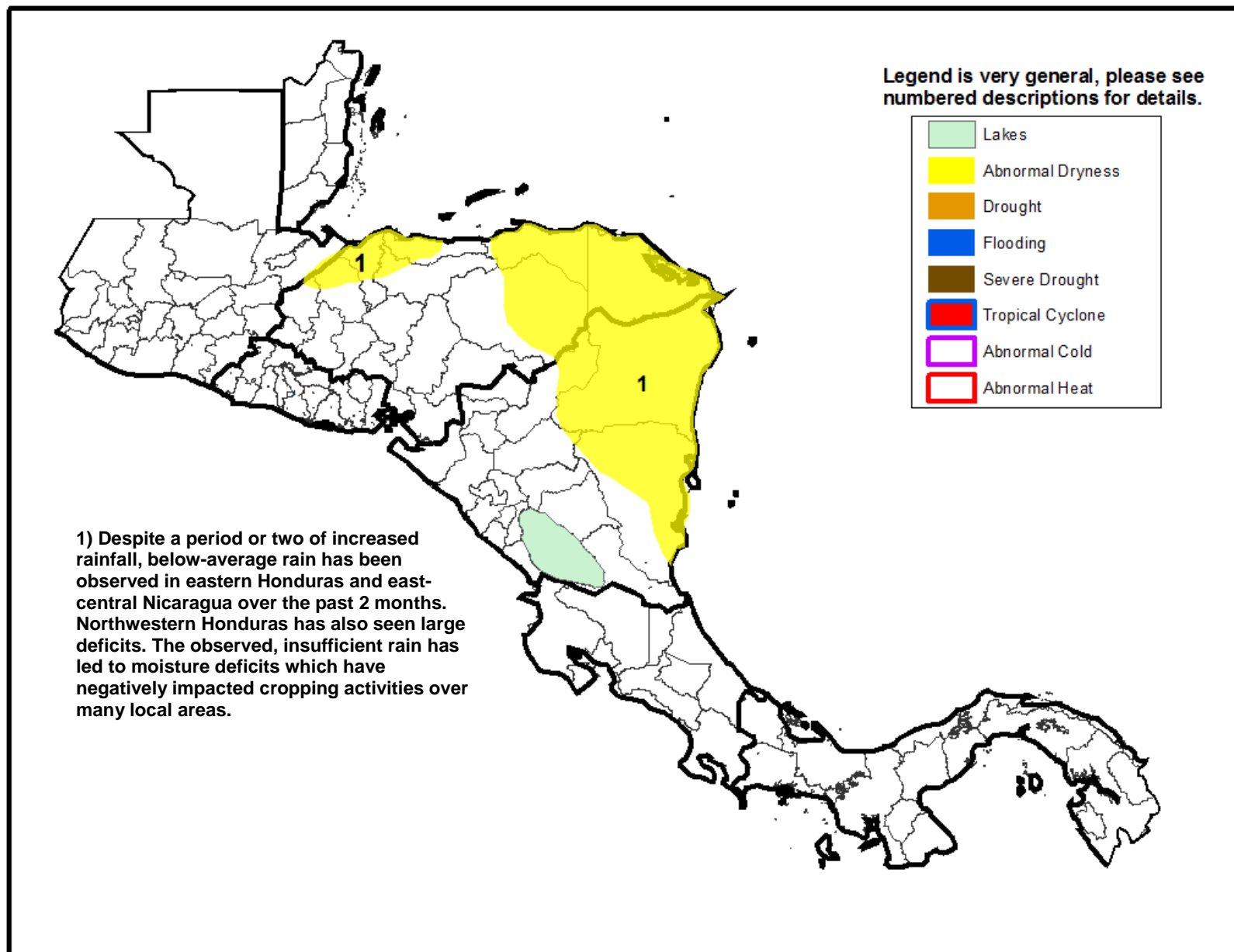




Climate Prediction Center's Central America Hazards Outlook November 19 – November 25, 2015

- Heavy rains observed in northern Guatemala, along the Caribbean coastlines of Honduras and Nicaragua



Heavy Rainfall this past week made substantial progress towards eliminating moisture deficits in many areas.

During the past week, heavy rain was observed in Guatemala, El Salvador, and the Gulf of Fonseca region. Local areas in both northern and southern Guatemala observed greater than 150mm of rain according to TRMM satellite estimates. Above-average rain was also prevalent along the Caribbean coasts of Honduras and Nicaragua. Totals, in many cases, running more than 100mm above average put a dent in rainfall deficits, but could not totally eliminate them. Rains were once again seasonably light (<25mm) through the dry corridor of Nicaragua and into central Honduras. Rainfall deficits (<80% of normal) that have persisted over the past 2 months in the eastern parts of Honduras and Nicaragua are still mostly present, but have been mitigated by recent rainfall. This is especially true near the coast. Large rainfall surpluses prevail throughout Guatemala, El Salvador, and the Gulf of Fonseca region over the last month. Despite below-normal rainfall over the last 6 weeks or so, satellite vegetation indices indicate that conditions on the ground in Honduras and Nicaragua have only been nominally affected thus far. This is likely a result of near-average frequency of rain events. Improvement can be observed over many areas that have seen the recent increase in rainfall.

For the upcoming outlook period, the area of heaviest rainfall is expected to be suppressed southward from last week. Lighter, but near-normal precipitation, is likely over Guatemala, Honduras, and El Salvador. Prevalent heavy rain is in the forecast for southern parts of Nicaragua into Costa Rica. Localized totals greater than 200mm are possible and flash flooding is not out of the question.

