



water & sanitation

Department:
Water and Sanitation
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

MEDIA STATEMENT

Mpumalanga dam levels continue to drop amid increasing temperatures

09 October 2018

The Mpumalanga Province recorded a 1% average decrease in water levels in the listed dams of the province. According to the Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS) weekly status of reservoirs report of 08 October 2018, the average dam levels dropped from 73.2% to 72.2%. Water levels in the water management areas also recorded declines in water levels, with the Olifants catchment dropping from 64.2% to 63.2% and the Inkomati-Usuthu catchment dropping from 75.0% to 74.2%. The light rains that fell in parts of the province last week did not have much of an impact as the water levels continue to drop.

The water levels in the majority of the listed dams in all the districts of the province continue to decline. In the Ehlanzeni District, Driekoppies Dam dropped from 65.9% to 65.6%, Witklip Dam dropped from 83.9% to 76.0%, Kwena Dam dropped from 62.0% to 59.7%, Da Gama Dam dropped from 71.7% to 69.7% and Inyaka Dam dropped from 68.5% to 67.5%.

The water levels in the Nkangala District also continue to drop. Witbank Dam dropped from 95.1% to 94.7%, Middelburg Dam dropped from 91.5% to 90.8% and Loskop Dam dropped from 90.9% to 89.4%.

In Gert Sibande District, Grootdraai Dam dropped from 81.6% to 80.6%, Nooitgedacht Dam dropped from 87.3% to 86.9%, Vygeboom Dam dropped from 93.6% to 93.3% and Heyshope Dam dropped from 85.5% to 85.0%. The Jericho Dam recorded a slight increase from 69.8% to 70.0%.

With climate change part of us, we are not guaranteed of good rains to fill up our dams, so it is up to all of us to ensure water security by using the available water wisely. Let us make every drop count as water has no substitute.

ENDS

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For more information contact: Sputnik Ratau at 082 874 2942

For further enquiries contact: Themba Khoza on 066 301 6962

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