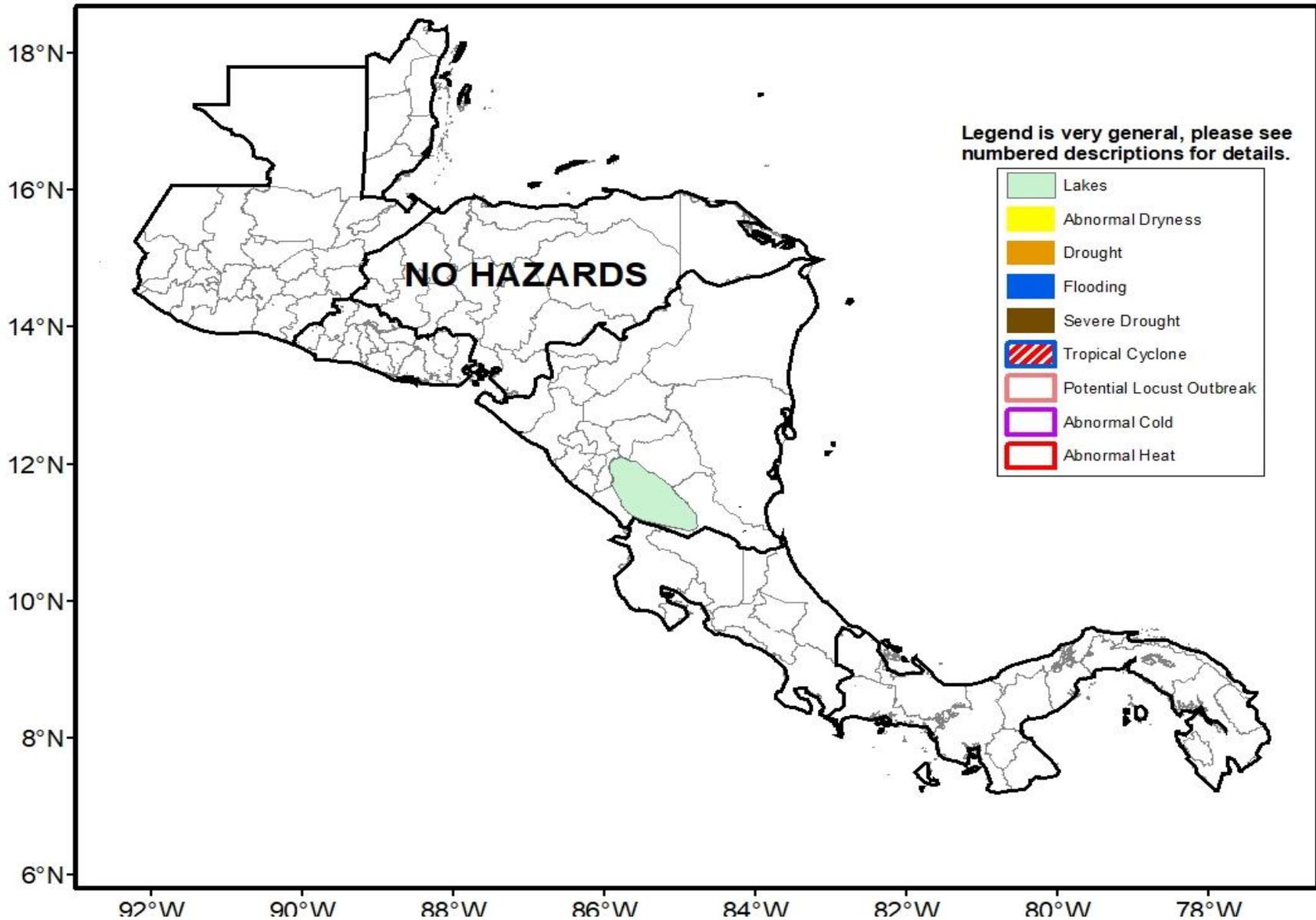




Climate Prediction Center's Central America Hazards Outlook April 22 – April 28, 2021

Moisture conditions across the region continue to be favorable through April.



Heavy rains fell over Costa Rica and parts of Panama this past week.

The heaviest rains in the region, totaling more than 150mm for the week, were observed over Costa Rica and western Panama according to satellite estimates. Light to locally moderate rain was observed in many other parts of the region, including southern Guatemala, western and southern Honduras, El Salvador, and western Nicaragua. Some areas of eastern Nicaragua, northern Guatemala, and Belize received very little rain. The small negative anomalies in the north continued the pattern observed over the past several weeks. Deficits of up to 25mm or more are registered for the last 30 days in Petén department of Guatemala. Most other areas of Central America exhibit average or wetter than average conditions since the start of the rainfall season. In fact, rainfall surpluses exceed 100mm in Costa Rica, Panama, and parts of southern Nicaragua. Vegetation health is generally moderate to good in the region according to VHI analysis. A few local areas of Petén department and Belize are the exception. Due to favorable soil moisture conditions, earlier than normal planting activities are likely taking place in Guatemala.

During the outlook period, near-average rains are forecast across many portions of the region. More than 25mm of rainfall is likely in southern/central Guatemala, southern Honduras, El Salvador, and locally more than 50mm is possible in Costa Rica and Panama. Lighter amounts less than 25mm are expected for northern Honduras, northern Guatemala, and Belize. Localized flooding concerns are present in lowland areas surrounding Guatemala's active volcanos with any additional thunderstorm activity.

