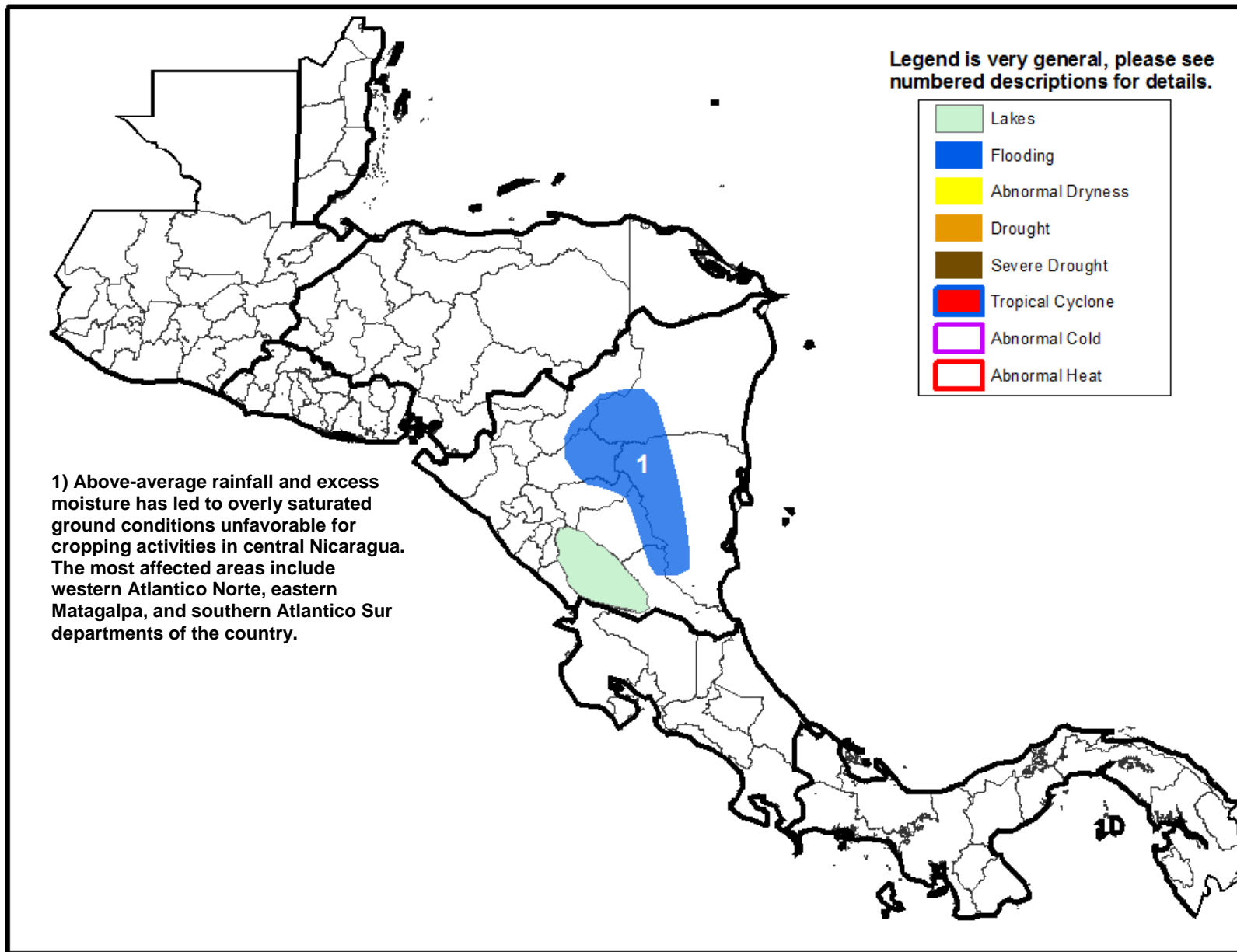




Climate Prediction Center's Central America Hazards Outlook April 2 – April 8, 2015

- Average to above-average rains received in northern Central America.



Well-distributed, moderate to locally heavy rains received in Guatemala.

During the last seven days, moderate to locally heavy precipitation amounts were received mainly across the Yucatan peninsula and several coastal areas in the Gulf of Honduras regions. The highest weekly accumulations (>50mm) were observed over northern Guatemala, Belize, and western Honduras, with lesser, but well-distributed rainfall totals observed further south in departments facing the Pacific Ocean. In Nicaragua, Costa Rica, and Panama, however, weekly rainfall was quite suppressed compared to the previous week. Over the past 30 days, rainfall has generally seen some gradual improvement compared to earlier in the Apante season, where moisture deficits had begun to develop throughout the northern half of Central America. An increase in the distribution and quantity in precipitation during March is expected to help mitigate mid to late season Apante dryness. In central Nicaragua, high rainfall totals during the Apante season have negatively affected bean crops. A continuation of saturated ground conditions may lead to further crop losses.

For the upcoming outlook period, an axis of increased showers extending across the Caribbean is forecast, bringing average to above-average rainfall totals into the Gulf of Honduras region. Further south, another week of suppressed rainfall is forecast for the southern Caribbean, with below-average precipitation totals expected over Costa Rica and Panama.

