



# Erosion of Steep Scarp of the South Polar Layered Deposits

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HIGH RESOLUTION IMAGING  
SCIENCE EXPERIMENT  
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This image shows spectacular erosion of a steep scarp in the icy layered deposits on the South Pole of Mars. There are small and large alcoves, one of which (on the right) leads to a bright deposit. This must be a recent avalanche deposit, because the ice should sublimate rapidly after being exposed from beneath the protective cover of dust that develops on the surface. The alcoves may form by a combination of sublimation and collapse. HiRISE is monitoring this site and adjacent areas for changes, to better understand the active processes.