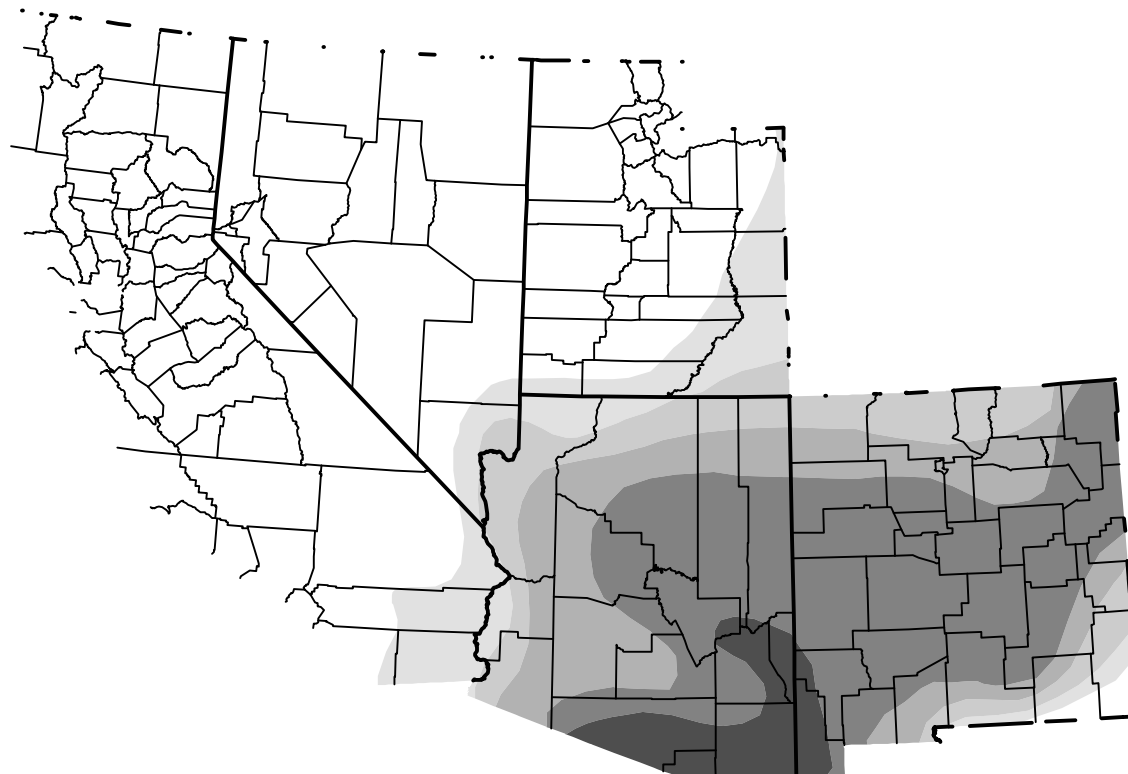


U.S. Drought Monitor

USDA Southwest Climate Hub

May 16, 2006
(Released Thursday, May. 18, 2006)
 Valid 8 a.m. EDT



Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0	D1	D2	D3	D4
Current	54.51	7.25	6.54	9.49	18.86	3.36
Last Week <i>05-11-2006</i>	54.51	7.67	5.77	9.79	19.30	2.96
3 Months Ago <i>02-16-2006</i>	52.57	11.21	17.17	11.57	7.48	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>05-19-2005</i>	76.26	17.76	5.98	0.00	0.00	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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