

Storm Prediction Center



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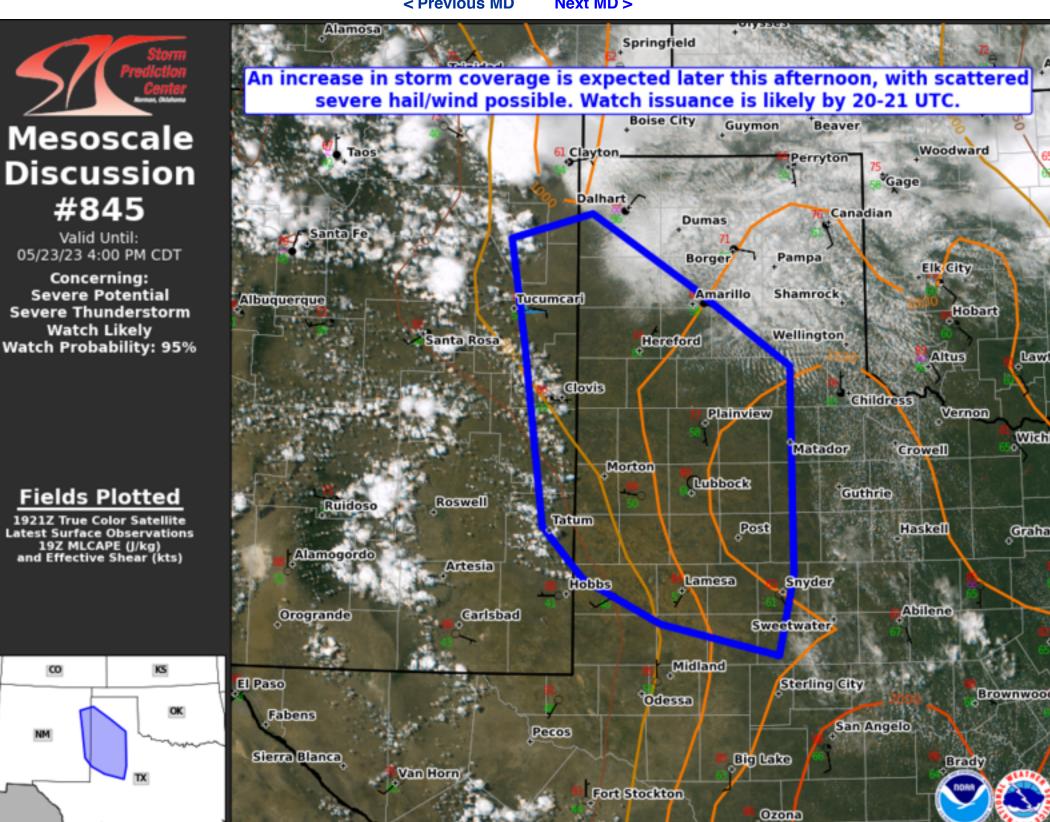
SPC Feedback

Mesoscale Discussion 845

Organization

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News



Mesoscale Discussion 0845 NWS Storm Prediction Center Norman OK 0228 PM CDT Tue May 23 2023

Areas affected...Far eastern NM into parts of the TX Panhandle and South Plains

Concerning...Severe potential...Severe Thunderstorm Watch likely

Valid 231928Z - 232100Z

Probability of Watch Issuance...95 percent

SUMMARY...Storm coverage is expected to increase later this afternoon, with scattered severe hail/wind eventually possible as storms mature. Severe Thunderstorm Watch issuance is likely by 20-21 UTC.

DISCUSSION...AT 1915 UTC, a strong thunderstorm is ongoing across far northeast NM in the vicinity of a minor MCV, while high-based cumulus is increasing farther south across eastern NM. Deep-layer flow is very weak in the immediate vicinity of the MCV, but modestly increases farther south, where westerly midlevel flow of 25-30 kt is supporting sufficient effective shear for some storm organization. Continued diurnal heating will eventually result in the development of scattered high-based thunderstorms. Initial activity may pose a threat of localized severe gusts and some hail, given the presence of modest buoyancy (MLCAPE of 500-1000 J/kg) and steep low/midlevel lapse rates.

With time, outflow-dominant storms will likely spread eastward into a larger portion of the southern TX Panhandle and South Plains. Convective mode becomes increasingly uncertain with time, but any remaining semi-discrete cells by late afternoon/early evening may begin to pose a greater threat for hail (potentially in excess of 2 inches in diameter) as they move into an increasingly unstable environment. Otherwise, the threat for outflow-driven severe gusts will continue, and possibly increase by early evening depending on the timing and extent of upscale growth.

Severe Thunderstorm Watch issuance is likely by $20-21\ \text{UTC}$ in order to address the threats described above.

..Dean/Grams.. 05/23/2023

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

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