

Storm Prediction Center



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NCEP Quarterly Newsletter

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Mesoscale Discussion 616

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Mesoscale Discussion 0616 NWS Storm Prediction Center Norman OK 0614 PM CDT Sat May 16 2020

Areas affected...portions of southeast CO...northeast NM and the far western TX Panhandle

Concerning...Severe potential...Watch unlikely

Valid 162314Z - 170045Z

Probability of Watch Issuance...5 percent

SUMMARY...A strong to severe storm or two is possible through the evening hours. Gusty winds and possibly large hail may accompany these storms. Given the isolated nature of the threat, a watch is not expected.

DISCUSSION...Showers are developing early this evening in weak upslope flow near Raton. Surface dewpoints remain poor, mainly in the mid 40s F. However, temperatures have warmed into the mid 70s to low 80s beneath steep midlevel lapse rates. This has resulted in MLCAPE values as high as 500 J/kg. Veering winds with height, and increasing midlevel northwesterly flow is responsible for a belt of 35-45 kt effective shear. This should be sufficient for the development of an organized storm or two capable of large hail. Inverted-v sub-cloud layer thermodynamic profiles with steep low level lapse rates will foster gusty wind potential with these storms, in addition to hail. Convection should weaken as it tracks south/southeast toward the OK/TX Panhandle vicinity later this evening as nocturnal cooling results in increasing inhibition and midlevel lapse rates and instability weaken.

..Leitman/Hart.. 05/16/2020

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

ATTN...WFO...LUB...AMA...PUB...ABQ...

LAT...LON 36800466 37530431 37660421 37750382 37730352 37550325 36840304 35890287 35020274 34740294 34700388 34950433 36800466

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