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Mesoscale Discussion 753

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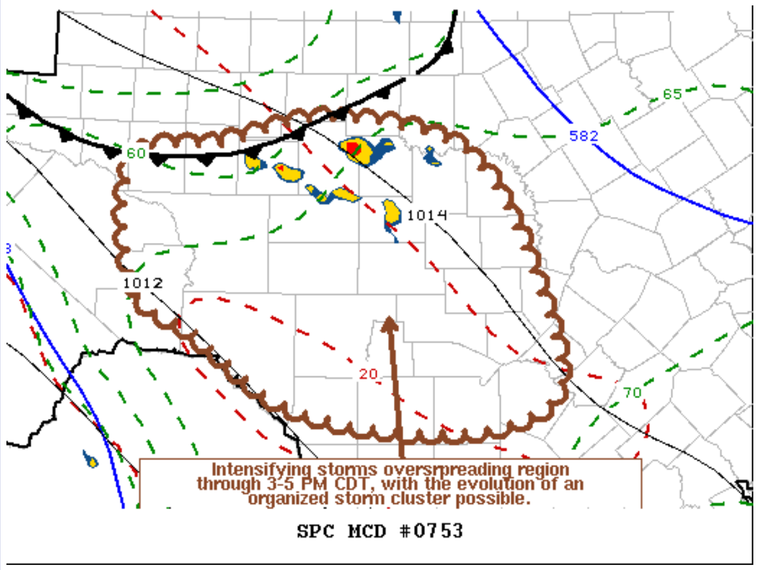

Mesoscale Discussion 0753
NWS Storm Prediction Center Norman OK
0144 PM CDT Thu May 28 2020

Areas affected...Edwards Plateau/Hill Country vicinity and adjacent Rio Grande Valley

Concerning...Severe potential...Watch possible

Valid 281844Z - 282045Z

Probability of Watch Issuance...40 percent

SUMMARY...Further intensification of thunderstorms appears likely across the Edwards Plateau into the Hill Country and Rio Grande Valley through 3-5 PM CDT. This will be accompanied by a risk for severe hail. There appears at least some potential for the evolution of an increasingly organized cluster of storms, which could become capable of producing strong surface gusts. If/when this becomes more certain, a severe weather watch may be issued.

DISCUSSION...Mid/upper support for convective development remains unclear, but vigorous thunderstorms have initiated across the San Angelo area. Low-level convergence appears weak, but activity appears to be largely focused along the leading edge of low-level cooling and drying advancing across and south of the Texas South Plains.

Deep-layer mean ambient flow across this region appears generally weak, northerly at 10-20 kt, but there may be a belt of somewhat stronger winds at mid-levels (on the order of 30 kt around 500 mb), contributing to at least modest shear.

Of particular note, surface dew points are still in the the mid 60s to around 70f to the south of the ongoing storms, where boundary-layer heating is contributing to large CAPE (3000+ J/kg) in the presence of relatively steep lower/mid tropospheric lapse rates. With the shear allowing for at least modest inflow from this environment into the developing storms, there appears potential for considerable updraft intensification during the next few hours.

Appreciable upscale convective growth may await the development of a more substantive surface cold pool, but, based on thermodynamic profiles, this appears possible. If/when this occurs, an increasingly organized convective system could evolve, accompanied by strengthening rear inflow and potential for strong surface gusts.

Otherwise, the primary potential severe hazard with strongest storms is probably severe hail, as activity tends to gradually propagate toward the San Antonio and Del Rio vicinities.

..Kerr/Hart.. 05/28/2020

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

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