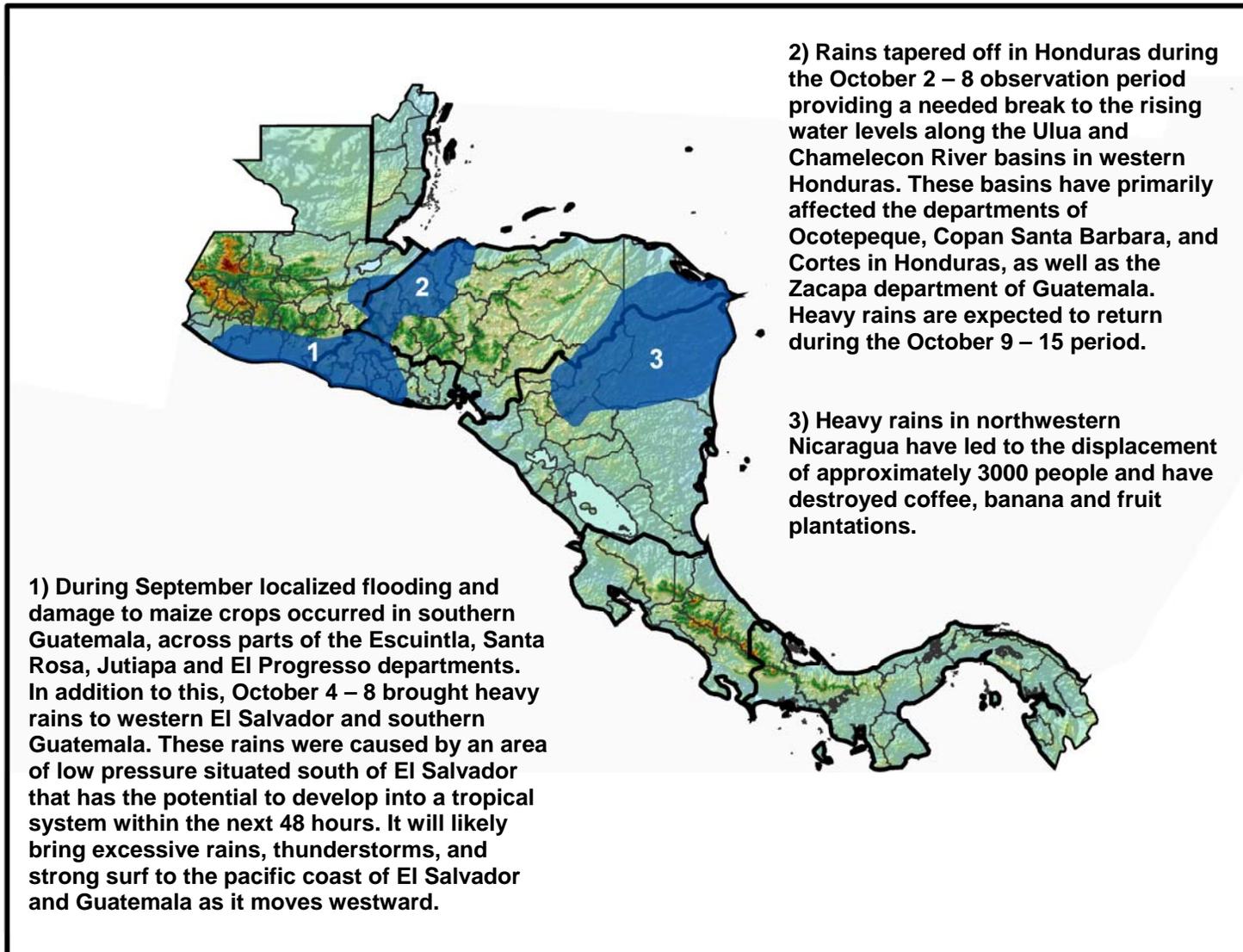


The MFEWS

Central America Weather Hazards and Benefits Assessment

For

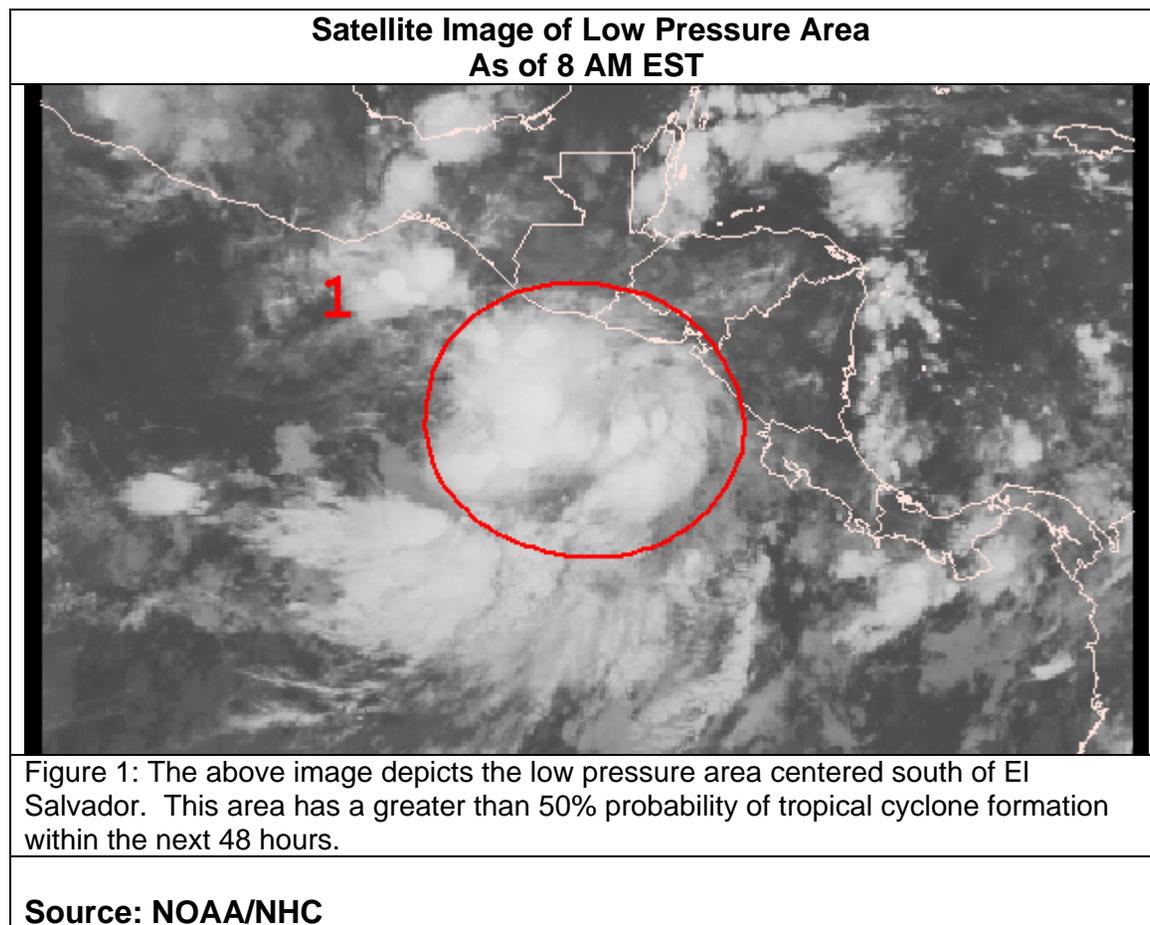
October 9 – October 15, 2008



Hazards Assessment Text Explanation:

According to the National Hurricane Center, as of 8:00 am EST October 8th, a near stationary low pressure system situated approximately 130 miles west of Nicaragua is causing heavy showers and thunderstorms. This area has the potential to develop into a tropical depression by October 10th as atmospheric conditions become more favorable. The system is moving slowly in a west-northwestward direction and at present is not expected to make landfall. **See Figure 1.**

According to INSIVUMEH, in Guatemala there are multiple rivers that are registering very high levels and have the potential to continue rising due to excessive rains. These rivers are: Ostua in Asuncion Mita, Jutiapa; Motagua in San Agustín Acasaguastlán, El Progreso, Gualán, Zacapa and Morales, Izabal; Coyolate River in Patulul, Suchitepéquez; Polochic river in Panzós, Alta Verapaz; Chixoy river in Chisec, Alta Verapaz; Paz in Ciudad Pedro de Alvarado, Jutiapa; and La Pasion in La Libertad, Petén. The risk of flash flooding and landslides remains in these areas also.



The evaluation of climatological threats of MFEWS include the participation of the central and local offices of MFEWS, NOAA-CPC, USGS, NASA, INETER of Nicaragua, Meteorological Service of Honduras, IMN of Costa Rica, INSIVUMEH of Guatemala, ETESA of Panama, NMS of Belize and SNET of El Salvador. Any questions or comments on this product can be directed to Wassila.Thiaw@noaa.gov