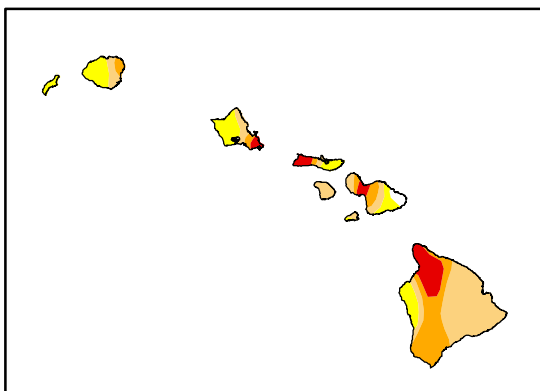
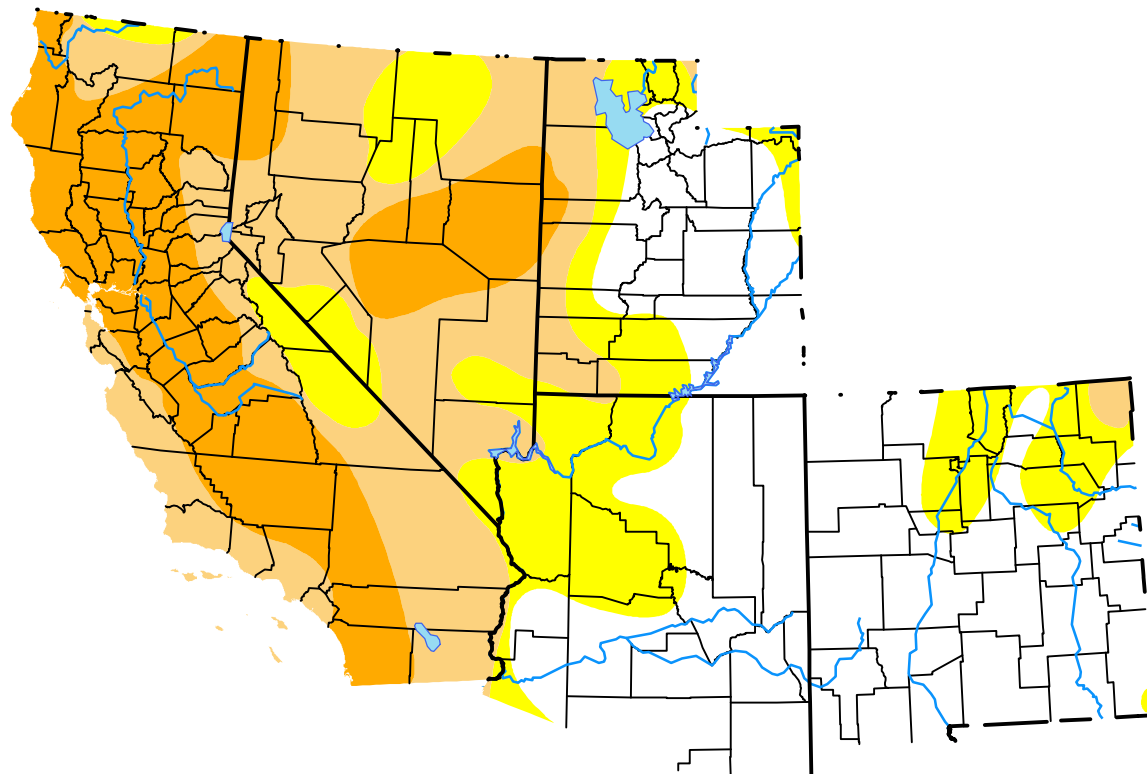


U.S. Drought Monitor

USDA Southwest Climate Hub

October 21, 2008
(Released Thursday, Oct. 23, 2008)
 Valid 8 a.m. EDT



Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	37.09	62.91	43.80	20.19	0.13	0.00
Last Week <i>10-16-2008</i>	40.98	59.02	42.35	18.92	0.13	0.00
3 Months Ago <i>07-24-2008</i>	31.92	68.08	40.88	7.67	0.11	0.03
Start of Calendar Year <i>01-03-2008</i>	20.86	79.14	63.29	45.33	5.44	0.00
Start of Water Year <i>10-02-2008</i>	38.93	61.07	43.48	18.91	0.65	0.00
One Year Ago <i>10-25-2007</i>	20.75	79.25	67.13	51.13	16.01	0.00

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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