

HydroWatch

Thursday, 3 September 2026

Issue: 1533

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)	2,255	666	2,920	250	3,171
Storage Change (GWh)	208	212	420	10	430

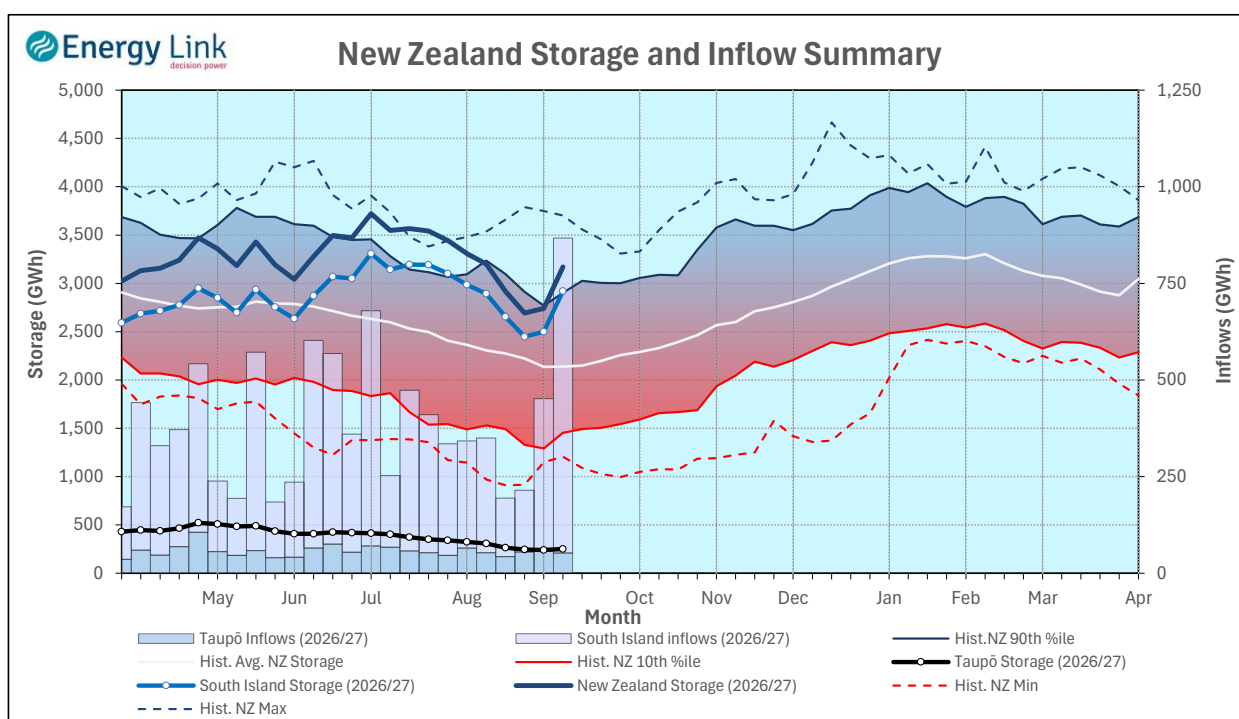
Note: SI Controlled; Takapō, Pūkaki and Hāwea: SI Uncontrolled; Manapōuri, Te Anau, Wānaka, Wakatipu

Transpower Security of Supply	South Island	North Island	New Zealand
Current Storage (GWh)	2,747	250	2,997

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 increased 430 GWh over the last week. South Island controlled storage increased 10.2% to 2,255 GWh; South Island uncontrolled storage increased 47% to 666 GWh; with Taupō storage increasing 4.1% to 250 GWh.



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Storage (GWh)	Manapōuri	Clutha	Waitaki	Waikato	NZ
This Week	492	327	2,102	250	3,171
Last Week	357	222	1,922	241	2,741
% Change	37.9%	47.3%	9.4%	4.1%	15.7%
Inflow (GWh)	Manapōuri	Clutha	Waitaki	Waikato	NZ
This Week	284	215	315	53	867
Last Week	204	79	111	58	451
% Change	39.5%	173.7%	183.8%	-9.2%	92.2%

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Lake Levels and Outflows

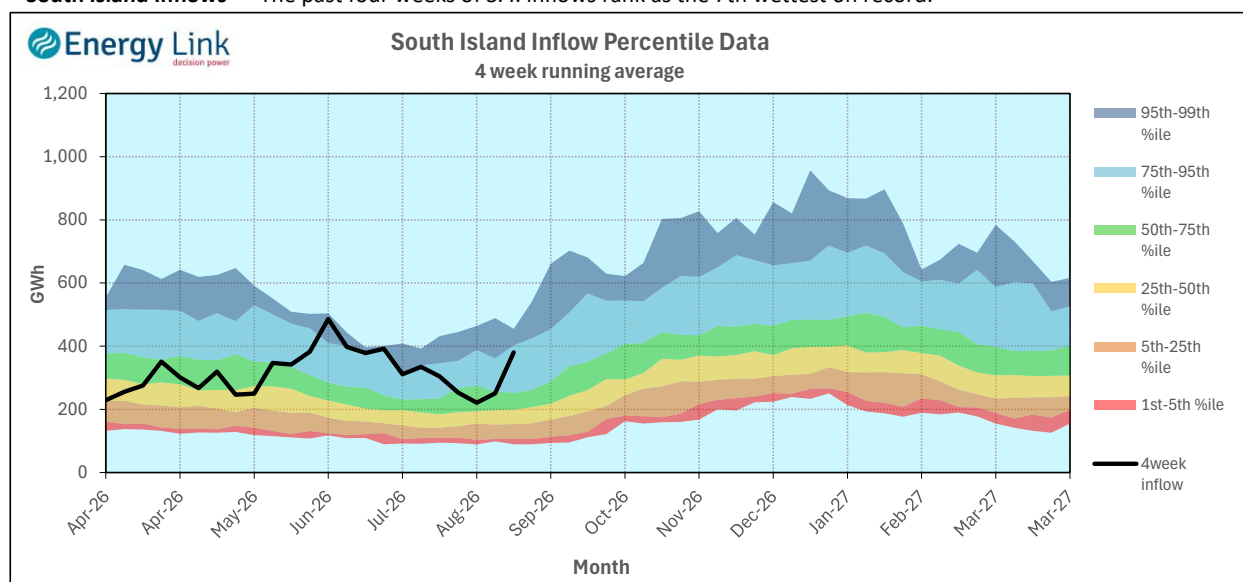
Catchment	Lake	Level (m. asl)	Storage (GWh)	Outflow (cumecs)
Manapōuri	Manapōuri	178.18	137	150
	Te Anau	203.23	355	
Clutha	Wakatipu	310.19	71	280
	Wānaka	278.15	103	345
	Hāwea	342.21	153	84
Waitaki	Takapō	707.24	504	
	Pūkaki	530.68	1,598	
Waikato	Taupō	356.46	250	

Outflow Change
106
165
184
-106

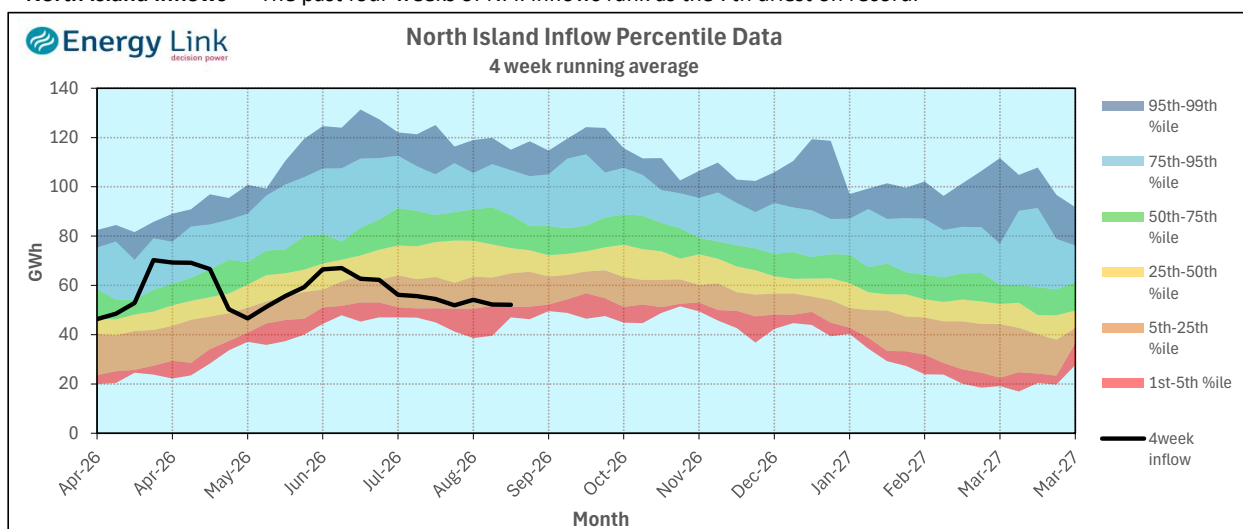
Inflow Summary

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.

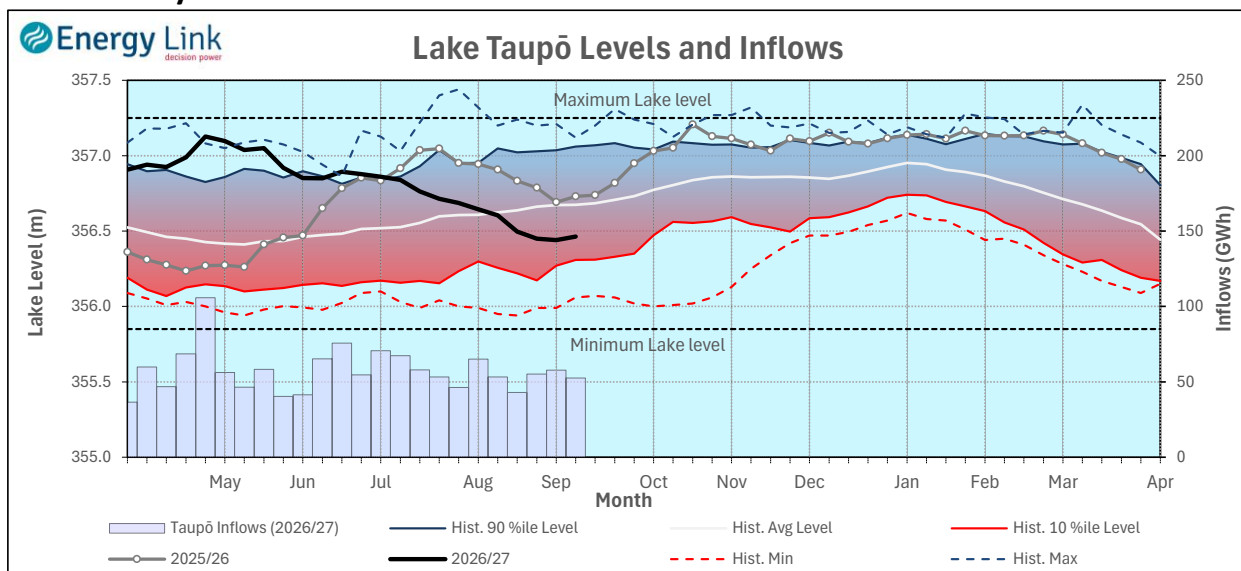
South Island Inflows - The past four weeks of S. I. inflows rank as the 7th wettest on record.



North Island Inflows - The past four weeks of N. I. inflows rank as the 7th driest on record.



Waikato System

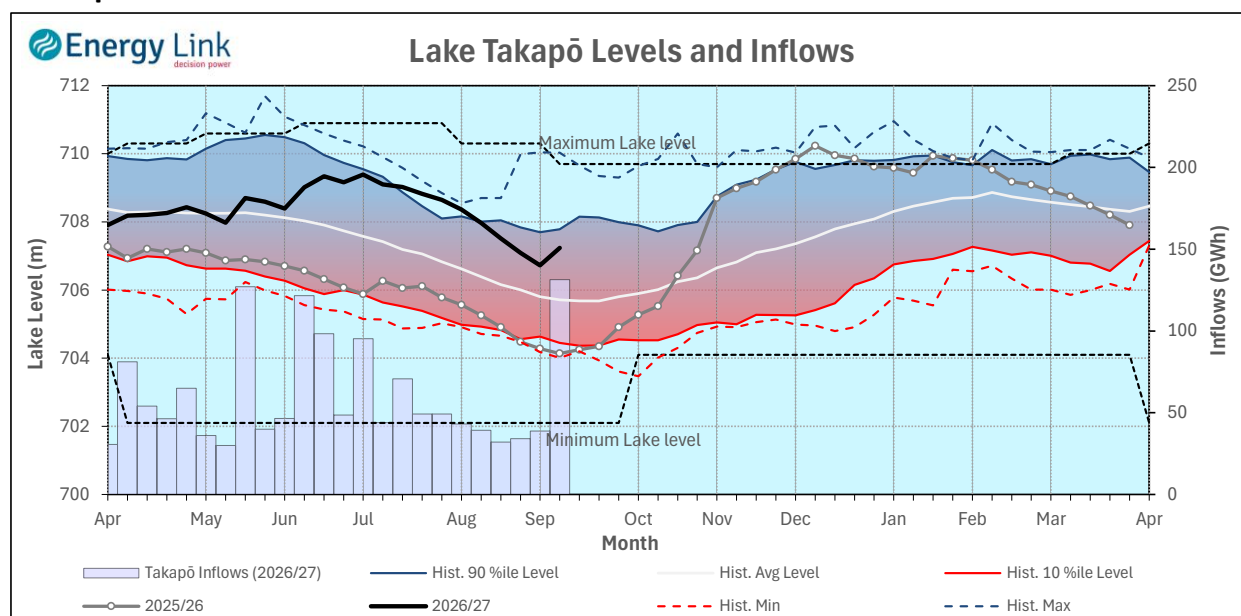


Lake Levels - Lake Taupō storage increased to 43.9% of nominal full at 250 GWh.

Inflows - Inflows decreased 9.2% to 53 GWh.

Generation - Average generation decreased 28.2% to 283.5 MW.

Takapō



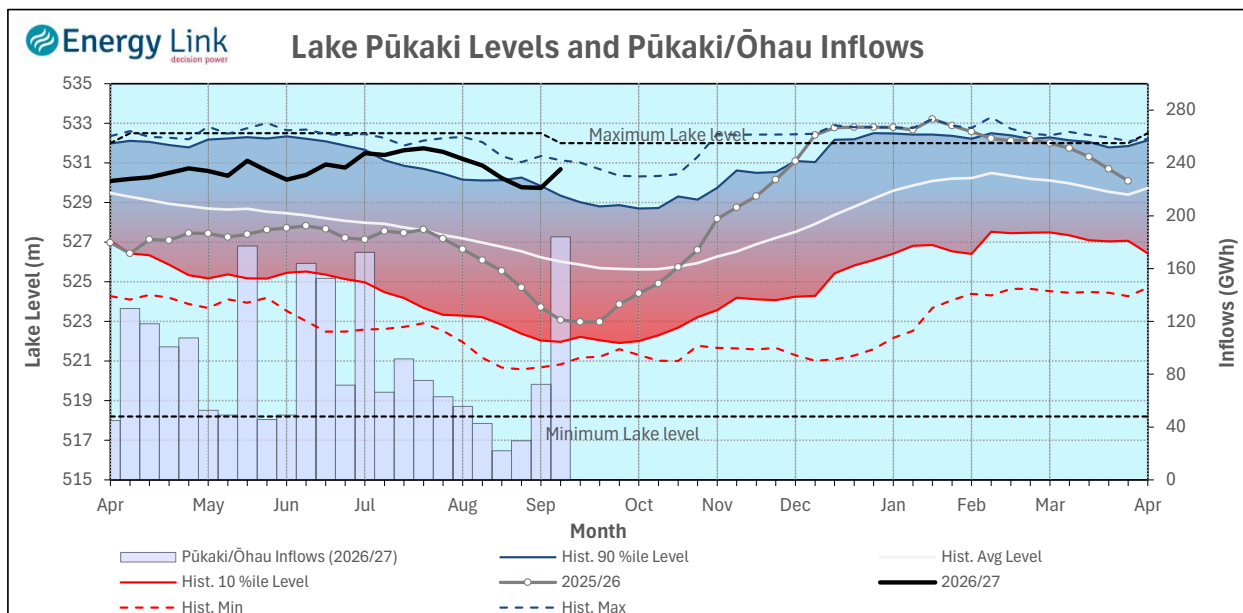
Lake Levels - Lake Takapō ended the week 63% nominally full with storage increasing to 504 GWh.

Inflows - Inflows into Takapō increased 239.1% to 131 GWh.

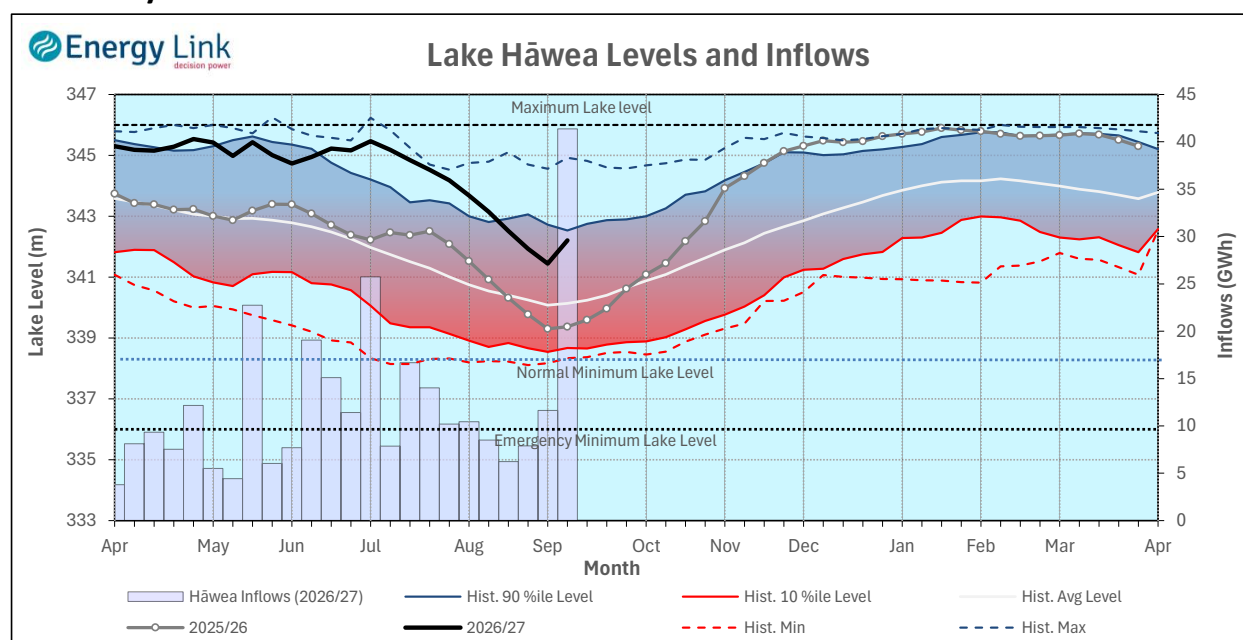
Generation - Average Takapō generation increased 2.3% to 164.9 MW.

Hydro Spill - Lake Takapō did not spill.

Waitaki System



Clutha System



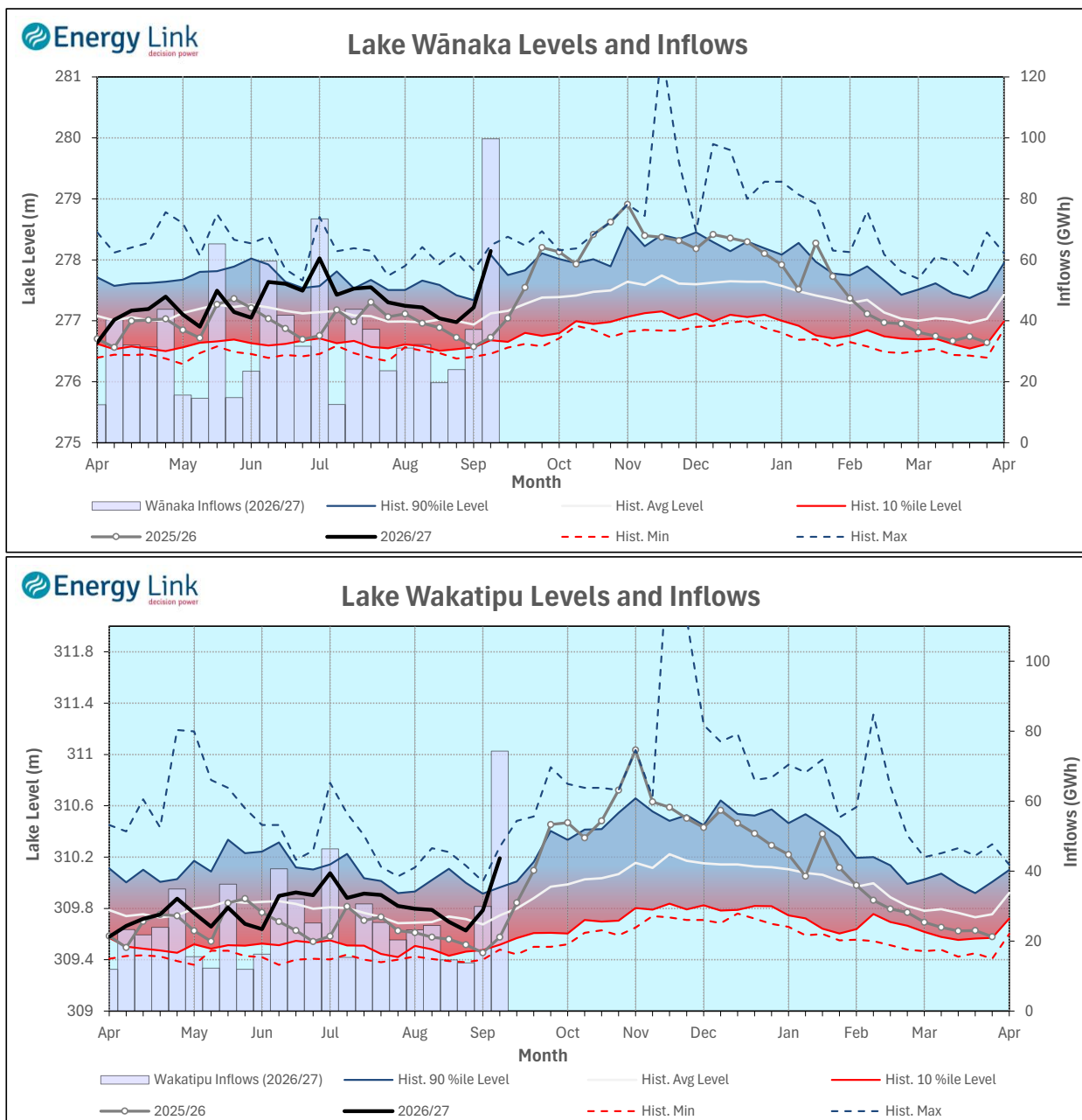
Lake Levels - Total storage for the Clutha System increased by 47.3% to 327 GWh. Lakes Hāwea, Wānaka and Wakatipu ended the week 51.7%, 89.7% and 67.2% nominally full respectively.

Inflows - Total Inflows into the Clutha System 173.7% higher at 215 GWh.

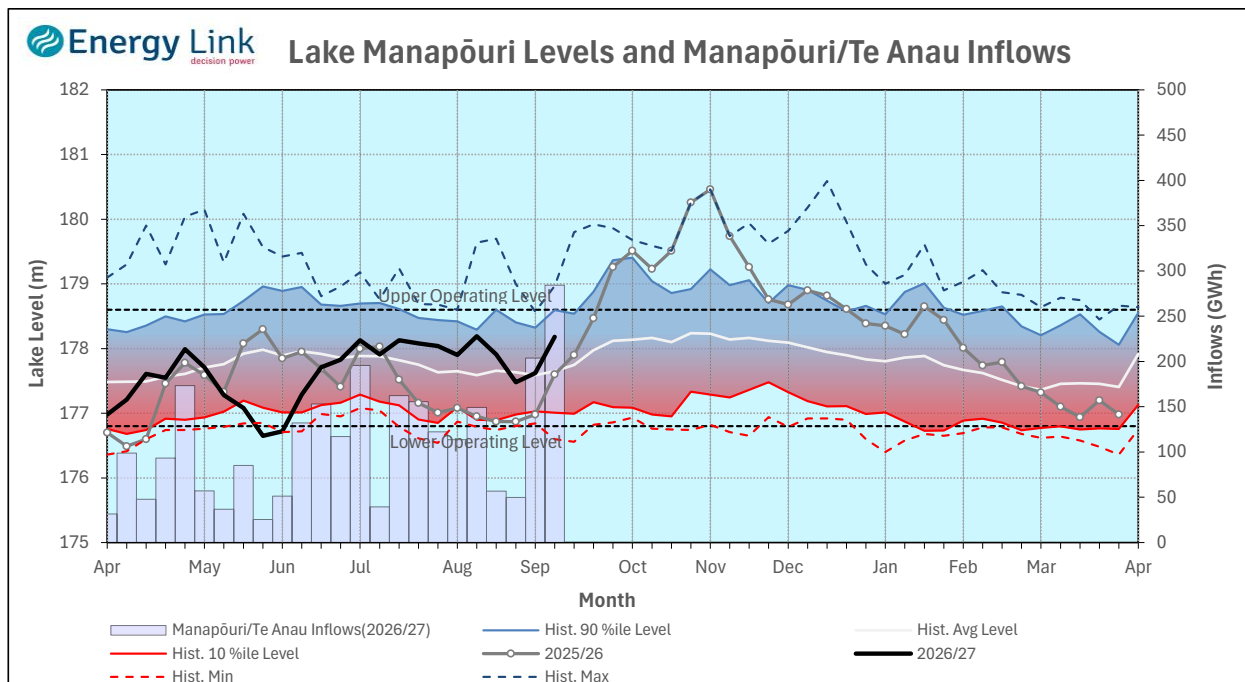
Generation - Average generation was 16.7% lower at 416 MW.

Hydro Spill - Estimate Spill is 380.7 cumecs.

River Flows - Total outflows from the lakes and Shotover River increased to 846.3 cumecs. This comprised of 84 cumecs from Lake Hāwea, 345 cumecs from Lake Wānaka, 280 cumecs from Lake Wakatipu and 138 cumecs from the Shotover River.



Manapōuri System



Lake Levels - Total storage for the Manapōuri System increased by 37.9% to 492 GWh with Lake Manapōuri ending the week 84.5% nominally full and Lake Te Anau ending the week 128.8% nominally full.

Inflows - Total inflows into the Manapōuri System increased 39.5% to 284 GWh.

Generation - Average generation was 2.2% lower at 676 MW.

Hydro Spill - Estimated spill at the Mārarōa Weir was 150 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'.

