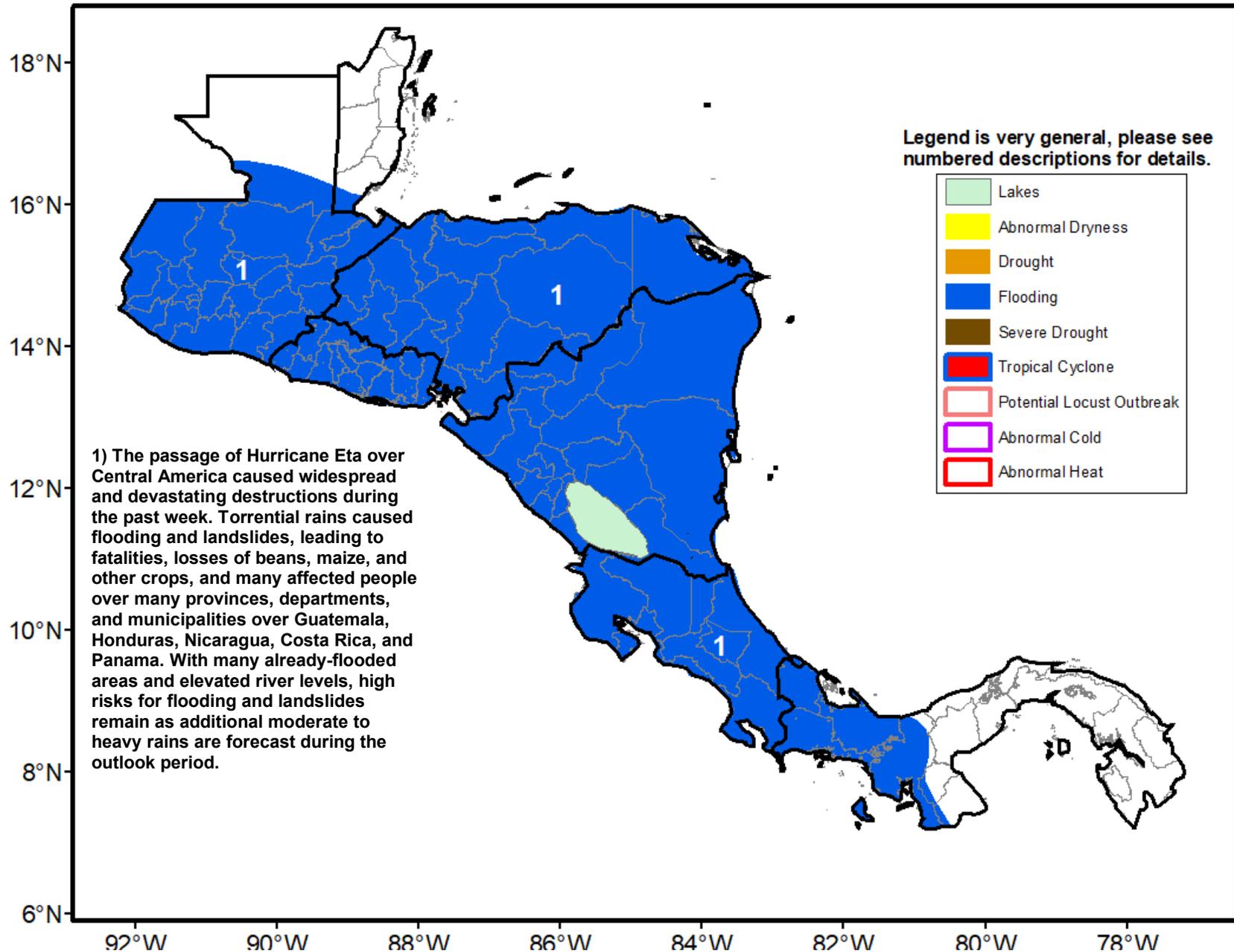




Climate Prediction Center's Central America Hazards Outlook November 12 – 18, 2020

Hurricane Eta wreaked havoc over Central America during the past observation period.



Elevated risks for flooding and landslides remain as increased rains are to continue during the next week.

Due to this past week's Hurricane Eta passage over Central America, torrential (> 100 mm) rains fell over eastern Nicaragua, northern Honduras, eastern Guatemala, and Belize. Meanwhile, moderate to heavy rains were recorded elsewhere. This past week's well above-average rainfall amplified short and long-term moisture surpluses and led to widespread flooding, landslides, losses in maize, beans, cassava, banana, African palm, rice, sugar cane, and other crops and many affected people in many countries, including Guatemala and Honduras. Fatalities and more than three hundred thousand affected people were reported in Guatemala. For Honduras, reports indicated fatalities, more than 1 million affected people, and losses of crops in the Atlantis, Colón, Yoro, Comayagua, Olancho, Francisco Morazán, and Intibucá. Farther south, reports indicated flooding, landslides, and many affected people in local areas of Nicaragua, Costa Rica, and Panama, including the Chiriqui and Bocas del Toro Provinces. Although Hurricane Eta's passage aggravated wetness over much of the region, increased rains helped ease dryness in Belize and parts of northern Guatemala.

During the next week, a weather disturbance, currently located over the eastern Caribbean Sea, has an increased chance for becoming a Tropical Cyclone over the next few days. This weather pattern is expected to bring enhanced precipitation, with widespread moderate to heavy rains over Central America, particularly the Caribbean coasts. With many already-oversaturated grounds and elevated river levels, the forecast additional rains are likely to aggravate conditions or trigger new flooding and landslides throughout the region.

