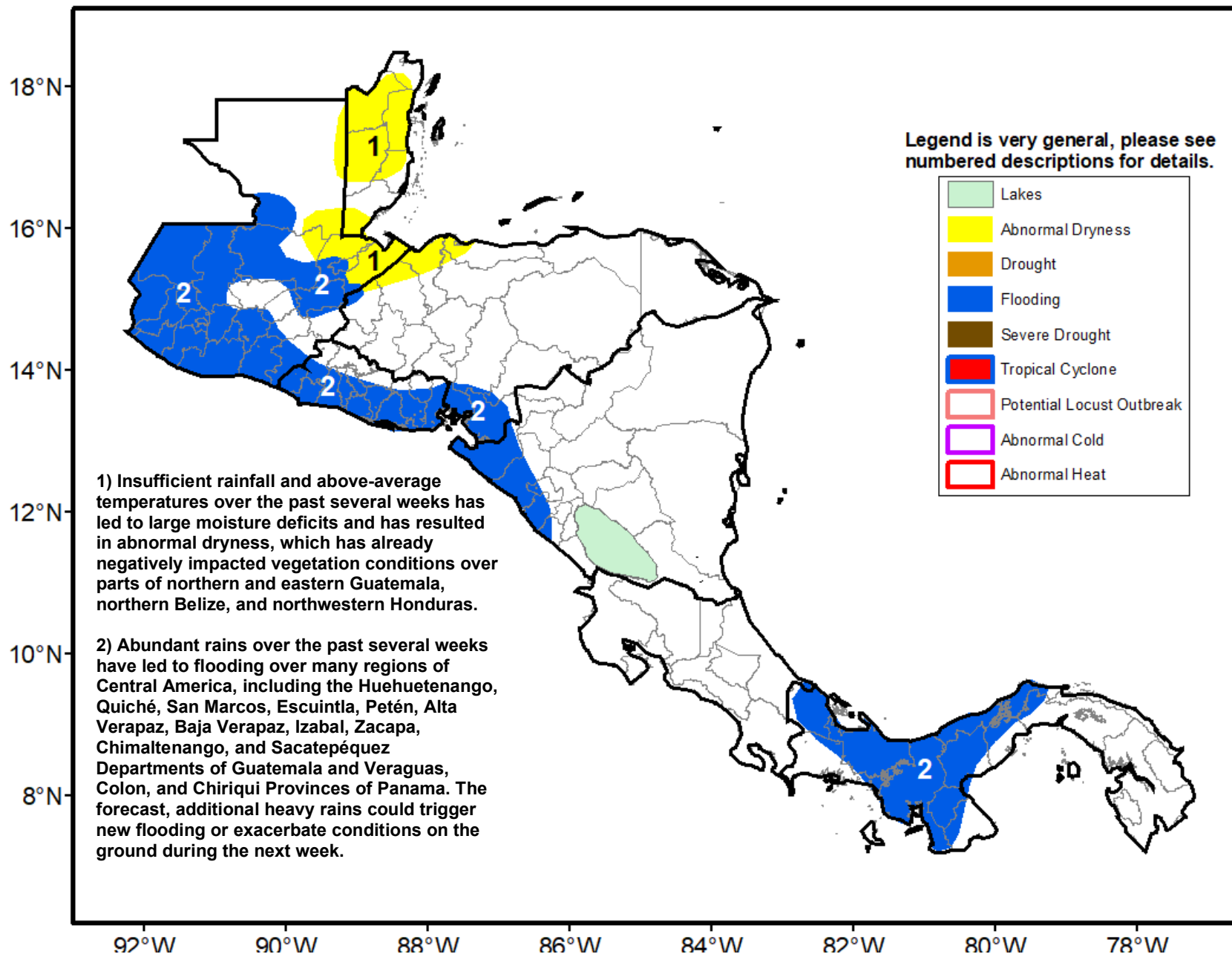




Climate Prediction Center's Central America Hazards Outlook August 27 – September 2, 2020

- Elevated risks for flooding and landslides maintained as downpours to continue during the next week



Wetter-than-average conditions likely to continue

An analysis of the accumulated rainfall over the past thirty days has indicated that above-average rainfall prevailed across much of Central America. Positive rainfall anomalies were observed throughout Central America, particularly the Pacific-facing regions, where surpluses mostly exceeded 100 mm. Those areas included southern Guatemala, the Gulf of Fonseca, and western Nicaragua. In contrast, below-average rainfall, which has already led to abnormal dryness, persisted over Belize, the Gulf of Honduras, parts of eastern Nicaragua; eastern Costa Rica, and western Panama. During the past week, abundant rains were registered over much of Guatemala, El Salvador, western Honduras, the Gulf of Fonseca, western Nicaragua, Costa Rica, and Panama. In Guatemala, flooding and overflowing of rivers were reported over municipalities of the Petén, Izabal, Zacapa, Sacatepéquez, Chiquimula, and Chimaltenango Departments. Also, the passage of Tropical Storm Marco brought heavy rains in eastern Honduras. Elsewhere, light to moderate rains were recorded. The continuation of favorable rainfall should help cropping activities during the late period of the *Primera*, May-August season and early period of the *Postrema*, August-November, growing season.

During the upcoming outlook period, active and a surge northward for the Inter-Tropical Convergence Zone (ITCZ) and the passage of weather disturbances are expected to bring heavy and likely to be above-average rain along the Pacific Rim of Central America. The forecast consistent rains could exacerbate ground oversaturation and trigger flash flooding and bursting of rivers over many local areas. Potential for flooding exists for western, southern, and eastern Guatemala, El Salvador, the Gulf of Fonseca, western Nicaragua, and parts of Panama.

