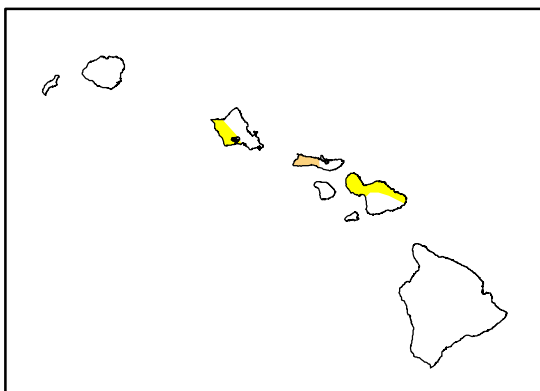
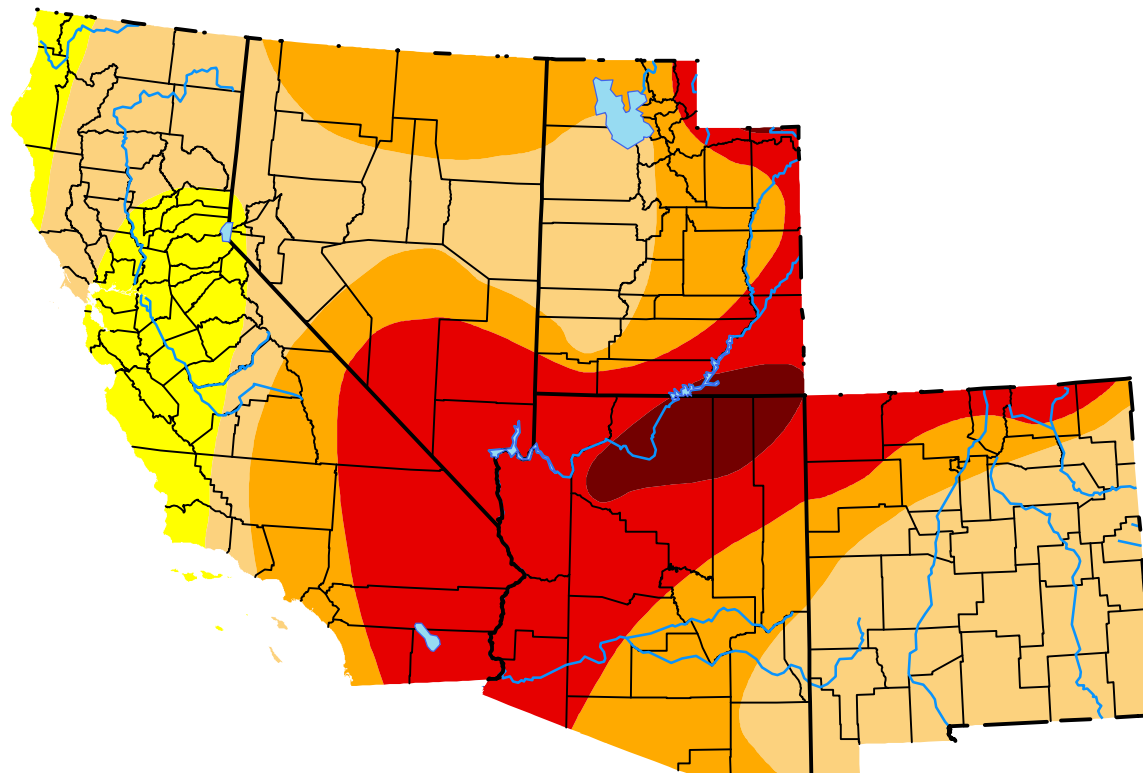


U.S. Drought Monitor

USDA Southwest Climate Hub

October 15, 2002
(Released Thursday, Oct. 17, 2002)
 Valid 8 a.m. EDT



Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0	D1	D2	D3	D4
Current	0.94	8.09	36.42	25.89	25.61	3.05
Last Week <i>10-10-2002</i>	0.93	8.03	36.19	26.15	25.59	3.10
3 Months Ago <i>07-18-2002</i>	2.78	11.15	21.06	11.56	37.23	16.23
Start of Calendar Year <i>01-03-2002</i>	45.56	22.67	17.91	9.16	4.71	0.00
Start of Water Year <i>10-03-2002</i>	2.56	11.55	25.16	28.26	27.95	4.53
One Year Ago <i>10-18-2001</i>	41.73	19.19	16.29	9.60	13.19	0.00

Intensity:

None	D2 Severe Drought
D0 Abnormally Dry	D3 Extreme Drought
D1 Moderate Drought	D4 Exceptional Drought

The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. See accompanying text summary for forecast statements.

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