



water & sanitation

Department:
Water and Sanitation
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

MEDIA STATEMENT

Average water levels drop in the Mpumalanga Province

31 May 2018

The Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS) weekly state of water reservoirs report of 28 May 2018 recorded a 0.2% decline from 82.1% to 81.9% on average dam levels in the Mpumalanga Province. The decline in the dam levels is a direct result of the decrease in the water management areas, with the Olifants catchment decreasing from 74.1% to 73.9% and the Inkomati-Usuthu catchment declining from 82.3% to 82.2%.

Major of dams in the Ehlanzeni District in the Inkomati catchment recorded mixed results in relation to the volume of water in storage, with Inyaka Dam decreasing from 79.1% to 78.7%, Da Gama Dam decreasing from 85.5% to 84.7%, Longmere Dam from 76.4% to 73.6% and Primkop Dam dipping from 100.4% to 100.3%. On the upside, Driekoppies Dam increased slightly from 67.4% to 67.9%, Klipkopies Dam from 80.3% to 81.6% and Kwena Dam rose from 73.7% to 74.2%, whilst the Witklip Dam remained unchanged at a capacity 100.3%.

In the Olifants catchment, the Witbank and Middelburg dams recorded slight increases in water volumes whilst the Loskop dam decreased. Witbank Dam increased from 100.6% to 100.7%, Middelburg Dam increased from 94.9% to 97.7% and the Loskop Dam slightly decreased from 100.3% to 100.2%.

The Gert Sibande District, which is mainly the Usutu and Vaal water management areas, recorded mostly a decline in dam levels. Grootdraai Dam decreased from 97.1% to 95.7%, Nooitgedacht Dam decreased from 95.8% to 95.0%, Westoe Dam decreased from 74.1% to 72.1% and Jericho Dam decreased from 89.8% to 88.9%. The Morgenstond Dam is the only one that recorded a slight improvement from 80.7% to 80.8%, while the Heyshope and Vygeboom dams remained unchanged at 88.9% and 100.4% respectively.

The Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS) continues to encourage members of the public to use water sparingly and to repair and report all leaks in their communities to ensure that no precious drop of water is lost, especially as we are in the dry winter season in most parts of our dry and water scarce country.



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