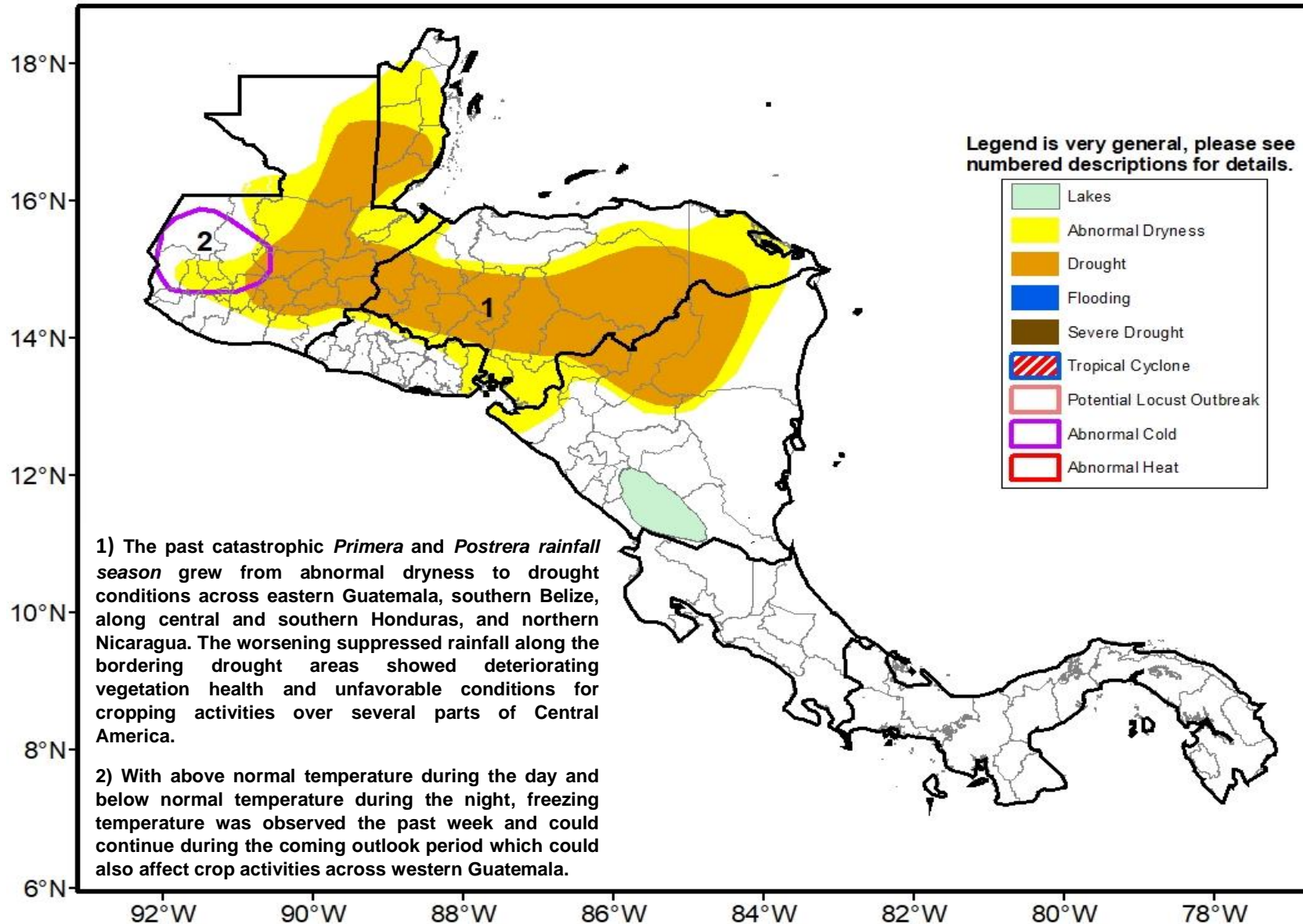




Climate Prediction Center's Central America Hazards Outlook 9 – 15 December 2021

Abnormal dryness and drought persisted over Central America as the August-November season ended



Near seasonable rainfall is expected across a major part of Central America during the outlook period.

Comparing the long-term (90 days) average rainfall with the short-term (30 days) average rainfall, the tendency has indicated drier conditions across eastern Guatemala including a branch toward its western part, a wide area of Honduras, El Salvador, northern and central Nicaragua. The *Postrera* (August-November) performance ranged between 25-50 percent of normal, with the largest moisture deficits located over central and eastern Guatemala, southern and eastern Honduras, northern Nicaragua. The anomalous suppressed rainfall due to lack of rainfall and large time distribution of rainfall led to a degradation of ground conditions and loss of crops activities across Guatemala, Honduras, and southern Belize. With the end of the *Postrera* rainfall season, ground conditions could further degrade, potentially worsening crop conditions across Guatemala, Honduras, and northern Nicaragua.

This past week, 5-10 degrees Celsius was recorded across western Guatemala, 15-20 degrees Celsius across northern Guatemala, Belize, El Salvador, Honduras, and northern Nicaragua. In contrast, 20-25 degrees Celsius prevailed across the remaining area of Nicaragua, and along coastal areas of Central America. As the cold season has started across Central America, lower temperature but close to seasonable temperatures could be expected during the outlook period.

During the next week, rainfall models suggest a continuation of near seasonable weather pattern, with potential increase of rainfall across coastal areas of countries facing the Atlantic Ocean.

