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Mesoscale Discussion 765

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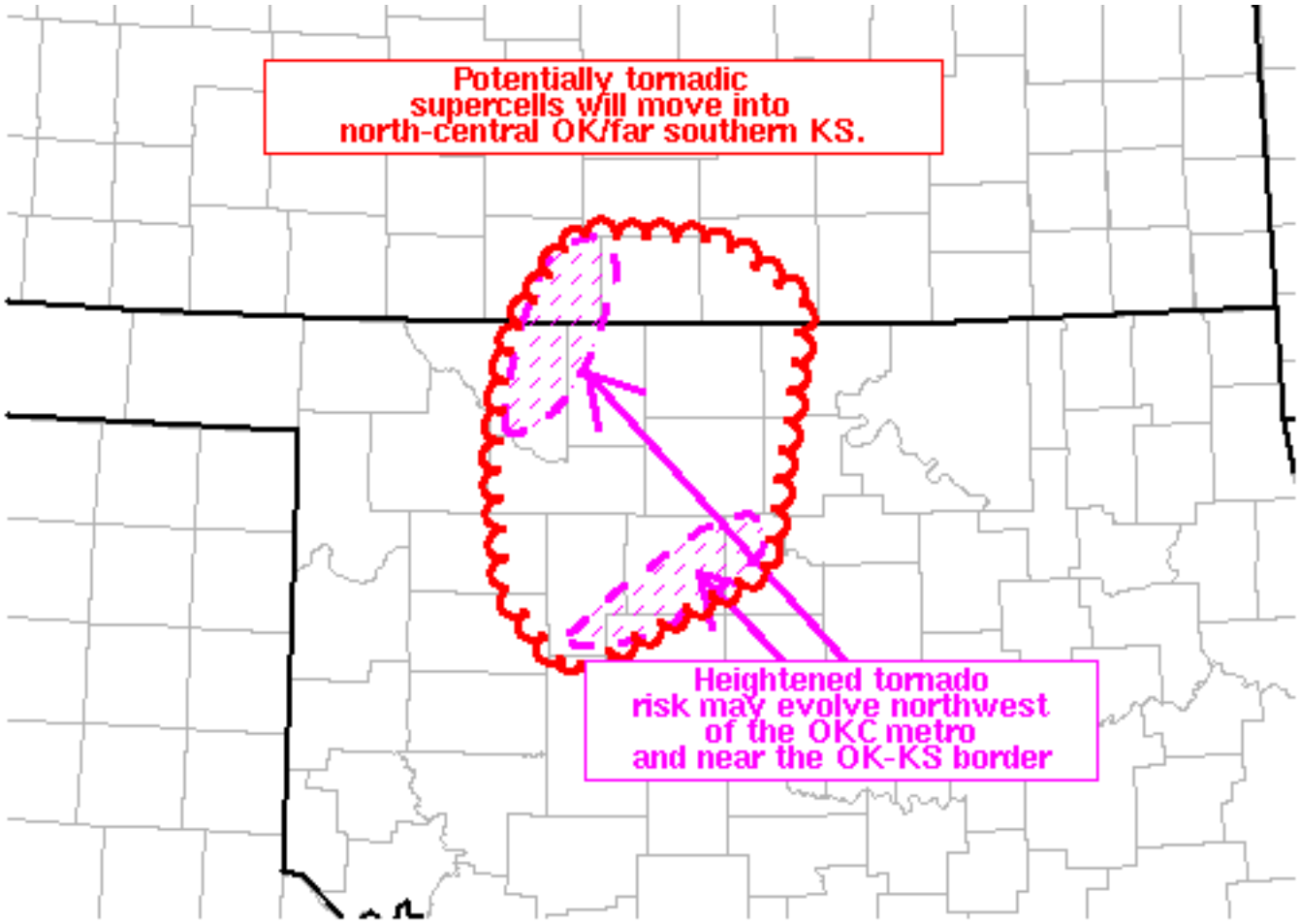

SPC MCD #0765

Mesoscale Discussion 0765
NWS Storm Prediction Center Norman OK
0515 PM CDT Thu May 18 2017

Areas affected...central and north-central OK into far southern KS

Concerning...Tornado Watch 235...239...

Valid 182215Z - 182315Z

The severe weather threat for Tornado Watch 235, 239 continues.

SUMMARY...A heightened tornado risk may evolve northwest of the OKC metro---dependent on slightly less supportive storm-scale interactions resolving in the near term.

DISCUSSION...Radar mosaic shows as cluster of tornadic supercells over northwest OK and supercells with a history of tornadoes over central OK near the I-40 corridor in west-central OK. The near-storm environment is forecast to become more favorable for strong tornadoes over the next 2 hours as backed east-southeasterly

low level flow strengthens in the inflow regions of the established supercells. Forecast soundings show 0-1 km SRH over central and north-central OK in the 50-75 m2/s2 range (NAM/RAP). This is in contrast to observed KTLX VAD data showing around 150 m2/s2 0-1 km SRH with weaker SRH near KVNX. The short-term models indicate SRH will increase and the expectation is for 0-1 km SRH to increase into the 150-300 m2/s2 range. This will likely prove favorable for intensifying low-level mesocyclones/increased tornado potential. As storms move farther east, a reservoir of richer low-level moisture is located over north-central OK (likely a partial function of evapotranspiration due to excessive rains earlier this month). As storms encounter the slightly higher moisture (into the upper 60s degrees F) and strengthening low-level shear, an intense longer track tornado may develop over central/north-central OK this evening.

..Smith.. 05/18/2017

...Please see www.spc.noaa.gov for graphic product...

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