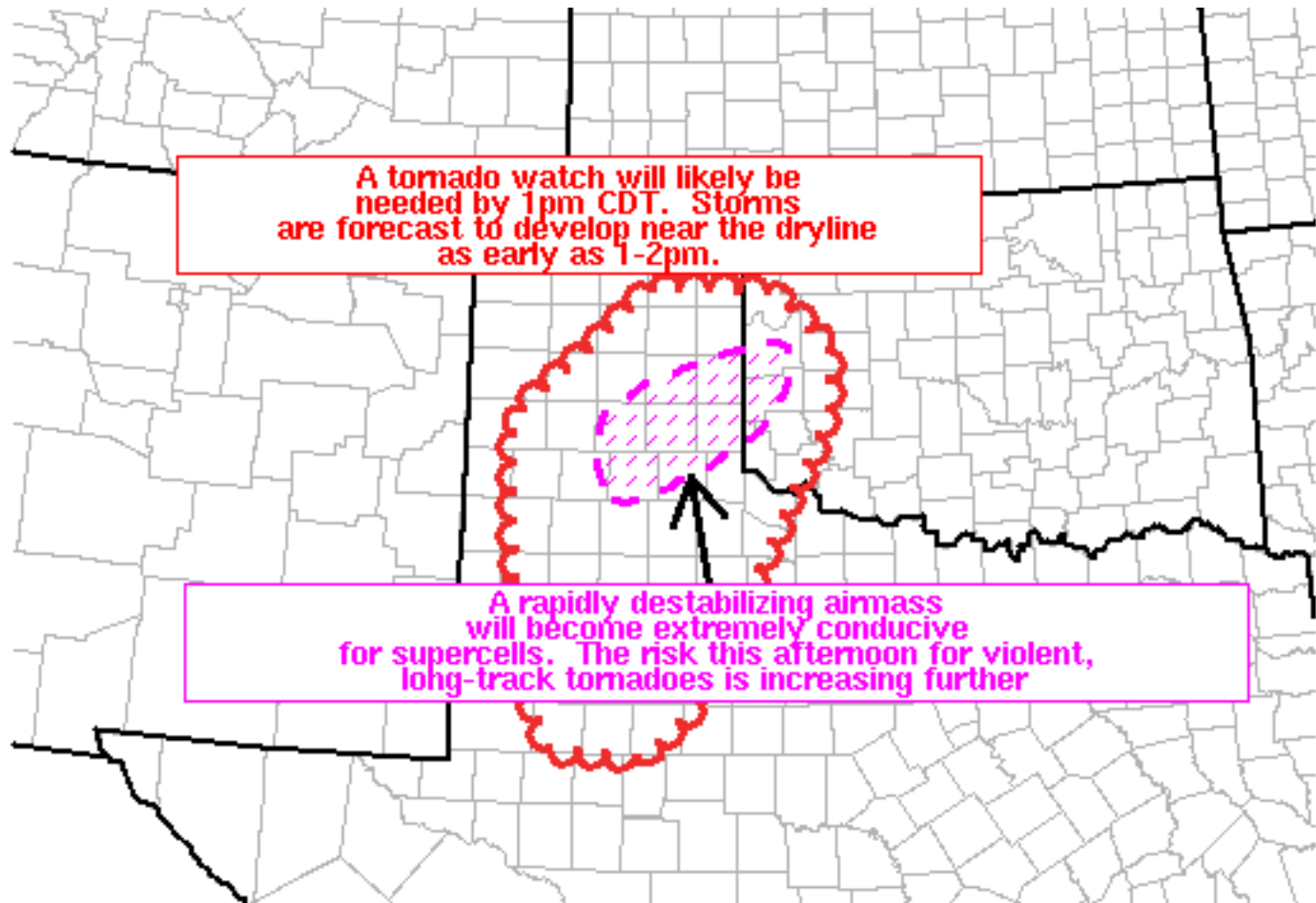


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Mesoscale Discussion 698

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SPC MCD #0698

Mesoscale Discussion 0698

NWS Storm Prediction Center Norman OK

1041 AM CDT Mon May 20 2019

Areas affected...portions of northwest TX...TX Panhandle...and western OK

Concerning...Severe potential...Tornado Watch likely

Valid 201541Z - 201815Z

Probability of Watch Issuance...95 percent

SUMMARY...A tornado watch will likely be needed by 1pm CDT. Storm initiation is expected as early as 1-2pm along the dryline.

DISCUSSION...Visible satellite imagery shows the initial stages of a bubbling cumulus field across the Texas South Plains from near Midland northward to Lubbock. Late morning surface observations show south-southeasterlies with rapid moisture advection occurring with dewpoints rising to near 70 degrees F near the Low Rolling



Plains. Despite the scattered low cloud cover, additional heating and moistening will contribute to extreme buoyancy (4000-5000 J/kg MLCAPE) developing by early-mid afternoon east of a sharpening dryline in parts of northwest and west TX. The aforementioned theta-e increase and weak large-scale forcing will likely lead to storms explosively developing during the 1pm-3pm period.

Strong and veering low-level winds beneath very strong deep-layer wind fields will likely result in sickle-shaped hodographs over the TX Panhandle and western OK this afternoon. 0-1km SRH around 250 m2/s2 coupled with the extreme buoyancy will favor long-track and potentially violent tornadoes with the strongest storms. Giant hail (3-4+ inches in diameter) will be possible.

Farther south, tornadoes and very large hail are possible with any supercells that develop near the Permian Basin.

..Smith/Hart.. 05/20/2019

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

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