







AFGHANISTAN Weekly Climate Forecast

#19, May 20 - 26, 2009

Since late March, heavy rainfall and snowmelt has triggered flooding, landslides, and avalanches in 10 of the country's 34 provinces. The heaviest rainfall has occurred in western and northern Afghanistan where flash flooding was responsible for casualties. Across Afghanistan, more than 10,000 hectares of farmland was affected and many livestock were killed.

Following a wet spring, dry weather prevailed across Afghanistan during this past week. In the highest elevations of the central highlands, snow cover remains but rapid melting has occurred in the lower elevations of the central highlands. The threat of flooding associated with snow melt has likely diminished in eastern Afghanistan but remains a concern in northern Afghanistan.

During the next week, dry weather can be expected across much of Afghanistan with precipitation limited to the northeast mountains. Temperatures should average within several degrees (°C) of normal (Figure 2). Extreme maximum temperatures could exceed 40 °C in southern Afghanistan (Figure 3).

Figure 1. Weather hazards in Afghanistan

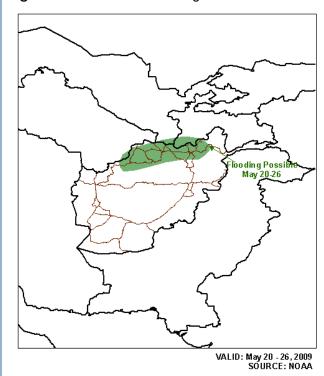
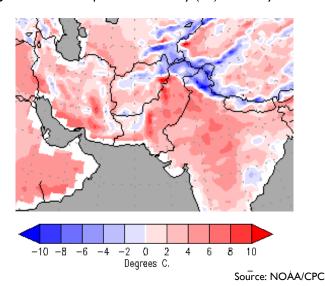
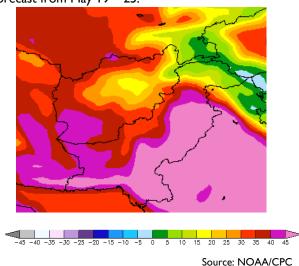


Figure 2. GFS Temperature Anomaly (°C) from May 19-25.



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Figure 3. GFS Extreme Maximum Temperature (°C) Forecast from May 19 – 25.



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