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(music)

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00:00:04,000 --> 00:00:10,000
Hi, I'm Erisa Hines, one of Curiosity's rover planners and this is your Curiosity Rover Report.

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Imagine you're about to take a road trip and you want to travel from,

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let's say Atlanta, Georgia to Los Angeles, and you have a week to get there.

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Well, you have to decide what roads you want to take and what stops you might make along the way --

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What things are most important for you to visit. Curiosity has a similar situation.

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Here's a zoomed out picture of where we are at Gale Crater.

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Parump Hills is up here at the top of the map and eventually we have to cross over the Bagnold Dunes

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at this area and get across to the clay and hematite ridge that we want to study at the base of Mount Sharp.

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One of my jobs as part of the strategic route planning group is to use the orbital data

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that we have available to help find routes that are safe for Curiosity to traverse,

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and allow the scientists to visit the places they find interesting.

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From there the strategic route planning group developed a series of routes

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that we could review to find what we thought the best routes were through the corridor.

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On the highway map you can see two different colors of routes.

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The white routes are the routes that the strategic group believes are the best for Curiosity's wheels.

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The black routes provide other options that allow the science team to get into more rugged terrain

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that we still think is safe and traversable for the rover.

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The science team decided after exiting Parumph that the next place they really wanted to go was Logan Pass.

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So that allowed us to take the white route that we've now called the Lewis and Clark Trail.

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This red dot on the map represents our first opportunity to get a really good view of the southern region.

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So we stopped to take a really nice MastCam mosaic of that area.

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What makes Logan's Pass really interesting is apparent in this MastCam image.

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You can see two distinct layers that come in contact with one another here at Logan Pass.

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The bottom layer being the Murray Formation and the top layer being

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what we call Washboard that's been identified from the orbital imagery.

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After spending some time studying Logan Pass, Curiosity will get back on the Lewis and Clark Trail