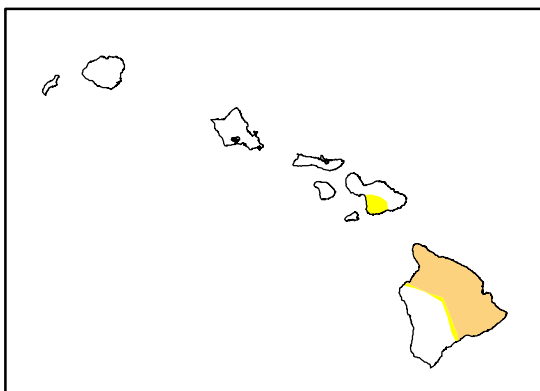
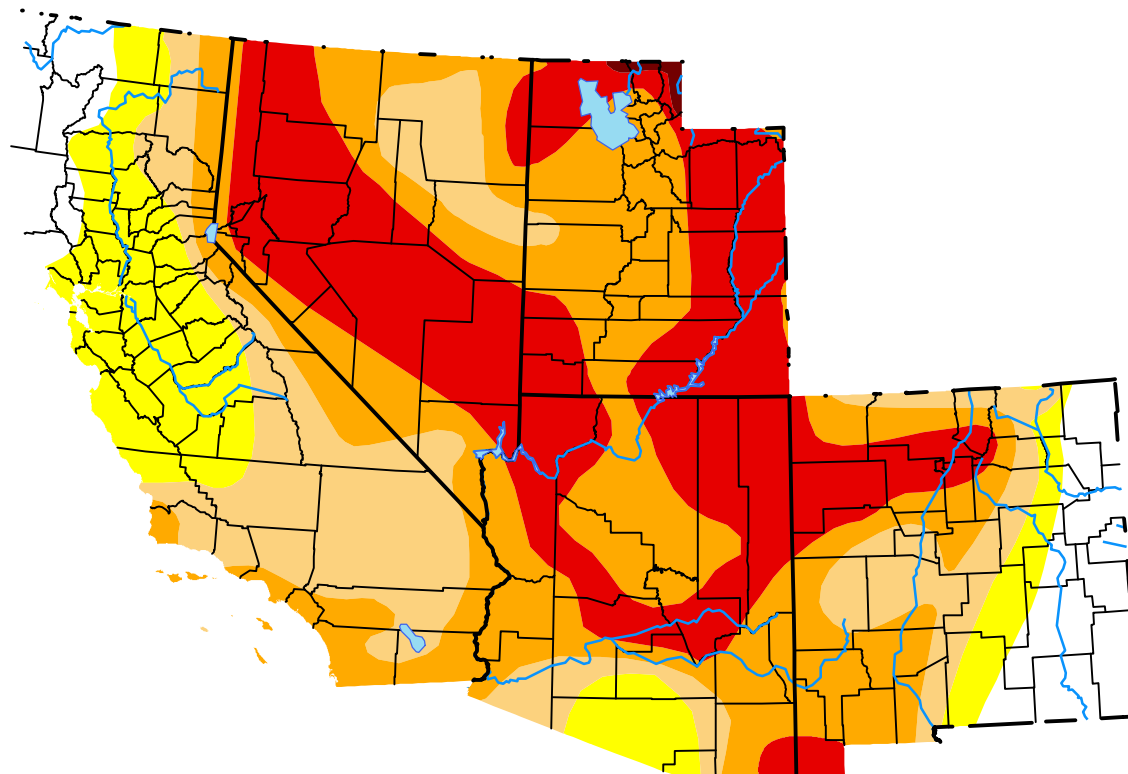


U.S. Drought Monitor

USDA Southwest Climate Hub

October 19, 2004
(Released Thursday, Oct. 21, 2004)
 Valid 8 a.m. EDT



Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	9.11	90.89	78.56	59.21	28.27	0.21
Last Week 10-14-2004	7.30	92.70	79.96	59.97	28.27	0.21
3 Months Ago 07-22-2004	4.99	95.01	82.33	61.23	26.02	0.28
Start of Calendar Year 12-31-2003	18.57	81.43	74.25	65.97	39.04	7.96
Start of Water Year 09-30-2004	5.68	94.32	80.23	61.56	27.10	0.21
One Year Ago 10-23-2003	7.52	92.48	78.58	66.49	43.55	3.03

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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