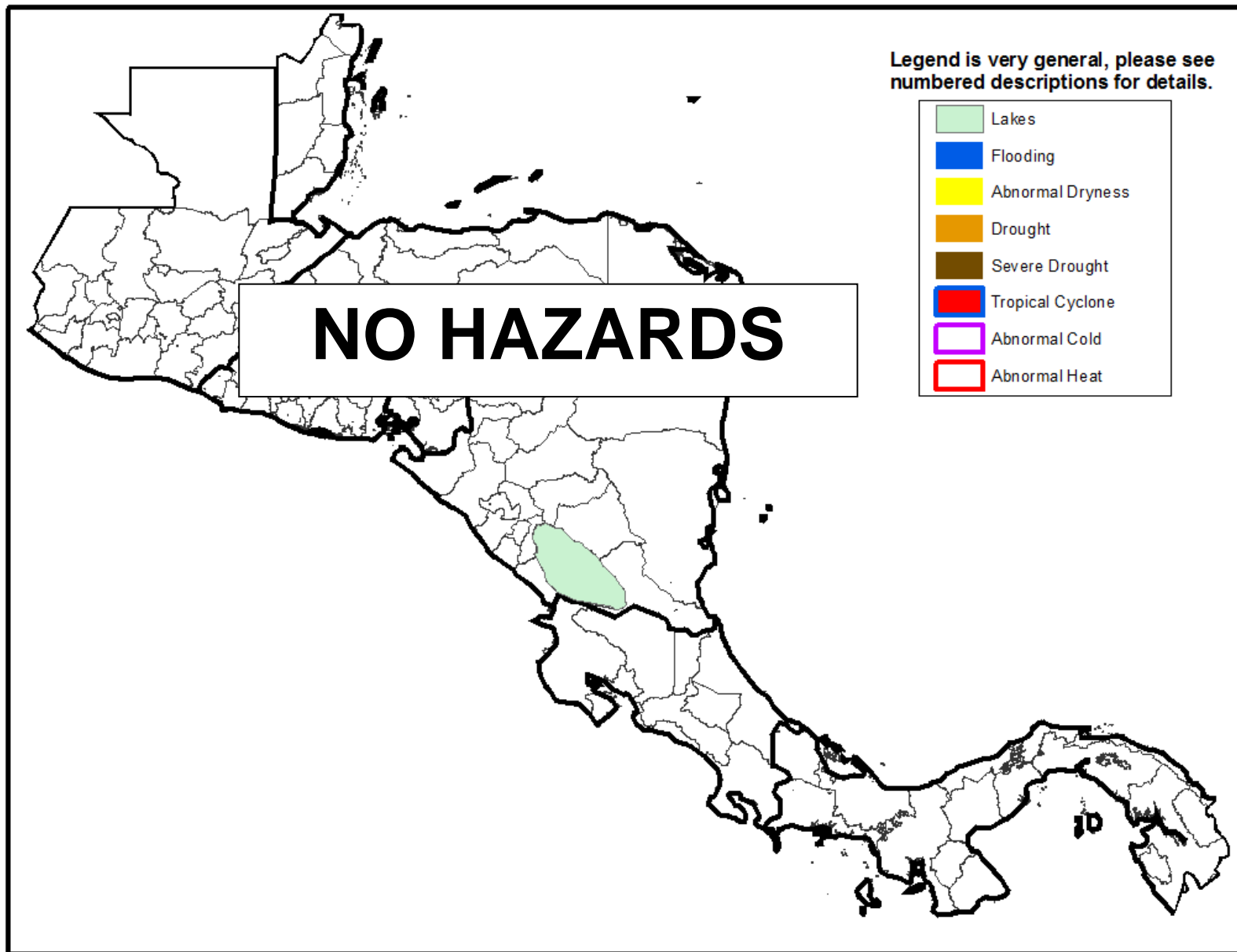




Climate Prediction Center's Central America Hazards Outlook January 1 – January 7, 2014

- Increased rains received in northern Central America.



Anomalous Apante dryness developing across parts of central Nicaragua, western Guatemala.

In the last seven days, an increase and better distribution of rainfall was received across northern Central America. The highest weekly accumulations were received in northern Guatemala and northern Honduras (25-50mm), with lesser amounts received for several interior departments (10-25mm). The increase in rains in late December is expected to be favorable for many local areas in western Guatemala that have experienced poor rainfall since late November. In the Huehuetenango and Quetzaltenango departments, suppressed rains have resulted in considerable moisture deficits (5-50 percent of normal) over the last 30 days according to satellite rainfall estimates. Similarly, portions of central Nicaragua have also registered developing dryness during December. The persistence of dryness in these regions may negatively impact ground conditions.

For the upcoming outlook period, precipitation forecasts suggest another week of seasonable rainfall, with suppressed rains likely in the southern Caribbean. 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.

