

TFS WEATHER BRIEF

Thursday, May 24

WEATHER HIGHLIGHTS: MAY 24-28

- 1. SCATTERED PM STORMS HP, RP AND TP TODAY**
- 2. SCATTERED STORMS COASTAL PLAINS TO EAST TX TODAY-SAT**
- 3. HOTTER AND DRIER WEST TX FRI-MON**
- 4. CENTRAL GULF COAST IN TROPICAL BULLS-EYE SUN-MON**

Today: Weakening storms are exiting the far southeast Panhandle this morning but new storms will shortly develop over the middle and upper Coastal Plains, then spread north and northwest across the eastern third of the state by afternoon. Scattered storms will also form over the higher terrain of the Trans-Pecos by early to mid-afternoon while widely scattered storms dot the High Plains and upper Rolling Plains. Any persistent thunderstorm will be capable of producing a quick 0.50 inch or greater rain total along with locally gusty, erratic winds. Cloud bases look low enough again over the Trans-Pecos to make dry lightning unlikely.

Fri: Far less storm coverage is forecast across West TX as an upper ridge builds overhead providing a stronger cap to convective formation. A random storm is possible over the eastern High Plains and Trans-Pecos but most locations will simply be dry and hot as temperatures take off, heading well into the 90s. Scattered storms will return to mainly the upper Coastal Plains and East TX but coverage will be slightly less. Localized 0.50 inch amounts are possible.

DAYS 3-5: MAY 26-28

Sat-Sun: A future tropical depression or storm will likely move northward towards the central Gulf Coast remaining far enough away from Texas to have a limited impact. Rain chances will diminish noticeably over East TX Sat with only random late day storms occurring. By Sun, the upper ridge will expand eastward, shutting off storm development into East/ Southeast TX. Thus, rather hot and dry conditions will prevail for much of the state both days with near record temperatures from the High Plains/ Rolling Plains to the Trans-Pecos. Likewise, afternoon temperatures will climb into the mid and upper 90s over central and eastern areas with triple digit heat over the lower Rio Grande Plains. Here comes summer!

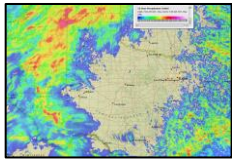
Memorial Day: Another hot day is forecast with little rainfall expected statewide. Heat indices will soar into the triple digits for all areas except along the immediate coast where a weak sea breeze offers modest cooling. Think heat safety!

EXTENDED OUTLOOK: Next Week

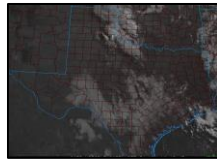
The upper ridge will slowly modulate its amplitude and position next week, perhaps dampening some Tue or Wed, then amplifying again late week. Temperatures promise to remain above normal for much of the state, perhaps closer to normal near the Gulf Coast where a weak sea breeze is observed. Little to no rainfall will fall next week over the state closing May on a dry note.

SUMMARY

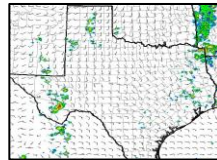
West and East ... Yes; Central ... No: The western and eastern parts of the state said “Yes” to observed rain the past few days as several rounds of mainly afternoon and evening storms dumped locally over one inch including across portions of the Panhandle and Trans-Pecos. The central third, however, was in a “rain void” as the western convection never survived the trip eastward while the afternoon storms over Southeast/ East TX dissipated before migrating across I-35. A cluster of storms persists this morning over the far southeast Panhandle as satellite shows below. Expect one more day of afternoon convection over the Trans-Pecos and parts of the High Plains while popcorn style hit and miss storms pepper the middle Coastal Plains to East TX. The simulated radar forecast at 6pm is a sample of the convective pattern later today. Much drier conditions will affect the east and west through the weekend.



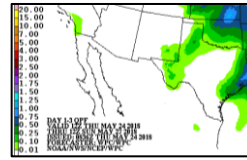
3 Day Rain Totals



AM Visible Satellite



Simulated Radar at 6pm



3 Day Rain Forecast to Sun am

Tropics Heating Up! Media buzz is building on a tropical disturbance near the Yucatan. The low-level circulation will emerge north of the Yucatan over the southern Gulf late Fri, then slowly organize as it shifts northward. Current guidance consistently strengthens Invest 90L into a tropical depression by Sat and perhaps into Tropical Storm Alberto Sun, eventually reaching the central Gulf Coast Mon. Major impacts will occur north and east of its track leaving TX on the “dry side”. Gusty surface winds are NOT expected on the backside of this system across East TX; likewise, minimum RH values will remain above 40%. In short, the tropical depression or storm will be too far away to severely impact winds and humidity levels over East TX but team with the upper ridge to mute rain chances.



AM Satellite 90L



NHC Future Track

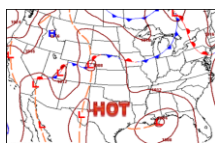


Model Consensus Track

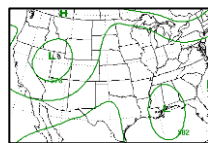


Spaghetti Plot Tracks

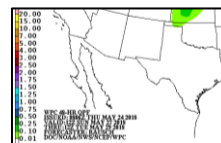
Hot Stuff Coming: An upper ridge will dominate the state’s weather over the holiday weekend, putting a lid on any late day storm development while gradually heating and drying the surface. Expect near record heat beginning Sat over West TX with above normal temperatures expanding into East TX by Sun. The heat will persist through Memorial Day as well, shown below. Likewise, the only risk of afternoon thunder will exist over East TX and the upper Coastal Plains Sat with widely scattered wetting storms. Sun and Mon look dry in those areas as well. Remember heat safety and enjoy the BBQ!



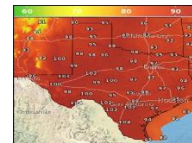
SFC Snapshot Mon am



500 mb Pattern Mon am



Rain Forecast Sun-Mon



Max Temps Mon

