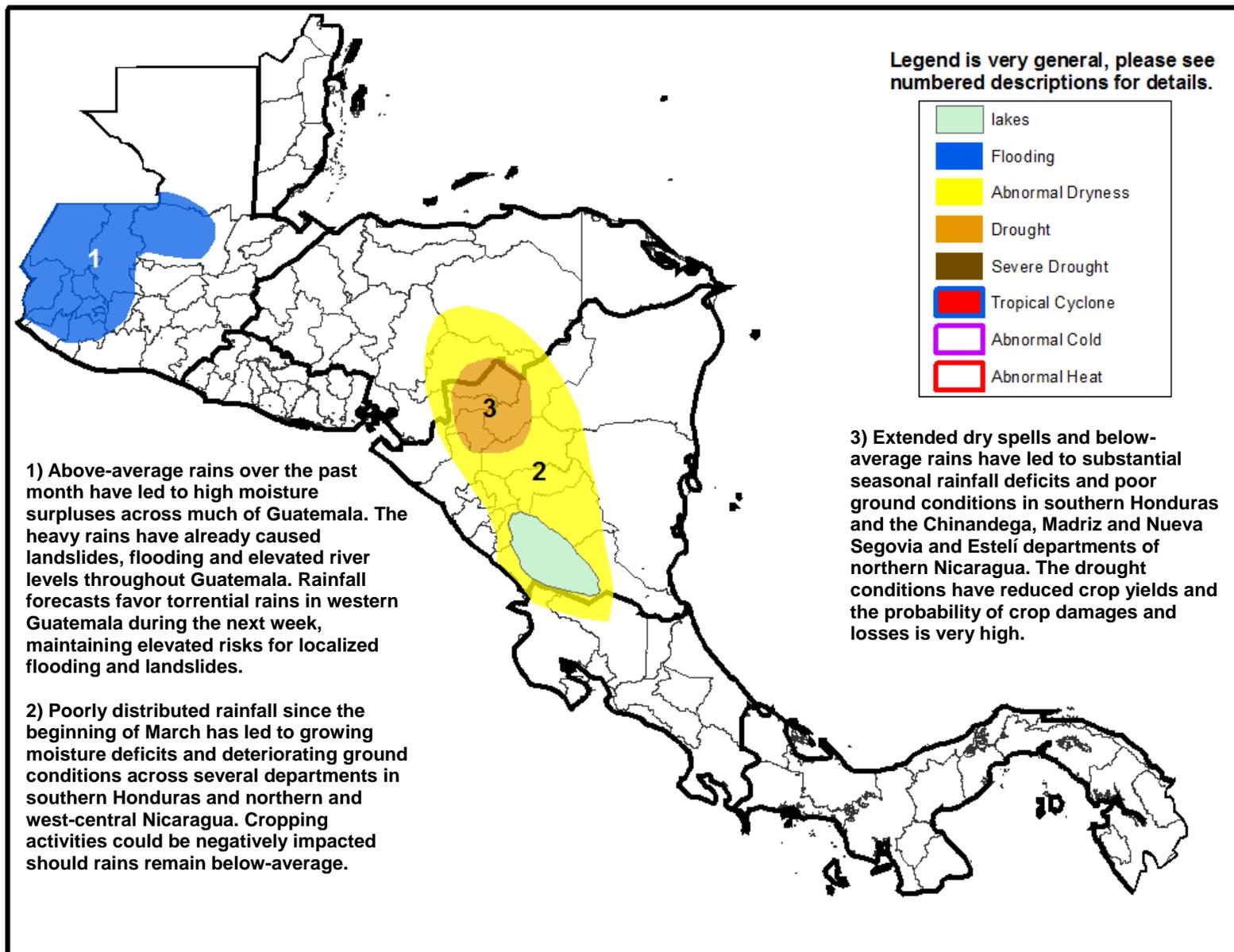




Climate Prediction Center's Central America Hazards Outlook July 3 – July 9, 2014

- Reduced rains expected to continue across the interior of Central America during the next outlook period.



Limited rains likely to continue across the inland of Central America.

While moderate to heavy rains were observed along the Pacific Basin of Central America and the Atlantic regions of eastern Nicaragua, light rains were recorded elsewhere during the past week. In Nicaragua, this past week's increased rains led to the overflowing of the Escondido River near the El Rama municipality in the east. The heaviest rains were observed along the Caribbean Basin of Costa Rica, with rainfall in excess of 100 mm. In contrast, light rains continued over much of Honduras and northwestern Nicaragua, where seasonal deficits have exceeded 150 mm since the beginning of the first rainy season. Reports have indicated a delayed start of the season by 40-45 days, which had negatively impacted planting over the dry areas of Nicaragua. Also, the prolonged rainfall deficits had already adversely affected corn and coffee crops over southern Honduras and the Chinandega, Madriz, Nueva Segovia, and Esteli departments of Nicaragua. The return of a robust and sustained rainfall distribution is needed to alleviate ongoing dryness over Central America.

During the next seven days, rainfall forecasts call for continued heavy downpours over western Guatemala, maintaining elevated risks for flash flooding and landslides. The prevailing easterly winds are likely to produce abundant rains along the Caribbean Basin of eastern Honduras, Nicaragua, and Costa Rica. This could worsen ground conditions or result in new flooding over southeastern Nicaragua. Meanwhile, suppressed rains are forecast over Honduras and western Nicaragua, which are likely to sustain moisture deficits and could worsen ground conditions in the region.

