HydroWatch

Thursday, 12 November 2026 **Issue: 1543**

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)	**2,276**	**671**	**2,947**	**365**		**3,313**
Storage Change (GWh)	70	-32	38	85		123

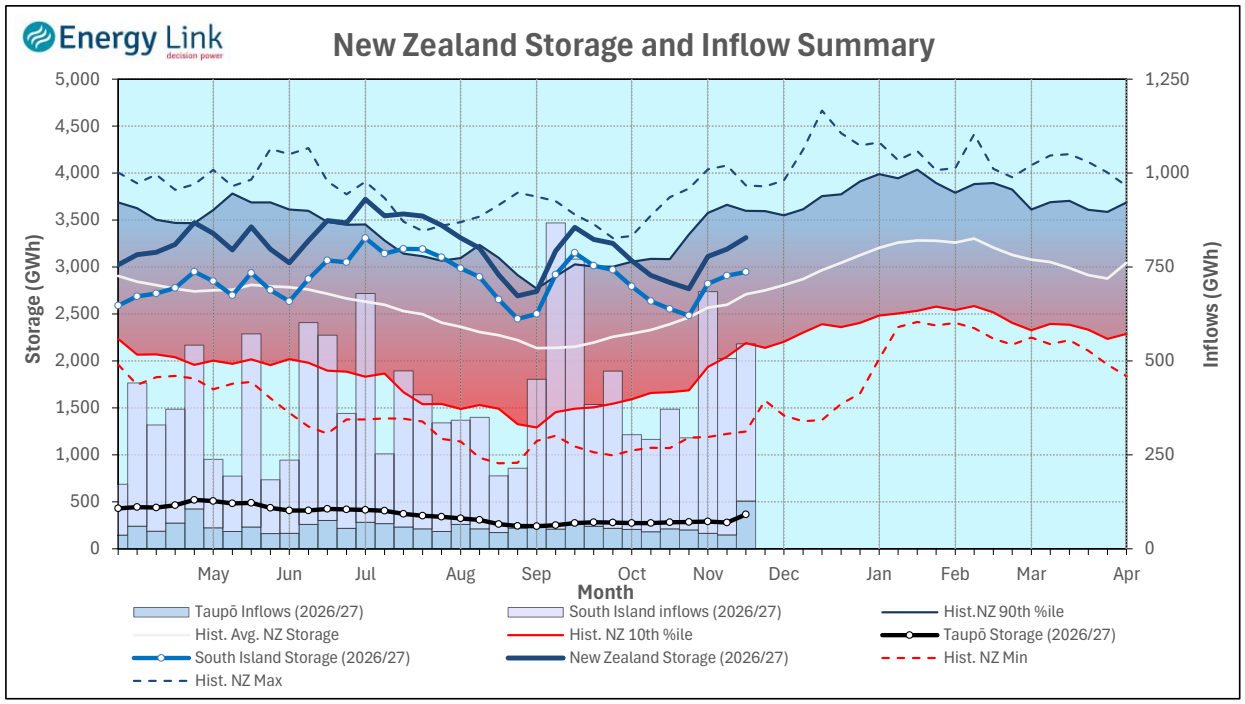
Note: SI Controlled; Takapō, Pūkaki and Hāwea: SI Uncontrolled; Manapōuri, Te Anau, Wānaka, Wakatipu

Transpower Security of Supply	South Island	North Island		New Zealand
Current Storage (GWh)	**2,770**	**365**		**3,136**

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 123 GWh over the last week. South Island controlled storage increased 3.2% to 2,276 GWh; South Island uncontrolled storage decreased 5% to 671 GWh; with Taupō storage increasing 30.2% to 365 GWh.



Thursday, 12 November 2026	Manapōuri	Clutha	Waitaki	Waikato		NZ
Storage (GWh)						
This Week	**494**	**341**	**2,112**	**365**		**3,313**
Last Week	528	330	2,051	281		3,189
% Change	-6.4%	3.3%	3.0%	30.2%		3.9%
Inflow (GWh)						
This Week	**92**	**120**	**207**	**127**		**546**
Last Week	175	115	180	37		507
% Change	-47.4%	3.8%	15.1%	245.7%		7.7%

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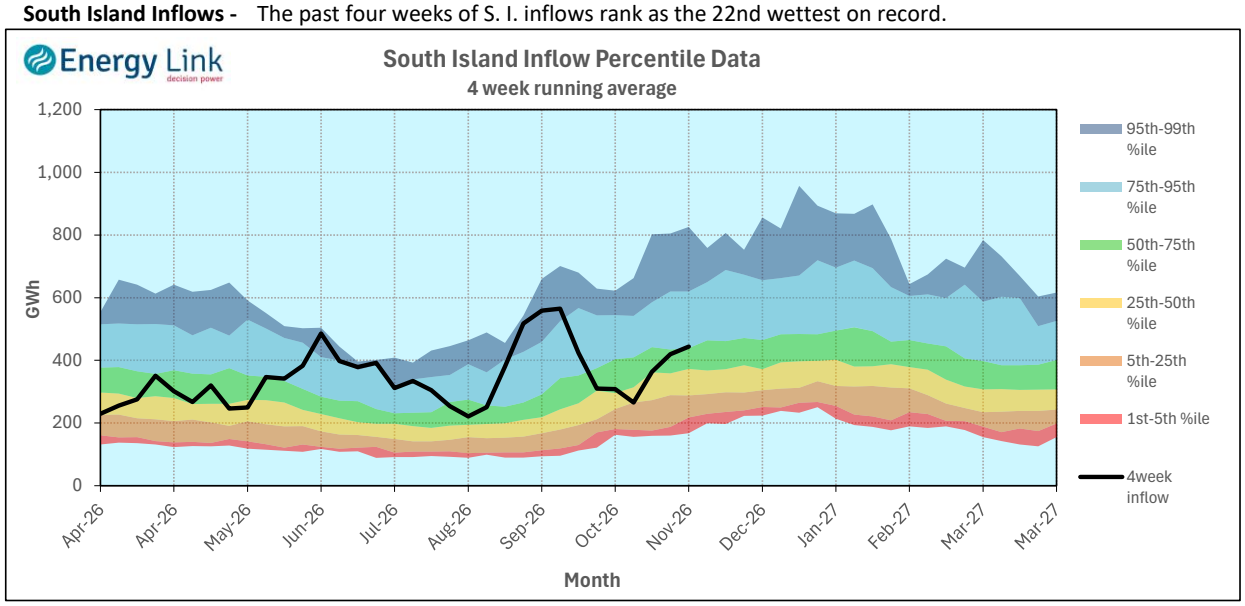
Lake Levels and Outflows

Catchment	Lake	Level (m. asl)	Storage (GWh)	Outflow (cumecs)	Outflow Change
Manapōuri	Manapōuri	178.44	153	108	-128
	Te Anau	203.14	341		
Clutha	Wakatipu	310.21	72	293	-5
	Wānaka	278.18	104	350	68
	Hāwea	342.50	164	53	-3
Waitaki	Takapō	707.35	516		
	Pūkaki	530.67	1,596		
Waikato	Taupō	356.75	365		

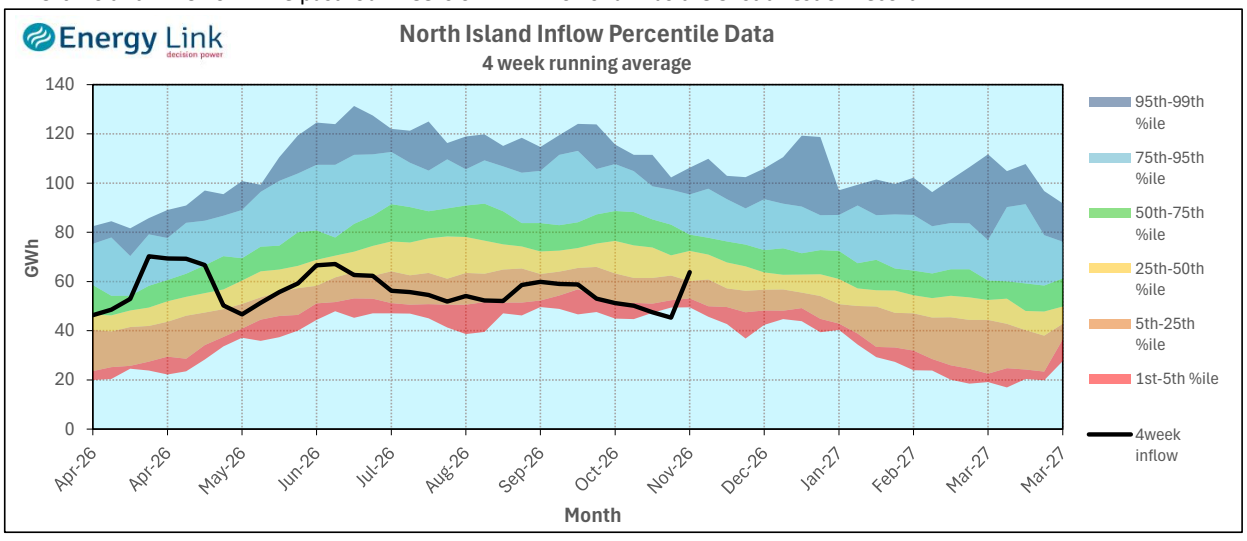
Inflow Summary

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.

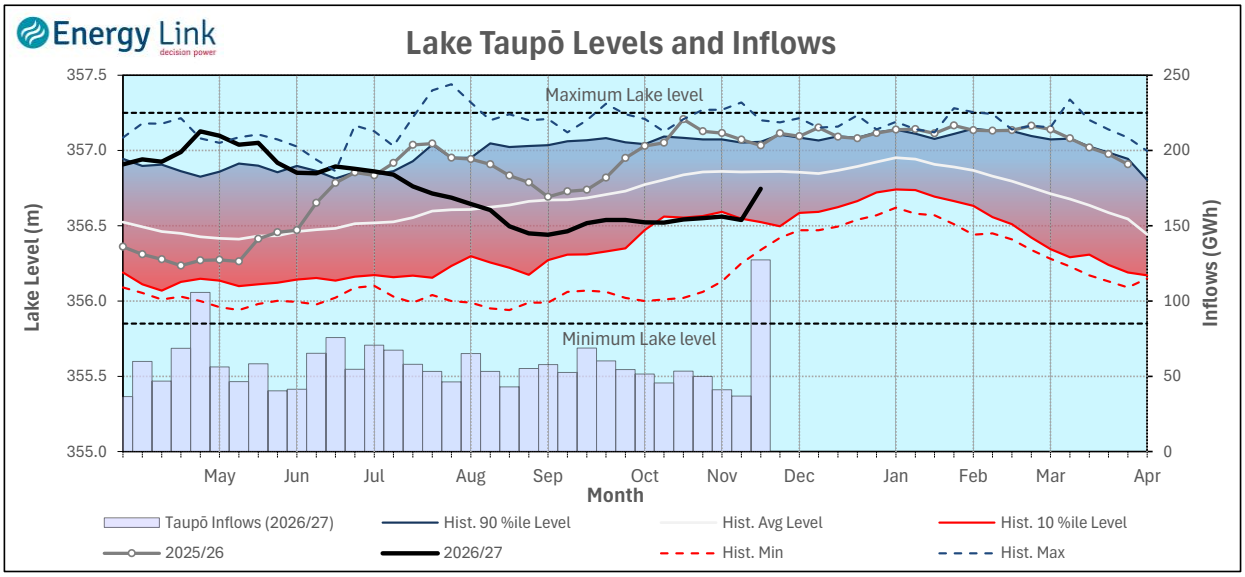
South Island Inflows - The past four weeks of S. I. inflows rank as the 22nd wettest on record.



North Island Inflows - The past four weeks of N. I. inflows rank as the 31st driest on record.



Waikato System

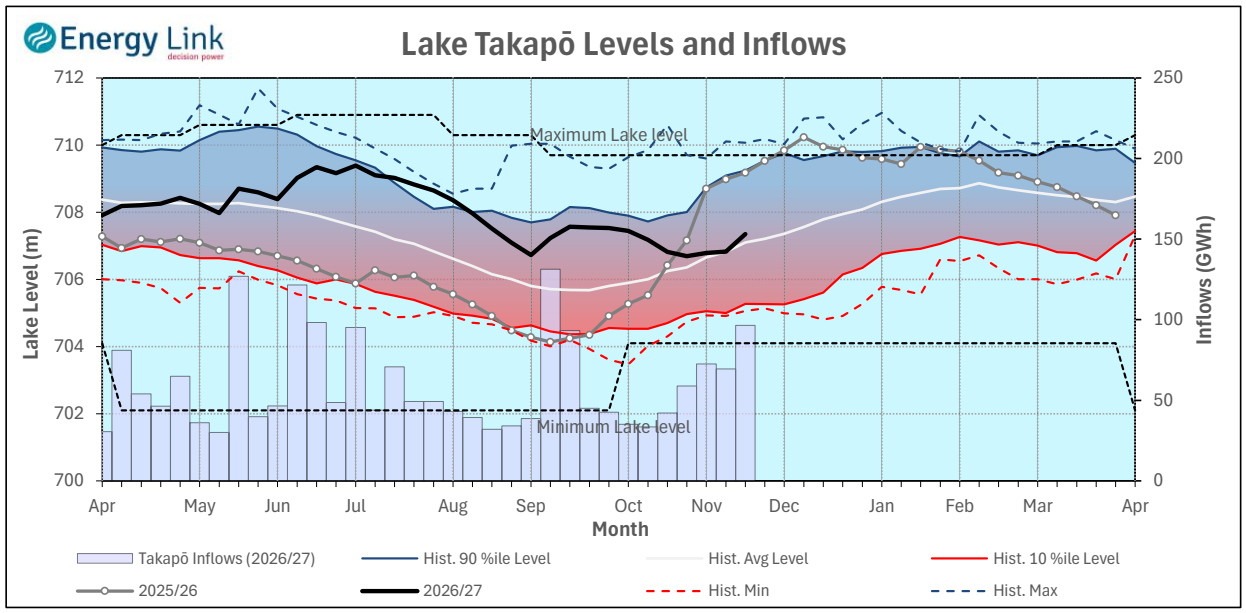


Lake Levels - Lake Taupō storage increased to 64% of nominal full at 365 GWh.

Inflows - Inflows increased 245.7% to 127 GWh.

Generation - Average generation decreased 9.3% to 283.8 MW.

Takapō



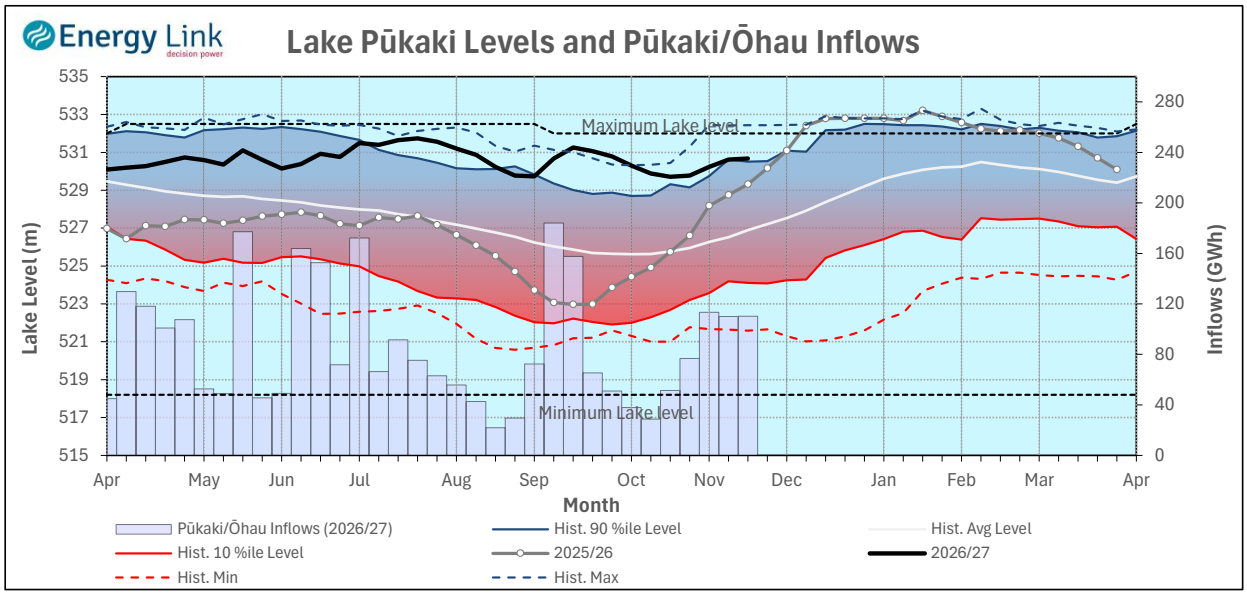
Lake Levels - Lake Takapō ended the week 71% nominally full with storage increasing to 516 GWh.

Inflows - Inflows into Takapō increased 38.7% to 96 GWh.

Generation - Average Takapō generation decreased 35.4% to 87.1 MW.

Hydro Spill - Lake Takapō did not spill.

Waitaki System



Lake Levels - Lake Pūkaki ended the week 90% nominally full with storage increasing to 1,596 GWh.

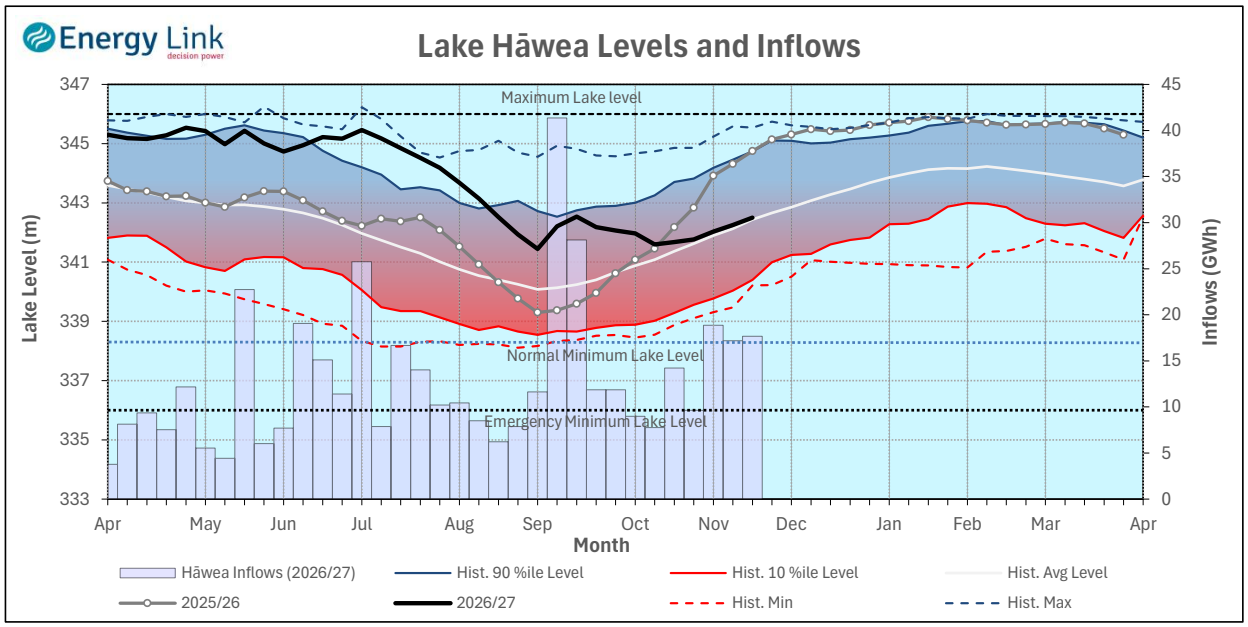
Inflows - Inflows into the Waitaki System remained steady at 110 GWh.

Generation - Average Waitaki generation increased 15.2% to 992 MW.

Hydro Spill - Lake Pūkaki did not spill.

River Flows - Flows from the Ahuriri River fell to 35.6 cumecs while Waitaki River flows were higher than last week averaging 432.3 cumecs.

Clutha System



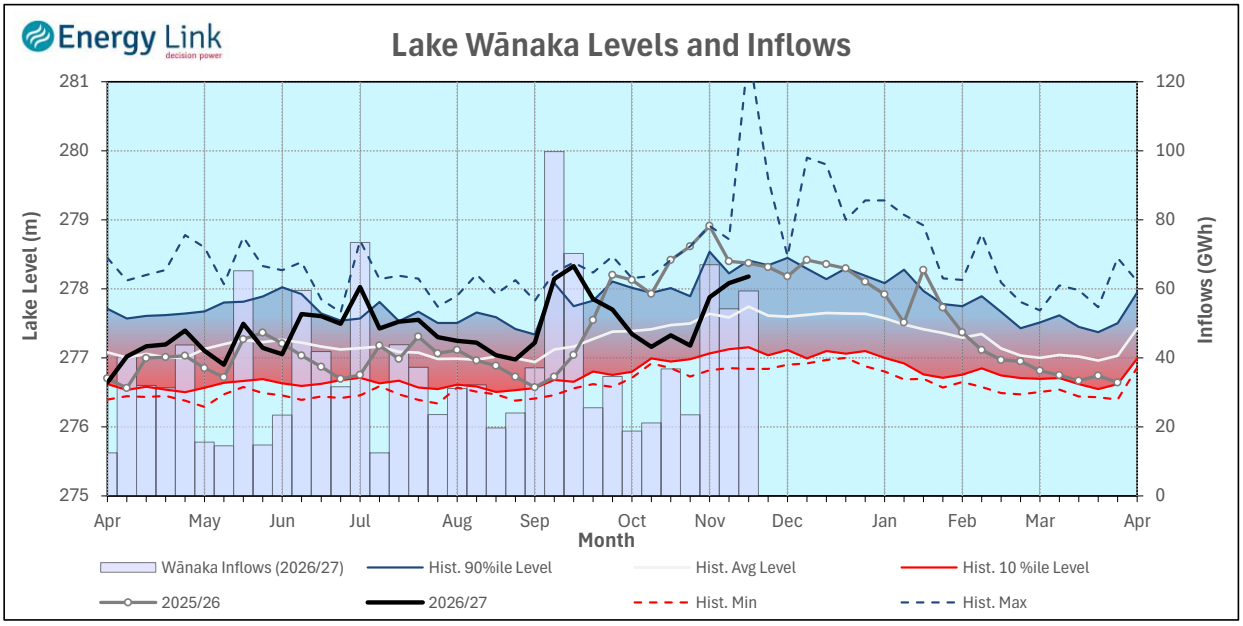
Lake Levels - Total storage for the Clutha System increased by 3.3% to 341 GWh. Lakes Hāwea, Wānaka and Wakatipu ended the week 55.5%, 91.1% and 68.4% nominally full respectively.

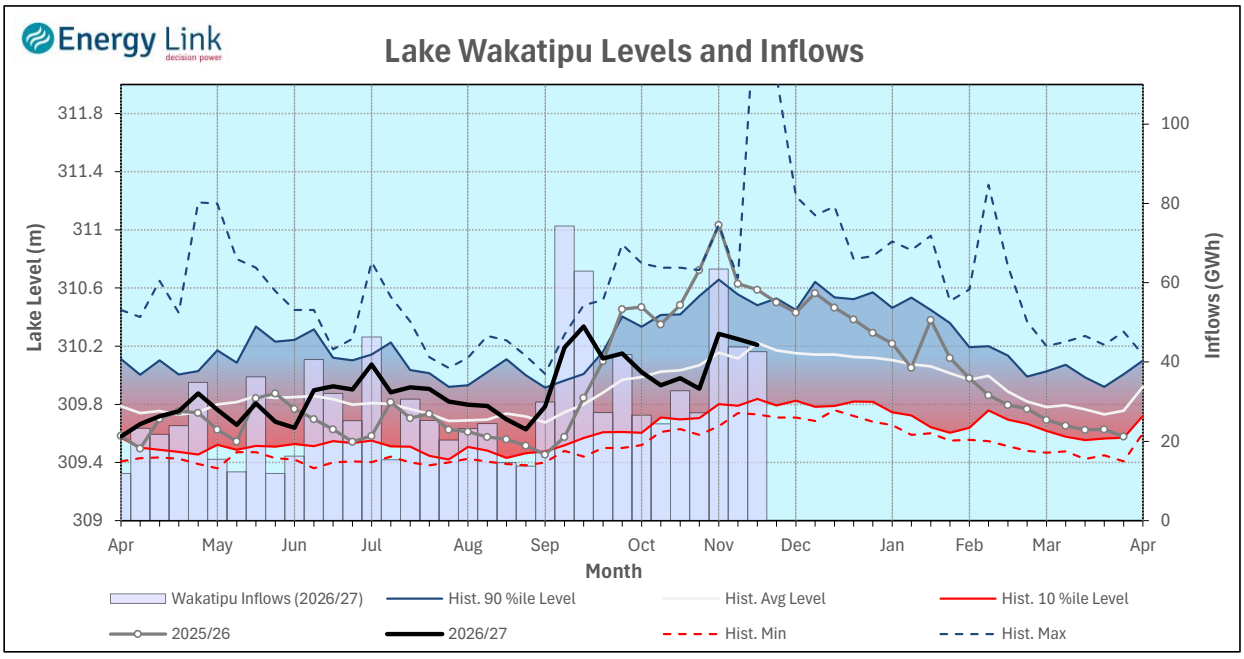
Inflows - Total Inflows into the Clutha System 3.8% higher at 120 GWh.

Generation - Average generation was 9.1% higher at 640 MW.

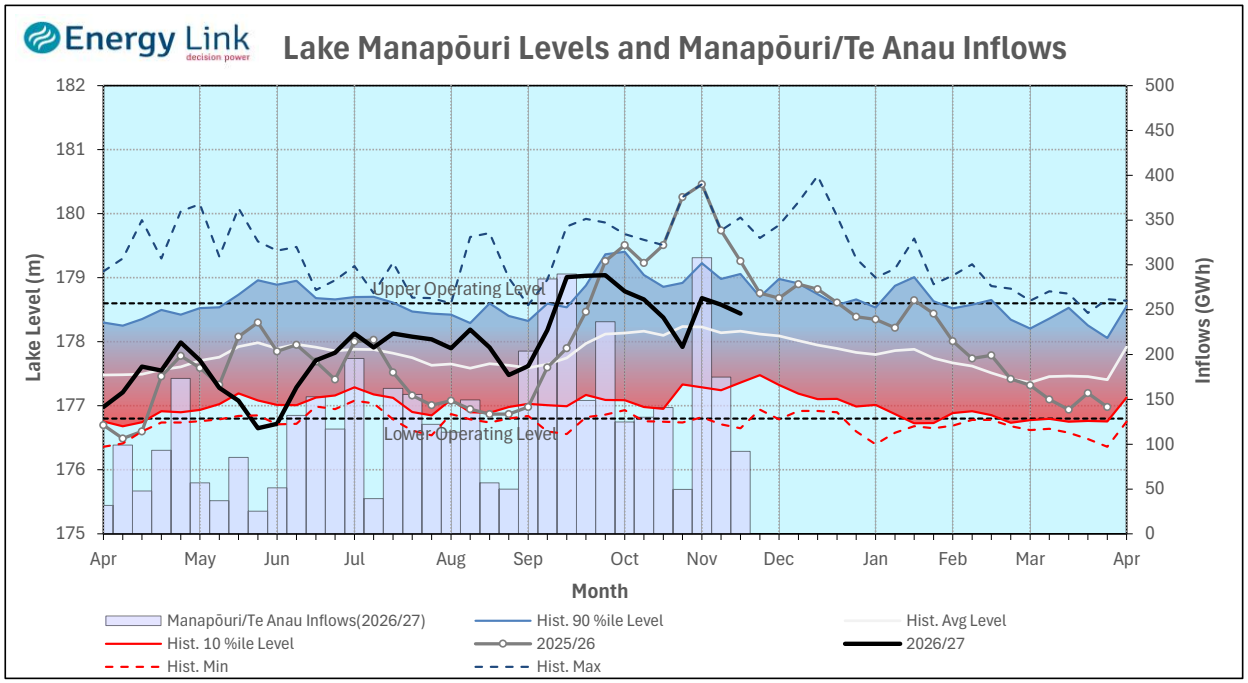
Hydro Spill - Estimate Spill is 79.4 cumecs.

River Flows - Total outflows from the lakes and Shotover River increased to 769.4 cumecs. This comprised of 53 cumecs from Lake Hāwea, 350 cumecs from Lake Wānaka, 293 cumecs from Lake Wakatipu and 73 cumecs from the Shotover River.





Manapōuri System



Lake Levels - Total storage for the Manapōuri System decreased 6.4% to 494 GWh with Lake Manapōuri ending the week 94.1% nominally full and Lake Te Anau ending the week 123.9% nominally full.

Inflows - Total inflows into the Manapōuri System decreased 47.4% to 92 GWh.

Generation - Average generation 1.2was % lower at 608 MW.

Hydro Spill - Estimated spill at the Māraroa Weir was 108.2 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'.

