



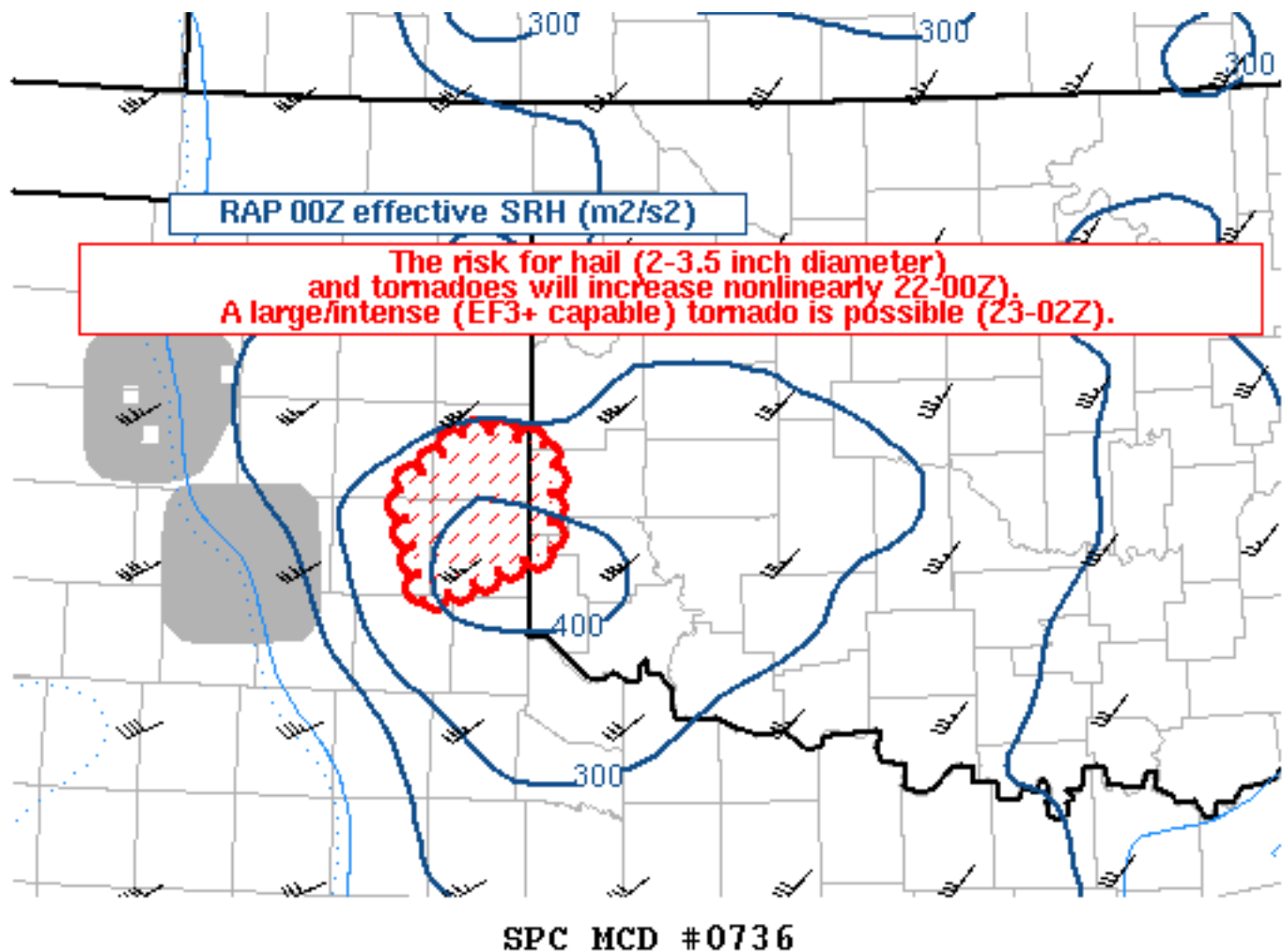
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Mesoscale Discussion 736

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Mesoscale Discussion 0736

NWS Storm Prediction Center Norman OK

0456 PM CDT Tue May 16 2017

Areas affected...east-central TX Panhandle

 Concerning...Tornado Watch [220](#)...

Valid 162156Z - 162300Z

The severe weather threat for Tornado Watch 220 continues.

SUMMARY...The risk for very large to giant hail (2-3.5 inches in diameter) and tornadoes will increase nonlinearly (22-00Z). A large/intense (EF3+ capable) tornado is possible (23-02Z) given the strengthening low-level shear, very large buoyancy, and the mature phase of a quasi-discrete supercell.

DISCUSSION...Radar imagery shows a north-south cluster of supercells over the eastern TX Panhandle which have moved east of the dryline. OK and West TX mesonet observations show dewpoints in the 66-69

degrees F range and temperatures in the middle 70s to around 80. Very strong backing of low-level flow, perhaps partially induced by parent storms to the west, has enlarged the low-level hodograph size during the past 30 minutes from Childress County to Wheeler County with 2-4 mb/hour falls in the past 2 hours. RAP forecast soundings show 0-1 km SRH increasing from 150 m2/s2 to 350 m2/s2 (locally higher and augmented by storms) during the 22-00Z period. As the low-level shear continues to increase over the next couple of hours, expect with medium to higher confidence of a large/intense tornado ---potentially capable of EF3+ intensity--- evolving from supercell cluster in Wheeler/Gray/Collingsworth counties.

..Smith/Guyer.. 05/16/2017

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

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