HydroWatch

Thursday, 28 May 2026 **Issue: 1519**

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)	**2,399**	**236**	**2,635**	**409**		**3,044**
Storage Change (GWh)	-93	-26	-120	-27		-147

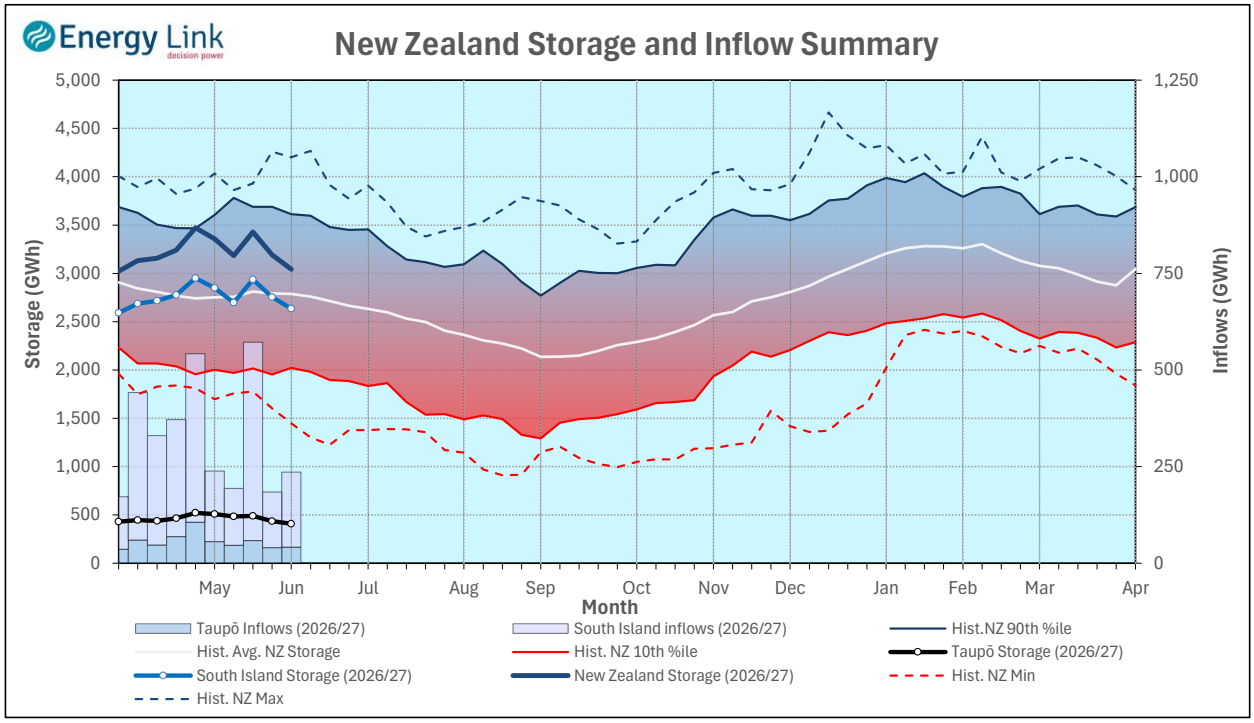
Note: SI Controlled; Takapō, Pūkaki and Hāwea: SI Uncontrolled; Manapōuri, Te Anau, Wānaka, Wakatipu

Transpower Security of Supply	South Island	North Island		New Zealand
Current Storage (GWh)	**2,557**	**409**		**2,966**

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 147 GWh over the last week. South Island controlled storage decreased 3.7% to 2,399 GWh; South Island uncontrolled storage decreased 10% to 236 GWh; with Taupō storage decreasing 6.3% to 409 GWh.



Thursday, 28 May 2026	Manapōuri	Clutha	Waitaki	Waikato		NZ
Storage (GWh)						
This Week	**158**	**325**	**2,152**	**409**		**3,044**
Last Week	177	343	2,235	436		3,191
% Change	-10.4%	-5.3%	-3.7%	-6.3%		-4.6%
Inflow (GWh)						
This Week	**51**	**47**	**96**	**41**		**236**
Last Week	25	33	86	40		184
% Change	102.1%	44.9%	11.8%	2.6%		28.1%

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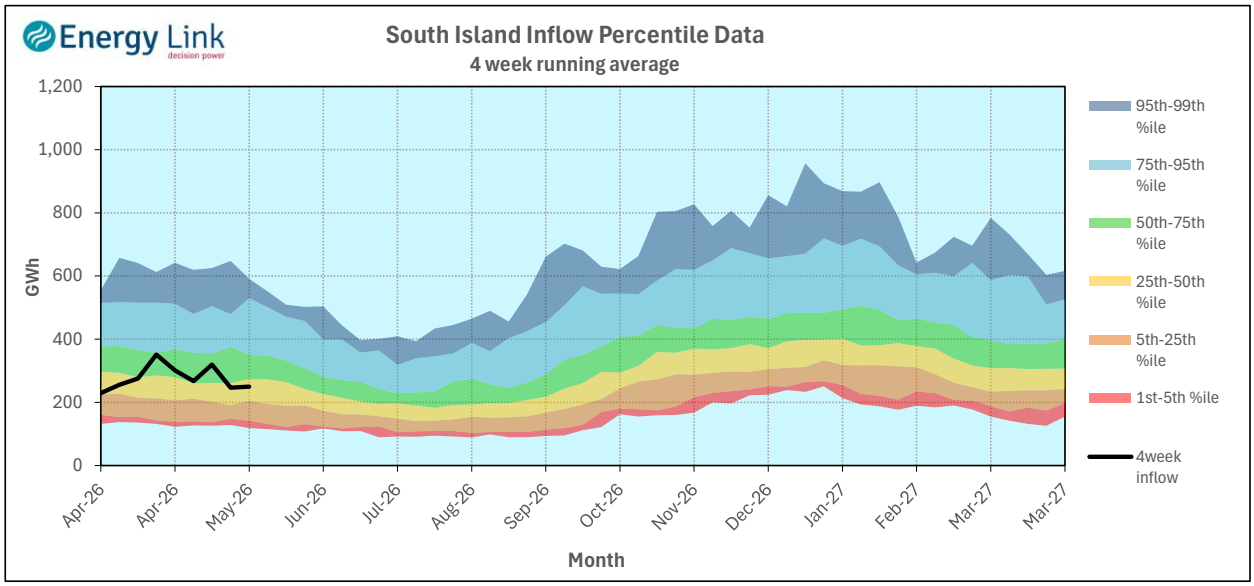
Lake Levels and Outflows

Catchment	Lake	Level (m. asl)	Storage (GWh)	Outflow (cumecs)	Outflow Change
Manapōuri	Manapōuri	176.72	51	21	0
	Te Anau	201.58	108		
Clutha	Wakatipu	309.64	29	124	-14
	Wānaka	277.05	48	180	-25
	Hāwea	344.73	247	117	-24
Waitaki	Takapō	708.39	626		
	Pūkaki	530.15	1,526		
Waikato	Taupō	356.85	409		

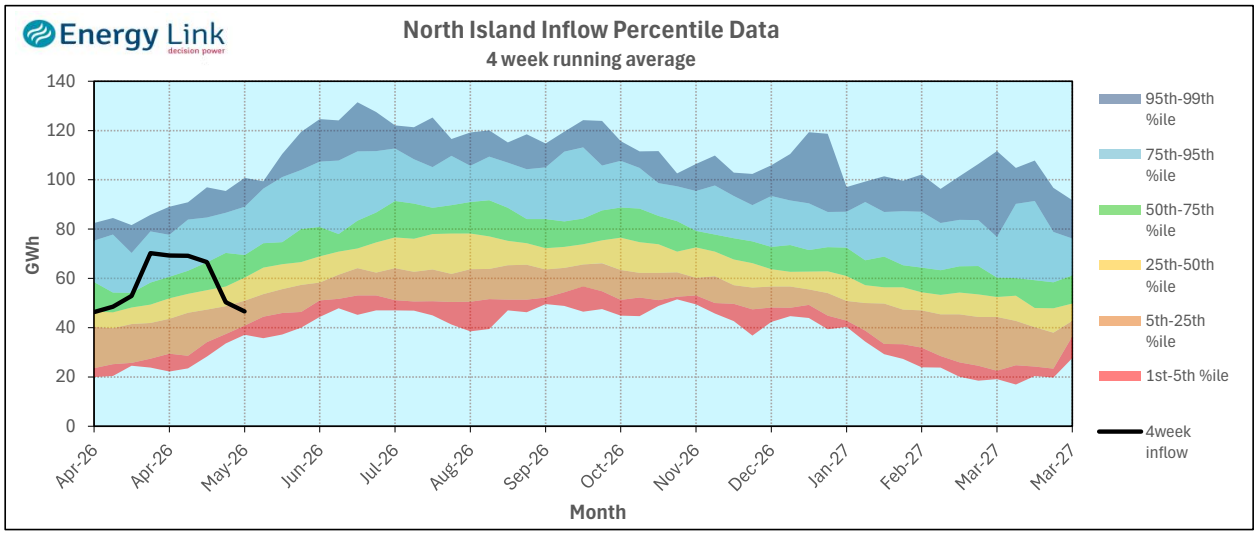
Inflow Summary

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.

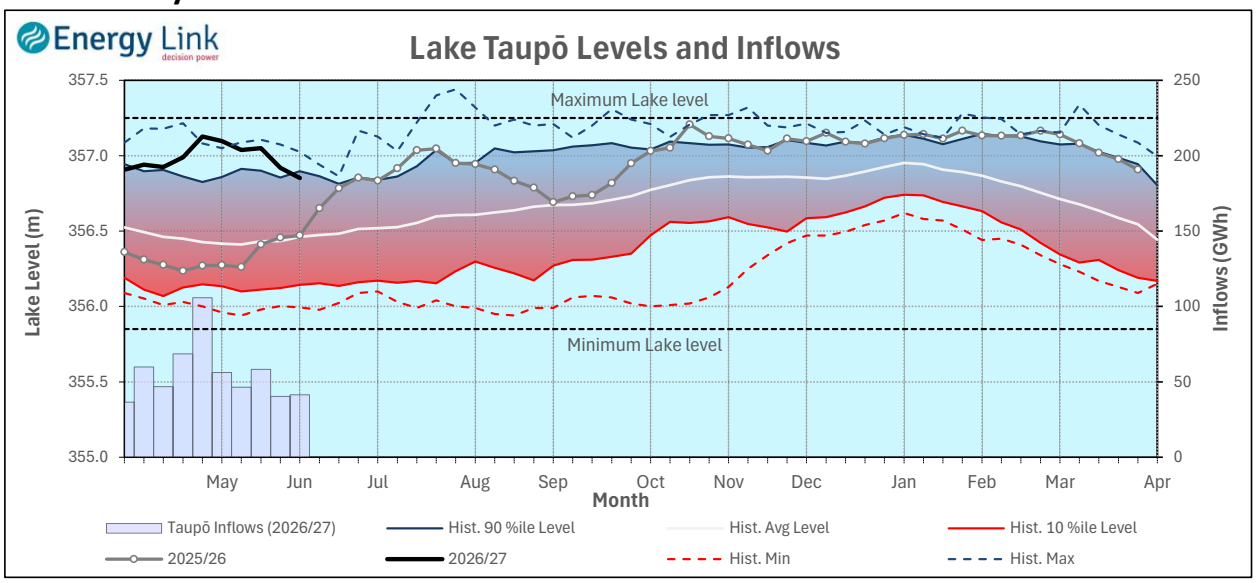
South Island Inflows - The past four weeks of S. I. inflows rank as the 43rd driest on record.



North Island Inflows - The past four weeks of N. I. inflows rank as the 15th driest on record.



Waikato System

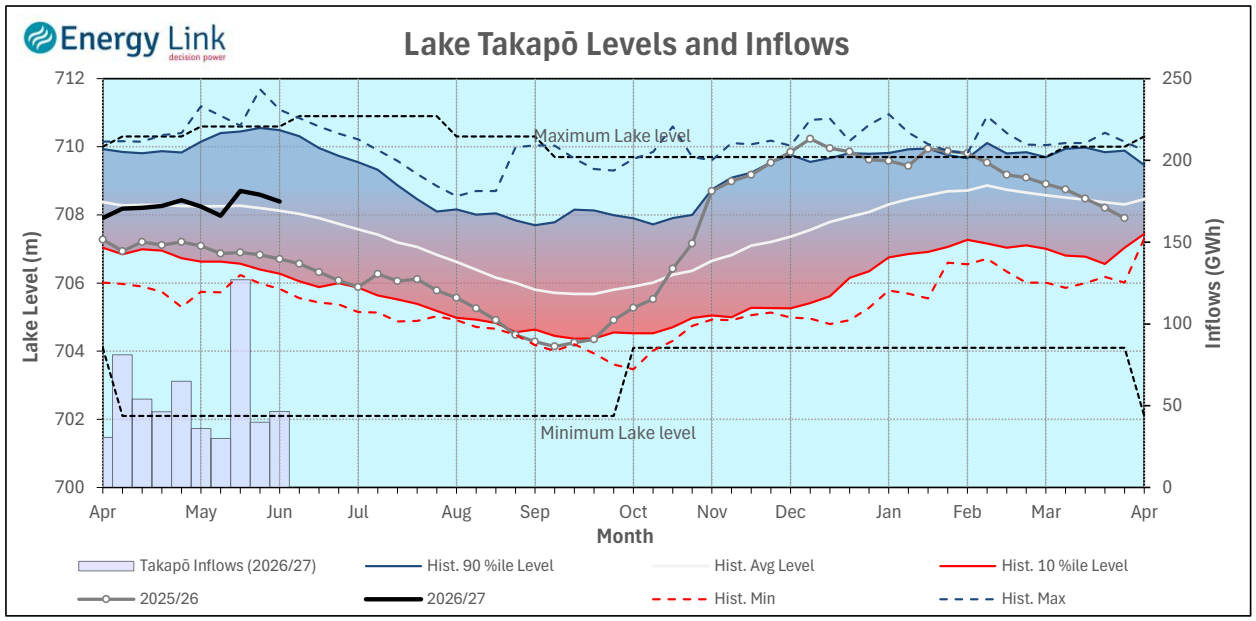


Lake Levels - Lake Taupō storage fell to 71.6% of nominal full at 409 GWh.

Inflows - Inflows increased 2.6% to 41 GWh.

Generation - Average generation decreased 17.2% to 476.7 MW.

Takapō



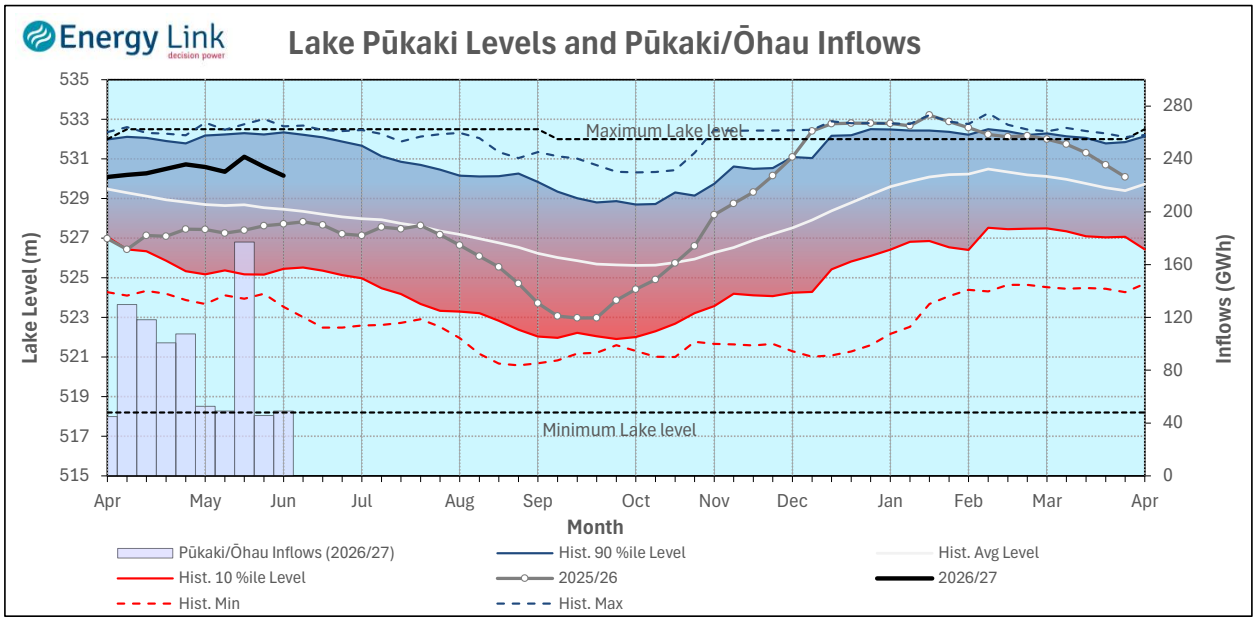
Lake Levels - Lake Takapō ended the week 77% nominally full with storage falling to 626 GWh.

Inflows - Inflows into Takapō increased 16.6% to 47 GWh.

Generation - Average Takapō generation increased 30.9% to 145.9 MW.

Hydro Spill - Lake Takapō did not spill.

Waitaki System



Lake Levels - Lake Pūkaki ended the week 83% nominally full with storage falling to 1,526 GWh.

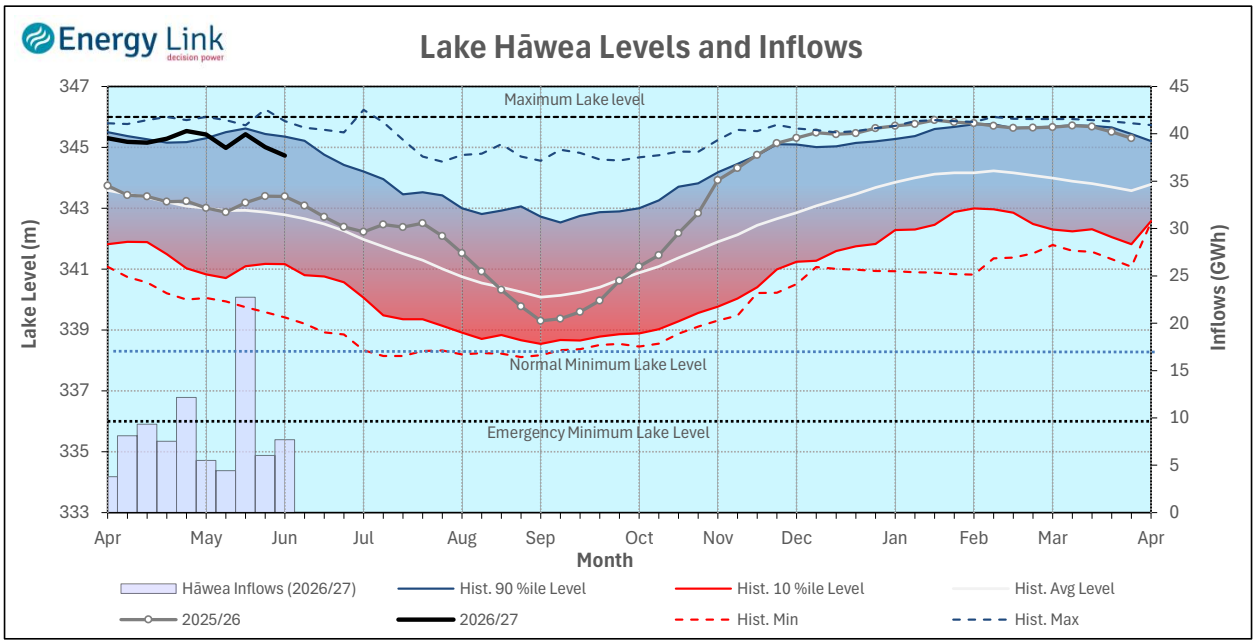
Inflows - Inflows into the Waitaki System increased 7.5% to 49 GWh.

Generation - Average Waitaki generation increased 1.5% to 1,049 MW.

Hydro Spill - Lake Pūkaki did not spill.

River Flows - Flows from the Ahuriri River fell to 19.1 cumecs while Waitaki River flows were higher than last week averaging 458.9 cumecs.

Clutha System



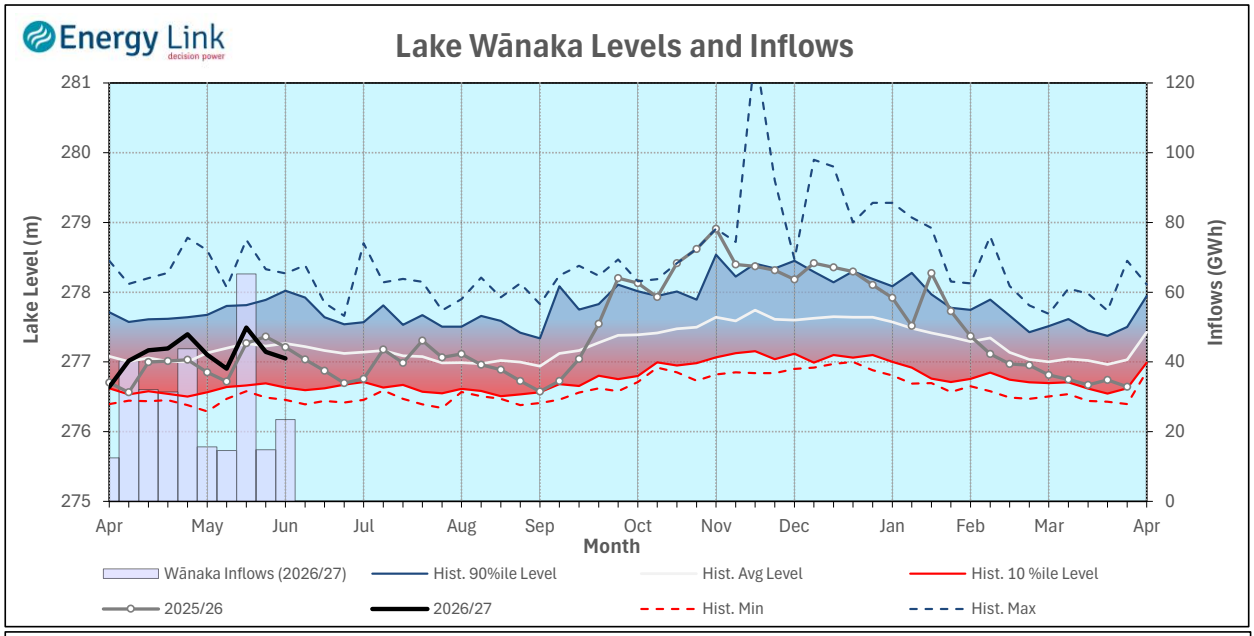
Lake Levels - Total storage for the Clutha System decreased 5.3% to 325 GWh. Lakes Hāwea, Wānaka and Wakatipu ended the week 83.7%, 42.2% and 27.8% nominally full respectively.

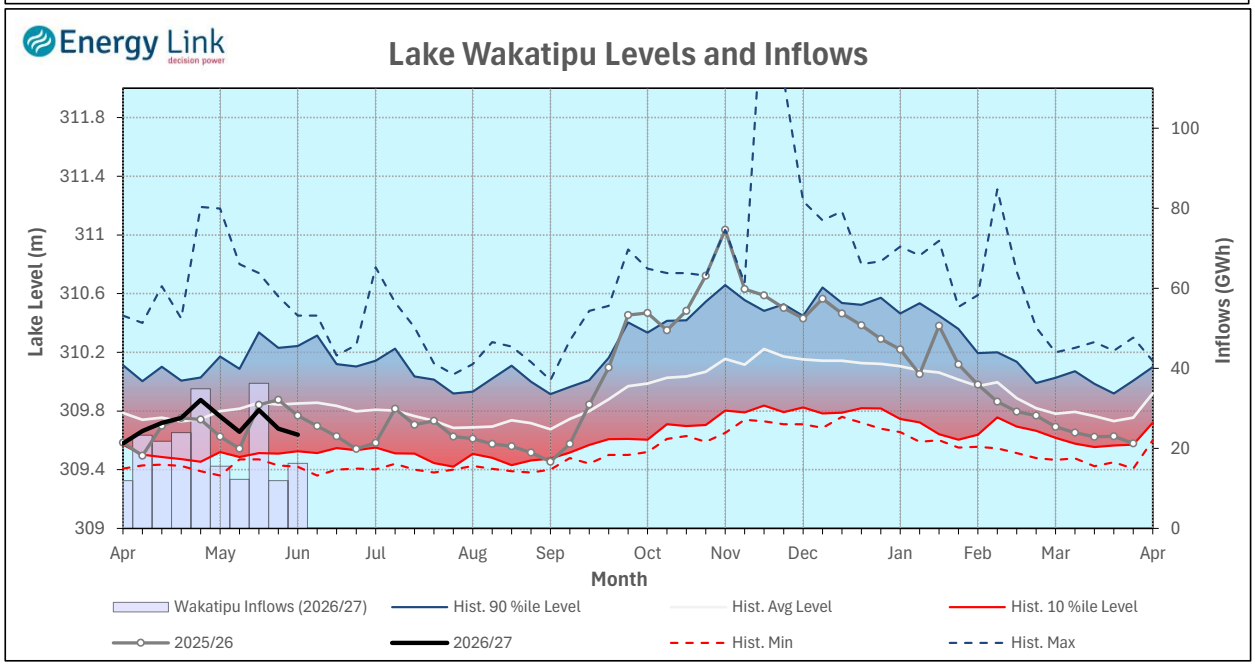
Inflows - Total Inflows into the Clutha System 44.9% higher at 47 GWh.

Generation - Average generation was 13.4% lower at 426 MW.

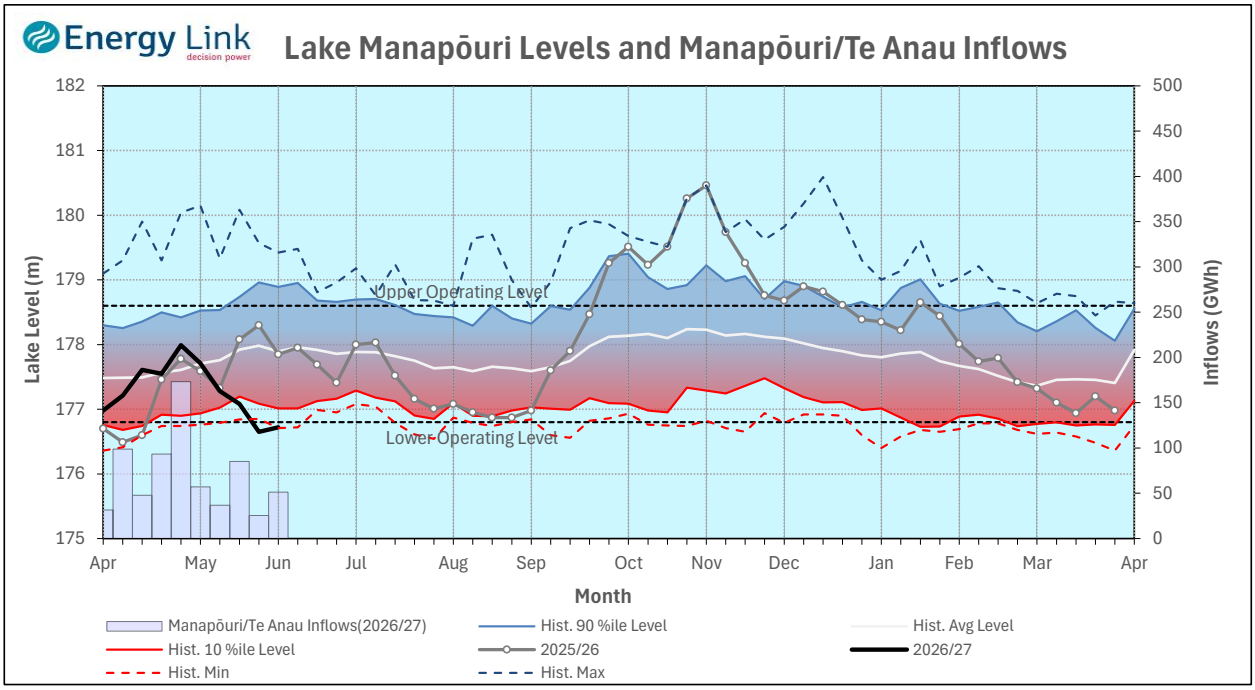
Hydro Spill - The was no estimated spill

River Flows - Total outflows from the lakes and Shotover River fell to 450.6 cumecs. This comprised of 117 cumecs from Lake Hāwea, 180 cumecs from Lake Wānaka, 124 cumecs from Lake Wakatipu and 29 cumecs from the Shotover River.





Manapōuri System



Lake Levels - Total storage for the Manapōuri System decreased 10.4% to 158 GWh with Lake Manapōuri ending the week 31.1% nominally full and Lake Te Anau ending the week 39.1% nominally full.

Inflows - Total inflows into the Manapōuri System increased 102.1% to 51 GWh.

Generation - Average generation was 16.8% lower at 415 MW.

Hydro Spill - Estimated spill at the Māraroa Weir was 20.6 cumecs.

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