



MEDIA STATEMENT

Stability on the Western Cape dam systems: water savings initiatives must continue

03 June 2019

The Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS) is pleased with the slight rise in the dam levels and the prospects of significant rainfall across the Western Cape Province this week.

According to Sputnik Ratau, Spokesperson from the National Department of Water and Sanitation, the South African Weather Services (SAWS) predict heavy rainfall across the Western Cape Province, in particular across the mountainous areas. Ratau further says rains are expected to bucket from this afternoon, Tuesday 04 June 2019.

The DWS hydrological report of Monday 03 June 2019 suggests improvements and stability across the Western Cape catchments. The Breedevalley Catchment is at 29, 08% as compared to 18, 49% at the same time last year.

Ratau states that there is slight but not significant increase in the Western Cape Water Supply System (WCWWS) which comprises of the 6 largest dams in the province. The WCWWS is currently at 45.78 % as compared to 45, 70 % last week.

In the Gouritz River Catchment, the Gamka Dam continues to increase and is at 45, 48% as compared to less than 43, 33 % last week. “This is a relief considering that the very same dam was hovering lower than 10% around the same time last year”, says Ratau.

Other dam levels across the province are as follows;

- Theerwaterskloof Dam 36,33%
- Wolwedans 68,89%
- Ceres Dam 59,.77%
- Bulshoek Dam 75.93%

The fact that dam levels are stabilizing should not be the reason to be complacent. There should be increased vigour to continue with water saving initiatives.

Meanwhile the DWS wishes to welcome the new Minister of Human Settlements, Water and Sanitation, Honourable Lindiwe Sisulu and her team.

“Water is life, Sanitation is Dignity”

End





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Water and Sanitation
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



Issued by the Department of Water & Sanitation

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