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Mesoscale Discussion 566

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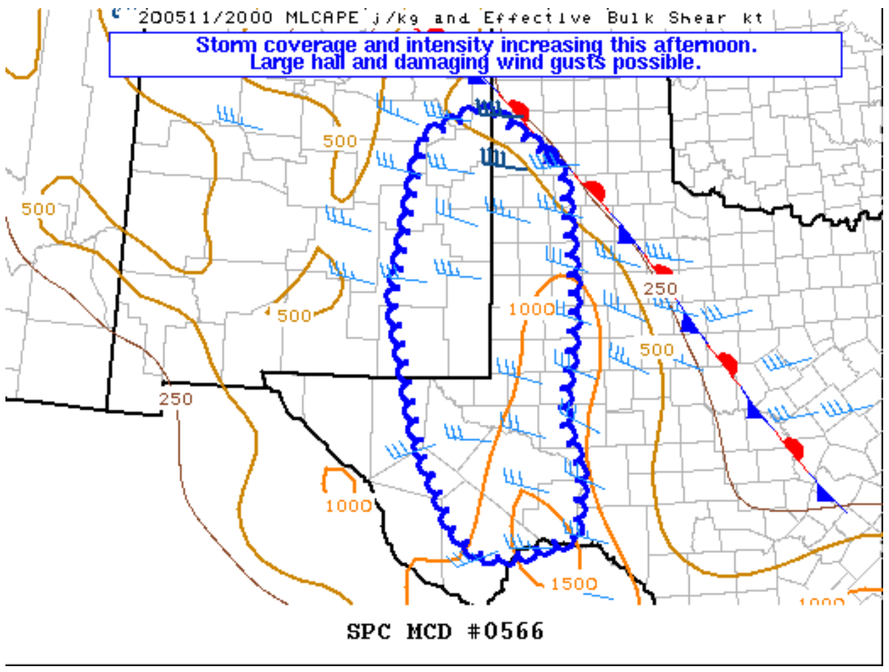

Mesoscale Discussion 0566
NWS Storm Prediction Center Norman OK
0338 PM CDT Mon May 11 2020

Areas affected...Portions of eastern New Mexico...Texas South Plains...Trans-Pecos

Concerning...Severe potential...Watch possible

Valid 112038Z - 112145Z

Probability of Watch Issuance...60 percent

SUMMARY...Storm coverage and intensity is expected to increase this afternoon and evening as moisture continues to return northwestward into West Texas and eastern New Mexico. Large hail and damaging wind gusts will be the main threats. A brief tornado may occur with discrete storms interacting with the surface boundary. With time, upscale growth may produce a linear segment or two and wind gusts would become the primary threat.

DISCUSSION...A weak surface low has developed in northeastern NM in response to a shortwave trough moving through the Four Corners. Moist southeasterly flow into West Texas and eastern New Mexico has lifted dewpoints into the low/mid 50s F. Moisture advection should continue through the afternoon and increase as the low-level jet strengthens during the evening. A couple of thunderstorms have already initiated along the higher terrain in southern New Mexico with cumulus continuing to build within the Davis Mountains. So far, storms have weakened as they have move into Plains where MLCIN remains. Farther north, activity has been minimal with moisture being lower and cloud cover keeping temperatures cooler. Other storm development is possible near a surface boundary situated across the Panhandle into central Texas.

Deep-layer shear across the region will range from 25-40 kts with higher values toward the north. A few multicell clusters and supercell structures are possible, some of which may eventually grow upscale into small linear segments. Steep low/mid-level lapse rates will foster a risk for large hail and damaging winds. A brief tornado may occur with discrete activity in the vicinity of the surface boundary where low-level SRH will be maximized. Linear segments that interact with the surface boundary will pose the greatest risk for damaging winds and will likely last longer given the improved low-level forcing.

Trends will be monitored for a possible WW later this afternoon.

..Wendt/Thompson.. 05/11/2020

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

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