



## Climate Prediction Center's Central America Hazards Outlook March 31 – April 06, 2016

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



## Rains should be more plentiful across the region during the upcoming week.

Widely scattered light and moderate rains predominated the region this past week. According to satellite estimates, rain totals generally stayed below 25mm. Areas that received showers include, southern Honduras, southwestern Guatemala, and the Lake Nicaragua region of Nicaragua. Precipitation remained quite light for the rest of Central America. This overall pattern has yielded neutral or slightly negative rainfall anomalies over the entire region. During the previous 30-day period, positive precipitation anomalies prevailed in northern Guatemala, Belize and northern Honduras, transitioning to neutral conditions in southern portions of the region. Northern Guatemala and Belize exhibit the largest positive anomalies, greater than 100mm. Vegetation conditions continue to look quite favorable throughout most of Central America according to VHI. Some areas in eastern Nicaragua show some minor vegetation stress.

For the upcoming outlook period, rainfall is expected to be more widespread throughout the region, even reaching regions along the Pacific coastline. The heaviest rainfall totals are likely to be observed over western and northern Guatemala where greater than 75mm of rain is possible. Good coverage of precipitation, but more moderate amounts are to be expected across the rest of the region. In total, the pattern should yield generally near-normal rainfall conditions, with totals running a bit above normal in Guatemala and some negative precipitation anomalies towards the southeast for areas near Costa Rica and Panama.

