Record Nr. UNINA9910299410303321 Autore Wang Yahua **Titolo** Assessing Water Rights in China / / by Yahua Wang Pubbl/distr/stampa Singapore:,: Springer Singapore:,: Imprint: Springer,, 2018 **ISBN** 981-10-5083-X Edizione [1st ed. 2018.] Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (XVII, 242 p. 38 illus., 6 illus. in color.) Water Resources Development and Management, , 1614-810X Collana 338.927 Disciplina Soggetti Sustainable development **Environmental management** Hydrology Water-supply Natural resources Sustainable Development Water Policy/Water Governance/Water Management Hydrology/Water Resources Water Industry/Water Technologies Natural Resource and Energy Economics Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Monografia Livello bibliografico Nota di bibliografia Includes bibliographical references and index. Nota di contenuto Introduction -- Hierarchical Structure of Water Governance --Hierarchical Structure of Water Rights -- Economics Theory of Water Rights Structure -- Water Rights Structure in Ancient China and its Economic Explanation: Empirical Study of the Yellow River Basin --Water Rights Structure of the Yellow River Basin and Its Economic Explanation: Since the Founding of New China -- Water Rights and Water Market of Contemporary China: Case Study -- Conclusions and Prospects. Sommario/riassunto This book presents a model for describing the hierarchical concept of China's water rights structure, one which takes into account pioneering theories on natural resources and environmental institutional economics. It highlights the basic theory of water rights, with a view to helping Chinese policymakers acquire a deeper understanding of water

rights and the need for a reform program in the long-term

development of water-poor China. To do so, it draws on three main sources: Cheung SNS's "Economic Explanation", Douglas C. North's "New Economic History" and Ray Huang's "Macro History". The book makes two essential contributions: it elaborates the hierarchical water governance structure in China, which originated in the Qin Dynasty that unified the country 2000 years ago and has been employed without interruption ever since; further, it constructs a choice model for water governance structures and advances the logic of making structural choices with minimum transaction costs under constraint conditions, while also explaining the inherent nature of China's choice for the hierarchical structure from the perspectives of management cost and cooperation cost. As such, the book enriches and builds on the theories of the "water governance" school represented by Karl Marx, Karl Wittfogel and Ray Huang, laying the foundation for the further study of water rights theory in contemporary China.