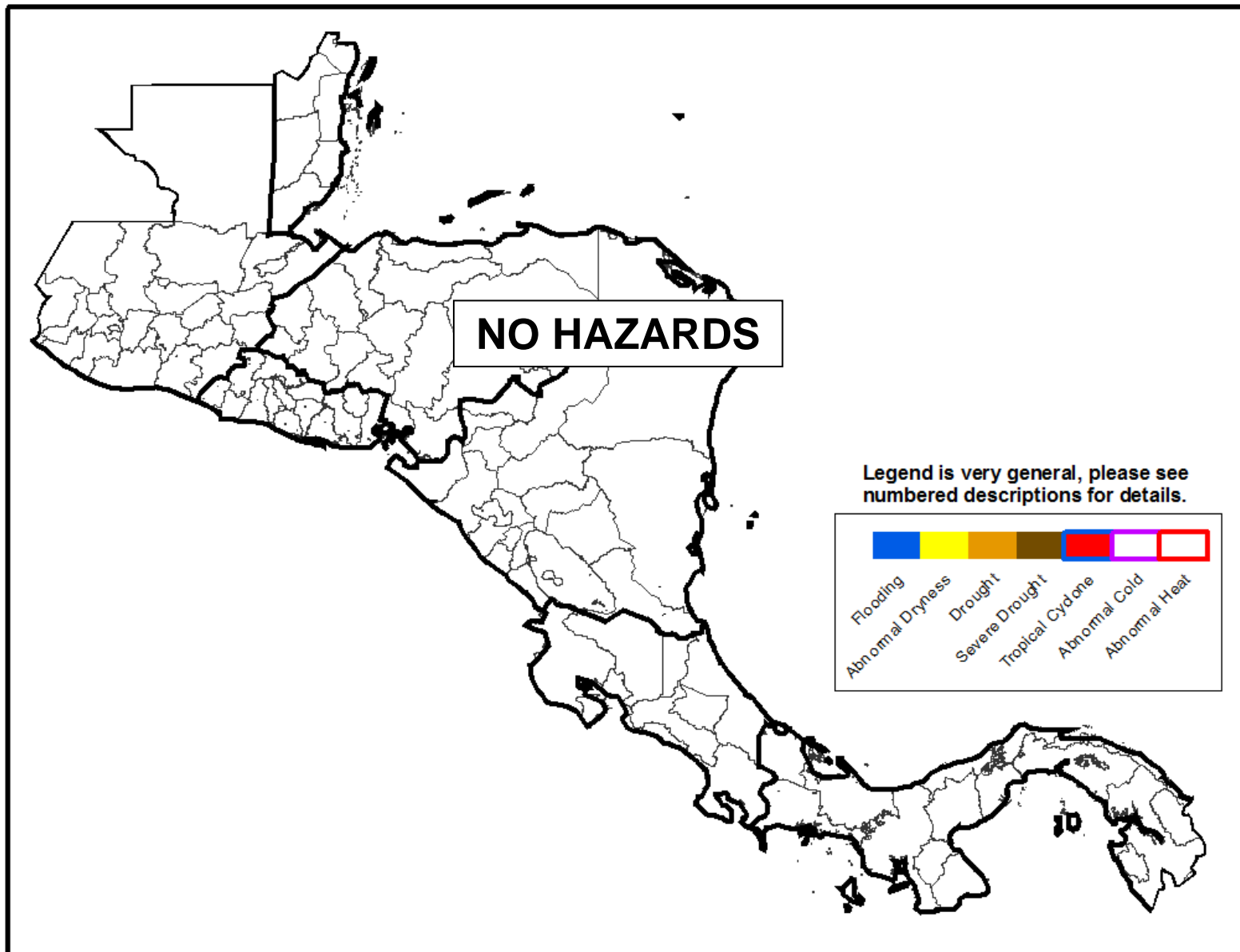




## Climate Prediction Center's Central America Hazards Outlook October 17 – October 23, 2013

- Heavy downpours observed over southwestern Guatemala during the past week.



## Slightly reduced rains expected along the Atlantic Basin of Central America.

During the past observation period, heavy downpours were observed across the western parts of Guatemala, with rainfall amounts in excess of 150 mm over the Quiché department and Pacific region. Moderate to heavy rains were also recorded near the Gulf of Fonseca, Gulf of Honduras, eastern Honduras, eastern Nicaragua, Pacific Basin of Costa Rica, and Panama, while light rains fell over the interior of Honduras and north-central Nicaragua. In Guatemala, the consistent above-average rains over the past several weeks have exacerbated ground conditions and caused localized flooding and infrastructure damages over many local areas. In contrast, below-average rainfall since September has sustained thirty-day rainfall deficits over southern Belize, northern coasts of Honduras, and the Gulf of Fonseca region. Since the beginning of the *Postrera* season, Central America has, generally, received average to above-average rainfall with the exception of southern Belize, where accumulated rainfall has accounted for only between 50-80 percent of the seasonal average. Continued seasonal rains should help to alleviate rainfall deficits in the region.

For next week, a slight reduction in rainfall is forecast along the Atlantic coastlines of Central America, whereas light to moderate rains are expected across the inland of the region. However, the passage of tropical waves is likely to produce isolated heavy showers throughout Guatemala and Honduras, potentially causing localized flooding. Meanwhile, enhanced rains are expected along the Pacific Basin of Nicaragua, and the southern Caribbean. No significant tropical activity is expected.

