HydroWatch

Thursday, 15 January 2026 **Issue: 1500**

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)	**3,033**	**656**	**3,689**	**515**		**4,204**
Storage Change (GWh)	136	165	301	-12		289

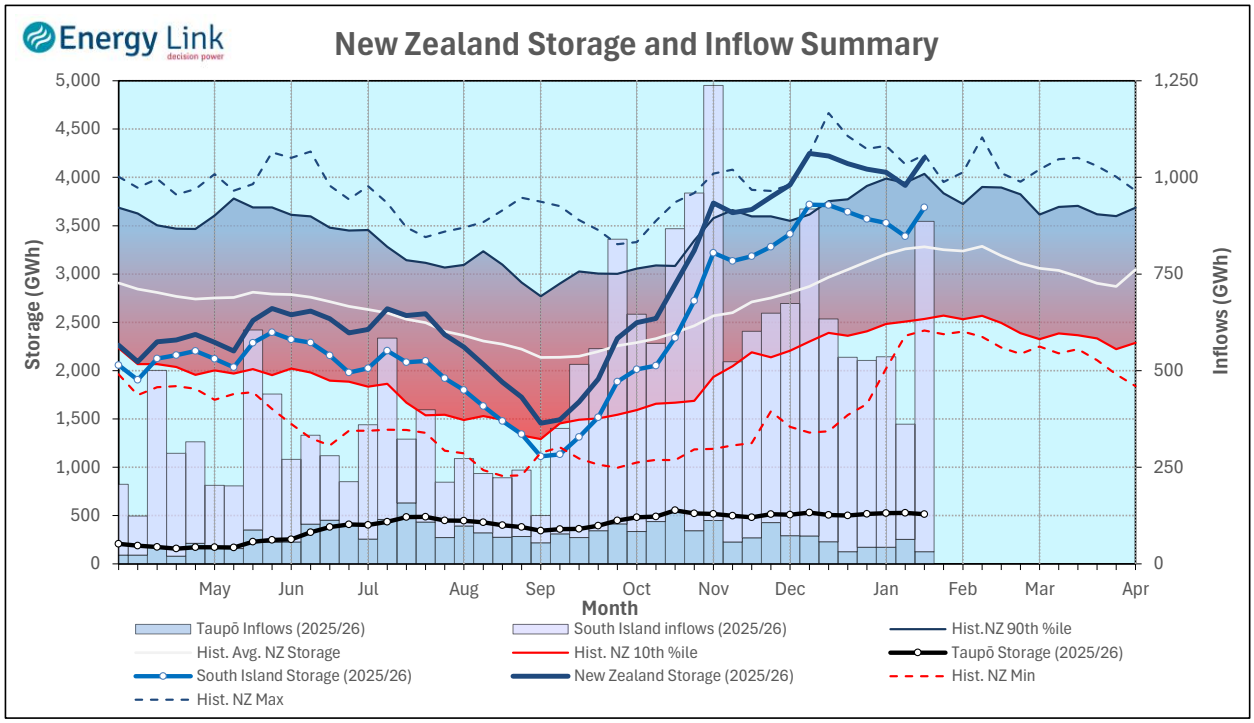
Note: SI Controlled; Takapō, Pūkaki and Hāwea: SI Uncontrolled; Manapōuri, Te Anau, Wānaka, Wakatipu

Transpower Security of Supply	South Island	North Island		New Zealand
Current Storage (GWh)	**3,495**	**515**		**4,010**

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 increased 289 GWh over the last week. South Island controlled storage increased 4.7% to 3,033 GWh; South Island uncontrolled storage increased 34% to 656 GWh; with Taupō storage decreasing 2.2% to 515 GWh.



Thursday, 15 January 2026	Manapōuri	Clutha	Waitaki	Waikato		NZ
Storage (GWh)						
This Week	**462**	**486**	**2,742**	**515**		**4,204**
Last Week	360	418	2,611	527		3,916
% Change	28.4%	16.1%	5.0%	-2.2%		7.4%
Inflow (GWh)						
This Week	**250**	**180**	**425**	**31**		**887**
Last Week	49	60	190	63		361
% Change	413.5%	202.0%	124.2%	-51.0%		145.2%

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Lake Levels and Outflows

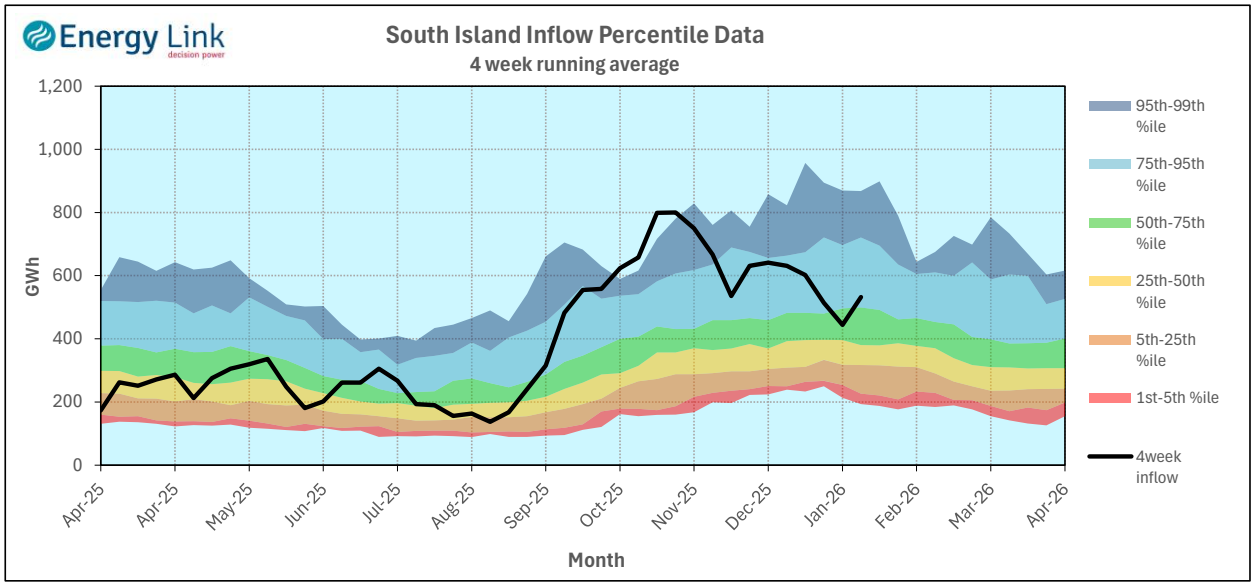
Catchment	Lake	Level (m. asl)	Storage (GWh)	Outflow (cumecs)
Manapōuri	Manapōuri	178.65	165	191
	Te Anau	202.84	296	
Clutha	Wakatipu	310.38	85	281
	Wānaka	278.27	109	315
	Hāwea	345.90	292	126
Waitaki	Takapō	709.95	795	
	Pūkaki	533.21	1,946	
Waikato	Taupō	357.11	515	

Outflow Change
150
34
45
66

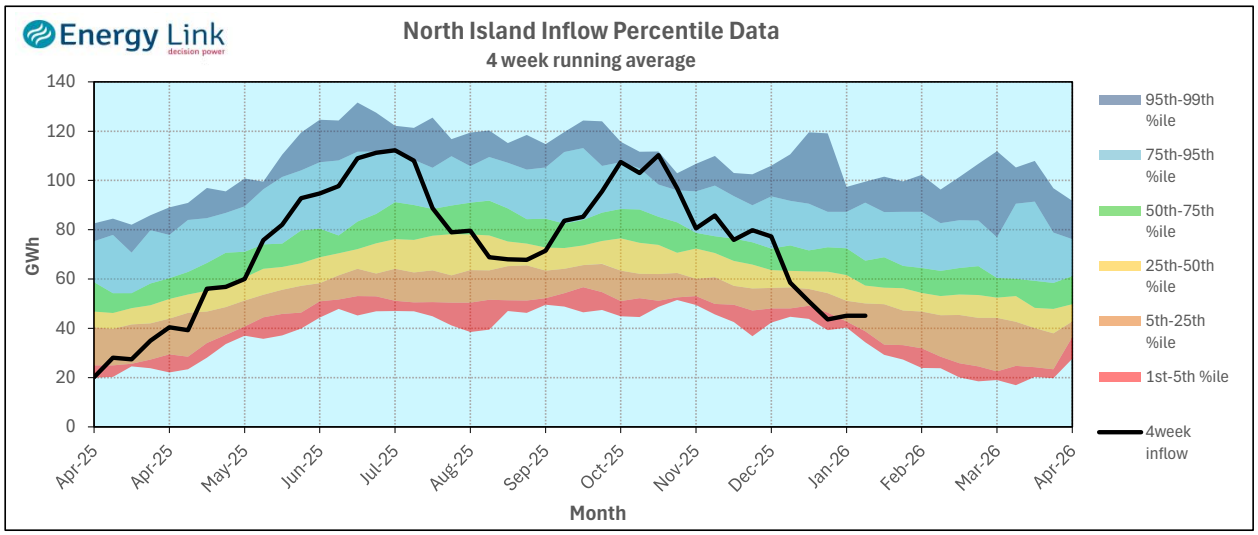
Inflow Summary

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.

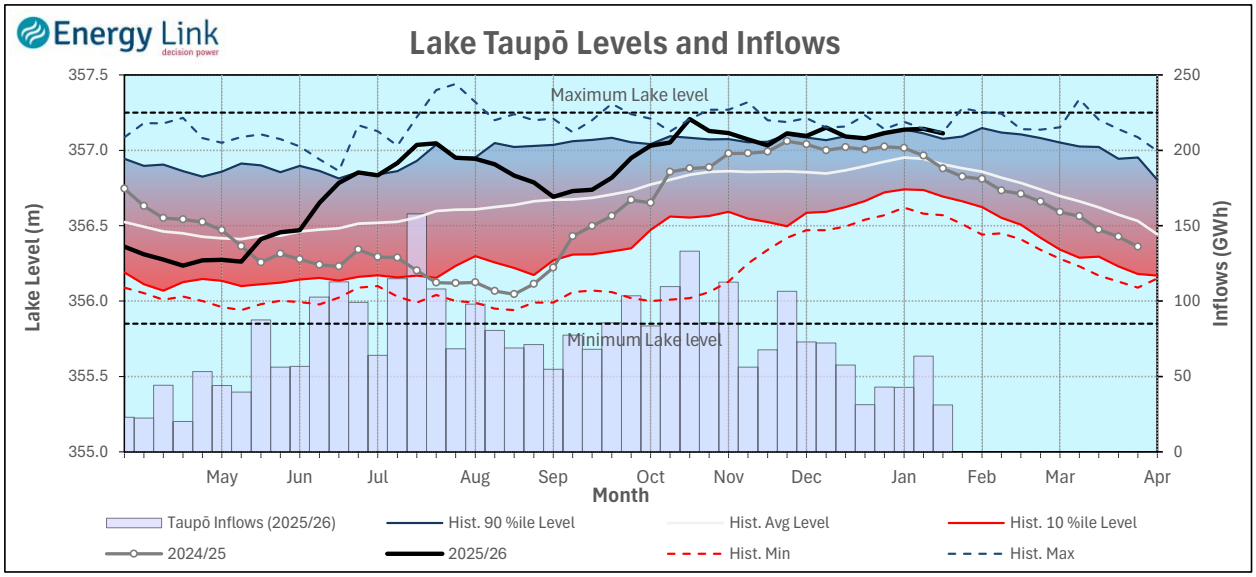
South Island Inflows - The past four weeks of S. I. inflows rank as the 20th wettest on record.



North Island Inflows - The past four weeks of N. I. inflows rank as the 18th driest on record.



Waikato System

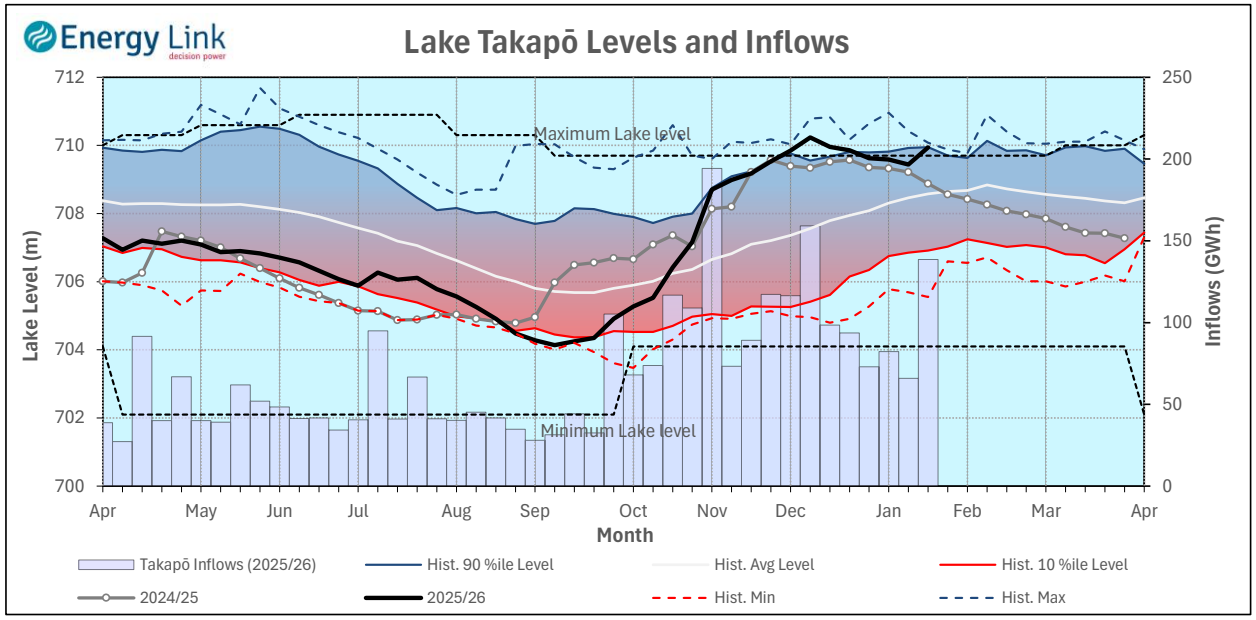


Lake Levels - Lake Taupō storage fell to 90.2% of nominal full at 515 GWh.

Inflows - Inflows decreased 51% to 31 GWh.

Generation - Average generation increased 69.6% to 351.6 MW.

Takapō



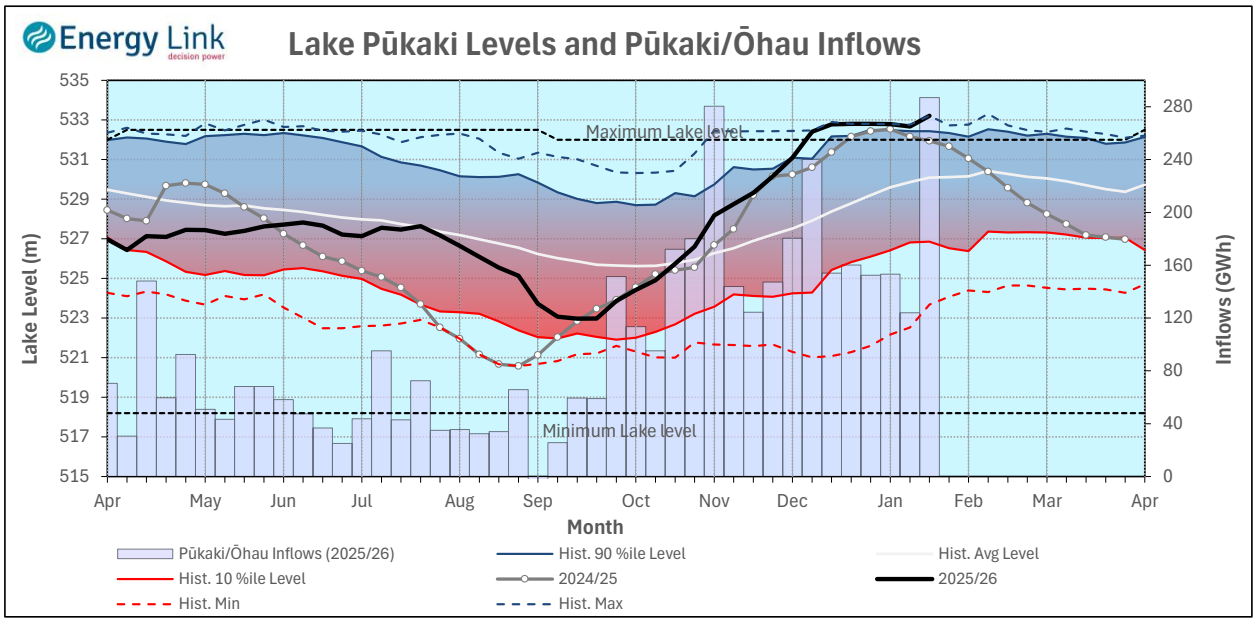
Lake Levels - Lake Takapō ended the week 110% nominally full with storage increasing to 795 GWh.

Inflows - Inflows into Takapō increased 110.5% to 139 GWh.

Generation - Average Takapō generation increased 0.6% to 177.1 MW.

Hydro Spill - Lake Takapō did not spill.

Waitaki System



Lake Levels - Lake Pūkaki ended the week 109% nominally full with storage increasing to 1,946 GWh.

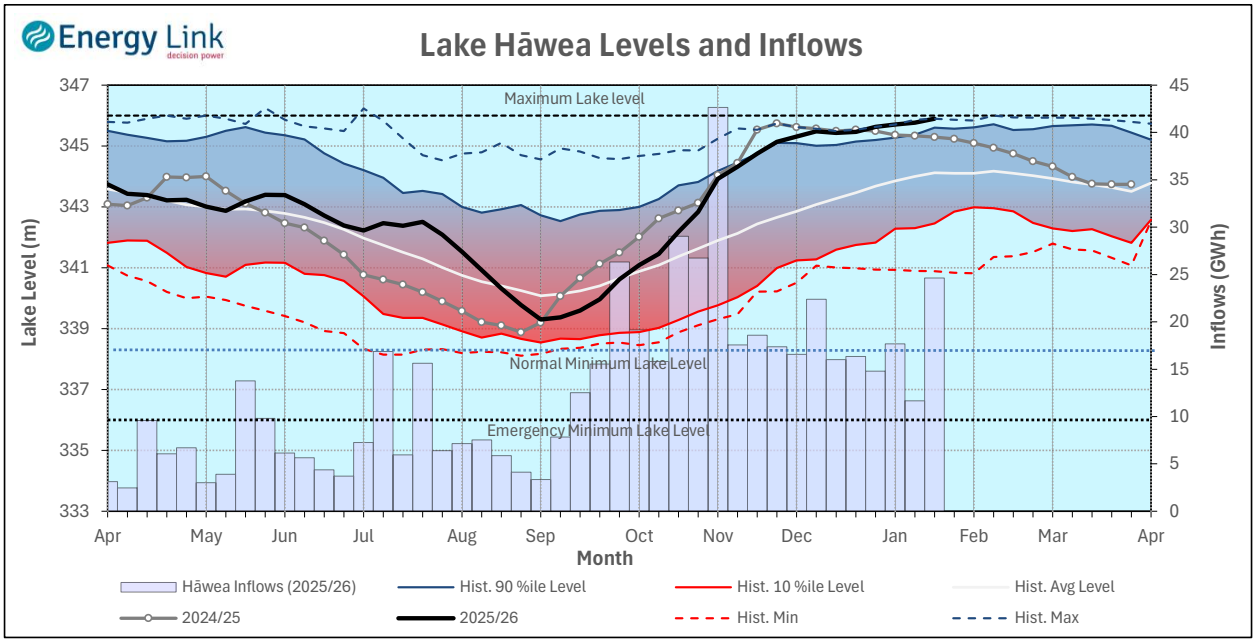
Inflows - Inflows into the Waitaki System increased 131.5% to 287 GWh.

Generation - Average Waitaki generation increased 17.2% to 1,092 MW.

Hydro Spill - Lake Pūkaki spill was 355 cumecs.

River Flows - Flows from the Ahuriri River increased to 52.5 cumecs while Waitaki River flows were higher than last week averaging 635.3 cumecs.

Clutha System



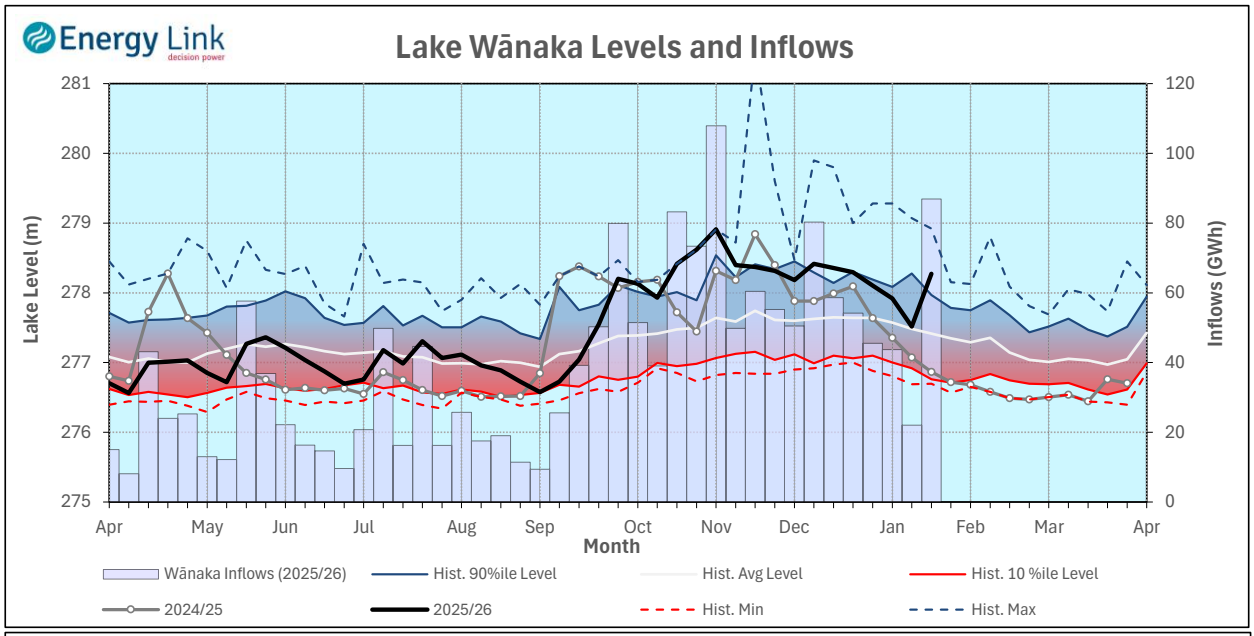
Lake Levels - Total storage for the Clutha System increased by 16.1% to 486 GWh. Lakes Hāwea, Wānaka and Wakatipu ended the week 98.7%, 95.3% and 80.8% nominally full respectively.

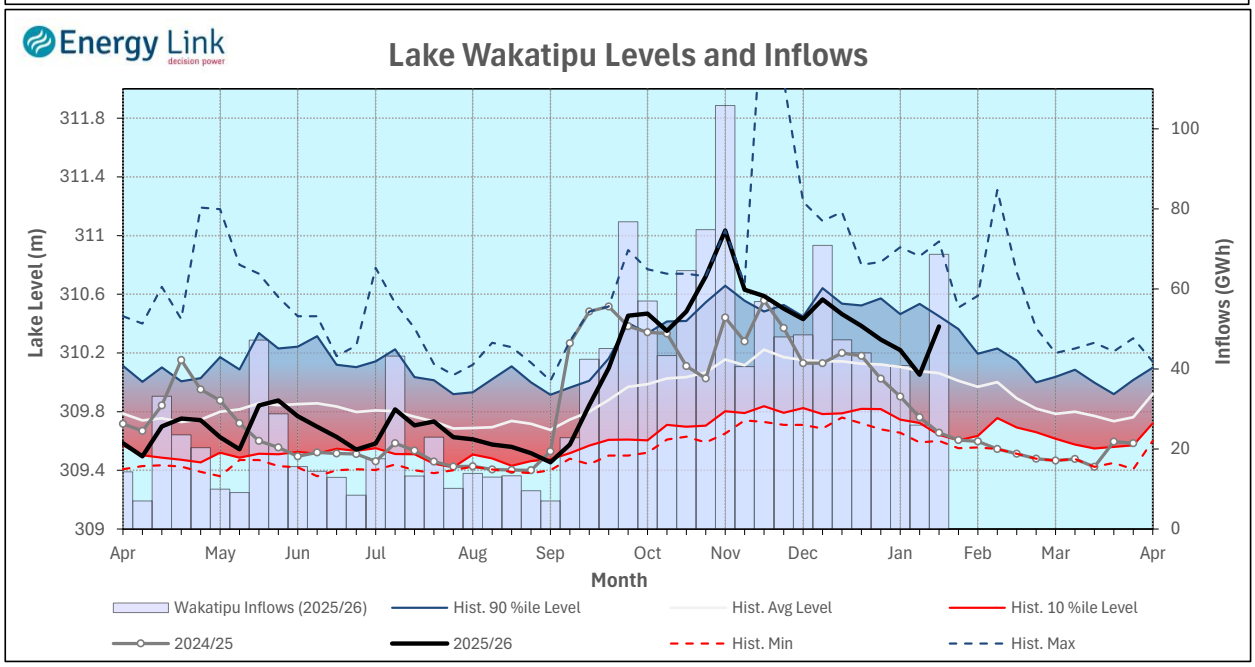
Inflows - Total Inflows into the Clutha System 202% higher at 180 GWh.

Generation - Average generation was 126.7% higher at 200 MW.

Hydro Spill - Estimate Spill is 556.7 cumecs.

River Flows - Total outflows from the lakes and Shotover River increased to 806.8 cumecs. This comprised of 126 cumecs from Lake Hāwea, 315 cumecs from Lake Wānaka, 281 cumecs from Lake Wakatipu and 84 cumecs from the Shotover River.





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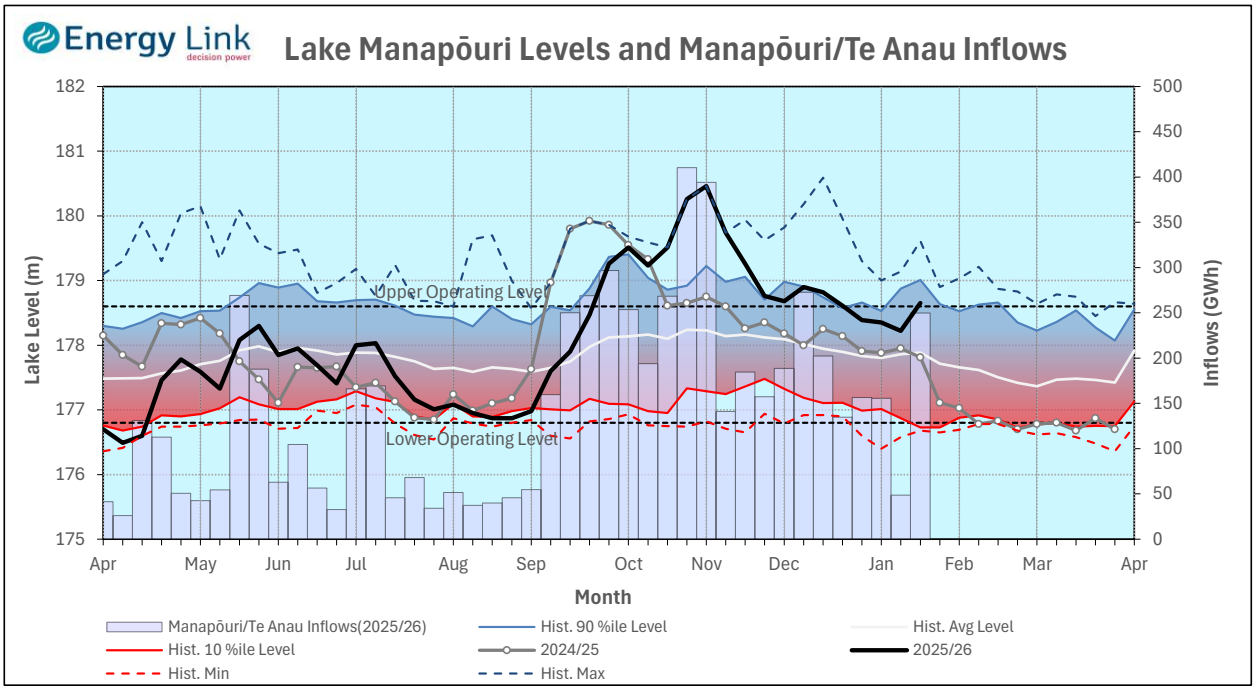
Manapōuri System



Lake Levels - Total storage for the Manapōuri System increased by 28.4% to 462 GWh with Lake Manapōuri ending the week 101.8% nominally full and Lake Te Anau ending the week 107.6% nominally full.

Inflows - Total inflows into the Manapōuri System increased 413.5% to 250 GWh.

Generation - Average generation was 12.5% lower at 611 MW.

Hydro Spill - Estimated spill at the Māraroa Weir was 191 cumecs.

Operating Range - Lakes Manapōuri and Te Anau are operating in the lower end of their respective 'High operating range'.