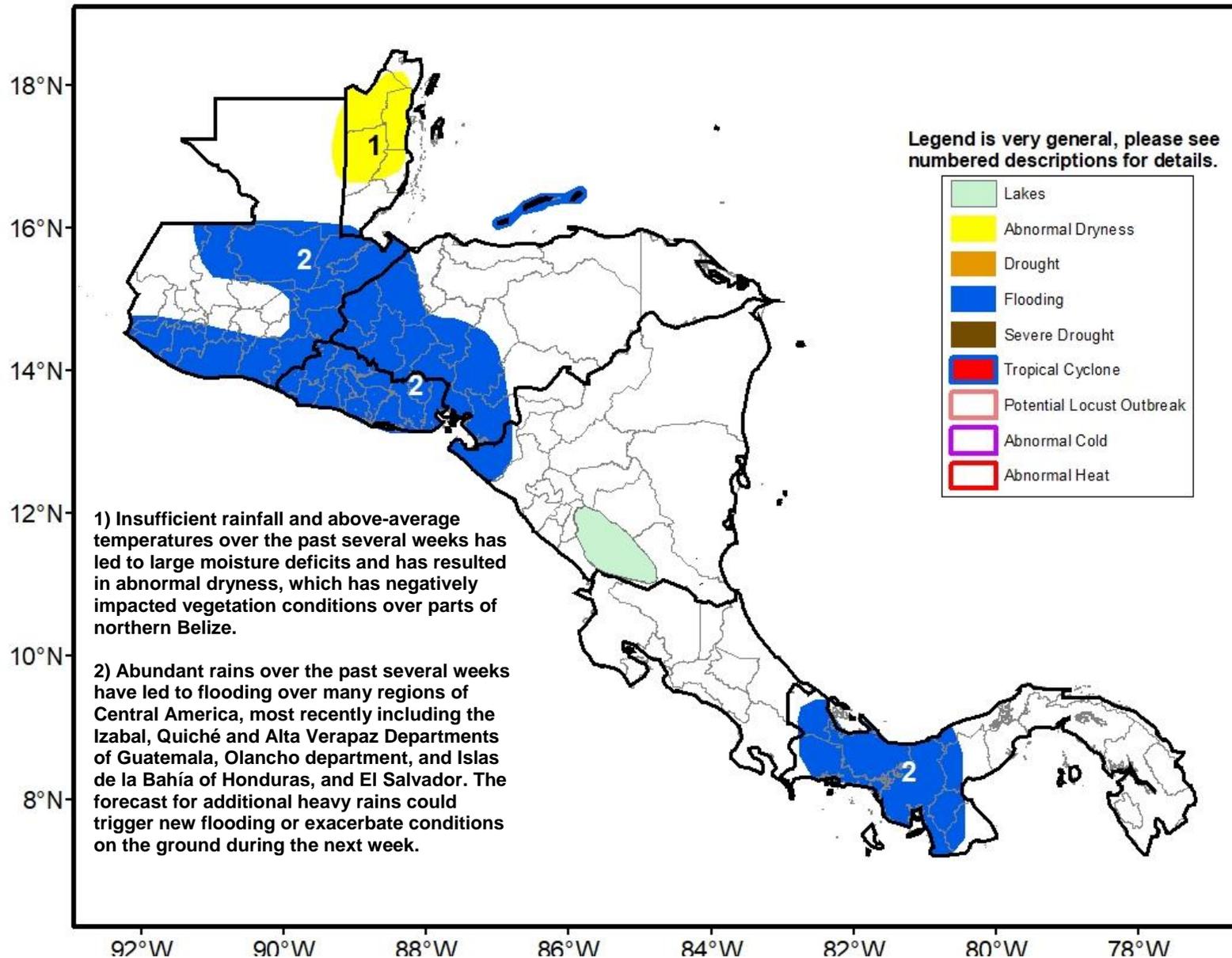




Climate Prediction Center's Central America Hazards Outlook September 10 – September 16, 2020

- Tropical Storm Nana brought flooding rains and landslides to Guatemala and Honduras.



Models suggest Wetter-than-average conditions likely to continue, extending the elevated flood threat.

Last week, Nana made landfall in southern Belize as a low-end hurricane (120 km/h winds). Heavy rainfall from the storm brought flooding and landslides to central departments of Guatemala and portions of Honduras. More than 100mm of rainfall was recorded in these areas. Large 7-day rainfall totals (>100mm) also extended into El Salvador, northern Nicaragua, and parts of Panama according to satellite rainfall estimates. Outside of the areas receiving the heaviest rain, weekly performance was less than average. An analysis of accumulated rainfall over the past thirty days has indicated that above-average rainfall prevailed across many parts of Central America. Areas with positive anomalies include southern Guatemala, Honduras, El Salvador, and Nicaragua. In contrast, below-average rainfall, which has already led to abnormal dryness, persisted over Belize, the Gulf of Honduras, northern Guatemala, eastern Costa Rica, and western Panama. The continuation of favorable rainfall should help cropping activities during the early period of the *Postrera*, August-November growing season and improvement in ground conditions is likely for parts of Belize and the Gulf of Honduras region.

During the outlook period, heavy rain is expected to continue for many areas, including Guatemala, El Salvador, and southern/western Honduras, western Nicaragua, Costa Rica, and western Panama. The forecasted persistent rains could exacerbate ground oversaturation and trigger landslides, flash flooding, and bursting of rivers over many local areas. This potential for flooding exists throughout Guatemala, El Salvador, and the Gulf of Fonseca region. Meanwhile, below-normal rainfall is expected in eastern Nicaragua.

