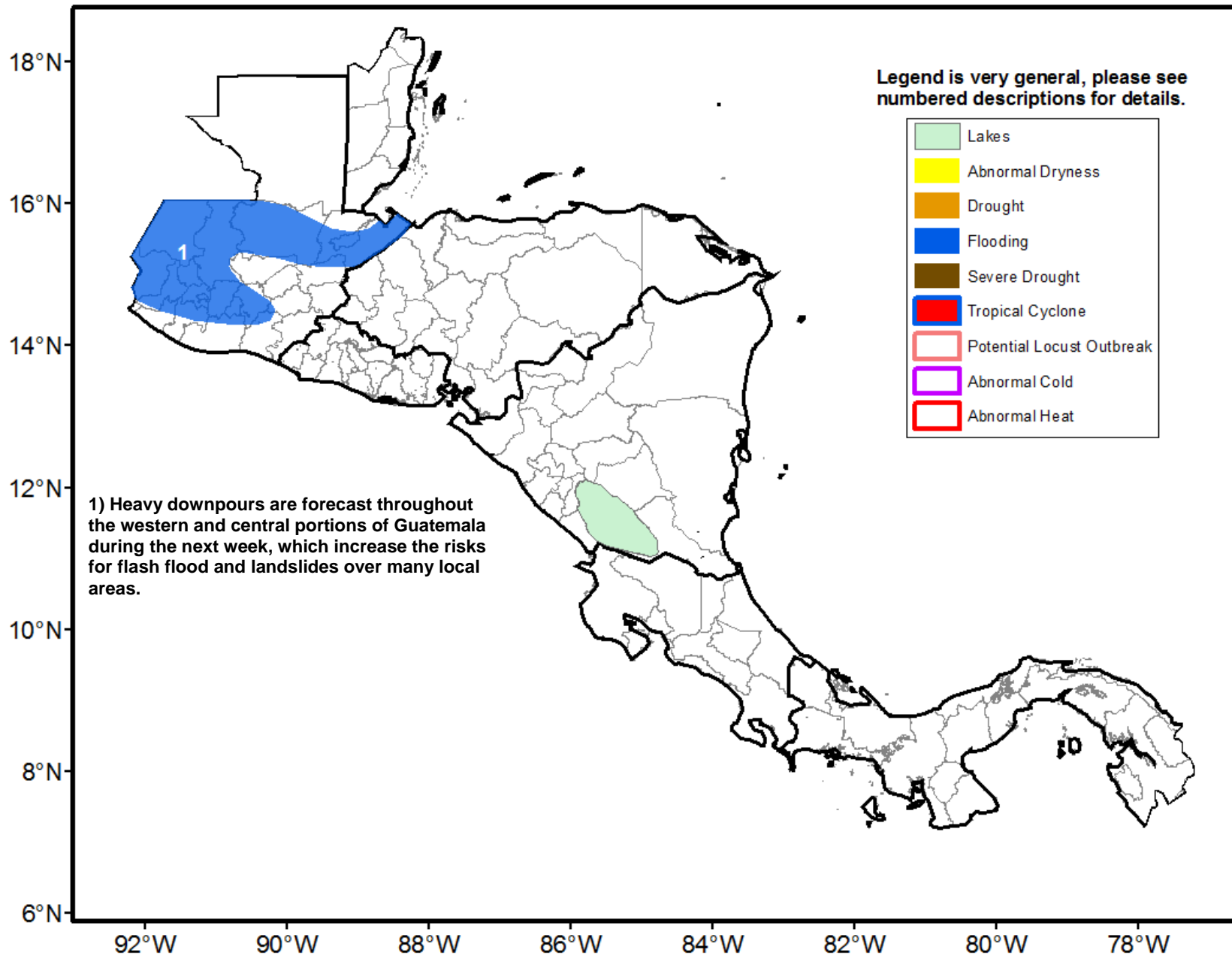




Climate Prediction Center's Central America Hazards Outlook August 24 – 30, 2017

Reduced and below-average rain observed over much of Central America during the past week.



Heavy rain expected along the Pacific Basin of Central America

From Aug 15-21, reduced rain was observed across Central America relative to that of the week prior. Little to light (< 25 mm) rain fell throughout the inland of the region, including the central portions of Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, and Costa Rica. In contrast, heavy showers were received along the Gulf of Honduras, El Salvador, southeastern Nicaragua, and the Pacific coastlines of Costa Rica and Panama. Compared to climatology, this past week's rainfall totals were mostly below-average across the region. Over the past thirty days, while positive rainfall anomalies were still observed throughout most areas of Central America, negative rainfall anomalies were registered over portions of southern Belize, eastern Guatemala, central Honduras, and Nicaragua. An analysis of recent vegetation indices showed that average to above-average conditions prevailed over Central America, except a few localized areas. The near frequent rain, although insufficient over some areas, has helped sustain adequate conditions for cropping activities across most areas during the ongoing cycle.

During the next week, abundant rain is forecast along the Pacific Basin of Central America, while reduced rain is expected along the eastern two-thirds of the Atlantic Basin. The forecast torrential rain heightens the risks for flash flood and landslides over many local areas of western and central Guatemala. Conversely, an additional week, with limited and below-average rain could strengthen moisture deficits over the dry portions of Central America.

