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For Immediate Release

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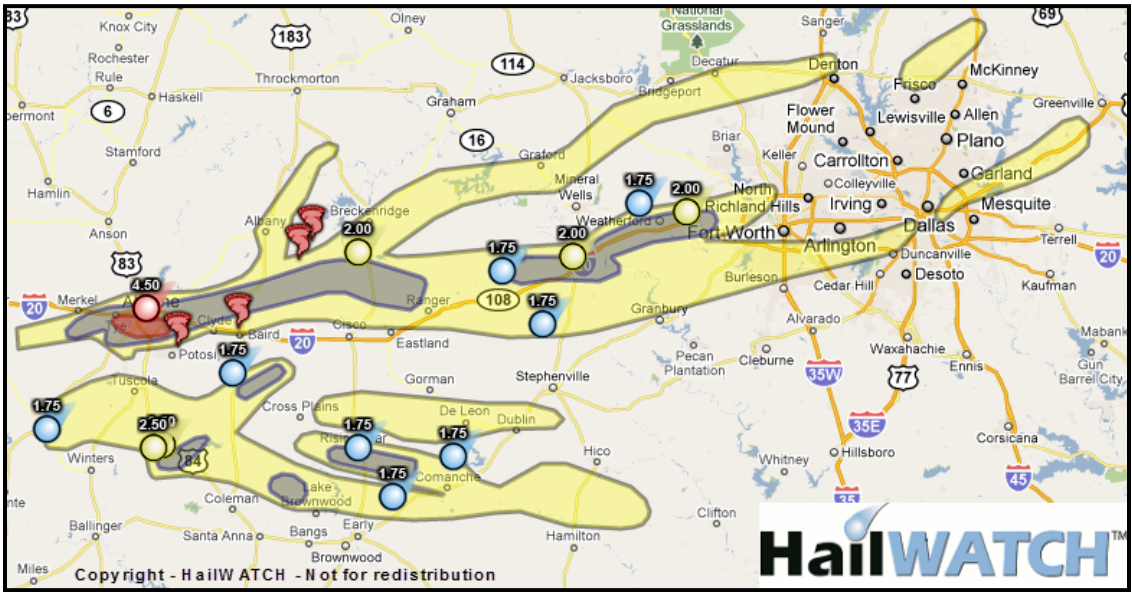
April 25, 2011

Easter Hail Storm Slams Abilene

Baseball size hail hit Abilene Sunday afternoon causing property damage to vehicles, homes and businesses. Hail fell from a line of storms that passed over the southern half of the city and continued to move eastward all the way to Fort Worth.

An Abilene fire station located two miles south of downtown Abilene reported 3 and 1/2 inch hail which was accompanied by heavy rainfall and reports of tornadoes in the west Texas region. Golf ball size was reported as the storms moved eastward into Stephens County, Weatherford and Lake Worth just north of Fort Worth. (See HailWatch map below)

“The storms moved over the Possum Kingdom Lake area bringing some much needed relief to firefighters, but it might not have been enough for this week’s forecast for the return of high winds,” said Mark Hanna, a spokesman for the Insurance Council of Texas. “Insured losses for the homes and vehicles lost in the Possum Kingdom wildfire have been estimated at \$150 million.”



The Insurance Council of Texas is the largest state insurance trade association in the country consisting of approximately 500 property and casualty insurers writing business in Texas. For more information turn to ICT’s Web site at www.insurancecouncil.org.