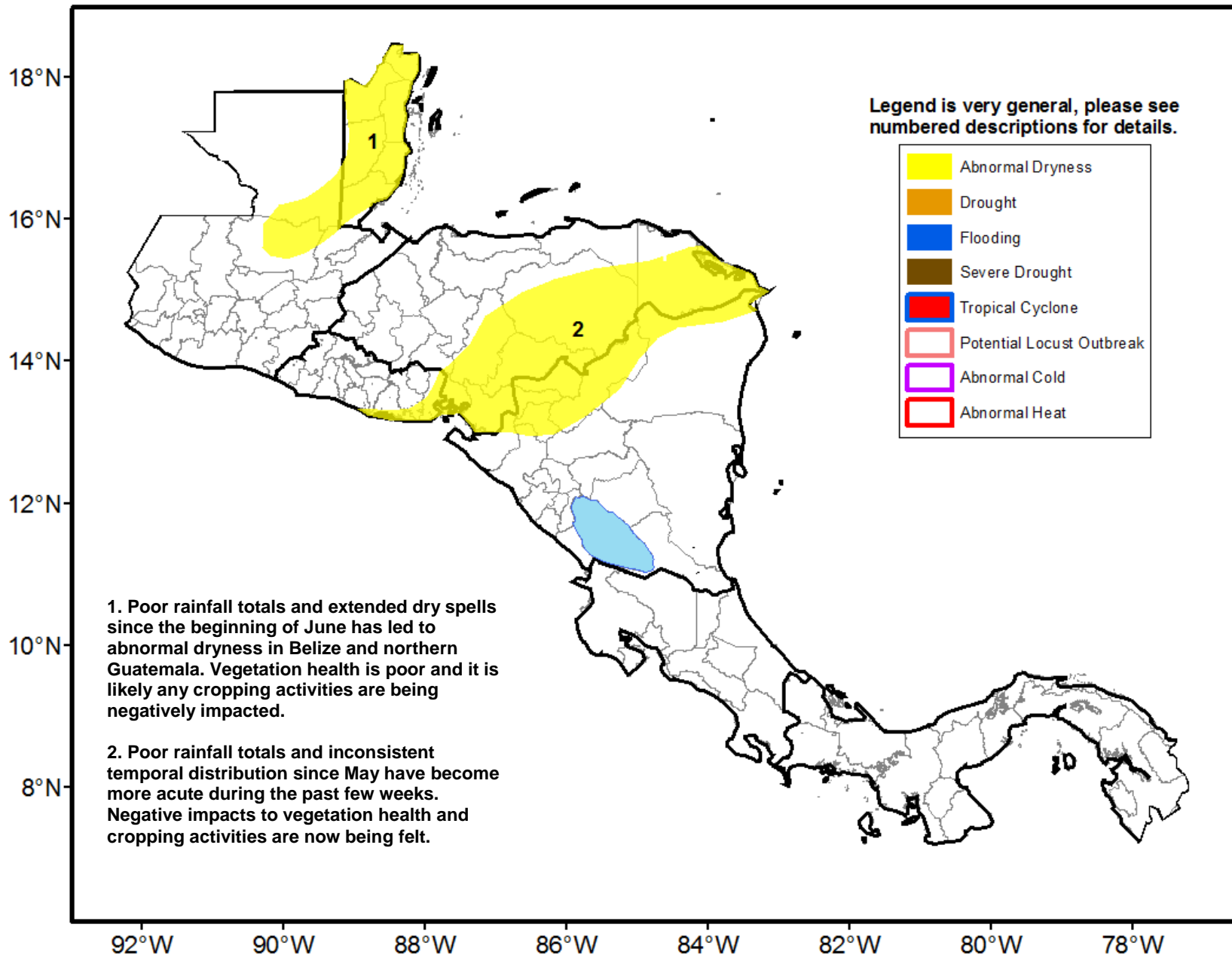




## Climate Prediction Center's Central America Hazards Outlook July 11 – July 17, 2019

Abnormal dryness is building in the region after an extended period of insufficient and poorly distributed rain.



**A significant pattern of suppressed rainfall was observed in the region during the first week of July.**

During the past week, rains were broadly suppressed across the Central American region. Only a few areas saw heavy rains (>100mm). These include southern Nicaragua, parts of Costa Rica and Panama, and north-central Honduras. Many other areas including central Guatemala, parts of Honduras, and Nicaragua received light rains totaling less than 10mm. These amounts are well less than expected during this time of year. This first week of July was a continuation of the pattern that has been in place for much June. Substantial 30-day rainfall deficits are evident in Belize, central/northern Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua. The observed deficits are exceeding 100mm and less than 50% of normal in many locations. Very few places in the region 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. More significant impacts are ground conditions are already observed in Haiti and northern Guatemala.

The GFS model forecasts some increased moisture for southern Guatemala and along the Pacific coast during the second week of July. Some heavier and possibly above normal rainfall is expected there. More than 100mm of rain is possible in southwestern Guatemala. Meanwhile, suppressed rains are expected to continue over many of the dry regions of northern Guatemala, Belize, Honduras, and Nicaragua.

