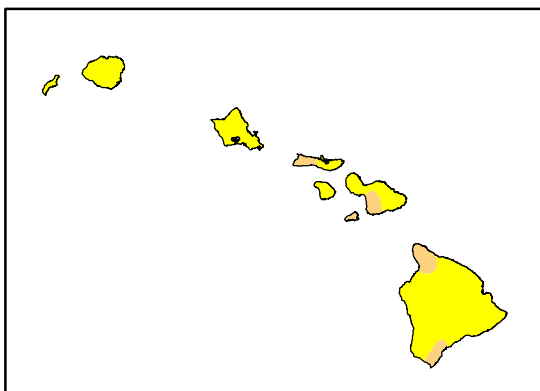
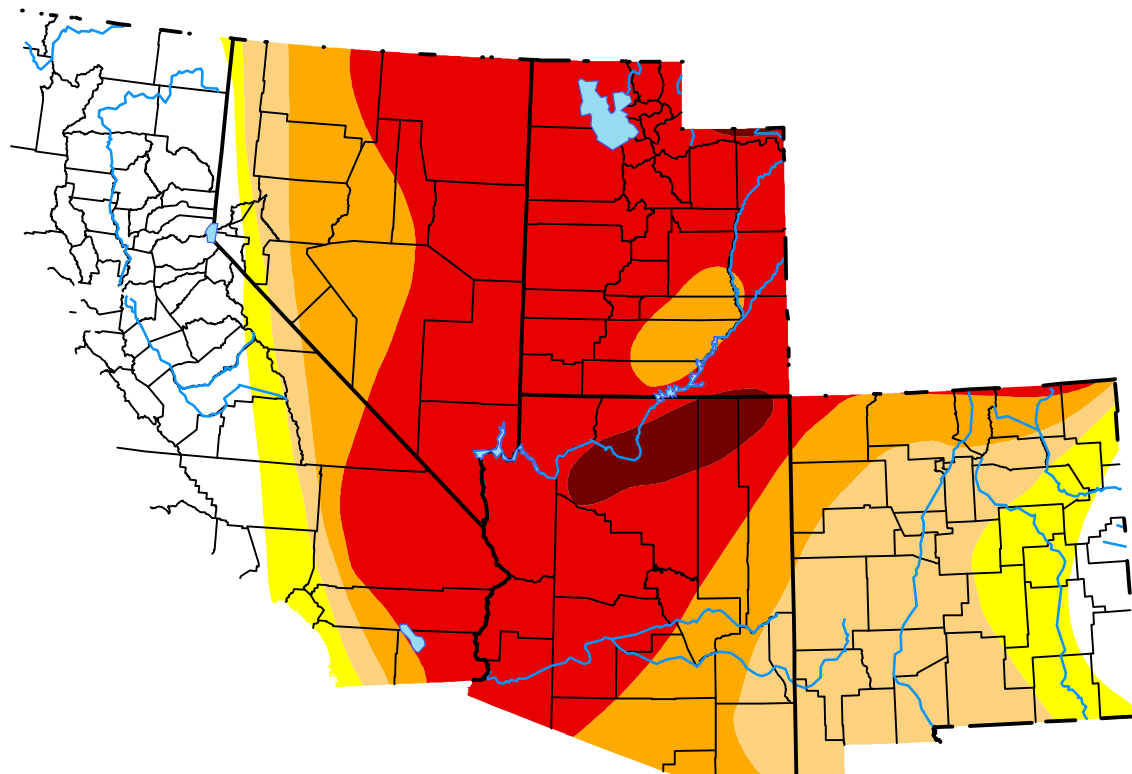


U.S. Drought Monitor

USDA Southwest Climate Hub

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



Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	18.65	81.35	73.29	57.62	40.86	2.19
Last Week <i>01-16-2003</i>	18.36	81.64	73.56	58.35	30.27	2.44
3 Months Ago <i>10-24-2002</i>	1.04	98.96	91.33	54.84	28.83	3.09
Start of Calendar Year <i>01-02-2003</i>	18.08	81.92	74.19	58.26	21.74	2.37
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>01-24-2002</i>	36.25	63.75	26.44	7.88	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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