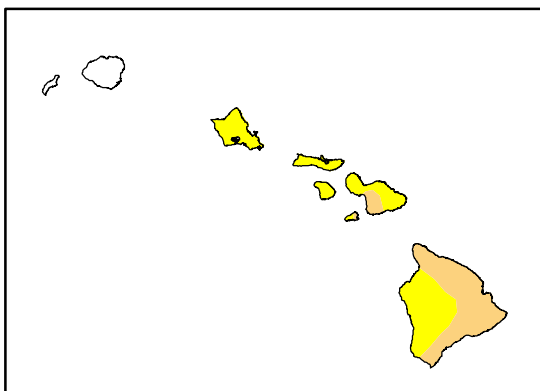
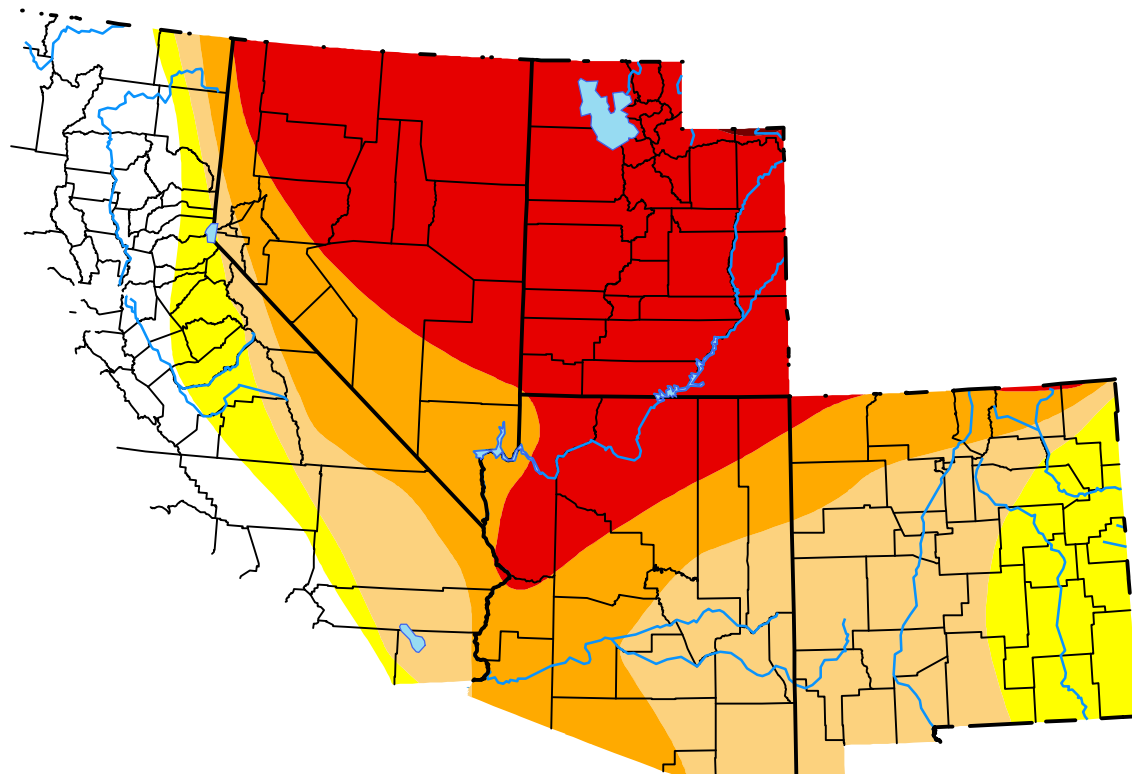


U.S. Drought Monitor

USDA Southwest Climate Hub

March 25, 2003
(Released Thursday, Mar. 27, 2003)
 Valid 7 a.m. EST



Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	13.87	86.13	75.03	52.24	32.26	0.06
Last Week <i>03-20-2003</i>	13.78	86.22	75.21	52.05	32.90	0.03
3 Months Ago <i>12-26-2002</i>	17.09	82.91	75.72	59.74	22.00	2.37
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>03-28-2002</i>	15.82	84.18	60.91	21.69	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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