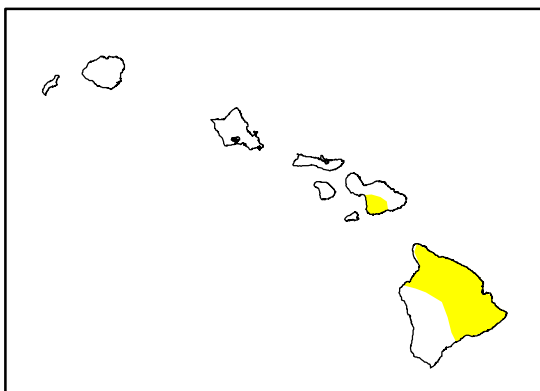
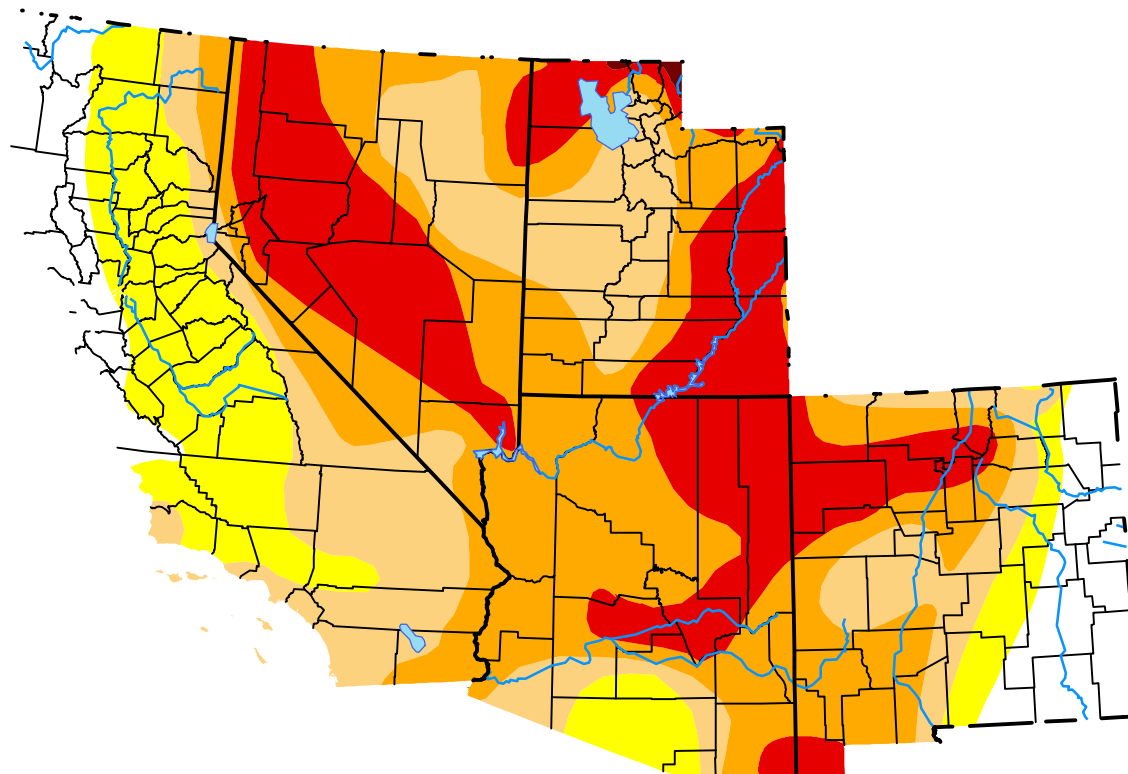


U.S. Drought Monitor

USDA Southwest Climate Hub

October 26, 2004
(Released Thursday, Oct. 28, 2004)
 Valid 8 a.m. EDT



Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0	D1	D2	D3	D4
Current	10.71	15.18	22.09	29.99	21.92	0.11
Last Week <i>10-21-2004</i>	9.11	12.33	19.35	30.94	28.06	0.21
3 Months Ago <i>07-29-2004</i>	6.47	13.76	18.26	34.79	26.44	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>10-30-2003</i>	2.16	15.30	16.12	20.38	40.56	5.47

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:

Richard Tinker
 CPC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP



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