

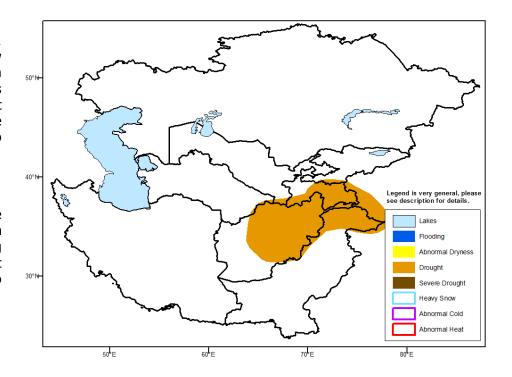
Climate Prediction Center's Central Asia Hazards Outlook February 1 - 7, 2018

Temperatures:

The coldest temperatures of the winter affected Kazakhstan from January 21 to 27 when weekly temperatures averaged as much as 20 degrees C below normal. Minimum temperatures fell to -45 degrees C in northeast Kazakhstan this past week. Weekly temperatures averaged near to above normal across Afghanistan, Tajikistan, and Turkmenistan. The strong surface high, that resulted in much below-normal temperatures across Central Asia during late January, is forecast to shift east which is likely to allow temperatures to moderate by the beginning of February.

Precipitation

Dry weather prevailed throughout the region from January 21 to 27. Satellite imagery on January 31 indicates that snow is likely occurring across northern Afghanistan and Tajikistan. However, dry weather is expected to return during the first week of February. Based on near record low snow water equivalent values during the past 15 years, the abnormal dryness hazard is degraded to drought across much of Afghanistan and Tajikistan.



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.