

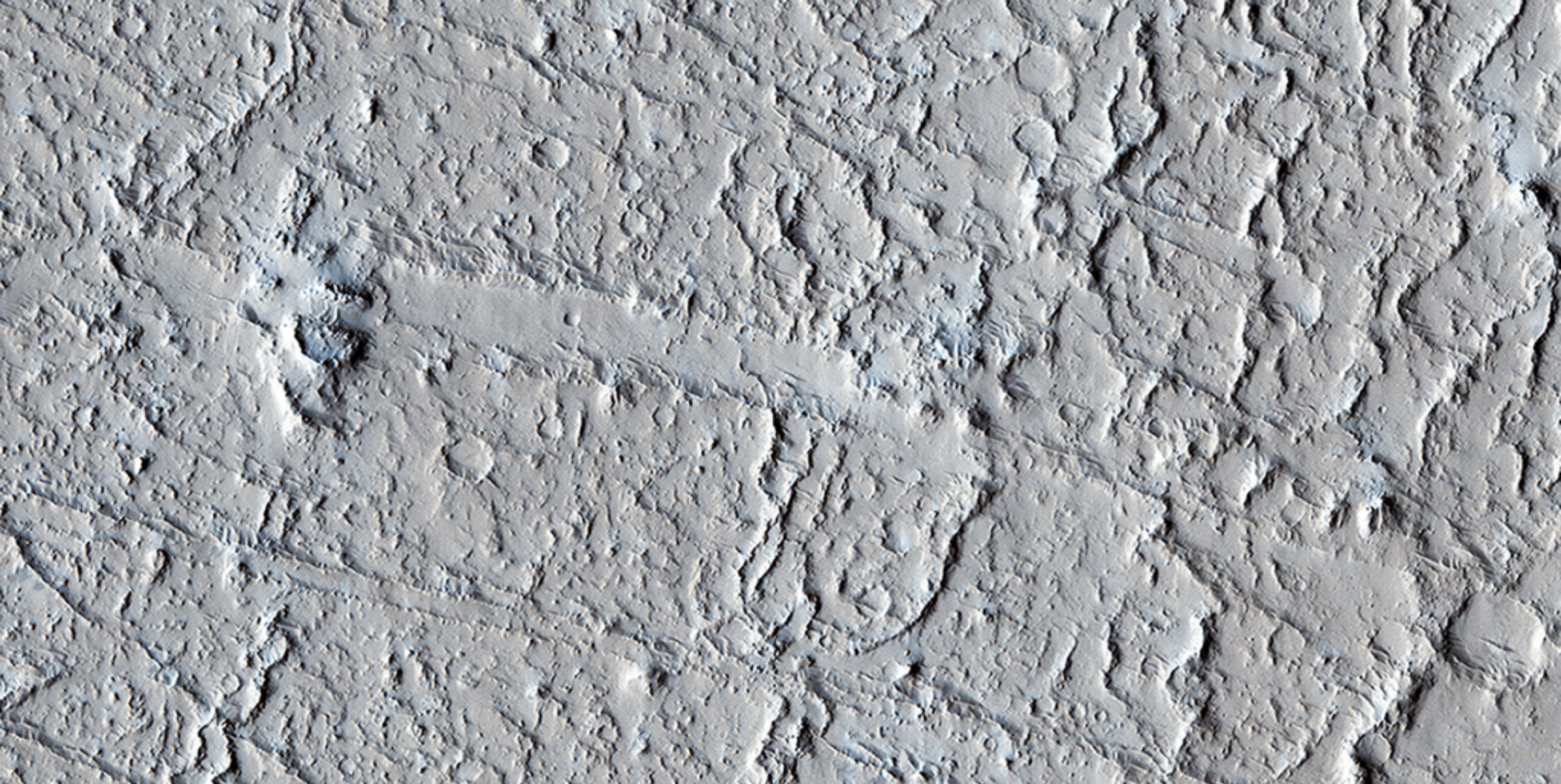
## Trundling Boulders

Inevitably, the boulders fall from their precarious positions and plunge into the canyons below. Most simply slide down slope and collect just below the source layers. A few are launched along downward trajectories, traveling long distances before they settle on the slopes below.

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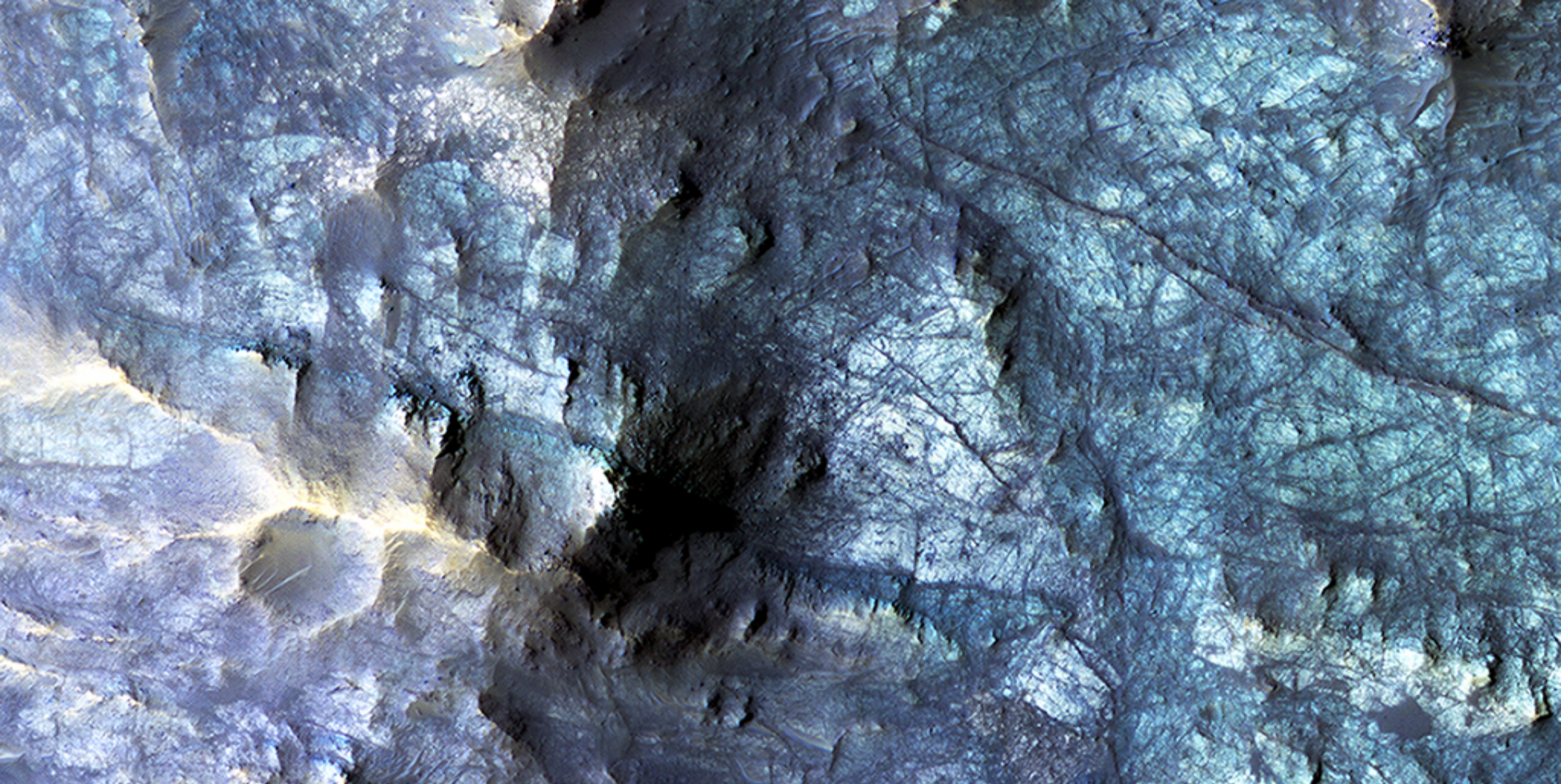




## Rafted Rock

This area of Amazonis Planitia to the west of the large volcano Olympus Mons was once flooded with lava. A huge eruption flowed out across the relatively flat landscape. Sometimes called “flood basalt,” the lava surface quickly cooled and formed a thin crust of solidified rock that was pushed along with the flowing hot liquid rock.





## Exposed Fractured Bedrock in the Central Pit of a Crater

Although much of what we see here is composed of massive and fractured bedrock, there are zones of rock fragmentation, called “brecciation.” These fragmented rocks are best viewed in the eastern portion of the central pit. Additionally, we see some occurrences of impact melt-bearing deposits that surround and coat the bedrock exposed within the central pit.

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## A Glimpse into History

Here in Nili Fossae, we see layered bedrock as horizontal striation in the light toned sediments in the floor of a canyon near Syrtis Major. The ancient layered rocks appear in pale whitish and bluish tones. They are partially covered by much younger ripples made up of dust and other wind blown sediments. The rock of the nearby canyon wall (l) is severely fractured and appears to have shed sand and rocks and boulders onto the floor.

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