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Emgold Increases Idaho-Maryland Gold Resources

Emgold Mining Corporation (EMR:TSX Venture Exchange) ("the Company") is pleased to announce increased gold resources for the Idaho-Maryland Mine located in Grass Valley, California. Using the historic Idaho-Maryland Mine Call Factor (MCF) of 1.44 the revised total Measured and Indicated Mineral Resources consist of 1.666 million tons grading 0.28 ounces per ton (opt) containing 472,000 ounces of gold and Inferred Mineral Resources of 2.477 million tons grading 0.38 opt containing an additional 934,000 oz of gold. The new resource additions satisfy requirements for measured, indicated and inferred resources under National Instrument 43-101, "Standards of Disclosure for Mineral Projects."

The new resources for the Idaho-Maryland without the MCF consist of Measured Resources of 3,700 tons grading 0.40 opt gold, Indicated Resources comprised of 89,000 tons grading 0.40 opt gold, while the new Inferred Resources total 64,000 tons grading 0.40 opt gold. This represents a 19 percent increase for Indicated Resources and a 3 percent increase for Inferred Resources. The calculations were based upon extensive historic development sampling records for 2,300 feet of drift and 1,100 feet of raises located between the 1500 and 2800 levels in the Idaho workings. Twenty resource blocks demonstrating above-average gold grades were calculated within 12 separate vein structures with demonstrated continuity. Two of the blocks are inferred resources developed around single drill holes, with the majority being indicated and inferred resources within developed areas. Resources were manually calculated from polygons. Gold grades remain uncut until a proper assay grade has been calculated.

The results of the new Resources for the Idaho-Maryland Mine are summarized in "Table A - Idaho-Maryland New Resources Update Summary, April 7, 2003." The revised project Resource Summary is presented in "Table B -- Idaho-Maryland -- Mineral Resource Summary, April 7, 2003." The largest blocks of indicated and inferred resources were developed at the 2000 foot level in the Idaho 23 Vein and at the 2400 foot level in the Idaho 1 Vein, both in the Idaho Group. The Idaho 52 Vein from the 2700 to 2800 levels and 80 Vein from the 1700 to 2070 levels also host significant quantities of new indicated and inferred resources. All resource calculations and historical development records were reviewed, compiled, and verified by Mr. Mark Payne, California Registered Geologist 7067, Chief Geologist for the Idaho-Maryland Project and "Qualified Person" for the purpose of NI 43-101, "Standards of Disclosure for Mineral Projects."

Emgold continues to proceed with all activities to complete a 15,000 to 20,000 foot surface drill program from 6 surface locations. An application for four surface drill sites (A-D) was submitted to the City of Grass Valley on March 26, 2003. It is anticipated that the City will complete its review of the application shortly, give a 30-day public notice, and have the Company's application submitted to a public Planning Commission Meeting in May 2003.

Emgold continues to prepare all necessary documentation for a Use Permit for dewatering the existing Idaho-Maryland Mine workings, construction of a decline, underground diamond drilling, mine development, construction and operation of surface facilities including a milling

facility, tailings impoundment and ultimately closure and reclamation programs. The permitting and environmental process in California is very well defined. For mining operations the permitting process takes approximately 15 to 24 months to complete. Since the early 1960s, 37 gold mines have successfully gone through this permitting and environmental process in California and all received permits for operation.

As announced on February 12, 2003, the Company completed a Scoping Study (Preliminary Assessment Report) to assist with the permitting process and to define the capital and operating criteria for building and operating the Idaho-Maryland Mine initially as a 116,000-ounce per year producer. The Scoping Study was prepared by AMEC E&C Services Limited (AMEC) who also completed an independent qualified person's review and evaluation of the Idaho-Maryland project in the form of a Technical Report as defined in National Instrument 43-101 ("Idaho-Maryland Mine Technical Report", November 2002). The Scoping Study defines the methodology to construct the Idaho-Maryland Mine processing initially 210,000 tons per year at a capital cost of US\$45 million; operating costs of US\$54.40 per ton (US\$ 167 per oz Au) with a Net Present Value of \$257 million (0% Discount) and an Internal Rate of Return of 34.4% based on US\$350 per ounce gold.

Emgold is working to become a 265,000 to 400,000 ounce per year gold producer, focused primarily on production from the Idaho-Maryland Mine with a potential mine life greater than 20 years. 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.

This release includes certain statements that may be deemed "forward-looking statements". All statements in this release, other than statements of historical facts, that address future production, reserve potential, exploration drilling, exploitation activities and events or developments that the Company expects are forward-looking statements. Although the Company believes the expectations expressed in such forward looking statements are based on reasonable assumptions, such statements are not guarantees of future performance and actual results or developments may differ materially from those in the forward-looking statements. Factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from those in forward-looking statements include market prices, exploitation and exploration successes, and continued availability of capital and financing, and general economic, market or business conditions. Investors are cautioned that any such statements are not guarantees of future performance and that actual results or developments may differ materially from those projected in the forward-looking statements. For more information on the Company, Investors should review the Company's filings that are available at www.sedar.com or the Company's website at www.emgold.com.