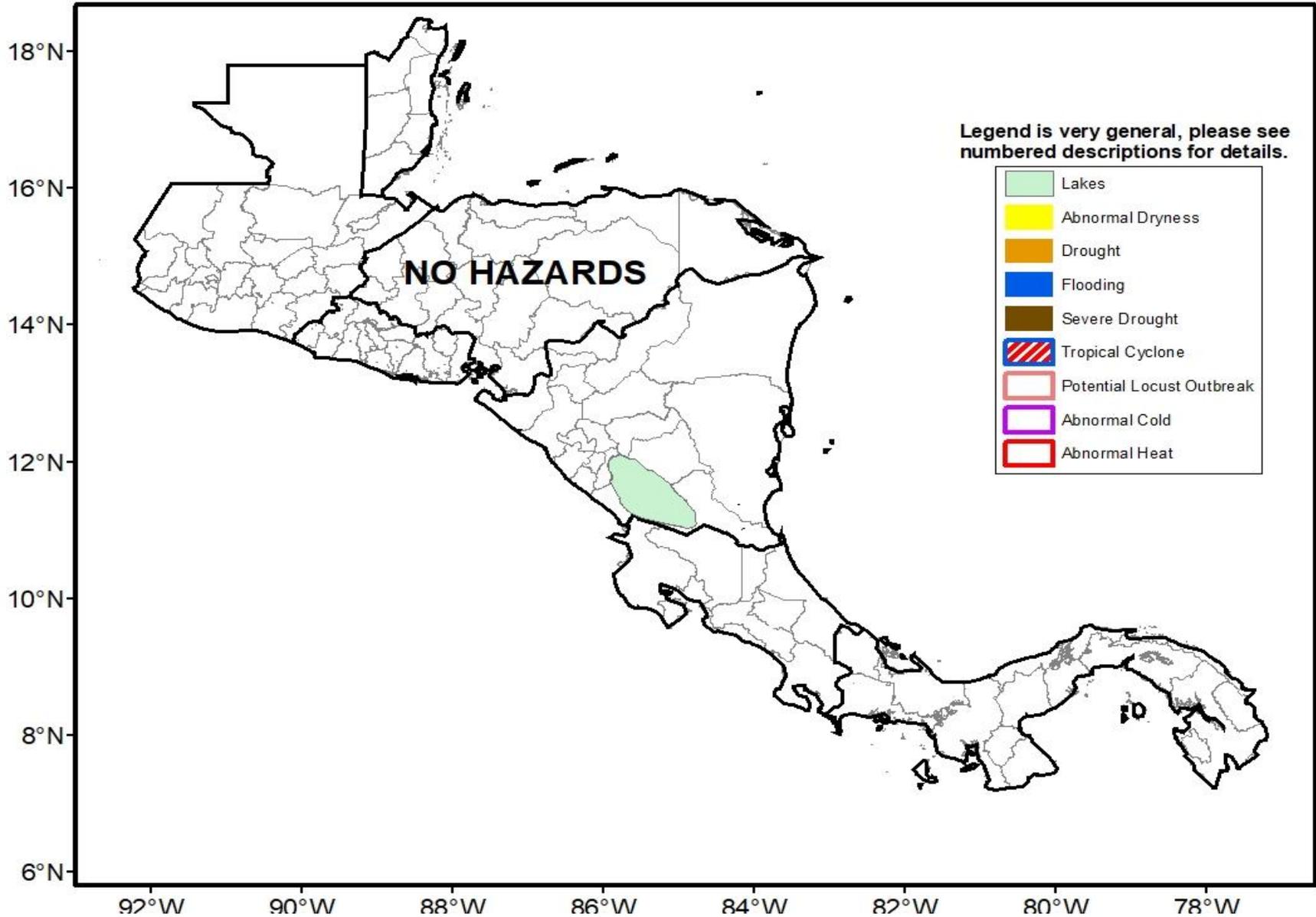




Climate Prediction Center's Central America Hazards Outlook April 1 – April 7, 2021

Conditions on the ground have been generally favorable throughout the region during March.



The focus for rainfall will be for areas along the Caribbean coasts next week.

Light rains continued to be widespread throughout both Caribbean and Pacific coastal areas this past week. Total rainfall of 5-25mm was observed over western Nicaragua, northern Honduras, eastern Belize, and southern Guatemala according to satellite estimates. Similar and locally higher amounts were recorded throughout Panama and Costa Rica. Rainfall amounts were near or slightly above average for late-March along many of the coasts. Rainfall performance over the past 30 days shows a favorable distribution with most areas registering positive anomalies for the period. Some of the largest, greater than 50mm, are found in Nicaragua, eastern Costa Rica, parts of Panama, and parts of northern Honduras. Over the past 90 days, conditions appear similarly positive, also with widespread rainfall surpluses. Vegetation health is generally moderate to good in the region according to VHI analysis. Some negative NDVI anomaly is visible in northern Guatemala, as well as in Costa Rica and western Panama where rainfall has been uneven over the past few months.

During the first week of April, the favorable region for rains is forecast to be over the Caribbean facing regions of Central America. Rainfall totals are likely to reach at least 25mm and possibly 50mm in the southern Caribbean. Rains are also likely in central Guatemala. Central and Pacific-facing regions are likely to remain dry. The Pacaya Volcano is erupting in south-central Guatemala. Lava flows are advancing and will continue to impact crops and property. Ash is also likely to negatively affect crops and water supplies.

