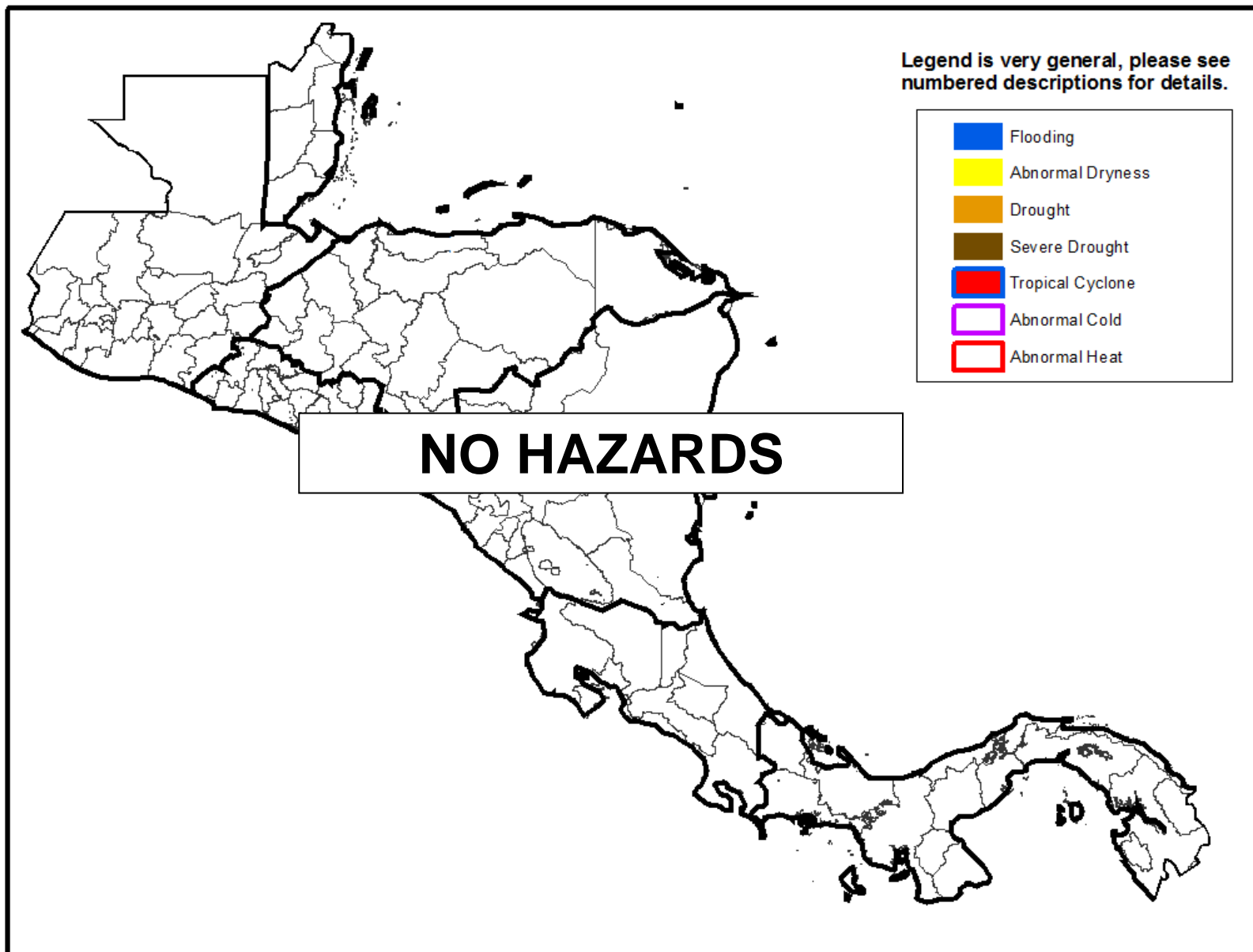




Climate Prediction Center's Central America Hazards Outlook April 17 – April 23, 2014

- An increase in rainfall is expected over Central America during the next outlook period.



Increased rains expected across the inland of Central America.

During the past week, increased rains were observed over northern Central America, particularly the Atlantic coastlines. Abundant (> 50 mm) rains were received over the Huehuetenango and southern Petén departments of Guatemala, northern Belize, and northern Honduras. Heavy rains were also recorded over eastern Costa Rica and western Panama, while light (< 20 mm) rains were registered throughout the interior of the region. This past week's rainfall amounts were mostly average over Central America, except the southwestern parts of Guatemala and Honduras, where small rainfall deficits were observed. This has increased rainfall deficits over Guatemala and western Honduras, where negative anomalies ranged between 50-100 mm during the past thirty days. Recent vegetation index, overall, indicated neutral to favorable conditions over Central America. However, poor conditions have started to develop over localized areas of the Yoro department of Honduras during the first ten days of April.

During the next seven days, a more widespread distribution of rainfall is expected over Central America. While localized areas of western and central Guatemala, Honduras, and the Southern Caribbean could experience moderate to heavy showers, much of the inland of the region is forecast to receive light (< 20 mm) rains. This is expected to partially reduce moisture deficits over many local areas of Central America and aid land preparation and cropping activities for the upcoming season.

