

Overview of the Surface Hydrology of Hawai'i Watersheds

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Watershed Hydrology Lab

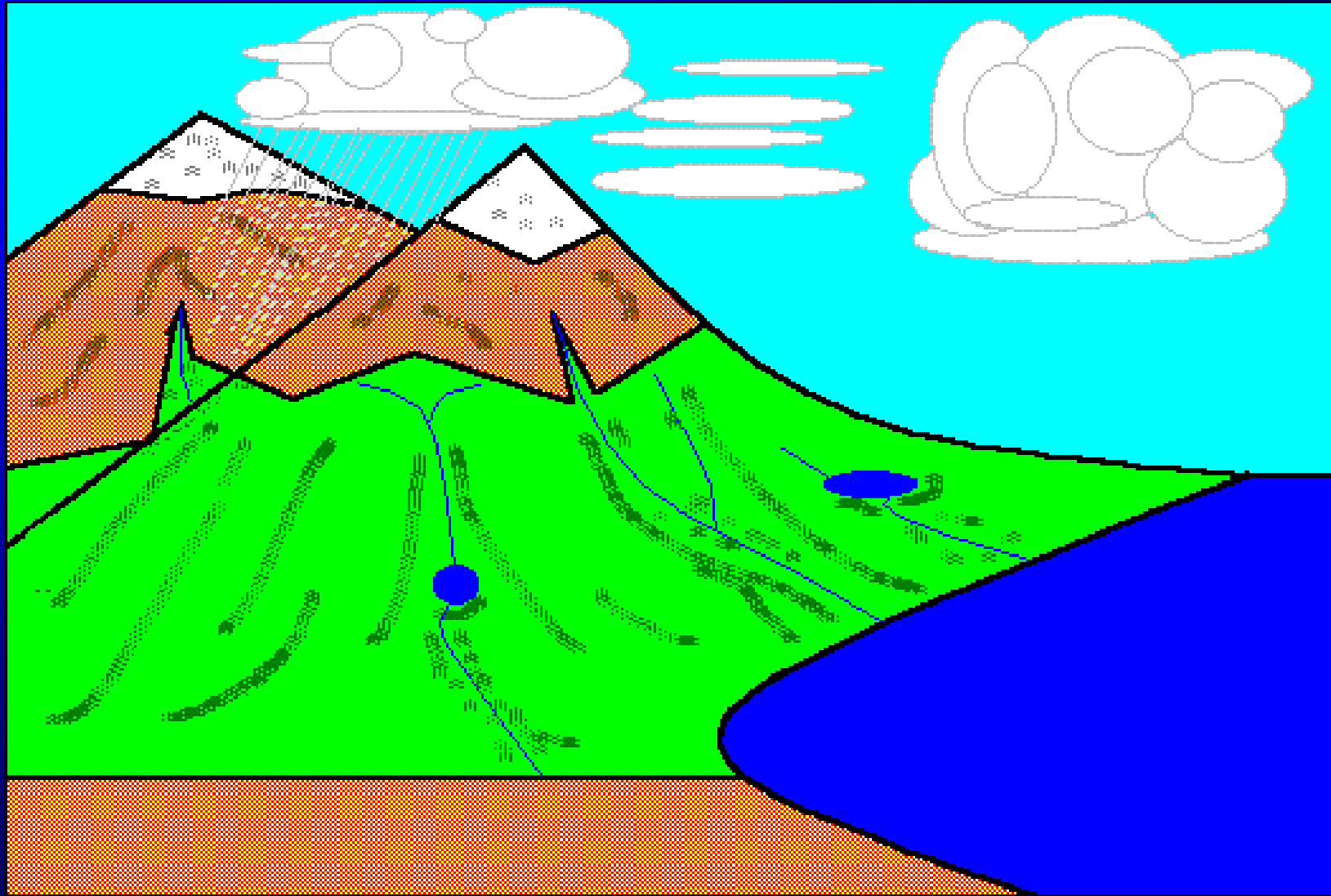
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What is Hydrology?

- Hydrology is the water science that is concerned with the **origin, circulation, distribution and properties of water.**
- There are different branches of hydrology, i.e., **surface hydrology**, groundwater hydrology, subsurface hydrology, etc...



Water Cycle



What is surface hydrology?

- **Surface hydrology** is the branch of hydrology dealing with **surface water**
- **Surface Water** is water that is on the Earth's surface, such as in a stream, lake, or reservoir.



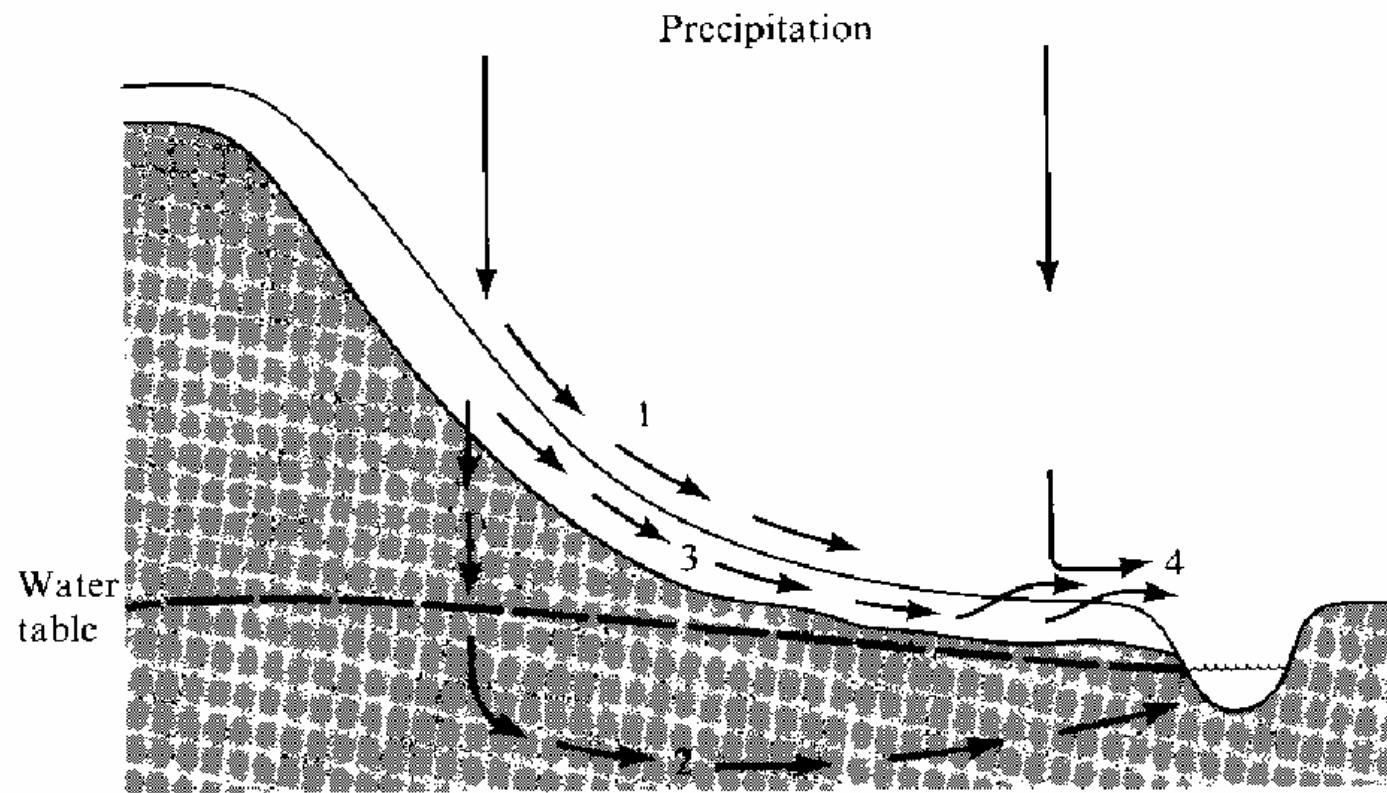
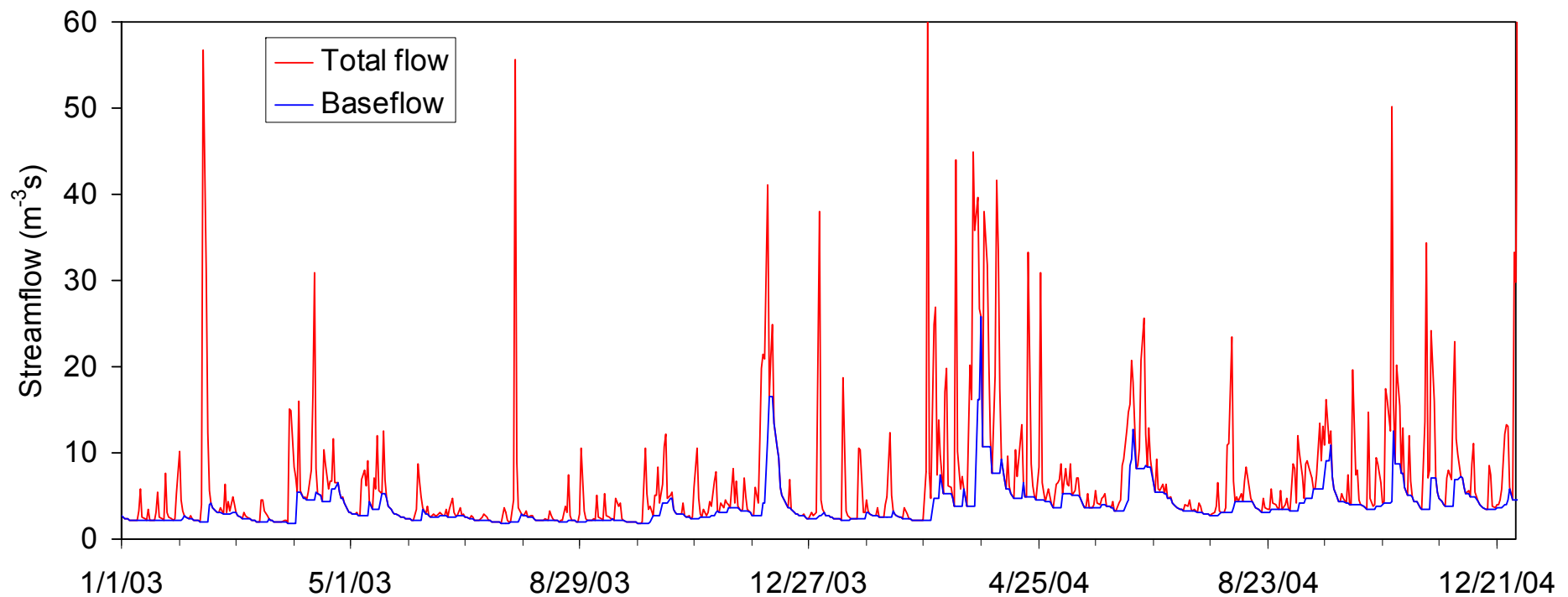


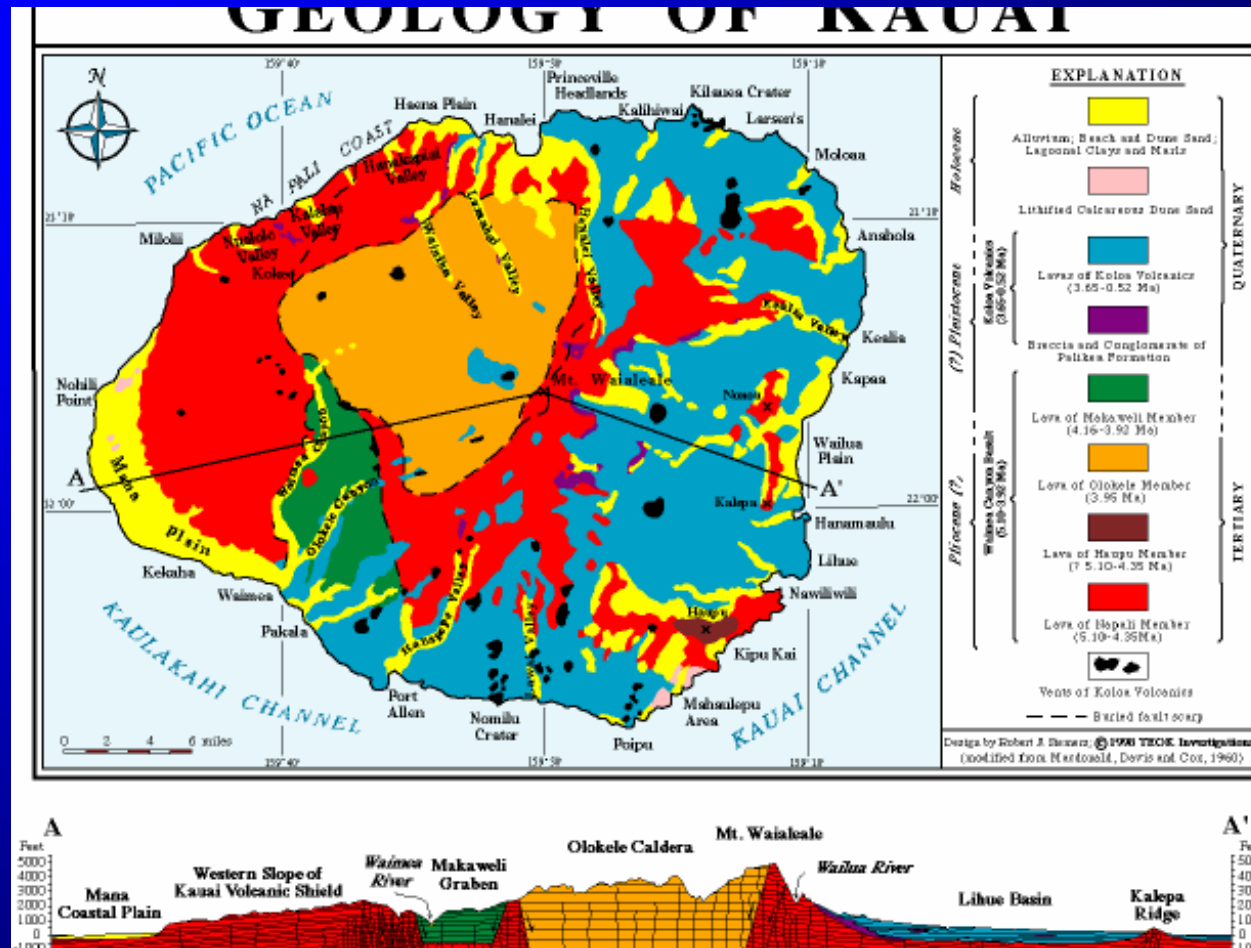
Figure 9-1 Possible paths of water moving downhill: path 1 is Horton overland flow; path 2 is groundwater flow; path 3 is shallow subsurface stormflow; path 4 is saturation overland flow, composed of direct precipitation on the saturated area plus infiltrated water that returns to the ground surface. The unshaded zone indicates highly permeable topsoil, and the shaded zone represents less permeable subsoil or rock.

Stream flow separation

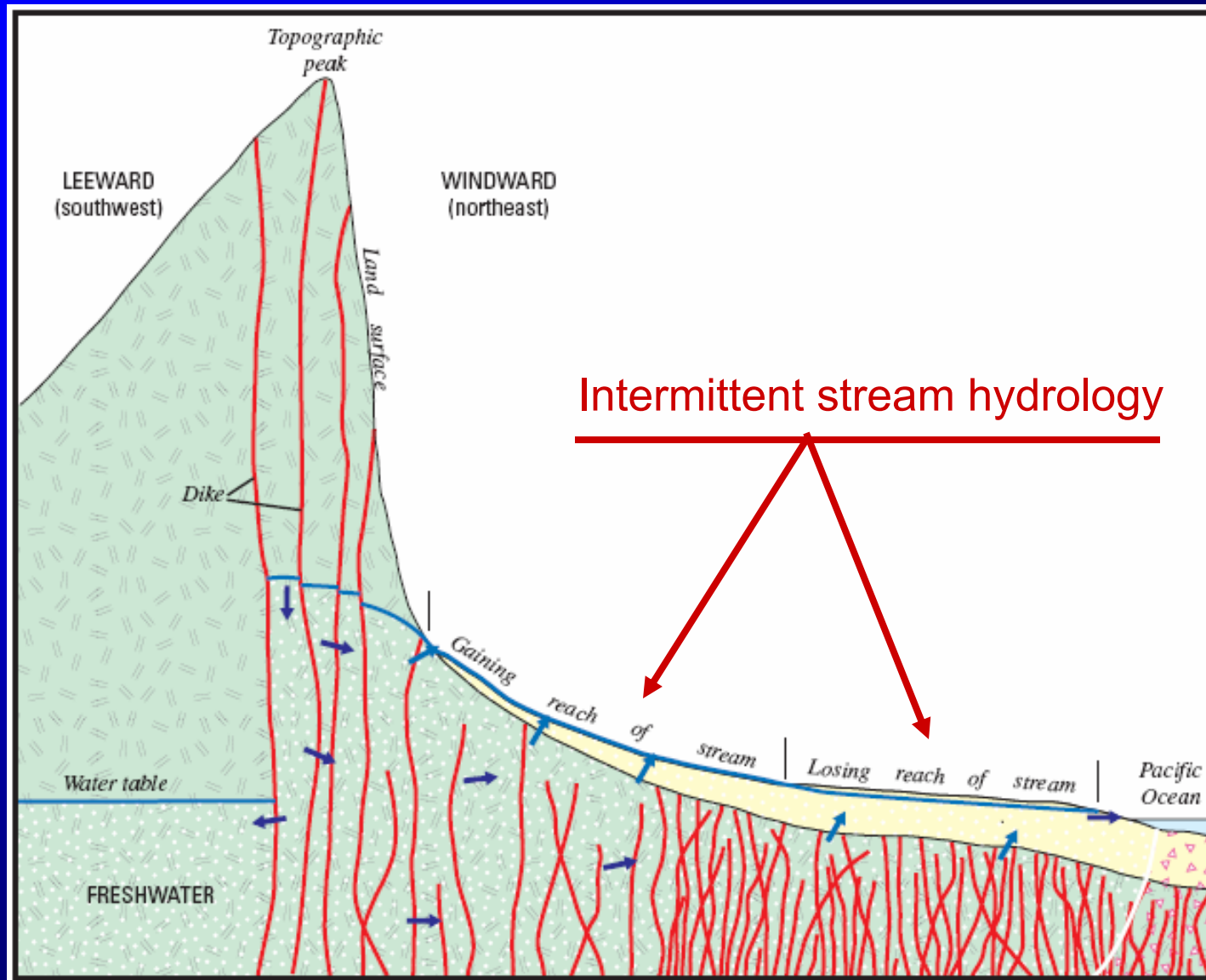


- Base flow and direct runoff were 62% 38% of total stream flow, respectively.

Geology of Hawaii



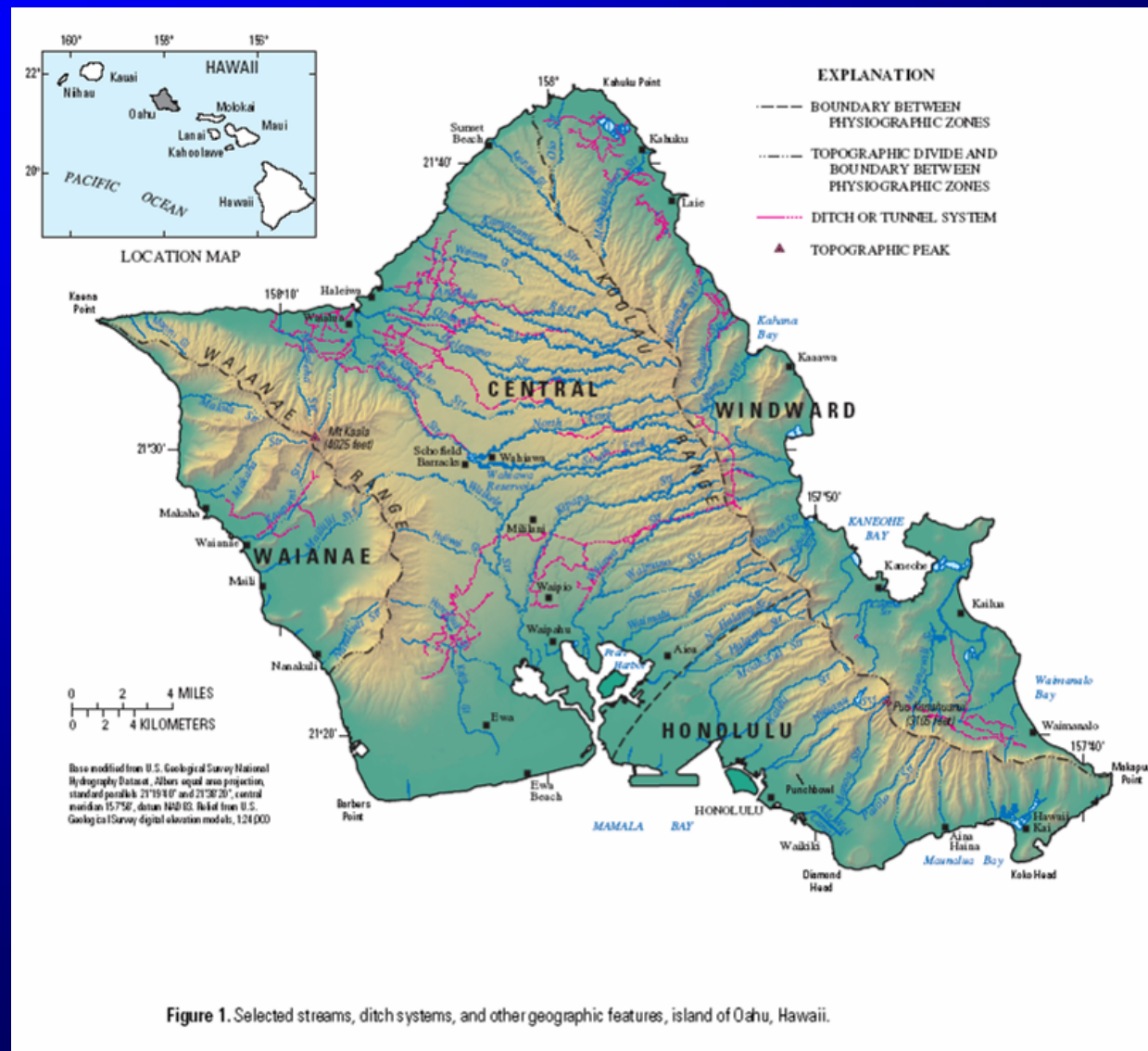
Hawaiian island chain consist of one or more shield volcanoes which are primarily composed of extremely permeable, thin basaltic lava flows.



Intermittent stream hydrology

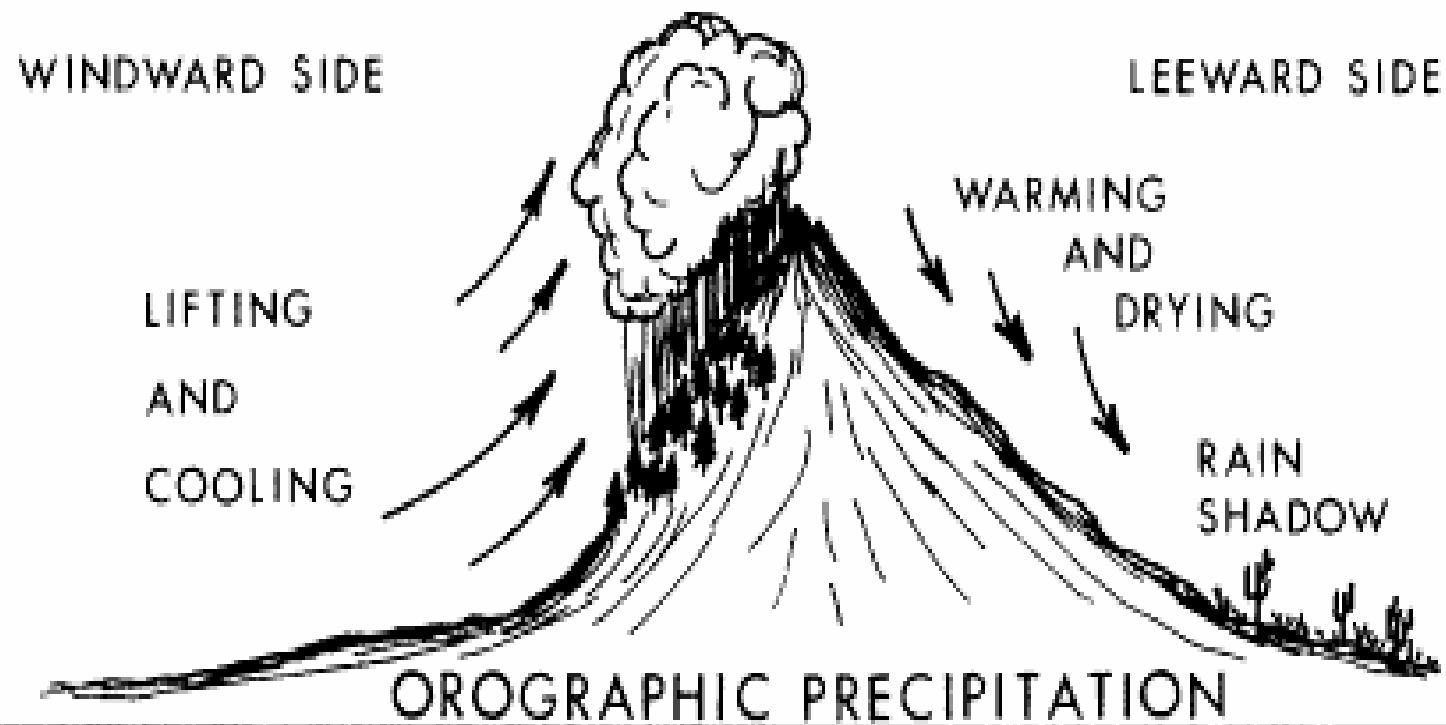
Dike impounded system

Natural Stream & Ditch Systems

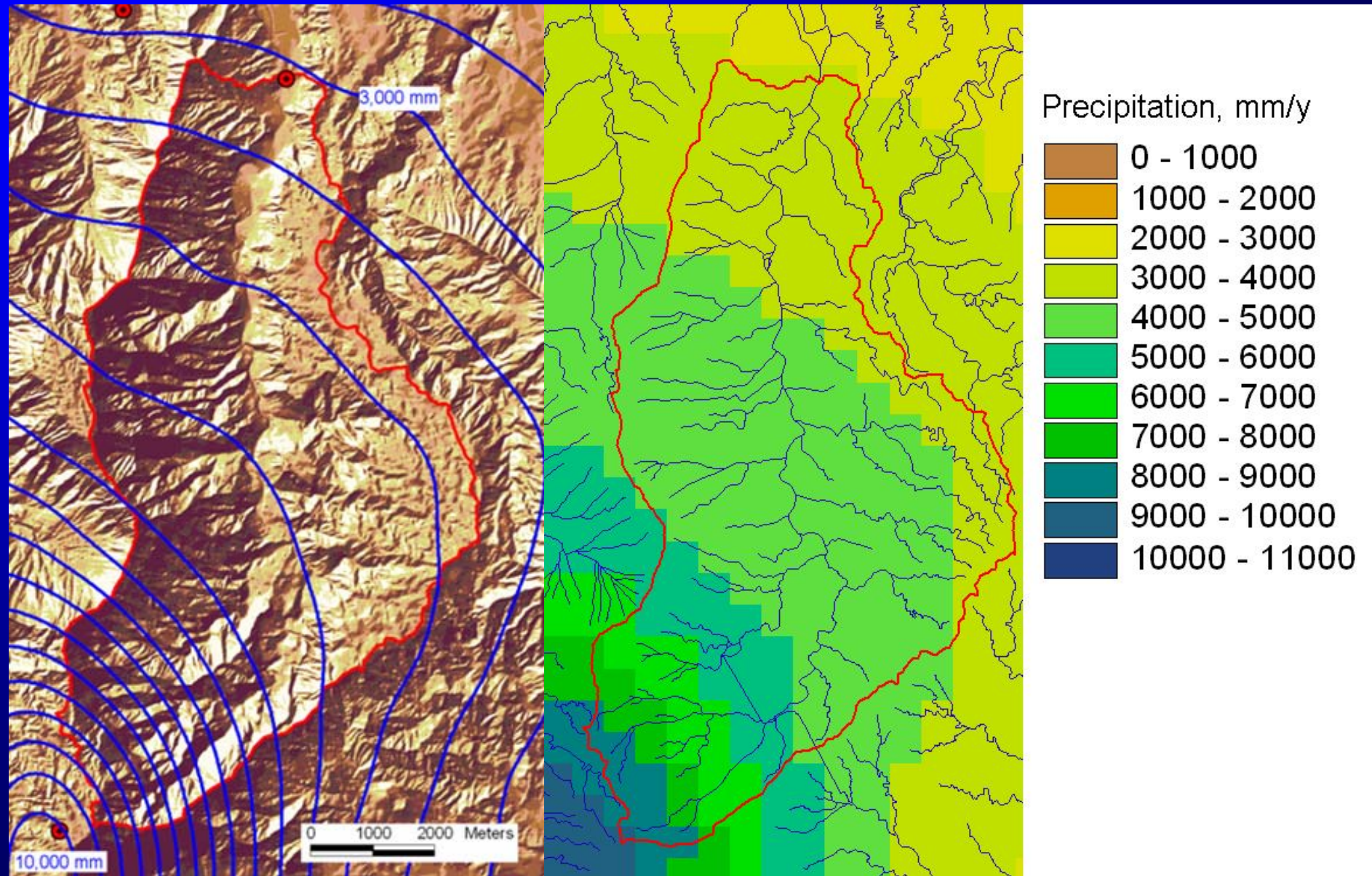


Effect of Spatio-temporal variation of Rain at the Island and Watershed Scales

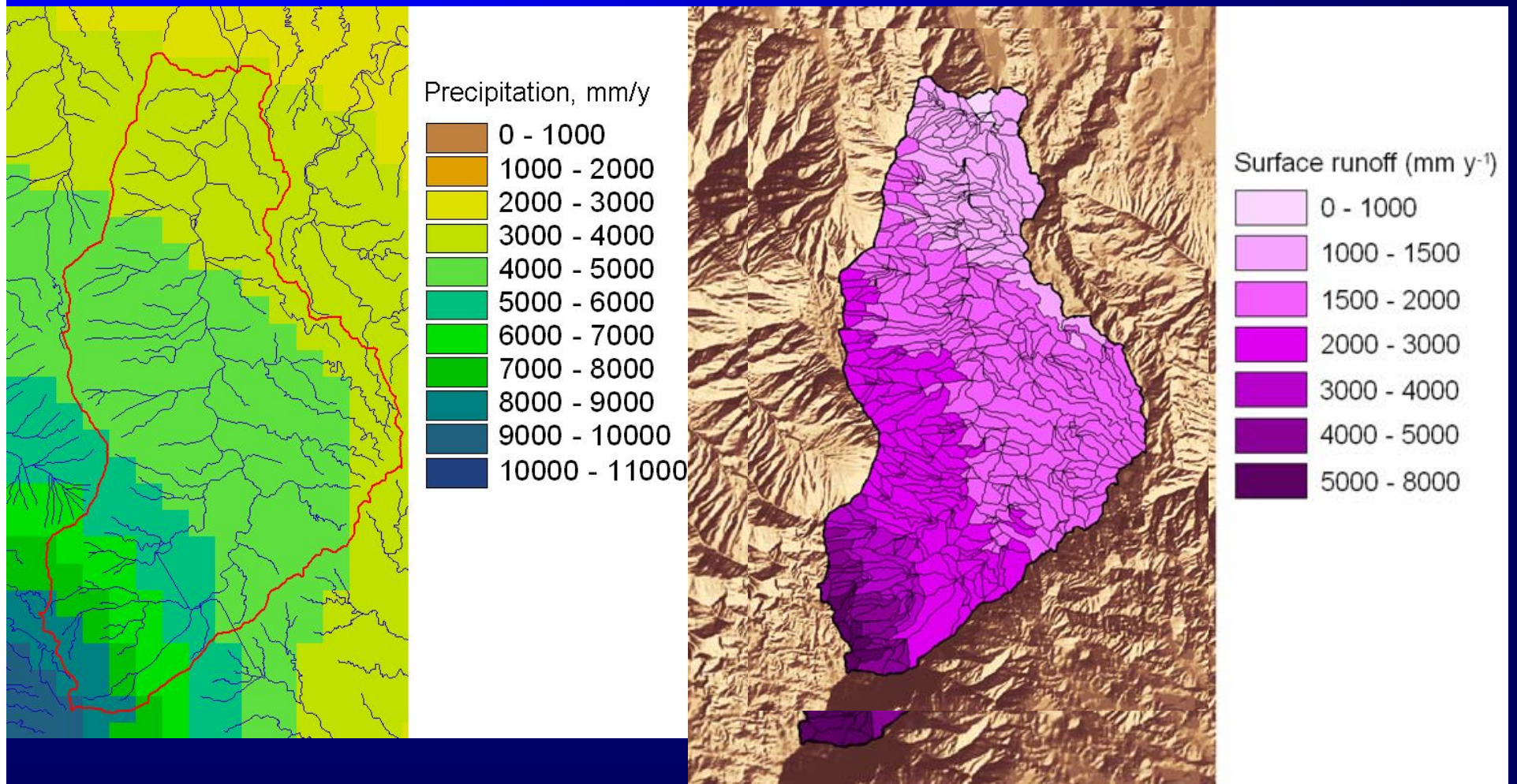
Orographic Precipitation



Elevation and Rain Distribution



Spatial rain-runoff variability



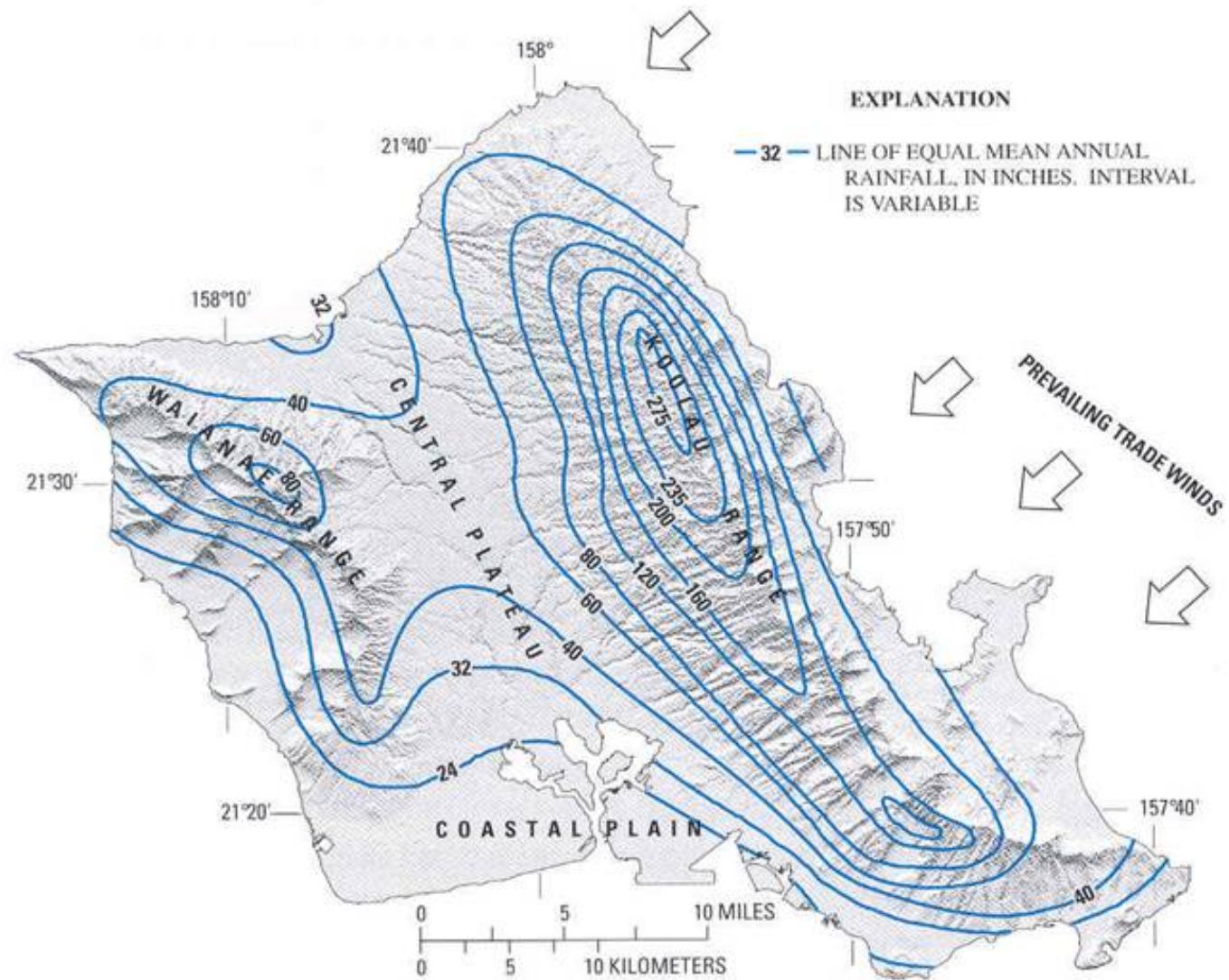


Figure 2. Oahu's mountainous landscape and moist trade winds cause steep rainfall gradients. (Modified from Giambelluca and others, 1986).

Rainfall variability: monthly total

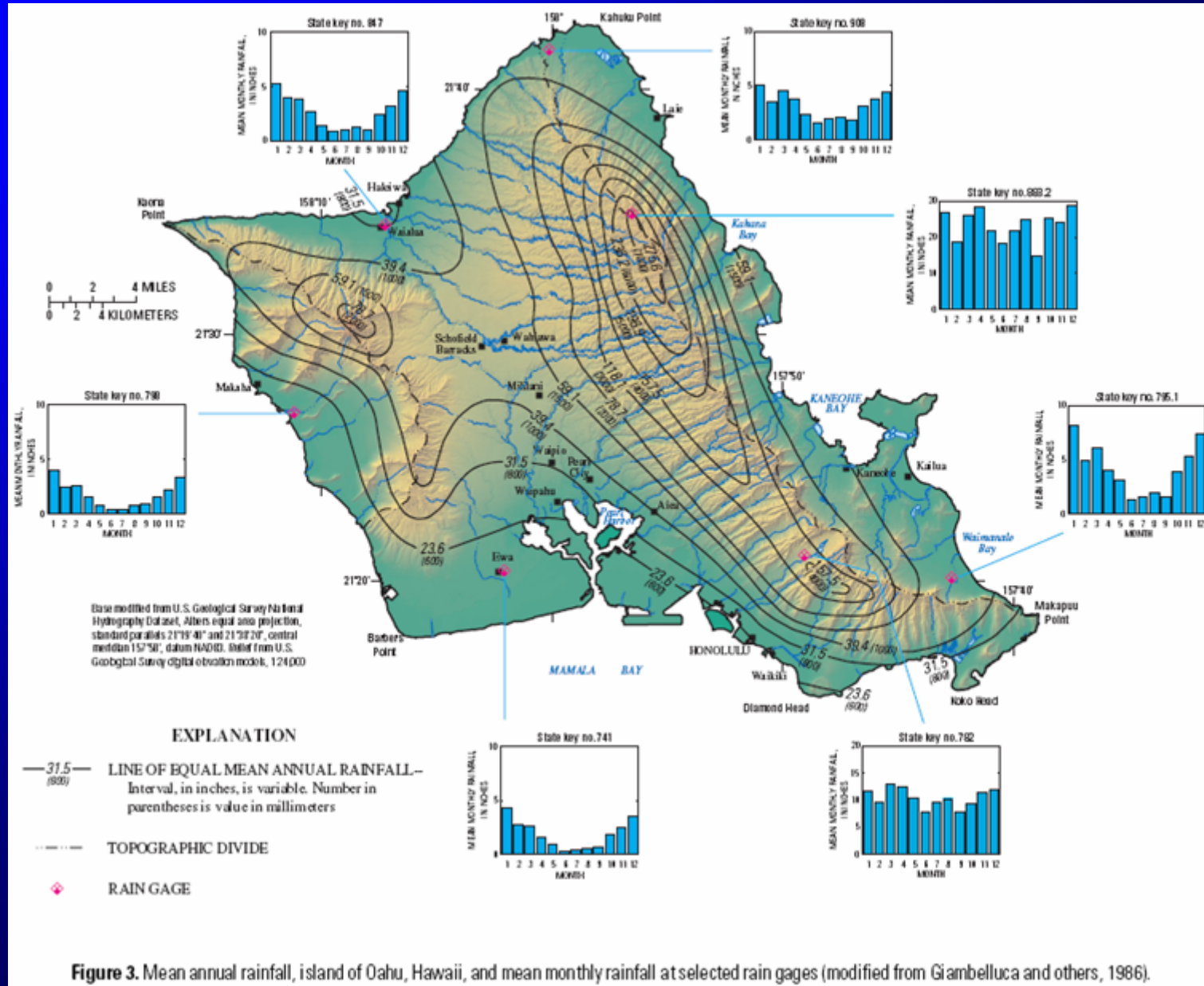
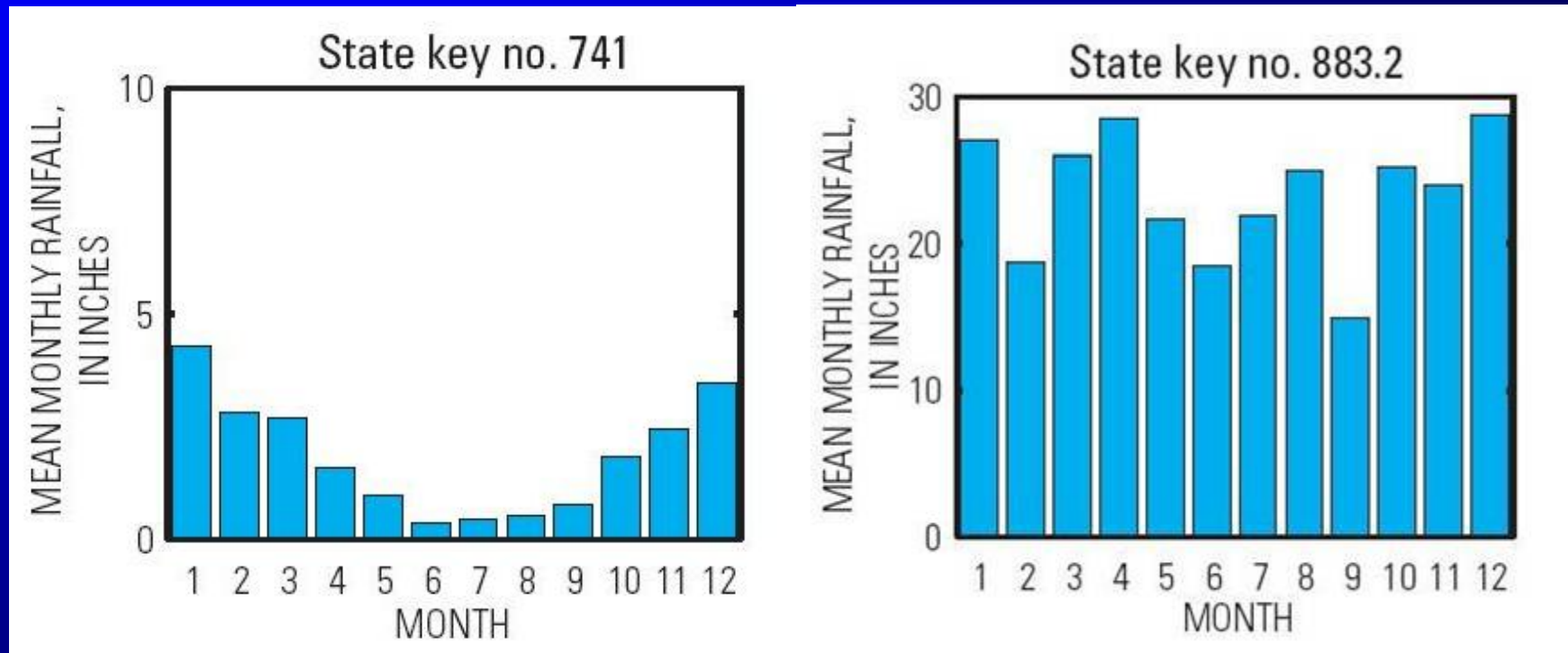


Figure 3. Mean annual rainfall, island of Oahu, Hawaii, and mean monthly rainfall at selected rain gauges (modified from Giambelluca and others, 1986).

Rainfall variability: monthly total

Ewa (leeward)

Koolau (windward)



Runoff variability: monthly stream discharge

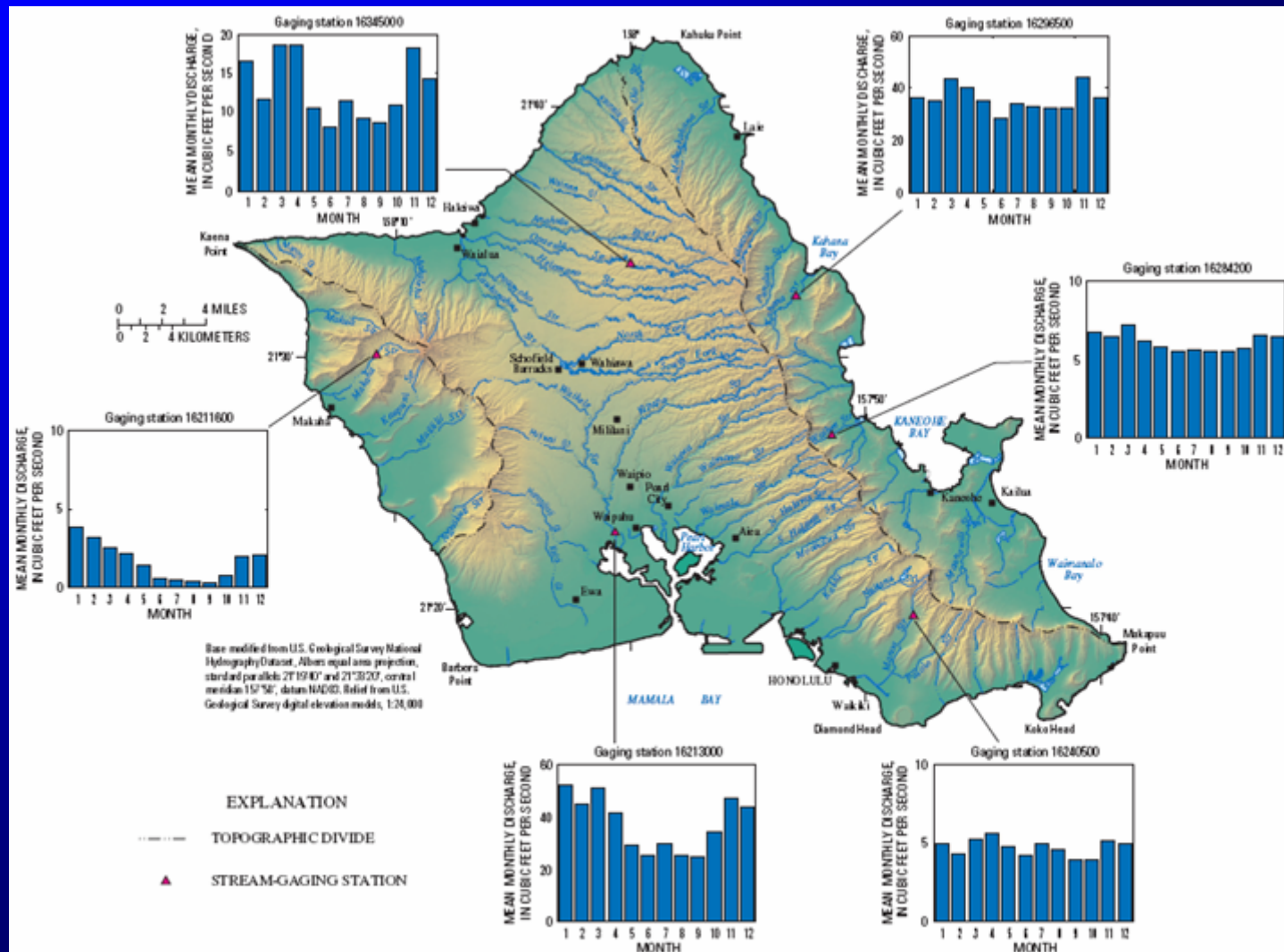


Figure 11. Mean monthly discharge during water years 1975–2000 at selected stream-gaging stations, island of Oahu, Hawaii. (A water year begins in October of the preceding year and ends in September.)

Runoff variability: instantaneous stream discharge

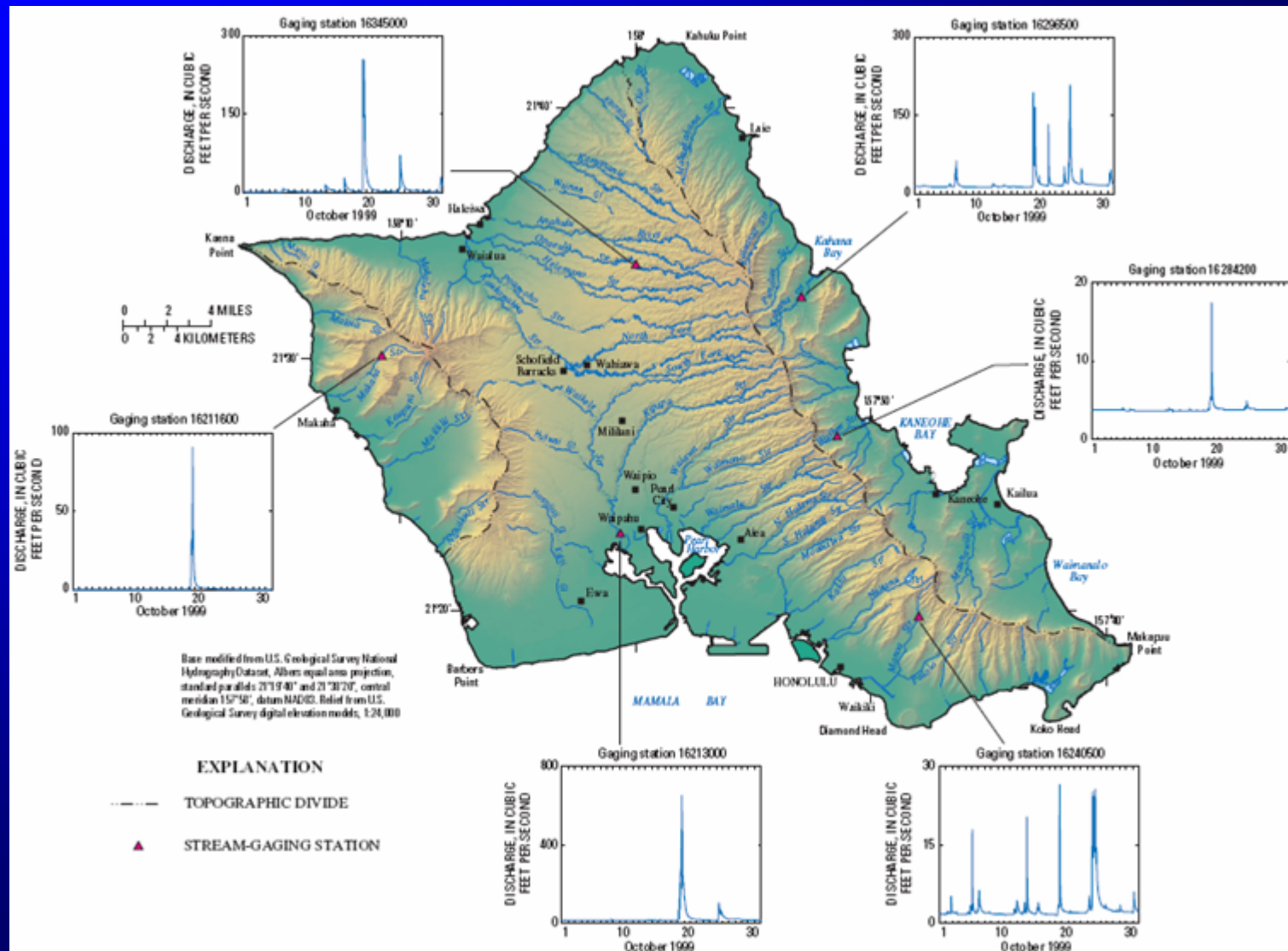
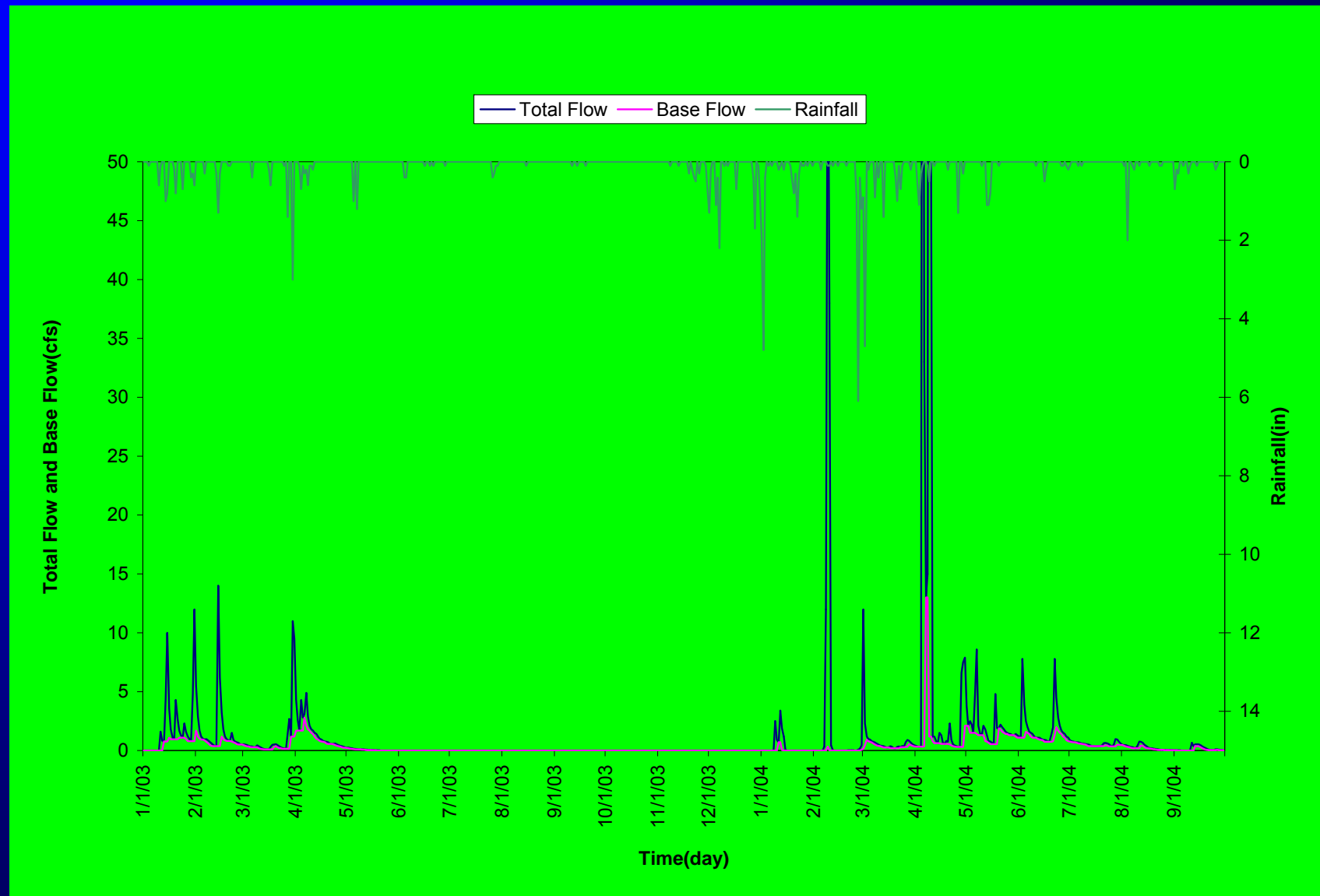


Figure 9. Stream discharge during October 1999 at selected stream-gaging stations, island of Oahu, Hawaii.

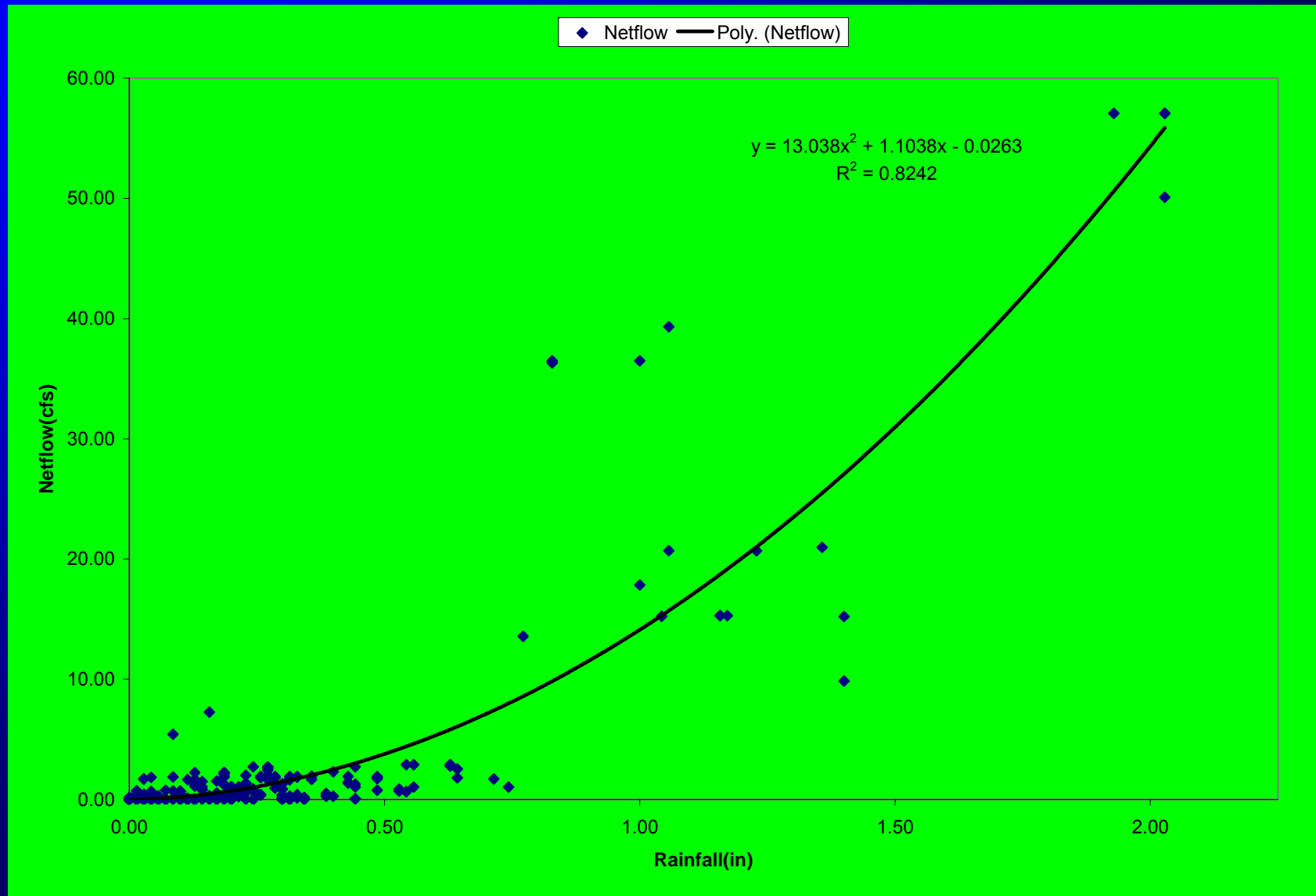
Rain, and Total & Base Flow, Makaha



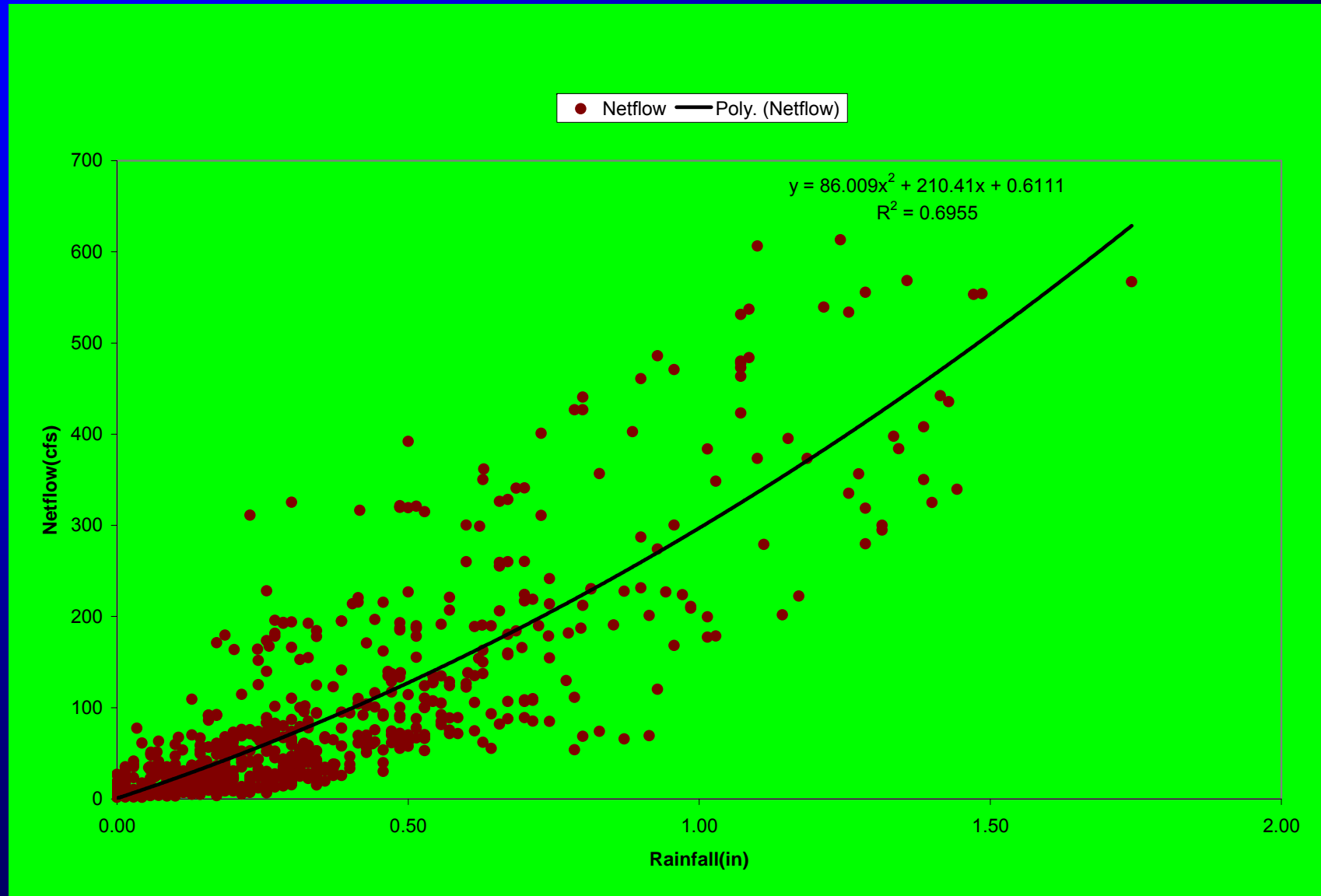
Rain, and Total & Base Flow, Hanalei



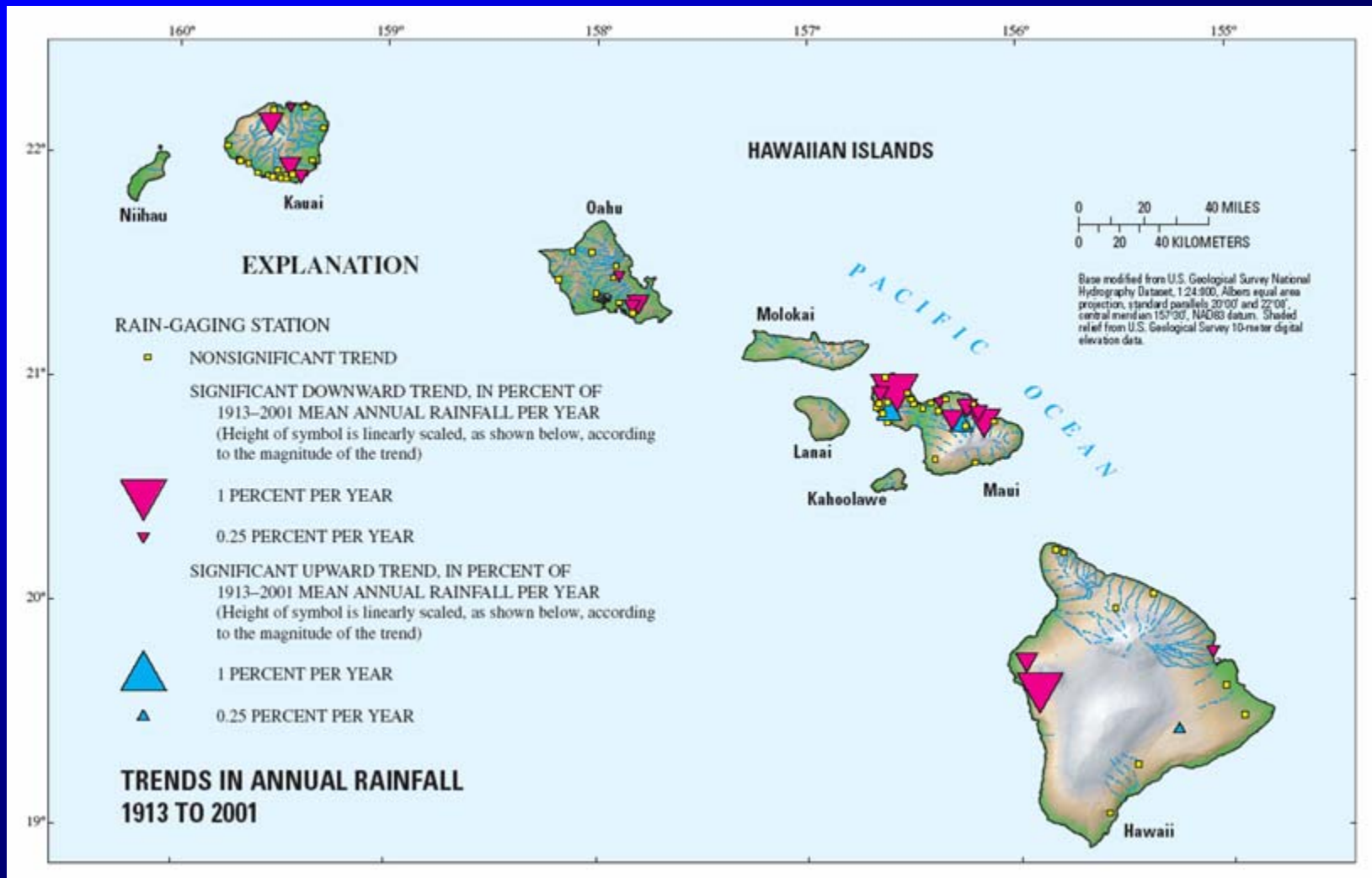
Rain- Overland Flow, Makaha Strm



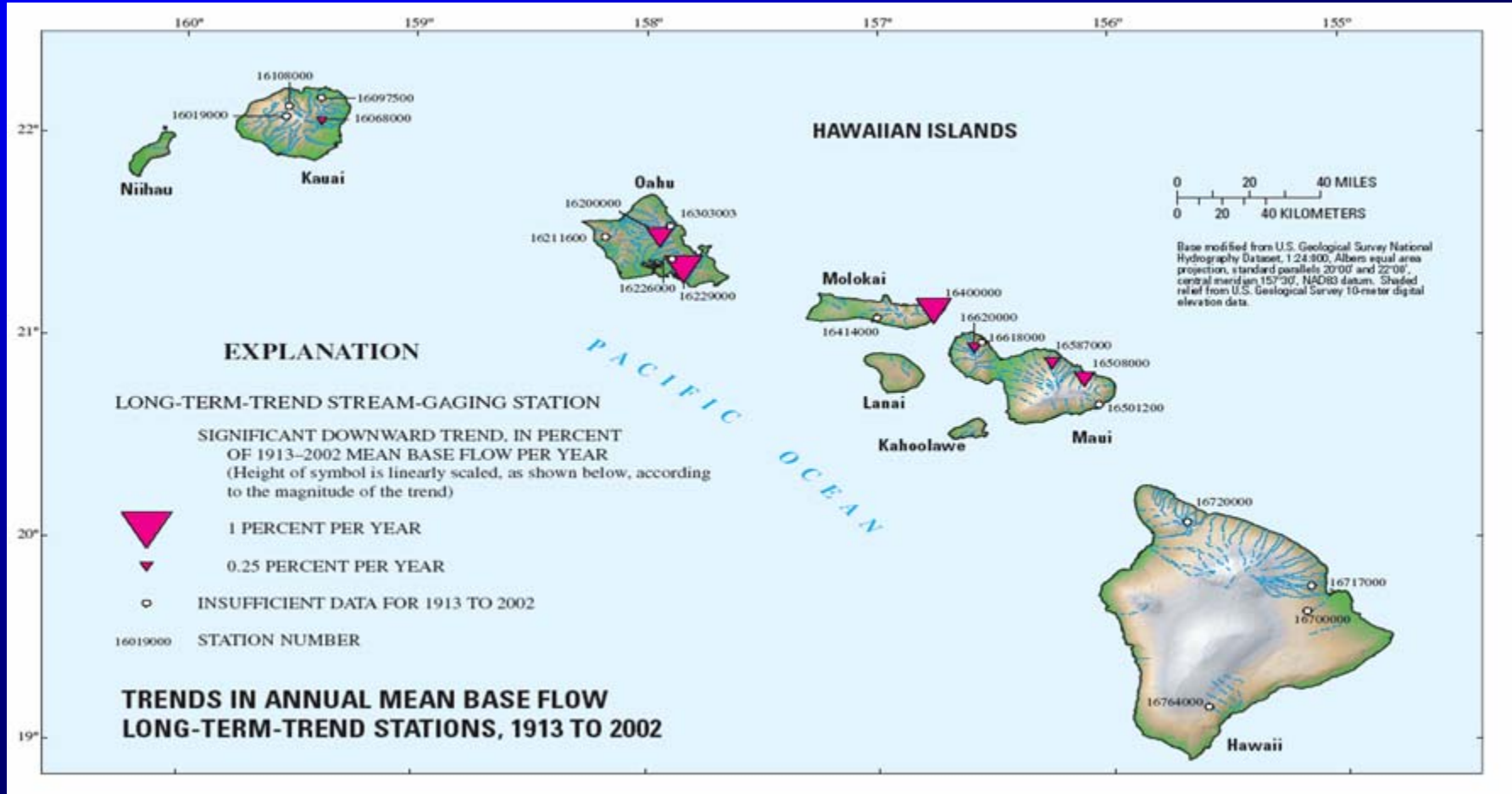
Rain-Overland Flow, Hanalei Strm

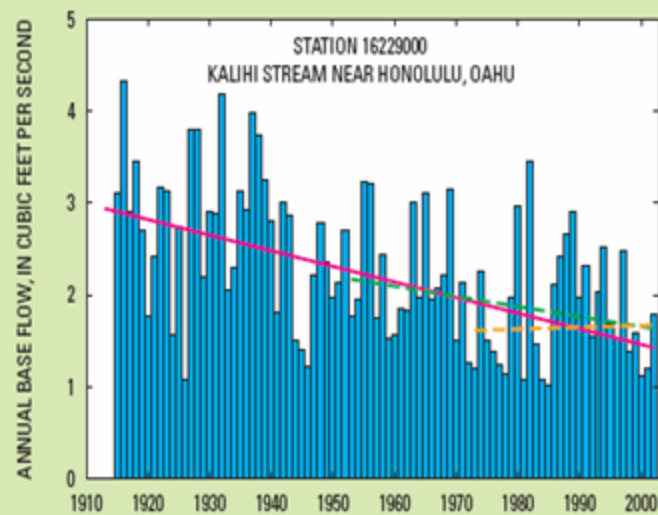


Long-Term Trends of Stream Flow in Hawaii

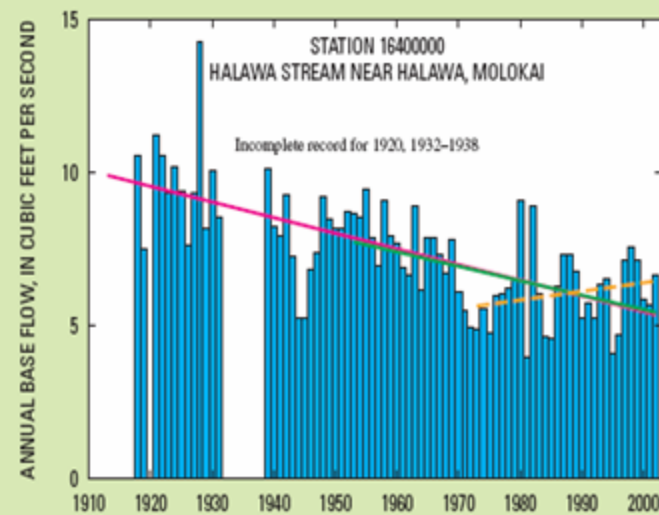


Trends in Streamflow Characteristics in HI





TRENDS IN ANNUAL MEAN BASE FLOW SELECTED LONG-TERM-TREND STATIONS



EXPLANATION

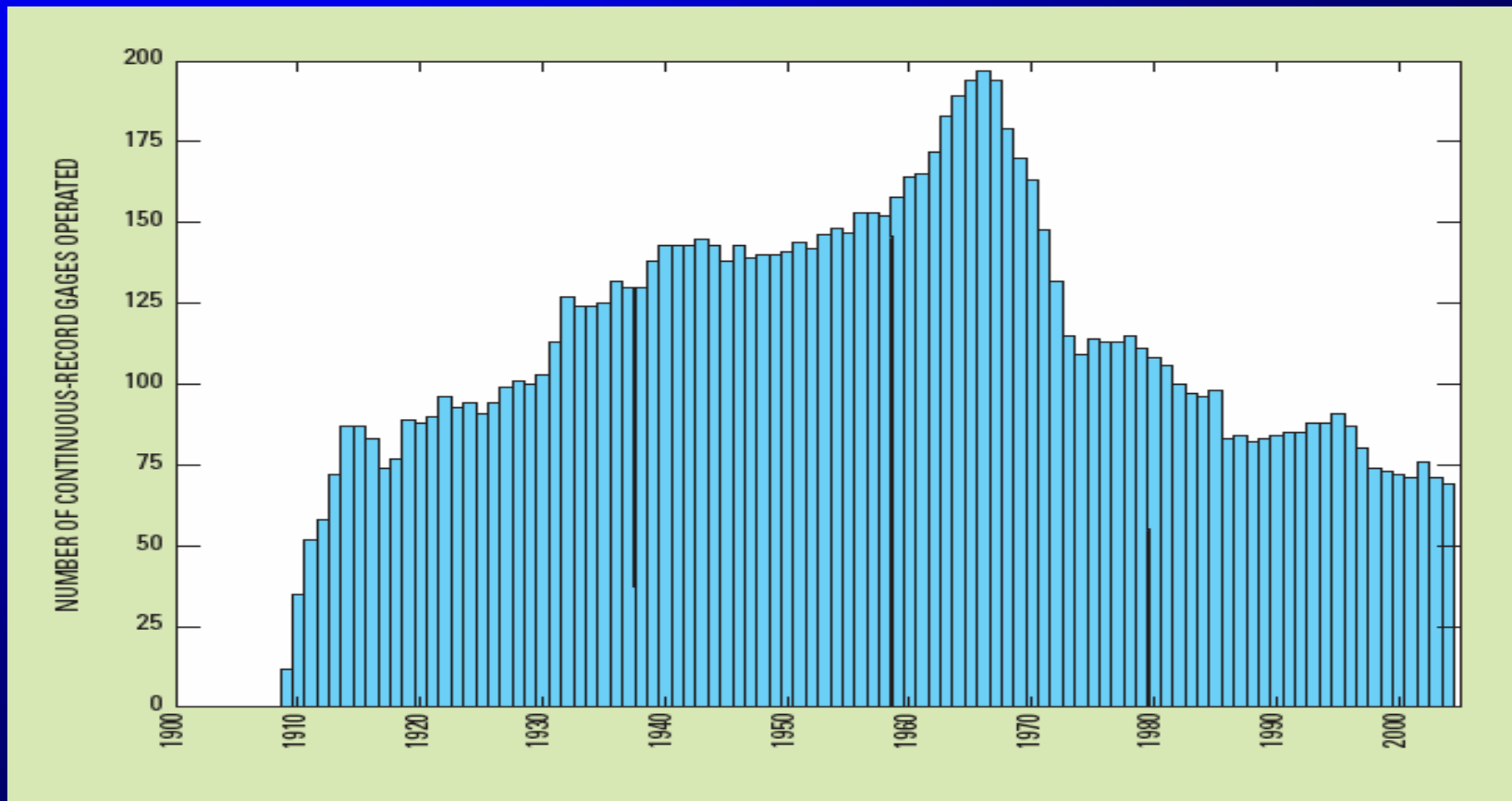
TREND LINE (KENDALL-THEIL ROBUST LINE)--Dashed line
indicates statistically nonsignificant trend

— 1913–2002

— 1953–2002

- - 1973–2002

USGS stream-gaging stations in HI



Case study: Makaha valley hydrology

Evaluation of the Effects of Alien Plant Species, Groundwater Extraction, and Long-term Weather Patterns on Mākaha Valley's Stream Flow



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Case study: Makaha valley hydrology

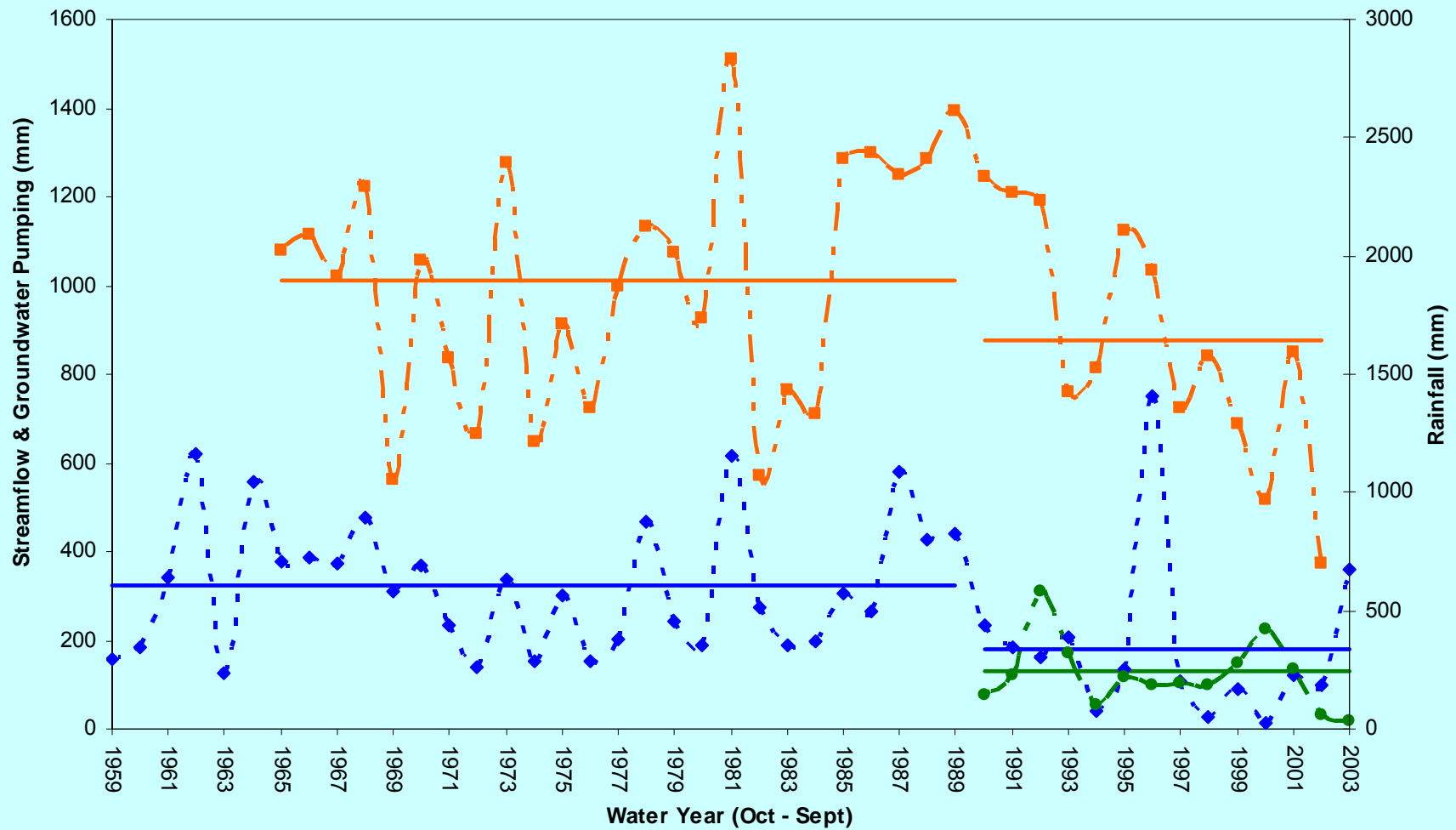
Objectives

- Produce detailed vegetation maps (Miura)
- Assess spatial-temporal variation of hydrologic cycle
- Calibrate and validate a watershed model
- Evaluate effect(s) of changing vegetation, weather patterns, and groundwater pumping

Case study: Makaha valley hydrology

Long term observed data

Streamflow-Rainfall-Pumping



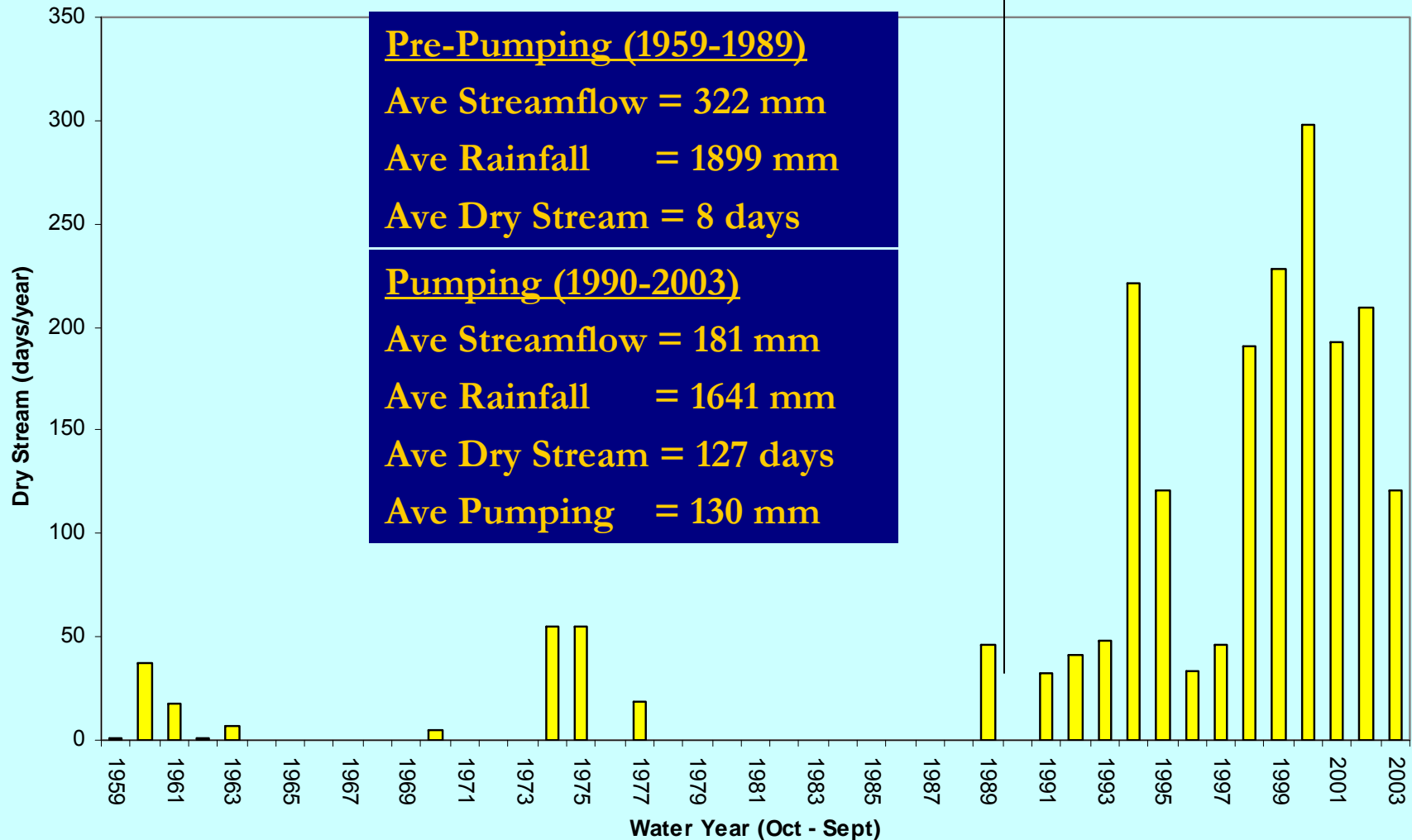
Case study: Makaha valley hydrology

Long term observed data

Dry Stream Conditions

Pre-Pumping

Pumping

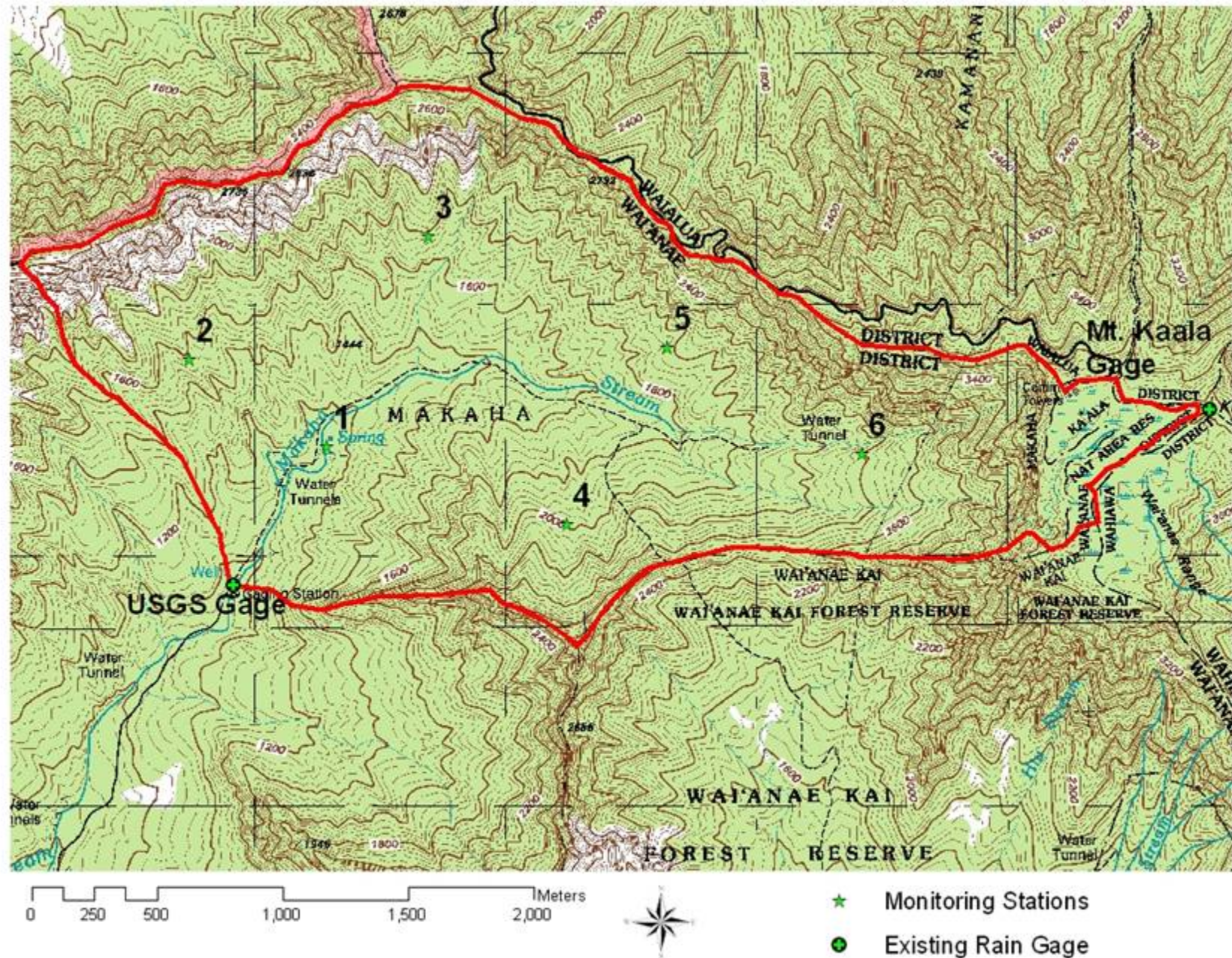


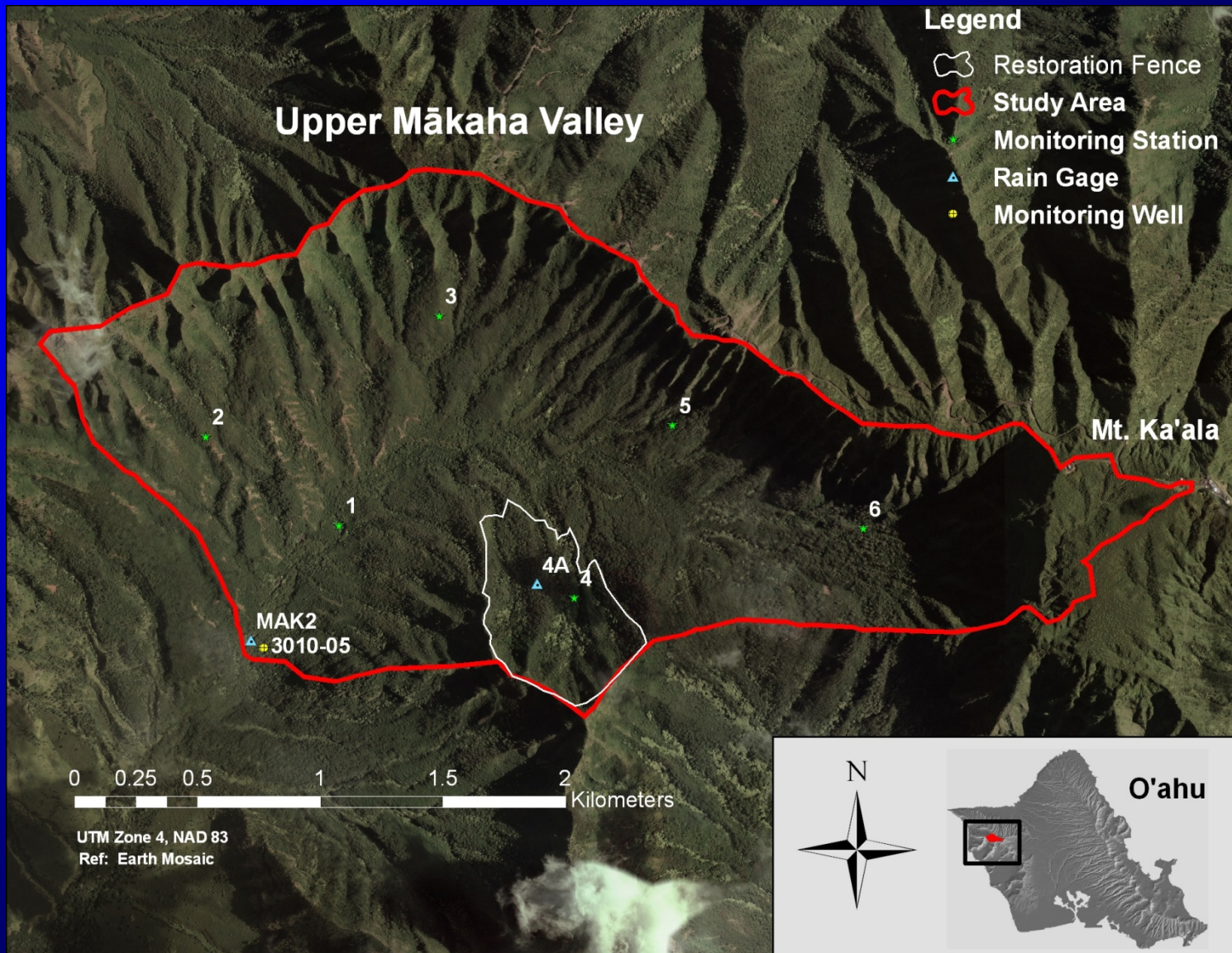
Case study: Makaha valley hydrology

Hypotheses for Streamflow Reduction

1. Caused by reduction in rainfall.
2. Caused by increases in evapotranspiration due to:
 1. atmospheric demand.
 2. changes in vegetation.
3. Caused by pumping of groundwater.
4. Caused by a combination of two or more of the above.

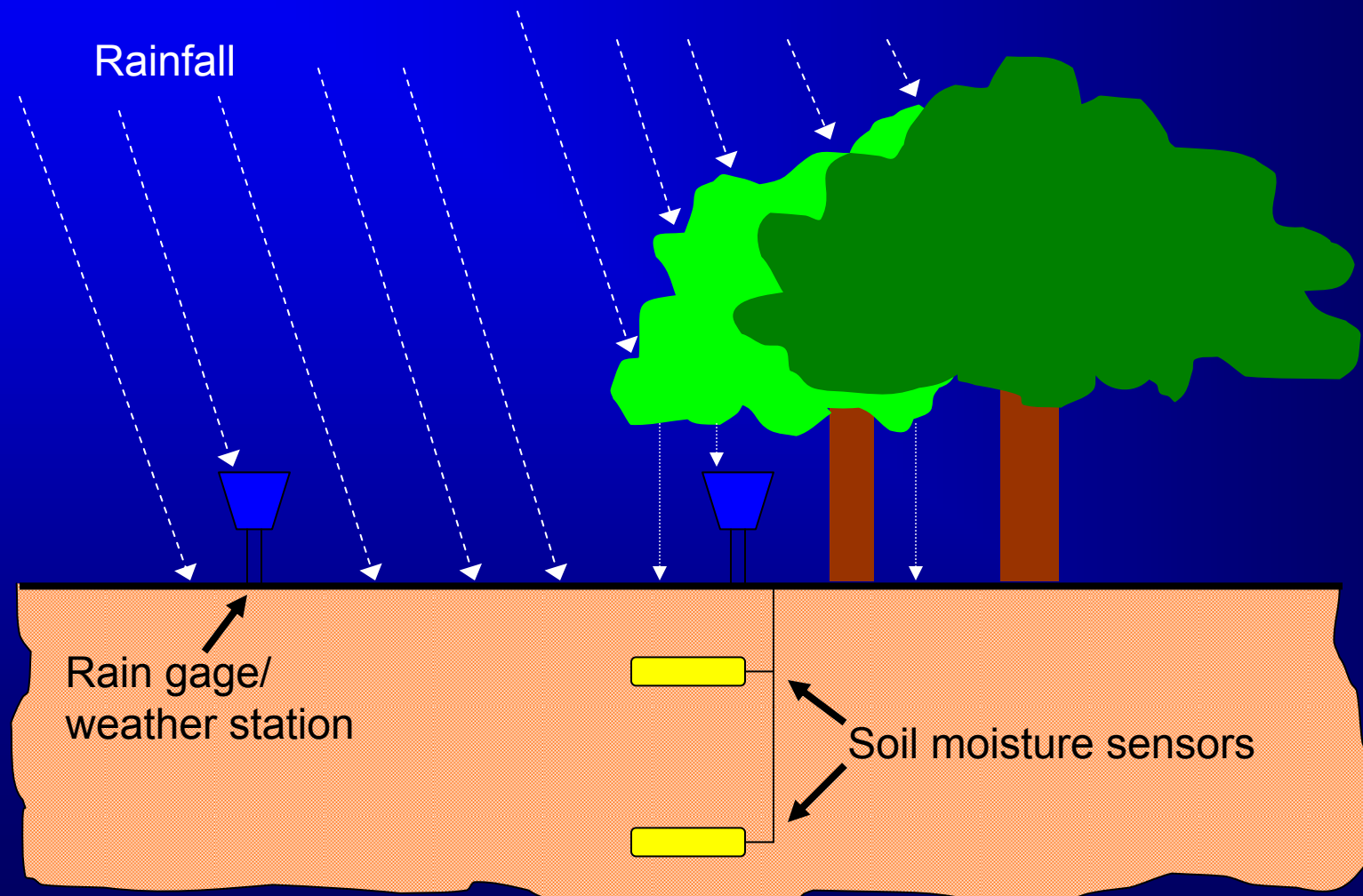
Case study: Makaha valley hydrology

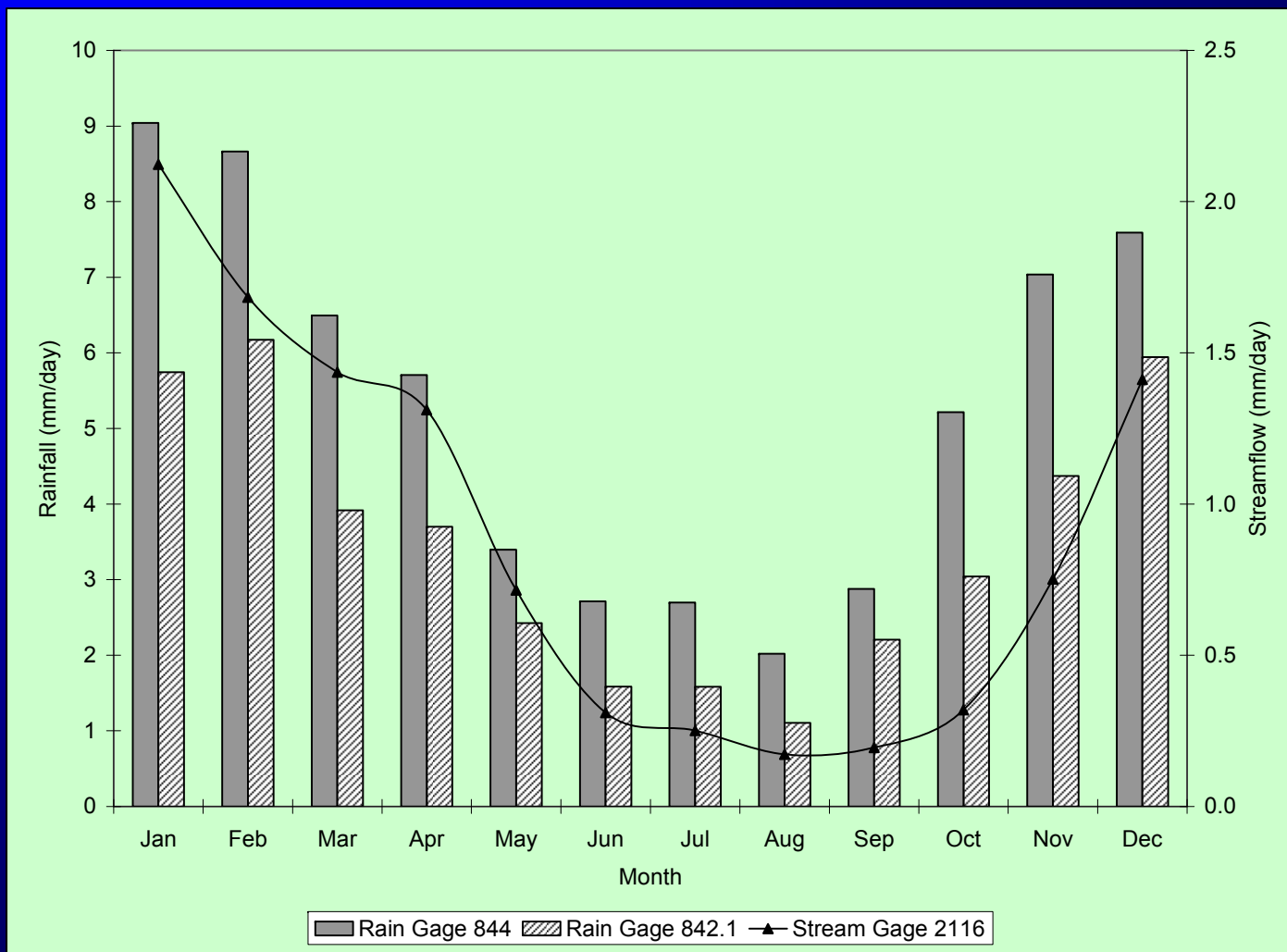




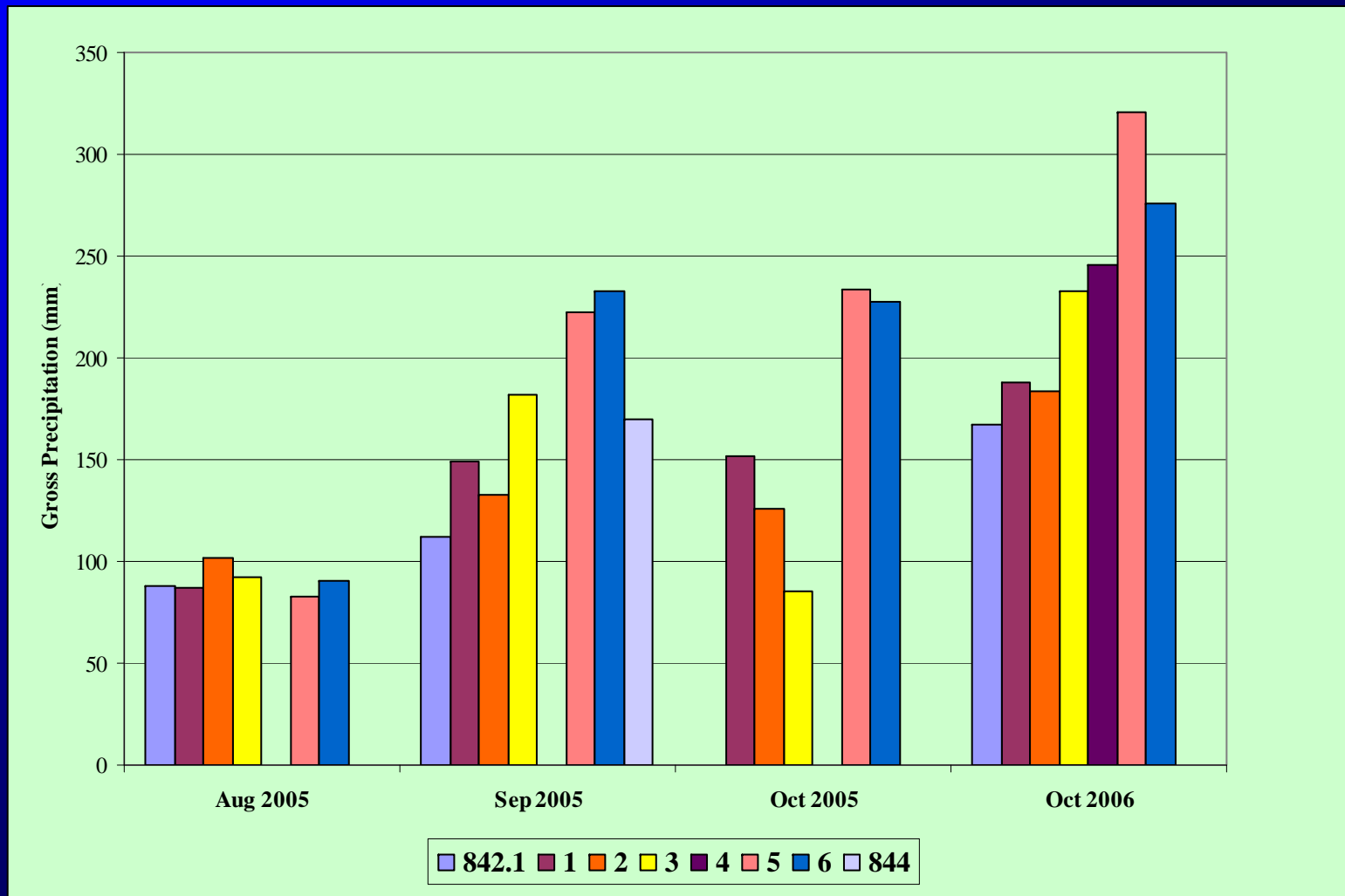
Case study: Makaha valley hydrology

Station Configuration

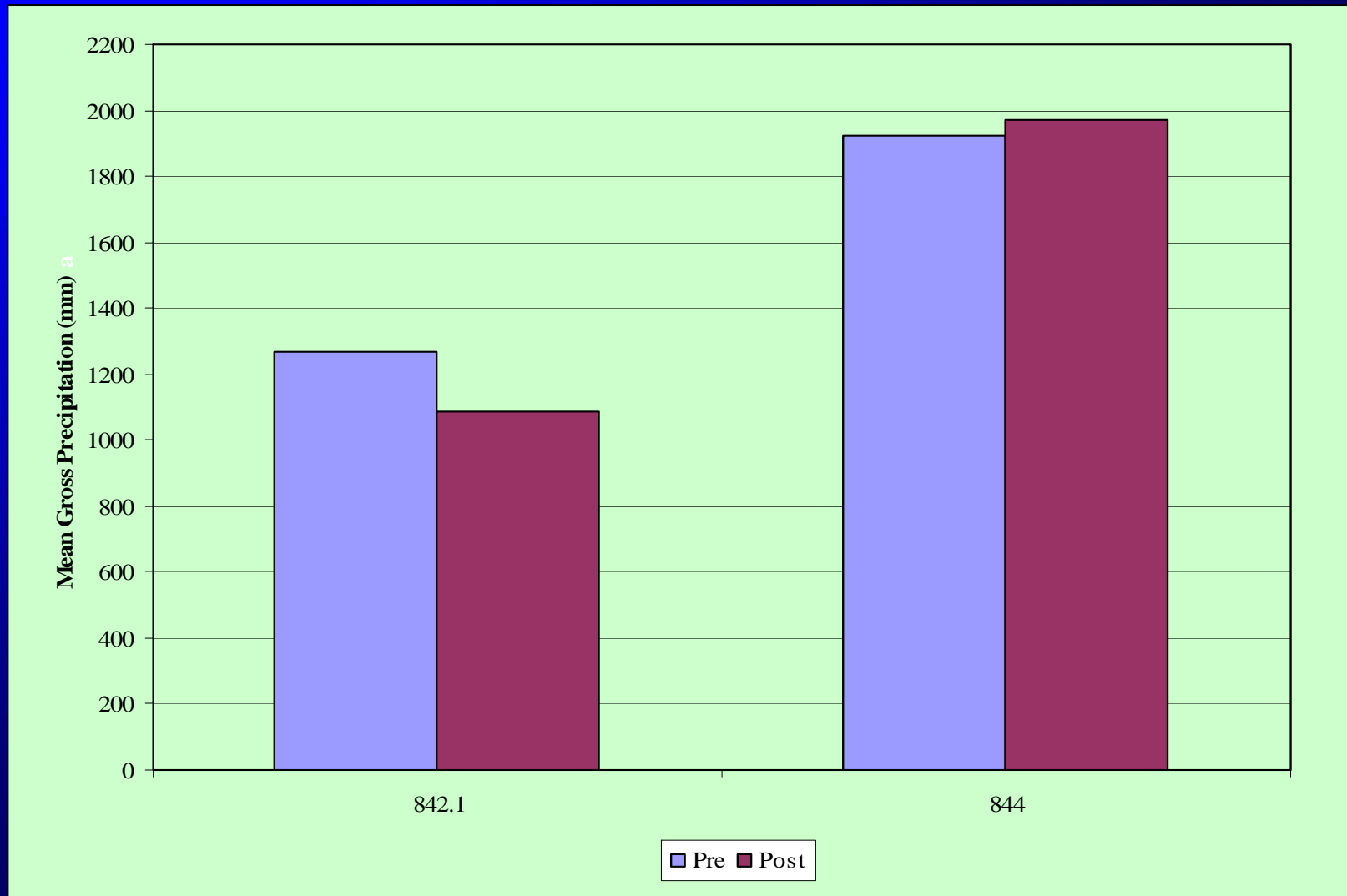




Rainfall Spatial Distribution

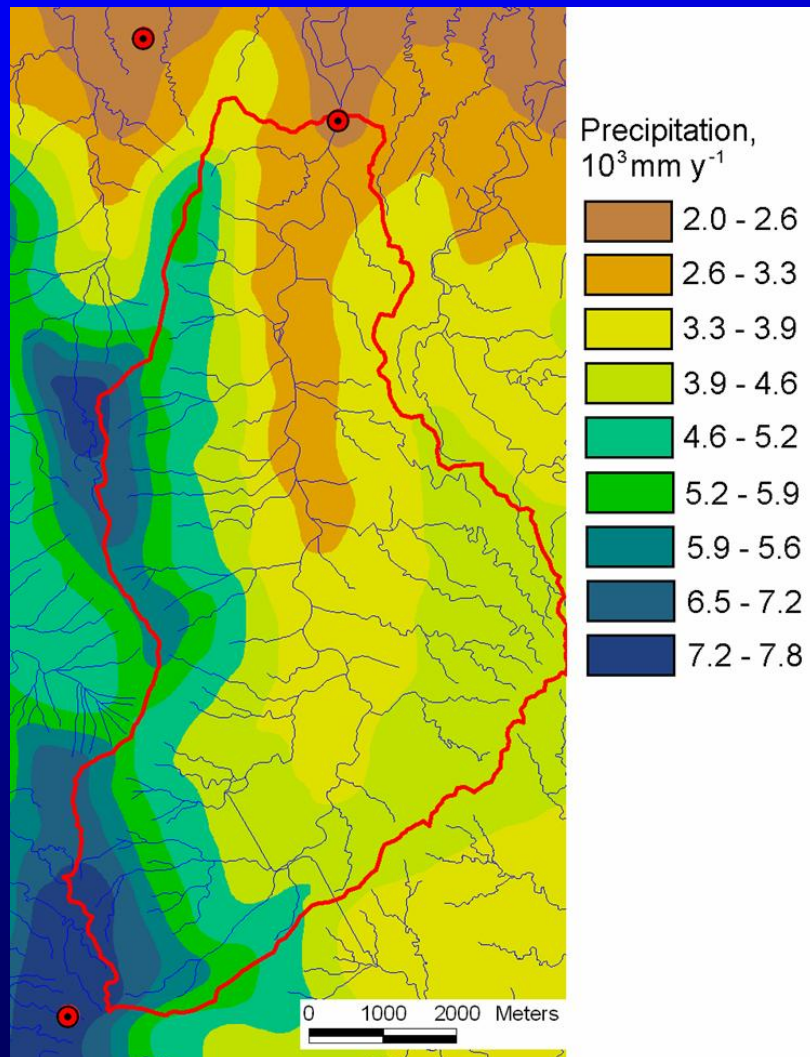


Pre-Post Pumping Rainfall

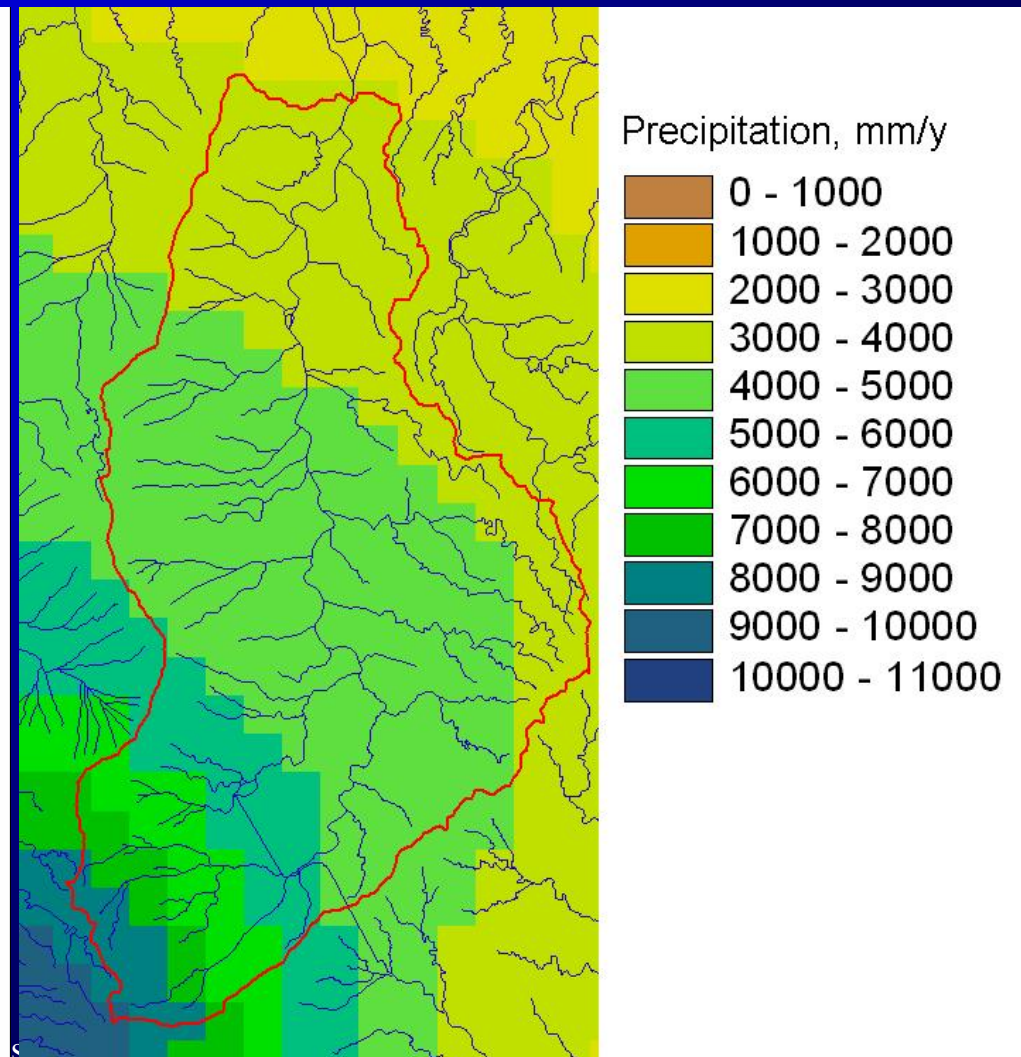


Effect of rainfall spatial distribution on surface water and sediment

Scenario 1 PRIZM model



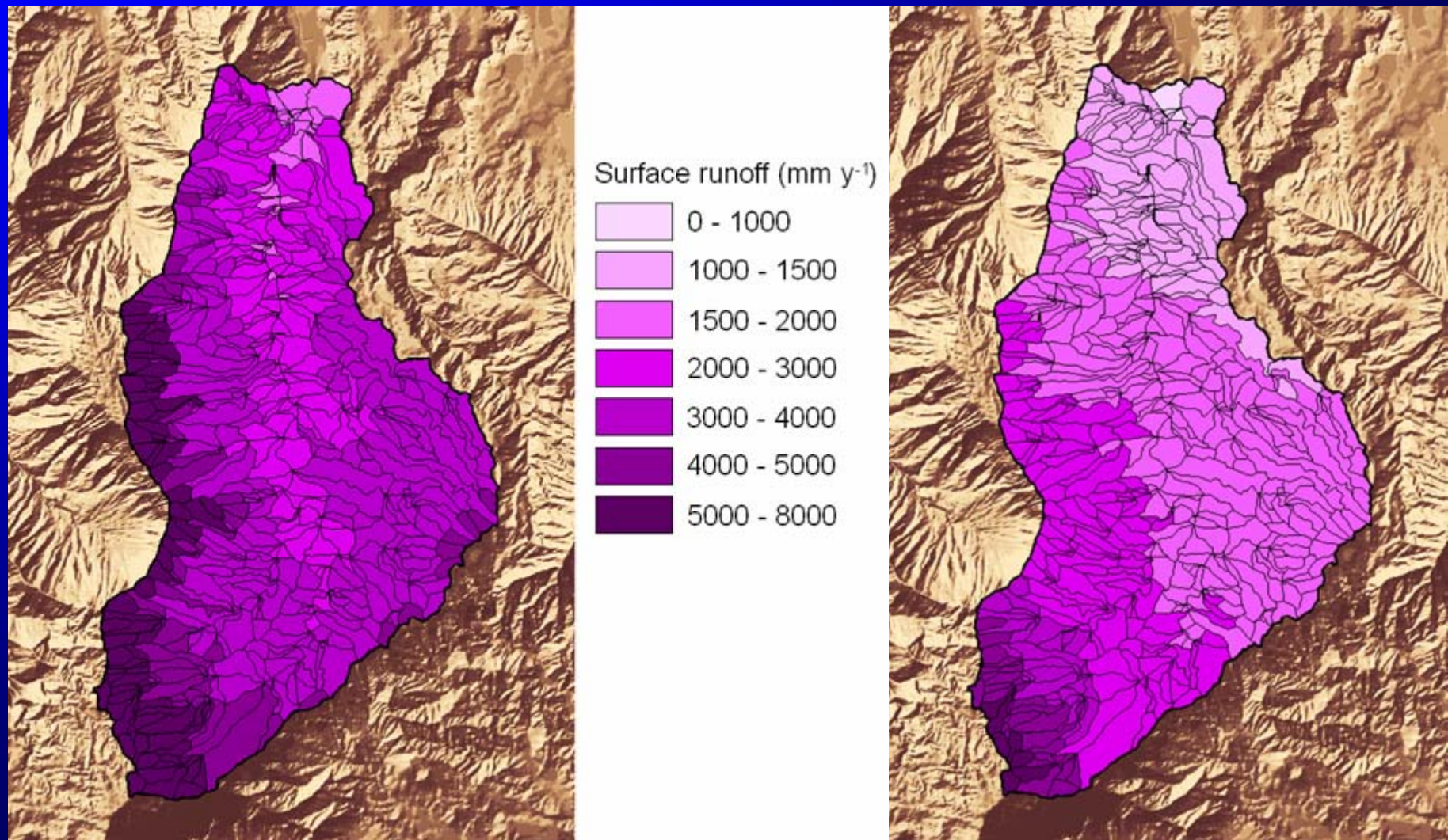
Scenario 2 Giambelluca, 1986



Resulting spatial distribution of runoff

Scenario 1

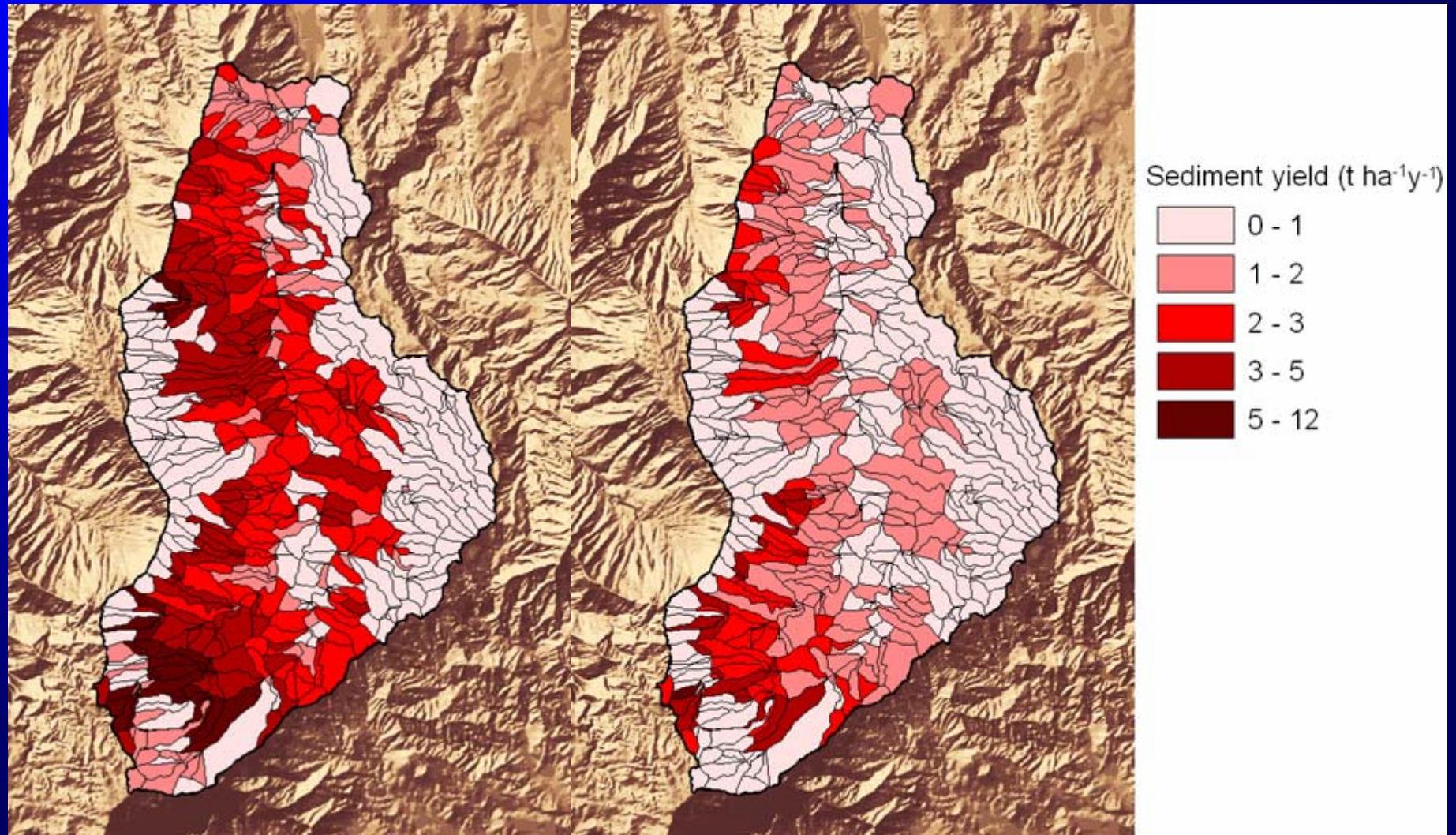
Scenario 2



Resulting spatial distribution of sediment yield

Scenario 1

Scenario 2



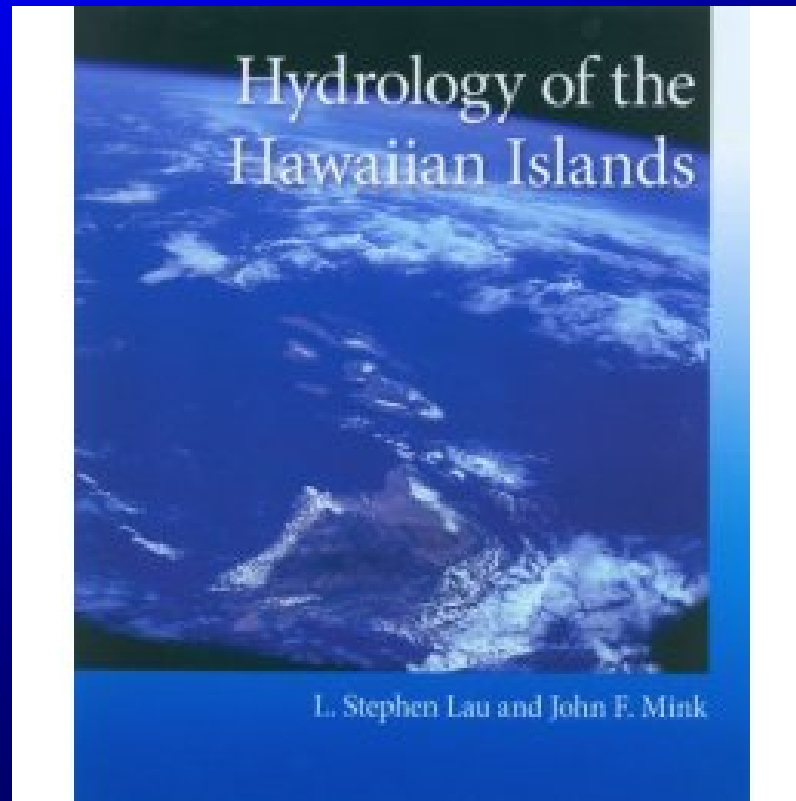
Multidisciplinary Approach!



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Additional Readings



COASTAL WATERSHED MANAGEMENT

Coastal watersheds differ from others by their unique features, including proximity to the ocean, weather and rainfall patterns, subsurface features, and land covers. Land use changes and competing needs for valuable water and land resources are especially more distinctive to such watersheds.

This book covers recent research relevant to coastal watersheds. It addresses the impact of a stream's chemical, biological, and sediment pollutants on the quality of the receiving waters, such as estuaries, bays, and near-shore waters. The contents of the book can be divided into three sections: a) overview of hydrological modelling, b) water quality assessment, and c) watershed management.

This book differs from other hydrology books by dealing with coastal watersheds which are characterized by their unique features: including weather and rainfall patterns, subsurface characteristics, and land use and cover. In addition to academia, the book should be of interest to organizations concerned with watershed management, such as local and federal governments and environmental groups. Overall, the book is expected to satisfy a great need toward understanding and managing critical areas in many parts of the world.

Titles of related interest:

Groundwater Characterization

Edited by: M. CUNHA, University of Coimbra, Portugal, L.M. NUNES, University of Algarve, Portugal and L. RIBEIRO, Technical University of Lisbon, Portugal
ISBN: 978-1-84564-134-4 2008 apx 350pp

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WIT Transactions on Ecology and the Environment, Vol 112
ISBN: 978-1-84564-116-0 2008 apx 350pp

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ISBN: 978-1-84564-075-0 2007 590pp

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Urbanization effects

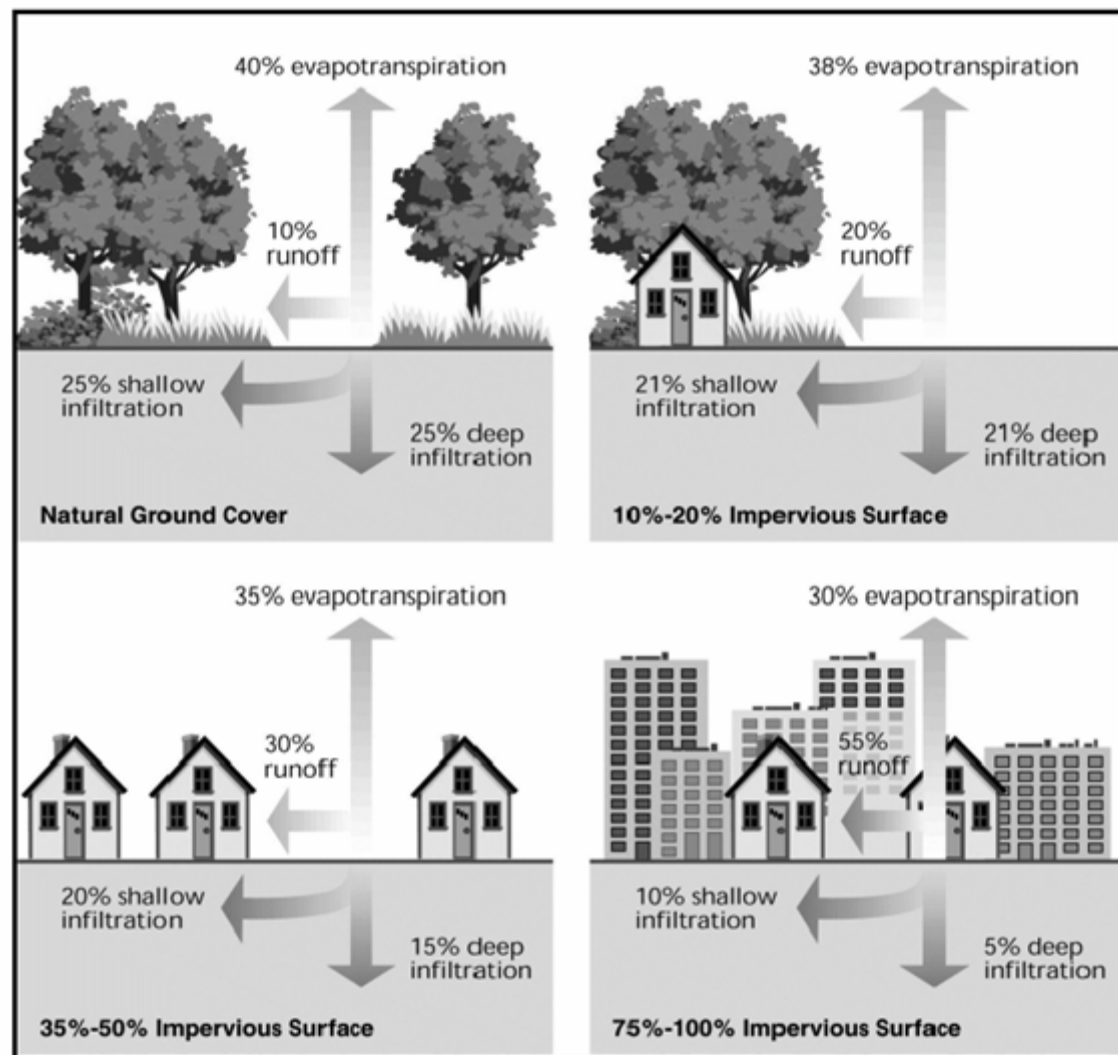
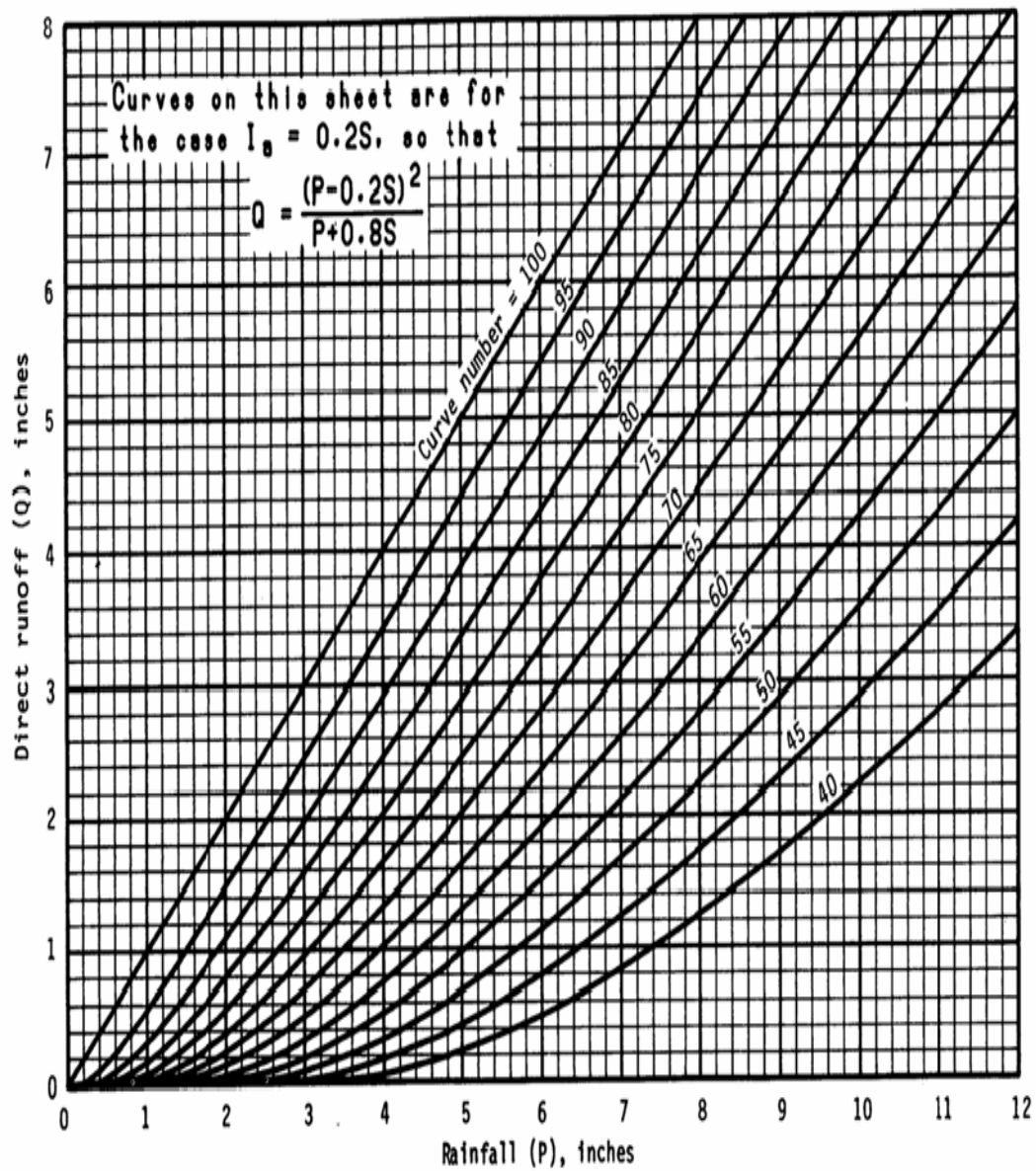


Figure 1.2: Relationship Between Impervious Cover and Surface Runoff

Source: Federal Interagency SRWG, 2000



-Solution of runoff equation.

Rainfall-Runoff: CN Method

- Q = runoff, P = rain, S = potential maximum retention after runoff begins (in) and
- I_a = initial abstraction = $0.2 * S$

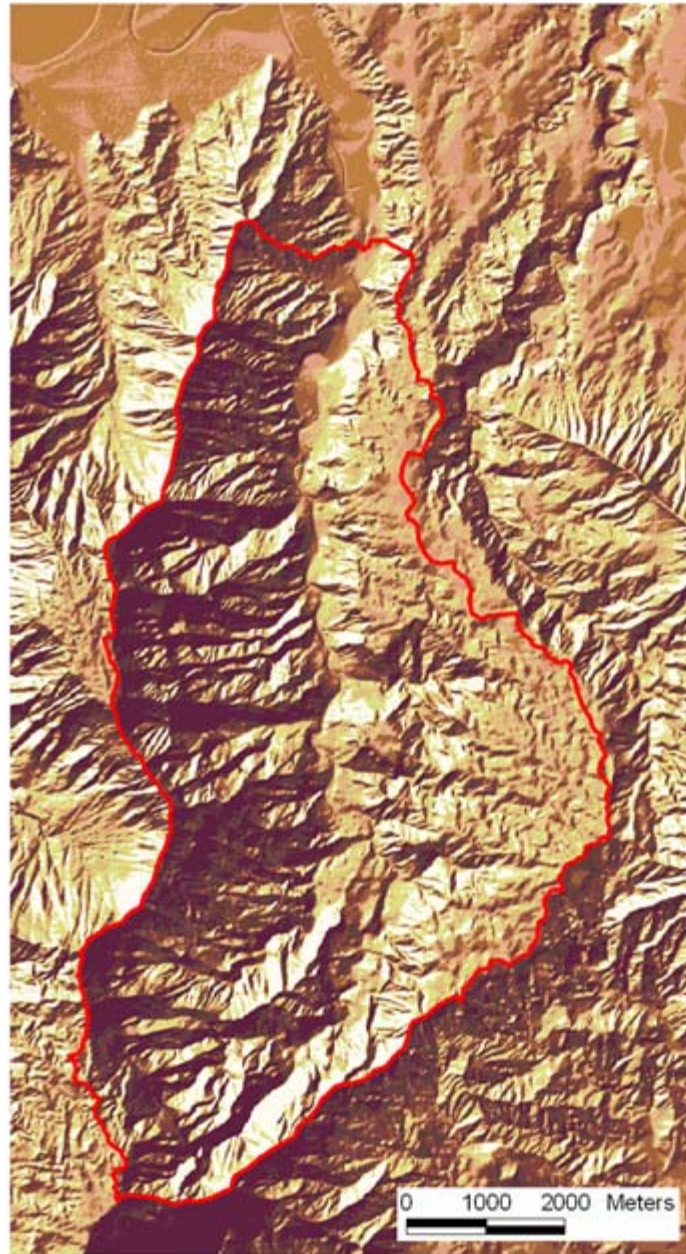
$$Q = \frac{(P - 0.2 * S)^2}{(P + 0.8 * S)}$$

$$S = \frac{1000}{CN} - 10$$

What's a Watershed?

- WATERSHED, or CATCHMENT, is a topographic area that is drained by a stream, that is, the total land area above **some point** on a stream or river that drains past that point.
- The watershed is often used as a **planning or management unit**. Natural environment unit.

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Oahu's Watersheds

