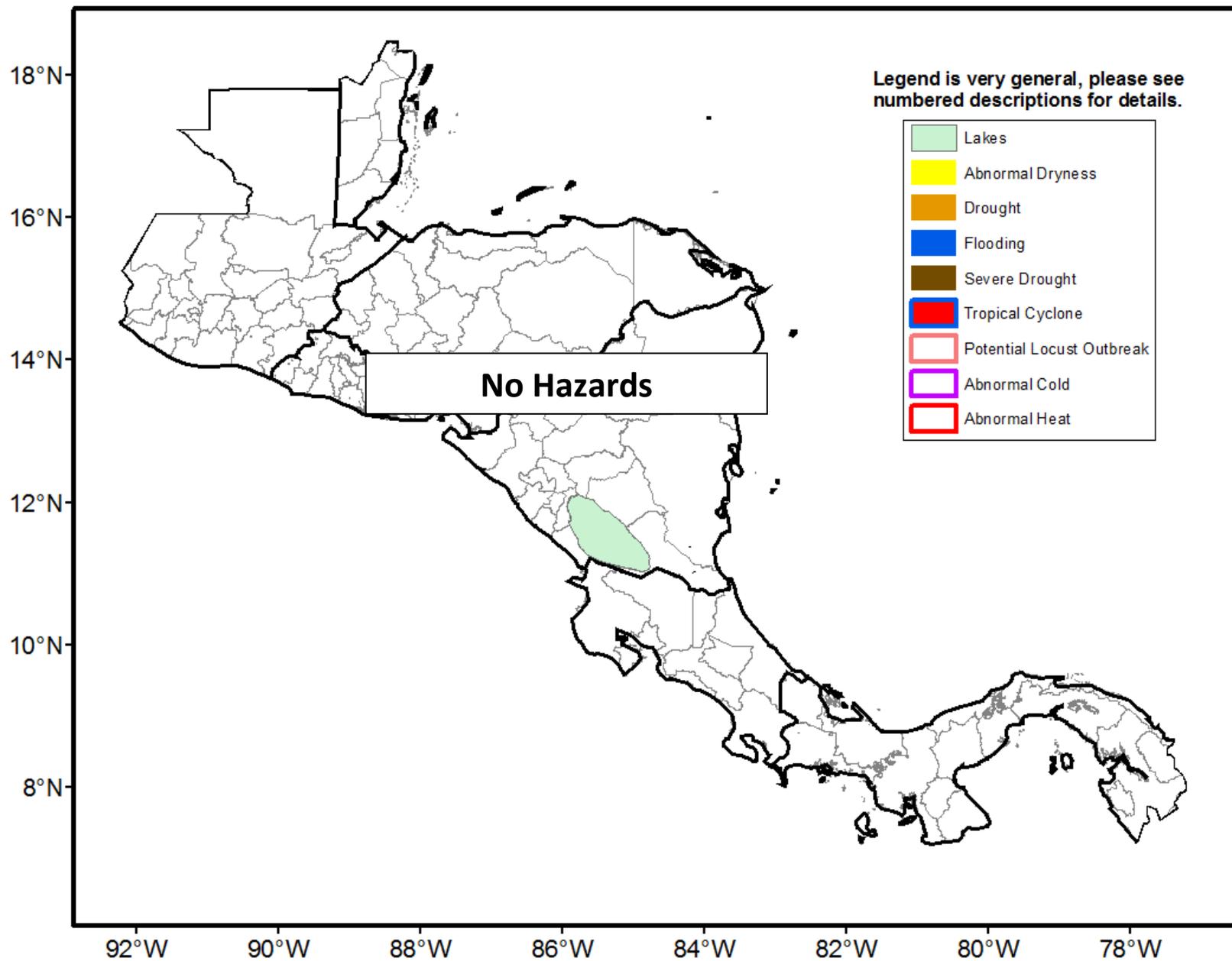




Climate Prediction Center's Central America Hazards Outlook July 4 – July 10, 2019

The pattern of poor seasonal rainfall performance continued for many areas of the region.



Areas of heavy rainfall were widely scattered last week as rains were broadly suppressed across the region.

During the past week, rains were broadly suppressed across the Central American region. A few areas saw heavy and even above-average rains. These include eastern Nicaragua, parts of Costa Rica, El Salvador, and Guatemala regions in the southwest, in the north, and near the Gulf of Belize. Rainfall totals exceeded 100mm and even 150mm in these locations according to satellite rainfall estimates. Other areas including Belize, central Guatemala, and central Honduras received only light rains totaling less than 10mm. This past week was a continuation of the pattern that has been in place for much June. Substantial 30-day rainfall deficits are evident in Belize, central Guatemala, Honduras and Guatemala. A few local areas of Guatemala and western Honduras are exhibiting moisture surpluses. Despite these rainfall deficits, and even poor long-term performance in Honduras and Nicaragua, widespread degradation of vegetation health has not yet been observed. We will, however, have to watch for these potential impacts to vegetation and cropping activities if substandard rains continue in eastern Nicaragua and Honduras, as well as in Belize

The GFS model forecasts suppressed rainfall for much of the region. The heaviest (and climatologically normal) rains are expected along the Caribbean coast of Nicaragua, southwestern Guatemala, and over Costa Rica. Weekly totals of 100-150mm are likely in these regions. Elsewhere, rains are expected to be lighter and below average. Many areas, including southern Honduras, western Nicaragua, and northern Guatemala are likely to receive less than 10mm of rainfall – well less than usual for early July.

