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Quantitative Groundwater Circulation Pattern Construction Based on Isotopic Hydrogeological Theory and Method: A Case Study for Lingwu Area in Northwest China

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Lingwu Daquan area located in Ningxia Autonomous Region in northwest China. It is an important water source area of Ningdong Energy Base, and also a typical area of groundwater severely affected by irrigation and groundwater development in the northwest China arid area. To build the region one of the scientific and objective quantitative groundwater circulation pattern, not only has practical value for Ningdong Energy Base of groundwater utilization, but also has scientific significance to development and utilization of groundwater resources in arid areas.

Through field investigation, soil and water sample collection, test, to obtain first-hand data in the study area. Based on isotope hydrogeological theory and methods, simultaneously considering of the multiple conditions and factors related to the groundwater circulation mode: the basic condition (geological setting) of controlling groundwater circulation, the necessary condition (hydrodynamic condition) of groundwater circulation occurrence, the water chemistry and isotopic tracing effect, etc., comprehensively and systematically analyze the groundwater's hydraulic relations, among low hills, terrace in the east of Daquan area and the Alluvial-diluvial sloping plain, between phreatic water and confined water, between the north and south groundwater in Alluvial-lacustrine plain area, between Yellow River and groundwater in Alluvial-lacustrine plain area. Based on the isotopic hydrogeological theory and method, groundwater circulation speed and renewability are calculated by using the isotope data of groundwater samples. On the basis of above research, a quantitative groundwater circulation pattern of the study area is constructed. Research

provides a scientific reference for the groundwater development and utilization to Ningdong Energy Base and arid (or semiarid) area in northwest China.

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Key words: Lingwu; isotopic hydrogeological theory; Groundwater circulation pattern; Isotope tracer; Groundwater circulation speed; Groundwater renewability

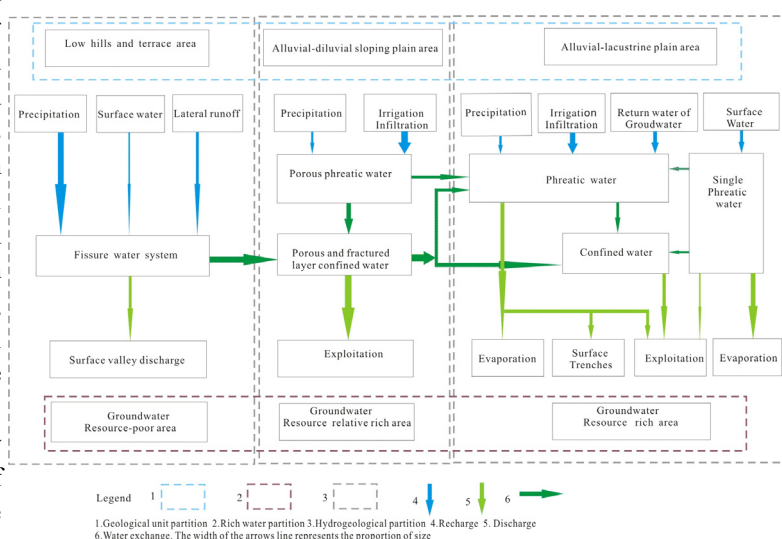


Fig1. Groundwater system cycle mode structure of the study area

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