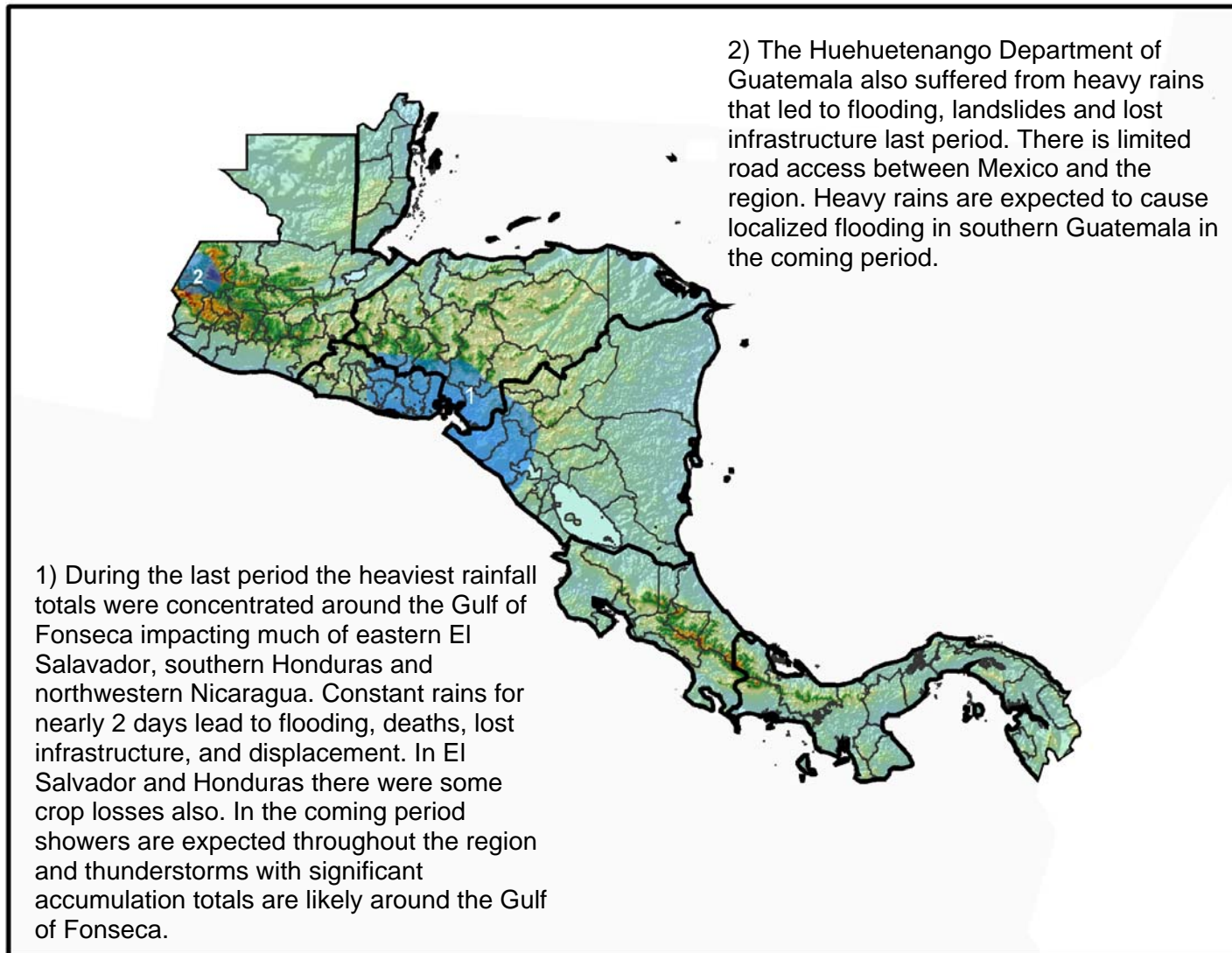


The MFEWS

Central America Weather Hazards and Benefits Assessment

For

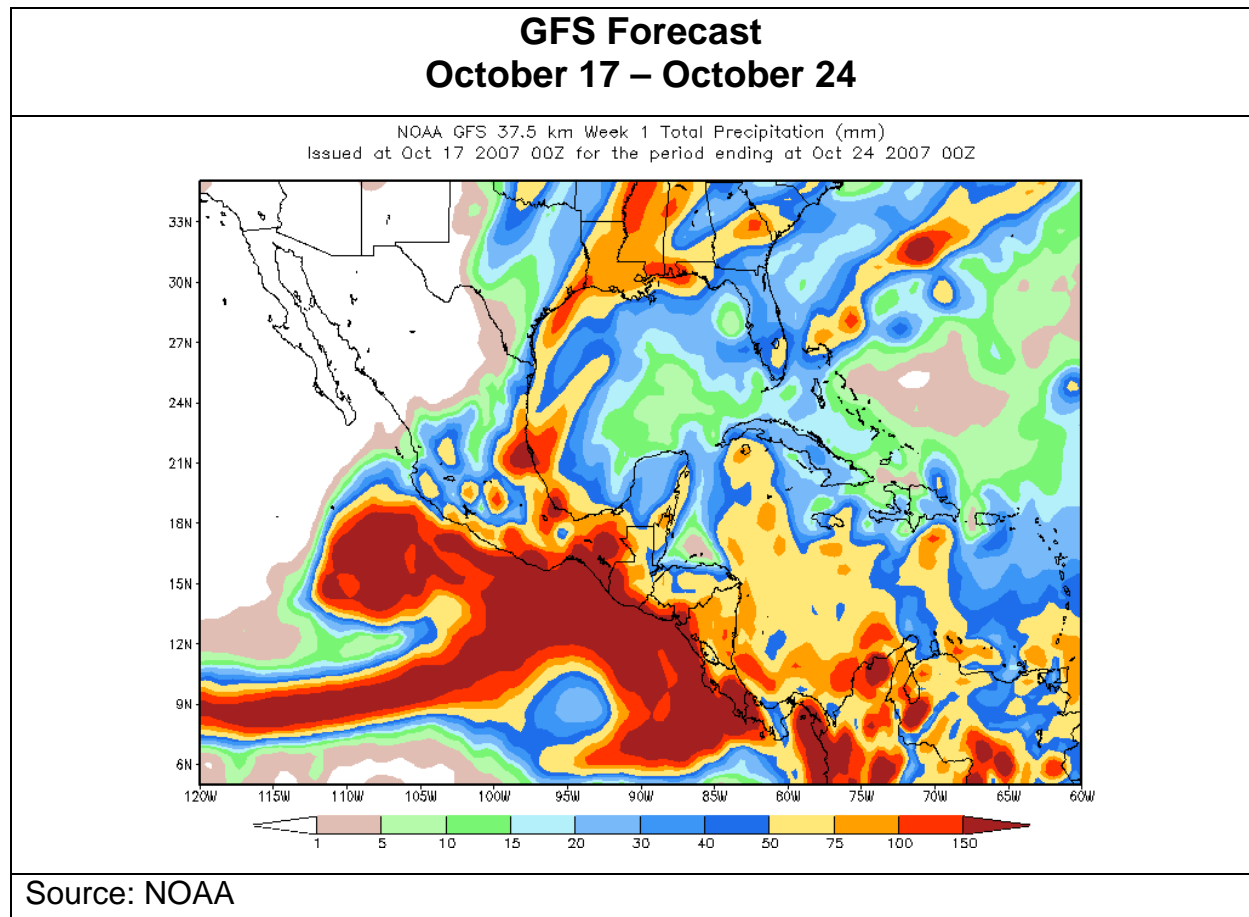
October 18 – October 24, 2007



Hazards Assessment Text Explanation:

The dryness in the Choluteca and Valle departments of Honduras experienced during the Primera season that led to crop loss has been completely eradicated by the abundant rains thus far in the Postrera season. As in the most recent events, rains have been excessive at times leading to flooding in those same departments of Honduras as well as portions of El Salvador and Nicaragua. A low situated off the Pacific coast of Guatemala is not expected to develop into significant tropical activity due to its proximity to land, however locally heavy rains may result. Elsewhere, forecasts for the coming period indicate a continuance of heavy rains along the Pacific coast of Central America. Thoroughly saturated soils in the Gulf of Fonseca region are now a concern because more rains will only worsen crop conditions.

The dryness that was observed in portions of northern Belize during September has been reversed by significant rains in October. Many of the stations located in the eastern half of the country have reported rainfall totals for the month of October exceeding 100mm. This has improved the ground conditions there and has alleviated the concern for crops not receiving enough moisture.



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The evaluation of climatological threats of MFEWS include the participation of the central and local offices of MFEWS, NOAA-CPC, USGS, NASA, INETER of Nicaragua, Meteorological Service of Honduras, IMN of Costa Rica, INSIVUMEH of Guatemala, ETESA of Panama, and SNET of El Salvador. Any questions or comments on this product can be directed to Wassila.Thiaw@noaa.gov