



NOAA/NWS Glasgow Damage Survey

June 26, 2012 Highway 201 Storm Damage

Written by Joshua Barnwell

On June 26 at approximately 5:00 pm MDT, a severe thunderstorm caused straight line wind damage on a 2.1 mile stretch of Highway 201 in Richland County, Montana. The damage began approximately 1 mile west of Highway 16 where 21 power poles were snapped (pictures a and b) and 2 additional poles were damaged (one was leaning due to the other poles snapping, the other had damage to the top due to the weight of power lines). On the north side of highway 201, a tin shed was destroyed (picture c). The roof was blown 100 to 150 yards north of the shed's location (picture d). About a half mile from the shed damage on the south side of Highway 201, an empty 4000 bushel grain bin was blown over (picture e). A 74 MPH wind gust was measured at that location.



a. Snapped power pole on the south side of Highway 201.



b. Poles down with power lines over the eastbound lane.



c. Tin shed damage on the north side of Highway 201.

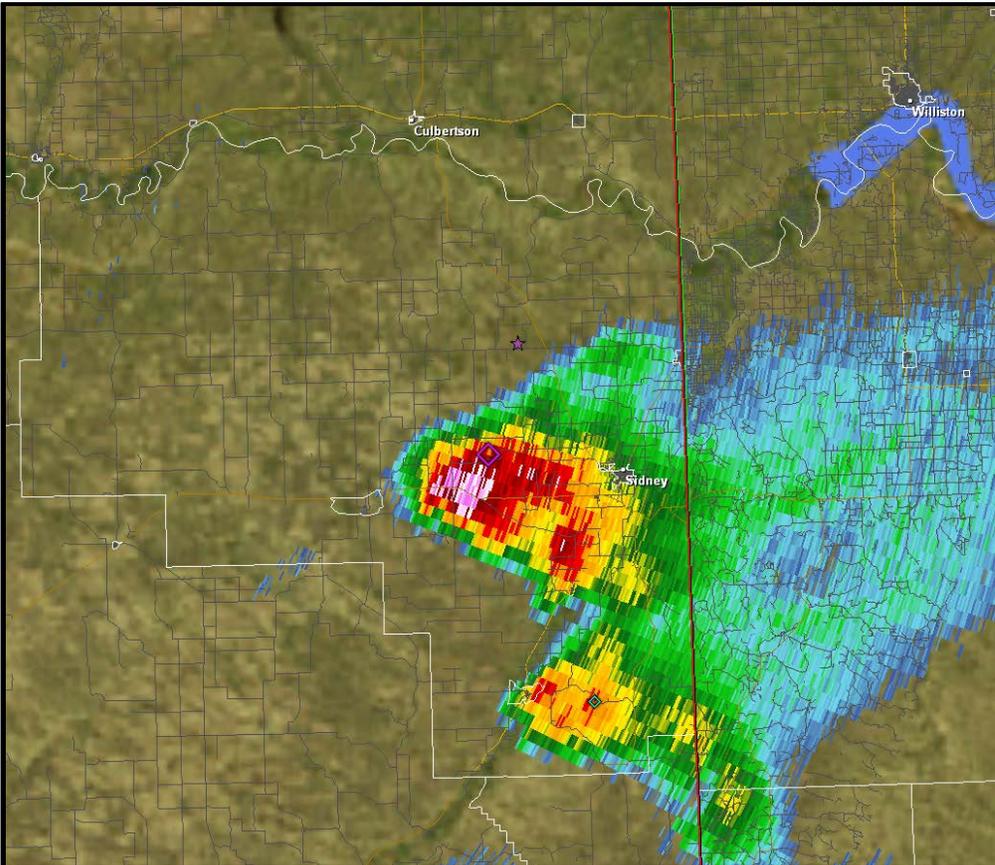


d. Roof of the tin shed blown 100-150 yards north of the shed.

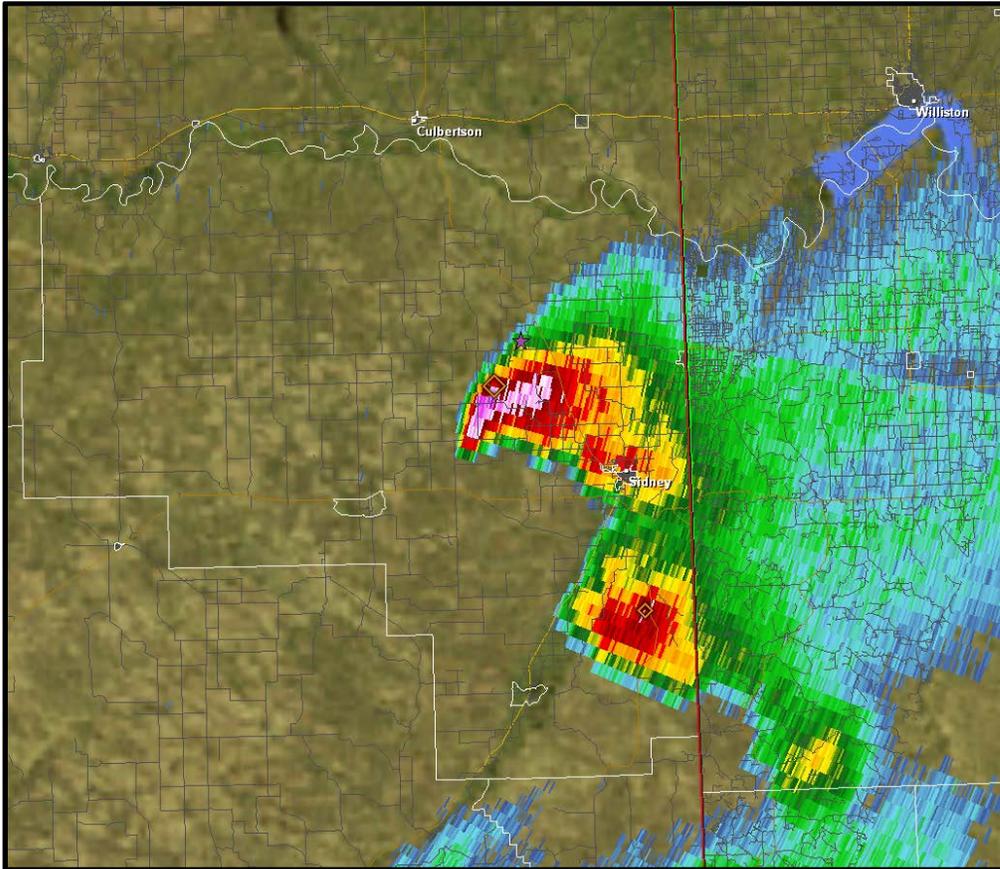


e. 4000 bushel grain bin blown over south of Highway 201.

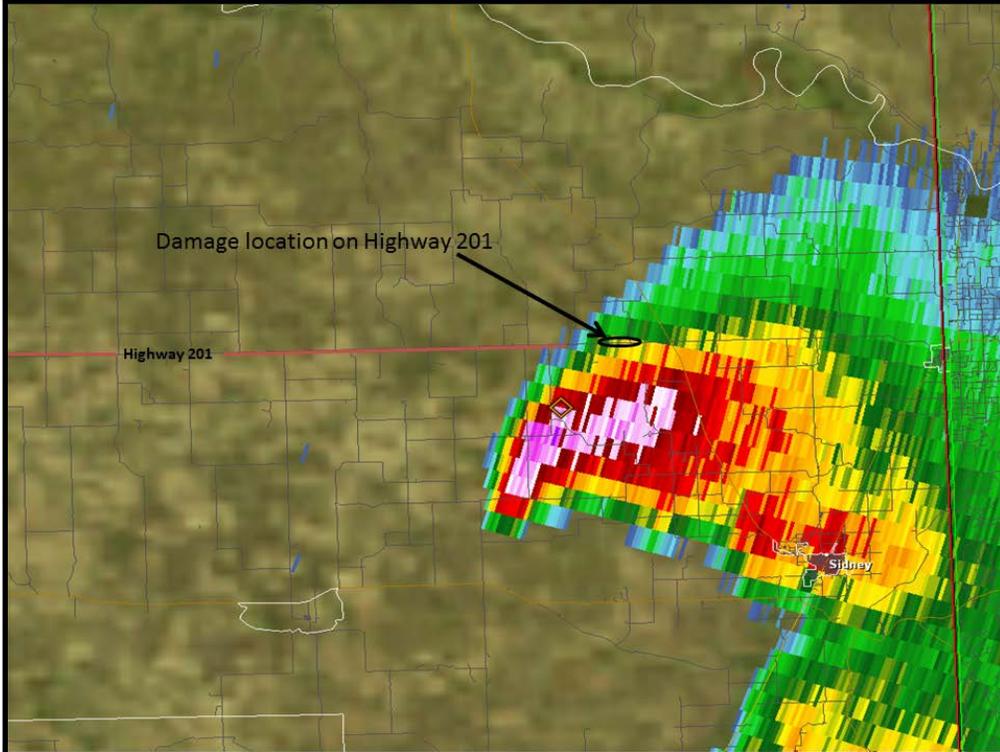
The storms in the area formed southeast of Terry, MT, before 4:00 pm MDT. Hail the size of peas to dimes was indicated by radar at 4:01 pm north and south of Interstate 94 near Glendive. Both storms paralleled Highway 16 and headed towards Sidney, however, the northern storm intensified much more rapidly. Just after crossing Highway 200 west of Sidney, the storm peaked in radar intensity, with the radar estimating the hail size at 2.55 inches at 4:58 pm (picture f). The purple star indicated on pictures (f) and (g) is the approximate location of the tin shed damage. The beginning edge of the 40 DBZ reflectivity (yellow color) was right on top of Highway 201 in the damage area at 5:09 pm (picture g). A zoomed in image of the radar reflectivity at 5:09 pm is shown in picture (h). The highest reflectivity over the damage area, and during the time the storm was dissipating, was at 5:16 pm (picture i). The storm continued off to the northeast and further dissipated before moving into North Dakota.



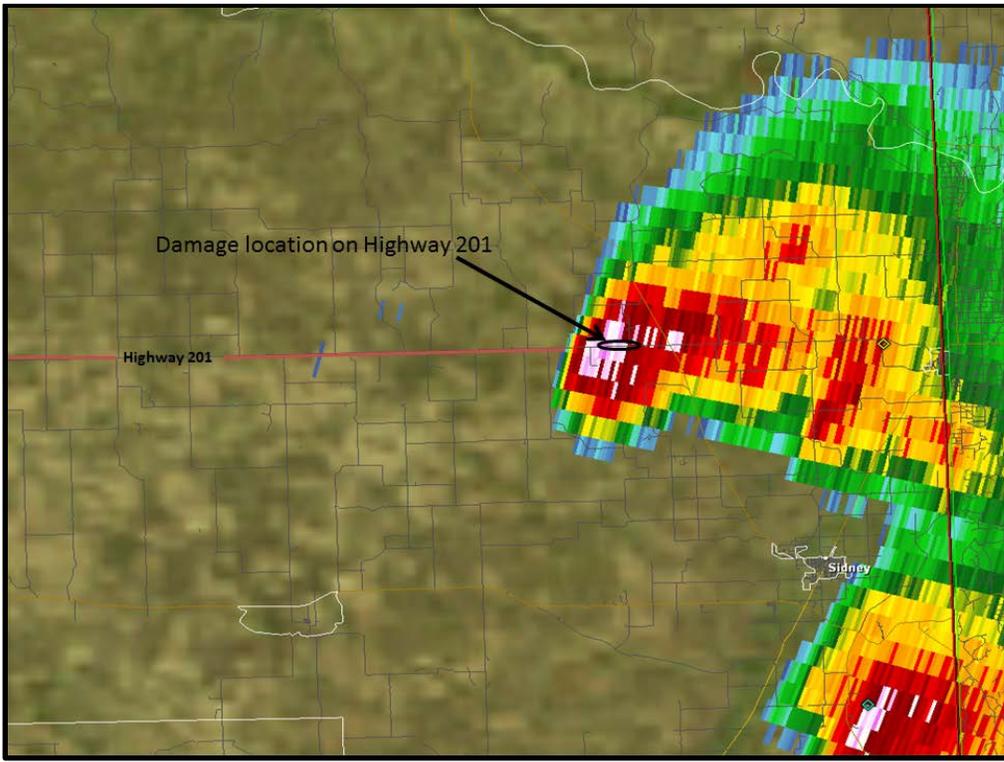
f. Glasgow radar image from 4:58 pm. The purple star on the image is the approximate location of the tin roof damage.



g. Glasgow radar image from 5:09 pm. The purple star on the image is the approximate location of the tin roof damage.



h. Glasgow radar image from 4:58 pm zoomed in closer with Highway 201 and the damage location indicated.



i. Glasgow radar image from 5:16 pm.