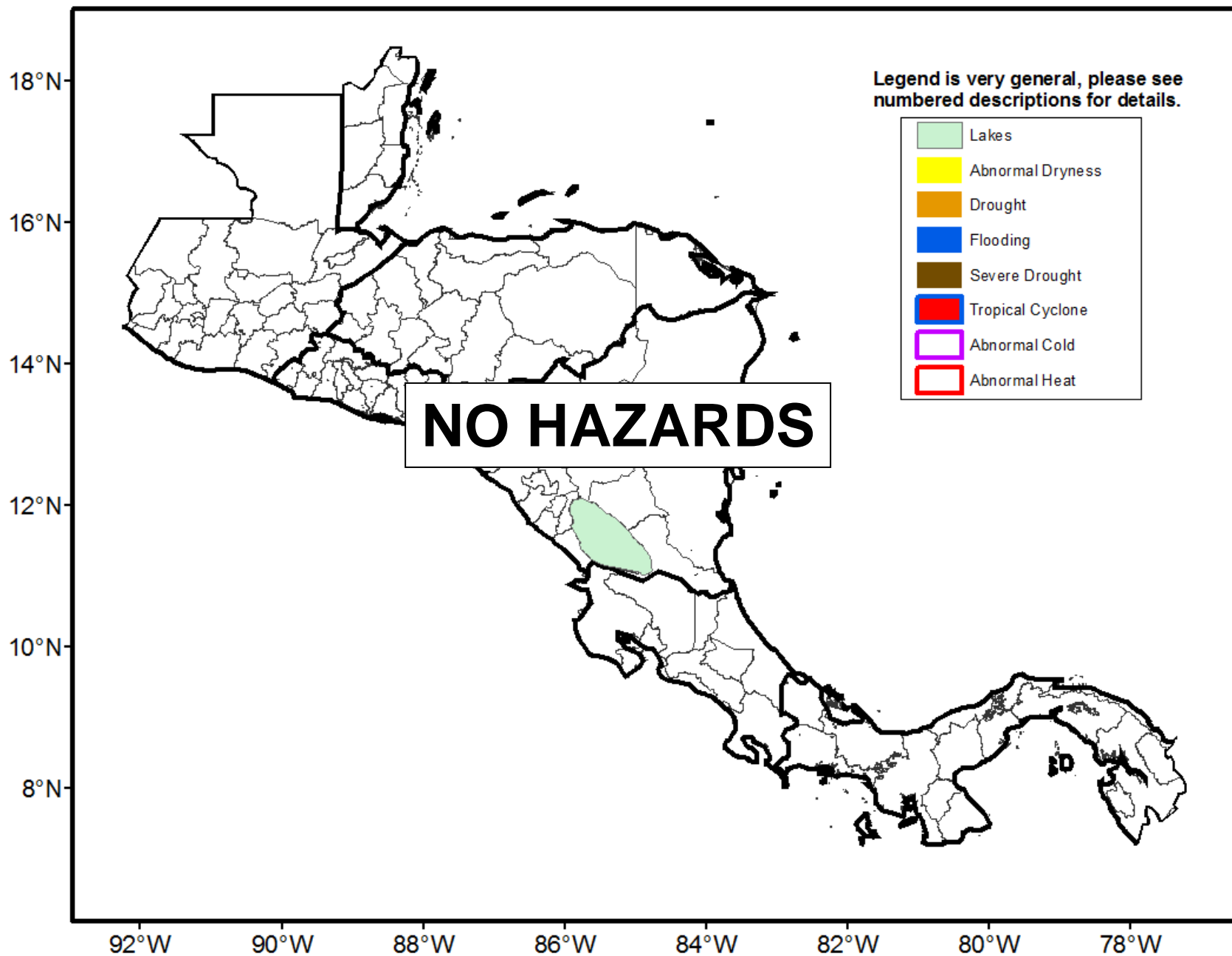




## Climate Prediction Center's Central America Hazards Outlook March 9 – 15, 2017

- Light rains typical of mid-March are expected to continue for the next week



## Light rainfall was observed along the Caribbean coasts

Much of Central America remained relatively dry during the last 7 days. Satellites observed only a few light showers over the Caribbean, while gauges measured more than 25mm around the Gulf of Belize, eastern Honduras and northern Nicaragua. Slightly greater measurements were recorded in eastern Costa Rica as well. These amounts of rainfall are perhaps slightly greater than normal. The general pattern over the last month or so has been close to or slightly below normal. Vegetation indices show widespread high values, meaning vegetation health is largely good. Some local parts of the mountainous terrain of southern Guatemala and neighboring areas of Honduras harbor lower index values. Low values are also found in far southern Nicaragua. These regions should not cause concern until the beginning of the Primera season.

Looking ahead to the next outlook period reveals little change in the weather pattern. Any significant rains are most likely along the Caribbean coasts, especially eastern Nicaragua and Honduras. Any inland rains should be light. As usual, GEFS predicted precipitation is likely overdone. While minimum temperatures should still be slightly colder than normal, they will not be extreme so frosts and freezes should not be a big issue.

