Elma, Washington GPS Station
Yearly Movement, 2007 - 2014
(Referenced to North America’s stable east)

The dots on this card show motion of the Elma GPS station since 2007. Because the station is anchored into hard rock beneath the soil, the dots represent the year-to-year movement of the Elma region toward the northeast.

Orient this graph toward the north, tape it to the floor, and think about the questions below.

1. How far has the Elma region moved since the year 2007? At what rate (inches per year) is the region moving? At that rate, how far has the region moved since the year 1700?

2. Why is the region moving towards the northeast?

3. The last big earthquake in the Pacific Northwest occurred in the year 1700. What will happen to the Elma region when the next big earthquake occurs?

Station P430 from the EarthScope Plate Boundary Observatory (http://pbo.unavco.org). GPS time series data provided by UNAVCO (http://www.unavco.org). Data as of July 18, 2015. Position offset -0.51 inches east and -0.57 inches north from the NAM08 .csv file to bring 2007 average to zero.

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