

Clouds 1

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Background

This image was taken rather unexpectedly as there were a few days in a row leading up to this picture I was hoping to catch a good picture of some clouds but I remember there just being clear skies each day. I was eating my This day however was a great cloud day with a large amount of clouds forming over the flat irons. With the image I was trying to capture my good mood of the day as the clouds rolled through the sky.

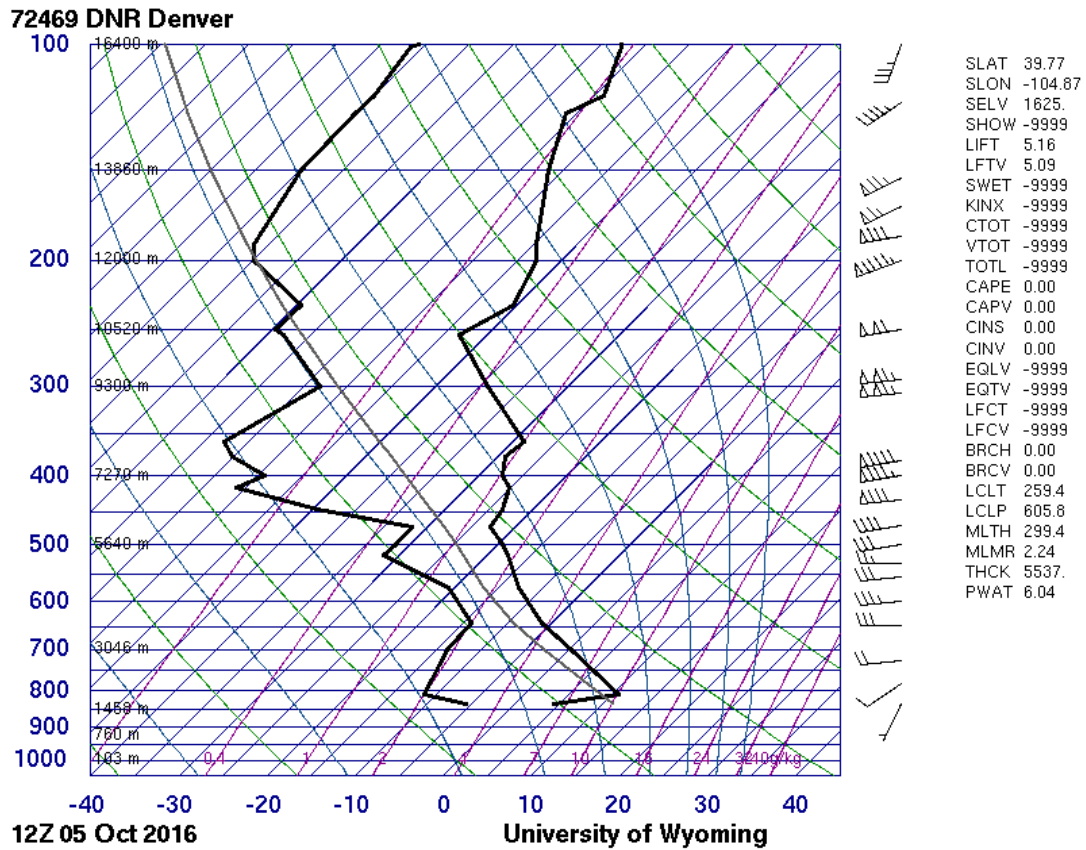
Image details

This picture was taken on October 5th at roughly 2 o'clock in the afternoon outside the ITLL at the University of Colorado. The picture was taken in Boulder at approximately 5400 ft elevation facing south-southwest with the camera pointed at about a 20-degree incline from the horizon.

Cloud information

From the skew-t diagram shown below, the atmosphere that day was stable as indicated by the 0.00 in the CAPE and I would expect clouds to form somewhere between 10000 ft – 13000 ft above the ground. If these stats are true, the clouds in the photo are at about 15000 ft above sea level and I believe they are cumulus clouds which would fall in line with approximately the altitude where cumulus clouds form. The days leading up to this were clear skies and very light winds. These clouds were moving quickly from west to east over the flat irons here in Boulder however the skew-t diagram shows westward winds. This

could be because the measurements for the skew-t were taken at the Denver Airport and the photo being taken roughly 40 miles away in boulder.



Photographic Technique

This photo was taken with my iPhone 6s camera as I did not have my normal Canon EOS 30D camera I would normally take pictures with. The shutter speed was 1/8000 and f-stop of f/2.2 with an ISO of 25. I would estimate a focal length of 4.15mm and an approximate field of view of 2 miles. I did some post processing in Photoshop by cropping out the buildings below to keep the main focus on the clouds but keeping the top of one of the flat iron peaks because I didn't think it distracted from the image. I adjusted the levels of the photo as well as adjusting the brightness and contrast to get a sharper image of the clouds and to darken the top of the peak so it is more of an outline.

Final Thoughts

A few thoughts I like on this photo is the sun beam that is in the upper right corner of the photo. I think it brings good thoughts and vibes as well as just being a calming attribute to the photo. I took this photo while I was enjoying my lunch and watching the cloud form over the flat irons. If I could change something I think, I would have tried to get a video of them forming and flowing eastward because they were moving somewhat quickly and I found it to be interesting. However, I am still happy with how the photo turned out.