

# Mars Exploration Science Monthly Newsletter

A publication of the Mars Program Office and the Mars Exploration Program Analysis Group (MEPAG)

July 2022

## Mars Science News

**Mars 2020/MSR Sample Depot Science Community Workshop First Announcement:** A depot of samples acquired by the Perseverance rover in Jezero crater needs to be established in the near future for risk management and other strategic reasons. The goal of this workshop is to inform and solicit input from the science community on the potential for the samples in this proposed depot to sufficiently satisfy Mars Sample Return science objectives and thus constitute a scientifically return-worthy (SRW) sample set.

The timing, location, and constituent cache of the first sample depot to be placed on the martian surface are currently under consideration. A location referred to as Three Forks (along the western Jezero delta front) has been identified as a high-potential site for the placement of the first sample depot from both a Mars 2020 (M2020) and Mars Sample Return (MSR) program perspective due to the favorable terrain, proximity to the planned M2020 traverse, and number and diversity of samples that will have been collected at the time of the first depot formation.

The MSR Campaign Science Group (MCSG) is the primary organizer of this meeting. This workshop will be held virtually from **8 am-12 pm PDT / 11 am-3 pm EDT / 16:00-20:00 CEST on Wednesday, September 28<sup>th</sup> and Friday, September 30<sup>th</sup>**, with the intervening Thursday being an “off” day to allow the participants to consider and develop their thoughts and feedback. For more info, please refer to the [full announcement here](#).

Further information on the agenda, preparatory materials, and virtual connection information will be provided in the next announcement. The science community is an important stakeholder in the decisions about the formation of the first depot, and we encourage broad participation in this discussion.

**MEPAG 39 Findings Available:** In addition to presentations and recordings, findings from MEPAG 39 are now available at the LPI MEPAG website <https://www.lpi.usra.edu/mepag/meetings/archive/>.

**Recordings of the PlanetIn situ22 Workshop Available for the Community:** The Optimizing Planetary In Situ Surface-Atmosphere Interaction Investigations workshop occurred June 28–July 1, 2022, in Boise, Idaho. This hybrid workshop was conducted in person with opportunities for virtual participation, and all meeting presentations and full-group discussions are now available for community viewing. Our aim is to understand the current/near-term capabilities that can enable great in situ investigation of active processes on other planets. Discussion topics spanned important considerations in ensuring collection of high science value measurements, including payload suite definition, spacecraft accommodation, observation site selection, and instrument operation (i.e., concept of operations). Links to the videos and e-posters are provided on the workshop home page: <https://www.hou.usra.edu/meetings/planetinsitu2022/>. A block program showing which portions of the workshop were streamed and recorded can be viewed [here](#).

## Near-term Due Dates (next three months)

Due	Conference
July 26	<b>54<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Division for Planetary Sciences – Abstract Deadline</b> <a href="https://aas.org/meetings/dps54/abstracts">https://aas.org/meetings/dps54/abstracts</a>
August 3	<b>AGU Fall Meeting 2022 – Abstract Deadline</b> <a href="https://fallmeeting.agu.org">https://fallmeeting.agu.org</a>

## Upcoming Conferences

- Note that for civil servants and those under contract with NASA, foreign and NASA-sponsored conferences generally need to be forecasted via NCTS. Forecasting to NCTS is usually due 60 days in advance for domestic meetings. If you are unsure whether an event is a conference or not, or when the deadline may be, please consult with your NASA Center conference forecasting/travel unit.
- The situation for COVID-19 continues to evolve, so here are conferences with both in-person and virtual formats. It is advisable to check with the websites of the conference and confirm with the organization of any changes.

## 2022

	July 16-24, 2022 Athens, Greece	<b>COSPAR 2022 44<sup>th</sup> Scientific Assembly</b> <a href="https://www.cosparathens2022.org/">https://www.cosparathens2022.org/</a>
	July 25-29, 2022 Hybrid/Pasadena, CA, USA	<b>2022 Sagan Summer Workshop: Exoplanet Science in the Gaia Era</b> <a href="https://nexsci.caltech.edu/workshop/2022/">https://nexsci.caltech.edu/workshop/2022/</a>
	August 2-11, 2022 Busan, Korea	<b>International Astronomical Union (IAU)</b> <a href="https://www.iau.org/science/meetings/future/2600/">https://www.iau.org/science/meetings/future/2600/</a>
	August 23-25, 2022 Laurel, MD, USA	<b>Lunar Exploration Analysis Group Hybrid Meeting</b> <a href="https://www.lpi.usra.edu/leag/meetings/upcoming/">https://www.lpi.usra.edu/leag/meetings/upcoming/</a>
<b>NEW</b>	September 12-14, 2022 Berlin, Germany	<b>(Exo)Planet Diversity, Formation and Evolution</b> <a href="https://pfe-spp1992-joint-meeting.spp1992-exoplanetdiversity.de">https://pfe-spp1992-joint-meeting.spp1992-exoplanetdiversity.de</a>
	September 12-16, 2022 Coimbra, Portugal	<b>10<sup>th</sup> IAG International Conference on Geomorphology</b> <a href="https://www.icg2022.eu/home.html">https://www.icg2022.eu/home.html</a>
<b>NEW</b>	September 12-23, 2022 Les Houches, France	<b>Exo-Atmospheres</b> <a href="https://tinyurl.com/2nrap948">https://tinyurl.com/2nrap948</a>
	September 18-23, 2022 Granada, Spain	<b>Europlanet Science Congress (EPSC)</b> <a href="https://www.europlanet-society.org/european-planetary-science-congress/">https://www.europlanet-society.org/european-planetary-science-congress/</a>
<b>NEW</b>	September 22,-24, 2022 Wellesley, MA, USA	<b>Maria Mitchell Women of Science (STEM) Symposium</b> <a href="http://www.mmwss.org">http://www.mmwss.org</a>
<b>NEW</b>	October 2-4, 2022 London, Ontario, Canada	<b>54<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Division for Planetary Sciences</b> <a href="https://aas.org/meetings/dps54/">https://aas.org/meetings/dps54/</a>
<b>NEW</b>	November 2-4, 2022 Houston, TX	<b>Lunar Polar Volatiles Conference</b> <a href="https://www.hou.usra.edu/meetings/lunarpolar2022/">https://www.hou.usra.edu/meetings/lunarpolar2022/</a>
	November 7-13, 2022 Edinburgh, Scotland	<b>Forming and Exploring Habitable Worlds</b> <a href="https://www.habitableworlds.co.uk">https://www.habitableworlds.co.uk</a>
<b>NEW</b>	November 8-10, 2022 Frejus, France	<b>Planetary Formation and Exoplanets with the ELT</b> <a href="https://elt-exoplanets.sciencesconf.org">https://elt-exoplanets.sciencesconf.org</a>
<b>NEW</b>	December 12-16, 2022 Chicago, IL	<b>AGU Fall Meeting 2022</b> <a href="https://fallmeeting.agu.org">https://fallmeeting.agu.org</a>

Seasons on Mars

	MY36	MY37	MY38	MY39
Start of Northern Spring / L <sub>s</sub> 0	02/07/2021	12/26/2022	11/12/2024	09/30/2026
Start of Northern Summer / L <sub>s</sub> 90	08/25/2021	07/13/2023	05/29/2025	04/17/2027
Start of Northern Autumn / L <sub>s</sub> 180	02/24/2022	01/12/2024	11/29/2025	10/17/2027
Start of Northern Winter / L <sub>s</sub> 270	07/21/2022	06/07/2024	04/25/2026	03/12/2028

U.S. Federal holidays to consider when scheduling conferences/workshops/meetings



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Please send Mars Community Announcements and calendar items for inclusion in next month's newsletter to:

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This newsletter (and all previous months') is also posted on the MEPAG website: <http://mepag.jpl.nasa.gov>

If you wish to withdraw from the electronic mailing list that this newsletter is sent out to, please send an email from your email account to [mepag-removesignup@jpl.nasa.gov](mailto:mepag-removesignup@jpl.nasa.gov).

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