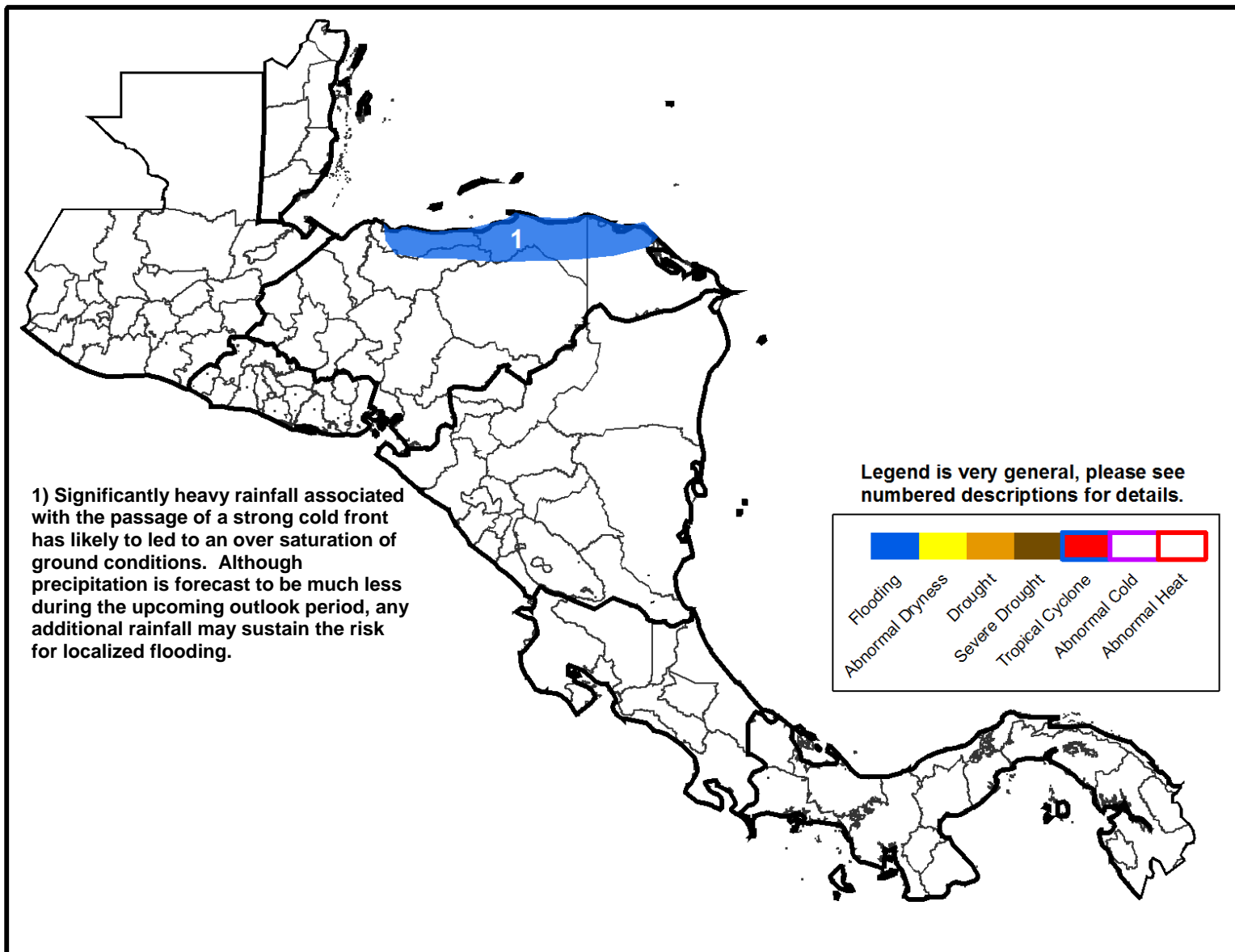




Climate Prediction Center's Central America Hazards Outlook December 5 – December 11, 2013

- A reduction of rainfall and cooler temperatures are expected during the next seven days.



Heavy rains were observed in northern Honduras.

During the last observation period, a significant rainfall event associated with the passage of a strong frontal boundary across the Gulf of Mexico and the Gulf of Honduras was observed throughout northern Central America. Torrential rainfall accumulations (>200mm) were received across the Atlántida, Colon, and Gracias A Dios departments of northern Honduras, with some local areas receiving over 300mm during the last seven days. Although northern Honduras is climatologically wetter compared to other regions in Central America, both the frequency and magnitude of rainfall during the past week was anomalous, and is likely to lead to an over saturation of ground conditions, and is also likely to sustain the risk of flooding in early December for the region. Elsewhere in Central America, the distribution of rainfall was average to above-average. Over the last 30 days, above-average rainfall has dominated northern Central America, with rainfall surpluses in excess of 100mm throughout much of Guatemala, Belize, Honduras and El Salvador. However, a suppression of seasonal rainfall in November has sustained moisture deficits throughout many parts of eastern Nicaragua, Costa Rica and Panama.

For the next seven days, a sharp reduction in rainfall is expected throughout much of Central America. The highest rainfall amounts are forecast in southern Caribbean, with moderate to locally heavy rainfall again expected for the Gulf of Honduras region. Elsewhere, light shower activity is forecast. Additionally, temperatures are also expected to remain anomalously cooler, with near freezing minimum temperatures forecast in the highest elevations of Guatemala during the next week.

