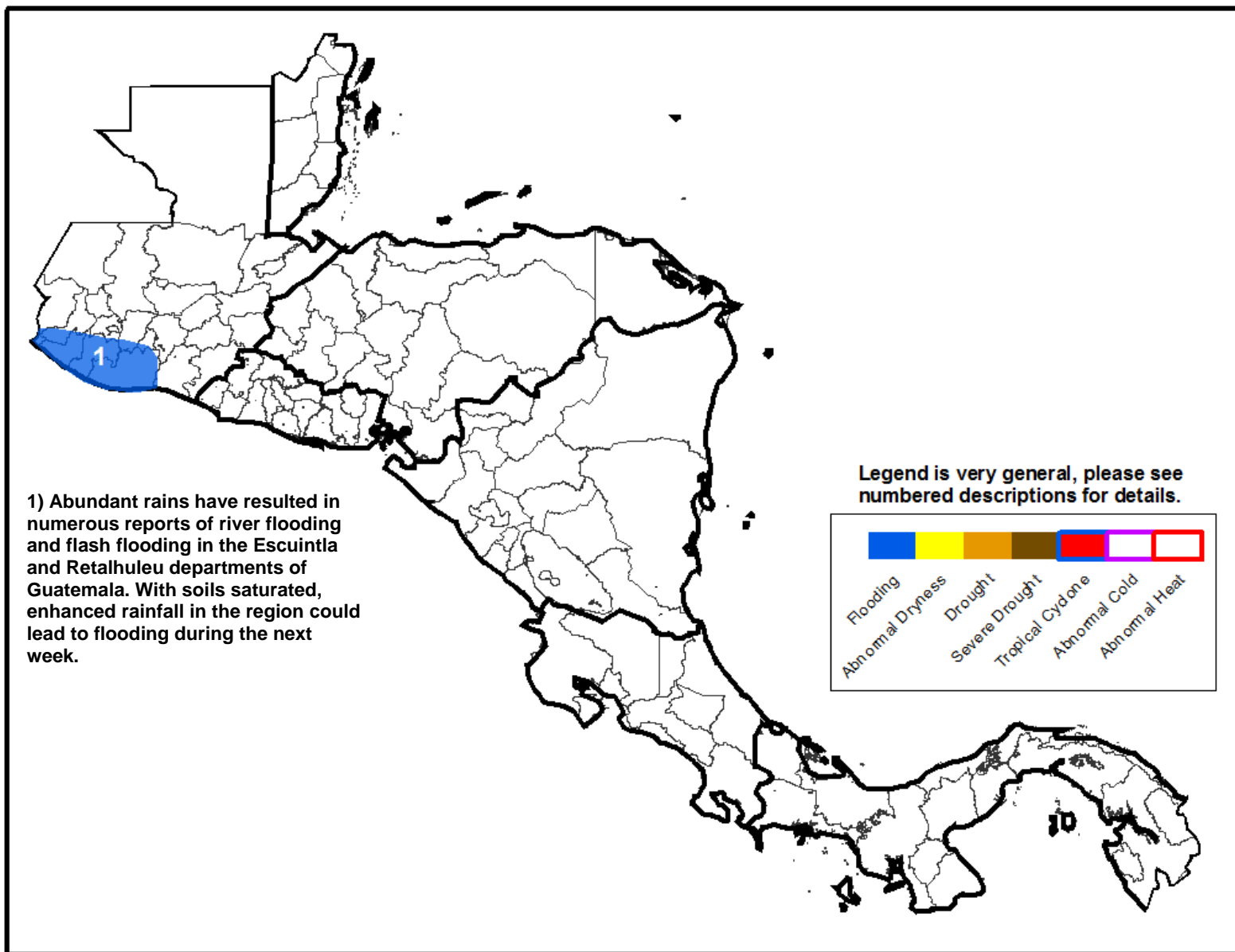




Climate Prediction Center's Central America Hazards Outlook October 3 – October 9, 2013

- Enhanced rains expected along the Pacific side of Central America for next week.



Heavy rains caused localized flooding in northern Guatemala during the past week.

During the last week, a continuation of above average rainfall was observed across Guatemala, and the southern portion of Central America. The highest weekly rainfall accumulations were received across the Gulf of Nicoya region, saturating many parts of Costa Rica and Panama, with locally heavy amounts received in northern and southern Guatemala. In Guatemala, several consecutive weeks of enhanced rainfall has resulted in elevated river levels along the Usumacinta, Esclavos, Motagua, Chixoy, La Pasión, and San Pedro Rivers as well as localized reports of flash flooding in the Escuintla and Petén departments of Guatemala. Since the beginning of September, nearly all regions in Central America have experienced above-average precipitation (120-200% above-average), as only local parts of Panama and southeastern Nicaragua have observed average to below-average rains.

For the upcoming next week, a weakening of the anomalously heavy rainfall is forecast across the Gulf of Honduras region, which is expected to provide relief for many areas that have experienced saturated conditions throughout many parts of northern Guatemala, Belize, and the Yucatan region. However, deep convection along the Pacific side of Central America is expected to bring above-average rainfall across parts of southern Guatemala, the Gulf of Fonseca, and the Gulf of Nicoya region which may trigger localized flooding during the next seven days. No significant tropical activity is expected.

