



HydroWatch

Thursday, 29 January 2026

Issue: 1502

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) | 2,927 | 430 | 3,357 | 524 | | 3,881 |
| Storage Change (GWh) | -51 | -87 | -138 | -13 | | -151 |

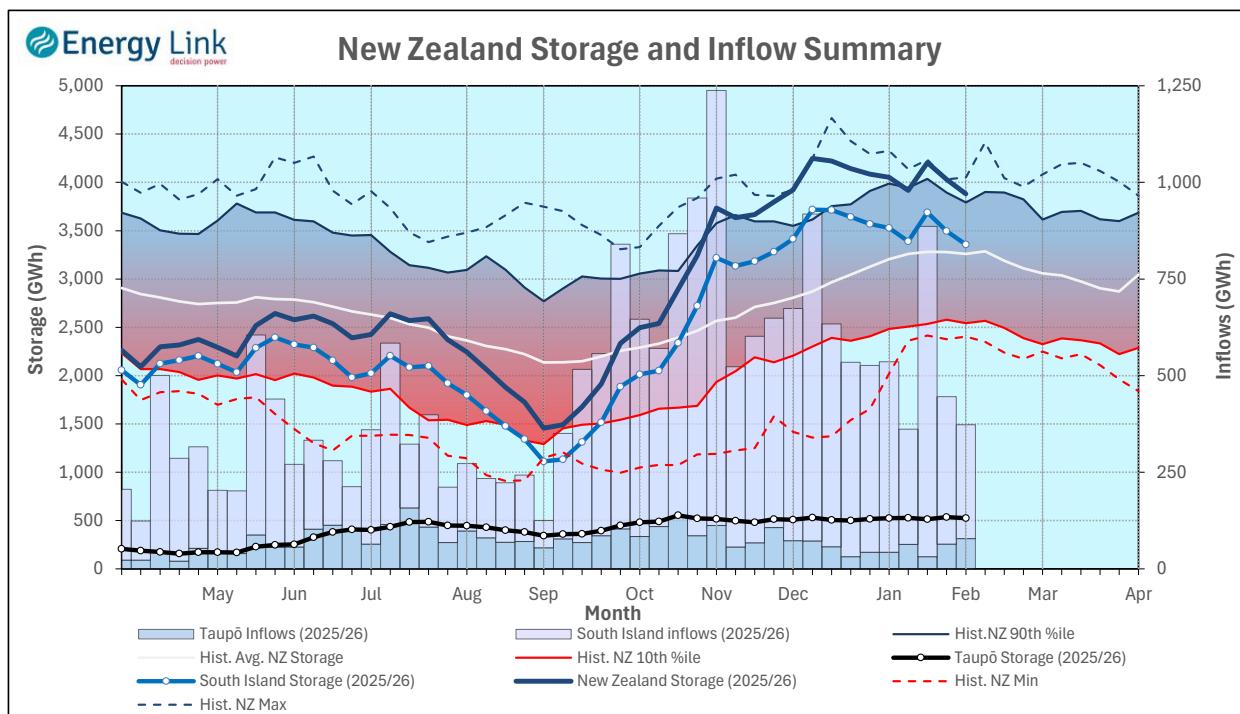
Note: SI Controlled; Takapō, Pūkaki and Hāwea: SI Uncontrolled; Manapōuri, Te Anau, Wānaka, Wakatipu

| Transpower Security of Supply | South Island | North Island | New Zealand |
|-------------------------------|--------------|--------------|-------------|
| Current Storage (GWh) | 3,238 | 524 | 3,762 |

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 151 GWh over the last week. South Island controlled storage decreased 1.7% to 2,927 GWh; South Island uncontrolled storage decreased 17% to 430 GWh; with Taupō storage decreasing 2.4% to 524 GWh.



| Thursday, 29 January 2026 | | Manapōuri | Clutha | Waitaki | Waikato | NZ |
|---------------------------|--------|-----------|--------|---------|---------|--------|
| Storage (GWh) | | | | | | |
| This Week | 311 | 407 | 2,639 | 524 | | 3,881 |
| Last Week | 370 | 436 | 2,689 | 536 | | 4,031 |
| % Change | -15.9% | -6.8% | -1.8% | -2.4% | | -3.7% |
| Inflow (GWh) | | | | | | |
| This Week | 45 | 52 | 198 | 78 | | 373 |
| Last Week | 45 | 56 | 280 | 64 | | 446 |
| % Change | 0.0% | -7.8% | -29.4% | 21.8% | | -16.3% |

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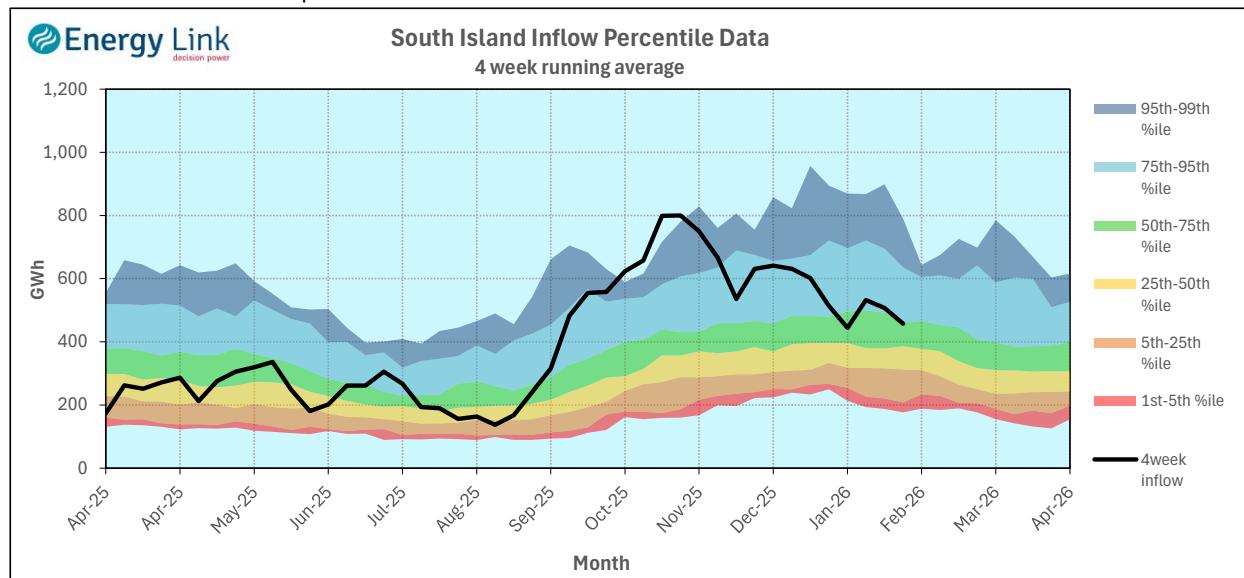
Lake Levels and Outflows

| Catchment | Lake | Level (m. asl) | Storage (GWh) | Outflow (cumecs) | Outflow Change |
|-----------|-----------|-------------------|------------------|---------------------|-------------------|
| Manapōuri | Manapōuri | 178.01 | 127 | 20 | -127 |
| | Te Anau | 202.09 | 184 | | |
| Clutha | Wakatipu | 309.98 | 55 | 219 | -57 |
| | Wānaka | 277.37 | 64 | 240 | -82 |
| | Hāwea | 345.79 | 287 | 65 | -15 |
| Waitaki | Takapō | 709.81 | 780 | | |
| | Pūkaki | 532.58 | 1,859 | | |
| Waikato | Taupō | 357.13 | 524 | | |

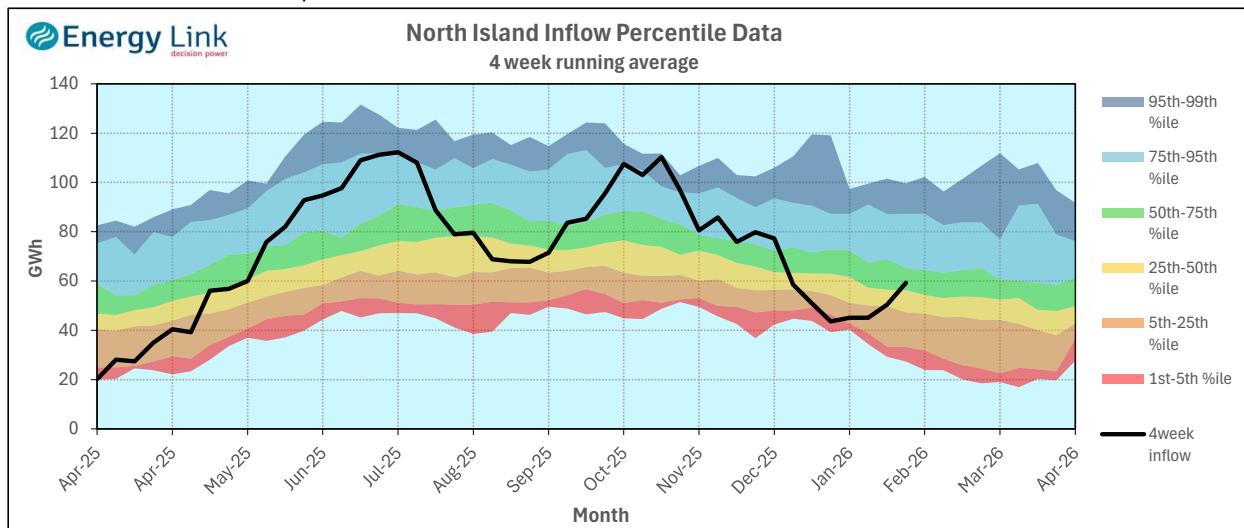
Inflow Summary

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.

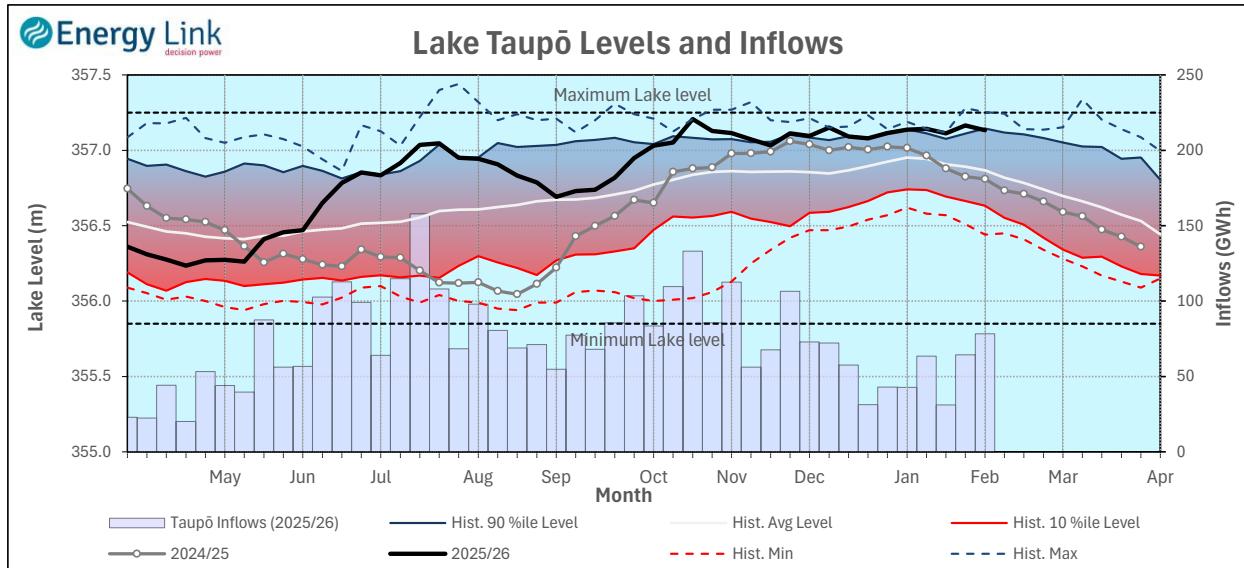
South Island Inflows - The past four weeks of S. I. inflows rank as the 25th wettest on record.



North Island Inflows - The past four weeks of N. I. inflows rank as the 40th wettest on record.



Waikato System

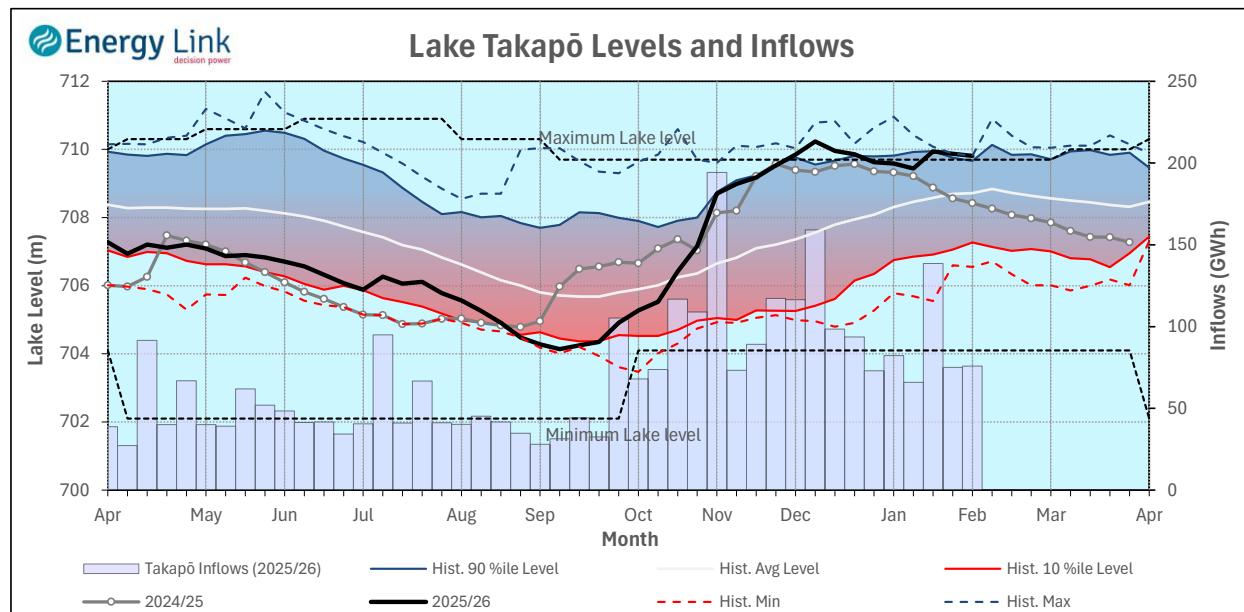


Lake Levels - Lake Taupō storage fell to 91.7% of nominal full at 524 GWh.

Inflows - Inflows increased 21.8% to 78 GWh.

Generation - Average generation decreased 8.4% to 269.7 MW.

Takapō



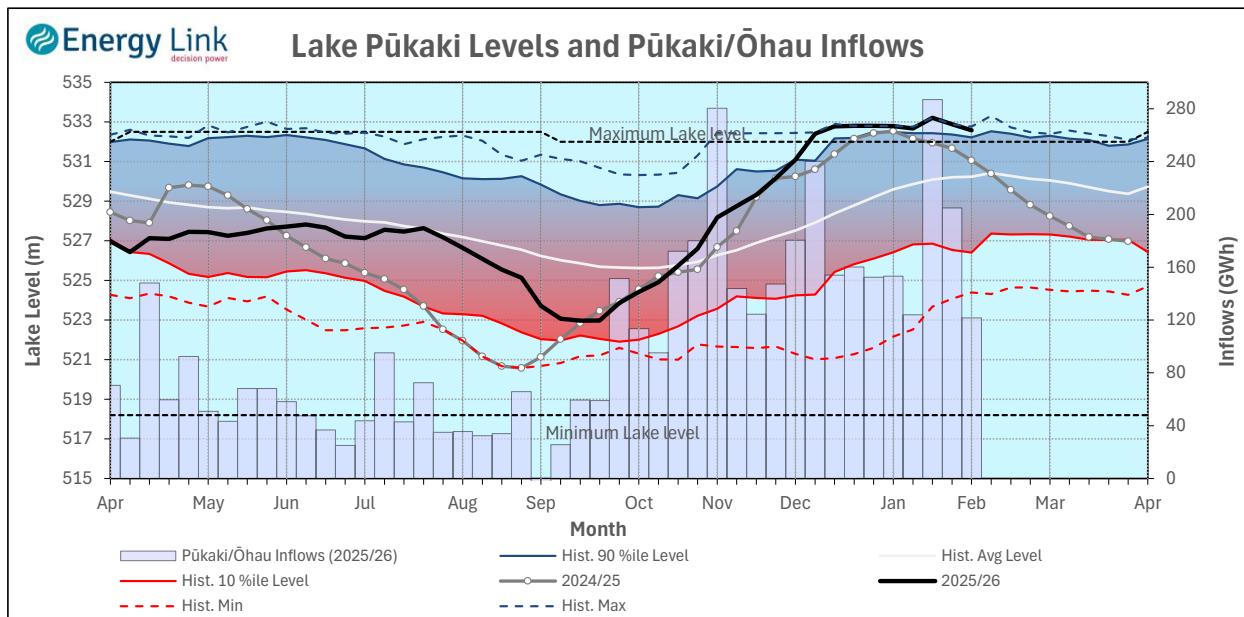
Lake Levels - Lake Takapō ended the week 108% nominally full with storage falling to 780 GWh.

Inflows - Inflows into Takapō increased 1% to 76 GWh.

Generation - Average Takapō generation decreased 1.7% to 175.5 MW.

Hydro Spill - Lake Takapō did not spill.

Waitaki System



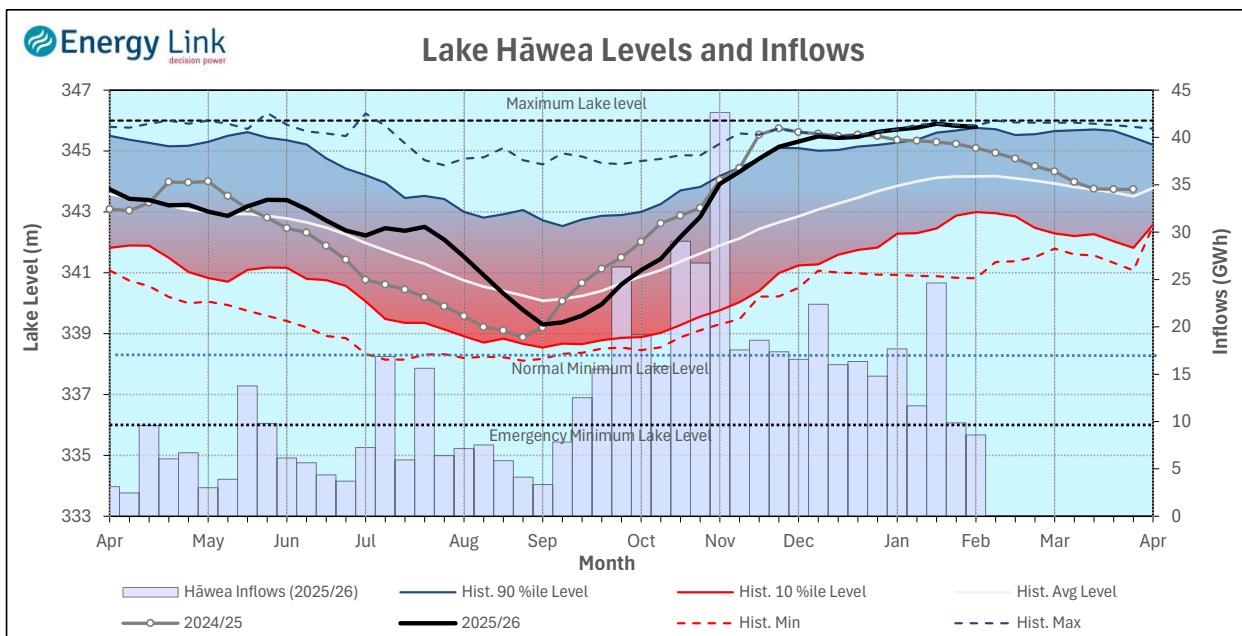
Inflows - Inflows into the Waitaki System decreased 40.6% to 122 GWh.

Generation - Average Waitaki generation decreased 4% to 981 MW.

Hydro Spill - Lake Pūkaki spill was 269 cumecs.

River Flows - Flows from the Ahuriri River fell to 33.8 cumecs while Waitaki River flows were lower than last week averaging 608.6 cumecs.

Clutha System



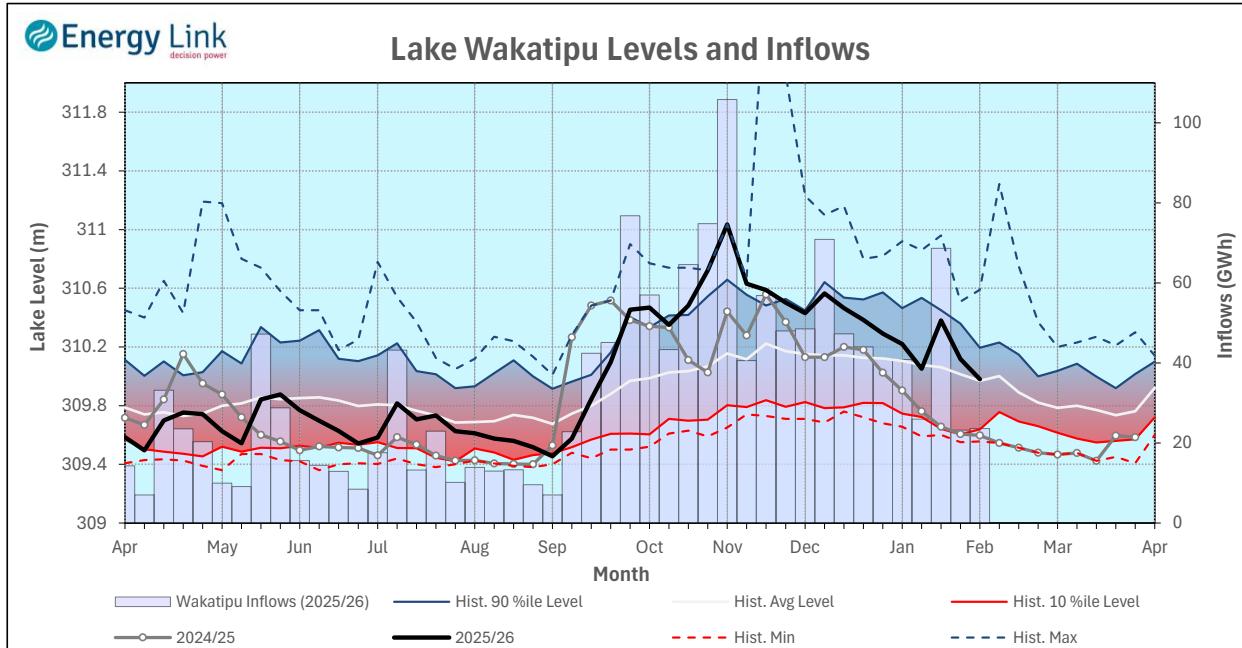
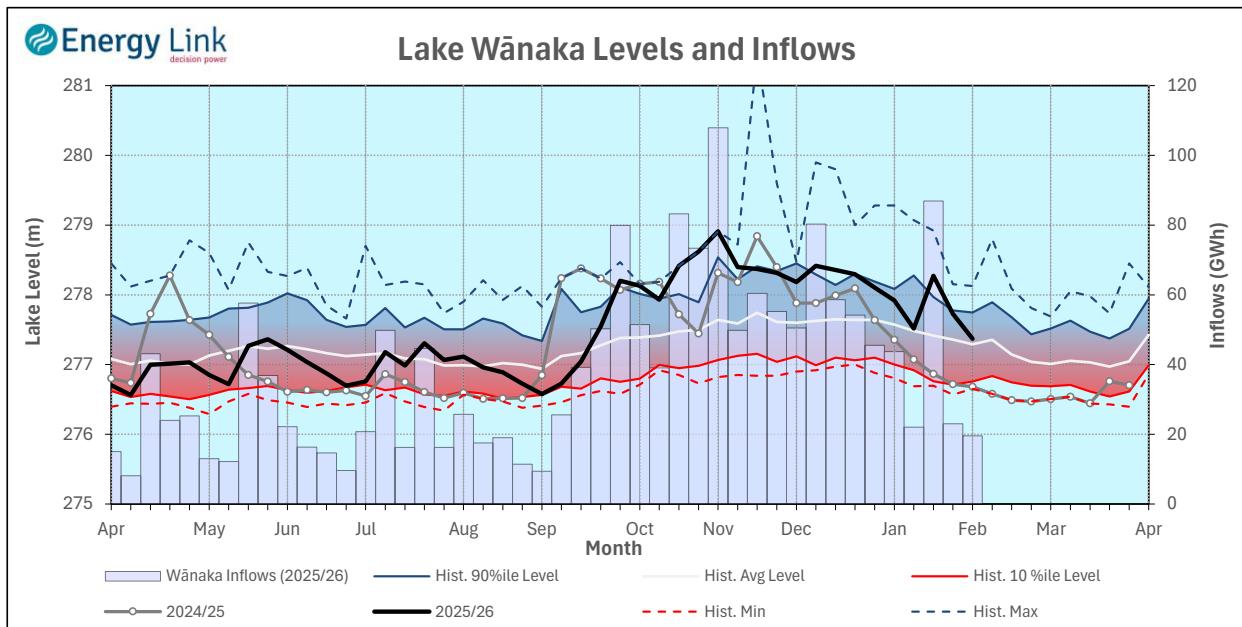
Lake Levels - Total storage for the Clutha System decreased 6.8% to 407 GWh. Lakes Hāwea, Wānaka and Wakatipu ended the week 97.3%, 56% and 52.1% nominally full respectively.

Inflows - Total Inflows into the Clutha System 7.8% lower at 52 GWh.

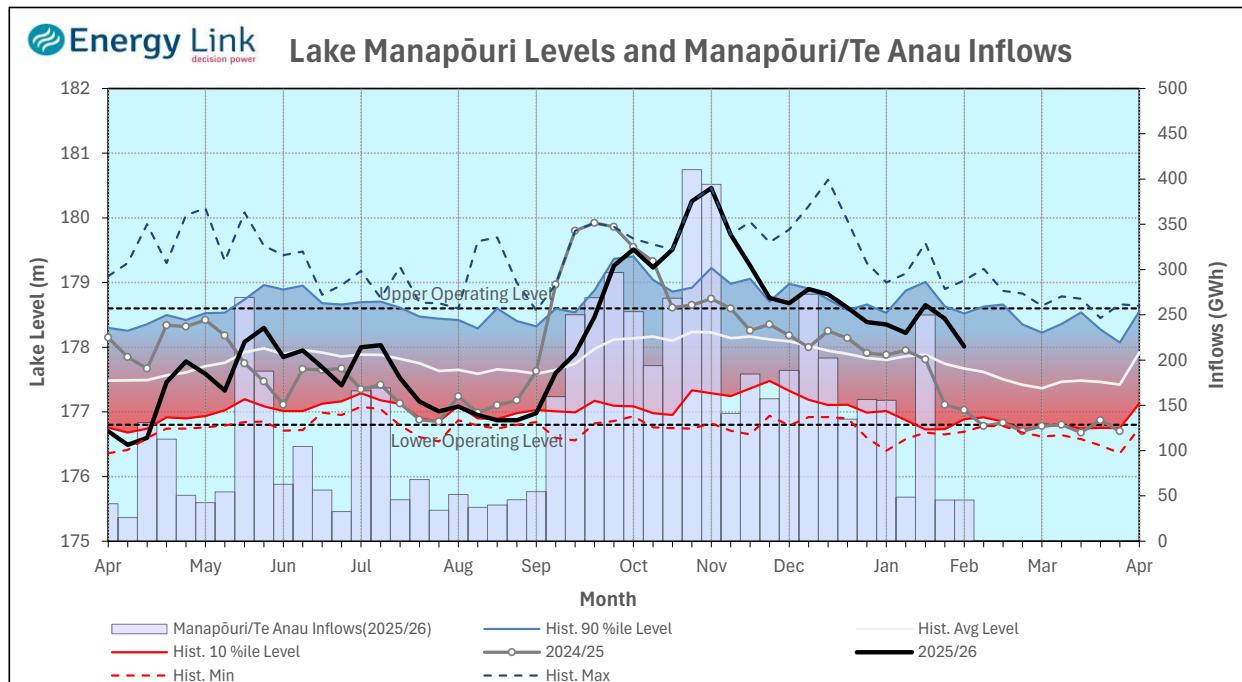
Generation - Average generation was 22.9% lower at 130 MW.

Hydro Spill - Estimate Spill is 411.7 cumecs.

River Flows - Total outflows from the lakes and Shotover River fell to 591.7 cumecs. This comprised of 65 cumecs from Lake Hāwea, 240 cumecs from Lake Wānaka, 219 cumecs from Lake Wakatipu and 69 cumecs from the Shotover River.



Manapōuri System



Lake Levels - Total storage for the Manapōuri System decreased 15.9% to 311 GWh with Lake Manapōuri ending the week 78.3% nominally full and Lake Te Anau ending the week 66.8% nominally full.

Inflows - Total inflows into the Manapōuri System remained steady at 45 GWh.

Generation - Average generation was 0.5% lower at 614 MW.

Hydro Spill - Estimated spill at the Māraroa Weir was 19.9 cumecs.

Operating Range - Lake Manapōuri is operating in the upper end of its 'Main operating range' while Lake Te Anau is operating in the middle of its 'Main operating range'.

