**Bureau R&D Workshop 2018**

**Guidelines for Abstracts (August 2018)**

# Extreme Weather Desk – practices with ensembles

## Dean Sgarbossa1, James Taylor1

*1Extreme Weather Desk, Bureau of Meteorology, Melbourne*

*dean.sgarbossa@bom.gov.au*

**Abstract**

Increasing demands during periods of severe weather on the Bureau of Meteorology's (hereafter "Bureau's") operations were recognized early this decade. As a result, the Extreme Weather Desk (EWD) was developed in 2015 to provide a national focus for extreme weather capability, intelligence and services.

The core functions of the EWD include provision of;

* enhanced severe weather capacity during periods of sustained demand
* frontline communications
* development of new types of services through enhanced science to operations

The EWD is developing new services in impact based forecasting (National Hazard Outlook), convective forecasting (National Convective Outlooks and discussion) and fire weather services (Dry Lighting Outlook and PyroCB Potential Outlook). The use of ensembles to objectively provide information about forecast certainty in these development products has been a key focus for the EWD. How ensembles can be used to further develop such services will be a focus for this talk, particularly methods used to test the increased value of ensembles in Bureau service provision.