

HydroWatch

Thursday, 5 March 2026

Issue: 1507

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) | 2,694 | 271 | 2,965 | 502 | 3,467 |
| Storage Change (GWh) | -50 | -40 | -90 | -24 | -114 |

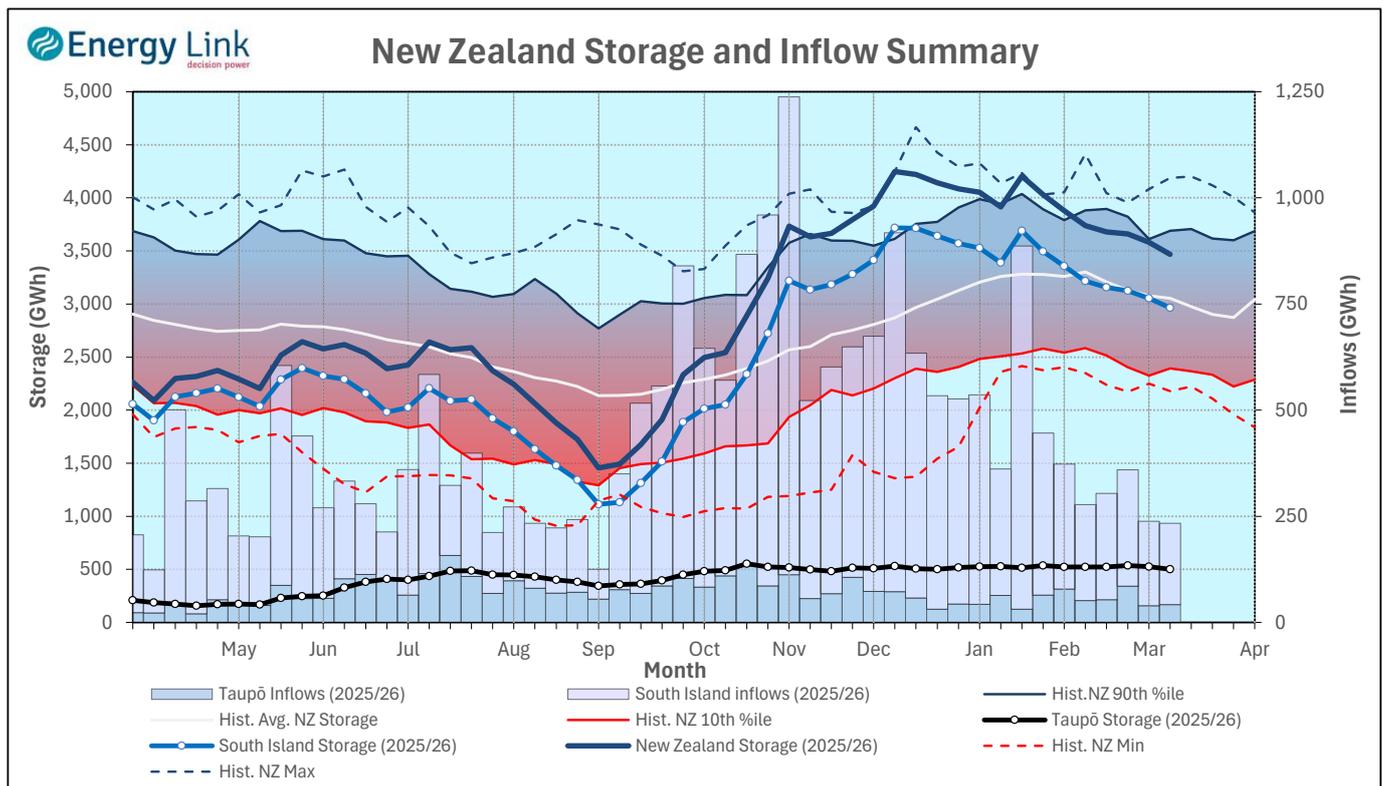
Note: SI Controlled; Takapō, Pūkaki and Hāwea: SI Uncontrolled; Manapōuri, Te Anau, Wānaka, Wakatipu

| Transpower Security of Supply | South Island | North Island | New Zealand |
|-------------------------------|--------------|--------------|-------------|
| Current Storage (GWh) | 2,901 | 502 | 3,403 |

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 114 GWh over the last week. South Island controlled storage decreased 1.8% to 2,694 GWh; South Island uncontrolled storage decreased 13% to 271 GWh; with Taupō storage decreasing 4.6% to 502 GWh.



| Thursday, 5 March 2026 | | | | | |
|------------------------|-----------|--------|---------|---------|-------|
| Storage (GWh) | Manapōuri | Clutha | Waitaki | Waikato | NZ |
| This Week | 208 | 348 | 2,409 | 502 | 3,467 |
| Last Week | 242 | 352 | 2,461 | 526 | 3,581 |
| % Change | -14.1% | -1.2% | -2.1% | -4.6% | -3.2% |
| Inflow (GWh) | Manapōuri | Clutha | Waitaki | Waikato | NZ |
| This Week | 42 | 38 | 112 | 42 | 234 |
| Last Week | 68 | 32 | 99 | 39 | 238 |
| % Change | -38.5% | 15.8% | 14.1% | 6.4% | -1.9% |

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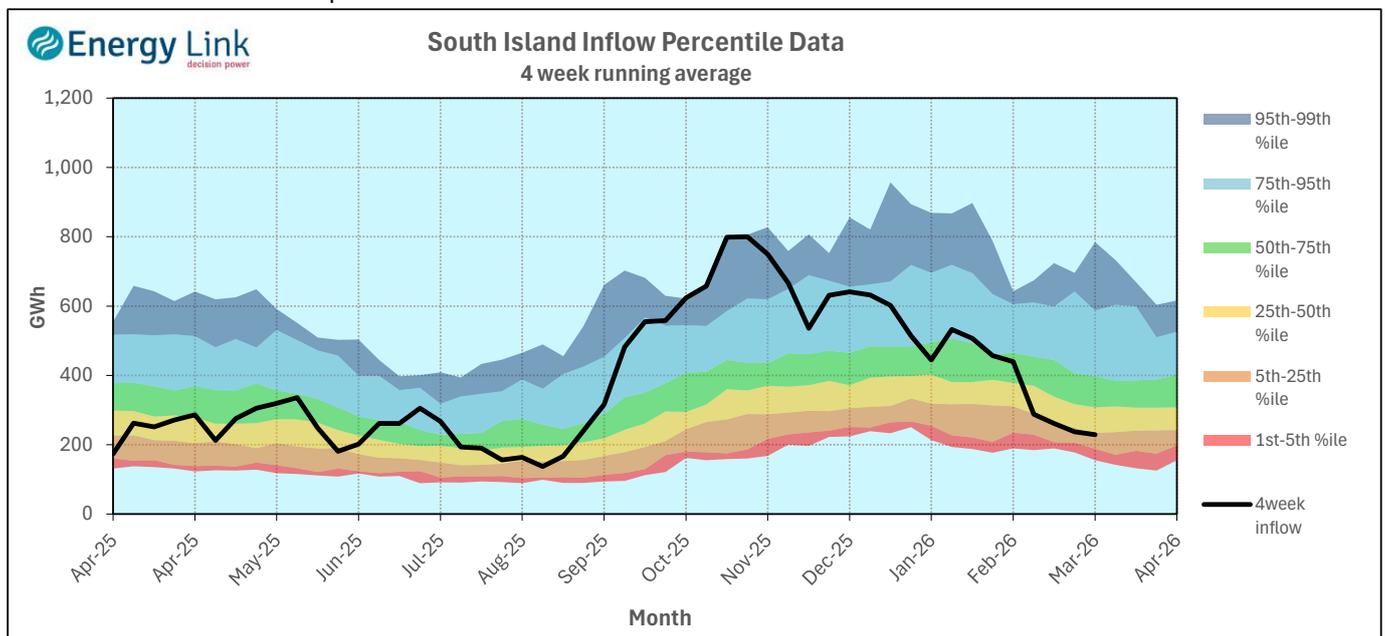
Lake Levels and Outflows

| Catchment | Lake | Level (m. asl) | Storage (GWh) | Outflow (cumecs) | Outflow Change |
|-----------|-----------|----------------|---------------|------------------|----------------|
| Manapōuri | Manapōuri | 177.10 | 73 | 18 | -3 |
| | Te Anau | 201.76 | 135 | | |
| Clutha | Wakatipu | 309.65 | 30 | 124 | -9 |
| | Wānaka | 276.75 | 33 | 124 | -12 |
| | Hāwea | 345.72 | 285 | 20 | 4 |
| Waitaki | Takapō | 708.75 | 665 | | |
| | Pūkaki | 531.75 | 1,744 | | |
| Waikato | Taupō | 357.08 | 502 | | |

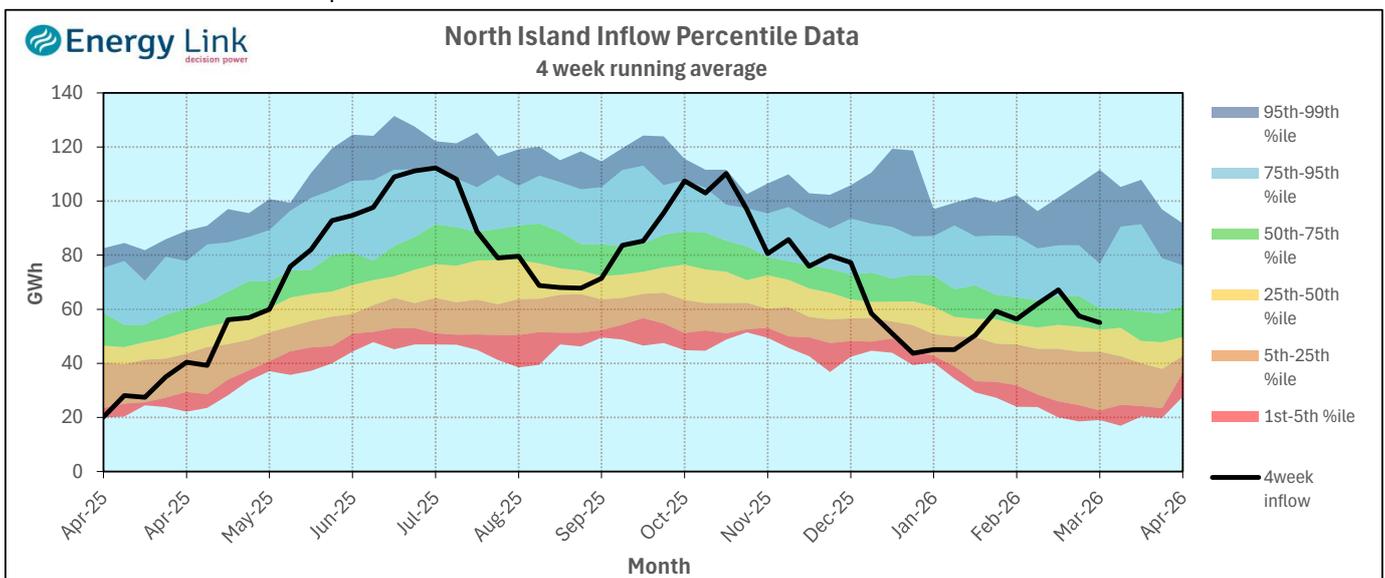
Inflow Summary

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.

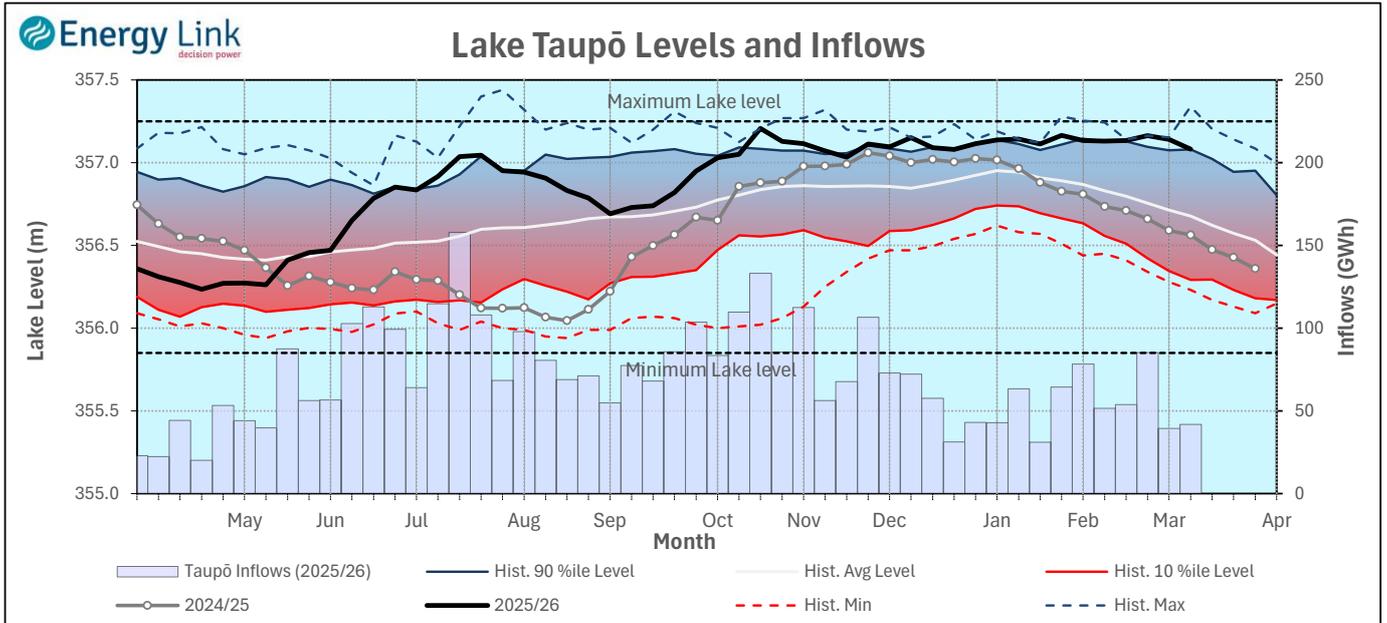
South Island Inflows - The past four weeks of S. I. inflows rank as the 21st driest on record.



North Island Inflows - The past four weeks of N. I. inflows rank as the 47th wettest on record.



Waikato System

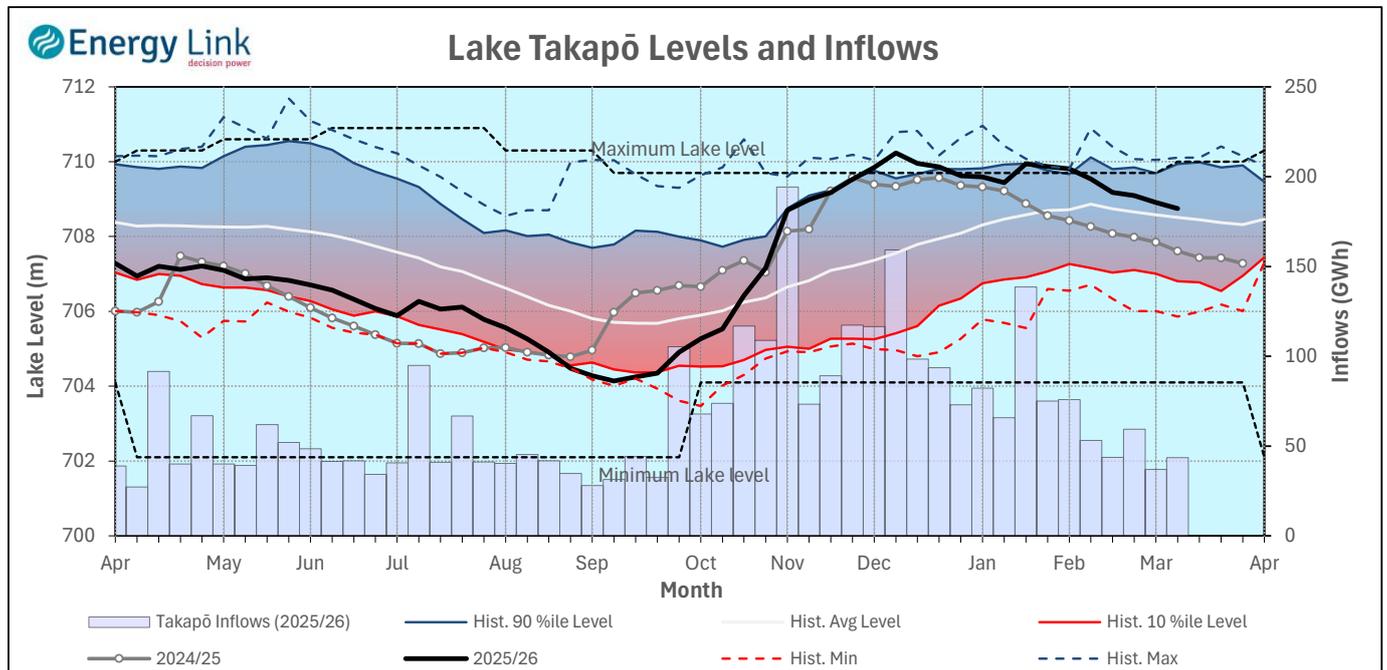


Lake Levels - Lake Taupō storage fell to 87.9% of nominal full at 502 GWh.

Inflows - Inflows increased 6.4% to 42 GWh.

Generation - Average generation increased 18.2% to 446.6 MW.

Takapō



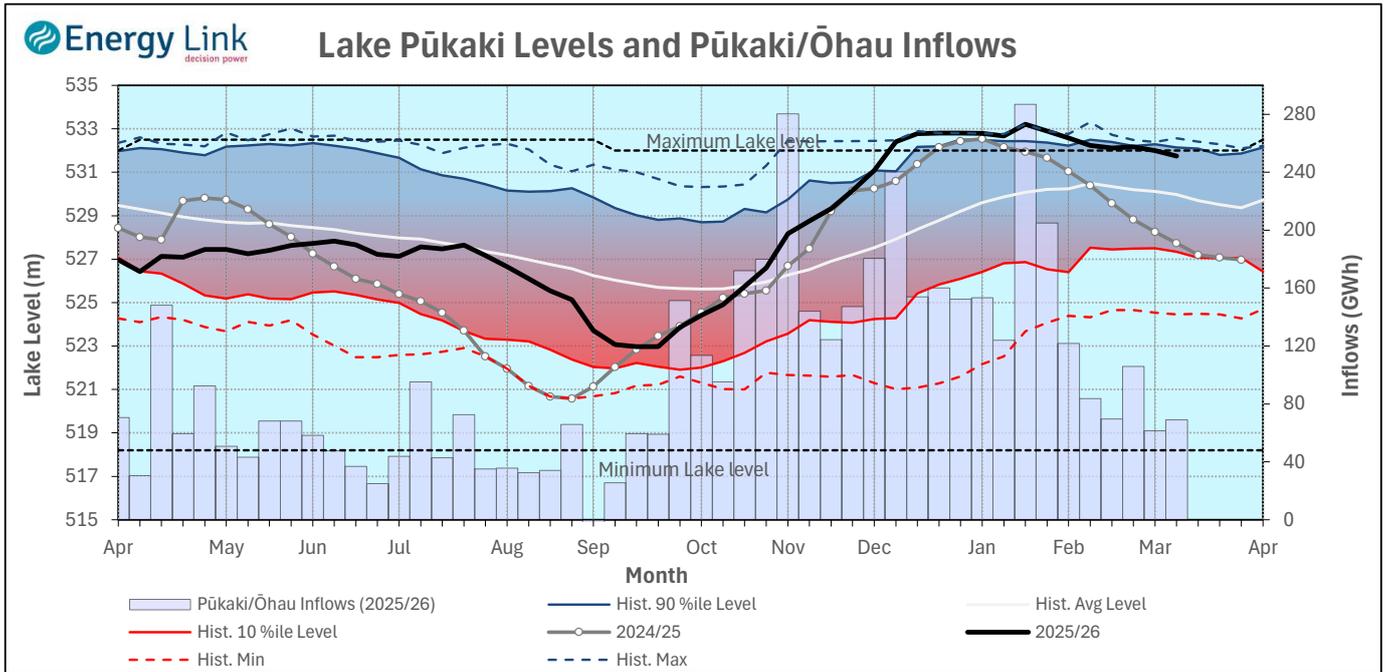
Lake Levels - Lake Takapō ended the week 92% nominally full with storage falling to 665 GWh.

Inflows - Inflows into Takapō increased 17.6% to 43 GWh.

Generation - Average Takapō generation increased 7% to 131.1 MW.

Hydro Spill - Lake Takapō did not spill.

Waitaki System



Lake Levels - Lake Pūkaki ended the week 98% nominally full with storage falling to 1,744 GWh.

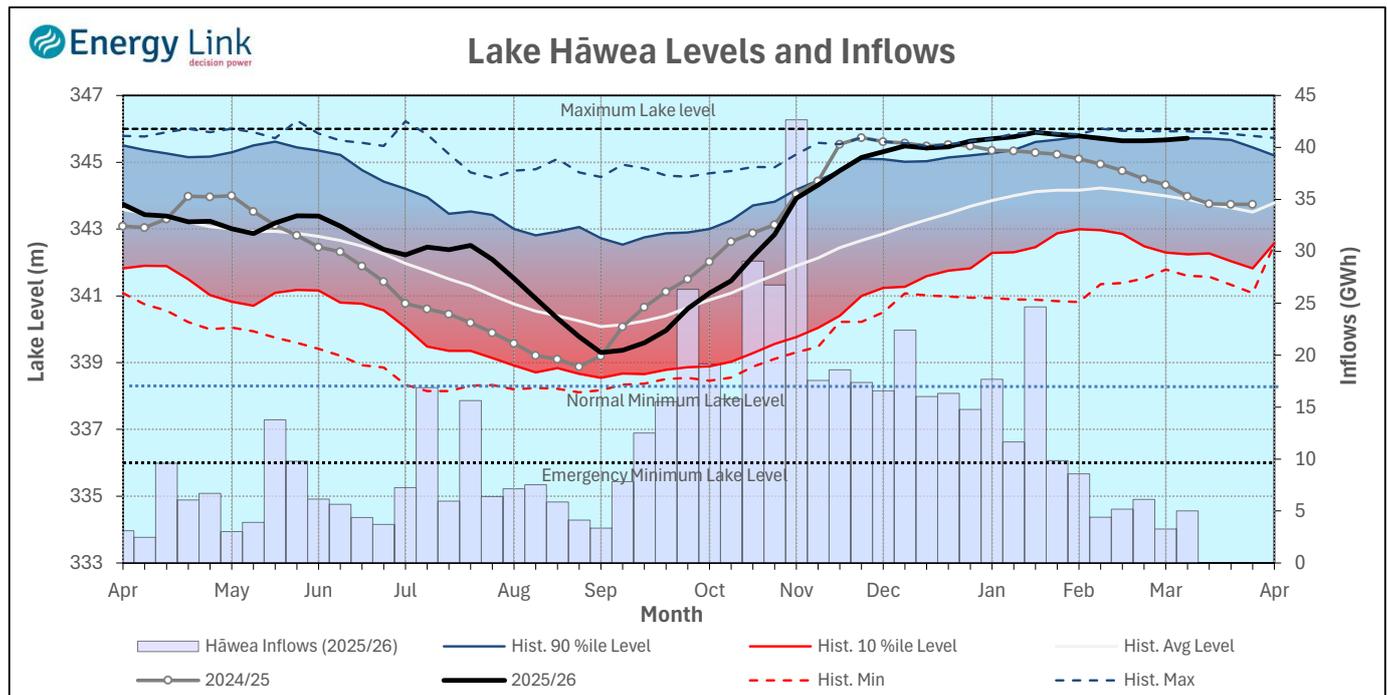
Inflows - Inflows into the Waitaki System increased 12% to 69 GWh.

Generation - Average Waitaki generation increased 17.4% to 955 MW.

Hydro Spill - Lake Pūkaki did not spill.

River Flows - Flows from the Ahuriri River increased to 15.9 cumecs while Waitaki River flows were higher than last week averaging 385.5 cumecs.

Clutha System



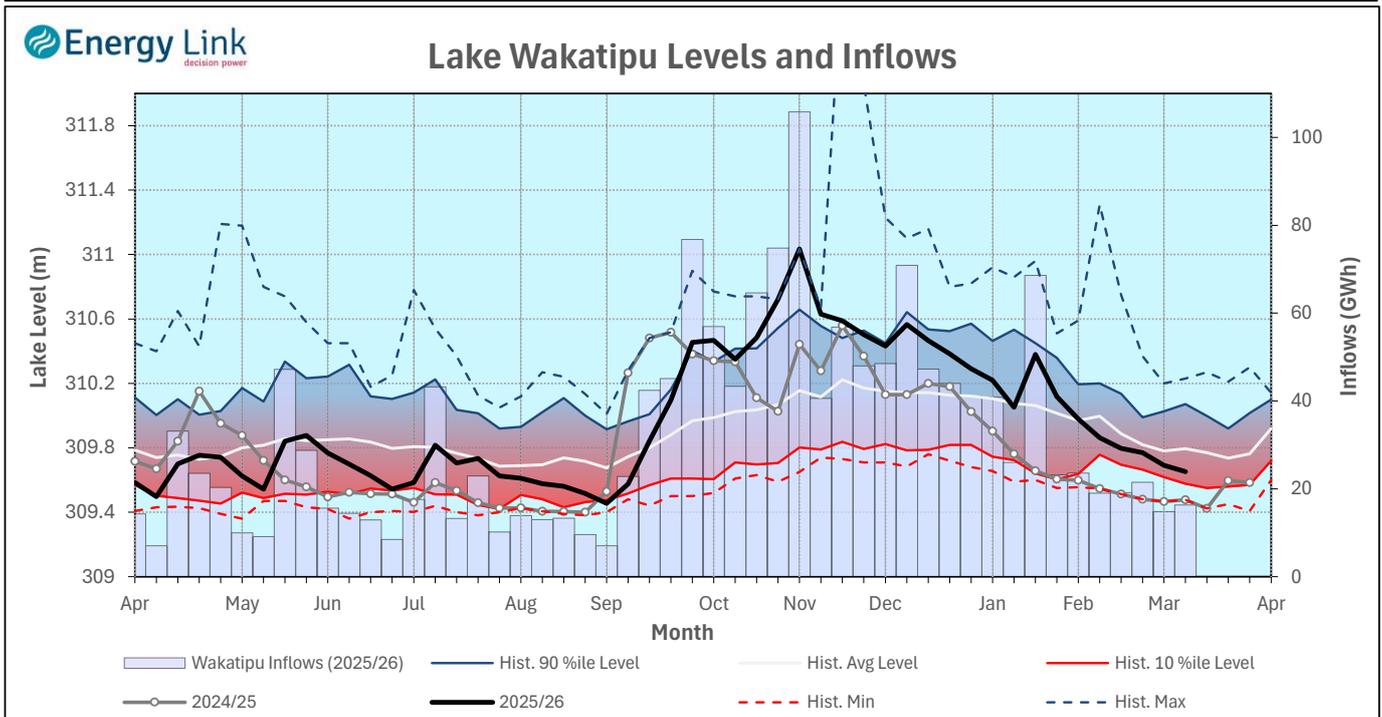
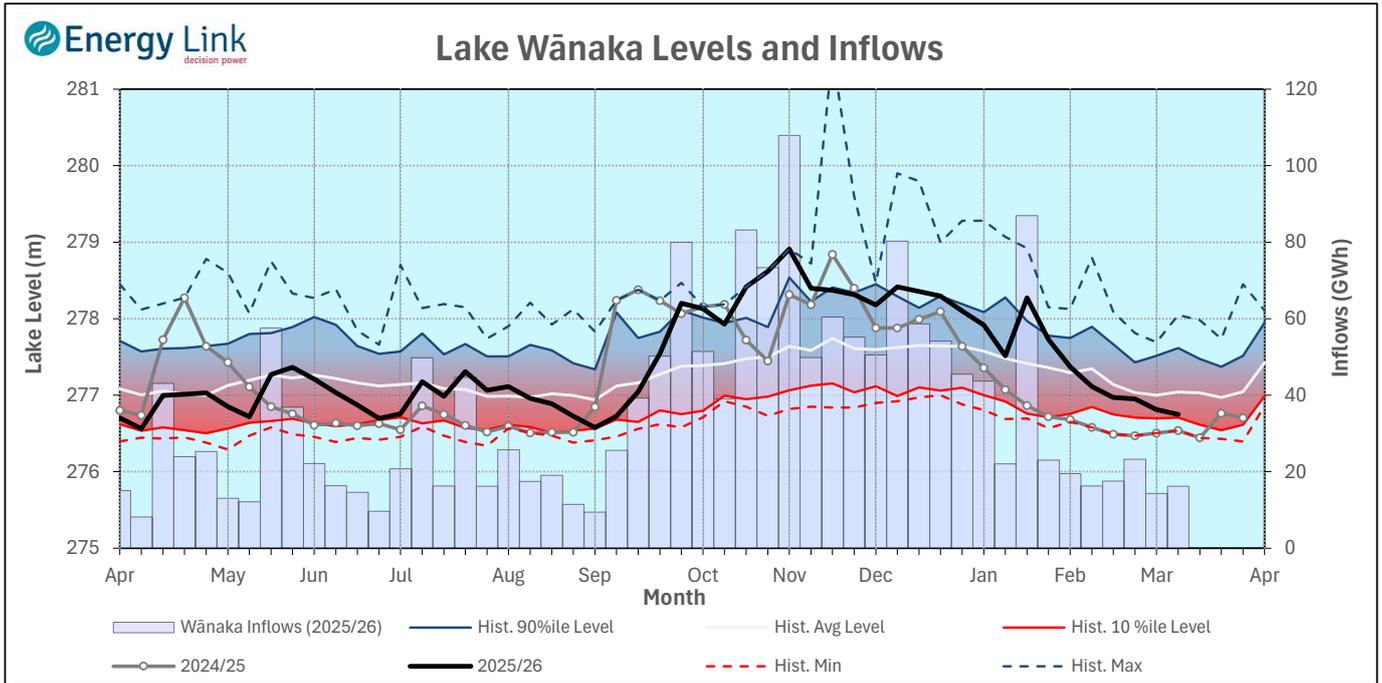
Lake Levels - Total storage for the Clutha System decreased 1.2% to 348 GWh. Lakes Hāwea, Wānaka and Wakatipu ended the week 96.4%, 29% and 28.8% nominally full respectively.

Inflows - Total Inflows into the Clutha System 15.8% higher at 38 GWh.

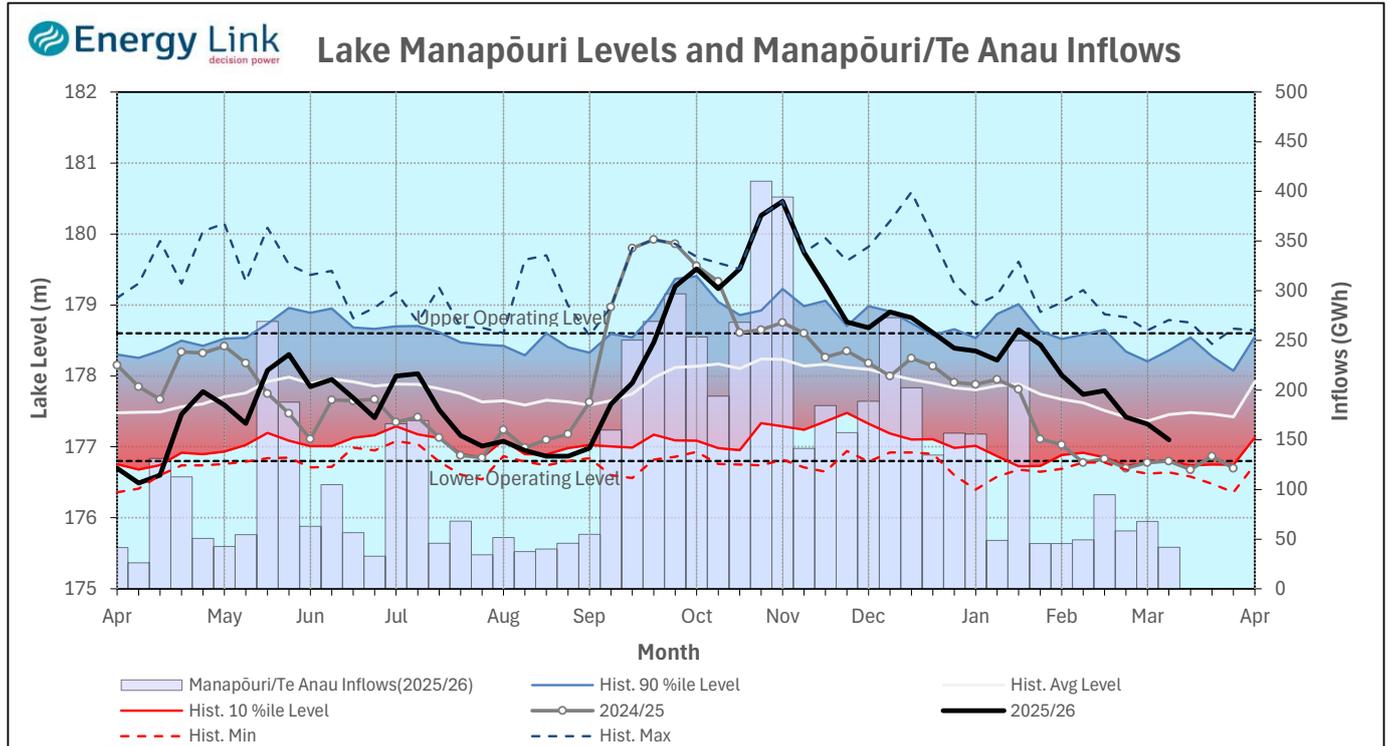
Generation - Average generation was 2.7% higher at 279 MW.

Hydro Spill - There was no estimated spill

River Flows - Total outflows from the lakes and Shotover River fell to 304.3 cumecs. This comprised of 20 cumecs from Lake Hāwea, 124 cumecs from Lake Wānaka, 124 cumecs from Lake Wakatipu and 37 cumecs from the Shotover River.



Manapōuri System



Lake Levels - Total storage for the Manapōuri System decreased 14.1% to 208 GWh with Lake Manapōuri ending the week 44.9% nominally full and Lake Te Anau ending the week 48.9% nominally full.

Inflows - Total inflows into the Manapōuri System decreased 38.5% to 42 GWh.

Generation - Average generation was 6.9% lower at 451 MW.

Hydro Spill - Estimated spill at the Māraroa Weir was 18.2 cumecs.

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

