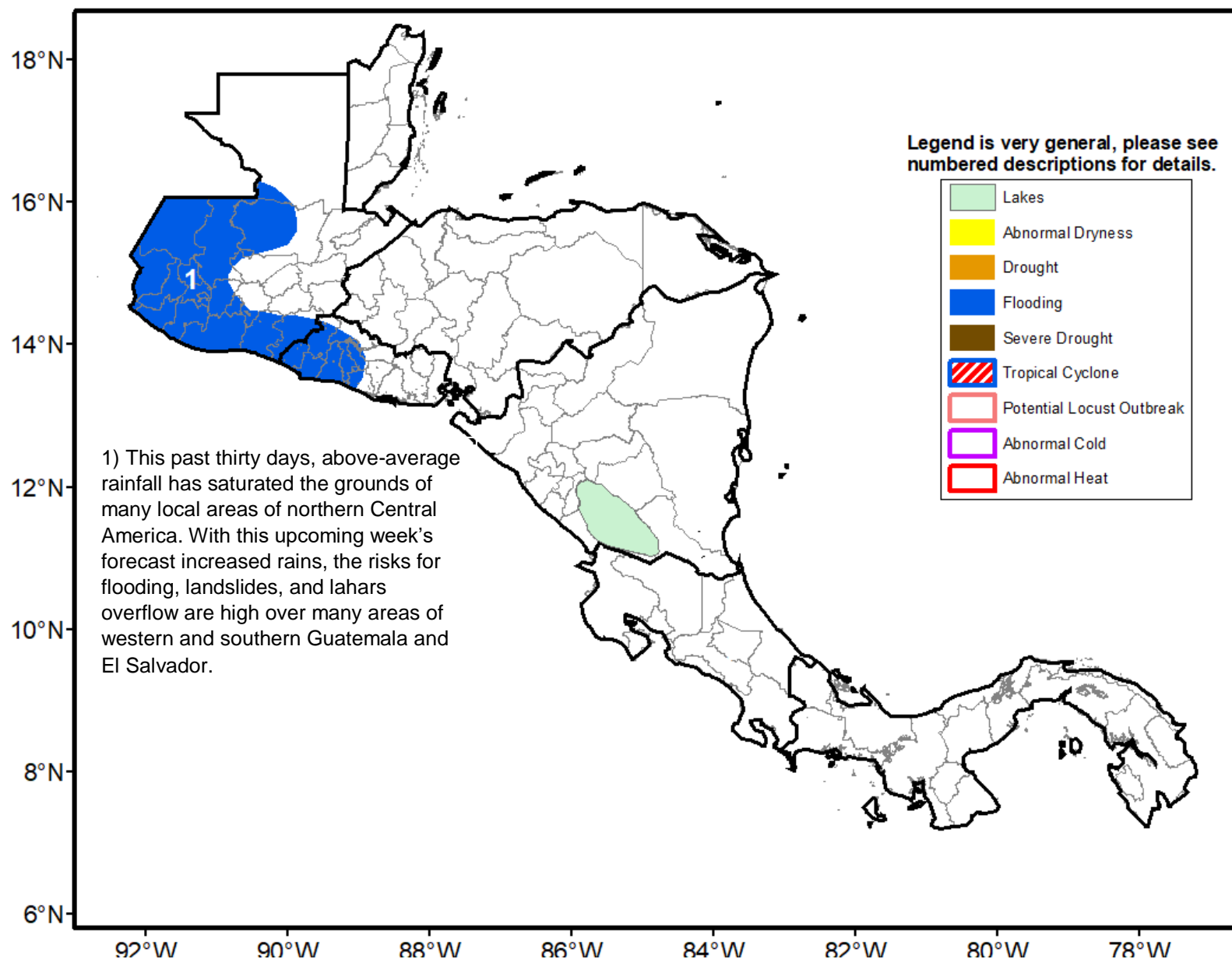




## Climate Prediction Center's Central America Hazards Outlook 20 – 26 May 2021

Heavy rains are forecast over northern Central America, potentially triggering flooding and landslides in many areas.



## A drying tendency observed in Central America in the past thirty days but increased rains expected over the northern parts

An analysis of the accumulated rainfall over the past thirty days has indicated that drier-than-average conditions emerged over parts of Central America. These dry areas included portions of northern Guatemala, southern and central Honduras, where moisture deficits generally ranged between 25 – 50 mm. The observed moisture deficits stemmed from an insufficient rainfall distribution over the past few weeks. In contrast, neutral to wetter-than-average conditions dominated elsewhere, in particular the Pacific Littorals and the southern Caribbean. During the past week, while moderate to heavy rains persisted in southwestern Guatemala, southern Nicaragua, and the southern Caribbean, suppressed rainfall dominated across the interior of the region. For vegetation, favorable conditions prevailed over much of Central America, except for northern Guatemala, northern Honduras, eastern and southern Nicaragua, where poor vegetation health was detected, based on the latest remotely-sensed product.

During this upcoming outlook period, rainfall forecasts suggest that heavy and above-average rainfall is very likely over areas of northern Central America, in particular Guatemala and parts of El Salvador and Honduras. In Guatemala, the forecast additional rainfall could exacerbate conditions on the ground over many already-saturated and previously-flooded areas. In addition, the expected wet weather pattern may worsen lahars overflow for the Santiaguito volcanic activities in the Suchitepéquez Department in the southwest. In contrast, reduced precipitation with light to moderate and likely below-average rainfall is forecast elsewhere.

