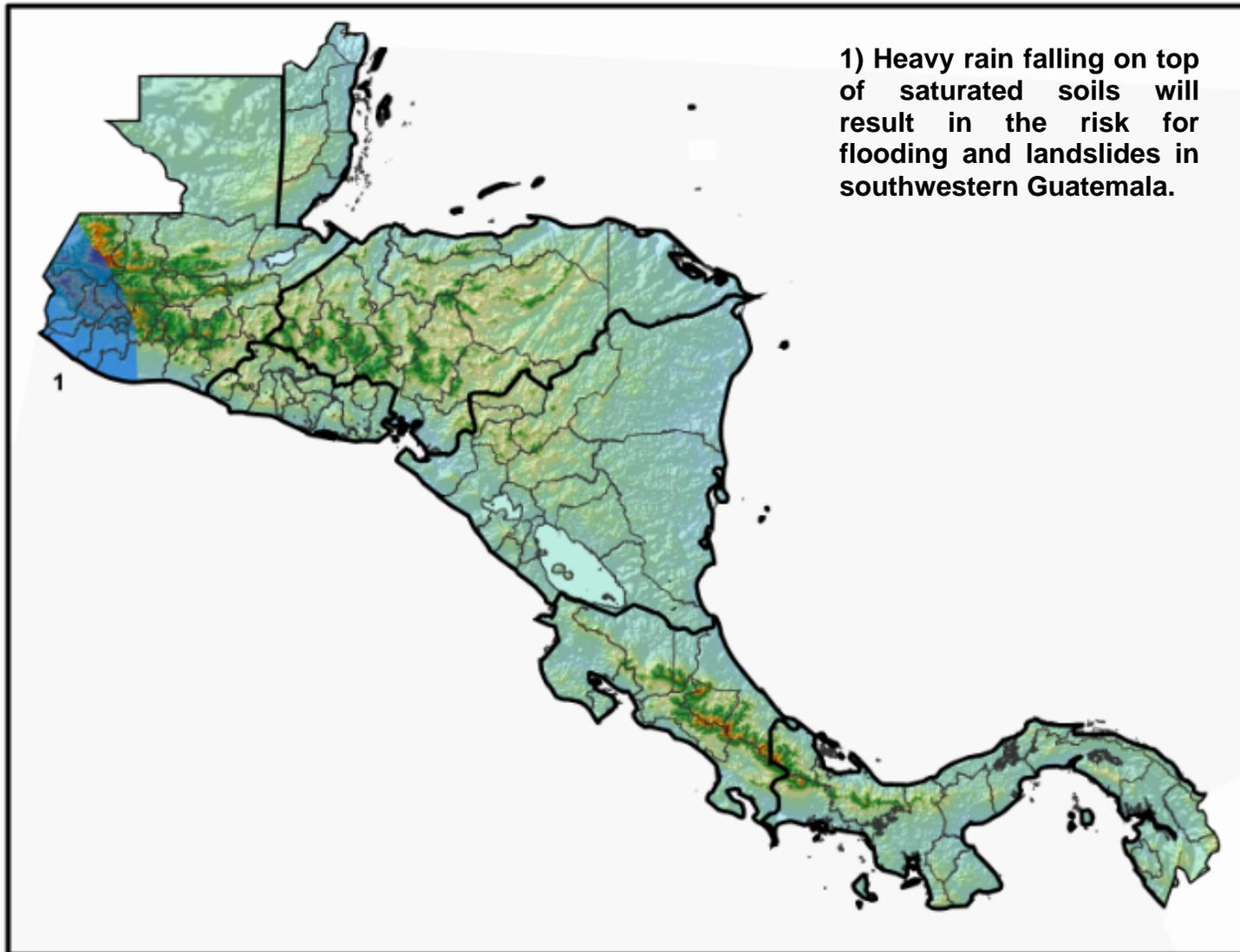


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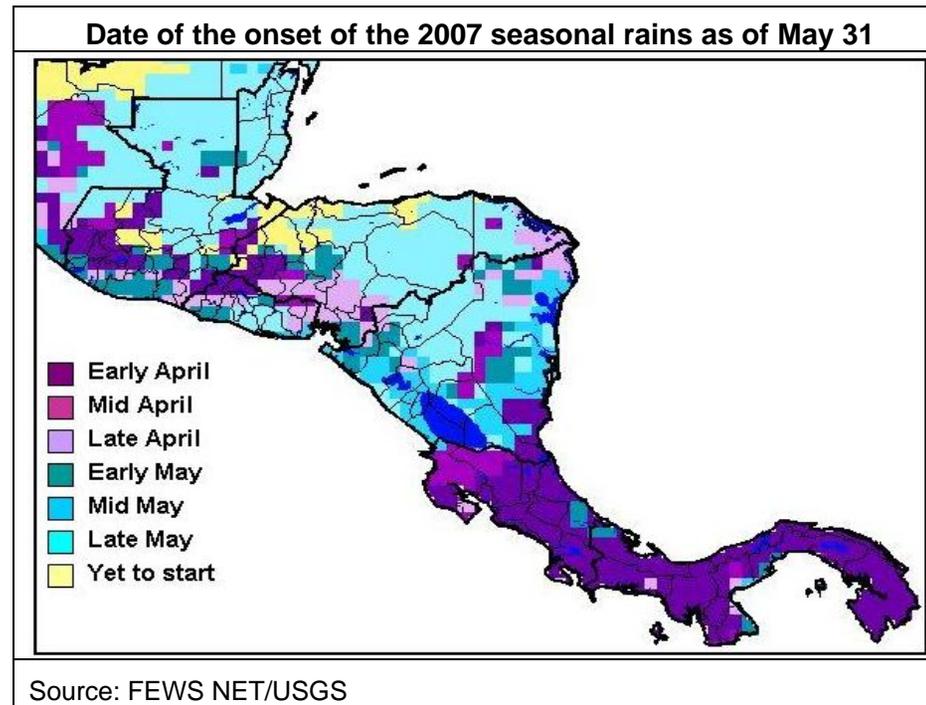
Central America Weather Hazards and Benefits Assessment

For
June 7 – 13, 2007



Hazards Assessment Text Explanation:

Seasonal rains are now underway across Central America. The rains generally started on time across southern Guatemala, El Salvador, southern Honduras and southern portions of Nicaragua during early-mid May. Tropical Storm Barbara moved into Chiapas, Mexico last week. The east side of the storm produced heavy rain across southwestern Guatemala. The system also caused some damage to banana plantations in the region. Seasonal rains started falling during late May across northern Guatemala, northern Honduras and northern portions of Nicaragua. In northwestern Honduras, the first of the seasonal rains started to fall about 3 weeks late. However, significant rains have fallen over this area during the first week of June. While the late start may have resulted in some planting delays, negative impacts from the late start should be minimal if the rains behave normally during the rest of the season. During the period, seasonal rains are expected to continue across the region. While these rains will generally be beneficial, scattered heavy downpours may result in localized flash floods. The greatest risk for flooding and landslides will be over southwestern Guatemala, where heavy rain may fall on soils saturated by rains from Tropical Storm Barbara.



AUTHOR: Chester V Schmitt

The evaluation of climatologic threats of MFEWS include the participation of the central and local offices of FEWS-NET, NOAA-CPC, USGS, NASA, INETER of Nicaragua, Meteorological Service of Honduras, IMN of Costa Rica, INSIVUMEH of Guatemala, and SNET of El Salvador. Any questions or comments on this product can be directed to Chet.Schmitt@noaa.gov