



MEDIA STATEMENT

DWS encourages water consumers in the province to prioritise water conservation

22 August 2019

The Department of Water and Sanitation calls on water consumers in the province to continue using water sparingly and adhere to water restrictions imposed by their respective municipalities as dam levels are declining daily. According to DWS's weekly report, the province average dam levels are at 56.3% this week, with stored water at 857.5 cubic metres for a capacity of 1522.3 cubic metres, showing a decline compared to last year this time when readings recorded 70.5%

Figures on the summary of Water Management Area (WMA) for the province, Limpopo reflect a decline compared to last year this time when water levels were at 74.0% compared to the current 65.3%, whereas the Olifants is sitting at 55.9% showing a slight decline compared to last week's 56.5%, which should alarm Limpopo residents to continue prioritising water conservation at all times.

The report further states that Polokwane Water Supply Systems declined by 8% from 59.9% last week to 59.1% this week. The Luvuvhu Water Supply Systems is fast approaching its full capacity at 90.4%, even though it dropped by 1% compared to last week when readings recorded 90.5%

In Vhembe District area of the province, dam levels are in a satisfactory state with regard to water storage, with Nandoni Dam currently sitting at 94.2% this week, Vondo dam declining by 8% sitting at 90.0% compared to last week's at 90.8% which brings relief to communities around that area.

De Hoop Dam in Steelpoort, which supply the community of Sekhukhune and the local mining industry is at 82.1%, showing a slight decline compared to last week's at 82.6%. Flag Boshielo has declined slightly from 61.9% to 61.3%. Ebenezer Dam in Groot Letaba, which supplies majority of the communities around Polokwane, has declined slightly from 54.6% last week to 53.3% this week, while Tzaneen Dam known for its citrus industry, has dropped to a perilous 11.3%. Farmers in the area rely on the dam for water supply and irrigation. The Department, therefore, calls on farmers to always play their role in saving water as it will affect their crops and animals if the dams were to run dry.

Although the provincial storage is at satisfactory percentage, the province still needs to continue to implement water restrictions so that reliable water provision is sustained until the next summer rains. Water is a scarce resource and catalytic towards economic development and it must therefore be conserved at all times.





water & sanitation

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