

AFGHANISTAN Weekly Climate Forecast

#31, August 12 – 18, 2009

An overall above average wet season for Afghanistan has given way to more seasonal dry weather during the summer. During the winter months an unusually deep snow pack built up. As temperatures began to warm during the spring months, as is typical, the snow began to melt. However, precipitation continued, causing numerous rain-on-snow events. These events are known to cause rapid snow melt. As a result many parts of Afghanistan reported flooding triggered by melt water.

Snow pack now remains confined to the highest elevations of the northeast, as is typical for this time of year.

During late June and continuing through July and into early August, above-normal temperatures prevailed across the lowlands of Afghanistan with cooler-than-normal temperatures in northeast Afghanistan. The cooler than normal temperatures have preserved a deeper snow pack than is usual.

During the next week, seasonal dry weather should be accompanied by above-normal temperatures in the lowlands (Figure 2). Maximum temperatures should exceed 45 °C across southwestern Afghanistan (Figure 3).

Figure 1. Weather hazards in Afghanistan

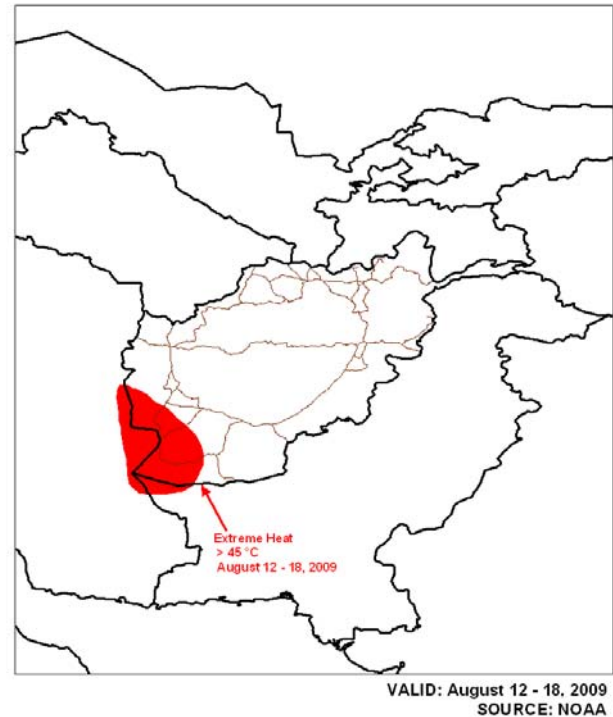


Figure 2. Temperature Anomaly for August 10 - 17, 2009.

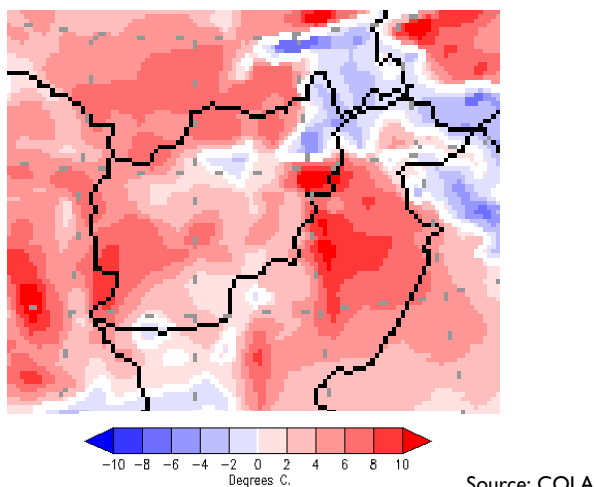


Figure 3. Extreme Maximum Temperature (°C) for August 10 - 17, 2009.

