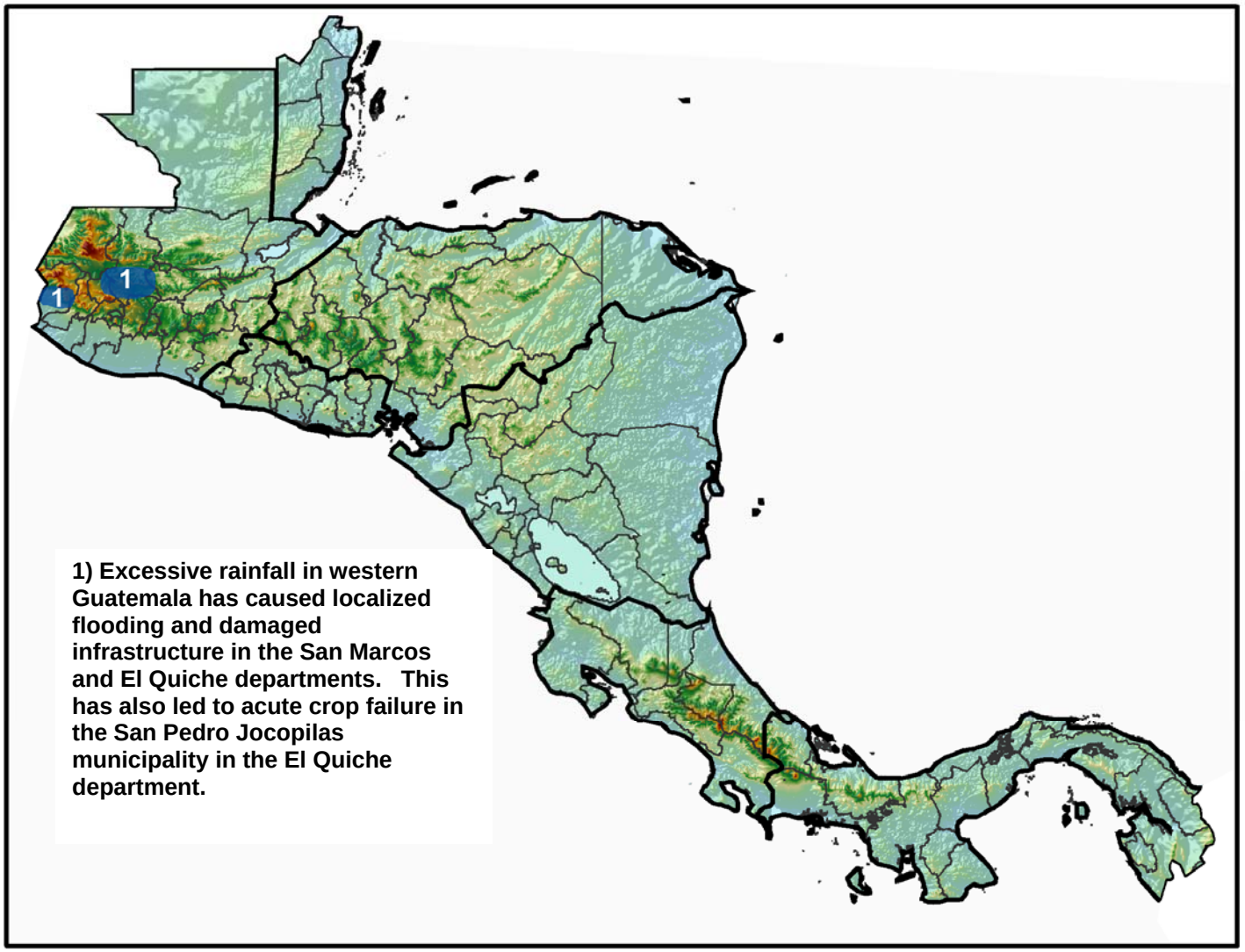
MFEWS Mesoamerican Food Security Early Warning System
Sistema Mesoamericano de Alerta Temprana para Seguridad Alimentaria

The MFEWS

Central America Weather Hazards and Benefits Assessment

For

May 28 – June 3, 2009

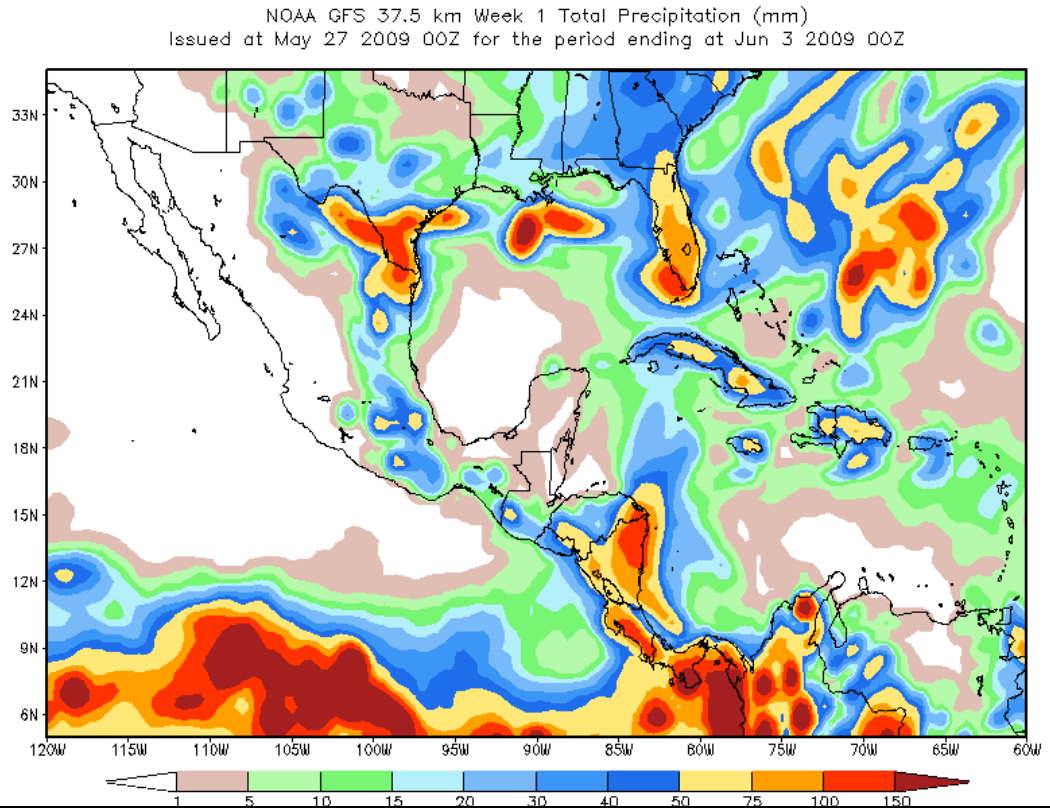


Hazards Assessment Text Explanation:

Many parts of Central America experienced a relatively dry week during the last observation period. Moderate amounts of precipitation between 25 and 50 mm were observed throughout many portions of south-central Guatemala, with higher accumulation (75-100 mm) observed across portions of Honduras and Nicaragua. Primera rains have remained near to below average throughout much of Central America, with some local areas along the coastal Nicaragua experiencing increasing rainfall deficits since the start of May. In Guatemala, significant rains across the western part of the country caused some localized flooding and damage to infrastructure the El Quiche and San Marcos departments. Reports indicate that recent torrential rains and high winds also led to acute crop failure and washed out roadways in some communities of the San Pedro Jocopilas municipality in El Quiche department.

Model forecasts continue to show a break in rains across the northern part of Central America, with marginal rainfall totals across portions of central and northern Guatemala in the next seven days. Higher amounts of precipitation (50-100mm) are expected from the Gulf of Fonseca region extending toward the southern Caribbean, with increased amounts also along the Atlantic side of Nicaragua to alleviate short-term Primera dryness.

GFS Precipitation Forecast
Valid: May 27th – June 3rd, 2009



Source: NOAA / FEWSNET

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, NMS of Belize and SNET of El Salvador. Any questions or comments on this product can be directed to Wassila.Thiaw@noaa.gov