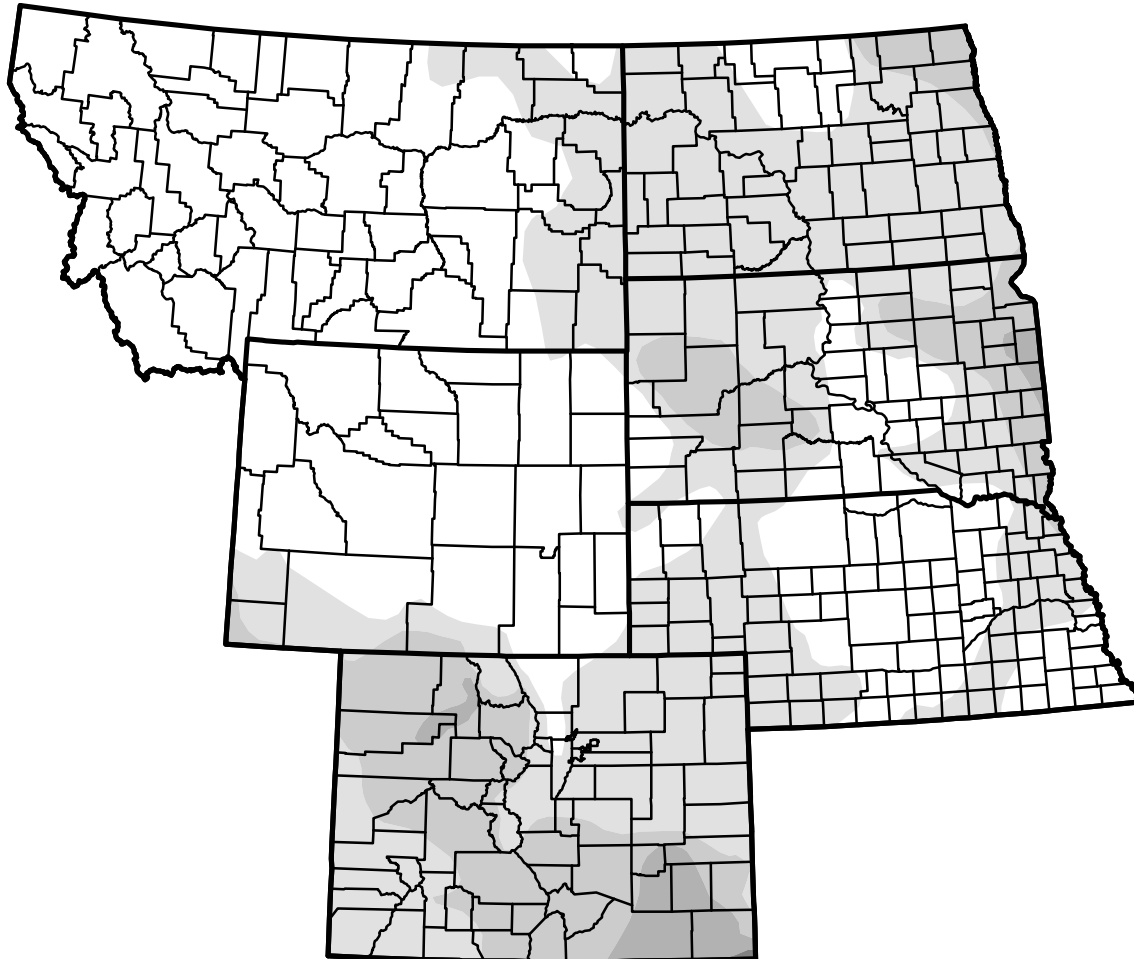


U.S. Drought Monitor

USDA Northern Plains Climate Hub

March 27, 2012
 (Released Thursday, Mar. 29, 2012)
 Valid 8 a.m. EDT



Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	48.99	51.01	14.57	1.94	0.03	0.00
Last Week <i>03-20-2012</i>	57.72	42.28	12.60	1.78	0.04	0.00
3 Months Ago <i>12-27-2011</i>	72.63	27.37	9.32	3.08	0.01	0.00
Start of Calendar Year <i>01-03-2012</i>	68.95	31.05	9.32	2.29	0.01	0.00
Start of Water Year <i>09-27-2011</i>	73.09	26.91	6.01	3.63	1.43	0.10
One Year Ago <i>03-29-2011</i>	78.91	21.09	10.07	7.20	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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