

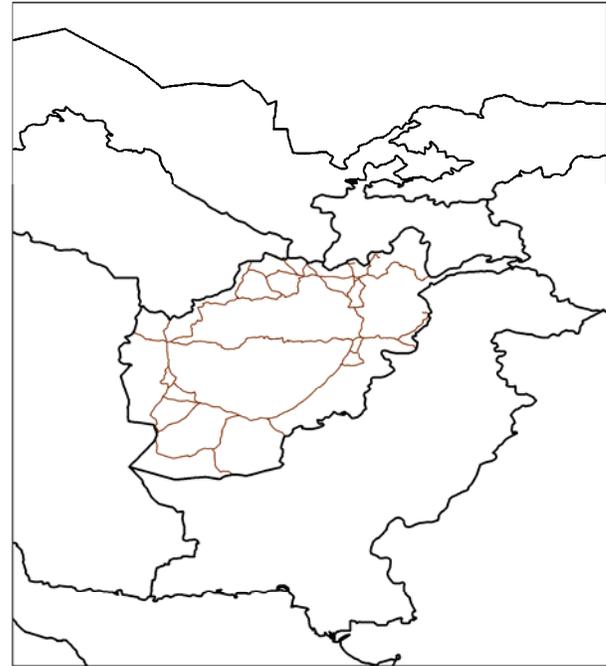
AFGHANISTAN Weekly Climate Forecast

#13, April 8 - 14, 2009

During the past week another strong low pressure system brought widespread precipitation to the northern two-thirds of Afghanistan. Rain was the dominant precipitation type in the lowlands, while snow depths increased in the highest elevations of the central and northeast Afghanistan. Precipitation amounts ranged from 5 to 50 mm, liquid equivalent, in most locations (Figure 2). The rainfall along with expected snow melt has raised flooding concerns.

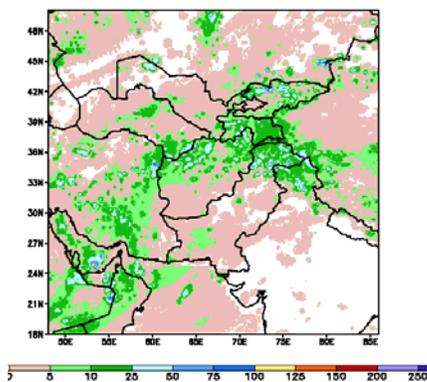
The powerful storm, currently progressing across Afghanistan will make its way off to the east early in the period. Additional snow fall is likely, primarily in the northeast mountain areas with most other locations likely to receive rain. Another system will make its way across Iran during the week, and enter Afghanistan late in the period. Widespread rain and high-elevation snow can be expected with the heaviest precipitation central Afghanistan. The northeast mountains and the highest elevations of central Afghanistan can expect heavy snow from with lower elevations receiving rainfall. Temperatures are forecast to average below-normal during the next week. Although cooler-than-normal temperatures should mitigate rapid snow melt, heavy rain may result in localized flooding. At this time flooding has been reported in the northwestern areas of the country and flooding concerns will continue through the spring.

Figure 1. Weather hazards in Afghanistan



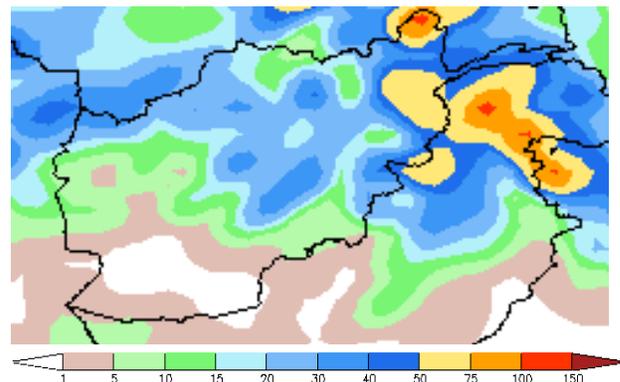
VALID: April 8-14, 2009
SOURCE: NOAA

Figure 2. March 30 – April 5 Accumulated Precipitation (mm) Based on Satellite and Gauge Data.



Source: NOAA/CPC

Figure 3. GFS Precipitation (mm) Forecast: April 6 – 12



Source: NOAA/CPC