Data Submitted (UTC 11): 7/22/2025 12:03:44 AM

First name: Lou-Anne Last name: Makes-Marks

Organization: sacredamerica.org

Title: Director

Comments: I hold a PhD in Philosophy and Religion. Indigenous American sacred places are my speciality. Indigenous American peoples are bound to their traditional places as their cultural heritage. The knowledge of what they represent is a substantial part of Indigenous cultures across this nation.

The Black Hills are sacred to the Sioux people and have been honored in ceremonies there for many thousands of years. The hills are collectively known to be the gigantic head of a sacred buffalo that corresponds to an immense constellation of stars, with individual places there known as individual stars. Every year, a series of ceremonies honors each place in turn and its energetic connections to the Sioux nation and to the stars. It is the Sioux way of life.

My earlier post on the Black Hills, Bear Butte, and Bear's lodge. https://www.sacredamerica.org/2020/

Destroying any part of the Black Hills affects the entirety. Please don't let this lease stand.