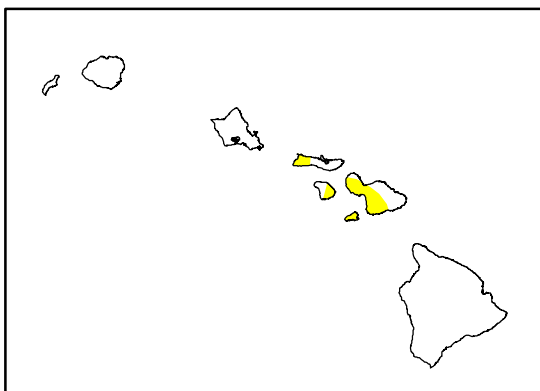
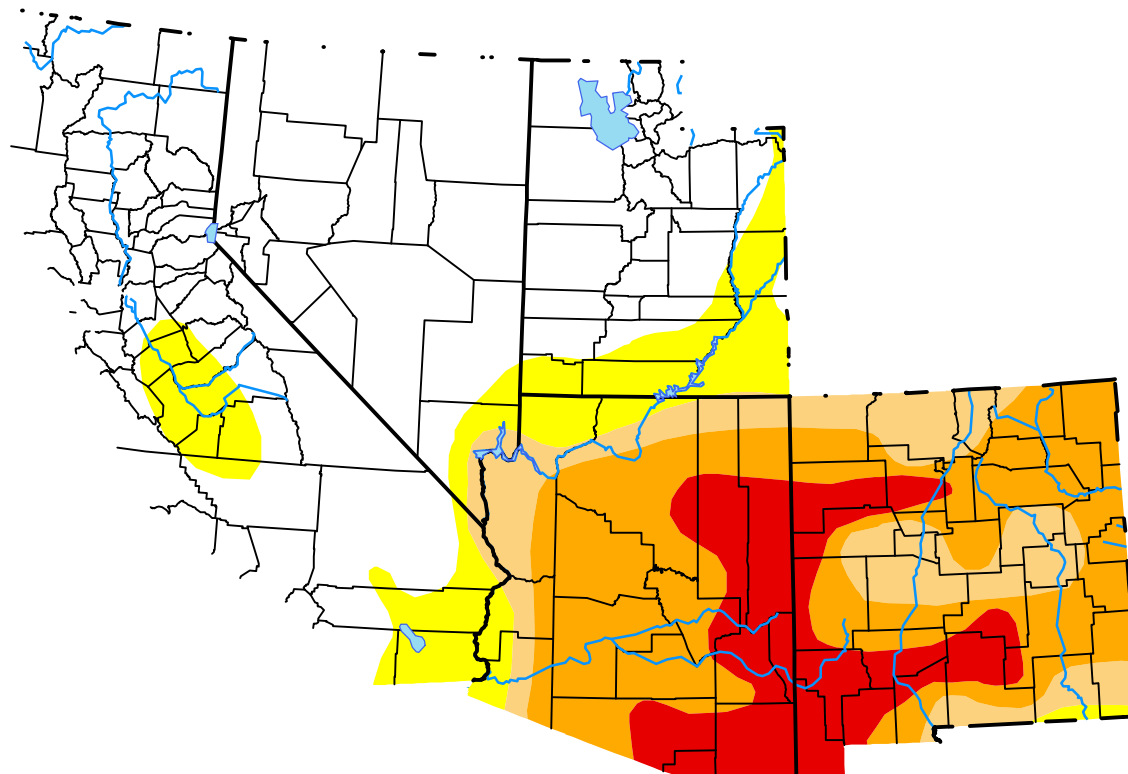


U.S. Drought Monitor

USDA Southwest Climate Hub

March 21, 2006
(Released Thursday, Mar. 23, 2006)
 Valid 7 a.m. EST



Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0	D1	D2	D3	D4
Current	50.84	10.86	9.39	18.95	9.96	0.00
Last Week <i>03-16-2006</i>	50.57	10.95	9.10	19.42	9.96	0.00
3 Months Ago <i>12-22-2005</i>	59.45	31.66	8.89	0.00	0.00	0.00
Start of Calendar Year <i>01-05-2006</i>	57.15	29.90	12.95	0.00	0.00	0.00
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>03-24-2005</i>	42.39	24.55	23.80	8.47	0.75	0.04

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.

Author:

Richard Heim
 NCEI/NOAA



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