



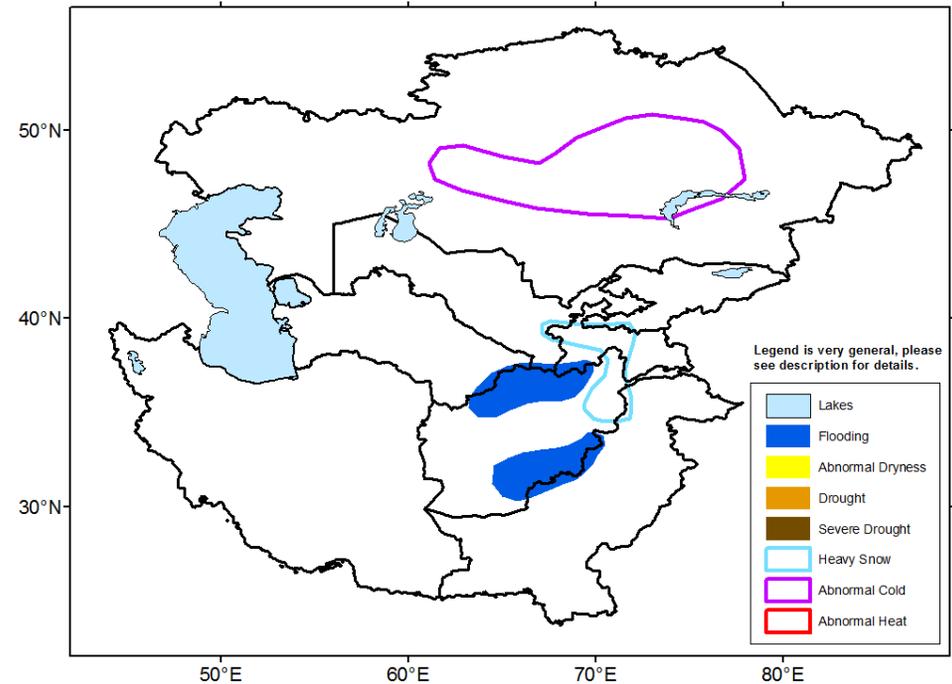
## Climate Prediction Center's Central Asia Hazards Outlook March 16 - 22, 2017

### **Temperatures:**

During the first dekad (a 10-day period) of March, above normal temperatures were observed in northern Kazakhstan, while normal to below normal temperatures were registered elsewhere. During the next week, near normal temperatures are forecast over much of Central Asia, except central Kazakhstan, where temperatures could fall 8-10 degrees Celsius below average. Farther south, maximum temperature is expected to average 20-30 degrees Celsius in Turkmenistan, southern Uzbekistan, and the lower elevations of Afghanistan, which could lead to rapid snowmelt.

### **Precipitation**

From March 7-13, a dry weather pattern dominated Central Asia. Scattered and localized light precipitation fell over Kyrgyzstan and southeastern Afghanistan. Over the past thirty days, above-average precipitation persisted across portions of northern Iran, southern Turkmenistan, southern Uzbekistan, southern Kazakhstan, and northern Afghanistan, while below-average precipitation emerged over central and southern Afghanistan. During the next week, model forecasts indicate widespread, moderate to locally heavy (> 25 mm liquid equivalent) precipitation across central and eastern Afghanistan and western Tajikistan. Therefore, the risks for flooding remain over the northern and southern portions of 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.

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