

## June 26, 2021 Damaging Wind Event

On the evening of June 26, 2021, numerous severe thunderstorms affected many areas across the Permian Basin region, producing large hail, damaging wind, a couple of landspout tornadoes, and heavy rainfall leading to many areas of flooding. Some of these storms resulted in significant damage, particularly across portions of the Lamesa, TX and Monahans, TX communities. On June 28, 2021, the National Weather Service conducted a storm damage survey at each location and it was determined that the damage in both areas were a result of damaging downburst winds.



Photo Credit – Adam Springer (taken near Lamesa)



Photo Credit – Kyle Russell Allen (damage in Lamesa)

## Lamesa, TX Downburst

Significant wind damage was discovered on the north and northeast sides of Lamesa, TX on the evening of June 26<sup>th</sup>, 2021. The damage swath included multiple uprooted trees, numerous snapped or leaning power poles, metal roofs/carports lifted or bent, some homes missing shingles or suffered extensive roof damage due to uprooted trees, and several damaged metal buildings and travel trailers. All of this damage was oriented in a northwest direction. After re-analysis of radar data and evaluation of eye-witness accounts, the damage was determined to be the result of an intense downburst that developed as an approaching outflow boundary interacted with an approaching supercell thunderstorm at roughly 7:45 PM CDT. The survey team estimated peak wind speeds to be between 110 to 120 mph, which is equivalent to wind speeds produced by a strong EF-1 or weak EF-2 tornado! It was also determined that the overturned irrigation pivots, south of Lamesa, resulted from 70 to 80 mph winds pushing behind the approaching outflow boundary.



It is worth mentioning here that portions of Dawson County (including the city of Lamesa) had to deal with areas of extensive flooding for several days following this event. One area in particular, the Boys and Girls Club Park lake rose several feet out of its bank, flooding the surrounding residential area and displacing many families (location indicated by the red dot on the map above, also see photos below). It is estimated that the damages to the city of Lamesa due to severe wind and flooding is approximately \$10 million.



**Special thank you to Larry Duyck with Dawson County Emergency Management for assisting with this damage survey.**

### Monahans, TX Microburst

An isolated area of wind damage was discovered just east of SH 18, roughly 5 miles south of Monahans, TX, on the evening of June 26<sup>th</sup>, 2021. The damage swath included metal roofs/carports lifted or bent, downed tree branches between 1 to 3 inches in diameter, and several damaged travel trailers. Damage was generally oriented in an easterly direction and after re-analysis of the radar data, the damage was determined to be the result of a microburst that occurred at approximately 9:15 pm CDT. The survey team estimated peak wind speeds to be between 75 to 85 mph.



Special thank you Monahans VFD for assisting with this damage survey.