



MEDIA STATEMENT

Mpumalanga water levels drop

03 August 2022

The Mpumalanga Province recorded a drop in water levels over the week. The average water levels in the listed dams and in the Olifants and Inkomati-Usuthu water management areas (WMA) recorded declines in water volumes.

The Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS) weekly state of reservoirs report of 01 August 2022 shows that the average levels of the listed dams in the Mpumalanga Province slightly decreased from last week's 95.2% to 95.1%. Water levels also dropped in the Water Management Areas (WMA), with the Olifants WMA dropping from 84.5% to 84.4% and the Inkomati-Usuthu WMA dropping from 98.8% to 98.5%. Even though the water volumes dropped, the water levels are higher the same period last year when the average dam levels stood at 82.7%, the Olifants WMA at 75.7% and the Inkomati-Usuthu WMA at 89.1%.

Most of the listed dams in Ehlanzeni District and the Lowveld recorded declines in water levels and only Buffelskloof Dam remained unchanged at 100.2%.

On the decline mode, Blyderivierpoort Dam dropped from 100.2% to 100.1%, Driekoppies from 100.5% to 100.4%, Klipkopjes from 99.8% to 99.2%, Kwena from 100.3% to 100.2%, Da Gama from 99.8% to 99.0%, Inyaka from 86.2% to 85.8% and Ohrigstad from 49.7% to 49.0%.

The Gert Sibande District also saw most of the listed dams recording declines in water volumes. Grootdraai Dam recorded a 0.3% decline from last week's 100.2% to 99.9%. Vygeboom dropped from 100.1% to 99.6%, Jericho from 100.8% to 98.7% and Westoe from 91.4% to 89.8%.

On the positive side, Morgenstond and Heyshope dams recorded slight improvements in water levels, increasing from 100.5% to 100.6% and 100.4% to 100.5% respectively. Nooitgedacht Dam remained unchanged at 100.3%.

In the Nkangala District, Witbank Dam remained unchanged at 101.3% and Loskop Dam dropped from 100.7% to 100.6%.

Improving in water levels in the Nkangala District, Middelburg Dam increased from 98.8% to 98.9% and Rhenosterkop / Mkhombo Dam increased from 50.2% to 50.7%.

As the water levels drop, the Department of Water and Sanitation calls on the public to use the available water wisely and sparingly, taking into account that South Africa is a dry and water scarce country and every drop counts for water security.

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