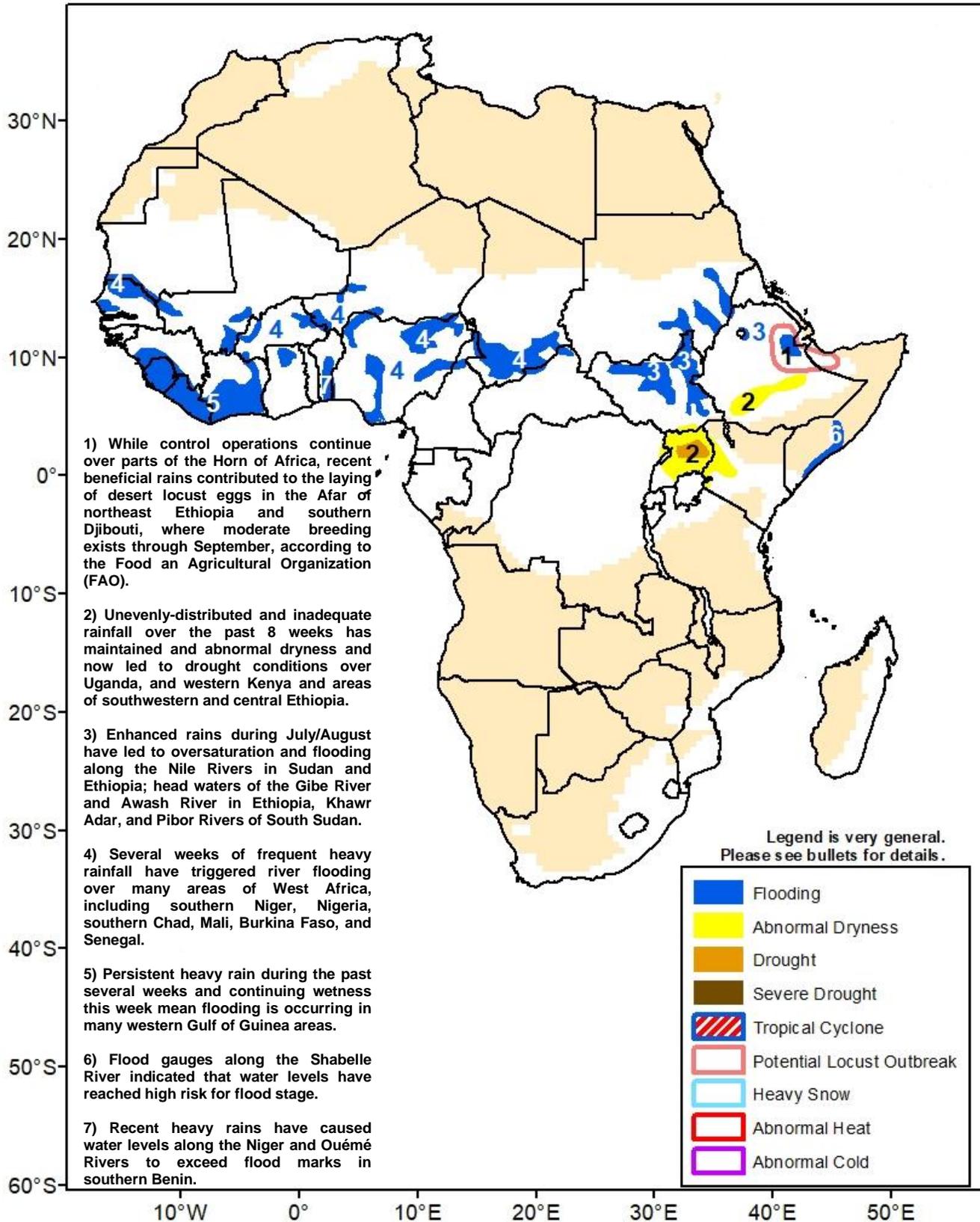




Climate Prediction Center's Africa Hazards Outlook 2 September – 8 September 2021

- Consistent rains maintain high risks for flooding over many areas of West Africa and East Africa.



The heaviest rains were again observed over the far-western parts of West Africa this past week.

A large portion of the region experienced heavy and above-average rainfall during the past 7 days. Some of the largest totals were observed in southern Nigeria where more than 150mm of rain was recorded according to satellite estimates (Figure 1). A large area of West Africa received more than 50mm of rainfall, stretching from Senegal, Guinea, and Liberia, eastward through to western Nigeria. Embedded totals were even higher. This rainfall exceeded averages in many cases, especially over Liberia, Cote D'Ivoire, and Ghana (25-100mm positive anomalies). Lighter and slightly suppressed rainfall, with totals mostly between 25mm and 50mm, was observed in the eastern part of the region. Increasing rainfall trends continued in southern Gulf of Guinea regions. During August, rainfall has been above-average over southern and western West Africa. The largest 30-day rainfall surpluses are registered over Guinea-Conakry, Sierra Leone, Liberia, and parts of southwestern Mali. Positive anomalies reach 200-300mm or more. Many other areas, including Cote D'Ivoire, Senegal, Burkina Faso, southern Mauritania, and parts of Ghana have also been much wetter than average (Figure 2). The resulting oversaturation has caused elevated river levels in Guinea-Conakry, Cote d'Ivoire, Mali, Burkina Faso, Niger, and Nigeria. Recent heavy rain in Benin has caused river flooding. Conversely, below-average 30-day rainfall was observed over parts of central Mauritania and across eastern Nigeria and Cameroon.

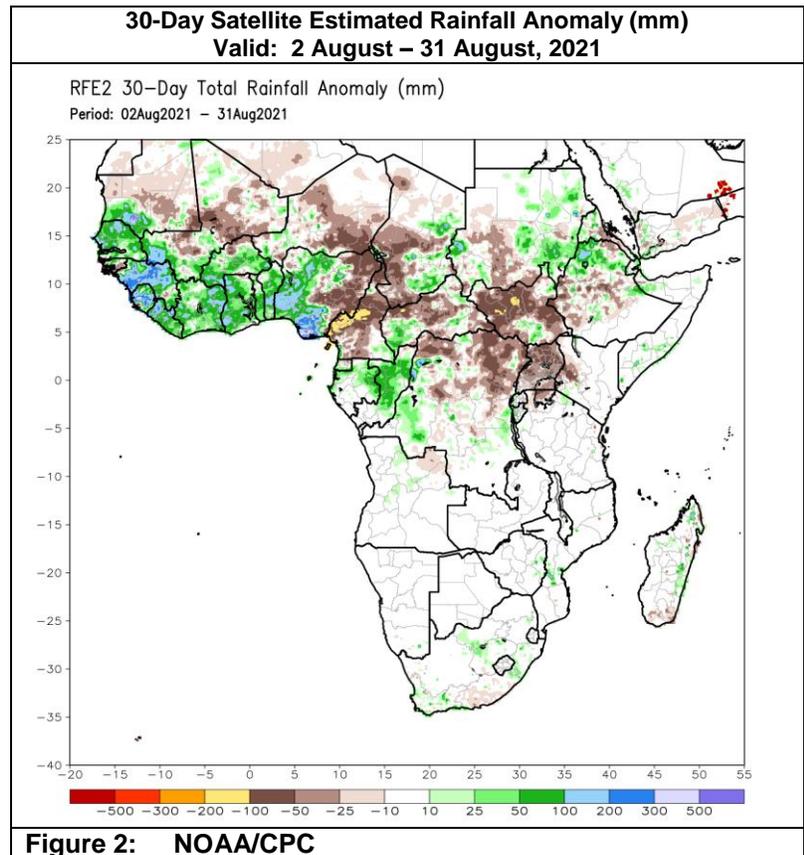
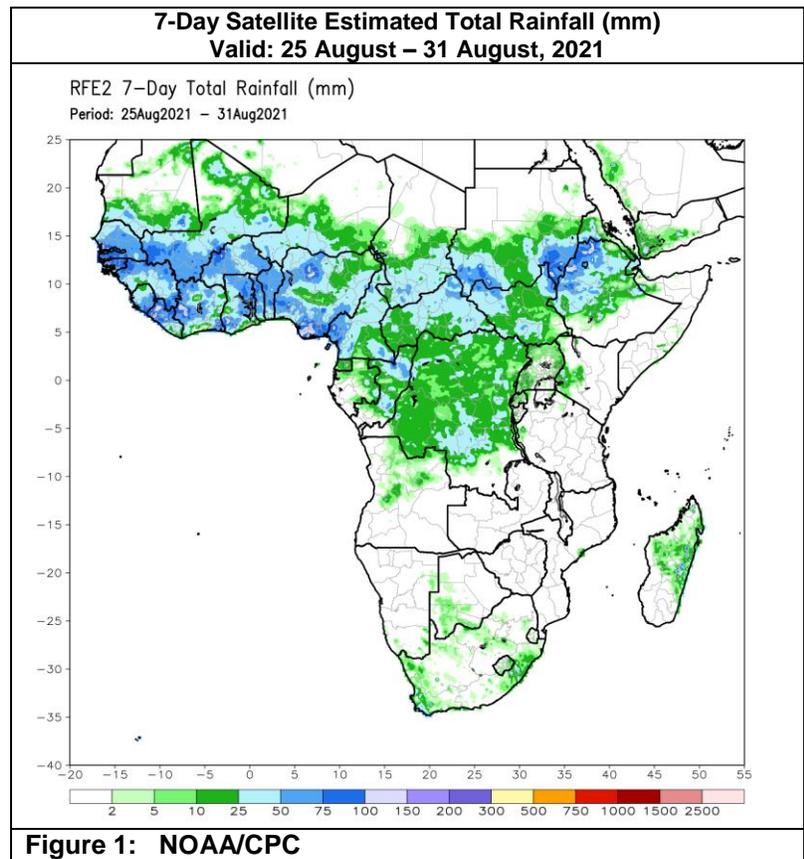
Signal for poor and below-average vegetation health remained over parts of southern Mali, western Nigeria, and Cameroon according to the latest Vegetation Health Index (VHI).

During the next week, abundant rains are forecast for southern and western areas of West Africa. The heaviest rains are again expected in Guinea, Sierra Leone, Cote D'Ivoire, along with southern Nigeria, where more than 100mm is likely. The forecast maintains high risks for flooding over many previously-flooded areas. Conversely, suppressed rain is expected in Mali and Burkina Faso.

Drought is developing in Uganda as rains remain inadequate.

During the past week, heavy rainfall was observed across northwestern Ethiopia and parts of Eritrea and eastern Sudan. Rains locally totaled more than 100mm (Figure 1). The rest of the region saw slightly suppressed rains. Many parts of southern Sudan, South Sudan, western Kenya, and Uganda received less than 25mm leading to negative 7-day anomalies of 10-25mm. An analysis of recent 30-day rainfall totals shows that wetness is contracting northward, but it still prevailed over northern Ethiopia, Eritrea, and eastern Sudan. Rainfall surpluses locally exceed 25mm. As a result, flooding and elevated river levels are still reported over many areas. In contrast, recent below-average rainfall has exacerbated seasonal deficits over Uganda, localized areas of central and southwestern Ethiopia, and portions of western Kenya. Less than 50% of normal rainfall is reported in some cases during the span. Based on the latest VHI, the unhealthiest vegetation conditions are located in Uganda, where conditions are now indicative of Drought.

During the next week, model rainfall forecasts suggest continued enhanced rains, likely more than 75mm, in northwest Ethiopia and neighboring areas of Sudan. This will keep the flood risk elevated.



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.