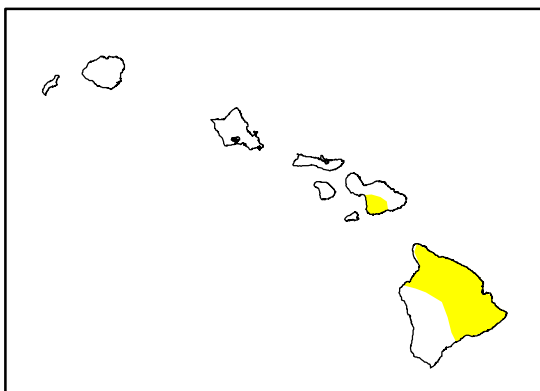
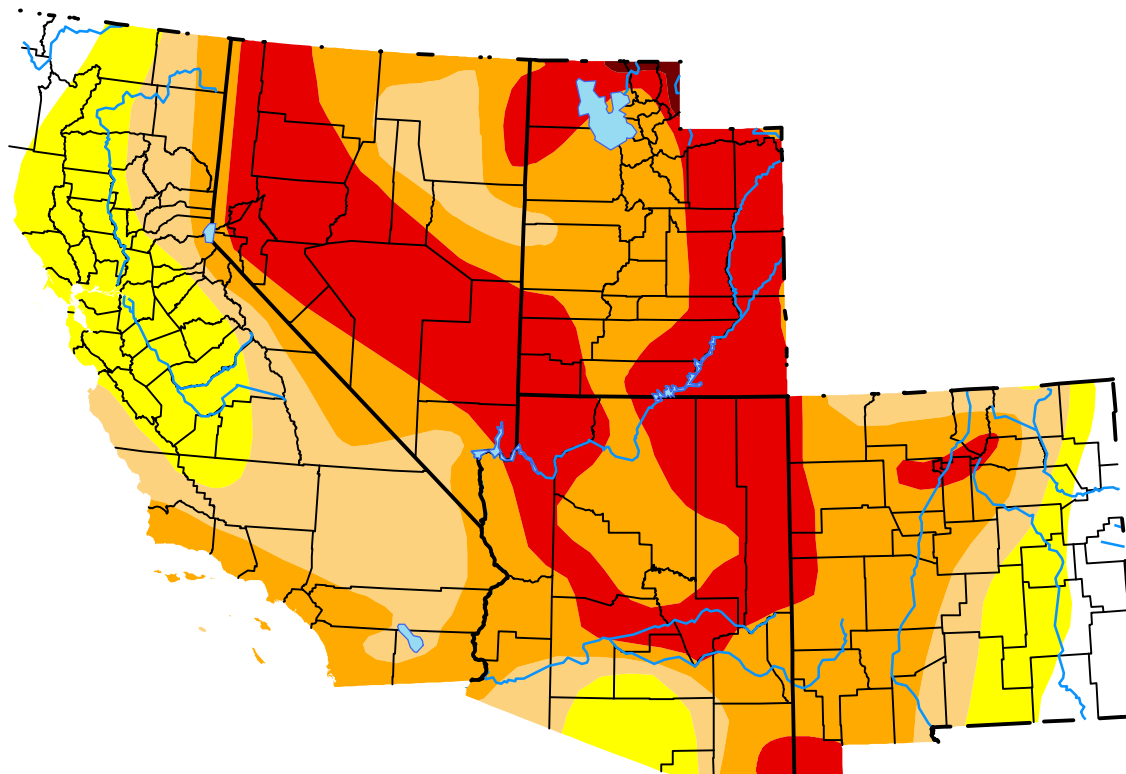


U.S. Drought Monitor

USDA Southwest Climate Hub

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



Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	5.21	94.79	80.44	61.56	27.10	0.21
Last Week <i>09-16-2004</i>	5.25	94.75	80.44	61.56	29.95	0.21
3 Months Ago <i>06-24-2004</i>	5.83	94.17	82.20	55.96	25.96	0.28
Start of Calendar Year <i>12-31-2003</i>	18.57	81.43	74.25	65.97	39.04	7.96
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>09-25-2003</i>	18.18	81.82	79.49	68.03	45.01	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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