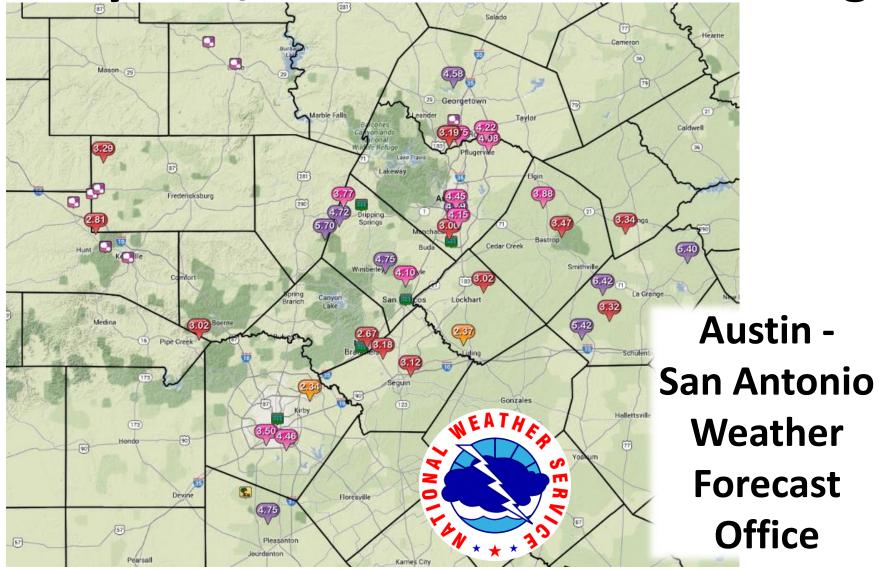
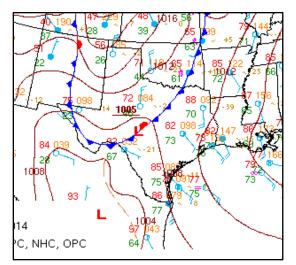
# May 12<sup>th</sup>/13<sup>th</sup> Storms and Flooding



## **Synoptic Set Up - Summary**



WPC Surface Analysis for 4 pm 5/12

SPC Mesoanalysis of Temperature/Dewpoint and Pressure at 1 pm 5/12

The combination of rich Gulf moisture, an upper level low pressure system, and a strong and slow moving Pacific cold front came together to produce a line of showers and thunderstorms that moved across South Central Texas on the evening of Monday, May 12<sup>th</sup> into the early morning of Tuesday, May 13<sup>th</sup>.

In addition to dew point, another atmospheric variable that measures moisture in the air is precipitable water. It is the total atmospheric water vapor contained in a vertical column. Think of it as a measure of how much water vapor is available in the atmosphere to turn into precipitation at a specific point. The values for May 12<sup>th</sup> were well above normal.

One thing that kept the severe weather threat minimal was the fact that storms developed along the squall line and in clusters. With the storms developing in close proximity to each other, this reduces the amount of fuel each storm can take in and limits the potential for larger hail, very strong winds, and tornadoes.

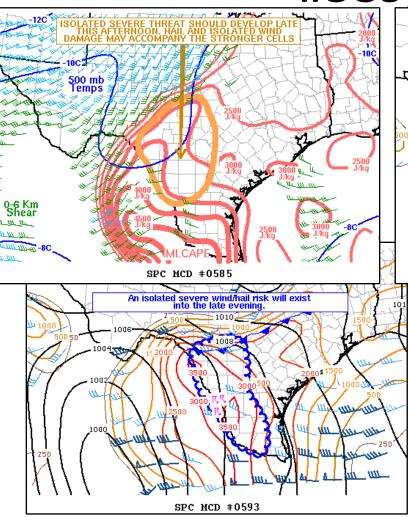
### **Flash Flood Watch**



Valid from 7:00 pm on Monday, May 12, 2014 to Tuesday, May 13<sup>th</sup> at Noon (was canceled at 3:39 am on the 13<sup>th</sup>).

Issued by the local Weather Forecast Office due to the widespread 2-4 inch rainfall totals predicted. Some totals up to 6 inches also noted as possible. These could lead to flash flooding in urban areas and along rivers/creeks.

# Severe Mesoscale Discussions #585, #589, & #593

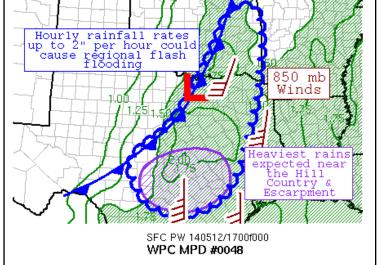


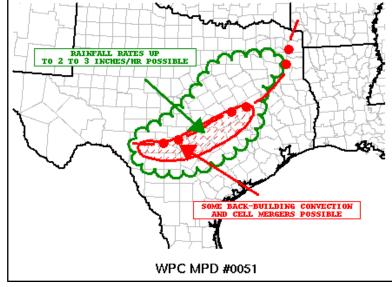
140512/2200 MLCAPE J/k9 and Effective Bulk Shear kt Strong/locally severe tstms will likely 2000 RR 2000 RR 2000 V 

Issued by Storm Prediction Center in Norman, OK #585 at 2:38 pm, #589 at 6:08 pm, #593 at 9:19 pm

All three highlighted the marginal and localized threat of severe hail and damaging winds. Threat was kept low due to storms being multi-cellular instead of supercell storms. No Severe Thunderstorm Watch was issued.

# Mesoscale Precipitation Discussions #48, #51

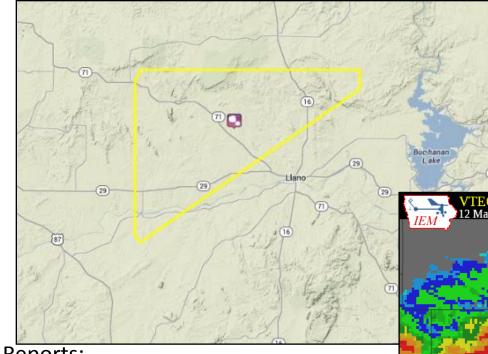




Issued by Weather Prediction Center in College Park, MD... #48 at 2:47 pm and #51 at 9:26 pm

Discussed how the combination of a slowly progressing cold front, high precipitable water values, along with shear and instability were producing a band of thunderstorms that were capable of producing rainfall amounts of 2+" an hour (with even higher rain rates possible later in the evening).

Later discussion mentioned how back-building storms and cell-mergers were increasing the flash flooding threat by promoting 2"-3" an hour rain rates.

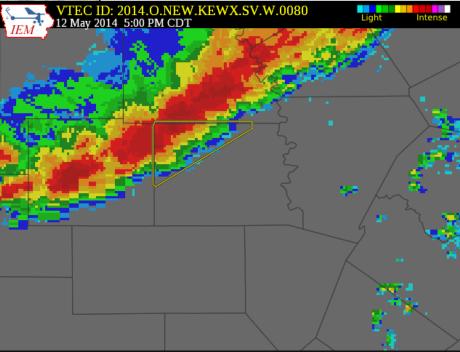


Reports:

• 5:33 pm...0.25" Hail...10 NW Llano

Northwestern Llano County

5:00 pm – 5:45 pm



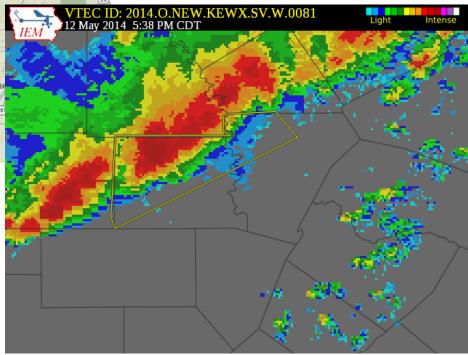


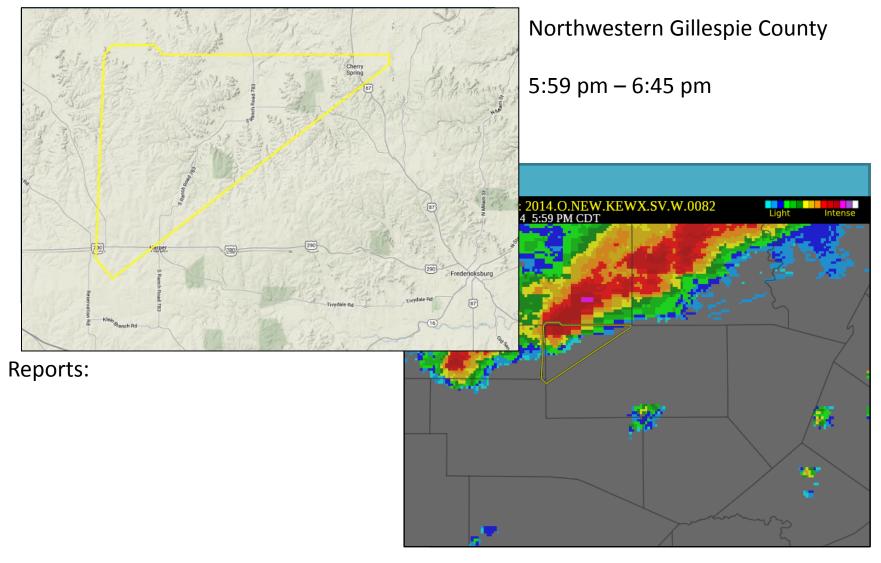
Reports:

• 5:29 pm...0.25" Hail...1 N Llano

Northwestern Burnet and Northwestern Llano Counties

5:38 pm – 6:45 pm

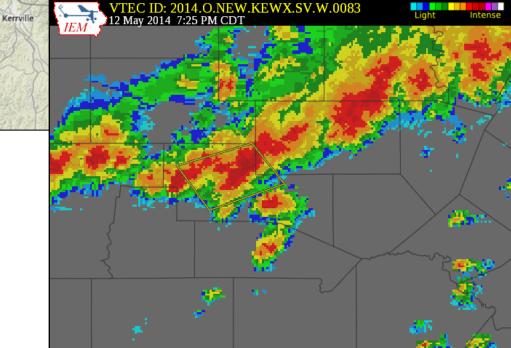






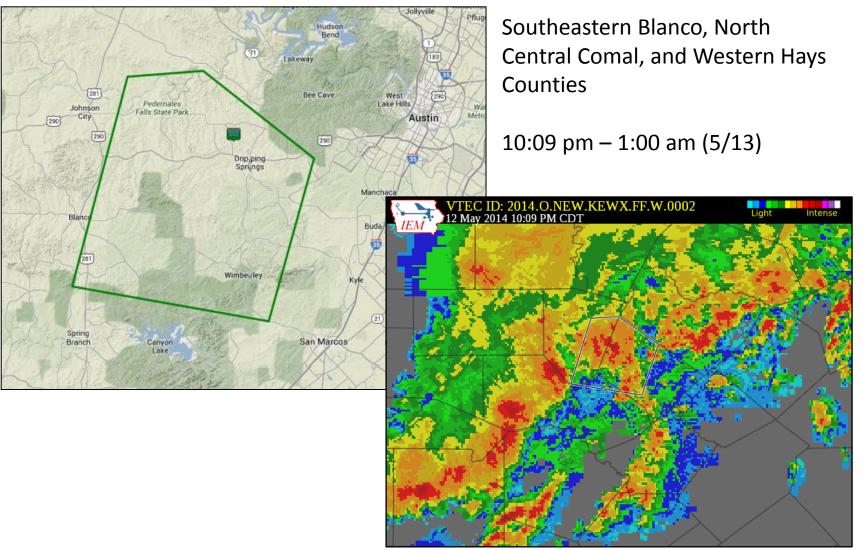
Southwestern Gillespie and Western Kerr Counties

7:25 pm – 8:00 pm

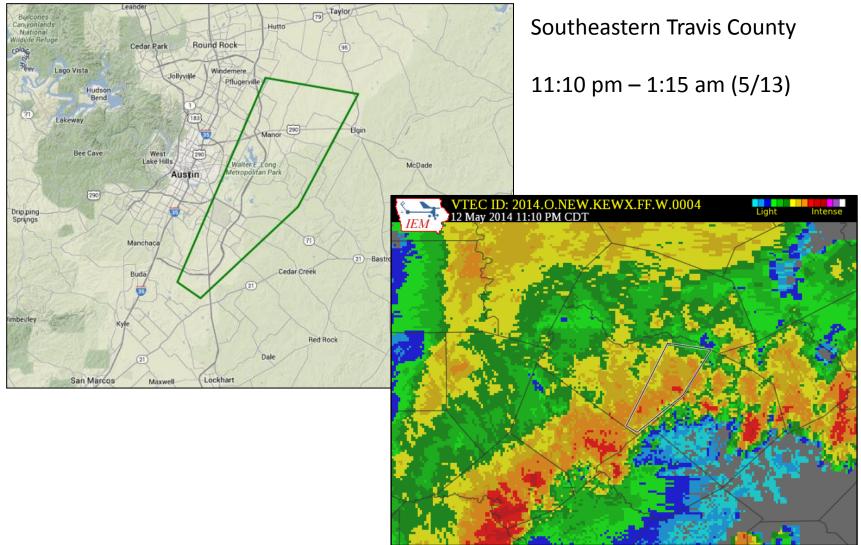


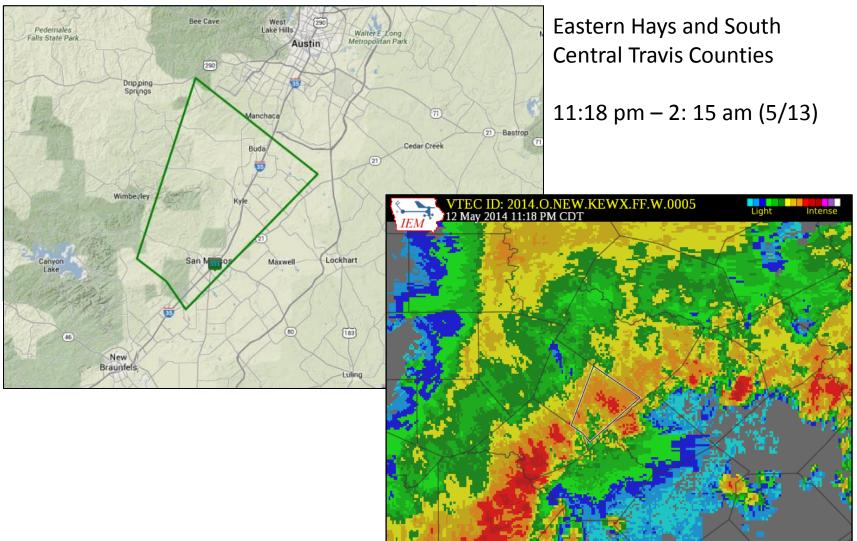
Reports:

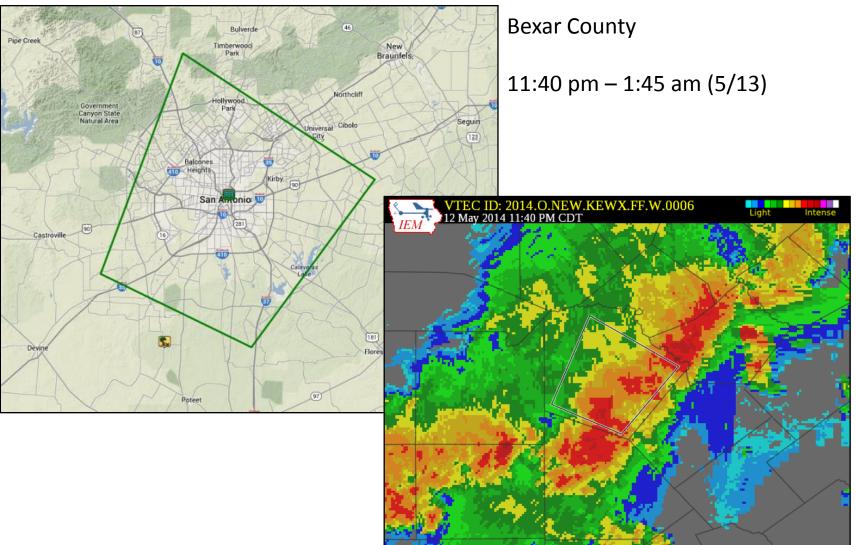
- 7:41 pm...0.70" Hail...Ingram
- 7:52 pm...0.25" Hail...Ingram

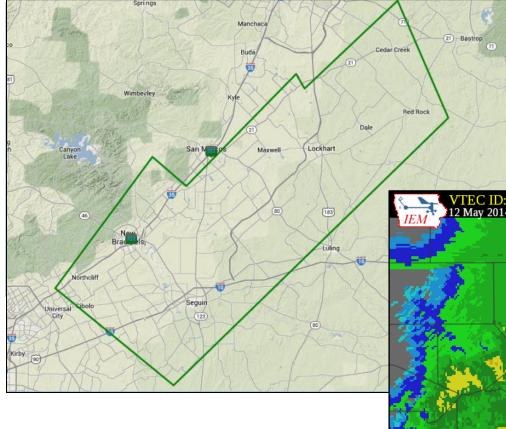


#### Flash Flood Warning #3 Leande Marble Falls (79) Taylor **Travis County** Balcones Can yonlands Hutto 281 National Wildi Round Rock Cedar Park (95) 10:17 pm – 1: 15 am (5/13) Lago Vista Windemere Jollyville Pflugerville Hudson Bend Lakeway Manor (290) Elgir Bee Cave West 290 Pedernales Lake Hills Long Water Falls State Park Metropolitan Park VTEC ID: 2014.O.NEW.KEWX.FF.W.0003 290 12 May 2014 10:17 PM CDT Drip ping Springs Manchaci Buda Wimberley



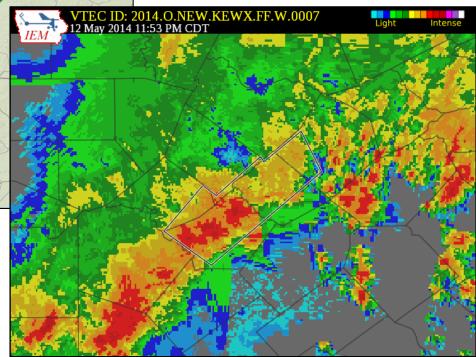


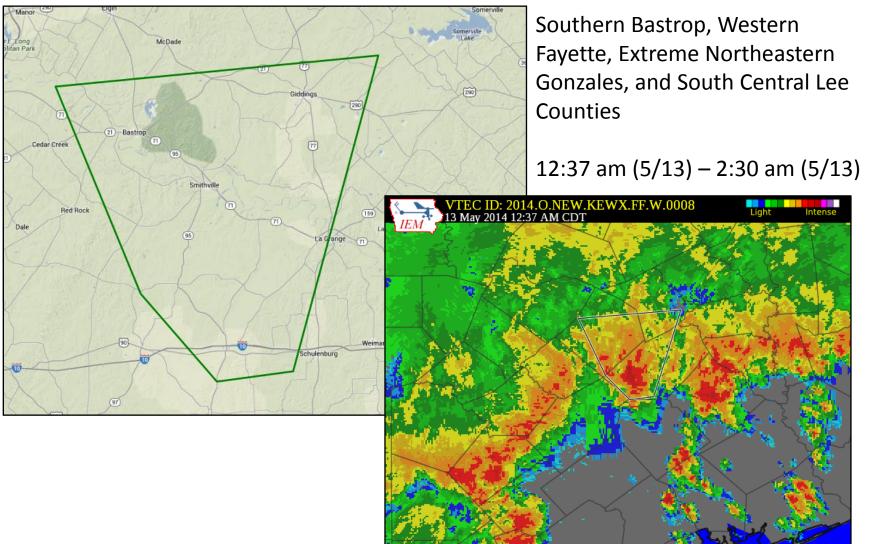


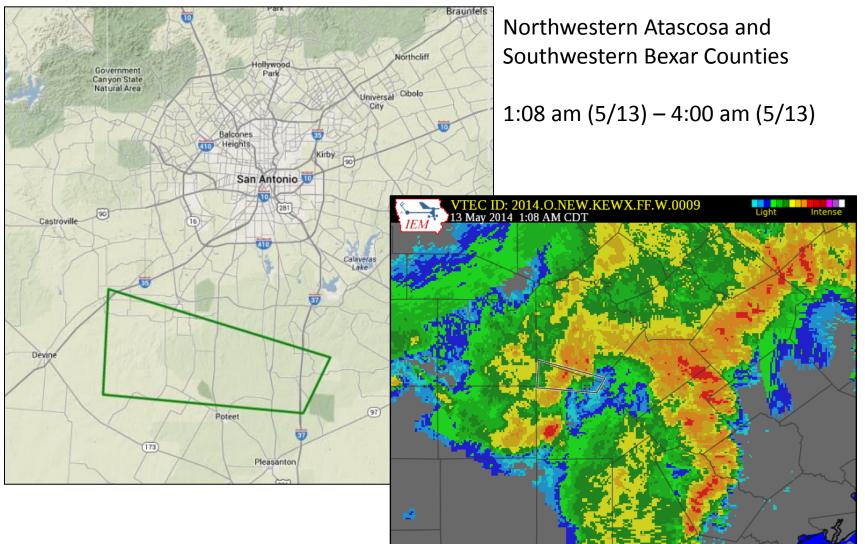


West Central Bastrop, Caldwell, Southeastern Comal, Guadalupe, and Southeastern Hays Counties

11:53 pm – 2:45 am (5/13)







# Areal Flood Advisories #5 - #17

Event	Product Issued	VTEC Issued	Initial Expire	VTEC Expired	Area km**2	Locations
5	May 12, 2014 6:50 PM CDT	May 12, 2014 6:50 PM CDT	May 12, 2014 9:30 PM CDT	May 12, 2014 9:30 PM CDT	7904	Llano [TX], Gillespie [TX], Burnet [TX]
6	May 12, 2014 9:01 PM CDT	May 12, 2014 9:01 PM CDT	May 13, 2014 12:00 AM CDT	May 13, 2014 12:00 AM CDT	5592	Williamson [TX], Travis [TX]
7	May 12, 2014 10:36 PM CDT	May 12, 2014 10:36 PM CDT	May 13, 2014 12:30 AM CDT	May 13, 2014 12:30 AM CDT	3259	Bexar [TX]
8	May 12, 2014 10:47 PM CDT	May 12, 2014 10:47 PM CDT	May 13, 2014 12:30 AM CDT	May 13, 2014 12:30 AM CDT	9559	Williamson [TX], Travis [TX], Lee [TX], Bastrop [ $\ldots$
9	May 12, 2014 11:21 PM CDT	May 12, 2014 11:21 PM CDT	May 13, 2014 1:30 AM CDT	May 13, 2014 1:30 AM CDT	8698	Comal [TX], Guadalupe [TX], Wilson [TX], Bexa
10	May 12, 2014 11:26 PM CDT	May 12, 2014 11:26 PM CDT	May 13, 2014 1:30 AM CDT	May 13, 2014 1:30 AM CDT	23916	Zavala [TX], Uvalde [TX], Medina [TX], Maverick
11	May 12, 2014 11:30 PM CDT	May 12, 2014 11:30 PM CDT	May 13, 2014 1:30 AM CDT	May 13, 2014 1:30 AM CDT	6456	Lee [TX], Fayette [TX], Bastrop [TX]
12	May 12, 2014 11:38 PM CDT	May 12, 2014 11:38 PM CDT	May 13, 2014 1:30 AM CDT	May 13, 2014 1:30 AM CDT	4761	Guadalupe [TX], Comal [TX], Caldwell [TX]
13	May 13, 2014 12:05 AM CDT	May 13, 2014 12:05 AM CDT	May 13, 2014 2:00 AM CDT	May 13, 2014 2:00 AM CDT	6231	Fayette [TX], Caldwell [TX], Bastrop [TX]
14	May 13, 2014 12:48 AM CDT	May 13, 2014 12:48 AM CDT	May 13, 2014 3:00 AM CDT	May 13, 2014 3:00 AM CDT	4051	Wilson [TX], Karnes [TX]
15	May 13, 2014 12:56 AM CDT	May 13, 2014 12:56 AM CDT	May 13, 2014 3:00 AM CDT	May 13, 2014 3:00 AM CDT	6046	Guadalupe [TX], Gonzales [TX], Caldwell [TX]
16	May 13, 2014 1:39 AM CDT	May 13, 2014 1:39 AM CDT	May 13, 2014 4:30 AM CDT	May 13, 2014 4:30 AM CDT	7652	Lavaca [TX], Gonzales [TX], DeWitt [TX]
17	May 13, 2014 1:54 AM CDT	May 13, 2014 1:54 AM CDT	May 13, 2014 4:00 AM CDT	May 13, 2014 4:00 AM CDT	3259	Bexar [TX]

Most counties along and east/south of I-35 were covered (at least in part) by an Areal Flood Advisory at some point during the event.

13 different advisories issued between 6:50 pm on May 12, 2014 through 4:00 am on May 13, 2014.

Typically issued for flooding that develops more gradually, usually from prolonged and persistent moderate to heavy rainfall. They indicate minor flooding problems, and are a good transition product as flooding increases (prior to a Flash Flood Warning).

#### **All Hail Reports / Pictures**

0533 PM HAIL 10 NW LLANO 05/12/2014 E0.25 INCH LLANO 30.85N 98.79W TX CO-OP OBSERVER

PEA SIZED HAIL ONGOING.

 0629 PM
 HAIL
 1 N LLANO
 30.77N
 98.67W

 05/12/2014
 E0.25 INCH
 LLANO
 TX
 PUBLIC

A BIT OF PEA SIZED HAIL FELL WITH LOTS OF RAIN.

0646 PM HAIL 6 N MOUNTAIN HOME 30.25N 99.38W 05/12/2014 E0.25 INCH KERR TX COCORAHS

RAIN JUST BEGINNING...BIT OF PEA SIZED HAIL MIXED IN.

 0718 PM
 HAIL
 4 WSW HARPER
 30.28N
 99.30W

 05/12/2014
 E1.00 INCH
 KERR
 TX
 AMATEUR RADIO

QUARTER SIZE HAIL WITH VERY HEAVY RAIN. 1.00 INCH OVER THE LAST 45 MINUTES.

 0730 PM
 HAIL
 1 W HARPER
 30.30N
 99.27W

 05/12/2014
 E0.50 INCH
 GILLESPIE
 TX
 COCORAHS

PEA TO MARBLE SIZED HAIL MIXED WITH VERY HEAVY RAIN AND SOME GUSTY WINDS.

0741 PM HAIL INGRAM 30.08N 99.24W 05/12/2014 E0.70 INCH KERR TX PUBLIC

#### MARBLE TO DIME SIZE HAIL REPORTED IN INGRAM.

0752 PM	HAIL	ING	RAM	30.	08N 99.24W
05/12/201	4 E0.25 I	NCH	KERR	ТХ	PUBLIC

PEA SIZED HAIL FALLING IN INGRAM.

N Visible Satellite and radar from 4:30 pm on May 12<sup>th</sup>. You can see the bright white cumulonimbus clouds and associated storms lining up along the front across Texas (orange ovals). In addition, on the satellite you can see the thunderstorms being sparked off by the mountains in Northern Mexico to the west of the Rio Grande.

0800 PM HAIL KERRVILLE 05/12/2014 E0.25 INCH KERR 30.04N 99.14W TX TRAINED SPOTTER

FEW MINUTES OF PEA SIZE HAIL...HAS NOW LET UP.

0902 PM HAIL 4 NW ROUND ROCK 30.56N 97.72W 05/12/2014 E0.50 INCH WILLIAMSON TX TRAINED SPOTTER

PEA TO MARBLE SIZE HAIL. ONLY LASTED ABOUT A MINUTE.

1041 PMFLASH FLOODAUSTIN30.27N97.74W05/12/2014TRAVISTXCITY OFFICIAL

LOW WATER CROSSINGS AT 15TH AND RED RIVER AND AT 3523 MCNEIL DRIVE IN AUSTIN CLOSED DUE TO FLOODING.

 1055 PM
 FLASH FLOOD
 1 ENE CREEDMOOR
 30.10N
 97.73W

 05/12/2014
 TRAVIS
 TX
 PUBLIC

MAHA CREEK AT 1327 AND EVELYN ROAD IS FLOODING OVER THE ROADWAY.

 1059 PM
 HAIL
 6 SSE SAN ANTONIO
 29.35N
 98.44W

 05/12/2014
 E0.70 INCH
 BEXAR
 TX
 TRAINED SPOTTER

DIME SIZED HAIL...NOT ACCUMULATING.

 1107 PM
 HEAVY RAIN
 6 WSW BOERNE
 29.77N
 98.83W

 05/12/2014
 M3.02 INCH
 KENDALL
 TX
 COCORAHS

3.02 INCHES IN 70 MINUTES.



It was nice to see a lot of rain in area rain gauges. This picture came to us from "atx weather girl" via Twitter. She received 2.51" in Lakeway, TX (Travis County).

1136 PMFLASH FLOODSAN ANTONIO29.43N98.49W05/12/2014BEXARTXBROADCAST MEDIA

#### TXDOT CLOSING THE LOWER LEVELS OF I-35 IN DOWNTOWN DUE TO FLOODING.

1213 AM TSTM WND DMG 5 SSE SOMERSET 29.15N 98.63W 05/13/2014 ATASCOSA TX PUBLIC

A FEW TREE LIMBS DOWN.

1215 AM FLASH FLOOD 4 NNW DRIPPING SPRINGS 30.24N 98.12W 05/13/2014 HAYS TX COUNTY OFFICIAL

> BELL SPRINGS ROAD AT BARTON CREEK HAS .75 FEET OF WATER OVER THE ROAD. REPORT FROM HAYSINFORMED.COM. CORRECTED APPROX. EVENT CLOSING TIME.

 1230 AM
 HEAVY RAIN
 3 W LEMING
 29.07N
 98.53W

 05/13/2014
 M4.75 INCH
 ATASCOSA
 TX
 AMATEUR RADIO

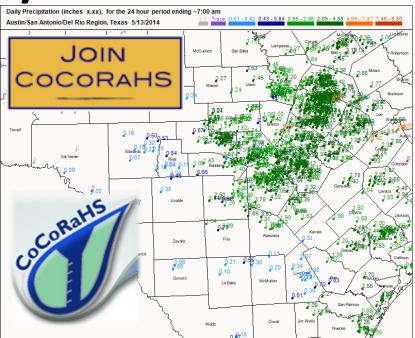
#### **RECEIVED 4.75 INCHES OF RAIN IN 90 MINUTES**

0103 AMFLASH FLOODSAN ANTONIO29.43N98.49W05/13/2014BEXARTXCOUNTYOFFICIAL

SEVERAL LANE CLOSURES ON BOTH THE NORTH AND SOUTH SIDE OF SAN ANTONIO DUE TO FLOODING.

0109 AM FLASH FLOOD NEW BRAUNFELS 29.70N 98.12W 05/13/2014 COMAL TX EMERGENCY MNGR

8 ROADS WITHIN NEW BRAUNFELS CITY LIMITS HAVE BEEN CLOSED AND BARRICADED DUE TO FLOODING



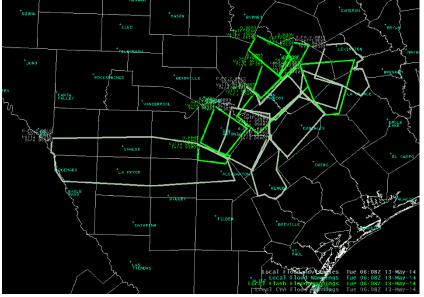
Want to submit rain, hail, and snow reports to us on a daily basis? Become a CoCoRaHS volunteer observer by going to <u>www.cocorahs.org</u>! The image above is of all of our CoCoRaHS rainfall reports from the last 24 hours. Even though the map is full of reports we could always use more!

Through the site you can buy a discounted rain gauge like the one on the previous slide. Then you just measure how much rain you received and submit it daily!

0200 AM FLASH FLOOD SAN MARCOS 29.88N 97.93W 05/13/2014 HAYS TX EMERGENCY MNGR

MOST LOW WATER CROSSINGS AROUND SAN MARCOS CLOSED EARLY MORNING DUE TO FLOODING. TIME ESTIMATED.

	3 NNE NEW BRAUNFELS 29.74N 98.10W COMAL TX COCORAHS
	2 NE MULDOON 29.84N 97.04W FAYETTE TX MESONET
	5 SE CISTERN 29.77N 97.16W FAYETTE TX MESONET
	4 SSE AUSTIN 30.22N 97.71W TRAVIS TX MESONET
-	6 NNW CAMP SWIFT 30.27N 97.33W BASTROP TX MESONET
0442 AM HEAVY RAIN 05/13/2014 M4.72 INCH	HENLY 30.20N 98.22W HAYS TX MESONET
-	3 NNW AUSTIN BERGSTROM 30.26N 97.71W TRAVIS TX MESONET
0456 AM HEAVY RAIN 05/13/2014 M3.34 INCH	3 WSW GIDDINGS 30.17N 96.97W LEE TX MESONET
	10 N HARPER 30.44N 99.25W GILLESPIE TX MESONET
	7 NE LOCKHART 29.95N 97.59W CALDWELL TX MESONET



All of the Flash Flood Warnings (Lime Green – 7 Pictured) and Urban/Small Stream Flood Advisories (Jungle Green – 7 pictured) at the height of the flooding around 1:00 am on May 13<sup>th</sup>.

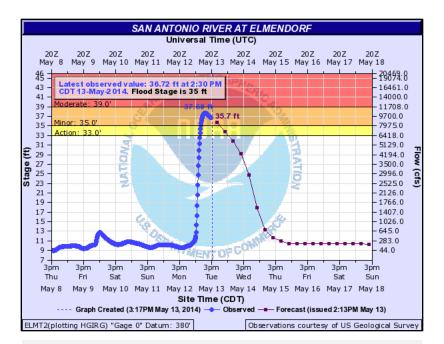
We issued a total of 8 Flash Flood Warnings and 13 Areal (Urban/Small Stream) Flood Advisories for this event.

0457 AM HEAVY RAIN 4 SE PEDERNALES FALLS S 30.27N 98.20W 05/13/2014 M3.77 INCH HAYS TX MESONET 0503 AM HEAVY RAIN **4 NE PFLUGERVILLE** 30.48N 97.57W 05/13/2014 M4.08 INCH TX MESONET TRAVIS 0509 AM HEAVY RAIN **3 SW HUTTO** 30.52N 97.58W 05/13/2014 M4.22 INCH TX MESONET WILLIAMSON 0516 AM HEAVY RAIN **5 E MOUNTAIN HOME** 30.17N 99.28W 05/13/2014 M2.81 INCH GILLESPIE TX MESONET 0520 AM HEAVY RAIN **5 SW SAN ANTONIO** 29.37N 98.54W 05/13/2014 M3.50 INCH TX COCORAHS BEXAR 0529 AM HEAVY RAIN **5 NNW LULING** 29.75N 97.68W 05/13/2014 M2.37 INCH CALDWELL TX NWS EMPLOYEE 0534 AM HEAVY RAIN **5 NE BASTROP** 30.16N 97.25W 05/13/2014 M3.47 INCH TX COCORAHS BASTROP 24 HOUR TOTAL 0542 AM HEAVY RAIN 29.54N 98.35W 1 SSW LIVE OAK 05/13/2014 M2.34 INCH BEXAR TX COCORAHS **24 HOUR TOTAL** 0545 AM HEAVY RAIN **5 NE SEGUIN** 29.63N 97.91W 05/13/2014 M3.12 INCH **GUADALUPE** TX COCORAHS 0549 AM HEAVY RAIN **3 ENE ONION CREEK** 30.15N 97.74W 05/13/2014 M3.00 INCH TX COCORAHS TRAVIS 30.19N 97.70W 0625 AM HEAVY RAIN 6 SSE AUSTIN

TRAVIS

TX COCORAHS

05/13/2014 M4.15 INCH



San Antonio River at Elmendorf Hydrograph. The river level increased quickly from 9 feet to 37 feet on the morning of Tuesday, May 13<sup>th</sup>. Action Stage is 33' and Minor Flood Stage is 35', so some minor flooding occurred. The river is expected to be back below flood stage by the morning of Wednesday, May 14<sup>th</sup>.

0629 AM HEAVY RAIN 2 05/13/2014 M3.75 INCH W

2 SW ROUND ROCK 30.50N 97.70W WILLIAMSON TX COCORAHS

#### 24 HOUR TOTAL

0647 AM HEAVY RAIN 05/13/2014 M6.42 INCH	7 SE SMITHVILLE29.94N 97.07WFAYETTETXCOCORAHS
0648 AM HEAVY RAIN 05/13/2014 M5.40 INCH	ROUND TOP30.06N 96.70WFAYETTETXCOCORAHS
0700 AM HEAVY RAIN	6 N SAN MARCOS 29.97N 97.93W
05/13/2014 M4.10 INCH	HAYS TX COCORAHS
0700 AM HEAVY RAIN	1 S BRUSHY CREEK 30.50N 97.74W
05/13/2014 M3.19 INCH	WILLIAMSON TX COCORAHS
0700 AM HEAVY RAIN 05/13/2014 M5.70 INCH	5 SW HENLY30.15N 98.28WBLANCOTXCOCORAHS
0700 AM HEAVY RAIN	5 ENE WIMBERLEY 30.02N 98.02W
05/13/2014 M4.75 INCH	HAYS TX COCORAHS
0700 AM HEAVY RAIN	2 NW SERENADA 30.72N 97.72W
05/13/2014 M4.58 INCH	WILLIAMSON TX COCORAHS
0805 AM HEAVY RAIN	6 SSE SAN ANTONIO 29.35N 98.45W
05/13/2014 M4.46 INCH	BEXAR TX ASOS

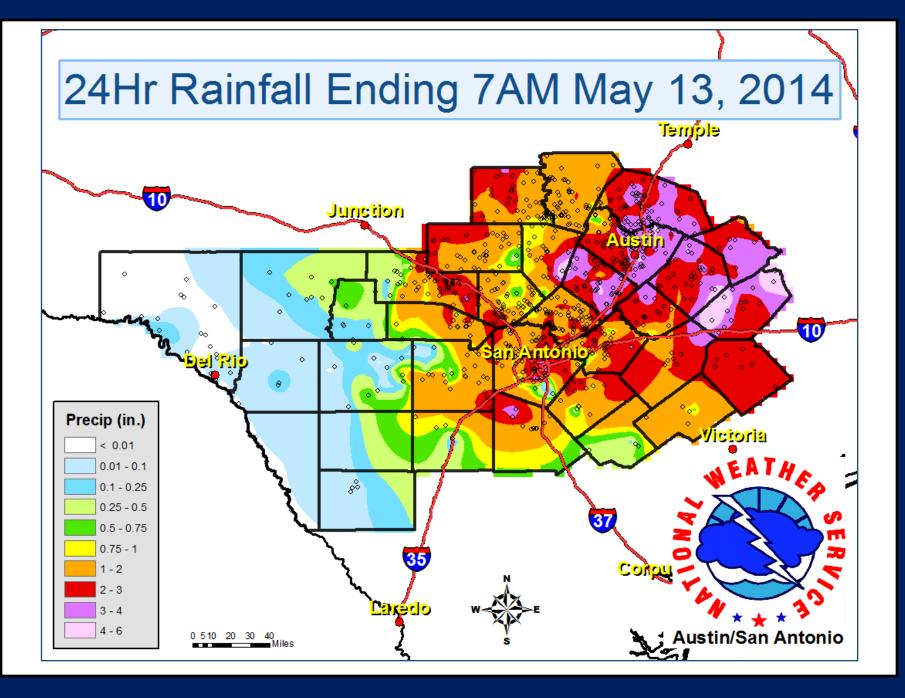
#### STINSON AIRPORT 24 HOUR TOTAL

0822 AMHEAVY RAIN5 E NEW BRAUNFELS29.70N98.03W05/13/2014M3.18 INCHGUADALUPETXNWS OFFICE

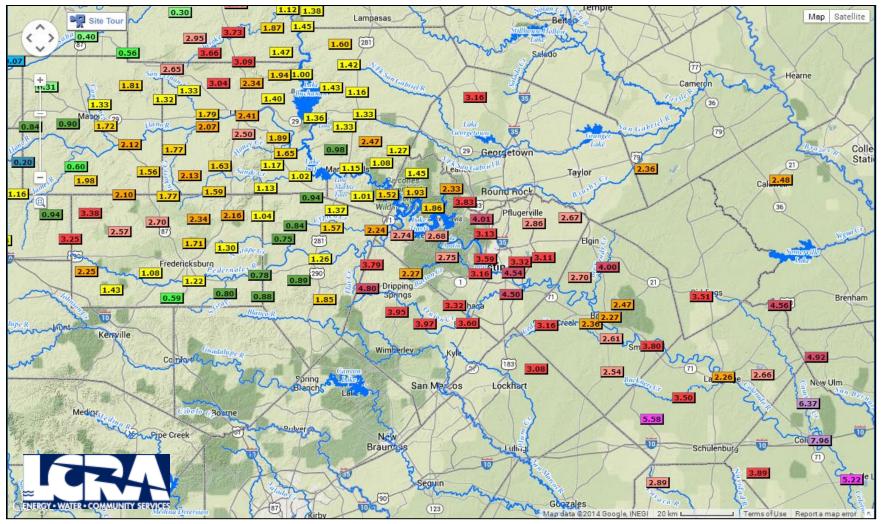


You can view a full list of area rainfall totals here. The totals are broken down by county:

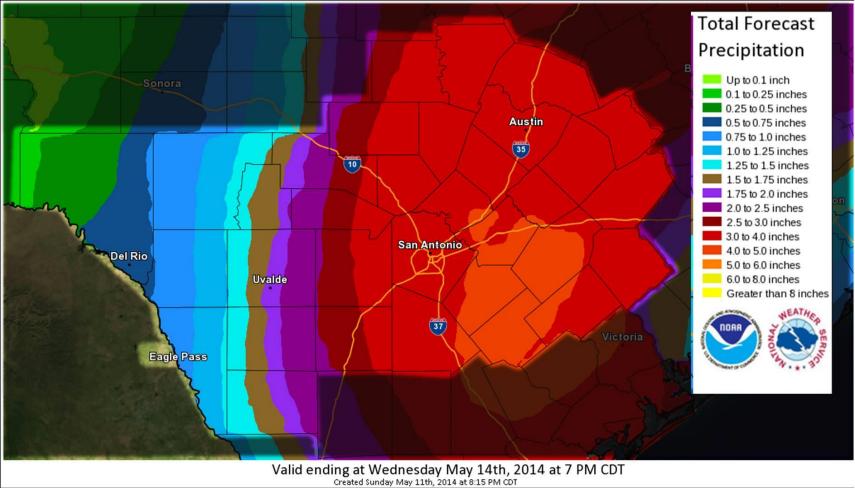
https://nwschat.weather.gov/p.php?pi d=201405131635-KEWX-NOUS44-PNSEWX



### **LCRA Hydromet Rainfall**



## **Predicted Rainfall**



Predicted Rainfall Totals from our forecast grids 24 hours before the event. Our bullseye for the heaviest rain was a little south and west of where the heaviest rain fell, but the forecast matches up very well with the ground truth reports from the previous slides.

# **Social Media**

Climate Records for May 12<sup>th</sup> and May 13<sup>th</sup>:

- A RECORD RAINFALL OF 3.07 INCHES WAS SET AT AUSTIN BERGSTROM FOR MAY 12TH. THIS BREAKS THE OLD RECORD OF 1.66 SET IN 2011.
- A RECORD RAINFALL OF 2.10 INCHES WAS SET AT SAN ANTONIO FOR MAY 12TH. THIS TIES THE OLD RECORD OF 2.10 SET IN 1893.
- A RECORD LOWEST MAX TEMPERATURE OF 66 DEGREES WAS SET ON MAY 13TH AT SAN ANTONIO. THE PREVIOUS RECORD LOWEST MAX TEMPERATURE WAS 67 DEGREES SET IN 1953.



Austin/San Antonio, TX Weather Forecast Office weather.gov/ewx



US National Weather Service Austin-San Antonio, Texas



@NWSSanAntonio