



MEDIA STATEMENT

Average dam levels decrease in Mpumalanga due to declines in Gert Sibande and Nkangala Districts water levels

06 March 2018

The average dam levels in the Mpumalanga Province slightly decreased from last week's 78.0% to 77.9% as per the Department of Water and Sanitation's weekly state of reservoirs report of 05 March 2018. The water management areas recorded contrasting results with the Olifants Catchment recording a slight decline from 66.9% to 66.7% whilst the Inkomati-Usuthu Catchment recorded a slight increase from 76.2% to 76.3%.

In the three districts of the Mpumalanga Province, only the Ehlanzeni District recorded increases in the dam levels, whilst the Gert Sibande and Nkangala Districts experienced declines in water volumes.

In the Ehlanzeni District, Driekoppies Dam which stayed below 50% for a long time increased from 52.9% to 53.8%, Klipkopjes Dam increased from 75.1% to 76.3%, Witklip Dam increased from 92.6% to 94.2%, Primkop Dam increased from 87% to 90.2%, Kwena Dam increased from 63.7% to 64.4%, Da Gama Dam increased from 82.5% to 83.4% and Inyaka Dam remained unchanged at 76.3%. Only the Longmere Dam recorded a decline in water levels from 69.1% to 65.3%.



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In the Nkangala District, Witbank Dam decreased from 98.5% to 97.3%, Middelburg Dam decreased from 94.0% to 93.4% and the Loskop Dam decreased from 97.9% to 97.6%.

The majority of dams in the Gert Sibande District recorded declines in water levels. Grootdraai Dam decreased from 100.0% to 99.3%, Jericho Dam decreased from 86.9% to 86.7%, Westoe Dam decreased from 80.8% to 80.1%, Heyshope Dam decreased from 84.8% to 84.6%, Nooitgedacht Dam decreased from 92.8% to 92.0% and Vygeboom Dam decreased from 100.8% to 100.6%.

South Africa is a water scarce country and one of the driest countries in the world, so it is crucial that we use the available water wisely and in a conservative manner to ensure water security for the current and future generations as water is life.

End

Issued by the Department of Water & Sanitation

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