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VIOOLSDRIF TEMPERATURE ON 28 NOVEMBER 2019

The South African Weather Service publishes a Daily Weather Bulletin that provides weather statistics on a daily basis. This data comes directly from the instrumentation and is not yet quality controlled, therefore it is considered preliminary data. A maximum temperature record of 50.1 °C for Vioolsdrif weather station for the 28th of November was reported on the Daily Weather Bulletin last Friday (29 November 2019). The South African Weather Service realised that if the record is correct it would mean a new national record for South Africa.

Investigations into the data from the station revealed that the temperature sensor had just been replaced two days prior, and a decision was made to track the behaviour of the station over the weekend. The analysis of this data showed that the behaviour of the temperature sensor was questionable and the preliminary temperature reading of 50.1 °C as a new record is therefore invalid.

The South African Weather Service would like to thank the public for their keen interest in this matter.

Media enquiries: Ms Hannelee Doubell: Manager, Communications; Tel: (012) 367 6104; Cell: 072 222 6305; E-mail: hannelee.doubell@weathersa.co.za

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