

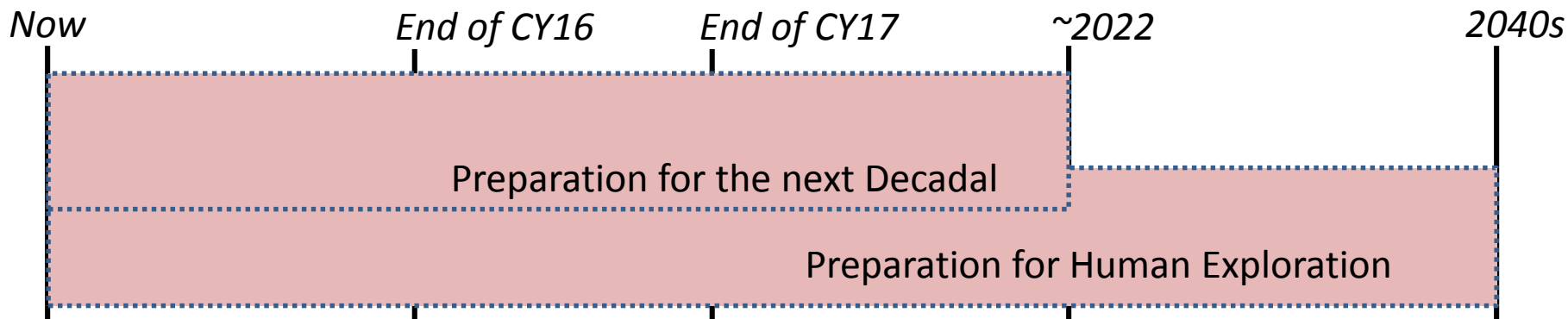
A high-resolution image of a Martian canyon. The canyon walls are dark and layered, showing signs of erosion. A large, light-colored sand dune or ridge runs along the edge of the canyon floor. The sky is a deep, clear blue.

MEPAG Future Activities

*Discussion
facilitated by
the Mars
Program Office*

Introduction:

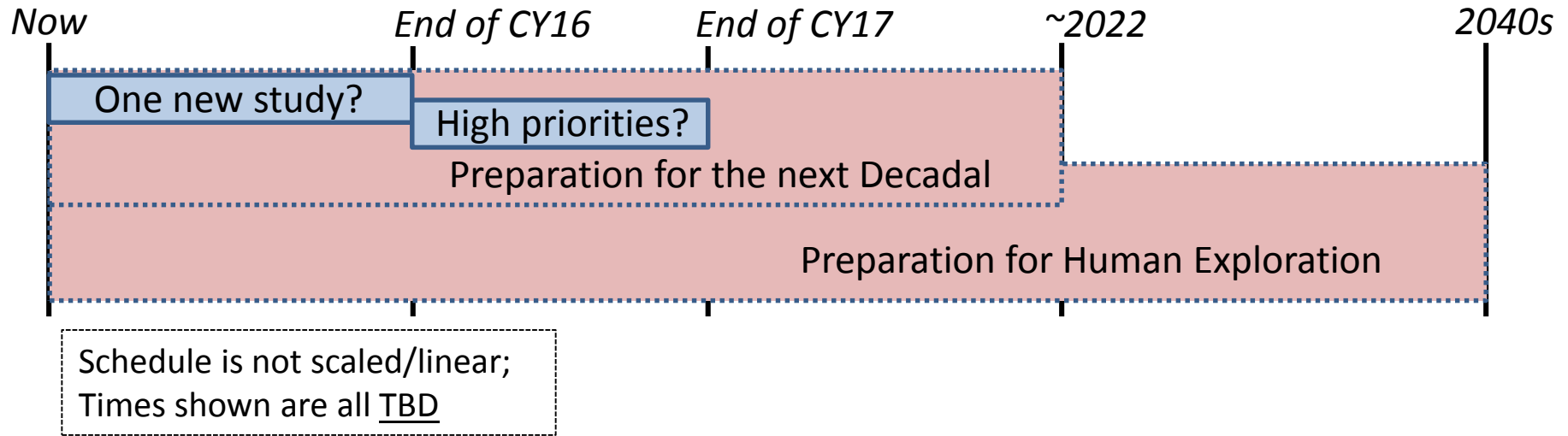
Planning for MEPAG Future Activities



Schedule is not scaled/linear;
Times shown are all TBD

Introduction:

Planning for MEPAG Future Activities



1. What are the options for what MEPAG could undertake in CY16-17, and what is their priority?
 - a) What are the options and priorities in robotic exploration?
 - b) What are the options and priorities related to human exploration?
2. What preparations are needed by MEPAG for the next Decadal Survey, and when do we need to do them?
3. What else should we be considering and planning for?

Options for MEPAG, CY16-17

March 2016

December 2016

Next Orbiter Definition Team

Gale Crater Special Regions study

Mars Water ISRU Planning (MWIP)

Add'n study?

Times shown are all TBD

Discussion 1.a: What are the options and priorities in robotic exploration?

Examples: Planning in support of the MSR Campaign

- Science on the Fetch Rover platforms?
- Development of reference technical specifications for Mars Returned Sample Handling (MRSB)

Additional ideas?

Options for MEPAG, CY16-17

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Add'n study?

Times shown are all TBD

Discussion 1.b: What are the options & priorities related to human exploration?

Example study ideas:	Trace from
Assess the value of sending humans to the Mars system for orbital and/or Phobos landing missions, prior to 1 st Mars human landing	AM-3 mtg, Ben's #1 priority
What are the specific ways in which human explorers would advance exploration related to extant life, rather than interfere with it?	AM-3 mtg, Ben's #2 priority
For mining, what minerals and elements need to be detected and at what resolution/levels?	gap identified in ISRU studies
Updates to Strategic Knowledge Gaps	Ben is interested, HEO work ongoing

Additional ideas?

Options for MEPAG, Preparation for DS (now through ~2022)

Discussion 2: What preparations are needed by MEPAG for the next Decadal Survey, and when do we need to do them?

Examples:

- For the next DS – is there a New Frontiers option for Mars?
- How do we explore Special Regions (candidates)?

Additional ideas?

Open floor for MEPAG plans and business

Discussion 3:

What else should MEPAG be considering and planning?

Comments on MEPAG operations?

Additional comments/ideas?