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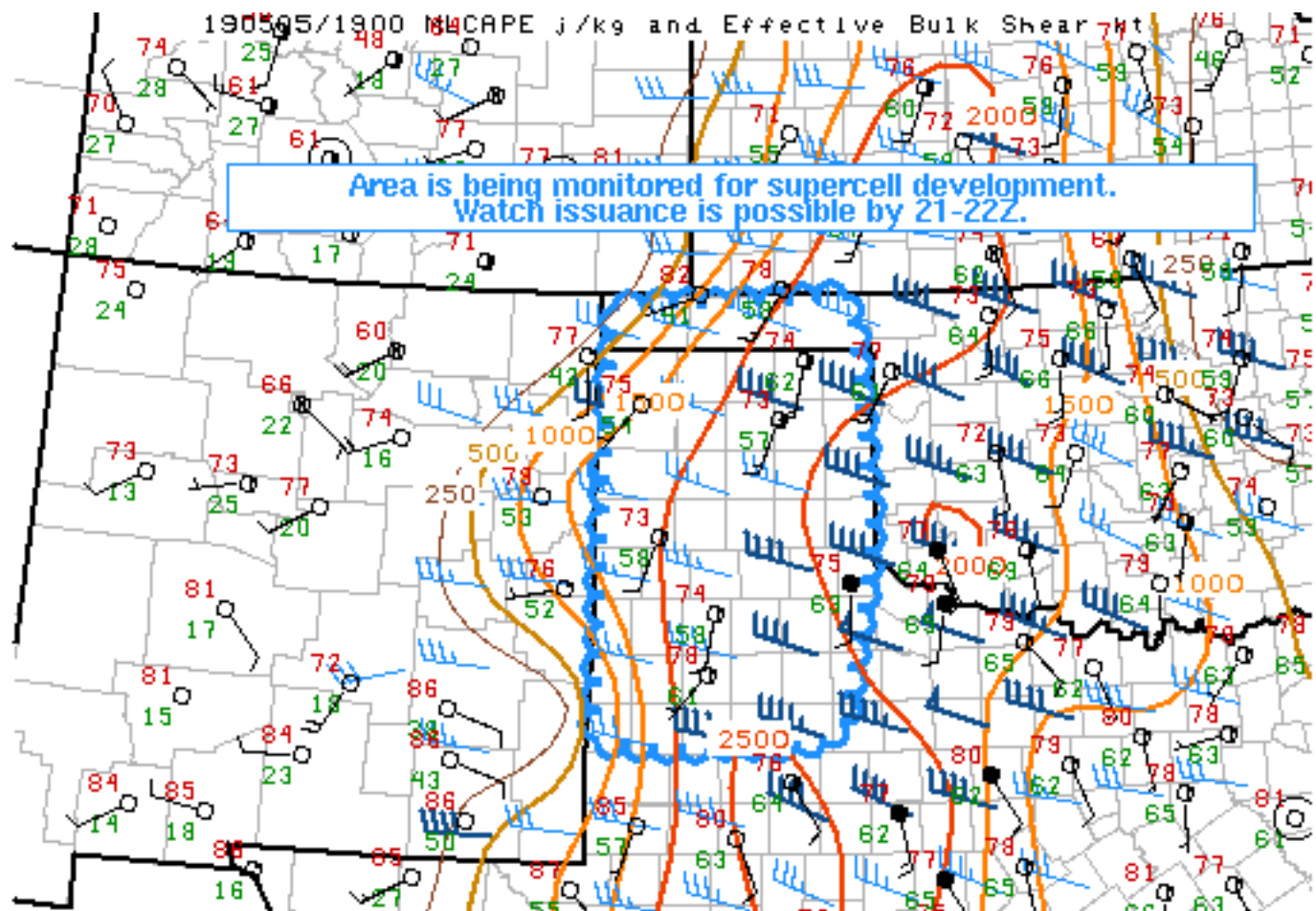
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Mesoscale Discussion 542

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SPC MCD #0542

Mesoscale Discussion 0542

NWS Storm Prediction Center Norman OK

0301 PM CDT Sun May 05 2019

Areas affected...TX/OK Panhandles into the TX South Plains

Concerning...Severe potential...Watch possible

Valid 052001Z - 052200Z

Probability of Watch Issuance...60 percent

SUMMARY...Area is being monitored for supercell development. The initial threat will be very large hail, with some increase in the tornado threat possible toward evening. Watch issuance is possible by 21-22Z.

DISCUSSION...A thunderstorm has recently developed across the far western OK Panhandle, with additional towering cumulus noted further south to the west of Lubbock. The short-term convective evolution is uncertain, due to a rather nebulous surface pattern with limited



surface convergence noted as of 20Z. However, continued heating/deep mixing should eventually remove the remaining MLCINH across the region and lead to at least widely scattered thunderstorm development.

As MLCINH is removed and MLCAPE increases into the 2000-3000 J/kg range later this afternoon, and effective shear remains in the 35-45 kt range, the environment will become supportive of supercell development. Very large hail will be the initial threat, given steep midlevel lapse rates and relatively cold temperatures aloft. Toward evening, as convection moves into a region of somewhat richer boundary-layer moisture and some increase in the low-level jet occurs, the tornado threat may increase somewhat from the eastern Panhandles into northwest TX.

While coverage of storms remains somewhat uncertain, especially in the short term, watch issuance is possible given the potential for multiple supercells across the region.

..Dean/Guyer.. 05/05/2019

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

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Page last modified: May 05, 2019

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