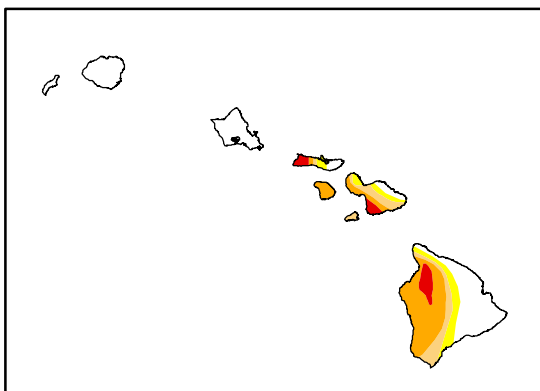
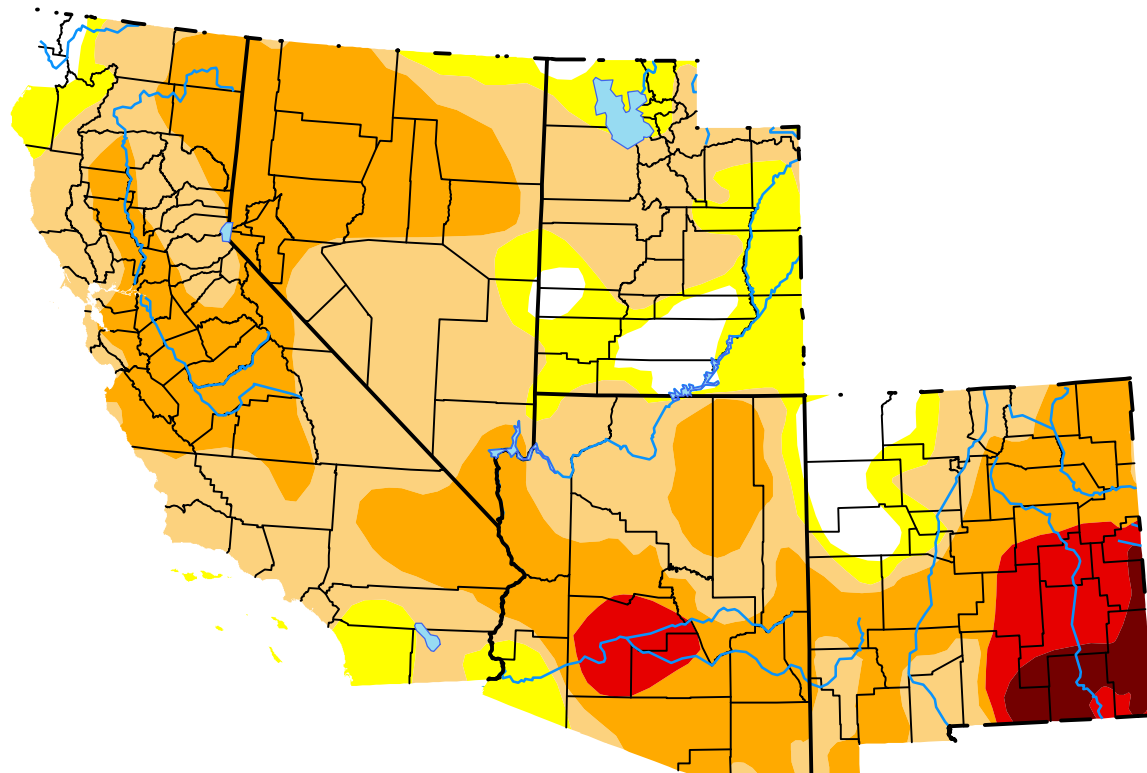


U.S. Drought Monitor

USDA Southwest Climate Hub

March 20, 2012
(Released Thursday, Mar. 22, 2012)
 Valid 8 a.m. EDT



Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0	D1	D2	D3	D4
Current	5.42	12.58	38.02	37.19	4.93	1.86
Last Week <i>03-15-2012</i>	4.77	12.63	35.69	40.13	4.92	1.86
3 Months Ago <i>12-22-2011</i>	47.97	22.04	7.95	13.73	4.68	3.63
Start of Calendar Year <i>01-05-2012</i>	29.38	22.20	26.39	16.71	3.78	1.55
Start of Water Year <i>09-29-2011</i>	53.67	12.76	7.04	9.37	9.67	7.49
One Year Ago <i>03-24-2011</i>	63.10	10.07	14.70	8.90	3.23	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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