Climate Prediction Center's Central Asia Hazards Outlook
May 17 - 23, 2018

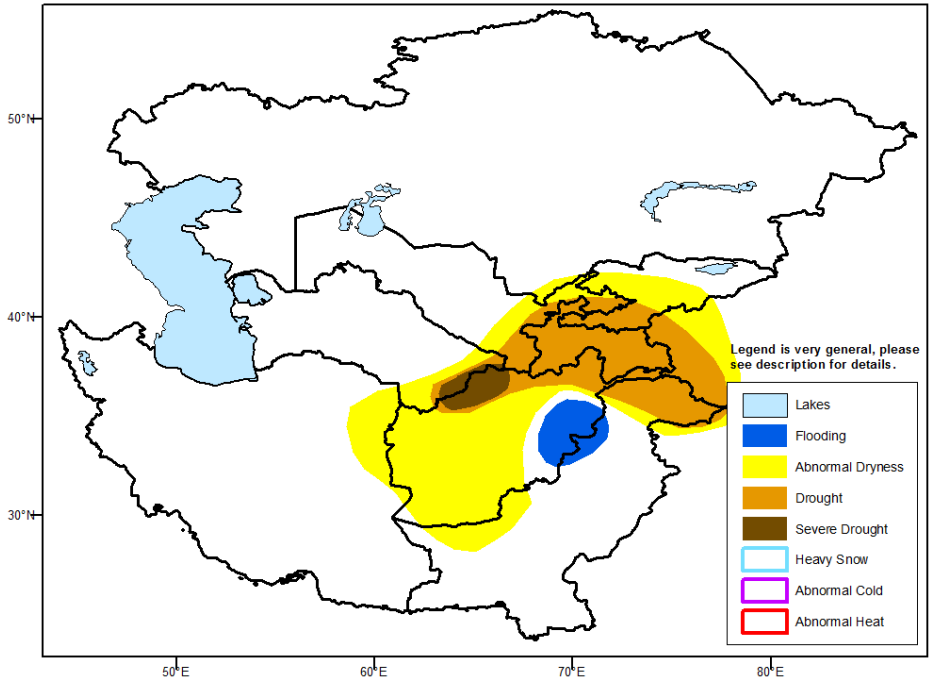
Temperatures:

Above-normal temperatures (2 to 6 degrees C) persisted across Afghanistan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan from May to 12, while below-normal temperatures (1 to 5 degrees C) were observed across northern Kazakhstan. The hottest temperatures were recorded in southern Turkmenistan where maximum temperatures reached 44 degrees C. According to the GFS model, temperatures are forecast to generally average near to below-normal during the next week.

Precipitation

Another round of heavier precipitation was observed across northern Pakistan where one gauge reported 146 mm and another one, along the border of northeast Afghanistan, reported 76 mm. Based on satellite estimates, that heavier precipitation (more than 25 mm) extended west to include northeast Afghanistan and parts of Tajikistan. The heavy rain triggered flooding across parts of Afghanistan. The abnormal dryness and drought hazards are posted for parts of Afghanistan and adjacent countries based on: large 6-month precipitation deficits from satellite estimates, low snow water content, and expected negative impacts to agriculture. Based on NDVI percent of median anomalies for irrigated and rainfed areas as of May 10, severe drought is introduced to parts of northwest Afghanistan.

The GFS model indicates additional precipitation (locally more than 50 mm) across parts of Afghanistan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, and northern Pakistan during the next week. Any heavy rainfall, associated with thunderstorms, coupled with recent snow melt may trigger flash flooding. The risk for flash flooding is expected to be highest across northeast 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.

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