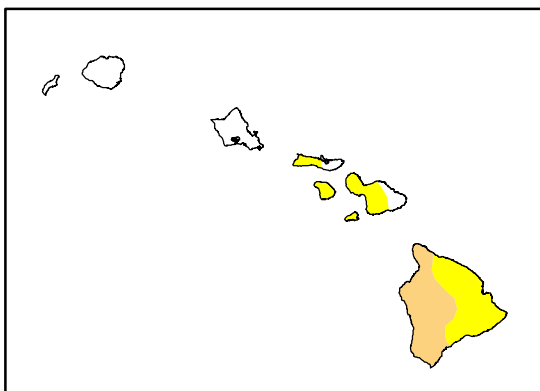
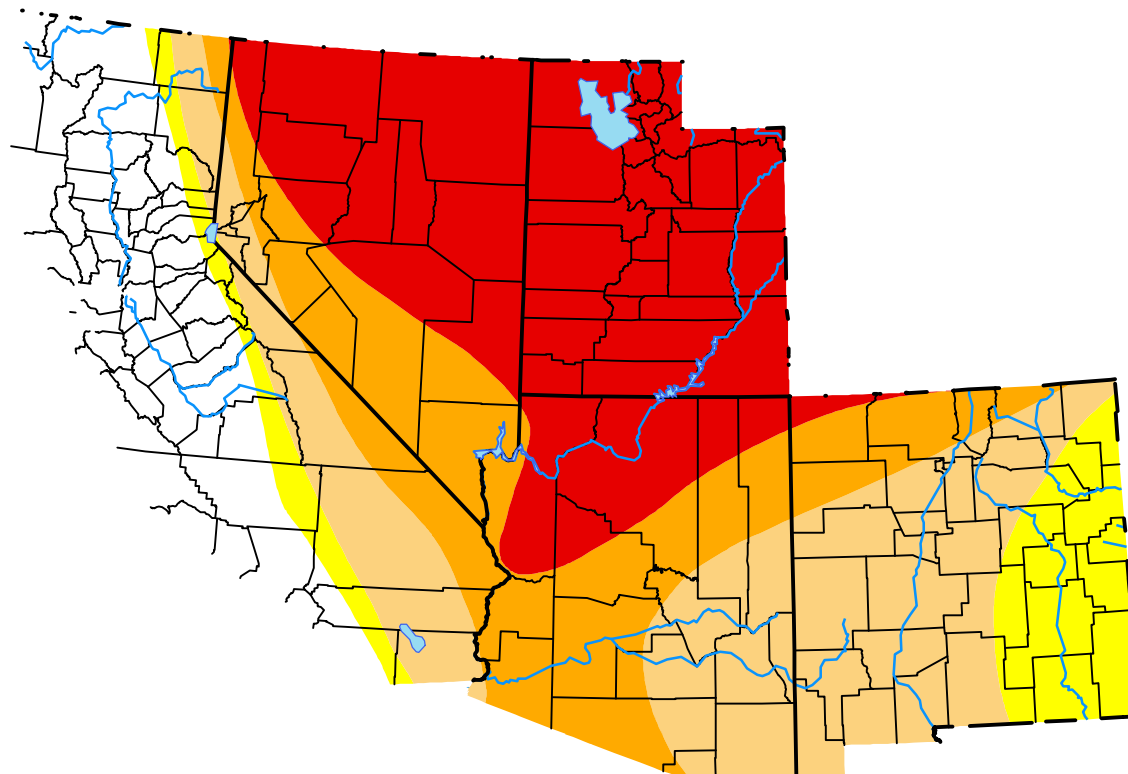


U.S. Drought Monitor

USDA Southwest Climate Hub

April 22, 2003
 (Released Thursday, Apr. 24, 2003)
 Valid 8 a.m. EDT



Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	16.11	83.89	74.98	51.14	31.89	0.00
Last Week 04-17-2003	15.75	84.25	74.73	51.65	31.76	0.00
3 Months Ago 01-23-2003	18.65	81.35	73.29	57.62	40.86	2.19
Start of Calendar Year 01-02-2003	18.08	81.92	74.19	58.26	21.74	2.37
Start of Water Year 10-03-2002	2.56	97.44	85.89	60.73	32.47	4.53
One Year Ago 04-25-2002	15.84	84.16	71.43	52.59	5.43	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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