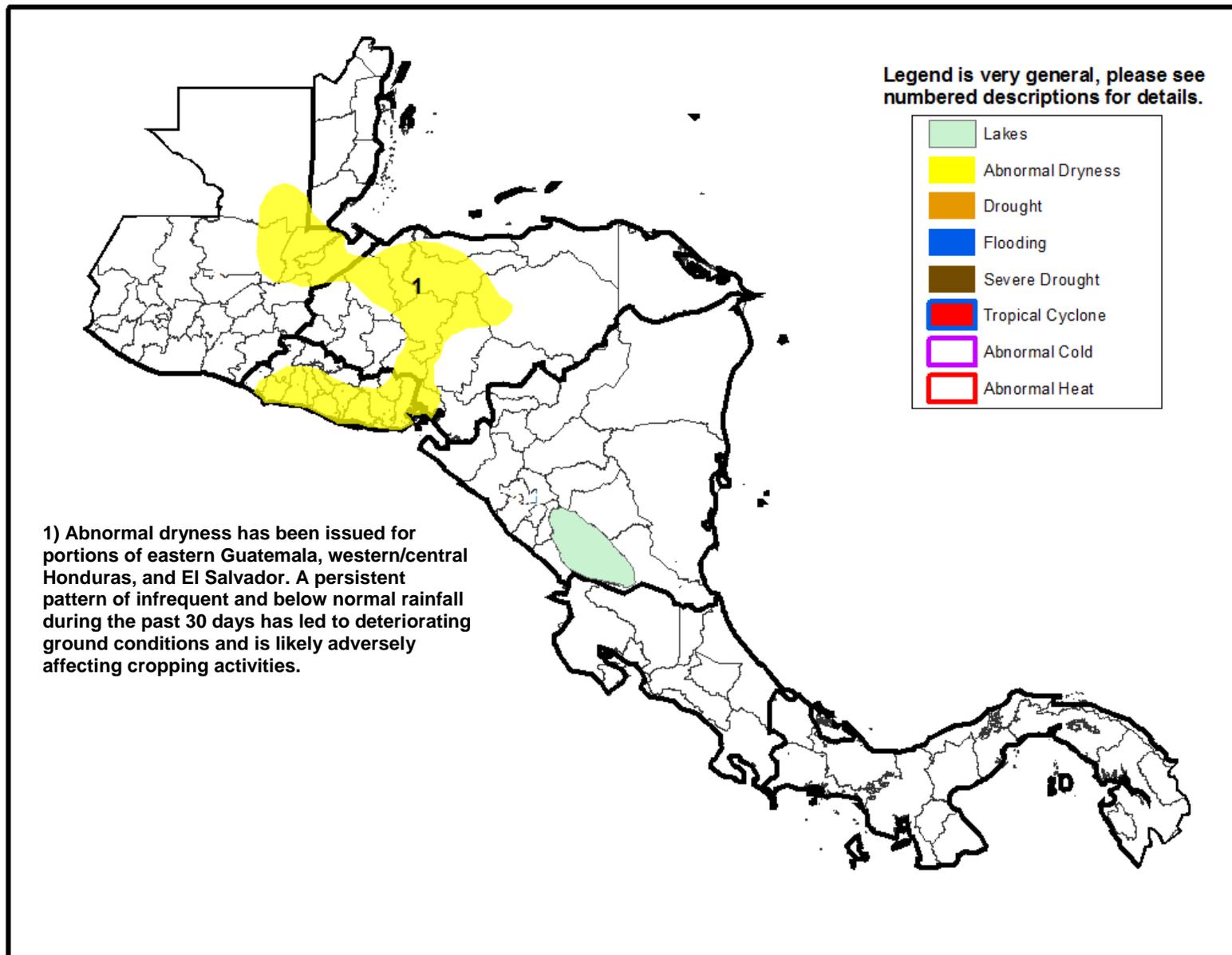




Climate Prediction Center's Central America Hazards Outlook May 26 – June 1, 2016

- Rains have increased last week, but many interior areas still recorded below-average precipitation.



After another below-average week of rainfall, moisture deficits are increasing for some parts of the region

Despite a substantial enhancement in rainfall over the previous week, many regions still received below-average rainfall. Heavy above-average rains were observed throughout coastal departments of Guatemala, far western Honduras, southeastern Nicaragua, and Costa Rica. These areas recorded more than 150mm of rain according to CMORPH estimates. Still other regions such as El Salvador, central Honduras and western Nicaragua received only light rain which resulted in significant negative anomalies for the period. These are many of the same areas that have been recording deficits over the last 30 days or even longer. In some cases less than 25% of normal precipitation has been received. As a result, satellite estimation vegetation indices have indicated degraded ground conditions. These are most apparent in northern Guatemala and western Honduras. It is expected that cropping activities are likely to be negatively affected by these conditions.

Forecast models indicate that recent precipitation patterns are likely to persist into the outlook period. The most significant rainfall is again likely to be in southern Guatemala, southeastern Nicaragua and points south. Most other areas should expect rain to be well suppressed, especially in central/northern Honduras where totals could be very low (<10mm). The continuation of such a pattern is likely to extenuate circumstances for regions of abnormal dryness.

