



water & sanitation

Department:
Water and Sanitation
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

MEDIA STATEMENT

Limpopo residents encouraged to save water

16 January 2019

The Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS) calls on water users in the province to continue using water sparingly as the dam levels keep dropping weekly.

The province's average dam levels are at 60.1% this week, with a slight improvement compared to last week when readings recorded 59.7%.

A weekly summary of Water Management Area (WMA) for Limpopo reflects a serious decline in dam levels compared to last year this time when water levels were at 71.0%. Currently, the levels are sitting at 64.2%, and in the Olifants, it is now at 57.9%, a decline of 12.9% compared to last year's 67.7%.

The Polokwane Water Supply Systems is at 74.2%, showing a major improvement when compared to last year's 56.2%. The Luvuvhu Water Supply Systems remains stagnant at 91.4% like last week. Nandoni Dam currently stands at 94.85% this week which brings relief to communities in and around Thohoyandou.

Ebenezer Dam is at 65.18% this week, whilst Tzaneen Dam has dropped to 13.46%, a major concern to the farmers relying on the dam.

Mokolo Dam increased by 2.20% from 70.48% last week to 72.68% this week and De Hoop Dam slightly went up from 80.40% last week to 80.90% this week, an increase of 0.50%.

In relation to the provincial storage, even though some water levels are still isatisfactory percentage, the province still needs to continue to implement water restrictions so that reliable water provision is sustained until the rain comes. Water is a scarce resource and catalytic towards economic development and it must therefore be conserved at all times.

The Department's Acting Regional Head in Limpopo, Mr Lesiba Tloubatla, is appealing to the people of the province and those who are visiting our shores to always be careful whenever visiting our dams or our rivers for recreational purposes.

"People should not enter into the water if they are unable to swim and parents should not leave their children playing along the dams or river banks unattended. People should always be careful especially in places where it is indicated that fishing and swimming is not allowed. We are currently experiencing severe thunderstorms in some parts of the province, so it is not advisable to be going into the dams or rivers during this period", said Mr Tloubatla.



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Issued by the Department of Water & Sanitation in Limpopo

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