

Staff Report 58 (Informational)

PARTY:

California State Lands Commission

PROPOSED ACTION:

Report on the Continued Monitoring of Possible Subsidence, Long Beach Unit, Wilmington Oil Field, Los Angeles County

BACKGROUND:

The City of Long Beach (City) conducts surveys twice each year, usually in May and November, to monitor changes in ground elevation of the Long Beach tidelands and adjacent areas that may occur as a result of oil extraction from the Wilmington Oil Field. Staff reviews and interprets the benchmark elevation data from these semiannual reviews. The City also reports annually to the Commission on its findings. This report covers benchmarks surveyed in May and November 2021 and compares elevation changes that have occurred since completion of the previous survey. The prior report to the Commission was submitted as [Item 74, December 8, 2021](#), and covered benchmarks surveyed in October 2020.

Subsidence monitoring is authorized by Chapter 138, Statutes of 1964, First Extraordinary Session and the corresponding Unit and Contractor Agreements.

STAFF ANALYSIS:

Based on the data collected by the City, elevations throughout the Civic Center, Central City, Naples, offshore islands, and the City North of Wilmington Oil Field were stable with no indication of decline. The Alamitos Beach shoreline experienced a rise in elevation of up to 0.06 feet (0.7 inch) during the first 6 months, which reversed during the second half of the survey period. In the Harbor District, the central portion experienced a rise of as much as 0.08 feet (1 inch) and the northwest corner experienced a decline of as much as 0.07 feet (0.8 inch). These changes are minor, and fluid injection and production will be closely monitored and adjusted to mitigate future changes. Finally, elevation changes of up to 0.1

feet (1.2 inches) were observed outside of the Wilmington Oil Field operated areas, specifically near the Recreation Park District, Marine Stadium, and the Colorado Lagoon. These changes are considered minor and are possibly due to normal tectonic movement along the active Palos Verdes and Newport-Inglewood fault zones.

The results of the next complete year (2021-2022) of regular elevation surveys will be reported to the Commission after the data has been received and analyzed by staff.

OTHER PERTINENT INFORMATION:

This action is consistent with the “Meeting Evolving Public Trust Needs” Strategic Focus Area of the Commission’s 2021-2025 Strategic Plan.

EXHIBIT:

A. Location Map

