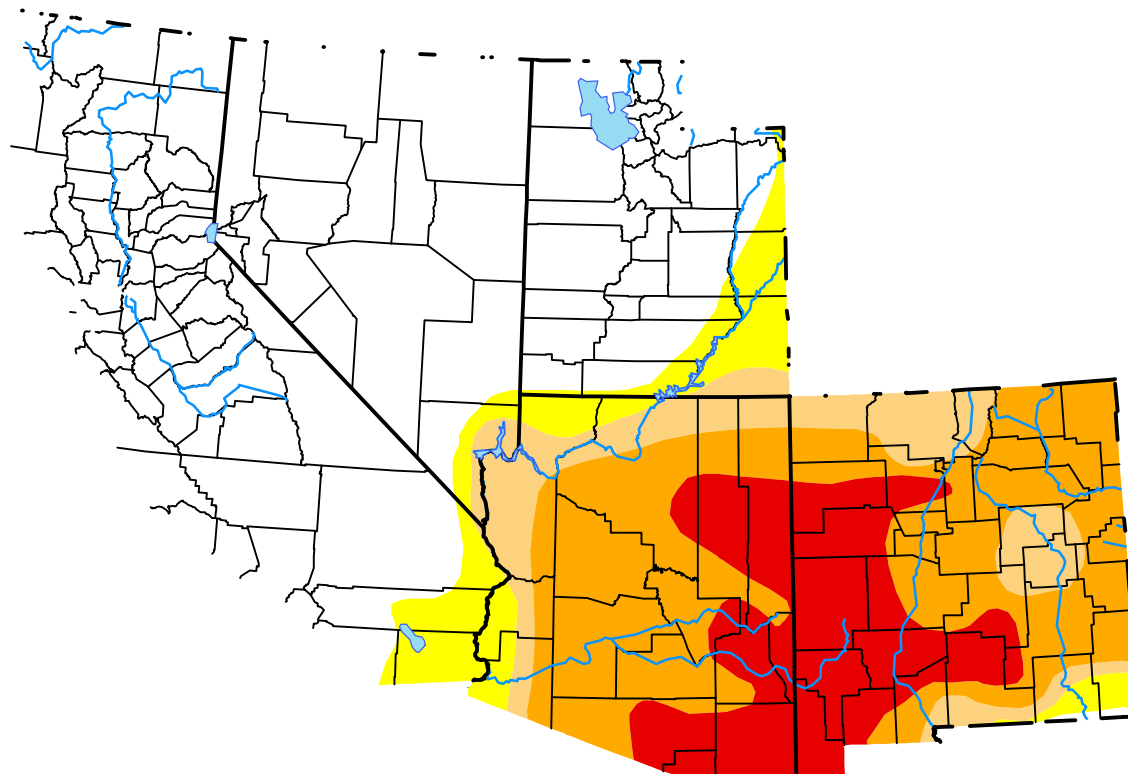


U.S. Drought Monitor

USDA Southwest Climate Hub

April 18, 2006
(Released Thursday, Apr. 20, 2006)
 Valid 8 a.m. EDT



Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	54.97	45.03	38.38	30.71	11.58	0.00
Last Week <i>04-13-2006</i>	54.97	45.03	38.38	30.60	9.87	0.00
3 Months Ago <i>01-19-2006</i>	56.58	43.42	24.12	4.37	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>04-21-2005</i>	64.45	35.55	15.55	1.74	0.04	0.00

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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