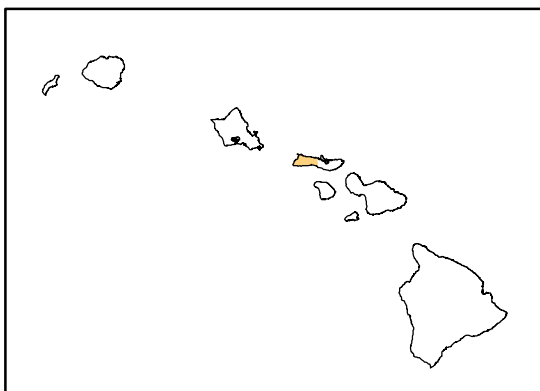
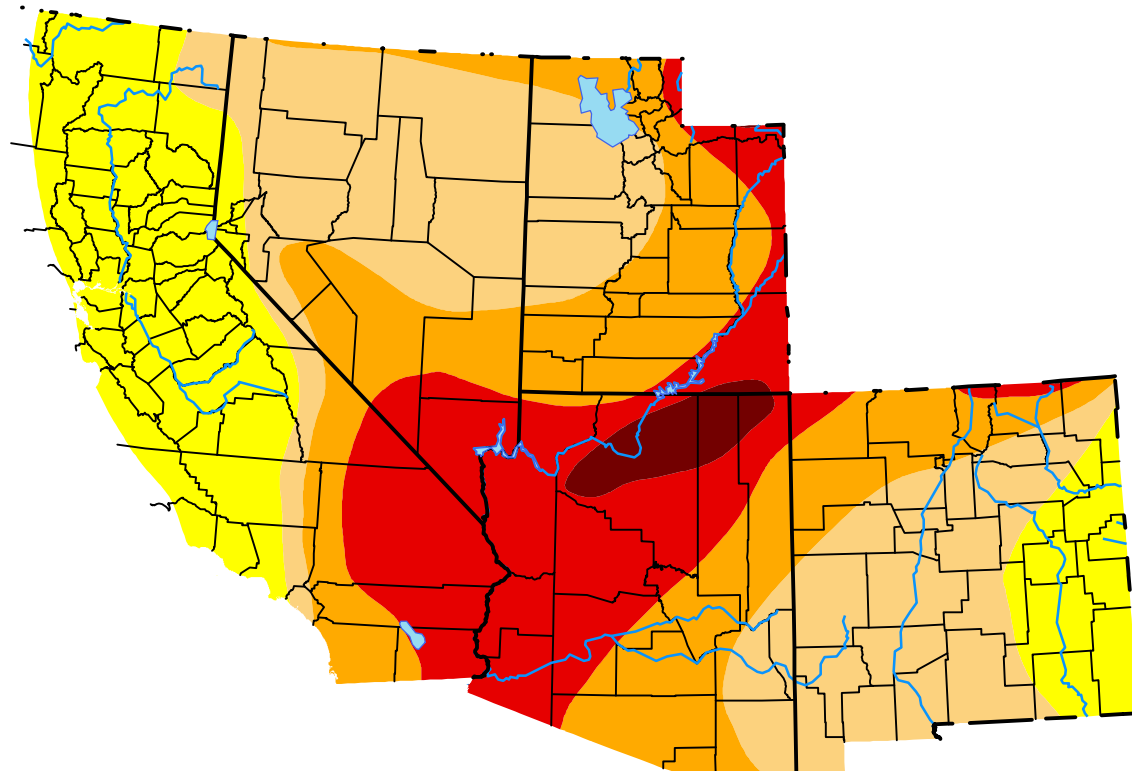


U.S. Drought Monitor

USDA Southwest Climate Hub

December 3, 2002
(Released Thursday, Dec. 5, 2002)
 Valid 7 a.m. EST



Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	2.54	97.46	76.40	45.72	21.46	2.13
Last Week <i>11-27-2002</i>	2.35	97.65	76.89	45.74	22.73	2.22
3 Months Ago <i>09-05-2002</i>	2.41	97.59	85.57	66.18	38.05	9.73
Start of Calendar Year <i>01-03-2002</i>	45.56	54.44	31.77	13.87	4.71	0.00
Start of Water Year <i>10-03-2002</i>	2.56	97.44	85.89	60.73	32.47	4.53
One Year Ago <i>12-06-2001</i>	37.86	62.14	37.85	18.81	8.73	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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