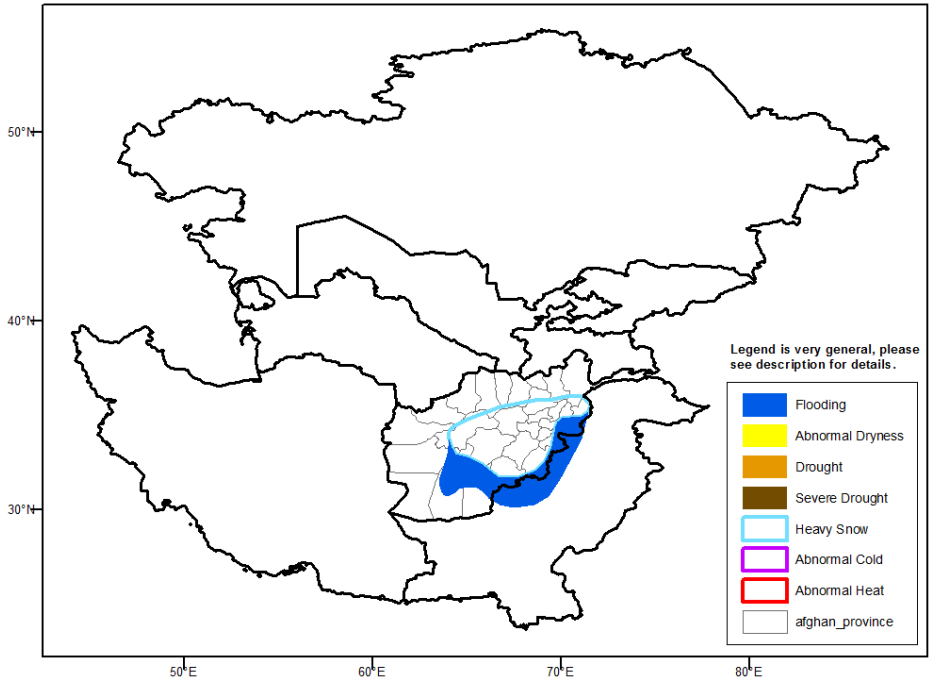
Climate Prediction Center's Central Asia Hazards Outlook
March 7 - 13, 2019

Temperatures:

Temperatures across much of the region were above normal by 1°C to as much as 10°C in southeastern Kazakhstan. To the south, however, temperatures remained a few degrees cooler than normal in areas including eastern Afghanistan and Pakistan. The GFS model indicates that the current pattern will persist with above-normal temperatures to north and slightly below-normal temperatures to the south. The coldest temperatures (-20 degrees C or lower) are forecast in the highest elevations of Afghanistan and Tajikistan, while maximum temperatures warm into the middle 20s (degrees C) in southwest Afghanistan.



Precipitation:

A strong low pressure system resulted in widespread rain and high-elevation snow (10 to 100mm, liquid equivalent) for much of Afghanistan, Pakistan, Tajikistan, and southern parts of Turkmenistan. Some light snows also fell across central portions of Kazakhstan. Frequent precipitation has occurred across Afghanistan since early January resulting in above normal snow water equivalent in higher elevations. At the same time, above-average temperatures resulted in relatively high snow levels and below-normal snow water equivalent amounts across a few basins in central and northeast Afghanistan.

A couple of more low pressure systems are expected to traverse the southern part of the region during the outlook period. Significant snow and rain is forecast to continue across Afghanistan and Pakistan with up to 25-50mm liquid equivalent precipitation. Dryer conditions are expected to the north across Kazakhstan.

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.

Questions or comments about this product may be directed to Wassila.Thiaw@noaa.gov or 1-301-683-3424.