



**Chandra X-Ray  
Observatory Center**

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**Abell 2142:** A cluster of galaxies in the constellation Corona Borealis.  
**Credit:** NASA/CXC/SAO

This image made by NASA's Chandra X-ray Observatory shows the merger of two sub-clusters of galaxies. The sub-clusters are embedded within Abell 2142, a gigantic galaxy cluster that is one of the most massive objects in the universe. The smoothness of the elongated cloud in the Chandra image suggests that these sub-clusters have collided two or three times in a billion years or more, and have nearly completed their merger. The bright source in the upper left is an active galaxy in the cluster.

**Scale:** Image is 7.5 x 7.2 arcmin on a side.

*Chandra X-ray Observatory ACIS Image*

*CXC operated for NASA by the Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory*