HydroWatch

Thursday, 7 May 2026 **Issue: 1516**

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)	**2,392**	**306**	**2,698**	**485**		**3,183**
Storage Change (GWh)	-78	-73	-152	-24		-176

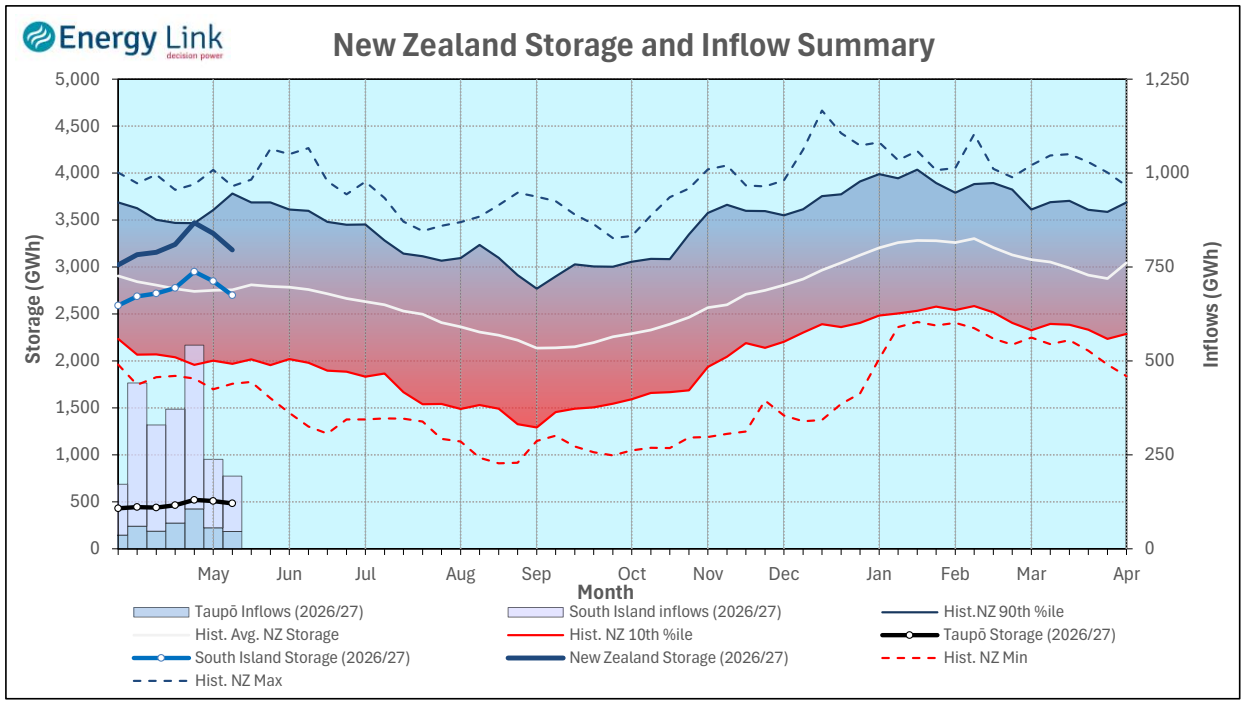
Note: SI Controlled; Takapō, Pūkaki and Hāwea: SI Uncontrolled; Manapōuri, Te Anau, Wānaka, Wakatipu

Transpower Security of Supply	South Island	North Island		New Zealand
Current Storage (GWh)	**2,627**	**485**		**3,111**

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 176 GWh over the last week. South Island controlled storage decreased 3.2% to 2,392 GWh; South Island uncontrolled storage decreased 19% to 306 GWh; with Taupō storage decreasing 4.7% to 485 GWh.



Thursday, 7 May 2026	Manapōuri	Clutha	Waitaki	Waikato		NZ
Storage (GWh)						
This Week	**235**	**329**	**2,135**	**485**		**3,183**
Last Week	290	363	2,197	509		3,359
% Change	-19.1%	-9.5%	-2.8%	-4.7%		-5.2%
Inflow (GWh)						
This Week	**37**	**31**	**79**	**46**		**194**
Last Week	57	37	89	56		238
% Change	-35.2%	-14.7%	-11.0%	-17.4%		-18.8%

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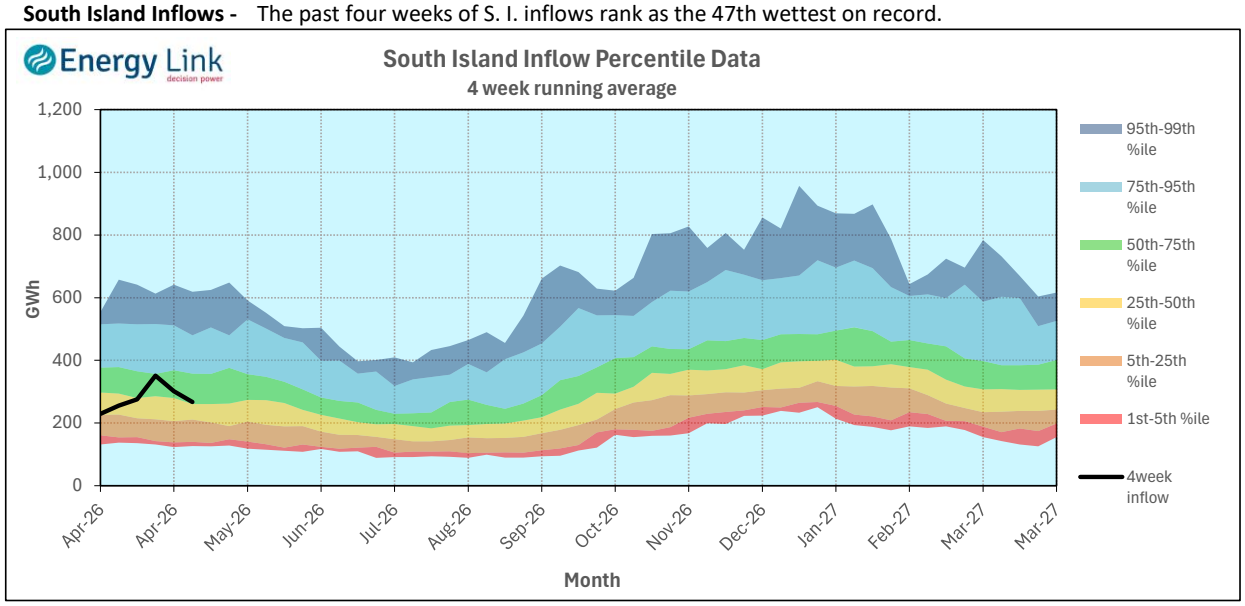
Lake Levels and Outflows

Catchment	Lake	Level (m. asl)	Storage (GWh)	Outflow (cumecs)	Outflow Change
Manapōuri	Manapōuri	177.28	84	22	-9
	Te Anau	201.87	151		
Clutha	Wakatipu	309.66	31	130	-24
	Wānaka	276.90	41	158	-36
	Hāwea	344.99	257	135	72
Waitaki	Takapō	707.98	582		
	Pūkaki	530.35	1,553		
Waikato	Taupō	357.04	485		

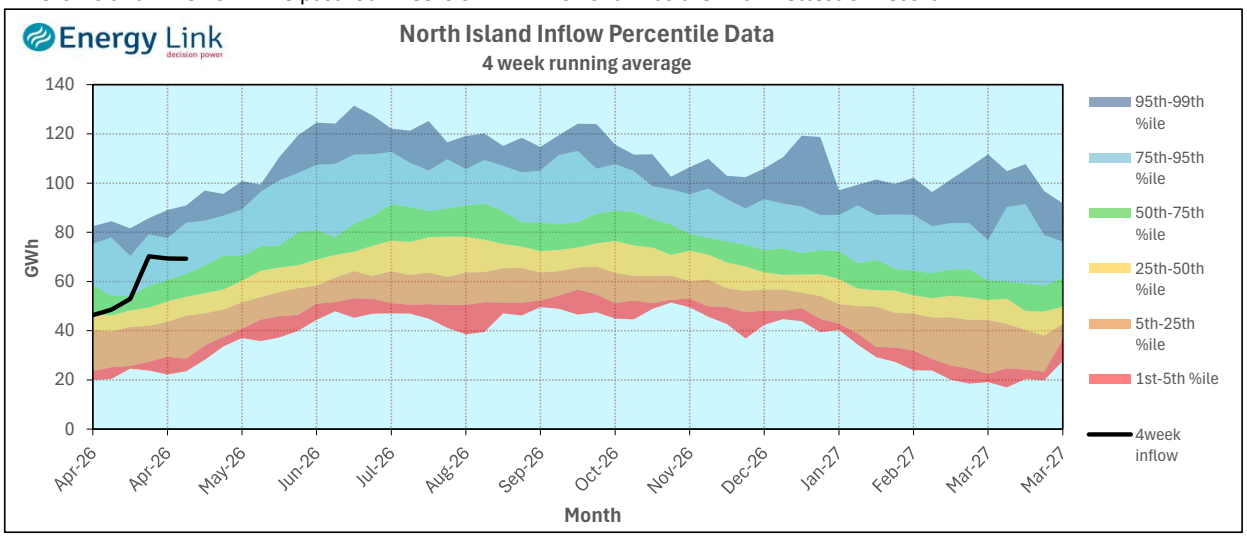
Inflow Summary

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.

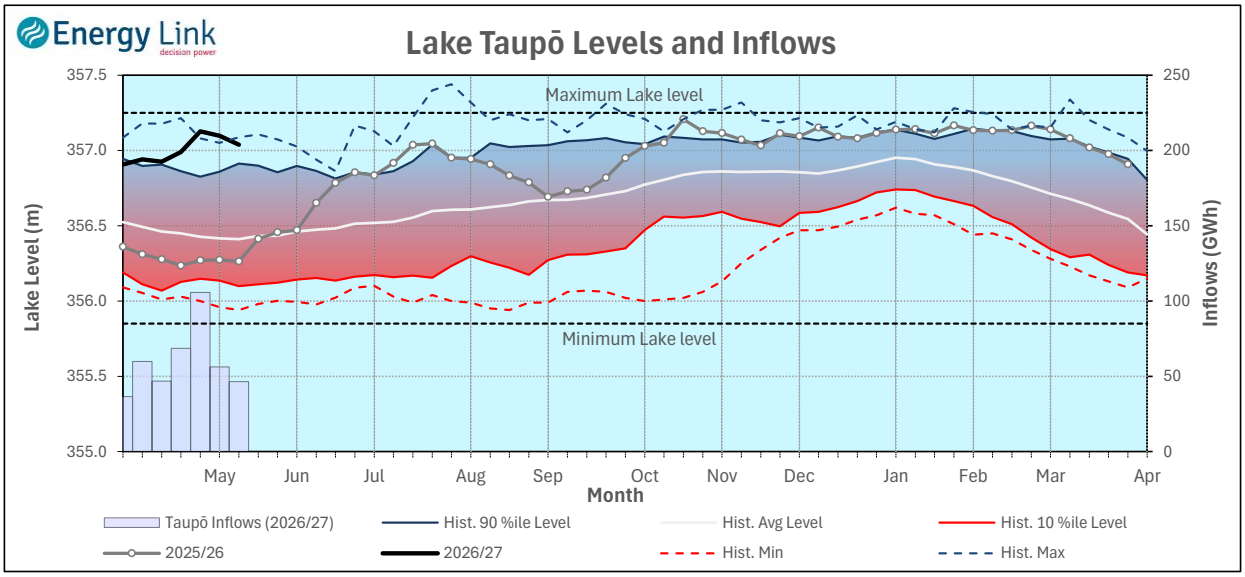
South Island Inflows - The past four weeks of S. I. inflows rank as the 47th wettest on record.



North Island Inflows - The past four weeks of N. I. inflows rank as the 14th wettest on record.



Waikato System

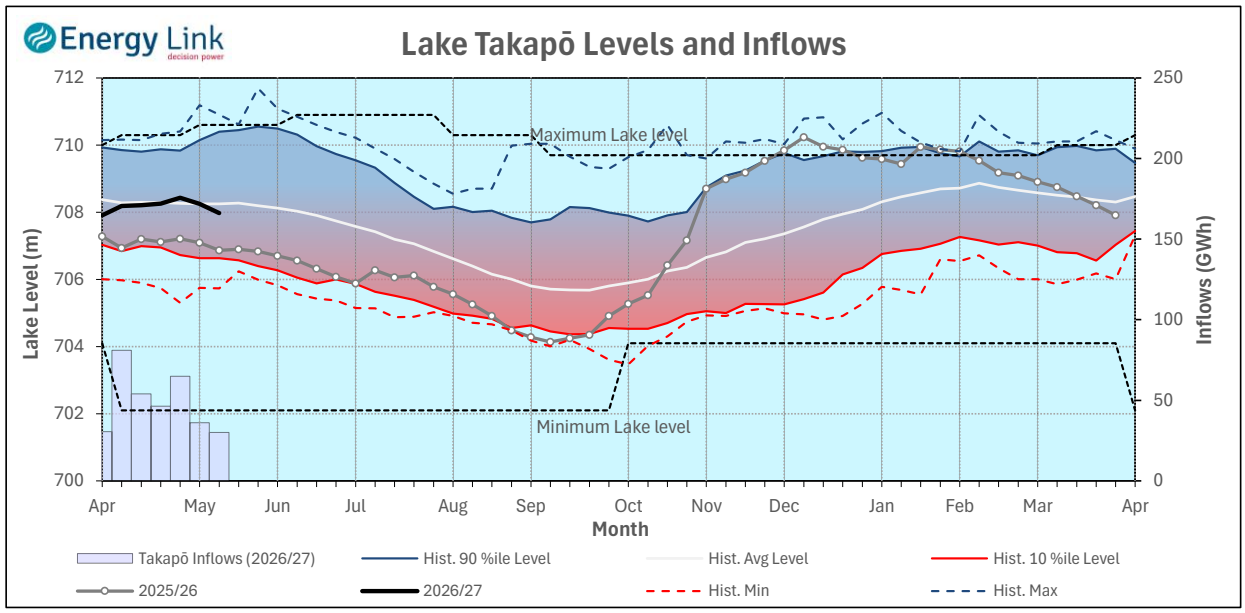


Lake Levels - Lake Taupō storage fell to 84.9% of nominal full at 485 GWh.

Inflows - Inflows decreased 17.4% to 46 GWh.

Generation - Average generation increased 0.3% to 487.3 MW.

Takapō



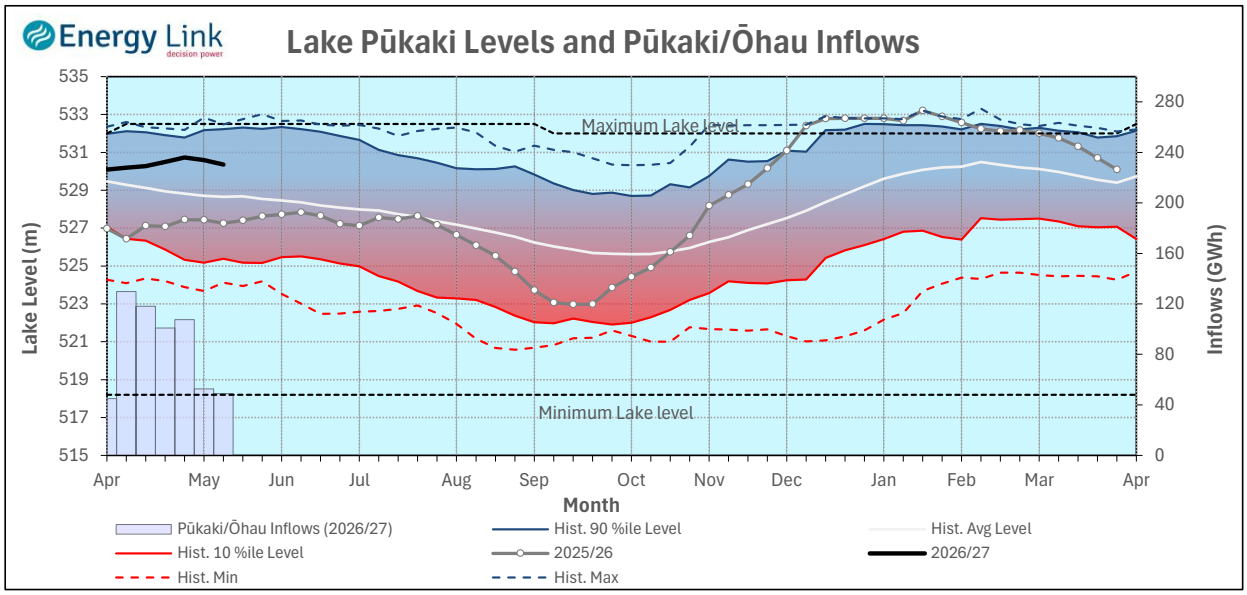
Lake Levels - Lake Takapō ended the week 71% nominally full with storage falling to 582 GWh.

Inflows - Inflows into Takapō decreased 16.9% to 30 GWh.

Generation - Average Takapō generation increased 6.4% to 126.6 MW.

Hydro Spill - Lake Takapō did not spill.

Waitaki System



Lake Levels - Lake Pūkaki ended the week 84% nominally full with storage falling to 1,553 GWh.

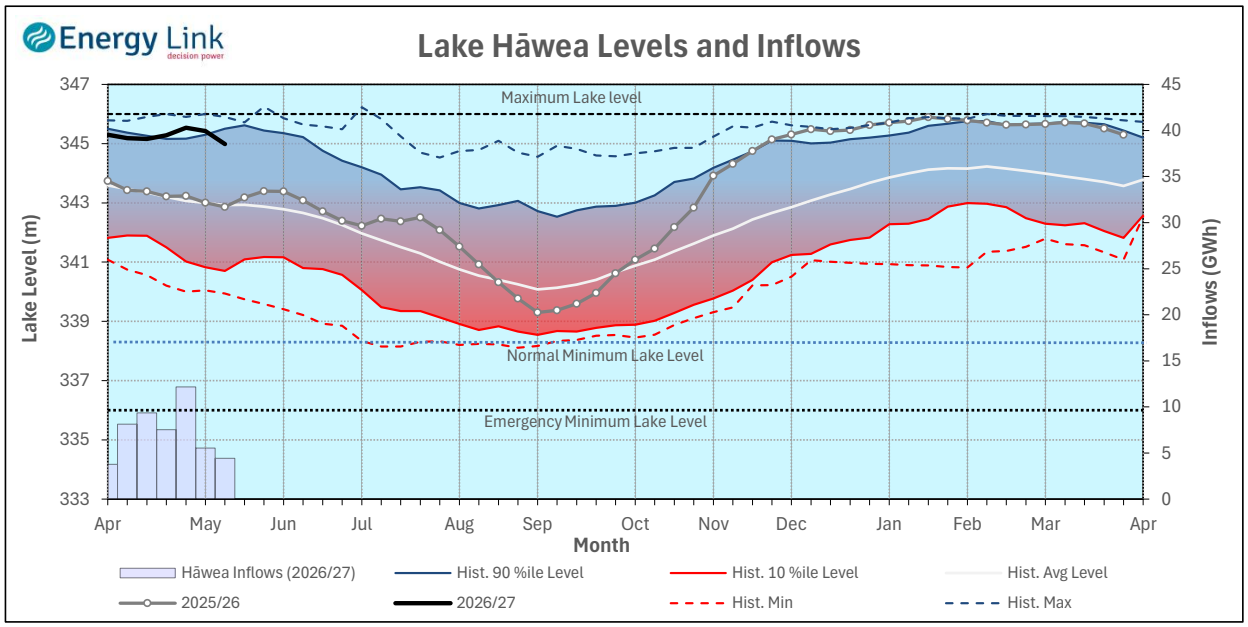
Inflows - Inflows into the Waitaki System decreased 6.9% to 49 GWh.

Generation - Average Waitaki generation increased 6.5% to 814 MW.

Hydro Spill - Lake Pūkaki did not spill.

River Flows - Flows from the Ahuriri River fell to 19.2 cumecs while Waitaki River flows were higher than last week averaging 346.2 cumecs.

Clutha System



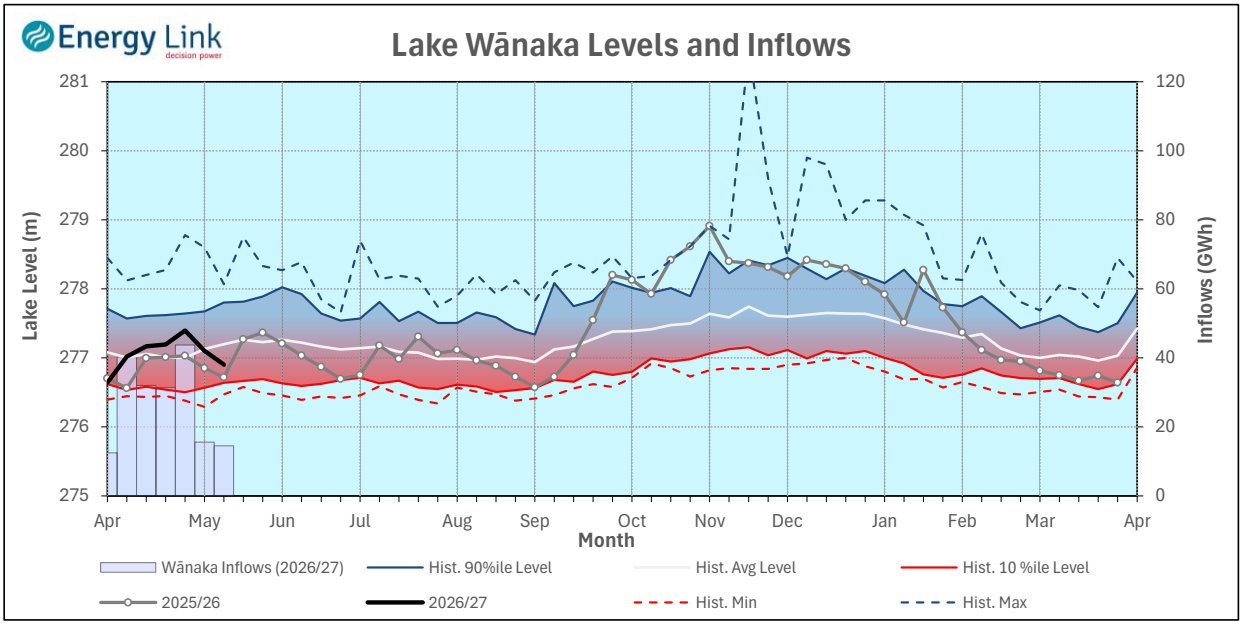
Lake Levels - Total storage for the Clutha System decreased 9.5% to 329 GWh. Lakes Hāwea, Wānaka and Wakatipu ended the week 87%, 35.6% and 29.2% nominally full respectively.

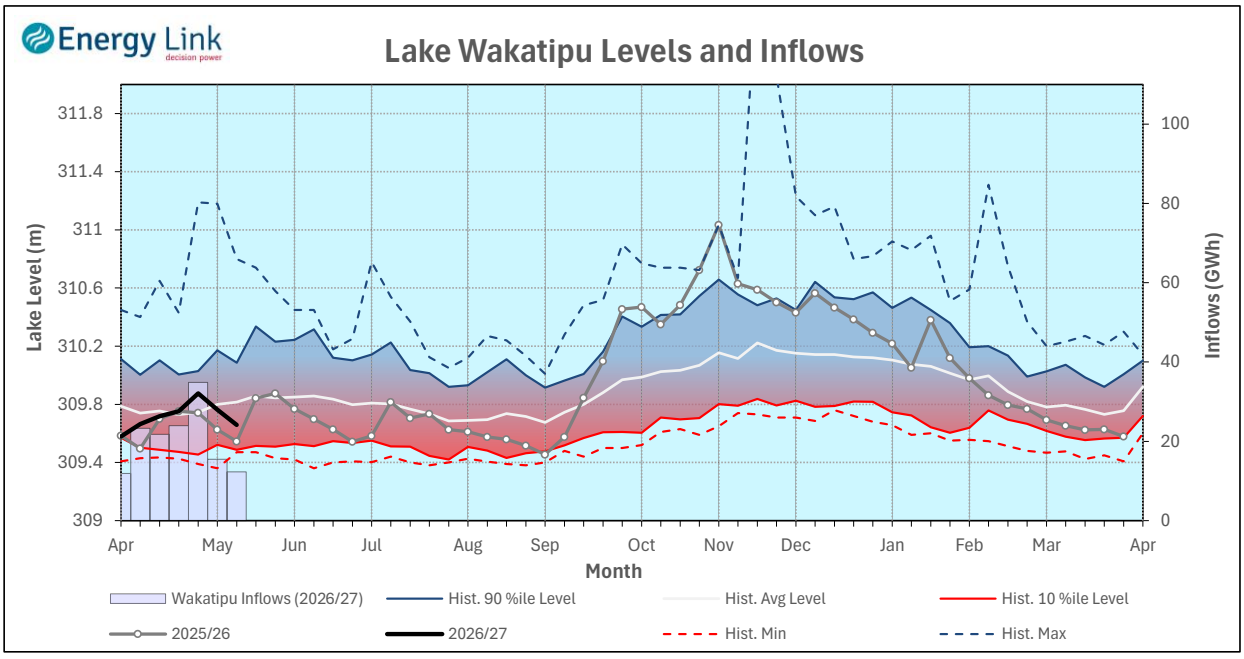
Inflows - Total Inflows into the Clutha System 14.7% lower at 31 GWh.

Generation - Average generation was 2% higher at 426 MW.

Hydro Spill - The was no estimated spill

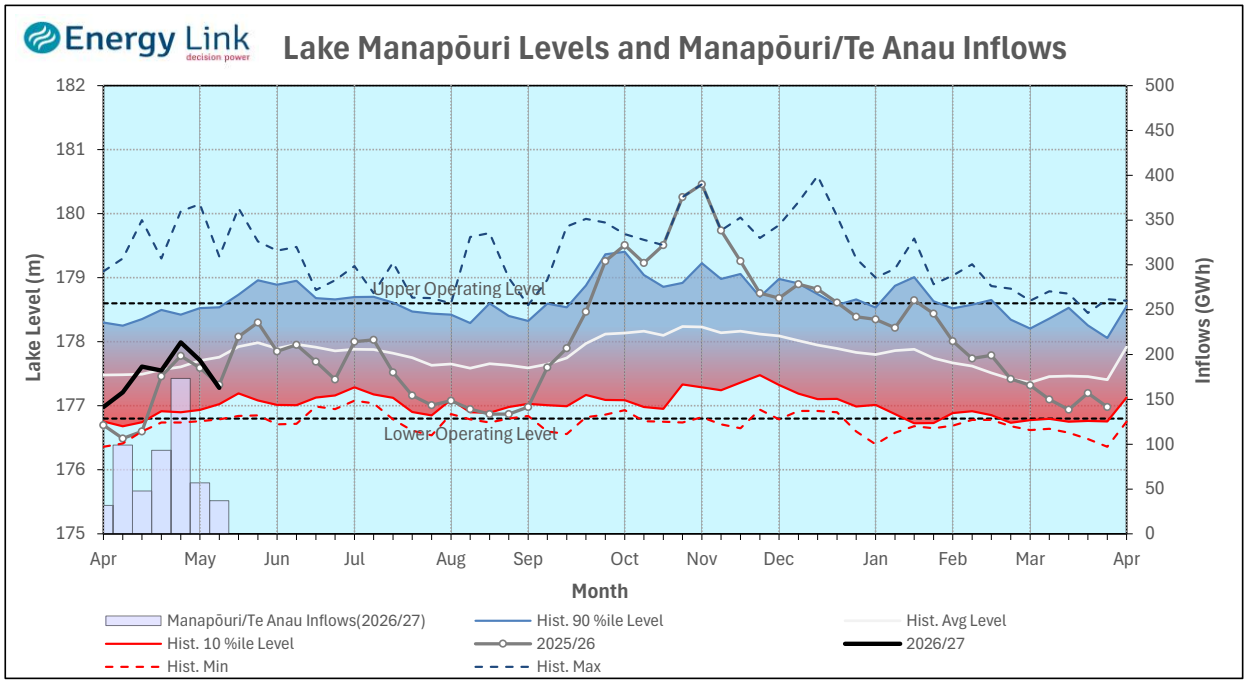
River Flows - Total outflows from the lakes and Shotover River increased to 448.4 cumecs. This comprised of 135 cumecs from Lake Hāwea, 158 cumecs from Lake Wānaka, 130 cumecs from Lake Wakatipu and 26 cumecs from the Shotover River.





Ph (03) 479 2475
Email: Mark.Nelson@energylink.co.nz

Manapōuri System



Lake Levels - Total storage for the Manapōuri System decreased 19.1% to 235 GWh with Lake Manapōuri ending the week 51.5% nominally full and Lake Te Anau ending the week 54.9% nominally full.

Inflows - Total inflows into the Manapōuri System decreased 35.2% to 37 GWh.

Generation - Average generation was 0.9% higher at 550 MW.

Hydro Spill - Estimated spill at the Māraroa Weir was 21.7 cumecs.

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