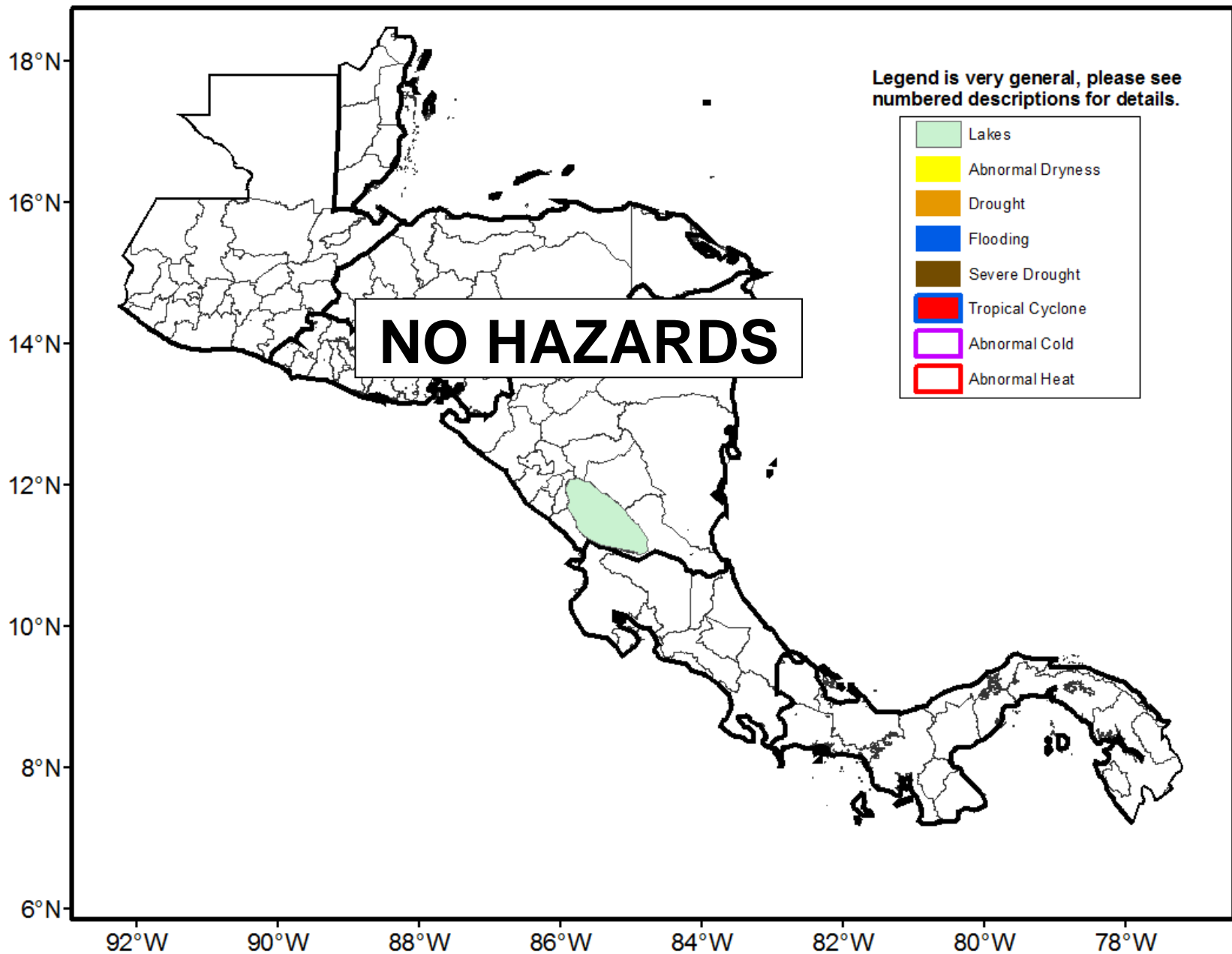




## Climate Prediction Center's Central America Hazards Outlook January 5 – 11, 2017

- The region has transitioned to a seasonable 'Apante' rainfall pattern



## Rains may be a little heavier than normal this coming week along Caribbean coastal regions

A few areas of moderate to heavy rainfall were scattered about the region this past week. Moderate rain was observed in eastern parts of eastern Nicaragua according to satellite estimates. There, 50-75mm were recorded. Parts of Costa Rica and Panama received greater than 25mm as well. Elsewhere, precipitation was lighter and scattered, but some parts of northern Guatemala and Honduras saw rainfall. This pattern was fairly usual for the time of year, with a typical spatial distribution. Over the course of the past 30 days, several heavy rain events led to large positive rainfall anomalies (>200mm) that persist over eastern Nicaragua and northern Costa Rica. Any lingering flood threat in these saturated regions should diminish with lightening rainfall this week. Looking farther back into time, rainfall deficits in Guatemala and Honduras have disappeared as the climatology has dried out. Despite having not seen significant rainfall for quite some time, any lingering ground impacts seem minimal in these areas according to vegetation indices.

Looking ahead to the next outlook period, precipitation models suggest that moderate rains are likely across areas of Central America along the Caribbean coast. Potential totals of greater than 75mm would be greater than is typical for the start of the New Year. Rainfall coverage may also be more widespread than usual over northern Guatemala and Honduras while seasonal dryness will be observed for areas closer to the Pacific Ocean.

