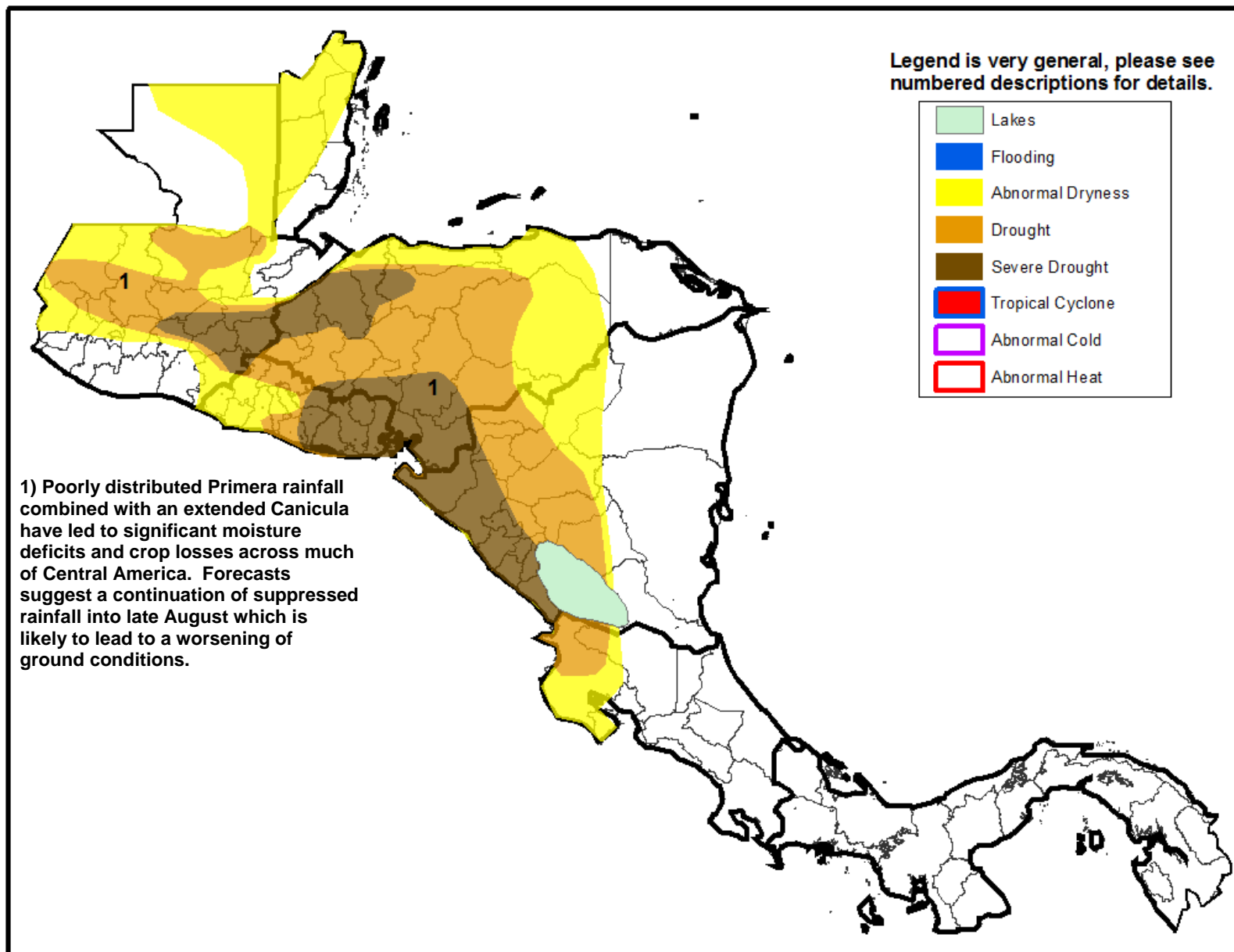




## Climate Prediction Center's Central America Hazards Outlook August 20 – August 26, 2015

- Increased rains fell across southern Guatemala and western El Salvador.



## Some relief to dryness observed, however long-term dryness still prevails throughout much of Central America.

In the last seven days, an increase in precipitation was observed across parts of southern Guatemala, western El Salvador and eastern Honduras compared to last several weeks. Despite this increase, however, reduced amounts of rainfall continued to strengthen seasonal dryness throughout much of Central America. Since mid-July, nearly all of the Central America has experienced below-average rainfall, as the largest moisture deficits (<50 percent of normal) have been mainly observed in the Gulf of Fonseca region and in parts of northern Honduras according to satellite rainfall data. The drier than average rainfall has been preceded by both poor *Primera* rains season which has reportedly led to losses in maize and bean crops over the El Progreso, Zacapa, and Chiquimula departments of eastern Guatemala.

For next week, the return of below-average rainfall is forecast for much of Central America. Significantly more rainfall is needed to mitigate long-term moisture anomalies that have negatively impacted ground conditions in Central America. No tropical activity is expected to affect the region during the next seven days.

