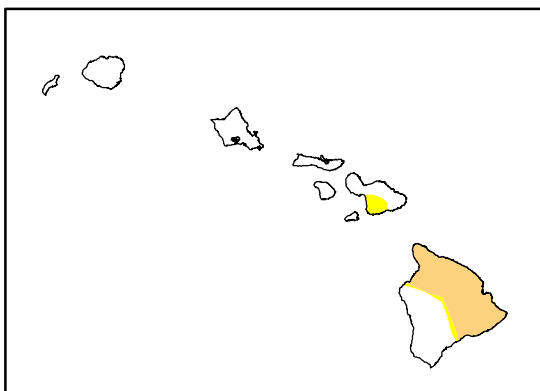
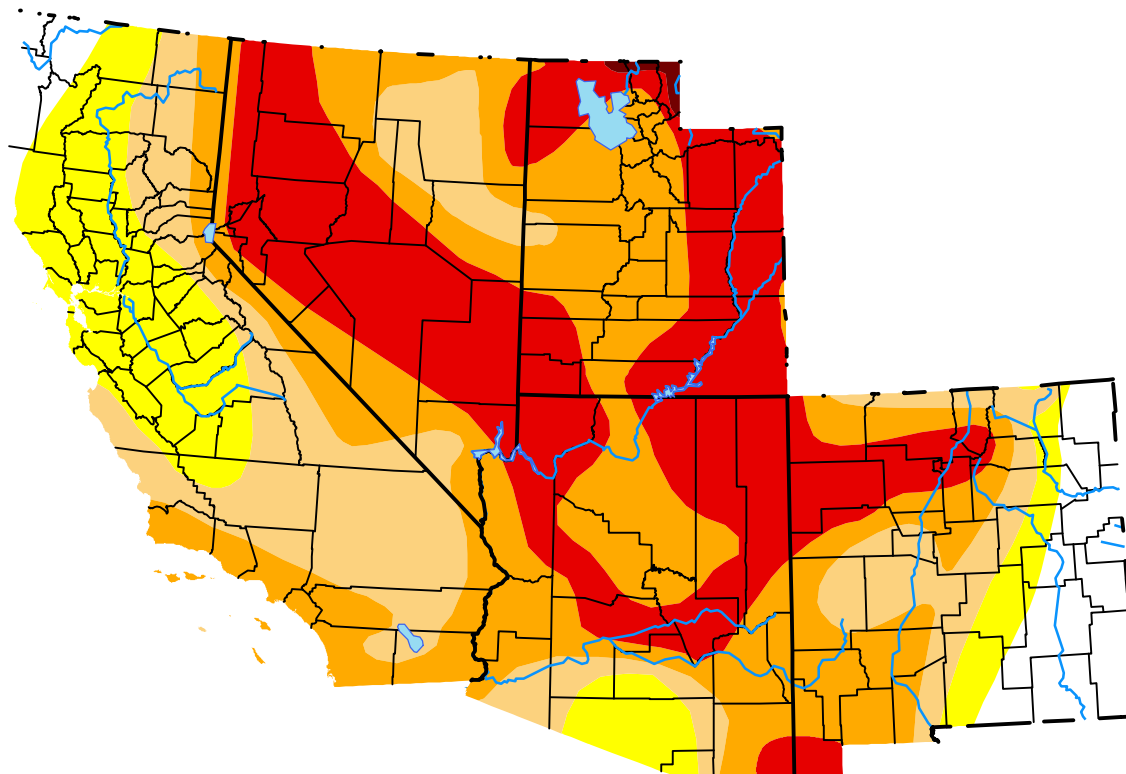


U.S. Drought Monitor

USDA Southwest Climate Hub

October 12, 2004
(Released Thursday, Oct. 14, 2004)
 Valid 8 a.m. EDT



Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0	D1	D2	D3	D4
Current	7.30	12.74	19.99	31.70	28.06	0.21
Last Week <i>10-07-2004</i>	6.73	12.64	19.08	34.46	26.89	0.21
3 Months Ago <i>07-15-2004</i>	4.99	12.69	21.77	34.52	25.74	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>09-30-2004</i>	5.68	14.09	18.68	34.46	26.89	0.21
One Year Ago <i>10-16-2003</i>	7.91	14.79	11.45	20.49	42.11	3.25

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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