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Skill and relative economic value of medium-range hydrological ensemble predictions.

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A hydrological ensemble prediction system, integrating a water balance model with ensemble precipitation forecasts from the European Centre for Medium-Range Weather Forecasts (ECMWF) Ensemble Prediction System (EPS), is evaluated for two Belgian catchments. The skill of streamflow forecast for high flows is analyzed using a period of eight years of archived EPS forecasts. The value of this system is assessed using a cost-loss ratio decision model and is compared with the value of deterministic alternatives.