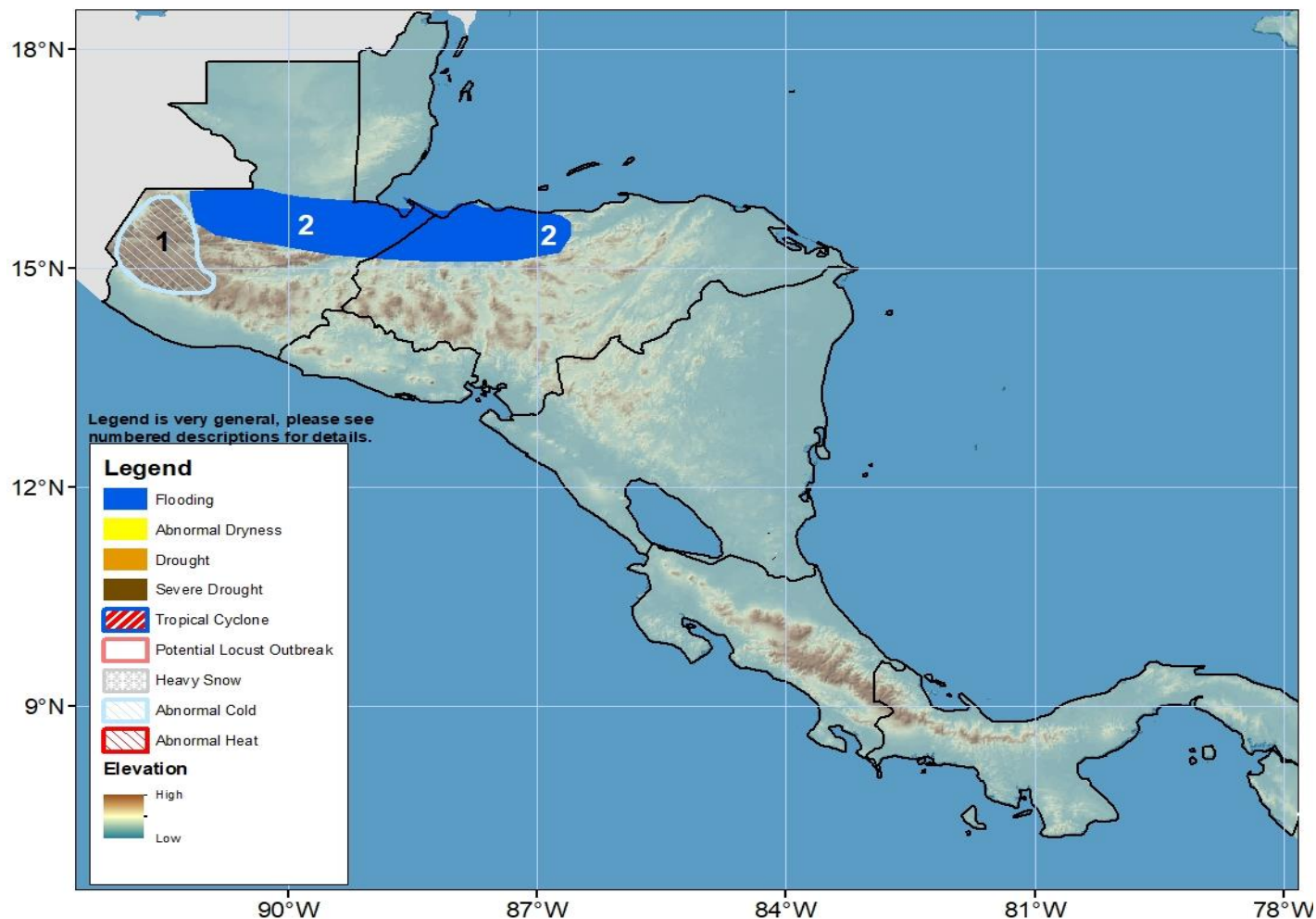




Climate Prediction Center's Central America Hazards Outlook 03 March – 09 March 2022

Flash flood warnings will remain over Guatemala and Honduras during the outlook period.



1) Possible freezing conditions are expected over the western departments of Guatemala during the outlook period.

2) The northern part of Guatemala is still under high water level risk; the continuation of rainfall could exacerbate riverine flood along the rivers across Peten Department of Guatemala, and lead to more flooding areas due to the ground water saturation over the northern part of Honduras.

Low temperatures near freezing could be expected across western regions of Guatemala next week.

The dry winter season is approaching to the end over Central America. During the past week, the warmest temperature recorded between 20-25 degrees Celsius, prevailed along the coastal areas of Central America, Peten department and southeastern part of Guatemala, El Salvador, and Belize. In contrast, the coldest temperature between 5-10 degrees Celsius prevailed over the western part of Guatemala, the northern and southern part of Honduras. Southern Guatemala and El Salvador experienced 4-6 degrees Celsius above normal temperature which was beneficial for the growing vegetation but risky for a potential forest fire activity across the region. During the past seven days, light rainfall prevailed, according to the estimated satellite rainfall, over locality close to the Gulf of Belize, which include a small portion of central Guatemala, northwestern Honduras, and far southern Belize. While a major part of Central America observed a seasonable rainfall and 25-50mm above normal rainfall near the Gulf of Belize regions for the past thirty days, several local areas of southern Guatemala and western Nicaragua developed a cumulative of weak negative anomaly for a longer period. Even though the magnitude of the suppressed rainfall could be neglected due to the dry season, it is crucial to highlight that the lack of sufficient rainfall could affect the growing vegetation and possibly lead to loss of crops activities if any change occurred in the coming weeks.

During the outlook period, 5-10 mm of rain is expected across the coastal regions facing the Atlantic Ocean, which will decrease in magnitude while moving toward the inland. Heavy rainfall exceeding 75mm of rain is expected across Caribbean coastal regions of Costa Rica and Panama. Suppressed rainfall is expected along coastal regions facing Pacific Ocean.

