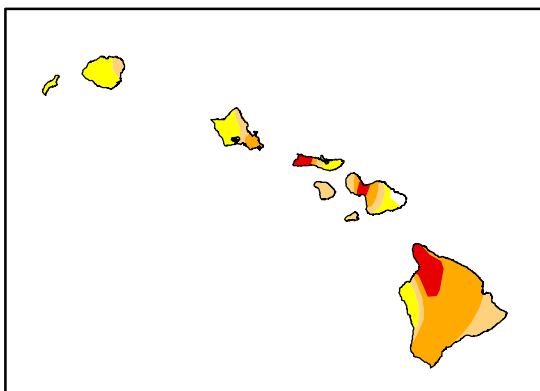
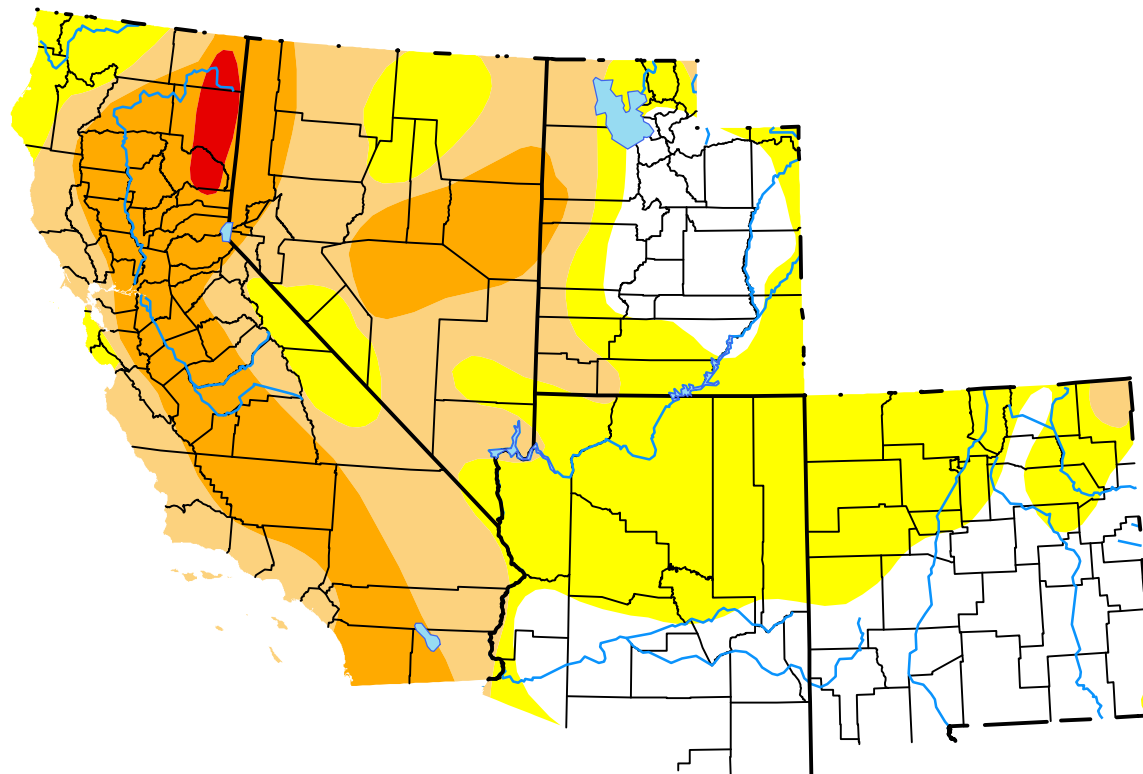


U.S. Drought Monitor

USDA Southwest Climate Hub

December 9, 2008
(Released Thursday, Dec. 11, 2008)
 Valid 7 a.m. EST



Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0	D1	D2	D3	D4
Current	25.93	31.88	22.82	18.39	0.97	0.00
Last Week <i>12-04-2008</i>	25.93	32.25	24.99	16.71	0.12	0.00
3 Months Ago <i>09-11-2008</i>	39.29	18.22	25.24	17.16	0.08	0.00
Start of Calendar Year <i>01-03-2008</i>	20.86	15.84	17.96	39.89	5.44	0.00
Start of Water Year <i>10-02-2008</i>	38.93	17.60	24.57	18.26	0.65	0.00
One Year Ago <i>12-13-2007</i>	19.93	16.82	17.93	39.89	5.44	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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