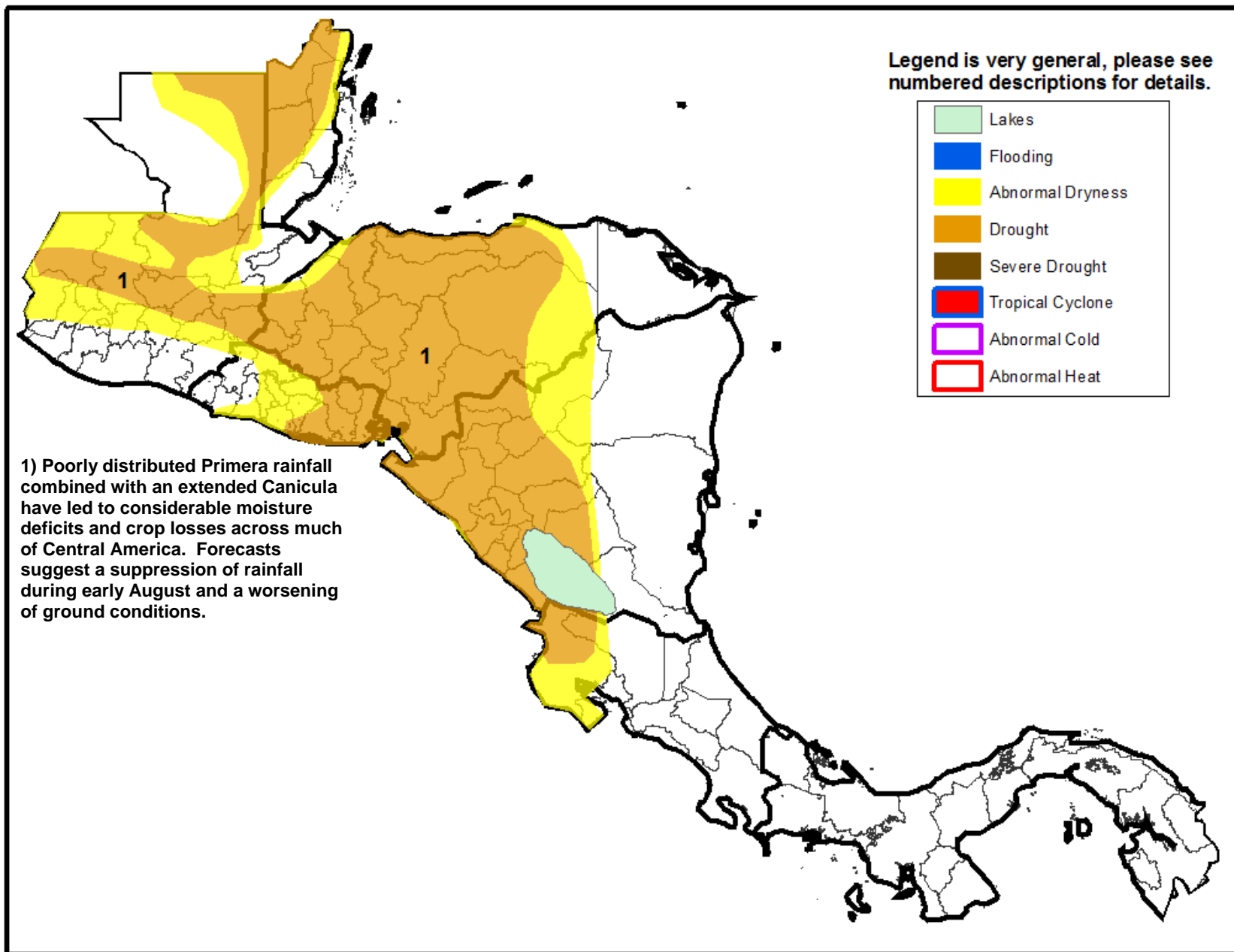




## Climate Prediction Center's Central America Hazards Outlook August 6 – August 12, 2015

- Several consecutive weeks of below-average rainfall strengthens dryness in Central America.



## Persistent dryness has negatively impacted crops of Central America.

During the last week, reduced amounts of precipitation were received throughout Central America. The highest precipitation amounts were registered in local parts of southern Guatemala (>100mm), with well-distributed, but much lesser amounts observed in the country and in regions to the east. Since the beginning of July, rainfall has been predominately below-average, as several local areas in Guatemala, Honduras, El Salvador, Nicaragua, and Costa Rica have experienced less than half of their normal rainfall accumulation for the month. The drier than average conditions, associated with the extended *Canicula*, mid-season dry period, have already led to losses in maize and bean crops over the El Progreso, Zacapa, and Chiquimula departments of eastern Guatemala. Consistent and well-distributed rain is needed to fully eliminate accumulated rainfall deficits and replenish soil moisture to improve crop conditions over many local areas of Central America.

For next week, light to locally moderate rain is forecast throughout Central America. Heavy rain is expected along the Gulf of Honduras, Atlantic littorals of Nicaragua, and Pacific Basin of Costa Rica. However, the forecast rain will likely to be below-average and is likely to sustain moisture deficits.

