



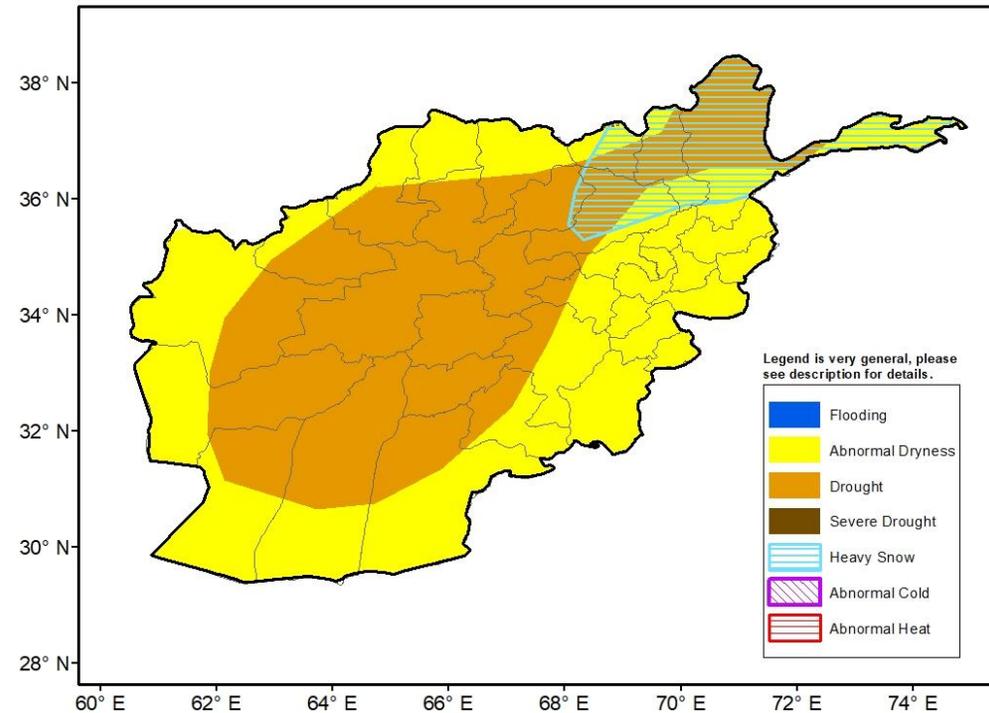
Climate Prediction Center's Afghanistan Hazards Outlook March 4 – March 10, 2021

Temperatures:

Temperatures averaged well below normal during the past week across northern and western Afghanistan. Negative minimum temperature anomalies reached 6-12°C. A hard freeze (observed lows of -8°C) affected even western Afghanistan's lower elevations. However, maximum temperatures warmed above average in the east by late week. For the outlook period, temperatures are forecast to average above normal. Average maximum temperature anomalies are expected to be 4-8°C. Maximum temperatures should warm into the mid to upper 20s (degrees C) in the west and south. A brief cool down is forecast over the weekend due to the passage of a low pressure system.

Precipitation:

Last week, widespread snow fell throughout the northeast mountains of Afghanistan. Precipitation amounts (liquid equivalent) exceeded 25mm according to satellite estimates. Although negative snow depth anomalies widely persist, the recent snowfall decreased these negative anomalies and even resulted in small areas of slight positive anomalies in northeast and central parts of the country. Therefore, the spatial extent of the ongoing drought hazard was slightly reduced. The drought hazard is based on: negative snow depth anomalies and RFE satellite estimates of more than 100mm for the past 90 days. The precipitation deficits are expected to affect spring wheat planting which typically begins later this month. The heavy snow hazard is maintained in the northeast for the outlook period since the GFS model depicts additional heavy snow (liquid equivalent of near 25 mm) for these areas.



Note: The Hazards outlook map is based on current weather/climate information, short and medium range weather forecasts (up to 1 week), and assesses their potential impact on crop and pasture conditions. Shaded polygons are added in areas where anomalous conditions have been observed. The boundaries of these polygons are only approximate at this continental scale. This product does not reflect long range seasonal climate forecasts or indicate current or projected food security conditions.

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