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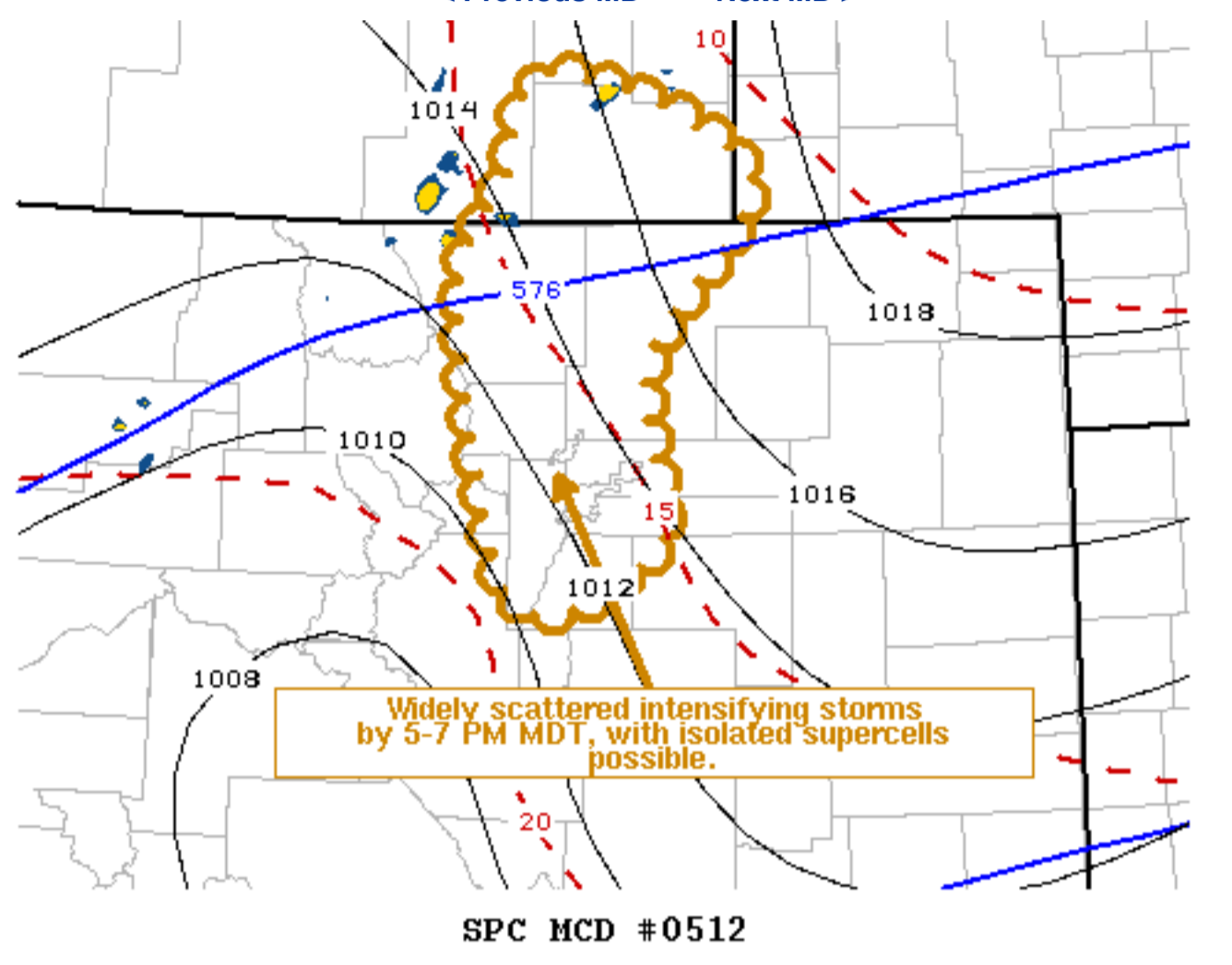
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## Mesoscale Discussion 512

&lt; Previous MD    Next MD &gt;



Mesoscale Discussion 0512  
NWS Storm Prediction Center Norman OK  
0344 PM CDT Sat May 02 2020

Areas affected...Parts of southeastern Wyoming and north central Colorado

Concerning...Severe potential...Watch unlikely

Valid 022044Z - 022245Z

Probability of Watch Issuance...20 percent

SUMMARY...A few strong to severe storms may increasingly impact areas near and just east of the Front Range, including the Great Denver Metropolitan area, by 5-7 PM MDT. Some of these storms may pose at least some risk for severe hail and strong wind gusts. The relatively marginal nature of the threat still seems likely to preclude a severe weather watch, but trends will continue to be monitored.

DISCUSSION...To this point, stronger attempts at deep convective development to the east of the Front Range have been generally confined to areas west of Fort Collins and Cheyenne. This may be associated with an area of enhanced lift aided by a subtle mid-level perturbation, as moistening easterly near surface flow and low-level warm advection contribute to weak boundary-layer destabilization across the foothills.

Beneath 30-40 kt west-southwesterly 500 mb flow, deep-layer shear is strong and supportive of organized convection, including supercells, particularly with further boundary-layer destabilization. By late afternoon, largely due to continuing insolation and mid-level cooling, this appears possible as far south as the Greater Denver Metropolitan area, where 20Z surface analysis indicates low-level convergence and stronger (2-3 mb) 2-hourly surface pressure falls are becoming focused. The environment may become conducive to storms capable of producing marginally severe hail and locally strong surface gusts. Potential for tornadoes remains more unclear, but an isolated, relatively short-lived tornado may not be out of the question.

..Kerr/Hart.. 05/02/2020

...Please see [www.spc.noaa.gov](http://www.spc.noaa.gov) for graphic product...

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