

Looking for Changes in Colorful Aureum Chaos

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Although Mars has a thin atmosphere, the wind is nevertheless strong enough to move some sand dunes and ripples (collectively termed "bedforms"). Such changes have been recorded by HiRISE. Our team is continuing to monitor areas with bedforms to see if they have moved. This image, of Aureum Chaos, is one such region. Aureum Chaos is a jumbled assemblage of large terrain blocks that were disrupted by some ancient process. The edges of the blocks commonly display layered rock strata and the lower regions between the blocks can trap sand. Both are visible here.