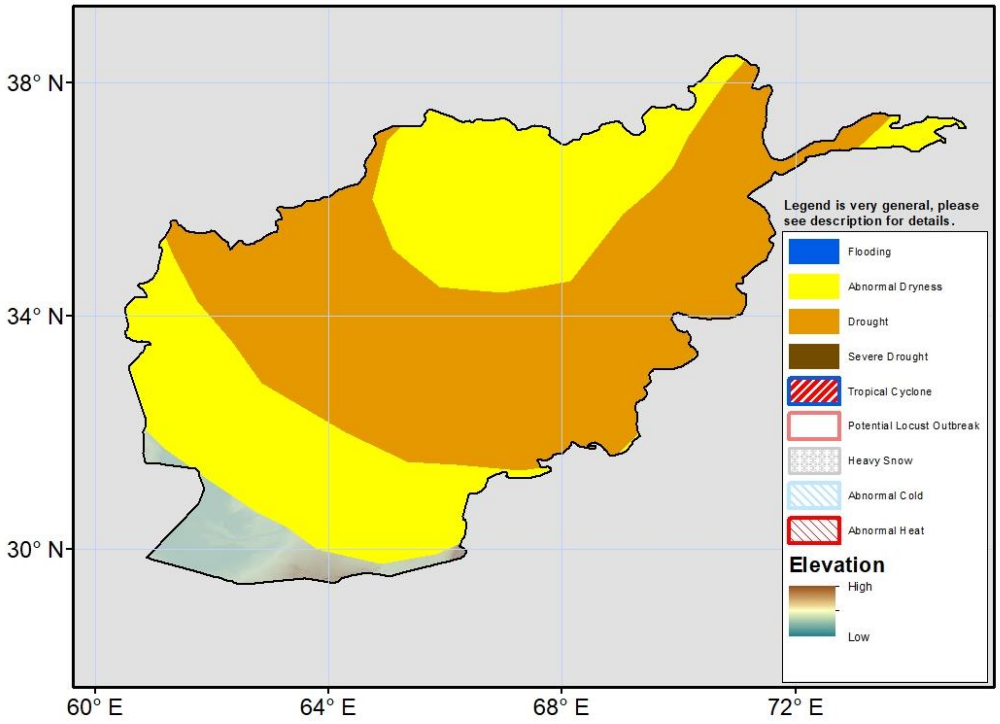
Climate Prediction Center's Afghanistan Hazards Outlook
28 April – 4 May, 2022

Temperatures

Recent 7-day mean maximum temperatures (Tmax) remained warmer than average by 6-12°C in eastern Afghanistan and returned to near-normal values across the rest of the country. Tmax reached above 30°C in the South and parts of the East. Mean minimum temperatures were also above average in the East by 2-6°C and slightly below average by 1-2°C in the Southwest. For the outlook period, models forecast more widespread anomalously warm temperatures. Departures are expected to range from 2°C to 8°C, with the largest Tmax anomalies in the Northeast. A similar minimum temperature pattern is expected, with subreezing extreme minimum temperatures relegated to the highest elevations of the Northeast.

Precipitation

During the last 7 days, moderate precipitation was observed across the northern half of Afghanistan. The pattern resulted in mostly near average rainfall totals for late April. Analyzing recent 30-day precipitation anomalies reveals substantial negative anomalies of 25-100mm in large portions of the country. Snow depth observations from USGS show that the country's snowpack is still below normal and decreasing. A drought hazard is placed over a large part of the country where negative snow water equivalent anomalies and 30-day precipitation deficits are the largest and longest lasting. Abnormal dryness covers a large area with milder moisture deficits. For the outlook period, moderate precipitation (10-50mm liquid equivalent) is forecasted to persist over the northern half of Afghanistan. This forecast is a seasonable and beneficial pattern for the region.



Note: The Hazards outlook 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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