

## **Mariana extends strike length of high-grade silver target at Chala, to over 1.6 km, Sierra Blanca Project Argentina. Drilling to commence September/October, 2008**

Mariana Resources Ltd (“Mariana”) is pleased to announce results of the remaining 14 trenches from a total of 1,156 metres (m) of trenching at the Chala Vein, located in the northeast part of the Sierra Blanca concession. Based on these results, the cumulative interpretative vein length of high-grade silver mineralisation has increased from 800m to **1,690 m**. Best results include 7.9 m @ 190 grams per tonne (g/t) Ag, 0.8 g/t Au in T24 (inc. **1 m @ 756 g/t (24 ounces per tonne {oz/t}) Ag, 3.8 g/t Au**) and 4.3 m @ 264 g/t Ag, 0.3 g/t Au (inc. **0.8 m @ 832 g/t (27 oz/t) Ag, 1.0 g/t Au**) in T25.

Additionally, in the Vetarron area, 2,200 m of trenches were excavated in 20 trenches. Mineralisation appears to consist of widely silicified areas (> 100 m wide and 1.6 km long). Best results include 7 m @ 1.9 g/t Au (inc., **1 m @ 10.6 g/t Au**) in Tv8, and 15 m @ 0.4 g/t Au in Tv15.

### **Chala Vein**

Highlights of the latest results include:

- 7.9 m @ 190 grams per tonne (g/t) silver and 0.8 g/t gold in Trench 24, including **1m @ 756 g/t (24 ounces per tonne {oz/t}) silver and 3.3 g/t gold**
- 4.3 m @ 200 g/t silver and 0.3 g/t gold in Trench 25, including **0.8 m @ 832 g/t (27 oz/t) silver** and 1 g/t gold.
- 0.5 m @ 269 g/t silver and 2.3 g/t gold in Trench 39

Previously reported diamond saw channel samples from this area include:

- **9.4m @ 2,362 g/t (76 oz/t) silver** and 1.3 g/t gold in Trench 1
- **3.4m @ 1,238 g/t silver and 10.1 g/t gold** in Trench 3
- **0.5m @ 5,480 g/t (176 oz/t) silver and 25.7 g/t gold** in Trench 13
- **16.5m @ 384 g/t silver** and 0.5 g/t gold in Trench 14
- **1m @ 3,630g/t (117 oz/t) silver, and 6.5 g/t gold** in Trench 21

The Chala Vein target is located in the northeastern part of Sierra Blanca and consists of a swarm of oxidized and brecciated quartz veins up to 16 m wide within an east-west trending corridor. The trenching indicates a cumulative vein length of **2,300 m** with high to bonanza-grade silver mineralisation over **1,690 m**. The vein system is open to the west, with possible extensions under soil cover. The program consisted of 41 trenches at intervals ranging from 200 m to 50 m apart, varying in length from 18m to 74 m. A total of 411 samples was recently taken from 386 m of diamond saw channels cut along the trenches. Assay results have been received for the last 14 trenches. Brecciated quartz veins were intersected in all trenches with anomalous to bonanza grade silver and significant gold values obtained in 8 of the 14 trenches.

### **The trenching results confirm:**

- A significant and complex multiple vein array;
- Broad ‘halos’ of lower grade disseminated silver-gold mineralisation extending into the wall rocks adjacent to high grade zones;

- Bonanza silver grades in some of the veins;
- Significant silver and gold values in concealed veins between silicified outcrops; and
- A differential erosion level from east to west and potential continuity of Chala further east under thin modern cover.

The following table summarizes the previously reported channel sample results at Chala (reported 18 December 2007 and 2 April 2008). T1 to T12 are diamond saw channel samples cut at surface and T13 to T 23 are diamond saw channel samples cut along backhoe trench floors.

**Table 1: Previously Reported Chala Trench Assays**

Trench Id	From (metres)	To (metres)	Width (m)	Silver (grams per tonne)	Gold (grams per tonne)
T1	0	9.4	9.4	2362	1.29
<i>Incl</i>	1.3	3.5	2.2	5694	1.77
T2	0	5	5	204	2.51
T3	0	3.4	3.4	1238	10.05
T4	0	3.45	3.5	465	3.71
T5	0	4.55	4.6	104	6.68
T6	0	3	3	36	1.73
T7	0	3.65	3.7	12	0.11
T8	0	5.3	5.3	14	0.54
T9	0	2.7	2.7	13	4.05
T10	0	3	3	18	0.11
T11	0	2.7	2.7	19	0.12
T12	0	9.4	9.4	1211	1.00
T13	6	46.9	40.9	97	0.55
<i>Incl</i>	6	10.5	4.5	694	3.60
<i>Incl</i>	9	9.5	0.5	5480	25.70
<i>Incl</i>	34.7	39.3	4.6	69	0.75
<i>Incl</i>	45.7	46.9	1.2	130	1.07
T14	4	20.5	16.5	384	0.55
<i>Incl</i>	10.5	17.6	7.1	892	1.12
T15	8.5	13.15	4.7	46	0.47
T16	6.4	11.1	4.7	11	0.11
T17	<i>No significant values</i>				
T18	<i>No significant values</i>				
T19	6.5	25.2	18.7	126	0.49
<i>Incl</i>	6.5	15.9	9.4	236	0.92
T19	43.8	47	3.2	9	0.11
T20	21.4	25.5	4.1	158	0.23
T21	13.7	22	8.3	507	1.71
<i>Incl</i>	13.7	18.1	4.4	945	3.20
T21	16	17	1	3630	6.52
T22	10.8	24.7	13.9	33	0.09
<i>Incl</i>	16	17	1	234	0.33
T23	7.7	11.7	4	11	0.09
T23	26.3	33.1	6.8	17	0.17

The following table summarizes the remaining channel sample results at Chala. T24 to T 41 are diamond saw channel samples cut along backhoe trench floors.

**Table 2: Remaining Chala Trench Assays**

Trench Id	From (metres)	to (metres)	Width (m)	Silver (grams per tonne)	Gold (grams per tonne)
T24	8.8	9.8	1	36	0.14
T24	13.2	21.1	7.9	190	0.78
<i>Incl</i>	17.9	18.9	1	756	3.37
T24	26.1	28.8	2.7	19	0.05
T25	10.4	14.7	4.3	264	0.29
<i>Incl</i>	11.4	12.2	0.8	832	1.00
T26	7.2	9.5	2.3	23	0.04
T28	<i>No significant values</i>				
T29	6.9	7.4	0.5	10	0.14
T30	20	21	1	114	0.02
T31	<i>No significant values</i>				
T32	9.1	9.6	0.5	23	0.10
T33	<i>No significant values</i>				
T34	10	10.7	0.7	12	0.21
T35	13.4	14.4	1	53	0.68
T39	3.1	7.1	4	95	0.63
T39	4.1	4.6	0.5	225	2.20
T39	6.6	7.1	0.5	269	2.28
T40	8.7	14	5.3	19	0.04
<i>Incl</i>	8.7	9.7	1	52	0.02
T41	14	14.5	0.5	22	0.45

## Vetarron

The Vetarron target is located in the southernmost part of the Sierra Blanca property. Detailed mapping of outcrops and correlation between adjacent trenches at Vetarron indicates that mineralisation consists of widely silicified areas that developed close to the palaeosurface. Mineralisation is hosted by andesite breccias and basic volcanics within shallowly dipping, N-trending, pervasively silicified rocks and breccia bodies (up to 150 m wide) with conjugate, steeply dipping WNW- trending quartz veins and breccias. The program consisted of a total of 20 backhoe trenches (15 sampled) and 6 manually excavated trenches at intervals ranging from 270 m to 50 m apart, varying in length from 7 m to 340 m. A total of 378 diamond-cut samples was collected from 360 line-metres of trench sampled. Depth to bedrock varies from less than 0.5 m to 3 m.

The following table summarizes the channel sample results obtained from Vetarron. Tv1 to Tv6 are diamond saw channel samples cut at surface and Tv7 to Tv21 are diamond saw channel samples cut along backhoe trench floors.

**Table 3: Vetarron Trench Assays**

Trench Id	From (metres)	to (metres)	Width (m)	Gold (grams per tonne)
Tv1	0	5.7	5.7	0.43
<i>Incl</i>	4	5.7	1.7	1.30
Tv2	2	4	2	0.24
Tv3	5	11	6	0.27
Tv4			<i>No significant value</i>	
Tv5			<i>No significant value</i>	
Tv6			<i>No significant value</i>	
Tv7	15.4	18.4	3	0.47
Tv8	7	14	7	1.85
<i>Incl</i>	10.9	11.9	1	10.60
Tv8	64.7	77	12.3	0.24
Tv8	126.6	128.6	2	1.95
Tv9			<i>No significant value</i>	
Tv10	51.8	52.8	1	2.34
Tv11			<i>No significant value</i>	
Tv12			<i>No significant value</i>	
Tv13			<i>No significant value</i>	
Tv14	233.6	235	1.4	0.25
Tv15	39.3	54.8	15.5	0.39
<i>Incl</i>	47.3	49.3	2	1.00
Tv16			<i>No significant value</i>	
Tv17	62.8	64.8	2	0.26
Tv17	100.9	103.7	2.8	0.21
Tv18	37.5	40.5	3	0.17
Tv19			<i>No significant value</i>	
Tv20	103	106	3	0.43
Tv21			<i>No significant value</i>	

**Commenting today, Managing Director of Mariana Resources Ltd, John Sutcliffe said** *“This last batch of trench results from Veta Chala continues to confirm the area to be a **premium bonanza silver drill target**. Much of the 25 kilometer Sierra Blanca vein system remains substantially under-explored, with extensive areas of cover obscuring the full extent of the system. Drilling will be undertaken as soon as permitting is completed and rig availability confirmed.”*

Maps showing latest and previous channel sampling results are available on the Mariana website [www.marianaresources.com](http://www.marianaresources.com)

#### **ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD**

John Sutcliffe  
Managing Director

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#### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

*The exploration programme is being directed by the Argentina Exploration Manager, Dr Gustavo A. Rodriguez under supervision of Managing Director Mr John Sutcliffe. Exploration information in this announcement has been compiled by John Sutcliffe who is a Fellow of the Geological Society of London, a Chartered Engineer and a Member of the Institute of Mining and Metallurgy. Mr Sutcliffe has sufficient experience relevant to the style of mineralisation and types of gold deposit under consideration and to the activity that he is undertaking to qualify as a Competent Person as defined in the JORC Code.*

#### **Quality Assurance/Quality Control**

*All technical information for the Company's Argentina projects is obtained and reported under a quality assurance and quality control (QA/QC) program. Rock chip samples in this release are collected as representative rock saw channel cuts. All samples are collected under the supervision of the Company geologists and dispatched via commercial transport to ALS Chemex laboratories in Mendoza, Argentina, and assayed in Santiago de Chile. ALS Chemex's quality system complies with the requirements for the International Standards ISO 9001:2000 and ISO 17025: 1999. Samples returning greater than 10 g/t gold and/or greater than 100 g/t silver are assayed using gravimetric analyses.*

*Systematic assaying of sample duplicates and commercially prepared standards and blanks is performed for analytical reliability. Mariana independently inserts "in-house" and certified control standards, coarse field blanks, and duplicates into the sample stream to monitor data quality.*

*Mariana inserts a minimum of 6 % control samples in all sample batches. The results of all data quality controls are carefully reviewed prior to the public release of any data.*



