



Gold Resource Corp. (GORO)

Updated March 16th, 2022 by Aristofanis Papadatos

Key Metrics

Current Price:	\$2.20	5 Year CAGR Estimate:	9.7%	Market Cap:	\$196 M
Fair Value Price:	\$1.35	5 Year Growth Estimate:	19.0%	Ex-Dividend Date:	3/14/2022
% Fair Value:	163%	5 Year Valuation Multiple Estimate:	-9.3%	Dividend Payment Date:	3/31/2022
Dividend Yield:	1.8%	5 Year Price Target	\$3.20	Years Of Dividend Growth:	0
Dividend Risk Score:	D	Retirement Suitability Score:	F	Last Dividend Increase:	N/A

Overview & Current Events

Gold Resource Corp. (GORO) is a producer of gold and silver, previously with operations in two mining units, in Oaxaca (Mexico) and in Nevada (USA). It has a market capitalization of \$196 million. On February 19th, 2021, Gold Resource spun off its Nevada mining unit into a separately traded stock, Fortitude Gold (FRTT), in order to unlock shareholder value, as this mining unit currently has lower production but much higher growth potential than the mining unit in Oaxaca.

Gold Resource boasts of having paid about \$120 million in dividends since July-2010. As this amount is ~60% of the market cap of the stock, it may seem enticing, but investors should note that most dividends were paid in 2010-2013, when the company was producing much more output and gold and silver prices were near record levels. As a commodity producer, Gold Resource is extremely sensitive to the swings of the prices of gold and silver.

Gold Resource is affected by the pandemic in two ways. It shut down its mines for a few months in 2020 due to social distancing measures, but it has greatly benefited from the huge stimulus programs offered by most governments in response to the pandemic, which have led the price of gold to surge to all-time highs, thus benefiting Gold Resource.

In early March, Gold Resource reported (3/10/2022) financial results for the fourth quarter of fiscal 2021. Gold prices remained near all-time high levels while silver prices remained strong. As a result, Gold Resource switched from a loss per share of -\$0.04 in the prior year's quarter to earnings-per-share of \$0.03. Management provided positive guidance for 2022. It expects approximately 10% growth of production of gold, with an average production cost of \$425-\$475 per ounce. As the price of gold is close to all-time highs, with no signs of fatigue on the horizon thanks to high inflation, we expect another strong year for Gold Resource.

Growth on a Per-Share Basis

Year	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2027
EPS	\$0.60	\$0.00	\$0.30	\$0.06	\$0.08	\$0.07	\$0.16	\$0.09	\$0.04	\$0.11	\$0.09	\$0.21
DPS	\$0.68	\$0.48	\$0.12	\$0.12	\$0.03	\$0.02	\$0.02	\$0.03	\$0.04	\$0.04	\$0.04	\$0.06
Shares¹	56.3	55.3	54.6	54.3	55.7	57.6	58.4	64.0	70.7	77.9	80.0	100.0

Now that Gold Resource has spun off its mining unit in Nevada, it will focus exclusively on the mine in Oaxaca, Mexico, which is the flagship mine of the company. Gold Resource recently reiterated that it will do its best to unlock value and maximize its benefit from its large land position in Mexico.

However, the performance record shown in the above table is a stern reminder of the extreme sensitivity of Gold Resource to the prices of gold and silver. Since 2012, its earnings-per-share and stock price have plunged -82% and -91%, respectively. Nevertheless, we view the commodity prices that prevailed in 2019 as good long-term benchmarks. We thus expect higher earnings growth from Gold Resource off this year's somewhat low level thanks to our expectations for decent production growth in the upcoming years.

¹ In millions.

Disclosure: This analyst has no position in the security discussed in this research report, and no plans to initiate one in the next 72 hours.



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Valuation Analysis

Year	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	Now	2027
Avg. P/E	36.7	---	15.9	47.0	49.6	59.7	31.9	43.2	97.0	21.1	24.4	15.0
Avg. Yld.	3.1%	5.3%	2.5%	4.3%	0.8%	0.5%	0.4%	0.8%	1.0%	1.7%	1.8%	2.0%

Gold Resource is trading at a price-to-earnings ratio of 24.4. This valuation level is much lower than its 10-year average price-to-earnings ratio of 44.7, which is excessive but has resulted from high growth expectations. As soon as this growth materializes, we expect the stock to trade at an earnings multiple around 15.0. If this were to occur, the stock would incur a -9.3% annualized valuation drag, which would partly offset the high expected growth rate.

Safety, Quality, Competitive Advantage, & Recession Resiliency

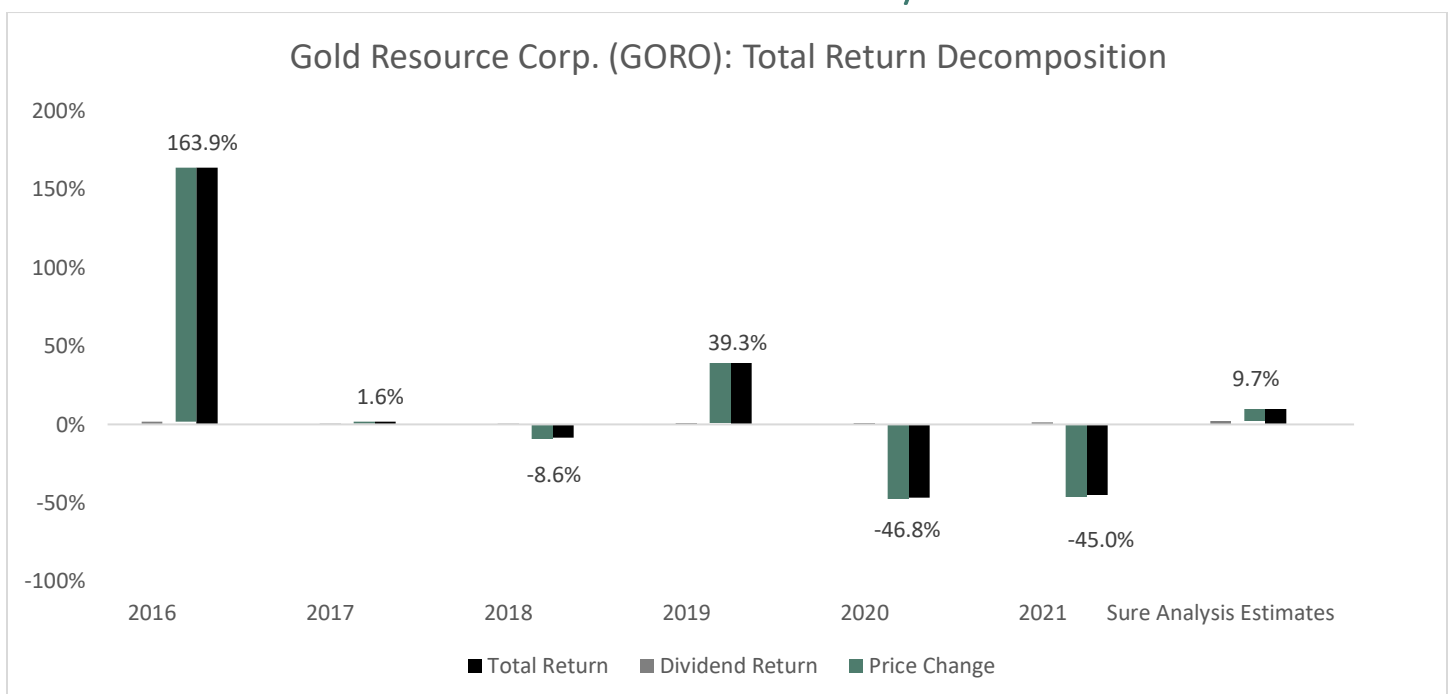
Year	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2027
Payout	113%	---	40%	200%	38%	29%	13%	33%	100%	36%	44%	29%

As a commodity producer, Gold Resource lacks a meaningful competitive advantage. Instead, it is extremely sensitive to the gyrations of the prices of gold and silver and hence it is unsuitable for income-oriented investors, who seek a reliable income stream. Last year, the company began to pay quarterly dividends instead of monthly dividends. The -92% reduction of the dividend in the last decade is a reminder of the vulnerability of the company to the commodity cycles.

Final Thoughts & Recommendation

Gold Resource has underperformed its peers, as it has posted poor earnings-per-share, despite the high prices of gold and silver. The stock could offer a 9.7% average annual return over the next five years. However, this return is not adequate to compensate investors for the high cyclical nature of the stock and its vulnerability to low prices of gold and silver, which are beyond the control of the company. We maintain our cautious buy rating but only for those who recognize the inherent risks in the business.

Total Return Breakdown by Year



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Income Statement Metrics

Year	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Revenue	132	126	115	93	83	110	115	120	91	125
Gross Profit	88	58	51	30	22	42	34	29	12	37
Gross Margin	66.6%	46.3%	44.1%	32.7%	27.0%	38.2%	29.2%	23.8%	13.8%	29.4%
SG&A Exp.	14	16	12	10	10	8	9	10	11	9
D&A Exp.	---	---	---	9	13	15	15	20	18	16
Operating Profit	50	10	32	13	8	30	18	15	(0)	23
Operating Margin	37.7%	8.2%	27.4%	14.1%	9.7%	26.8%	15.8%	12.5%	-0.5%	18.5%
Net Profit	34	5	15	3	4	4	9	6	4	8
Net Margin	25.5%	4.2%	13.0%	3.3%	5.3%	3.8%	8.1%	4.8%	4.8%	6.4%
Free Cash Flow	27	0	20	-7	3	10	-18	4	23	14
Income Tax	13	4	16	7	5	24	7	10	6	10

Balance Sheet Metrics

Year	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Total Assets	106	92	106	106	118	133	150	193	106	216
Cash & Equivalents	36	15	28	13	14	22	8	10	25	34
Accounts Receivable	6	2	1	0	1	3	2	8	4	9
Inventories	8	7	7	9	9	12	14	14	10	10
Total Liabilities	16	17	18	18	11	21	23	35	15	95
Accounts Payable	3	4	6	12	5	7	12	9	9	13
Long-Term Debt	---	---	---	---	---	2	2	---	---	---
Shareholder's Equity	90	75	88	89	107	112	127	158	91	121
LTD/E Ratio	---	---	---	---	---	0.02	0.02	0.01	---	---

Profitability & Per Share Metrics

Year	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Return on Assets	30.5%	5.4%	15.2%	2.9%	3.9%	3.3%	6.6%	3.4%	2.9%	5.0%
Return on Equity	38.1%	6.5%	18.4%	3.5%	4.5%	3.8%	7.8%	4.1%	3.5%	7.6%
ROIC	38.1%	6.5%	18.4%	3.5%	4.5%	3.7%	7.6%	4.1%	3.5%	7.6%
Shares Out.	56.3	55.3	54.6	54.3	55.7	57.6	58.4	64.0	70.7	77.9
Revenue/Share	2.34	2.27	2.11	1.71	1.49	1.91	1.98	1.88	1.28	1.66
FCF/Share	0.47	0.00	0.36	(0.12)	0.05	0.18	(0.03)	0.07	0.32	0.19

Note: All figures in millions of U.S. Dollars unless per share or indicated otherwise.

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