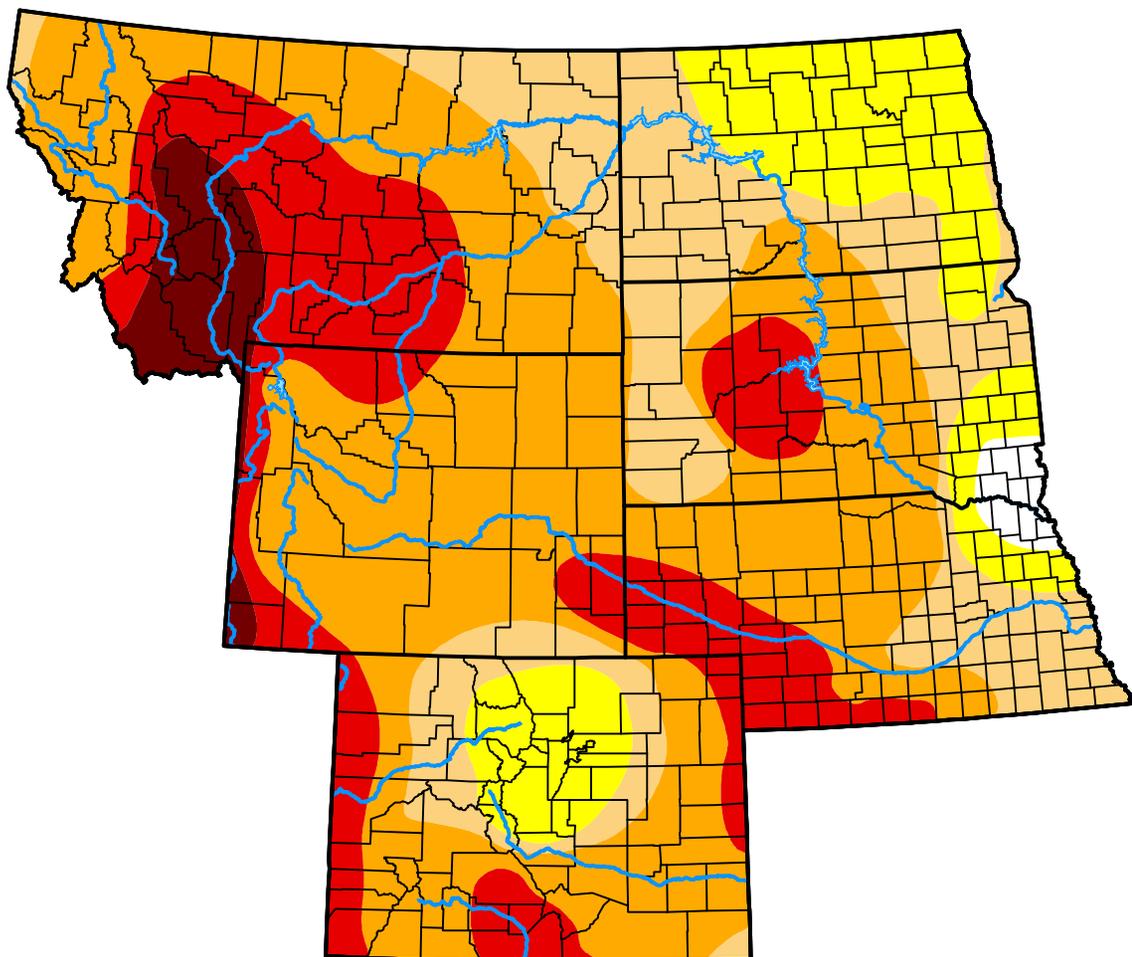


U.S. Drought Monitor

USDA Northern Plains Climate Hub

December 16, 2003
 (Released Thursday, Dec. 18, 2003)
 Valid 7 a.m. EST



Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	1.01	98.99	86.88	66.49	22.55	3.92
Last Week <i>12-09-2003</i>	0.96	99.04	85.21	66.30	21.23	3.87
3 Months Ago <i>09-16-2003</i>	0.81	99.19	84.18	62.87	26.46	4.31
Start of Calendar Year <i>12-31-2002</i>	5.32	94.68	83.14	71.20	48.98	4.25
Start of Water Year <i>09-30-2003</i>	0.79	99.21	84.27	61.39	24.85	3.57
One Year Ago <i>12-17-2002</i>	5.70	94.30	81.08	70.29	47.42	4.21

Intensity:



The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. For more information on the Drought Monitor, go to <https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/About.aspx>

Author:

David Miskus
 NOAA/NWS/NCEP/CPC



droughtmonitor.unl.edu