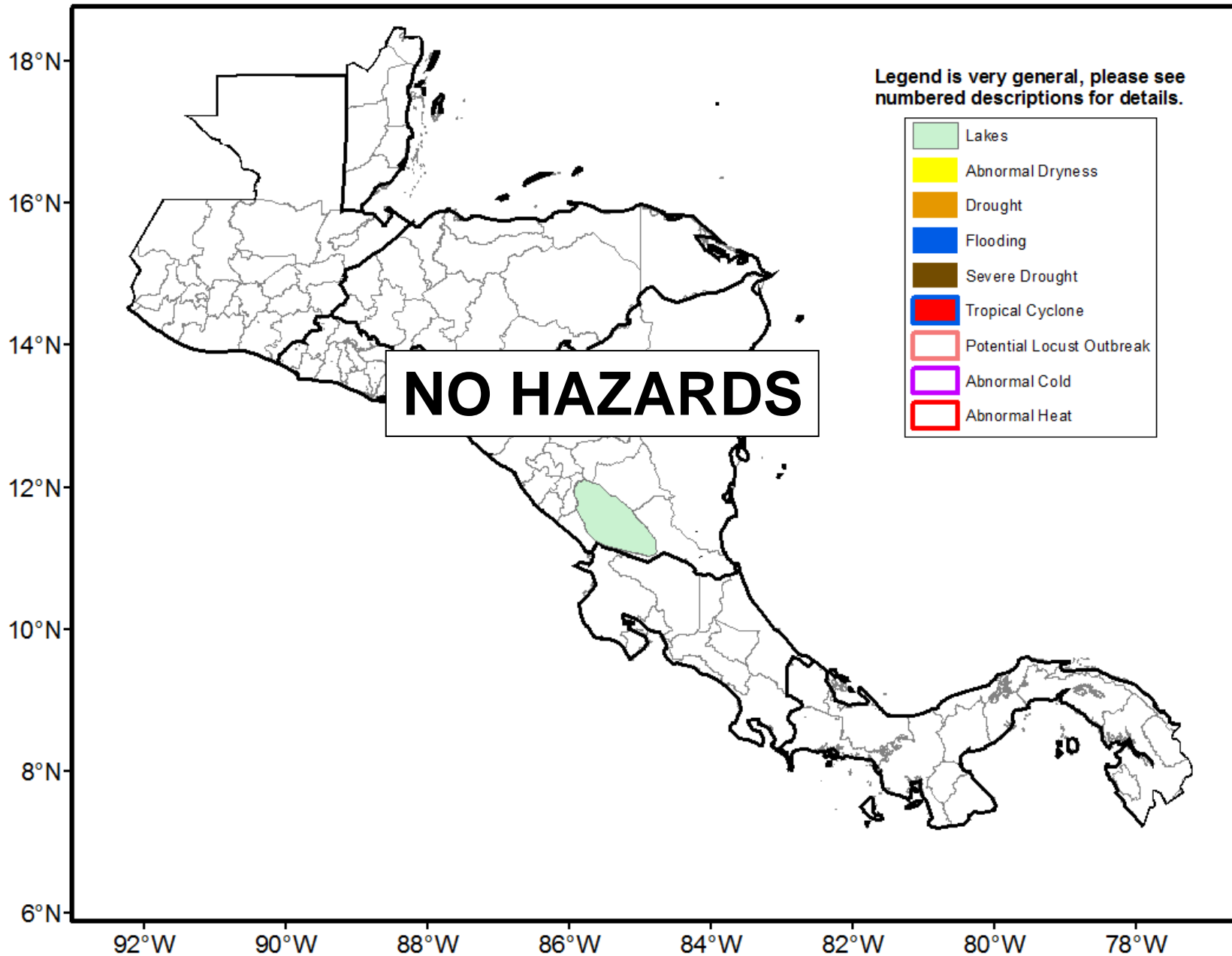




Climate Prediction Center's Central America Hazards Outlook August 3 – 9, 2017

- An increase in rainfall expected along the Pacific Basin of Central America during the next outlook period



Wet weather pattern forecast along the Pacific Basin of Central America

From July 25-31, heavy downpours, with rainfall totals in excess of 100 mm, fell over the Atlantic regions of Nicaragua, northern Guatemala, Gulf of Fonseca, and coastal areas of Costa Rica and Panama. Moderate to heavy rain was also registered over the Pacific region of southern Guatemala, west-central Honduras, and El Salvador. In contrast, little to light rain was observed elsewhere, including east-central Guatemala and portions of central Honduras. Due to the lack of rain, negative thirty-day rainfall anomalies have strengthened over central Guatemala and have persisted in southern Honduras and northwestern Nicaragua. Since the beginning of May, while seasonal moisture surpluses were observed over most areas of Central America, seasonal deficits were registered over east-central Guatemala, eastern El Salvador, and southern Honduras. However, recent vegetation indices and ground reports indicated not much of negative impacts on crops over the dry portions of the region. The continuation of seasonal rain should help sustain sufficient soil moisture to benefit cropping activities over most areas.

During the next outlook period, increased rain is forecast along the Pacific Basin of Central America, with torrential rain over western and southern Guatemala, El Salvador, northwestern Nicaragua, and the Southern Caribbean. In Guatemala, the forecast heavy rain could trigger localized flooding and landslides over some areas. Elsewhere, heavy showers are possible along the coasts of eastern Honduras and eastern Nicaragua, while light to moderate rain is expected over the interior of Central America.

