

# Pollution turns Patagonia lake bright pink, Argentina

Sentinel-2 MSI acquired on 20 August 2016 at 14:00:52 UTC

Sentinel-2 MSI acquired on 23 July 2021 at 14:10:49 UTC

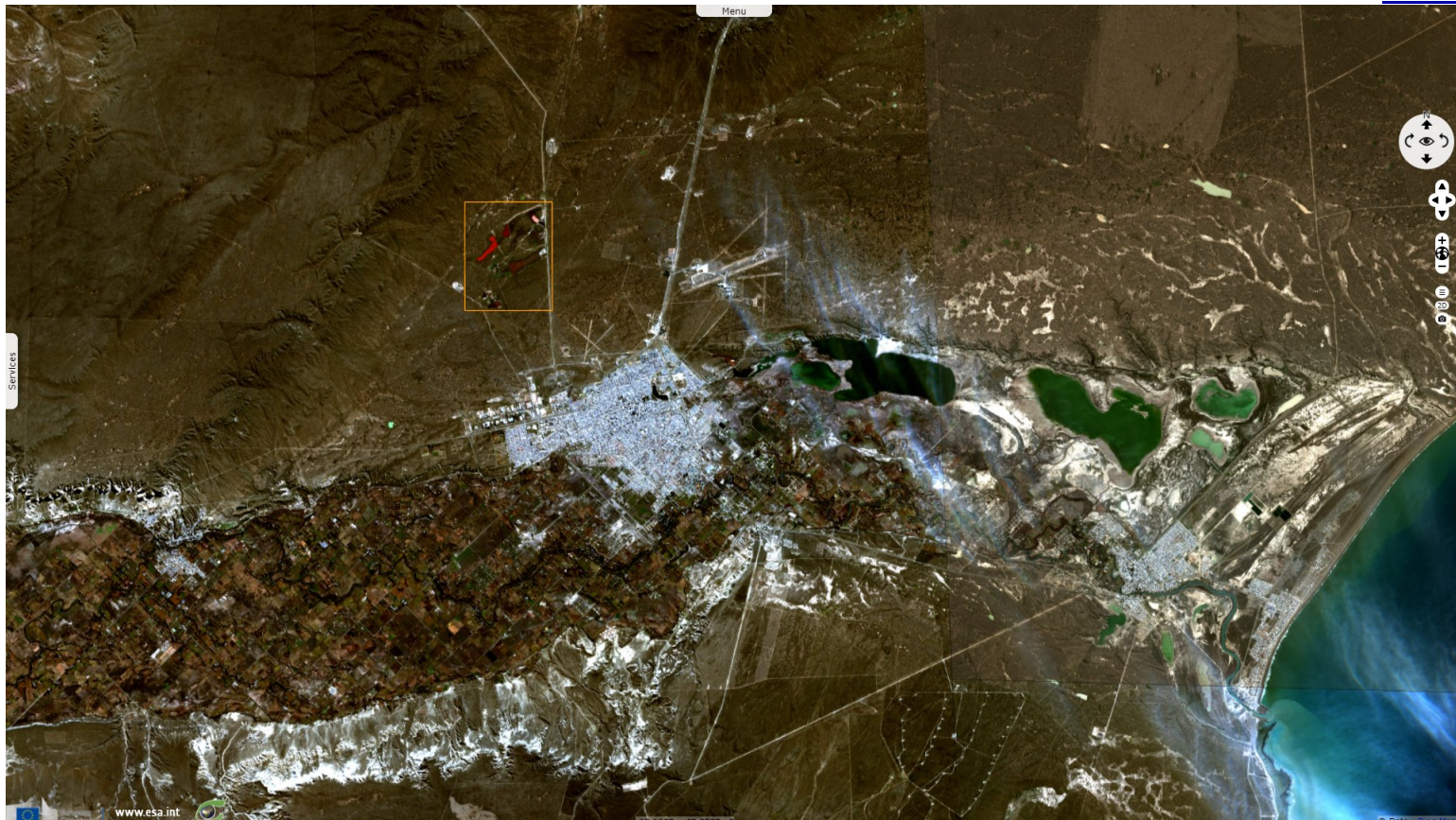
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Keyword(s): Water colour, water quality, aquaculture, lake, lagoon, pollution, Argentina

[2D Layerstack](#)

Fig. 1 - S2 (23.07.2021) - S2 (23.07.2021) - Environmentalists reported the Laguna de Corfo near Trelew in Argentina has turned bright pink due to pollution.

[2D view](#)



Local residents also complained of foul odours and insect infestations. Sodium sulphite, an antibacterial preservative used for the storage of langoustines before export, is the cause of this phenomenon.



Fig. 2 - S2 (23.07.2021) - Usually massively dumped into the nearby Chubut river, these pollutants seep into the water table.

[2D view](#)



Fig. 3 - S2 (20.08.2016) - The local environmental control chief said "an agreement was made with a company to dump liquids into the Laguna de Corfo," and that the colour "will disappear in a few days."

[2D view](#)

















Fig. 4 - Landat-7 (06.08.2001) - Satellite images show this lake has not turned from blue to pink recently but decades ago and remained so. [2D view](#)



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