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Emgold Discovers New High Grade Gold Zone at the Idaho-Maryland Project

Emgold Mining Corporation (EMR-TSX Venture) is pleased to announce that it has discovered a new high grade gold zone at its Idaho-Maryland Gold Project located in Grass Valley, California. The initial assay results define a 10.1 ft interval with a grade of 0.67 ounces of gold per ton (opt), including a 3.0 ft intercept of 2.20 opt in drill hole IDH-001 at 528 to 531 ft. This intercept is located approximately 350 ft north-west of a continuous 1 million ounce stope mined from 1862 to 1893, which had an average grade of 1.0 opt.

Emgold, through its wholly owned subsidiary Idaho-Maryland Mining Corporation, has extensive geological data on the eastern part of its 2,750 acre property. However, there is minimal data available on the older western part where the Phase I surface drill program was completed. The Company has designed a 15,000 to 20,000 foot surface drill program to better define the Company's knowledge of geological structures and search for new gold zones near surface within the Idaho-Maryland property. Emgold has obtained important information concerning key geologic structures from the information collected from Phase I of the drill program. The drill results have validated the Company's hypotheses regarding the complex geology of the Idaho-Maryland Mine area.

Phase I of the surface drill program consists of 5 drill holes from two sites located on the western portion of the property for a total of 3,286.5 feet of diamond drilling as summarized in Table 1 – "Phase I – 2003 – Idaho-Maryland Surface Drill Program." Partial assay results for holes IDH001, 003, and 004 are presented in Table 2 – "Idaho-Maryland Gold Project – Partial Phase I Drill Program Results." Additional check assays are pending for the first 3 holes sampled. Core logging, sampling, and check assaying will continue for holes IDH002 and 005. Additional results will be announced when they become available.

TABLE 1 - PHASE I - 2003 - IDAHO-MARYLAND SURFACE DRILL PROGRAM

Drill Hole No.	Site	Azimuth	Dip	Length (ft)
IDH-001	A	50°	-60°	592.5
IDH-002	A	90°	-40°	319.0
IDH-003	A	90°	-25°	678.0
IDH-004	A	70°	-25°	940.0
IDH-005	B	0°	-76°	757.0
Total				3,286.5

TABLE 2 - IDAHO-MARYLAND GOLD PROJECT - PARTIAL PHASE I DRILL PROGRAM RESULTS

Drill Hole Number	Interval From (ft)	Interval To (ft)	Length (ft)	Gold (opt)	Comments
IDH001	485.7	487.0	1.3	0.13	Idaho 233 Vein
	498.4	500.0	1.6	0.03	
	528.2	538.3	10.1	0.67	Idaho 120 Vein
including	528.2	531.2	3.0	2.20	Idaho 120 Vein
IDH003	267.9	268.7	0.8	0.01	Idaho 237 Vein
	482.5	483.4	0.9	0.19	Idaho 242 Vein
	549.0	555.0	6.0	0.02	
	559.5	564.5	5.0	0.01	
	570.3	572.2	1.9	0.02	Idaho 246 Vein
	575.0	577.0	2.0	0.01	
IDH004	263.4	265.7	2.3	0.04	
	285.0	285.5	0.5	0.01	
	290.5	292.5	2.0	0.06	Idaho 243 Vein

The first core hole in the Company's Phase I surface drill program intersected a strong interval of high-grade gold mineralization. The Phase I drill program targeted the undeveloped western extension of the Idaho Deformation Corridor. Based on the Idaho-Maryland's historical information and geological model, the drill intercept cut the Idaho 120 Vein at approximately 550 ft vertical depth. Holes IDH003 and IDH004 appear to have cut the same Idaho 120 Vein structure which showed strong intervals of fault gouge and no vein quartz. The results have validated the Company's geologic model for exploring the large, complex vein system of the Idaho-Maryland gold deposit.

The high-grade drill intercept obtained from the Idaho 120 Vein in hole IDH001 shows a strongly mineralized compound vein shear of exceptional strength. The Idaho 120 Vein intercept is a 10.1 ft interval showing 3 ft of highly mineralized, white, massive to banded vein quartz with sub-parallel stringers on the foot wall side of the structure. This vein quartz contains visible free gold in close association with accessory galena, chalcopyrite, and pyrite. The footwall side of the Id 120 Vein is marked by a 1.3 ft width of pale grayish-green fault gouge containing 20 percent fragments of white, massive to banded vein quartz disrupted by post-mineral deformation. The 6 ft width of intervening mineralized schist is strongly carbonate + albite + pyrite altered, exhibits strong, internal, rotated foliation fabric, and shows little or no quartz veining.

The Idaho-Maryland exploration program is planned and supervised by Mr. Mark Payne, California Registered Geologist Number 7067, Chief Geologist for the Idaho-Maryland Project and "Qualified Person" for the purpose of National Instrument 43-101, "Standards of Disclosure for Mineral Projects." Data compilation for the surface core drilling program was performed by the Company's geological staff with review and verification by Mr. Payne. The Company has implemented a quality assurance/quality control program to ensure sampling and analyses of all drill cores is conducted in accordance with the best possible exploration industry practices, and conforms to National Instrument 43-101.

The drill cores are logged, sampled, and stored in a secure facility near the project site. All cores were of HQ-size to maximize core recovery a sample size. The core is sawn into halves with one-half being shipped to American Assay Laboratories of Sparks, Nevada USA for sample preparation

and analysis. The other half of the core is stored in a secured warehouse for future inspection and assay verification. All check assaying is conducted by ALS Chemex of Sparks, Nevada USA. All gold analyses at the primary and umpire labs utilize the screened metallics fire assay method with a gravimetric finish.

The Company's geological staff conducts a rigorous quality assurance / quality control program. This includes routine insertion of blank samples, three different reference standards, and a thorough duplicate assaying protocol. Each sample shipment includes at least ten percent standards and blanks. The duplicate assaying protocol incorporates a minimum ten percent of all samples. The duplicate coarse rejects are first analyzed at the primary lab then next at the umpire lab. To eliminate bias, three methods are combined to select the samples to be shipped for duplication:

- (1) A straight ten percent of all core samples are randomly selected regardless of their assay values.
- (2) All mineralized samples identified as exhibiting specific characteristics known to occur in the historic oreshoots of the Idaho-Maryland Mine are automatically submitted for duplication regardless of their assay values. Favorable characteristics include visible free gold, trace quantities of galena ± chalcopyrite ± tellurides, multi-phase banded and/or ribboned vein quartz, any vein quartz hosted by intensely-deformed wallrocks, and veins subjected to strong post-mineral deformation.
- (3) All samples with gold assays greater than or equal to 0.10 oz/ton are submitted automatically.

Duplicate samples are initially analyzed at the primary lab then next at the umpire lab.

The Idaho-Maryland Gold Project lies in the center of the Grass Valley Mining District, which ranks as the fifth largest gold producing district in the United States. The production in the district exceeds that for the entire 120 mile length of the famous Mother Lode Gold Belt. Recorded production for the Grass Valley Mining District is 13 million ounces of gold from 25 million tons with a recovered grade of 0.52 opt. The Idaho-Maryland Mine, discovered in 1851, produced from 1862 through 1956 and is the second largest underground historical producer in California. Total recorded production at the Idaho-Maryland Mine was 2,383,000 ounces of gold from 5,546,000 short tons for a recovered grade of 0.43 ounces of gold per short ton.

Upon completion of Phase I of the surface drill program, the Idaho-Maryland project team will further define the next phase of surface drilling to be completed on the property. Approximately 15,000 to 17,000 feet of additional drilling are planned for the overall surface drill program. Emgold, through its wholly owned subsidiary, Idaho-Maryland Mining Corporation continues to prepare all necessary documentation for a Use Permit to include, but not necessarily limited to dewatering the existing Idaho-Maryland Mine workings, construction of a decline and conduct underground exploration to test exploration targets that are not accessible by surface exploration.

The Company will be posting additional maps, information and photographs on its website as the information becomes available. For more information about Emgold and the Idaho-Maryland Mine please visit the Company's website www.emgold.com or www.sedar.com.

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No regulatory authority has approved or disapproved the information contained in this news release.