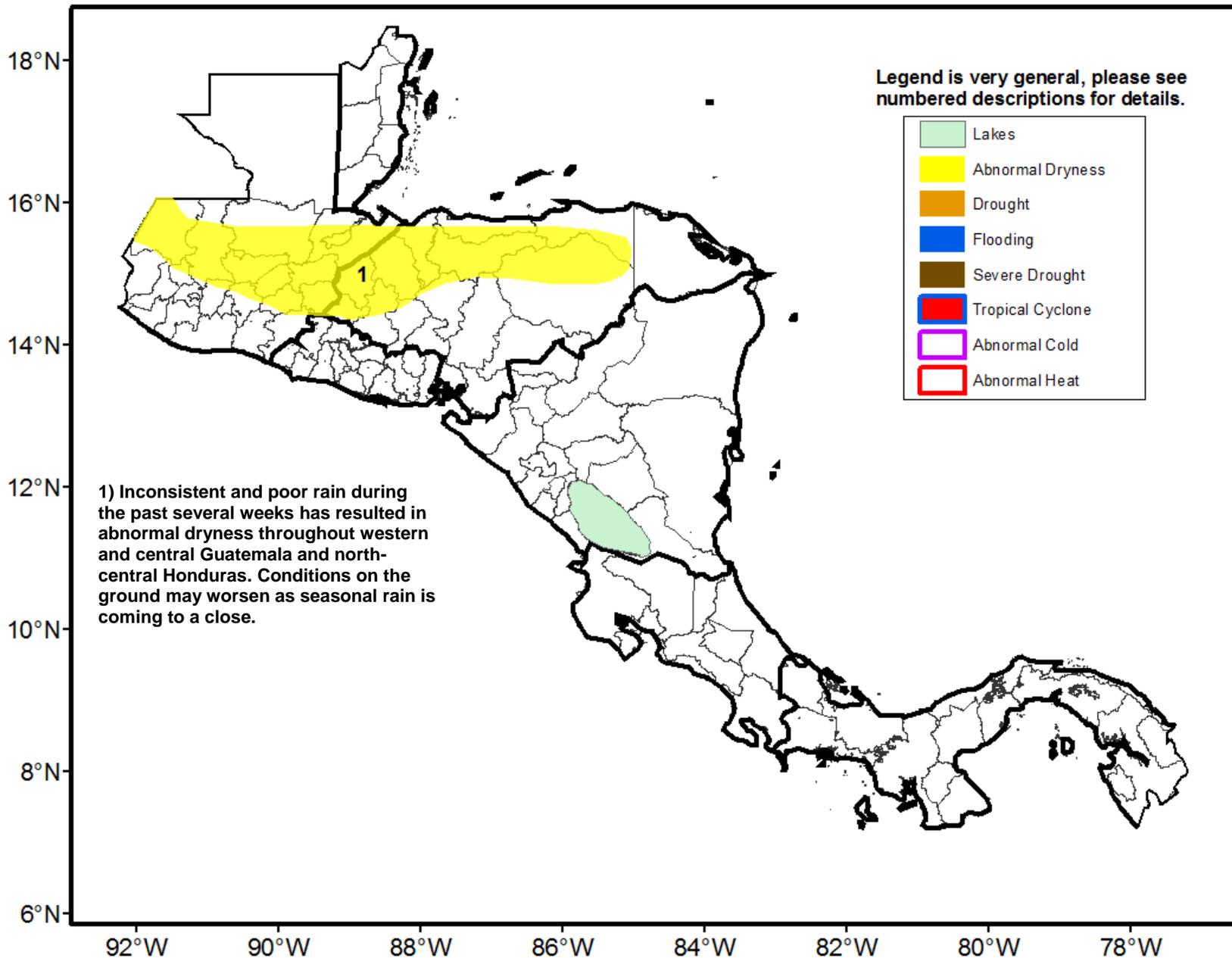




Climate Prediction Center's Central America Hazards Outlook December 1 – 7, 2016

- Hurricane Otto led to flooding and many affected people over portions of Nicaragua and Costa Rica.



Light to locally moderate rain forecast during the next period.

From November 22-28, the passage of Hurricane Otto brought heavy downpours, with rainfall amounts in excess of 100 mm in southern Nicaragua and northern Costa Rica. This caused flooding, infrastructure damages, and many affected people over many areas of southern Nicaragua and Costa Rica, according to media reports. Moderate to heavy rain was also observed in eastern Honduras and the Southern Caribbean, while suppressed rain was recorded throughout Guatemala, El Salvador, the western two-thirds of Honduras, and northwestern Nicaragua. Although the enhanced rain, associated with the passage of Hurricane Otto, helped eliminate rainfall deficits over portions of Nicaragua and Costa Rica, negative rainfall anomalies have persisted throughout parts of western and eastern Guatemala, much of Honduras, and north-central Nicaragua over the past thirty days. Moreover, since late August to date, northern Central America, including Guatemala and Honduras, have accumulated only between 50-80 percent of their average. Some areas have received even less than 50 percent of their average rain. As the *Postrera*, August-November season, is coming to an end, the chance for recovery in rainfall is unlikely.

During the next outlook period, light rain is expected throughout much of the interior of Central America. This should help reduce positive rainfall anomalies and partially relieve wetness over areas, affected by the passage of Hurricane Otto during the past week. In contrast, moderate showers are possible over localized areas of Guatemala, the Gulf of Fonseca, and along the Caribbean coasts of Honduras and Nicaragua. Farther south, moderate to heavy rain is forecast to continue over Costa Rica and Panama.

