

AFGHANISTAN Weekly Climate Forecast

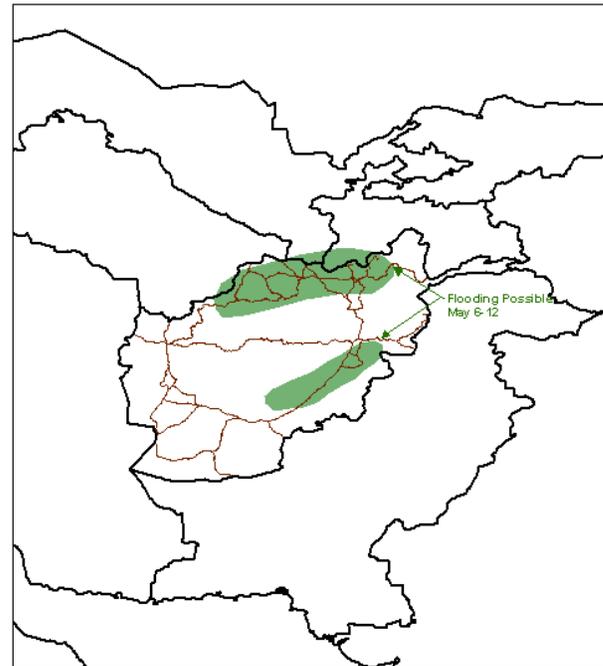
#17, May 6 - 12, 2009

During the past two months, a series of low pressure systems have resulted in widespread precipitation across Afghanistan. Rain has been the dominant precipitation type in the lowlands, while snow has changed to rain in the lower elevations of the central highlands. Snow continues to accumulate in the northeast mountains. During the previous week, precipitation amounts ranged from 5 to 50 mm, liquid equivalent, in the northern half of the country (Figure 2). Since April 20, above normal temperatures have prevailed across the southern half of Afghanistan (Figure 3). The rainfall along with snowmelt has raised flooding concerns mainly in the north and the southeast.

During the next week, the northeast mountains of Afghanistan can expect periods of rain and snow with dry weather across the remainder of the country. Above normal temperatures are forecast in the lowlands of southwest Afghanistan where maximum temperatures should exceed 35 °C. Snow will continue to melt away in the central highlands and may result in flooding.

During the past six weeks, flooding, landslides, and avalanches have been reported in 10 of the country's 34 provinces.

Figure 1. Weather hazards in Afghanistan



VALID: May 6 - 12, 2009
SOURCE: NOAA

Figure 2. April 28 – May 4 Accumulated Precipitation (mm) Based on Satellite and Gauge Data.

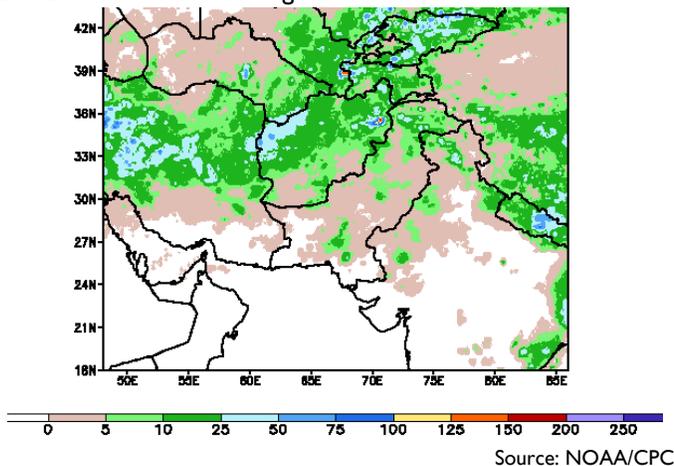


Figure 3. Temperature Anomaly (°C): April 20-30

