



Climate Prediction Center's Central America Hazards Outlook 17 March – 23 March 2022

The Central America countries remained dry during the second week of March.



A potential increase in rainfall is forecast for parts of Guatemala and Honduras.

During the past week, a few scattered areas of light rain accumulations (<5mm) prevailed across northern and local areas over southern Guatemala, Costa Rica, and southern Panama. For the past thirty days, rains are running seasonably normal for the most part of Central America. While enhanced rainfall prevailed across the Gulf of Belize and northern Panama, some suppressed rainfall prevailed across local area of southwestern Guatemala and far western Nicaragua. Warmer than normal temperature was observed across Guatemala and El Salvador which reflected some consequences of the past week volcanoes activities across the region. In contrast, colder than normal temperature were observed across southern Nicaragua including northern Costa Rica. Recently short-term absence of sufficient moisture with raised temperature increased the number of forest fires across southern Guatemala and El Salvador and could expect to be unfavorable for the development of crops over the region. Analysis of remotely sensed vegetation health indices reflect the seasonable rainfall performance with deteriorated ground conditions concentrated over parts of southern Honduras. While the calendar moving toward April, there is no hazards for the coming week as we focus on impacts to the upcoming Primera rainfall season.

During the outlook period, the model suggests enhanced rainfall across the regions facing the Atlantic Ocean with some seasonable rainfall along coastal regions facing the Pacific Ocean. Rains may also exceed 50mm of rain in accordance with normal seasonal behavior across eastern coastal area of Nicaragua.

