

Isomiso sithwalise nzima ezolimo nezimayini

SIPHAMANDLA GOGÉ

EZOLIMO nezezimayini kungenzeka zibe senkingeni uma siqhubeka isomiso esihlasele iNingizimu Afrika esesiholele ekusheni kwamadamu amanzi.

IKwaZulu-Natal isiqalile ukwenza izinhlelo zokonga amanzi. Lesi simo sesiqala ukuzwela nasezinkampanini ezinkulu ezisebenzisa kakhulu amanzi esezibheka nezindlela zokudiliza abasebenzi ngenxa yokuntula amanzi.

IMenja ebhekele ezemvelo eRichards Bay Minerals (RBM), uNkk Michelle Boshoff, uthe amanzi asephela emathangini abo.

“Ngaphandle kwamanzi asikwazi ukuqhubeka nokusebenza ngoba umsebenzi wethu uncike kakhulu kuwona. Lokhu kusho ukuthi kumele sehlise emkhizweni wethu,” kusho uNkk Boshoff.

Amanzi awumgogodla kwaRBM ngenxa yemikhizwa ititanium esetshenziswa uma kukhizwa upende, uplastiki nephepha.

Imayini yakwa-RBM inabasebenzi abangu-4 000 okuzodingeka bayiswe kwezinye izindawo ukuze kugwenywe ukudilizwa kwabasebenzi ngenxa yesomiso.

UMxhumanisi wenyunyana iNational Union of Mineworkers KwaZulu-Natal, uMnuz Bhekani Ngcobo, uthe abemayini bebengakabathinti ngesimo ababhekene naso sokuntuleka kwamanzi.

Uthe uma kwenzeka benciphisa isibalo sabasebenzi bazophikisana nalokhu.

UMengameli we-AgriSA, uMnuz Johannes Moller, uthe sekulahleke imali elingaselwa ku-R400 million okumele ngabe ingena emnothweni wesifundazwe ngenxa yesomiso.

“Sizoba nawo umbila owanele ukuhlizeka abantu kodwa ngeke sibe nawo esizowuthumela emazweni angaphandle. Mancane kakhulu amazwe akhizwa umbila omhlophe, ngakho uma thina singenawo umhlaba uzothwala kanzima,” kubeka uMoller.

Uthe isomiso sihlasele kakhulu izifundazwe ezintathu - KwaZulu-Natal, Free State neNorth West.

Abenkampani iBHP Billiton Aluminium South Africa enemboni eRichards Bay bathe bazokwenza uhlelo lokuhlaza amanzi abawadonsayo kunokuthi basebenzise lawa akhona njengamanje.

Isangoma sezulu kwaSA Weather Service sithe isimo asithembisi enyakatho yeKwaZulu-Natal kubonakala sengathi isomiso sisazoqhubeka.

Jackal rabies under control in most of KZN

MAVIBONGWE MAQHINA

THE recent outbreak of rabies among jackals in parts of KwaZulu-Natal under control and the vaccination campaign was continuing.

That is the assurance from agriculture and rural development department MEC Cyril Xaba after reports of an outbreak of rabies in Estcourt near Wagons Drift Dam and at Nottingham Road between Mooi River and Howick last month.

"Follow-up vaccinations have been carried out in the area of the outbreaks in Estcourt and next week a programme will start in the Nottingham Road area," the MEC said.

Xaba said there had been a serious outbreak of rabies in Ladysmith in 2012, which had spilled over to the jackal population.

As a precaution, we are considering the Midlands as a potentially endemic area for the rabies infected jackal

"Following an intense vaccination campaign among the local dog population by the department, no cases of the virus have been reported since then on the canine or wildlife population of that area," he said.

However, the latest report about rabies involving jackals was about 130km from the previous one in Ladysmith.

"As a precaution, we are considering the Midlands as a potentially endemic area for the rabies infected jackal." He said jackals were a well-suited

hosts of the rabies virus and when their numbers were sufficiently large, there was a source of rabies to initiate the outbreak.

"Rabies in jackals can be cyclical and is dependent on the jackal population, which fluctuates depending on such factors as disease or drought.

"There is little that can be done to limit the spread of this outbreak among these wild animals," he said.

However, Xaba said if domestic animals were vaccinated, the spread of the disease could be controlled.

"The province's dog population is in a very healthy state with dog rabies having been reduced from 473 cases in 2007 down to 38 in 2014.

"No human rabies cases have been reported in almost two years," he said.

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AT RISK: Rabies-infected jackals fluctuates from disease or drought but no human rabies cases have been seen in two years. PICTURE: CALONNARS