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Mesoscale Discussion 689

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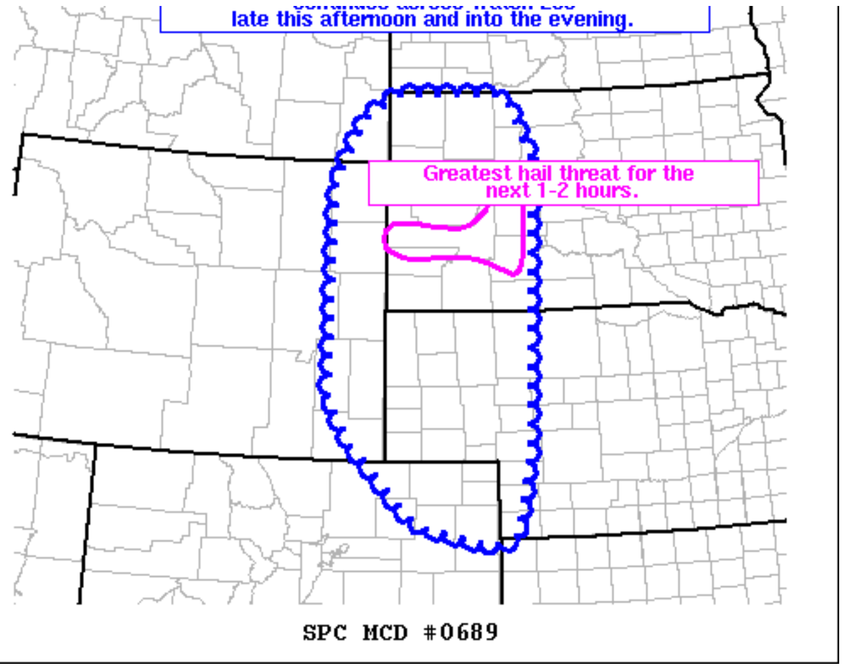

SPC MCD #0689

Mesoscale Discussion 0689
NWS Storm Prediction Center Norman OK
0357 PM CDT Sat May 23 2020

Areas affected...Western South Dakota...eastern Wyoming...the Nebraska Panhandle...and far northeast Colorado.

Concerning...Severe Thunderstorm Watch 208...

Valid 232057Z - 232230Z

The severe weather threat for Severe Thunderstorm Watch 208 continues.

SUMMARY...The severe weather threat continues across watch 208 late this afternoon and into the evening.

DISCUSSION...A large cluster of storms has developed from the Black Hills eastward across western South Dakota. Significant storm interference has led to decreasing MRMS MESH in the last 30 minutes across much of the region. The best chance for large and very large hail will be with storms along the southern and eastern portion of this cluster where storms have easier access to a buoyant airmass and where storms can remain somewhat more discrete.

Farther south, storms in southeast Wyoming have struggled thus far as dewpoints have fallen into the upper 30s and MLCAPE is only around 500 to 1000 J/kg. However, dewpints are in the upper 40s 20-30 miles to the east and these storms are expected to intensify in the next 1 to 2 hours as they encounter this higher theta-e airmass.

In addition, some cumulus can be seen through the mid-level clouds in northeast Colorado. Storm development is possible in this area late this afternoon/evening. MLCAPE is around 1500 J/kg with effective shear around 35 knots and thus, supercells will be possible if any storms can develop across this area. Given the expectation for discrete storm mode and steep mid-level lapse rates (~8 C/km), very large hail is possible.

..Bentley.. 05/23/2020

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

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