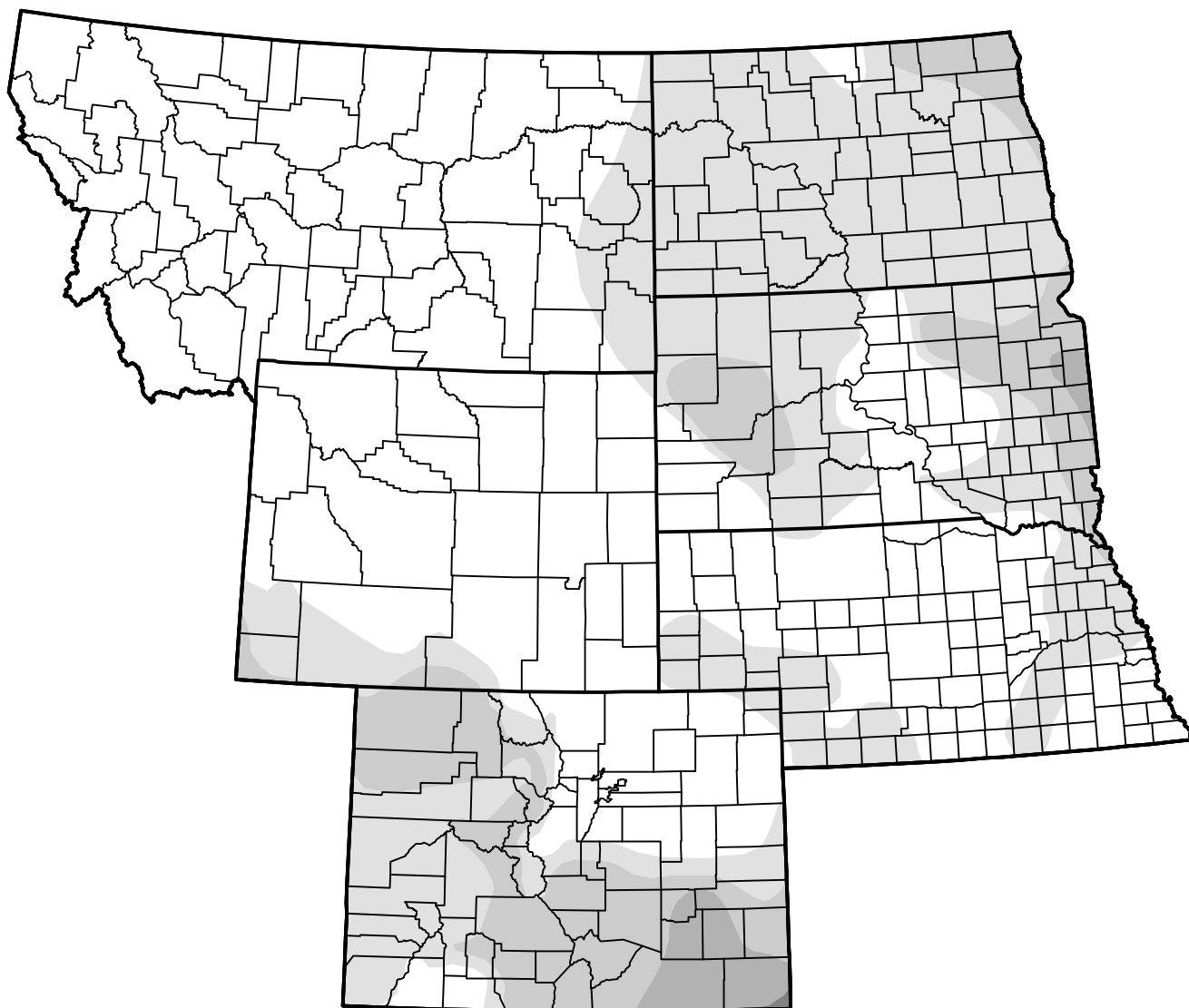


*U.S. Drought Monitor*  
**USDA Northern Plains  
Climate Hub**

**March 20, 2012**  
(Released Thursday, Mar. 22, 2012)  
Valid 8 a.m. EDT



**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:**

Eric Luebehusen  
U.S. Department of Agriculture



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