



MEDIA STATEMENT

Grootdraai Dam levels ease but remain securely above full capacity

11 February 2026

The Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS) has released its latest State of Reservoirs report, confirming that Grootdraai Dam in the Integrated Vaal River System, Gert Sibande District, Mpumalanga Province, continues to show a marginal decline in water levels. Despite this easing, the dam remains securely above the 100% full capacity mark, recording a slight dip from 101.1% to 101.0% over the past week.

This pattern reflects the broader trend across the Gert Sibande District, where most dams recorded decreases in storage volumes. Nooitgedacht Dam was the exception, improving from 99.6% to 100.3%. Vygeboom Dam eased from 100.0% to 99.1%, Jericho from 101.0% to 100.7%, Westoe from 85.8% to 85.7%, Morgenstond from 100.7% to 100.0%, and Heyshope from 100.5% to 100.4%.

Across Mpumalanga Province, average dam levels declined slightly from 100.4% to 100.1%. The Limpopo–Olifants Water Management Area dropped from 99.3% to 99.1%, while the Inkomati–Usuthu area eased from 100.1% to 99.8%. All three districts reflected similar trends, with Ehlanzeni moving from 101.3% to 100.8%, Gert Sibande from 99.9% to 99.7%, and Nkangala from 100.6% to 100.2%.

While overall water resources remain satisfactory, the DWS reminds the public that South Africa is a water-scarce country. Water conservation remains critical to safeguarding sustainable supply and ensuring long-term water security for current and future generations. The Department further encourages households and communities to adopt safe rainwater harvesting during rainy periods, helping to ease demand on municipal systems and strengthen resilience against future shortages.

END

Issued by the Department of Water & Sanitation

For more information, contact Wisane Mavasa, Spokesperson for the Department of Water and Sanitation, on 060 561 8935 or Themba Khoza on 066 301 6962

SOUTH AFRICA IS A WATER-SCARCE COUNTRY





water & sanitation

Department:
Water and Sanitation
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



For media releases, speeches, and news, visit the Water & Sanitation portal at:
www.dws.gov.za

SOUTH AFRICA IS A WATER-SCARCE COUNTRY



Department of Water and Sanitation South Africa



DWS_RSA