



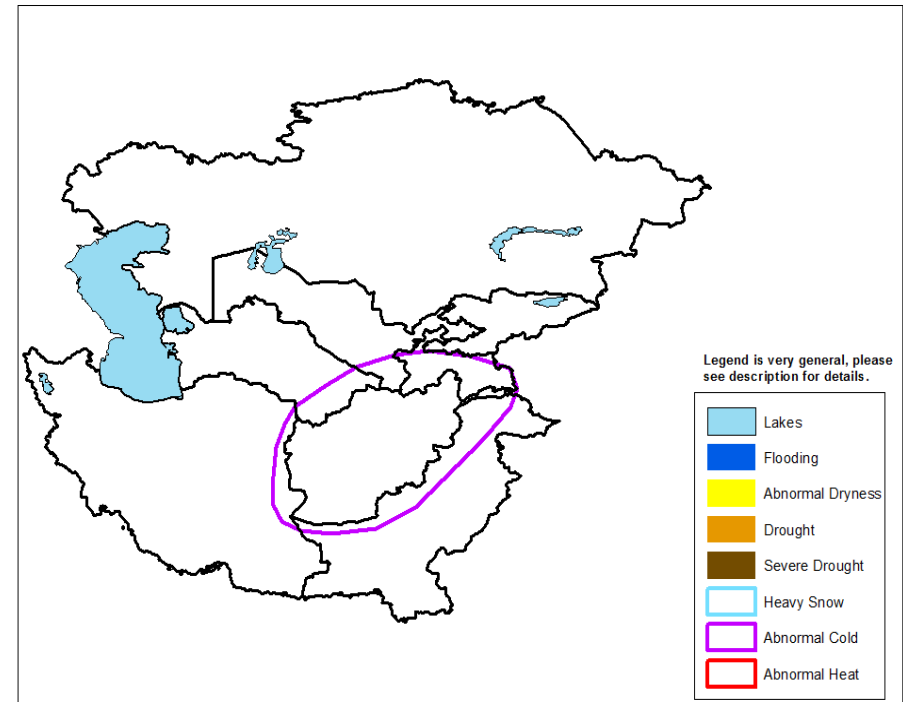
Climate Prediction Center's Central Asia Hazards Outlook December 19 - 25, 2013

Temperatures:

Temperatures averaged 1 to 5 degrees C above-normal across Central Asia during the second week of December. The coldest temperatures so far this season are forecast to affect the region during the next week with most locations experiencing below-normal temperatures. Since the largest negative temperature anomalies are expected across Afghanistan and Tajikistan, these areas are highlighted for abnormal cold. The highest elevations of northeast Afghanistan/Tajikistan along with the northern half Kazakhstan are forecast to have minimum temperatures at or below -25 degrees C. Minimum temperatures may fall to -5 degrees C across southern Afghanistan.

Precipitation

During the past week, widespread light rain and snow fell throughout the region with the heaviest amounts (more than 20 mm, liquid equivalent) across southern Kazakhstan. Although rain and snow increased across the region during the past couple of weeks, short-term precipitation deficits continue across Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan. Light to moderate snow is forecast across northern Kazakhstan. The establishment of arctic temperatures favors mostly dry weather across the remainder of the region.



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.