

Ross Sea : Future world's largest marine protected area

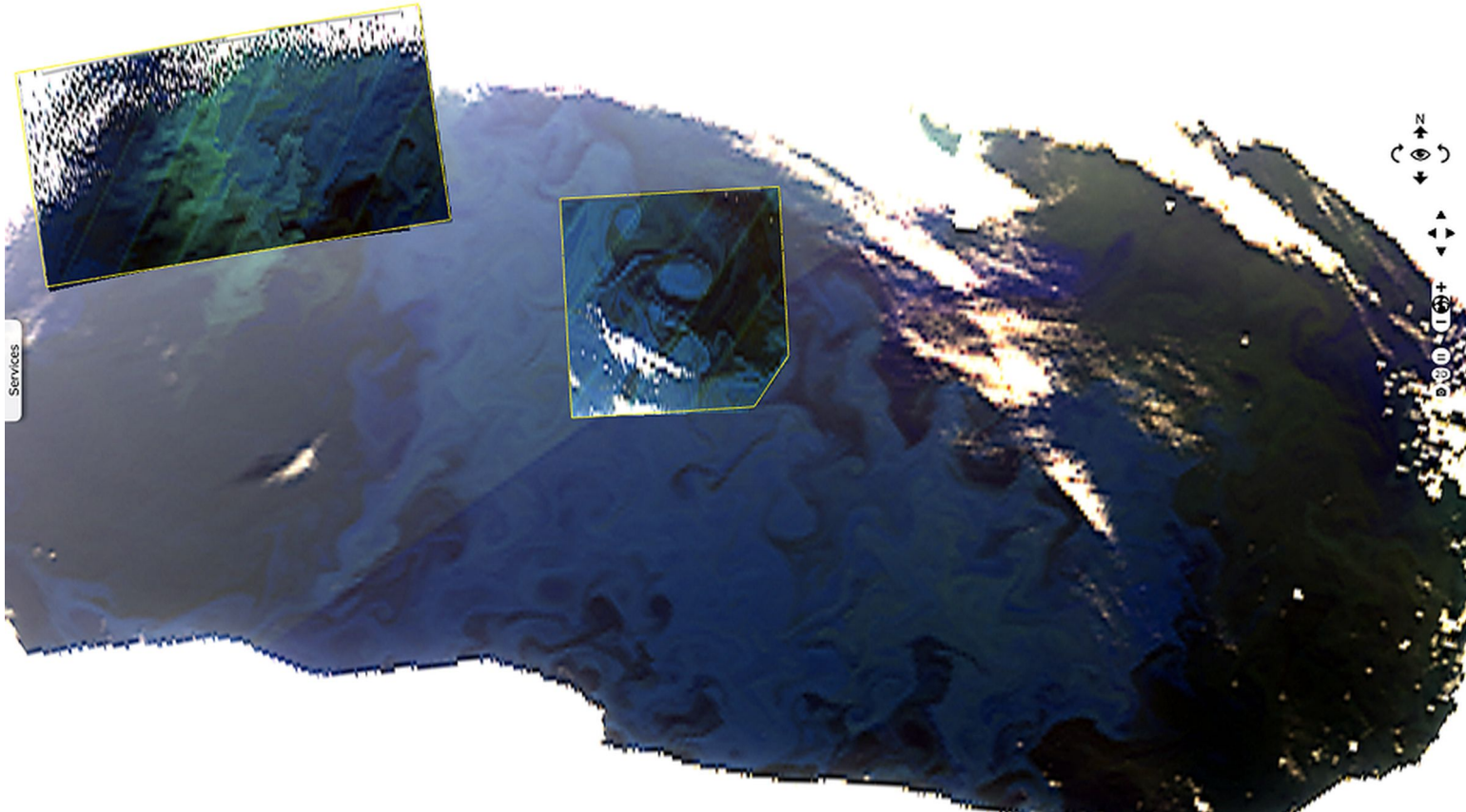
Sentinel-3 OLCI FR acquired on **15 January 2017** at 17:55:13 UTC
Sentinel-2 MSI (1 tile) acquired on **15 January 2017** at 20:25:11 UTC
Sentinel-2 MSI (2 tiles) acquired on **16 January 2017** at 19:55:21 UTC

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[3D Layerstack](#)

Fig. 1 - During summer, the Ross Sea is home to phytoplankton blooms, a staple food for higher trophic levels such as krill, whales and seals. [3D view](#)



According to [the BBC](#), "The Ross Sea, its shelf and slope only comprise 2% of the Southern Ocean but they are home to 38% of the world's Adelie penguins, 30% of the world's Antarctic petrels and around 6% of the world's population of Antarctic minke whales. The region is important to the rest of the planet as the upwelling of nutrients from the deep waters are carried on currents around the world."

Fig. 2 - Sentinel 3A - huge phytoplankton bloom in the Ross Sea during austral summer, Antarctica - 7,6,4 Colour composite. [3D view](#)

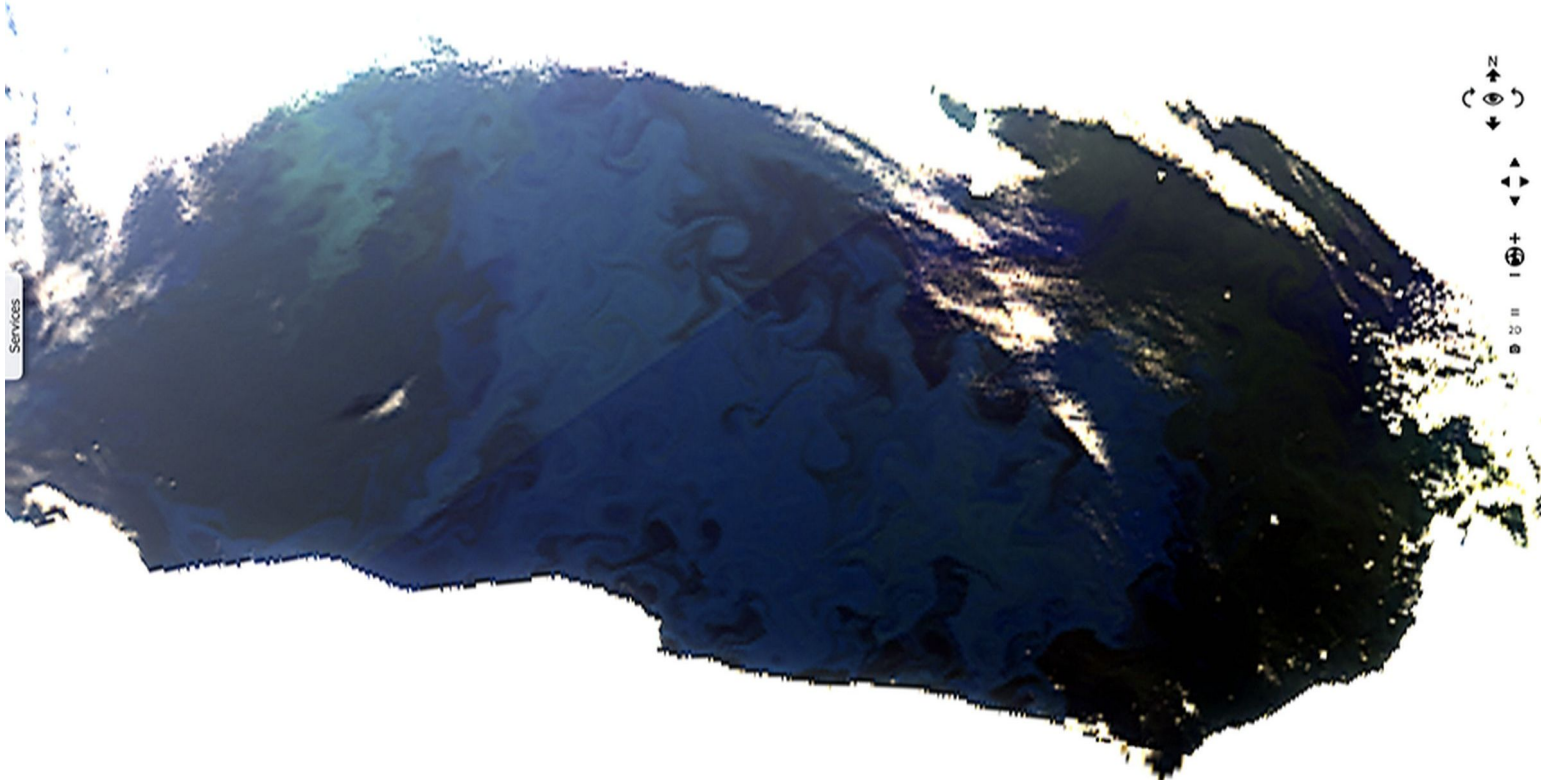


Fig. 3 - Sentinel 2A - Phytoplankton colour highlighting eddies in sea surface currents - 4,3,2 Natural colour composite.

[3D view](#)

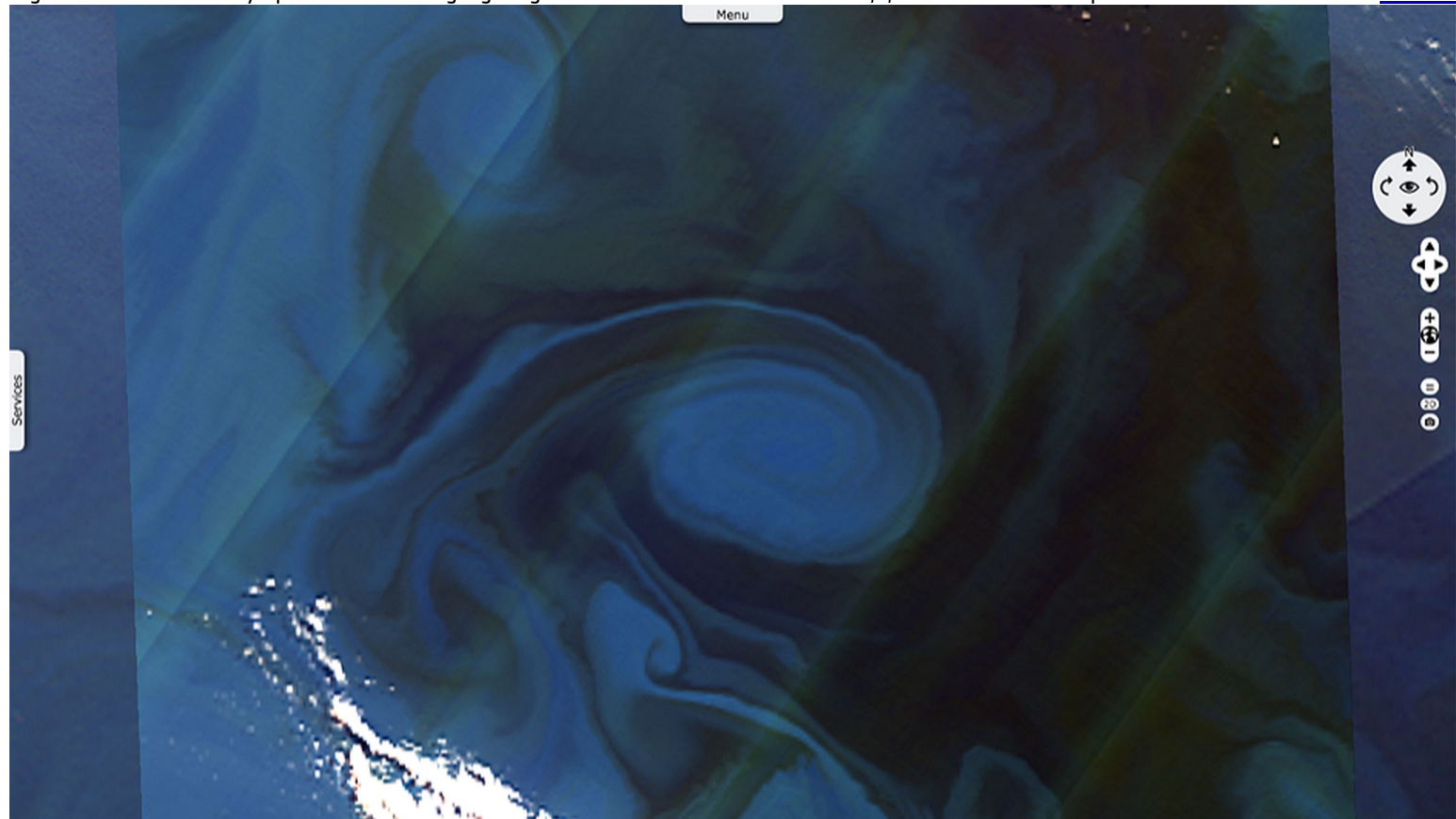
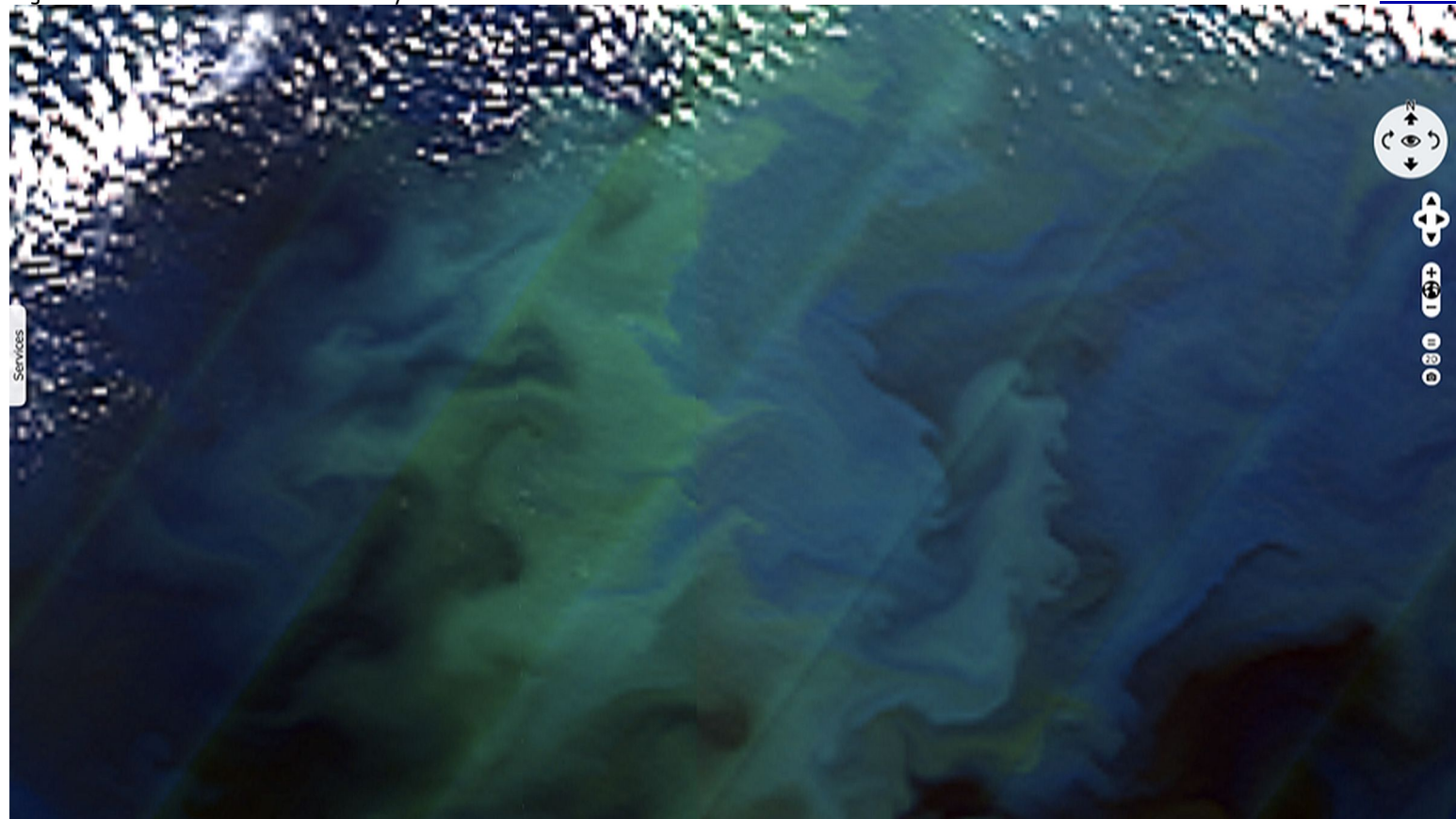


Fig. 4 - Numerous ocean colours seen by Sentinel-2A satellite.

[3D view](#)



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