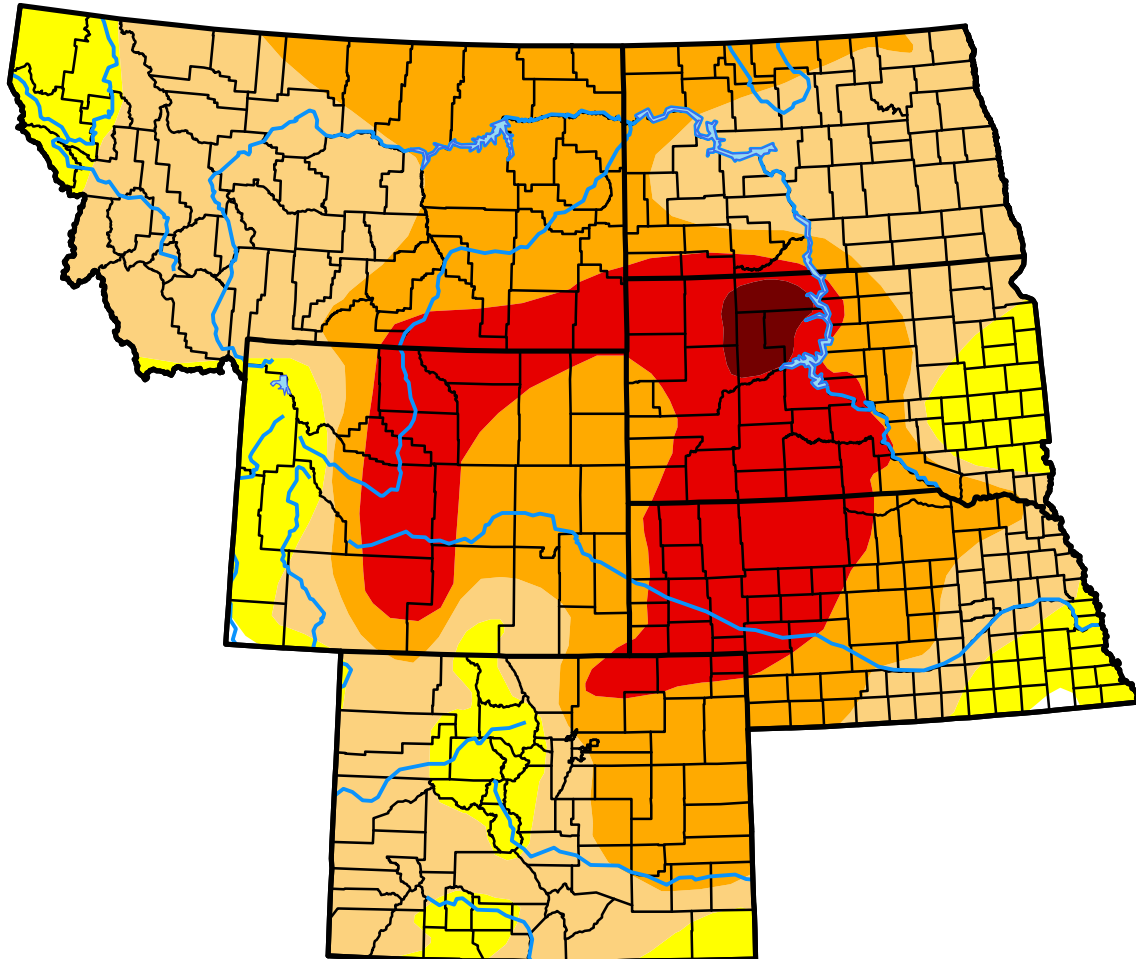


U.S. Drought Monitor

USDA Northern Plains Climate Hub

August 29, 2006
 (Released Thursday, Aug. 31, 2006)
 Valid 8 a.m. EDT



Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	0.18	99.82	86.98	49.98	18.45	0.95
Last Week <i>08-22-2006</i>	0.15	99.85	88.74	59.79	19.34	2.11
3 Months Ago <i>05-30-2006</i>	38.55	61.45	33.71	13.97	1.68	0.00
Start of Calendar Year <i>01-03-2006</i>	49.75	50.25	20.63	0.03	0.00	0.00
Start of Water Year <i>09-27-2005</i>	30.88	69.12	34.37	9.35	0.00	0.00
One Year Ago <i>08-30-2005</i>	31.73	68.27	32.89	11.16	0.00	0.00

Intensity:

- 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. See accompanying text summary for forecast statements.

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