



# HydroWatch

Thursday, 8 January 2026

Issue: 1499

A weekly summary relating to New Zealand hydro storage and inflows.

Compiled by Energy Link Ltd.

Storage Summary	South Island Controlled	South Island Uncontrolled	South Island Total	North Island Taupo	Total Storage
Current Storage (GWh)	2,897	492	3,389	527	
Storage Change (GWh)	-31	-108	-139	2	-137

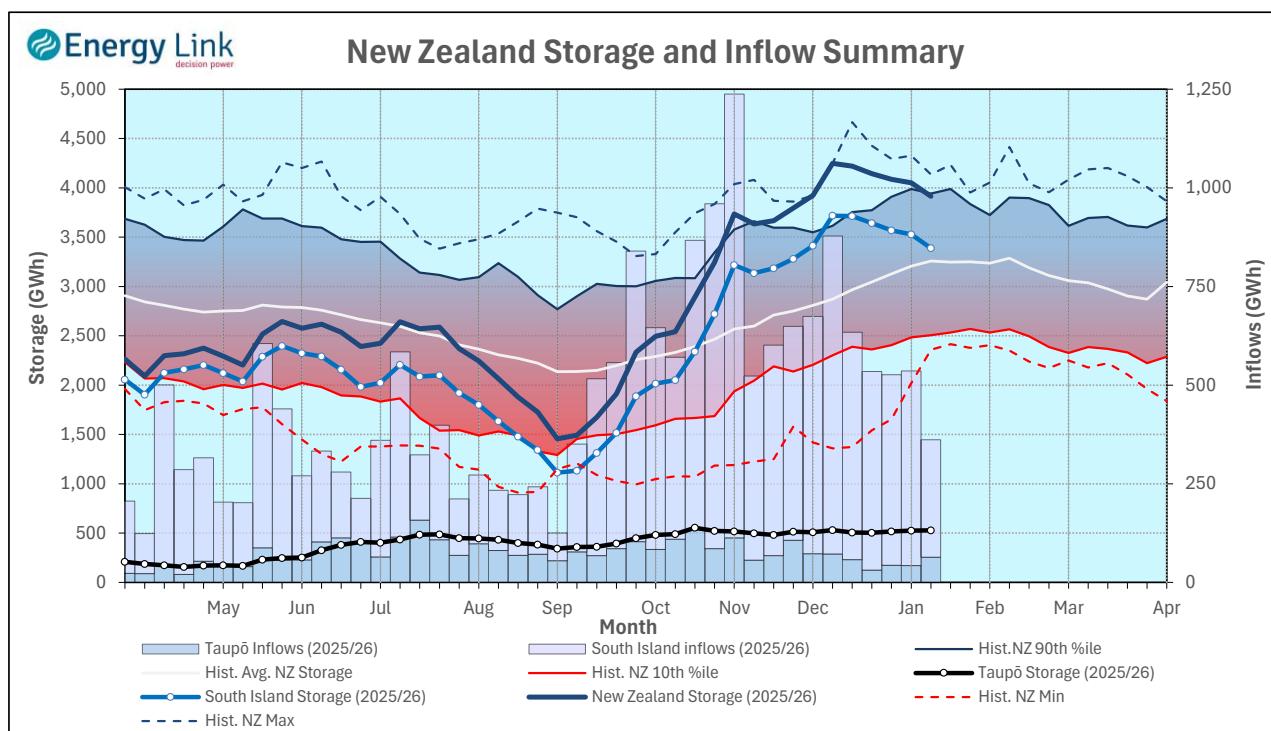
Note: SI Controlled; Takapō, Pūkaki and Hāwea; SI Uncontrolled; Manapōuri, Te Anau, Wānaka, Wakatipu

Transpower Security of Supply	South Island	North Island	New Zealand
Current Storage (GWh)	3,257	527	3,784

Note: These figures are provided to align with Transpower's Security of Supply reporting methodology. Variance from Transpower values is due to differences in generation efficiencies and contingent storage volumes.

## New Zealand Summary

Total storage decreased 137 GWh over the last week. South Island controlled storage decreased 1.1% to 2,897 GWh; South Island uncontrolled storage decreased 18% to 492 GWh; with Taupō storage increasing 0.4% to 527 GWh.



Thursday, 8 January 2026		Storage (GWh)				NZ	
Storage (GWh)		Manapōuri		Clutha		Waitaki	
This Week		360	418	2,611	527		
Last Week		435	449	2,644	525		
% Change		-17.3%	-6.8%	-1.3%	0.4%		
Inflow (GWh)		Waitaki		Waikato		NZ	
This Week		49	60	190	63	3,916	
Last Week		156	102	236	43	4,052	
% Change		-68.7%	-41.6%	-19.4%	48.3%	-3.4%	
						361	536

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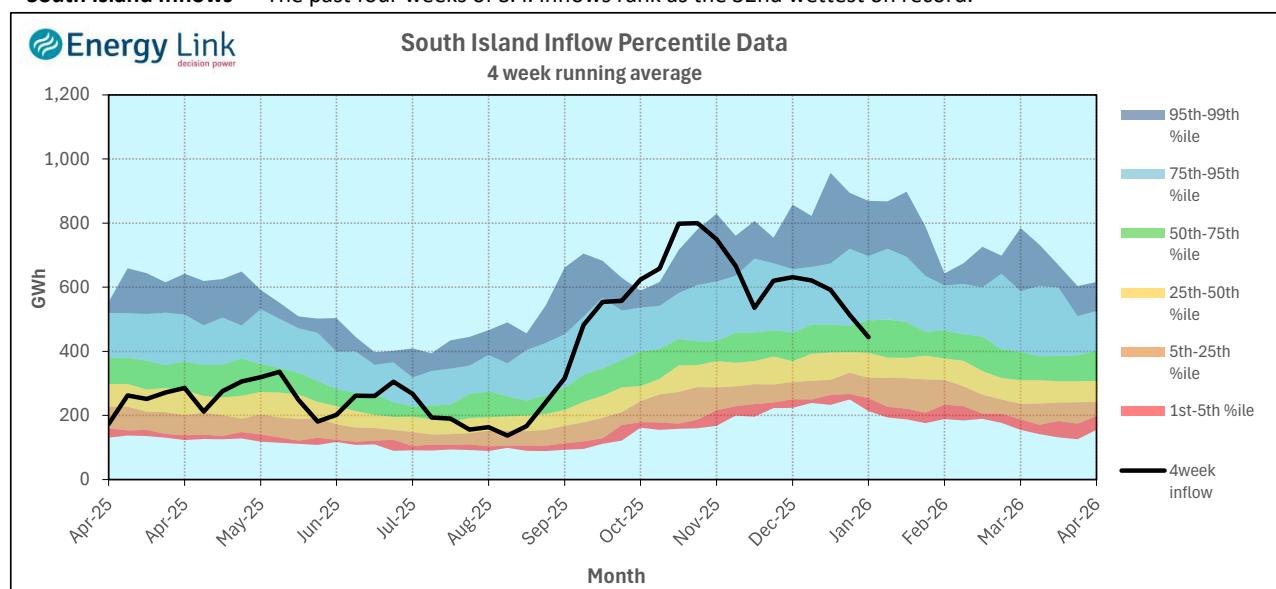
**Lake Levels and Outflows**

Catchment	Lake	Level (m. asl)	Storage (GWh)	Outflow (cumecs)	Outflow Change
<b>Manapōuri</b>	Manapōuri	178.22	140	41	-191
	Te Anau	202.33	220		
<b>Clutha</b>	Wakatipu	310.05	61	247	-50
	Wānaka	277.51	71	270	-69
	Hāwea	345.77	287	60	-36
<b>Waitaki</b>	Takapō	709.44	739		
	Pūkaki	532.67	1,871		
<b>Waikato</b>	Taupō	357.14	527		

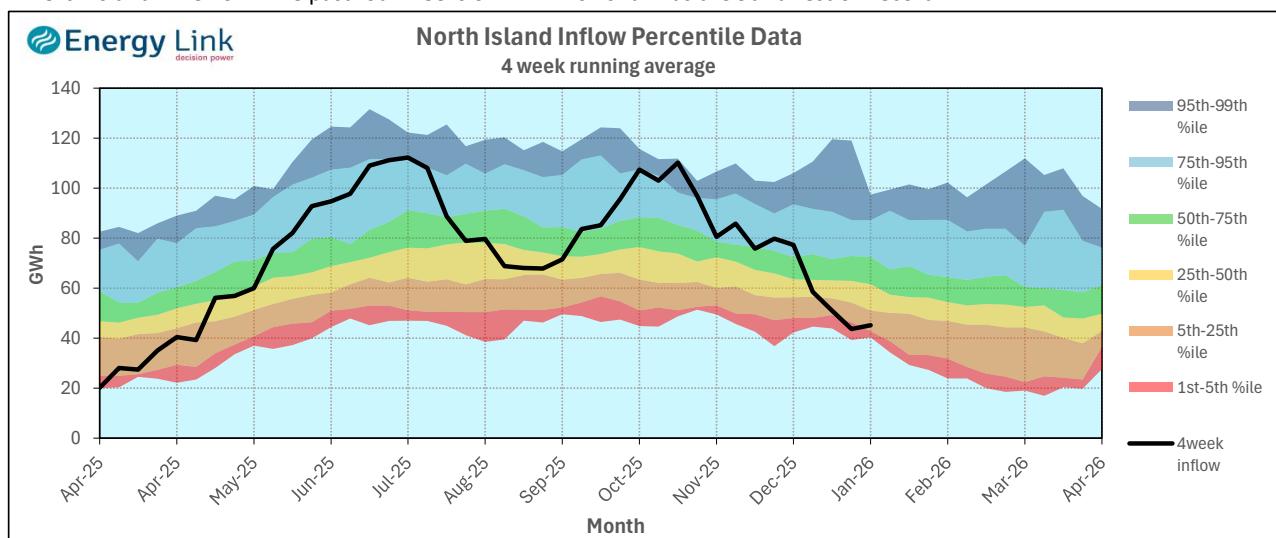
**Inflow Summary**

The two charts below represent where current inflows are in relation to historic inflow patterns. The percentile values have been calculated using all inflows since 1931.

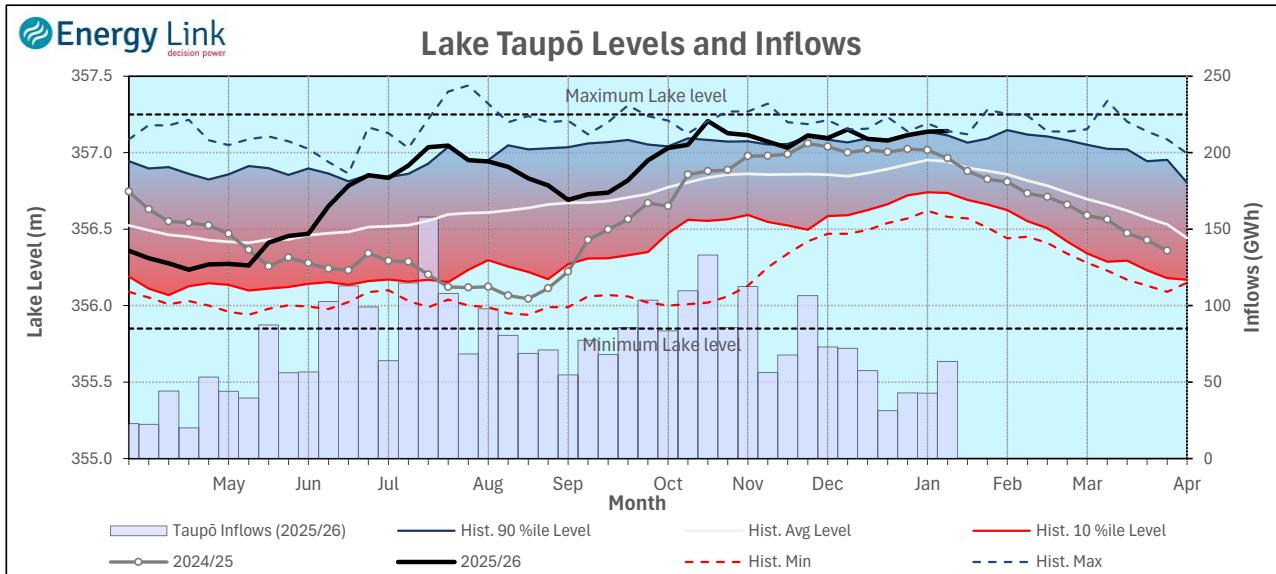
**South Island Inflows** - The past four weeks of S. I. inflows rank as the 32nd wettest on record.



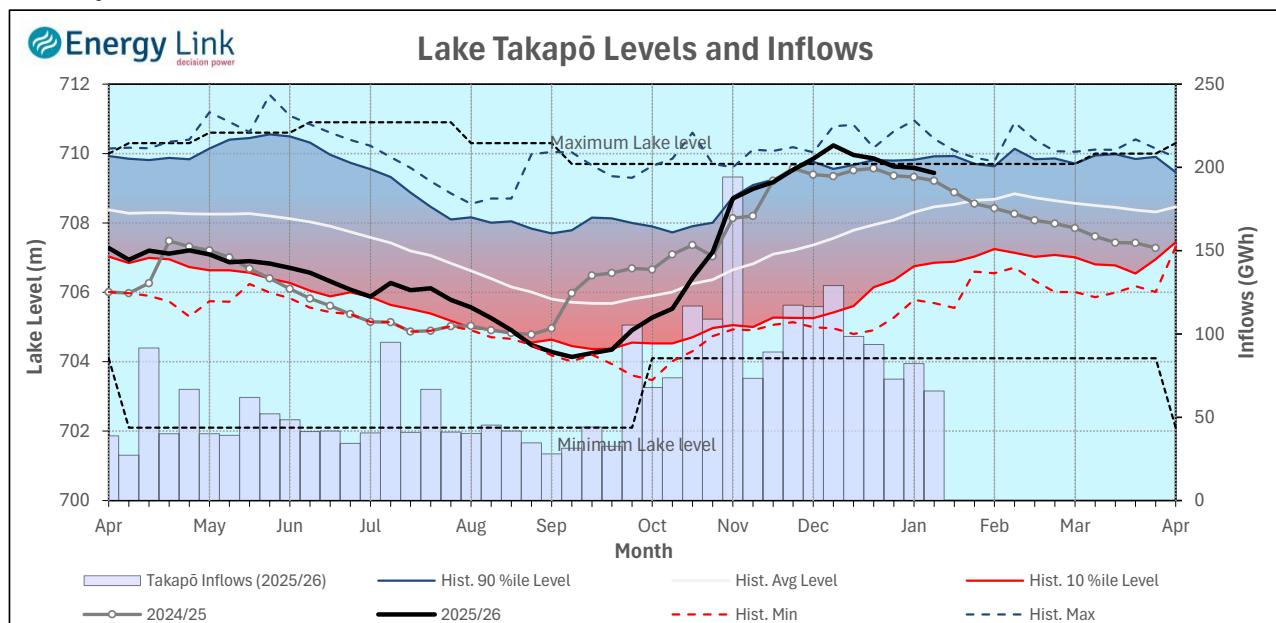
**North Island Inflows** - The past four weeks of N. I. inflows rank as the 9th driest on record.



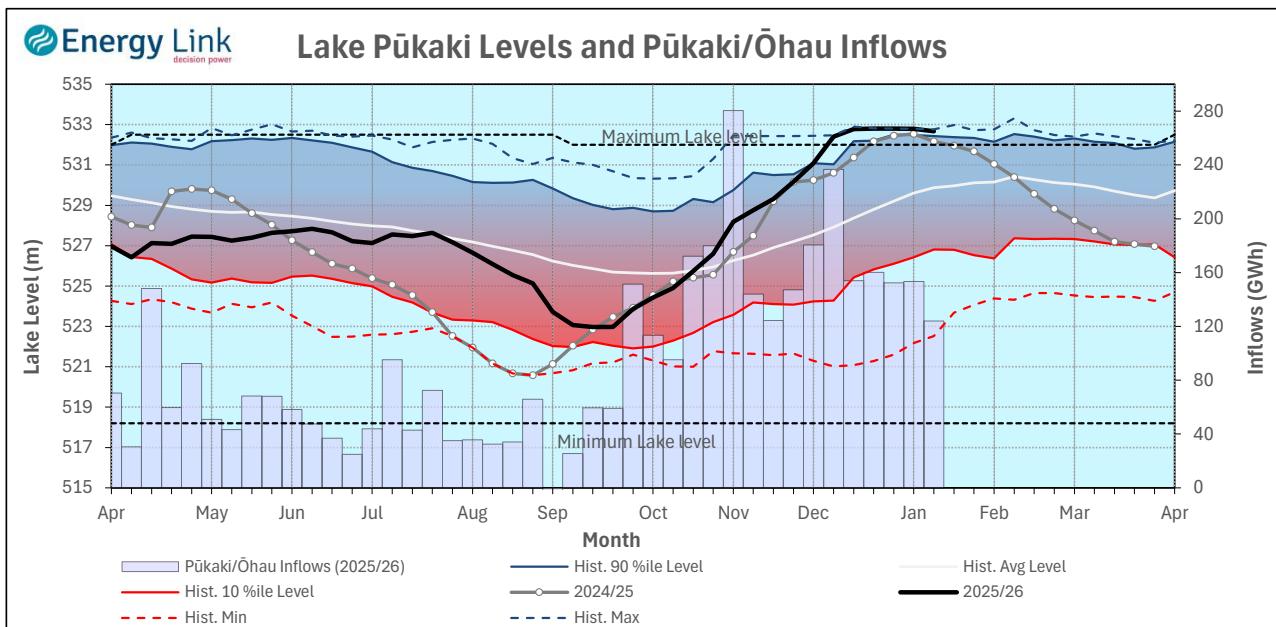
## Waikato System



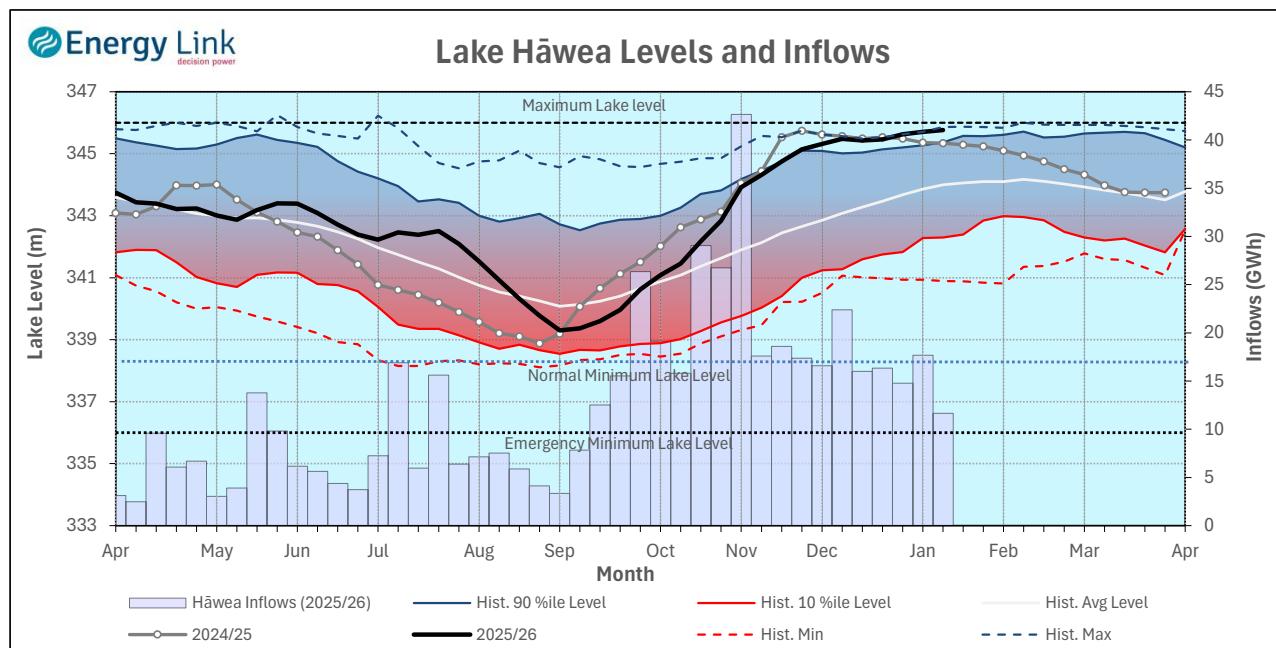
## Takapō



## Waitaki System



## Clutha System



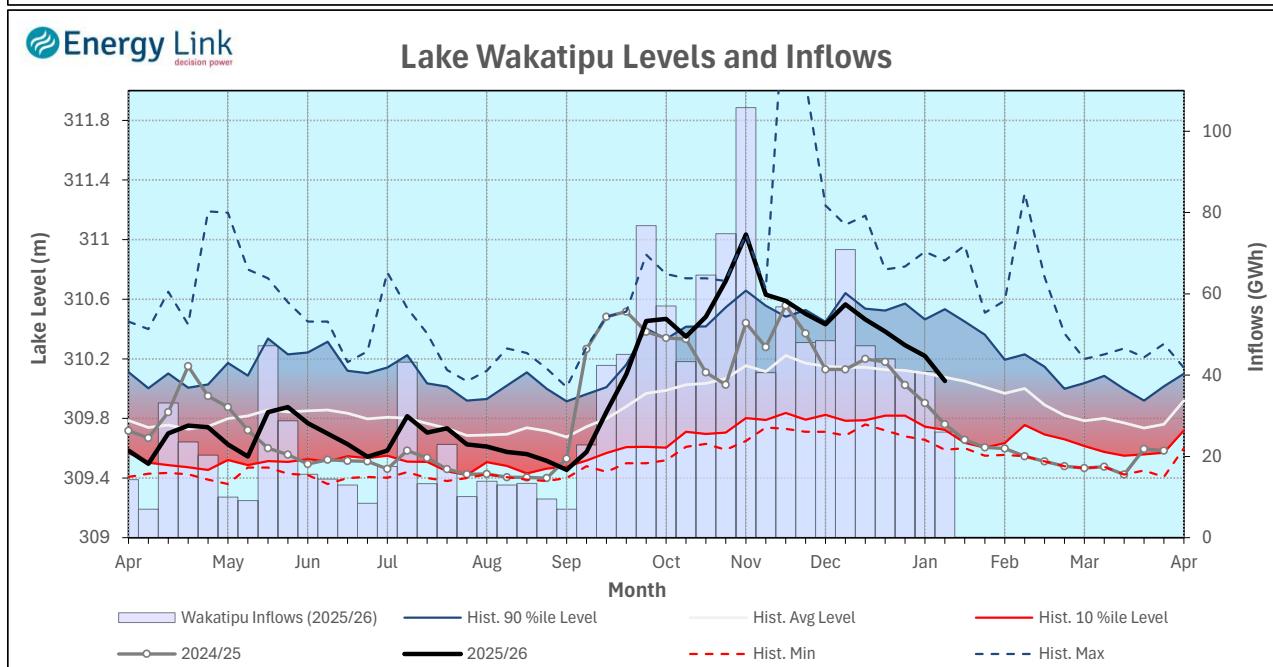
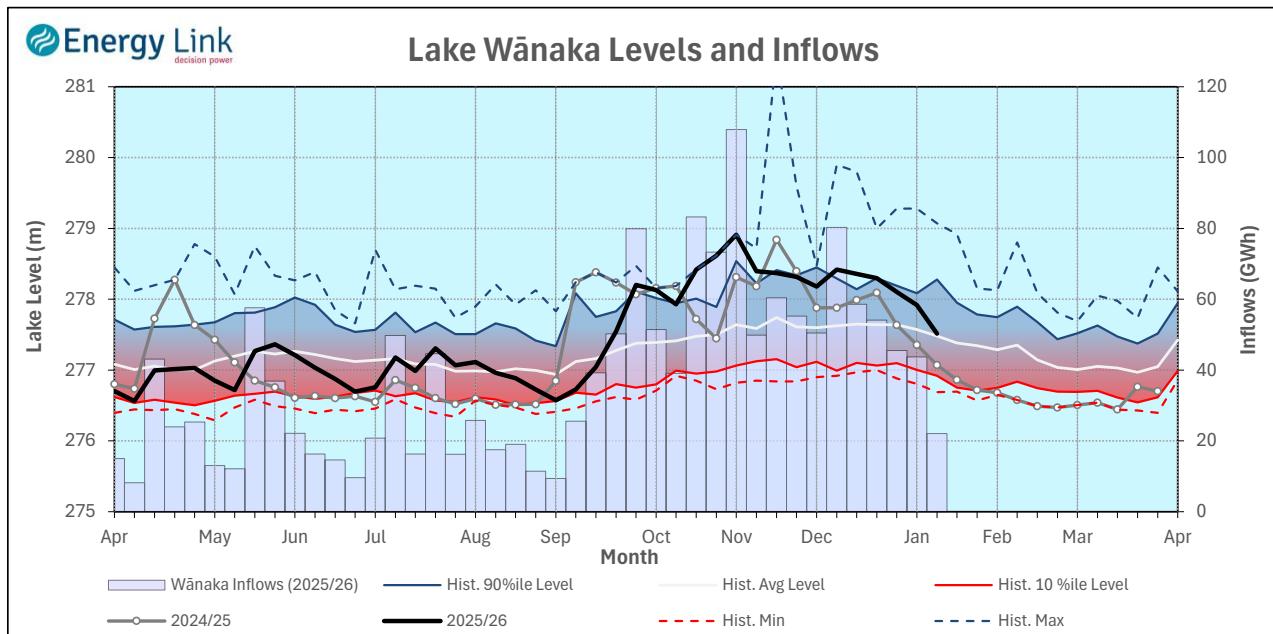
**Lake Levels** - Total storage for the Clutha System decreased 6.8% to 418 GWh. Lakes Hāwea, Wānaka and Wakatipu ended the week 97%, 62.3% and 57.3% nominally full respectively.

**Inflows** - Total Inflows into the Clutha System 41.6% lower at 60 GWh.

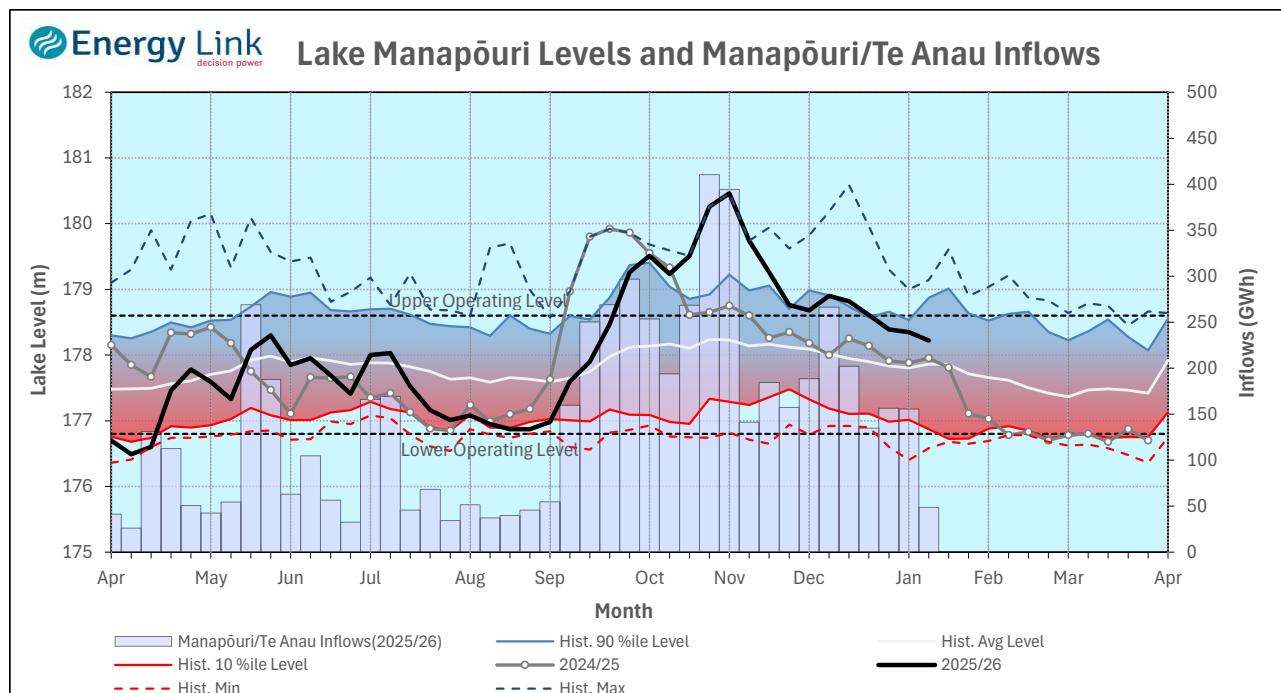
**Generation** - Average generation was 136.9% higher at 88 MW.

**Hydro Spill** - Estimate Spill is 498.7 cumecs.

**River Flows** - Total outflows from the lakes and Shotover River fell to 637 cumecs. This comprised of 60 cumecs from Lake Hāwea, 270 cumecs from Lake Wānaka, 247 cumecs from Lake Wakatipu and 60 cumecs from the Shotover River.



## Manapōuri System



**Lake Levels** - Total storage for the Manapōuri System decreased 17.3% to 360 GWh with Lake Manapōuri ending the week 86% nominally full and Lake Te Anau ending the week 79.9% nominally full.

**Inflows** - Total inflows into the Manapōuri System decreased 68.7% to 49 GWh.

**Generation** - Average generation was 6.1% lower at 698 MW.

**Hydro Spill** - Estimated spill at the Māraroa Weir was 41 cumecs.

**Operating Range** - Lakes Manapōuri and Te Anau are operating in the upper end of their respective 'Main operating range'.

