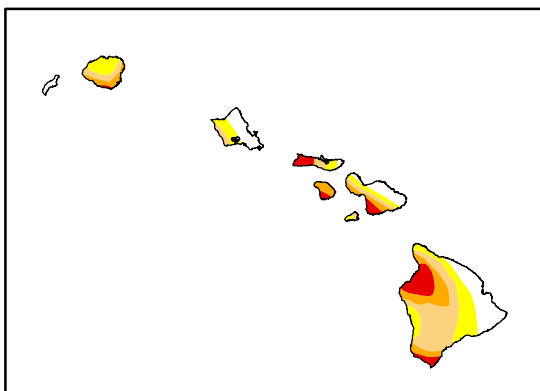
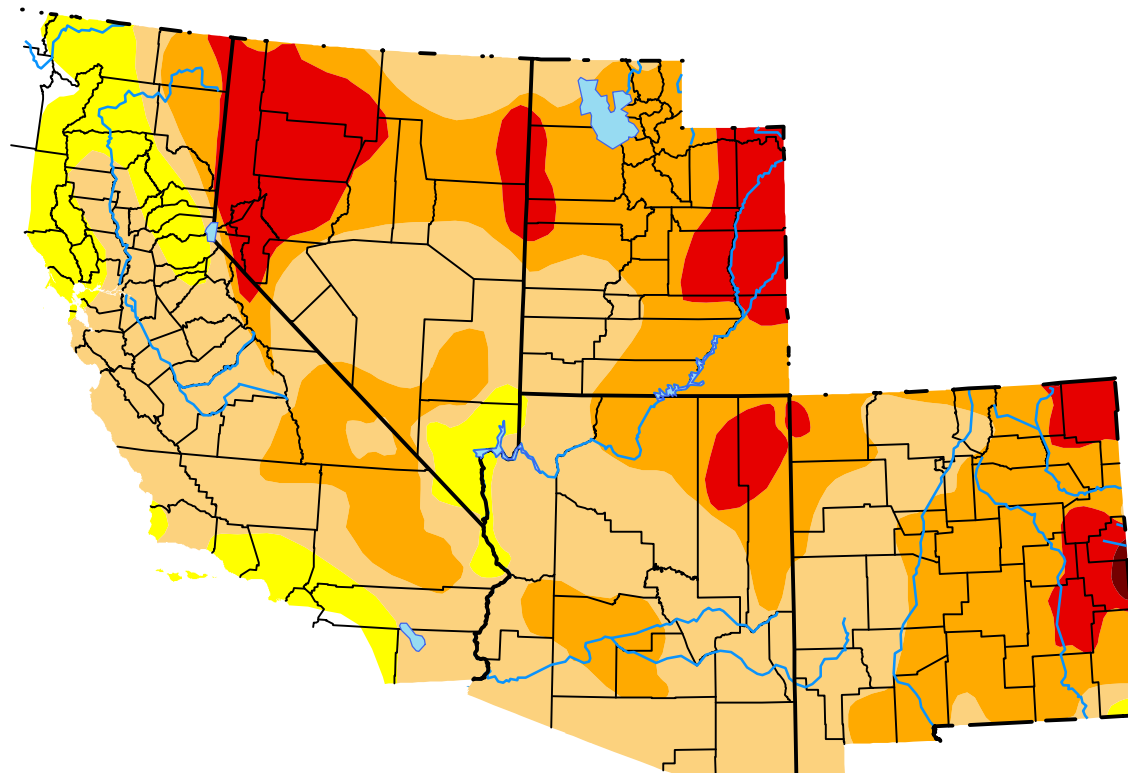


U.S. Drought Monitor

USDA Southwest Climate Hub

October 16, 2012
(Released Thursday, Oct. 18, 2012)
 Valid 8 a.m. EDT



Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	2.01	97.99	89.73	46.56	12.15	0.14
Last Week <i>10-11-2012</i>	2.06	97.94	91.23	47.11	12.32	0.14
3 Months Ago <i>07-19-2012</i>	4.45	95.55	88.50	65.56	17.15	0.00
Start of Calendar Year <i>01-05-2012</i>	29.38	70.62	48.42	22.03	5.32	1.55
Start of Water Year <i>09-27-2012</i>	3.42	96.58	91.28	47.35	12.19	0.13
One Year Ago <i>10-20-2011</i>	55.21	44.79	32.38	25.94	15.79	5.62

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:

Matthew Rosencrans
 CPC/NCEP/NWS/NOAA



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