

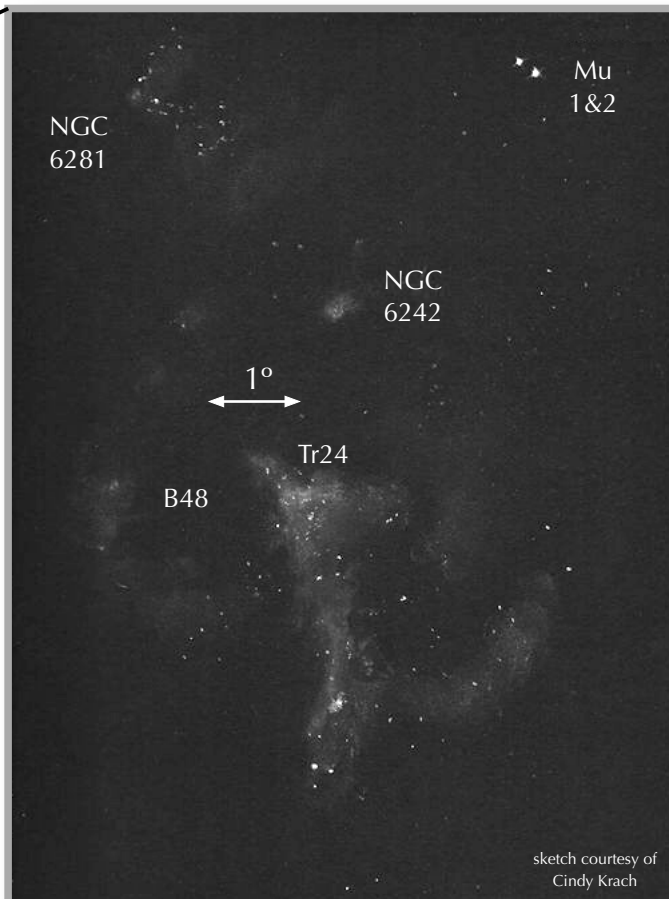
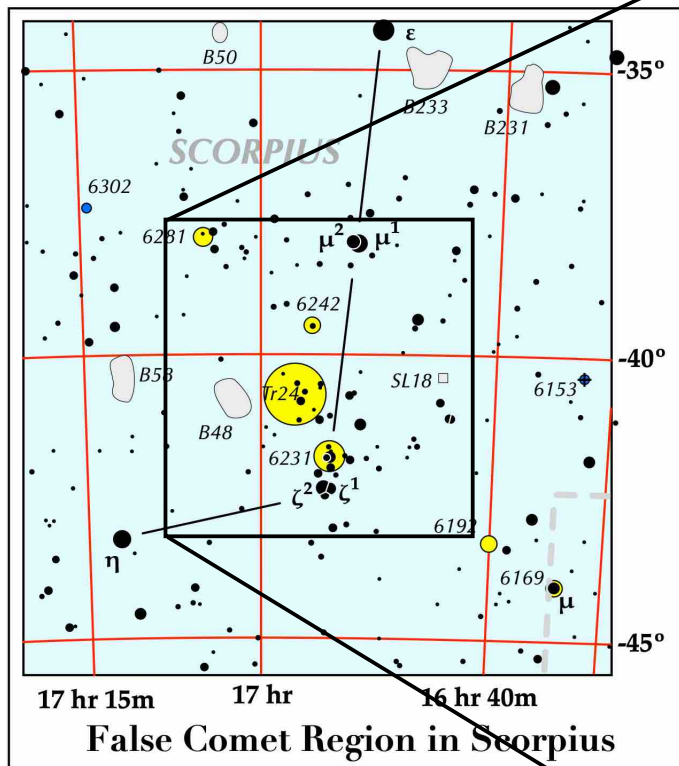


Often ignored because of its southerly declination,
this is a great region for binocular observers!



False Comet, a closer look

Take your time and explore what this area offers.



Features to Identify

- NGC 6231, open cluster.
- Zeta 1 & 2, and Mu 1 & 2, binocular double stars.
- Trumpler 24: open cluster.
- Collinder 316:
- B 48 & B 58: dark nebulae
- NGC 6242: open cluster.
- NGC 6281: open cluster.
- NGC 6302: planetary nebula "Bug."
 - V861: eclipsing binary with period of 7.85 days and ranging from 6.1 to 6.4 mag.

A great region for binoculars!

- 7x50 and 10x50 work nicely.
- Best when mounted on a tripod for steady viewing.
- Best to have high contrast, dark skies.



See more detail:

- Use a high contrast or deep sky nebula filter.
- Don't forget to try high magnification, >200.

Try your hand at sketching: Lay down the bright stars first to set relative distances, lightly outline bright nebula next, then fill in cluster stars and dimmer field stars. Add shading. Note dark areas. The more you look, the more you see!