



- There are 100 dams in the Northern Cape with a capacity > 20,000 m³ (domestic, industrial, irrigation, stock watering.)
- Total capacity:
 - 1,985,105,000,000 liters
 - 1,985,105,000 m³

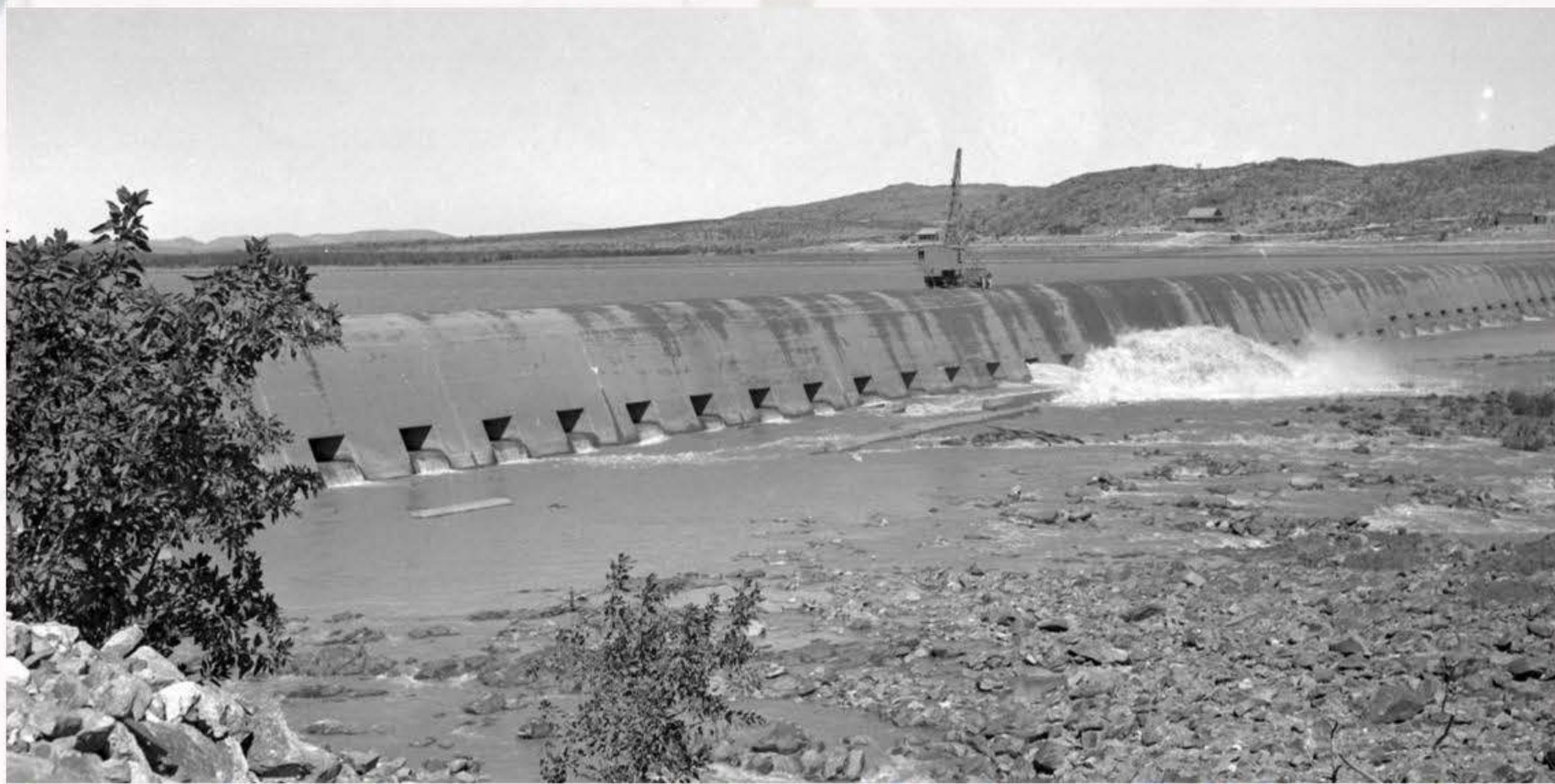
The 10 largest dams are:

| Dam | Completed | Raised | Nearest town | River | Capacity (mil. m ³) |
|------------------|-----------|--------|---------------|-----------------|---------------------------------|
| Vanderkloof | 1977 | | Vanderkloof | Orange | 1,593* |
| Van Wyksvlei | 1884 | | Van Wyksvlei | Van Wyksvlei | 143 |
| Smartt | 1963 | | Britstown | Ongers | 100 |
| Spitskop | 1975 | 1989 | Warrenton | Harts | 58 |
| Boegoeberg | 1931 | | Groblershoop | Orange | 20 |
| Douglas Weir | 1977 | | Douglas | Vaal | 16 |
| Ratelfontein | 1953 | | Calvinia | Roodevlaklaagte | 6 |
| Welgelegen-Naude | 1952 | | Richmond | Seekoei | 6 |
| Rooiberg | 1900 | | Kenhardt | Hartbees | 4 |
| Victoria West | 1921 | | Victoria West | Dorp | 4 |

Because the Vanderkloof Dam forms the border between Northern Cape and the Free State a proportional capacity was allocated to Northern Cape.

The capacity of these 10 dams is 1,950 m³ (98 % of the total capacity of the dams in the Northern Cape) and 50% of the capacity can provide a sufficient supply of domestic water (150 l/p/d) to > 17 million people for 1 year.

Twenty-five (25) dams have a total capacity of > 1 million m³ with a total capacity of 2,072 million m³ which is 99 % of the total capacity of all the dams in the Northern Cape. The total capacity of the Northern Cape dams is 6 % of the total capacity of all the dams in South Africa. Without the proportional contribution from the Vanderkloof Dam, the total dam capacity for the Northern Cape is < 0.4 million m³, which is 1% of the total dam capacity in South Africa.



Boegoeberg Dam – constructed in the early fifties. The capacity is considerable reduced due to siltation (Photo: DWS)



Spitskop Dam. (Photo: <http://www.adventurebuddy.co.za/>)

The total surface area of all the dams in the Northern Cape is approximately 21,257 ha (213 km² or 14 x 14 km).

Most of the dams (75%) in the Northern Cape were constructed before 1977 (> 40 years old). Since 1997 (20 years ago) no dams were constructed in the Northern Cape.

The Department of Water and Sanitation is owner of 5 dams with a total capacity of 1,689 million m³ (85 % of the total dam capacity in the Northern Cape). Without the proportional contribution from the Vanderkloof Dam, the Department is responsible for < 1 million stored m³ water in the Northern Cape.

Distribution: Capacity – Number of Dams

