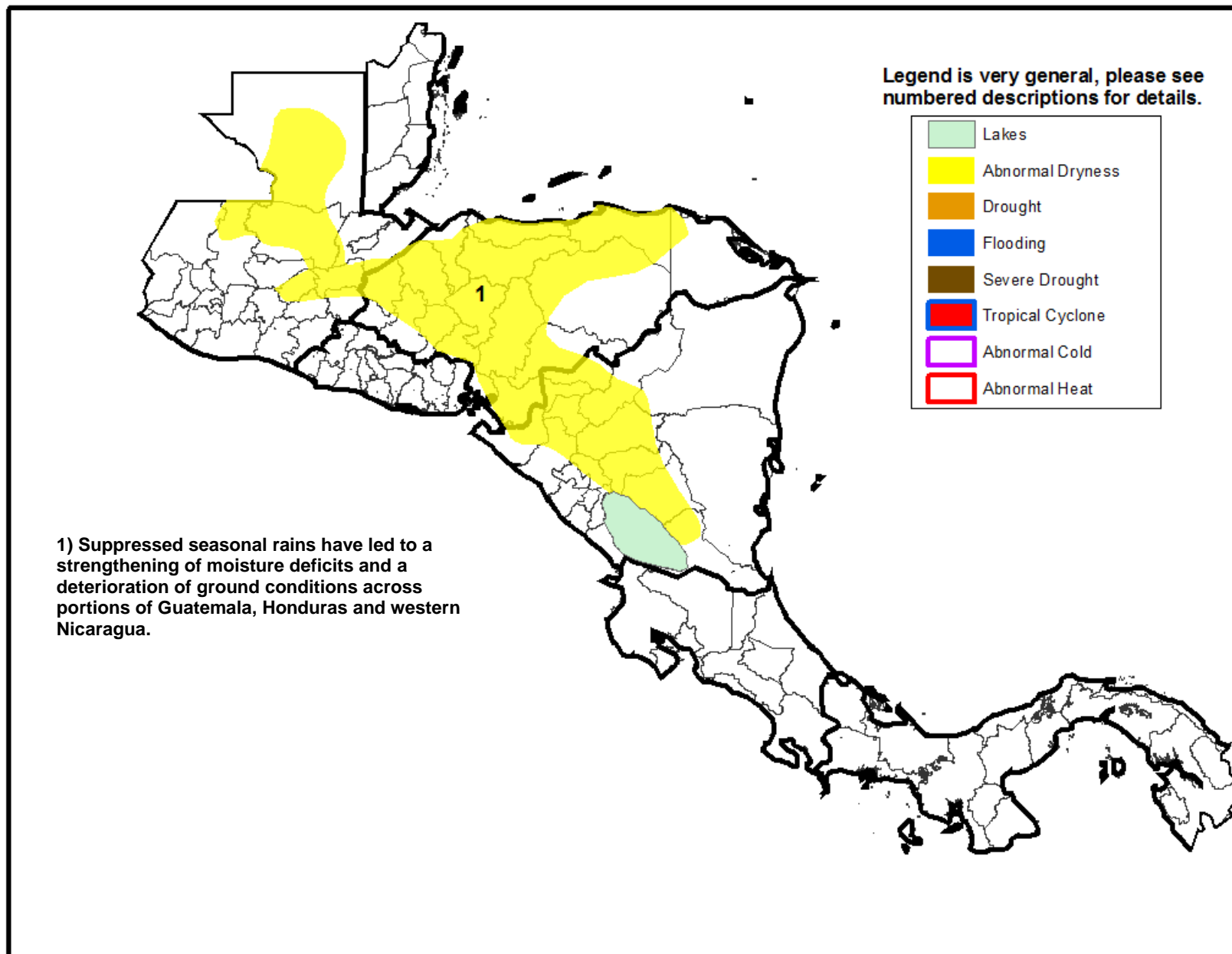




## Climate Prediction Center's Central America Hazards Outlook July 14 – July 20, 2016

- Abnormal dryness is slowly expanding in western Nicaragua due to poor recent rainfall performance.



## Suppressed rains continued over some anomalously dry areas of Central America.

In the last seven days, rains have been seasonably distributed. However, totals remained below average for several already anomalously dry regions. The highest weekly precipitation accumulations (>300mm) were received over a large area of eastern Nicaragua. Similarly large amounts of rain were observed in the Gulf of Belize region. Heavy rains (100-200mm) were also observed in southern Guatemala and western El Salvador. Other areas received lighter and below-normal rainfall, notably in central Honduras and through western Nicaragua. The Gulf of Fonseca region observed nearly no rainfall. Since the end of May, seasonal dryness remains entrenched across many central parts of Guatemala and Honduras. Roughly two weeks of above-normal rain has removed existing long-term deficits around the Gulf of Belize. Dryness in western and central Nicaragua is more recent. There, rainfall deficits are becoming more widespread and vegetation health indices indicate that the meteorological situation is starting to have a negative impact on surface conditions.

During the upcoming period, rainfall is expected to be less extreme than last week in areas of eastern Nicaragua and central Guatemala. Despite the possibility of some locally heavy rain showers, rainfall is likely to be generally suppressed slightly below-average, especially in northern parts of the region. The pattern could strengthen seasonal dryness throughout Guatemala and northern Honduras. Areas along the east coast Of Nicaragua and areas just to the south of the Gulf of Belize are likely to receive the most rain this week.

