Storm Prediction Center

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Mesoscale Discussion 708 < Previous MD Next MD > 200524/2000 MLCAPE j/kg and Effective Bulk Shear kt SPC MCD #0708

News

Mesoscale Discussion 0708 NWS Storm Prediction Center Norman OK 0307 PM CDT Sun May 24 2020

Areas affected...The Texas and Oklahoma Panhandles

Concerning...Severe potential...Watch likely

Valid 242007Z - 242130Z

Probability of Watch Issuance...95 percent

SUMMARY...Strong to severe storms are expected to form along the dryline soon. Large hail (some very large) and damaging winds will be the primary threat.

DISCUSSION...Cu have started to form along the dryline in the last hour as the dryline circulation has strengthened with temperatures in the upper 80s to low 90s west of the dryline with temperatures in the 80s with dewpoints in the low 60s east of the dryline. Expect updrafts to become more vigorous in the next hour as ascent from the mid-level shortwave starts to overspread the region. Early evidence of this can be seen northwest of LBB as towering cumulus have expanded ahead of a mid-level cirrus streak likely indicating the leading edge of better ascent. MLCAPE ranges from 1500 to 2500 J/kg east of the dryline (per SPC mesoanalysis) with additional destabilization expected as the boundary layer warms and low-level flow backs and advects richer low-level moisture northwestward. This moderate to strong instability and very steep mid-level lapse rates (9 to 9.5 C/km per SPC mesoanalysis) will support explosive updraft development and a threat for large and very large hail in addition to severe wind gusts.

The primary limiting factor to a greater severe threat is the modest shear across the region with effective shear around 25 to 30 knots. This will likely lead to a combination of multicells and supercells with eventual upscale growth into one or more linear segments with

The most pronounced low-level backed flow is currently near Lubbock and is expected to back even further through the evening. This will lead to a somewhat enhanced tornado threat, especially with any supercells which have deviant southeast or southward movement.

..Bentley/Hart.. 05/24/2020

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

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