

Hecla Reports First Quarter 2018 Results

10.05.2018 | [Business Wire](#)

[Hecla Mining Company](#) (NYSE:HL) (Hecla or the Company) today announced first quarter financial and operating results.

HIGHLIGHTS

- Net income applicable to common stockholders of \$8.1 million, or \$0.02 per basic share.
- Adjusted net income applicable to common stockholders of \$9.1 million, or \$0.02 per basic share.¹
- Sales of \$139.7 million.
- Cash provided by operating activities of \$16.4 million.
- Adjusted EBITDA of \$58.4 million and net debt/adjusted EBITDA (last 12 months) of 1.2x.^{2,3}
- Cost of sales and other direct production costs and depreciation, depletion and amortization ("cost of sales") of \$100.9 million.
- Silver cash cost, after by-product credits, of \$(3.35) per ounce.⁴
- All in sustaining cost (AISC), after by-product credits, of \$5.66 per silver ounce.⁵
- Received \$30.8 million investment (C\$40 million) from Ressources Quebec, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Investissement Quebec.
- Cash and cash equivalents and short-term investments of \$246.9 million.
- Agreement to acquire [Klondex Mines Ltd.](#) ("Klondex"), expected to close around the end of the second quarter 2018, subject to approval by their shareholders.

"The investments we have made to improve our mines are resulting in more consistent operations, higher throughput, strong metals production and lower costs, increasing the financial strength of Hecla," said Phillips S. Baker, Jr., President and CEO. "These improvements are reflected in the quarterly throughput which is a record at Casa Berardi and a near-record at Greens Creek, and lower cash costs, after by-product credits per gold and silver ounce. We continue to benefit from strong lead and zinc prices, and are seeing continued tightness in the concentrate markets, resulting in significant improvement in payment terms from the smelters, so lower costs could remain for some time.”

"We are very excited about the prospect of adding Klondex's Nevada assets into the Hecla portfolio," Mr. Baker added. "The exploration potential of having more than 110 square miles along the important structural trends of a prolific mining jurisdiction like Nevada is a key benefit of this transaction. We also see significant upside in the potential to discover additional resources and the subsequent conversion into reserves. We believe we can apply our expertise in metallurgy, materials handling and narrow vein underground mining to these assets, strengthening our precious metals production profile and further increasing our cash flow and financial strength."

FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

HIGHLIGHTS

FINANCIAL DATA

| | First Quarter Ended | |
|--|---------------------|----------------|
| | March 31, 2018 | March 31, 2017 |
| Sales (000) | \$ 139,709 | \$ 142,544 |
| Gross profit (000) | \$ 38,786 | \$ 34,916 |
| Income applicable to common stockholders (000) | \$ 8,102 | \$ 26,696 |
| Basic and diluted income per common share | \$ 0.02 | \$ 0.07 |
| Net income (000) | \$ 8,240 | \$ 26,834 |
| Cash provided by operating activities (000) | \$ 16,383 | \$ 38,285 |

Net income for the first quarter of \$8.2 million, a decrease of \$18.6 million from the first quarter of 2017 impacted by the following factors:

- Tax provision of \$0.8 million compared to a tax benefit of \$29.1 million in the first quarter of 2017. The 2017 benefit was primarily related to the impact of receiving IRS approval to accelerate the timing of deductions for the Lucky Friday #4 Shaft development costs.
- Lucky Friday suspension costs of \$4.1 million, along with \$0.9 million in non-cash depreciation, related to the strike that began in mid-March 2017, compared to \$1.2 million in suspension costs and \$0.4 million in non-cash depreciation recorded in the first quarter of 2017.
- Exploration and pre-development spending increase of \$2.6 million compared to the first quarter of 2017. In 2018, exploration work continues at Greens Creek, San Sebastian, and Casa Berardi, and on the land package near Lucky Friday. Pre-development work is related to advancement of Montanore and Rock Creek projects.
- \$2.5 million in costs related to the proposed acquisition of Klondex.
- Interest expense, net of amount capitalized, of \$9.8 million in the first quarter of 2018, increased over the \$8.5 million recognized in first quarter of 2017, due to lower capitalized interest as a result of completion of #4 Shaft and the addition of the Ressources Québec financing received in March 2018.

Operating cash flow of \$16.4 million decreased 57% over the first quarter of 2017 principally due to reduced silver and lead production and lower silver prices, higher product inventories due to the timing of sales at Greens Creek, and the timing of payment of incentive compensation related to prior year performance, partially offset by higher gold production and higher gold and base metals prices.

Adjusted EBITDA of \$58.4 million increased 8% over the first quarter of 2017, mainly due to higher gold and base metals prices and higher gold production at Casa Berardi.²

Capital expenditures (excluding capitalized interest) totaled \$20.0 million for the first quarter of 2018 compared to \$23.3 million in the prior year period, with the decrease mainly due to lower expenditures at Casa Berardi of \$3.3 million, Lucky Friday of \$3.0 million and San Sebastian of \$1.3 million, partly offset by increased expenditures at Greens Creek of \$4.2 million. Expenditures at Greens Creek, Casa Berardi, Lucky Friday and Sans Sebastian were \$9.5 million, \$9.1 million, \$1.0 million, and \$0.4 million respectively.

Metals Prices

The average realized silver price in the first quarter of 2018 was \$16.84 per ounce, 6% lower than the \$17.90 price realized in the first quarter of 2017. Realized gold, lead and zinc prices increased 9%, 12%, and 18%, respectively.

Base Metals Forward Sales Contracts

The following table summarizes the quantities of base metals committed under financially settled forward sales contracts at March 31, 2018:

| | Pounds Under Contract Average Price per Pound (in thousands) | | | |
|-------------------------------|---|--------|---------|---------|
| | Zinc | Lead | Zinc | Lead |
| Contracts on forecasted sales | | | | |
| 2018 settlements | 26,841 | 15,598 | \$ 1.23 | \$ 1.07 |
| 2019 settlements | 48,502 | 20,283 | \$ 1.40 | \$ 1.10 |
| 2020 settlements | 42,329 | 19,401 | \$ 1.40 | \$ 1.13 |

The contracts represent 51% of the forecasted payable zinc production for the three-year period 2018-2020 at an average price of \$1.36 per pound and 57% of the forecasted payable lead production for the three-year period 2018-2020 at an average price of \$1.10 per pound.

OPERATIONS OVERVIEW

The following table provides the production summary on a consolidated basis for the quarters ended March 31, 2018 and 2017:

| | First Quarter Ended | |
|---------------------------|---------------------|----------------|
| | March 31, 2018 | March 31, 2017 |
| PRODUCTION SUMMARY | | |
| Silver - Ounces produced | 2,534,095 | 3,369,427 |
| Payable ounces sold | 2,091,464 | 2,869,114 |
| Gold - Ounces produced | 57,808 | 56,113 |
| Payable ounces sold | 54,839 | 51,371 |
| Lead - Tons produced | 5,627 | 8,636 |
| Payable tons sold | 3,868 | 6,426 |
| Zinc - Tons produced | 15,211 | 15,537 |
| Payable tons sold | 10,104 | 11,847 |

The following table provides a summary of the final production, cost of sales, cash cost, after by-product credits, per silver or gold ounce, and AISC, after by-product credits, per silver or gold ounce, for the quarters ended March 31, 2018 and 2017.

| | Silver |
|--|---|
| Production (ounces) | Quarter Ended 2,534,095 March 31, 2018 |
| | Quarter Ended 3,369,427 March 31, 2017 |
| Increase/(decrease) | (835,332) |
| Cost of sales and other direct production costs and depreciation, depletion and amortization (000) | Quarter Ended \$ 51.9 March 31, 2018 |
| | Quarter Ended \$ 65.0 March 31, 2017 |
| Increase/(decrease) | \$ (13.1) |
| Cash costs, after by-product credits, per silver or gold ounce ^{4, 6} | Quarter Ended \$ (3.86) March 31, 2018 |
| | Quarter Ended \$ 0.65 March 31, 2017 |
| Increase/(decrease) | \$ (4.51) |
| AISC, after by-product credits per silver or gold ounce ⁵ | Quarter Ended \$ 5.09 March 31, 2018 |
| | Quarter Ended \$ 7.00 March 31, 2017 |
| Increase/(decrease) | \$ (1.91) |

Greens Creek Mine - Alaska

At the Greens Creek mine, 1.9 million ounces of silver and 13,118 ounces of gold were produced in the first quarter, compared to 1.9 million ounces and 14,022 ounces, respectively, in the first quarter of 2017. The impact of lower grades than the first quarter of 2017 was largely offset by increased ore throughput. The mill operated at an average of 2,349 tons per day (tpd) in the first quarter compared to 2,190 the first quarter of 2017.

The cost of sales for the first quarter was \$41.9 million, and the cash cost, after by-product credits, per silver ounce, was \$(4.99), compared to \$44.0 million and \$0.65, respectively, for the first quarter of 2017.⁴ The AISC, after by-product credits, was \$0.59 per silver ounce for the first quarter compared to \$3.86 in the first

quarter of 2017.⁵ The per ounce silver costs were lower primarily due to higher by-product metals prices and production.

Lucky Friday Mine - Idaho

Silver production of 99,780 ounces decreased 85% over the prior year period mainly due to the strike by the union workers that began March 13, 2017. Cost of sales for the first quarter was \$4.1 million compared to \$14.5 million, with the decrease also due to the strike.

Last week Hecla announced that it has reached an agreement with the National Labor Relations Board in settling the unfair labor practice charge brought by the United Steelworkers in March 2017. The two sides have met more than 20 times since March 2017, but have had only two negotiating sessions since Hecla presented a Revised Final Offer (RFO) on December 15, 2017, but those meetings resulted in no progress in reaching a new Agreement. On May 4, 2018, Hecla notified the Union that the parties are at impasse, and that portions of the RFO were being implemented, effective immediately.

Limited production and capital improvements continue to be performed by salaried staff, and preparations continue for the arrival of the remote vein miner (RVM), expected late in 2019, which has the potential to revolutionize how the Lucky Friday is mined.

Casa Berardi Mine - Quebec

At the Casa Berardi mine, 40,177 ounces of gold were produced in the first quarter, including 10,655 ounces from the East Mine Crown Pillar (EMCP) pit, compared to 35,807 ounces in the prior year period, primarily due to higher throughput. The mill operated at an average of 3,873 tpd in the first quarter, an increase of 19% over the first quarter of 2017, and the highest quarterly throughput ever recorded at the mine. The Company continues to study the optimal mill throughput rate.

The cost of sales was \$49.2 million for the first quarter and the cash cost, after by-product credits, per gold ounce was \$827, compared to \$42.5 million and \$886, respectively, in the prior year period.^{4,6} The decrease in cash cost, after by-product credits, per gold ounce is partly due to higher gold production and reduced stripping costs at the EMCP pit. The same factors, along with lower capital spending, resulted in lower AISC, after by-product credits, of \$1,086 per gold ounce for the first quarter compared to \$1,256 in the first quarter of 2017.⁵

The automated 985 drift project is working well, and the delivery of a second 40-ton Sandvik autonomous haul truck is expected later this year. This is expected to result in operating savings of several million dollars a year.

San Sebastian - Mexico

At the San Sebastian mine, 512,192 ounces of silver and 4,513 ounces of gold were produced in the first quarter, compared to 750,803 silver ounces and 6,284 gold ounces in the prior year period. Although silver and gold production were lower as compared to the first quarter of 2017, both still exceeded our estimates for the quarter due to the amount of higher-grade stockpile material processed. The mill operated at an average of 382 tpd in the first quarter, a 6% decrease over the first quarter of 2017.

The cost of sales was \$5.8 million for the first quarter and the cash cost, after by-product credits, was \$2.81 per silver ounce, compared to \$6.6 million and \$(3.27), respectively, in the first quarter of 2017.⁴ The cash cost, after by-product credits, increased, as expected, due to lower silver production and higher mining costs resulting from the transition of production from the high grade, shallow open pits to underground. The AISC, after by-product credits, was \$8.37 per silver ounce for the first quarter compared to \$0.43 in the first quarter of 2017, principally due to the same factors along with higher exploration spending, partially offset by lower capital costs.⁵

The Company continues to plan on collecting a bulk sample of the Hugh Zone material from the Francine

Vein this year and process it through Excellon's mill to determine suitability for a longer term agreement.

EXPLORATION

Exploration (including Corporate Development) expenses were \$7.4 million in the first quarter of 2018, an increase of \$2.8 million compared to the first quarter 2017. Full year exploration (including Corporate Development) expenses for our current projects are expected to be \$30-\$37 million, up from \$23.5 million in 2017, in part reflecting more aggressive exploration programs at San Sebastian, Casa Berardi and Greens Creek and continued exploration at the Kinskuch, Little Baldy and Opinaca-Wildcat projects.

A complete summary of exploration activities can be found in the news release entitled "Hecla Reports Continued Discoveries at Casa Berardi, San Sebastian and Greens Creek" released on May 8, 2018.

PRE-DEVELOPMENT

Pre-development spending was \$1.0 million for the quarter, principally to advance the permitting of Rock Creek and Montanore.

RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

Research and Development spending was \$1.4 million for the quarter, which included the fabrication for major components of the RVM at Epiroc's facilities (former Atlas Copco) in Sweden. The machine is expected to be assembled in the fourth quarter of 2018, and a testing phase in Sweden during the first half of 2019 is planned. The machine is expected to be delivered to Lucky Friday in late 2019.

2018 ESTIMATES⁷

The Company's 2018 estimates remain unchanged at this time. It is anticipated that they will be revised at the time of the second quarter earnings results to include the expected impact from the addition of Klondex's Nevada operations into Hecla or if by-product metal prices remain robust.

DIVIDENDS

Common

The Board of Directors elected to declare a quarterly cash dividend of \$0.0025 per share of common stock, payable on or about June 4, 2018, to stockholders of record on May 24, 2018. The realized silver price was \$16.84 in the first quarter and therefore did not satisfy the criteria for a larger dividend under the Company's dividend policy.

Preferred

The Board of Directors elected to declare a quarterly cash dividend of \$0.875 per share of preferred stock, payable on or about July 2, 2018, to stockholders of record on June 15, 2018.

CONFERENCE CALL AND WEBCAST

A conference call and webcast will be held Thursday, May 10, at 11:00 a.m. Eastern Time to discuss these results. You may join the conference call by dialing toll-free 1-855-760-8158 or for international dialing 1-720-634-2922. The participant passcode is HECLA. Hecla's live and archived webcast can be accessed at www.hecla-mining.com under Investors or via Thomson StreetEvents Network.

ABOUT HECLA

Founded in 1891, [Hecla Mining Company](#) (NYSE:HL) is a leading low-cost U.S. silver producer with operating mines in Alaska, Idaho, and Mexico and is a gold producer with an operating mine in Quebec, Canada. The Company also has exploration and pre-development properties in seven world-class silver and gold mining districts in the U.S., Canada and Mexico, and an exploration office and investments in early-stage silver exploration projects in Canada.

NOTES

Non-GAAP Financial Measures

Non-GAAP financial measures are intended to provide additional information only and do not have any standard meaning prescribed by generally accepted accounting principles in the United States (GAAP). These measures should not be considered in isolation or as a substitute for measures of performance prepared in accordance with GAAP.

(1) Adjusted net income (loss) applicable to common stockholders is a non-GAAP measurement, a reconciliation of which to net income (loss) applicable to common stockholders, the most comparable GAAP measure, can be found at the end of the release. Adjusted net income (loss) is a measure used by management to evaluate the Company's operating performance but should not be considered an alternative to net income (loss), or cash provided by operating activities as those terms are defined by GAAP, and does not necessarily indicate whether cash flows will be sufficient to fund cash needs. In addition, the Company may use it when formulating performance goals and targets under its incentive program.

(2) Adjusted EBITDA is a non-GAAP measurement, a reconciliation of which to net income (loss), the most comparable GAAP measure, can be found at the end of the release. Adjusted EBITDA is a measure used by management to evaluate the Company's operating performance but should not be considered an alternative to net income (loss), or cash provided by operating activities as those terms are defined by GAAP, and does not necessarily indicate whether cash flows will be sufficient to fund cash needs. In addition, the Company may use it when formulating performance goals and targets under its incentive program.

(3) Net debt to adjusted EBITDA is a non-GAAP measurement, a reconciliation of adjusted EBITDA and net debt to the closest GAAP measurements of net income (loss) and debt can be found at the end of the release. It is an important measure for management to measure relative indebtedness and the ability to service the debt relative to its peers. It is calculated as total debt outstanding less total cash on hand divided by adjusted EBITDA.

(4) Cash cost, after by-product credits, per silver or gold ounce is a non-GAAP measurement, a reconciliation of which to cost of sales and other direct production costs and depreciation, depletion and amortization (sometimes referred to as "cost of sales" in this release), can be found at the end of the release. It is an important operating statistic that management utilizes to measure each mine's operating performance. It also allows the benchmarking of performance of each mines versus those of our competitors. As a primary silver mining company, management also uses the statistic on an aggregate basis - aggregating the Greens Creek, Lucky Friday and San Sebastian mines - to compare performance with that of other primary silver mining companies. With regard to Casa Berardi, management uses cash cost, after by-product credits, per gold ounce to compare its performance with other gold mines. Similarly, the statistic is useful in identifying acquisition and investment opportunities as it provides a common tool for measuring the financial performance of other mines with varying geologic, metallurgical and operating characteristics. In addition, the Company may use it when formulating performance goals and targets under its incentive program. Cash cost, after by-product credits, per silver ounce is not presented for Lucky Friday for the first quarter of 2018, as production was limited due to the strike and results are not comparable to those from prior periods and are not indicative of future operating results under full production.

(5) All in sustaining cost (AISC), after by-product credits, is a non-GAAP measurement, a reconciliation of which to cost of sales and other direct production costs and depreciation, depletion and amortization, the closest GAAP measurement, can be found in the end of the release. AISC, after by-product credits, includes cost of sales and other direct production costs, expenses for reclamation and exploration at the mines sites, corporate exploration related to sustaining operations, and all site sustaining capital costs. AISC, after by-product credits, is calculated net of depreciation, depletion, and amortization and by-product credits.

AISC, after by-product credits, per silver ounce is not presented for Lucky Friday for the first quarter of 2018, as production was limited due to the strike and results are not comparable to those from prior periods and are not indicative of future operating results under full production.

Current GAAP measures used in the mining industry, such as cost of goods sold, do not capture all the expenditures incurred to discover, develop and sustain silver and gold production. Management believes that all in sustaining costs is a non-GAAP measure that provides additional information to management, investors and analysts to help in the understanding of the economics of our operations and performance compared to other producers and in the investor's visibility by better defining the total costs associated with production. Similarly, the statistic is useful in identifying acquisition and investment opportunities as it provides a common tool for measuring the financial performance of other mines with varying geologic, metallurgical and operating characteristics. In addition, the Company may use it when formulating performance goals and targets under its incentive program.

(6) Cash cost, after by-product credits, per gold ounce is only applicable to Casa Berardi production. Gold produced from Greens Creek and San Sebastian is treated as a by-product credit against the silver cash cost.

Other

(7) Expectations for 2018 includes silver, gold, lead and zinc production from Greens Creek, San Sebastian and Casa Berardi converted using Au \$1,225/oz, Ag \$17.25/oz, Zn \$1.30/lb, and Pb \$1.00/lb. Lucky Friday expectations are currently suspended as there is currently a strike. Numbers may be rounded.

Cautionary Statements to Investors on Forward-Looking Statements

This news release contains "forward-looking statements" within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, which are intended to be covered by the safe harbor created by such sections and other applicable laws, including Canadian securities laws. Such forward-looking statements may include, without limitation: (i) estimates of future production and sales; (ii) successful completion of the Klondex acquisition and its impact on Hecla's operations and results; (iii) expectations regarding the development, growth potential, financial performance of the Company's projects, including the EMCP pit in Quebec and San Sebastian operations; (iv) the Company's mineral reserves and resources; (v) ability to optimize operations at Casa Berardi; (vi) ability to complete construction of the remote vein miner and for it to operate successfully; (vii) impact of the Lucky Friday strike on production and cash flow; (viii) ability to generate value from innovations being introduced into the mines; (ix) impact of metals prices on cash costs, after by-product credits; and (x) estimates of future smelter demand. Estimates or expectations of future events or results are based upon certain assumptions, which may prove to be incorrect. Such assumptions, include, but are not limited to: (i) there being no significant change to current geotechnical, metallurgical, hydrological and other physical conditions; (ii) permitting, development, operations and expansion of the Company's projects being consistent with current expectations and mine plans; (iii) political/regulatory developments in any jurisdiction in which the Company operates being consistent with its current expectations; (iv) the exchange rate for the Canadian dollar to the U.S. dollar, being approximately consistent with current levels; (v) certain price assumptions for gold, silver, lead and zinc; (vi) prices for key supplies being approximately consistent with current levels; (vii) the accuracy of our current mineral reserve and mineral resource estimates; and (viii) the Company's plans for development and production will proceed as expected and will not require revision as a result of risks or uncertainties, whether known, unknown or unanticipated. Where the Company expresses or implies an expectation or belief as to future events or results, such expectation or belief is expressed in good faith and believed to have a reasonable basis. However, such statements are subject to risks, uncertainties and other factors, which could cause actual results to differ materially from future results expressed, projected or implied by the "forward-looking statements." Such risks include, but are not limited to gold, silver and other metals price volatility, operating risks, currency fluctuations, increased production costs and variances in ore grade or recovery rates from those assumed in mining plans, community relations, conflict resolution and outcome of projects or oppositions, litigation, political, regulatory, labor and environmental risks, and exploration risks and results, including that mineral resources are not mineral reserves, they do not have demonstrated economic viability and there is no certainty that they can be upgraded to mineral reserves through continued exploration. For a more detailed discussion of such risks and other factors, see the Company's 2017 Form 10-K, filed on February 15, 2018, and Form 10-Q filed on May 10, 2018 with the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC), as well as the Company's other SEC filings. The Company does not undertake any obligation to publicly release

revisions to any "forward-looking statement," including, without limitation, outlook, to reflect events or circumstances after the date of this news release, or to reflect the occurrence of unanticipated events, except as may be required under applicable securities laws. Investors should not assume that any lack of update to a previously issued "forward-looking statement" constitutes a reaffirmation of that statement. Continued reliance on "forward-looking statements" is at investors' own risk.

Cautionary Statements to Investors on Reserves and Resources

Reporting requirements in the United States for disclosure of mineral properties are governed by the SEC and included in the SEC's Securities Act Industry Guide 7, entitled "Description of Property by Issuers Engaged or to be Engaged in Significant Mining Operations" (Guide 7). However, the Company is also a "reporting issuer" under Canadian securities laws, which require estimates of mineral resources and reserves to be prepared in accordance with Canadian National Instrument 43-101 (NI 43-101). NI 43-101 requires all disclosure of estimates of potential mineral resources and reserves to be disclosed in accordance with its requirements. Such Canadian information is being included here to satisfy the Company's "public disclosure" obligations under Regulation FD of the SEC and to provide U.S. holders with ready access to information publicly available in Canada.

Reporting requirements in the United States for disclosure of mineral properties under Guide 7 and the requirements in Canada under NI 43-101 standards are substantially different. This document contains a summary of certain estimates of the Company, not only of proven and probable reserves within the meaning of Guide 7, which requires the preparation of a "final" or "bankable" feasibility study demonstrating the economic feasibility of mining and processing the mineralization using the three-year historical average price for any reserve or cash flow analysis to designate reserves and that the primary environmental analysis or report be filed with the appropriate governmental authority, but also of mineral resource and mineral reserve estimates estimated in accordance with the definitional standards of the Canadian Institute of Mining, Metallurgy and Petroleum referred to in NI 43-101. The terms "measured resources", "indicated resources", and "inferred resources" are Canadian mining terms as defined in accordance with NI 43-101. These terms are not defined under Guide 7 and are not normally permitted to be used in reports and registration statements filed with the SEC in the United States, except where required to be disclosed by foreign law. The term "resource" does not equate to the term "reserve". Under Guide 7, the material described herein as "indicated resources" and "measured resources" would be characterized as "mineralized material" and is permitted to be disclosed in tonnage and grade only, not ounces. The category of "inferred resources" is not recognized by Guide 7. Investors are cautioned not to assume that any part or all of the mineral deposits in such categories will ever be converted into proven or probable reserves. "Resources" have a great amount of uncertainty as to their existence, and great uncertainty as to their economic and legal feasibility. It cannot be assumed that all or any part of such a "resource" will ever be upgraded to a higher category or will ever be economically extracted. Investors are cautioned not to assume that all or any part of a "resource" exists or is economically or legally mineable. Investors are also especially cautioned that the mere fact that such resources may be referred to in ounces of silver and/or gold, rather than in tons of mineralization and grades of silver and/or gold estimated per ton, is not an indication that such material will ever result in mined ore which is processed into commercial silver or gold.

Qualified Person (QP) Pursuant to Canadian National Instrument 43-101

Dean McDonald, PhD. P.Geo., Senior Vice President - Exploration of Hecla Mining Company, who serves as a Qualified Person under National Instrument 43-101, supervised the preparation of the scientific and technical information concerning Hecla's mineral projects in this news release. Information regarding data verification, surveys and investigations, quality assurance program and quality control measures and a summary of sample, analytical or testing procedures for the Greens Creek Mine are contained in a technical report prepared for Hecla titled "Technical Report for the Greens Creek Mine, Juneau, Alaska, USA" effective date March 28, 2013, and for the Lucky Friday Mine are contained in a technical report prepared for Hecla titled "Technical Report on the Lucky Friday Mine Shoshone County, Idaho, USA" effective date April 2, 2014, for the Casa Berardi Mine are contained in a technical report prepared for Hecla titled "Technical Report on the Mineral Resource and Mineral Reserve Estimate for the Casa Berardi Mine, Northwestern Quebec, Canada" effective date March 31, 2014 (the "Casa Berardi Technical Report"), and for the San Sebastian Mine are contained in a technical report prepared for Hecla titled "Technical Report for the San Sebastian Ag-Au Property, Durango, Mexico" effective date September 8, 2015. Also included in these three technical reports is a description of the key assumptions, parameters

and methods used to estimate mineral reserves and resources and a general discussion of the extent to which the estimates may be affected by any known environmental, permitting, legal, title, taxation, socio-political, marketing or other relevant factors. Copies of these technical reports are available under Hecla's profile on SEDAR at www.sedar.com.

The current Casa Berardi drill program was performed on core sawed in half and included the insertion of blanks and standards of variable grade in every 24 core samples. Standards were generally provided by Analytical Solutions Ltd and prepared in 30-gram bags. Samples were sent to the Swastika Laboratories in Swastika, Ontario, a registered accredited laboratory, where they were dried, crushed, and split for gold analysis. Analysis for gold was completed by fire assay with AA finish. Gold over-limits were analyzed by fire assay with gravimetric finish. Data received from the lab were subject to validation using in-built program triggers to identify outside limit blank or standard assays that require re-analysis. Over 5% of the original pulps and rejects are sent for re-assay to ALS Chemex in Val d'Or for quality control.

Dr. McDonald reviewed and verified information regarding drill sampling, data verification of all digitally-collected data, drill surveys and specific gravity determinations relating to the Casa Berardi mine. The review encompassed quality assurance programs and quality control measures including analytical or testing practice, chain-of-custody procedures, sample storage procedures and included independent sample collection and analysis. This review found the information and procedures meet industry standards and are adequate for Mineral Resource and Mineral Reserve estimation and mine planning purposes.

HECLA MINING COMPANY

Condensed Consolidated Statements of Income (Loss)

(dollars and shares in thousands, except per share amounts - unaudited)

| | Three Months Ended | |
|---|--------------------|----------------|
| | March 31, 2018 | March 31, 2017 |
| Sales of products | \$ 139,709 | \$ 142,544 |
| Cost of sales and other direct production costs | 72,869 | 78,676 |
| Depreciation, depletion and amortization | 28,054 | 28,952 |
| | 100,923 | 107,628 |
| Gross profit | 38,786 | 34,916 |
| Other operating expenses: | | |
| General and administrative | 7,735 | 9,206 |
| Exploration | 7,360 | 4,514 |
| Pre-development | 1,005 | 1,252 |
| Research and development | 1,436 | 683 |
| Other operating expense | 515 | 663 |
| Provision for closed operations and environmental matters | 1,262 | 1,119 |
| Lucky Friday suspension-related costs | 5,017 | 1,581 |
| Acquisition costs | 2,507 | 27 |
| | 26,837 | 19,045 |
| Income from operations | 11,949 | 15,871 |
| Other income (expense): | | |
| Gain (loss) on derivative contracts | 4,007 | (7,809) |
| Interest and other (expense) income | (56) |) 325 |
| Loss on disposal of investments | — | (167) |
| Unrealized gain on investments | 310 | 327 |
| Net foreign exchange gain (loss) | 2,592 | (2,262) |
| Interest expense, net of amounts capitalized | (9,794) |) (8,522) |
| | (2,941) |) (18,108) |
| Income (loss) before income taxes | 9,008 | (2,237) |
| Income tax (provision) benefit | (768) |) 29,071 |
| Net income | 8,240 | 26,834 |
| Preferred stock dividends | (138) |) (138) |
| Income applicable to common stockholders | \$ 8,102 | \$ 26,696 |
| Basic income per common share after preferred dividends | \$ 0.02 | \$ 0.07 |
| Diluted income per common share after preferred dividends | \$ 0.02 | \$ 0.07 |

| | | |
|--|---------|---------|
| Weighted average number of common shares outstanding - basic | 399,322 | 395,370 |
| Weighted average number of common shares outstanding - diluted | 401,923 | 398,149 |

HECLA MINING COMPANY

Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets

(dollars and shares in thousands - unaudited)

| | March 31, 2018 | December 31, 2017 |
|--|----------------|-------------------|
| ASSETS | | |
| Current assets: | | |
| Cash and cash equivalents | \$ 212,569 | \$ 186,107 |
| Investments | 34,358 | 33,758 |
| Accounts receivable: | | |
| Trade | 19,713 | 14,805 |
| Other, net | 19,293 | 17,385 |
| Inventories | 62,803 | 54,555 |
| Other current assets | 17,369 | 13,715 |
| Total current assets | 366,105 | 320,325 |
| Non-current investments | 7,652 | 7,561 |
| Non-current restricted cash and investments | 1,005 | 1,032 |
| Properties, plants, equipment and mineral interests, net | 2,008,704 | 2,020,021 |
| Non-current deferred income taxes | 671 | 1,509 |
| Other non-current assets | 13,954 | 14,509 |
| Total assets | \$ 2,398,091 | \$ 2,364,957 |
| LIABILITIES | | |
| Current liabilities: | | |
| Accounts payable and accrued liabilities | \$ 51,636 | \$ 46,549 |
| Accrued payroll and related benefits | 21,420 | 31,259 |
| Accrued taxes | 7,273 | 5,919 |
| Current portion of capital leases | 5,669 | 5,608 |
| Current portion of accrued reclamation and closure costs | 8,315 | 6,679 |
| Other current liabilities | 21,621 | 16,116 |
| Total current liabilities | 115,934 | 112,130 |
| Capital leases | 7,094 | 6,193 |
| Long-term debt | 533,566 | 502,229 |
| Non-current deferred tax liability | 116,866 | 121,546 |
| Accrued reclamation and closure costs | 78,887 | 79,366 |
| Non-current pension liability | 48,459 | 46,628 |
| Other non-current liabilities | 2,784 | 12,983 |
| Total liabilities | 903,590 | 881,075 |
| STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY | | |
| Preferred stock | 39 | 39 |
| Common stock | 101,290 | 100,926 |
| Capital surplus | 1,626,298 | 1,619,816 |
| Accumulated deficit | (187,092) | (195,484) |
| Accumulated other comprehensive loss | (26,767) | (23,373) |
| Treasury stock | (19,267) | (18,042) |
| Total stockholders' equity | 1,494,501 | 1,483,882 |
| Total liabilities and stockholders' equity | \$ 2,398,091 | \$ 2,364,957 |
| Common shares outstanding | 400,302 | 399,176 |

HECLA MINING COMPANY

Condensed Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows

(dollars in thousands - unaudited)

Three Months Ended

March 31, 2018 March 31, 2017

OPERATING ACTIVITIES

| | | |
|--|------------|------------|
| Net income | \$ 8,240 | \$ 26,834 |
| Non-cash elements included in net income: | | |
| Depreciation, depletion and amortization | 29,490 | 29,590 |
| Loss on disposal of investments | — | 167 |
| Unrealized gain on investments | (310 |) (327 |
| Gain on disposition of properties, plants, equipment and mineral interests | (129 |) (32 |
| Provision for reclamation and closure costs | 1,323 | 1,026 |
| Stock compensation | 1,127 | 1,349 |
| Deferred income taxes | (438 |) (21,234 |
| Amortization of loan origination fees | 449 | 480 |
| (Gain) loss on derivative contracts | (9,094 |) 7,343 |
| Foreign exchange (gain) loss | (3,399 |) 506 |
| Other non-cash charges, net | (36 |) 2 |
| Change in assets and liabilities: | | |
| Accounts receivable | (7,266 |) (8,738 |
| Inventories | (6,762 |) (3,358 |
| Other current and non-current assets | (3,171 |) 1,363 |
| Accounts payable and accrued liabilities | 13,956 | (1,510 |
| Accrued payroll and related benefits | (3,927 |) 6,881 |
| Accrued taxes | 218 | 1,754 |
| Accrued reclamation and closure costs and other non-current liabilities | (3,888 |) (3,811 |
| Cash provided by operating activities | 16,383 | 38,285 |
| INVESTING ACTIVITIES | | |
| Additions to properties, plants, equipment and mineral interests | (17,635 |) (21,658 |
| Maturities of investments | 30,501 | 3,634 |
| Proceeds from disposition of properties, plants and equipment | 151 | 61 |
| Purchases of investments | (31,182 |) (11,113 |
| Net cash used in investing activities | (18,165 |) (29,076 |
| FINANCING ACTIVITIES | | |
| Acquisition of treasury shares | (1,225 |) (731 |
| Dividends paid to common stockholders | (998 |) (989 |
| Dividends paid to preferred stockholders | (138 |) (138 |
| Debt origination fees | — | (91 |
| Borrowings on debt | 31,024 | — |
| Payments on debt | — | (470 |
| Repayments of capital leases | (1,322 |) (1,595 |
| Net cash provided by (used in) financing activities | 27,341 | (4,014 |
| Effect of exchange rates on cash | 876 | 1,814 |
| Net increase in cash, cash equivalents and restricted cash and cash equivalents | 26,435 | 7,009 |
| Cash, cash equivalents and restricted cash and cash equivalents at beginning of period | 187,139 | 171,977 |
| Cash, cash equivalents and restricted cash and cash equivalents at end of period | \$ 213,574 | \$ 178,986 |
| HECLA MINING COMPANY | | |

Production Data

| | Three Months Ended | |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------|----------------|
| | March 31, 2018 | March 31, 2017 |
| GREENS CREEK UNIT | | |
| Tons of ore milled | 211,430 | 197,129 |
| Mining cost per ton of ore | \$ 68.99 | \$ 71.41 |
| Milling cost per ton of ore | \$ 32.64 | \$ 33.72 |
| Ore grade milled - Silver (oz./ton) | 11.71 | 12.71 |
| Ore grade milled - Gold (oz./ton) | 0.10 | 0.10 |
| Ore grade milled - Lead (%) | 2.96 | 3.06 |
| Ore grade milled - Zinc (%) | 8.05 | 7.82 |
| Silver produced (oz.) | 1,913,232 | 1,929,297 |
| Gold produced (oz.) | 13,118 | 14,022 |
| Lead produced (tons) | 5,021 | 4,809 |
| Zinc produced (tons) | 14,799 | 13,406 |

| | | |
|--|------------|------------|
| Cash cost, after by-product credits, per silver ounce ⁽¹⁾ | \$ (4.99 |) \$ 0.65 |
| AISC, after by-product credits, per silver ounce ⁽¹⁾ | \$ 0.59 | \$ 3.86 |
| Capital additions (in thousands) | \$ 9,482 | \$ 5,234 |
| LUCKY FRIDAY UNIT | | |
| Tons of ore processed | 9,559 | 57,069 |
| Mining cost per ton of ore | \$ 114.76 | \$ 104.72 |
| Milling cost per ton of ore | \$ 21.67 | \$ 27.16 |
| Ore grade milled - Silver (oz./ton) | 11.10 | 12.39 |
| Ore grade milled - Lead (%) | 6.92 | 7.05 |
| Ore grade milled - Zinc (%) | 4.79 | 3.99 |
| Silver produced (oz.) | 99,780 | 680,782 |
| Lead produced (tons) | 606 | 3,827 |
| Zinc produced (tons) | 412 | 2,131 |
| Cash cost, after by-product credits, per silver ounce ⁽¹⁾ | \$ — | \$ 5.93 |
| AISC, after by-product credits, per silver ounce ⁽¹⁾ | \$ — | \$ 12.06 |
| Capital additions (in thousands) | \$ 988 | \$ 3,987 |
| CASA BERARDI UNIT | | |
| Tons of ore milled - underground | 191,333 | 204,957 |
| Tons of ore milled - surface pit | 157,216 | 88,739 |
| Tons of ore milled - total | 348,549 | 293,696 |
| Surface tons mined - ore and waste | 1,676,434 | 2,310,235 |
| Mining cost per ton of ore - underground | \$ 108.50 | \$ 98.14 |
| Mining cost per ton of ore - combined | \$ 76.95 | \$ 86.58 |
| Mining cost per ton of ore and waste - surface tons mined | \$ 3.62 | \$ 2.61 |
| Milling cost per ton of ore | \$ 15.96 | \$ 17.26 |
| Ore grade milled - Gold (oz./ton) - underground | 0.180 | 0.16 |
| Ore grade milled - Gold (oz./ton) - surface pit | 0.079 | 0.09 |
| Ore grade milled - Gold (oz./ton) - combined | 0.135 | 0.14 |
| Ore grade milled - Silver (oz./ton) | 0.03 | 0.03 |
| Gold produced (oz.) - underground | 29,522 | 28,650 |
| Gold produced (oz.) - surface pit | 10,655 | 7,157 |
| Gold produced (oz.) - total | 40,177 | 35,807 |
| Silver produced (oz.) | 8,891 | 8,545 |
| Cash cost, after by-product credits, per gold ounce ⁽¹⁾ | \$ 827 | \$ 886 |
| AISC, after by-product credits, per gold ounce ⁽¹⁾ | \$ 1,086 | \$ 1,256 |
| Capital additions (in thousands) | \$ 9,067 | \$ 12,411 |
| SAN SEBASTIAN UNIT | | |
| Tons of ore milled | 34,397 | 36,663 |
| Mining cost per ton of ore | \$ 115.12 | \$ 38.99 |
| Milling cost per ton of ore | \$ 67.13 | \$ 64.15 |
| Ore grade milled - Silver (oz./ton) | 16.10 | 21.78 |
| Ore grade milled - Gold (oz./ton) | 0.142 | 0.183 |
| Silver produced (oz.) | 512,192 | 750,803 |
| Gold produced (oz.) | 4,513 | 6,284 |
| Cash cost, after by-product credits, per silver ounce ⁽¹⁾ | \$ 2.81 | \$ (3.27) |
| AISC, after by-product credits, per silver ounce ⁽¹⁾ | \$ 8.37 | \$ 0.43 |
| Capital additions (in thousands) | \$ 430 | \$ 1,707 |

(1) Cash cost, after by-product credits, per ounce and AISC, after by-products credits, per ounce represent a non-U.S. Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP) measurement. A reconciliation of cash cost, after by-product credits and AISC, after by-products credits to cost of sales and other direct production costs and depreciation, depletion and amortization (GAAP) can be found in the cash cost per ounce reconciliation section of this news release. Gold, lead and zinc produced have been treated as by-product credits in calculating silver costs per ounce. The primary metal produced at Casa Berardi is gold, with a by-product credit for the value of silver production.

Reconciliation of Cost of Sales and Other Direct Production Costs and Depreciation, Depletion and Amortization (GAAP) to Cash Cost, Before By-product Credits and Cash Cost, After By-product Credits (non-GAAP) and All-In Sustaining Costs, Before By-product Credits and All-In Sustaining Costs, After By-product Credits (non-GAAP)

The tables below present reconciliations between the most comparable GAAP measure of cost of sales and other direct production costs and depreciation, depletion and amortization to the non-GAAP measures of Cash Cost, Before By-product Credits, Cash Cost, After By-product Credits, AISC, Before By-product Credits and AISC, After By-product Credits for our operations at the Greens Creek, Lucky Friday, San Sebastian and Casa Berardi units for the three-month periods ended March 31, 2018 and 2017.

Cash Cost, After By-product Credits, per Ounce is an important operating statistic that we utilize to measure each mine's operating performance. AISC, After By-product Credits, per Ounce is an important operating statistic that we utilize as a measures of our mines' net cash flow after costs for exploration, pre-development, reclamation, and sustaining capital. Current GAAP measures used in the mining industry, such as cost of goods sold, do not capture all the expenditures incurred to discover, develop and sustain silver and gold production. Cash Cost, After By-product Credits, per Ounce and AISC, After By-product Credits, per Ounce also allow us to benchmark the performance of each of our mines versus those of our competitors. As a primary silver mining company, we also use these statistics on an aggregate basis - aggregating the Greens Creek, Lucky Friday and San Sebastian mines - to compare our performance with that of other primary silver mining companies. With regard to Casa Berardi, we use Cash Cost, After By-product Credits, per Gold Ounce AISC, After By-product Credits, per Gold Ounce to compare its performance with other gold mines. Similarly, these statistics are useful in identifying acquisition and investment opportunities as they provide a common tool for measuring the financial performance of other mines with varying geologic, metallurgical and operating characteristics.

Cash Cost, Before By-product Credits and AISC, Before By-product Credits include all direct and indirect operating cash costs related directly to the physical activities of producing metals, including mining, processing and other plant costs, third-party refining expense, on-site general and administrative costs, royalties and mining production taxes. AISC, Before By-product Credits for each mine also includes on-site exploration, reclamation, and sustaining capital costs. AISC, Before By-product Credits for our consolidated silver properties also includes corporate costs for general and administrative expense, reclamation, exploration, and pre-development. By-product credits include revenues earned from all metals other than the primary metal produced at each unit. As depicted in the tables below, by-product credits comprise an essential element of our silver unit cost structure, distinguishing our silver operations due to the polymetallic nature of their orebodies. Cash Cost, After By-product Credits, per Ounce and AISC, After By-product Credits, per Ounce provide management and investors an indication of operating cash flow, after consideration of the average price, received from production. We also use these measurements for the comparative monitoring of performance of our mining operations period-to-period from a cash flow perspective. Cash Cost, After By-product Credits, per Ounce is a measure developed by precious metals companies (including the Silver Institute) in an effort to provide a uniform standard for comparison purposes. There can be no assurance, however, that our reporting of these non-GAAP measures are the same as those reported by other mining companies.

The Casa Berardi section below reports Cash Cost, After By-product Credits, per Gold Ounce and AISC, After By-product Credits, per Gold Ounce for the production of gold, its primary product, and by-product revenues earned from silver, which is a by-product at Casa Berardi. Only costs and ounces produced relating to units with the same primary product are combined to represent Cash Cost, After By-product Credits, per Ounce and AISC, After By-product Credits, per Ounce. Thus, the gold produced at our Casa Berardi unit is not included as a by-product credit when calculating Cash Cost, After By-product Credits, per Silver Ounce and AISC, After By-product Credits, per Silver Ounce for the total of Greens Creek, Lucky Friday and San Sebastian, our combined silver properties.

| In thousands (except per ounce amounts) | Three Months Ended March 31, 2018 | |
|--|-----------------------------------|--------------|
| | Greens Creek | Lucky Friday |
| Cost of sales and other direct production costs and depreciation, depletion and amortization | \$ 41,861 | \$ 4,100 |
| Depreciation, depletion and amortization | (10,639) | (621) |
| Treatment costs | 11,388 | 572 |
| Change in product inventory | 5,154 | (1,022) |
| Reclamation and other costs | (912) | (45) |
| Exclusion of Lucky Friday costs | — | (2,984) |
| Cash Cost, Before By-product Credits ⁽¹⁾ | 46,852 | — |
| Reclamation and other costs | 849 | — |
| Exploration | 360 | — |
| Sustaining capital | 9,482 | — |

| | | |
|--|------------------------|--------------|
| General and administrative | | |
| AISC, Before By-product Credits ⁽¹⁾ | 57,543 | — |
| By-product credits: | | |
| Zinc | (32,142 |) — |
| Gold | (15,292 |) — |
| Lead | (8,974 |) — |
| Silver | | |
| Total By-product credits | (56,408 |) — |
| Cash Cost, After By-product Credits | \$ (9,556 |) \$ — |
| AISC, After By-product Credits | \$ 1,135 | \$ — |
| Divided by ounces produced | 1,913 | — |
| Cash Cost, Before By-product Credits, per Ounce | \$ 24.49 | \$ — |
| By-product credits per ounce | (29.48 |) — |
| Cash Cost, After By-product Credits, per Ounce | \$ (4.99 |) \$ — |
| AISC, Before By-product Credits, per Ounce | \$ 30.07 | \$ — |
| By-product credits per ounce | (29.48 |) — |
| AISC, After By-product Credits, per Ounce | \$ 0.59 | \$ — |
| In thousands (except per ounce amounts) | Three Months Ended Mar | |
| | Greens Creek | Lucky Frida |
| Cost of sales and other direct production costs and depreciation, depletion and amortization | \$ 43,996 | \$ 14,543 |
| Depreciation, depletion and amortization | (13,332 |) (2,433 |
| Treatment costs | 14,131 | 3,817 |
| Change in product inventory | 3,265 | (149 |
| Reclamation and other costs | (386 |) (182 |
| Cash Cost, Before By-product Credits ⁽¹⁾ | 47,674 | 15,596 |
| Reclamation and other costs | 666 | 179 |
| Exploration | 278 | 1 |
| Sustaining capital | 5,234 | 3,990 |
| General and administrative | | |
| AISC, Before By-product Credits ⁽¹⁾ | 53,852 | 19,766 |
| By-product credits: | | |
| Zinc | (23,779 |) (4,060 |
| Gold | (14,852 |) |
| Lead | (7,782 |) (7,496 |
| Silver | | |
| Total By-product credits | (46,413 |) (11,556 |
| Cash Cost, After By-product Credits | \$ 1,261 | \$ 4,040 |
| AISC, After By-product Credits | \$ 7,439 | \$ 8,210 |
| Divided by ounces produced | 1,929 | 681 |
| Cash Cost, Before By-product Credits, per Ounce | \$ 24.71 | \$ 22.90 |
| By-product credits per ounce | (24.06 |) (16.97 |
| Cash Cost, After By-product Credits, per Ounce | \$ 0.65 | \$ 5.93 |
| AISC, Before By-product Credits, per Ounce | \$ 27.92 | \$ 29.03 |
| By-product credits per ounce | (24.06 |) (16.97 |
| AISC, After By-product Credits, per Ounce | \$ 3.86 | \$ 12.06 |

Includes all direct and indirect operating costs related directly to the physical activities of producing metals, including mining, processing and other plant costs, third-party refining and marketing expense, on-site

- (1) general and administrative costs, royalties and mining production taxes, after by-product revenues earned from all metals other than the primary metal produced at each unit. AISC, Before By-product Credits also includes on-site exploration, reclamation, and sustaining capital cost.

The unionized employees at Lucky Friday have been on strike since March 13, 2017, and production at Lucky Friday has been limited since that time. As a result, for the first quarter of 2018 Cash Cost, Before

- (2) By-product Credits are not presented for Lucky Friday, and costs related to the limited production at Lucky Friday are excluded from the calculation of Cash Cost, Before By-product Credits, Cash Cost, After By-product Credits, AISC, Before By-product Credits, and AISC, After By-product Credits for our combined silver operations.

- (3) AISC, Before By-product Credits for our consolidated silver properties includes corporate costs for general and administrative expense, exploration and sustaining capital.

Reconciliation of Net Income Applicable to Common Stockholders (GAAP) to Adjusted Net Income Applicable to Common Stockholders (non-GAAP)

This release refers to a non-GAAP measure of adjusted net income applicable to common stockholders and adjusted net income per share, which are indicators of our performance. They exclude certain impacts which are of a nature which we believe are not reflective of our underlying performance. Management believes that adjusted net income per common share provides investors with the ability to better evaluate our underlying operating performance.

| Dollars are in thousands (except per share amounts) | Three Months Ended March 31, | | |
|--|------------------------------|-----------|---|
| | 2018 | 2017 | |
| Net income applicable to common stockholders (GAAP) | \$ 8,102 | \$ 26,696 | |
| Adjusting items: | | | |
| (Gain) loss on derivatives contracts | (4,007 |) 7,809 | |
| Lucky Friday suspension costs | 5,017 | 1,581 | |
| Provisional price losses (gains) | 65 | (627 |) |
| Net foreign exchange (gain) loss | (2,592 |) 2,262 | |
| Acquisition costs | 2,507 | 27 | |
| Nonrecurring deferred income tax adjustments | — | (17,486 |) |
| Adjusted net income applicable to common stockholders | \$ 9,092 | \$ 20,262 | |
| Weighted average shares - basic | 399,322 | 395,370 | |
| Weighted average shares - diluted | 401,923 | 398,149 | |
| Basic and diluted adjusted net income per common share | \$ 0.02 | \$ 0.05 | |

Reconciliation of Net Income (Loss) (GAAP) and Debt (GAAP) to Adjusted EBITDA (non-GAAP) and Net Debt (non-GAAP)

This release refers to the non-GAAP measures of adjusted earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization ("Adjusted EBITDA"), which is a measure of our operating performance, and net debt to adjusted EBITDA for the last 12 months (or "LTM adjusted EBITDA"), which is a measure of our ability to service our debt. Adjusted EBITDA is calculated as net income (loss) before the following items: interest expense, income tax provision, depreciation, depletion, and amortization expense, exploration expense, pre-development expense, acquisition costs, foreign exchange gains and losses, gains and losses on derivative contracts, Lucky Friday suspension-related costs, acquisition costs, provisional price gains and losses, stock-based compensation, unrealized gains on investments, provisions for closed operations, and interest and other income (expense). Net debt is calculated as total debt, which consists of the liability balances for our Senior Notes and Notes, capital leases, and other notes payable, less the total of our cash and cash equivalents and short-term investments. Management believes that, when presented in conjunction with comparable GAAP measures, Adjusted EBITDA and net debt to LTM adjusted EBITDA are useful to investors in evaluating our operating performance and ability to meet our debt obligations. The following table reconciles net income (loss) and debt to Adjusted EBITDA and net debt:

| Dollars are in thousands | Three Months Ended March 31, | | Twelve Months Ended March 31, | |
|--|---------------------------------|-----------|----------------------------------|-----------|
| | 2018 | 2017 | 2018 | 2017 |
| Net income (loss) | \$ 8,240 | \$ 26,834 | \$ (42,113) | \$ 96,999 |
| Plus: Interest expense | 9,794 | 8,522 | 39,284 | 24,607 |
| Plus: Income taxes | 768 | (29,071) | 49,718 | (3,297) |
| Plus: Depreciation, depletion and amortization | 28,054 | 28,952 | 115,164 | 119,203 |
| Plus: Exploration expense | 7,360 | 4,514 | 26,356 | 16,284 |
| Plus: Pre-development expense | 1,005 | 1,252 | 5,201 | 3,985 |
| Plus: Acquisition costs | 2,507 | 27 | 2,505 | 2,722 |
| Plus/(Less): Foreign exchange (gain) loss | (2,592) | 2,262 | 5,446 | (3,015) |
| Plus/(Less): Loss (gain) on derivative contracts | (4,007) | 7,809 | 9,434 | 3,386 |
| Plus: Lucky Friday suspension costs | 5,017 | 1,581 | 24,737 | 1,581 |
| Plus/(Less): Provisional price losses (gains) | 65 | (627) | (50) | 797 |

| | | | | | |
|---|-----------|-----------|--------------|--------------|---|
| Plus: Stock-based compensation | 1,090 | 1,349 | 6,072 | 6,109 | |
| Plus: Provision for closed operations and environmental matters | 1,323 | 1,026 | 4,805 | 5,839 | |
| Plus/(Less): Unrealized loss (gain) on investments | (310 |) (327 |) 264 | (861 |) |
| Plus/(Less): Other | 56 | (158 |) (1,312 |) (1,576 |) |
| Adjusted EBITDA | \$ 58,370 | \$ 53,945 | \$ 245,511 | \$ 272,763 | |
| Total debt | | | \$ 546,329 | \$ 513,027 | |
| Less: Cash, cash equivalents and short-term investments | | | \$ (246,927) | \$ (213,291) | |
| Net debt | | | \$ 299,402 | \$ 299,736 | |
| Net debt/LTM adjusted EBITDA (non-GAAP) | | | 1.2 | 1.1 | |

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