

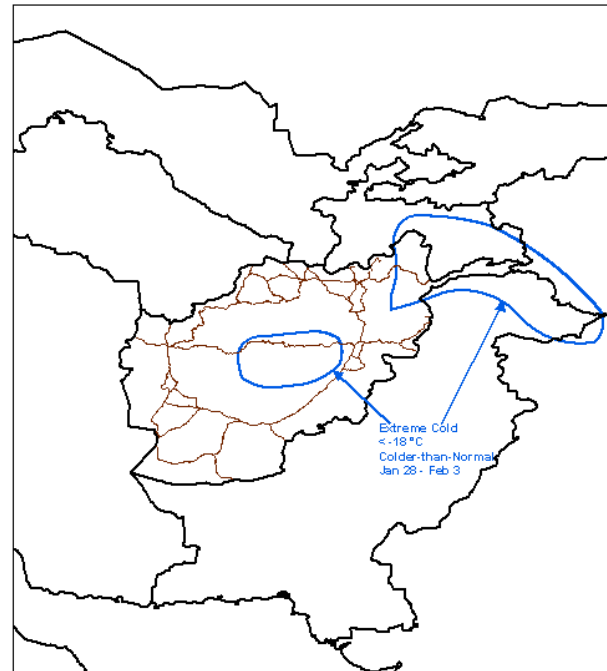
AFGHANISTAN Weekly Climate Forecast

#04, January 28 – February 3, 2009

During early January, temperatures were below average across the central highlands and northeast mountains. By the middle of the month, temperatures were generally at or above normal across Afghanistan except for the central highlands. The warming trend resulted in the reduction of snow cover in northern Afghanistan. During the next week, below average temperatures can be expected in the northeast mountains and central highlands where extreme cold (minimum temperatures below -18°C) is forecast.

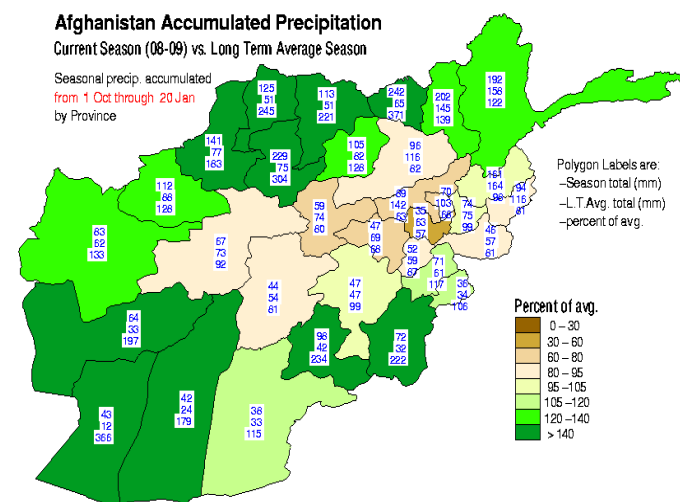
From October 1, 2008 – January 20, 2009, precipitation has averaged above normal across the lowlands, while precipitation has averaged at or slightly below normal across the central highlands (Figure 2). Precipitation during January has reduced long-term precipitation deficits in the central highlands. During the upcoming week, mostly dry weather should prevail with only occasional light snow in the northeast mountains. Therefore, snow depths should change very little in the central highlands. An increase in snow depths can be expected in the northeast mountains (Figure 3).

Figure 1. Weather hazards in Afghanistan



VALID: January 28 - February 3, 2009
SOURCE: NOAA

Figure 2.

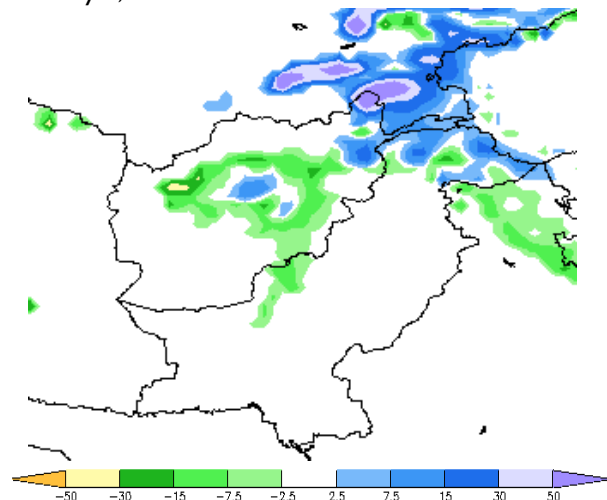


Source: USGS

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Figure 3. Snow Depth Change (cm) for January 27 – February 2, 2009



Source: FEWS NET/NOAA

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