

Gypsum dune field in White Sands, New Mexico, USA

Sentinel-1 CSAR IW acquired on 04 November 2017 at 01:07:47 UTC

Sentinel-2 MSI acquired on 10 November 2017 at 17:45:39 UTC

Sentinel-2 MSI acquired on 30 December 2018 at 17:47:31 UTC

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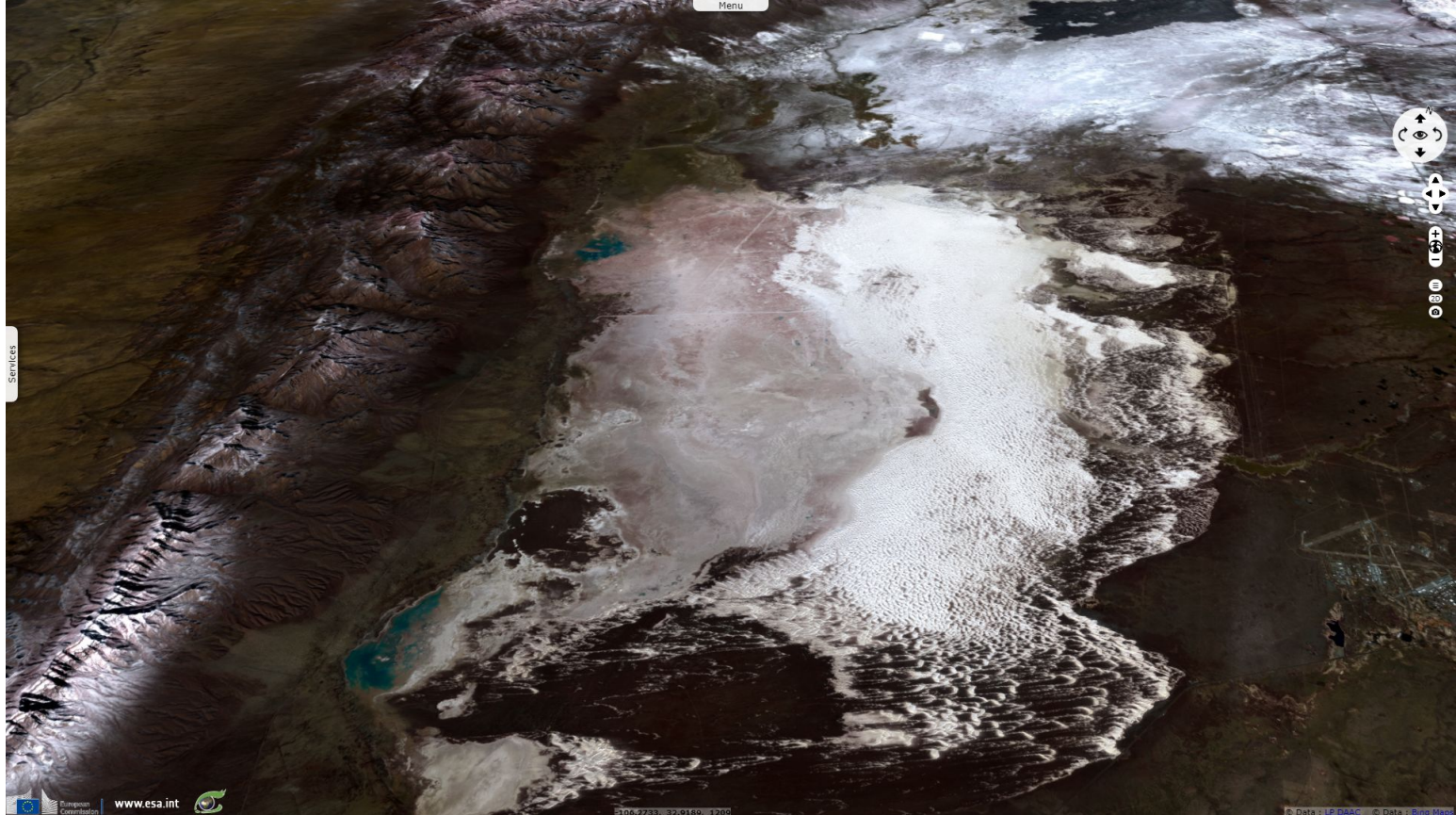
Keyword(s): Land, sand dunes, geology, erg, erosion, desert, endorheic basin, national park, United States, USA



[3D Layerstack](#)

Fig. 1 - S2 (30.12.2018) - 8,4,3 colour composite - White sand gypsum dunes are almost white as the snow visible north and west.

[3D view](#)



Selenite crystals cover the Alkali flat & Lake Lucero's shore. Weathering & erosion break those into sand-size grains that form the white dunes.

Fig. 2 - 12,11,2 composite - White Sands is the largest gypsum dune field on earth with 715 km², twice more adding quartz-based dunes.

[3D view](#)

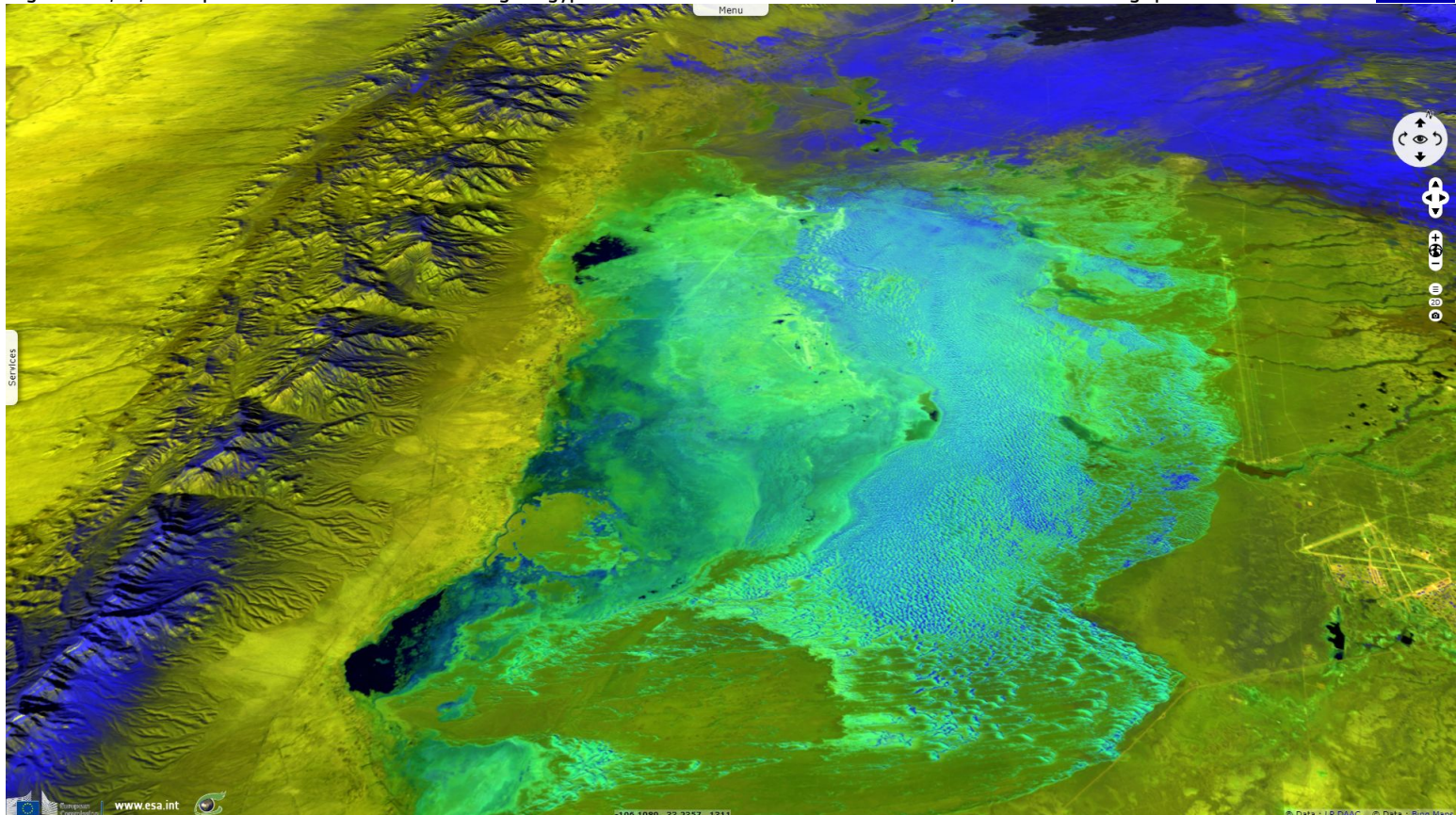


Fig. 3 - S1 (04.11.2017) - vv,vh,ndi(vh,vv) - Water-soluble, gypsum rarely exists in sand form; White Sands lies in an arid endorheic basin. [3D view](#)

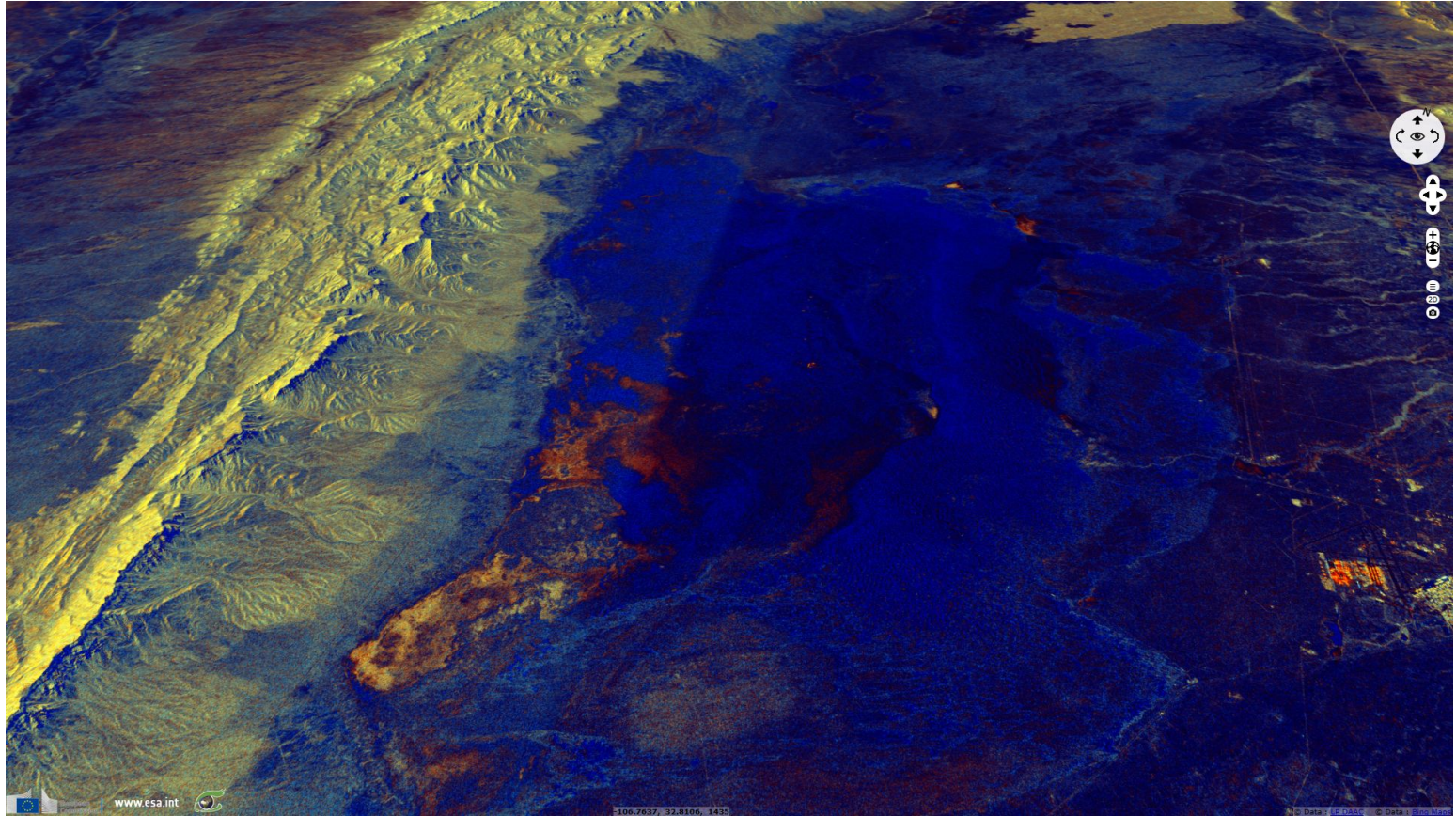


Fig. 4 - S2 (10.11.2017) - 4,3,2 natural colour - Unlike quartz-based sand dunes, the gypsum convert very little of the sun's energy into heat. [3D view](#)



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