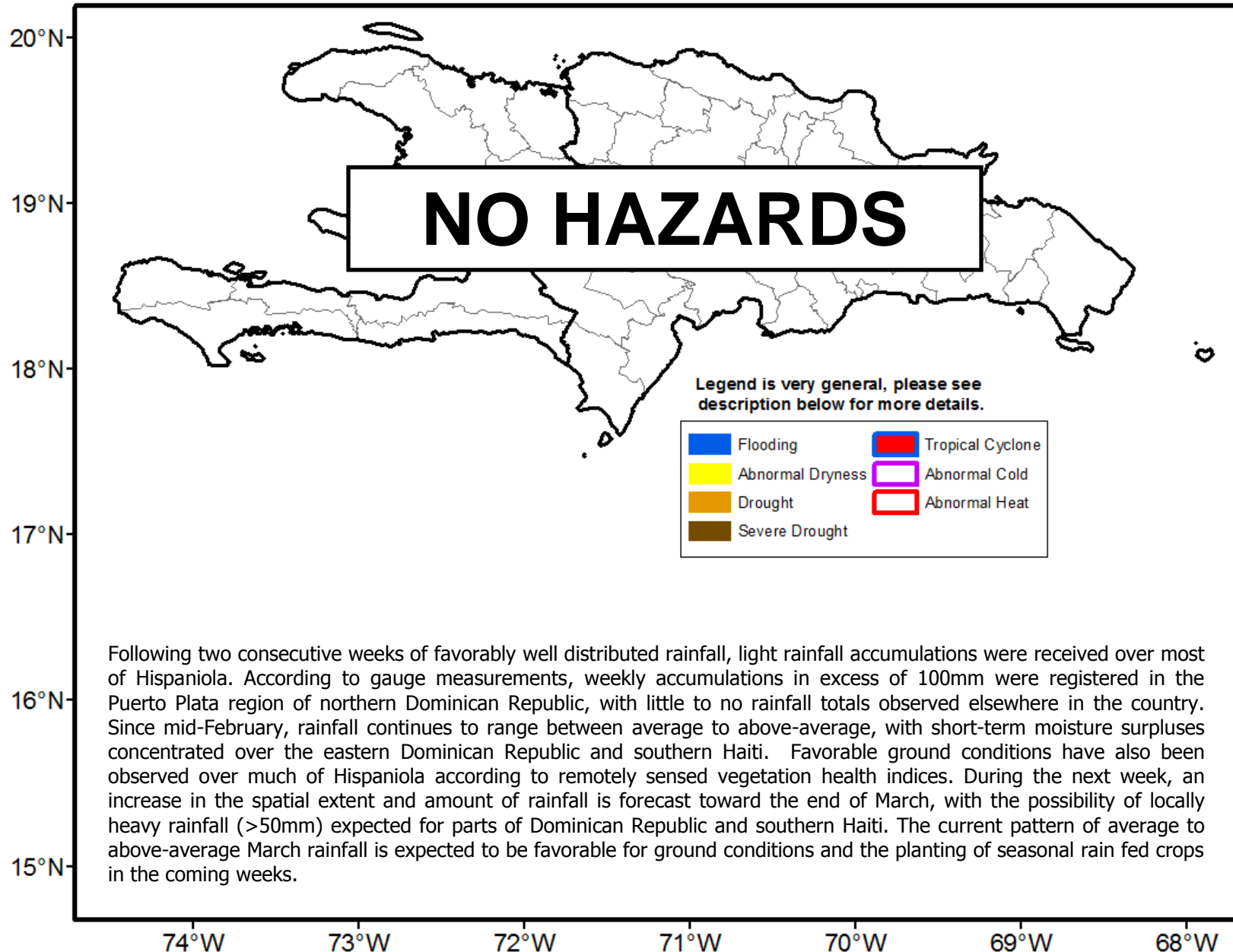




Climate Prediction Center's Hispaniola Hazards Outlook March 22 – 28, 2018

- Moderate to locally heavy rainfall forecast for eastern Hispaniola during late March.



Following two consecutive weeks of favorably well distributed rainfall, light rainfall accumulations were received over most of Hispaniola. According to gauge measurements, weekly accumulations in excess of 100mm were registered in the Puerto Plata region of northern Dominican Republic, with little to no rainfall totals observed elsewhere in the country. Since mid-February, rainfall continues to range between average to above-average, with short-term moisture surpluses concentrated over the eastern Dominican Republic and southern Haiti. Favorable ground conditions have also been observed over much of Hispaniola according to remotely sensed vegetation health indices. During the next week, an increase in the spatial extent and amount of rainfall is forecast toward the end of March, with the possibility of locally heavy rainfall (>50mm) expected for parts of Dominican Republic and southern Haiti. The current pattern of average to above-average March rainfall is expected to be favorable for ground conditions and the planting of seasonal rain fed crops in the coming weeks.