UA hydrologist, analyst outline ‘conjunctive water use’

A hydrologist and a policy analyst at the UA collaborated on the lead article in the March issue of "Arizona's Economy" to introduce the concept of "conjunctive use" of the state's water resources.

The authors are Todd Rasmussen, a graduate research assistant completing a doctorate in hydrology with a minor in management information systems, and Gary Woodard, a research specialist with the Division of Economic and Business Research (DEBR) in the College of Business and Public Administration.

In addition to the article's conclusions, tables accompanying it present figures from the Arizona Department of Water Resources. Some examples:

- Arizona's groundwater reservoirs contain more than 360 times the volume of water diverted annually from streams in the state.
- Among Arizona counties, Yuma depends most heavily on surface diversion for its water (78 percent), and Pima depends most on water pumped from underground (100 percent).
- Groundwater at Phoenix is almost as saline as Colorado River water is at the Mexican border, and about three times as saline as groundwater at Tucson.

"Arizona's Economy" carries DEBR researcher Nat deGennaro's report on Maricopa County economics.

Calling Maricopa "a tough survivor," deGennaro points out that its economy "has survived the most severe recession since the late 1930s in relatively good condition and seems poised for expansion this year and into 1984."

"Arizona's Economy" is published monthly by DEBR in the UA College of Business and Public Administration. It is available free from offices in the BPA Building.