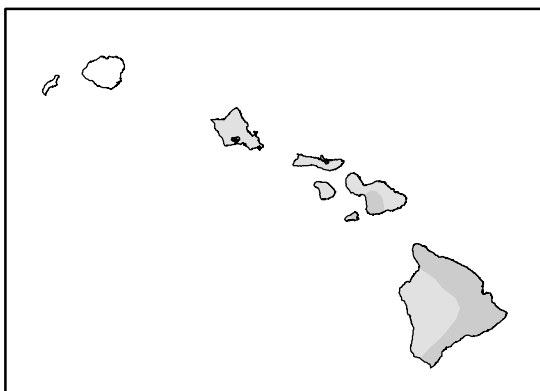
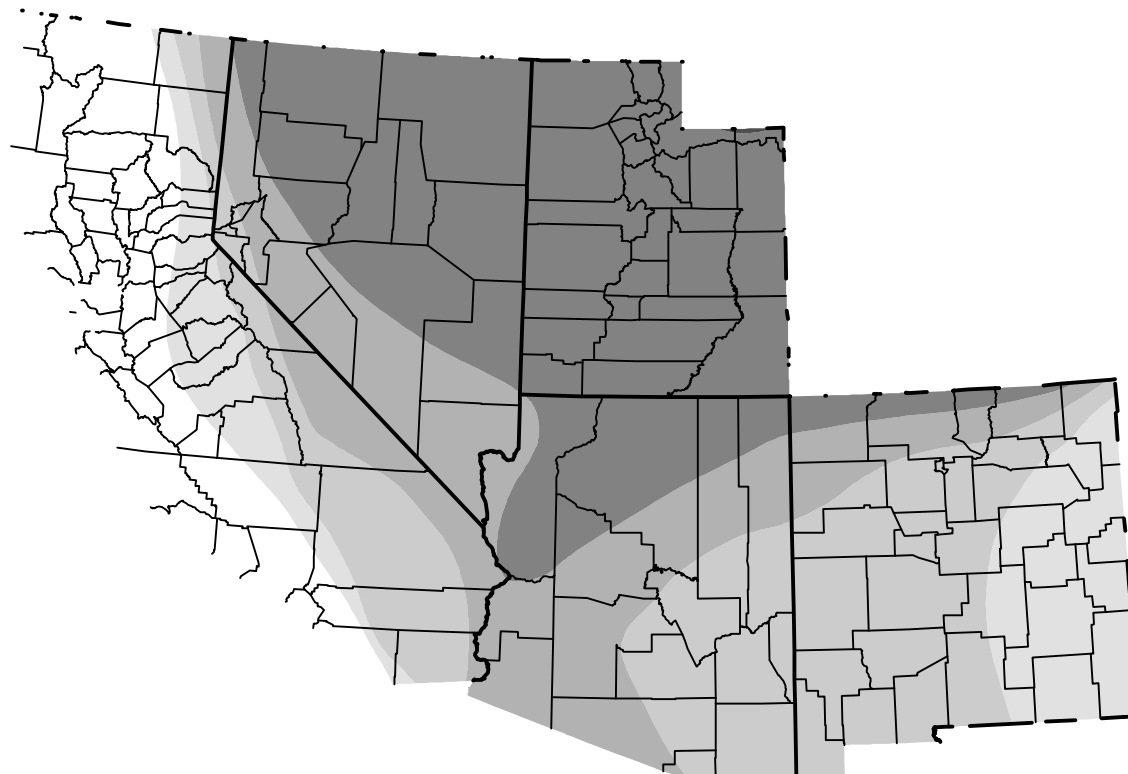


U.S. Drought Monitor

USDA Southwest Climate Hub

March 18, 2003
(Released Thursday, Mar. 20, 2003)
 Valid 7 a.m. EST



Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	13.78	86.22	75.21	52.05	32.90	0.03
Last Week <i>03-13-2003</i>	12.09	87.91	75.31	54.89	33.39	0.07
3 Months Ago <i>12-19-2002</i>	13.23	86.77	76.97	60.51	21.89	2.38
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>03-21-2002</i>	16.08	83.92	61.06	5.98	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.

Author:

Richard Heim
 NCEI/NOAA



droughtmonitor.unl.edu