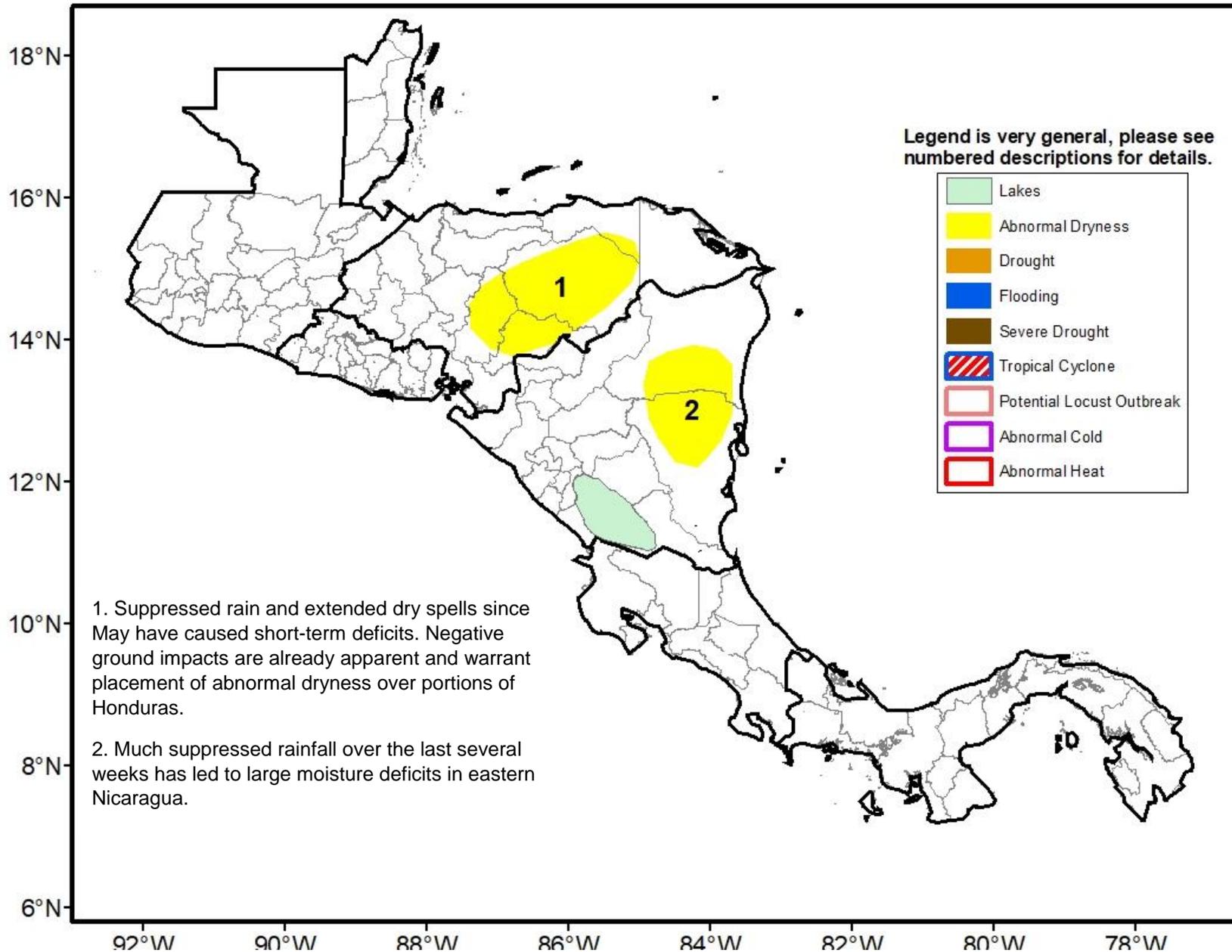




Climate Prediction Center's Central America Hazards Outlook 22 July – 28 July, 2021

With uneven rainfall since May, abnormal dryness remains in Central Honduras and Nicaragua.



Heavy rains fell in eastern Nicaragua and Honduras, while interior regions were drier than normal.

During the third week of July, the heaviest rains in the region, totaling 100-150mm for the last 7 days, were observed over eastern Honduras and portions of Panama. Both central Guatemala and its southern coastal departments registered heavier rainfall totals in excess of 100mm as well. Moderate rainfall totals (25-75mm) were observed in eastern Nicaragua and El Salvador. Meanwhile, little rain (<25mm) was observed across southern and western Honduras, western Nicaragua, and along Guatemala's Sierra Madre mountains. Many of these areas registered significant deficits of 25-100mm. Despite receiving at least moderate rain, El Salvador and eastern Nicaragua registered substantial deficits as well. Negative 30-day rainfall anomalies persisted during the last week in eastern Nicaragua and eastern Honduras. Deficits of more than 100mm are visible in eastern Nicaragua, Costa Rica and Belize. Significant rainfall deficits are present in Honduras and Nicaragua over the longer 90-day period as well. As a result, vegetation health, according to the Vegetation Health Index (VHI) is degraded in both Honduras and Nicaragua.

The heaviest rainfall is likely to continue over southeastern Nicaragua and extending southward through Costa Rica and Panama during the outlook period. More than 100mm of rainfall is likely. Rainfall is forecast to be below normal in Guatemala, El Salvador, and Honduras. Some significant 7-day deficits are possible. The period of low rainfall during the past 2 weeks and continuing through the outlook period is expected as part of the 'Canicula' dry spell in the region. Tropical development is not expected near the region at this time.

