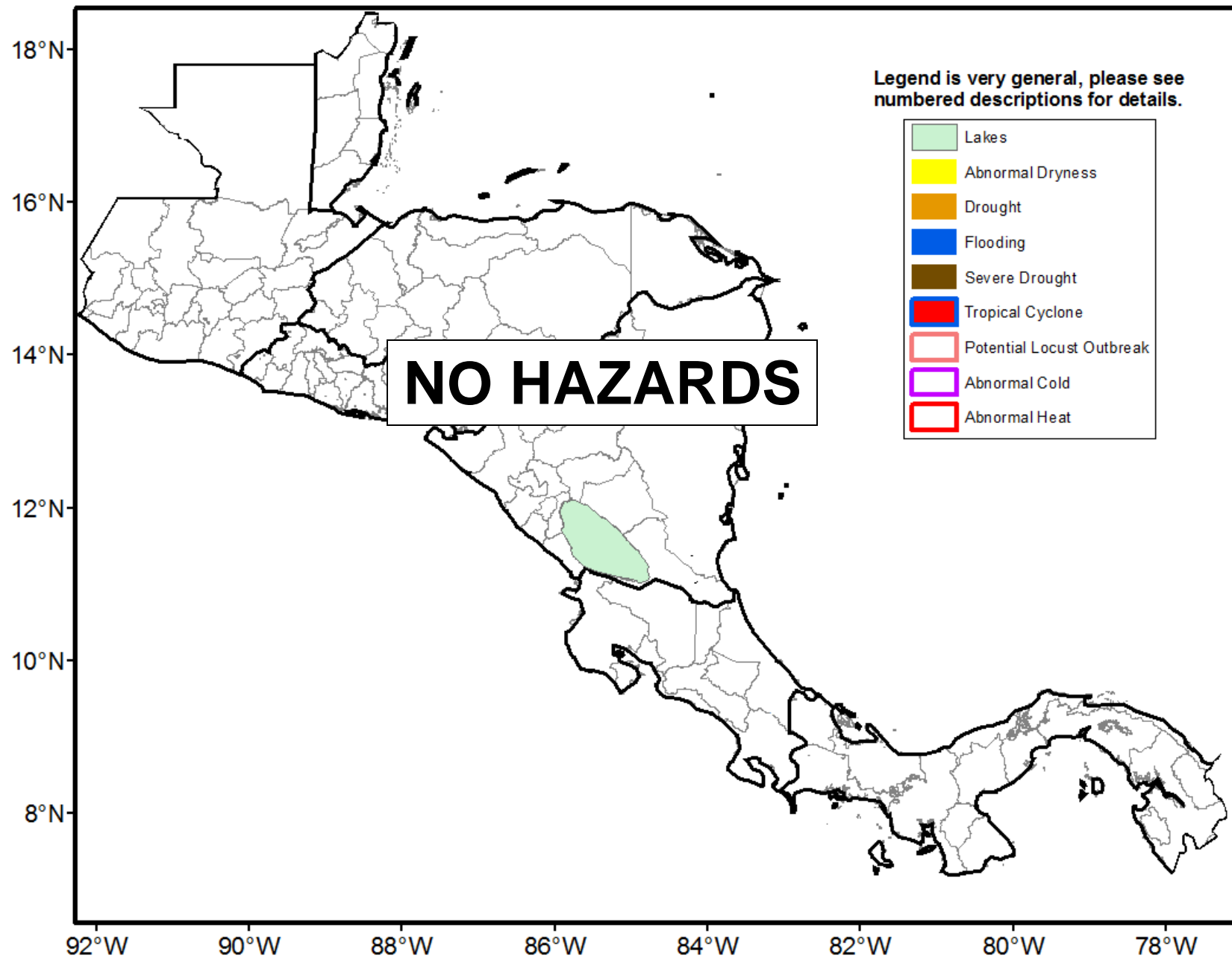




Climate Prediction Center's Central America Hazards Outlook December 28, 2017 – January 3, 2018

Little to no rainfall received throughout much of Central America.



December moisture deficits observed in northwestern Honduras and northern Guatemala.

In late December, a large-scale reduction in seasonal precipitation was observed over most of Central America compared to past several weeks. According to satellite rainfall estimates and gauge reports, the highest weekly accumulations were received over the southern Caribbean and northern Honduras, with trace amounts of precipitation received in Guatemala. Analysis of latest 30-day rainfall anomalies suggests little change to the performance of early season Apante rainfall and moisture conditions with low to moderate moisture deficits in northern Guatemala and Honduras. Here, rainfall has been frequent but low in quantity since mid-November. Remotely sensed vegetation health indices indicate neutral to favorable ground conditions across much of Central America, with locally unfavorable values in portions of northern Guatemala and eastern Honduras. An increase in weekly averaged temperatures was observed during the last week which mitigated concerns for freezes in the higher elevations of Guatemala and Honduras

For the upcoming outlook period, models suggest another week of increased precipitation over parts of Honduras and northern Guatemala. Pacific facing parts of the Central America are expected to remain seasonally dry. Temperatures are forecast to be near normal across much of region, with the possibility of slightly cooler than average temperatures over southern Honduras.

