



MEDIA STATEMENT

Kwena Dam edges closer to 100%

01 April 2021

The Kwena Dam in the Crocodile River upstream of the City of Mbombela continued its rise in water levels and is edging closer to 100%. This is an impressive recovery for a dam that was below 30% at the beginning of the year.

According to the Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS) weekly state of reservoirs report of 29 March 2021, the Kwena Dam recorded another week of improvement and further increased from last week's 97.3% to 98.7%. This is a good sign of water supply security for the water users, including the City of Mbombela as we head towards the dry winter season.

The increase in water levels in the Kwena Dam is also in line with the continued increase in water levels in the Mpumalanga Province. The DWS weekly report shows that the average water levels in the listed dams in the Mpumalanga Province slightly increased from 88.6% to 88.9% meaning that there is 2256.0 cubic meters of water in storage out of the required full capacity of 2538.6 cubic meters. The current water levels situation is much better than the same period last year when the level stood at 74.8%.

Water levels also continued to rise in the water management areas (WMA), with the Olifants increasing from 80.5% to 80.7% and the Inkomati-Usuthu increasing from 92.7% to 93.2%.

The other listed dams in the Lowveld and the Ehlanzeni District recorded mixed results. Driekoppies and Da Gama dams remained unchanged over the week, with Driekoppies Dam unchanged at 100.9% and Da Gama Dam unchanged at 100.3%.

On the positive side, Longmere Dam increased from 101.3% to 101.8%, Klipkopjes from 100.8% to 101.4%, Inyaka from 86.1% to 87.0%, Ohrigstad from 79.7% to 81.5% and Primkop from 101.1% to 102.2%.

On the decline mode, Blyderivierpoort Dam dropped from 100.8% to 100.7%, Buffelskloof from 100.8% to 100.5% and Witklip from 100.6% to 100.5%.









Despite the improvements in water levels and some dams still above 100%, the Department of Water and Sanitation urges the public to use the available water wisely sparingly and in a more conservative manner as we head towards the dry water season in most parts of the country including the Mpumalanga Province.

End

Issued by the Department of Water & Sanitation

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