



Climate Prediction Center's Central America Hazards Outlook March 24 – March 30, 2016

- Favorable rainfall patterns have led to very positive ground conditions across the region.



Light rainfall looks to become more widespread this week and the heaviest rains will shift into southwestern Honduras.

During the past week, the heaviest rains were again concentrated in northern Guatemala, specifically eastern Petén Province. Heavy rainfall was also observed in northern Honduras. Localized areas received more than 100mm of rain according to TRMM estimates. Other areas observing significant rains include west-central Guatemala, as well as southern and western Nicaragua. Only widely scattered light showers were observed across the rest of Nicaragua, along with El Salvador and Honduras. This overall pattern has yielded neutral or slightly negative rainfall anomalies over the entire region. Covering the previous 30-day period, precipitation anomalies have generally become favorable. Northern Guatemala and Belize exhibit the largest positive anomalies, greater than 100mm. Recent precipitation patterns have eliminated any dryness that previously existed in Guatemala. Vegetation conditions look quite favorable throughout Central America according to VHI. A few areas in eastern Nicaragua do show some minor vegetation stress.

For the upcoming outlook period, light rainfall is expected to be more widespread throughout the region. Western portions Honduras can expect the most significant rainfall. More than 50mm of rain is possible in that region. Moderate rain is likely for other portions of southern Guatemala. Widespread light rain is forecasted for eastern Honduras and eastern Nicaragua. The highest totals, possibly approaching 15mm are likely just along the coast of Nicaragua. Very little precipitation is likely in Pacific facing regions. In general the pattern Looks to be slightly drier than climatology.

