

NASA'S PLANETARY ANALOGS WEBSITE: COMPARING LANDSCAPES THROUGHOUT OUR SOLAR SYSTEM. C. Barry¹, N. Whelley², J. Richardson², and M. Wasser¹, ¹NASA Goddard/ADNET Systems Inc. (caela.e.barry@nasa.gov), ²NASA Goddard/University of Maryland



The Viking landers were the first to return images from the Martian surface, but the views they sent home were familiar. It's no coincidence that NASA's Mars 2020 team practiced hazard avoidance in Death Valley National Park before sending Perseverance and Ingenuity on their way to Mars. Credit: NASA/Andrea Jones (left), NASA (right).

Introduction: NASA's new [Planetary Analogs website](#), launched in February 2021, is a public-facing information hub and a tool for science communication. Scientists who share planetary analog research with broad audiences may find it useful as a resource.

Content Overview: This website provides an overview of planetary analogs, particularly geologic analogs, at approximately an eighth-grade reading level (in line with standard guidance for public-facing NASA content). Verbal and visual storytelling convey Earth's remarkable role in helping scientists to understand our solar system's past, present, and future. Highlighted topics include volcanism, tectonism, erosion, and impact cratering. Specific mission analog and astrobiology analog investigations from the planetary science community, with links to existing NASA websites focused on these topics, are included for additional context. The human face of analog research is a key emphasis of this site. Early-career scientists at work in the field feature prominently in present and planned content.

Analog Explorer gallery: In the Analog Explorer gallery, scheduled to launch in May 2021, users manipulate pairs of images that illustrate scientifically significant similarities between field sites on Earth and landscapes on other worlds. This feature will use the same infrastructure as the [Images of Change gallery](#) on climate.nasa.gov (also recommended as a resource).

Opportunities for Collaboration: The NASA Planetary Analogs website will continue to grow and

improve over time to better meet the needs of a broad public audience. Interested readers, science communicators, and analog scientists all hold valuable perspectives that contribute positively to this process.

All community members. The authors welcome input regarding website content and features. Discussion is invited at this conference and through external correspondence.

NASA-funded expeditions. Analog researchers who are interested in sharing images of their NASA-funded field work for possible inclusion in future site content are encouraged to contact the authors.

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References: [1] Whelley, N. et al. (2021) *LPSC 52*, Abstract #2295, <https://www.hou.usra.edu/meetings/lpsc2021/pdf/2295.pdf>