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Interactive comment on “The challenge of forecasting high streamflows in medium sized catchments 1–3 months in advance” by J. C. Bennett et al.

Anonymous Referee #2

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The authors present a paper on forecasting high streamflows in medium sized catchments in southeastern Australia 1-3 months in advance.

Overall the manuscript is well written and well organized. However, I feel there is room for some improvement.

The title needs to reflect that the forecasting of streamflow was performed in medium-sized catchments in which snow-melt is an irrelevant factor. As the authors mention in their study, this is one of the aspects that set this study apart from other research. It is up to the authors to decide whether they would like to use terms such as “predom-

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inantly pluvial runoff regimes" or "mostly subtropical climate" or to simply name the study region.

In addition to streamflow, the authors also predict total rainfall; however, they only mention this in section 2.2.2, not in the abstract and not under results. In the discussion, the authors briefly mention that the relationship between heavier rainfall events and lagged climate indices in general is weak. I think it will improve and broaden the manuscript, if the authors show some of these results. In general forecasting rainfall based on climate indices and subsequent modeling of runoff sounds like a convincing approach. If the authors show that this approach is not successful, their approach of using catchment wetness in addition becomes even more meaningful.

In Chapter 3.1 the reference to Fig. 4 is missing.

Fig. 6: The size of the black points needs to be increased.

Page 3146, row 23: (Figs. 9 and 10) should be changed to (Figs. 11 and 12).

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