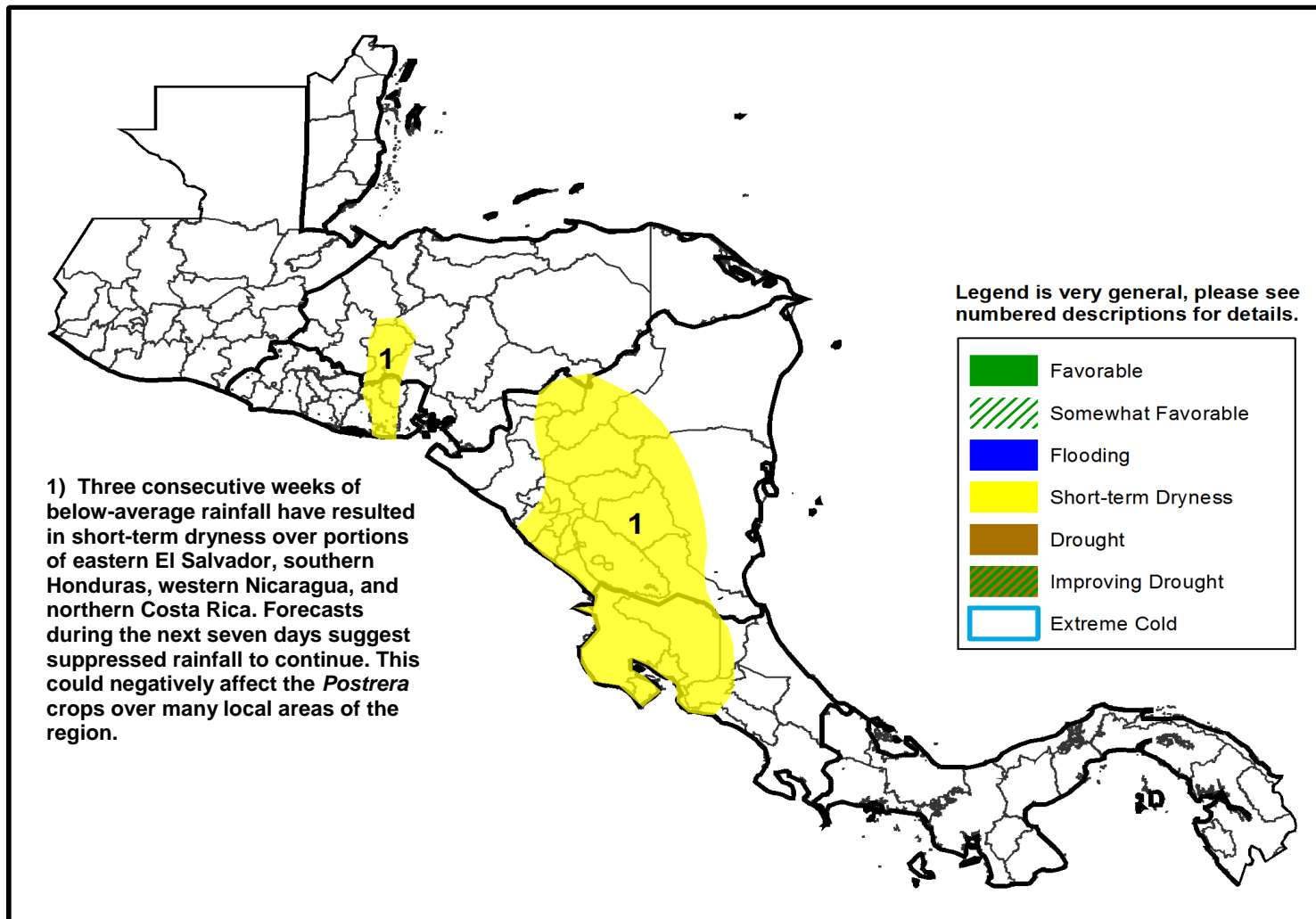




Climate Prediction Center's Central America Hazards Outlook For USAID / FEWS-NET November 10 – November 16, 2011

- Dryness has begun to impact many portions of Central America as a result of drier than average conditions since the middle of October.



Dryness has settled in, but a slight increase in rainfall is expected over Central America during the next week.

For the third consecutive week, Central America has experienced light (< 10 mm) rainfall during the past week. Although cumulative rainfall is expected to abate during November, rainfall totals were significantly below-average during the past week. While moderate to heavy (30 – 50 mm) rainfall was observed along the Atlantic coastlines of Nicaragua, southern Caribbean, and northern Honduras, little to no (< 10 mm) rainfall was recorded over much of the inland of Central America during the past seven days. This has strengthened the magnitude and spatial extent of the thirty-day rainfall deficits over many regions of Central America and resulted in short-term dryness across parts of eastern El Salvador, southern Honduras, western Nicaragua, and northern Costa Rica. Not only could suppressed rainfall affect the second season's crops but it could also deplete moisture that is needed for cropping activities during the coming *Apante* season.

As for the next seven days, forecasts indicate a slight increase in rainfall across Central America. A cold front passage is expected to decrease temperatures over the Central Plateau of Guatemala and bring heavy (> 50 mm) rainfall in the Gulf of Honduras region during the next week. Meanwhile, the southern Caribbean is forecast to experience downpours during the next week due to active InterTropical Convergence Zone in the region. The slight increase in rainfall forecast during the next week should help to relieve moisture stress over many local areas of Central America.

