WHAT: In this clip from a 2009 interview with Roger Pulwarty, he explains the types of topics he grapples with in his job and the goals of his work. This interview was conducted in Aspen, Colorado by AGCI during a workshop on Advanced Climate Modeling and Decision-Making Support of Climate Services.

WHO: Dr. Roger Pulwarty is an atmospheric scientist who researches the interactions between climate and society. He is interested in developing effective services to mitigate the social risks associated with climate change, and in previous studies Dr. Pulwarty has inquired into hydro-climatic variability and change, assessing social vulnerability and capacity to respond to climatic variations and weather extremes, and the use of research-based information in natural resources policy and decision-making. Dr. Pulwarty holds a bachelor's degree in atmospheric sciences, and a PhD in climatology. He currently works for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) in Boulder, Colorado.

Active Listening Questions:
• What is Dr. Pulwarty's key area of focus in his primary job?

"We pull together information on drought and aridity."

Glossary Term: Projection
Projections draw upon pre-existing knowledge and patterns about conditions in the past to create estimates of future conditions.
What type of work might an atmospheric scientist do?

TAKING THE REINS

Discuss with a friend or record your thoughts in a journal.

- How might the type of work done by Dr. Pulwarty overlap with activities in your own daily life?
- How might being able to project the likelihood of drought be helpful?

FURTHER READING:

Further information about Dr. Pulwarty and presentations he has given at AGCI can be found on the AGCI website, agci.org.