



EXPLANATION OF SYMBOLS

N: PUMPAGE OF 500 ACRE-FEET OR LESS.

A: WITHDRAWAL MOSTLY FOR DRAINAGE PURPOSES.

B: PUMPAGE FOR THESE AREAS WAS NOT ESTIMATED PRIOR TO 1974. THUS, TOTAL IS FOR 1974-78 ONLY. ESTIMATED PUMPAGE BEFORE 1974 IS INCLUDED IN "OTHERS."

C: PUMPAGE FOR LHA AREA WAS INCLUDED IN SFA AREA PRIOR TO 1973. THUS, TOTAL IS FOR 1973-78 ONLY.

D: PUMPAGE FOR USP AND LSP AREAS WAS NOT ESTIMATED PRIOR TO 1966. THUS, TOTAL IS FOR 1966-78 ONLY. ESTIMATED PUMPAGE BEFORE 1966 IS INCLUDED IN "OTHERS."

E: YUM AREA INCLUDES SOUTH GILA VALLEY, YUMA MESA, AND YUMA VALLEY. BEGINNING IN 1947 IN YUMA VALLEY, IN 1961 IN SOUTH GILA VALLEY, AND IN 1970 IN YUMA MESA, PART OF THE PUMPAGE WAS FOR DRAINAGE OF WATERLOGGED LANDS.

F: PREVIOUSLY PUBLISHED FIGURE REVISED.

G: PUMPAGE FOR BIS, HAS, AND SFA AREAS WAS NOT ESTIMATED PRIOR TO 1978. ESTIMATED PUMPAGE BEFORE 1978 IS INCLUDED IN "OTHERS."

H: "OTHERS" INCLUDES: AGUA FRIA BASIN, ALTAR VALLEY, ADAPATTA VALLEY, BILL WILLIAMS, BLACK RIVER BASIN, GILA RIVER FROM HEAD OF SAN CARLOS RESERVOIR TO KELVIN, LOWER VERDE VALLEY, NEW RIVER-CAVE CREEK, SAN BERNARDINO WASH., SAN SIMON WASH., TONTO BASIN, UPPER SALT RIVER BASIN, WEST MEXICAN DRAINAGE, AND WHITE FEVER BASIN. PUMPAGE IN THESE AREAS IS MOSTLY FROM DOMESTIC AND STOCK WELLS, AND THE AMOUNT IS UNKNOWN. TOTAL ANNUAL PUMPAGE FOR THESE AREAS IS ESTIMATED.

45 percent of the Statist contains more than 90 percent of the cultivated land and more than 80 percent of the population. The major ground-water reservoirs are mainly sedimentary deposits in the central parts of the basins, but small supplies of water can be obtained locally from the crystalline and consolidated sedimentary rocks. The amount of water obtained locally from the crystalline and consolidated sedimentary rocks is about 1.2 million acre-ft per year. A total of 3.4 million acre-ft was used for the irrigation of crops. Through 1978, slightly more than 171 million acre-ft of ground water has been withdrawn from the ground-water reservoirs in this province. The amount of ground water withdrawn in 1978 is about 1.2 million acre-ft less than the amount of ground water withdrawn in 1977; nearly all the decrease is in the amount of ground water used for irrigation.

In arid and semiarid regions such as Arizona, the availability of adequate water supplies has an effect on the type and extent of economic development. The nature and extent of the ground-water reservoirs must be known for proper management of this valuable resource. Since 1939, the U.S. Geological Survey has conducted a program of ground-water studies in Arizona. The program includes the collection and analysis of the geologic and hydrologic data necessary to evaluate the ground-water resources of the State. The basic data collected, the results of areal studies, and research findings are presented mainly in publications of the U.S. Geological Survey. This report is a compilation of the data collected and is entitled "Recent Publications Prepared by Personnel of the U.S. Geological Survey in Arizona."

In spring 1978 the U.S. Geological Survey, in cooperation with the Arizona Water Commission, revised the system of collecting ground-water data in Arizona. Under the revised system, several selected areas (see map showing status of ground-water inventory) are studied intensively each year. The intensive study includes collection of data on stream flow, surface water inventories, water-level measurements, pumpage data, and chemical quality-of-water data. In addition, there is an annual survey of all available information on groundwater resources available to the public. In areas where sufficient data are available the computer printouts consist of three parts: (1) spring and well information, including construction and production data; (2) hydrologic characteristics such as recharge, discharge, and storage coefficients; and (3) records. The data are analyzed, and the results are presented in a series of maps. Typically, the maps show depth to water; change in water levels; altitude of water table; and stream flow, stream stage, and stream discharge.

For readers who prefer to use metric units rather than inch-pound units, the conversion factors for the terms used in this report are listed below:

<u>Multiply inch-pound unit</u>	<u>By</u>	<u>To obtain metric unit</u>
inch (in.)	25.4	millimeter (mm)
foot (ft)	0.3048	meter (m)
gallon per minute (gal/min)	0.06309	liter per second (L/s)
acre-foot (acre-ft)	0.001233	cubic hectometer (hm <sup>3</sup> )

In Arizona the availability of adequate and potable water supplies has as great an influence on the location of cities and cropland as any other factor. Agriculture is dependent almost entirely on irrigation because rainfall is inadequate for raising crops. Some surface water is available in a few areas, but the amount is not sufficient to meet the continually increasing demand. For many years, nearly two-thirds of Arizona's water supply has been withdrawn from the ground-water reservoirs; the principal use of the ground water is for the irrigation of crops, although municipal and industrial uses are increasing steadily.

The map on sheet 2 shows potential well production, depth to water in selected wells in spring 1978 and change in water levels in selected wells from 1974 to 1978. The map showing estimated ground-water pumpage gives the amount of water pumped in 1978; the annual and accumulated pumpage since the beginning of record are shown in the table. In 1978 the withdrawal of ground water was about 4.2 million acre-ft, most of which was consumptively used. The quantity of water withdrawn in 1978 was more than 10 times the amount of water that was naturally withdrawn in 1977 and is the smallest amount withdrawn since the mid-1950's, except in 1966. Nearly all the decrease was in the amount of ground water used for irrigation in the Basin and Range lowlands province. Possible causes for this decrease are discussed in the section entitled "Basin and Range Lowlands Province." More than 100 million acre-ft of ground water was used for irrigation of crops in 1978; the rest was for public supply, industrial, domestic, and livestock uses, and some ground water was pumped for drainage of waterlogged lands. Through 1978, slightly more than 175 million acre-ft of ground water had been withdrawn from the ground-water reservoirs in Arizona. In addition to the ground water withdrawn in 1978, about 1.5 million acre-ft of water was used for public supply and about 2.2 million acre-ft of the water was consumptively used, and the rest was returned to the water bodies. Thus, the total water use was about 6.4 million acre-ft in 1978. The use of ground water and the effects of this use on the ground-water reservoirs in each of the three water provinces (see map showing water provinces sheet 2) are discussed separately in the following sections.

Basin and Range lowlands province.--The Basin and Range lowlands province is the most highly developed of the three water provinces. Although the province covers only about

In the southern and south-central parts of the province, precipitation averaged nearly 2 in. above the long-term average for January through March, and slightly above-average precipitation continued through June. From July through September, precipitation was slightly below average, but from October through December precipitation was nearly 2 in. above average. Source: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, v. 82, no. 13, 17 p. Summary—Arizona: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, v. 82, no. 13, 17 p. The above-average precipitation from January through March increased the soil moisture at least into April in many places and eliminated the necessity for preplanting irrigation, a practice that has been common in the Salt River Valley since the late 1960s. The need for ground water was pumped because more surface water was available from reservoir storage; for example, in the Salt River Valley nearly 928,000 acre-ft of surface water was diverted at Granite Reef Dam in 1978, which is about 150,000 acre-ft more than the amount diverted in 1977. The Salt River Valley is the largest agricultural area in the State, and the use in the San Carlos Project area, which is about 200,000 acre-ft more than the amount diverted in 1977. The Salt River Valley and the lower Santa Cruz area are the largest agricultural areas in the State; the amount of ground water withdrawn for agricultural use in the Salt River Valley and the lower Santa Cruz area decreased from nearly 615,000 and 291,000 acre-ft, respectively, between 1977 and 1978.

In addition to the above-average precipitation and the resultant increase in surface-water supplies, several new techniques to conserve energy and irrigation water are being put into practice. Efficient and careful irrigation practices are resulting in more acreage being irrigated with less water. In many areas, farmers have increased the acreage planted in cotton but are using less water. Earlier harvesting of the cotton and the cessation of irrigation after the cotton has been picked are also being used to conserve water. (Pinal County Agricultural Extension Director, oral commun., 1979). In some areas the land is being irrigated using laser-levelling techniques. (Pinal County Agricultural Extension Director, oral commun., 1979). The use of the little is becoming more widespread, and as more land is leveled the amount of

In most agricultural areas in the Basin and Range lowlands province, water levels generally have been declining for many years. In some areas the rate of decline has decreased in the past few years owing to small decreases in the amount of ground water pumped. In places in the southeastern and south-central parts of the province, water levels measured in the past few years have increased. In the northern part of the province, there was a marked decrease in pumpage in 1978 and above-average precipitation for October through December. In mid-December, record floods along the Gila River upstream from San Carlos Reservoir and in the Salt River, and in the Colorado River, caused a major increase in the rate of water release of large amounts of water into the Salt River. Along the Gila River in Safford basin, the average change in water level in 24 wells was  $-6.4$  ft from spring 1978 to spring 1979; in the Salt River, the average change in water level in 12 wells was  $-1.2$  ft. In the Colorado River, average water-level rises also occurred in Avra Valley ( $+1.0$  ft), lower San Pedro basin ( $+8.6$  ft), and lower Santa Cruz basin ( $+3.3$  ft). Smaller water-level rises occurred in other

**Central highlands province.**—The Central highlands province is the smallest of the three water provinces. In this province ground water is obtained from thick sedimentary deposits in a few areas, from thin sedimentary deposits along stream channels, and locally from fractured crystalline igneous rocks. The majority of the water in this province is obtained from the surface. Only a few thousand acres of land is under cultivation, and the amount of ground water withdrawn is small—about 32,000 acre-ft in 1978. The small amount of ground water withdrawn has not resulted in notable water-level declines, except in parts of China Valley. From a decline of a few feet per year, it has been reported in the artesian gulf.

**Plateau uplands province.**—In the Plateau uplands province, ground-water development is small compared with that in the Basin and Range lowlands province, but it is somewhat greater than that in the Central highlands province. Most of the ground water is pumped from layered sandstones that stores ground water under both confined and unconfined conditions and from the deposits of alluvium in the major valleys. The use of ground water is largely for irrigated farms and homesites, for industrial and utility sites, and a few population centers, such as Flagstaff, Holbrook, and the White Mountains recreational areas. In 1976, about 54,500 acre-ft of ground water was withdrawn in the province. For the most part, no pattern of rise or decline in water levels is discernible.

Recent Publications Prepared by Personnel of the U.S. Geological Survey in Arizona

The following reports on the water resources and geology of Arizona were published or released to the open file from July 1, 1978, through June 30, 1979.

Anderson, T. W., and White, N. D., 1979, Statistical summaries of Arizona streamflow data: U.S. Geological Survey Water-Resources Investigations 79-5, 416 p.

Bentley, C. B., 1979, Geohydrologic reconnaissance of Lake Mead National Recreation Area—Hoover Dam to Mount Davis, Arizona: U.S. Geological Survey Open-File Report 79-690. 37 p.

1979, Geohydrologic reconnaissance of Lake Mead National Recreation Area—Mount  
Cavallo to Panguitch, Arizona, U.S. Geological Survey Open-File Report 79-601, 24 p.

1979, Geohydrologic reconnaissance of Lake Mead National Recreation Area—Opal Mountain to Davis Dam, Nevada: U.S. Geological Survey Open-File Report 79-692, 26 p.

Farrar, C. D., 1979, Map showing ground-water conditions in the Kaibito and Tuba City areas, Coconino and Navajo Counties, Arizona—1978: U.S. Geological Survey Water-

Konieczki, A. D., and English, C. S., 1979, Maps showing ground-water conditions in the lower Santa Cruz area, Pinal, Pima, and Maricopa Counties, Arizona—1977: U.S. Geological Survey, Water Resources Investigations 79-56, map.

Laney, R. L., 1979, Geohydrologic reconnaissance of Lake Mead National Recreation Area-Hoover Dam to Temple Bar, Arizona: U.S. Geological Survey Open-File Report 79-660, 12 p.

1979, Geohydrologic reconnaissance of Lake Mead National Recreation Area—Tempe Bar to Grand Wash Cliffs, Arizona: U.S. Geological Survey Open-File Report 79-688, 30 p.

1979, Summary appraisal of the potential water resources in and near tract 01-113, Lake Mead National Recreation Area, Nevada: U.S. Geological Survey Open-File Report 79-102. 6 p.

Levings, G. W., and Farrar, C. D., 1979, Maps showing ground-water conditions in the Kanab area, Coconino and Mohave Counties, Arizona—1976: U.S. Geological Survey Open-

1979, Map showing ground-water conditions in the Virgin River, Grand Wash, and Shivwits areas, Mohave County, Arizona—1976: U.S. Geological Survey Water-

Littin, G. R., 1979, Maps showing ground-water conditions in the New River-Cave Creek area, Maricopa and Yavapai Counties, Arizona—1977: U.S. Geological Survey Open-File

Loeltz, O. J., and Leake, S. A., 1979, Relation between proposed developments of water resources and seepage from the All-American Canal, eastern Imperial Valley,

Mann, L. J., 1979, Water budget and mathematical model of the Coconino aquifer, southern Navajo County, Arizona: U.S. Geological Survey Open-File Report 79-348, 58 p.

Roeske, R. H., 1978, Methods for estimating the magnitude and frequency of floods in Arizona: Arizona Department of Transportation Report ADOT-RS-15(121), 82 p.

Roeske, R. H., Cooley, M. E., and Aldridge, B. N., 1978, Floods of September 1970 in Arizona, Utah, Colorado, and New Mexico: U.S. Geological Survey Water-Supply Paper 2052, 135 p.

Schumann, H. H., 1978 Satellite snow-cover observations in Arizona, in Fall technical meeting of the American Society of Photogrammetry, 1978 Proceedings, Albuquerque, New Mexico: p. 480-489.

U.S. Geological Survey 1978, Annual summary of ground-water conditions in Arizona, spring 1977 to spring 1978: U.S. Geological Survey Water-Resources Investigations 78-144, maps.

Wilson, R. P., 1979, Availability of ground water on Federal land near the Ak-Chin Indian

Reservation, Arizona—a reconnaissance study: U.S. Geological Survey Open-File Report 79-1165, 36 p.