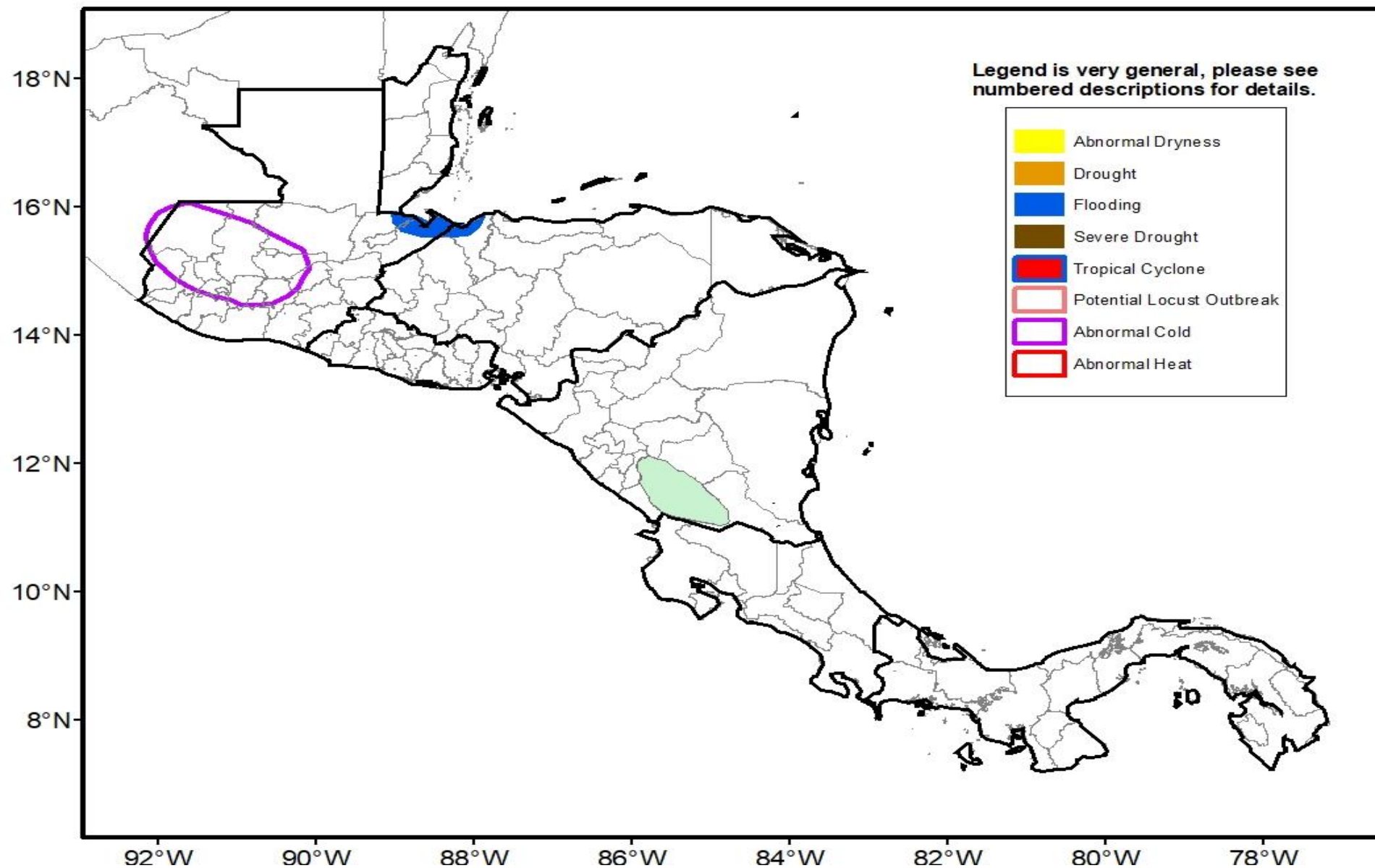




Climate Prediction Center's Central America Hazards Outlook December 19 - 25, 2019

Cold temperatures are expected in the western part of Guatemala



Rainfall increased significantly over the southern/eastern part of Nicaragua and northern part Coast Rica during these past two weeks. Some local area in far southern Nicaragua has registered more than 100mm of precipitation. Several areas over eastern Honduras, eastern Nicaragua, Guatemala and Belize have experienced below-average rains leading to late season moisture deficits by the end of the *Postrera*. The increased rains in the region has led to a slight recovery from dryness. The Central America has recorded the coldest temperatures 0-10°C over the western part of Guatemala and the warmest temperatures 20-25°C were registered over the eastern Honduras and Nicaragua. Positive temperature anomalies 2-8°C have been recorded over central and southern part of Guatemala and El Salvador.

For the coming week, temperatures near freezing are expected over western and central mountainous areas in Guatemala. In general, cold temperatures are expected over Belize, Guatemala, El Salvador, Honduras and small part of northern Nicaragua while warm temperatures are expected over le rest of Nicaragua and small part of far eastern Honduras. Above-average rainfall are expected over the major part of Central America for the coming week except the areas surrounding the Gulf of Fonseca and the major part of Nicaragua. GEFS week-1 ensemble mean total rainfall models suggests heavy rainfall along the Atlantic coastline of Guatemala, with the potential for rainfall amounts >100mm over northwestern part of Honduras due to the strong cold front coming front the Yutacan Channel. The most concern areas are Izabal department, Alta Verapaz department and Peten department of Guatemala; and also, Cortes, Atlantida department of Honduras.

