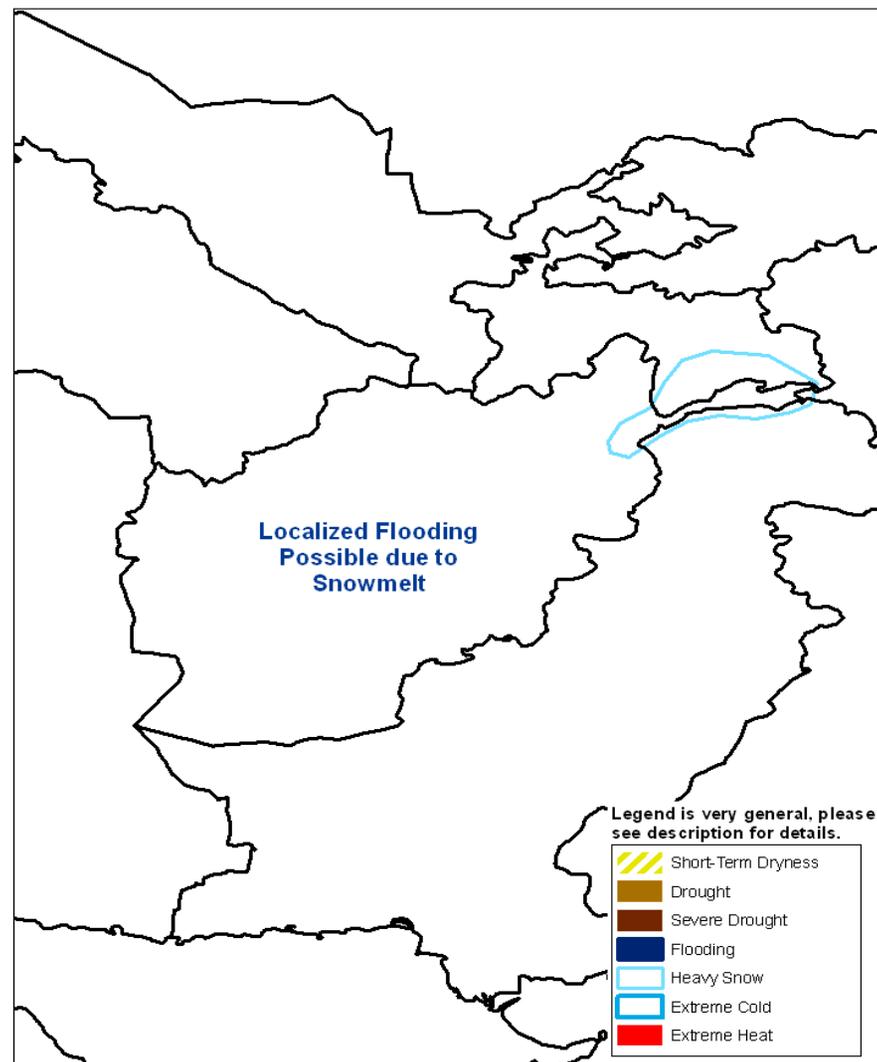


Temperatures:

During early April, temperatures remained below normal across the central highlands and northeast mountains, while temperatures averaged above normal across the lowlands. The seasonal warming trend has triggered snow melt across the central highlands, but no flooding has been reported. During the next week, maximum temperatures are forecast to warm into the low to mid 30s (C) in southwest Afghanistan and mid to upper 10s (C) in the central highlands.

Precipitation

Since mid-January, periods of moderate to heavy precipitation have created precipitation surpluses for the winter season. From October 1, 2010 – March 31, 2011, precipitation is running at least 150 percent of normal across much of Afghanistan, according to the USGS. Snow water volume charts from USGS indicate much above normal snow water values for much of the country. From April 15-17, a storm system is expected to bring heavy snow to the northeast mountains and rain across the central highlands. Although rainfall amounts are not expected to be too heavy, rainfall combined with runoff from snow melt may trigger localized flooding.



Note: The Hazards assessment map is based on current weather/climate information, short and medium range weather forecasts (up to 1 week), and assesses their potential impact on crop and pasture conditions. Shaded polygons are added in areas where anomalous conditions have been observed. The boundaries of these polygons are only approximate at this continental scale. This product does not reflect long range seasonal climate forecasts or indicate current or projected food security conditions.

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