



MEDIA ADVISORY

Deputy Minister Sello Seitholo to undertake an oversight inspection of water courses and waste water pumpstations in Springs and Alexandra, Gauteng

03 March 2025

As the Water Sector observes National Water Month, Water and Sanitation Deputy Minister, Sello Seitholo will embark on a two-day inspection of water courses of Blesbokspruit Wetlands near Springs, Ekurhuleni and Jukskei River in Alexandra north of Johannesburg, on Tuesday and Wednesday, 4 and 5 March 2025, to assess their state of pollution. The Deputy Minister will also inspect wastewater pumpstations in those areas.

National Water Month, an expansion of the World Water Day on 22 March, seeks to raise awareness on the importance of protecting and conserving water resources. Water is at the core of sustainable development and is critical for socio-economic development, healthy ecosystems and for human survival. Quality water is vital for reducing the burden of disease and improving the health, welfare and productivity of people.

Since the launch of the Anti-Pollution Forum last year in October, Deputy Minister Seitholo has been on a drive to visit major water courses in the country to assess the level of pollution and quality of the water.

Deputy Minister Seitholo will assess Blesbokspruit Wetland, which is significant in its bird and ecological diversity. The wetland has, however, been degraded by agricultural runoff, industrial effluent, mining waste, and sewerage discharge from malfunctioning waste water treatments plants in the area. This has led to poor water quality and high nutrient levels in the wetland.

It is also the same with Jukskei River running through Alexandra. The river receives a large inflow from the Northern Waste Water Treatment Plants in northern Johannesburg but due to poor infrastructure maintenance by municipalities, untreated raw waste flow into the river resulting in the river to become heavily polluted.

Members of the media are invited to join Deputy Minister Seitholo on his oversight inspection of the water courses and the waste water pumpstations. The media will be afforded an opportunity to interact with the Deputy Minister.

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Department:
Water and Sanitation
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



The details are as follows:

DAY 1 (Date: Tuesday, 04 March 2025)

Session 1

Venue: **Blesbokspruit Wetlands**

Time: **09:00**

Session 2

Venue: **Acid Mine Drainage Plant (Ekurhuleni)**

Time: **10:00**

Session 3 (Assessment of water hyacinth eradication programme)

Venue: **Vaal Barrage, Stonehaven**

Time: **15:00**

DAY 2 (Date: Wednesday, 05 March 2025)

Session 1

Venue: **N3 Linksfield Road**

Time: **09:30**

Session 2

Venue: **Bruma Litter Trap and sewer collapse**

Time: **10:00**

Session 3

Venue: **Olifantsfontein Waste Water Treatment Plant**

Time: **11:30**

Session 4

Venue: **Zandspruit Pumpstation**

Time: **14:00**

END

Issued by the Department of Water & Sanitation

For more information, contact Wisane Mavasa, Spokesperson for the Department of Water and Sanitation on 060 561 8935/ mavasaw@dws.gov.za.

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