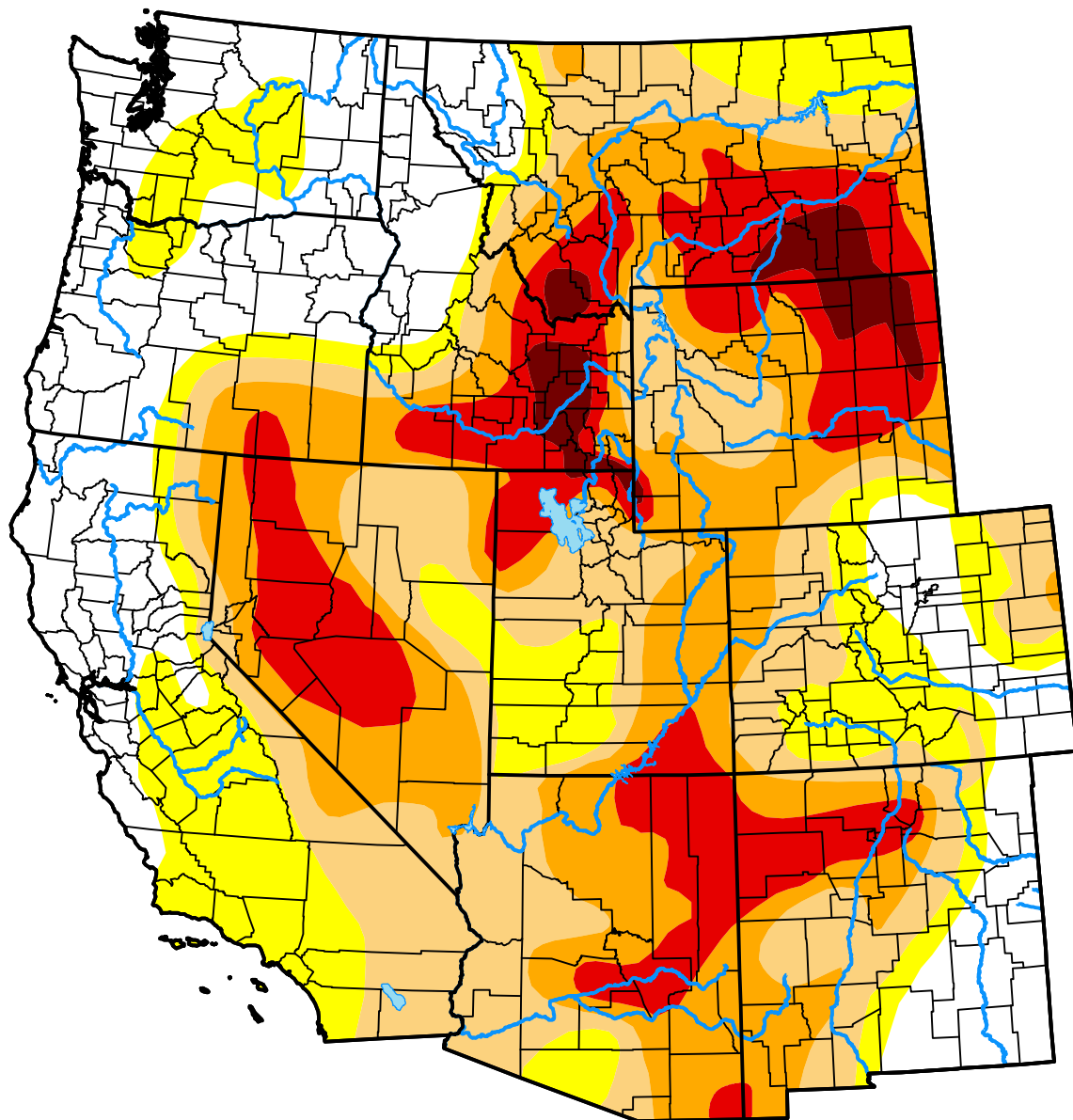


# U.S. Drought Monitor West

**December 21, 2004**  
(Released Thursday, Dec. 23, 2004)  
Valid 7 a.m. EST



*Drought Conditions (Percent Area)*

|                                                    | None  | D0-D4 | D1-D4 | D2-D4 | D3-D4 | D4   |
|----------------------------------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|------|
| <b>Current</b>                                     | 22.66 | 77.34 | 59.95 | 37.53 | 16.20 | 2.34 |
| <b>Last Week</b><br><i>12-14-2004</i>              | 24.84 | 75.16 | 59.46 | 36.72 | 15.86 | 2.27 |
| <b>3 Months Ago</b><br><i>09-21-2004</i>           | 17.56 | 82.44 | 68.57 | 50.59 | 24.23 | 2.36 |
| <b>Start of Calendar Year</b><br><i>12-30-2003</i> | 14.51 | 85.49 | 78.10 | 64.14 | 32.80 | 8.62 |
| <b>Start of Water Year</b><br><i>09-28-2004</i>    | 18.76 | 81.24 | 68.03 | 50.40 | 24.23 | 2.36 |
| <b>One Year Ago</b><br><i>12-23-2003</i>           | 11.89 | 88.11 | 81.27 | 66.59 | 37.75 | 9.44 |

**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. For more information on the Drought Monitor, go to <https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/About.aspx>*

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**droughtmonitor.unl.edu**