

TECHNICAL NOTE

USDA NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE PACIFIC ISLANDS AREA

Forestry / Agroforestry Technical Note No. 5

PRIME FOREST LANDS INVENTORY MAPS FOR THE BIG ISLAND, MAUI, AND MOLOKAI

This cover sheet transmits a copy of the subject maps developed by the Big Island and Tri-Isle Resource Conservation and Development Council in 1981 and 1982. Also included are interpretive and support data. Planners can use this information to complete planning inventories and to identify resource concerns and also areas for restoration and protection.

Prime Forest Land Criteria

Prime Forest land is land that has soil and site characteristics capable of growing wood at or exceeding the minimum qualifying growth rate and is not in urban or built-up land uses.

Since most timber species in Hawaii are exotic species, potential cubic-foot volume growth per acre estimates are based on managed, fully stocked, natural, and planted stands. Due to the favorable growing conditions in Hawaii, forest productivity is significantly higher than the average national standard. For this reason, prime forest land is further divided into three categories: Prime 1, Prime 2, and National Standard Lands. Volume information for specific species, spacings, and management intensities in each category is available.

Prime 1

The Prime 1 designation is for the best of the state's prime forest land. Prime 1 forest land can produce high quality wood over longer rotations (30 – 40 years) and yield large amounts of wood fiber over short rotations (4 – 10 Years). Prime 1 forest lands have deep soils, adequate rainfall, and excellent site conditions for wood production.

Prime 2

The Prime 2 designation is for forest land with "good" productive capacity for both long and short rotation wood products. These lands have good soils and rainfall with good site conditions for wood production.

National Standard Lands

The National Standard Lands designation is for forest land that meets the national standard for prime forest land if used for short rotation wood fiber production. These lands may have certain less favorable site conditions.

Unique Forest Land

Unique forest lands are lands capable of growing sustained yields of specific high value species which are capable of producing specialized wood products under silvicultural system that maintains soil productivity and protects water quality. This unique classification may or may not be within one of the other forest land designations.

Some examples of unique forest lands are lands supporting stands of redwood, koa, monkey-pod, treefern, and some naturalized exotic tree species.

Forest Land of Statewide and Local Importance

This designation is for land that is of statewide or local importance for the growing of forest products. This classification may or may not be in one of the other forest land designations. Some examples of forest lands of statewide and local importance are those supporting stands of kiawe or bamboo.

HAWAII PRIME FOREST LANDS

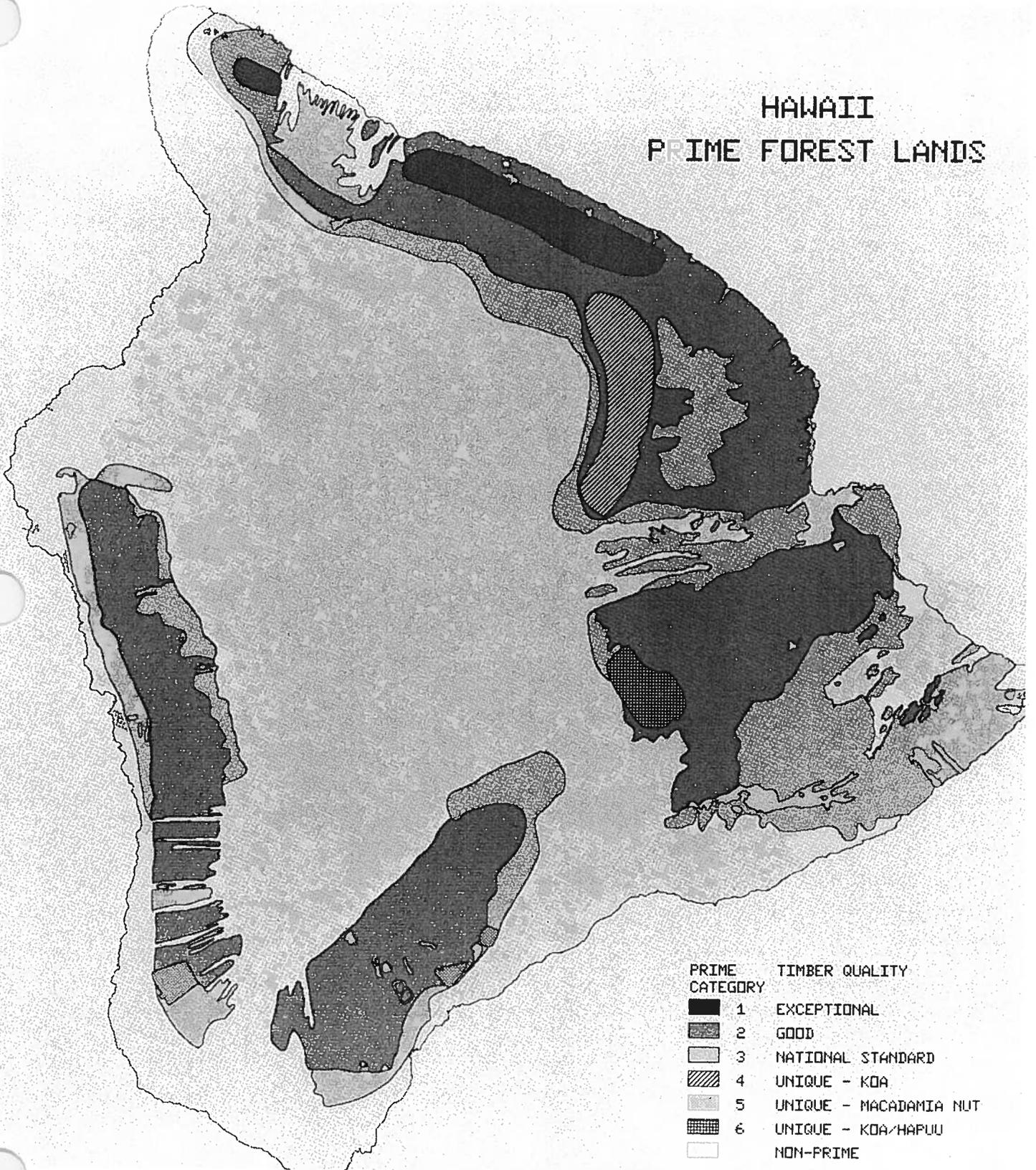
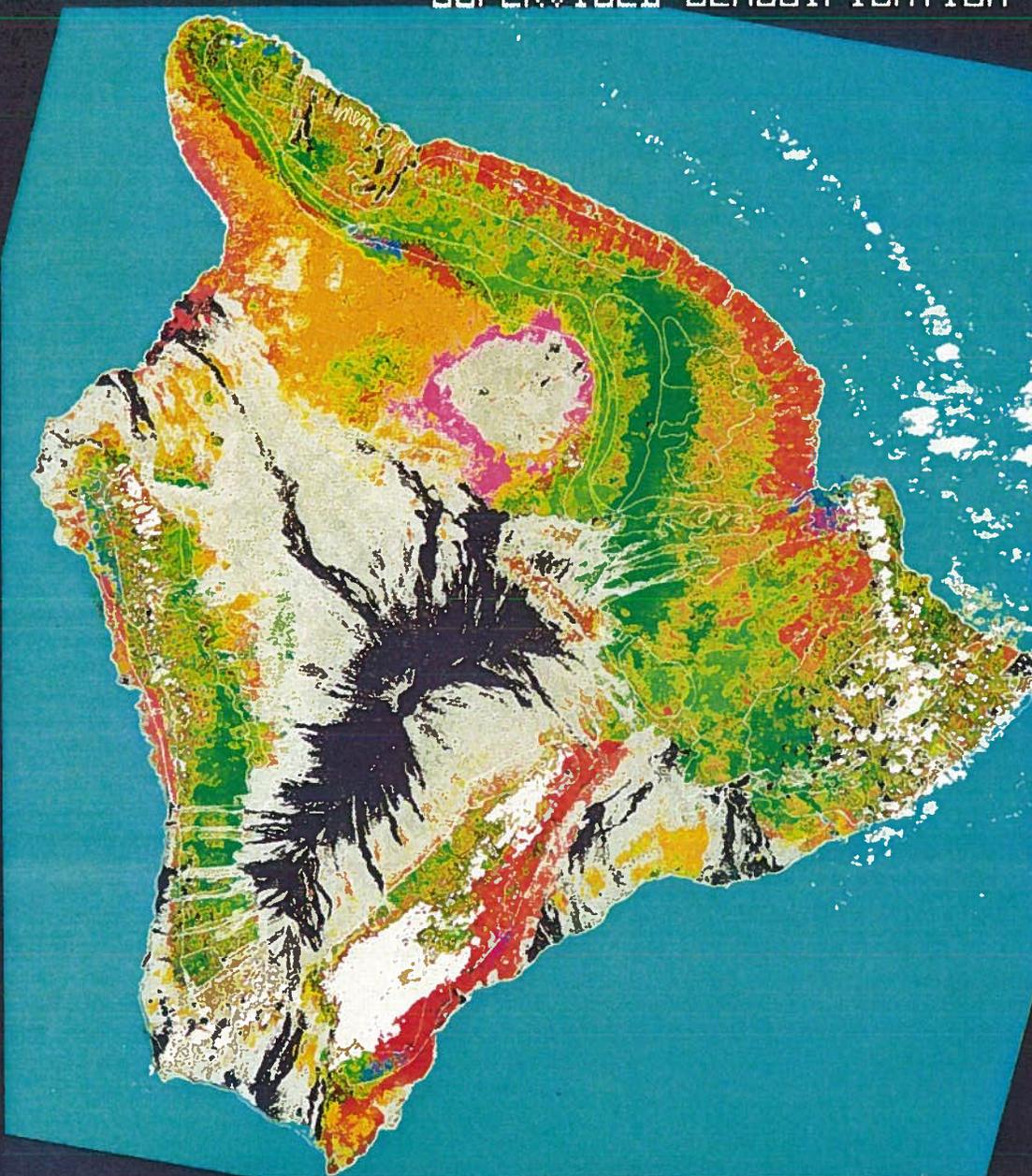


Figure 1—Island of Hawaii prime and unique forest land boundaries.

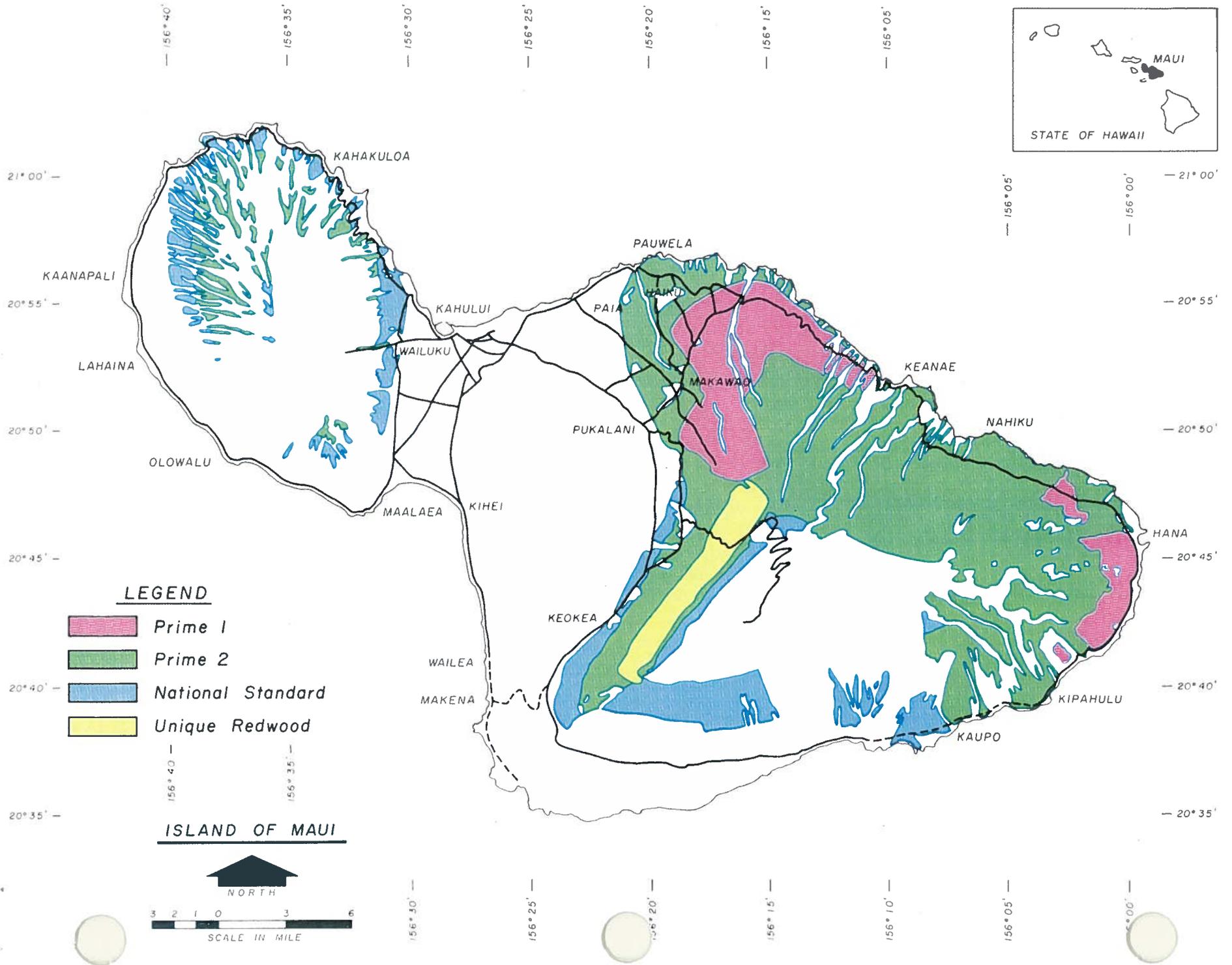
HAWAII 1977 SUPERVISED CLASSIFICATION

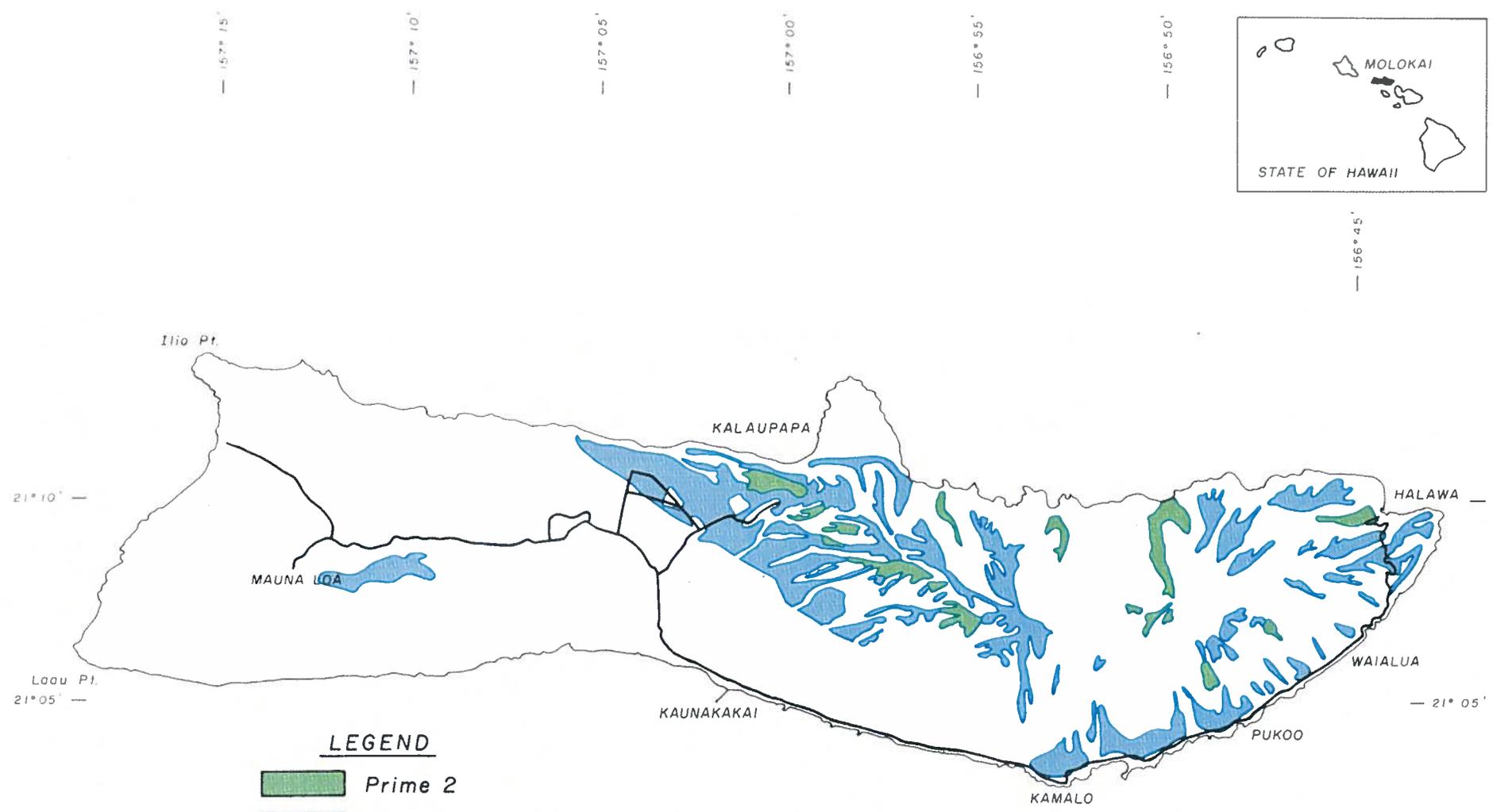
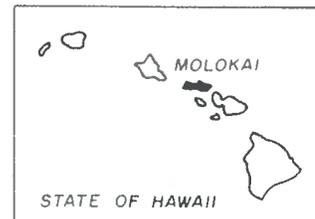
(PRIME FOREST
OVERLAY)



- DEEP WATER
- URBAN
- PASTURE
- PASTURE/RANGE
- RANGELAND
- BRUSH
- KIAWE
- MAMANE
- BARREN/SHADOW
- CLOUD
- RECENT LAVA
- OLDER LAVA
- REVEG LAVA
- SUGAR CANE
- OHIA/KOA
- OHIA-DENSE
- OHIA-OPEN
- REM FOREST/FERN

Figure 2—1977 LANDSAT scene of island of Hawaii with vegetative classifications and prime and unique forest land boundaries.





LEGEND

-  Prime 2
-  National Standard

ISLAND OF MOLOKAI



157° 15' —

157° 05' —

157° 00' —

156° 55' —

156° 50' —

156° 45' —