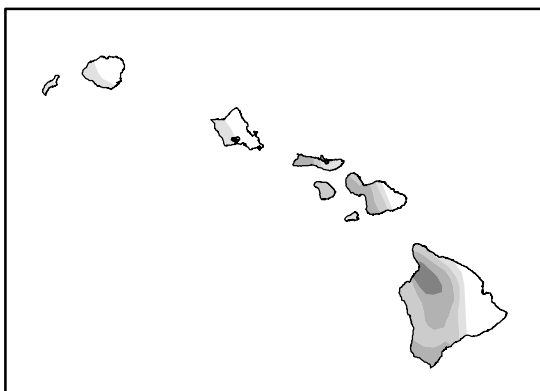
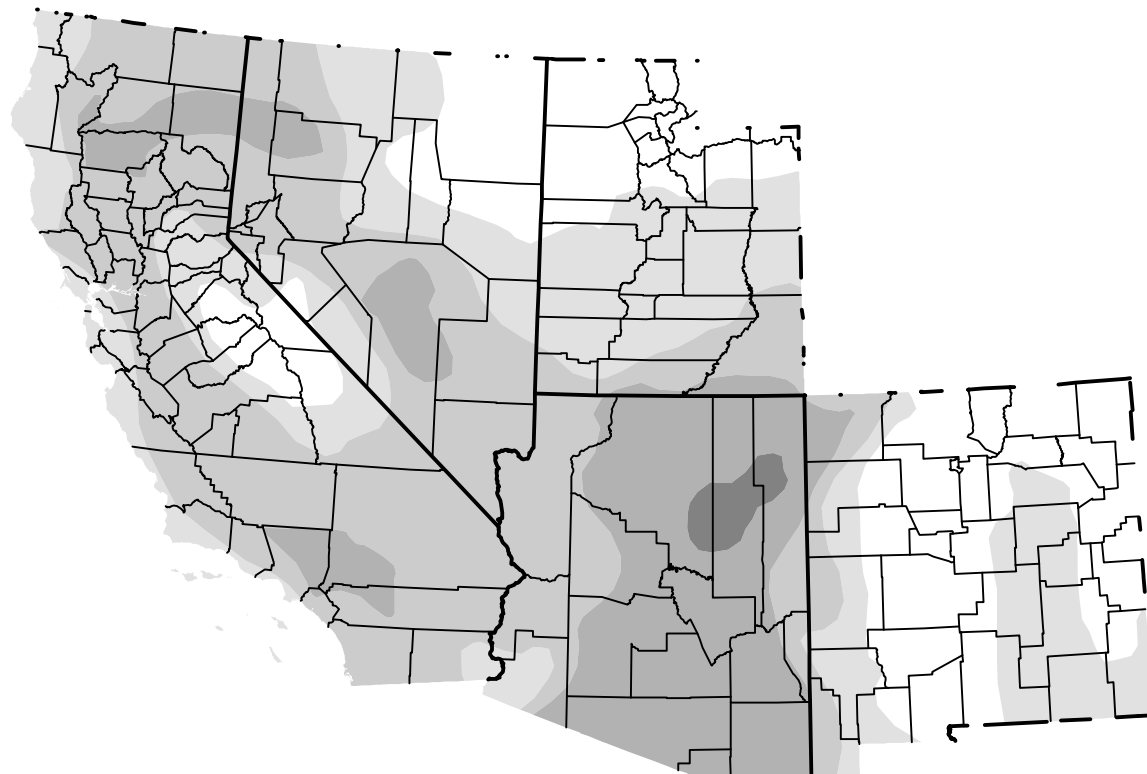


U.S. Drought Monitor

USDA Southwest Climate Hub

December 22, 2009
 (Released Thursday, Dec. 24, 2009)
 Valid 7 a.m. EST



Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0	D1	D2	D3	D4
Current	22.38	24.79	33.69	18.12	1.03	0.00
Last Week 12-17-2009	22.38	24.79	33.69	18.12	1.03	0.00
3 Months Ago 09-24-2009	30.45	31.99	23.45	14.08	0.03	0.00
Start of Calendar Year 01-01-2009	34.00	23.69	24.60	16.85	0.86	0.00
Start of Water Year 10-01-2009	30.31	31.53	24.04	14.04	0.07	0.00
One Year Ago 12-24-2008	29.81	27.72	24.75	16.85	0.86	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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