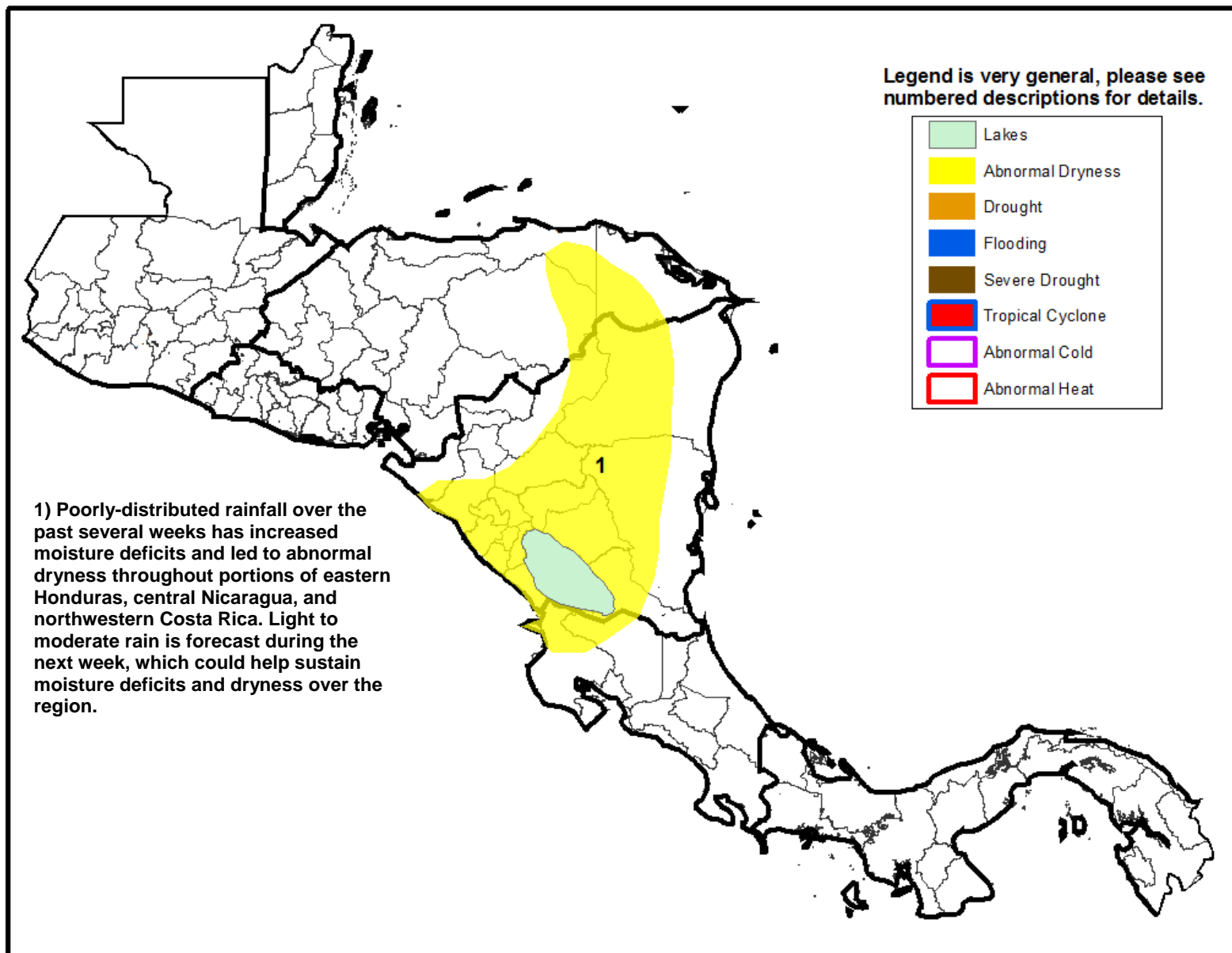




## Climate Prediction Center's Central America Hazards Outlook August 18 – 24, 2016

- Abundant rain observed over Guatemala and western Honduras during the past week.



## Average to below-average rainfall expected to continue over Central America during the next week.

From August 9-15, heavy rain fell over Guatemala, El Salvador and southwestern Honduras. This has helped reduce thirty-day rainfall deficits over many local areas of the dry portions of the region. Farther south, torrential rain was observed over the Southern Caribbean. Meanwhile, light to moderate rainfall was recorded over the interior of Honduras and western Nicaragua. Since mid-July to present, negative rainfall anomalies, with deficits exceeding 100 mm, have been observed over portions of southwestern and northeastern Guatemala, east-central Honduras, and much of Nicaragua. The number of rain days has been below-average, particularly over western Nicaragua over the past thirty days. Due to poor rainfall distribution over the past four weeks, recent vegetation indices have already indicated stressed crops over many local areas of Central America. Conditions on the ground may worsen and impact ongoing cropping activities over many local areas if a favorable rainfall distribution does not return within the upcoming weeks.

During the next week, model rainfall forecasts suggest a continuation of wet weather patterns over Guatemala, portions of Honduras, and El Salvador. The forecast average to above-average rain should help eliminate moisture deficits further over portions of Guatemala and Honduras. Enhanced rainfall is also expected along the Atlantic Basin of eastern Honduras and Nicaragua, which should help reduce thirty-day negative rainfall anomalies over some localized areas. In contrast, light to locally moderate and below-average rain is forecast across the interior of central Honduras and central Nicaragua, which could sustain moisture deficits and dryness in the region.

