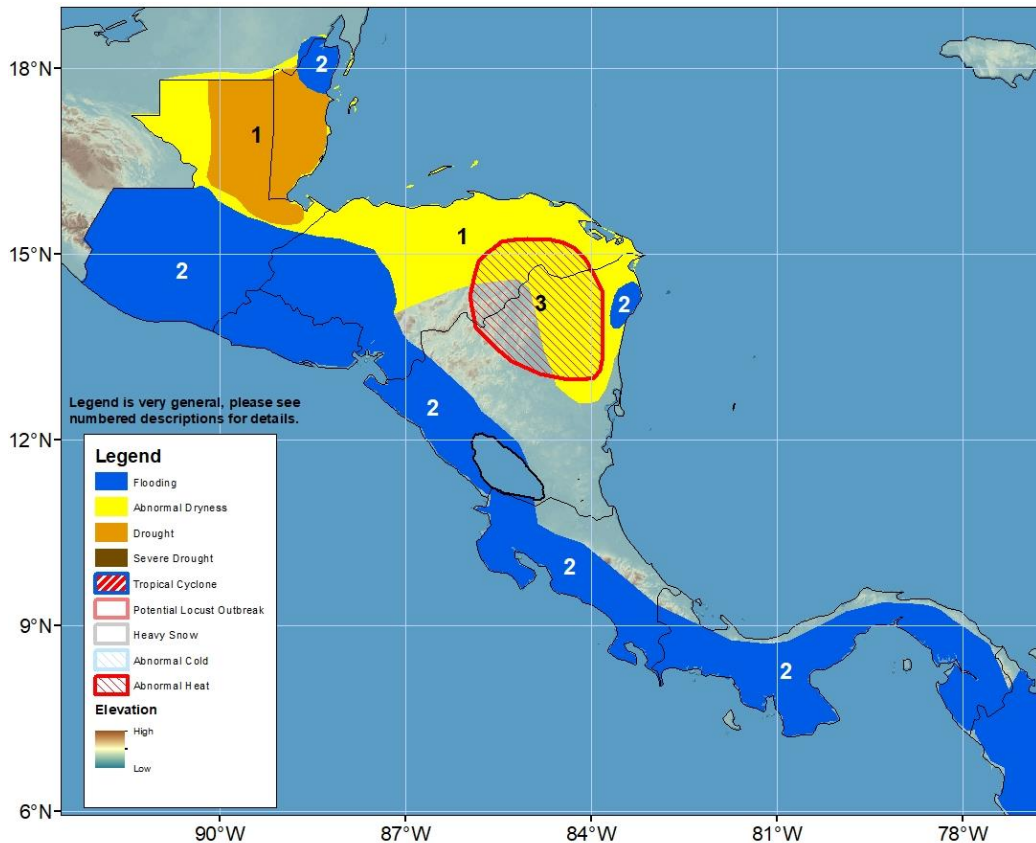


Climate Prediction Center's Central America Hazards Outlook For USAID / FEWS-NET 04 July – 10 July 2024

Very heavy rainfall will expand into the Pacific-facing areas of Costa Rica and Panama, while continuing in Guatemala, Belize, El Salvador, Honduras, and Nicaragua. Heavy rainfall and localized flooding is also expected in northeastern Nicaragua.



- 1) The lack of rainfall during the first part of the season has led to abnormal dryness in many parts of Guatemala, northern Honduras, and northeastern Nicaragua, affecting sowing activities in the region. Rainfall deficits have been in place for well over 4 weeks in northern Guatemala and Belize leading to drought.
- 2) Due to recent rounds of very heavy rain and heavy thunderstorms that will persist into the outlook period, additional flooding is likely in the Pacific-Facing regions of Guatemala, El Salvador, Honduras, Nicaragua, Costa Rica and Panama. Few areas in northeastern Nicaragua will likely have heavy rainfall and localized flooding. Belize will likely see the effects of Hurricane BERYL late Thursday.
- 3) There are enhanced probabilities for a hybrid heat index/maximum temperature to exceed the 90th percentile for at least 2 consecutive days in northern Nicaragua and southeastern Honduras.

Note: The Hazards outlook map is based on current weather/climate information, short and medium-range weather forecasts (up to 1 week), sub-seasonal forecasts up to 4 weeks, and assesses the potential impact of extreme events on crop and pasture conditions. Shaded polygons are added in areas where anomalous conditions have been observed and predicted to continue during the outlook period. The boundaries of these polygons are only approximate at the spatial scale of the map. This product takes into account long-range seasonal climate forecasts but does not reflect current or projected food security conditions. FEWS NET is a USAID-funded activity whose purpose is to provide objective information about food security conditions. Its views are not necessarily reflective of those of USAID or the U.S. Government. The FEWS NET weather hazards outlook process and products include participation by FEWS NET field and home offices, NOAA-CPC, USGS, USDA, NASA, and a number of other national and regional organizations in the countries concerned.

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Very heavy rainfall continued over the Pacific facing regions of Nicaragua, Costa Rica, and northern Panama

Very heavy rainfall in excess of 150mm was recorded across large areas of southern Nicaragua, Costa Rica, and Panama during the past seven days. Northern Guatemala, Honduras, and much of Belize recorded large rainfall amounts exceeding 100 mm. The rains resulted in large 7-day positive anomalies of more than 100 mm in Nicaragua, Costa Rica, and northern Panama. Since mid-June, ten people died, 14,400 people affected and almost 6,200 houses damaged in Guatemala according to the UN OCHA. Likewise, in El Salvador, 19 people died and almost 500 houses were damaged and flooded. In addition, almost 1,500 people were displaced in Honduras according to the same UN OCHA report. The continuing rainfall has substantially reduced the below average rainfall that persisted for the past many weeks. Nevertheless, below average rainfall was still observed in eastern Honduras, eastern Nicaragua, and central Guatemala, resulting in negative anomalies of 25-100 mm during June 2024. Moreover, 90-day rainfall analysis shows that northern Guatemala, southern Belize, and eastern Honduras and Nicaragua registered cumulative rainfall deficits between 5-50 percent of the average.

During the next week, very heavy rainfall will expand into the Pacific-facing areas of Costa Rica and Panama, while continuing in Guatemala, Belize, El Salvador, Honduras, and Nicaragua. Above average rainfall in the range of 20-50 mm is expected across most areas of Central America, whereas southern Panama, western Costa Rica, western Nicaragua, and western Honduras will likely register rainfall surpluses exceeding 50 mm. Although heavy rainfall in the range of 75-150 mm is expected to fall in eastern Honduras and eastern Nicaragua, the expected rainfall amounts are likely to be below average for the week. There are very high probabilities for a hybrid heat index/maximum temperature to exceed the 90th percentile for at least 2 consecutive days in northern Nicaragua and southeastern Honduras.

