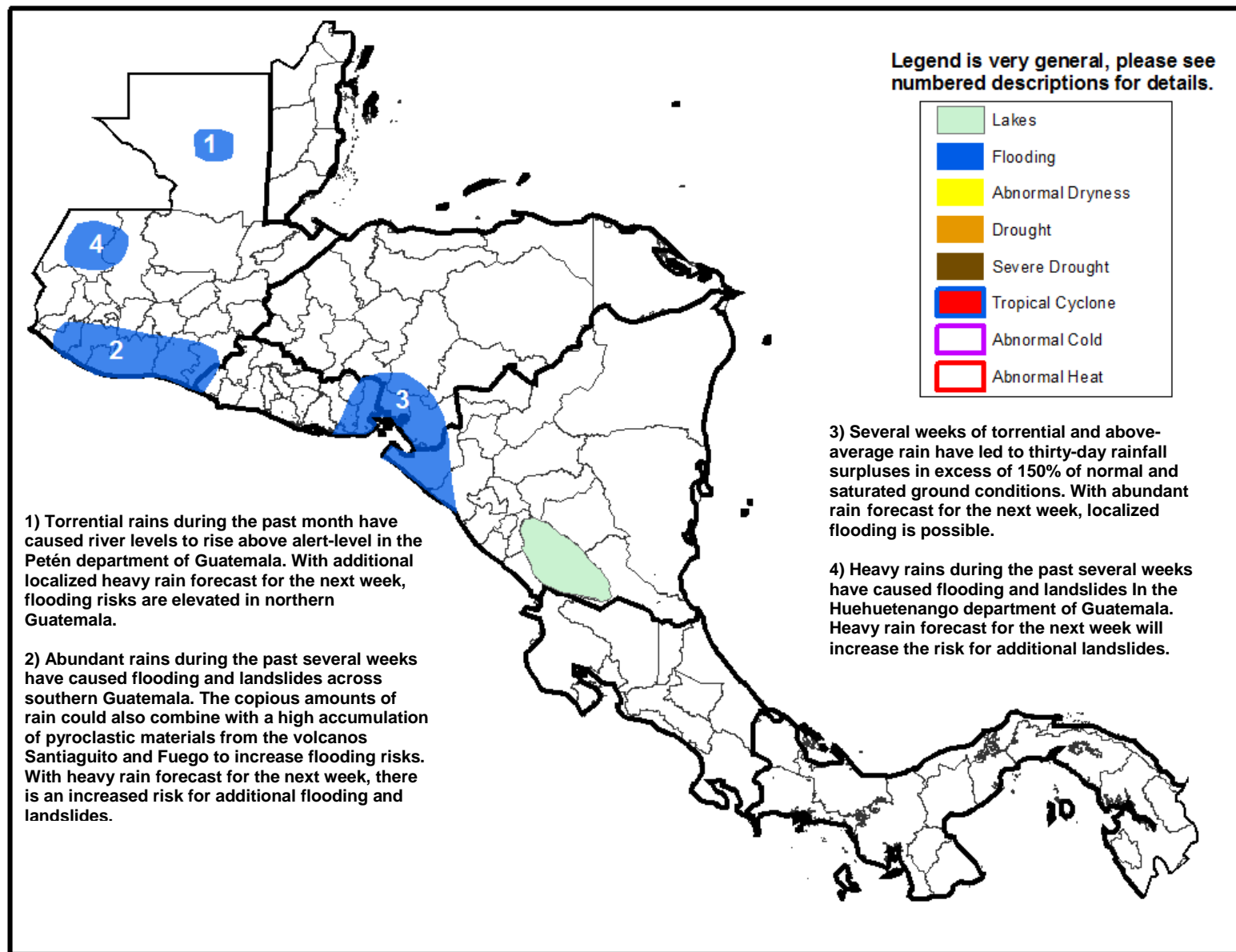




Climate Prediction Center's Central America Hazards Outlook October 2 – October 8, 2014

- Heavy rains continued across Central America causing flooding and landslides in Guatemala.



Torrential rains were observed across saturated areas of northern Central America.

During the past seven days, heavy rains (>50mm) were observed across saturated areas of Central America including Costa Rica, Panama and the Pacific coastline of northern Central America. The heaviest rains (>100mm) were located around the Gulf of Fonseca, coastal Belize, northern Honduras and across Costa Rica. The highest precipitation totals (>200mm) were recorded in Choluteca and Yoro, Honduras and Belize City, Belize. The rains which fell across saturated areas in Guatemala resulted in flooding and landslides in the Santa Rosa, Guatemala, Suchitepéquez, Alta Verapaz and Escuintla departments. Several weeks of above-average rains have led to thirty-day rainfall surpluses throughout Central America. The largest surpluses (>200mm) are located around the Gulf of Fonseca in Honduras, El Salvador and Nicaragua. The abundant rains during September have led to average to above-average Postrera season rainfall totals in Central America. The average to above-average seasonal rainfall to date stands in contrast to the below-average Primera season rainfall. While poor rains in July negatively impacted cropping activities through Central America resulting in reduced crop yields, heavy rains during the Postrera season have improved cropping activities.

During the next week, heavy rains (>50mm) are again forecast for Central America including previously saturated areas around the Gulf of Fonseca and Guatemala. The abundant rains could cause additional flooding across flood-prone areas in Guatemala. Elsewhere, heavy rains (>50mm) are also expected across Costa Rica, Panama and the Caribbean coastline of Nicaragua, while moderate to locally heavy rain (>25mm) is forecast for interior portions of Central America as well as the Caribbean coastlines of northern Central America.

