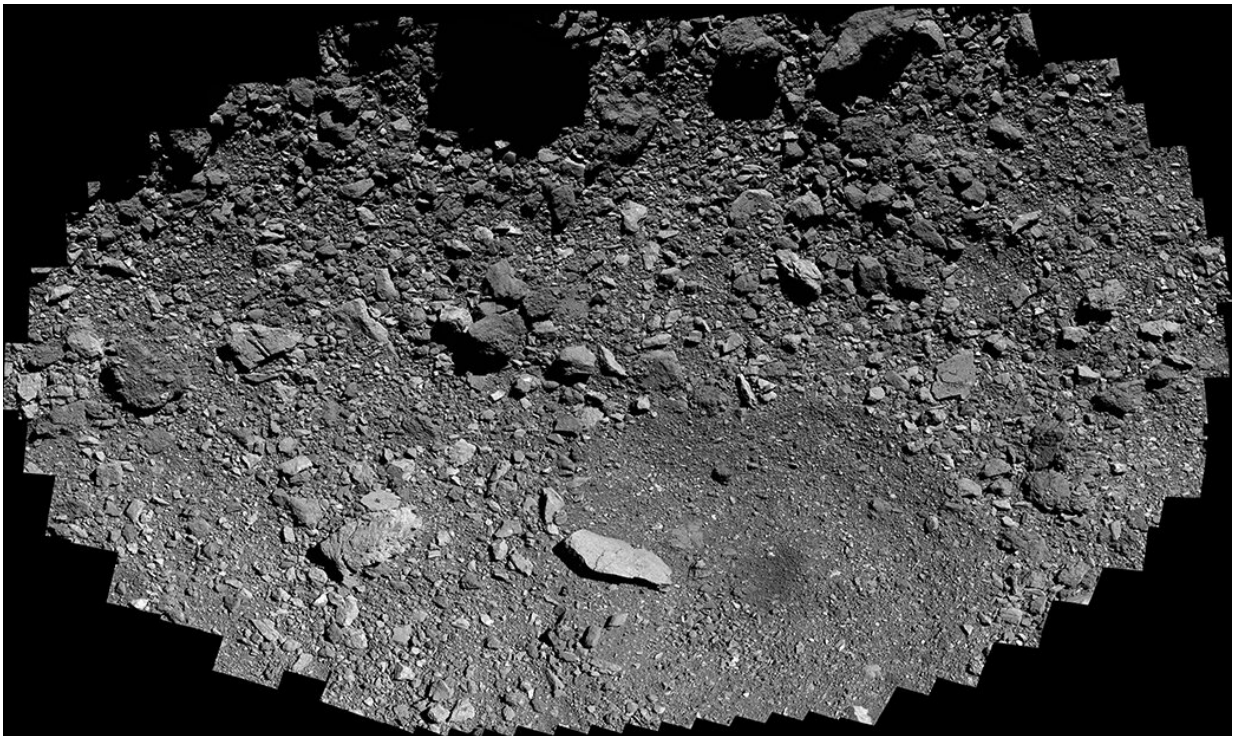


Image: OSIRIS-REx swoops over sample site Osprey

June 4 2020, by Erin Morton



Credit: NASA/Goddard/University of Arizona

This view of sample site Osprey on asteroid Bennu is a mosaic of images collected by NASA's OSIRIS-REx spacecraft on May 26. A total of 347 PolyCam images were stitched together and corrected to produce the mosaic, which shows the site at 0.2 inches (5 mm) per pixel at full size. The spacecraft took these images during an 820-foot (250-meter)

reconnaissance pass over the site, which is the closest Osprey has been imaged. The pass was designed to provide high-resolution imagery to identify the best areas within the site to collect a sample.

The sample [site](#) is located in the crater at the bottom of the image, just above the dark patch at the crater's center. The long, light-colored boulder to the left of the dark patch, named Strix Saxum, is 17 ft (5.2 m) in length. The mosaic is rotated so that Bennu's east is at the top of the image.

Osprey is the backup sample collection site for the OSIRIS-REx mission. OSIRIS-REx is scheduled to make its first sample collection attempt at primary site Nightingale on Oct. 20.

Provided by NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center

Citation: Image: OSIRIS-REx swoops over sample site Osprey (2020, June 4) retrieved 29 April 2024 from <https://phys.org/news/2020-06-image-osiris-rex-swoops-sample-site.html>

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