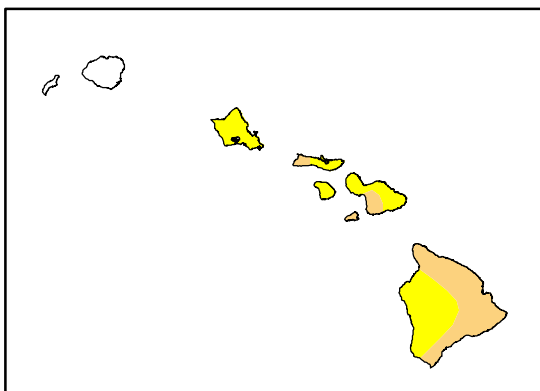
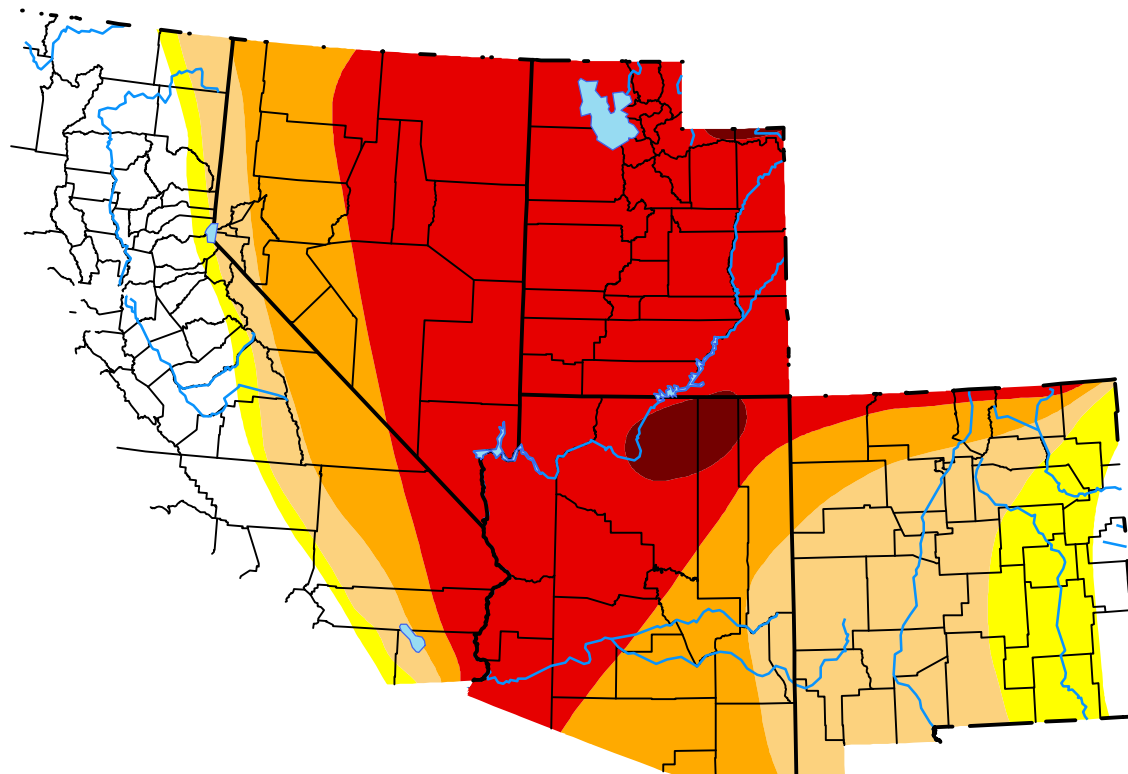


U.S. Drought Monitor

USDA Southwest Climate Hub

February 25, 2003
(Released Thursday, Feb. 27, 2003)
 Valid 7 a.m. EST



Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0	D1	D2	D3	D4
Current	16.91	7.53	17.21	17.52	39.36	1.46
Last Week <i>02-20-2003</i>	16.58	7.43	16.49	18.37	39.70	1.44
3 Months Ago <i>11-27-2002</i>	2.35	20.76	31.15	23.00	20.51	2.22
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>02-28-2002</i>	15.53	47.06	32.37	5.04	0.00	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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