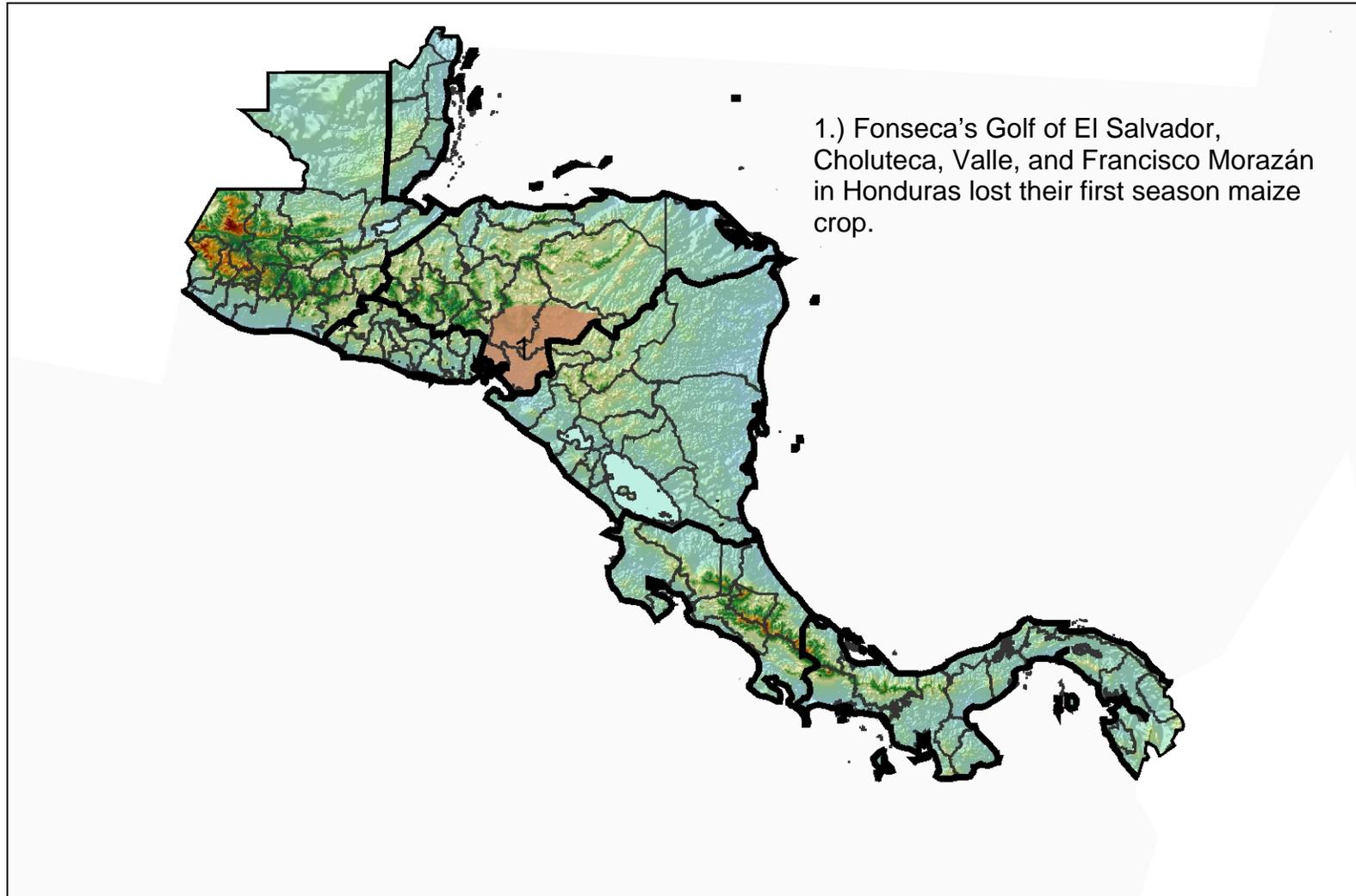


The MFEWS

Central America Weather Hazards and Benefits Assessment

For

August 30 – September 5, 2007



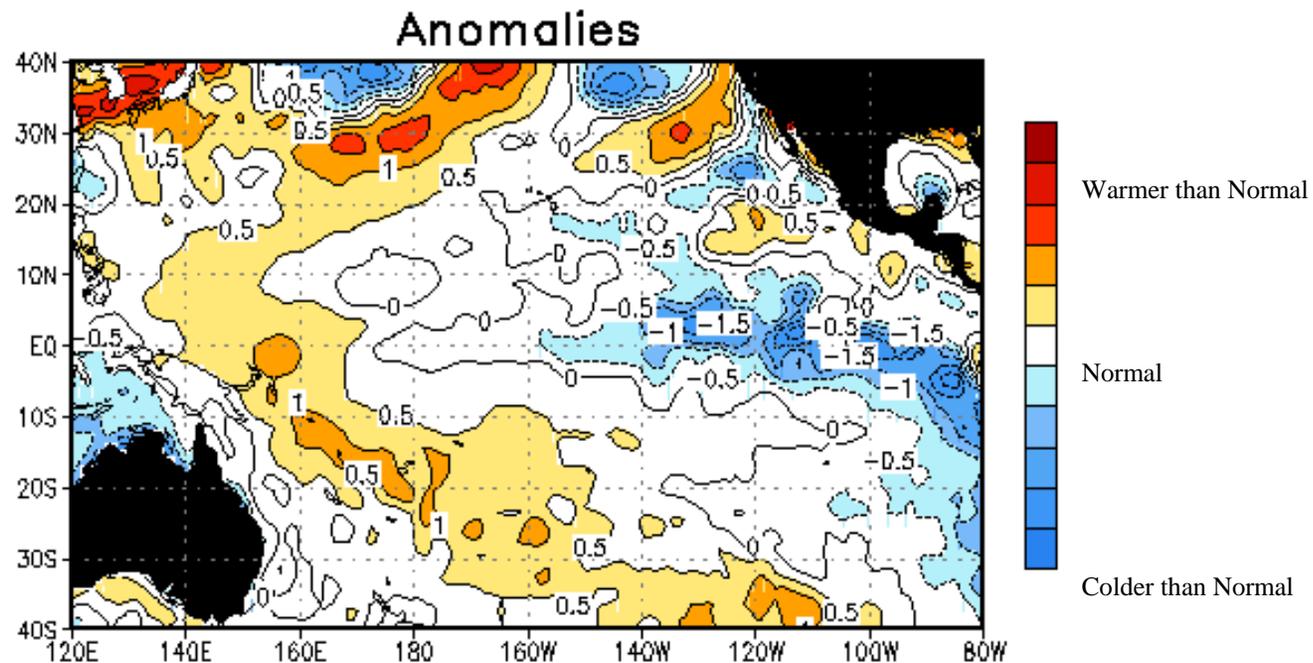
Hazards Assessment Text Explanation:

Conditions are back to normal in Alta Verapaz and Izabal, Guatemala. A few weeks ago the area suffered from landslides and flooding, however field reports state that crop damage was minimal.

In south central Honduras the first season maize crops were lost due to prolonged dry conditions. The government is distributing maize to those in several municipalities. The valleys in the rest of the country are expected to have an excellent maize harvest.

Models show enhanced rainfall over Central America for the next few weeks. A tropical wave located over Central America is expected to bring showers and thunderstorms to the region.

La Nina: ENSO neutral conditions continue in the equatorial Pacific although sea surface temperatures have been below normal. The observed below normal temperatures do not meet the threshold for La Nina. Atmospheric circulation, tropical conditions, and models all indicate a transition into La Nina in the near future. If La Nina does occur, then above normal rainfall can be expected across the region.



The above image reflects sea surface temperature anomalies. The equatorial Pacific region is colder than normal which is indicative of weak La Nina conditions.

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The evaluation of climatological threats of MFEWS include the participation of the central and local offices of MFEWS, NOAA-CPC, USGS, NASA, INETER of Nicaragua, Meteorological Service of Honduras, IMN of Costa Rica, INSIVUMEH of Guatemala, ETESA of Panama, and SNET of El Salvador. Any questions or comments on this product can be directed to Wassila.Thiaw@noaa.gov