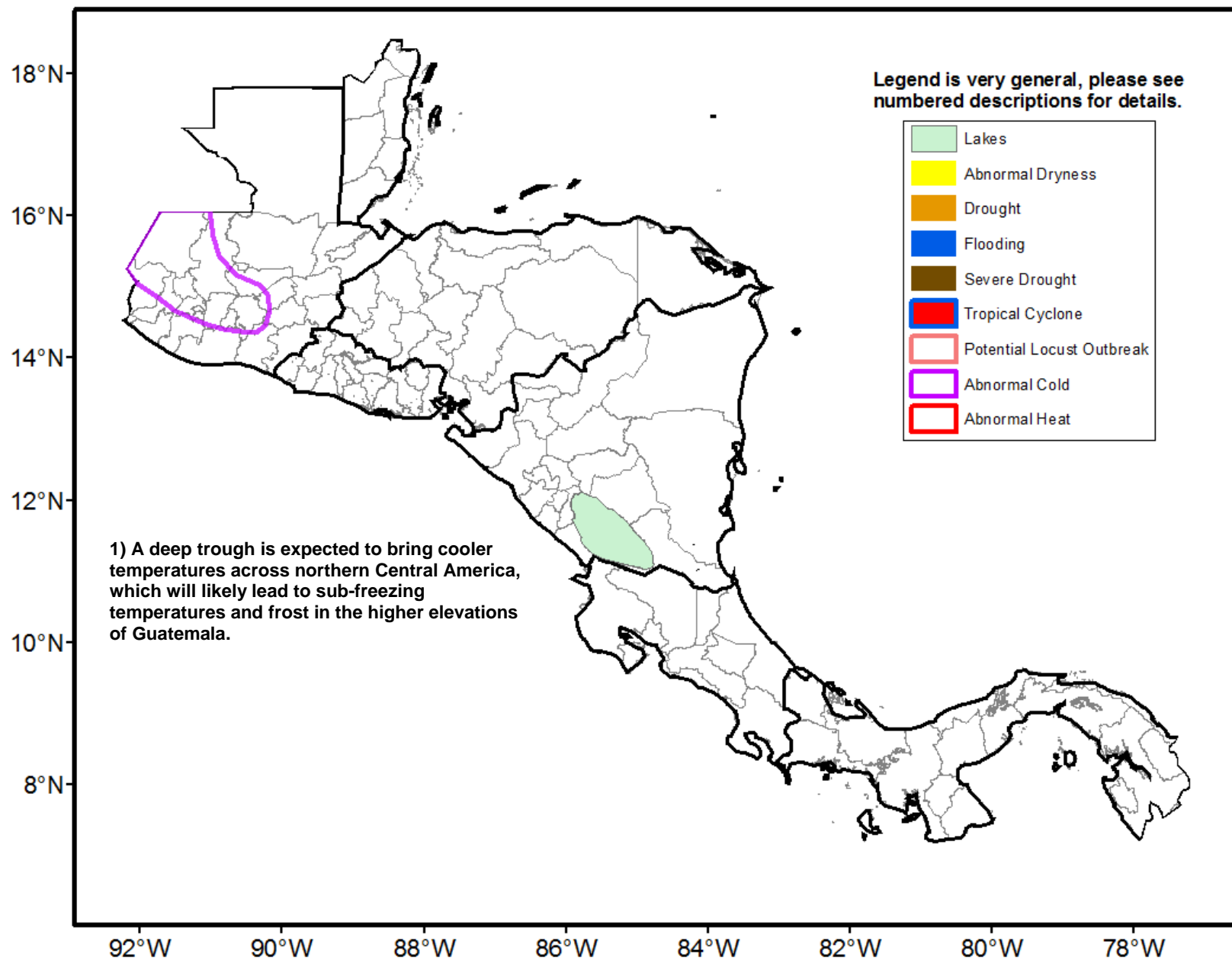




## Climate Prediction Center's Central America Hazards Outlook January 11 – January 17, 2017

Southern Caribbean countries received very heavy rains while the rest of the region was dry.



## Cooler than normal temperatures will persist in Guatemala and Honduras.

An area of heavy rains developed over the southern Caribbean and dumped large rainfall totals on portions of Panama and Costa Rica. Analysis of satellite rainfall estimates indicates that 100-300mm have fallen in northern coastal regions. Local Gauges report even greater amounts in Panama. The northern coast of Honduras received significant rainfall, but elsewhere the period was generally dry. A few light showers were observed over parts of Southern Guatemala, the Gulf Of Belize region, and western Nicaragua. Drier conditions like these are normal during January. Thus far, performance during the Apante season has been near normal across many portions of Guatemala, El Salvador, Belize, and western Honduras. Contrastingly, moisture conditions proved wetter than average over areas of eastern Honduras, Nicaragua, Costa Rica and Panama, with positive rainfall anomalies exceeding 100mm since December 1. Vegetation indices point towards healthy ground conditions. A few local areas, such as in eastern Honduras and southeastern Nicaragua, show some poorer values. Overall, there has been a positive trend in index values during recent weeks. Observed temperatures were cooler than average.

Over the next 7 days, seasonable moisture conditions should prevail over the entirety of the region. Look for light or moderate precipitation in the favored areas of northern Honduras, eastern Nicaragua, Costa Rica and Panama. Temperatures are forecast to remain cooler than normal for the northern Half of the region. Minimum temperatures will likely approach or dip below freezing in the higher elevations of Guatemala. This may negatively impact the livelihoods of those living in the region.

