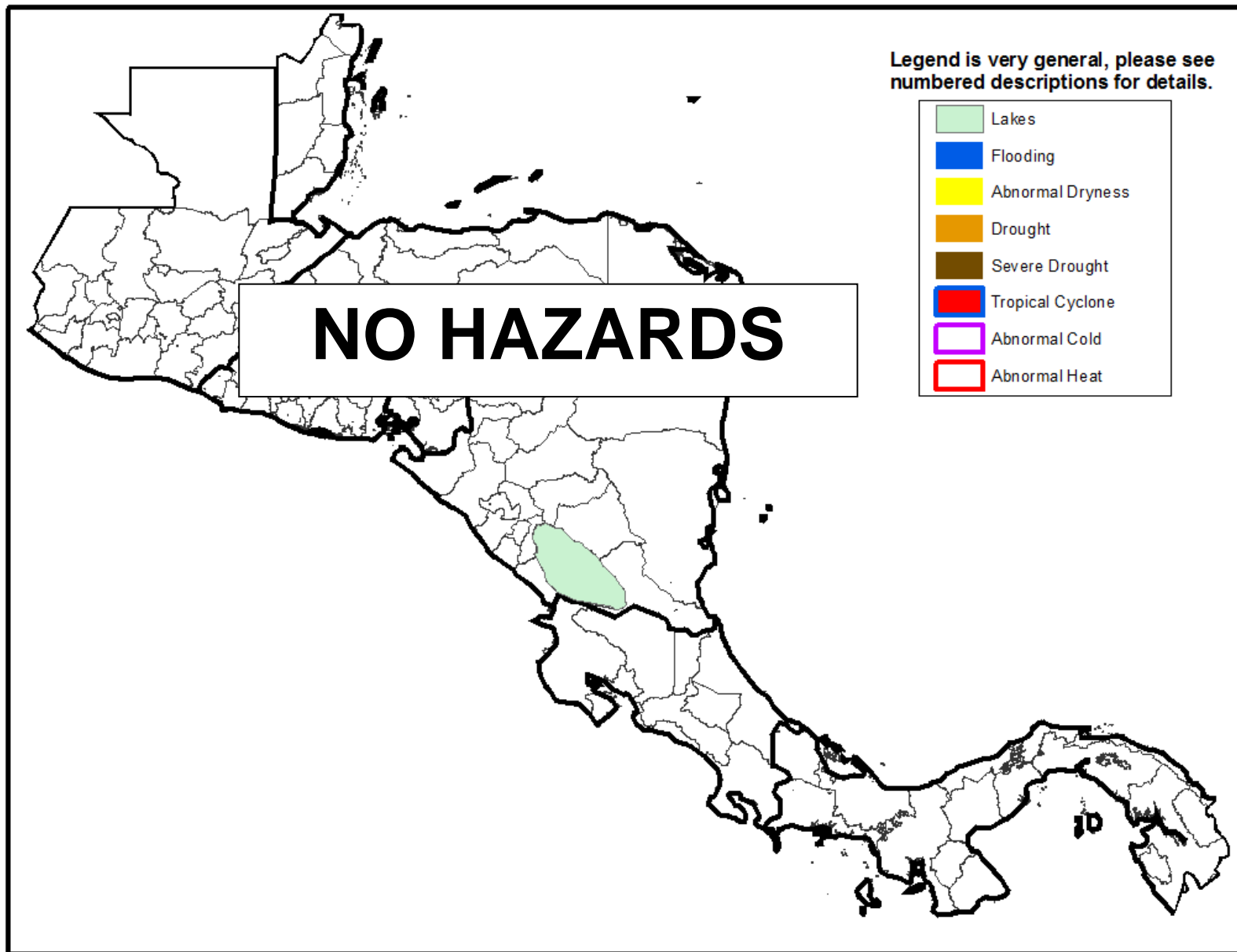




Climate Prediction Center's Central America Hazards Outlook December 25 – December 31, 2014

- Anomalous December dryness developing across parts of western Guatemala.



Suppressed rains continue during the last week.

In the last seven days, a continued suppression of December rains was observed throughout much of Central America for the second consecutive week. The highest weekly accumulations were received along the Atlantic coastline of Costa Rica (>125mm), with considerably less rainfall amounts fell further north across Honduras, El Salvador and Guatemala. Since late November, precipitation has been generally favorable throughout Central America, with moisture surpluses observed across parts of northern Honduras, northern Guatemala, and northern Costa Rica. However, below-average rains have led to developing dryness conditions in parts of western Guatemala. While rainfall climatologically experiences a minimum during December, several departments in western Guatemala have received little to no rains during the last month.

For the upcoming outlook period, precipitation forecasts suggest a more seasonable distribution of rains, with increased amounts for several areas for interior Central America. The highest weekly precipitation amounts are expected for many coastal areas on the Atlantic side of Central America. On the Pacific side, lesser rainfall amounts are expected. Cooler than average temperatures is also forecast, with near freezing temperatures expected for the higher elevations.

