



EXPLORE SCIENCE

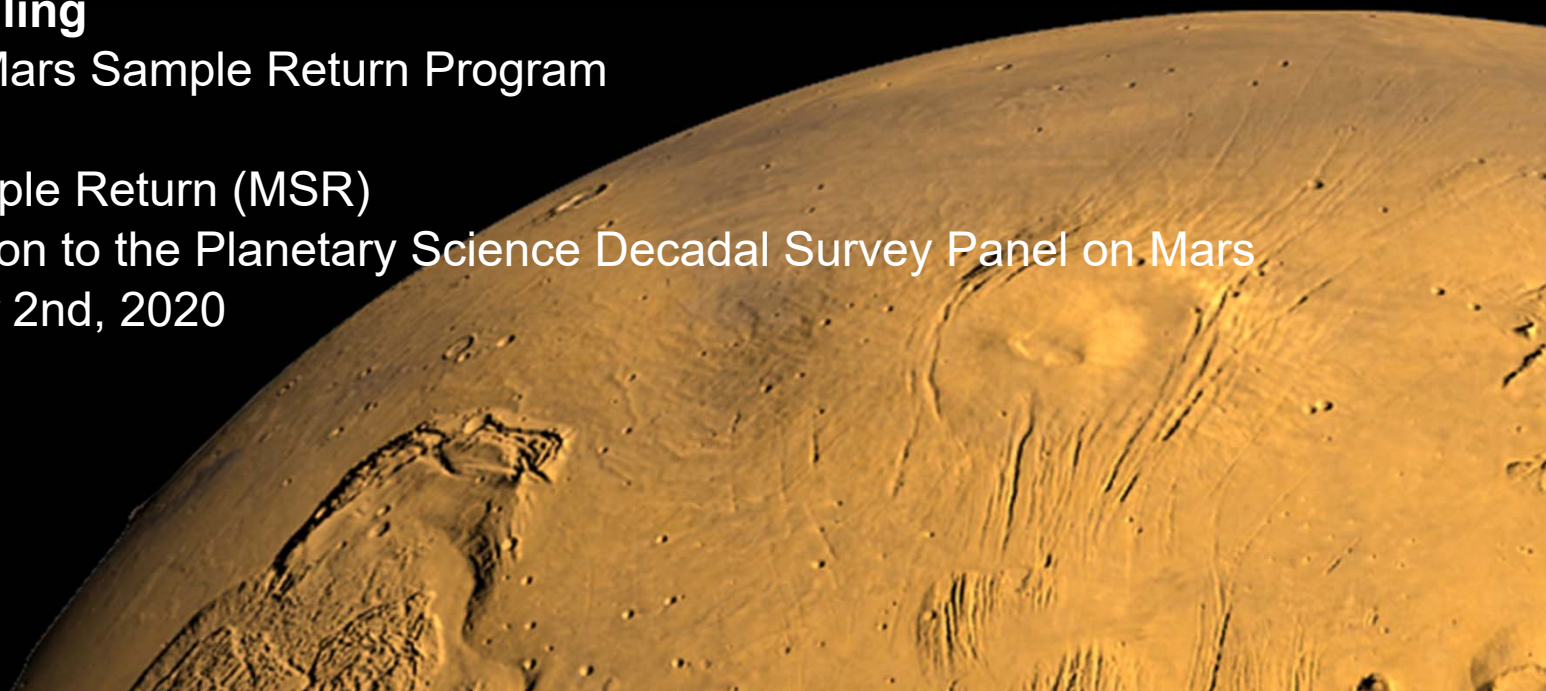
Jeff Gramling

Director, Mars Sample Return Program

Mars Sample Return (MSR)

Presentation to the Planetary Science Decadal Survey Panel on Mars

November 2nd, 2020





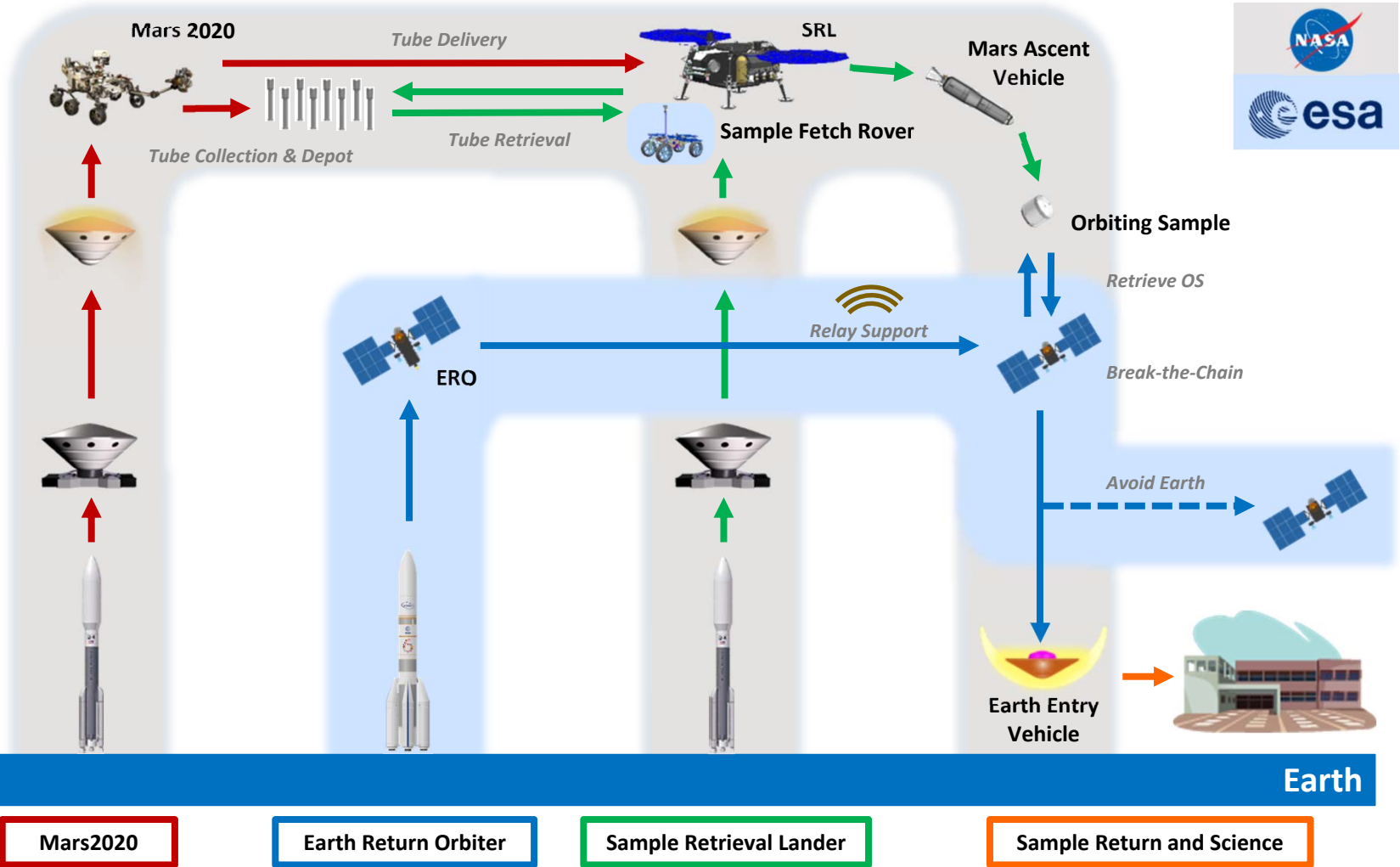
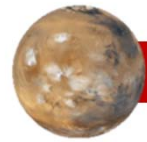
Mars Sample Return

- Mars Sample Return (MSR) is the robotic science campaign the Mars community has been building towards for multiple decades
 - Number one Planetary Science community priority in the last Decadal Survey
- Mars Sample Return requires a set of capabilities that were not demonstrated 20, or even 10, years ago. It is only possible today as a result of the \$10+B investment made through the formulation, technology and operational projects of the past decades
- A MOU establishing an ESA/NASA program partnership was signed on October 5th, 2020
- The Mars Sample Return “Program” is not the full/total effort required for success
 - The Mars Sample Return “Campaign” includes M2020 for sample collection and the MSR Sample Receiving Facility

MSR Architectural Overview



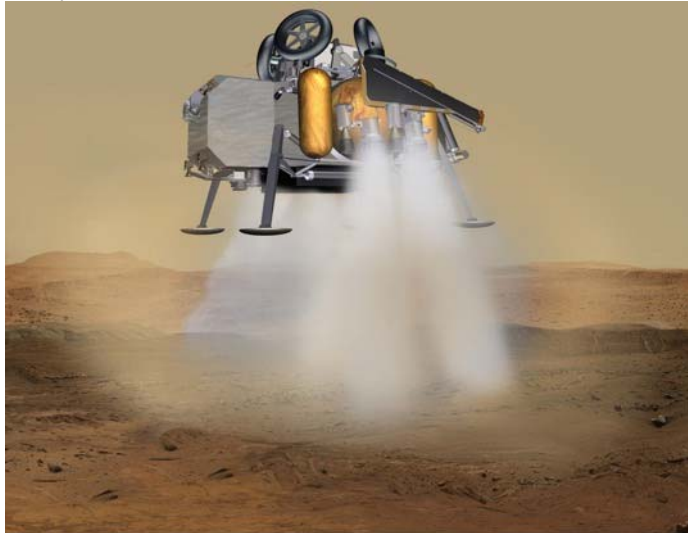
Mars



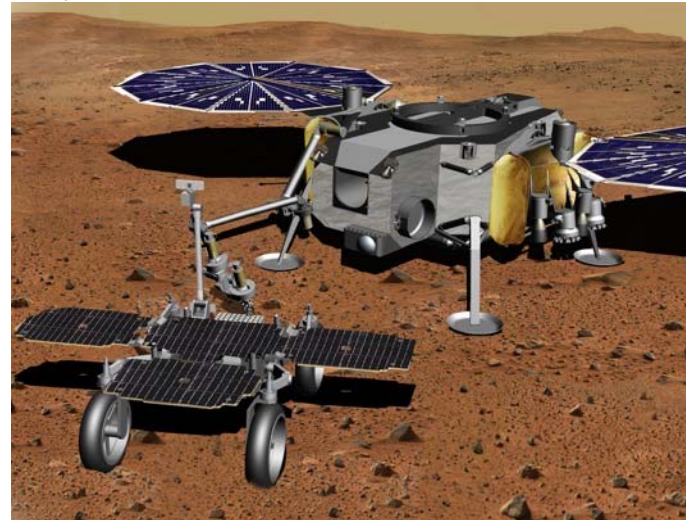
MSR Program Elements



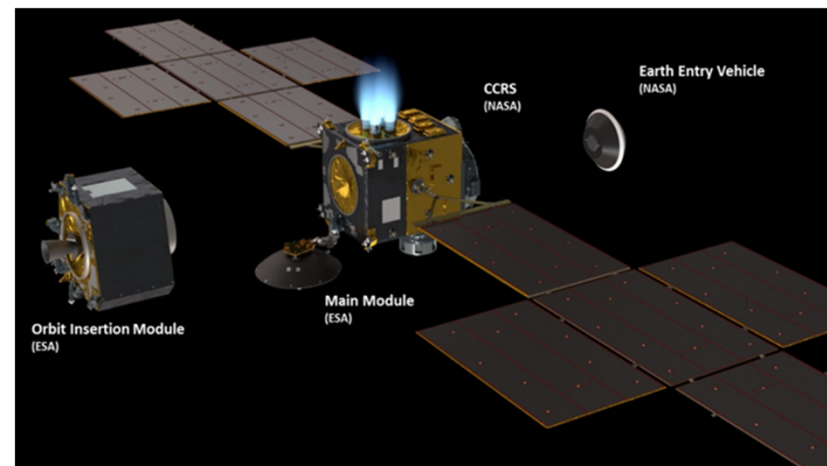
Sample Retrieval Lander (SRL) Touchdown



Sample Transfer



Mars Ascent Vehicle (MAV) Launch



Earth Return Orbiter (ERO)

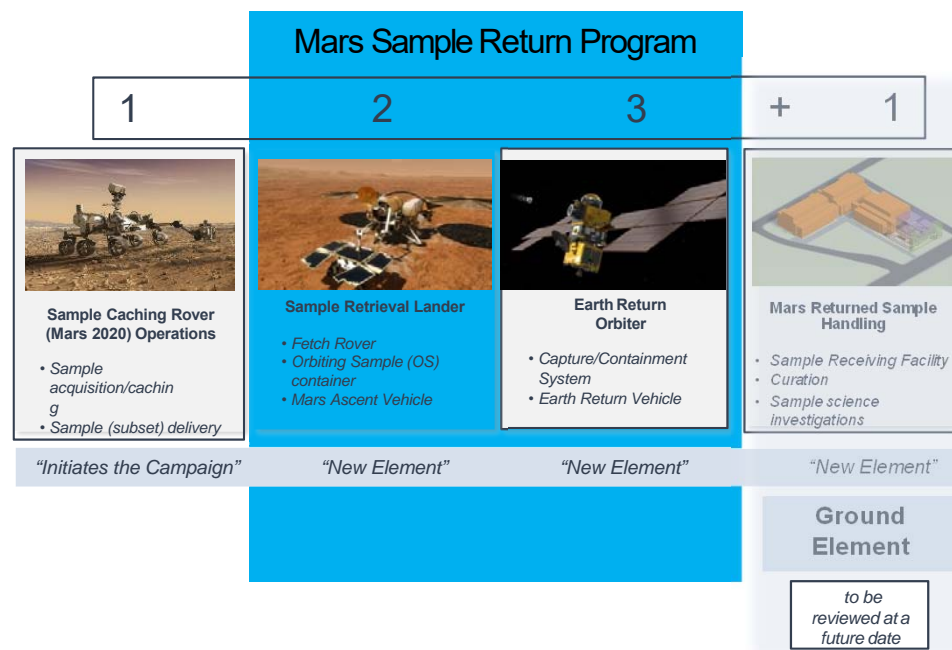


Mission Concept Review (MCR) Reference Baseline

- 2026 Launch Readiness Dates for ERO (ESA) and SRL (NASA), with sample return in 2031
 - Alternate mission opportunities identified
 - Mars surface operations with timeline margin
- SEP (Solar Electric Power) /Bi-Prop ERO that provides performance/timeline flexibility
 - Two-module CCRS (Capture, Containment, and Return System) (NASA) aligned with Capture/Contain and Earth Return functionality with sufficient technical margins
 - High-stability Earth Entry Vehicle (EEV) with robust heatshield to ensure containment through Earth atmospheric flight, landing and recovery
- Single propulsive, solar-powered Lander with sufficient technical margins
 - MAV (NASA)- SSGU (solid guided first-stage, solid unguided second stage)
 - Sample Fetch Rover (SFR) (ESA)- wheels sized for Green Pathway operations
- Early year funding planned to mature engineering developments



Mars Sample Return Campaign

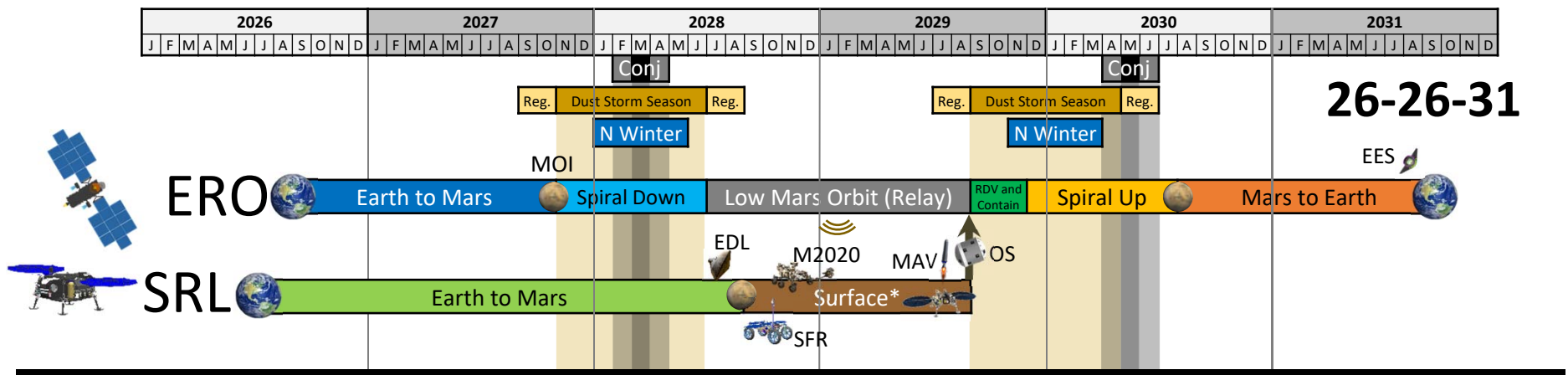


- The MSR Campaign spans three launches and one ground element
- The MSR Program manages development and operations of elements 2 and 3 above and interfaces to elements 1 and 4; program concludes with recovery/containment of OS for transfer to SRF
- The MEP Program manages M2020 Phase E operations & will be the home of the future SRF Project



Campaign Timeline Overview

*Illustrates an example scenario



26 – 26 – 31

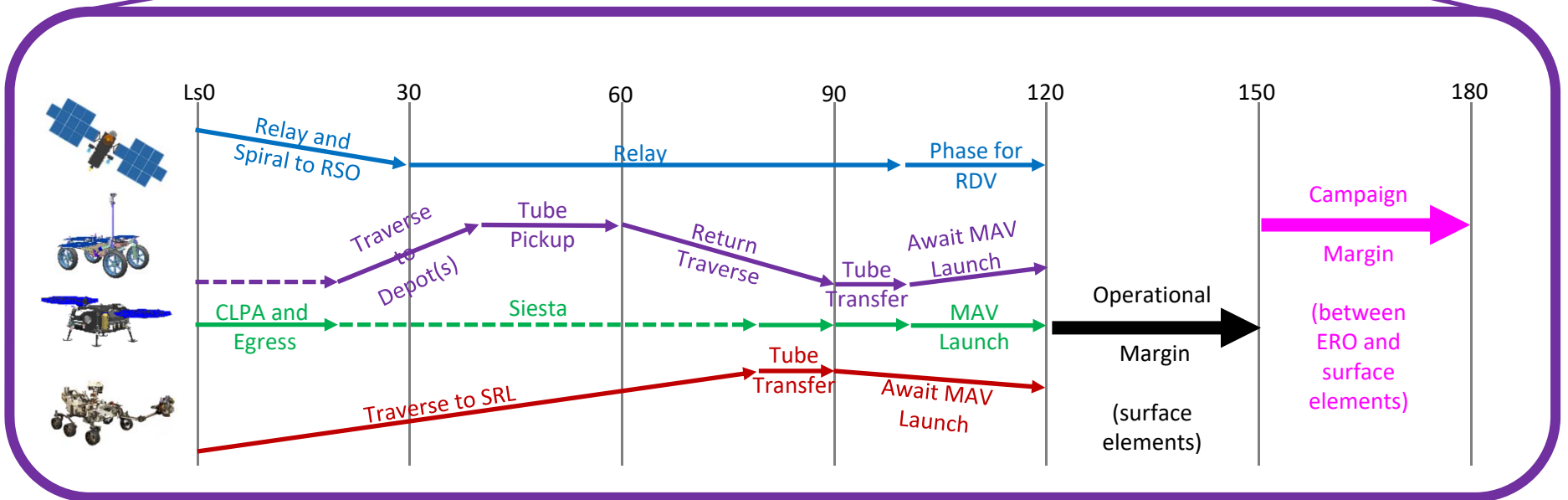
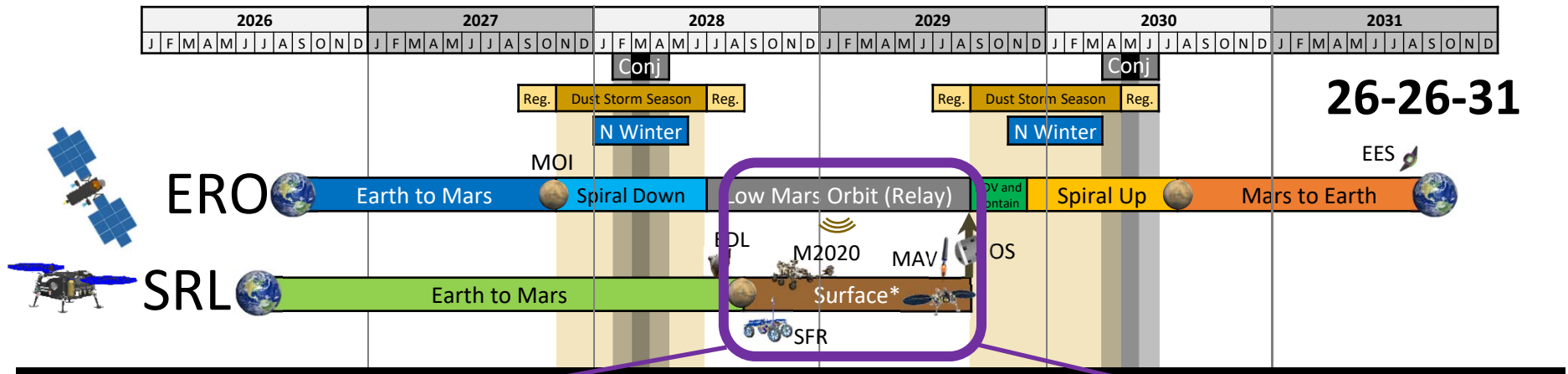
SRL Launches in 2026 → ↑ ← Samples are returned in 2031

ERO launches in 2026

- SRL avoids winter and global dust storm season, enabling all-solar SRL/SFR
- SRL Entry, Descent and Landing (EDL) occurs in a favorable season, maximizing landed mass
- ERO can provide all relay services needed for MSR (SRL, SFR, M2020, MAV)
- SRL and ERO fit on available launch vehicles and trajectories are feasible



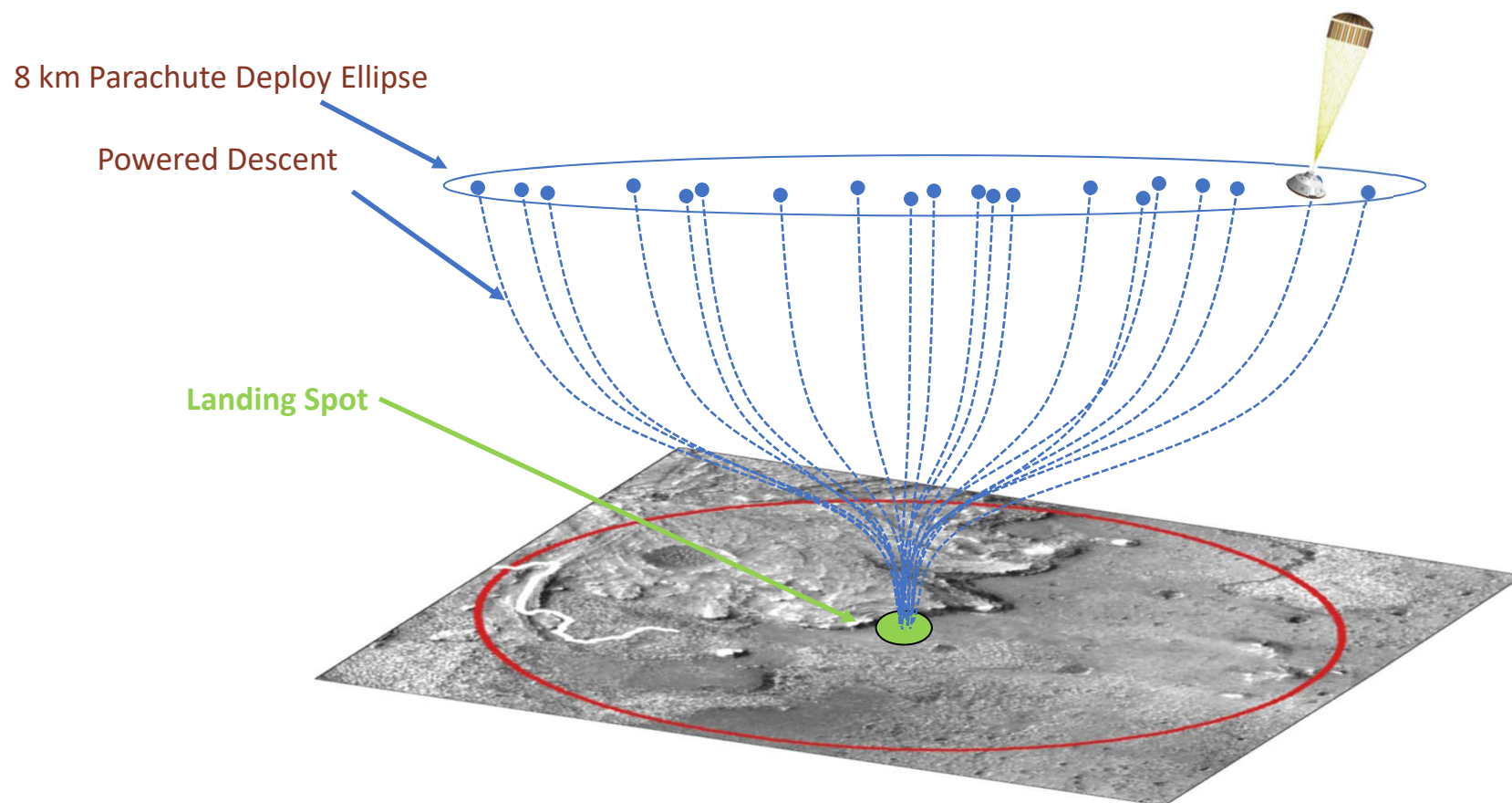
Campaign Timeline Overview





SRL EDL - Extended Divert

- SRL will carry enough propellant to fly out the backshell separation ellipse (8 x 8 km) and land at a specific spot ($\sim \pm 20\text{m}$ accuracy)
- Enables new capability of landing at a specific site scouted by Mars 2020

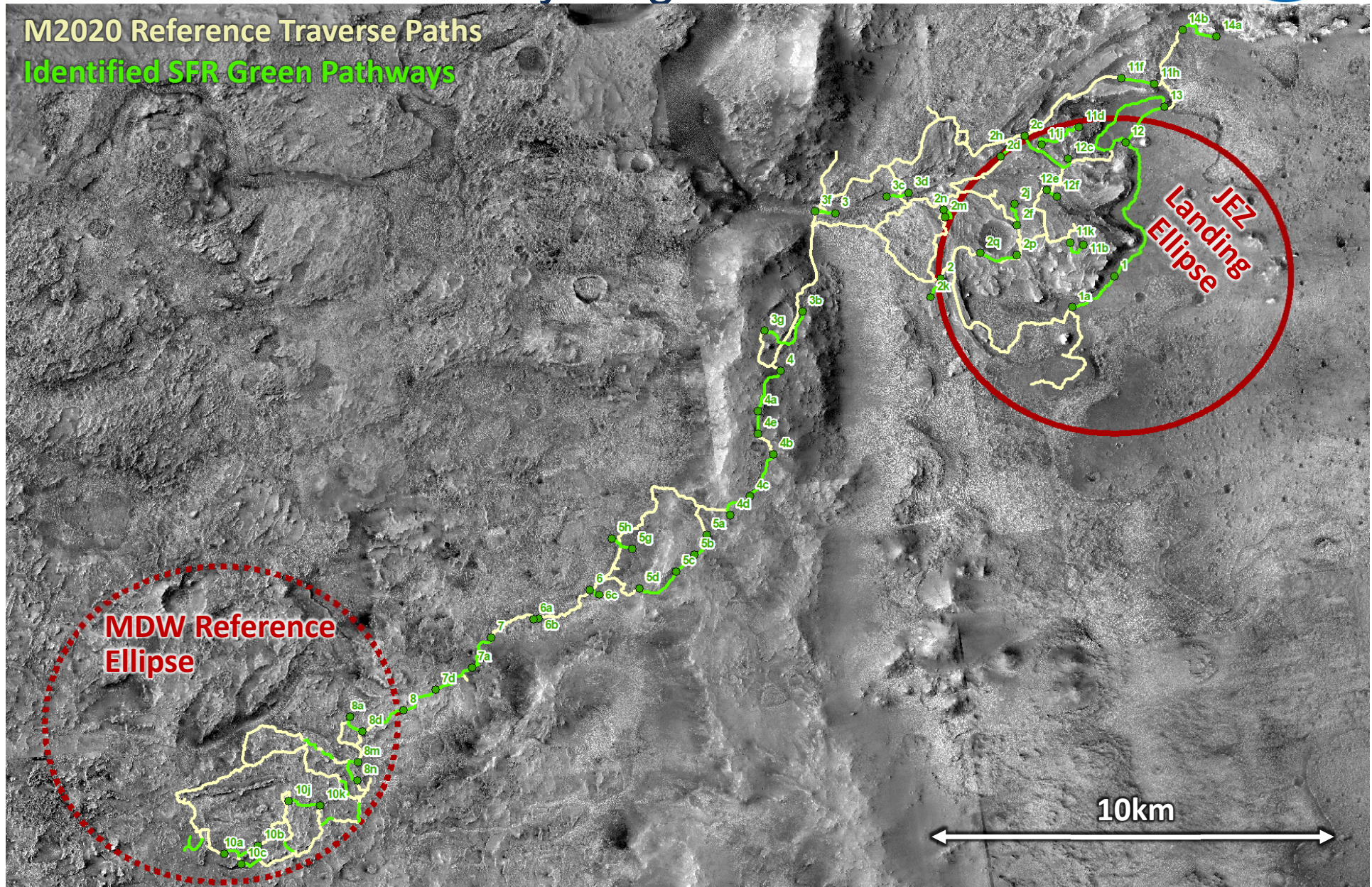


Overview of Green Pathways Across Jezero-Midway Region



M2020 Reference Traverse Paths

Identified SFR Green Pathways



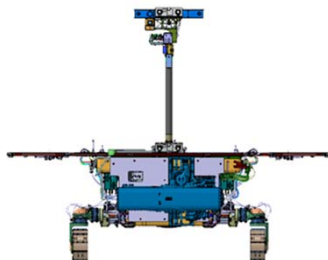


Rover Size Comparison

MER



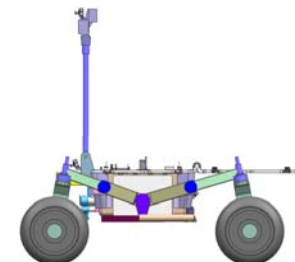
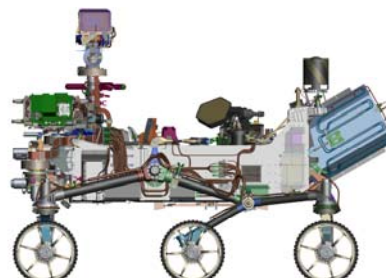
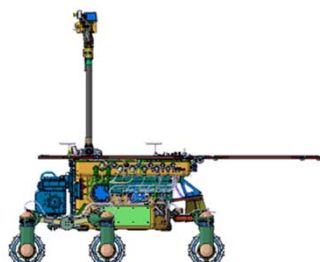
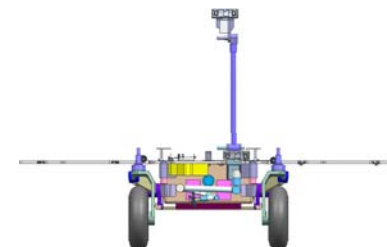
ExoMars



M2020



SFR



Mass = 173 kg

Number of wheels = 6

Wheel Diameter = 230 mm

Wheel Type = Rigid

Susp Type = Rocker-Bogie w/
internal diff

Ground Clearance = 300 mm

Mass = 310 kg

Number of wheels = 6

Wheel Diameter = 285 mm

Wheel Type = Compliant

Wheelbase = 1260 mm

Susp Type = 3x Bogie

Ground Clearance = est 250
mm

Mass = 1030 kg

Number of wheels = 6

Wheel Diameter = 526 mm

Wheel Type = Rigid

Wheelbase = 2260 mm

Susp Type = Rocker-Bogie w/
external diff

Ground Clearance = 584 mm

Mass = < 230 kg

Number of wheels = 4

Wheel Diameter = 550 mm

Wheel Type = Compliant, Mesh

Wheelbase = 1550 mm

Susp Type = 4 wheel w/
external diff

Ground Clearance = 350 mm



Resiliency Decisions and Sample Safe States

- Through architecture design, created numerous sample-safe states and decision events
 - Sample(s) are designed to survive on the Mars surface for a minimum of 10 years
 - Functionally redundant paths for delivering samples to SRL (M2020 and SFR)
 - OS orbit is designed to be stable for a minimum of 10 years
 - OS designed to be capable of returning as many as 30 samples
- In Phase A, team will look carefully at each Phase for additional resiliency
- MSR is using resiliency to guide decision making
 - Testing and V&V programs will be detailed with focus on high risk areas
 - A risk-based sparing program will be developed in Phase A
 - Probabilistic risk assessment will be used as part of the SE&I function to quantify risk as part of the Program decision-making process



MSR Launch Opportunities

MSR Launch Opportunity Comparison		ERO		
		2026	2027-28	2029-30
SRL	2026	Return: 2031 Favorable EDL Atmosphere Solar-Only SRL/SFR Heavy SRL Launch Vehicle Relay: ERO & MRN MAS Launch Observed Reference ERO Traj ERO: 5 years M2020: 7 years Backup Does Not Require Redesign	Primary 26/26/31	Return: 2037 Favorable EDL Atmosphere Solar-Only SRL/SFR Heavy SRL Launch Vehicle Relay: ERO & MRN MAS Launch Observed Reference ERO Traj ERO: 5 years M2020: 7 years Backup Does Not Require Redesign
	2028	Return: 2033 Favorable EDL Atmosphere Solar-Only SRL/SFR Super Heavy SRL Launch Vehicle Relay: ERO & MRN (+2 years) MAS Launch Observed Easier ERO Traj ERO: 7 years M2020: 9 years Backup Requires Redesign	Backup 28/27/33	Return: 2037 Favorable EDL Atmosphere Solar-Only SRL/SFR Super Heavy SRL Launch Vehicle Relay: MRN (+2 years) MAS Launch NOT Observed More Challenging ERO Traj ERO: 9 years M2020: 9 years Backup Requires Redesign
	2030	Return: 2037 Unfavorable EDL Atmosphere Nuclear SRL/SFR Super Heavy SRL Launch Vehicle Relay: ERO & MRN (+5 years) MAS Launch Observed Similar ERO Traj ERO: 11 years M2020: 12 years Backup Does Not Require Redesign		Return: 2037 Favorable EDL Atmosphere Nuclear SRL/SFR Heavy SRL Launch Vehicle Relay: ERO & MRN (+5 years) MAS Launch Observed More Challenging ERO Traj ERO: 9 years M2020: 12 years Backup Does Not Require Redesign

26/26/31 Reference Design

Slightly Worse than 26/26/31

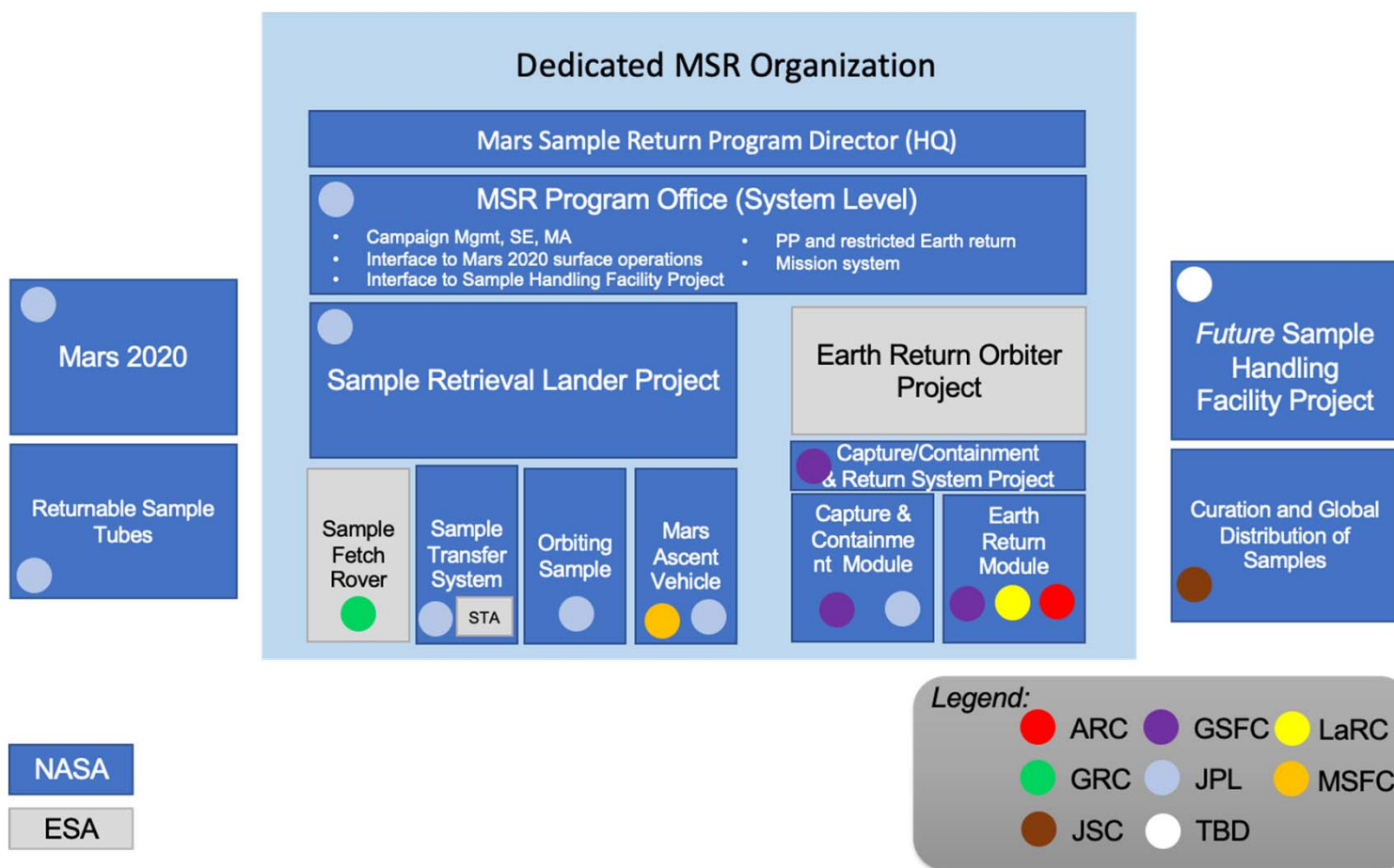
Worse than 26/26/31

Much Worse than 26/26/31

- Each opportunity is evaluated based upon SRL and ERO designed specifically for that opportunity
- MRN = Mars Relay Network
 - MRO, MAVEN, TGO
- Nomenclature: "28/27/33"
 - SRL Launches in 2028
 - ERO Launches in 2027
 - ERO Returns in 2033
- "2027-28" covers the potential for ERO to launch one year earlier and use an Earth flyby prior to utilizing a 2028 Earth - Mars transfer. These options are architecturally similar.



MSR Organization





Integration with M2020 and Sample Receiving Facility

- MSR Program does not include M2020 or the Sample Receiving Facility (SRF), but interfaces and integration with those activities are critical to MSR success
- Program SE&I will balance capabilities and risks across M2020, SRL, ERO, and SRF
- Interface with M2020 (part of Mars Exploration Program (MEP)):
 - Focus on depot strategy and M2020 operations guidelines
 - Joint concept of operations working group with M2020 was conducted throughout 2019
 - October 2020 interface meeting included productive exchange of latest strategies for surface operations. Resulted in general agreement on draft MOU between MEP and MSR Programs with regards to M2020 operations
- Interface with SRF (part of MEP):
 - Initial programmatic and technical drivers on MSR from the receiving facility developed during the MSR Pre-Project phase through engagement with MEP as the proxy for the future SRF project
 - Plan to engage SRF as soon as this effort is stood up to mature associated interfaces, requirements, constraints (to be captured in associated MOU between MEP and MSR Programs)



Lessons Learned/SMD Flagship Model

- During Formulation, MSR team has reviewed and attempted to apply Agency lessons learned from past flagship missions
- Mars Science Lab (MSL)
 - Perform independent cost assessments prior to MCR
 - *Aerospace and CTS performing independent cost assessments*
 - Conduct Non-Advocate review prior to MCR
 - *SMD commissioned MSR Independent Review Board*
- JWST & WFIRST
 - Streamlined lines of authority to SMD AA
 - MSR has dedicated Program Director in SMD reporting to AA/SMD and a dedicated MSR Program Office at JPL
- M2020
 - MSR will follow development of M2020 lessons learned
- SMD “Agency Flagship” Mission Model Implementation
 - Program Director at HQ
 - *Augmented with staff to maintain understanding of program performance and status*
 - MCR conducted by an Agency SRB



Looking Forward

- With launch of M2020, the MSR Campaign is underway
- MSR is drawing upon the best talent from across NASA and ESA
- MOU signed; Pre-Phase A work complete
- This team has developed a feasible baseline and broad set of options in preparation for the MCR
- The time is now to leverage MEP investments and technology advancements



EXPLORE
with us