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Nota di contenuto	Saving lost lives : irrigation and the ideology of homemaking -- The perils of public works : Federal reclamation, 1902-1909 -- Case studies in irrigation and community : Twin Falls and Rupert -- An administrative morass : Federal reclamation, 1909-1917 -- Boom, bust and boom : Federal reclamation, 1917-1935 -- Uneasy allies : the Reclamation Service and the Bureau of Indian Affairs -- Case studies in water and power : the Yakima and the Pima -- Wiring the new West : the strange career of public power -- Gateway to the hydraulic age : water politics, 1920-1935 -- Conclusion : retrospect and significance.
Sommario/riassunto	Donald Pisani's history of perhaps the boldest economic and social program ever undertaken in the United States--to reclaim and cultivate vast areas of previously unusable land across the country--shows in fascinating detail how ambitious government programs fall prey to the

power of local interest groups and the federal system of governance itself. What began as the underwriting of a variety of projects to create family farms and farming communities had become by the 1930's a massive public works and regional development program, with an emphasis on the urban as much as on the rural West.
