

# HydroWatch

Thursday, 26 March 2026

Issue: 1510

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)	2,362	229	2,591	431	3,022
Storage Change (GWh)	-123	-52	-174	-28	-202

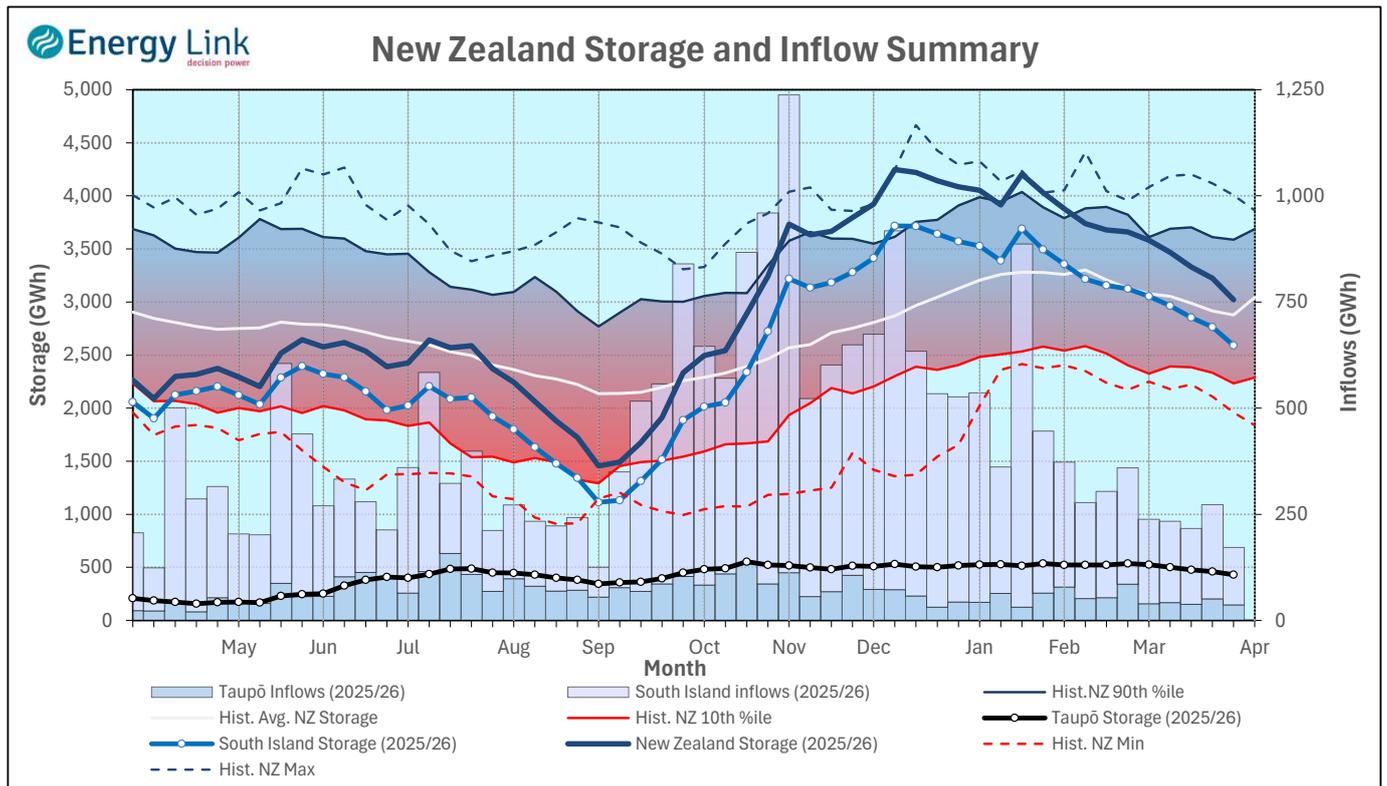
Note: SI Controlled; Takapō, Pūkaki and Hāwea: SI Uncontrolled; Manapōuri, Te Anau, Wānaka, Wakatipu

Transpower Security of Supply	South Island	North Island	New Zealand
Current Storage (GWh)	2,538	431	2,969

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 203 GWh over the last week. South Island controlled storage decreased 4.9% to 2,362 GWh; South Island uncontrolled storage decreased 18% to 229 GWh; with Taupō storage decreasing 6.1% to 431 GWh.



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Storage (GWh)	Manapōuri	Clutha	Waitaki	Waikato	NZ
<b>This Week</b>	177	322	2,093	431	3,022
Last Week	220	338	2,207	459	3,225
% Change	-19.6%	-4.9%	-5.2%	-6.1%	-6.3%
Inflow (GWh)	Manapōuri	Clutha	Waitaki	Waikato	NZ
<b>This Week</b>	32	28	76	36	172
Last Week	104	41	77	51	273
% Change	-69.4%	-31.2%	-2.2%	-28.6%	-37.0%

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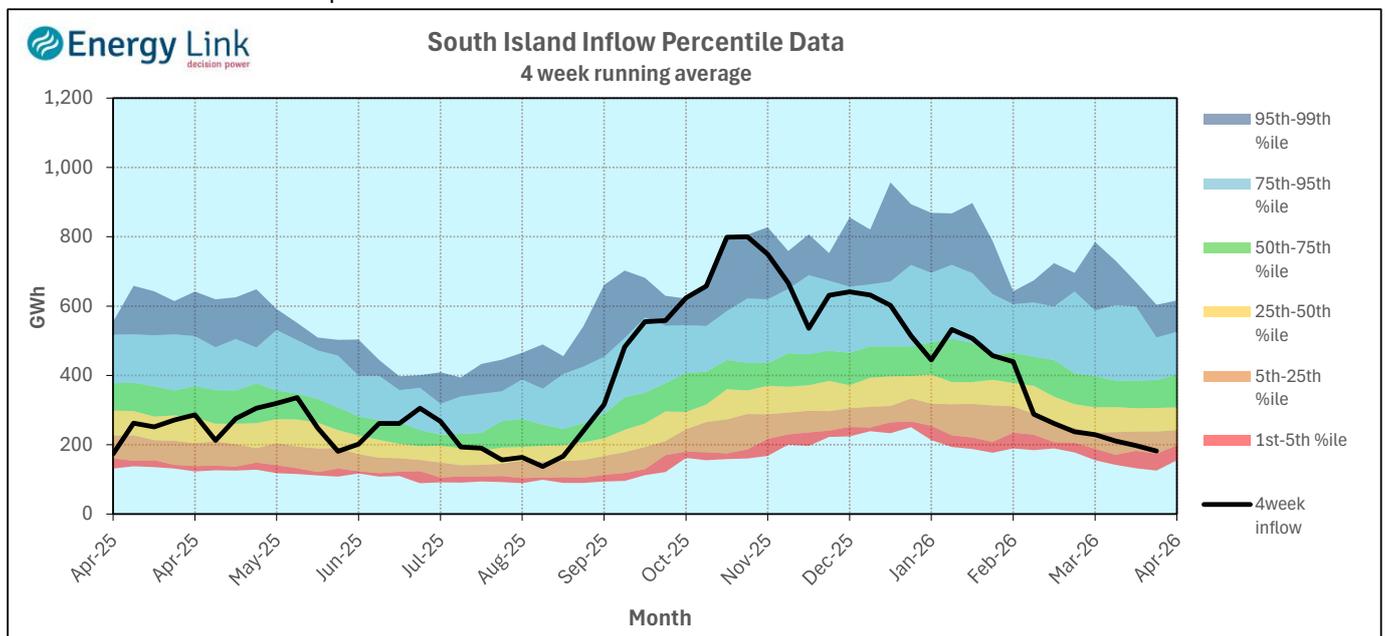
Lake Levels and Outflows

Catchment	Lake	Level (m. asl)	Storage (GWh)	Outflow (cumecs)	Outflow Change
Manapōuri	Manapōuri	176.98	66	32	15
	Te Anau	201.60	111		
Clutha	Wakatipu	309.58	25	100	-3
	Wānaka	276.64	28	112	
	Hāwea	345.30	269	76	
Waitaki	Takapō	707.91	575		1
	Pūkaki	530.09	1,518		
Waikato	Taupō	356.91	431		11

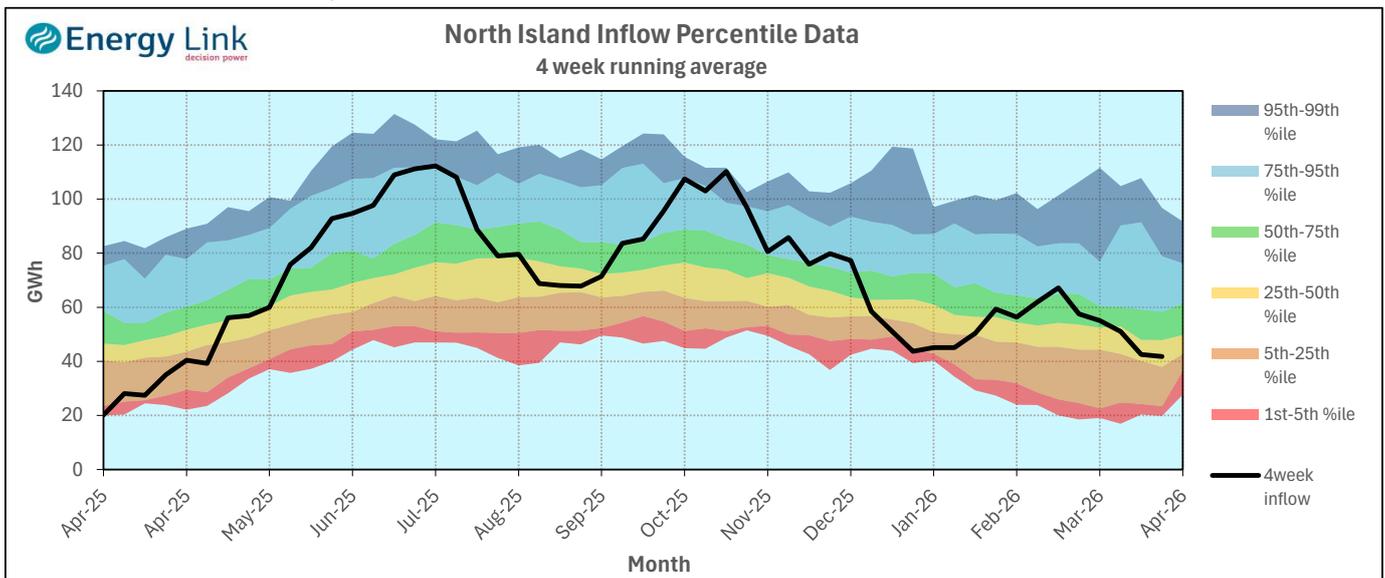
Inflow Summary

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.

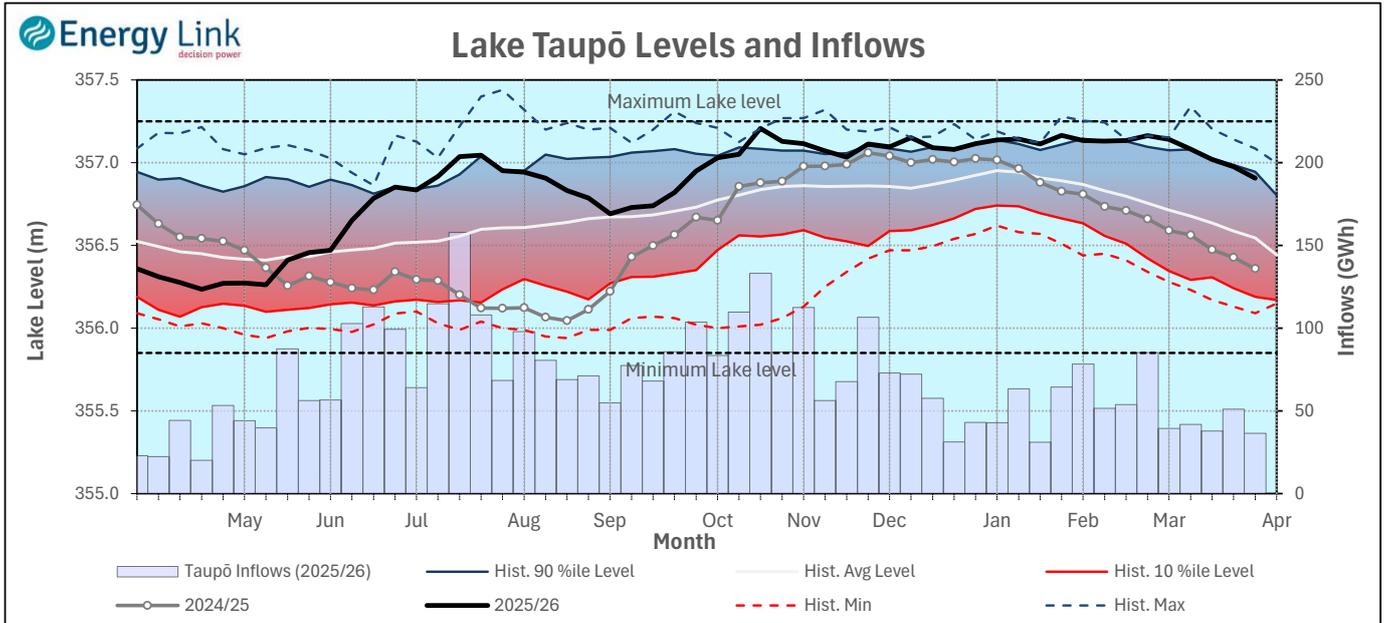
**South Island Inflows** - The past four weeks of S. I. inflows rank as the 8th driest on record.



**North Island Inflows** - The past four weeks of N. I. inflows rank as the 31st driest on record.



## Waikato System

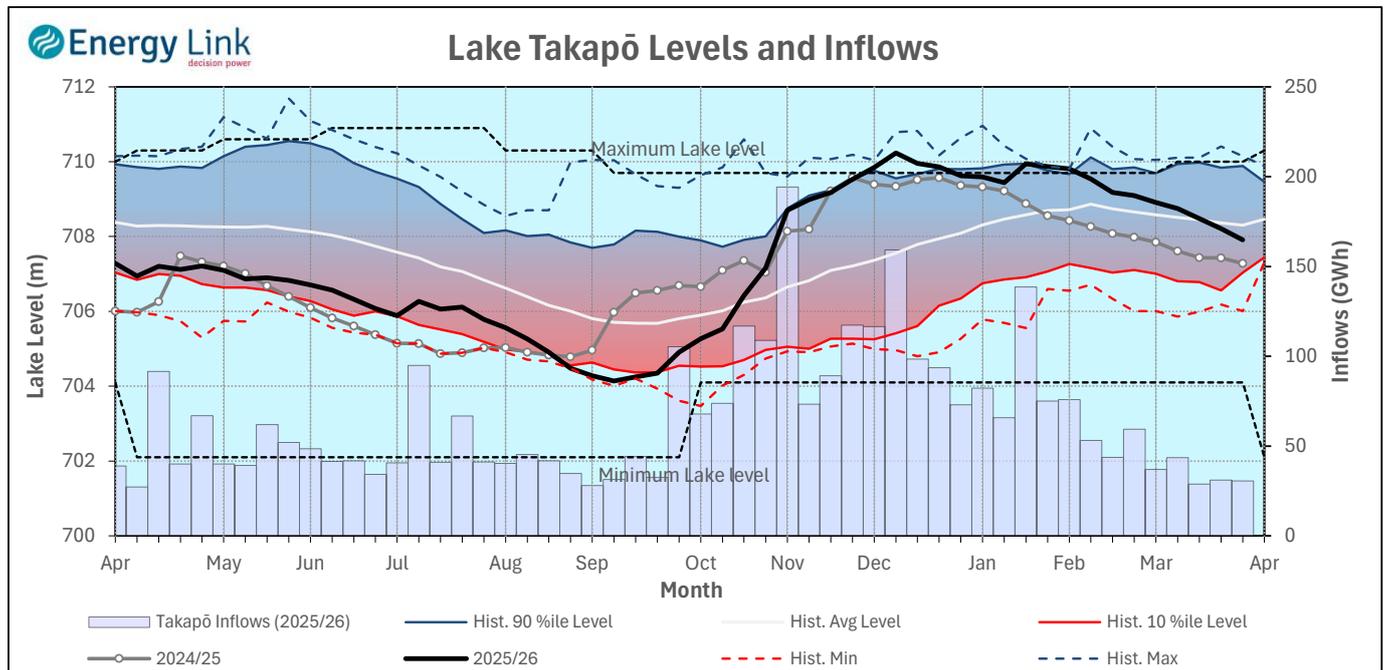


**Lake Levels** - Lake Taupō storage fell to 75.5% of nominal full at 431 GWh.

**Inflows** - Inflows decreased 28.6% to 36 GWh.

**Generation** - Average generation decreased 7.1% to 440.6 MW.

## Takapō



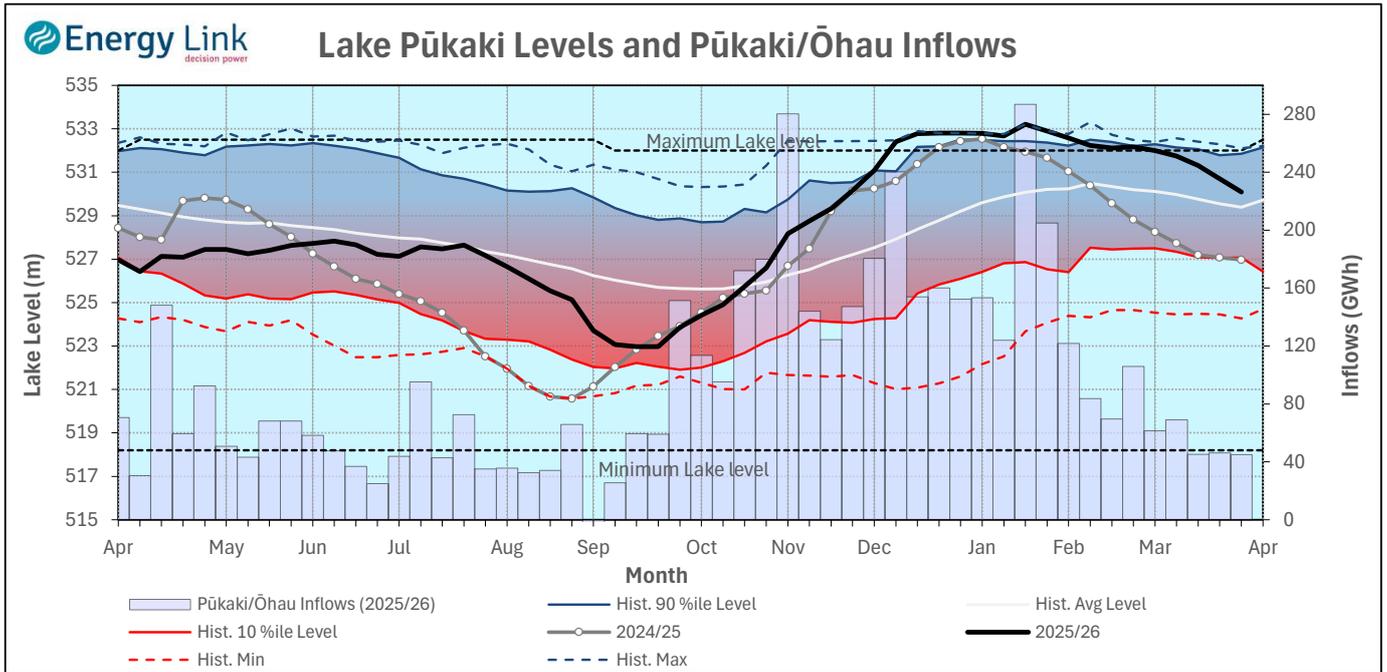
**Lake Levels** - Lake Takapō ended the week 76% nominally full with storage falling to 575 GWh.

**Inflows** - Inflows into Takapō remained steady at 31 GWh.

**Generation** - Average Takapō generation decreased 0.4% to 122.1 MW.

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

## Waitaki System



**Lake Levels** - Lake Pūkaki ended the week 85% nominally full with storage falling to 1,518 GWh.

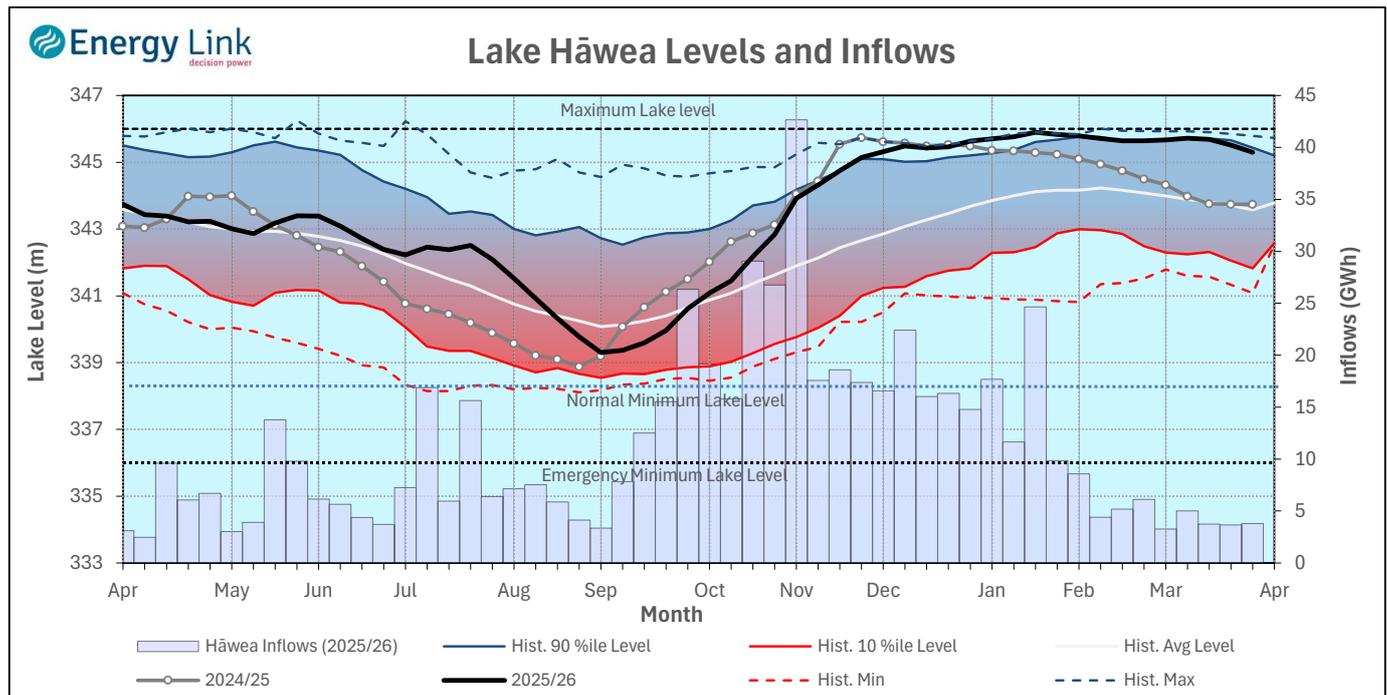
**Inflows** - Inflows into the Waitaki System decreased 2.6% to 45 GWh.

**Generation** - Average Waitaki generation increased 2.5% to 1,076 MW.

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

**River Flows** - Flows from the Ahuriri River fell to 11.3 cumecs while Waitaki River flows were higher than last week averaging 454.4 cumecs.

## Clutha System



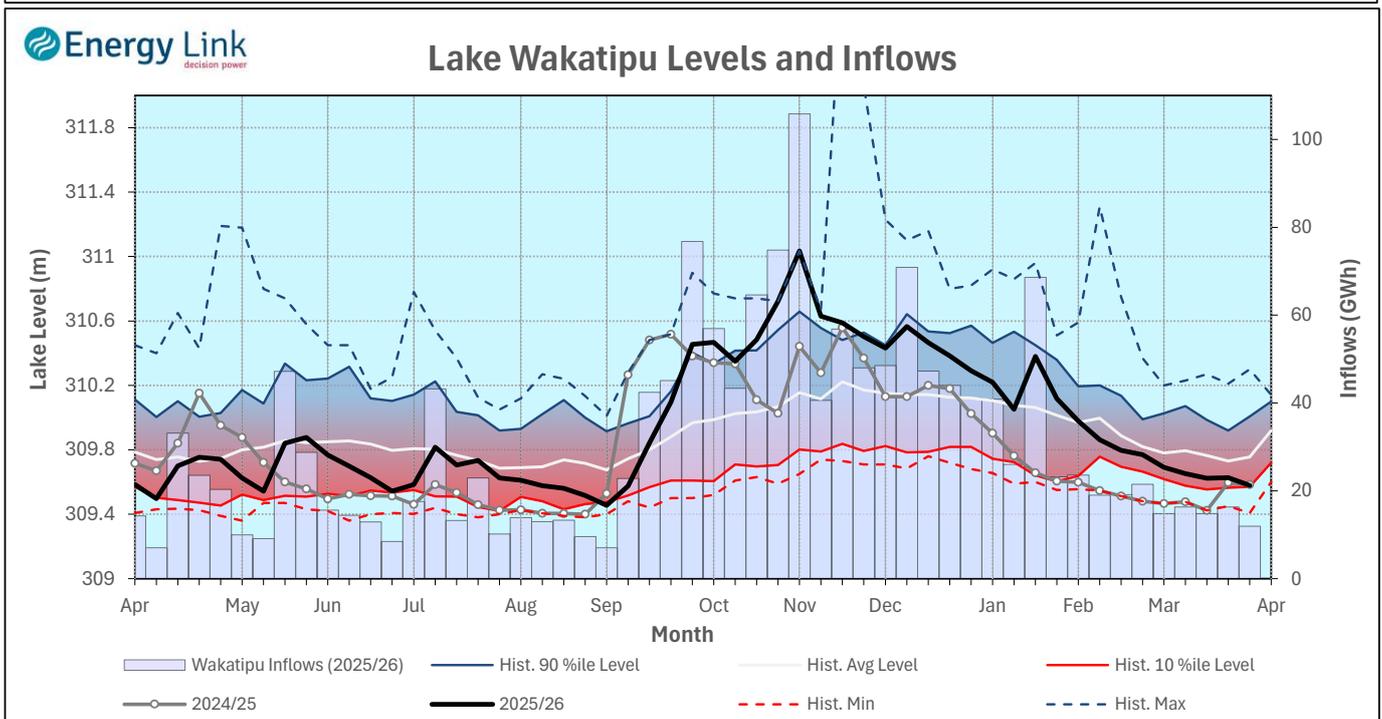
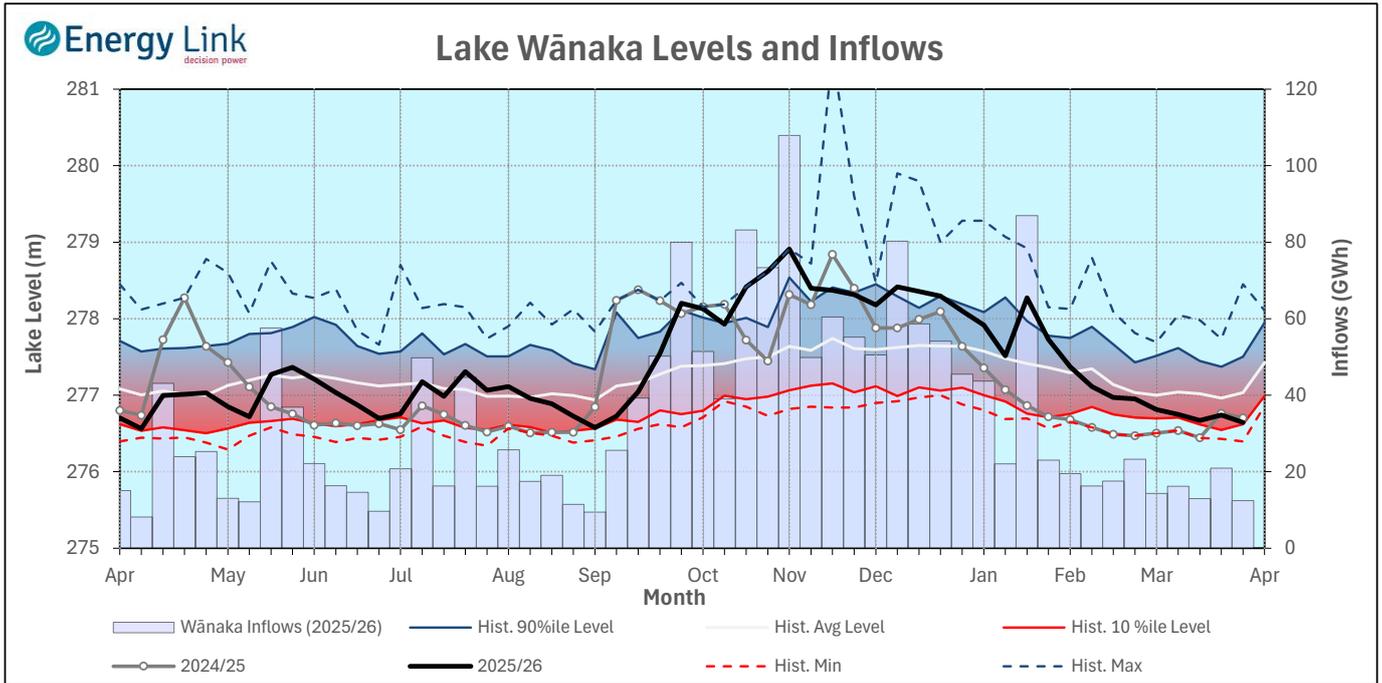
**Lake Levels** - Total storage for the Clutha System decreased 4.9% to 322 GWh. Lakes Hāwea, Wānaka and Wakatipu ended the week 91%, 24.3% and 23.5% nominally full respectively.

**Inflows** - Total Inflows into the Clutha System 31.2% lower at 28 GWh.

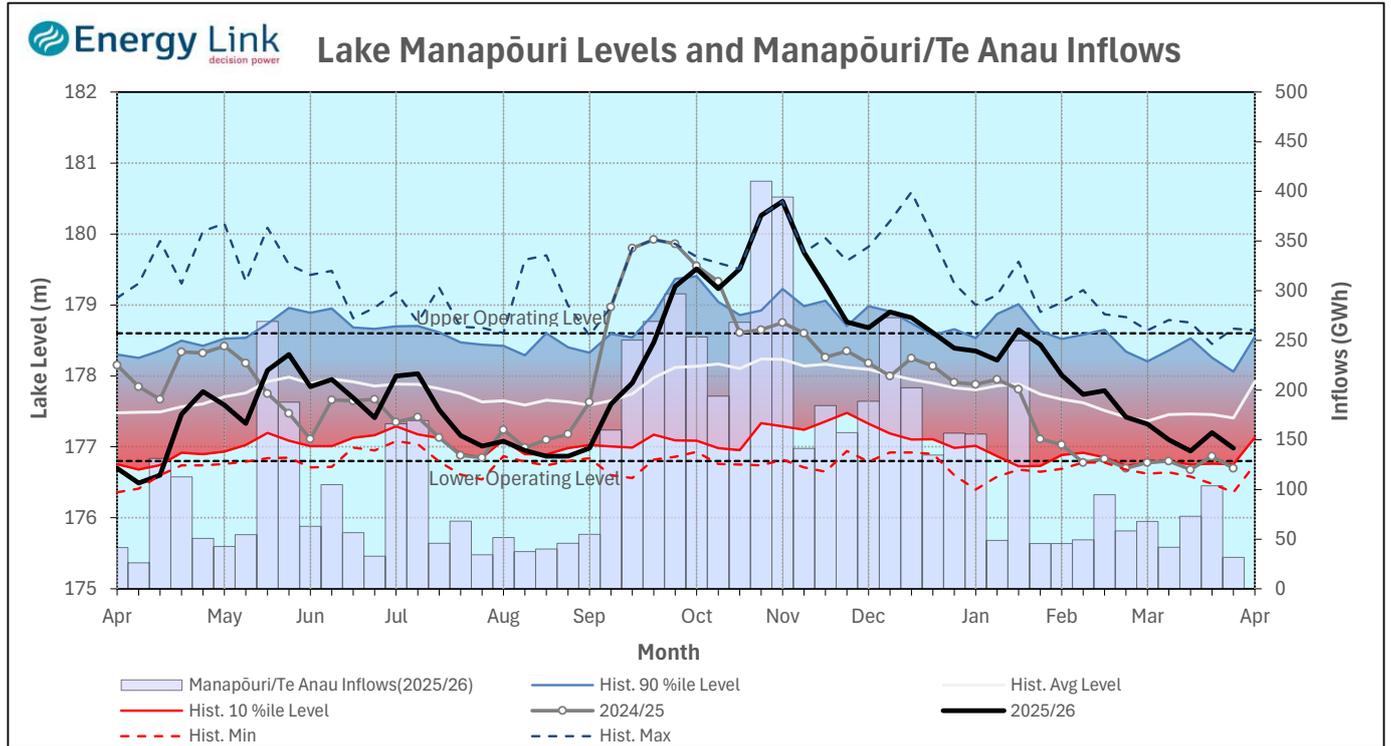
**Generation** - Average generation was 3% higher at 293 MW.

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

**River Flows** - Total outflows from the lakes and Shotover River increased to 313.4 cumecs. This comprised of 76 cumecs from Lake Hāwea, 112 cumecs from Lake Wānaka, 100 cumecs from Lake Wakatipu and 26 cumecs from the Shotover River.



# Manapōuri System



**Lake Levels** - Total storage for the Manapōuri System decreased 19.6% to 177 GWh with Lake Manapōuri ending the week 40.6% nominally full and Lake Te Anau ending the week 40.2% nominally full.

**Inflows** - Total inflows into the Manapōuri System decreased 69.4% to 32 GWh.

**Generation** - Average generation was 3.9% lower at 444 MW.

**Hydro Spill** - Estimated spill at the Māraroa Weir was 32.1 cumecs.

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

