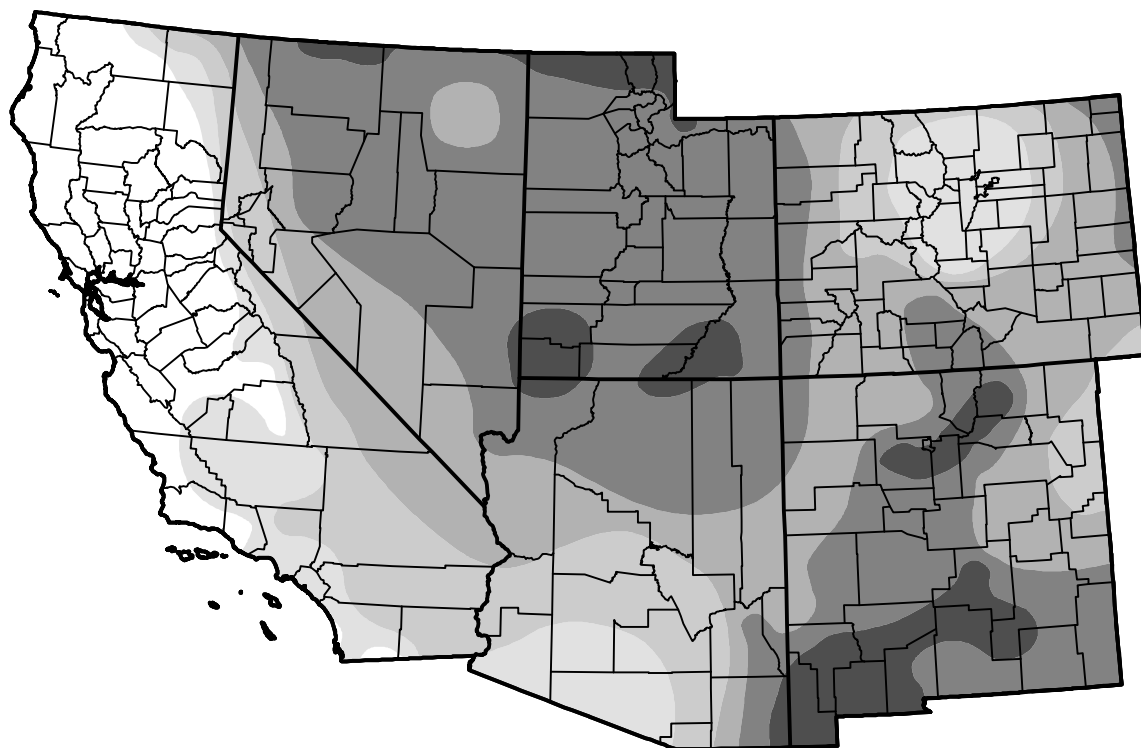


# U.S. Drought Monitor Southwest

**December 23, 2003**  
(Released Wednesday, Dec. 24, 2003)  
Valid 7 a.m. EST



*Drought Conditions (Percent Area)*

|                                                    | None  | D0    | D1    | D2    | D3    | D4   |
|----------------------------------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|------|
| <b>Current</b>                                     | 10.91 | 9.80  | 13.65 | 22.95 | 35.58 | 7.11 |
| <b>Last Week</b><br><i>12-16-2003</i>              | 11.16 | 10.26 | 14.03 | 22.74 | 36.45 | 5.37 |
| <b>3 Months Ago</b><br><i>09-23-2003</i>           | 15.26 | 5.12  | 12.23 | 26.62 | 37.81 | 2.96 |
| <b>Start of Calendar Year</b><br><i>12-31-2002</i> | 14.98 | 6.37  | 13.73 | 35.31 | 26.51 | 3.10 |
| <b>Start of Water Year</b><br><i>09-30-2003</i>    | 15.51 | 6.66  | 12.05 | 25.42 | 37.34 | 3.02 |
| <b>One Year Ago</b><br><i>12-24-2002</i>           | 14.14 | 5.91  | 13.76 | 36.39 | 26.71 | 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. For more information on the Drought Monitor, go to <https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/About.aspx>*

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**droughtmonitor.unl.edu**