



## **MEDIA STATEMENT**

### **Mpumalanga dam levels record an average 1% increase**

05 February 2019

Listed dams in the Mpumalanga Province recorded an average 1% increase in water volume as a result of last week's rainfall. According to the Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS) weekly state of reservoirs report of 04 February 2019, that dam levels in the Mpumalanga Province recorded a 1% from 67.8% last week to 68.8% as recorded this week on Monday. The water management areas in the province also increased in water volumes, with Olifants catchment recording an increase from 58.2% last week to 59.0% this week and the Inkomati-Usuthu catchment increasing from 69.6% to 70.6%.

Even though an increase in water levels was received, the levels in the majority of the dams are still lower than the same time last year. Last year at this time the average dam level was 77.0% as compared to the recorded 68.8% this week. This clearly shows that much water is still needed for reliable supply, especially as we head towards the dry winter season.

The majority of listed dams in the Ehlanzeni District recorded slight increases in water volumes with only the Longmere Dam decreasing from 64.8% to 61.6%. Driekoppies Dam slightly increased from 64.9% to 65.1%, Klipkopjes Dam increased from 48.5% to 49.5%, Blyderivierpoort Dam increased from 71.0% to 75.7%, Witklip Dam increased from 82.1% to 83.6%, Primkop Dam increased from 35.4% to 36.9%, Kwena Dam increased from 37.5% to 40.6%, Da Gama Dam increased from 69.0% to 70.1% and Inyaka Dam increased from 59.0% to 59.4%.

In the Nkangala District, Witbank Dam slightly increased from 88.3% to 88.4%, Middelburg Dam increased from 94.1% to 94.8%, and Loskop Dam increased from 82.7% to 84.5%.





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In the Gert Sibande District, Nooitgedacht Dam dropped from 103.1% to 98.3% while the rest of the dams recorded some increases in water volumes. Grootdraai Dam increased from 75.6% to 76.0%, Vygeboom Dam increased from 101.7% to 102.0%, Heyshope Dam increased from 79.6% to 81.1%, Morgenstond Dam increased from 64.0% to 66.8%, Westoe Dam increased from 52.9% to 53.5% and Jericho Dam increased from 65.6% to 67.2%.

The Department of Water and Sanitation encourages the public to be more conservative in their water use and ensure that the available water is wisely utilized for the benefit of all water users and the environment. Water security is in our hands, so let us promote responsible behavior in relation to water use in our communities.

**End**

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

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