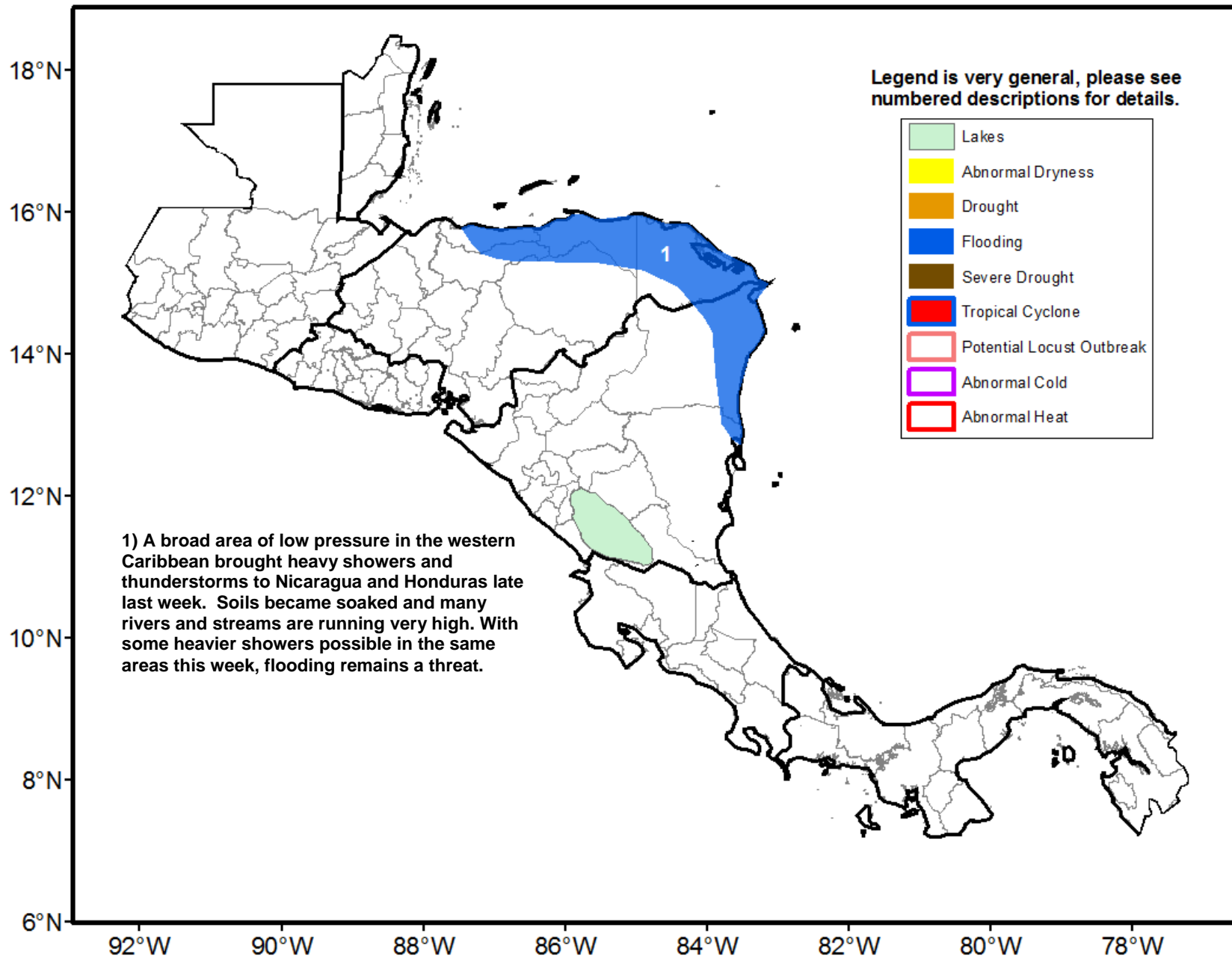




Climate Prediction Center's Central America Hazards Outlook November 2 – November 8, 2017

A large cyclonic circulation and embedded tropical cyclones brought widespread flooding rains to the region.



Widespread and persistent heavy rains should transition to a more climatologically average rainfall pattern this coming week.

Prevalent heavy shower and thunderstorm activity was observed over the region during the past week associated with a large area of circulation and the development of Tropical Storm Phillipe. According to satellite estimates, heavy rainfall was widespread. Some coastal sections of Honduras and eastern Nicaragua received extreme totals in excess of 300mm. Many other parts of the region, including much of Nicaragua, Costa Rica, and Panama received well greater than 100mm of rain. As a result, there were widespread reports of flooding with related damages and fatalities in Nicaragua and Honduras. Even in Petén Guatemala, where rainfall was more moderate, it was enough to cause flooding. Central Guatemala was one of the few areas that only received light rains. This past week's heavy rains added to an already wet period, especially in Nicaragua and northern Honduras. Many areas now report 300mm or greater surpluses over the last 30-days. Over longer 90-day periods, the region is experiencing normal or wetter than normal rainfall performance. Vegetation Health Index shows average ground conditions in much of the region, with some recent improvement in eastern Nicaragua. The index also shows some patches of poorer values in northern Guatemala and Belize.

The pattern should return closer to average for the upcoming outlook period. As is typical to start November, the greatest rainfall (>100mm) should be located along the eastern coasts of Nicaragua and Honduras. Totals of 10-25mm, with locally higher amounts, are expected in Guatemala and the rest of Honduras. Similar amounts are likely in central Nicaragua where they are slightly less than climatology.

