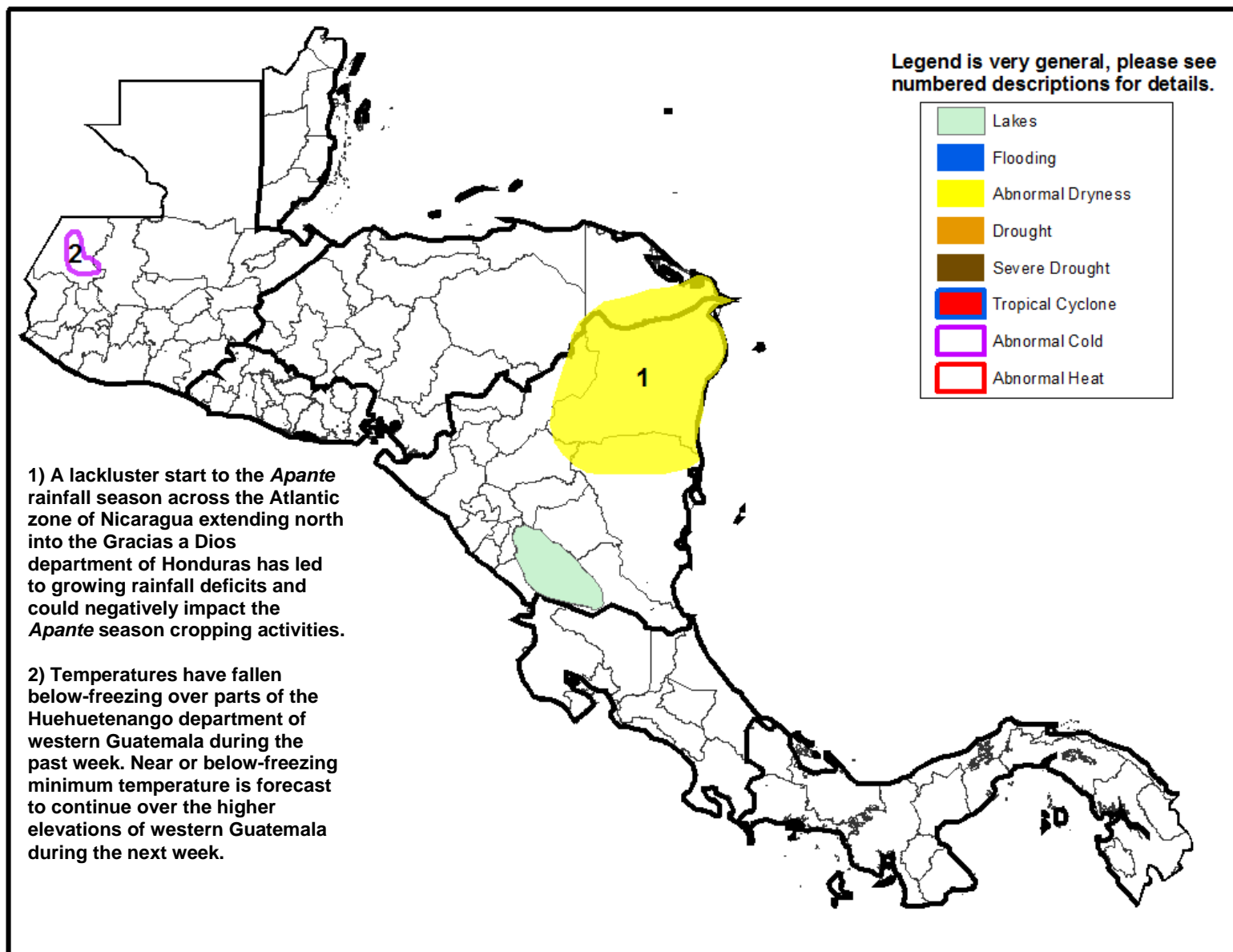




Climate Prediction Center's Central America Hazards Outlook February 12 – 18, 2015

- Dry weather observed in Central America.



Dry weather prevails in Central America.

During the past week, little to no rainfall was observed over Central America. However, heavy rains were recorded over Tela of northern Honduras, where recorded rainfall amounts exceeded 150 mm, according to gauge measurements. Heavy rains were also observed over Limón of eastern Costa Rica. Meanwhile, light rains were measured over Flores of northern Guatemala. Over the past thirty days, northern Guatemala, eastern Honduras, and northeastern Nicaragua have received below-average rainfall, with deficits between 25-100 mm. The continued limited rainfall during this time of the year has contributed to sustaining drier than average conditions over the dry portions of Central America. This could negatively impact the December-April cropping activities in eastern and southern Honduras and northeastern Nicaragua. In contrast, southern Nicaragua and Costa Rica have received above-average rainfall, with surpluses exceeding 100 mm since early January.

During the next week, rainfall forecasts indicate a continuation of dry weather over Central America. Little to no rainfall is forecast across the inland of the region, while moderate rains are possible along the Gulf of Honduras. This not only could increase rainfall deficits over dryness-affected regions but also increases risks for forest fires over many local areas. Meanwhile, temperatures could fall below-freezing point across elevated terrains of western Guatemala, potentially affecting local residents and crops in the region.

