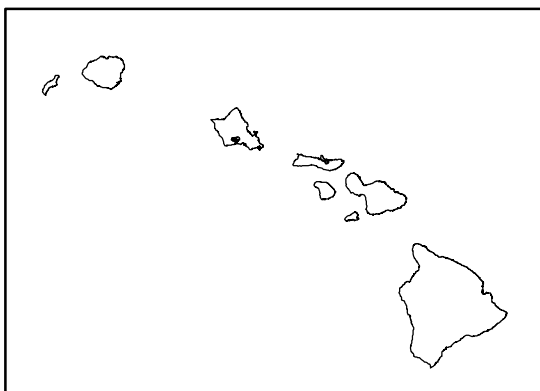
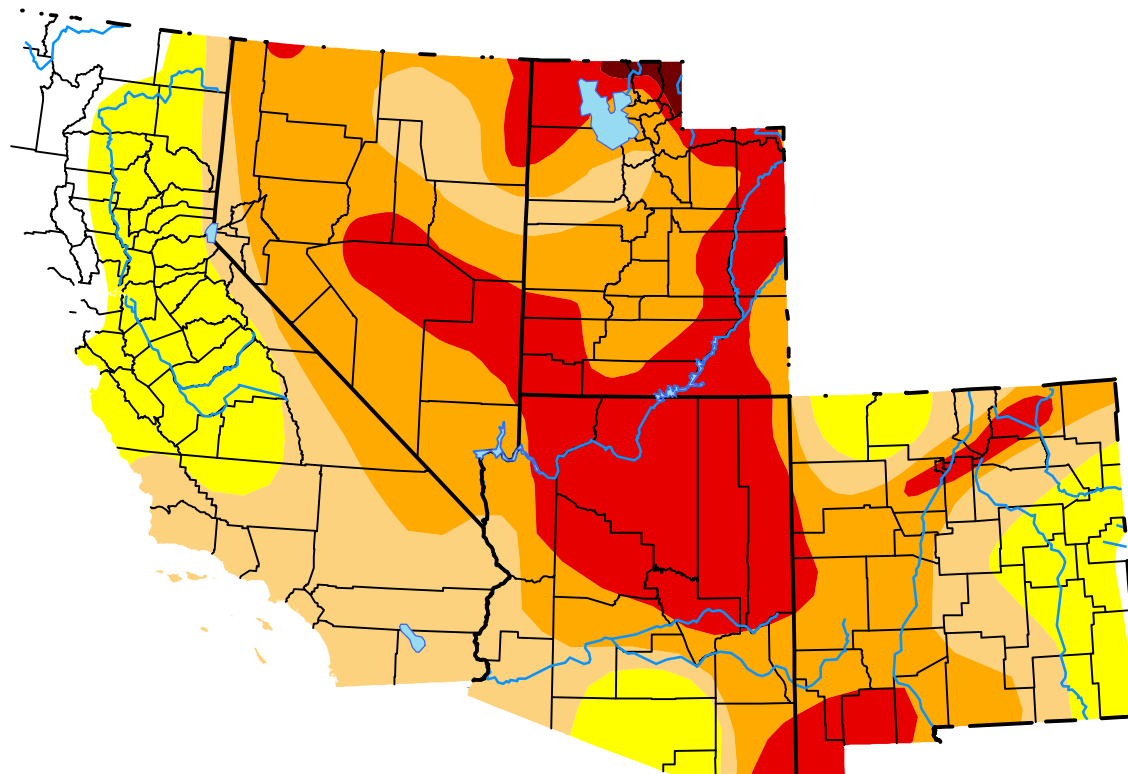


U.S. Drought Monitor

USDA Southwest Climate Hub

May 18, 2004
(Released Thursday, May. 20, 2004)
 Valid 8 a.m. EDT



Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0	D1	D2	D3	D4
Current	5.82	17.10	22.46	32.57	21.73	0.34
Last Week <i>05-13-2004</i>	5.82	17.10	22.46	32.57	21.76	0.30
3 Months Ago <i>02-19-2004</i>	19.03	8.06	6.51	27.40	29.17	9.82
Start of Calendar Year <i>12-31-2003</i>	18.57	7.18	8.28	26.93	31.08	7.96
Start of Water Year <i>10-02-2003</i>	18.46	4.16	11.20	21.71	40.95	3.52
One Year Ago <i>05-22-2003</i>	17.29	4.27	13.54	31.91	32.25	0.75

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:

David Miskus
 NOAA/NWS/NCEP/CPC



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