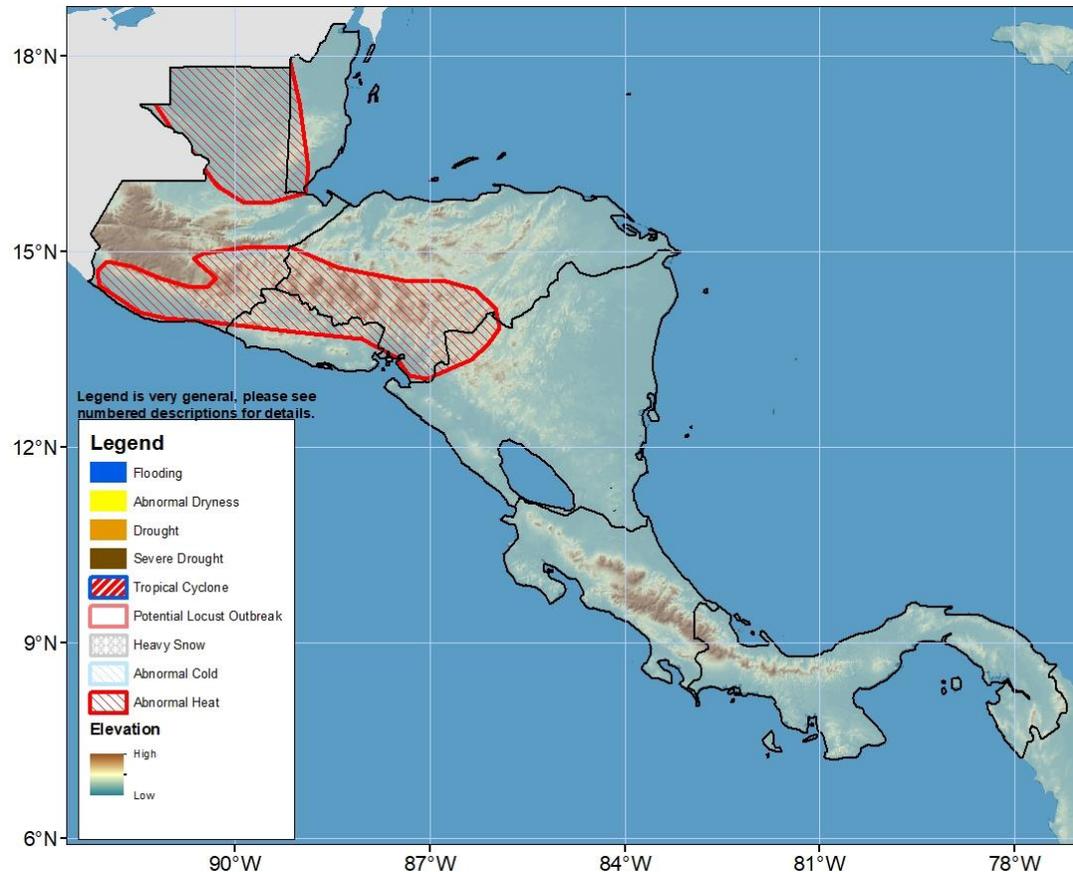


## Climate Prediction Center's Central America Hazards Outlook For USAID / FEWS-NET 07 April – 13 April, 2022

Some early season dryness is developing in southern Guatemala and southern Honduras along with ongoing heat.



1. Abnormal temperatures up to 6°C warmer than average will continue to affect regions including southern and northern Guatemala, parts of El Salvador and southern Honduras. These hot temperatures are contributing to dangerous fire weather.

Note: The Hazards outlook map is based on current weather/climate information, short and medium-range weather forecasts (up to 1 week), sub-seasonal forecasts up to 4 weeks, and assesses the potential impact of extreme events on crop and pasture conditions. Shaded polygons are added in areas where anomalous conditions have been observed and predicted to continue during the outlook period. The boundaries of these polygons are only approximate at the spatial scale of the map. This product takes into account long-range seasonal climate forecasts but does not reflect current or projected food security conditions. FEWS NET is a USAID-funded activity whose purpose is to provide objective information about food security conditions. Its views are not necessarily reflective of those of USAID or the U.S. Government. The FEWS NET weather hazards outlook process and products include participation by FEWS NET field and home offices, NOAA-CPC, USGS, USDA, NASA, and a number of other national and regional organizations in the countries concerned.

Questions or comments about the hazards outlooks may be directed to Dr. Wassila Thiaw, Head, International Desks/NOAA, [wassila.thiaw@noaa.gov](mailto:wassila.thiaw@noaa.gov). Questions about the USAID FEWS NET activity may be directed to Dr. James Verdin, Program Manager, FEWS NET/USAID, [jverd@usaid.gov](mailto:jverd@usaid.gov)

## Moderate to heavy rains are expected to continue over Costa Rica and Panama next week.

The heavier rainfall this past week was located over Costa Rica and Panama. Parts of eastern Panama observed more than 100mm according to satellite estimates. Central American countries to the north were largely dry except for some light rains (<10mm in total) in southern parts of El Salvador, eastern Honduras, and northeastern Nicaragua. Some negative 7-day anomalies resulted in Guatemala. Looking at the past 30 days, near or slightly above average rainfall prevailed across the better part of Central America, except for Guatemala, neighboring Belize, and southern Honduras. Deficits of 10-25mm or locally more were observed in those areas. Increased wild fires were observed across Guatemala, El Salvador, Honduras, and Nicaragua as they await the onset of rains. In Quiché and Chiquimula departments of Guatemala, 9 fire-related fatalities were reported in recent weeks. Elevated temperatures have been reported in south parts for Guatemala, El Salvador, and Honduras including Choluteca department which have contributed to the forest fire activity. The 1-month standardized precipitation index (SPI) indicated a shift from negative to positive values across Honduras and eastern Nicaragua. In contrast, negative SPI value started to show across southern Guatemala which will be monitored during the coming weeks. The vegetation health index exhibited low values, indicated poor vegetative performance in the areas of southern Guatemala corresponding to the region of negative SPI value.

For the coming week, models forecast seasonable rainfall across most of Central America, except for some enhancement of rainfall in Central Guatemala. Central and northern Guatemala, along with northern Honduras, can expect more than 25mm of rainfall. Above-normal rainfall (>75mm) is also likely in Panama. Hotter than average temperatures are expected in northern Guatemala and Belize where maximum temperatures could reach 40°C. Hotter than average temperatures are also forecast for southern Guatemala, El Salvador and Honduras.

