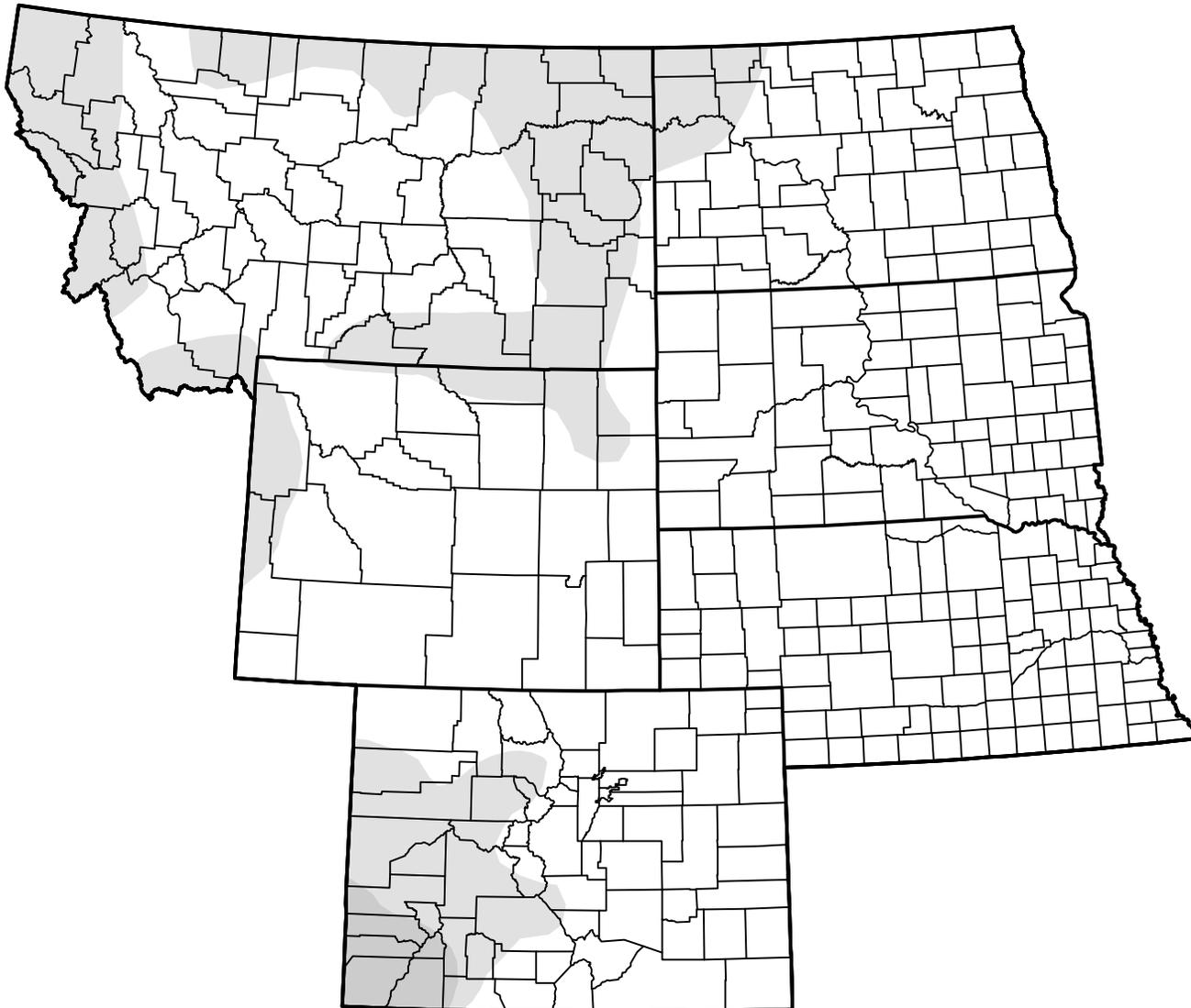


*U.S. Drought Monitor*  
**USDA Northern Plains  
Climate Hub**

**December 29, 2009**  
*(Released Thursday, Dec. 31, 2009)*  
Valid 7 a.m. EST



*Intensity:*

-  None
-  D0 Abnormally Dry
-  D1 Moderate Drought
-  D2 Severe Drought
-  D3 Extreme Drought
-  D4 Exceptional Drought

*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>*

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**droughtmonitor.unl.edu**