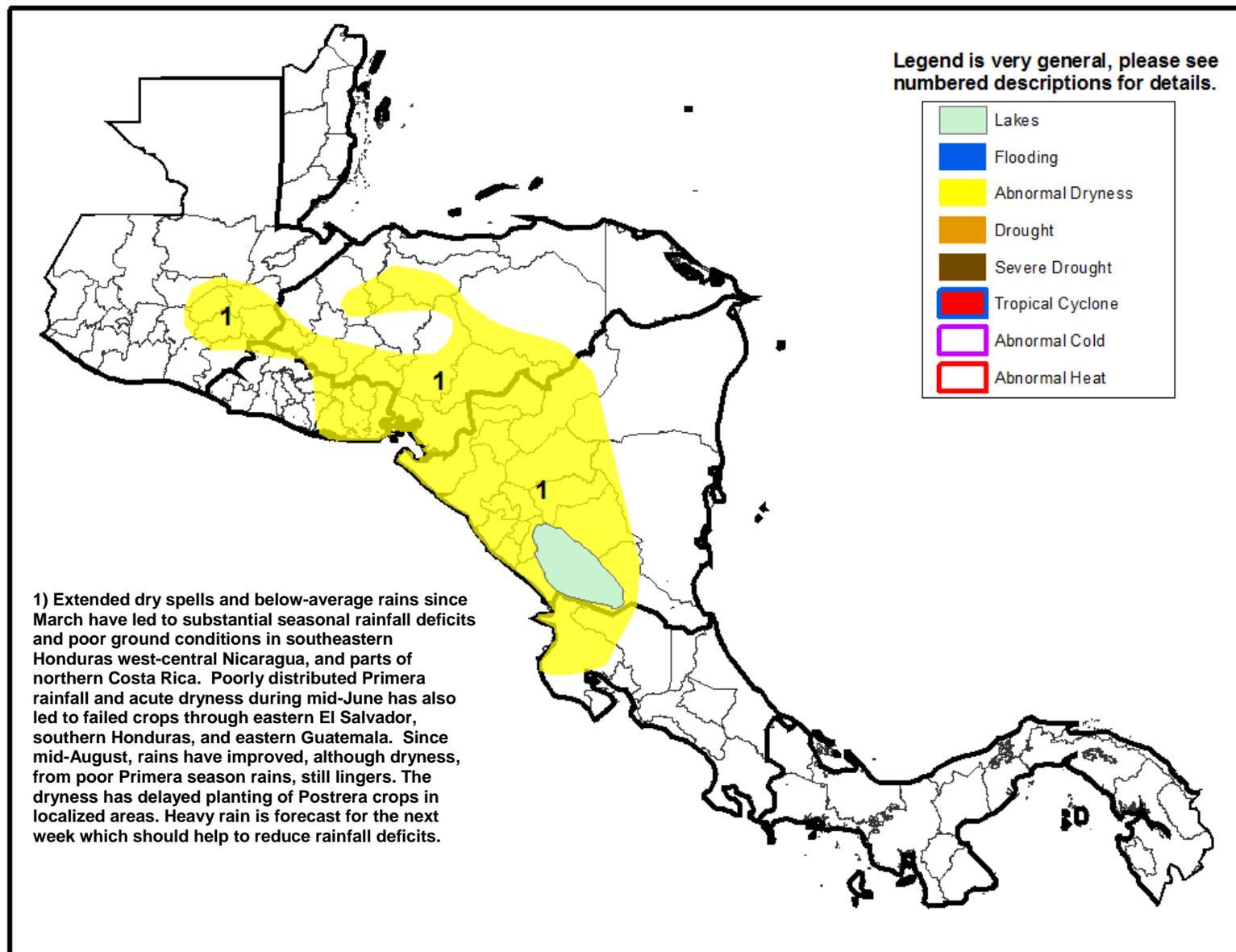




Climate Prediction Center's Central America Hazards Outlook September 4 – September 10, 2014

- After a week of reduced rains, torrential rainfall was observed across the majority of Central America.



After a week of reduced rain, rains during the past week were heavy and widespread, especially across dry areas of Central America.

During the past seven days, heavy rains (>50mm) were observed across much of Central America. The highest precipitation totals (>100mm) were recorded in the Petén department of Guatemala, across drought areas in southern Honduras as well as dry areas in southern Guatemala. Over 160mm fell in San Jose and Flores, Guatemala and western Honduras. The torrential rains in the Petén department of Guatemala resulted in localized flash flooding. The increase in rains has helped to reduce long-standing rainfall deficits that date back to May in some places in central/northern Central America. While the Primera season rains have failed in many places, Postrera season rainfall has been near to above-average across Central America. However, long-term rainfall deficits remain even with the recent increase in rains, with many areas in Nicaragua, Honduras and Guatemala observing between 50-80% of their total rainfall dating back to the beginning of June. This dryness has already resulted in failed and wilted Primera crops and delayed planting of Postrera crops over many local areas.

During the next seven days, heavy rain (>50mm) is forecast to occur across much of the Pacific side of Central America. Weekly accumulations exceeding 75mm are forecast over Costa Rica, southern Honduras and southern Guatemala. Heavy rains (>75mm) are also expected along the Caribbean coastlines of northern Nicaragua, Honduras and Belize which could cause localized flooding. Overall, another week of abundant rains is expected to help alleviate many anomalously dry areas, including the Gulf of Fonseca region.

