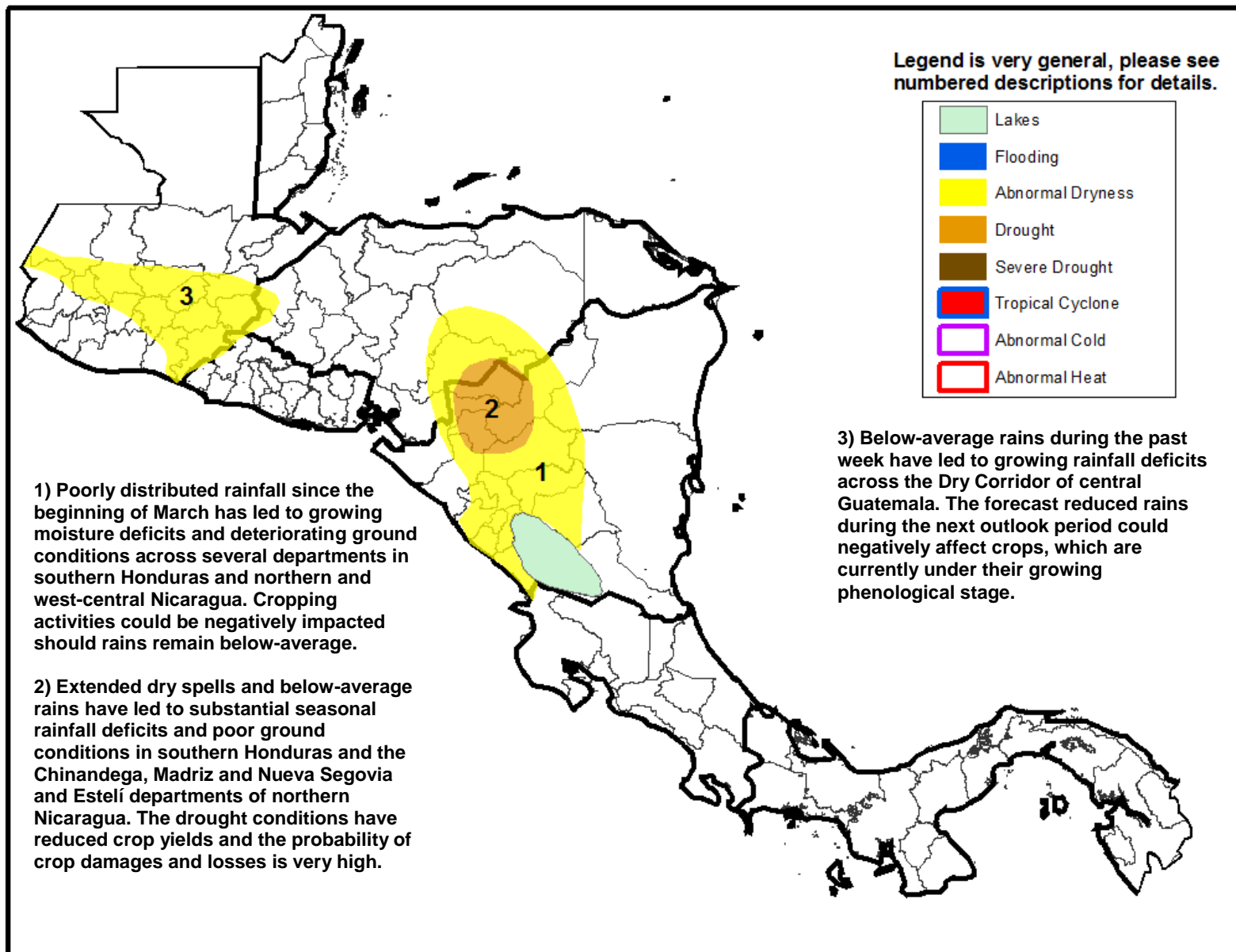




Climate Prediction Center's Central America Hazards Outlook July 10 – July 16, 2014

- The forecast reduced rains during the next week could announce the arrival of the La Canícula, dry period.



Reduced rains forecast over the interior of Central America.

During the past seven days, abundant (> 50 mm) rains were observed along the Pacific Basin of northern Central America and Caribbean Basin of the southern parts of the region. The heaviest rains fell over southwestern Guatemala, the Gulf of Honduras, southeastern Nicaragua, and northeastern Costa Rica. In southern Guatemala, the consistent above-average rains during the past few weeks have led to oversaturation and overflowing of a local river in the Tierra Blanca village of Nueva Santa Rosa of the Santa Rosa department. This has resulted in landslides and affected many local residents. In contrast, reduced (< 20 mm) rains were again recorded throughout the interior of the Central America. Over the past thirty days, northern and eastern Guatemala, Honduras, and western Nicaragua have received rainfall between 50-80 percent of their average. Since the beginning of the May-August, first rainy season, southern Honduras extending to western Nicaragua have accumulated only between 25 and 50 percent of their average rainfall. The lack of rains has already adversely impacted crops over many local areas.

For next week, reduced rains are expected across the inland of Central America. This could indicate the arrival of the La Canícula, dry period during this time of the year. The reduction in rainfall should help relieve wetness associated with consistent heavy rains over western Guatemala during the previous several weeks. However, the forecast limited rains could also increase moisture deficits and worsen crop conditions over the dryness-stricken portions of Central America. Though, the passage of tropical waves and stronger easterly flow could bring isolated heavy showers over some local areas of the region and along the Atlantic coastlines of Honduras, Nicaragua, and Costa Rica.

