

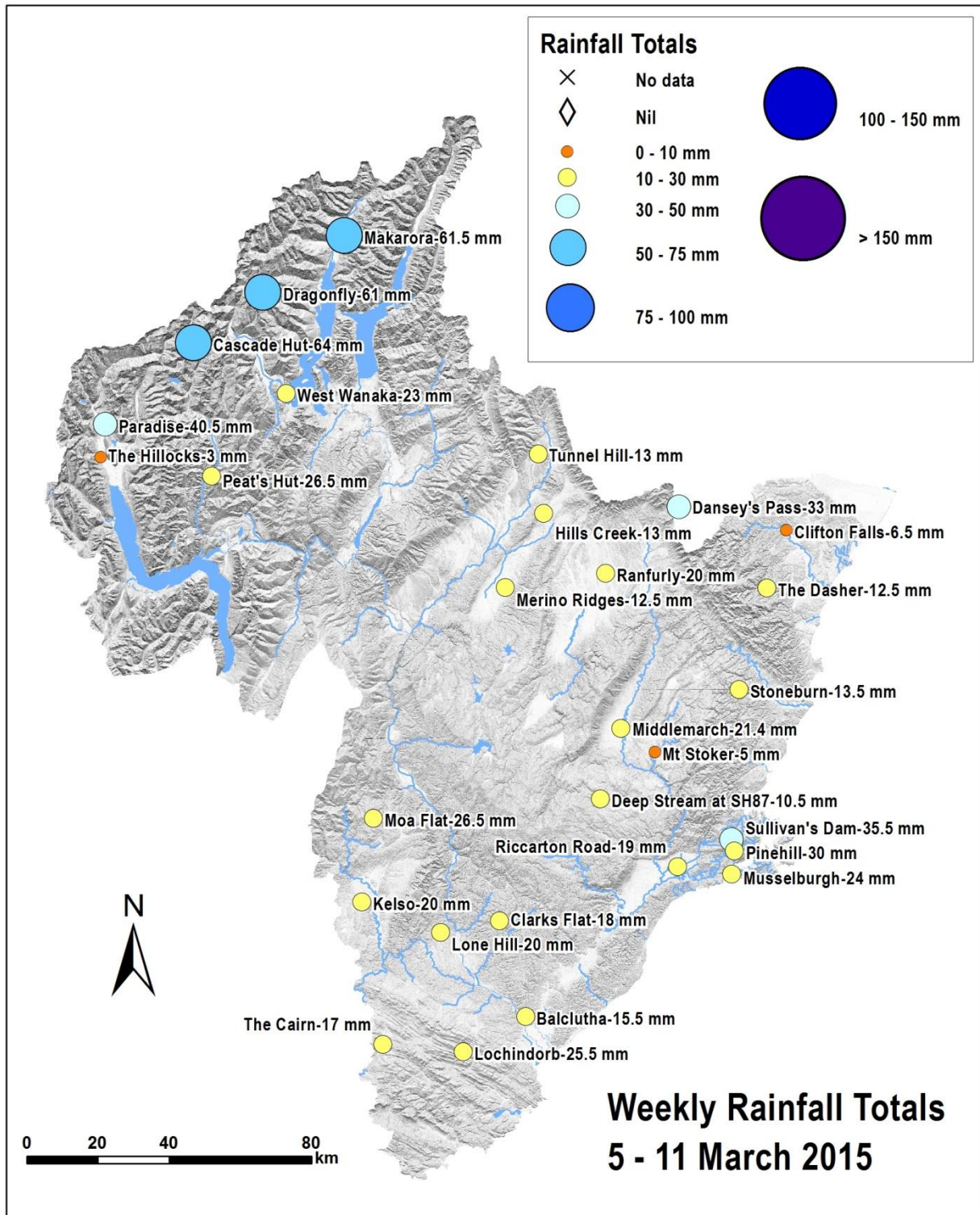
RAINFALL & RIVER FLOW W E E K L Y R E P O R T O T A G O R E G I O N A L C O U N C I L

Thursday 5 March 2015 – Wednesday 11 March 2015

Described below is the weekly rainfall totals recorded at selected rain gauges and the average weekly flow in Otago's main rivers for the week ending at midnight on 11 March 2015.

Rainfall

More rain was received along the main divide than elsewhere in the region last week. Cascade Hut had the most amount of rainfall, with 64 mm recorded. The Hillocks only recorded 3 mm.



River Flows

Flows in the Manuherikia River were well below normal. The Taieri River at Tiroiti and at Sutton had below normal flows, while the Kakanui River, Shotover River, and the Taieri River at Canadian Flat recorded above normal flows.

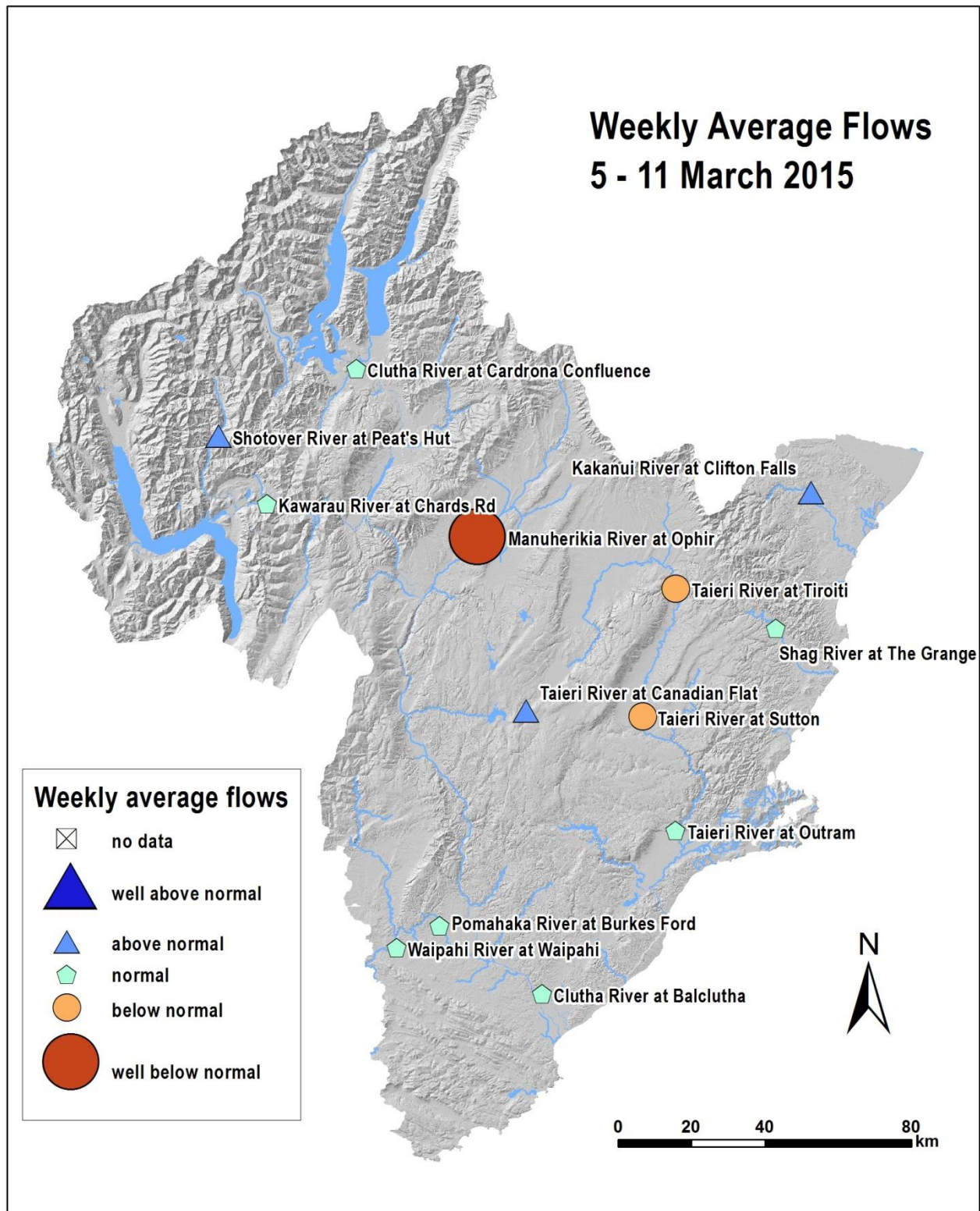


Table 1. River flow information for Otago's main rivers (all flows in cumecs, m³/s)

River and Site Name	Weekly Average	Minimum	Maximum	State
Kakanui River at Clifton Falls	2.212	0.775	13.97	above normal
Shag River at The Grange	0.218	0.133	0.401	normal
Taieri River at Canadian Flat	2.294	0.995	13.44	above normal
Taieri River at Tiroiti	2.181	1.286	4.809	below normal
Taieri River at Sutton	2.427	1.164	4.65	below normal
Taieri River at Outram	7.309	2.863	36.619	normal
Clutha River at Balclutha	442.929	312.451	555.774	normal
Waipahi River at Waipahi	0.912	0.637	1.685	normal
Pomahaka River at Burkes Ford	13.023	5.516	45.974	normal
Manuherikia River at Ophir	1.519	1.216	2.036	well below normal
Clutha R. at Cardrona Confluence	213.079	185.704	269.183	normal
Kawarau River at Chards Rd	177.959	163.458	213.62	normal
Shotover River at Peat's Hut	17.368	10.676	50.689	above normal

Lake Levels

Water levels in Lake Wanaka and Lake Wakatipu were both normal. Lake Hawea recorded well below normal water levels.

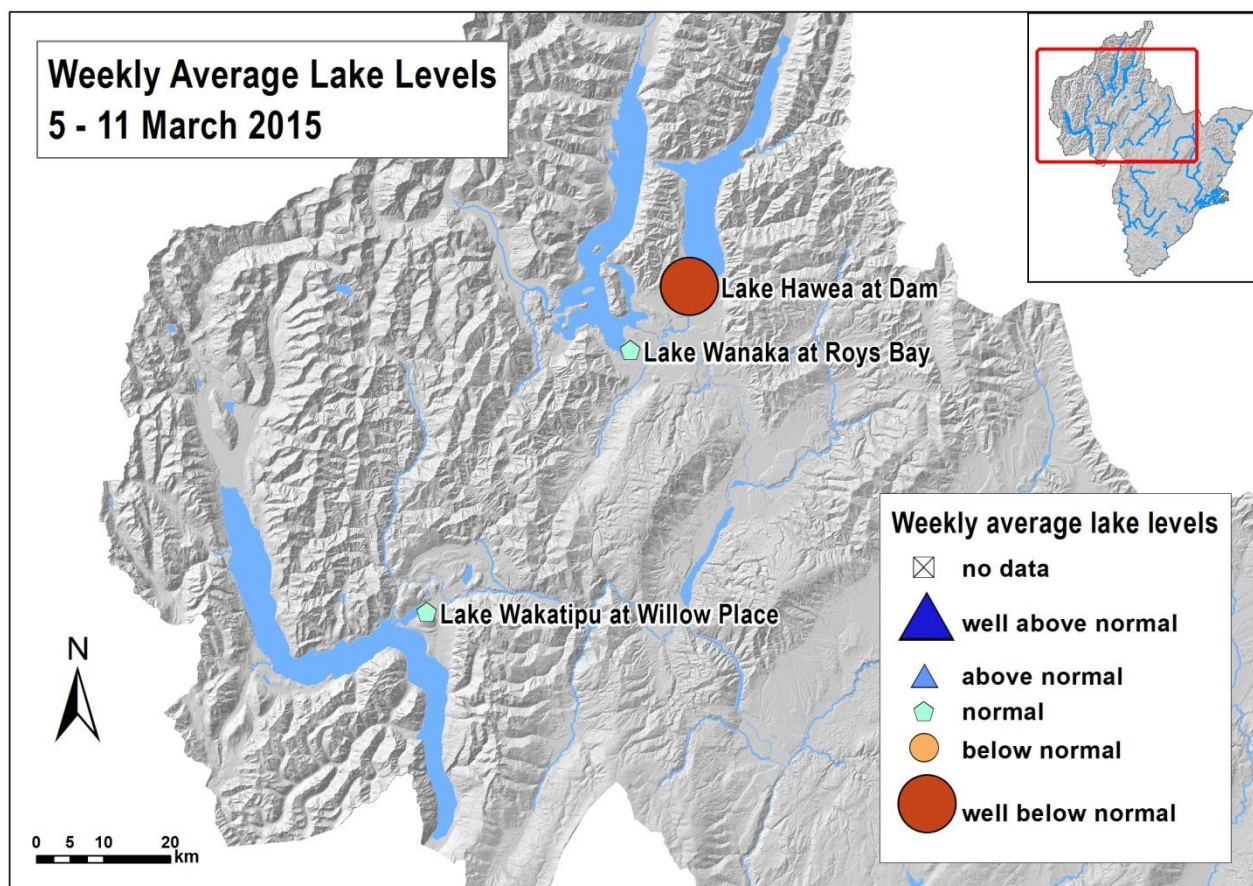
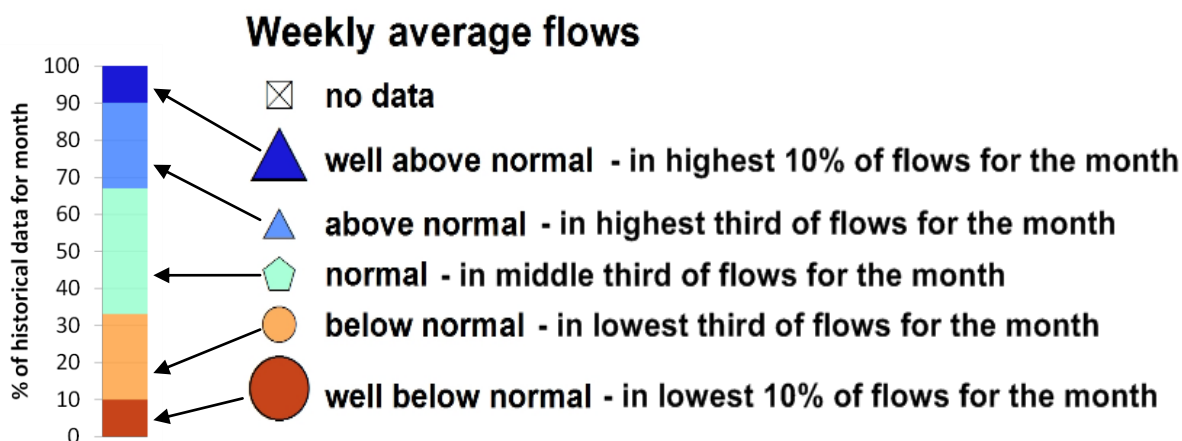


Table 2. Lake Levels information for Otago’s main Lakes (all levels in metres, m)

Site Name	Weekly Average	Minimum	Maximum	State
Lake Wanaka at Roys Bay	277.091	276.998	277.158	normal
Lake Hawea at Dam ¹	341.619	341.591	341.635	well below normal
Lake Wakatipu at Willow Place	309.82	309.777	309.869	normal

Weekly average flow/lake level classes

To give a better representation of how the weekly average flows and lake levels compares to our historical records, we use flow/lake level classes. Take the average flow class as an example, if a flow falls in the middle third of the historical flow recorded for that month we’ve called it a “normal” flow. If it falls in the top third of flows we call it “above normal” and likewise if in the bottom third, then “below normal”. If it is in the top or bottom 10% of flows then we change this to “well above” or “well below”, respectively. The divisions of flow are somewhat arbitrary but they do give a better indication of the state of the river than was previously reported. We use the word “normal” because using “average” for both the weekly flow and the historical average flow can be confusing and we’ve used it descriptively not definitively.



Acknowledgement

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Further Information

For more information on rainfall and river flows in the Otago Region use the Water Info flow phone and website service. Tel:0800 426 463 or go to www.orc.govt.nz/waterinfo
 To request flow or rainfall data email environmental.info@orc.govt.nz

Mailing list

This report is available online or by email. To update your contact details on our mailing lists, please email: environmental.info@orc.govt.nz, or tel: 0800 474 082.

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¹ Fluctuations in Lake Hawea’s water level are due to the regulation of outflows, i.e., the water levels are not naturalised.