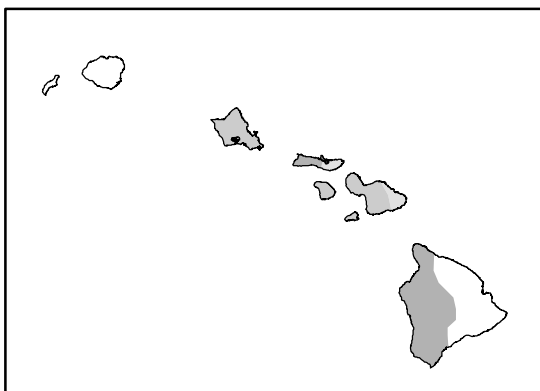
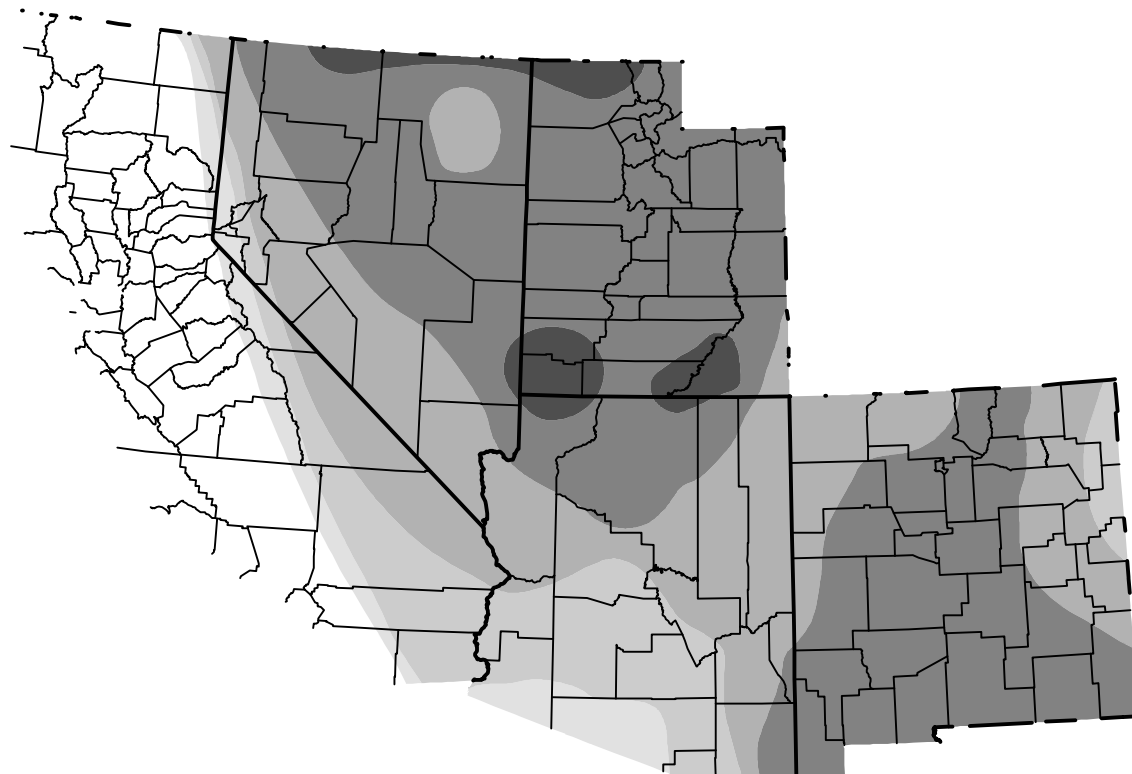


U.S. Drought Monitor

USDA Southwest Climate Hub

October 7, 2003
(Released Thursday, Oct. 9, 2003)
 Valid 8 a.m. EDT



Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	18.17	81.83	77.82	67.16	43.05	3.27
Last Week <i>10-02-2003</i>	18.46	81.54	77.38	66.18	44.47	3.52
3 Months Ago <i>07-10-2003</i>	16.70	83.30	76.78	64.62	38.10	2.34
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>10-02-2003</i>	18.46	81.54	77.38	66.18	44.47	3.52
One Year Ago <i>10-10-2002</i>	0.93	99.07	91.04	54.85	28.69	3.10

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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