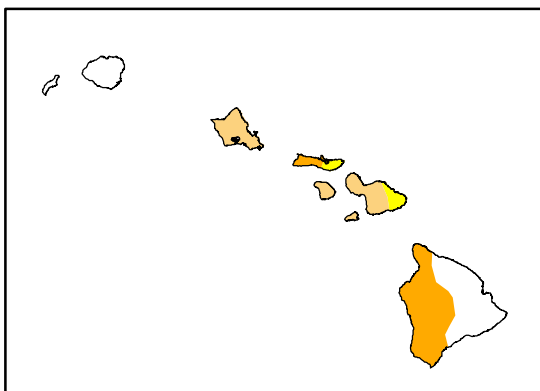
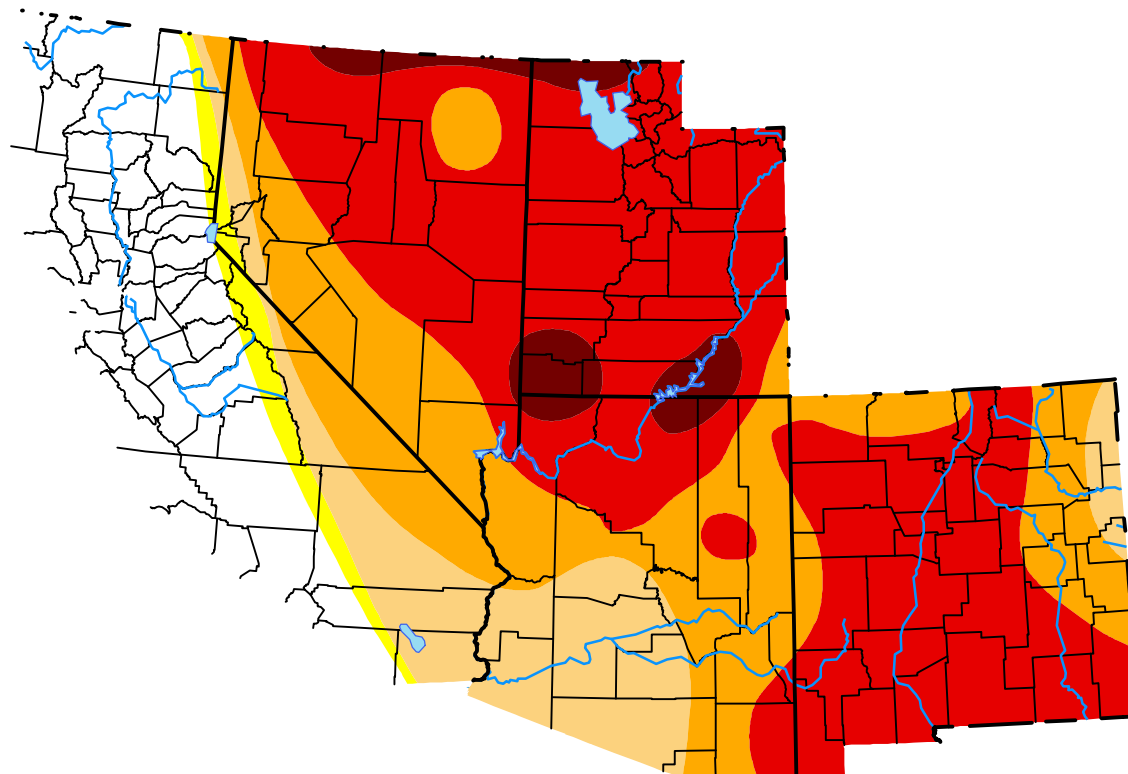


U.S. Drought Monitor

USDA Southwest Climate Hub

September 23, 2003
(Released Thursday, Sep. 25, 2003)
 Valid 8 a.m. EDT



Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	18.18	81.82	79.49	68.03	45.01	3.44
Last Week <i>09-18-2003</i>	18.27	81.73	79.26	67.75	44.98	3.44
3 Months Ago <i>06-26-2003</i>	17.23	82.77	78.19	62.81	37.11	2.28
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>09-26-2002</i>	2.44	97.56	87.29	63.89	34.63	5.23

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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