

HydroWatch

Thursday, 12 March 2026

Issue: 1508

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)	2,603	251	2,854	477	3,331
Storage Change (GWh)	-91	-20	-111	-25	-136

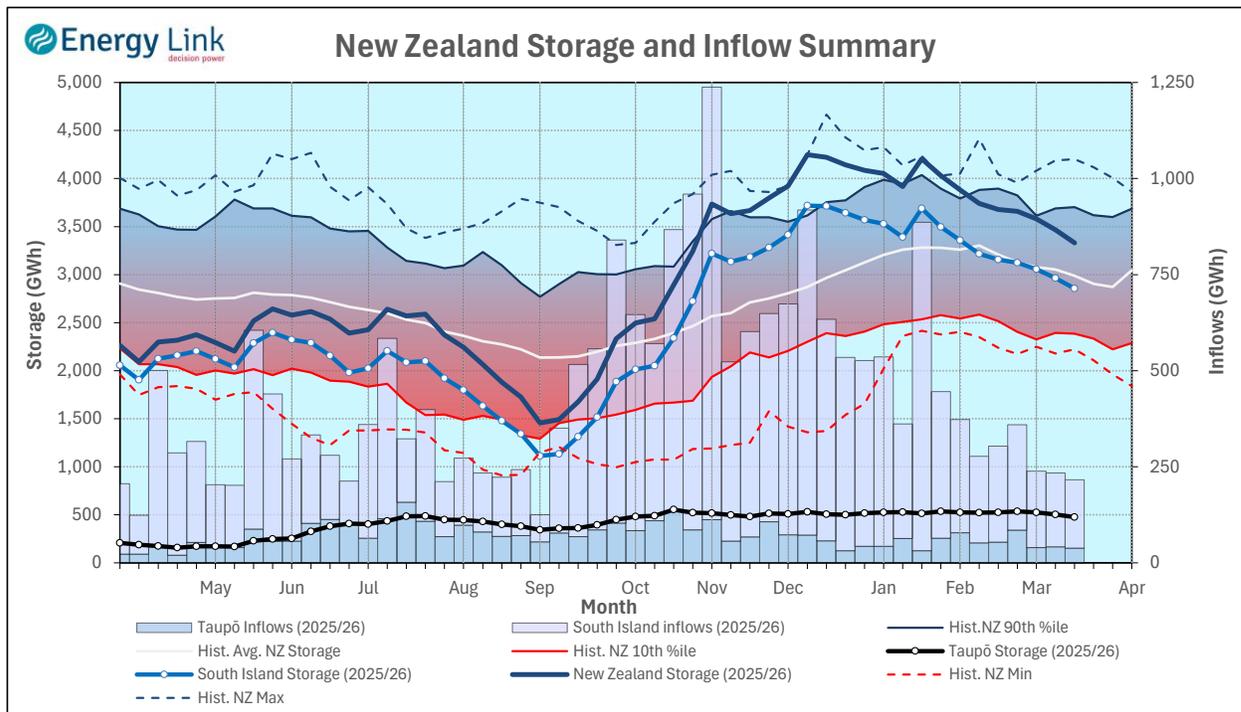
Note: SI Controlled; Takapō, Pūkaki and Hāwea: SI Uncontrolled; Manapōuri, Te Anau, Wānaka, Wakatipu

Transpower Security of Supply	South Island	North Island	New Zealand
Current Storage (GWh)	2,797	477	3,273

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 136 GWh over the last week. South Island controlled storage decreased 3.4% to 2,603 GWh; South Island uncontrolled storage decreased 7% to 251 GWh; with Taupō storage decreasing 5% to 477 GWh.



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	Manapōuri	Clutha	Waitaki	Waikato	NZ
Storage (GWh)					
This Week	194	341	2,320	477	3,331
Last Week	208	348	2,409	502	3,467
% Change	-6.7%	-2.2%	-3.7%	-5.0%	-3.9%
Inflow (GWh)					
This Week	73	32	74	38	216
Last Week	42	38	112	42	234
% Change	74.6%	-16.1%	-34.1%	-9.5%	-7.4%

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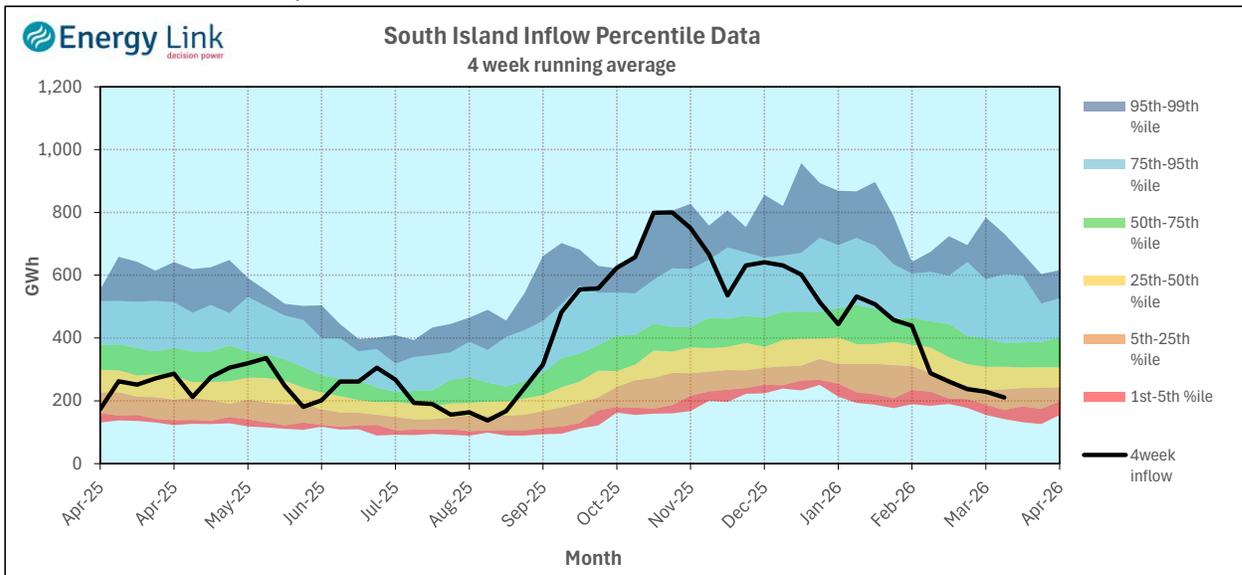
Lake Levels and Outflows

Catchment	Lake	Level (m. asl)	Storage (GWh)	Outflow (cumecs)	Outflow Change
Manapōuri	Manapōuri	176.94	64	17	-1
	Te Anau	201.73	130		
Clutha	Wakatipu	309.62	28	109	-15
	Wānaka	276.67	29	109	
	Hāwea	345.68	283	32	
Waitaki	Takapō	708.48	636		-15
	Pūkaki	531.31	1,684		
Waikato	Taupō	357.02	477		12

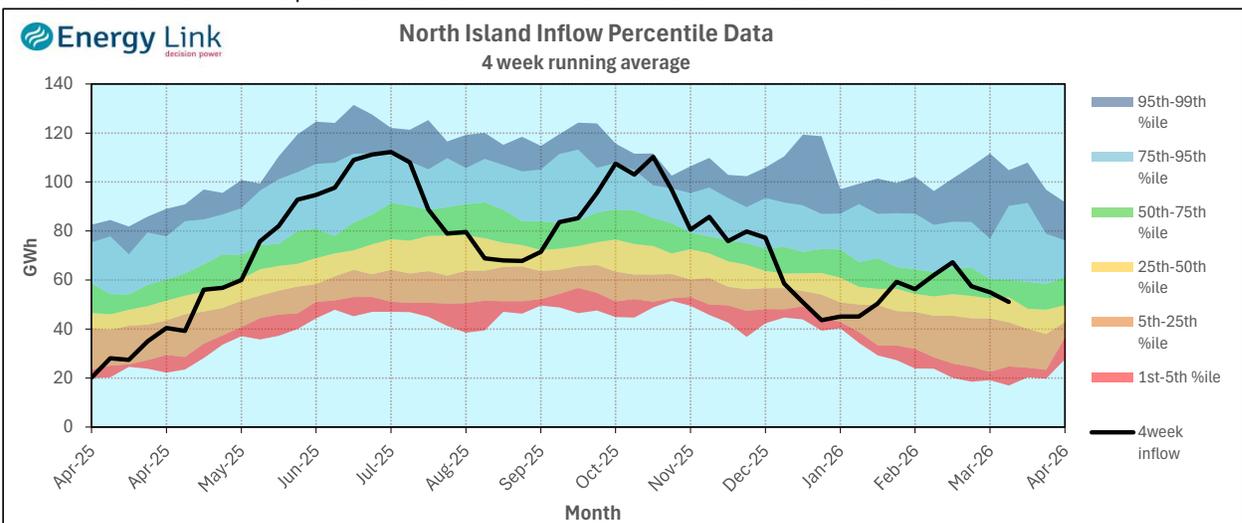
Inflow Summary

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.

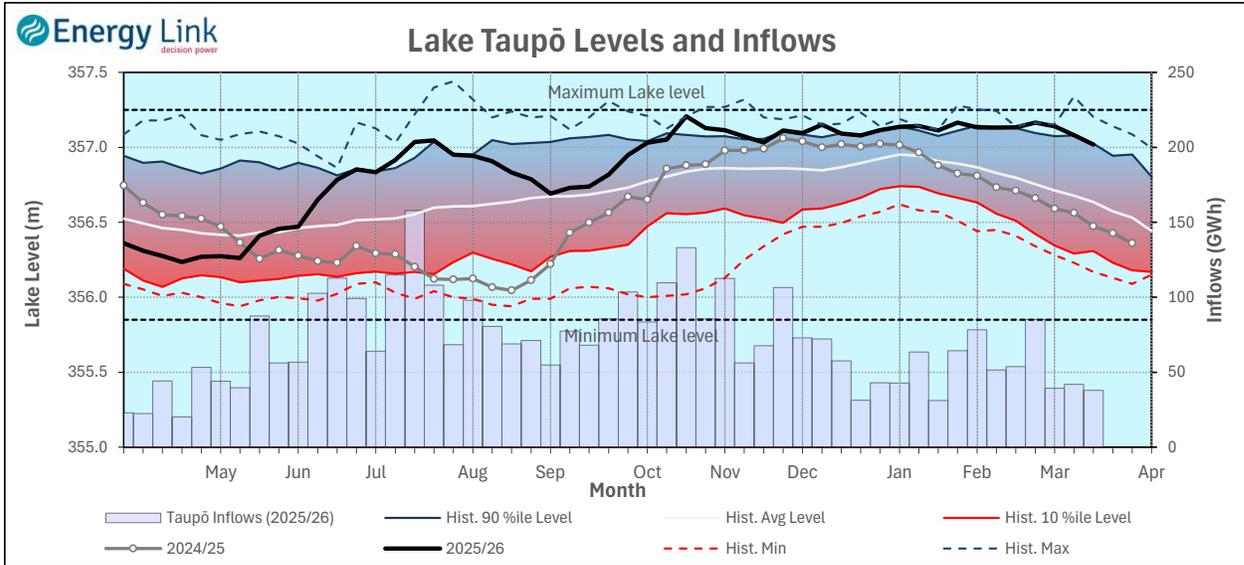
South Island Inflows - The past four weeks of S. I. inflows rank as the 15th driest on record.



North Island Inflows - The past four weeks of N. I. inflows rank as the 42nd driest on record.



Waikato System

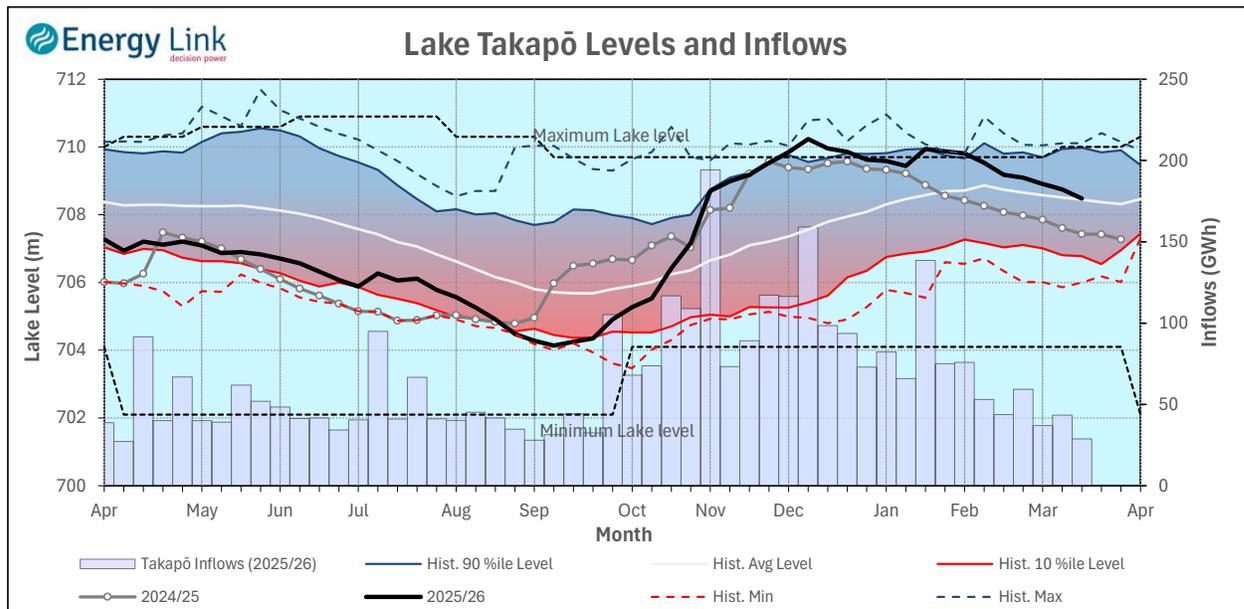


Lake Levels - Lake Taupō storage fell to 83.5% of nominal full at 477 GWh.

Inflows - Inflows decreased 9.5% to 38 GWh.

Generation - Average generation decreased 0% to 446.4 MW.

Takapō



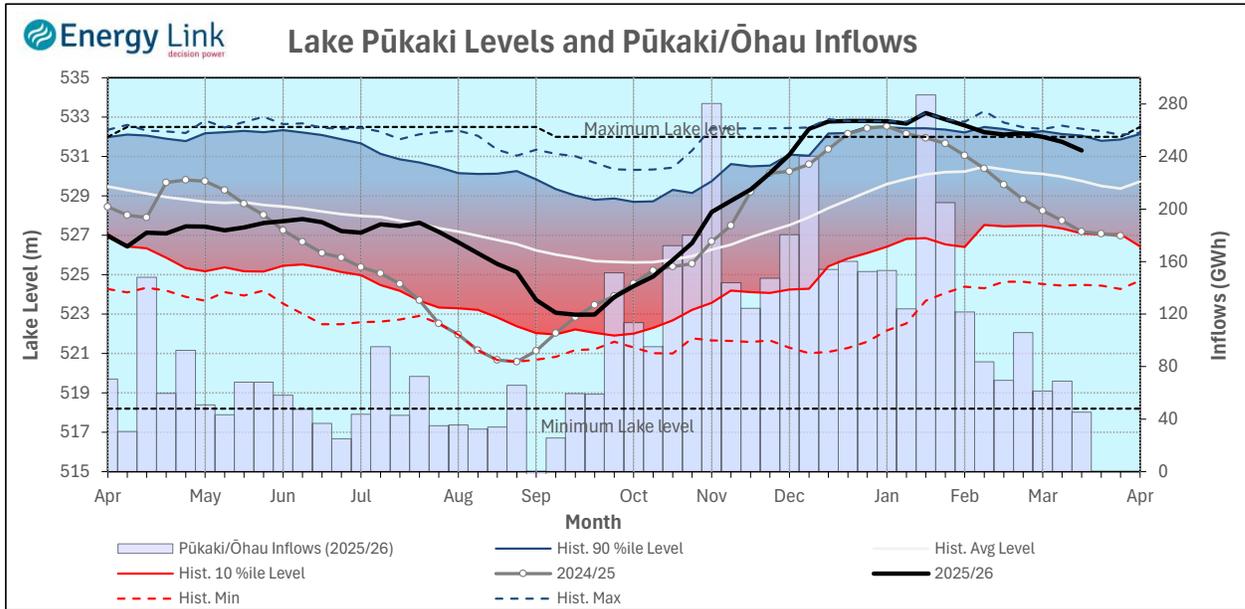
Lake Levels - Lake Takapō ended the week 84% nominally full with storage falling to 636 GWh.

Inflows - Inflows into Takapō decreased 33.8% to 29 GWh.

Generation - Average Takapō generation decreased 6.1% to 123.1 MW.

Hydro Spill - Lake Takapō did not spill.

Waitaki System



Lake Levels - Lake Pūkaki ended the week 95% nominally full with storage falling to 1,684 GWh.

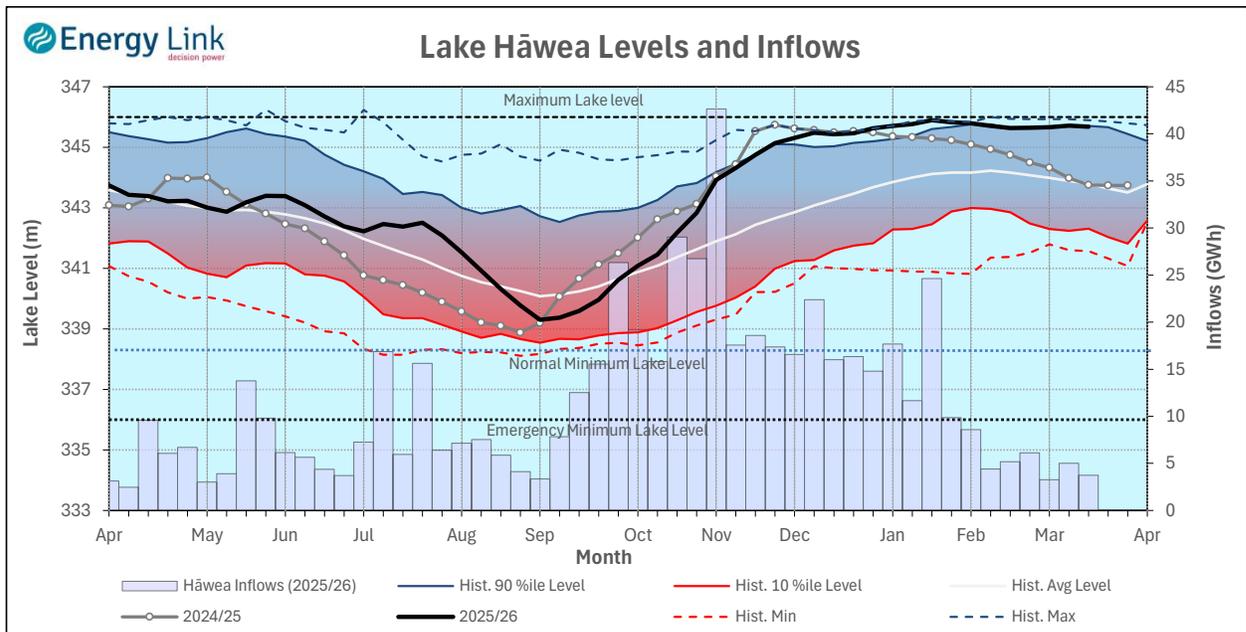
Inflows - Inflows into the Waitaki System decreased 34.3% to 45 GWh.

Generation - Average Waitaki generation decreased 1.6% to 940 MW.

Hydro Spill - Lake Pūkaki did not spill.

River Flows - Flows from the Ahuriri River fell to 12.8 cumecs while Waitaki River flows were higher than last week averaging 399.5 cumecs.

Clutha System



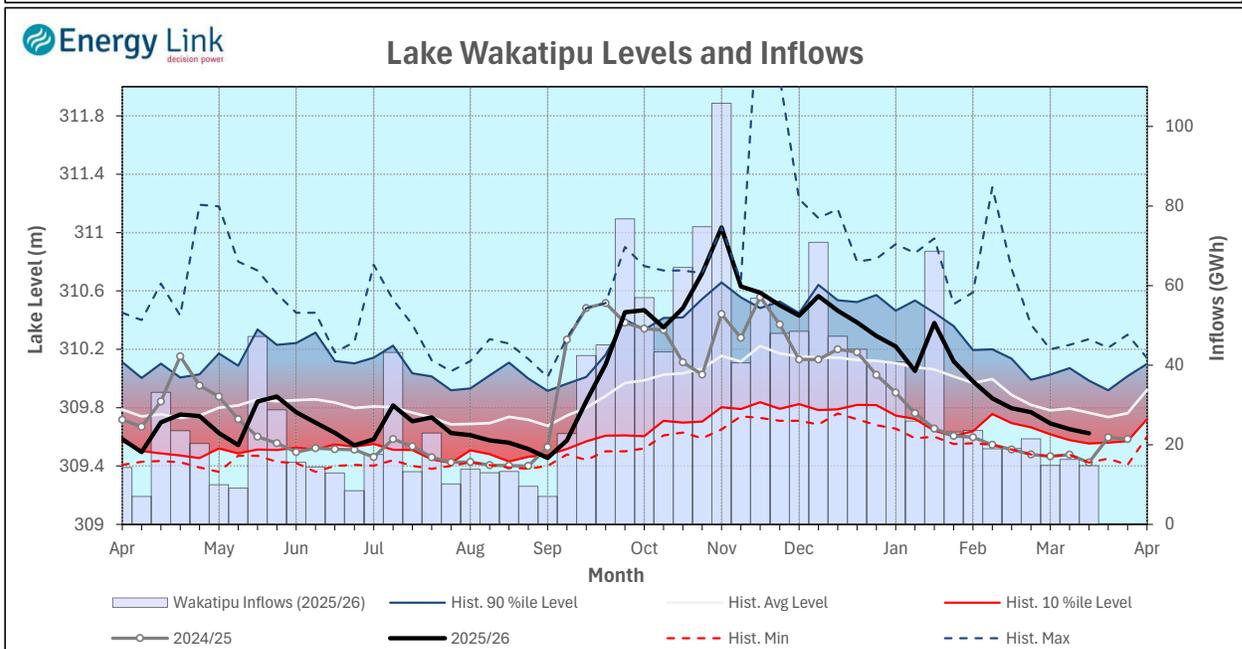
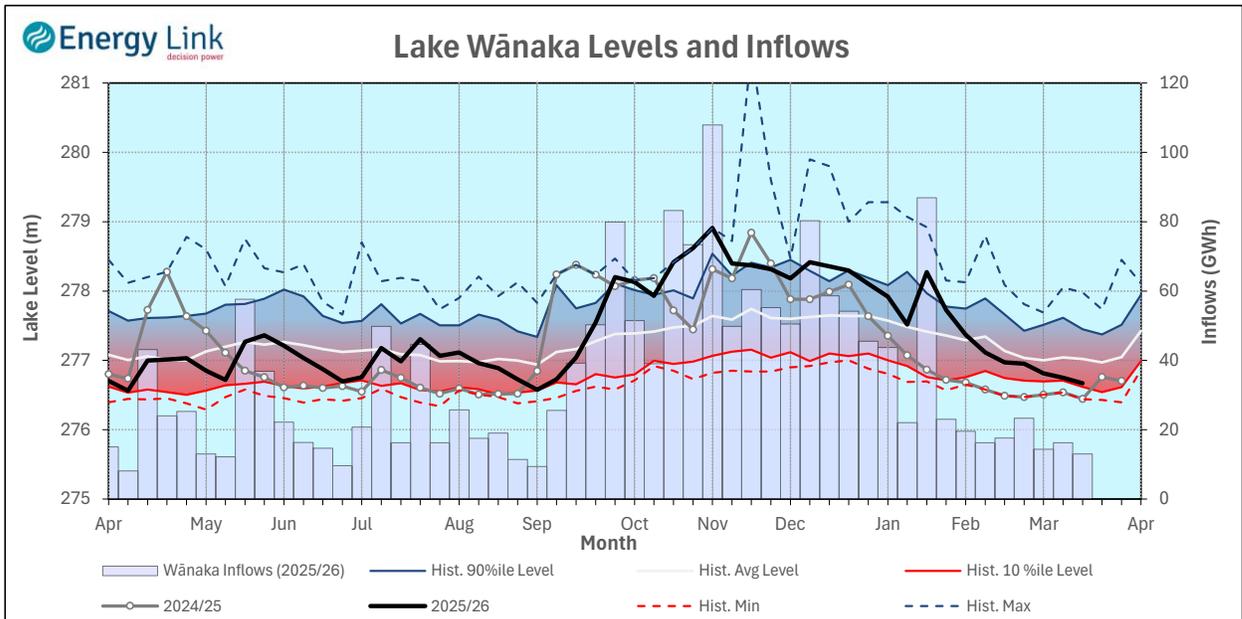
Lake Levels - Total storage for the Clutha System decreased 2.2% to 341 GWh. Lakes Hāwea, Wānaka and Wakatipu ended the week 95.9%, 25.6% and 26.7% nominally full respectively.

Inflows - Total Inflows into the Clutha System 16.1% lower at 32 GWh.

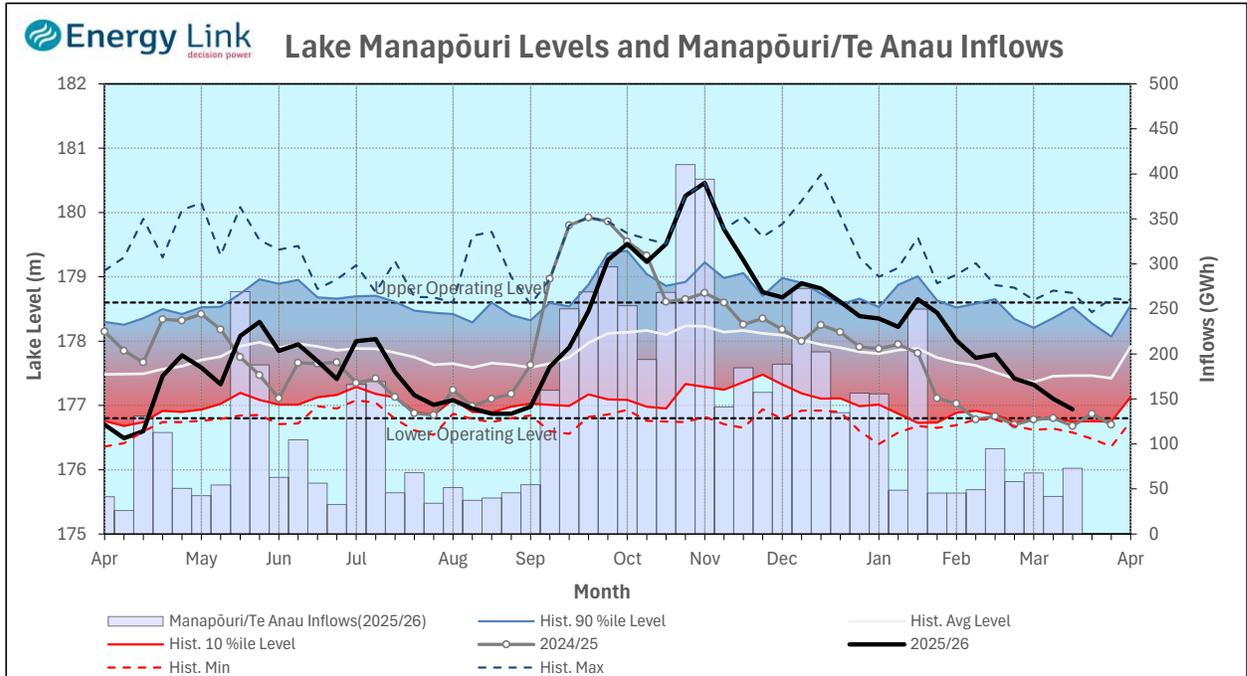
Generation - Average generation was 4.2% lower at 267 MW.

Hydro Spill - There was no estimated spill

River Flows - Total outflows from the lakes and Shotover River fell to 280.9 cumecs. This comprised of 32 cumecs from Lake Hāwea, 109 cumecs from Lake Wānaka, 109 cumecs from Lake Wakatipu and 31 cumecs from the Shotover River.



Manapōuri System



Lake Levels - Total storage for the Manapōuri System decreased 6.7% to 194 GWh with Lake Manapōuri ending the week 39.1% nominally full and Lake Te Anau ending the week 47.3% nominally full.

Inflows - Total inflows into the Manapōuri System increased 74.6% to 73 GWh.

Generation - Average generation was 14.7% higher at 517 MW.

Hydro Spill - Estimated spill at the Māraoroa Weir was 17.4 cumecs.

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

