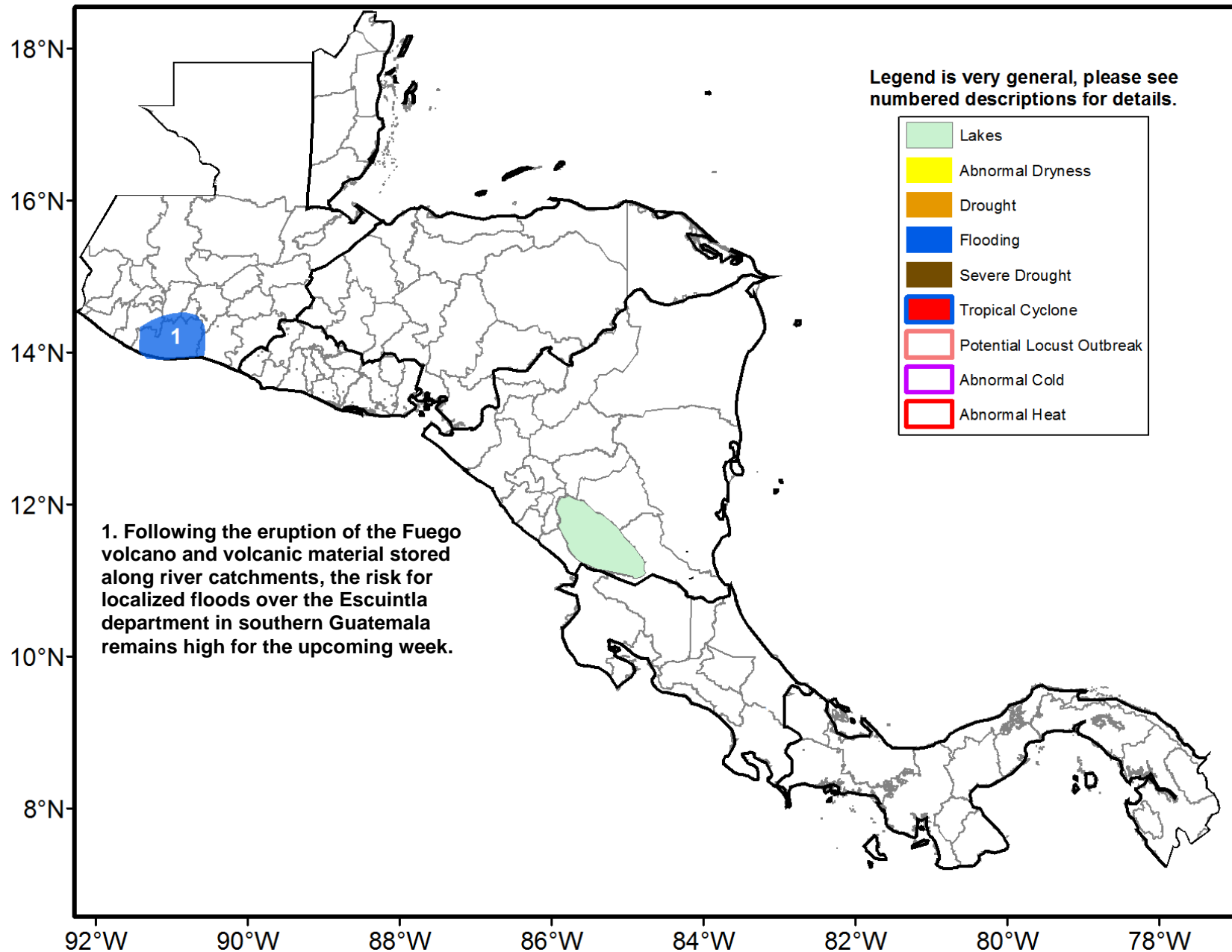




Climate Prediction Center's Central America Hazards Outlook June 21 – June 27, 2018

Increased seasonal rainfall has helped to relieve dryness in parts of central and northern Guatemala.



Anomalous dryness weakens over northern Guatemala.

During the last week, a favorable distribution of rainfall was received throughout Central America, with several anomalously dry parts of Guatemala and western Honduras benefitting from then enhanced seasonal rainfall. According to satellite rainfall estimates, the highest weekly accumulations (>100mm) were registered over northeastern Guatemala, southern Honduras, and northern Costa Rica, with lesser but well-distributed precipitation registered elsewhere across the region. Analysis of early season Primera precipitation anomalies since mid-May shows some improvement in the dryness pattern across central and northern Guatemala, with several local areas now experiencing between 50 and 80 percent of their normal rainfall accumulation. Precipitation frequency anomalies during this period indicates generally average conditions (i.e. near normal number of rain days), which suggests that crops may benefit from frequent rainfall, despite being low in total quantity. Analysis of remotely sensed vegetation health conditions (VHI) continues to reflect positive changes in ground conditions over the past couple of weeks.

For the next week, forecast models suggest the continuation of favorably moderate to locally heavy rainfall over central Guatemala, western Honduras and many coastal areas in the southern Caribbean. The potential for average to above-average rainfall is expected to help continue to mitigate seasonal moisture deficits throughout the region. However, additional rainfall in southern Guatemala may trigger river basin inundation and flooding across the Escuintla department following the eruption of the Fuego volcano. No tropical cyclone activity is expected during the forecast period.

