Climate Prediction Center's Afghanistan Hazards Outlook
December 12 – December 18, 2019

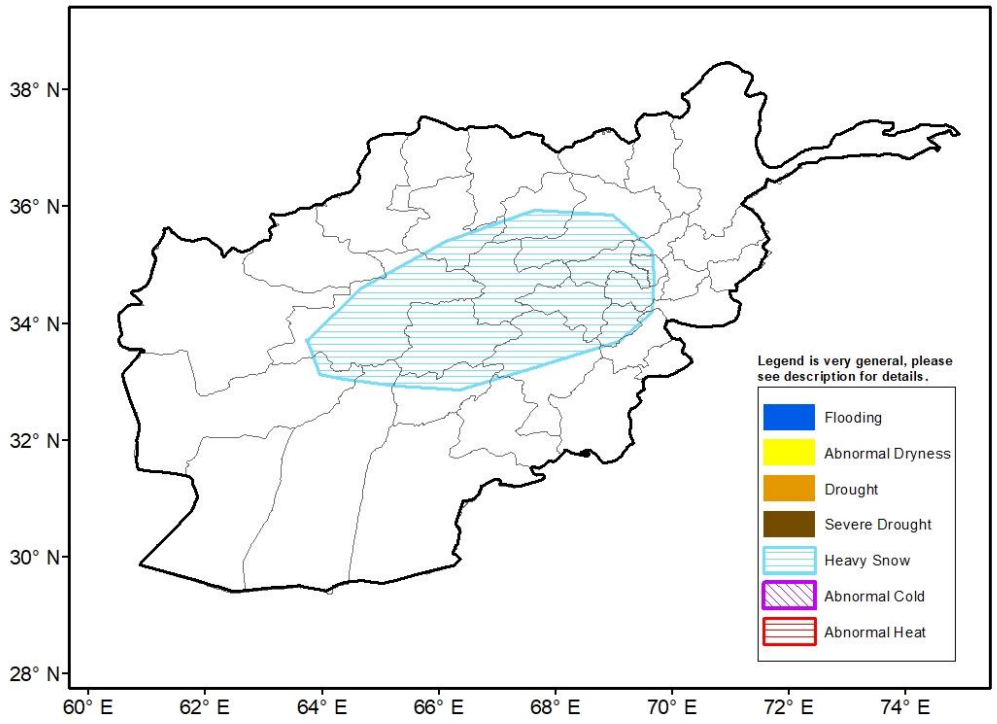
Temperatures:

In early December, Afghanistan saw widespread above-normal temperatures. Temperatures averaged about 4-8 degrees above normal for the week. Temperatures were still quite cold in northeastern Afghanistan, dipping below -15°C. Minimum temperatures remained above freezing in the lower elevations. Model guidance indicates that temperatures will vary from below normal to above normal through mid-December. Minimum temperatures are forecast to remain above freezing across the lower elevations of Afghanistan.

Precipitation:

Mostly dry weather prevailed across much of Afghanistan during the last week. Only a few scattered light showers were observed. One rain gauge in Balkh province recorded 69mm of rain. Since November 1, some rainfall deficits have emerged in the north. Rainfall anomalies of 25-50mm are observed according to satellite rainfall analysis. Favorably wet conditions have been observed in the south and east.

Although the latest model solutions are indicating lower snowfall amounts across Afghanistan during the outlook period, a heavy snow hazard is posted for the central highlands where locally more than 15 cm could occur. The longwave pattern is expected to result in additional snowfall across Afghanistan during the latter half of December.



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 Wassila.Thiaw@noaa.gov or 1-301-683-3424.