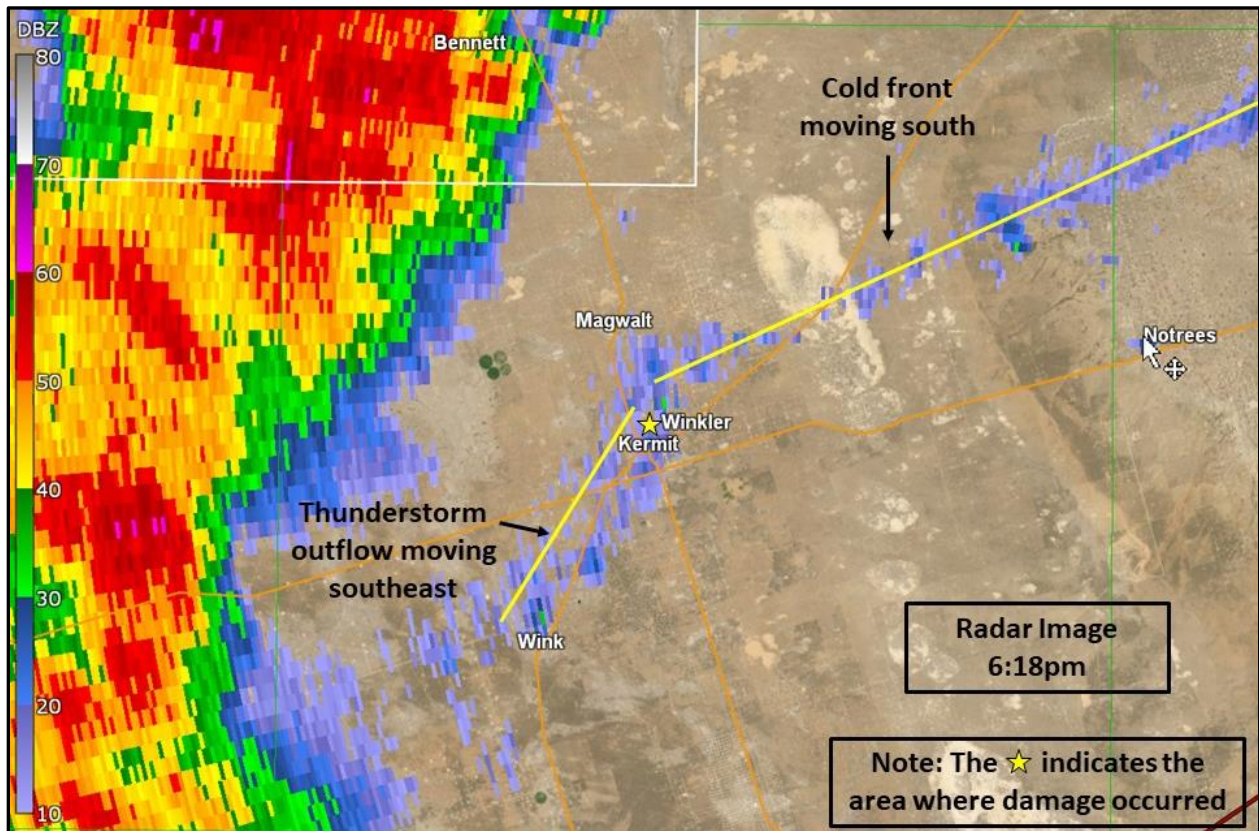


Kermit, Texas Damaging Wind Event

On the evening of September 8, 2020, the first strong cold front of the season was barreling south through West Texas. Earlier in the afternoon, a short line of thunderstorms had developed near the mountain regions of southeastern New Mexico and West Texas as intense heating occurred ahead of the front. This line of strong to severe storms slowly moved east through the late afternoon hours and eventually moved into Winkler County just after 6pm CDT. Ahead of the storms, an associated outflow boundary was quickly approaching the Kermit, TX area with strong E/SE winds in its wake. Meanwhile, the cold front was approaching from the north, pushed by strong north winds. These two boundaries eventually merged near the Kermit, TX area around 6:20pm CDT, likely producing a localized area of enhanced wind speeds across northern portions of the town. Please see the radar image below...



On September 9, 2020, the National Weather Service (NWS) conducted a damage survey with the help of local Emergency Management. Most of the damage occurred across northern portions of Kermit, north of Highway 115 and east of State Highway 18 and all witnesses claim that the severe wind occurred around 6:20pm which is roughly 20-25 minutes before the thunderstorms from the west arrived. Damage included several uprooted trees and downed large tree limbs, as well as damage to roofing material (shingles) and metal awnings. After assessing available radar data and observing that all

of the debris was oriented to the south/southeast, the NWS determined that the damage was likely a result of severe straight-line winds of 70-75 mph.



Special thanks to Dude Speed (Texas Division of Emergency Management) and John Henderson (Winkler County Office of Emergency Management) for their assistance in completing this damage survey.