Climate Prediction Center's Afghanistan Hazards Outlook
April 16 – April 22, 2020

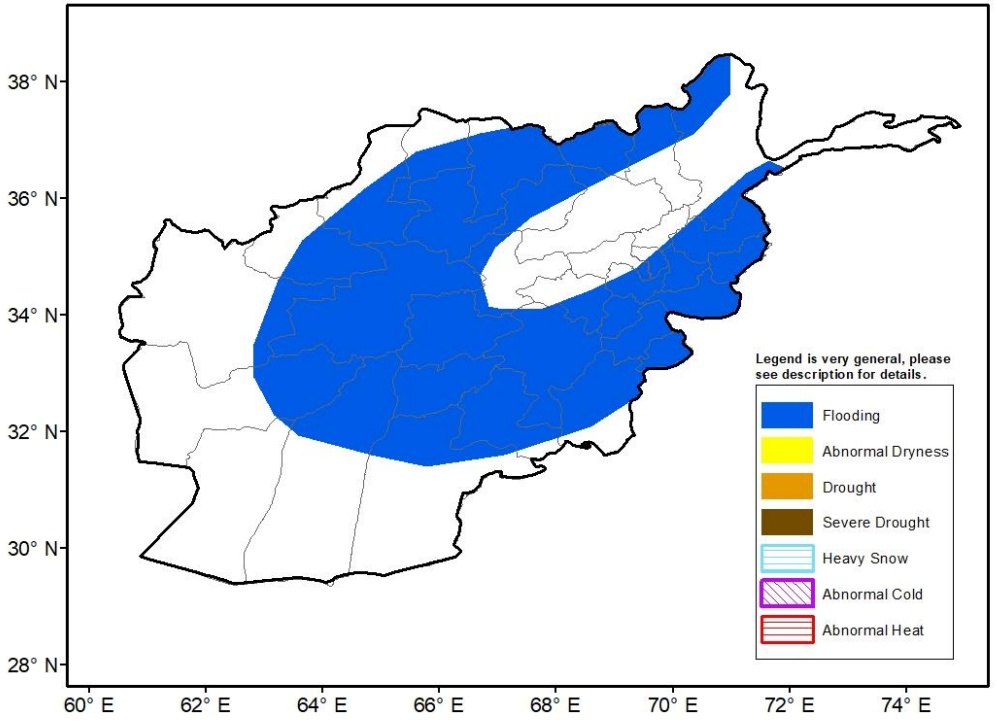
Temperatures:

Below-normal temperatures were observed across Afghanistan during the last week. They were most notable in the north where mean maximum tempratures were 6-8 degrees below normal. Freezing temperatures extended into the lower elevations of northwest Afghanistan. Maximum temperatures still reached 30°C along the country's southern border. Model solutions indicate that below normal temperatures will likely persist due to frequent precipitation. However, minimum temperatures are forecast to remain above freezing at the lower elevations.

Precipitation:

Multiple low pressure systems during March and early April resulted in frequent rain and high-elevation snow across the country. According to the RFE satellite estimates, more than 100mm of precipitation occurred across northern and western Afghanistan during the past 30 days. The cumulative effect of this precipitation and rapid snow melt caused severe flooding in more than a dozen provinces of Afghanistan.

Periods of rain and high-elevation snow (25-100mm, liquid equivalent) are forecast to continue across Afghanistan into the latter half of April. Due to recent heavy precipitation and saturated soils, additional rainfall along with continued snowmelt will likely worsen ongoing river flooding or trigger flash flooding. A large flooding hazard is necessary due to the predicted widespread heavy precipitation along with uncertainty on exactly where flash flooding may occur.



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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