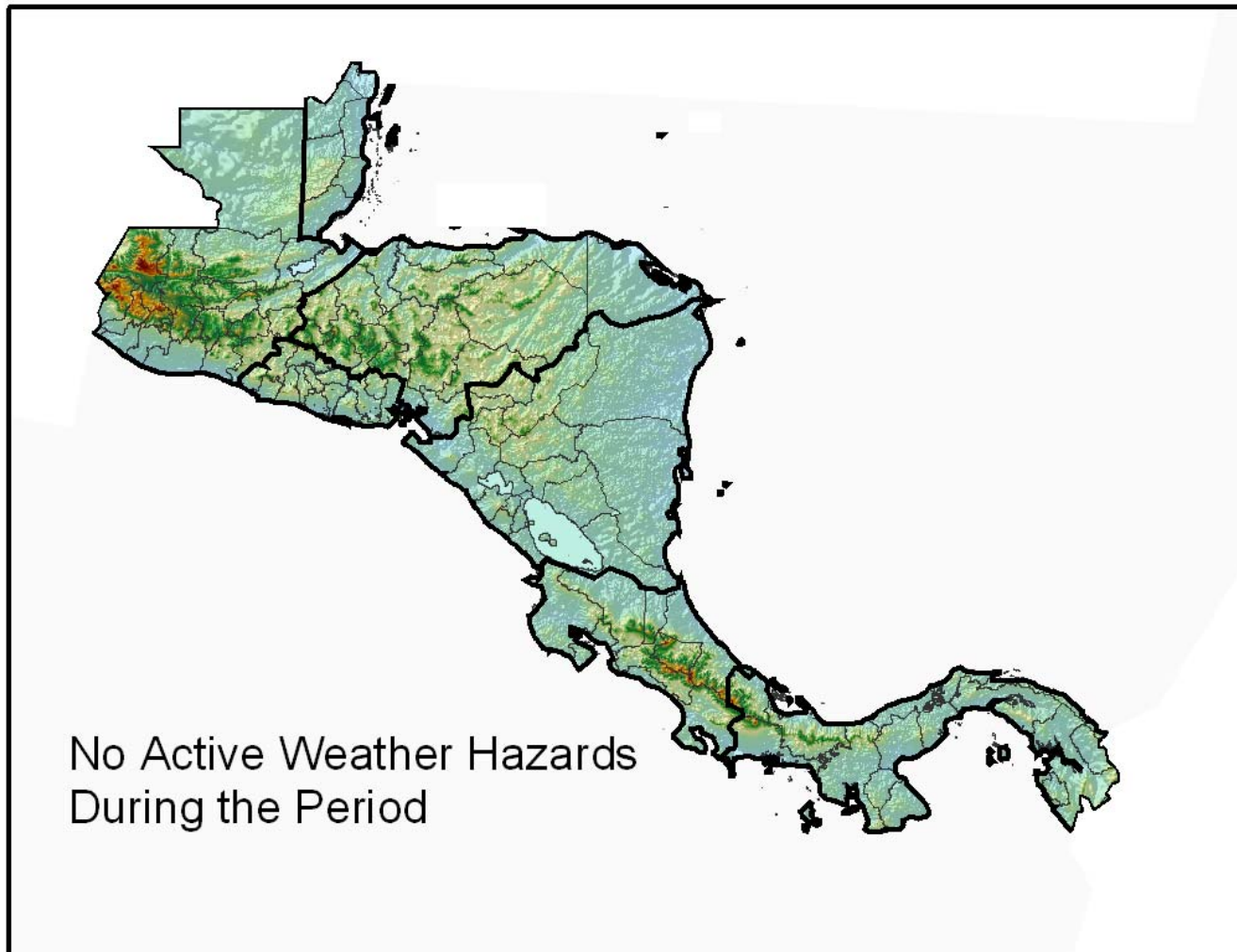


The MFEWS

Central America Weather Hazards Assessment

for

July 28 – August 3, 2005



Hazards Assessment Text Explanation:

In southern Guatemala, recently heavy rains have led to localized flooding and mudslides. Crop losses are being evaluated in terms of projected first-planting harvests, both as they will affect domestic supply of staple crops nationally, and as they will impact small subsistence farm families. The food security implications do not appear to be immediate, but may surface in a couple of months.

A relative minimum in precipitation during the months of July and August, known as the “canicula”, is most apparent along the Pacific regions of Central America. Thus far this season there has been little evidence of this “midsummer drought” in these regions. However, the forecast for the next week indicates less precipitation than in previous weeks along the Pacific coast of Nicaragua and El Salvador. The “canicula” will have to be monitored for duration and severity in the coming weeks.

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