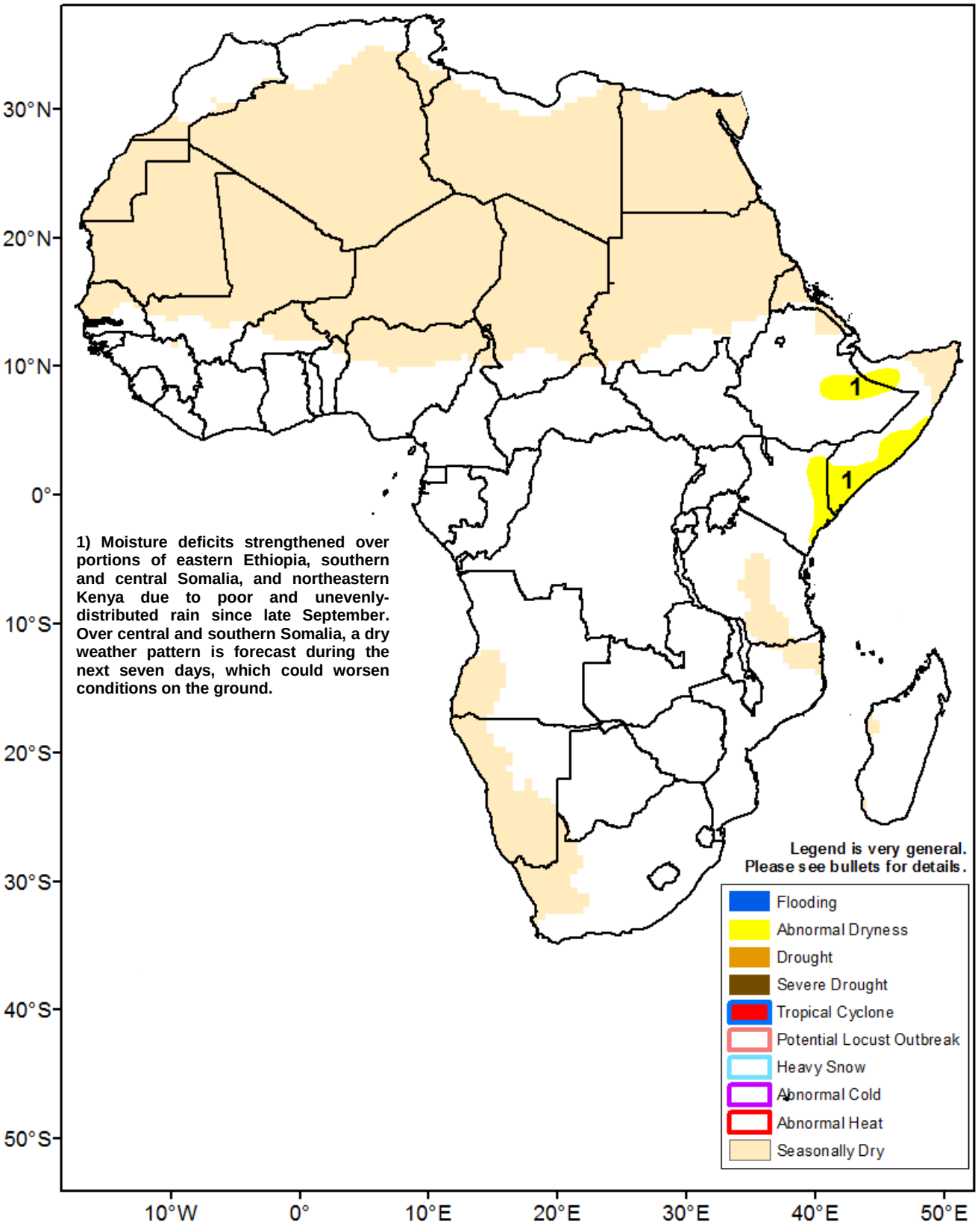
Climate Prediction Center's Africa Hazards Outlook
October 26 – November 1, 2017

- **Below-average rain since late September has led to an abnormal dryness across portions of eastern Ethiopia, southern and central Somalia, and northeastern Kenya.**



Dryness emerges over the eastern portions of Eastern Africa.

In the Greater Horn of Africa, the distribution of rainfall was not favorable over the past four weeks. While above-average rain was observed across the western portions of the sub-region, including western and southern Ethiopia, eastern Sudan, eastern South Sudan, and western Kenya, below-average rain settled in over portions of eastern Ethiopia, southern and central Somalia, and northeastern Kenya (**Figure 1**). The observed thirty-day rainfall deficits were attributed to a delayed onset of the October-December rainfall season. The accumulated insufficient rain was partially associated with an anomalous off-shore flow across these regions over the past thirty days. Additionally, an analysis of the most recent Normalized Difference Vegetation index anomalies revealed expanding below-average conditions over southern Somalia and northeastern Kenya. The continuation of poor rain could further negatively impact ground conditions and thus, substantially affect the livelihoods of many people over the region.

During the next seven days, moderate and scattered showers are forecast in eastern Ethiopia and northern Somalia. This may help reduce moisture deficits in the region. Farther south, moderate rain is expected over central Kenya. In contrast, suppressed rain is forecast over central and southern Somalia.

30-Day Satellite-Estimated Rainfall Anomaly (mm)
Valid: September 25 – October 24, 2017

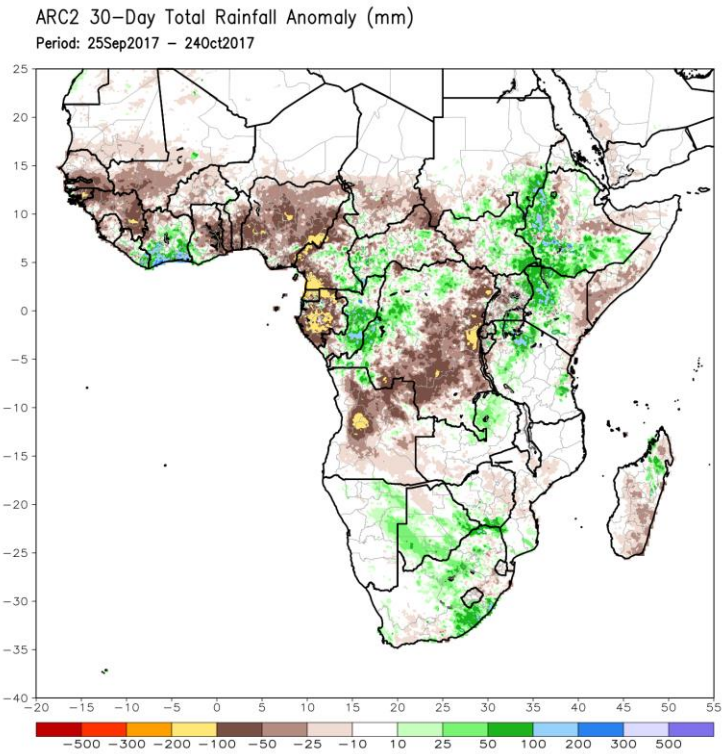


Figure 1: NOAA/CPC

Light to moderate rain was observed over Southern Africa.

During mid-October, moderate rain fell over northeastern Angola, while light to locally moderate rain was observed farther south across northeastern Namibia, western Zambia, Botswana, western Zimbabwe, and northern South Africa (**Figure 2**). Over Angola, this past week's rain helped reduce thirty-day rainfall deficits over the north east. However, large moisture deficits persisted over the north-west central portions of the country due to poor rain since late September. Farther south, positive thirty-day rainfall anomalies were observed across northeastern Namibia, southern Botswana, central and eastern South Africa, and southern Zimbabwe, which was associated with above-average rain during early October. In contrast, small negative rainfall anomalies were present over the KwaZulu-Natal region of eastern South Africa and eastern Zimbabwe. Recent vegetation condition indices showed a slight improvement in conditions over areas of Southern Africa as a response to above-average rain during the previous few weeks. The continuation of seasonal rain is expected to provide favorable soil moisture and benefit cropping activities over many local areas during the ongoing Southern African monsoon growing cycle.

During the next seven days, widespread, heavy rain is forecast over northern Angola. The forecast ample rain should help reduce moisture deficits over the dry parts of the country. Moderate to heavy rain is expected over northern Zambia, central Mozambique, and central Madagascar. Elsewhere, widespread, light rain is forecast across Namibia, Zimbabwe, eastern South Africa, and southern Mozambique.

7-Day Satellite Estimated Rainfall (mm)
Valid: October 18 – October 24, 2017

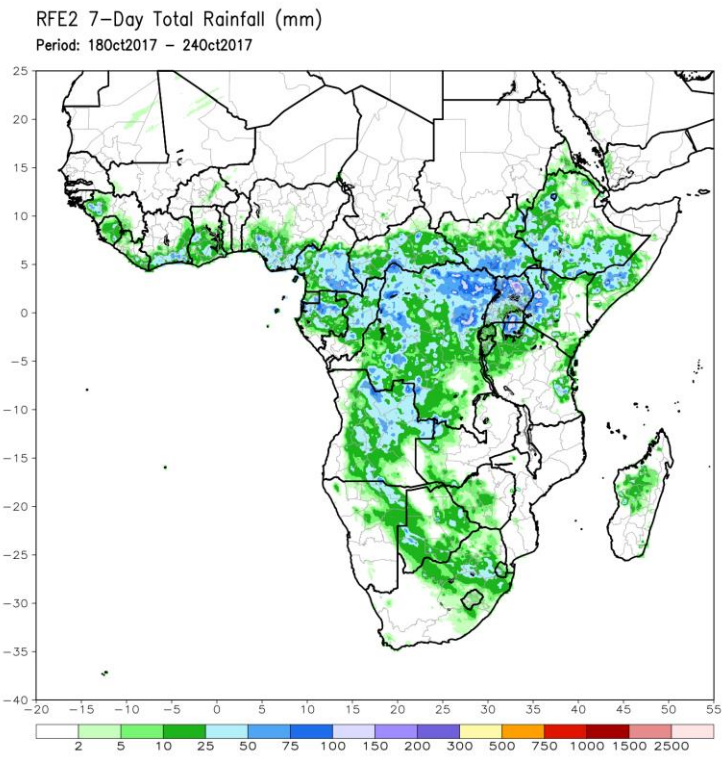


Figure 2: NOAA/CPC

Note: The hazards outlook 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.

Questions or comments about this product may be directed to Wassila.Thiaw@noaa.gov or 1-301-683-3424.