



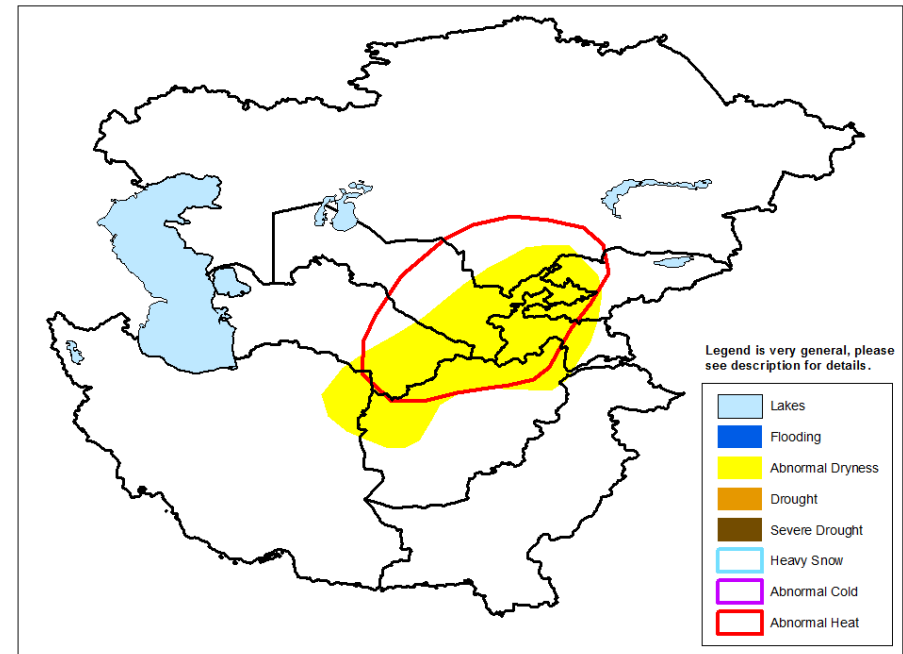
Climate Prediction Center's Central Asia Hazards Outlook March 17 - 23, 2016

Temperatures:

During the first dekad (a 10-day period) of March, surface temperatures averaged above normal across Central Asia, with the largest warm anomalies exceeding 10 degrees Celsius over southwestern Kazakhstan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan. Temperatures ranged 4-8 degrees Celsius above normal elsewhere. During the next outlook period, model temperature forecasts indicate continued higher than normal temperatures over Central Asia, particularly the central portions of the region, including the southern parts of Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, Turkmenistan, and portions of northern Afghanistan, where maximum temperature could reach 30 degrees Celsius and range 8-12 degrees Celsius above normal.

Precipitation

From March 8-14, widespread, light to moderate precipitation was observed across the southern parts of Central Asia, including Afghanistan, Tajikistan, and Pakistan. The recent increase in precipitation has helped to reduce precipitation deficits and improve ground conditions over many areas, in particular Afghanistan. However, small to moderate negative precipitation anomalies have persisted over northern Afghanistan, Tajikistan, and the southern portions of Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, and Kazakhstan since mid-February. For next week, favorable distribution of precipitation is expected to continue, with widespread, light to moderate precipitation forecast over Afghanistan, Tajikistan, and northern Pakistan. The forecast continued precipitation should aid cropping activities further over many local areas of the region.



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.