The Dark Side of Dust Avalanches

Dust avalanches create slope streaks that expose darker materials usually hidden below a layer of light-toned dust. Cascading fine-grained material easily diverts around boulders or alters direction when encountering a change in slope. This dark streak is approximately 1 kilometer in length that we didn’t see in a previous image. (NASA/JPL/University of Arizona. 283 km above the surface, less than 5 km across.)

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