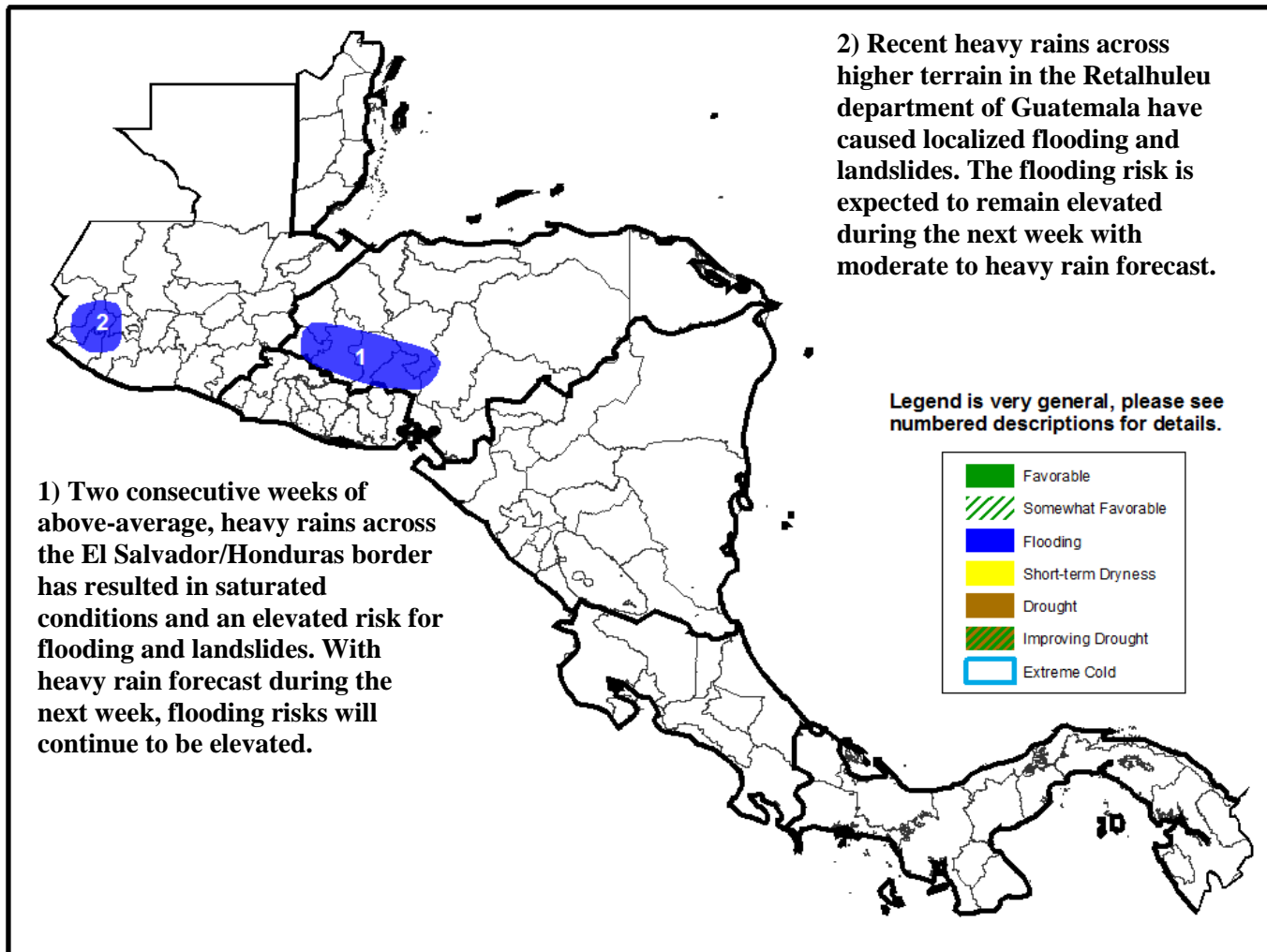


Climate Prediction Center's Central America Hazards Outlook For USAID / FEWS-NET May 31 – June 6, 2012

- A second week of anomalously heavy rainfall impacts much of Central America during the end of May.



Torrential rains are observed across eastern Honduras and the El Salvador/Honduras border.

During the past week, torrential rains were recorded across much of northern Central America for a second consecutive week. The highest precipitation totals (>100mm) were observed in northeastern Honduras and along the El Salvador/Honduras border. These anomalous rains likely caused localized flash flooding. Elsewhere, moderate rains (10-50mm) were received in Guatemala, El Salvador, Nicaragua, Costa Rica and Panama. The recent above-average rains have led to 30 day rainfall surpluses across much of Central America. The largest positive anomalies (>150% of normal, >100mm total) are located over northeastern Honduras, El Salvador and the Gulf of Fonseca region. Flooding risks remain elevated in these regions. In contrast, coastal areas along the Caribbean in Costa Rica have observed below-average rainfall throughout May.

For the upcoming seven days, rains are expected to remain moderate to locally heavy (>30mm) across much of Central America including saturated areas around the Gulf of Fonseca, the El Salvador/Honduras border and northern Honduras. Abundant rains could cause localized flash flooding and mudslides across higher terrain. Locally heavy rains across southwestern Guatemala including the Retalhuleu department also could cause flooding and landslides. Elsewhere, precipitation totals ranging from 10-40mm are expected across Nicaragua, Guatemala, and Panama while higher totals are forecast across Costa Rica, potentially reducing 30 day and seasonal rainfall deficits.

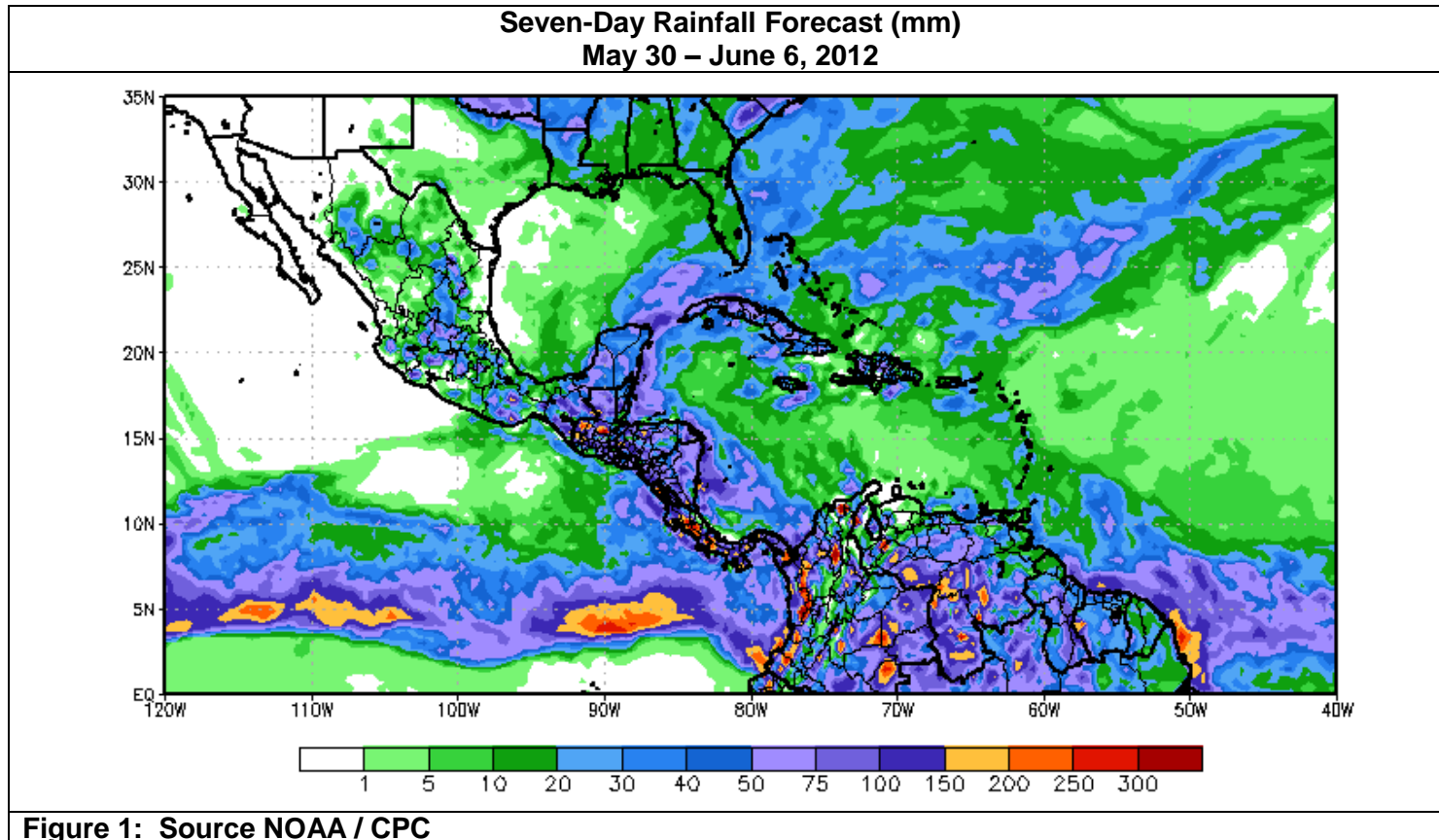


Figure 1: Source NOAA / CPC