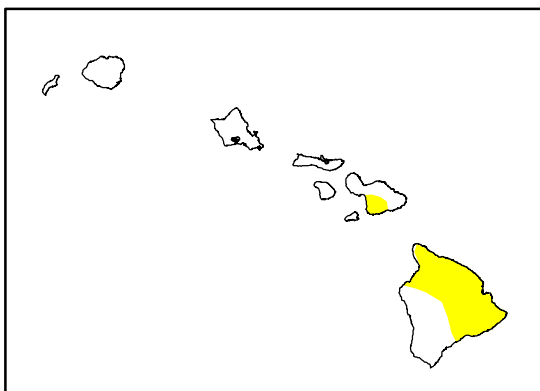
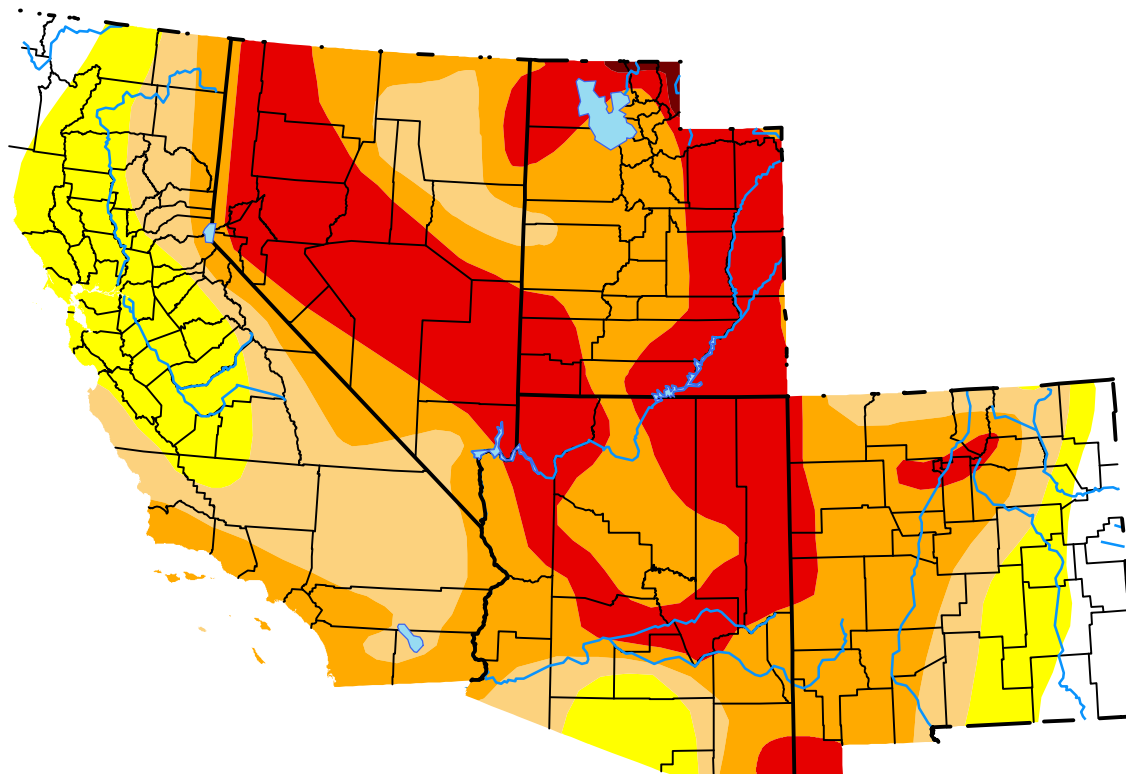


U.S. Drought Monitor

USDA Southwest Climate Hub

September 21, 2004
(Released Thursday, Sep. 23, 2004)
 Valid 8 a.m. EDT



Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0	D1	D2	D3	D4
Current	5.21	14.35	18.88	34.46	26.89	0.21
Last Week <i>09-16-2004</i>	5.25	14.31	18.88	31.61	29.73	0.21
3 Months Ago <i>06-24-2004</i>	5.83	11.97	26.24	30.00	25.68	0.28
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>09-25-2003</i>	18.18	2.33	11.46	23.02	41.56	3.44

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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