



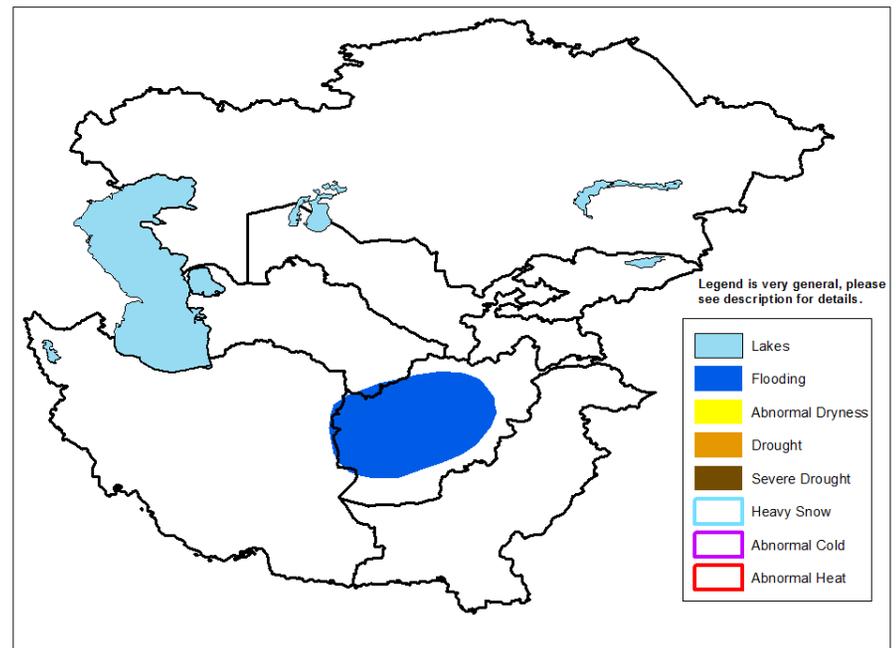
Climate Prediction Center's Central Asia Hazards Outlook March 13 – March 19, 2014

Temperatures:

Temperatures remained below-average across Central Asia during February. During the third decade of February, negative temperature anomalies ranged between 1-4 degrees C across much of Central Asia. However, during the first week of March, above-average temperatures (1-4 degrees C) were observed across southern Central Asia while around average temperatures were recorded farther north in Kazakhstan. During the next week, temperatures are expected to warm across the region. Only localized areas in Kazakhstan and higher elevations in Afghanistan and Tajikistan are forecast to observe temperatures below -20 degrees C.

Precipitation

Light to moderate precipitation (5-30mm) was recorded across northern Afghanistan, southern Turkmenistan, southern Uzbekistan and Tajikistan. The increase in moisture has helped to reduce 60 to 90-day precipitation deficits. Snow water volume also increased across these areas which had previously been observing abnormal dryness. During the next week, moderate to heavy precipitation (>25mm, locally >50mm) is forecast for Afghanistan, southern Turkmenistan/Uzbekistan and Tajikistan. The heaviest rains are expected in western Afghanistan and, combined with snow melt, could cause localized flooding. Precipitation that falls across the higher elevations of central Afghanistan and Tajikistan will be as snow. The increase in precipitation will help further reduce long-term precipitation deficits.



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.