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## Mining project to bring benefits

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A PROPOSED mining operation near the mouth of the Sigatoka River could prove beneficial in terms of flood mitigation, improved river traffic, employment opportunities and improved port infrastructure.

This is the view of Dome Gold Mines CEO Jack McCarthy.

Dome Gold Mines is the parent company of Magma Mines Ltd, the organisation granted an exploratory licence to mine the Sigatoka River bed for iron-sand.

"Dredging of the river can mitigate flooding, improve the water quality of the river and increase marine life and diversity," Mr McCarthy said.

"There is no use of chemicals in the dredging or sand washing processes so no pollutants will be introduced to the environment."

He said Magma Mines intended to conduct dredge mining.

"Dredge mining has a low profile and sand processing will be undertaken near the existing sewage treatment facility so it will not be visible to most visitors or residents of Sigatoka."

Mr McCarthy added that there would be employment opportunities for people living near the proposed mining project and other opportunities.