

# San Joaquin Geological Society

Date: Tuesday, February 14th, 2023

Time: 6:00 PM Social Hour 7:00 PM Dinner 8:00 PM Lecture

Place: American Legion Hall

2020 H Street, Bakersfield, CA 93302

**PSAAPG Members** \$30 with reservation \$35 without reservation

**Non PSAAPG Members** \$35 with reservation

**Full-time Students with ID** 

#### \* RSVP \*

By: noon Monday, February 13<sup>th</sup>, 2023

Register online: http://www.SanJoaquinGeological Society.org/

Pay online or at the door

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# Water and Fire: Perseverance Rover's discoveries in **Jezero Crater, Mars**

Presented by: Dr. Sarah M. Milkovich

**Abstract:** For decades, NASA has been exploring Mars with a fleet of spacecraft to understand the role of water in its history and look for areas that in the past could have supported life. This work has paved the way for the Perseverance Rover, which landed on Mars in February 2021 and has been studying the geology of Jezero Crater ever since. It has discovered a fascinating array of rocks that tell a story of ancient volcanic flows and lake waters – and collected the first set of rock samples intended for eventual return to Earth.

**Biography:** Dr. Sarah M. Milkovich is a planetary geologist and systems engineer at NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory, where she currently works on the Mars Perseverance Rover and with the Applied Earth Science Disasters program. Sarah specializes in the science operations of robotic spacecraft, bridging the science and engineering teams. In this capacity, she has spent over 15 years exploring the solar system with a variety of spacecraft. Sarah has won JPL and NASA team awards for her efforts to return the best possible science within spacecraft engineering constraints, as well as for excellence in outreach and public engagement. She holds a B.S. in planetary science from Caltech, and a M.Sc. and Ph.D. from Brown University in planetary geology with studies of ice on Mars, and volcanoes on Mercury. Sarah is a frequent public speaker at astronomy clubs and fan conventions, sharing her enthusiasm for space exploration and the stories of the people behind the robots.

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