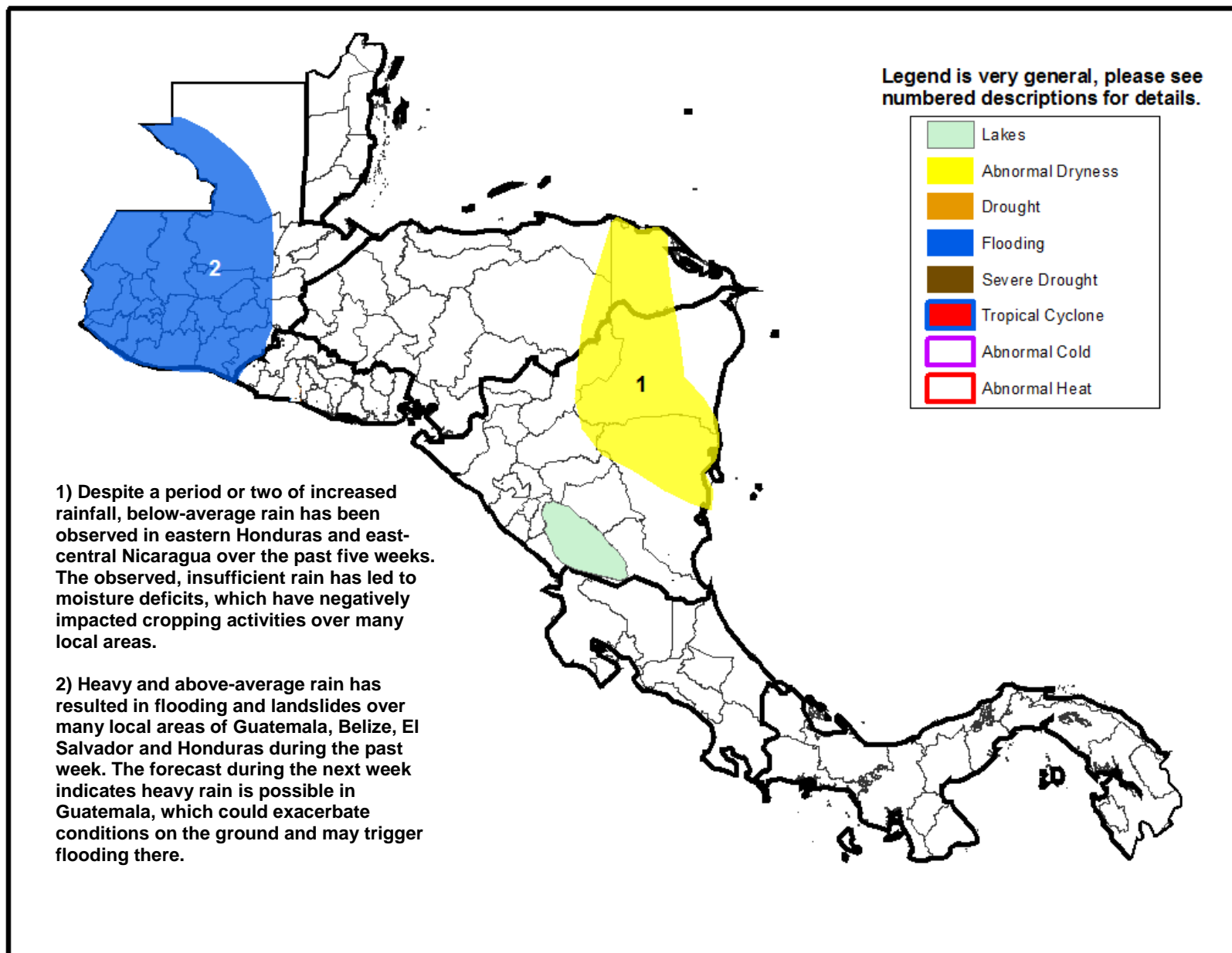




## Climate Prediction Center's Central America Hazards Outlook October 29 – November 4, 2015

- Heavy rains caused flooding for many areas of Guatemala, Belize and El Salvador this past week.



**Decreased rain is expected for much of Central America this week. The heaviest rain should be relegated to Guatemala and El Salvador.**

During the past week, abundant rain fell in many areas of Guatemala as well, as local areas of El Salvador, Belize, and Honduras. Rainfall in excess of 200 mm was observed in the Pacific coastal areas of southern Guatemala and in the central and western highlands according to TRMM satellite estimates. Much lighter rainfall was recorded along the dry corridor of Honduras and Nicaragua and points east. The above-average rain early last week has triggered flooding, landslides, and even fatalities over some local areas of Central America, including El Salvador and the Comayagua department of Honduras, based on media reports. Many departments in Guatemala (70% of the country) have been severely impacted by flooding, with 223,000 affected people according to reports. The substantial increase in rainfall during the recent weeks has helped to erode accumulated moisture deficits and replenish soil moisture over many local areas of Central America. However, thirty-day rainfall deficits have persisted in the eastern parts of Honduras and east-central Nicaragua, and even northern Guatemala due to poor rainfall distribution.

For the next week, continuation of moderate to heavy rain is forecasted to be relegated to Guatemala, and El Salvador. Additional rain in these areas could further raise river water levels and keep the risks for mudslides, flashfloods, and overflowing along downstream locations elevated. The forecasted persistence of heavy rain could also lead to excess of moisture over some crop-producing areas, which may favor fungus disease outbreak and potentially negatively impacting bean crops in the region. Many other regions of Central America, especially Atlantic coastal regions, should return to abnormally dry conditions

