



## MEDIA STATEMENT

### DWS encourages communities to continue saving water as Eastern Cape dam levels decline

**04 June 2026**

The Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS) is urging residents across the Eastern Cape to continue using water sparingly following a slight decline in provincial dam levels. This is the latest weekly state of reservoirs report, released earlier this week shows that overall water storage levels in the province decreased from 89.7% last week to 88.6% this week, highlighting the need for continued water conservation despite generally healthy storage levels.

While major dams supplying the Nelson Mandela Bay Metropolitan Municipality remain above full capacity, slight decreases have been recorded. Kouga Dam declined from 101.5% to 101.1%, while Impofu Dam decreased from 100.9% to 100.6%. Loerie Dam showed a marginal improvement, increasing from 101.2% to 101.4%.

Key dams serving Buffalo City Metropolitan Municipality and surrounding areas also registered decreasing levels. Nahoon Dam dropped from 73.4% to 72.4%, while Bridle Drift Dam decreased from 81.3% to 80.1%. Rooikrans Dam experienced the most notable decline, falling from 96.7% to 91.2%. Laing Dam remains the only dam in the system at full capacity, maintaining a level of 100%.

The dams supplying the Chris Hani District Municipality recorded mixed results. Macubeni Dam increased from 95.1% to 97.5%, Waterdown Dam improved slightly from 99.9% to 100%, while Tsojana Dam remained stable at 99.1%. Xonxa Dam recorded a marginal decrease from 98.3% to 98.1%.

Although water storage levels in many parts of the province remain relatively healthy, the Department remains concerned about the continued downward trend in

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several key water supply systems. The onset of the dry winter season highlights the importance of responsible water use by all consumers.

The Department therefore calls on communities, businesses and institutions to continue implementing water-saving measures, including repairing leaks, avoiding wastage, and using water efficiently in homes and workplaces. Collective action and responsible water use can help safeguard water resources and ensure sustainable water supply for current and future generations.

**END**

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

For more information, contact Dr Mandla Mathebula, Head of Communication on 083 235 8675/ [mathebulam4@dws.gov.za](mailto:mathebulam4@dws.gov.za)

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