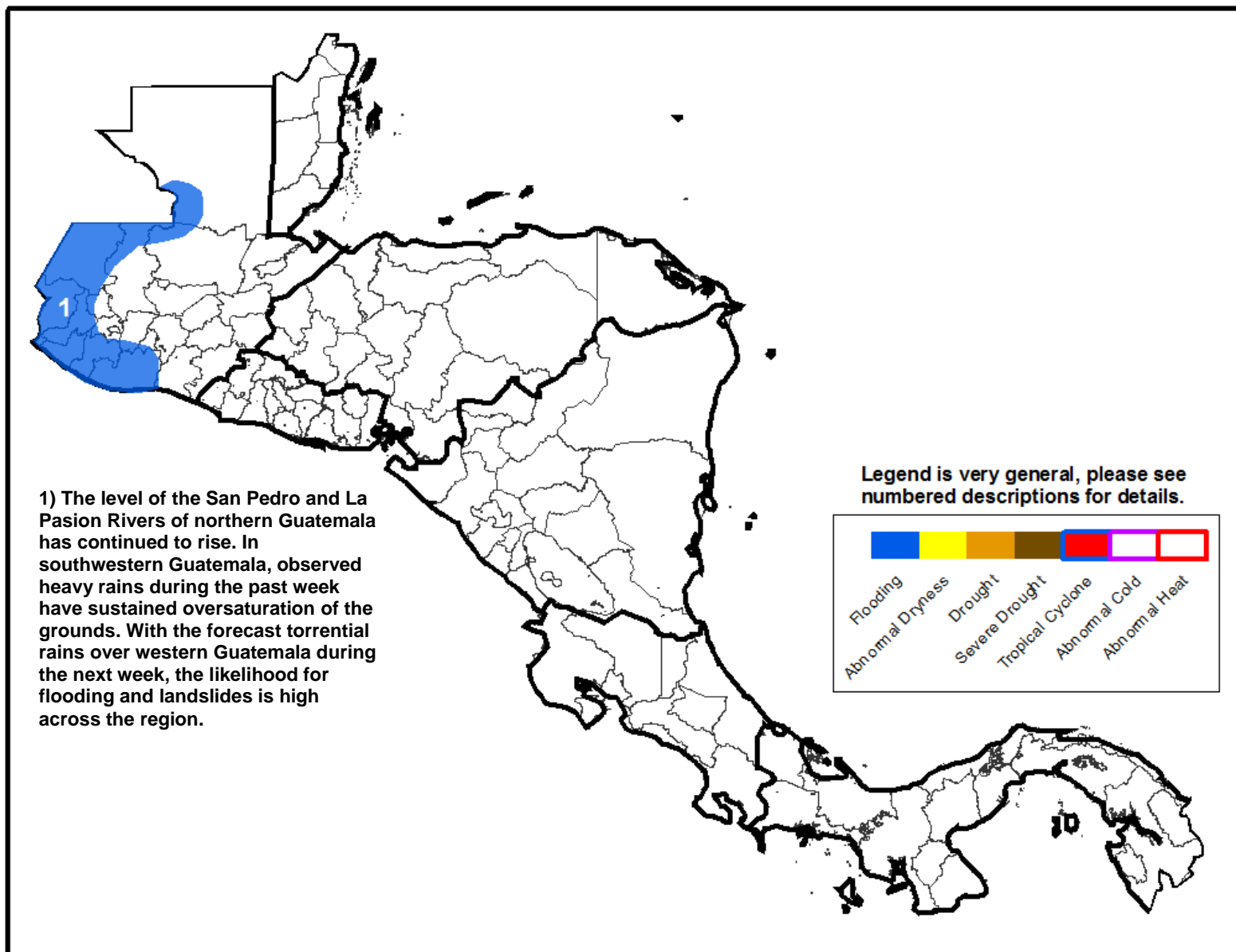




Climate Prediction Center's Central America Hazards Outlook October 10 – October 16, 2013

- Heavy rains forecast in western Guatemala during the next week, increasing the risks for flooding and landslides.



Below-average rains observed over portions of northern Central America during the past week.

During the past week, the distribution of rainfall was characterized by reduced rains along the Atlantic Basin of Central America and a continuation of heavy rains over Guatemala and the southern Caribbean. In Guatemala, flooding and landslides were reported over many local areas, including the Quiché, Suchitepéquez, Sacatepéquez, and Huehuetenango departments of the country as a result of consistent, heavy rains over the past few weeks. Reports have also indicated an increasing level of the San Pedro and La Pasión Rivers across the Petén department to the North. Farther south, in central Panama, reports have indicated flooding and landslides over localized areas of Chilibre. Since the beginning of October, the inland of Central America has received near average rainfall, whereas the Atlantic Basin, Pacific coasts of Guatemala and El Salvador have experienced below-average rainfall. Over the past thirty days, robust rainfall distribution have led to rainfall surpluses across most regions of Central America except central El Salvador and southern Belize, where moderate to strong (50-200 mm) deficits were observed. The continued seasonal rains should help to provide adequate soil moisture over many crop-producing areas of the region during the *Postrera* season.

During the next outlook period, rainfall forecasts suggest heavy rains to continue over western Guatemala, potentially causing flooding, overflowing of rivers, and landslides over many local areas. A slight increase in rainfall is also expected along the Gulf of Honduras and Gulf of Fonseca regions, whereas light to moderate rains are forecast across the interior of Honduras and Nicaragua. No significant tropical activity is expected.

