



MEDIA STATEMENT

Dam levels in Mpumalanga continue to drop

19 October 2022

The Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS) calls on the public to be conservative in their water use as water levels in the Mpumalanga Province and most parts of the country continue to drop. Considering the continuous drop in water levels, the DWS encourages the public to be wise water users and use the available water sparingly, taking into consideration that South Africa is a water scarce country.

The latest DWS weekly state of reservoirs report of 17 October 2022 shows that the average dam levels in the Mpumalanga Province dropped from 90.4% to 88.6%. In terms of water management areas (WMA), the Olifants WMA dropped from 80.0% to 79.0% and the Inkomati-Usuthu WMA dropped from 94.6% to 92.4%.

Only two listed dams recorded some improvements in water levels in the province. The Longmere Dam in Ehlanzeni District increased from 81.7% to 94.3% and the Vygeboom Dam in Gert Sibande District increased from 99.8% to 100.3%. Westoe Dam also in Gert Sibande District remained unchanged at 73.3%.

In Lowveld and Ehlanzeni District, Blyderivierpoort Dam dropped from 80.1% to 77.2%, Buffelskloof from 82.3% to 76.3%, Driekoppies from 99.0% to 90.8%, Klipkopjes from 92.8% to 87.8%, Witklip from 91.6% to 89.8%, Primkop from 75.4% to 67.9%, Kwena from 89.5% to 86.2%, Da Gama from 92.8% to 90.5%, Inyaka from 80.4% to 79.5% and Ohrigstad from 32.1% to 28.3%.

In Gert Sibande District, Grootdraai Dam dropped from 91.1% to 90.0%, Nooitgedacht from 98.4% to 97.5%, Jericho from 91.4% to 90.2%, Morgenstond from 99.4% to 98.1% and Heyshope from 99.0% to 98.7%.

All the listed dams in the Nkangala District recorded declines in water volumes. Witbank Dam dropped from 98.4% to 96.7%, Middelburg from 93.7% to 93.6%, Loskop from 97.9% to 96.5%, and Rhenosterkop / Mkhombo Dam dropped from 49.0% to 48.3%.

DWS further encourages the public to take care and protect the water supply infrastructure from theft and vandalism to prevent the unnecessary loss of precious water as every drop counts as water has no substitute.

Issued by the Department of Water & Sanitation

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