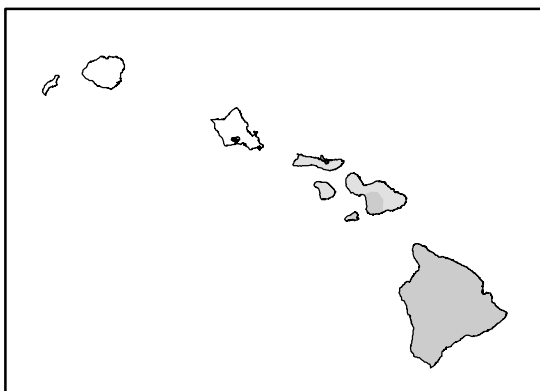
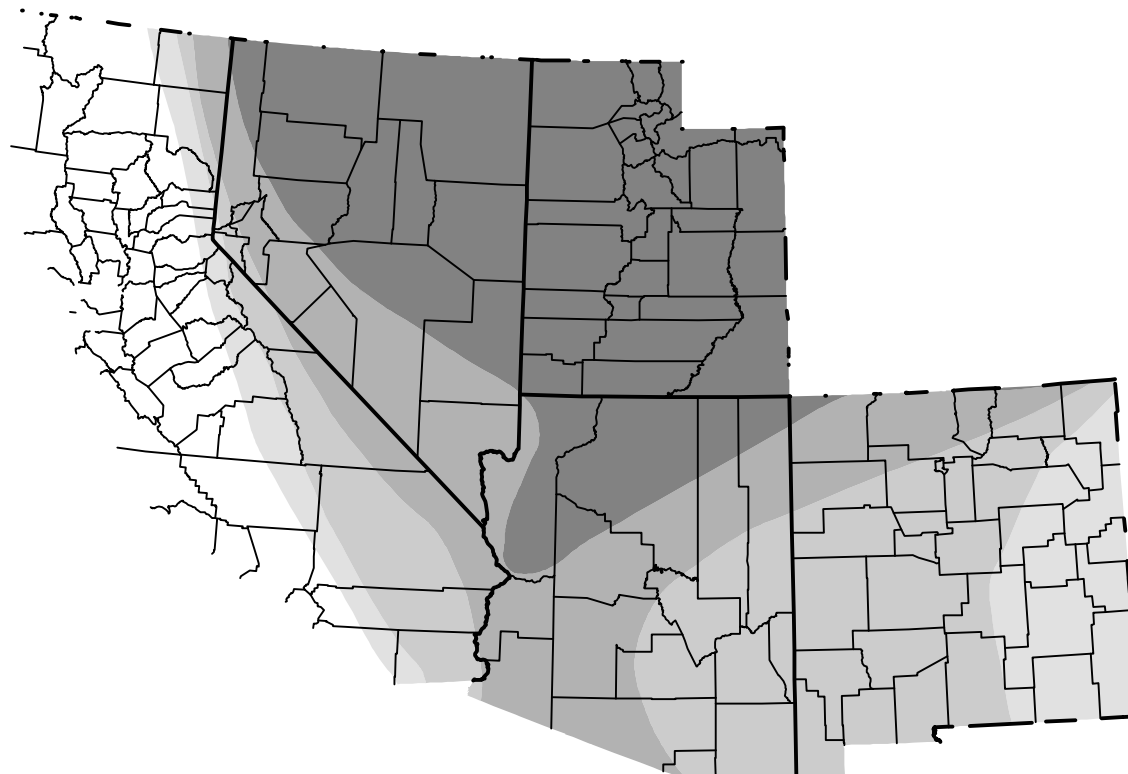


U.S. Drought Monitor

USDA Southwest Climate Hub

April 15, 2003
(Released Thursday, Apr. 17, 2003)
 Valid 8 a.m. EDT



Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0	D1	D2	D3	D4
Current	15.75	9.53	23.07	19.90	31.76	0.00
Last Week <i>04-10-2003</i>	10.86	13.66	23.64	19.48	32.35	0.00
3 Months Ago <i>01-16-2003</i>	18.36	8.08	15.21	28.07	27.84	2.44
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>04-18-2002</i>	15.70	16.60	21.05	46.65	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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