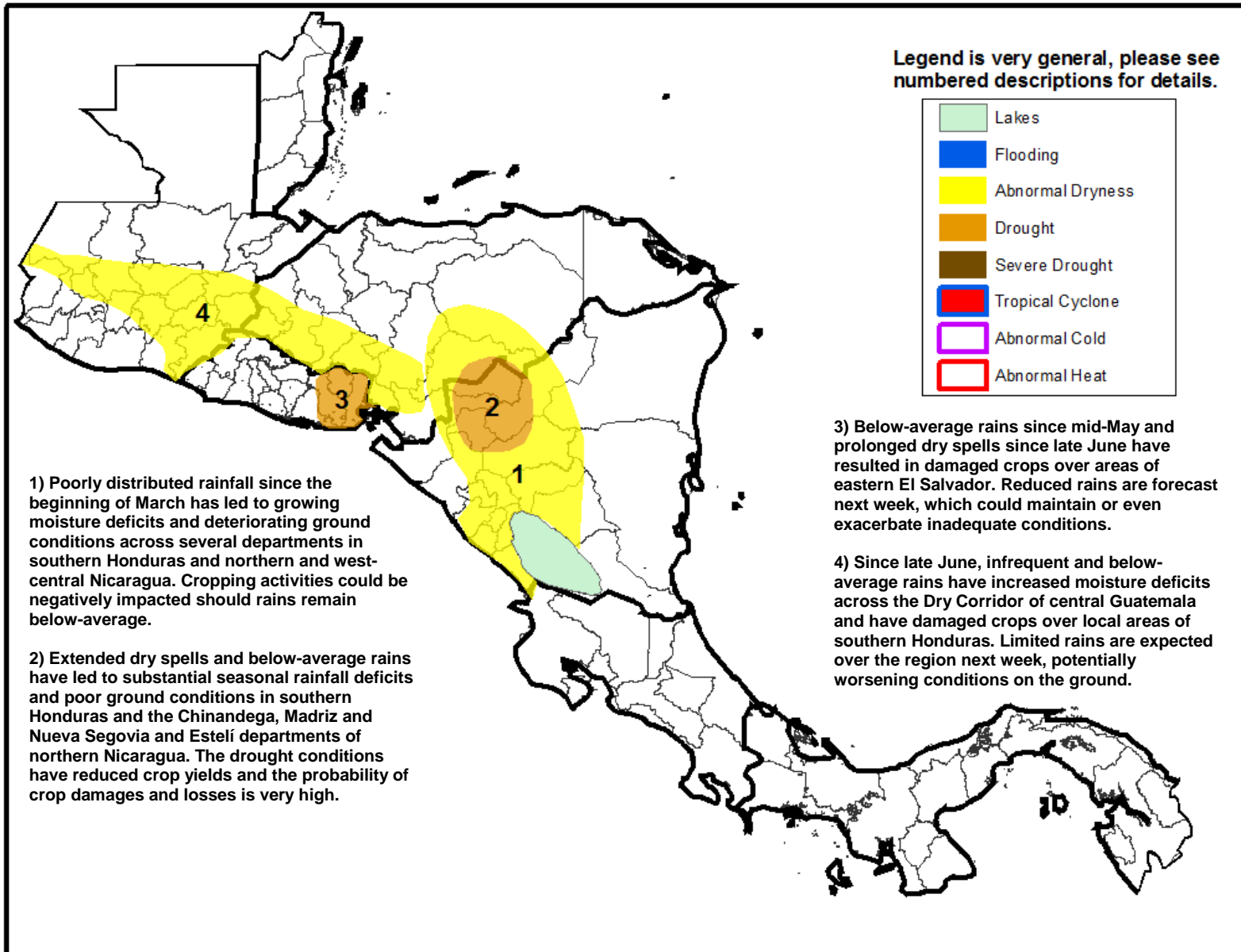




Climate Prediction Center's Central America Hazards Outlook July 24 – July 30, 2014

- Poor rains since the start of the first rainy season have negatively impacted many regions of Central America.



Dry weather expected.

During the past week, little to no rainfall continued across the interior of Central America. Little rains fell over much of the northern and central parts of Guatemala and along the Gulf of Fonseca region. This has further increased rainfall deficits over east-central Guatemala, southern Honduras, and eastern El Salvador. Moderate rains, however, fell over southwestern Guatemala, parts of coastal El Salvador, localized areas of eastern Nicaragua, and much of Costa Rica. The heaviest (> 75 mm) rains were observed along the Caribbean Basin of Costa Rica for the second consecutive week. Over the past thirty days, large rainfall deficits have expanded over many regions of northern Central America. Eastern Guatemala, southern Honduras, and eastern El Salvador have received only between 25 and 50 percent of their average rainfall. The lack of rainfall has already damaged crops over local areas of southern Honduras and eastern El Salvador. If the poor rainfall distribution continues, it could negatively affect crops during their growing stages and possibly reduce yields over many local areas.

For next week, suppression of rains is expected to persist across the interior of Central America. Little to no rains is forecast over central Guatemala, the Gulf of Fonseca, including southern Honduras and northwestern Nicaragua. Moderate rains are possible over localized areas of the central and eastern Guatemala, northern Honduras, and eastern Nicaragua. Heavy rains are likely along the Atlantic coastlines of eastern Honduras, eastern Nicaragua, and Costa Rica. This elevates the risks for localized flooding over areas of southeastern Nicaragua and Costa Rica.

