

市场通讯 2023年08月10日发布



基本金属、贵金属、铁矿石和钢铁的汇总分析和预测

上个季度市场曾一度指望央行暂停紧缩周期,继而又判断七月份、甚至第四季度仍将继续加息。目前唯央行马首是瞻的论调已过时,未来经济增长和消费强度将成为推动市场风险情绪的关键因素。不变的是,对于本季度金属走势的长期叙事来说,中国的经济刺激效果仍然至关重要。有迹象表明,监管部门正在努力兑现最近一次政治局会议上做出的承诺,市场情绪亦因此有所改善。然而,市场对支持措施的规模仍持谨慎态度,任何积极消息的作用似乎都很短暂。因此正面的刺激措施难以立即提振看涨情绪,而更有可能巩固市场的支撑位。

铝(AI)-本季度铝价继续走低。由于全球需求前景 疲软,加之市场预期主要央行货币政策进一步收 紧,基本金属走势承压。铝作为对宏观经济反应最 敏感的金属之一,也失去动能。虽然美联储暂停加 息第三季度应该有助于巩固市场的支撑位,但中国 的刺激措施将是推动市场情绪的关键。云南的炼 厂正在恢复生产,但由于中国再次出现干旱的风险 不断上升,产量增长有限。估计价格范围:2,130-2,400美元/吨。

铜 (Cu) - 第二季度铜与其他基本金属同样走软,再次测试近期和 2005 年曾到达过的低点,伦敦金属交易所 (LME) 交易所库存减少受到广泛关注。然而,鉴于需求前景黯淡,铜价受库存变动的影响似乎较小。本年度预计精炼铜将保持 3.6 万吨的小幅过剩。但这样的过剩持续不了几年:采矿能力投资不足,以及电动汽车的长期需求前景向好,将导致全球铜材短缺。预估价格范围:\$8,100-8,920/吨。

铅 (Pb) - 第二季度由于消费复苏预期不足,铅价 在 1,980 - 2,190 美元/吨之间徘徊。锌对铅的溢价 升至多年低点 232 美元/吨,锌比铅更为抗跌。中国 经济尤其是建筑行业前景黯淡,建材首当其冲。尽 管如此,整体生产恢复和新产能释放应该会导致7 月份产量增加。在宏观环境相对稳定的情况下,预 计今年三季度铅价将继续在 2,000-2,240 美元/吨 之间波动

镍(Ni) - 季初镍价跌破 22,000 美元/吨的强劲支撑 位。各大央行货币政策持续收紧、经济前景黯淡,避 险情绪占据主导地位。随着中国炼厂陆续完成例行 维护,预计第三季度产量将继续恢复。尽管如此, 复产幅度微乎其微,完全复产尚需时日。经济复苏 值得乐观,但积极的势头要体现在价格上也需要一 段时间。估计第三季度价格区间为 20,000-24,000 美元/吨。

锡(Sn)-锡成为基本金属中唯一的例外:在缅甸锡 矿石出口禁令的推动下,锡价本季度上涨6.22%。 鉴于缅甸当局希望平稳过渡,禁令很难立即严格实施,而且中国仍有相当多的缓冲库存,因此时机将 是评估现货紧俏程度的关键。由于全球需求依然 低迷,预计锡价将继续主要由供应因素驱动,而继 续在26,000-30,000美元/吨的范围区间波动。 锌(Zn)-不论从上季度还是年初至今来看,锌都在基本金属中表现最差,价格下跌20%,原因是中国刺激政策后效尚不明确,建材承压。有初步迹象表明,欧洲炼厂今年可能复产;然而,价格下跌进一步削弱了全面复产的可能性,并且第四季度的生产仍将面临能源价格的威胁。预计第四季度房地产市场量价有限上行,退高锌价到2,300-2,750美元/吨的价格区间。

铁矿石和钢材——铁矿石期货继续受到中国经济 刺激前景的影响。尽管市场希望出台大规模刺激 措施,但利好作用有限。刺激政策虽不能立即促进 经济增长,但如果能兼顾债务规模控制,应可为中 国开拓一条从封锁限制中复苏的道路。然而,鉴于 监管部门不会放任价格大幅上涨,价格很难突破 120美元/吨。预估范围:100-120美元/吨。

黄金(Au)-金价第二季度下跌2.5%,收于1,919.35 美元/盎司。随着第三季度通胀放缓,美联储结束紧 缩周期,预计黄金将受益。由于货币紧缩长周期作 用明显,各大央行开始暂停加息。然而预计在较长 时间内信贷仍将保持紧张,拖累经济增长并导致收 益率下降,这些因素应有助于提高无收益黄金的吸 引力。价格预估范围:1,900美元-2,010美元/盎司。

白银(Ag)-与黄金一样,白银在第二季度表现不 佳。随着市场把美联储紧缩周期结束的因素计入 定价,白银在6月底恢复上涨。尽管美国经济表现 的任何积极数据都可能压制银价,但通胀减弱会 支持暂停货币紧缩,从而利好第三季度的银价。范 围:21.00-26美元/盎司。

钯金(Pd)-与本报告前期预测一致,钯金第二季度 继续下跌,6月底跌至1,222美元/盎司,达到2018 年3月以来的最低水平。钯金需求的85%来自于汽 车行业,随着零排放电动车的需求不断增长,钯金 前景依然严峻。范围:1,100-1,300美元/盎司。

铂金(Pt)-铂金价格在第二季度初上涨,4月下半 月达到1,127.20美元/盎司。美元走软和南非的电 力问题抵消了半导体领域的小幅上涨,推动铂价测 试2022年3月达到的高点,并将随着重型车辆使 用量的增加以及汽油车中部分替代钯金而受到提 振。范围:900-1050美元/盎司。 Industrial Commodities

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Quarterly Metals Report

Summary Analysis and Forecasts for Base Metals, Precious Metals, Iron Ore & Steel

In the previous quarter, expectations shifted from a pause in the central bank tightening cycle to further rate increases in July and potentially later in Q4 2023. As we move away from central bank-centric rhetoric, economic growth and consumer performance will be key in driving the risk sentiment across the board. Still, China's stimulus outlook remains critical to the longer-term narrative for metals this quarter. Sentiment has been improving as signs emerged that regulators are working to follow through on the promises made at the most recent Politburo meeting. However, markets remain cautious about the scale of support, and any positive news seems short-lived. As a result, the positive stimulus is more likely to solidify support levels than boost bullish sentiment in the near term.

Aluminium (AI) - Aluminium prices continued to drift lower during the quarter, as weakening global demand outlook and further tightening expectations from key central banks weighed on base metals' performance. Aluminium, being one of the most macro-responsive metals, lost momentum as a result. While the pause from the Fed should help solidify support for Q3 2023, stimulus out of China will be key in driving the overall narrative. Yunnan smelters are returning online, but rising risks around the possible repeat of drought conditions in China could cap any upside in production gains. Range \$2,130-2,400/t.

Copper (Cu) - Copper, in line with the rest of the base metals complex, weakened in Q2 2023. Much attention has been paid to diminishing stocks on the LME exchange as levels retest the recent and 2005-year lows. However, given the muted demand outlook, prices seem to be less impacted by stock moves. For 2023, copper is expected to remain in a slight surplus of 36k tonnes of refined material, one of the last years of surplus before underinvestment in mining capacity and longer-term demand prospects from EVs deepen the global material deficit. Range: \$8,100-8,920/t.

Lead (Pb) - The expectation of consumer recovery has been muted during the quarter, and the price of lead fluctuated within the highs and lows of \$1,980 - \$2,190/t. The zinc to lead premium climbed to multi-year lows of \$232/t after the zinc downside was more robust than in lead. Construction materials feel the brunt of the Chinese muted outlook, especially in the construction sector. Still, overall production resumptions and the release of new capacity should lead to increased output in July. With relatively stable macro conditions, we anticipate lead prices to maintain trading in fluctuations in Q3 2023 between \$2,000-2,240/t.

Nickel (Ni) - At the start of Q2 2023, nickel prices have broken robust support of \$22,000/t, as the risk-off sentiment took hold on the back of a compounding impact of continued monetary policy tightening across major banks and muted outlook from China. Since smelters are returning from maintenance, we expect production to continue recovering in Q3. Still, it will take time to reach full capacity, and the recovery will be marginal. While we still hold our optimistic view of recovery true, the positive momentum is being priced further down the curve. Our outlook for Q3 is \$20,000-24,000/t.

Tin (Sn) - Tin's performance was the only exception amongst the base metals group, as it gained 6.22% during the quarter on the back of the Myanmar tin ore export ban. While we struggle to see a strict, immediate implementation, given authorities hope for a smooth demobilisation process, there is still a fair bit of buffer stock in China, so the timing will be key to assessing the physical tightness in the market. We expect prices to continue to be driven by supply forces as global demand remains muted, keeping futures in the \$26,000-30,000/t range. **Zinc** (Zn) - On a quarterly and a year-to-date basis, zinc was the worst performer among other base metals, falling by 20%, as construction-heavy materials took the heat from a lack of China's stimulus clarity. There are tentative signs that European smelters could begin production again this year; however, declining prices are further dimming prospects of a full-fledged return, and Q4 production is again under threat of energy prices. We believe we will continue to see gains in the property market and a build-up of activity in Q4 2023; however, they will be marginal, pushing zinc to \$2,300-2,750/t.

Iron Ore & Steel - Iron ore futures continue to be subject to China's stimulus outlook. Despite market hopes of a large stimulus, we expect the support more likely to be limited in scope. While this might not boost growth immediately, it should create a sustainable path for Chinese recovery from lockdown restrictions while balancing stimulus without over-inflating debt. We are, however, cautious of prices breaking above \$120/ mt, given that regulators are more prone to tighten supervision after big price gains. Range: \$100-120/mt.

Gold (Au) - Gold finished Q2 2.5% lower, closing at \$1,919.35/ oz. We expect gold to benefit from the softening inflationary environment in Q3 as an indicator of the end of the tightening cycle from the Fed. As the long cycle of monetary policy tightening starts to yield positive results, major central banks are on the path to pause interest rate hikes. Still, credit conditions are expected to stay tight for longer, moderating economic growth and bringing yields lower, which should raise the attractiveness of holding non-yielding bullion. Range: \$1,900-\$2,010/oz.

Silver (Ag) - In line with gold, silver underperformed in the second quarter of the year. Silver returned to rise in late June as the markets priced at the end of the Fed's monetary tightening campaign. While any positive data on the US economic performance is likely to drive silver prices lower, softening inflationary pressures should support the case for a pause in monetary tightening, creating a more favourable environment for precious metals in Q3 2023. Range: \$21.00-26/oz.

Palladium (Pd) - In line with our previous report, palladium continued to lose ground in the second quarter of 2023, falling to a \$1,222/oz level at the end of June, the lowest level since March 2018. While the automobile sector, which accounts for 85% of palladium demand, continues to rise, the palladium outlook remains grim, given the increasing demand for exhaust-free electric vehicles. Range: \$1,100-\$1,300/oz.

Platinum (Pt) - Platinum prices rallied at the start of Q2 2023, reaching \$1,127.20/oz in the second half of April. Softer dollar and power issues from South Africa offset the minor gains from the semiconductor space, pushing the metal to test March 2022 highs. Platinum is expected to be boosted by increasing use in heavy-duty vehicles and some substitution of palladium in petrol vehicles. Range: \$900-\$1050/oz.

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