

What's that about?

How much do lake levels vary?

Hydropower lakes change level because water is used to spin turbines to make power. In this way, water flows in and out of the lakes we operate for hydropower.

For each of the water bodies we manage we have storage operating rules. These describe how water levels and releases from the storage are to be managed. In developing the rules we consider the attributes of the particular lake – water licence, water supply, multiple-use, environmental and operational requirements.

Adjustments to rules are made by Hydro Tasmania when one or more of the conditions surrounding these attributes change significantly.

Operating range

Lake levels operate within what we call an 'operating range' which is a range of levels within which it is considered normal for the lakes to sit within while we operate the hydropower system.

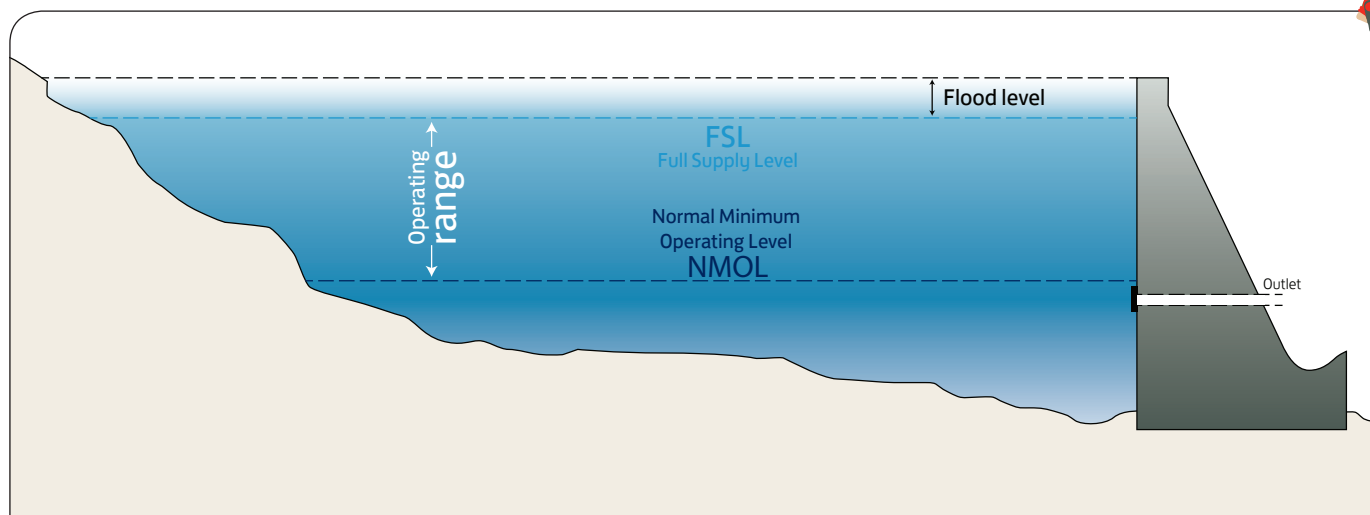
For each lake there is a: **Full Supply Level (FSL)**; and a **Normal Minimum Operating Level (NMOL)**.

The **operating range** is the gap between these levels. The NMOL is the lowest point which we can use a lake for hydropower operations, it does not mean that the lake is empty.

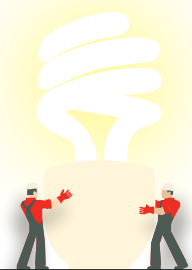
Due to water licence, water supply, multiple-use, environmental and operational requirements at some lakes the water level may spend most of the time within a tighter band of the operating range for most of the time. For example, in order to improve the angling experience an arrangement has been reached with the Inland Fisheries Service so we try to keep the water level at Bronte lagoon between 664.50 mASL and 665.5mASL for the period 1 October to 30 April (ie. during the fishing season). Sometimes lakes can operate outside this normal range, for example, if there is planned dam or power station maintenance work.

Hydro Tasmania notifies stakeholders if there are planned works that will result in unusual lake levels outside the operating range.

Contact us for up-to-date project details.



 **Hydro Tasmania**
The power of natural thinking



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The Full Supply level (FSL) and Normal Minimum Operating Level (NMOL) for the various hydropower lakes are set out in the following table.

Storage	FSL (metres above sea level)	NMOL (metres above sea level)	Operating Range (metres)	Volume (gigalitres)
Little Pine Lagoon	1007.36	1005.84	1.52	2.88
Pine Tier Lagoon	670.56	667.91	2.65	1.87
Bronte Lagoon	665.98	662.33	3.65	15.86
Lake Echo	846.43	832.87	13.56	510.94
Dee Lagoon	655.62	655.32	0.30	1.87
Bradys Lake	651.20	647.12	4.08	24.32
Lake Binney	651.20	646.94	4.26	15.71
Tungatinah Lagoon	651.20	646.63	4.57	44.39
Laughing Jack Lagoon	761.99	753.00	8.99	23.40
Lake Liapootah	341.83	338.33	3.50	0.64
Lake St Clair	736.72	734.58	2.14	59.54
Lake King William	719.94	690.52	29.42	533.92
Tarra Leah No2 Pond	647.37	644.35	3.02	0.75
Wayatinah Lagoon	231.03	227.99	3.04	5.61
Lake Catagunya	169.16	167.64	1.52	3.13
Lake Repulse	124.96	121.92	3.04	4.20
Cluny Lagoon	97.84	92.96	4.88	2.98
Lake Meadowbank	73.15	67.06	6.09	28.39
Lake Augusta	1150.62	1141.63	8.99	21.32
Great Lake	1039.37	1018.03	21.34	3,063.30
Shannon Lagoon	1017.66	1016.97	0.69	1.33
Lagoon of Islands	760.4	758.34	2.06	18.39
Arthurs Lake	952.82	943.05	9.77	448.79
Woods Lake	737.77	733.96	3.81	43.67
Lake Trevallyn	126.49	117.96	8.53	8.52
Lake Rowallan	487.68	466.65	21.03	120.64
Lake Mackenzie	1120.75	1111.00	9.75	18.98
Lake Parangana	381.00	378.56	2.44	2.60
Lake Gairdner	472.44	460.71	11.73	7.39
Lake Cethana	220.98	216.41	4.57	19.99
Lake Barrington	121.92	116.59	5.33	33.95
Lake Paloona	53.34	49.07	4.27	6.76
Lake Gordon	307.85	256.03	51.82	10,635.60
Lake Pedder	308.46	306.93	1.53	353.28
Lake Murchison	241.00	218.85	22.15	62.60
Lake Mackintosh	229.50	218.85	10.65	273.14
Lake Rosebery	159.40	151.00	8.40	51.19
Lake Pieman	97.50	92.66	4.84	100.19
Lake Plimsoll	513.10	505.00	8.10	22.22
Lake Henty	523.0	518.50	4.50	0.23
White Spur Lake	530.00	521.50	8.50	0.94
Lake Newton	480.00	475.00	5.00	2.06
Lake Burbury	235.30	226.00	9.30	410.15
Lake Margaret	662.42	650.89	11.53	15.37

