



## **MEDIA STATEMENT**

### **Grootdraai Dam remains stable amid declining levels across Gert Sibande District**

21 August 2025

The Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS) has noted a general decline in dam levels across the Gert Sibande District in Mpumalanga, with the Grootdraai Dam emerging as the only stable dam in the area. According to the Department's weekly State of Reservoirs report, released this week, Grootdraai Dam, an integral part of the Vaal River System, maintained a steady 98.6% level.

In contrast, other listed dams in the district recorded slight decreases:

- Nooitgedacht from 100.3% to 99.4%
- Vygeboom from 100.4% to 100.2%
- Jericho from 95.2% to 94.4%
- Westoe from 81.9% to 79.8%
- Morgenstond from 100.1% to 100.0%
- Heyshope from 100.2% to 100.1%

Overall, the Mpumalanga Province's average dam levels dropped from 98.2% to 97.8%. Similarly, declines were recorded in the Water Management Areas, with the Limpopo-Olifants WMA decreasing from 93.4% to 93.1%, and the Inkomati-Usuthu WMA from 97.1% to 96.7%. District-level figures also show a downward trend, with Ehlanzeni dropping from 94.7% to 94.2%, Gert Sibande from 98.5% to 98.3%, and Nkangala from 100.7% to 100.2%.

While water levels remain generally satisfactory, the Department urges residents of Mpumalanga and South Africans at large, to strengthen water conservation efforts. South Africa is classified as one of the 30 driest countries in the world, where every drop of water is precious and irreplaceable.

**END**

**Issued by the Department of Water & Sanitation**

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