

AFGHANISTAN Weekly Climate Forecast

#51, Dec 24 - 30, 2008

During late November and early December, temperatures were above-average, except in the highest elevations of northeast Afghanistan. During mid-December, much colder temperatures prevailed as temperatures were 4 to 8 °C below-average in the central highlands and northeast mountains. Despite a moderation in temperatures during the next week, extreme cold (minimum temperatures below -20 °C) will affect the northeast mountains (Figure 2).

Thus far, significant snowfall has accumulated in the northeastern parts of the country, with lighter amounts in the central highlands. From October 1 - December 20, precipitation has averaged near or above normal across the majority of the country with only a small area of below normal precipitation in the central highlands.

During the next week, mostly dry weather can be expected with precipitation limited to the northeast parts of Afghanistan (Figure 3).

Figure 1. Weather hazards in Afghanistan

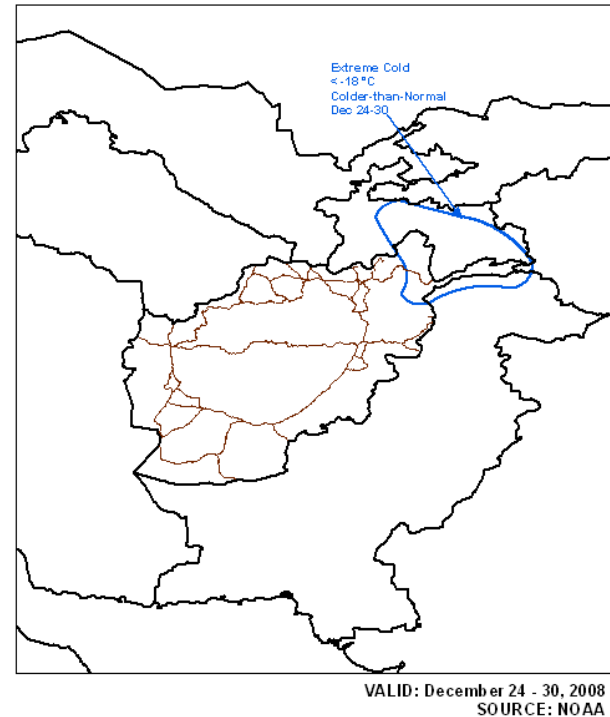
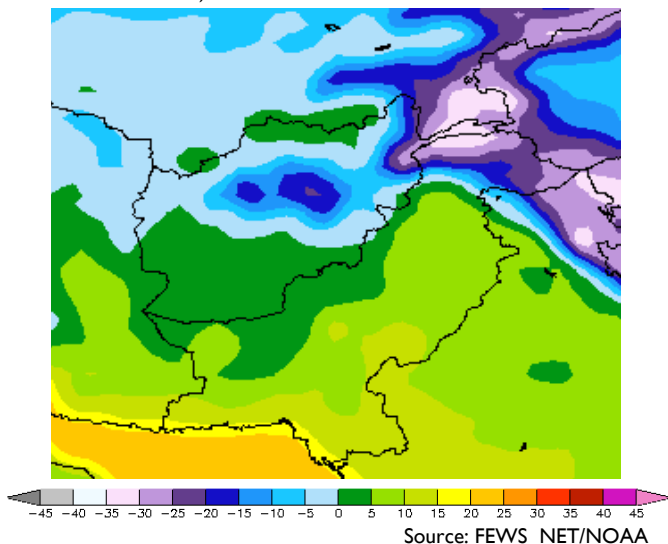


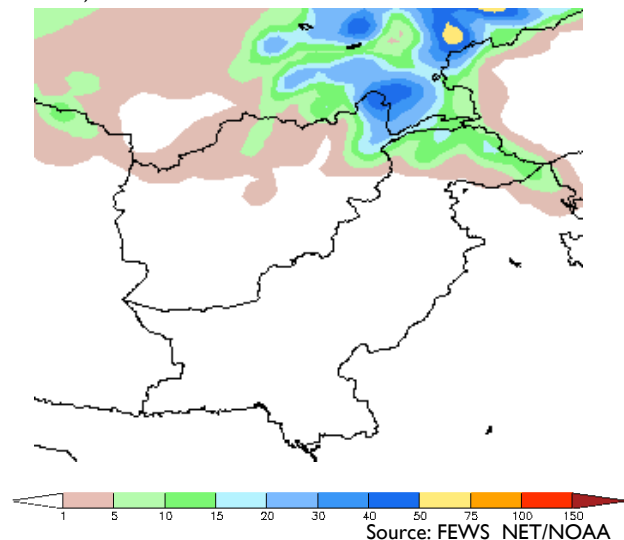
Figure 2. Extreme Minimum Temperature (°C) for December 23 – 29, 2008



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Figure 3. Precipitation (mm) forecast for December 23 - 29, 2008



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