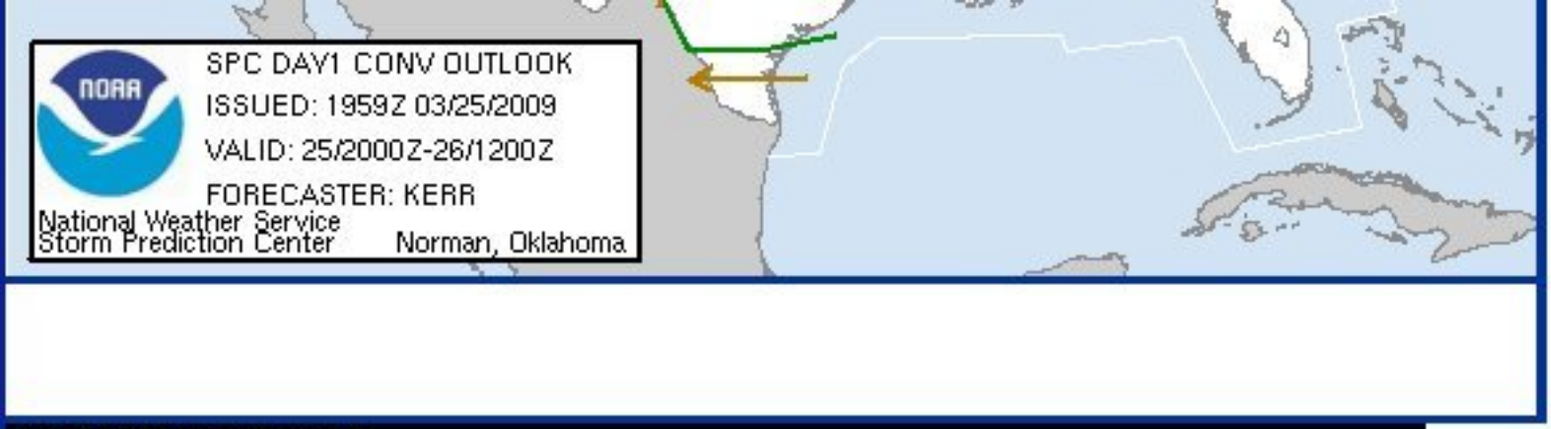

Forecast Discussion

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SPC AC 251959

DAY 1 CONVECTIVE OUTLOOK CORR 1
NWS STORM PREDICTION CENTER NORMAN OK
0259 PM CDT WED MAR 25 2009

VALID 252000Z - 261200Z

...THERE IS A SLGT RISK OF SVR TSTMS LATE THIS AFTN AND TONIGHT
ACROSS CNTRL/ERN TX THRU THE CNTRL GULF STATES...

CORRECTED FOR WRN EDGE OF HAIL/WIND PROBS IN TEXAS

...TEXAS THRU THE GULF STATES...
STRONG FORCING FOR UPWARD VERTICAL MOTION...ASSOCIATED WITH COUPLED
UPPER JET STREAKS...WILL CONTINUE TO DEVELOP EAST NORTHEAST OF THE
EDWARDS PLATEAU REGION OF TEXAS LATE THIS AFTERNOON AND EVENING.  AS
THIS OCCURS...IT STILL APPEARS LIKELY THAT A BROAD LOW/MID-LEVEL
BAROCLINIC ZONE OVER CENTRAL/EASTERN TEXAS WILL PROVIDE THE FOCUS
FOR AN EVOLVING STORM CLUSTER...IN THE PRESENCE OF MODERATE
INSTABILITY ASSOCIATED WITH MOISTURE RETURN OFF THE GULF BENEATH
STEEP MID-LEVEL LAPSE RATES.  DEEP LAYER SHEAR IS STRONG...AND
CLOCKWISE CURVED LOW-LEVEL HODOGRAPHS ARE BEGINNING TO ENLARGE
ACROSS THE UPPER TEXAS COASTAL PLAIN...AS SOUTHERLY 850 MB FLOW
BEGINS TO STRENGTHEN.
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Essentially, this convective outlook is stating that very moist air is being drawn into Texas at ground level while the atmosphere above is cooling off at a steep rate. If the warm, moist unstable air found at the surface were to rise into the mid levels of the atmosphere...dangerous thunderstorms would likely result. Combined with the fact a strong jet is located above this area and would further serve to siphon unstable air up into the top of the atmosphere, forecasters are advising extreme caution.

The jet discussed here is the same one pictured in Figure 8 from the Pressure section. A close look at Texas will reveal thunderstorms beneath the focus of the jet's winds.