



MEDIA STATEMENT

Mpumalanga records another week of improvement in water levels

16 April 2019

The Mpumalanga Province recorded another week of improvement as its average water levels increased from 74.3% to 74.5%. This is according to the Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS) weekly state of reservoirs report of 15 April 2019. DWS weekly report also show that water levels in water management areas also increased, with the Olifants catchment increasing from 63.5% to 64.0% and the Inkomati-Usuthu catchment increasing from 76.6% to 76.8%.

In the Ehlanzeni District, only the Blyderivierpoort and Longmere dams recorded drops in water levels, with the Blyderivierpoort Dam dropping from 100.8% to 100.6% and the Longmere Dam dropping from 66.3% to 59.6%. The rest of the listed dams in the district recorded increases in water volumes with Driekoppies Dam increasing from 71.8% to 73.8%, Klipkopjes Dam increasing from 49.2% to 49.5%, Witklip Dam increasing from 99.4% to 100.5%, Primkop Dam increasing from 20.3% to 22.3%, Kwena Dam increasing from 53.6% to 54.5%, Da Gama Dam increasing from 74.5% to 75.8% and Inyaka Dam increasing from 66.5% to 67.7%.

Witbank Dam continued its decline in the Nkangala District, dropping from 88.9% to 88.4%. Middelburg and Loskop dams recorded slight increases in water volumes; with Middelburg Dam increasing from 93.6% to 94.7%, and Loskop Dam increasing from 90.6% to 91.6%.

In the Gert Sibande District, only Westoe Dam recorded an increase in water volumes, increasing from 67.0% to 68.4%. Grootdraai Dam dropped from 81.7% to 81.0%, Nooitgedacht Dam dropped from 95.7% to 95.3%, Vygeboom Dam dropped from 101.1% to 95.4%, Heyshope Dam dropped from 87.5% to 87.4%, Morgenstond Dam dropped from 67.0% to 66.3% and Jericho Dam dropped from 69.7% to 68.9%.

Even though the Mpumalanga Province water levels recorded an improvement on average, the Gert Sibande District recorded most dams with drops in water volumes. The Department of Water and Sanitation would therefore like to urge all South Africans to use the available water sparingly and wisely, and to strengthen water conservation efforts to ensure the security of supply for all during the dry winter season.





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