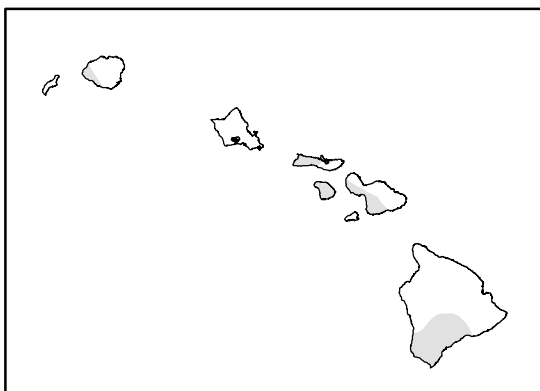
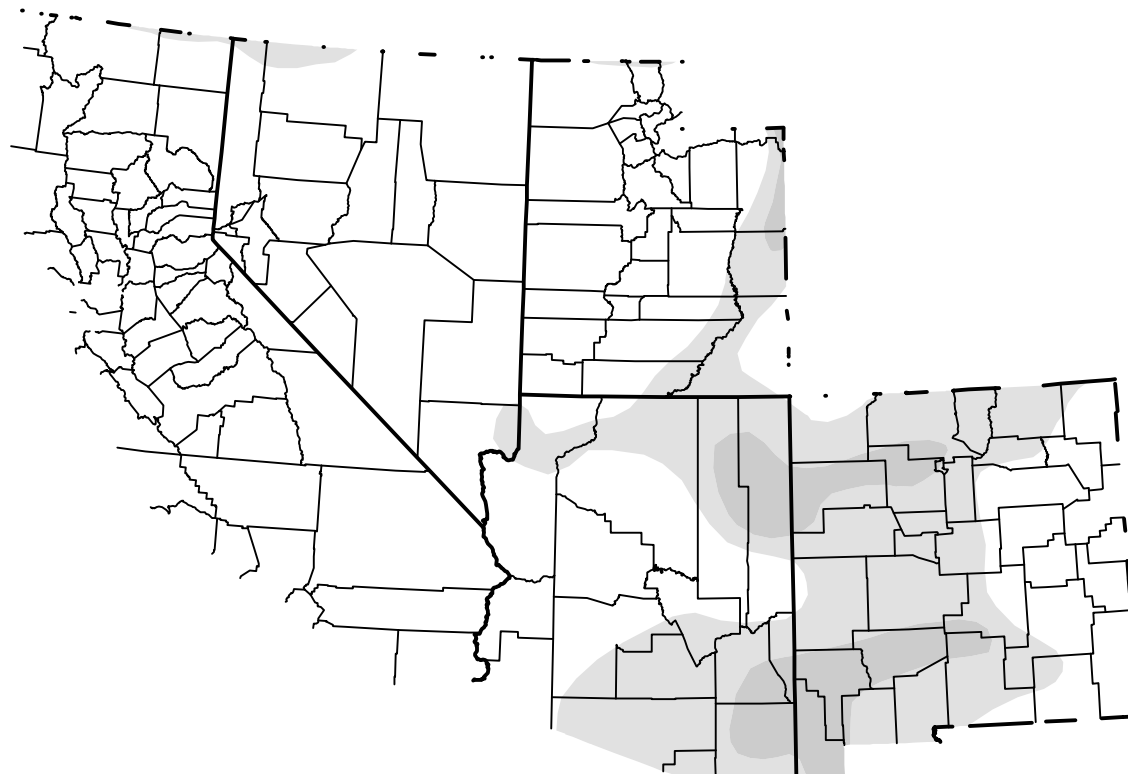


U.S. Drought Monitor

USDA Southwest Climate Hub

October 18, 2005
(Released Thursday, Oct. 20, 2005)
 Valid 8 a.m. EDT



Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0	D1	D2	D3	D4
Current	73.50	20.78	5.72	0.00	0.00	0.00
Last Week <i>10-13-2005</i>	73.43	20.57	6.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
3 Months Ago <i>07-21-2005</i>	70.71	21.50	7.78	0.00	0.00	0.00
Start of Calendar Year <i>01-06-2005</i>	25.51	15.17	26.52	21.06	11.64	0.11
Start of Water Year <i>09-29-2005</i>	76.22	16.98	6.80	0.00	0.00	0.00
One Year Ago <i>10-21-2004</i>	9.11	12.33	19.35	30.94	28.06	0.21

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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