



MEDIA STATEMENT

Mpumalanga records slight decrease in dam levels

17 January 2018

Water levels in the Mpumalanga Province decreased slightly from last week's average of 77.5% to 77.2% as reported by the Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS) weekly state of reservoirs of 15 January 2018. The report also show a mixed reaction in the catchments, with the Olifants water management area recording a slight increase from 66.8% to 67.0% whilst the Inkomati-Usuthu Water Management Area recorded a slight decrease in water volumes from 73.8% to 73.4%.

The majority of dams recorded slight increases in water volumes, especially in the Nkangala and Ehlanzeni districts. In the Nkangala District, the Witbank Dam increased from 97.8% to 98.2%, the Middelburg Dam increased from 90.8% to 95.1% and the Loskop Dam increased from 100.2% to 100.3%. The increase in dam levels in the Nkangala District is associated with the increase in water levels in the Olifants Water Management Area.

In the Ehlanzeni District, Inyaka Dam recorded a slight decrease in water levels from 76.4% to 76.3%. Driekoppies Dam increased from 44.2% to 44.7%, Witklip Dam increased 90.3% to 90.5%, Kwena Dam increased from 66.9% to 67.6% and Da Gama Dam increased from 79.9% to 80.4%. Even though the Driekoppies Dam recorded a slight increase, it is important to take note that it is still below 50%.

Most of the dams in the Gert Sibande District recorded decreases in water levels with the Heyshope Dam recording a slight increase from 80.9% to 81.1%. The Grootdraai Dam decreased from 102.6% to 101.4%, Jericho Dam decreased from 87.1% to 87.0% and the Vygeboom Dam decreased from 100.9% to 100.7%.



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Even though the situation looks better than the same period last year, DWS would like to remind the public that it is in everybody's interest to use the available water wisely and in a conservative manner for water security for the current and future generations.

End

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