

HydroWatch

Thursday, 20 August 2026

Issue: 1531

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)	2,106	342	2,448	244	2,693
Storage Change (GWh)	-129	-77	-206	-19	-225

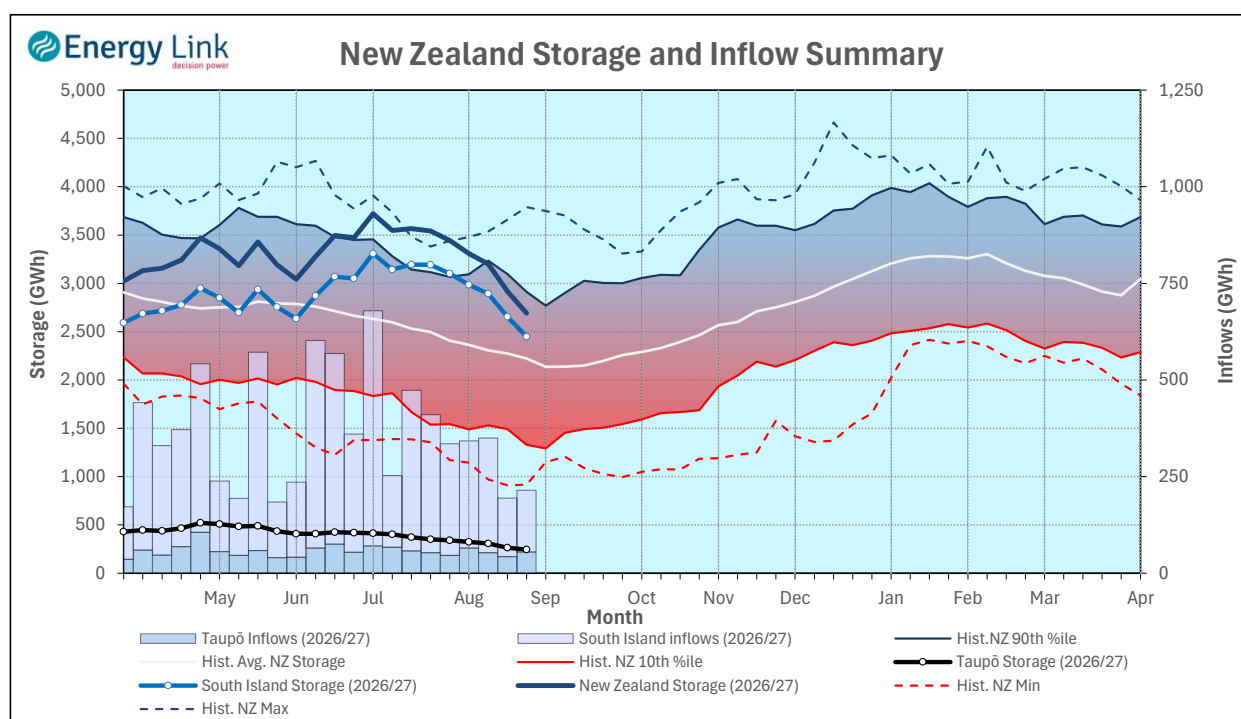
Note: SI Controlled; Takapō, Pūkaki and Hāwea; SI Uncontrolled; Manapōuri, Te Anau, Wānaka, Wakatipu

Transpower Security of Supply	South Island	North Island	New Zealand
Current Storage (GWh)	2,375	244	2,620

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 225 GWh over the last week. South Island controlled storage decreased 5.8% to 2,106 GWh; South Island uncontrolled storage decreased 18% to 342 GWh; with Taupō storage decreasing 7.3% to 244 GWh.



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Storage (GWh)	Manapōuri	Clutha	Waitaki	Waikato	NZ
This Week	269	216	1,964	244	2,693
Last Week	338	246	2,070	263	2,918
% Change	-20.4%	-12.2%	-5.2%	-7.3%	-7.7%
Inflow (GWh)	Manapōuri	Clutha	Waitaki	Waikato	NZ
This Week	50	46	64	55	215
Last Week	57	41	54	43	194
% Change	-12.1%	12.6%	18.0%	28.4%	10.4%

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Lake Levels and Outflows

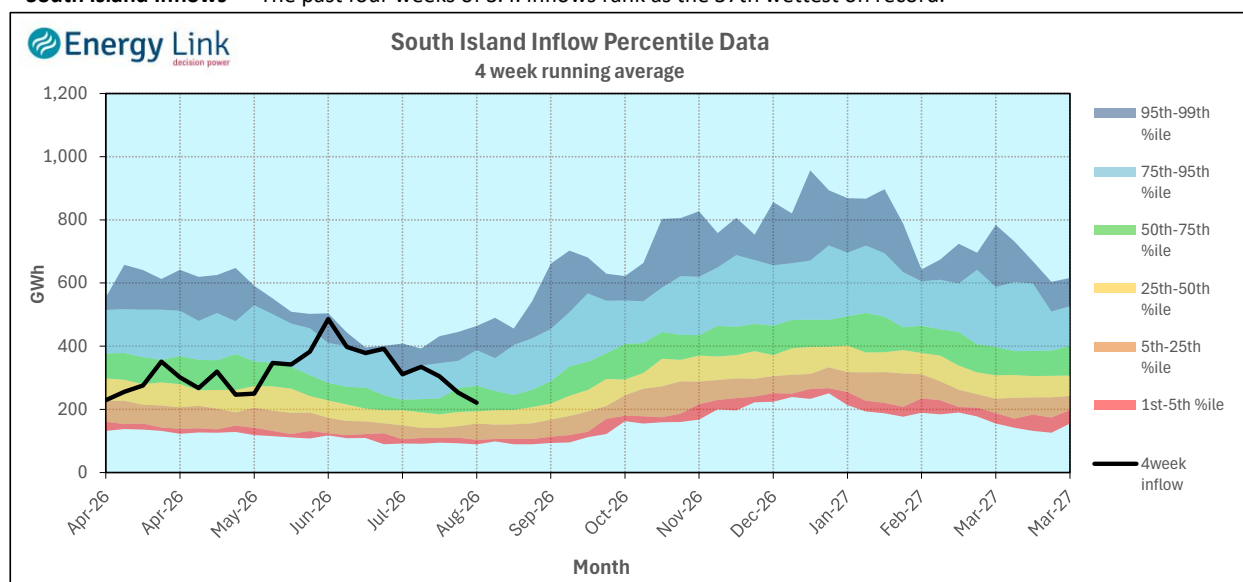
Catchment	Lake	Level (m. asl)	Storage (GWh)	Outflow (cumecs)
Manapōuri	Manapōuri	177.48	96	28
	Te Anau	202.02	174	
Clutha	Wakatipu	309.63	29	121
	Wānaka	276.98	45	174
	Hāwea	341.93	143	190
Waitaki	Takapō	707.09	489	
	Pūkaki	529.77	1,474	
Waikato	Taupō	356.45	244	

Outflow Change
-10
-18
-10
0

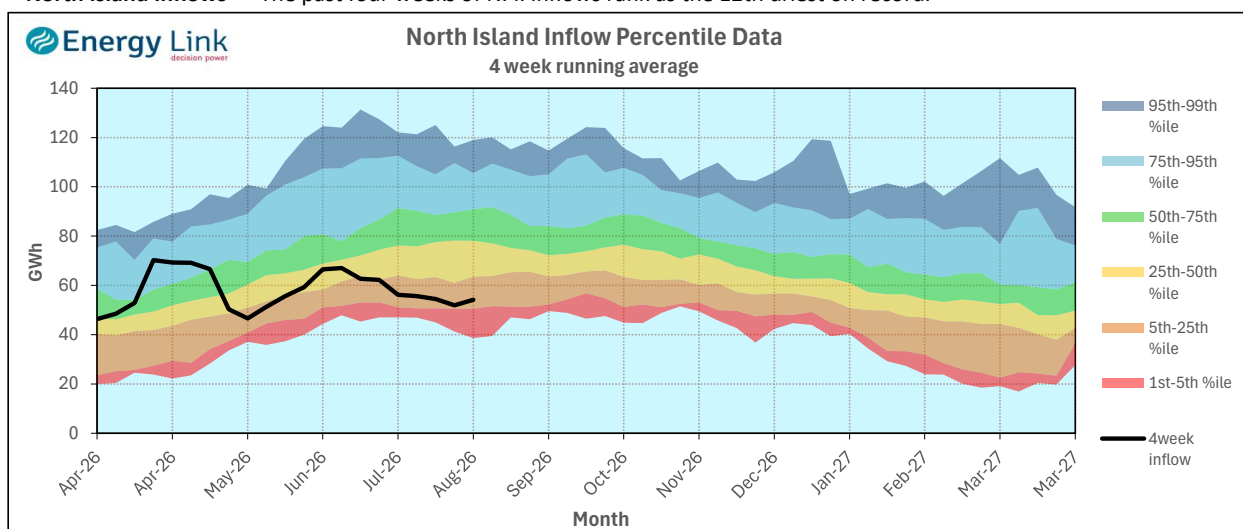
Inflow Summary

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.

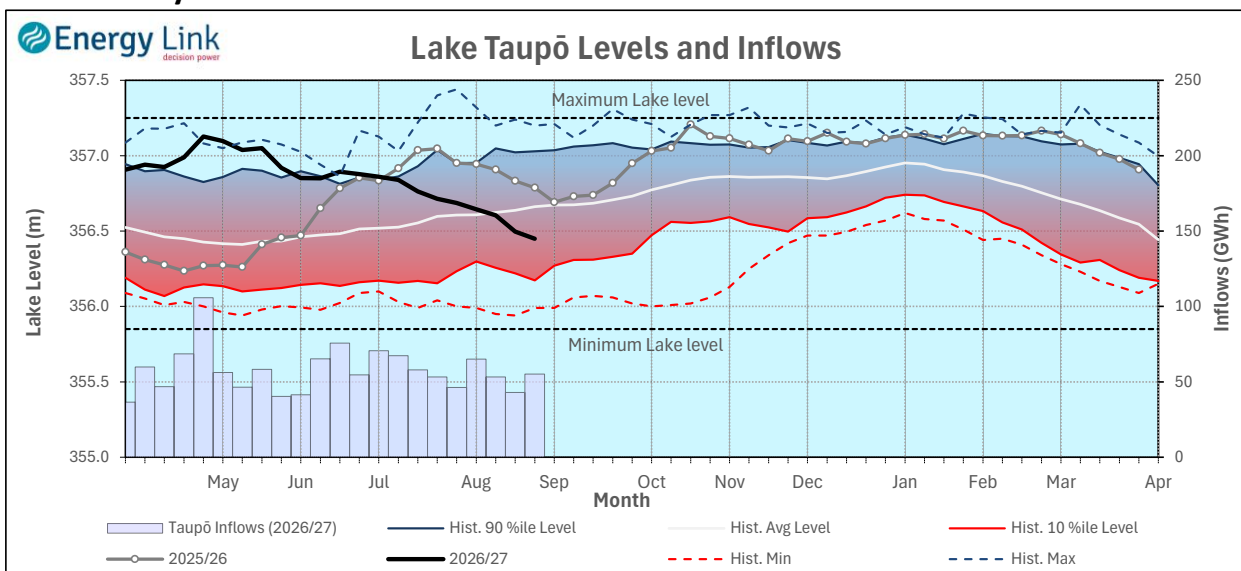
South Island Inflows - The past four weeks of S. I. inflows rank as the 37th wettest on record.



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



Waikato System

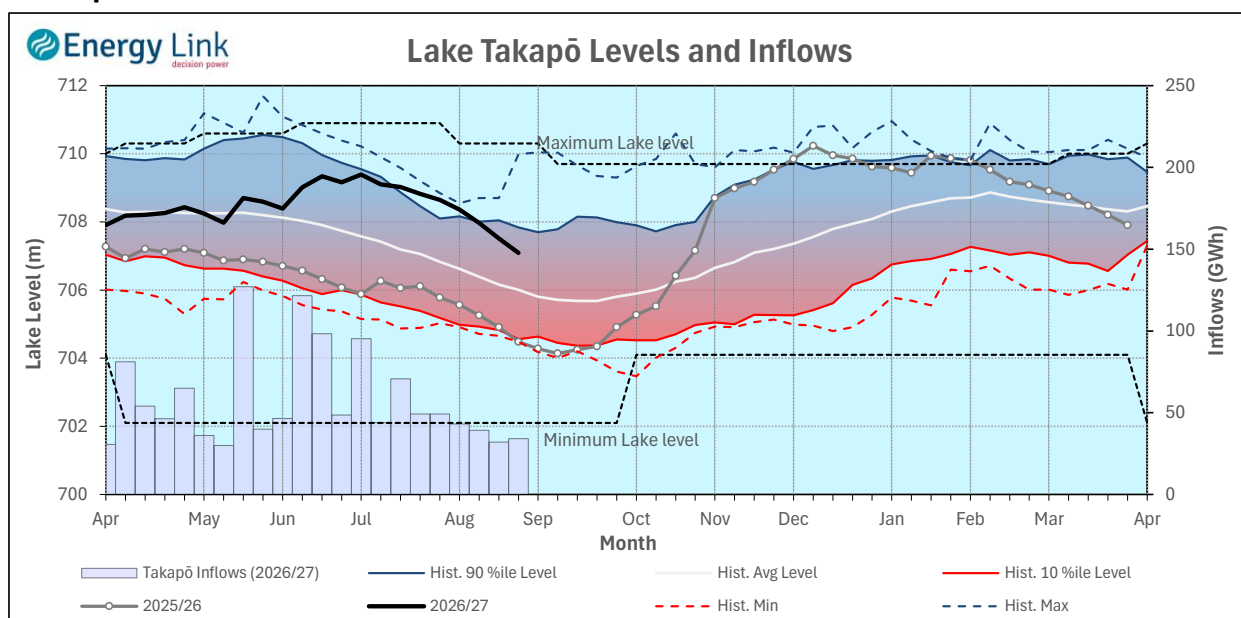


Lake Levels - Lake Taupō storage fell to 42.8% of nominal full at 244 GWh.

Inflows - Inflows increased 28.4% to 55 GWh.

Generation - Average generation decreased 12% to 493.3 MW.

Takapō



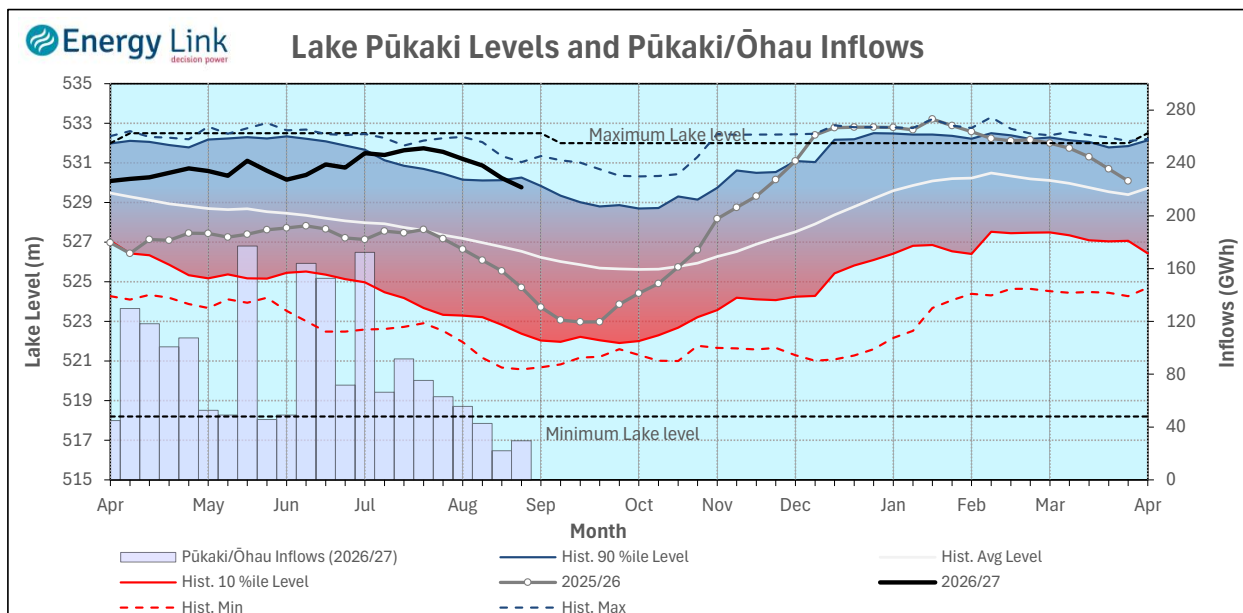
Lake Levels - Lake Takapō ended the week 61% nominally full with storage falling to 489 GWh.

Inflows - Inflows into Takapō increased 6.4% to 34 GWh.

Generation - Average Takapō generation remained steady at 164.9 MW.

Hydro Spill - Lake Takapō did not spill.

Waitaki System



Lake Levels - Lake Pūkaki ended the week 80% nominally full with storage falling to 1,474 GWh.

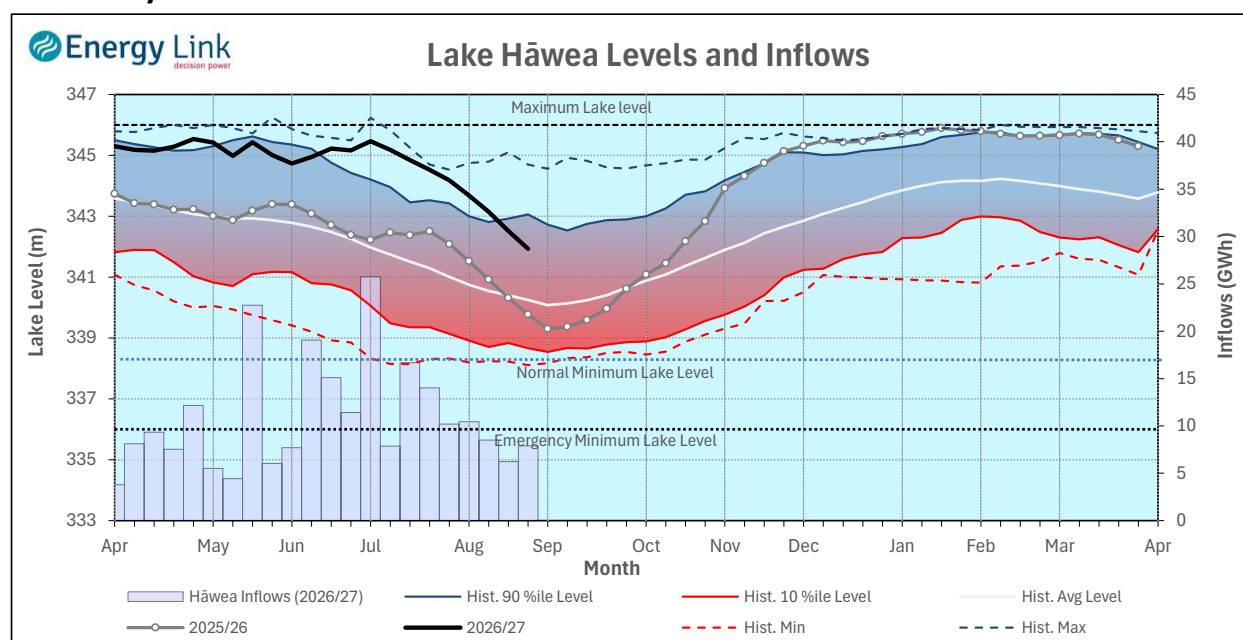
Inflows - Inflows into the Waitaki System increased 34.9% to 30 GWh.

Generation - Average Waitaki generation decreased 14.5% to 965 MW.

Hydro Spill - Lake Pūkaki did not spill.

River Flows - Flows from the Ahuriri River increased to 26.6 cumecs while Waitaki River flows were lower than last week averaging 390.5 cumecs.

Clutha System



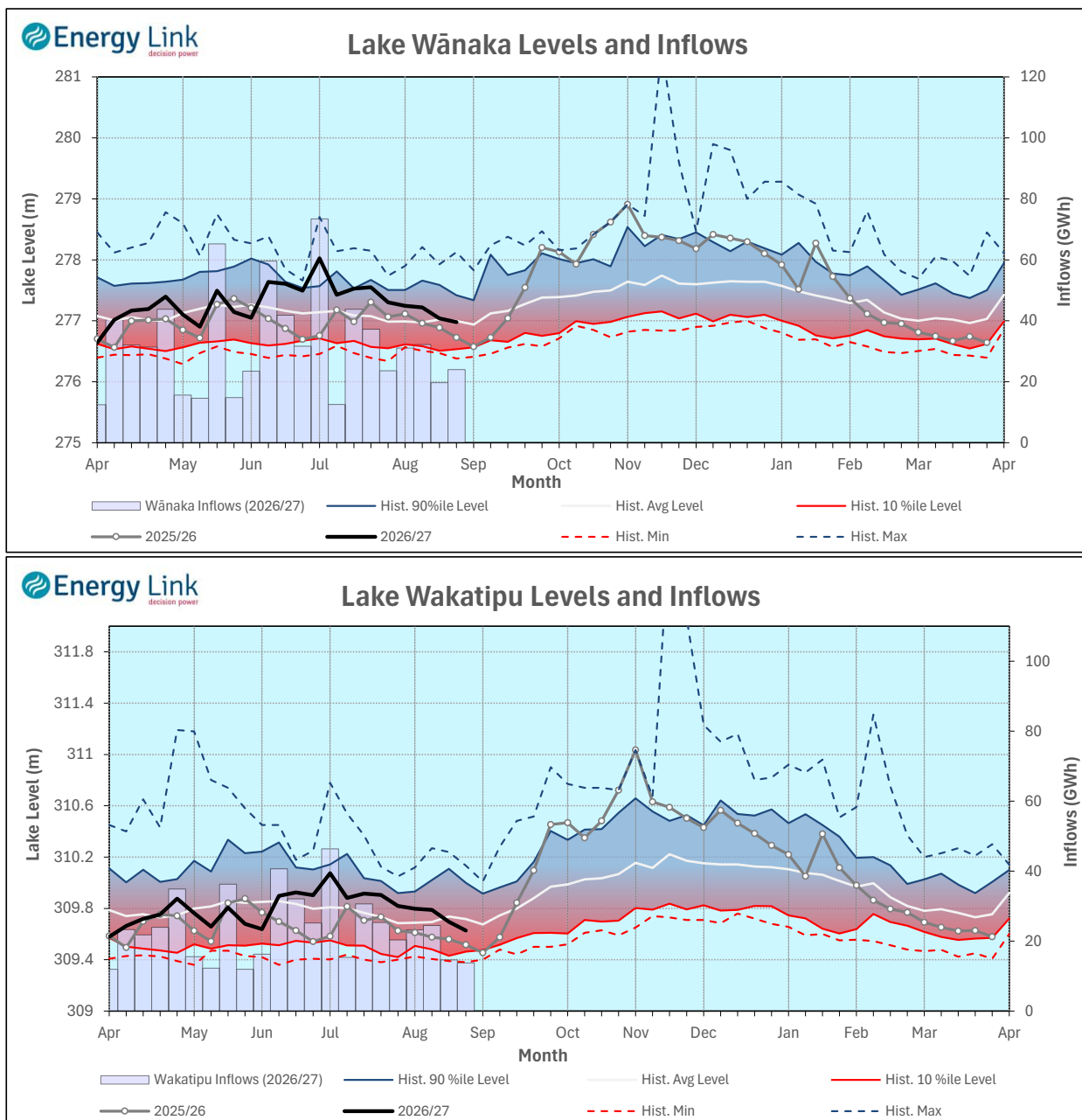
Lake Levels - Total storage for the Clutha System decreased 12.2% to 216 GWh. Lakes Hāwea, Wānaka and Wakatipu ended the week 48.3%, 38.9% and 27% nominally full respectively.

Inflows - Total Inflows into the Clutha System 12.6% higher at 46 GWh.

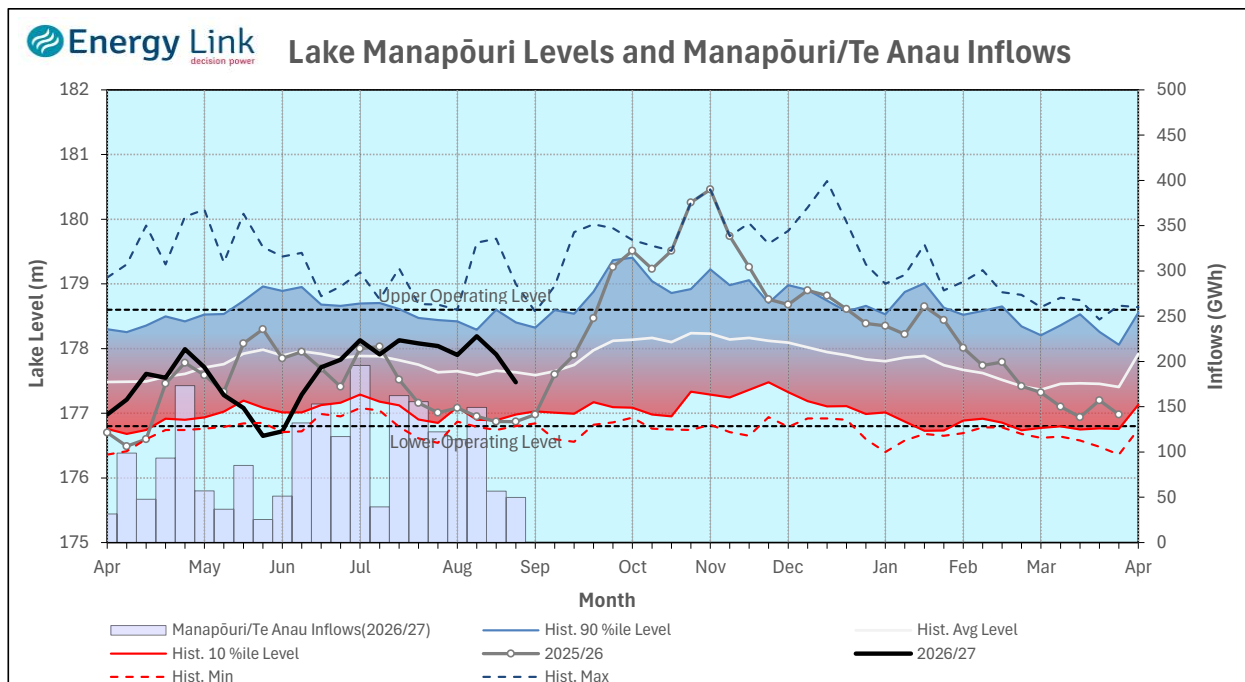
Generation - Average generation was 3.2% lower at 507 MW.

Hydro Spill - There was no estimated spill

River Flows - Total outflows from the lakes and Shotover River fell to 526.2 cumecs. This comprised of 190 cumecs from Lake Hāwea, 174 cumecs from Lake Wānaka, 121 cumecs from Lake Wakatipu and 40 cumecs from the Shotover River.



Manapōuri System



Lake Levels - Total storage for the Manapōuri System decreased 20.4% to 269 GWh with Lake Manapōuri ending the week 58.8% nominally full and Lake Te Anau ending the week 63% nominally full.

Inflows - Total inflows into the Manapōuri System decreased 12.1% to 50 GWh.

Generation - Average generation was 2.1% lower at 708 MW.

Hydro Spill - Estimated spill at the Mārarōa Weir was 28 cumecs.

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

