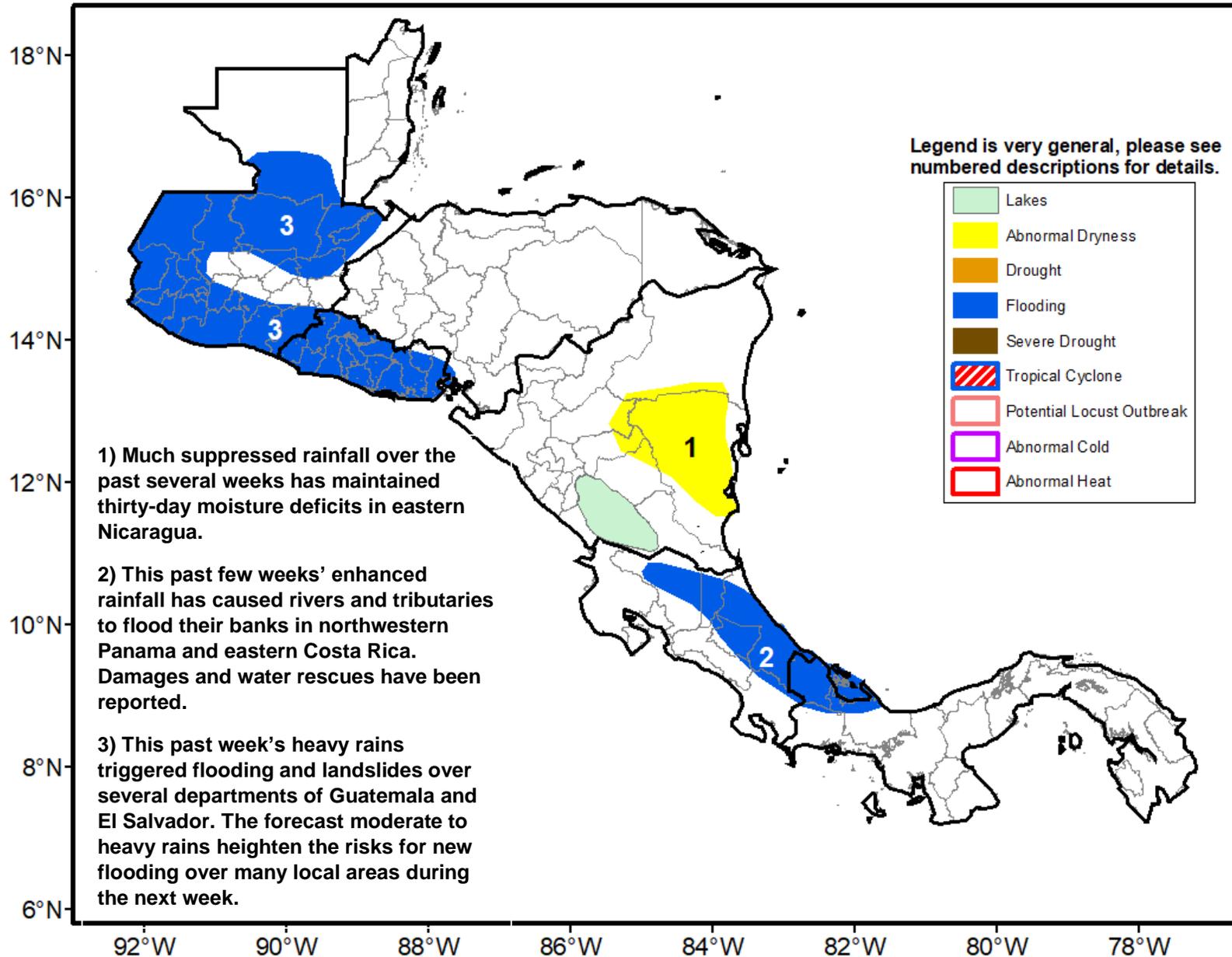




Climate Prediction Center's Central America Hazards Outlook 12 – 18 August, 2021

Heavy downpours triggered many flooding and landslides over Central America during the past week.



While the recent wetness has helped ease dryness over many areas of Central America, it also has led to flooding and landslides over many other areas.

During early August, torrential (> 100 mm) rains fell along the Pacific-facing and Atlantic regions of Central America. These areas included the western, southern, and eastern parts of Guatemala, the Gulf of Honduras, Gulf of Fonseca, eastern Nicaragua, Costa Rica, and Panama. As a result, flooding and landslides were reported over the Quetzaltenango, Alta Verapaz, Retalhuleu, Zacapa, Chiquimula, Totonicapán, Baja Verapaz, Guatemala, El Progreso, Izabal, and Huehuetenango Departments in Guatemala and the La Libertad, San Miguel, San Vicente, and Sonsonate Departments in El Salvador. An analysis of the cumulative rainfall over this past thirty days has indicated that while the recent increased rains contributed to reduce deficits and ease dryness over many areas of the *Dry Corridor*, drier-than-average conditions persisted over portions of southern Guatemala, Belize, El Salvador, eastern Nicaragua, and Panama. In contrast, large moisture surpluses were observed over portions of northern and eastern Guatemala, eastern Honduras, northeastern Nicaragua, and the southern Caribbean. Seasonal May – August rainfall performance was relatively poor as moderate to large (> 100 mm) deficits dominated over Honduras and Nicaragua over the past ninety days.

For next week, although rainfall forecasts suggest a decrease in rainfall, the forecast, additional moderate to locally heavy rains are likely to exacerbate conditions over already-oversaturated and flooded areas or could even trigger new flooding and landslides over some areas. Therefore, potential flooding hazard polygons are maintained over areas of Guatemala, El Salvador, Costa Rica, and Panama.

