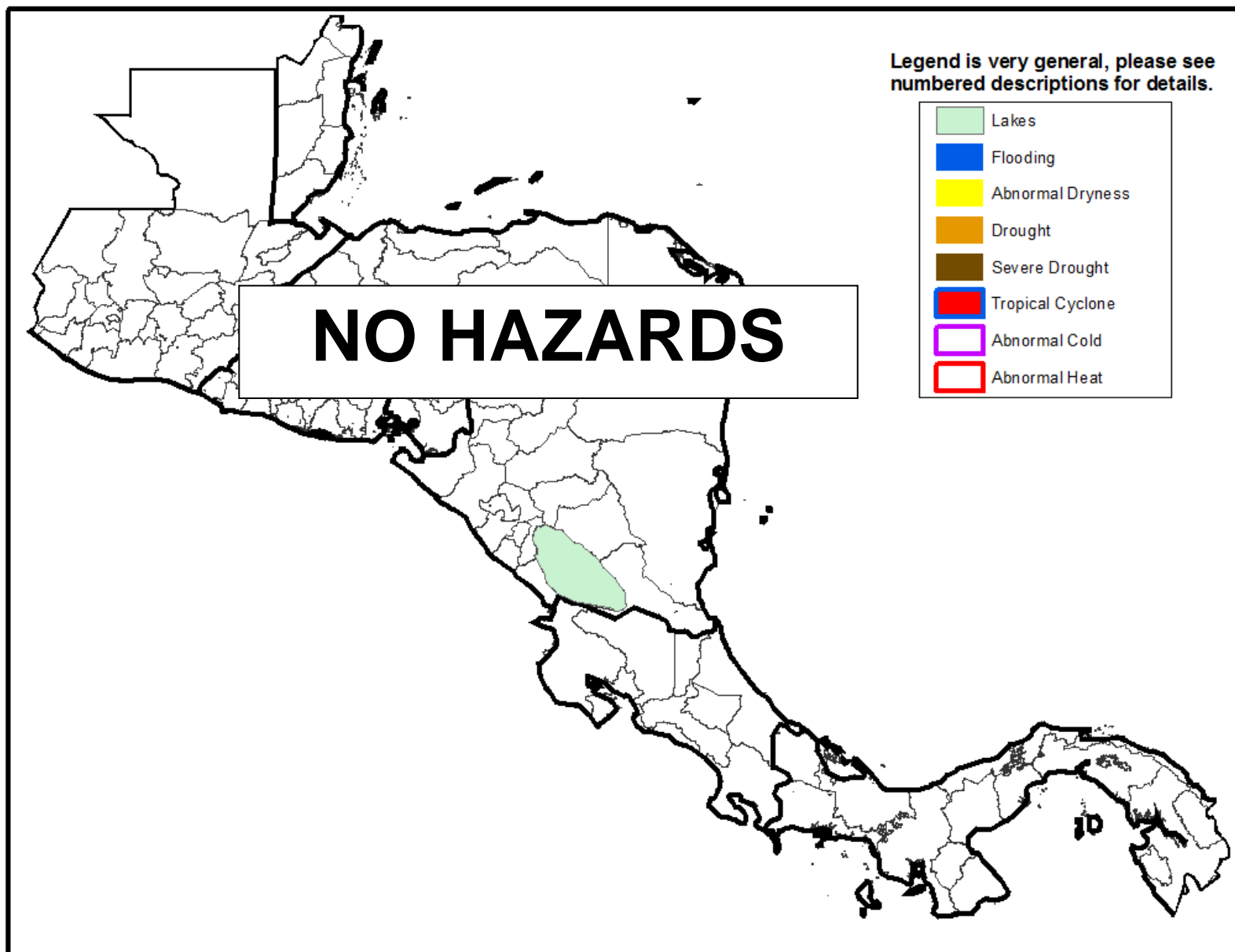




Climate Prediction Center's Central America Hazards Outlook December 18 – December 24, 2014

- Decreased December rains expected to continue.



Average to below-average rains received during the last week.

During the last week, a sharp reduction of weekly precipitation amounts were observed across the Gulf of Honduras region, with continued heavy rains in the southern Caribbean. The highest weekly accumulations were received along the Atlantic coastline of Costa Rica (>125mm), as an enhancement of December rains saturated the region for the second consecutive week. Since early November, much of the precipitation over Central America has been average to above-average, with the heaviest rains affecting several departments in northern Honduras, northern Guatemala, and Belize. These rains had elevated the risk for localized flooding and landslides, however excess moisture has been mitigated by a reduction in rains as of late.

For the upcoming outlook period, precipitation forecasts suggest a continued suppression of rains throughout the middle of December. The highest weekly precipitation amounts are expected for many coastal areas on the Atlantic side of Central America, however, the quantity is expected to be less than previous weeks. Further inland and on the Pacific side, much less rainfall remains forecast.

