

AFGHANISTAN Weekly Climate Forecast

#25, June 25 – July 1, 2008

Temperatures continue to remain above normal across most of Afghanistan depleting, much of the country's snow pack 4 – 6 weeks earlier than normal. Snow pack is critical because it is used for irrigation in the lowland areas. The remaining snow pack now resides only in the highest elevations of northeast Afghanistan, threatening future water availability for crop production and pasture for livestock.

Precipitation across most of Afghanistan is below normal as well. The above normal temperatures have aggravated this situation, melting snow early, evaporating more water than normal, and depleting underground water sources. The cumulative effect of this situation will have a direct bearing on most households, who rely on agriculture and livestock for their income and food needs.

For the upcoming week, maximum temperatures will exceed 38 °C and remain 4 to 8 °C above normal in the lowlands of Afghanistan.

- 1) Much of Afghanistan has received below normal precipitation during the winter and spring along with an early snow melt.
- 2) Extreme heat (maximum temperatures above 38 °C) will affect the lowlands of Afghanistan and continue to increase water evaporation.

Figure 1. Weather hazards in Afghanistan as of June 24, 2008

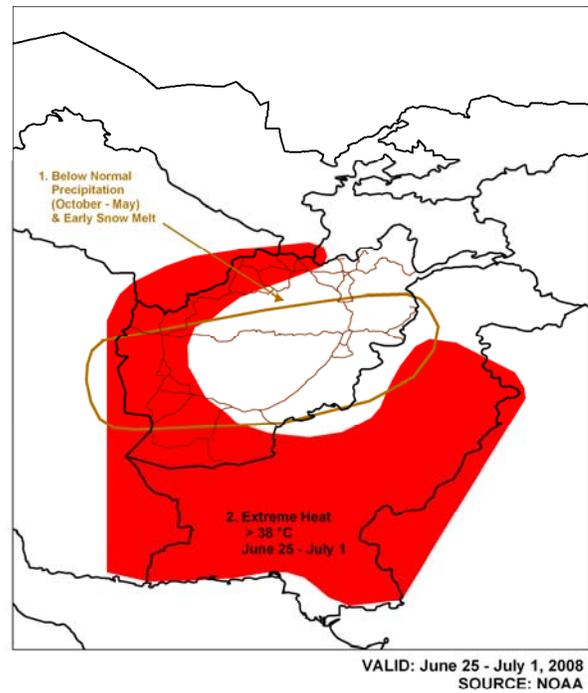
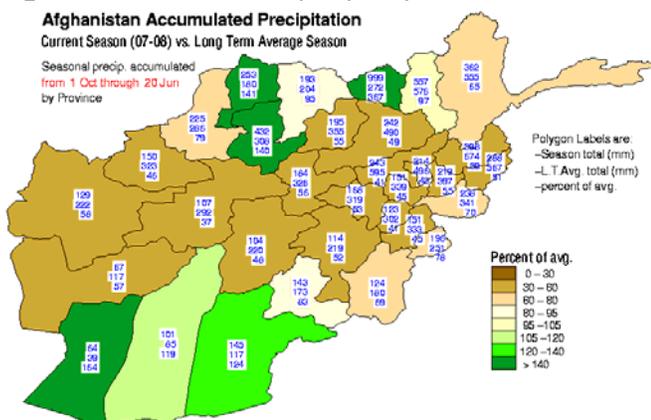


Figure 2. Accumulated liquid precipitation

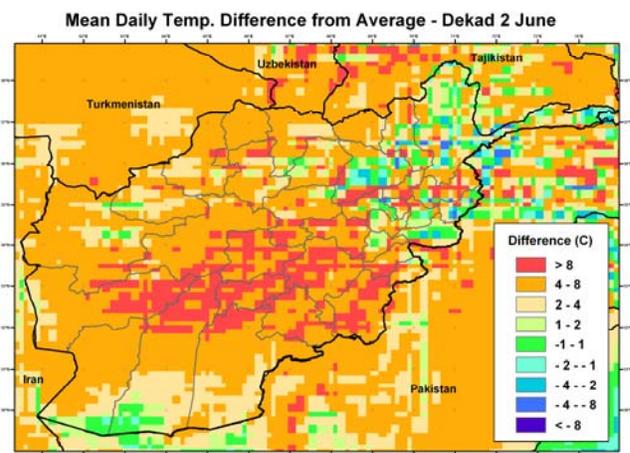


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Figure 3. Mean Temperature Anomaly – Dekad 2 June



Source: FEWS NET Afghanistan, USGS

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