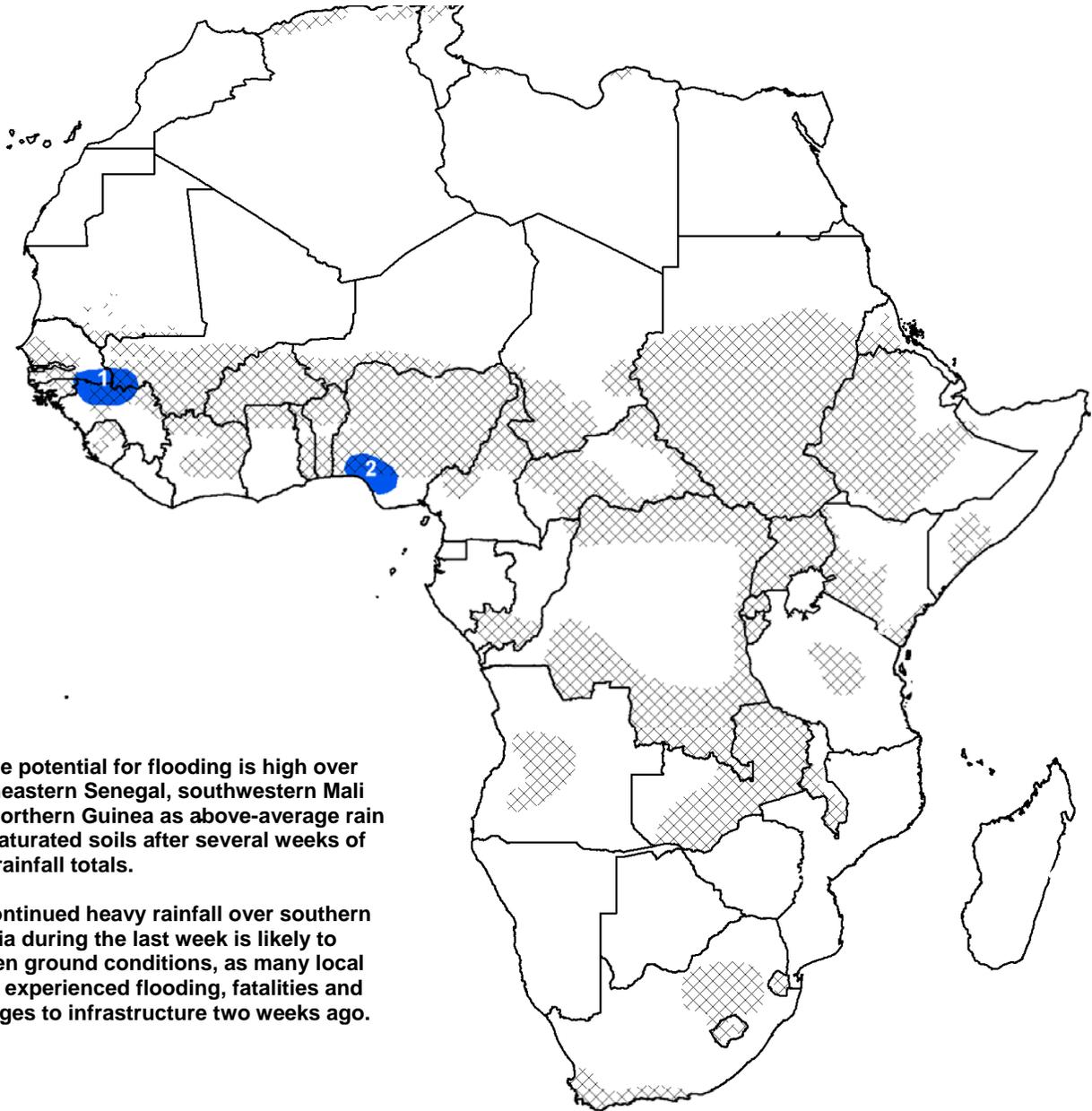


- A decrease in precipitation throughout the Sahel has provided relief to the heavy rainfall observed across many areas in northern Nigeria during the last several weeks.



1). The potential for flooding is high over southeastern Senegal, southwestern Mali and northern Guinea as above-average rain has saturated soils after several weeks of high rainfall totals.

2). Continued heavy rainfall over southern Nigeria during the last week is likely to worsen ground conditions, as many local areas experienced flooding, fatalities and damages to infrastructure two weeks ago.

Legend is very general, please see numbered descriptions for details.



A reduction of rainfall brings continued relief to many flood affected areas in northern Nigeria.

In the last seven days, fair to moderate amounts of rainfall were received across the Sahel, with higher rain accumulations observed in the Gulf of Guinea region. In the western Sahel, anomalously high amounts (>50mm) were received in portions of northern Guinea and southwestern Senegal. These rains are expected to prolong the moderate to high potential for flooding in this region, as many local areas have received twice their normal amount of rainfall since the start of September. Further east, considerably high rainfall amounts in excess of 50 mm were also observed throughout many local parts of northern Ghana, Burkina Faso, Benin and southwestern Nigeria. Locally heavy rainfall in excess of 75mm may have exacerbated flooding conditions for many local areas just west of the Niger River (**Figure 1**).

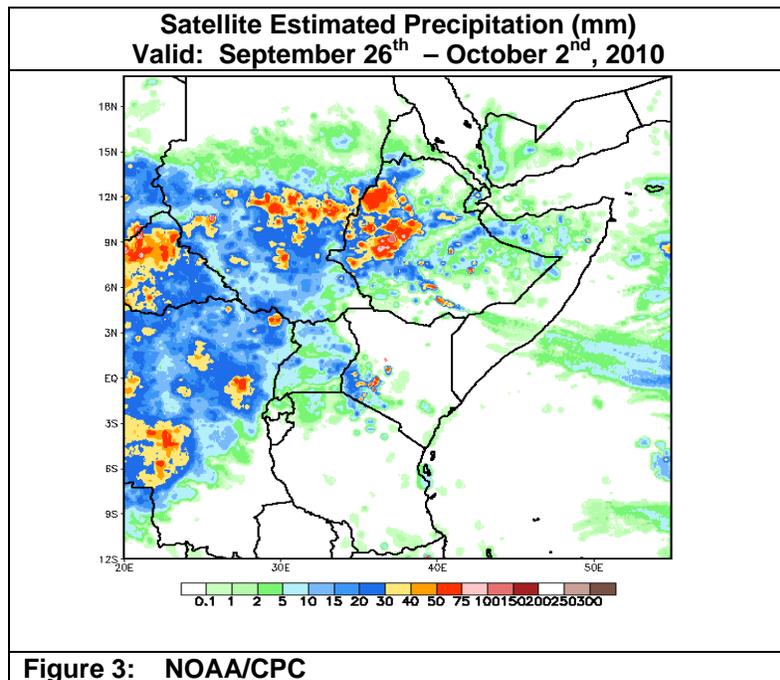
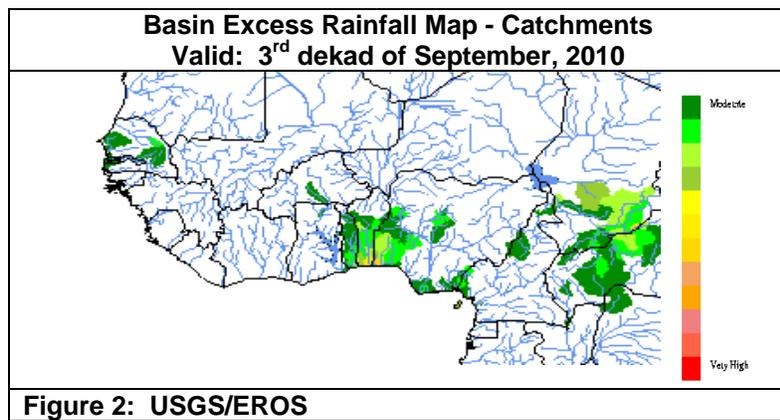
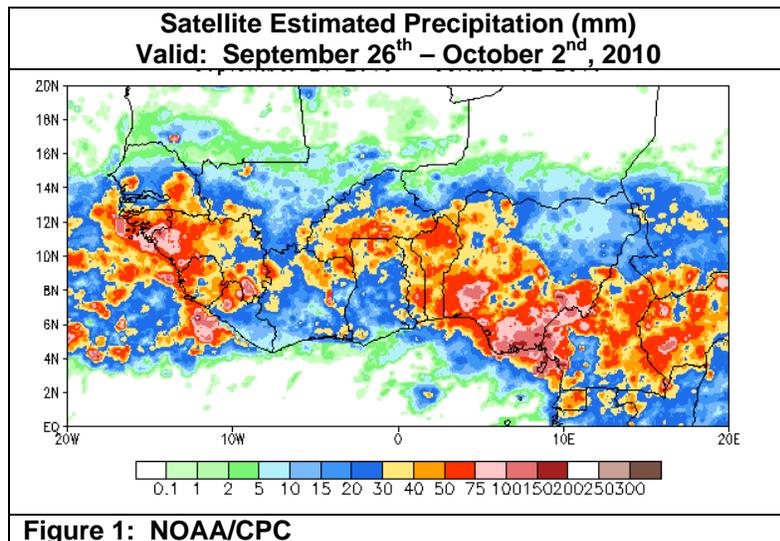
However, a considerable decrease in precipitation was observed across the Kano, Jigawa, Bauchi, Yobe and Borno states of northern Nigeria during the last week. This trend of suppressed rainfall in northern Nigeria is expected to alleviate flooding conditions, and particularly help recovery efforts for many people affected in the Kano state of Nigeria. Analysis of basin excess rainfall for the 3rd dekad of September reflects the reduction of precipitation in the region (**Figure 2**). A moderate potential for flooding however remains for southwestern Nigeria and the lower Gulf of Guinea region due to this past week's rainfall.

Precipitation forecasts do not suggest much change from this past week's rainfall distribution of in West Africa. Light to moderate rainfall (10-30mm) are expected for northern and northeastern Nigeria, with higher totals possibly exceeding 50mm for many local areas in the Gulf of Guinea region.

Moderate to heavy rains continue over western Ethiopia.

A continuation of above average rainfall was observed over the Amhara and western Oromiya regions during the last seven days, as many local areas saw weekly rainfall accumulations upwards of 40mm. This past week's rainfall has further contributed to the anomalously wet conditions observed throughout much of Ethiopia in September. Although rainfall surpluses and high soil moisture conditions are expected to benefit both long and short season cropping activities in Ethiopia, there remains some concern for the downstream impacts in the lowlands of eastern Ethiopia and Somalia. Specifically, a prolonged rains season in the highlands of Ethiopia may elevate the risk of rising river levels and downstream flooding in the Shabelle and Jubba river basins of Somalia.

Precipitation forecasts indicate another week of moderate to high rainfall in along western Ethiopia, with an increase in rainfall for portion of Uganda and southwestern Kenya.



Note: The hazards assessment map on page 1 is based on current weather/climate information and short and medium range weather forecasts (up to 1 week). It assesses their potential impact on crop and pasture conditions. Shaded polygons are added in areas where anomalous conditions have been observed. The boundaries of these polygons are only approximate at this continental scale. This product does not reflect long range seasonal climate forecasts or indicate current or projected food security conditions.

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