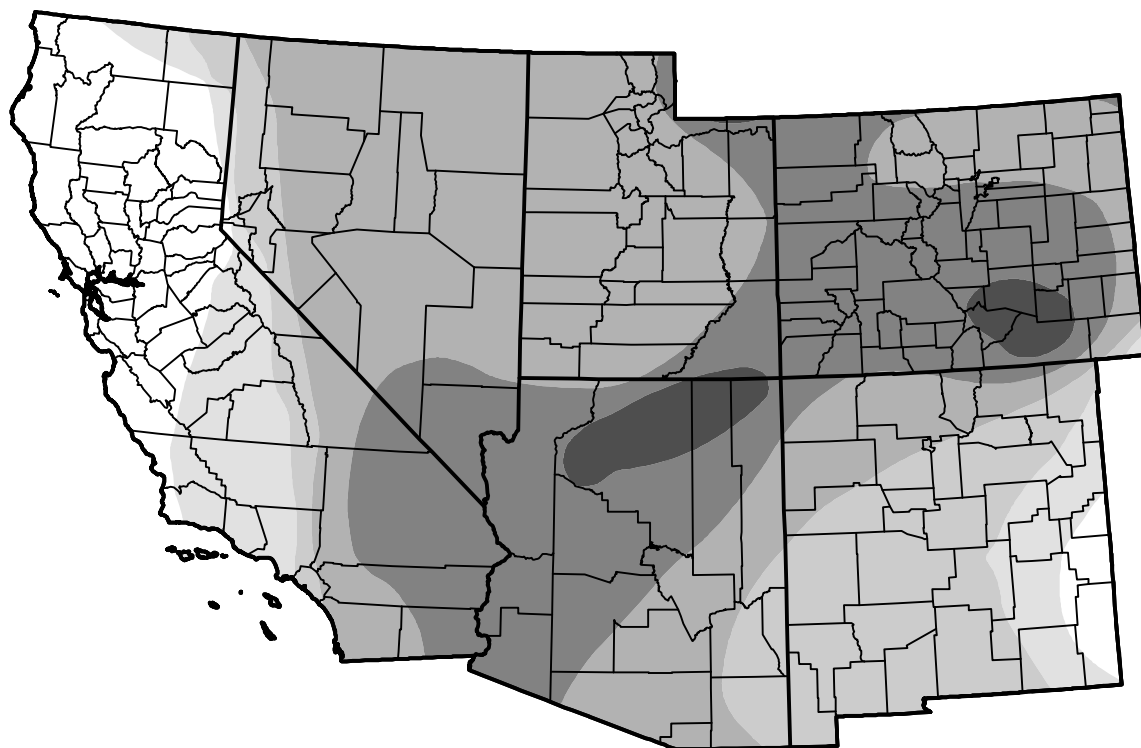


# U.S. Drought Monitor Southwest

**December 17, 2002**  
(Released Thursday, Dec. 19, 2002)  
Valid 7 a.m. EST



*Drought Conditions (Percent Area)*

|                                                    | None  | D0-D4 | D1-D4 | D2-D4 | D3-D4 | D4    |
|----------------------------------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| <b>Current</b>                                     | 10.82 | 89.18 | 81.07 | 66.87 | 29.82 | 3.06  |
| <b>Last Week</b><br><i>12-10-2002</i>              | 1.21  | 98.79 | 84.92 | 67.82 | 29.47 | 3.03  |
| <b>3 Months Ago</b><br><i>09-17-2002</i>           | 1.32  | 98.68 | 89.88 | 71.10 | 42.53 | 11.02 |
| <b>Start of Calendar Year</b><br><i>01-01-2002</i> | 45.05 | 54.95 | 29.45 | 11.89 | 4.04  | 0.00  |
| <b>Start of Water Year</b><br><i>10-01-2002</i>    | 1.40  | 98.60 | 88.79 | 67.17 | 39.95 | 7.67  |
| <b>One Year Ago</b><br><i>12-18-2001</i>           | 40.18 | 59.82 | 33.73 | 14.92 | 5.88  | 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. For more information on the Drought Monitor, go to <https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/About.aspx>*

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