



MEDIA STATEMENT

Residents urged to use water sparingly amid minimal decrease in Mpumalanga dam levels

11 June 2025

The Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS) urges all residents in Mpumalanga to continue using water wisely and sparingly, following a slight decline in dam levels across the province. Despite overall levels remaining relatively high, the Department emphasizes the importance of ongoing conservation to ensure water security for all communities.

According to the latest State of Reservoirs report released this week, the average dam levels in Mpumalanga have dropped slightly from 99.8% to 99.7%. In the province's Water Management Areas (WMAs), the Limpopo-Olifants WMA remained stable at 94.9%, while the Inkomati-Usuthu WMA experienced a minor decrease from 99.3% to 99.1%.

Among the districts, Nkangala was the only one to record an increase, rising from 100.5% to 100.8%. Ehlanzeni saw a decrease from 97.6% to 97.4%, while Gert Sibande declined from 100.7% to 100.4%. In the Ehlanzeni District and the Lowveld region, water levels in several key dams remained stable. Inyaka Dam was the only one to show a slight improvement, increasing from 99.4% to 99.5%.

Dams which remained unchanged in water levels include Blyderivierpoort at 100.2%, Buffelskloof at 100.3%, Witklip at 100.2%, and Ohrigstad at 78.3%.

On the decline, Driekoppies dropped from 94.7% to 94.5%, Longmere from 100.7% to 98.9%, Klipkopjes from 100.2% to 100.0%, Primkop from 100.4% to 100.2%, Kwena from 100.5% to 100.4%, and Da Gama from 100.3% to 99.8%.

In the Gert Sibande District, most dams showed slight drops. While Nooitgedacht and Morgenstond dams remained steady at 100.4% and 100.1% respectively, Grootdraai Dam dropped from 101.1% to 100.5%, Vygeboom Dam from 100.4% to 100.3%, Jericho Dam from 102.1% to 101.4%, Westoe Dam from 97.6% to 96.6%, and Heyshope Dam from 100.8% to 100.5%.

In the Nkangala District, Witbank Dam rose from 100.4% to 102.5%, and Middelburg Dam increased from 97.2% to 97.7%. However, Loskop Dam dropped slightly from 100.9% to 100.8%, and Mkhombo Dam (Rhenosterkop) from 100.7% to 100.5%.

The Department reiterates that despite these mostly favourable dam levels, South Africa remains a water-scarce country, and complacency could jeopardize future supply. Citizens

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are strongly encouraged to conserve water by fixing leaks, avoiding wasteful practices, and promptly reporting damaged infrastructure. Every effort, no matter how small, contributes to safeguarding our water resources for future generations.

END

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For more information, contact Dr. Mandla Mathebula at 083 235 8675 or MathebulaM4@dws.gov.za or Themba Khoza on 066 301 6962

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