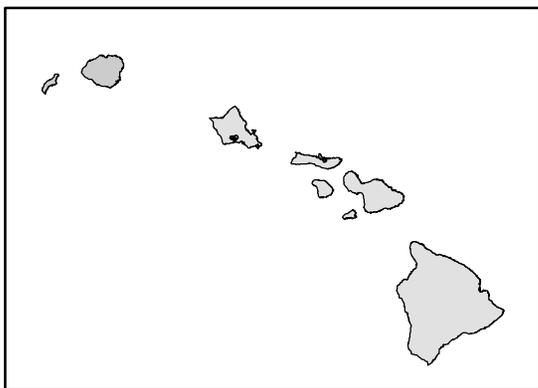
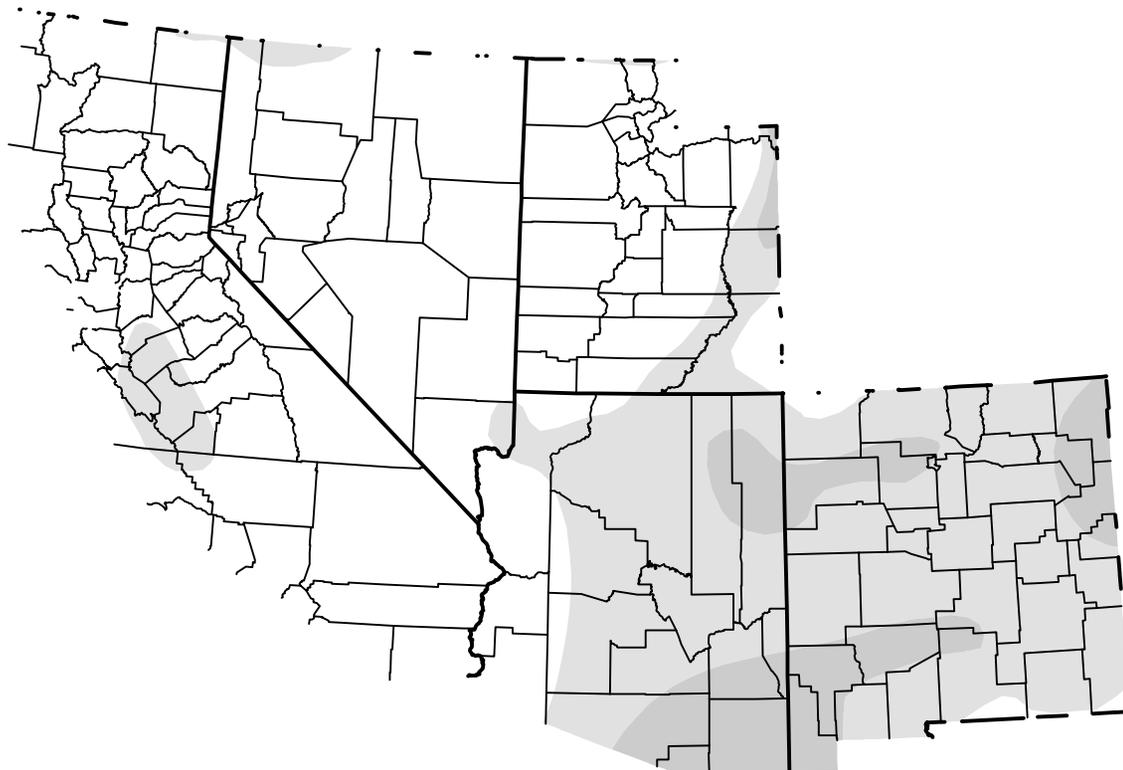


# U.S. Drought Monitor

## USDA Southwest Climate Hub

**December 20, 2005**  
 (Released Thursday, Dec. 22, 2005)  
 Valid 7 a.m. EST



*Drought Conditions (Percent Area)*

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
<b>Current</b>	59.45	40.55	8.89	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>Last Week</b> <i>12-15-2005</i>	58.91	41.09	8.51	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>3 Months Ago</b> <i>09-22-2005</i>	75.89	24.11	6.82	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>Start of Calendar Year</b> <i>01-06-2005</i>	25.51	74.49	59.32	32.80	11.75	0.11
<b>Start of Water Year</b> <i>09-29-2005</i>	76.22	23.78	6.80	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>One Year Ago</b> <i>12-23-2004</i>	15.73	84.27	66.83	39.53	14.56	0.11

***Intensity:***



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

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