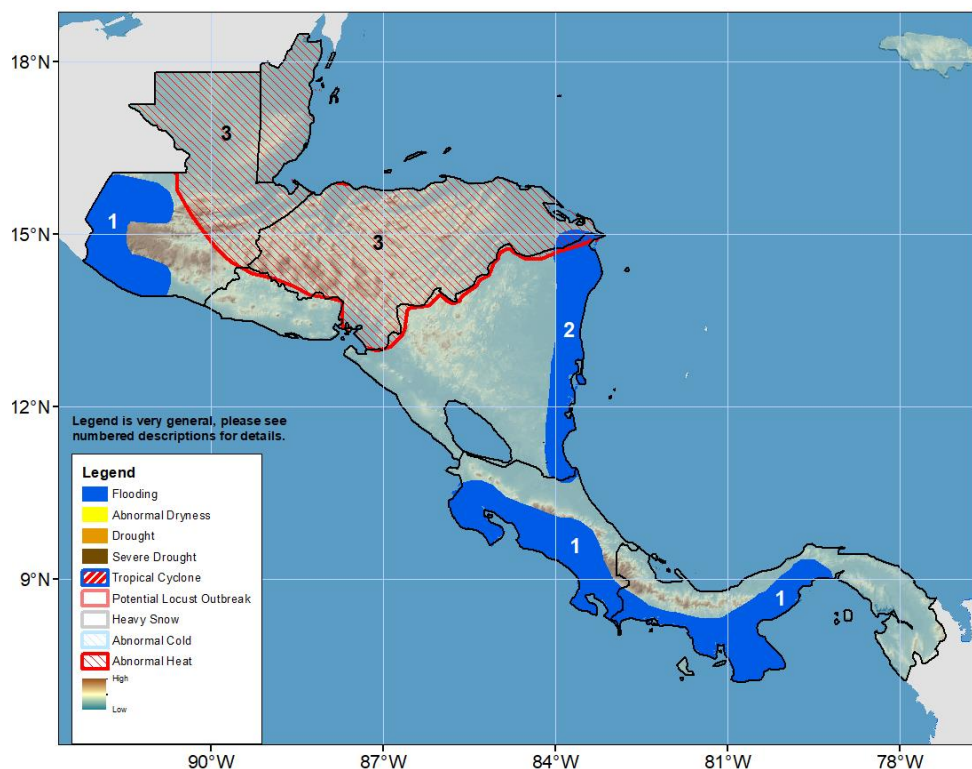


Climate Prediction Center's Central America Hazards Outlook For USAID / FEWS-NET 8 – 14 May 2025

Flood risk likely in several areas across the region.



1) During last week, heavy floods in southwestern Guatemala, coastal areas of Costa Rica facing the Pacific Ocean, and most of Panama have helped to maintain already saturated soil moisture in these areas. The forecast for the outlook period suggests moderate to heavy rainfall over several areas of the region, which may lead to possible floods in Guatemala, Costa Rica, and Panama.

2) Eastern Nicaragua may experience floods due to poor vegetation conditions, and the forecast suggests moderate rainfall next week.

3) Warmer-than-average temperatures have been observed in northern Central America during the last week. In Guatemala wildfires have reported in the states of Peten and Quiche. The forecast suggests that there is an increased chance of abnormal heat in Guatemala, Belize, and Honduras.

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.

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Heavy rainfall continues in parts of Central America.

During the past week, southwestern Guatemala, areas surrounding the Gulf of Honduras, localized areas in western Honduras, eastern Nicaragua, eastern Costa Rica, and most parts of Panama received moderate to heavy rainfall (25 – 200 mm). The heaviest rainfall was registered in the central area of Panama facing the Caribbean Sea, which led to positive anomalies of 100 – 200 mm. Meanwhile, the interior of Central America remained mainly dry, and negative anomalies were observed in Guatemala, Belize, Honduras, El Salvador, eastern Costa Rica, and western Panama. Diverse climate conditions have been reported in Guatemala, with wildfires in the north of the region and floods (e.g., San Marcos State) and landslides (e.g., Sololá, El Progreso, and Quetzaltenango States) in the central-Pacific region. Moreover, over the past 30 days, rainfall accumulation has shown positive anomalies in small areas of northern, western, and southern Guatemala, central Belize, northeastern Honduras, and the Atlantic coast of Panama, while below-average rainfall has continued over most of Panama and eastern Costa Rica. The Vegetation Health Index (VHI) analysis indicated that near-to-above-median conditions prevailed over most parts of Central America, however, it shows that vegetation conditions have deteriorated, notably, in El Salvador, southern and eastern Honduras, Nicaragua and western Costa Rica, while have improved in southwestern Guatemala, northwestern Honduras, and local areas across Panama.

Next week, southwestern Guatemala, eastern Nicaragua, Costa Rica, and most of Panama are expected to receive heavy rainfall, which could lead to localized flooding in the region. Meanwhile, moderate rain is forecast over most part of Guatemala, El Salvador, southern Belize, Honduras, and eastern Nicaragua. Above-average rainfall conditions of 30 – to 50 mm area expected in Costa Rica and central Panama. Moreover, the forecast suggests maximum anomalies will be above average in northwestern Guatemala, Nicaragua, and western Costa Rica, where temperatures may reach up to 35°C (2 – 4°C above normal).

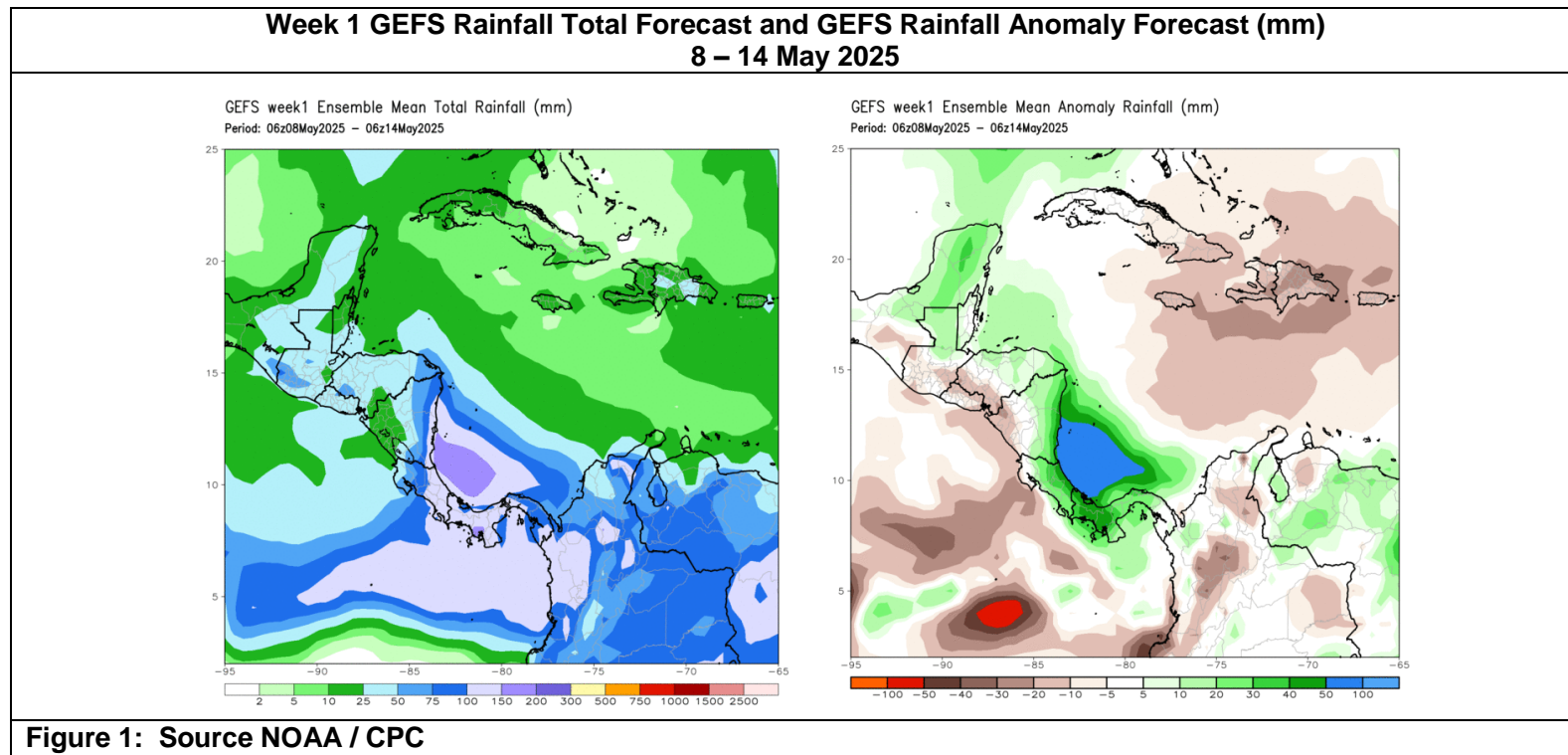


Figure 1: Source NOAA / CPC