



MEDIA STATEMENT

Intensify water conservation efforts as Mpumalanga water levels continue to drop

10 September 2019

The Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS) appreciates efforts of those conserving and using water wisely and encourages those left behind to join the drive and intensify water conservation initiatives and efforts as water levels continue to drop on a weekly basis in the Mpumalanga Province.

Let us all be responsible in our water use and always remember that water has no substitute and prioritize water conservation and use efficiency as we can see that the rain that fell towards the end of last week has not made any difference in increasing water volumes in the Province.

According to the latest Department of Water and Sanitation weekly state of reservoirs report of 09 September 2019, the average water levels in the listed dams in Mpumalanga dropped from 65.2% as recorded last week to 64.5%. This basically shows that the Mpumalanga Province has 1636.9 cubic metres of water in storage instead of the required 2538.6 cubic metres to be at full capacity. The report also shows that the water levels in the water management areas continue to drop with the Olifants catchment dropping from 54.5% to 53.7% and the Inkomati-Usuthu water management area dropping from 69.1% to 68.6%.

Water levels in most of the listed dams in the Ehlanzeni District continue to drop with the Driekoppies Dam remaining constant at 70.6%, Primkop Dam remaining unchanged at 12% and the Longmere Dam showing a slight improvement from last week's 64.5% to 69.5%. Blyderivierpoort Dam dropped from 77.6% to 75.3%, Klipkopjes Dam dropped from 33.6% to 31.6%, Witklip Dam dropped from 82.0% to 81.2%, Kwena Dam dropped from 47.4% to 46.0%, Da Gama Dam dropped from 64.0% to 61.8% and Inyaka Dam dropped from 58.2% to 57.2%.

In the Nkangala District, all the listed dams recorded a decline in water volumes with the Rhenosterkop Dam critically moving closer to 0% by dropping from 1.3% to 1.2%. The other dams are still sitting quite safe above 80% with the Witbank Dam dropping from 82.6% to





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82.5%, Middelburg Dam dropping from 86.0% to 81.0% and Loskop Dam dropping from 82.3% to 81.0%.

The Vygeboom and Jericho dams recorded some improvements in water levels in the Gert Sibande District, with Vygeboom increasing in water volumes from 94.2% to 94.8% and Jericho Dam increasing from 64.1% to 66.1%. Nooitgedacht Dam dropped from 83.6% to 82.7%, Grootdraai Dam dropped from 61.2% to 60.1%, Westoe Dam dropped from 61.6% to 60.5%, Morgenstond Dam dropped from 41.1% to 39.4% and Heyshope Dam dropped from 80.9% to 80.5%.

End

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For more information contact Sputnik Ratau, Spokesperson for the Department of Water and Sanitation on 082 874 2942

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