

# HydroWatch

Thursday, 19 March 2026

Issue: 1509

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)	2,484	281	2,765	459	3,225
Storage Change (GWh)	-119	30	-89	-18	-106

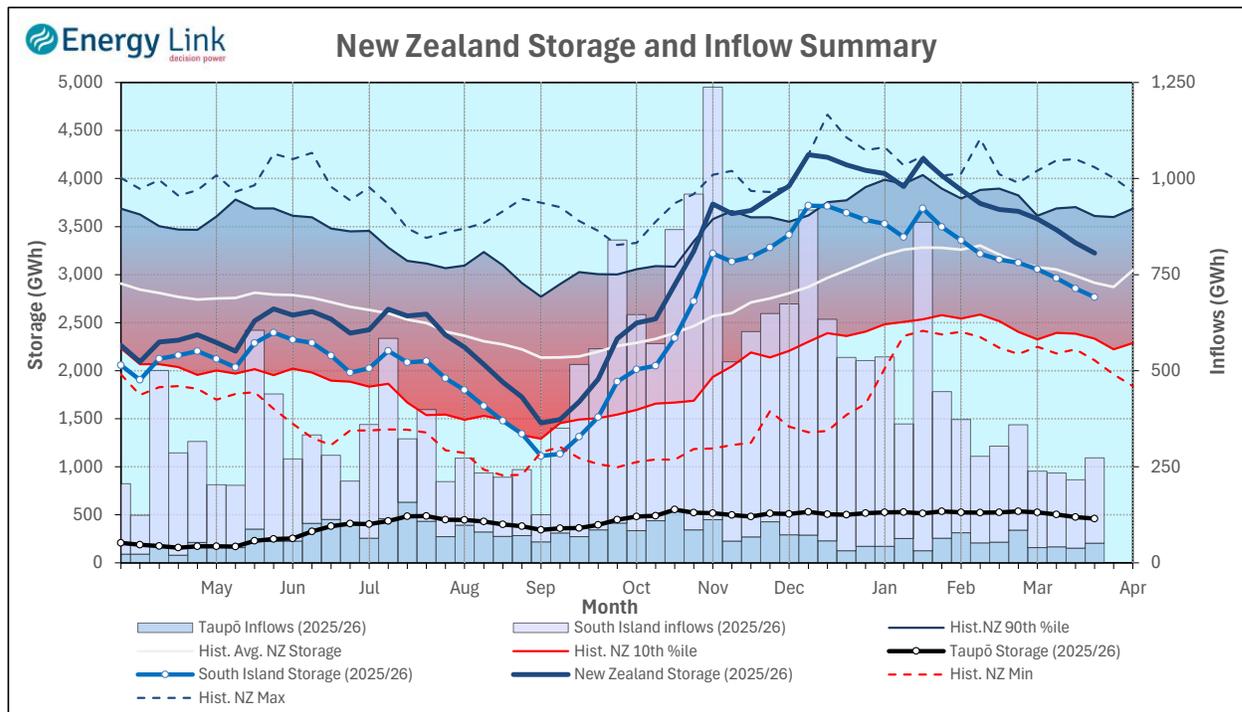
Note: SI Controlled; Takapō, Pūkaki and Hāwea: SI Uncontrolled; Manapōuri, Te Anau, Wānaka, Wakatipu

Transpower Security of Supply	South Island	North Island	New Zealand
Current Storage (GWh)	2,704	459	3,163

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 106 GWh over the last week. South Island controlled storage decreased 4.6% to 2,484 GWh; South Island uncontrolled storage increased 12% to 281 GWh; with Taupō storage decreasing 3.7% to 459 GWh.



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	Manapōuri	Clutha	Waitaki	Waikato	NZ
Storage (GWh)					
<b>This Week</b>	220	338	2,207	459	3,225
Last Week	194	341	2,320	477	3,331
% Change	13.4%	-0.7%	-4.8%	-3.7%	-3.2%
Inflow (GWh)					
<b>This Week</b>	104	41	77	51	273
Last Week	73	32	74	38	216
% Change	42.0%	29.9%	4.2%	34.8%	26.1%

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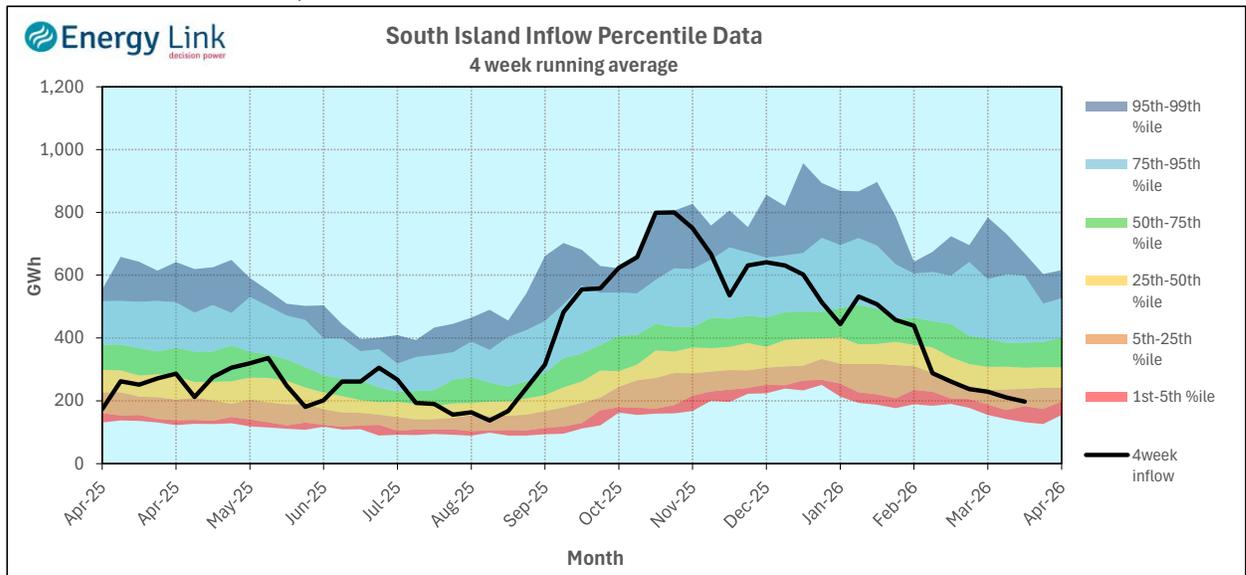
Lake Levels and Outflows

Catchment	Lake	Level (m. asl)	Storage (GWh)	Outflow (cumecs)	Outflow Change
Manapōuri	Manapōuri	177.20	79	17	
	Te Anau	201.80	141		
Clutha	Wakatipu	309.63	29	103	-6
	Wānaka	276.74	33	111	2
	Hāwea	345.51	277	65	32
Waitaki	Takapō	708.21	607		
	Pūkaki	530.70	1,601		
Waikato	Taupō	356.98	459		

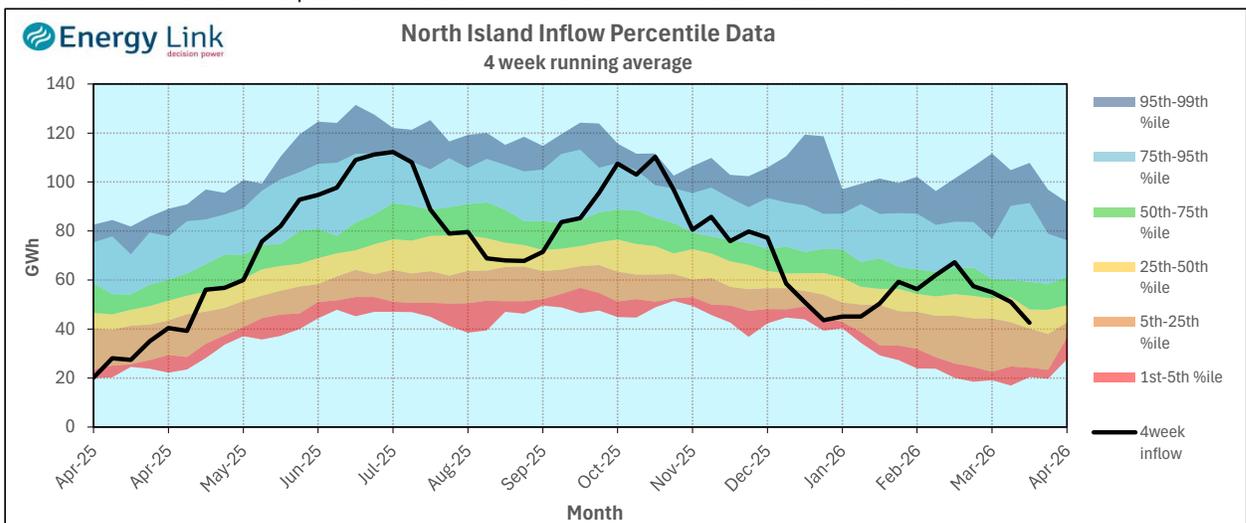
Inflow Summary

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.

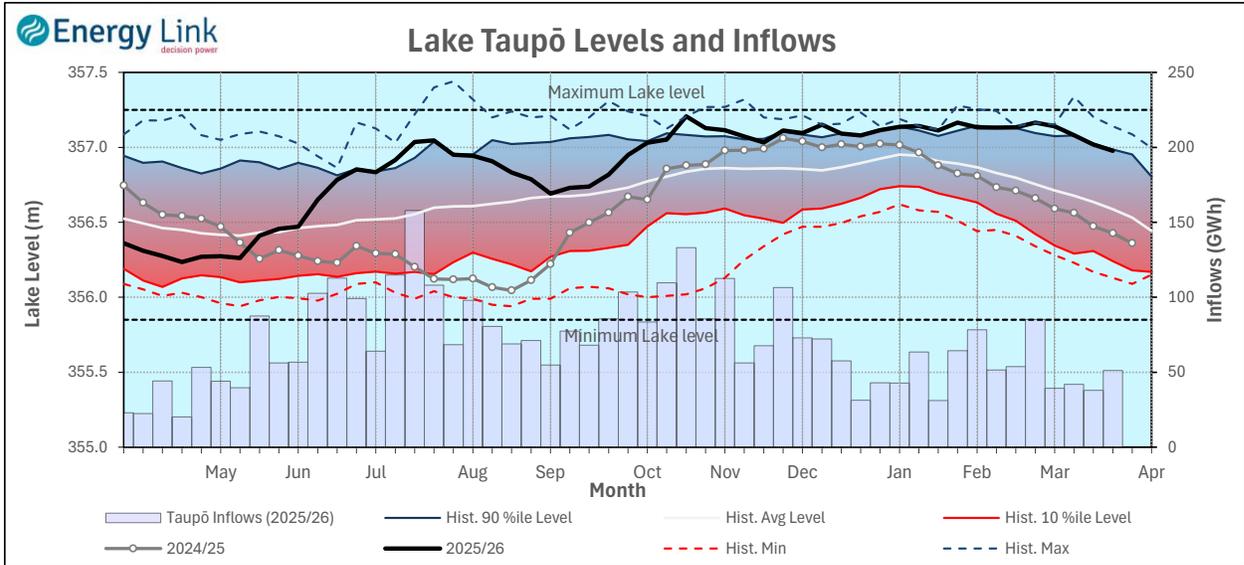
**South Island Inflows** - The past four weeks of S. I. inflows rank as the 13th driest on record.



**North Island Inflows** - The past four weeks of N. I. inflows rank as the 30th driest on record.



### Waikato System

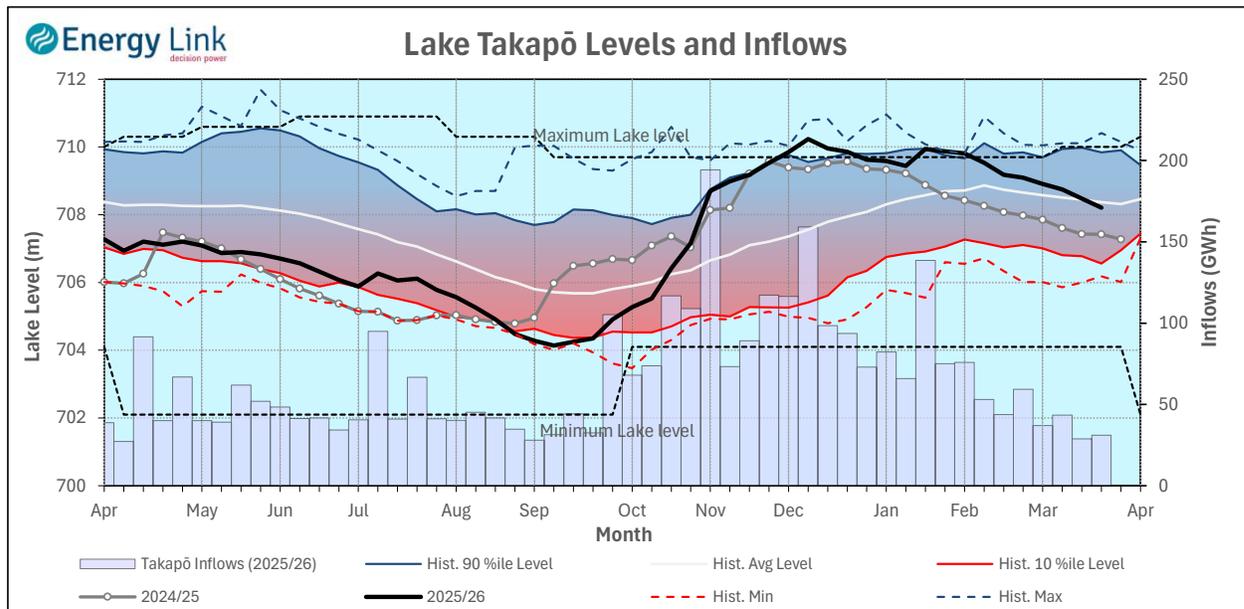


**Lake Levels** - Lake Taupō storage fell to 80.4% of nominal full at 459 GWh.

**Inflows** - Inflows increased 34.8% to 51 GWh.

**Generation** - Average generation increased 6.3% to 474.5 MW.

### Takapō



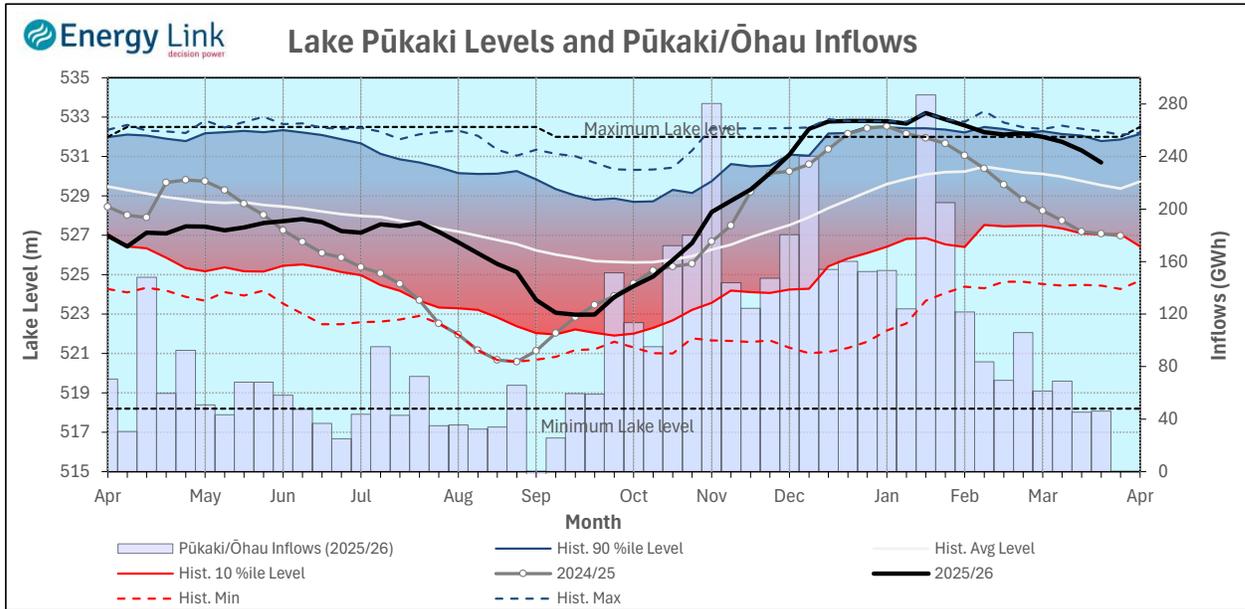
**Lake Levels** - Lake Takapō ended the week 80% nominally full with storage falling to 607 GWh.

**Inflows** - Inflows into Takapō increased 7.8% to 31 GWh.

**Generation** - Average Takapō generation remained steady at 122.5 MW.

**Hydro Spill** - Lake Takapō did not spill.

### Waitaki System



**Lake Levels** - Lake Pūkaki ended the week 90% nominally full with storage falling to 1,601 GWh.

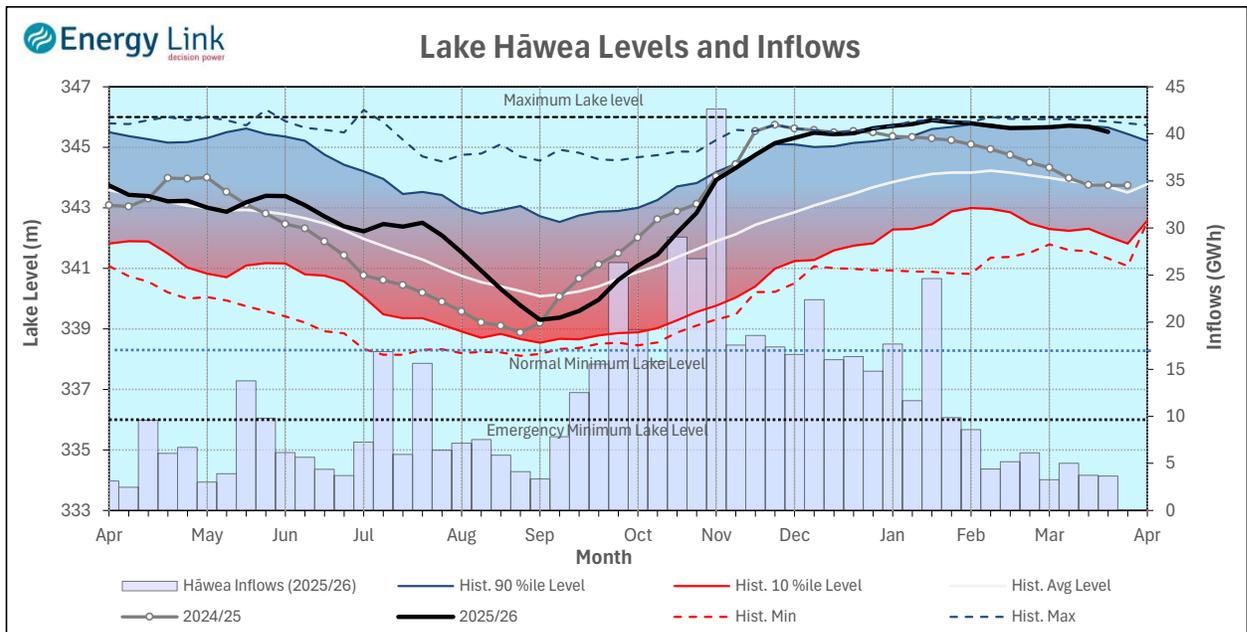
**Inflows** - Inflows into the Waitaki System increased 2% to 46 GWh.

**Generation** - Average Waitaki generation increased 11.7% to 1,050 MW.

**Hydro Spill** - Lake Pūkaki did not spill.

**River Flows** - Flows from the Ahuriri River increased to 20.7 cumecs while Waitaki River flows were lower than last week averaging 394.5 cumecs.

### Clutha System



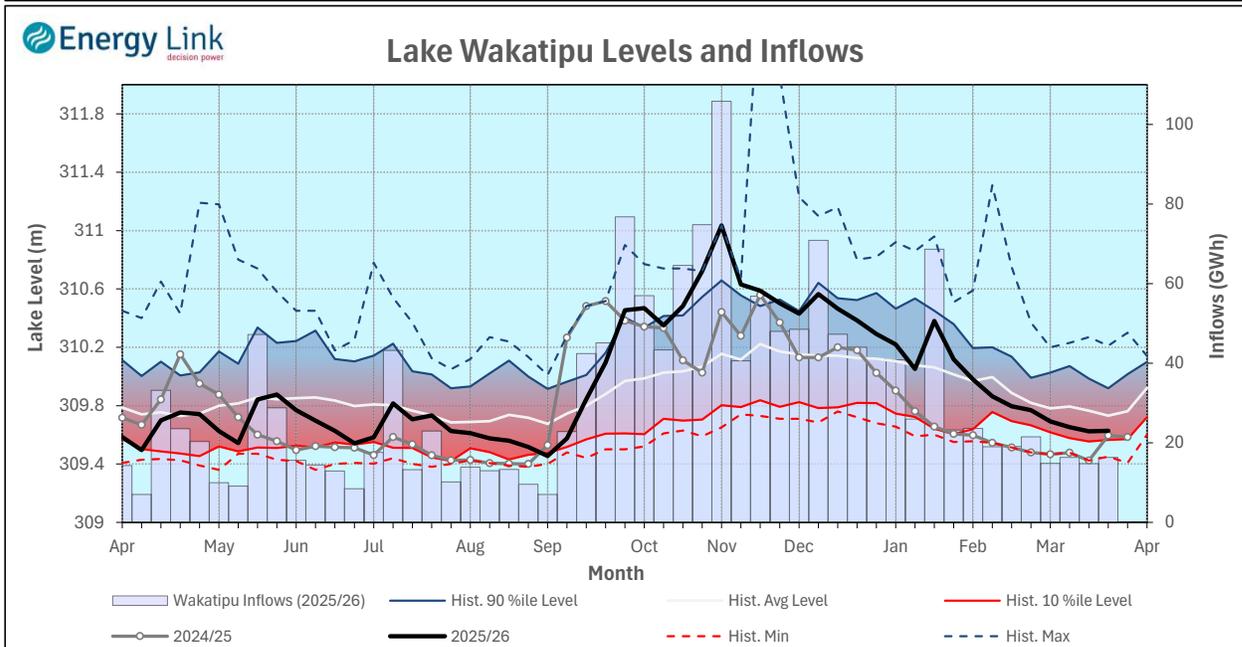
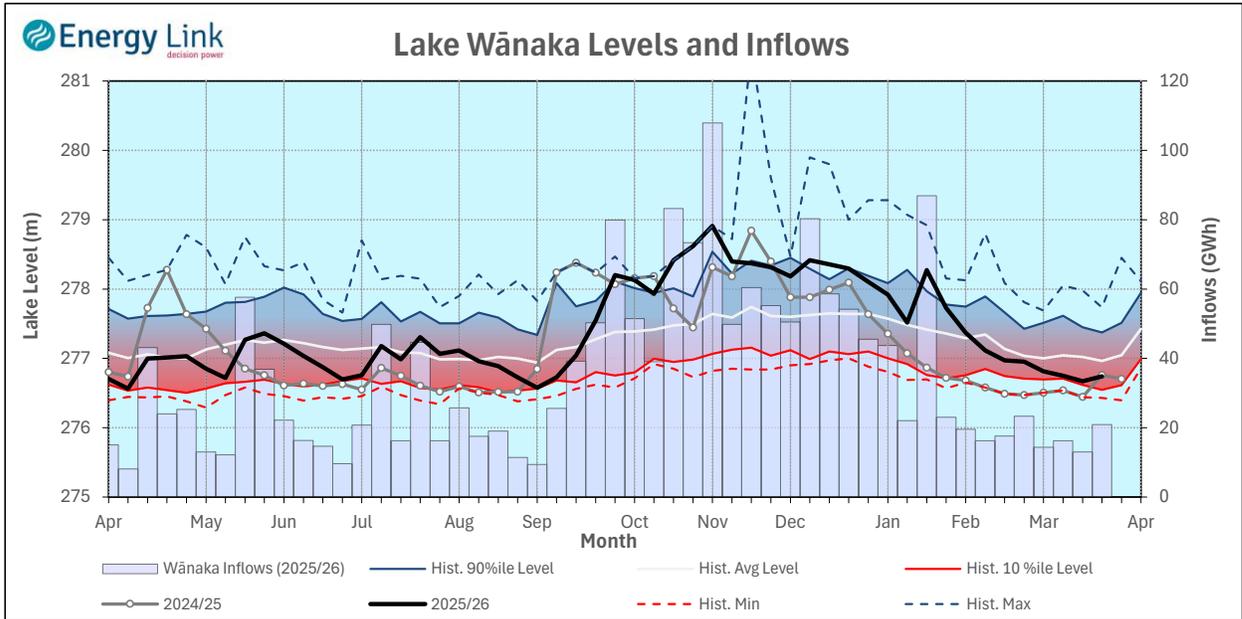
**Lake Levels** - Total storage for the Clutha System decreased 0.7% to 338 GWh. Lakes Hāwea, Wānaka and Wakatipu ended the week 93.7%, 28.7% and 27% nominally full respectively.

**Inflows** - Total Inflows into the Clutha System 29.9% higher at 41 GWh.

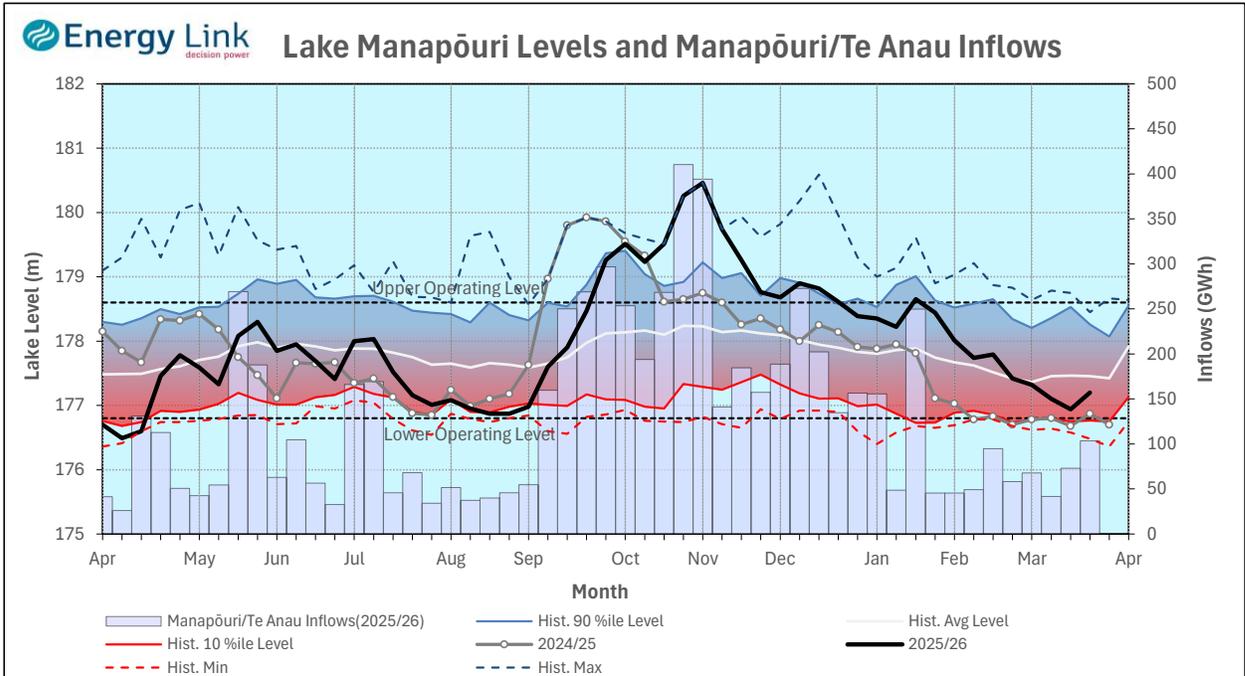
**Generation** - Average generation was 6.8% higher at 285 MW.

**Hydro Spill** - There was no estimated spill

**River Flows** - Total outflows from the lakes and Shotover River increased to 306.5 cumecs. This comprised of 65 cumecs from Lake Hāwea, 111 cumecs from Lake Wānaka, 103 cumecs from Lake Wakatipu and 28 cumecs from the Shotover River.



### Manapōuri System



**Lake Levels** - Total storage for the Manapōuri System increased by 13.4% to 220 GWh with Lake Manapōuri ending the week 48.6% nominally full and Lake Te Anau ending the week 51.1% nominally full.

**Inflows** - Total inflows into the Manapōuri System increased 42% to 104 GWh.

**Generation** - Average generation was 10.6% lower at 463 MW.

**Hydro Spill** - Estimated spill at the Māraoroa Weir was 16.8 cumecs.

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

