

Climate Prediction Center's Central Asia Hazards Outlook February 2 – 8, 2017

Temperatures:

Above-normal temperatures (1 to 6 degrees C) were observed across most of Central Asia from January 22 to 28. Temperatures remained below freezing only across northern Kazakhstan and the highest elevations of northeast Afghanistan and Tajikistan. Maximum temperatures warmed to 20 degrees C across southern Turkmenistan. Much colder temperatures are expected to affect the region during the first week of February. An abnormal cold hazard is posted where the GFS model indicates that minimum temperatures will average more than 12 degrees C below normal and fall below -30 degrees C.

Precipitation

According to gauges and satellite estimates, widespread precipitation occurred across Afghanistan and Tajikistan for the third consecutive week with many locations receiving more than 25 mm, liquid equivalent. Due to the wet pattern during January, snow water equivalent values are at or above average across a majority of the basins throughout Afghanistan.

During the next week, the GFS model indicates that widespread precipitation (rain and high-elevation snow) will persist across Afghanistan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, and southern parts of Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan. A heavy snow hazard (25 mm or more, liquid equivalent) is posted for the higher elevations of Afghanistan, Kyrgyzstan, and Tajikistan. Heavy rain (more than 50 mm) could trigger localized flooding across the lower elevations of Afghanistan.



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 t=v or 1-301-683-3424.