

EMGOLD MINING CORPORATION

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EMGOLD COMMENCES SURFACE DRILL PROGRAM AT IDAHO-MARYLAND

Emgold Mining Corporation (EMR:TSX Venture Exchange) (“the Company”) is pleased to announce that it is starting its surface drilling program on the Idaho-Maryland Mine located in Grass Valley, California. The Company has designed a 15,000 to 20,000 foot surface-drilling program to test the structural geologic model developed from over 100 years of historical information available from the Idaho-Maryland Mine. The initial phase of the program will include 4,000 to 5,000 feet of diamond drilling to commence within a week. Boart Longyear has been awarded the diamond-drilling contract for the program.

The initial phase of surface core drilling will test new high-grade gold-quartz vein targets in the westernmost portion of the Idaho Deformation Corridor. These targets are in addition to the known resources at the Idaho-Maryland Mine. Drilling will explore the entire width of the Idaho Deformation Corridor along a 1,500-foot strike length and will be testing multiple lode targets. High-grade lode targets include (1) the Idaho 120 Vein target, hosted within the “L Fault”, at the north boundary of the deformation corridor, (2) the Idaho “1 Vein” along the south boundary, and (3) a complex set of high-grade link veins within the corridor. Data mining from the large Idaho-Maryland Mine historic database has demonstrated the coincidence of localized, pipe-like, carbonate-sericite alteration blooms lying directly updip from all areas of significant underground gold production. The large alteration bloom in the vicinity of the first drill site is entirely unexplored. The alteration bloom measures a minimum 500 feet in strike length and 150 feet in width. This target is structurally favorable, occupying a wedge-shaped area at the western terminus of the Deformation Corridor, where the L Fault intersects the Idaho 1 Vein. There is a high level of confidence for new high-grade lode gold discoveries in this area. This will be the first systematic attempt to explore the entire width of the Idaho Deformation Corridor at its western end.

Emgold, through its wholly owned subsidiary, Idaho-Maryland Mining Corporation (formerly Emperor Gold (U.S.) Corp.) is also preparing the necessary documentation to submit applications to acquire a Use Permit to construct a decline and surface facilities to continue with the underground exploration and development of the Idaho-Maryland and ultimately put the mine back into production. It is anticipated that permitting will cost approximately US\$500,000 and is expected to take fifteen to twenty-four months to complete. Emgold is confident that it will be able to obtain a Use Permit for the Idaho-Maryland. Since the early 1960’s, 37 gold mines have applied for permits in California

and all have been approved and allowed to go into operation. Since 2002 three gold mines have received Use Permits to operate in California.

Emgold is developing plans 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.