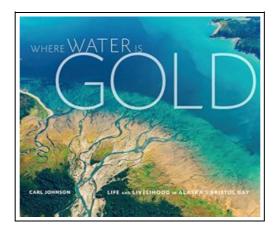
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WHERE WATER IS GOLD: LIFE AND LIVELIHOOD IN ALASKA S BRISTOL BAY



Mountaineers Books, United States, 2016. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 254 x 226 mm. Language: English. Brand New Book. Bristol Bay is a region in southwestern Alaska renowned as the most significant source of wild sockeye salmon in the world, as well as other species of Pacific salmon and herring. Unfortunately, it also contains mineral resources: gold, copper, and molybdenum (a metal used to make steel alloys), and the extraction of these minerals would likely destroy the world-class commercial and recreational fisheries essential not only to the people who call this region home, but far beyond as well. Mining development threatens Native tribes and the salmon-based subsistence way of life that has sustained them for 4000 years. In addition to millions of migrating salmon, Bristol Bay provides important habitat for many other species including millions of seabirds, sea otters, seals, walruses, Beluga and Orca whales, and the endangered North Pacific Right Whale. Conservation in competition with development is a well-worn theme in Alaska, and nowhere is this more apparent than in the battle over Bristol Bayexemplified by the proposed Pebble Mine. But Bristol Bay s mineral wealth is not the fabled nuggets of Alaskan lore; it s fine particles that must be extracted through an industrial process that includes pulverizing ore and using cyanide and other chemicals to separate the valuable metals. Mountains of rocky spoils would be created, while highly toxic wastewater would require large containment ponds. Miles of streams would be excavated or buried under waste rock. The Pebble project is located at the headwaters of the two largest tributaries of the Bristol Bay watersheda watershed whose ecological resources generate \$500 million in economic benefits annually, and provides more than 14,000 full and part-time jobs.



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