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Cone Nebula

Quick Facts:

Distance: 2,700 light-years **Size: 10 light-years**

Constellation: Monoceros

A glowing cloud of ionized hydrogen gas in a region of newborn and aborning stars. The southern part of the complex that also contains the Xmas Tree Cluster. Its visual appearance is created from the contrast of a dark, dusty molecular cloud absorbing light with the red emissions from the ionized gas.

Find it: Go 10 deg due E of Betelgeuse and 2 up. A 5th magnitude star there is S Mon. Find the nebula ½ degree south. GOTO: NAMED OBJ.

Image by NASA/Hubble. Quick reference card by Derek Wallentinsen.