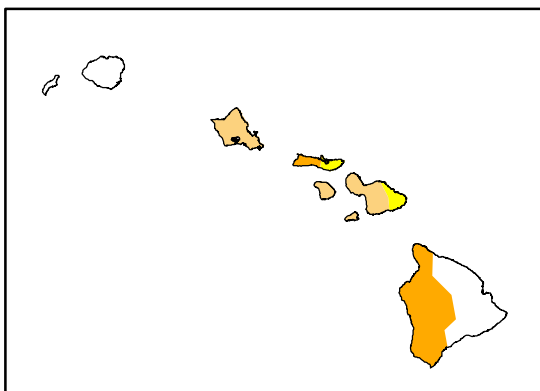
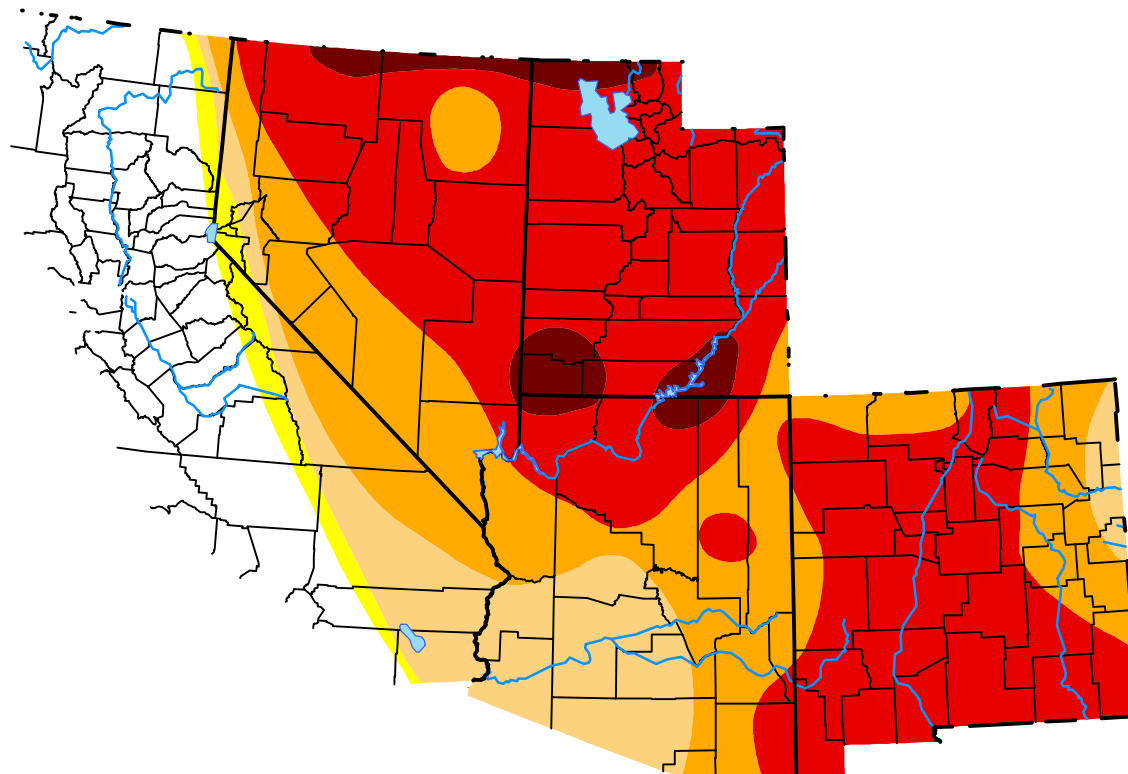


U.S. Drought Monitor

USDA Southwest Climate Hub

September 16, 2003
(Released Thursday, Sep. 18, 2003)
 Valid 8 a.m. EDT



Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0	D1	D2	D3	D4
Current	18.27	2.47	11.51	22.78	41.53	3.44
Last Week <i>09-11-2003</i>	17.91	1.84	12.22	25.79	38.48	3.77
3 Months Ago <i>06-19-2003</i>	16.96	4.12	16.11	25.73	34.84	2.24
Start of Calendar Year <i>01-02-2003</i>	18.08	7.73	15.93	36.52	19.37	2.37
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>09-19-2002</i>	2.51	10.33	21.82	29.51	28.41	7.41

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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