



MEDIA STATEMENT

Mpumalanga water levels drop

12 March 2019

The Department of Water and Sanitation would like to encourage the public to be more conservative in their water use as water levels drop in the Mpumalanga Province. Water conservation is more important than ever before as the province is approaching the dry winter season.

The average water levels in the listed dams in the Mpumalanga Province recorded a 0.5% drop from last week's 74.1% to 73.6% according to the Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS) weekly state of reservoirs report of 12 March 2019. The water levels are below the 77.5% recorded during the same time last year. In terms of the water management areas, the Olifants catchment dropped from the 65.0% recorded last week to 64.3% and the Inkomati-Usuthu catchment remained unchanged at 75.0%.

Water levels in the listed dams in the Ehlanzeni District recorded mixed results, with Blyderivierpoort Dam recording the highest decline from 100.3% to 76.8% followed by Witklip Dam which dropped from 91.9% to 84.3%. The other dams which declined in water volumes are Longmere Dam which dropped from 68.1% to 66.1% and Primkop Dam which dropped from 24.9% to 21.5%.

Driekoppies Dam increased from 66.8% to 67.1%, Klipkopjes Dam increased from 49.5% to 50.3%, Kwena Dam increased from 48.7% to 49.6%, Da Gama Dam increased from 73.3% to 74.9% and Inyaka Dam increased from 63.8% to 63.9%.

In the Gert Sibande District, Vygeboom recorded a decline in water volume from 101.2% to 99.7%, Morgenstond Dam dropped from 69.9% to 69.2% and Nooitgedacht Dam remained unchanged at 100.1%.

Grootdraai Dam increased from 83.2% to 83.3%, Jericho Dam increased from 70.8% to 70.9%, Westoe increased from 63.2% to 64.1% and Heyshope increased from 86.8% to 86.9%.

In the Nkangala District, Witbank Dam remained unchanged at 91.4% and Middelburg and Loskop dams recorded slight increases in water volumes with Middelburg Dam increasing





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from 94.6% to 94.7% and the Loskop Dam increasing from last week's 92.9% to 93.3 as recorded on Monday.

As we approach the dry winter season and water levels drop, it is crucial that we all become water ambassadors and intensify water conservation efforts and initiatives and use the available water wisely.

End

Issued by the Department of Water & Sanitation

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