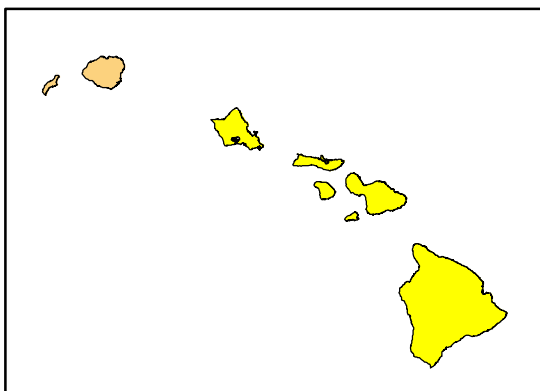
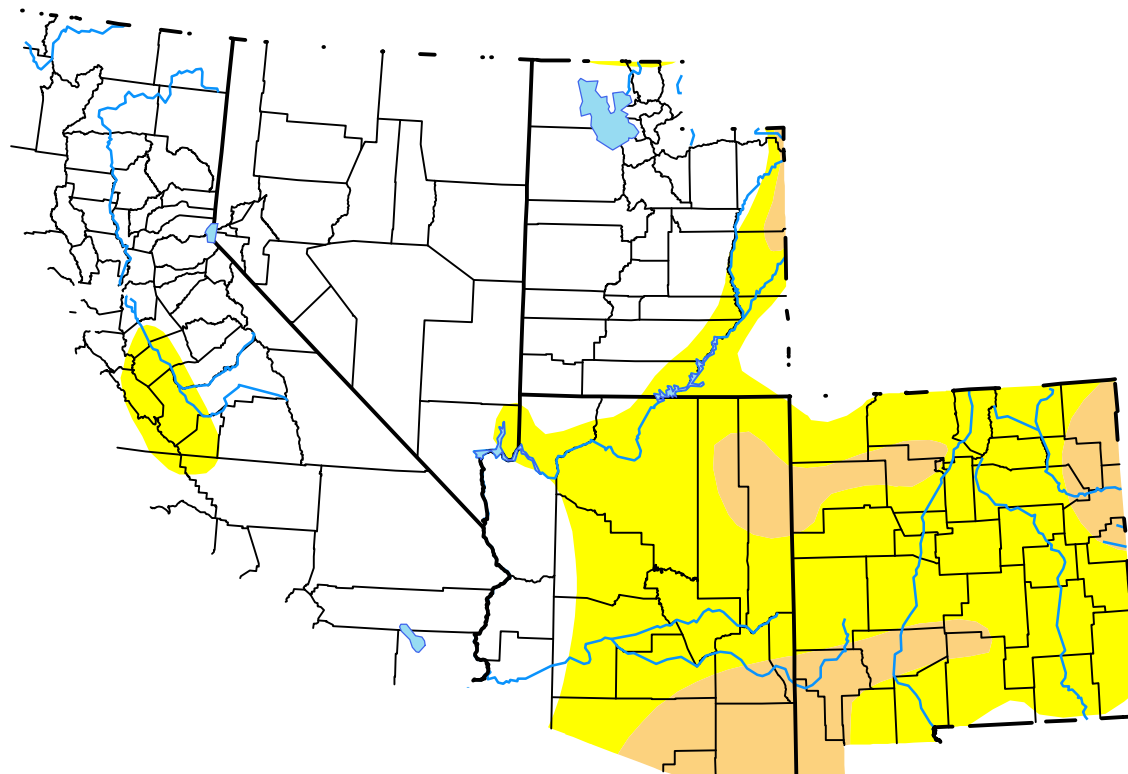


U.S. Drought Monitor

USDA Southwest Climate Hub

December 27, 2005
(Released Thursday, Dec. 29, 2005)
 Valid 7 a.m. EST



Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	59.88	40.12	8.89	0.00	0.00	0.00
Last Week <i>12-22-2005</i>	59.45	40.55	8.89	0.00	0.00	0.00
3 Months Ago <i>09-29-2005</i>	76.22	23.78	6.80	0.00	0.00	0.00
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>09-29-2005</i>	76.22	23.78	6.80	0.00	0.00	0.00
One Year Ago <i>12-30-2004</i>	17.91	82.09	66.69	38.46	14.56	0.11

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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