

Climate Prediction Center's Central America Hazards Outlook January 19 – 25, 2017

• Rainfall was confined to coastal areas last week.



General pattern of light rain should continue for the upcoming outlook period

Most of Central America remained dry during the last 7 days. Satellites observed rains over immediate coastal areas of Costa Rica, Nicaragua, Honduras, and Belize. The greatest rainfall (>100mm) was in southeastern Nicaragua according to estimates. 10-25mm was more typical of other areas that saw rain during the week. Few in the way of anomalies are recorded across the region. Over the course of the past 30 days, positive anomalies in excess of 100mm still persist over eastern Nicaragua and with lesser values over coastal Honduras and Belize. Vegetation indices currently show positive vegetative conditions for most everyone. The few scattered, localized areas of poorer values are not cause for concern. As the next month or two are typically rather dry in this part of the world, few changes to ground conditions are expected.

Looking ahead to the next outlook period, precipitation models suggest that a pattern very typical for this time of year can be expected. Light to moderate rains will be most likely along the Caribbean coast and in Costa Rica and Panama. Rainfall totals should remain less than 25mm. Minimum temperatures will remain cooler than normal for northern Central America. Lows may reach near or just below the freezing mark in the higher elevations of southwestern Guatemala.

