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Comments: I am an academic researcher and writer. I hold a PhD in Philosophy and Religion. Native American sacred places are my research focus. I have European, Indigenous, and other heritage.

Whenever I have thoroughly researched Indigenous sacred places, including the Black Hills, I always find that there is far more there than what meets the eye of a casual observer. Other researchers have studied the Black Hills besides myself and found the same--complexly rich, ancient, and irreplaceable Indigenous spiritual heritages are intertwined with traditional lands and places. Much information is both necessary and possible to understand these. Sacred sites are often quite complex.

In my PhD dissertation, I was able to isolate 567 different facets of the sacred in place. I subsequently found that was still just scratching the surface.

The Black Hills are the head of an immense and sacred buffalo. Landmarks in the Black Hills mirror vast constellations in the night sky. Traditional knowledge, legends, and ceremonies explain the linkages there between the stars and the Earth.

Pe' Sla is the energetic spiritual center of the Black Hills, sacred to Indigenous peoples. This area and all of the Black Hills should be preserved intact in order to continue and preserve the religious traditions embedded there.

See <https://www.sacredamerica.org/2020/> for more information.

Sincerely,

Lou-Anne Fauteck Makes-Marks, PhD