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Landing site recommendation for SELENE-2

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SELENE-2 is the next Japanese lunar exploration project that is planned to be launched by the end of fiscal year 2015. In order to select landing site candidates which make the scientific return from the project plentiful, the SELENE-2 pre-project team call for members of "SELENE-2 Landing Site Research Board" and the board was organized in March, 2010 as one of the sub-teams of the JAXA SELENE-2 pre-project team. The board called for scientific proposals with landing site candidates from domestic researchers who are interested in lunar science and the members of the Japanese Society for Planetary Sciences, Japan Association of Mineralogical Sciences, the Geochemical Society of Japan, Seismological Society of Japan, and the Geodetic Society of Japan, etc. Finally, we have 35 scientific proposals with over 70 landing site candidates submitted from 21 groups. We discussed what the scientific targets of SELENE-2 should be and evaluated the proposals based on the targets. In our presentation, we will propose several model missions with a landing site which can be the scientific exploration of the highest priority today and the grounds of the selection.

Keywords: moon, Moon exploration, lander, landing site, SELENE-2, rover