

Western Veil Nebula

This is the Western Veil Nebula (or the Witches Broom Nebula or NGC 6960). It is a supernova remnant consisting of oxygen, sulfur, and hydrogen gas. This area of the constellation Cygnus is densely populated with stars and includes regions of heated gas that make up the Cygnus Loop. The entire nebula covers an area of over 3 degrees (3 full moon widths), but this is just one portion of the remnants of the supernova explosion of a star 20 times the size of the sun, that occurred between 10 and 20,000 years ago. Distance from earth about 2400 light years. This filament is around 130 light years across.

This image was taken with a dual band filter exposing mainly light from Hydrogen Alpha (Ha) and Oxygen III (OIII) ionized gases, illuminated by the radiation from area stars.

138 x 300 min RGB color camera sensor, collected over 5 days in September 2022.

Total 11.5 hours

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