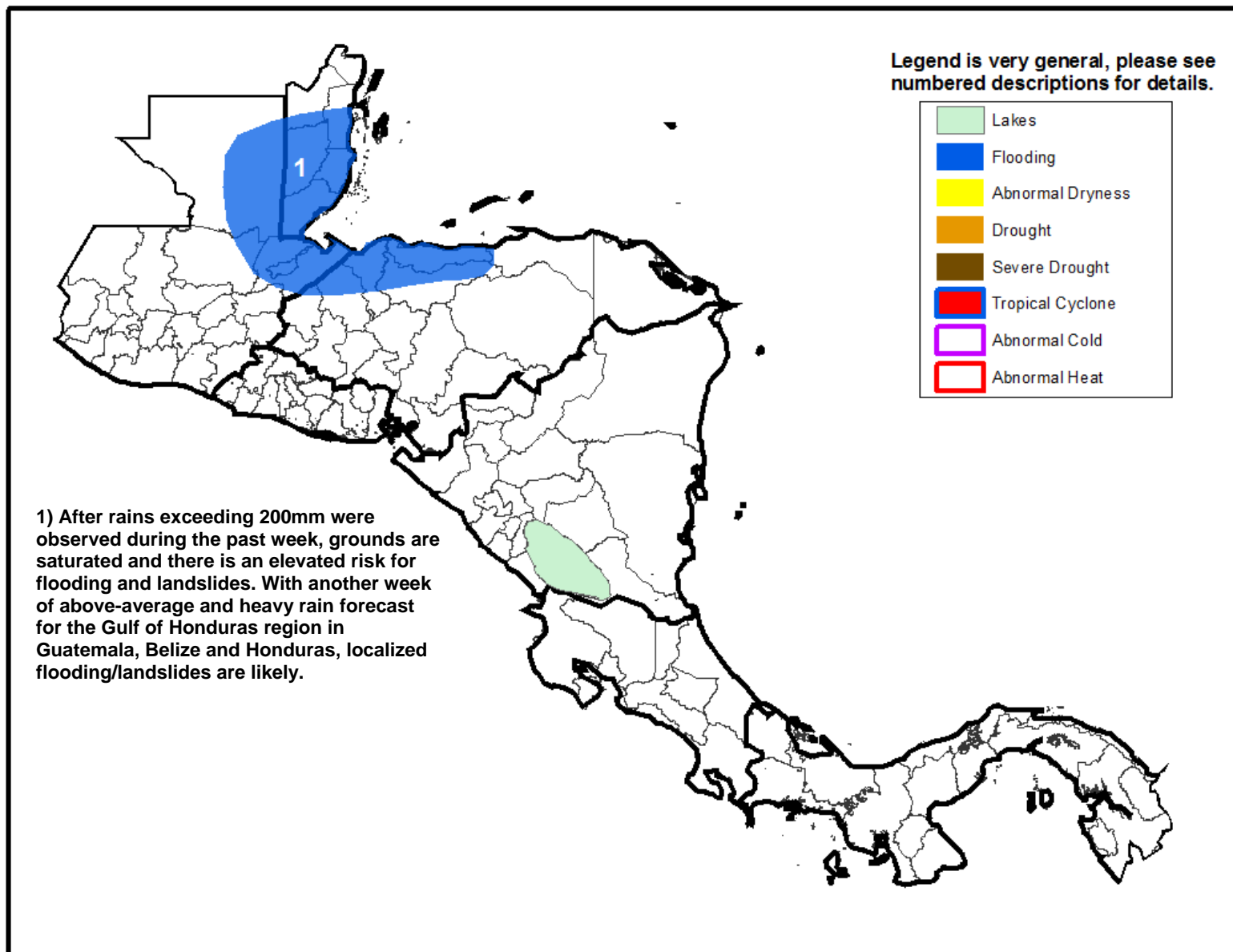




Climate Prediction Center's Central America Hazards Outlook November 27 – December 3, 2014

- Torrential rains were observed across the Gulf of Honduras.



Northern Central America observed heavy rains across the Gulf of Honduras during the past week.

During the past seven days, heavy rains (>50mm) were observed over much of the Caribbean side of Central America. The highest rainfall totals (>200mm) were recorded in the Atlántida department of northern Honduras and the Izabal and Petén departments of Guatemala. Torrential rains (>100mm) extended across Belize and the Colón and Gracias a Dios departments of Honduras as well. Farther south, moderate to heavy rain (>25mm) fell across eastern Nicaragua, Costa Rica and Panama. The abundant rains over northern Central America added to thirty-day rainfall surpluses around the Gulf of Honduras as rains are between 120-200% above-average. In contrast, interior and coastal areas along the Pacific Ocean observed reduced rains during the past week. Dating back to the beginning of the Postrera season in August, while most areas in Central America have observed average to above-average rain, dryness remains in parts of the Huehuetenango department of western Guatemala, Gracias a Dios department of eastern Honduras, and the Autonomous Atlantic North Region of northeastern Nicaragua as seasonal rains are only 50-80% of normal.

During the next week, the passage of a frontal system will help focus heavy rainfall across northern Central America, including already saturated areas along the Gulf of Honduras in Belize, Guatemala and Honduras. The heaviest rains should occur during the beginning of the forecast period. Elsewhere, moderate to heavy rain (>25mm) is likely over the Caribbean coastlines of southern Central America, while lighter rainfall totals (<20mm) are expected in interior and western portions of Central America.

