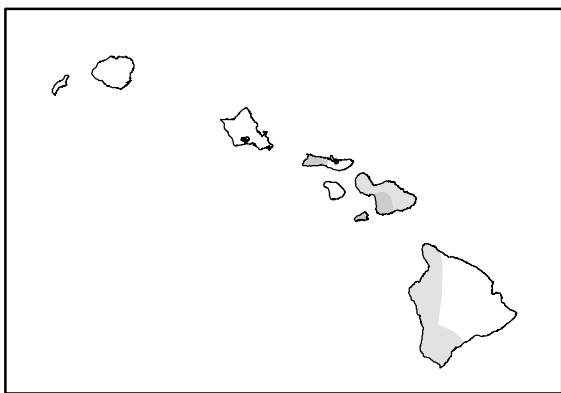
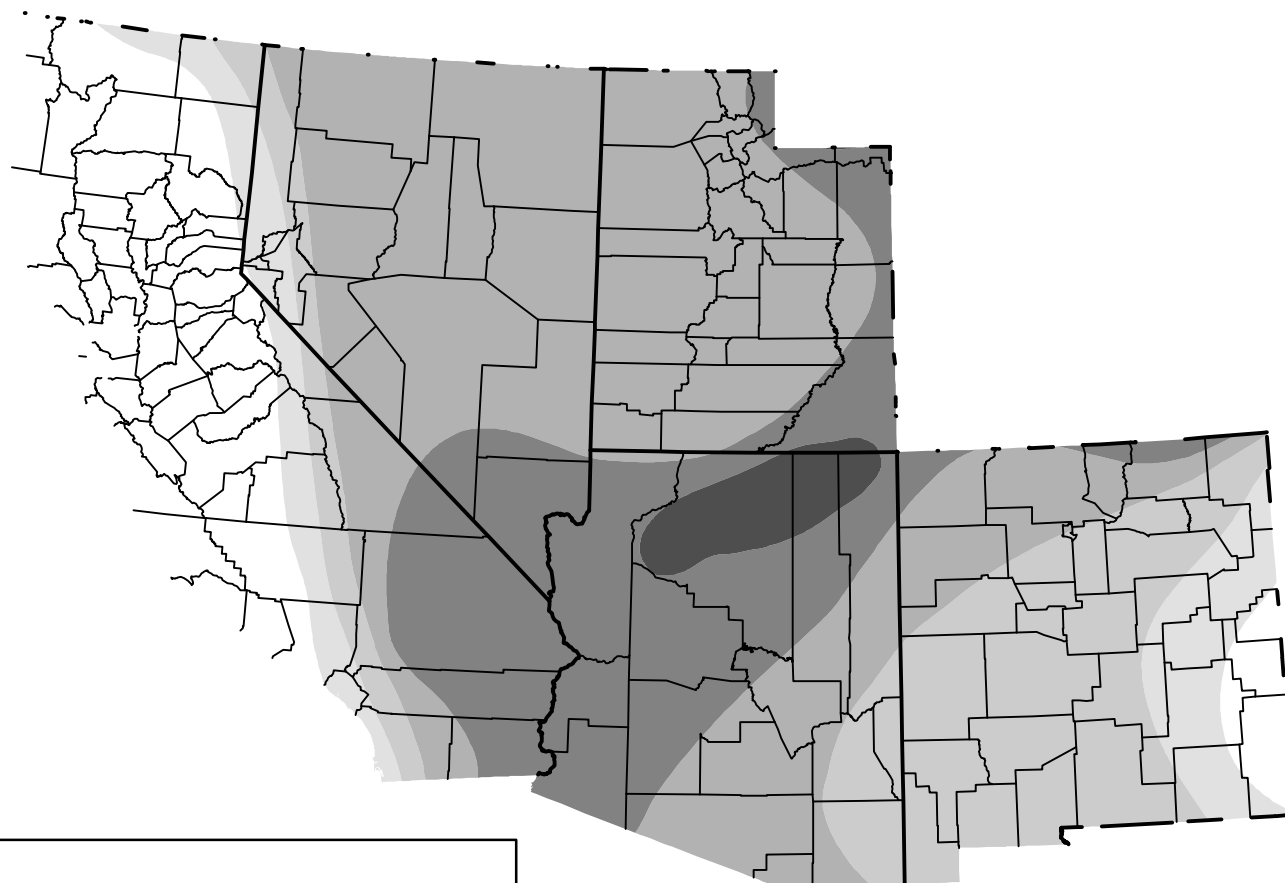


U.S. Drought Monitor

USDA Southwest Climate Hub

December 24, 2002
(Released Thursday, Dec. 26, 2002)
Valid 7 a.m. EST



Intensity:



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

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