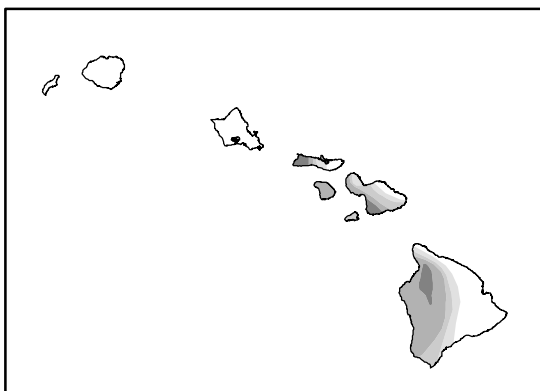
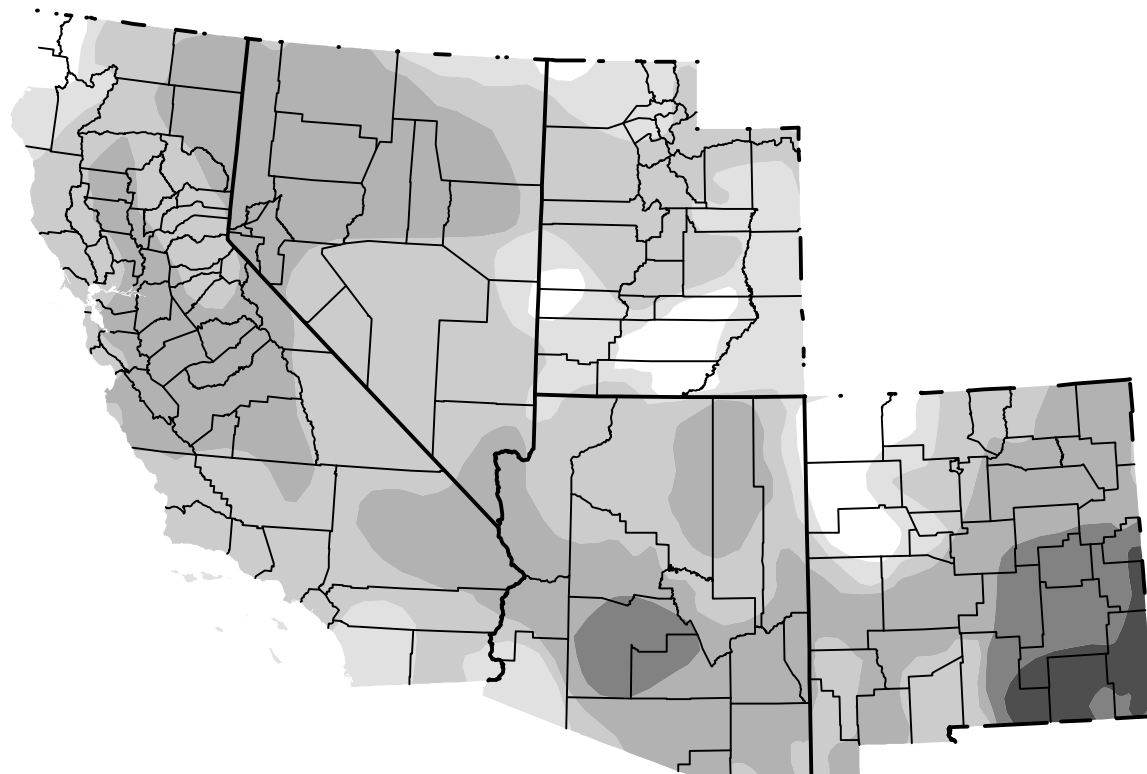


U.S. Drought Monitor

USDA Southwest Climate Hub

March 20, 2012
(Released Thursday, Mar. 22, 2012)
 Valid 8 a.m. EDT



Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	5.42	94.58	81.99	43.98	6.79	1.86
Last Week <i>03-15-2012</i>	4.77	95.23	82.61	46.92	6.79	1.86
3 Months Ago <i>12-22-2011</i>	47.97	52.03	29.99	22.04	8.31	3.63
Start of Calendar Year <i>01-05-2012</i>	29.38	70.62	48.42	22.03	5.32	1.55
Start of Water Year <i>09-29-2011</i>	53.67	46.33	33.57	26.53	17.16	7.49
One Year Ago <i>03-24-2011</i>	63.10	36.90	26.83	12.13	3.23	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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