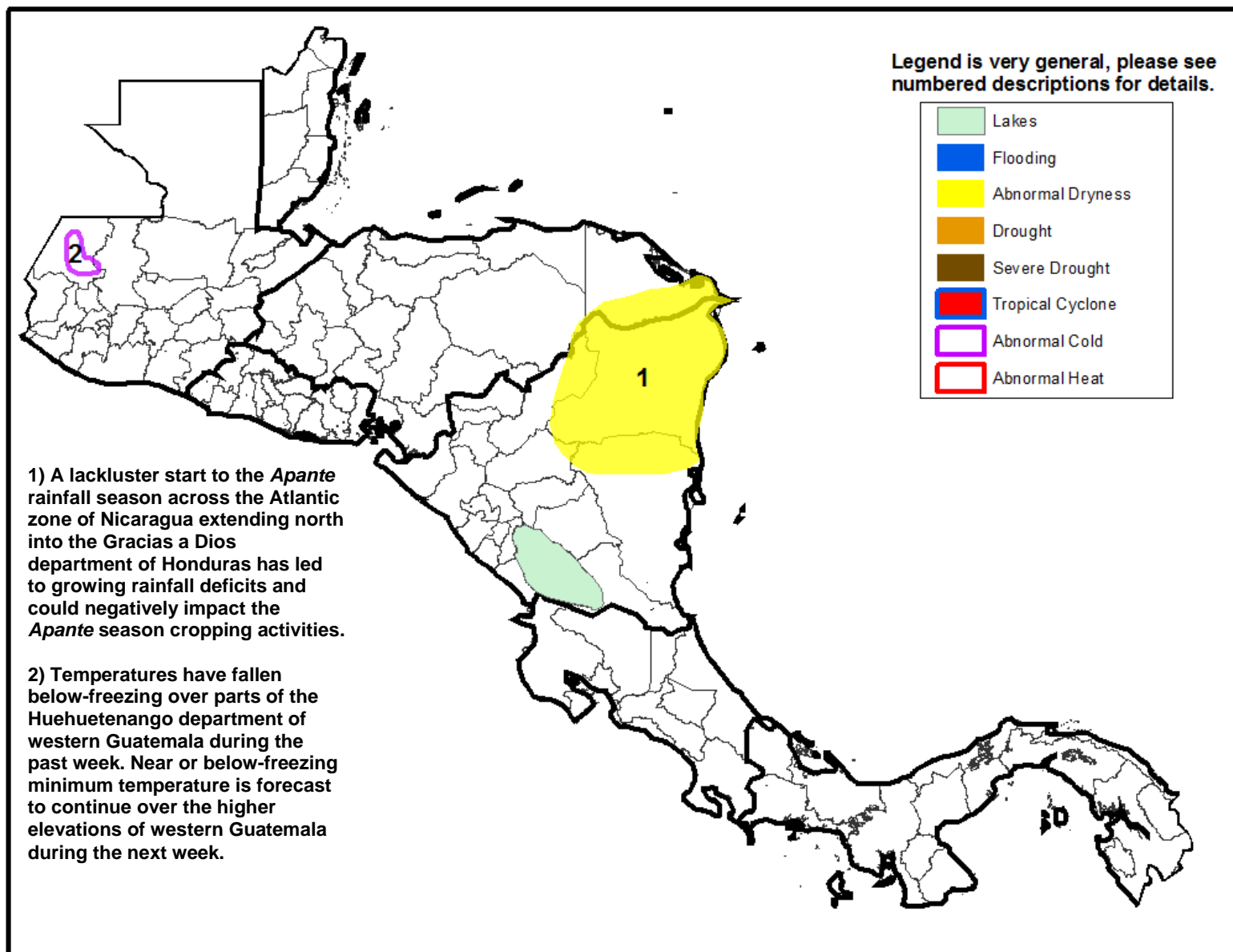




Climate Prediction Center's Central America Hazards Outlook February 5 – 11, 2015

- Near-average rainfall was observed over Central America during the past week.



Dry weather expected to continue during the next week.

During the past week, dry weather prevailed over Central America. Much of the inland of the region received little to no rainfall, whereas the Atlantic coastlines of northern Honduras recorded heavy rains, according to local rain gauge measurements. Moderate to heavy rains were also registered over the Gracias a Dios department of eastern Honduras and the Caribbean Basin of Costa Rica. While this past week's rainfall totals were marginal compared to climatology, cumulative rains during January were slightly below-average throughout parts of western Guatemala, Atlantic coasts of Honduras, and northeastern Nicaragua. Due to inconsistent rainfall distribution since December, 2014, the North Atlantic Autonomous Region of northeastern Nicaragua has accumulated only between 25-50 percent of its average rainfall. If poor rains continue, it could negatively affect the *Apante*, December-April cropping season over many local areas of the region.

During the next week, model rainfall forecasts suggest dry weather to continue, with suppressed rains throughout much of Central America. In contrast, heavy showers are expected along the Gulf of Honduras region. To the south, abundant rains are also possible along the Atlantic coastlines of Costa Rica. Meanwhile, temperatures are forecast to fall between 4-6 degrees Celsius below-average, with a potential for near or below-freezing minimum temperature over the higher terrains of western Guatemala.

