

## AFGHANISTAN Weekly Climate Forecast

#41, October 15 - 21, 2008

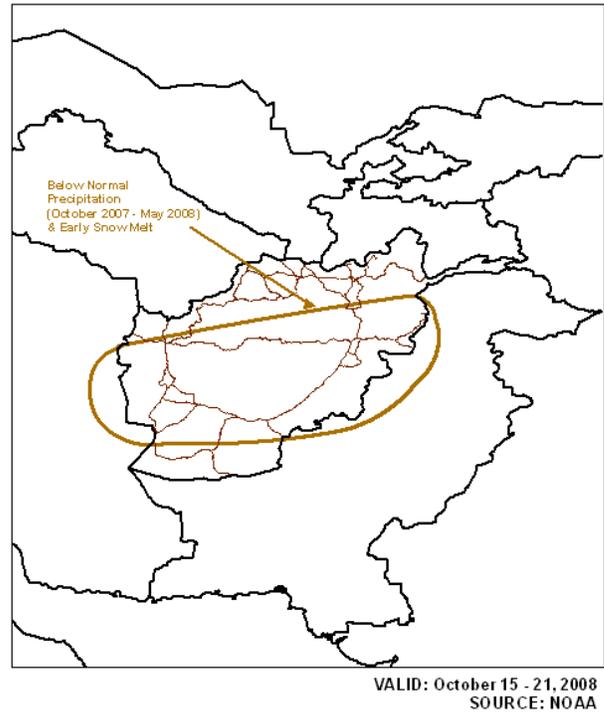
Much of Afghanistan received below normal precipitation from October 2007 through May 2008, along with an early snow melt (Figure 1).

Underground water sources, used for both drinking water and irrigation, have not been replenished. During the end of the October 2007 – March 2008 wet season, high temperatures, averaging between 4-8 degrees above normal, depleted much of Afghanistan's already below-average snow pack four to six weeks earlier than normal. Hot temperatures continued into the summer and led to increased evaporation from water reservoirs. This combination of factors has further limited water availability for crop and livestock based agriculture.

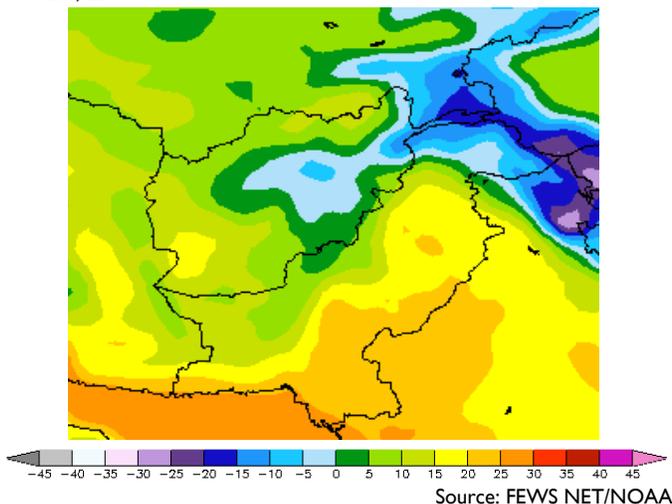
During the latter half of September, most of Afghanistan experienced warmer than average temperatures. Above normal temperatures will likely continue in the lowlands. Across the highest elevations of northeast Afghanistan, weekly temperatures will average slightly below normal and extreme minimum temperatures could fall to -15 °C (Figure 2).

During the past week, a few rain and snow showers were limited to northeast Afghanistan. Additional light rain and snow showers can be expected in northeast Afghanistan, Tajikistan, and northern Pakistan during the next week. Rain and mountain snow typically begins to increase during October across the mountains of Afghanistan.

**Figure 1.** Weather hazards in Afghanistan



**Figure 2.** Extreme minimum temperature (°C) for October 14 – 20, 2008



**Figure 3.** Weekly precipitation (mm) forecast for October 14 – 20, 2008

