



## Climate Prediction Center's Central Asia Hazards Outlook February 16 – 22 , 2017

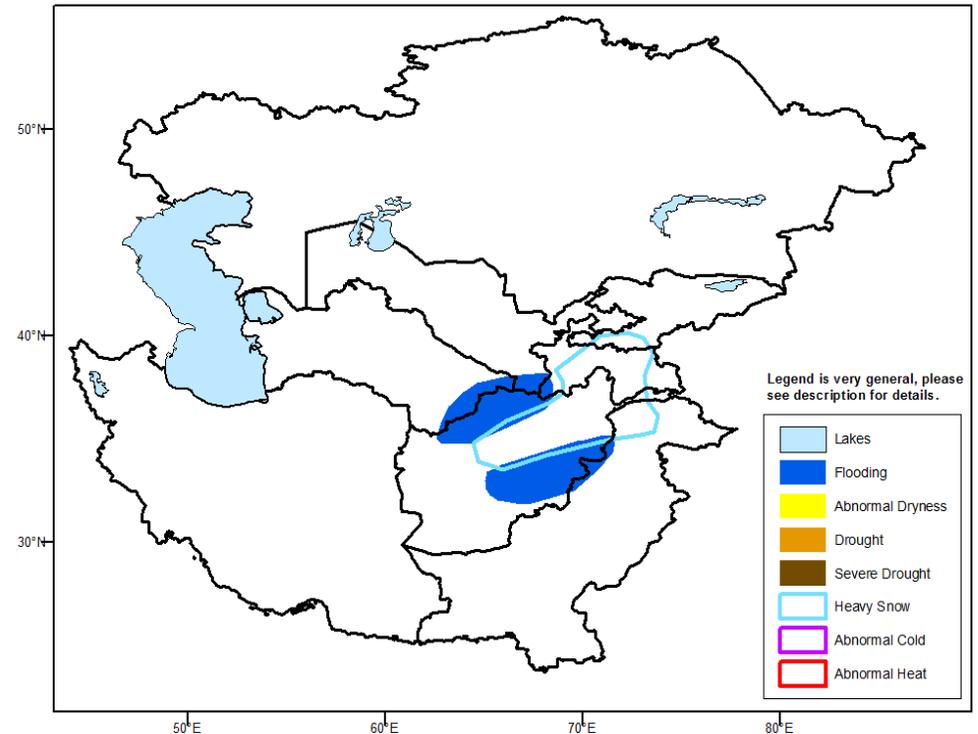
### **Temperatures:**

Much colder temperatures returned to the region during early February as temperatures averaged 1 to 10 degrees C below normal throughout Central Asia. The coldest temperatures were observed across northern Kazakhstan where minimum temperatures fell to -36 degrees C. Meanwhile, maximum temperatures warmed above 10 degrees C across the lower elevations of western Afghanistan which likely resulted in snow melt. During the next week, the GFS model indicates that maximum temperatures will average above normal across Afghanistan, raising concerns for flooding associated with snow melt.

### **Precipitation**

Following the heavy snowfall during late January and the beginning of February, drier weather (precipitation amounts less than 10mm, liquid equivalent) prevailed across Afghanistan, Kyrgyzstan, and Tajikistan. Snow water equivalent values decreased slightly across Afghanistan river basins, but these values remain near or well above normal for this time of year.

Satellite imagery on February 14 indicates a strong area of low pressure crossing the region. The GFS model indicates that much of Afghanistan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, and southern areas of Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan will receive more than 50 mm of precipitation, liquid equivalent, during the next week. A heavy snow hazard is posted for the higher elevations of the region. Based on current snow water equivalent values and predicted rainfall, the highest risk of flooding exists across parts of northern and east-central Afghanistan.



**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.

Questions or comments about this product may be directed to [t-v@noaa.gov](mailto:t-v@noaa.gov) or 1-301-683-3424.