

The MFEWS

Central America Weather Hazards and Benefits Assessment

For

May 14 – May 20, 2009

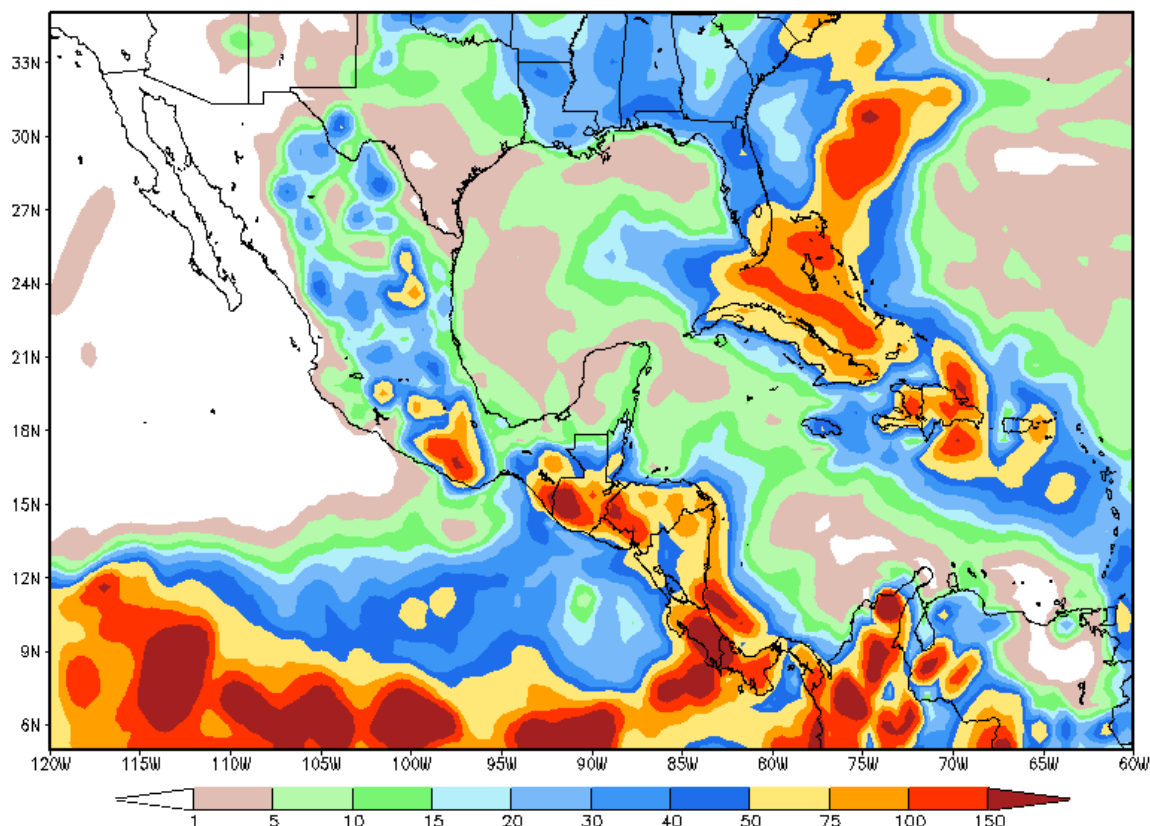


Hazards Assessment Text Explanation:

During the last observation period, a greater distribution of rainfall was observed throughout much of Central America compared to recent weeks. Rainfall accumulations ranging between 25-50mm were observed from Panama to Guatemala, with heavier totals (75- 100mm) seen at the mouth of the Gulf of Honduras, and along the coastal divisions of Panama and Costa Rica. In the last 30 days, the Primera rains season has continued to remain near average throughout much of Central America, with areas along the Atlantic coast of Nicaragua and El Salvador experiencing slightly below average precipitation since the start of May. In Guatemala, farmers have begun to sow in some parts in the north, while above average rains has caused some concern for potential landslides along the Guatemala / Honduras border.

Precipitation forecasts suggest another favorable outlook in the next seven days. Isolated and heavy precipitation amounts are expected throughout portions of the southern Caribbean, as well as across the southwestern departments of Guatemala, and in western Honduras.

GFS Precipitation Forecast Valid: May 13th – May 20th, 2009



Source: NOAA / FEWSNET

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, NMS of Belize and SNET of El Salvador. Any questions or comments on this product can be directed to Wassila.Thiaw@noaa.gov