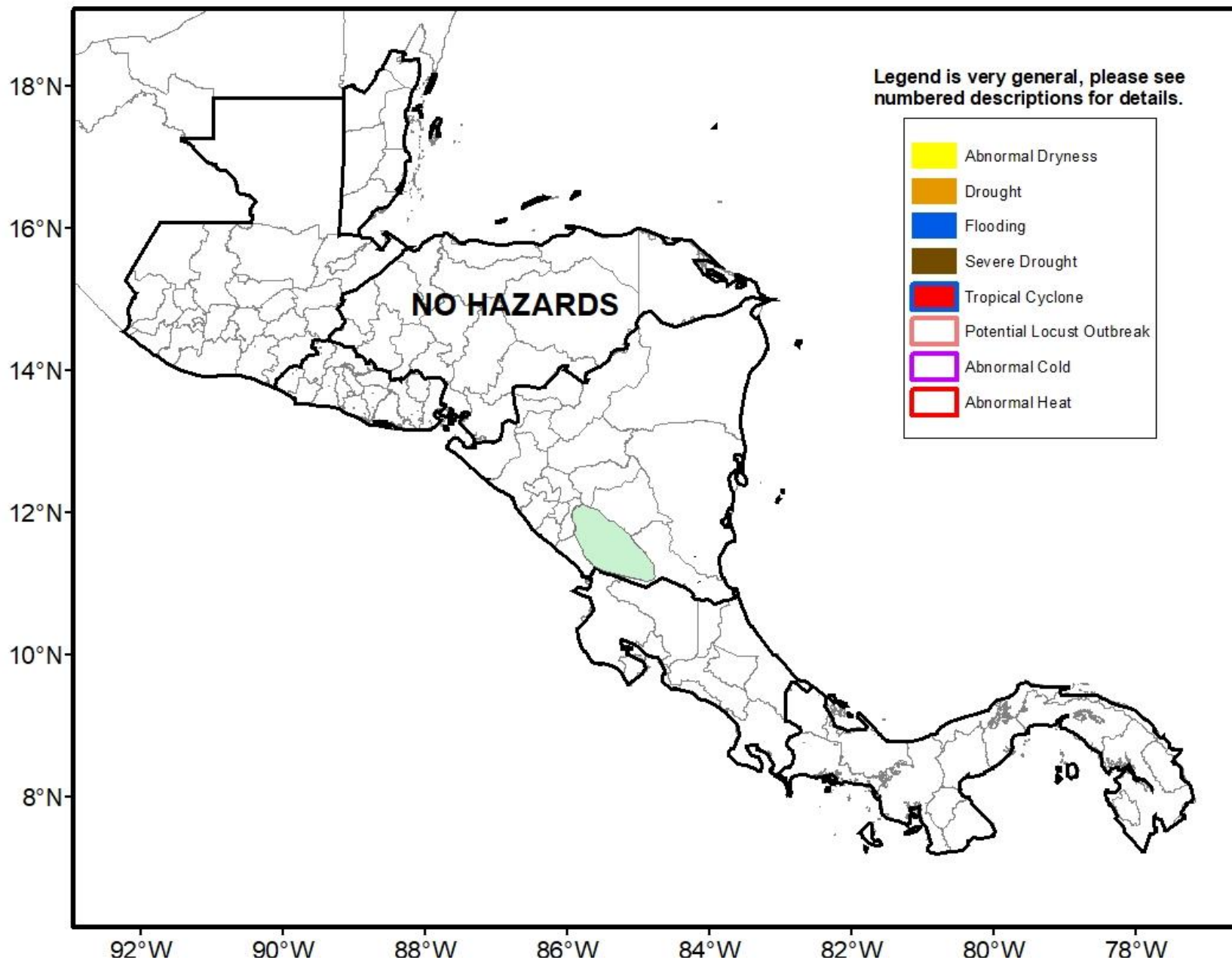




Climate Prediction Center's Central America Hazards Outlook February 20 – 26, 2020

Near-average rainfall was observed over Central America during the past week.



Seasonable rainfall expected to continue in Central America during the outlook period

From February 11-17, little to light (< 25 mm) rains were registered along the Atlantic facing regions of Central America, according to the CPC Unified precipitation data set. The largest rainfall amounts were received in eastern Honduras and eastern Costa Rica, where moderate rains were received. Compared with climatology, this past week's rainfall was near-average across the region. Though, weekly totals were slightly below-average along the Gulf of Honduras. Over the past thirty days, seasonable rainfall was recorded throughout the interior of Central America. However, wetter-than-average conditions were depicted in eastern Honduras and northeastern Nicaragua, while drier-than-average conditions were present along the Gulf of Honduras. The continued near-average rainfall over the past several weeks contributed to maintain favorable ground conditions across much of the region. Since the beginning of the *Apante*, December-April, rainfall season, seasonal surpluses were observed along northern and eastern Honduras, northern Guatemala, northern Belize, northeastern Nicaragua, eastern Costa Rica, and parts of Panama, while seasonal deficits were experienced along the Gulf of Honduras.

During the outlook period, while Central America is still expecting seasonally dry conditions, model rainfall forecasts suggest possible light rains along the Atlantic tier of the region. Meanwhile, although minimum temperature is expected to remain near-average, nighttime and early morning temperatures could still drop very low, potentially impacting local residents over elevated terrains.

