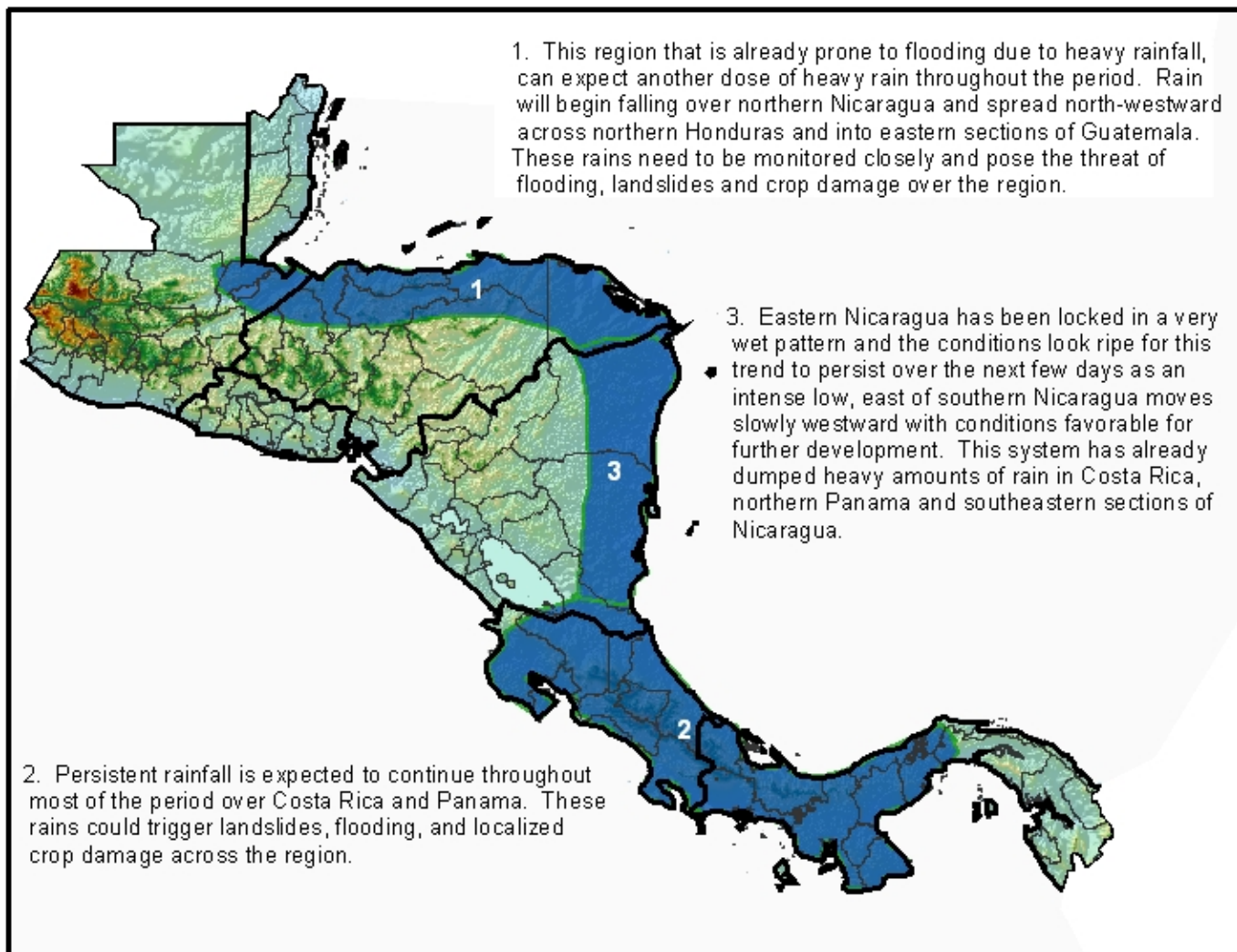


The MFEWS

Central America Weather Hazards Assessment

for

November 17 – November 23, 2005



Hazards Assessment Text Explanation:

- 1) Heavy rainfall over the past month has ground conditions saturated over the northern tier of Honduras and extreme northeast sections of Nicaragua. This region can expect yet another dose of heavy rain to finish up the week into early next week. Rain has already been falling along eastern portions of Nicaragua and even into eastern Honduras due to an intense low pressure system situated east of southern Nicaragua. This system is currently moving slowly westward and will begin to turn to the north, with conditions favorable for possible further development. With this said, close monitoring of the storms development over the next day or so will be essential. Rainfall amounts of 200 to 400 mm, with locally higher amounts are expected within this region. Remnants of Tropical Depression #27 look to interact with this low off Nicaragua over the next day or so enhancing convection over this particular hazard area. Expect flooding, possible landslides, and crop damage within the region for runoff will be an issue due to the already saturated ground.
- 2) Costa Rica and Panama have been receiving high amounts of rainfall over the past week with rainfall totals ranging from 200 to 400 mm. These rains will persist into this upcoming period with flooding and landslides to be a major problem. Some areas in Costa Rica could expect to see an additional 200 mm or more rainfall on top of last weeks totals. There could also be possible crop damage to un-harvested crops such as rice and corn throughout the hazard area.
- 3) Eastern Nicaragua has been locked in a very wet weather pattern over the past few weeks and this trend will continue into early next week with heavy amounts of rainfall expected along Nicaragua's eastern seaboard. Rain is already pounding this region with rainfall amounts expected to be 200 mm or more by the time the system is through. As mentioned in hazard area one, an intense low pressure system off the east coast of southern Nicaragua is the cause for such rainfall across the region. This low is forecasted to follow the coastline northward with further strengthening possible as it affects the majority of Central America's Caribbean shoreline.

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