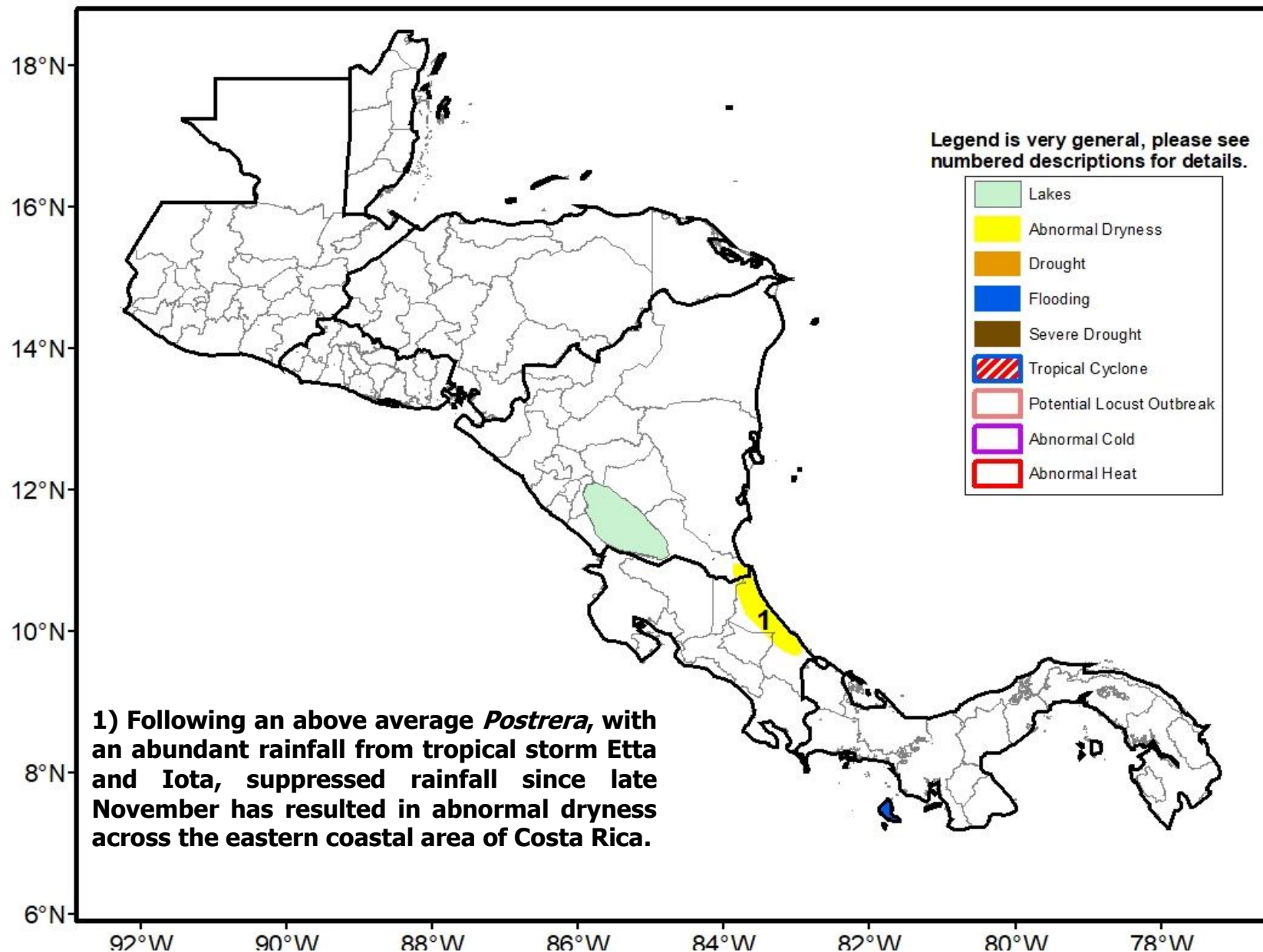




Climate Prediction Center's Central America Hazards Outlook December 31, 2020 – January 06, 2021

An above average is expected over the gulf of Belize during the coming outlook period.



The western part of the Guatemala has been the coldest area overall Central America for the past 7 days.

For the past 7 days, showers to light rainfall has been recorded over the central, some local area over the Penten Department and the southern part of Guatemala. Since mid-November, late season *Postrera* and early season *Apante* related moisture deficits (25-50mm) continue to prevail across much of the coastal countries of Central America facing the Atlantic. Much of the short-term abnormal dryness follows a poor rainfall distribution over the eastern coastal area of Costa Rica. Analysis of SPI reflects the poor rainfall performance with deteriorated ground conditions concentrated over many parts of southeastern part of Nicaragua, the northern part of Belize, surrounding the Gulf of Belize and the eastern part Costa Rica, which is likely to adversely affect cropping activities throughout the region. The dry and cold temperature has started the dry winter season this month, the coldest area has been over the western part of Guatemala and the warmest part were located over the coastal are of Central America.

During the next week, models suggest the continuation of seasonal to above-average rainfall over the Gulf of Belize region, Belize, the norther and eastern part of Honduras, Costa Rica, and the eastern coastal area of Nicaragua. Portions of northern Guatemala may also see favorable amounts ranging between 2-25mm. Nighttime minimum temperatures are expected to be below average over Guatemala and Honduras, with the possibility of sub-freezing temperatures in the highest elevations during early January.

