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Department:  
Roads and Public Works  
NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

## **PRESS RELEASE: URGENT**

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### **SUBJECT: STATUS ON THE NATURAL SINKHOLE ADJACENT TO THE R31 BETWEEN DANIELSKUIL TO KURUMAN ROAD**

The Department of Roads and Public Works hereby informs the public that since 12 January 2017 we closed the road between Danielskuil and Kuruman, due to a natural sinkhole on the farm Mount Carmel, located some 55 km South of Kuruman on the Danielskuil road.

Detour-road close signs have been erected in Danielskuil and Kuruman, traffic officers are requested to be on site and vehicles are encouraged to use the detour road via Postmasburg. The department informed the Disaster Management Centre and we are working collectively with all the role players involved to adhere to the prescribed safety regulations.

Since the discovery of the sinkhole on the 6 January 2017, the sinkhole increased in size. The department is working with other professionals to determine the extent and the cause of the sinkhole. The liaison with specialists and stakeholders is crucial before we can commence with any remedial action.

The South Africa Weather Service predicts 29mm of precipitation for this area for the coming 7 days and the department caution that the sinkhole might deteriorate further.

We will keep the public informed regarding the latest developments.

Spokesperson of the Department of Roads and Public Works.

Crystal Robertson

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13 January 2017