

HydroWatch

Thursday, 16 July 2026

Issue: 1526

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)	2,655	535	3,190	352	3,543
Storage Change (GWh)	-20	17	-3	-20	-23

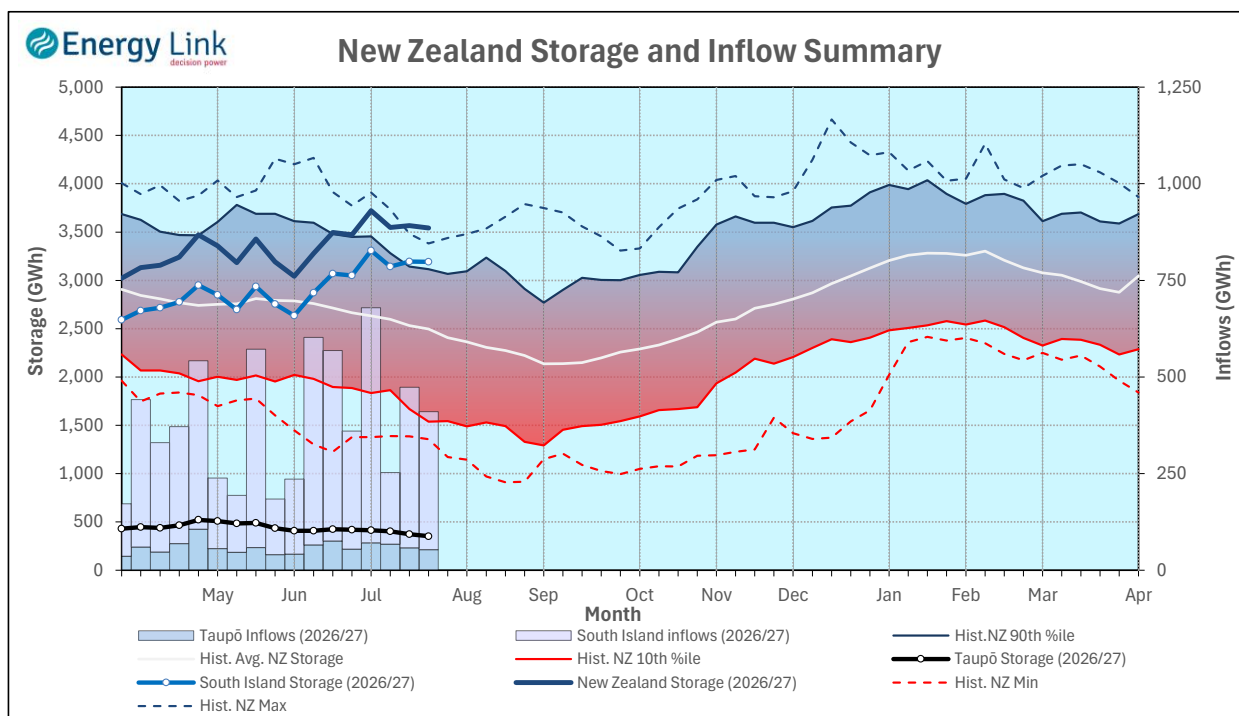
Note: SI Controlled; Takapō, Pūkaki and Hāwea; SI Uncontrolled; Manapōuri, Te Anau, Wānaka, Wakatipu

Transpower Security of Supply	South Island	North Island	New Zealand
Current Storage (GWh)	3,068	352	3,420

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 23 GWh over the last week. South Island controlled storage decreased 0.7% to 2,655 GWh; South Island uncontrolled storage increased 3% to 535 GWh; with Taupō storage decreasing 5.3% to 352 GWh.



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Storage (GWh)	Manapōuri	Clutha	Waitaki	Waikato	NZ
This Week	413	362	2,416	352	3,543
Last Week	396	374	2,424	372	3,566
% Change	4.2%	-3.1%	-0.3%	-5.3%	-0.6%
Inflow (GWh)	Manapōuri	Clutha	Waitaki	Waikato	NZ
This Week	156	77	125	53	410
Last Week	162	91	162	58	474
% Change	-4.0%	-16.0%	-23.2%	-8.0%	-13.4%

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Lake Levels and Outflows

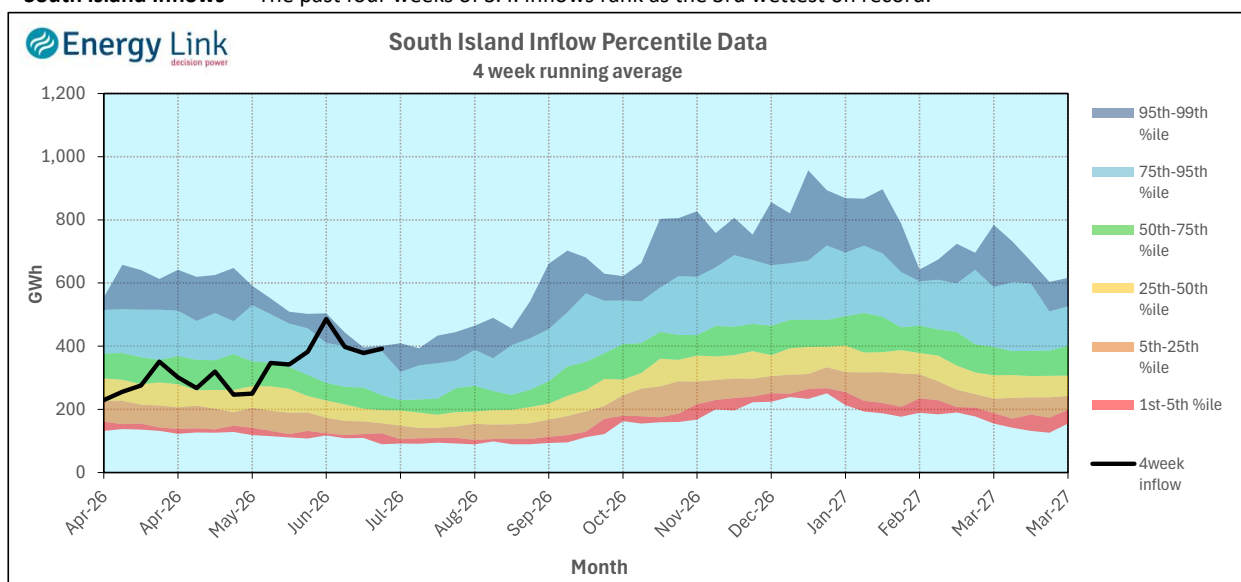
Catchment	Lake	Level (m. asl)	Storage (GWh)	Outflow (cumecs)
Manapōuri	Manapōuri	178.08	131	73
	Te Anau	202.74	281	
Clutha	Wakatipu	309.91	49	168
	Wānaka	277.55	73	231
	Hāwea	344.52	240	168
Waitaki	Takapō	708.83	673	
	Pūkaki	531.74	1,743	
Waikato	Taupō	356.71	352	

Outflow Change
-1
-12
-18
-19

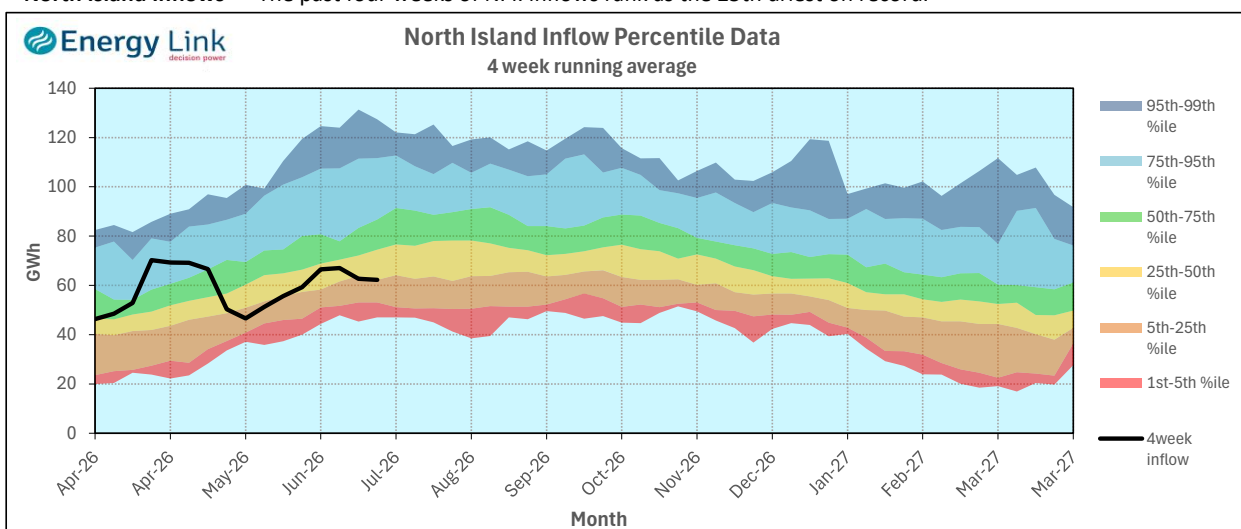
Inflow Summary

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.

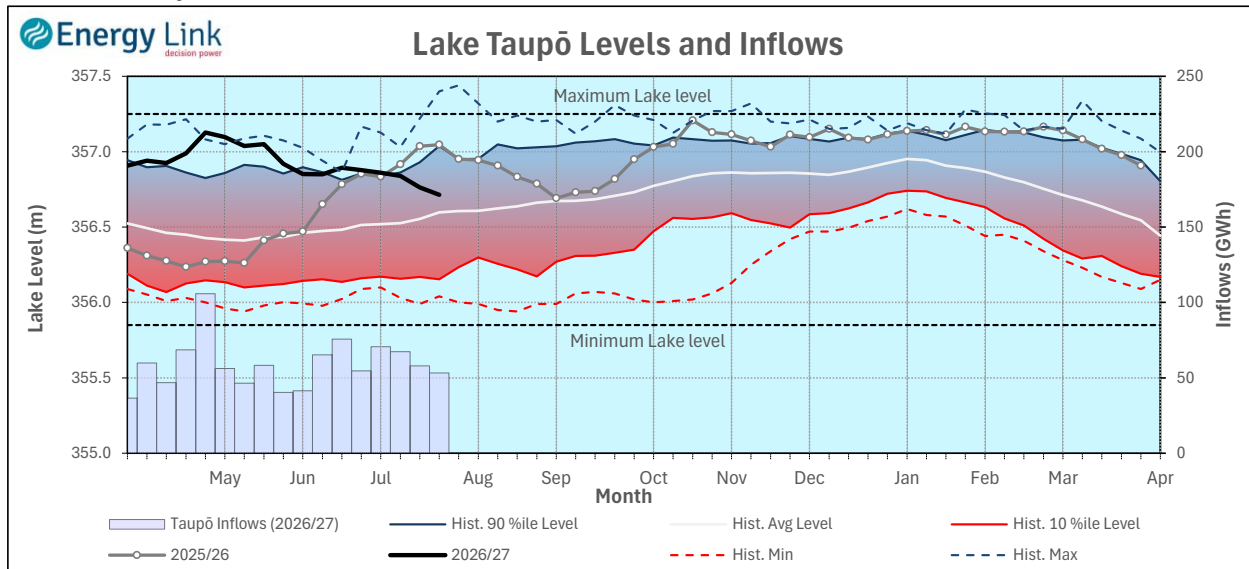
South Island Inflows - The past four weeks of S. I. inflows rank as the 3rd wettest on record.



North Island Inflows - The past four weeks of N. I. inflows rank as the 25th driest on record.



Waikato System

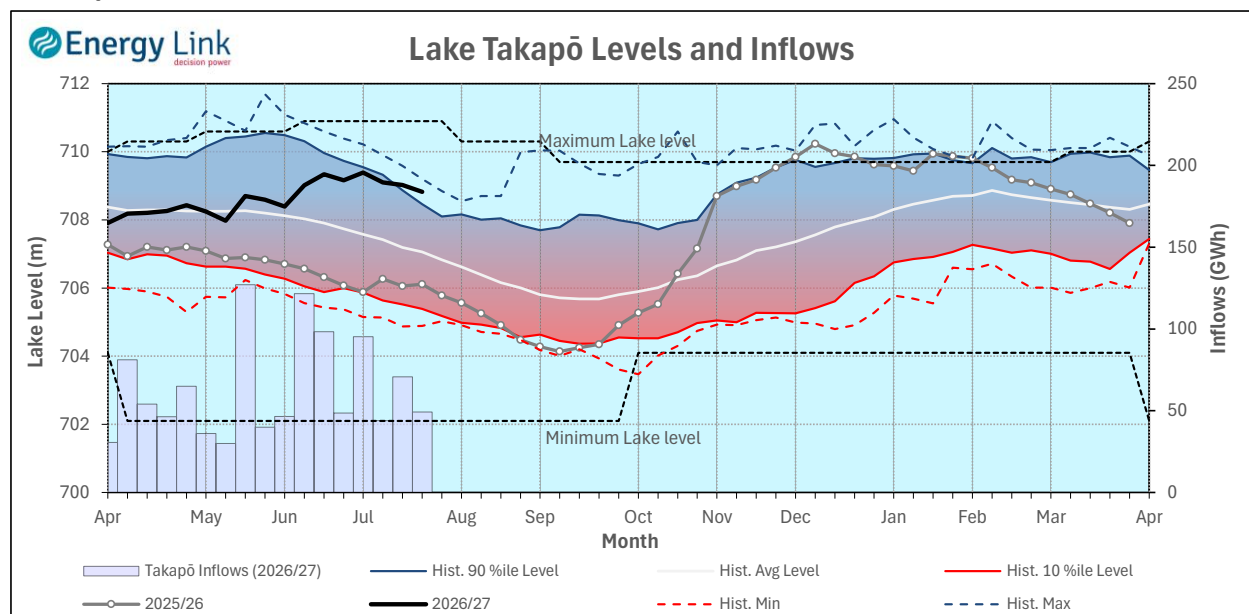


Lake Levels - Lake Taupō storage fell to 61.7% of nominal full at 352 GWh.

Inflows - Inflows decreased 8% to 53 GWh.

Generation - Average generation decreased 11.8% to 514.3 MW.

Takapō



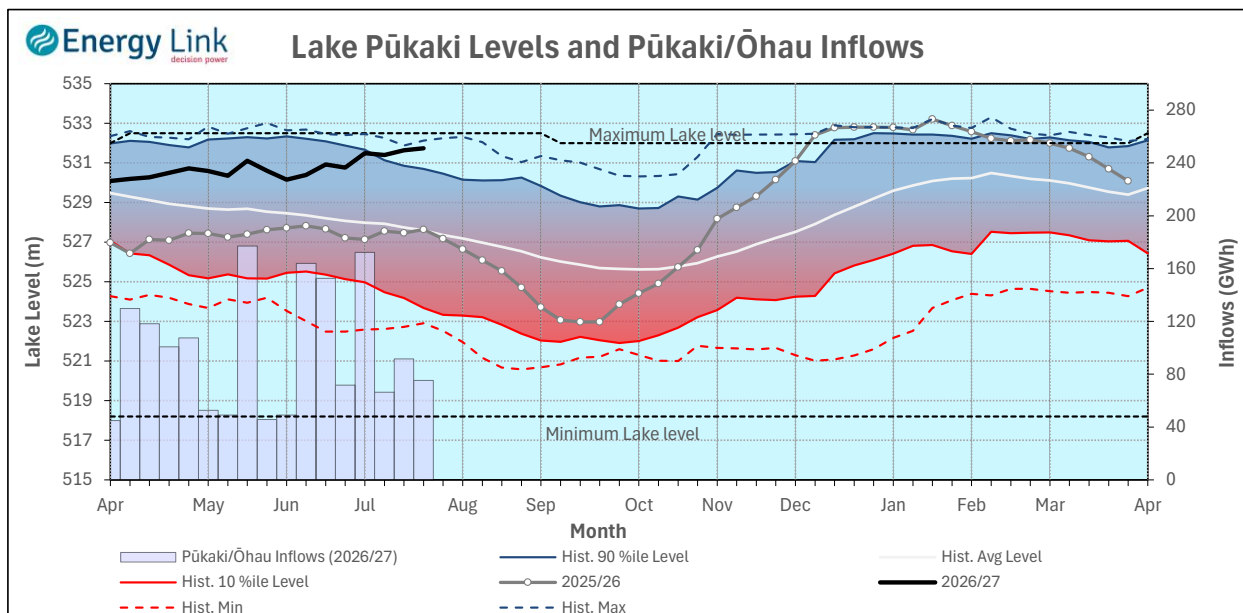
Lake Levels - Lake Takapō ended the week 79% nominally full with storage falling to 673 GWh.

Inflows - Inflows into Takapō decreased 30.4% to 49 GWh.

Generation - Average Takapō generation decreased 12.3% to 147.7 MW.

Hydro Spill - Lake Takapō did not spill.

Waitaki System



Lake Levels - Lake Pūkaki ended the week 94% nominally full with storage increasing to 1,743 GWh.

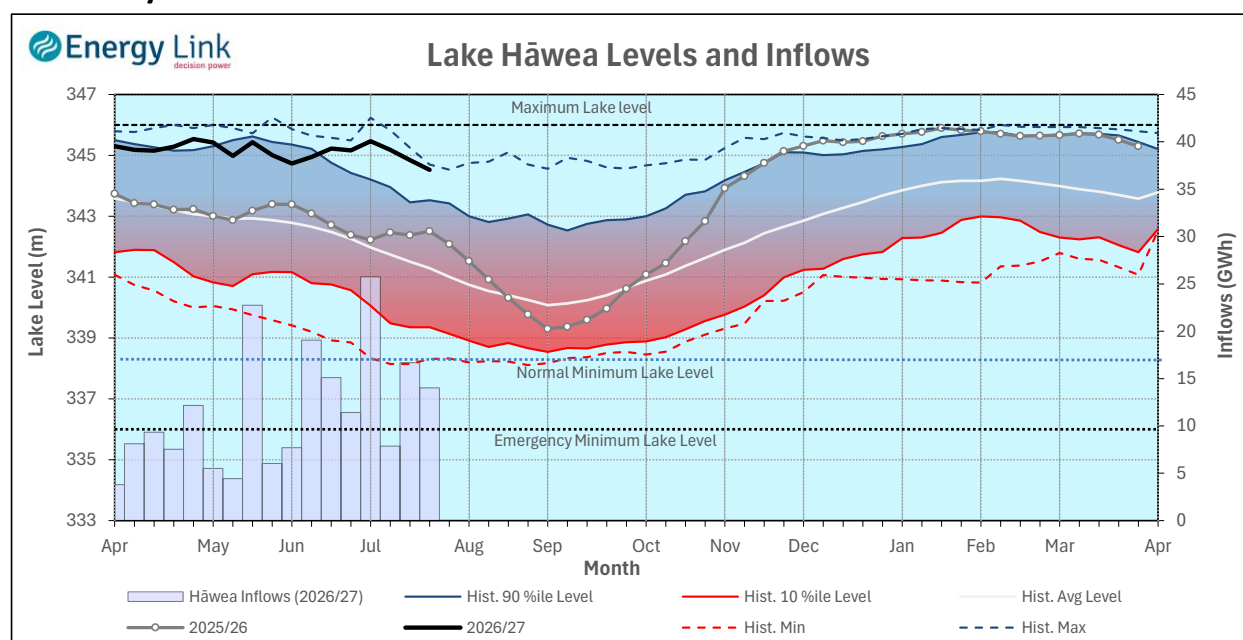
Inflows - Inflows into the Waitaki System decreased 17.7% to 75 GWh.

Generation - Average Waitaki generation increased 2.5% to 788 MW.

Hydro Spill - Lake Pūkaki did not spill.

River Flows - Flows from the Ahuriri River increased to 38 cumecs while Waitaki River flows were higher than last week averaging 359.6 cumecs.

Clutha System



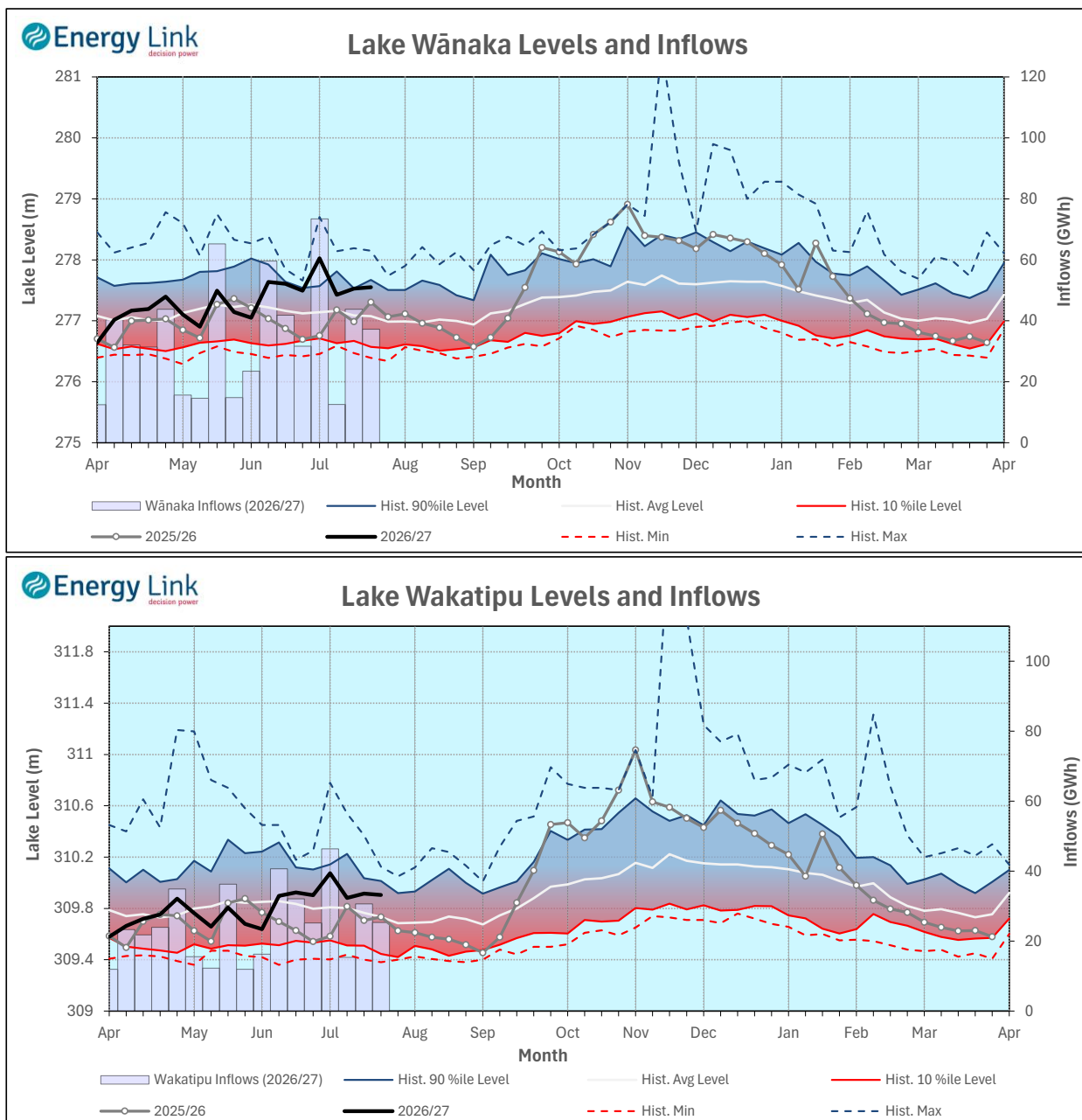
Lake Levels - Total storage for the Clutha System decreased 3.1% to 362 GWh. Lakes Hāwea, Wānaka and Wakatipu ended the week 81.1%, 63.9% and 46.8% nominally full respectively.

Inflows - Total Inflows into the Clutha System 16% lower at 77 GWh.

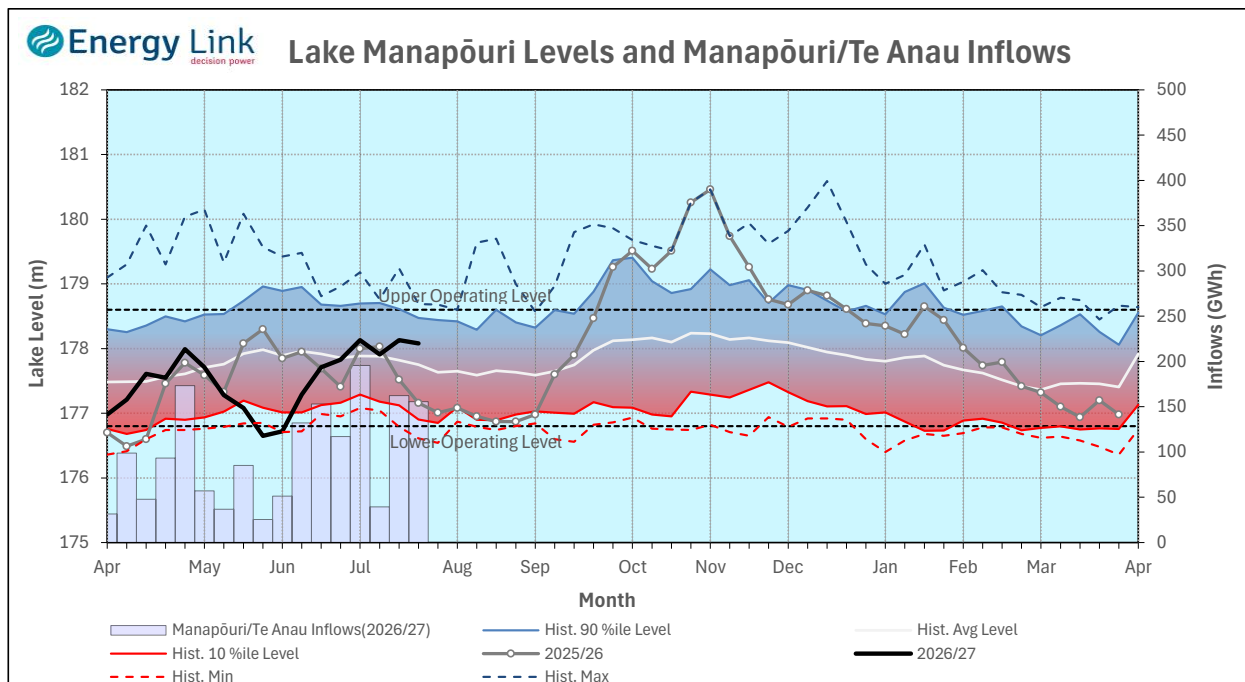
Generation - Average generation was 3.7% lower at 602 MW.

Hydro Spill - Estimate Spill is 0 cumecs

River Flows - Total outflows from the lakes and Shotover River fell to 629.3 cumecs. This comprised of 168 cumecs from Lake Hāwea, 231 cumecs from Lake Wānaka, 168 cumecs from Lake Wakatipu and 63 cumecs from the Shotover River.



Manapōuri System



Lake Levels - Total storage for the Manapōuri System increased by 4.2% to 413 GWh with Lake Manapōuri ending the week 80.8% nominally full and Lake Te Anau ending the week 102.2% nominally full.

Inflows - Total inflows into the Manapōuri System decreased 4% to 156 GWh.

Generation - Average generation was 7.1% higher at 735 MW.

Hydro Spill - Estimated spill at the Mārarōa Weir was 73.1 cumecs.

Operating Range - Lake Manapōuri is operating in the upper end of its 'Main operating range' while Lake Te Anau is operating in the lower end of its 'High operating range'.

