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Abell 1795: A cluster of galaxies in the constellation Boötes with a prominent "cooling flow". **Credit:** NASA/loA/AC Fabian et al.

Chandra has found a "cool" filament, about 30 million degrees, in the galaxy cluster Abell 1795. This structure is some 200,000 light years long (the long string-like feature in the middle of this image) and was most likely caused when the enormous elliptical galaxy at the head of the filament moved through the cluster core. Hot gas spread throughout the cluster is drawn by the gravitational field of the giant galaxy into a cosmic wake of cooling gas, a phenomenon known as a "cooling flow."

Scale: Image is 75 arcsec on a side.

Chandra X-ray Observatory ACIS image

CXC operated for NASA by the Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory