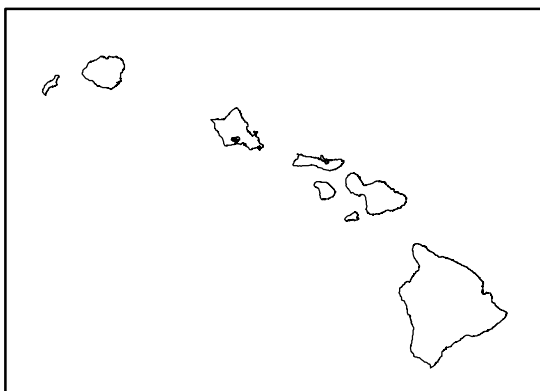
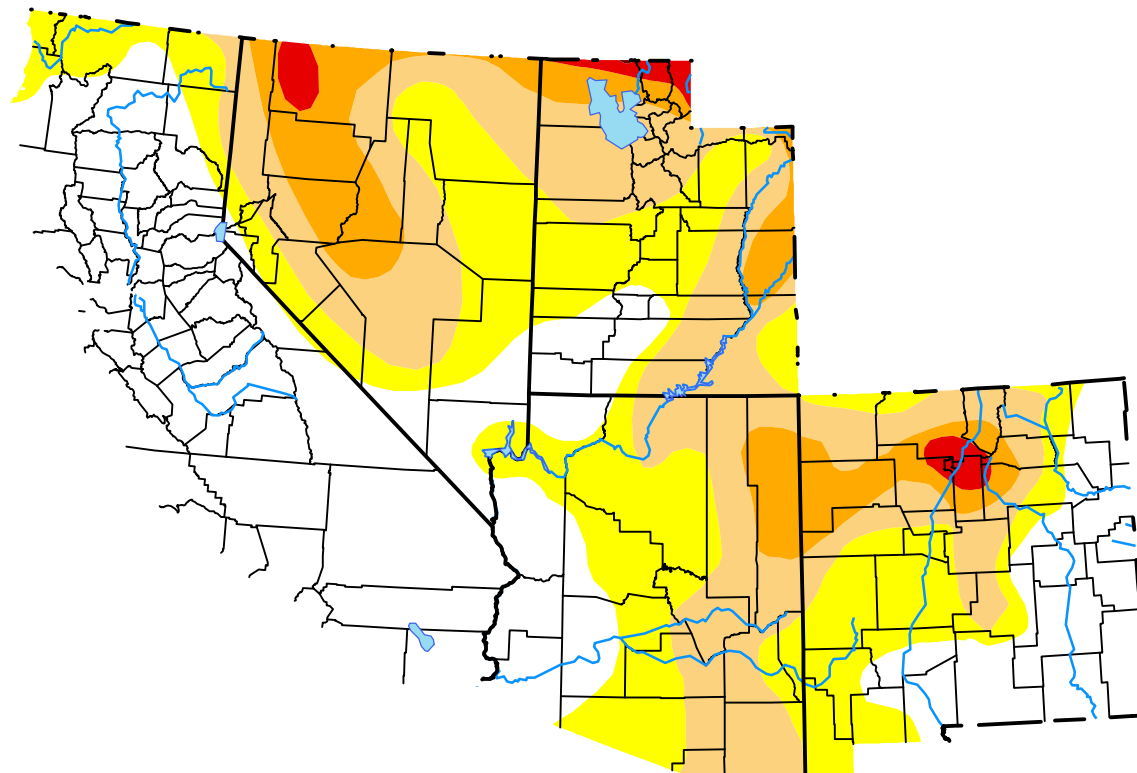


U.S. Drought Monitor

USDA Southwest Climate Hub

March 1, 2005
(Released Thursday, Mar. 3, 2005)
 Valid 7 a.m. EST



Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	41.59	58.41	32.78	9.73	1.25	0.01
Last Week <i>02-24-2005</i>	37.01	62.99	36.75	11.31	3.05	0.01
3 Months Ago <i>12-02-2004</i>	14.10	85.90	67.41	41.53	14.61	0.11
Start of Calendar Year <i>01-06-2005</i>	25.51	74.49	59.32	32.80	11.75	0.11
Start of Water Year <i>09-30-2004</i>	5.68	94.32	80.23	61.56	27.10	0.21
One Year Ago <i>03-04-2004</i>	20.96	79.04	72.90	60.61	32.54	7.37

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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