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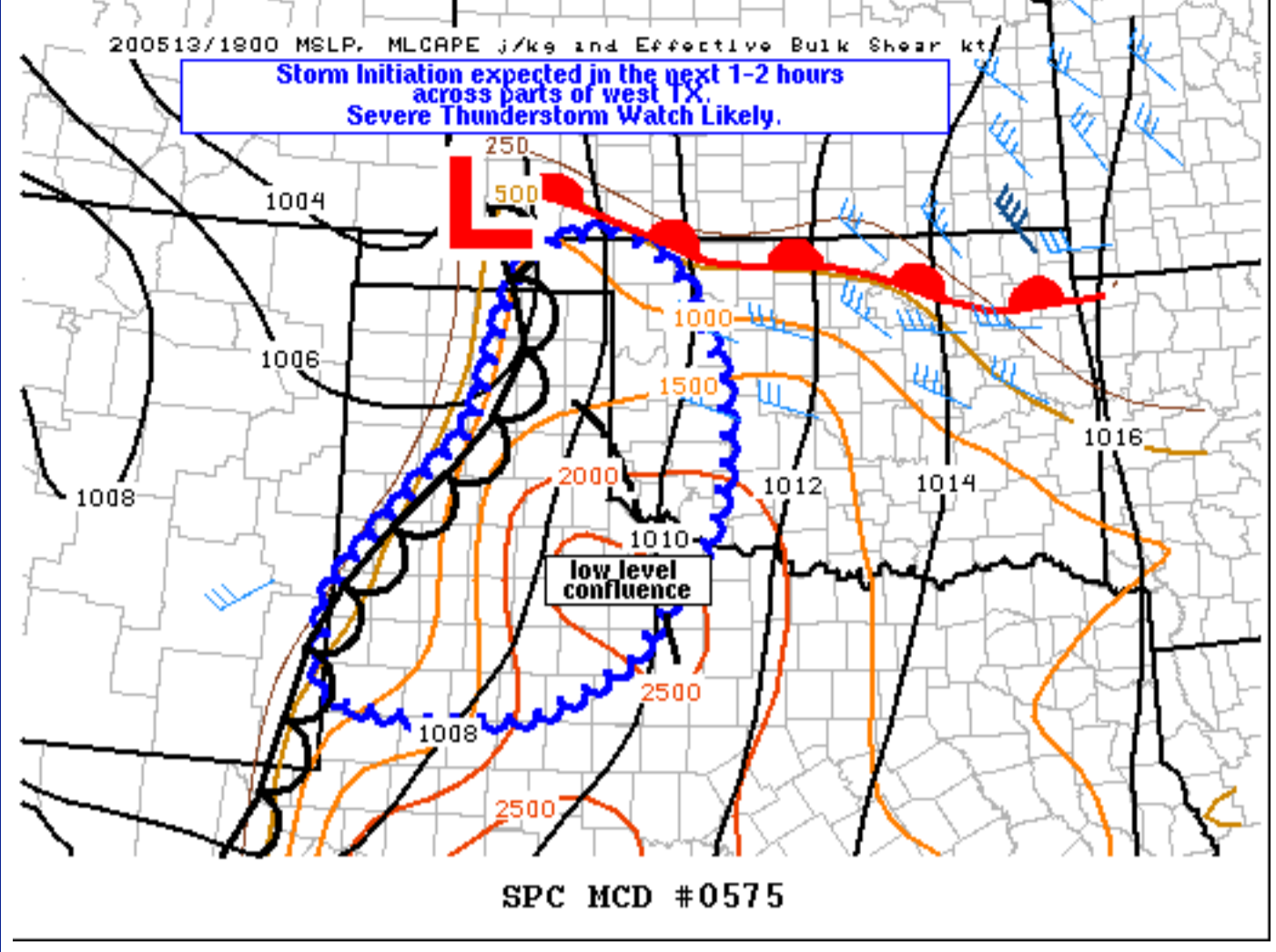
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## Mesoscale Discussion 575

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Mesoscale Discussion 0575  
 NWS Storm Prediction Center Norman OK  
 0200 PM CDT Wed May 13 2020

Areas affected...portions of the OK/TX Panhandles...western OK and western TX

Concerning...Severe potential...Severe Thunderstorm Watch likely

Valid 131900Z - 132030Z

Probability of Watch Issuance...95 percent

SUMMARY...Severe thunderstorms are expected within the next couple of hours. Damaging gusts and large hail will be the main hazards with these storms. A severe thunderstorm watch will be issued soon.

DISCUSSION...Deepening CU has been noted over the last 30-60 minutes near the TX/NM boarder over Cochran to Gaines Counties just ahead of the surface dryline. South/southeasterly low level flow south of Lubbock southward toward Midland is resulting in strong low level convergence along the dryline in this area. Furthermore, strong surface heating is resulting in temperatures in the mid to upper 80s, quickly approaching convective temperatures. 18z regional RAOBs indicate there is still some MLCIN, but additional heating and sharpening of the dryline will overcome this in the next couple of hours.

Additional CU development has been noted further northeast toward CDS where low level stratus has mostly cleared and MLCAPE has increased to around 2000 J/kg. Surface analysis also showed a confluence zone from the eastern TX Panhandle toward far southwest OK/western north TX in this vicinity. This should foster increasing low level ascent as a dryline bulge mixes eastward toward the eastern TX Panhandle. As a result, there could be multiple areas of convective initiation around the same time this afternoon across the broader region from the OK/TX panhandle southward through the TX South Plains.

18z RAOBs show very steep lapse rates across the region, but overall, effective bulk shear is rather marginal, on the order of 25-35 kt. Some discrete cells could develop initially, especially near the TX/OK border where low level moisture is deeper and vertical shear is a bit more favorable. Semi-discrete storms will be capable of large hail and damaging gusts. Nevertheless, a transition toward clusters/bowing segments is likely to occur within 1-2 hours, especially further south where the deeply mixed boundary layer will result in strong downdraft potential.

..Leitman/Thompson.. 05/13/2020

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

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