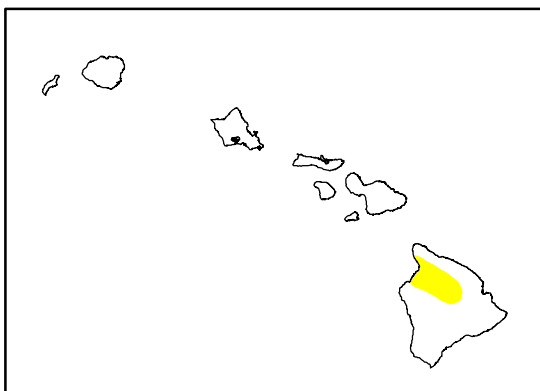
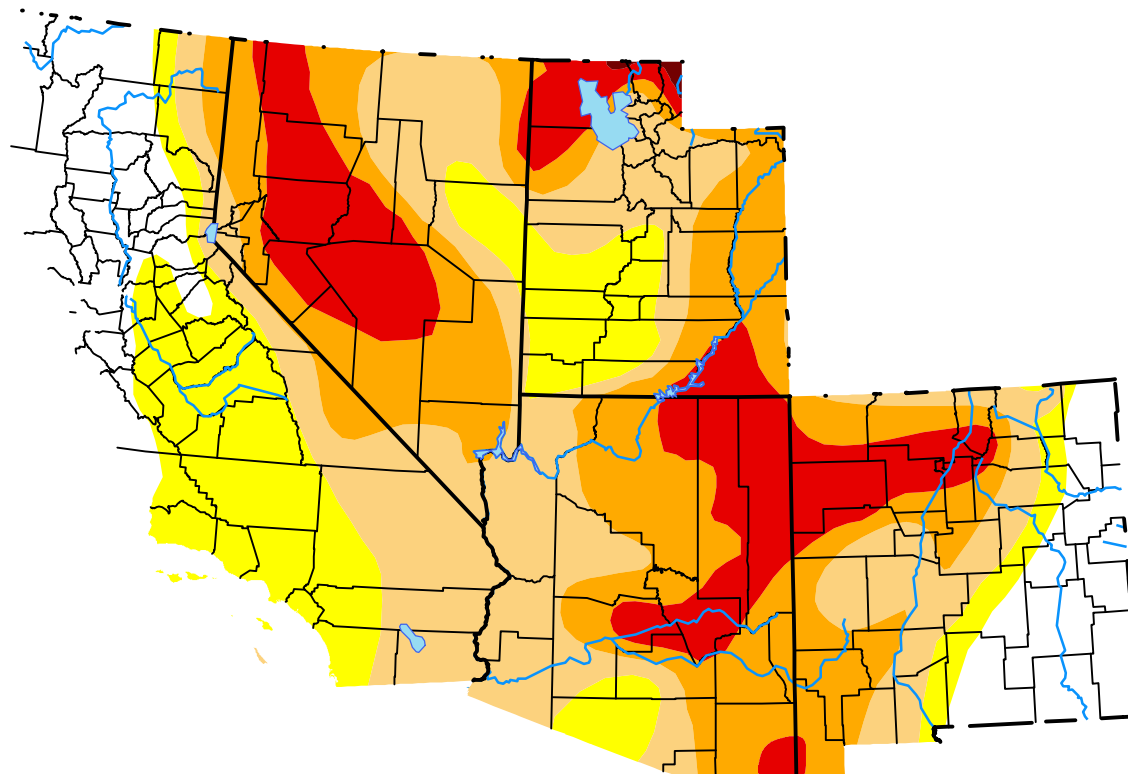


U.S. Drought Monitor

USDA Southwest Climate Hub

December 21, 2004
(Released Thursday, Dec. 23, 2004)
 Valid 7 a.m. EST



Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	15.73	84.27	66.83	39.53	14.56	0.11
Last Week <i>12-16-2004</i>	15.73	84.27	66.95	39.66	14.57	0.11
3 Months Ago <i>09-23-2004</i>	5.21	94.79	80.44	61.56	27.10	0.21
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>09-30-2004</i>	5.68	94.32	80.23	61.56	27.10	0.21
One Year Ago <i>12-24-2003</i>	13.29	86.71	78.48	65.36	46.51	8.28

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:

David Miskus
 NOAA/NWS/NCEP/CPC



droughtmonitor.unl.edu