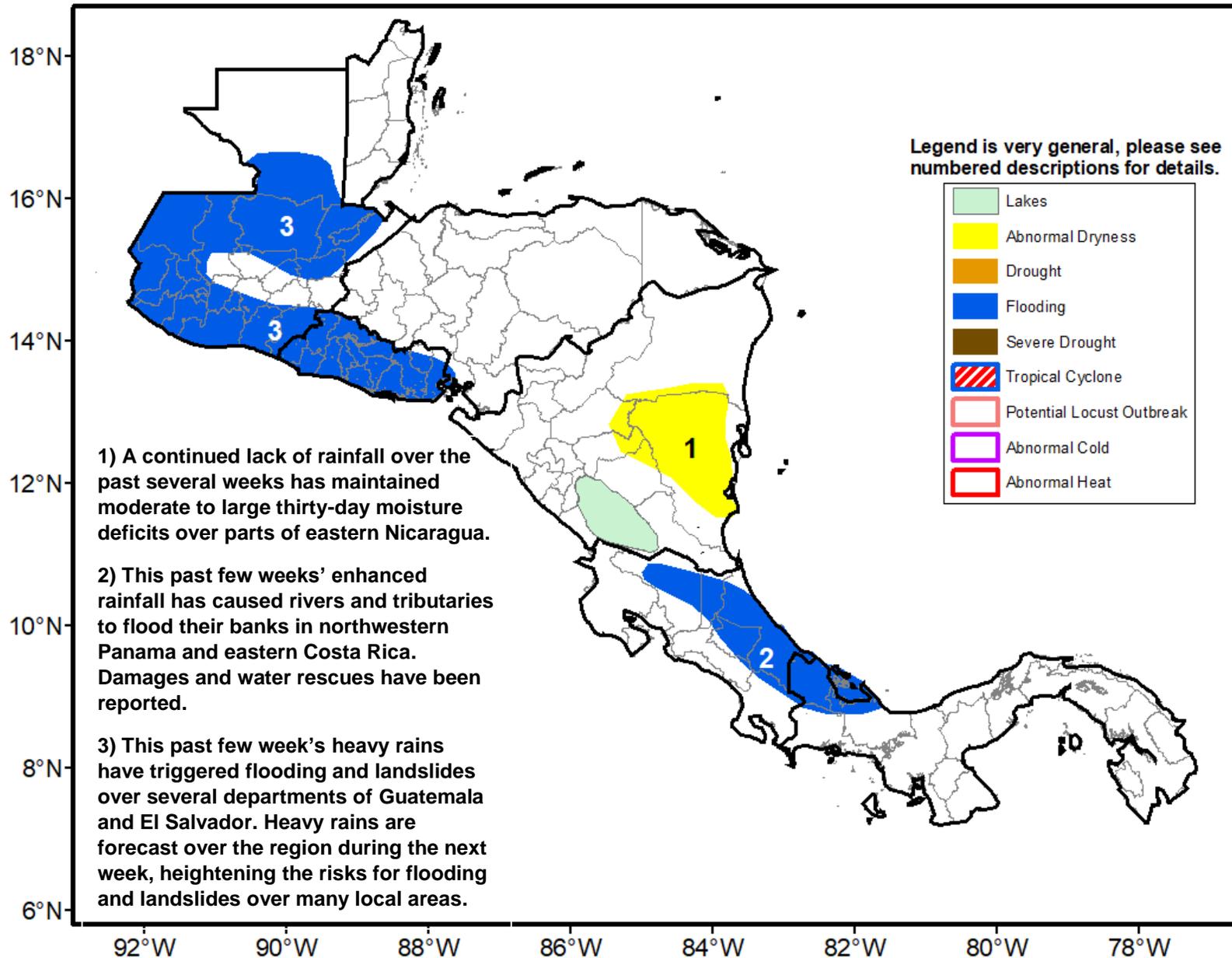




Climate Prediction Center's Central America Hazards Outlook 19 – 25 August, 2021

High risks for flooding and landslides exist as widespread and heavy rains are to return during the next week.



The forecast heavy rains could trigger widespread flooding and landslides over Central America during the next week.

During the past week, a reduction in rainfall was observed over Central America as little to light rains fell across much of Guatemala, Honduras, and Belize. Moderate to heavy rains, however, persisted over southern Guatemala, the Gulf of Fonseca, southeastern Nicaragua, Costa Rica, and Panama. This reduction in rainfall contributed to maintain thirty-day rainfall deficits over several areas, including Belize, western El Salvador, northern and eastern Honduras, and eastern Nicaragua. In contrast, rainfall surpluses persisted along the Gulf of Honduras, eastern Guatemala, central Honduras, northern Nicaragua, and the southern Caribbean due to increased rains during early August. As for the May – August rainfall performance, seasonal rainfall was below-average throughout much of Honduras and Nicaragua, resulting from a delayed onset to the season and an uneven spatial and temporal rainfall distribution. An analysis of recent vegetation products has indicated that below-average conditions were already depicted across central Honduras and northern Nicaragua, whereas near-average to above-average conditions were exhibited elsewhere.

During the next week, heavy and above-average rainfall is likely over Central America. Torrential (> 100 mm) rains are possible along the Pacific-facing and parts of the Atlantic regions. Over the inland of Central America, widespread heavy rains are also expected, which could exacerbate conditions over already-flooded areas or trigger new flash flood and landslides over many local areas. Meanwhile, in Guatemala, above-average temperatures, which could enhance evapotranspiration and depletion of soil moisture, are expected over the north, east, and portions of the south.

