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Mesoscale Discussion 547

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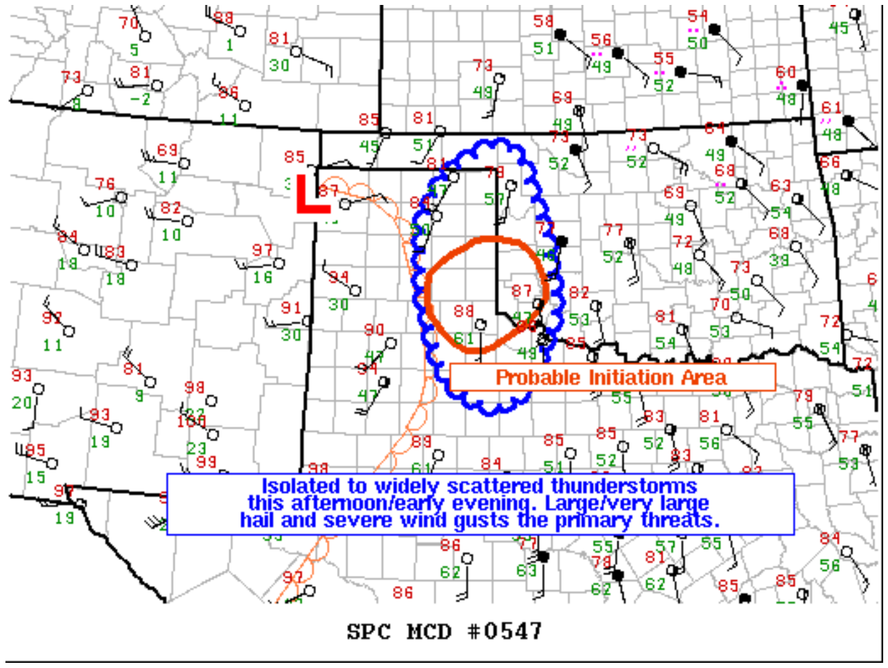

Mesoscale Discussion 0547
NWS Storm Prediction Center Norman OK
0349 PM CDT Thu May 07 2020

Areas affected...Eastern Texas Panhandle...northwest Texas...western Oklahoma

Concerning...Severe potential...Watch possible

Valid 072049Z - 072245Z

Probability of Watch Issuance...60 percent

SUMMARY...Storm initiation is probable within the southeastern Texas Panhandle into southwestern Oklahoma. Large/very large hail will be possible. There is potential for 3+ inch hailstones. Severe wind gusts are also possible. A brief tornado cannot be ruled out. Storm coverage is uncertain, but any storm is likely to be intense. A WW may be needed. Trends will be monitored.

DISCUSSION...The coverage of high-based cumulus clouds has increased over the past hour from near Amarillo to Childress. West Texas Mesonet observations have shown a rapid veering of winds west of Amarillo coincident with this development. Surface dewpoints are generally in the low/mid 50s F across the region, though an area of upper 50s to low 60s F dewpoints are still in place near the Childress vicinity into far southwestern Oklahoma. Given the slightly better moisture and increased convergence, this zone appears to be the most probable area of storm initiation within a couple of hours. This has been supported by several CAM solutions today. The 19Z AMA sounding sampled steep low/mid-level lapse rates with 50-60 kts of effective shear. Storms in this environment will be supercellular and capable of large to very large (potentially 3+ inches) as well as severe wind gusts. Modest low-level veering of winds may support a brief tornado. A greater tornado threat should be limited by less than favorable low-level moisture. Storm coverage is uncertain given the lack of upper-level forcing. However, storms that develop are likely to be intense. Trends will be monitored for a possible WW.

..Wendt/Hart.. 05/07/2020

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

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