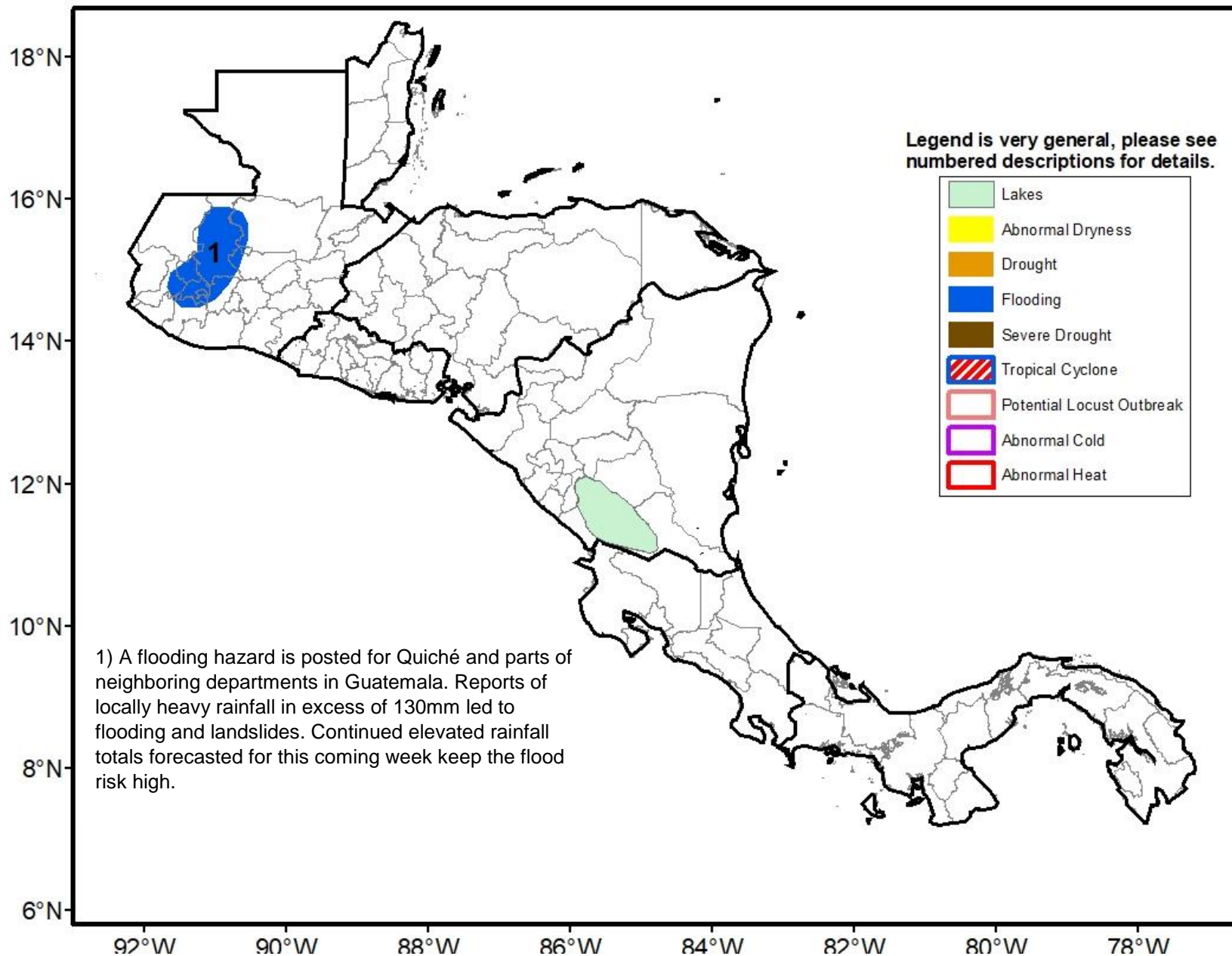




Climate Prediction Center's Central America Hazards Outlook April 29 – May 5, 2021

Locally heavy rainfall caused flooding and landslides in Guatemala and El Salvador.



Heavier rains fell in several localized parts of the region this past week.

The heaviest rains in the region, totaling more than 100mm for the week, were observed over localized portions of southern and central Guatemala, as well as the Gulf of Fonseca region. Parts of El Salvador and Costa Rica received between 50mm and 100mm according to satellite estimates. There were reports from Quiché department in Guatemala and several departments in El Salvador of destructive flooding and landslides. Some areas that received lighter rains less than 25mm include northern/eastern Guatemala, large swaths of Honduras, and eastern Panama. Rainfall conditions over most of Central America were wetter than normal. Deficits of up to 50mm are registered for the period dating back to March 1st in Petén department of Guatemala. All other areas of Central America exhibit wetter than average conditions since the start of the rainfall season. In fact, rainfall surpluses exceed 200mm in Costa Rica and Panama. Vegetation health is generally moderate to good in the region according to NDVI analysis. A few local areas of Petén department and Belize are the exception.

During the outlook period, wetter than average conditions are forecast for central and southern Guatemala. More than 75mm of rainfall is likely in southern/central Guatemala. Due to this forecast the risk of flooding remains elevated in parts of Guatemala. Other areas in El Salvador, southern Honduras and western Nicaragua can anticipate rainfall totals between 25mm and 50mm. The rain may be slightly suppressed below normal in Panama as well as Belize.

