

AFGHANISTAN Weekly Climate Forecast

#19, May 21 – May 27, 2008

Seasonably warm, dry weather has moved into Afghanistan and is generally expected to remain in place until late 2008. Some rain and snow showers are still lingering in the northeast.

These conditions are normal, however they will do nothing relieve the below normal snow pack in the central portion of the country. The issue of the below normal snow pack was aggravated by above normal temperatures in March and early April that melted the snow early. Snow additional snow did fall in April, but that has since melted off as well. Snow is now confined to northeastern Afghanistan. The poor snow pack will have implications downstream, in the lowlands of Afghanistan where melting snow is relied upon for drinking water and agricultural purposes.

Some precipitation is possible in the northeast during the coming week. The rest of the country will remain warm and dry.

- 1) Much of Afghanistan has experienced below normal precipitation during the winter and an early snow melt.
- 2) Extreme heat (maximum temperatures above 38 °C) will affect the southwest Afghanistan.

Figure 1. Weather hazards in Afghanistan

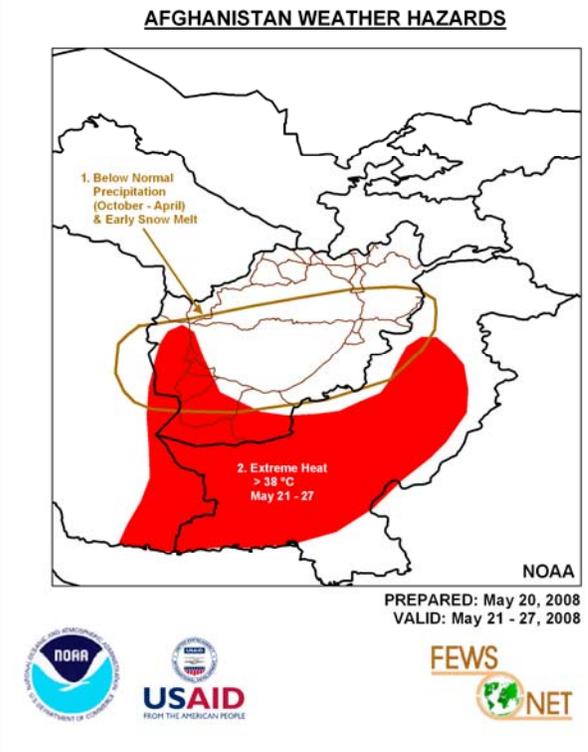
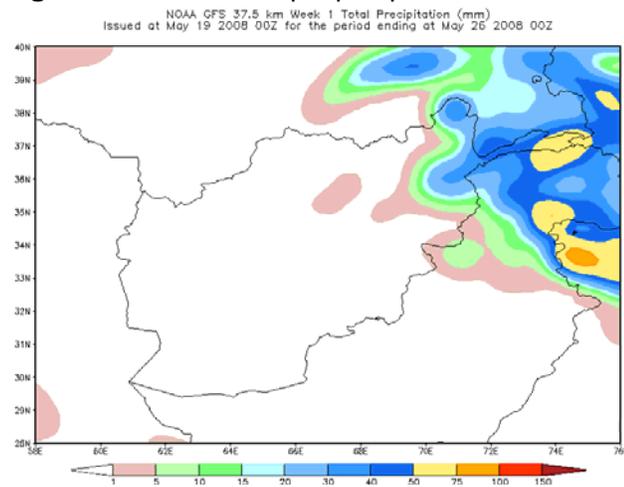


Figure 2. Accumulated liquid precipitation forecast

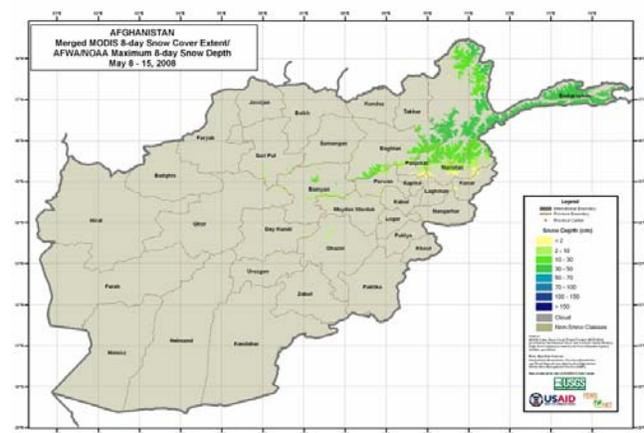


Source: NOAA

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Figure 3. Approximate snow depth



Source: USGS

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