

[CLICK HERE to print this page](#)



Scientist: Southern Utah valley sinking
March 22, 2010



CEDAR CITY, Utah (AP) -- A state geologist says the floor of southern Utah's Cedar Valley is sinking.

Utah Geological Survey senior scientist William Lund says the valley has dropped about 100 feet over the last 70 years, mostly because of water that's pumped out of the underlying aquifer.

Lund, who was speaking to the Central Iron County Water Conservancy District in Cedar City last week, says overpumping the aquifer also causes fissures in the ground that can allow pollution to sink in.

Another agency scientist, Mike Lowe, says he's preparing a set of recommendations for the conservancy district to deal with the sinking ground.

Options could include pumping less water, using more surface water and outlining areas where construction would be prohibited or have to adhere to special building methods.

Information from: The Salt Lake Tribune

(Copyright 2010 by The Associated Press. All Rights Reserved.)