



1
00:00:00,000 --> 00:00:10,790
silence

2
00:00:10,810 --> 00:00:12,530
music

3
00:00:12,550 --> 00:00:17,690
Lunar Reconnaissance Orbiter's wide angle camera, or WAC, is creating a photographic atlas of the entire moon.

4
00:00:17,710 --> 00:00:20,260
By stitching together thousands of separate images

5
00:00:20,280 --> 00:00:24,000
scientists can create a global catalog of the mountains, craters, and rilles,

6
00:00:24,020 --> 00:00:28,050
like those seen here, near the landing site of Apollo 15.

7
00:00:28,070 --> 00:00:31,480
Color and contrast in WAC images give us clues about the chemical makeup of the lunar soil.

8
00:00:31,500 --> 00:00:35,480
The sharp border between the Seas of Serenity and Tranquility, for example, is probably

9
00:00:35,500 --> 00:00:39,260
caused by differing amounts of titanium.

10
00:00:39,280 --> 00:00:43,650
Crater shapes reveal their ages. These three craters are like a time-lapse photo,

11
00:00:43,670 --> 00:00:51,070
from the youngest at the top, with sharp, well-defined features, to the oldest at the bottom, nearly erased by time.

12
00:00:51,090 --> 00:00:56,380
With the wide angle images from LRO, we can improve our understanding of our nearest neighbor in the solar system.