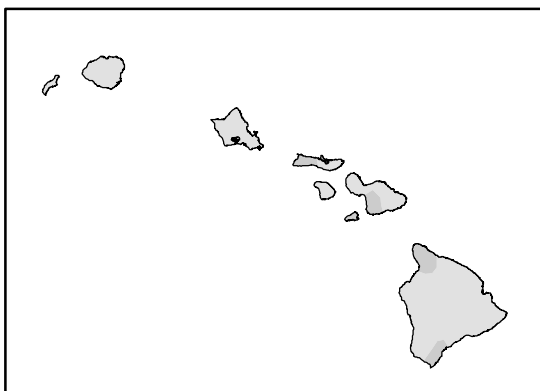
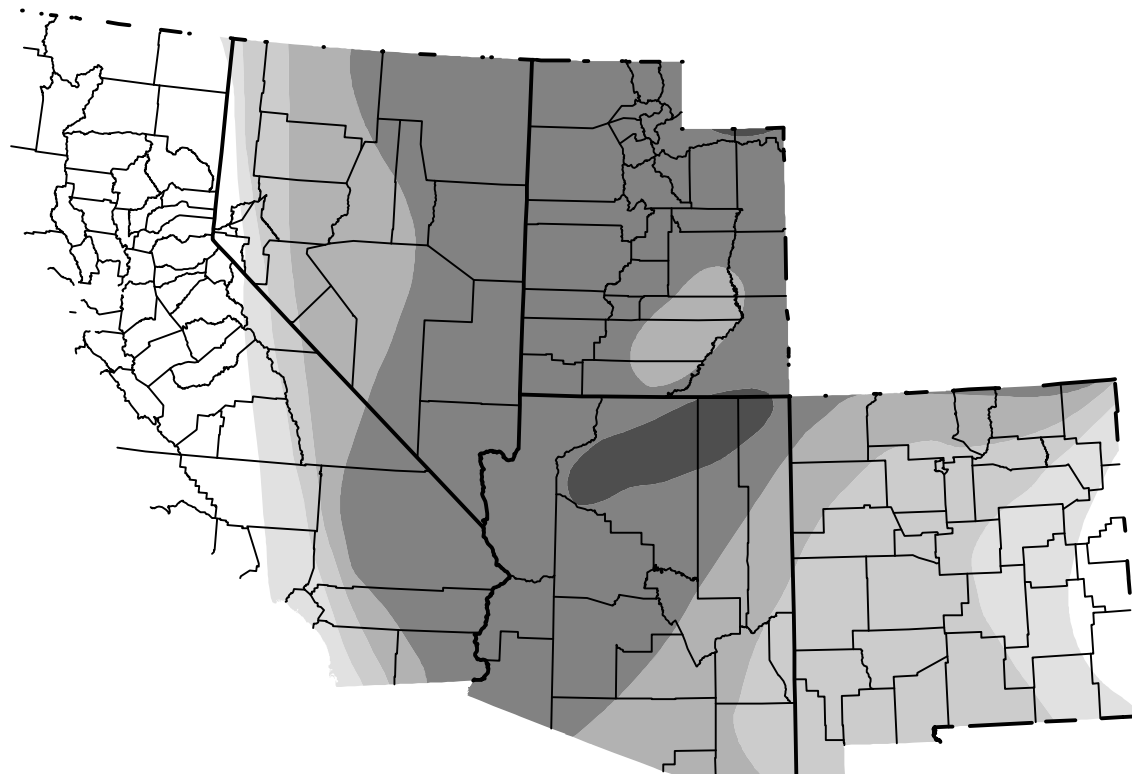


U.S. Drought Monitor

USDA Southwest Climate Hub

January 21, 2003
(Released Thursday, Jan. 23, 2003)
 Valid 7 a.m. EST



Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0	D1	D2	D3	D4
Current	18.65	8.07	15.67	16.76	38.67	2.19
Last Week <i>01-16-2003</i>	18.36	8.08	15.21	28.07	27.84	2.44
3 Months Ago <i>10-24-2002</i>	1.04	7.64	36.48	26.01	25.74	3.09
Start of Calendar Year <i>01-02-2003</i>	18.08	7.73	15.93	36.52	19.37	2.37
Start of Water Year <i>10-03-2002</i>	2.56	11.55	25.16	28.26	27.95	4.53
One Year Ago <i>01-24-2002</i>	36.25	37.31	18.56	7.56	0.32	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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