



1

00:00:00,399 --> 00:00:04,330

Discussing the approach to increasing on-site work ...

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00:00:04,330 --> 00:00:07,700

The launch pad is ready for Artemis I ...

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00:00:07,700 --> 00:00:12,499

And new findings from an Earth-observing mission ... a few of the stories to tell you about

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00:00:12,499 --> 00:00:15,919

– This Week at NASA!

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00:00:15,919 --> 00:00:20,820

During a virtual “Ask the Administrator” town hall on May 6, NASA Administrator Jim

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00:00:20,820 --> 00:00:26,439

Bridenstine and other agency leaders spoke about NASA’s approach to the possible increase

7

00:00:26,439 --> 00:00:30,199

of on-site work at NASA centers and facilities.

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00:00:30,199 --> 00:00:34,751

The administrator stressed that the safety of the NASA workforce continues to be the

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00:00:34,751 --> 00:00:40,790

highest priority of what is expected to be a methodical, careful transition back to on-site

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00:00:40,790 --> 00:00:41,790

work.

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00:00:41,790 --> 00:00:42,790

“We need to make sure that as we slowly, but surely get back to work – not just as

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00:00:42,790 --> 00:00:43,790
a nation, but as an agency – that we are putting your safety; the safety of our people

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00:00:43,790 --> 00:00:44,790
at this agency, as the highest priority.”

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00:00:44,790 --> 00:00:46,600
Currently, NASA is still operating under a large-scale mandatory telework policy, with

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00:00:46,600 --> 00:00:51,530
limited on-site work for mission-essential activities – including the upcoming launches

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00:00:51,530 --> 00:00:57,980
of the Mars Perseverance rover, and our Commercial Crew flight test with SpaceX to the International

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00:00:57,980 --> 00:00:59,080
Space Station.

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00:00:59,080 --> 00:01:05,440
After several years of upgrades and modifications, historic Launch Pad 39B at our Kennedy Space

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00:01:05,440 --> 00:01:10,580
Center in Florida, is ready to support our uncrewed Artemis I mission.

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00:01:10,580 --> 00:01:15,800
The upgrades and modifications will enable the Apollo and shuttle era launch pad to accommodate

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00:01:15,800 --> 00:01:20,060
our massive Space Launch System rocket and Orion spacecraft.

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00:01:20,060 --> 00:01:25,990

Orion will fly around the Moon and back on Artemis I as part of NASA's lunar exploration

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00:01:25,990 --> 00:01:27,520

goals.

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00:01:27,520 --> 00:01:33,520

Data from ICESat-2, the most advanced Earth-observing laser instrument NASA has ever flown in space,

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00:01:33,520 --> 00:01:39,200

have been used to determine that the net loss of ice from Antarctica, along with Greenland's

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00:01:39,200 --> 00:01:43,799

shrinking ice sheet, has been responsible for more than a half inch of sea level rise

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00:01:43,799 --> 00:01:47,130

between 2003 and 2019.

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00:01:47,130 --> 00:01:52,150

The study, which also used data from the original ICESat mission, found that the average yearly

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00:01:52,150 --> 00:01:58,000

amount of ice sheet lost in Greenland and Antarctica each, was enough to fill 400,000

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00:01:58,000 --> 00:02:01,980

Olympic-sized swimming pools hundreds of times over.

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00:02:01,980 --> 00:02:06,350

NASA climatologist and author, Claire Parkinson of our Goddard Space Flight Center, has been

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00:02:06,350 --> 00:02:11,629

named as a finalist for a 2020 Samuel J. Heyman

Service to America Medal.

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00:02:11,629 --> 00:02:16,590

She is being recognized for work that includes breakthrough scientific research on how changing

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00:02:16,590 --> 00:02:21,519

sea ice coverage in the Arctic and Antarctic oceans has played a significant role in climate

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00:02:21,519 --> 00:02:22,519

change.

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00:02:22,519 --> 00:02:27,110

The “Sammies,” as the award is commonly referred to, recognizes outstanding federal

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00:02:27,110 --> 00:02:32,459

employees who serve the public good and are addressing many of our country’s greatest

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00:02:32,459 --> 00:02:33,459

challenges.

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00:02:33,459 --> 00:02:37,660

NASA, the European Space Agency (ESA) and the Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA)

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00:02:37,660 --> 00:02:44,629

invite you to participate in the global Space Apps COVID-19 Challenge, May 30th and 31st.

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00:02:44,629 --> 00:02:50,489

Virtual teams will use open data during this hackathon to propose solutions to COVID-19-related

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00:02:50,489 --> 00:02:55,610

challenges – from studying the coronavirus and its spread to the impact it is having

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00:02:55,610 --> 00:02:57,299

on the Earth system.

44

00:02:57,299 --> 00:02:59,980

For more details check out spaceappschallenge.org.

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00:02:59,980 --> 00:03:03,340

That's what's up this week @NASA ...