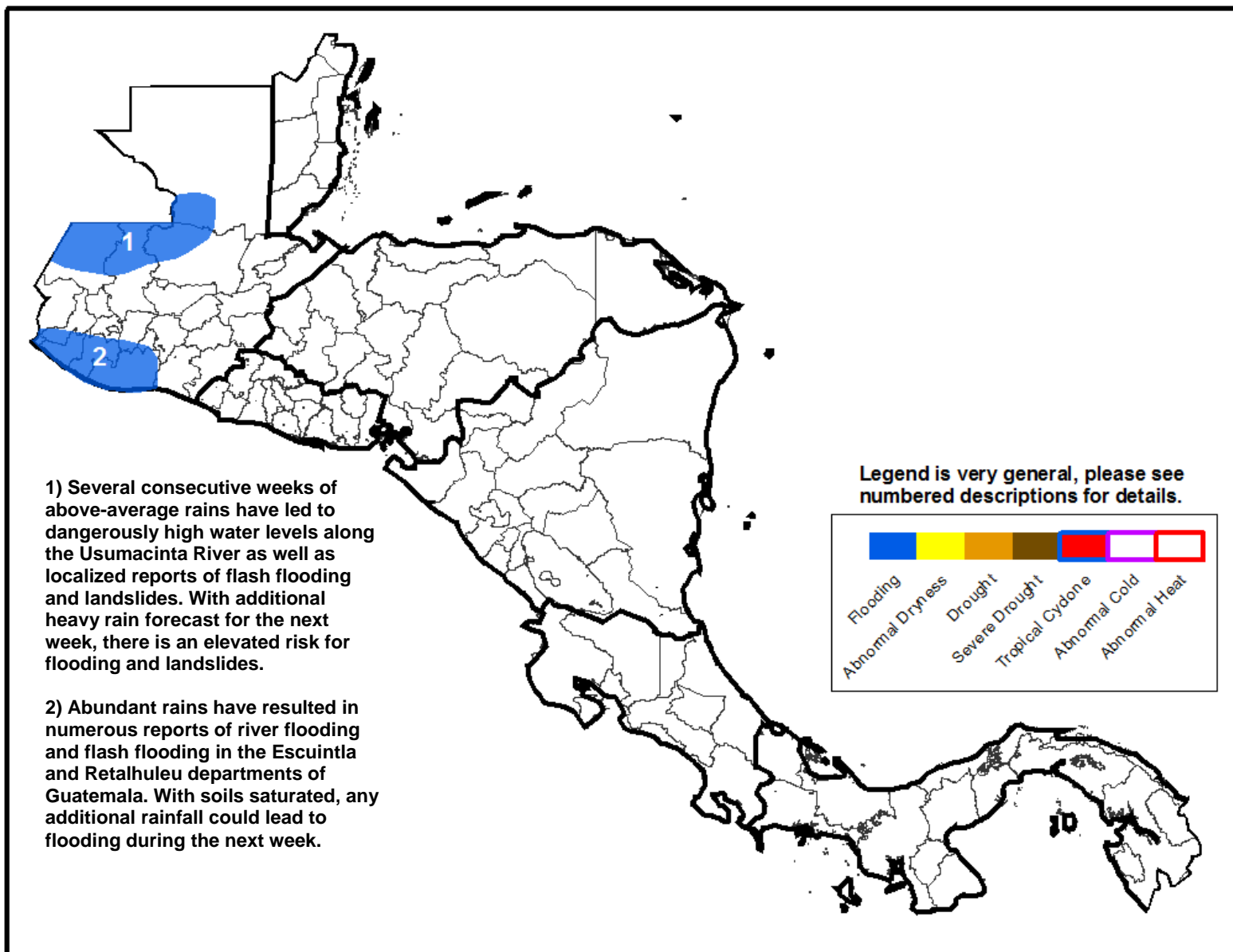




Climate Prediction Center's Central America Hazards Outlook September 19 – September 25, 2013

- Heavy rains resulted in localized flash and river flooding across portions of Guatemala.



Another week of torrential rains resulted in river flooding across southern and northern Guatemala.

During the last week, moderate to heavy rain (>25mm) was observed across much of Central America. Northern Central America including Belize, Guatemala, Honduras and El Salvador recorded heavy rains (>50mm). The highest precipitation totals (>75mm) were located along the Gulf of Fonseca, northern Honduras, central Costa Rica and northwestern Guatemala. The abundant weekly rainfall in Guatemala has continued to cause localized flash and river flooding. Flooding in the Escuintla, Retalhuleu, Santa Rosa, San Marcos and Baja Verapaz departments of Guatemala displaced local populations and damaged infrastructure. River levels also remain high on the Usumacinta, Esclavos, Motagua, Chixoy, La Pasión, and San Pedro Rivers. Elsewhere, Postrera seasonal rains have been above-average across much of Central America, resulting in sufficient ground moisture for cropping activities.

For the next week, heavy rains (>50mm) are expected to continue across much of Guatemala, the Gulf of Fonseca region, Costa Rica and Panama. Heavy rains across Guatemala are likely to cause additional localized flash and river flooding in already saturated areas. Elsewhere, moderate rains (10-40mm) are expected for Belize, El Salvador, Nicaragua and the Caribbean coastline of Honduras. Conditions should remain sufficient for cropping across Central America.

