



REPUBLIC OF NAMIBIA

MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, WATER AND LAND REFORM

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22 November 2022

PUBLIC NOTICE

POSSIBLE FLOODING ON THE LOWER ORANGE RIVER

The Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Land Reform (MAWLR) would like to alert the public, most especially those on the Lower Orange River, of possible high river flows and flooding which might cause prolonged inundation in the coming days.

MAWLR learned that there was high rainfall development in the headwaters of the Vaal and Orange-Senqu River catchments in South Africa and Lesotho. As a result, this triggered major overflows and releases had to be made from Bloemhof, Gariiep and Vanderkloof major dams over the past two weeks. The High flows moved down the Lower Orange River, peaking from 2m to 6.26 m with a flow rate of 3100 m³/s, at Upington on Saturday, 19 November 2022.

The major upstream dams remain above 100%. It is expected that the flows in the Lower Orange River will remain high in the coming weeks with more water on its way, as a result of further releases from the upstream dams.

Communities, Water Users, Irrigation areas (Noordoewer, and settlement in Aussenker), Mines, road users, the lowest part of the Orange River Oranjemund area etc. are advised to be on high alert for possible high river flows and flooding.

The Ministry will continue monitoring the situation on the ground and keep the public informed.

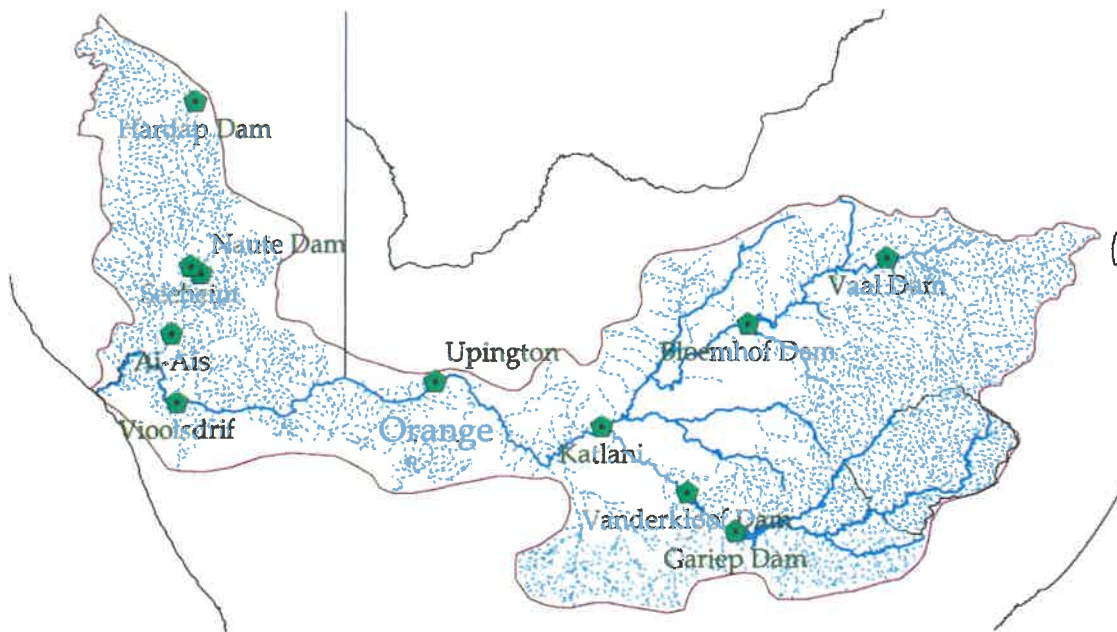
Ndiyakupi Nghituwamata (Ms)

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Footnote:

The Orange River with some of the hydrological monitoring stations



The latest update on the situation in the Vaal-Orange system, by courtesy of Jeffrey Kotzé Pr Techni Eng (DWA South Africa):

22 November 2022 releases:

Releases from Bloemhof Dam: 2171 m³/s

Releases from Vanderkloof Dam: 1617 m³/s

Releases from Gariep Dam 1355.2 m³/s

Orange River flow at Blouputs 3462.5 m³/s

*The Orange River flow at Blouputs as of yesterday (21 November 2022)

3443.5 m³/s with 4.43m as River level.