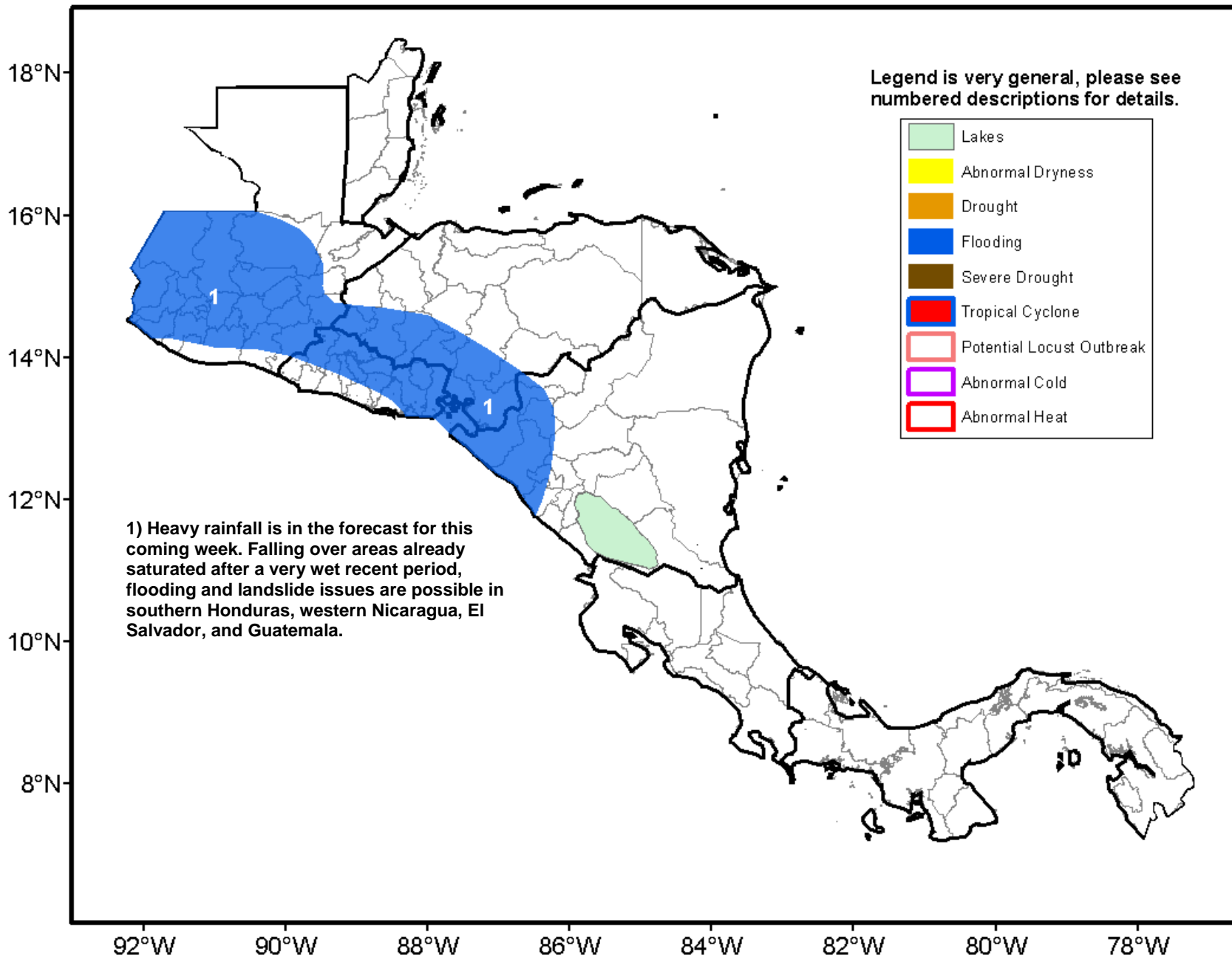




## Climate Prediction Center's Central America Hazards Outlook October 12 – October 18, 2017

Continuing heavy rain still threatens to cause flooding for many parts of the region.



**The passage of Tropical Storm Nate brought wind damage and widespread flooding problems to the region.**

Nate tracked over eastern Honduras and Nicaragua as a tropical storm. The storm left wind damage, landslides and widespread flooding in its wake. Sadly, 22 fatalities have been reported in the region due to the storm. Rains were greatly enhanced throughout a large part of Central America by Nate. Rainfall totals well in excess of 200mm were observed in many areas according satellite estimates. Some of these areas include central Guatemala, western Nicaragua, Costa Rica, and local portions of Honduras. A gauge in Liberia, Costa Rica measured 278mm of rain in just 24 hours while Nate was nearby. The past week's torrential downpours merely add to the extended period of above-normal precipitation for much of the region. 30-day surpluses are currently upwards 100 - 200mm in many cases. That equates twice the amount of rain as is typical for the period in a place like northern Honduras. There are still some localized areas with moisture deficits, such as the Gulf of Belize region and southeastern Nicaragua. Vegetation health index shows positive values for much of Central America, but there are some lower values in northern Guatemala and Belize.

Looking ahead to the outlook period, more heavy rain is likely over Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua. The center of the heaviest precipitation is expected to be located in southern Guatemala where well over 100mm of rain is expected. Weekly totals in excess of 50mm should spread across areas of southern Honduras and western Nicaragua. This additional significant rain will prolong the risk of flooding and landslides. Light rains are expected in areas of central/eastern Nicaragua and Honduras, as well as Belize. No further tropical cyclone activity is expected to impact the region during the outlook period.

