

AFGHANISTAN Weekly Climate Forecast

#49, Dec 10 - 16, 2008

During mid-November temperatures plunged to 4 to 8 °C degrees below-average. However, during the final ten days of November, temperatures rapidly rose and were above-average, except for in the highest elevations of northeast Afghanistan where temperatures remained below-average. During the next week, colder-than-normal temperatures will likely continue in the highest elevations of northeast Afghanistan and minimum temperatures will fall below -20 °C (Figure 2).

Thus far, significant snowfall has accumulated in the northeastern parts of the country, with lighter amounts in the central highlands. Through November 30, precipitation has averaged either near or above normal across most of Afghanistan.

A low pressure system, that brought widespread snow to the central highlands during the past few days, has progressed east and snow has ended. During the next week, little or no precipitation is forecast. Therefore, little or no change is expected in snow depths (Figure 3).

Figure 1. Weather hazards in Afghanistan

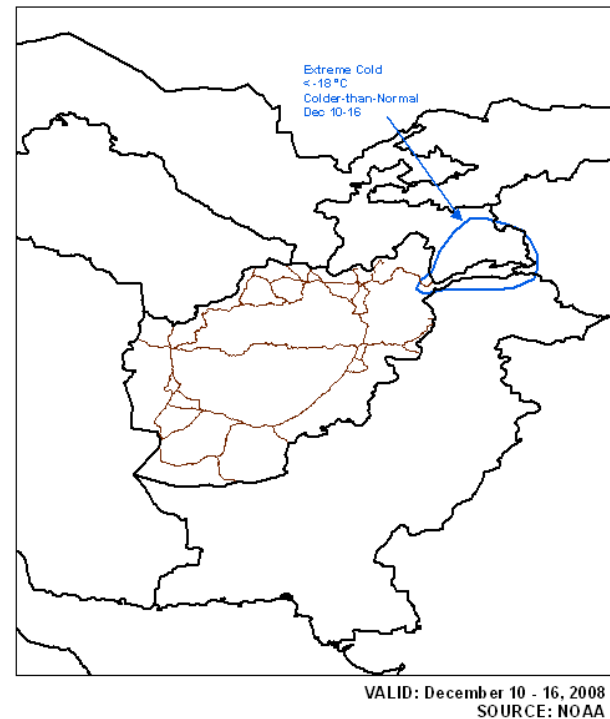
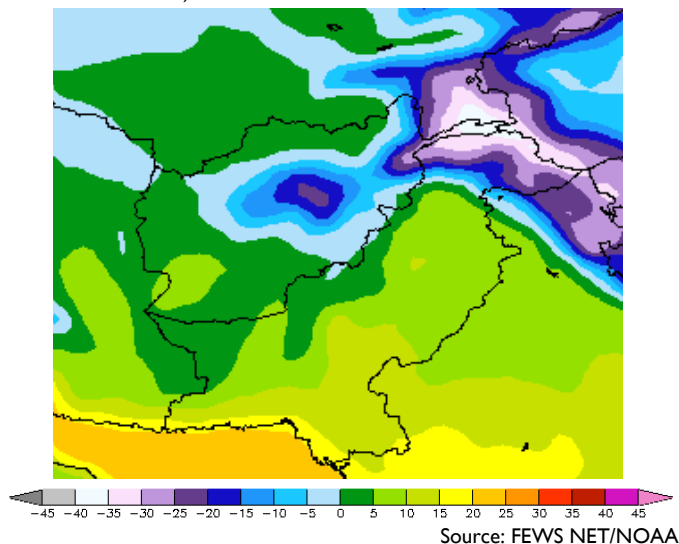


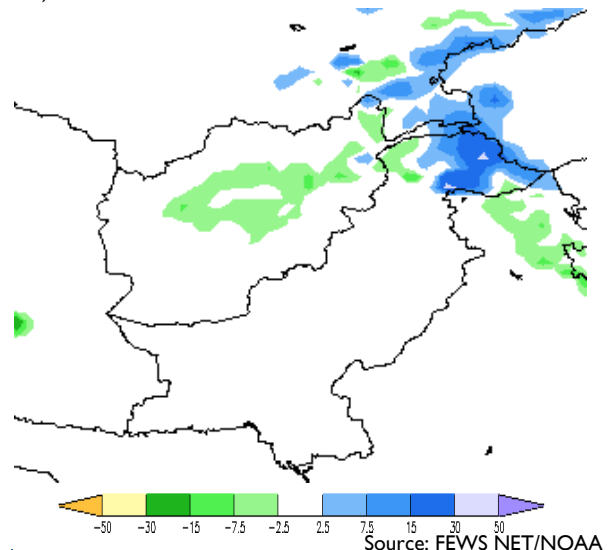
Figure 2. Extreme minimum temperature (°C) forecast for December 9 - 15, 2008



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Figure 3. Snow depth (cm) forecast for December 9 - 15, 2008



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