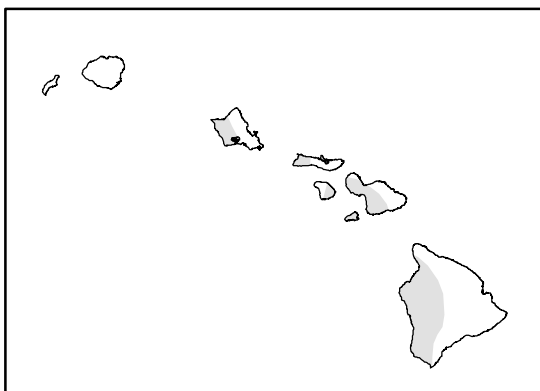
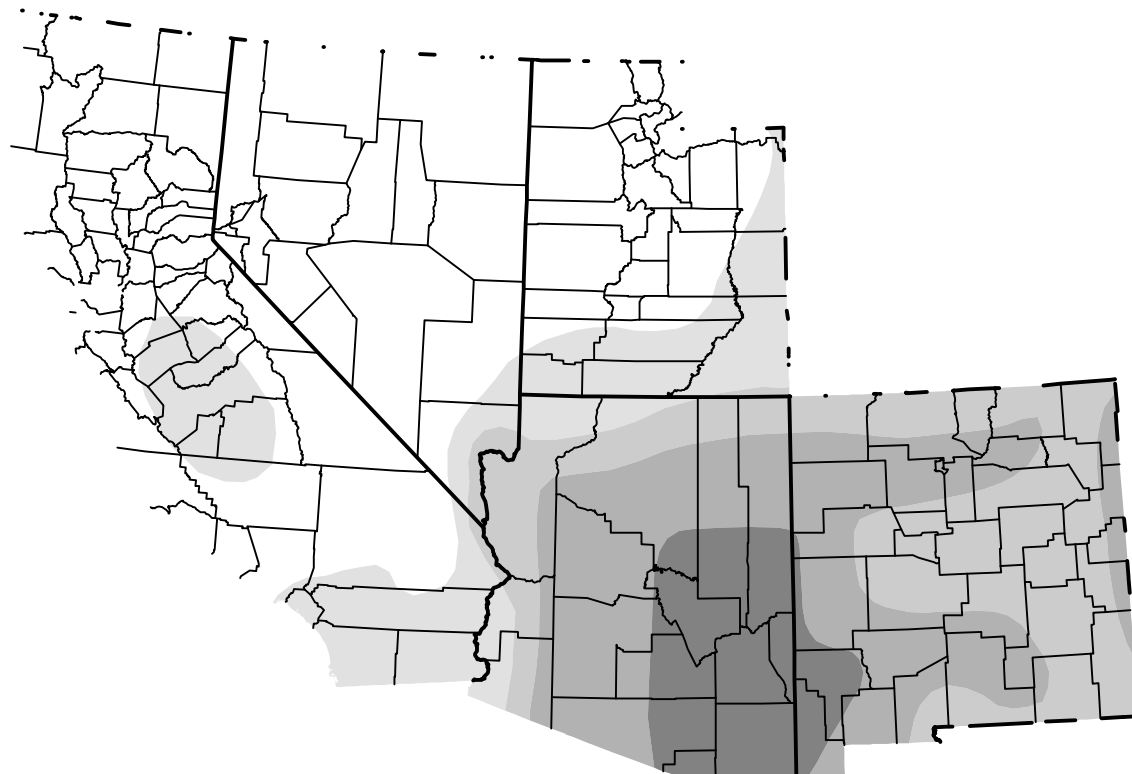


U.S. Drought Monitor

USDA Southwest Climate Hub

February 28, 2006
(Released Thursday, Mar. 2, 2006)
 Valid 7 a.m. EST



Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	47.83	52.17	38.62	23.91	7.48	0.00
Last Week <i>02-23-2006</i>	51.26	48.74	37.12	23.36	7.48	0.00
3 Months Ago <i>12-01-2005</i>	60.80	39.20	6.77	0.00	0.00	0.00
Start of Calendar Year <i>01-05-2006</i>	57.15	42.85	12.95	0.00	0.00	0.00
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>03-03-2005</i>	41.59	58.41	32.78	9.73	1.25	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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