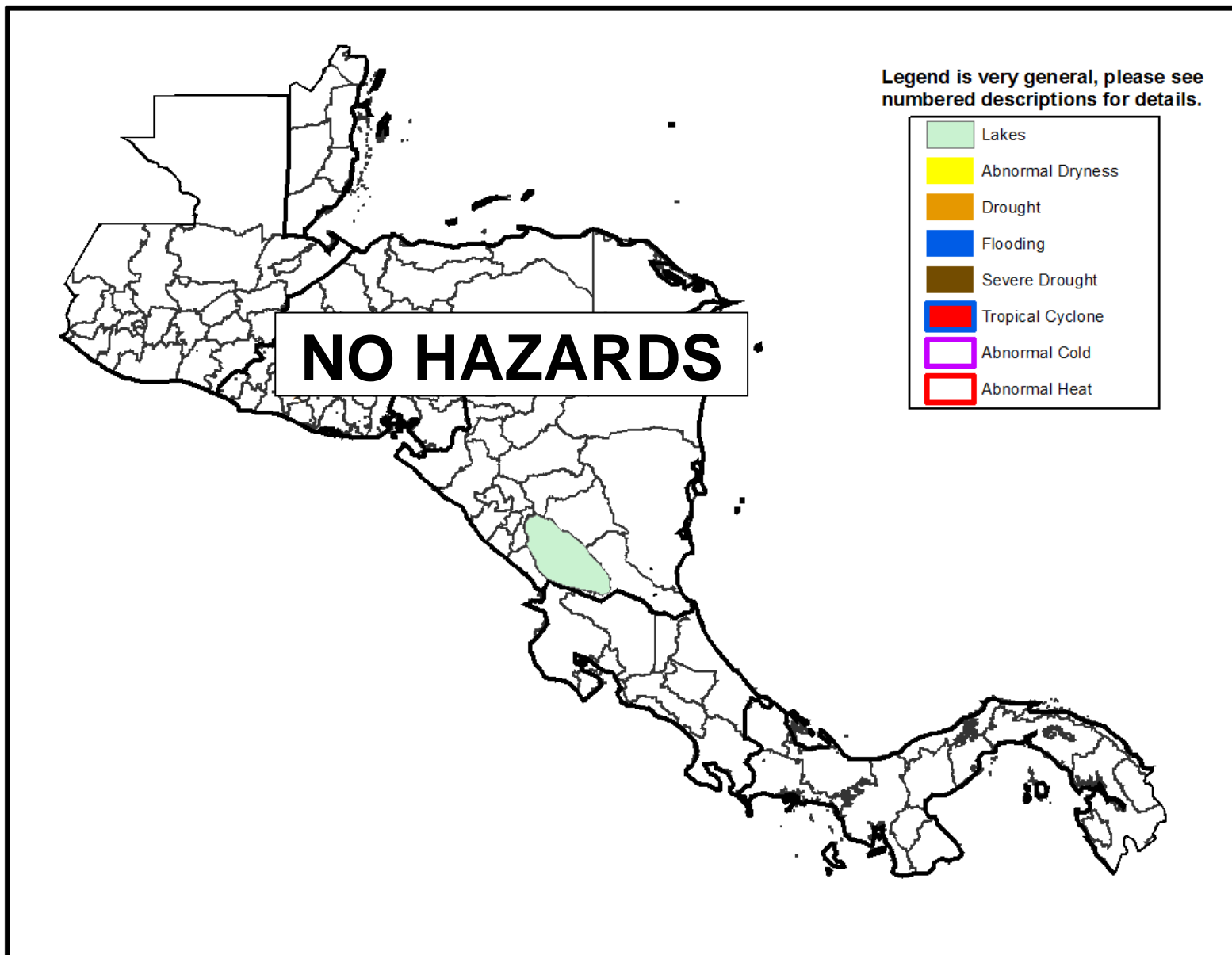




Climate Prediction Center's Central America Hazards Outlook January 14 – January 20, 2016

- Seasonably calm conditions prevailed during the past week



Near or slightly below-average rainfall totals were observed during the last week

During the past week, generally near-normal conditions were experienced across the region. With a pattern very typical for the time of year, light rains fell in departments along the Caribbean coastline while very little rainfall fell in central and Pacific facing departments. Some more enhanced rains were observed over the Gulf of Belize, but these mainly stayed offshore. Over the previous 30-day period, dating to December 12th, most regions have observed slightly below-normal amounts of rain. The greatest of these deficits are found in the Petén Department of Guatemala and in southeastern Nicaragua. Vegetation indices remain quite good, especially in Pacific facing portions of the region. Only a few of the drier parts of the region exhibit more unfavorable values. Index trends also continue to be positive, with the exception of northern Guatemala, and extreme southeastern Nicaragua.

For the upcoming outlook period, near-average conditions are expected once again in northern and western areas. Below-normal amounts of rainfall are expected in southern and eastern areas of the region. The greatest possibility for any larger rainfall totals resides in parts of central and northern Guatemala with a cold front draped to the north of the area. Light rains are likely for eastern portions of Nicaragua and northern portions of Honduras, while very little rain can be expected elsewhere.

