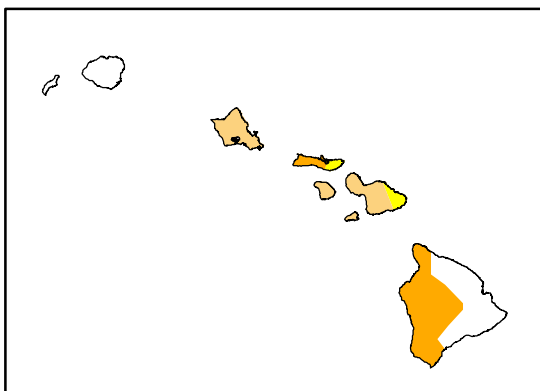
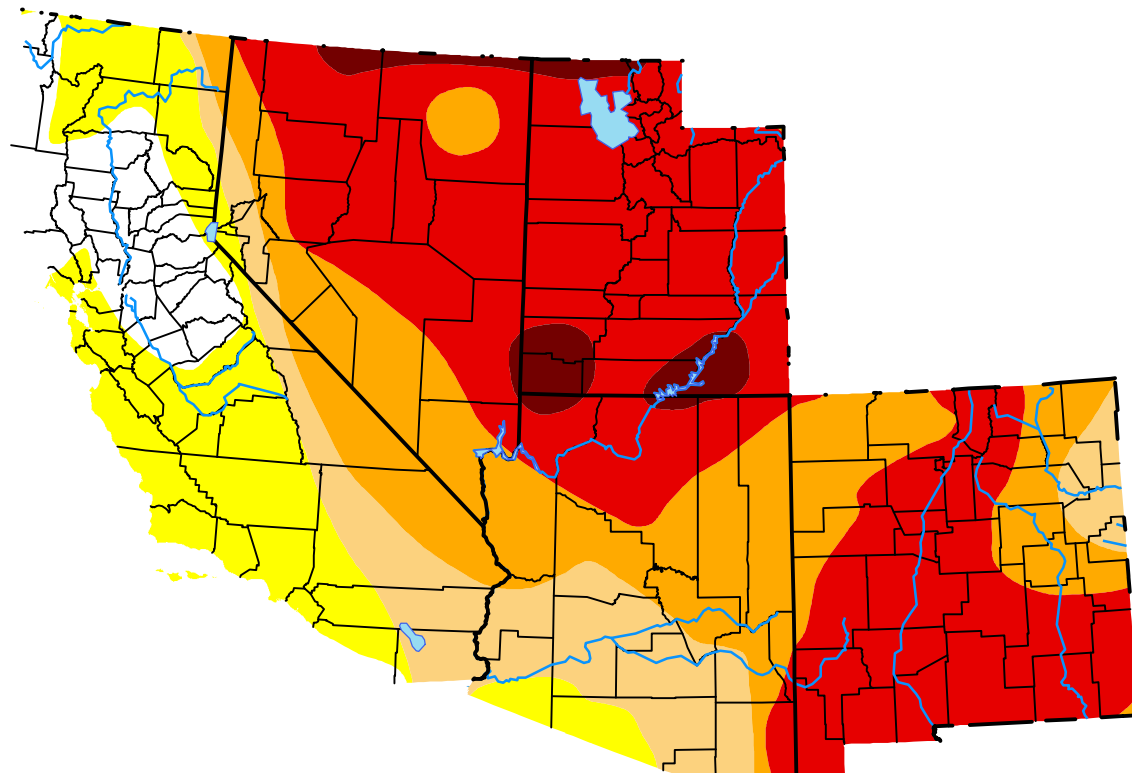


U.S. Drought Monitor

USDA Southwest Climate Hub

October 21, 2003
(Released Thursday, Oct. 23, 2003)
 Valid 8 a.m. EDT



Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	7.52	92.48	78.58	66.49	43.55	3.03
Last Week <i>10-16-2003</i>	7.91	92.09	77.30	65.85	45.36	3.25
3 Months Ago <i>07-24-2003</i>	16.82	83.18	78.59	66.72	43.05	4.07
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>10-24-2002</i>	1.04	98.96	91.33	54.84	28.83	3.09

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.

Author:

Richard Heim
 NCEI/NOAA



droughtmonitor.unl.edu