

HydroWatch

Thursday, 23 July 2026

Issue: 1527

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)	2,599	505	3,103	341	3,444
Storage Change (GWh)	-57	-30	-87	-11	-99

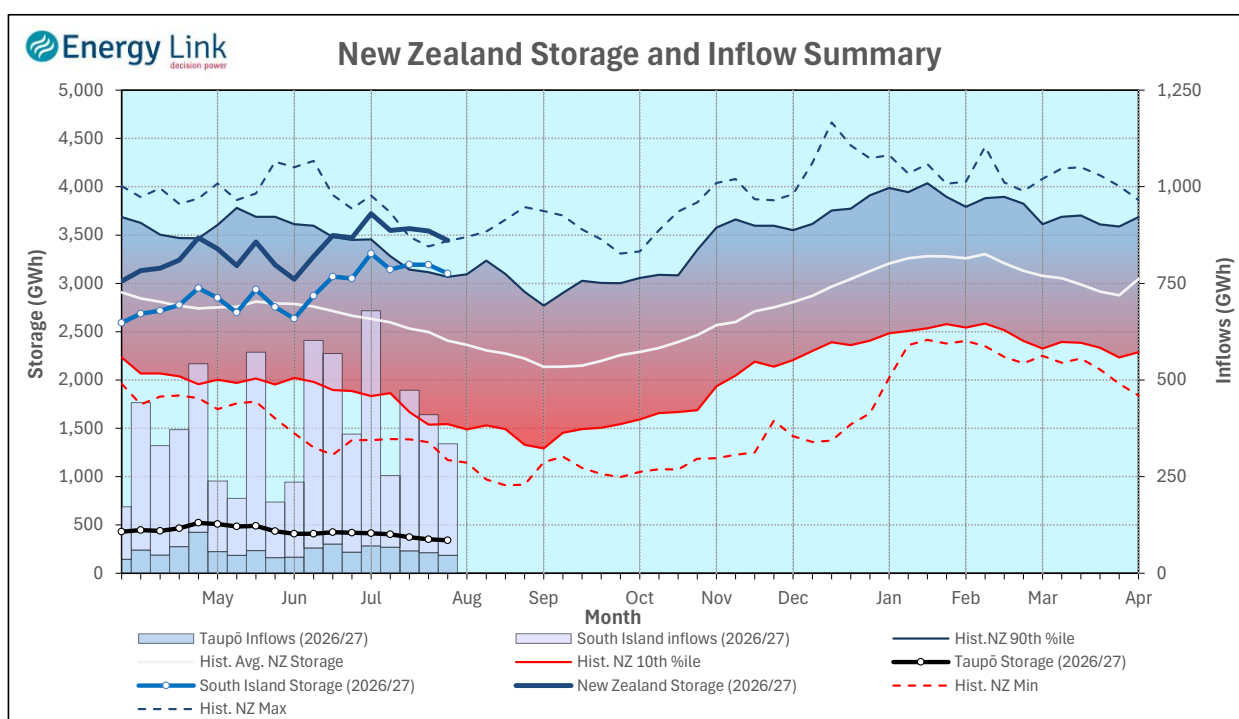
Note: SI Controlled; Takapō, Pūkaki and Hāwea; SI Uncontrolled; Manapōuri, Te Anau, Wānaka, Wakatipu

Transpower Security of Supply	South Island	North Island	New Zealand
Current Storage (GWh)	3,000	341	3,341

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 99 GWh over the last week. South Island controlled storage decreased 2.1% to 2,599 GWh; South Island uncontrolled storage decreased 6% to 505 GWh; with Taupō storage decreasing 3.2% to 341 GWh.



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Storage (GWh)	Manapōuri	Clutha	Waitaki	Waikato	NZ
This Week	401	330	2,372	341	3,444
Last Week	413	362	2,416	352	3,543
% Change	-2.8%	-8.8%	-1.8%	-3.2%	-2.8%
Inflow (GWh)	Manapōuri	Clutha	Waitaki	Waikato	NZ
This Week	122	54	112	46	335
Last Week	156	77	125	53	410
% Change	-21.4%	-29.3%	-9.9%	-13.2%	-18.3%

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Lake Levels and Outflows

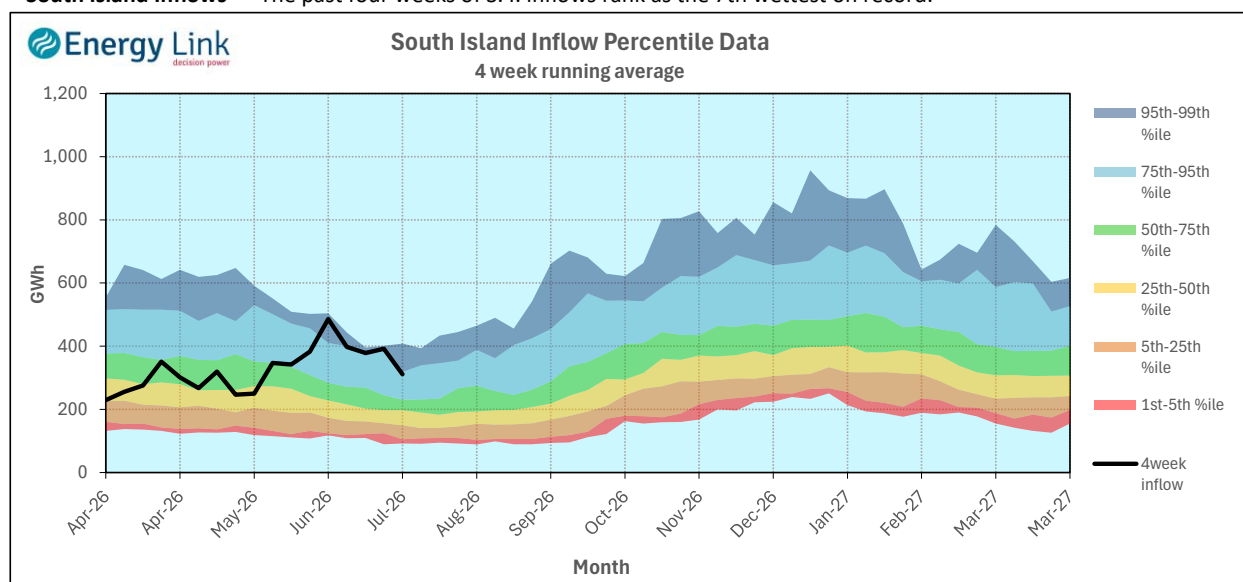
Catchment	Lake	Level (m. asl)	Storage (GWh)	Outflow (cumecs)
Manapōuri	Manapōuri	178.04	129	68
	Te Anau	202.68	272	
Clutha	Wakatipu	309.82	43	172
	Wānaka	277.30	61	231
	Hāwea	344.18	227	148
Waitaki	Takapō	708.65	654	
	Pūkaki	531.56	1,718	
Waikato	Taupō	356.69	341	

Outflow Change
-5
5
1
-20

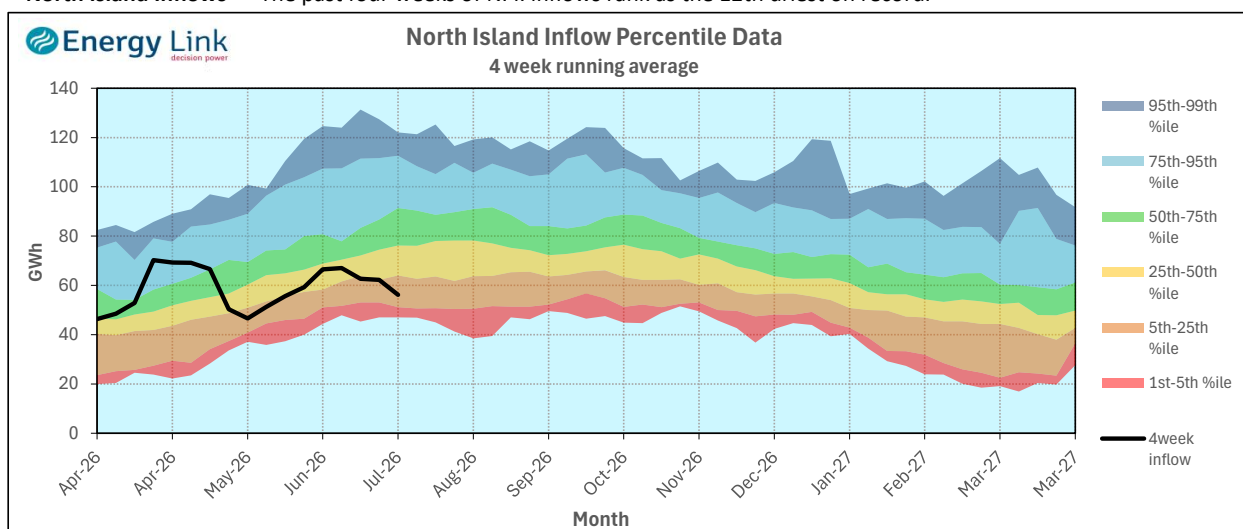
Inflow Summary

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.

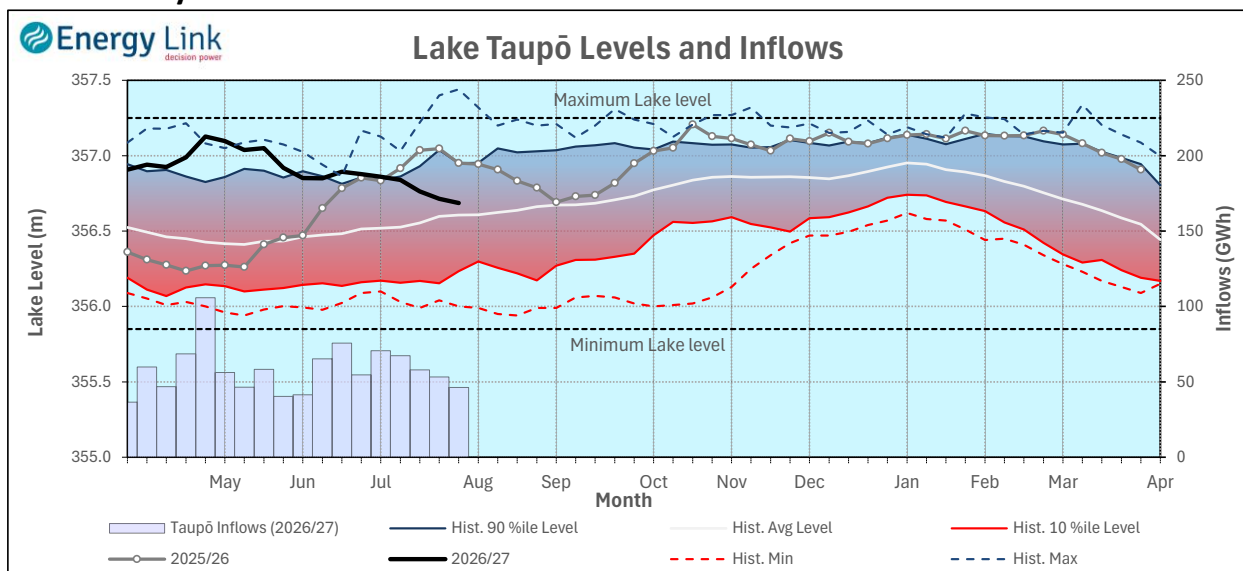
South Island Inflows - The past four weeks of S. I. inflows rank as the 7th wettest on record.



North Island Inflows - The past four weeks of N. I. inflows rank as the 12th driest on record.



Waikato System

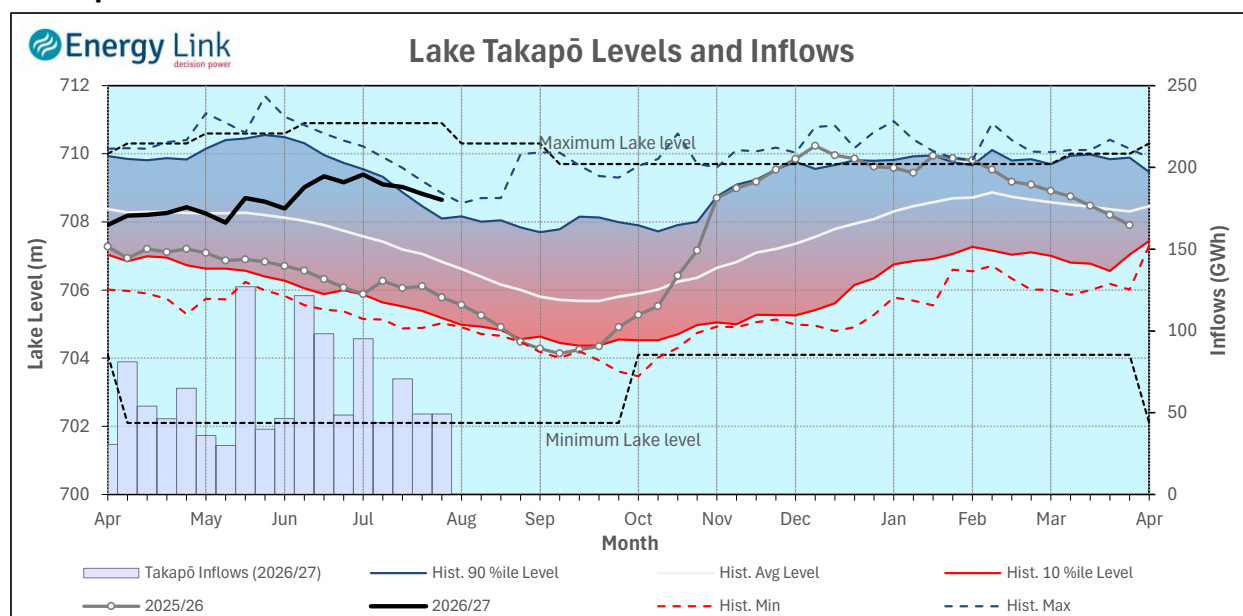


Lake Levels - Lake Taupō storage fell to 59.7% of nominal full at 341 GWh.

Inflows - Inflows decreased 13.2% to 46 GWh.

Generation - Average generation decreased 25.4% to 383.6 MW.

Takapō



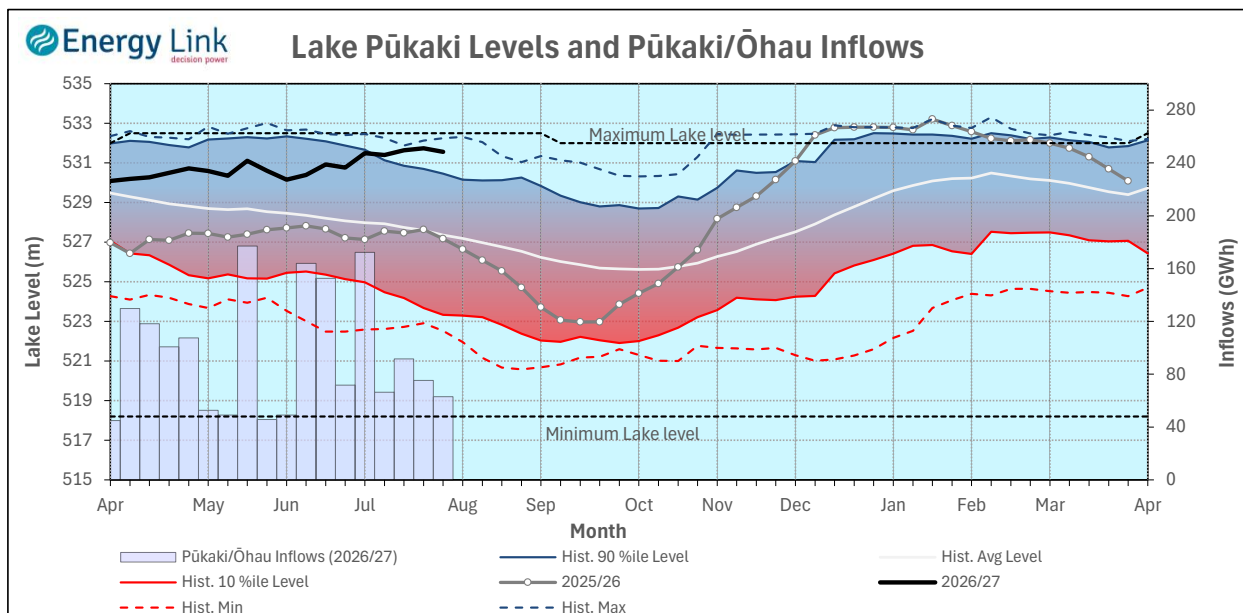
Lake Levels - Lake Takapō ended the week 77% nominally full with storage falling to 654 GWh.

Inflows - Inflows into Takapō remained steady at 49 GWh.

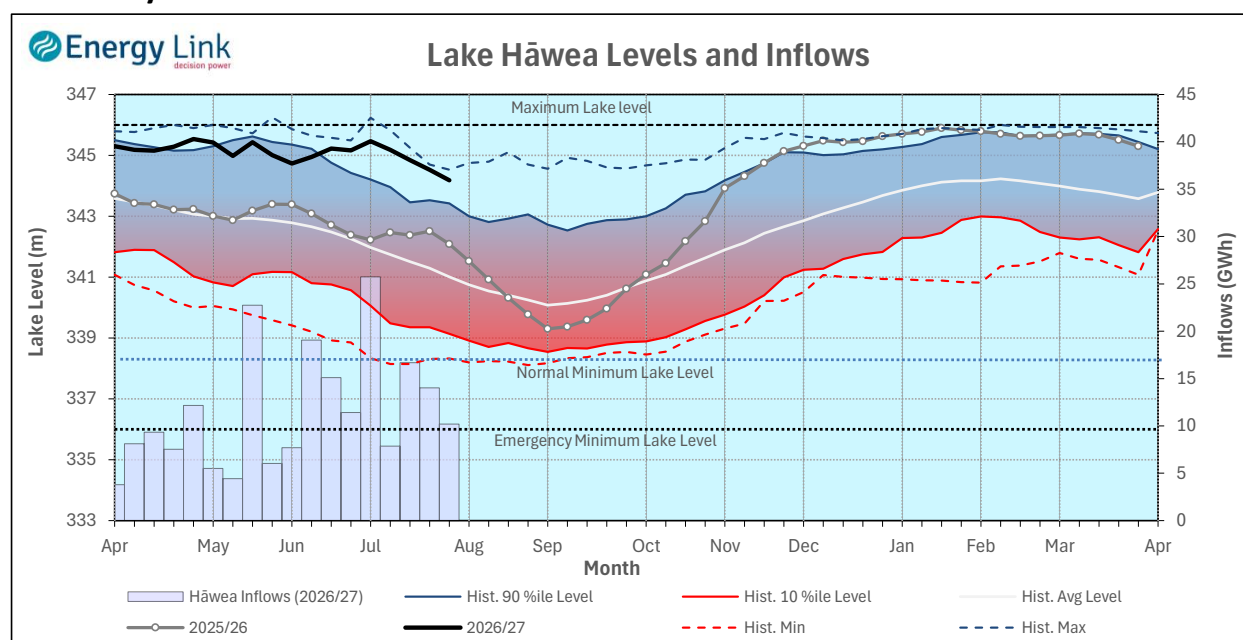
Generation - Average Takapō generation decreased 0.8% to 146.5 MW.

Hydro Spill - Lake Takapō did not spill.

Waitaki System



Clutha System



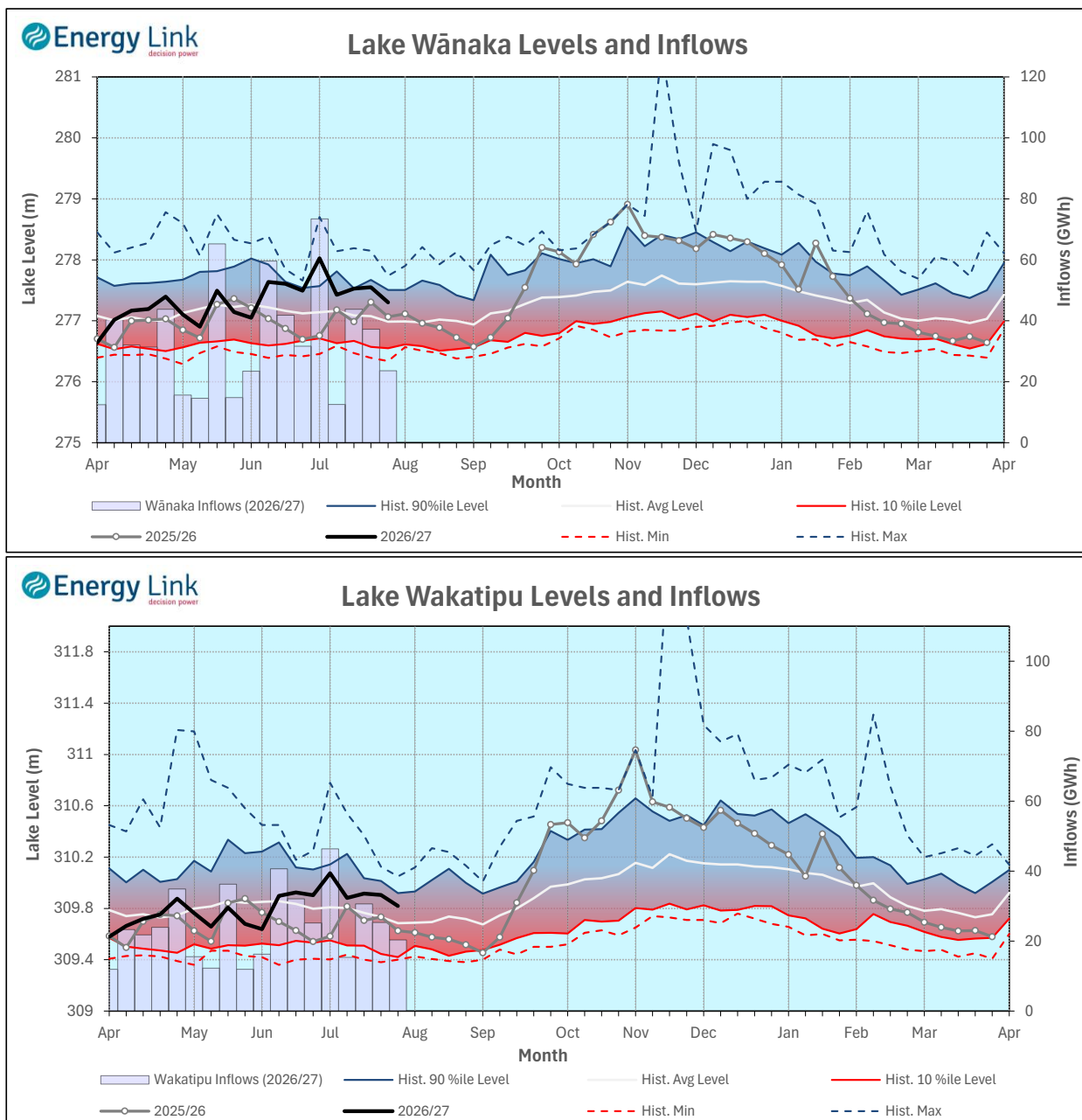
Lake Levels - Total storage for the Clutha System decreased 8.8% to 330 GWh. Lakes Hāwea, Wānaka and Wakatipu ended the week 76.7%, 53% and 40.6% nominally full respectively.

Inflows - Total Inflows into the Clutha System 29.3% lower at 54 GWh.

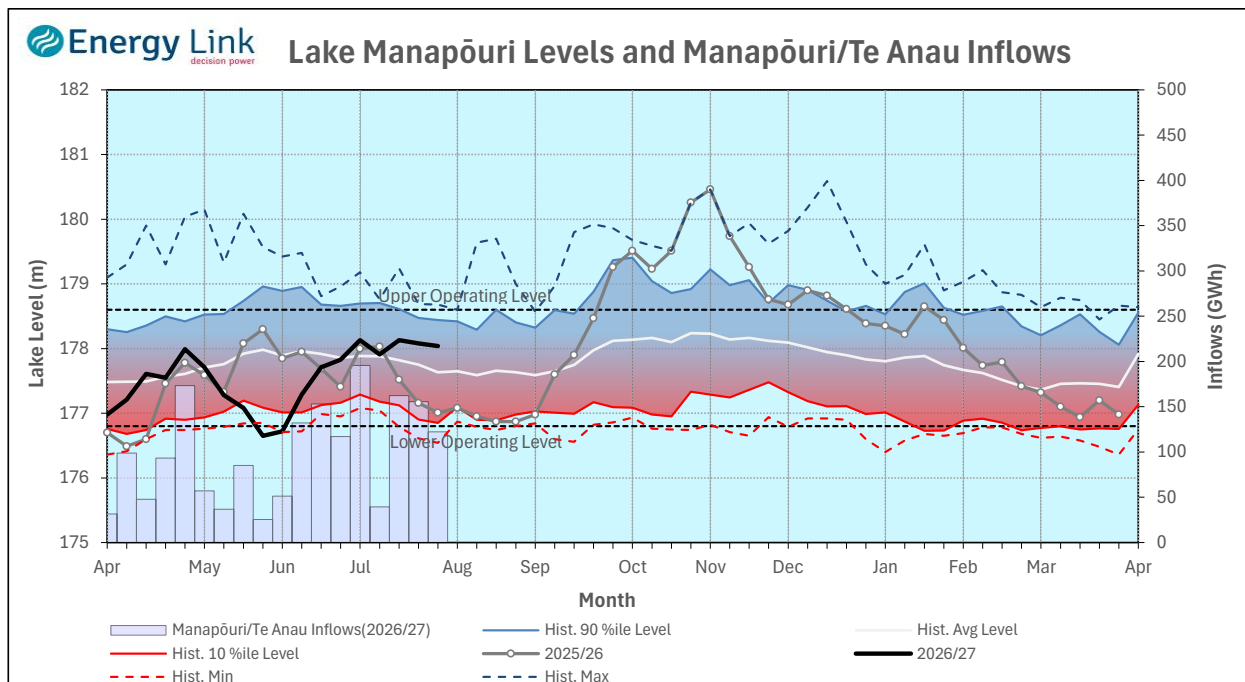
Generation - Average generation was 8.9% lower at 548 MW.

Hydro Spill - Estimate Spill is 12.1 cumecs.

River Flows - Total outflows from the lakes and Shotover River fell to 610.3 cumecs. This comprised of 148 cumecs from Lake Hāwea, 231 cumecs from Lake Wānaka, 172 cumecs from Lake Wakatipu and 59 cumecs from the Shotover River.



Manapōuri System



Lake Levels - Total storage for the Manapōuri System decreased 2.8% to 401 GWh with Lake Manapōuri ending the week 79.4% nominally full and Lake Te Anau ending the week 98.9% nominally full.

Inflows - Total inflows into the Manapōuri System decreased 21.4% to 122 GWh.

Generation - Average generation was 3.3% lower at 710 MW.

Hydro Spill - Estimated spill at the Mārarōa Weir was 67.7 cumecs.

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

