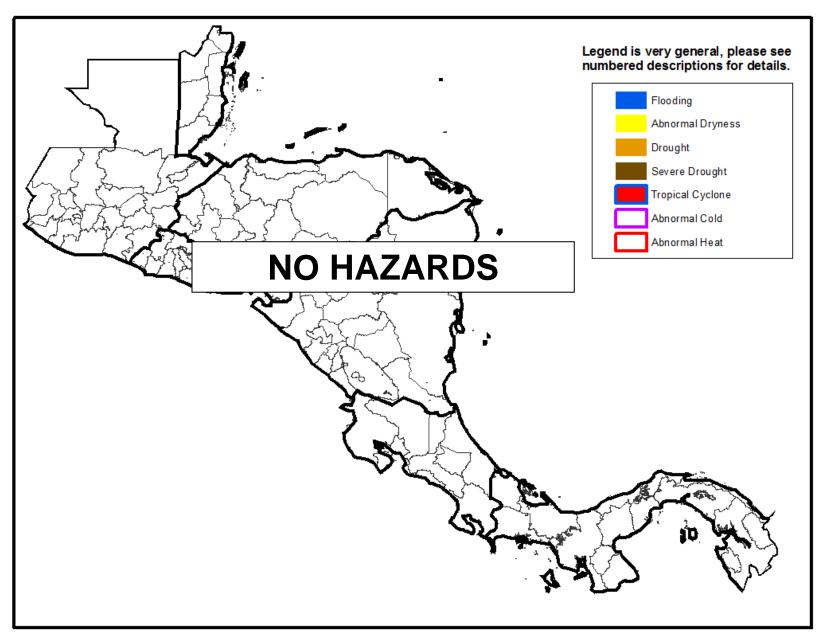


Climate Prediction Center's Central America Hazards Outlook December 26, 2013 – January 1, 2014

Above-average rainfall continued over the Gulf of Honduras region.



Anomalously wet conditions persist across northern Guatemala, Honduras and Belize.

In the last week, the northern half of Central America observed another week of above-average precipitation. The highest precipitation accumulations were received over northern Guatemala, and Honduras, with more moderate amounts observed further inland near the Capital region of Honduras. Over the last 30 days, above-average rainfall has prevailed throughout northern Central America, with sustained seasonal moisture surpluses in excess of 100mm throughout much of Guatemala, Belize, Honduras and El Salvador. Conversely, a continuation of below-average rainfall in November has sustained moisture deficits throughout many parts of eastern Nicaragua, Costa Rica and Panama. Despite the below-average monthly rainfall totals further south, seasonal rainfall continues to be frequent and favorably distributed.

For the upcoming outlook period, decreased rainfall is expected throughout much of Central America. The highest rainfall amounts are forecast over the Gulf of Honduras and the southern Caribbean, however, much of the heavier rains are expected to remain offshore. Minimum temperatures are also forecast to be slightly warmer compared to the previous week, and are not expected to drop below freezing in the higher elevations.

