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A geographer and environmental advocate, Newell has updated this resource on the Russian Far East (RFE), originally published under a slightly different title. The RFE makes up approximately 40 percent of the Russian Federation and covers its eastern third. Bordered by China to the south and North Korea to the southeast, it is, Newell asserts, the most biologically diverse region of the largest country on Earth and has a vast storehouse of oil, gas, timber, fish, and precious metals. While he maintains the format of the fast edition (by political division, e.g., krai, oblast), he has increased coverage of sustainable development. In Chapter 1, Newell offers an excellent introduction to the RFE's geography, major industries, ecology, biodiversity hotspots, the economy, legal issues, and issues of sustainable development. Then he analyzes in-depth those topics for the ten political divisions of the RFE. Charts cover timber production, foreign investment, and indigenous peoples; black-and-white and color maps and illustrations accompany the text. Contributors include 90 international specialists who have compiled statistics from a variety of hard-to-find sources. This will undoubtedly be the definitive reference source on the RFE for some years to come. Although it provides some useful general information about the region for a wide audience, it would be most useful for large university libraries and special libraries needing information on the RFE.--Eva Lautemann, Georgia Perimeter Coll. Lib., Clarkston


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