

Wavy-Looking Layers in the North Polar Layered Deposits ESP_027058_2625



These layers near the North Pole of Mars probably record global climate changes, similar to ice ages on Earth. They appear wavy here either because flat-lying layers have been eroded into shallow valleys and ridges, or because the layers are not horizontal. Some of these layers are truncated, or appear to pinch out against other layers, evidence of a period of erosion followed by continued deposition of new layers.

The HIRISE camera onboard the Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter is the most powerful one of its kind ever sent to another planet. Its high resolution allows us to see Mars like never before, and helps other missions choose a safe spot to land for future exploration. Thousands of images are available online at: <u>uahirise.org</u>.