NASA Landing Site/Exploration Zone Proposal for Human Missions

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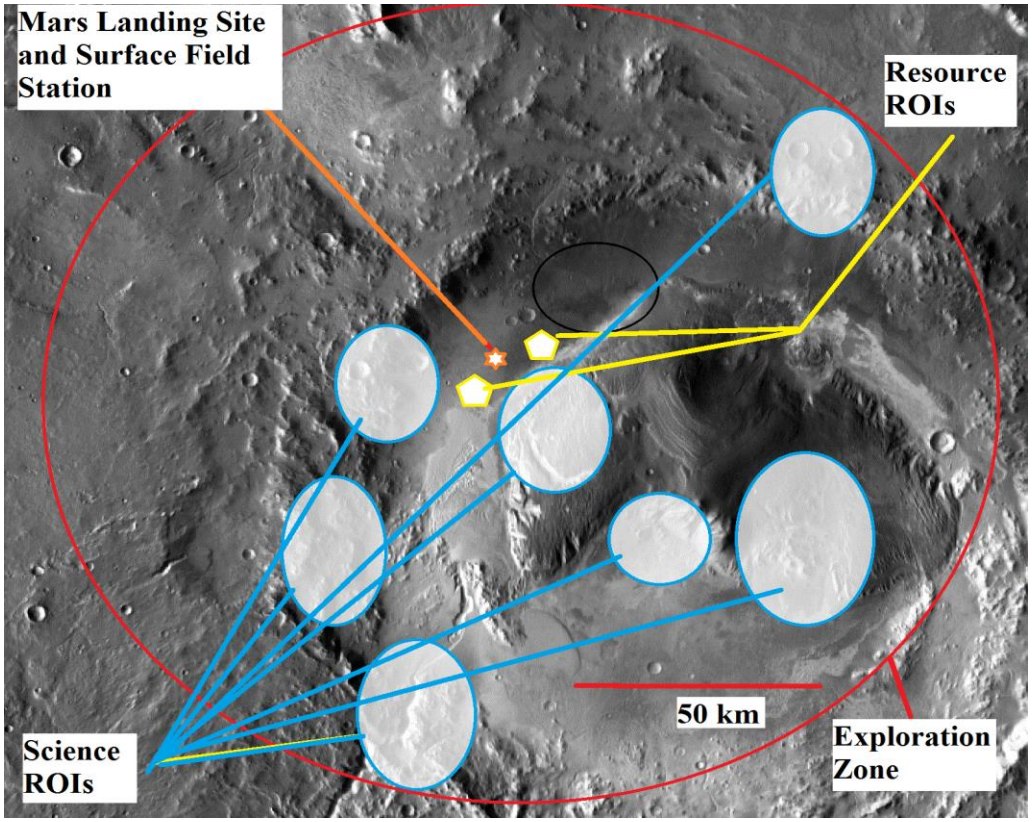
Latitude and Longitude of the proposed EZ: 4.6°S 137°E



Rationale: Aeolis Palus in Gale Crater has been proven to meet Engineering Constraints through the successful landing of Curiosity. Also, Curiosity found that water is accessible (1.5 to 3 weight percent) in its soil sampling. The surrounding of Gale Crater has a great potential for past and present habitability, and its geological diversity meets science site criteria in astrobiology, atmospheric science, and geoscience. Since the site is close to equator, and it used be the bottom of lake, food production might be more plausible than many other sites. In addition, the crater's flatness will help astronauts move around easily among Regions of Interest. Lastly, Curiosity's findings in the region will better prepare human exploration than any other unexplored regions on Mars.