



An Alluvial Fan in a Low-Latitude Crater

On Mars, alluvial fans are sometimes visible in impact crater basins, as material from the steep rims is transported radially inward to the relatively flat floor. Because this is a water-driven process on Earth, and therefore might work the same way on Mars, scientists study Martian alluvial fans in order to try to better understand the climate history and possible warmer, wetter past of Mars.