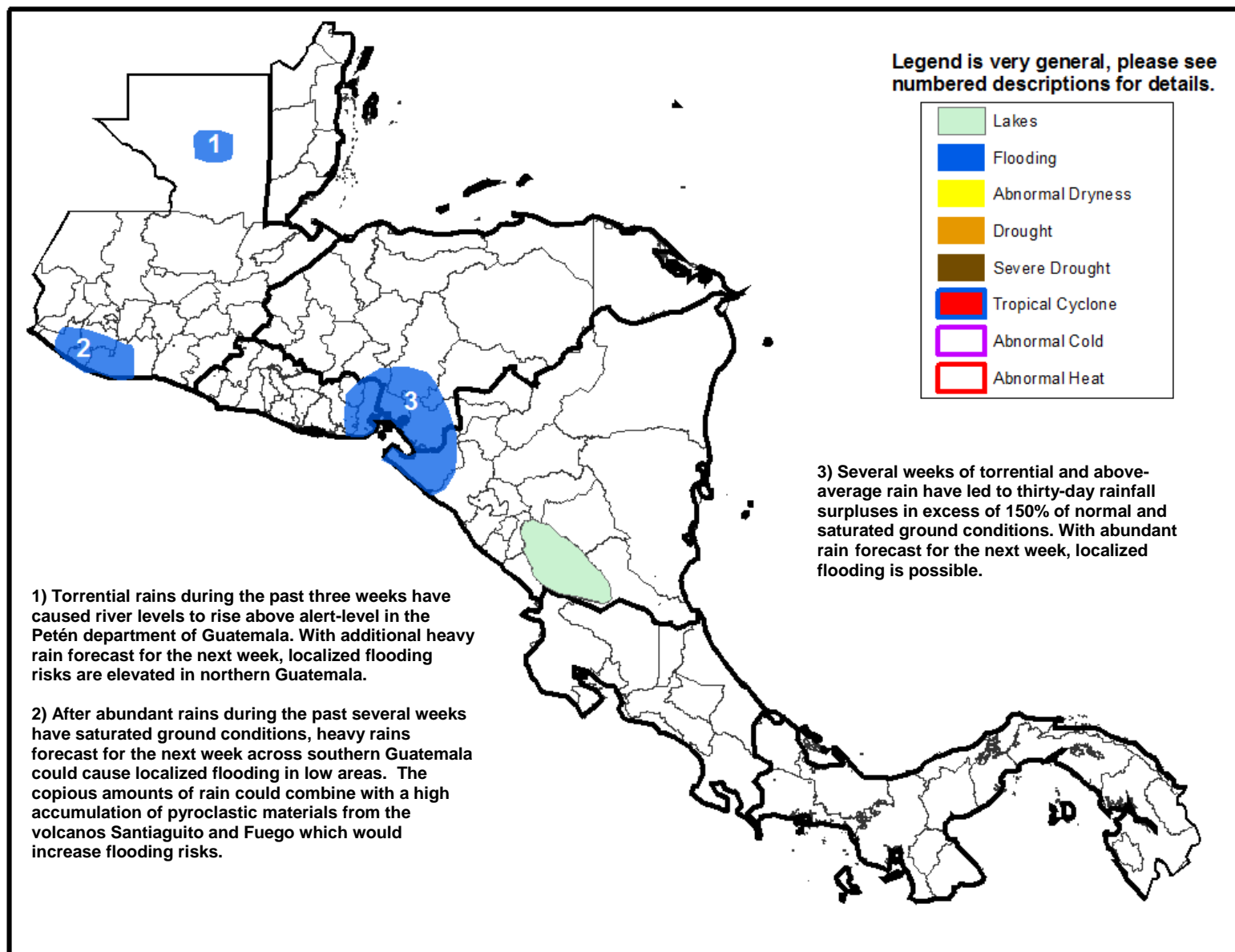




Climate Prediction Center's Central America Hazards Outlook September 25 – October 1, 2014

- Torrential rains were observed around the Gulf of Fonseca during the past week.



Copious amounts of rain were observed around the Gulf of Fonseca and Costa Rica.

During the past week, heavy rains (>50mm) were observed along the Pacific coastline of Central America as well as along the Gulf of Honduras in western Belize and Guatemala. The heaviest rains (>100mm) occurred around the Gulf of Fonseca in Honduras, Nicaragua and El Salvador as well as in Costa Rica and western Panama. Rain gauges recorded over 200mm of rain during the past seven days around the Gulf of Fonseca in Honduras, while over 150mm was recorded in the capital of Costa Rica, San Jose. Due to the above-average rainfall during the past several weeks, thirty-day rainfall surpluses currently exceed 200mm around the Gulf of Fonseca as rains are 150-200% above-average. Elsewhere in interior Central America and the Caribbean coastlines of Honduras and Nicaragua, moderate rain (15-40mm) was observed. Moderate to heavy rain (>25mm) that fell across Guatemala likely exacerbated saturated conditions in both the Petén department of Guatemala and along the southern coastline. Overall, Postrera season rainfall has been average to above-average across Central America which has provided relief after a poor Primera rainy season reduced crop yields.

During the next week, heavy (>50mm) and above-average rain is again forecast for much of Central America, including saturated areas around the Gulf of Fonseca and southern Guatemala. The heaviest rain (>75mm) is expected across southern Guatemala, Costa Rica and Panama. The abundant rains forecast for the Gulf of Fonseca will likely increase the risk for localized flooding after several weeks of torrential rain saturated ground conditions.

