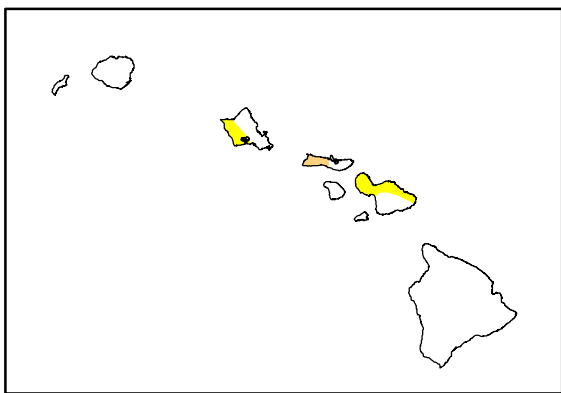
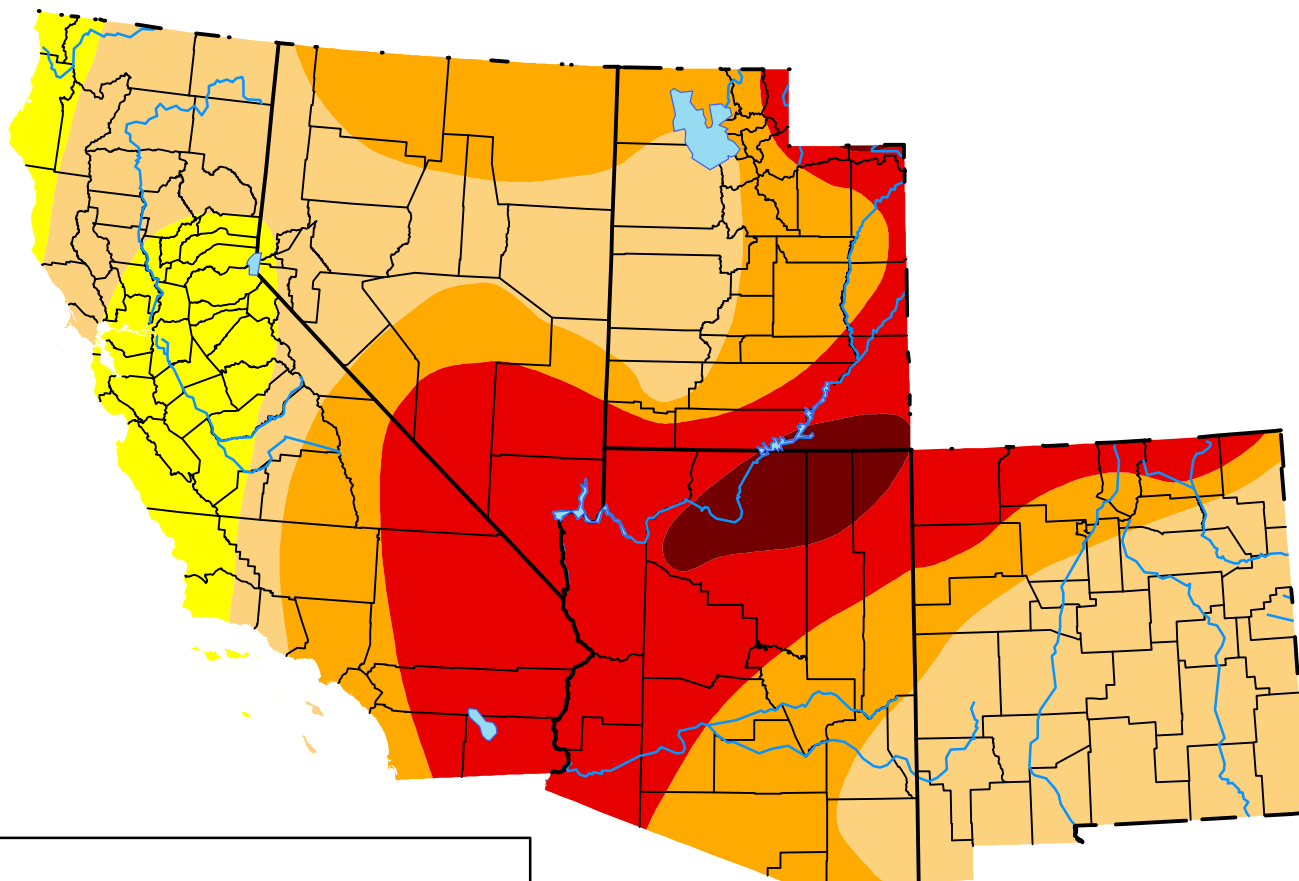


U.S. Drought Monitor

USDA Southwest Climate Hub

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



Intensity:



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

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