



Figure 4.3 “Megapolitan” areas in the eleven western states. Coined by Robert E. Lang and Dawn Dhavale, at the Metropolitan Institute at Virginia Tech, the term “megapolitan area” refers to a large, functionally and economically linked constellation of towns, cities, and whole metropolitan areas. Western megapolitan areas delineated by Lang and Dhavale are shown in dark gray and taken from Robert E. Lang and Dawn Dhavale, *Beyond Megalopolis: Exploring America's New “Megapolitan” Geography*; my proposed additions are light gray. (Blacksburg: Metropolitan Institute at Virginia Tech, 2005), 13.