

## AFGHANISTAN Weekly Climate Forecast

#28, July 16 - 22, 2008

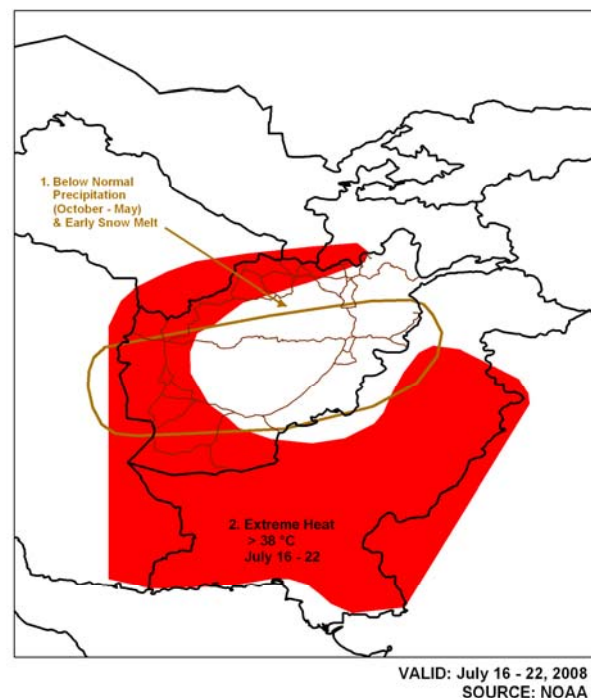
- 1) Much of Afghanistan has received below normal precipitation during the winter and spring, along with an early snow melt.
- 2) Extreme heat (maximum temperatures above 38 °C) will affect the lowlands of Afghanistan and continue to increase water evaporation.

Temperature anomalies have eased since the beginning of July, although temperatures remain significantly above normal (Figure 2). During the end of the wet season, the high temperatures depleted much of Afghanistan's already below-normal snow pack 4 – 6 weeks earlier than normal. High temperatures have also led to increased evaporation from water reservoirs, threatening water availability for the current harvest.

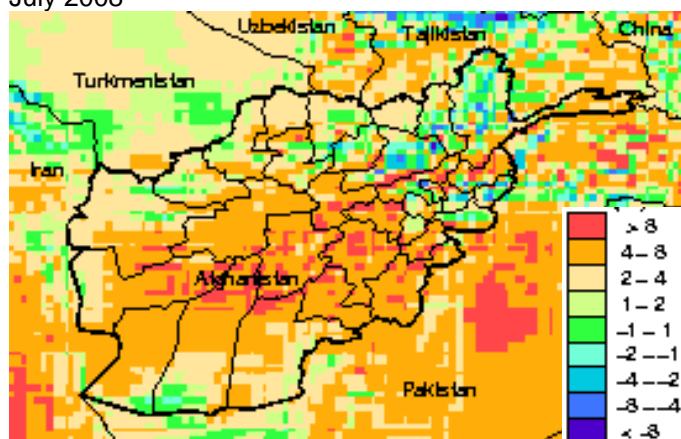
Precipitation across most of Afghanistan was below average from October - May as well and, as a result, underground water sources, used for both drinking water and irrigation, have not been replenished. The cumulative effect of high temperatures and low rainfall will have a direct bearing on most households, who rely on agriculture and livestock for their income and food needs. Afghanistan is now in the dry season (Figure 3), and only light showers are expected along the Pakistan border.

Temperatures will remain above average for the upcoming week.

**Figure 1.** Weather hazards in Afghanistan as of July 16, 2008

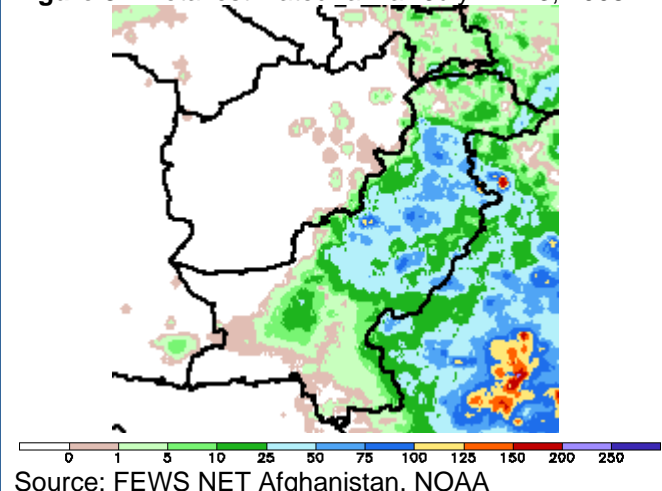


**Figure 2.** Temperature anomalies for the first dekad of July 2008



Source: FEWS NET Afghanistan, USGS

**Figure 3.** Total estimated rainfall July 7 – 13, 2008



Source: FEWS NET Afghanistan, NOAA