

Regolith Science with OSIRIS-REx

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Regolith Science is an important scientific component of NASA's OSIRIS-REx asteroid sample return mission and it also plays an important role in the site selection process. The Regolith Development Working Group is responsible for mapping craters, boulders, linear features and distinct regolith components as part of a global geologic map of the target asteroid, Bennu. Many of these geologic features are potentially hazardous for the eventual sampling attempt and thus feed directly into the sample site selection process. Furthermore, the analysis of the regolith particle size distribution is a critical component of the effort to maximize the collected sample by mapping regions of Bennu most favorable for sample collection efficiency.

Keywords: Asteroids, Space Mission, Regolith