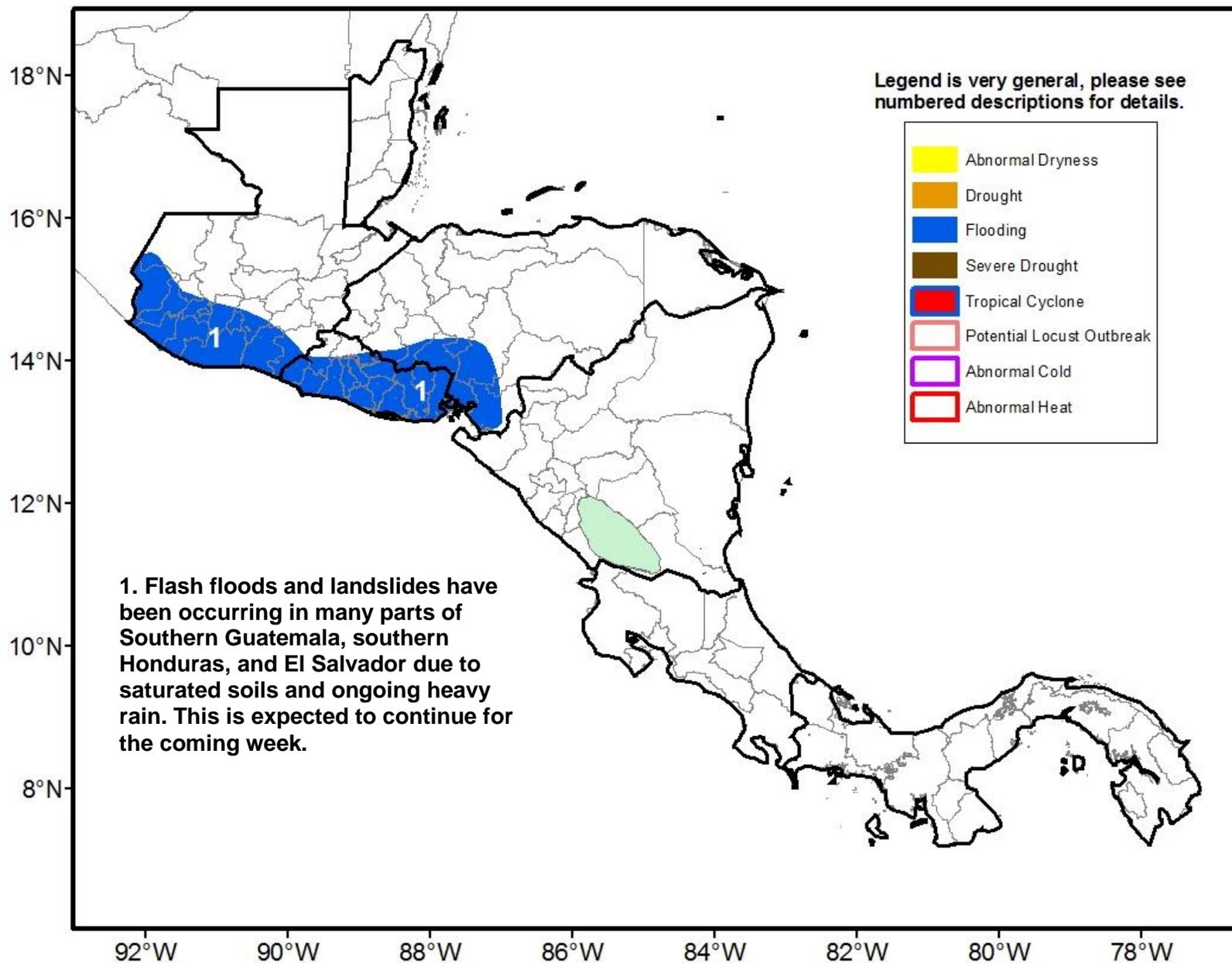




Climate Prediction Center's Central America Hazards Outlook October 24 – October 30, 2019

Flooding still remains a threat for western portions of the region.



Pacific facing portions of the region received the greatest amounts of rain during the past week.

During the past week, the heaviest rainfall was focused along the west coast of Central America. Many local areas recorded more than 100mm of rainfall according to satellite estimates. The greatest rainfall was, for the second consecutive week, in El Salvador where as much as 200mm fell. Flooding problems have been reported again in several departments in southern Guatemala. Other areas receiving heavy rains, sometimes exceeding 100mm, include southern Nicaragua, Costa Rica, and Panama. Lighter and slightly suppressed rainfall (<25mm) was observed in some interior portions of Guatemala, Honduras, and northern Nicaragua. The week's pattern resulted in positive rainfall anomalies for many Pacific-facing areas of the region, but negative anomalies in Honduras and northern Nicaragua. As a result of the prolonged period of enhanced rains, large parts of Honduras, Nicaragua, and Belize are experiencing much-improved moisture conditions since early September. Seasonal moisture deficits still exist in parts of central Guatemala and northern Honduras, but are lesser in magnitude and coverage. An area of expanding deficits is present in eastern Nicaragua. Vegetation health is still struggling a bit in regions that include Belize, northern Guatemala, and a few local areas in central Honduras, but positive week-to-week trends are widely observed.

The forecast for the outlook period is for heavy rainfall to continue along the Pacific coast of Central America. 7-day totals of more than 75mm are likely, especially in Southern Guatemala. The threat of flooding remains in Guatemala, El Salvador and southern Honduras. Heavy rains are also likely in Costa Rica and Panama. Conversely, eastern Honduras and eastern Nicaragua are expected to receive light and below-normal rain.

