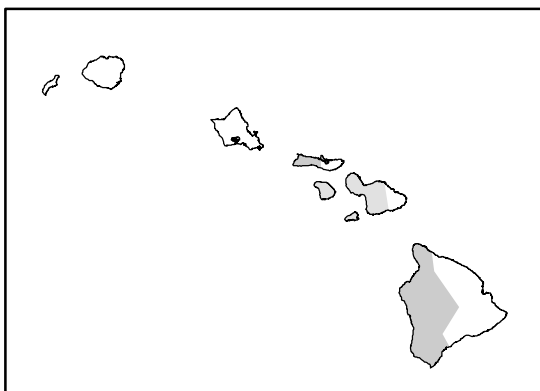
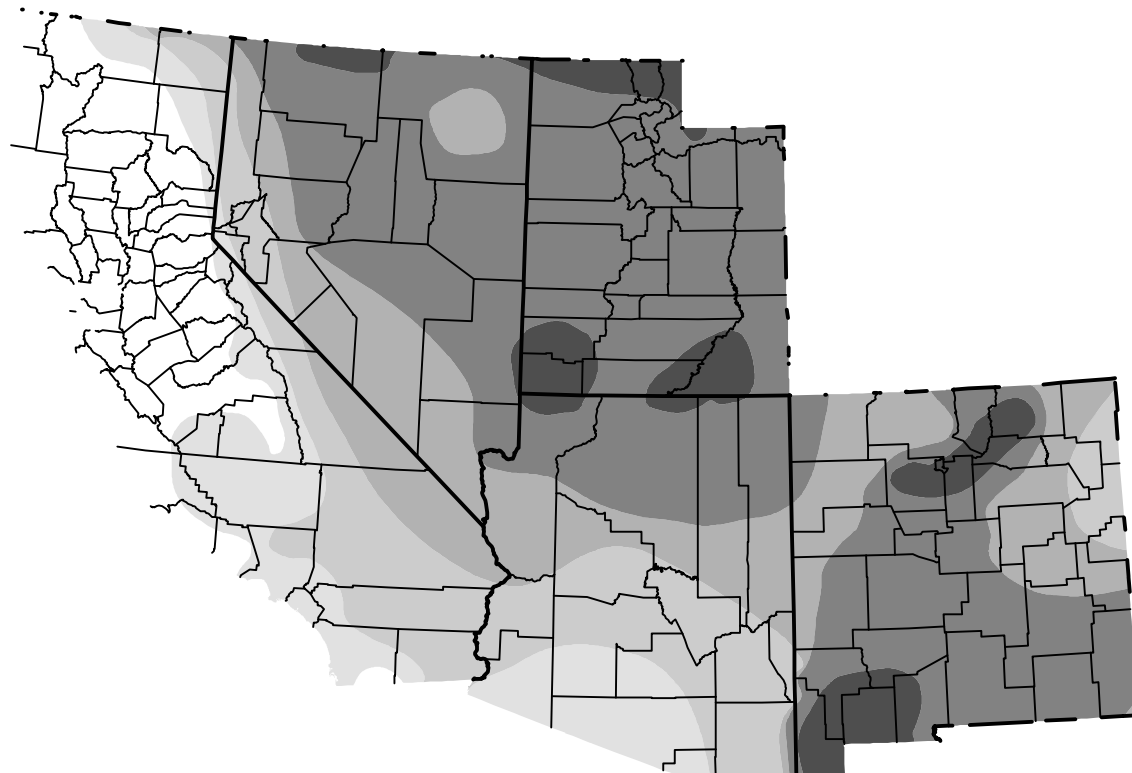


U.S. Drought Monitor

USDA Southwest Climate Hub

December 9, 2003
(Released Thursday, Dec. 11, 2003)
 Valid 7 a.m. EST



Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	13.16	86.84	77.34	62.86	44.95	6.15
Last Week <i>12-04-2003</i>	12.08	87.92	77.76	63.73	45.26	6.24
3 Months Ago <i>09-11-2003</i>	17.91	82.09	80.25	68.04	42.25	3.77
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>12-12-2002</i>	2.17	97.83	81.46	61.63	21.64	2.37

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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