



# White Sands Missile Range Southern Basin

## Seven-Day Forecast

Weather Forecast Office, Building 1830

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Last Updated: 0845L 05 May 2025 by S. Wiechman



### WSMR WEATHER WARNING INFO

No Weather Warnings.

[Click for Warning Details](#)

*Temperatures in degrees Fahrenheit. Winds in miles per hour.*

	Monday, 05 May 2025							
	AM: MOSTLY CLEAR PM: PARTLY CLOUDY	HIGH		WIND DIRECTION	WIND SPEED	PEAK WIND	PRECIP CHANCES	T'STORM CHANCES
		74		S-SW	8-17	33	30% (PM)	10% (PM)
Breezy to low-end windy and cooler. Chance of showers and isolated thunderstorms late afternoon through evening.								
	Tuesday, 06 May 2025							
	PARTLY CLOUDY	LOW	HIGH	WIND DIRECTION	WIND SPEED	PEAK WIND	PRECIP CHANCES	T'STORM CHANCES
		44	73	SW-W	7-15	29	10%	0%
Breezy with a slight chance of rain showers, mainly in the afternoon. Higher chances for northern range. Below normal temperatures continue.								
	Wednesday, 07 May 2025							
	AM: MOSTLY CLEAR PM: PARTLY CLOUDY	LOW	HIGH	WIND DIRECTION	WIND SPEED	PEAK WIND	PRECIP CHANCES	T'STORM CHANCES
		43	78	SW	3-9	17	10%	0%
Warmer with a slight chance of light rain showers, mainly in the afternoon.								
	Thursday, 08 May 2025							
	MOSTLY CLEAR	LOW	HIGH	WIND DIRECTION	WIND SPEED	PEAK WIND	PRECIP CHANCES	T'STORM CHANCES
		47	81	NE-SE	3-9	17	0%	0%
Warmer and pleasant with light winds.								
	Friday, 09 May 2025							
	MOSTLY CLEAR	LOW	HIGH	WIND DIRECTION	WIND SPEED	PEAK WIND	PRECIP CHANCES	T'STORM CHANCES
		51	85	E-SE	4-10	20	0%	0%
Near normal temperatures with light breezes.								
	Saturday, 10 May 2025							
	PARTLY CLOUDY	LOW	HIGH	WIND DIRECTION	WIND SPEED	PEAK WIND	PRECIP CHANCES	T'STORM CHANCES
		54	82	E-SE	6-12	25	20% (PM)	10% (PM)
Slightly cooler and breezy. Chance of isolated showers and thunderstorms in the afternoon and evening.								
	Sunday, 11 May 2025							
	MOSTLY CLEAR TO PARTLY CLOUDY	LOW	HIGH	WIND DIRECTION	WIND SPEED	PEAK WIND	PRECIP CHANCES	T'STORM CHANCES
		53	87	SE	5-11	22	0%	0%
Warmer with light to moderate breezes.								

Forecaster: S. Wiechman



# White Sands Missile Range Weather Threat Assessment



Probability Scale (from low to high): No, Low, Moderate, High, Yes

Caution	Dangerous	Life Threatening
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Monday, 05 May 2025					
Criteria/Threat	Main Post/East Slopes	Southern Range	Northern Range	Higher Elevations <sup>1</sup>	West Slopes
Thunderstorms (PM)	LOW	LOW	LOW	MODERATE	LOW
Wind gusts > 55 mph	NO	NO	NO	LOW	NO
Wind gusts > 35 mph	MODERATE	LOW	LOW	HIGH	NO
Tuesday, 06 May 2025					
Criteria/Threat	Main Post/East Slopes	Southern Range	Northern Range	Higher Elevations <sup>1</sup>	West Slopes
Thunderstorms (PM)	NO	NO	LOW	MODERATE	NO
Wind gusts > 35 mph	LOW	LOW	LOW	MODERATE	NO
Wednesday, 07 May 2025					
Criteria/Threat	Main Post/East Slopes	Southern Range	Northern Range	Higher Elevations <sup>1</sup>	West Slopes
	NO WEATHER THREATS EXPECTED				
Thursday, 08 May 2025					
Criteria/Threat	Main Post/East Slopes	Southern Range	Northern Range	Higher Elevations <sup>1</sup>	West Slopes
	NO WEATHER THREATS EXPECTED				
Friday, 09 May 2025					
Criteria/Threat	Main Post/East Slopes	Southern Range	Northern Range	Higher Elevations <sup>1</sup>	West Slopes
	NO WEATHER THREATS EXPECTED				
Saturday, 10 May 2025					
Criteria/Threat	Main Post/East Slopes	Southern Range	Northern Range	Higher Elevations <sup>1</sup>	West Slopes
Thunderstorms (PM)	LOW	LOW	LOW	MODERATE	LOW
Sunday, 11 May 2025					
Criteria/Threat	Main Post/East Slopes	Southern Range	Northern Range	Higher Elevations <sup>1</sup>	West Slopes
	NO WEATHER THREATS EXPECTED				

<sup>1</sup> Higher elevation locations include San Augustin Pass, Salinas Peak, and North Oscura Peak

[List of abbreviations and acronyms](#)



# Southern Basin Climate Almanac



<u>C-Station</u>			<u>Main Post</u>		
<u>Sunday</u>	<u>Low</u>	<u>High</u>	<u>Sunday</u>	<u>Low</u>	<u>High</u>
Temperature:	53	83	Temperature:	53	83
Average:	52	85	Average:	55	81
Record:	33	95	Record:	36	93
Year of Record:	1970	2000	Year of Record:	2013	2020*
<u>Today</u>	<u>Low</u>	<u>High</u>	<u>Today</u>	<u>Low</u>	<u>High</u>
Average:	53	85	Average:	55	81
Record:	35	96	Record:	39	95
Year of Record:	2013	2000	Year of Record:	1953	2000
<u>Precip (inches)</u>					
Sunday:	0.00				
May:	0.11		Sunset:	1949 MDT Mon	
2025:	0.37		Sunrise:	0615 MDT Tue	

Valid: 05 May

Notable Weather Events for May		
Date	Location	Event

Temperature Unit °F

\*And Previous Years

R=New Record

T=Tied Record

Main Post Period of Record: 1947-1979; 1988-2023

C-Station Period of Record: 1968-2023



## White Sands Weather Forecast Office

### Detailed Weather Discussion



*Last Updated: 0845L 02 May 2025 by B. Thomas*

**\*\* NOTE: Due to staffing shortages, the seven-day range weather forecast product will not be produced for an indefinite period starting Monday, 12 May 2025. \*\***

On this 18th anniversary of the long-lived but weak tornado that brushed far southern WSMR, it's a bit apropos that showers and thunderstorms will be discussed in this forecast. Twisters are definitely not expected over the next few days, but the prospects of precipitation and lightning are a welcome change from the winds and dust over the last few weeks. A boundary with substantially more moisture behind it arrived in northern WSMR around midnight and at the time of this discussion has made it just west of the Rio Grande. This more moist air mass is expected to mix out some late morning and early afternoon, though another surge of higher moisture may work into the range from the southeast mid-to late afternoon as low-level winds become southeasterly. High-resolution model guidance has been quite persistent in developing showers and thunderstorms over the northern half of WSMR after 1500L where a little more moisture and instability will reside. Development over southern WSMR cannot be ruled out, but drier air plus a more pronounced stable layer around 10K ft MSL may shut down storm chances. The moist air mass will make another push farther westward tonight and the boundary reaching the NM/AZ border early Saturday morning. This push may also bring some gusty winds to western slopes of mountains in/near southern WSMR late tonight into the wee hours of Saturday.

Saturday appears to be the best chance for showers and thunderstorms across the entire range. Low-level moisture will still be marginal (dew points largely in the 30s F) and some stability at mid-levels would need to be overcome. A dissipating disturbance centered over Arizona may provide some weak large-scale lift. Activity will be driven largely by daytime heating with isolated to widely scattered cells from mid-afternoon to early evening. Precipitation from this activity will be meager with greatest threats being dry lightning and gusty outflows.

A deep trough of low pressure will cover the southwest US and far northwest Mexico on Sunday and will make very slow movement eastward the first half of next week as a blocking pattern develops over the CONUS. Winds will return to WSMR Sunday with strong wind warning-level gusts (> 35 mph) possible in some locations in the afternoon. Uncertainty on shower/thunderstorm chances for Sunday is quite high. The increasing flow ahead of the slow-moving trough will push the more moist airmass to the east, but enough moisture might linger into Sunday afternoon for a shot at storms. Given the increased winds and better dynamics aloft, any storms that develop Sunday in the area could be a little more feisty than what is expected today and Saturday. The bulk of showers and thunderstorms, however, will develop east of WSMR.

A drier air mass will be back over WSMR on Monday as the lumbering low crawls closer to the range. The core of strongest winds aloft will stay south of the range, though the flow will be fast enough for another breezy to low-end windy afternoon for many locations. Some blowing dust is possible, though not expecting visibility to drop to any dangerously low levels. High temperatures will be quite a bit cooler with highs in the middle 70s. The persistent trough will linger over central Rockies and central Great Plains through around Thursday, keeping WSMR cooler than normal. Afternoon winds will only be moderately breezy Tuesday and Wednesday, though lighten on Thursday as the trough slowly weakens and a ridge of high pressure tries to nudge in from the west.