

April 10, 2016 Greenwood, Texas Wind Event:

During the evening of April 10, 2016 (at approximately 8:40 pm CDT) high winds from a shower affected Greenwood, Texas. Weather Service meteorologists conducted a storm survey on April 11, 2016.

The area affected by the high winds is shown in Figure 1. The shower was mainly virga (Figure 2) that resulted in a microburst. A microburst is a localized column of sinking air (downdraft) within a shower or thunderstorm and is usually less than or equal to 2.5 miles in diameter. Radar imagery (Base Velocity) from 8:40 pm CDT (Figure 3) shows strong winds just above the surface in the area (60+ mph). A 285 foot tall radio tower used by the City/County of Midland, Texas was blown down (Figures 4 and 5) and a metal power pole was bent near the base (Figure 6). It appeared that the strong winds were still elevated when it affected the radio tower then reached the surface at the location of the power pole. Based on radar imagery and damage it is estimated that the winds reached between 80-100 mph during the event.

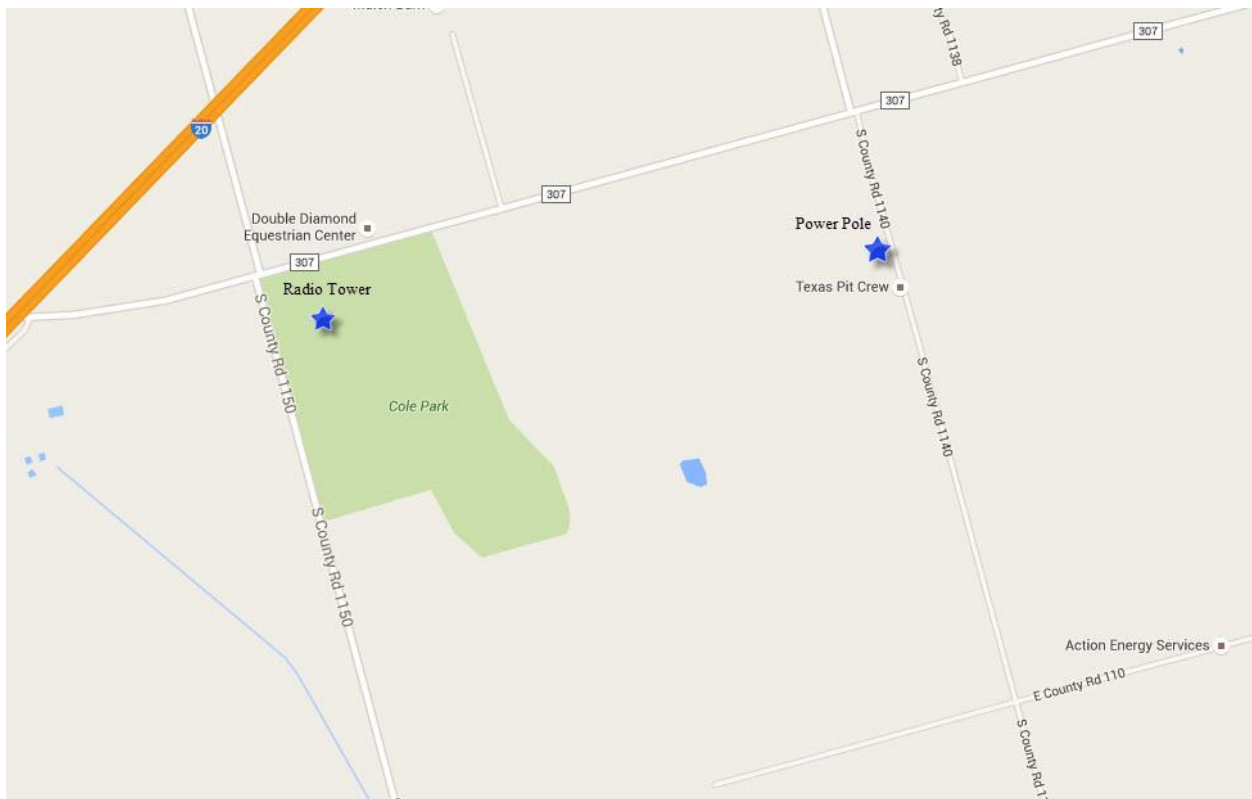


Figure 1 – Location of wind damage in Greenwood.



Figure 2 – Virga near Greenwood (Courtesy of Roni Jo Manley).

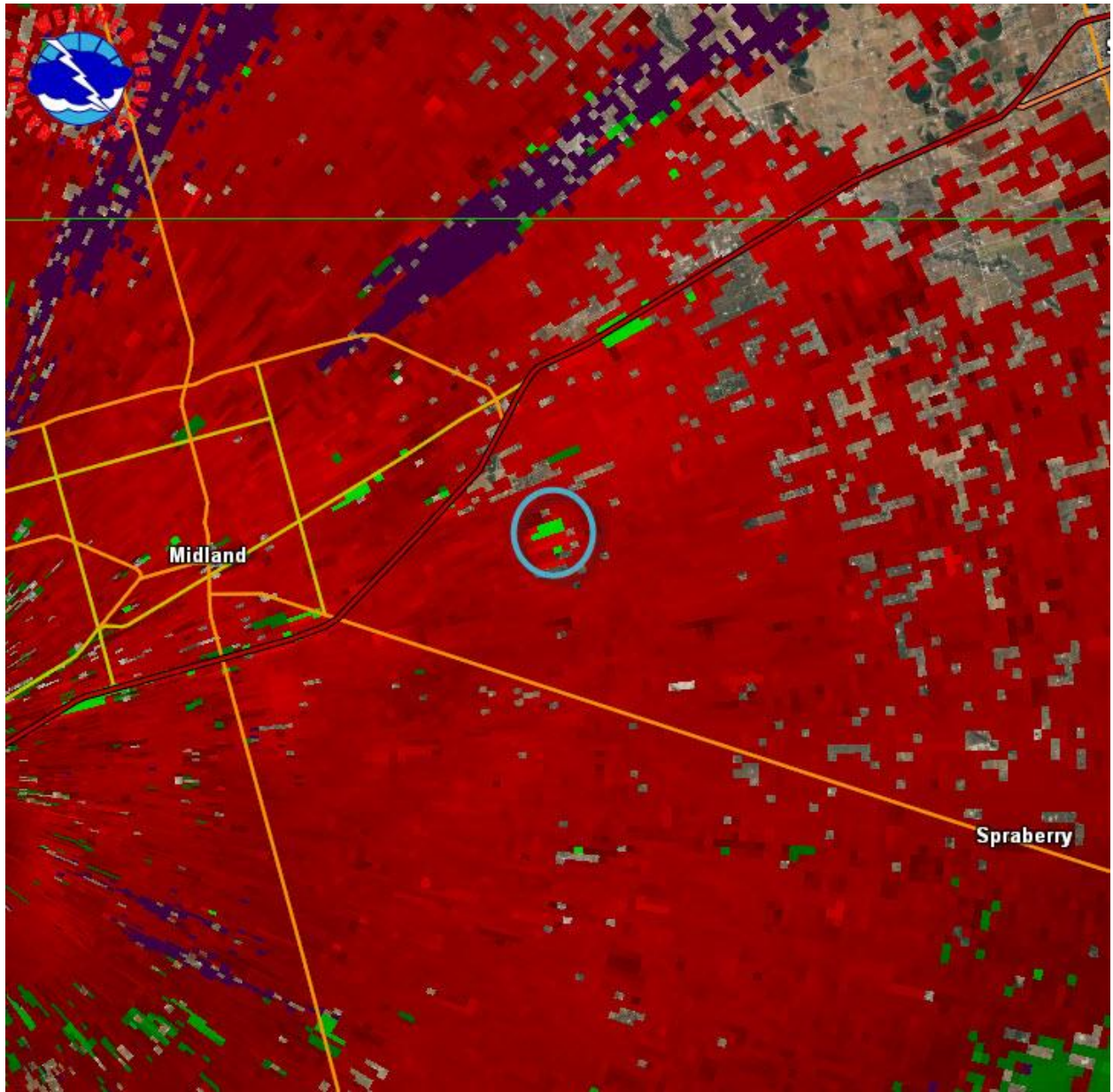


Figure 3 – Radar imagery showing strong winds near Greenwood.



Figure 4 – Radio tower damage (Courtesy of Andrew Arnold).



Figure 5 – Radio tower damage (Courtesy of Andrew Arnold).



Figure 6 – Bent metal power pole (Courtesy of Andrew Arnold).