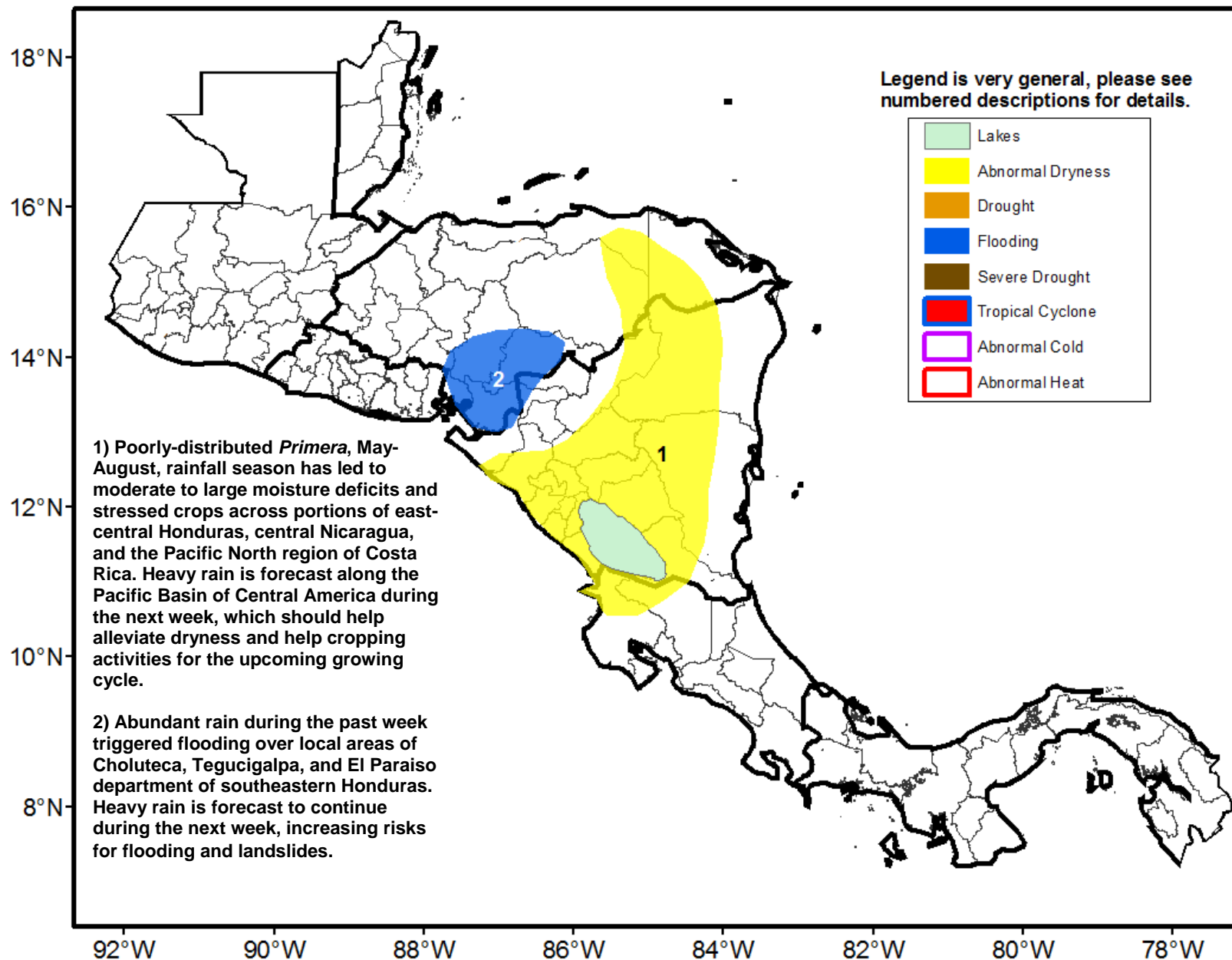




Climate Prediction Center's Central America Hazards Outlook September 1 – 7, 2016

- Heavy rain caused flooding over many areas of southern Honduras during the past week.



Increased rain expected along the Pacific Basin of Central America during the next week.

During late August, heavy downpours were observed over localized areas of Central America, while light to locally moderate rain was registered elsewhere. Abundant rain fell over the Pacific Region of southern Guatemala, El Salvador, central and southern Honduras, central Nicaragua, and the Southern Caribbean. In Honduras, reports have indicated that heavy rain over the recent period triggered flooding and house damages over Tegucigalpa, Choluteca, Catacamas, and areas of the Danli municipality. Despite this past week's enhanced rain, thirty-day negative rainfall anomalies have persisted over east-central Honduras, central Nicaragua, and northwestern Costa Rica. Since late May, the *Primera*, May-August, rainfall season has performed poorly over some local areas of Central America, including parts of western Guatemala, eastern and southern Honduras, north-central and western Nicaragua, and northwestern Costa Rica, where cumulative rain has accounted for only between 50-80 percent of the average. An analysis of recent Normalized Difference Vegetation Index anomalies has also shown below-average conditions over localized areas of eastern Guatemala, central and southern Honduras, and western Guatemala. The return of good rain is needed to help eliminate moisture deficits and replenish soil moisture for the upcoming second rainfall season.

During the next week, heavy downpours are expected along the Pacific Basin of Central America, with abundant rain over much of Guatemala, El Salvador, western and southern Honduras, western Nicaragua, and the Southern Caribbean. The forecast continuation of heavy rain could trigger new flooding and landslides or exacerbate conditions on the ground over already-saturated areas. Meanwhile, light to moderate and likely to be below-average rain is forecast across the interior of the Atlantic regions of eastern Nicaragua.

