



water & sanitation

Department:
Water and Sanitation
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

MEDIA STATEMENT

Water situation in Oudtshoorn a serious concern

22 October 2018

The Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS) has noted with a serious concern the dwindling water levels in Oudtshoorn in the Little Karoo region as they remain low.

While the provinces water levels improved impressively in the last few months, the DWS' weekly dam levels report indicates that Koos Raubenheimer Dam at Oudtshoorn remain at paltry 49.13%.

Departmental Spokesperson, Mr Sputnik Ratau says while the winter rains has recharged the dam levels, the Little Karoo region which comprise Oudtshoorn remains a concern for the department. "The dire situation in Oudtshoorn has not improved and the situation is exacerbated by higher temperatures.

The other water systems across the province remained stable. The dam levels assessment report issued today, 22 October 2018 suggest that the average combined dam levels of the Western Cape Water Supply System (WCWSS) is at 75.22% as compared to 75.63% last week.

Historical statistics assumes a peak season for tourism around this time in the province. This is a season which is characterized by high volumes of water usage. While the tourism sector consumes considerably less water than other industries such as agriculture, it can play a significant role in conserving water.

The South African Weather Services (SAWS) forecasts hot conditions in the Western Cape for the next few days, DWS call upon water users to use water sparingly.

Water users are reminded that water restrictions are still in place across the length and the breadth of the Western Cape.

"Water is Life, Sanitation is Dignity"

End

Issued by the Department of Water & Sanitation

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