



**STATE OF MISSISSIPPI
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COMMERCE**

ANDY GIPSON
COMMISSIONER

PRESS STATEMENT

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Statement on EPA Withdrawal of Support for Yazoo Pumps

Statement from Agriculture Commissioner Andy Gipson on EPA's Withdrawal of Support for Yazoo Pumps

JACKSON, Miss. – Commissioner of Agriculture and Commerce Andy Gipson gave the following statement regarding EPA's withdrawal of support for the Yazoo Pumps.

"The EPA's decision to retract its previous approval and instead oppose the Yazoo Pumps once again is a huge atrocity. Mississippians in the South Delta, farmers, state and local leaders, the EPA and the US Corps of Engineers were united in a plan, and in agreement on a solution reached earlier this year to finish the pumps. Now, the Biden Administration's EPA has dashed those hopes.

These are not natural flooding issues; they were created by the federal government's water control plan, and they continue because the federal government has failed to construct these pumps it first approved more than 80 years ago. The EPA may not be able to see it from Washington, DC, but when the South Delta floods, Mississippians see it in their fields and businesses, they feel the water in the living rooms. These floodwaters destroy Mississippi farmland and homes, roads and businesses, and this government-created disaster destroys our wildlife and environment. Rich, and poor alike, suffer from this government-made problem and will continue to suffer as a result of this environmental injustice perpetuated by the Biden Administration EPA.

The Yazoo Pumps would mitigate the flooding, protect our farmland and the environment, and safeguard homes and schools throughout Delta communities, and I promise you I will continue to fight for and stand with Mississippians who demand the federal government finish the pumps."

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Video footage of 2019 Yazoo Backwater Area flooding can be found at:
<https://youtu.be/j7LKBd-qiNE>.

Photos Attached. Flooding from the Yazoo Backwater Area during the historic 2019 flood that impacted the Mississippi South Delta.



