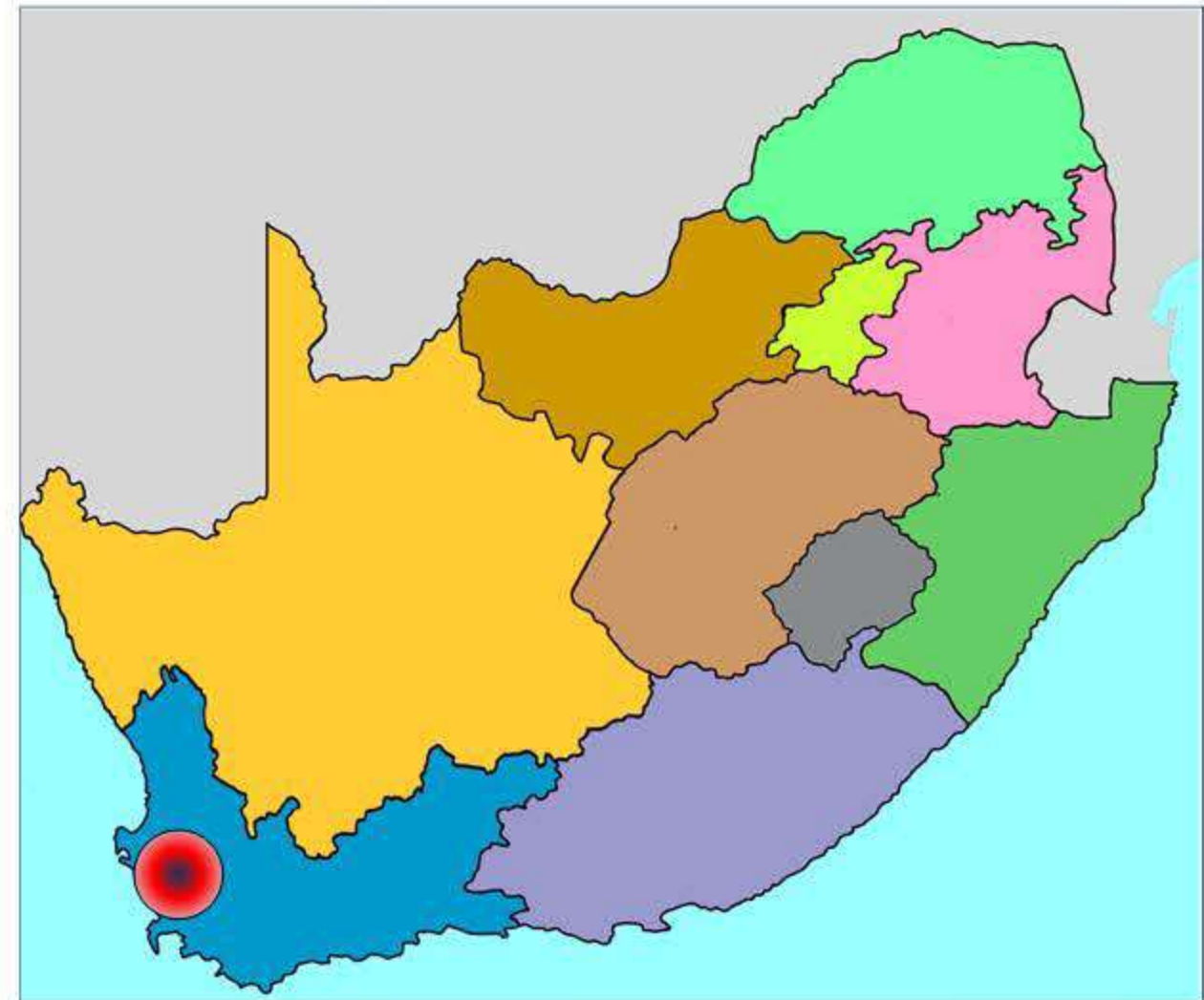




- 50% of the capacity can supply 70 000 domestic users with water for 1 year (150 liter/person/day).
- The surface area is equivalent to 500 rugby fields.



MISVERSTAND DAM (33.016666 S; 18.783333 E)		
Completed: 1977	River: Berg River.	Capacity: 7.73 million m ³
Type of dam: Combined Gravity and Arch		
Length of wall (top): 160 m	Length of dam (longest distance from wall to inflow): 10 km	
Nearest town: Porterville	Surface area: 255 ha	
Water use: Municipal, Industrial and Irrigation		
Capacity compared to Wemmershoek Dam: 8 times smaller		



Misverstand Dam provides a fine venue for training as well as being the venue for Western Cape boat races, the most famous one being the Berg River Canoe Marathon. The river is navigable for about 12km upstream from the dam wall.



There is some confusion as to where the Misverstand Dam gets its name from. The dam is built on the farm, Misverstand.

One version is that two farmers funding the building of the dam wall had an argument/ misunderstanding and the weir was never completed, hence the name.

The other more likely version:
According to Mrs Karen Serdyn, a long living resident, the colonial government wanted to implement a type of 'sheep tax' on the Cape farmers but one farmer didn't see chance to pay such a tax so he divided his sheep in two flock and sent them with shepherds on two different routes to a place at "Bloekombome" in the area where the weir is today. Apparently the two flock were camping a distance from each other and the one didn't know the other was so close. After approximately two months they started looking for one another eventually found one another and realized because of a misunderstanding (misverstand in Afrikaans) the flock never arrived at the same agreed spot. Hence the farm got its name "Misverstand".



References, literature and photos:
References: DWAF, Wikipedia, Prof. Wessel Visser
<http://westcoastdm.co.za/resorts/misverstand-dam/>
Photos: Nico du Toit