



## water & sanitation

Department:  
Water and Sanitation  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



## MEDIA STATEMENT

### DWS calls on water users to save more to avoid bleak future

29 August 2019

Water consumers could face a bleak future if the consistent decline of water levels in some of the major dams that form part of the Integrated Vaal River System (IVRS) continue.

The IVRS decline this week has landed credence to the caution that water consumers need to cut back on water consumption to keep the dams at stable levels.

Last week the IVRS stood at 67.5% and is currently floating at 66.9%. Although this fall may be considered insignificant, it raises questions about water supply in the next coming months.

This week the Grootdraai Dam is floating at lower levels compared to last week. Presently, the dam stands at 63.1%, down from 63.9% last week. Thus, this is a significant drop from last year in the same week when the dam notched 85.9%.

The Sterkfontein moved slightly down from 92.2% last week to 92.1% this week. The current levels of the dam are not significantly lower compared the 94.9% the dam recorded last year in the same week.

Another dam that has slid this week is the Bloemhof Dam, which despite the fall remains resilient at 96.9%. Last week the dam recorded 97.7% and last in the comparative period last year it stood just above 100% at 100.5%.

The Katse Dam continues to plunging into trivial levels as it moved from 18.6% last week to 18.2% this week. During the same time last year the dam was at 54.2%.

Also a cause of concern, the Mohale persist to remain depressed. This week the dam has taken a further knock by not showing any rise but remaining stagnant at 33.1% it recorded last week.

Vaal Dam slightly increased from 62% last week to 62.8% this week. During the same week last year, the dam was in a healthy state when it floated at an impressive 95.1%.

In the light of the fall in major dams this week, the Department of Water and Sanitation calls on both businesses and the public. The department is of the firm view that it is only through collective cooperation that taps would not run dry.

**End**

**Issued by the Department of Water & Sanitation**

**For more information contact: Sputnik Ratau on 082 874 2942 or Hosia Sithole on 082 723 2442.**

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