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## Heart Waters: Sources of the Bow River

By Kevin Van Tighem

Rocky Mountain Books. Hardcover. Condition: New. 224 pages. Water does not come from the river. It comes to the river. Heart Waters takes us to the sources of that water and into the living beauty, human stories and future possibilities that also arise from the green slopes and valleys of Albertas Eastern Slopes where the Bow River is born. For more than a century ago the foothills and Front Range mountains of western Alberta have been recognized vital to the future water supply for Canadas prairies. Virtually all the water that sustains communities, ecosystems and the economy of prairie Canada comes from this narrow strip of land arrayed along the Continental Divide. For all its importance, however, water management decisions have ignored the importance of land health and focused almost exclusively on building dams. The result, as the author points out, is that the Bow Rivers annual flows have decreased by more than a tenth, even while spring floods become more frequent and more destructive. The solutions to prairie Canadas water challenges lie in healing the wounded landscapes of our headwaters. Heart Waters delves deeply into the history and ecology of a landscape whose critical value as a watershed is...



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