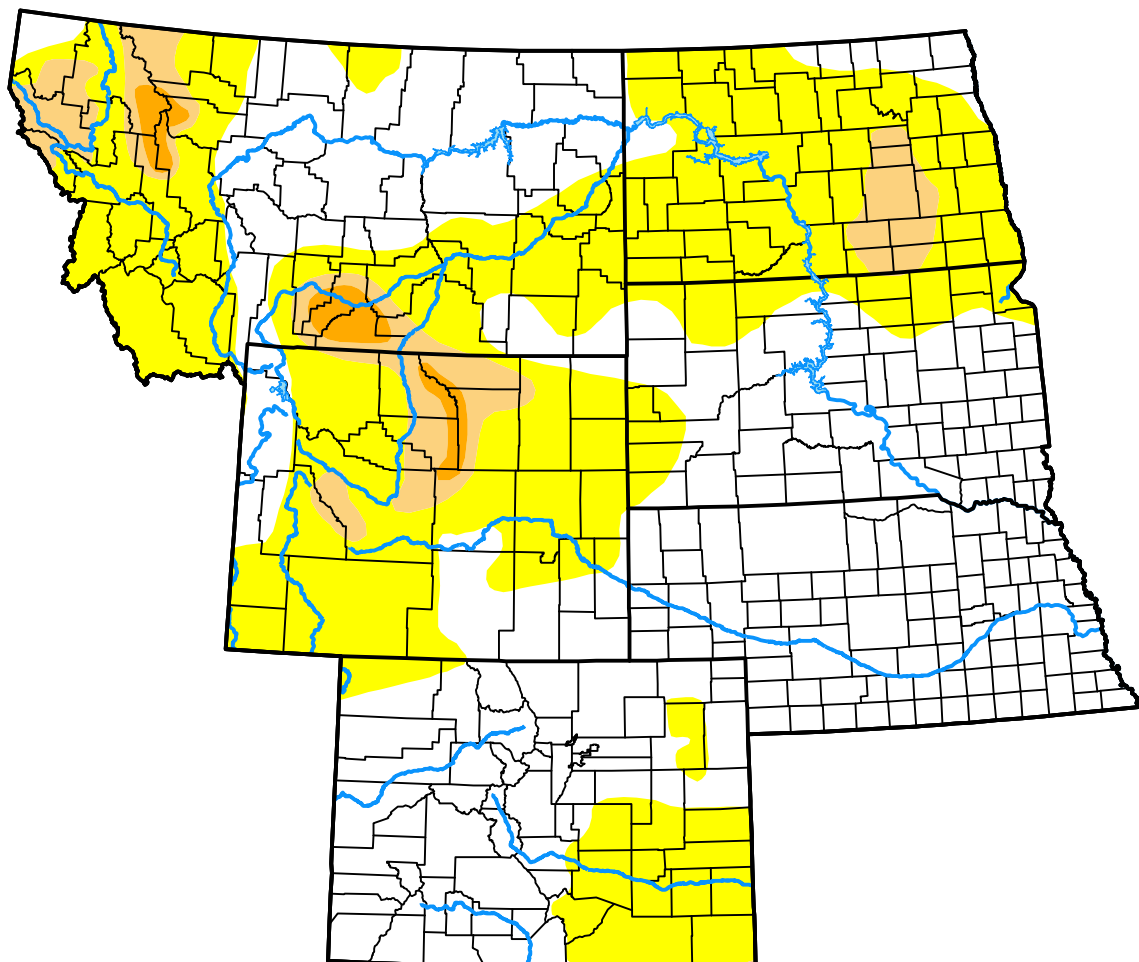


# U.S. Drought Monitor

## USDA Northern Plains

### Climate Hub



**March 15, 2016**  
 (Released Thursday, Mar. 17, 2016)  
 Valid 8 a.m. EDT

*Drought Conditions (Percent Area)*

|                                                    | None  | D0    | D1    | D2   | D3   | D4   |
|----------------------------------------------------|-------|-------|-------|------|------|------|
| <b>Current</b>                                     | 53.57 | 39.46 | 5.70  | 1.28 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| <b>Last Week</b><br><i>03-08-2016</i>              | 57.23 | 36.61 | 4.88  | 1.28 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| <b>3 Months Ago</b><br><i>12-15-2015</i>           | 64.32 | 26.19 | 2.89  | 5.69 | 0.91 | 0.00 |
| <b>Start of Calendar Year</b><br><i>12-29-2015</i> | 68.34 | 22.34 | 3.95  | 4.46 | 0.91 | 0.00 |
| <b>Start of Water Year</b><br><i>09-29-2015</i>    | 63.29 | 26.84 | 2.49  | 3.04 | 4.33 | 0.00 |
| <b>One Year Ago</b><br><i>03-17-2015</i>           | 56.10 | 29.22 | 12.46 | 2.22 | 0.00 | 0.00 |

**Intensity:**

|                                                                                                           |                                                                                                              |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|  None                  |  D2 Severe Drought        |
|  D0 Abnormally Dry    |  D3 Extreme Drought      |
|  D1 Moderate 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>*

**Author:**

Richard Heim  
 NCEI/NOAA



**droughtmonitor.unl.edu**