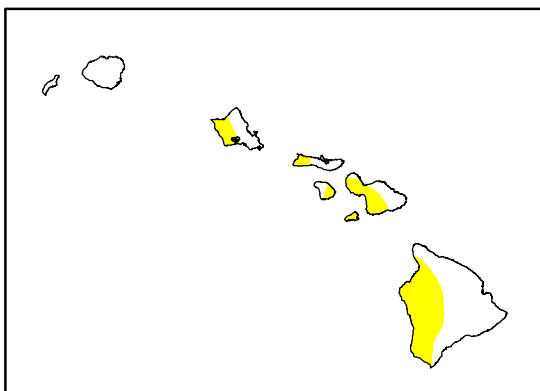
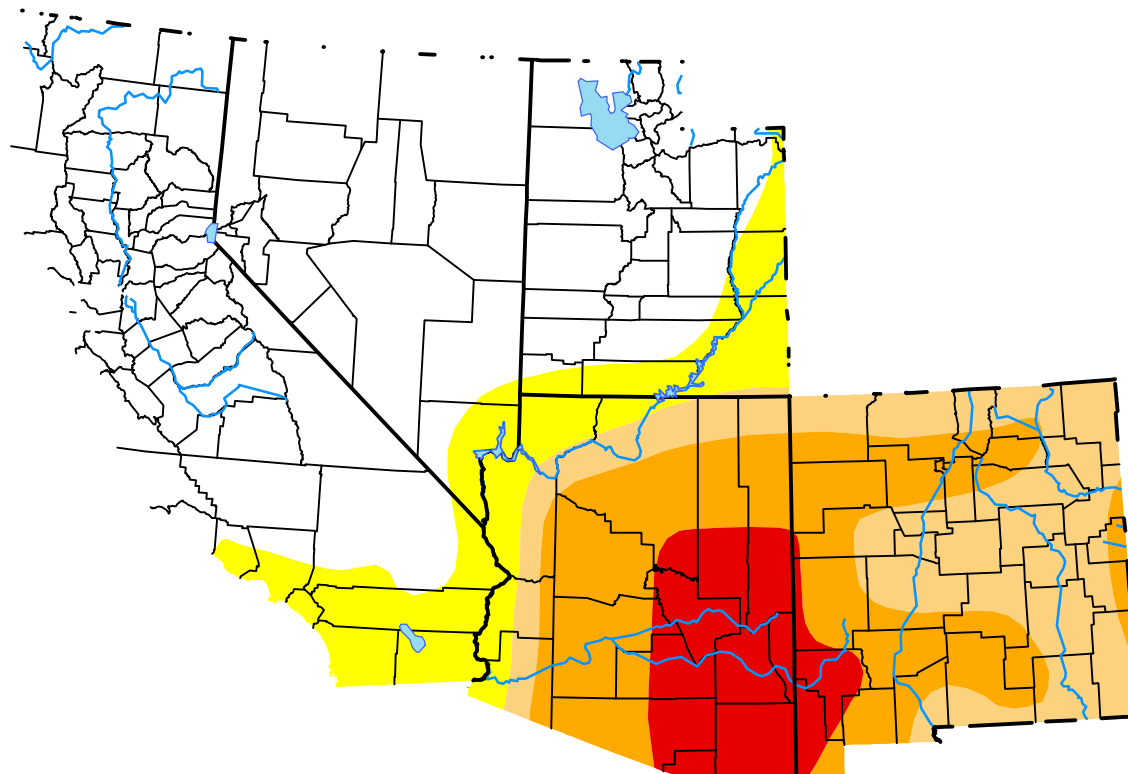


U.S. Drought Monitor

USDA Southwest Climate Hub

February 21, 2006
(Released Thursday, Feb. 23, 2006)
 Valid 7 a.m. EST



Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0	D1	D2	D3	D4
Current	51.26	11.62	13.76	15.88	7.48	0.00
Last Week 02-16-2006	52.57	11.21	17.17	11.57	7.48	0.00
3 Months Ago 11-24-2005	69.00	25.28	5.72	0.00	0.00	0.00
Start of Calendar Year 01-05-2006	57.15	29.90	12.95	0.00	0.00	0.00
Start of Water Year 09-29-2005	76.22	16.98	6.80	0.00	0.00	0.00
One Year Ago 02-24-2005	37.01	26.24	25.44	8.26	3.04	0.01

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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