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Comments: Stolen Land

The Black Hills (?e Sápa) are the ancestral and sacred homelands of the Oceti Šakowi?-the Dakota, Nakota, and Lakota Peoples. The 1868 Fort Laramie Treaty recognized these lands as theirs and affirmed that they were to be respected and protected in perpetuity. That legally binding agreement was broken when the U.S. government illegally seized the Black Hills. In 1980, the U.S. Supreme Court acknowledged the theft but offered monetary compensation, which the Oceti Šakowi? have never accepted. They demand the return of their land-not gold mining on sacred ground. Yet this project has entirely failed to consult the Tribes whose homelands it threatens.