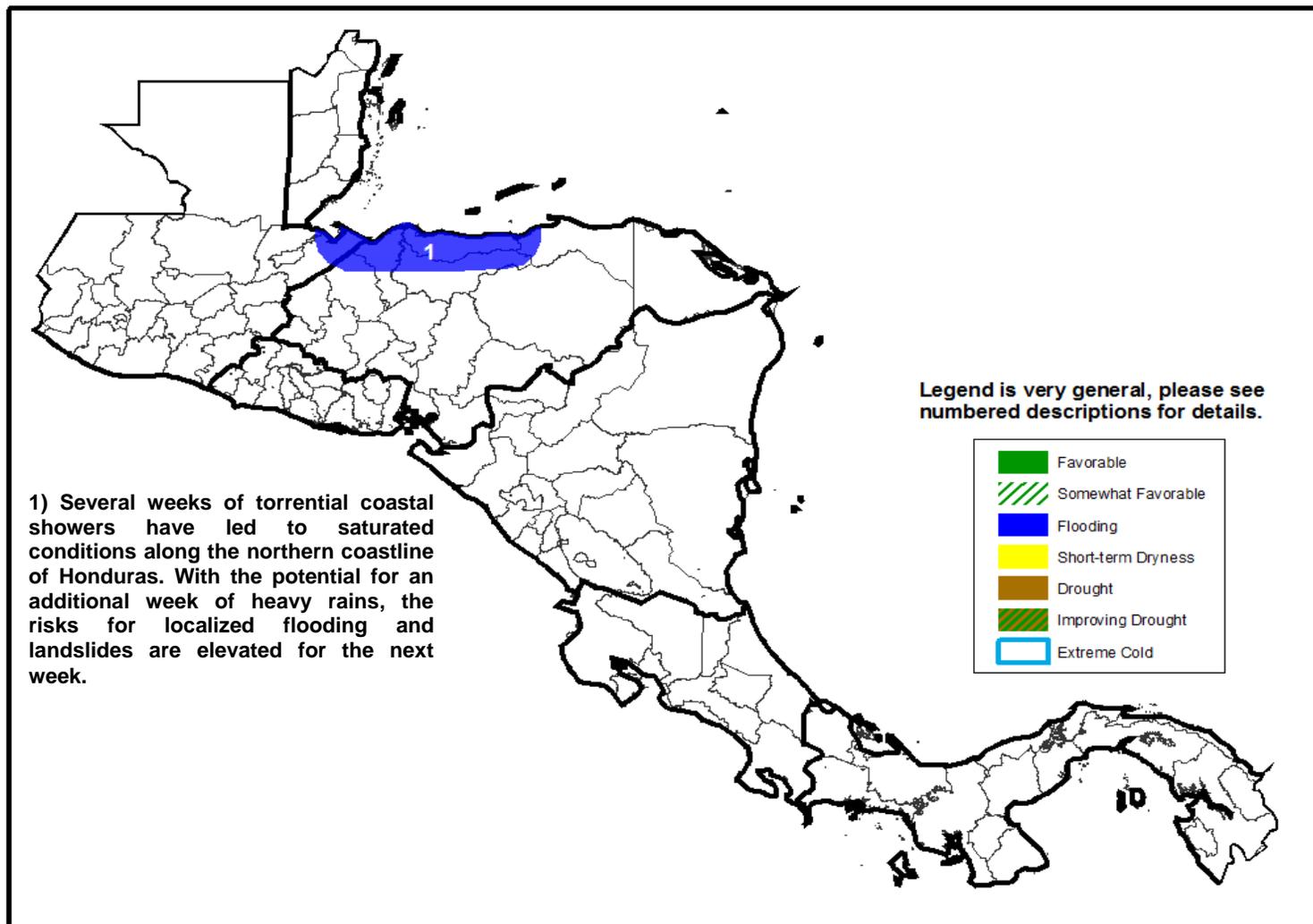


Climate Prediction Center's Central America Hazards Outlook For USAID / FEWS-NET November 29 – December 5, 2012

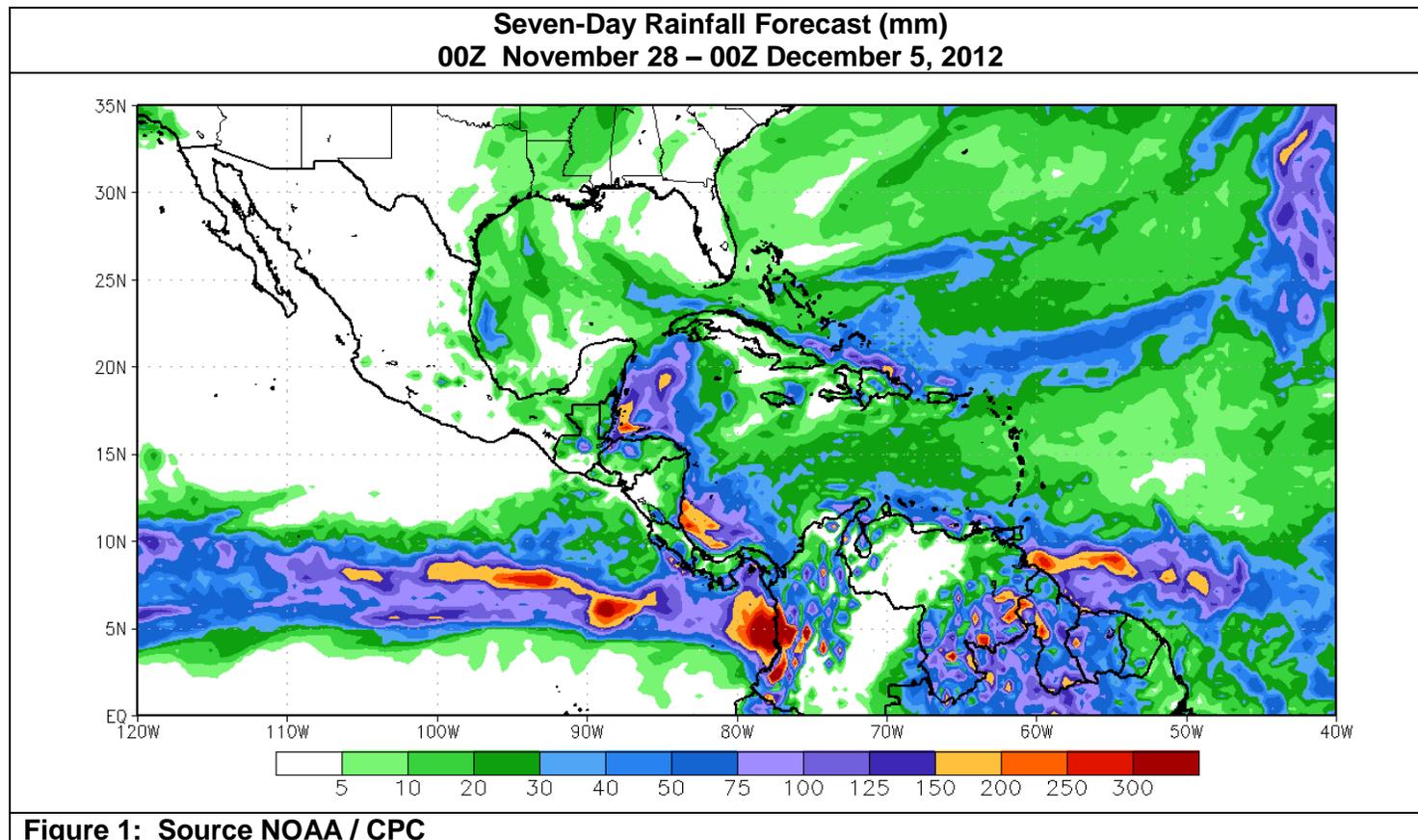
- Heavy coastal showers impact Costa Rica and northern Honduras for a third consecutive week
- Cold nightly temperatures (-2 - 5 °C) are observed across the central plateau and western highlands of Guatemala.



Heavy rains persist across southern Central America for a third consecutive week.

During the past week, anomalous northerly winds focused lower-level convergence across the Caribbean coastlines of southern Central America. Moderate to locally heavy rain (>40mm) was recorded in Costa Rica and Panama with the heaviest rains (>75mm) observed offshore. This was the third consecutive week with heavy weekly rainfall in southern Central America. Farther north, heavy coastal showers (>40mm) were observed along the Atlántida, Colón and Gracias a Dios departments of northern Honduras. The highest weekly rainfall totals (>100mm) were located in Tela, La Ceiba and Roatán, Honduras. Abundant rains have been prevalent across these regions during the past month. In contrast, little to no rain (<10mm) was observed in western and inland northern Central America. The lack of rain during the past few months in the Olancho department of Honduras will negatively impact harvests, regardless of additional rains. Farther north, cold northerly winds resulted in nighttime temperatures at or below 0°C in the western highlands and central plateau of Guatemala, negatively affecting crops in the Sololá department.

For the next week, a return of easterly winds across the Caribbean will result in moderate to heavy rains (>30mm) across the Caribbean coastline of Nicaragua and along the Gulf of Honduras, including saturated areas in the Cortés, Atlántida and Yoro departments of northern Honduras. Light to moderate rain (5-30mm) is also expected across inland areas of Central America, providing relief to drier conditions. Meanwhile, temperatures are not expected to be as cold across higher elevations of Guatemala as previous weeks.



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