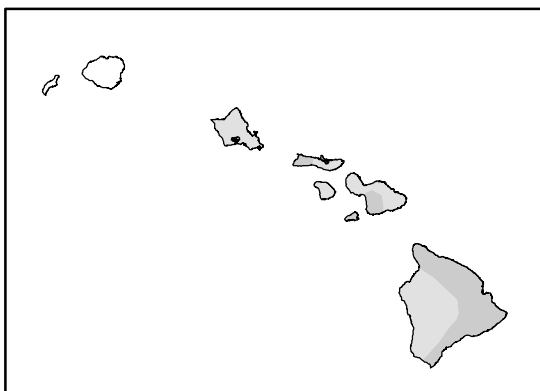
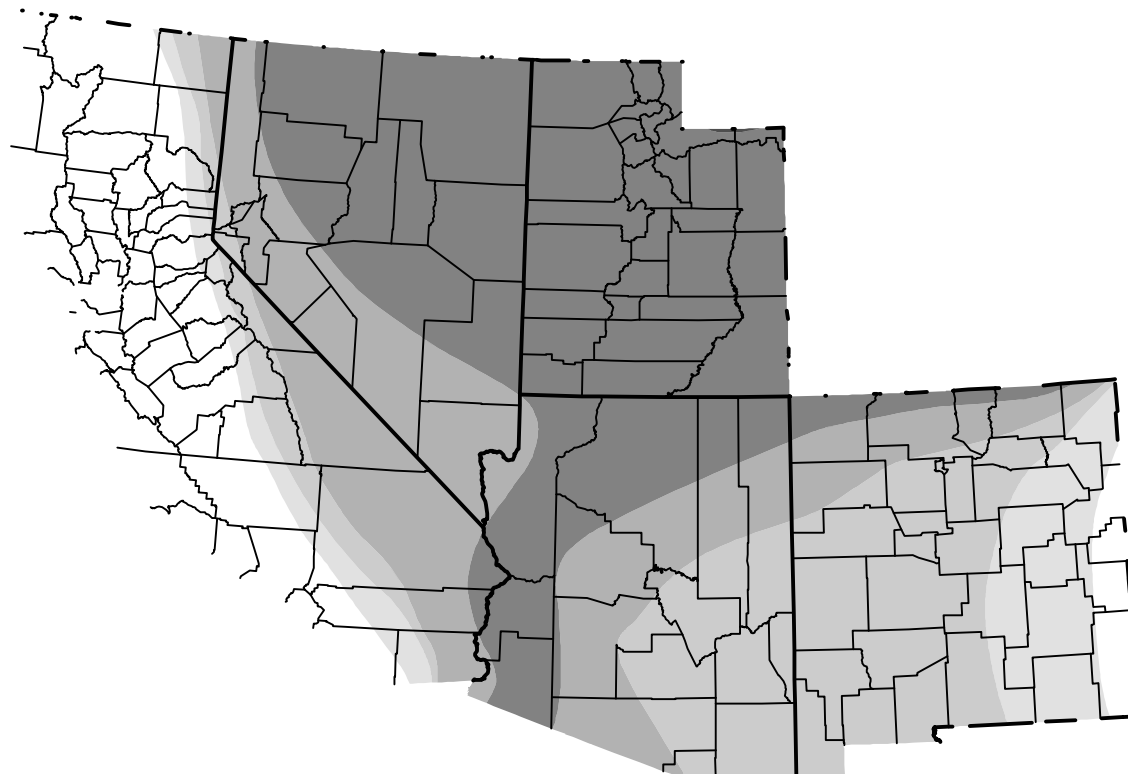


U.S. Drought Monitor

USDA Southwest Climate Hub

March 4, 2003
(Released Thursday, Mar. 6, 2003)
 Valid 7 a.m. EST



Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	17.49	82.51	74.44	55.01	34.61	0.02
Last Week <i>02-27-2003</i>	16.91	83.09	75.56	58.35	40.83	1.46
3 Months Ago <i>12-05-2002</i>	2.54	97.46	76.40	45.72	21.46	2.13
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>03-07-2002</i>	15.51	84.49	37.21	4.51	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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