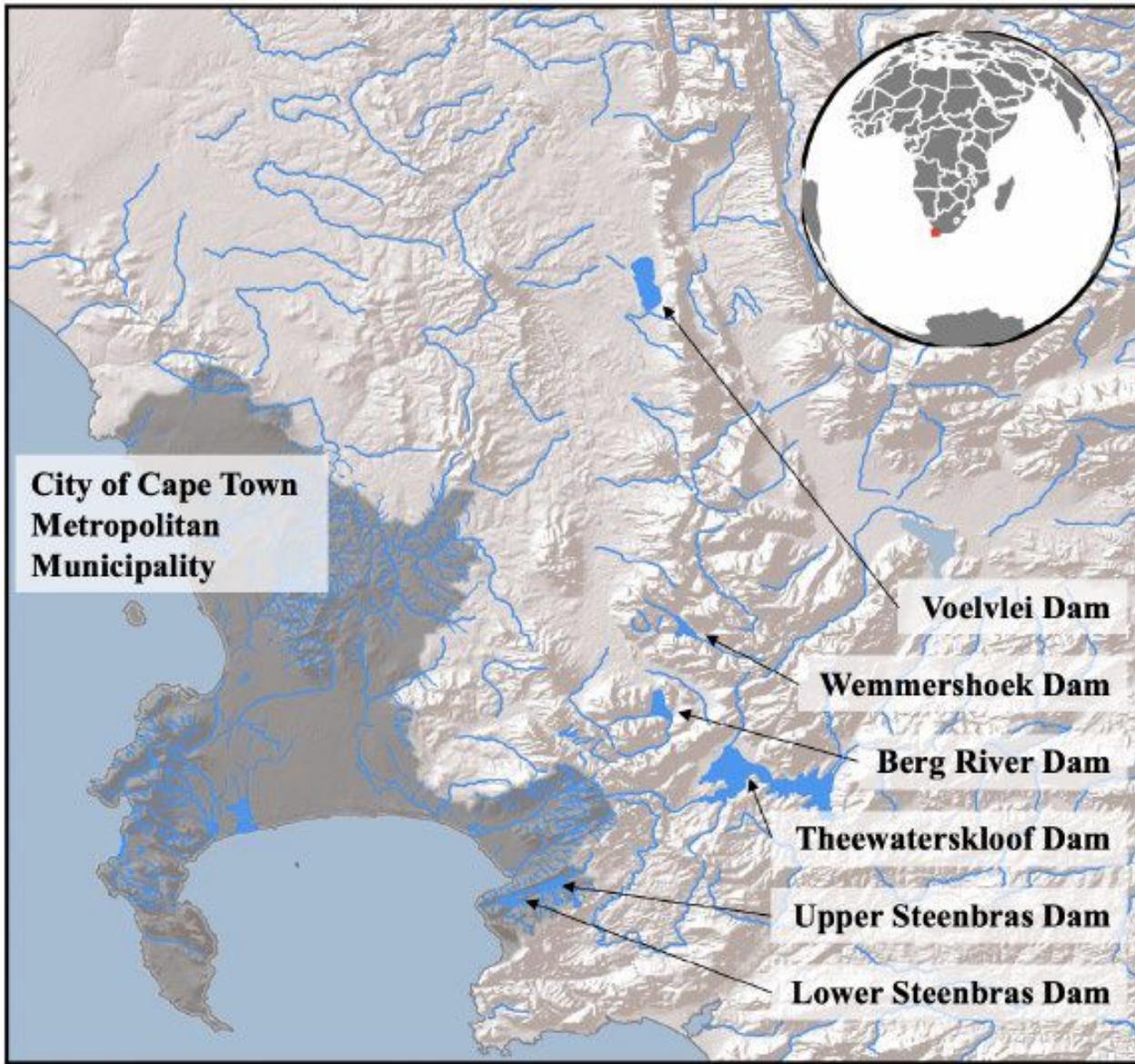


# “No Trust in Miracles”

Leading Through a Water Crisis in Cape Town



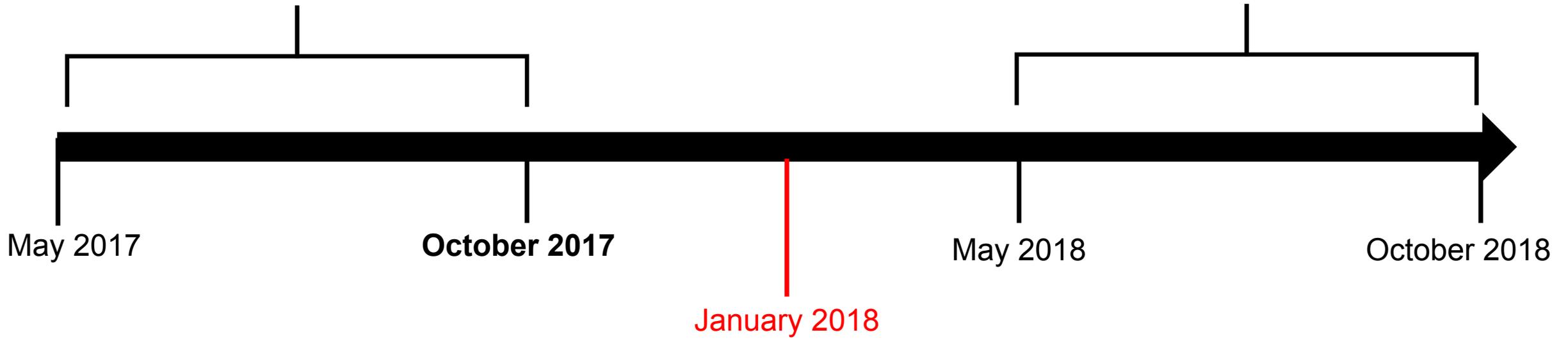
**FIGURE 1** Location of the six main dams in the WCWSS. The largest dam, Theewaterskloof, is located outside the main catchment and supplies water to WCWSS through an inter-basin transfer. (Reprinted with permission from Atkins et al. (Submitted), Copyright 2019 Ffion Atkins)

Source: Johan P. Enqvist and Gina Ziervogel, “Water governance and justice in Cape Town: An overview,” May 26, 2019, <https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/full/10.1002/wat2.1354>, accessed October 2020. Used with permission.



Rainy season 2017

Rainy season 2018



Dam levels in January 2018

**26%**

Source:  
<https://earthobservatory.nasa.gov/images/91649/cape-towns-water-is-running-out>, accessed April 2021



Mayor De Lille on Press Conference. January 18, 2018

Source: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0SoPc9nWpNM>, accessed April 2021

# Mayor De Lille's Remarks on Day Zero January 18, 2018

“We have reached a point of no return. Despite our urging for months, 60 percent of Capetonians are callously using more than 87 litres per day. It is quite unbelievable that a majority of people do not seem to care and are sending all of us headlong towards Day Zero.

At this point we must assume that they will not change their behaviour and that the chance of reaching Day Zero on 21 April 2018 is now very likely.”

CNN

In less than 3 months, a major international city will likely run out of water

31 January 2018

Source:  
<https://edition.cnn.com/2018/01/24/africa/cape-town-water-crisis-trnd/index.html#:~:text=It's%20been%20a%20slow%2Dmotion,4%20million%20and%20growing%20quickly>,  
accessed April 2021

**CNN run the story of Cape Town's water crisis. January 31, 2018**

“So as much as one would like to segment a market and say this is the message for people in the city, ‘It’s dire, you need to save, but for the rest of you please come, please continue coming here . . .’ is not possible.”

Priya Reddy



Reuters

# Cape Town's water crisis hitting tourism: officials

2 February 2018

Source:  
<https://www.reuters.com/article/us-safrica-drought-tourism-idUSKBN1FM1PO>, accessed April 2021

**30% reduction of tourist visits measured by occupancy rates according to some estimates**

# Daily News

## Western Cape ANC slams DA over water crisis management

29 June 2018

**Day Zero was averted but political battle ensued**

Source:

<https://www.iol.co.za/news/south-africa/western-cape/western-cape-anc-slams-da-over-water-crisis-management-1575790>, accessed April 2021

“The question is whether [Day Zero] was necessary... it was a very severe knock on our credibility.”

Alderman Ian Neilson





**PARLIAMENT**  
OF THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



“Only, should I say, after the very real risk of Day Zero not being there, did I feel the impact on my body. And I actually became very ill, in about May 2018, and ended in hospital for ten days. What did give me relief was that it was raining.”

Councillor Xanthea Limberg





# BLOOMBERG HARVARD

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