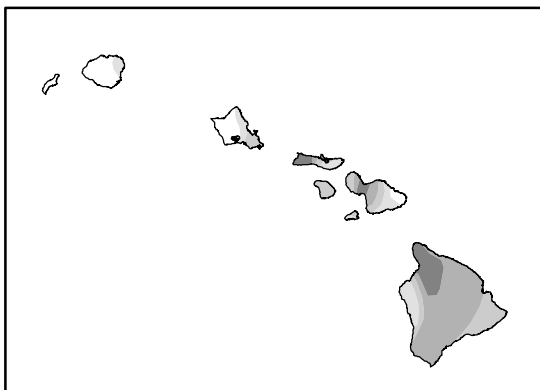
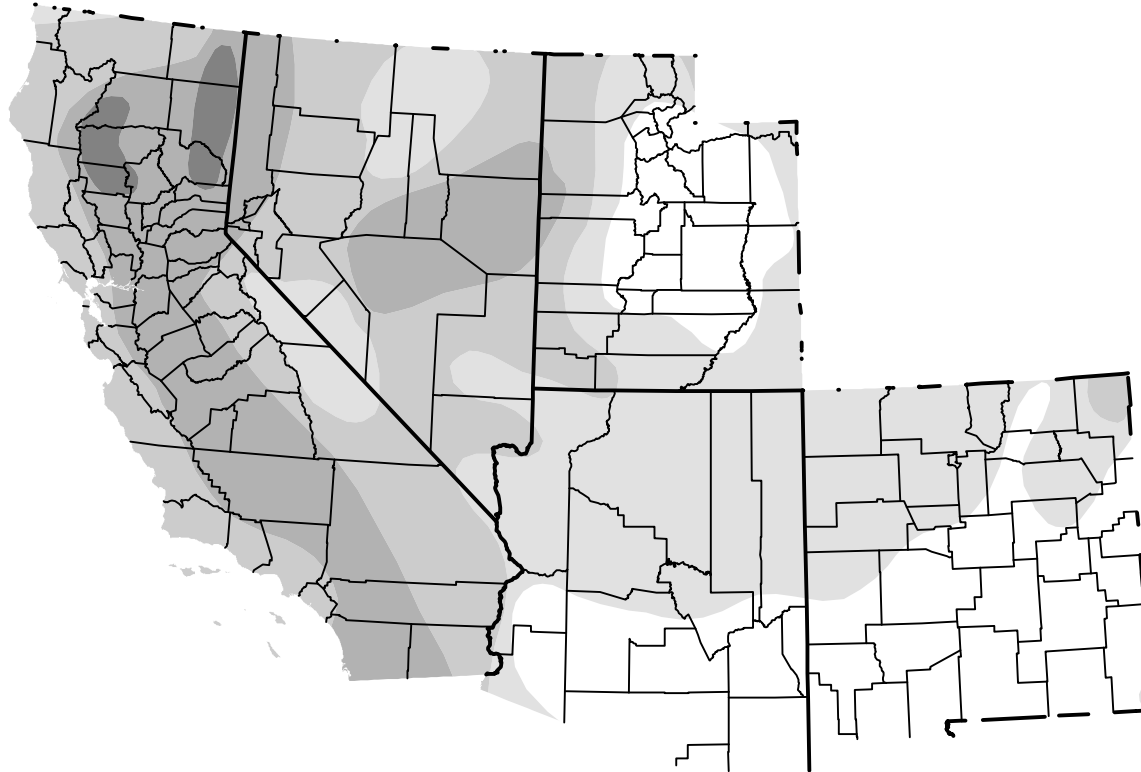


U.S. Drought Monitor

USDA Southwest Climate Hub

December 16, 2008
 (Released Thursday, Dec. 18, 2008)
 Valid 7 a.m. EST



Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	26.07	73.93	43.90	19.76	1.67	0.00
Last Week <i>12-11-2008</i>	25.93	74.07	42.19	19.37	0.97	0.00
3 Months Ago <i>09-18-2008</i>	38.93	61.07	42.58	17.19	0.10	0.00
Start of Calendar Year <i>01-03-2008</i>	20.86	79.14	63.29	45.33	5.44	0.00
Start of Water Year <i>10-02-2008</i>	38.93	61.07	43.48	18.91	0.65	0.00
One Year Ago <i>12-20-2007</i>	20.86	79.14	63.30	45.33	5.44	0.00

Intensity:



The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. See accompanying text summary for forecast statements.

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