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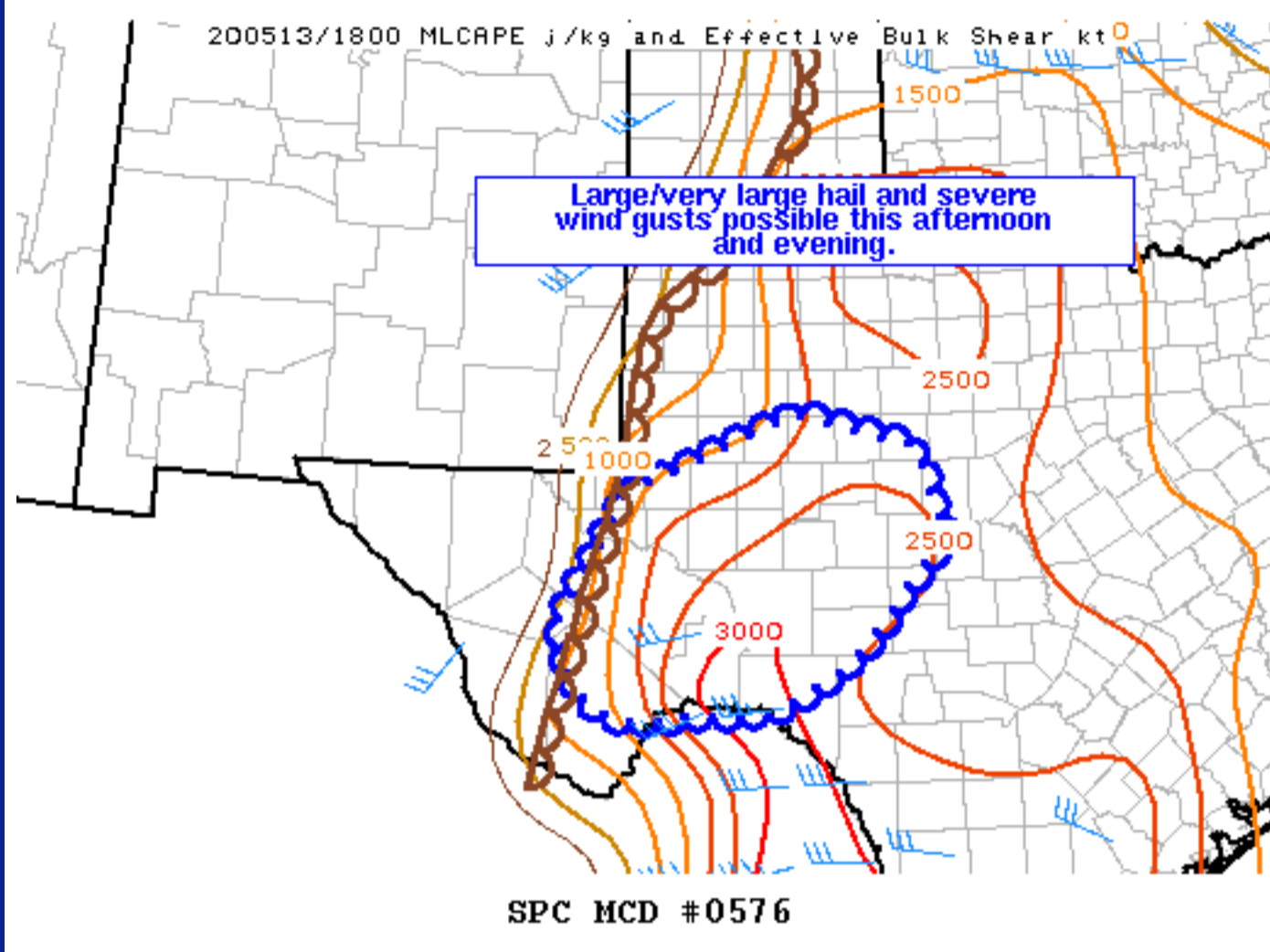
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Mesoscale Discussion 576

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Mesoscale Discussion 0576

NWS Storm Prediction Center Norman OK

0222 PM CDT Wed May 13 2020

Areas affected...Trans-Pecos into the Edwards Plateau

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

Valid 131922Z - 132115Z

Probability of Watch Issuance...80 percent

SUMMARY...Cumulus is continuing to deepen in the Davis Mountains. Initially discrete storms will be capable of large/very large hail and severe wind gusts. Marginal deep-layer shear and a deeply mixed boundary layer will favor strong downdrafts and upscale growth. A transition to primarily a wind threat is expected towards the early evening. A severe thunderstorm watch is likely this afternoon.

DISCUSSION...Cumulus have formed and deepened near the dryline within the Davis Mountains. Continued heating/mixing will likely lead to storm initiation within the next 1-2 hours. 18Z MAF sounding sampled mid-level lapse rates of near 9 C/km. To the east of this development, moist southeasterly flow has increased dewpoints in to the upper 50s and low 60s F. Storms will encounter 2000-2500 J/kg MLCAPE as they progress slowly eastward. With only a weak upper-level shortwave moving through New Mexico, deep-layer shear will be on the margins for supercells. Furthermore, the deeply mixed boundary layer will tend to favor strong downdrafts and relatively quick upscale growth. Strong/severe wind gusts are likely to be the primary threats. The greatest risk for very large hail should occur with initial development where more discrete storm modes are possible. Even with less favorable storm mode later in the convective cycle, very steep mid-level lapse rates will continue to foster some potential for large hail. How far east the cluster/linear segment that evolves this evening can make it will depend on how mature/organized the cold pool becomes. Forecast soundings do indicate some capping will be in place to the east, but a deep enough cold pool would have potential to overcome the inhibition. A severe thunderstorm watch is likely this afternoon.

..Wendt/Thompson.. 05/13/2020

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

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