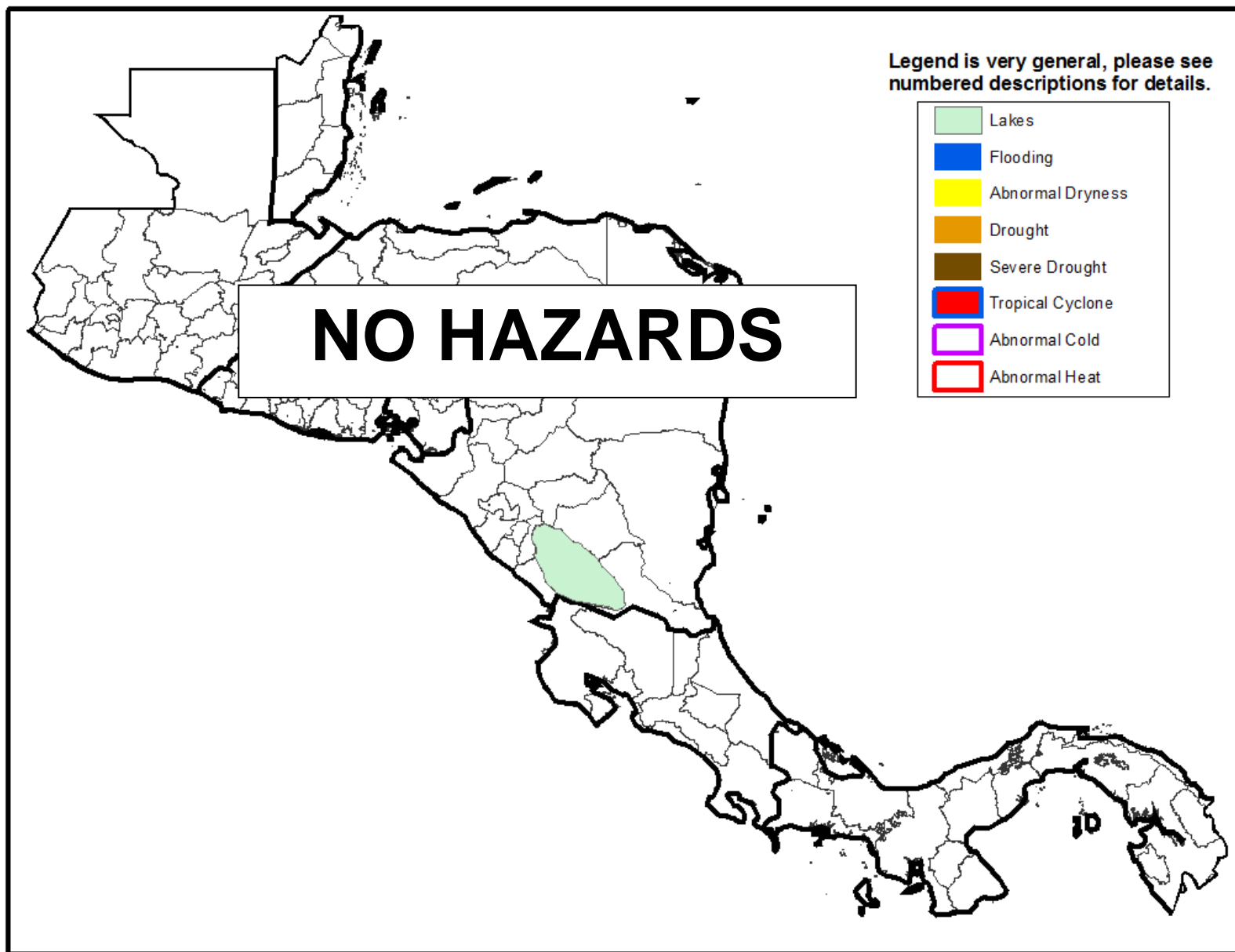




## Climate Prediction Center's Central America Hazards Outlook December 11 – December 17, 2014

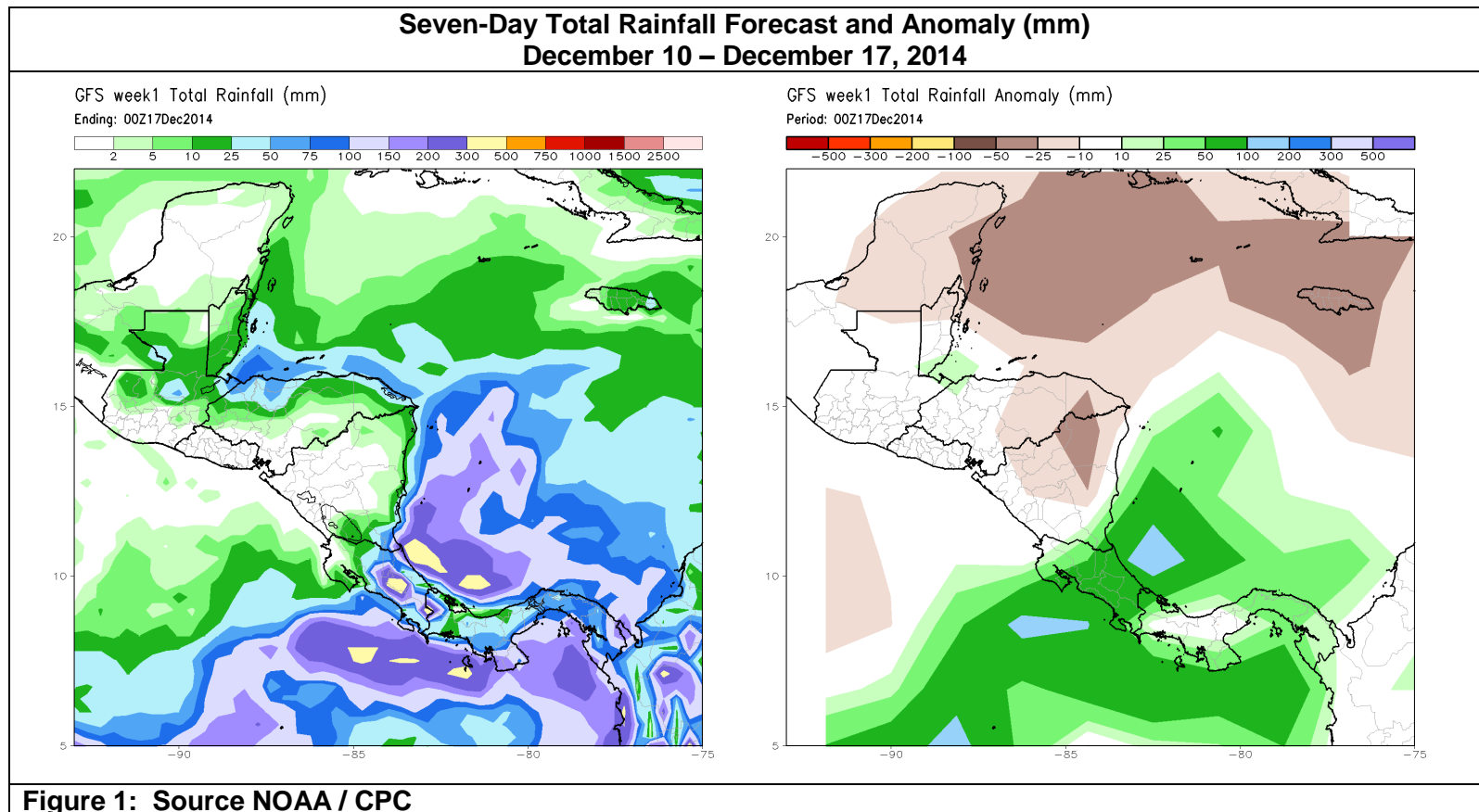
- Reduced amounts of rainfall are expected during the middle of December.



## Anomalously wet conditions persist in northern Central America in early December.

In the last seven days, another week of enhanced rainfall was observed throughout many coastal areas along the Gulf of Honduras. Both satellite estimates and rain gauge reports indicate the highest weekly accumulations were received in the Izabal and Peten departments of Guatemala, with heavy amounts also registered in the Atlantida department of northern Honduras. Rainfall in this region has been consistently above-average over the past 3 weeks, leading to saturated ground conditions and elevating the risk of flooding. For interior Central America, the quantity of late-season Postrera / early season Apante rainfall has been much less, as much of the precipitation has been focused offshore in the Atlantic. Since early November, rainfall has been generally average throughout Central America, with the exception of some developing dryness in northern Nicaragua and southern Guatemala. The anomalously dry conditions are not expected to negatively impact ground conditions for cropping activities.

For the upcoming outlook period, precipitation forecasts suggest a sharp weakening of rains into the middle of December. The highest weekly precipitation amounts are expected for many coastal areas on the Atlantic side of Central America, however, the quantity is expected to be less than previous weeks. Further inland and on the Pacific side, much less rainfall remains forecast.



**Figure 1: Source NOAA / CPC**