

MEDIA STATEMENT

Witbank Dam records a 5.5% drop in water volumes

23 December 2021

The Witbank Dam in the Nkangala District recorded a 5.5% drop in water volumes over the past week. Water levels in the listed dams and catchment areas continue to rise in the Mpumalanga Province. According to the latest Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS) weekly state of reservoirs report of 20 December 2021, the Witbank Dam is one of the two dams that recorded declines in water levels in the Nkangala District. The report shows that Witbank Dam dropped from last week's 98.9% to 93.4% followed by the Middelburg Dam which dropped from 97.1% to 95.7%.

On the positive note in the Nkangala District, Loskop Dam increased from 93.7% to 102.0% and Rhenosterkop or Mkhombo Dam increased from 6.1% to 6.3%.

The DWS report also shows that the average water levels in the listed dams in the Mpumalanga Province further increased from last week's 85.0% to 87.4%. In the Water Management Areas (WMA), the Olifants WMA recorded an increase from 72.4% to 76.8% and the Inkomati-Usuthu WMA increased from 89.1% to 90.5%.

The Department of Water and Sanitation encourages the public to continue using water wisely and more conservatively despite the falling rain as South Africa is a dry and water scarce country. Water has no substitute therefore let us all be responsible and make every precious drop count.

As we continue to receive some much-needed rainfall, DWS also encourages the public to be cautious on rainy days and avoid dams and riverbanks as water levels increase, and also avoid flooded areas to prevent the loss of important lives and property as we can see that the rain is associated with thunderstorms and flashfloods.

End

Issued by the Department of Water & Sanitation

For more information, contact Sputnik Ratau, Spokesperson for the Department of Water and Sanitation on 082 874 2942 or Themba Khoza on 066 301 6962

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