

**NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE**  
**CONSERVATION PRACTICE SPECIFICATION**  
**CONTOUR ORCHARD AND OTHER FRUIT AREAS**  
(Ac.)  
CODE 331

**PURPOSE OF SPECIFICATION**

This Specification provides guidance for the installation of the practice Contour Orchard and Other Fruit Areas. 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 using approved specification sheets, job sheets, narrative statements in the conservation plan, or other acceptable documentation.

**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.

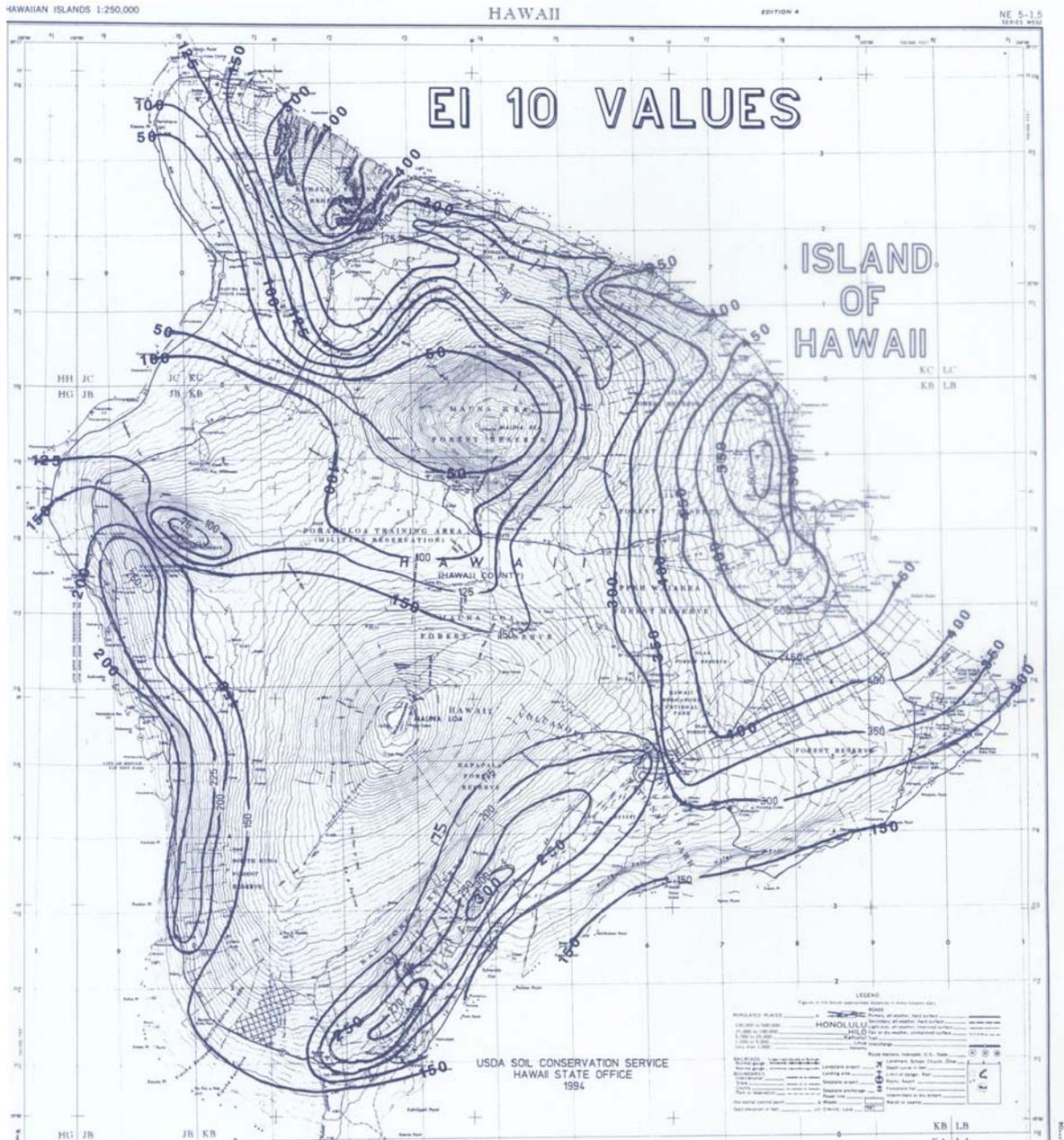
**CONDITIONS WHERE PRACTICE APPLIES**

This practice applies on sloping land where crops are grown.

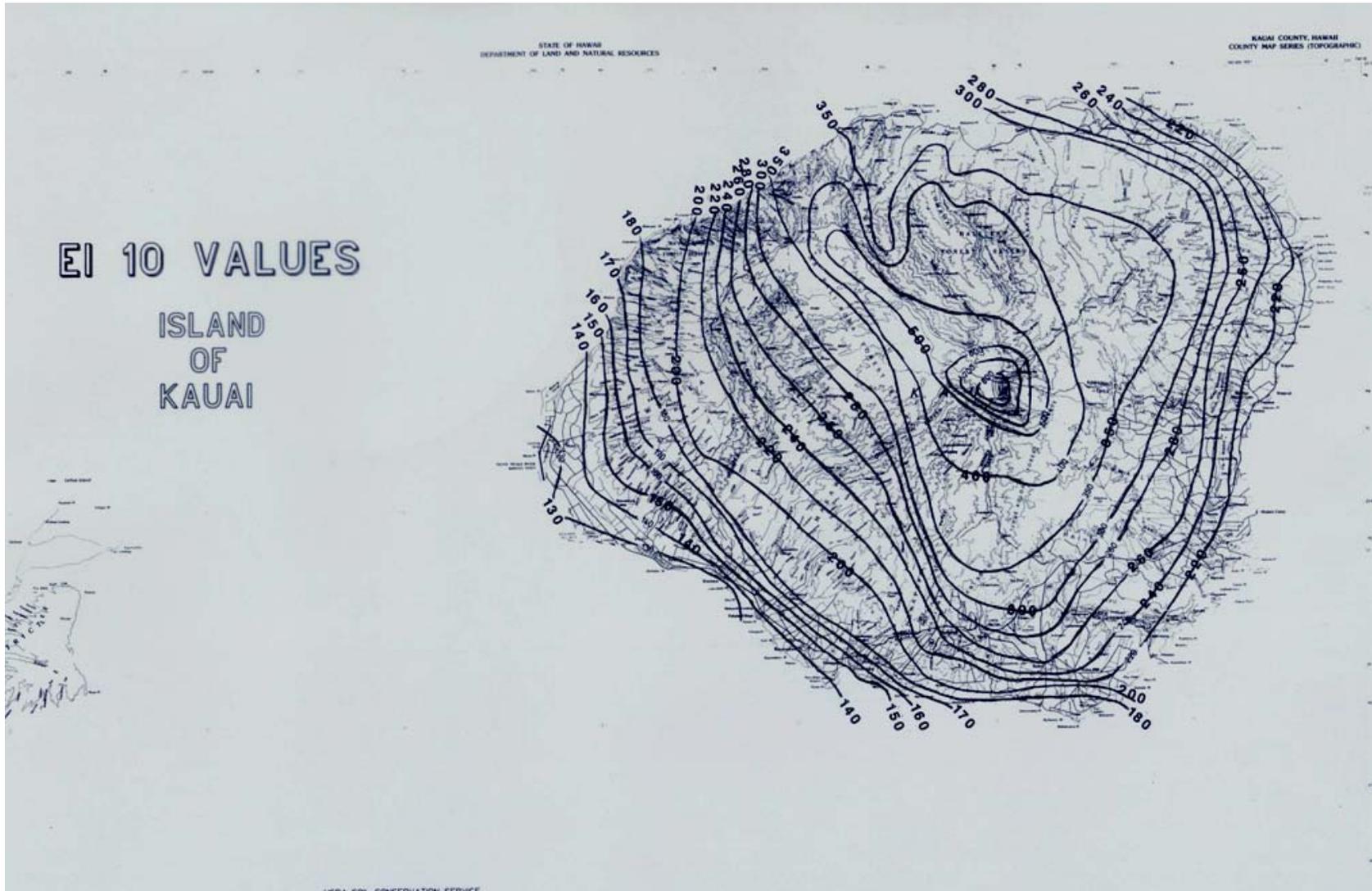
Contour farming is most effective on slopes between 2 and 10 percent. This practice will be less effective in achieving the stated purpose(s) on slopes exceeding 10 percent and in areas with 10-year-frequency, single storm EI values greater than 140. The practice is not well suited to rolling topography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

Following are EI<sub>10</sub> value maps for the major islands in the State of Hawaii. EI<sub>10</sub> values for the other Pacific Islands Area locations are included in Table 1 (following the Hawaii maps).

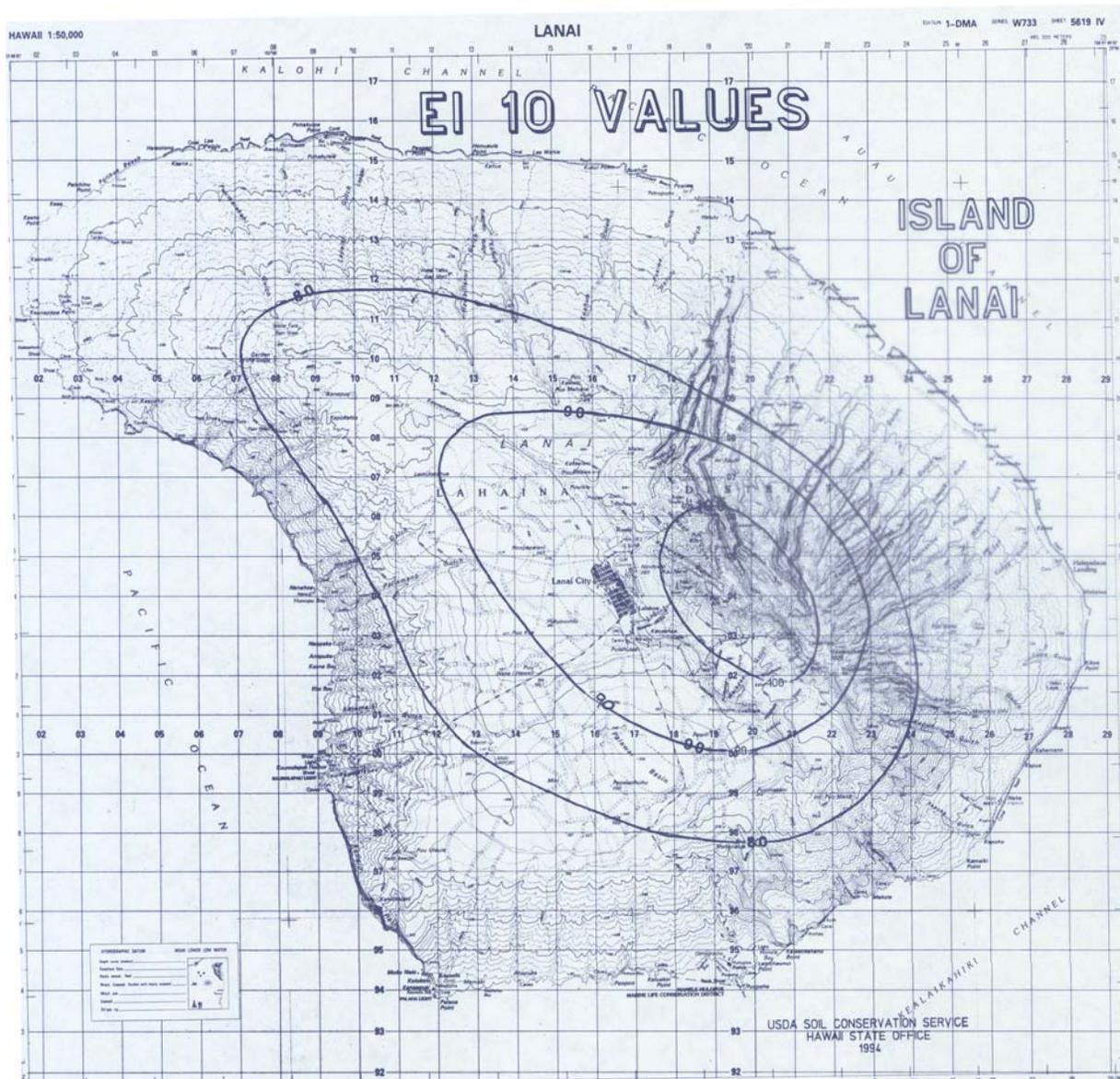
**EI 10 Values Map for Island of Hawaii**



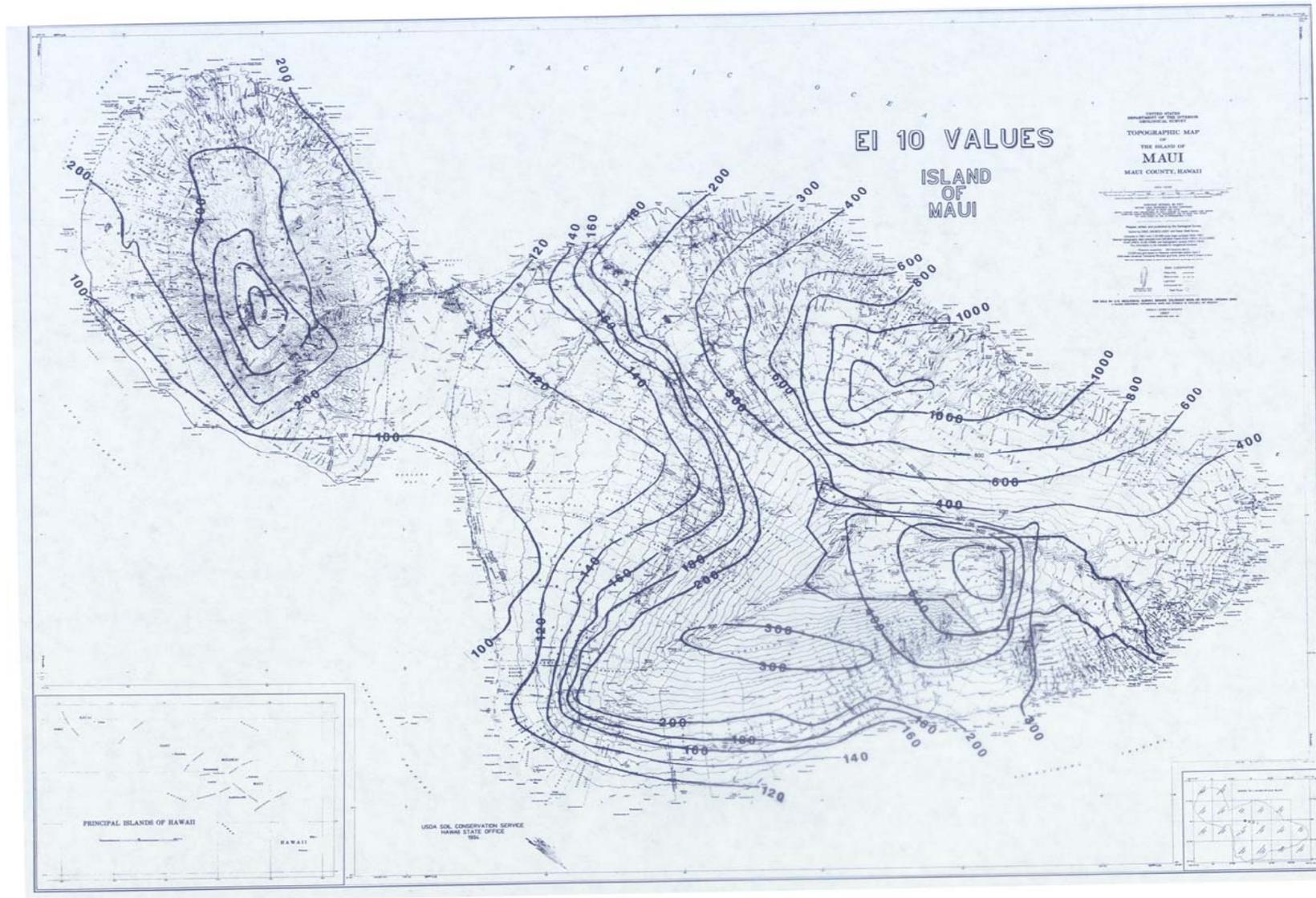
**EI 10 Values Map for Island of Kauai**



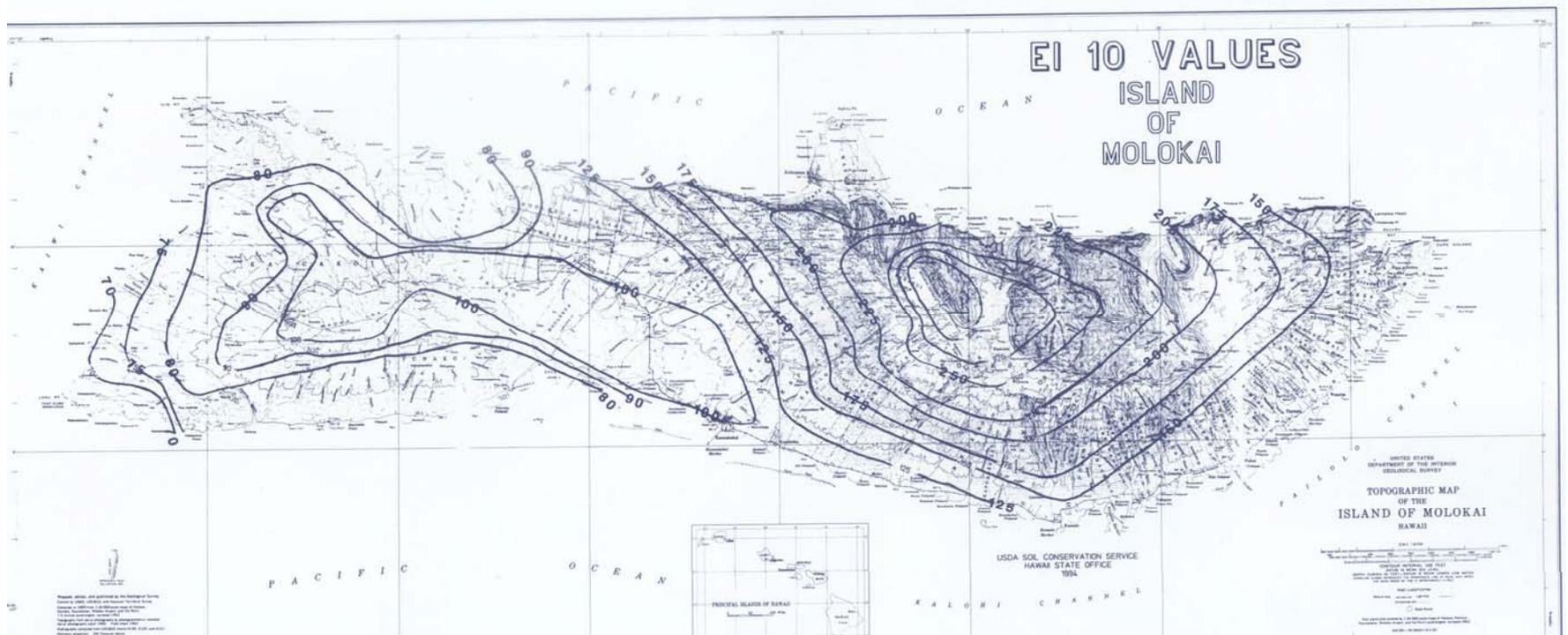
**EI 10 Values Map for Island of Lanai**



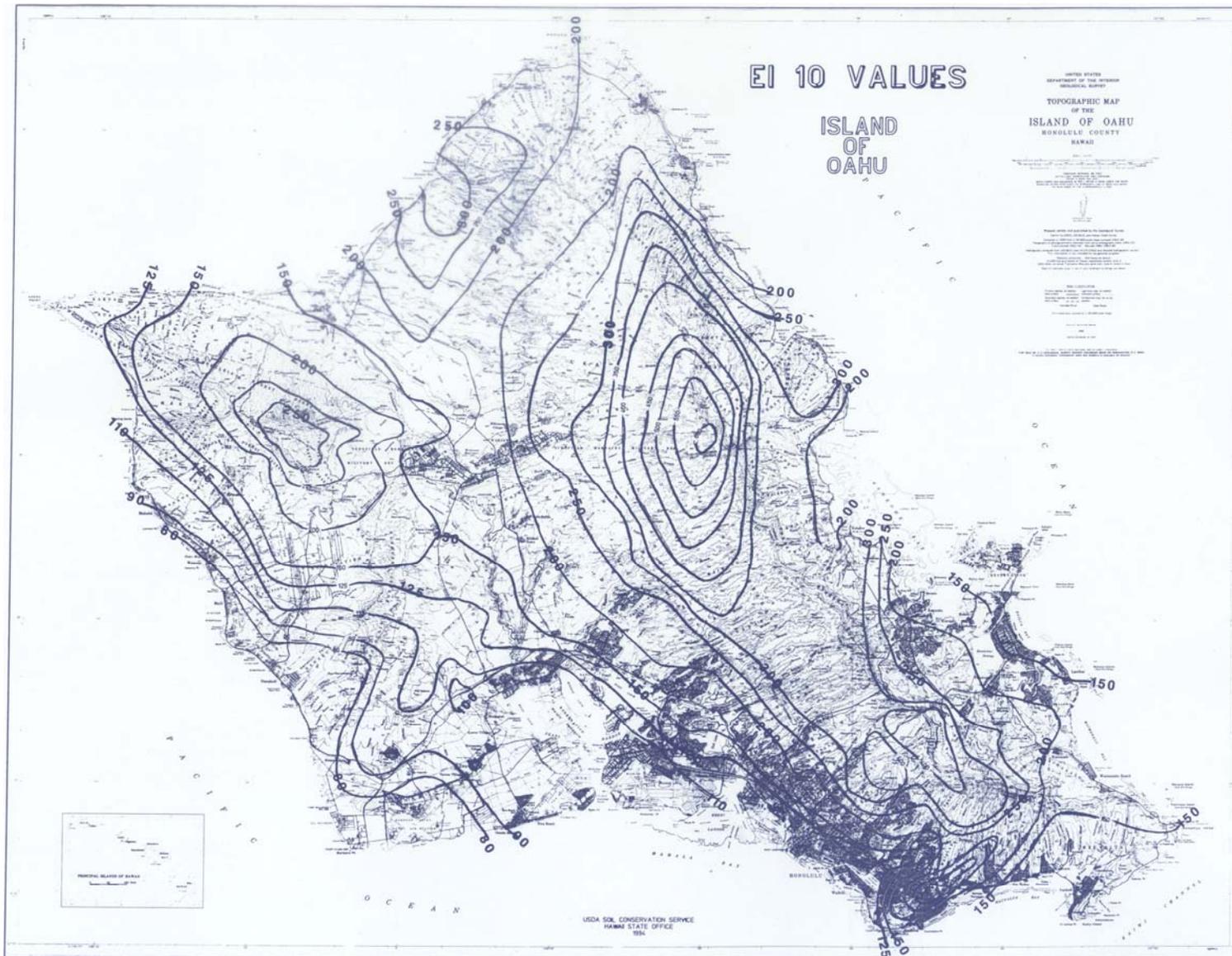
**EI 10 Values Map for Island of Maui**



**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