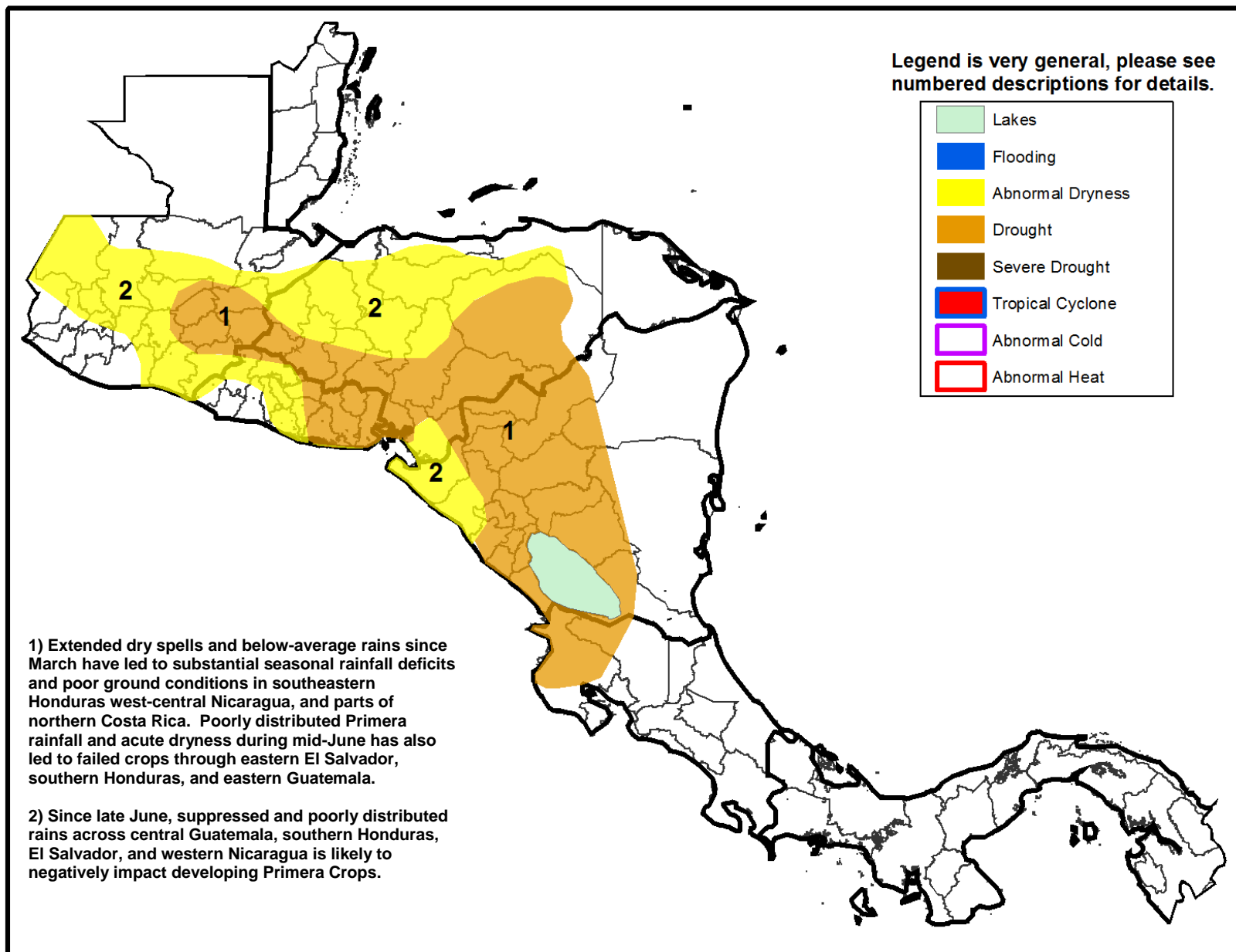




Climate Prediction Center's Central America Hazards Outlook August 7 – August 13, 2014

- Dryness worsens throughout many areas of Central America.



Anomalous dryness worsens throughout many areas in Central America.

During early August, moderate to locally heavy amounts of rainfall were received across Central America. The highest weekly rainfall accumulations were observed across the Atlantic departments of Nicaragua, Costa Rica and Panama, as well as, across parts of northern and southwestern Guatemala. Light to locally moderate rains fell across the Gulf of Fonseca region and in northern Honduras. Over the last 30 days, the suppression of late season Primera rainfall has continued to negatively affect many departments along the Pacific side of Central America. In July, both local rain gauges and satellite estimated rainfall anomalies show fairly large moisture deficits ranging between 5 to 50 percent of normal across central Guatemala, southern Honduras, El Salvador, and western Nicaragua. Much of this dryness is in addition to the drought conditions that developed over west-central Nicaragua, and has already resulted in failed and wilted crops over many local areas. Long-term vegetation indices also reflect poor moisture conditions over much Nicaragua, with recently declining vegetation conditions over the past several weeks in parts of Guatemala, Honduras and El Salvador. The continued suppression of late-season Primera rainfall will likely result in reduced seasonal crop yields over many local areas of Central America.

During the next seven days, model rainfall forecasts indicate a slight increase in rainfall along the Pacific side of Central America for the upcoming week. Precipitation amounts in excess of 50mm are expected to be favorable for many regions in southern Guatemala, El Salvador, southern Honduras, and western Nicaragua, however, more rainfall is needed to recover from an anomalously dry July in these areas.

