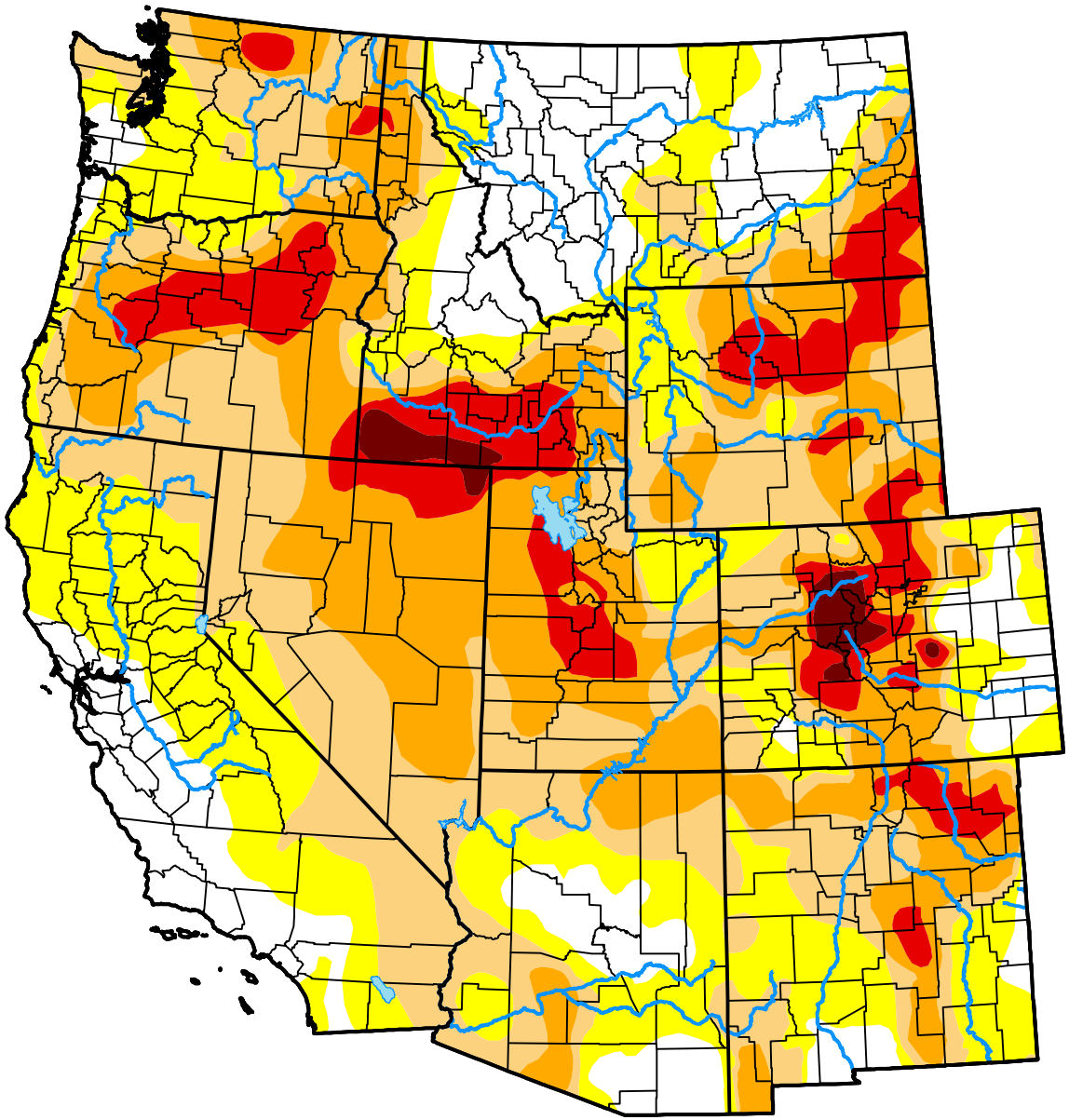
U.S. Drought Monitor

Western U.S.



October 20, 2026

(Released Thursday, Oct. 22, 2026)

Valid 8 a.m. EDT

Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0	D1	D2	D3	D4
Current	17.26	23.72	26.52	22.71	8.72	1.07
Last Week *10-13-2026*	15.32	21.28	26.86	25.12	10.13	1.29
3 Months Ago *07-21-2026*	10.93	17.78	20.58	30.19	18.63	1.89
Start of Calendar Year *01-06-2026*	40.61	23.13	21.90	13.20	1.10	0.06
Start of Water Year *09-29-2026*	11.88	18.66	28.88	26.56	12.60	1.42
One Year Ago *10-21-2025*	25.70	16.15	24.30	27.32	6.25	0.28

Intensity:

- None
- D0 Abnormally Dry
- D1 Moderate Drought
- D2 Severe Drought
- D3 Extreme Drought
- D4 Exceptional Drought

The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. For more information on the Drought Monitor, go to https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/About.aspx

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