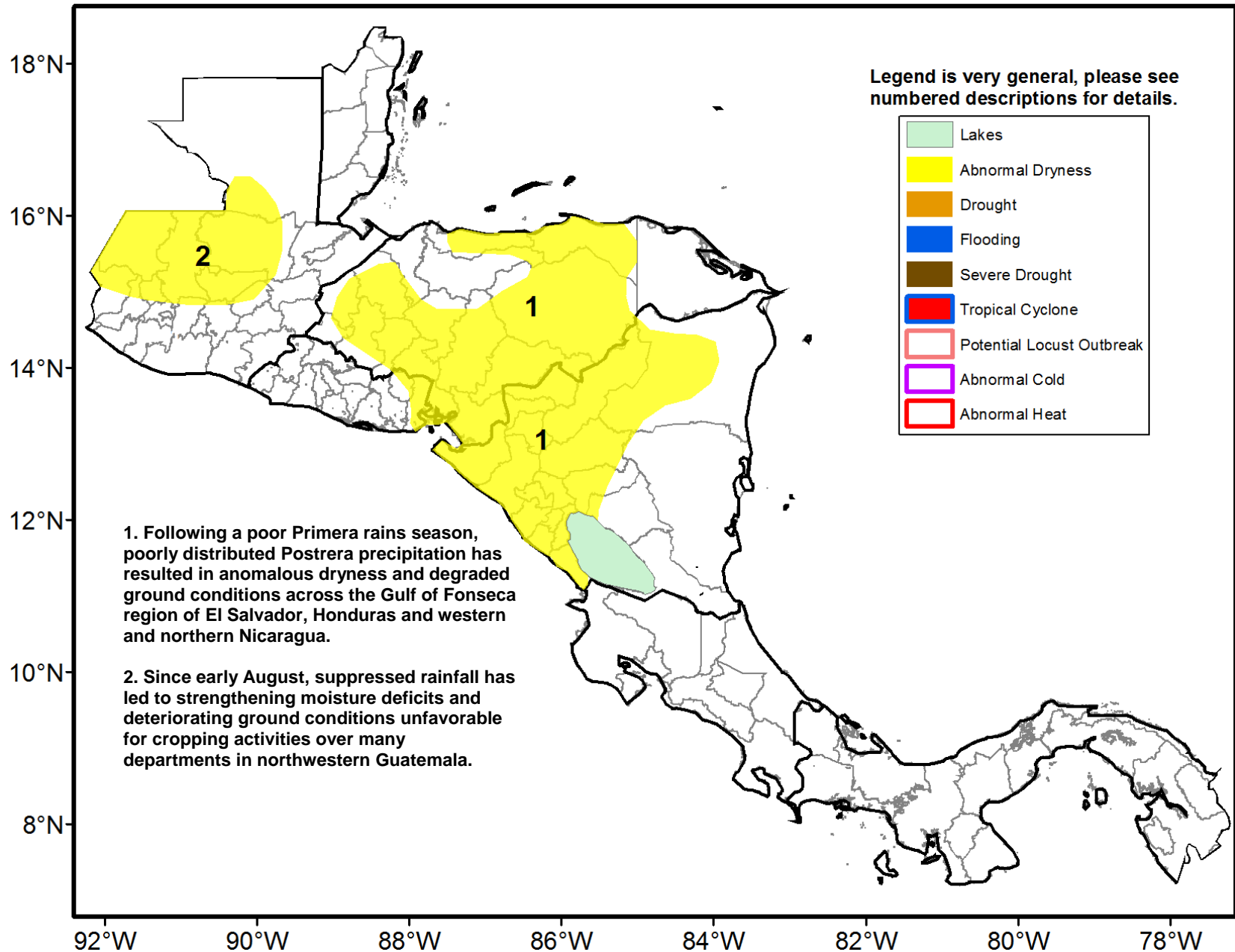




## Climate Prediction Center's Central America Hazards Outlook October 4 – October 10, 2018

Anomalous seasonal dryness reemerges across parts of Guatemala.



## Poorly distributed rains lead to strengthening dryness in Guatemala.

Despite a favorably wet forecast in the models, only light to locally moderate rainfall was received across central and northern Guatemala during the last week. The persistence of suppressed rainfall over northwestern Guatemala has resulted in significant moisture deficits since the beginning of August in the region. Elsewhere, well distributed moderate to locally heavy rainfall continued over southern Guatemala, El Salvador, Costa Rica and eastern Nicaragua for the second consecutive week. Since the beginning of September, considerable moisture deficits remain throughout many departments northwestern Guatemala, Honduras and in portions of western and northern Nicaragua. Here, several local areas have only received between 25 to 80 percent of their normal rainfall accumulation, with an anomalously low number of rain days during this period. Since early July, below average moisture conditions still prevail across northern Central America from Guatemala, Honduras, and Nicaragua. With poorly distributed rainfall during *Primera*, May-August season, suppressed rainfall during and October could result in two consecutively failed rain seasons to adversely impact crop production for many areas.

For next outlook period, precipitation models suggest the continuation of widespread, heavy showers activity over the Pacific side of Central America due to the development of low pressure over the eastern Pacific. Although there is limited potential for development of a tropical cyclone, enhanced rainfall remains likely for southern Guatemala, El Salvador, western Nicaragua, and Costa Rica. However, decreased rainfall amounts are expected for several interior and Atlantic facing departments which are likely to either sustain or strengthen seasonal dryness for the affected areas.

