

## **Design & Findings of the Drought Tournament Gaming Activity – Jeff Brislawn and Courtney Black; AMEC Environment and Infrastructure**

This presentation will discuss the design, delivery, and initial findings of an innovative “Drought Tournament” that was held as a day-long event in advance of the State Drought Conference. The objectives of the tournament were to educate participants on the multi-sector implications of drought through an engaging, competitive and fun tournament and encourage collaboration among representatives of various backgrounds. The tournament included four teams with a mix of agriculture, municipal water, environmental stewardship, energy and tourism backgrounds. Teams were charged with developing drought response plans for each year of a three-year drought applied to a fictitious watershed called “Chance Basin.” Teams were scored by “referees” on how well their response plans reduced vulnerability and potential drought impacts within Chance Basin as well as their approach to long term drought mitigation. The team with the most comprehensive series of drought response plans won the tournament and was awarded a grand prize. Most importantly the tournament provided a forum to develop relationships and baseline information useful for future local, regional and statewide drought planning purposes. The tournament was designed by AMEC with guidance and sponsorship of the Colorado Water Conservation Board and the National Integrated Drought Information System.