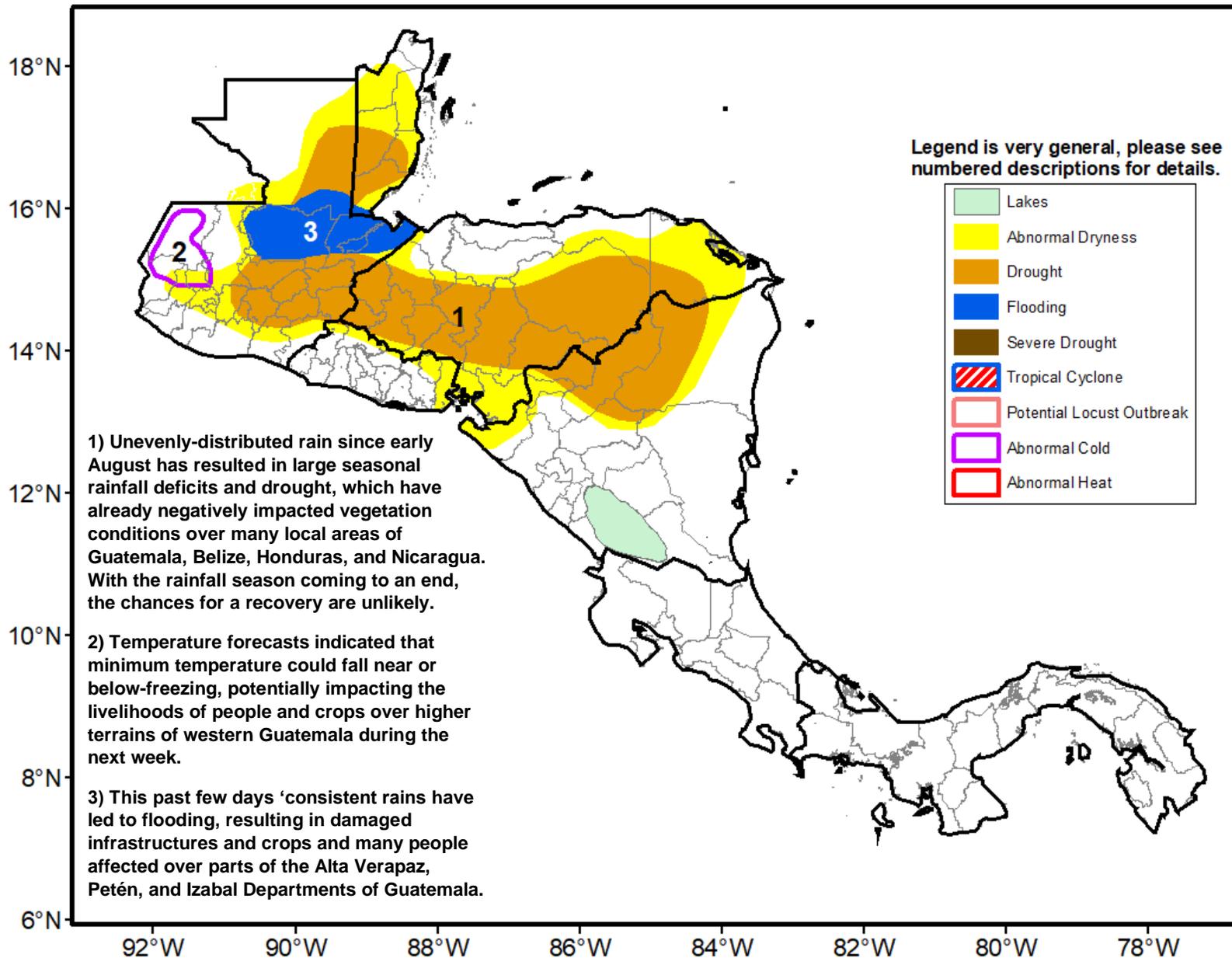




Climate Prediction Center's Central America Hazards Outlook 18 – 24 November 2021

Dry conditions to persist as seasonal rain has already begun to dwindle over the inland of Central America.



Seasonal rains coming to an end, leaving drier-than-average conditions throughout Central America

Much of Central America received little to no rainfall during the past seven days, indicating a likely ending for the *Postrera*, August – November rainfall season. While scattered, moderate to locally heavy rains were observed along the Caribbean coasts of Honduras and Nicaragua, parts of southwestern Guatemala, and the southern Caribbean, dry conditions prevailed over the inland of Guatemala, Honduras, El Salvador, Nicaragua, and northwestern Costa Rica. However, over Guatemala, consistent rains over the past few days have triggered flooding and landslides over Chisec and San Juan Chamelco in Alta Verapaz, Puerto Barrios in Izabal, and San Luis in Petén, affecting infrastructures, crops, and many people, based on reports. An analysis of the cumulative rainfall since mid-August to present has showed that drier-than-average conditions, with seasonal totals varying between 25 – 80 percent of the average continued across northern Central America, including Guatemala, Belize, Honduras, and the northern half of Nicaragua. Meanwhile, as the second rainfall season is coming to an end and the cold and dry season is fast approaching, low and near-freezing temperature and potential forest fires could occur rapidly and pose hazards for the livelihoods of people over many local areas.

During the outlook period, while moderate to heavy rain is to continue over Guatemala, Belize, and the Atlantic coasts of Honduras, Nicaragua, and the southern Caribbean, light rain is expected elsewhere. Thus, high risks for flooding remain over already-affected areas. In contrast, dry conditions are likely to continue over the dry portions of the region. Meanwhile, the passage of frontal boundaries may bring cold, northerly air mass, which could lead to freezing minimum temperature over elevated terrains of western Guatemala.

