

Morning Forecast, Wednesday May 18

Submitted by dhartsock on Wed, 05/18/2011 - 08:41

- [Central Facility](#)

A line of storms passed through overnight and has pushed into NE OK. The forecast remains complex for the next few days as the upper low continues to church over the pacific northwest, slowly progressing eastward. Storms and showers will be likely Wednesday night through Friday over or near the SGP region, but confidence in the models remains low as to the exact details in timing and coverage. It does appear a sure thing that northern Colorado will be in an upslope event WED evening with some possibly strong storms embedded in widespread precipitation.

WED evening a few isolated severe storms may develop over western-central OK along the dryline/frontal boundary before propagating north-eastward. The GFS puts more rain over northern OK, while the NAM has rain focused more over southern OK late tonight.

THURS appears to be the the most challenging forecast, as both appear to develop storms along the dryline around 21Z but the NAM doesn't hold with the storms after that. And the other complicating factors include how slow the upper level system is actually moving, and possibly a morning/afternoon MCS event similar to what happened last week, which none of the models predicted. The general consensus appears to be that the best chance for widespread showers will be later Thursday night, into the overnight hours.

FRI the upper level system spins in over the rockies with SW flow aloft over the region, enhancing lift, while the moisture will remain abundant across the region with the dryline moving back west near the panhandle. It currently appears that the late morning, early afternoon timeframe would be the more likely scenario for widespread convection across the region. Later that evening, the NAM redevelops storms over Western OK, while the GFS pushes everything off further off to eastern OK.

Forecasts

Time of Day:

Morning

Day 0:

05/18/2011

Forecast for Day 0:

Early this morning a band of storms developed over north central ok, building in and pushing off eastward. Low clouds streaming in with the SE winds and moisture return today over much of the state, except southwest OK, where a dryline is expected to build in and very warm temperatures. The surface low over the texas panhandle and frontal boundary across central OK could be a focal point for later afternoon/evening convection. Both the NAM and GFS show some development over west-central OK between 21-00Z. If storms do fire, they will likely propagate north-eastward. Later that night, the NAM shows showers over southern OK, while the GFS puts the rain over northern OK. Also the NSSL WRF develops a storm right over central OK, developing between 21-00Z, tracking from north of OKC to Tulsa from 00-06Z.

Northern Colorado will also be active tonight, with afternoon storms developing in an upslope event. Storms will likely persist embedded in widespread precipitation between 00-12Z. Thunderstorms may also impact the Omaha (ER-2) area between 12-15Z or later tomorrow morning.

There is a slight risk of severe weather across central OK into southwest CO.

Day 1:

05/19/2011

Forecast for Day 1:

A slight risk of severe weather will again be possible over the region tomorrow afternoon/evening. Both models suggest storm development along a dryline in western OK between 21-00Z. Isolated convection could form into a squall line later in that night, if the cap can be overcome, and even though neither model really is predicting widespread rain. Similar to last week, if a shortwave kicks things off early, a whole new situation may play out. Storms also look to impact the Omaha area after 00Z according to the GFS, and a bit later after 06Z according to the NAM.

Day 2:

05/20/2011

Forecast for Day 2:

A slight risk of severe weather continues through Friday as the upper level system progresses a little further east and moisture is abundant. More widespread convection is likely over the region, possibly beginning earlier in the morning. The models currently show widespread rain developing between 15-18Z and persisting through early afternoon (21z). The NAM indicates possibly re development later Friday night, while the GFS pushes everything off to the east.

Extended Outlook:

After an active pattern, the upper level trough appears to lift through the central plains and out by the end of the weekend, with lower chances of rain. Saturday should be mostly sunny, continuing to warm through the weekend, and a slight chance of storms Sat night. While Sunday may see a chance of storms again.

Attached files:

1. [MC3E Weather Briefing 20110518.ppt](#)