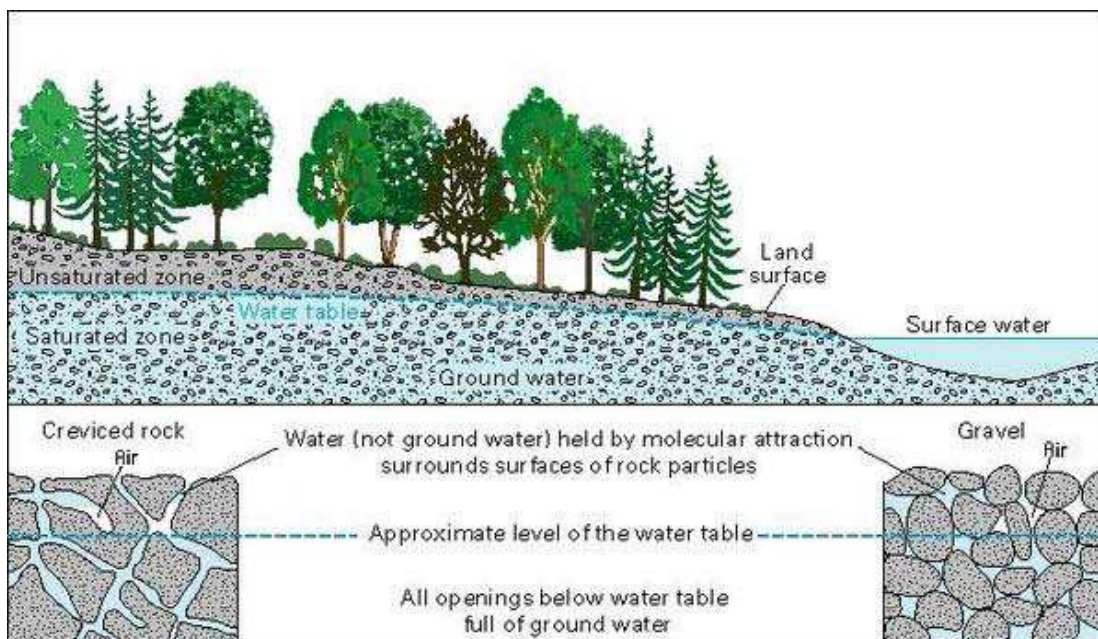


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Source: U.S. Geological Survey.

Fig. 1 In nature, groundwater and surface water are connected.

GROUNDWATER UTILIZATION AND SUSTAINABILITY

Victor M. Ponce

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The indiscriminate and sometimes excessive use of groundwater has led to questions regarding its sustainability. To what extent can groundwater be exploited without unduly compromising the principle of sustainable development? The sustainability of groundwater utilization must be assessed from an interdisciplinary perspective, where hydrology, ecology, geomorphology, and climatology play an important role. Shallow groundwater flow

