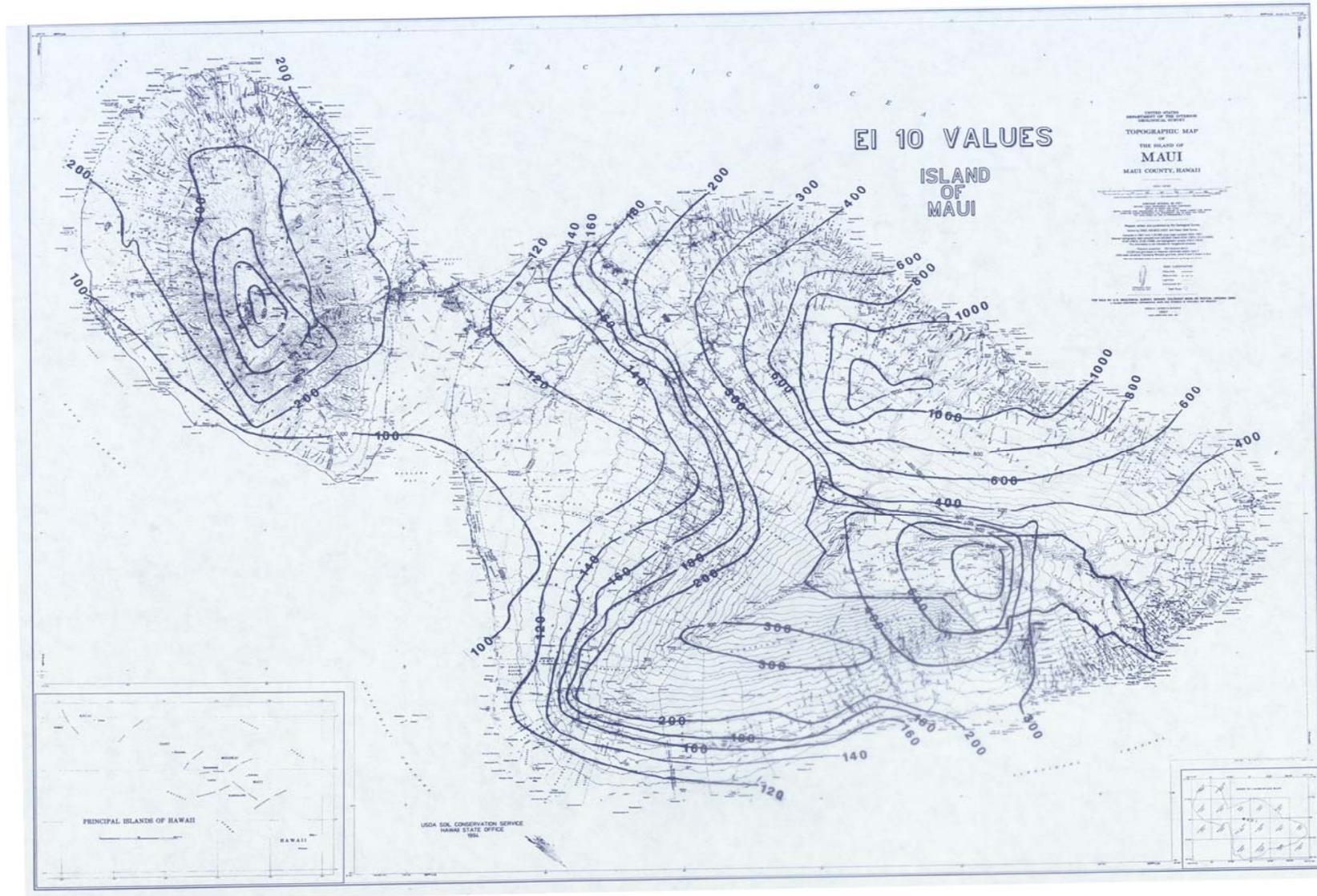
EI 10 Values Map for Island of Kauai



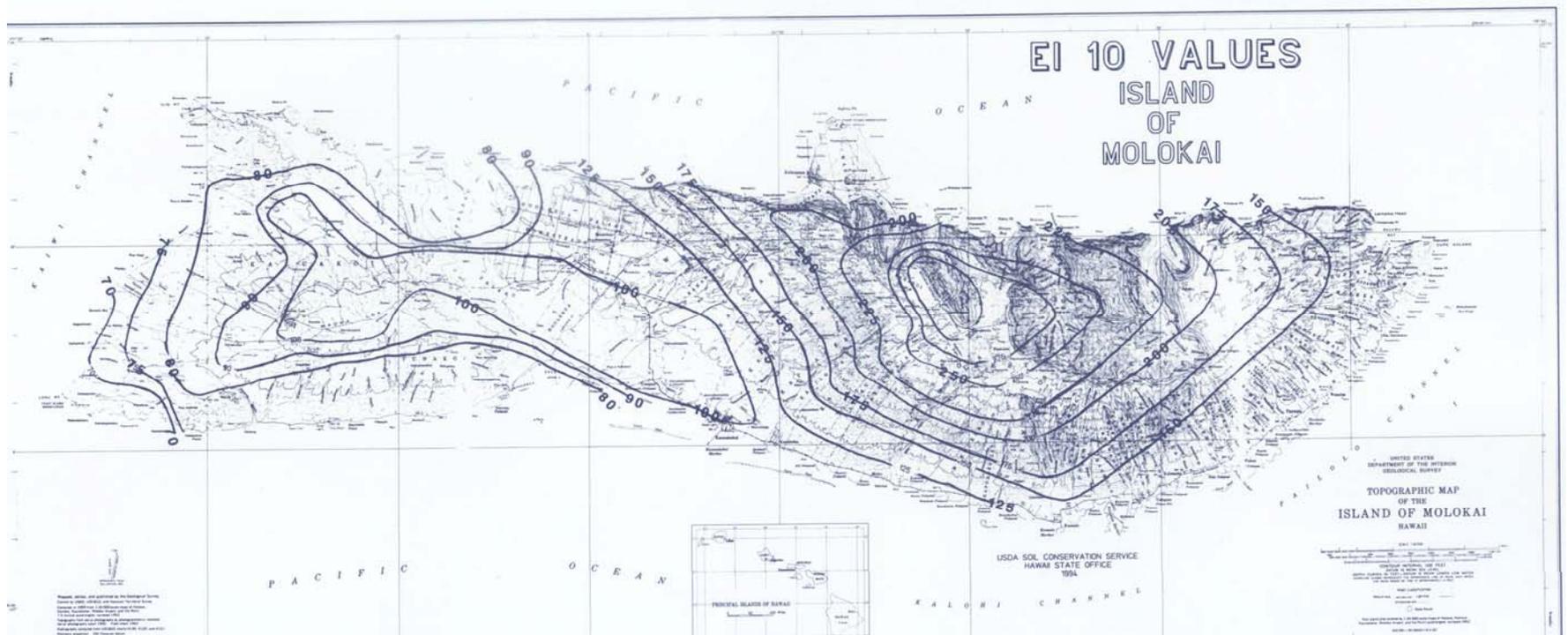
EI 10 Values Map for Island of Lanai



EI 10 Values Map for Island of Maui



EI 10 Values Map for Island of Molokai



EI 10 Values Map for Island of Oahu

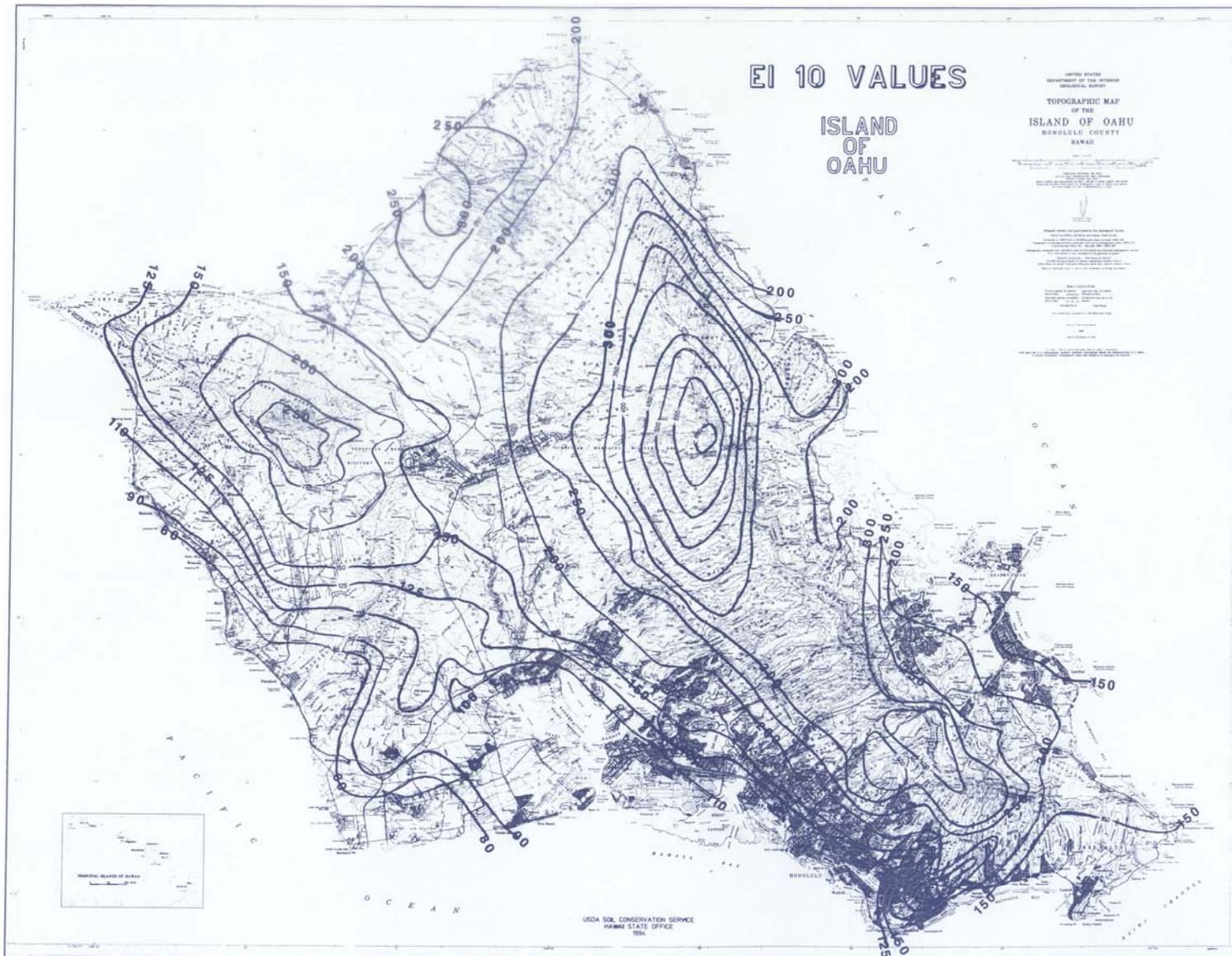


Table 1
EI 10 Values
American Samoa and Pacific Islands West Area

Location	EI 10 Value
Territory of American Samoa, All Islands	200
Territory of Guam, Guam Island	190
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands	
Rota	190
Saipan	190
Tinian	190
Federated States of Micronesia	
Chuuk	190
Kosrae	200
Pohnpei	200
Yap	200
Republic of the Marshall Islands, All Islands	190
Republic of Palau, All Islands	200