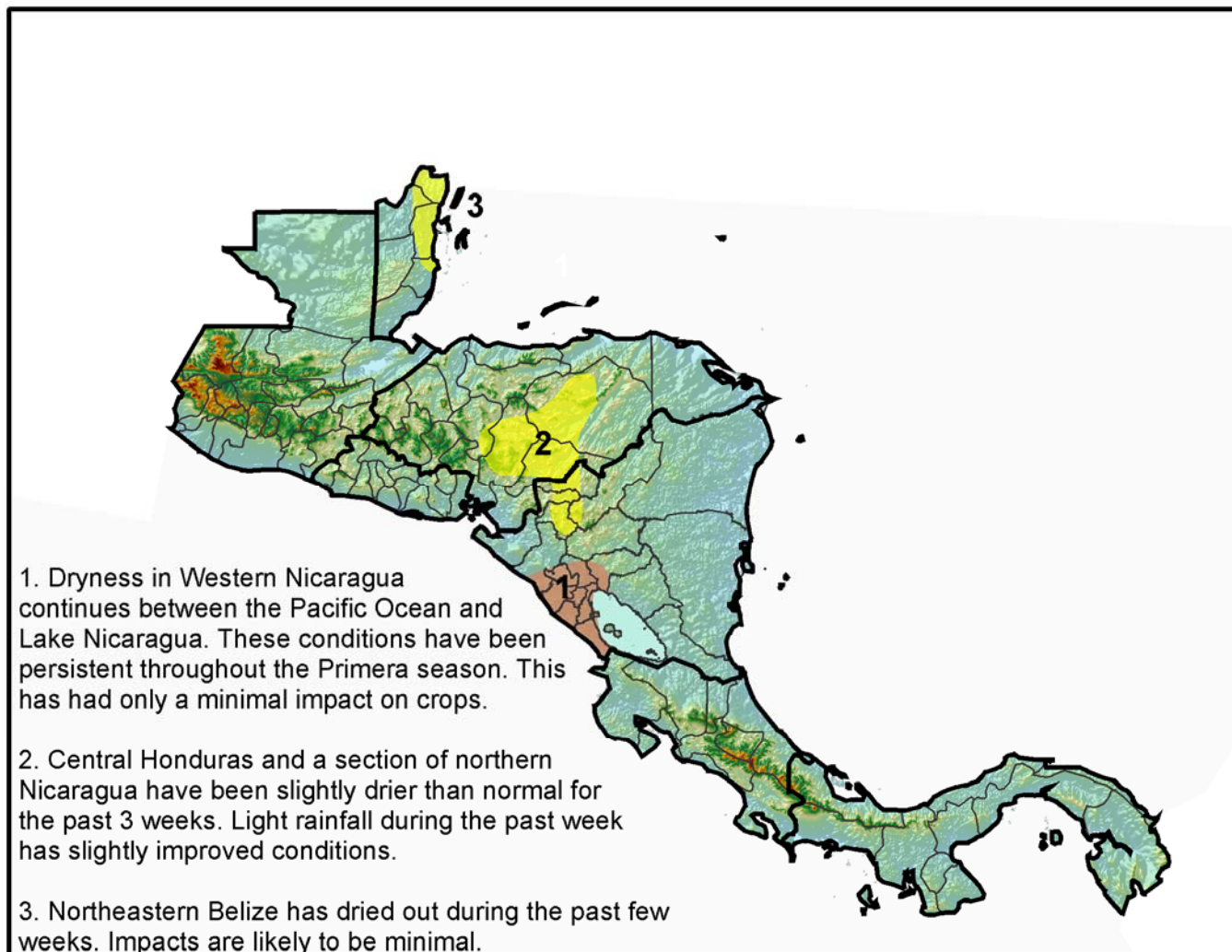


The MFEWS

Central America Weather Hazards and Benefits Assessment

For

September 7 – 13, 2006



Hazards Assessment Text Explanation:

- 1) In Nicaragua between the Pacific Ocean and Lake Nicaragua precipitation deficits have been persistent throughout the Primera season. The dry conditions are the result of the Intertropical Convergence Zone being displaced north. Although satellite estimated rainfall is showing significant deficits the region is largely cropped with drought resistant agriculture, such as pineapple. This has helped to minimize any adverse affects.
- 2) The central Honduras provinces of Olancho, Francisco Morazan, and El Paraíso as well as adjacent portions of Nicaragua watched precipitation totals drop off towards the end of the Primera season. This had little impact on the Primera season because the region is more reliant on the Postrera season. If conditions improve during the coming period there will likely be little to no impacts.
- 3) The Caribbean coast of Belize has experienced a somewhat abrupt drop off in the rains. During the past several weeks rainfall has concentrated itself over the Yucatan Peninsula and produced drier conditions in nearby areas. This has not significantly impacted the area, yet but there is potential if rainfall does not return to the area.

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