THE WATER COLLECTION: South African Dams: MPUMALANGA: THE FACTS

The 9 largest dams are:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dam</th>
<th>Completed</th>
<th>Raised</th>
<th>Nearest town</th>
<th>River</th>
<th>Capacity (mil. m³)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Heyshope</td>
<td>1986</td>
<td>Piet Retief</td>
<td>Assegaaai</td>
<td></td>
<td>453</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Loskop</td>
<td>1939</td>
<td>1979</td>
<td>Groblersdal</td>
<td>Olfants</td>
<td>361</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grootdraai</td>
<td>1981</td>
<td>Standerton</td>
<td>Vaal</td>
<td></td>
<td>350</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Driekoppies</td>
<td>1998</td>
<td>Malelani</td>
<td>Lomati</td>
<td></td>
<td>251</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rhenosterkop</td>
<td>1984</td>
<td>Marble Hall</td>
<td>Elands</td>
<td></td>
<td>206</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kwena</td>
<td>1984</td>
<td>Lydenburg</td>
<td>Crocodile</td>
<td></td>
<td>161</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Witbank</td>
<td>1971</td>
<td>Witbank</td>
<td>Olfants</td>
<td></td>
<td>104</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Morgenstond</td>
<td>1978</td>
<td>Amsterdam</td>
<td>Ngwempisi</td>
<td></td>
<td>101</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nooitgedacht</td>
<td>1962</td>
<td>Carolina</td>
<td>Komati</td>
<td></td>
<td>79</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The capacity of these 9 dams is 2,066 million m³ (74% of the total capacity of the dams in Mpumalanga) and 50% of the capacity can provide a sufficient supply of domestic water (150 l/p/d) to > 18 million people for 1 year.

Seventy-two (72) dams have a total capacity of > 1 million m³ with a total capacity of 2,660 million m³ which is 96% of the total capacity of all the dams in Mpumalanga. The total capacity of the Mpumalanga dams is 11% of the total capacity of all the dams in South Africa.

Most of the dams in Mpumalanga were constructed between 1977 and 1997 (20 to 40 years ago). Since 1997 (20 years ago) 35 dams were constructed with a total capacity of 270 million m³. The largest dam which was constructed in the past 20 years is the Driekoppies Dam with a capacity of 251 million m³ and was completed in 1998.

The total surface area of all the dams in Mpumalanga is approximately 36,000 ha (360 km² or 19 x 19 km).

The Department of Water and Sanitation is owner of 43 dams with a total capacity of 2,107 million m³ (76% of the total dam capacity in Mpumalanga).