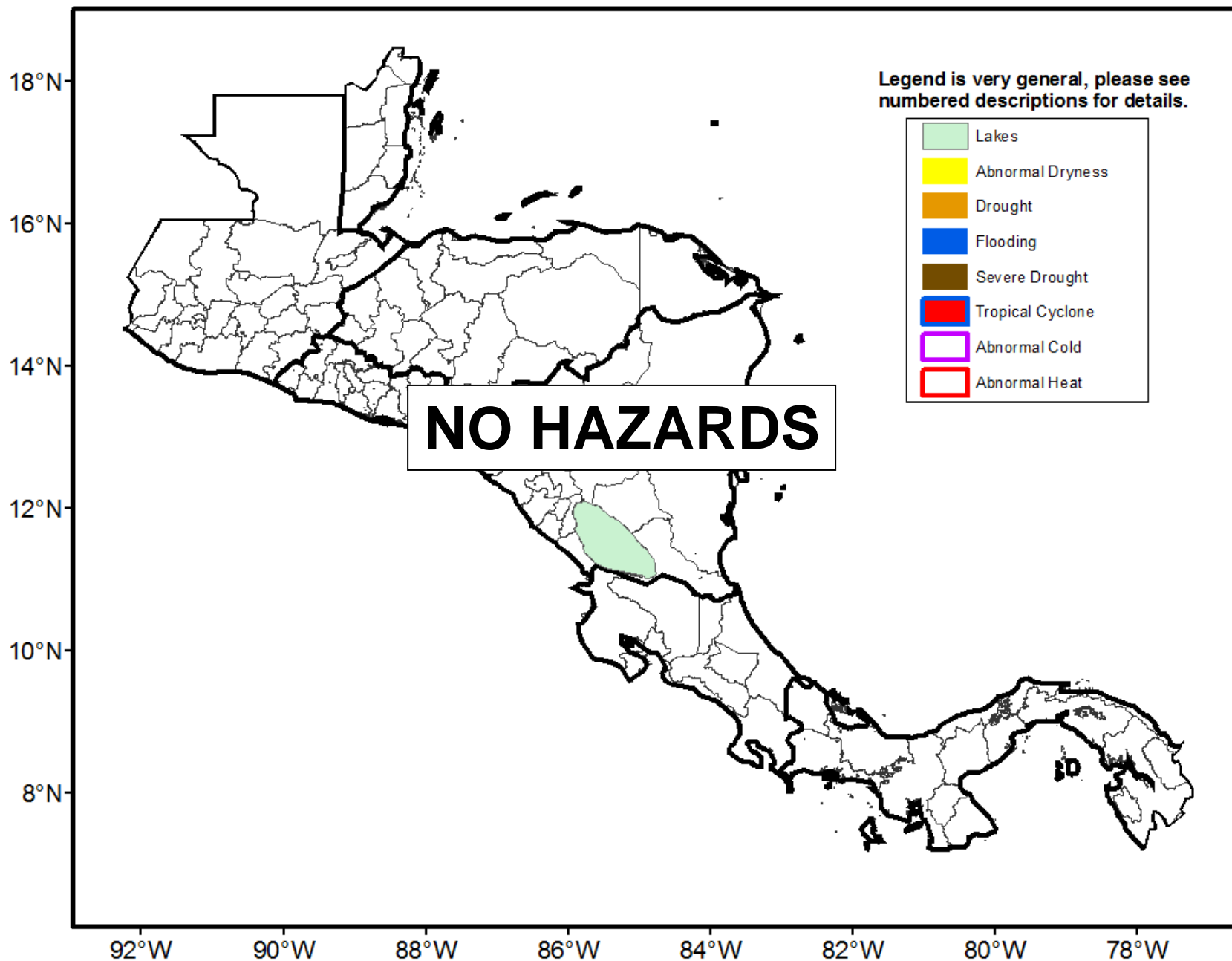




## Climate Prediction Center's Central America Hazards Outlook April 6 – April 12, 2017

- Enhanced rainfall forecast over Guatemala and Honduras for the next week.



**After another week of suppressed, early season rains, the onset of well distributed, favorable Primera rainfall is expected next week.**

During the last week, there was little change to the relatively quiet rainfall activity throughout Central America during early April. The dry weather into early April has led to abnormally high temperatures (>30 degrees Celsius) throughout several departments of Guatemala. According to satellite rainfall estimates, isolated showers and moderate rainfall accumulations (5-25mm) were registered in portions of northern and southern Guatemala, with very little rainfall amounts received elsewhere. Analysis of 30 day rainfall anomalies depict modest strengthening of early season dryness over parts of central and northern Guatemala, suggesting a slight delay of Primera rainfall covering the area. Only portions of El Salvador have experienced pockets of above-average rainfall, associated with brief period of heavy rainfall a few weeks ago. Remotely sensed vegetation health indices show widespread high values with improvement recently observed in local parts of the mountainous terrain of southern Guatemala and neighboring areas of Honduras. Low values are still found locally in far southern Nicaragua.

During the middle of April, a significant increase in precipitation is expected possibly signaling the onset of Primera rains for many regions in Central America. The highest weekly accumulations (>50mm) are expected across the higher elevations of Guatemala, and well as more moderate rains along the southern and northern departments of the country. Similarly, moderate accumulations are forecast for several coastal departments in Nicaragua, El Salvador, Honduras and southern Costa Rica.

